

Wyoming Youth and Populations with Barriers to Employment: Supporting Tables and Figures for Wyoming's Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act Annual Performance Report, FY 2019

Prepared by the Research & Planning
section of the Wyoming Department
of Workforce Services,
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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 Youth and Populations with Barriers to Employment

by: Michael Moore, Editor

This report, prepared by the Research & Planning (R&P) section of the Wyoming Department of Workforce Services, serves as supporting documentation for Wyoming's Workforce Innovation and

Opportunity Act (WIOA) Annual Report for Program Year 2019. The primary focus of this report is Wyoming youth, which is defined for these purposes as individuals ages 15-24, and other populations with barriers to employment,

such as homeless, English language learners, veterans, and others.

Youth

For this section, data on the number of persons working is based on a count of wage records (see Box) for any person working in Wyoming at any time during the year. Population estimates were taken from the U.S. Census Bureau's annual single-year-of-age population estimates.

Wyoming's youth population decreased over the last five years, and the number of youth working decreased at by nearly twice as much. From 2014 to 2019, the estimated population of individuals ages 15-24 decreased from 78,176 to 73,392 (-4,784, or -6.1%). The number of youth working at any time during the year in Wyoming decreased from 59,886 to 51,571 (-8,315, or -13.9%), according to Wyoming wage records (see Table 1 and Figure 1, page 4).

There are several possible reasons for the

(Text continued on page 5)

Wage Records

Wage records represent an individual's wage history based on employers' quarterly wage and employment reports to the Unemployment Insurance (UI) tax section of the Wyoming Department of Workforce Services. Bullard (2015) noted that UI covered employment represents approximately 91.5% of Wyoming's total wage and salary employment.

As noted by Gosar (1995):

“Wage records are an administrative database used to calculate UI benefits for employees who have been laid-off through no fault of their own. By law, each employer who has covered employees, must submit tax reports to the state showing each employee's wage. The required information on this tax report includes social security number (SSN) for each covered employee, year, quarter, and wages earned in the quarter.”

References

- Bullard, D. (2015). Local jobs and payroll in Wyoming in second quarter 2014: Construction leads job growth. *Wyoming Labor Force Trends*, 52(1). Retrieved September 21, 2020, from <http://doe.state.wy.us/LMI/trends/0115/qcew.htm>
- Gosar, W. (1995). Wyoming unemployment insurance wage record summary statistics: a new way to look at Wyoming. *Wyoming Labor Force Trends*, 32(5). Retrieved September 21, 2020, from <http://doe.state.wy.us/LMI/0595/0595a2.htm>

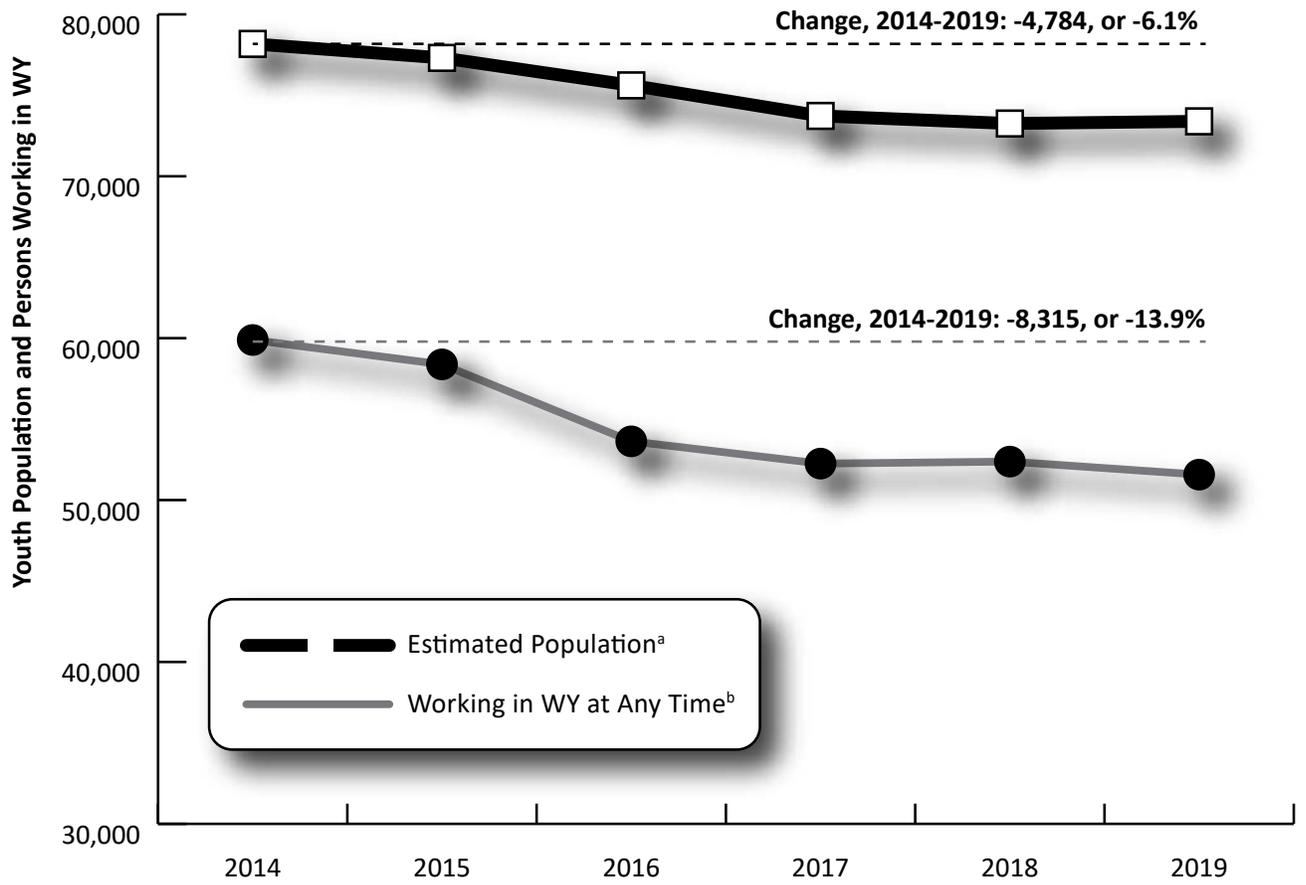
Table 1: Wyoming Youth Population Ages 15-24 and Number Working in Wyoming at Any Time During the Year, 2014-2019

Year	Population ^a			Working in WY at Any Time ^b		
	N	Over-the-Year Change		N	Over-the-Year Change	
		N	%		N	%
2014	78,176			59,886		
2015	77,311	-865	-1.1	58,380	-1,506	-2.5
2016	75,615	-1,696	-2.2	53,626	-4,754	-8.1
2017	73,727	-1,888	-2.5	52,251	-1,375	-2.6
2018	73,257	-470	-0.6	52,375	124	0.2
2019	73,392	135	0.2	51,571	-804	-1.5
Change, 2014-2019		-4,784	-6.1		-8,315	-13.9

^aSource: Single Year of Age Population Estimates, U.S. Census Bureau.

^bSource: Wyoming Wage Records, Research & Planning, WY DWS.

Prepared by M. Moore, Research & Planning, WY DWS, 9/21/20.



^aSource: Single Year of Age Population Estimates, U.S. Census Bureau.

^bSource: Wyoming Wage Records, Research & Planning, WY DWS.

Prepared by M. Moore, Research & Planning, WY DWS, 9/21/20.

Figure 1: Total Number of Youth Ages 15-24 Working at Any Time During the Year in Wyoming, 2014-2019

(Text continued from page 3)

decline in Wyoming’s youth population. Wyoming entered a period of economic downturn in 2015 that lasted seven quarters¹, while at the same time all of Wyoming’s surrounding states had growing economies. Some youth may have left Wyoming with parents who lost jobs and found work in another state.

Others may have left the state themselves to seek work in another state. From 2014 to 2019, Wyoming’s millennial population — those born from 1981 to 1996 (Pew Research Center, 2015) — decreased by an estimated 7,681 individuals, or 6.0%. Only three other states had greater declines in their millennial populations: Vermont (-9.4%), West Virginia

(-6.6%), and Rhode Island (-6.2%; see Figure 2). At the same time, some surrounding states have seen their millennial populations grow, including Colorado (15.0%), Idaho (8.5%), and Utah (5.4%). Several studies have discussed millennials exiting rural areas for states with large metropolitan areas; Kumar (2018) stated that, “rural areas lack academic and economic opportunity compared to metropolises.”

Prior research from R&P has illustrated how Wyoming youth leave the state as they age. In *A Decade Later* (2012), Glover found that from 1992 to 2006, the average five-year retention rate for 18-year-olds with Wyoming as a primary state of wages was 55.8%. The average 10-year retention rate from 1992 to 2001 was just 43.8%. The methodology for this reporting is currently being revised for future publication to include data obtained from the University of Wyoming and the Wyoming Community College Commission.

¹ Research & Planning defines economic downturn as two or more consecutive quarters of over-the-year decrease in average monthly employment and total wages based on data from the Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages. The most recent economic downturn lasted seven quarters from 2015Q2 to 2016Q4.

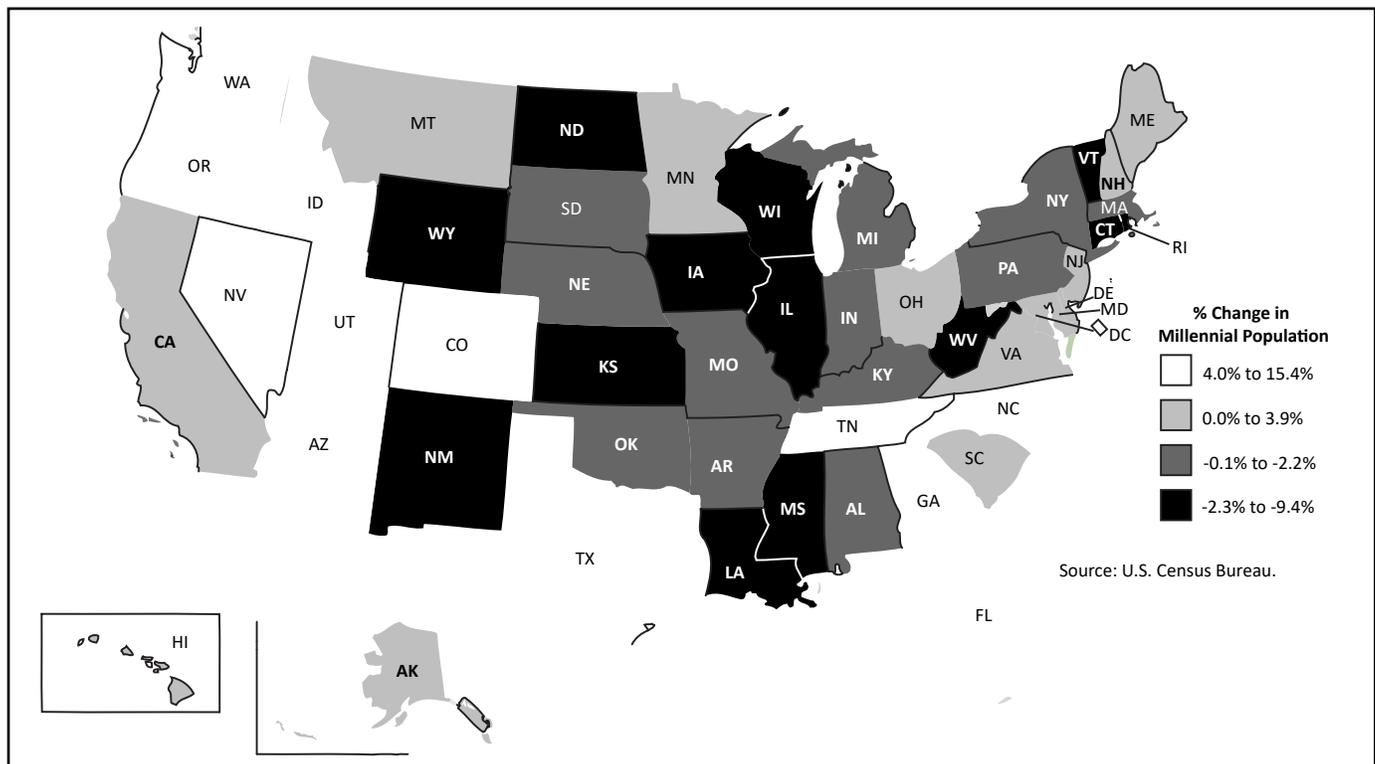


Figure 2: Over-the-Year Percent Change in Millennial Population by State, 2014-2019

Enrollment, Graduation, and Dropouts

According to school district enrollment and staffing data from the Wyoming Department of Education (WDE), fall enrollment for Wyoming’s public schools in 2019/20 was 93,832, an increase of 803 students (0.9%) from the prior year (see Table 2). This marked the second consecutive over-the-year increase in enrollment, which had previously declined each year from 2015/16 to 2017/18 (see Figure 3).

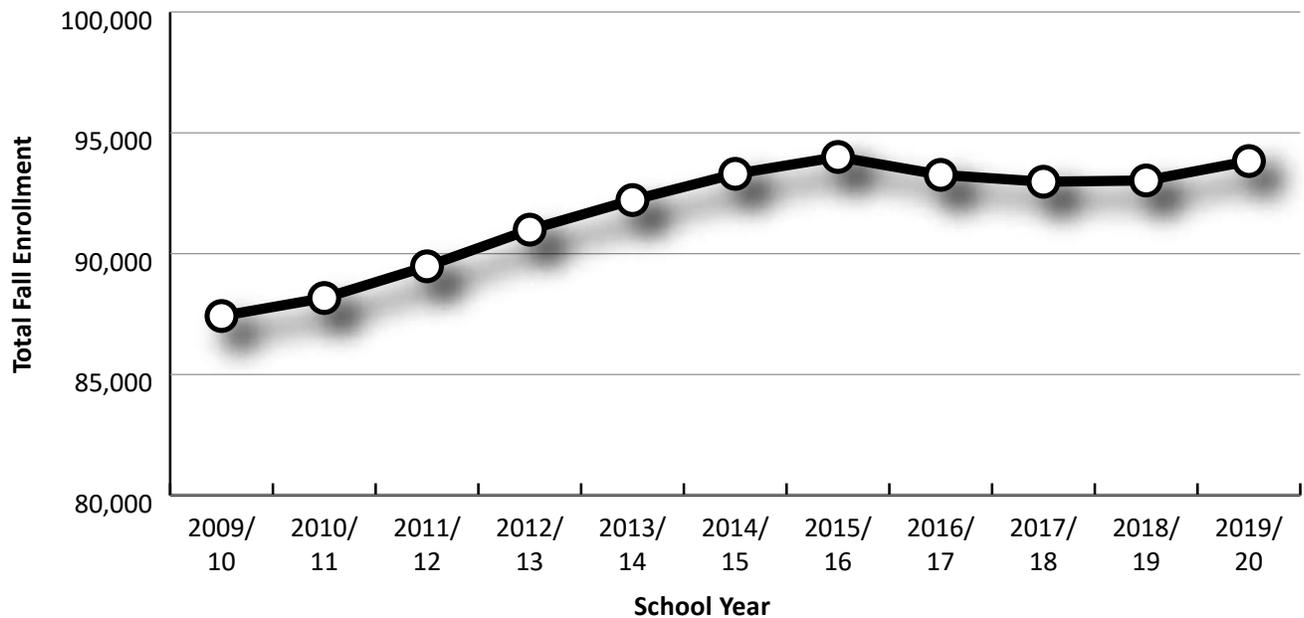
The WDE has used the Federal Four-Year Adjusted Cohort methodology established by the U.S. Department of Education since 2009/10. Wyoming’s four-year (on-time) high school graduate rate has increased over the last two years, and was at 82.1% in 2018/19, higher than at any point in the last decade (see Table 3 and Figure 4, page 7).

Graduation rates varied by district (see Table 4, page 8). In 2018/2019, the lowest graduation rates were found in Fremont County #21 (51.3%), Niobrara County #1 (56.5%), and Fremont County #24 (57.7%).

Table 2: Total Fall Enrollment for Wyoming Public Schools, Grades K-12, 2009/10 to 2019/20

School Year	N	Over-the-Year Change	
		N	%
2009/10	87,420	901	1.0
2010/11	88,165	745	0.9
2011/12	89,476	1,311	1.5
2012/13	90,993	1,517	1.7
2013/14	92,218	1,225	1.3
2014/15	93,303	1,085	1.2
2015/16	94,002	699	0.7
2016/17	93,261	-741	-0.8
2017/18	92,976	-285	-0.3
2018/19	93,029	53	0.1
2019/20	93,832	803	0.9
Change, 2008/09 to 2018/19		6,412	7.3

Source: Wyoming Department of Education 684 File.
Prepared by M. Moore, Research & Planning, WY DWS, 9/21/20.



Source: Wyoming Department of Education 684 File.
Prepared by M. Moore, Research & Planning, WY DWS, 9/21/20.

Figure 3: Total Fall Enrollment for Wyoming Schools, Grades K-12, 2009/10 to 2019/20

From 2010/11 to 2018/19, a total of 9,996 students from grades 9-12 dropped out of Wyoming public schools, an average of 1,111 per year, according to WDE data (see Table 5, page 9). The total number of dropouts increased each of the last two school years, with 1,083 in 2017/18 and 1,104 in 2018/19. Male students accounted for 57.8% of all dropouts over the last nine years, compared to 42.2% for female students (see Table 6 and Figure 5, page 9).

(Text continued on page 11)

Table 3: Wyoming State Graduation Rates, 2009/10 to 2018/19

School Year	4-Year (On-Time)	5-Year	6-Year
2009/10	80.4	82.8	83.5
2010/11	79.7	82.4	82.9
2011/12	78.9	81.3	82.0
2012/13	77.6	80.3	81.0
2013/14	78.6	80.8	81.6
2014/15	79.4	81.6	81.2
2015/16	80.8	82.1	82.6
2016/17	80.2	82.0	82.5
2017/18	81.7	83.3	
2018/19	82.1		

Source: Wyoming Department of Education 684 File.
Prepared by M. Moore, Research & Planning, WY DWS, 9/21/20.

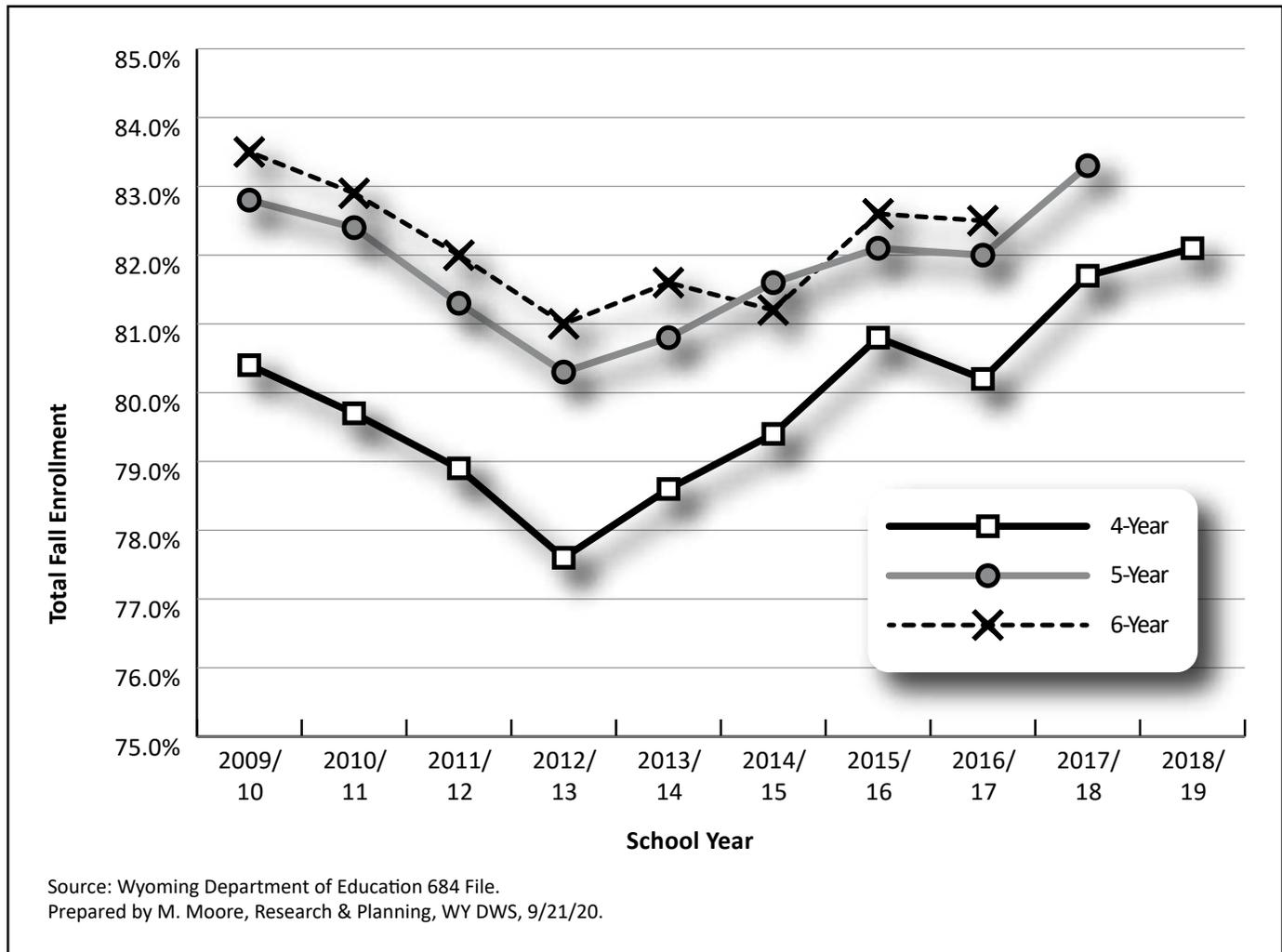


Figure 4: Wyoming State Graduation Rates, 2009/10 to 2018/19

Table 4: Number of Graduates, 4-Year (On-Time) Graduation Rates, and Number of Dropouts (Grades 9-12) by Wyoming Public Schools by District, 2018/19

School District	Total Expected Graduates	Actual Graduates	Graduation Rate	Total Dropouts (Grades 9-12)
Albany #1	302	267	88.4%	39
Big Horn #1	115	78	67.8%	22
Big Horn #2	49	47	95.9%	6
Big Horn #3	50	45	90.0%	5
Big Horn #4	23	17	73.9%	3
Campbell #1	662	530	80.1%	81
Carbon #1	154	121	78.6%	30
Carbon #2	44	37	84.1%	2
Converse #1	127	107	84.3%	23
Converse #2	42	34	81.0%	2
Crook #1	76	70	92.1%	4
Fremont #1	113	91	80.5%	11
Fremont #14	12	10	83.3%	0
Fremont #2	39	35	89.7%	1
Fremont #21	39	20	51.3%	10
Fremont #24	26	15	57.7%	12
Fremont #25	23	21	91.3%	1
Fremont #38	191	124	64.9%	38
Fremont #6	14	1	7.1%	14
Goshen #1	138	121	87.7%	18
Hot Springs #1	58	42	72.4%	18
Johnson #1	89	81	91.0%	12
Laramie #1	1,015	828	81.6%	222
Laramie #2	69	67	97.1%	3
Lincoln #1	31	31	100.0%	2
Lincoln #2	223	191	85.7%	16
Natrona #1	963	773	80.3%	211
Niobrara #1	92	52	56.5%	27
Park #1	144	126	87.5%	5
Park #16	151	139	92.0%	N/A
Park #6	11	8	72.7%	16
Platte #1	79	62	78.5%	23
Platte #2	22	21	95.5%	1
Sheridan #1	61	59	96.7%	7
Sheridan #2	262	224	85.5%	35
Sheridan #3	8	7	87.5%	N/A
Sublette #1	85	77	90.6%	5
Sublette #9	30	29	96.7%	1
Sweetwater #1	392	285	72.7%	95
Sweetwater #2	216	202	93.5%	15
Teton #1	183	172	94.0%	13
Uinta #1	194	150	77.3%	31
Uinta #4	64	57	89.1%	5
Uinta #6	53	49	92.5%	3
Washakie #1	106	92	86.8%	10
Washakie #2	8	8	100.0%	N/A
Weston #1	58	50	86.2%	4
Weston #7	25	19	76.0%	2
Total	6,901	5,637	81.7%	1,104

N/A = Data for Park #16, Sheridan #3, and Washakie #2 were not available.
 Source: Wyoming Department of Education.
 Prepared by M. Moore, Research & Planning, WY DWS, 9/21/20.

Table 5: Total Number of Dropouts in Grades 9-12 by School Year and Grade in Wyoming Public Schools, 2010/11 to 2018/19

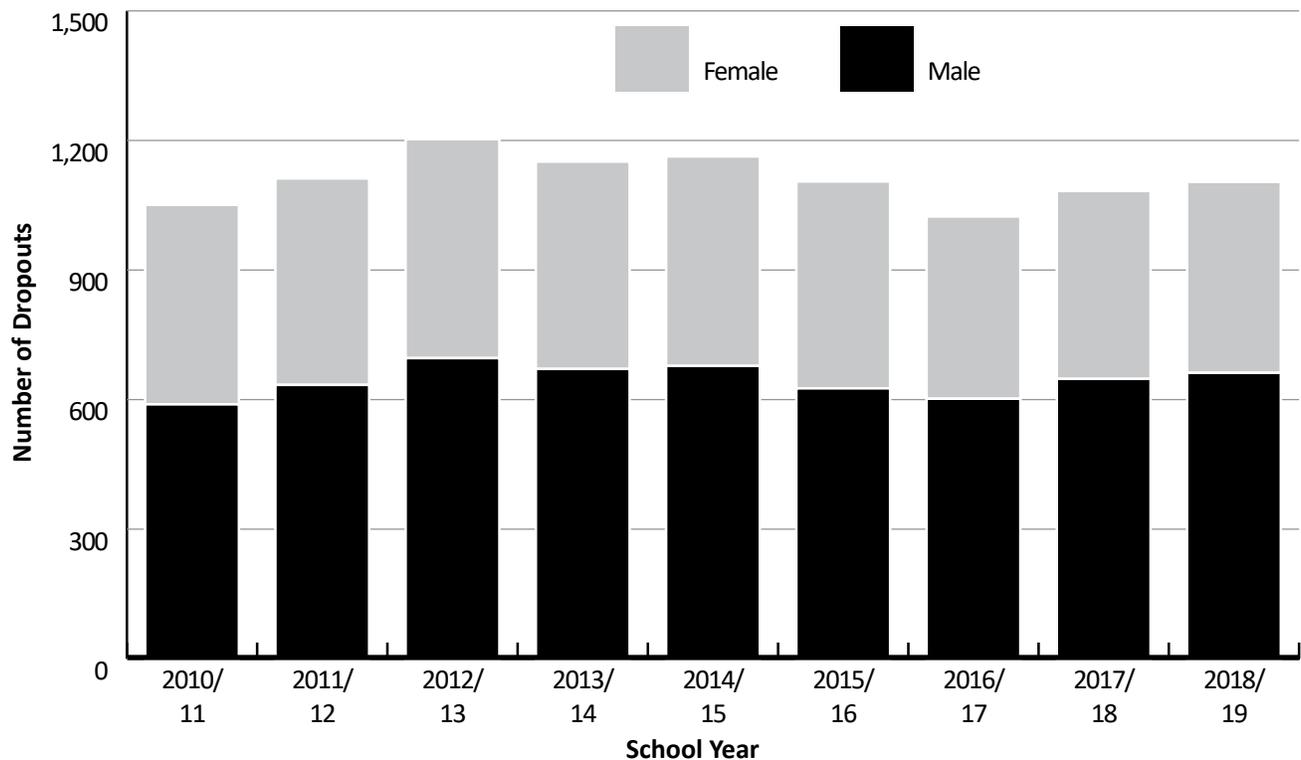
School Year	9	10	11	12	Total
2010/11	141	302	284	324	1,051
2011/12	144	254	320	394	1,112
2012/13	181	291	369	362	1,203
2013/14	147	293	314	397	1,151
2014/15	199	297	333	334	1,163
2015/16	171	289	333	312	1,105
2016/17	135	238	323	328	1,024
2017/18	163	258	304	358	1,083
2018/19	159	292	308	345	1,104
Average, 2010/11-2018/19	160	279	321	350	1,111
Total, 2010/11-2018/19	1,440	2,514	2,888	3,154	9,996

Source: Wyoming Department of Education.
Prepared by M. Moore, Research & Planning, WY DWS, 9/21/20.

Table 6: Total Number of Dropouts in Grades 9-12 by School Year and Gender (Grades 9-12) in Wyoming Public Schools, 2010/11 to 2018/19

School Year	Male		Female		Total
	N	%	N	%	N
2010/11	589	56.0	462	44.0	1,051
2011/12	634	57.0	478	43.0	1,112
2012/13	696	57.9	507	42.1	1,203
2013/14	671	58.3	480	41.7	1,151
2014/15	678	58.3	485	41.7	1,163
2015/16	626	56.7	479	43.3	1,105
2016/17	602	58.8	422	41.2	1,024
2017/18	648	59.8	435	40.2	1,083
2018/19	662	60.0	442	40.0	1,104
Average, 2010/11-2018/19	643	57.8	469	42.2	1,112
Total, 2010/11-2018/19	5,144	57.8	3,748	42.2	8,892

Source: Wyoming Department of Education.
Prepared by M. Moore, Research & Planning, WY DWS, 9/21/20.



Source: Wyoming Department of Education 684 File.
Prepared by M. Moore, Research & Planning, WY DWS, 9/21/20.

Figure 5: Total Number of Wyoming Public School Dropouts by Gender, Grades 9-12, 2010/11 to 2018/19

Table 7: Total Number of Dropouts for Wyoming Public Schools by Grade and School District, 2018/19 School Year

School District	Grade						Total	
	7	8	9	10	11	12	N	Column %
Albany #1	2	0	5	9	11	14	39	3.5
Big Horn #1	1	1	2	10	8	2	22	2.0
Big Horn #2	1	0	1	1	4	0	6	0.5
Big Horn #3	0	0	1	3	1	0	5	0.5
Big Horn #4	0	0	0	2	0	1	3	0.3
Campbell #1	7	2	18	19	28	16	81	7.3
Carbon #1	0	1	7	8	8	7	30	2.7
Carbon #2	0	0	0	0	1	1	2	0.2
Converse #1	0	0	1	3	8	11	23	2.1
Converse #2	0	0	0	0	0	2	2	0.2
Crook #1	0	0	1	2	1	0	4	0.4
Fremont #1	3	0	1	6	0	4	11	1.0
Fremont #2	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
Fremont #6	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0.1
Fremont #14	0	0	7	2	1	0	10	0.9
Fremont #21	1	0	3	7	1	1	12	1.1
Fremont #24	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0.1
Fremont #25	3	2	6	15	8	9	38	3.4
Fremont #38	4	2	9	2	2	1	14	1.3
Goshen #1	1	0	3	4	5	6	18	1.6
Hot Springs #1	0	0	3	2	8	5	18	1.6
Johnson #1	3	0	1	2	6	3	12	1.1
Laramie #1	4	2	54	76	58	34	222	20.1
Laramie #2	0	0	1	2	0	0	3	0.3
Lincoln #1	0	0	1	1	0	0	2	0.2
Lincoln #2	1	0	1	4	1	10	16	1.4
Natrona #1	4	4	13	53	59	86	211	19.1
Niobrara #1	0	0	6	3	6	12	27	2.4
Park #1	0	0	0	3	2	0	5	0.5
Park #6	3	1	1	1	9	5	16	1.4
Platte #1	2	1	1	2	8	12	23	2.1
Platte #2	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0.1
Sheridan #1	1	0	1	2	3	1	7	0.6
Sheridan #2	0	0	2	10	11	12	35	3.2
Sublette #1	0	0	0	1	1	3	5	0.5
Sublette #9	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0.1
Sweetwater #1	3	0	2	17	19	57	95	8.6
Sweetwater #2	0	1	0	4	5	6	15	1.4
Teton #1	1	0	4	0	5	4	13	1.2
Uinta #1	2	1	1	5	12	13	31	2.8
Uinta #4	0	0	0	1	1	3	5	0.5
Uinta #6	0	1	1	0	1	1	3	0.3
Washakie #1	0	0	1	6	2	1	10	0.9
Weston #1	1	1	0	2	1	1	4	0.4
Weston #7	0	0	0	1	1	0	2	0.2
Wyoming	48	21	159	292	308	345	1,104	100.0

Source: Wyoming Department of Education.

Prepared by M. Moore, Research & Planning, WY DWS, 9/23/20.

(Text continued from page 7)

Individuals with Barriers to Employment and Special Populations

The data presented in this section on individuals with barriers to employment and special populations include data from the U.S. Census Bureau's American Community Survey (ACS). The Census Bureau has collected a complete enumeration of the country's population every 10 years since 1790, which is known as the decennial census. In more recent decades, the majority of the population was given the "short form" survey instrument, which only collected age, sex, and race, while a sample of the population was given the "long form" of the survey, which also collected socioeconomic and housing data. In 2010, the Census Bureau replaced this long form with the ACS, which collects similar data to the long form but is conducted on a yearly basis rather than once a decade. This yearly collection schedule allows the data to be released in a timelier manner, which is helpful to the entities that rely on Census data, such as federal, state, and local governments, and researchers (U.S. Census Bureau, 2008).

The ACS is sent to approximately 3 million people across the nation per year. The results are released as one-year, three-year, and five-year estimates based on the number of years of data used to create the estimates. The one-year estimates are the most current but are less accurate because the sample used to create them is smaller. Accuracy increases as more data samples are added to the estimation process. The data used

for this report are five-year estimates, based on data collected between January 1, 2014, and December 31, 2018. Five-year estimates are the most accurate of those released by the Census Bureau, especially for areas with smaller populations, such as Wyoming, or for studying population subgroups such as age groups or gender (U. S. Census Bureau, 2008). For more information about the ACS, examples of the survey instrument, or instructions of filling out the survey, please visit <http://www.census.gov/programs-surveys/acs>. The data used for this report is from the Integrated Public Use Microdata Series (IPUMS), provided by the University of Minnesota (Ruggles, Genadek, Goeken, Grover, and Sobek, 2015).

Poverty

Poverty is measured by the U.S. government in two ways. The first is referred to the poverty threshold, which is updated annually by the U.S. Census Bureau and used for statistical purposes, such as counting the number of people living in poverty. The second, known as poverty guidelines, are a simplified version of the poverty thresholds, which are used by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services for administering certain federal programs, such as the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP). These measurements of poverty vary based on the year and the number of people in the family or household. In 2018, an individual with an annual income of up to \$12,784 or a family of four with an income of up to \$25,701 would be at or below the poverty threshold (U.S. Census Bureau, 2020).

An estimated 13.4% of Wyoming residents, or 78,202 people, were at or below the poverty threshold in 2018 (see

Table 8 and Figure 6, page 12). A sizeable proportion of individuals younger than age 18 (14.4%) were at or below the poverty threshold. Substantial proportions of individuals ages 18-19 (39.4%) and 20-

24 (31.3%) were at or below the poverty threshold; however, it should be noted that individuals in these two age groups make up a large proportion of individuals enrolled in college.

Table 8: Individuals at or Below 100%, 130%, and 160% of the Federal Poverty Threshold by Age Group in Wyoming, 2018

Age Group	100% of Poverty Threshold			130% of Poverty Threshold			160% of Poverty Threshold			
	At or Below	Not At or Below	Total	At or Below	Not At or Below	Total	At or Below	Not At or Below	Total	
00-17	N	19,876	117,832	137,708	27,336	110,372	137,708	36,006	101,702	137,708
	%	14.4	85.6	100.0	19.9	80.1	100.0	26.1	73.9	100.0
18-19	N	6,105	9,408	15,513	7,056	8,457	15,513	7,508	8,005	15,513
	%	39.4	60.6	100.0	45.5	54.5	100.0	48.4	51.6	100.0
20-24	N	12,181	26,759	38,940	14,341	24,599	38,940	17,198	21,742	38,940
	%	31.3	68.7	100.0	36.8	63.2	100.0	44.2	55.8	100.0
25-34	N	10,398	69,914	80,312	13,853	66,459	80,312	18,041	62,271	80,312
	%	12.9	87.1	100.0	17.2	82.8	100.0	22.5	77.5	100.0
35-44	N	7,019	64,861	71,880	9,863	62,017	71,880	12,468	59,412	71,880
	%	9.8	90.2	100.0	13.7	86.3	100.0	17.3	82.7	100.0
45-54	N	6,104	62,509	68,613	7,920	60,693	68,613	9,653	58,960	68,613
	%	8.9	91.1	100.0	11.5	88.5	100.0	14.1	85.9	100.0
55-64	N	7,288	73,566	80,854	9,647	71,207	80,854	12,139	68,715	80,854
	%	9.0	91.0	100.0	11.9	88.1	100.0	15.0	85.0	100.0
65+	N	9,231	78,785	88,016	13,331	74,685	88,016	18,163	69,853	88,016
	%	10.5	89.5	100.0	15.1	84.9	100.0	20.6	79.4	100.0
Total	N	78,202	503,634	581,836	103,347	478,489	581,836	131,176	450,660	581,836
	%	13.4	86.6	100.0	17.8	82.2	100.0	22.5	77.5	100.0

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey. 5-year estimates.
Prepared by L. Knapp, Research & Planning, WY DWS, 9/3/20.

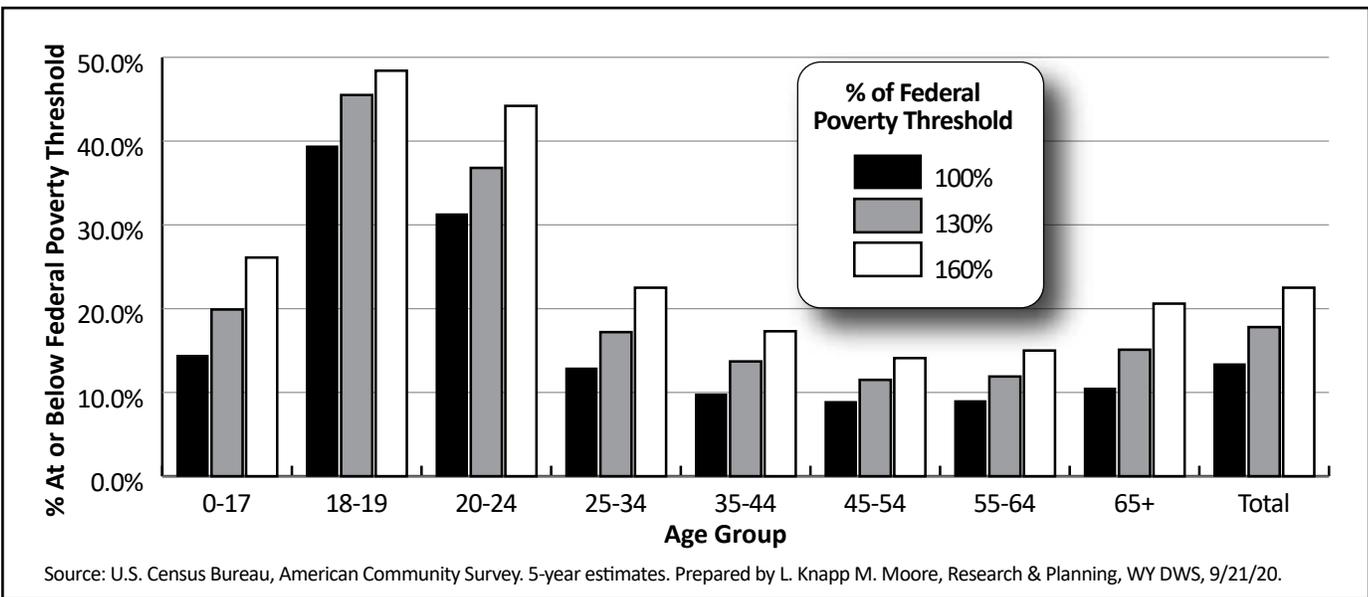


Figure 6: Percent of Individuals at or Below 100%, 130%, and 160% of the Federal Poverty Threshold by Age Group in Wyoming, 2018

An individual who earned up to \$16,619 in a year or a family of four who earned up to \$33,411 would be considered at 130% of the poverty threshold, or 30% more than the poverty threshold (see Table 8, page 12). In Wyoming, 17.8% of individuals had incomes within this range in 2018 (see Table 10, page 12). Again, the highest concentration of these individuals were ages 18-19 (45.5%), 20-24 (36.8%), or younger than age 18 (19.9%).

at 160% of the poverty threshold, or 60% more than the poverty threshold (see Table 8, page 12). In Wyoming, 22.5% of all individuals had incomes within 160% of the poverty threshold in 2018. Nearly half (48.4%) of those ages 18-19 had incomes within this range, and 44.2% of those ages 20-24 had incomes within this range. Among individuals ages 65 or older, 20.6% of people had incomes up to 160% of the poverty threshold.

An individual with annual earnings up to \$20,454 or a family of four with earnings up to \$41,121 would be considered

A greater proportion of Wyoming females (14.6%) were at or below the

Table 9: Individuals at or Below 100%, 130%, and 160% of the Federal Poverty Threshold by Gender in Wyoming, 2018

Gender		100% of Poverty Threshold			130% of Poverty Threshold			160% of Poverty Threshold		
		At or Below	Not At or Below	Total	At or Below	Not At or Below	Total	At or Below	Not At or Below	Total
Female	N	41,442	242,841	284,283	54,852	229,431	284,283	68,913	215,370	284,283
	%	14.6	85.4	100.0	19.3	80.7	100.0	24.2	75.8	100.0
Male	N	36,760	260,793	297,553	48,495	249,058	297,553	62,263	235,290	297,553
	%	12.4	87.6	100.0	16.3	83.7	100.0	20.9	79.1	100.0
Total	N	78,202	503,634	581,836	103,366	478,570	581,936	131,176	450,660	581,836
	%	13.4	86.6	100.0	17.8	82.2	100.0	22.5	77.5	100.0

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey. 5-year estimates. Prepared by L. Knapp, Research & Planning, WY DWS, 9/3/20.

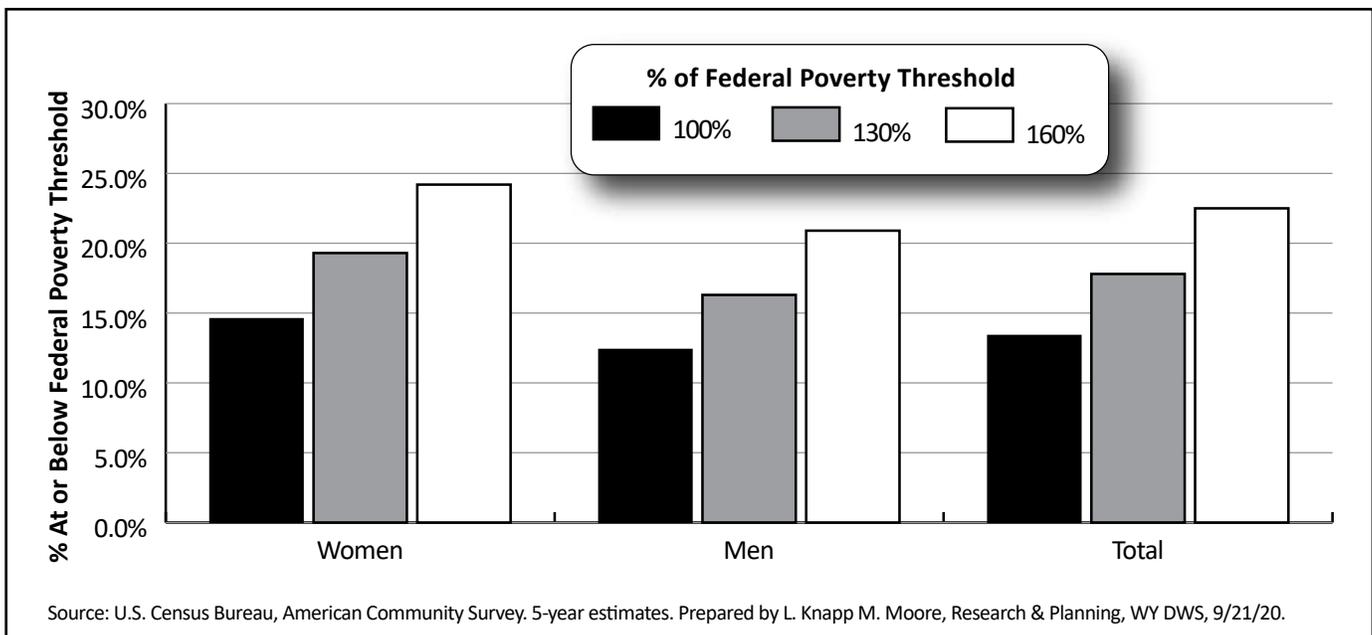


Figure 6: Percent of Individuals at or Below 100%, 130%, and 160% of the Federal Poverty Threshold by Age Group in Wyoming, 2018

poverty threshold than males (12.4%; see Table 9 and Figure 6). A greater proportion of females (19.3%) were at or below 130% of the poverty threshold compared to males (16.3%). Nearly one in four women (24.2%) had earnings within this range, compared to approximately one in five males (20.9%).

Native American

American Indians or Alaska Natives (referred to as Native American individuals for the purposes of this section) reside in all 23 Wyoming counties, but Fremont

County, where the Wind River Reservation is located, had the largest population (21.2%) in 2010, according to 2010 Decennial Census estimates (see Table 10). Please note that these ACS data were not available so Decennial Census estimates were used.

Nearly one-third (32.4%) of the state’s Native American population were younger than age 18 in 2018, while approximately 17.1% were age 55 or older (see Table 11). Among Native Americans age 16 or older, 47.9% were employed and working, 8.1%

Table 10: Proportion of Wyoming Population that is American Indian or Alaska Native by County, 2010

County	American Indian or Alaska Native		County Population Total
	N	%	N
Albany	259	0.7	36,299
Big Horn	100	0.9	11,668
Campbell	531	1.2	46,133
Carbon	160	1.0	15,885
Converse	106	0.8	13,833
Crook	48	0.7	7,083
Fremont	8,498	21.2	40,123
Goshen	108	0.8	13,249
Hot Springs	70	1.5	4,812
Johnson	92	1.1	8,569
Laramie	878	1.0	91,738
Lincoln	146	0.8	18,106
Natrona	781	1.0	75,450
Niobrara	21	0.8	2,484
Park	168	0.6	28,205
Platte	38	0.4	8,667
Sheridan	359	1.2	29,116
Sublette	87	0.8	10,247
Sweetwater	423	1.0	43,806
Teton	111	0.5	21,294
Uinta	168	0.8	21,118
Washakie	93	1.1	8,533
Weston	91	1.3	7,208
Total	13,336	2.4	563,626

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2010 Decennial Census.
Prepared by L. Knapp, Research & Planning, WY DWS, 9/3/20.

Table 11: Age Groups for American Indian or Alaska Native Status in Wyoming, 2018

Age	N	%
Younger than 18	4,479	32.4
18-19	413	3.0
20-24	1,197	8.7
25-34	2,093	15.2
35-44	1,511	10.9
45-54	1,753	12.7
55-64	1,315	9.5
65+	1,047	7.6
Total	13,808	100.0

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey. 5-year estimates.
Prepared by L. Knapp, Research & Planning, WY DWS, 9/3/20.

Table 12: Employment Status for American Indian or Alaska Native Individuals Ages 16 or Older in Wyoming, 2018

Employment Status	N	%
At work	4,730	47.9
Has job, not working	212	2.1
Armed forces--at work	20	0.2
Unemployed	798	8.1
Not in Labor Force	4,125	41.7
Total	9,885	100.0

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey. 5-year estimates.
Prepared by L. Knapp, Research & Planning, WY DWS, 9/3/20.

were unemployed, and 41.7% were not in the labor force (see Table 12).

Veterans

The Census Bureau (2017a) defines veterans as individuals who served in any branch of the United States military during a time of war or peace, for any length of time, at home or abroad. Veterans who are ages 17 or older are included in the ACS statistics. In 2018, there were 46,172 veterans in Wyoming, including active duty (see Table 13). The proportion of veterans increases with age. Only 1.6% of all veterans in Wyoming were younger than 25, while 44.0% of veterans were ages 65 or older.

The United States Department of Veterans Affairs (2015) assigns a disability rating to veterans who received a service-connected disability, defined as “an

injury or illness that was incurred or aggravated during active military service.” This affects, among other things, an individual’s eligibility and priority for medical services. Approximately 19.6% of the state’s veterans have some degree of

Table 13: Age of Wyoming Veterans (Including Active Duty) Ages 17 and Older, 2018

Age Group	N	%
17	0	0
18-19	56	0.1
20-24	703	1.5
25-34	4,229	9.2
35-44	5,219	11.3
45-54	6,473	14.0
55-64	9,173	19.9
65+	20,319	44.0
Total	46,172	100.0

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey. 5-year estimates.
Prepared by L. Knapp, Research & Planning, WY DWS, 9/3/20.

Table 14: Veteran Disability Rating by Age Group for Veterans (Including Active Duty) Ages 18 and Older in Wyoming, 2018

Age Group		Disability Rating					Has disability rating, level not reported	No disability rating	Total
		0	10-20	30-40	50-60	70+			
18-19	N	0	0	0	0	0	0	391	391
	%	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	100.0	100.0
20-24	N	15	0	50	13	116	0	1,928	2,122
	%	0.7	0.0	2.4	0.6	5.5	0.0	90.9	100.0
25-34	N	51	522	376	63	185	81	5,563	6,841
	%	0.7	7.6	5.5	0.9	2.7	1.2	81.3	100.0
35-44	N	40	673	174	192	446	51	4,829	6,405
	%	0.6	10.5	2.7	3.0	7.0	0.8	75.4	100.0
45-54	N	105	443	376	236	417	94	6,052	7,723
	%	1.4	5.7	4.9	3.1	5.4	1.2	78.4	100.0
55-64	N	197	740	426	326	348	87	8,086	10,210
	%	1.9	7.2	4.2	3.2	3.4	0.9	79.2	100.0
65+	N	246	1,338	697	528	1,117	471	19,335	23,732
	%	1.0	5.6	2.9	2.2	4.7	2.0	81.5	100.0
Total	N	654	3,716	2,099	1,358	2,629	784	46,184	57,424
	%	1.1	6.5	3.7	2.4	4.6	1.4	80.4	100.0

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey. 5-year estimates.
Prepared by L. Knapp, Research & Planning, WY DWS, 9/3/20.

disability rating (see Table 14). The largest proportion had a disability rating of 10 to 20 percent (6.5%).

The degree of disability rating varied by age group. The largest proportion of individuals with a 70% disability rating or higher were ages 35-44 (7.0%), while 7.2% of veterans ages 55-64 had a disability rating of 10%-20%. The largest proportion of veterans with some degree of disability rating were ages 35-44: about one-fourth (24.6%) of veterans in this age group had some degree of disability rating.

English Proficiency

In 2018, 93.1% of individuals ages 5 or older indicated they spoke only English (see Table 15). Another 4.8% felt they spoke English very well, 1.2% thought they spoke English well, 0.8% felt they spoke English but not well, and only 0.1% indicated they did not speak English at all.

Disability

Disability, as defined by the Census Bureau (2017b), includes cognitive, ambulatory, independent living, self-care, vision, and hearing impairments. Although a person may have more than one type of disability, they are only counted once

for the purposes of this section. Overall, 14.6% of the population who were ages 5 or older had a disability (see Table 16). The proportion of people with a disability increased with age, from 5.4% of individuals ages younger than 18 to 38.1% of individuals ages 65 or older.

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Table 15: Ability to Speak English, Individuals Ages 5 or Older in Wyoming, 2018

	N	%
Yes, speaks only English	507,733	93.1
Yes, speaks very well	26,232	4.8
Yes, speaks well	6,277	1.2
Yes, but not well	4,271	0.8
Does not speak English	622	0.1
Total	545,135	100.0

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey. 5-year estimates.
Prepared by L. Knapp, Research & Planning, WY DWS, 9/14/20.

Table 16: Disability Status by Age Group for Individuals Ages 5 and Older in Wyoming, 2018

Age Group		Has a Disability	No Disability	Total
0-17	N	5,472	95,535	101,007
	%	5.4	94.6	100.0
18-19	N	1,429	14,084	15,513
	%	9.2	90.8	100.0
20-24	N	3,130	35,810	38,940
	%	8.0	92.0	100.0
25-34	N	5,591	74,721	80,312
	%	7.0	93.0	100.0
35-44	N	5,939	65,941	71,880
	%	8.3	91.7	100.0
45-54	N	9,637	58,976	68,613
	%	14.0	86.0	100.0
55-64	N	14,911	65,943	80,854
	%	18.4	81.6	100.0
65+	N	33,540	54,476	88,016
	%	38.1	61.9	100.0
Total	N	79,649	465,486	545,135
	%	14.6	85.4	100.0

Note: Disability types include cognitive disability, ambulatory difficulty, independent living difficulty, self-care difficulty, vision difficulty, or hearing difficulty. Individuals may have only one or they may have more than one, but they are counted once here.
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey. 5-year estimates.
Prepared by L. Knapp, Research & Planning, WY DWS, 9/14/20.

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