Wyoming Labor Force
TRENDS
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Performance Accountability in the Workforce Investment Act:

An Application with Division of Vocational Rehabilitation Data Part Two

by: **Tony Glover, Senior Analyst**

"The problem with employment evaluation research lies in isolating the economic factors that influence the population, control group and the performance of clients in a training program."

Part One of this series addressed the performance management principles of the "Performance Accountability System" specified by the Workforce Investment Act (WIA)[1] using Division of Vocational Rehabilitation (DVR) program data. Where performance management techniques focus on the measurement of some value (i.e., earnings) before and after training for a group of **clients** (for bolded words throughout this article, please refer to the Glossary on page 8), they fail to account for external factors that influence program outcomes. By contrast, when the design of the analysis shifts to performance evaluation, it means we also measure the earnings for representative groups of individuals over the same period and within the same conditions as the client group to assess the impact of a training program. These control groups (theoretically) represent all of the contextual changes affecting the client group as well as such things as **maturation**. Part Two examines evaluation methods, bringing into focus the shortcomings of exclusive reliance on management techniques and showing the value of a combined approach.

This article finds that two of the three core indicators for workforce investment activities, from Part One--**entered employment rate** and **earnings gained in employment**--are sensitive to influences from surrounding economic conditions. Economic conditions directly affect the opportunity structure of the labor market, impacting prospects of finding and retaining employment and increasing earnings. Thus, interpreting the performance outcomes of a workforce training program requires an awareness of local economic conditions.

This study contrasts DVR clients with two groups, a matched **control group** and a population group. Simply defined, a matched control group is a representative subset of the **population** similar to DVR clients on a number of characteristics (i.e., age, sex, prior

(Continued on page 2)

December 1999 Wyoming Labor Force TRENDS

Table of Contents

Seasons Greetings from the Research & Planning Staff!

income) that operates in the same environment as DVR clients. The population group represents the activity of the Wyoming labor force in the context of surrounding conditions.

A true population criterion design would designate a control group from the population that does not differ significantly from the client group analyzed. However, we lack an indicator to select a control group mirroring the DVR population on the variable of disability. Therefore, this method does not lend itself to a true impact analysis of whether and to what extent the DVR program affects its clients. However, building a longitudinal baseline of the differences between the DVR and control groups permits us to assess future changes in the DVR program itself.

Differences in labor market outcome between DVR clients, the control group, and the population discussed in the next section, are consistent across time. The hypothetical examples shown introduce the idea that success of a program is discovered through changes in the differences between **cohorts** (common groups of individuals) of the clients, control and population groups.

Table 1: Hypothetical Example

Group	1992 Cohort	1993 Cohort	1994 Cohort	1995 Cohort	1996 Cohort	1997 Cohort	1998 Cohort	1999 Cohort
DVR Clients	34%	35%	33%	38%	39%	40%	38%	30%
Control Group	44%	47%	41%	47%	49%	51%	46%	50%
Difference in Performance	-10%	-12%	-8%	-9%	-10%	-11%	-8%	-20%

Consider a hypothetical situation from Table 1, where for the past seven years, DVR clients' entered employment rate on average fell 10 percent below (plus or minus 2 percent) that of the control group. If in the eighth year the program's performance declines to 20 percent below the earnings of the control group, consequently falling outside the eight to 12 percent range (explained by DVR clients' disabilities), the performance of the program should be investigated to assess changes in program administration or other internal factors.

In the three hypothetical examples (Figures 1 - 3, see page 3), each point on a line corresponds to a cohort's performance on some indicator for that respective year; for example, the entered employment rate discussed in Part One. These examples contrast DVR clients' program performance with a proportionally matched control

(Continued on page 3)

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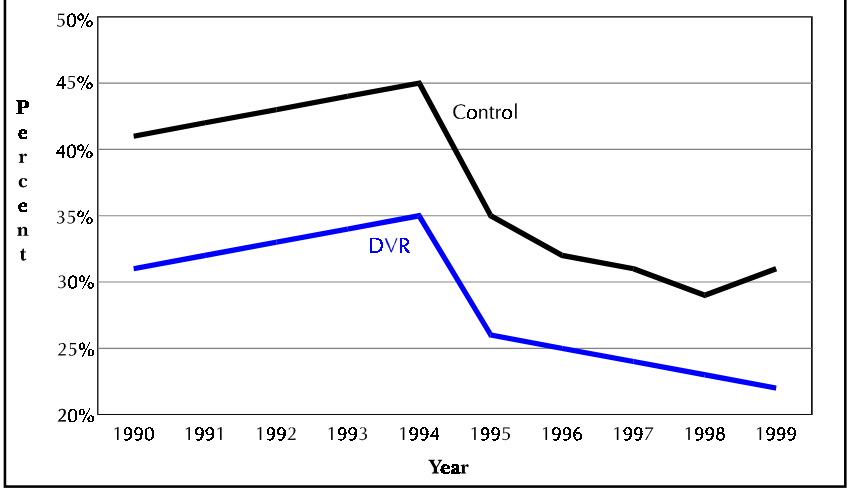
Figure 1: Program Performs with Economy



group, displaying the relationship between performance and economic factors affecting the entire labor market.

Figure 1: DVR clients perform consistent with the economy in this example (as represented by the control group). Knowing the performance of DVR clients, without knowing how the environment and similarly situated individuals are changing, does not allow us to determine whether the performance decreases occurring after 1994 stemmed from changes in the program or economic conditions.

Figure 2: Program Performs with Economy and Displays Continuous Improvement

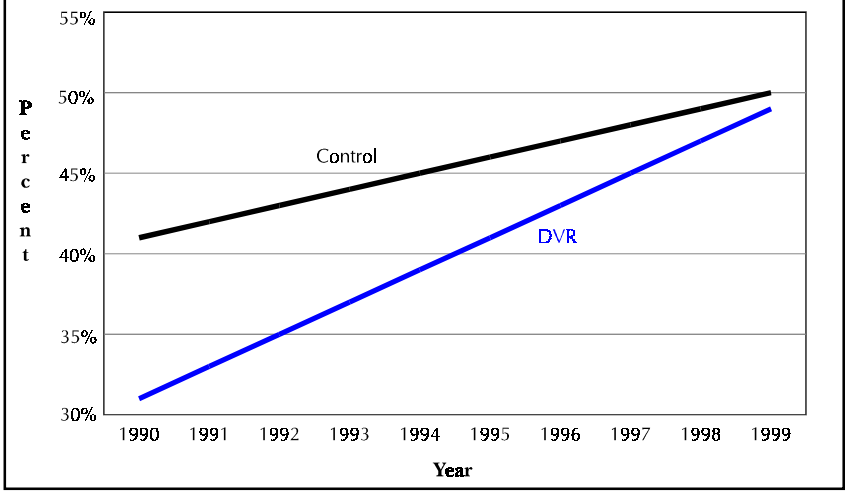


Figure 2: The difference between DVR and the control group's performance decreases over time. This positive result shows continuous improvement. Although DVR clients show a performance level below the control group, the example illustrates DVR performance consistent with the economy.

Figure 3: Program Performance Contradicts Economy

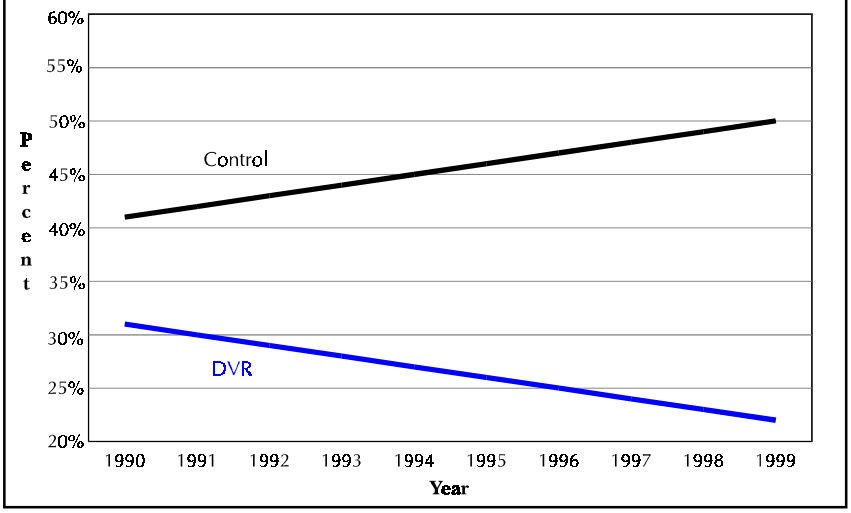


Figure 3: This example represents a worst case scenario. The program displays a continuous decline in DVR performance relative to the control group, while the control group improves. In this case, some aspect of the program (i.e., training provided, participant selection) creates a situation where the program fails to meet expectations.

As these examples reveal, tracking DVR program performance over time without the benefit of a control group, would lead to incorrect conclusions based entirely on management techniques. Interpreting a performance management system demands a frame of reference to compare the effects of

(Continued on page 4)

external factors such as the economy on performance.

Population and Control Group Selection

We selected the population group by compiling the Wyoming Department of Employment's (DOE) administrative databases and determining if individuals resided in Wyoming in the **reference years** (1994, 1995 or 1996). The years correspond to available DVR client data. To determine residency, we relied on the following databases: Unemployment Insurance Claims (UI), Wyoming's Driver's License (DL), Employment Services (ES) and **wage records** (WR). A determination of Wyoming residency required a valid Wyoming zip code in the reference year from the first three databases listed above. Residency was further determined by whether a person had wages in WR during the reference year.

The largest possible control group for the reference year was selected from the available population group of the corresponding reference year. To accomplish this, the three cohorts of DVR clients were proportionally matched to a subset of the population on sex, age and total wages of the four quarters prior to the reference year. Table 2 shows the number of DVR clients along with the persons in the population and control groups for each of the three cohorts of analysis.

In Table 2, only those DVR clients with no wages in WR the quarter prior to program participation are used to calculate the entered employment rate. Similarly, the entered employment rate of the control group reflects those with no wages in the quarter prior to the reference year. Only those DVR clients or control group members who entered employment or who had wages in the quarter prior to the reference period were used to calculate **retention** in employment and earnings gained. Due to the large number of those with wages in the quarter prior to the reference period among the population group, the number of people increases for core indicators 2 and 3.

Table 2: DVR Client, Control and Population Group Sizes*

Groups	All Persons	Core 1 Persons Used for Entered Employment Rate	Cores 2 & 3 Persons Used for Retention in Employment & Earnings Gained
1994 Cohort			
DVR Clients 1994	1,308	916	554
Control Group 1994	43,603	28,540	20,441
Population 1994	318,419	121,229	194,803
1995 Cohort			
DVR Clients 1995	1,256	837	563
Control Group 1995	27,572	16,565	12,393
Population 1995	332,476	129,814	190,118
1996 Cohort			
DVR Clients 1996	1,397	887	641
Control Group 1996	36,886	20,712	19,777
Population 1996	308,136	108,311	192,005

** Account for attrition left to right in table.*

As mentioned earlier, the matching criteria did not use disability status. Despite the omission, differences between DVR clients and the control group are consistent over time: DVR program eligibility requires a disability, and the number of disabled persons in the control group and the population remains unknown. The performance of the DVR program is not assessed by whether its clients achieve better results than the control group. Instead, assessment of the DVR program considers program performance relative to the economy as represented by control group performance.

Analysis of DVR's database revealed that the duration of services for clients corresponded on average to a four-quarter period. Where the reference year for DVR clients represents training periods of various duration, the four quarters of a given year define the reference year for the population and control groups. The progress of DVR clients or members of the control or population groups are measured using quarterly data

(Continued on page 5)

from wage records, prior to and following program participation or the equivalent reference year.

The entered employment rate for DVR clients represents the number of clients with no wages the quarter prior to application (Q **A-1**) and wages the quarter following closure (Q **C+1**) divided by all clients with no wages the quarter prior to application (Q **A-1** - see Formula 1). The control group and population consist of individuals with no wages in the quarter prior to the reference year (Q **RY-1**) and wages in the quarter following the reference year (Q **RY+1**) divided by all participants with no wages the quarter prior (Q **RY-1** - see Formula 2). The retention in employment rate and earnings gained in employment discussed in Part One are based on different formulas using wage records.

Formula 1: Entered Employment Rate of DVR Clients

$$\text{Entered Employment Rate} = \frac{\text{No Wages Q(A-1) with Wages Q(C+1)}}{\text{All Individuals with No Wages Q(A-1)}}$$

Formula 2: Entered Employment Rate for Population and Control Groups

$$\text{Entered Employment Rate} = \frac{\text{No Wages Q(RY-1) with Wages Q(RY+1)}}{\text{All Individuals with No Wages Q(RY-1)}}$$

groups suggests economic change that had no apparent impact on the DVR clients' performance.

Wyoming experienced a slowdown in economic growth[2] in 1995 that corresponds to the decrease in the control group and population's performance. Figure 4 clearly illustrates the manner in which the control and population groups move in tandem with the economy. Figure 5 (see page 6) graphically represents the economic slowdown's impact on the growth in the total number of jobs based on the **ES-202** database. The 1994 cohort responded to the creation of 9,584 jobs in the economy from 1993 to 1995, while the 1995 and 1996 cohorts experienced a situation whereby only 4,250 and 4,809 jobs were created in those

(Continued on page 6)

Results

Table 3 shows the three cohorts' year-to-year entered employment rate, retention in employment rate and earnings gained in employment for DVR clients, the control group and the population. As mentioned in Part One, the DVR program showed a continuous improvement in the entered employment rate (Figure 4, see page 6) from 35 percent for the 1994 cohort to 37 percent for the 1995 cohort. The control group's entered employment performance decreased about four percent from 35 percent for the 1994 cohort to 31 percent for the 1995 cohort, and the population's entered employment rate also decreased (-5%). The decrease in the performance of these two

Table 3: DVR Clients, Control Groups and Populations; Core Indicators

Groups	Entered Employment Rate	Retention in Employment Rate	Earnings Gained in Employment
1994 Cohort			
DVR Clients 1994	35%	75%	$2,503
Control Group 1994	35%	79%	$4,374
Population 1994	32%	85%	$1,792
1995 Cohort			
DVR Clients 1995	37%	77%	$2,113
Control Group 1995	31%	80%	$3,477
Population 1995	27%	85%	$1,566
1996 Cohort			
DVR Clients 1996	38%	77%	$2,136
Control Group 1996	40%	82%	$3,570
Population 1996	34%	85%	$1,804

Figure 4: Entered Employment Rates

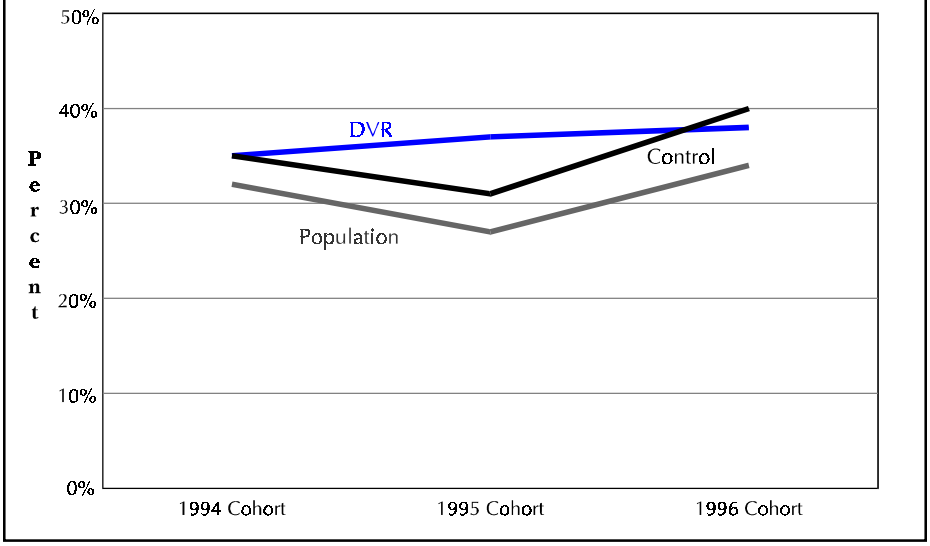


Figure 5: Change in the Number of Jobs ES-202 Database

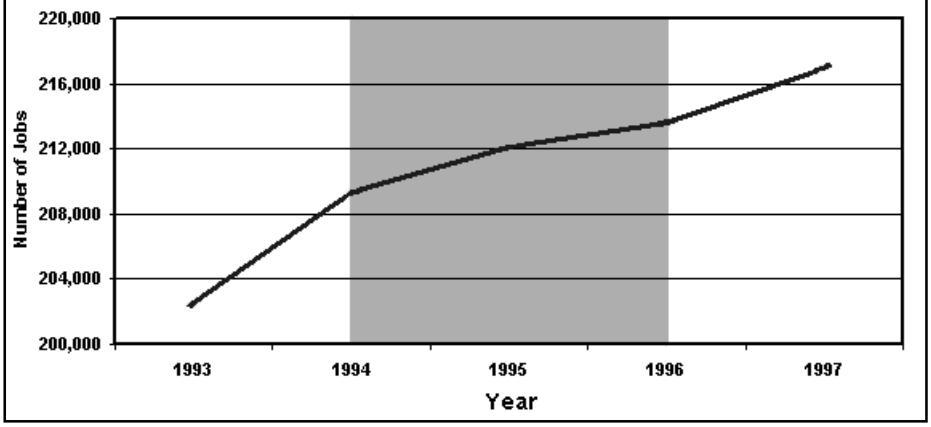
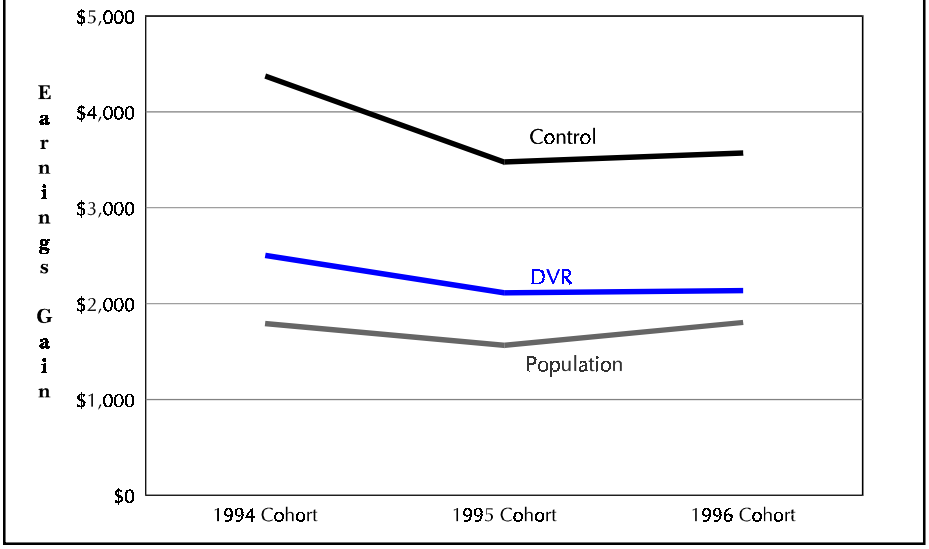


Figure 6: Six Month Earnings Gain



years, respectively. While the total number of jobs continued to increase from 1993 to 1997, the slowdown in jobs created for the 1995 cohort decreased the opportunity to find employment, thus impacting the entered employment rate.

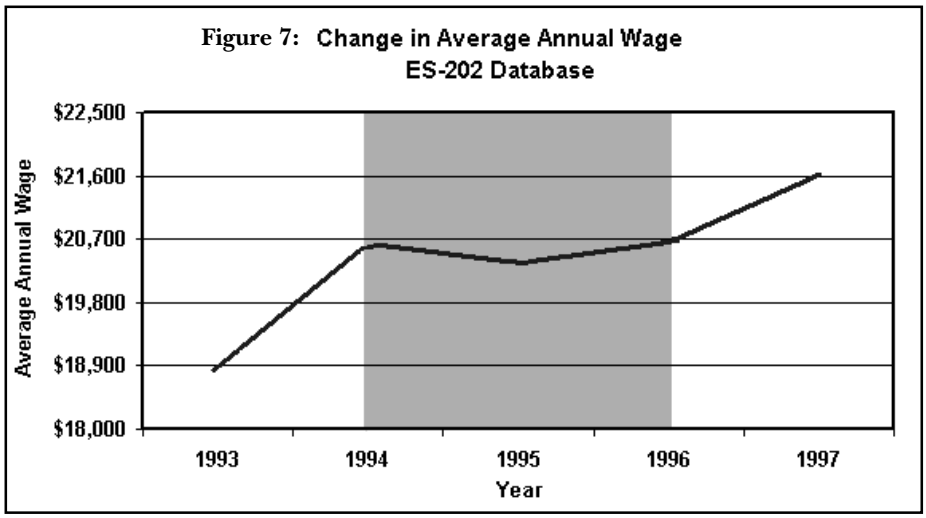
The type of industry employing individuals following the reference year contributed to the difference in results among the three groups. For the most part, DVR clients and the other groups, across all three cohorts, were placed in the Retail Trade and Services industries. However, the population and control groups of the 1994 and 1996 cohorts showed more even distribution among higher paying industries.

The combination of the slowdown in job growth and the shift in available jobs to industries generally paying lower wages contributed to the decline in performance for the control and population groups. Perhaps, when faced with economic conditions such as these, individuals in the control group and population left the state. Although DVR clients participated in a program designed to place them in employment (most likely in Wyoming), the analysis cannot infer motivation to work in Wyoming to the population and control groups. Currently, Research & Planning has not yet gained the means--interstate agreements for sharing wage records--to track the labor movement beyond state borders.

Figure 6, based on data from

(Continued on page 7)

Table 3, compares the year-to-year six month earnings gains for DVR clients, the control group and the population. The earnings gained by all three groups decreased for the 1995 and 1996 cohorts. To demonstrate the impact of the economic slowdown on earnings gained, Figure 7 represents the economic conditions the cohorts faced, measured by the **average annual wage** (AAW) per job from the ES-202 database. The AAW increased $1,495 for the 1994 cohort, $24 for the 1995 cohort and $1,243 for the 1996 cohort.



We expected to see the decrease in DVR performance for earnings gained in employment for the 1995 and 1996 cohorts, considering the control group and population both experienced a corresponding decrease in performance for these cohorts. Further evidence generated from the ES-202 database supports the conclusion that the decrease in earnings gained stemmed from deteriorating economic conditions, not DVR program changes. This conclusion illustrates the benefits realized by the combined application of performance management and performance evaluation techniques. If, as mentioned in Part One, only DVR performance across the three cohorts is known, the program would be at a loss to justify the decrease.

Conclusions

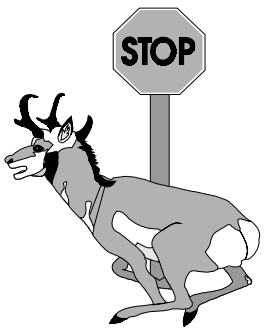
The two indicators discussed, entered employment rate and earnings gained in employment, show the descriptive concepts surrounding population criterion performance evaluation. The analysis presented economic factors influencing the performance of DVR clients, the control group and the population. These factors offer a limited explanation of economic influences on performance.

The hypothetical examples in the introduction compensate for a lack of historical data for the DVR program. With more data available, researchers can better determine the relationship between the factors discussed (data generated from the ES-202 databases) and program performance. Access to a longer time series of data would have informed and enriched the processes and results addressed in this article. Further, the process must be applied across other workforce investment activities. Currently, we do not know if clients of the Job Training Partnership Act (JTPA) programs behaved similarly to the DVR clients under the same economic conditions.

The research presented in this series is exploratory in nature. While the content is difficult, we will continue to familiarize readers with the concepts of performance management and performance evaluation. The problem with employment training evaluation research lies in isolating the economic factors that influence the population, control group and the performance of clients in a training program. After isolating the factors involved, evaluation research attempts to understand the relationships between the factors and the subsequent impact the interrelationships have on program performance.

1 The Workforce Investment Act of 1998, Pub. L. No. 105-220 (1998). Sec. 136

2 David Bullard, "Total Payroll as a Tool for Identifying Business Cycles in Wyoming," ***Wyoming Labor Force Trends***, May 1999, pp. 6-7.



Glossary

Average Annual Wage (AAW) - the average wage per job based on the ES-202 database.

Clients - Persons who participated in the DVR program.

Cohort - Common groups of individuals that for purposes of analysis share the same reference year. For example the 1994 DVR clients, the 1994 control group and the 1994 population group together make up the 1994 cohort.

Control Group - A subset of the population matched to DVR Clients on sex, age and prior earnings.

Earnings Gained in Employment (Core Indicator 3) - The average difference between the prior-to-training wages and two quarters of subsequent-to-training wages for all DVR clients. The average difference between the prior-to-reference year wages and two quarters of subsequent-to-reference year wages for the population and control groups. These calculations are based on those who enter employment and those who are already employed the quarter prior to the reference year.

Entered Employment Rate (Core Indicator 1) - Those with no wages the quarter prior to the reference year that have wages the quarter following the reference year.

ES-202 - (Covered Employment and Wages) data is produced from covered employment and wage reports of employers subject to Unemployment Insurance (UI) coverage. Currently about 88 percent of all employees are covered by UI.

Maturation - Changes that are due to the passage of time rather than factors being analyzed, for example death or retirement.

Population - All persons who had contact with an available administrative database in a reference year.

Reference Year (Reference Period) - The period corresponding to the calendar year for the control group and the population group and the period of training for DVR clients.

Retention Rate (Core Indicator 2) - The percent of those who enter employment and who are employed in the quarter prior to the reference year that have wages in the third full quarter following the reference year.

Wage Records - Wage records form the administrative database used to calculate UI benefits. By law, each employer who has covered employees must submit reports to the state showing each employee's wage by quarter.

Wyoming Average Quarterly Wages Using Wage Records:

A Lesson in Averages

by: **Carol Kjar, Statistical Technician**

"Interestingly, the average number of jobs per Social Security number rises in the fourth and first quarters (October through March), indicating that more people work more jobs in the winter months while the earnings per job decrease, on the average."

Many of the charts and reports presented in ***Wyoming Labor Force Trends*** use a data average. The **average** (or in mathematical terms, the **mean**) shows us the central tendency of a group of numbers. In other words, the average is the balance point of a set of numbers (data). Averages are strongly influenced by values that are far from the point of balance and by the addition or subtraction of numbers in the set. By finding the average of a set of numbers, one number represents that set by showing where the numbers (data) are centered and allows clearer comparisons to be made between several sets of numbers.

In the February 1999 issue of ***Trends***, Research & Planning (R&P) released wage record statistics showing an increase in the number of jobs, total wages and Social Security numbers for 1997 through 1998.[1] The general trend in wages can be seen over a longer time span by using the wage record average quarterly data from the first quarter of 1992 through the first quarter of 1999.

By law, employers in Wyoming submit their unemployment insurance (UI) reports to the Wyoming Department of Employment on a quarterly basis. The reports are aggregated to form a statistical database from which wage records are derived. **Wage records** contain a listing of each individual employee's Social Security number and his or her gross wages for the quarter. Each wage record represents a job worked by an individual.

People who work more than one job appear among wage records more than one time, once for each of their employers. Wage records are sorted to count the number of unique Social Security numbers, giving an estimate of how many individual workers are listed. Dividing the total number of jobs by the total number of individual workers indicates, on the average, how many jobs are held by each person. Of course, not everyone holds multiple jobs, but the average will give an indication of the general trend. The larger the number, the more people there are holding multiple jobs.

To find the average quarterly wage, the total payroll for a quarter is divided by the number of individuals working during that quarter. Some workers will earn more than the average and some will earn less, but the average quarterly wage gives a general idea of how much workers made during the quarter by showing the central tendency of the entire list of wages.

The Figure shows the average

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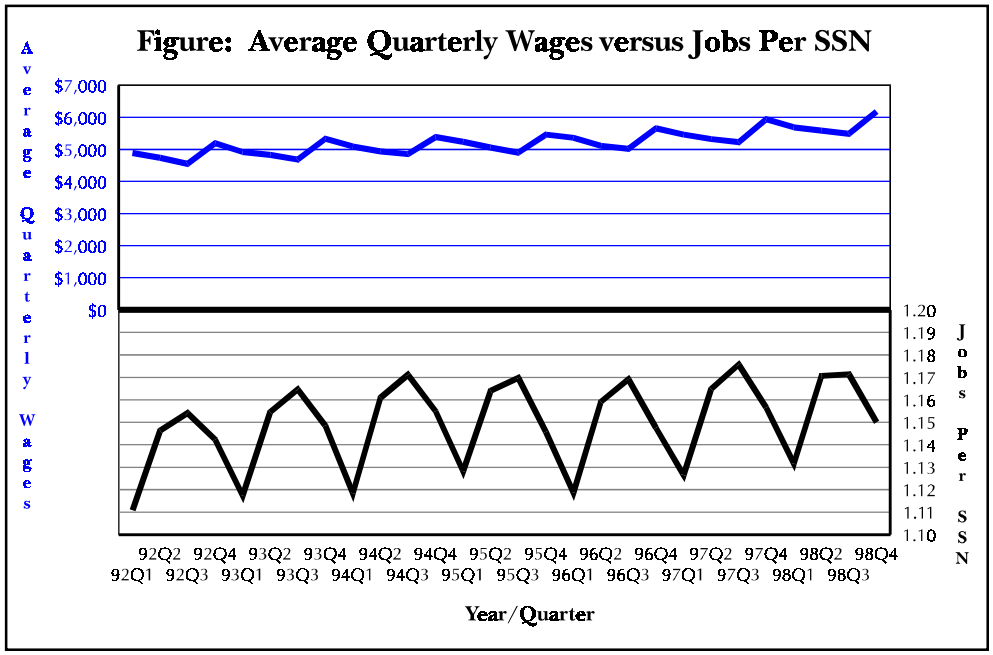


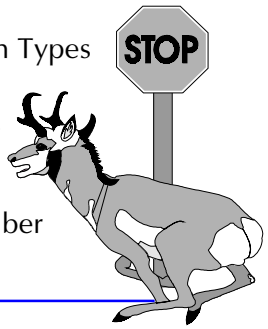
quarterly wages and the average number of jobs per Social Security number from the first quarter of 1992 (92Q1) through the first quarter of 1999 (99Q1). It should be noted that the numbers for 98Q1 through 99Q1 are preliminary and subject to change.

The Figure (see page 9) reveals the seasonal patterns of employment, with the third quarter (July, August, September) data of each year displaying the peak wage earnings. High paying construction jobs and increased employment during tourist season and school summer vacations contribute to the higher earnings and increased employment during this quarter. The lowest wages routinely occur in the first quarter (January, February, March) when employment in the Services, Retail Trade and Construction industries is lowest.[2] Interestingly, the average number of jobs per Social Security number rises in the fourth and first quarters (October through March), indicating that more people work more jobs in the winter months while the earnings per job decrease, on the average.

R&P staff are working on a publication about wage records, scheduled to be released in the near future. It will go into detail about our wage records research, breaking the data into sections that deal with industries, gender, age groups and more. Watch for the new publication release announcement in a future issue of ***Trends***.

1 Norman Baron, "Wyoming Wage Record Summary Statistics Update," ***Wyoming Labor Force Trends***, February 1999, pp. 6-8.

2 Mike Evans, "Which Types of Businesses Create Jobs for the Wyoming Economy?," ***Wyoming Labor Force Trends***, September 1999, p. 1.



Third Quarter 1999 Preliminary Employment and Payroll Estimates for Wyoming

by: **Gregg Detweiler, Senior Economist**

"The predominant industries . . . were Services, Construction and Government. These . . . accounted for 83 percent of the annual growth."

Wyoming's total nonagricultural employment produced an annual gain of 3,500 jobs from third quarter 1998 (see Table). The predominant industries showing annual growth were Services, Construction and Government. These industries accounted for 83 percent of the annual growth. Wyoming's total nonagricultural wage & salary payroll grew by $51,558,884 or 3.6 percent during the same time period (see Figure, page 11), increasing the average weekly wage (AWW) from $466 in third quarter 1998 (98Q3) to $480 in third quarter 1999 (99Q3).

Table: Quarterly Payroll and Employment Estimates

Industry	98Q1 (f)
Total NonAgricultural Wage & Salary Payroll	$1,302,709,473
Total NonAgricultural Average Quarterly Employment	218,319
Presumed Noncovered (PNC) Total Payroll	$49,333,765
Total ES-202 Covered Payroll	$1,253,409,931
Total ES-202 Average Quarterly Employment	210,175
Total Covered Average Weekly Wage	$459
Agriculture Total Payroll	$10,278,268
Goods-Producing Total Payroll	$361,166,988
Mining Total Payroll	$199,506,944
Construction Total Payroll	$79,962,155
Manufacturing Total Payroll	$81,772,392
Service-Producing Total Payroll	$939,279,484
TCPU* Total Payroll	$112,740,342
Wholesale Trade Total Payroll	$56,746,040
Retail Trade Total Payroll	$138,002,059
FIRE** Total Payroll	$60,824,790
Services Total Payroll	$214,786,715
Federal Government Total Payroll	$60,669,791
State Government Total Payroll	$91,970,658
Local Government Total Payroll	$214,279,000

(f) Final estimates.
(r) Subject to revision.
** Transportation, Communication & Public Utilities.*

Mining

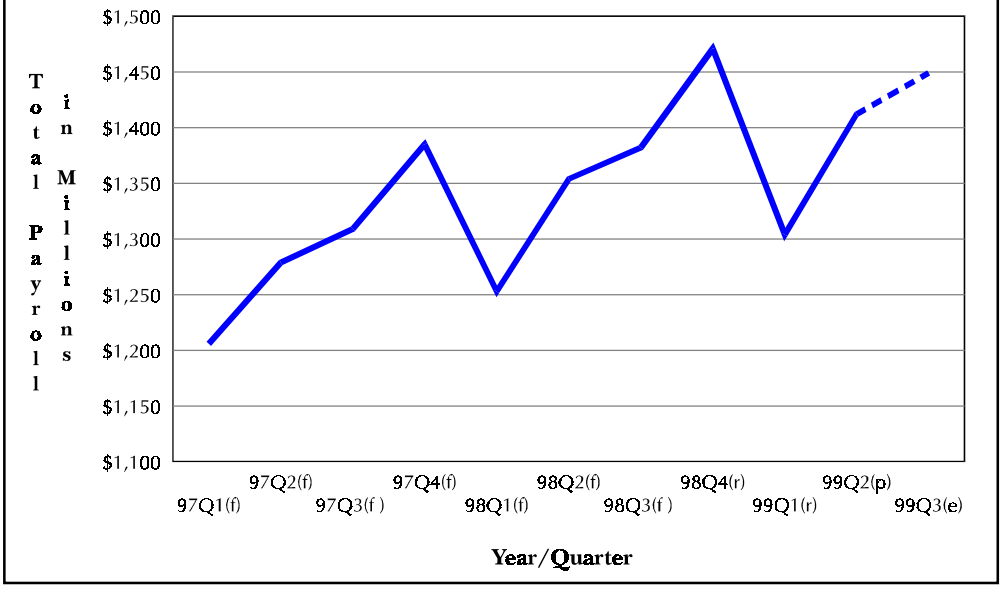
Wyoming's Mining industry is one of two

(Continued on page 11)

industries that showed a decrease in annual employment. The majority of the loss can be accounted for in the oil & gas extraction industry, where approximately 1,000 jobs have been lost since first quarter 1999. This loss is considered an anomaly to analysts and many of the labor market indicators like the Current Employment Statistics (CES), Mass Layoff Statistics (MLS) and Local Area Unemployment Statistics (LAUS) did not

(Continued on page 12)

Figure: Total ES-202 Covered Payroll



(f) Final estimates. (r) Subject to revision. (p) Preliminary estimates. (e) Projected estimates.

and Projections by Industry 1998-1999

98Q2 (f)	98Q3 (f)	98Q4 (r)	99Q1 (r)	99Q2 (p)	99Q3 (e)	Percent Change 3rd Quarter Over the Year	Percent Change 3rd Quarter Over the Quarter
$1,399,089,042	$1,422,067,036	$1,524,037,632	$1,354,088,827	$1,459,534,076	$1,473,625,920	3.6	1.0
230,949	234,742	228,972	222,091	234,388	236,158	0.6	0.8
$44,738,291	$40,413,139	$53,118,273	$49,604,087	$47,711,833	$42,305,393	4.7	-11.3
$1,354,328,469	$1,381,598,478	$1,470,890,747	$1,304,401,196	$1,411,847,080	$1,448,617,433	4.9	2.6
223,562	228,018	220,874	214,144	226,911	232,134	1.8	2.3
$466	$466	$512	$469	$479	$480	3.0	0.2
$14,051,583	$15,575,664	$15,355,743	$11,524,272	$14,821,549	$16,674,298	7.1	12.5
$387,622,443	$410,543,640	$425,633,494	$362,304,904	$396,909,513	$426,713,508	3.9	7.5
$195,360,256	$201,604,026	$206,373,427	$186,839,419	$187,763,888	$197,056,860	-2.3	4.9
$107,801,954	$121,259,034	$119,546,856	$92,565,252	$122,296,850	$139,475,531	15.0	14.0
$84,271,018	$87,679,215	$99,385,650	$83,314,335	$86,920,249	$90,472,057	3.2	4.1
$1,013,222,847	$1,012,443,068	$1,096,122,768	$987,999,012	$1,061,475,987	$1,045,092,594	3.2	-1.5
$116,341,875	$118,740,076	$132,331,680	$114,298,106	$122,405,296	$125,846,019	6.0	2.8
$58,307,665	$57,930,223	$61,508,187	$56,866,680	$58,468,722	$59,180,953	2.2	1.2
$148,071,677	$164,271,380	$171,435,472	$147,348,643	$155,557,662	$173,892,290	5.9	11.8
$58,265,025	$59,799,402	$66,632,969	$63,822,096	$58,328,309	$62,053,056	3.8	6.4
$233,529,777	$263,782,662	$276,296,358	$236,406,144	$254,150,988	$269,759,568	2.3	6.1
$66,347,736	$74,341,722	$69,648,475	$60,006,336	$66,615,432	$76,027,705	2.3	14.1
$96,816,525	$92,451,450	$97,156,605	$96,363,085	$99,736,013	$95,805,944	3.6	-3.9
$246,588,888	$189,725,328	$231,092,550	$223,457,052	$259,777,427	$194,883,507	2.7	-25.0

(p) Preliminary estimates.
(e) Projected estimates.
*** Finance, Insurance & Real Estate.*

Source: Total Nonagricultural Employment - Current Employment Statistics and Covered ES-202 Employment.
Prepared by: Gregg Detweiler, Senior Economist.

catch this significant decline in jobs in preliminary estimates. Wyoming's Mining industry relies on special projects and federal legislation which caused contractual changes on permits used to drill on U.S. Bureau of Land Management properties. Along with the significant loss in employment comes a loss of $4,547,166 in total payroll over-the-year. However, the AWW rose from $906 to $935 during the same time period.

Construction

Wyoming's Construction employment increased considerably compared to a year ago. With the increase in federal highway funds, road construction stands to be the major influence in Construction employment. Also, the increase in building permits, especially in Natrona County, has contributed to the increase in employment. The Construction industry produced the largest gain in total payroll from third quarter 1998, increasing by $18,216,497 or 15.0 percent over-the-year. The average weekly wage increased by $37 to a level of $559.

Manufacturing

Employment levels have stabilized throughout the Manufacturing industry. Wyoming Manufacturing levels produce higher employment gains in the third quarter due to the harvesting of sugar beets in late September and early October. Wyoming's Manufacturing total payroll has remained stable as well, only showing a 3.2 percent ($2,792,842) increase from third quarter 1998.

Transportation, Communication & Public Utilities (TCPU)

Wyoming's Transportation employment has continued to show annual growth throughout 1999. All of the growth has been concentrated in the Transportation industry. Employment in the Communications and Public Utilities industries has remained stable as well. The major component that affects these industries is the fluctuation in the state's population. Even though employment gains were minimal, total payroll increased by $7,105,943 or 6.0 percent from third quarter 1998. This gain also increased the AWW from $644 to $663 over-the-year.

Trade

Third quarter employment levels within the Trade industry have produced normal seasonal swings; however, annual employment gains among individual industries have been minimal. Eating & drinking establishments, department stores and food stores accounted for the annual growth. Total payroll grew by $10,871,640 from third quarter 1998, causing the AWW to increase for both Wholesale ($589) and Retail Trade ($277).

Fire

Wyoming's Finance, Insurance & Real Estate (FIRE) industry has seen its share of corporate mergers, buyouts and reorganizations for the last two to three years. These tactics have slowed growth in both employment and total payroll. Total payroll was estimated to grow by 3.8 percent or $2,253,653 from third quarter 1998, causing the AWW to increase by $34 to $576 for third quarter 1999.

Services

The Services sector produced the largest annual employment gain of all the major industries. Business services, hotel & lodging places and social services accounted for the majority of the annual growth. In contrast, total payroll for Wyoming's Services industries had the smallest increase in annual gains. Total payroll has been estimated to grow by 2.3 percent or $5,976,906 from third quarter 1998, causing the average weekly wage to grow by $10 to a level of $373 for third quarter 1999.

Government

Wyoming's Government sector is comprised of three industries (federal, state and local) all containing different seasonality. For state and local government, the third quarter represents a shut down as well as the beginning of the school year. Third quarter marks the peak for employment in federal government due to tourism throughout the National Parks around the state. Total payroll is expected to grow by $10,198,656 over-the-year, with the largest gain coming from local government. However, the average weekly wages for federal and state government are expected to increase by at least $23 to levels of $761 and $569, respectively.

Census 2000

edited by: **Carol Kjar, Statistical Technician**

"Without the full count of Wyoming's residents, the state stands to lose a significant amount of federal dollars which we need to continue our economic and social developments."

Not only is 2000 the beginning of the new millennium (or the year before a new millennium), it is also a year in which Americans are asked to stand up and count off. Article 1, Section 2 of our Constitution requires that the U.S. government conduct a decennial (every ten years) census. This census was first conducted in 1790 when there were approximately 3.5 million people living in the newly-formed United States.

The week before Census Day, April 1, 2000, one of two questionnaires will be mailed to all households in this nation, the long form or the short form. The majority of households will receive the short form version of the census. Having all citizens of Wyoming fill out and return the census forms is very important to the state of Wyoming, because many federal funds are allocated based on the population numbers obtained from the census (see Figure). The Census Bureau estimates that approximately $182 billion will be distributed annually based on formulas that use census data. Without the full count of Wyoming's residents, the state stands to lose a significant amount of federal dollars which we need to continue our economic and social developments.

Each decennial census is conducted with a new set of questionnaires, refined and reworded in order to collect a wide range of demographic data. The 2000 Census will be the first since 1880 that will not ask for marital status. Buried deep within Public Law 106-69, the U.S. Department of Transportation FY99 appropriations bill, is a statement by the U.S. Senate expressing its dissatisfaction with the Census Bureau regarding the elimination of marital status from the short questionnaire form. "Census data showing an exact account of the numbers of persons who are married, single, or divorced provides critical information which serves as an indicator on the prevalence of marriage in society . . . It is the sense of the Senate that the United States Census Bureau has wrongfully decided not to include marital status on the census questionnaire to be distributed to the majority of Americans . . . " Both forms may currently be viewed on the Census Bureau web site at http://www.census.gov/ along with the explanations for this undertaking.

*Information for this article was taken from the U.S. Census Bureau web site as listed above. The text of P.L. 106-69 may be found on the Thomas web site of the Library of Congress, http://www.loc.gov/.

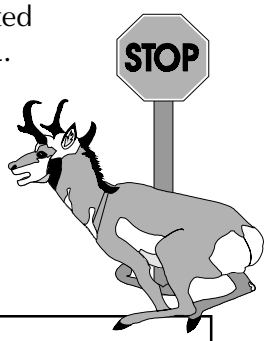
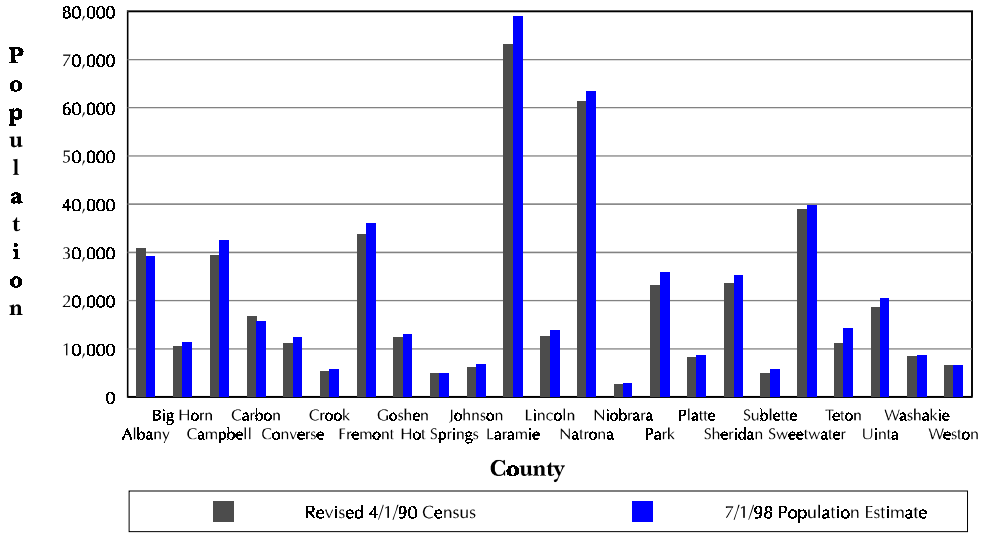


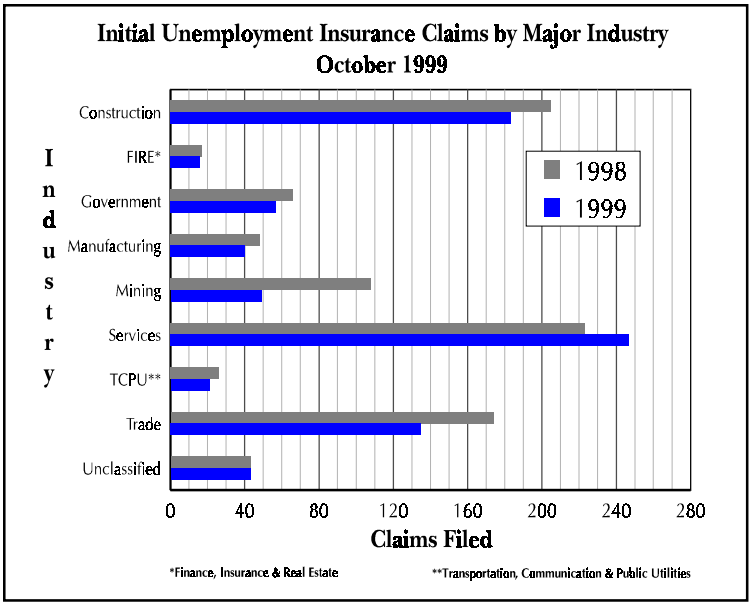
Figure: The 1990 Census County Populations & 1998 Population Estimates for Wyoming

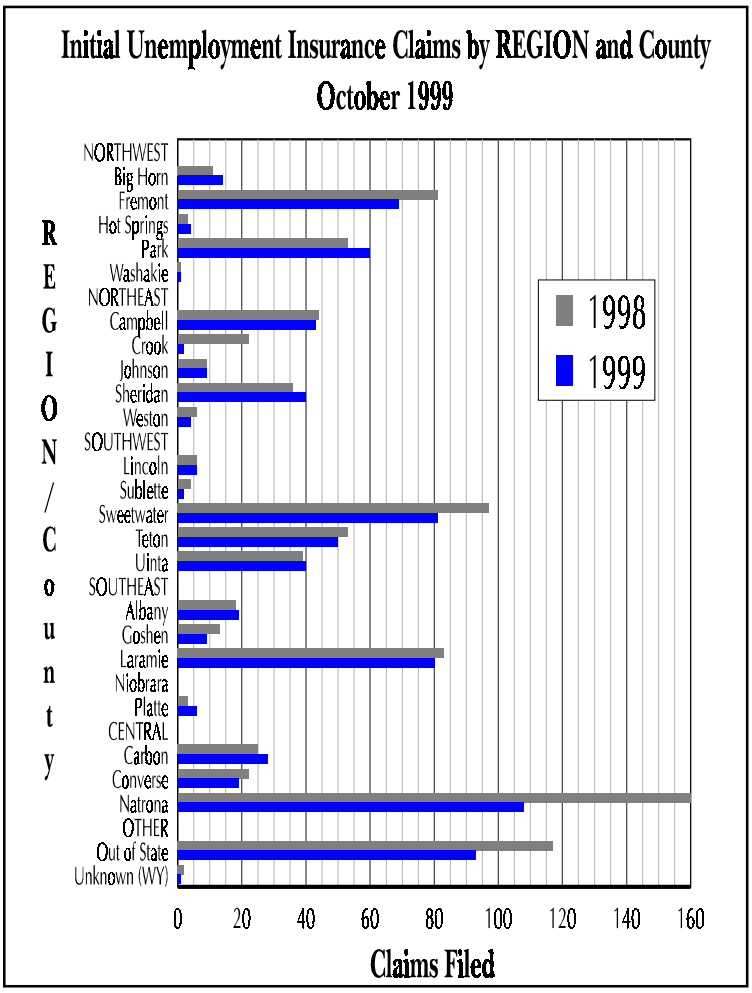


Wyoming Normalized Unemployment Insurance Statistics: Initial Claims

data produced by: **Krista R. Shinkle, Senior Statistician**

"Initial Unemployment Insurance (UI) claims fell in each major industry in over-the-year comparisons, except Services (see Figure below)."





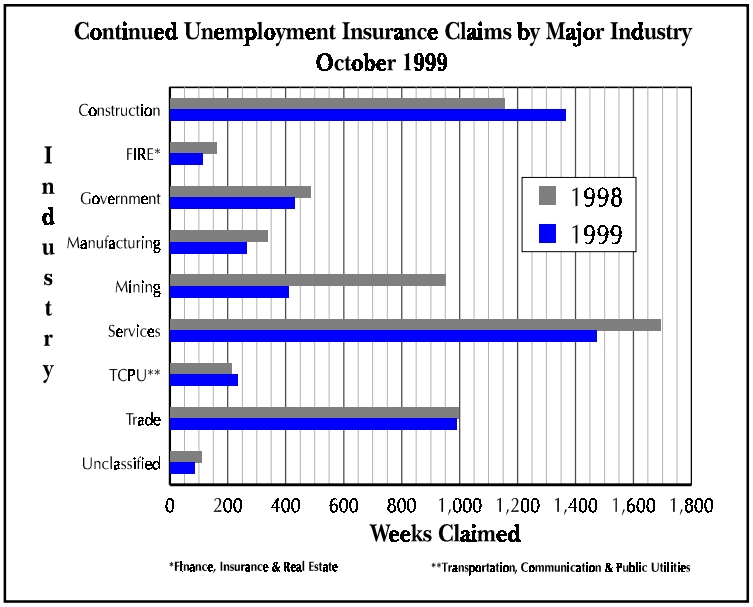
	CLAIMS FILED			Percent Change Claims Filed	
	OCT99	SEP99	OCT98	SEP99 OCT99	OCT98 OCT99
WYOMING STATEWIDE					
TOTAL CLAIMS FILED	791	484	910	63.4	-13.1
TOTAL GOODS PRODUCING	272	187	361	45.5	-24.7
Manufacturing	40	16	48	150.0	-16.7
Mining	49	32	108	53.1	-54.6
Oil & Gas Extraction	35	29	97	20.7	-63.9
Construction	183	139	205	31.7	-10.7
TOTAL SERVICE PRODUCING	476	266	506	78.9	-5.9
Transportation, Communication & Public Utilities	21	23	26	-8.7	-19.2
Transportation	16	19	24	-15.8	-33.3
Communications & Public Utilities	4	3	2	33.3	100.0
Trade	135	81	174	66.7	-22.4
Wholesale Trade	30	13	25	130.8	20.0
Retail Trade	105	68	149	54.4	-29.5
Finance, Insurance & Real Estate	16	16	17	0.0	-5.9
Services	247	107	223	130.8	10.8
Personal & Business Services	64	25	50	156.0	28.0
Health Services	21	17	28	23.5	-25.0
Government	57	39	66	46.2	-13.6
Local Government	22	22	25	0.0	-12.0
Local Education	8	11	6	-27.3	33.3
UNCLASSIFIED	43	31	43	38.7	0.0
LARAMIE COUNTY					
TOTAL CLAIMS FILED	78	49	81	59.2	-3.7
TOTAL GOODS PRODUCING	28	12	23	133.3	21.7
Manufacturing	4	2	3	100.0	33.3
Mining	2	0	3	N/A	-33.3
Oil & Gas Extraction	2	0	3	N/A	-33.3
Construction	22	10	17	120.0	29.4
TOTAL SERVICE PRODUCING	45	32	45	40.6	0.0
Transportation, Communication & Public Utilities	4	4	6	0.0	-33.3
Transportation	3	3	6	0.0	-50.0
Communications & Public Utilities	1	1	0	0.0	N/A
Trade	15	10	4	50.0	275.0
Wholesale Trade	1	0	0	N/A	N/A
Retail Trade	14	10	4	40.0	250.0
Finance, Insurance & Real Estate	5	5	1	0.0	400.0
Services	17	10	28	70.0	-39.3
Personal & Business Services	11	2	14	450.0	-21.4
Health Services	0	1	3	N/A	N/A
Government	4	3	6	33.3	-33.3
Local Government	0	1	4	N/A	N/A
Local Education	0	1	0	N/A	N/A
UNCLASSIFIED	5	5	13	0.0	-61.5
NATRONA COUNTY					
TOTAL CLAIMS FILED	107	71	158	50.7	-32.3
TOTAL GOODS PRODUCING	44	20	57	120.0	-22.8
Manufacturing	4	2	4	100.0	0.0
Mining	10	2	22	400.0	-54.5
Oil & Gas Extraction	4	2	22	100.0	-81.8
Construction	30	16	31	87.5	-3.2
TOTAL SERVICE PRODUCING	60	49	95	22.4	-36.8
Transportation, Communication & Public Utilities	1	7	1	-85.7	0.0
Transportation	1	5	1	-80.0	0.0
Communications & Public Utilities	0	2	0	N/A	N/A
Trade	23	14	56	64.3	-58.9
Wholesale Trade	4	3	5	33.3	-20.0
Retail Trade	18	11	51	63.6	-64.7
Finance, Insurance & Real Estate	4	7	6	-42.9	-33.3
Services	28	19	28	47.4	0.0
Personal & Business Services	8	8	5	0.0	60.0
Health Services	5	3	8	66.7	-37.5
Government	4	2	4	100.0	0.0
Local Government	4	2	1	100.0	300.0
Local Education	1	0	0	N/A	0.0
UNCLASSIFIED	3	2	6	50.0	-50.0

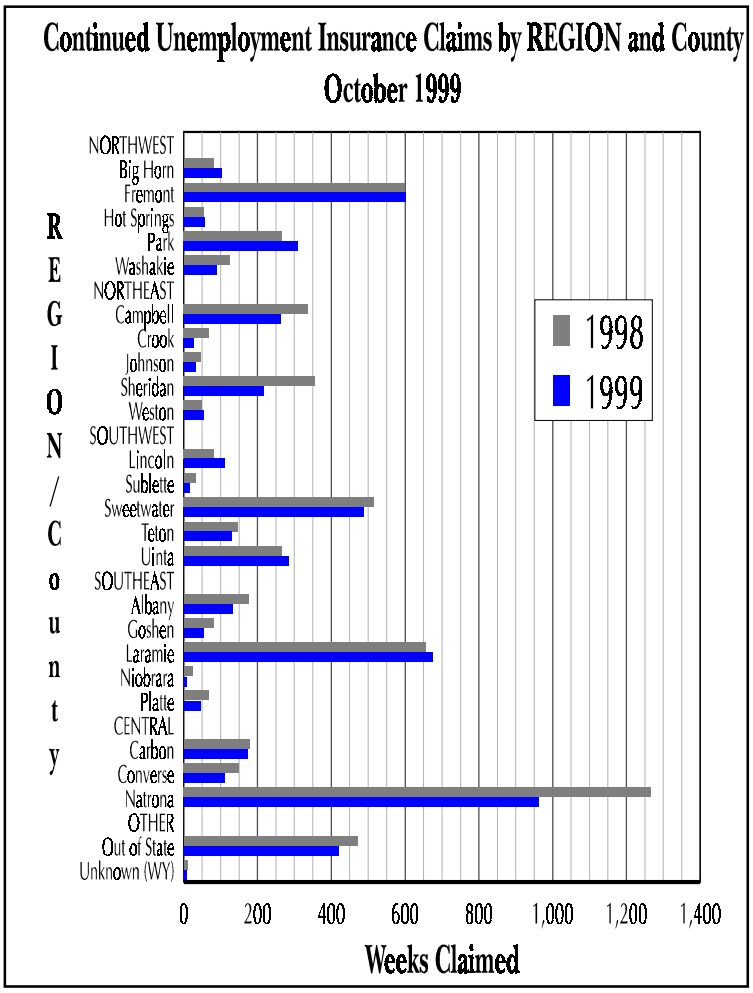
Wyoming Normalized Unemployment Insurance Statistics: Continued Claims

data produced by: **Krista R. Shinkle, Senior Statistician**

"Continued Unemployment Insurance (UI) claims fell in every major industry, except Construction and Transportation, Communication & Public Utilities (TCPU), compared with the same month last year."

	WEEKS CLAIMED			Percent Change Weeks Claimed	
	OCT99	SEP99	OCT98	SEP99 OCT99	OCT98 OCT99
WYOMING STATEWIDE					
TOTAL WEEKS CLAIMED	5,365	5,696	6,096	-5.8	-12.0
TOTAL UNIQUE CLAIMANTS	**1,899**	**1,664**	**2,127**	**14.1**	**-10.7**
TOTAL GOODS PRODUCING	2,038	2,142	2,443	-4.9	-16.6
Manufacturing	263	315	337	-16.5	-22.0
Mining	411	573	952	-28.3	-56.8
Oil & Gas Extraction	355	512	842	-30.7	-57.8
Construction	1,364	1,254	1,154	8.8	18.2
TOTAL SERVICE PRODUCING	3,240	3,487	3,546	-7.1	-8.6
Transportation, Communication & Public Utilities	235	328	214	-28.4	9.8
Transportation	166	238	168	-30.3	-1.2
Communications & Public Utilities	69	90	47	-23.3	46.8
Trade	988	1,058	994	-6.6	-0.6
Wholesale Trade	168	189	237	-11.1	-29.1
Retail Trade	821	869	757	-5.5	8.5
Finance, Insurance & Real Estate	114	120	160	-5.0	-28.8
Services	1,472	1,559	1,694	-5.6	-13.1
Personal & Business Services	403	404	447	-0.2	-9.8
Health Services	186	231	317	-19.5	-41.3
Government	431	422	484	2.1	-11.0
Local Government	223	265	286	-15.8	-22.0
Local Education	88	132	133	-33.3	-33.8
UNCLASSIFIED	87	67	107	29.9	-18.7
LARAMIE COUNTY					
TOTAL WEEKS CLAIMED	675	713	655	-5.3	3.1
TOTAL UNIQUE CLAIMANTS	**220**	**202**	**226**	**8.9**	**-2.7**
TOTAL GOODS PRODUCING	181	189	211	-4.2	-14.2
Manufacturing	22	30	24	-26.7	-8.3
Mining	6	7	15	-14.3	-60.0
Oil & Gas Extraction	6	7	15	-14.3	-60.0
Construction	153	152	172	0.7	-11.0
TOTAL SERVICE PRODUCING	479	517	438	-7.4	9.4
Transportation, Communication & Public Utilities	31	34	40	-8.8	-22.5
Transportation	21	24	31	-12.5	-32.3
Communications & Public Utilities	11	10	9	10.0	22.2
Trade	184	196	113	-6.1	62.8
Wholesale Trade	19	26	22	-26.9	-13.6
Retail Trade	165	170	91	-2.9	81.3
Finance, Insurance & Real Estate	17	35	38	-51.4	-55.3
Services	181	172	193	5.2	-6.2
Personal & Business Services	67	55	70	21.8	-4.3
Health Services	19	23	49	-17.4	-61.2
Government	66	80	54	-17.5	22.2
Local Government	9	26	22	-65.4	-59.1
Local Education	9	14	11	-35.7	-18.2
UNCLASSIFIED	15	7	6	114.3	150.0
NATRONA COUNTY					
TOTAL WEEKS CLAIMED	961	1,015	1,266	-5.3	-24.1
TOTAL UNIQUE CLAIMANTS	**326**	**289**	**421**	**12.8**	**-22.6**
TOTAL GOODS PRODUCING	382	383	447	-0.3	-14.5
Manufacturing	51	55	58	-7.3	-12.1
Mining	95	111	249	-14.4	-61.8
Oil & Gas Extraction	76	95	220	-20.0	-65.5
Construction	236	217	140	8.8	68.6
TOTAL SERVICE PRODUCING	579	631	808	-8.2	-28.3
Transportation, Communication & Public Utilities	54	65	31	-16.9	74.2
Transportation	32	34	21	-5.9	52.4
Communications & Public Utilities	22	31	11	-29.0	100.0
Trade	206	191	268	7.9	-23.1
Wholesale Trade	54	58	80	-6.9	-32.5
Retail Trade	152	132	188	15.2	-19.1
Finance, Insurance & Real Estate	25	26	36	-3.8	-30.6
Services	262	315	385	-16.8	-31.9
Personal & Business Services	95	119	110	-20.2	-13.6
Health Services	58	68	83	-14.7	-30.1
Government	32	34	88	-5.9	-63.6
Local Government	19	11	75	72.7	-74.7
Local Education	0	4	37	N/A	N/A
UNCLASSIFIED	0	1	11	N/A	N/A



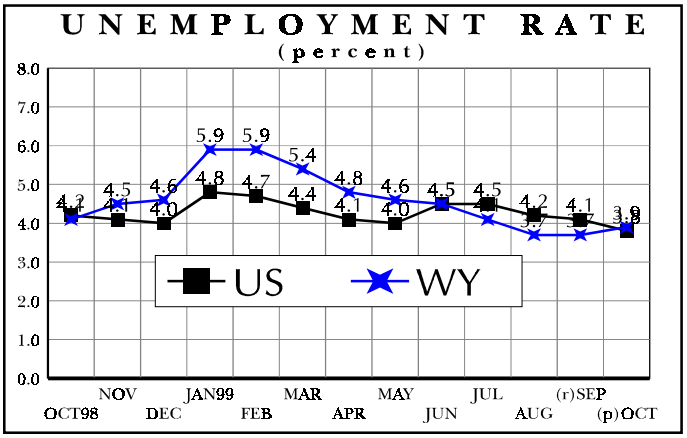


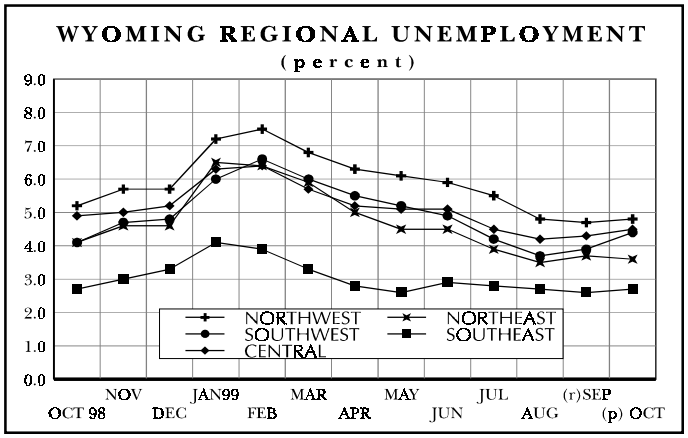
Wyoming Economic Indicators

"Several figures suggest a tightening U.S. labor market. The unemployment rate fell, the number of discouraged workers fell, and the number of persons working part time for economic reasons fell."

	October 1999 (p)	September 1999 (r)	October 1998 (b)	Percent Change Month	Percent Change Year
Wyoming Total Civilian Labor Force (1)	263,054	262,229	260,909	0.3	0.8
Unemployed	10,276	9,785	10,616	5.0	-3.2
Employed	252,778	252,444	250,293	0.1	1.0
Wyoming Unemployment Rate/Seas. Adj.	3.9%/4.6%	3.7%/4.6%	4.1%/4.8%	N/A	N/A
U.S. Unemployment Rate/Seas. Adj.	3.8%/4.1%	4.1%/4.2%	4.2%/4.5%	N/A	N/A
U.S. Multiple Jobholders	8,014,000	7,584,000	8,234,000	5.7	-2.7
As a percent of all workers	6.0%	5.7%	6.2%	N/A	N/A
U.S. Discouraged Workers	271,000	289,000	333,000	-6.2	-18.6
U.S. Part Time for Economic Reasons	2,832,000	2,948,000	3,086,000	-3.9	-8.2
Hours & Earnings for Production Workers					
Wyoming Mining					
Average Weekly Earnings	$862.17	$877.40	$863.77	-1.7	-0.2
Average Weekly Hours	43.5	43.5	45.2	0.0	-3.8
U.S. Mining					
Average Weekly Earnings	$749.47	$759.68	$751.08	-1.3	-0.2
Average Weekly Hours	44.4	44.4	44.0	0.0	0.9
Wyoming Manufacturing					
Average Weekly Earnings	$596.12	$600.78	$619.86	-0.8	-3.8
Average Weekly Hours	39.4	38.0	40.7	3.7	-3.2
U.S. Manufacturing					
Average Weekly Earnings	$588.28	$589.22	$567.75	-0.2	3.6
Average Weekly Hours	41.9	41.7	41.9	0.5	0.0
Wyoming Unemployment Insurance					
Weeks Compensated (2)	5,788	5,666	6,298	2.2	-8.1
Benefits Paid	$1,068,727	$1,043,915	$1,110,098	2.4	-3.7
Average Weekly Benefit Payment	$184.65	$184.24	$176.26	0.2	4.8
State Insured Covered Jobs (1)	213,737	218,805	211,382	-2.3	1.1
Insured Unemployment Rate	0.8%	0.8%	0.9%	N/A	N/A
Consumer Price Index (U) for All U.S. Urban Consumers (1982 to 1984 = 100)					
All Items	168.2	167.9	164.0	0.2	2.6
Food & Beverages	165.5	165.1	162.4	0.2	1.9
Housing	165.0	165.2	161.4	-0.1	2.2
Apparel	134.6	131.8	135.6	2.1	-0.7
Transportation	147.3	146.5	141.3	0.5	4.2
Medical Care	252.8	252.3	244.3	0.2	3.5
Recreation (Dec. 1997=100)	101.8	101.7	101.1	0.1	0.7
Education & Communication (Dec. 1997=100)	102.1	101.9	101.0	0.2	1.1
Other Goods & Services	263.2	262.6	241.3	0.2	9.1
Producer Prices (1982 to 1984 = 100)					
All Commodities	127.9	128.0	124.0	-0.1	3.1
Wyoming Building Permits					
New Privately Owned Housing Units Authorized	156	137	137	13.9	13.9
Valuation	$20,489,000	$22,693,000	$21,459,000	-9.7	-4.5

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





Wyoming County Unemployment Rates

data produced by: **David Bullard, Economist**

"Wyoming's October unemployment rate of 3.9 percent was slightly higher than the U.S. average of 3.8 percent."

	Labor Force			Employed			Unemployed			Unemployment Rates		
REGION COUNTY	Oct 1999 (p)	Sept 1999 (r)	Oct 1998 (b)	Oct 1999 (p)	Sept 1999 (r)	Oct 1998 (b)	Oct 1999 (p)	Sept 1999 (r)	Oct 1998 (b)	Oct 1999 (p)	Sept 1999 (r)	Oct 1998 (b)
Northwest	**46,461**	**46,758**	**46,327**	**44,243**	**44,559**	**43,936**	**2,218**	**2,199**	**2,391**	**4.8**	**4.7**	**5.2**
Big Horn	5,865	5,677	5,964	5,595	5,407	5,669	270	270	295	4.6	4.8	4.9
Fremont	17,904	17,821	17,953	16,854	16,778	16,776	1,050	1,043	1,177	5.9	5.9	6.6
Hot Springs	2,465	2,403	2,411	2,358	2,295	2,333	107	108	78	4.3	4.5	3.2
Park	15,136	15,950	14,905	14,562	15,434	14,313	574	516	592	3.8	3.2	4.0
Washakie	5,091	4,907	5,094	4,874	4,645	4,845	217	262	249	4.3	5.3	4.9
Northeast	**43,439**	**42,990**	**43,684**	**41,859**	**41,387**	**41,879**	**1,580**	**1,603**	**1,805**	**3.6**	**3.7**	**4.1**
Campbell	19,409	19,209	19,353	18,640	18,423	18,519	769	786	834	4.0	4.1	4.3
Crook	3,097	3,055	3,097	2,984	2,961	2,971	113	94	126	3.6	3.1	4.1
Johnson	3,849	3,841	3,798	3,745	3,747	3,693	104	94	105	2.7	2.4	2.8
Sheridan	13,773	13,600	13,982	13,303	13,109	13,373	470	491	609	3.4	3.6	4.4
Weston	3,311	3,285	3,454	3,187	3,147	3,323	124	138	131	3.7	4.2	3.8
Southwest	**53,042**	**54,709**	**52,571**	**50,682**	**52,579**	**50,397**	**2,360**	**2,130**	**2,174**	**4.4**	**3.9**	**4.1**
Lincoln	6,632	6,680	6,145	6,300	6,365	5,837	332	315	308	5.0	4.7	5.0
Sublette	3,176	3,199	3,125	3,114	3,133	3,045	62	66	80	2.0	2.1	2.6
Sweetwater	21,051	20,848	21,832	19,941	19,866	20,778	1,110	982	1,054	5.3	4.7	4.8
Teton	11,024	12,735	10,359	10,824	12,594	10,179	200	141	180	1.8	1.1	1.7
Uinta	11,159	11,247	11,110	10,503	10,621	10,558	656	626	552	5.9	5.6	5.0
Southeast	**70,739**	**69,000**	**69,703**	**68,835**	**67,215**	**67,821**	**1,904**	**1,785**	**1,882**	**2.7**	**2.6**	**2.7**
Albany	17,930	17,636	17,512	17,685	17,404	17,241	245	232	271	1.4	1.3	1.5
Goshen	6,609	6,179	6,697	6,440	6,008	6,491	169	171	206	2.6	2.8	3.1
Laramie	40,377	39,466	39,497	39,070	38,266	38,307	1,307	1,200	1,190	3.2	3.0	3.0
Niobrara	1,370	1,319	1,374	1,331	1,294	1,336	39	25	38	2.8	1.9	2.8
Platte	4,453	4,400	4,623	4,309	4,243	4,446	144	157	177	3.2	3.6	3.8
Central	**49,374**	**48,772**	**48,623**	**47,161**	**46,705**	**46,259**	**2,213**	**2,067**	**2,364**	**4.5**	**4.2**	**4.9**
Carbon	8,375	8,372	8,545	8,040	8,068	8,191	335	304	354	4.0	3.6	4.1
Converse	6,887	6,756	6,648	6,594	6,486	6,356	293	270	292	4.3	4.0	4.4
Natrona	34,112	33,644	33,430	32,527	32,151	31,712	1,585	1,493	1,718	4.6	4.4	5.1
Statewide	**263,054**	**262,229**	**260,909**	**252,778**	**252,444**	**250,293**	**10,276**	**9,785**	**10,616**	**3.9**	**3.7**	**4.1**
Statewide Seasonally Adjusted										4.6	4.6	4.8
U.S.										3.8	4.1	4.2
U.S. Seasonally Adjusted										4.1	4.2	4.5

Prepared in cooperation with the Bureau of Labor Statistics. Benchmarked 02/99. Run Date 11/99.
Data are not seasonally adjusted except where otherwise specified.

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

NOTE: The Current Population Survey (CPS) estimated the 1998 annual average Wyoming unemployment rate at 4.8 percent.
The 90 percent confidence interval for this estimate suggests that in 9 out of 10 cases, the interval 4.2 to 5.4 percent would contain the actual rate.

State Unemployment Rates
October 1999
(Not Seasonally Adjusted)

State	Unemp. Rate
Puerto Rico	12.5
West Virginia	5.9
District of Columbia	5.7
New Mexico	5.6
Alaska	5.4
Hawaii	5.2
Louisiana	5.2
Mississippi	5.0
New York	4.9
Oregon	4.9
Alabama	4.6
California	4.6
South Carolina	4.5
Washington	4.5
Montana	4.4
Texas	4.3
Idaho	4.2
New Jersey	4.2
Nevada	4.1
Arizona	4.0
Florida	3.9
Illinois	3.9
Kentucky	3.9
Ohio	3.9
Rhode Island	3.9
Wyoming	**3.9**
Pennsylvania	3.8
United States	**3.8**
Arkansas	3.7
Georgia	3.7
Maine	3.3
Maryland	3.3
Tennessee	3.3
Utah	3.3
Kansas	3.2
Michigan	3.1
Delaware	3.0
North Carolina	3.0
Oklahoma	3.0
Colorado	2.8
Massachusetts	2.8
Connecticut	2.7
Vermont	2.6
Virginia	2.6
Indiana	2.5
Nebraska	2.4
Wisconsin	2.3
Missouri	2.2
New Hampshire	2.1
South Dakota	2.1
North Dakota	2.0
Minnesota	1.9
Iowa	1.8

October News

by: **David Bullard, Economist**

"Casper added 800 jobs for a 2.6 percent growth rate and Cheyenne added 1,000 jobs (+2.8%)."

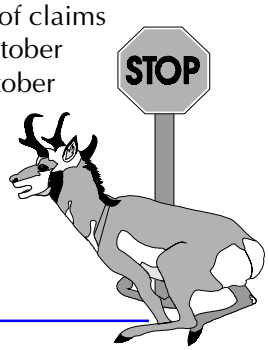
Nonagricultural employment in Wyoming grew 1.4 percent in October, creating 3,200 new jobs (see page 19). Growth was strongest in Construction (+900 jobs or 5.2%), Services (+1,300 jobs or 2.6%) and Manufacturing (+300 jobs or 2.6%). Employment in Wyoming's two largest cities, Casper and Cheyenne continued to grow faster than the state as a whole. Casper added 800 jobs for a 2.6 percent growth rate and Cheyenne added 1,000 jobs (+2.8%). During the same period, employment growth for the U.S. was 2.1 percent, higher than Wyoming, but lower than Casper and Cheyenne (see Figure, page 19).

Mining employment decreased by 400 jobs or 2.4 percent. Large job losses in Oil & Gas Extraction (-500 jobs or 6.0%) were tempered by employment gains in Coal Mining (+100 jobs or 2.3%).

Large numbers of new jobs were created in Business Services (+600 or 8.6%), Retail Trade (+600 or 1.3%) and Social Services (+300 or 5.5%). Within Construction, the largest gains were in General Building Contractors, which increased by 500 jobs or 12.2 percent.

Wyoming's unemployment rate rose slightly from 3.7 percent in September to 3.9 percent in October (see page 17). It remains below its October 1998 level of 4.1 percent. The U.S. unemployment rate fell to 3.8 percent, barely below Wyoming's rate. The over the year decrease in the number of unemployed (-3.2%) held down labor force growth to 2,145 individuals or 0.8 percent (see page 16).

Continued Unemployment Insurance (UI) claims decreased by 12.0 percent over the year (see page 15). The largest decrease in claims occurred in the Mining industry where the number of claims fell from 952 in October 1998 to 411 in October 1999. However, establishment survey data show Mining employment decreasing as well.



U.S. Unemployment Rates by Age and Gender from the Current Population Survey (Seasonally Adjusted)

Age and Gender	Oct 99	Sep 99	Oct 98
Total, 16 years and over	**4.1**	**4.2**	**4.5**
16 to 24 years	10.1	10.1	10.5
16 to 19 years	13.9	15.0	15.7
16 to 17 years	15.9	16.3	18.2
18 to 19 years	12.5	14.1	14.0
20 to 24 years	7.8	7.2	7.3
25 years and over	3.0	3.1	3.4
25 to 54 years	3.1	3.2	3.5
55 years and over	2.7	2.6	2.7
Men, 16 years and over	4.1	4.0	4.4
16 to 24 years	10.4	9.9	10.9
16 to 19 years	14.0	14.9	16.7
16 to 17 years	14.9	16.6	20.9
18 to 19 years	13.2	13.4	13.7
20 to 24 years	8.3	7.0	7.5
25 years and over	3.0	3.0	3.2
25 to 54 years	3.0	3.0	3.3
55 years and over	2.9	3.0	2.9
Women, 16 years and over	4.1	4.4	4.7
16 to 24 years	9.7	10.2	10.1
16 to 19 years	13.8	15.0	14.8
16 to 17 years	16.8	15.9	15.4
18 to 19 years	11.7	15.0	14.3
20 to 24 years	7.2	7.3	7.1
25 years and over	3.0	3.2	3.6
25 to 54 years	3.1	3.4	3.8
55 years and over	2.4	2.0	2.5

Wyoming Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment[1]

data produced by: **Gregg Detweiler, Senior Economist**

"Nonagricultural employment grew by 1.4 percent or 3,200 jobs in October, compared with the same month last year."

WYOMING STATEWIDE*

	Employment in Thousands			Percent Change Total Employment	
	OCT 99(p)	SEP 99(r)	OCT 98	SEP 99 OCT 99	OCT 98 OCT 99
TOTAL NONAG. WAGE & SALARY EMPLOYMENT	234.8	237.9	231.6	-1.3	1.4
TOTAL GOODS PRODUCING	45.9	46.2	45.1	-0.6	1.8
Mining	16.1	16.3	16.5	-1.2	-2.4
Coal Mining	4.5	4.5	4.4	0.0	2.3
Oil & Gas Extraction	7.8	8.1	8.3	-3.7	-6.0
Crude Petrol-Natural Gas	2.5	2.5	2.5	0.0	0.0
Oil & Gas Field Services	5.3	5.6	5.8	-5.4	-8.6
Nonmetallic Minerals	3.0	3.0	3.1	0.0	-3.2
Construction	18.1	18.5	17.2	-2.2	5.2
General Building Contractors	4.6	4.7	4.1	-2.1	12.2
Heavy Construction	5.4	5.8	5.1	-6.9	5.9
Special Trade Construction	8.1	8.0	8.0	1.2	1.2
Manufacturing	11.7	11.4	11.4	2.6	2.6
Durable Goods	5.2	5.2	5.2	0.0	0.0
Nondurable Goods	6.5	6.2	6.2	4.8	4.8
Printing & Publishing	1.7	1.7	1.6	0.0	6.3
Petroleum & Coal Products	1.2	1.2	1.3	0.0	-7.7
TOTAL SERVICE PRODUCING	188.9	191.7	186.5	-1.5	1.3
Transportation & Public Utilities	14.4	14.5	14.1	-0.7	2.1
Transportation	9.1	9.2	8.9	-1.1	2.2
Railroad Transportation	3.0	3.0	2.9	0.0	3.4
Trucking & Warehousing	3.8	3.8	3.7	0.0	2.7
Communications	2.3	2.2	2.1	4.5	9.5
Telephone Communications	1.1	1.1	1.0	0.0	10.0
Electric, Gas & Sanitary Services	3.0	3.0	3.0	0.0	0.0
Electric Services	2.0	2.0	1.9	0.0	5.3
Trade	53.4	54.7	52.9	-2.4	0.9
Wholesale Trade	7.6	7.7	7.7	-1.3	-1.3
Durable Goods	4.3	4.3	4.3	0.0	0.0
Nondurable Goods	3.3	3.4	3.4	-2.9	-2.9
Retail Trade	45.8	47.0	45.2	-2.6	1.3
Building Materials & Garden Supply	2.2	2.2	2.0	0.0	10.0
General Merchandise Stores	5.0	5.0	4.8	0.0	4.2
Department Stores	4.1	4.1	4.0	0.0	2.5
Food Stores	5.7	5.6	5.6	1.8	1.8
Auto Dealers & Service Stations	8.1	8.3	8.1	-2.4	0.0
Gas Stations	4.3	4.5	4.3	-4.4	0.0
Apparel & Accessory Stores	1.4	1.5	1.4	-6.7	0.0
Furniture & Home Furnishing Stores	1.5	1.5	1.5	0.0	0.0
Eating & Drinking Places	17.0	17.9	16.9	-5.0	0.6
Miscellaneous Retail	4.9	5.0	4.9	-2.0	0.0
Finance, Insurance & Real Estate	8.5	8.5	8.6	0.0	-1.2
Depos-Nondepos & Security Brokers	4.0	4.0	4.0	0.0	0.0
Depository Institutions	3.2	3.2	3.2	0.0	0.0
Insurance	2.3	2.3	2.4	0.0	-4.2
Services	52.1	54.5	50.8	-4.4	2.6
Hotels & Other Lodging Places	9.0	11.2	8.8	-19.6	2.3
Personal Services	2.0	1.9	2.0	5.3	0.0
Business Services	7.6	7.5	7.0	1.3	8.6
Automotive & Misc. Repair Services	2.9	2.9	2.9	0.0	0.0
Amusements (Rec Services & Mot. Pics.)	3.3	3.6	3.2	-8.3	3.1
Health Services	10.3	10.3	10.2	0.0	1.0
Offices of Doctors of Medicine	2.3	2.3	2.3	0.0	0.0
Legal Services	1.3	1.3	1.3	0.0	0.0
Social Services	5.8	5.7	5.5	1.8	5.5
Membership Organizations	3.3	3.3	3.2	0.0	3.1
Engineering & Management	3.5	3.6	3.5	-2.8	0.0
Government	60.5	59.5	60.1	1.7	0.7
Total Federal Government	7.1	7.5	7.1	-5.3	0.0
Department of Defense	0.9	0.9	0.9	0.0	0.0
Total State Government	13.8	13.2	13.7	4.5	0.7
State Education	5.6	4.9	5.6	14.3	0.0
Total Local Government	39.6	38.8	39.3	2.1	0.8
Local Hospitals	5.2	5.2	5.0	0.0	4.0
Local Education	22.3	21.0	22.1	6.2	0.9

(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.

LARAMIE COUNTY

	Employment in Thousands			Percent Change Total Employment	
	OCT 99(p)	SEP 99(r)	OCT 98	SEP 99 OCT 99	OCT 98 OCT 99
TOTAL NONAG. WAGE & SALARY EMPLOYMENT	37.1	36.7	36.1	1.1	2.8
TOTAL GOODS PRODUCING	4.3	4.4	4.0	-2.3	7.5
Mining & Construction	2.6	2.6	2.3	0.0	13.0
Manufacturing	1.7	1.8	1.7	-5.6	0.0
TOTAL SERVICE PRODUCING	32.8	32.4	32.0	1.2	2.5
Transportation & Public Utilities	2.7	2.7	2.6	0.0	3.8
Trade	8.5	8.5	8.4	0.0	1.2
Wholesale Trade	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.0	0.0
Retail Trade	7.7	7.7	7.6	0.0	1.3
Finance, Insurance & Real Estate	2.2	2.2	2.2	0.0	0.0
Services	8.1	7.9	7.5	2.5	8.0
Total Government	11.3	11.1	11.3	1.8	0.0
Federal Government	2.5	2.5	2.5	0.0	0.0
State Government	3.3	3.3	3.3	0.0	0.0
Local Government	5.6	5.3	5.5	5.7	1.8

NATRONA COUNTY*

	Employment in Thousands			Percent Change Total Employment	
	OCT 99(p)	SEP 99(r)	OCT 98	SEP 99 OCT 99	OCT 98 OCT 99
TOTAL NONAG. WAGE & SALARY EMPLOYMENT	32.1	32.3	31.3	-0.6	2.6
TOTAL GOODS PRODUCING	5.8	6.2	5.6	-6.5	3.6
Manufacturing	1.5	1.6	1.5	-6.3	0.0
Mining	1.9	2.0	2.1	-5.0	-9.5
Construction	2.4	2.6	2.0	-7.7	20.0
TOTAL SERVICE PRODUCING	26.3	26.1	25.7	0.8	2.3
Transportation & Public Utilities	1.8	1.8	1.8	0.0	0.0
Transportation	1.2	1.2	1.2	0.0	0.0
Communications & Public Utilities	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.0	0.0
Trade	8.5	8.6	8.4	-1.2	1.2
Wholesale Trade	2.4	2.4	2.4	0.0	0.0
Retail Trade	6.1	6.2	6.0	-1.6	1.7
Finance, Insurance & Real Estate	1.2	1.3	1.2	-7.7	0.0
Services	9.1	8.9	8.8	2.2	3.4
Personal & Business Services	2.2	2.1	2.0	4.8	10.0
Health Services	2.7	2.7	2.7	0.0	0.0
Government	5.7	5.5	5.5	3.6	3.6
Local Government	4.4	4.1	4.2	7.3	4.8
Local Education	3.0	2.7	2.9	11.1	3.4

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