

# TRENDS

Vol. 44 No. 3    © Copyright 2007 by the Wyoming Department of Employment    Research & Planning

## Updated Wage Records Show Increases in Payroll, Number of Workers Covered by Unemployment Insurance

by: *Sylvia D. Jones, Senior Research Analyst*

*According to the latest Wage Records Summary Statistics, the total payroll and number of persons working in firms covered by Unemployment Insurance have risen dramatically since 2005. Both total wages and the number of new workers increased substantially between first quarter 2005 and second quarter 2006.*

**B**y law, each employer who has employees covered by Unemployment Insurance must submit tax reports to the state showing each employee's wage. The reports compose the Wage Records database. These data show a dramatic rise in total payroll and the number of persons covered by Unemployment Insurance in Wyoming.

Wyoming's recent economic growth can be seen in the Unemployment Insurance Wage Records summary information, in addition to other indicators such as

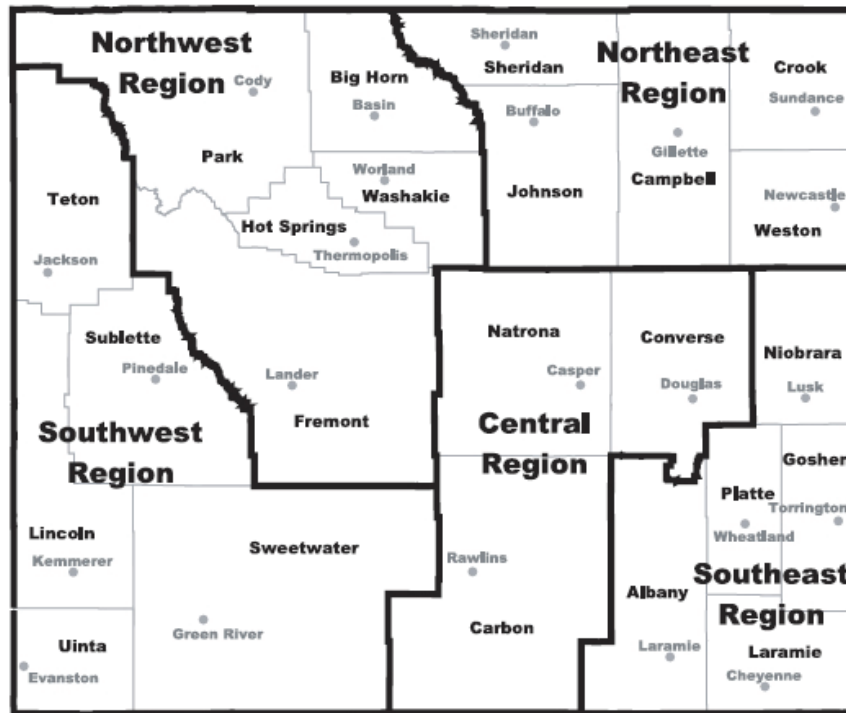
the Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment. Starting in third quarter 2005, the annual change in total wages (the sum of all wages paid) increased rapidly (see Figure 1, page 3). The greatest changes in annual wages occurred in first and second quarter 2006, with values of 15.4% and 15.7%, respectively (see Table, pages 4 and 5). The number of total wage records as well as the number of individuals (social security numbers) increased at a fairly steady rate from first quarter 2005 to third quarter 2006 (see

(Text continued on page 3)

## HIGHLIGHTS

- **A comparison of short-term Wyoming employment projections developed in 2004 for second quarter 2006 reveals that errors increased slightly when compared to prior forecasts. However, the amount of increased error was not appreciable....page 7**
- **Wyoming's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate fell in January 2007 to its lowest level since 1979. It remained well below the U.S. unemployment rate, and Wyoming job growth continued at a healthy pace....page 12**

### Wyoming Regions, Counties, and County Seats



## IN THIS ISSUE

Updated Wage Records Show Increases in Payroll, Number of Workers Covered by Unemployment Insurance	1
In Wyoming, 2.7% Earned Minimum Wage or Below in 2005	6
Wyoming Short-Term Projections Accuracy: An Update	7
Figure: Employment-Population Ratios by State, 2006 Annual Averages	11
More Employees Have Access to Health Savings Accounts	12
Wyoming Unemployment Falls to 2.6% in January 2007	12
State Unemployment Rates	13
Wyoming Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment	14
Economic Indicators	16
County Unemployment Rates	17
Unemployment Insurance Statistics	18

## Wyoming Labor Force Trends

A monthly publication of the Wyoming Department of Employment,

**Cynthia A. Pomeroy, Director**

**Research & Planning**

**P.O. Box 2760**

**Casper, WY 82602-2760**

**doerd\_r&p\_web@state.wy.us**

**307-473-3807**

**Tom Gallagher, Manager**

**Dr. Mark A. Harris, Workforce Information Supervisor**

**Carola Cowan, Bureau of Labor Statistics Programs Supervisor**

**Phil Ellsworth, Editor**

**Editorial Committee: David Bullard, Valerie A. Davis, Phil Ellsworth, and Dr. Mark A. Harris.**

Contributors to Wyoming Labor Force Trends this month: Roy Azar, David Bullard, Margaret Hiatt, Sylvia D. Jones, and Douglas W. Leonard.

Subscriptions, additional copies, and back issues available free of charge.

© Copyright 2007 by the Wyoming Department of Employment, Research & Planning.

Material contained in this publication is in the public domain and may be reproduced without special permission provided that source credit is given to: **Wyoming Labor Force Trends**, Wyoming Department of Employment, Research & Planning.

### Department of Employment Nondiscrimination Statement

The Department of Employment does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, sex, age, or disability. It is our intention that all individuals seeking services from our agency be given equal opportunity and that eligibility decisions be based upon applicable statutes, rules, and regulations.

ISSN 0512-4409

(Text continued from page 1)

Figure 2, page 6). Annual change in total wage records was lowest at the start of 2005 (3.5%) and highest at the start of 2006 (5.1%). Similarly, annual change in the total number of individuals appearing in Wage Records was lowest in first quarter 2005 (2.7%) and highest in both first and second quarter 2006 (4.8%).

The most striking observation about the Wage Records Summary Statistics is the dramatic increase in the number of new workers. Until fourth quarter 2005, the annual percent change in new individuals to the labor

(Text continued on page 5)

## Definitions

*Total Wage Records:* The total number of wage records received for a particular year and quarter in the latest wage record download.

*Total Social Security Numbers:* The total number of unique individuals found in a particular quarter.

*One Job:* Individuals who had only one job in a given quarter.

*Two Jobs:* Individuals who had only two jobs in a given quarter.

*Three Jobs:* Individuals who had only three jobs in a given quarter.

*Four or More Jobs:* Individuals who had four or more jobs in a given quarter.

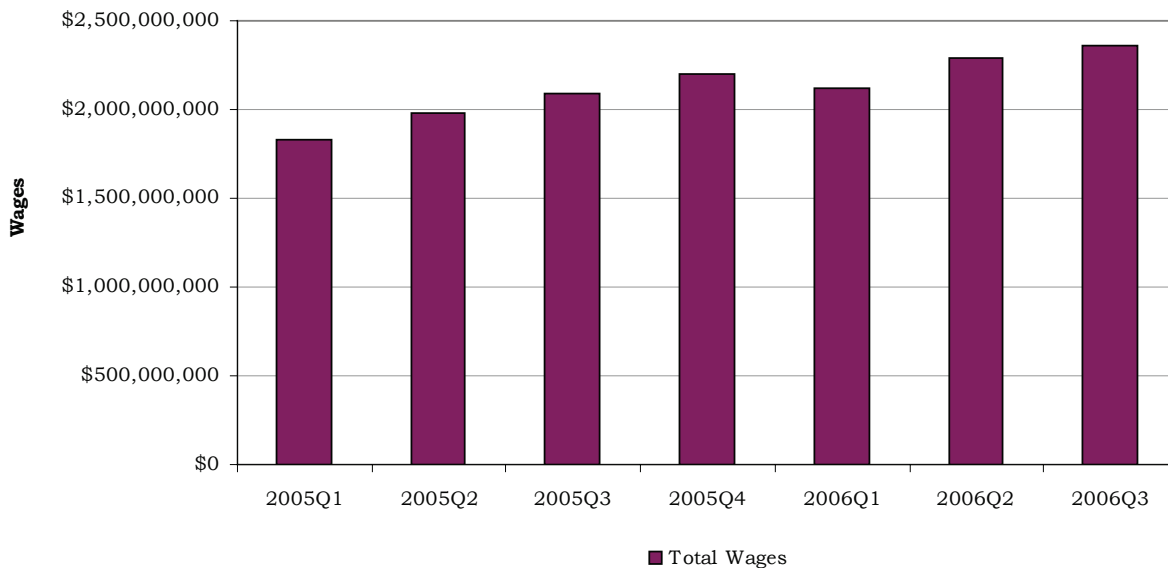
*Total Wages:* The sum of all wages for each category listed under job rows.

*Percent of Total Wages:* The percentage of the total wages per quarter for each category of job. Calculated by dividing the total wages by the count of individuals.

*New Social Security Numbers This Quarter:* The number of social security numbers

(Text continued on page 6)

**Figure 1: Total Wages in Wyoming Unemployment Insurance Wage Records, First Quarter 2005 to Third Quarter 2006**



**Table: Persons Working in Wyoming State Unemployment Insurance Covered Jobs (Wyoming Unemployment Insurance Wage Record Summary Statistics)****First Quarter 2005**

	Count	Percent of Total SSNs <sup>a</sup>	Total Wages	Percent of Total Wages	Mean Wages Per Quarter	New SSNs This Quarter	Total Unique SSNs to Date
Total SSNs	244,873	100.0	\$1,834,653,044	100.0	7,492	8,187	918,800
One Job	214,839	87.7	\$1,647,188,962	89.8	7,667		
Two Jobs	26,574	10.9	\$167,895,743	9.2	6,318		
Three Jobs	3,046	1.2	\$17,444,666	1.0	5,727		
Four or More Jobs	414	0.2	\$2,123,674	0.1	5,130		
Total Records	278,874						
Ratio of Wage Records to SSNs	1.1						
	<b>In Records</b>	<b>In SSNs</b>	<b>Total Wages</b>	<b>New SSNs</b>			
Percent Change from Previous Year	3.5	2.7	7.1	-8.4			

**Second Quarter 2005**

	Count	Percent of Total SSNs	Total Wages	Percent of Total Wages	Mean Wages Per Quarter	New SSNs This Quarter	Total Unique SSNs to Date
Total SSNs	267,414	100.0	1,977,148,169	100.0	7,394	16,483	926,987
One Job	228,916	85.6	1,747,161,265	88.4	7,632		
Two Jobs	33,151	12.4	201,676,580	10.2	6,084		
Three Jobs	4,589	1.7	24,460,362	1.2	5,330		
Four or More Jobs	758	0.3	3,849,962	0.2	5,079		
Total Records	312,182						
Ratio of Wage Records to SSNs	1.2						
	<b>In Records</b>	<b>In SSNs</b>	<b>Total Wages</b>	<b>New SSNs</b>			
Percent Change from Previous Year	3.6	3.0	8.8	2.6			

**Third Quarter 2005**

	Count	Percent of Total SSNs	Total Wages	Percent of Total Wages	Mean Wages Per Quarter	New SSNs This Quarter	Total Unique SSNs to Date
Total SSNs	274,594	100.0	2,089,815,801	100.0	7,611	15,736	943,470
One Job	234,282	85.3	1,841,604,794	88.1	7,861		
Two Jobs	34,323	12.5	215,769,789	10.3	6,286		
Three Jobs	5,092	1.9	27,778,455	1.3	5,455		
Four or More Jobs	897	0.3	4,662,763	0.2	5,198		
Total Records	321,999						
Ratio of Wage Records to SSNs	1.2						
	<b>In Records</b>	<b>In SSNs</b>	<b>Total Wages</b>	<b>New SSNs</b>			
Percent Change from Previous Year	4.4	3.7	11.9	5.4			

**Fourth Quarter 2005**

	Count	Percent of Total SSNs	Total Wages	Percent of Total Wages	Mean Wages Per Quarter	New SSNs This Quarter	Total Unique SSNs to Date
Total SSNs	263,102	100.0	2,197,564,471	100.0	8,353	11,394	959,206
One Job	227,893	86.6	1,958,457,106	89.1	8,594		
Two Jobs	30,305	11.5	210,103,556	9.6	6,933		
Three Jobs	4,207	1.6	25,171,478	1.1	5,983		
Four or More Jobs	697	0.3	3,832,332	0.2	5,498		
Total Records	304,052						
Ratio of Wage Records to SSNs	1.2						
	<b>In Records</b>	<b>In SSNs</b>	<b>Total Wages</b>	<b>New SSNs</b>			
Percent Change from Previous Year	4.0	3.6	10.4	16.4			

<sup>a</sup>Social Security Numbers.

**Table: Persons Working in Wyoming State Unemployment Insurance Covered Jobs (Wyoming Unemployment Insurance Wage Record Summary Statistics) -- Continued**

**First Quarter 2006**

	Count	Percent of Total SSNs	Total Wages	Percent of Total Wages	Mean Wages Per Quarter	New SSNs This Quarter	Total Unique SSNs to Date
Total SSNs	256,525	100.0	2,116,329,703	100.0	8,250	10,333	970,600
One Job	224,509	87.5	1,900,084,343	89.8	8,463		
Two Jobs	28,104	11.0	192,671,234	9.1	6,856		
Three Jobs	3,367	1.3	20,134,161	1.0	5,980		
Four or More Jobs	545	0.2	3,439,965	0.2	6,312		
Total Records	293,132						
Ratio of Wage Records to SSNs	1.1						
	<b>In Records</b>	<b>In SSNs</b>	<b>Total Wages</b>	<b>New SSNs</b>			
Percent Change from Previous Year	5.1	4.8	15.4	26.2			

**Second Quarter 2006**

	Count	Percent of Total SSNs	Total Wages	Percent of Total Wages	Mean Wages Per Quarter	New SSNs This Quarter	Total Unique SSNs to Date
Total SSNs	280,163	100.0	2,287,501,999	100.0	8,165	19,230	980,933
One Job	240,214	85.7	2,023,946,662	88.5	8,426		
Two Jobs	34,098	12.2	230,282,230	10.1	6,754		
Three Jobs	5,001	1.8	28,770,719	1.3	5,753		
Four or More Jobs	850	0.3	4,502,388	0.2	5,297		
Total Records	327,028						
Ratio of Wage Records to SSNs	1.2						
	<b>In Records</b>	<b>In SSNs</b>	<b>Total Wages</b>	<b>New SSNs</b>			
Percent Change from Previous Year	4.8	4.8	15.7	16.7			

**Third Quarter 2006**

	Count	Percent of Total SSNs	Total Wages	Percent of Total Wages	Mean Wages Per Quarter	New SSNs This Quarter	Total Unique SSNs to Date
Total SSNs	285,832	100.0	2,355,009,422	100.0	8,239	17,421	1,000,163
One Job	245,485	85.9	2,083,632,459	88.5	8,488		
Two Jobs	34,501	12.1	237,213,697	10.1	6,876		
Three Jobs	4,966	1.7	29,307,479	1.2	5,902		
Four or More Jobs	880	0.3	4,855,787	0.2	5,518		
Total Records	333,131						
Ratio of Wage Records to SSNs	1.2						
	<b>In Records</b>	<b>In SSNs</b>	<b>Total Wages</b>	<b>New SSNs</b>			
Percent Change from Previous Year	3.5	4.1	12.7	10.7			

<sup>a</sup>Social Security Numbers.

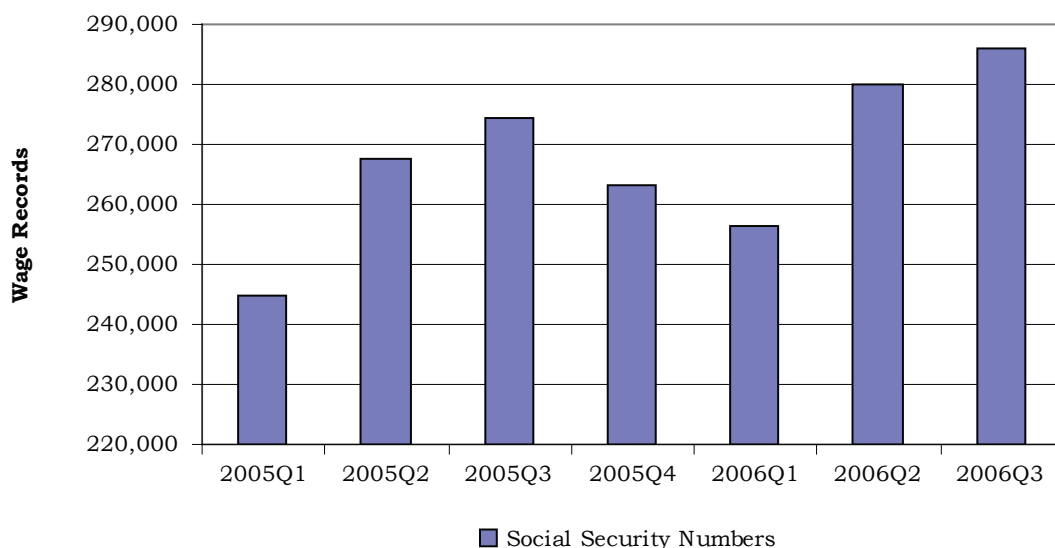
(Text continued from page 3)

force remained fairly low. In fact, the percentage declined in first quarter 2005 (-8.4%). However, at the end of 2005 the percentage jumped from 5.4% in third quarter to 16.4% in fourth quarter. The percentage rose again in first quarter 2006 before declining back to 16.7% in second quarter. The increases are in line

with the influx of workers from other states to help fill the labor shortage in Wyoming.

Data from third quarter 2006 indicate similar trends although the annual change values are lower than those seen in previous quarters. These values are expected to increase as additional tax forms are processed.

**Figure 2: Number of Persons in Wyoming Unemployment Insurance Wage Records, First Quarter 2005 to Third Quarter 2006**



(Text continued from page 3)

appearing for the first time in a particular quarter.

*Total Unique Social Security Numbers to Date:* A running total of unique

individuals to date, beginning in 1992 when Wage Records became a statistical program.

*Percent Change Over Previous Year:* The percent change over the previous year and quarter.

## In Wyoming, 2.7% Earned Minimum Wage or Below in 2005

According to the December 2006 issue of *Monthly Labor Review*, 2.7% of Wyoming workers earned the prevailing minimum wage of \$5.15 or below in 2005. That percentage is slightly higher than the U.S. average of 2.5%, and below the average of 3.0% for the 8-state Mountain Division. Within the division, Wyoming ranked third lowest in percentage of workers paid at or below minimum wage. In contrast, 82.9% of Wyoming workers earned wages at or above \$7.15 per hour, compared to 85.1% of the national workforce.

Nationally, Alaska had the lowest percentage of workers at minimum wage or below (0.5%). Louisiana and West Virginia each had 4.3%, the highest percentages in the nation. Alaska also had the highest proportion of workers earning \$7.15 or more (96.1%).

### References

Campbell, J. (2006). Proportion of workers in selected pay ranges by region and state, *Monthly Labor Review*, 129(12). U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, December 2006, 66-69.

## Wyoming Short-Term Projections Accuracy: An Update

by: Douglas W. Leonard, Senior Research Analyst

*A comparison of short-term Wyoming employment projections developed in 2004 for second quarter 2006 reveals that the total absolute percentage error between projected and actual values was 5.7% at the statewide level. Comparisons to prior projections show that errors increased slightly when compared to prior forecasts. However, the amount of increased error was not appreciable. Bias statistics indicated that, on average, forecasts were generally less than actual employment values, but this was not universally true across all industries.*

The ability to develop accurate employment projections is critical to understanding future developments in Wyoming's labor market. As a follow-up to an earlier article (Leonard, 2004), we again compare the projections developed in second quarter 2004 (2004Q2) which forecasted employment in second quarter 2006 (2006Q2). As in the previous report, the data source for this analysis was the Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages (QCEW; U.S. Department of Labor, 2006). QCEW data are compiled from Unemployment Insurance (UI) tax reports submitted by employers on a quarterly basis. QCEW data represent approximately 95% of all jobs worked in Wyoming exclusive of the self-employed, unpaid family workers, some federal government workers, some agricultural workers, and most railroad employees (Leonard, 2004).

### Methodology

Two methods were used to evaluate projections accuracy in 2006Q2, absolute percentage error and bias (see Leonard, 2004 for definitions). One change from the prior set of projections is that the current data set was compiled using North American Standard Industrial Classification System (NAICS) codes, whereas prior projections used Standard Industrial Classification (SIC) codes. All

projections performed in 2004Q2 were produced at the subsector (3-digit NAICS) level. For comparison purposes, forecast accuracy was evaluated at both the 3-digit and sector levels (groupings of 3-digit industries). These groupings are used to not only analyze projections accuracy but also to examine how the distribution of jobs changed both in Wyoming and nationally during the forecast period.

### Findings

Table 1 (see page 8) presents forecast accuracy data at the 3-digit NAICS level. For the purposes of this analysis, we chose to analyze industries with employment of 4,000 or greater in 2004Q2 to avoid data disclosure issues. The results show that the absolute percentage error for the 22 specified industries was 5.5%. This level is slightly greater than the 4.38% absolute percentage error for 17 SIC industries presented in 2004. Absolute error for the remaining 69 NAICS industries was 6.2%, and the total absolute percentage error statewide was 5.7% (compared to 5.0% in 2004). The total error at the statewide level was 1.7%  $((268,710/264,171)-1)$ . This number is slightly greater than the 1.1% error achieved in 2004.

The causes of increased forecast error are varied. Some error is due to

the fact that more subsectors were projected, which increases the chance of error. Another type of error occurs when employers incorrectly report their employment counts. In light of these factors, perhaps the most prevalent source of error was our comparatively low forecasts of employment growth in Mining and Construction. Our forecast errors were in excess of 9.0% in five subsectors as shown in Table 1 (NAICS 212, 213, 236, 237, and 238). In early 2005, when these forecasts were prepared, the full extent of the current economic expansion was underestimated, leading to forecast error.

The types of errors described in Table 1 are also shown in Table 2 (see page 9). Table 2 illustrates forecast error levels when evaluated at the sector level. The greatest errors are shown in the supersector of Natural Resources & Mining (NAICS 21 and

11; 11.8%) and the Construction sector (11.0%). Other sectors such as Retail Trade (1.0%), Financial Activities (0.8%), and Leisure & Hospitality (1.2%) had actual results very similar to projected values.

The conservative nature of our prior forecasts is illustrated in Table 3 (see page 9). The bias statistic shows our forecasting tendencies in 2004. Table 3 shows that whether analyzing the largest 22 industries, the remaining 69 industries, or sectors, we tended to generate predicted values which were less than the actual values. For the 22 largest industries, Research & Planning forecast values were an average of 114.8 jobs less than the actual values, and 349.1 jobs less than actual values at the sector level.

Another way to use employment data is to compare the proportions of jobs in the workforce by sector, as shown in Table

**Table 1: Wyoming Short-Term Employment Projections by Subsector<sup>a</sup>, Absolute Error, and Employment Proportions, Second Quarter 2004 to Second Quarter 2006**

Subsector Code	Industry	Base Employment 2004Q2	Projected Employment 2006Q2	Actual Employment 2006Q2	Absolute Projection Error	Absolute Percentage Error
212	Mining (Except Oil and Gas)	7,463	7,662	8,707	1,045	12.0%
213	Support Activities for Mining	8,884	11,500	13,406	1,906	14.2%
236	Construction of Buildings	4,274	4,559	5,007	448	9.0%
237	Heavy and Civil Engineering Construction	5,456	5,785	6,865	1,080	15.7%
238	Specialty Trade Contractors	10,170	11,315	12,458	1,143	9.2%
423	Merchant Wholesalers, Durable Goods	4,426	4,794	5,003	209	4.2%
441	Motor Vehicle and Parts Dealers	4,257	4,400	4,482	82	1.8%
445	Food and Beverage Stores	4,706	4,571	4,578	7	0.2%
447	Gasoline Stations	4,292	4,255	4,074	181	4.4%
452	General Merchandise Stores	5,769	6,260	5,986	274	4.6%
522	Credit Intermediation and Related Activities	4,527	4,719	4,477	242	5.4%
541	Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services	7,889	8,600	9,117	517	5.7%
561	Administrative and Support Services	6,815	6,963	6,993	30	0.4%
611	Educational Services	27,285	28,000	26,436	1,564	5.9%
621	Ambulatory Health Care Services	7,662	8,325	7,929	396	5.0%
622	Hospitals	9,687	9,999	10,023	24	0.2%
623	Nursing and Residential Care Facilities	5,115	5,282	5,380	98	1.8%
624	Social Assistance	5,261	5,800	5,502	298	5.4%
721	Accommodation	11,008	11,500	11,536	36	0.3%
722	Food Services and Drinking Places	18,106	18,920	18,439	481	2.6%
920	State Government, Excluding Education and Hospitals	8,207	8,365	7,930	435	5.5%
930	Local Government, Excluding Education and Hospitals	10,485	10,963	10,735	228	2.1%
	Subtotal for Industries with Employment of 4,000 or Greater	181,744	192,537	195,063	10,727	5.5%
	All Other Industries	68,594	71,634	73,646	4,534	6.2%
	<b>Statewide Total, All Industries</b>	<b>250,338</b>	<b>264,171</b>	<b>268,710</b>	<b>15,261</b>	<b>5.7%</b>

<sup>a</sup>Three-Digit North American Industry Classification System.



**Table 2: Wyoming Industry Projections Comparisons**

Sector	Base Employment 2004Q2	Projected Employment 2006Q2	Actual Employment 2006Q2	Absolute Projection Error	Absolute Percentage Error
Natural Resources & Mining	22,304	25,403	28,793	3,390	11.8%
Construction	19,900	21,659	24,330	2,671	11.0%
Manufacturing	9,331	9,703	10,028	325	3.2%
Wholesale Trade	7,430	7,866	8,273	407	4.9%
Retail Trade	30,111	31,122	30,799	323	1.0%
Transportation, Warehousing, & Utilities	9,981	10,610	11,090	480	4.3%
Information	4,805	4,944	4,799	145	3.0%
Financial Activities	10,561	11,330	11,244	86	0.8%
Professional & Business Services	15,983	16,926	17,594	668	3.8%
Education & Health Care	55,010	57,406	55,269	2,137	3.9%
Leisure & Hospitality	32,876	34,330	33,929	401	1.2%
Miscellaneous Services	8,030	8,239	8,805	566	6.4%
Government	24,016	24,633	23,757	876	3.7%
<b>Statewide Total, All Industries</b>	<b>250,338</b>	<b>264,171</b>	<b>268,710</b>	<b>12,474</b>	<b>4.6%</b>

4 (see page 10). Wyoming's proportion of sector employment was greater than national proportions in seven of 13 sectors in 2004Q2 and greater than national proportions in eight sectors in 2006Q2. The greatest differences between state and national proportions (2006Q2) occurred in Mining (-8.2%), Manufacturing (7.1%), and Professional & Business Services (7.0%). State employment proportions were closest to national proportions in Education & Health Care (-0.1%), Retail Trade (-0.2%), and Miscellaneous Services (0.3%). Although Wyoming's employment distribution differs considerably from the national distribution, it may insulate the state from some of the economic shocks experienced on a national

level, and maintains wages at a higher level than might otherwise be possible (Harris, 2002).

**Implications**

As stated in the 2004 article, projections are subject to considerable error due to fluctuations in data values, unforeseen events and analyst choices. Although forecast errors were comparable during the two iterations studied, they increased slightly for the more recent forecasts. This could be in part due to the switch from SIC to NAICS whereby 91 industries are forecasted at the statewide level instead of 75. In addition, the more

**Table 3: Wyoming Industry Projections Bias, Second Quarter 2004 to Second Quarter 2006<sup>a</sup>**

	Average Difference Between Projected and Actual Jobs
Subtotal for Industries with Employment of 4,000 or Greater (22)	-114.8
All Other Industries (69)	-29.2
Sectors	-349.1
<b>Statewide Total, All Industries (91)</b>	<b>-49.9</b>

<sup>a</sup>See Leonard (2004) for calculation details.

rapid than expected economic expansion contributed substantially to the overall forecast error. It is reasonable to assume that during times of rapid expansion or contraction it is more difficult to accurately forecast employment. However, the differences in error rates did not increase appreciably compared to the prior round of forecasts given the magnitude of the current expansion.

## References

Harris, M. (2002, September). Is Wyoming's economy diversifying and is economic

diversity in Wyoming desirable? *Wyoming Labor Force Trends*. Retrieved March 8, 2007, from <http://doe.state.wy.us/lmi/0902/0902.pdf>.

Leonard, D. (2004, May). An examination of short-term employment projections accuracy. *Wyoming Labor Force Trends*. Retrieved March 8, 2007, from <http://doe.state.wy.us/lmi/0504/0504.pdf>.

U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics. (n.d.). *Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages*. Retrieved March 8, 2007, from <http://www.bls.gov/cew/home.htm>.

**Table 4: Wyoming Employment Proportions Comparison to National, Second Quarter 2004 and Second Quarter 2006**

Industrial Sector	Wyoming	National	Wyoming	National	Difference (US - WY) 2004Q2	Difference (US - WY) 2006Q2
	Proportion of Employment 2004Q2	Proportion of Employment 2004Q2	Proportion of Employment 2006Q2	Proportion of Employment 2006Q2		
Natural Resources & Mining	8.9%	1.4%	9.6%	1.4%	-7.5%	-8.2%
Construction	7.9%	5.6%	8.2%	6.0%	-2.4%	-2.2%
Manufacturing	3.7%	11.2%	3.7%	10.8%	7.5%	7.1%
Wholesale Trade	3.0%	4.4%	3.0%	4.5%	1.4%	1.5%
Retail Trade	12.0%	11.7%	11.8%	11.6%	-0.3%	-0.2%
Transportation, Warehousing, & Utilities	4.0%	2.8%	4.0%	2.9%	-1.2%	-1.1%
Information	1.9%	2.5%	1.9%	1.7%	0.6%	-0.2%
Financial Activities	4.2%	6.2%	4.3%	6.3%	2.0%	2.0%
Professional & Business Services	6.4%	12.9%	6.4%	13.4%	6.5%	7.0%
Education & Health Care	22.0%	21.5%	21.7%	21.7%	-0.5%	-0.1%
Leisure & Hospitality	13.1%	10.2%	13.0%	10.4%	-2.9%	-2.6%
Miscellaneous Services	3.2%	3.4%	3.1%	3.4%	0.2%	0.3%
Government	9.6%	6.2%	9.3%	6.1%	-3.4%	-3.2%

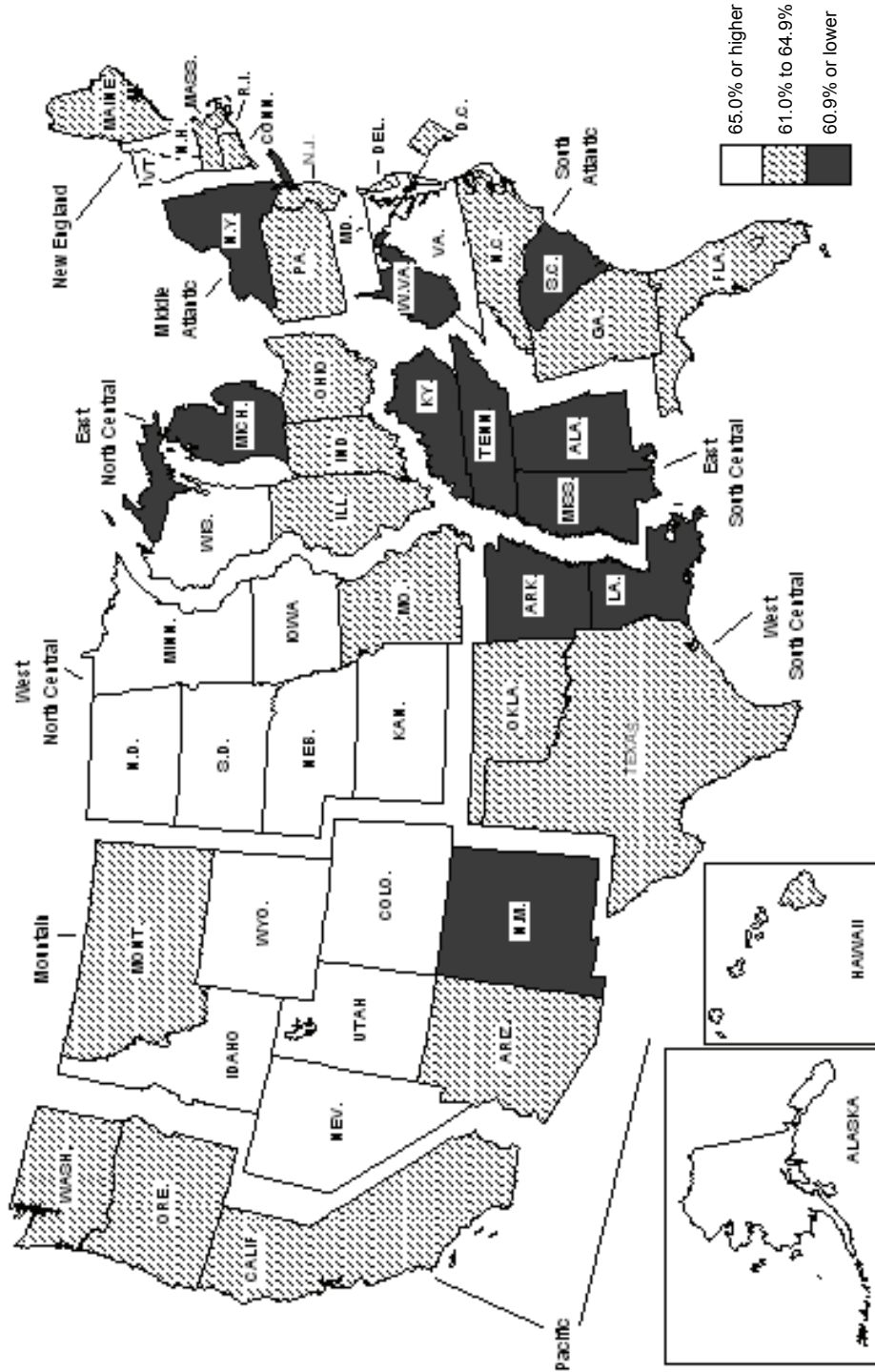
## Did You Know?

*Research & Planning's Customized Staffing Pattern Matrix allows the user to input a specific industry (e.g., Food Services & Drinking Places) and a hypothetical number of employees to determine a typical occupational distribution (the number of cooks, bartenders, bookkeepers, managers, and so on typically hired by a firm of that size) and their average hourly and/or annual wages. Requires Microsoft Access.*

[http://doe.state.wy.us/LMI/cust\\_staff.htm](http://doe.state.wy.us/LMI/cust_staff.htm)

# Employment-Population Ratios by State, 2006 Annual Averages

U.S. Average = 63.1 Percent



Reproduced from U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, Regional and State Unemployment, 2006 Annual Averages, Released March 2, 2007. <http://www.bls.gov/news.release/pdf/sgune.pdf>

## More Employees Have Access to Health Savings Accounts

The percentage of workers with access to Health Savings Accounts (HSAs) rose from 5% in March 2005 to 6% in March 2006, according to a report from the Bureau of Labor Statistics (Zilberman, 2006). While the percentage of workers with access to HSAs rose across most categories, white-collar workers, those making \$15 per hour or higher, and workers in firms with 100 employees or more remained most likely to have access to HSAs. In the Mountain Division, the percentage rose from 3% to 5% over the same period.

### References

Zilberman, A. (2006). Health Savings Accounts in National Compensation Survey Data. *Compensation and Working Conditions Online*. U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics. Retrieved May 9, 2007, from <http://www.bls.gov/opub/cwc/print/cm20061127ar01p1.htm>

## Wyoming Unemployment Falls to 2.6% in January 2007

by: David Bullard, Senior Economist

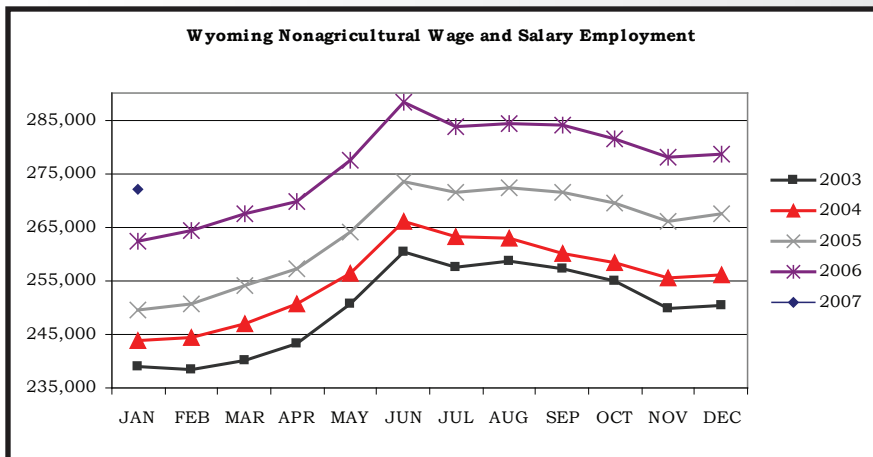
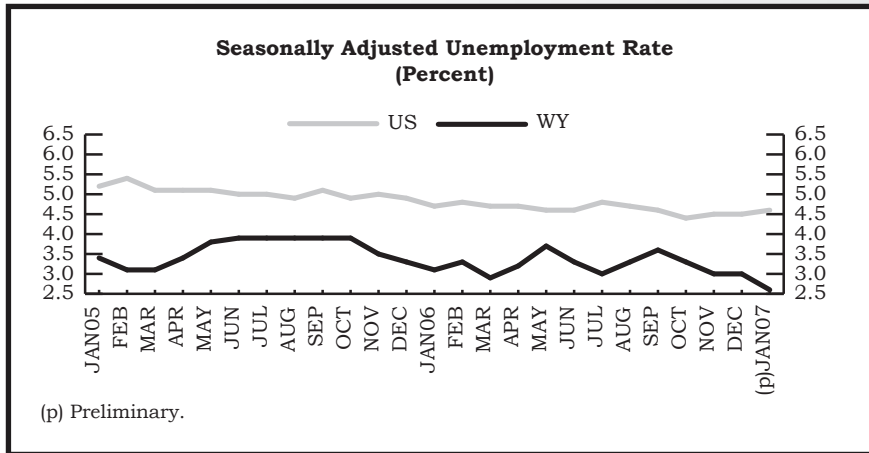
Wyoming's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate fell to 2.6% in January 2007, its lowest level since 1979. It remained well below the U.S. unemployment rate of 4.6%. Wyoming job growth continued at a healthy pace (up 9,600 jobs or 3.7% from January 2006), while U.S. job growth was much slower (1.6%).

From December to January, the number of jobs in Wyoming decreased by 6,500 or 2.3%. This represented a normal seasonal decrease as Mining and Construction activity slowed with the onset of colder weather and Retail Trade employment fell with the end of the holiday shopping season. Natural Resources & Mining (including oil & gas) lost 700 jobs or 2.5%, Construction employment fell by 1,800 jobs or 7.8%, Retail Trade employment fell by 1,200 jobs or 3.8%, and Government employment fell by 1,500 jobs or 2.2%.

Over the year Wyoming gained 9,600 jobs or 3.7%. Natural Resources & Mining

(including oil & gas) continued to dominate the job gains (2,600 jobs or 10.6%) and it was followed by Construction (1,200 jobs or 5.9%) and Professional & Business Services (1,200 jobs or 7.8%). Notable job growth also occurred in Wholesale Trade (500 jobs or 6.4%); Transportation, Warehousing, & Utilities (700 jobs or 5.3%); Educational & Health Services (800 jobs or 3.6%); Leisure & Hospitality (600 jobs or 2.0%); Other Services (500 jobs or 4.9%); and Government (including public schools and hospitals, 1,000 jobs or 1.5%). Information was the only major sector in which employment fell from January 2006 to January 2007 (-100 jobs or -2.3%).

County unemployment rates followed their normal seasonal pattern and increased from December to January. Sublette (1.9%), Campbell (2.4%), Teton (2.6%), and Sweetwater (2.8%) counties posted the lowest unemployment rates in January. The highest rates were found in Platte (5.5%), Fremont (5.2%), and Big Horn (4.8%) counties.



### State Unemployment Rates January 2007 (Seasonally Adjusted)

State	Unemp. Rate
Puerto Rico	9.8
Michigan	6.9
Alaska	6.4
South Carolina	6.4
Mississippi	6.2
District of Columbia	6.1
Kentucky	5.6
Massachusetts	5.3
Ohio	5.3
Oregon	5.2
Arkansas	5.1
Indiana	5.1
Washington	5.1
Wisconsin	4.9
California	4.8
Tennessee	4.8
Pennsylvania	4.7
Rhode Island	4.7
Illinois	4.6
Missouri	4.6
North Carolina	4.6
<b>United States</b>	<b>4.6</b>
Georgia	4.5
Nevada	4.5
Texas	4.5
Connecticut	4.4
Maine	4.4
Minnesota	4.4
New York	4.3
Arizona	4.2
New Jersey	4.2
Colorado	4.1
Kansas	4.1
Vermont	4.0
West Virginia	4.0
Maryland	3.8
New Mexico	3.8
Oklahoma	3.8
Louisiana	3.7
New Hampshire	3.7
Delaware	3.4
Iowa	3.4
Alabama	3.3
Florida	3.3
South Dakota	3.3
North Dakota	3.2
Idaho	3.0
Nebraska	3.0
Virginia	2.8
Montana	2.7
Utah	2.6
<b>Wyoming</b>	<b>2.6</b>
Hawaii	2.2

## Wyoming Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment

by: David Bullard, Senior Economist

Over the year Wyoming gained 9,600 jobs or 3.7%. Natural Resources & Mining (including oil & gas) continued to dominate the job gains (2,600 jobs or 10.6%).

WYOMING STATEWIDE	Employment in Thousands		Percent Change Total Employment		LARAMIE COUNTY	Employment in Thousands		Percent Change Total Employment			
	Jan07(p)	Dec06(b)	Jan06	Jan07		Jan07(p)	Dec06(b)	Jan06	Jan07	Jan07	
<b>TOTAL NONAG. WAGE &amp; SALARY EMPLOYMENT</b>	<b>272.0</b>	<b>278.5</b>	<b>262.4</b>	<b>-2.3</b>	<b>3.7</b>	<b>TOTAL NONAG. WAGE &amp; SALARY EMPLOYMENT</b>	<b>42.5</b>	<b>42.9</b>	<b>41.6</b>	<b>-0.9</b>	<b>2.2</b>
<b>TOTAL PRIVATE</b>	<b>206.2</b>	<b>211.2</b>	<b>197.6</b>	<b>-2.4</b>	<b>4.4</b>	<b>TOTAL PRIVATE</b>	<b>29.5</b>	<b>30.0</b>	<b>29.0</b>	<b>-1.7</b>	<b>1.7</b>
<b>GOODS PRODUCING</b>	<b>58.6</b>	<b>61.3</b>	<b>54.6</b>	<b>-4.4</b>	<b>7.3</b>	<b>GOODS PRODUCING</b>	<b>4.5</b>	<b>4.7</b>	<b>4.4</b>	<b>-4.3</b>	<b>2.3</b>
Natural Resources & Mining	27.2	27.9	24.6	-2.5	10.6	Nat. Res., Mining, & Construction	2.9	3.1	2.9	-6.5	0.0
Mining	27.1	27.8	24.7	-2.5	9.7	Manufacturing	1.6	1.6	1.5	0.0	6.7
Oil & Gas Extraction	4.3	4.4	3.9	-2.3	10.3	<b>SERVICE PROVIDING</b>	<b>38.0</b>	<b>38.2</b>	<b>37.2</b>	<b>-0.5</b>	<b>2.2</b>
Mining Except Oil & Gas	9.0	9.0	8.3	0.0	8.4	Trade, Transportation, & Utilities	9.2	9.4	9.2	-2.1	0.0
Coal Mining	6.1	6.1	5.5	0.0	10.9	Wholesale Trade	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.0	0.0
Support Activities for Mining	13.8	14.4	12.5	-4.2	10.4	Retail Trade	5.5	5.7	5.6	-3.5	-1.8
Support Act. for Oil & Gas	9.7	10.2	8.5	-4.9	14.1	Trans, Warehouse, & Utilities	2.9	2.9	2.8	0.0	3.6
Construction	21.4	23.2	20.2	-7.8	5.9	Information	1.0	1.0	1.0	0.0	0.0
Construction of Buildings	4.4	4.8	4.3	-8.3	2.3	Financial Activities	2.0	2.0	2.0	0.0	0.0
Heavy & Engineering Constr.	6.3	7.0	5.7	-10.0	10.5	Professional & Business Services	3.3	3.3	3.2	0.0	3.1
Specialty Trade Contractors	10.7	11.4	10.2	-6.1	4.9	Educational & Health Services	3.6	3.6	3.3	0.0	9.1
Manufacturing	10.0	10.2	9.8	-2.0	2.0	Leisure & Hospitality	4.2	4.3	4.2	-2.3	0.0
Durable Goods	5.2	5.3	5.2	-1.9	0.0	Other Services	1.7	1.7	1.7	0.0	0.0
Non-Durable Goods	4.8	4.9	4.6	-2.0	4.3	<b>TOTAL GOVERNMENT</b>	<b>13.0</b>	<b>12.9</b>	<b>12.6</b>	<b>0.8</b>	<b>3.2</b>
<b>SERVICE PROVIDING</b>	<b>213.4</b>	<b>217.2</b>	<b>207.8</b>	<b>-1.7</b>	<b>2.7</b>	Federal Government	2.5	2.5	2.5	0.0	0.0
Trade, Trans., Warehouse, & Util.	52.2	53.7	50.7	-2.8	3.0	State Government	4.0	3.9	3.8	2.6	5.3
Wholesale Trade	8.3	8.4	7.8	-1.2	6.4	Local Government	6.5	6.5	6.3	0.0	3.2
Merchant Whlsrns., Durable	5.1	5.1	4.7	0.0	8.5	Local Education	3.4	3.4	3.2	0.0	6.2
Retail Trade	30.1	31.3	29.8	-3.8	1.0	<b>NATRONA COUNTY</b>					
Motor Vehicle & Parts Dealers	4.4	4.4	4.3	0.0	2.3	<b>TOTAL NONAG. WAGE &amp; SALARY EMPLOYMENT</b>	<b>38.6</b>	<b>39.7</b>	<b>37.5</b>	<b>-2.8</b>	<b>2.9</b>
Food & Beverage Stores	4.5	4.6	4.4	-2.2	2.3	<b>TOTAL PRIVATE</b>	<b>32.9</b>	<b>33.7</b>	<b>31.8</b>	<b>-2.4</b>	<b>3.5</b>
Grocery Stores	3.8	3.9	3.8	-2.6	0.0	<b>GOODS PRODUCING</b>	<b>8.5</b>	<b>8.7</b>	<b>8.0</b>	<b>-2.3</b>	<b>6.3</b>
Gasoline Stations	3.9	4.0	3.9	-2.5	0.0	Natural Resources & Mining	4.2	4.3	3.9	-2.3	7.7
General Merchandise Stores	6.3	6.6	5.8	-4.5	8.6	Construction	2.4	2.5	2.3	-4.0	4.3
Miscellaneous Store Retailers	1.8	1.9	1.8	-5.3	0.0	Manufacturing	1.9	1.9	1.8	0.0	5.6
Transport., Warehouse, & Util.	13.8	14.0	13.1	-1.4	5.3	<b>SERVICE PROVIDING</b>	<b>30.1</b>	<b>31.0</b>	<b>29.5</b>	<b>-2.9</b>	<b>2.0</b>
Utilities	2.3	2.3	2.3	0.0	0.0	Trade, Transportation, & Utilities	8.7	9.0	8.5	-3.3	2.4
Transportation & Warehousing	11.5	11.7	10.8	-1.7	6.5	Wholesale Trade	2.5	2.5	2.4	0.0	4.2
Truck Transportation	4.2	4.2	3.8	0.0	10.5	Retail Trade	5.0	5.3	4.9	-5.7	2.0
Information	4.2	4.3	4.3	-2.3	-2.3	Transport., Warehouse, & Util.	1.2	1.2	1.2	0.0	0.0
Financial Activities	11.0	11.1	10.9	-0.9	0.9	Information	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.0	0.0
Finance & Insurance	7.0	6.9	6.9	1.4	1.4	Financial Activities	2.1	2.1	2.0	0.0	5.0
Real Estate & Rental & Leasing	4.0	4.2	4.0	-4.8	0.0	Professional & Business Services	2.8	2.9	2.8	-3.4	0.0
Professional & Business Services	16.6	16.8	15.4	-1.2	7.8	Educational & Health Services	4.8	4.8	4.7	0.0	2.1
Prof., Scientific & Tech. Services	9.2	9.2	8.6	0.0	7.0	Leisure & Hospitality	3.5	3.7	3.4	-5.4	2.9
Architect., Engineering & Rel.	2.5	2.6	2.4	-3.8	4.2	Other Services	1.9	1.9	1.8	0.0	5.6
Mgmt. of Companies & Enterpr.	0.9	0.9	0.8	0.0	12.5	<b>TOTAL GOVERNMENT</b>	<b>5.7</b>	<b>6.0</b>	<b>5.7</b>	<b>-5.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>
Admin., Support & Waste Svcs.	6.5	6.7	6.0	-3.0	8.3	Federal Government	0.6	0.6	0.7	0.0	-14.3
Educational & Health Services	22.9	22.9	22.1	0.0	3.6	State Government	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.0	0.0
Educational	2.5	2.5	2.4	0.0	4.2	Local Government	4.4	4.7	4.3	-6.4	2.3
Health Care & Social Assistance	20.4	20.4	19.7	0.0	3.6	Local Education	3.0	3.2	2.9	-6.3	3.4
Ambulatory Health Care	7.7	7.7	7.5	0.0	2.7						
Offices of Physicians	3.1	3.0	3.0	3.3	3.3						
Hospitals	2.9	2.9	2.8	0.0	3.6						
Nursing & Res. Care Facilities	4.5	4.5	4.3	0.0	4.7						
Social Assistance	5.3	5.3	5.1	0.0	3.9						
Leisure & Hospitality	29.9	30.3	29.3	-1.3	2.0						
Arts, Entertainment, & Rec.	2.4	2.4	2.2	0.0	9.1						
Accommodation & Food Services	27.5	27.9	27.1	-1.4	1.5						
Accommodation	10.1	10.1	9.9	0.0	2.0						
Food Serv. & Drinking Places	17.4	17.8	17.2	-2.2	1.2						
Other Services	10.8	10.8	10.3	0.0	4.9						
Repair & Maintenance	3.7	3.7	3.3	0.0	12.1						
<b>TOTAL GOVERNMENT</b>	<b>65.8</b>	<b>67.3</b>	<b>64.8</b>	<b>-2.2</b>	<b>1.5</b>						
Federal Government	6.8	6.9	6.8	-1.4	0.0						
State Government	15.7	15.7	15.3	0.0	2.6						
State Govt. Education	6.5	6.6	6.5	-1.5	0.0						
Local Government	43.3	44.7	42.7	-3.1	1.4						
Local Govt. Education	22.5	23.6	22.2	-4.7	1.4						
Hospitals	6.0	6.1	6.0	-1.6	0.0						

Note: Current Employment Statistics (CES) estimates include all full- and part-time wage and salary workers in nonagricultural establishments who worked or received pay during the week which includes the 12th of the month. Self-employed, domestic services, and personnel of the armed forces are excluded. Data are not seasonally adjusted. Wyoming, Laramie County, and Natrona County are published in cooperation with the Bureau of Labor Statistics.

(p) Preliminary. (b) Benchmarked.

## Wyoming Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment

(Continued)

	Employment in Thousands			Percent Change Total Employment	
	Jan07(p)	Dec06(r)	Jan06	Dec06	Jan06
				Jan07	Jan07
<b>CAMPBELL COUNTY</b>					
<b>TOTAL NONAG. WAGE &amp; SALARY EMPLOYMENT</b>	<b>26.0</b>	<b>26.4</b>	<b>25.0</b>	<b>-1.5</b>	<b>4.0</b>
<b>TOTAL PRIVATE</b>	<b>22.0</b>	<b>22.4</b>	<b>21.0</b>	<b>-1.8</b>	<b>4.8</b>
<b>GOODS PRODUCING</b>	<b>10.8</b>	<b>11.1</b>	<b>10.5</b>	<b>-2.7</b>	<b>2.9</b>
Natural Resources & Mining	7.8	7.9	7.3	-1.3	6.8
Construction	2.4	2.6	2.6	-7.7	-7.7
Manufacturing	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.0	0.0
<b>SERVICE PROVIDING</b>	<b>15.2</b>	<b>15.3</b>	<b>14.5</b>	<b>-0.7</b>	<b>4.8</b>
Trade, Transport., & Utilities	5.1	5.1	4.6	0.0	10.9
Information	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.0	0.0
Financial Activities	0.7	0.7	0.6	0.0	16.7
Professional & Bus. Services	1.7	1.7	1.6	0.0	6.2
Educational & Health Serv.	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.0	0.0
Leisure & Hospitality	1.8	1.9	1.8	-5.3	0.0
Other Services	0.9	0.9	0.9	0.0	0.0
<b>TOTAL GOVERNMENT</b>	<b>4.0</b>	<b>4.0</b>	<b>4.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>
<b>SWEETWATER COUNTY</b>					
<b>TOTAL NONAG. WAGE &amp; SALARY EMPLOYMENT</b>	<b>24.6</b>	<b>24.9</b>	<b>22.6</b>	<b>-1.2</b>	<b>8.8</b>
<b>TOTAL PRIVATE</b>	<b>20.4</b>	<b>20.5</b>	<b>18.5</b>	<b>-0.5</b>	<b>10.3</b>
<b>GOODS PRODUCING</b>	<b>9.1</b>	<b>9.1</b>	<b>7.9</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>15.2</b>
Natural Resources & Mining	5.9	5.8	5.1	1.7	15.7
Construction	2.0	2.1	1.6	-4.8	25.0
Manufacturing	1.2	1.2	1.2	0.0	0.0
<b>SERVICE PROVIDING</b>	<b>15.5</b>	<b>15.8</b>	<b>14.7</b>	<b>-1.9</b>	<b>5.4</b>
Trade, Transport., & Utilities	4.9	5.0	4.8	-2.0	2.1
Information	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.0	0.0
Financial Activities	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.0	0.0
Professional & Bus. Services	1.2	1.2	1.0	0.0	20.0
Educational & Health Serv.	0.9	0.9	0.9	0.0	0.0
Leisure & Hospitality	2.3	2.3	2.2	0.0	4.5
Other Services	1.0	1.0	0.7	0.0	42.9
<b>TOTAL GOVERNMENT</b>	<b>4.2</b>	<b>4.4</b>	<b>4.1</b>	<b>-4.5</b>	<b>2.4</b>
<b>TETON COUNTY</b>					
<b>TOTAL NONAG. WAGE &amp; SALARY EMPLOYMENT</b>	<b>17.1</b>	<b>17.2</b>	<b>16.6</b>	<b>-0.6</b>	<b>3.0</b>
<b>TOTAL PRIVATE</b>	<b>14.9</b>	<b>14.9</b>	<b>14.4</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>3.5</b>
<b>GOODS PRODUCING</b>	<b>2.3</b>	<b>2.5</b>	<b>2.1</b>	<b>-8.0</b>	<b>9.5</b>
Nat. Res., Mining & Const.	2.1	2.3	1.9	-8.7	10.5
Manufacturing	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.0	0.0
<b>SERVICE PROVIDING</b>	<b>14.8</b>	<b>14.7</b>	<b>14.5</b>	<b>0.7</b>	<b>2.1</b>
Trade, Transport., & Utilities	2.5	2.5	2.4	0.0	4.2
Information	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.0	0.0
Financial Activities	0.9	0.9	0.9	0.0	0.0
Professional & Bus. Services	1.5	1.6	1.4	-6.3	7.1
Educational & Health Serv.	0.9	0.9	0.8	0.0	12.5
Leisure & Hospitality	6.0	5.7	6.0	5.3	0.0
Other Services	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.0	0.0
<b>TOTAL GOVERNMENT</b>	<b>2.2</b>	<b>2.3</b>	<b>2.2</b>	<b>-4.3</b>	<b>0.0</b>

### State Unemployment Rates January 2007 (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

State	Unemp. Rate
Puerto Rico	9.9
Michigan	7.7
Alaska	7.4
South Carolina	6.8
Mississippi	6.7
District of Columbia	6.3
Kentucky	6.3
Ohio	6.2
Massachusetts	6.0
Oregon	6.0
Washington	5.9
Arkansas	5.8
Indiana	5.8
Rhode Island	5.5
Wisconsin	5.5
Minnesota	5.4
California	5.3
Pennsylvania	5.3
Tennessee	5.3
Illinois	5.2
Maine	5.2
Missouri	5.1
Connecticut	5.0
North Carolina	5.0
<b>United States</b>	<b>5.0</b>
Nevada	4.9
New York	4.9
New Jersey	4.8
West Virginia	4.8
Georgia	4.7
Texas	4.7
Vermont	4.7
Colorado	4.6
Kansas	4.6
Arizona	4.4
Iowa	4.4
Louisiana	4.4
Maryland	4.4
Oklahoma	4.4
Idaho	4.2
New Hampshire	4.2
North Dakota	4.0
South Dakota	4.0
New Mexico	3.9
Delaware	3.8
Montana	3.8
Nebraska	3.8
<b>Wyoming</b>	<b>3.7</b>
Alabama	3.6
Florida	3.4
Virginia	3.2
Utah	2.9
Hawaii	2.1

## Economic Indicators

by: *Margaret Hiatt, Administrative/Survey Support Specialist*

*The number of unemployed individuals in Wyoming fell by 5.8% from January 2006 to January 2007.*

	Jan 2007 (p)	Dec 2006 (r)	Jan 2006 (b)	Percent Change Month Year	
Wyoming Total Civilian Labor Force	282,515	285,835	275,109	-1.2	2.7
Unemployed	10,510	8,981	11,157	17.0	-5.8
Employed	272,005	276,854	263,952	-1.8	3.1
Wyoming Unemp. Rate/Seasonally Adjusted	3.7%/2.6%	3.1%/3.0%	4.1%/3.0%	N/A	N/A
U.S. Unemployment Rate/Seasonally Adjusted	5.0%/4.6%	4.3%/4.5%	5.1%/4.7%	N/A	N/A
U.S. Multiple Jobholders	7,527,000	7,950,000	7,428,000	-5.3	1.3
As a percent of all workers	5.2%	5.4%	5.3%	N/A	N/A
U.S. Discouraged Workers	442,000	274,000	396,000	61.3	11.6
U.S. Part-Time for Economic Reasons	4,726,000	4,281,000	4,597,000	10.4	2.8
Hours & Earnings for Production Workers					
Wyoming Mining					
Average Weekly Earnings	\$1,140.69	\$1,219.45	\$1,104.38	-6.5	3.3
Average Weekly Hours	45.5	48.7	46.5	-6.6	-2.2
U.S. Mining Hours & Earnings					
Average Weekly Earnings	\$953.55	\$970.14	\$914.30	-1.7	4.3
Average Weekly Hours	45.0	46.0	46.2	-2.2	-2.6
Wyoming Manufacturing Hours & Earnings					
Average Weekly Earnings	\$718.59	\$741.45	\$697.18	-3.1	3.1
Average Weekly Hours	41.9	42.2	42.1	-0.7	-0.5
U.S. Manufacturing Hours & Earnings					
Average Weekly Earnings	\$692.71	\$711.36	\$684.67	-2.6	1.2
Average Weekly Hours	40.7	41.6	40.9	-2.2	-0.5
Wyoming Unemployment Insurance					
Weeks Compensated	15,469	10,200	16,709	51.7	-7.4
Benefits Paid	\$4,142,427	\$2,629,578	\$4,116,331	57.5	0.6
Average Weekly Benefit Payment	\$267.79	\$257.80	\$246.35	3.9	8.7
State Insured Covered Jobs	251,315	256,360	239,727	-2.0	4.8
Insured Unemployment Rate	1.5%	1.1%	1.7%	N/A	N/A
Consumer Price Index (U) for All U.S. Urban Consumers (1982 to 1984 = 100) - All Items					
Food & Beverages	202.4	201.8	198.3	0.3	2.1
Housing	199.2	197.4	194.5	0.9	2.4
Apparel	206.1	204.8	200.0	0.6	3.0
Transportation	116.0	118.6	114.9	-2.2	0.9
Medical Care	174.5	175.4	175.9	-0.5	-0.8
Recreation (Dec. 1997=100)	343.5	340.1	329.5	1.0	4.3
Education & Comm. (Dec. 1997=100)	111.0	110.8	109.9	0.2	1.0
Other Goods & Services	117.8	118.0	115.7	-0.2	1.8
Other Goods & Services	329.2	326.7	318.2	0.8	3.5
Producer Prices (1982 to 1984 = 100) - All Commodities	164.2	166.0	164.3	-1.1	-0.1
Wyoming Building Permits (New Privately Owned Housing Units Authorized)					
Total Units	170	225	167	-24.4	1.8
Valuation	\$32,193,000	\$32,902,000	\$28,636,000	-2.2	12.4
Single Family Homes	143	128	137	11.7	4.4
Valuation	\$29,592,000	\$26,053,000	\$25,914,000	13.6	14.2
Baker Hughes North American Rotary Rig Count for WY	83	86	88	-3.5	-5.7

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



## Wyoming County Unemployment Rates

by: Roy Azar, Economist

County unemployment rates followed their normal seasonal pattern and increased from December to January.

REGION County	Labor Force			Employed			Unemployed			Unemployment Rates		
	Jan 2007 (p)	Dec 2006 (b)	Jan 2006 (b)	Jan 2007 (p)	Dec 2006 (b)	Jan 2006 (b)	Jan 2007 (p)	Dec 2006 (b)	Jan 2006 (b)	Jan 2007 (p)	Dec 2006 (b)	Jan 2006 (b)
<b>NORTHWEST</b>	<b>42,277</b>	<b>43,110</b>	<b>42,496</b>	<b>40,218</b>	<b>41,320</b>	<b>40,275</b>	<b>2,059</b>	<b>1,790</b>	<b>2,221</b>	<b>4.9</b>	<b>4.2</b>	<b>5.2</b>
Big Horn	5,361	5,404	5,223	5,101	5,175	4,936	260	229	287	4.8	4.2	5.5
Fremont	17,294	17,641	17,570	16,401	16,856	16,622	893	785	948	5.2	4.4	5.4
Hot Springs	2,251	2,303	2,213	2,153	2,220	2,102	98	83	111	4.4	3.6	5.0
Park	13,180	13,452	13,193	12,559	12,910	12,508	621	542	685	4.7	4.0	5.2
Washakie	4,191	4,310	4,297	4,004	4,159	4,107	187	151	190	4.5	3.5	4.4
<b>NORTHEAST</b>	<b>50,656</b>	<b>51,616</b>	<b>48,448</b>	<b>49,073</b>	<b>50,296</b>	<b>46,725</b>	<b>1,583</b>	<b>1,320</b>	<b>1,723</b>	<b>3.1</b>	<b>2.6</b>	<b>3.6</b>
Campbell	25,478	25,951	23,569	24,877	25,440	22,909	601	511	660	2.4	2.0	2.8
Crook	3,232	3,326	3,148	3,112	3,225	3,028	120	101	120	3.7	3.0	3.8
Johnson	3,632	3,730	3,638	3,485	3,612	3,489	147	118	149	4.0	3.2	4.1
Sheridan	15,321	15,542	14,920	14,731	15,057	14,270	590	485	650	3.9	3.1	4.4
Weston	2,993	3,067	3,173	2,868	2,962	3,029	125	105	144	4.2	3.4	4.5
<b>SOUTHWEST</b>	<b>62,180</b>	<b>62,314</b>	<b>58,419</b>	<b>60,328</b>	<b>60,725</b>	<b>56,393</b>	<b>1,852</b>	<b>1,589</b>	<b>2,026</b>	<b>3.0</b>	<b>2.5</b>	<b>3.5</b>
Lincoln	8,226	7,904	7,516	7,883	7,617	7,132	343	287	384	4.2	3.6	5.1
Sublette	5,709	5,627	5,092	5,599	5,535	4,978	110	92	114	1.9	1.6	2.2
Sweetwater	23,925	24,096	22,035	23,257	23,549	21,295	668	547	740	2.8	2.3	3.4
Teton	13,453	13,653	13,036	13,105	13,327	12,659	348	326	377	2.6	2.4	2.9
Uinta	10,867	11,034	10,740	10,484	10,697	10,329	383	337	411	3.5	3.1	3.8
<b>SOUTHEAST</b>	<b>71,606</b>	<b>72,393</b>	<b>71,711</b>	<b>68,531</b>	<b>69,795</b>	<b>68,626</b>	<b>3,075</b>	<b>2,598</b>	<b>3,085</b>	<b>4.3</b>	<b>3.6</b>	<b>4.3</b>
Albany	18,714	19,209	19,277	18,140	18,761	18,664	574	448	613	3.1	2.3	3.2
Goshen	5,802	6,002	5,696	5,558	5,809	5,434	244	193	262	4.2	3.2	4.6
Laramie	42,231	42,228	41,697	40,227	40,507	39,768	2,004	1,721	1,929	4.7	4.1	4.6
Niobrara	1,085	1,110	1,111	1,041	1,073	1,060	44	37	51	4.1	3.3	4.6
Platte	3,774	3,844	3,930	3,565	3,645	3,700	209	199	230	5.5	5.2	5.9
<b>CENTRAL</b>	<b>55,798</b>	<b>56,405</b>	<b>54,034</b>	<b>53,855</b>	<b>54,719</b>	<b>51,931</b>	<b>1,943</b>	<b>1,686</b>	<b>2,103</b>	<b>3.5</b>	<b>3.0</b>	<b>3.9</b>
Carbon	8,113	8,205	7,351	7,811	7,937	7,010	302	268	341	3.7	3.3	4.6
Converse	6,856	6,915	6,833	6,601	6,694	6,546	255	221	287	3.7	3.2	4.2
Natrona	40,829	41,285	39,850	39,443	40,088	38,375	1,386	1,197	1,475	3.4	2.9	3.7
<b>STATEWIDE</b>	<b>282,515</b>	<b>285,835</b>	<b>275,109</b>	<b>272,005</b>	<b>276,854</b>	<b>263,952</b>	<b>10,510</b>	<b>8,981</b>	<b>11,157</b>	<b>3.7</b>	<b>3.1</b>	<b>4.1</b>
Statewide Seasonally Adjusted .....										2.6	3.0	3.0
U.S.....										5.0	4.3	5.1
U.S. Seasonally Adjusted.....										4.6	4.5	4.7

Prepared in cooperation with the Bureau of Labor Statistics. Benchmarked 02/07. Run Date 03/07.

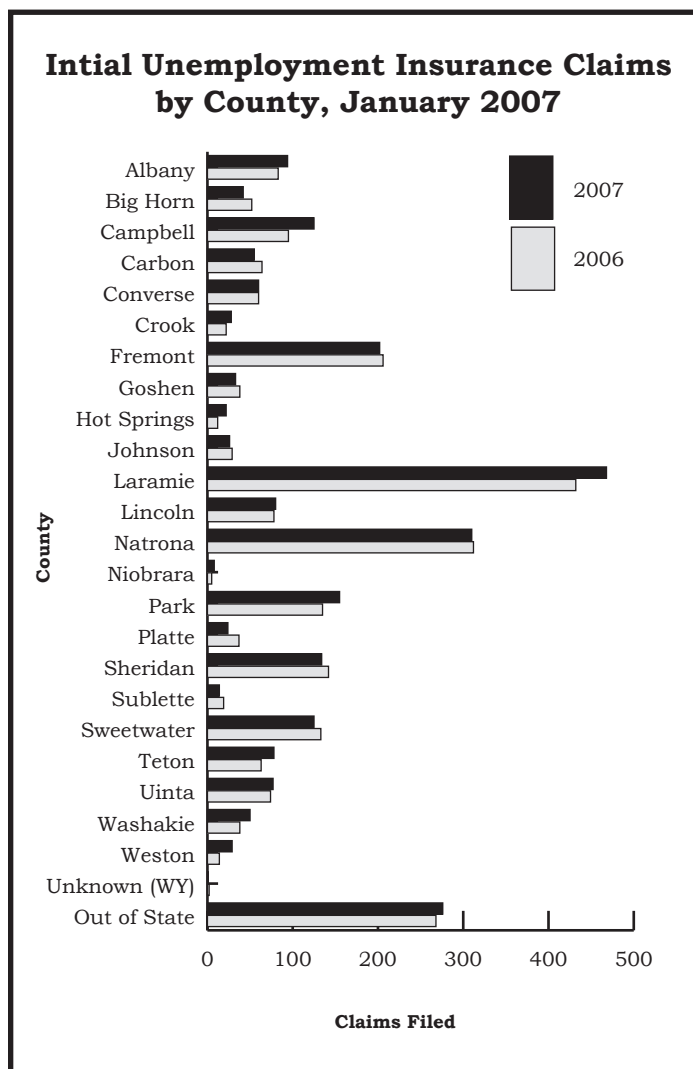
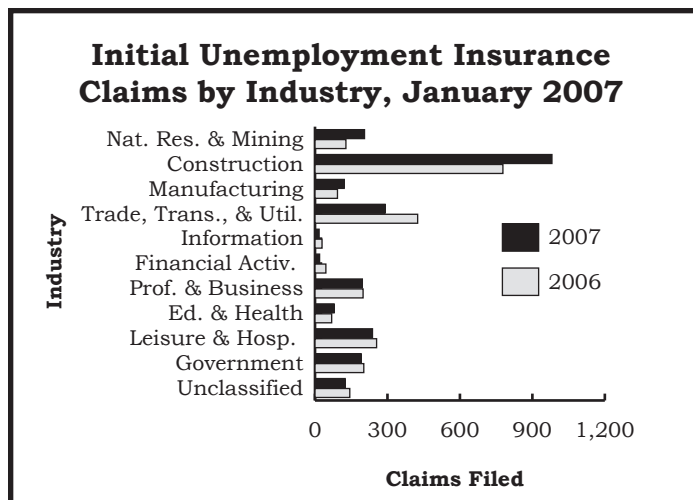
Data are not seasonally adjusted except where otherwise specified.

(p) Preliminary. (b) Benchmarked.

## Wyoming Normalized Unemployment Insurance Statistics: Initial Claims

by: Douglas W. Leonard, Senior Research Analyst

January 2007 initial claims were 4.2% greater than in January 2006. Although claims in services declined by 16.6% over the year, claims in the goods sector increased by 30.8% during the same period.



WYOMING STATEWIDE	Claims Filed		Percent Change		
	Jan07	Dec06	Jan06	Jan07	
<b>TOTAL CLAIMS FILED</b>	<b>2,513</b>	<b>2,323</b>	<b>2,412</b>	<b>8.2</b>	<b>4.2</b>
<b>TOTAL GOODS PRODUCING</b>	<b>1,307</b>	<b>1,392</b>	<b>999</b>	<b>-6.1</b>	<b>30.8</b>
Natural Resources and Mining	205	155	128	32.3	60.2
Mining	185	141	113	31.2	63.7
Oil & Gas Extraction	15	11	14	36.4	7.1
Construction	981	1,035	778	-5.2	26.1
Manufacturing	121	202	93	-40.1	30.1
<b>TOTAL SERVICE PROVIDING</b>	<b>890</b>	<b>648</b>	<b>1,067</b>	<b>37.3</b>	<b>-16.6</b>
Trade, Trans., Storage, & Util.	290	156	425	85.9	-31.8
Wholesale Trade	42	14	51	200.0	-17.6
Retail Trade	146	86	286	69.8	-49.0
Trans., Storage, & Utilities	102	56	88	82.1	15.9
Information	17	15	29	13.3	-41.4
Financial Activities	19	22	45	-13.6	-57.8
Professional & Business Serv.	196	156	199	25.6	-1.5
Educational & Health Serv.	79	74	69	6.8	14.5
Leisure & Hospitality	238	201	255	18.4	-6.7
Other Services	51	24	45	112.5	13.3
<b>TOTAL GOVERNMENT</b>	<b>191</b>	<b>165</b>	<b>202</b>	<b>15.8</b>	<b>-5.4</b>
Federal Government	87	99	102	-12.1	-14.7
State Government	29	12	22	141.7	31.8
Local Government	75	54	78	38.9	-3.8
Local Education	9	12	17	-25.0	-47.1
<b>UNCLASSIFIED</b>	<b>125</b>	<b>118</b>	<b>144</b>	<b>5.9</b>	<b>-13.2</b>

LARAMIE COUNTY					
<b>TOTAL CLAIMS FILED</b>	<b>468</b>	<b>526</b>	<b>431</b>	<b>-11.0</b>	<b>8.6</b>
<b>TOTAL GOODS PRODUCING</b>	<b>254</b>	<b>386</b>	<b>182</b>	<b>-34.2</b>	<b>39.6</b>
Construction	222	296	157	-25.0	41.4
<b>TOTAL SERVICE PROVIDING</b>	<b>171</b>	<b>113</b>	<b>201</b>	<b>51.3</b>	<b>-14.9</b>
Trade, Trans., Storage, & Util.	66	41	105	61.0	-37.1
Financial Activities	5	2	10	150.0	-50.0
Professional & Business Serv.	42	35	35	20.0	20.0
Educational & Health Services	18	4	14	350.0	28.6
Leisure & Hospitality	19	22	21	-13.6	-9.5
<b>TOTAL GOVERNMENT</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>133.3</b>	<b>27.3</b>
<b>UNCLASSIFIED</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>-42.3</b>

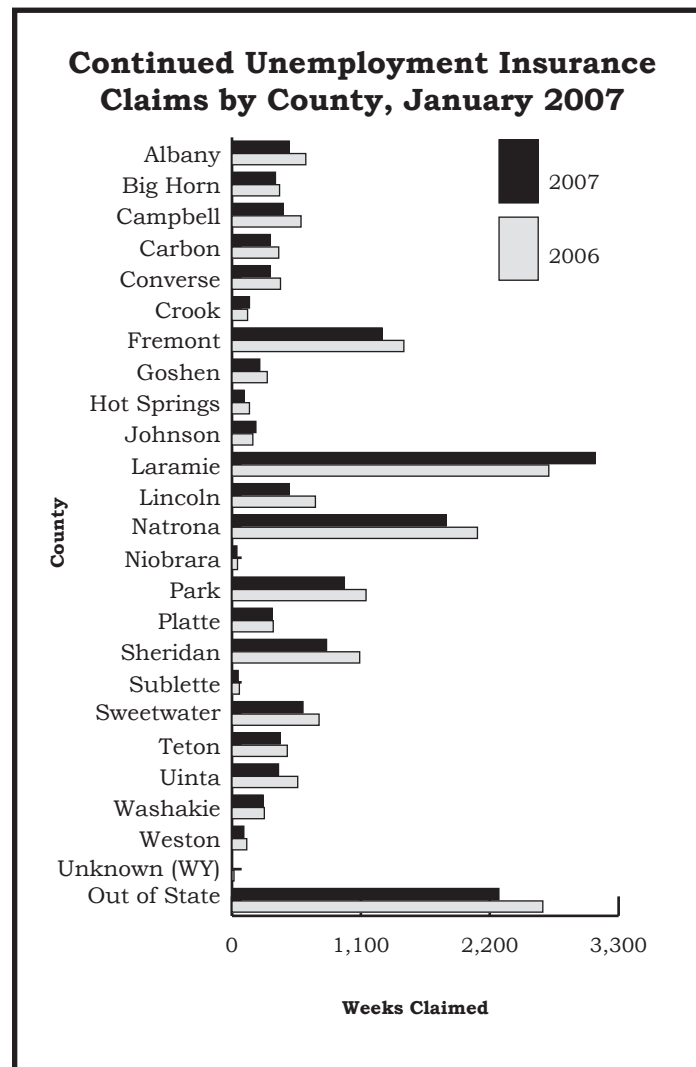
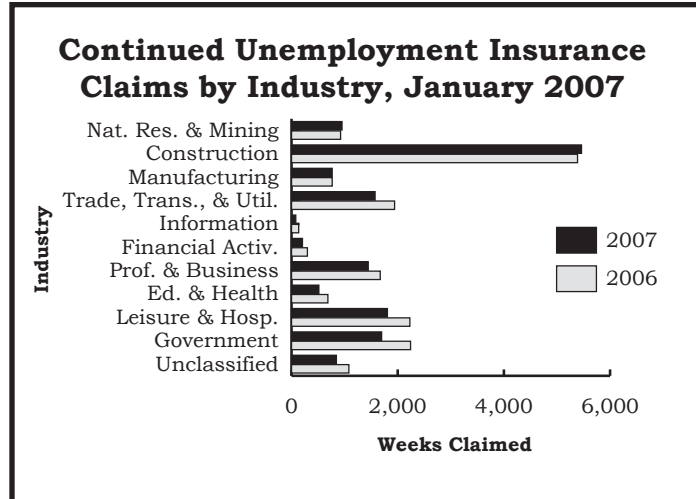
NATRONA COUNTY					
<b>TOTAL CLAIMS FILED</b>	<b>311</b>	<b>339</b>	<b>309</b>	<b>-8.3</b>	<b>0.6</b>
<b>TOTAL GOODS PRODUCING</b>	<b>186</b>	<b>243</b>	<b>142</b>	<b>-23.5</b>	<b>31.0</b>
Construction	157	193	118	-18.7	33.1
<b>TOTAL SERVICE PROVIDING</b>	<b>113</b>	<b>83</b>	<b>151</b>	<b>36.1</b>	<b>-25.2</b>
Trade, Trans., Storage, & Util.	27	21	63	28.6	-57.1
Financial Activities	0	2	8	-100.0	-100.0
Professional & Business Serv.	35	21	33	66.7	6.1
Educational & Health Services	16	6	15	166.7	6.7
Leisure & Hospitality	25	24	20	4.2	25.0
<b>TOTAL GOVERNMENT</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>-72.7</b>	<b>-62.5</b>
<b>UNCLASSIFIED</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>350.0</b>	<b>12.5</b>

## Wyoming Normalized Unemployment Insurance Statistics: Continued Claims

by: Douglas W. Leonard, Senior Research Analyst

Continued weeks claims declined by 11.9% compared to January 2006. There were 1,260 fewer claimants in January 2007 than in January 2006.

WYOMING STATEWIDE	Percent Change				
	Weeks Claimed				
	Weeks Claimed	Dec06	Jan06	Dec07	Jan07
<b>TOTAL WEEKS CLAIMED</b>	<b>15,601</b>	<b>12,605</b>	<b>17,716</b>	<b>23.8</b>	<b>-11.9</b>
<b>TOTAL UNIQUE CLAIMANTS</b>	<b>4,104</b>	<b>3,820</b>	<b>5,364</b>	<b>7.4</b>	<b>-23.5</b>
<b>TOTAL GOODS PRODUCING</b>	<b>7,179</b>	<b>4,319</b>	<b>7,077</b>	<b>66.2</b>	<b>1.4</b>
Natural Resources and Mining	951	735	924	29.4	2.9
Mining	798	605	776	31.9	2.8
Oil & Gas Extraction	67	62	79	8.1	-15.2
Construction	5,462	3,060	5,387	78.5	1.4
Manufacturing	766	524	766	46.2	0.0
<b>TOTAL SERVICE PROVIDING</b>	<b>5,880</b>	<b>5,956</b>	<b>7,317</b>	<b>-1.3</b>	<b>-19.6</b>
Trade, Trans., Storage, & Util.	1,574	1,412	1,941	11.5	-18.9
Wholesale Trade	204	197	291	3.6	-29.9
Retail Trade	861	845	1,222	1.9	-29.5
Trans., Storage, & Utilities	509	370	428	37.6	18.9
Information	80	83	135	-3.6	-40.7
Financial Activities	206	232	299	-11.2	-31.1
Professional & Business Serv.	1,445	1,269	1,671	13.9	-13.5
Educational & Health Serv.	515	470	685	9.6	-24.8
Leisure & Hospitality	1,806	2,258	2,229	-20.0	-19.0
Other Services	254	232	357	9.5	-28.9
<b>TOTAL GOVERNMENT</b>	<b>1,697</b>	<b>1,583</b>	<b>2,242</b>	<b>7.2</b>	<b>-24.3</b>
Federal Government	912	869	1,211	4.9	-24.7
State Government	179	185	255	-3.2	-29.8
Local Government	606	529	776	14.6	-21.9
Local Education	92	101	145	-8.9	-36.6
<b>UNCLASSIFIED</b>	<b>845</b>	<b>747</b>	<b>1,080</b>	<b>13.1</b>	<b>-21.8</b>
<b>LARAMIE COUNTY</b>					
<b>TOTAL WEEKS CLAIMED</b>	<b>3,101</b>	<b>2,182</b>	<b>2,703</b>	<b>42.1</b>	<b>14.7</b>
<b>TOTAL UNIQUE CLAIMANTS</b>	<b>833</b>	<b>723</b>	<b>853</b>	<b>15.2</b>	<b>-2.3</b>
<b>TOTAL GOODS PRODUCING</b>	<b>1,790</b>	<b>994</b>	<b>1,214</b>	<b>80.1</b>	<b>47.4</b>
Construction	1,504	791	1,005	90.1	49.7
<b>TOTAL SERVICE PROVIDING</b>	<b>1,018</b>	<b>953</b>	<b>1,133</b>	<b>90.1</b>	<b>-10.2</b>
Trade, Trans., Storage, & Util.	406	362	357	51.0	13.7
Financial Activities	55	72	59	-23.6	-6.8
Professional & Business Serv.	271	264	306	2.7	-11.4
Educational & Health Services	107	107	147	0.0	-27.2
Leisure & Hospitality	105	94	194	11.7	-45.9
<b>TOTAL GOVERNMENT</b>	<b>193</b>	<b>166</b>	<b>215</b>	<b>16.3</b>	<b>-10.2</b>
<b>UNCLASSIFIED</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>69</b>	<b>141</b>	<b>44.9</b>	<b>-29.1</b>
<b>NATRONA COUNTY</b>					
<b>TOTAL WEEKS CLAIMED</b>	<b>1,829</b>	<b>1,260</b>	<b>2,096</b>	<b>45.2</b>	<b>-12.7</b>
<b>TOTAL UNIQUE CLAIMANTS</b>	<b>524</b>	<b>419</b>	<b>712</b>	<b>25.1</b>	<b>-26.4</b>
<b>TOTAL GOODS PRODUCING</b>	<b>980</b>	<b>468</b>	<b>973</b>	<b>109.4</b>	<b>0.7</b>
Construction	791	323	773	144.9	2.3
<b>TOTAL SERVICE PROVIDING</b>	<b>702</b>	<b>643</b>	<b>976</b>	<b>9.2</b>	<b>-28.1</b>
Trade, Trans., Storage, & Util.	223	219	298	1.8	-25.2
Financial Activities	16	22	64	-27.3	-75.0
Professional & Business Serv.	207	169	292	22.5	-29.1
Educational & Health Services	70	79	63	-11.4	11.1
Leisure & Hospitality	124	85	152	45.9	-18.4
<b>TOTAL GOVERNMENT</b>	<b>110</b>	<b>104</b>	<b>105</b>	<b>5.8</b>	<b>4.8</b>
<b>UNCLASSIFIED</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>-17.8</b>	<b>-11.9</b>



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

---

**Official Business  
Penalty for Private Use \$300**

**Presorted Standard  
U.S. Postage  
PAID  
Permit No. G-12  
Cheyenne, WY**