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TRENDS

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Youth Transitions: Life Events and Labor Market Behavior

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This article focuses on the population of young adults in Wyoming tracked over time by linking a range of relevant databases together around the concept of key choices that labor market entrants must make in the context of persistent social norms and changing economic events. This article is part of a larger observation of young people's interaction with the labor market by R&P, including the decreasing numbers of youth obtaining a driver's license (Moore, 2014) and the out-migration of youth from Wyoming (Glover, 2012).

Enhancing consumer choice in the field of training and education, and meeting employer need for skilled workers are overall goals of a U.S. Department of Labor Workforce Data Quality Initiative (WDQI) grant received by the Research & Planning (R&P) section of the Wyoming Department of Workforce Services. These WDQI grants focus on the research component of a larger employment and training effort to bring outcomes to the labor market desired by workers and employers. Research focuses on understanding choices and programmatic efforts leading to jobs consistent with long-term economic security by studying labor market interactions for selected populations and the workforce as a whole.

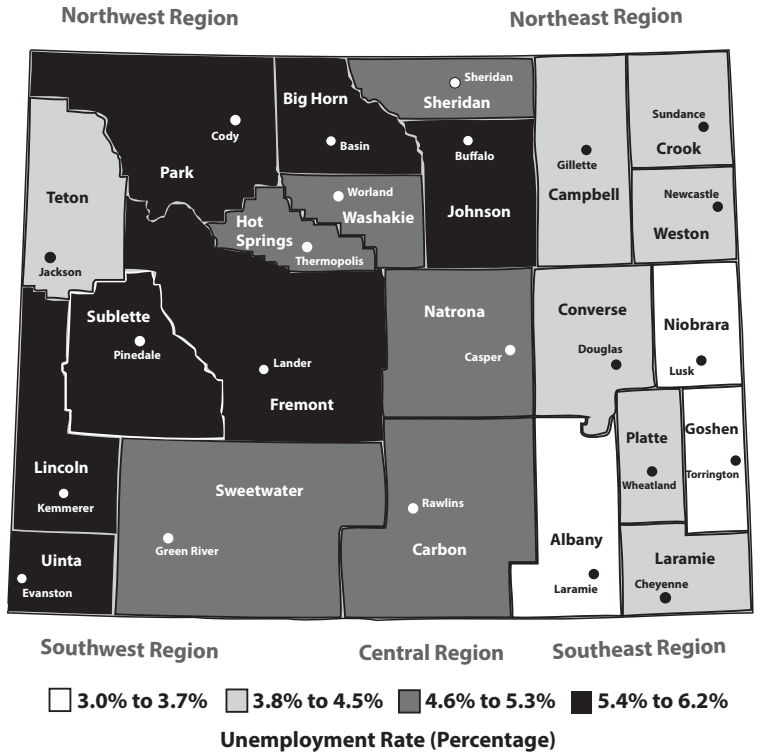
The research strategy used for this article can be defined as program impact evaluation. In order to successfully conduct employment program evaluation research, labor market trends in comparison to the behavior of individuals need to be independently distinguishable over time. This paper examines the

(Text continued on page 3)

HIGHLIGHTS

- **The amount of unemployment insurance benefits paid in Wyoming rose 45.4% from March 2014 to March 2015, suggesting a slowdown in the labor market. … *page 20***
- **Initial unemployment insurance claims increased 24.1% from March 2014 to March 2015. Initial claims in mining increased substantially to 676 from 194 in March 2014 (248.5%). … *page 22***

Unemployment Rate by Wyoming County, March 2015 (Not Seasonally Adjusted)



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Wyoming Labor Force Trends

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(Text continued from page 1)

transitions of a selected age segment in the population in terms of life events (e.g. marriage, household formation, child bearing, career choice, and out-migration) associated with labor market behavior over time. As mentioned previously, economic conditions interacting with life events affect market outcomes for individuals.

Longitudinal analysis of diverse, linked datasets represents a new tool to address traditional research questions as well as emergent questions developed in response to an evolving economy. Consequently, an objective of this paper is basic methodological research intended to inform subsequent applied research. Observations from this paper strongly suggest that in order to understand how young adults interact with the economy, the most productive analysis will result in shifting the focus from individuals to households as the unit of analysis.

Research has shown that the aging population in the United States may be affecting patterns of deferred marriage and household formation (Leppel, 1991), but little has been written on the life events coinciding with or following the initial departure of a young person from their parent's home. Ermisch & DeSalvo (1997) examined the relationship between economic conditions and the timing of initial departure from one's parent's house as the primary residence, and found that the primary destination following the departure was living with a partner. In addition, the authors found that women tend to leave the home nearly two years earlier than men. Given the likelihood that a young person leaves home and forms a new household with a mate (as opposed to living alone or living with friends), R&P analyzed at what age life events like marriage and birth of a first child occur in order to better understand how these events may affect labor market outcomes.

To explore how conditions and life events affect outcomes, R&P analyzed demographics and vital statistics from 2002 to 2014 in Wyoming's labor market. Further, Unemployment Insurance (UI) wage records were used longitudinally to track labor market participation and behavior within Wyoming and its partner states[1] between 2002 and 2012. In order to do this, R&P selected three cohorts (groups): individuals who were age 18 in 2002, 2005, and 2009. Each cohort was tracked independently in this analysis, but interaction can take place between cohorts (e.g., marriage) and individuals may enter the state and interact with another individual who was not part of the original cohorts. The overall goal of this analysis was to empirically define a set of age categories (e.g., 18 to 22) that are relevant in terms of choices individuals make and that strike a balance between an abundance of detail and aggregations that are relevant.

Methodology and Results

First Marriage and Birth of First Child

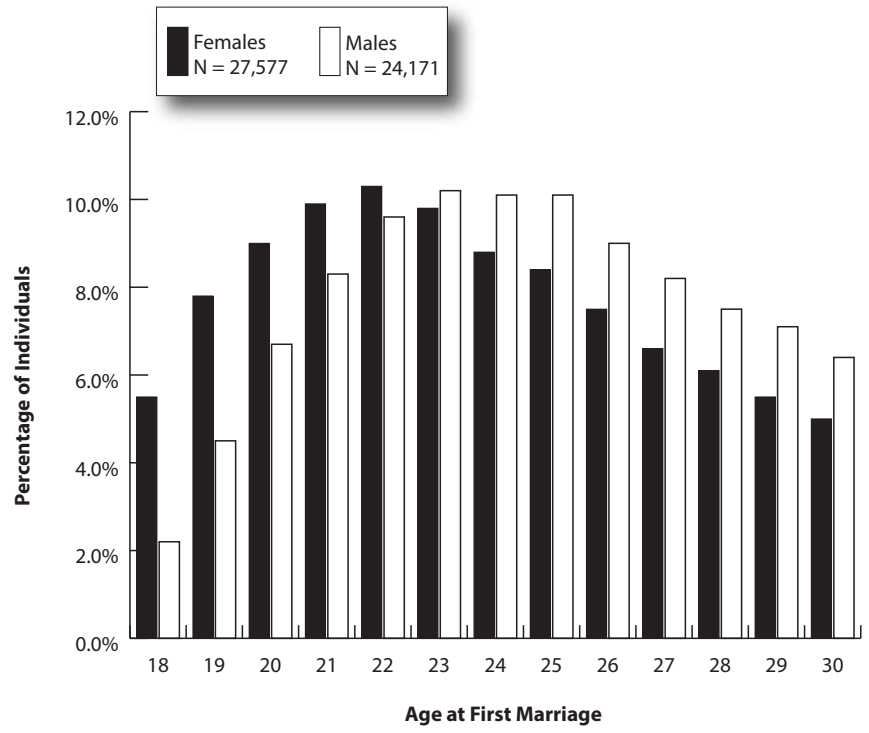
R&P currently has access to vital statistics records from the Wyoming Department of Health. These records

[1] R&P currently has data sharing agreements with 11 states: Alaska, Colorado, Idaho, Montana, Nebraska, New Mexico, Ohio, Oklahoma, South Dakota, Texas, and Utah.

Table 1: Number and Percentage of Individuals at First Marriage by Age and Gender in Wyoming, 2002-2012

	Females		Males	
Age	**N**	**Column %**	**N**	**Column %**
18	1,506	5.5%	529	2.2%
19	2,145	7.8%	1,094	4.5%
20	2,486	9.0%	1,629	6.7%
21	2,718	9.9%	2,015	8.3%
22	2,832	10.3%	2,313	9.6%
23	2,689	9.8%	2,477	10.2%
24	2,414	8.8%	2,440	10.1%
25	2,329	8.4%	2,434	10.1%
26	2,059	7.5%	2,169	9.0%
27	1,825	6.6%	1,990	8.2%
28	1,671	6.1%	1,811	7.5%
29	1,521	5.5%	1,722	7.1%
30	1,382	5.0%	1,548	6.4%
Total	**27,577**	**100.0%**	**24,171**	**100.0%**

Source: Wyoming Department of Health, Vital Statistics, 2002-2012.



Source: Wyoming Department of Health, Vital Statistics, 2002-2012.
Total: F= 27,577 M= 24,171.

Figure 1: Age at First Marriage for Males and Females in Wyoming, 2002 to 2012

include births, marriages, divorces, and deaths. Among the life events likely to affect working behavior among young adults is household formation. For this reason, this analysis focuses on age of marriage and age of first birth. Age was calculated at the time of event (birth or marriage). To capture the period of birth and marriage relevant to the cohorts, the date of marriage or birth must have occurred between 2002 and 2012 by single year of age for individuals ages 18 to 30.

Figure 1 and Table 1 represents a composite of first marriages that includes all three previously mentioned cohorts. Table 1 shows that females marry at younger ages compared to males up until the age of 23. Beginning at age 24, more males marry for the first time than females, with the difference between the genders being smaller. For example, the number of females who marry at the age of 18 during the time period examined was 1,506 (5.4%) compared to 529 (2.2%) males. This result indicates that males enter marriage at a later age than females.

Another key turning point in an individual's

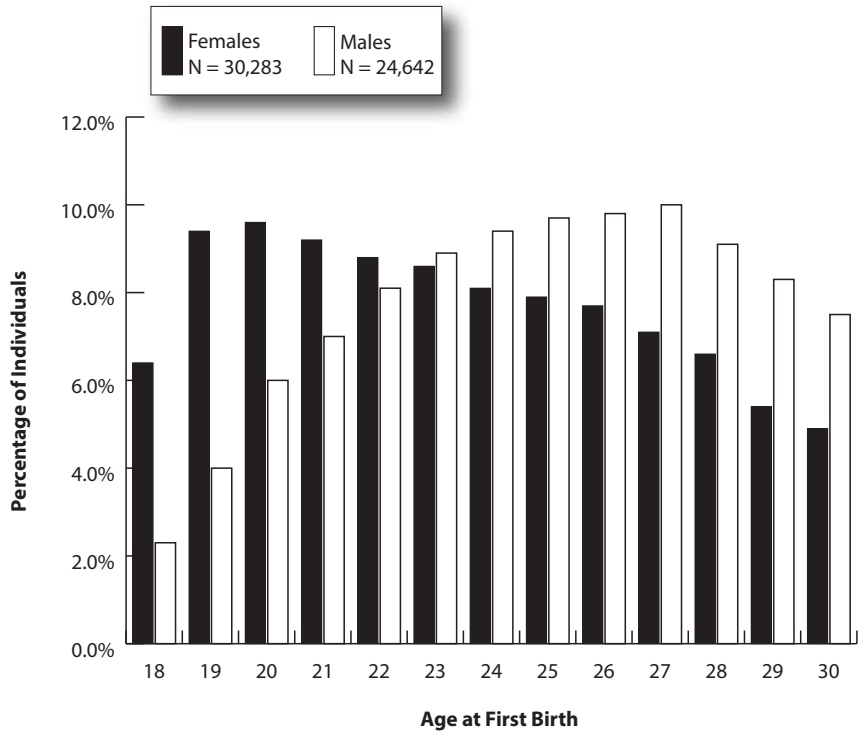
life is the birth of a first child. Figure 2 and Table 2 show the number and percent of individuals (parents) by age at birth of their first child. Table 2 shows that females are younger than males at the birth of the first child. Approximately one in four females (25.5%) during this period were between the ages of 18 and 20 at the birth of their first child. At age 25, the number of individuals having a first child is roughly equal for both genders (N Females = 2,401, Males = 2,398). Among all males ages 18 to 30 during this time, 10.0% (2,452) were age 27 at the birth of their first child.

Based upon these descriptive, cross-sectional results, it may be appropriate to group genders differently in terms of marriage and births, since males and females experience these events at different points in their lives. Subsequent analyses should be cognizant of the different ages at which males and females marry and have children. It is important to note that Wyoming has a relatively small population, and decisions about migration and household formation are related to age and economic opportunity (Gallagher, 2015, p. 21).

Table 2: Number and Percentage of Individuals (Parents) at First Birth of Child by Age and Gender in Wyoming, 2002-2012

	Females		Males	
Age	**N**	**Column %**	**N**	**Column %**
18	1,949	6.4%	569	2.3%
19	2,861	9.4%	991	4.0%
20	2,917	9.6%	1,474	6.0%
21	2,793	9.2%	1,714	7.0%
22	2,672	8.8%	1,998	8.1%
23	2,606	8.6%	2,187	8.9%
24	2,462	8.1%	2,305	9.4%
25	2,401	7.9%	2,398	9.7%
26	2,343	7.7%	2,412	9.8%
27	2,156	7.1%	2,452	10.0%
28	1,988	6.6%	2,252	9.1%
29	1,637	5.4%	2,042	8.3%
30	1,498	4.9%	1,848	7.5%
Total	**30,283**	**100.0%**	**24,642**	**100.0%**

Source: Wyoming Department of Health, Vital Statistics, 2002-2012.

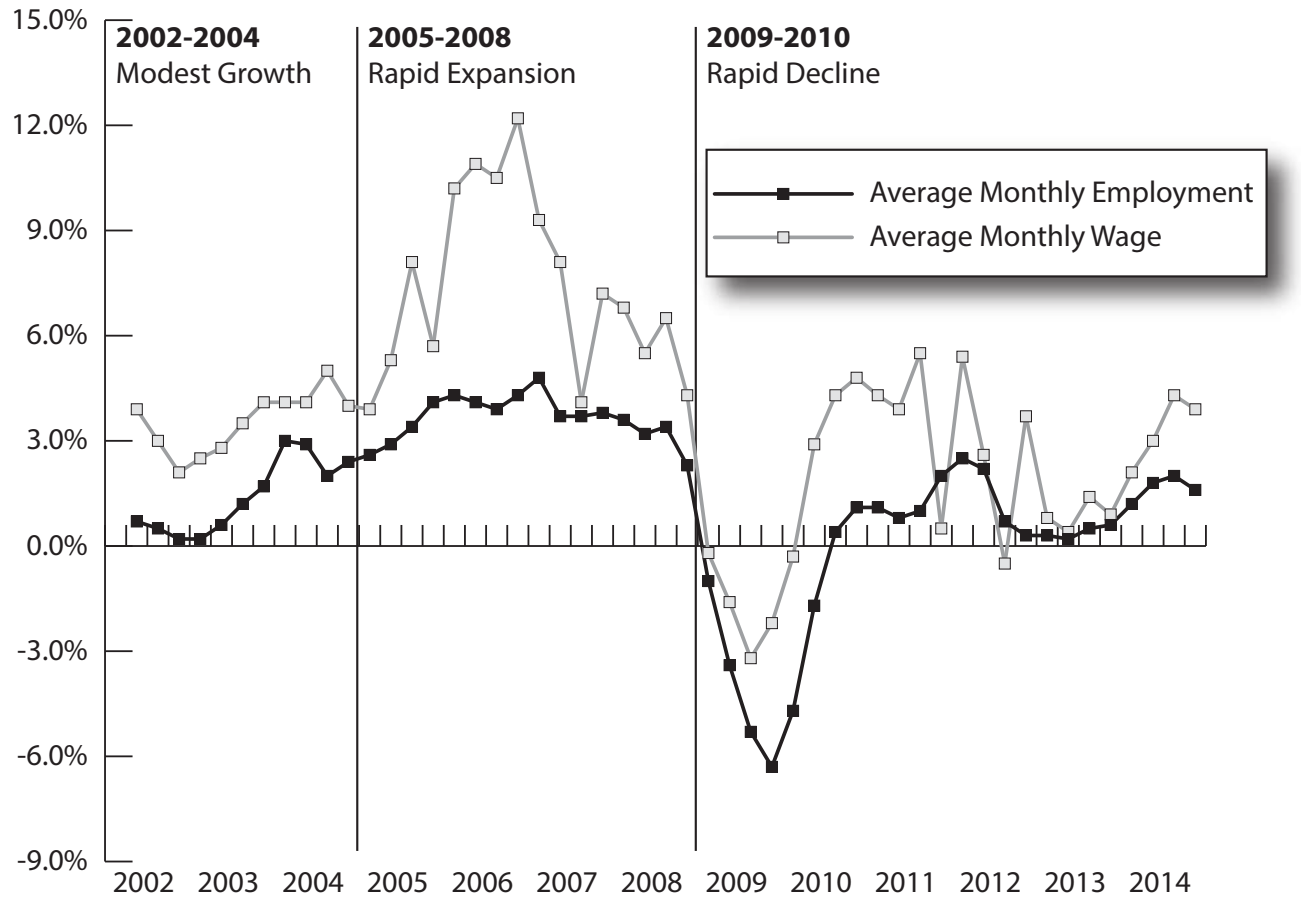


Source: Wyoming Department of Health, Vital Statistics, 2002-2012.
Total: F= 30,283 M= 24,642.

Figure 2: Age of Parents at First Birth of Child in Wyoming by Gender, 2002 to 2012

Retention Rate and Instability Index

Job stability is an important part of earnings growth, and one response to job instability may be out-migration. This section discusses the age at which individuals change labor markets, and the concept of job instability. This analysis examines retention for the three previously mentioned cohorts (18-year-olds from 2002, 2005, and 2009). These three periods were selected to represent different labor market conditions: the 2002 Cohort represents a period of modest growth, the 2005 Cohort represents the beginning of a rapid expansion, and the 2009 Cohort represents the beginning of a rapid decline (see Figure 3). R&P currently has complete wage record data through 2014. Wage records from 2002 to 2012 were used in this analysis to identify individuals who were 18 years of age and had wages in Wyoming in the three years previously mentioned – the starting point for each cohort – and tracked them over the course



Source: Quarterly Census of Employment & Wages.

Figure 3: **Over-the-Year Percentage Change in Average Monthly Employment and Average Monthly Wage in Wyoming, 2001Q2-2014Q4**

of four to 10 years.

Retention in Wyoming and employment instability by gender and cohort over the 10-year period from 2002 to 2012 are discussed in this section. Our interpretation of the data at this point is that instability is a precursor to outmigration.

Retention rates for females and males from the three cohort years are shown in Table 3. A

Table 3: **Retention Rates for Females and Males Working in Wyoming by Cohort, 2002-2012**

	2002 Cohort N = 7,373		2005 Cohort N = 6,704		2009 Cohort N = 5,965	
Age	Females N = 3,613	Males N = 3,751	Females N = 3,357	Males N = 3,342	Females N = 2,949	Males N = 3,012
18	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%
19	84.1%	83.1%	86.7%	86.4%	82.8%	79.7%
20	75.9%	72.8%	78.5%	76.4%	76.8%	72.9%
21	68.4%	68.0%	71.8%	71.9%	71.7%	68.9%
22	63.3%	65.7%	65.0%	68.2%		
23	60.4%	63.0%	61.3%	64.1%		
24	56.4%	60.7%	57.4%	62.2%		
25	52.9%	56.4%	54.8%	60.2%		
26	50.8%	54.6%				
27	48.6%	54.3%				
28	46.2%	53.2%				

Each cohort may contain a small number of individuals for whom gender could not be identified. Because of this, the number of females and males may not add up to the total.

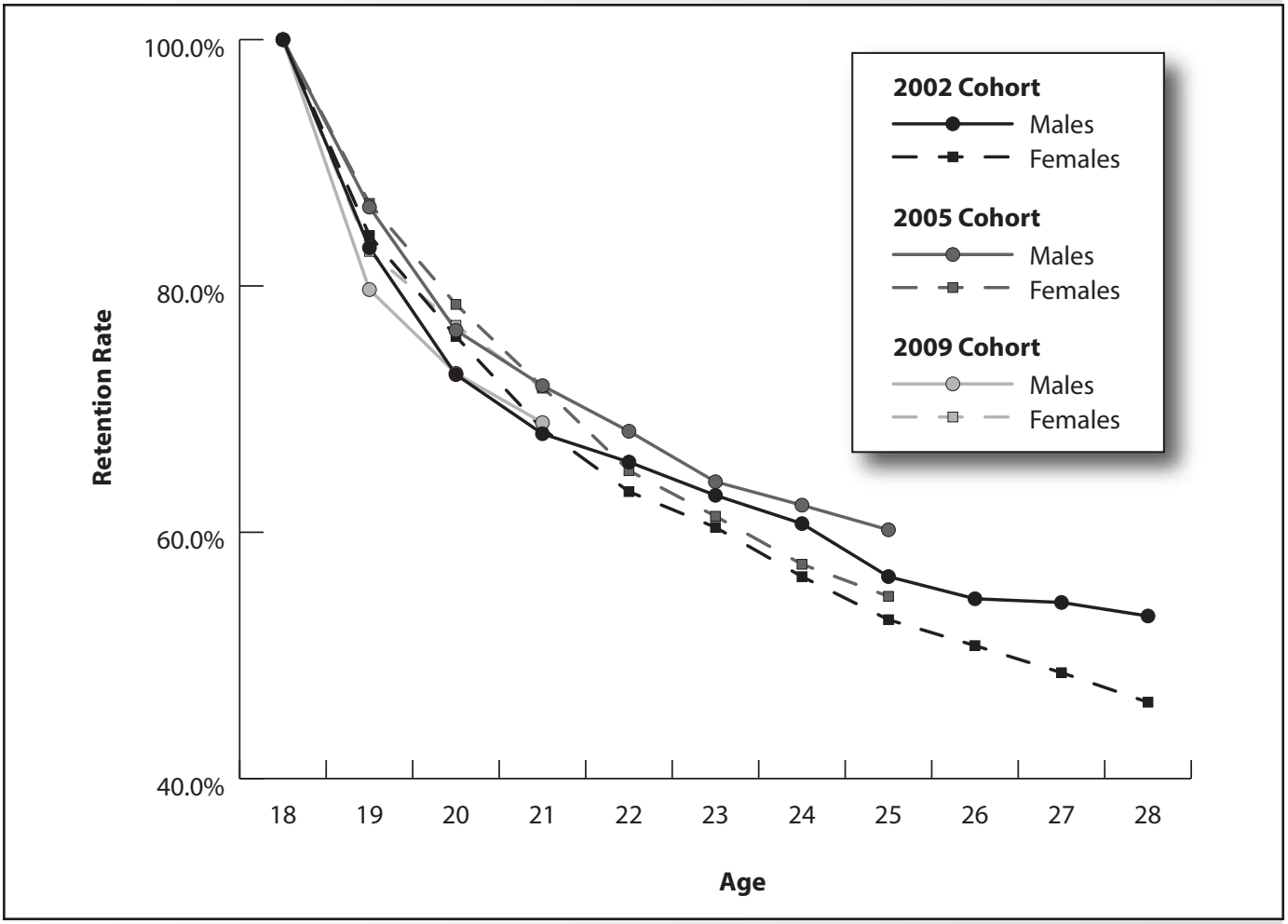


Figure 4: **Retention Rates for Males and Females Age 18 in Wyoming in 2002, 2005, and 2009**

total of 3,751 males were identified as 18 years of age in the 2002 Cohort. Of this original cohort, 83.1% remained working in Wyoming at the age of 19 (2003). However, by the time they reached age 28, just over half (53.2%) remained working in Wyoming (see Figure 4). The retention rates for the 2005 and 2009 cohorts followed similar trajectories.

In the 2002 Cohort, 3,613 females were 18 and working in Wyoming. As shown in Figure 4, 84.1% of females remained working in Wyoming at the age of 19 in 2003; this was similar to the proportion of males from the 2002 Cohort who were still working in Wyoming at age 19 (83.1%). By the time they were 28, fewer than half of those females (46.2%) were still working in Wyoming. Retention rates for females from the 2005 and 2009 cohorts followed similar trajectories.

Further, the retention rate for males from the 2002 Cohort appears to level off beginning at age 25, whereas females from this cohort continued to leave Wyoming's labor market at a consistent rate. A visual inspection of Figure 4 suggests little difference in the retention rates for males and females from the three cohorts. This may be a subject for future research.

As suggested earlier, instability – and the implied associated lack of earnings or access to obvious career options, exacerbated by household formation income needs – may contribute to out-migration. Because understanding successful outcomes in the labor market requires the ability to measure continuity, sustainability, and labor market coherence, R&P developed the instability index. The instability index is calculated using the method outlined by Glover (2000), which is illustrated in Figure 5.

The instability index uses measures of job turnover and continuous employment (i.e., employment in the prior quarter, reference quarter, and subsequent quarter with the same employer). The instability index is shown for the three cohorts in Figure 6 and Table 4 (see page 9). As with retention, instability is associated with age, regardless of gender. Both retention and instability decline almost in direct relationship to age. According to Glover, there are four possible categories an individual can fall into: entry (E), exit (X), both entry and Exit (B), and continuous (C). Continuous employment is considered a stable situation where an individual remains with the same employer for three consecutive quarters. The other three categories are considered unstable employment. The instability index is

Instability Index Components

Employment Transactions Between Workers and Employers by Transaction Type:

A - Hire
B - Exit
C - Continuous Employment

→ **Instability**

Transaction Sum = A+B+C

Figure 5: **Instability Index**

calculated by dividing the sum of the three unstable categories by the sum of all four categories (E+X+B / E+X+B+C). The index is meant to act as an indicator of labor market activity at an individual level.

As seen in Figure 6, the overall the trend in instability decreases as both males and females age. Clearly, based on these limited observations, the key factor in instability is age and not gender. The

Table 4: **Instability Indices for Females and Males Working in Wyoming by Cohort, 2002-2012**

	2002 Cohort N = 7,373		2005 Cohort N = 6,704		2009 Cohort N = 5,965	
Age	Females N = 3,613	Males N = 3,751	Females N = 3,357	Males N = 3,342	Females N = 2,949	Males N = 3,012
18	67.0%	71.9%	67.6%	72.0%	62.0%	66.3%
19	66.4%	68.9%	66.3%	67.5%	59.1%	61.6%
20	62.9%	65.1%	63.1%	62.5%	57.6%	58.3%
21	58.8%	59.6%	57.2%	57.1%	53.8%	53.8%
22	56.4%	55.2%	51.8%	50.4%		
23	51.3%	50.3%	48.2%	48.3%		
24	44.5%	44.8%	45.2%	43.7%		
25	38.1%	39.3%	41.0%	40.4%		
26	36.4%	37.9%				
27	35.6%	34.4%				
28	34.1%	31.5%				

Each cohort may contain a small number of individuals for whom gender could not be identified. Because of this, the number of females and males may not add up to the total.

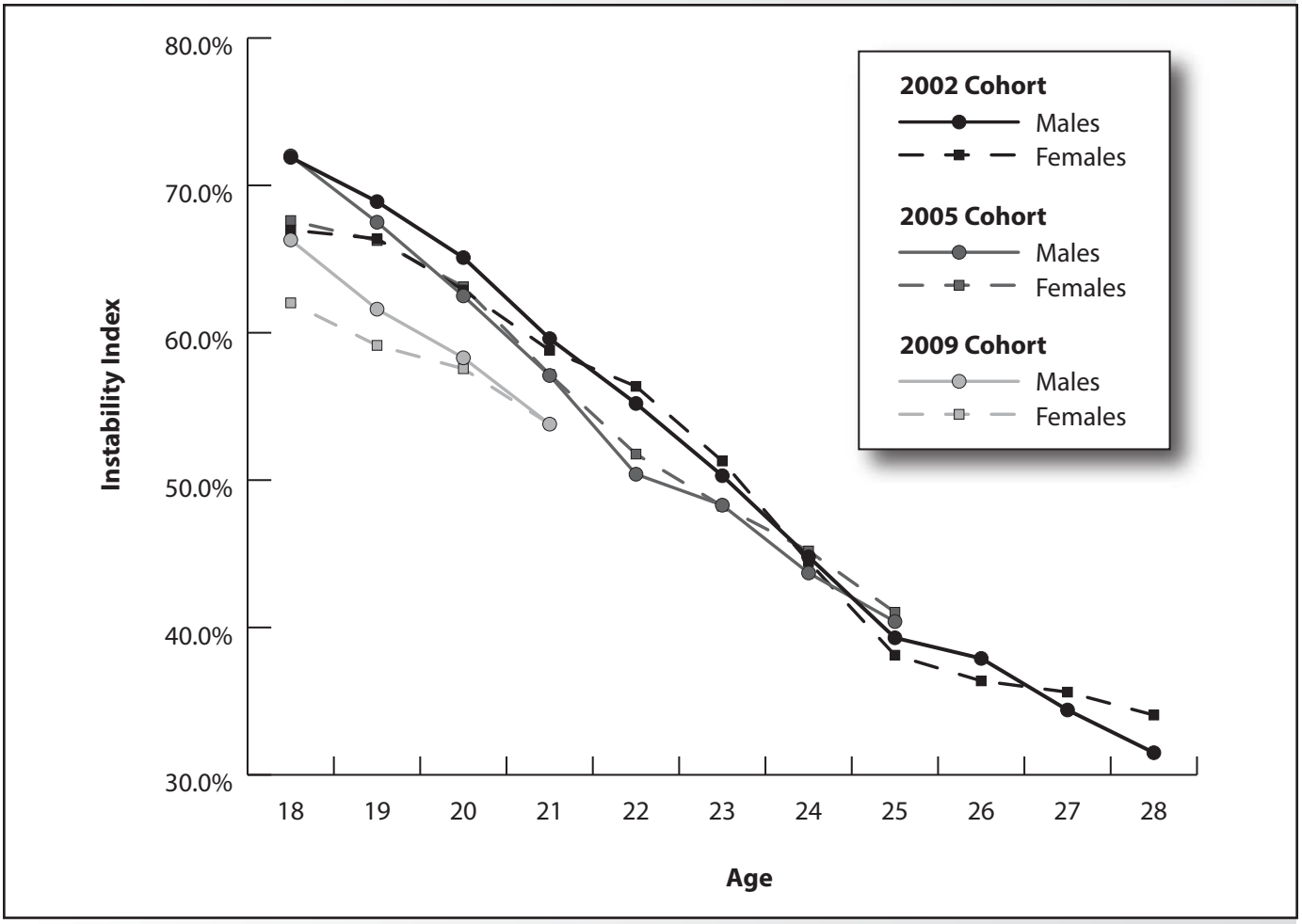


Figure 6: **Instability Indices for Males and Females Age 18 in Wyoming in 2002, 2005, and 2009**

instability index can also decrease based on the numbers of hires and exits relative to continuous employment. For example, for youth ages 18 to 20 working in Wyoming from 2009 to 2014, the majority of hires were in the retail trade and leisure & hospitality industries (Hammer & Holmes, 2015). Hires in the retail trade and leisure & hospitality industry tend to be short-term and seasonal, as opposed to industries like public administration and health care, where hires do not follow a seasonal pattern. This concept is illustrated by Gallagher (2015, p. 18). In contrast to factors such as age and industry of hire, periods of economic growth seem to have little impact on the instability index.

Relatively stable growth and relatively rapid growth have little impact on instability. In contrast to older individuals, employment opportunities for young people tend to be represented by a hire, followed shortly by an exit. On the other hand, when the economy experiences a downturn, stability increases due to the fewer number of hires. For both genders, the 2009 Cohort was more stable than the 2002 and 2005 cohorts. For males age 20, instability declined from 62.5% (2005 Cohort) to 58.3% (2009 Cohort; see Table 4).

For males, employment instability is relatively higher at a younger age, while the instability for females is higher at an older age. For females from the 2002 Cohort, instability leveled off from age 25 through 28. This result may be due to individuals finishing some form of education (e.g., college, technical school) that allows them to find more stable employment. Further, as seen in Figure 2, a majority of females are having their first child before the age of 25, and family obligations may interact with the ability (and desire) to find stable employment during the first few years of their children's lives. These trends are not pronounced but are candidates for further investigation.

Employment in Partner States

Table 5 (see page 11) shows the number and percentage from each cohort found working in Wyoming or a partner state as a primary state of earnings. A youth's primary state of earnings is defined as the state in which he or she earned the highest wages in a given year. Table 5 also shows the number and percentage of individuals from each cohort who were not found working in Wyoming or a partner state during a given year. There appears to be a correlation between age and when a person exits Wyoming's labor market, as nearly one-third of each cohort left Wyoming's labor market between the ages of 19 and 21. After age 21, the exits from Wyoming's labor market continued at a much slower pace.

Of the 7,373 18-year-olds in the 2002 Cohort, there were 6,932 (94.0%) whose primary state of earnings was Wyoming. By 2012, Wyoming was the primary state of earnings for 3,533 (47.9%) of those individuals from the 2002 Cohort. As individuals from the 2002 Cohort aged, a greater number earned their primary wages in a partner state. In 2002, 441 (6.0%) of these 18-year-olds had primary wages in a partner state. By 2012, 1,454 (19.7%) individuals from the 2002 Cohort had wages in a partner state. The remaining 2,386 (32.4%) could not be found working in Wyoming or a partner state.

The percentage of individuals from each cohort with Wyoming as their primary state of earnings is shown in Figure 7 (see page 12). As this figure illustrates, a smaller proportion of individuals from the 2002 Cohort had primary wages in Wyoming than the other two cohorts after age 19.

Figure 8 (see page 13) shows the percentage of individuals working primarily in a partner state by cohort. A smaller percentage of 18-year-olds from the 2009 Cohort (3.9%) had primary wages in a partner state compared to the 2002 (6.0%) and 2005 (5.3%) cohorts. According to Hammer & Holmes (2015), during the economic downturn in Wyoming, a smaller percentage of people ages 18 to 20 found work compared to the rest of the population. The lower starting point of the 2009 Cohort may be due in part to fewer opportunities for younger workers who entered the market during a decline.

As the individuals in each cohort aged, a larger number were no longer found working in Wyoming or a partner state (see Figure 9, page 14). For example, of the 7,373 individuals in the 2002 Cohort, 2,386 (32.4%) could not be found working in Wyoming or a partner state in 2012. As noted by Glover (2012), this category includes individuals who moved to a state with which R&P does not have a data sharing agreement, those who exited

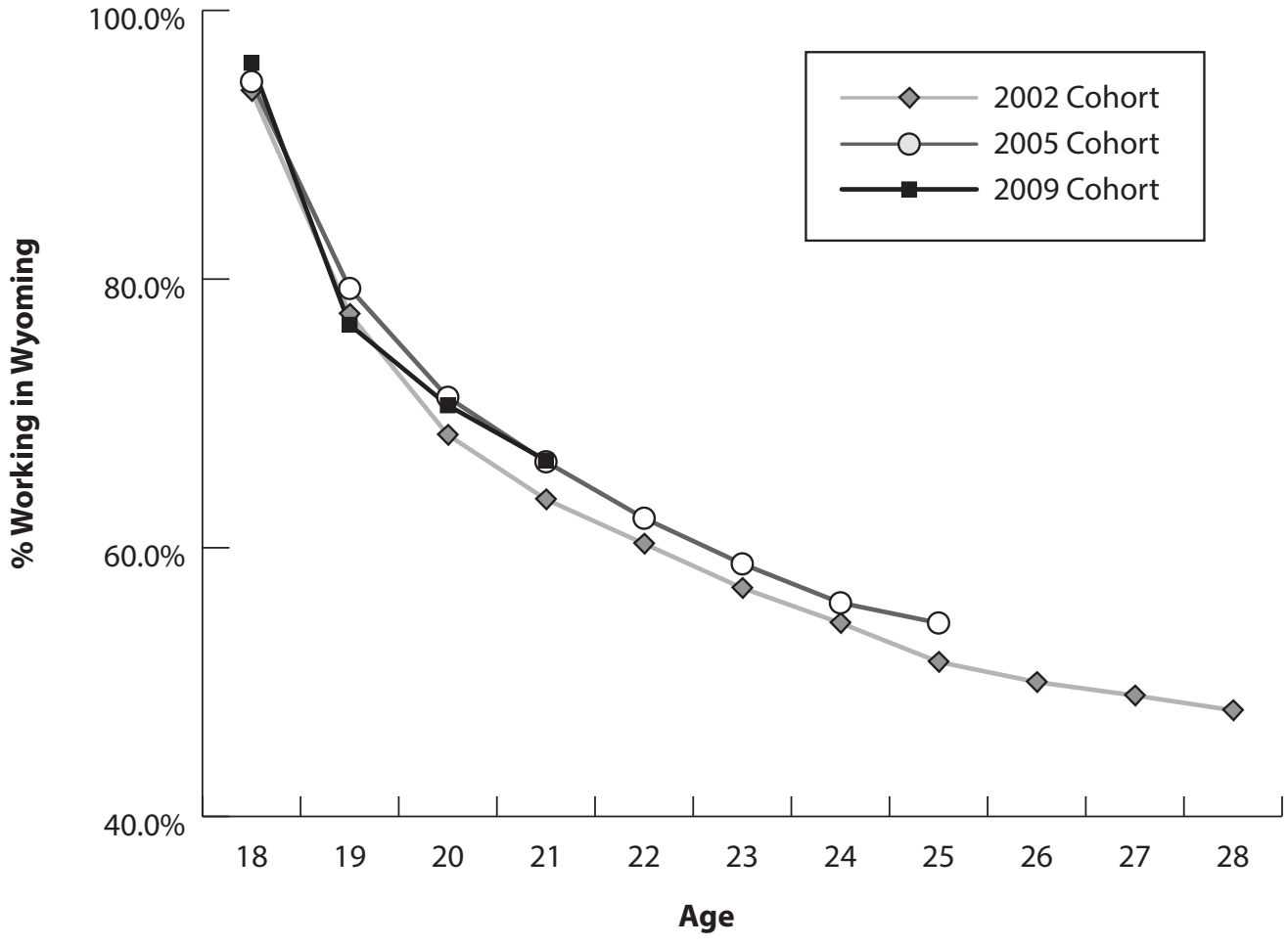
Table 5: Number and Percent of Individuals from Each Cohort by Primary State of Wages

			Found Working in WY or a Partner State						Not Found Working in WY or a Partner State	
			Total		Partner State		WY			
Cohort	Year	Age	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
2002 Cohort (N = 7,373)	2002	18	7,373	100.0%	441	6.0%	6,932	94.0%	0	0.0%
	2003	19	6,463	87.7%	754	10.2%	5,708	77.4%	910	12.3%
	2004	20	6,033	81.8%	988	13.4%	5,044	68.4%	1,340	18.2%
	2005	21	5,821	78.9%	1,129	15.3%	4,692	63.6%	1,552	21.1%
	2006	22	5,704	77.4%	1,261	17.1%	4,444	60.3%	1,669	22.6%
	2007	23	5,569	75.5%	1,365	18.5%	4,204	57.0%	1,804	24.5%
	2008	24	5,420	73.5%	1,411	19.1%	4,009	54.4%	1,953	26.5%
	2009	25	5,195	70.5%	1,396	18.9%	3,799	51.5%	2,178	29.5%
	2010	26	5,068	68.7%	1,384	18.8%	3,684	50.0%	2,305	31.3%
	2011	27	5,047	68.5%	1,438	19.5%	3,610	49.0%	2,326	31.5%
	2012	28	4,987	67.6%	1,454	19.7%	3,533	47.9%	2,386	32.4%
2005 Cohort (N = 6,704)	2005	18	6,704	100.0%	353	5.3%	6,351	94.7%	0	0.0%
	2006	19	6,004	89.6%	685	10.2%	5,319	79.3%	700	10.4%
	2007	20	5,655	84.4%	881	13.1%	4,774	71.2%	1,049	15.6%
	2008	21	5,483	81.8%	1,034	15.4%	4,449	66.4%	1,221	18.2%
	2009	22	5,235	78.1%	1,069	15.9%	4,167	62.2%	1,469	21.9%
	2010	23	5,119	76.4%	1,177	17.6%	3,941	58.8%	1,585	23.6%
	2011	24	4,975	74.2%	1,230	18.3%	3,745	55.9%	1,729	25.8%
	2012	25	4,911	73.3%	1,266	18.9%	3,645	54.4%	1,793	26.7%
2009 Cohort (N = 5,965)	2009	18	5,965	100.0%	230	3.9%	5,735	96.1%	0	0.0%
	2010	19	5,048	84.6%	481	8.1%	4,568	76.6%	917	15.4%
	2011	20	4,820	80.8%	609	10.2%	4,211	70.6%	1,145	19.2%
	2012	21	4,714	79.0%	747	12.5%	3,967	66.5%	1,251	21.0%

Source: Wage Records.

the labor force for other reasons, and those who are deceased. This category also includes self-employed individuals, and employees of railroads, the federal government, and the armed forces.

Age and different economic conditions may have affected how each cohort behaved in the labor market. For example, as shown in Figure 8, the percentage of individuals from the 2002 Cohort working primarily in partner states grew at a steady pace through age 24. However, the percentage of individuals primarily working in a partner state from the 2005 Cohort slowed after age 21. Both of these events occurred in 2008, the final year of economic expansion in Wyoming. A smaller percentage of individuals from the 2009 Cohort worked primarily in a partner state than either of the other cohorts. These younger individuals entered the labor market during Wyoming's recent economic downturn, which may have affected their decision to leave Wyoming for employment in a partner state. Individuals from the 2002 Cohort had been in the labor market for several years



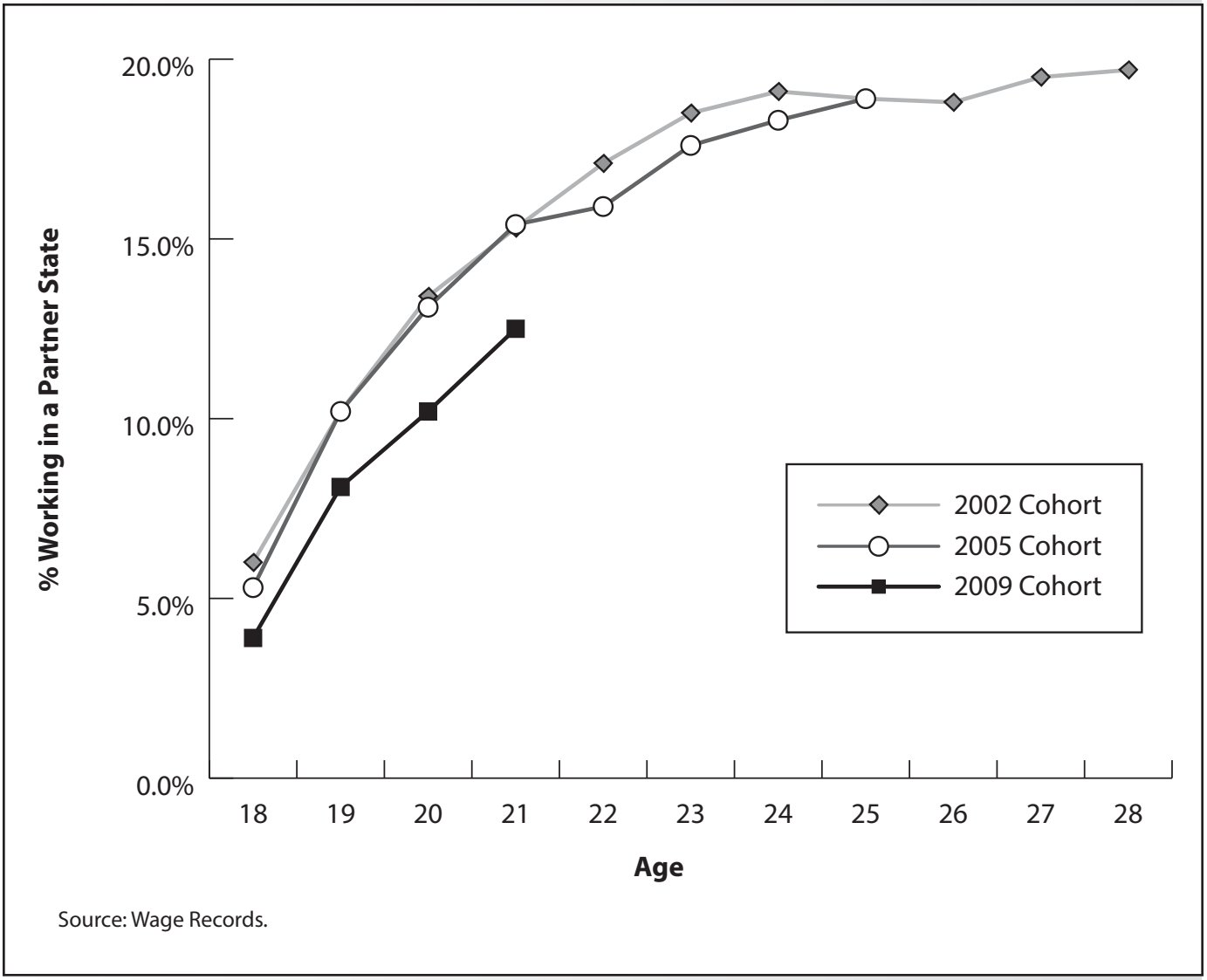
Source: Wage Records.

Figure 7: **Percentage of Each Cohort Working in Wyoming by Single Year of Age**

before the downturn, and thus had more work experience, possibly increasing their ability to find and retain employment in other labor markets.

Summary

The goal of this article was to investigate the life events and labor market activity of those ages 18 to 30 to determine how age segments might be grouped for purposes of analysis for both theoretical relevance and efficiency in presentation. Developing age groups allows researchers to conduct sound program evaluation research by reducing bias based on normal life events. Using UI wage records and vital statistics administrative databases, R&P found that males and females differ in terms of age at first marriage and birth of first child. Females tend to marry and have their first child before the age of 22, while males tend to be older before reaching these events. This finding suggests that age at first marriage and birth should be controlled when



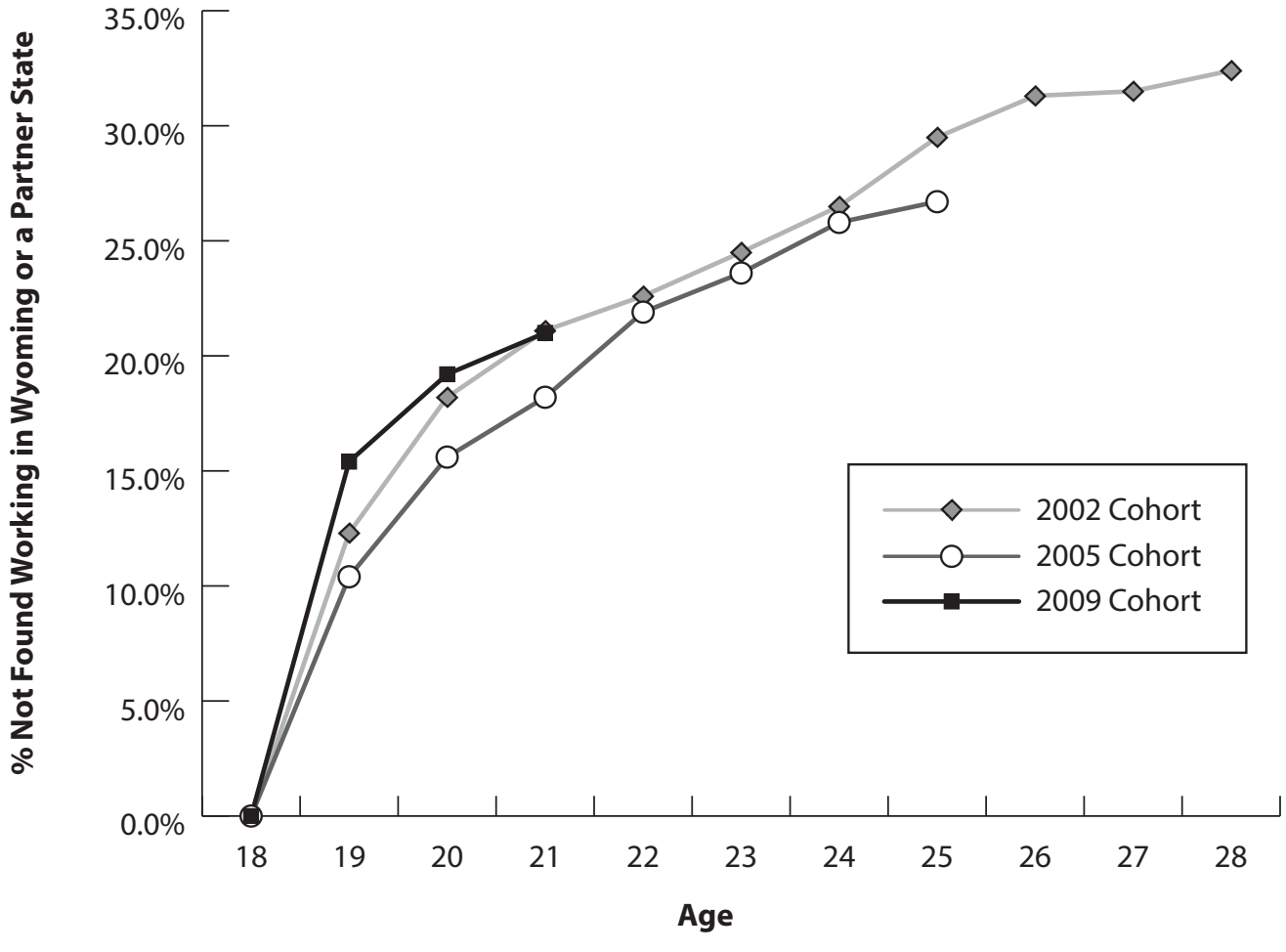
Source: Wage Records.

Figure 8: **Percentage of Each Cohort Working in Wyoming by Single Year of Age**

conducting program evaluation research by gender. Either of these life events could significantly impact employment opportunities and work search intensity.

This article also demonstrated that between the ages of 18 and 22, retention in a specific labor market decreases regardless of gender or economic conditions (see Figures 4 and 5). For males, retention tends to stabilize around the age of 25, while this effect was not observed for females. Labor market instability was found to decrease over time for both genders. When economic conditions are poor (the recent downturn in 2009), younger individuals have a lower level of instability compared to their more experienced counterparts. This effect may be due to a person's perception of the lack of job opportunities and experience which would enable them to change jobs.

Finally, younger individuals are more likely than older individuals to move out of Wyoming to a partner state. However, individuals who are between the ages of 18 and 21 during times of an economic



Source: Wage Records.

Figure 9: **Percentage of Each Cohort Not Found Working in Wyoming or a Partner State by Single Year of Age**

downturn are less likely to move to other states for employment. Job opportunities in other states may be viewed as scarce, and moving to another labor market involves a risk.

In terms of specific age groups that should be assessed when conducting program evaluation research, several key factors should be noted. Due to the differences in genders regarding age at first marriage and first birth, controlling for this variable statistically will be the most appropriate method of reducing bias. Propensity score matching techniques should be completed separately for males and females with a covariate specific for both events. Based on the retention rates, labor market instability, and interstate mobility, several age groups could be defined. Individuals between the ages of 18 and 20 experience higher instability and are retained at the same employer less than those between the ages of 21 and 24. Those over the age of 25 begin to experience labor market stability and retention with the same employer remains consistent.

Finally, it is evident that the unit of analysis should be modified from the individual to the household. At the beginning of each cohort, this analysis implicitly focuses on individuals as the unit of economic analysis. At some point in the age of each cohort, the unit of analysis changes from the individual to the household. The shift from individual to household units represents an important proportion of each cohort. Decisions regarding career choice, necessary income levels, birth of children, and migration are then made at the household rather than the individual level. For this reason, future strategies regarding the analysis of youth transition must take this transformation into account.

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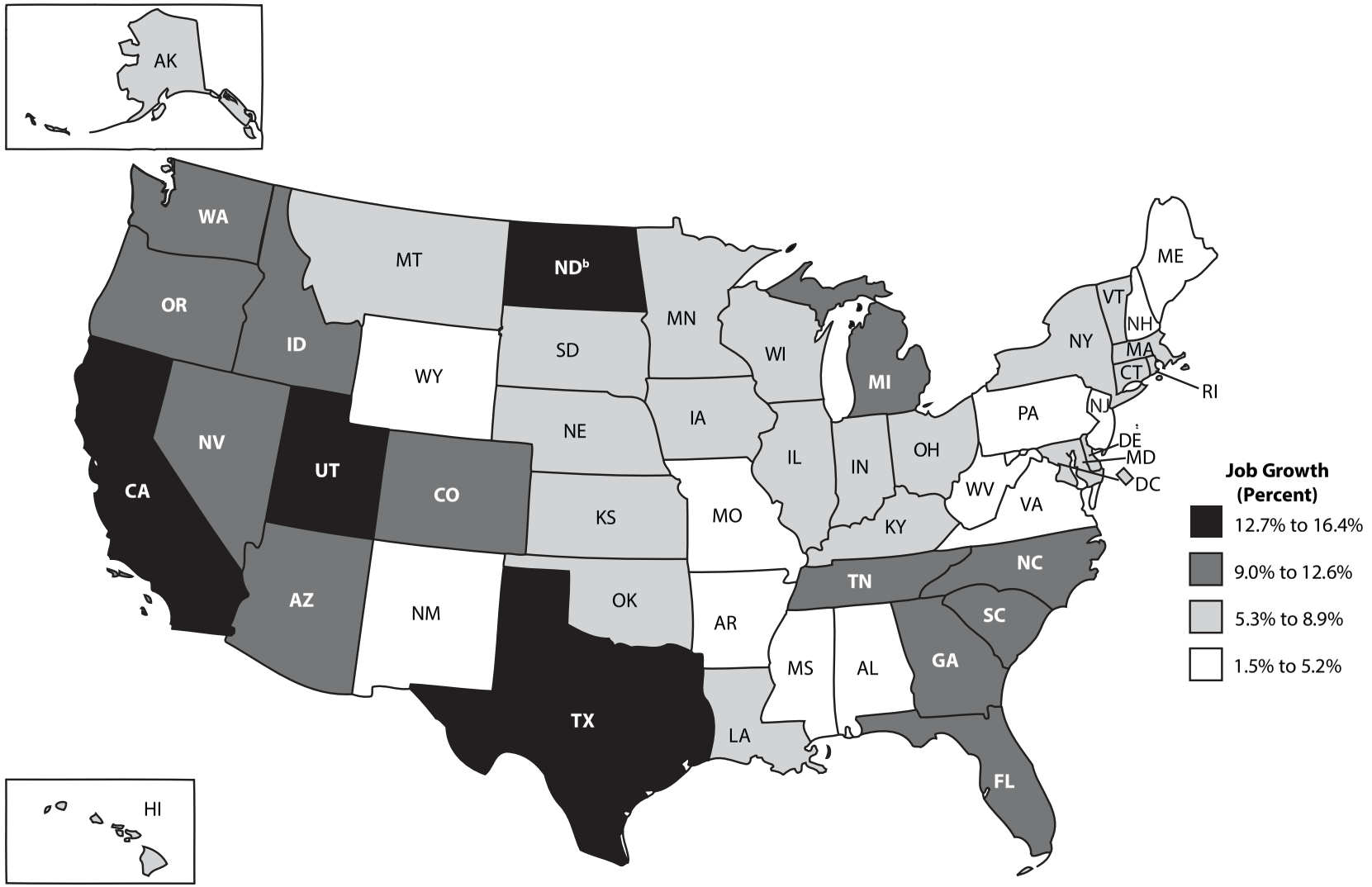
Map: Job Growth (%) by State, April 2010 to April 2015[a]



[a]Preliminary data for April 2015.
[b]North Dakota job growth = 25.2%.
Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages. Retrieved June 1, 2015.

Wyoming Unemployment Rate Rises to 4.1% in March 2015

by: David Bullard, Senior Economist

The Research & Planning section of the Wyoming Department of Workforce Services reported that the state's seasonally adjusted[1] unemployment rate rose from 4.0% in February to 4.1% in March (not a statistically significant change). Wyoming's unemployment rate was slightly lower than its March 2014 level of 4.2% and significantly lower than the current U.S. unemployment rate of 5.5%. Seasonally adjusted employment of Wyoming residents increased very slightly, rising by an estimated 439 individuals (0.1%) from February to March.

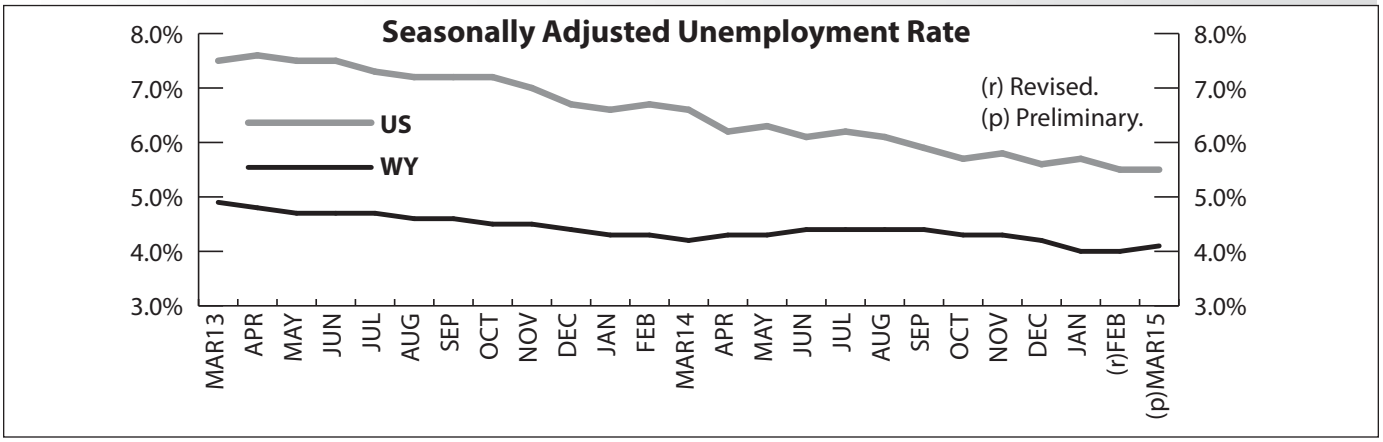
From February to March, most county unemployment rates increased. A contributing factor to the rising unemployment rates was job losses in the oil & gas sector as evidenced by claims for unemployment insurance. The largest unemployment rate increases were seen in Big Horn (up from 5.0% to 5.7%), Natrona (up from 4.4% to 5.0%), Converse (up from 3.6% to 4.0%), and Uinta (up from 5.3% to 5.7%) counties. Unemployment rates fell in Niobrara (down from 3.3% to 3.0%), Platte (down from 4.7% to 4.5%), Sheridan (down from 5.2% to 5.1%), Lincoln (down from 6.3% to 6.2%), and Crook (down from 4.5% to 4.4%) counties.

From March 2014 to March 2015, unemployment rates rose in 12 counties and fell in 10 counties. Big Horn County's unemployment rate was unchanged from a year earlier at 5.7%. The largest increases occurred in Converse (up from 3.3% to 4.0%), Sublette (up from 5.2% to 5.9%), Sweetwater (up from 4.4% to 5.1%), and Weston (up from 3.5% to 4.1%) counties. The largest decreases were seen in Teton (down from 4.6% to 3.9%), Niobrara (down from 3.7% to 3.0%), Sheridan (down from 5.6% to 5.1%), and Goshen (down from 4.1% to 3.6%) counties.

Fremont and Lincoln counties reported the highest unemployment rates in March (both 6.2%). They were followed by Johnson (6.1%) and Sublette (5.9%) counties. The lowest unemployment rates were found in Niobrara (3.0%), Albany (3.5%), and Goshen (3.6%) counties.

Total nonfarm employment (measured by place of work) rose from 284,400 in March 2014 to 287,300 in March 2015, a gain of 2,900 jobs (1.0%).

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.



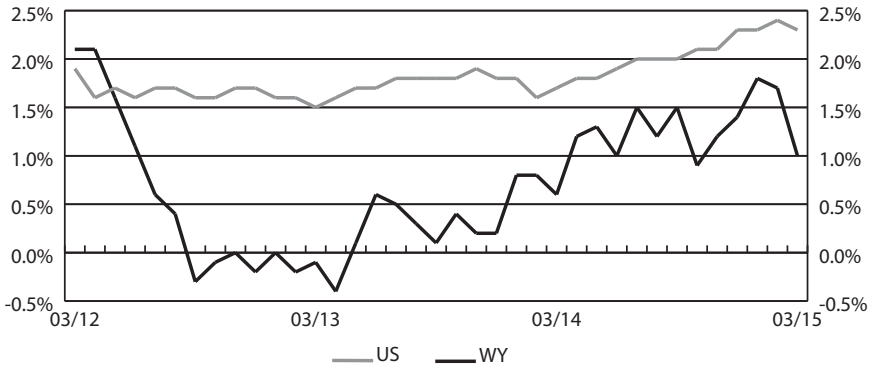
Current Employment Statistics (CES) Estimates and Research & Planning's Short-Term Projections, March 2015

by: David Bullard, Senior Economist

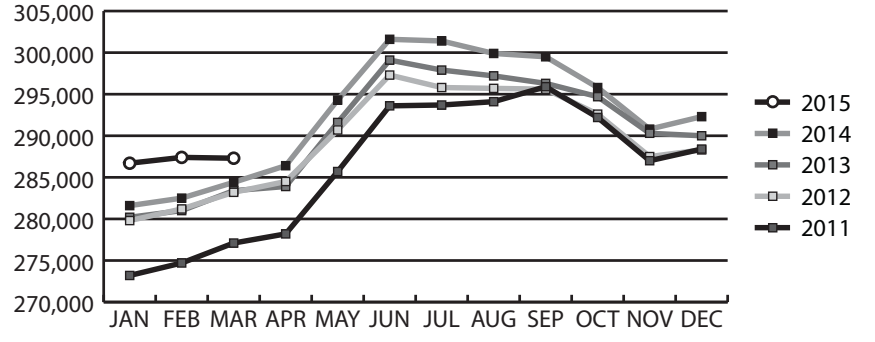
Industry Sector	Research & Planning's Short-Term Projections	Current Employment Statistics (CES) Estimates	N Difference	% Difference
Total Nonfarm Employment	**286,295**	**287,300**	**1,005**	**0.3%**
Natural Resources & Mining	26,684	25,300	-1,384	-5.5%
Construction	21,074	21,500	426	2.0%
Manufacturing	9,456	9,600	144	1.5%
Wholesale Trade	9,583	9,600	17	0.2%
Retail Trade	28,861	29,200	339	1.2%
Transportation & Utilities	15,719	15,900	181	1.1%
Information	3,731	3,800	69	1.8%
Financial Activities	11,194	11,400	206	1.8%
Professional & Business Services	17,772	18,400	628	3.4%
Educational & Health Services	27,514	27,800	286	1.0%
Leisure & Hospitality	32,584	32,800	216	0.7%
Other Services	9,599	9,500	-99	-1.0%
Government	72,524	72,500	-24	0.0%

Projections were run in February 2015 and based on QCEW data through September 2014.

Nonagricultural Employment Growth (Percentage Change Over Previous Year)



Wyoming Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment



State Unemployment Rates March 2015 (Seasonally Adjusted)

State	Unemp. Rate
Puerto Rico	11.8
District of Columbia	7.7
Nevada	7.1
Mississippi	6.8
South Carolina	6.7
Louisiana	6.6
West Virginia	6.6
Alaska	6.5
California	6.5
New Jersey	6.5
Connecticut	6.4
Georgia	6.3
Rhode Island	6.3
Tennessee	6.3
Arizona	6.2
New Mexico	6.1
Illinois	6.0
Washington	5.9
Indiana	5.8
Alabama	5.7
Florida	5.7
New York	5.7
Arkansas	5.6
Michigan	5.6
Missouri	5.6
United States	**5.5**
Maryland	5.4
North Carolina	5.4
Oregon	5.4
Pennsylvania	5.3
Kentucky	5.1
Ohio	5.1
Maine	4.8
Massachusetts	4.8
Virginia	4.8
Delaware	4.6
Wisconsin	4.6
Colorado	4.2
Kansas	4.2
Texas	4.2
Hawaii	4.1
Montana	4.1
Wyoming	**4.1**
Iowa	4.0
New Hampshire	3.9
Oklahoma	3.9
Idaho	3.8
Vermont	3.8
Minnesota	3.7
South Dakota	3.5
Utah	3.4
North Dakota	3.1
Nebraska	2.6

Wyoming Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment

by: David Bullard, Senior Economist

	Employment in Thousands			% Change Total Employment	
	Mar 15	Feb 15	Mar 14	Mar 15 Feb 15	Mar 15 Mar 14
CAMPBELL COUNTY					
TOTAL NONAG. WAGE & SALARY EMPLOYMENT	**29.0**	**28.8**	**28.0**	**0.7**	**3.6**
TOTAL PRIVATE	**23.6**	**23.4**	**22.8**	**0.9**	**3.5**
GOODS PRODUCING	**11.1**	**11.1**	**10.7**	**0.0**	**3.7**
Natural Resources & Mining	8.0	8.0	7.9	0.0	1.3
Construction	2.5	2.5	2.3	0.0	8.7
Manufacturing	0.6	0.6	0.5	0.0	20.0
SERVICE PROVIDING	**17.9**	**17.7**	**17.3**	**1.1**	**3.5**
Trade, Transportation, & Utilities	5.8	5.7	5.6	1.8	3.6
Information	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.0	0.0
Financial Activities	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.0	0.0
Professional & Business Services	1.7	1.7	1.6	0.0	6.2
Educational & Health Services	1.0	1.0	1.0	0.0	0.0
Leisure & Hospitality	2.3	2.2	2.2	4.5	4.5
Other Services	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.0	0.0
GOVERNMENT	**5.4**	**5.4**	**5.2**	**0.0**	**3.8**

	Employment in Thousands			% Change Total Employment	
	Mar 15	Feb 15	Mar 14	Mar 15 Feb 15	Mar 15 Mar 14
SWEETWATER COUNTY					
TOTAL NONAG. WAGE & SALARY EMPLOYMENT	**24.3**	**24.2**	**25.0**	**0.4**	**-2.8**
TOTAL PRIVATE	**19.5**	**19.5**	**20.0**	**0.0**	**-2.5**
GOODS PRODUCING	**8.3**	**8.4**	**8.7**	**-1.2**	**-4.6**
Natural Resources & Mining	5.6	5.7	5.8	-1.8	-3.4
Construction	1.3	1.3	1.5	0.0	-13.3
Manufacturing	1.4	1.4	1.4	0.0	0.0
SERVICE PROVIDING	**16.0**	**15.8**	**16.3**	**1.3**	**-1.8**
Trade, Transportation, & Utilities	4.9	4.9	5.0	0.0	-2.0
Information	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.0	0.0
Financial Activities	0.9	0.9	0.9	0.0	0.0
Professional & Business Services	1.0	1.0	1.1	0.0	-9.1
Educational & Health Services	1.3	1.3	1.1	0.0	18.2
Leisure & Hospitality	2.3	2.2	2.3	4.5	0.0
Other Services	0.6	0.6	0.7	0.0	-14.3
GOVERNMENT	**4.8**	**4.7**	**5.0**	**2.1**	**-4.0**

	Employment in Thousands			% Change Total Employment	
	Mar 15	Feb 15	Mar 14	Mar 15 Feb 15	Mar 15 Mar 14
TETON COUNTY					
TOTAL NONAG. WAGE & SALARY EMPLOYMENT	**17.8**	**17.6**	**17.3**	**1.1**	**2.9**
TOTAL PRIVATE	**15.3**	**15.2**	**14.9**	**0.7**	**2.7**
GOODS PRODUCING	**1.8**	**1.7**	**1.7**	**5.9**	**5.9**
Natural Resources, Mining & Construction	1.7	1.6	1.6	6.2	6.2
Manufacturing	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.0
SERVICE PROVIDING	**16.0**	**15.9**	**15.6**	**0.6**	**2.6**
Trade, Transportation, & Utilities	2.5	2.5	2.3	0.0	8.7
Information	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.0	0.0
Financial Activities	0.9	0.9	0.8	0.0	12.5
Professional & Business Services	1.6	1.6	1.6	0.0	0.0
Educational & Health Services	1.1	1.1	1.2	0.0	-8.3
Leisure & Hospitality	6.7	6.7	6.6	0.0	1.5
Other Services	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.0	0.0
GOVERNMENT	**2.5**	**2.4**	**2.4**	**4.2**	**4.2**

State Unemployment Rates March 2015 (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

State	Unemp. Rate
Puerto Rico	12.6
West Virginia	7.7
Alaska	7.5
District of Columbia	7.3
Nevada	7.2
Rhode Island	6.9
New Jersey	6.8
California	6.5
Connecticut	6.5
Louisiana	6.4
Illinois	6.3
Georgia	6.2
Mississippi	6.2
South Carolina	6.2
Missouri	6.1
New Mexico	6.0
Indiana	5.9
Tennessee	5.9
Alabama	5.8
New York	5.8
Oregon	5.8
Arkansas	5.7
Michigan	5.7
Washington	5.7
Maine	5.6
United States	**5.6**
Florida	5.5
Pennsylvania	5.5
Arizona	5.4
Kentucky	5.4
Maryland	5.4
North Carolina	5.4
Ohio	5.4
Wisconsin	5.4
Massachusetts	5.0
Virginia	4.9
Wyoming	**4.8**
Delaware	4.7
Montana	4.7
Colorado	4.5
Minnesota	4.5
Idaho	4.4
Kansas	4.4
South Dakota	4.3
Iowa	4.2
New Hampshire	4.2
Texas	4.2
Hawaii	3.9
Vermont	3.9
North Dakota	3.8
Oklahoma	3.7
Utah	3.6
Nebraska	2.8

Economic Indicators

by: David Bullard, Senior Economist

The amount of unemployment insurance benefits paid in Wyoming rose 45.4% from March 2014 to March 2015, suggesting a slowdown in the labor market.

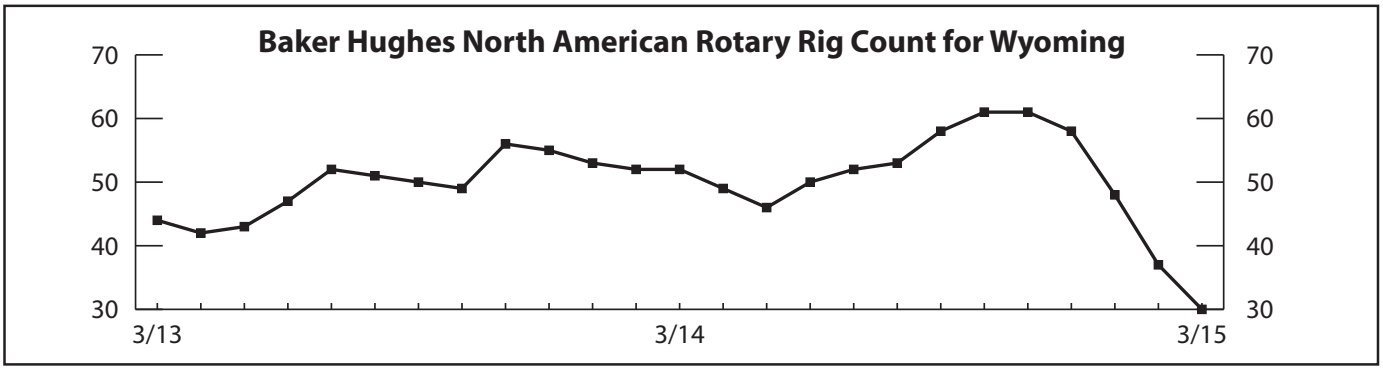
	Mar 2015 (p)	Feb 2015 (r)	Mar 2014 (b)	Percent Change Month	Year
Wyoming Total Nonfarm Employment	**287,300**	**287,400**	**284,400**	**0.0**	**1.0**
Wyoming State Government	15,900	15,700	15,900	1.3	0.0
Laramie County Nonfarm Employment	47,300	47,100	46,100	0.4	2.6
Natrona County Nonfarm Employment	43,100	42,900	42,000	0.5	2.6
Selected U.S. Employment Data					
U.S. Multiple Jobholders	7,264,000	7,221,000	7,143,000	0.6	1.7
As a percent of all workers	4.9%	4.9%	4.9%	N/A	N/A
U.S. Discouraged Workers	738,000	732,000	698,000	0.8	5.7
U.S. Part Time for Economic Reasons	6,672,000	6,772,000	7,455,000	-1.5	-10.5
Wyoming Unemployment Insurance					
Weeks Compensated	24,903	19,638	18,944	26.8	31.5
Benefits Paid	$9,704,794	$7,420,775	$6,676,432	30.8	45.4
Average Weekly Benefit Payment	$389.70	$377.88	$352.43	3.1	10.6
State Insured Covered Jobs[1]	269,893	267,975	264,697	0.7	2.0
Insured Unemployment Rate	2.9%	2.7%	2.5%	N/A	N/A
Consumer Price Index (U) for All U.S. Urban Consumers					
(1982 to 1984 = 100)					
All Items	236.1	234.7	236.3	0.6	-0.1
Food & Beverages	245.7	246.3	240.2	-0.2	2.3
Housing	236.4	236.0	232.0	0.2	1.9
Apparel	128.2	124.5	128.9	3.0	-0.5
Transportation	199.4	193.9	218.4	2.8	-8.7
Medical Care	444.0	442.8	433.4	0.3	2.5
Recreation (Dec. 1997=100)	115.8	115.6	115.8	0.2	0.1
Education & Communication (Dec. 1997=100)	137.6	137.6	137.1	0.0	0.3
Other Goods & Services	412.4	411.8	406.7	0.1	1.4
Producer Prices (1982 to 1984 = 100)					
All Commodities	191.6	191.1	207.0	0.3	-7.4
Wyo. Bldg. Permits (New Privately Owned Housing Units Authorized)					
Total Units	178	98	110	81.6	61.8
Valuation	$54,579,000	$33,392,000	$30,211,000	63.4	80.7
Single Family Homes	173	95	103	82.1	68.0
Valuation	$54,151,000	$33,017,000	$29,541,000	64.0	83.3
Casper MSA[2] Building Permits	20	14	20	42.9	0.0
Valuation	$4,998,000	$3,054,000	$4,040,000	63.7	23.7
Cheyenne MSA Building Permits	48	19	24	152.6	100.0
Valuation	$8,900,000	$3,643,000	$4,286,000	144.3	107.7
Baker Hughes North American Rotary Rig Count for Wyoming	30	37	52	-18.9	-42.3

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

[1]Local Area Unemployment Statistics Program estimates.

[2]Metropolitan Statistical Area.

Note: Production worker hours and earnings data have been dropped from the Economic Indicators page because of problems with accuracy due to a small sample size and high item nonresponse. The Bureau of Labor Statistics will continue to publish these data online at http://www.bls.gov/eag/eag.wy.htm.



Wyoming County Unemployment Rates

by: Carola Cowan, BLS Programs Supervisor

Fremont and Lincoln counties reported the highest unemployment rates in March (both 6.2%).

REGION / County	Labor Force			Employed			Unemployed			Unemployment Rates		
	Mar 2015 (p)	Feb 2015 (r)	Mar 2014 (b)	Mar 2015 (p)	Feb 2015 (r)	Mar 2014 (b)	Mar 2015 (p)	Feb 2015 (r)	Mar 2014 (b)	Mar 2015 (p)	Feb 2015 (r)	Mar 2014 (b)
NORTHWEST	**47,982**	**47,387**	**47,996**	**45,214**	**44,767**	**45,304**	**2,768**	**2,620**	**2,692**	**5.8**	**5.5**	**5.6**
Big Horn	5,579	5,491	5,433	5,263	5,214	5,125	316	277	308	5.7	5.0	5.7
Fremont	20,763	20,478	20,804	19,468	19,235	19,606	1,295	1,243	1,198	6.2	6.1	5.8
Hot Springs	2,449	2,424	2,536	2,328	2,312	2,416	121	112	120	4.9	4.6	4.7
Park	14,967	14,795	14,969	14,154	14,015	14,132	813	780	837	5.4	5.3	5.6
Washakie	4,224	4,199	4,254	4,001	3,991	4,025	223	208	229	5.3	5.0	5.4
NORTHEAST	**54,329**	**53,893**	**53,632**	**51,844**	**51,521**	**51,211**	**2,485**	**2,372**	**2,421**	**4.6**	**4.4**	**4.5**
Campbell	26,548	26,348	26,028	25,467	25,358	25,040	1,081	990	988	4.1	3.8	3.8
Crook	3,561	3,546	3,611	3,403	3,388	3,441	158	158	170	4.4	4.5	4.7
Johnson	4,321	4,261	4,376	4,057	4,007	4,133	264	254	243	6.1	6.0	5.6
Sheridan	15,949	15,820	15,664	15,129	15,005	14,781	820	815	883	5.1	5.2	5.6
Weston	3,950	3,918	3,953	3,788	3,763	3,816	162	155	137	4.1	4.0	3.5
SOUTHWEST	**59,506**	**59,015**	**59,985**	**56,447**	**56,070**	**56,999**	**3,059**	**2,945**	**2,986**	**5.1**	**5.0**	**5.0**
Lincoln	8,046	8,021	8,081	7,550	7,515	7,560	496	506	521	6.2	6.3	6.4
Sublette	4,904	4,883	4,683	4,617	4,593	4,441	287	290	242	5.9	5.9	5.2
Sweetwater	23,328	22,989	23,738	22,133	21,881	22,686	1,195	1,108	1,052	5.1	4.8	4.4
Teton	13,584	13,592	13,646	13,055	13,057	13,022	529	535	624	3.9	3.9	4.6
Uinta	9,644	9,530	9,837	9,092	9,024	9,290	552	506	547	5.7	5.3	5.6
SOUTHEAST	**84,045**	**83,427**	**83,430**	**80,577**	**80,002**	**79,783**	**3,468**	**3,425**	**3,647**	**4.1**	**4.1**	**4.4**
Albany	21,270	21,050	21,181	20,536	20,316	20,424	734	734	757	3.5	3.5	3.6
Goshen	7,046	7,005	7,130	6,793	6,770	6,838	253	235	292	3.6	3.4	4.1
Laramie	49,774	49,482	49,063	47,541	47,285	46,716	2,233	2,197	2,347	4.5	4.4	4.8
Niobrara	1,290	1,284	1,350	1,251	1,241	1,300	39	43	50	3.0	3.3	3.7
Platte	4,665	4,606	4,706	4,456	4,390	4,505	209	216	201	4.5	4.7	4.3
CENTRAL	**60,796**	**60,204**	**59,924**	**57,860**	**57,598**	**57,279**	**2,936**	**2,606**	**2,645**	**4.8**	**4.3**	**4.4**
Carbon	8,066	7,999	8,258	7,681	7,628	7,873	385	371	385	4.8	4.6	4.7
Converse	8,453	8,372	8,258	8,117	8,073	7,987	336	299	271	4.0	3.6	3.3
Natrona	44,277	43,833	43,408	42,062	41,897	41,419	2,215	1,936	1,989	5.0	4.4	4.6
STATEWIDE	**306,660**	**303,930**	**304,971**	**291,942**	**289,960**	**290,577**	**14,718**	**13,970**	**14,394**	**4.8**	**4.6**	**4.7**
Statewide Seasonally Adjusted										4.1	4.0	4.2
U.S.										5.6	5.8	6.8
U.S. Seasonally Adjusted										5.5	5.5	6.6

Prepared in cooperation with the Bureau of Labor Statistics. Benchmarked 02/2015. Run Date 04/2015.

Data are not seasonally adjusted except where otherwise specified.

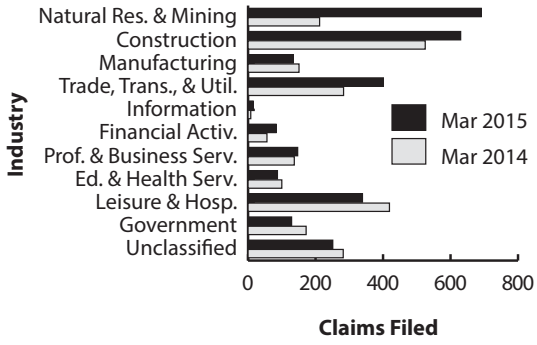
(p) Preliminary. (r) Revised. (b) Benchmarked.

Wyoming Normalized[a] Unemployment Insurance Statistics: Initial Claims

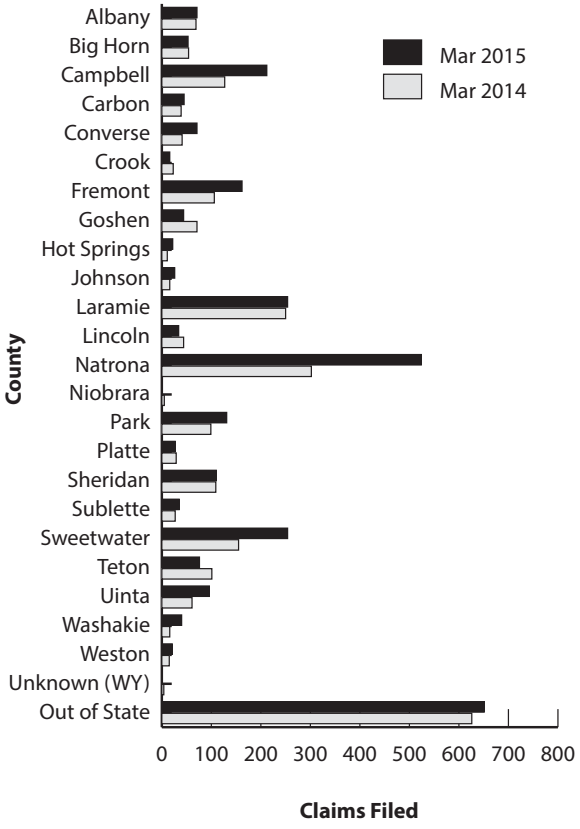
by: Patrick Manning, Principal Economist

Initial claims increased 24.1% from March 2014 to March 2015. Initial claims in mining increased substantially to 676 from 194 in March 2014 (248.5%).

Initial Unemployment Insurance Claims by Industry, March 2015



Initial Unemployment Insurance Claims by County, March 2015



Initial Claims

	Claims Filed			Percent Change Claims Filed	
	Mar 15	Feb 15	Mar 14	Feb 15	Mar 14
Wyoming Statewide					
TOTAL CLAIMS FILED	**2,979**	**3,475**	**2,400**	**-14.3**	**24.1**
TOTAL GOODS-PRODUCING	1,455	1,963	889	-25.9	63.7
Natural Res. & Mining	691	905	212	-23.6	225.9
Mining	676	899	194	-24.8	248.5
Oil & Gas Extraction	37	57	9	-35.1	311.1
Construction	630	929	525	-32.2	20.0
Manufacturing	134	127	151	5.5	-11.3
TOTAL SERVICE-PROVIDING	1,142	1,035	1,056	10.3	8.1
Trade, Transp., & Utilities	401	397	283	1.0	41.7
Wholesale Trade	92	72	50	27.8	84.0
Retail Trade	121	148	134	-18.2	-9.7
Transp., Warehousing & Utilities	188	177	99	6.2	89.9
Information	15	12	8	25.0	87.5
Financial Activities	83	99	56	-16.2	48.2
Prof. and Business Svcs.	147	211	137	-30.3	7.3
Educational & Health Svcs.	87	99	100	-12.1	-13.0
Leisure & Hospitality	339	155	419	118.7	-19.1
Other Svcs., exc. Public Admin.	66	57	46	15.8	43.5
TOTAL GOVERNMENT	129	135	172	-4.4	-25.0
Federal Government	48	60	69	-20.0	-30.4
State Government	20	11	20	81.8	0.0
Local Government	60	62	82	-3.2	-26.8
Local Education	15	16	10	-6.3	50.0
UNCLASSIFIED	251	340	282	-26.2	-11.0
Laramie County					
TOTAL CLAIMS FILED	**254**	**410**	**250**	**-38.0**	**1.6**
TOTAL GOODS-PRODUCING	116	208	88	-44.2	31.8
Construction	75	148	83	-49.3	-9.6
TOTAL SERVICE-PROVIDING	107	154	125	-30.5	-14.4
Trade, Transp., & Utilities	41	52	49	-21.2	-16.3
Financial Activities	11	10	15	10.0	-26.7
Prof. & Business Svcs.	20	50	38	-60.0	-47.4
Educational & Health Svcs.	12	29	16	-58.6	-25.0
Leisure & Hospitality	11	13	11	-15.4	0.0
TOTAL GOVERNMENT	17	20	25	-15.0	-32.0
UNCLASSIFIED	12	25	9	-52.0	33.3
Natrona County					
TOTAL CLAIMS FILED	**523**	**588**	**302**	**-11.1**	**73.2**
TOTAL GOODS-PRODUCING	297	370	139	-19.7	113.7
Construction	121	147	76	-17.7	59.2
TOTAL SERVICE-PROVIDING	202	191	146	5.8	38.4
Trade, Transp., & Utilities	95	73	45	30.1	111.1
Financial Activities	16	16	8	0.0	100.0
Prof. & Business Svcs.	45	53	48	-15.1	-6.3
Educational & Health Svcs.	25	23	19	8.7	31.6
Leisure & Hospitality	11	27	23	-59.3	-52.2
TOTAL GOVERNMENT	12	15	8	-20.0	50.0
UNCLASSIFIED	10	11	7	-9.1	42.9

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

Wyoming Normalized[a] Unemployment Insurance Statistics: Continued Claims

by: Patrick Manning, Principal Economist

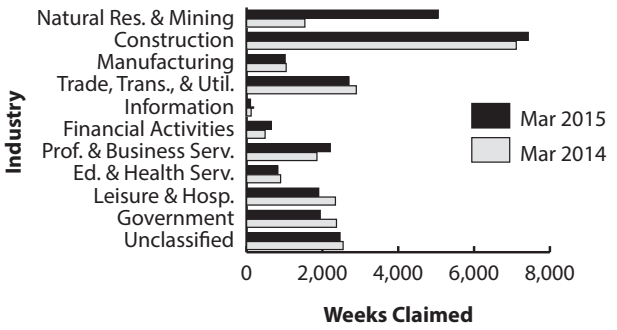
Total weeks claimed increased 12.9% from March 2014 levels, but the total number of unique claimants decreased 19.0%.

Continued Claims

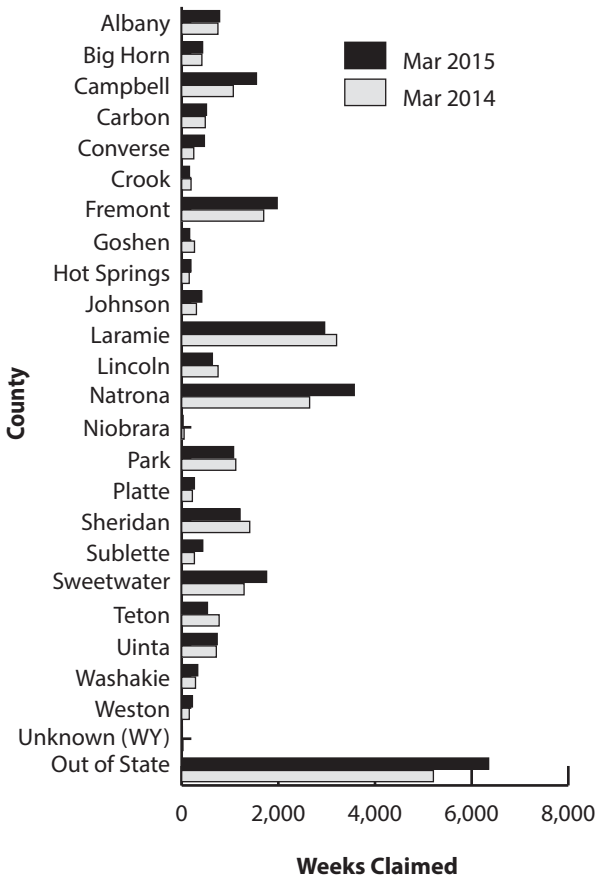
	Claims Filed			Percent Change Claims Filed	
	Mar 15	Feb 15	Mar 14	Mar 15 Feb 15	Mar 15 Mar 14
Wyoming Statewide					
TOTAL WEEKS CLAIMED	**26,775**	**24,997**	**23,718**	**7.1**	**12.9**
TOTAL UNIQUE CLAIMANTS	6,879	7,521	8,497	-8.5	-19.0
Benefit Exhaustions	504	508	672	-0.8	-25.0
Benefit Exhaustion Rates	5.1%	5.2%	7.3%	-0.1%	-2.2%
TOTAL GOODS-PRODUCING	13,506	11,722	9,695	15.2	39.3
Natural Res. & Mining	5,056	3,267	1,537	54.8	229.0
Mining	4,888	3,087	1,371	58.3	256.5
Oil & Gas Extraction	389	261	146	49.0	166.4
Construction	7,430	7,508	7,113	-1.0	4.5
Manufacturing	1,018	946	1,044	7.6	-2.5
TOTAL SERVICE-PROVIDING	8,860	8,500	9,104	4.2	-2.7
Trade, Transp., & Utilities	2,701	2,395	2,894	12.8	-6.7
Wholesale Trade	533	408	560	30.6	-4.8
Retail Trade	1,000	1,032	1,461	-3.1	-31.6
Transp., Warehousing & Utilities	1,168	955	873	22.3	33.8
Information	102	81	120	25.9	-15.0
Financial Activities	654	484	488	35.1	34.0
Prof. & Business Services	2,208	2,294	1,856	-3.7	19.0
Educational & Health Svcs.	825	877	897	-5.9	-8.0
Leisure and Hospitality	1,902	1,956	2,343	-2.8	-18.8
Other Svcs., exc. Public Admin.	460	407	500	13.0	-8.0
TOTAL GOVERNMENT	1,943	2,291	2,371	-15.2	-18.1
Federal Government	1,008	1,230	1,175	-18.0	-14.2
State Government	215	227	242	-5.3	-11.2
Local Government	718	833	953	-13.8	-24.7
Local Education	105	111	127	-5.4	-17.3
UNCLASSIFIED	2,465	2,482	2,546	-0.7	-3.2
Laramie County					
TOTAL WEEKS CLAIMED	**2,958**	**3,034**	**3,205**	**-2.5**	**-7.7**
TOTAL UNIQUE CLAIMANTS	897	880	936	1.9	-4.2
TOTAL GOODS-PRODUCING	1,366	1,444	1,549	-5.4	-11.8
Construction	1,071	1,172	1,382	-8.6	-22.5
TOTAL SERVICE-PROVIDING	1,214	1,224	1,345	-0.8	-9.7
Trade, Transp., and Utilities	411	381	507	7.9	-18.9
Financial Activities	88	79	107	11.4	-17.8
Prof. & Business Svcs.	419	448	407	-6.5	2.9
Educational and Health Svcs.	209	245	141	-14.7	48.2
Leisure & Hospitality	120	108	140	11.1	-14.3
TOTAL GOVERNMENT	234	235	251	-0.4	-6.8
UNCLASSIFIED	142	129	59	10.1	140.7
Natrona County					
TOTAL WEEKS CLAIMED	**3,571**	**2,665**	**2,646**	**34.0**	**35.0**
TOTAL UNIQUE CLAIMANTS	1,067	807	788	32.2	35.4
TOTAL GOODS-PRODUCING	2,019	1,359	1,267	48.6	59.4
Construction	909	729	841	24.7	8.1
TOTAL SERVICE-PROVIDING	1,316	1,095	1,223	20.2	7.6
Trade, Transp., and Utilities	483	350	455	38.0	6.2
Financial Activities	94	53	72	77.4	30.6
Professional & Business Svcs.	434	403	288	7.7	50.7
Educational & Health Svcs.	183	170	185	7.6	-1.1
Leisure & Hospitality	153	126	192	21.4	-20.3
TOTAL GOVERNMENT	113	108	107	4.6	5.6
UNCLASSIFIED	121	101	48	19.8	152.1

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

Continued Unemployment Insurance Claims by Industry, March 2015



Continued Unemployment Insurance Claims by County, March 2014



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