

Wyoming Unemployment Unchanged at 3.8% in October 2019

The Research & Planning section of the Wyoming Department of Workforce Services reported today that the state's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate remained unchanged from September to October at 3.8%. It was lower than its October 2018 level of 4.2%, but slightly higher than the current U.S. unemployment rate of 3.6%. Wyoming's labor force increased by 1,000 people or 0.3% from October 2018 to October 2019.

Most county unemployment rates changed very little from September to October. One exception was Teton County, where unemployment rose from 2.0% to 2.7%. Unemployment often increases in Teton County in October as the summer tourist season winds down and the winter season has not begun. Unemployment rates decreased in Campbell (down from 3.9% to 3.4%), Weston (down from 2.7% to 2.4%), and Big Horn (down from 3.8% to 3.5%) counties.

From October 2018 to October 2019, unemployment rates fell in 19 counties, rose in three counties, and remained unchanged in Washakie County (3.4%). The largest decreases occurred in Johnson County, where unemployment fell from 3.7% to 2.8%; Weston County, where it fell from 3.2% to 2.4%; and Fremont County, where it fell from 4.7% to 3.9%. Jobless rates increased modestly in Goshen (up from 3.0% to 3.5%), Sublette (up from 3.9% to 4.2%), and Hot Springs (up from 3.3% to 3.4%) counties.

The lowest unemployment rates were seen in Weston County at 2.4% and Niobrara County at 2.5%. The highest rates occurred in Sublette County at 4.2%, Fremont County at 3.9%, and Natrona County at 3.7%.

Total nonfarm employment in Wyoming (not seasonally adjusted and measured by place of work) increased from 289,000 in October 2018 to 289,100 in October 2019, a slight gain of 100 jobs (0.0%).

Research & Planning has scheduled the November unemployment news release for December 23, 2019.

Civilian Labor Force, Employment and Unemployment--by place of residence

County	Labor Force			Employment			Unemployed Number			Unemployment Rate		
	Oct 2019 (p)	Sep 2019 (r)	Oct 2018 (b)	Oct 2019 (p)	Sep 2019 (r)	Oct 2018 (b)	Oct 2019 (p)	Sep 2019 (r)	Oct 2018 (b)	Oct 2019 (p)	Sep 2019 (r)	Oct 2018 (b)
Albany	20,606	19,654	21,220	20,036	19,057	20,576	570	597	644	2.8	3.0	3.0
Big Horn	5,394	5,333	5,335	5,204	5,130	5,120	190	203	215	3.5	3.8	4.0
Campbell	23,139	22,873	22,712	22,343	21,992	21,819	796	881	893	3.4	3.9	3.9
Carbon	8,163	8,068	7,884	7,930	7,837	7,604	233	231	280	2.9	2.9	3.6
Converse	8,659	8,301	7,729	8,426	8,066	7,476	233	235	253	2.7	2.8	3.3
Crook	3,712	3,825	3,678	3,612	3,720	3,567	100	105	111	2.7	2.7	3.0
Fremont	18,849	18,732	18,917	18,113	17,997	18,026	736	735	891	3.9	3.9	4.7
Goshen	6,645	6,757	6,907	6,410	6,529	6,702	235	228	205	3.5	3.4	3.0
Hot Springs	2,145	2,222	2,120	2,072	2,148	2,049	73	74	71	3.4	3.3	3.3
Johnson	4,251	4,286	4,269	4,130	4,162	4,113	121	124	156	2.8	2.9	3.7
Laramie	48,217	47,426	47,340	46,648	45,808	45,584	1,569	1,618	1,756	3.3	3.4	3.7
Lincoln	8,979	9,120	8,717	8,714	8,857	8,425	265	263	292	3.0	2.9	3.3
Natrona	39,284	38,855	39,013	37,837	37,400	37,279	1,447	1,455	1,734	3.7	3.7	4.4
Niobrara	1,258	1,299	1,274	1,226	1,267	1,240	32	32	34	2.5	2.5	2.7
Park	15,449	15,910	15,418	14,911	15,378	14,808	538	532	610	3.5	3.3	4.0
Platte	4,621	4,941	4,595	4,486	4,790	4,459	135	151	136	2.9	3.1	3.0
Sheridan	15,670	15,862	15,441	15,227	15,389	14,904	443	473	537	2.8	3.0	3.5
Sublette	4,227	4,289	4,311	4,048	4,130	4,141	179	159	170	4.2	3.7	3.9
Sweetwater	21,579	21,206	21,118	20,861	20,481	20,318	718	725	800	3.3	3.4	3.8
Teton	15,235	16,361	14,951	14,826	16,028	14,530	409	333	421	2.7	2.0	2.8
Uinta	9,285	9,369	8,869	8,965	9,040	8,506	320	329	363	3.4	3.5	4.1
Washakie	4,042	3,991	4,064	3,905	3,858	3,924	137	133	140	3.4	3.3	3.4
Weston	3,804	3,767	3,746	3,712	3,667	3,626	92	100	120	2.4	2.7	3.2
Statewide	293,213	292,446	289,628	283,643	282,731	278,797	9,570	9,715	10,831	3.3	3.3	3.7
Statewide Seasonally Adjusted.....										3.8	3.8	4.2
U.S.....										3.3	3.3	3.5
U.S. Seasonally Adjusted.....										3.6	3.5	3.8

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

Data are not seasonally adjusted except where otherwise specified.

Labor Force = Employment + Unemployment Number

Unemployment Rate = Unemployment Number/Labor Force

	Wyoming Seasonally Adjusted Statewide Labor Force Estimates			Change			
	October-19	September-19	October-18	Month		Year	
				absolute	percent	absolute	percent
Total Civilian Labor Force	290,238	289,262	289,238	976	0.3%	1,000	0.3%
Employed	279,281	278,354	277,224	927	0.3%	2,057	0.7%
Unemployed	10,957	10,908	12,014	49	0.4%	-1,057	-8.8%
Unemployment Rate	3.8	3.8	4.2				
Definitions:							
Employed	All persons who, during the reference week, did any work at all as paid employees, worked in their own business, profession, or on their own farm, or worked 15 hours or more as unpaid workers in a family business.						
Unemployed	All persons who had no employment during the reference week, were available for work, and had made specific efforts to find employment sometime during the 4-week period ending with the reference week.						
Labor Force	All persons who meet the criteria given above as either employed or unemployed.						
Unemployment Rate	The number of unemployed as a percent of the labor force.						
Seasonal Adjustment	A statistical procedure to remove the impact of normal regularly recurring events (such as weather, major holidays, and the opening and closing of schools) from economic time series to better understand changes in economic conditions from month to month.						

**Wyoming Department of Workforce Services
Research & Planning**

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Internet Address: <https://doe.state.wy.us/LMI/news.htm>

Access R&P's monthly publication on Wyoming's labor market at <https://doe.state.wy.us/LMI/trends.htm>

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