

Wyoming Unemployment Insurance Claims Report

February 2022

**Information for Wyoming by Industry and
County of Residence of Claimant**

Research & Planning, Wyoming Department of Workforce Services

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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, February 2022

UI Claims Continue Downward Trend

by: **Laura Yetter, Senior Economist**

Initial and continued Unemployment Insurance (UI) claims (see Definitions, page 9) in Wyoming continued to decline from prior-year levels in February 2022. Initial and continued claims also followed their normal seasonal patterns and decreased from January to February.

UI Claims Online

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

Initial Claims

The number of initial UI claims continued to trend downward in February 2022 (see Figure 1) and decreased from prior-year levels for the 12th consecutive month. There were 1,935 initial claims in February 2022, down from 4,883 in February 2021 (-2,948 or -60.4%). Initial claims were in line with pre-pandemic levels of 2,206 in February 2020, 1,577 in

February 2019, and 1,391 in 2018. Initial claims peaked in April 2020 at the start of the COVID-19 pandemic and have largely trended downward since.

The industries with the largest numbers of initial claims included construction (661), unclassified (334), trade, transportation, & utilities (194), and professional & business service (161; see Table 1, page 5, and Figure 3, page 6).

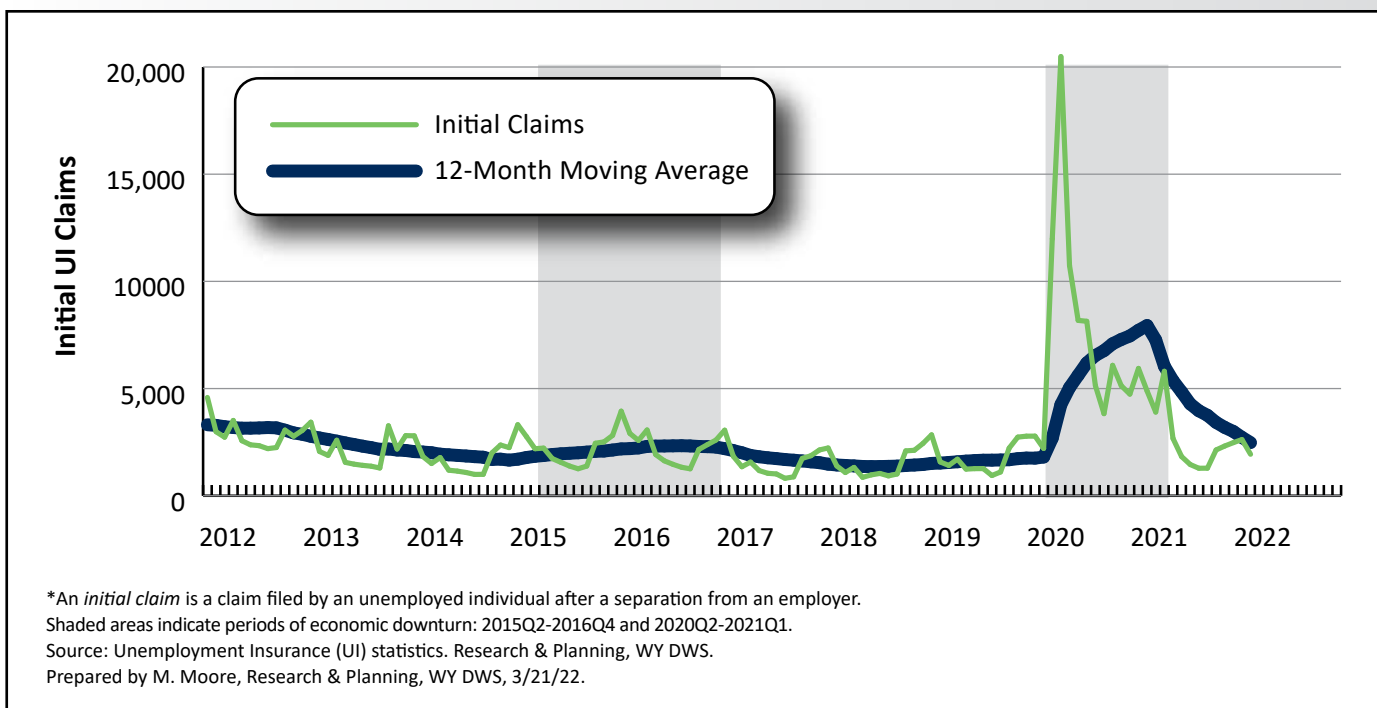


Figure 1: Total Number of Initial Unemployment Insurance Claims for Wyoming by Year and Month, January 2012 to February 2022

Laramie (294), Natrona (285), Campbell (155), Sweetwater (126), and Sheridan (124) counties had the largest number of initial claims (see Figure 4, page 6, and Table 3, page 9). In addition, there were 244 initial claims by out-of-state claimants.

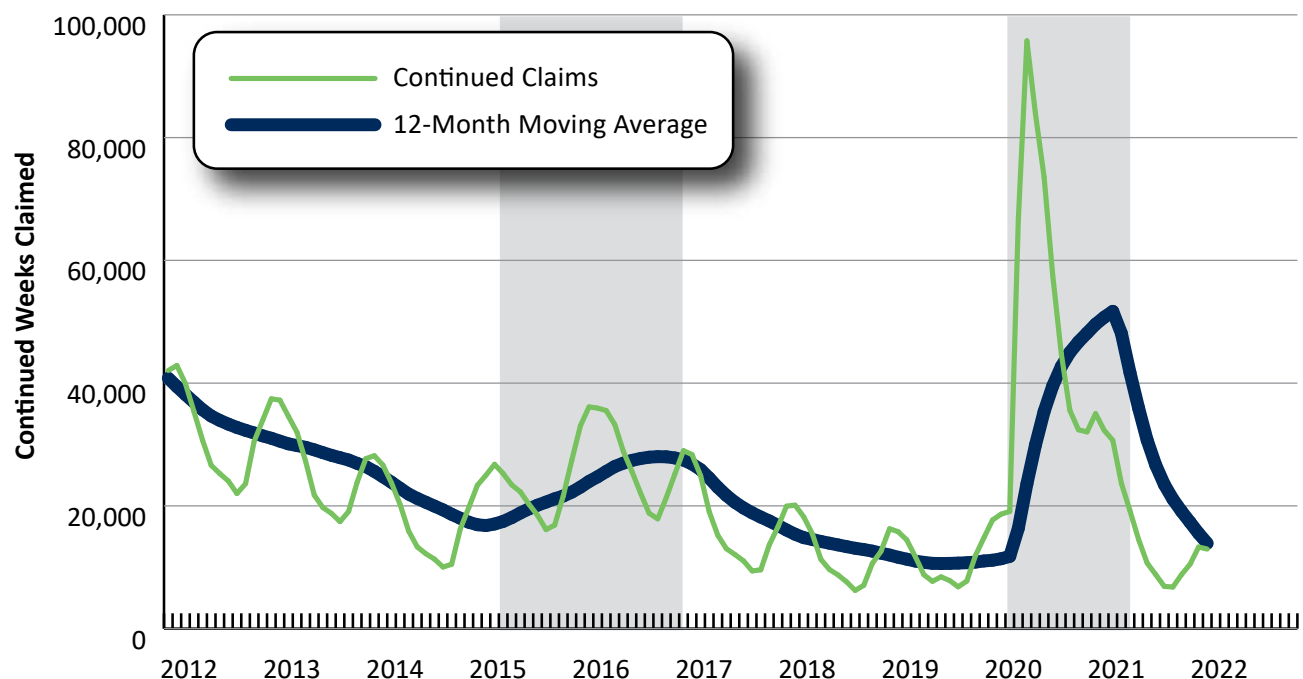
Continued Claims

Continued claims trended downward for the 11th consecutive month in February (see Figure 2). The total number of continued weeks claimed decreased from 32,305 in February 2021 to 12,965 in February 2022 (-19,340, or -59.9%), and the number of unique claimants decreased from 9,727 to 4,202 (-5,525, or -56.8%; see Table 2, page 7). Wyoming's total continued weeks claimed were 17.9% lower

than the pre-pandemic total of 15,795 in February 2019.

The industries with the most continued weeks claimed included construction (4,022), unclassified (2,616), professional & business services (1,268), trade, transportation & utilities (1,090), and leisure & hospitality (980). There were also 1,120 continued weeks claimed in government (see Table 2, page 7, and Figure 5, page 6).

There were more continued weeks claimed for out-of-state claimants (2,192) than any single county in Wyoming (see Figure 6, page 6, and Table 4, page 9). The counties with the greatest numbers of continued weeks claimed were Natrona (1,927), Laramie (1,824), Fremont (974), and Sweetwater (946).



*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 M. Moore, Research & Planning, WY DWS, 3/21/22.

Figure 2: Total Number of Unemployment Insurance Continued Weeks Claimed for Wyoming by Year and Month, January 2012 to February 2022

Table 1: Initial Unemployment Insurance Claims in Wyoming, February 2022

Industry	Initial Claims Filed			Over-the-Month Change		Over-the-Year Change	
	Feb 2022	Jan 2022	Feb 2021	N	%	N	%
Total Claims Filed	1,935	2,620	4,883	-685	-26.1	-2,948	-60.4
Goods-Producing	878	1,145	1,781	-267	-23.3	-903	-50.7
Natural Resources & Mining (11, 21)	99	102	357	-3	-2.9	-258	-72.3
Mining (21)	90	83	337	7	8.4	-247	-73.3
Oil & Gas Extraction (211)	6	4	12	2	50.0	-6	-50.0
Construction (23)	661	945	1,196	-284	-30.1	-535	-44.7
Manufacturing (31-33)	117	97	228	20	20.6	-111	-48.7
Service-Providing	618	881	1,903	-263	-29.9	-1,285	-67.5
Trade, Transportation, & Utilities (22, 42, 44-45, 48-49)	194	241	595	-47	-19.5	-401	-67.4
Wholesale Trade (42)	22	35	74	-13	-37.1	-52	-70.3
Retail Trade (44-45)	88	125	308	-37	-29.6	-220	-71.4
Transportation, Warehousing & Utilities (22, 44-49)	83	80	212	3	3.8	-129	-60.8
Information (51)	5	6	20	-1	-16.7	-15	-75.0
Financial Activities (52-53)	29	41	73	-12	-29.3	-44	-60.3
Professional & Business Services (54-56)	161	248	363	-87	-35.1	-202	-55.6
Education & Health Services (61-62)	75	88	237	-13	-14.8	-162	-68.4
Leisure & Hospitality (71-72)	127	218	538	-91	-41.7	-411	-76.4
Other Services, except Public Admin. (81)	23	35	74	-12	-34.3	-51	-68.9
Government	103	178	270	-75	-42.1	-167	-61.9
Federal Government	37	92	83	-55	-59.8	-46	-55.4
State Government	17	16	40	1	6.3	-23	-57.5
Local Government	48	70	147	-22	-31.4	-99	-67.3
Local Education	7	12	49	-5	-41.7	-42	-85.7
Unclassified	334	415	927	-81	-19.5	-593	-64.0
Laramie County							
Total Claims Filed	294	356	633	-62	-17.4	-339	-53.6
Goods-Producing	135	184	205	-49	-26.6	-70	-34.1
Construction	117	176	167	-59	-33.5	-50	-29.9
Service-Providing	90	116	273	-26	-22.4	-183	-67.0
Trade, Transportation, & Utilities (22,42,44-45,48-49)	29	34	76	-5	-14.7	-47	-61.8
Financial Activities (52, 53)	8	6	10	2	33.3	-2	-20.0
Professional & Business Services (54 - 56)	22	34	79	-12	-35.3	-57	-72.2
Educational & Health Services (61 - 62)	8	21	29	-13	-61.9	-21	-72.4
Leisure & Hospitality (71 - 72)	17	14	57	3	21.4	-40	-70.2
Government	16	11	37	5	45.5	-21	-56.8
Unclassified	51	43	115	8	18.6	-64	-55.7
Natrona County							
Total Claims Filed	285	404	836	-119	-29.5	-551	-65.9
Goods-Producing	134	156	304	-22	-14.1	-170	-55.9
Construction	113	135	224	-22	-16.3	-111	-49.6
Service-Providing	100	176	362	-76	-43.2	-262	-72.4
Trade, Transportation, & Utilities (22,42,44-45,48-49)	24	45	123	-21	-46.7	-99	-80.5
Financial Activities (52, 53)	0	14	16	-14	-100.0	-16	-100.0
Professional & Business Services (54 - 56)	30	51	62	-21	-41.2	-32	-51.6
Educational & Health Services (61 - 62)	20	19	42	1	5.3	-22	-52.4
Leisure & Hospitality (71 - 72)	18	35	98	-17	-48.6	-80	-81.6
Government	3	11	28	-8	-72.7	-25	-89.3
Unclassified	47	59	141	-12	-20.3	-94	-66.7

N/D = Not discloseable due to confidentiality.

Source: Unemployment Insurance claims database. Prepared by C. McGrath, Research & Planning, WY DWS, 3/18/22.

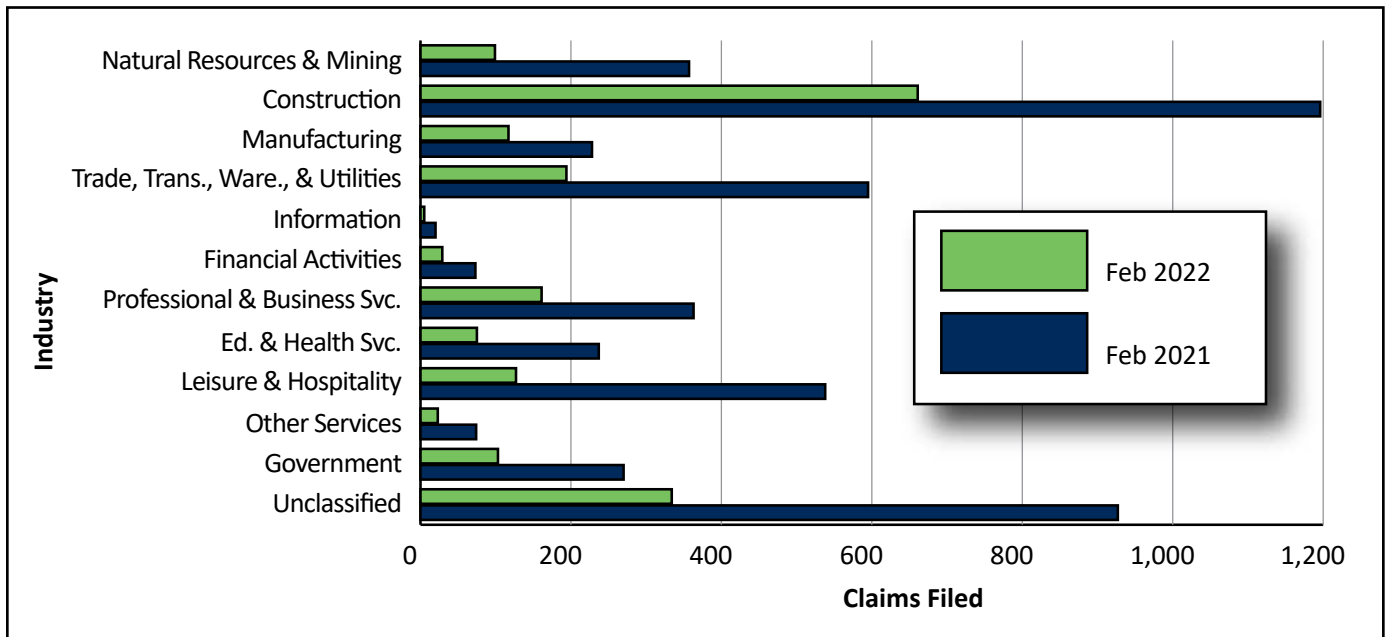


Figure 3: Initial Unemployment Insurance Claims by Major Industry in Wyoming, February 2021 and February 2022

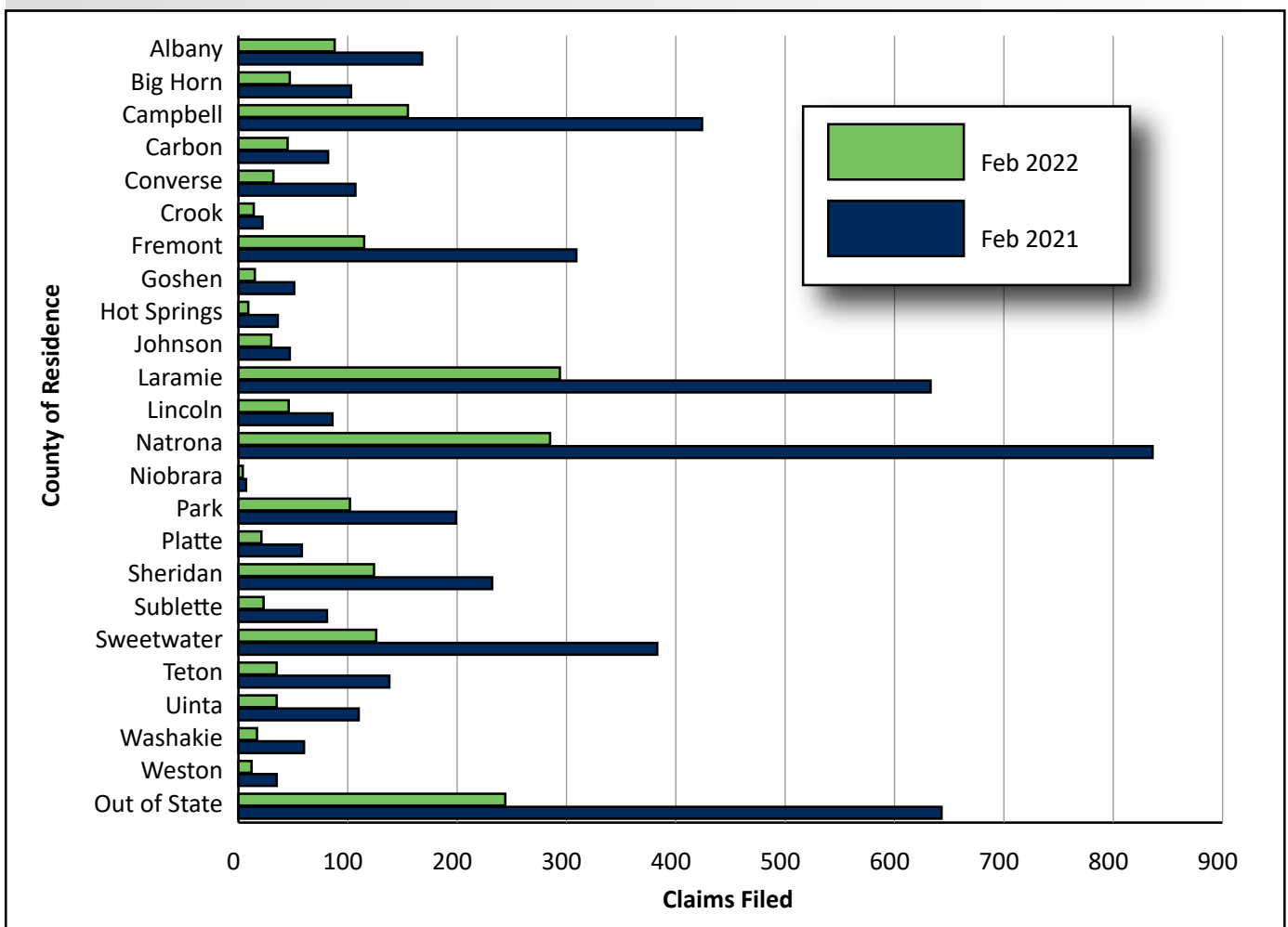


Figure 4: Initial Unemployment Insurance Claims by County of Residence, February 2021 and February 2022

Table 2: Unemployment Insurance Continued Weeks Claimed in Wyoming, February 2022

Industry	Continued Weeks Claimed			Over-the-Month Change		Over-the-Year Change	
	Feb 2022	Jan 2021	Feb 2021	N	%	N	%
Total Continued Weeks Claimed	12,965	13,299	32,305	-334	-2.5	-19,340	-59.9
Total Unique Claimants	4,202	4,432	9,727	-230	-5.2	-5,525	-56.8
Goods-Producing	5,082	5,230	12,408	-148	-2.8	-7,326	-59.0
Natural Resources & Mining (11, 21)	655	644	2,538	11	1.7	-1,883	-74.2
Mining (21)	503	489	2,347	14	2.9	-1,844	-78.6
Oil & Gas Extraction (211)	45	50	213	-5	-10.0	-168	-78.9
Construction (23)	4,022	4,174	8,679	-152	-3.6	-4,657	-53.7
Manufacturing (31-33)	403	412	1,190	-9	-2.2	-787	-66.1
Service-Providing	4,145	4,194	11,963	-49	-1.2	-7,818	-65.4
Trade, Transportation, & Utilities (22, 42, 44-45, 48-49)	1,090	1,097	3,476	-7	-0.6	-2,386	-68.6
Wholesale Trade (42)	185	190	725	-5	-2.6	-540	-74.5
Retail Trade (44-45)	481	507	1,468	-26	-5.1	-987	-67.2
Transportation, Warehousing & Utilities (22, 44-49)	423	399	1,282	24	6.0	-859	-67.0
Information (51)	43	62	151	-19	-30.6	-108	-71.5
Financial Activities (52-53)	232	247	573	-15	-6.1	-341	-59.5
Professional & Business Services (54-56)	1,268	1,234	2,720	34	2.8	-1,452	-53.4
Education & Health Services (61-62)	378	407	1,309	-29	-7.1	-931	-71.1
Leisure & Hospitality (71-72)	980	974	3,184	6	0.6	-2,204	-69.2
Other Services, except Public Admin. (81)	151	171	546	-20	-11.7	-395	-72.3
Government	1,120	1,148	2,232	-28	-2.4	-1,112	-49.8
Federal Government	657	673	1,018	-16	-2.4	-361	-35.5
State Government	92	100	270	-8	-8.0	-178	-65.9
Local Government	371	374	942	-3	-0.8	-571	-60.6
Local Education	76	69	261	7	10.1	-185	-70.9
Unclassified	2,616	2,725	5,700	-109	-4.0	-3,084	-54.1
Laramie County							
Total Claims Filed	1,824	1,794	4,045	30	1.7	-2,221	-54.9
Total Unique Claimants	601	604	1,229	-3	-0.5	-628	-51.1
Goods-Producing	833	825	1,519	8	1.0	-686	-45.2
Construction	769	753	1,270	16	2.1	-501	-39.4
Service-Providing	546	544	1,625	2	0.4	-1,079	-66.4
Trade, Transportation, & Utilities (22,42,44-45,48-49)	156	168	476	-12	-7.1	-320	-67.2
Financial Activities (52, 53)	28	27	94	1	3.7	-66	-70.2
Professional & Business Services (54 - 56)	190	177	428	13	7.3	-238	-55.6
Educational & Health Services (61 - 62)	72	76	233	-4	-5.3	-161	-69.1
Leisure & Hospitality (71 - 72)	64	60	309	4	6.7	-245	-79.3
Government	62	59	211	3	5.1	-149	-70.6
Unclassified	381	364	688	17	4.7	-307	-44.6
Natrona County							
Total Claims Filed	1,927	2,062	5,849	-135	-6.5	-3,922	-67.1
Total Unique Claimants	621	707	1,736	-86	-12.2	-1,115	-64.2
Goods-Producing	676	689	2,142	-13	-1.9	-1,466	-68.4
Construction	558	582	1,431	-24	-4.1	-873	-61.0
Service-Providing	745	845	2,653	-100	-11.8	-1,908	-71.9
Trade, Transportation, & Utilities (22,42,44-45,48-49)	219	238	907	-19	-8.0	-688	-75.9
Financial Activities (52, 53)	66	67	147	-1	-1.5	-81	-55.1
Professional & Business Services (54 - 56)	218	222	503	-4	-1.8	-285	-56.7
Educational & Health Services (61 - 62)	67	108	287	-41	-38.0	-220	-76.7
Leisure & Hospitality (71 - 72)	128	154	542	-26	-16.9	-414	-76.4
Government	54	58	202	-4	-6.9	-148	-73.3
Unclassified	451	468	851	-17	-3.6	-400	-47.0

Source: Unemployment Insurance claims database.

Prepared by C. McGrath, Research & Planning, WY DWS, 3/18/22.

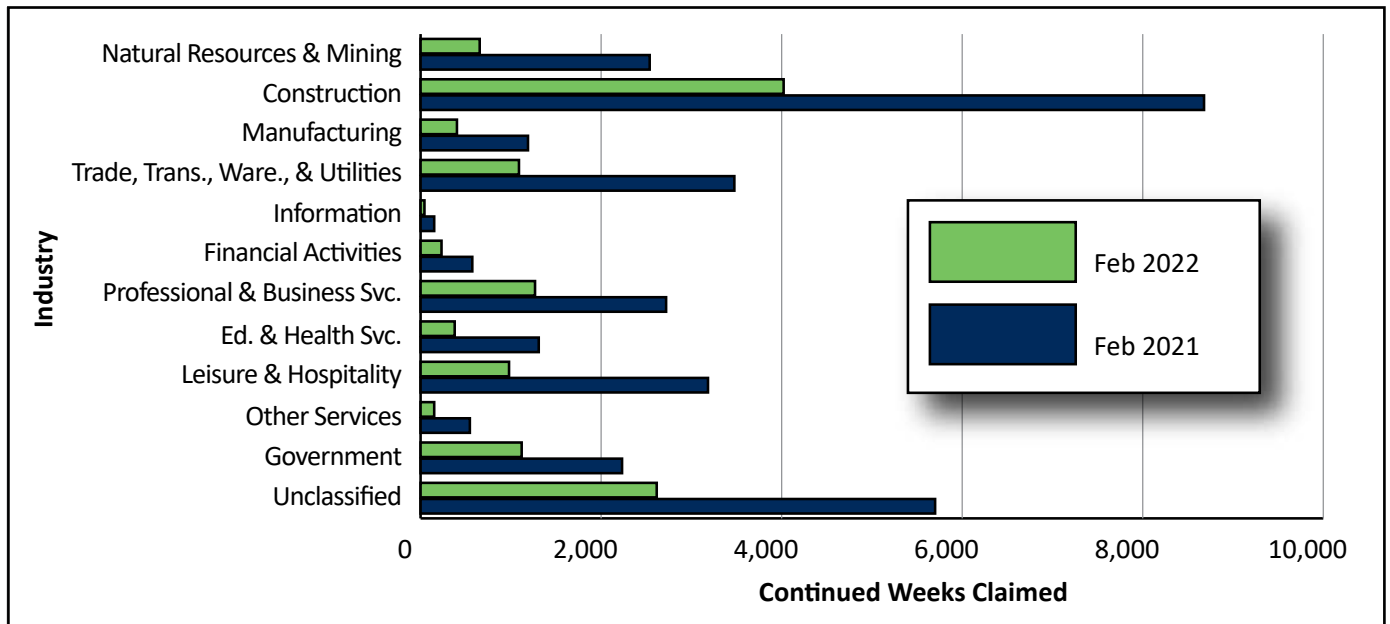


Figure 5: Continued Unemployment Insurance Claims by Major Industry in Wyoming, February 2021 and February 2022

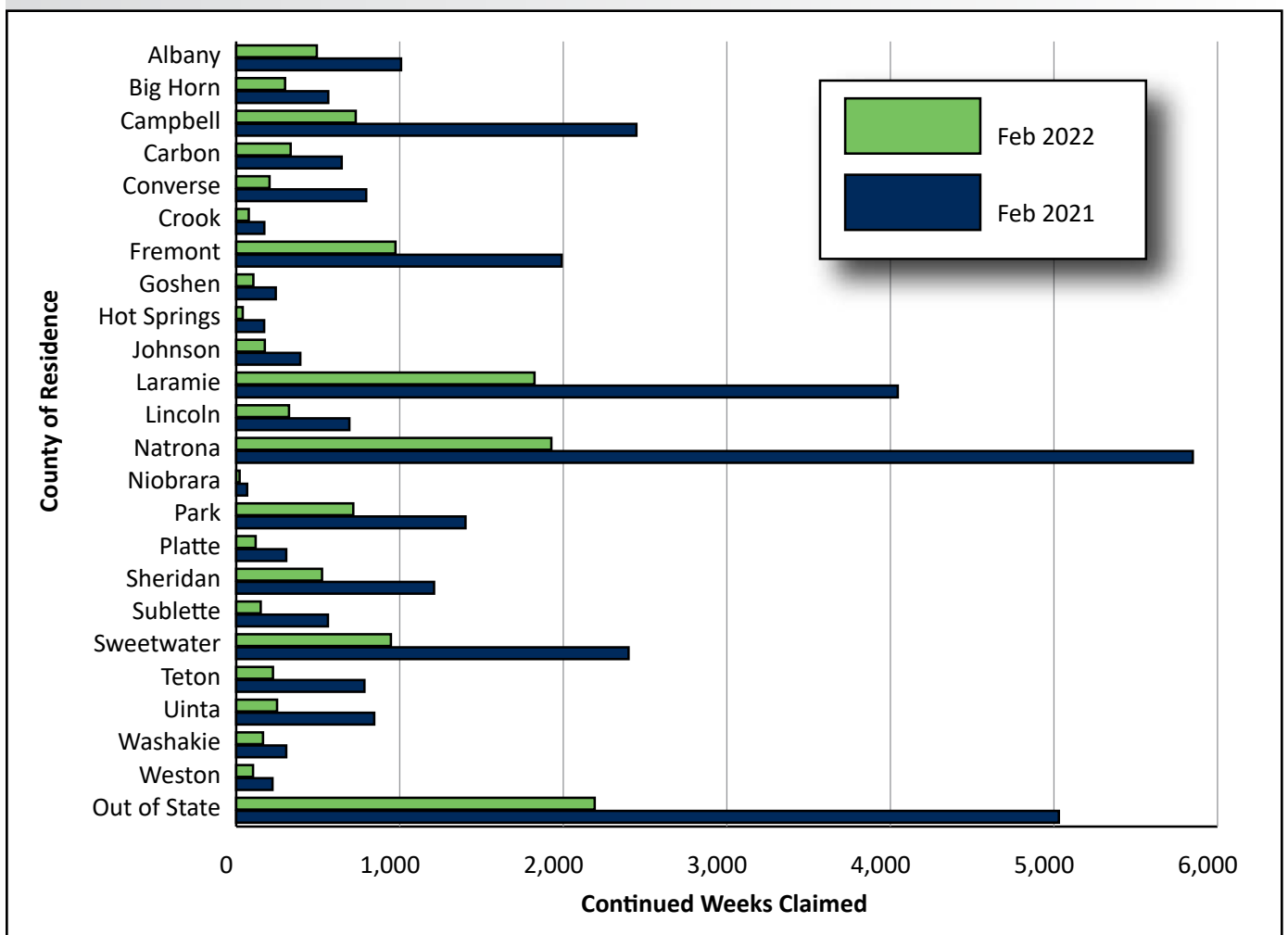


Figure 6: Continued Unemployment Insurance Claims by County of Residence in Wyoming, February 2021 and February 2022

Table 3: Initial Unemployment Insurance Claims for Wyoming by County of Residence, February 2021 and February 2022

County	Feb 2022	Feb 2021	Change	
			N	%
Albany	88	168	-80	-47.6
Big Horn	47	103	-56	-54.4
Campbell	155	424	-269	-63.4
Carbon	45	82	-37	-45.1
Converse	32	107	-75	-70.1
Crook	14	22	-8	-36.4
Fremont	115	309	-194	-62.8
Goshen	15	51	-36	-70.6
Hot Springs	9	36	-27	-75.0
Johnson	30	47	-17	-36.2
Laramie	294	633	-339	-53.6
Lincoln	46	86	-40	-46.5
Natrona	285	836	-551	-65.9
Niobrara	4	7	-3	-42.9
Park	102	199	-97	-48.7
Platte	21	58	-37	-63.8
Sheridan	124	232	-108	-46.6
Sublette	23	81	-58	-71.6
Sweetwater	126	383	-257	-67.1
Teton	35	138	-103	-74.6
Uinta	35	110	-75	-68.2
Washakie	17	60	-43	-71.7
Weston	12	35	-23	-65.7
Unknown	3	20	-17	-85.0
Out of State	244	643	-399	-62.1
Total	1,935	4,883	-2,948	-60.4

Source: Unemployment Insurance claims database.

Prepared by C. McGrath, Research & Planning, WY DWS, 3/18/22.

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, February 2021 and February 2022

County	Feb 2022	Feb 2021	Change	
			N	%
Albany	493	1,008	-515	-51.1
Big Horn	299	563	-264	-46.9
Campbell	731	2,447	-1,716	-70.1
Carbon	333	645	-312	-48.4
Converse	204	795	-591	-74.3
Crook	77	172	-95	-55.2
Fremont	974	1,990	-1,016	-51.1
Goshen	105	242	-137	-56.6
Hot Springs	40	171	-131	-76.6
Johnson	175	392	-217	-55.4
Laramie	1,824	4,045	-2,221	-54.9
Lincoln	323	692	-369	-53.3
Natrona	1,927	5,849	-3,922	-67.1
Niobrara	21	67	-46	-68.7
Park	716	1,402	-686	-48.9
Platte	119	306	-187	-61.1
Sheridan	525	1,210	-685	-56.6
Sublette	150	561	-411	-73.3
Sweetwater	946	2,399	-1,453	-60.6
Teton	225	784	-559	-71.3
Uinta	250	844	-594	-70.4
Washakie	164	306	-142	-46.4
Weston	103	222	-119	-53.6
Unknown	38	149	-111	-74.5
Out of State	2,192	5,030	-2,838	-56.4
Normalized Total^a	12,965	32,305	-19,340	-59.9

^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 C. McGrath, Research & Planning, WY DWS, 3/18/22.



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