

TRENDS

Wyoming New Hires: Examining the Wage Gap

by: *Michael Moore, Associate Editor*

The Wyoming New Hires Survey, combined with Research & Planning's driver's license records, makes it possible to examine wage disparity in Wyoming at the occupational level. Among new hires in fourth quarter 2009 and first quarter 2010, females earned an average hourly wage of \$10.25, compared to \$14.00 for males. The difference in pay can be attributed to the different types of jobs that are available to males and females.

Regardless of economic conditions, Wyoming employers hire new workers. From fourth quarter 2008 to fourth quarter 2009 – when Wyoming first entered into an economic downturn – the state's total employment decreased from 287,478 to 269,439 (-6.3%). Then, from first quarter 2009 to first quarter 2010, employment again decreased from 273,471 to 260,726 (-4.7%). However, even though employment was shrinking, employers hired new workers (see Figure 1, page 3). This article will specifically look at fourth quarter 2009 and first quarter 2010, when Wyoming employers added 39,902 new hires. A new hire is defined as

someone who has never worked for that employer before.

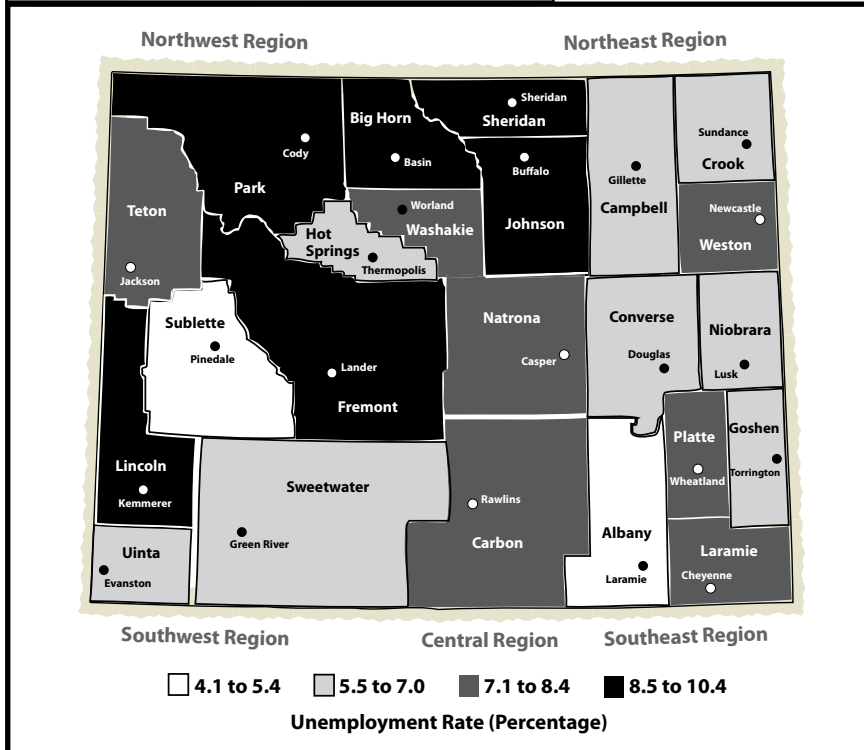
In 2010, the Research & Planning (R&P) section of the Wyoming Department of Employment began collecting data on jobs for which workers were recently hired through a New Hires Survey (Knapp, 2011). Employers were asked to provide detailed information on the characteristics of jobs for which workers were hired, such as wages, benefits offered, hours worked, and whether the worker was still employed one quarter

(Text continued on page 3)

HIGHLIGHTS

- The number of mass layoff events in Wyoming declined slightly, from a series high of 13 in 2009 to 12 in 2010. ... *page 11*
- Wyoming's total nonfarm employment increased by 3,800 jobs (1.4%) from January 2010 to January 2011. ... *page 12*
- Lincoln County posted the highest unemployment rate (10.4%) in Wyoming in January 2011, while Sublette County posted the lowest (4.4%). ... *page 17*

Unemployment Rate by Wyoming County, January 2011 (Not Seasonally Adjusted)



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Joan Evans, Director

Research & Planning
P.O. Box 2760
Casper, WY 82602-2760
doeerd_r&p_web@state.wy.us
307-473-3807

Tom Gallagher, Manager
Tony Glover, Workforce Information Supervisor

Carola Cowan, Bureau of Labor Statistics Programs Supervisor

Phil Ellsworth, Editor
Michael Moore, Associate Editor
Editorial Committee: David Bullard, Valerie A. Davis, Phil Ellsworth, and Michael Moore

Contributors to *Wyoming Labor Force Trends* this month: David Bullard, Carola Cowan, Margaret Hiatt, Douglas W. Leonard, and Michael Moore.

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later (the cover letter and questionnaire that were mailed to employers can be found online at http://doe.state.wy.us/LMI/energy/new_hires_survey.pdf).

Linking this survey information to R&P’s driver’s license data to obtain demographics makes it possible to compare wages for male and female new hires. Wage disparity in Wyoming – the difference in wages earned by males and females – is a topic that has been extensively studied by R&P (Jones, 2007

and 2008). Prior to this New Hires Survey, however, information on wage disparity was only available at the industry level. This survey makes it possible to directly compare the earnings of males and females in the same occupation, and also examine the percentage of new workers offered select benefits, hours worked, and worker retention, or how many new hires were still retained one quarter later.

Note that this article examines median hourly wages rather than using mean wages. The median hourly wage is the middle point of all of the data collected,

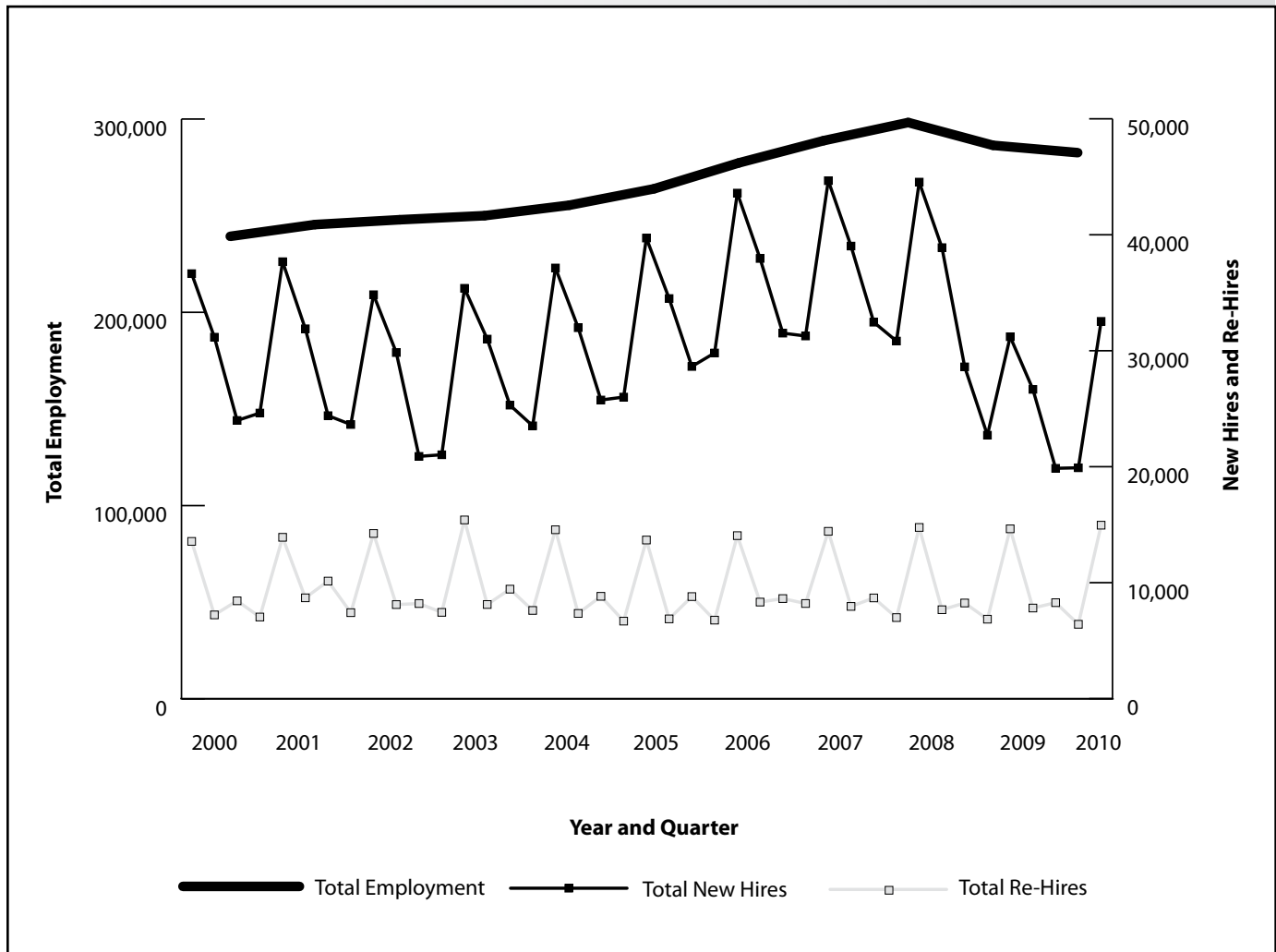


Figure 1: Total Employment, New Hires, and Re-Hires for Wyoming, 2000Q2 to 2010Q2

meaning that half of the new hires were above this wage and half were below. With smaller samples, a single extreme value can make the mean problematic. The median does not suffer this limitation.

Wage Disparity: Rate of Compensation

Among new hires in fourth quarter 2009 and first quarter 2010 in all occupations, the average hourly wage paid for jobs worked by males was \$14.00, while the average hourly wage for jobs worked by females was \$10.25 (see Table 1). The age distribution was very similar for male and female new hires across all occupations. For example, workers age 35-44 accounted for 18.5% of all male new hires and 17.4% of all female new hires, respectively. Note that age and gender data were not available for an estimated 6,109 new hires. These were people who did not possess a Wyoming driver's license, and most likely were workers from out of state (Jones, 2004). Future research will help identify

characteristics of these workers and examine what role they play in Wyoming's economy.

The data collected from the New Hires Survey indicate that the gender wage gap among Wyoming workers is due in large part to a difference in opportunity structure. Wyoming's economy is driven largely by the natural resources & mining and construction industries. Occupations within these industries tend to be high-paying jobs that have traditionally been held by males. This can be seen among new hires during this period (see Table 2, page 5). The most prominent occupation for male new hires during this period was truck drivers, heavy & tractor-trailer; there were an estimated 974 males hired to fill this occupation, paid a median hourly wage of \$17.00. Other prominent occupations for male new hires included electricians (507 new hires, \$25.00 average hourly wage), carpenters (408, \$18.00), all other extraction workers (386, \$15.50), and roustabouts, oil & gas (385, \$15.00).

By comparison, female new hires

Table 1: Estimated Average Hourly Wage for New Hires in All Occupations in Wyoming by Gender and Age Group, 2009Q4-2010Q1

Age Group	Males				Females				Demographic Data Not Available				Total		Females' Wages as a Percentage of Males'
	N	Column %	Row %	Median Hourly Wage	N	Column %	Row %	Median Hourly Wage	N	Column %	Row %	Median Hourly Wage	N	Column %	
16-19	1,272	6.9	44.7	9.50	1,572	10.2	55.3	8.50	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	2,844	7.1	89.5
20-24	3,307	17.9	50.1	12.00	2,759	18.0	49.9	9.50	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	6,066	15.2	79.2
25-34	5,546	30.1	57.1	14.37	4,169	27.1	42.9	10.86	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	9,715	24.3	75.6
35-44	3,412	18.5	56.1	16.00	2,673	17.4	43.9	11.00	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	6,085	15.2	68.8
45-54	2,873	15.6	52.3	15.50	2,621	17.1	47.7	12.00	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	5,494	13.8	77.4
55-64	1,568	8.5	56.4	15.00	1,229	8.0	43.6	11.30	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	2,797	7.0	75.3
65+	410	2.2	55.9	12.00	324	2.1	44.1	10.63	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	734	1.8	88.6
Unknown	43	0.2	0.7	9.00	15	0.1	0.2	8.25	6,109	100.0	99.1	14.00	6,167	15.5	91.7
Total	18,431	100.0	46.2	\$14.00	15,362	100.0	38.5	\$10.25	6,109	100.00	15.3	\$14.00	39,902	100.0	73.2

employed during this period were hired to fill low-paying jobs (see Table 3). Among the estimated

15,362 female new hires, 946 were hired as cashiers, earning a median hourly wage of \$8.25. Females

also were frequently hired as waiters & waitresses (790 new hires, \$7.50 hourly wage), combined food preparation & serving workers, including fast food (790, \$8.00), and retail salespersons (725, \$9.00).

Table 2: Top 10 Occupations for Male New Hires in Wyoming, 2009Q4-2010Q1

Occupation	N	Median Hourly Wage	Median Weekly Hours
Truck Drivers, Heavy & Tractor-Trailer	974	17.00	40.0
Combined Food Preparation & Serving Workers, Including Fast Food	547	7.73	25.0
Retail Salespersons	546	10.00	29.0
Construction Laborers	540	13.50	40.0
Cashiers	508	8.50	25.5
Electricians	507	25.00	40.0
Carpenters	408	18.00	40.0
Cooks, Restaurant	398	9.00	30.0
All Other Extraction Workers	386	15.50	40.0
Roustabouts, Oil & Gas	385	15.00	40.0
Subtotal	5,299	14.25	40.0
Total	18,431	\$14.00	40.0

Males and females who were hired to fill the same occupations during this period generally earned similar wages (see Table 4, page 6). For example, the estimated 508 male new hires employed as cashiers earned a median hourly wage of \$8.50, while the estimated 946 females in the same occupation earned \$8.25.

This was true among several occupations with high numbers of both male and female employees. Males hired as combined food preparation & serving workers, including fast food, earned \$7.73 per hour, compared to \$8.00 for females. Females hired as retail salespersons earned \$9.00 per hour, compared to \$10.00 per hour for males, while males hired as waiters & waitresses earned \$7.38 per hour compared to \$7.50 per hour for females.

(Text continued on page 7)

Table 3: Top 10 Occupations for Female New Hires in Wyoming, 2009Q4-2010Q1

Occupation	N	Median Hourly Wage	Median Weekly Hours
Cashiers	946	8.25	25.0
Waiters & Waitresses	790	7.50	20.0
Combined Food Preparation & Serving Workers, Including Fast Food	790	8.00	25.0
Retail Salespersons	725	9.00	22.5
Nursing Assistants	450	10.70	30.0
Maids & Housekeeping Cleaners	436	9.65	22.5
Substitute Teachers	423	11.88	8.0
Secretaries, Except Legal, Medical, & Executive	417	11.00	30.0
Receptionists & Information Clerks	401	11.00	33.0
Child Care Workers	381	8.38	30.0
Subtotal	5,759	9.33	25.0
Total	15,362	\$10.25	30.0

Table 4: Estimates of Average Hourly Wage for New Hires in Selected Occupations by Gender and Age Group: Wyoming, 2009Q4-2010Q1

Age Group	Males			Females			Demographics Not Available			Total		Females' Wages as a Percentage of Males' Wages
	N	%	Hourly Wage	N	%	Hourly Wage	N	%	Hourly Wage	N	%	
Cashiers												
16-19	96	18.9	7.25	130	13.7	7.50	N/A	N/A	N/A	226	14.2%	103.4
20-24	151	29.7	8.88	254	26.8	8.50	N/A	N/A	N/A	405	25.5%	95.7
25-34	117	23.0	8.25	254	26.8	8.38	N/A	N/A	N/A	371	23.3%	101.6
35-44	41	8.1	8.50	130	13.7	8.00	N/A	N/A	N/A	171	10.7%	94.1
45-54	82	16.1	10.00	123	13.0	8.25	N/A	N/A	N/A	205	12.9%	82.5
55-64	14	2.8	9.50	41	4.3	8.50	N/A	N/A	N/A	55	3.5%	89.5
65+	N/A	N/A	N/A	14	1.5	10.50	N/A	N/A	N/A	14	0.9%	N/A
Unknown	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	144	100.0	9.00	144	9.1%	N/A
Total	508	100.0	\$8.50	946	100.0	\$8.25	144	100.0	\$9.00	1,598	100.0%	103.0
Combined Food Preparation & Serving Workers, Including Fast Food												
16-19	89	22.1	8.00	233	29.5	8.00	N/A	N/A	N/A	322	21.6%	100.0
20-24	165	41.0	7.60	192	24.3	7.60	N/A	N/A	N/A	357	24.0%	100.0
25-34	89	22.1	7.85	182	23.0	8.00	N/A	N/A	N/A	271	18.2%	101.9
35-44	22	5.5	7.25	91	11.5	7.60	N/A	N/A	N/A	113	7.6%	104.8
45-54	22	5.5	7.28	71	9.0	8.00	N/A	N/A	N/A	93	6.2%	109.9
55-64	15	3.7	8.00	21	2.7	8.38	N/A	N/A	N/A	36	2.4%	104.8
65+	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	0	0.0%	N/A
Unknown	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	297	100.0	8.00	297	19.9%	N/A
Total	402	100.0	\$7.73	790	100.0	\$8.00	297	100.0	\$8.00	1,489	100.0%	103.5
Retail Salespersons												
16-19	86	15.8	8.00	172	23.7	8.50	N/A	N/A	N/A	258	17.4%	106.3
20-24	137	25.1	9.50	122	16.8	9.00	N/A	N/A	N/A	259	17.5%	94.7
25-34	187	34.2	9.50	223	30.8	10.00	N/A	N/A	N/A	410	27.7%	105.3
35-44	58	10.6	10.88	79	10.9	8.75	N/A	N/A	N/A	137	9.3%	80.4
45-54	29	5.3	10.00	65	9.0	9.60	N/A	N/A	N/A	94	6.4%	96.0
55-64	43	7.9	10.93	57	7.9	8.75	N/A	N/A	N/A	100	6.8%	80.1
65+	N/A	N/A	N/A	7	1.0	8.00	N/A	N/A	N/A	7	0.5%	N/A
Unknown	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	208	100.0	10.00	214	14.5%	N/A
Total	546	100.0	\$10.00	725	100.0	\$9.00	208	100.0	\$10.00	1,479	100.0%	90.0
Waiters & Waitresses												
16-19	24	10.2	N/A	171	21.6%	7.25	N/A	N/A	N/A	195.00	16.8%	N/A
20-24	73	30.9	7.38	195	24.7%	7.50	N/A	N/A	N/A	268.00	23.0%	101.6
25-34	82	34.7	7.25	261	33.0%	8.00	N/A	N/A	N/A	343.00	29.5%	110.3
35-44	41	17.4	14.00	90	11.4%	7.25	N/A	N/A	N/A	131.00	11.3%	51.8
45-54	8	3.4	N/A	65	8.2%	8.39	N/A	N/A	N/A	73.00	6.3%	N/A
55-64	N/A	N/A	N/A	8	1.0%	8.32	N/A	N/A	N/A	8.00	0.7%	N/A
65+	8	3.4	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	8.00	0.7%	N/A
Unknown	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	138	100.0	8.63	138	11.9%	N/A
Total	236	100.0	\$7.38	790	100.0%	\$7.50	138	100.0	\$8.63	1,164	100.0%	101.6

(Text continued from page 5)

**Wage Disparity:
Hours Worked**

The number of hours worked by new hires has a greater influence on the wage disparity in Wyoming than the actual rate of pay. Across all occupations, female new hires worked an average of 30 hours per week, while males worked 40. On an hourly basis, the median hourly wage for female new hires was 73.2% of male new hires earnings (see Figure 2). However,

multiplying the median number of hours worked by the median hourly wage for all occupations shows that female new hires earned just 54.9% of male new hires on a weekly basis, since they worked fewer hours than males and earned a lower hourly wage.

Females hired to work in lower-paying occupations typically were offered fewer hours per week (see Table 3). Females who were hired to work as waiters & waitresses – the lowest-paying occupation (\$7.50 per hour) among the top 10 occupations with the highest number of female new hires – worked 20 hours per week. By

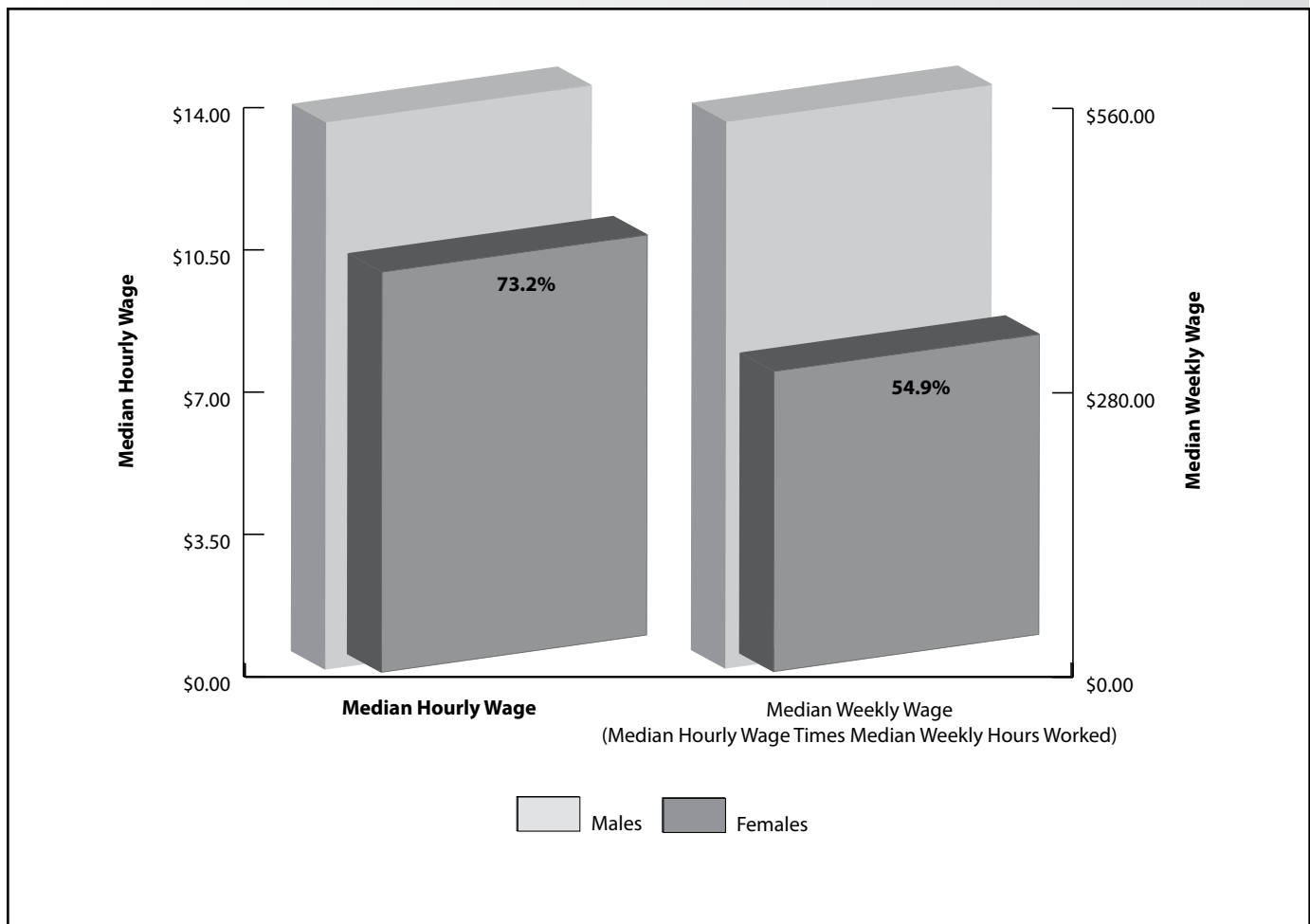


Figure 2: Estimates of Female New Hires' Median Hourly and Weekly Wages as a Percentage of Male Median Hourly and Weekly Wages, 2009Q4 to 2010Q1

comparison, females who worked in higher-paying occupations worked more hours; females hired as receptionists & information clerks earned \$11.00 per hour and worked an estimated average of 33 hours per week.

Male new hires in higher-paying occupations were more likely to work more hours (see Table 2). Truck drivers (\$17.00 per hour), electricians (\$25.00), and carpenters (\$18.00) all worked 40 hours per week. Among the top 10 occupations with the highest number of male new hires, 6 worked 40 hours per week.

Males and females who were hired to fill the same occupations worked

very similar hours (see Table 5, page 9). For example, males and females hired as combined food preparation & serving workers, including fast food, both worked 25 hours per week. Males hired as cashiers worked 25.5 hours per week, while females hired for the same occupation worked 25; this is not considered a statistically significant difference.

Males were more likely to be hired for occupations that offered benefits, such as paid time off, health insurance, and retirement (see Figure 3). The gap was especially wide for health insurance benefits; 37.5% of male new hires were

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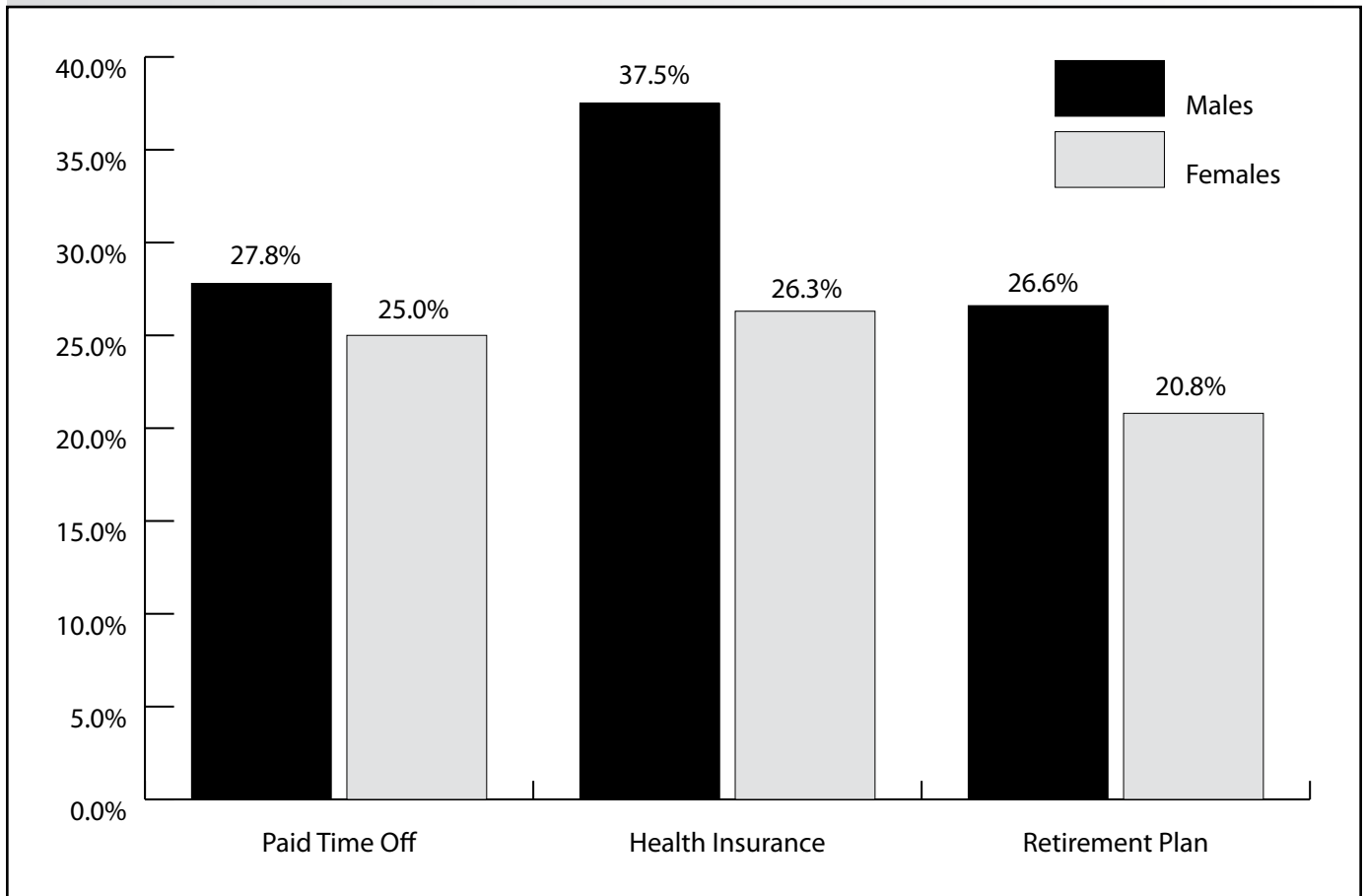


Figure 3: Percent of New Hires Offered Select Benefits by Gender, 2009Q4 to 2010Q1

Table 5: Estimated Females' Average Hourly Wage and Hours Worked as a Percentage of Estimated Males' Average Hourly Wage and Hours Worked for New Hires, 2009Q4-2010Q1

Age Group	Average Hourly Wage			Average Hours Worked		
	Males	Females	Females' Wages as a Percentage of Males'	Males	Females	Females' Hours as a Percentage of Males'
Total, All Occupations						
16-19	9.50	8.50	89.5	22.0	18.0	81.8
20-24	12.00	9.50	79.2	40.0	30.0	75.0
25-34	14.37	10.86	75.6	40.0	30.0	75.0
35-44	16.00	11.00	68.8	40.0	32.0	80.0
45-54	15.50	12.00	77.4	40.0	35.0	87.5
55-64	15.00	11.30	75.3	40.0	30.0	75.0
65+	12.00	10.63	88.6	35.0	17.2	49.2
Total	\$14.00	\$10.25	73.2	40.0	30.0	75.0
Cashiers						
16-19	7.25	7.50	103.4	20.0	20.0	100.0
20-24	8.88	8.50	95.7	30.0	26.7	89.1
25-34	8.25	8.38	101.6	29.0	27.5	94.8
35-44	8.50	8.00	94.1	33.0	30.0	90.9
45-54	10.00	8.25	82.5	25.0	26.7	106.9
55-64	9.50	8.50	89.5	25.5	22.5	88.2
65+	N/A	10.50	N/A	N/A	25.0	N/A
Total	\$8.50	\$8.25	97.1	25.5	25.0	98.0
Combined Food Preparation & Serving Workers, Including Fast Food						
16-19	8.00	8.00	100.0	20.0	20.0	100.0
20-24	7.60	7.60	100.0	25.0	20.0	80.0
25-34	7.85	8.00	101.9	20.0	30.0	150.0
35-44	7.25	7.60	104.8	19.0	25.0	131.6
45-54	7.28	8.00	109.9	17.5	30.0	171.4
55-64	8.00	8.38	104.8	25.5	10.0	39.2
65+	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Total	\$7.73	\$8.00	103.5	25.0	25.0	100.0
Retail Salespersons						
16-19	8.00	8.50	106.3	22.0	20.0	90.9
20-24	9.50	9.00	94.7	25.9	25.0	96.4
25-34	9.50	10.00	105.3	36.23	30.0	82.8
35-44	10.88	8.75	80.4	33.0	30.0	90.9
45-54	10.00	9.60	96.0	40.0	36.0	90.0
55-64	10.93	8.75	80.1	25.75	20.0	77.7
65+	N/A	8.00	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Total	\$10.00	\$9.00	90.0	29.0	22.5	77.6
Waiters & Waitresses						
16-19	N/A	7.25	N/A	20.0	18.0	90.0
20-24	7.38	7.50	101.6	22.0	20.0	90.9
25-34	7.25	8.00	110.3	32.5	20.0	61.5
35-44	14.00	7.25	51.8	20.0	16.5	82.5
45-54	N/A	8.39	N/A	20.0	20.0	100.0
55-64	N/A	8.32	N/A	N/A	2.4	N/A
65+	N/A	N/A	N/A	9.0	N/A	N/A
Total	\$7.38	\$7.50	101.6	22.0	20.0	90.9

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offered health insurance, compared to 26.3% of female new hires. Access to benefits is highly associated with full-time and part-time status (Leonard, D., and Knapp, L., 2011). Full-time workers are more likely to be offered access to benefits than part-time workers. For example, in 2009, an estimated 80.2% of full-time workers in Wyoming were offered access to health care, compared to 19.8% of part-time workers.

Conclusion

The wage gap in Wyoming is due in large part to the types of occupations available to males and females as measured by the New Hires Survey. Males are typically hired for jobs in expansion-related industries like natural resources & mining and construction and receive comparatively higher pay than males in other areas of the country. Females are hired for occupations that pay less and offer fewer hours. Benefits such as health care, retirement, and paid time off are more likely to be offered to full-time employees.

Four panels of data for four quarters have been collected through the New Hires Survey. The data presented in this article are from fourth quarter 2009 and first quarter 2010, the lowest point of Wyoming's economic downturn. The next two panels of data will be comprised of considerably more new hires; future articles will be included in *Wyoming Labor Force Trends*, and updates to the data can be found online at <http://doe.state.wy.us/LMI/energy.htm>.

Associate Editor Michael Moore can be reached at (307) 473-3814 or michael.moore@wyo.gov.

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Wyoming Mass Layoff Events Decline Slightly in 2010

by: David Bullard, Senior Economist

Many times when unemployment insurance (UI) claims are discussed, the focus is on large numbers of people being laid off; that is, the individual is the unit of analysis (see, for example, Wen, 2010). The Mass Layoff Statistics (MLS) program takes a different approach, by focusing on the firms that are responsible for large numbers of claims.

Because of Wyoming's geography, climate, and natural resources there are many seasonal employers in Wyoming. If these employers lay off 50 or more workers and do not recall them within 30 days, it is considered a mass layoff event. Thus, even when the state's economy is growing rapidly, as in 2006 and 2007, there are

still layoff events.

The number of mass layoff events in Wyoming declined slightly from a series high of 13 in 2009 to 12 in 2010 (see Table). However, the associated initial UI claims increased marginally from 2009 to 2010.

For many years there were very few mass layoffs in Wyoming. Then, as the nation fell into a recession in December 2007, the number of layoff events in the state began to increase. There were 8 events during 2008, a 60% increase from the year before. Layoffs increased further in 2009, as a total of 13 events were recorded. The number of "extended" mass layoffs (one lasting more than 30 days) increased from 4 in 2007 to 10 in 2009 and then decreased to 7 in 2010.

Table: Wyoming Mass Layoff Statistics (MLS) Events, Associated Initial Unemployment Insurance (UI) Claims, and Extended Mass Layoff Events, 2001-2010

Year	Total Events	Initial UI Claims	Extended Mass Layoff Events
2001	4	304	ND
2002	4	308	ND
2003	4	272	ND
2004	6	480	4
2005	7	481	5
2006	5	329	4
2007	5	357	4
2008	8	525	6
2009	13	1,186	10
2010	12	1,287	7

ND — Not disclosable due to confidentiality of information.

More information on what constitutes mass layoff statistics event can be found online at <http://doe.state.wy.us/LMI/0311/a2a.htm>.

Senior Economist David Bullard can be reached at (307) 473-3810 or david.bullard@wyo.gov.

Reference

Wen, S. (2010). Wyoming unemployment insurance benefit payments reach record high in 2009. *Wyoming Labor Force Trends*, 47(2). Retrieved April 1, 2011, from <http://doe.state.wy.us/LMI/0210/a1.htm>

Wyoming Career Explorer 2011 is Now Available Online

<http://doe.state.wy.us/LMI/explore/2011/2011.pdf>

Occupation Spotlight

There are an estimated 2,810 workers classified as electricians in Wyoming. According to the Occupational Employment Statistics (OES) survey, these electricians earn an average hourly wage of \$24.82; those in the 90th percentile earn an average hourly wage of \$35.14.

Wage data for specific occupations are available online at <http://doe.state.wy.us/LMI/oes.htm>. Click on the “County and Regional Wages (estimates for Wyoming wages for March 2011)” link.



Electricians

Modest Job Growth Continues in January 2011

by: David Bullard, Senior Economist

The Research & Planning section of the Wyoming Department of Employment has reported that total nonfarm employment in the state rose by 3,800 jobs (1.4%) from January 2010 to January 2011. Wyoming's seasonally adjusted¹ unemployment rate decreased from 6.4% in December to 6.3% in January 2011 and remained much lower than the U.S. unemployment rate (9.0%).

Over the year, Wyoming added 3,800 jobs (1.4%). The largest job gains occurred in natural resources & mining (including oil & gas; 2,100 jobs, or 8.8%), educational & health services (600 jobs, or 2.3%), and government (including public schools, colleges, & hospitals; 500 jobs, or 0.7%). Employment increased more modestly in professional & business services (400 jobs, or 2.5%), transportation & utilities (400 jobs, or 3.0%), and construction (300 jobs, or 1.5%). Job losses were seen in retail trade (-400 jobs, or -1.4%) and leisure &

hospitality (-300 jobs, or -1.0%).

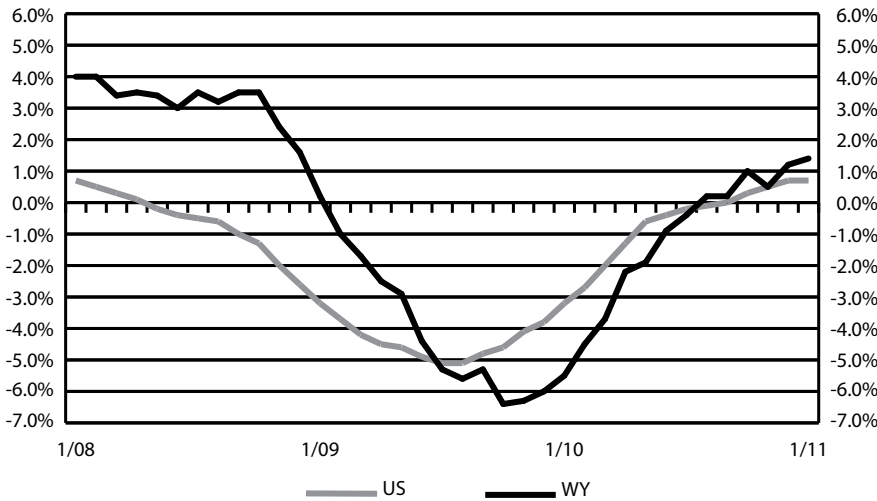
From December to January, total nonfarm employment fell by 7,700 jobs (-2.7%). This level of decrease is consistent with normal seasonal patterns. Large seasonal job losses were seen in construction (-1,900 jobs, or -8.7%), government (including public schools, colleges, & hospitals; -1,900 jobs, or -2.6%), leisure & hospitality (-900 jobs, or -3.0%), retail trade (-800 jobs, or -2.7%), and professional & business services (-600 jobs, or -3.5%). Smaller seasonal job losses occurred in natural resources & mining (-400 jobs, or -1.5%) and educational & health services (-400 jobs, or -1.5%).

Most county unemployment rates followed their normal seasonal pattern and increased from December to January. Lincoln County posted the highest unemployment rate (10.4%) followed by Johnson (9.5%) and Sheridan (9.0%) counties. From January 2010 to January 2011, unemployment rates decreased in every county.

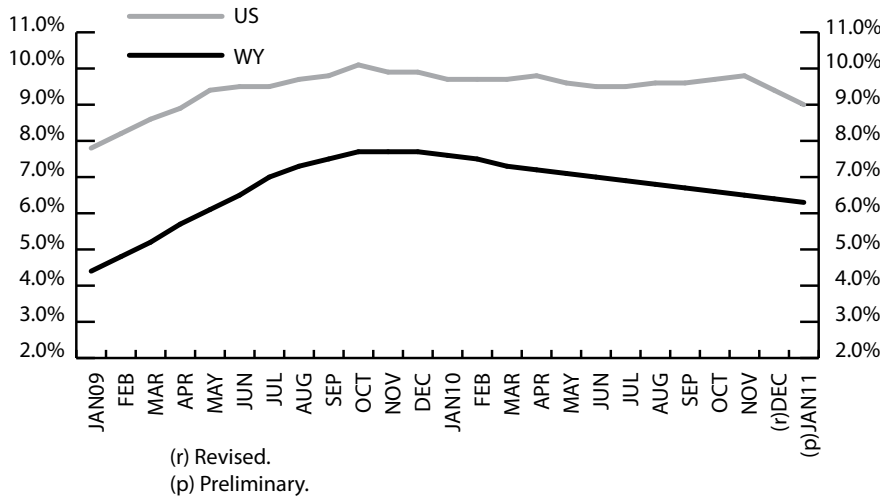


¹ Seasonal adjustment is a statistical procedure to remove the impact of normal regularly recurring events (such as weather, major holidays, and the opening and closing of schools) from economic time series to better understand changes in economic conditions from month to month.

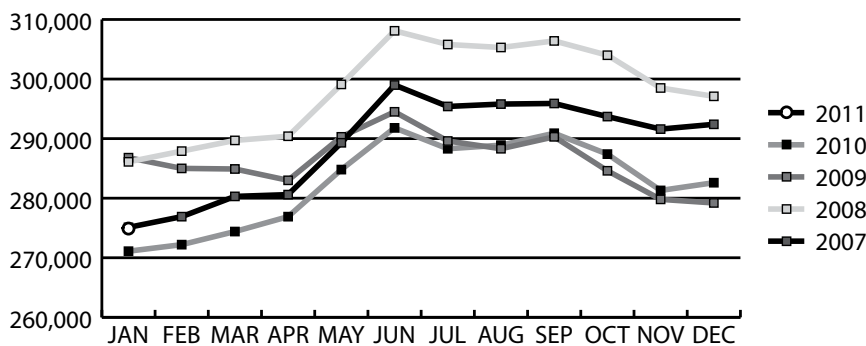
**Nonagricultural Employment Growth
(Percentage Change Over Previous Year)**



Seasonally Adjusted Unemployment Rate (Percentage)



Wyoming Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment



**State Unemployment Rates
January 2011
(Seasonally Adjusted)**

State	Unemp. Rate
Puerto Rico	15.9
Nevada	14.2
California	12.4
Florida	11.9
Rhode Island	11.3
Michigan	10.7
South Carolina	10.5
Georgia	10.4
Kentucky	10.4
Oregon	10.4
Mississippi	10.1
North Carolina	9.9
Idaho	9.7
Arizona	9.6
District of Columbia	9.6
Missouri	9.6
West Virginia	9.6
Tennessee	9.5
Ohio	9.4
Alabama	9.3
Colorado	9.1
Indiana	9.1
New Jersey	9.1
Washington	9.1
Connecticut	9.0
Illinois	9.0
United States	9.0
New Mexico	8.7
Delaware	8.5
Massachusetts	8.3
New York	8.3
Texas	8.3
Pennsylvania	8.2
Arkansas	7.8
Louisiana	7.8
Alaska	7.7
Utah	7.6
Maine	7.5
Montana	7.5
Wisconsin	7.4
Maryland	7.2
Kansas	6.8
Minnesota	6.7
Oklahoma	6.6
Virginia	6.5
Hawaii	6.3
Wyoming	6.3
Iowa	6.1
Vermont	5.7
New Hampshire	5.6
South Dakota	4.7
Nebraska	4.2
North Dakota	3.8

Wyoming Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment

(Continued)

	% Change Total Employment				
	Employment in Thousands		Employment		
	Jan 11	Dec 10	Jan 10	Jan 11	Jan 11
CAMPBELL COUNTY					
TOTAL NONAG. WAGE & SALARY EMPLOYMENT	27.9	28.2	27.9	-1.1	0.0
TOTAL PRIVATE	23.1	23.5	23.3	-1.7	-0.9
GOODS PRODUCING	11.4	11.7	11.5	-2.6	-0.9
Natural Resources & Mining	7.6	7.7	7.7	-1.3	-1.3
Construction	3.3	3.5	3.3	-5.7	0.0
Manufacturing	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.0	0.0
SERVICE PROVIDING	16.5	16.5	16.4	0.0	0.6
Trade, Transport., & Utilities	5.2	5.3	5.3	-1.9	-1.9
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	1.7	1.7	1.7	0.0	0.0
Educational & Health Serv.	1.0	1.0	0.9	0.0	11.1
Leisure & Hospitality	1.9	1.9	2.0	0.0	-5.0
Other Services	1.0	1.0	1.0	0.0	0.0
GOVERNMENT	4.8	4.7	4.6	2.1	4.3

	% Change Total Employment				
	Employment in Thousands		Employment		
	Jan 11	Dec 10	Jan 10	Jan 11	Jan 11
SWEETWATER COUNTY					
TOTAL NONAG. WAGE & SALARY EMPLOYMENT	23.9	24.5	22.9	-2.4	4.4
TOTAL PRIVATE	19.2	19.6	18.2	-2.0	5.5
GOODS PRODUCING	8.4	8.4	7.7	0.0	9.1
Natural Resources & Mining	5.6	5.5	5.1	1.8	9.8
Construction	1.5	1.6	1.3	-6.3	15.4
Manufacturing	1.3	1.3	1.3	0.0	0.0
SERVICE PROVIDING	15.5	16.1	15.2	-3.7	2.0
Trade, Transport., & Utilities	4.8	5.0	4.7	-4.0	2.1
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	1.0	1.1	1.0	-9.1	0.0
Educational & Health Serv.	1.1	1.1	1.0	0.0	10.0
Leisure & Hospitality	2.1	2.2	2.1	-4.5	0.0
Other Services	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.0	0.0
GOVERNMENT	4.7	4.9	4.7	-4.1	0.0

	% Change Total Employment				
	Employment in Thousands		Employment		
	Jan 11	Dec 10	Jan 10	Jan 11	Jan 11
TETON COUNTY					
TOTAL NONAG. WAGE & SALARY EMPLOYMENT	15.5	15.8	15.9	-1.9	-2.5
TOTAL PRIVATE	13.2	13.5	13.6	-2.2	-2.9
GOODS PRODUCING	1.3	1.7	1.6	-23.5	-18.8
Nat. Res., Mining & Const.	1.2	1.5	1.5	-20.0	-20.0
Manufacturing	0.1	0.2	0.1	-50.0	0.0
SERVICE PROVIDING	14.2	14.1	14.3	0.7	-0.7
Trade, Transport., & Utilities	2.0	2.1	2.3	-4.8	-13.0
Information	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.0	0.0
Financial Activities	0.7	0.7	0.8	0.0	-12.5
Professional & Bus. Services	1.3	1.4	1.4	-7.1	-7.1
Educational & Health Serv.	1.0	1.0	0.9	0.0	11.1
Leisure & Hospitality	6.3	6.0	6.0	5.0	5.0
Other Services	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.0	0.0
GOVERNMENT	2.3	2.3	2.3	0.0	0.0

State Unemployment Rates January 2011 (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

State	Unemp. Rate
Puerto Rico	15.7
Nevada	13.5
California	12.7
Rhode Island	11.9
Florida	11.8
Kentucky	11.3
Michigan	11.3
Oregon	11.1
Idaho	10.9
Mississippi	10.7
Georgia	10.5
North Carolina	10.5
South Carolina	10.4
West Virginia	10.3
Missouri	10.2
Tennessee	10.2
District of Columbia	10.1
Ohio	10.1
Arizona	10.0
Alabama	9.9
Colorado	9.9
New Jersey	9.8
Washington	9.7
Connecticut	9.6
Illinois	9.6
Indiana	9.5
United States	9.5
Delaware	9.1
Massachusetts	9.0
New York	9.0
New Mexico	8.8
Arkansas	8.7
Montana	8.7
Louisiana	8.6
Pennsylvania	8.6
Alaska	8.5
Texas	8.5
Maine	8.4
Wisconsin	8.2
Utah	8.1
Maryland	7.5
Minnesota	7.5
Kansas	7.4
Wyoming	7.4
Iowa	7.0
Oklahoma	6.9
Virginia	6.9
Hawaii	6.4
Vermont	6.3
New Hampshire	6.1
South Dakota	5.4
Nebraska	4.6
North Dakota	4.5

Economic Indicators

by: Margaret Hiatt, Administrative/Survey Support Specialist

The Baker Hughes rig count for Wyoming increased by 27.0% from January 2010 to January 2011.

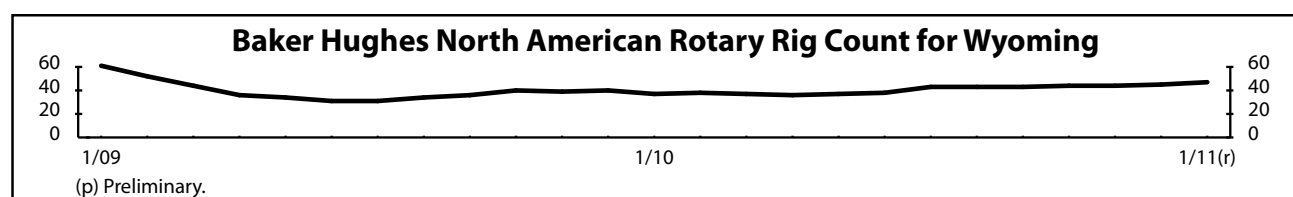
	Jan 2011 (p)	Dec 2010 (r)	Jan 2010 (b)	Percent Change Month	Year
Wyoming Total Civilian Labor Force¹	288,160	289,031	293,411	-0.3	-1.8
Unemployed	21,247	18,429	25,630	15.3	-17.1
Employed	266,913	270,602	267,781	-1.4	-0.3
Wyoming Unemployment Rate/Seas. Adj.	7.4%/6.3%	6.4%/6.4%	8.7%/7.6%	N/A	N/A
U.S. Unemployment Rate/Seas. Adj.	9.8%/9.0%	9.1%/9.4%	10.6%/9.7%	N/A	N/A
U.S. Multiple Jobholders	6,621,000	6,884,000	6,751,000	-3.8	-1.9
As a percent of all workers	4.8%	4.9%	4.9%	N/A	N/A
U.S. Discouraged Workers	993,000	1,318,000	1,065,000	-24.7	-6.8
U.S. Part Time for Economic Reasons	9,187,000	9,205,000	9,290,000	-0.2	-1.1
Hours & Earnings for Production Workers					
Wyoming Manufacturing Hours & Earnings					
Average Weekly Earnings	\$842.74	\$858.54	\$837.43	-1.8	0.6
Average Weekly Hours	40.4	41.0	40.3	-1.5	0.2
U.S. Manufacturing Hours & Earnings					
Average Weekly Earnings	\$771.67	\$788.35	\$750.69	-2.1	2.8
Average Weekly Hours	40.7	41.8	40.6	-2.6	0.2
Wyoming Unemployment Insurance					
Weeks Compensated	32,494	30,800	45,103	5.5	-28.0
Benefits Paid	\$10,395,251	\$9,618,508	\$15,233,944	8.1	-31.8
Average Weekly Benefit Payment	\$319.91	\$312.29	\$337.76	2.4	-5.3
State Insured Covered Jobs ¹	251,620	257,224	248,569	-2.2	1.2
Insured Unemployment Rate	3.4%	2.5%	4.7%	N/A	N/A
Consumer Price Index (U) for All U.S. Urban Consumers (1982 to 1984 = 100)					
All Items	220.2	219.2	216.7	0.5	1.6
Food & Beverages	223.2	221.3	219.2	0.9	1.8
Housing	216.7	216.1	215.9	0.3	0.4
Apparel	116.7	118.1	116.7	-1.2	0.0
Transportation	200.8	198.3	190.5	1.3	5.4
Medical Care	393.9	391.9	382.7	0.5	2.9
Recreation (Dec. 1997=100)	112.6	112.3	113.3	0.3	-0.6
Education & Communication (Dec. 1997=100)	130.7	130.5	129.1	0.1	1.2
Other Goods & Services	384.7	384.5	377.7	0.0	1.9
Producer Prices (1982 to 1984 = 100)					
All Commodities	192.2	189.9	181.9	1.2	5.7
Wyo. Bldg. Permits (New Privately Owned Housing Units Authorized)					
Total Units	84	91	68	-7.7	23.5
Valuation	\$14,646,000	\$17,586,000	\$26,720,000	-16.7	-45.2
Single Family Homes	64	74	68	-13.5	-5.9
Valuation	\$12,940,000	\$16,107,000	\$26,720,000	-19.7	-51.6
Casper MSA ² Building Permits	9	17	2	-47.1	350.0
Valuation	\$1,349,000	\$3,173,000	\$188,000	-57.5	617.6
Cheyenne MSA Building Permits	24	9	24	166.7	0.0
Valuation	\$2,938,000	\$1,403,000	\$4,111,000	109.4	-28.5
Baker Hughes North American Rotary Rig Count for Wyoming	47	45	37	4.4	27.0

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

¹Local Area Unemployment Statistics Program estimates.

²Metropolitan Statistical Area.

Note: Hours and earnings data for mining have been dropped from the Economic Indicators page as data for Wyoming mining are no longer available.



Wyoming County Unemployment Rates

by: Carola Cowan, BLS Programs Supervisor

Lincoln County posted the highest unemployment rate (10.4%) in January 2011.

REGION County	Labor Force			Employed			Unemployed			Unemployment Rates		
	Jan 2011 (p)	Dec 2010 (r)	Jan 2010 (b)	Jan 2011 (p)	Dec 2010 (r)	Jan 2010 (b)	Jan 2011 (p)	Dec 2010 (r)	Jan 2010 (b)	Jan 2011 (p)	Dec 2010 (r)	Jan 2010 (b)
NORTHWEST	44,703	44,617	44,784	40,873	41,474	40,397	3,830	3,143	4,387	8.6	7.0	9.8
Big Horn	4,957	4,931	4,889	4,518	4,570	4,338	439	361	551	8.9	7.3	11.3
Fremont	18,913	18,787	19,038	17,227	17,416	17,071	1,686	1,371	1,967	8.9	7.3	10.3
Hot Springs	2,485	2,510	2,515	2,331	2,365	2,343	154	145	172	6.2	5.8	6.8
Park	14,009	14,067	13,985	12,799	13,055	12,662	1,210	1,012	1,323	8.6	7.2	9.5
Washakie	4,339	4,322	4,357	3,998	4,068	3,983	341	254	374	7.9	5.9	8.6
NORTHEAST	53,224	52,886	55,069	49,478	49,785	50,319	3,746	3,101	4,750	7.0	5.9	8.6
Campbell	27,143	26,940	28,347	25,634	25,624	26,133	1,509	1,316	2,214	5.6	4.9	7.8
Crook	3,346	3,340	3,434	3,130	3,153	3,173	216	187	261	6.5	5.6	7.6
Johnson	3,782	3,743	3,838	3,421	3,451	3,417	361	292	421	9.5	7.8	11.0
Sheridan	15,707	15,646	16,112	14,292	14,531	14,521	1,415	1,115	1,591	9.0	7.1	9.9
Weston	3,246	3,217	3,338	3,001	3,026	3,075	245	191	263	7.5	5.9	7.9
SOUTHWEST	62,181	62,337	62,107	57,788	58,267	56,631	4,393	4,070	5,476	7.1	6.5	8.8
Lincoln	7,970	7,861	8,025	7,141	7,172	7,112	829	689	913	10.4	8.8	11.4
Sublette	7,149	6,975	6,877	6,832	6,689	6,455	317	286	422	4.4	4.1	6.1
Sweetwater	23,445	23,639	23,365	21,923	22,304	21,307	1,522	1,335	2,058	6.5	5.6	8.8
Teton	12,465	12,590	12,853	11,472	11,475	11,797	993	1,115	1,056	8.0	8.9	8.2
Uinta	11,152	11,272	10,987	10,420	10,627	9,960	732	645	1,027	6.6	5.7	9.3
SOUTHEAST	73,194	74,153	74,742	67,979	69,585	68,663	5,215	4,568	6,079	7.1	6.2	8.1
Albany	18,790	19,593	19,365	17,843	18,736	18,205	947	857	1,160	5.0	4.4	6.0
Goshen	6,217	6,301	6,291	5,841	5,977	5,863	376	324	428	6.0	5.1	6.8
Laramie	42,972	43,101	43,671	39,439	40,027	39,640	3,533	3,074	4,031	8.2	7.1	9.2
Niobrara	1,225	1,208	1,278	1,157	1,147	1,184	68	61	94	5.6	5.0	7.4
Platte	3,990	3,950	4,137	3,699	3,698	3,771	291	252	366	7.3	6.4	8.8
CENTRAL	54,859	55,037	56,711	50,796	51,490	51,772	4,063	3,547	4,939	7.4	6.4	8.7
Carbon	7,405	7,383	7,691	6,782	6,831	6,969	623	552	722	8.4	7.5	9.4
Converse	7,298	7,279	7,737	6,872	6,913	7,173	426	366	564	5.8	5.0	7.3
Natrona	40,156	40,375	41,283	37,142	37,746	37,630	3,014	2,629	3,653	7.5	6.5	8.8
STATEWIDE	288,160	289,031	293,411	266,913	270,602	267,781	21,247	18,429	25,630	7.4	6.4	8.7
Statewide Seasonally Adjusted										6.3	6.4	7.6
U.S.										9.8	9.1	10.6
U.S. Seasonally Adjusted										9.0	9.4	9.7

Prepared in cooperation with the Bureau of Labor Statistics. Benchmarked 02/2011. Run Date 3/2011.

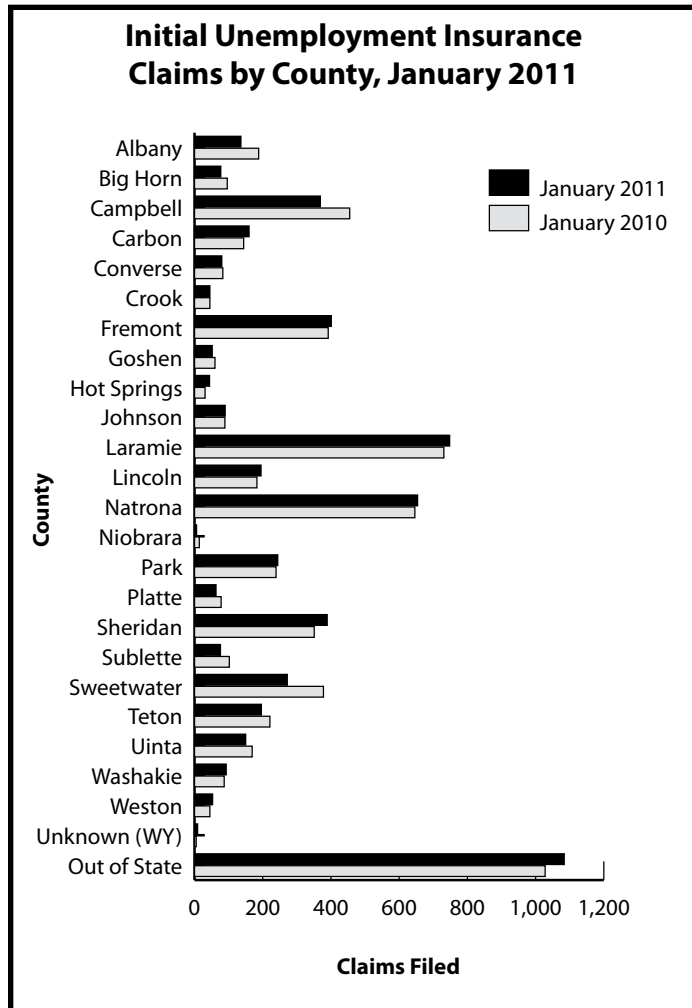
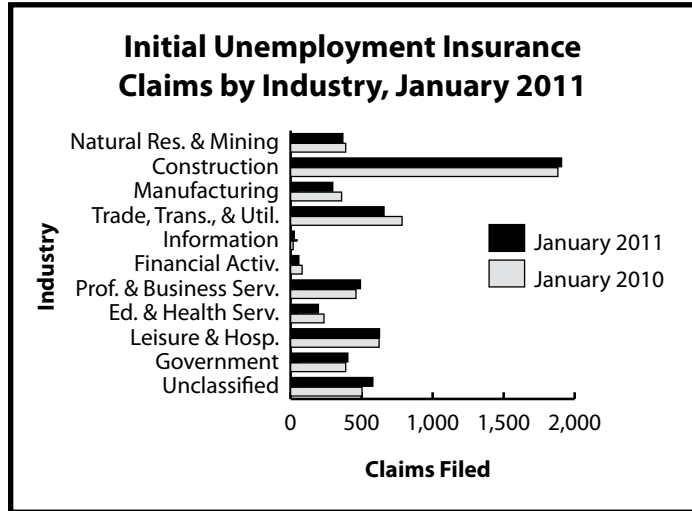
Data are not seasonally adjusted except where otherwise specified.

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

Wyoming Normalized^a Unemployment Insurance Statistics: Initial Claims

by: Douglas W. Leonard, Senior Economist

Claims were lower in January 2011 than in January 2010 in most sectors except construction, information, professional & business services, leisure & hospitality, and government.



Initial Claims	Percent Change Claims Filed				
	Claims Filed		Jan 11 Jan 11		
	Jan 11	Dec 10	Jan 10	Dec 10	Jan 10
Wyoming Statewide					
TOTAL CLAIMS FILED	5,687	4,585	5,859	24.0	-2.9
TOTAL GOODS-PRODUCING	2,573	2,145	2,629	20.0	-2.1
Natural Res. & Mining	368	285	388	29.1	-5.2
Mining	318	252	340	26.2	-6.5
Oil & Gas Extraction	24	17	22	41.2	9.1
Construction	1,908	1,671	1,882	14.2	1.4
Manufacturing	297	189	359	57.1	-17.3
TOTAL SERVICE-PROVIDING	2,132	1,573	2,339	35.5	-8.8
Trade, Transp., & Utilities	658	476	785	38.2	-16.2
Wholesale Trade	83	68	84	22.1	-1.2
Retail Trade	401	239	491	67.8	-18.3
Transp., Warehousing & Utilities	174	169	210	3.0	-17.1
Information	26	11	18	136.4	44.4
Financial Activities	58	53	81	9.4	-28.4
Prof. and Business Svcs.	492	330	460	49.1	7.0
Educational & Health Svcs.	196	179	235	9.5	-16.6
Leisure & Hospitality	626	458	623	36.7	0.5
Other Svcs., exc. Public Admin.	76	66	137	15.2	-44.5
TOTAL GOVERNMENT	403	310	388	30.0	3.9
Federal Government	165	185	178	-10.8	-7.3
State Government	29	23	38	26.1	-23.7
Local Government	209	102	172	104.9	21.5
Local Education	47	23	27	104.3	74.1
UNCLASSIFIED	579	557	503	3.9	15.1

Laramie County					
TOTAL CLAIMS FILED	745	661	730	12.7	2.1
TOTAL GOODS-PRODUCING	373	314	354	18.8	5.4
Construction	287	267	263	7.5	9.1
TOTAL SERVICE-PROVIDING	300	282	323	6.4	-7.1
Trade, Transp., & Utilities	106	111	138	-4.5	-23.2
Financial Activities	9	14	19	-35.7	-52.6
Prof. & Business Svcs.	84	64	82	31.3	2.4
Educational & Health Svcs.	34	39	23	-12.8	47.8
Leisure & Hospitality	54	44	52	22.7	3.8
TOTAL GOVERNMENT	53	43	35	23.3	51.4
UNCLASSIFIED	19	22	18	-13.6	5.6

Natrona County					
TOTAL CLAIMS FILED	650	534	644	21.7	0.9
TOTAL GOODS-PRODUCING	282	289	311	-2.4	-9.3
Construction	202	210	228	-3.8	-11.4
TOTAL SERVICE-PROVIDING	336	209	296	60.8	13.5
Trade, Transp., & Utilities	116	85	103	36.5	12.6
Financial Activities	16	5	7	220.0	128.6
Prof. & Business Svcs.	78	40	51	95.0	52.9
Educational & Health Svcs.	43	24	35	79.2	22.9
Leisure & Hospitality	51	40	56	27.5	-8.9
TOTAL GOVERNMENT	16	24	25	-33.3	-36.0
UNCLASSIFIED	16	12	12	33.3	33.3

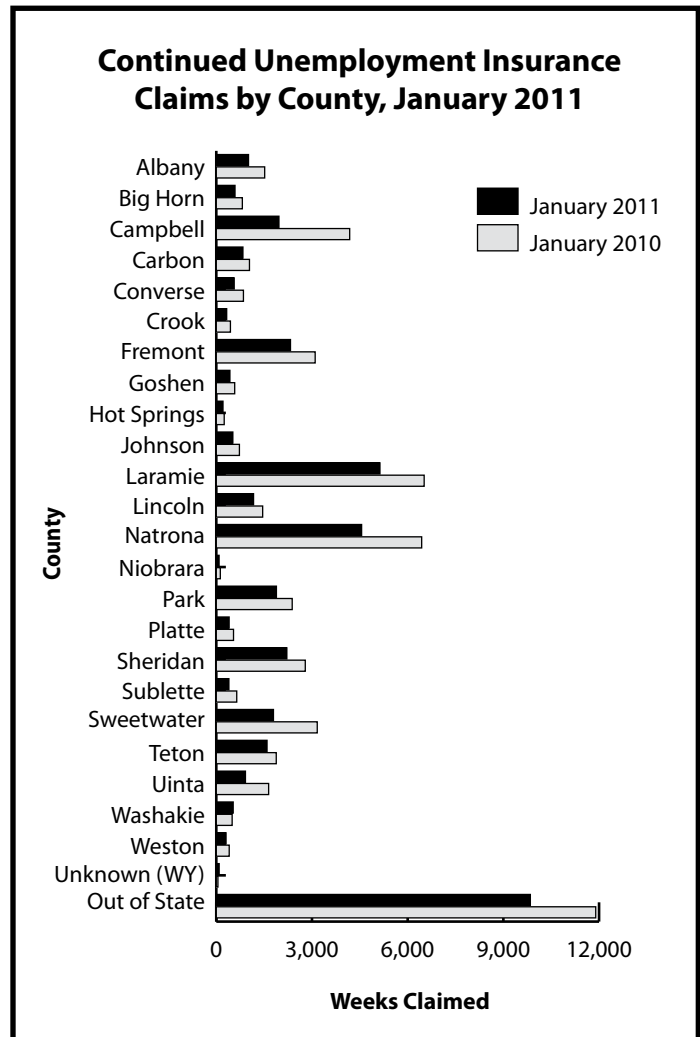
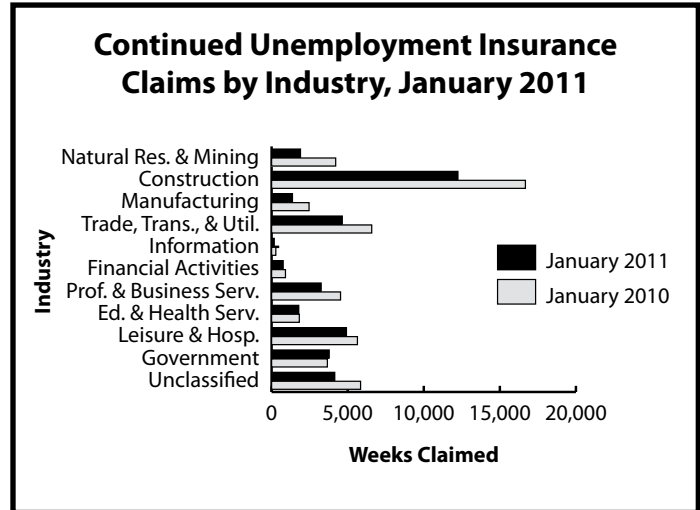
^aAn average month is considered 4.33 weeks. If a month has four weeks, the normalization factor is 1.0825. If the month has five weeks, the normalization factor is 0.866. The number of raw claims is multiplied by the normalization factor to achieve the normalized claims counts.

Wyoming Normalized^a Unemployment Insurance Statistics: Continued Claims

by: Douglas W. Leonard, Senior Economist

Continued weeks claimed increased 11.3% compared to December 2010 while declining 26.4% compared to January 2010. Claims in goods-producing industries were sharply lower (-33.6%) than a year ago.

Continued Claims	Continued Weeks Claimed			Percent Change Weeks Claimed	
	Jan 11	Dec 10	Jan 10	Jan 11	Jan 10
	Jan 11	Dec 10	Jan 10	Jan 11	Jan 10
Wyoming Statewide					
TOTAL WEEKS CLAIMED	39,670	35,654	53,923	11.3	-26.4
EXTENDED WEEKS CLAIMED	19,006	18,852	26,316	0.8	-27.8
TOTAL UNIQUE CLAIMANTS^b	11,680	8,903	15,314	31.2	-23.7
<i>Benefit Exhaustions</i>	902	737	1,357	22.4	-33.5
<i>Benefit Exhaustion Rates</i>	7.7%	8.3%	8.9%	-0.6%	-1.1%
TOTAL GOODS-PRODUCING	15,517	11,390	23,354	36.2	-33.6
Natural Res. & Mining	1,899	1,582	4,212	20.0	-54.9
Mining	1,614	1,328	3,821	21.5	-57.8
Oil & Gas Extraction	147	103	251	42.7	-41.4
Construction	12,246	8,953	16,680	36.8	-26.6
Manufacturing	1,372	855	2,462	60.5	-44.3
TOTAL SERVICE-PROVIDING	16,214	16,830	21,055	-3.7	-23.0
Trade, Transp., & Utilities	4,646	4,391	6,580	5.8	-29.4
Wholesale Trade	611	558	1,073	9.5	-43.1
Retail Trade	3,006	2,827	3,878	6.3	-22.5
Transp., Warehousing & Utilities	1,029	1,006	1,629	2.3	-36.8
Information	175	168	278	4.2	-37.1
Financial Activities	763	792	911	-3.7	-16.2
Prof. & Business Services	3,259	2,793	4,531	16.7	-28.1
Educational & Health Svcs.	1,786	1,709	1,821	4.5	-1.9
Leisure and Hospitality	4,919	6,305	5,640	-22.0	-12.8
Other Svcs., exc. Public Admin.	666	672	1,294	-0.9	-48.5
TOTAL GOVERNMENT	3,788	3,909	3,666	-3.1	3.3
Federal Government	2,083	2,229	1,621	-6.6	28.5
State Government	250	258	407	-3.1	-38.6
Local Government	1,455	1,422	1,638	2.3	-11.2
Local Education	337	336	380	0.3	-11.3
UNCLASSIFIED	4,151	3,525	5,848	17.8	-29.0
Laramie County					
TOTAL WEEKS CLAIMED	5,131	4,496	6,514	14.1	-21.2
TOTAL UNIQUE CLAIMANTS	1,565	1,136	1,860	37.8	-15.9
Total Goods-Producing	2,187	1,655	2,895	32.1	-24.5
Construction	1,890	1,499	2,405	26.1	-21.4
Total Service-Providing	2,238	2,113	3,054	5.9	-26.7
Trade, Transp., and Utilities	680	611	1,015	11.3	-33.0
Financial Activities	137	149	192	-8.1	-28.6
Prof. & Business Svcs.	558	497	855	12.3	-34.7
Educational and Health Svcs.	439	426	327	3.1	34.3
Leisure & Hospitality	309	293	491	5.5	-37.1
TOTAL GOVERNMENT	544	569	402	-4.4	35.3
UNCLASSIFIED	162	159	163	1.9	-0.6
Natrona County					
TOTAL WEEKS CLAIMED	4,557	3,887	6,437	17.2	-29.2
TOTAL UNIQUE CLAIMANTS	1,336	953	1,836	40.2	-27.2
Total Goods-Producing	1,726	1,154	2,962	49.6	-41.7
Construction	1,271	830	2,048	53.1	-37.9
Total Service-Providing	2,475	2,386	3,072	3.7	-19.4
Trade, Transp., and Utilities	1,065	1,004	1,031	6.1	3.3
Financial Activities	100	107	101	-6.5	-1.0
Professional & Business Svcs.	428	401	555	6.7	-22.9
Educational & Health Svcs.	321	326	404	-1.5	-20.5
Leisure & Hospitality	391	392	517	-0.3	-24.4
TOTAL GOVERNMENT	280	285	266	-1.8	5.3
UNCLASSIFIED	76	62	137	22.6	-44.5



^aAn average month is considered 4.33 weeks. If a month has four weeks, the normalization factor is 1.0825. If the month has five weeks, the normalization factor is 0.866. The number of raw claims is multiplied by the normalization factor to achieve the normalized claims counts.
^bDoes not include claimants receiving extended benefits.

**Wyoming Department
of Employment
Research & Planning
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