

Wyoming Unemployment Low and Stable at 2.8% in April 2024

The Research & Planning section of the Wyoming Department of Workforce Services reported today that the state's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate remained unchanged from March to April at 2.8%. Wyoming's unemployment rate also held steady from its year-ago level of 2.8%. In contrast, the U.S. unemployment rate edged upward from March to April, rising from 3.8% to 3.9% and was higher than its April 2023 level of 3.4%.

From March to April, most county unemployment rates followed their normal seasonal pattern and decreased. Warmer weather often brings seasonal job gains in construction, professional & business services, retail trade, and other sectors. The largest unemployment rate decreases occurred in Big Horn (down from 4.4% to 3.4%), Park (down from 3.8% to 2.9%), Washakie (down from 4.0% to 3.2%), Sweetwater (down from 3.8% to 3.0%), and Carbon (down from 3.6% to 2.8%) counties. Teton County's unemployment rate rose from 2.1% in March to 2.6% in April as the end of the ski season gave rise to seasonal job losses.

From April 2023 to April 2024, jobless rates fell in 14 counties, rose slightly in six counties, and remained unchanged in three counties. The largest decreases were found in Teton (down from 3.5% to 2.6%) and Platte (down from 3.0% to 2.4%) counties. Uinta County's unemployment rate increased from 3.1% to 3.4%.

In April, the lowest unemployment rates were reported in Weston County at 2.0%, Converse County at 2.2%, and Niobrara and Crook counties, each at 2.3%. Sublette County had the highest unemployment rate in the state at 3.6%. It was followed by Big Horn County and Uinta County, each at 3.4%.

Current Employment Statistics (CES) estimates show that total nonfarm employment in Wyoming (not seasonally adjusted and measured by place of work) rose from 285,200 in April 2023 to 290,100 in April 2024, an increase of 4,900 jobs (1.7%).

May unemployment data will be released on June 26, 2024.

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

County	Labor Force			Employment			Unemployed Number			Unemployment Rate		
	Apr 2024 (p)	Mar 2024 (r)	Apr 2023 (b)	Apr 2024 (p)	Mar 2024 (r)	Apr 2023 (b)	Apr 2024 (p)	Mar 2024 (r)	Apr 2023 (b)	Apr 2024 (p)	Mar 2024 (r)	Apr 2023 (b)
Albany	22,124	22,234	21,746	21,595	21,594	21,231	529	640	515	2.4	2.9	2.4
Big Horn	5,195	5,063	5,173	5,020	4,841	5,009	175	222	164	3.4	4.4	3.2
Campbell	23,618	23,656	23,480	22,959	22,922	22,879	659	734	601	2.8	3.1	2.6
Carbon	6,893	6,782	7,165	6,698	6,541	6,945	195	241	220	2.8	3.6	3.1
Converse	7,666	7,641	7,737	7,495	7,425	7,560	171	216	177	2.2	2.8	2.3
Crook	3,913	3,736	3,942	3,824	3,628	3,850	89	108	92	2.3	2.9	2.3
Fremont	19,061	19,098	19,004	18,475	18,371	18,353	586	727	651	3.1	3.8	3.4
Goshen	6,446	6,280	6,665	6,289	6,103	6,500	157	177	165	2.4	2.8	2.5
Hot Springs	2,255	2,248	2,339	2,194	2,174	2,281	61	74	58	2.7	3.3	2.5
Johnson	4,253	4,171	4,374	4,132	4,027	4,244	121	144	130	2.8	3.5	3.0
Laramie	48,771	49,165	48,637	47,365	47,515	47,232	1,406	1,650	1,405	2.9	3.4	2.9
Lincoln	9,665	9,813	9,503	9,376	9,472	9,210	289	341	293	3.0	3.5	3.1
Natrona	39,317	39,598	39,386	38,140	38,199	38,138	1,177	1,399	1,248	3.0	3.5	3.2
Niobrara	1,178	1,130	1,221	1,151	1,101	1,191	27	29	30	2.3	2.6	2.5
Park	15,153	14,784	15,302	14,710	14,226	14,832	443	558	470	2.9	3.8	3.1
Platte	4,314	4,175	4,363	4,209	4,051	4,233	105	124	130	2.4	3.0	3.0
Sheridan	16,191	16,109	16,265	15,786	15,616	15,817	405	493	448	2.5	3.1	2.8
Sublette	3,829	3,726	3,974	3,693	3,568	3,839	136	158	135	3.6	4.2	3.4
Sweetwater	20,038	20,207	20,190	19,429	19,443	19,526	609	764	664	3.0	3.8	3.3
Teton	15,743	16,669	15,761	15,334	16,314	15,207	409	355	554	2.6	2.1	3.5
Uinta	8,928	8,997	9,093	8,625	8,674	8,809	303	323	284	3.4	3.6	3.1
Washakie	3,796	3,755	3,846	3,674	3,603	3,715	122	152	131	3.2	4.0	3.4
Weston	3,872	3,852	3,891	3,793	3,757	3,818	79	95	73	2.0	2.5	1.9
Statewide	292,218	292,887	293,059	283,966	283,164	284,420	8,252	9,723	8,639	2.8	3.3	2.9
Statewide Seasonally Adjusted.....										2.8	2.8	2.8
U.S.....										3.5	3.9	3.1
U.S. Seasonally Adjusted.....										3.9	3.8	3.4

(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			
				Month		Year	
	April-24	March-24	April-23	absolute	percent	absolute	percent
Total Civilian Labor Force	293,108	293,020	295,614	88	0.0%	-2,506	-0.8%
Employed	284,901	284,728	287,193	173	0.1%	-2,292	-0.8%
Unemployed	8,207	8,292	8,421	-85	-1.0%	-214	-2.5%
Unemployment Rate	2.8	2.8	2.8				
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>

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