

# TRENDS

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Research &amp; Planning

## UI Benefit Recipients, Payments Reach Historic High in 2020

by: Sherry Wen, Principal Economist

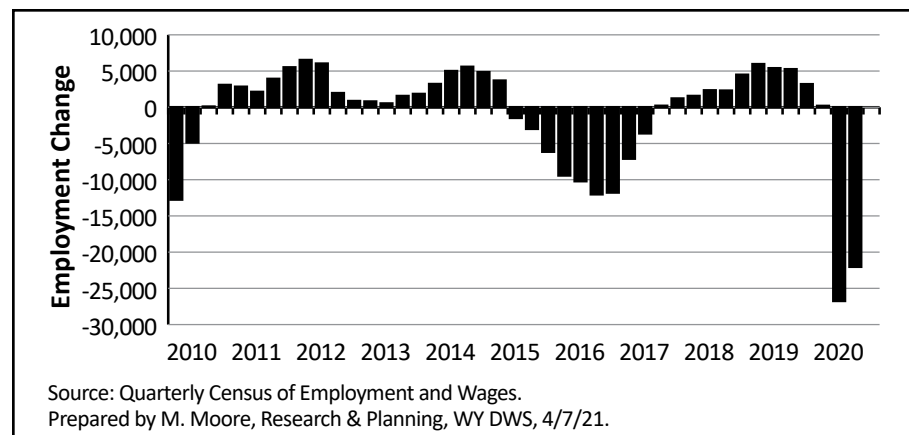
*Wyoming had a record high number of Unemployment Insurance (UI) recipients and benefit payments in 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic-related business closures and restrictions, along with declining energy prices. The number of regular UI benefit exhaustees also increased significantly in 2020 compared with the previous year. Weekly, monthly, and annual Unemployment Insurance claims data for Wyoming can be found online at <https://doe.state.wy.us/LMI/UI.htm>.*

The COVID-19 pandemic and continued low energy prices forced substantial job losses in Wyoming in 2020. The most current data from the Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages (QCEW) show that Wyoming's employment experienced the greatest decline in the state's history in second and third quarter 2020 (2020Q2 and 2020Q3).

In 2020Q2, Wyoming lost 26,733 jobs from the prior year, a decline of 9.6%. Job

losses continued in 2020Q3, and employment was down 22,018 jobs (or -7.8%) from the prior year (see Figure 1). This article examines

selected UI statistics and provides additional information for a better understanding of Wyoming's current economy.

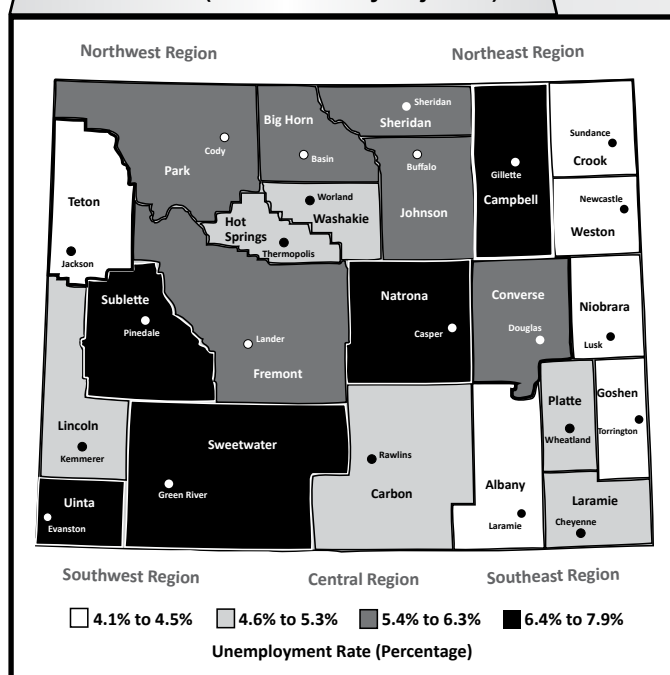


**Figure 1: Over-the-Year Change in Average Monthly Employment (Number of Jobs Worked) in Wyoming, 2010Q1-2020Q3**

## HIGHLIGHTS

- Wyoming had an estimated 1,980 occupational injury and illness cases with days away from work in private industry in 2019, compared to 2,020 in 2018. ... page 11
- March 2021 marked the first over-the-year decrease in initial Unemployment Insurance claims since the start of the COVID-19 pandemic, down 67.4% over the year. ... page 26

### Unemployment Rate by Wyoming County, March 2021 (Not Seasonally Adjusted)



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## Wyoming Labor Force Trends

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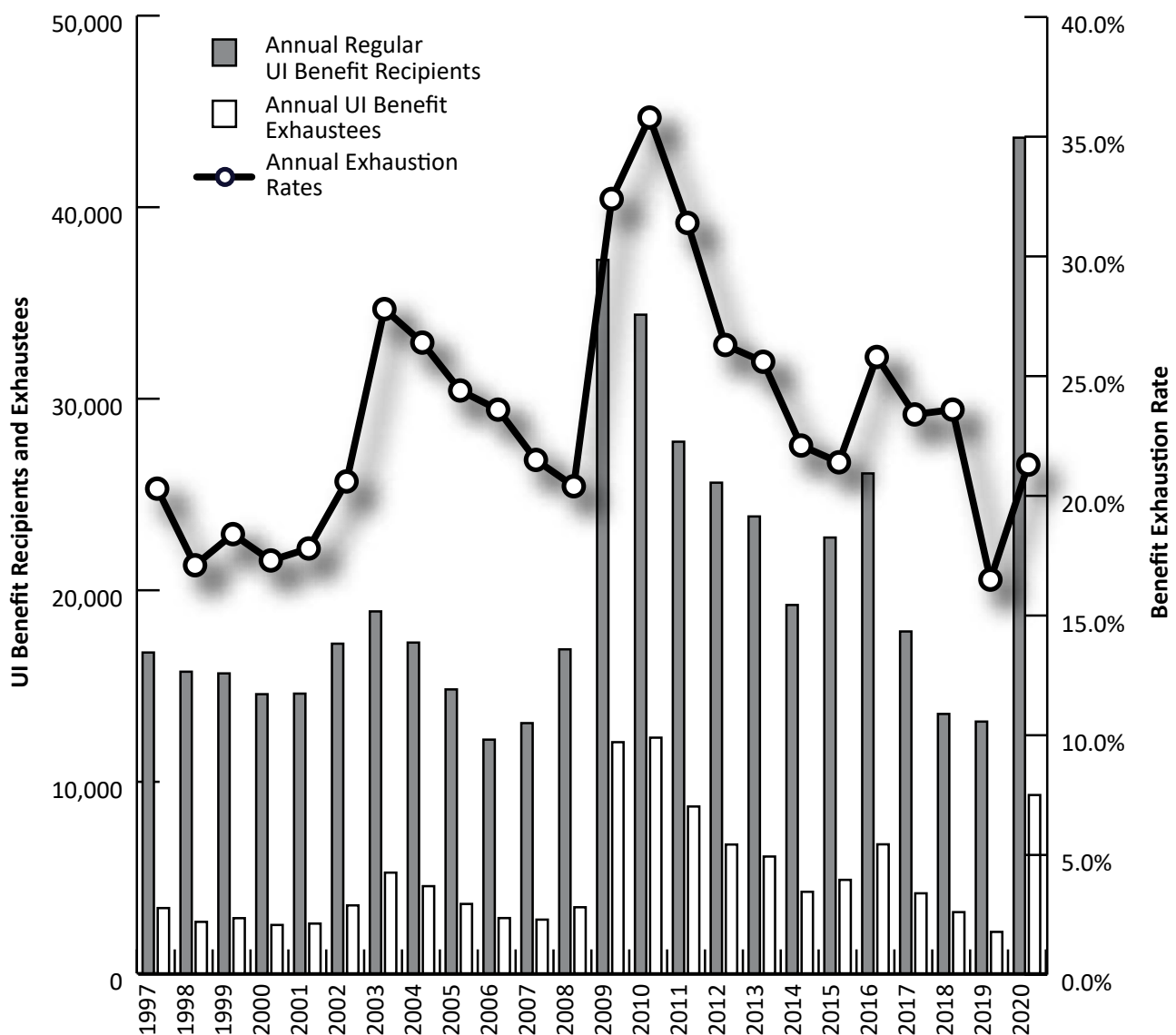
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## Benefit Recipients and Exhaustees

Statewide, a total of 43,630 unemployed workers received UI benefits in 2020, an increase of 231.9% (or more than three times higher) from the previous year's level of 13,144 (see Figure

2). This marked the highest level of UI claims in the past 24 years for which comparable data are available. The numbers discussed in this article include regular UI-covered unemployed workers and those individuals who were not covered by UI, but received unemployment benefits through the federal Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act of 2020.



Source: Wyoming Unemployment Insurance (UI) claims database. Prepared by S. Wen, Research & Planning, WY DWS, 4/1/21.

Figure 2: Wyoming Annual UI Benefit Recipients, Exhaustees, and Exhaustion Rates, 1997-2020

The number of UI recipients who exhausted their eligible regular UI benefits increased by 330.4%, from 2,163 exhaustees in 2019 to 9,309 in 2020. The exhaustion rate increased from 16.5% in 2019 to 22.5% in 2020. These statistics indicate that a larger number of Wyoming workers experienced job losses and needed to collect UI benefits as their temporary financial support during the pandemic.

The higher number of exhaustees and exhaustion rate (number of exhaustees divided by number of UI recipients) indicates that those who lost their jobs had more difficulty finding reemployment in 2020.

Each Wyoming county experienced a triple-digit percentage increase of UI recipients from 2019 to 2020 (see Table 1). Natrona County had the largest

increase with 5,931 more UI recipients (336.6%), followed by Laramie (3,810, or 238.4%) and Campbell (2,816, or 275.0%) counties. Teton and Sweetwater counties also each had over 2,000 more UI recipients in 2020.

Out-of-state UI recipients made up 15.2% of the total in 2020, the second largest share behind Natrona County (17.6%) and ahead of Laramie County (12.4%). Over the year, the number of out-of-state UI recipients increased by 4,163, or 169.9%.

At the industry level (see Table 2, page 5), accommodation & food services had the greatest share of UI claimants with 7,971 individuals, or 18.3% of the total, followed by construction (6,871, or 15.7%), mining (4,939, or 11.3%), and health care & social assistance (3,774, or 8.7%). Table 2 also shows that four industries had more than one in five (20.0%) UI recipients who resided in another state: construction, mining, professional & technical services, and management of companies & enterprises.

Compared with the previous year, UI recipients increased by triple-digit percentages in nearly all

**Table 1: Unemployment Insurance Recipients in Wyoming by County of Residence for Claimant, 2019 and 2020**

County	2019		2020		Change, 2019-2020	
	N	Column %	N	Column %	N	Row %
Albany	353	2.7	1,247	2.9	894	253.3
Big Horn	196	1.5	403	0.9	207	105.6
Campbell	1,024	7.8	3,840	8.8	2,816	275.0
Carbon	236	1.8	668	1.5	432	183.1
Converse	185	1.4	925	2.1	740	400.0
Crook	118	0.9	248	0.6	130	110.2
Fremont	935	7.1	2,349	5.4	1,414	151.2
Goshen	173	1.3	405	0.9	232	134.1
Hot Springs	76	0.6	228	0.5	152	200.0
Johnson	165	1.3	423	1.0	258	156.4
Laramie	1,598	12.2	5,408	12.4	3,810	238.4
Lincoln	251	1.9	1,071	2.5	820	326.7
Natrona	1,762	13.4	7,693	17.6	5,931	336.6
Niobrara	23	0.2	59	0.1	36	156.5
Park	676	5.1	1,690	3.9	1,014	150.0
Platte	142	1.1	389	0.9	247	173.9
Sheridan	532	4.0	1,495	3.4	963	181.0
Sublette	169	1.3	552	1.3	383	226.6
Sweetwater	858	6.5	3,043	7.0	2,185	254.7
Teton	648	4.9	2,914	6.7	2,266	349.7
Uinta	272	2.1	1,054	2.4	782	287.5
Washakie	170	1.3	403	0.9	233	137.1
Weston	71	0.5	263	0.6	192	270.4
Out-of-State	2,450	18.6	6,613	15.2	4,163	169.9
Unclassified	61	0.5	247	0.6	186	304.9
<b>Total</b>	<b>13,144</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>43,630</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>30,486</b>	<b>231.9</b>

Source: Wyoming Unemployment Insurance (UI) claims database.

Prepared by S. Wen, Research & Planning, WY DWS, 4/1/21.

industries (see Table 3, page 6). The largest increase was seen in accommodation & food services (6,228 more recipients, or 357.3%), followed by mining (3,651, or 283.5%), construction (3,170, or 85.7%), and health care & social assistance (3,056, or 425.6%).

In terms of UI exhaustion rate, at least 30.0% of all UI recipients exhausted their benefits in finance & insurance, mining, and administrative & waste services. In contrast, only 11.9% from health care & social assistance exhausted their benefits.

In summary, accommodation & food services, construction, and mining were the three industries that experienced the largest increase in UI recipients in 2020, but the UI benefit exhaustion rates for those

three industries were quite different, with 19.1%, 25.1%, and 30.9%, respectively. This may indicate that most of the unemployed workers in accommodation & food services in 2020 were impacted by the temporary COVID-19 business closure executive order, while those UI recipients from mining were more impacted by the trend in low energy prices and demand, which led to longer term or even permanent job losses.

Other demographic trends of UI recipients and the relationship with the UI exhaustion rates seem more consistent over time (see Table 4, page 7). For example, the data show that older age groups had higher exhaustion rates, which indicates in general that older unemployed workers had more difficulty finding reemployment than

**Table 2: Wyoming Unemployment Insurance Recipients by Industry and Residency, 2020**

NAICS <sup>a</sup> Code	Industry	Wyoming Residents		Out-of-State Residents		Total	
		N	Row %	N	Row %	N	Column %
11	Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing, & Hunting	175	89.3	21	10.7	196	0.4
21	Mining, Quarrying, & Oil & Gas Extraction	3,674	74.4	1,265	25.6	4,939	11.3
22	Utilities	43	93.5	3	6.5	46	0.1
23	Construction	5,319	77.4	1,552	22.6	6,871	15.7
31-33	Manufacturing	1,351	94.3	82	5.7	1,433	3.3
42	Wholesale Trade	1,172	93.2	86	6.8	1,258	2.9
44-45	Retail Trade	2,926	92.3	243	7.7	3,169	7.3
48-49	Transportation & Warehousing	1,820	90.1	201	9.9	2,021	4.6
51	Information	303	91.8	27	8.2	330	0.8
52	Finance & Insurance	203	91.4	19	8.6	222	0.5
53	Real Estate & Rental & Leasing	591	89.1	72	10.9	663	1.5
54	Professional & Technical Services	840	75.1	278	24.9	1,118	2.6
55	Mgmt. of Companies & Enterprises	16	66.7	8	33.3	24	0.1
56	Administrative & Waste Services	1,699	89.0	210	11.0	1,909	4.4
61	Educational Services	1,210	89.6	140	10.4	1,350	3.1
62	Health Care & Social Assistance	3,579	94.8	195	5.2	3,774	8.7
71	Arts, Entertainment, & Recreation	709	89.9	80	10.1	789	1.8
72	Accommodation & Food Services	6,517	81.8	1,454	18.2	7,971	18.3
81	Other Services	1,203	94.1	75	5.9	1,278	2.9
92	Public Administration	694	91.6	64	8.4	758	1.7
	Nonclassified	2,875	81.9	636	18.1	3,511	8.0
<b>Total</b>		<b>36,919</b>	<b>84.6</b>	<b>6,711</b>	<b>15.4</b>	<b>43,630</b>	<b>100.0</b>

<sup>a</sup>North American Industry Classification System.

Source: Wyoming Unemployment Insurance (UI) claims database.

Prepared by S. Wen, Research & Planning, WY DWS, 4/1/21.



younger individuals in Wyoming. Table 4 also shows that in general, individuals with the higher wages had lower UI exhaustion rates. A higher pre-layoff wage would make an individual qualify for more weeks of UI benefit. The maximum number of weeks an individual can collect regular UI benefit in Wyoming is 26 weeks. Claimants with more eligible weeks have a lower exhaustion rate, since the longer duration provides them with more time to find a job before exhausting their benefits.

### UI Benefits Expenses

The Wyoming Department of Workforce Services UI division paid a total of \$431.7

million in benefits to unemployed workers in 2020. This includes \$179.4 million from the state UI trust fund and \$252.3 million from other UI funds and the Federal CARES Act (see Figure 3, page 8). Focusing just on the UI state trust fund, UI benefit expenses increased \$135.6 million, or 309.6%, from \$43.8 million in 2019 to a record \$179.4 million in 2020. The second highest level in history was \$161.5 million in 2009 during the Great Recession.

Nearly half of all UI benefit expenses in 2020 were paid to those who worked in accommodation & food services, mining, and construction (48.3%, or \$208.6 million; see Table 5, page 8). Benefit recipients from accommodation & food services collected 16.8% of the total, or \$72.3 million, followed

**Table 3: Wyoming Unemployment Insurance (UI) Recipients and Benefit Exhaustion Rates by Industry, 2019-2020**

NAICS <sup>a</sup> Code	Industry	UI Recipients		Change		Exhaustion Rate	
		2019	2020	N	%	2019	2020
11	Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing, & Hunting	127	196	69	54.3	21.3	25.6
21	Mining, Quarrying, & Oil & Gas Extraction	1,288	4,939	3,651	283.5	8.2	30.9
22	Utilities	21	46	25	119.0	38.1	16.7
23	Construction	3,701	6,871	3,170	85.7	12.9	25.1
31-33	Manufacturing	606	1,433	827	136.5	18.5	22.8
42	Wholesale Trade	268	1,258	990	369.4	19.0	29.9
44-45	Retail Trade	741	3,169	2,428	327.7	22.1	21.3
48-49	Transportation & Warehousing	538	2,021	1,483	275.7	13.9	24.0
51	Information	121	330	209	172.7	28.1	19.4
52	Finance & Insurance	92	222	130	141.3	19.6	31.3
53	Real Estate & Rental & Leasing	129	663	534	414.0	29.5	26.1
54	Professional & Technical Services	424	1,118	694	163.7	16.3	29.8
55	Mgmt. of Companies & Enterprises	7	24	17	242.9	42.9	13.8
56	Administrative & Waste Services	865	1,909	1,044	120.7	23.2	30.6
61	Educational Services	172	1,350	1,178	684.9	21.5	20.5
62	Health Care & Social Assistance	718	3,774	3,056	425.6	18.2	11.9
71	Arts, Entertainment, & Recreation	152	789	637	419.1	21.7	18.5
72	Accommodation & Food Services	1,743	7,971	6,228	357.3	17.2	19.1
81	Other Services	238	1,278	1,040	437.0	24.4	20.0
92	Public Administration	409	758	349	85.3	22.7	27.5
	Nonclassified	784	3,511	2,727	347.8	16.3	9.5
<b>Total</b>		<b>13,144</b>	<b>43,630</b>	<b>30,486</b>	<b>231.9</b>	<b>16.5</b>	<b>22.5</b>

<sup>a</sup>North American Industry Classification System.

Source: Wyoming Unemployment Insurance (UI) claims database.

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by those from mining (16.0%, or \$69.2 million) and construction (15.5%, or \$67.0 million).

Each industry showed a three- or four-digit percentage increase in benefit expenses from 2019 to 2020. The largest increases were seen in accommodation & food services (1,260.6%, or \$67.0 million), mining (1,477.3%, or \$64.8 million), and

construction (335.7%, or \$51.7 million).

The UI benefit *wage replacement rate* refers to the amount of a person's average weekly wage that is covered by the benefit amount. For example, the average weekly wage replacement rate of 46.2% in mining in 2020 means that the average weekly

(Text continued on page 9)

**Table 4: Selected Demographics of Unemployment Insurance Recipients, Exhaustees, and Exhaustion Rate, 2019 and 2020**

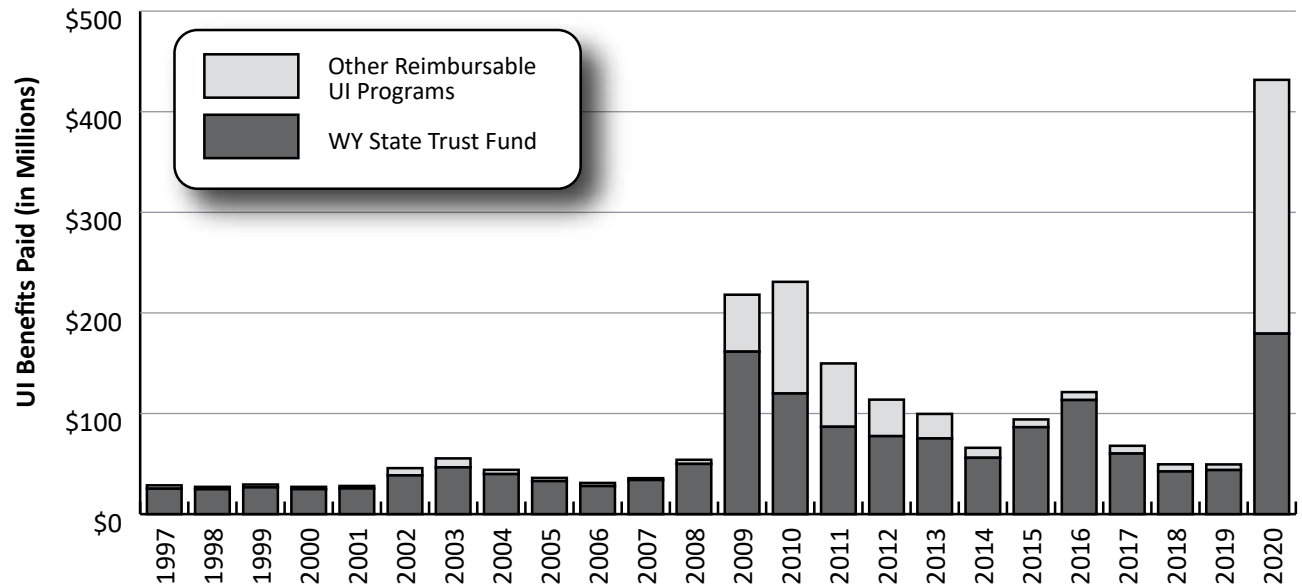
Category		2019			2020		
		UI Benefit Recipients	UI Benefit Exhaustees	Exhaustion Rate	UI Benefit Recipients	UI Benefit Exhaustees	Exhaustion Rate
Age	16-24	811	94	11.6	4,692	703	15.0
	25-34	3,093	387	12.5	11,045	2,133	19.3
	35-44	3,035	431	14.2	9,485	2,081	21.9
	45-54	2,663	463	17.4	7,063	1,721	24.4
	55-64	2,722	531	19.5	6,671	1,850	27.7
	65+	820	257	31.3	2,352	821	34.9
	Unknown	N/D	N/D	N/D	2,322	N/A	N/A
Gender	Men	8,825	1,302	14.8	24,748	6,087	24.6
	Women	4,319	861	19.9	16,560	3,222	19.5
	Unknown	0	0	0.0	2,322	N/A	N/A
Total Base Period Wages <sup>a</sup>	\$0-\$9,999	713	200	28.1	7,039	2,822	40.1
	\$10,000-\$19,999	2,378	598	25.1	6,985	1,581	22.6
	\$20,000-\$29,999	2,641	541	20.5	6,526	1,327	20.3
	\$30,000-\$39,999	2,148	321	14.9	5,428	888	16.4
	\$40,000-\$49,999	1,703	173	10.2	4,124	694	16.8
	\$50,000-\$59,999	1,146	122	10.6	2,966	471	15.9
	\$60,000+	2,415	208	8.6	8,240	1,526	18.5
	Unknown	N/D	N/D	N/D	2,322	N/A	N/A
Weeks Eligible for Benefit	0-9	6	N/D	N/D	3,878	2,163	55.8
	10-14	975	368	37.7	2,973	982	33.0
	15-19	2,046	568	27.8	4,986	1,313	26.3
	20-25	3,296	476	14.4	8,885	1,538	17.3
	Maximum = 26	6,821	750	11.0	20,586	3,313	16.1
	Unknown	N/D	N/D	N/D	2,322	N/A	N/A
Number of Employers in Base Period <sup>a</sup>	1	7,261	1,154	15.9	21,538	3,800	17.6
	2	3,403	588	17.3	10,114	1,994	19.7
	3	1,475	248	16.8	3,930	823	20.9
	4	609	105	17.2	1,582	337	21.3
	5 or More	395	68	17.2	907	214	23.6
	Unknown	N/D	N/D	N/D	5,559	2,141	38.5
<b>Total</b>		<b>13,144</b>	<b>2,163</b>	<b>16.5</b>	<b>43,630</b>	<b>9,309</b>	<b>21.3</b>

<sup>a</sup>The *base period* refers to the earliest four of the five complete calendar quarters before an individual filed a benefits claim.

N/D = Not discloseable due to confidentiality. N/A = Not available.

Source: Wyoming Unemployment Insurance (UI) claims database.

Prepared by S. Wen, Research & Planning, WY DWS, 4/1/21.



Source: Wyoming Unemployment Insurance (UI) claims database. Prepared by S. Wen, Research & Planning, WY DWS, 4/1/21.

**Figure 3: Unemployment Insurance Benefits Paid in Wyoming, 1997 to 2020**

**Table 5: Unemployment Insurance Benefit Expenses for Wyoming by Industry, 2019-2020**

County	2019		2020		Change, 2019-2020	
	UI Benefit	Column %	UI Benefit	Column %	\$	Row %
Agriculture	\$475,025	1.0	\$1,575,292	0.4	\$1,100,267	231.6
Mining	\$4,388,026	8.9	\$69,212,145	16.0	\$64,824,119	1,477.3
Utilities	\$114,027	0.2	\$390,367	0.1	\$276,340	242.3
Construction	\$15,388,334	31.1	\$67,044,737	15.5	\$51,656,403	335.7
Manufacturing	\$2,115,536	4.3	\$14,081,185	3.3	\$11,965,649	565.6
Wholesale Trade	\$1,058,910	2.1	\$14,627,737	3.4	\$13,568,827	1,281.4
Retail Trade	\$2,560,758	5.2	\$26,711,639	6.2	\$24,150,881	943.1
Transportation & Warehousing	\$1,984,139	4.0	\$21,089,731	4.9	\$19,105,592	962.9
Information	\$479,496	1.0	\$3,268,396	0.8	\$2,788,900	581.6
Finance & Insurance	\$459,297	0.9	\$2,196,200	0.5	\$1,736,903	378.2
Real Estate & Rental & Leasing	\$596,827	1.2	\$7,213,101	1.7	\$6,616,274	1,108.6
Professional & Technical Services	\$1,607,181	3.2	\$13,063,577	3.0	\$11,456,396	712.8
Mgmt. of Companies & Enterprises	\$41,540	0.1	\$247,417	0.1	\$205,877	495.6
Administrative & Waste Services	\$3,375,917	6.8	\$18,514,698	4.3	\$15,138,781	448.4
Educational Services	\$883,338	1.8	\$13,234,383	3.1	\$12,351,045	1,398.2
Health Care & Social Assistance	\$2,568,985	5.2	\$26,017,375	6.0	\$23,448,390	912.7
Arts, Entertainment, & Recreation	\$561,317	1.1	\$6,949,239	1.6	\$6,387,922	1,138.0
Accommodation & Food Services	\$5,316,695	10.7	\$72,339,777	16.8	\$67,023,082	1,260.6
Other Services (except Public Admin.)	\$988,206	2.0	\$11,924,821	2.8	\$10,936,615	1,106.7
Public Administration	\$1,728,901	3.5	\$6,993,981	1.6	\$5,265,080	304.5
Nonclassified	\$2,783,235	5.6	\$35,043,394	8.1	\$32,260,159	1,159.1
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$49,475,690</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>\$431,739,192</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>\$382,263,502</b>	<b>772.6</b>

Source: Wyoming Unemployment Insurance (UI) claims database.

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(Text continued from page 7)

benefit replaced less than half of the average weekly wage for a claimant in that industry.

Wyoming saw a substantial increase in UI benefit wage replacement rate from 2019 to 2020, due to the federal CARES Act funds (see Table 6). High-paying industries usually have a low wage replacement rate, and low-paying industries have a higher wage replacement rate. A higher wage replacement rate makes it easier for the unemployed workers and their families to cover expenses.

Statewide, the average wage replacement rate increased from 44.9% in

2019 to 76.5% in 2020. Seven industries had a wage replacement rate of over 100.0% in 2020; in other words, these individuals received a weekly UI benefit that was greater than their average weekly wages. These industries were agriculture, retail trade, administrative & waste services, educational services, arts, entertainment, & recreation, accommodation & food services, and other services.

Each of Wyoming's 23 counties experienced a substantial increase in UI benefit expenses from 2019 to 2020 (see Table 7, page 10). Natrona County showed the largest increase (\$73.9 million, or 1,163.6%), followed by Laramie (\$41.6 million, or 738.4%) and Campbell (\$34.6 million, or

**Table 6: Average Weekly Wage, Average Weekly Benefit, and Benefit Replacement Rates for Unemployment Insurance Benefit Recipients in Wyoming, 2019 and 2020**

Industry	Average Weekly Wage		Average Weekly Benefit Amount		Average Weekly Wage Replacement Rate	
	2019	2020	2019	2020	2019	2020
Agriculture	\$693	\$701	\$450	\$910	64.9	129.9
Mining	\$1,735	\$1,791	\$481	\$828	27.7	46.2
Utilities	\$1,772	\$1,822	\$498	\$1,138	28.1	62.5
Construction	\$1,029	\$1,103	\$521	\$833	50.7	75.5
Manufacturing	\$1,290	\$1,322	\$386	\$723	30.0	54.7
Wholesale Trade	\$1,224	\$1,263	\$460	\$782	37.6	61.9
Retail Trade	\$559	\$578	\$382	\$855	68.4	147.9
Transportation & Warehousing	\$1,013	\$1,054	\$484	\$892	47.8	84.7
Information	\$857	\$885	\$384	\$825	44.7	93.3
Finance & Insurance	\$1,208	\$1,292	\$481	\$685	39.8	53.0
Real Estate & Rental & Leasing	\$935	\$967	\$458	\$803	49.0	83.0
Professional & Technical Services	\$1,233	\$1,316	\$431	\$764	34.9	58.0
Mgmt. of Companies & Enterprises	\$1,987	\$1,940	\$378	\$937	19.0	48.3
Administrative & Waste Services	\$689	\$729	\$429	\$869	62.3	119.2
Educational Services	\$841	\$853	\$610	\$897	72.5	105.1
Health Care & Social Assistance	\$940	\$973	\$396	\$824	42.1	84.7
Arts, Entertainment, & Recreation	\$570	\$582	\$410	\$881	71.9	151.4
Accommodation & Food Services	\$409	\$424	\$394	\$804	96.3	189.8
Other Services (except Public Admin.)	\$705	\$744	\$466	\$814	66.1	109.5
Public Administration	\$1,007	\$1,015	\$448	\$865	44.5	85.3
Nonclassified	\$1,226	\$1,856	\$167	\$327	13.6	17.6
<b>Statewide</b>	<b>\$924</b>	<b>\$959</b>	<b>\$415</b>	<b>\$734</b>	<b>44.9</b>	<b>76.5</b>

Source: Wyoming Unemployment Insurance (UI) claims database.

Prepared by S. Wen, Research & Planning, WY DWS, 4/1/21.

968.5%) counties. Out-of-state UI recipients collected \$66.7 million more in benefits from 2019 to 2020, a 616.0% increase.

Among Wyoming counties, unemployed workers in Natrona County collected the largest share of UI benefits in 2020 (\$80.2 million, or 18.6%), followed by out-of-state recipients (\$77.5 million, or 17.9%), and Laramie County (\$47.3 million, or 10.9%).

The number of Wyoming UI benefit recipients and UI benefit expenses reached

historical highs in 2020, due to the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic and declining energy prices and demand. All industries and most counties experienced triple-digit percentage increases in UI recipients from the previous year. The higher exhaustion rate indicates unemployed workers had more difficulty finding reemployment in 2020.

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

**Table 7: Unemployment Insurance Benefit Expenses by County for Wyoming, 2019-2020**

County	2019		2020		Change, 2019-2020	
	UI Benefit	Column %	UI Benefit	Column %	\$	Row %
Albany	\$1,362,808	2.8	\$10,216,657	2.4	\$8,853,849	649.7
Big Horn	\$756,804	1.5	\$3,514,194	0.8	\$2,757,390	364.3
Campbell	\$3,569,010	7.2	\$38,136,510	8.8	\$34,567,500	968.5
Carbon	\$916,716	1.9	\$6,054,344	1.4	\$5,137,628	560.4
Converse	\$687,125	1.4	\$10,903,767	2.5	\$10,216,642	1,486.9
Crook	\$316,156	0.6	\$2,244,153	0.5	\$1,927,997	609.8
Fremont	\$3,471,809	7.0	\$22,272,963	5.2	\$18,801,154	541.5
Goshen	\$716,997	1.4	\$3,134,137	0.7	\$2,417,140	337.1
Hot Springs	\$238,580	0.5	\$2,127,991	0.5	\$1,889,411	791.9
Johnson	\$543,342	1.1	\$3,940,030	0.9	\$3,396,688	625.1
Laramie	\$5,636,145	11.4	\$47,254,080	10.9	\$41,617,935	738.4
Lincoln	\$919,378	1.9	\$8,526,118	2.0	\$7,606,740	827.4
Natrona	\$6,347,534	12.8	\$80,209,852	18.6	\$73,862,318	1,163.6
Niobrara	\$68,058	0.1	\$538,291	0.1	\$470,233	690.9
Park	\$2,330,927	4.7	\$13,789,547	3.2	\$11,458,620	491.6
Platte	\$522,737	1.1	\$3,842,869	0.9	\$3,320,132	635.1
Sheridan	\$1,973,324	4.0	\$12,128,282	2.8	\$10,154,958	514.6
Sublette	\$685,866	1.4	\$5,717,744	1.3	\$5,031,878	733.7
Sweetwater	\$3,384,527	6.8	\$32,599,906	7.6	\$29,215,379	863.2
Teton	\$2,272,692	4.6	\$29,359,776	6.8	\$27,087,084	1,191.9
Uinta	\$1,015,870	2.1	\$10,322,657	2.4	\$9,306,787	916.1
Washakie	\$492,891	1.0	\$3,415,528	0.8	\$2,922,637	593.0
Weston	\$295,824	0.6	\$2,513,100	0.6	\$2,217,276	749.5
Unknown (WY)	\$128,040	0.3	\$1,483,484	0.3	\$1,355,444	1,058.6
Out-of-State	\$10,822,530	21.9	\$77,493,212	17.9	\$66,670,682	616.0
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$49,475,690</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>\$431,739,192</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>\$382,263,502</b>	<b>772.6</b>

Source: Wyoming Unemployment Insurance (UI) claims database.

Prepared by S. Wen, Research & Planning, WY DWS, 4/1/21.

# Results from the 2019 Wyoming Survey of Occupational Injuries and Illnesses

by: Chris McGrath, Senior Statistician

*This article summarizes the results from the 2019 Wyoming Survey of Occupational Injuries and Illnesses. The data include estimates of incidence rates by industry and the nature of the injury or illness. Also included are selected worker demographics, such as age, gender, and occupation. Case characteristics of event or exposure, source, and nature of injuries and illnesses are also covered. An estimated 1,980 nonfatal occupational injury and illness cases with days away from work occurred in private industry in Wyoming in 2019, with an incidence rate of 3.1 per 100 workers.*

When the Occupational Safety and Health Act was introduced into the nation's labor laws in 1971, Congress made a statement to its intent to assure as much as possible a safe and healthful working environment for every working man and woman (OSHA, 2017). Each year the Research & Planning (R&P) section of the Wyoming Department of Workforce Services conducts the Survey of Occupational Injuries and Illnesses (SOII) for Wyoming in cooperation with the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) as part of a nationwide data collection effort to help measure the effectiveness of governmental efforts to reduce the number of work-related injuries and illnesses. The survey data identify incidence rates of work-related injuries and illnesses at the industry level, as well as detailed case characteristics of severe injuries and illnesses that result in days away from work.

The data collected for the cases with days away from work can be used by employers and safety awareness groups to focus on prevention. The data are also used by regulatory agencies for tracking injury and illness trends, and to target safety resources. The definitions discussed in this article (see Glossary, page 12) are taken from the Occupational Injury and

Illness Classification Manual; for more information, please see <https://www.bls.gov/iif/oshoincs.htm>.

## Background and Methodology

The Occupational Injuries and Illnesses form is a *mandatory survey* (see Glossary) that was sent out in January 2020 to more than 2,500 sampled units in Wyoming. Employers were notified of their required participation in early 2019 and asked to maintain a log and summary of recordable work-related injuries and illnesses using the OSHA 300 and 301 forms, according to OSHA record-keeping rules. Data collection for the SOII occurred during a seven-month period, after which data and results were reviewed by state, regional, and national BLS staff, and incidence rates were calculated.

Data were reported by employers on the basis of a single incident or occurrence. If an employee experienced more than one nonfatal work-related injury or illness during the calendar year, each incident was reported separately and is referred to as a *case*. If an incident injured more

(Text continued on page 13)

## Glossary

*Case of job transfer:* An injured or ill employee was assigned to a job other than his or her regular job for part of the day other than the day of injury or illness.

*Case of restricted duty:* An employee was kept from performing one or more routine functions (work activities the employee performed at least once per week) of his or her job, or was kept from working a full workday, or a licensed health care professional recommended either of the above.

*Cases with days away from work:* Severe cases that counted the day after the injury or onset of the illness, which may or may not include days of job transfer or restriction. Up to 180 days away from work (and/or days of job transfer or restriction) are counted for each injury.

*Event or exposure:* The manner in which the injury or illness was produced or inflicted, such as falls, overexertion, or repetitive motion.

*Incidence rate:* Represents the number of injuries and illnesses per 100 full-time workers, calculated as  $(N/EH) \times 200,000$  where:

- N = number of injuries and illnesses
- EH = total hours worked by all employees during the calendar year
- 200,000 = base for 100 equivalent full-time workers (working 40 hours per week, 50 weeks per year).

*Mandatory survey:* Participation by private sector employers is required by Public Law 91-596 by the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS). Participation by public sector employers is required by law by Wyoming OSHA, as Wyoming is a State Plan State. If an employer receives a survey from the BLS, even if they are partially exempt by OSHA due to having less than 11 employees for example, they must still complete the survey.

*Nature of injury or illness:* The physical characteristics of the disabling injury or illness, such as cuts, fractures, or sprains.

*Other recordable cases:* Cases not involving days away from work or days of job transfer or restricted duty but requiring medical treatment beyond first aid. Other recordable cases include, for example, stitches, prescription medication, a concussion, loss of consciousness, medical removal from job site, musculoskeletal disorders, or other significant diagnosed injury or illness.

*Part of body:* The part of the body directly linked to the nature of injury or illness cited, such as back, finger, or eye.

*Source of injury or illness:* The object, substance, exposure, or bodily motion that directly caused the disabling condition, such as chemical, vehicle, or machinery.



(Text continued from page 11)

than one employee, each employee was reported separately on the questionnaire. For a work-related injury or illness to be categorized as a recordable case, it must result in any of the following: death, days away from work, restricted work or transfer to another job, medical treatment beyond first aid, or loss of consciousness. The injury or illness must also involve a significant injury or illness diagnosed by a physician or other licensed health care professional, even if it does not result in death, days away from work, restricted work or job transfer, medical treatment beyond first aid, or loss of consciousness.

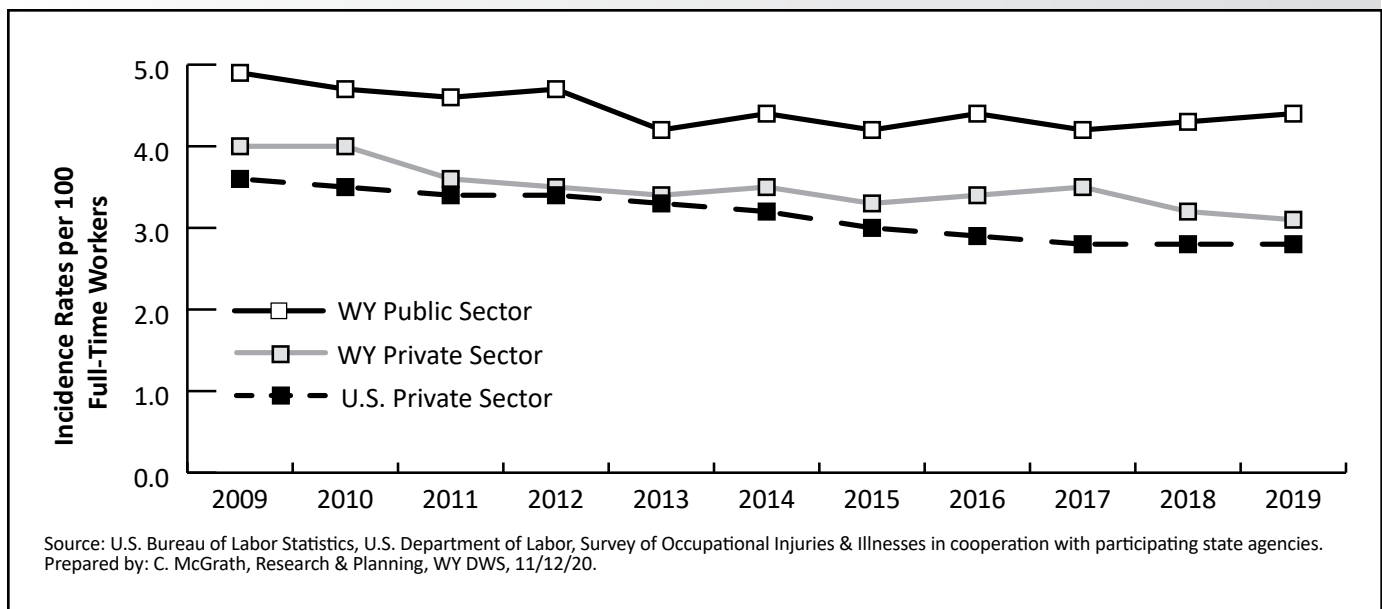
For additional information, please see the OSHA recordkeeping rules online at <https://tinyurl.com/cn6ylt>.

## Results

*Incidence rates by industry indicate the*

number of nonfatal occupational illnesses or injuries per 100 full-time employees. The cases deemed the most serious are those which involve *days away from work* (see Glossary). The BLS counts up to a maximum of 180 days away from work per case, even though there are cases with more days. Cases involving employees who do not require time off from work beyond the day of injury are not included as days away from work cases. The number of *cases with days of restricted duty or job transfer* is counted in the summary of injuries and/or illnesses. Other *recordable cases* are also counted in the summary of injuries and/or illnesses, which are cases requiring medical treatment beyond first aid but with no lost time, restricted duty, or job transfer days.

Figure 1 compares incidence rates for the United States private sector and Wyoming private and public sectors. Private industry encompasses both the goods-producing and service-providing sectors. The private incidence rate for the U.S. private sector in 2019 was 2.8 (BLS,



**Figure 1: Incidence Rates per 100 Full-Time Workers for Total Nonfatal Occupational Injuries and Illnesses in Wyoming and the U.S., 2009-2019**



2020) and 3.1 for Wyoming<sup>1</sup>. The public sector in Wyoming, which is comprised of state and local government, had incidence rates of 4.4 in 2019 and 4.3 in 2018.

Figure 2 shows incidence rates for total nonfatal occupational injuries and illnesses by major industry sector in Wyoming for 2019. The total estimated incidence rate in 2019 in Wyoming for all ownerships, including state and local government, was 3.4, while the incidence rate for private industry was 3.1. The total incidence rate for goods-producing sectors was 2.1, with incidence rates of 3.1 for manufacturing, 2.5 for construction, and 1.4 for natural resources & mining.

Service-providing sectors had an incidence rate of 3.5 overall, with the

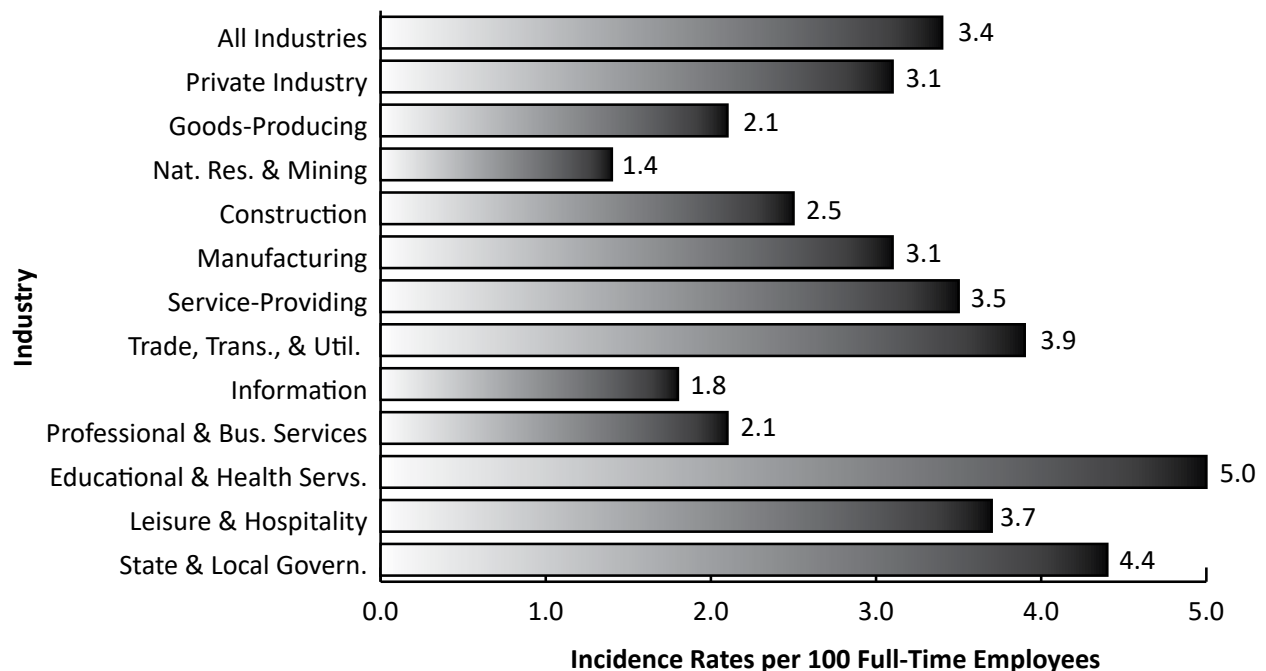
highest rates found in education & health services (5.0), trade, transportation, & utilities (3.9), and leisure & hospitality (3.7).

Wyoming had an estimated 1,980 occupational injury and illness cases with days away from work in private industry in 2019, compared to 2,020 in 2018.

Table 1 (see page 15) displays the number of nonfatal occupational injuries and illnesses involving days away from work by occupation and major private industry sector in 2019. Occupations are identified using the Standard Occupational Classification (SOC) coding system. Of the 1,980 injuries and illnesses in private industry in 2019, the occupations with the most injuries

<sup>1</sup> Excludes farms with fewer than 11 employees.

(Text continued on page 16)



Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor, Survey of Occupational Injuries & Illnesses in cooperation with participating state agencies.  
Prepared by: C. McGrath, Research & Planning, WY DWS, 11/12/20.

**Figure 2: Incidence Rates per 100 Full-Time Workers for Total Nonfatal Occupational Injuries and Illnesses by Major Industry Sector in Wyoming, 2019**

**Table 1: Number of Nonfatal Occupational Injuries and Illnesses Involving Days Away From Work<sup>1</sup> by Selected Worker Occupations and Major Industry Sector, Private Industry<sup>5</sup>, Wyoming, 2019**

Occupation	Private industry <sup>2,3,4</sup>	Goods-Producing				Service-Providing			
		Total	Nat. res. & mining <sup>2,3</sup>	Const.	Manufact.	Total	Trade, transp. & utilities <sup>4</sup>	Edu. & health serv.	Leisure & hosp.
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,980</b>	<b>530</b>	<b>130</b>	<b>270</b>	<b>130</b>	<b>1,450</b>	<b>590</b>	<b>290</b>	<b>210</b>
Construction laborers	120	80	--	80	--	40	--	--	--
Heavy & tractor-trailer truck drivers	90	--	--	--	--	80	70	--	--
Laborers & freight, stock, & material movers, hand	90	--	--	--	--	80	70	--	--
Light truck drivers	80	--	--	--	--	80	50	--	--
Nursing assistants	70	--	--	--	--	70	--	70	--
Personal care aides	60	--	--	--	--	60	--	60	--
Carpenters	60	60	--	60	--	--	--	--	--
Maintenance & repair workers, general	50	--	--	--	--	40	--	--	--
Stockers & order fillers	50	--	--	--	--	50	50	--	--
Driver/sales workers	50	--	--	--	--	50	--	--	--
Maids & housekeeping cleaners	50	--	--	--	--	50	--	--	30
First-line supervisors of retail sales workers	40	--	--	--	--	40	40	--	--
Farmworkers, farm, ranch, & aquacultural animals	40	20	20	--	--	30	--	--	20
Underground mining machine operators & ext. workers, all other	40	40	40	--	--	--	--	--	--
Rotary drill operators, oil & gas	40	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Cooks, restaurant	30	--	--	--	--	30	--	--	30
Plumbers, pipefitters, & steamfitters	30	30	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Retail salespersons	30	--	--	--	--	30	30	--	--
Fast food & counter workers	30	--	--	--	--	30	--	--	30
First-line supervisors of mechanics, installers, & repairers	20	--	--	--	--	20	--	--	--
Food preparation workers	20	--	--	--	--	20	--	--	--
Shipping, receiving, & inventory clerks	20	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Welders, cutters, solderers, & brazers	20	--	--	--	--	20	--	--	--
Tire repairers & changers	20	--	--	--	--	20	20	--	--
Industrial machinery mechanics	20	20	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Roustabouts, oil & gas	20	20	20	--	--	--	--	--	--

<sup>1</sup>Days-away-from-work cases include those that result in days away from work with or without job transfer or restriction.

<sup>2</sup>Excludes farms with fewer than 11 employees.

<sup>3</sup>Data for mining (Sector 21 in the North American Industry Classification System) include establishments not governed by the Mine Safety and Health Administration (MSHA) rules and reporting, such as those in oil and gas extraction and related support activities. Data for mining operators in coal, metal, and nonmetal mining are provided to BLS by the Mine Safety and Health Administration, U.S. Department of Labor. Independent mining contractors are excluded from the coal, metal, and nonmetal mining industries. These data do not reflect the changes the Occupational Safety and Health Administration made to its recordkeeping requirements effective January 1, 2002; therefore estimates for these industries are not comparable to estimates in other industries.

<sup>4</sup>Data for employers in rail transportation are provided to BLS by the Federal Railroad Administration, U.S. Department of Transportation. These data do not reflect the changes the Occupational Safety and Health Administration made to its recordkeeping requirements effective January 1, 2002; therefore estimates for these industries are not comparable to estimates in other industries.

<sup>5</sup>Industries with total cases but no data at the occupation level were information (30) and other services (40).

NOTE: Dashes indicate data that are not available. Because of rounding and data exclusion of nonclassifiable responses, data may not sum to the totals.

SOURCE: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor, Survey of Occupational Injuries and Illnesses in cooperation with participating state agencies, November 2020.

(Text continued from page 14)

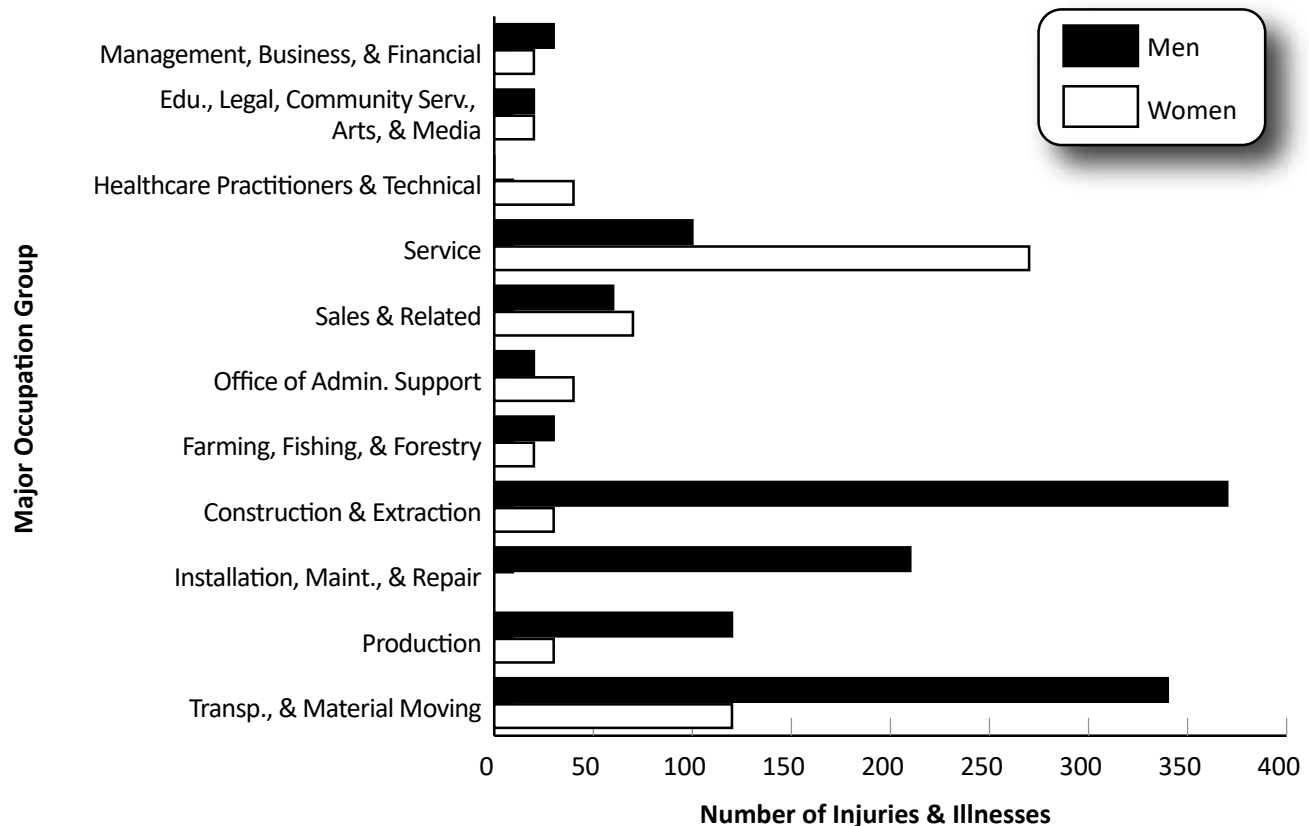
and illnesses were construction laborers (120), heavy & tractor-trailer truck drivers (90), laborers & freight, stock, & material movers, hand (90), and light truck drivers (80). Nursing assistants and personal care aides recorded 70 and 60 injuries and illnesses in 2019, respectively.

Females working in service-related occupations recorded 270 injuries in 2019, followed by transportation & material moving with 120 (see Figure 3). Service-related occupations include cooks, waitresses, maintenance workers, and protective service workers. Transportation

& material moving occupations include occupations such as motor vehicle operators and transportation workers. Males working in construction & extraction had 370 injuries, followed by transportation & material moving with 340.

In 2019, males ages 35-44 had the greatest number of injuries and illnesses that resulted in days away from work (290), followed by males ages 25-34 and 45-54 with 280 each (see Figure 4, page 17). Females ages 25-34 accounted for 150 injuries and illnesses, and females ages 20-24 registered 120<sup>2</sup>.

<sup>2</sup> Because of rounding and data exclusion of non-classifiable responses, data may not sum to the totals.



Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor, Survey of Occupational Injuries & Illnesses in cooperation with participating state agencies.  
Prepared by: C. McGrath, Research & Planning, WY DWS, 11/12/20.

**Figure 3: Number of Injuries and Illnesses with Days Away from Work by Major Occupation and Gender in Wyoming Private Industry, 2019**

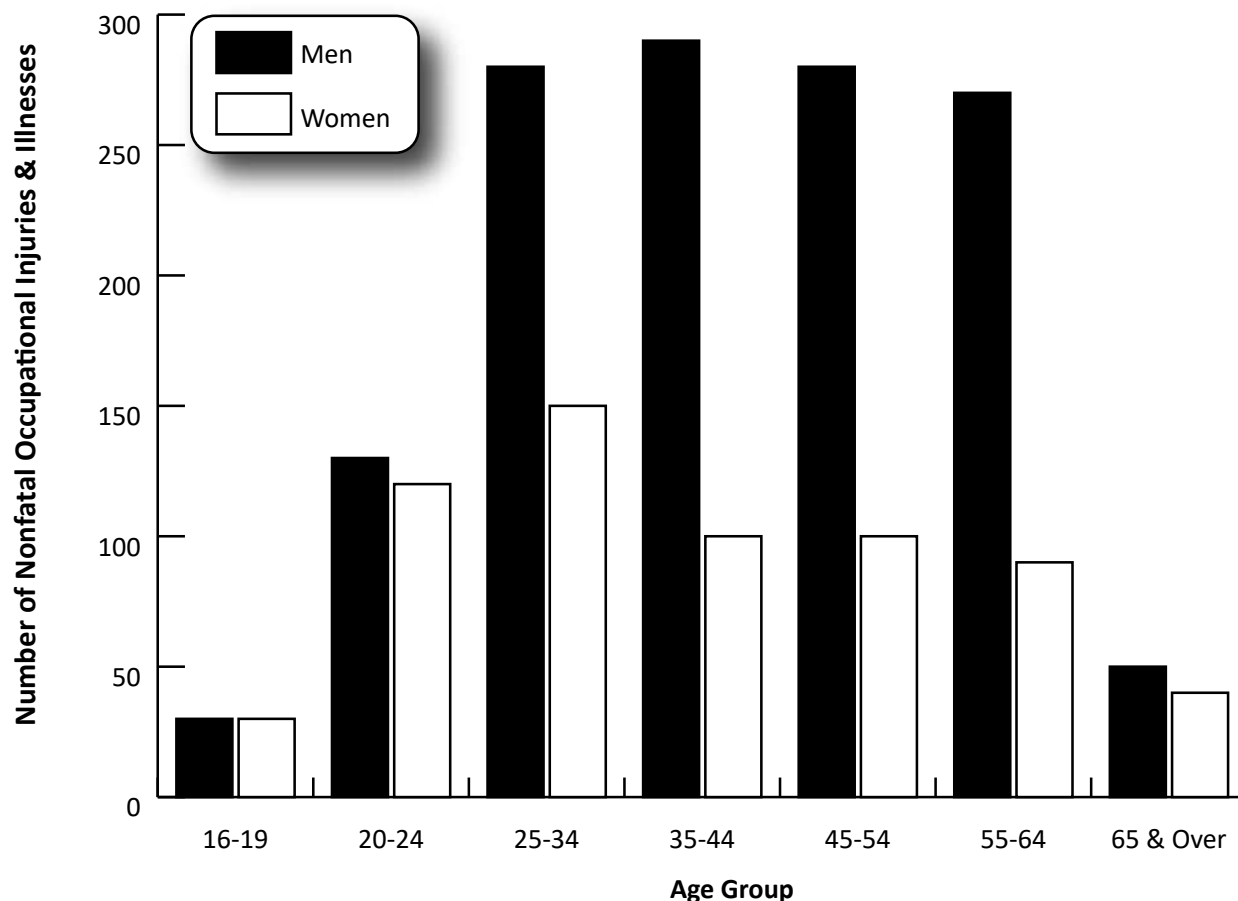
## Case Characteristics

Each nonfatal occupational injury and illness is profiled and summarized in four case characteristics: nature of injury or illness, part of body affected, source of injury or illness, and event or exposure of injury or illness. This detailed examination of each injury or illness helps organizations and those responsible for workplace safety identify and correct hazards in the workplace. It also assists in determining what additional measures or

safety training need to be added to improve what is already in place.

The *nature of injury or illness* refers to the physical characteristics of the disabling injury or illness, such as cuts, fractures, or sprains. In 2019, sprains, strains, or tears accounted for 27.3% of the 1,980 nonfatal occupational injuries or illness in private industry (see Figure 5, page 18), while soreness, pain accounted for 22.7%. Cuts, lacerations, punctures accounted for 12.6%.

The *part of the body* is directly linked



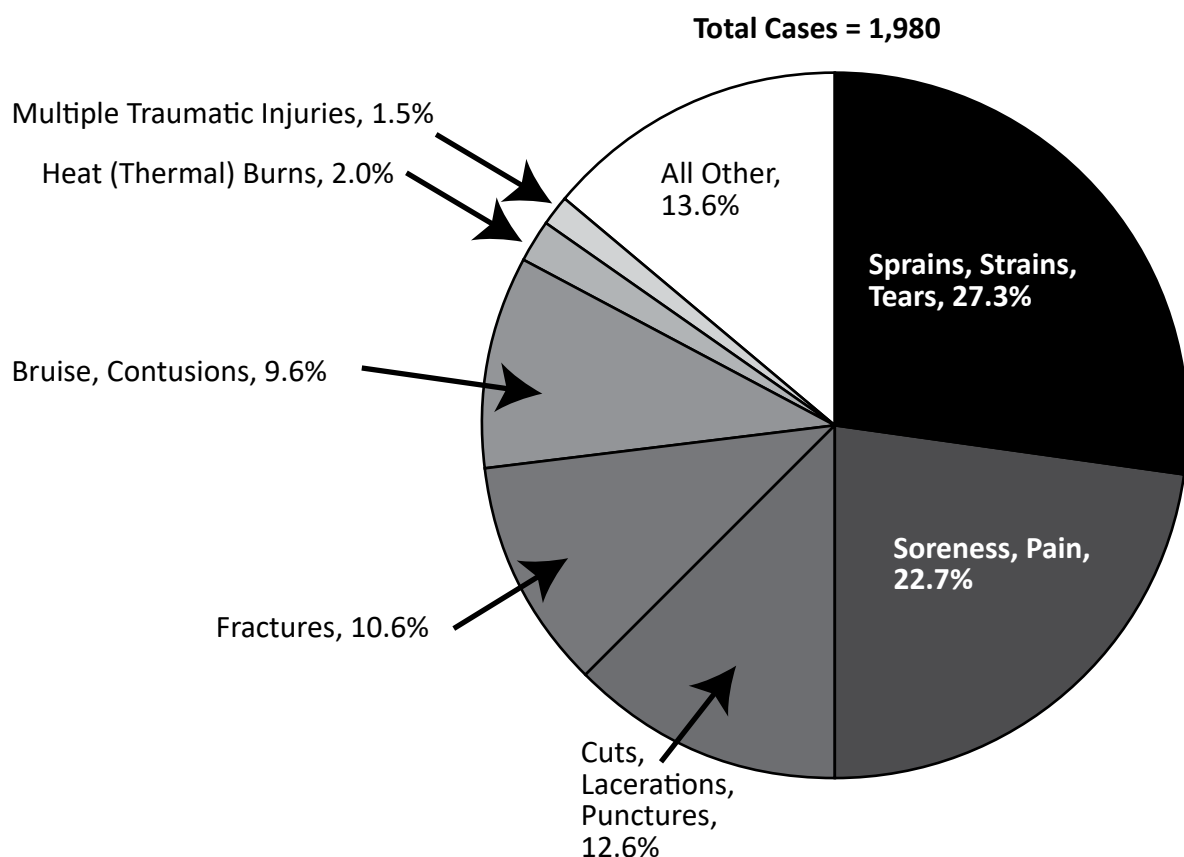
Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor, Survey of Occupational Injuries & Illnesses in cooperation with participating state agencies.  
Prepared by: C. McGrath, Research & Planning, WY DWS, 11/12/20.

**Figure 4: Number of Nonfatal Occupational Injuries and Illnesses Involving Days Away From Work by Age and Gender for All Ownerships in Wyoming, 2019**

to the nature of injury or illness cited, such as back, finger, or eye. In 2019, there were 740 upper extremities injuries and illnesses, or 37.4% of the total 1,980 cases (see Figure 6, page 19). The category upper extremities include the elbow, arm, wrist, fingers, hand, and shoulder. There were 540 (27.3%) injuries or illnesses involving the lower extremities, which include the thigh, leg, knee, ankle, foot, toes, and calf.

The *source* of a nonfatal occupational injury or illness is the object, substance, exposure, or bodily motion that directly caused the disabling condition, such as chemical, vehicle, or machinery. Of the

1,980 total cases, floors, walkways, ground surfaces was the source for 20.2% of the cases and person, injured or ill worker was 11.1% (see Figure 7, page 20). If an employee was injured when slipping on ice in a parking lot or sidewalk, the source would be the parking lot or sidewalk, which would be included in the category floors, walkways, ground surfaces. One example of when the injured or ill worker is the source of an injury could be an incident with a slip or trip without falling. If a worker trips over a box on the floor and suffers a sprain, the source is the employee and the box is the secondary source.



Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor, Survey of Occupational Injuries and Illnesses, in cooperation with participating state agencies.  
Prepared by: C. McGrath, Research & Planning, WY DWS, 11/12/20.

**Figure 5: Distribution of Injuries and Illnesses Involving Days Away from Work by Nature in Private Industry in Wyoming, 2019**

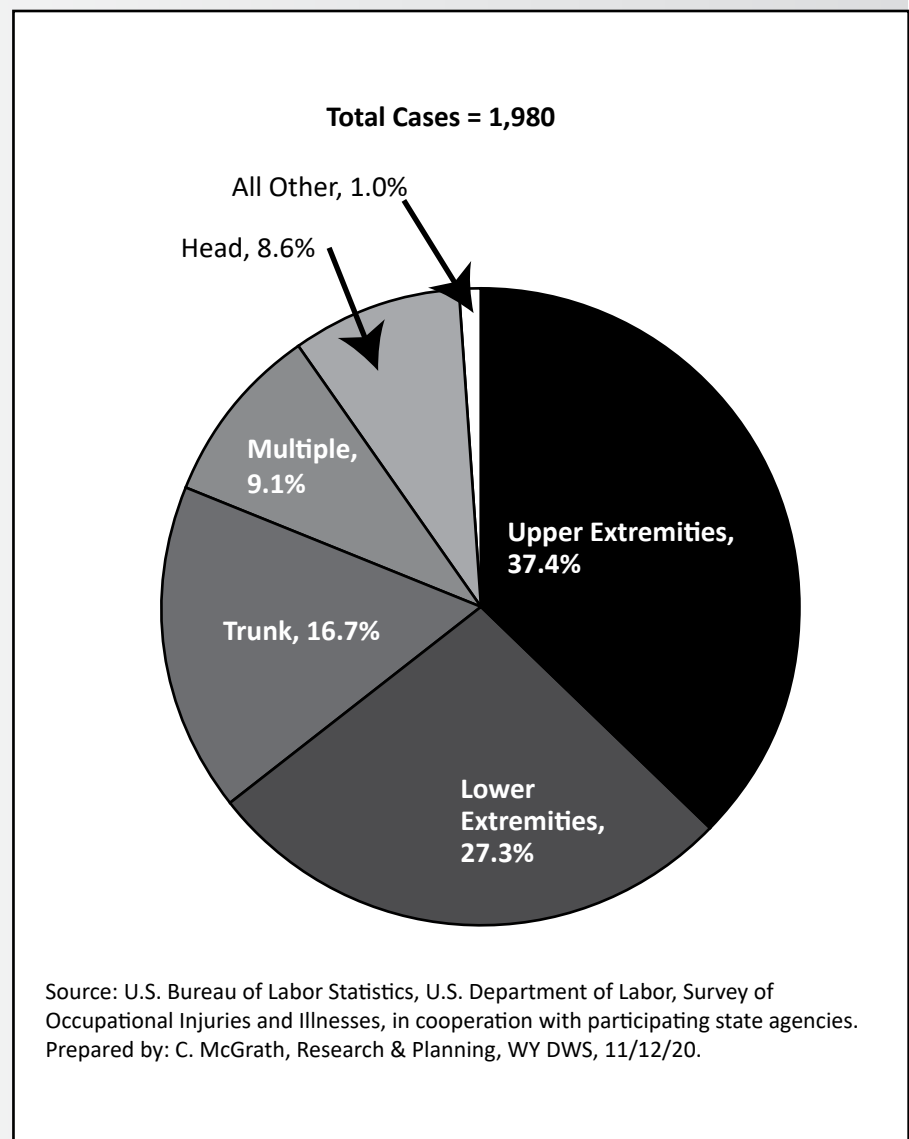


The *event or exposure* in a case is the manner in which the injury or illness was produced or inflicted, such as falls, overexertion, or repetitive motion. An example of an injury or illness that would be produced by overexertion and bodily reaction would be a job that required excessive amounts of physical exertion, such as standing, climbing, kneeling, bending, or stepping, which resulted in the injury or illness. Falls, slips, trips is a much broader category and includes falls on the same level, falls and jumps to lower levels; slips, trips on uneven surfaces, a substance, hole, etc. Injuries or illnesses inflicted in contact with object, equipment category are a result of contact between the injured person and the source. Examples would be an employee being cut by a slipping knife or an employee caught under collapsing material. In 2019, males reported 490 injuries due to contact with an object, equipment, followed by falls, slips, trips with 380 (see Figure 8, page 20). Overexertion and bodily reaction accounted for 280 cases. Falls, slips, trips for females accounted for 230 cases for event or exposure and overexertion and bodily reaction was next with 170 cases.

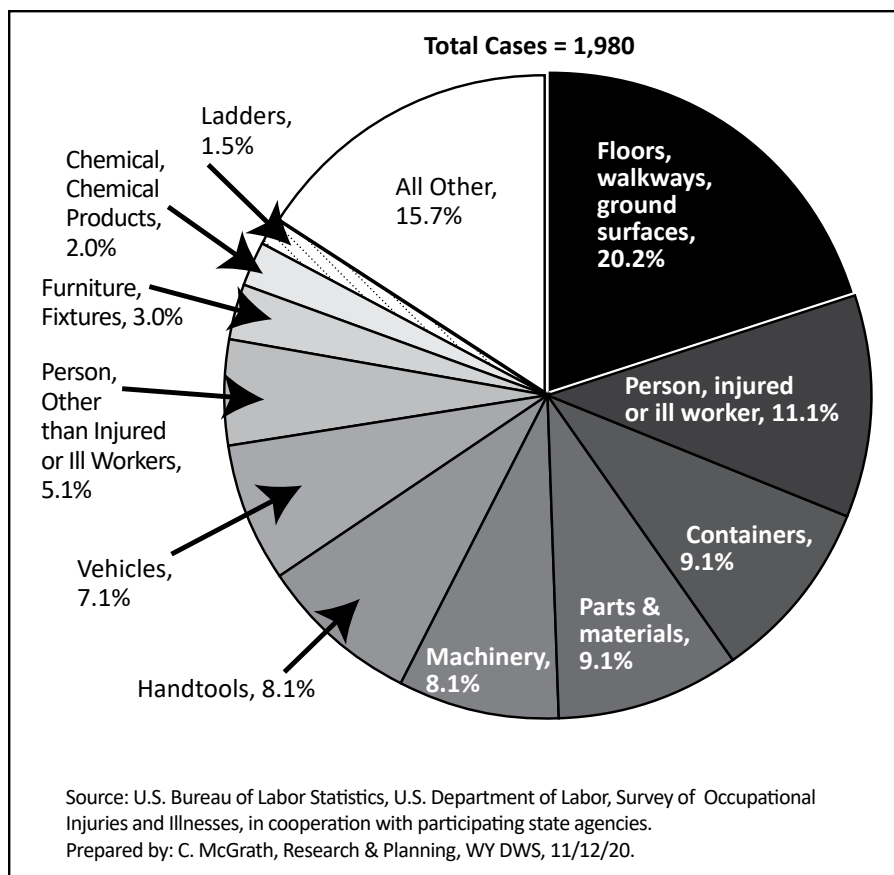
## Summary

In 2019, the number of cases of Wyoming work-related injuries and illnesses resulting in days away from work for private industry was 1,980, with an incidence rate of 3.1. Overall, males continued to experience

work-related injuries and illnesses more frequently than females. This was likely due, in part, to higher ratios of males to females employed in industries with higher incidence rates. More details on 2019 data, as well as further documentation and historical data, are available at <https://doe.state.wy.us/LMI/OSH/toc.htm>.



**Figure 6: Distribution of Injuries and Illnesses Involving Days Away from Work by Part of Body, Private Industry, Wyoming, 2019**

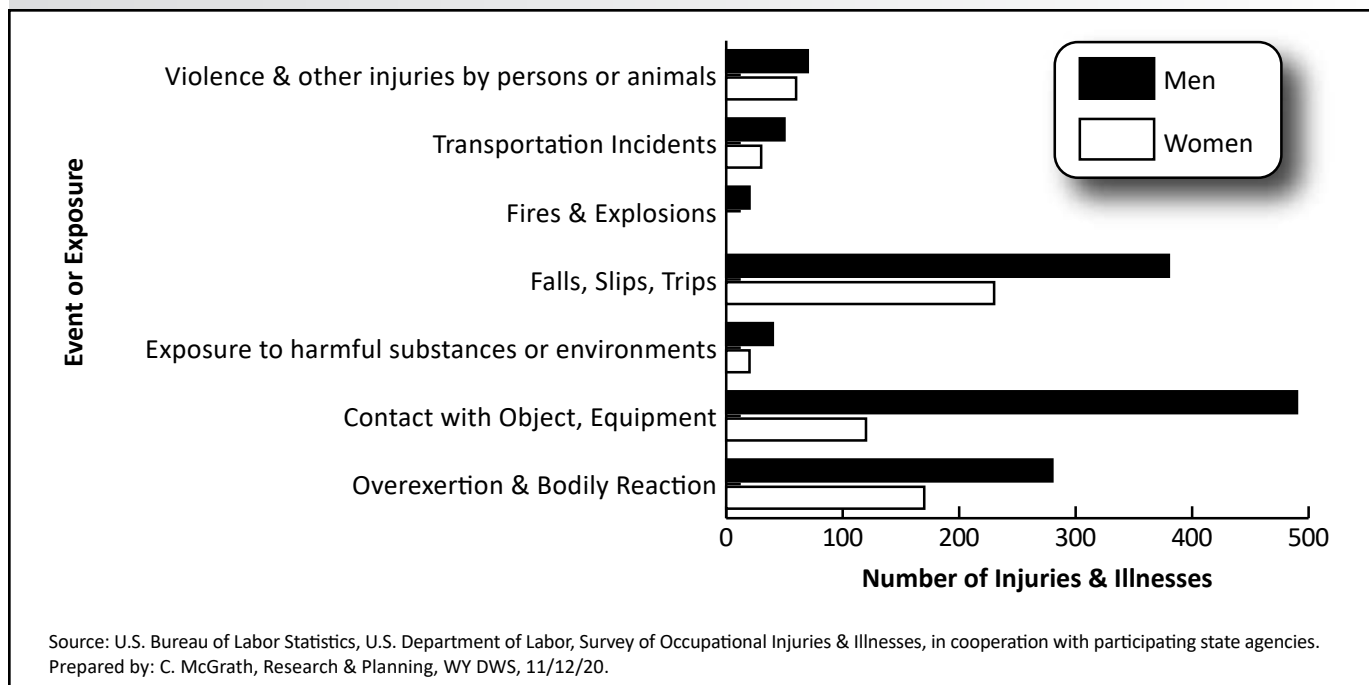


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**Figure 7: Distribution of Injuries and Illnesses Involving Days Away from Work by Source in Wyoming Private Industry, 2019**



**Figure 8: Number of Injuries and Illnesses Involving Days Away from Work by Event or Exposure and Gender in Wyoming Private Industry, 2019**

## Wyoming Unemployment Unchanged at 5.3% in March 2021

by: David Bullard, Senior Economist

The Research & Planning section of the Wyoming Department of Workforce Services reported that the state's seasonally adjusted<sup>1</sup> unemployment rate held steady from February to March at 5.3%. Wyoming's unemployment rate has remained within the narrow range of 5.1% to 5.4% in each of the past six months and is considerably lower than the current U.S. rate of 6.0%.

From February to March, unemployment rates followed their normal seasonal pattern and fell in every county. Jobless rates often decrease in March as warmer weather brings seasonal job gains in construction, leisure & hospitality, government, and other sectors. The largest decreases occurred in Sublette (down from 8.9% to 7.7%), Converse (down from 7.5% to 6.3%), Natrona (down from 8.9% to 7.9%), Hot Springs (down from 5.9% to 4.9%), and Campbell (down from

7.6% to 6.6%) counties.

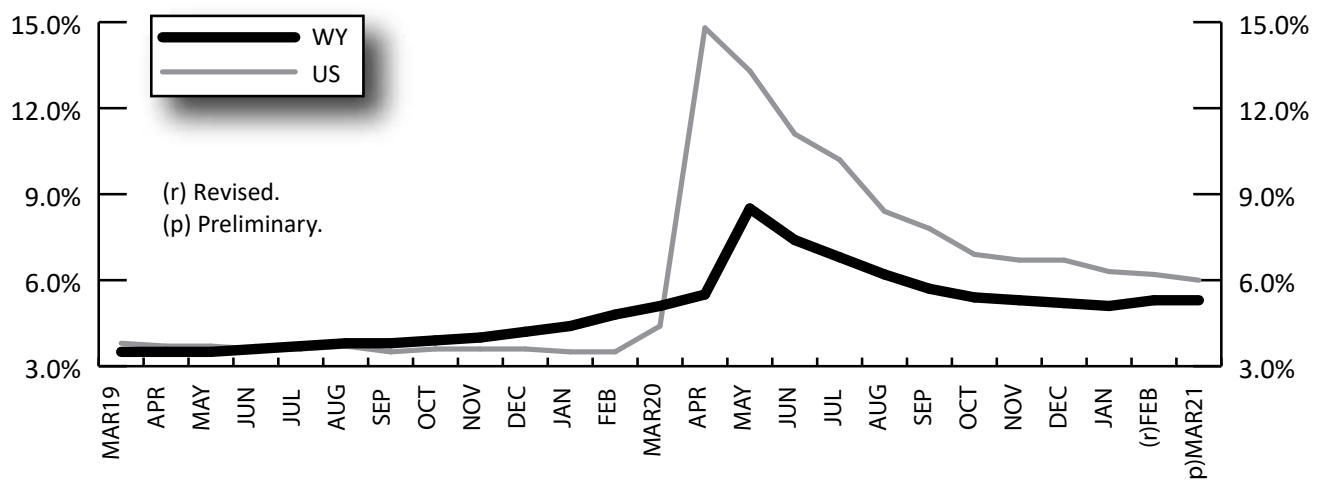
From March 2020 to March 2021, unemployment rates decreased in 17 counties and increased in six counties. The largest decreases were reported in Washakie (down from 7.0% to 5.3%), Sublette (down from 9.4% to 7.7%), and Big Horn (down from 7.6% to 6.1%) counties. Unemployment rates rose in Natrona (up from 6.1% to 7.9%), Converse (up from 4.7% to 6.3%), and Campbell (up from 5.6% to 6.6%) counties.

Weston County had the lowest unemployment rate in March at 4.1%. It was followed by Teton County at 4.2% and Niobrara and Goshen counties, both at 4.3%. The highest unemployment rates were found in Natrona County at 7.9%, Sublette County at 7.7%, and Sweetwater County at 7.1%.

Total nonfarm employment in Wyoming (not seasonally adjusted and measured by place of work) decreased from 281,400 in March 2020 to 268,600 in March 2021, a decline of 12,800 jobs (-4.5%).

<sup>1</sup> 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.

Seasonally Adjusted Unemployment Rate



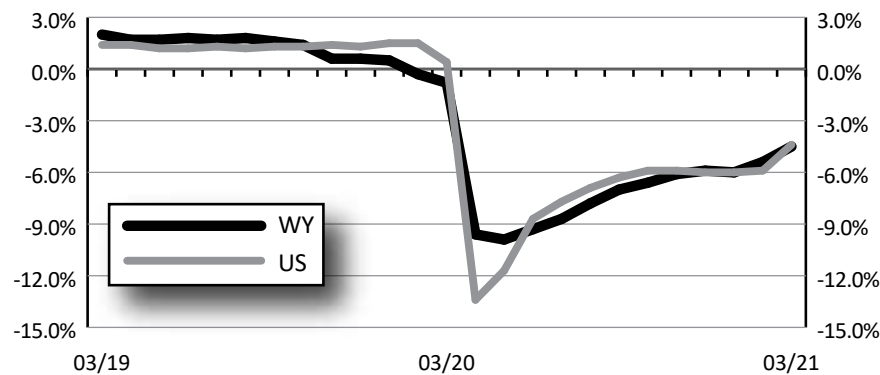
## Current Employment Statistics (CES) Estimates and Research & Planning's Internal Estimates, March 2021

by: David Bullard, Senior Economist

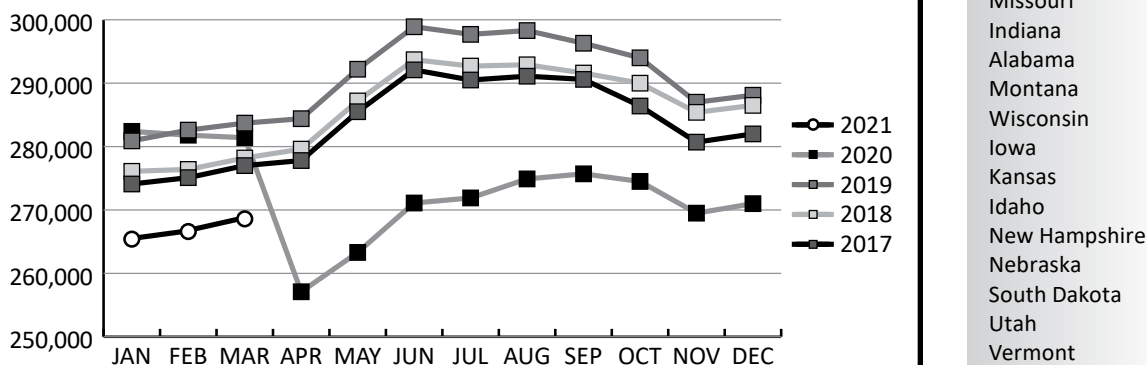
Industry Sector	Research & Planning's Internal Estimates	Current Employment Statistics (CES) Estimates	N Difference	% Difference
<b>Total Nonfarm</b>	<b>263,216</b>	<b>268,600</b>	<b>5,385</b>	<b>2.0%</b>
Natural Resources & Mining	14,204	14,900	697	4.7%
Construction	18,355	18,200	-155	-0.9%
Manufacturing	8,870	9,400	530	5.6%
Wholesale Trade	7,203	7,200	-3	0.0%
Retail Trade	27,602	28,300	698	2.5%
Transportation & Utilities	13,802	14,700	898	6.1%
Information	2,720	2,800	80	2.9%
Financial Activities	10,719	11,100	381	3.4%
Professional & Business Services	17,212	17,800	588	3.3%
Educational & Health Services	28,960	28,400	-560	-2.0%
Leisure & Hospitality	31,343	33,300	1,957	5.9%
Other Services	15,589	16,000	411	2.6%
Government	66,637	66,500	-137	-0.2%

Internal Estimates were run in February 2021 and based on QCEW data through September 2020.

### Nonagricultural Employment Growth (Percentage Change Over Previous Year)



### Wyoming Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment



### State Unemployment Rates March 2021 (Seasonally Adjusted)

State	Unemp. Rate
Hawaii	9.1
Puerto Rico	8.8
New York	8.4
California	8.3
Connecticut	8.3
New Mexico	8.3
Nevada	8.1
District of Columbia	7.7
New Jersey	7.6
Louisiana	7.4
Pennsylvania	7.3
Illinois	7.1
Rhode Island	7.0
Texas	6.9
Alaska	6.7
Arizona	6.7
Massachusetts	6.7
Delaware	6.5
Colorado	6.4
Maryland	6.2
Mississippi	6.2
Oregon	6.0
<b>United States</b>	<b>6.0</b>
West Virginia	5.9
Washington	5.5
<b>Wyoming</b>	<b>5.3</b>
North Carolina	5.2
Michigan	5.1
South Carolina	5.1
Tennessee	5.1
Virginia	5.1
Kentucky	5.0
Maine	4.8
Florida	4.7
Ohio	4.7
Georgia	4.5
Arkansas	4.4
North Dakota	4.4
Oklahoma	4.3
Minnesota	4.2
Missouri	4.2
Indiana	3.9
Alabama	3.8
Montana	3.8
Wisconsin	3.8
Iowa	3.7
Kansas	3.7
Idaho	3.2
New Hampshire	3.0
Nebraska	2.9
South Dakota	2.9
Utah	2.9
Vermont	2.9

## Wyoming Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment

by: David Bullard, Senior Economist

### State Unemployment Rates March 2021 (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

	Employment in Thousands			% Change Total Employment	
	Mar 21	Feb 21	Mar 20	Mar 21 Feb 21	Mar 21 Mar 20
<b>CAMPBELL COUNTY</b>					
<b>TOTAL NONAG. WAGE &amp; SALARY EMPLOYMENT</b>	<b>22.6</b>	<b>22.5</b>	<b>25.3</b>	<b>0.4</b>	<b>-10.7</b>
<b>TOTAL PRIVATE</b>	<b>17.9</b>	<b>17.8</b>	<b>20.3</b>	<b>0.6</b>	<b>-11.8</b>
<b>GOODS PRODUCING</b>	<b>6.5</b>	<b>6.5</b>	<b>8.3</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>-21.7</b>
Natural Resources & Mining	4.5	4.5	5.9	0.0	-23.7
Construction	1.5	1.5	1.8	0.0	-16.7
Manufacturing	0.5	0.5	0.6	0.0	-16.7
<b>SERVICE PROVIDING</b>	<b>16.1</b>	<b>16.0</b>	<b>17.0</b>	<b>0.6</b>	<b>-5.3</b>
Trade, Transportation, & Utilities	5.0	5.0	5.4	0.0	-7.4
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	1.4	1.4	1.5	0.0	-6.7
Educational & Health Services	1.1	1.1	1.1	0.0	0.0
Leisure & Hospitality	2.2	2.1	2.3	4.8	-4.3
Other Services	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.0	0.0
<b>GOVERNMENT</b>	<b>4.7</b>	<b>4.7</b>	<b>5.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>-6.0</b>

	Employment in Thousands			% Change Total Employment	
	Mar 21	Feb 21	Mar 20	Mar 21 Feb 21	Mar 21 Mar 20
<b>SWEETWATER COUNTY</b>					
<b>TOTAL NONAG. WAGE &amp; SALARY EMPLOYMENT</b>	<b>20.8</b>	<b>20.6</b>	<b>21.7</b>	<b>1.0</b>	<b>-4.1</b>
<b>TOTAL PRIVATE</b>	<b>16.0</b>	<b>15.8</b>	<b>16.9</b>	<b>1.3</b>	<b>-5.3</b>
<b>GOODS PRODUCING</b>	<b>5.8</b>	<b>5.8</b>	<b>6.6</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>-12.1</b>
Natural Resources & Mining	3.5	3.5	4.0	0.0	-12.5
Construction	1.1	1.1	1.3	0.0	-15.4
Manufacturing	1.2	1.2	1.3	0.0	-7.7
<b>SERVICE PROVIDING</b>	<b>15.0</b>	<b>14.8</b>	<b>15.1</b>	<b>1.4</b>	<b>-0.7</b>
Trade, Transportation, & Utilities	4.3	4.2	4.4	2.4	-2.3
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	0.9	0.9	1.0	0.0	-10.0
Educational & Health Services	1.4	1.4	1.3	0.0	7.7
Leisure & Hospitality	2.3	2.3	2.3	0.0	0.0
Other Services	0.6	0.5	0.6	20.0	0.0
<b>GOVERNMENT</b>	<b>4.8</b>	<b>4.8</b>	<b>4.8</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>

	Employment in Thousands			% Change Total Employment	
	Mar 21	Feb 21	Mar 20	Mar 21 Feb 21	Mar 21 Mar 20
<b>TETON COUNTY</b>					
<b>TOTAL NONAG. WAGE &amp; SALARY EMPLOYMENT</b>	<b>17.8</b>	<b>18.0</b>	<b>20.2</b>	<b>-1.1</b>	<b>-11.9</b>
<b>TOTAL PRIVATE</b>	<b>15.3</b>	<b>15.4</b>	<b>17.5</b>	<b>-0.6</b>	<b>-12.6</b>
<b>GOODS PRODUCING</b>	<b>2.2</b>	<b>2.2</b>	<b>2.4</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>-8.3</b>
Natural Resources, Mining & Construction	2.0	2.0	2.2	0.0	-9.1
Manufacturing	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.0	0.0
<b>SERVICE PROVIDING</b>	<b>15.6</b>	<b>15.8</b>	<b>17.8</b>	<b>-1.3</b>	<b>-12.4</b>
Trade, Transportation, & Utilities	2.3	2.3	2.4	0.0	-4.2
Information	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.0	0.0
Financial Activities	1.2	1.2	1.2	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	5.8	5.9	7.7	-1.7	-24.7
Other Services	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.0	0.0
<b>GOVERNMENT</b>	<b>2.5</b>	<b>2.6</b>	<b>2.7</b>	<b>-3.8</b>	<b>-7.4</b>

State	Unemp. Rate
Hawaii	8.7
New York	8.4
California	8.2
Connecticut	8.2
New Mexico	7.9
New Jersey	7.8
Nevada	7.7
Alaska	7.4
Puerto Rico	7.4
Pennsylvania	7.3
Rhode Island	7.2
Illinois	7.1
Texas	7.1
District of Columbia	6.9
Oregon	6.7
Delaware	6.6
Louisiana	6.6
Massachusetts	6.6
Colorado	6.5
Arizona	6.4
Washington	6.3
Mississippi	6.2
<b>United States</b>	<b>6.2</b>
Maryland	6.1
West Virginia	6.1
<b>Wyoming</b>	<b>5.9</b>
Maine	5.4
Florida	5.3
Michigan	5.2
Tennessee	5.1
Virginia	5.1
Kentucky	5.0
Ohio	4.9
Arkansas	4.8
North Dakota	4.8
South Carolina	4.8
Wisconsin	4.8
Indiana	4.6
North Carolina	4.6
Iowa	4.5
Minnesota	4.5
Missouri	4.4
Montana	4.4
Oklahoma	4.2
Georgia	4.0
Idaho	4.0
Kansas	3.8
Alabama	3.4
South Dakota	3.3
New Hampshire	3.2
Vermont	3.2
Utah	2.9
Nebraska	2.8



## Economic Indicators

by: David Bullard, Senior Economist

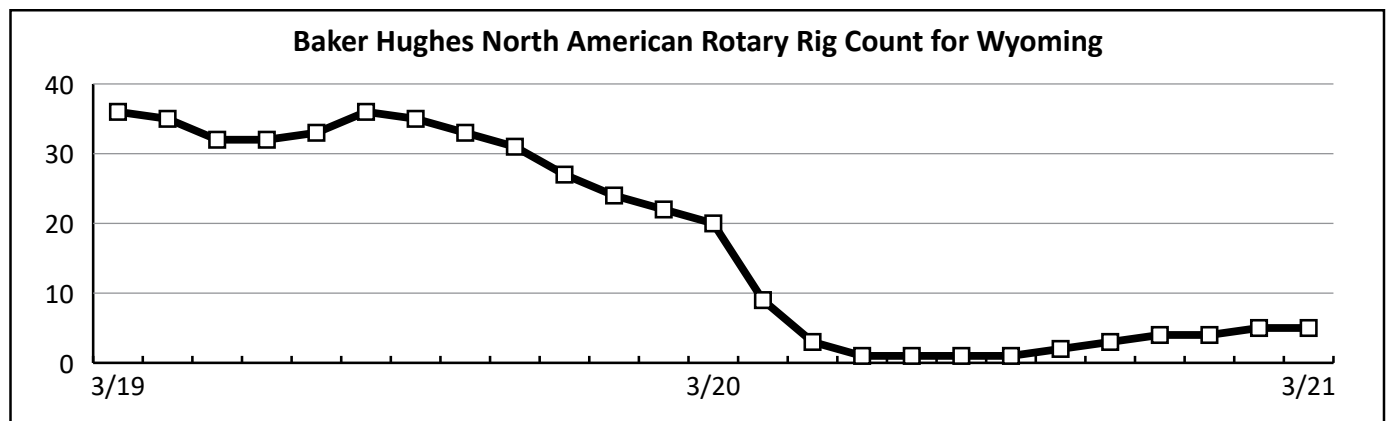
*The Producer Price Index for all commodities rose 12.0% from March 2020 to March 2021.*

	Mar 2021 (p)	Feb 2021 (r)	Mar 2020 (b)	Percent Change Month	Year
<b>Wyoming Total Nonfarm Employment</b>	<b>268,600</b>	<b>266,600</b>	<b>281,400</b>	<b>0.8</b>	<b>-4.5</b>
Wyoming State Government	13,000	12,800	14,400	1.6	-9.7
Laramie County Nonfarm Employment	45,900	45,400	47,300	1.1	-3.0
Natrona County Nonfarm Employment	36,300	35,900	38,700	1.1	-6.2
<b>Selected U.S. Employment Data</b>					
U.S. Multiple Jobholders	7,004,000	6,787,000	7,358,000	3.2	-4.8
As a percent of all workers	4.7%	4.5%	4.7%	N/A	N/A
U.S. Discouraged Workers	488,000	529,000	514,000	-7.8	-5.1
U.S. Part Time for Economic Reasons	5,913,000	6,309,000	5,879,000	-6.3	0.6
<b>Wyoming Unemployment Insurance</b>					
Weeks Compensated	23,523	22,208	21,100	5.9	11.5
Benefits Paid	\$9,881,823	\$9,363,097	\$8,576,790	5.5	15.2
Average Weekly Benefit Payment	\$420.09	\$421.61	\$406.48	-0.4	3.3
<b>Consumer Price Index (U) for All U.S. Urban Consumers</b> (1982 to 1984 = 100)					
All Items	264.9	263.0	258.1	0.7	2.6
Food & Beverages	271.1	270.7	262.3	0.2	3.4
Housing	276.0	275.1	270.3	0.3	2.1
Apparel	120.7	120.0	123.8	0.6	-2.5
Transportation	215.8	209.1	203.9	3.2	5.8
Medical Care	524.7	524.2	515.6	0.1	1.8
Recreation (Dec. 1997=100)	123.6	123.0	122.3	0.4	1.1
Education & Communication (Dec. 1997=100)	141.3	141.7	139.2	-0.3	1.5
Other Goods & Services	472.6	469.9	461.5	0.6	2.4
<b>Producer Prices (1982 to 1984 = 100)</b>					
All Commodities	216.3	208.5	193.1	3.7	12.0
<b>Wyo. Bldg. Permits (New Privately Owned Housing Units Authorized)</b>					
Total Units	187	146	123	28.1	52.0
Valuation	\$95,540,000	\$74,250,000	\$44,617,000	28.7	114.1
Single Family Homes	164	140	101	17.1	62.4
Valuation	\$92,409,000	\$73,661,000	\$42,126,000	25.5	119.4
Casper MSA <sup>1</sup> Building Permits	12	18	10	-33.3	20.0
Valuation	\$3,150,000	\$2,765,000	\$2,289,000	13.9	37.6
Cheyenne MSA Building Permits	53	55	40	-3.6	32.5
Valuation	\$11,946,000	\$11,444,000	\$6,407,000	4.4	86.5
<b>Baker Hughes North American Rotary Rig Count for Wyoming</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>-75.0</b>

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

<sup>1</sup>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

*From February to March, unemployment rates followed their normal seasonal pattern and fell in every county.*

REGION	Labor Force			Employed			Unemployed			Unemployment Rates		
	Mar 2021	Feb 2021	Mar 2020	Mar 2021	Feb 2021	Mar 2020	Mar 2021	Feb 2021	Mar 2020	Mar 2021	Feb 2021	Mar 2020
County	(p)	(b)	(b)	(p)	(b)	(b)	(p)	(b)	(b)	(p)	(b)	(b)
<b>NORTHWEST</b>	<b>45,684</b>	<b>45,688</b>	<b>45,457</b>	<b>42,973</b>	<b>42,690</b>	<b>42,241</b>	<b>2,711</b>	<b>2,998</b>	<b>3,216</b>	<b>5.9</b>	<b>6.6</b>	<b>7.1</b>
Big Horn	5,323	5,298	5,141	4,999	4,932	4,750	324	366	391	6.1	6.9	7.6
Fremont	19,361	19,348	19,447	18,161	18,047	18,061	1,200	1,301	1,386	6.2	6.7	7.1
Hot Springs	2,242	2,247	2,241	2,133	2,114	2,109	109	133	132	4.9	5.9	5.9
Park	14,791	14,807	14,713	13,923	13,827	13,679	868	980	1,034	5.9	6.6	7.0
Washakie	3,967	3,988	3,915	3,757	3,770	3,642	210	218	273	5.3	5.5	7.0
<b>NORTHEAST</b>	<b>51,271</b>	<b>51,551</b>	<b>51,380</b>	<b>48,243</b>	<b>48,099</b>	<b>48,450</b>	<b>3,028</b>	<b>3,452</b>	<b>2,930</b>	<b>5.9</b>	<b>6.7</b>	<b>5.7</b>
Campbell	23,085	23,280	23,916	21,564	21,518	22,571	1,521	1,762	1,345	6.6	7.6	5.6
Crook	3,901	3,896	3,678	3,731	3,718	3,493	170	178	185	4.4	4.6	5.0
Johnson	4,085	4,100	3,963	3,844	3,823	3,709	241	277	254	5.9	6.8	6.4
Sheridan	16,366	16,410	15,958	15,429	15,356	14,982	937	1,054	976	5.7	6.4	6.1
Weston	3,834	3,865	3,865	3,675	3,684	3,695	159	181	170	4.1	4.7	4.4
<b>SOUTHWEST</b>	<b>57,406</b>	<b>57,848</b>	<b>59,423</b>	<b>53,959</b>	<b>54,094</b>	<b>55,644</b>	<b>3,447</b>	<b>3,754</b>	<b>3,779</b>	<b>6.0</b>	<b>6.5</b>	<b>6.4</b>
Lincoln	9,391	9,454	9,261	8,903	8,941	8,700	488	513	561	5.2	5.4	6.1
Sublette	3,885	3,930	3,962	3,584	3,581	3,590	301	349	372	7.7	8.9	9.4
Sweetwater	20,485	20,462	21,512	19,034	18,887	19,879	1,451	1,575	1,633	7.1	7.7	7.6
Teton	14,403	14,767	15,372	13,804	14,113	14,763	599	654	609	4.2	4.4	4.0
Uinta	9,242	9,235	9,316	8,634	8,572	8,712	608	663	604	6.6	7.2	6.5
<b>SOUTHEAST</b>	<b>83,699</b>	<b>83,537</b>	<b>83,893</b>	<b>79,665</b>	<b>79,119</b>	<b>79,608</b>	<b>4,034</b>	<b>4,418</b>	<b>4,285</b>	<b>4.8</b>	<b>5.3</b>	<b>5.1</b>
Albany	19,891	19,922	20,645	19,023	19,006	19,693	868	916	952	4.4	4.6	4.6
Goshen	6,681	6,667	6,468	6,395	6,348	6,127	286	319	341	4.3	4.8	5.3
Laramie	51,125	50,972	51,042	48,544	48,120	48,373	2,581	2,852	2,669	5.0	5.6	5.2
Niobrara	1,275	1,283	1,207	1,220	1,217	1,157	55	66	50	4.3	5.1	4.1
Platte	4,727	4,693	4,531	4,483	4,428	4,258	244	265	273	5.2	5.6	6.0
<b>CENTRAL</b>	<b>56,728</b>	<b>56,729</b>	<b>57,450</b>	<b>52,578</b>	<b>52,039</b>	<b>54,074</b>	<b>4,150</b>	<b>4,690</b>	<b>3,376</b>	<b>7.3</b>	<b>8.3</b>	<b>5.9</b>
Carbon	8,070	8,060	7,556	7,656	7,610	7,108	414	450	448	5.1	5.6	5.9
Converse	7,840	7,898	8,771	7,343	7,305	8,356	497	593	415	6.3	7.5	4.7
Natrona	40,818	40,771	41,123	37,579	37,124	38,610	3,239	3,647	2,513	7.9	8.9	6.1
<b>STATEWIDE</b>	<b>294,787</b>	<b>295,352</b>	<b>297,605</b>	<b>277,417</b>	<b>276,040</b>	<b>280,016</b>	<b>17,370</b>	<b>19,312</b>	<b>17,589</b>	<b>5.9</b>	<b>6.5</b>	<b>5.9</b>
Statewide Seasonally Adjusted .....										5.3	5.3	5.1
U.S. ....										6.2	6.6	4.5
U.S. Seasonally Adjusted .....										6.0	6.2	4.4

Prepared in cooperation with the Bureau of Labor Statistics. Benchmarked 03/2021 Run Date 04/2021.

Data are not seasonally adjusted except where otherwise specified.

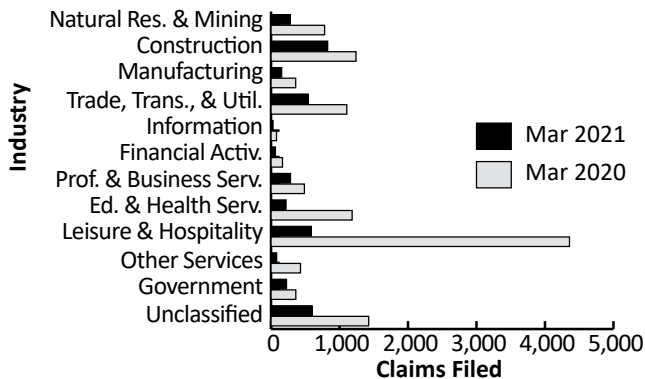
(p) Preliminary. (r) Revised. (b) Benchmarked.

# Wyoming Normalized<sup>a</sup> Unemployment Insurance Statistics: Initial Claims

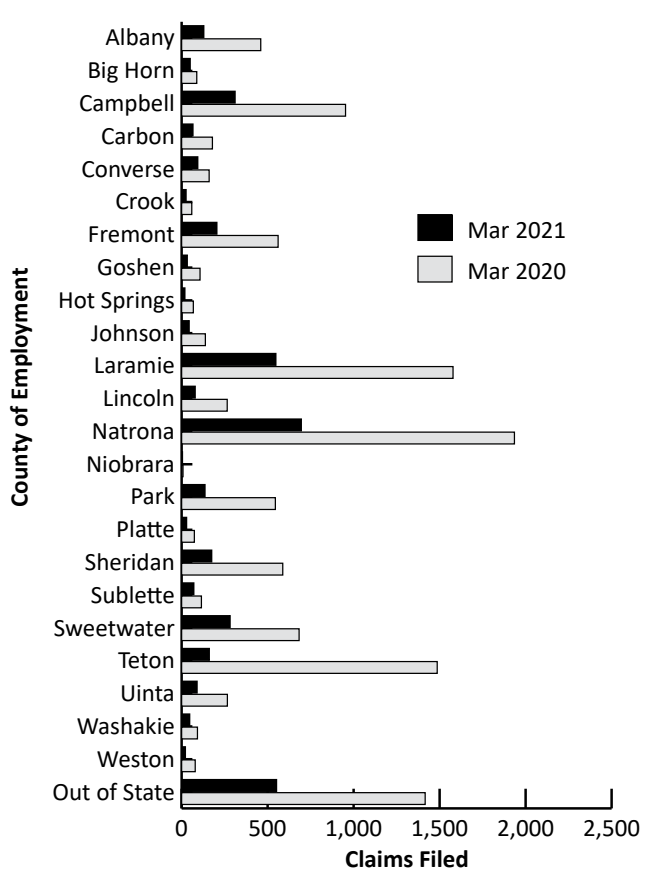
by: Sherry Wen, Principal Economist

March 2021 marked the first over-the-year decrease in initial Unemployment Insurance claims since the start of the COVID-19 pandemic with 3,903 initial claims, down 67.4% over the year.

**Initial Unemployment Insurance  
Claims by Industry, March 2021**



**Initial Unemployment Insurance  
Claims by County, March 2021**



## Initial Claims

	Claims Filed			% Change	
	Mar 21	Feb 21	Mar 20	Over the Month	Over the Year
<b>Wyoming Statewide</b>					
Total Claims Filed	3,903	4,883	11,988	-20.1	-67.4
TOTAL GOODS-PRODUCING	1,264	1,776	2,384	-28.8	-47.0
Natural Resources & Mining	280	356	782	-21.3	-64.2
Mining	259	336	755	-22.9	-65.7
Oil & Gas Extraction	17	12	21	41.7	-19.0
Construction	827	1,192	1,241	-30.6	-33.4
Manufacturing	155	227	360	-31.7	-56.9
TOTAL SERVICE-PROVIDING	1,811	1,900	7,814	-4.7	-76.8
Trade, Transportation, & Utilities	542	594	1,106	-8.8	-51.0
Wholesale Trade	81	74	158	9.5	-48.7
Retail Trade	278	308	655	-9.7	-57.6
Transportation, Warehousing & Utilities	182	211	292	-13.7	-37.7
Information	29	20	80	45.0	-63.8
Financial Activities	64	73	167	-12.3	-61.7
Professional & Business Services	284	363	487	-21.8	-41.7
Educational & Health Services	219	235	1,184	-6.8	-81.5
Leisure & Hospitality	588	538	4,358	9.3	-86.5
Other Services, except Public Admin.	82	74	430	10.8	-80.9
TOTAL GOVERNMENT	226	270	362	-16.3	-37.6
Federal Government	74	83	79	-10.8	-6.3
State Government	25	40	50	-37.5	-50.0
Local Government	126	147	232	-14.3	-45.7
Local Education	45	49	142	-8.2	-68.3
UNCLASSIFIED	600	935	1,426	-35.8	-57.9

## Laramie County

Total Claims Filed	548	633	1,578	-13.4	-65.3
TOTAL GOODS-PRODUCING	200	205	318	-2.4	-37.1
Construction	159	167	210	-4.8	-24.3
TOTAL SERVICE-PROVIDING	245	273	1,017	-10.3	-75.9
Trade, Transportation, & Utilities	65	76	153	-14.5	-57.5
Financial Activities	15	10	19	50.0	-21.1
Professional & Business Services	54	79	79	-31.6	-31.6
Educational & Health Services	30	29	178	3.4	-83.1
Leisure & Hospitality	63	57	482	10.5	-86.9
TOTAL GOVERNMENT	22	37	36	-40.5	-38.9
UNCLASSIFIED	78	115	205	-32.2	-62.0

## Natrona County

Total Claims Filed	696	836	1,935	-16.7	-64.0
TOTAL GOODS-PRODUCING	223	303	395	-26.4	-43.5
Construction	161	224	172	-28.1	-6.4
TOTAL SERVICE-PROVIDING	372	361	1,321	3.0	-71.8
Trade, Transportation, & Utilities	142	123	220	15.4	-35.5
Financial Activities	11	16	36	-31.3	-69.4
Professional & Business Services	56	62	83	-9.7	-32.5
Educational & Health Services	51	41	195	24.4	-73.8
Leisure & Hospitality	84	98	640	-14.3	-86.9
TOTAL GOVERNMENT	20	28	30	-28.6	-33.3
UNCLASSIFIED	79	143	188	-44.8	-58.0

N/D = Not discloseable due to confidentiality.

<sup>a</sup>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<sup>a</sup> Unemployment Insurance Statistics: Continued Claims

by: Sherry Wen, Principal Economist

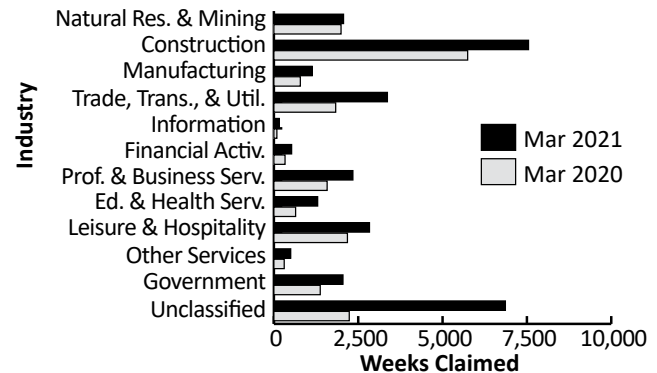
The total number of continued weeks claimed increased over the year from 19,093 to 30,685. The total number of unique claimants increased from 7,169 to 7,749.

### Continued Claims

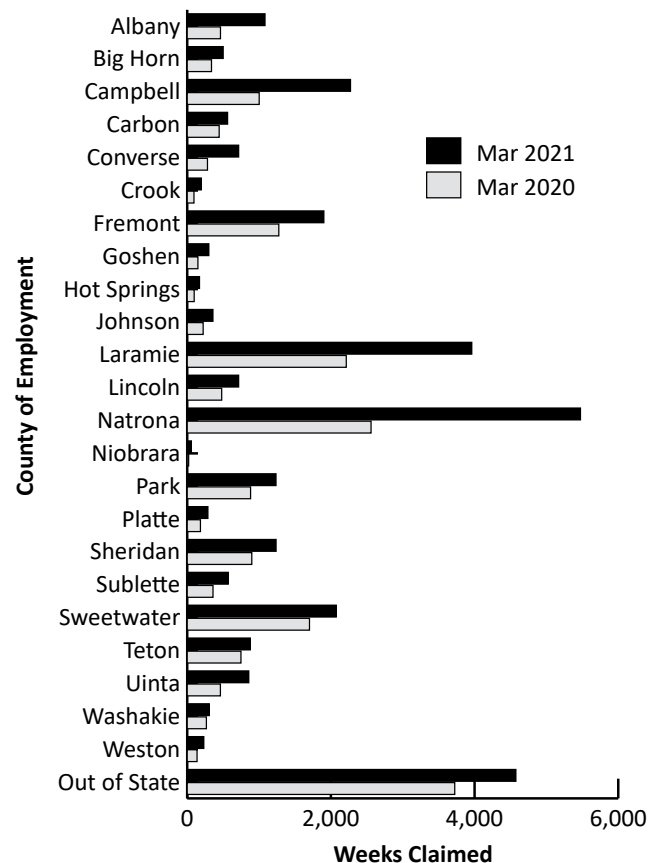
	Claims Filed			% Change	
	Mar 21	Feb 21	Mar 20	Over the Month	Over the Year
<b>Wyoming Statewide</b>					
Total Weeks Claimed	30,685	32,305	19,093	-5.0	60.7
Total Unique Claimants	7,749	9,727	7,169	-20.3	8.1
TOTAL GOODS-PRODUCING	10,749	12,400	8,521	-13.3	26.1
Natural Resources & Mining	2,065	2,534	1,991	-18.5	3.7
Mining	1,906	2,343	1,843	-18.7	3.4
Oil & Gas Extraction	213	213	103	0.0	106.8
Construction	7,548	8,679	5,744	-13.0	31.4
Manufacturing	1,135	1,186	784	-4.3	44.8
TOTAL SERVICE-PROVIDING	11,025	11,954	6,962	-7.8	58.4
Trade, Transportation, & Utilities	3,365	3,472	1,832	-3.1	83.7
Wholesale Trade	613	725	304	-15.4	101.6
Retail Trade	1,555	1,464	788	6.2	97.3
Transportation, Warehousing & Utilities	1,195	1,282	740	-6.8	61.5
Information	159	151	89	5.3	78.7
Financial Activities	526	573	331	-8.2	58.9
Professional & Business Services	2,342	2,719	1,578	-13.9	48.4
Educational & Health Services	1,298	1,309	644	-0.8	101.6
Leisure & Hospitality	2,834	3,180	2,180	-10.9	30.0
Other Services, except Public Admin.	499	546	306	-8.6	63.1
TOTAL GOVERNMENT	2,048	2,232	1,374	-8.2	49.1
Federal Government	855	1,018	693	-16.0	23.4
State Government	270	270	156	0.0	73.1
Local Government	922	942	523	-2.1	76.3
Local Education	245	261	56	-6.1	337.5
UNCLASSIFIED	6,862	5,718	2,234	20.0	207.2
<b>Laramie County</b>					
Total Weeks Claimed	3,961	4,045	2,214	-2.1	78.9
Total Unique Claimants	1,017	1,229	881	-17.2	15.4
TOTAL GOODS-PRODUCING	1,378	1,519	951	-9.3	44.9
Construction	1,079	1,270	847	-15.0	27.4
TOTAL SERVICE-PROVIDING	1,493	1,625	874	-8.1	70.8
Trade, Transportation, & Utilities	452	476	259	-5.0	74.5
Financial Activities	92	94	45	-2.1	104.4
Professional & Business Services	393	428	214	-8.2	83.6
Educational & Health Services	212	233	117	-9.0	81.2
Leisure & Hospitality	277	309	154	-10.4	79.9
TOTAL GOVERNMENT	209	211	97	-0.9	115.5
UNCLASSIFIED	879	688	291	27.8	202.1
<b>Natrona County</b>					
Total Weeks Claimed	5,474	5,849	2,559	-6.4	113.9
Total Unique Claimants	1,359	1,736	975	-21.7	39.4
TOTAL GOODS-PRODUCING	1,872	2,142	1,229	-12.6	52.3
Construction	1,324	1,431	824	-7.5	60.7
TOTAL SERVICE-PROVIDING	2,370	2,653	993	-10.7	138.7
Trade, Transportation, & Utilities	814	907	313	-10.3	160.1
Financial Activities	121	147	67	-17.7	80.6
Professional & Business Services	458	503	215	-8.9	113.0
Educational & Health Services	288	287	119	0.3	142.0
Leisure & Hospitality	471	542	185	-13.1	154.6
TOTAL GOVERNMENT	177	202	61	-12.4	190.2
UNCLASSIFIED	1,054	851	273	23.9	286.1

<sup>a</sup>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 2021



### Continued Unemployment Insurance Claims by County, March 2021



**Wyoming Department of Workforce  
Services, Research & Planning  
P.O. Box 2760  
Casper, WY 82602**

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