

TRENDS

R&P Publishes Weekly and Monthly UI Claims Data

by: *Michael Moore, Editor*

Initial Unemployment Insurance (UI) claims in Wyoming surpassed 10,000 in March 2020 as businesses and schools were shuttered in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. The total number of initial claims increased from 1,414 in March 2019 to 10,203 in March 2020 — an increase of 8,789 claims, or 621.6%.

There were more initial claims in Wyoming in March 2020 than in any other month dating back to 1997, the first year for which comparable data are available (see Figure 1). The 10,203 claims in March 2020 were nearly twice that of the previous high in December 2009 (5,975) following the national Great Recession.

The Research & Planning (R&P) section of the Wyoming Department of Workforce Services has responded to several requests for UI claims data and is now publishing weekly data each Friday. Monthly UI claims reports are also posted online,

and include several tables and figures, along with a summary of that month's claims data.

Weekly, monthly, and annual UI claims data are available online at <https://doe.state.wy.us/LMI/ui.htm>.

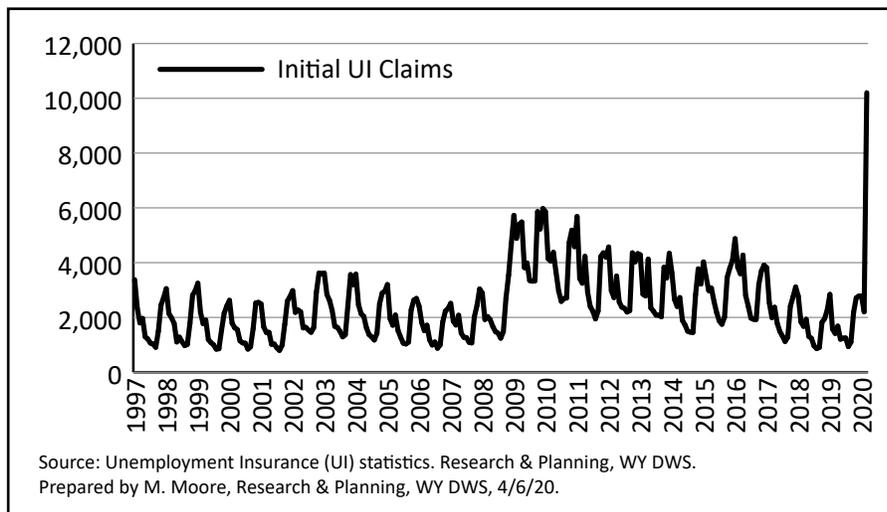


Figure 1: Total Number of Initial Unemployment Insurance Claims for Wyoming by Year and Month, January 1997 to March 2020

HIGHLIGHTS

- In 2019Q4, Wyoming's average monthly employment was 276,041, a 1.0% increase from a year earlier. ... *page 3*
- Seven subsectors met the criteria to be considered growing industries in 2019Q4, while 11 were considered declining industries. ... *page 14*

2019Q4 Quarterly Update

Wyoming's Moderate Job Growth Continues

by: Michael Moore, Editor

This article provides the reader an overview of Wyoming's employment and wages in 2019Q4; it is important for the reader to remember that this was the last quarter before school and business closures in Wyoming due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The data presented are from the Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages, available online at https://doe.state.wy.us/LMI/toc_202.htm.

Fourth quarter 2019 (2019Q4) marked the 10th consecutive quarter of over-the-year job growth for Wyoming. The state added more than 2,500 jobs as average monthly employment reached 276,041,

and total wages increased by \$160.4 million to a total of \$3.6 billion (see Table 1), according to data from the Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages (QCEW). The average weekly wage for Wyoming was \$1,013, up \$35 (3.6%) over the year.

Table 1: Average Monthly Employment (Jobs Worked), Total Wages, and Average Weekly Wage for Wyoming, 2018Q4 and 2019Q4

	2019Q4	2018Q4	Change, 2018Q4-2019Q4	
			N	%
Average Monthly Employment	276,041	273,327	2,714	1.0
Total Wages	\$3.6 Billion	\$3.5 Billion	\$160.4 Million	4.6
Average Weekly Wage	\$1,013	\$978	\$35	3.6

Source: Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages. Prepared by M. Moore, Research & Planning, WY DWS, 4/23/20.

This article provides an overview of employment and wages by industry for 2019Q4, with a focus on mining and construction. In addition, this article examines employment and wage changes by county of employment.

Wyoming experienced two periods of economic downturn over the last decade: 2009Q1 to 2010Q1 and 2015Q2 to 2016Q4

(Text continued on page 5)

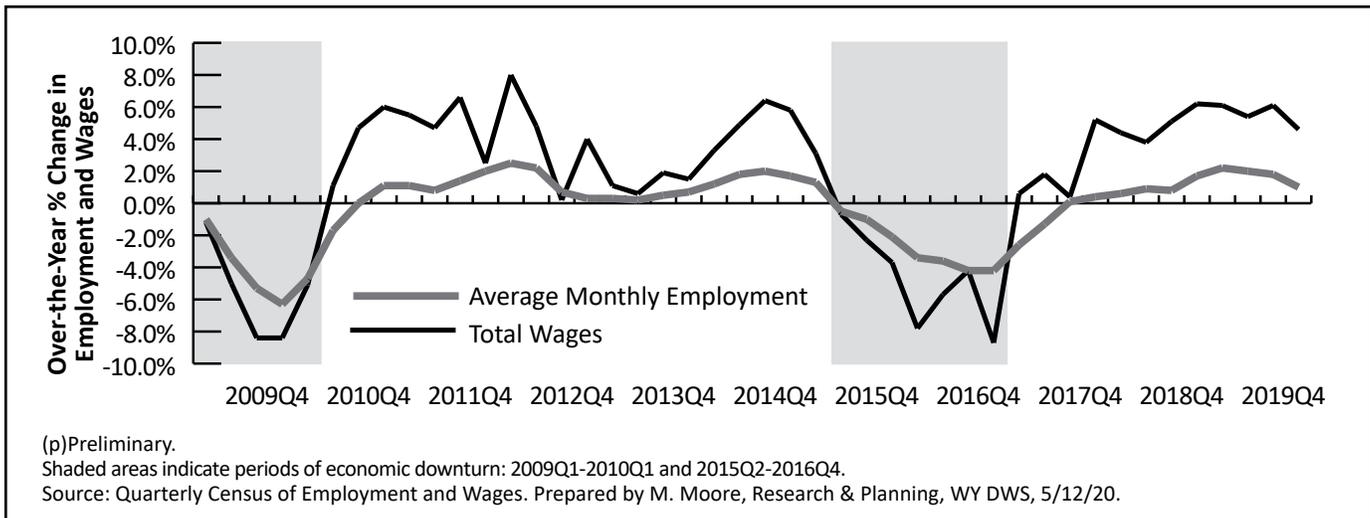


Figure 1: Over-the-Year Percent Change in Average Monthly Employment and Total Wages Across All Industries in Wyoming, 2009Q1-2019Q4

Table 2: Average Monthly Employment, Total Wages, and Average Weekly Wage in Wyoming, 2009Q4-2019Q4

Year/ Quarter	Average Monthly Employment	Over-the-Year Change		Total Wages (in Millions)	Over-the-Year Change		Average Weekly Wage	Over-the-Year Change	
		N	%		\$	%		\$	%
2009Q4	269,439	-18,039	-6.3	\$2,911.6	-\$265.6	-8.4	\$831	-\$19	-2.2
2010Q1	260,726	-12,745	-4.7	\$2,627.6	-\$136.8	-4.9	\$774	-\$3	-0.4
2010Q2	273,044	-4,853	-1.7	\$2,802.8	\$29.7	1.1	\$790	\$22	2.9
2010Q3	279,429	1,195	0.4	\$2,866.7	\$130.6	4.8	\$792	\$35	4.7
2010Q4	272,511	3,072	1.1	\$3,087.1	\$175.5	6.0	\$871	\$40	4.8
2011Q1	263,558	2,832	1.1	\$2,769.1	\$141.5	5.4	\$808	\$34	4.4
2011Q2	275,169	2,125	0.8	\$2,933.5	\$130.6	4.7	\$820	\$30	3.9
2011Q3	282,231	2,802	1.0	\$3,053.9	\$187.2	6.5	\$832	\$41	5.1
2011Q4	278,015	5,504	2.0	\$3,165.7	\$78.7	2.5	\$876	\$5	0.5
2012Q1	270,073	6,515	2.5	\$2,991.2	\$222.2	8.0	\$852	\$44	5.4
2012Q2	281,192	6,023	2.2	\$3,074.2	\$140.7	4.8	\$841	\$21	2.6
2012Q3	284,180	1,949	0.7	\$3,060.1	\$6.2	0.2	\$828	-\$4	-0.5
2012Q4	278,934	919	0.3	\$3,294.1	\$128.3	4.1	\$908	\$33	3.7
2013Q1	270,881	808	0.3	\$3,024.2	\$33.0	1.1	\$859	\$7	0.8
2013Q2	281,707	515	0.2	\$3,093.1	\$18.9	0.6	\$845	\$4	0.4
2013Q3	285,726	1,546	0.5	\$3,119.2	\$59.1	1.9	\$840	\$11	1.4
2013Q4	280,701	1,767	0.6	\$3,344.4	\$50.3	1.5	\$916	\$8	0.9
2014Q1	274,050	3,169	1.2	\$3,124.2	\$99.9	3.3	\$877	\$18	2.1
2014Q2	286,669	4,962	1.8	\$3,243.4	\$150.3	4.9	\$870	\$26	3.0
2014Q3	291,299	5,573	2.0	\$3,317.5	\$198.2	6.4	\$876	\$36	4.3
2014Q4	285,540	4,839	1.7	\$3,536.9	\$192.5	5.8	\$953	\$36	4.0
2015Q1	277,691	3,641	1.3	\$3,218.2	\$94.0	3.0	\$892	\$15	1.7
2015Q2	285,186	-1,483	-0.5	\$3,219.0	-\$24.4	-0.8	\$868	-\$2	-0.2
2015Q3	288,316	-2,983	-1.0	\$3,242.0	-\$75.4	-2.3	\$865	-\$11	-1.3
2015Q4	279,408	-6,132	-2.1	\$3,406.8	-\$130.0	-3.7	\$938	-\$15	-1.6
2016Q1	268,324	-9,367	-3.4	\$2,974.7	-\$243.5	-7.6	\$852	-\$40	-4.5
2016Q2	275,018	-10,168	-3.6	\$3,035.5	-\$183.5	-5.7	\$849	-\$19	-2.2
2016Q3	276,309	-12,007	-4.2	\$3,107.0	-\$135.0	-4.2	\$865	\$0	0.0
2016Q4	267,641	-11,767	-4.2	\$3,111.4	-\$295.4	-8.7	\$894	-\$44	-4.7
2017Q1	261,224	-7,100	-2.6	\$2,988.8	\$14.1	0.5	\$880	\$28	3.3
2017Q2	271,729	-3,289	-1.2	\$3,092.2	\$56.7	1.9	\$875	\$26	3.1
2017Q3	276,521	212	0.1	\$3,118.5	\$11.5	0.4	\$868	\$3	0.3
2017Q4	268,791	1,150	0.4	\$3,273.2	\$161.9	5.2	\$937	\$42	4.7
2018Q1	262,788	1,564	0.6	\$3,121.6	\$132.8	4.4	\$914	\$34	3.8
2018Q2	273,771	2,042	0.8	\$3,205.4	\$113.2	3.7	\$901	\$25	2.9
2018Q3	278,812	2,291	0.8	\$3,277.9	\$159.4	5.1	\$904	\$37	4.2
2018Q4	273,327	4,536	1.7	\$3,475.3	\$202.0	6.2	\$978	\$41	4.4
2019Q1	268,683	5,895	2.2	\$3,313.5	\$191.9	6.1	\$949	\$35	3.8
2019Q2	279,141	5,370	2.0	\$3,379.0	\$173.5	5.4	\$931	\$30	3.4
2019Q3	283,842	5,030	1.8	\$3,478.7	\$200.8	6.1	\$943	\$39	4.3
2019Q4(p)	276,041	2,714	1.0	\$3,635.7	\$160.4	4.6	\$1,013	\$35	3.6

Boxed areas indicate periods of economic downturn: 2009Q1-2010Q1 and 2015Q2-2016Q4. An economic downturn is defined as a period of at least two consecutive quarters of over-the-year decrease in average monthly employment and total wages.

(p)Preliminary. Source: Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages. Prepared by C. Toups, Research & Planning, WY DWS, 5/7/20.

Box: North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) Structure of Selected Levels for Construction (NAICS 23)

Level	NAICS Code	Title
Sector (2-Digit)	23	Construction
Subsector (3-Digit)	237	Heavy & Civil Engineering Construction
Industry Group (4-Digit)	2371	Utility System Construction
Detailed Industry (5-Digit)	23711	Water & Sewer System Construction
Detailed Industry (5-Digit)	23712	Oil & Gas Pipeline Construction
National Detailed Industry (6-Digit)	237120	Oil & Gas Pipeline Construction

Source: North American Industry Classification System (NAICS).

(Text continued from page 3)

(see Figure 1, page 3, and Table 2, page 4). An *economic downturn* is defined by the Research & Planning (R&P) section of the Wyoming Department of Workforce Services as a period of at least two consecutive quarters of over-the-year decrease in average monthly employment and total wages based on data from the QCEW. Both downturns were preceded by declining energy prices (Moore, 2019). Although Wyoming’s average monthly employment has trended upward since the end of the most recent economic downturn, employment levels remain noticeably lower compared to pre-downturn levels (see Figure 2).

Industry

Industries are classified by the North American Industry Classification System

(NAICS). A sample of the NAICS hierarchal structure can be found in the Box on page 4. Table 3 (see page 6) shows employment and wages at the two-digit sector level. In addition to the industry sectors presented in Table 3, this article also includes more detailed data for mining, including oil & gas (NAICS 21) and construction (NAICS 23). The mining industry drives Wyoming’s economy, and it is therefore important to understand changes at the subsector (three-digit), industry group (four-digit), and detailed national industry (six-digit) levels presented in Table 4 (see page 8). Construction has seen rapid employment growth over the last several quarters, and Table 5 (see page 10) shows which particular subsectors (three-digit), industry groups (four-digit), and detailed national industries (six-digit) saw growth in 2019Q4.

As shown in Table 3, several industries experienced over-the-year job growth in 2019Q4. Construction added the greatest

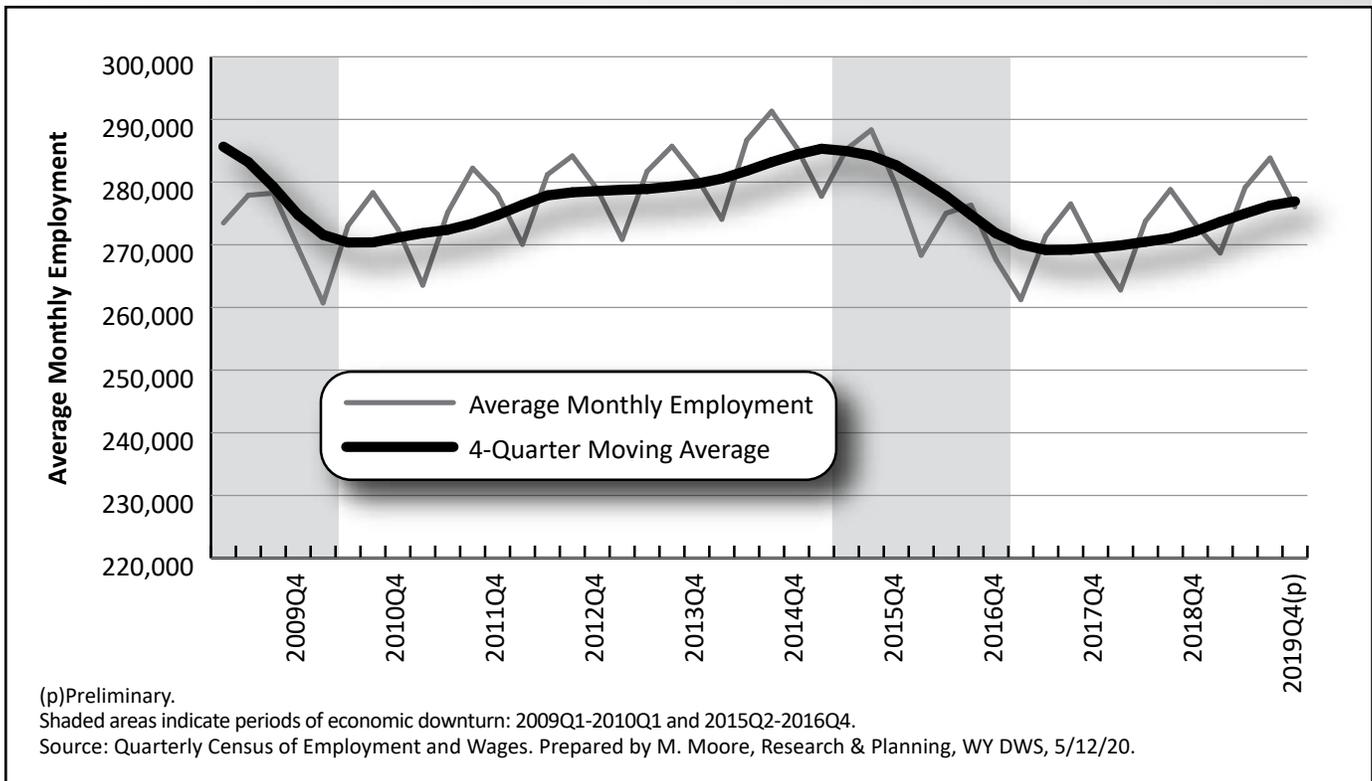


Figure 2: Average Monthly Employment Across All Industries in Wyoming, 2009Q1-2019Q4

number of jobs (1,547, or 7.1%), followed by leisure & hospitality (810 or 2.4%), health care & social assistance (402, or 1.6%), wholesale trade, transportation, warehousing, & utilities (196, or 0.9%), and private educational services (162, or

9.8%). Mining experienced the greatest over-the-year job losses (-725, or -3.4%), followed by retail trade (-403, or -1.4%)

Overall, average monthly employment in private industry increased by 1,930

Table 3: Average Monthly Employment, Total Wages, and Average Weekly Wage in Wyoming by 2-Digit NAICS^a Sector and Ownership, 2018Q4 and 2019Q4

NAICS ^a Code	Industry	Average Monthly Employment				Total Wages (in Millions)				Average Weekly Wage			
		2019Q4	2018Q4	N	%	2019Q4	2018Q4	\$	%	2019Q4	2018Q4	\$	%
Ownership - Total		276,041	273,327	2,714	1.0	\$3,635.7	\$3,475.3	\$160.4	4.6	\$1,013	\$978	\$35	3.6
Ownership - Private		209,772	207,842	1,930	0.9	\$2,774.3	\$2,645.1	\$129.2	4.9	\$1,017	\$979	\$38	3.9
11	Agriculture	2,658	2,751	-93	-3.4	\$28.8	\$29.1	-\$0.3	-1.2	\$834	\$815	\$19	2.3
21	Mining, Including Oil & Gas	20,353	21,078	-725	-3.4	\$491.2	\$486.5	\$4.8	1.0	\$1,857	\$1,775	\$81	4.6
23	Construction	23,283	21,736	1,547	7.1	\$364.3	\$322.0	\$42.3	13.1	\$1,203	\$1,139	\$64	5.6
31	Manufacturing	10,146	10,079	67	0.7	\$178.7	\$174.6	\$4.1	2.4	\$1,355	\$1,332	\$23	1.7
42, 48-49, 22	Wholesale Trade, Trans., Warehousing, & Utilities	21,040	20,844	196	0.9	\$355.7	\$348.2	\$7.5	2.2	\$1,300	\$1,285	\$15	1.2
44-45	Retail Trade	28,847	29,250	-403	-1.4	\$227.4	\$222.8	\$4.7	2.1	\$607	\$586	\$21	3.5
51	Information	3,385	3,458	-74	-2.1	\$42.3	\$42.6	-\$0.3	-0.8	\$962	\$948	\$13	1.4
52-53	Financial Activities	11,290	11,186	104	0.9	\$185.4	\$175.2	\$10.2	5.8	\$1,263	\$1,205	\$58	4.8
54-56	Pro. & Business Services	19,074	19,117	-42	-0.2	\$307.8	\$282.1	\$25.7	9.1	\$1,241	\$1,135	\$106	9.4
61	Educational Services	1,818	1,656	162	9.8	\$15.5	\$13.8	\$1.7	12.5	\$654	\$639	\$16	2.5
62	Health Care & Social Assist.	25,773	25,371	402	1.6	\$309.2	\$293.6	\$15.6	5.3	\$923	\$890	\$33	3.7
71-72	Leisure & Hospitality	34,935	34,125	810	2.4	\$192.1	\$182.8	\$9.3	5.1	\$423	\$412	\$11	2.6
81	Other Services, Except Public Admin.	7,091	7,173	-82	-1.1	\$73.8	\$71.6	\$2.2	3.0	\$801	\$768	\$33	4.2
Total Government		66,269	65,485	784	1.2	\$861.4	\$830.1	\$31.2	3.8	\$1,000	\$975	\$25	2.5
Federal Govt.		7,334	7,328	6	0.1	\$135.0	\$132.9	\$2.1	1.6	\$1,416	\$1,395	\$21	1.5
State Govt.		12,345	12,289	56	0.5	\$179.4	\$173.8	\$5.7	3.3	\$1,118	\$1,088	\$30	2.8
Local Govt.		46,589	45,868	722	1.6	\$546.9	\$523.4	\$23.4	4.5	\$903	\$878	\$25	2.9
Educational Services		24,133	23,821	312	1.3	\$308.8	\$293.6	\$15.2	5.2	\$817	\$800	\$18	2.2
Health Care & Social Assistance		8,898	8,416	482	5.7	\$192.0	\$182.8	\$9.2	5.1	\$1,259	\$1,197	\$62	5.2

^aNorth American Industry Classification System.

Source: Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages.

Prepared by M. Moore, Research & Planning, WY DWS, 5/11/20.

jobs, or 0.9%. Table 3 shows that employment in government increased by 784 jobs, or 1.2%. Much of that growth was from local government, which added 722 jobs (1.6%).

Mining had the highest average weekly wage in 2019Q4 (\$1,857), followed by manufacturing (\$1,355) and wholesale trade, transportation, warehousing, & utilities (\$1,300). The lowest wages were found in leisure & hospitality (\$423), retail

trade (\$607), and private educational services (\$654). Of the three levels of government shown in Table 3, federal government had the highest average weekly wage (\$1,416).

Figure 3 shows the percentage each industry contributed to total employment and total wages in Wyoming in 2019Q4. Mining accounted for 7.4% of all jobs and 13.5% of total wages. Conversely, leisure & hospitality contributed 12.7% of jobs and

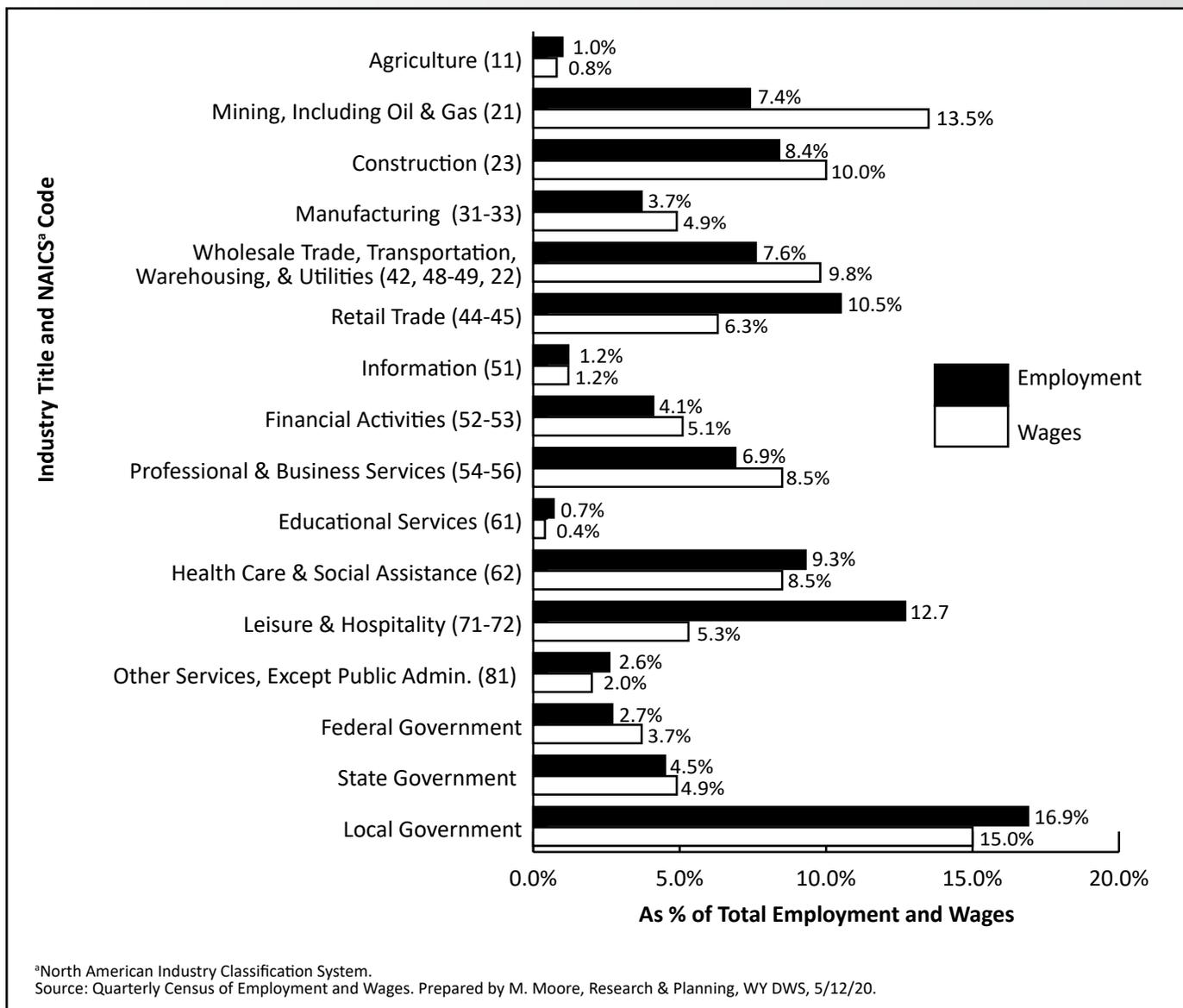


Figure 3: Industry Employment and Wages as a Percent of Total Jobs and Wages in Wyoming, 2019Q4

5.3% of total wages. In other words, leisure & hospitality contributed a greater share of jobs but a smaller share of wages; this indicates that wages tend to be lower in that industry than in mining, which contributed a greater proportion of wages and a smaller proportion of jobs. Local government — which includes public schools, colleges, and hospitals — accounted for the greatest proportion of jobs (16.9%) and wages (15.0%) in the state.

The percentages shown in Figure 3 vary depending on several factors, including year, quarter, and economic conditions. For several years, mining contributed close to 20% of the state's total wages; in other words, approximately \$1 of every \$5 paid in Wyoming came from mining. Between the two recent economic downturns (2010Q2 to 2015Q1), mining contributed an average

of 18.1% of all wages per quarter. Since the end of the most recent downturn (2016Q1 to 2019Q4), mining has contributed an average of 14.0% of all wages per quarter.

Mining, Including Oil & Gas (NAICS 21)

The average monthly employment for mining, including oil & gas in 2019Q4 was 20,353, or 7.3% of total jobs in Wyoming. Total wages for mining were \$491.2 million, or 13.5% of the state's total wages.

Average monthly employment in mining, including oil & gas decreased by 725 jobs, or 3.4% over the year (see Table 4). Fourth quarter 2019 marked the second consecutive quarter of over-the-year job losses in mining (Moore, 2020). Since the end of

Table 4: Average Monthly Employment and Total Wages in Private Industry Mining, Including Oil & Gas (NAICS 21) by Selected Subsector (3-Digit), Industry (4-Digit), and Detailed Industry (6-Digit), 2018Q4-2019Q4

NAICS ^a Code	Industry	Average Monthly Employment				Total Wages (in Millions)			
		2019Q4	2018Q4	N	%	2019Q3	2018Q3	\$	%
21	Mining, Including Oil & Gas	20,353	21,078	-725	-3.4	\$491.2	\$486.5	\$4.8	1.0
211	Oil & Gas Extraction	2,865	3,068	-203	-6.6	\$84.8	\$88.0	-\$3.3	-3.7
211120	Crude Petroleum Extraction	1,631	1,733	-102	-5.9	\$49.4	\$49.9	-\$0.5	-1.0
211130	Natural Gas Extraction	1,234	1,335	-101	-7.5	\$35.4	\$38.1	-\$2.7	-7.2
212	Mining, Except Oil & Gas	7,778	8,007	-229	-2.9	\$192.2	\$185.2	\$7.0	3.8
2121	Coal Mining	5,024	5,299	-275	-5.2	\$124.9	\$122.6	\$2.3	1.9
2122	Metal Ore Mining	99	109	-10	-9.2	\$2.3	\$2.3	\$0.0	1.9
2123	Nonmetallic Mineral Mining & Quarrying	2,655	2,599	56	2.2	\$65.0	\$60.4	\$4.6	7.7
213	Support Activities For Mining	9,710	10,004	-293	-2.9	\$214.2	\$213.2	\$1.0	0.5
213111	Drilling Oil & Gas Wells	1,531	1,758	-226	-12.9	\$37.4	\$41.6	-\$4.2	-10.1
213112	Support Activities For Oil & Gas Operations	7,854	7,874	-20	-0.3	\$171.1	\$164.9	\$6.2	3.8
213113	Support Activities For Coal Mining	185	229	-44	-19.1	\$2.7	\$3.8	-\$1.1	-28.3
213114	Support Activities For Metal Mining	67	88	-22	-24.5	\$1.5	\$2.0	-\$0.4	-22.6
213115	Support Activities For Nonmetallic Minerals	73	55	18	33.3	\$1.5	\$0.9	\$0.5	59.6

^aNorth American Industry Classification System.

Source: Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages.

Prepared by M. Moore, Research & Planning, WY DWS, 5/12/20.

the most recent economic downturn, job growth in mining had been driven by the support activities for mining subsector (NAICS 213), which includes drilling oil & gas wells, along with support activities for oil & gas, coal, metal, and nonmetallic minerals mining. However, employment in support activities for mining decreased by 293 jobs (-2.9%) in 2019Q4, the first quarter of over-the-year job loss for this subsector since 2016Q4 (see Figures 4 and 5).

Oil & gas extraction (NAICS 211) lost 203 jobs over the year (-6.6%). As shown in Table 4, the job losses were evenly distributed between crude petroleum extraction (-102 jobs) and natural gas extraction (-101 jobs). Figures 4 and 5 show that employment in this subsector has largely trended downward since the start of the most recent economic downturn.

Employment in mining, except oil & gas (NAICS 212) decreased from 8,007 in 2018Q4 to 7,778 in 2019Q4 (-229, or -2.9%). This decrease was due in large part to continued job losses in coal mining (NAICS 2121), which lost 275 jobs (-5.2%) over the year. Nonmetallic mineral mining & quarrying (NAICS 2123) added 56

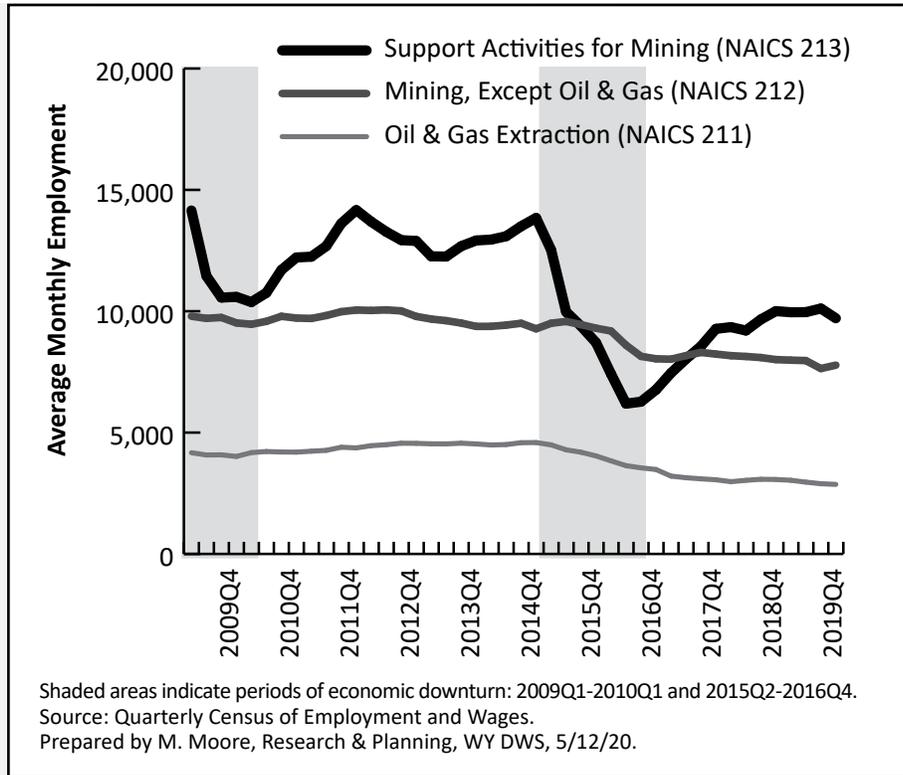


Figure 4: Average Monthly Employment in Mining by Subsector (3-Digit NAICS), 2009Q1-2019Q4

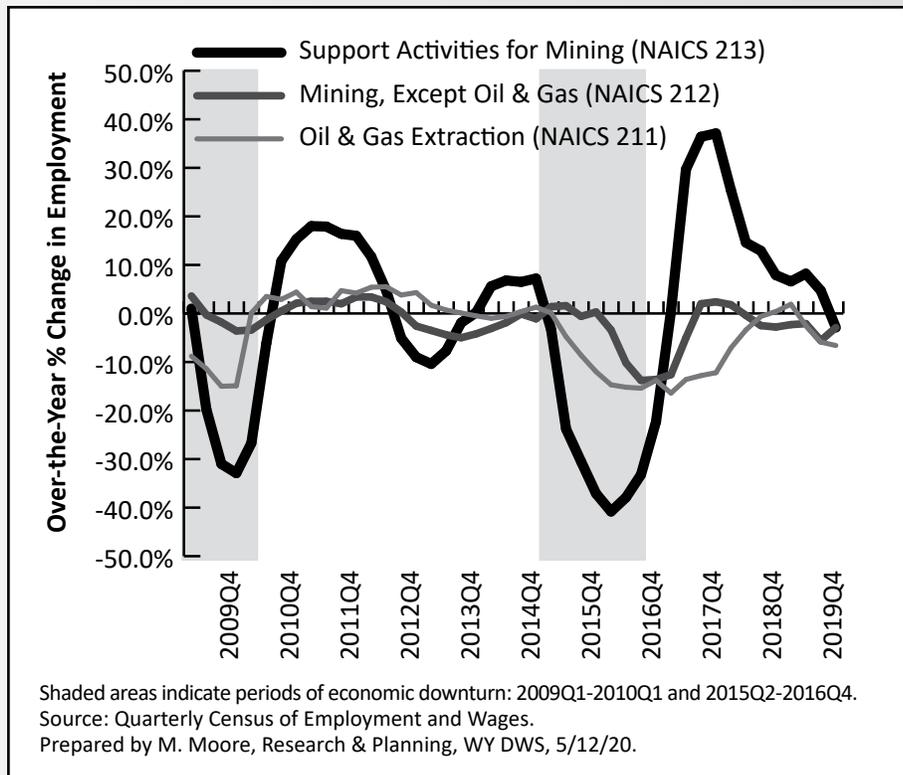


Figure 5: Over-the-Year Percent Change in Average Monthly Employment in Mining by Subsector (3-Digit NAICS), 2009Q1-2019Q4

jobs over the year, an increase of 2.2%. Employment in mining, except oil & gas had been relatively flat for several years, but has steadily declined since the start of the most recent economic downturn (see Figures 4 and 5).

Construction (NAICS 23)

The average monthly employment for construction in 2019Q4 was 23,283, or 8.4% of total jobs in Wyoming. Total wages for construction were \$364.3 million, or 10.0% of the state's total wages.

Wyoming's construction sector added 1,547 jobs as employment increased 7.1% in 2019Q4, while total wages increased by \$42.3 million (13.1%). Construction led all sectors in job growth in Wyoming during each quarter since 2018Q4. However, it should be noted that some jobs associated with construction may be temporary, and employers may rely on workers to commute from another county or state of residence. As shown in Figures 6 and 7 (see page 11), construction experienced a prolonged period of over-the-year job losses for 13 quarters from 2015Q2 to 2018Q2. Employment then

Table 5: Average Monthly Employment and Total Wages in Private Industry Construction (NAICS 23) by Selected Subsector (3-Digit), Industry (4-Digit), and Detailed Industry (6-Digit), 2018Q4-2019Q4

NAICS ^a Code	Title	Average Monthly Employment				Total Wages (in Millions of Dollars)			
		2019Q4	2018Q4	N	%	2019Q4	2018Q4	\$	%
23	Construction	23,283	21,736	1,547	7.1	\$364.3	\$322.0	\$42.3	13.1
236	Construction of Buildings	3,905	3,867	38	1.0	\$55.7	\$52.5	\$3.2	6.1
2361	Residential Building Construction	2,659	2,532	127	5.0	\$34.8	\$30.9	\$3.9	12.5
2362	Nonresidential Building Construction	1,247	1,335	-88	-6.6	\$20.9	\$21.6	-\$0.6	-3.0
237	Heavy & Civil Engineering Construction	7,448	6,792	657	9.7	\$132.7	\$118.1	\$14.6	12.4
2371	Utility System Construction	5,579	4,952	626	12.6	\$102.5	\$90.4	\$12.1	13.3
237110	Water & Sewer System Construction	396	391	5	1.3	\$5.7	\$5.5	\$0.2	3.0
237120	Oil & Gas Pipeline Construction	4,062	3,533	529	15.0	\$75.0	\$65.1	\$9.9	15.2
237130	Power & Communication System Construction	1,121	1,028	93	9.0	\$21.8	\$19.8	\$2.0	10.1
2372	Land Subdivision	33	44	-11	-24.3	\$0.4	\$0.5	-\$0.2	-30.2
2373	Highway, Street, & Bridge Construction	1,581	1,543	38	2.5	\$25.4	\$23.2	\$2.2	9.5
2379	Other Heavy Construction	255	252	3	1.2	\$4.5	\$4.0	\$0.5	12.5
238	Specialty Trade Contractors	11,930	11,077	852	7.7	\$175.8	\$151.3	\$24.5	16.2
2381	Building Foundation & Exterior Contractors	2,711	2,426	286	11.8	\$39.1	\$29.8	\$9.3	31.3
2382	Building Equipment Contractors	4,973	4,627	346	7.5	\$80.3	\$70.3	\$10.0	14.2
2383	Building Finishing Contractors	2,950	2,677	273	10.2	\$43.0	\$37.9	\$5.1	13.4
2389	Other Specialty Trade Contractors	2,976	2,677	299	11.2	\$43.5	\$37.9	\$5.6	14.9

^aNorth American Industry Classification System.

Source: Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages.

Prepared by M. Moore, Research & Planning, WY DWS, 5/12/20.

increased from prior-year levels during each quarter from 2018Q3 to 2019Q4.

In order to provide a better understanding of construction growth, Table 5 (see page 10) shows employment and wage data for the construction industry by selected subsector, industry group, and detailed national industry. Heavy & civil engineering construction (NAICS 237) added the greatest number of jobs over the year, as average monthly employment increased from 6,792 to 7,448 (657, or 9.7%). Construction growth in 2018 and 2019 was driven by oil & gas pipeline construction (NAICS 237120), which added 529 jobs (15.0%) over the year in 2019Q4. Growth was also seen in the construction of buildings (NAICS 236) and specialty trade contractors (NAICS 238) subsectors.

County

Table 7 (see page 12) shows employment and total wages in Wyoming by county of employment in 2018Q4 and 2019Q4. Converse County once again led the state in job growth (1,254, or 19.4%), followed by Natrona (471, or 1.2%), Teton (464, or 2.4%), and Laramie (453, or 1.0%) counties. Job losses were seen in several counties,

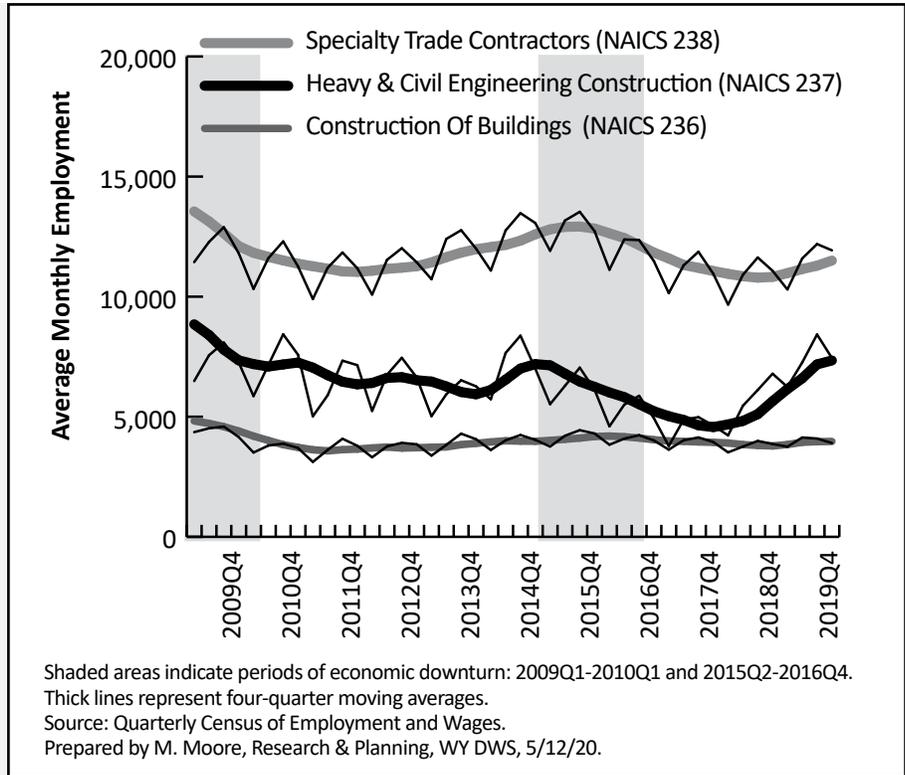


Figure 6: Average Monthly Employment in Construction by Subsector (3-Digit NAICS), 2009Q1-2019Q4

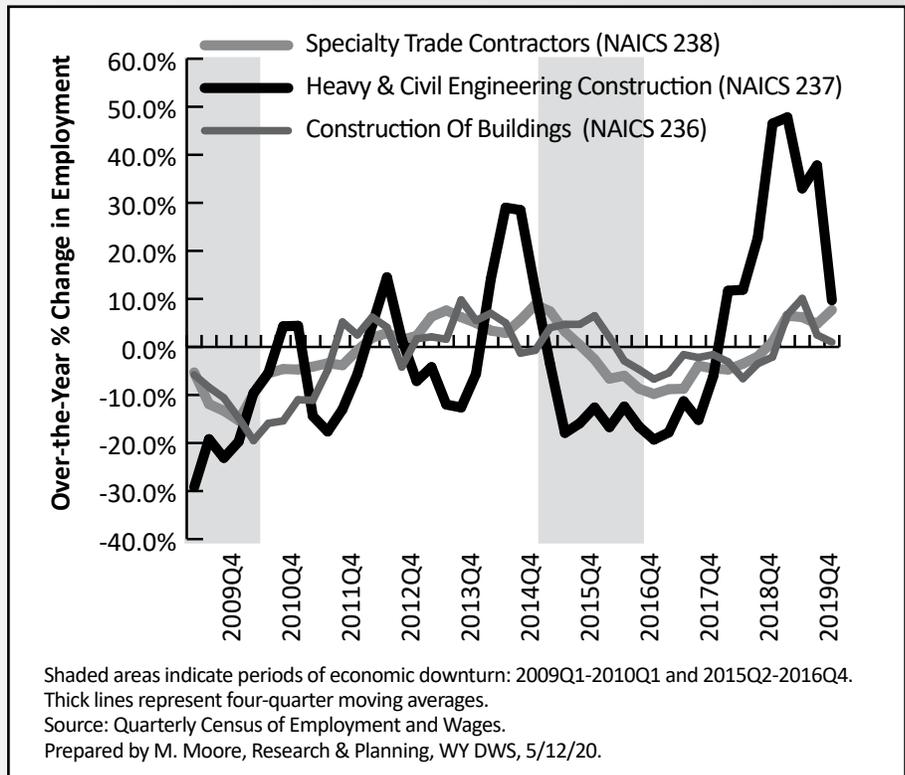


Figure 7: Over-the-Year Percent Change in Average Monthly Employment in Construction by Subsector (3-Digit NAICS), 2009Q1-2019Q4

including Sweetwater (-549, or -2.4%), Goshen (-201, or -4.6%), Platte (-186, or -5.1%), and Sublette (-141, or -3.5%) counties.

Conclusion

Wyoming's average monthly employment increased from prior-year levels for the 10th consecutive quarter in 2019Q4. Job growth continued in construction, but Wyoming's mining sector — which accounted for 13.5% of the state's total wages in 2019Q4 — lost jobs over the year.

Although Wyoming's economy experienced more than two years of moderate job growth in 2018 and 2019, the state saw many layoffs and other disruptions related to the COVID-19 pandemic and declining oil & gas prices (see related article on page 1). The COVID-19-related job losses started in mid-March, which will be included in the data for 2020Q1 in the July 2020 issue of *Wyoming Labor Force Trends*.

Research & Planning regularly publishes and updates news releases, reports, and data, which are available online at <https://doe.state.wy.us/LMI>.

Table 7: Average Monthly Employment and Total Wages in Wyoming by County of Employment, 2018Q4-2019Q4

County	Average Monthly Employment				Total Wages (in Millions of Dollars)			
	2019Q4	2018Q4	Change		2019Q4	2018Q4	Change	
			N	%	\$	\$	\$	%
Total	276,041	273,327	2,714	1.0	\$3,635.7	\$3,475.3	\$160.4	4.6
Albany	15,803	15,699	104	0.7	\$169.7	\$162.6	\$7.2	4.4
Big Horn	4,176	4,050	126	3.1	\$44.8	\$43.1	\$1.6	3.8
Campbell	25,373	25,016	358	1.4	\$402.2	\$375.8	\$26.4	7.0
Carbon	6,915	6,917	-2	0.0	\$88.6	\$85.9	\$2.7	3.1
Converse	7,708	6,454	1,254	19.4	\$123.2	\$92.3	\$30.9	33.4
Crook	2,479	2,414	64	2.7	\$29.7	\$28.1	\$1.6	5.6
Fremont	15,347	15,135	211	1.4	\$171.0	\$166.3	\$4.8	2.9
Goshen	4,150	4,351	-201	-4.6	\$41.9	\$41.9	\$0.0	0.0
Hot Springs	1,850	1,875	-25	-1.3	\$18.9	\$19.3	-\$0.4	-2.3
Johnson	3,148	3,266	-118	-3.6	\$32.9	\$33.2	-\$0.3	-0.9
Laramie	47,264	46,811	453	1.0	\$602.9	\$580.5	\$22.4	3.9
Lincoln	6,575	6,355	219	3.5	\$81.8	\$77.6	\$4.2	5.4
Natrona	39,503	39,032	471	1.2	\$546.5	\$531.2	\$15.2	2.9
Niobrara	843	903	-60	-6.7	\$8.1	\$8.2	-\$0.1	-0.9
Park	13,162	13,131	31	0.2	\$148.9	\$145.2	\$3.7	2.6
Platte	3,436	3,622	-186	-5.1	\$40.7	\$44.5	-\$3.8	-8.5
Sheridan	13,505	13,407	98	0.7	\$158.6	\$151.7	\$6.8	4.5
Sublette	3,926	4,067	-141	-3.5	\$56.0	\$59.0	-\$3.0	-5.0
Sweetwater	22,044	22,593	-549	-2.4	\$339.3	\$342.0	-\$2.6	-0.8
Teton	19,751	19,287	464	2.4	\$287.7	\$257.9	\$29.8	11.5
Uinta	8,259	8,340	-81	-1.0	\$89.1	\$89.4	-\$0.2	-0.2
Washakie	3,526	3,628	-102	-2.8	\$39.5	\$37.9	\$1.6	4.2
Weston	2,365	2,337	28	1.2	\$26.3	\$25.6	\$0.7	2.8
Nonclassified	4,935	4,636	299	6.5	\$87.3	\$76.1	\$11.3	14.8

Source: Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages.

Prepared by M. Moore, Research & Planning, WY DWS, 5/11/20.

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Wyoming Labor Force Increases in 2019

by: *Carola Cowan, BLS Programs Supervisor*

Wyoming's average annual unemployment rate for 2019 was 3.6%, down from 3.9% in 2018. The unemployment rate declined from a previous high of 6.4% in 2010 to 4.1% in 2014. In 2015, the unemployment rate increased to 4.3% after large layoffs in Wyoming's energy sector. It continued to increase to 5.3% in 2016. The decline in the unemployment rate that began in 2017 was associated

with a large decline in the labor force that continued in 2018 (see Figure 1). The labor force in Wyoming steadily declined from a high of 307,267 in 2012 to 291,428 in 2018. In 2019, Wyoming finally saw a small increase in the labor force to 292,258.

Local Area Unemployment Statistics for Wyoming are available online at <https://doe.state.wy.us/LMI/LAUS.htm>.

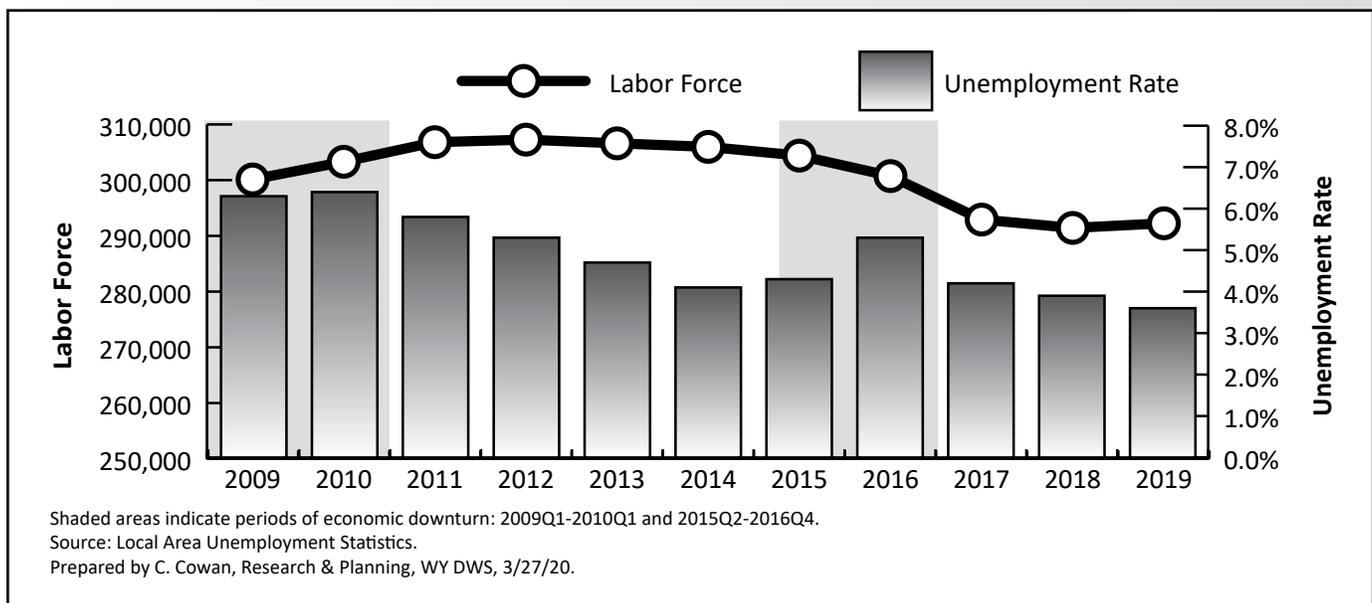


Figure 1: Wyoming Labor Force and Unemployment Rate, 2009-2019

Growing and Declining Industries in Wyoming

by: *Michael Moore, Editor; Methodologist: Sherry Wen, Principal Economist*

The Research & Planning (R&P) section of the Wyoming Department of Workforce Services publishes quarterly reports on growing and declining industries in Wyoming online at https://doe.state.wy.us/LMI/G_DInd/G_D_Industries.htm. At the time of this publication, data were available from second quarter 2001 (2001Q2) to fourth quarter 2019 (2019Q4).

This article presents the most current data available (2019Q4) on growing and declining industries in Wyoming, along with a discussion on growing and declining industries for the eight most recent quarters (2018Q1 to 2019Q4).

Introduction

Growing and declining industry data are determined at the subsector (three-digit) level as identified by the North American Industry Classification System (NAICS). For more information on NAICS, please see the Box on page 4. The growing and declining industry reports from R&P are prepared using data from the Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages (QCEW; see related article on page 3).

A *growing industry* is defined as a subsector (three-digit NAICS code) for which employment levels increased by at least 5.0% over the year for the current quarter and the previous. For example, growing industries for 2019Q4 are those subsectors that grew by at least 5.0% from 2018Q3 to 2019Q3 and 2018Q4 to 2019Q4.

Conversely, a *declining industry* is a

subsector for which employment levels decreased by at least 5.0% over the year for the current quarter and the prior one. Declining industries for 2019Q4 are those that decreased by at least 5.0% from 2018Q3 to 2019Q3 and 2018Q4 to 2019Q4.

Only subsectors with employment of 100 or more are included in the growing and declining industries for Wyoming.

During periods of rapid economic expansion, the number of growing industries is much greater than the number of declining industries (see Figure 1, page 15). For example, the number of growing industries in Wyoming peaked at 26 in 2006Q3 and 2006Q4, compared to three and five declining industries, respectively. But during economic downturns, there are far more declining industries than growing industries. R&P has defined an *economic downturn* as a period of at least two consecutive quarters of over-the-year decrease in average monthly employment and total wages based on data from the QCEW. As noted in the related article on page 3, Wyoming experienced two periods of economic downturn in the recent past: 2009Q1 to 2010Q1 and 2015Q2 to 2016Q4. In 2009Q4 during the previous downturn, Wyoming had 33 declining industries compared to just six growing industries. In 2016Q4 during the most recent downturn, Wyoming had 25 declining industries and zero growing industries.

Wyoming's employment has yet to return to levels seen prior to the previous economic downturn (see related article on page 3). Figure 2 (see page 15) illustrates how Wyoming lost a substantial number

(Text continued on page 16)

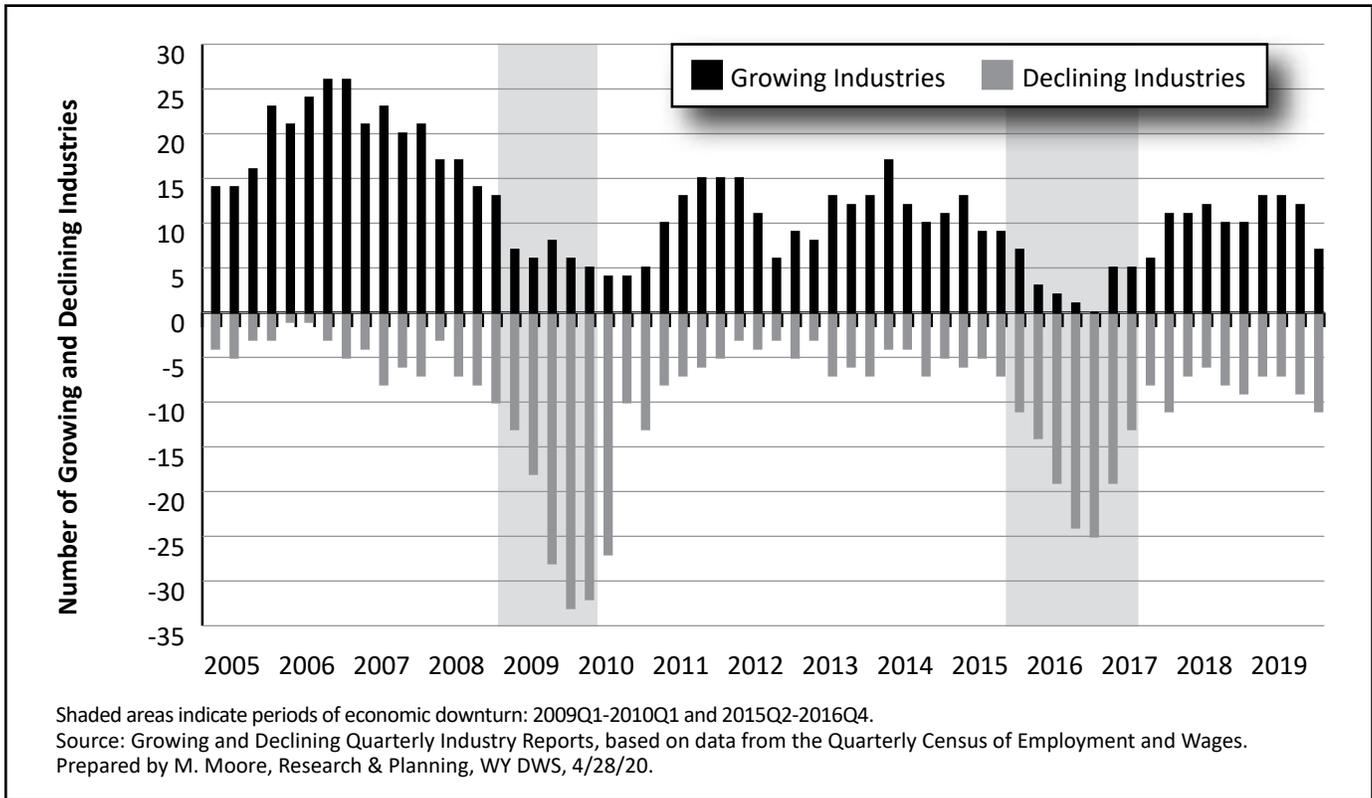


Figure 1: Number of Growing and Declining Industries in Wyoming by Year and Quarter, 2005Q1-2019Q4

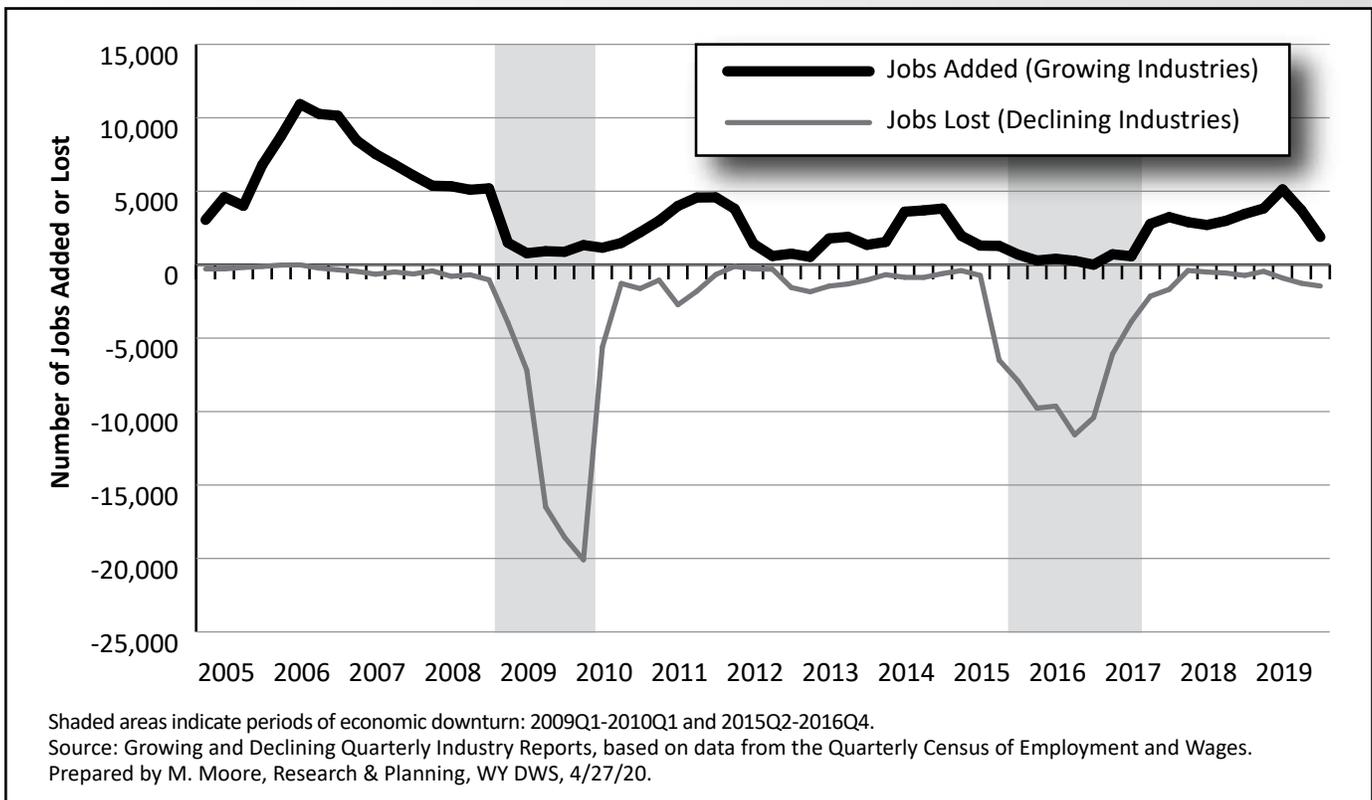


Figure 2: Number of Jobs Added and Lost in Growing and Declining Industries in Wyoming by Year and Quarter, 2005Q1-2019Q4

(Text continued from page 14)

of jobs during the previous downturn, and has never added enough jobs to compensate for the job losses. During the most recent downturn, Wyoming lost as many as 11,583 jobs from declining industries in 2016Q3 and added just 264 new jobs from growing industries that same quarter.

The number of new jobs from growing industries exceeded the number of lost jobs from declining industries during each quarter since 2017Q3.

Growing Industries

As shown in Table 1, seven subsectors met the criteria to be considered growing industries in 2019Q4. Overall, these seven growing industries added 1,890 jobs from 2018Q4 to 2019Q4 and increased at an average rate of 12.6%.

The subsector with the greatest average percentage change was electrical equipment & appliance manufacturing

Table 1: Growing Industries (3-Digit NAICS Subsector) in Wyoming, 2019Q4

NAICS ^a Code	Title	2019Q4 Average Weekly Wage ^b	Employment, 2018Q4-2019Q4				Employment, 2018Q3-2019Q3				Avg. % Change ^c	
			2019Q4	2018Q4	N Change	% Change	2019Q3	2018Q3	N Change	% Change		
335	Electrical Equipment & Appliance Mfg.	\$1,193	360	236	124	52.5	354	231	123	53.2	52.9	
237	Heavy & Civil Engineering Const.	\$1,371	7,449	6,792	657	9.7	8,425	6,115	2,310	37.8	23.7	
326	Plastics & Rubber Products Mfg.	\$887	334	301	33	11.0	329	296	33	11.1	11.1	
334	Computer & Electronic Product Mfg.	\$1,157	338	312	26	8.3	354	315	39	12.4	10.4	
488	Support Activities for Transportation	\$1,077	1,616	1,490	126	8.5	1,552	1,408	144	10.2	9.3	
454	Nonstore Retailers	\$885	648	602	46	7.6	627	574	53	9.2	8.4	
238	Specialty Trade Contractors	\$1,135	11,956	11,078	878	7.9	12,222	11,631	592	5.1	6.5	
Total Growing Industries			\$1,199	22,700	20,810	1,890	9.1	23,863	20,570	3,293	16.0	12.6

Includes both public and privately owned firms.

^aNorth American Industry Classification System.

^bThe average weekly wage is calculated by dividing the total wage for the industry subsector by the total number of jobs for the industry subsector and the number of weeks in the observed quarter. The reader should also be aware that average weekly wages at the industry subsector level are susceptible to wage bias due to sample size, occupational distributions, seasonal pay and bonuses, and keying error.

^cThe percentage for average change is the employment-weighted average percentage change of the current and prior quarters (employment change current quarter + employment change prior quarter)/(employment current quarter + employment prior quarter).

Source: Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages.

Prepared by S. Wen, Research & Planning, WY DWS, 4/24/20.

(NAICS 335), which increased at an average rate of 52.9%. Specialty trade contractors (NAICS 238) added the greatest number of jobs over the year in 2019Q4 (878).

Overall these growing industries had an average weekly wage of \$1,199, which was higher than the statewide average of \$1,013 (see Table 3 in the related article on page 6). Growing industries with relatively high average weekly wages included heavy & civil engineering construction (\$1,371), electrical equipment & appliance manufacturing (\$1,193), computer & electronic product manufacturing (\$1,157), and specialty trade contractors (\$1,135).

From 2018Q1 to 2019Q4, two subsectors were responsible for the most job growth within growing industries: support activities for mining (NAICS 213) and heavy & civil engineering construction (NAICS 237). In 2018Q4, these two subsectors together accounted for 82.8% of all new jobs in growing industries (see Table 2).

In 2018Q1, the 1,898 new jobs in support activities for mining accounted for 65.6%

(or nearly two in every three) of all new jobs in growing industries. Support activities for mining met the criteria for growing industries in all but two of the last eight quarters (2019Q3 and 2019Q4). As mentioned in the related article in this publication, in 2019Q4, employment in support activities for mining decreased from prior-year levels for the first time since 2016Q4.

Heavy & civil engineering construction experienced rapid growth in 2018 and 2019, which was primarily due to ongoing oil & gas pipeline projects. In 2018Q4 and 2019Q3, for example, this subsector accounted for approximately 62.0% of all new jobs in growing industries (see Table 2). Prior to the growth that began in 2018, heavy & civil engineering construction — and the construction sector overall — endured 12 consecutive quarters (three years) of over-the-year job losses (Moore, 2019).

Table 3 (see page 18) shows the number of jobs added by selected growing industries from 2018Q1 to 2019Q4. Many of the new jobs in Table 3 were in subsectors related to the aforementioned support

Table 2: Number of New Jobs in Support Activities for Mining (NAICS 213), Heavy & Civil Engineering Construction, and All Growing Industries in Wyoming, 2018Q1-2019Q4

Year/Quarter	Support Activities for Mining (NAICS 213)		Heavy & Civil Engineering Construction (NAICS 237)		Total, All Growing Industries	
	N	Row %	N	Row %	N	Row %
2018Q1	1,898	65.6	*	*	2,894	100.0
2018Q2	1,146	42.4	556	20.6	2,703	100.0
2018Q3	1,095	36.7	1,134	38.0	2,985	100.0
2018Q4	692	20.0	2,172	62.8	3,456	100.0
2019Q1	504	13.2	1,963	51.3	3,827	100.0
2019Q2	686	13.4	2,015	39.3	5,127	100.0
2019Q3	*	*	2,299	62.0	3,707	100.0
2019Q4	*	*	657	34.7	1,890	100.0

* The subsector did not meet the criteria to be considered a growing industry in that year and quarter.
 Source: Growing and Declining Quarterly Industry Reports, based on data from the Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages.
 Prepared by M. Moore, Research & Planning, WY DWS, 4/27/20.

activities for mining and heavy & civil engineering construction. Several growing industries were in manufacturing (NAICS 31-33), including fabricated metal product manufacturing (NAICS 332), machinery manufacturing (NAICS 333), and electrical equipment, appliance, & component manufacturing (NAICS 335).

Declining Industries

In 2019Q4, 11 subsectors met the criteria to be considered declining industries. This marked the first time that the number of declining industries exceeded the number of growing industries in Wyoming since 2017Q3. However, the number of jobs added in growing industries (1,890) was still greater than the number of jobs lost in declining industries (1,453).

The subsector with the greatest average percentage change was air transportation (NAICS 481), which decreased at an average rate of 24.4%. The subsectors with the largest number of job losses included general merchandise stores (NAICS 452; -516 jobs), food manufacturing (NAICS 311; -207 jobs), and oil & gas extraction (NAICS 211; -203 jobs).

Many of the subsectors classified as declining industries had average weekly wages noticeably lower than the statewide average of \$1,013, including motion picture & sound recording industries (\$384), general merchandise stores (\$523), and private households (\$606; see Table 4, page 19). Other declining industries had noticeably higher average weekly wages, however, including oil & gas extraction (\$2,276), electronic markets & agents & brokers (\$1,769), and national security

Table 3: Number of Jobs Added in Selected Growing Industries (3-Digit NAICS Subsector) in Wyoming, 2018Q1-2019Q4

NAICS ^a Code	Title	2018Q1	2018Q2	2018Q3	2018Q4	2019Q1	2019Q2	2019Q3	2019Q4
0	Total, All Growing Subsectors	2,894	2,703	2,985	3,456	3,827	5,127	3,707	1,890
213	Support Activities for Mining	1,898	1,146	1,095	692	504	686	*	*
237	Heavy & Civil Engineering Construction	*	556	1,134	2,172	1,963	2,015	2,299	657
238	Specialty Trade Contractors	*	*	*	*	*	634	*	878
332	Fabricated Metal Product Manufacturing	192	245	242	245	231	141	99	*
333	Machinery Manufacturing	51	60	70	101	119	124	98	*
334	Computer & Electronic Product Manufacturing	105	104	97	72	67	58	39	26
335	Electrical Equipment, Appliance, & Component Manufacturing	*	38	43	60	111	105	123	124
484	Truck Transportation	296	218	*	*	*	*	233	*
488	Support Activities for Transportation	*	*	*	*	106	190	142	126
532	Rental & Leasing Services	197	189	166	*	*	*	*	*
541	Professional, Scientific, & Technical Services	*	*	*	*	532	765	554	*

Note: Only growing industries with a minimum of 100 jobs added in at least one quarter were included in this table.

^aNorth American Industry Classification System.

* The subsector did not meet the criteria to be considered a growing industry in that quarter.

Source: Growing and Declining Quarterly Industry Reports, based on data from the Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages.

Prepared by M. Moore, Research & Planning, WY DWS, 4/28/20.

& international affairs (\$1,238). Overall, the average weekly wage for declining industries (\$1,054) was higher than the statewide average (\$1,013).

During the last two years, job losses from declining industries have ranged from -393 in 2018Q1 to -1,455 in 2019Q4. Several subsectors met the criteria to be considered declining industries from 2018Q1 to 2019Q4. But because many of those subsectors had small employment changes

or only met the declining industry criteria for one quarter, Table 5 (see page 20) shows only the subsectors with a minimum of 100 jobs lost in at least one quarter.

Wholesale electronic markets & agents & brokers (NAICS 425) lost the largest number of jobs in each quarter 2018, but job losses have since slowed. From 2019Q2 to 2019Q4, the greatest job losses were seen in general merchandise stores (NAICS 452), which includes department stores, warehouse

Table 4: Declining Industries (3-Digit NAICS Subsector) in Wyoming, 2019Q4

NAICS ^a Code	Title	2019Q4 Average Weekly Wage ^b	Employment, 2018Q4-2019Q4				Employment, 2018Q3-2019Q3				Avg. % Change ^c
			2019Q4	2018Q4	N Change	% Change	2019Q3	2018Q3	N Change	% Change	
481	Air Transportation	\$959	327	487	-160	-32.9	483	574	-91	-15.9	-24.4
311	Food Manufacturing	\$672	798	1,005	-207	-20.6	628	776	-148	-19.1	-19.8
111	Crop Production	\$701	520	648	-128	-19.8	605	735	-130	-17.7	-18.7
425	Electronic Markets & Agents & Brokers	\$1,769	127	147	-20	-13.6	129	149	-20	-13.4	-13.5
814	Private Households	\$606	326	376	-50	-13.3	359	414	-55	-13.3	-13.3
452	General Merchandise Stores	\$523	5,317	5,833	-516	-8.8	5,477	6,143	-666	-10.8	-9.8
115	Agriculture & Forestry Support Activities	\$867	251	286	-35	-12.2	372	393	-21	-5.3	-8.8
512	Motion Picture & Sound Recording Industries	\$384	454	489	-35	-7.2	483	529	-46	-8.7	-7.9
518	Data Processing, Hosting & Related Services	\$1,183	190	202	-12	-5.9	186	206	-20	-9.7	-7.8
211	Oil & Gas Extraction	\$2,276	2,865	3,068	-203	-6.6	2,893	3,076	-183	-5.9	-6.3
928	National Security & International Affairs	\$1,238	1,224	1,309	-85	-6.5	1,204	1,279	-75	-5.9	-6.2
Total Declining Industries		\$1,054	12,395	13,848	-1,453	-10.5	12,817	14,272	-1,455	-10.2	-10.2

Includes both public and privately owned firms.

^aNorth American Industry Classification System.

^bThe average weekly wage is calculated by dividing the total wage for the industry subsector by the total number of jobs for the industry subsector and the number of weeks in the observed quarter. The reader should also be aware that average weekly wages at the industry subsector level are susceptible to wage bias due to sample size, occupational distributions, seasonal pay and bonuses, and keying error.

^cThe percentage for average change is the employment-weighted average percentage change of the current and prior quarters (employment change current quarter + employment change prior quarter)/(employment current quarter + employment prior quarter).

Source: Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages.

Prepared by S. Wen, Research & Planning, WY DWS, 4/24/20.

clubs, and other general merchandise retailers. Several large retailers have closed stores in Wyoming in recent years, including Sears, Kmart, Macy's, Shopko, and Payless (Lorenz, 2019). Oil & gas extraction (NAICS 211) was considered a declining industry for the first time in two years with 207 job losses in 2019Q4.

Conclusion

R&P's quarterly growing and declining industry reports help provide a better understanding of Wyoming's job market, particularly at the industry level. During times of economic expansion, there are more growing industries and thus more jobs being added. But during times of economic downturn, the number of declining industries has exceeded the number of growing industries and Wyoming has experienced rapid job loss. The eight quarters from 2018Q1 to 2019Q4 marked a period of moderate growth for Wyoming, with more

growing industries than declining industries during each quarter until 2019Q4.

Editor's note: The major impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic were first seen in 2020Q1, which will be discussed in future reports.

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Table 5: Number of Jobs Lost in Selected Declining Industries (3-Digit NAICS Subsector) in Wyoming, 2018Q1-2019Q4

NAICS ^a Code	Title	2018Q1	2018Q2	2018Q3	2018Q4	2019Q1	2019Q2	2019Q3	2019Q4
0	Total, All Declining Industries	-393	-501	-569	-733	-453	-908	-1,270	-1,453
111	Crop Production	*	*	*	*	*	-92	-80	-128
211	Oil & Gas Extraction	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	-203
311	Food Manufacturing	*	*	*	-70	-116	-89	-150	-207
425	Wholesale Electronic Markets & Agents & Brokers	-205	-197	-174	-176	*	*	-19	-20
452	General Merchandise Stores	*	0	*	*	*	-465	-697	-516
454	Nonstore Retailers	*	-116	-111	-92	*	*	*	*
481	Air Transportation	*	*	-53	-81	-58	-107	-91	-160
511	Publishing Industries, Except Internet	*	*	*	-93	-92	-86	-94	*
517	Telecommunications	*	*	*	-106	-98	*	*	*

Note: Only declining industries with a minimum of 100 jobs lost in at least one quarter were included in this table.

^aNorth American Industry Classification System.

* The subsector did not meet the criteria to be considered a declining industry in that quarter.

Source: Growing and Declining Quarterly Industry Reports, based on data from the Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages. Prepared by M. Moore, Research & Planning, WY DWS, 4/28/20.

Wyoming Unemployment Unchanged at 3.7% in February 2020

by: David Bullard, Senior Economist

The Research & Planning section of the Wyoming Department of Workforce Services reported that the state's seasonally adjusted¹ unemployment rate was 3.7% in February. Wyoming's unemployment rate has remained between 3.4% and 3.7% in each of the past 16 months. The state's labor force grew by an estimated 2,682 people (0.9%) from a year earlier.

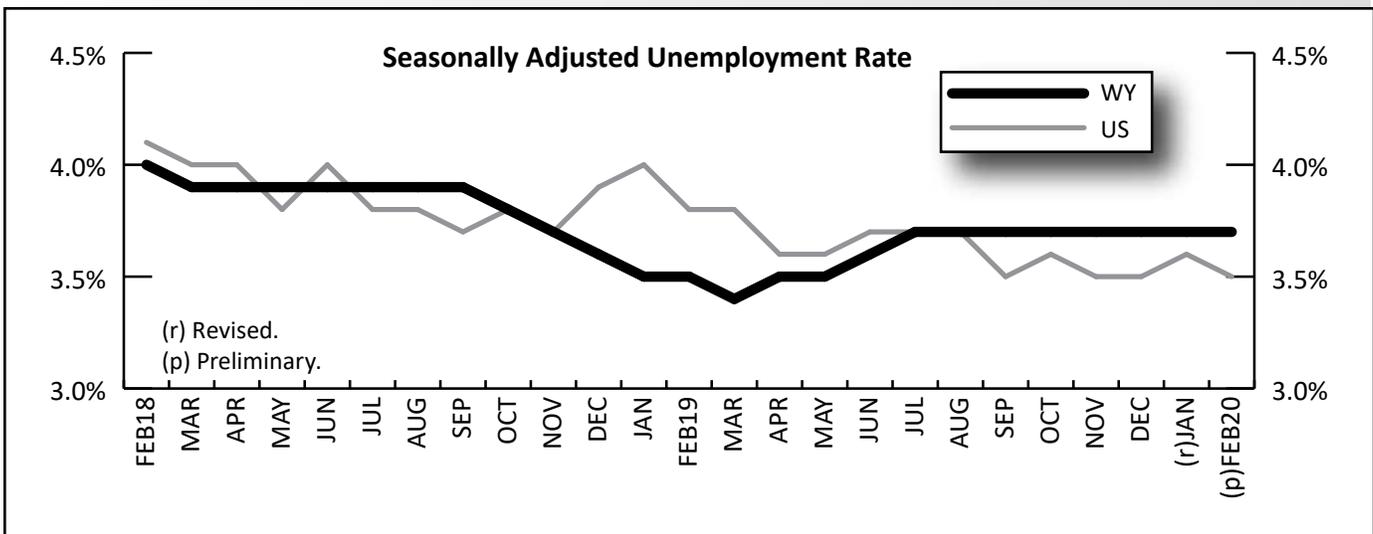
From February 2019 to February 2020, unemployment rates rose in 18 counties, fell in four counties, and remained unchanged in Crook County. The largest increases occurred in Platte (up from 3.3% to 4.7%), Sweetwater (up from 4.2% to 5.4%), Hot Springs (up from 3.4% to 4.5%), Niobrara (up from 2.3% to 3.4%), and Sublette (up from 4.9% to 6.0%) counties. Unemployment rates decreased in Park (down from 5.3% to 5.0%) and Johnson (down from 4.4% to 4.2%) counties.

Most county unemployment rates changed very little from January to February. Unemployment increased modestly in Washakie (up from 4.6% to 5.0%), Carbon (up from 4.2% to 4.4%), Converse (up from 3.0% to 3.2%), and Hot Springs (up from 4.3% to 4.5%) counties. Unemployment rates fell in Johnson (down from 4.5% to 4.2%), Uinta (down from 4.7% to 4.5%), Park (down from 5.2% to 5.0%), Goshen (down from 3.7% to 3.5%), Fremont (down from 5.6% to 5.4%), and Albany (down from 3.3% to 3.1%) counties.

The lowest unemployment rates in February were found in Teton County at 2.6%, Albany County at 3.1%, and Weston, Crook, and Converse counties, each at 3.2%. Sublette County posted the highest unemployment rate at 6.0%. It was followed by Big Horn County at 5.5%, and Fremont and Sweetwater counties, each at 5.4%.

Total nonfarm employment in Wyoming (not seasonally adjusted and measured by place of work) decreased from 282,600 in February 2019 to 280,500 in February 2020, a decline of 2,100 jobs (-0.7%).

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.



Current Employment Statistics (CES) Estimates and Research & Planning's Internal Estimates, February 2020

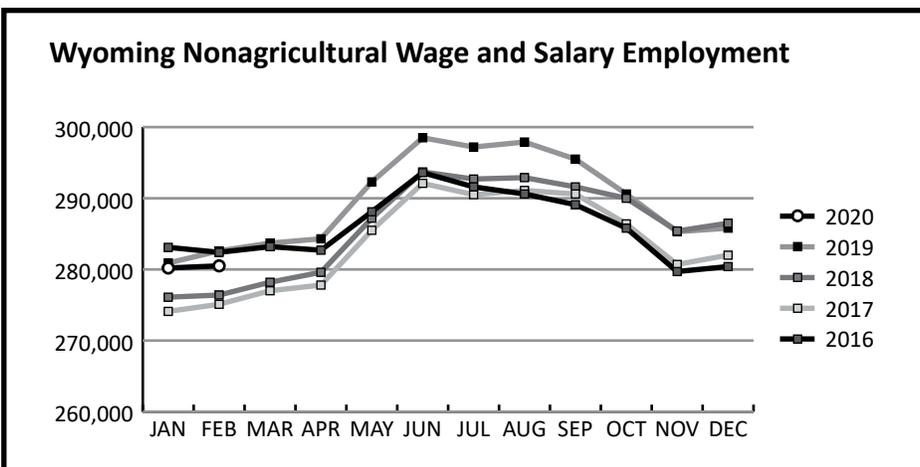
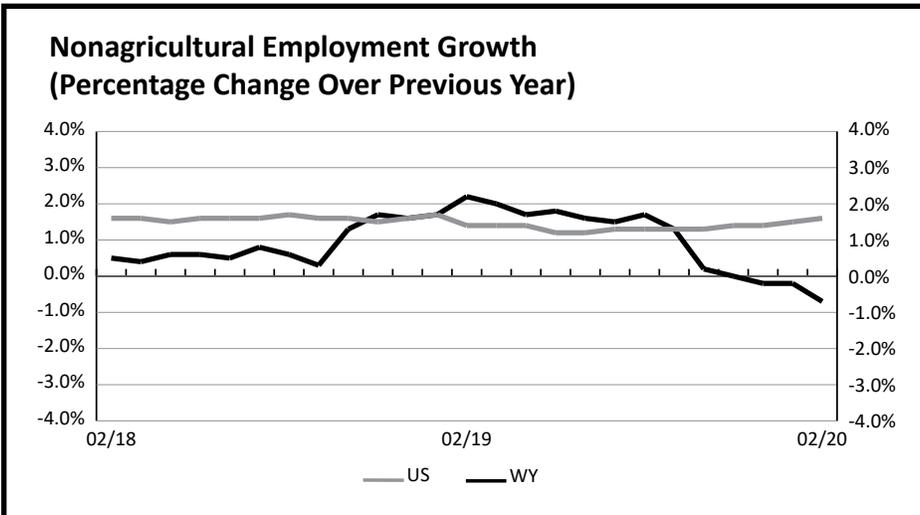
by: David Bullard, Senior Economist

Industry Sector	Research & Planning's Internal Estimates	Current Employment Statistics (CES) Estimates	N Difference	% Difference
Total Nonfarm	280,295	280,500	205	0.1%
Natural Resources & Mining	20,287	20,100	-187	-0.9%
Construction	18,615	19,200	585	3.0%
Manufacturing	9,948	10,000	52	0.5%
Wholesale Trade	8,317	8,000	-317	-4.0%
Retail Trade	27,505	27,700	195	0.7%
Transportation & Utilities	14,496	14,700	204	1.4%
Information	3,323	3,300	-23	-0.7%
Financial Activities	11,091	11,300	209	1.8%
Professional & Business Services	18,586	18,100	-486	-2.7%
Educational & Health Services	29,104	29,200	96	0.3%
Leisure & Hospitality	34,323	34,400	77	0.2%
Other Services	16,080	15,800	-280	-1.8%
Government	68,620	68,700	80	0.1%

Projections were run in February 2020 and based on QCEW data through September 2019.

State Unemployment Rates February 2020 Seasonally Adjusted

State	Unemp. Rate
Puerto Rico	8.8
Alaska	5.8
Mississippi	5.4
District of Columbia	5.2
Louisiana	5.2
West Virginia	4.9
New Mexico	4.8
Pennsylvania	4.7
Arizona	4.5
Kentucky	4.2
Ohio	4.1
California	3.9
Delaware	3.9
Connecticut	3.8
New Jersey	3.8
Washington	3.8
New York	3.7
Wyoming	3.7
Michigan	3.6
Nevada	3.6
North Carolina	3.6
Arkansas	3.5
Missouri	3.5
Montana	3.5
Texas	3.5
United States	3.5
Wisconsin	3.5
Illinois	3.4
Rhode Island	3.4
Tennessee	3.4
Maryland	3.3
Oregon	3.3
South Dakota	3.3
Maine	3.2
Oklahoma	3.2
Georgia	3.1
Indiana	3.1
Kansas	3.1
Minnesota	3.1
Nebraska	2.9
Florida	2.8
Iowa	2.8
Massachusetts	2.8
Alabama	2.7
Hawaii	2.7
Idaho	2.7
New Hampshire	2.6
Virginia	2.6
Colorado	2.5
South Carolina	2.5
Utah	2.5
Vermont	2.4
North Dakota	2.2



Wyoming Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment

by: *David Bullard, Senior Economist*

State Unemployment Rates February 2020 Not Seasonally Adjusted

	Employment in Thousands			% Change Total Employment	
	Feb 20	Jan 20	Feb 19	Feb 20	Feb 20
				Jan 20	Feb 19
CAMPBELL COUNTY					
TOTAL NONAG. WAGE & SALARY EMPLOYMENT	25.7	25.7	25.2	0.0	2.0
TOTAL PRIVATE	20.5	20.6	20.1	-0.5	2.0
GOODS PRODUCING	8.3	8.3	8.2	0.0	1.2
Natural Resources & Mining	6.1	6.1	6.0	0.0	1.7
Construction	1.7	1.7	1.7	0.0	0.0
Manufacturing	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.0	0.0
SERVICE PROVIDING	17.4	17.4	17.0	0.0	2.4
Trade, Transportation, & Utilities	5.5	5.5	5.3	0.0	3.8
Information	0.2	0.3	0.3	-33.3	-33.3
Financial Activities	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.0	0.0
Professional & Business Services	1.6	1.6	1.5	0.0	6.7
Educational & Health Services	1.1	1.1	1.1	0.0	0.0
Leisure & Hospitality	2.3	2.3	2.2	0.0	4.5
Other Services	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.0	0.0
GOVERNMENT	5.2	5.1	5.1	2.0	2.0

	Employment in Thousands			% Change Total Employment	
	Feb 20	Jan 20	Feb 19	Feb 20	Feb 20
				Jan 20	Feb 19
SWEETWATER COUNTY					
TOTAL NONAG. WAGE & SALARY EMPLOYMENT	22.2	22.1	22.6	0.5	-1.8
TOTAL PRIVATE	17.4	17.5	17.8	-0.6	-2.2
GOODS PRODUCING	7.0	7.0	7.3	0.0	-4.1
Natural Resources & Mining	4.4	4.4	4.6	0.0	-4.3
Construction	1.3	1.3	1.4	0.0	-7.1
Manufacturing	1.3	1.3	1.3	0.0	0.0
SERVICE PROVIDING	15.2	15.1	15.3	0.7	-0.7
Trade, Transportation, & Utilities	4.4	4.5	4.5	-2.2	-2.2
Information	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.0
Financial Activities	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.0	0.0
Professional & Business Services	1.1	1.1	1.1	0.0	0.0
Educational & Health Services	1.4	1.4	1.4	0.0	0.0
Leisure & Hospitality	2.2	2.2	2.2	0.0	0.0
Other Services	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.0	0.0
GOVERNMENT	4.8	4.6	4.8	4.3	0.0

	Employment in Thousands			% Change Total Employment	
	Feb 20	Jan 20	Feb 19	Feb 20	Feb 20
				Jan 20	Feb 19
TETON COUNTY					
TOTAL NONAG. WAGE & SALARY EMPLOYMENT	20.3	20.6	20.3	-1.5	0.0
TOTAL PRIVATE	17.7	18.0	17.7	-1.7	0.0
GOODS PRODUCING	2.1	2.1	2.2	0.0	-4.5
Natural Resources, Mining & Construction	1.9	1.9	2.0	0.0	-5.0
Manufacturing	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.0	0.0
SERVICE PROVIDING	18.2	18.5	18.1	-1.6	0.6
Trade, Transportation, & Utilities	2.6	2.7	2.7	-3.7	-3.7
Information	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.0	0.0
Financial Activities	1.1	1.1	1.1	0.0	0.0
Professional & Business Services	1.8	1.8	1.8	0.0	0.0
Educational & Health Services	1.3	1.3	1.3	0.0	0.0
Leisure & Hospitality	8.1	8.3	7.9	-2.4	2.5
Other Services	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.0	0.0
GOVERNMENT	2.6	2.6	2.6	0.0	0.0

State	Unemp. Rate
Puerto Rico	7.8
Alaska	5.9
West Virginia	5.4
District of Columbia	5.2
Mississippi	5.1
Pennsylvania	5.1
New Mexico	5.0
Ohio	4.7
Arizona	4.4
Connecticut	4.4
California	4.3
Kentucky	4.3
Louisiana	4.3
Maine	4.3
Wyoming	4.3
Montana	4.2
New Jersey	4.2
Washington	4.2
Delaware	4.0
Rhode Island	4.0
Wisconsin	4.0
Arkansas	3.9
New York	3.9
Nevada	3.8
Oregon	3.8
Tennessee	3.8
United States	3.8
Missouri	3.7
North Carolina	3.7
Maryland	3.6
Michigan	3.6
Minnesota	3.6
South Dakota	3.6
Texas	3.6
Georgia	3.5
Illinois	3.5
Indiana	3.4
Kansas	3.3
Massachusetts	3.3
Idaho	3.1
Iowa	3.1
New Hampshire	3.1
Nebraska	3.0
Oklahoma	3.0
South Carolina	3.0
Alabama	2.9
Colorado	2.9
Florida	2.8
North Dakota	2.8
Utah	2.8
Virginia	2.8
Hawaii	2.6
Vermont	2.6

Economic Indicators

by: **David Bullard, Senior Economist**

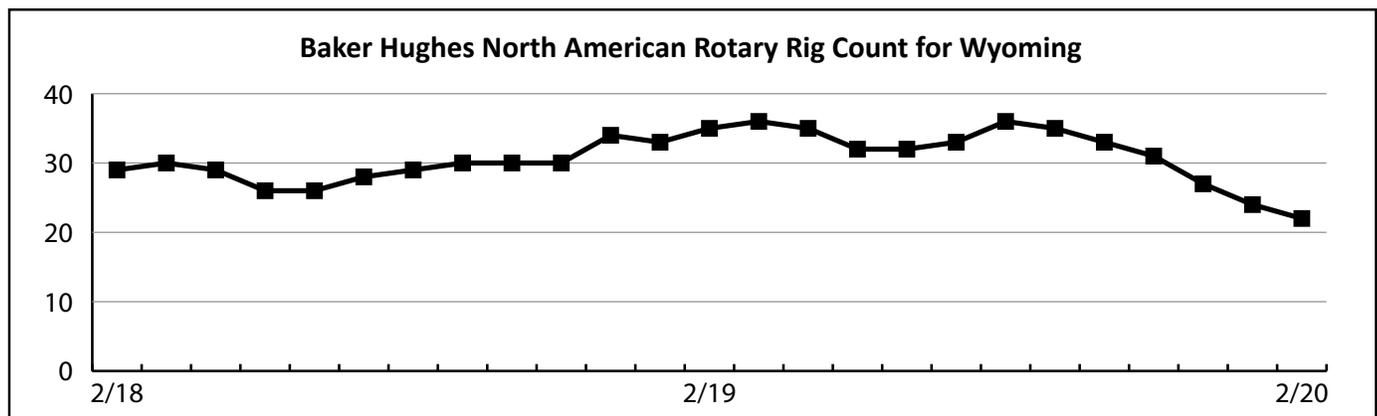
The Baker Hughes rig count for Wyoming fell from 35 in February 2019 to 22 in February 2020, a decrease of 37.1%.

	Feb 2020 (p)	Jan 2020 (r)	Feb 2019 (b)	Percent Change Month	Year
Wyoming Total Nonfarm Employment	280,500	280,200	282,600	0.1	-0.7
Wyoming State Government	14,400	14,300	15,000	0.7	-4.0
Laramie County Nonfarm Employment	46,600	46,400	47,000	0.4	-0.9
Natrona County Nonfarm Employment	38,300	38,300	38,900	0.0	-1.5
Selected U.S. Employment Data					
U.S. Multiple Jobholders	8,181,000	8,083,000	7,823,000	1.2	4.6
As a percent of all workers	5.2%	5.1%	5.0%	N/A	N/A
U.S. Discouraged Workers	421,000	350,000	428,000	20.3	-1.6
U.S. Part Time for Economic Reasons	4,600,000	4,732,000	4,561,000	-2.8	0.9
Wyoming Unemployment Insurance					
Weeks Compensated	15,858	15,558	13,018	1.9	21.8
Benefits Paid	\$6,539,708	\$6,400,982	\$4,936,658	2.2	32.5
Average Weekly Benefit Payment	\$412.39	\$411.43	\$379.22	0.2	8.7
State Insured Covered Jobs ¹	259,023	258,815	256,703	0.1	0.9
Consumer Price Index (U) for All U.S. Urban Consumers (1982 to 1984 = 100)					
All Items	258.7	258.0	252.8	0.3	2.3
Food & Beverages	261.5	260.6	257.0	0.3	1.7
Housing	270.3	269.5	263.1	0.3	2.7
Apparel	124.4	120.9	125.6	3.0	-0.9
Transportation	207.8	208.3	204.2	-0.2	1.7
Medical Care	513.9	512.1	491.2	0.3	4.6
Recreation (Dec. 1997=100)	122.1	122.0	120.3	0.1	1.5
Education & Communication (Dec. 1997=100)	139.3	139.1	137.2	0.1	1.5
Other Goods & Services	460.1	458.3	448.2	0.4	2.7
Producer Prices (1982 to 1984 = 100)					
All Commodities	196.5	199.4	199.2	-1.5	-1.4
Wyo. Bldg. Permits (New Privately Owned Housing Units Authorized)					
Total Units	103	103	124	0.0	-16.9
Valuation	\$29,402,000	\$29,381,000	\$41,625,000	0.1	-29.4
Single Family Homes	85	87	97	-2.3	-12.4
Valuation	\$27,171,000	\$28,181,000	\$37,897,000	-3.6	-28.3
Casper MSA ² Building Permits	7	9	14	-22.2	-50.0
Valuation	\$897,000	\$2,682,000	\$2,439,000	-66.6	-63.2
Cheyenne MSA Building Permits	44	51	48	-13.7	-8.3
Valuation	\$7,572,000	\$8,266,000	\$7,892,000	-8.4	-4.1
Baker Hughes North American Rotary Rig Count for Wyoming	22	24	35	-8.3	-37.1

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

¹Local Area Unemployment Statistics Program estimates.

²Metropolitan Statistical Area.



Wyoming County Unemployment Rates

by: *Carola Cowan, BLS Programs Supervisor*

In February 2020, the highest unemployment rates were found in Sublette (6.0%), Big Horn (5.5%), Fremont (5.4%), and Sweetwater (5.4%) counties.

REGION County	Labor Force			Employed			Unemployed			Unemployment Rates		
	Feb 2020	Jan 2020	Feb 2019	Feb 2020	Jan 2020	Feb 2019	Feb 2020	Jan 2020	Feb 2019	Feb 2020	Jan 2020	Feb 2019
	(p)	(r)	(b)	(p)	(r)	(b)	(p)	(r)	(b)	(p)	(r)	(b)
NORTHWEST	45,142	45,027	44,097	42,789	42,646	41,874	2,353	2,381	2,223	5.2	5.3	5.0
Big Horn	5,303	5,311	5,022	5,010	5,024	4,778	293	287	244	5.5	5.4	4.9
Fremont	18,960	18,848	18,590	17,927	17,800	17,624	1,033	1,048	966	5.4	5.6	5.2
Hot Springs	2,161	2,145	2,166	2,064	2,053	2,093	97	92	73	4.5	4.3	3.4
Park	14,801	14,780	14,395	14,068	14,008	13,630	733	772	765	5.0	5.2	5.3
Washakie	3,917	3,943	3,924	3,720	3,761	3,749	197	182	175	5.0	4.6	4.5
NORTHEAST	51,097	50,999	49,747	49,092	48,992	47,873	2,005	2,007	1,874	3.9	3.9	3.8
Campbell	23,786	23,757	22,870	22,873	22,841	22,056	913	916	814	3.8	3.9	3.6
Crook	3,668	3,673	3,545	3,552	3,558	3,433	116	115	112	3.2	3.1	3.2
Johnson	4,081	4,090	4,029	3,908	3,905	3,850	173	185	179	4.2	4.5	4.4
Sheridan	15,733	15,647	15,483	15,053	14,976	14,840	680	671	643	4.3	4.3	4.2
Weston	3,829	3,832	3,820	3,706	3,712	3,694	123	120	126	3.2	3.1	3.3
SOUTHWEST	58,680	58,770	57,919	56,089	56,156	55,831	2,591	2,614	2,088	4.4	4.4	3.6
Lincoln	8,857	8,872	8,753	8,485	8,501	8,449	372	371	304	4.2	4.2	3.5
Sublette	4,203	4,234	3,970	3,949	3,985	3,775	254	249	195	6.0	5.9	4.9
Sweetwater	21,479	21,362	21,256	20,316	20,198	20,357	1,163	1,164	899	5.4	5.4	4.2
Teton	15,358	15,473	14,989	14,954	15,056	14,664	404	417	325	2.6	2.7	2.2
Uinta	8,783	8,829	8,951	8,385	8,416	8,586	398	413	365	4.5	4.7	4.1
SOUTHEAST	82,251	81,579	81,382	79,122	78,479	78,739	3,129	3,100	2,643	3.8	3.8	3.2
Albany	20,671	20,326	20,542	20,029	19,665	19,968	642	661	574	3.1	3.3	2.8
Goshen	6,633	6,639	6,559	6,399	6,396	6,324	234	243	235	3.5	3.7	3.6
Laramie	49,166	48,858	48,335	47,167	46,912	46,685	1,999	1,946	1,650	4.1	4.0	3.4
Niobrara	1,227	1,223	1,231	1,185	1,181	1,203	42	42	28	3.4	3.4	2.3
Platte	4,554	4,533	4,715	4,342	4,325	4,559	212	208	156	4.7	4.6	3.3
CENTRAL	56,564	56,446	55,075	54,074	53,984	52,890	2,490	2,462	2,185	4.4	4.4	4.0
Carbon	7,956	7,966	7,564	7,605	7,628	7,260	351	338	304	4.4	4.2	4.0
Converse	9,062	9,040	8,285	8,776	8,767	8,054	286	273	231	3.2	3.0	2.8
Natrona	39,546	39,440	39,226	37,693	37,589	37,576	1,853	1,851	1,650	4.7	4.7	4.2
STATEWIDE	293,736	292,822	288,220	281,167	280,258	277,209	12,569	12,564	11,011	4.3	4.3	3.8
Statewide Seasonally Adjusted										3.7	3.7	3.5
U.S.										3.8	4.0	4.1
U.S. Seasonally Adjusted										3.5	3.6	3.8

Prepared in cooperation with the Bureau of Labor Statistics. Benchmarked 03/2020. Run Date 03/2020.

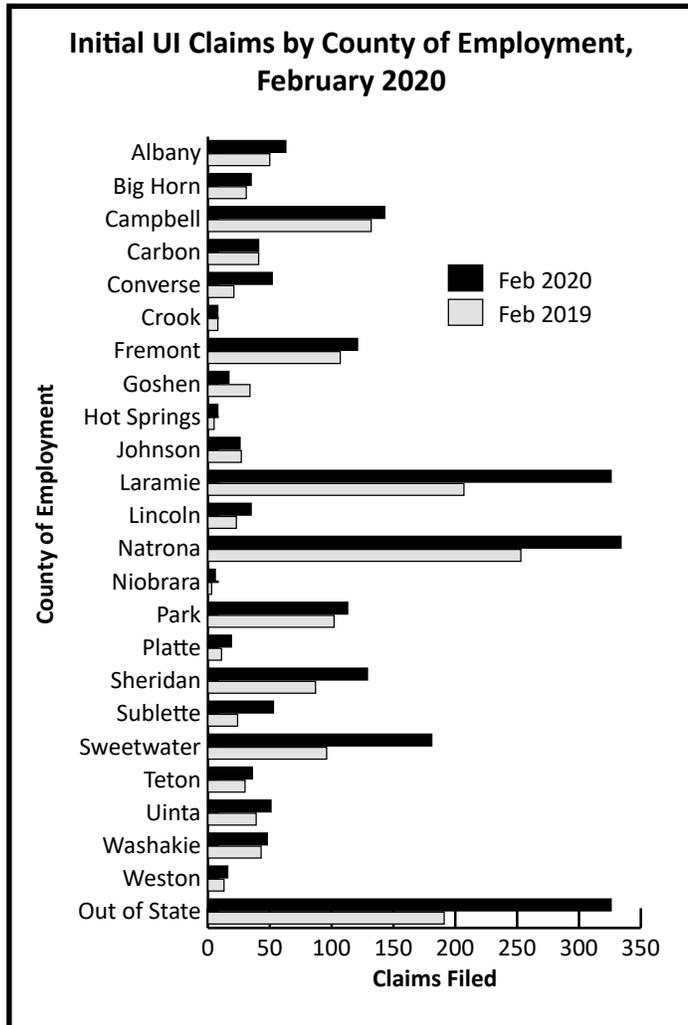
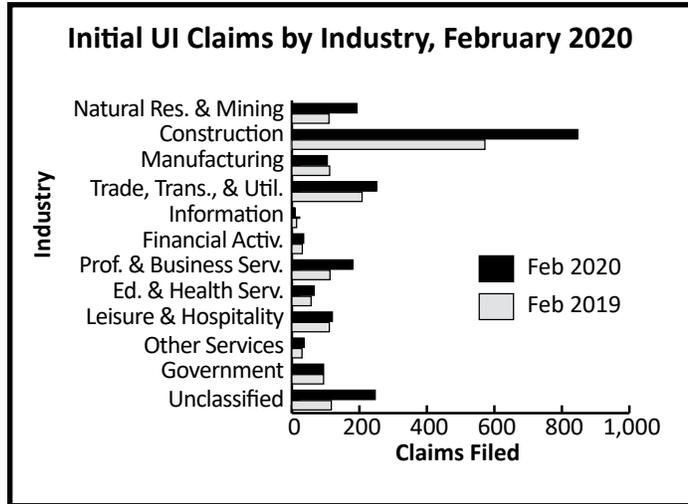
Data are not seasonally adjusted except where otherwise specified.

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

Wyoming Normalized^a Unemployment Insurance Statistics: Initial Claims

by: Sherry Wen, Principal Economist

There were 2,193 initial claims in Wyoming in February 2020, an over-the-year increase of 616 claims (39.1%).



INITIAL CLAIMS	Claims Filed		% Change	
	Feb 20	Jan 20	Feb 20	Feb 19
Wyoming Statewide				
TOTAL CLAIMS FILED	2,193	2,781	-21.1	39.1
TOTAL GOODS-PRODUCING	1,146	1,370	-16.4	44.2
Natural Res. & Mining	193	225	-14.2	75.5
Mining	190	206	-7.8	97.9
Oil & Gas Extraction	14	7	100.0	40.0
Construction	847	1,030	-17.8	48.1
Manufacturing	105	113	-7.1	-6.3
TOTAL SERVICE-PROVIDING	704	942	-25.3	23.7
Trade, Transp., & Utilities	251	316	-20.6	20.7
Wholesale Trade	30	38	-21.1	-3.2
Retail Trade	100	149	-32.9	-9.1
Transp., Warehousing & Utilities	121	129	-6.2	80.6
Information	9	8	12.5	-35.7
Financial Activities	35	39	-10.3	12.9
Prof. & Business Svcs.	180	250	-28.0	59.3
Educational & Health Svcs.	66	87	-24.1	15.8
Leisure & Hospitality	120	192	-37.5	8.1
Other Svcs., exc. Public Admin.	36	43	-16.3	20.0
TOTAL GOVERNMENT	94	177	-46.9	0.0
Federal Government	46	86	-31	-46.5
State Government	14	17	12	-17.6
Local Government	33	73	49	-54.8
Local Education	11	14	16	-21.4
UNCLASSIFIED	247	290	-14.8	111.1

Laramie County				
TOTAL CLAIMS FILED	325	375	-13.3	57.8
TOTAL GOODS-PRODUCING	137	159	-13.8	26.9
Construction	126	141	-10.6	24.8
TOTAL SERVICE-PROVIDING	140	156	-10.3	81.8
Trade, Transp., & Utilities	44	45	-2.2	83.3
Financial Activities	9	7	3	28.6
Prof. & Business Svcs.	45	55	-23	95.7
Educational & Health Svcs.	11	19	-42.1	-8.3
Leisure & Hospitality	15	19	-21.1	150.0
TOTAL GOVERNMENT	8	23	-65.2	0.0
UNCLASSIFIED	38	36	11	5.6

Natrona County				
TOTAL CLAIMS FILED	334	397	-15.9	32.0
TOTAL GOODS-PRODUCING	190	213	-10.8	40.7
Construction	139	160	-13.1	29.9
TOTAL SERVICE-PROVIDING	113	149	-24.2	5.6
Trade, Transp., & Utilities	34	53	-35.8	-5.6
Financial Activities	9	6	7	50.0
Prof. & Business Svcs.	31	40	-22.5	106.7
Educational & Health Svcs.	17	17	10	0.0
Leisure & Hospitality	11	20	-45.0	-54.2
TOTAL GOVERNMENT	4	4	5	-20.0
UNCLASSIFIED	25	30	5	-16.7

^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.

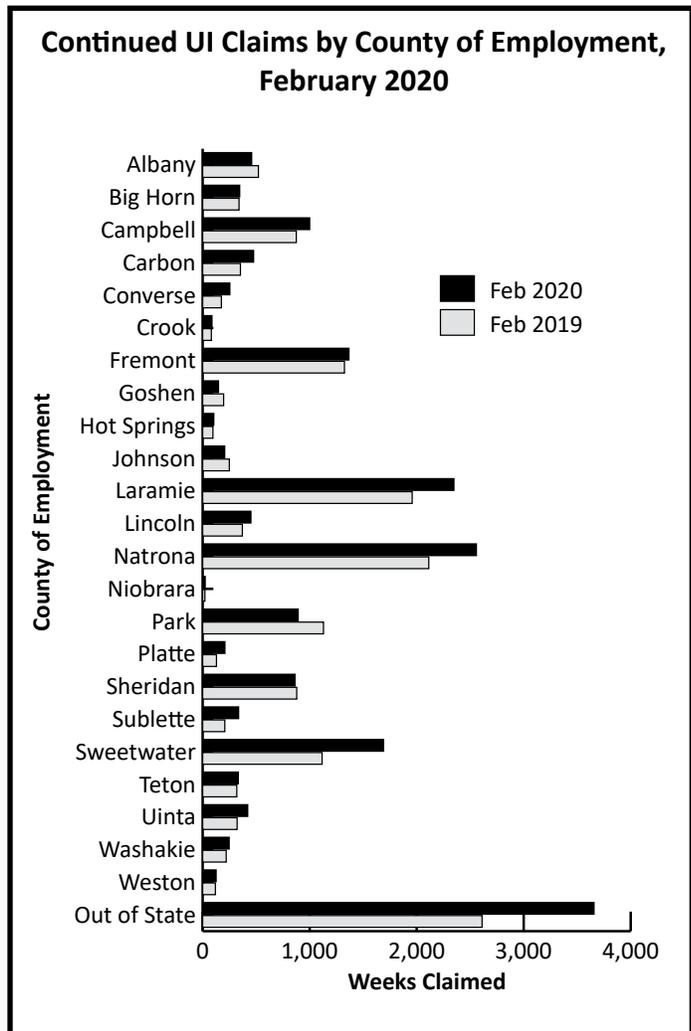
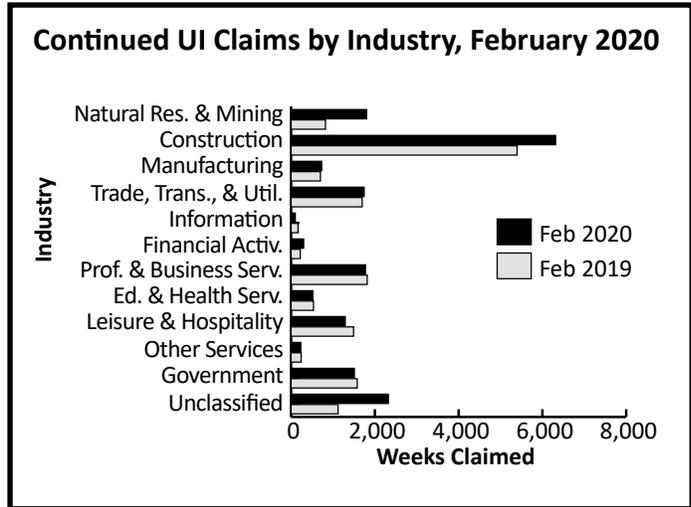
Wyoming Normalized^a Unemployment Insurance Statistics: Continued Claims

by: Sherry Wen, Principal Economist

Total continued weeks claimed increased by 2,864 weeks, or 18.1%.

CONTINUED CLAIMS	% Change Weeks Claimed				
	Continued Weeks Claimed			Feb 20 Feb 20	
	Feb 20	Jan 20	Feb 19	Jan 20	Feb 19
Wyoming Statewide					
TOTAL WEEKS CLAIMED	18,659	17,707	15,795	5.4	18.1
TOTAL UNIQUE CLAIMANTS	5,488	4,564	4,627	20.2	18.6
Benefit Exhaustions	571	484	492	18.0	16.1
Benefit Exhaustion Rates	10.4%	10.6%	10.6%	-0.2%	-0.2%
TOTAL GOODS-PRODUCING					
Natural Res. & Mining	1,804	1,785	821	1.1	119.7
Mining	1,646	1,609	658	2.3	150.2
Oil & Gas Extraction	59	79	79	-25.3	-25.3
Construction	6,316	5,771	5,395	9.4	17.1
Manufacturing	730	646	700	13.0	4.3
TOTAL SERVICE-PROVIDING					
Trade, Transp., & Utilities	5,973	5,667	6,177	5.4	-3.3
Wholesale Trade	1,745	1,521	1,697	14.7	2.8
Retail Trade	263	241	233	9.1	12.9
Retail Trade	765	704	891	8.7	-14.1
Transp., Warehousing & Utilities	717	576	573	24.5	25.1
Information	101	90	166	12.2	-39.2
Financial Activities	300	277	219	8.3	37.0
Prof. & Business Services	1,776	1,612	1,817	10.2	-2.3
Educational & Health Svcs.	520	545	535	-4.6	-2.8
Leisure & Hospitality	1,294	1,386	1,492	-6.6	-13.3
Other Svcs., exc. Public Adm.	232	230	241	0.9	-3.7
TOTAL GOVERNMENT					
Federal Government	1,511	1,562	1,579	-3.3	-4.3
Federal Government	785	845	832	-7.1	-5.6
State Government	145	122	124	18.9	16.9
Local Government	580	594	622	-2.4	-6.8
Local Education	74	103	88	-28.2	-15.9
UNCLASSIFIED	2,323	2,272	1,121	2.2	107.2
Laramie County					
TOTAL WEEKS CLAIMED	2,347	2,206	1,958	6.4	19.9
TOTAL UNIQUE CLAIMANTS	694	572	583	21.3	19.0
TOTAL GOODS-PRODUCING					
Construction	1,045	1,145	941	-8.7	11.1
Construction	954	1,025	904	-6.9	5.5
TOTAL SERVICE-PROVIDING					
Trade, Transp., & Utilities	889	666	798	33.5	11.4
Trade, Transp., & Utilities	243	202	238	20.3	2.1
Financial Activities	52	47	28	10.6	85.7
Prof. & Business Svcs.	341	182	276	87.4	23.6
Educational & Health Svcs.	96	77	102	24.7	-5.9
Leisure & Hospitality	76	80	61	-5.0	24.6
TOTAL GOVERNMENT					
UNCLASSIFIED	121	123	116	-1.6	4.3
UNCLASSIFIED	291	270	100	7.8	191.0
Natrona County					
TOTAL WEEKS CLAIMED	2,557	2,497	2,113	2.4	21.0
TOTAL UNIQUE CLAIMANTS	762	657	645	16.0	18.1
TOTAL GOODS-PRODUCING					
Construction	1,336	1,264	885	5.7	51.0
Construction	939	892	725	5.3	29.5
TOTAL SERVICE-PROVIDING					
Trade, Transp., & Utilities	900	949	1,092	-5.2	-17.6
Trade, Transp., & Utilities	322	301	308	7.0	4.5
Financial Activities	56	50	65	12.0	-13.8
Professional & Business Svcs.	230	271	321	-15.1	-28.3
Educational & Health Svcs.	111	110	127	0.9	-12.6
Leisure & Hospitality	121	142	166	-14.8	-27.1
TOTAL GOVERNMENT					
UNCLASSIFIED	64	72	49	-11.1	30.6
UNCLASSIFIED	255	211	85	20.9	200.0

^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.



**Wyoming Department of Workforce
Services, Research & Planning
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Casper, WY 82602**

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