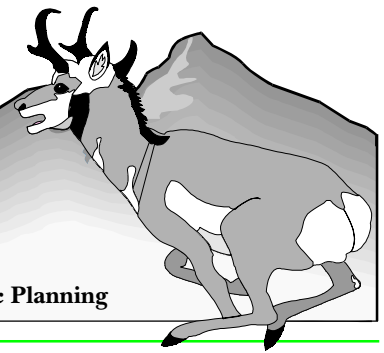


Wyoming Labor Force TRENDS

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Compensation Costs in Wyoming

by: Carola Cowan, Economist

"No statistically significant change in compensation costs occurred between first quarter and second quarter 2000."

This report updates the *Wyoming Labor Force Trends* article, "Employee Benefits: Compensation Revisited," published in August 2000, in which we looked at the percentage of companies paying benefits to their employees and types of benefits as a percentage of total compensation. In this article, we focus mostly on compensation costs. Research & Planning (R&P) intends to develop a time series of compensation costs to track changes over time.

Compensation costs in this article are based on results from the first and second quarters of the 2000 Benefits Survey.

Thanks to the 247 employers participating in the first quarter, and the 241 employers who participated in the second quarter of the Survey; without them, this report would not have been possible.

No statistically significant change in compensation costs occurred between first quarter and second quarter 2000. In the first quarter, wages and salaries accounted for 79.0 percent of compensation costs and benefits accounted for 21.0 percent (see Figure 1, page 2). In the second quarter, the cost of wages and salaries increased to 82.7 percent of compensation, and benefits decreased 17.3 percent for a percent change of 4.7 and -17.6, respectively (see Table 1, page 3). Most of the shift was due to a drop

in paid leave, insurance and miscellaneous benefits (see Table 2, page 3). Retirement and legally required benefits remained stable. The percentage of companies offering a retirement plan to employees remained the same over the two quarters, while many benefits such as paid holidays, paid vacation and paid health insurance were offered by fewer companies in the second quarter.

The composition of employees in those companies who reported explains some of the drop in benefits between the first and second quarters. The percentage of production, service and maintenance employees was up

(Continued on page 2)

December 2000 Wyoming Labor Force TRENDS

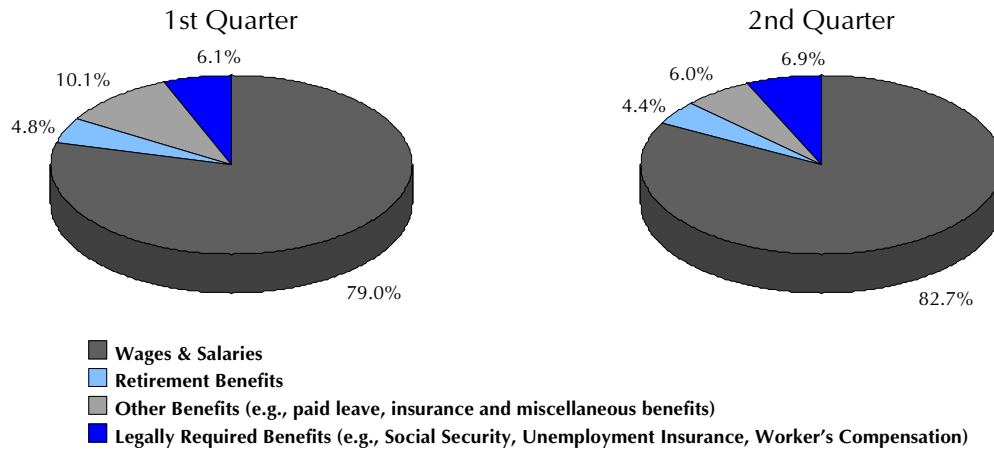
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*Happy Holidays
from
Research & Planning*

**Figure 1: Compensation Costs in Wyoming, 1st and 2nd Quarter 2000
(as a percentage of total compensation)**



slightly during the second quarter from 44.4 to 45.4 percent for all full-time employees, and from 57.6 to 61.7 percent for part-time employees (see Table 3, page 4). The percentage of part-time employees was also up from 17.1 to 18.9 percent (see Figure 2, page 4). Since part-time employees and

employees in production, maintenance and services tend to be less likely to receive benefits, the difference could explain some of the decrease in benefit costs. However, as we take repeated samples in future years, the quarter to quarter and over-the-year patterns should become

distinguishable and predictable.

Two quarters of data are not enough to identify a general trend. Differences between quarters in the level of benefits are partly a function of employer response

(Text continued on page 3)

Wyoming Labor Force Trends is a monthly publication of the Wyoming Department of Employment, Beth Nelson, Director.

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Table 1: Compensation Costs in Wyoming as a Percentage of Total Compensation and Percentage Change, 1st and 2nd Quarter 2000

Cost Category	1st Quarter	2nd Quarter	% Change
Wages & Salaries	79.0%	82.7%	4.7%
Total Benefits	21.0	17.3	-17.6
Retirement Benefits	4.8	4.4	-8.3
Other Benefits*	10.1	6.0	-40.6
Legally Required Benefits**	6.1	6.9	13.1
Total Compensation Cost	100.0	100.0	---

* For example, paid leave, insurance and miscellaneous benefits.

** For example, Social Security, Unemployment Insurance and Worker's Compensation.

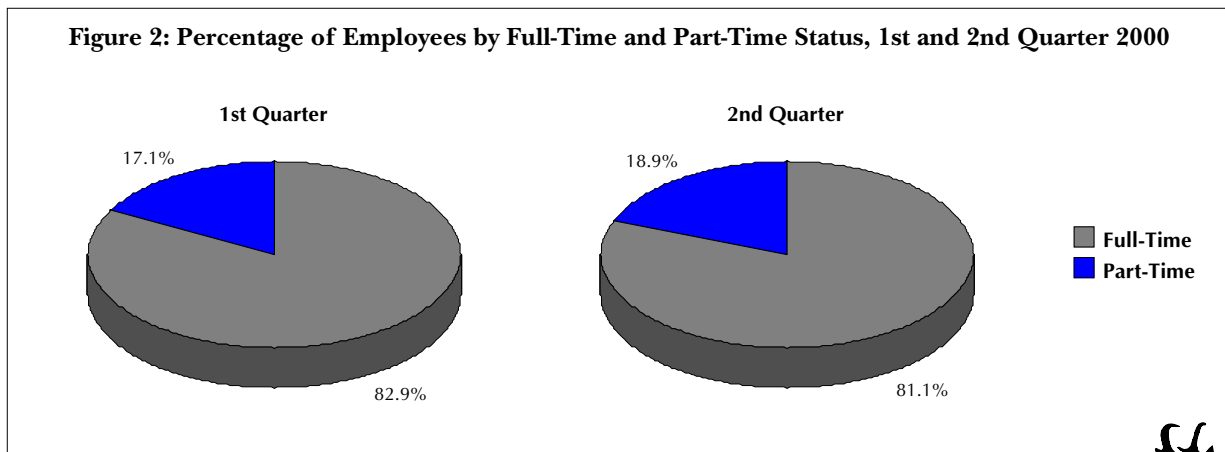
Table 2: Percentage of Companies Providing Selected Benefits to Their Employees by Employment Status in Wyoming, 1st and 2nd Quarter 2000

Benefit Type	Employment Status			
	Full-Time		Part-Time	
	1st Quarter	2nd Quarter	1st Quarter	2nd Quarter
Child Care	1.4%	2.1%	1.7%	1.8%
Christmas Bonus	42.7	51.0	32.0	37.3
Dental Plan	57.9	52.8	9.0	10.7
Dependent Health Insurance	65.7	64.6	10.4	11.4
Disability Insurance	35.7	37.3	10.8	6.9
Educational Assistance	35.4	33.2	11.4	8.1
Employee Discounts	33.0	32.2	27.4	28.1
Health Insurance	74.0	69.6	11.7	11.2
Life Insurance	62.1	57.9	15.6	10.9
Long-Term Disability	27.5	27.0	7.1	4.7
Maternity Leave	5.7	7.1	0.6	2.3
Paid Funeral or Bereavement Leave	50.0	46.3	16.9	14.7
Paid Holidays	73.5	67.8	16.8	18.2
Paid Jury Duty Leave	63.6	51.6	31.5	23.1
Paid Personal Leave	22.6	19.9	4.4	3.5
Paid Sick Leave	48.2	49.8	12.2	9.1
Paid Vacation	82.2	77.0	18.2	17.7
Paternity Leave	4.8	3.3	0.1	1.8
Profit Sharing	17.9	16.6	5.1	4.6
Retirement Plan	55.8	55.8	21.5	21.3
Tool Allowance	10.0	9.6	2.8	3.5
Uniform	23.7	27.8	12.4	15.3
Vision Plan	24.6	22.7	2.8	8.0
Wellness Program	18.2	12.7	6.9	4.7

Table 3: Percentage of Employees in Different Occupational Categories by Full-Time and Part-Time Employment Status, 1st and 2nd Quarter 2000

Occupational Category	Employment Status			
	1st Quarter		2nd Quarter	
	Full-Time	Part-Time	Full-Time	Part-Time
Managerial and Professional	28.8%	8.4%	29.0%	9.8%
Clerical and Technical	25.8	34.0	23.0	28.0
Production, Service and Maintenance	44.4	57.6	45.4	61.7

Figure 2: Percentage of Employees by Full-Time and Part-Time Status, 1st and 2nd Quarter 2000



rates. By the time the full annual cycle is completed and estimates are adjusted for non-response, we will have a more complete picture of the benefits profile in Wyoming. Therefore, as we continue to collect data, we are able to see meaningful developments in compensation costs. Keep watching for survey updates in future issues of **Trends**.

Key Labor Market Indicators Show Improvement for 2000

by: Tom Gallagher, Manager data provided by: David Bullard, Mike Evans, and Rich Peters
 tables and figures by: Susan Murray and Krista R. Shinkle

Based on current projections, employment growth in Wyoming during 2000 stands at 2.3 percent. This level exceeds the growth for any year since the 1995-96 slowdown. On an annual average basis, employment in nonagricultural establishments will have grown by a projected 5,400 jobs during the year. The number of unemployed also fell in 2000.

The number of unemployed is projected to decline from 12,700 persons in 1999 to 11,245 in 2000. The number of jobs increasing by a factor of +3.7 relative to the decrease in the number of unemployed indicates that employment growth was fueled not simply by a reduction in the number of unemployed but by an increase in the number of persons recently entering the labor

market and successfully finding work.

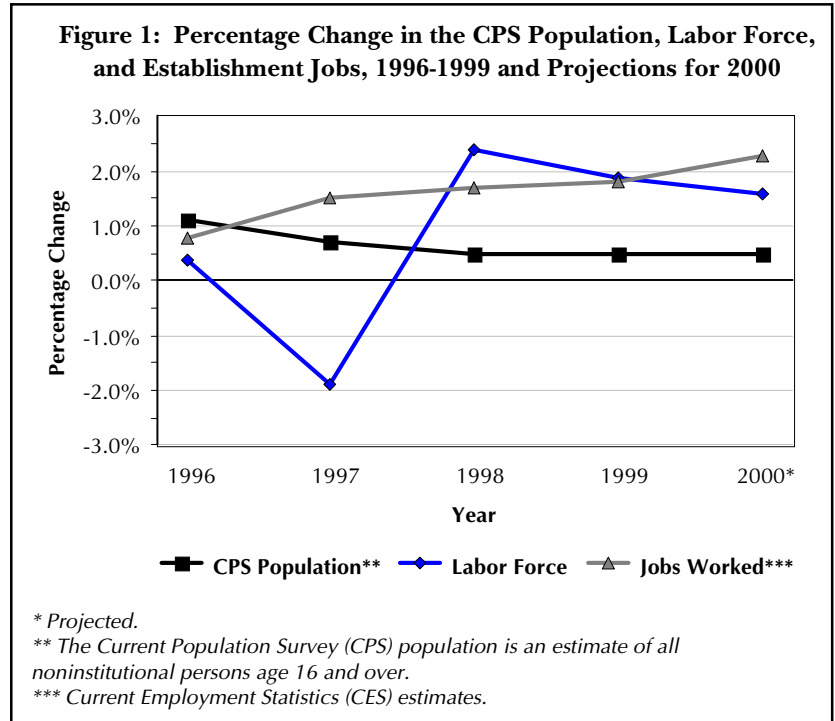
The available statistical data support anecdotal information suggesting that labor is increasingly difficult for employers to find in Wyoming. This tightening of the labor market places greater emphasis on

(Continued on page 5)

understanding how the available human resources can best be utilized. The year 2000, for Wyoming, is characterized by positive change in key labor market indicators.

As is shown in Figure 1 and Table 1, the growth rate in the civilian noninstitutional population ages 16 and over has been a flat 0.5 percent for the year 2000 and during the previous two years. Over the same period, the share of Wyoming's civilian noninstitutional population actively participating in the labor market has shown growth greater than population growth. For example, the labor force grew by 1.6 percent in 2000 while the civilian population grew by only 0.5 percent. The labor force grew 3.2 times faster than population. While the labor force also grew faster than population in 1998 and 1999, the significant difference in 2000 is that a greater proportion of those entering the labor market found a job.

Not only did more people find jobs in 2000 than in 1999 but the industrial distribution in the pattern of job growth also changed. In 1999, most job growth was found in Services (3,200 jobs) and Construction (1,200 jobs), while employment in Mining decreased by 1,100 jobs. Job growth was more



generalized throughout all industries in 2000. Even though the largest single growth sector was Services (1,900 jobs), and Construction continued to grow (800 jobs), employment in Mining grew by 600 jobs and Trade (wholesale and retail combined) grew by 1,000 jobs. In 2000, projected employment in Mining will approach the

level it reached in 1998.

Labor Supply

In 2000, the supply of labor began pushing its upper bounds. As more people found work in 2000, the employment to population

(Continued on page 6)

Table 1: Monthly Average and Percentage Change for the CPS Population, Labor Force, Establishment Jobs, Unemployed Individuals, and Annual UI Recipients, 1996-1999 and Projections for 2000

	2000*	Percent Change 1999-2000	1999	Percent Change 1998-1999	1998	Percent Change 1997-1998	1997	Percent Change 1996-1997	1996
CPS Population**	369,500	0.5%	367,800	0.5%	365,800	0.5%	363,800	0.7%	361,100
Labor Force	266,200	1.6%	262,100	1.9%	257,300	2.4%	251,300	-1.9%	256,200
Jobs Worked***	237,900	2.3%	232,500	1.8%	228,300	1.7%	224,500	1.5%	221,100
Unemployed	11,245	-11.5%	12,700	3.3%	12,300	-3.9%	12,800	-0.8%	12,900
UI Recipients****	14,121	-9.4%	15,583	-0.5%	15,661	-5.9%	16,637	N.A.	N.A.

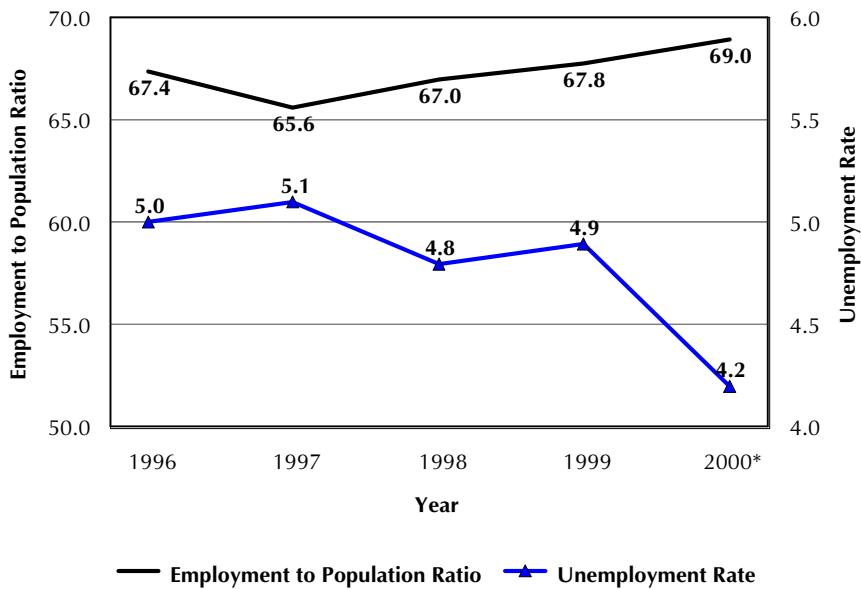
* Projected.

** The Current Population Survey (CPS) population is an estimate of all noninstitutional persons age 16 and over.

*** Current Employment Statistics (CES) estimates.

**** Total number of Unemployment Insurance (UI) benefit recipients. Data not available prior to 1997.

Figure 2: Monthly Average Employment to Population Ratio and Unemployment Rate for Wyoming, 1996-1999 and Projections for 2000



* Projected.

ratio (Figure 2) rose to a five year high of 69.0 while the unemployment rate fell to 4.2 percent, its lowest level in nearly two decades.

After rising slightly in 1999 to 12,700, the number of persons unemployed declined to an estimated 11,245 (-1,455) in 2000. Over the same period, the number of persons receiving Unemployment Insurance benefits (see Figure 3) at any time during the year declined by a comparable 1,462 persons.

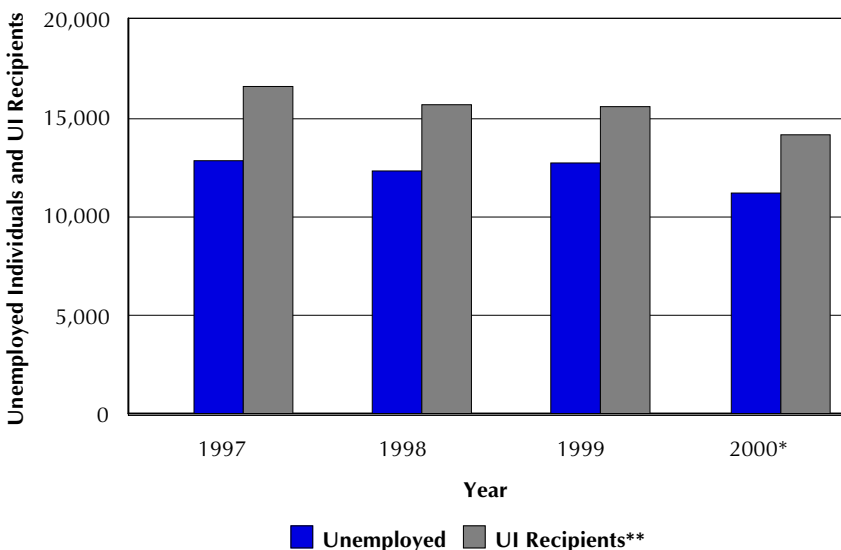
While there is still room for expansion in the labor force from the existing population supply, it is not clear whether new entrants to the labor market reside within commuting distance of growing demand. In October 2000, Wyoming's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate was estimated at 3.8 percent (see page 10), compared to unemployment rates of surrounding states (with the exception of Montana) falling in the range of 3.1 to 2.4 percent. Based on these comparisons, it appears that additional labor in Wyoming could also be drawn from the current ranks of the unemployed. However, even if current demand were to remain constant, simply finding labor to replace those who retire may become increasingly difficult for employers.

Affect on Wages

The amount of available labor in Wyoming can also be increased through the more extensive use of currently employed workers. And that is precisely what employers did in the first and second quarters

(Continued on page 7)

Figure 3: Monthly Average Unemployed Individuals and Annual UI Recipients, 1997-1999 and Projections for 2000



* Projected.

** Total number of Unemployment Insurance (UI) benefit recipients.

of 2000. Compared to 1999, total payroll in first quarter 2000 rose by 11.0 percent and in the second quarter by 7.4 percent (preliminary). The average wage grew by 7.6 percent in the first quarter and 4.6 percent in the second quarter. With employment growth lagging behind payroll growth, it is apparent that in addition to adding workers, employers also gave current workers additional hours and weeks of work.¹

Payroll grew by \$143 million in the first quarter of 2000 compared to a growth of \$51 million in the first quarter of 1999. Recently released data (see Table 2) indicates that in 1999, following a 3.7 percent growth, the average wage in Wyoming ranked 45th in the nation. This ranking was unchanged from 1998.² Total payroll information for 2000 will not be available until June 2001. Even so, the strong payroll growth in the first half of the year suggests that the average wage is growing materially faster in 2000 than the 3.7 percent rate of growth experienced in 1999. Wyoming may be able to achieve a greater level of wage parity with some states in the region (e.g., Nebraska, South Dakota), but it still leaves us a long way behind other states (e.g., Colorado, Texas, California) with which we traditionally compete for human resources.

Note: Benchmark revisions to the labor force and establishment employment series will be published in the April issue of **Trends** as they were last year.

¹For more information on employment, visit the Covered Employment section of our website at <http://lmi.state.wy.us/>.

²Carol Kjar, "Competitive Wage Ranking: Retaining Wyoming's Workforce," **Wyoming Labor Force Trends**, March 2000, p. 16-17.

For more information on this article, Tom Gallagher can be reached at tgalla@state.wy.us or (307) 473-3801.

Table 2: Average Annual Pay by State, 1998-1999

	Average Annual Pay		Percent Change 1998-1999	Average Annual Pay Rank
	1998	1999		
National Average	\$31,945	\$33,313	4.3	
Alabama	\$27,042	\$28,069	3.8	31
Alaska	\$33,847	\$34,034	0.6	12
Arizona	\$29,322	\$30,523	4.1	23
Arkansas	\$24,425	\$25,371	3.9	46
California	\$35,348	\$37,564	6.3	5
Colorado	\$33,248	\$34,192	6.0	11
Connecticut	\$40,895	\$42,653	4.3	1
Delaware	\$33,969	\$35,102	3.3	9
Florida	\$28,184	\$28,911	2.6	30
Georgia	\$30,856	\$32,339	4.8	17
Hawaii	\$29,036	\$29,771	2.5	26
Idaho	\$24,868	\$26,042	4.7	42
Illinois	\$34,715	\$36,279	4.5	6
Indiana	\$29,108	\$30,027	3.2	24
Iowa	\$26,026	\$26,939	3.5	38
Kansas	\$26,845	\$28,029	4.4	32
Kentucky	\$26,697	\$27,748	3.9	34
Louisiana	\$26,910	\$27,221	1.2	36
Maine	\$25,875	\$26,887	3.9	39
Maryland	\$33,301	\$34,472	3.5	10
Massachusetts	\$37,774	\$40,331	6.8	3
Michigan	\$34,521	\$35,734	3.5	8
Minnesota	\$32,075	\$33,487	4.4	13
Mississippi	\$23,822	\$24,392	2.4	47
Missouri	\$28,907	\$29,958	3.6	25
Montana	\$22,648	\$23,253	2.7	50
Nebraska	\$25,539	\$26,633	4.3	40
Nevada	\$30,203	\$31,213	3.3	20
New Hampshire	\$30,944	\$32,139	3.9	18
New Jersey	\$39,516	N.A. *	N.A. *	4
New Mexico	\$25,711	\$26,270	2.2	41
New York	\$40,684	\$42,133	3.6	2
North Carolina	\$28,176	\$29,453	4.5	29
North Dakota	\$22,990	\$23,753	3.3	49
Ohio	\$30,392	\$31,396	3.3	19
Oklahoma	\$25,122	\$25,748	2.5	44
Oregon	\$29,544	\$30,867	4.5	22
Pennsylvania	\$31,584	\$32,694	3.5	16
Rhode Island	\$30,156	\$31,177	3.4	21
South Carolina	\$26,161	\$27,124	3.7	37
South Dakota	\$22,751	\$23,765	4.5	48
Tennessee	\$28,462	\$29,518	3.7	28
Texas	\$31,515	\$32,895	4.4	15
Utah	\$26,873	\$27,884	3.8	33
Vermont	\$26,611	\$27,595	3.7	35
Virginia	\$31,373	\$33,015	5.2	14
Washington	\$33,076	\$35,736	8.0	7
West Virginia	\$25,276	\$26,008	2.9	43
Wisconsin	\$28,531	\$29,597	3.7	27
Wyoming	\$24,725	\$25,639	3.7	45

Source: U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, Average Annual Pay by State and Industry, Table 2, November 17, 2000, <http://www.bls.gov/news.release/annpay.nr0.htm> (November 28, 2000).

* New Jersey data were not available for the fourth quarter of 1999 and therefore are not shown for 1999. Totals for the United States were calculated using estimated data for New Jersey. For purposes of ranking, it was assumed that the 1999 annual average pay for New Jersey was the same as 1998.

A First Look at a New Research & Planning Publication

by: Brad Payne, Senior Statistician

"Between 1990 and 1999, average employment in Natrona County grew 10.4 percent. Average employment in Wyoming grew 17.9 percent."

The Wyoming Department of Employment, Research & Planning (R&P) section is currently working on a forthcoming publication outlining the labor and wage trends for each county in Wyoming as well as the state for the time period 1990 through 1999. The following employment data are examples of

the labor market information the publication will contain.

Analysis of Employment

Over the past ten years (1990-1999), Natrona County average monthly employment, for jobs covered under Unemployment Insurance (UI), increased by 2,897

jobs or 10.4 percent. The average number of jobs in Natrona County was 27,769 in 1990, rising to 30,664 by 1999.

Natrona County employment grew on average 1.1 percent per year over the ten-year period while

(Continued on page 9)

Figure 1: Average Employment in Mining and Services in Natrona County, 1990-1999

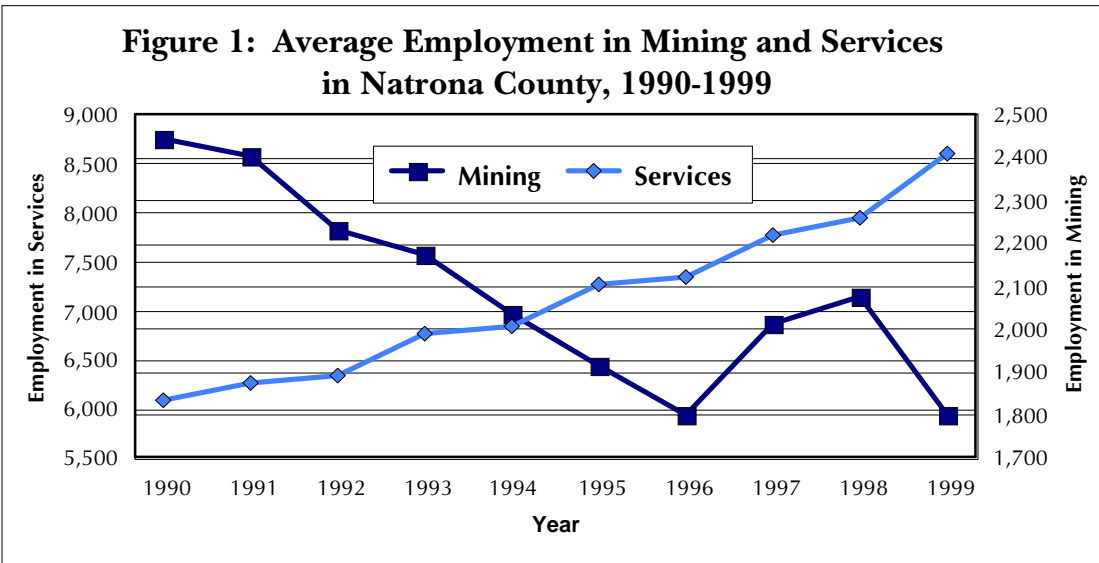
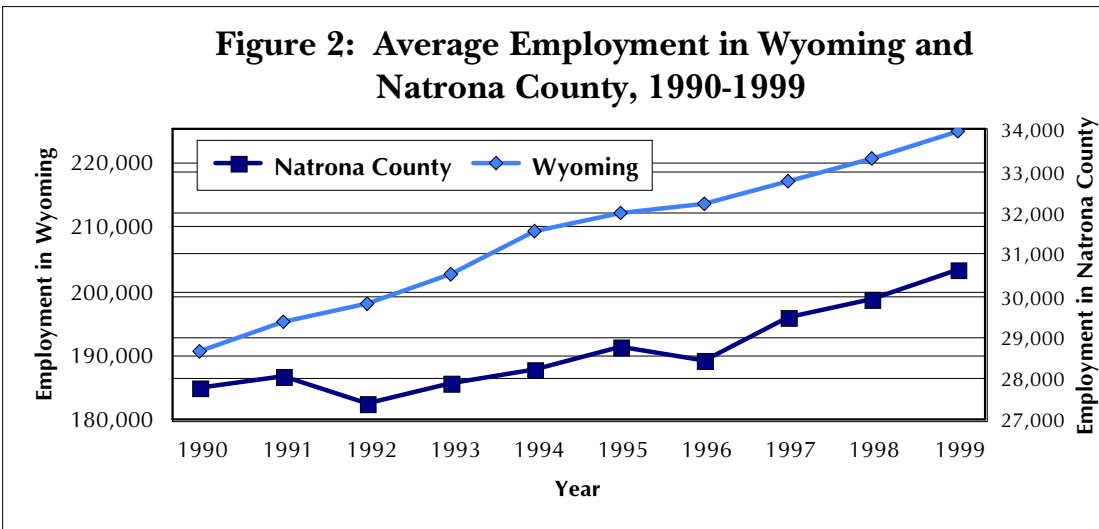


Figure 2: Average Employment in Wyoming and Natrona County, 1990-1999



statewide employment grew on average 1.7 percent per year over the same time period (see Figure 1). During the 1990's, Natrona County reported only two years with decreased covered employment. In 1992, employment increases in total government (136 jobs) and total services (103 jobs) were more than offset by employment decreases in total goods (928 jobs). In 1996, employment decreases in total government (126 jobs) and total goods (233 jobs) overshadowed employment increases in total services (56 jobs). Of the remaining eight years posting covered employment increases, 1997 and 1999 were the best growth years. In 1997, employment increased by 326 jobs in total goods, by 529 jobs in total services, and by 155 jobs in total government. Likewise, in 1999 employment increases in total services (728 jobs) and total government (155 jobs) outweighed employment decreases in total goods (140 jobs).

With the exception of two industries, the composition of employment throughout Natrona County changed very little over the ten-year period from 1990-1999. The largest changes in employment sectors occurred in Mining and Services (see Figure 2, page 8). In 1990, Mining accounted for 9.0 percent (2,443 jobs) of the employment in Natrona County while Services accounted for 22.0 percent (6,087 jobs). By 1999, Mining was down to 6.0 percent (1,796 jobs) of the total employment while Services climbed to 28.0 percent (8,602 jobs). This trend, moving from a goods producing to a service-producing economy, can be seen

statewide and nationwide. A number of factors contribute to this statewide trend: closures of coal mines, oil companies leaving the state, and the entrance of new service-producing companies.

Although the composition of the labor market changed little over the decade, employment within sectors of the market changed substantially. Employment increased in Wholesale Trade (12.9%), Local Government (13.6%), Agriculture (14.4%), Construction (16.2%), and Services (41.3%). Employment decreased in Manufacturing (9.4%), Fire, Insurance, and Real Estate (FIRE)- (12.3%), and Mining (26.5%).

Conclusion

The complete publication, planned for release early in 2001, will include further analysis of employment and wages accompanied by informative charts and graphs illustrating the data and the trends.



**State Unemployment Rates
October 2000
(Not Seasonally Adjusted)**

State	Unemp. Rate
Puerto Rico	10.1
District of Columbia	5.7
Alaska	5.5
New Mexico	5.2
Louisiana	5.1
Mississippi	5.1
West Virginia	4.9
Oregon	4.7
Alabama	4.6
California	4.5
Washington	4.4
Montana	4.3
New York	4.2
Nevada	4.0
Texas	3.9
Hawaii	3.8
Idaho	3.8
Kentucky	3.8
Pennsylvania	3.8
Arizona	3.7
Florida	3.7
Georgia	3.7
Ohio	3.7
Delaware	3.6
Illinois	3.6
North Carolina	3.6
United States	3.6
Maryland	3.5
Tennessee	3.5
Kansas	3.4
New Jersey	3.4
Rhode Island	3.4
Arkansas	3.2
Wyoming	3.2
Michigan	3.1
Missouri	3.1
Oklahoma	3.0
Utah	3.0
Maine	2.9
South Carolina	2.8
Nebraska	2.6
Wisconsin	2.6
Colorado	2.4
Minnesota	2.4
Vermont	2.4
Virginia	2.3
Indiana	2.1
Massachusetts	2.1
New Hampshire	2.1
Connecticut	2.0
Iowa	2.0
South Dakota	2.0
North Dakota	1.8

**State Unemployment Rates
October 2000
(Seasonally Adjusted)**

State	Unemp. Rate
Puerto Rico	9.4
Alaska	6.0
District of Columbia	6.0
New Mexico	5.5
West Virginia	5.5
Oregon	5.4
Louisiana	5.3
Mississippi	5.2
Montana	4.8
California	4.7
Idaho	4.7
Washington	4.7
Alabama	4.4
New York	4.4
Texas	4.3
Nevada	4.2
Pennsylvania	4.2
Ohio	4.0
Hawaii	3.9
Illinois	3.9
Kentucky	3.9
United States	3.9
Delaware	3.8
New Jersey	3.8
Wyoming	3.8
Arizona	3.7
Arkansas	3.7
Florida	3.7
Missouri	3.7
North Carolina	3.7
Tennessee	3.7
Georgia	3.6
Maryland	3.6
Michigan	3.6
Kansas	3.5
Maine	3.4
Rhode Island	3.3
Utah	3.1
Oklahoma	3.0
Wisconsin	3.0
Minnesota	2.8
Nebraska	2.8
Vermont	2.7
Colorado	2.5
Iowa	2.5
New Hampshire	2.5
South Carolina	2.5
Indiana	2.4
Massachusetts	2.4
North Dakota	2.4
South Dakota	2.4
Virginia	2.4
Connecticut	2.0

**Wyoming Employment Growth Strong;
Unemployment Rate Declines in October**

by: David Bullard, Senior Economist

"Establishment survey data show that 4,900 jobs were created in Wyoming during October 2000 compared with October 1999."

Wyoming's employment growth increased to 2.1 percent in October and surpassed the U.S. growth of 1.8 percent. This was the first time since January 2000 that Wyoming employment has grown faster than the U.S (see Figure, page 11). Establishment survey data show that 4,900 jobs were created in Wyoming during October 2000 compared with October 1999 (see Table, page 11).

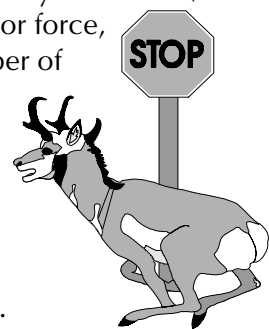
Wyoming's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate fell to 3.8 percent from 4.4 percent in September and 4.7 percent a year before (see page 13). The U.S. unemployment rate remained unchanged at 3.9 percent.

Industries with strong growth in October included Construction (1,000 jobs or 5.4%), Mining (800 jobs or 4.9%) and Manufacturing (500 jobs or 4.3%)-(see page 11). Within Mining, small job losses in coal mining (-100 jobs or -2.1%) were more than offset by large gains in oil & gas extraction (900

jobs or 10.7%). Retail Trade added 900 jobs or 2.0 percent when compared with October 1999. Services and Government each gained 700 jobs.

Laramie County added 700 jobs for an over-the-year growth rate of 1.9 percent. The largest job gains in Laramie County occurred in Retail Trade, which added 300 jobs or 3.9 percent. Employment in Natrona County grew by 1,000 jobs or 3.2 percent. The fastest growing industries in Natrona County were Mining (300 jobs or 16.7%), Manufacturing (200 jobs or 14.3%) and Retail Trade (200 jobs or 3.2%).

The number of unemployed in the state fell to 8,581 in October, a drop of 2,179 individuals or 20.3 percent from the year before (see page 12). Labor force, the total number of employed and unemployed persons, grew only slightly, increasing by 1,849 people or 0.7 percent.



Trends is also available online at

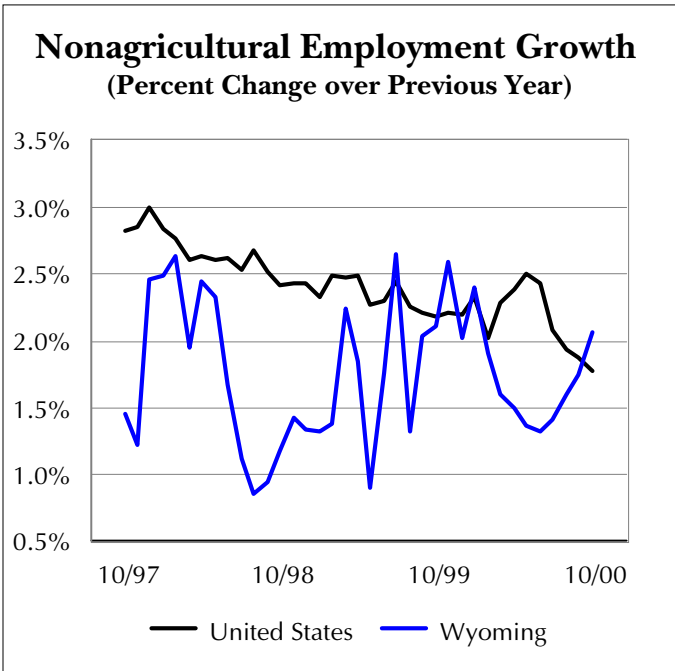
<http://lmi.state.wy.us/>

Wyoming Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment¹

by: David Bullard, Senior Economist

"Within Mining, small job losses in coal mining (-100 jobs or 2.1%) were more than offset by large gains in oil & gas extraction (900 jobs or 10.7%)."

WYOMING STATEWIDE*	Employment in Thousands					Percent Change Total Employment		LARAMIE COUNTY	Employment in Thousands					Percent Change Total Employment	
	OCT00(p)	SEP00(r)	OCT 99	OCT 00	OCT 00	SEP 00	OCT 99		OCT00(p)	SEP00(r)	OCT 99	OCT 00	OCT 00	SEP 00	OCT 99
TOTAL NONAG. WAGE & SALARY EMPLOYMENT	241.7	244.3	236.8	-1.1	2.1			TOTAL NONAG. WAGE & SALARY EMPLOYMENT	36.7	36.9	36.0	-0.5	1.9		
TOTAL GOODS PRODUCING	48.5	48.6	46.2	-0.2	5.0			TOTAL GOODS PRODUCING	4.6	4.5	4.4	2.2	4.5		
Mining	17.1	16.9	16.3	1.2	4.9			Mining & Construction	2.8	2.8	2.7	0.0	3.7		
Coal Mining	4.6	4.5	4.7	2.2	-2.1			Manufacturing	1.8	1.7	1.7	5.9	5.9		
Oil & Gas Extraction	9.3	9.2	8.4	1.1	10.7			TOTAL SERVICE PRODUCING	32.1	32.4	31.6	-0.9	1.6		
Crude Petrol-Natural Gas	2.6	2.6	2.6	0.0	0.0			Transportation & Public Utilities	2.8	2.8	2.8	0.0	0.0		
Oil & Gas Field Services	6.7	6.6	5.8	1.5	15.5			Trade	8.7	8.8	8.4	-1.1	3.6		
Nonmetallic Minerals	2.6	2.7	2.6	-3.7	0.0			Wholesale Trade	0.8	0.9	0.8	-11.1	0.0		
Construction	19.4	20.2	18.4	-4.0	5.4			Retail Trade	7.9	7.9	7.6	0.0	3.9		
General Building Contractors	4.6	4.8	4.0	-4.2	15.0			Finance, Insurance & Real Estate	1.7	1.7	1.7	0.0	0.0		
Heavy Construction	6.2	6.8	5.9	-8.8	5.1			Services	8.0	8.2	7.9	-2.4	1.3		
Special Trade Construction	8.6	8.6	8.5	0.0	1.2			Total Government	10.9	10.9	10.8	0.0	0.9		
Manufacturing	12.0	11.5	11.5	4.3	4.3			Federal Government	2.4	2.4	2.4	0.0	0.0		
Durable Goods	5.2	5.2	5.1	0.0	2.0			State Government	3.3	3.3	3.2	0.0	3.1		
Nondurable Goods	6.8	6.3	6.4	7.9	6.2			Local Government	5.2	5.2	5.2	0.0	0.0		
Printing & Publishing	1.6	1.6	1.7	0.0	-5.9										
Petroleum & Coal Products	1.1	1.1	1.1	0.0	0.0										
TOTAL SERVICE PRODUCING	193.2	195.7	190.6	-1.3	1.4			TOTAL NONAG. WAGE & SALARY EMPLOYMENT	32.2	32.4	31.2	-0.6	3.2		
Transportation & Public Utilities	14.3	14.4	14.3	-0.7	0.0			TOTAL GOODS PRODUCING	5.7	5.8	5.2	-1.7	9.6		
Transportation	9.3	9.3	9.1	0.0	2.2			Mining	2.1	2.1	1.8	0.0	16.7		
Railroad Transportation	3.2	3.2	3.0	0.0	6.7			Construction	2.0	2.1	2.0	-4.8	0.0		
Trucking & Warehousing	3.8	3.7	3.7	2.7	2.7			Manufacturing	1.6	1.6	1.4	0.0	14.3		
Communications	2.2	2.3	2.2	-4.3	0.0			TOTAL SERVICE PRODUCING	26.5	26.6	26.0	-0.4	1.9		
Telephone Communications	1.1	1.1	1.1	0.0	0.0			Transportation & Public Utilities	1.7	1.8	1.6	-5.6	6.2		
Electric, Gas & Sanitary Services	2.8	2.8	3.0	0.0	-6.7			Transportation	1.2	1.2	1.0	0.0	20.0		
Electric Services	1.9	1.9	1.9	0.0	0.0			Communications & Public Utilities	0.5	0.6	0.6	-16.7	-16.7		
Trade	54.7	55.9	53.7	-2.1	1.9			Trade	8.8	8.8	8.6	0.0	2.3		
Wholesale Trade	7.7	7.8	7.6	-1.3	1.3			Wholesale Trade	2.3	2.3	2.3	0.0	0.0		
Durable Goods	4.4	4.4	4.3	0.0	2.3			Retail Trade	6.5	6.5	6.3	0.0	3.2		
Nondurable Goods	3.3	3.4	3.3	-2.9	0.0			Finance, Insurance & Real Estate	1.2	1.2	1.2	0.0	0.0		
Retail Trade	47.0	48.1	46.1	-2.3	2.0			Services	9.2	9.3	9.1	-1.1	1.1		
Building Materials & Garden Supply	2.1	2.2	2.1	-4.5	0.0			Personal & Business Services	2.2	2.3	2.2	-4.3	0.0		
General Merchandise Stores	5.7	5.6	5.1	1.8	11.8			Health Services	3.0	3.0	2.8	0.0	7.1		
Department Stores	4.6	4.5	4.0	2.2	15.0			Government	5.6	5.5	5.5	1.8	1.8		
Food Stores	5.7	5.6	5.8	1.8	-1.7			Federal Government	0.6	0.7	0.6	-14.3	0.0		
Auto Dealers & Service Stations	8.4	8.5	8.3	-1.2	1.2			State Government	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.0	0.0		
Gas Stations	4.5	4.5	4.4	0.0	2.3			Local Government	4.3	4.1	4.2	4.9	2.4		
Apparel & Accessory Stores	1.4	1.3	1.4	7.7	0.0			Local Education	3.0	2.7	3.0	11.1	0.0		
Furniture & Home Furnishing Stores	1.5	1.6	1.5	-6.3	0.0										
Eating & Drinking Places	16.9	17.6	16.8	-4.0	0.6										
Miscellaneous Retail	5.3	5.7	5.1	-7.0	3.9										
Finance, Insurance & Real Estate	8.3	8.2	8.1	1.2	2.5										
Depos-Nondepos & Security Brokers	4.2	4.2	4.1	0.0	2.4										
Depository Institutions	3.4	3.4	3.2	0.0	6.2										
Insurance	1.9	1.8	1.9	5.6	0.0										
Services	54.9	58.1	54.2	-5.5	1.3										
Hotels & Other Lodging Places	9.2	11.4	9.0	-19.3	2.2										
Personal Services	1.9	2.1	1.8	-9.5	5.6										
Business Services	8.3	8.4	8.4	-1.2	-1.2										
Automotive & Misc. Repair Services	2.9	3.0	2.9	-3.3	0.0										
Amusements (Rec Services & Mot. Pics.)	3.3	3.8	3.3	-13.2	0.0										
Health Services	11.0	10.9	10.7	0.9	2.8										
Offices of Doctors of Medicine	2.4	2.4	2.4	0.0	0.0										
Legal Services	1.2	1.3	1.2	-7.7	0.0										
Social Services	6.0	6.0	6.1	0.0	-1.6										
Membership Organizations	3.8	3.7	3.8	2.7	0.0										
Engineering & Management	3.8	3.8	3.7	0.0	2.7										
Government	61.0	59.1	60.3	3.2	1.2										
Total Federal Government	7.4	7.5	7.3	-1.3	1.4										
Department of Defense	0.8	0.9	0.8	-11.1	0.0										
Total State Government	13.9	13.2	13.7	5.3	1.5										
State Education	5.6	4.9	5.6	14.3	0.0										
Total Local Government	39.7	38.4	39.3	3.4	1.0										
Local Hospitals	5.1	5.2	4.9	-1.9	4.1										
Local Education	22.8	21.2	22.7	7.5	0.4										



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

* Published in cooperation with the Bureau of Labor Statistics.

(p) Subject to revision. (r) Revised.

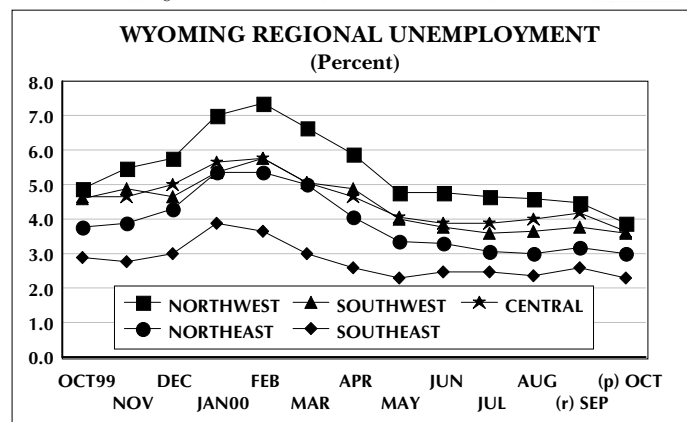
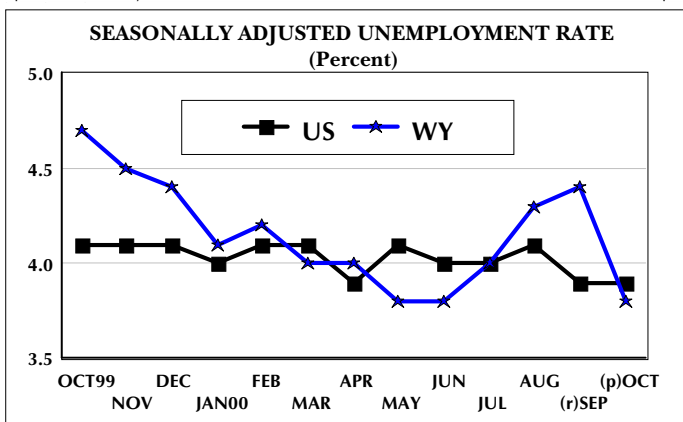
Wyoming Economic Indicators

by: Julie Barnish, Statistical Technician

"The number of unemployed individuals in Wyoming fell by 20.3 percent from October 1999 to October 2000."

	October 2000 (p)	September 2000 (r)	October 1999 (b)	Percent Month Change	Change Year
Wyoming Total Civilian Labor Force(1)	265,178	265,200	263,329	-0.0	0.7
Unemployed	8,581	9,489	10,760	-9.6	-20.3
Employed	256,597	255,711	252,569	0.3	1.6
Wyoming Unemployment Rate/Seas. Adj.	3.2%/3.8%	3.6%/4.4%	4.1%/4.7%	N/A	N/A
U.S. Unemployment Rate/Seas. Adj.	3.6%/3.9%	3.8%/3.9%	3.8%/4.1%	N/A	N/A
U.S. Multiple Jobholders	7,550,000	7,471,000	8,014,000	1.1	-5.8
As a percent of all workers	5.6%	5.5%	6.0%	N/A	N/A
U.S. Discouraged Workers	230,000	250,000	271,000	-8.0	-15.1
U.S. Part Time for Economic Reasons	2,851,000	2,854,000	2,832,000	-0.1	0.7
Hours & Earnings for Production Workers					
Wyoming Mining					
Average Weekly Earnings	\$882.88	\$886.29	\$857.14	-0.4	3.0
Average Weekly Hours	46.2	46.5	44.9	-0.6	2.9
U.S. Mining Hours & Earnings					
Average Weekly Earnings	\$779.64	\$783.84	\$758.73	-0.5	2.8
Average Weekly Hours	45.7	46.0	44.5	-0.7	2.7
Wyoming Manufacturing Hours & Earnings					
Average Weekly Earnings	\$632.26	\$625.39	\$602.08	1.1	5.0
Average Weekly Hours	40.4	38.7	39.3	4.4	2.8
U.S. Manufacturing Hours & Earnings					
Average Weekly Earnings	\$602.17	\$604.23	\$589.26	-0.3	2.2
Average Weekly Hours	41.5	41.7	42.0	-0.5	-1.2
Wyoming Unemployment Insurance					
Weeks Compensated (2)	6,762	5,821	5,778	16.2	17.0
Benefits Paid	\$1,354,437	\$1,168,376	\$1,068,727	15.9	26.7
Average Weekly Benefits Payment	\$200.31	\$200.71	\$184.65	-0.2	8.5
State Insured Covered Jobs (1)	219,820	224,146	213,836	-1.9	2.8
Insured Unemployment Rate	0.9%	0.8%	0.8%	N/A	N/A
Consumer Price Index (U) for All U.S. Urban Consumers (1982 to 1984 = 100)					
All Items	174.0	173.7	168.2	0.2	3.4
Food & Beverages	169.6	169.4	165.5	0.1	2.5
Housing	171.7	171.4	165.0	0.2	4.1
Apparel	132.8	130.4	134.6	1.8	-1.3
Transportation	154.4	154.7	147.3	-0.2	4.8
Medical Care	263.7	263.1	252.8	0.2	4.3
Recreation (Dec. 1997=100)	103.8	103.8	101.8	0.0	2.0
Education & Communication (Dec. 1997=100)	103.6	102.9	102.1	0.7	1.5
Other Goods & Services	273.0	274.7	263.2	-0.6	3.7
Producer Prices (1982 to 1984 = 100)					
All Commodities	135.1	134.5	127.7	0.4	5.8
Wyoming Building Permits					
New Privately Owned Housing Units Authorized	141	140	156	0.7	-9.6
Valuation	\$28,328,000	\$26,374,000	\$20,489,000	7.4	38.3

(p) Preliminary. (r) Revised. (b) Benchmarked. (1) Local Area Unemployment Statistics Program estimates. (2) Not normalized.



Wyoming County Unemployment Rates

by: Brad Payne, Senior Statistician

"Statewide employment is down 908 from the September level of 9,489 and down 2,179 from the October 1999 level of 10,760."

REGION County	Labor Force			Employed			Unemployed			Unemployment Rates		
	Oct 2000 (p)	Sep 2000 (r)	Oct 1999 (b)	Oct 2000 (p)	Sep 2000 (r)	Oct 1999 (b)	Oct 2000 (p)	Sep 2000 (r)	Oct 1999 (b)	Oct 2000 (p)	Sep 2000 (r)	Oct 1999 (b)
NORTHWEST	46,727	47,312	47,526	44,890	45,173	45,199	1,837	2,139	2,327	3.9	4.5	4.9
Big Horn	6,189	6,073	6,004	5,944	5,773	5,722	245	300	282	4.0	4.9	4.7
Fremont	18,001	17,993	18,380	17,082	16,962	17,282	919	1,031	1,098	5.1	5.7	6.0
Hot Springs	2,446	2,391	2,532	2,380	2,336	2,418	66	55	114	2.7	2.3	4.5
Park	15,019	15,921	15,502	14,577	15,396	14,896	442	525	606	2.9	3.3	3.9
Washakie	5,072	4,934	5,108	4,907	4,706	4,881	165	228	227	3.3	4.6	4.4
NORTHEAST	45,284	44,959	44,806	43,932	43,524	43,123	1,352	1,435	1,683	3.0	3.2	3.8
Campbell	20,503	20,295	19,991	19,916	19,638	19,170	587	657	821	2.9	3.2	4.1
Crook	3,152	3,142	3,192	3,053	3,051	3,070	99	91	122	3.1	2.9	3.8
Johnson	4,060	4,109	4,073	3,994	4,029	3,959	66	80	114	1.6	1.9	2.8
Sheridan	14,109	13,958	14,055	13,650	13,513	13,563	459	445	492	3.3	3.2	3.5
Weston	3,460	3,455	3,495	3,319	3,293	3,361	141	162	134	4.1	4.7	3.8
SOUTHWEST	53,730	55,381	52,890	51,805	53,280	50,431	1,925	2,101	2,459	3.6	3.8	4.6
Lincoln	6,984	7,036	6,761	6,715	6,725	6,412	269	311	349	3.9	4.4	5.2
Sublette	3,296	3,346	3,269	3,238	3,272	3,205	58	74	64	1.8	2.2	2.0
Sweetwater	20,526	20,391	20,734	19,602	19,459	19,581	924	932	1,153	4.5	4.6	5.6
Teton	12,234	13,674	11,090	12,074	13,520	10,875	160	154	215	1.3	1.1	1.9
Uinta	10,690	10,934	11,036	10,176	10,304	10,358	514	630	678	4.8	5.8	6.1
SOUTHEAST	70,238	68,964	69,247	68,603	67,192	67,261	1,635	1,772	1,986	2.3	2.6	2.9
Albany	17,781	17,219	17,692	17,524	16,958	17,439	257	261	253	1.4	1.5	1.4
Goshen	6,810	6,425	6,822	6,672	6,255	6,644	138	170	178	2.0	2.6	2.6
Laramie	39,442	39,141	38,590	38,382	37,992	37,230	1,060	1,149	1,360	2.7	2.9	3.5
Niobrara	1,407	1,384	1,422	1,373	1,357	1,381	34	27	41	2.4	2.0	2.9
Platte	4,798	4,795	4,721	4,652	4,630	4,567	146	165	154	3.0	3.4	3.3
CENTRAL	49,199	48,583	48,862	47,367	46,542	46,556	1,832	2,041	2,306	3.7	4.2	4.7
Carbon	8,445	8,456	8,580	8,161	8,145	8,222	284	311	358	3.4	3.7	4.2
Converse	6,856	6,740	6,847	6,594	6,473	6,544	262	267	303	3.8	4.0	4.4
Natrona	33,898	33,387	33,435	32,612	31,924	31,790	1,286	1,463	1,645	3.8	4.4	4.9
STATEWIDE	265,178	265,200	263,329	256,597	255,711	252,569	8,581	9,489	10,760	3.2	3.6	4.1
Statewide Seasonally Adjusted										3.8	4.4	4.7
U.S.....										3.6	3.8	3.8
U.S. Seasonally Adjusted.....										3.9	3.9	4.1

Prepared in cooperation with the Bureau of Labor Statistics. Benchmarked 02/00. Run Date 11/00.
Data are not seasonally adjusted except where otherwise specified.

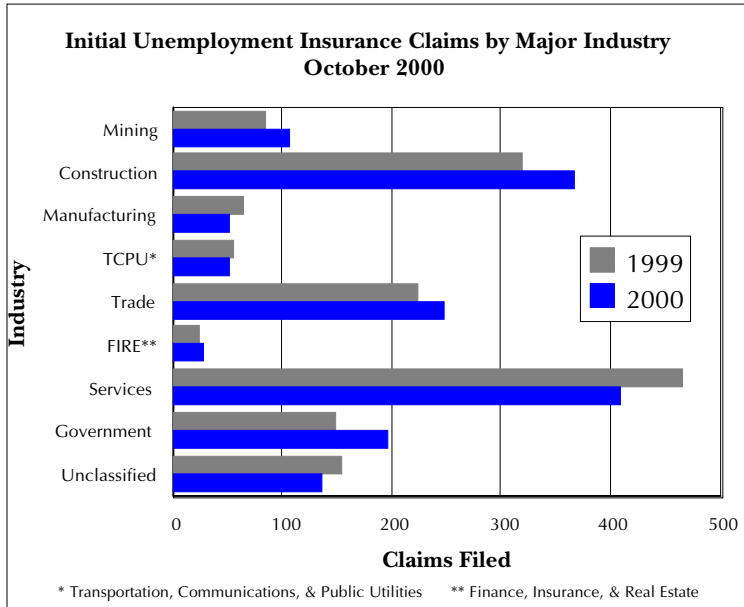
(p) Preliminary. (r) Revised. (b) Benchmarked.

NOTE: The Current Population Survey (CPS) estimated the 1999 annual average Wyoming unemployment rate at 4.9 percent.
The 90 percent confidence interval for this estimate suggests that in 9 out of 10 cases, the interval 4.3 to 5.5 percent would contain the actual rate.

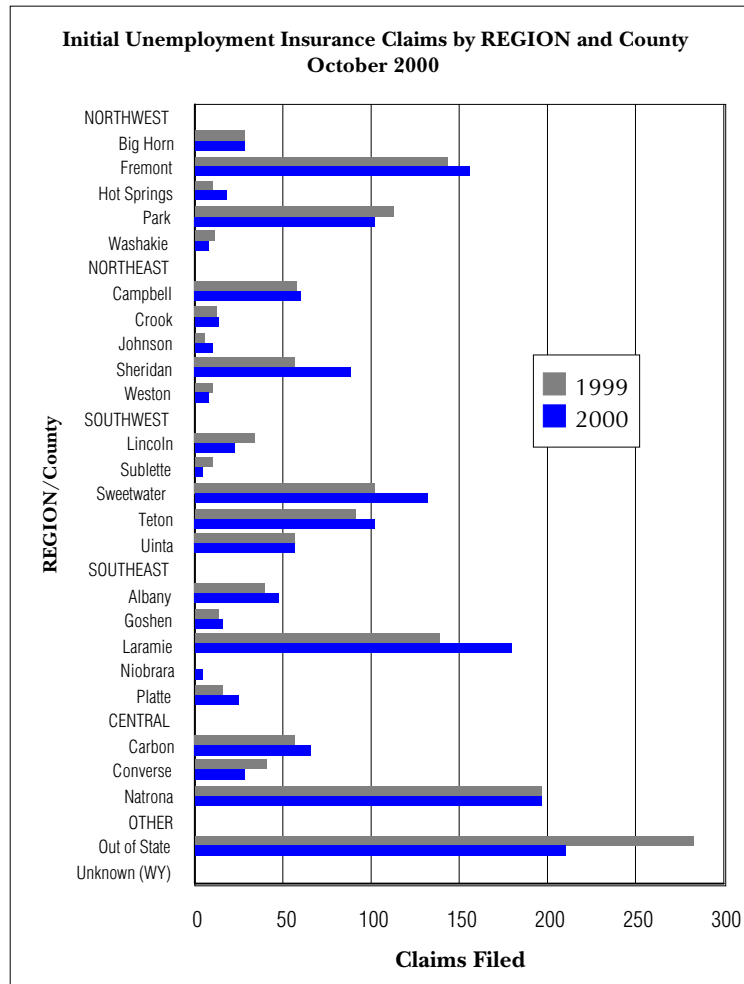
Wyoming Normalized Unemployment Insurance Statistics: Initial Claims

by: Rich Peters, Labor Market Analyst

"Over-the-year claims from October 1999 to October 2000 increased slightly by 3.6 percent."



	Claims Filed			Percent Change	
	OCT 00	SEP 00	OCT 99	SEP 00	OCT 99
WYOMING STATEWIDE					
TOTAL CLAIMS FILED	1,598	929	1,542	72.0	3.6
TOTAL GOODS PRODUCING	526	343	469	53.4	12.2
Mining	107	66	85	62.1	25.9
Oil & Gas Extraction	58	37	49	56.8	18.4
Construction	367	236	319	55.5	15.0
Manufacturing	52	41	65	26.8	-20.0
TOTAL SERVICE PRODUCING	936	496	919	88.7	1.8
Transportation, Communications & Public Utilities	52	37	55	40.5	-5.5
Transportation	41	27	47	51.9	-12.8
Communications & Public Utilities	11	10	8	10.0	37.5
Trade	248	158	224	57.0	10.7
Wholesale Trade	27	26	37	3.8	-27.0
Retail Trade	221	132	187	67.4	18.2
Finance, Insurance & Real Estate	29	18	24	61.1	20.8
Services	410	200	466	105.0	-12.0
Personal & Business Services	90	51	104	76.5	-13.5
Health Services	31	23	23	34.8	34.8
Government	197	83	150	137.3	31.3
Local Government	39	31	50	25.8	-22.0
Local Education	8	12	11	-33.3	-27.3
UNCLASSIFIED	136	90	154	51.1	-11.7



	OCT 00	SEP 00	OCT 99	SEP 00	OCT 99
LARAMIE COUNTY					
TOTAL CLAIMS FILED	178	119	138	49.6	29.0
TOTAL GOODS PRODUCING	55	37	45	48.6	22.2
Mining	19	1	0	1800.0	0.0
Oil & Gas Extraction	0	0	0	0.0	0.0
Construction	32	34	39	-5.9	-17.9
Manufacturing	4	2	6	100.0	-33.3
TOTAL SERVICE PRODUCING	110	68	78	61.8	41.0
Transportation, Communications & Public Utilities	14	8	11	75.0	27.3
Transportation	13	6	8	116.7	62.5
Communications & Public Utilities	1	2	3	-50.0	-66.7
Trade	38	12	18	216.7	111.1
Wholesale Trade	3	1	2	200.0	50.0
Retail Trade	35	11	16	218.2	118.8
Finance, Insurance & Real Estate	9	8	9	12.5	0.0
Services	29	31	28	-6.5	3.6
Personal & Business Services	12	11	13	9.1	-7.7
Health Services	5	2	1	150.0	400.0
Government	20	9	12	122.2	66.7
Local Government	4	3	1	33.3	300.0
Local Education	0	2	0	0.0	0.0
UNCLASSIFIED	13	14	15	-7.1	-13.3

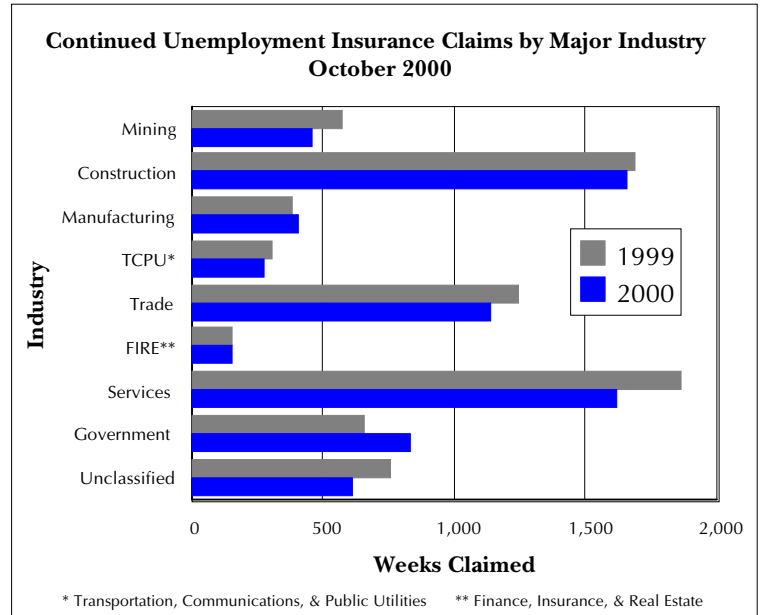
	OCT 00	SEP 00	OCT 99	SEP 00	OCT 99
NATRONA COUNTY					
TOTAL CLAIMS FILED	195	113	196	72.6	-0.5
TOTAL GOODS PRODUCING	69	44	67	56.8	3.0
Mining	17	11	10	54.5	70.0
Oil & Gas Extraction	14	11	6	27.3	133.3
Construction	44	30	45	46.7	-2.2
Manufacturing	8	3	12	166.7	-33.3
TOTAL SERVICE PRODUCING	114	64	117	78.1	-2.6
Transportation, Communications & Public Utilities	10	5	6	100.0	66.7
Transportation	4	3	6	33.3	-33.3
Communications & Public Utilities	6	2	0	200.0	0.0
Trade	39	29	42	34.5	-7.1
Wholesale Trade	10	12	6	-16.7	66.7
Retail Trade	29	17	36	70.6	-19.4
Finance, Insurance & Real Estate	3	2	8	50.0	-62.5
Services	36	19	51	89.5	-29.4
Personal & Business Services	16	9	21	77.8	-23.8
Health Services	6	4	9	50.0	-33.3
Government	26	9	10	188.9	160.0
Local Government	2	3	8	-33.3	-75.0
Local Education	0	0	0	0.0	0.0
UNCLASSIFIED	12	5	12	140.0	0.0

Wyoming Normalized Unemployment Insurance Statistics: Continued Claims

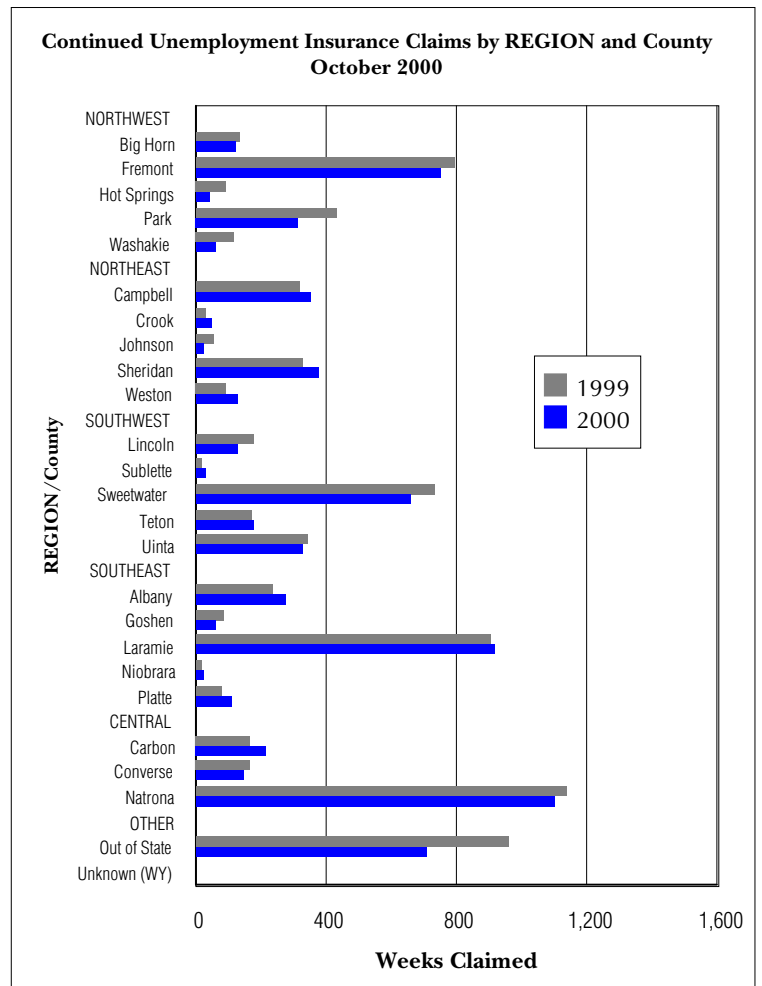
by: Rich Peters, Labor Market Analyst

"Over-the-year weeks claimed from October 1999 to October 2000 were down 6.4 percent while the number of unique claimants remains steady at 0.8 percent."

	Claims Filed			Percent Change Claims Filed	
	OCT.00	SEP.00	OCT.99	SEP.00 OCT.00	OCT.99 OCT.00
WYOMING STATEWIDE					
TOTAL WEEKS CLAIMED	7,169	6,516	7,657	10.0	-6.4
TOTAL UNIQUE CLAIMANTS	2,485	2,176	2,504	14.2	-0.8
TOTAL GOODS PRODUCING	2,528	2,250	2,653	12.4	-4.7
Mining	459	438	576	4.8	-20.3
Oil & Gas Extraction	254	296	436	-14.2	-41.7
Construction	1,662	1,366	1,691	21.7	-1.7
Manufacturing	407	446	386	-8.7	5.4
TOTAL SERVICE PRODUCING	4,028	3,689	4,243	9.2	-5.1
Transportation, Communications & Public Utilities	279	271	311	3.0	-10.3
Transportation	186	178	235	4.5	-20.9
Communications & Public Utilities	93	93	76	0.0	22.4
Trade	1,139	1,049	1,245	8.6	-8.5
Wholesale Trade	205	215	201	-4.7	2.0
Retail Trade	934	834	1,044	12.0	-10.5
Finance, Insurance & Real Estate	153	114	159	34.2	-3.8
Services	1,622	1,483	1,870	9.4	-13.3
Personal & Business Services	434	428	463	1.4	-6.3
Health Services	238	207	225	15.0	5.8
Government	835	772	658	8.2	26.9
Local Government	311	348	294	-10.6	5.8
Local Education	154	213	134	-27.7	14.9
UNCLASSIFIED	613	577	761	6.2	-19.4



	Claims Filed			Percent Change Claims Filed	
	OCT.00	SEP.00	OCT.99	SEP.00 OCT.00	OCT.99 OCT.00
LARAMIE COUNTY					
TOTAL WEEKS CLAIMED	917	757	907	21.1	1.1
TOTAL UNIQUE CLAIMANTS	313	264	280	18.6	11.8
TOTAL GOODS PRODUCING	226	160	226	41.3	0.0
Mining	32	0	11	0.0	190.9
Oil & Gas Extraction	0	0	11	0.0	0.0
Construction	172	132	175	30.3	-1.7
Manufacturing	22	28	40	-21.4	-45.0
TOTAL SERVICE PRODUCING	609	506	555	20.4	9.7
Transportation, Communications & P Public Utilities	82	60	47	36.7	74.5
Transportation	58	38	32	52.6	81.3
Communications & Public Utilities	24	22	15	9.1	60.0
Trade	162	125	201	29.6	-19.4
Wholesale Trade	15	19	19	-21.1	-21.1
Retail Trade	147	106	182	38.7	-19.2
Finance, Insurance & Real Estate	49	31	37	58.1	32.4
Services	232	175	182	32.6	27.5
Personal & Business Services	79	62	51	27.4	54.9
Health Services	53	38	22	39.5	140.9
Government	84	115	88	-27.0	-4.5
Local Government	18	34	13	-47.1	38.5
Local Education	14	32	13	-56.3	7.7
UNCLASSIFIED	82	91	126	-9.9	-34.9



	Claims Filed			Percent Change Claims Filed	
	OCT.00	SEP.00	OCT.99	SEP.00 OCT.00	OCT.99 OCT.00
NATRONA COUNTY					
TOTAL WEEKS CLAIMED	1,101	1,047	1,139	5.2	-3.3
TOTAL UNIQUE CLAIMANTS	366	343	372	6.7	-1.6
TOTAL GOODS PRODUCING	397	352	398	12.8	-0.3
Mining	86	74	97	16.2	-11.3
Oil & Gas Extraction	82	60	80	36.7	2.5
Construction	247	227	227	8.8	8.8
Manufacturing	64	51	74	25.5	-13.5
TOTAL SERVICE PRODUCING	664	664	685	0.0	-3.1
Transportation, Communications & P Public Utilities	59	58	67	1.7	-11.9
Transportation	28	26	45	7.7	-37.8
Communications & Public Utilities	31	32	22	-3.1	40.9
Trade	219	192	228	14.1	-3.9
Wholesale Trade	69	38	58	81.6	19.0
Retail Trade	150	154	170	-2.6	-11.8
Finance, Insurance & Real Estate	17	13	38	30.8	-55.3
Services	263	310	307	-15.2	-14.3
Personal & Business Services	108	110	114	-1.8	-5.3
Health Services	54	63	60	-14.3	-10.0
Government	106	91	45	16.5	135.6
Local Government	26	27	22	-3.7	18.2
Local Education	11	17	0	-35.3	0.0
UNCLASSIFIED	40	31	56	29.0	-28.6

After 5 Days Return to:
**Wyoming Department of Employment
Research & Planning
P.O. Box 2760
Casper, WY 82602**

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

