

Wyoming Unemployment Insurance Claims Report

October 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, October 2020

Initial Claims Increase with Seasonal Job Losses

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

Initial Unemployment Insurance (UI) claims in Wyoming grew by 58.6% from September to October, marking the first over-the-month increase since April. The rise in initial claims was not unexpected; the increase in initial claims from September to October is typically the greatest of the year, because of the relatively large number of seasonal summer jobs ending. See Figure 1.

Initial Claims

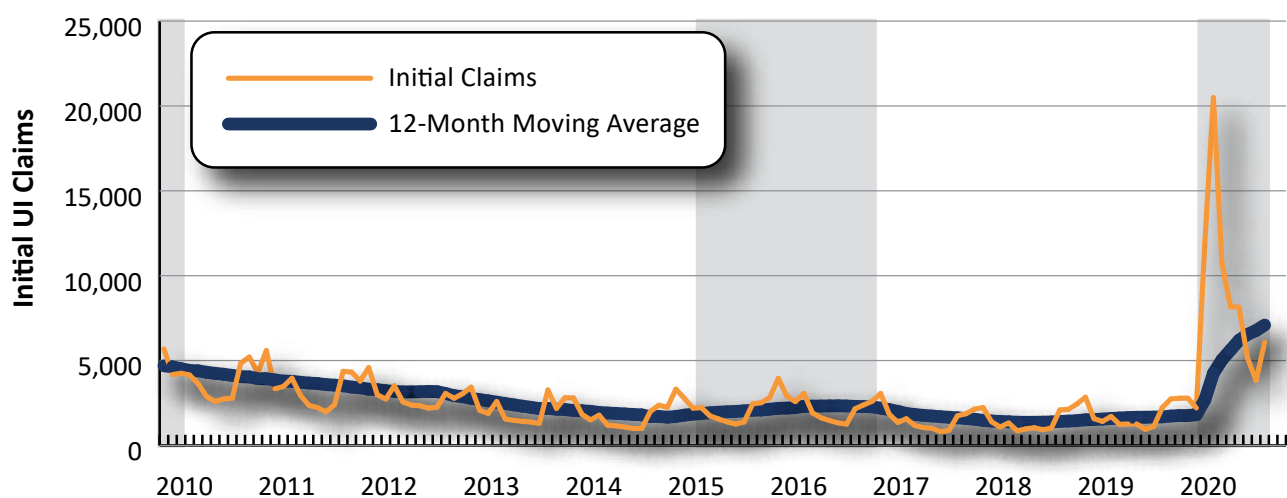
Wyoming had 6,073 initial claims (see Definitions, page 9) in October, up from 3,829 in September (2,244, or 58.6%). The greatest increases were seen in leisure & hospitality (718, or 157.1%), unclassified (650, or 73.0%), construction (233, or 37.6%), professional & business services

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.

(158, or 58.3%), and federal government (149, or 496.7%). See Table 1 (page 5) and Figure 3 (page 6).

Every county saw an over-the-month increase in initial claims. The greatest increase was seen in out-of-state claimants (538, or 75.0%). Many of these claimants likely worked in seasonal or temporary jobs in leisure & hospitality or construction. The Wyoming counties with the greatest increases in initial claims



*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, 11/19/20.

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

were Teton (314, or 196.3%), Natrona (313, or 45.9%), and Laramie (192, or 38.9%). See Figure 4 (page 6) and Table 3 (page 9).

Continued Claims

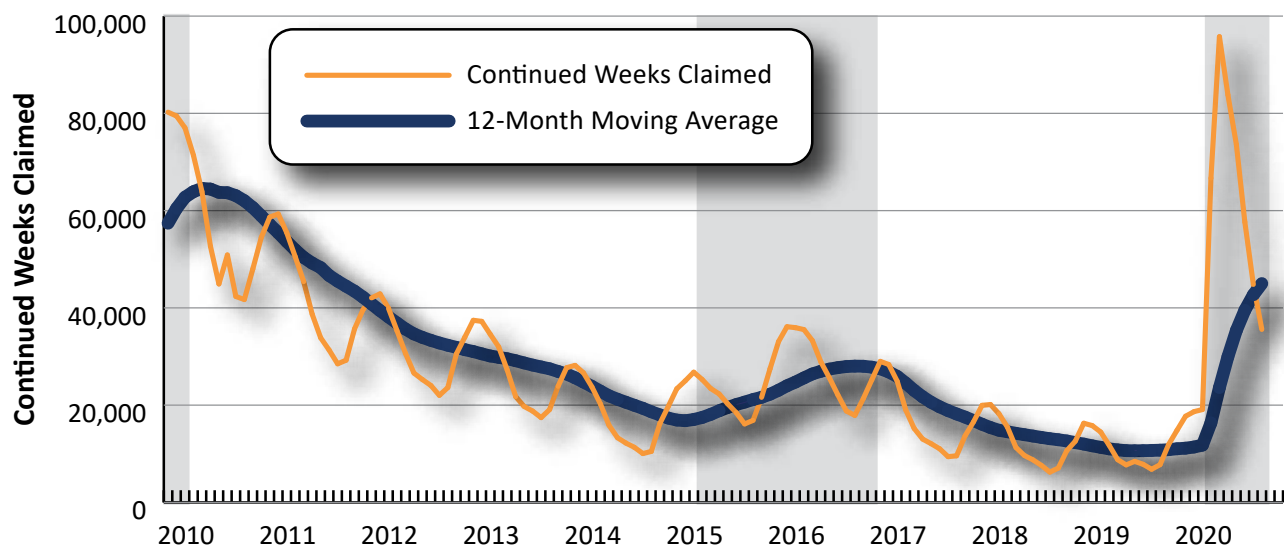
The total number of continued weeks claimed decreased from 44,823 in September to 35,565 in October (-9,258, or -20.7%), while the total number of unique claimants increased from 11,394 to 11,681 (287, or 2.5%). See Figure 2 and Table 2, page 7.

The decline in continued claims likely is due to a variety of factors, such as individuals returning to work, leaving the workforce, or exhausting their regular UI benefits. Federal Pandemic Emergency Unemployment Compensation (PEUC) benefits were available to individuals who exhausted their regular benefits as part of the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic

Security (CARES) Act of 2020. Data from the U.S. Department of Labor showed an increase in the number of PEUC claims during each week in October. For more information, please see https://doe.state.wy.us/LMI/UI/weekly_F21.htm.

Continued claims decreased in all private sector industries, with the greatest declines seen in natural resources & mining (-2,304, or -26.3%), unclassified (-1,861, or -21.5%), and trade, transportation, warehousing, & utilities (-1,235, or -20.4%). See Table 2, page 7, and Figure 5, page 8.

All 23 counties saw an over-the-month decrease in continued weeks claimed, with the greatest drops seen in Natrona (-2,245, or -23.1%), Laramie (-1,101, or -21.8%), and Campbell (-1,097, or -23.1%). Total out-of-state continued claims decreased by 1,255 (-16.6%). 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, 11/19/20.

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

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

Industry	Initial Claims Filed			Over-the-Month Change		Over-the-Year Change	
	Oct 2020	Sep 2020	Oct 2019	N	%	N	%
Total Claims Filed	6,073	3,829	2,223	2,244	58.6	3,850	173.2
Goods-Producing	1,414	1,135	729	279	24.6	685	94.0
Natural Resources & Mining (11, 21)	420	399	169	21	5.3	251	148.5
Mining (21)	407	387	161	20	5.2	246	152.8
Oil & Gas Extraction (211)	32	12	5	20	166.7	27	540.0
Construction (23)	853	620	516	233	37.6	337	65.3
Manufacturing (31-33)	141	115	43	26	22.6	98	227.9
Service-Providing	2,719	1,597	1,061	1,122	70.3	1,658	156.3
Trade, Transportation, & Utilities (22, 42, 44-45, 48-49)	607	488	184	119	24.4	423	229.9
Wholesale Trade (42)	106	92	25	14	15.2	81	324.0
Retail Trade (44-45)	281	226	72	55	24.3	209	290.3
Transportation, Warehousing & Utilities (22, 44-49)	219	169	85	50	29.6	134	157.6
Information (51)	34	19	5	15	78.9	29	580.0
Financial Activities (52-53)	75	69	22	6	8.7	53	240.9
Professional & Business Services (54-56)	429	271	165	158	58.3	264	160.0
Education & Health Services (61-62)	261	201	54	60	29.9	207	383.3
Leisure & Hospitality (71-72)	1,175	457	600	718	157.1	575	95.8
Other Services, except Public Admin. (81)	134	89	29	45	50.6	105	362.1
Government	398	205	200	193	94.1	198	99.0
Federal Government	179	30	121	149	496.7	58	47.9
State Government	32	34	11	-2	-5.9	21	190.9
Local Government	186	140	68	46	32.9	118	173.5
Local Education	70	52	7	18	34.6	63	900.0
Unclassified	1,541	891	231	650	73.0	1,310	567.1
Laramie County							
Total Claims Filed	686	494	223	192	38.9	463	207.6
Goods-Producing	193	120	108	73	60.8	85	78.7
Construction	146	83	96	63	75.9	50	52.1
Service-Providing	283	244	82	39	16.0	201	245.1
Trade, Transportation, & Utilities (22,42,44-45,48-49)	77	75	25	2	2.7	52	208.0
Financial Activities (52, 53)	9	14	3	-5	-35.7	6	200.0
Professional & Business Services (54 - 56)	62	45	32	17	37.8	30	93.8
Educational & Health Services (61 - 62)	48	38	8	10	26.3	40	500.0
Leisure & Hospitality (71 - 72)	58	55	7	3	5.5	51	728.6
Government	29	28	6	1	3.6	23	383.3
Unclassified	179	101	25	78	77.2	154	616.0
Natrona County							
Total Claims Filed	995	682	281	313	45.9	714	254.1
Goods-Producing	253	226	155	27	11.9	98	63.2
Construction	167	124	116	43	34.7	51	44.0
Service-Providing	503	320	94	183	57.2	409	435.1
Trade, Transportation, & Utilities (22,42,44-45,48-49)	147	109	31	38	34.9	116	374.2
Financial Activities (52, 53)	19	16	N/D	3	18.8	N/D	N/D
Professional & Business Services (54 - 56)	97	42	25	55	131.0	72	288.0
Educational & Health Services (61 - 62)	64	42	12	22	52.4	52	433.3
Leisure & Hospitality (71 - 72)	119	70	11	49	70.0	108	981.8
Government	36	19	6	17	89.5	30	500.0
Unclassified	202	116	25	86	74.1	177	708.0

N/D = Not discloseable due to confidentiality.

Source: Unemployment Insurance claims database. Reviewed by S. Wen, Research & Planning, WY DWS, 11/19/20.

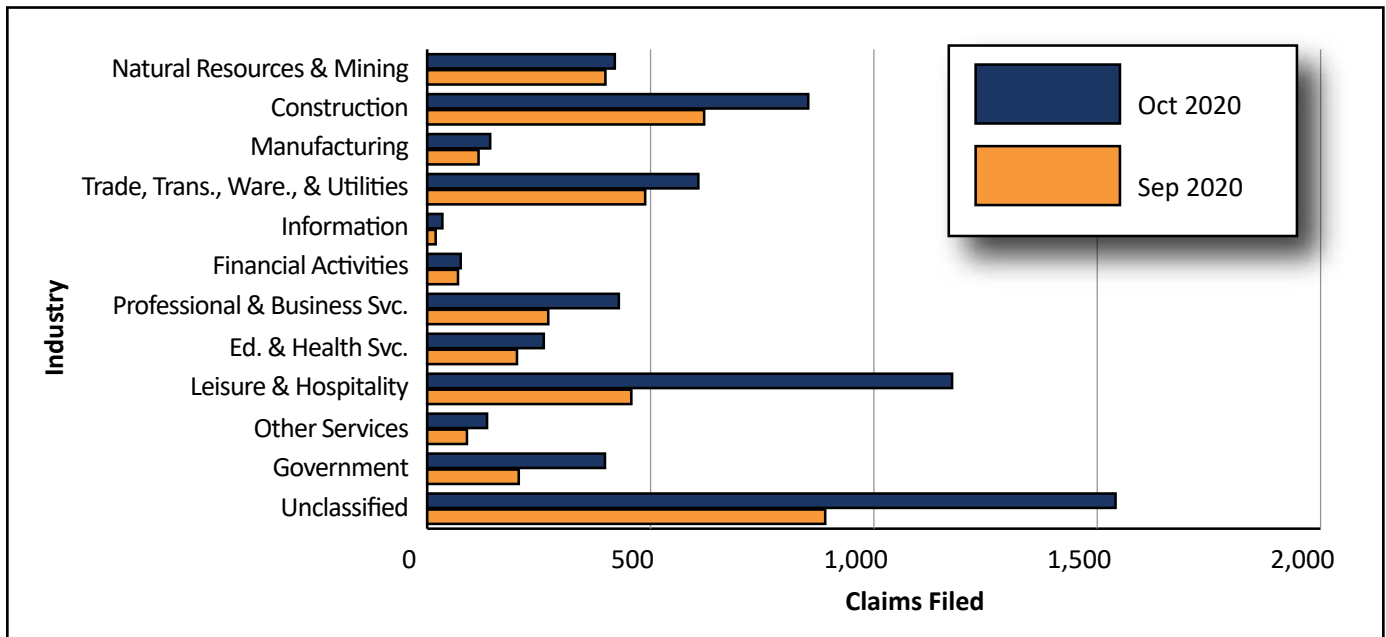


Figure 3: Initial Unemployment Insurance Claims by Major Industry in Wyoming, September and October 2020

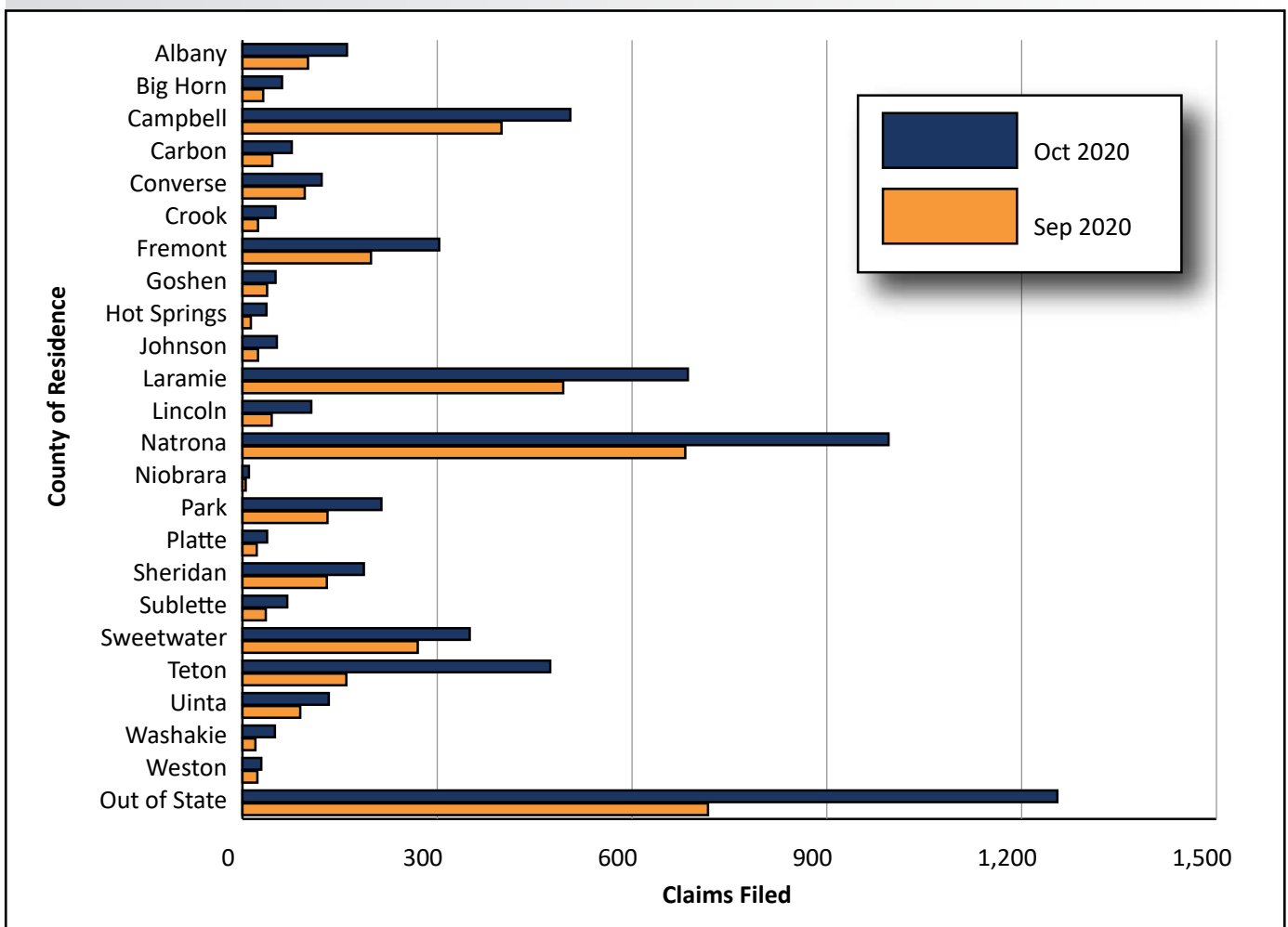


Figure 4: Initial Unemployment Insurance Claims by County of Residence, September and October 2020

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

Industry	Continued Weeks Claimed			Over-the-Month Change		Over-the-Year Change	
	Oct 2020	Sep 2020	Oct 2019	N	%	N	%
Total Continued Weeks Claimed	35,565	44,823	7,758	-9,258	-20.7	27,807	358.4
Total Unique Claimants	11,681	11,394	2,925	287	2.5	8,756	299.4
Goods-Producing	12,410	15,925	2,515	-3,515	-22.1	9,895	393.4
Natural Resources & Mining (11, 21)	6,440	8,744	867	-2,304	-26.3	5,573	642.8
Mining (21)	6,365	8,660	827	-2,295	-26.5	5,538	669.6
Oil & Gas Extraction (211)	222	254	40	-32	-12.6	182	455.0
Construction (23)	4,706	5,564	1,285	-858	-15.4	3,421	266.2
Manufacturing (31-33)	1,263	1,615	362	-352	-21.8	901	248.9
Service-Providing	14,718	18,341	3,670	-3,623	-19.8	11,048	301.0
Trade, Transportation, & Utilities (22, 42, 44-45, 48-49)	4,832	6,067	991	-1,235	-20.4	3,841	387.6
Wholesale Trade (42)	1,624	2,021	187	-397	-19.6	1,437	768.4
Retail Trade (44-45)	1,754	2,208	498	-454	-20.6	1,256	252.2
Transportation, Warehousing & Utilities (22, 44-49)	1,452	1,837	305	-385	-21.0	1,147	376.1
Information (51)	219	285	57	-66	-23.2	162	284.2
Financial Activities (52-53)	811	1,079	200	-268	-24.8	611	305.5
Professional & Business Services (54-56)	2,798	3,329	736	-531	-16.0	2,062	280.2
Education & Health Services (61-62)	1,680	2,087	473	-407	-19.5	1,207	255.2
Leisure & Hospitality (71-72)	3,607	4,387	1,059	-780	-17.8	2,548	240.6
Other Services, except Public Admin. (81)	768	1,104	150	-336	-30.4	618	412.0
Government	1,628	1,887	653	-259	-13.7	975	149.3
Federal Government	234	189	109	45	23.8	125	114.7
State Government	244	291	81	-47	-16.2	163	201.2
Local Government	1,148	1,405	463	-257	-18.3	685	147.9
Local Education	356	499	105	-143	-28.7	251	239.0
Unclassified	6,807	8,668	918	-1,861	-21.5	5,889	641.5
Laramie County							
Total Claims Filed	3,942	5,043	962	-1,101	-21.8	2,980	309.8
Total Unique Claimants	1,275	1,315	346	-40	-3.1	929	268.6
Goods-Producing	899	1,078	188	-179	-16.6	711	378.2
Construction	440	491	161	-51	-10.4	279	173.3
Service-Providing	1,908	2,554	569	-646	-25.3	1,339	235.3
Trade, Transportation, & Utilities (22,42,44-45,48-49)	596	777	163	-181	-23.3	433	265.6
Financial Activities (52, 53)	103	155	64	-52	-33.5	39	60.9
Professional & Business Services (54 - 56)	370	453	149	-83	-18.3	221	148.3
Educational & Health Services (61 - 62)	339	382	80	-43	-11.3	259	323.8
Leisure & Hospitality (71 - 72)	364	588	49	-224	-38.1	315	642.9
Government	277	312	96	-35	-11.2	181	188.5
Unclassified	857	1,098	107	-241	-21.9	750	700.9
Natrona County							
Total Claims Filed	7,486	9,731	1,127	-2,245	-23.1	6,359	564.2
Total Unique Claimants	2,390	2,414	418	-23	-1.0	1,972	471.8
Goods-Producing	2,567	3,334	422	-767	-23.0	2,145	508.3
Construction	719	891	204	-172	-19.3	515	252.5
Service-Providing	3,666	4,689	552	-1,023	-21.8	3,114	564.1
Trade, Transportation, & Utilities (22,42,44-45,48-49)	1,511	1,910	176	-399	-20.9	1,335	758.5
Financial Activities (52, 53)	286	376	25	-90	-23.9	261	1,044.0
Professional & Business Services (54 - 56)	606	675	125	-69	-10.2	481	384.8
Educational & Health Services (61 - 62)	343	407	109	-64	-15.7	234	214.7
Leisure & Hospitality (71 - 72)	575	826	61	-251	-30.4	514	842.6
Government	107	162	41	-55	-34.0	66	161.0
Unclassified	1,145	1,544	110	-399	-25.8	1,035	940.9

Source: Unemployment Insurance claims database.

Reviewed by S. Wen, Research & Planning, WY DWS, 11/19/20.

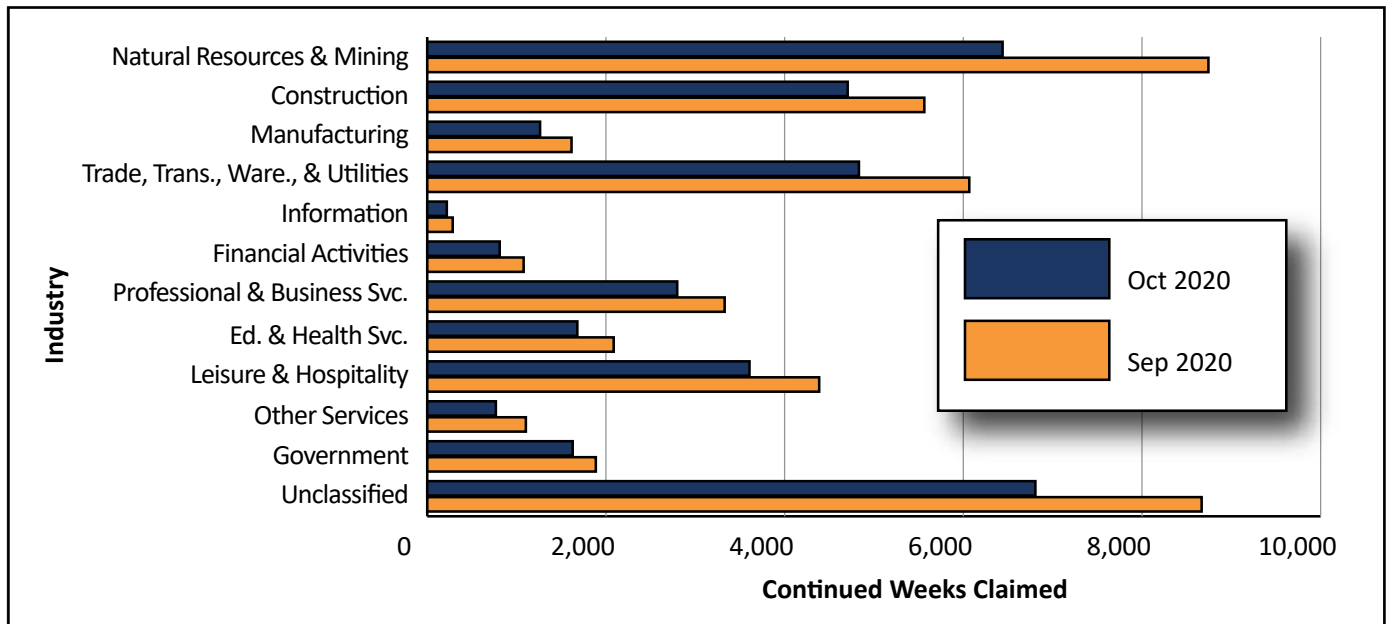


Figure 5: Continued Unemployment Insurance Claims by Major Industry in Wyoming, September and October 2020

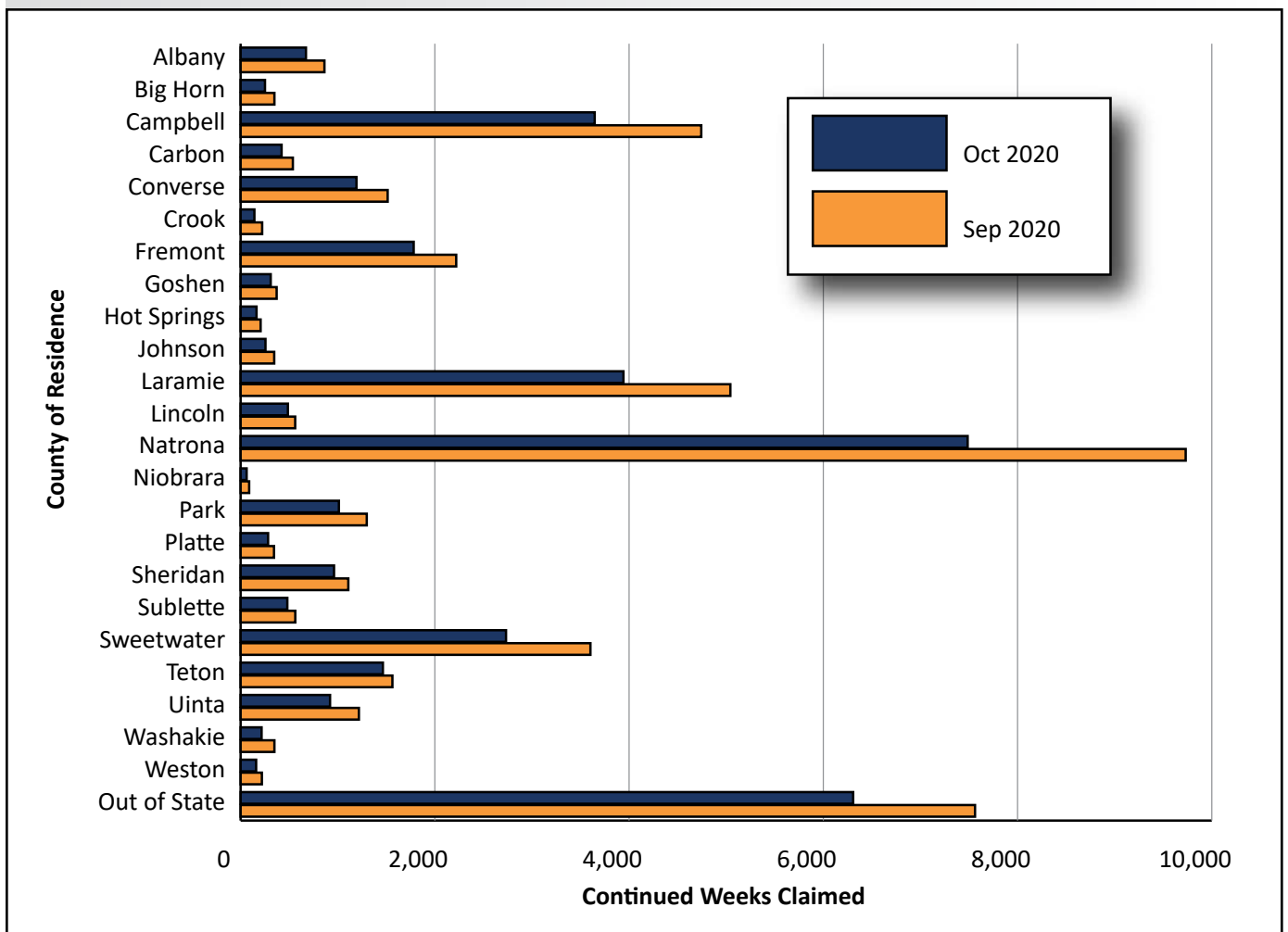


Figure 6: Continued Unemployment Insurance Claims by County of Residence in Wyoming, September and October 2020

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

County	Oct 2020	Sep 2020	Change	
			N	%
Albany	161	101	60	59.4
Big Horn	61	32	29	90.6
Campbell	505	399	106	26.6
Carbon	76	46	30	65.2
Converse	122	96	26	27.1
Crook	51	24	27	112.5
Fremont	303	198	105	53.0
Goshen	51	38	13	34.2
Hot Springs	37	13	24	184.6
Johnson	53	24	29	120.8
Laramie	686	494	192	38.9
Lincoln	106	45	61	135.6
Natrona	995	682	313	45.9
Niobrara	10	5	5	100.0
Park	214	131	83	63.4
Platte	38	22	16	72.7
Sheridan	187	130	57	43.8
Sublette	69	36	33	91.7
Sweetwater	350	270	80	29.6
Teton	474	160	314	196.3
Uinta	133	89	44	49.4
Washakie	50	20	30	150.0
Weston	29	23	6	26.1
Unknown	45	23	22	95.7
Out of State	1,255	717	538	75.0
Total	6,073	3,829	2,244	58.6

Source: Unemployment Insurance claims database.
Reviewed by S. Wen, Research & Planning, WY DWS,
11/19/20.

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, September 2020 to October 2020

County	Oct 2020	Sep 2020	Change	
			N	%
Albany	673	863	-190	-22.0
Big Horn	251	348	-97	-27.9
Campbell	3,646	4,743	-1,097	-23.1
Carbon	422	538	-116	-21.6
Converse	1,193	1,514	-321	-21.2
Crook	142	222	-80	-36.0
Fremont	1,782	2,220	-438	-19.7
Goshen	310	371	-61	-16.4
Hot Springs	164	206	-42	-20.4
Johnson	256	346	-90	-26.0
Laramie	3,942	5,043	-1,101	-21.8
Lincoln	487	562	-75	-13.3
Natrona	7,486	9,731	-2,245	-23.1
Niobrara	62	88	-26	-29.5
Park	1,012	1,299	-287	-22.1
Platte	283	344	-61	-17.7
Sheridan	962	1,109	-147	-13.3
Sublette	481	563	-82	-14.6
Sweetwater	2,733	3,602	-869	-24.1
Teton	1,465	1,563	-98	-6.3
Uinta	921	1,218	-297	-24.4
Washakie	216	348	-132	-37.9
Weston	160	219	-59	-26.9
Unknown	197	188	9	4.8
Out of State	6,307	7,562	-1,255	-16.6
Normalized Total^a	35,565	44,823	-9,258	-20.7

^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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