

# TRENDS

## The Implications of Rising Fuel Prices for Wyoming

by: Jennifer Cooper, Statistician

*The forecasted increases in heating costs for this winter may cause consumers to spend less in other areas and more for heating their homes. Because 2001 also had large increases for utilities, consumer expenditures and employment were studied to predict what may happen in 2006. If Wyoming follows the same pattern as before, it will experience increasing employment in oil & gas extraction and related support activities.*

The Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U) is a monthly national data series that measures changes in prices paid by urban consumers for a representative basket of goods and services. This important survey is used not only as an economic indicator, but also to pinpoint areas of change that could affect other statistics such as employment. The CPI-U is most widely used as a measure of inflation and as a deflator of other economic series.

In the Table (see page 3), the CPI-U for May 2006 (Bureau of Labor Statistics [BLS], 2006) was 201.9, a slight increase from April (201.0). Looking back at the seasonally adjusted annual rate percent change for the 3 months ending in November 2005, there was a moderate increase of 3.3%. However, there were some large increases within the categories, especially in fuels & utilities (48.7%). Fuel oil & other fuels increased by 34.2% and gas (piped) & electricity rose 62.7%. Fortunately for consumers, these increases were partially offset

by a drop of 20.5% for gasoline. This was just a temporary reprieve as gasoline increased 95.5% for the 3 months ending in May 2006. Gasoline prices hit a high in September 2005 (CPI-U of 245.3; BLS, 2005) and then declined through December hitting a low of 193.0. In May 2006, CPI-U for gasoline was at 240.4.

In the past, prices for natural gas have been very volatile. The CPI-U for utility gas peaked in January 2001 with annual increases in excess of 50.0%, but then declined until it hit a low in March 2002. It has been rising steadily since then. According to the Energy Information Administration (EIA, 2005), in December 2005 nearly 36.0% of normal daily Federal Gulf of Mexico oil production and approximately 29.0% of natural gas production remained shut-in due to hurricanes Rita and Katrina. Even in May 2006, some of the refineries in the Gulf area were not back to full production (EIA, 2006).

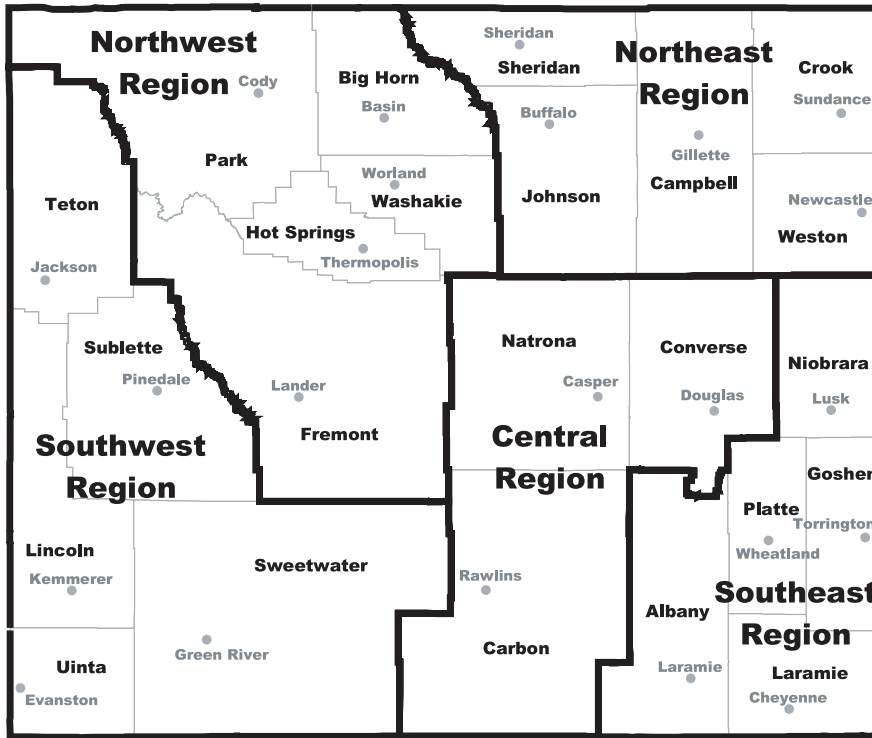
During 2001, natural gas prices hit a high

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## HIGHLIGHTS

- **The hire rate for men age 24 or younger in Construction is 13.1 percentage points greater than for all Construction workers....page 4**
- **Wyoming added 8,800 jobs or 3.4% from April 2005 to April 2006....page 8**

Wyoming Regions, Counties, and County Seats



Wyoming Labor Force Trends

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**Table: Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers:<sup>a</sup> Seasonally Adjusted U.S. City Average by Expenditure Category**

Expenditure Category	Seasonally Adjusted Indexes									Seasonally Adjusted Annual Rate Percentage Change for the 3 Months Ending			
	Sept. 2005	Oct. 2005	Nov. 2005	Dec. 2005	Jan. 2006	Feb. 2006	Mar. 2006	Apr. 2006	May 2006	Aug. 2005	Nov. 2005	Feb. 2006	May 2006
	All Items	198.5	199.1	197.8	197.7	199.0	199.1	199.8	201.0	201.9	4.6%	3.3%	2.7%
Food and Beverages	191.9	192.4	192.9	193.1	194.0	194.3	194.4	194.4	194.7	1.1%	3.0%	2.9%	0.8%
Apparel	119.3	118.9	119.0	118.7	119.1	117.9	119.1	119.8	120.0	-2.0%	-1.3%	-3.6%	7.3%
Housing	196.7	198.6	199.4	199.7	200.6	200.8	201.3	201.6	202.3	2.7%	7.6%	2.8%	3.0%
Medical Care	325.0	327.0	328.7	329.4	329.8	331.4	332.8	334.0	335.1	2.9%	5.7%	3.3%	4.5%
Fuels & Utilities	185.5	193.7	196.0	193.5	200.0	197.9	196.1	194.4	193.9	9.8%	48.7%	3.9%	-7.8%
Fuels	168.4	177.2	179.6	176.8	183.6	181.0	179.1	177.1	176.5	11.0%	60.0%	3.2%	-9.6%
Fuel Oil & Other Fuels	242.7	242.1	233.0	230.7	227.9	221.6	222.4	231.3	238.2	59.7%	34.2%	-18.2%	33.5%
Piped Gas & Electricity	172.0	181.8	185.1	182.1	189.8	187.3	185.2	182.4	181.3	7.7%	62.7%	4.8%	-12.2%
Gasoline (All Types)	245.3	236.4	198.4	193.0	205.4	203.3	210.6	229.1	240.4	84.4%	-20.5%	10.3%	95.5%

<sup>a</sup>For a detailed table of goods and services and a description of the methodology used, see

<http://doe.state.wy.us/LMI/FullCPItable0606.htm>

Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics.

that was not reached again until late 2004. To compare the effect of price increases on consumer spending, the average annual Consumer Expenditure Survey (BLS, 2003) can be used to determine how much consumers spend in different item categories (e.g., housing, food, healthcare). Unfortunately, there is a two-year lag so it will be 2007 before we have 2005 expenditures. Since the price increase of natural gas in 2001 is similar to what is happening currently, 2001 expenditures were studied to predict what will happen in 2006. Income spent on home utilities increased 11.2% in 2001 as compared to 2000, but even with this increase consumers spent only 7.0% of their total expenditures on utilities. Nationally, the winter of 2001 was colder than the winter of 2000 (National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, 2004) which may explain why expenditures for utilities increased more than the CPI-U (8.9%). The only other significant increases for 2001 on the Consumer Expenditure Survey were housing costs and pensions, which may signify that consumers were thinking about investments for the future during the economic downturn. Some expenditure areas that decreased for 2001 on the Consumer Expenditure Survey were alcoholic beverages,

household furnishings & equipment, apparel & related services, public transportation, and personal care services. None of these were drastic drops and are presumably discretionary income. If 2001 can be used to predict spending patterns for 2005-2006, then employment should not be significantly affected in other sectors as a result of higher fuel prices. Also, this past winter was not as cold as winter 2000-2001. Expenditures for eating away from home, entertainment, and vehicle purchases actually increased in 2001, in spite of higher fuel prices and the recession. Since utilities are such a small portion of total annual expenditures, there should not be much of an effect in other sectors. Even if utility prices do not level off or decline as they did in the latter half of 2001, the decreased spending will most likely be spread among several industries.

Wyoming total nonagricultural employment for 2001 increased 2.5% over 2000. The largest increases were in support activities for oil & gas (up 24.4%), oil & gas extraction (up 22.2%), Wholesale Trade (up 7.8%), Professional & Business Services (up 6.8%), Educational & Health Services (up 6.0%), and Construction (up 5.4%). Therefore, we expect employment in

oil & gas extraction and support activities for oil & gas to continue to rise with the increased prices of energy.

In conclusion, the national data from the Consumer Expenditure Survey indicate little change in spending patterns of consumers when the price of heating fuels increases 40.0%. However, since Wyoming is an energy exporter, our employment figures should increase due to oil and gas activity which will have a positive spillover effect in Construction and other industries.

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## Quarterly Turnover Statistics for Second Quarter 2005

by: Douglas W. Leonard, Senior Research Analyst

Table 1 (see page 5) shows hires in Wyoming exceeded exits during second quarter 2005 (2005Q2) by 15,915 (Bullard, n.d.a), compared to an over-the-year average quarterly employment increase of about 7,000 jobs (Bullard, n.d.b). Industries with the highest hire rates included Leisure & Hospitality (30.9%), Construction (23.5%), and Retail Trade (19.2%). Those with the highest exit rates were Leisure & Hospitality (17.2%), Educational Services (15.8%), and Retail Trade (13.8%). The largest shares of continuous employment were in Public Administration (78.9%) and Health Services (76.2%).

Spring is generally the start of seasonal hiring increases in many industries. Table 2 (see page 6) shows the labor market activity of men 24 years of age or younger. The hire rate

for these workers in Construction is 13.1 percentage points greater than for all Construction workers (Bullard, n.d.a). The greatest difference in hire rates between this group and all workers was in Public Administration, where the hire rate for males less than 24 years of age was 50.2% compared to 12.6% statewide. In 2005Q2 these workers were most likely to obtain continuous employment in Information, where the continuous transaction rate was 52.1%. They were most likely to exit Educational Services (exit only rate of 31.2%).

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(Continued on page 9)



Table 1: Wyoming Labor Market Transaction Rates, Second Quarter 2005

Industry	Exits		Hires		Total Exits (E)+(B)	Total Hires (H)+(B)	Continuous Employment (C)	Total Transactions (E)+(H)+(C)+(B)
	Exit Only (E)	Both Hire and Exit (B)	Hire Only (H)	Both Hire and Exit (B)				
Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing, & Hunting	255	398	750	398	653	1,148	1,709	3,112
Rate %	8.2%	12.8%	24.1%	12.8%	21.0%	36.9%	54.9%	100.0%
Mining	2,262	1,731	3,692	1,731	3,993	5,423	18,294	25,979
Rate %	8.7%	6.7%	14.2%	6.7%	15.4%	20.9%	70.4%	100.0%
Construction	3,558	4,835	6,897	4,835	8,393	11,732	14,114	29,404
Rate %	12.1%	16.4%	23.5%	16.4%	28.5%	39.9%	48.0%	100.0%
Manufacturing	1,270	583	1,556	583	1,853	2,139	8,818	12,227
Rate %	10.4%	4.8%	12.7%	4.8%	15.2%	17.5%	72.1%	100.0%
<b>Total Goods Producing</b>	<b>7,345</b>	<b>7,547</b>	<b>12,895</b>	<b>7,547</b>	<b>14,892</b>	<b>20,442</b>	<b>42,935</b>	<b>70,722</b>
Rate %	<b>10.4%</b>	<b>10.7%</b>	<b>18.2%</b>	<b>10.7%</b>	<b>21.1%</b>	<b>28.9%</b>	<b>60.7%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>
Wholesale Trade, Transportation, Utilities, & Warehousing	1,930	1,044	2,700	1,044	2,974	3,744	15,301	20,975
Rate %	9.2%	5.0%	12.9%	5.0%	14.2%	17.8%	72.9%	100.0%
Retail Trade	5,321	2,906	7,393	2,906	8,227	10,299	22,849	38,469
Rate %	13.8%	7.6%	19.2%	7.6%	21.4%	26.8%	59.4%	100.0%
Information	615	213	672	213	828	885	4,198	5,698
Rate %	10.8%	3.7%	11.8%	3.7%	14.5%	15.5%	73.7%	100.0%
Financial Activities	1,153	516	1,444	516	1,669	1,960	9,038	12,151
Rate %	9.5%	4.2%	11.9%	4.2%	13.7%	16.1%	74.4%	100.0%
Professional & Business Services	2,944	2,865	4,462	2,865	5,809	7,327	11,481	21,752
Rate %	13.5%	13.2%	20.5%	13.2%	26.7%	33.7%	52.8%	100.0%
Educational Services	5,034	1,484	1,740	1,484	6,518	3,224	23,644	31,902
Rate %	15.8%	4.7%	5.5%	4.7%	20.4%	10.1%	74.1%	100.0%
Health Services	3,005	981	3,183	981	3,986	4,164	22,968	30,137
Rate %	10.0%	3.3%	10.6%	3.3%	13.2%	13.8%	76.2%	100.0%
Leisure & Hospitality	8,306	6,288	14,921	6,288	14,594	21,209	18,830	48,345
Rate %	17.2%	13.0%	30.9%	13.0%	30.2%	43.9%	38.9%	100.0%
Other Services	1,148	617	1,502	617	1,765	2,119	5,874	9,141
Rate %	12.6%	6.7%	16.4%	6.7%	19.3%	23.2%	64.3%	100.0%
Public Administration	1,282	629	2,833	629	1,911	3,462	17,783	22,527
Rate %	5.7%	2.8%	12.6%	2.8%	8.5%	15.4%	78.9%	100.0%
<b>Total Service Providing</b>	<b>30,738</b>	<b>17,543</b>	<b>40,850</b>	<b>17,543</b>	<b>48,281</b>	<b>58,393</b>	<b>151,966</b>	<b>241,097</b>
Rate %	<b>12.7%</b>	<b>7.3%</b>	<b>16.9%</b>	<b>7.3%</b>	<b>20.0%</b>	<b>24.2%</b>	<b>63.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>
Unclassified	98	52	351	52	150	403	282	783
Rate %	12.5%	6.6%	44.8%	6.6%	19.2%	51.5%	36.0%	100.0%
<b>All Industries</b>	<b>38,181</b>	<b>25,142</b>	<b>54,096</b>	<b>25,142</b>	<b>63,323</b>	<b>79,238</b>	<b>195,183</b>	<b>312,602</b>
Rate %	<b>12.2%</b>	<b>8.0%</b>	<b>17.3%</b>	<b>8.0%</b>	<b>20.3%</b>	<b>25.3%</b>	<b>62.4%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

Table 2: Wyoming Labor Market Transaction Rates for Males 24 Years of Age and Younger, Second Quarter 2005

Industry	Exits			Hires			Total Hires (H)+(B)	Continuous Employment (C)	Total Transactions (E)+(H)+(C)+(B)
	Exit Only (E)	Both Hire and Exit (B)	Total Exits (E)+(B)	Hire Only (H)	Both Hire and Exit (B)	Total Exits (E)+(B)			
Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing, & Hunting	49 13.0%	75 19.9%	124 32.9%	143 37.9%	75 19.9%	218 57.8%	110 29.2%	377 100.0%	
Mining	384 14.6%	279 10.6%	663 25.2%	750 28.5%	279 10.6%	1,029 39.1%	1,219 46.3%	2,632 100.0%	
Construction	535 12.2%	711 16.2%	1,246 28.3%	1,610 36.6%	711 16.2%	2,321 52.8%	1,541 35.0%	4,397 100.0%	
Manufacturing	214 16.5%	137 10.6%	351 27.1%	374 28.9%	137 10.6%	511 39.5%	569 44.0%	1,294 100.0%	
<b>Total Goods Producing</b>	<b>1,182</b> <b>13.6%</b>	<b>1,202</b> <b>13.8%</b>	<b>2,384</b> <b>27.4%</b>	<b>2,877</b> <b>33.1%</b>	<b>1,202</b> <b>13.8%</b>	<b>4,079</b> <b>46.9%</b>	<b>3,439</b> <b>39.5%</b>	<b>8,700</b> <b>100.0%</b>	
Wholesale Trade, Transportation, Utilities, & Warehousing	243 14.1%	195 11.3%	438 25.5%	499 29.0%	195 11.3%	694 40.3%	783 45.5%	1,720 100.0%	
Retail Trade	896 20.0%	465 10.4%	1,361 30.3%	1,250 27.8%	465 10.4%	1,715 38.2%	1,878 41.8%	4,489 100.0%	
Information	86 14.8%	47 8.1%	133 22.9%	146 25.1%	47 8.1%	193 33.2%	303 52.1%	582 100.0%	
Financial Activities	100 16.6%	71 11.8%	171 28.4%	182 30.2%	71 11.8%	253 42.0%	249 41.4%	602 100.0%	
Professional & Business Services	313 15.0%	521 25.0%	834 40.0%	757 36.3%	521 25.0%	1,278 61.3%	494 23.7%	2,085 100.0%	
Educational Services	419 31.2%	142 10.6%	561 41.8%	289 21.6%	142 10.6%	431 32.1%	491 36.6%	1,341 100.0%	
Health Services	126 19.5%	52 8.0%	178 27.6%	135 20.9%	52 8.0%	187 28.9%	333 51.5%	646 100.0%	
Leisure & Hospitality	1,318 22.4%	971 16.5%	2,289 38.9%	1,686 28.6%	971 16.5%	2,657 45.1%	1,915 32.5%	5,890 100.0%	
Other Services	170 18.5%	104 11.3%	274 29.8%	257 27.9%	104 11.3%	361 39.2%	389 42.3%	920 100.0%	
Public Administration	101 7.7%	125 9.6%	226 17.3%	654 50.2%	125 9.6%	779 59.7%	424 32.5%	1,304 100.0%	
<b>Total Service Providing</b>	<b>3,772</b> <b>19.3%</b>	<b>2,693</b> <b>13.8%</b>	<b>6,465</b> <b>33.0%</b>	<b>5,855</b> <b>29.9%</b>	<b>2,693</b> <b>13.8%</b>	<b>8,548</b> <b>43.7%</b>	<b>7,259</b> <b>37.1%</b>	<b>19,579</b> <b>100.0%</b>	
Unclassified	12 18.5%	4 6.2%	16 24.6%	29 44.6%	4 6.2%	33 50.8%	20 30.8%	65 100.0%	
<b>All Industries</b>	<b>4,966</b> <b>17.5%</b>	<b>3,899</b> <b>13.8%</b>	<b>8,865</b> <b>31.3%</b>	<b>8,761</b> <b>30.9%</b>	<b>3,899</b> <b>13.8%</b>	<b>12,660</b> <b>44.7%</b>	<b>10,718</b> <b>37.8%</b>	<b>28,344</b> <b>100.0%</b>	

## Careers in Math and Science Occupations

by: *Sylvia Jones, Senior Research Analyst*

Most people do not realize how many occupations fall within the category of math and science occupations. When women, especially, think about selecting an occupation in math or science, they immediately think about nursing. However, a career in nursing is not for everyone. The good news is there are several occupations similar to nursing but which perform slightly different tasks. For instance, chiropractors, dental hygienists, optometrists, physician assistants,

and respiratory therapists all use very similar sets of skills.

The most common math and science occupations in Wyoming are shown in Table 1. Bookkeeping, accounting, & auditing clerks make up the largest group, employing 5,070 people in the state. Registered nurses are second with 3,940 people. Electricians, accountants & auditors, civil engineers, and pharmacists are among the top 10.

**Table 1: 10 Most Common Wyoming Statewide Math and Science Occupations by Total Employment, May 2005**

Standard Occupational Classification		Total Employment
Code	Title	
43-3031	Bookkeeping, accounting, and auditing clerks	5,070
29-1111	Registered nurses	3,940
31-1012	Nursing aides, orderlies, and attendants	2,990
47-2111	Electricians	2,020
13-2011	Accountants and auditors	1,500
43-3071	Tellers	1,320
29-2061	Licensed practical and licensed vocational nurses	730
17-2051	Civil engineers	680
13-2072	Loan officers	600
31-9091	Dental assistants	470

The fastest growing math and science occupations are listed in Table 2. While these occupations may not be the largest right now, we expect them to become increasingly important over the next 10 years. Not surprisingly, information technology jobs are a significant part of the list. Network systems and data communications analysts are likely to grow the fastest, increasing from 250 jobs in 2004 to 422 jobs in 2014. That is a 68.8% increase in jobs. Home health aides are second with an expected 62.9% growth rate.

**Table 2: Wyoming Statewide Math and Science Occupations With the Highest Projected Employment Growth, 2004-2014**

Standard Occupational Classification		Percent Change
Code	Title	
15-1081	Network systems and data communications analysts	68.8
31-1011	Home health aides	62.9
15-1031	Computer software engineers, applications	55.5
51-9061	Inspectors, testers, sorters, samplers, and weighers	52.8
17-2112	Industrial engineers	52.7
29-1071	Physician assistants	50.0
17-2171	Petroleum engineers	49.7
31-9092	Medical assistants	48.1
19-4092	Forensic science technicians	46.2
53-2012	Commercial pilots	45.8
29-2056	Veterinary technologists and technicians	45.4
29-2052	Pharmacy technicians	44.4

Table 3 (see page 8) displays the math and science occupations with the highest median annual wages. As you would expect, 10 of the top 13 are health care occupations. Surgeons top the list with an average salary of \$186,114 per year. In addition to those with health care jobs, postsecondary educators and engineers are among the highest paid in Wyoming.

**Table 3: Wyoming Statewide Math and Science Occupations by Highest Mean Annual Wage, May 2005**

Standard Occupational Classification Code	Title	Mean Annual Wage
29-1067	Surgeons	\$186,114
29-1061	Anesthesiologists	\$171,575
29-1064	Obstetricians and gynecologists	\$160,554
29-1062	Family and general practitioners	\$151,707
29-1063	Internists, general	\$146,981
29-1065	Pediatricians, general	\$103,485
11-1011	Chief executives	\$94,687
29-1041	Optometrists	\$94,447
25-1032	Engineering teachers, postsecondary	\$84,826
29-1051	Pharmacists	\$82,026
11-9041	Engineering managers	\$81,445

Whether you prefer calculus or biology, there are plenty of math and science occupations to choose from. For more information visit <http://doe.state.wy.us/ANSWERS/>.



## Wyoming Job Growth at 3.4% in April 2006

by: David Bullard, Senior Economist

Wyoming job growth continued as 8,800 jobs were created compared to April 2005 (an annual increase of 3.4%). The state's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate increased slightly, rising from 2.9% in March to 3.2% in April, but remained much lower than the U.S. unemployment rate of 4.7%.

Wyoming's labor force (the sum of employed and unemployed individuals) increased by 7,752 people or 2.7% from April 2005.

From March to April, employment increased by 2,700 jobs or 1.0%. Seasonal job gains occurred in Construction (1,200 jobs or 6.3%), Transportation & Utilities (200 jobs or 1.6%), Financial Activities (200 jobs or 1.9%), and Professional & Business Services (700 jobs or 4.5%). Minor job losses were seen in Educational & Health Services (-100 jobs or -0.4%) and Other Services (-100 jobs or -1.0%).

Wyoming added 8,800 jobs or 3.4% from April 2005 to April 2006. Natural Resources &

Mining (including oil & gas) continued to be the state's fastest growing sector (3,100 jobs or 14.2%). Strong growth also occurred in Construction (900 jobs or 4.6%), Wholesale Trade (400 jobs or 5.3%), Transportation & Utilities (600 jobs or 4.8%), and Professional & Business Services (700 jobs or 4.5%).

Employment grew at a more modest pace in Educational & Health Services (500 jobs or 2.3%), Leisure & Hospitality (600 jobs or 2.0%), and Government (1,100 jobs or 1.7%).

Most county unemployment rates followed their normal seasonal pattern and decreased from March to April. One notable exception was Teton County, where unemployment increased from 2.7% in March to 4.4% in April. This increase is associated with the end of the winter tourist season in Jackson Hole. Goshen County recorded the highest unemployment rate (4.6%), followed by Fremont County (4.5%).





(Continued from page 4)

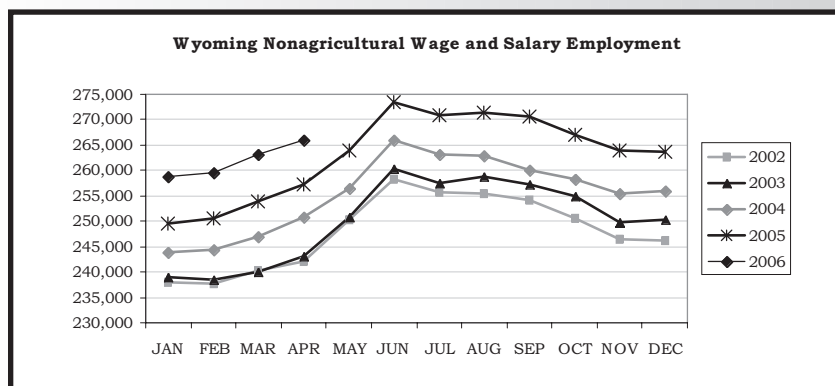
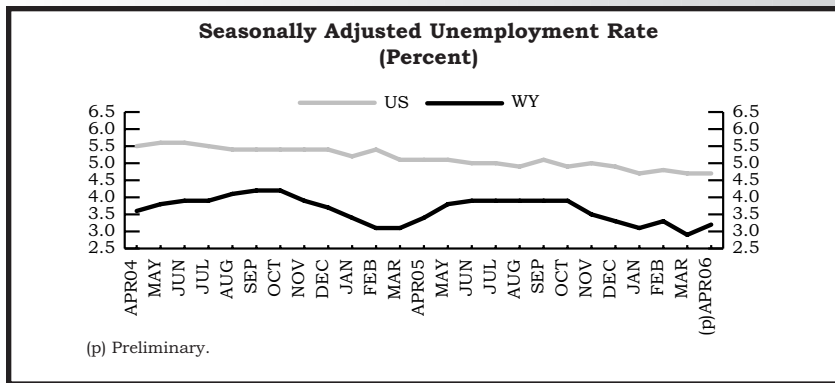
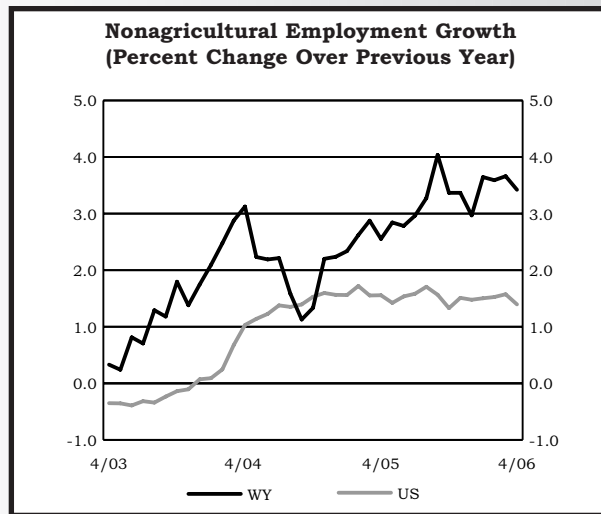
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Bullard, D. (n.d.b) *Wyoming nonagricultural wage and salary employment final benchmark 2004*. Retrieved April 14, 2006, from <http://doe.state.wy.us/LMI/CES/nawy04.htm>



**State Unemployment Rates  
April 2006  
(Seasonally Adjusted)**

State	Unemp. Rate
Puerto Rico	9.7
Mississippi	7.7
Michigan	7.2
Alaska	7.0
South Carolina	6.6
Kentucky	6.1
District of Columbia	5.5
Ohio	5.5
Oregon	5.5
Rhode Island	5.4
Tennessee	5.4
Arkansas	5.1
Illinois	5.1
New Jersey	5.1
Texas	5.1
California	4.9
Indiana	4.9
Massachusetts	4.9
New York	4.9
Louisiana	4.8
Wisconsin	4.8
Pennsylvania	4.7
<b>United States</b>	<b>4.7</b>
Washington	4.7
Georgia	4.6
Kansas	4.6
Missouri	4.6
Arizona	4.3
Colorado	4.3
New Mexico	4.3
North Carolina	4.3
Maine	4.2
Minnesota	4.1
Nevada	4.1
West Virginia	4.1
Connecticut	3.9
Oklahoma	3.9
Delaware	3.7
Alabama	3.6
Iowa	3.6
Montana	3.6
Maryland	3.5
Utah	3.5
Idaho	3.4
Nebraska	3.4
New Hampshire	3.4
North Dakota	3.3
Vermont	3.3
Virginia	3.3
<b>Wyoming</b>	<b>3.2</b>
Florida	3.0
South Dakota	3.0
Hawaii	2.8





# Wyoming Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment

(Continued)

	Employment in		Percent Change		
	Thousands		Total Employment		
	Apr06(p)	Mar06(r)	Apr05(b)	Apr06	Apr05
<b>CAMPBELL COUNTY</b>					
<b>TOTAL NONAG. WAGE &amp; SALARY EMPLOYMENT</b>	<b>24.6</b>	<b>24.3</b>	<b>23.3</b>	<b>1.2</b>	<b>5.6</b>
<b>TOTAL PRIVATE</b>	<b>20.6</b>	<b>20.3</b>	<b>19.3</b>	<b>1.5</b>	<b>6.7</b>
<b>GOODS PRODUCING</b>	<b>10.3</b>	<b>10.2</b>	<b>9.3</b>	<b>1.0</b>	<b>10.8</b>
Natural Resources & Mining	7.2	7.2	6.5	0.0	10.8
Construction	2.5	2.4	2.2	4.2	13.6
Manufacturing	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.0	0.0
<b>SERVICE PROVIDING</b>	<b>14.3</b>	<b>14.1</b>	<b>14.0</b>	<b>1.4</b>	<b>2.1</b>
Trade, Transport., & Utilities	4.5	4.4	4.2	2.3	7.1
Information	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.0	0.0
Financial Activities	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.0	0.0
Professional & Bus. Services	1.6	1.6	1.6	0.0	0.0
Educational & Health Serv.	0.7	0.7	0.8	0.0	-12.5
Leisure & Hospitality	1.8	1.7	1.8	5.9	0.0
Other Services	0.9	0.9	0.8	0.0	12.5
<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>23.3</b>	<b>23.1</b>	<b>22.6</b>	<b>0.9</b>	<b>3.1</b>
<b>TOTAL PRIVATE</b>	<b>19.0</b>	<b>18.8</b>	<b>18.3</b>	<b>1.1</b>	<b>3.8</b>
<b>GOODS PRODUCING</b>	<b>8.2</b>	<b>8.0</b>	<b>7.7</b>	<b>2.5</b>	<b>6.5</b>
Natural Resources & Mining	5.2	5.2	4.7	0.0	10.6
Construction	1.8	1.6	1.8	12.5	0.0
Manufacturing	1.2	1.2	1.2	0.0	0.0
<b>SERVICE PROVIDING</b>	<b>15.1</b>	<b>15.1</b>	<b>14.9</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>1.3</b>
Trade, Transport., & Utilities	4.9	4.9	4.6	0.0	6.5
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	1.0	1.0	1.1	0.0	-9.1
Educational & Health Serv.	0.9	0.9	0.9	0.0	0.0
Leisure & Hospitality	2.3	2.3	2.3	0.0	0.0
Other Services	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.0	0.0
<b>TOTAL GOVERNMENT</b>	<b>4.3</b>	<b>4.3</b>	<b>4.3</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>
<b>TETON COUNTY</b>					
<b>TOTAL NONAG. WAGE &amp; SALARY EMPLOYMENT</b>	<b>15.9</b>	<b>16.3</b>	<b>15.3</b>	<b>-2.5</b>	<b>3.9</b>
<b>TOTAL PRIVATE</b>	<b>13.8</b>	<b>14.1</b>	<b>13.1</b>	<b>-2.1</b>	<b>5.3</b>
<b>GOODS PRODUCING</b>	<b>2.2</b>	<b>2.0</b>	<b>2.2</b>	<b>10.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>
Nat. Res., Mining & Const.	2.0	1.8	2.0	11.1	0.0
Manufacturing	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.0	0.0
<b>SERVICE PROVIDING</b>	<b>13.7</b>	<b>14.3</b>	<b>13.1</b>	<b>-4.2</b>	<b>4.6</b>
Trade, Transport., & Utilities	2.2	2.3	2.2	-4.3	0.0
Information	0.3	0.3	0.2	0.0	50.0
Financial Activities	0.9	0.9	0.8	0.0	12.5
Professional & Bus. Services	1.6	1.4	1.4	14.3	14.3
Educational & Health Serv.	0.9	0.9	0.8	0.0	12.5
Leisure & Hospitality	5.2	5.8	5.0	-10.3	4.0
Other Services	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.0	0.0
<b>TOTAL GOVERNMENT</b>	<b>2.1</b>	<b>2.2</b>	<b>2.2</b>	<b>-4.5</b>	<b>-4.5</b>

## State Unemployment Rates April 2006 (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

State	Unemp. Rate
Puerto Rico	9.6
Alaska	7.5
Mississippi	7.3
Michigan	6.8
South Carolina	6.2
Kentucky	5.9
Oregon	5.6
Ohio	5.4
Rhode Island	5.3
District of Columbia	5.2
Tennessee	5.2
Arkansas	5.0
Illinois	5.0
Wisconsin	5.0
New Jersey	4.9
California	4.8
Indiana	4.8
Texas	4.8
Massachusetts	4.7
New York	4.7
Washington	4.7
Maine	4.6
<b>United States</b>	<b>4.5</b>
Missouri	4.4
Pennsylvania	4.4
Georgia	4.3
Colorado	4.2
Kansas	4.2
Minnesota	4.2
New Mexico	4.2
West Virginia	4.2
Arizona	4.1
Louisiana	4.1
Nevada	4.1
North Carolina	4.1
Vermont	3.9
Connecticut	3.8
Idaho	3.7
Montana	3.7
Delaware	3.6
Iowa	3.6
Oklahoma	3.6
North Dakota	3.5
<b>Wyoming</b>	<b>3.5</b>
Maryland	3.4
New Hampshire	3.4
Utah	3.4
Nebraska	3.3
Virginia	3.1
Alabama	3.0
South Dakota	2.9
Florida	2.8
Hawaii	2.8

## Economic Indicators

by: Margaret Hiatt, Administrative/Survey Support Specialist

*The Baker Hughes Rotary Rig Count showed an over-the-year increase of 37.3%.*

	April 2006 (p)	Mar 2006 (r)	April 2005 (b)	Percent Change Month	Year
Wyoming Total Civilian Labor Force	289,900	288,420	282,328	4.3	2.7
Unemployed	10,178	10,340	10,440	-96.5	-2.5
Employed	279,722	278,080	271,888	2605.2	2.9
Wyoming Unemp. Rate/Seasonally Adjusted	3.5%/3.2%	3.6%/2.9%	3.7%/3.4%	N/A	N/A
U.S. Unemployment Rate/Seasonally Adjusted	4.5%/4.7%	4.8%/4.7%	4.9%/5.1%	N/A	N/A
U.S. Multiple Jobholders	7,360,000	7,589,000	7,437,000	-3.0	-1.0
As a percent of all workers	5.1%	5.3%	5.3%	N/A	N/A
U.S. Discouraged Workers	381,000	451,000	393,000	-15.5	-3.1
U.S. Part-Time for Economic Reasons	3,787,000	4,097,000	4,150,000	-7.6	-8.7
Hours & Earnings for Production Workers					
Wyoming Mining					
Average Weekly Earnings	\$1,108.73	\$1,084.38	\$1,051.42	2.2	5.5
Average Weekly Hours	47.0	46.5	46.4	1.1	1.3
U.S. Mining Hours & Earnings					
Average Weekly Earnings	\$930.01	\$904.19	\$876.41	2.9	6.1
Average Weekly Hours	46.2	45.3	46.2	2.0	0.0
Wyoming Manufacturing Hours & Earnings					
Average Weekly Earnings	\$712.67	\$669.02	\$700.13	6.5	1.8
Average Weekly Hours	41.1	40.4	40.8	1.7	0.7
U.S. Manufacturing Hours & Earnings					
Average Weekly Earnings	\$675.83	\$685.52	\$663.34	-1.4	1.9
Average Weekly Hours	40.3	41.0	40.3	-1.7	0.0
Wyoming Unemployment Insurance					
Weeks Compensated	10,578	13,948	12,598	-24.2	-16.0
Benefits Paid	\$2,615,717	\$3,449,881	\$2,972,231	-24.2	-12.0
Average Weekly Benefit Payment	\$247.28	\$247.34	\$235.93	0.0	4.8
State Insured Covered Jobs	245,308	242,144	238,198	1.3	3.0
Insured Unemployment Rate	1.2%	1.5%	1.5%	N/A	N/A
Consumer Price Index (U) for All U.S. Urban Consumers (1982 to 1984 = 100) - All Items					
Food & Beverages	194.2	194.5	190.7	-0.2	1.8
Housing	201.7	201.3	194.4	0.2	3.8
Apparel	123.4	122.0	123.7	1.1	-0.2
Transportation	184.1	177.4	173.2	3.8	6.3
Medical Care	334.7	333.8	321.5	0.3	4.1
Recreation (Dec. 1997=100)	111.1	110.6	109.2	0.5	1.7
Education & Comm. (Dec. 1997=100)	115.8	115.6	112.9	0.2	2.6
Other Goods & Services	320.0	320.0	311.6	0.0	2.7
Producer Prices (1982 to 1984 = 100) - All Commodities	163.8	162.0	155.0	1.1	5.7
Wyoming Building Permits (New Privately Owned Housing Units Authorized)					
Total Units	280	259	296	8.1	-5.4
Valuation	\$43,692,000	\$53,656,000	\$54,118,000	-18.6	-19.3
Single Family Homes	199	222	262	-10.4	-24.0
Valuation	\$38,815,000	\$50,914,000	\$51,707,000	-23.8	-24.9
Baker Hughes North American Rotary Rig Count for WY	103	98	75	5.1	37.3

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

# Wyoming County Unemployment Rates

by: Roy Azar, Economist

*Teton County unemployment increased from 2.7% in March to 4.4% in April in response to the end of the winter tourist season in Jackson Hole.*

REGION	Labor Force			Employed			Unemployed			Unemployment Rate		
	Apr 2006 (p)	Mar 2006 (p)	Apr 2005 (b)	Apr 2006 (p)	Mar 2006 (p)	Apr 2005 (b)	Apr 2006 (p)	Mar 2006 (p)	Apr 2005 (b)	Apr 2006 (p)	Mar 2006 (p)	Apr 2005 (b)
<b>NORTHWEST</b>	<b>44,996</b>	<b>44,960</b>	<b>44,531</b>	<b>43,068</b>	<b>42,805</b>	<b>42,523</b>	<b>1,928</b>	<b>2,155</b>	<b>2,008</b>	<b>4.3</b>	<b>4.8</b>	<b>4.5</b>
Big Horn	5,512	5,532	5,359	5,271	5,260	5,116	241	272	243	4.4	4.9	4.5
Fremont	18,657	18,522	18,290	17,817	17,581	17,423	840	941	867	4.5	5.1	4.7
Hot Springs	2,377	2,333	2,400	2,275	2,225	2,302	102	108	98	4.3	4.6	4.1
Park	14,003	14,120	14,142	13,444	13,502	13,541	559	618	601	4.0	4.4	4.2
Washakie	4,447	4,453	4,340	4,261	4,237	4,141	186	216	199	4.2	4.9	4.6
<b>NORTHEAST</b>	<b>51,382</b>	<b>50,665</b>	<b>49,175</b>	<b>49,922</b>	<b>49,206</b>	<b>47,642</b>	<b>1,460</b>	<b>1,459</b>	<b>1,533</b>	<b>2.8</b>	<b>2.9</b>	<b>3.1</b>
Campbell	24,914	24,587	23,531	24,323	24,023	22,930	591	564	601	2.4	2.3	2.6
Crook	3,385	3,318	3,242	3,276	3,221	3,130	109	97	112	3.2	2.9	3.5
Johnson	3,909	3,880	3,707	3,790	3,767	3,581	119	113	126	3.0	2.9	3.4
Sheridan	15,858	15,596	15,475	15,333	15,028	14,905	525	568	570	3.3	3.6	3.7
Weston	3,316	3,284	3,220	3,200	3,167	3,096	116	117	124	3.5	3.6	3.9
<b>SOUTHWEST</b>	<b>61,948</b>	<b>61,285</b>	<b>59,291</b>	<b>59,878</b>	<b>59,418</b>	<b>57,151</b>	<b>2,070</b>	<b>1,867</b>	<b>2,140</b>	<b>3.3</b>	<b>3.0</b>	<b>3.6</b>
Lincoln	8,180	7,853	7,840	7,872	7,504	7,523	308	349	317	3.8	4.4	4.0
Sublette	5,345	5,463	4,615	5,250	5,370	4,527	95	93	88	1.8	1.7	1.9
Sweetwater	23,772	23,319	22,926	23,094	22,661	22,241	678	658	685	2.9	2.8	3.0
Teton	13,544	13,627	13,117	12,942	13,255	12,475	602	372	642	4.4	2.7	4.9
Uinta	11,107	11,023	10,793	10,720	10,628	10,385	387	395	408	3.5	3.6	3.8
<b>SOUTHEAST</b>	<b>75,517</b>	<b>75,334</b>	<b>74,558</b>	<b>72,654</b>	<b>72,381</b>	<b>71,709</b>	<b>2,863</b>	<b>2,953</b>	<b>2,849</b>	<b>3.8</b>	<b>3.9</b>	<b>3.8</b>
Albany	20,720	20,762	20,303	20,102	20,138	19,716	618	624	587	3.0	3.0	2.9
Goshen	5,965	5,946	5,827	5,691	5,659	5,570	274	287	257	4.6	4.8	4.4
Laramie	43,495	43,384	43,152	41,745	41,572	41,381	1,750	1,812	1,771	4.0	4.2	4.1
Niobrara	1,139	1,137	1,152	1,100	1,097	1,105	39	40	47	3.4	3.5	4.1
Platte	4,198	4,105	4,124	4,016	3,915	3,937	182	190	187	4.3	4.6	4.5
<b>CENTRAL</b>	<b>56,055</b>	<b>56,177</b>	<b>54,771</b>	<b>54,200</b>	<b>54,271</b>	<b>52,862</b>	<b>1,855</b>	<b>1,906</b>	<b>1,909</b>	<b>3.3</b>	<b>3.4</b>	<b>3.5</b>
Carbon	7,883	7,701	7,755	7,571	7,381	7,440	312	320	315	4.0	4.2	4.1
Converse	7,024	7,070	6,758	6,762	6,801	6,514	262	269	244	3.7	3.8	3.6
Natrona	41,148	41,406	40,258	39,867	40,089	38,908	1,281	1,317	1,350	3.1	3.2	3.4
<b>STATEWIDE</b>	<b>289,900</b>	<b>288,420</b>	<b>282,328</b>	<b>279,722</b>	<b>278,080</b>	<b>271,888</b>	<b>10,178</b>	<b>10,340</b>	<b>10,440</b>	<b>3.5</b>	<b>3.6</b>	<b>3.7</b>
Statewide Seasonally Adjusted .....										3.2	2.9	3.4
U.S. ....										4.5	4.8	4.9
U.S. Seasonally Adjusted .....										4.7	4.7	5.1

Prepared in cooperation with the Bureau of Labor Statistics. Benchmarked 02/06. Run Date 05/06.

Data are not seasonally adjusted except where otherwise specified.

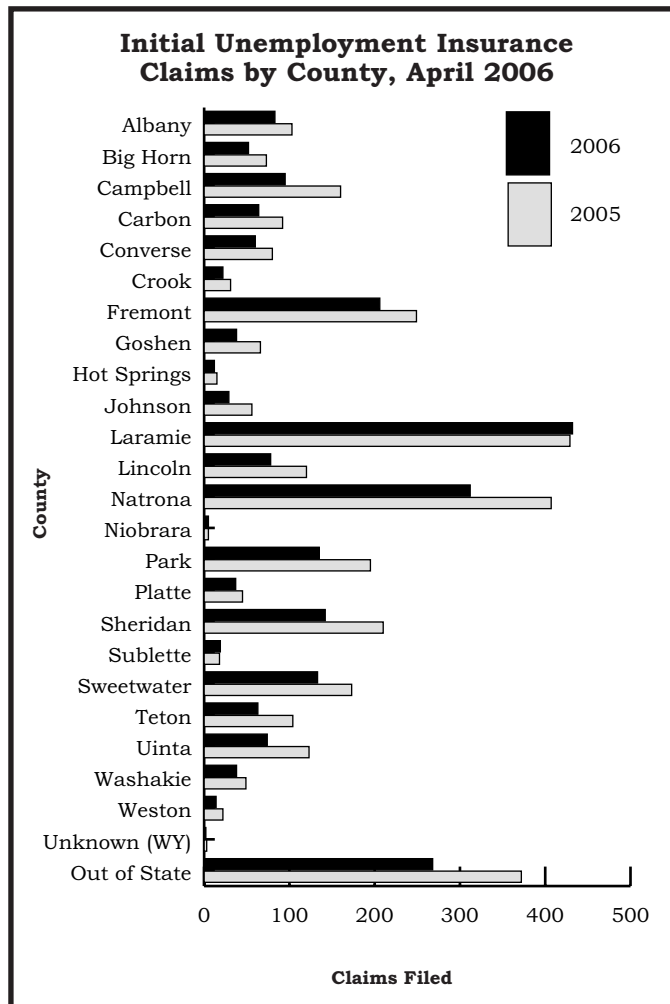
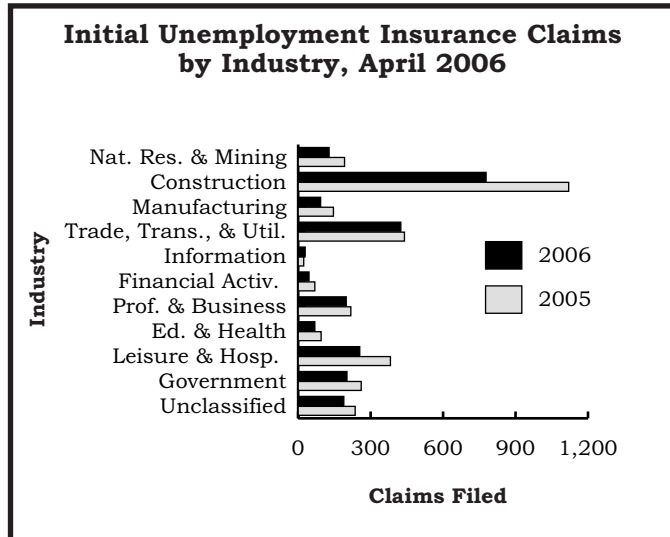
(p) Preliminary. (b) Benchmarked.



## Wyoming Normalized Unemployment Insurance Statistics: Initial Claims

by: Douglas W. Leonard, Senior Research Analyst

Statewide initial claims total declined by 17.9% over the year. The April 2006 total was the third lowest for April since 1997.



WYOMING STATEWIDE	Claims Filed		Percent Change	
	Apr06	Mar06	Apr06	Apr05
<b>TOTAL CLAIMS FILED</b>	<b>1,715</b>	<b>1,516</b>	<b>2,088</b>	<b>13.1 -17.9</b>
<b>TOTAL GOODS PRODUCING</b>	462	592	705	-22.0 -34.5
Natural Resources and Mining	103	99	178	4.0 -42.1
Mining	84	76	138	10.5 -39.1
Oil & Gas Extraction	8	5	12	60.0 -33.3
Construction	299	372	452	-19.6 -33.8
Manufacturing	60	121	75	-50.4 -20.0
<b>TOTAL SERVICE PROVIDING</b>	1,043	707	1,135	47.5 -8.1
Trade, Trans., Storage, & Util.	262	184	265	42.4 -1.1
Wholesale Trade	26	29	30	-10.3 -13.3
Retail Trade	142	114	144	24.6 -1.4
Trans., Storage, & Utilities	94	41	91	129.3 3.3
Information	10	28	16	-64.3 -37.5
Financial Activities	46	37	35	24.3 31.4
Professional & Business Serv.	91	79	139	15.2 -34.5
Educational & Health Services	73	92	83	-20.7 -12.0
Leisure & Hospitality	522	251	562	108.0 -7.1
Other Services	39	36	35	8.3 11.4
<b>TOTAL GOVERNMENT</b>	118	128	128	-7.8 -7.8
Federal Government	48	55	48	-12.7 0.0
State Government	23	21	17	9.5 35.3
Local Government	47	52	63	-9.6 -25.4
Local Education	13	16	6	-18.8 116.7
<b>UNCLASSIFIED</b>	92	89	120	3.4 -23.3

### LARAMIE COUNTY

TOTAL CLAIMS FILED	208	257	260	-19.1	-20.0
<b>TOTAL GOODS PRODUCING</b>	67	128	100	-47.7	-33.0
Construction	58	106	88	-45.3	-34.1
<b>TOTAL SERVICE PROVIDING</b>	110	104	129	5.8	-14.7
Trade, Trans., Storage, & Util.	38	35	32	8.6	18.8
Financial Activities	9	7	14	28.6	-35.7
Professional & Business Serv.	27	13	29	107.7	-6.9
Educational & Health Services	18	18	21	0.0	-14.3
Leisure & Hospitality	12	23	25	-47.8	-52.0
<b>TOTAL GOVERNMENT</b>	17	18	20	-5.6	-15.0
<b>UNCLASSIFIED</b>	14	7	11	100.0	27.3

### NATRONA COUNTY

TOTAL CLAIMS FILED	175	186	220	-5.9	-20.5
<b>TOTAL GOODS PRODUCING</b>	76	82	98	-7.3	-22.4
Construction	49	61	69	-19.7	-29.0
<b>TOTAL SERVICE PROVIDING</b>	88	92	104	-4.3	-15.4
Trade, Trans., Storage, & Util.	40	37	27	8.1	48.1
Financial Activities	8	7	4	14.3	100.0
Professional & Business Serv.	6	11	28	-45.5	-78.6
Educational & Health Services	13	15	14	-13.3	-7.1
Leisure & Hospitality	15	14	22	7.1	-31.8
<b>TOTAL GOVERNMENT</b>	8	9	10	-11.1	-20.0
<b>UNCLASSIFIED</b>	3	3	8	0.0	-62.5

# Wyoming Normalized Unemployment Insurance Statistics: Continued Claims by: Douglas W. Leonard, Senior Research Analyst

Statewide claims increased by 15.2% over the year and declined by 18.5% over the month. The statewide total of 13,048 was the lowest amount for April since 1997.

WYOMING STATEWIDE	Weeks Claimed		Percent Change		
	Apr06	Mar06	Weeks Claimed		
			Apr05	Apr06	
<b>TOTAL WEEKS CLAIMED</b>	<b>13,048</b>	<b>16,003</b>	<b>15,385</b>	<b>-18.5</b>	<b>-15.2</b>
<b>TOTAL UNIQUE CLAIMANTS</b>	<b>4,128</b>	<b>4,097</b>	<b>4,857</b>	<b>0.8</b>	<b>-15.0</b>
<b>TOTAL GOODS PRODUCING</b>	<b>4,342</b>	<b>6,362</b>	<b>5,359</b>	<b>-31.8</b>	<b>-19.0</b>
Natural Resources and Mining	718	802	931	-10.5	-22.9
Mining	571	676	794	-15.5	-28.1
Oil & Gas Extraction	88	76	94	15.8	-6.4
Construction	2,774	4,599	3,517	-39.7	-21.1
Manufacturing	850	961	911	-11.6	-6.7
<b>TOTAL SERVICE PROVIDING</b>	<b>6,599</b>	<b>6,980</b>	<b>7,333</b>	<b>-5.5</b>	<b>-10.0</b>
Trade, Trans., Storage, & Util.	1,833	2,098	2,032	-12.6	-9.8
Wholesale Trade	239	275	242	-13.1	-1.2
Retail Trade	1,204	1,383	1,212	-12.9	-0.7
Trans., Storage, & Utilities	390	440	578	-11.4	-32.5
Information	242	258	225	-6.2	7.6
Financial Activities	280	270	371	3.7	-24.5
Professional & Business Serv.	1,046	1,488	1,196	-29.7	-12.5
Educational & Health Serv.	652	657	714	-0.8	-8.7
Leisure & Hospitality	2,241	1,877	2,472	19.4	-9.3
Other Services	305	332	323	-8.1	-5.6
<b>TOTAL GOVERNMENT</b>	<b>1,474</b>	<b>1,848</b>	<b>1,720</b>	<b>-20.2</b>	<b>-14.3</b>
Federal Government	700	937	848	-25.3	-17.5
State Government	199	206	235	-3.4	-15.3
Local Government	575	705	637	-18.4	-9.7
Local Education	148	135	127	9.6	16.5
<b>UNCLASSIFIED</b>	<b>633</b>	<b>813</b>	<b>973</b>	<b>-22.1</b>	<b>-34.9</b>

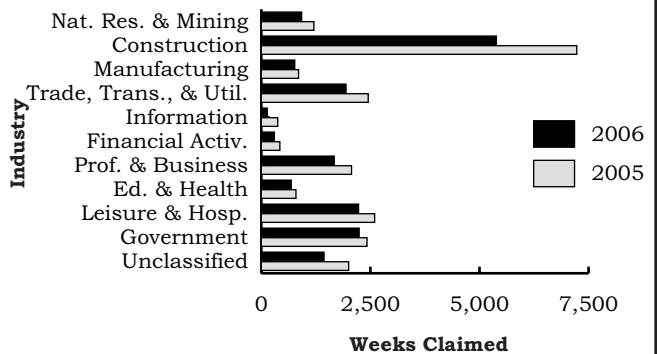
## LARAMIE COUNTY

<b>TOTAL WEEKS CLAIMED</b>	<b>2,067</b>	<b>2,709</b>	<b>2,131</b>	<b>-23.7</b>	<b>-3.0</b>
<b>TOTAL UNIQUE CLAIMANTS</b>	<b>672</b>	<b>718</b>	<b>717</b>	<b>-6.4</b>	<b>-6.3</b>
<b>TOTAL GOODS PRODUCING</b>	<b>755</b>	<b>1,164</b>	<b>735</b>	<b>-35.1</b>	<b>2.7</b>
Construction	662	1,028	643	-35.6	3.0
<b>TOTAL SERVICE PROVIDING</b>	<b>1,063</b>	<b>1,265</b>	<b>1,122</b>	<b>-16.0</b>	<b>-5.3</b>
Trade, Trans., Storage, & Util.	451	549	403	-17.9	11.9
Financial Activities	58	58	85	0.0	-31.8
Professional & Business Serv.	209	279	230	-25.1	-9.1
Educational & Health Services	157	135	117	16.3	34.2
Leisure & Hospitality	101	141	159	-28.4	-36.5
<b>TOTAL GOVERNMENT</b>	<b>193</b>	<b>187</b>	<b>203</b>	<b>3.2</b>	<b>-4.9</b>
<b>UNCLASSIFIED</b>	<b>56</b>	<b>93</b>	<b>71</b>	<b>-39.8</b>	<b>-21.1</b>

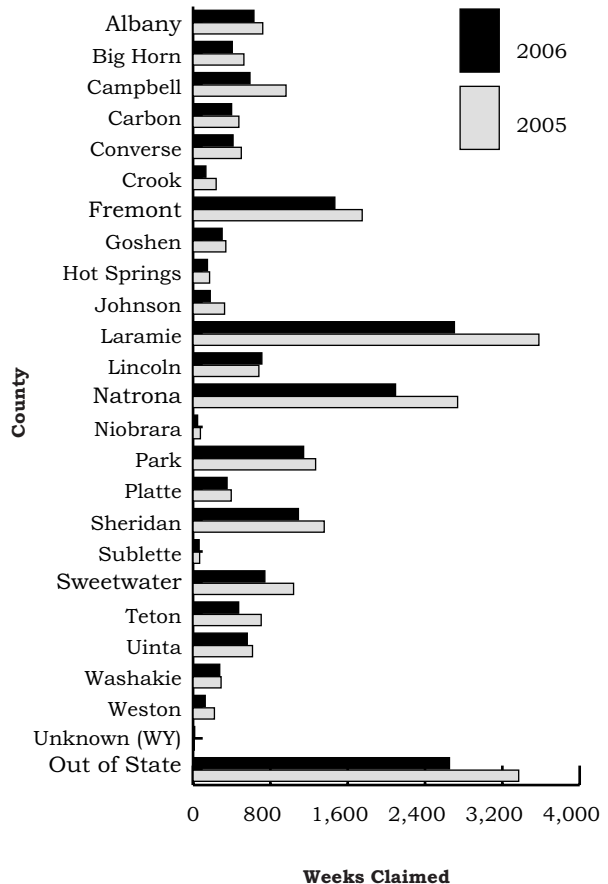
## NATRONA COUNTY

<b>TOTAL WEEKS CLAIMED</b>	<b>1,247</b>	<b>1,730</b>	<b>1,503</b>	<b>-27.9</b>	<b>-17.0</b>
<b>TOTAL UNIQUE CLAIMANTS</b>	<b>425</b>	<b>506</b>	<b>484</b>	<b>-16.0</b>	<b>-12.2</b>
<b>TOTAL GOODS PRODUCING</b>	<b>446</b>	<b>779</b>	<b>548</b>	<b>-42.7</b>	<b>-18.6</b>
Construction	284	613	350	-53.7	-18.9
<b>TOTAL SERVICE PROVIDING</b>	<b>709</b>	<b>849</b>	<b>837</b>	<b>-16.5</b>	<b>-15.3</b>
Trade, Trans., Storage, & Util.	254	274	277	-7.3	-8.3
Financial Activities	52	61	83	-14.8	-37.3
Professional & Business Serv.	136	228	155	-40.4	-12.3
Educational & Health Services	106	86	136	23.3	-22.1
Leisure & Hospitality	89	111	102	-19.8	-12.7
<b>TOTAL GOVERNMENT</b>	<b>73</b>	<b>76</b>	<b>75</b>	<b>-3.9</b>	<b>-2.7</b>
<b>UNCLASSIFIED</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>-26.9</b>	<b>-55.8</b>

Continued Unemployment Insurance Claims by Industry, April 2006



Continued Unemployment Insurance Claims by County, April 2006



**Wyoming Department of Employment  
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