

Wyoming Unemployment Insurance Claims Report

September 2020

Information for Wyoming by Industry and County of Residence of Claimant

by: Sherry Wen, Principal Economist and Michael Moore, Editor
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, September 2020

Initial Claims Drop for Fifth Consecutive Month

by: Michael Moore, Editor, and Sherry Wen, Principal Economist

Initial and continued Unemployment Insurance (UI) claims continued to decrease from prior-month levels in September 2020. However, initial and continued claims remained substantially higher compared to pre-pandemic levels.

Initial Claims

Wyoming had 3,825 initial claims (see Definitions, page 9) in September, down from 5,138 in August (-1,313, or -25.6%). The 3,825 initial claims marked the lowest one-month total since February 2020, prior to the COVID-19 pandemic. See Figure 1 and Table 1, page 5.

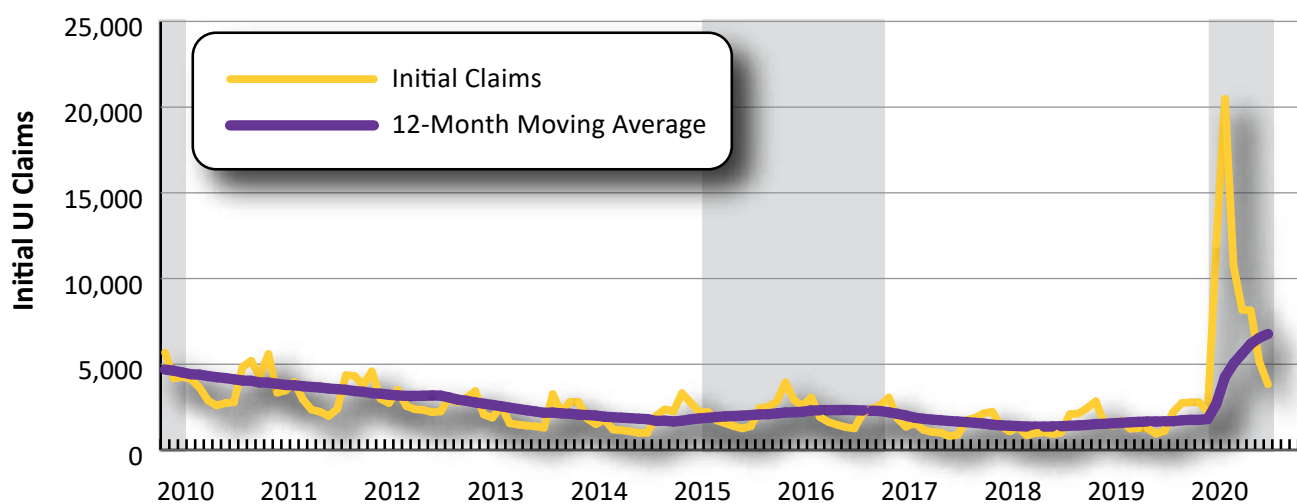
Several industries experienced over-the-month decreases in September, most notably mining (-163, or -29.6%). Claims

Weekly UI Claims

Weekly Unemployment Insurance claims for Wyoming are now available online at https://doe.state.wy.us/LMI/UI/weekly_UI_TOC.htm.

for the unclassified industry fell from 1,789 to 892 (-897, or -50.1%). Increases were seen in construction (27, or 4.6%) and federal government (seven, or 30.4%). See Table 1 (page 5) and Figure 3 (page 6).

Most counties saw decreases in initial claims, led by Campbell (-187, or -31.9%), Laramie (-150, or -23.3%), Lincoln (-121, or -72.9%), and Natrona (-121, or -15.1%) counties. The number of out-of-state claimants decreased by 452, or 38.7%.



*An *initial claim* is a claim filed by an unemployed individual after a separation from an employer.

Shaded areas indicate periods of economic downturn (2009Q1-2010Q1 and 2015Q2-2016Q4) and 2020 COVID-19 pandemic: March 2020 to present.

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

Revised by M. Moore, Research & Planning, WY DWS, 10/16/20.

Figure 1: Total Number of Initial Unemployment Insurance Claims for Wyoming by Year and Month, January 2010 to September 2020

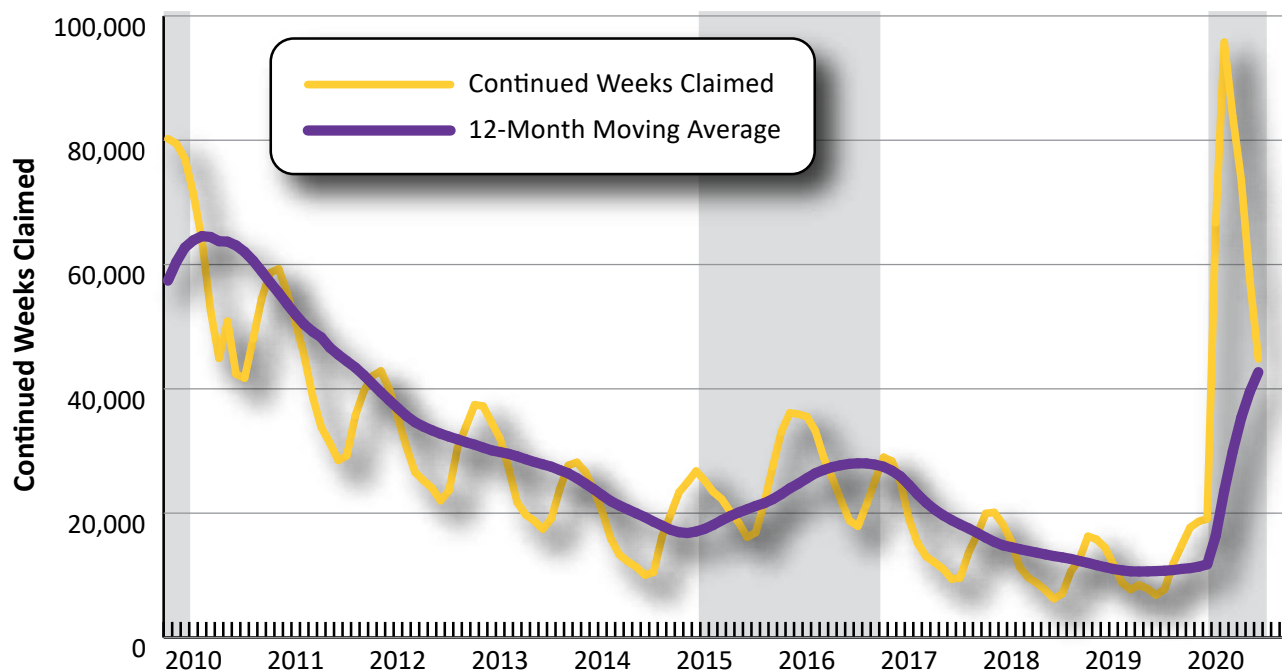
Counties with increases in initial claims included Teton (18, or 12.7%), Converse (seven, or 7.9%), and Fremont (five, or 2.6%). See Figure 4 (page 6) and Table 3 (page 9).

Continued Claims

The total number of continued weeks claimed decreased from 57,636 in August to 44,823 in September (-12,813, or -22.2%). The number of total unique claimants fell from 15,909 to 13,157 (-2,752, or -17.3%). The decline in continued claims could be due to a variety of factors, such as individuals returning to work, exhausting their benefits, or leaving the workforce. See Figure 2 and Table 2, page 7.

Continued claims declined in all industries over the month. The greatest changes were seen in mining (-2,694, or -23.8%) and leisure & hospitality (-1,907, or -30.3%). Continued claims in the unclassified industry decreased by 2,279, or 20.7%. See Table 2, page 7, and Figure 5, page 8.

All 23 counties saw a drop in continued claims over the month, including Natrona (-2,394, or -19.7%), Campbell (-1,264, or -21.0%), Laramie (-1,263, or -20.0%), and Sweetwater (-1,204, or -25.1%) counties. Total out-of-state continued claims decreased by 1,630, or 17.7%. See Figure 6, page 8, and Table 4, page 9.



*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 (2009Q1-2010Q1 and 2015Q2-2016Q4) and 2020 COVID-19 pandemic: March 2020 to present.

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

Revised by M. Moore, Research & Planning, WY DWS, 10/16/20.

Figure 2: Total Number of Unemployment Insurance Continued Weeks Claimed for Wyoming by Year and Month, January 2010 to September 2020

Table 1: Initial Unemployment Insurance Claims in Wyoming, September 2020

Industry	Initial Claims Filed			Over-the-Month Change		Over-the-Year Change	
	Sep 2020	Aug 2020	Sep 2019	N	%	N	%
Total Claims Filed	3,825	5,138	887	-1,313	-25.6	2,938	331.2
Goods-Producing	1,133	1,281	307	-148	-11.6	826	269.1
Natural Resources & Mining (11, 21)	399	565	77	-166	-29.4	322	418.2
Mining (21)	387	550	69	-163	-29.6	318	460.9
Oil & Gas Extraction (211)	12	11	N/D	1	9.1	N/D	N/D
Construction (23)	619	592	187	27	4.6	432	231.0
Manufacturing (31-33)	115	124	42	-9	-7.3	73	173.8
Service-Providing	1,594	1,841	395	-247	-13.4	1,199	303.5
Trade, Transportation, & Utilities (22, 42, 44-45, 48-49)	488	553	130	-65	-11.8	358	275.4
Wholesale Trade (42)	92	130	24	-38	-29.2	68	283.3
Retail Trade (44-45)	226	225	64	1	0.4	162	253.1
Transportation, Warehousing & Utilities (22, 44-49)	169	197	41	-28	-14.2	128	312.2
Information (51)	19	35	N/D	-16	-45.7	N/D	N/D
Financial Activities (52-53)	69	92	19	-23	-25.0	50	263.2
Professional & Business Services (54-56)	271	343	96	-72	-21.0	175	182.3
Education & Health Services (61-62)	201	246	39	-45	-18.3	162	415.4
Leisure & Hospitality (71-72)	453	460	89	-7	-1.5	364	409.0
Other Services, except Public Admin. (81)	89	110	12	-21	-19.1	77	641.7
Government	205	226	75	-21	-9.3	130	173.3
Federal Government	30	23	17	7	30.4	13	76.5
State Government	34	43	8	-9	-20.9	26	325.0
Local Government	140	159	49	-19	-11.9	91	185.7
Local Education	52	54	9	-2	-3.7	43	477.8
Unclassified	892	1,789	109	-897	-50.1	783	718.3
Laramie County							
Total Claims Filed	493	643	139	-150	-23.3	354	254.7
Goods-Producing	120	119	35	1	0.8	85	242.9
Construction	83	73	30	10	13.7	53	176.7
Service-Providing	244	312	74	-68	-21.8	170	229.7
Trade, Transportation, & Utilities (22,42,44-45,48-49)	75	79	13	-4	-5.1	62	476.9
Financial Activities (52, 53)	14	14	4	0	0.0	10	250.0
Professional & Business Services (54 - 56)	45	85	33	-40	-47.1	12	36.4
Educational & Health Services (61 - 62)	38	42	6	-4	-9.5	32	533.3
Leisure & Hospitality (71 - 72)	55	61	6	-6	-9.8	49	816.7
Government	28	32	11	-4	-12.5	17	154.5
Unclassified	100	178	18	-78	-43.8	82	455.6
Natrona County							
Total Claims Filed	681	802	155	-121	-15.1	526	339.4
Goods-Producing	226	182	67	44	24.2	159	237.3
Construction	124	86	39	38	44.2	85	217.9
Service-Providing	320	411	70	-91	-22.1	250	357.1
Trade, Transportation, & Utilities (22,42,44-45,48-49)	109	133	24	-24	-18.0	85	354.2
Financial Activities (52, 53)	16	29	3	-13	-44.8	13	433.3
Professional & Business Services (54 - 56)	42	63	16	-21	-33.3	26	162.5
Educational & Health Services (61 - 62)	42	51	8	-9	-17.6	34	425.0
Leisure & Hospitality (71 - 72)	70	79	9	-9	-11.4	61	677.8
Government	19	23	5	-4	-17.4	14	280.0
Unclassified	116	184	12	-68	-37.0	104	866.7

N/D = Not discloseable due to confidentiality.

Source: Unemployment Insurance claims database. Reviewed by S. Wen, Research & Planning, WY DWS, 10/16/20.

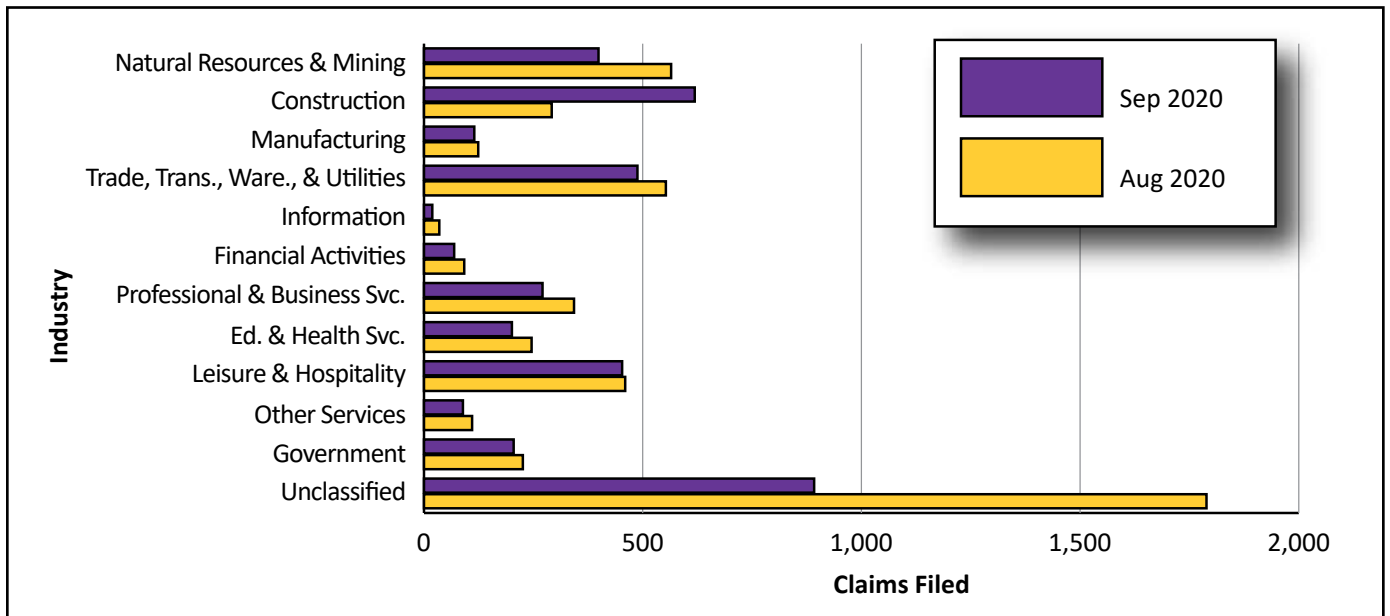


Figure 3: Initial Unemployment Insurance Claims by Major Industry in Wyoming, August and September 2020

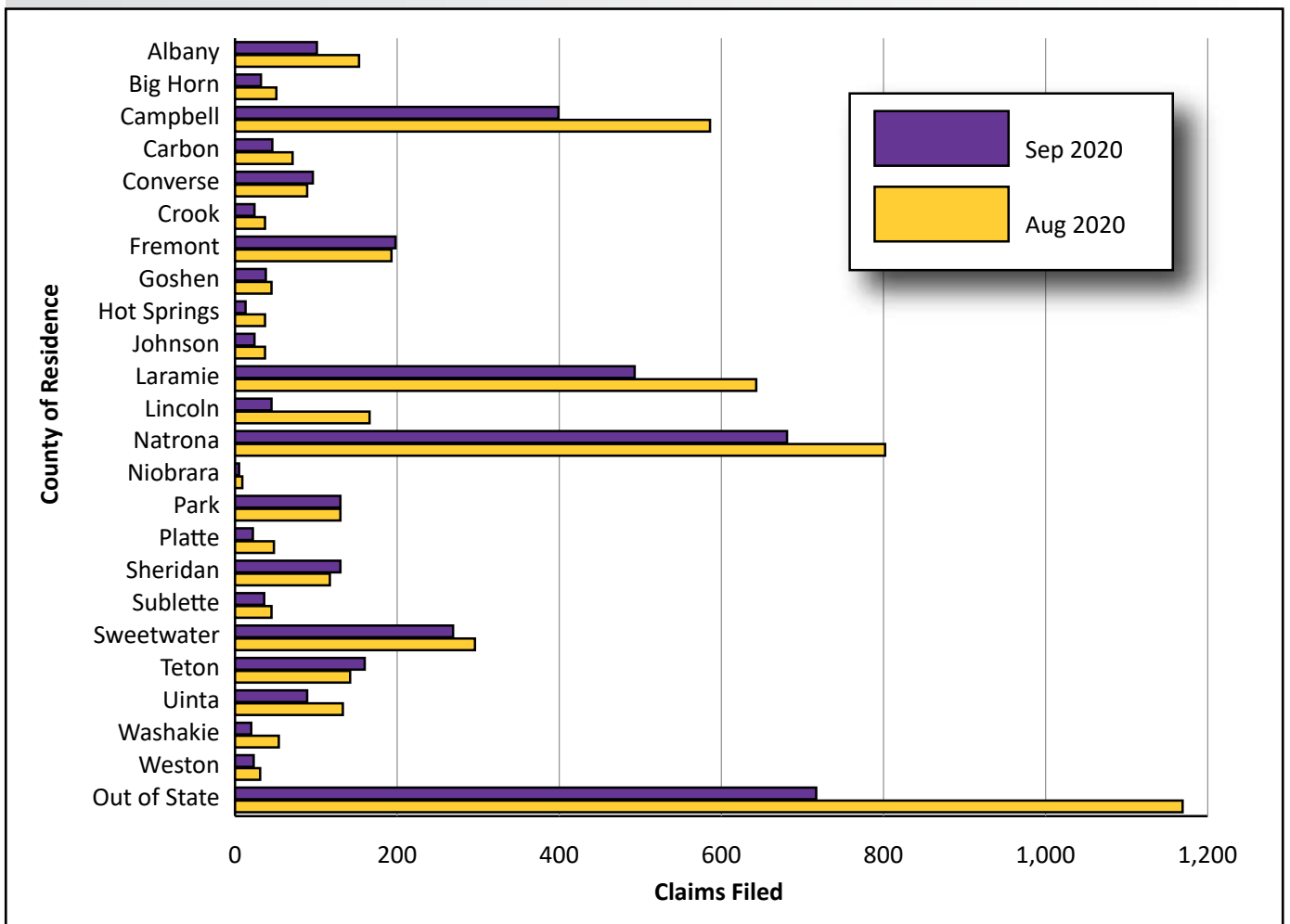


Figure 4: Initial Unemployment Insurance Claims by County of Residence, August and September 2020

Table 2: Unemployment Insurance Continued Weeks Claimed in Wyoming, September 2020

Industry	Continued Weeks Claimed			Over-the-Month Change		Over-the-Year Change	
	Sep 2020	Aug 2020	Sep 2019	N	%	N	%
Total Continued Weeks Claimed	44,823	57,636	5,451	-12,813	-22.2	39,372	722.3
Total Unique Claimants	13,157	15,909	2,170	-2,752	-17.3	10,987	506.3
Goods-Producing	15,903	19,802	1,963	-3,899	-19.7	13,940	710.1
Natural Resources & Mining (11, 21)	8,731	11,439	756	-2,708	-23.7	7,975	1,054.9
Mining (21)	8,647	11,341	716	-2,694	-23.8	7,931	1,107.7
Oil & Gas Extraction (211)	254	297	28	-43	-14.5	226	807.1
Construction (23)	5,555	6,312	945	-757	-12.0	4,610	487.8
Manufacturing (31-33)	1,615	2,050	261	-435	-21.2	1,354	518.8
Service-Providing	18,313	23,963	2,349	-5,650	-23.6	15,964	679.6
Trade, Transportation, & Utilities (22, 42, 44-45, 48-49)	6,049	7,601	776	-1,552	-20.4	5,273	679.5
Wholesale Trade (42)	2,007	2,464	164	-457	-18.5	1,843	1,123.8
Retail Trade (44-45)	2,208	2,785	378	-577	-20.7	1,830	484.1
Transportation, Warehousing & Utilities (22, 44-49)	1,833	2,351	233	-518	-22.0	1,600	686.7
Information (51)	285	305	66	-20	-6.6	219	331.8
Financial Activities (52-53)	1,079	1,383	163	-304	-22.0	916	562.0
Professional & Business Services (54-56)	3,325	4,016	488	-691	-17.2	2,837	581.4
Education & Health Services (61-62)	2,087	2,904	369	-817	-28.1	1,718	465.6
Leisure & Hospitality (71-72)	4,385	6,292	363	-1,907	-30.3	4,022	1,108.0
Other Services, except Public Admin. (81)	1,099	1,460	120	-361	-24.7	979	815.8
Government	1,874	2,859	436	-985	-34.5	1,438	329.8
Federal Government	176	222	38	-46	-20.7	138	363.2
State Government	291	305	70	-14	-4.6	221	315.7
Local Government	1,405	2,331	328	-926	-39.7	1,077	328.4
Local Education	499	1,179	88	-680	-57.7	411	467.0
Unclassified	8,732	11,011	702	-2,279	-20.7	8,030	1,143.9
Laramie County							
Total Claims Filed	5,043	6,306	734	-1,263	-20.0	4,309	587.1
Total Unique Claimants	1,519	1,742	297	-223	-12.8	1,222	411.4
Goods-Producing	1,078	1,316	148	-238	-18.1	930	628.4
Construction	491	504	117	-13	-2.6	374	319.7
Service-Providing	2,550	3,184	431	-634	-19.9	2,119	491.6
Trade, Transportation, & Utilities (22,42,44-45,48-49)	773	954	138	-181	-19.0	635	460.1
Financial Activities (52, 53)	155	177	44	-22	-12.4	111	252.3
Professional & Business Services (54 - 56)	453	515	82	-62	-12.0	371	452.4
Educational & Health Services (61 - 62)	382	488	72	-106	-21.7	310	430.6
Leisure & Hospitality (71 - 72)	588	831	47	-243	-29.2	541	1,151.1
Government	312	384	73	-72	-18.8	239	327.4
Unclassified	1,102	1,421	80	-319	-22.4	1,022	1,277.5
Natrona County							
Total Claims Filed	9,731	12,125	834	-2,394	-19.7	8,897	1,066.8
Total Unique Claimants	2,787	3,262	341	-475	-14.6	2,446	717.3
Goods-Producing	3,326	3,905	259	-579	-14.8	3,067	1,184.2
Construction	891	985	132	-94	-9.5	759	575.0
Service-Providing	4,676	5,985	466	-1,309	-21.9	4,210	903.4
Trade, Transportation, & Utilities (22,42,44-45,48-49)	1,901	2,373	161	-472	-19.9	1,740	1,080.7
Financial Activities (52, 53)	376	458	24	-82	-17.9	352	1,466.7
Professional & Business Services (54 - 56)	675	889	86	-214	-24.1	589	684.9
Educational & Health Services (61 - 62)	407	562	102	-155	-27.6	305	299.0
Leisure & Hospitality (71 - 72)	826	1,051	50	-225	-21.4	776	1,552.0
Government	161	221	33	-60	-27.1	128	387.9
Unclassified	1,566	2,012	74	-446	-22.2	1,492	2,016.2

Source: Unemployment Insurance claims database.

Reviewed by S. Wen, Research & Planning, WY DWS, 10/16/20.

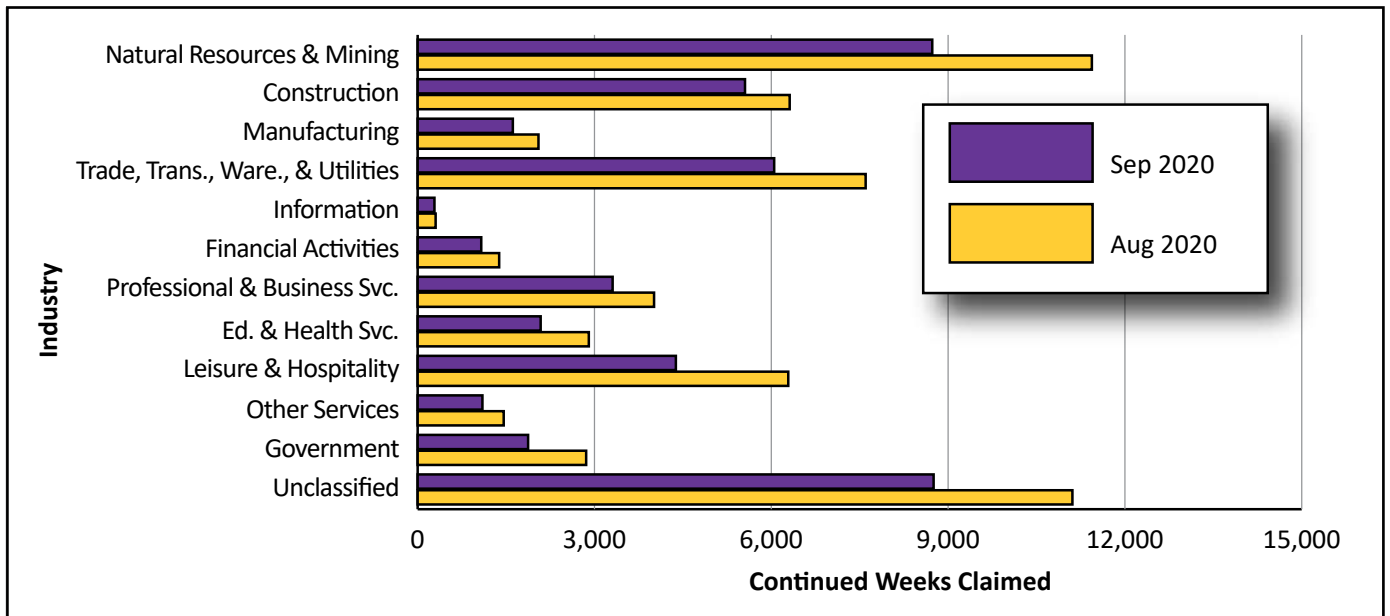


Figure 5: Continued Unemployment Insurance Claims by Major Industry in Wyoming, August and September 2020

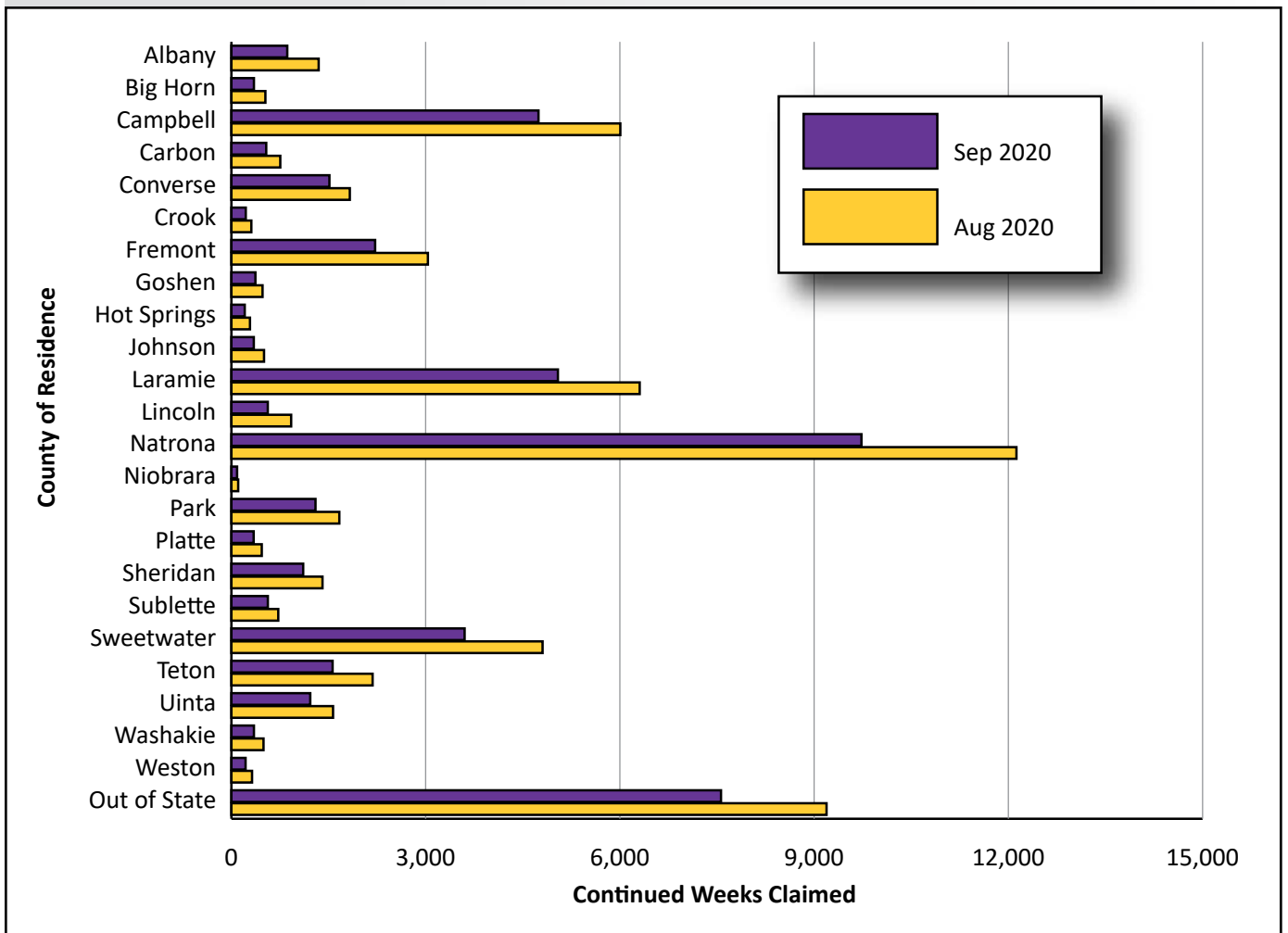


Figure 6: Continued Unemployment Insurance Claims by County of Residence in Wyoming, August and September 2020

Table 3: Initial Unemployment Insurance Claims for Wyoming by County of Residence, August 2020 to September 2020

County	Sep 2020	Aug 2020	Change	
			N	%
Albany	101	153	-52	-34.0
Big Horn	32	51	-19	-37.3
Campbell	399	586	-187	-31.9
Carbon	46	71	-25	-35.2
Converse	96	89	7	7.9
Crook	24	37	-13	-35.1
Fremont	198	193	5	2.6
Goshen	38	45	-7	-15.6
Hot Springs	13	37	-24	-64.9
Johnson	24	37	-13	-35.1
Laramie	493	643	-150	-23.3
Lincoln	45	166	-121	-72.9
Natrona	681	802	-121	-15.1
Niobrara	5	9	-4	-44.4
Park	130	130	0	0.0
Platte	22	48	-26	-54.2
Sheridan	130	117	13	11.1
Sublette	36	45	-9	-20.0
Sweetwater	269	296	-27	-9.1
Teton	160	142	18	12.7
Uinta	89	133	-44	-33.1
Washakie	20	54	-34	-63.0
Weston	23	31	-8	-25.8
Unknown	23	40	-17	-42.5
Out of State	717	1,169	-452	-38.7
Total	3,825	5,138	-1,313	-25.6

Source: Unemployment Insurance claims database.
Reviewed by S. Wen, Research & Planning, WY DWS,
10/16/20.

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, August 2020 to September 2020

County	Sep 2020	Aug 2020	Change	
			N	%
Albany	863	1,348	-485	-36.0
Big Horn	348	525	-177	-33.7
Campbell	4,743	6,007	-1,264	-21.0
Carbon	538	755	-217	-28.7
Converse	1,514	1,829	-315	-17.2
Crook	222	308	-86	-27.9
Fremont	2,220	3,035	-815	-26.9
Goshen	371	481	-110	-22.9
Hot Springs	206	287	-81	-28.2
Johnson	346	504	-158	-31.3
Laramie	5,043	6,306	-1,263	-20.0
Lincoln	562	923	-361	-39.1
Natrona	9,731	12,125	-2,394	-19.7
Niobrara	88	105	-17	-16.2
Park	1,299	1,667	-368	-22.1
Platte	344	469	-125	-26.7
Sheridan	1,109	1,407	-298	-21.2
Sublette	563	724	-161	-22.2
Sweetwater	3,602	4,806	-1,204	-25.1
Teton	1,563	2,181	-618	-28.3
Uinta	1,218	1,570	-352	-22.4
Washakie	348	496	-148	-29.8
Weston	219	319	-100	-31.3
Unknown	188	256	-68	-26.6
Out of State	7,562	9,192	-1,630	-17.7
Normalized Total^a	44,823	57,636	-12,813	-22.2

^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.
Reviewed by S. Wen, Research & Planning, WY DWS,
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