

Wyoming Unemployment Insurance Claims Report

November 2024

Information for Wyoming by Industry and
County of Residence of Claimant

Research & Planning, Wyoming Department of Workforce Services

Published December 17, 2024



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Published December 17, 2024.

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Unemployment Insurance Claims Data: <https://doe.state.wy.us/LMI/ui.htm>

URL for this report: https://doe.state.wy.us/LMI/UI/1124_UI.pdf

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Who We Are

Research & Planning (R&P) functions as an exclusively statistical entity within the Wyoming Department of Workforce Services. R&P collects, analyzes, and publishes timely and accurate labor market information (LMI) meeting established statistical standards. We work to make the labor market more efficient by providing the public and the public’s representatives with the information needed for evidence-based, informed decision making.



Wyoming Unemployment Insurance Claims Report, November 2024

Initial, Continued Claims Down Compared to 2019

by: *Laura Yetter, Senior Economist*

Wyoming initial and continued Unemployment Insurance (UI) claims (see Definitions, page 9) increased from October to November, as well as over the year. Both sets of claims followed the same pattern over the years unless there was an economic downturn (see discussion and figures on pages 10-11). Although initial and continued claims were up over the year, both remained below 2014 and 2019 levels.

Initial Claims

Wyoming’s 2,056 initial claims in November 2024 marked an increase of 80 claims (4.0%) compared to November 2023 (see Figure 1). Initial claims also increased by 228 (12.5%) over the month.

UI Claims Online

Weekly, monthly, and annual Unemployment Insurance claims for Wyoming available online at <https://doe.state.wy.us/LMI/UI.htm>.

The industries with the largest numbers of initial claims included construction (576), leisure & hospitality (437), professional & business services (284), and trade, transportation, & utilities (239). Information, which includes activities such as data processing and telecommunications, decreased the most over the year with 13 fewer claims (-68.4%). Trade, transportation, & utilities increased the most with 38 claims (18.9%), followed by education & health services with 21 claims (33.9%; see Table 1, page 5, and Figure 3, page 6).

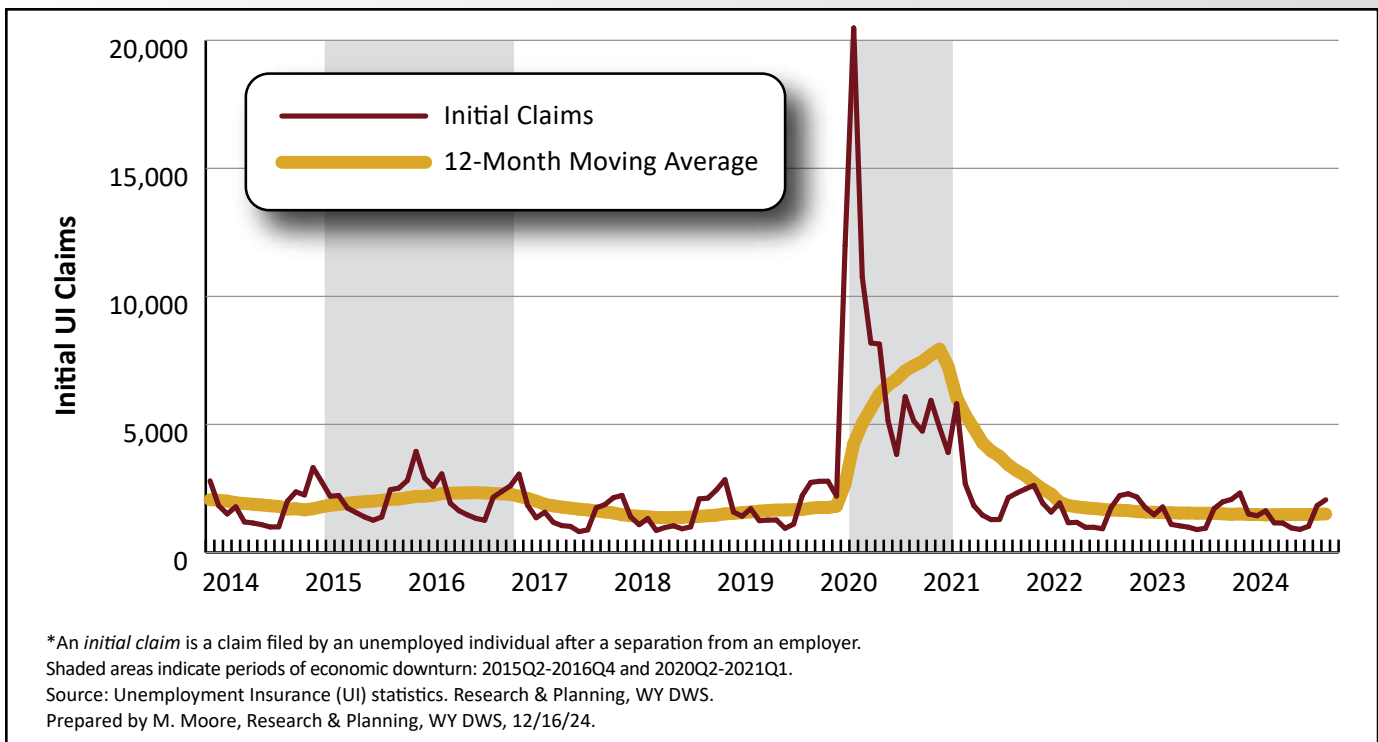


Figure 1: Total Number of Initial Unemployment Insurance Claims for Wyoming by Year and Month, January 2014 to November 2024

Laramie County had the most initial claims with 242, followed by Natrona (221), Teton (191), and Sweetwater (143; see Figure 4, page 6, and Table 3, page 9). In addition, there were 433 out-of-state initial claims.

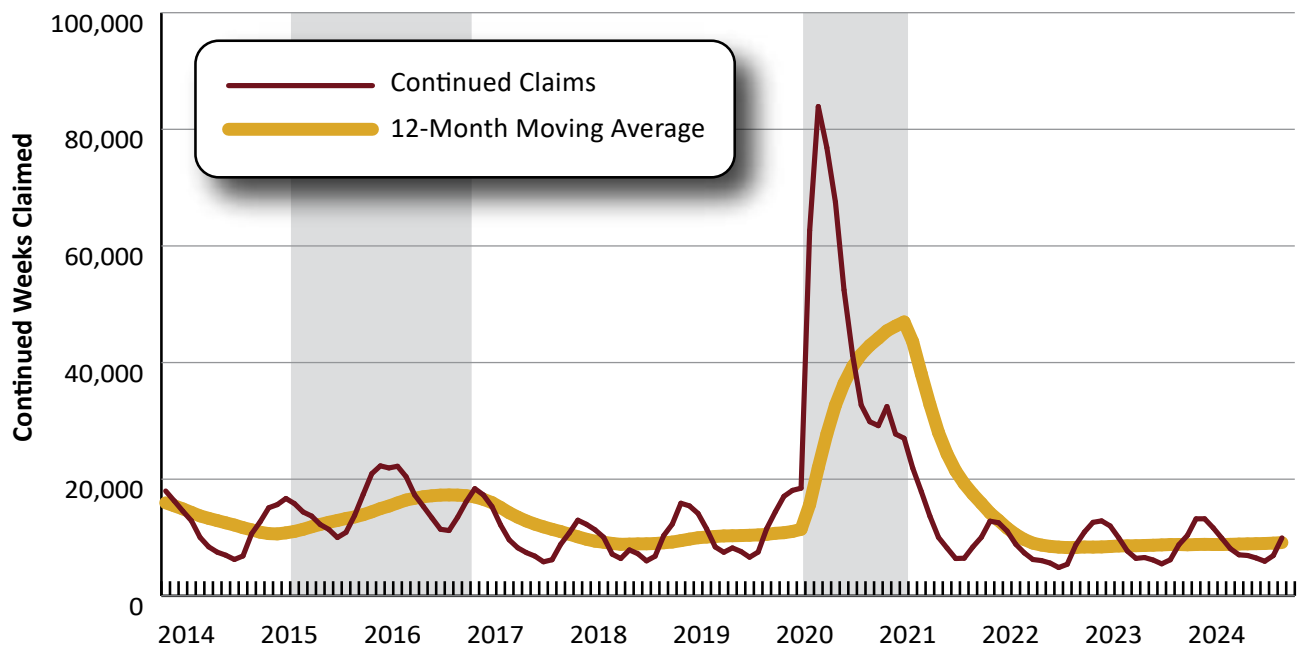
Continued Claims

The total number of continued weeks claimed increased from 8,754 in November 2023 to 9,931 in November 2024 (1,177, or 13.4%; see Figure 2 and Table 2, page 7). The total number of unique claimants increased from 2,715 to 3,533 (818, or 30.1%) over the year. Over the month, continued claims increased by 3,028 (43.9%) and the number of unique claimants increased by 1,284 (57.1%).

The industries with the most continued

weeks claimed included leisure & hospitality (2,982), construction (1,586), trade, transportation, & utilities (1,252), and professional & business services (1,121). Information also had the greatest over-the-year decrease in continued claims (-95, or -51.6%; see Figure 5, page 8) followed by financial activities with 27 fewer claims. All other industries showed over-the-year increases in continued weeks claimed, led by leisure & hospitality (449, or 17.7%) and professional & business services (229).

Natrona County had the most continued claims with 1,216, followed by Laramie (1,201), Teton (1,112), and Fremont (596) counties (see Figure 6, page 8, and Table 4, page 9). There were 2,259 out-of-state continued claims, down by 3.0% over the year.



*A person who has already filed an initial claim and who has experienced a week of unemployment then files a *continued claim* to claim benefits for that week of unemployment.

Shaded areas indicate periods of economic downturn: 2015Q2-2016Q4 and 2020Q2-2021Q1.

Source: Unemployment Insurance (UI) statistics. Research & Planning, WY DWS.

Prepared by C. McGrath, Research & Planning, WY DWS, 12/16/24.

Figure 2: Total Number of Unemployment Insurance Continued Weeks Claimed for Wyoming by Year and Month, January 2014 to November 2024

Table 1: Initial Unemployment Insurance Claims in Wyoming, November 2024

Industry	Initial Claims Filed			Over-the-Month Change		Over-the-Year Change	
	Nov 2024	Oct 2024	Nov 2023	N	%	N	%
Total Claims Filed	2,056	1,828	1,976	228	12.5	80	4.0
Goods-Producing	720	455	712	265	58.2	8	1.1
Natural Resources & Mining (11, 21)	86	90	91	-4	-4.4	-5	-5.5
Mining (21)	69	85	71	-16	-18.8	-2	-2.8
Construction (23)	576	320	570	256	80.0	6	1.1
Manufacturing (31-33)	57	45	50	12	26.7	7	14.0
Service-Providing	1,123	1,213	1,065	-90	-7.4	58	5.4
Trade, Transportation, & Utilities (22, 42, 44-45, 48-49)	239	200	201	39	19.5	38	18.9
Wholesale Trade (42)	37	32	24	5	15.6	13	54.2
Retail Trade (44-45)	132	107	101	25	23.4	31	30.7
Transportation, Warehousing & Utilities (22, 44-49)	69	59	76	10	16.9	-7	-9.2
Information (51)	6	12	19	-6	-50.0	-13	-68.4
Financial Activities (52-53)	40	29	38	11	37.9	2	5.3
Professional & Business Services (54-56)	284	202	270	82	40.6	14	5.2
Education & Health Services (61-62)	83	94	62	-11	-11.7	21	33.9
Leisure & Hospitality (71-72)	437	640	439	-203	-31.7	-2	-0.5
Other Services, except Public Admin. (81)	32	32	32	0	0.0	0	0.0
Government	186	139	172	47	33.8	14	8.1
Federal Government	138	67	114	71	106.0	24	21.1
State Government	5	18	11	-13	-72.2	-6	-54.5
Local Government	42	53	46	-11	-20.8	-4	-8.7
Local Education	7	8	4	-1	-12.5	3	75.0
Unclassified	25	20	25	5	25.0	0	0.0
Laramie County							
Total Claims Filed	242	205	274	37	18.0	-32	-11.7
Goods-Producing	98	59	103	39	66.1	-5	-4.9
Construction	89	54	92	35	64.8	-3	-3.3
Service-Providing	133	132	153	1	0.8	-20	-13.1
Trade, Transportation, & Utilities (22,42,44-45,48-49)	40	37	38	3	8.1	2	5.3
Financial Activities (52, 53)	4	6	7	-2	-33.3	-3	-42.9
Professional & Business Services (54 - 56)	48	51	64	-3	-5.9	-16	-25.0
Educational & Health Services (61-62)	10	12	10	-2	-16.7	0	0.0
Leisure & Hospitality (71-72)	10	19	13	-9	-47.4	-3	-23.1
Government	9	11	8	-2	-18.2	1	12.5
Natrona County							
Total Claims Filed	221	207	227	14	6.8	-6	-2.6
Goods-Producing	106	80	100	26	32.5	6	6.0
Construction	85	58	77	27	46.6	8	10.4
Service-Providing	107	118	116	-11	-9.3	-9	-7.8
Trade, Transportation, & Utilities (22,42,44-45,48-49)	40	32	32	8	25.0	8	25.0
Financial Activities (52, 53)	8	6	6	2	33.3	2	33.3
Professional & Business Services (54 - 56)	24	27	29	-3	-11.1	-5	-17.2
Educational & Health Services (61-62)	15	19	16	-4	-21.1	-1	-6.3
Leisure & Hospitality (71-72)	14	21	25	-7	-33.3	-11	-44.0
Government	4	7	10	-3	-42.9	-6	-60.0

N/D = Not discloseable due to confidentiality.

Source: Unemployment Insurance claims database.

Prepared by M. Moore, Research & Planning, WY DWS, 12/16/24.

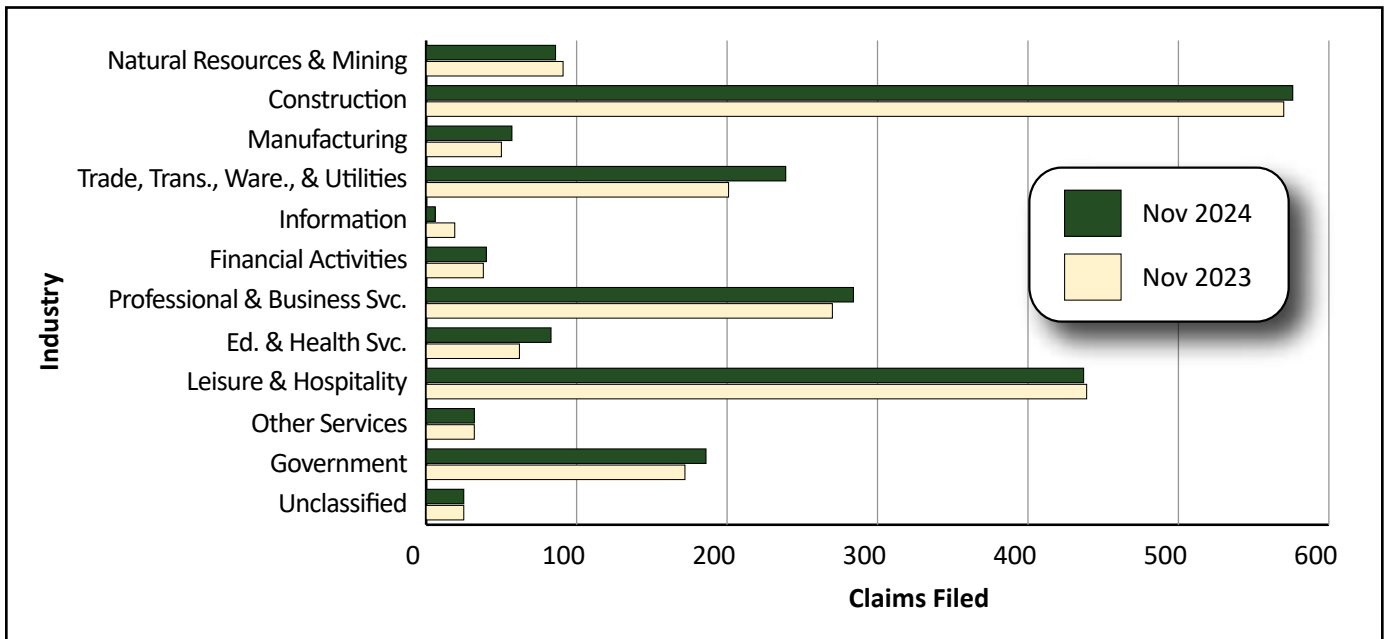


Figure 3: Initial Unemployment Insurance Claims by Major Industry in Wyoming, November 2023 and November 2024

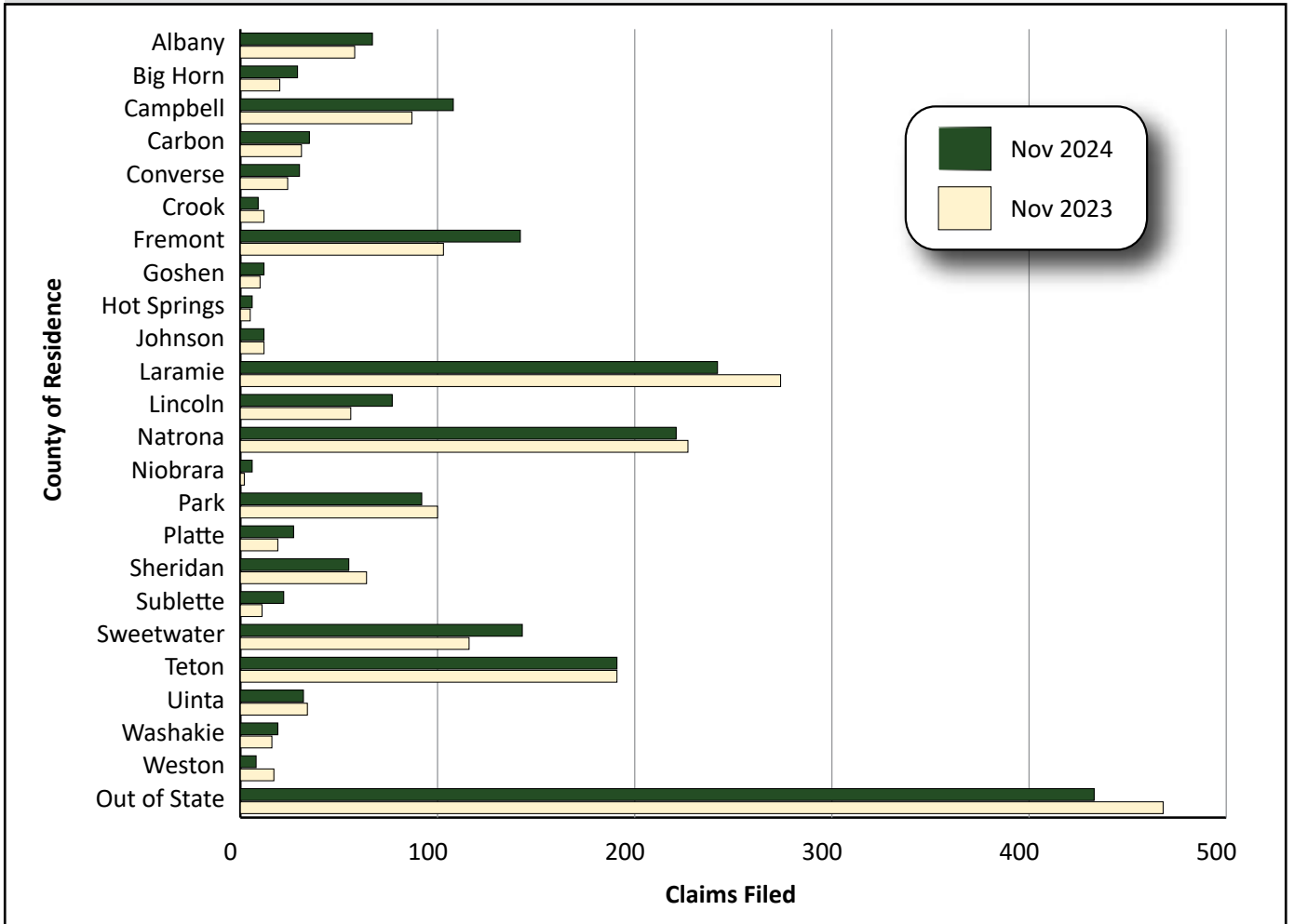


Figure 4: Initial Unemployment Insurance Claims by County of Residence, November 2023 and November 2024

Table 2: Unemployment Insurance Continued Weeks Claimed in Wyoming, November 2024

Industry	Continued Weeks Claimed			Over-the-Month Change		Over-the-Year Change	
	Nov 2024	Oct 2024	Nov 2023	N	%	N	%
Total Continued Weeks Claimed	9,931	6,903	8,754	3,028	43.9	1,177	13.4
Total Unique Claimants	3,533	2,249	2,715	1,284	57.1	818	30.1
Goods-Producing	2,449	1,801	2,152	648	36.0	297	13.8
Natural Resources & Mining (11, 21)	450	420	380	30	7.1	70	18.4
Mining (21)	412	394	333	18	4.6	79	23.7
Oil & Gas Extraction (211)	15	21	23	-6	-28.6	-8	-34.8
Construction (23)	1,586	1,027	1,450	559	54.4	136	9.4
Manufacturing (31-33)	412	354	322	58	16.4	90	28.0
Service-Providing	6,640	4,550	5,830	2,090	45.9	810	13.9
Trade, Transportation, & Utilities (22, 42, 44-45, 48-49)	1,252	1,116	1,115	136	12.2	137	12.3
Wholesale Trade (42)	234	222	162	12	5.4	72	44.4
Retail Trade (44-45)	690	594	602	96	16.2	88	14.6
Transportation, Warehousing & Utilities (22, 44-49)	326	298	349	28	9.4	-23	-6.6
Information (51)	89	91	184	-2	-2.2	-95	-51.6
Financial Activities (52-53)	251	261	278	-10	-3.8	-27	-9.7
Professional & Business Services (54-56)	1,121	782	892	339	43.4	229	25.7
Education & Health Services (61-62)	710	693	627	17	2.5	83	13.2
Leisure & Hospitality (71-72)	2,982	1,419	2,533	1,563	110.1	449	17.7
Other Services, except Public Admin. (81)	232	185	198	47	25.4	34	17.2
Government	725	445	646	280	62.9	79	12.2
Federal Government	331	72	321	259	359.7	10	3.1
State Government	89	69	86	20	29.0	3	3.5
Local Government	304	303	239	1	0.3	65	27.2
Local Education	55	64	47	-9	-14.1	8	17.0
Unclassified	116	105	123	11	10.5	-7	-5.7
Laramie County							
Total Claims Filed	1,201	1,040	1,118	161	15.5	83	7.4
Total Unique Claimants	454	316	358	138	43.7	96	26.8
Goods-Producing	321	211	279	110	52.1	42	15.1
Construction	239	135	208	104	77.0	31	14.9
Service-Providing	783	726	752	57	7.9	31	4.1
Trade, Transportation, & Utilities (22,42,44-45,48-49)	255	238	204	17	7.1	51	25.0
Financial Activities (52, 53)	48	66	45	-18	-27.3	3	6.7
Professional & Business Services (54 - 56)	194	161	194	33	20.5	0	0.0
Educational & Health Services (61 - 62)	113	109	133	4	3.7	-20	-15.0
Leisure & Hospitality (71 - 72)	109	110	86	-1	-0.9	23	26.7
Government	79	83	63	-4	-4.8	16	25.4
Unclassified	17	19	22	-2	-10.5	-5	-22.7
Natrona County							
Total Claims Filed	1,216	1,066	1,023	150	14.1	193	18.9
Total Unique Claimants	442	328	327	114	34.8	115	35.2
Goods-Producing	400	279	256	121	43.4	144	56.3
Construction	250	147	147	103	70.1	103	70.1
Service-Providing	776	749	693	27	3.6	83	12.0
Trade, Transportation, & Utilities (22,42,44-45,48-49)	256	222	178	34	15.3	78	43.8
Financial Activities (52, 53)	50	63	71	-13	-20.6	-21	-29.6
Professional & Business Services (54 - 56)	156	151	120	5	3.3	36	30.0
Educational & Health Services (61 - 62)	117	139	118	-22	-15.8	-1	-0.8
Leisure & Hospitality (71 - 72)	113	111	141	2	1.8	-28	-19.9
Government	27	23	51	4	17.4	-24	-47.1
Unclassified	12	13	21	-1	-7.7	-9	-42.9

Source: Unemployment Insurance claims database.
Prepared by M. Moore, Research & Planning, WY DWS, 12/16/24.

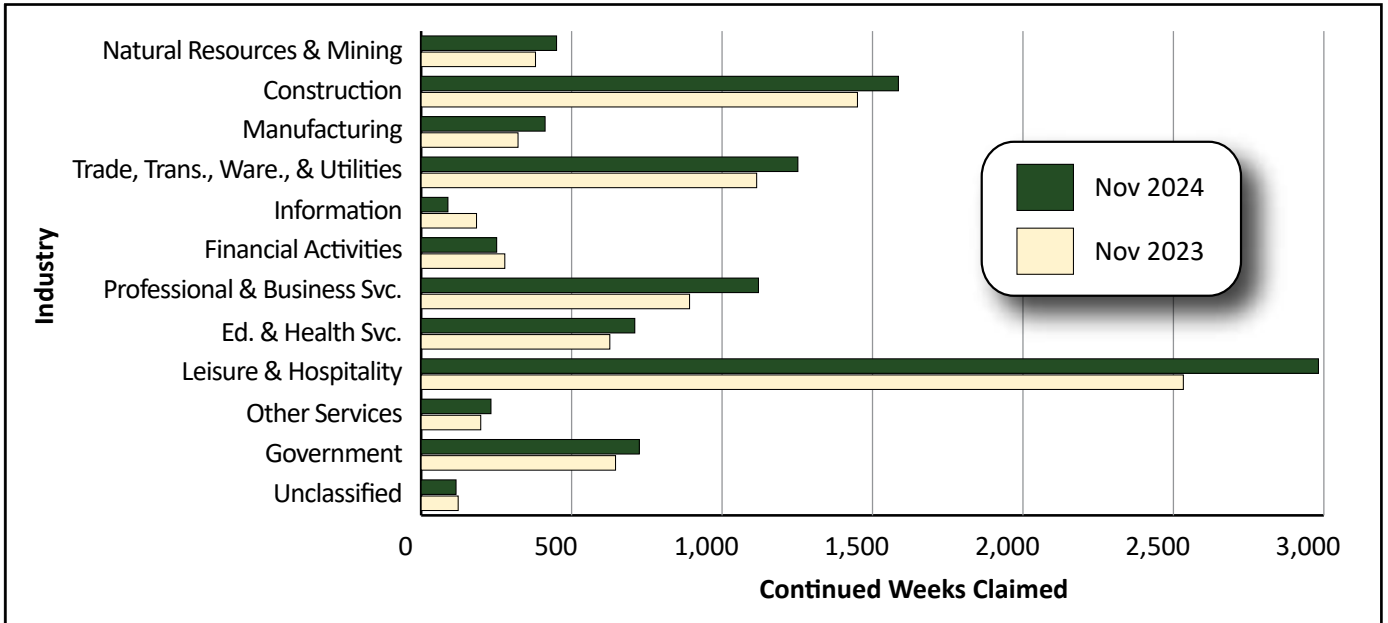


Figure 5: Continued Unemployment Insurance Claims by Major Industry in Wyoming, November 2023 and November 2024

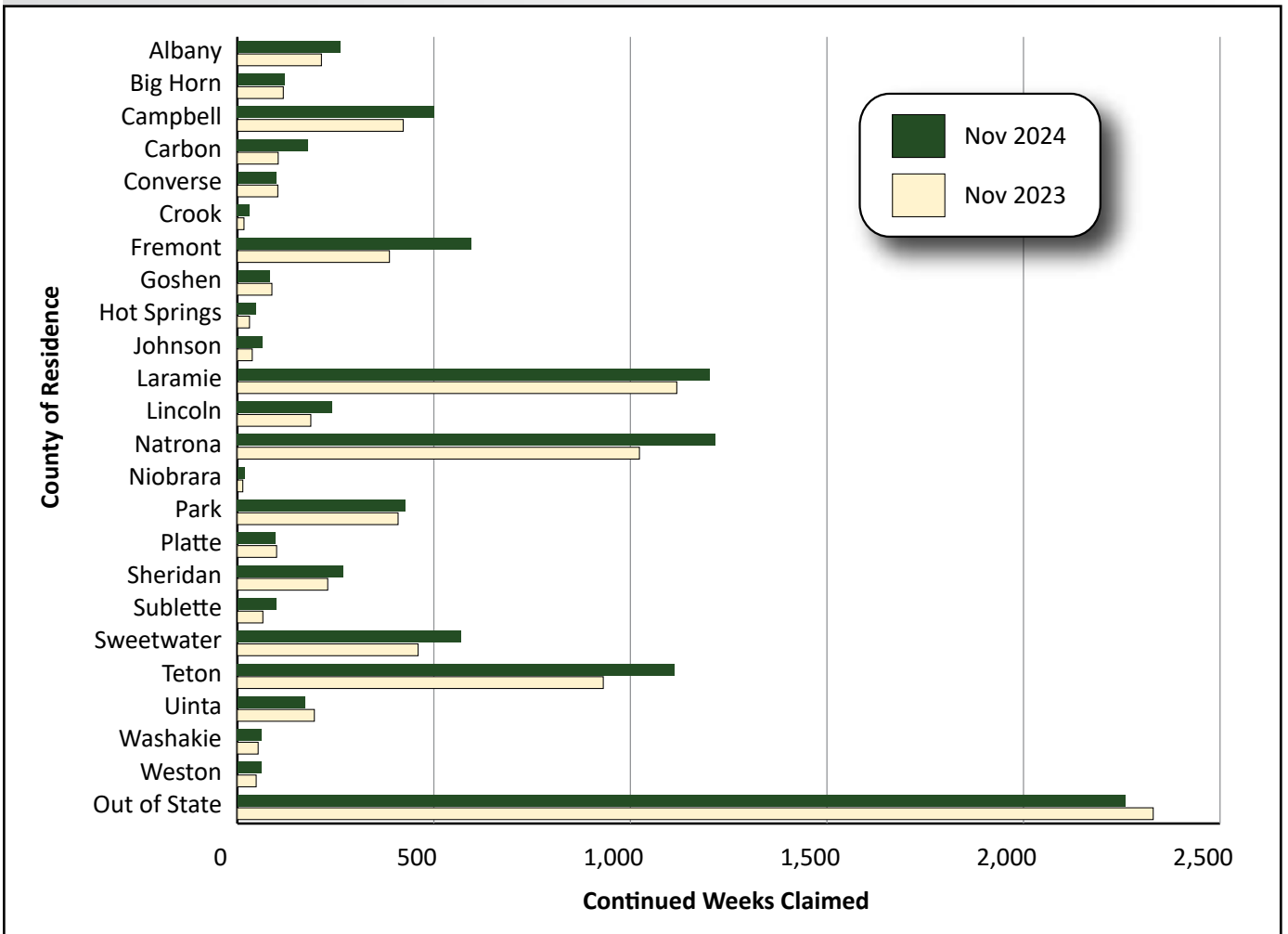


Figure 6: Continued Unemployment Insurance Claims by County of Residence in Wyoming, November 2023 and November 2024

Table 3: Initial Unemployment Insurance Claims for Wyoming by County of Residence, November 2023 and November 2024

County	Nov 2024	Nov 2023	Change	
			N	%
Albany	67	58	9	15.5
Big Horn	29	20	9	45.0
Campbell	108	87	21	24.1
Carbon	35	31	4	12.9
Converse	30	24	6	25.0
Crook	9	12	-3	-25.0
Fremont	142	103	39	37.9
Goshen	12	10	2	20.0
Hot Springs	6	N/D	N/D	N/D
Johnson	12	12	0	0.0
Laramie	242	274	-32	-11.7
Lincoln	77	56	21	37.5
Natrona	221	227	-6	-2.6
Niobrara	6	N/D	N/D	N/D
Park	92	100	-8	-8.0
Platte	27	19	8	42.1
Sheridan	55	64	-9	-14.1
Sublette	22	11	11	100.0
Sweetwater	143	116	27	23.3
Teton	191	191	0	0.0
Uinta	32	34	-2	-5.9
Washakie	19	16	3	18.8
Weston	8	17	-9	-52.9
Unknown	25	8	17	212.5
Out of State	433	468	-35	-7.5
Total	2,056	1,976	80	4.0

N/D = not discloseable due to confidentiality.
 Source: Unemployment Insurance claims database.
 Prepared by M. Moore, Research & Planning, WY DWS, 12/16/24.

Box: Definitions

Initial Claim: An initial claim is filed by an unemployed individual after a separation from an employer. The claim requests a determination of basic eligibility for the Unemployment Insurance benefits.

Continued Weeks Claimed: The number of weeks of UI benefits claimed during the reference period. An unemployed individual who has already filed an initial claim and who has experienced a week of unemployment and then filed a continued claim to claim benefits for that week of unemployment.

Table 4: Wyoming Normalized^a Unemployment Statistics: Continued Claims by County of Residence, November 2023 and November 2024

County	Nov 2024	Nov 2023	Change	
			N	%
Albany	261	214	47	22.0
Big Horn	120	117	3	2.6
Campbell	501	422	79	18.7
Carbon	180	104	76	73.1
Converse	99	103	-4	-3.9
Crook	31	17	14	82.4
Fremont	596	387	209	54.0
Goshen	82	88	-6	-6.8
Hot Springs	48	31	17	54.8
Johnson	64	38	26	68.4
Laramie	1,201	1,118	83	7.4
Lincoln	242	187	55	29.4
Natrona	1,216	1,023	193	18.9
Niobrara	18	14	4	28.6
Park	428	409	19	4.6
Platte	98	100	-2	-2.0
Sheridan	270	230	40	17.4
Sublette	99	65	34	52.3
Sweetwater	569	460	109	23.7
Teton	1,112	931	181	19.4
Uinta	172	196	-24	-12.2
Washakie	62	53	9	17.0
Weston	61	48	13	27.1
Unknown	129	56	73	130.4
Out of State	2,259	2,330	-71	-3.0
Normalized Total^a	9,331	8,754	1,177	11.9

^aAn 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.

All totals are subject to rounding error and may not add to the sum of their respective components.

The table above conforms to Wyoming Employment Security Law - Wyoming Statute 27-3-603 regarding confidentiality.

Source: Unemployment Insurance claims database.
 Prepared by M. Moore, Research & Planning, WY DWS, 12/16/24.

Very Little Variation in Monthly UI Claims in Recent Years

by Michael Moore, Research Supervisor

The seasonality of Wyoming's workforce and initial and continued Unemployment Insurance (UI) claims has been well documented by the Research & Planning (R&P) section of the Wyoming Department of Workforce Services. Initial claims, for example, typically peak in January and then continuously decline as the warmer months bring more jobs in industries such as construction and leisure & hospitality (Yetter, 2024). Claims then increase each month from October to December, as seasonal summer jobs go away (R&P, 2024).

In addition to the regular seasonal patterns, the actual number of monthly claims rarely varied much from year to year during most of the last 15 years. The exception to this, obviously, occurred during periods of economic downturn, notably from 2009Q1 to 2010Q1, 2015Q2 to 2016Q4, and 2020Q2 to 2021Q1, which can be seen in Figure 1 (page 3) and Figure 2 (page 4) of this report.

To illustrate this concept, R&P chose to look at monthly claims for 2014, 2019, and 2024 for both initial and continued claims. Each of these three years was a few years removed from any economic downturn, during periods of moderate job growth. In this respect, 2024 marked a fairly normal year as far as UI claims go. During most months, Wyoming had fewer initial and continued claims compared to 10 years ago (2014) and five years ago (2019).

Figure 7 (see page 11) shows monthly initial claims for the three selected years. There was very little difference in the number of monthly initial claims during each of these three years, particularly during the warmer

months from May to September. In August, for example, Wyoming had 995 initial claims in 2014, 943 in 2019, and 899 in 2024. From October to November, initial claims in 2019 were noticeably higher compared to the other two years. This was likely related to job losses in mining and other industries in 2019Q3 and 2019Q4 (Moore, 2020).

The number of monthly continued claims can be seen in Figure 8 (see page 11). While there was some variation among the three years in the first five months, the number of continued weeks claimed in 2024 was very similar compared to 2014 and 2019 from May to October. In October, for example, Wyoming had 6,831 continued weeks claimed in 2014, 7,505 in 2019, and 6,903 in 2024.

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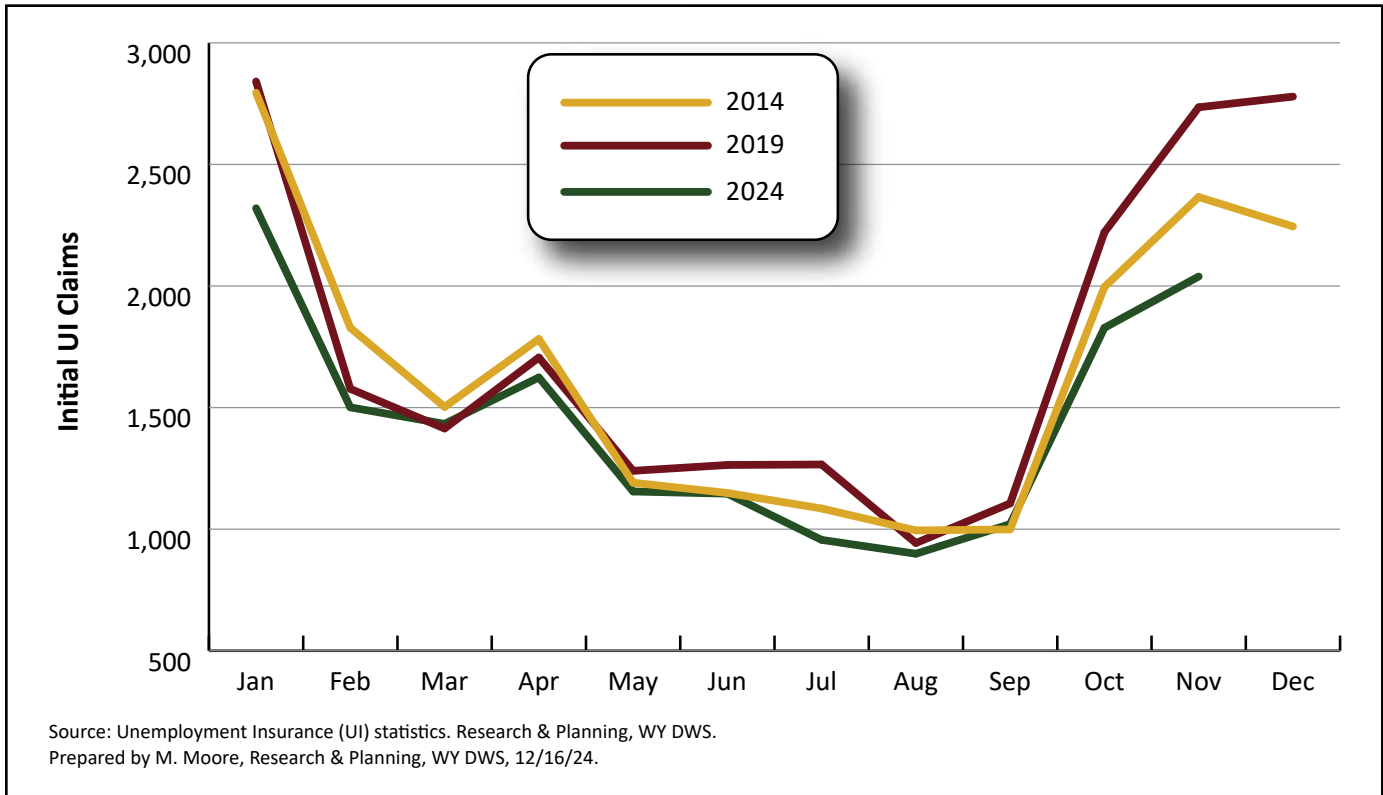


Figure 7: Total Initial Unemployment Insurance Claims by Selected Year and Month, 2014, 2019, and 2024

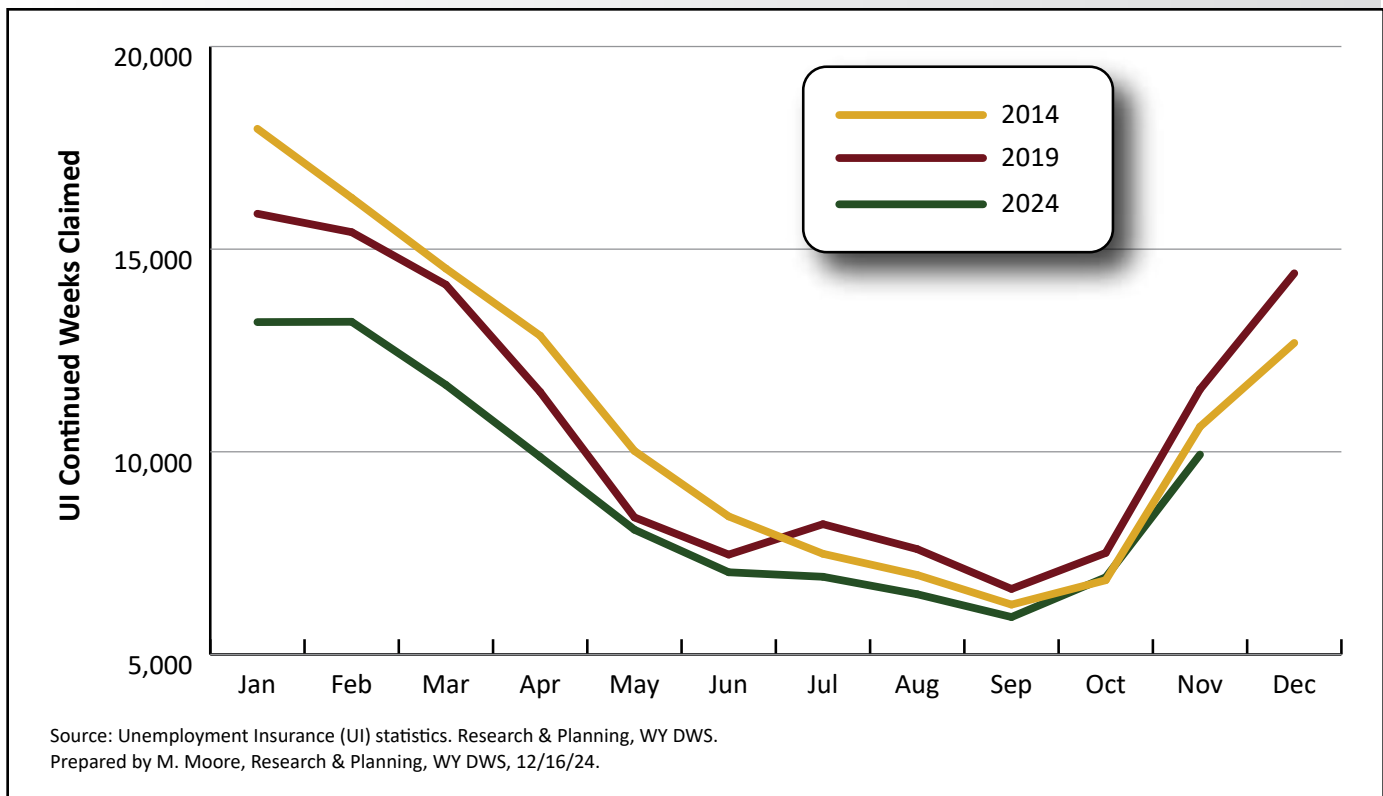


Figure 8: Total Unemployment Insurance Continued Weeks Claimed by Selected Year and Month, 2014, 2019, and 2024



This publication was produced by the Research & Planning section of the Wyoming Department of Workforce Services.

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