Wyoming Employers Add Nearly 90,000 New Hires in 2017
by: Michael Moore, Editor; methodologist: Lisa Knapp, Senior Research Analyst

During any given quarter, Wyoming employers hire thousands of individuals to fill jobs. Among these total hires are *new hires*, or individuals who have never before worked for that specific employer.

The Wyoming New Hires Job Skills Survey is conducted by the Research & Planning section of the Wyoming Department of Workforce Services on a quarterly basis, from on a sample of new hires. The purpose of this survey is to collect information about jobs that are filled in the state, such as occupation, typical job duties, wages and benefits, license and certification requirements, necessary job skills, employers' satisfaction with their new hires' skills, and more. In addition, by linking New Hires Survey data with several administrative databases, R&P is able to identify demographics of new hires, such as gender and age.

> This article was excerpted from the *2019 Wyoming Workforce Annual Report*, available online at https://doe.state.wy.us/LMI/annual-report/2019/2019_Annual_Report.pdf.

New Hires Survey results are published annually, and contain a wealth of information about the state's job and labor markets. In 2017, there were 88,561 new hires in Wyoming. As shown in Table 1 (see page 3), the majority of all new hires worked in occupations with no formal educational requirement (52.0%) or in occupations that required a high school diploma or equivalent (33.0%); together, these two categories accounted for 85.0% of all new hires.
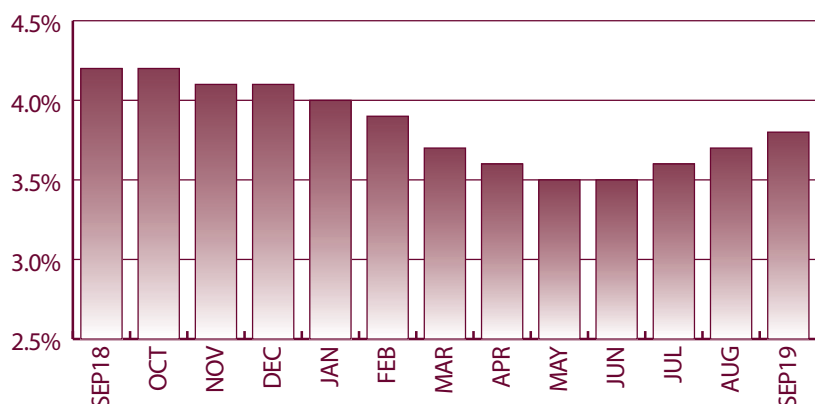
The remaining 13,292 new hires (15.0%)

HIGHLIGHTS

- Of the 88,561 new hires in Wyoming in 2017, nearly one in 10 were older workers ages 55 or older. In addition, 23.3% of all older new hires were in jobs requiring some postsecondary education, compared to 15.0% of all new hires. … page 7
- Wyoming's rental vacancy rate has tended to move with the state's unemployment rate, which may be related to the transient nature of the state's labor force. … page 10

Wyoming Unemployment Rate by Month, Sept. 2018 to Sept. 2019 (Seasonally Adjusted)

(Text continued from page 1)

worked in occupations that required some education beyond a high school diploma, from some college courses or a postsecondary certificate to a master's degree or doctoral degree. As shown in Table 1, for example, 5.9% of all new hires occupations required a bachelor's degree, while 5.8% required a postsecondary certificate.

Table 1 also shows the differences in median hourly wage by educational requirement. Occupations with no formal educational requirement had a median hourly wage of $9.89, compared to $16.77 for jobs that required a postsecondary certificate and $23.57 for jobs that required a bachelor's degree.

This article provides a few examples of the type of information available from the New Hires Survey. Comprehensive new hires data for 2017 are available online at https://doe.state.wy.us/LMI/newhires.htm.

Discussion

For this article, five occupations were selected to illustrate the type of information available from the New Hires Survey: computer user support specialists, paralegals & legal assistants, registered nurses, heating, air conditioning & refrigeration mechanics, and truck drivers, heavy & tractor-trailer (see Table 2). These five occupations were chosen for several reasons. First, each occupation had at least 100 estimated new hires, and the occupations

Table 1: Total Number of New Hires in Wyoming by Typical Educational Requirement, 2017

Education[a]	N	%	Median Hourly Wage
Total[b]	88,561	100.0	$12.00
No Formal Requirement	45,966	52.0	$9.89
High School Diploma or Equivalent	29,218	33.0	$15.44
More than a High School Diploma	13,292	15.0	$21.21
Some College, No Degree	819	0.9	$14.57
Postsecondary Certificate	5,116	5.8	$16.77
Associate's Degree	893	1.0	$16.79
Bachelor's Degree	5,224	5.9	$23.57
Master's Degree	590	0.7	$26.63
Doctoral or Professional Degree	649	0.7	$46.66

[a]Typical education required to enter the occupation as identified by O*Net.
[b]May not sum to the total due to rounding.
Source: Wyoming New Hires Job Skills Survey.
Prepared by L. Knapp and M. Moore, Research & Planning, WY DWS, 4/15/19.

Table 2: Top 5 New Hires Occupations Requiring Some Postsecondary Education in Wyoming, 2017

SOC[a] Code	Occupation	Education[b]	N	Median Hourly Wage
	Total, All Occupations		88,561	$12.00
	Subtotal, Occupations Requiring More than a High School Diploma		13,292	$21.21
15-1151	Computer User Support Specialists	Some College, No Degree	250	$18.00
23-2011	Paralegals & Legal Assistants	Associate's Degree	127	$15.00
29-1141	Registered Nurses	Bachelor's Degree	846	$26.00
49-9021	Heating, Air Conditioning, & Refrigeration Mechanics	Postsecondary Certificate	257	$15.00
53-3032	Truck Drivers, Heavy & Tractor-Trailer	Postsecondary Certificate	2,956	$18.25

[a]Standard Occupational Classification.
[b]Typical education required to enter the occupation as identified by O*Net.
Source: Wyoming New Hires Job Skills Survey.
Prepared by L. Knapp and M. Moore, Research & Planning, WY DWS, 4/15/19.

Source: Wyoming New Hires Job Skills Survey.
Prepared by M. Moore, Research & Planning, WY DWS, 11/20/19.
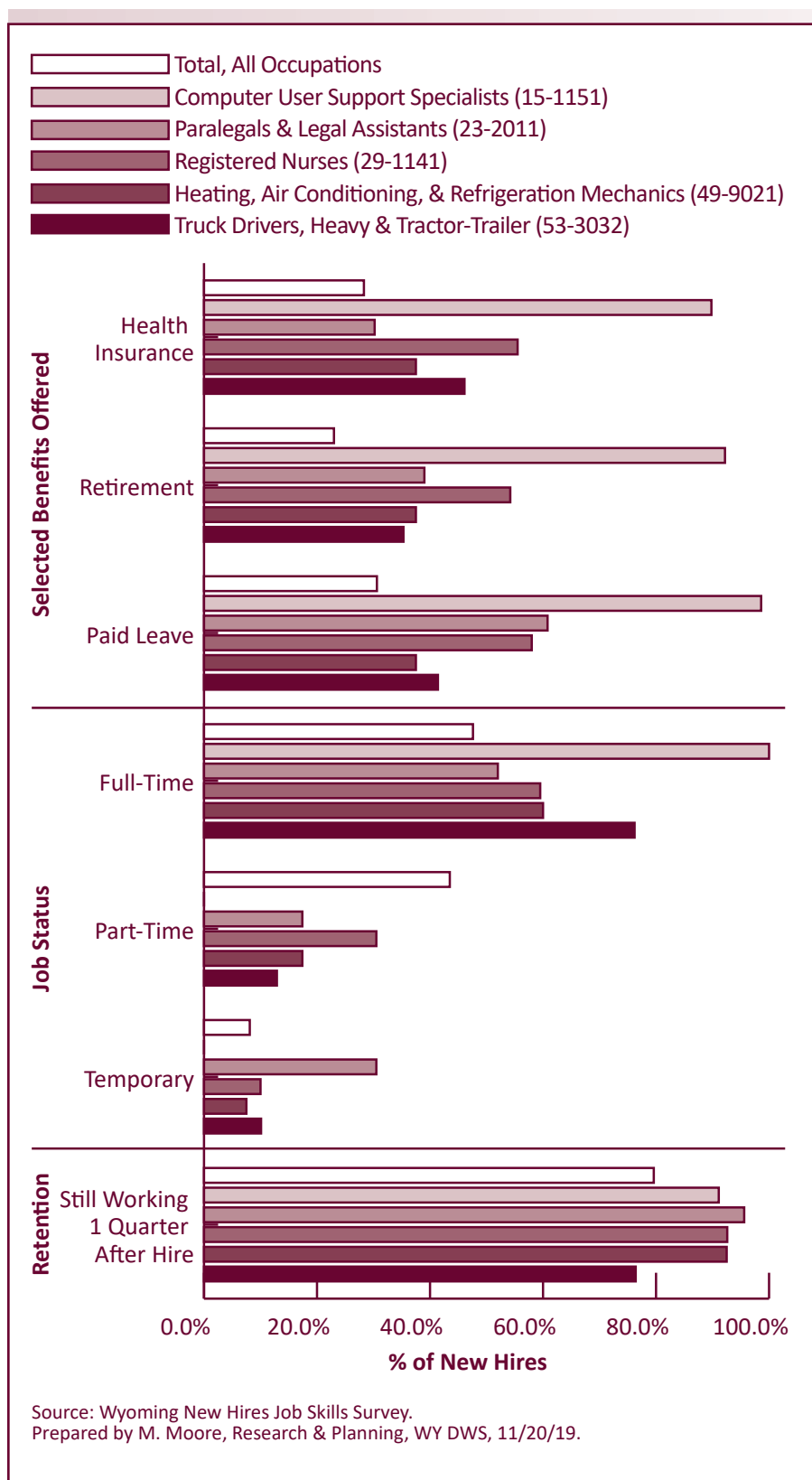
Figure 1: 2017 Wyoming New Hires: Percent Offered Selected Benefits, Job Status, and Percent Still Working One Quarter After Hire for Occupations Requiring More than a High School Diploma

required varying degrees of postsecondary education. In addition, these five occupations work in different sectors of Wyoming's economy with different skillsets, and the demographics of the individuals hired for these jobs were noticeably different from one another. The educational requirements discussed in this article represent the typical level of education required to enter a specific occupation as identified by the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

The occupation that required more than a high school diploma with the greatest number of new hires was truck drivers, heavy & tractor-trailer (2,956; see Table 2). All five occupations discussed in this article had greater average hourly wages than the overall total ($12.00). Registered nurses had the highest wage ($26.00) of the five occupations.

Figure 1 shows characteristics of new hires occupations, such as benefits offered, full- and part-time job status, and retainment.

In general, occupations requiring more than a high school diploma were offered benefits at a greater rate than the statewide average. Computer user

support specialists were far more likely than the other occupations to be offered benefits such as health insurance, access to a retirement plan, and paid leave. For example, 89.8% of computer user support specialists were offered health insurance, compared to 30.2% of paralegals & legal assistants and 55.5% of registered nurses.

In terms of hours worked, 100.0% of all computer user support specialists were hired to work full-time, compared to 76.2% of truck drivers and 59.5% of registered nurses. Paralegals & legal assistants had the highest percentage of new hires who were hired on a temporary basis (30.5%).

Retention refers to the percentage of new hires still working for the same employer one quarter after hire. The overall retainment rate for new hires was 79.6%, compared to 85.9% of new hires in occupations requiring more than a high school diploma. All five of the occupations in Figure 1 had retainment rates of greater than 90%, except truck drivers (76.4%).

The New Hires Survey asks employers to rate the level of importance of five selected skills in terms of performing a job's duties and
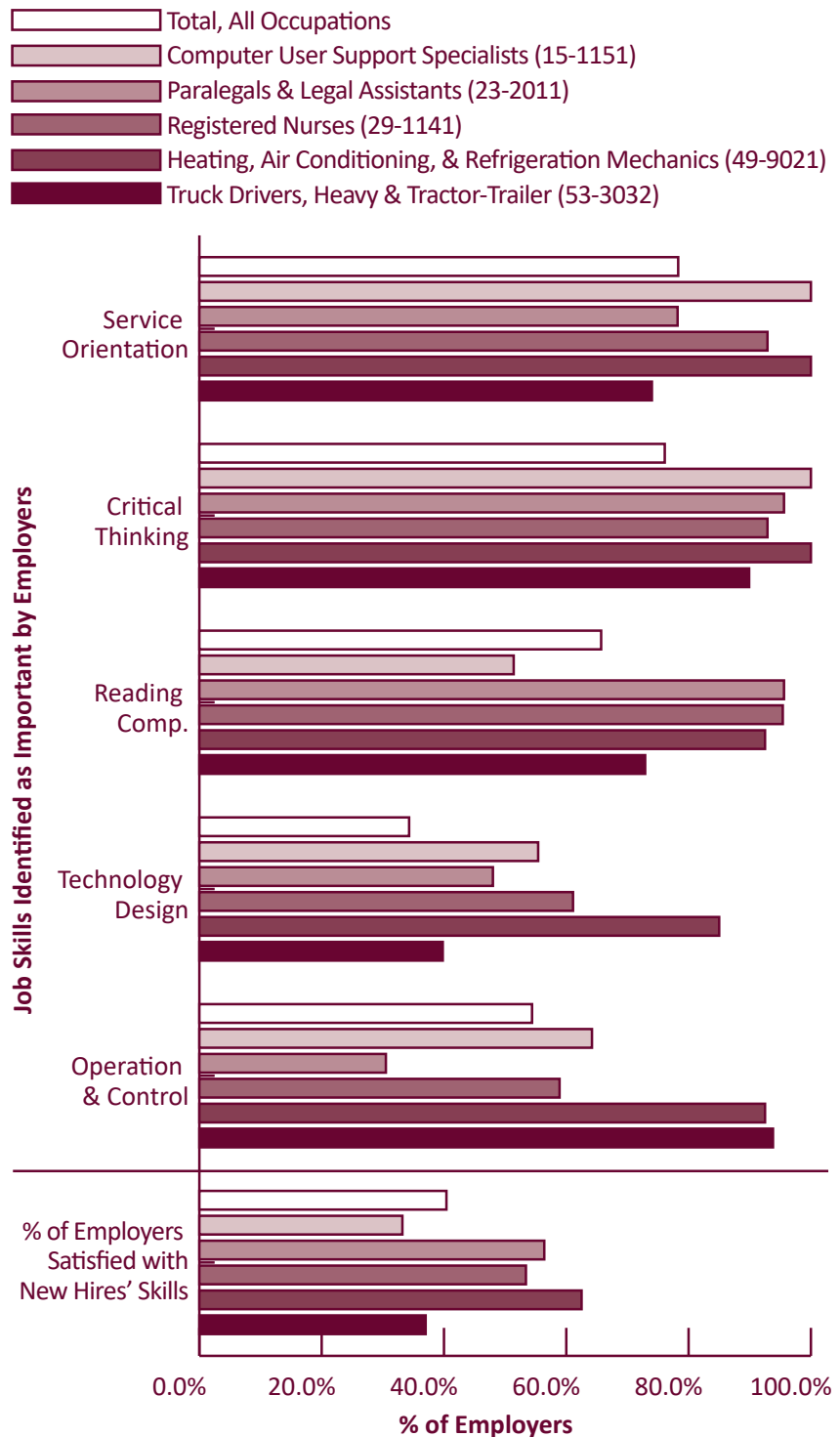
Figure 2: 2017 Wyoming New Hires: Percent of Employers Who Identified Selected Job Skills as Important and Percent of Employers Who Indicated they Were Satisfied with New Hires' Skills for Occupations Requiring More than a High School Diploma

Source: Wyoming New Hires Job Skills Survey.
Prepared by M. Moore, Research & Planning, WY DWS, 11/20/19.
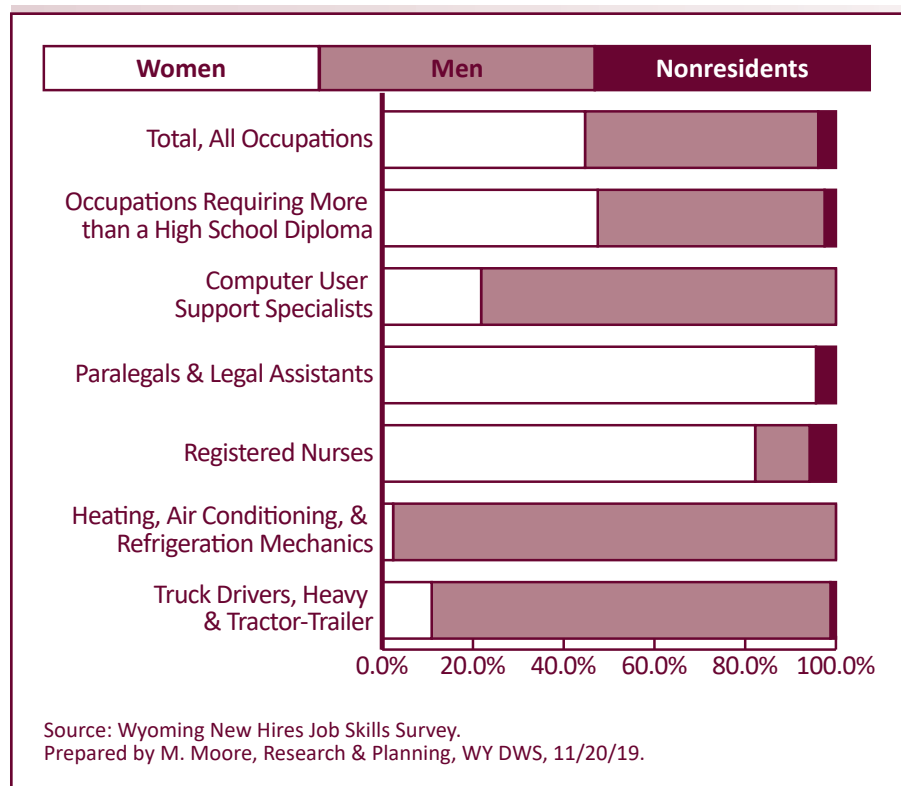
Figure 3: Wyoming New Hires in Selected Occupations Requiring More than a High School Diploma by Gender, 2017

Source: Wyoming New Hires Job Skills Survey.
Prepared by M. Moore, Research & Planning, WY DWS, 11/20/19.
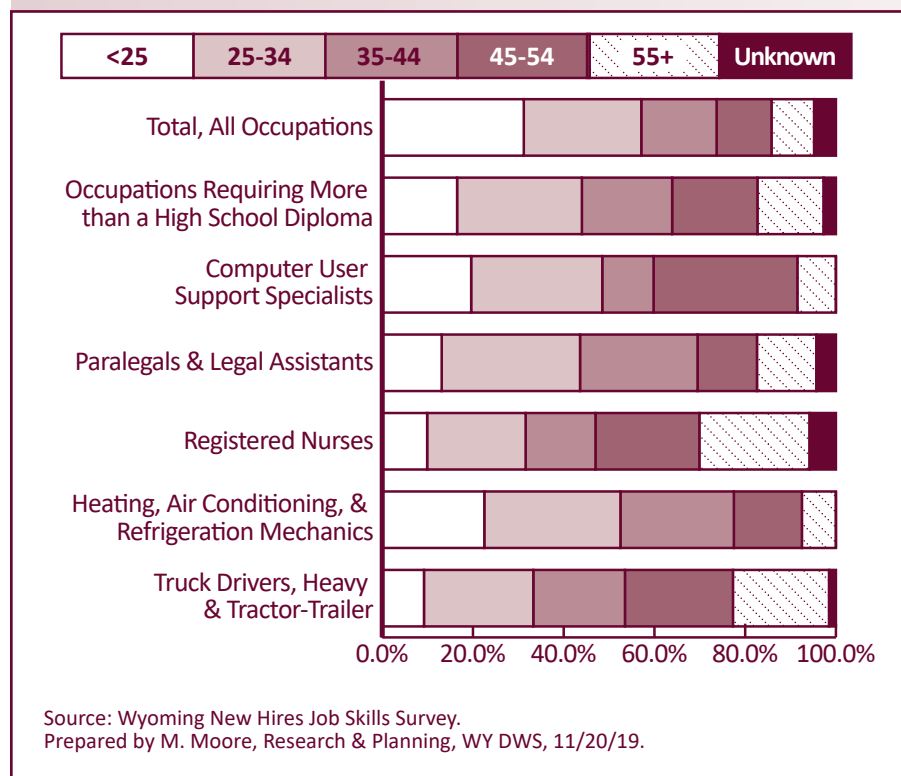
Figure 4: Wyoming New Hires in Selected Occupations Requiring More than a High School Diploma by Age Group, 2017

activities: service orientation, critical thinking, reading comprehension, technology design, and operation & control. Figure 2 (see page 5) shows that 100.0% of the employers who responded identified service orientation and critical thinking as important skills for computer user support specialists and heating, air conditioning, & refrigeration mechanics. Technology design was most important for heating, air conditioning, & refrigeration mechanics, while operation & control was most important for truck drivers.

Employers are also asked to rate their satisfaction with new hires' skills. As shown in Figure 2, heating, air conditioning, & refrigeration mechanics had the greatest percentage of employers satisfied with their skills (62.5%), while computer user support specialists had the lowest (33.2%).

Figure 3 shows the difference in gender among the selected occupations. Women made up the majority of new hires in paralegal & legal assistants (95.6%) and registered nurses (82.2%), while men made up the majority of heating, air conditioning, & refrigeration mechanics (97.6%) and truck drivers (87.9%).

Figure 4 shows the ages

of new hires in the selected occupations. While individuals age 55 or older made up 9.4% of all new hires, some occupations had a substantially greater proportion of new hires age 55 or older, such as registered nurses (24.3%) and truck drivers (21.2%).

Conclusion

The data from the Wyoming New Hires Job Skills Survey have many practical uses:

- Students and jobseekers can use the data to identify which occupations employers are hiring for, which have the highest wages, and which are most likely to offer selected benefits.

- Employers can use the data to compare wages and benefits for occupations.

- Training providers and policymakers can use the data to determine training needs by identifying skills that employers have identified as important and how satisfied employers are with the skills of their new hires.

What Jobs Were Older Workers Hired to Fill in 2017?
by: Michael Moore, Editor

Wyoming residents ages 55 or older have made up an increasingly larger part of the state's workforce over the last two decades. In 2018, one in five persons working in Wyoming at any time was age 55 or older (Moore, 2019). In many cases, Wyoming employers are hiring older workers who have never worked for them before in order to fill job vacancies.

This article uses Wyoming New Hires Job Skills Survey (*New Hires Survey*) results to identify the types of jobs for which older workers are being hired. For more information on the New Hires Survey, please see the related article on page 1 of this issue of *Wyoming Labor Force Trends*.

New hires are individuals who have never before worked for that specific employer. For the purposes of this article, the terms *older workers* and *older new hires* refer to individuals ages 55 or older. In 2017, there were 88,561 new hires in Wyoming. Of those, an estimated 8,301 (9.4%) were older workers (see Table 1, page 8). In addition, 23.3% of all older new hires were in jobs requiring some postsecondary education, compared to 15.0% of all new hires. One in 10 older new hires (10.0%) were in jobs requiring a postsecondary certificate compared to 5.8% of all new hires, and 9.2% of older new hires were in jobs requiring a bachelor's degree, versus 5.9% of all new hires.

Since the Research & Planning (R&P) section of the Wyoming Department of Workforce Services began collecting New Hires Survey data in 2009, several occupations routinely have the greatest number of new hires in any given quarter. These are often entry-level, seasonal, temporary, or part-time jobs that require little or no education or training, such as cashiers, retail salespersons, construction and landscaping workers, janitors, and maids, among others. As shown in Table 2 (see page 8), many of those same jobs were also the most frequently occurring for older new hires, such as retail salespersons, landscaping &

groundskeeping workers, and hotel, motel, & resort desk clerks.

The top 10 most frequently occurring occupations that required some postsecondary education for older new

hires are shown in Table 3 (see page 9). There were 627 older workers hired as truck drivers, heavy & tractor-trailer, which made up 21.2% of all new hires in this occupation. Several of the occupations in Table 3 were related to education or health

care, including registered nurses, substitute teachers, nursing assistants, and teacher assistants.

There were 10 occupations in which older new hires accounted for at least one in four (25.0%) of all new hires (see Table 4, page 9). Nearly half (44.7%) of all data entry keyers were older new hires, followed by taxi drivers & chauffeurs (39.4%), child, family, & school social workers (32.5%), and library assistants, clerical (32.3%).

Conclusion

New Hires Survey data provide a wealth of information on hiring activity in Wyoming, including demographics, educational requirements, important job

Table 1: Total Number of All New Hires and Older New Hires Ages 55+ in Wyoming by Typical Educational Requirement, 2017

Education[a]	Total, All New Hires		Older New Hires Ages 55+	
	N	Column %	N	Column %
Total[b]	**88,561**	**100.0**	**8,301**	**100.0**
No Formal Requirement	45,966	52.0	3,511	42.3
High School Diploma or Equivalent	29,218	33.0	2,852	34.4
More than a High School Diploma	13,292	15.0	1,938	23.3
Some College, No Degree	819	0.9	78	0.9
Postsecondary Certificate	5,116	5.8	828	10.0
Associate's Degree	893	1.0	116	1.4
Bachelor's Degree	5,224	5.9	764	9.2
Master's Degree	590	0.7	52	0.6
Doctoral or Professional Degree	649	0.7	101	1.2

[a]Typical education required to enter the occupation as identified by O*Net.
[b]May not sum to the total due to rounding.
Source: Wyoming New Hires Job Skills Survey.
Prepared by M. Moore, Research & Planning, WY DWS, 11/21/19.

Table 2: Top 10 Most Frequently Occurring Occupations for Older New Hires Ages 55+ in Wyoming, 2017

SOC[a] Code	Occupation	Educational Requirement[b]	Total	Ages 55+	
				N	Row %
	Total, All Occupations	N/A	**88,561**	**8,301**	**9.4**
53-3032	Truck Drivers, Heavy & Tractor-Trailer	Postsecondary Certificate	2,956	627	21.2
41-2031	Retail Salespersons	No Formal Requirement	5,177	445	8.6
37-3011	Landscaping & Groundskeeping Workers	No Formal Requirement	2,611	331	12.7
43-4081	Hotel, Motel, & Resort Desk Clerks	High School Diploma or Equivalent	2,224	290	13.0
37-2011	Janitors & Cleaners, Except Maids & Housekeeping	No Formal Requirement	1,642	259	15.8
43-9061	Office Clerks, General	High School Diploma or Equivalent	2,013	245	12.2
37-2012	Maids & Housekeeping Cleaners	No Formal Requirement	2,137	242	11.3
41-2011	Cashiers	No Formal Requirement	3,174	224	7.1
35-2014	Cooks, Restaurant	No Formal Requirement	2,056	219	10.6
47-2111	Electricians	High School Diploma or Equivalent	1,062	212	20.0

[a]Standard Occupational Classification.
[b]Typical education required to enter the occupation as identified by O*Net.
Source: Wyoming New Hires Job Skills Survey.
Prepared by M. Moore, Research & Planning, WY DWS, 11/21/19.

skills, employers' satisfaction with new hires, and more. This article presented a sample of the New Hires Survey data available, and showed how older workers were hired for a variety of occupations in 2017, from cashiers and retail salespersons to dentists, chief executives, teachers, and physicians.

New Hires Survey data are available online at https://doe.state.wy.us/LMI/newhires.htm.

References

Moore, M. (2019, August). The demographics of Wyoming's workforce in 2018. *Wyoming Labor Force Trends, 56*(8). Retrieved November 21, 2019, from https://doe.state.wy.us/LMI/trends/0819/0819.pdf

Table 3: Top 10 Most Frequently Occurring Occupations Requiring More than a High School Diploma for Older New Hires Ages 55+ in Wyoming, 2017

SOC[a] Code	Occupation	Educational Requirement[b]	Total	Ages 55+ N	Ages 55+ Row %
00-0000	**Total All Occupations**	N/A	88,561	8,301	9.4
53-3032	Truck Drivers, Heavy & Tractor-Trailer	Postsecondary Certificate	2,956	627	21.2
11-1021	General & Operations Managers	Bachelor's Degree	1,341	209	15.5
29-1141	Registered Nurses	Bachelor's Degree	846	206	24.3
25-3098	Substitute Teachers	Bachelor's Degree	337	59	17.4
31-1014	Nursing Assistants	Postsecondary Certificate	517	47	9.1
21-1021	Child, Family, & School Social Workers	Bachelor's Degree	136	44	32.5
25-9041	Teacher Assistants	Some College, No Degree	515	44	8.5
11-1011	Chief Executives	Bachelor's Degree	218	35	15.9
31-9092	Medical Assistants	Postsecondary Certificate	293	34	11.6
29-1021	Dentists, General	Doctoral or Professional	125	31	25.0

[a]Standard Occupational Classification.
[b]Typical education required to enter the occupation as identified by O*Net.
Source: Wyoming New Hires Job Skills Survey.
Prepared by M. Moore, Research & Planning, WY DWS, 11/21/19.

Table 4: Occupations in Which Older New Hires Ages 55+ Made Up at Least 1 in 4 Total New Hires in Wyoming, 2017

SOC[a] Code	Occupation	Educational Requirement[b]	Total	Ages 55+ N	Ages 55+ Row %
43-9021	Data Entry Keyers	High School Diploma or Equivalent	107	48	44.7
53-3041	Taxi Drivers & Chauffeurs	No Formal Requirement	141	55	39.4
21-1021	Child, Family, & School Social Workers	Bachelor's Degree	136	44	32.5
43-4121	Library Assistants, Clerical	High School Diploma or Equivalent	59	19	32.3
29-2061	Licensed Practical & Licensed Vocational Nurses	Postsecondary Certificate	110	31	28.6
53-7032	Excavating & Loading Machine & Dragline Operators	High School Diploma or Equivalent	71	19	27.0
43-6011	Executive Secretaries & Admin. Assistants	High School Diploma or Equivalent	51	13	26.1
53-3022	Bus Drivers, School	High School Diploma or Equivalent	168	44	26.1
53-6031	Service Station Attendants	No Formal Requirement	240	60	25.2
29-1021	Dentists, General	Doctoral or Professional Degree	125	31	25.0

[a]Standard Occupational Classification.
[b]Typical education required to enter the occupation as identified by O*Net.
Source: Wyoming New Hires Job Skills Survey.
Prepared by M. Moore, Research & Planning, WY DWS, 11/21/19.

What do Housing Vacancy Data Say about Wyoming's Economy?
by: David Bullard, Senior Economist

Many different economic indicators are published regularly in *Wyoming Labor Force Trends*. These include employment, unemployment, wages, building permits, turnover rates, and various demographic data on Wyoming residents. This article introduces a quarterly data series for Wyoming published by the U.S. Census Bureau. For many years, the Census Bureau has collected and published housing vacancy estimates for the U.S. and all 50 states. Separate series are available for homeowner housing units and rental units. Annual state level data were published from 1986 to 2004, and quarterly data are available from 2005 to third quarter 2019. Unlike state population data, which are only published

annually, housing vacancy data are available every quarter, and with only a relatively short time lag (i.e., third quarter 2019 data were published on October 29, 2019).

Figure 1 shows the vacancy rate for homeowner units in Wyoming and the U.S. The homeowner vacancy rate is defined as "the proportion of the homeowner inventory that is vacant for sale" (U.S. Census Bureau, 2019). From 1986 to 2019, Wyoming's vacancy rate ranged from highs of 3.3% in 1986 and in first quarter 2018 to a low of 0.8% in fourth quarter 2011. The U.S. vacancy rate peaked at 2.9% in the first and fourth quarters of 2008 and then gradually decreased to 1.3% in second quarter 2019.
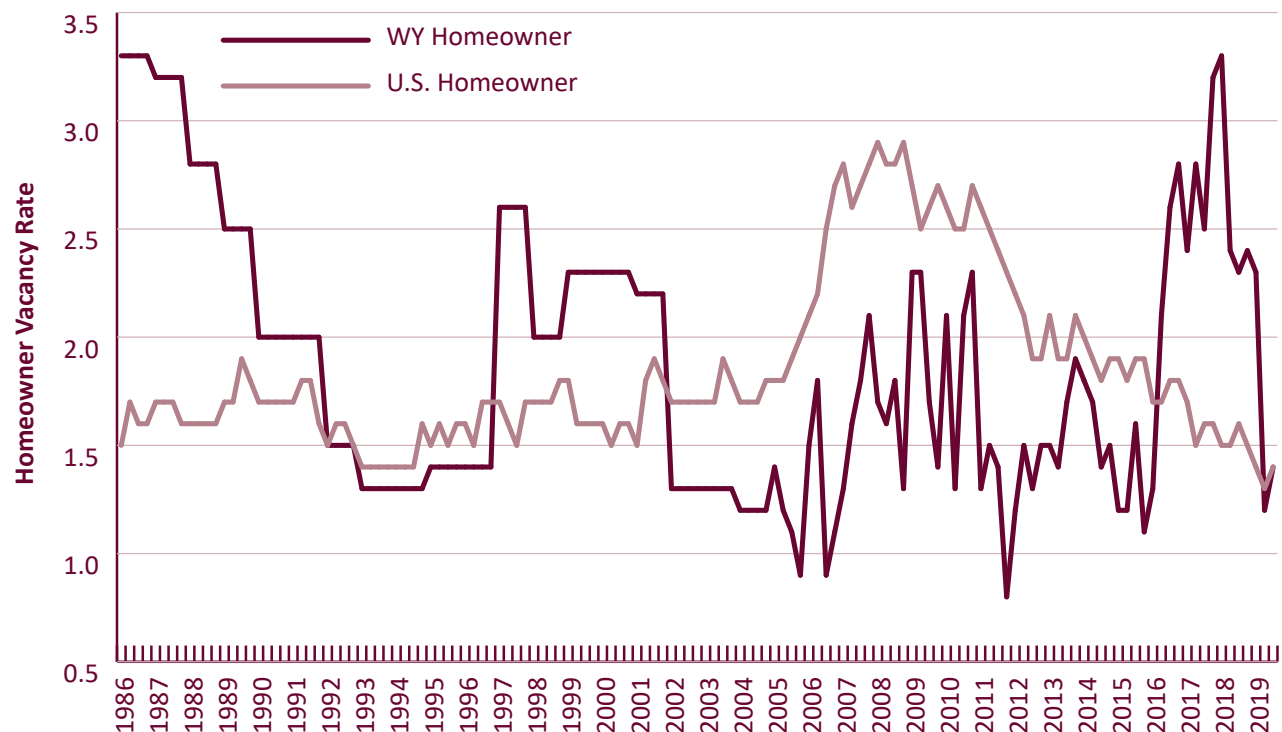
Source: U.S. Census Bureau
Prepared by D. Bullard, Research & Planning, WY DWS, 11/05/2019.

Figure 1: Homeowner Vacancy Rates for the U.S. and Wyoming, 1986Q1-2019Q3

Interestingly, Wyoming's vacancy rate was lower than the U.S. rate from 2002 to first quarter 2016 and then increased sharply. The sharp increase is likely related to the economic downturn in Wyoming which lasted from first quarter 2015 to fourth quarter 2016 (Moore, 2019). It appears that the vacancy rate might be a lagging indicator as Wyoming's economic downturn began in early 2015, but the vacancy rate did not start increasing until about a year later in 2016.

Rental vacancy rates in Wyoming and the U.S. are shown in Figure 2. Comparing Figure 1 and Figure 2 reveals that rental vacancy rates are much higher than homeowner vacancy rates. The rental vacancy rate in Wyoming ranges from a low of 3.3% in first quarter 2008 to highs of 16.8% in 1987 and in fourth quarter 2017.

The U.S. vacancy rate is more stable than the Wyoming rate. It ranged from a low of 6.6% in fourth quarter 2018 to a high of 11.1% in third quarter 2009. The most recent data indicate that the U.S. rental vacancy rate was 6.8% in third quarter 2019, which is very near its low of 6.6%. Wyoming's rental vacancy rate in third quarter 2019 was 7.4%, which is its lowest level since first quarter 2014, but was still much higher than its record low of 3.3%. The fact that Wyoming's vacancy rates vary so much more than U.S. rates might reflect the large amount of migration that occurs across the business cycle in Wyoming. In other words, when people move to Wyoming, the vacancy rate likely decreases, and when people move away, it likely increases.

Figure 3 (see page 12) compares
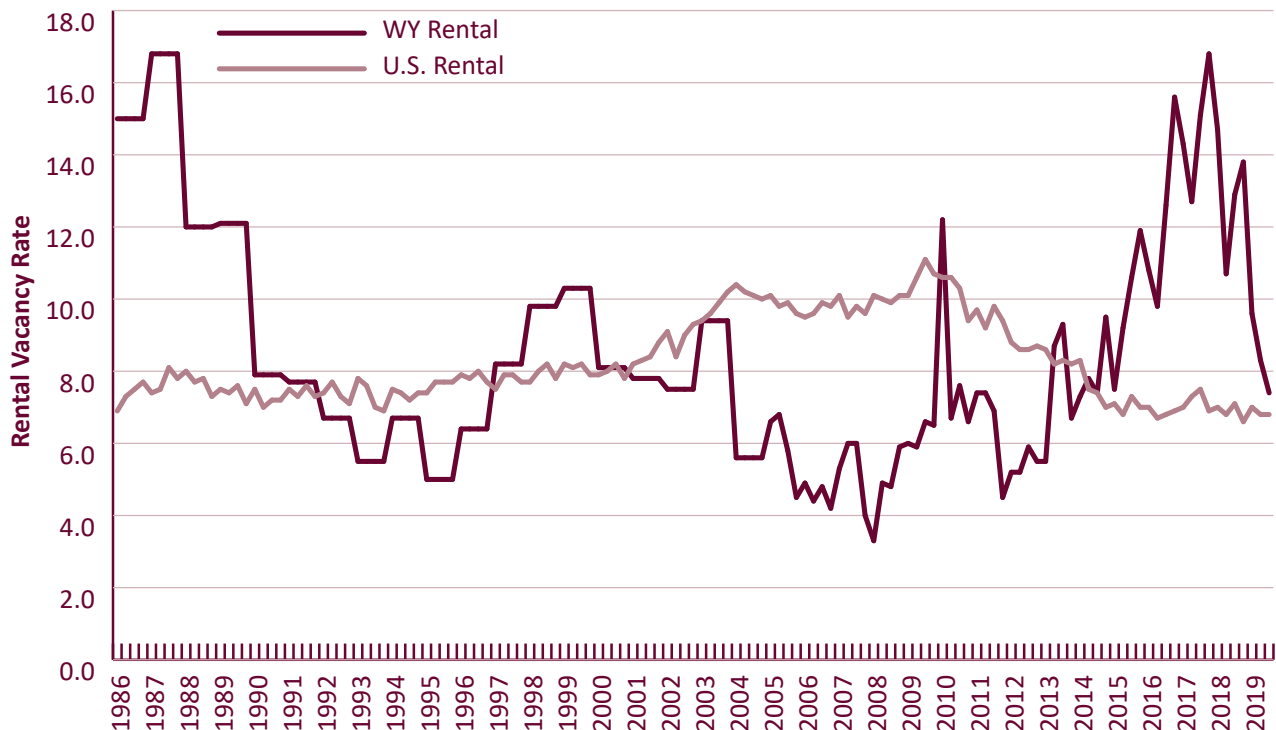
Source: U.S. Census Bureau
Prepared by D. Bullard, Research & Planning, WY DWS, 11/05/2019.

Figure 2: Rental Vacancy Rates for the U.S. and Wyoming, 1986Q1-2019Q3

Wyoming's unemployment rate and the state's rental vacancy rate. While the unemployment rate is a measure of slack in the labor market, or underutilized labor resources, the vacancy rate can be viewed as a similar measure of underutilized resources in the housing market. When jobs are plentiful, such as in 2006-2008, the rental vacancy rate tends to be low. However, when jobs are scarce and unemployment is high, the vacancy rate is also high.

In summary, Wyoming's rental vacancy rate has tended to move with the state's unemployment rate. This may be related to the transient nature of the state's labor force, with individuals moving to Wyoming when jobs are abundant and leaving when jobs are scarce. Because they are available on a quarterly basis, and published shortly

after the end of the quarter, housing vacancy rates are valuable economic indicators for the state.

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U.S. Census Bureau. (2019, October). Quarterly Residential Vacancies and Homeownership, Third Quarter 2019. Retrieved November 4, 2019 from https:// www.census.gov/housing/hvs/files/ currenthvspress.pdf
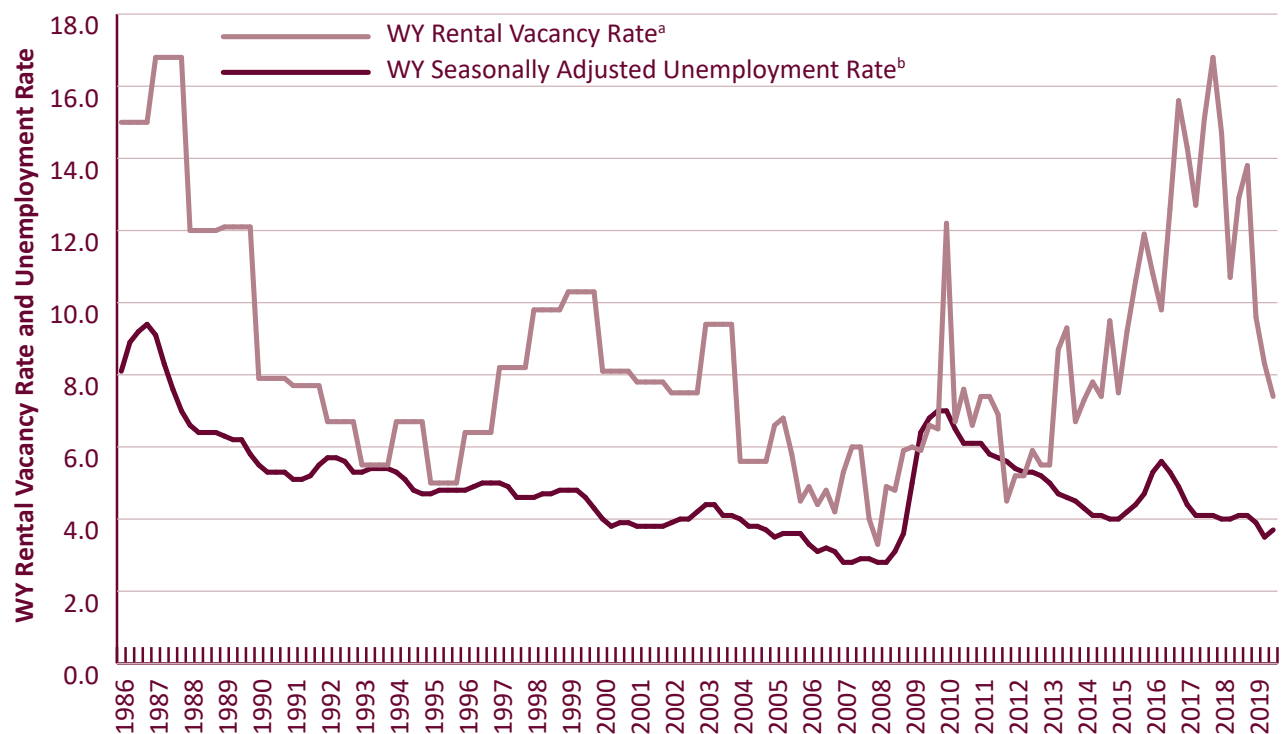
[a]Source: U.S. Census Bureau.
[b]Source: Local Area Unemployment Statistics.
Prepared by D. Bullard, Research & Planning, WY DWS, 11/05/2019.

Figure 3: Wyoming Rental Vacancy Rates Seasonally Adjusted Unemployment Rate, 1986Q1-2019Q3

Wyoming Unemployment Rises to 3.8% in September 2019

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 increased from 3.7% in August to 3.8% in September. It remained lower than its September 2018 level of 4.2%, but was slightly higher than the current U.S. unemployment rate of 3.5%. Wyoming's labor force (the sum of all employed and unemployed individuals) was essentially unchanged from a year earlier (a decrease of 75 individuals or 0.0%).

Most county unemployment rates followed their normal seasonal pattern and fell from August to September. The largest decreases occurred in Campbell County, where unemployment fell from 4.5% to 3.9%; Platte County, where unemployment fell from 3.6% to 3.1%; Goshen County, where unemployment fell from 3.7% to 3.4%; and Crook County, where

unemployment fell from 3.1% to 2.8%.

From September 2018 to September 2019, unemployment fell in almost every county. Large decreases were seen in Uinta (down from 4.2% to 3.5%), Natrona (down from 4.4% to 3.7%), Weston (down from 3.3% to 2.7%), Sweetwater (down from 4.0% to 3.4%), Niobrara (down from 3.1% to 2.5%), Fremont (down from 4.5% to 3.9%), and Converse (down from 3.4% to 2.8%) counties. Goshen County's jobless rate rose from 3.0% in September 2018 to 3.4% in September 2019.

The highest unemployment rates occurred in Campbell and Fremont counties (both at 3.9%). The lowest rates were found in Teton County at 2.0%, Niobrara County at 2.5%, and Weston County at 2.7%.

Total nonfarm employment in Wyoming (not seasonally adjusted and measured by place of work) increased from 291,400 in September 2018 to 294,100 in September 2019, a gain of 2,700 jobs (0.9%).

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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.

Seasonally Adjusted Unemployment Rate

(r) Revised.
(p) Preliminary.
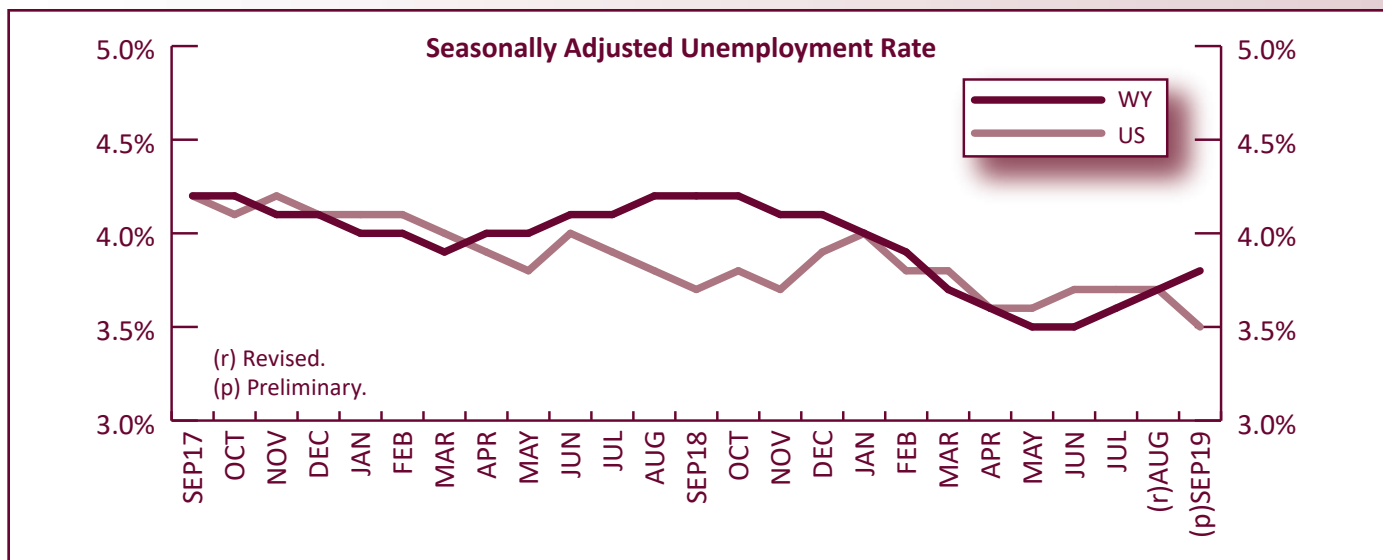
Current Employment Statistics (CES) Estimates and Research & Planning's Internal Esimates, September 2019
by: David Bullard, Senior Economist

Industry Sector	Research & Planning's Internal Estimates	Current Employment Statistics (CES) Estimates	N Difference	% Difference
Total Nonfarm	**296,750**	**294,100**	**-2,650**	**-0.9%**
Natural Resources & Mining	20,896	19,700	-1,196	-6.1%
Construction	24,648	22,300	-2,348	-10.5%
Manufacturing	10,278	10,100	-178	-1.8%
Wholesale Trade	8,570	8,400	-170	-2.0%
Retail Trade	29,598	30,700	1,102	3.6%
Transportation & Utilities	14,882	15,000	118	0.8%
Information	3,435	3,500	65	1.9%
Financial Activities	11,249	11,100	-149	-1.3%
Professional & Business Services	19,666	18,900	-766	-4.1%
Educational & Health Services	28,787	27,500	-1,287	-4.7%
Leisure & Hospitality	39,640	39,800	160	0.4%
Other Services	16,315	17,300	985	5.7%
Government	68,786	69,800	1,014	1.5%

Internal Estimates were run in August 2019 and based on QCEW data through March 2019.

Nonagricultural Employment Growth (Percentage Change Over Previous Year)
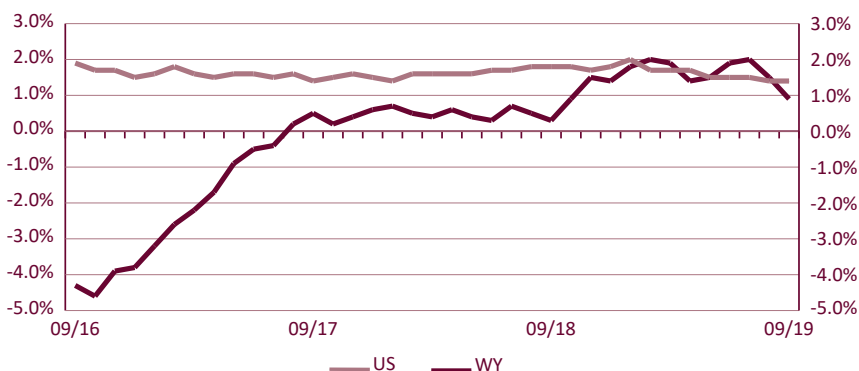
Wyoming Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment
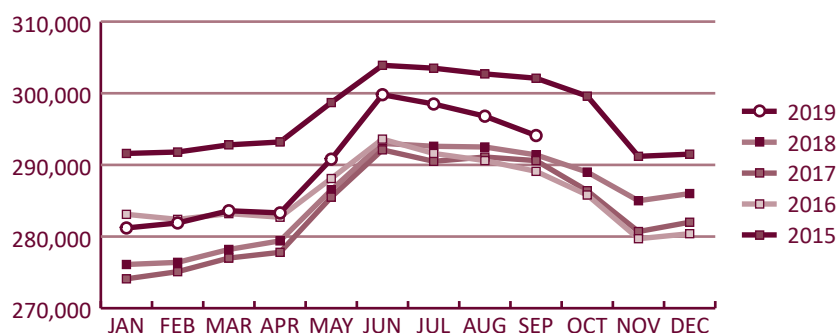
State Unemployment Rates September 2019 (Seasonally Adjusted)

State	Unemp. Rate
Puerto Rico	7.6
Alaska	6.2
District of Columbia	5.4
Mississippi	5.4
Arizona	4.9
New Mexico	4.9
West Virginia	4.7
Washington	4.6
Kentucky	4.4
Louisiana	4.3
Michigan	4.2
Ohio	4.2
Nevada	4.1
North Carolina	4.1
Oregon	4.1
California	4.0
Pennsylvania	4.0
Illinois	3.9
New York	3.9
Wyoming	**3.8**
Maryland	3.7
Connecticut	3.6
Rhode Island	3.6
Arkansas	3.5
Delaware	3.5
Georgia	3.5
United States	**3.5**
Tennessee	3.4
Texas	3.4
Montana	3.3
Florida	3.2
Indiana	3.2
Kansas	3.2
Minnesota	3.2
Oklahoma	3.2
Wisconsin	3.2
Missouri	3.1
Nebraska	3.1
New Jersey	3.1
Alabama	3.0
South Dakota	3.0
Idaho	2.9
Maine	2.9
Massachusetts	2.9
South Carolina	2.9
Colorado	2.7
Hawaii	2.7
Utah	2.7
Virginia	2.7
Iowa	2.5
New Hampshire	2.5
North Dakota	2.5
Vermont	2.1

Wyoming Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment
by: David Bullard, Senior Economist

	Employment in Thousands			% Change Total Employment	
	Sep 19	Aug 19	Sep 18	Sep 19 Aug 19	Sep 19 Sep 18
CAMPBELL COUNTY					
TOTAL NONAG. WAGE & SALARY EMPLOYMENT	**25.4**	**25.6**	**25.5**	**-0.8**	**-0.4**
TOTAL PRIVATE	**20.3**	**20.6**	**20.4**	**-1.5**	**-0.5**
GOODS PRODUCING	**8.1**	**8.1**	**8.4**	**0.0**	**-3.6**
Natural Resources & Mining	5.4	5.4	5.9	0.0	-8.5
Construction	2.2	2.2	2.0	0.0	10.0
Manufacturing	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.0	0.0
SERVICE PROVIDING	**17.3**	**17.5**	**17.1**	**-1.1**	**1.2**
Trade, Transportation, & Utilities	5.4	5.5	5.2	-1.8	3.8
Information	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.0	0.0
Financial Activities	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.0	0.0
Professional & Business Services	1.6	1.7	1.6	-5.9	0.0
Educational & Health Services	1.1	1.1	1.1	0.0	0.0
Leisure & Hospitality	2.3	2.4	2.3	-4.2	0.0
Other Services	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.0	0.0
GOVERNMENT	**5.1**	**5.0**	**5.1**	**2.0**	**0.0**

	Employment in Thousands			% Change Total Employment	
	Sep 19	Aug 19	Sep 18	Sep 19 Aug 19	Sep 19 Sep 18
SWEETWATER COUNTY					
TOTAL NONAG. WAGE & SALARY EMPLOYMENT	**23.5**	**23.8**	**23.0**	**-1.3**	**2.2**
TOTAL PRIVATE	**18.9**	**19.3**	**18.3**	**-2.1**	**3.3**
GOODS PRODUCING	**7.9**	**7.9**	**7.2**	**0.0**	**9.7**
Natural Resources & Mining	4.7	4.7	4.5	0.0	4.4
Construction	1.9	1.8	1.4	5.6	35.7
Manufacturing	1.3	1.4	1.3	-7.1	0.0
SERVICE PROVIDING	**15.6**	**15.9**	**15.8**	**-1.9**	**-1.3**
Trade, Transportation, & Utilities	4.6	4.6	4.6	0.0	0.0
Information	0.1	0.2	0.2	-50.0	-50.0
Financial Activities	0.6	0.7	0.7	-14.3	-14.3
Professional & Business Services	1.2	1.2	1.2	0.0	0.0
Educational & Health Services	1.4	1.4	1.3	0.0	7.7
Leisure & Hospitality	2.5	2.6	2.5	-3.8	0.0
Other Services	0.6	0.7	0.6	-14.3	0.0
GOVERNMENT	**4.6**	**4.5**	**4.7**	**2.2**	**-2.1**

	Employment in Thousands			% Change Total Employment	
	Sep 19	Aug 19	Sep 18	Sep 19 Aug 19	Sep 19 Sep 18
TETON COUNTY					
TOTAL NONAG. WAGE & SALARY EMPLOYMENT	**23.1**	**25.0**	**22.6**	**-7.6**	**2.2**
TOTAL PRIVATE	**20.4**	**22.5**	**19.9**	**-9.3**	**2.5**
GOODS PRODUCING	**2.5**	**2.5**	**2.3**	**0.0**	**8.7**
Natural Resources, Mining & Construction	2.3	2.3	2.1	0.0	9.5
Manufacturing	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.0	0.0
SERVICE PROVIDING	**20.6**	**22.5**	**20.3**	**-8.4**	**1.5**
Trade, Transportation, & Utilities	3.2	3.5	3.2	-8.6	0.0
Information	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.0	0.0
Financial Activities	1.1	1.2	1.1	-8.3	0.0
Professional & Business Services	2.1	2.2	2.1	-4.5	0.0
Educational & Health Services	1.2	1.3	1.2	-7.7	0.0
Leisure & Hospitality	9.5	11.0	9.2	-13.6	3.3
Other Services	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.0	0.0
GOVERNMENT	**2.7**	**2.5**	**2.7**	**8.0**	**0.0**

State Unemployment Rates September 2019 (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

State	Unemp. Rate
Puerto Rico	8.2
Alaska	5.6
Mississippi	5.6
District of Columbia	5.3
Arizona	4.5
Louisiana	4.5
New Mexico	4.5
Washington	4.2
West Virginia	4.2
Ohio	4.1
Oregon	3.9
Pennsylvania	3.9
Delaware	3.8
Kentucky	3.8
Nevada	3.8
Michigan	3.7
New York	3.7
Illinois	3.6
California	3.5
North Carolina	3.5
Arkansas	3.4
Connecticut	3.4
Maryland	3.4
Rhode Island	3.3
Texas	3.3
United States	**3.3**
Wyoming	**3.3**
New Jersey	3.2
Georgia	3.1
Oklahoma	3.1
Tennessee	3.1
Florida	3.0
Montana	3.0
Massachusetts	2.9
Nebraska	2.9
Wisconsin	2.9
Hawaii	2.8
Indiana	2.8
Kansas	2.8
South Dakota	2.7
Alabama	2.5
Minnesota	2.5
Virginia	2.5
Missouri	2.4
Idaho	2.3
Maine	2.3
New Hampshire	2.3
Colorado	2.2
Iowa	2.2
Vermont	2.2
Utah	2.0
North Dakota	1.9
South Carolina	1.8

Economic Indicators

by: David Bullard, Senior Economist

*The number of discouraged workers in the U.S. fell by 16.2% from September 2018 to September 2019.*

	Sep 2019 (p)	Aug 2019 (r)	Sep 2018 (b)	Percent Change Month	Year
Wyoming Total Nonfarm Employment	**294,100**	**296,800**	**291,400**	**-0.9**	**0.9**
Wyoming State Government	14,700	13,900	15,000	5.8	-2.0
Laramie County Nonfarm Employment	47,400	47,800	47,000	-0.8	0.9
Natrona County Nonfarm Employment	39,900	39,900	39,200	0.0	1.8
Selected U.S. Employment Data					
U.S. Multiple Jobholders	8,331,000	8,038,000	7,670,000	3.6	8.6
As a percent of all workers	5.3%	5.1%	4.9%	N/A	N/A
U.S. Discouraged Workers	321,000	467,000	383,000	-31.3	-16.2
U.S. Part Time for Economic Reasons	3,992,000	4,316,000	4,306,000	-7.5	-7.3
Wyoming Unemployment Insurance					
Weeks Compensated	5,749	6,827	5,144	-15.8	11.8
Benefits Paid	$2,359,123	$2,704,304	$1,934,852	-12.8	21.9
Average Weekly Benefit Payment	$410.35	$396.12	$376.14	3.6	9.1
State Insured Covered Jobs[1]	269,344	268,360	265,855	0.4	1.3
Consumer Price Index (U) for All U.S. Urban Consumers					
(1982 to 1984 = 100)					
All Items	256.8	256.6	252.4	0.1	1.7
Food & Beverages	258.6	258.2	254.2	0.2	1.8
Housing	267.8	267.3	259.9	0.2	3.0
Apparel	127.0	123.6	127.4	2.7	-0.3
Transportation	209.4	211.1	212.4	-0.8	-1.4
Medical Care	501.5	500.9	484.7	0.1	3.5
Recreation (Dec. 1997=100)	120.4	120.5	119.2	-0.1	1.0
Education & Communication (Dec. 1997=100)	138.4	138.2	137.9	0.2	0.4
Other Goods & Services	453.2	453.1	443.4	0.0	2.2
Producer Prices (1982 to 1984 = 100)					
All Commodities	198.2	199.3	203.6	-0.6	-2.7
Wyo. Bldg. Permits (New Privately Owned Housing Units Authorized)					
Total Units	163	183	139	-10.9	17.3
Valuation	$46,696,000	$51,380,000	$30,235,000	-9.1	54.4
Single Family Homes	123	159	114	-22.6	7.9
Valuation	$42,191,000	$48,480,000	$27,340,000	-13.0	54.3
Casper MSA[2] Building Permits	18	19	10	-5.3	80.0
Valuation	$2,405,000	$2,783,000	$1,208,000	-13.6	99.1
Cheyenne MSA Building Permits	62	56	55	10.7	12.7
Valuation	$9,335,000	$9,731,000	$9,151,000	-4.1	2.0
Baker Hughes North American Rotary Rig Count for Wyoming	35	36	30	-2.8	16.7

(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 https://www.bls.gov/eag/eag.wy.htm.

Baker Hughes North American Rotary Rig Count for Wyoming
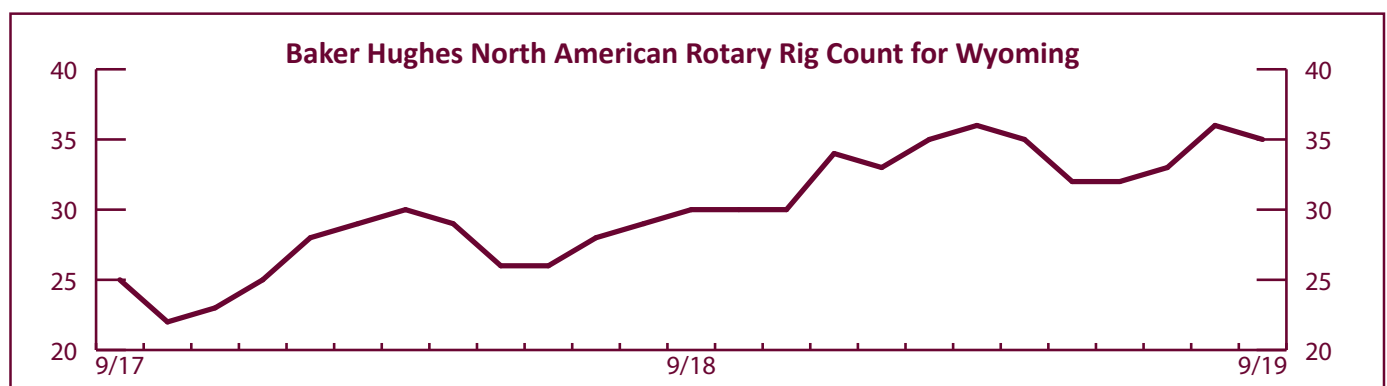
Wyoming County Unemployment Rates
by: Carola Cowan, BLS Programs Supervisor

In September 2019, the lowest unemployment rates were found in Teton County at 2.0%, Niobrara County at 2.5%, and Weston County at 2.7%.

REGION County	Labor Force Sep 2019 (p)	Labor Force Aug 2019 (r)	Labor Force Sep 2018 (b)	Employed Sep 2019 (p)	Employed Aug 2019 (r)	Employed Sep 2018 (b)	Unemployed Sep 2019 (p)	Unemployed Aug 2019 (r)	Unemployed Sep 2018 (b)	Unemployment Rates Sep 2019 (p)	Unemployment Rates Aug 2019 (r)	Unemployment Rates Sep 2018 (b)
NORTHWEST	**46,195**	**46,238**	**46,679**	**44,515**	**44,505**	**44,845**	**1,680**	**1,733**	**1,834**	**3.6**	**3.7**	**3.9**
Big Horn	5,333	5,246	5,407	5,131	5,039	5,197	202	207	210	3.8	3.9	3.9
Fremont	18,736	18,374	18,799	17,998	17,613	17,958	738	761	841	3.9	4.1	4.5
Hot Springs	2,222	2,225	2,173	2,148	2,148	2,102	74	77	71	3.3	3.5	3.3
Park	15,912	16,471	16,250	15,379	15,922	15,681	533	549	569	3.3	3.3	3.5
Washakie	3,992	3,922	4,050	3,859	3,783	3,907	133	139	143	3.3	3.5	3.5
NORTHEAST	**50,339**	**50,349**	**49,949**	**48,657**	**48,481**	**48,133**	**1,682**	**1,868**	**1,816**	**3.3**	**3.7**	**3.6**
Campbell	22,611	22,965	22,360	21,731	21,930	21,467	880	1,035	893	3.9	4.5	4.0
Crook	3,818	3,774	3,881	3,713	3,658	3,769	105	116	112	2.8	3.1	2.9
Johnson	4,287	4,274	4,378	4,163	4,145	4,231	124	129	147	2.9	3.0	3.4
Sheridan	15,863	15,680	15,553	15,390	15,194	15,014	473	486	539	3.0	3.1	3.5
Weston	3,760	3,656	3,777	3,660	3,554	3,652	100	102	125	2.7	2.8	3.3
SOUTHWEST	**60,455**	**61,460**	**59,026**	**58,649**	**59,608**	**57,008**	**1,806**	**1,852**	**2,018**	**3.0**	**3.0**	**3.4**
Lincoln	9,126	9,047	8,859	8,863	8,786	8,574	263	261	285	2.9	2.9	3.2
Sublette	4,290	4,273	4,447	4,131	4,107	4,278	159	166	169	3.7	3.9	3.8
Sweetwater	21,255	21,368	20,751	20,533	20,618	19,918	722	750	833	3.4	3.5	4.0
Teton	16,414	17,463	16,131	16,081	17,122	15,770	333	341	361	2.0	2.0	2.2
Uinta	9,370	9,309	8,838	9,041	8,975	8,468	329	334	370	3.5	3.6	4.2
SOUTHEAST	**80,082**	**79,050**	**79,910**	**77,457**	**76,313**	**77,114**	**2,625**	**2,737**	**2,796**	**3.3**	**3.5**	**3.5**
Albany	19,655	18,467	20,096	19,059	17,870	19,441	596	597	655	3.0	3.2	3.3
Goshen	6,760	6,600	6,919	6,530	6,353	6,711	230	247	208	3.4	3.7	3.0
Laramie	47,426	47,944	46,795	45,810	46,256	45,063	1,616	1,688	1,732	3.4	3.5	3.7
Niobrara	1,299	1,244	1,344	1,267	1,212	1,303	32	32	41	2.5	2.6	3.1
Platte	4,942	4,795	4,756	4,791	4,622	4,596	151	173	160	3.1	3.6	3.4
CENTRAL	**55,352**	**55,353**	**54,068**	**53,426**	**53,406**	**51,838**	**1,926**	**1,947**	**2,230**	**3.5**	**3.5**	**4.1**
Carbon	8,071	8,023	7,996	7,838	7,800	7,736	233	223	260	2.9	2.8	3.3
Converse	8,296	8,238	7,707	8,061	8,008	7,443	235	230	264	2.8	2.8	3.4
Natrona	38,985	39,092	38,365	37,527	37,598	36,659	1,458	1,494	1,706	3.7	3.8	4.4
STATEWIDE	**292,419**	**292,452**	**289,631**	**282,703**	**282,314**	**278,938**	**9,716**	**10,138**	**10,693**	**3.3**	**3.5**	**3.7**
Statewide Seasonally Adjusted										3.8	3.7	4.2
U.S.										3.3	3.8	3.6
U.S. Seasonally Adjusted										3.5	3.7	3.7

Prepared in cooperation with the Bureau of Labor Statistics. Benchmarked 03/2019 Run Date 10/2019.

Data are not seasonally adjusted except where otherwise specified.

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

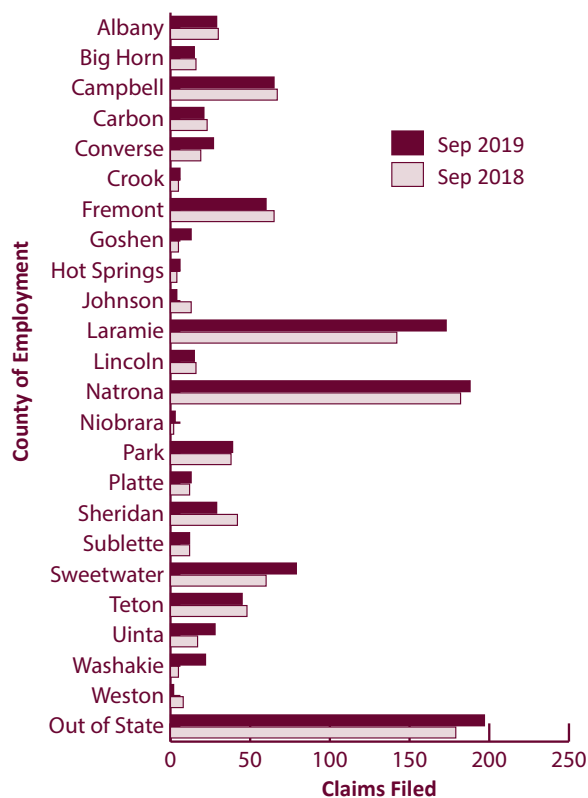# Wyoming Normalizedª Unemployment Insurance Statistics: Initial Claims

by: Sherry Wen, Principal Economist

The number of initial claims in Wyoming in September 2019 increased by 82 claims (8.1%) compared to September 2018.

Initial Unemployment Insurance Claims by Industry, September 2019
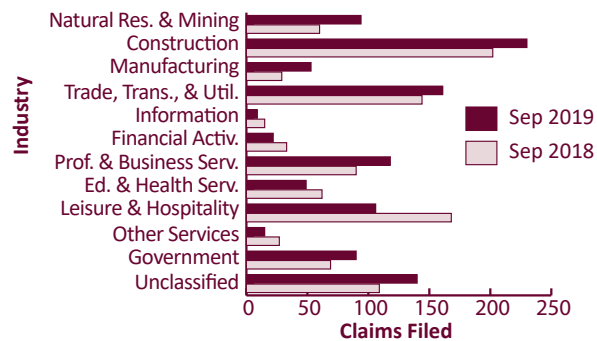
Initial Unemployment Insurance Claims by County, September 2019

Initial Claims	Claims Filed			Percent Change Claims Filed	
				Sep 19	Sep 19
	Sep 19	Aug 19	Sep 18	Aug 19	Sep 18
Wyoming Statewide					
TOTAL CLAIMS FILED	**1,097**	**943**	**1,015**	**16.3**	**8.1**
TOTAL GOODS-PRODUCING	378	315	293	20.0	29.0
Natural Res. & Mining	94	75	60	25.3	56.7
Mining	85	72	51	18.1	66.7
Oil & Gas Extraction	2	2	9	0.0	-77.8
Construction	230	201	202	14.4	13.9
Manufacturing	53	37	29	43.2	82.8
TOTAL SERVICE-PROVIDING	487	427	543	14.1	-10.3
Trade, Transp., & Utilities	161	133	144	21.1	11.8
Wholesale Trade	30	27	23	11.1	30.4
Retail Trade	80	64	79	25.0	1.3
Transp., Warehousing & Utilities	51	42	42	21.4	21.4
Information	9	9	15	0.0	-40.0
Financial Activities	22	25	33	-12.0	-33.3
Prof. and Business Svcs.	118	104	90	13.5	31.1
Educational & Health Svcs.	49	60	62	-18.3	-21.0
Leisure & Hospitality	106	76	168	39.5	-36.9
Other Svcs., exc. Public Admin.	15	15	27	0.0	-44.4
TOTAL GOVERNMENT	90	61	69	47.5	30.4
Federal Government	20	8	17	150.0	17.6
State Government	9	9	11	0.0	-18.2
Local Government	60	43	40	39.5	50.0
Local Education	11	8	10	37.5	10.0
UNCLASSIFIED	140	139	109	0.7	28.4
Laramie County					
TOTAL CLAIMS FILED	**173**	**191**	**141**	**-9.4**	**22.7**
TOTAL GOODS-PRODUCING	44	45	38	-2.2	15.8
Construction	37	37	36	0.0	2.8
TOTAL SERVICE-PROVIDING	92	114	81	-19.3	13.6
Trade, Transp., & Utilities	17	26	28	-34.6	-39.3
Financial Activities	5	4	1	25.0	400.0
Prof. & Business Svcs.	40	49	20	-18.4	100.0
Educational & Health Svcs.	7	8	9	-12.5	-22.2
Leisure & Hospitality	8	14	9	-42.9	-11.1
TOTAL GOVERNMENT	12	10	6	20.0	100.0
UNCLASSIFIED	23	20	15	15.0	53.3
Natrona County					
TOTAL CLAIMS FILED	**188**	**140**	**181**	**34.3**	**3.9**
TOTAL GOODS-PRODUCING	83	51	66	62.7	25.8
Construction	48	33	47	45.5	2.1
TOTAL SERVICE-PROVIDING	85	72	103	18.1	-17.5
Trade, Transp., & Utilities	28	25	23	12.0	21.7
Financial Activities	4	4	8	0.0	-50.0
Prof. & Business Svcs.	19	8	16	137.5	18.8
Educational & Health Svcs.	10	20	20	-50.0	-50.0
Leisure & Hospitality	10	8	18	25.0	-44.4
TOTAL GOVERNMENT	5	3	2	66.7	150.0
UNCLASSIFIED	14	12	9	16.7	55.6

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

Wyoming Normalized[a] Unemployment Insurance Statistics: Continued Claims
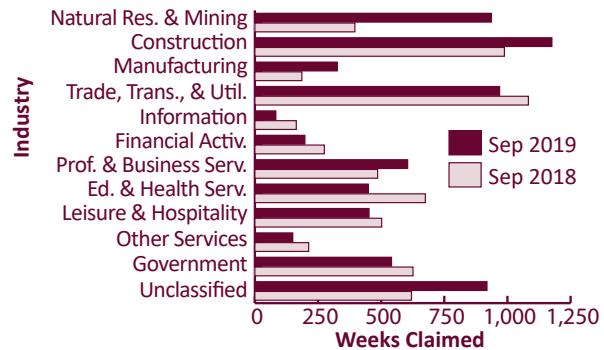## by: Sherry Wen, Principal Economist

Campbell County had the largest over-the-year increase in continued weeks claimed at 238 weeks (45.2%).
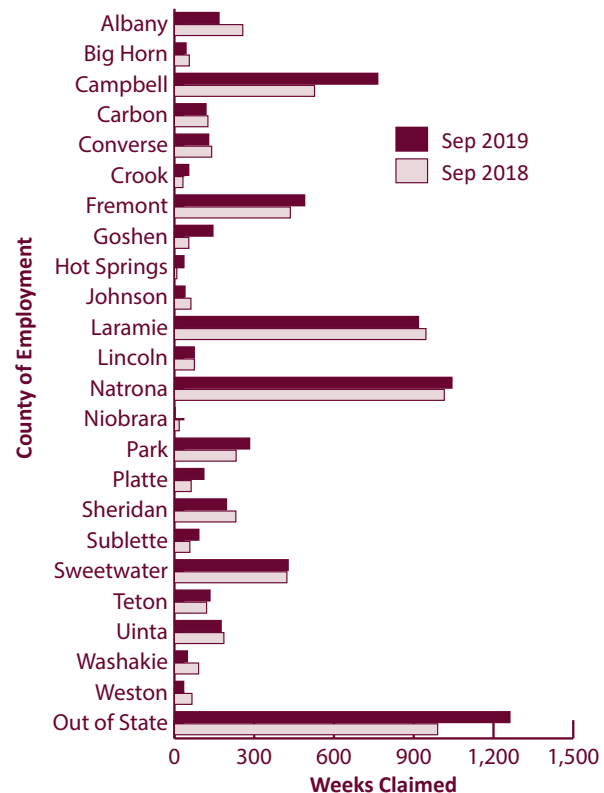
Continued Claims	Claims Filed			Percent Change Claims Filed	
	Sep 19	Aug 19	Sep 18	Sep 19 Aug 19	Sep 19 Sep 18
Wyoming Statewide					
TOTAL WEEKS CLAIMED	6,814	7,837	6,225	-13.1	9.5
TOTAL UNIQUE CLAIMANTS	2,107	2,416	1,877	-12.8	12.3
Benefit Exhaustions	251	296	221	-15.2	13.6
Benefit Exhaustion Rates	11.9%	12.3%	11.8%	-0.3%	0.1%
TOTAL GOODS-PRODUCING	2,441	2,792	1,571	-12.6	55.4
Natural Res. & Mining	936	1,256	396	-25.5	136.4
Mining	887	1,192	358	-25.6	147.8
Oil & Gas Extraction	35	55	32	-36.4	9.4
Construction	1,176	1,179	988	-0.3	19.0
Manufacturing	326	355	186	-8.2	75.3
TOTAL SERVICE-PROVIDING	2,913	3,330	3,406	-12.5	-14.5
Trade, Transp., & Utilities	969	1,040	1,083	-6.8	-10.5
Wholesale Trade	205	241	191	-14.9	7.3
Retail Trade	473	567	604	-16.6	-21.7
Transp., Warehousing & Utilities	291	232	288	25.4	1.0
Information	83	84	164	-1.2	-49.4
Financial Activities	198	190	275	4.2	-28.0
Prof. & Business Services	605	638	486	-5.2	24.5
Educational & Health Svcs.	449	620	675	-27.6	-33.5
Leisure and Hospitality	452	578	502	-21.8	-10.0
Other Svcs., exc. Public Admin.	150	175	213	-14.3	-29.6
TOTAL GOVERNMENT	541	681	626	-20.6	-13.6
Federal Government	47	53	64	-11.3	-26.6
State Government	87	79	114	10.1	-23.7
Local Government	405	549	447	-26.2	-9.4
Local Education	110	139	182	-20.9	-39.6
UNCLASSIFIED	919	1,031	620	-10.9	48.2
Laramie County					
TOTAL WEEKS CLAIMED	917	986	946	-7.0	-3.1
TOTAL UNIQUE CLAIMANTS	289	315	278	-8.3	4.0
TOTAL GOODS-PRODUCING	186	145	153	28.3	21.6
Construction	147	126	119	16.7	23.5
TOTAL SERVICE-PROVIDING	539	634	646	-15.0	-16.6
Trade, Transp., and Utilities	172	179	224	-3.9	-23.2
Financial Activities	55	48	60	14.6	-8.3
Prof. & Business Svcs.	102	165	103	-38.2	-1.0
Educational and Health Svcs.	90	113	105	-20.4	-14.3
Leisure & Hospitality	58	68	59	-14.7	-1.7
TOTAL GOVERNMENT	92	106	102	-13.2	-9.8
UNCLASSIFIED	100	100	43	0.0	132.6
Natrona County					
TOTAL WEEKS CLAIMED	1,043	1,070	1,015	-2.5	2.8
TOTAL UNIQUE CLAIMANTS	321	320	289	0.3	11.1
TOTAL GOODS-PRODUCING	324	264	219	22.7	47.9
Construction	165	136	126	21.3	31.0
TOTAL SERVICE-PROVIDING	578	692	736	-16.5	-21.5
Trade, Transp., and Utilities	200	236	206	-15.3	-2.9
Financial Activities	23	43	48	-46.5	-52.1
Professional & Business Svcs.	107	110	59	-2.7	81.4
Educational & Health Svcs.	126	163	206	-22.7	-38.8
Leisure & Hospitality	62	87	129	-28.7	-51.9
TOTAL GOVERNMENT	42	34	22	23.5	90.9
UNCLASSIFIED	98	79	36	24.1	172.2

[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, September 2019

Continued Unemployment Insurance Claims by County, September 2019

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