Vol. 45 No. 12

© Copyright 2009 by the Wyoming Department of Employment

**Research & Planning** 

#### INTRODUCTION FROM THE EDITOR

# Methods of Analysis: Using Survey Data and Administrative Data to Explore Similar Ideas

his month's articles, "Wage Change Analysis Among Exiting Wyoming Executive Branch Employees" and "Factors that Influence Job Changing: An Examination of Demographic Differences," both discuss wages in relation to state employees changing jobs. However, each article presents different sets of data and a different method of analysis.

The article "Wage Change Analysis Among Exiting Wyoming Executive Branch Employees" (see page 3) explores wages of workers who left state employment during 2005. "Factors that Influence Job Changing: An Examination of Demographic Differences" (see page 10) discusses various factors that may influence workers' stated intent to leave state employment, as well as factors that could encourage them to stay.

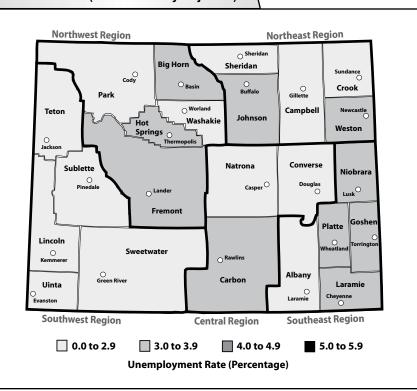
A mail questionnaire sent to Wyoming state employees in 2008 (a precursor to the 2008 Succession Planning Report: A Survey of Employees, http://doe.state. wy.us/LMI/SPR\_08/cover.htm) asked whether they intended to leave their current jobs. Collectively, the questionnaire responses became survey data, while subsequently gathered administrative data (e.g., employer, industry, wages) could show whether those employees did in fact leave their jobs. Higher wages might have been a factor in an employee's stated intent on the questionnaire to leave a job and, following a job change, administrative data could show if the new job pays higher wages.

These articles are just two examples of what can be done with survey data, administrative data, and various methods of analysis.

# 

- The analysis presented here focuses on state employees, but the method is generic and could be applied to any known subgroup of persons appearing in the administrative databases available to Research & Planning....page 3
- During summer 2008 Research & Planning conducted a succession planning study on employees in selected Wyoming state departments. The study sought to identify ways the agencies can prepare for the likelihood of a significant proportion of their workforce retiring. . . . page 10

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



## IN THIS ISSUE

Methods of Analysis: Using Survey Data and Administrative Data to Explore Similar Ideas1
Wage Change Analysis Among Exiting Wyoming Executive Branch Employees
Factors that Influence Job Changing: An Examination of Demographic Differences
New Reports Available Online: Succession Planning, Wyoming Benefits Survey, Nurse Employment in Wyoming
Employer Seminars Continue in 200920
Wyoming Unemployment Unchanged at 3.3% in October 2008
State Unemployment Rates21
Wyoming Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment22
Economic Indicators
County Unemployment Rates25
Unemployment Insurance Statistics26

### Wyoming Labor Force Trends

A monthly publication of the Wyoming Department of Employment,

Gary W. Child, Director

Research & Planning P.O. Box 2760 Casper, WY 82602-2760 doeerd\_r&p\_web@state.wy.us 307-473-3807

Tom Gallagher, Manager

Carola Cowan, Bureau of Labor Statistics Programs Supervisor

Phil Ellsworth, Editor

April Szuch, Associate Editor

Editorial Committee: David Bullard, Valerie A. Davis, Phil Ellsworth, and April Szuch.

Contributors to Wyoming Labor Force Trends this month: David Bullard, Carola Cowan, Dr. Mark A. Harris, Margaret Hiatt, Lisa Knapp, and Douglas W. Leonard.

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

© Copyright 2009 by the Wyoming Department of Employment,
Research & Planning.

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

Department of Employment, Research & Planning.

#### Department of Employment Nondiscrimination Statement

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

Mission statement available at http://doe.state.wy.us/LMI/mission.pdf.

ISSN 0512-4409

# Wage Change Analysis Among Exiting Wyoming Executive Branch Employees

by: Dr. Mark A. Harris, Sociologist

he following analysis examines wage changes among persons who left employment (for any reason) from a Wyoming executive branch agency during calendar year 2005. The analysis presented here focuses on state employees, but the method is generic and could be applied to any known subgroup of persons appearing in the administrative databases available to Research & Planning (R&P). A similar study was conducted previously among nurses (Harris, 2008).

#### Data and Method

Data used for this study included Unemployment Insurance (UI) wage records for Wyoming and partner research states (i.e., Alaska, Colorado, Idaho, Montana, Nebraska, New Mexico, South Dakota, Texas, and Utah), the Wyoming Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages (QCEW), and the Wyoming Department of Transportation's driver's license database. The UI wage records identified a person's work history and employers, while the QCEW identified the employer's industry and ownership (e.g., private sector, local government, etc.). Driver's license records showed a worker's gender. Calendar year 2005 was the reference period for this study. This period represented the most recent year for which all requisite data were available. The information presented here can be updated on an annual basis as new data become available.

The destination of exit among executive branch employees was determined using methodologies previously developed by Harris (2006). The methodology tracked all exiters regardless of destination (within one year). Previous studies by R&P (Ellsworth, 2006) established that many employees who exited from executive branch employers obtained subsequent employment with another state agency. In relation to wages, this method captured the total quarterly wage data only when a consecutive three-quarter continuous employment relationship with both the prior and subsequent

### **Results in Brief**

- A total of 2,098 employees exited from executive branch employment during 2005, with 1,527 (72.8%) found working at another job within one year.
- Among males, the top private sector work destinations were natural resources & mining, construction, and professional & business services.
- For females, the top private sector work destinations were health services, retail trade, and professional & business services.
- The private sector appeared to substantially reward male exiters with increased average quarterly pay while government destinations did not.
- Overall, female exiters experienced wage decreases in the private sector but showed increases among local and state government destinations and partner research states.

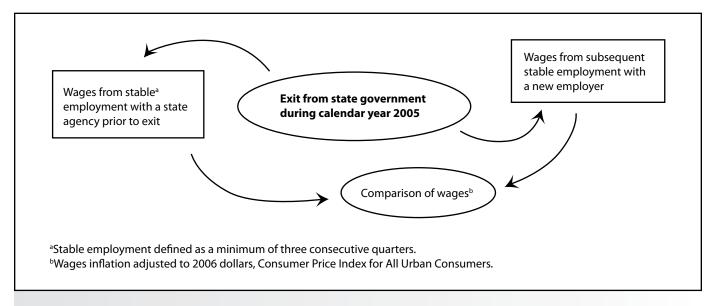


Figure 1: Wage Change Analysis for Employees Who Exited from Executive Branch Employment During Calendar Year 2005

employer existed.¹ This procedure eliminated exiters who were temporarily employed in the executive branch prior to leaving or who had not yet obtained stable employment with a new employer. Additionally, both prior and subsequent wages were inflation adjusted to 2006 dollars, using the Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers, to make them comparable over time. The average quarterly wage used here did not factor in differences in the number of hours worked and did not distinguish types of pay (e.g., overtime, longevity, etc.). Figure 1 provides a visual description of the basic model.

#### **Results**

There were 2,098 employee exits from Wyoming's executive branch employers in calendar year 2005 (see Table 1, page 5). Some exiters were found working within one year of exit while others were not. The table shows the destination as determined by administrative records, the gender of the exiter when known, and the percentage of

the respective column totals. Some data were removed to protect confidentiality. Among 1,527 exiters found working after exiting from an executive branch agency, 805 (38.4% of total exiters) were located in Wyoming's private sector and 541 (25.8% of total exiters) were working in local or state government, while 181 (8.6% of total exiters) were found working in a partner research state. Additionally, 571 (27.2% of total exiters) could not be located in the administrative records available to R&P.<sup>2</sup>

Among a total of 1,000 males, 413 (41.3% of total males) were found working in Wyoming's private sector after leaving employment in the executive branch (see Figure 2, page 6). The top three private sector work destinations were natural resources & mining (63, or 6.3% of total males), construction (59, or 5.9% of total

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>See Glover (2001) for a full description of the continuous employment calculation methodology.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup>The *not found* category included individuals who retired or otherwise withdrew from the labor market, as well as employees not covered by Wyoming Unemployment Insurance. It also included persons who were working but for whom R&P did not have administrative data (e.g., self-employed persons and persons working in states, such as California, where no data sharing agreement exists).

Table 1: Employment Destination of Executive Branch Employee Exits During Calendar Year 2005

Destination of Exit	Male Exiters	Male Exiters %	Female Exiters	Female Exiters %	Unknown Gender	Unknown Gender %	Total Exiters	Grand Total %
Construction	59	5.9%	10	1.0%	ND	ND	69	3.3%
Educational Services	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND
Financial Activities	21	2.1%	17	1.7%	ND	ND	38	1.8%
Health Services	28	2.8%	94	9.7%	ND	ND	123	5.9%
Information	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND
Leisure & Hospitality	42	4.2%	55	5.7%	ND	ND	100	4.8%
Manufacturing	23	2.3%	11	1.1%	ND	ND	34	1.6%
Natural Resources & Mining	63	6.3%	13	1.3%	ND	ND	77	3.7%
Other Services	18	1.8%	21	2.2%	ND	ND	41	2.0%
Professional & Business Services	56	5.6%	63	6.5%	ND	ND	120	5.7%
Retail Trade	52	5.2%	70	7.2%	ND	ND	123	5.9%
Wholesale Trade, Transportation, & Utilities	41	4.1%	13	1.3%	ND	ND	54	2.6%
Wyoming Private Sector Total	413	41.3%	382	39.3%	10	7.9%	805	38.4%
Local Government	100	10.0%	126	13.0%	3	2.4%	229	10.9%
State Government	144	14.4%	154	15.8%	14	11.1%	312	14.9%
Wyoming Government Total	244	24.4%	280	28.8%	17	13.5%	541	25.8%
Partner Research State <sup>a</sup>	78	7.8%	59	6.1%	44	34.9%	181	8.6%
Total Found Working	735	73.5%	721	74.2%	71	56.3%	1,527	72.8%
Presumed Retirement <sup>b</sup>	68	6.8%	44	4.5%	0	0.0%	112	5.3%
Resident Not Found Working	189	18.9%	199	20.5%	6	4.8%	394	18.8%
Nonresident Not Found Working	8	0.8%	8	0.8%	49	38.9%	65	3.1%
<b>Total Not Found Working</b>	265	26.5%	251	25.8%	55	43.7%	571	27.2%
Grand Total	1,000	100.0%	972	100.0%	126	100.0%	2,098	100.0%

ND: Not disclosable due to confidentiality of information.

males), and professional & business services (56, or 5.6% of total males). Outside the private sector, 244 male exiters (24.4% of total males) were found working in government, concentrating more heavily in state (144, or 14.4% of total males) than local ownerships (100, or 10.0% of total males). Additionally, 78 (7.8% of total males) were subsequently found working in a partner research state.

Of 972 total female exiters, approximately an equal percentage of female exiters (39.3%, or 382) were found working in Wyoming's private sector compared to

males (see Figure 3, page 6). However, the employment distribution of female exiters among private industry sectors was different than for male exiters. Health services was the top private sector work destination among females (94, or 9.7% of total females). Retail trade was next with 70 female exiters (7.2% of total females) and professional & business services was the third top private sector destination with 63 female exiters (6.5% of total females). As with males, state government had more female exiters than local government (154 versus 126, respectively). Fifty-nine females (6.1% of total females) were found working in a

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>a</sup>lncludes Alaska, Colorado, Idaho, Montana, Nebraska, New Mexico, South Dakota, Texas, and Utah.

bResidents who were 62 or older at the time of exit.

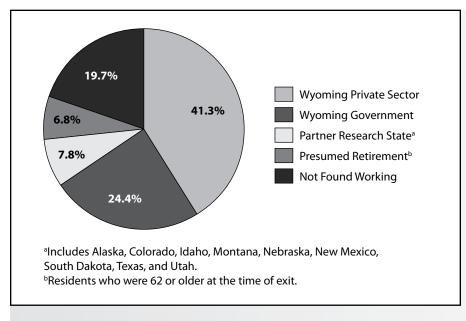


Figure 2: Employment Destination of Executive Branch Male Employee Exits During Calendar Year 2005

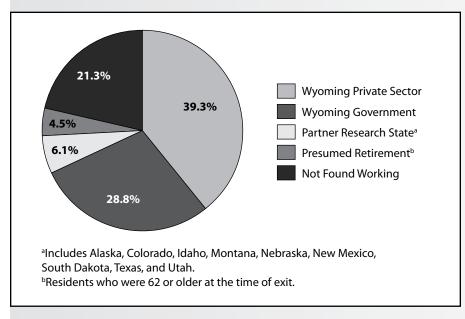


Figure 3: Employment Destination of Executive Branch Female Employee Exits During Calendar Year 2005

partner research state after exiting from employment in the executive branch.

Of the total 735 male exiters subsequently found working, 299 (40.7%) met

the continuous employment criteria for inclusion in the wage analysis (see Table 2, page 7). Overall, these 299 male exiters had a 17.7% increase in average quarterly wages

after exiting from executive branch employment (\$9,125 to \$10,743). Male exiters who left state government for Wyoming's private sector had a 41.4% increase in average quarterly wages (\$8,418 to \$11,900). However, there were substantial differences among industries. Among private sector destinations, educational services and leisure & hospitality had too few cases for display due to confidentiality limitations. In 8 of the remaining 10 private sector destinations, males had an increase in wages; in 5 of those industries, males had a wage increase of more than 50% (see Figure 4, page 8). Financial activities and natural resources & mining had the largest increases in average quarterly wages (133.4% and 127.3%, respectively). Other services had the next largest increase (84.1%). Male exiters with subsequent employment in health services and retail trade experienced decreases in average quarterly wages (-49.8% and -39.2%, respectively).

Male exiters subsequently employed in government showed a decrease in quarterly wages for both local and state ownerships (-8.4% and -1.2%, respectively). Average quarterly wages were largely

Table 2: Wage Change Analysis for Executive Branch Male Employee Exits During Calendar Year 2005

		Total Wages <sup>b</sup>		Mean C	Quarterly Wag	e Change
Destination of Exit	Exits from Continuous Employment <sup>a</sup>	Prior Executive Branch Job	Destination Job	Prior Average Quarterly Wage	Subsequent Average Quarterly Wage	Percentage Difference
Construction	16	\$138,710	\$171,397	\$8,669	\$10,712	23.6%
Educational Services	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND
Financial Activities	12	\$75,707	\$176,663	\$6,309	\$14,722	133.4%
Health Services	16	\$165,727	\$83,155	\$10,358	\$5,197	-49.8%
Information	6	\$51,314	\$81,231	\$8,552	\$13,539	58.3%
Leisure & Hospitality	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND
Manufacturing	10	\$82,126	\$105,209	\$8,213	\$10,521	28.1%
Natural Resources & Mining	30	\$239,260	\$543,799	\$7,975	\$18,127	127.3%
Other Services	4	\$11,400	\$20,982	\$2,850	\$5,246	84.1%
Professional & Business Services	22	\$196,288	\$330,046	\$8,922	\$15,002	68.1%
Retail Trade	10	\$106,700	\$64,879	\$10,670	\$6,488	-39.2%
Wholesale Trade, Transportation, & Utilities	25	\$212,127	\$226,902	\$8,485	\$9,076	7.0%
Wyoming Private Sector Total	152	\$1,279,519	\$1,808,730	\$8,418	\$11,900	41.4%
Local Government	45	\$453,527	\$415,607	\$10,078	\$9,236	-8.4%
State Government	67	\$677,652	\$669,531	\$10,114	\$9,993	-1.2%
Wyoming Government Total	112	\$1,131,179	\$1,085,138	\$10,100	\$9,689	-4.1%
Partner Research State <sup>c</sup>	35	\$317,539	\$318,194	\$9,073	\$9,091	0.2%
Total Found Working	299	\$2,728,237	\$3,212,062	\$9,125	\$10,743	17.7%

ND: Not disclosable due to confidentiality of information.

unchanged for male exiters subsequently employed in a partner research state (0.2%).

As shown in Table 3 (see page 9), a slightly higher percentage of female exiters met the criteria for inclusion in the wage change analysis (332 of 721, or 46.0%). Overall, these 332 female exiters had a 7.0% increase in average quarterly wages subsequent to exiting from an executive branch agency (\$7,457 to \$7,978). Female exiters who left state government for Wyoming's private sector had an overall 4.1% decrease in average quarterly wages (\$7,051 to \$6,761). Among private sector destinations for female exiters, construction and educational services had too few cases

to display due to confidentiality limitations. Females in 4 of the remaining 10 private sector destinations had a decrease in subsequent quarterly wages (i.e., health services, leisure & hospitality, professional & business services, and retail trade). The largest gains in subsequent average quarterly wages for female exiters employed in the private sector were found in natural resources & mining (89.0%), financial activities (56.6%), and other services (51.6%).

Female exiters subsequently employed in government had an increase in quarterly wages for both local and state ownerships (21.2% and 9.6%, respectively). Female exiters subsequently working in

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>a</sup>Continuous employment is defined as employment in the current, prior, and subsequent quarters.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>b</sup>Wages inflation adjusted to 2006 dollars, Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers.

Includes Alaska, Colorado, Idaho, Montana, Nebraska, New Mexico, South Dakota, Texas, and Utah.

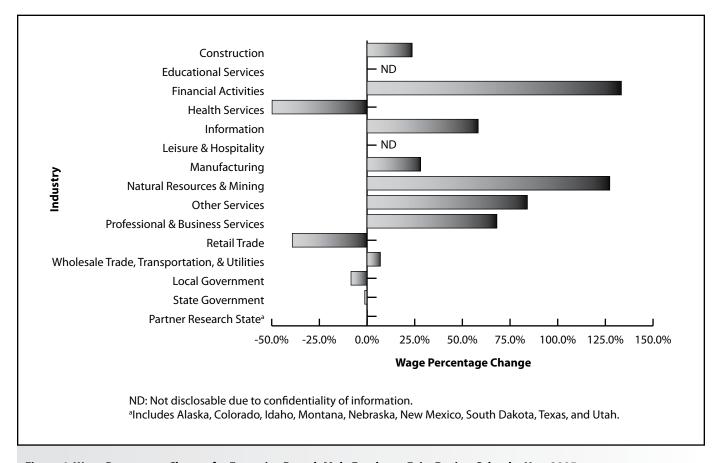


Figure 4: Wage Percentage Change for Executive Branch Male Employee Exits During Calendar Year 2005

a partner research state experienced a 13.2% increase in average quarterly wages.

### **Observations**

On the whole, both male and female exiters experienced an average quarterly wage increase after leaving employment with an executive branch agency. The private sector appeared to substantially reward male exiters with increased average quarterly pay while government destinations did not. Partner research states destinations appeared largely neutral in relation to pay for males. Overall, female exiters experienced wage decreases in the private sector but had increases among local and state government destinations and partner research states.

Not all exits from executive branch employment are made with the apparent intent of obtaining higher wages. Relocation to a new area following a spousal employment change may mean difficulty in finding replacement employment at similar or better wages. Additionally, not all job changes resulting in lower wages are necessarily bad (e.g., partial retirement, greater freedom, less stress, new opportunities for growth, etc.). These are issues deserving further research.

## References

Ellsworth, P. (Ed.). (2006). DOE occupations of concern due to exits and retirement. In *Worker retention and* 

Table 3: Wage Change Analysis for Executive Branch Female Employee Exits During Calendar Year 2005

		Total Wages <sup>b</sup>		Mean C	Quarterly Wag	e Change
Destination of Exit	Exits from Continuous Employment <sup>a</sup>	Prior Executive Branch Job	Destination Job	Prior Average Quarterly Wage	Subsequent Average Quarterly Wage	Percentage Difference
Construction	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND
Educational Services	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND
Financial Activities	6	\$30,191	\$47,271	\$5,032	\$7,879	56.6%
Health Services	41	\$310,159	\$307,991	\$7,565	\$7,512	-0.7%
Information	6	\$56,386	\$56,842	\$9,398	\$9,474	0.8%
Leisure & Hospitality	10	\$73,862	\$45,777	\$7,386	\$4,578	-38.0%
Manufacturing	3	\$21,251	\$24,574	\$7,084	\$8,191	15.6%
Natural Resources & Mining	4	\$19,183	\$36,254	\$4,796	\$9,064	89.0%
Other Services	11	\$62,334	\$94,504	\$5,667	\$8,591	51.6%
Professional & Business Services	22	\$171,214	\$147,028	\$7,782	\$6,683	-14.1%
Retail Trade	24	\$151,058	\$104,832	\$6,294	\$4,368	-30.6%
Wholesale Trade, Transportation, & Utilities	4	\$23,839	\$25,218	\$5,960	\$6,305	5.8%
Wyoming Private Sector Total	134	\$944,900	\$906,020	\$7,051	\$6,761	-4.1%
Local Government	71	\$483,980	\$586,432	\$6,817	\$8,260	21.2%
State Government	96	\$784,201	\$859,217	\$8,169	\$8,950	9.6%
Wyoming Government Total	167	\$1,268,181	\$1,445,649	\$7,594	\$8,657	14.0%
Partner Research State <sup>c</sup>	31	\$262,529	\$297,064	\$8,469	\$9,583	13.2%
Total Found Working	332	\$2,475,610	\$2,648,733	\$7,457	\$7,978	7.0%

ND: Not disclosable due to confidentiality of information.

factors associated with retirement (pp. 15-21). Retrieved November 19, 2008, from http://doe.state.wy.us/LMI/SP\_report.pdf

Glover, W. (2001, December 11). *Turnover* analysis: *Definitions*, *process*, and quantifications. Retrieved October 7, 2008, from http://doe.state.wy.us/LMI/w\_r\_research/Turnover\_Methodology.pdf

Harris, M. A. (2006, December). Where do they come from and where do they go: Wyoming employers compete for

older workers. Wyoming Labor Force Trends, 43(12), 1-11. Retrieved November 19, 2008, from http://doe.state.wy.us/ LMI/1206/a1.htm

Harris, M. A. (2008, August). Using administrative databases to document the source of nurse hires and destination of nurse exits among health care subsectors in Wyoming. In P. Ellsworth & A. Szuch (Eds.), *Retention of nurses in Wyoming* (pp. 88-94). Retrieved November 19, 2008, from http://doe.state.wy.us/LMI/nursing\_retention\_08.pdf

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>a</sup>Continuous employment is defined as employment in the current, prior, and subsequent quarters.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>b</sup>Wages inflation adjusted to 2006 dollars, Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers.

Includes Alaska, Colorado, Idaho, Montana, Nebraska, New Mexico, South Dakota, Texas, and Utah.

# Factors that Influence Job Changing: An Examination of Demographic Differences

by: Lisa Knapp, Research Analyst

uring summer 2008 Research & Planning conducted a succession planning study of employees in the Wyoming Department of Family Services (DFS), the Wyoming Department of Employment (DOE), and the Wyoming Department of Workforce Services (DWS). The study sought to identify ways the agencies can prepare for the likelihood of a significant proportion of their workforce retiring. This can be accomplished in several ways, including identifying factors affecting the likelihood of job change, identifying ways to entice retirees back into the workforce, and training other employees to fill positions vacated by retirees.

The publication produced from this study, 2008 Succession Planning Report: A Survey of Employees (Ellsworth & Szuch, 2008), analyzed factors by agency in order to pinpoint possible differences in job satisfaction and employees' intent to leave. However, because demographic differences such as gender and age can have varying effects on job satisfaction and job leaving, it is also important to analyze responses by these categories in order to understand workplace dynamics separate from place of work. Job leaving, or turnover, has a number of negative effects on a workplace, including increased costs to fill open positions, lower employee morale, and decreased customer satisfaction. This article will identify differences in selected factors that may influence employees' stated intent to change jobs by age and gender. As discussed later in this analysis, results indicate that the most important factors in job changing, especially for younger workers, are those that improve the employee's financial well-being, such as higher wages,

more opportunities for job advancement, and increased access to education and training.

#### Methodology

Beginning in May 2008, Research & Planning sent questionnaires pertaining to various aspects of job satisfaction and future work plans to employees of DFS, DOE, and DWS. One of the questions on this survey instrument was, "Even if you do not have definite plans for leaving your department, which of the following factors, if offered by a different employer, would lead you to take a job somewhere else?" Responses to this question included higher wages, better benefits, opportunities for advancement, and flexible scheduling. The question was intended to pinpoint factors that employees found important in their decision to change jobs, particularly if they were not planning to retire in the following 12 months. Employees may not actually leave because of any of these factors, but their answers provide insight into areas that could be improved, either among the agencies or at the state level, to increase tenure and job satisfaction.

This analysis contains a series of tables comparing the answers of employees by age or gender for the job-change factors. The tables include the number (N) and percentage (%) of workers who chose that option. The tables also include a number labeled *frequency missing*, which indicates nonresponse. This is the number of people who either did not answer that particular question or skipped that question based on instructions from a previous question. For example, a question on the survey asked respondents if they had previously retired

from a state government position. If they answered yes, they were instructed to skip forward to another section rather than answer any more questions related to job satisfaction. To see more detail about the survey process for this project as well as response rates and copies of the survey instrument, go to http://doe. state.wy.us/LMI/SPR\_08/cover.htm.

Response rates are important in research because the greater the percentage of responses received, coupled with an even response across age and gender groups, the more the results may be generalized to the population under study. Mailed questionnaires typically result in a response rate of 50% to 80% (Dillman, 1978). Overall, 75.5% (986; see Table 1) of employees in the three agencies of interest returned usable copies of the succession planning questionnaire. By agency, 71.2% (545) of DFS employees, 81.1% (245) of DOE employees, and 82.0% (196) of DWS employees responded. As the following discussion details, because the demographic makeup of the employees in these three agencies differs significantly from that of all state government and all industries in Wyoming,

Table 1: Response by Department, 2008

			Department			
		DFS	DOE	DWS	Total	
Dagagagadad	N	545	245	196	986	
Responded	Column Percentage	71.2%	81.1%	82.0%	75.5%	
Did Not	N	220	57	43	320	
Respond	Column Percentage	28.8%	18.9%	18.0%	24.5%	
Total	N	765	302	239	1,306	
	Column Percentage	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	

Table 2: Gender for Wyoming Workers in All Industries and Total Government, 2007

			Number (Gender	Percentage (Gender
Gender	Number	Percentage	Known)	Known)
All Industries				
Female	133,554	35.9%	133,554	46.4%
Male	153,993	41.4%	153,993	53.6%
Gender Not Known	84,375	22.7%		
Total	371,922	100.0%	287,547	100.0%
<b>Total Government</b>				
Female	10,258	44.5%	10,258	46.9%
Male	11,613	50.4%	11,613	53.1%
Gender Not Known	1,175	5.1%		
Total	23,046	100.0%	21,871	100.0%

Note: Persons working at any time during the year. Source: Jones, S.D. (2007). *Earnings by age, gender & industry, 1994-2007*, http://doe.

state.wy.us/LMI/wfdemog/govt07.htm

these results may be generalized only to the agencies surveyed.

During 2007, more than one-fifth (22.7%; see Table 2) of workers in all private and public industries within the state were nonresidents whose gender was not known. Because nonresidents were far less likely to be employed in state government (5.1%), they were set aside for purposes of this discussion. Among the remainder of workers in all industries, 46.4% were

women and 53.6% were men. Similarly, in total government, 46.9% were women and 53.1% were men. In comparison, 76.8% (see Table 3, page 12) of survey respondents in DFS, DOE, and DWS were women and only 23.2% were men.

With nonresidents removed (see Table 4, page 12), 40.6% of workers in all industries were younger than age 35, 41.4% were between 35 and 54, and only 17.9% were age 55 and older. Workers in total government

Table 3: Survey Respondents by Gender and Department, 2008

			Department			
Gender		DFS	DOE	DWS	Total	
Female	N	439	176	141	756	
remaie	Column Percentage	80.6%	72.1%	71.9%	76.8%	
NA-1-	N	106	68	55	229	
Male	Column Percentage	19.4%	27.9%	28.1%	23.2%	
T-4-1	N	545	244	196	985	
Total	Column Percentage	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	

Table 4: Age Groups for Wyoming Workers in All Industries and Total Government, 2007

			Number	Percentage
Age	Number	Percentage	(Age Known)	(Age Known)
All Industries				
<35	116,851	31.4%	116,851	40.6%
35-54	119,058	32.0%	119,058	41.4%
55+	51,576	13.9%	51,576	17.9%
Age Not Known	84,437	22.7%		
Total	371,922	100.0%	287,485	100.0%
<b>Total Government</b>				
<35	6,354	27.6%	6,354	29.1%
35-54	10,462	45.4%	10,462	47.8%
55+	5,055	21.9%	5,055	23.1%
Age Not Known	1,175	5.1%		
Total	23,046	100.0%	21,871	100.0%

Note: Persons working at any time during the year. Percentages may not sum to 100.0% due to rounding.

Age not known are those with a birth date less than 12 years prior to the year of work. Source: Jones, S.D. (2007). *Earnings by age, gender & industry, 1994-2007*, http://doe.state.wy.us/LMI/wfdemoq/total07.htm

Table 5: Survey Respondents by Age and Department, 2008

			Department	t	
Age		DFS	DOE	DWS	Total
	N	111	34	21	166
<35	Row Percentage	66.9%	20.5%	12.7%	100.0%
	Column Percentage	20.4%	13.9%	10.8%	16.9%
	N	290	129	102	521
35-54	Row Percentage	55.7%	24.8%	19.6%	100.0%
	Column Percentage	53.2%	52.7%	52.3%	52.9%
	N	144	82	72	298
55+	Row Percentage	48.3%	27.5%	24.2%	100.0%
	Column Percentage	26.4%	33.5%	36.9%	30.3%
	N	545	245	195	985
Total	Row Percentage	55.3%	24.9%	19.8%	100.0%
	Column Percentage	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

Note: Percentages may not sum to 100.0% due to rounding.

were also comparatively young, with 29.1% younger than 35, 47.8% between 35 and 54, and 23.1% age 55 or older. However, within DFS, DOE, and DWS, only 16.9% (see Table 5) of respondents were younger than 35, while more than half (52.9%) were between age 35 and 54 and nearly a third (30.3%) were age 55 or older. Overall, the employees in these agencies were older than the state's workforce as a whole at the time of the study.

To identify differences among demographic groups in the factors that would influence their decision to change jobs, the chi-square statistic was used. The chi-square statistic helps to determine whether the distributions of categorical variables differ from each other. It is essentially the measure of distance between the observed and expected responses. In this case, we expected the responses from the individual agencies to look the same as the total from all three. This statistic is used to calculate a p-value, or probability, which tells us if these differences are statistically significant. Any p-value that is less than or equal to 0.05 is considered statistically significant, indicating that there is a statistically real difference that is not due to chance.

This is important as it may give agency heads insight into issues that are specific to their own departments, which, if altered, may increase employee satisfaction and tenure.

### **Analysis**

Several factors showed statistically significant differences among the three age categories. As shown in Table 6 (p≤0.0001), an offer of higher wages appeared to be more important to younger workers than older workers. Nearly all employees younger than age 35 (94.3%) indicated they would consider changing jobs if offered higher wages. In comparison, only 74.7% of those older than age 55 indicated that this factor would influence their decision to change jobs. The results were similar when the data were analyzed by age and gender (p=0.0001; see Table 7, and p=0.0001; see Table 8, page 14). A slightly greater proportion of males (96.6%) than females (93.8%) in the younger than age 35 category marked higher wages as a reason for deciding to change jobs. However, a smaller percentage of male employees (70.8%) than females (76.0%) age 55 and older chose this factor.

Table 6: Survey Category Wages, All Respondents by Age

Q34a: If offered by a different employer, I would take a job		Age		
somewhere else for higher wages.	<35	35-54	55+	Total
Checked	148	428	186	762
Cell Chi-Square	1.8534	0.1612	2.7186	
Percentage	16.4%	47.4%	20.6%	84.3%
Column Percentage	94.3%	86.0%	74.7%	
Not Checked	9	70	63	142
Cell Chi-Square	9.946	0.865	14.588	
Percentage	1.0%	7.7%	7.0%	15.7%
Column Percentage	5.7%	14.1%	25.3%	
Total	157	498	249	904
Percentage	17.4%	55.1%	27.5%	100.0%

Frequency Missing = 67

p≤0.0001

Note: Percentages may not sum to 100.0% due to rounding.

Table 7: Survey Category Wages, Male Respondents by Age

Q34a: If offered by a different employer, I would take a job		Age		
somewhere else for higher wages.	<35	35-54	55+	Total
Checked	28	101	46	175
Cell Chi-Square	0.3919	0.4668	1.7083	
Percentage	13.7%	49.5%	22.6%	85.8%
Column Percentage	96.6%	91.8%	70.8%	
Not Checked	1	9	19	29
Cell Chi-Square	2.3651	2.8172	10.309	
Percentage	0.5%	4.4%	9.3%	14.2%
Column Percentage	3.5%	8.2%	29.2%	
Total	29	110	65	204
Percentage	14.2%	53.9%	31.9%	100.0%

Frequency Missing = 21

p=0.0001

Note: Percentages may not sum to 100.0% due to rounding.

Increased opportunities for career advancement was another factor that showed statistically significant differences among age groups (p≤0.0001; see Table 9, page 14). Overall, the proportion of employees younger than age 35 who

chose this factor was nearly double (66.9%) that of employees age 55 or older who chose this option (35.7%). As with wages, this factor was also statistically significant when analyzed separately by age and gender (p=0.0005; see Table 10,

**Table 8: Survey Category Wages, Female Respondents by Age** 

Q34a: If offered by a different employer, I would take a job		Age		
somewhere else for higher wages.	<35	35-54	55+	Total
Checked	120	327	139	586
Cell Chi-Square	1.5013	0.0091	1.3547	
Percentage	17.2%	46.8%	19.9%	83.8%
Column Percentage	93.8%	84.3%	76.0%	
Not Checked	8	61	44	113
Cell Chi-Square	7.7853	0.0474	7.0252	
Percentage	1.1%	8.7%	6.3%	16.2%
Column Percentage	6.3%	15.7%	24.0%	
Total	128	388	183	699
Percentage	18.3%	55.5%	26.2%	100.0%

Frequency Missing = 46

p=0.0001

Note: Percentages may not sum to 100.0% due to rounding.

Table 9: Survey Category Increased Advancement Opportunities, All Respondents by Age

Q34i: If offered by a different employer, I would take a job somewhere else for		Age		
more opportunities for advancement.	<35	35-54	55+	Total
Checked	105	262	89	456
Cell Chi-Square	8.4086	0.464	10.666	
Percentage	11.6%	29.0%	9.9%	50.4%
Column Percentage	66.9%	52.6%	35.7%	
Not Checked	52	236	160	448
Cell Chi-Square	8.5587	0.4723	10.857	
Percentage	5.8%	26.1%	17.7%	49.6%
Column Percentage	33.1%	47.4%	64.3%	
Total	157	498	249	904
Percentage	17.4%	55.1%	27.5%	100.0%

Frequency Missing = 67

p≤0.0001

page 15, and p≤0.0001; see Table 11, page 15). A greater proportion of male employees younger than age 35 (75.9%) indicated they would change jobs for advancement opportunities than did female employees in that age group (64.8%). Approximately half of male (46.4%) and

female (54.4%) employees between age 35 and 54 chose this option, along with only approximately one-third of both male (32.3%) and female (37.2%) employees age 55 or older.

Increased access to training and educational

opportunities also had statistical significance when analyzed by age and gender (p=0.0002; see Table 12, page 16). As with wages and advancement opportunities, access to education and training was more important to younger workers (45.2%) than to those age 35 to 54 (36.1%) or 55 and older (25.7%). This factor was not statistically significant for male employees (p=0.0575; see Table 13, page 16) but was for female employees (p=0.0038; see Table 14, page 17).

Finally, increased recognition showed statistically significant differences among age categories (p=0.031; see Table 15, page 17). A greater proportion of employees younger than age 35 chose this factor as one that would influence their decision to change jobs (31.9%) compared to employees age 35 to 54 (22.5%) and age 55 and older (21.3%). There were no statistically significant differences for this variable when analyzed by gender and age (see Tables 16 and 17, page 18).

#### **Discussion**

Turnover is very costly to an employer, not only monetarily but also in terms

of the effect it has on employee morale and customer satisfaction. Some studies have estimated that the cost of replacing an employee can be \$50,000 or more due to such things as advertising and recruiting, lost productivity, and time spent on training a new employee (Abbasi & Hollman, 2000). There are other costs as well, especially within DFS, DOE, and DWS. It takes time for new employees to gain knowledge about systems and procedures. In addition, the public may not obtain the level of benefits or care to which they are entitled, and receiving these benefits may take more time than it would if the employee had more experience.

Turnover also increases the burden on other employees in the agency, potentially causing them to pick up extra work while a position is being filled. Past research (Knapp, 2008a) on workplace satisfaction within DFS, DOE, and DWS has shown that some employees already feel overworked. Extra work added to an already full load may increase dissatisfaction. Because of these effects, it may be prudent for employers to identify the causes of workplace satisfaction and try to improve it.

Table 10: Survey Category Increased Advancement Opportunities, Male Respondents by Age

Q34i: If offered by a different employer, I would take a job somewhere else for		Age		
more opportunities for advancement.	<35	35-54	55+	Total
Checked	22	51	21	94
Cell Chi-Square	5.5828	0.0019	2.675	
Percentage	10.8%	25.0%	10.3%	46.1%
Column Percentage	75.9%	46.4%	32.3%	
Not Checked	7	59	44	110
Cell Chi-Square	4.7708	0.0017	2.2859	
Percentage	3.4%	28.9%	21.6%	53.9%
Column Percentage	24.1%	53.6%	67.7%	
Total	29	110	65	204
Percentage	14.2%	53.9%	31.9%	100.0%
Frequency Missing = 21	p=0.0005	5		

Table 11: Survey Category Increased Advancement Opportunities, Female Respondents by Age

Q34i: If offered by a different employer, I would take a job somewhere else for		Age		
more opportunities for advancement.	<35	35-54	55+	Total
Checked	83	211	68	362
Cell Chi-Square	4.2127	0.5038	7.563	
Percentage	11.9%	30.2%	9.7%	51.8%
Column Percentage	64.8%	54.4%	37.2%	
Not Checked	45	177	115	337
Cell Chi-Square	4.5253	0.5412	8.1241	
Percentage	6.4%	25.3%	16.5%	48.2%
Column Percentage	35.2%	45.6%	62.8%	
Total	128	388	183	699
Percentage	18.3%	55.5%	26.2%	100.0%
Frequency Missing = 46	p≤0.0001			•

Turnover is often affected by workplace satisfaction. If employees are dissatisfied with some aspect of their work environment, they are more apt to seek employment elsewhere. Many things have an effect on job satisfaction, such as management attitudes and workplace recognition,

as well as compensation. As the preceding analysis has shown, these appear to be important factors to employee-stated intent to leave among DFS, DOE, and DWS employees, particularly among younger employees.

Overall, the factors

Table 12: Survey Category Educational Opportunities, All Respondents by Age

Q34c: If offered by a different employer, I would take a job somewhere else for		Age		
training opportunities or education.	<35	35-54	55+	Total
Checked	71	180	64	315
Cell Chi-Square	4.8525	0.2413	5.9727	
Percentage	7.9%	19.9%	7.1%	34.9%
Column Percentage	45.2%	36.1%	25.7%	
Not Checked	86	318	185	589
Cell Chi-Square	2.5952	0.1291	3.1942	
Percentage	9.5%	35.2%	20.5%	65.2%
Column Percentage	54.8%	63.9%	74.3%	
Total	157	498	249	904
Percentage	17.4%	55.1%	27.5%	100.0%

Frequency Missing = 67

p=0.0002

Note: Percentages may not sum to 100.0% due to rounding.

Table 13: Survey Category Educational Opportunities, Male Respondents by Age

Q34c: If offered by a different employer, I would take a job somewhere else for		Age		
training opportunities or education.	<35	35-54	55+	Total
Checked	11	37	12	60
Cell Chi-Square	0.7156	0.6675	2.65	
Percentage	5.4%	18.1%	5.9%	29.4%
Column Percentage	37.9%	33.6%	18.5%	
Not Checked	18	73	53	144
Cell Chi-Square	0.2982	0.2781	1.1041	
Percentage	8.8%	35.8%	26.0%	70.6%
Column Percentage	62.1%	66.4%	81.5%	
Total	29	110	65	204
Percentage	14.2%	53.9%	31.9%	100.0%

Frequency Missing = 21

p=0.0575

that showed statistically significant differences did so for the youngest age group. Wages, advancement opportunities, and education were found to be more important to this group than to the older age groups. These three factors may be more important to younger workers because

they are ways to improve one's financial well-being. Younger workers generally start in entry-level jobs. Changing jobs for an increase in wages has an obvious effect on a worker's financial status, but changing jobs for increased access to education and training opportunities may

also improve a worker's chances for advancement. For this, however, advancement opportunities must be available. The perceived lack of these advancement opportunities within the state government system was a common theme among respondents to the succession planning questionnaire (see http:// doe.state.wy.us/LMI/ SPR 08/cover.htm). It should be noted, though, that increased access to training opportunities was only statistically significant to female employees when analyzed by age, so it may be that training opportunities hold a greater level of appeal for female employees in these agencies.

Employees in the younger age group were also more likely to feel that more recognition for their work would encourage them not to change jobs. Recent research indicates that this is a trait typical to Generation X employees as a whole. In fact, one of the top complaints of employees in this generation is that there is a "lack of consistent feedback or recognition when it's due" (O'Bannon, 2001, p. 95).

Several factors did not show statistically significant differences when analyzed by age and

gender, including benefits, better staffing, flexible scheduling, increased autonomy, and more respect from management (to see the statistical outputs for these variables, go to http://doe.state.wy.us/ LMI/SPR 08/appB.htm). This does not mean the factors were not important in the process of deciding to change jobs; rather, they were not more important to any one age group or gender. For example, although better staffing did not show statistically significant results for any one age group or gender, future research may find that there are statistically significant differences among departments as to the influence this factor has on the likelihood an employee would decide to change jobs.

Only workers in the youngest age group showed statistically significant results for any of the questionnaire factors regarding influence on a decision to change jobs. However, part of the goal of succession planning is to retain older workers who have experience and greater job knowledge. While not statistically significant, a large proportion of employees age 55 and older in DFS, DOE, and DWS also chose wages,

Table 14: Survey Category Educational Opportunities, Female Respondents by Age

Q34c: If offered by a different employer, I would take a job somewhere else for		Age		
training opportunities or education.	<35	35-54	55+	Total
Checked	60	143	52	255
Cell Chi-Square	3.7909	0.015	3.2632	
Percentage	8.6%	20.5%	7.4%	36.5%
Column Percentage	46.9%	36.9%	28.4%	
Not Checked	68	245	131	444
Cell Chi-Square	2.1772	0.0086	1.8741	
Percentage	9.7%	35.1%	18.7%	63.5%
Column Percentage	53.1%	63.1%	71.6%	
Total	128	388	183	699
Percentage	18.3%	55.5%	26.2%	100.0%
Frequency Missing = 46	p=0.0038	}		

Table 15: Survey Category Increased Recognition, All Respondents by Age

Q34e: If offered by a different employer, I would take a job		Age		
somewhere else for more recognition.	<35	35-54	55+	Total
Checked	50	112	53	215
Cell Chi-Square	4.2926	0.3502	0.6533	
Percentage	5.5%	12.4%	5.9%	23.8%
Column Percentage	31.9%	22.5%	21.3%	
Not Checked	107	386	196	689
Cell Chi-Square	1.3395	0.1093	0.2039	
Percentage	11.8%	42.7%	21.7%	76.2%
Column Percentage	68.2%	77.5%	78.7%	
Total	157	498	249	904
Percentage	17.4%	55.1%	27.5%	100.0%

Frequency Missing = 67

p=0.031

Note: Percentages may not sum to 100.0% due to rounding.

advancement opportunities, and recognition as factors that would influence their decision to leave. Past research conducted on nurses found that older nurses most often indicated that they would leave their jobs for retirement (Harris & Jones, 2008); this is possibly the case with

state workers as well. If so, retention efforts for workers in the oldest age group should focus on what might entice the worker to return to work post-retirement. Analysis of the succession planning data has already shown that employees were most interested in part-time work after

Q34e: If offered by a different employer, I would take a job		Age		
somewhere else for more recognition.	<35	35-54	55+	Total
Checked	7	19	11	37
Cell Chi-Square	0.5757	0.0453	0.0528	
Percentage	3.4%	9.3%	5.4%	18.1%
Column Percentage	24.1%	17.3%	16.9%	
Not Checked	22	91	54	167
Cell Chi-Square	0.1276	0.01	0.0117	
Percentage	10.8%	44.6%	26.5%	81.9%
Column Percentage	75.9%	82.7%	83.1%	
Total	29	110	65	204
Percentage	14.2%	53.9%	31.9%	100.0%

Table 17: Survey Category Increased Recognition, Female Respondents by Age

p = 0.6626

Q34e: If offered by a different employer, I would take a job		Age		
somewhere else for more recognition.	<35	35-54	55+	Total
Checked	43	93	42	178
Cell Chi-Square	3.3214	0.3409	0.4542	
Percentage	6.2%	13.3%	6.0%	25.5%
Column Percentage	33.6%	24.0%	23.0%	
Not Checked	85	295	141	521
Cell Chi-Square	1.1348	0.1165	0.1552	
Percentage	12.2%	42.2%	20.2%	74.5%
Column Percentage	66.4%	76.0%	77.1%	
Total	128	388	183	699
Percentage	18.3%	55.5%	26.2%	100.0%

Frequency Missing = 46

Frequency Missing = 21

p=0.0632

Note: Percentages may not sum to 100.0% due to rounding.

retirement (Knapp, 2008b); consequently, programs that involve job sharing or shortened work weeks may be viable options. This is an area for future research.

#### References

Abbasi, S.M., & Hollman,

K.W. (2000). Turnover: The real bottom line. *Public Personnel Management*, 29(3), p. 333-342.

Ellsworth, P., & Szuch, A. (Eds.). (2008). 2008 succession planning report: A survey of employees. Retrieved December 29, 2008, from http://doe.state.wy.us/ LMI/SPR\_08/cover.htm

Dillman, D.A. (1978). Mail and telephone surveys: The total design method. New York: Wiley.

Harris, M.A., & Jones, S.D. (2008). Why age is important. In P. Ellsworth & A. Szuch (Eds.), *Retention of nurses* in Wyoming (pp. 37-40). Retrieved December 29, 2008, from http://doe. state.wy.us/LMI/nursing\_ retention\_08.pdf

Knapp, L. (2008a). Chapter
4: Workplace satisfaction.
In P. Ellsworth & A. Szuch
(Eds.), 2008 succession
planning report: A survey
of employees. Retrieved
December 22, 2008, from
http://doe.state.wy.us/
LMI/SPR\_08/satisfaction.
htm

Knapp, L. (2008b). Chapter 8: Intentions to work after retirement. In P. Ellsworth & A. Szuch (Eds.), 2008 succession planning report: A survey of employees. Retrieved December 29, 2008, from http://doe.state.wy.us/LMI/SPR 08/retire.htm

O'Bannon, G. (2001, Spring). Managing our future: The Generation X factor. *Public Personnel Management*, 30(1), p. 95.

# New Reports Available Online: Succession Planning, Wyoming Benefits Survey, Nurse Employment in Wyoming

Research & Planning's newest online publications are the 2008 Succession Planning Report: A Survey of Employees and Wyoming Benefits Survey 2008. Within each report are detailed methodology, survey results, implications of the data, and avenues for future research. Also available online is the latest update to The NEW Report: Nurse Employment in Wyoming (NEW), Second Quarter 2006 Through Second Quarter 2008.

## Succession Planning

The 2008 Succession Planning Report includes:

- Purpose of the study
- Agencies and employees involved
- Selected findings
- Demographics
- Factor and logistic analysis
- Demographic and market challenges
- Turnover
- Occupations of concern
- Tips on report use

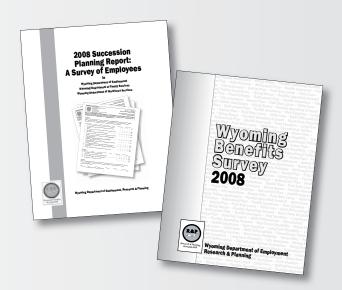
HTML format: http://doe.state.wy.us/
LMI/SPR\_08/cover.htm

*PDF format:* http://doe.state.wy.us/LMI/Succession\_Planning\_2008.pdf

## **Benefits Survey**

Wyoming Benefits Survey 2008 includes:

- Response rates and methodology
- Benefits by employer size
- Types of benefits (e.g., health insurance, retirement plans, child care)
- Benefits for full- and part-time employees
- Employer and employee contributions



HTML format: http://doe.state.wy.us/LMI/benefits\_2008/cover.htm

*PDF format:* http://doe.state.wy.us/LMI/benefits\_2008/benefits\_2008.pdf

## **Nurse Employment in Wyoming**

The NEW Report: Nurse Employment in Wyoming (NEW), Second Quarter 2006 Through Second Quarter 2008 includes tables and figures on nurse employment detailed by:

- Industry
- Wages
- Age
- License type
- Workers' compensation claims
- Tenure
- County

Also updated are tables for Powell Valley Healthcare. Data for Campbell County Memorial Hospital are a new addition.

HTML format: http://doe.state.wy.us/
LMI/dashboard/toc.htm

## **Employer Seminars Continue in 2009**

Running a business can be a daunting task. Fortunately, there is help for employers. The Wyoming Department of Employment is sponsoring the 2009 Employer Seminars, coming to a town near you. The seminars provide information about workers' compensation, the state mine inspector's office, unemployment insurance, workplace safety, labor standards, and labor market information. Upcoming seminars are scheduled for Cody (April 22), Jackson (May 20), Evanston (June 25), and Sheridan (September 17). Register online at http://doe.state.wy.us/employerseminars.

## Wyoming Unemployment Unchanged at 3.3% in October 2008

by: David Bullard, Senior Economist

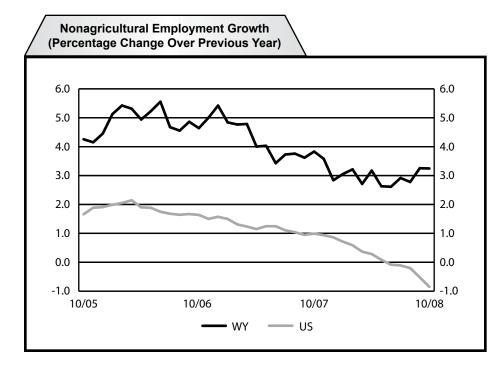
Tyoming's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate remained unchanged at 3.3% in October. In contrast, the U.S. unemployment rate increased from 6.1% in September to 6.5% in October (its highest level in 14 years). U.S. employment fell by 1.2 million jobs (0.9%) from October 2007 to October 2008 while Wyoming job growth continued at a healthy pace (up 9,500 jobs, or 3.2%, from a year earlier).

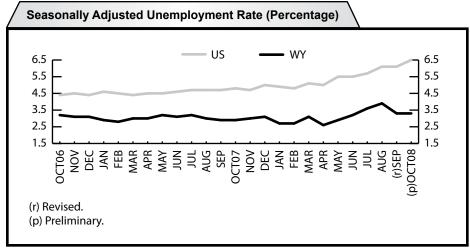
From September to October Wyoming employment fell by 2,400 jobs (0.8%). This level of decrease is consistent with normal seasonal patterns. Seasonal job gains in manufacturing (300 jobs, or 3.0%) and government (including public schools, colleges, and hospitals; 1,200 jobs, or 1.7%) were more than offset by seasonal job losses in construction (-400 jobs, or -1.4%), retail trade (-300 jobs, or -0.9%), and leisure & hospitality (-3,300 jobs, or -8.9%).

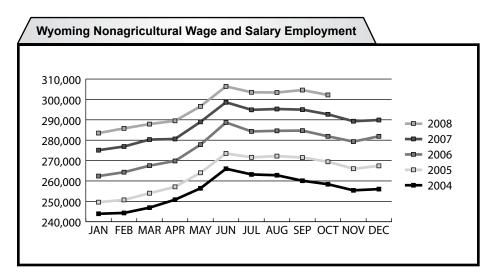
Over the year Wyoming added 9,500 jobs (3.2%). Growth was seen in almost every sector. The most rapid growth

occurred in natural resources & mining (1,700 jobs, or 6.1%) and other services (800 jobs, or 7.0%). Solid job gains were seen in retail trade (500 jobs, or 1.6%), professional & business services (600 jobs, or 3.2%), educational & health services (1,000 jobs, or 4.3%), leisure & hospitality (1,200 jobs, or 3.7%), and government (including public schools, colleges, and hospitals; 2,600 jobs, or 3.8%). Manufacturing employment fell by 100 jobs (1.0%) and transportation, warehousing, & utilities was unchanged from a year earlier.

County unemployment rates remained quite low in October. Platte County posted the highest unemployment rate (3.7%), followed by Niobrara County (3.6%) and Fremont and Laramie counties (both 3.4%). Compared to a year earlier, unemployment rates increased in all but one county (Niobrara). The lowest unemployment rates were found in Sublette (1.5%), Campbell (1.8%), Sweetwater (2.2%), and Albany (2.2%) counties.







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

	Unemp.
State	Rate
Puerto Rico	12.0
Michigan	9.3
Rhode Island	9.3
California	8.2
South Carolina	8.0
Nevada	7.6
Alaska	7.4
District of Columbia	7.4
Illinois	7.3
Ohio	7.3
Oregon	7.3
Mississippi Florida	7.2
Georgia	7.0 7.0
North Carolina	7.0
Tennessee	7.0
Kentucky	6.8
Connecticut	6.5
Missouri	6.5
United States	6.5
Indiana	6.4
Washington	6.3
Arizona	6.1
Minnesota	6.0
New Jersey	6.0
Pennsylvania	5.8
Colorado	5.7
Maine New York	5.7 5.7
Alabama	5.6
Texas	5.6
Louisiana	5.5
Massachusetts	5.5
Arkansas	5.4
Delaware	5.4
Idaho	5.3
Vermont	5.2
Wisconsin	5.1
Maryland	5.0
Kansas	4.9
Montana	4.8
West Virginia	4.7
Hawaii	4.5 4.4
lowa New Mexico	4.4
Virginia	4.4
Oklahoma	4.3
New Hampshire	4.1
Nebraska	3.6
Utah	3.5
North Dakota	3.4
South Dakota	3.3
Wyoming	3.3

### **Wyoming Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment**

#### by: David Bullard, Senior Economist

Wyoming job growth continued at a healthy pace: up 9,500 jobs (3.2%) from a year earlier.

WYOMING STATEWIDE	Emp <u>Tl</u>	Change oyment			
	Oct08(p)	Sep08(r)	Oct07	Sep08 Oct08	Oct07 Oct08
TOTAL NONAG. WAGE & SALARY EMPLOYMENT	302.2	304.6	292.7	-0.8	3.2
TOTAL PRIVATE	230.9	234.5	224.0	-1.5	3.1
GOODS PRODUCING	68.4	68.6	66.4	-0.3	3.0
Natural Resources & Mining Mining	29.5 29.5	29.6 29.5	27.8 27.7	-0.3 0.0	6.1 6.5
Oil & Gas Extraction	4.6	4.8	4.4	-4.2	4.5
Mining Except Oil & Gas	9.9	9.9	9.2	0.0	7.6
Coal Mining	6.9	6.9	6.3	0.0	9.5
Support Activities for Mining Support Act. for Oil & Gas	15.0 10.7	14.8 10.6	14.1 10.2	1.4 0.9	6.4 4.9
Construction	28.6	29.0	28.2	-1.4	1.4
Construction of Buildings	4.8	4.9	4.9	-2.0	-2.0
Heavy & Engineering Constr. Specialty Trade Contractors	9.6 14.2	9.9 14.2	9.9 13.4	-3.0 0.0	-3.0 6.0
Manufacturing	10.3	10.0	10.4	3.0	-1.0
Durable Goods	5.2	5.2	5.3	0.0	-1.9
Nondurable Goods	5.0	4.8	5.1	4.2	-2.0
SERVICE PROVIDING	233.8	236.0	226.3	-0.9	3.3
Trade, Trans., Warehousing, & Util. Wholesale Trade	56.6 9.1	57.0 9.1	55.7 8.7	-0.7 0.0	1.6 4.6
Merchant Wholesalers, Durable	6.0	5.9	5.4	1.7	11.1
Retail Trade	32.5	32.8	32.0	-0.9	1.6
Motor Vehicle & Parts Dealers	4.7	4.8	4.7	-2.1	0.0
Food & Beverage Stores Grocery Stores	4.7 4.0	4.7 4.0	4.7 3.9	0.0	0.0 2.6
Gasoline Stations	4.0	4.2	4.1	-4.8	-2.4
General Merchandise Stores	6.8	6.7	6.7	1.5	1.5
Miscellaneous Store Retailers	2.0	2.0 15.1	1.9 15.0	0.0 -0.7	5.3 0.0
Trans., Warehousing, & Utilities Utilities	15.0 2.6	2.6	2.5	0.0	4.0
Transportation & Warehousing	12.4	12.5	12.5	-0.8	-0.8
Truck Transportation	4.6	4.6	4.4	0.0	4.5
Information Financial Activities	4.1 11.8	4.0 11.8	4.0 11.5	2.5 0.0	2.5 2.6
Finance & Insurance	7.2	7.2	7.0	0.0	2.9
Real Estate & Rental & Leasing	4.6	4.6	4.5	0.0	2.2
Professional & Business Services	19.5	19.5	18.9	0.0	3.2
Prof., Scientific, & Tech. Services Architect., Engineering, & Rel.	10.1 3.1	9.9 3.1	9.5 2.9	2.0 0.0	6.3 6.9
Mgmt. of Companies & Enterprises		0.9	0.9	0.0	0.0
Admin., Support, & Waste Services	8.5	8.7	8.5	-2.3	0.0
Educational & Health Services Educational Services	24.4 2.4	24.3 2.3	23.4	0.4 4.3	4.3 4.3
Health Care & Social Assistance	22.0	2.3	2.3	0.0	4.3
Ambulatory Health Care	8.2	8.2	7.9	0.0	3.8
Offices of Physicians	3.1	3.1	3.2	0.0	-3.1
Hospitals Nursing & Res. Care Facilities	3.3 4.4	3.3 4.4	3.0 4.5	0.0 0.0	10.0 -2.2
Social Assistance	6.1	6.1	5.7	0.0	7.0
Leisure & Hospitality	33.9	37.2	32.7	-8.9	3.7
Arts, Entertainment, & Recreation Accommodation & Food Services	2.9	3.3	2.8	-12.1	3.6
Accommodation & Food Services	31.0 11.4	33.9 13.7	29.9 10.9	-8.6 -16.8	3.7 4.6
Food Services & Drinking Places		20.2	19.0	-3.0	3.2
Other Services	12.2	12.1	11.4	0.8	7.0
Repair & Maintenance	4.1	4.1	3.9	0.0	5.1
TOTAL GOVERNMENT	71.3	70.1	68.7	1.7	3.8
Federal Government State Government	7.4 16.5	7.7 16.5	7.3 15.8	-3.9 0.0	1.4 4.4
State Government Education	7.4	7.3	6.7	1.4	10.4
Local Government	47.4	45.9	45.6	3.3	3.9
Local Government Education	25.0	23.2	23.7	7.8 1.5	5.5 6.5
Hospitals	6.6	6.5	6.2	1.5	6.5

	Em	ployment i	in Pe	rcentage	Change
LARAMIE COUNTY	Ī	<u>housands</u>	<u>To</u>	otal Emp	
				Sep08	Oct07
	Oct08(p)	<u>Sep08(r)</u>	<u>Oct07</u>	<u>Oct08</u>	<u>Oct08</u>
TOTAL NONAG. WAGE & SALARY EMPLOYMENT	45.5	45.0	44.8	1.1	1.6
TOTAL PRIVATE	31.9	31.6	31.4	0.9	1.6
GOODS PRODUCING	4.9	4.9	4.9	0.0	0.0
Natural Res., Mining, & Construction	3.2	3.2	3.3	0.0	-3.0
Manufacturing	1.7	1.7	1.6	0.0	6.2
SERVICE PROVIDING	40.6	40.1	39.9	1.2	1.8
Trade, Transportation, & Utilities	10.0	9.9	10.1	1.0	-1.0
Wholesale Trade	0.9	0.9	0.8	0.0	12.5
Retail Trade	5.8	5.7	5.8	1.8	0.0
Trans., Warehousing, & Utilities	3.3	3.3	3.5	0.0	-5.7
Information	1.0	1.0	1.0	0.0	0.0
Financial Activities	2.2	2.2	2.0	0.0	10.0
Professional & Business Services	3.6	3.5	3.5	2.9	2.9
Educational & Health Services	3.9	3.9	3.8	0.0	2.6
Leisure & Hospitality	4.6	4.6	4.5	0.0	2.2
Other Services	1.7	1.6	1.6	6.2	6.2
TOTAL GOVERNMENT	13.6	13.4	13.4	1.5	1.5
Federal Government	2.6	2.5	2.5	4.0	4.0
State Government	4.1	4.1	4.0	0.0	2.5
Local Government	6.9	6.8	6.9	1.5	0.0
Local Education	3.6	3.5	3.6	2.9	0.0

#### **NATRONA COUNTY**

## TOTAL NONAG. WAGE & SALARY EMPLOYMENT

TOTAL PRIVATE GOODS PRODUCING Natural Resources & Mining Construction Manufacturing

SERVICE PROVIDING
Trade, Transportation, & Utilities
Wholesale Trade
Retail Trade
Trans., Warehousing, & Utilities
Information
Financial Activities
Professional & Business Services
Educational & Health Services
Leisure & Hospitality
Other Services

TOTAL GOVERNMENT
Federal Government
State Government
Local Government
Local Education

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

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

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

(p) Preliminary. (r) Revised.

# Wyoming Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment

(Continued)

		ployment housands		otal Emp	e Change loyment
CAMPBELL COUNTY	<u>Oct08</u>	<u>Sep08</u>	<u>Oct07</u>	Sep08 <u>Oct08</u>	Oct07 Oct08
TOTAL NONAG. WAGE & SALARY EMPLOYMENT	30.0	29.9	28.4	0.3	5.6
TOTAL PRIVATE GOODS PRODUCING Natural Resources & Mining Construction Manufacturing	25.7 13.1 8.3 4.1 0.7	25.7 13.1 8.4 4.1 0.6	24.2 12.2 7.8 3.7 0.7	0.0 0.0 -1.2 0.0 16.7	<b>6.2 7.4</b> 6.4 10.8 0.0
SERVICE PROVIDING Trade, Transportation, & Utilities Information Financial Activities Professional & Business Services Educational & Health Services Leisure & Hospitality Other Services	5.6 0.2 0.8 2.0 1.0 1.9	16.8 5.6 0.2 0.8 2.0 1.0 1.9	16.2 5.4 0.2 0.7 1.8 0.9 1.9	0.6 0.0 0.0 0.0 0.0 0.0 0.0 0.0	4.3 3.7 0.0 14.3 11.1 11.1 0.0 0.0
TOTAL GOVERNMENT	4.3	4.2	4.2	2.4	2.4
SWEETWATER COUNTY					
TOTAL NONAG. WAGE & SALARY EMPLOYMENT	26.5	26.4	25.3	0.4	4.7
TOTAL PRIVATE GOODS PRODUCING Natural Resources & Mining Construction Manufacturing	22.0 10.0 6.0 2.7 1.3	22.0 10.0 6.0 2.7 1.3	20.8 8.9 5.5 2.1 1.3	0.0 0.0 0.0 0.0 0.0	5.8 12.4 9.1 28.6 0.0
SERVICE PROVIDING Trade, Transportation, & Utilities Information Financial Activities Professional & Business Services Educational & Health Services Leisure & Hospitality Other Services	16.5 5.4 0.2 0.9 1.3 1.0 2.4 0.8	16.4 5.4 0.2 0.9 1.3 0.9 2.5 0.8	16.4 5.2 0.2 0.9 1.3 0.9 2.5 0.9	0.6 0.0 0.0 0.0 0.0 11.1 -4.0 0.0	0.6 3.8 0.0 0.0 0.0 11.1 -4.0 -11.1
TOTAL GOVERNMENT	4.5	4.4	4.5	2.3	0.0
TETON COUNTY					
TOTAL NONAG. WAGE & SALARY EMPLOYMENT	18.7	21.1	17.6	-11.4	6.2
TOTAL PRIVATE GOODS PRODUCING Natural Res., Mining, & Construction Manufacturing	16.4 2.9 2.7 0.2	18.7 2.9 2.7 0.2	15.4 2.7 2.6 0.1	-12.3 0.0 0.0 0.0	<b>6.5 7.4</b> 3.8 100.0
SERVICE PROVIDING Trade, Transportation, & Utilities Information Financial Activities Professional & Business Services Educational & Health Services Leisure & Hospitality Other Services	15.8 2.6 0.2 1.0 1.9 0.9 6.4 0.5	18.2 2.8 0.2 1.0 2.0 1.0 8.3 0.5	14.9 2.5 0.2 1.0 1.8 0.9 5.8 0.5	-13.2 -7.1 0.0 0.0 -5.0 -10.0 -22.9 0.0	6.0 4.0 0.0 0.0 5.6 0.0 10.3 0.0
TOTAL GOVERNMENT	2.3	2.4	2.2	-4.2	4.5

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

	Unemp.
State	Rate
Puerto Rico	12.7
Rhode Island	8.8
Michigan	8.6
California	8.0
South Carolina	8.0
District of Columbia	7.5
Nevada	7.4
Florida	7.0
Georgia	7.0
Mississippi	6.9
Illinois	6.8
Ohio	6.8
Oregon	6.8
Alaska	6.7
North Carolina	6.7
Tennessee	6.7
Arizona	6.2
Kentucky	6.2
Connecticut	6.1
Missouri	6.1
United States Indiana	<b>6.1</b> 6.0
	5.8
Washington	5.6
New Jersey New York	5.5
Alabama	5.4
Pennsylvania	5.4
Texas	5.4
Colorado	5.3
Delaware	5.3
Louisiana	5.3
Minnesota	5.3
Maine	5.2
Massachusetts	5.0
Maryland	4.9
Arkansas	4.7
Idaho	4.7
Vermont	4.6
Kansas	4.5
Hawaii	4.4
Wisconsin	4.4
Montana	4.3 4.2
Virginia New Mexico	4.2
Oklahoma	4.1
West Virginia	4.0
lowa	3.9
New Hampshire	3.7
Utah	3.3
Nebraska	3.2
South Dakota	2.8
Wyoming	2.7
North Dakota	2.5

#### **Economic Indicators**

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

The number of people working part-time for economic reasons increased 55.6% from October 2007 to October 2008.

	Oct 2008	Sept 2008	Oct 2007	Percentag Month	e Change Year
Wyoming Total Civilian Labor Force <sup>a</sup>	(p)_ 293,949		(b)_ 288,453	0.1	1.9
Unemployed	7,964		6,732		18.3
Employed	285,98		281,721	0.0	1.5
Wyoming Unemp. Rate/Seasonally Adjusted	2.7%/3.3%		2.3%/2.9%		N/A
U.Ś. Unemployment Rate/Seasonally Adjusted	6.1%/6.5%	6.0%/6.1%	4.4%/4.8%	N/A	N/A
U.S. Multiple Jobholders	7,817,000	7,724,000	7,852,000	1.2	-0.4
As a percentage of all workers	5.4%		5.4%		N/A
U.S. Discouraged Workers	484,000		320,000		51.3
U.S. Part-Time for Economic Reasons	6,267,000	5,701,000	4,028,000	9.9	55.6
Hours & Earnings for Production Workers Wyoming Mining Average Weekly Earnings Average Weekly Hours		Data not available; s	ee box on page 2	2.	
U.S. Mining Hours & Earnings	¢1.067.21	¢1 072 05	\$1,002.92	-0.5	6.4
Average Weekly Earnings Average Weekly Hours	\$1,067.35 45.		\$1,002.92 46.8	-0.5 0.4	-3.0
Wyoming Manufacturing Hours & Earnings	43	7 73.2	70.0	0.4	5.0
Average Weekly Earnings	\$876.20	\$855.39	\$797.80	2.4	9.8
Average Weekly Hours	42.7	·	42.1	1.2	1.4
U.S. Manufacturing Hours & Earnings					
Average Weekly Earnings	\$725.2	•	\$717.88		1.0
Average Weekly Hours	40.7	7 40.9	41.4	-0.5	-1.7
Wyoming Unemployment Insurance					
Weeks Compensated	9,603	7 9,048	7,605	6.2	26.3
Benefits Paid	\$3,000,886		\$2,155,047	5.8	39.2
Average Weekly Benefit Payment	\$312.30		\$283.37		10.2
State Insured Covered Jobs <sup>a</sup>	280,45	282,421	270,633	-0.7	3.6
Insured Unemployment Rate	0.8%	0.7%	0.6%	N/A	N/A
Consumer Price Index (U) for All U.S. Urban Consumers	244				
(1982 to 1984 = 100) – All Items	216.6		208.9	-1.0	3.7
Food & Beverages	218.7		206.1	0.5	6.1
Housing Apparel	217.4 122.2		210.7 121.8		3.2 0.3
Transportation	192.		185.0		4.2
Medical Care	365.		355.7		2.8
Recreation (Dec. 1997 = 100)	114.2		111.8	0.1	2.2
Education & Comm. (Dec. 1997 = 100)	125.7	7 125.5	121.6	0.1	3.4
Other Goods & Services	349.3	348.2	335.7	0.3	4.1
Producer Prices (1982 to 1984 = 100) – All Commodities	186.4	197.2	174.7	-5.5	6.7
Wyoming Building Permits					
(New Privately Owned Housing Units Authorized)					
Total Units	234		263	2.6	-11.0
Valuation	\$31,062,000		\$49,574,000	-26.8	-37.3
Single Family Homes	183		197	6.3	-5.1 25.2
Valuation	\$28,605,000	\$39,474,000	\$44,156,000	-27.5	-35.2
Baker Hughes North American Rotary Rig Count for WY	77	7 80	70	-3.8	10.0
(p) Preliminary. (r) Revised. (b) Benchmarked.					
<sup>a</sup> Local Area Unemployment Statistics program estimates.	Baker Hughes No	rth American Ro	tary Rig Cou	nt for Wy	oming \
100					
120			¬ 120		
100			100		
80			80	(p) Prelin	ninary
	~			(P) 1 ICIIII	iui y.
60		<del></del>			
10/06	10/07		10/08(p)		

## **Wyoming County Unemployment Rates**

### by: Carola Cowan, BLS Programs Supervisor

Platte County posted the highest unemployment rate in October (3.7%), followed by Niobrara County (3.6%) and Fremont and Laramie counties (both 3.4%).

	L	abor Force			Employed		Unemployed		Unemployment Rates			
REGION	Oct	Sep	Oct	Oct	Sep	Oct	Oct	Sep	Oct	Oct	Sep	Oct
County	2008	2008	2007	2008	2008	2007	2008	2008	2007	2008	2008	2007
	(p)	(r)	(b)	(p)	(r)	(b)	(p)	(r)	(b)	(p)	(r)	(b)
NORTHWEST	43,731	44,416	43,727	42,341	43,035	42,485	1,390	1,381	1,242	3.2	3.1	2.8
Big Horn	4,846	4,840	4,978	4,684	4,671	4,824	162	169	154	3.3	3.5	3.1
Fremont	18,072	18,155	18,023	17,449	17,526	17,478	623	629	545	3.4	3.5	3.0
Hot Springs	2,304	2,304	2,355	2,230	2,232	2,293	74	72	62	3.2	3.1	2.6
Park	14,243	14,936	14,204	13,826	14,544	13,827	417	392	377	2.9	2.6	2.7
Washakie	4,266	4,181	4,167	4,152	4,062	4,063	114	119	104	2.7	2.8	2.5
NORTHEAST	54,012	53,852	52,192	52,770	52,632	51,105	1,242	1,220	1,087	2.3	2.3	2.1
Campbell	27,423	27,153	25,790	26,933	26,681	25,346	490	472	444	1.8	1.7	1.7
Crook	3,433	3,475	3,490	3,334	3,374	3,409	99	101	81	2.9	2.9	2.3
Johnson	4,000	4,078	3,948	3,867	3,941	3,834	133	137	114	3.3	3.4	2.9
Sheridan	15,979	15,970	15,763	15,562	15,574	15,406	417	396	357	2.6	2.5	2.3
Weston	3,177	3,176	3,201	3,074	3,062	3,110	103	114	91	3.2	3.6	2.8
SOUTHWEST	67,426	68,525	65,141	65,845	67,026	63,937	1,581	1,499	1,204	2.3	2.2	1.8
Lincoln	9,341	9,448	9,033	9,087	9,206	8,858	254	242	175	2.7	2.6	1.9
Sublette	7,170	7,161	6,871	7,064	7,060	6,797	106	101	74	1.5	1.4	1.1
Sweetwater	24,408	24,547	24,077	23,868	24,017	23,629	540	530	448	2.2	2.2	1.9
Teton	15,331	16,157	13,845	14,963	15,841	13,585	368	316	260	2.4	2.0	1.9
Uinta	11,176	11,212	11,315	10,863	10,902	11,068	313	310	247	2.8	2.8	2.2
SOUTHEAST	73,020	71,805	72,531	70,755	69,531	70,567	2,265	2,274	1,964	3.1	3.2	2.7
Albany	19,539	19,101	19,159	19,106	18,709	18,808	433	392	351	2.2	2.1	1.8
Goshen	5,972	5,781	5,980	5,788	5,577	5,805	184	204	175	3.1	3.5	2.9
Laramie	42,421	41,729	42,248	40,959	40,237	40,990	1,462	1,492	1,258	3.4	3.6	3.0
Niobrara	1,200	1,229	1,228	1,157	1,186	1,183	43	43	45	3.6	3.5	3.7
Platte	3,888	3,965	3,916	3,745	3,822	3,781	143	143	135	3.7	3.6	3.4
CENTRAL	55,760	55,084	54,862	54,274	53,668	53,626	1,486	1,416	1,236	2.7	2.6	2.3
Carbon	8,366	8,407	8,237	8,104	8,169	8,037	262	238	200	3.1	2.8	2.4
Converse	7,070	6,967	6,832	6,880	6,779	6,660	190	188	172	2.7	2.7	2.5
Natrona	40,324	39,710	39,793	39,290	38,720	38,929	1,034	990	864	2.6	2.5	2.2
STATEWIDE	293,949	293,679	288,453	285,985	285,889	281,721	7,964	7,790	6,732	2.7	2.7	2.3
Statewide Seaso	, ,									3.3	3.3	2.9
U.S									•••••	6.1	6.0	4.4
U.S. Seasonally A	Adjusted									6.5	6.1	4.8

Prepared in cooperation with the Bureau of Labor Statistics. Benchmarked 02/08. Run date 11/08.

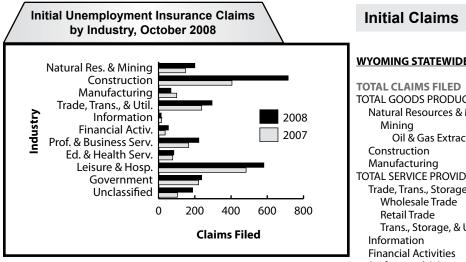
Data are not seasonally adjusted except where otherwise specified.

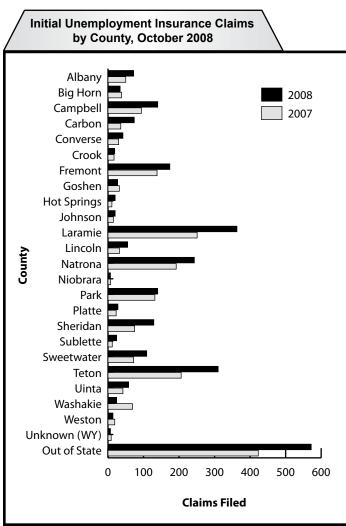
<sup>(</sup>p) Preliminary. (r) Revised. (b) Benchmarked.

## Wyoming Normalized<sup>a</sup> Unemployment Insurance Statistics: Initial Claims

by: Douglas W. Leonard, Senior Economist

October claims were 83.0% greater than in September and 33.6% higher than a year ago. Construction claims were 76.5% higher than in October 2007, the largest increase for any industry.





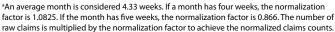
Initial Claims	Percentage Change Claims Filed					
1	Claims Filed Sep08 Oc					
WYOMING STATEWIDE	Oct08	Sep08	Oct07	Oct08	Oct08	
TOTAL CLAIMS FILED	2,706	1,479	2,026	83.0	33.6	
TOTAL GOODS PRODUCING	983	618	653	59.1	50.5	
Natural Resources & Mining	200	179	148	11.7	35.1	
Mining Oil & Gas Extraction	187 18	176 87	130	6.3 -79.3	43.8 125.0	
Construction	715	389	8 405	-79.3 83.8	76.5	
Manufacturing	68	50	100	36.0	-32.0	
TOTAL SERVICE PROVIDING	1,297	635	1,048	104.3	23.8	
Trade, Trans., Storage, & Util.	295	207	238	42.5	23.9	
Wholesale Trade	32	32	32	0.0	0.0	
Retail Trade	178	115	132	54.8	34.8	
Trans., Storage, & Utilities	85	60	74	41.7	14.9	
Information	14	15	16	-6.7	-12.5	
Financial Activities	54	29	36	86.2	50.0	
Professional & Business Serv.	222	129	166	72.1	33.7	
Educational & Health Services Leisure & Hospitality	84 581	82 149	78 483	2.4 289.9	7.7 20.3	
Other Services	301 47	24	403 31	95.8	51.6	
TOTAL GOVERNMENT	238	112	221	112.5	7.7	
Federal Government	136	34	124	300.0	9.7	
State Government	23	13	25	76.9	-8.0	
Local Government	79	65	72	21.5	9.7	
Local Education	19	17	18	11.8	5.6	
UNCLASSIFIED	188	114	104	64.9	80.8	
LARAMIE COUNTY						
TOTAL CLAIMS FILED	364	226	250	61.1	45.6	
TOTAL GOODS PRODUCING	150	76	80	97.4	87.5	
Construction	132	68	68	94.1	94.1	
TOTAL SERVICE PROVIDING	169	115	137	47.0	23.4	
Trade, Trans., Storage, & Util. Financial Activities	51 5	45 4	42 10	13.3 25.0	21.4 -50.0	
Professional & Business Serv.	46	31	40	48.4	15.0	
Educational & Health Services	24	19	17	26.3	41.2	
Leisure & Hospitality	30	9	23	233.3	30.4	
TOTAL GOVERNMENT	26	17	23	52.9	13.0	
UNCLASSIFIED	19	18	10	5.6	90.0	
NATRONA COUNTY						
TOTAL CLAIMS FILED	243	183	189	32.8	28.6	
TOTAL GOODS PRODUCING	126	80	92	57.5	37.0	
Construction	85	49	69	73.5	23.2	
TOTAL SERVICE PROVIDING	100	94	82	6.4	22.0	
Trade, Trans., Storage, & Util.	23	32	30	-28.1	-23.3	
Financial Activities	7 16	9	6 16	-22.2	16.7	
Professional & Business Serv. Educational & Health Services	16 15	23 16	16 14	-30.4 -6.3	0.0 7.1	
Leisure & Hospitality	26	9	7	-6.3 188.9	7.1 271.4	
TOTAL GOVERNMENT	10	-	10	NA	0.0	
UNCLASSIFIED	7	9	5	-22.2	40.0	
<sup>a</sup> An average month is considered 4.33 week	s If a mon	th has four	rweeks th	e normali	zation	

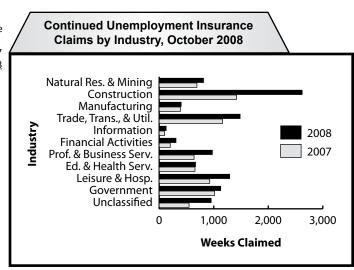
<sup>3</sup>An average month is considered 4.33 weeks. If a month has four weeks, the normalization factor is 1.0825. If the month has five weeks, the normalization factor is 0.866. The number of raw claims is multiplied by the normalization factor to achieve the normalized claims counts.

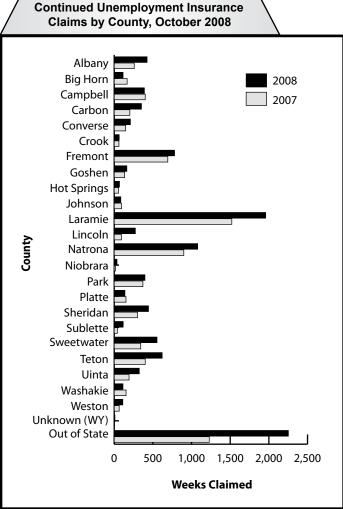
# Wyoming Normalized<sup>a</sup> Unemployment Insurance Statistics: Continued Claims by: Douglas W. Leonard, Senior Economist

Continued weeks claimed increased 38.5% compared to October 2007. Nearly half of the statewide increase was in construction (1,203 more weeks claimed in 2008 than in 2007).

<b>Continued Claims</b>	_			centage <u>Claims</u>	<u>Filed</u>
WYOMING STATEWIDE	<u>Cl</u> <u>Oct08</u>	aims File Sep08	Sep08 Oct08	Oct07 Oct08	
TOTAL WEEKS CLAIMED TOTAL UNIQUE CLAIMANTS TOTAL GOODS PRODUCING Natural Resources & Mining Mining Oil & Gas Extraction Construction Manufacturing TOTAL SERVICE PROVIDING Trade, Trans., Storage, & Util. Wholesale Trade Retail Trade Trans., Storage, & Utilities Information Financial Activities Professional & Business Serv. Educational & Health Services Leisure & Hospitality Other Services TOTAL GOVERNMENT Federal Government State Government Local Government Local Education UNCLASSIFIED	11,072 3,003 3,838 813 784 261 2,622 403 5,152 1,484 222 813 449 128 308 975 667 1,293 297 1,128 337 166 625 195	9,719 2,804 3,415 689 640 140 2,332 394 4,393 1,482 246 813 423 100 280 651 772 288 1,071 270 159 642 196 840	7,994 2,172 2,501 692 656 33 1,419 390 3,928 1,164 195 663 306 100 203 640 657 927 237 1,017 317 177 523 164 548	13.9 7.1 12.4 18.0 22.5 86.4 12.4 2.3 17.3 0.1 -9.8 0.0 6.1 28.0 10.0 18.9 2.5 67.5 3.1 5.3 24.8 4.4 -2.6 -0.5 13.6	38.5 38.3 53.5 17.5 19.5 690.9 84.8 3.3 31.2 27.5 13.8 22.6 46.7 28.0 51.7 52.3 1.5 39.5 25.3 10.9 6.3 -6.2 19.5 18.9 74.1
LARAMIE COUNTY	954	840	548	13.0	/4.1
TOTAL WEEKS CLAIMED TOTAL UNIQUE CLAIMANTS TOTAL GOODS PRODUCING Construction TOTAL SERVICE PROVIDING Trade, Trans., Storage, & Util. Financial Activities Professional & Business Serv. Educational & Health Services Leisure & Hospitality TOTAL GOVERNMENT UNCLASSIFIED  NATRONA COUNTY	1,959 505 582 472 987 322 63 245 148 129 251 139	1,944 564 567 439 1,021 355 73 231 147 142 238 118	1,521 400 350 301 916 343 58 170 188 117 179 76	0.8 -10.5 2.6 7.5 -3.3 -9.3 -13.7 6.1 0.7 -9.2 5.5 17.8	28.8 26.3 66.3 56.8 7.8 -6.1 8.6 44.1 -21.3 40.2 82.9
	4 070	000	004	0.4	10.0
TOTAL WEEKS CLAIMED TOTAL UNIQUE CLAIMANTS TOTAL GOODS PRODUCING Construction TOTAL SERVICE PROVIDING Trade, Trans., Storage, & Util. Financial Activities Professional & Business Serv. Educational & Health Services Leisure & Hospitality TOTAL GOVERNMENT UNCLASSIFIED  *An average month is considered 4.33 week	96 40 28	998 297 335 156 617 185 55 109 91 93 37 9	901 249 296 171 524 169 40 110 92 85 58 23	8.1 -0.7 24.5 55.8 -3.7 -23.2 -1.8 -0.9 18.7 3.2 8.1 211.1	19.8 18.5 40.9 42.1 13.4 -16.0 35.0 -1.8 17.4 12.9 -31.0 21.7







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

Official Business Penalty for Private Use \$300 Return Service Requested