

# TRENDS

## Excerpt from Wyoming Benefits Survey

by: *Lisa Knapp, Research Analyst*

*Benefits such as health insurance and retirement plans are important for recruiting and retaining employees, but in recent years employers have changed the way they offer these benefits in order to keep up with rising costs. (The Wages and Benefits in Wyoming publication is at <http://doe.state.wy.us/LMI/benefits.htm>.)*

According to the Government Accountability Office (GAO, 2006), over the past decade the cost of offering benefits to employees grew at a much greater rate than employee wages. Benefits such as health insurance and retirement plans are important for recruiting and retaining employees, but in recent years employers have changed the way they offer these benefits in order to keep up with rising costs.

Studies by the GAO (2007) found the cost of health insurance increased by approximately 60% in the past five years, mainly due to an increased need for services, new technology, and an aging population. To counteract these rising costs, employers have shifted costs to employees by increasing premiums and deductibles,

increasing co-pays, and decreasing benefits.

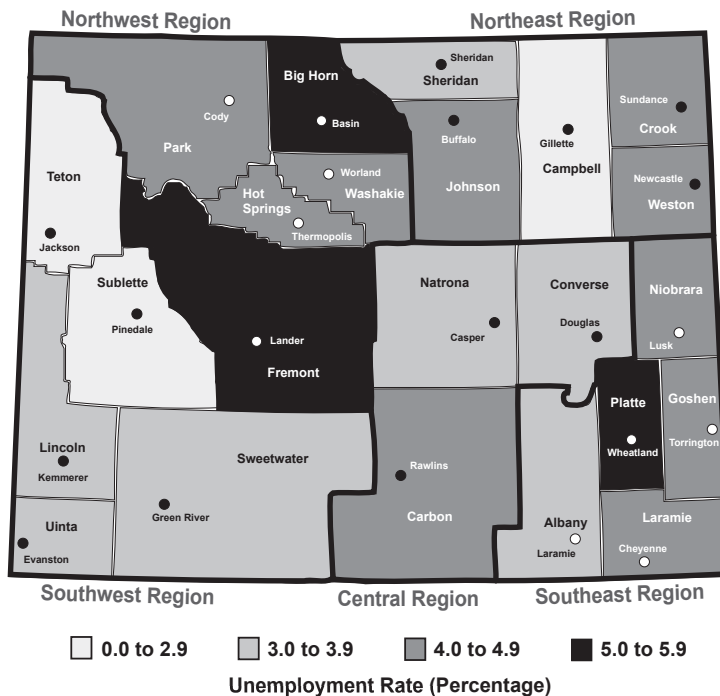
Retirement benefits typically come in two forms: defined benefit and defined contribution. Defined-benefit plans, such as pensions, are often funded by employers and the employee receives a set payment every month following retirement based on age, tenure, and salary. In comparison, defined-contribution plans are funded through monthly withholdings from the employee's salary and often a contribution from the employer. Today only approximately 20% of the nation's private sector employees are offered a defined-benefit retirement plan and the number of defined-contribution plans offered has increased since 1985.

(Text continued on page 3)

## HIGHLIGHTS

- **Did you recently receive a survey card from Research & Planning? We are compiling an e-mail list for electronic notification when *Trends* is available online, usually a week before you receive your printed copy in the mail....page 12**
- **Wyoming's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate fell from 3.1% in December to 2.7% in January, its lowest level since 1979. U.S. unemployment fell slightly, decreasing from 5.0% in December to 4.9% in January, but remained much higher than Wyoming's rate....page 12**

### Unemployment Rate by Wyoming County, January 2008 (Not Seasonally Adjusted)



### Wyoming Labor Force Trends

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## Methodology

The data for the 2006 Benefits Survey were collected from a stratified random sample of Wyoming employers. These employers were classified by their North American Industry Classification System code and by the firm size in order to ensure a representative sample for the state. Approximately 2.5% of the available employer records as shown in the Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages were sampled each quarter.

Employers in the sample were sent an advance letter to notify them of the upcoming survey and to serve as a form of address refinement. They were then sent a copy of the survey instrument. If they did not respond within three weeks they were sent another copy of the survey instrument, and those who did not respond to the second copy were sent a third copy. Finally, follow-up telephone calls were made to increase the response rate. Overall, the response rate for 2006 was 65.6%. The response rate increased to 73.2% after removing nonresponse categories such as refusals, firms with insufficient address information, and firms that were not in business during the time of the survey.

## Results and Discussion

When comparing data for different years, change can be due to two factors: statistical error and real change. Statistical change can be caused by a number of things including the number of responses received during the survey period and the distribution of response values.

### *Companies Offering Selected Benefits to Workers: A Comparison to Past Years*

The Table (see page 4) shows how the percentage of companies offering benefits changed over four years. In 2003, 49.6% of employers offered their full-time employees health insurance, 64.8% offered paid vacation, 32.0% offered life insurance, and 32.3% offered dental insurance. By 2006 the percentages of employers offering these and other benefits decreased. In 2006 only 43.2% offered health insurance and only 53.5% offered paid vacation.

Some of the difference in the proportion of employers offering benefits and employees offered benefits between 2003 and 2006 may be explained by the rising costs of these benefits. However, some of the change may be due to the types of companies coming into the state. Figure 1 (see page 4) shows the number of employees by industry. The largest growth was in natural resources & mining, but there was also significant growth in construction and in leisure & hospitality, neither of which is as likely to offer benefits as other industries. A 2005 study conducted by Research & Planning for the Wyoming Healthcare Commission found that employers in both construction and leisure & hospitality were less likely to provide benefits because of the transitory nature of the jobs. Turnover tends to be high and tenure tends to be low in these industries, which in turn makes benefit packages more costly for companies.

### *Industry-Level Benefits Analysis, Full-Time Workers*

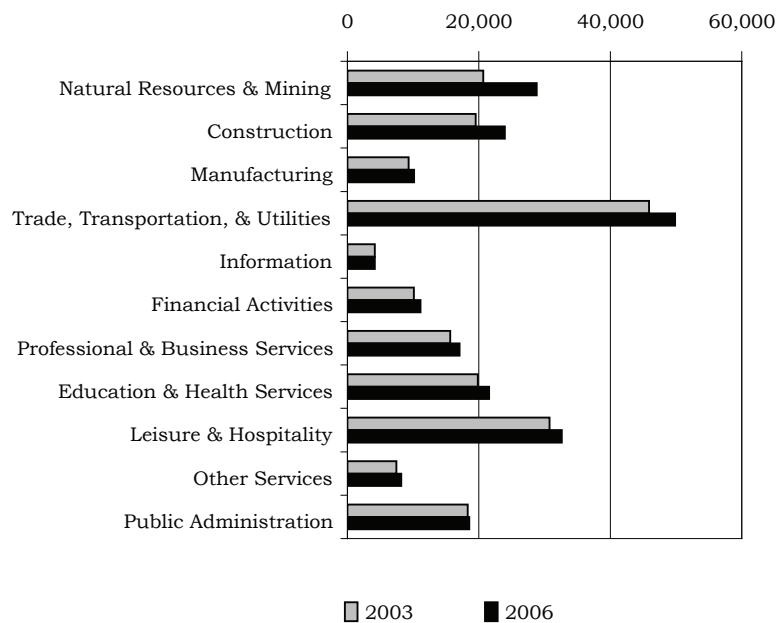
As shown in Figure 2 (see page 5), in 2006 43.2% of employers in all industries offered full-time employees health insurance and 79.2% of these employees

**Table: Percentage of Companies Offering Selected Benefits to Their Full- and Part-Time Employees in Wyoming, 2003-2006**

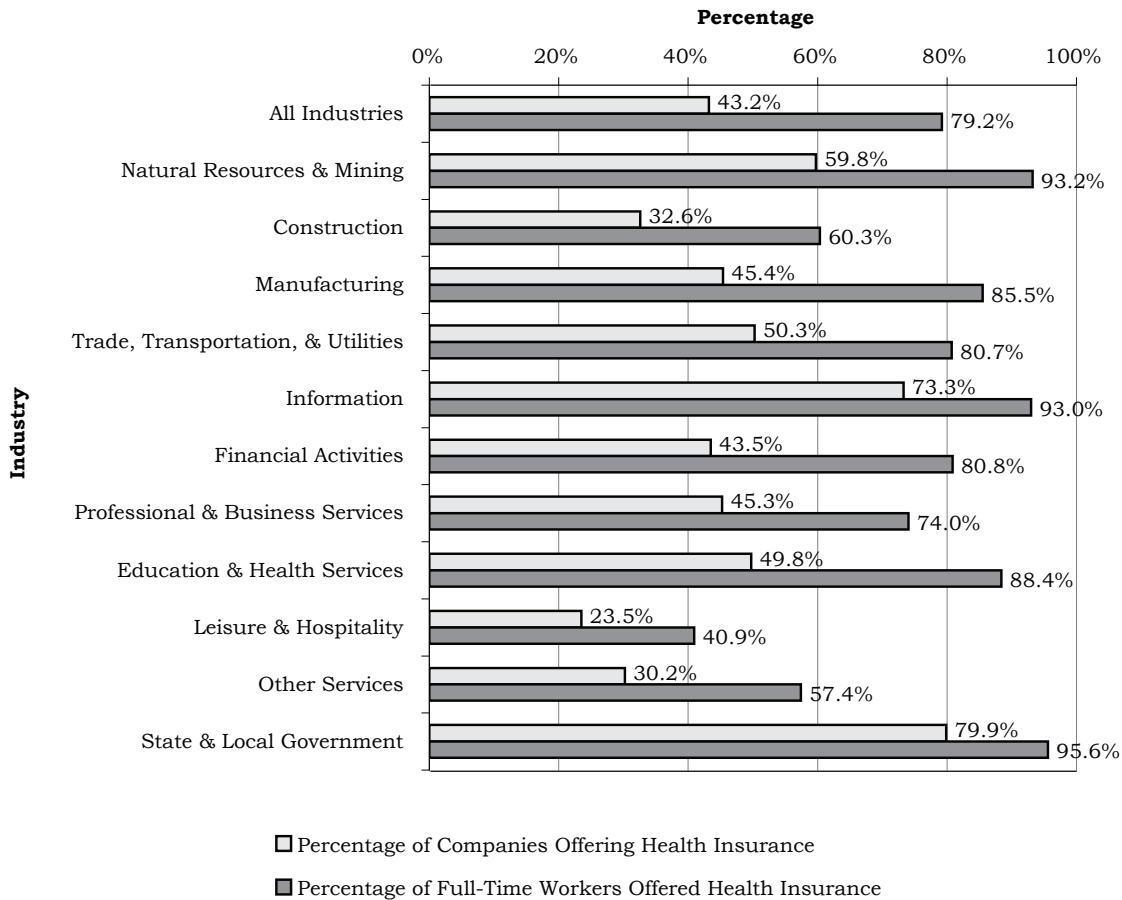
Benefit Type	2003		2004		2005		2006	
	Full-Time	Part-Time	Full-Time	Part-Time	Full-Time	Part-Time	Full-Time	Part-Time
Child Care	2.8%	1.5%	3.6%	2.0%	2.7%	1.0%	2.7%	1.2%
Dental Plan	32.3%	4.1%	35.1%	6.4%	27.2%	4.8%	27.9%	5.2%
Dependent Health Insurance	40.8%	4.4%	45.0%	6.1%	34.1%	4.0%	35.4%	4.6%
Short-Term Disability	12.6%	2.1%	13.2%	2.3%	10.7%	2.1%	10.7%	2.2%
Educational/Tuition Assistance	20.1%	6.6%	23.6%	10.3%	20.4%	8.8%	20.6%	8.7%
Flexible Spending Account	N/A	N/A	16.3%	5.3%	12.1%	3.5%	12.5%	4.3%
Health Insurance	49.6%	5.3%	52.2%	7.2%	41.9%	6.1%	43.2%	6.2%
Hiring Bonus	4.1%	1.3%	5.9%	2.2%	5.3%	1.4%	6.6%	2.1%
Life Insurance	32.0%	4.2%	32.1%	5.9%	26.8%	3.9%	27.3%	4.2%
Long-Term Disability	13.2%	2.0%	14.2%	2.2%	11.7%	1.8%	11.8%	2.0%
Paid Holidays	54.6%	17.3%	59.4%	15.3%	55.6%	16.0%	54.5%	17.5%
Paid Personal Leave	16.4%	3.9%	19.7%	4.9%	23.2%	6.2%	28.5%	7.5%
Paid Sick Leave	34.4%	8.0%	36.0%	7.5%	29.5%	6.7%	28.6%	6.7%
Paid Vacation	64.8%	14.5%	63.0%	14.3%	53.4%	10.4%	53.5%	11.0%
Retirement Plan	36.3%	11.2%	41.6%	15.8%	35.0%	11.1%	36.4%	13.4%
Operate in Shifts	N/A	N/A	15.9%	16.9%	11.4%	13.7%	11.5%	13.0%
Shift Differentials	7.4%	5.9%	30.3%	25.7%	30.7%	22.2%	32.1%	23.9%
Vision Plan	14.0%	2.4%	15.6%	4.1%	11.6%	2.1%	13.2%	2.4%

N/A - Not available.

were offered the benefit. Companies in state & local government (79.9%), information (73.3%), and natural resources & mining (59.8%) were most likely to offer health insurance while companies in leisure & hospitality (23.5%), other services (30.2%), and construction (32.6%) were least likely. Likewise, full-time employees were most likely to be offered health insurance if they worked in state & local government (95.6%), natural resources & mining (93.2%), or information (93.0%). They were least likely to be offered health

**Figure 1: Number of Employees in Wyoming by Industry, 2003 and 2006**

**Figure 2: Percentage of Employers Offering and Percentage of Full-Time Workers Offered Health Insurance by Industry in Wyoming, 2006**



insurance if they worked in leisure & hospitality (40.9%), other services (57.4%), or construction (60.3%). These three industries also were the least likely to have firms that offered health benefits to any employee.

Figure 3 (see page 6) shows the percentage of companies by industry offering retirement benefits to full-time workers and the percentage of workers within these firms who were offered the benefit. Firms in state & local government (80.5%), information (57.0%), and education & health services (56.2%) were most likely to offer retirement plans. Full-time employees in state & local government

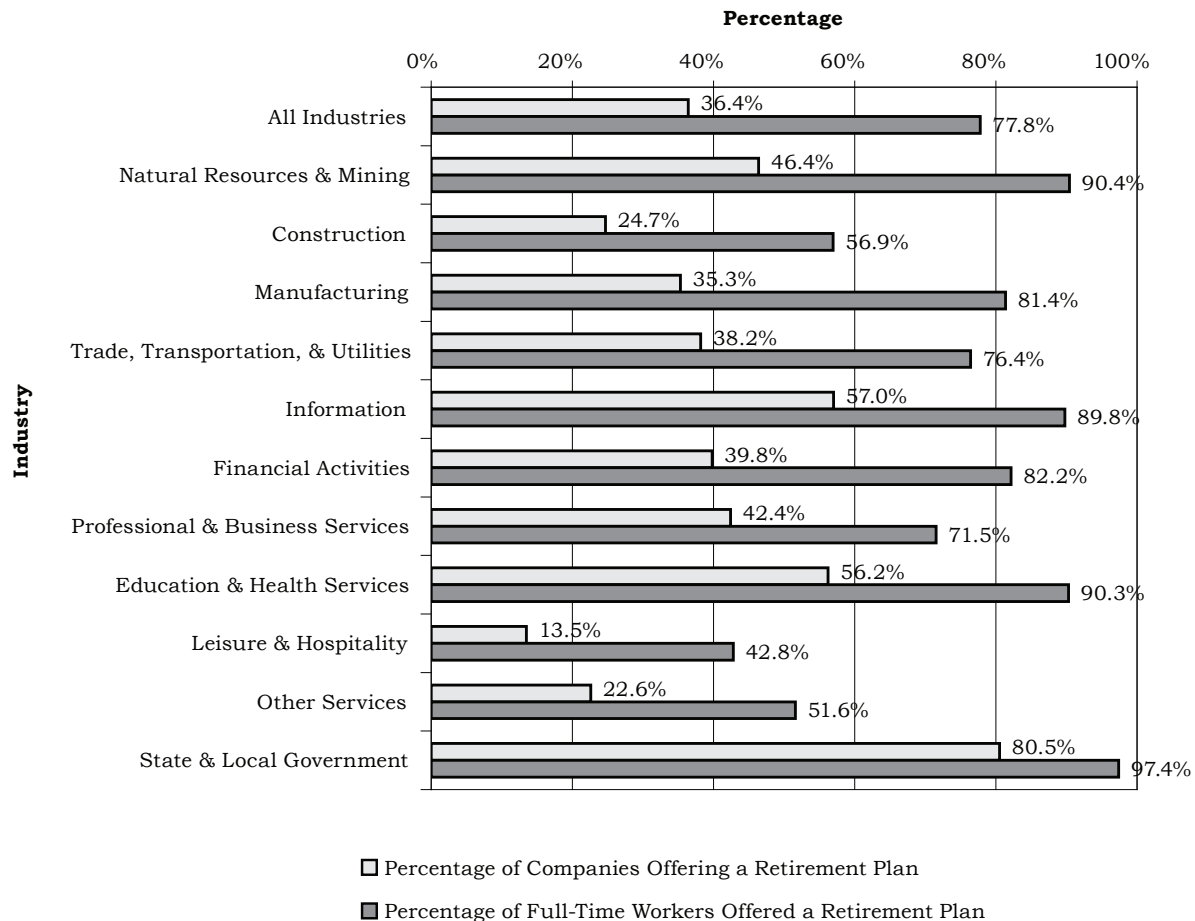
(97.4%), natural resources & mining (90.4%), and education & health services (90.3%) were most likely to be offered retirement benefits. In contrast, firms in leisure & hospitality (13.5%), other services (22.6%), and construction (24.7%) were least likely to offer retirement benefits and full-time employees in these firms were least likely to be offered a retirement plan.

*Take-Up Rates for Selected Benefits*

Figure 4 (see page 7) shows the percentage of employees who enrolled in benefits when offered (take-up rate) for selected benefits. The percentage of workers who enrolled in dependent health



**Figure 3: Percentage of Employers Offering and Percentage of Full-Time Workers Offered a Retirement Plan by Industry in Wyoming, 2006**

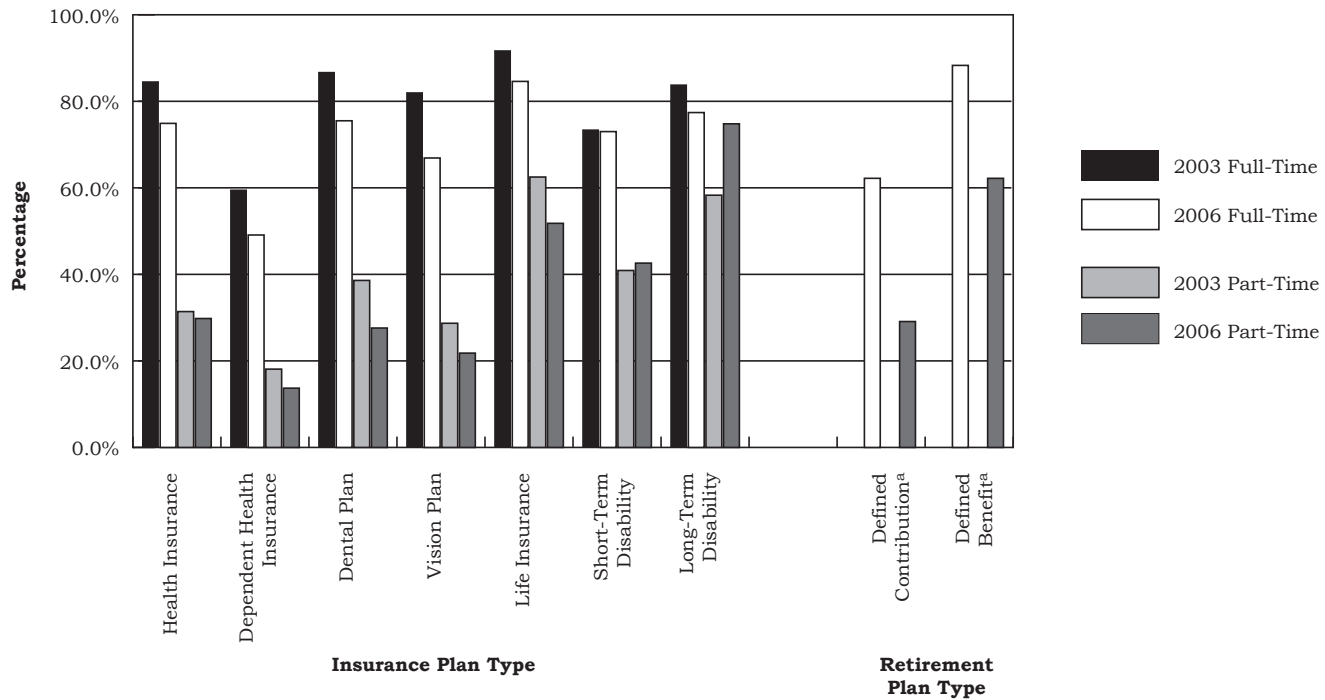


insurance, dental plans, and vision plans has decreased by at least 10% since 2003, and the take-up rate for all other benefits also has declined. In 2006, full-time employees were most likely to enroll in life insurance (84.6%) and long-term disability insurance (77.4%), probably because these benefits usually cost the worker little. Employees were least likely to enroll in dependent health insurance (49.1%) and vision plans (66.9%). More employees were likely to enroll in defined-benefit retirement plans (88.3%) than defined-contribution plans (62.6%), likely because defined-benefit plans are typically 100% employer paid, often without an opt-out alternative.

### Summary

The GAO (2007) found that across the nation the cost of health insurance and the cost of defined-benefit retirement plans have both increased steadily over time. This has caused fewer employers to offer these benefits, choosing either to offer less costly higher-deductible insurance plans or none at all, and offering defined-contribution plans rather than the more expensive defined-benefit plans. These trends toward benefit erosion can be seen in this analysis of Wyoming employment. Over the past four years the percentage of total compensation costs that go toward health care insurance

**Figure 4: Average Percentage of Wyoming Employees Who Were Offered Insurance and Retirement Plans and Who Chose to Enroll, 2003 and 2006**



<sup>a</sup>Data not available for 2003.

has increased while the percentage that pays for retirement benefits has decreased. The number of employers who offer most benefits decreased from 2003 to 2006, and fewer employees are now offered these benefits. In addition, the percentage of employees who chose to enroll in benefits has declined for all benefits.

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## Wyoming Statewide Wages for Major Occupational Groups, May 2006

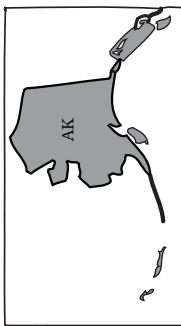
Standard Occupational Classification Code	Title	Total Employment	Mean Wage	Mean of			10th Percentile	25th Percentile	50th Percentile (Median)	75th Percentile
				the Lower One-Third	the Upper Two-Thirds	the Upper Two-Thirds				
<b>00-0000</b>	<b>Total All Occupations</b>	<b>259,460</b>	<b>\$16.46</b>	<b>\$8.09</b>	<b>\$20.65</b>	<b>\$7.09</b>	<b>\$9.32</b>	<b>\$13.46</b>	<b>\$21.11</b>	
11-0000	Management Occupations	12,710	31.54	16.70	38.97	14.64	19.98	28.35	38.85	
13-0000	Business and Financial Operations Occupations	6,740	23.82	13.78	28.84	12.53	15.75	20.86	28.52	
15-0000	Computer and Mathematical Occupations	2,070	23.02	14.48	27.29	13.42	16.55	21.50	28.11	
17-0000	Architecture and Engineering Occupations	4,280	27.82	16.13	33.67	14.49	18.60	25.41	33.78	
19-0000	Life, Physical, and Social Science Occupations	4,280	21.88	13.49	26.07	12.38	14.97	20.54	27.46	
21-0000	Community and Social Services Occupations	3,870	15.65	9.63	18.66	9.10	10.68	15.07	19.21	
23-0000	Legal Occupations	1,430	26.85	11.76	34.39	10.26	13.70	20.24	31.05	
25-0000	Education, Training, and Library Occupations	ND	17.64	9.66	21.63	8.39	11.37	17.02	22.96	
27-0000	Arts, Design, Entertainment, Sports, and Media Occupations	2,500	14.64	7.21	18.36	6.35	8.24	13.06	18.82	
29-0000	Healthcare Practitioners and Technical Occupations	10,860	27.37	14.34	33.89	12.57	16.96	22.69	29.20	
31-0000	Healthcare Support Occupations	6,350	11.06	8.60	12.30	8.00	9.15	10.37	12.06	
33-0000	Protective Service Occupations	5,650	15.76	8.69	19.29	7.09	10.42	15.04	20.44	
35-0000	Food Preparation and Serving Related Occupations	23,990	8.02	6.12	8.97	5.66	6.21	7.20	9.06	
37-0000	Building and Grounds Cleaning and Maintenance Occupations	11,120	9.97	7.00	11.46	6.38	7.64	9.17	11.54	
39-0000	Personal Care and Service Occupations	5,630	9.84	6.68	11.43	6.10	7.32	8.99	11.19	
41-0000	Sales and Related Occupations	22,540	12.35	6.85	15.09	6.23	7.51	9.47	13.94	
43-0000	Office and Administrative Support Occupations	36,690	12.52	8.42	14.57	7.72	9.36	11.55	14.85	
45-0000	Farming, Fishing, and Forestry Occupations	430	13.37	7.17	16.46	6.63	8.00	12.49	16.96	
47-0000	Construction and Extraction Occupations	ND	18.87	11.79	22.41	10.81	13.28	17.42	23.36	
49-0000	Installation, Maintenance, and Repair Occupations	15,640	19.18	11.24	23.15	9.86	13.27	18.57	24.46	
51-0000	Production Occupations	ND	16.76	9.26	20.51	8.36	10.59	15.13	21.84	
53-0000	Transportation and Material Moving Occupations	25,020	16.51	8.79	20.37	7.42	10.47	14.79	20.61	

ND – Not disclosable due to confidentiality of information.

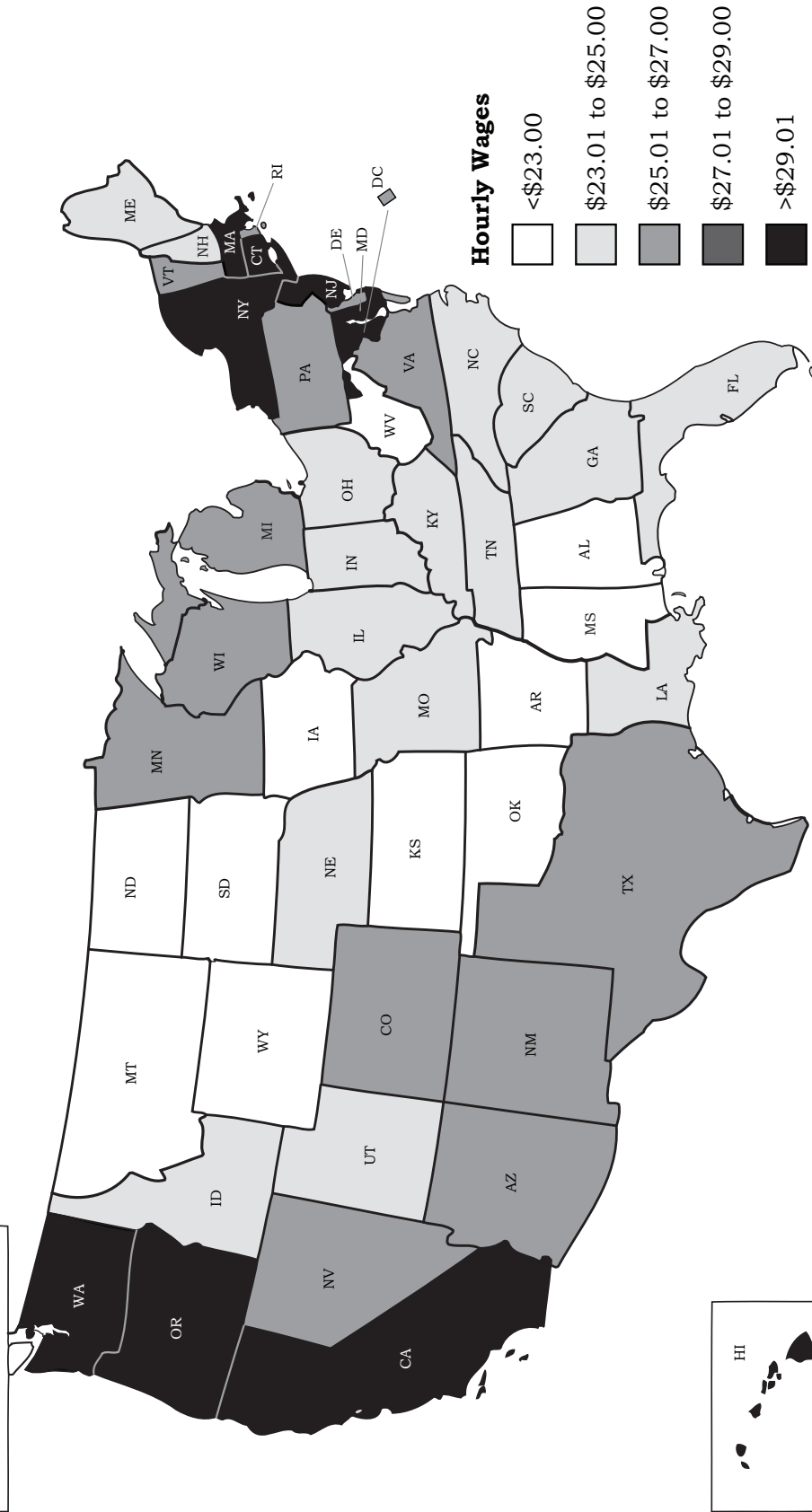
Excerpt from *Wages and Benefits in Wyoming*. The complete publication is available at <http://doe.state.wy.us/LMI/benefits.htm>.



### Median Hourly Wages of Registered Nurses by State, 2005



Research & Planning recently published *Nurses in Demand: A Statement of the Problem*, which outlines the nursing situation in Wyoming. Find a summary as well as the full publication online at <http://doe.state.wy.us/LMI/nursing.htm>.



Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, Occupational Employment Statistics Survey. Extracted 8/3/07. P.D.E.

## Understanding R&P's Function, Part II

by: April Szuch, Information Specialist

This is the second article in a three-part series (available in full at <http://doe.state.wy.us/LMI/mission.pdf>) detailing the purposes of a statistical agency.

Research & Planning (R&P) is an exclusively statistical entity with the purpose of compiling and analyzing data and making such information available to other government agencies, the public, businesses, and nongovernmental groups. R&P does not administer any worker training, insurance, or regulatory programs.

### Collaboration and Research

An essential practice is ongoing development of more useful data. This includes updating collection methods and continually gathering new data. Collaboration with various users of a statistical entity's data helps the entity become more efficient, keep up-to-date on essential issues, increase relevance to users, and make data available equally to all members of the public.

An entity also should communicate with other experts and professionals to share data concepts and statistical methods. This includes cooperating with other in-state agencies and statistical entities in other states to increase the value, effectiveness, and accuracy of the entity's information.

Additionally, an active research program is vital. Research should be conducted to create background for presenting analytical results, to reveal

needed improvements in data collection, and to identify limitations of the data. By producing the monthly publication *Wyoming Labor Force Trends*, R&P continually shares research results and data analyses.

As an additional example, some R&P employees also participate in research with other agencies. Carola Cowan, Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) Program Supervisor, is part of the BLS industry coding team that includes members from national and regional BLS offices as well as several state agencies. The team is concerned with the North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) and the Annual Refiling Survey, part of the Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages. These programs work in conjunction with BLS, seeking to ensure that NAICS descriptions of firms are accurate and to improve NAICS coding consistency across all states.

### Trust and Confidentiality

Every state statistical entity should maintain "a relationship of mutual respect and trust with respondents who provide data and with all data subjects whose information it obtains" (Martin, Straf, & Citro, 2005).

A statistical entity must not use data in a way that discloses individuals. Data are used to reveal statistical trends, not to identify certain persons or firms. It is also important that data providers are aware of the level of confidentiality they will be afforded. Microdata (records of individual data subjects) cannot be made

public because they would compromise the confidentiality of the persons or firms who provided the data.

R&P endeavors to offer confidentiality to data providers. For example, R&P conducts a succession planning survey of Wyoming state employees to analyze compensation, satisfaction, and other job-related factors ([http://doe.state.wy.us/LMI/SP\\_report.pdf](http://doe.state.wy.us/LMI/SP_report.pdf)). In the cover letter accompanying the survey, respondents are assured confidentiality, although anonymity is not possible during the data compilation process. Those who collect and analyze the data must be able to match survey responses with specific administrative records to produce accurate results. The cover letter also references Section 309 of the Workforce Investment Act (see 29 USC sec. 491-2 (a)(2) at <http://doe.state.wy.us/LMI/section309.htm>), detailing the ways in which confidential data are used.

Treating data providers with fairness and confidentiality includes informing providers of data collection methods, the purposes of the data, and the ways in which the data will be used. Providers also should be notified whether their participation is mandatory or voluntary.

## References

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## Standards and Guidelines for Statistical Surveys

Statistics collected and published by the federal government constitute a significant portion of the available information about the United States' economy, population, natural resources, environment, and public and private institutions. These data are used by the federal government and others as a basis for actions that affect people's lives and well-being. It is essential that they be collected, processed, and published in a manner that guarantees and inspires confidence in their reliability.

Source: Management and Budget Office. (2006, September 22). *Standards and guidelines for statistical surveys* (Federal Register, Vol. 71, No. 184). Retrieved December 12, 2007, from <http://a257.g.akamaitech.net/7/257/2422/01jan20061800/edocket.access.gpo.gov/2006/pdf/06-8044.pdf>

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***Part I of "Understanding R&P's Function" was printed in the February 2008 issue of Wyoming Labor Force Trends, available online at <http://doe.state.wy.us/LMI/0208/a3.htm>. Request a printed copy by calling R&P at (307) 473-3807.***

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Also let us know if you want to receive more or fewer copies of *Trends*, make name or address changes, or receive e-mail notification when other R&P publications are available online. Our website, <http://doe.state.wy.us/LMI>, has the current issue and back issues of *Trends*, information about our ongoing nursing study, Wyoming commuting patterns, news releases, statewide projections, copies of presentations, *Wyoming Career Explorer 2006-2007*, unemployment insurance, county fact sheets, and more.

## Wyoming's Unemployment Falls to 2.7% in January 2008

by: *David Bullard, Senior Economist*

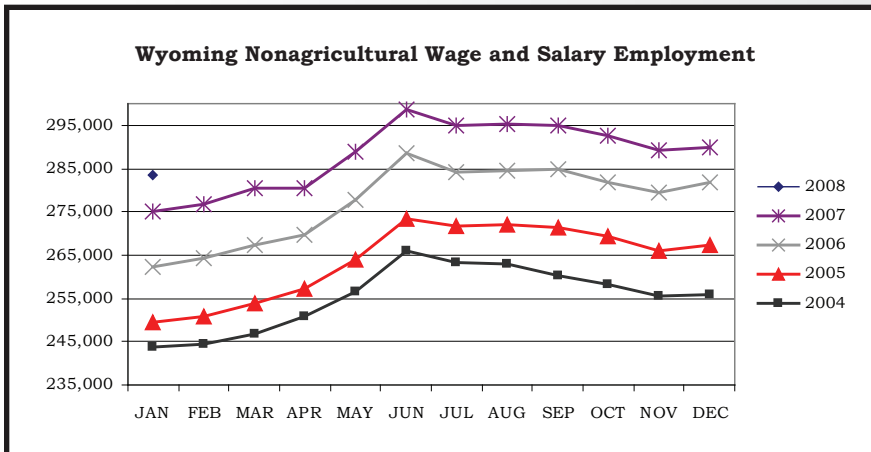
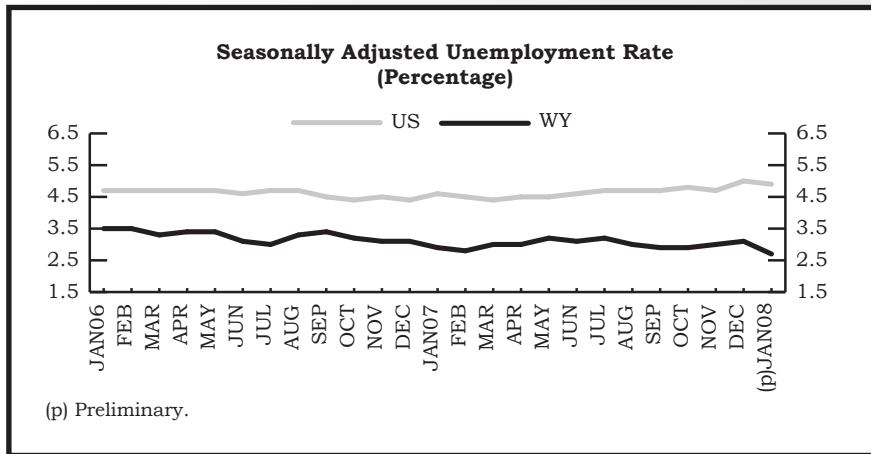
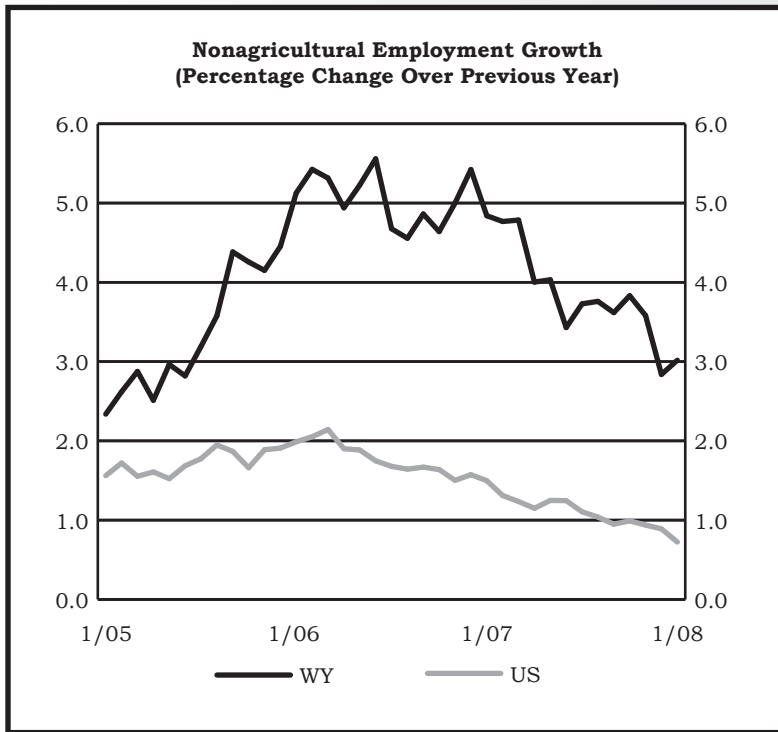
**W** Wyoming's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate fell from 3.1% in December to 2.7% in January, its lowest level since 1979. U.S. unemployment fell slightly, decreasing from 5.0% in December to 4.9% in January, but remained much higher than Wyoming's rate. Wyoming added 8,300 jobs compared to a year earlier, giving the state a growth rate of 3.0%. U.S. job growth continued to slow (0.7%).

From December to January employment fell by 6,500 jobs (-2.2%). This level of decrease is consistent with normal seasonal patterns. Winter weather, the end of the holiday shopping season, and semester break at colleges prompted employers to shed jobs. Seasonal job losses were seen in construction (-1,700 jobs, or -6.5%), retail trade (-700 jobs, or -2.2%), professional & business services (-500 jobs, or -2.8%), leisure & hospitality (-500 jobs, or -1.6%), and government (including public schools, colleges & hospitals; -2,000 jobs, or -2.9%).

From January 2007 to January 2008, employment rose by 8,300 jobs (3.0%). The largest job gains occurred in construction (2,000 jobs, or 8.9%) and transportation, warehousing, & utilities (1,200 jobs, or 8.7%). More modest job growth was seen in leisure & hospitality (800 jobs, or 2.6%), retail trade (700 jobs, or 2.3%), educational & health services (700 jobs, or 3.1%), wholesale trade (600 jobs, or 7.1%), natural resources & mining (600 jobs, or 2.2%), and government (600 jobs, or 0.9%). Employment fell slightly in the information sector (-100 jobs, or -2.5%) and remained unchanged in manufacturing.

Most county unemployment rates followed their normal seasonal pattern and increased from December to January. The highest rates were found in Big Horn (5.8%), Platte (5.4%), and Fremont (5.3%) counties. Sublette County posted the lowest unemployment rate (1.8%), followed by Teton County (2.3%) and Campbell County (2.5%).





### State Unemployment Rates January 2008 (Seasonally Adjusted)

State	Unemp. Rate
Puerto Rico	10.8
Michigan	7.1
Alaska	6.5
District of Columbia	6.2
South Carolina	6.1
Mississippi	6.0
California	5.9
Rhode Island	5.7
Arkansas	5.6
Illinois	5.6
Missouri	5.5
Nevada	5.5
Ohio	5.5
Oregon	5.5
Kentucky	5.2
Maine	5.0
New York	5.0
Georgia	4.9
North Carolina	4.9
Tennessee	4.9
<b>United States</b>	<b>4.9</b>
Wisconsin	4.9
Connecticut	4.8
Pennsylvania	4.8
Florida	4.6
Indiana	4.5
Massachusetts	4.5
Minnesota	4.5
New Jersey	4.5
Washington	4.5
West Virginia	4.4
Arizona	4.3
Texas	4.3
Colorado	4.2
Vermont	4.2
Alabama	4.0
Louisiana	4.0
Delaware	3.8
Kansas	3.8
Iowa	3.6
Oklahoma	3.6
Maryland	3.5
New Hampshire	3.5
Virginia	3.4
Montana	3.2
North Dakota	3.2
Hawaii	3.1
New Mexico	3.1
Utah	3.0
Nebraska	2.9
Idaho	2.8
<b>Wyoming</b>	<b>2.7</b>
South Dakota	2.6



## Wyoming Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment

by: David Bullard, Senior Economist

The largest over-the-year job gains occurred in construction (2,000 jobs, or 8.9%) and transportation, warehousing, & utilities (1,200 jobs, or 8.7%).

WYOMING STATEWIDE	Employment in Thousands		Percent Change Total Employment			LARAMIE COUNTY	Employment in Thousands		Percent Change Total Employment		
	Jan08(p)	Dec07(b)	Jan07	Jan08	Jan08		Jan08(p)	Dec07(b)	Jan07	Jan08	Jan08
<b>TOTAL NONAG. WAGE &amp; SALARY EMPLOYMENT</b>	<b>283.4</b>	<b>289.9</b>	<b>275.1</b>	<b>-2.2</b>	<b>3.0</b>	<b>TOTAL NONAG. WAGE &amp; SALARY EMPLOYMENT</b>	<b>43.7</b>	<b>45.0</b>	<b>42.4</b>	<b>-2.9</b>	<b>3.1</b>
<b>TOTAL PRIVATE</b>	<b>216.7</b>	<b>221.2</b>	<b>209.0</b>	<b>-2.0</b>	<b>3.7</b>	<b>TOTAL PRIVATE</b>	<b>30.4</b>	<b>31.5</b>	<b>29.4</b>	<b>-3.5</b>	<b>3.4</b>
<b>GOODS PRODUCING</b>	<b>62.3</b>	<b>64.1</b>	<b>59.7</b>	<b>-2.8</b>	<b>4.4</b>	<b>GOODS PRODUCING</b>	<b>4.4</b>	<b>4.8</b>	<b>4.2</b>	<b>-8.3</b>	<b>4.8</b>
Natural Resources & Mining	27.6	27.5	27.0	0.4	2.2	Nat. Res., Mining, & Construction	2.8	3.2	2.6	-12.5	7.7
Mining	27.5	27.4	27.0	0.4	1.9	Manufacturing	1.6	1.6	1.6	0.0	0.0
Oil & Gas Extraction	4.5	4.4	4.2	2.3	7.1	<b>SERVICE PROVIDING</b>	<b>39.3</b>	<b>40.2</b>	<b>38.2</b>	<b>-2.2</b>	<b>2.9</b>
Mining Except Oil & Gas	9.2	9.3	8.9	-1.1	3.4	Trade, Transportation, & Utilities	9.9	10.2	9.4	-2.9	5.3
Coal Mining	6.4	6.4	6.1	0.0	4.9	Wholesale Trade	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.0	0.0
Support Activities for Mining	13.8	13.7	13.9	0.7	-0.7	Retail Trade	5.7	6.0	5.7	-5.0	0.0
Support Act. for Oil & Gas	10.1	10.1	10.0	0.0	1.0	Trans, Warehouse, & Utilities	3.4	3.4	2.9	0.0	17.2
Construction	24.4	26.1	22.4	-6.5	8.9	Information	1.0	1.1	1.0	-9.1	0.0
Construction of Buildings	4.5	4.7	4.4	-4.3	2.3	Financial Activities	2.0	2.0	1.9	0.0	5.3
Heavy & Engineering Constr.	8.4	9.1	7.2	-7.7	16.7	Professional & Business Services	3.3	3.3	3.2	0.0	3.1
Specialty Trade Contractors	11.5	12.3	10.8	-6.5	6.5	Educational & Health Services	3.9	3.9	3.7	0.0	5.4
Manufacturing	10.3	10.5	10.3	-1.9	0.0	Leisure & Hospitality	4.3	4.5	4.3	-4.4	0.0
Durable Goods	5.4	5.4	5.5	0.0	-1.8	Other Services	1.6	1.7	1.7	-5.9	-5.9
Non-Durable Goods	4.9	5.1	4.8	-3.9	2.1	<b>TOTAL GOVERNMENT</b>	<b>13.3</b>	<b>13.5</b>	<b>13.0</b>	<b>-1.5</b>	<b>2.3</b>
<b>SERVICE PROVIDING</b>	<b>221.1</b>	<b>225.8</b>	<b>215.4</b>	<b>-2.1</b>	<b>2.6</b>	Federal Government	2.5	2.6	2.5	-3.8	0.0
Trade, Trans., Warehouse, & Util.	55.5	56.5	53.0	-1.8	4.7	State Government	4.0	4.0	4.0	0.0	0.0
Wholesale Trade	9.0	9.1	8.4	-1.1	7.1	Local Government	6.8	6.9	6.5	-1.4	4.6
Merchant Whlsrns., Durable	5.5	5.4	5.2	1.9	5.8	Local Education	3.5	3.6	3.3	-2.8	6.1
Retail Trade	31.5	32.2	30.8	-2.2	2.3	<b>NATRONA COUNTY</b>					
Motor Vehicle & Parts Dealers	4.6	4.7	4.5	-2.1	2.2	<b>TOTAL NONAG. WAGE &amp; SALARY EMPLOYMENT</b>					
Food & Beverage Stores	4.5	4.7	4.5	-4.3	0.0	<b>TOTAL PRIVATE</b>					
Grocery Stores	3.8	3.9	3.9	-2.6	-2.6	<b>GOODS PRODUCING</b>					
Gasoline Stations	3.9	4.0	3.9	-2.5	0.0	Natural Resources & Mining					
General Merchandise Stores	6.5	6.8	6.2	-4.4	4.8	Construction					
Miscellaneous Store Retailers	1.9	2.0	1.9	-5.0	0.0	Manufacturing					
Transport., Warehouse, & Util.	15.0	15.2	13.8	-1.3	8.7	<b>SERVICE PROVIDING</b>					
Utilities	2.5	2.5	2.4	0.0	4.2	Trade, Transportation, & Utilities					
Transportation & Warehousing	12.5	12.7	11.4	-1.6	9.6	Wholesale Trade					
Truck Transportation	4.3	4.4	4.1	-2.3	4.9	Retail Trade					
Information	3.9	4.0	4.0	-2.5	-2.5	Transport., Warehouse, & Util.					
Financial Activities	11.4	11.6	11.0	-1.7	3.6	Information					
Finance & Insurance	7.0	7.0	6.8	0.0	2.9	Financial Activities					
Real Estate & Rental & Leasing	4.4	4.6	4.2	-4.3	4.8	Professional & Business Services					
Professional & Business Services	17.3	17.8	16.8	-2.8	3.0	Educational & Health Services					
Prof., Scientific & Tech. Services	9.6	9.6	9.2	0.0	4.3	Leisure & Hospitality					
Architect., Engineering & Rel.	2.8	2.8	2.6	0.0	7.7	Other Services					
Mgmt. of Companies & Enterpr.	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.0	0.0	<b>TOTAL GOVERNMENT</b>					
Admin., Support & Waste Svcs.	6.9	7.4	6.8	-6.8	1.5	Federal Government					
Educational & Health Services	23.4	23.7	22.7	-1.3	3.1	State Government					
Educational Services	2.2	2.2	2.2	0.0	0.0	Local Government					
Health Care & Social Assistance	21.2	21.5	20.5	-1.4	3.4	Local Education					
Ambulatory Health Care	7.9	8.0	7.7	-1.3	2.6						
Offices of Physicians	3.2	3.2	3.1	0.0	3.2						
Hospitals	3.0	3.1	2.9	-3.2	3.4						
Nursing & Res. Care Facilities	4.5	4.6	4.5	-2.2	0.0						
Social Assistance	5.8	5.8	5.4	0.0	7.4						
Leisure & Hospitality	31.3	31.8	30.5	-1.6	2.6						
Arts, Entertainment, & Rec.	2.4	2.4	2.3	0.0	4.3						
Accommodation & Food Services	28.9	29.4	28.2	-1.7	2.5						
Accommodation	10.3	10.4	10.2	-1.0	1.0						
Food Serv. & Drinking Places	18.6	19.0	18.0	-2.1	3.3						
Other Services	11.6	11.7	11.3	-0.9	2.7						
Repair & Maintenance	3.9	3.9	3.9	0.0	0.0						
<b>TOTAL GOVERNMENT</b>	<b>66.7</b>	<b>68.7</b>	<b>66.1</b>	<b>-2.9</b>	<b>0.9</b>						
Federal Government	6.8	7.0	6.8	-2.9	0.0						
State Government	15.2	15.6	15.6	-2.6	-2.6						
State Govt. Education	5.9	6.6	6.5	-10.6	-9.2						
Local Government	44.7	46.1	43.7	-3.0	2.3						
Local Govt. Education	23.4	24.4	23.0	-4.1	1.7						
Hospitals	6.3	6.2	6.0	1.6	5.0						

### Federal Funding Cuts Lead to Discontinuation of MSA Employment Statistics

Effective with the release of January 2008 data on March 11, 2008, the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) discontinued publication of all nonfarm employment series for 65 small metropolitan areas. In Wyoming, this funding cut affects the Casper metropolitan statistical area (MSA) and Natrona County. These cutbacks are due to a reduction in BLS funding from the 2008 Consolidated Appropriations Act enacted on December 26, 2007. For more details, see <http://www.bls.gov/sae/msareductions.htm>.

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 that includes the 12th of the month. Self-employed, domestic services, and personnel of the armed forces are excluded. Data are not seasonally adjusted. Wyoming and Laramie 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		
	Jan08	Dec07	Jan07	Dec07	Jan07
				Jan08	Jan08
<b>CAMPBELL COUNTY</b>					
<b>TOTAL NONAG. WAGE &amp; SALARY EMPLOYMENT</b>	<b>27.7</b>	<b>28.0</b>	<b>27.1</b>	<b>-1.1</b>	<b>2.2</b>
<b>TOTAL PRIVATE</b>	<b>23.6</b>	<b>23.8</b>	<b>23.1</b>	<b>-0.8</b>	<b>2.2</b>
<b>GOODS PRODUCING</b>	<b>11.6</b>	<b>11.8</b>	<b>11.5</b>	<b>-1.7</b>	<b>0.9</b>
Natural Resources & Mining	7.7	7.8	7.5	-1.3	2.7
Construction	3.2	3.3	3.3	-3.0	-3.0
Manufacturing	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.0	0.0
<b>SERVICE PROVIDING</b>	<b>16.1</b>	<b>16.2</b>	<b>15.6</b>	<b>-0.6</b>	<b>3.2</b>
Trade, Transport., & Utilities	5.4	5.4	5.2	0.0	3.8
Information	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.0	0.0
Financial Activities	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.0	0.0
Professional & Bus. Services	1.9	1.9	1.8	0.0	5.6
Educational & Health Serv.	0.9	0.9	0.8	0.0	12.5
Leisure & Hospitality	1.9	1.9	1.9	0.0	0.0
Other Services	1.0	1.0	1.0	0.0	0.0
<b>TOTAL GOVERNMENT</b>	<b>4.1</b>	<b>4.2</b>	<b>4.0</b>	<b>-2.4</b>	<b>2.5</b>
<b>SWEETWATER COUNTY</b>					
<b>TOTAL NONAG. WAGE &amp; SALARY EMPLOYMENT</b>	<b>24.6</b>	<b>25.2</b>	<b>24.3</b>	<b>-2.4</b>	<b>1.2</b>
<b>TOTAL PRIVATE</b>	<b>20.4</b>	<b>20.8</b>	<b>20.1</b>	<b>-1.9</b>	<b>1.5</b>
<b>GOODS PRODUCING</b>	<b>8.3</b>	<b>8.5</b>	<b>8.6</b>	<b>-2.4</b>	<b>-3.5</b>
Natural Resources & Mining	5.4	5.4	5.6	0.0	-3.6
Construction	1.6	1.8	1.7	-11.1	-5.9
Manufacturing	1.3	1.3	1.3	0.0	0.0
<b>SERVICE PROVIDING</b>	<b>16.3</b>	<b>16.7</b>	<b>15.7</b>	<b>-2.4</b>	<b>3.8</b>
Trade, Transport., & Utilities	5.3	5.4	5.1	-1.9	3.9
Information	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.0	0.0
Financial Activities	0.9	0.9	0.8	0.0	12.5
Professional & Bus. Services	1.4	1.4	1.2	0.0	16.7
Educational & Health Serv.	1.0	1.0	1.0	0.0	0.0
Leisure & Hospitality	2.4	2.5	2.3	-4.0	4.3
Other Services	0.9	0.9	0.9	0.0	0.0
<b>TOTAL GOVERNMENT</b>	<b>4.2</b>	<b>4.4</b>	<b>4.2</b>	<b>-4.5</b>	<b>0.0</b>
<b>TETON COUNTY</b>					
<b>TOTAL NONAG. WAGE &amp; SALARY EMPLOYMENT</b>	<b>17.5</b>	<b>17.4</b>	<b>17.3</b>	<b>0.6</b>	<b>1.2</b>
<b>TOTAL PRIVATE</b>	<b>15.3</b>	<b>15.2</b>	<b>15.1</b>	<b>0.7</b>	<b>1.3</b>
<b>GOODS PRODUCING</b>	<b>2.3</b>	<b>2.5</b>	<b>2.3</b>	<b>-8.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>
Nat. Res., Mining & Const.	2.2	2.4	2.2	-8.3	0.0
Manufacturing	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.0
<b>SERVICE PROVIDING</b>	<b>15.2</b>	<b>14.9</b>	<b>15.0</b>	<b>2.0</b>	<b>1.3</b>
Trade, Transport., & Utilities	2.5	2.4	2.5	4.2	0.0
Information	0.2	0.2	0.3	0.0	-33.3
Financial Activities	1.0	1.0	0.9	0.0	11.1
Professional & Bus. Services	1.7	1.8	1.5	-5.6	13.3
Educational & Health Serv.	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.0	0.0
Leisure & Hospitality	6.3	6.0	6.3	5.0	0.0
Other Services	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.0	0.0
<b>TOTAL GOVERNMENT</b>	<b>2.2</b>	<b>2.2</b>	<b>2.2</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>

## State Unemployment Rates January 2008 (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

State	Unemp. Rate
Puerto Rico	10.8
Michigan	7.8
Alaska	7.5
Rhode Island	7.0
District of Columbia	6.7
South Carolina	6.5
Arkansas	6.4
Mississippi	6.4
California	6.3
Ohio	6.3
Oregon	6.3
Illinois	6.2
Missouri	6.0
Nevada	6.0
Kentucky	5.9
Maine	5.9
New York	5.6
Pennsylvania	5.5
Wisconsin	5.5
Minnesota	5.4
Tennessee	5.4
<b>United States</b>	<b>5.4</b>
Connecticut	5.3
North Carolina	5.3
Georgia	5.2
Massachusetts	5.2
Washington	5.2
West Virginia	5.2
Indiana	5.1
New Jersey	5.1
Vermont	5.0
Colorado	4.7
Florida	4.7
Louisiana	4.6
Texas	4.6
Arizona	4.5
Iowa	4.5
Alabama	4.4
Delaware	4.3
Kansas	4.3
Montana	4.3
Oklahoma	4.2
New Hampshire	4.0
North Dakota	4.0
Idaho	3.9
Maryland	3.9
Virginia	3.8
<b>Wyoming</b>	<b>3.8</b>
Nebraska	3.6
Utah	3.3
New Mexico	3.2
South Dakota	3.2
Hawaii	3.0

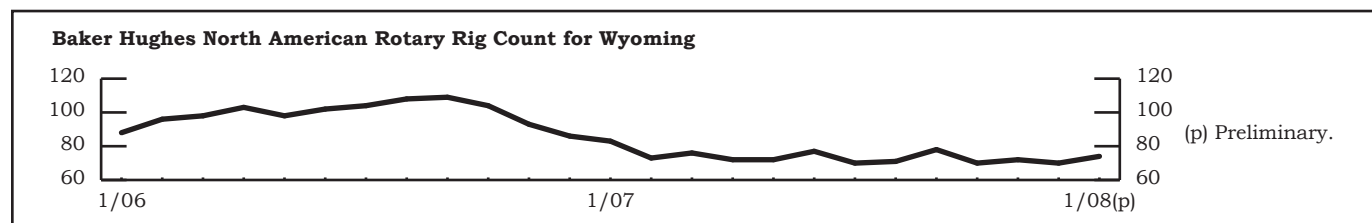
## Economic Indicators

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

*The number of building permits issued for new single family homes declined from 143 in January 2007 to 106 in January 2008.*

	Jan. 2008 (p)	Dec. 2007 (r)	Jan. 2007 (b)	Percent Change Month Year	
Wyoming Total Civilian Labor Force	287,732	288,976	282,981	-0.4	1.7
Unemployed	10,807	10,186	11,192	6.1	-3.4
Employed	276,925	278,790	271,789	-0.7	1.9
Wyoming Unemp. Rate/Seasonally Adjusted	3.8%/2.7%	3.5%/3.1%	4.0%/2.9%	N/A	N/A
U.S. Unemployment Rate/Seasonally Adjusted	5.4%/4.9%	4.8%/5.0%	5.0%/4.6%	N/A	N/A
U.S. Multiple Jobholders	7,398,000	7,577,000	7,527,000	-2.4	-1.7
As a percent of all workers	5.1%	5.2%	5.2%	N/A	N/A
U.S. Discouraged Workers	467,000	363,000	442,000	28.7	5.7
U.S. Part-Time for Economic Reasons	5,340,000	4,750,000	4,726,000	12.4	13.0
Hours & Earnings for Production Workers					
Wyoming Mining					
Average Weekly Earnings	Data not available; see box on page 14.				
Average Weekly Hours	Data not available; see box on page 14.				
U.S. Mining Hours & Earnings					
Average Weekly Earnings	\$1,016.05	\$1,020.28	\$956.25	-0.4	6.3
Average Weekly Hours	45.4	46.0	45.0	-1.3	0.9
Wyoming Manufacturing Hours & Earnings					
Average Weekly Earnings	Data not available; see box on page 14.				
Average Weekly Hours	Data not available; see box on page 14.				
U.S. Manufacturing Hours & Earnings					
Average Weekly Earnings	\$717.80	\$731.42	\$696.05	-1.9	3.1
Average Weekly Hours	40.9	41.7	40.8	-1.9	0.2
Wyoming Unemployment Insurance					
Weeks Compensated	17,849	11,125	15,469	60.4	15.4
Benefits Paid	\$5,272,550	\$3,148,580	\$4,142,427	67.5	27.3
Average Weekly Benefit Payment	\$295.40	\$283.02	\$267.79	4.4	10.3
State Insured Covered Jobs	262,691	268,337	252,621	-2.1	4.0
Insured Unemployment Rate	1.3%	1.0%	1.2%	N/A	N/A
Consumer Price Index (U) for All U.S. Urban Consumers (1982 to 1984 = 100) – All Items					
Food & Beverages	211.1	210.0	202.4	0.5	4.3
Housing	208.8	206.9	199.2	0.9	4.8
Apparel	212.2	210.9	206.1	0.6	3.0
Transportation	115.8	118.3	116.0	-2.1	-0.2
Medical Care	190.8	190.0	174.5	0.5	9.4
Recreation (Dec. 1997 = 100)	360.5	357.7	343.5	0.8	4.9
Education & Comm. (Dec. 1997 = 100)	112.1	111.7	111.0	0.3	1.0
Other Goods & Services	121.8	121.5	117.8	0.2	3.4
Other Goods & Services	339.1	337.6	329.2	0.4	3.0
Producer Prices (1982 to 1984 = 100) – All Commodities	180.8	178.6	164.0	1.2	10.2
Wyoming Building Permits (New Privately Owned Housing Units Authorized)					
Total Units	123	91	170	35.2	-27.6
Valuation	\$23,881,000	\$21,075,000	\$32,193,000	13.3	-25.8
Single Family Homes	106	77	143	37.7	-25.9
Valuation	\$21,991,000	\$20,048,000	\$29,592,000	9.7	-25.7
Baker Hughes North American Rotary Rig Count for WY	74	70	83	5.7	-10.8

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



## Wyoming County Unemployment Rates

by: Carola Cowan, BLS Programs Supervisor

Sublette County posted the lowest unemployment rate (1.8%), followed by Teton County (2.3%) and Campbell County (2.5%).

REGION County	Labor Force		Employed			Unemployed			Unemployment Rates			
	Jan 2008 (p)	Dec 2007 (b)	Jan 2007 (b)	Jan 2008 (p)	Dec 2007 (b)	Jan 2007 (b)	Jan 2008 (p)	Dec 2007 (b)	Jan 2007 (b)	Jan 2008 (p)	Dec 2007 (b)	Jan 2007 (b)
<b>NORTHWEST</b>	<b>43,082</b>	<b>43,452</b>	<b>41,728</b>	<b>40,916</b>	<b>41,433</b>	<b>39,542</b>	<b>2,166</b>	<b>2,019</b>	<b>2,186</b>	<b>5.0</b>	<b>4.6</b>	<b>5.2</b>
Big Horn	4,801	4,945	4,625	4,524	4,688	4,350	277	257	275	5.8	5.2	5.9
Fremont	18,232	18,312	17,701	17,261	17,433	16,753	971	879	948	5.3	4.8	5.4
Hot Springs	2,373	2,369	2,320	2,270	2,268	2,217	103	101	103	4.3	4.3	4.4
Park	13,438	13,549	12,914	12,797	12,922	12,249	641	627	665	4.8	4.6	5.1
Washakie	4,238	4,277	4,168	4,064	4,122	3,973	174	155	195	4.1	3.6	4.7
<b>NORTHEAST</b>	<b>52,526</b>	<b>52,233</b>	<b>51,771</b>	<b>50,857</b>	<b>50,682</b>	<b>50,072</b>	<b>1,669</b>	<b>1,551</b>	<b>1,699</b>	<b>3.2</b>	<b>3.0</b>	<b>3.3</b>
Campbell	26,295	25,999	26,077	25,631	25,384	25,426	664	615	651	2.5	2.4	2.5
Crook	3,484	3,455	3,303	3,346	3,330	3,177	138	125	126	4.0	3.6	3.8
Johnson	3,842	3,845	3,721	3,681	3,682	3,562	161	163	159	4.2	4.2	4.3
Sheridan	15,633	15,688	15,474	15,057	15,165	14,846	576	523	628	3.7	3.3	4.1
Weston	3,272	3,246	3,196	3,142	3,121	3,061	130	125	135	4.0	3.9	4.2
<b>SOUTHWEST</b>	<b>64,767</b>	<b>65,051</b>	<b>62,828</b>	<b>62,872</b>	<b>63,234</b>	<b>60,850</b>	<b>1,895</b>	<b>1,817</b>	<b>1,978</b>	<b>2.9</b>	<b>2.8</b>	<b>3.1</b>
Lincoln	8,973	8,949	8,328	8,651	8,675	7,964	322	274	364	3.6	3.1	4.4
Sublette	7,085	6,809	6,323	6,957	6,686	6,202	128	123	121	1.8	1.8	1.9
Sweetwater	23,380	23,996	23,605	22,674	23,347	22,890	706	649	715	3.0	2.7	3.0
Teton	14,082	13,870	13,476	13,754	13,490	13,109	328	380	367	2.3	2.7	2.7
Uinta	11,247	11,427	11,096	10,836	11,036	10,685	411	391	411	3.7	3.4	3.7
<b>SOUTHEAST</b>	<b>71,755</b>	<b>72,922</b>	<b>71,689</b>	<b>68,651</b>	<b>69,958</b>	<b>68,425</b>	<b>3,104</b>	<b>2,964</b>	<b>3,264</b>	<b>4.3</b>	<b>4.1</b>	<b>4.6</b>
Albany	18,330	19,121	18,869	17,760	18,630	18,270	570	491	599	3.1	2.6	3.2
Goshen	5,998	6,065	5,884	5,739	5,827	5,624	259	238	260	4.3	3.9	4.4
Laramie	42,330	42,685	41,935	40,325	40,723	39,801	2,005	1,962	2,134	4.7	4.6	5.1
Niobrara	1,214	1,196	1,164	1,154	1,130	1,117	60	66	47	4.9	5.5	4.0
Platte	3,883	3,855	3,837	3,673	3,648	3,613	210	207	224	5.4	5.4	5.8
<b>CENTRAL</b>	<b>55,604</b>	<b>55,319</b>	<b>54,969</b>	<b>53,630</b>	<b>53,484</b>	<b>52,900</b>	<b>1,974</b>	<b>1,835</b>	<b>2,069</b>	<b>3.6</b>	<b>3.3</b>	<b>3.8</b>
Carbon	7,991	7,990	7,825	7,670	7,693	7,502	321	297	323	4.0	3.7	4.1
Converse	6,871	6,860	6,771	6,622	6,605	6,500	249	255	271	3.6	3.7	4.0
Natrona	40,742	40,469	40,373	39,338	39,186	38,898	1,404	1,283	1,475	3.4	3.2	3.7
<b>STATEWIDE</b>	<b>287,732</b>	<b>288,976</b>	<b>282,981</b>	<b>276,925</b>	<b>278,790</b>	<b>271,789</b>	<b>10,807</b>	<b>10,186</b>	<b>11,192</b>	<b>3.8</b>	<b>3.5</b>	<b>4.0</b>
Statewide Seasonally Adjusted .....										2.7	3.1	2.9
U.S. ....										5.4	4.8	5.0
U.S. Seasonally Adjusted .....										4.9	5.0	4.6

Prepared in cooperation with the Bureau of Labor Statistics. Benchmarked 02/08. Run Date 02/08.

Data are not seasonally adjusted except where otherwise specified.

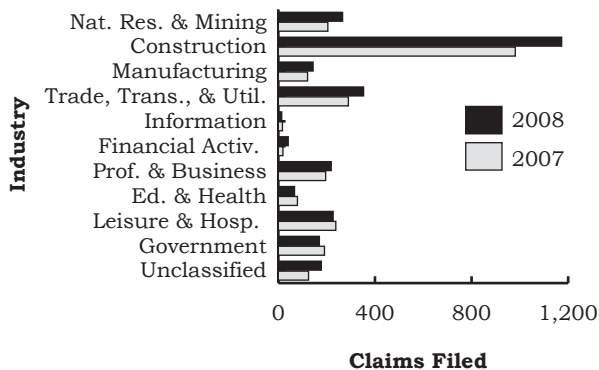
(p) Preliminary. (b) Benchmarked.

## Wyoming Normalized Unemployment Insurance Statistics: Initial Claims

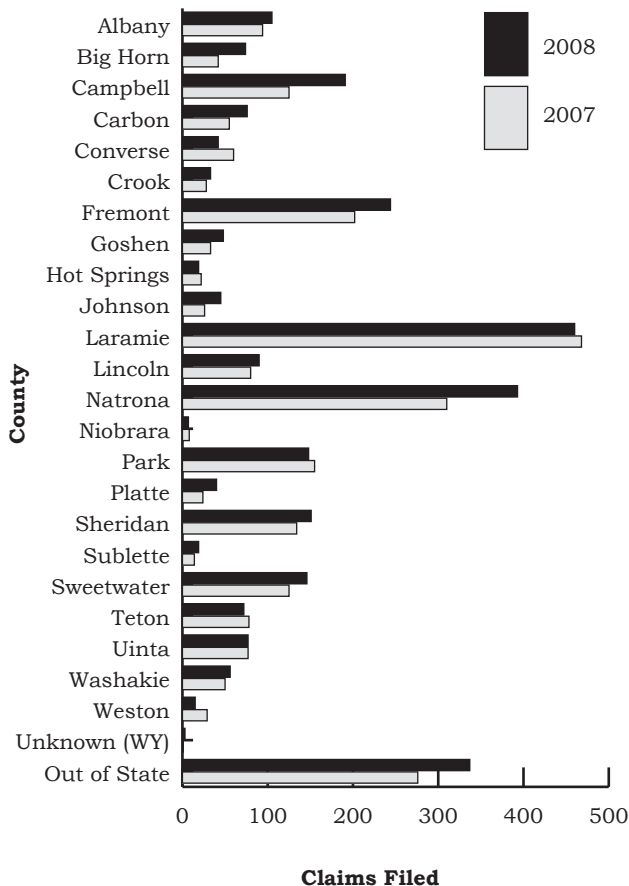
by: Douglas W. Leonard, Senior Economist

Initial claims increased 15.0% compared to January 2007 and declined 4.8% compared to December 2007. Goods-producing industries accounted for 73.0% of the increase.

### Initial Unemployment Insurance Claims by Industry, January 2008



### Initial Unemployment Insurance Claims by County, January 2008



### Initial Claims

	Claims Filed		Percent Change		
	Jan08	Dec07	Jan07	Jan08	
<b>WYOMING STATEWIDE</b>					
<b>TOTAL CLAIMS FILED</b>	<b>2,891</b>	<b>3,038</b>	<b>2,513</b>	<b>-4.8</b>	<b>15.0</b>
<b>TOTAL GOODS PRODUCING</b>	<b>1,583</b>	<b>1,901</b>	<b>1,307</b>	<b>-16.7</b>	<b>21.1</b>
Natural Resources & Mining	266	189	205	40.7	29.8
Mining	237	178	185	33.1	28.1
Oil & Gas Extraction	18	8	15	125.0	20.0
Construction	1,173	1,494	981	-21.5	19.6
Manufacturing	144	218	121	-33.9	19.0
<b>TOTAL SERVICE PROVIDING</b>	<b>960</b>	<b>771</b>	<b>890</b>	<b>24.5</b>	<b>7.9</b>
Trade, Trans., Storage, & Util.	353	264	290	33.7	21.7
Wholesale Trade	49	40	42	22.5	16.7
Retail Trade	183	150	146	22.0	25.3
Trans., Storage, & Utilities	121	74	102	63.5	18.6
Information	14	3	17	366.7	-17.6
Financial Activities	41	21	19	95.2	115.8
Professional & Business Serv.	219	181	196	21.0	11.7
Educational & Health Services	67	105	79	-36.2	-15.2
Leisure & Hospitality	227	174	238	30.5	-4.6
Other Services	39	23	51	69.6	-23.5
<b>TOTAL GOVERNMENT</b>	<b>170</b>	<b>182</b>	<b>191</b>	<b>-6.6</b>	<b>-11.0</b>
Federal Government	72	108	87	-33.3	-17.2
State Government	20	16	29	25.0	-31.0
Local Government	78	58	75	34.5	4.0
Local Education	14	10	9	40.0	55.6
<b>UNCLASSIFIED</b>	<b>178</b>	<b>184</b>	<b>125</b>	<b>-3.3</b>	<b>42.4</b>
<b>LARAMIE COUNTY</b>					
<b>TOTAL CLAIMS FILED</b>	<b>461</b>	<b>624</b>	<b>468</b>	<b>-26.1</b>	<b>-1.5</b>
<b>TOTAL GOODS PRODUCING</b>	<b>254</b>	<b>431</b>	<b>254</b>	<b>-41.1</b>	<b>0.0</b>
Construction	212	363	222	-41.6	-4.5
<b>TOTAL SERVICE PROVIDING</b>	<b>172</b>	<b>144</b>	<b>171</b>	<b>19.4</b>	<b>0.6</b>
Trade, Trans., Storage, & Util.	73	55	66	32.7	10.6
Financial Activities	10	3	5	233.3	100.0
Professional & Business Serv.	38	45	42	-15.6	-9.5
Educational & Health Services	12	17	18	-29.4	-33.3
Leisure & Hospitality	26	18	19	44.4	36.8
<b>TOTAL GOVERNMENT</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>-24.0</b>	<b>-32.1</b>
<b>UNCLASSIFIED</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>-33.3</b>	<b>6.7</b>
<b>NATRONA COUNTY</b>					
<b>TOTAL CLAIMS FILED</b>	<b>396</b>	<b>463</b>	<b>311</b>	<b>-14.5</b>	<b>27.3</b>
<b>TOTAL GOODS PRODUCING</b>	<b>222</b>	<b>337</b>	<b>186</b>	<b>-34.1</b>	<b>19.4</b>
Construction	171	277	157	-38.3	8.9
<b>TOTAL SERVICE PROVIDING</b>	<b>160</b>	<b>103</b>	<b>113</b>	<b>55.3</b>	<b>41.6</b>
Trade, Trans., Storage, & Util.	58	34	27	70.6	114.8
Financial Activities	15	3	0	400.0	0.0
Professional & Business Serv.	43	28	35	53.6	22.9
Educational & Health Services	10	10	16	0.0	-37.5
Leisure & Hospitality	22	24	25	-8.3	-12.0
<b>TOTAL GOVERNMENT</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>-36.4</b>	<b>133.3</b>
<b>UNCLASSIFIED</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>-41.7</b>	<b>-22.2</b>



## Wyoming Normalized Unemployment Insurance Statistics: Continued Claims

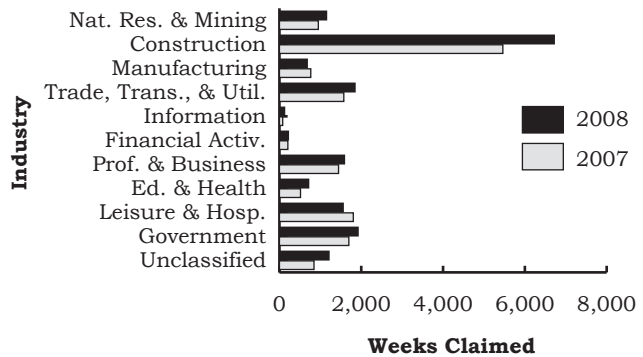
by: Douglas W. Leonard, Senior Economist

Continued weeks claimed rose 15.4% compared to a year ago. Although there was a 23.0% increase in construction claims, leisure & hospitality claims declined by 13.7%.

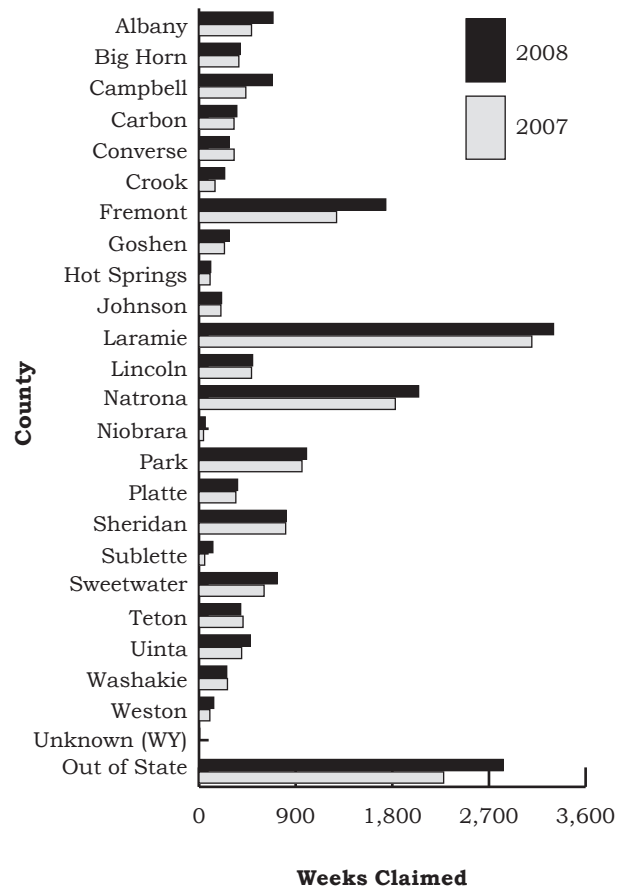
### Continued Claims

WYOMING STATEWIDE	Percent Change Claims Filed				
	Claims Filed		Claims Filed		
	Jan08	Dec07	Jan07	Jan08	Jan08
<b>TOTAL WEEKS CLAIMED</b>	<b>17,996</b>	<b>14,485</b>	<b>15,601</b>	<b>24.2</b>	<b>15.4</b>
<b>TOTAL UNIQUE CLAIMANTS</b>	<b>4,658</b>	<b>4,517</b>	<b>4,104</b>	<b>3.1</b>	<b>13.5</b>
<b>TOTAL GOODS PRODUCING</b>	<b>8,551</b>	<b>5,399</b>	<b>7,179</b>	<b>58.4</b>	<b>19.1</b>
Natural Resources & Mining	1,152	841	951	37.0	21.1
Mining	1,006	722	798	39.3	26.1
Oil & Gas Extraction	57	50	67	14.0	-14.9
Construction	6,719	4,069	5,462	65.1	23.0
Manufacturing	680	489	766	39.1	-11.2
<b>TOTAL SERVICE PROVIDING</b>	<b>6,310</b>	<b>6,223</b>	<b>5,880</b>	<b>1.4</b>	<b>7.3</b>
Trade, Trans., Storage, & Util.	1,848	1,539	1,574	20.1	17.4
Wholesale Trade	219	181	204	21.0	7.4
Retail Trade	1,056	883	861	19.6	22.6
Trans., Storage, & Utilities	573	475	509	20.6	12.6
Information	126	122	80	3.3	57.5
Financial Activities	219	231	206	-5.2	6.3
Professional & Business Serv.	1,590	1,340	1,445	18.7	10.0
Educational & Health Services	714	667	515	7.0	38.6
Leisure & Hospitality	1,559	2,099	1,806	-25.7	-13.7
Other Services	254	225	254	12.9	0.0
<b>TOTAL GOVERNMENT</b>	<b>1,923</b>	<b>1,906</b>	<b>1,697</b>	<b>0.9</b>	<b>13.3</b>
Federal Government	991	1,036	912	-4.3	8.7
State Government	228	236	179	-3.4	27.4
Local Government	704	634	606	11.0	16.2
Local Education	113	118	92	-4.2	22.8
<b>UNCLASSIFIED</b>	<b>1,212</b>	<b>957</b>	<b>845</b>	<b>26.6</b>	<b>43.4</b>
<b>LARAMIE COUNTY</b>					
<b>TOTAL WEEKS CLAIMED</b>	<b>3,299</b>	<b>2,566</b>	<b>3,101</b>	<b>28.6</b>	<b>6.4</b>
<b>TOTAL UNIQUE CLAIMANTS</b>	<b>857</b>	<b>828</b>	<b>805</b>	<b>3.5</b>	<b>6.5</b>
<b>TOTAL GOODS PRODUCING</b>	<b>1,685</b>	<b>1,092</b>	<b>1,790</b>	<b>54.3</b>	<b>-5.9</b>
Construction	1,473	950	1,504	55.1	-2.1
<b>TOTAL SERVICE PROVIDING</b>	<b>1,241</b>	<b>1,130</b>	<b>1,018</b>	<b>9.8</b>	<b>21.9</b>
Trade, Trans., Storage, & Util.	435	392	406	11.0	7.1
Financial Activities	66	70	55	-5.7	20.0
Professional & Business Serv.	313	284	271	10.2	15.5
Educational & Health Services	214	210	107	1.9	100.0
Leisure & Hospitality	163	126	105	29.4	55.2
<b>TOTAL GOVERNMENT</b>	<b>233</b>	<b>236</b>	<b>193</b>	<b>-1.3</b>	<b>20.7</b>
<b>UNCLASSIFIED</b>	<b>140</b>	<b>108</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>29.6</b>	<b>40.0</b>
<b>NATRONA COUNTY</b>					
<b>TOTAL WEEKS CLAIMED</b>	<b>2,045</b>	<b>1,380</b>	<b>1,829</b>	<b>48.2</b>	<b>11.8</b>
<b>TOTAL UNIQUE CLAIMANTS</b>	<b>573</b>	<b>452</b>	<b>493</b>	<b>26.8</b>	<b>16.2</b>
<b>TOTAL GOODS PRODUCING</b>	<b>1,135</b>	<b>603</b>	<b>980</b>	<b>88.2</b>	<b>15.8</b>
Construction	913	467	791	95.5	15.4
<b>TOTAL SERVICE PROVIDING</b>	<b>755</b>	<b>602</b>	<b>702</b>	<b>25.4</b>	<b>7.5</b>
Trade, Trans., Storage, & Util.	230	203	223	13.3	3.1
Financial Activities	46	47	16	-2.1	187.5
Professional & Business Serv.	235	168	207	39.9	13.5
Educational & Health Services	81	90	70	-10.0	15.7
Leisure & Hospitality	118	58	124	103.4	-4.8
<b>TOTAL GOVERNMENT</b>	<b>101</b>	<b>125</b>	<b>110</b>	<b>-19.2</b>	<b>-8.2</b>
<b>UNCLASSIFIED</b>	<b>54</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>8.0</b>	<b>45.9</b>

### Continued Unemployment Insurance Claims by Industry, January 2008



### Continued Unemployment Insurance Claims by County, January 2008



**Wyoming Department  
of Employment  
Research & Planning  
P.O. Box 2760  
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