

Wyoming Unemployment Falls to 5.2% in July 2021

The Research & Planning section of the Wyoming Department of Workforce Services reported today that the state's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate fell from 5.4% in June to 5.2% in July. The slight decrease in unemployment was largely due to unemployed individuals dropping out of the labor force. Wyoming's unemployment rate is much lower than its July 2020 level of 6.8% and slightly lower than the current U.S. unemployment rate of 5.4%.

From June to July, unemployment rates fell in every county. Unemployment often decreases in July as employment grows in leisure & hospitality, construction, and other sectors. The largest unemployment rate decreases occurred in Sublette (down from 6.9% to 5.2%), Uinta (down from 6.5% to 4.9%), Natrona (down from 7.4% to 5.8%), Sweetwater (down from 7.2% to 5.8%), and Campbell (down from 6.9% to 5.5%) counties.

From July 2020 to July 2021, unemployment rates decreased in all of Wyoming's 23 counties. Unemployment rates were unusually high in July 2020 because of the COVID-19 pandemic. The largest over-the-year decreases occurred in Natrona County (down from 9.9% to 5.8%), Campbell County (down from 9.2% to 5.5%), Sweetwater County (down from 9.4% to 5.8%), and Converse County (down from 8.3% to 5.0%).

The lowest unemployment rates in July were reported in Teton County at 2.8%, Weston County at 3.1%, and Crook County at 3.2%. The highest rates were found in Natrona and Sweetwater counties, both at 5.8%. The next highest rates occurred in Campbell County at 5.5%, Sublette County at 5.2%, and Converse County at 5.0%.

Total nonfarm employment in Wyoming (not seasonally adjusted and measured by place of work) rose from 271,900 in July 2020 to 282,100 in July 2021, an increase of 10,200 jobs (3.8%). Nonfarm employment was unusually low in July 2020 because of widespread economic disruptions related to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Research & Planning has scheduled the August unemployment news release for September 20, 2021.

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

County	Labor Force			Employment			Unemployed Number			Unemployment Rate		
	Jul 2021 (p)	Jun 2021 (r)	Jul 2020 (b)	Jul 2021 (p)	Jun 2021 (r)	Jul 2020 (b)	Jul 2021 (p)	Jun 2021 (r)	Jul 2020 (b)	Jul 2021 (p)	Jun 2021 (r)	Jul 2020 (b)
Albany	19,338	19,587	19,226	18,582	18,630	18,356	756	957	870	3.9	4.9	4.5
Big Horn	5,853	5,826	5,707	5,617	5,521	5,422	236	305	285	4.0	5.2	5.0
Campbell	21,602	22,317	23,246	20,419	20,782	21,096	1,183	1,535	2,150	5.5	6.9	9.2
Carbon	8,375	8,459	8,727	8,065	8,089	8,352	310	370	375	3.7	4.4	4.3
Converse	7,484	7,802	7,875	7,111	7,331	7,221	373	471	654	5.0	6.0	8.3
Crook	4,220	4,258	4,155	4,085	4,071	3,974	135	187	181	3.2	4.4	4.4
Fremont	18,918	19,231	19,091	18,002	18,061	17,717	916	1,170	1,374	4.8	6.1	7.2
Goshen	6,836	6,682	6,813	6,598	6,377	6,486	238	305	327	3.5	4.6	4.8
Hot Springs	2,351	2,343	2,318	2,255	2,222	2,181	96	121	137	4.1	5.2	5.9
Johnson	4,683	4,653	4,448	4,522	4,435	4,178	161	218	270	3.4	4.7	6.1
Laramie	50,910	51,444	51,335	48,876	48,869	48,443	2,034	2,575	2,892	4.0	5.0	5.6
Lincoln	9,653	9,931	9,487	9,303	9,483	8,996	350	448	491	3.6	4.5	5.2
Natrona	40,460	40,822	41,181	38,102	37,819	37,085	2,358	3,003	4,096	5.8	7.4	9.9
Niobrara	1,398	1,388	1,292	1,342	1,324	1,236	56	64	56	4.0	4.6	4.3
Park	17,505	17,206	16,782	16,881	16,425	15,933	624	781	849	3.6	4.5	5.1
Platte	4,686	4,895	4,691	4,494	4,665	4,421	192	230	270	4.1	4.7	5.8
Sheridan	16,561	16,749	16,660	15,889	15,894	15,808	672	855	852	4.1	5.1	5.1
Sublette	4,241	4,218	4,288	4,022	3,926	3,963	219	292	325	5.2	6.9	7.6
Sweetwater	19,237	20,142	20,179	18,121	18,700	18,284	1,116	1,442	1,895	5.8	7.2	9.4
Teton	15,785	14,330	16,508	15,349	13,762	15,678	436	568	830	2.8	4.0	5.0
Uinta	9,019	9,267	9,389	8,576	8,661	8,655	443	606	734	4.9	6.5	7.8
Washakie	4,144	4,123	4,107	3,976	3,915	3,858	168	208	249	4.1	5.0	6.1
Weston	3,758	3,938	3,754	3,641	3,787	3,577	117	151	177	3.1	3.8	4.7
Statewide	297,016	299,609	301,260	283,827	282,749	280,920	13,189	16,860	20,340	4.4	5.6	6.8
Statewide Seasonally Adjusted.....										5.2	5.4	6.8
U.S.....										5.7	6.1	10.5
U.S. Seasonally Adjusted.....										5.4	5.9	10.2

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

Data are not seasonally adjusted except where otherwise specified.

Labor Force = Employment + Unemployed Number

Unemployment Rate = Unemployed Number/Labor Force

	Wyoming Seasonally Adjusted Statewide Labor Force Estimates			Change			
	July-21	June-21	July-20	Month		Year	
				absolute	percent	absolute	percent
Total Civilian Labor Force	295,713	296,342	297,259	-629	-0.2%	-1,546	-0.5%
Employed	280,266	280,217	277,055	49	0.0%	3,211	1.2%
Unemployed	15,447	16,125	20,204	-678	-4.2%	-4,757	-23.5%
Unemployment Rate	5.2	5.4	6.8				
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>

Contacts:

David Bullard, Senior Economist
Carola Cowan, BLS Programs Supervisor

david.bullard@wyo.gov
carola.cowan@wyo.gov

307-473-3810
307-473-3804

Wyoming Department of Workforce Services
Research & Planning
PO Box 2760
Casper WY 82602-2760