

TRENDS

Identifying In-Demand Occupations in Wyoming

by: Michael Moore, Research Supervisor

By setting a minimum of 100 total projected annual openings over the next 10 years and a wage of at least \$21.07, Research & Planning was able to identify 36 in-demand occupations. This article provides employment and wage data for these occupations, along with the education, experience, and training typically required to enter each occupation.

Wyoming is projected to add more than 35,000 new jobs over the next 10 years, with an estimated 380,000 total job openings (Yetter, 2024). But which occupations are projected to see the greatest growth? Which offer wages that will provide a substantial return on investment for policymakers, jobseekers, students, employers, training providers, and career counselors alike? The purpose of this article is to define and identify in-demand occupations in order to benefit Wyoming's stakeholders.

The hierarchal Standard Occupational Classification (SOC) system is used to assign and classify occupations. For example, Box 1 (see page 3) shows the SOC structure for installation, maintenance, & repair occupations,

which has the major group (two-digit) code of 49-0000. Within this major group are four minor groups (three-digit code): supervisors of installation, maintenance, & repair workers (SOC 49-1000); electrical & electronic equipment mechanics, installers, & repairers (SOC 49-2000); vehicle & mobile equipment mechanics, installers, & repairers (SOC 49-3000); and other installation, maintenance, & repair occupations (SOC 49-9000). Within each of those minor groups are detailed occupations (six-digit code); the six detailed occupations listed in Box 1 are all occupations that met the criteria of in-demand occupations for this research.

To identify in-demand occupations

(Text continued on page 3)

HIGHLIGHTS

- The U.S. mining sector has been through some large ups and downs in the past two decades, with each successive employment trough lower than the one before. ... page 9
- The Baker Hughes rig count for Wyoming rose from 14 in August 2024 to 16 in September 2024, a 14.3% increase. ... page 18

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for this article, R&P linked its long-term occupational employment projections for 2022 to 2032 with the average (mean) hourly wage for each occupation based on data from the Occupational Employment and Wage Statistics (OEWS) program. R&P was able to identify nearly 500 detailed occupations using this method, excluding occupations with non-discloseable data from the long-term projections or OEWS.

The occupations identified as *in-demand* in this article met two criteria: at least 100 total projected openings per year from 2022 to 2032, and a mean hourly wage of at least \$21.07. *Total projected openings* from the long-term projections include openings due to *growth* (new jobs), *exits* (individuals leaving the workforce), and *transfers* (individuals changing careers). Exits may include individuals who retired, moved from Wyoming to work in another state, or left the workforce in order to care for a family member. Examples of transfers include individuals who received a promotion or changed careers.

For this article, R&P used \$21.07 as the lowest wage for in-demand occupations. The Massachusetts Institute of Technology identified \$21.07 as a livable wage for one adult with no children living in Wyoming in 2024 (MIT, 2024). According to the MIT research, a livable wage is “what one full-time worker must earn on an hourly basis to help cover the cost of their family’s minimum basic needs where they live while still being self-sufficient.” The formula takes into consideration eight basic needs: food, childcare, health care, housing, transportation, civic engagement, broadband, and other necessities. The methodology used to develop the livable wage calculator is available at <https://livingwage.mit.edu/pages/methodology>.

Figure 1 (see page 4) shows nearly 500 occupations broken up into four groups:

- Low wage, low demand (bottom left)
- High wage, low demand (bottom right)
- Low wage, high demand (upper left)
- High wage, high demand (upper right)

The upper right quadrant identifies 36

Box 1: Sample of the Standard Occupational Classification (SOC) System for Selected Occupations Within Installation, Maintenance, & Repair Occupations (SOC 49-0000)

Level	SOC Code	Title
Major Group (2-Digit)	49-0000	Installation, Maintenance, & Repair Occupations
Minor Group (3-Digit)	49-1000	Supervisors of Installation, Maintenance, & Repair Workers
Detailed Occupation (6-Digit)	49-1011*	First-Line Supervisors of Mechanics, Installers, & Repairers*
Minor Group (3-Digit)	49-2000	Electrical & Electronic Equipment Mechanics, Installers, & Repairers
Minor Group (3-Digit)	49-3000	Vehicle & Mobile Equipment Mechanics, Installers, & Repairers
Detailed Occupation (6-Digit)	49-3023*	Automotive Service Technicians & Mechanics*
Detailed Occupation (6-Digit)	49-3031*	Bus & Truck Mechanics & Diesel Engine Specialists*
Detailed Occupation (6-Digit)	49-3042*	Mobile Heavy Equipment Mechanics, Except Engines*
Minor Group (3-Digit)	49-9000	Other Installation, Maintenance, & Repair Occupations
Detailed Occupation (6-Digit)	49-9041*	Industrial Machinery Mechanics*
Detailed Occupation (6-Digit)	49-9071*	Maintenance & Repair Workers, General*

*Indicates an in-demand occupation as identified in Table 1 (see pages 5-6).

Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Prepared by M. Moore, Research & Planning, WY DWS, 10/8/24.

occupations that met the criteria of high demand (at least 100 total annual openings) and high wages (at least \$21.07 per hour). Those 36 occupations are displayed in Table 1 (see pages 5-6), with the total number of projected openings, average hourly wage, and the education, experience, and training typically required to enter the occupation. Nearly two-thirds (61.5%) of these in-demand occupation required a high school diploma or equivalent, while 28.2% required a bachelor's degree.

Identifying in-demand occupations with lower education requirements, such as a high school diploma or a one-year post-secondary certificate, could be beneficial to employers, training providers, career counselors, and jobseekers. These types of occupations can help meet the needs of employers and jobseekers with relatively little investment, beyond training or a certificate.

(Text continued on page 7)

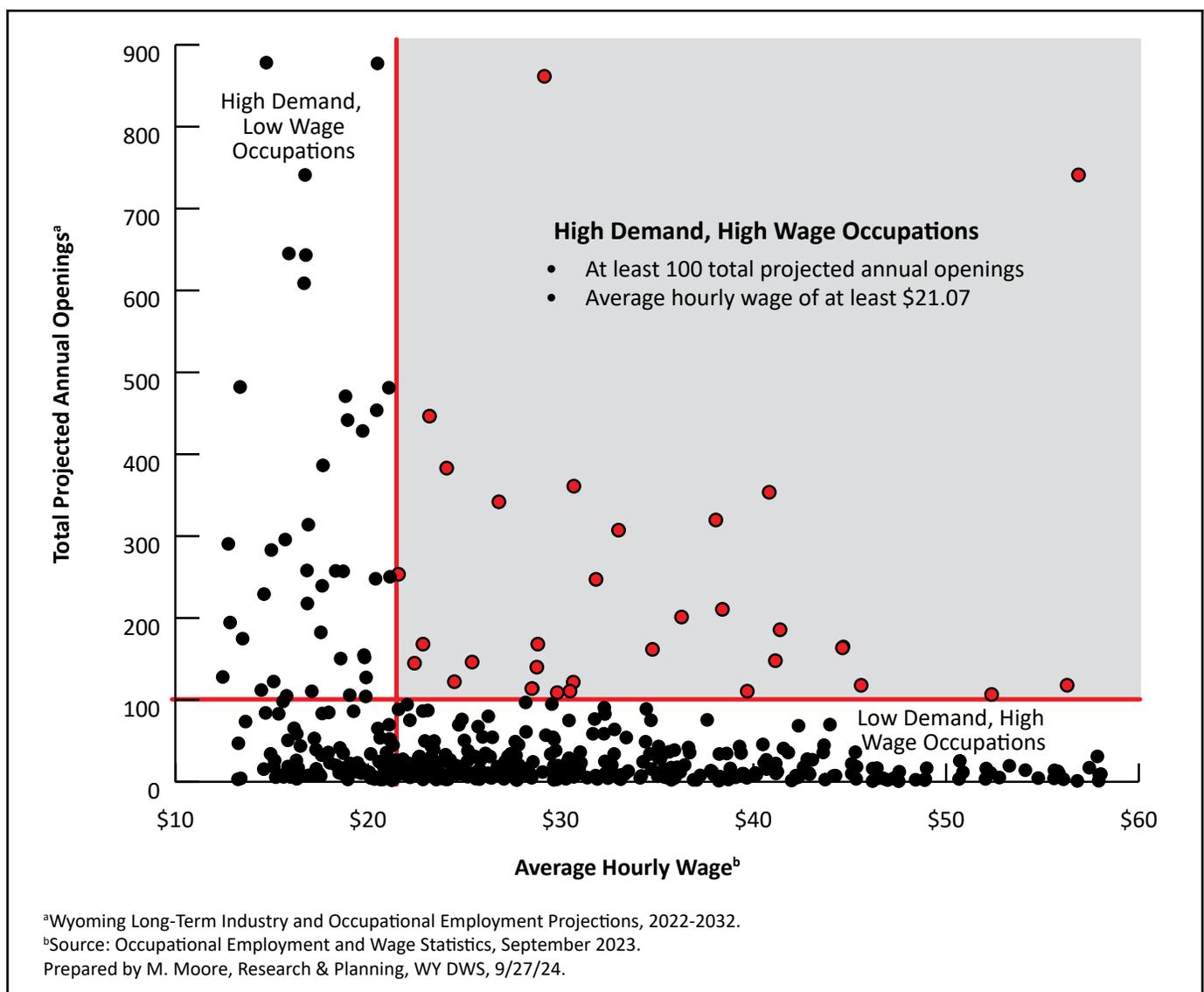


Figure 1: Number of Total Projected Annual Openings per Year, 2022-2032, and Average Hourly Wage, 2023, for Occupations in Wyoming

Table 1: Occupations with at Least 100 Total Annual Projected Openings and a Mean Hourly Wage of at Least \$21.07 in Wyoming

SOC ^c Code	Occupation	Total Projected Annual Openings ^a	Mean Hourly Wage ^b	Typical Requirements to Enter the Occupation		
				Education	Experience	Training
00-0000	Total, All Occupations	37,947	\$28.13			
53-3032	Heavy & Tractor-Trailer Truck Drivers	862	\$29.15	Postsecondary non-degree award	None	Short-term OJT
11-1021	General & Operations Managers	741	\$56.87	Bachelor's degree	5 years or more	None
43-3031	Bookkeeping, Accounting, & Auditing Clerks	481	\$21.08	Some college, no degree	None	Moderate-term OJT
49-9071	Maintenance & Repair Workers, General	447	\$23.19	High school diploma or equivalent	None	Moderate-term OJT
41-1011	First-Line Supervisors of Retail Sales Workers	383	\$24.08	High school diploma or equivalent	Less than 5 years	None
47-2073	Operating Engineers & Other Construc. Equipment Operators	361	\$30.68	High school diploma or equivalent	None	Moderate-term OJT
29-1141	Registered Nurses	354	\$40.82	Bachelor's degree	None	None
47-2031	Carpenters	342	\$26.79	High school diploma or equivalent	None	Apprenticeship
47-1011	First-Line Supervisors of Construction Trades & Extraction Workers	320	\$38.05	High school diploma or equivalent	5 years or more	None
47-2111	Electricians	307	\$33.00	High school diploma or equivalent	None	Apprenticeship
47-5071	Roustabouts, Oil & Gas	253	\$21.58	No formal education	None	Moderate-term OJT
43-6014	Secretaries & Administrative Assistants, Except Legal, Medical, & Executive	250	\$21.14	High school diploma or equivalent	None	Short-term OJT
51-4121	Welders, Cutters, Solderers, & Brazers	247	\$31.83	High school diploma or equivalent	None	Moderate-term OJT
13-2011	Accountants & Auditors	211	\$38.39	Bachelor's degree	None	None
49-9041	Industrial Machinery Mechanics	201	\$36.27	High school diploma or equivalent	None	Long-term OJT
49-1011	First-Line Supervisors of Mechanics, Installers, & Repairers	186	\$41.38	High school diploma or equivalent	Less than 5 years	None
43-1011	First-Line Supervisors of Office & Admin. Support Workers	168	\$28.81	High school diploma or equivalent	Less than 5 years	None
33-9099	Protective Service Workers, All Other	168	\$22.85	High school diploma or equivalent	None	Short-term OJT
51-1011	First-Line Supervisors of Production & Operating Workers	165	\$44.67	High school diploma or equivalent	Less than 5 years	None

Total openings refers to projected openings due to growth, *exits* (individuals leaving the workforce) and *transfers* (individuals changing occupations).

^aWyoming Long-Term Industry and Occupational Employment Projections, 2022-2032.

^bSource: Occupational Employment and Wage Statistics, September 2023.

^cStandard Occupational Classification.

N/A = Hourly wages are not available for teaching occupations.

Prepared by M. Moore, Research & Planning, WY DWS, 9/27/24.

(Table continued on page 6)

(Table continued from page 5)

Table 1: Occupations with at Least 100 Total Annual Projected Openings and a Mean Hourly Wage of at Least \$21.07 in Wyoming

SOC ^c Code	Occupation	Total Projected Annual Openings ^a	Mean Hourly Wage ^b	Typical Requirements to Enter the Occupation		
				Education	Experience	Training
41-4012	Sales Representatives, Wholesale & Manufacturing, Except Technical & Scientific Products	164	\$44.62	High school diploma or equivalent	None	Moderate-term OJT
49-3042	Mobile Heavy Equipment Mechanics, Except Engines	162	\$34.76	High school diploma or equivalent	None	Long-term OJT
13-1199	Business Operations Specialists, All Other	148	\$41.14	Bachelor's degree	None	None
49-3023	Automotive Service Technicians & Mechanics	146	\$25.40	Postsecondary non-degree award	None	Short-term OJT
37-1011	First-Line Supervisors of Housekeeping & Janitorial Workers	145	\$22.41	High school diploma or equivalent	Less than 5 years	None
47-2152	Plumbers, Pipefitters, & Steamfitters	140	\$28.76	High school diploma or equivalent	None	Apprenticeship
25-3021	Self-Enrichment Teachers	122	\$24.48	High school diploma or equivalent	Less than 5 years	None
51-9061	Inspectors, Testers, Sorters, Samplers, & Weighers	122	\$30.65	High school diploma or equivalent	None	Moderate-term OJT
11-9199	Managers, All Other	118	\$56.28	Bachelor's degree	Less than 5 years	None
11-9021	Construction Managers	118	\$45.59	Bachelor's degree	None	Moderate-term OJT
13-1161	Market Research Analysts & Marketing Specialists	114	\$28.55	Bachelor's degree	None	None
37-1012	First-Line Supervisors of Landscaping, Lawn Service, & Groundskeeping Workers	114	\$28.50	High school diploma or equivalent	Less than 5 years	None
33-3051	Police & Sheriff's Patrol Officers	111	\$30.48	High school diploma or equivalent	None	Moderate-term OJT
41-3091	Sales Representatives of Services, Except Advertising, Insurance, Financial Services, & Travel	111	\$39.68	High school diploma or equivalent	None	Moderate-term OJT
39-7010	Tour & Travel Guides	109	\$29.82	High school diploma or equivalent	None	Moderate-term OJT
11-9111	Medical & Health Services Managers	107	\$52.36	Bachelor's degree	Less than 5 years	None
49-3031	Bus & Truck Mechanics & Diesel Engine Specialists	100	\$28.18	High school diploma or equivalent	None	Long-term OJT

Total openings refers to projected openings due to growth, *exits* (individuals leaving the workforce) and *transfers* (individuals changing occupations).

^aWyoming Long-Term Industry and Occupational Employment Projections, 2022-2032.

^bSource: Occupational Employment and Wage Statistics, September 2023.

^cStandard Occupational Classification.

N/A = Hourly wages are not available for teaching occupations.

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(Text continued from page 4)

In contrast, identifying in-demand occupations requiring a bachelor's degree can help educators, students, and jobseekers. By familiarizing themselves with the demand for these types of occupations, educators can expand on existing programs, or develop new ones. Students can match their skillsets with areas of study that will start them on a pathway to in-demand occupations.

The occupation with the greatest number of total projected openings from 2022 to 2023 was heavy & tractor-trailer truck drivers (862). This occupation had an average hourly wage of \$29.15, with requirements including a post-secondary non-degree award (such as a certificate) and short-term on-the-job training. Automotive service technicians & mechanics had 146 total projected openings and an average hourly wage of \$25.40, and also required a post-secondary non-degree award and short-term on-the-job training.

Among in-demand occupations requiring a high school diploma or equivalent, the occupations with the most projected total openings included maintenance & repair workers, general (447, \$23.19); first-line supervisors of retail sales workers (383, \$24.08); and operating engineers & other construction equipment operators (361, \$30.68). The average hourly wage for in-demand occupations requiring a high school diploma or equivalent was \$30.41.

The occupations requiring a bachelor's degree with the greatest number of openings included general & operations managers (741, \$56.87), registered nurses (354, \$40.82), and accountants & auditors (211, \$38.39). The average hourly wage for in-demand occupations requiring a bachelor's degree was \$33.54.

It should be noted that occupations for which average hourly wages are not available are not included in this research. In particular, only annual wages are typically published for many education-related occupations. As an example, three education-related occupations that require a bachelor's degree met the criteria for 100 total annual openings: elementary school teachers, except special education (211); secondary school teachers, except special & career/technical education (135); and coaches & scouts (100). Since hourly wages were not available for these three occupations, they were not included in this list of in-demand occupations.

While many of the in-demand occupations in Table 1 required short- or moderate-term on the job training, three occupations required an apprenticeship. These three occupations were carpenters (342, \$26.79), electricians (307, \$33.00), and plumbers, pipefitters, and steamfitters (140, \$28.76).

Conclusion

For this research, R&P was able to identify 36 in-demand occupations by setting minimum thresholds of 100 total projected annual openings from 2022 to 2032 and an average hourly wage of at least \$21.07. This list could be expanded or shortened by changing either of these parameters. Table 2 (see page 8) provides several examples of in-demand occupations when the thresholds were changed. For example, when the hourly wage was lowered to \$18.00 and the total number of projected openings stayed at 100, the number of in-demand occupations increased from 36 to 51. When the number of total projected annual openings was lowered to a minimum of 50 and the minimum

hourly wage remained at \$21.07, the number of in-demand occupations increased to 77. Finally, when the total number of projected annual openings was lowered to 50 and occupations were lowered to just those requiring more than a high school diploma, the total number of in-demand occupations dropped to 34.

By linking total openings from long-term projections with hourly wage data from the Occupational Employment and Wage Statistics program, R&P is able to present valuable information to students, jobseekers, educators, training providers, employers, governmental entities, and other stakeholders.

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Table 2: Different Scenarios for In-Demand Occupations When Employment, Wage, and Education Thresholds are Changed

Scenario	Minimum Number of Total Projected Annual Openings, 2022-2032 ^a	Minimum Hourly Wage ^b	Minimum Education Required	Total Number of In-Demand Occupations
Current (100 Total Projected Opening, \$21.07 Minimum Hourly Wage)	100	\$21.07	High school diploma	36
Lower Minimum Wage	100	\$18.00	High school diploma	51
Lower Number of Total Projected Openings	50	\$21.07	High school diploma	77
High Skill: More than a high school diploma or an apprenticeship	50	\$21.07	Postsecondary non-degree award or some college, no degree	34

^aSource: Wyoming Long-Term Industry and Occupational Employment Projections, 2022-2032.

^bSource: Occupational Employment and Wage Statistics, September 2023.

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Labor Market Churn in the U.S. Mining & Logging Sector

by: David Bullard, Senior Economist

An earlier article in *Wyoming Labor Force Trends* examined labor market churn in the U.S. and Wyoming (Bullard, 2023). Churn is defined as hires plus total separations. In other words, it represents movement in and out of employment. If all workers stayed at their jobs and no new individuals were hired, churn would be zero. Churn can be high both for good reasons (lots of hiring) or for bad reasons (layoffs or quits). Among the conclusions of the earlier research was that “the amount of churn in the labor market is much larger than the net job gains reported every month.”

This article uses data from the Job

Openings and Labor Turnover Survey (JOLTS), which is conducted by the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS). It focuses on the U.S. mining & logging sector and compares it to total employment. Although JOLTS produces data at the state level, small sample sizes do not allow for any industry-level detail to be published for states.

Figure 1 shows the churn rate for mining & logging and compares it to the churn rate for total employment. Interestingly, churn in mining & logging was higher than total churn from mid-2015 to early 2019. This period started with low oil prices and many layoffs,

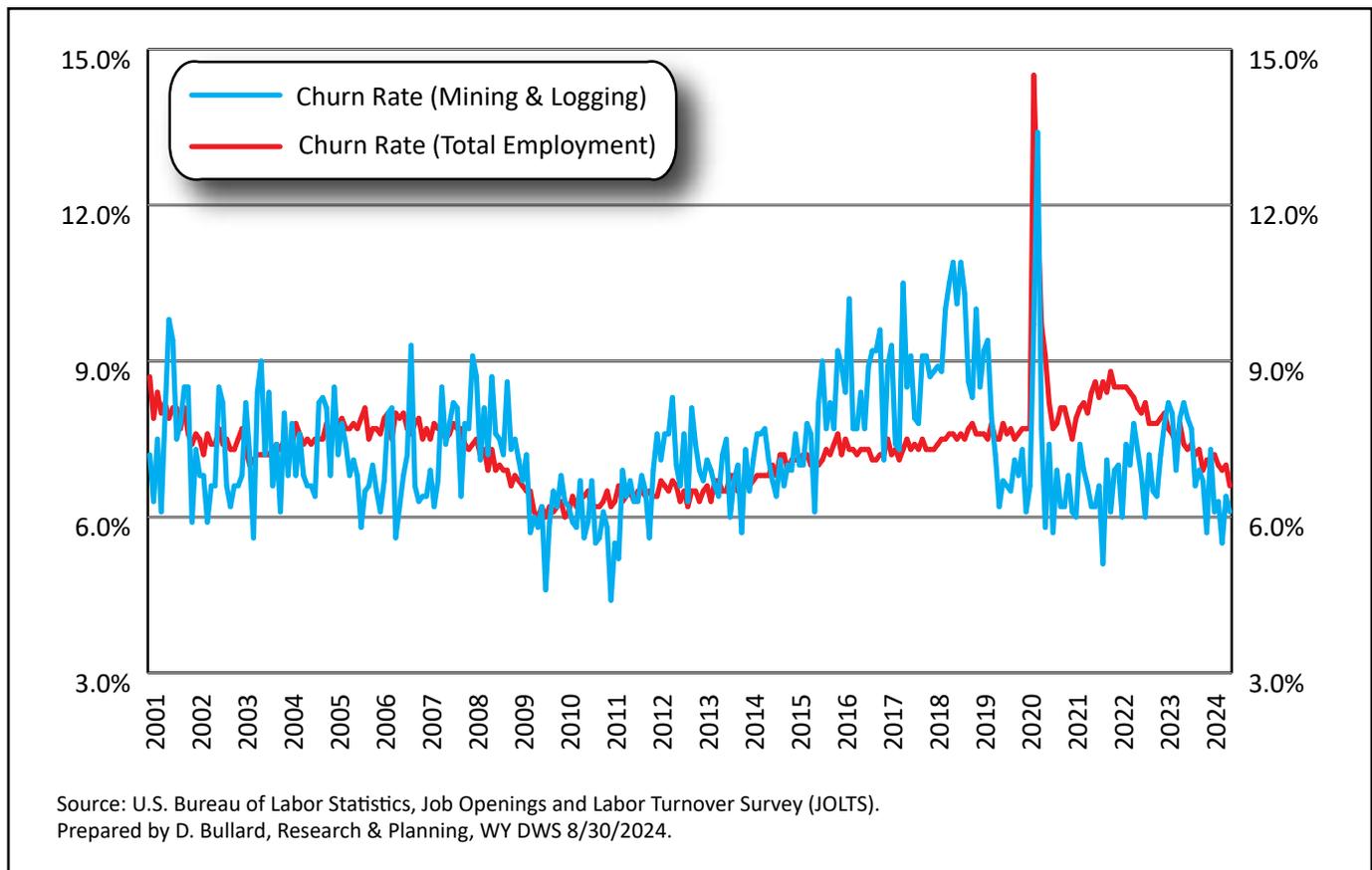


Figure 1: U.S. Churn Rate for Mining & Logging and for Total Employment, December 2000 to June 2024

but then hiring picked up in 2017 and 2018. Later, mining & logging churn was noticeably lower than total churn for much of 2019 to 2022. After the layoffs in 2020, mining employment was slow to recover.

The total U.S. unemployment rate and the unemployment rate specifically for the mining sector are shown in Figure 2. The unemployment rate for the mining sector is not seasonally adjusted, so it does not appear smooth like the total unemployment rate. Across the entire time period shown, the average unemployment rates were very similar: 5.7% in mining and 5.8% for total. However, unemployment in the mining

sector ranged from a low point of 0.3% in October 2005 to a high of 19.3% in February 2021. On the other hand, total unemployment ranged from 3.4% in January and April 2023 to 14.8% in April 2020. In other words, there were many more extreme values (both high and low) for unemployment in the mining sector. This is likely related to the boom-bust cycles typical of the mining sector.

While both unemployment series in Figure 2 followed the same general pattern with high unemployment during the Great Recession and during the pandemic, there were two periods where they diverged. From January 2015 to October 2016,

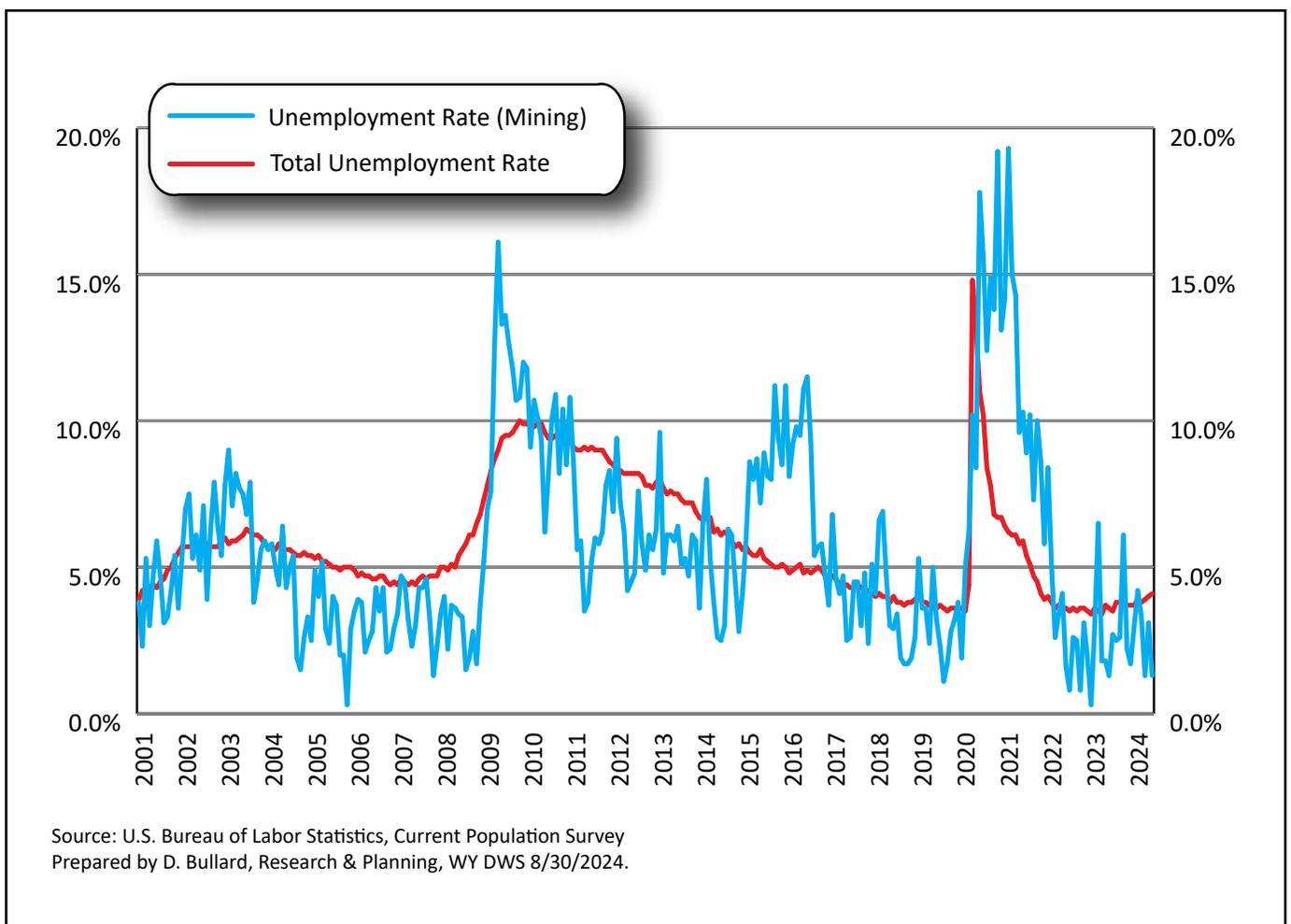


Figure 2: U.S. Total Unemployment Rate and Unemployment Rate for Mining, December 2000 to June 2024

the unemployment rate for mining was much higher than total unemployment. This was a period of low oil prices and layoffs in mining. Additionally, while the total unemployment rate fell very sharply after its initial April 2020 spike at the beginning of the pandemic, the unemployment rate for mining remained very high until late 2021.

Employment in the U.S. mining sector is presented in Figure 3. There were three peaks in mining employment: September 2008, September 2014, and January 2019. The troughs in employment occurred in October 2009, October 2016, and February 2021. It is important to note that each successive trough of employment was

lower. The October 2009 trough was 660,000 jobs, the October 2016 trough was 644,000 jobs, and the February 2021 trough was 539,000 jobs. Furthermore, the January 2019 employment peak was lower than either of the earlier peaks. Even though the mining sector is dominated by large cyclical ups and downs, the overall trend since 2014 seems to be negative with employment decreasing.

Figure 4 (see page 12) shows the churn rate and the unemployment rate for mining & logging. Churn represents movement in and out of employment in a particular sector. There were two main periods where the churn rate was substantially higher than the unemployment rate. These were

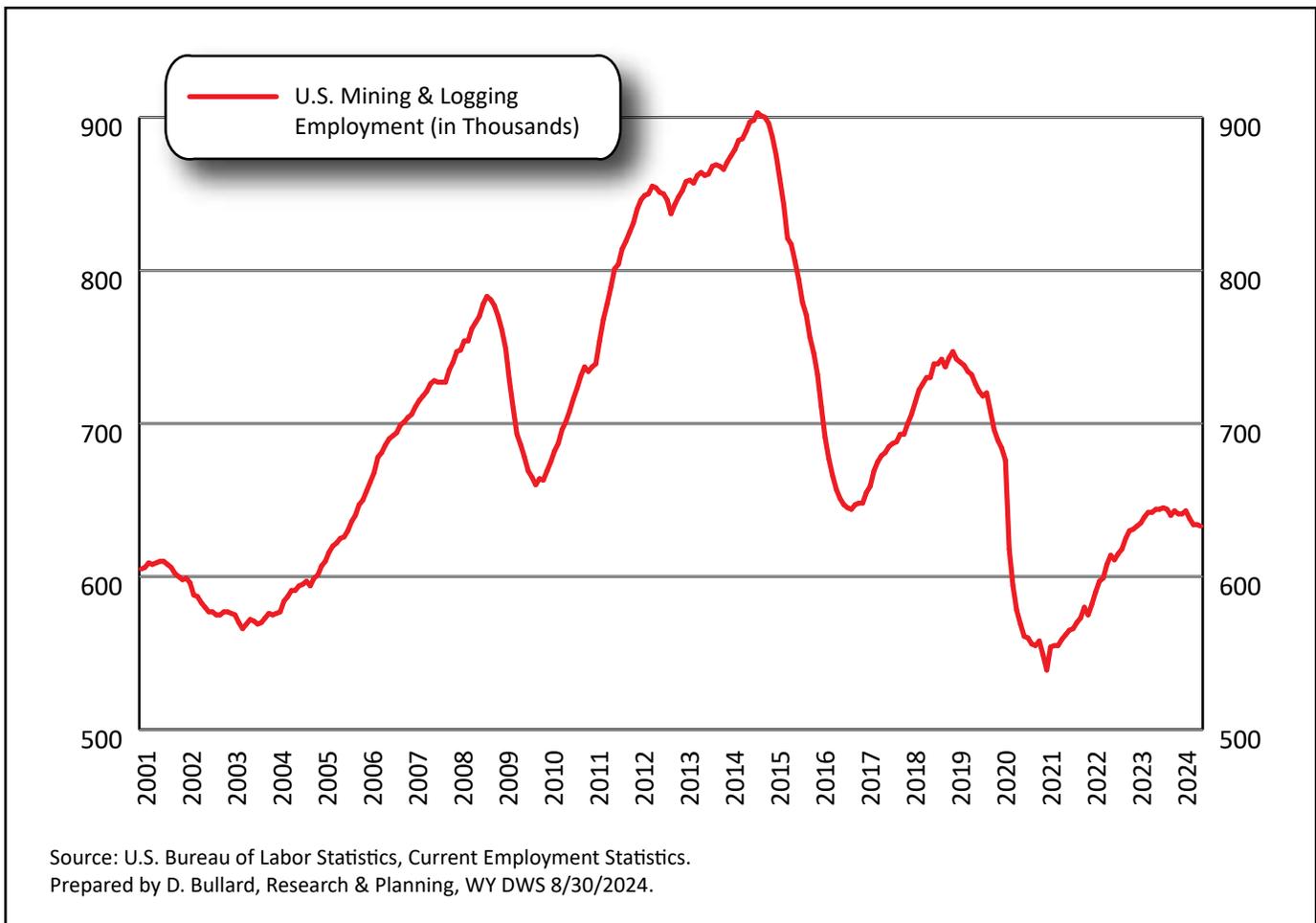


Figure 3: U.S. Mining & Logging Employment, December 2000 to June 2024

times when employment was growing rapidly in the mining sector. From August 2003 to late 2008, churn was much higher than unemployment in the mining sector. The Baker Hughes rig count for the U.S. more than doubled from 837 in early 2003 to 2,031 in September 2008, suggesting very strong growth in oil & gas drilling activity. The second period was from August 2016 to early 2020. During those years, mining employment trended upward (see Figure 3).

Figure 5 (see page 13) breaks out the churn rate into two components: the hires rate and the total separations rate. When the hires rate was greater than the total separations rate, there was a net

increase in employment. On the other hand, when the total separations rate was greater than the hires rate, employment decreased. Three periods stand out where the separations rate was greater than the hires rate: The Great Recession (October 2008 to October 2009), the energy sector slowdown (October 2014 to October 2016) and the pandemic (March 2020 to October 2020). During those three periods, mining employment fell dramatically.

Next, the total separations rate is broken out into its three parts: quits, layoffs & discharges, and other separations (see Figure 6, page 14). The BLS (2023) defines quits as “employees who left voluntarily, with the exception

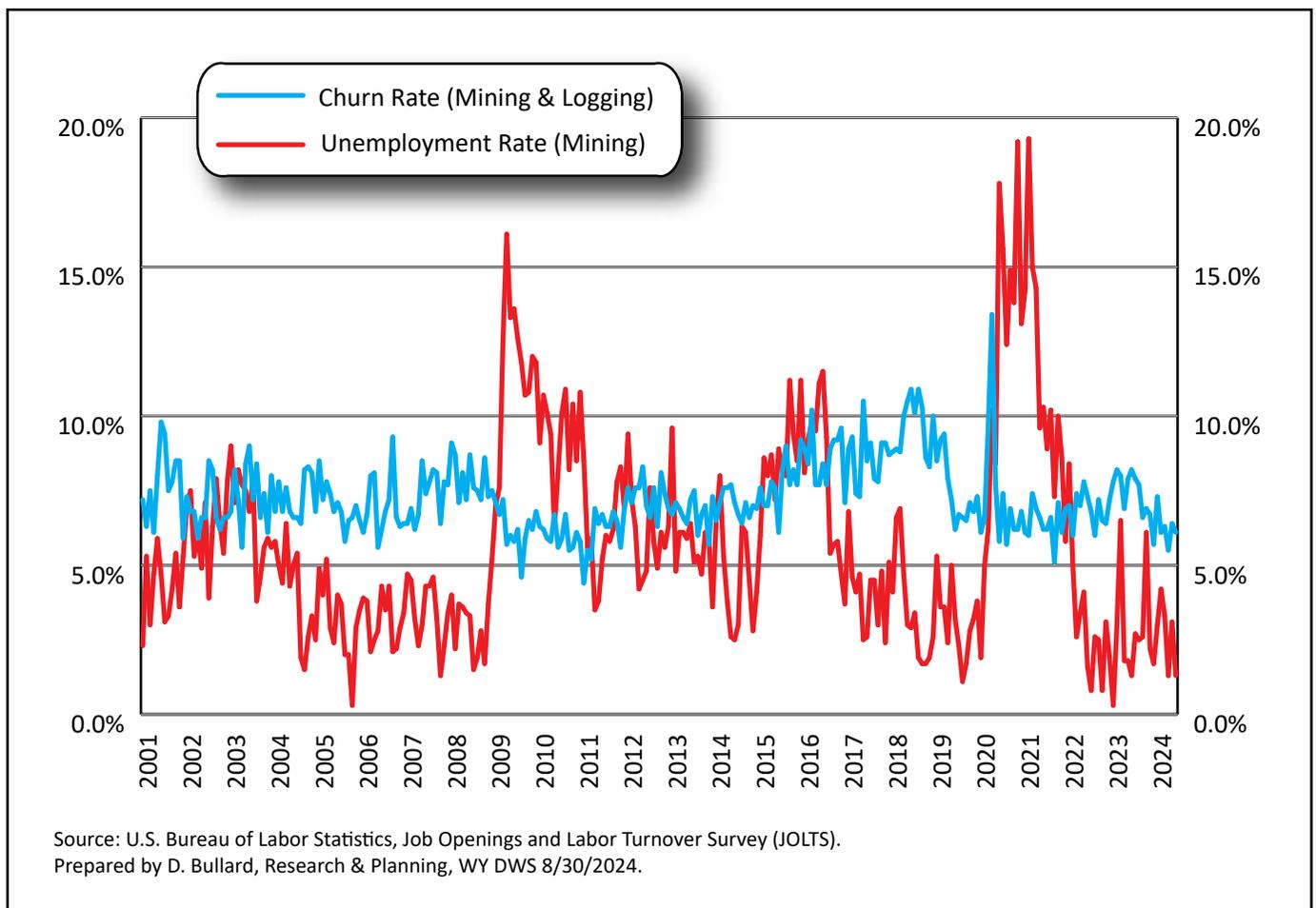


Figure 4: U.S. Churn Rate for Mining & Logging and Unemployment Rate for Mining, December 2000 to June 2024

of retirements or transfers to other locations.” Layoffs & discharges “includes involuntary separations initiated by the employer, such as layoffs, ... discharges resulting from mergers, downsizing, or closings; firings or other discharges for cause; terminations of permanent or short-term employees; and terminations of seasonal employees.” Other separations includes “retirements, transfers to other locations ... and deaths.”

rate was higher than the quits rate in 81 months. These times included the Great Recession (January 2009 to March 2010) and the pandemic (March 2020 to October 2020). Other separations were generally much lower than quits or layoffs & discharges. During several months of 2015 and 2016, however, other separations rose above their typical level. It is possible that significant numbers of workers retired at that time.

During about two-thirds of the time (190 months), the quits rate was higher than the layoffs & discharges rate. This was especially true when employment was growing rapidly (2004 to 2008 and 2017 to 2018). However, the layoffs & discharges

In summary, the U.S. mining sector has been through some large ups and downs in the past two decades. There were three main periods where mining employment fell significantly: the Great Recession, the energy sector

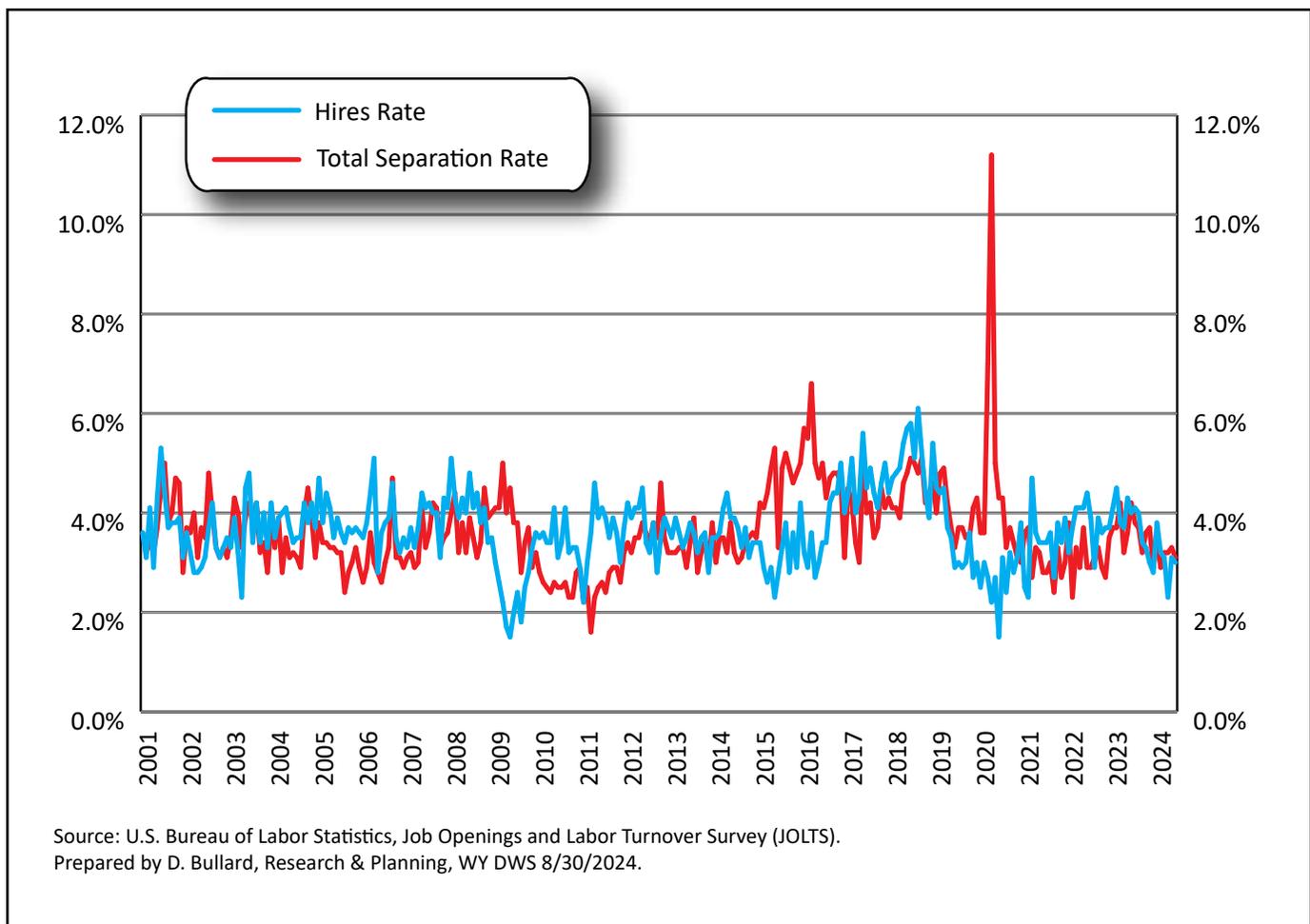


Figure 5: U.S. Hires Rate and Total Separations Rate for Mining & Logging, December 2000 to June 2024

slowdown of 2015 to 2016, and the pandemic. Unfortunately, each successive employment trough has been lower than the one before, suggesting a general downward trend in mining employment. Since JOLTS data are available for every major sector, similar analyses could be conducted for other industries.

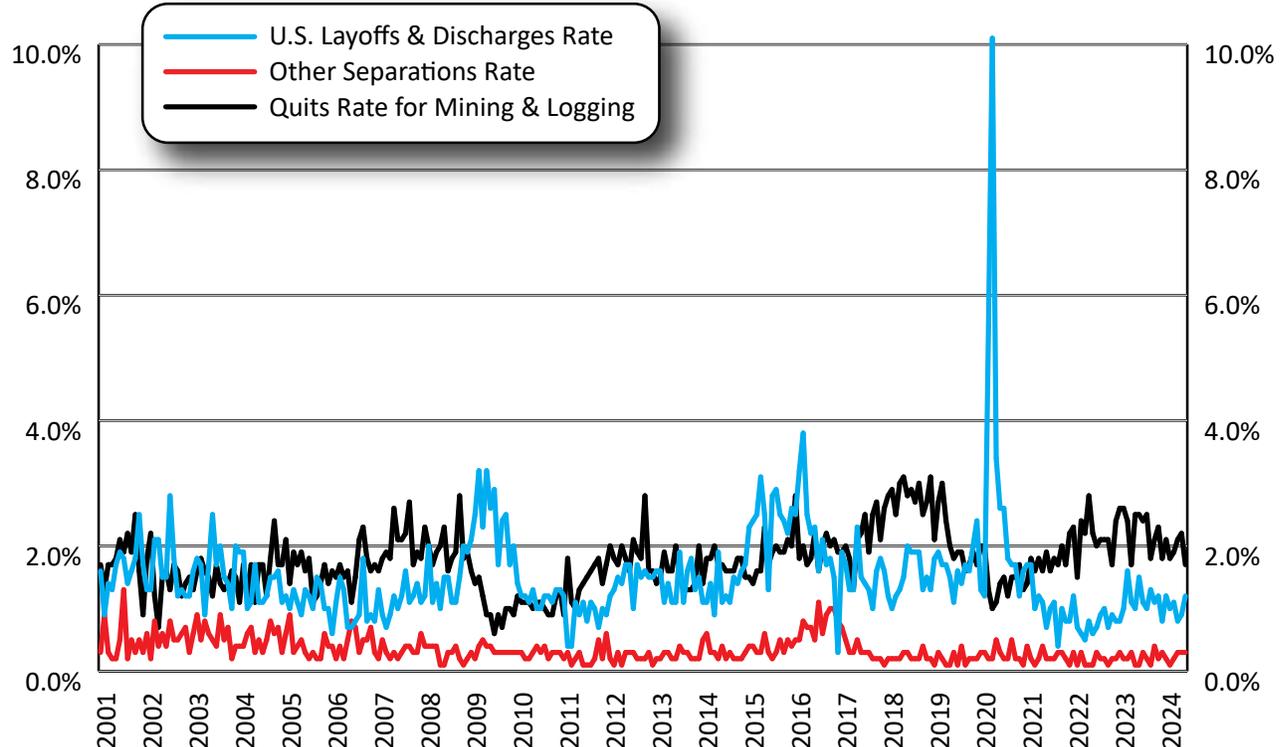
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Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, Job Openings and Labor Turnover Survey (JOLTS).
Prepared by D. Bullard, Research & Planning, WY DWS 8/30/2024.

Figure 6: U.S. Layoffs & Discharges Rate, Other Separations Rate, and Quits Rate for Mining & Logging, December 2000 to June 2024

Wyoming Unemployment Rises to 3.1% in September 2024

by: *David Bullard, Senior Economist*

The Research & Planning section of the Wyoming Department of Workforce Services reported that the state’s seasonally adjusted¹ unemployment rate rose slightly from 3.0% in August to 3.1% in September. Wyoming’s unemployment rate was modestly higher than its September 2023 level of 2.9%, but much lower than the current U.S. unemployment rate of 4.1%.

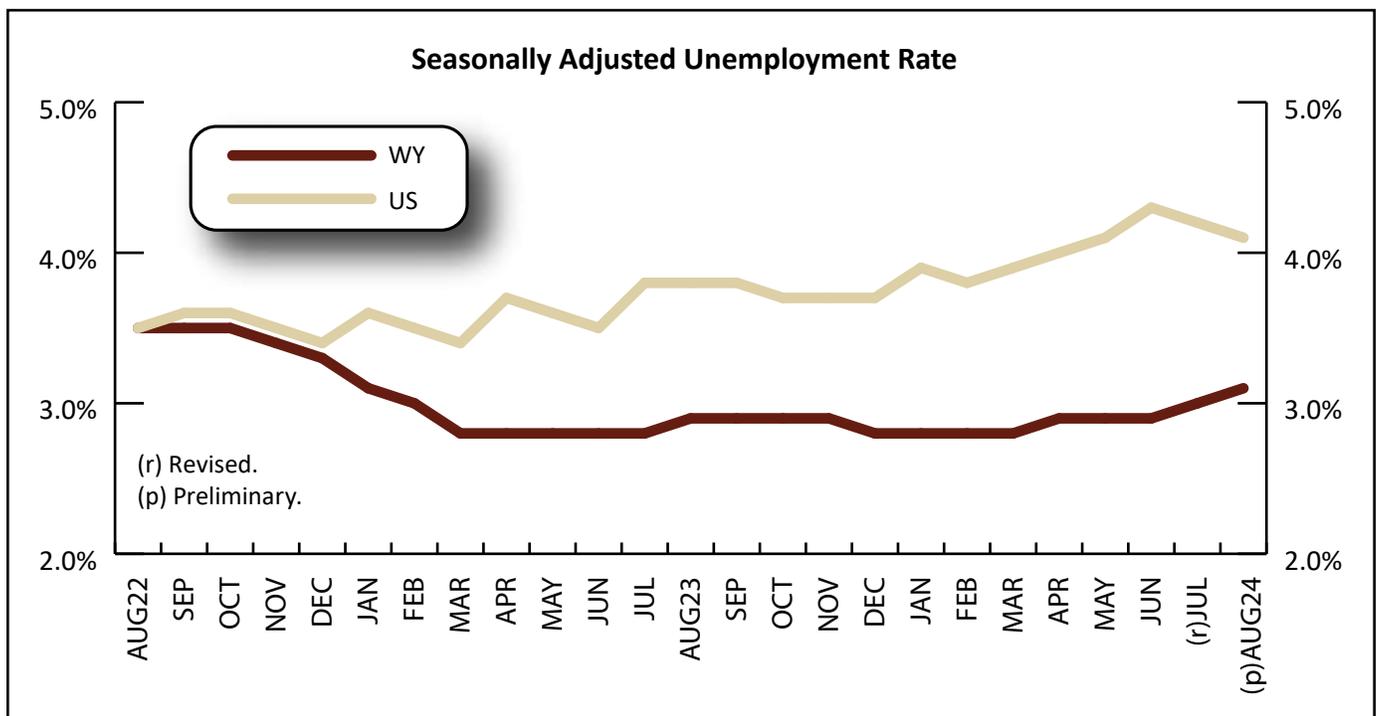
From August to September, county unemployment rates followed their normal seasonal pattern and decreased. The largest decreases occurred in Platte (down from 3.6% to 2.7%), Goshen (down from 3.4% to 2.6%), and Johnson (down from 3.1% to 2.4%) counties.

In September, unemployment rates were higher than their year-ago levels in every county. The largest increases were reported in Big Horn (up from 2.4% to 3.0%) and Carbon (up from 2.1% to 2.7%) counties.

Uinta County, at 3.1%, had the highest unemployment rate in September. It was followed by Big Horn County, Sublette County, and Sweetwater County, each at 3.0%. The lowest unemployment rates were found in Teton County at 1.6%, and Crook and Niobrara counties, each at 2.0%.

Current Employment Statistics (CES) estimates show that total nonfarm employment in Wyoming (not seasonally adjusted and measured by place of work) rose from 297,900 in September 2023 to 299,700 in September 2024, an increase of 1,800 jobs (0.6%).

¹ Seasonal adjustment is a statistical procedure to remove the impact of normal regularly recurring events (such as weather, major holidays, and the opening and closing of schools) from economic time series to better understand changes in economic conditions from month to month.



Current Employment Statistics (CES) Estimates and Research & Planning's Internal Estimates, September 2024

by: David Bullard, Senior Economist

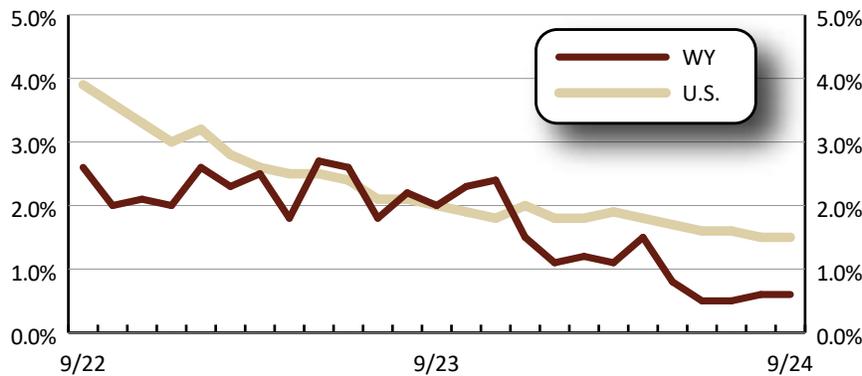
Industry Sector	Research & Planning's Internal Estimates	Current Employment Statistics (CES) Estimates	N Difference	% Difference
Total Nonfarm	301,747	299,700	-2,047	-0.7%
Natural Resources & Mining	16,719	17,100	381	2.2%
Construction	25,486	23,700	-1,786	-7.5%
Manufacturing	10,757	10,700	-57	-0.5%
Wholesale Trade	7,981	8,100	119	1.5%
Retail Trade	30,674	30,200	-474	-1.6%
Transportation & Utilities	13,770	14,700	930	6.3%
Information	3,015	3,200	185	5.8%
Financial Activities	11,464	12,000	536	4.5%
Professional & Business Services	22,495	21,900	-595	-2.7%
Educational & Health Services	30,084	30,300	216	0.7%
Leisure & Hospitality	41,137	41,100	-37	-0.1%
Other Services	16,586	16,100	-486	-3.0%
Government	71,579	70,600	-979	-1.4%

Research & Planning's Internal Estimates were run in August 2024 and based on QCEW data through March 2024.

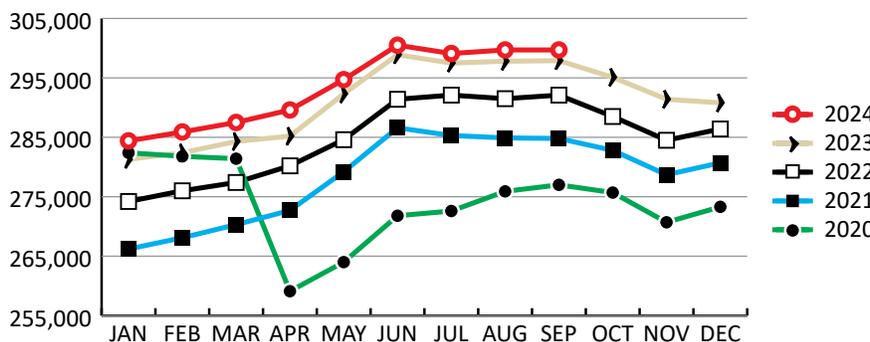
State Unemployment Rates September 2024 (Seasonally Adjusted)

State	Unemp. Rate
District of Columbia	5.7
Nevada	5.6
Puerto Rico	5.5
California	5.3
Illinois	5.3
Kentucky	4.9
Washington	4.8
New Jersey	4.7
Alaska	4.6
Rhode Island	4.6
Michigan	4.5
Ohio	4.5
South Carolina	4.5
New York	4.4
Indiana	4.3
Delaware	4.2
New Mexico	4.2
West Virginia	4.2
Texas	4.1
United States	4.1
Colorado	4.0
Oregon	4.0
Louisiana	3.9
Missouri	3.9
Massachusetts	3.8
North Carolina	3.8
Georgia	3.6
Idaho	3.6
Arizona	3.5
Utah	3.5
Minnesota	3.4
Oklahoma	3.4
Pennsylvania	3.4
Arkansas	3.3
Florida	3.3
Kansas	3.3
Montana	3.3
Connecticut	3.2
Tennessee	3.2
Wyoming	3.1
Alabama	2.9
Hawaii	2.9
Iowa	2.9
Maryland	2.9
Virginia	2.9
Wisconsin	2.9
Maine	2.8
Mississippi	2.8
Nebraska	2.7
New Hampshire	2.5
North Dakota	2.3
Vermont	2.2
South Dakota	2.0

Nonagricultural Employment Growth (Percentage Change Over Previous Year)



Wyoming Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment



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

State Unemployment Rates September 2024 (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

	Employment in Thousands			% Change Total Employment	
	Sep 24	Aug 24	Sep 23	Aug 24 Sep 24	Sep 23 Sep 24
CAMPBELL COUNTY					
TOTAL NONAG. WAGE & SALARY EMPLOYMENT	25.7	25.5	25.7	0.8	0.0
TOTAL PRIVATE	20.5	20.7	20.8	-1.0	-1.4
GOODS PRODUCING	7.8	7.8	8.2	0.0	-4.9
Natural Resources & Mining	5.0	5.0	5.6	0.0	-10.7
Construction	2.3	2.3	2.1	0.0	9.5
Manufacturing	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.0	0.0
SERVICE PROVIDING	17.9	17.7	17.5	1.1	2.3
Trade, Transportation, & Utilities	5.3	5.4	5.2	-1.9	1.9
Information	0.2	0.2	0.3	0.0	-33.3
Financial Activities	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.0	0.0
Professional & Business Services	1.6	1.6	1.6	0.0	0.0
Educational & Health Services	1.5	1.5	1.4	0.0	7.1
Leisure & Hospitality	2.5	2.6	2.5	-3.8	0.0
Other Services	0.9	0.9	0.9	0.0	0.0
GOVERNMENT	5.2	4.8	4.9	8.3	6.1

	Employment in Thousands			% Change Total Employment	
	Sep 24	Aug 24	Sep 23	Sep 24 Aug 24	Sep 23 Sep 24
SWEETWATER COUNTY					
TOTAL NONAG. WAGE & SALARY EMPLOYMENT	21.9	22.0	21.9	-0.5	0.0
TOTAL PRIVATE	17.4	17.7	17.4	-1.7	0.0
GOODS PRODUCING	6.6	6.6	6.8	0.0	-2.9
Natural Resources & Mining	3.3	3.3	3.4	0.0	-2.9
Construction	1.9	1.8	2.0	5.6	-5.0
Manufacturing	1.4	1.5	1.4	-6.7	0.0
SERVICE PROVIDING	15.3	15.4	15.1	-0.6	1.3
Trade, Transportation, & Utilities	4.5	4.6	4.4	-2.2	2.3
Information	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.0
Financial Activities	0.6	0.6	0.5	0.0	20.0
Professional & Business Services	1.1	1.2	1.2	-8.3	-8.3
Educational & Health Services	1.4	1.4	1.3	0.0	7.7
Leisure & Hospitality	2.4	2.5	2.5	-4.0	-4.0
Other Services	0.7	0.7	0.6	0.0	16.7
GOVERNMENT	4.5	4.3	4.5	4.7	0.0

	Employment in Thousands			% Change Total Employment	
	Sep 24	Aug 24	Sep 23	Sep 24 Aug 24	Sep 23 Sep 24
TETON COUNTY					
TOTAL NONAG. WAGE & SALARY EMPLOYMENT	25.7	27.6	25.1	-6.9	2.4
TOTAL PRIVATE	22.7	24.6	22.1	-7.7	2.7
GOODS PRODUCING	3.3	3.3	3.1	0.0	6.5
Natural Resources, Mining & Construction	3.1	3.1	2.9	0.0	6.9
Manufacturing	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.0	0.0
SERVICE PROVIDING	22.4	24.3	22.0	-7.8	1.8
Trade, Transportation, & Utilities	3.0	3.3	3.0	-9.1	0.0
Information	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.0	0.0
Financial Activities	1.5	1.5	1.4	0.0	7.1
Professional & Business Services	2.8	2.9	2.8	-3.4	0.0
Educational & Health Services	1.3	1.3	1.3	0.0	0.0
Leisure & Hospitality	10.0	11.5	9.8	-13.0	2.0
Other Services	0.6	0.6	0.5	0.0	20.0
GOVERNMENT	3.0	3.0	3.0	0.0	0.0

State	Unemp. Rate
District of Columbia	5.6
Nevada	5.5
Puerto Rico	5.5
California	5.3
Illinois	5.0
Kentucky	4.9
South Carolina	4.5
Indiana	4.3
Louisiana	4.3
Michigan	4.2
Ohio	4.2
Washington	4.2
Colorado	4.1
New Jersey	4.1
New Mexico	4.1
Texas	4.1
New York	4.0
West Virginia	4.0
Alaska	3.9
Arizona	3.9
Oregon	3.9
Rhode Island	3.9
United States	3.9
Massachusetts	3.6
Tennessee	3.6
Utah	3.5
Delaware	3.4
Florida	3.4
Georgia	3.4
Idaho	3.3
Oklahoma	3.3
Hawaii	3.2
North Carolina	3.2
Kansas	3.1
Virginia	3.1
Alabama	3.0
Mississippi	3.0
Missouri	3.0
Montana	3.0
Pennsylvania	3.0
Arkansas	2.8
Maryland	2.8
Minnesota	2.8
Iowa	2.7
Maine	2.6
Nebraska	2.6
Wyoming	2.6
Connecticut	2.5
Wisconsin	2.5
Vermont	2.2
New Hampshire	2.0
North Dakota	1.8
South Dakota	1.5

Economic Indicators

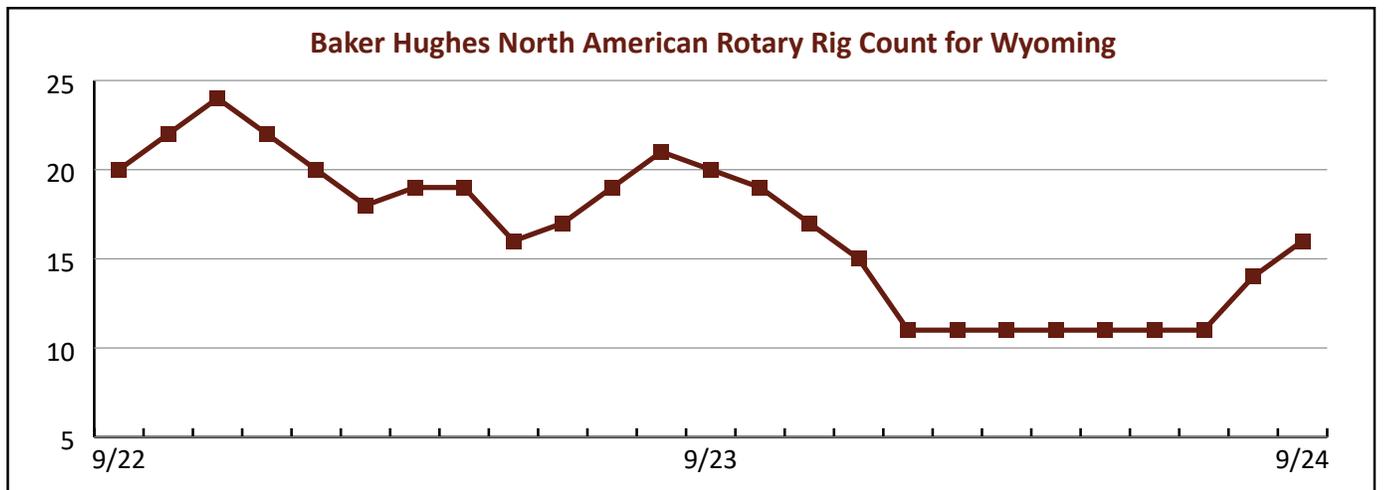
by: David Bullard, Senior Economist

The Baker Hughes rig count for Wyoming rose from 14 in August 2024 to 16 in September 2024, a 14.3% increase.

	Sep 2024 (p)	Aug 2024 (r)	Sep 2023 (b)	Percent Change Month	Year
Wyoming Total Nonfarm Employment	299,700	299,700	297,900	0.0	0.6
Wyoming State Government	15,300	14,300	15,000	7.0	2.0
Laramie County Nonfarm Employment	49,400	49,100	48,700	0.6	1.4
Natrona County Nonfarm Employment	41,000	41,300	40,600	-0.7	1.0
Selected U.S. Employment Data					
U.S. Multiple Jobholders	8,648,000	8,236,000	8,146,000	5.0	6.2
As a percent of all workers	5.3%	5.1%	5.0%	N/A	N/A
U.S. Discouraged Workers	432,000	341,000	351,000	26.7	23.1
U.S. Part Time for Economic Reasons	4,297,000	4,757,000	3,742,000	-9.7	14.8
Wyoming Unemployment Insurance					
Weeks Compensated	5,075	5,728	4,668	-11.4	8.7
Benefits Paid	\$2,512,297	\$2,727,705	\$2,192,066	-7.9	14.6
Average Weekly Benefit Payment	\$495.03	\$476.21	\$469.59	4.0	5.4
Consumer Price Index (U) for All U.S. Urban Consumers (1982 to 1984 = 100)					
All Items	315.3	314.8	307.8	0.2	2.4
Food & Beverages	329.4	328.2	322.2	0.4	2.2
Housing	336.8	335.9	323.6	0.3	4.1
Apparel	135.5	131.7	133.2	2.9	1.8
Transportation	269.6	271.4	272.5	-0.7	-1.1
Medical Care	566.3	564.4	548.4	0.3	3.3
Recreation (Dec. 1997=100)	137.7	138.2	136.7	-0.4	0.7
Education & Communication (Dec. 1997=100)	146.9	146.6	145.6	0.2	0.9
Other Goods & Services	562.6	561.6	543.4	0.2	3.5
Producer Prices (1982 to 1984 = 100)					
All Commodities	252.5	255.5	258.9	-1.2	-2.5
Wyo. Bldg. Permits (New Privately Owned Housing Units Authorized)					
Total Units	155	162	130	-4.3	19.2
Valuation	\$58,910,000	\$56,209,000	\$69,915,000	4.8	-15.7
Single Family Homes	139	145	115	-4.1	20.9
Valuation	\$55,376,000	\$54,336,000	\$67,202,000	1.9	-17.6
Casper MSA ¹ Building Permits	26	26	20	0.0	30.0
Valuation	\$7,126,000	\$4,166,000	\$3,246,000	71.1	119.5
Cheyenne MSA Building Permits	27	35	13	-22.9	107.7
Valuation	\$5,602,000	\$7,088,000	\$3,594,000	-21.0	55.9
Baker Hughes North American Rotary Rig Count for Wyoming	16	14	20	14.3	-20.0

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

¹Metropolitan Statistical Area.



Wyoming County Unemployment Rates

by: David Bullard, Senior Economist

From August to September, county unemployment rates followed their normal seasonal pattern and decreased.

REGION County	Labor Force			Employed			Unemployed			Unemployment Rates		
	Sep 2024	Aug 2024	Sep 2023	Sep 2024	Aug 2024	Sep 2023	Sep 2024	Aug 2024	Sep 2023	Sep 2024	Aug 2024	Sep 2023
	(p)	(r)	(b)	(p)	(r)	(b)	(p)	(r)	(b)	(p)	(r)	(b)
NORTHWEST	46,356	46,837	46,758	45,097	45,370	45,690	1,259	1,467	1,068	2.7	3.1	2.3
Big Horn	5,247	5,253	5,199	5,092	5,064	5,073	155	189	126	3.0	3.6	2.4
Fremont	19,022	19,022	19,145	18,468	18,380	18,665	554	642	480	2.9	3.4	2.5
Hot Springs	2,223	2,234	2,330	2,166	2,172	2,280	57	62	50	2.6	2.8	2.1
Park	16,083	16,557	16,247	15,700	16,111	15,927	383	446	320	2.4	2.7	2.0
Washakie	3,781	3,771	3,837	3,671	3,643	3,745	110	128	92	2.9	3.4	2.4
NORTHEAST	51,641	51,394	51,729	50,372	49,896	50,652	1,269	1,498	1,077	2.5	2.9	2.1
Campbell	23,258	23,029	23,271	22,650	22,316	22,755	608	713	516	2.6	3.1	2.2
Crook	3,848	3,832	3,894	3,772	3,737	3,825	76	95	69	2.0	2.5	1.8
Johnson	4,305	4,342	4,394	4,200	4,209	4,305	105	133	89	2.4	3.1	2.0
Sheridan	16,361	16,415	16,245	15,967	15,956	15,912	394	459	333	2.4	2.8	2.0
Weston	3,869	3,776	3,925	3,783	3,678	3,855	86	98	70	2.2	2.6	1.8
SOUTHWEST	61,016	62,092	61,543	59,474	60,290	60,213	1,542	1,802	1,330	2.5	2.9	2.2
Lincoln	9,996	9,929	9,967	9,754	9,637	9,753	242	292	214	2.4	2.9	2.1
Sublette	3,913	3,921	3,997	3,796	3,781	3,894	117	140	103	3.0	3.6	2.6
Sweetwater	20,147	20,080	20,421	19,540	19,374	19,893	607	706	528	3.0	3.5	2.6
Teton	18,045	19,269	18,119	17,749	18,914	17,868	296	355	251	1.6	1.8	1.4
Uinta	8,915	8,893	9,039	8,635	8,584	8,805	280	309	234	3.1	3.5	2.6
SOUTHEAST	82,428	81,082	82,000	80,266	78,475	80,097	2,162	2,607	1,903	2.6	3.2	2.3
Albany	21,819	20,702	21,499	21,319	20,126	21,039	500	576	460	2.3	2.8	2.1
Goshen	6,196	6,186	6,272	6,036	5,975	6,140	160	211	132	2.6	3.4	2.1
Laramie	49,139	49,014	48,861	47,773	47,368	47,667	1,366	1,646	1,194	2.8	3.4	2.4
Niobrara	1,133	1,103	1,160	1,110	1,074	1,139	23	29	21	2.0	2.6	1.8
Platte	4,141	4,077	4,208	4,028	3,932	4,112	113	145	96	2.7	3.6	2.3
CENTRAL	54,776	55,062	54,575	53,253	53,270	53,247	1,523	1,792	1,328	2.8	3.3	2.4
Carbon	7,313	7,353	7,330	7,116	7,120	7,173	197	233	157	2.7	3.2	2.1
Converse	7,891	7,824	7,672	7,719	7,613	7,524	172	211	148	2.2	2.7	1.9
Natrona	39,572	39,885	39,573	38,418	38,537	38,550	1,154	1,348	1,023	2.9	3.4	2.6
STATEWIDE	296,215	296,469	296,603	288,464	287,303	289,898	7,751	9,166	6,705	2.6	3.1	2.3
Statewide Seasonally Adjusted										3.1	3.0	2.9
U.S.										3.9	4.4	3.6
U.S. Seasonally Adjusted										4.1	4.2	3.8

Prepared in cooperation with the Bureau of Labor Statistics. Benchmarked 04/2024. Run Date 10/2024.

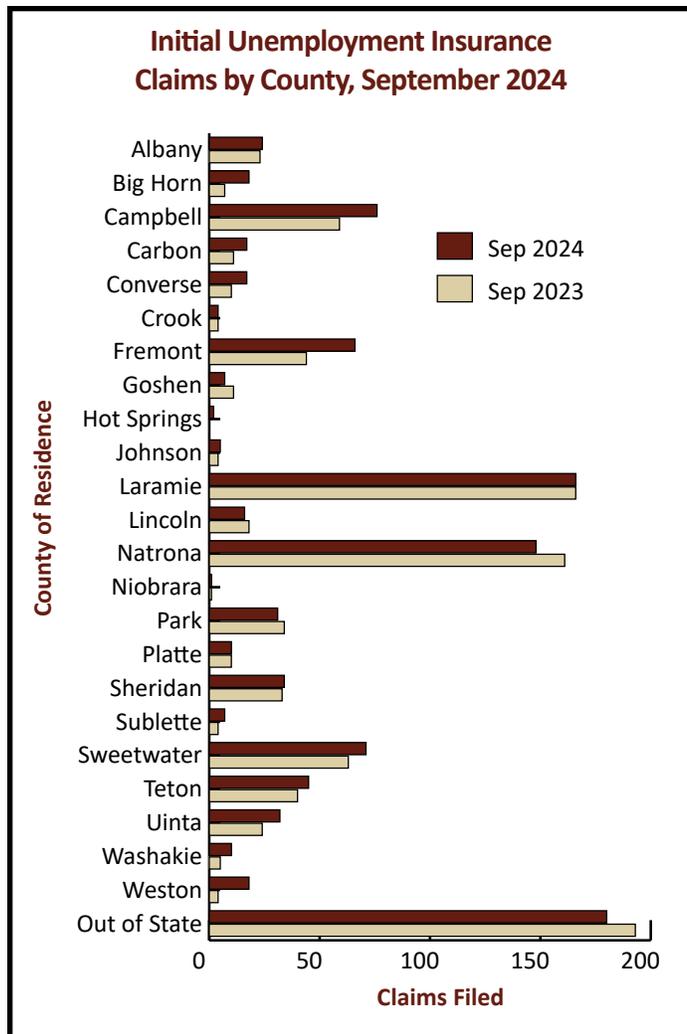
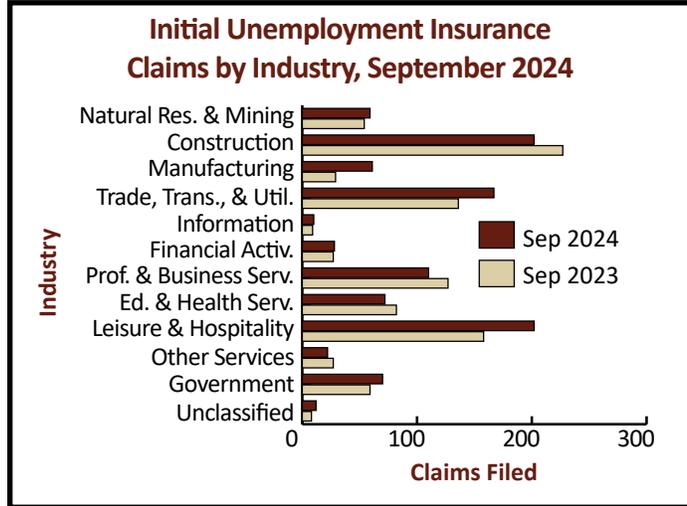
Data are not seasonally adjusted except where otherwise specified.

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

Wyoming Normalized^a Unemployment Insurance Statistics: Initial Claims

by: Laura Yetter, Senior Economist

Over the year, initial claims increased by 74, or 7.8%. Leisure & hospitality increased the most, with 44 more claims, or 27.8%.



Initial Claims	Claims Filed			% Change	
	Sep 24	Aug 24	Sep 23	Over the Month	Over the Year
Wyoming Statewide					
Total Claims Filed	1,021	899	947	13.6	7.8
TOTAL GOODS-PRODUCING	323	266	310	21.4	4.2
Natural Resources & Mining	59	48	54	22.9	9.3
Mining	57	44	50	29.5	14.0
Construction	202	189	227	6.9	-11.0
Manufacturing	61	28	29	117.9	110.3
TOTAL SERVICE-PROVIDING	614	555	568	10.6	8.1
Trade, Transportation, & Utilities	167	155	136	7.7	22.8
Wholesale Trade	24	29	20	-17.2	20.0
Retail Trade	90	87	60	3.4	50.0
Transportation, Warehousing & Utilities	51	38	55	34.2	-7.3
Information	10	9	9	11.1	11.1
Financial Activities	28	30	27	-6.7	3.7
Professional & Business Services	110	129	127	-14.7	-13.4
Educational & Health Services	72	94	82	-23.4	-12.2
Leisure & Hospitality	202	115	158	75.7	27.8
Other Services, except Public Admin.	22	19	27	15.8	-18.5
TOTAL GOVERNMENT	70	55	59	27.3	18.6
Federal Government	10	8	21	25.0	-52.4
State Government	9	9	6	0.0	50.0
Local Government	49	36	31	36.1	58.1
Local Education	12	10	7	20.0	71.4
UNCLASSIFIED	12	22	8	-45.5	50.0
Laramie County					
Total Claims Filed	166	177	166	-6.2	0.0
TOTAL GOODS-PRODUCING	44	42	48	4.8	-8.3
Construction	31	32	38	-3.1	-18.4
TOTAL SERVICE-PROVIDING	108	122	109	-11.5	-0.9
Trade, Transportation, & Utilities	37	29	29	27.6	27.6
Financial Activities	8	9	6	-11.1	33.3
Professional & Business Services	27	45	37	-40.0	-27.0
Educational & Health Services	12	17	18	-29.4	-33.3
Leisure & Hospitality	14	16	11	-12.5	27.3
TOTAL GOVERNMENT	12	10	6	20.0	100.0
Natrona County					
Total Claims Filed	148	143	161	3.5	-8.1
TOTAL GOODS-PRODUCING	61	41	51	48.8	19.6
Construction	40	27	34	48.1	17.6
TOTAL SERVICE-PROVIDING	85	94	103	-9.6	-17.5
Trade, Transportation, & Utilities	30	30	32	0.0	-6.3
Financial Activities	N/D	6	5	N/D	N/D
Professional & Business Services	16	18	17	-11.1	-5.9
Educational & Health Services	15	15	20	0.0	-25.0
Leisure & Hospitality	18	16	17	12.5	5.9
TOTAL GOVERNMENT	N/D	5	4	N/D	N/D

N/D = Not discloseable due to confidentiality.
^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.

The full UI claims report for September 2024 is available at https://doe.state.wy.us/LMI/UI/0924_UI.pdf.

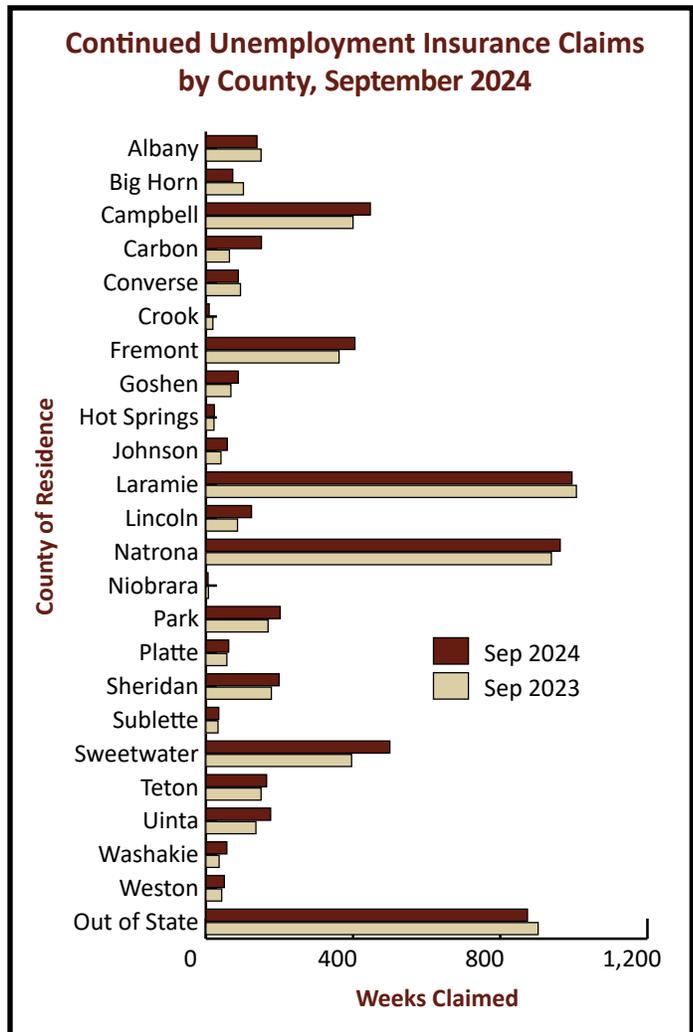
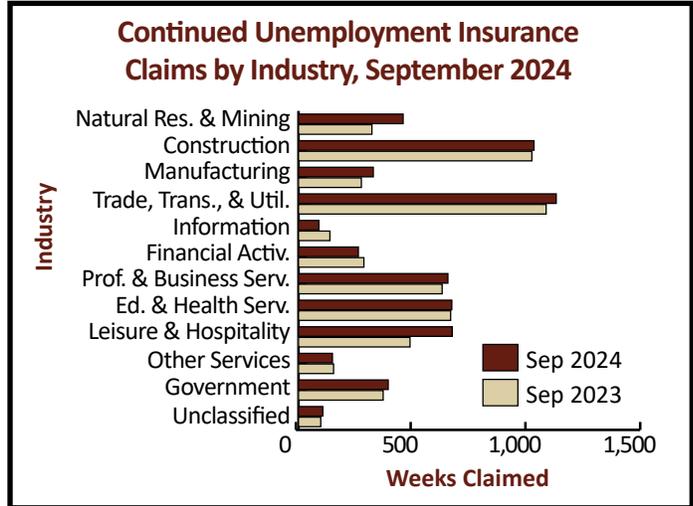
Wyoming Normalized^a Unemployment Insurance Statistics: Continued Claims

by: *Laura Yetter, Senior Economist*

The total number of continued weeks claimed increased from 5,481 in September 2023 to 5,922 in September 2024 (441, or 8.0%).

Continued Claims	Claims Filed			% Change	
	Sep 24	Aug 24	Sep 23	Over the Month	Over the Year
Wyoming Statewide					
Total Weeks Claimed	5,922	6,485	5,481	-8.7	8.0
Total Unique Claimants	2,080	2,279	1,957	-8.7	6.3
TOTAL GOODS-PRODUCING	1,809	1,931	1,612	-6.3	12.2
Natural Resources & Mining	456	553	320	-17.5	42.5
Mining	415	509	307	-18.5	35.2
Oil & Gas Extraction	27	40	22	-32.5	22.7
Construction	1,026	1,040	1,017	-1.3	0.9
Manufacturing	326	337	274	-3.3	19.0
TOTAL SERVICE-PROVIDING	3,614	3,992	3,402	-9.5	6.2
Trade, Transportation, & Utilities	1,123	1,151	1,079	-2.4	4.1
Wholesale Trade	231	205	184	12.7	25.5
Retail Trade	601	649	521	-7.4	15.4
Transportation, Warehousing & Utilities	290	296	373	-2.0	-22.3
Information	89	93	137	-4.3	-35.0
Financial Activities	261	254	285	2.8	-8.4
Professional & Business Services	651	797	626	-18.3	4.0
Educational & Health Services	668	884	633	-24.4	5.5
Leisure & Hospitality	670	651	486	2.9	37.9
Other Services, except Public Admin.	148	159	153	-6.9	-3.3
TOTAL GOVERNMENT	391	478	369	-18.2	6.0
Federal Government	25	33	18	-24.2	38.9
State Government	74	75	90	-1.3	-17.8
Local Government	291	369	259	-21.1	12.4
Local Education	70	74	63	-5.4	11.1
UNCLASSIFIED	106	83	97	27.7	9.3
Laramie County					
Total Weeks Claimed	995	1,082	1,007	-8.0	-1.2
Total Unique Claimants	358	385	353	-7.0	1.4
TOTAL GOODS-PRODUCING	189	179	173	5.6	9.2
Construction	116	115	130	0.9	-10.8
TOTAL SERVICE-PROVIDING	707	782	745	-9.6	-5.1
Trade, Transportation, & Utilities	237	237	245	0.0	-3.3
Financial Activities	68	62	62	9.7	9.7
Professional & Business Services	165	231	171	-28.6	-3.5
Educational & Health Services	107	127	135	-15.7	-20.7
Leisure & Hospitality	95	82	64	15.9	48.4
TOTAL GOVERNMENT	81	95	63	-14.7	28.6
UNCLASSIFIED	17	24	24	-29.2	-29.2
Natrona County					
Total Weeks Claimed	963	1,007	939	-4.4	2.6
Total Unique Claimants	322	349	330	-7.7	-2.4
TOTAL GOODS-PRODUCING	258	271	259	-4.8	-0.4
Construction	112	108	149	3.7	-24.8
TOTAL SERVICE-PROVIDING	651	677	637	-3.8	2.2
Trade, Transportation, & Utilities	212	193	212	9.8	0.0
Financial Activities	68	67	61	1.5	11.5
Professional & Business Services	88	98	66	-10.2	33.3
Educational & Health Services	124	180	132	-31.1	-6.1
Leisure & Hospitality	103	89	108	15.7	-4.6
TOTAL GOVERNMENT	38	51	22	-25.5	72.7
UNCLASSIFIED	14	6	19	133.3	-26.3

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



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

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