

Wyoming Unemployment Insurance Claims Report

February 2023

Information for Wyoming by Industry and
County of Residence of Claimant

Research & Planning, Wyoming Department of Workforce Services

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Who We Are

Research & Planning (R&P) functions as an exclusively statistical entity within the Wyoming Department of Workforce Services. R&P collects, analyzes, and publishes timely and accurate labor market information (LMI) meeting established statistical standards. We work to make the labor market more efficient by providing the public and the public’s representatives with the information needed for evidence-based, informed decision making.



Wyoming Unemployment Insurance Claims Report, February 2023

Continued Claims Increase Over the Year

by: *Laura Yetter, Senior Economist*

Initial Unemployment Insurance (UI) claims (see Definitions, page 9) continued to decline over the year in Wyoming in February 2023. However, the total number of continued weeks claimed increased from prior-year levels for the third time in the last four months. Initial and continued claims remained substantially lower compared to February 2020, just prior to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Initial Claims

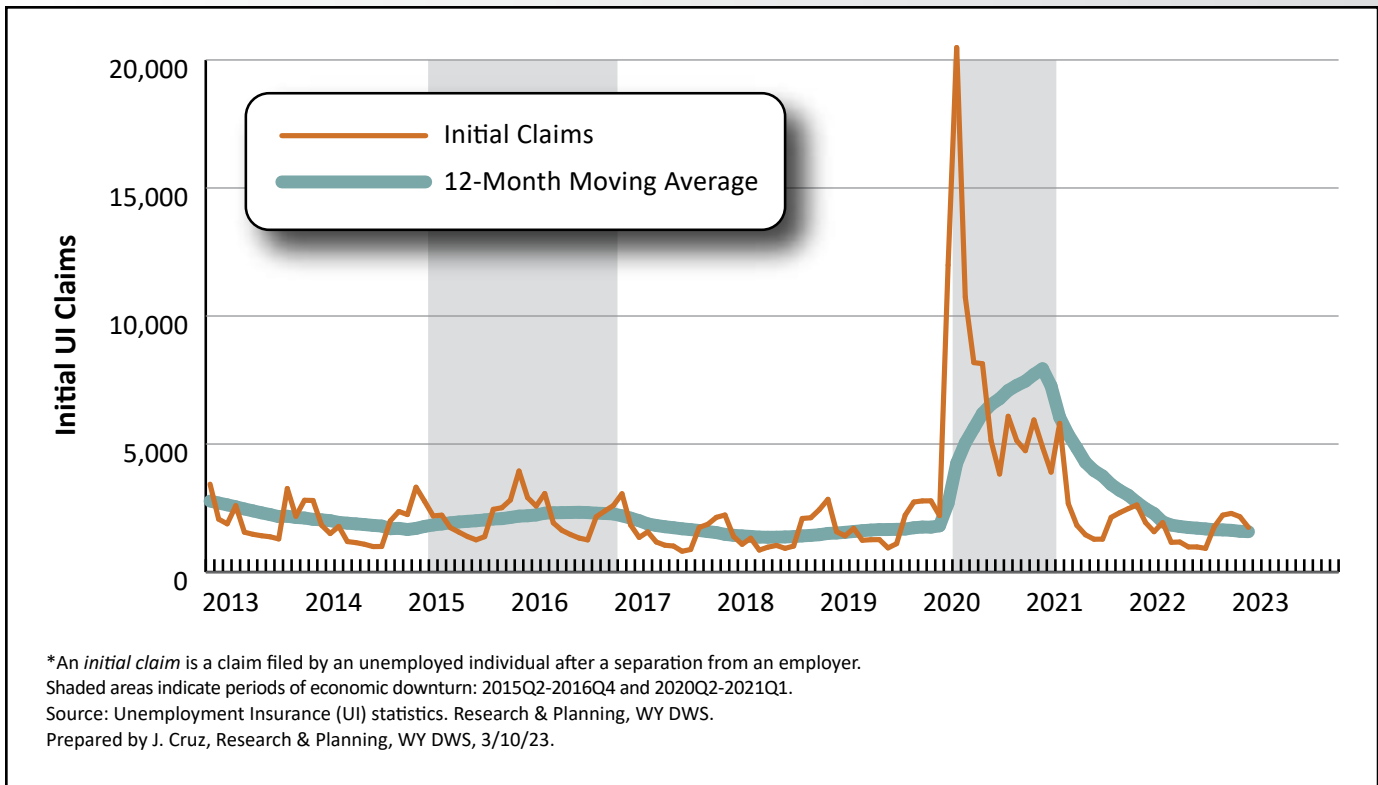
There were 1,741 initial claims in February 2023, down from 1,935 in February 2022 (-194, or -10.0%). Initial

UI Claims Online

Weekly, monthly, and annual Unemployment Insurance claims for Wyoming available online at <https://doe.state.wy.us/LMI/UI.htm>.

claims also were down 21.1% (-465 claims) compared to February 2020 prior to the pandemic (see Figure 1). Over the month, initial claims decreased by 422, or 19.5%

The industries with the largest numbers of initial claims included construction (678), trade, transportation, & utilities (217), professional & business services



*An *initial claim* is a claim filed by an unemployed individual after a separation from an employer. Shaded areas indicate periods of economic downturn: 2015Q2-2016Q4 and 2020Q2-2021Q1. Source: Unemployment Insurance (UI) statistics. Research & Planning, WY DWS. Prepared by J. Cruz, Research & Planning, WY DWS, 3/10/23.

Figure 1: Total Number of Initial Unemployment Insurance Claims for Wyoming by Year and Month, January 2012 to February 2023

(163), and manufacturing (135; see Table 1, page 5, and Figure 4, page 6).

Laramie (289), Natrona (256), Sweetwater (123), and Sheridan (116) counties had the largest number of initial claims. In addition, there were 203 initial claims by out-of-state claimants (see Figure 4, page 6, and Table 3, page 9).

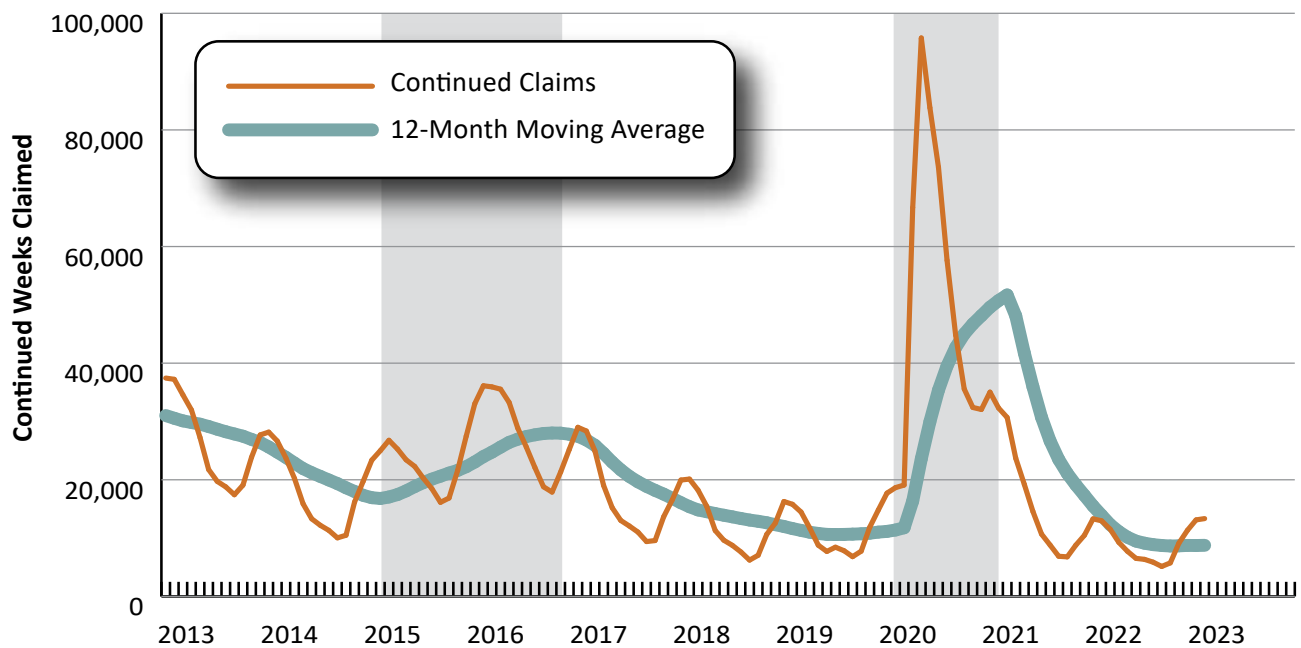
Continued Claims

The total number of continued weeks claimed increased from 12,965 in February 2022 to 13,345 in February 2023 (380, or 2.9%). Continued claims increased 1.7% over the month, which is a common pattern historically (see Figure 2 and Table 2, page 7). The number of

unique claimants increased from 4,202 to 4,222 (20, or 0.5%) over the year. Continued claims were 28.5% lower than the 18,659 in February 2020 prior to the pandemic.

The industries with the most continued weeks claimed included construction (5,100), professional & business services (1,707), trade, transportation, & utilities (1,567), and leisure & hospitality (1,214; see Figure 6, page 8).

The counties with the greatest numbers of continued claims were Laramie (2,000), Natrona (1,933), Fremont (1,111), and Sweetwater (976). There were also 1,964 out-of-state claims (see Figure 6, page 8, and Table 4, page 9).



*A person who has already filed an initial claim and who has experienced a week of unemployment then files a *continued claim* to claim benefits for that week of unemployment.

Shaded areas indicate periods of economic downturn: 2015Q2-2016Q4 and 2020Q2-2021Q1.

Source: Unemployment Insurance (UI) statistics. Research & Planning, WY DWS.

Prepared by J. Cruz, Research & Planning, WY DWS, 3/10/23.

Figure 2: Total Number of Unemployment Insurance Continued Weeks Claimed for Wyoming by Year and Month, January 2012 to February 2023

Table 1: Initial Unemployment Insurance Claims in Wyoming, February 2023

Industry	Initial Claims Filed			Over-the-Month Change		Over-the-Year Change	
	Feb 2023	Jan 2023	Feb 2022	N	%	N	%
Total Claims Filed	1,741	2,163	1,935	-422	-19.5	-194	-10.0
Goods-Producing	943	1,046	1,076	-103	-9.8	-133	-12.4
Natural Resources & Mining (11, 21)	129	105	119	24	22.9	10	8.4
Mining (21)	113	84	110	29	34.5	3	2.7
Construction (23)	678	830	820	-152	-18.3	-142	-17.3
Manufacturing (31-33)	135	111	136	24	21.6	-1	-0.7
Service-Providing	672	926	730	-254	-27.4	-58	-7.9
Trade, Transportation, & Utilities (22, 42, 44-45, 48-49)	217	289	219	-72	-24.9	-2	-0.9
Wholesale Trade (42)	23	50	22	-27	-54.0	1	4.5
Retail Trade (44-45)	100	137	100	-37	-27.0	0	0.0
Transportation, Warehousing & Utilities (22, 44-49)	93	100	96	-7	-7.0	-3	-3.1
Information (51)	17	8	5	9	112.5	12	240.0
Financial Activities (52-53)	42	55	35	-13	-23.6	7	20.0
Professional & Business Services (54-56)	163	272	200	-109	-40.1	-37	-18.5
Education & Health Services (61-62)	76	73	95	3	4.1	-19	-20.0
Leisure & Hospitality (71-72)	124	198	145	-74	-37.4	-21	-14.5
Other Services, except Public Admin. (81)	30	29	29	1	3.4	1	3.4
Government	90	162	103	-72	-44.4	-13	-12.6
Federal Government	32	79	37	-47	-59.5	-5	-13.5
State Government	14	21	17	-7	-33.3	-3	-17.6
Local Government	44	61	48	-17	-27.9	-4	-8.3
Local Education	8	14	7	-6	-42.9	1	14.3
Unclassified	34	28	24	6	21.4	10	41.7
Laramie County							
Total Claims Filed	289	358	294	-69	-19.3	-5	-1.7
Goods-Producing	146	190	165	-44	-23.2	-19	-11.5
Construction	109	178	146	-69	-38.8	-37	-25.3
Service-Providing	128	148	106	-20	-13.5	22	20.8
Trade, Transportation, & Utilities (22,42,44-45,48-49)	43	60	32	-17	-28.3	11	34.4
Financial Activities (52, 53)	6	9	11	-3	-33.3	-5	-45.5
Professional & Business Services (54 - 56)	38	37	25	1	2.7	13	52.0
Educational & Health Services (61 - 62)	14	8	14	6	75.0	0	0.0
Leisure & Hospitality (71 - 72)	15	23	17	-8	-34.8	-2	-11.8
Government	7	11	16	-4	-36.4	-9	-56.3
Natrona County							
Total Claims Filed	256	308	285	-52	-16.9	-29	-10.2
Goods-Producing	139	141	160	-2	-1.4	-21	-13.1
Construction	116	115	137	1	0.9	-21	-15.3
Service-Providing	107	158	119	-51	-32.3	-12	-10.1
Trade, Transportation, & Utilities (22,42,44-45,48-49)	27	49	29	-22	-44.9	-2	-6.9
Financial Activities (52, 53)	7	8	0	-1	-12.5	7	700.0
Professional & Business Services (54 - 56)	30	50	37	-20	-40.0	-7	-18.9
Educational & Health Services (61 - 62)	15	20	24	-5	-25.0	-9	-37.5
Leisure & Hospitality (71 - 72)	17	23	20	-6	-26.1	-3	-15.0
Government	3	6	3	-3	-50.0	0	0.0

N/D = Not discloseable due to confidentiality.

Source: Unemployment Insurance claims database.

Prepared by J. Cruz, Research & Planning, WY DWS, 3/14/23.

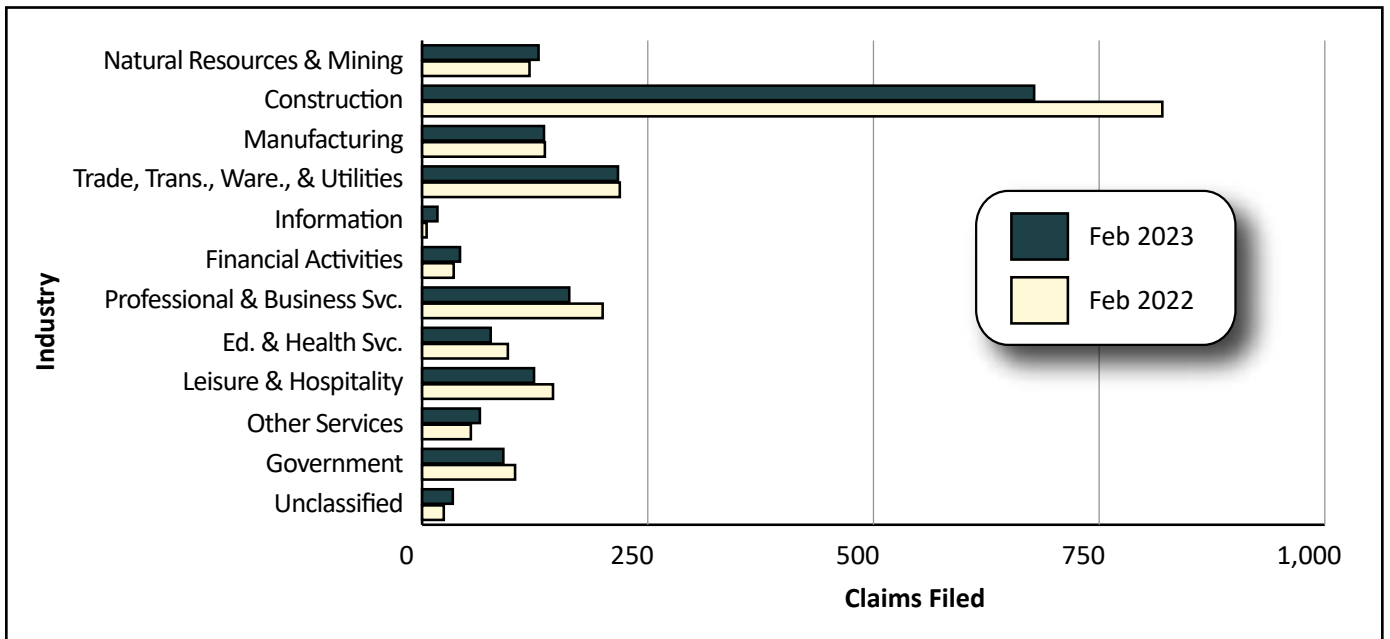


Figure 3: Initial Unemployment Insurance Claims by Major Industry in Wyoming, February 2022 and February 2023

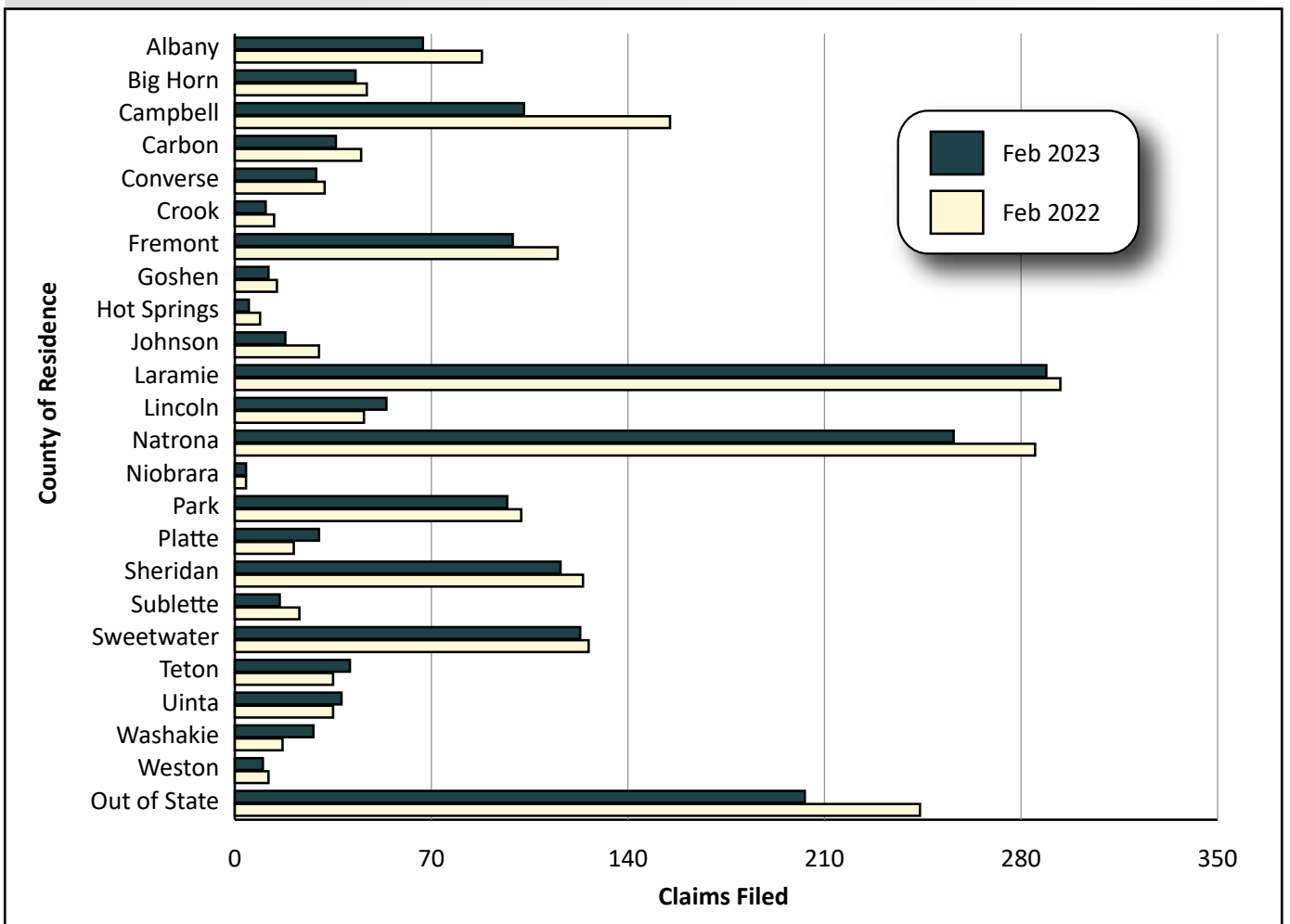


Figure 4: Initial Unemployment Insurance Claims by County of Residence, February 2022 and February 2023

Table 2: Unemployment Insurance Continued Weeks Claimed in Wyoming, February 2023

Industry	Continued Weeks Claimed			Over-the-Month Change		Over-the-Year Change	
	Feb 2023	Jan 2023	Feb 2022	N	%	N	%
Total Continued Weeks Claimed	13,345	13,120	12,965	225	1.7	380	2.9
Total Unique Claimants	4,222	4,306	4,202	-84	-2.0	20	0.5
Goods-Producing	6,422	6,386	6,624	36	0.6	-202	-3.0
Natural Resources & Mining (11, 21)	667	585	791	82	14.0	-124	-15.7
Mining (21)	484	424	614	60	14.2	-130	-21.2
Oil & Gas Extraction (211)	55	41	49	14	34.1	6	12.2
Construction (23)	5,100	5,198	5,294	-98	-1.9	-194	-3.7
Manufacturing (31-33)	653	602	539	51	8.5	114	21.2
Service-Providing	5,730	5,559	5,127	171	3.1	603	11.8
Trade, Transportation, & Utilities (22, 42, 44-45, 48-49)	1,567	1,467	1,296	100	6.8	271	20.9
Wholesale Trade (42)	251	190	219	61	32.1	32	14.6
Retail Trade (44-45)	814	779	565	35	4.5	249	44.1
Transportation, Warehousing & Utilities (22, 44-49)	502	497	512	5	1.0	-10	-2.0
Information (51)	71	61	51	10	16.4	20	39.2
Financial Activities (52-53)	391	353	308	38	10.8	83	26.9
Professional & Business Services (54-56)	1,707	1,555	1,583	152	9.8	124	7.8
Education & Health Services (61-62)	536	557	513	-21	-3.8	23	4.5
Leisure & Hospitality (71-72)	1,214	1,326	1,200	-112	-8.4	14	1.2
Other Services, except Public Admin. (81)	241	237	173	4	1.7	68	39.3
Government	1,058	1,050	1,120	8	0.8	-62	-5.5
Federal Government	548	555	657	-7	-1.3	-109	-16.6
State Government	110	108	92	2	1.9	18	19.6
Local Government	399	386	371	13	3.4	28	7.5
Local Education	62	81	76	-19	-23.5	-14	-18.4
Unclassified	133	124	92	9	7.3	41	44.6
Laramie County							
Total Claims Filed	2,000	1,913	1,824	87	4.5	176	9.6
Total Unique Claimants	651	613	601	38	6.2	50	8.3
Goods-Producing	1,133	1,092	1,078	41	3.8	55	5.1
Construction	1,051	1,033	1,012	18	1.7	39	3.9
Service-Providing	785	754	658	31	4.1	127	19.3
Trade, Transportation, & Utilities (22,42,44-45,48-49)	277	273	184	4	1.5	93	50.5
Financial Activities (52, 53)	43	46	38	-3	-6.5	5	13.2
Professional & Business Services (54 - 56)	242	211	237	31	14.7	5	2.1
Educational & Health Services (61 - 62)	85	89	93	-4	-4.5	-8	-8.6
Leisure & Hospitality (71 - 72)	100	90	71	10	11.1	29	40.8
Government	55	48	62	7	14.6	-7	-11.3
Unclassified	25	18	24	7	38.9	1	4.2
Natrona County							
Total Claims Filed	1,933	1,814	1,927	119	6.6	6	0.3
Total Unique Claimants	600	610	621	-10	-1.6	-21	-3.4
Goods-Producing	861	833	925	28	3.4	-64	-6.9
Construction	698	681	781	17	2.5	-83	-10.6
Service-Providing	1,006	904	942	102	11.3	64	6.8
Trade, Transportation, & Utilities (22,42,44-45,48-49)	309	271	256	38	14.0	53	20.7
Financial Activities (52, 53)	87	70	94	17	24.3	-7	-7.4
Professional & Business Services (54 - 56)	268	231	298	37	16.0	-30	-10.1
Educational & Health Services (61 - 62)	134	128	76	6	4.7	58	76.3
Leisure & Hospitality (71 - 72)	134	130	166	4	3.1	-32	-19.3
Government	59	71	54	-12	-16.9	5	9.3
Unclassified	5	4	5	1	25.0	0	0.0

Source: Unemployment Insurance claims database.
Prepared by J. Cruz, Research & Planning, WY DWS, 3/14/23.

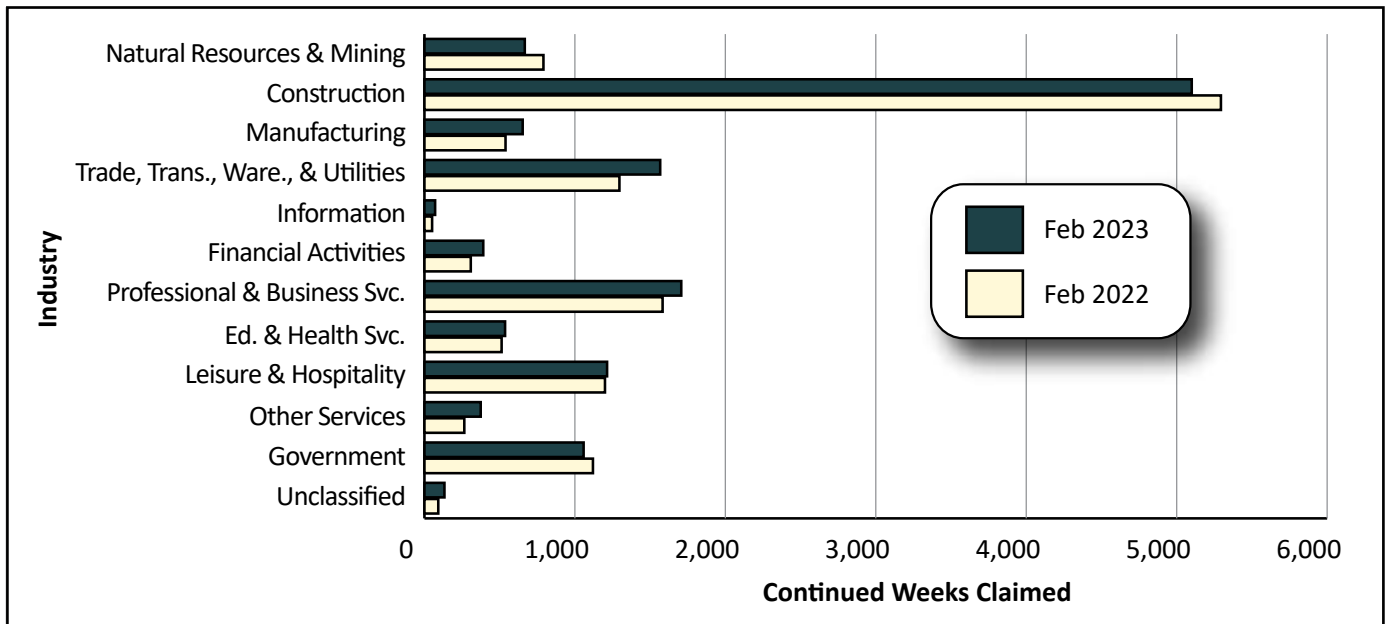


Figure 5: Continued Unemployment Insurance Claims by Major Industry in Wyoming, February 2022 and February 2023

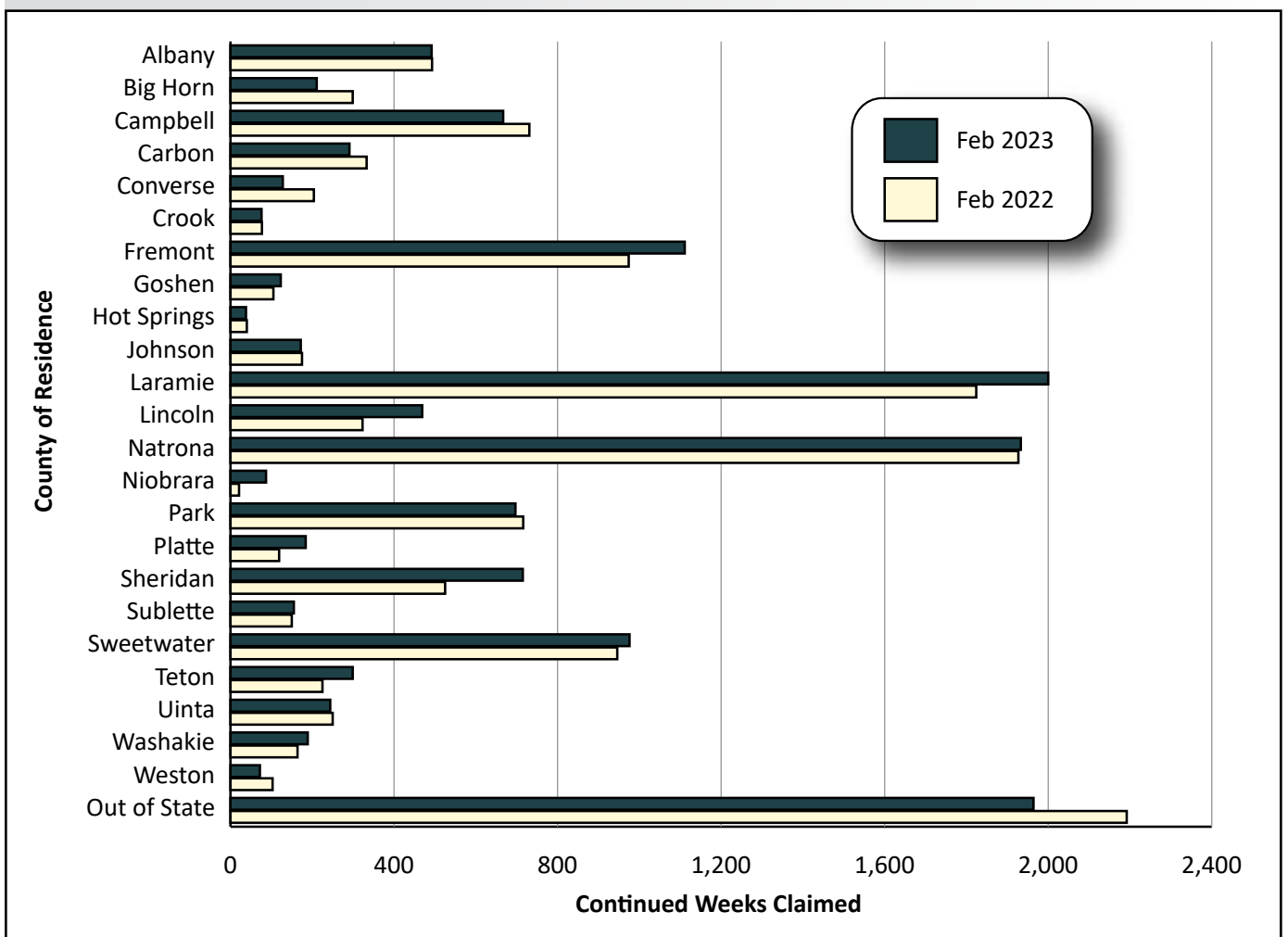


Figure 6: Continued Unemployment Insurance Claims by County of Residence in Wyoming, February 2022 and February 2023

Table 3: Initial Unemployment Insurance Claims for Wyoming by County of Residence, February 2022 and February 2023

County	Feb 2023	Feb 2022	Change	
			N	%
Albany	67	88	-21	-23.9
Big Horn	43	47	-4	-8.5
Campbell	103	155	-52	-33.5
Carbon	36	45	-9	-20.0
Converse	29	32	-3	-9.4
Crook	11	14	-3	-21.4
Fremont	99	115	-16	-13.9
Goshen	12	15	-3	-20.0
Hot Springs	5	9	-4	-44.4
Johnson	18	30	-12	-40.0
Laramie	289	294	-5	-1.7
Lincoln	54	46	8	17.4
Natrona	256	285	-29	-10.2
Niobrara	N/D	4	N/D	N/D
Park	97	102	-5	-4.9
Platte	30	21	9	42.9
Sheridan	116	124	-8	-6.5
Sublette	16	23	-7	-30.4
Sweetwater	123	126	-3	-2.4
Teton	41	35	6	17.1
Uinta	38	35	3	8.6
Washakie	28	17	11	64.7
Weston	10	12	-2	-16.7
Unknown	N/D	3	N/D	N/D
Out of State	203	244	-41	-16.8
Total	1,741	2,163	-194	-10.0

N/D = not discloseable due to confidentiality.

Source: Unemployment Insurance claims database.

Prepared by J. Cruz, Research & Planning, WY DWS, 3/10/23.

Box: Definitions

Initial Claim: An initial claim is filed by an unemployed individual after a separation from an employer. The claim requests a determination of basic eligibility for the Unemployment Insurance benefits.

Continued Weeks Claimed: The number of weeks of UI benefits claimed during the reference period. An unemployed individual who has already filed an initial claim and who has experienced a week of unemployment and then filed a continued claim to claim benefits for that week of unemployment.

Table 4: Wyoming Normalized^a Unemployment Statistics: Continued Claims by County of Residence, February 2022 and February 2023

County	Feb 2023	Feb 2022	Change	
			N	%
Albany	492	493	-1	-0.2
Big Horn	211	299	-88	-29.4
Campbell	667	731	-64	-8.8
Carbon	291	333	-42	-12.6
Converse	128	204	-76	-37.3
Crook	76	77	-1	-1.3
Fremont	1,111	974	137	14.1
Goshen	123	105	18	17.1
Hot Springs	38	40	-2	-5.0
Johnson	172	175	-3	-1.7
Laramie	2,000	1,824	176	9.6
Lincoln	469	323	146	45.2
Natrona	1,933	1,927	6	0.3
Niobrara	87	21	66	314.3
Park	697	716	-19	-2.7
Platte	184	119	65	54.6
Sheridan	715	525	190	36.2
Sublette	155	150	5	3.3
Sweetwater	976	946	30	3.2
Teton	299	225	74	32.9
Uinta	244	250	-6	-2.4
Washakie	189	164	25	15.2
Weston	72	103	-31	-30.1
Unknown	38	38	0	0.0
Out of State	1,964	2,192	-228	-10.4
Normalized Total^a	13,345	12,965	380	2.9

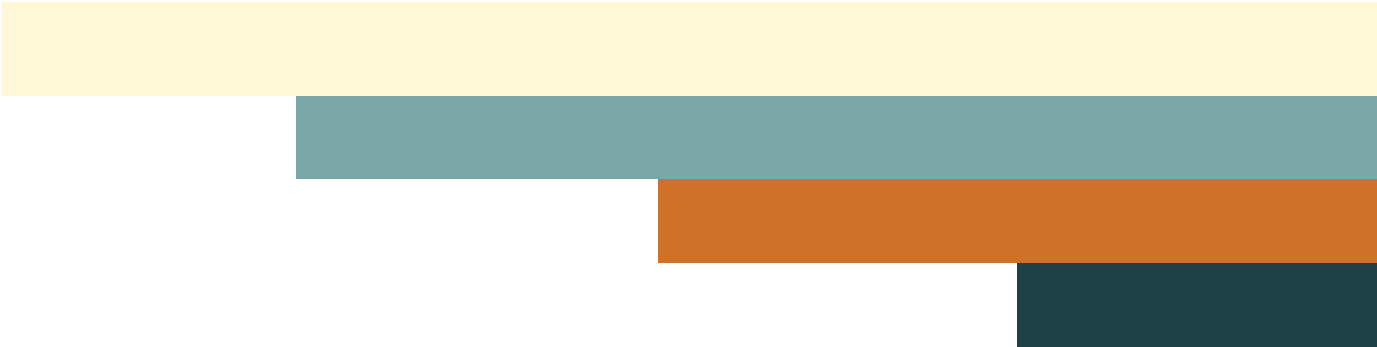
^aAn average month is considered 4.33 weeks. If a month has four weeks, the normalization factor is 1.0825. If the month has five weeks, the normalization factor is 0.866. The number of raw claims is multiplied by the normalization factor to achieve the normalized claims counts.

All totals are subject to rounding error and may not add to the sum of their respective components.

The table above conforms to Wyoming Employment Security Law - Wyoming Statute 27-3-603 regarding confidentiality.

Source: Unemployment Insurance claims database.

Prepared by J. Cruz, Research & Planning, WY DWS, 3/10/23.



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