

# **Wyoming Unemployment Insurance Claims Report**

**December 2019**

**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

Published January 9, 2020



# **Wyoming Unemployment Insurance Claims Report, December 2019**

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

### **Wyoming Department of Workforce Services**

Robin Sessions Cooley, Director

### **Research & Planning**

Tony Glover, Manager

Carola Cowan, Bureau of Labor Statistics Programs Supervisor

### **Prepared by:**

Sherry Wen, Principal Economist

Michael Moore, Editor

### **Editorial Committee:**

David Bullard, Katelynd Faler, Matthew Halama,

Aubrey Kofoed, Chris McGrath, and Michael Moore

**Published January 9, 2019.**

©2020 by the Wyoming Department of Workforce Services, Research & Planning

### **Department of Workforce Services Nondiscrimination Statement**

The Department of Workforce Services does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, sex, age, or disability. It is our intention that all individuals seeking services from our agency be given equal opportunity and that eligibility decisions be based upon applicable statutes, rules, and regulations.

### **Research & Planning**

P.O. Box 2760

Casper, WY 82602

Phone: (307) 473-3807

Fax: (307) 473-3834

**R&P Website:** <https://doe.state.wy.us/LMI/>

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

**URL for this report:** [https://doe.state.wy.us/LMI/UI/UI\\_Claims\\_1219.pdf](https://doe.state.wy.us/LMI/UI/UI_Claims_1219.pdf)

**"Your Source for Wyoming Labor Market Information"**

## **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, December 2019

## Initial Claims Continue to Increase from Prior-Year Levels

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

The total number of initial Unemployment Insurance (UI) claims in Wyoming increased 12.1% over the year in December 2019. This marked the sixth consecutive month of over-the-year increase in initial claims, dating back to July 2019.

### Initial Claims

Over the year, initial claims rose from 2,439 to 2,734, an increase of 295 claims, or 12.1%. The greatest increase was seen in natural resources & mining (166, or 146.9%), followed by unclassified (103, or 47.5%). Professional & business services experienced the greatest over-the-year decrease in initial claims (-64, or -22.7%). See Table 1 (page 4) and Figure 2 (page 5).

At the county level, the largest over the-year-increase was seen among out-of-state claimants, which increased from 318 to 529 (211, or 66.3%), followed by residents of Natrona (56, or 15.7%) and Sweetwater (22, or 11.4%) counties. Park County showed the greatest over-the-year decrease

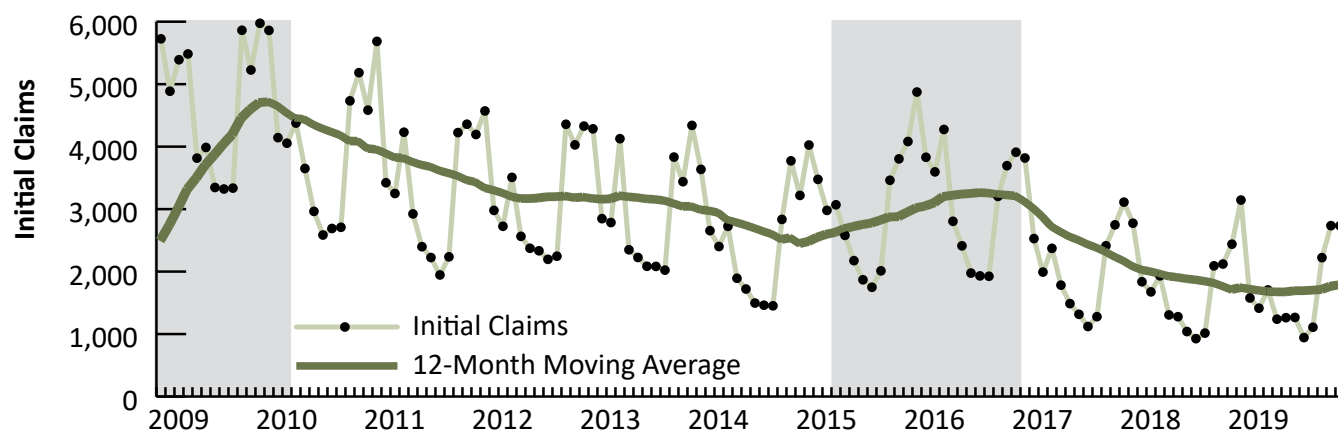
in initial claims (-52, or -37.5%). See Figure 3 (page 5).

### Continued Claims

Total continued weeks claimed increased from 12,578 to 14,833, an increase of 2,255 weeks claimed, or 17.9%. The total number of unique claimants increased by 742 (18.3%), and the total number of claimants who exhausted their benefits increased by 93 (26.1%). See Table 2 (page 6).

Large over-the-year increases in continued weeks claimed were seen in several industries, including unclassified (846, or 84.6%), natural resources & mining (777, or 110.5%), and construction (710, or 22.0%). See Figure 4 (page 7).

Several counties also experienced large over-the-year growth in continued weeks claimed, including out-of-state claimants (797, or 28.5%), Natrona (546, or 36.2%), Sweetwater (477, or 59.8%), Laramie (286, or 19.0%), and Fremont (228, or 28.0%). See Figure 5 (page 7) and Table 3 (page 8).



Shaded areas indicate periods of economic downturn: 2009Q1-2010Q1 and 2015Q2-2016Q4.  
Source: Unemployment Insurance (UI) statistics. Research & Planning, WY DWS.  
Prepared by M. Moore, Research & Planning, WY DWS, 1/7/20.

Figure 1: Total Number of Initial Unemployment Insurance Claims for Wyoming by Year and Month, January 2009 to December 2019

**Table 1: Wyoming Normalized Unemployment Insurance Statistics: Initial Claims**

	Claims Filed			Percent Change Claims Filed		Difference
	Dec-19	Nov-19	Dec-18	Dec-19 Nov-19	Dec-19 Dec-18	Dec-19 Dec-18
<b><u>Wyoming Statewide</u></b>						
<b>Total Claims Filed</b>	<b>2,734</b>	<b>2,735</b>	<b>2,439</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>12.1</b>	<b>295</b>
<b>Goods-Producing</b>	<b>1,462</b>	<b>1,107</b>	<b>1,240</b>	<b>32.1</b>	<b>17.9</b>	<b>222</b>
Natural Resources and Mining (11,21)	279	216	113	29.2	146.9	166
Mining (21)	258	195	98	32.3	163.3	160
Oil & Gas Extraction (211)	6	16	6	-62.5	0.0	0
Construction (23)	1,087	821	1,053	32.4	3.2	34
Manufacturing (31 - 33)	94	68	73	38.2	28.8	21
<b>Service-Providing</b>	<b>763</b>	<b>1,090</b>	<b>771</b>	<b>-30.0</b>	<b>-1.0</b>	<b>-8</b>
Trade, Transportation, and Utilities (22,42,44-45,48-49)	206	252	186	-18.3	10.8	20
Wholesale Trade (42)	34	36	30	-5.6	13.3	4
Retail Trade (44 - 45)	84	102	92	-17.6	-8.7	-8
Transportation, Warehousing and Utilities (22,48 - 49)	88	114	64	-22.8	37.5	24
Information (51)	5	9	16	-44.4	-68.8	-11
Financial Activities (52, 53)	31	29	19	6.9	63.2	12
Professional and Business Services (54 - 56)	218	263	282	-17.1	-22.7	-64
Educational and Health Services (61 - 62)	77	66	66	16.7	16.7	11
Leisure and Hospitality (71 - 72)	188	435	161	-56.8	16.8	27
Other Services, except Public Admin. (81)	31	28	36	10.7	-13.9	-5
<b>Government</b>	<b>188</b>	<b>258</b>	<b>210</b>	<b>-27.1</b>	<b>-10.5</b>	<b>-22</b>
Federal Government	120	166	146	-27.7	-17.8	-26
State Government	11	15	9	-26.7	22.2	2
Local Government	56	76	54	-26.3	3.7	2
Local Education	15	14	8	7.1	87.5	7
<b>Unclassified</b>	<b>320</b>	<b>279</b>	<b>217</b>	<b>14.7</b>	<b>47.5</b>	<b>103</b>
<b><u>Laramie County (Place of Residence)</u></b>						
<b>Total Claims Filed</b>	<b>413</b>	<b>405</b>	<b>408</b>	<b>2.0</b>	<b>1.2</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>Goods-Producing</b>	<b>257</b>	<b>189</b>	<b>220</b>	<b>36.0</b>	<b>16.8</b>	<b>37</b>
Construction	222	171	211	29.8	5.2	11
<b>Service-Providing</b>	<b>92</b>	<b>161</b>	<b>124</b>	<b>-42.9</b>	<b>-25.8</b>	<b>-32</b>
Trade, Transportation, and Utilities (22,42,44-45,48-49)	29	51	34	-43.1	-14.7	-5
Financial Activities (52, 53)	1	5	2	-80.0	-50.0	-1
Professional and Business Services (54 - 56)	28	64	56	-56.3	-50.0	-28
Educational and Health Services (61 - 62)	6	15	7	-60.0	-14.3	-1
Leisure and Hospitality (71 - 72)	19	11	11	72.7	72.7	8
<b>Government</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>-16.7</b>	<b>-48.3</b>	<b>-14</b>
<b>Unclassified</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>33.3</b>	<b>45.5</b>	<b>15</b>
<b><u>Natrona County (Place of Residence)</u></b>						
<b>Total Claims Filed</b>	<b>415</b>	<b>344</b>	<b>359</b>	<b>20.6</b>	<b>15.6</b>	<b>56</b>
<b>Goods-Producing</b>	<b>238</b>	<b>184</b>	<b>202</b>	<b>29.3</b>	<b>17.8</b>	<b>36</b>
Construction	185	137	174	35.0	6.3	11
<b>Service-Providing</b>	<b>149</b>	<b>128</b>	<b>137</b>	<b>16.4</b>	<b>8.8</b>	<b>12</b>
Trade, Transportation, and Utilities (22,42,44-45,48-49)	49	47	42	4.3	16.7	7
Financial Activities (52, 53)	9	2	4	350.0	125.0	5
Professional and Business Services (54 - 56)	29	44	30	-34.1	-3.3	-1
Educational and Health Services (61 - 62)	19	10	17	90.0	11.8	2
Leisure and Hospitality (71 - 72)	30	18	32	66.7	-6.3	-2
<b>Government</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>-33.3</b>	<b>-14.3</b>	<b>-1</b>
<b>Unclassified</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>90.9</b>	<b>10</b>

Figure 2: Initial Unemployment Insurance Claims by Major Industry, December 2019

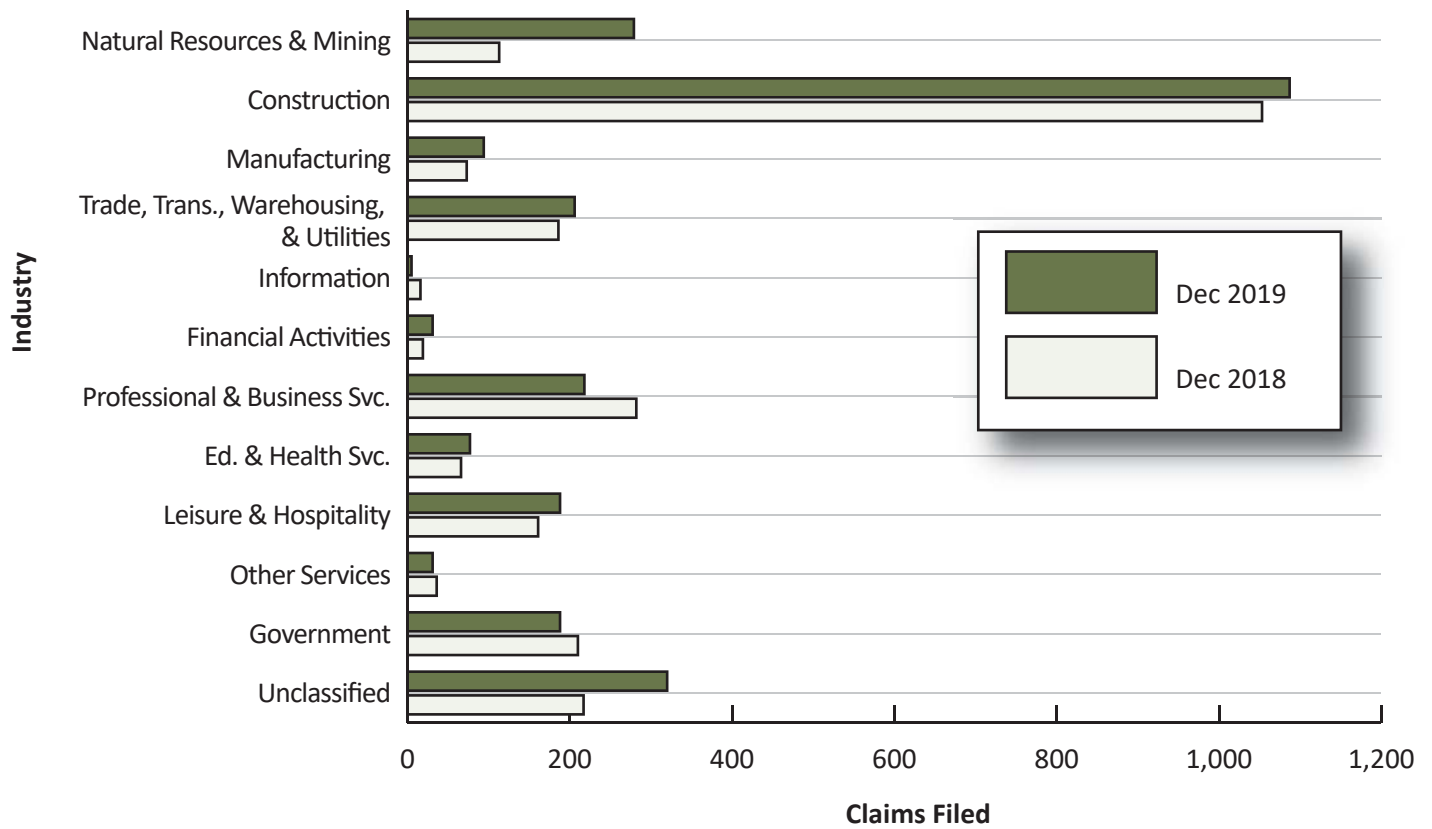
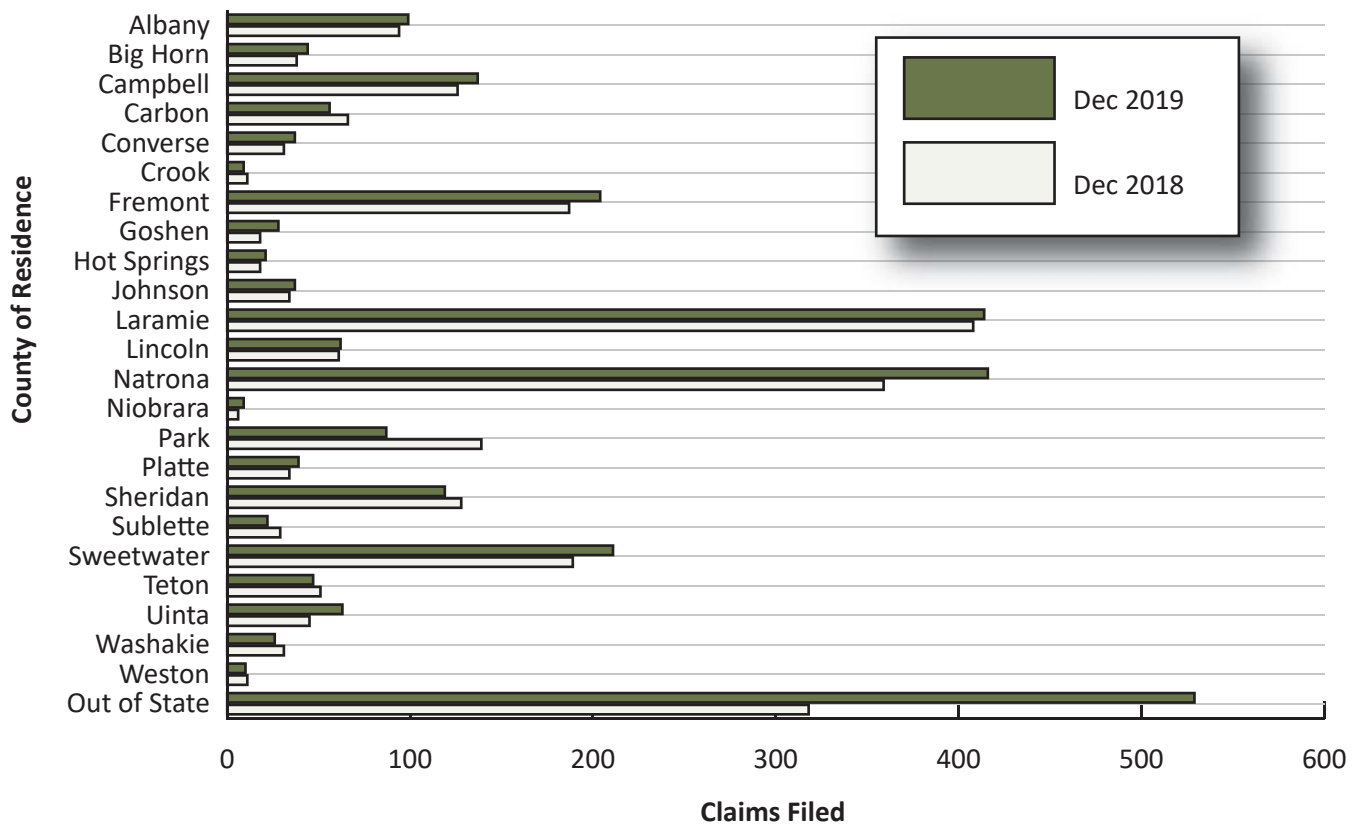


Figure 3: Initial Unemployment Insurance Claims by County of Residence, December 2019



Source: Research & Planning, Wyoming Department of Workforce Services. Retrieved from <https://doe.state.wy.us/LMI/ui.htm>.

**Table 2: Wyoming Normalized Unemployment Insurance Statistics: Continued Claims**

		Claims Filed		Percent Change Claims		Difference
	Dec-19	Nov-19	Dec-18	Dec-19 Nov-19	Dec-19 Dec-18	Dec-19 Dec-18
<b><u>Wyoming Statewide</u></b>						
<b>Total Continued Weeks Claimed</b>	<b>14,833</b>	<b>11,878</b>	<b>12,578</b>	<b>24.9</b>	<b>17.9</b>	<b>2,255</b>
<b>Total Unique Claimants</b>	<b>4,798</b>	<b>3,850</b>	<b>4,056</b>	<b>24.6</b>	<b>18.3</b>	<b>742</b>
<b>Benefit Exhaustions</b>	<b>449</b>	<b>348</b>	<b>356</b>	<b>29.0</b>	<b>26.1</b>	<b>93</b>
<b>Benefit Exhaustion Rates</b>	<b>9.4%</b>	<b>9.0%</b>	<b>8.8%</b>	<b>0.3%</b>	<b>0.6%</b>	
<b>Goods-Producing</b>	<b>5,875</b>	<b>3,604</b>	<b>4,267</b>	<b>63.0</b>	<b>37.7</b>	<b>1,608</b>
Natural Resources and Mining (11,21)	1,480	1,026	703	44.2	110.5	777
Mining (21)	1,356	963	545	40.8	148.8	811
Oil & Gas Extraction (211)	77	48	77	60.4	0.0	0
Construction (23)	3,934	2,184	3,224	80.1	22.0	710
Manufacturing (31 - 33)	460	392	338	17.3	36.1	122
<b>Service-Providing</b>	<b>5,630</b>	<b>5,885</b>	<b>5,958</b>	<b>-4.3</b>	<b>-5.5</b>	<b>-328</b>
Trade, Transportation, and Utilities (22,42,44-45,48-49)	1,415	1,238	1,305	14.3	8.4	110
Wholesale Trade (42)	252	216	233	16.7	8.2	19
Retail Trade (44 - 45)	621	533	649	16.5	-4.3	-28
Transportation, Warehousing and Utilities (22,48 - 49)	542	489	423	10.8	28.1	119
Information (51)	83	68	135	22.1	-38.5	-52
Financial Activities (52, 53)	233	213	253	9.4	-7.9	-20
Professional and Business Services (54 - 56)	1,361	1,071	1,234	27.1	10.3	127
Educational and Health Services (61 - 62)	489	506	518	-3.4	-5.6	-29
Leisure and Hospitality (71 - 72)	1,855	2,615	2,322	-29.1	-20.1	-467
Other Services, except Public Admin. (81)	187	167	185	12.0	1.1	2
<b>Government</b>	<b>1,480</b>	<b>1,071</b>	<b>1,353</b>	<b>38.2</b>	<b>9.4</b>	<b>127</b>
Federal Government	775	461	738	68.1	5.0	37
State Government	109	96	88	13.5	23.9	21
Local Government	596	514	526	16.0	13.3	70
Local Education	111	86	133	29.1	-16.5	-22
<b>Unclassified</b>	<b>1,846</b>	<b>1,316</b>	<b>1,000</b>	<b>40.3</b>	<b>84.6</b>	<b>846</b>
<b><u>Laramie County (Place of Residence)</u></b>						
<b>Total Continued Weeks Claimed</b>	<b>1,793</b>	<b>1,224</b>	<b>1,507</b>	<b>46.5</b>	<b>19.0</b>	<b>286</b>
<b>Total Unique Claimants</b>	<b>627</b>	<b>464</b>	<b>494</b>	<b>35.1</b>	<b>26.9</b>	<b>133</b>
<b>Goods-Producing</b>	<b>788</b>	<b>353</b>	<b>702</b>	<b>123.2</b>	<b>12.3</b>	<b>86</b>
Construction	725	322	661	125.2	9.7	64
<b>Service-Providing</b>	<b>699</b>	<b>676</b>	<b>635</b>	<b>3.4</b>	<b>10.1</b>	<b>64</b>
Trade, Transportation, and Utilities (22,42,44-45,48-49)	216	232	166	-6.9	30.1	50
Financial Activities (52, 53)	55	60	47	-8.3	17.0	8
Professional and Business Services (54 - 56)	192	169	189	13.6	1.6	3
Educational and Health Services (61 - 62)	71	84	79	-15.5	-10.1	-8
Leisure and Hospitality (71 - 72)	81	58	78	39.7	3.8	3
<b>Government</b>	<b>110</b>	<b>87</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>26.4</b>	<b>22.2</b>	<b>20</b>
<b>Unclassified</b>	<b>195</b>	<b>106</b>	<b>79</b>	<b>84.0</b>	<b>146.8</b>	<b>116</b>
<b><u>Natrona County (Place of Residence)</u></b>						
<b>Total Continued Weeks Claimed</b>	<b>2,051</b>	<b>1,551</b>	<b>1,505</b>	<b>32.2</b>	<b>36.3</b>	<b>546</b>
<b>Total Unique Claimants</b>	<b>664</b>	<b>516</b>	<b>481</b>	<b>28.7</b>	<b>38.0</b>	<b>183</b>
<b>Goods-Producing</b>	<b>1,008</b>	<b>668</b>	<b>523</b>	<b>50.9</b>	<b>92.7</b>	<b>485</b>
Construction	662	386	400	71.5	65.5	262
<b>Service-Providing</b>	<b>790</b>	<b>671</b>	<b>911</b>	<b>17.7</b>	<b>-13.3</b>	<b>-121</b>
Trade, Transportation, and Utilities (22,42,44-45,48-49)	253	177	211	42.9	19.9	42
Financial Activities (52, 53)	21	20	55	5.0	-61.8	-34
Professional and Business Services (54 - 56)	236	199	200	18.6	18.0	36
Educational and Health Services (61 - 62)	95	110	138	-13.6	-31.2	-43
Leisure and Hospitality (71 - 72)	114	90	219	26.7	-47.9	-105
<b>Government</b>	<b>75</b>	<b>55</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>36.4</b>	<b>114.3</b>	<b>40</b>
<b>Unclassified</b>	<b>176</b>	<b>155</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>13.5</b>	<b>417.6</b>	<b>142</b>

Figure 4: Continued Unemployment Insurance Claims by Major Industry, December 2019

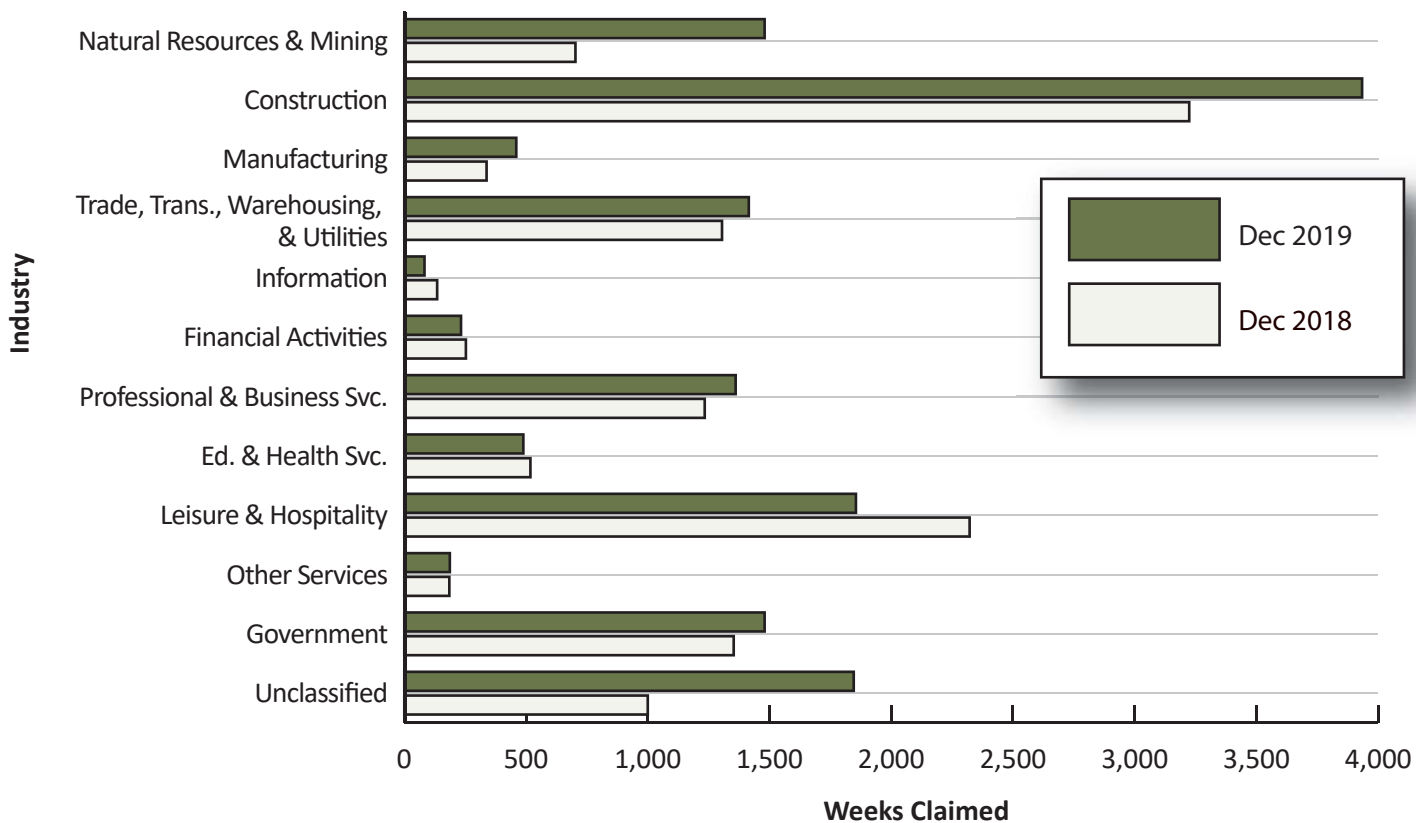
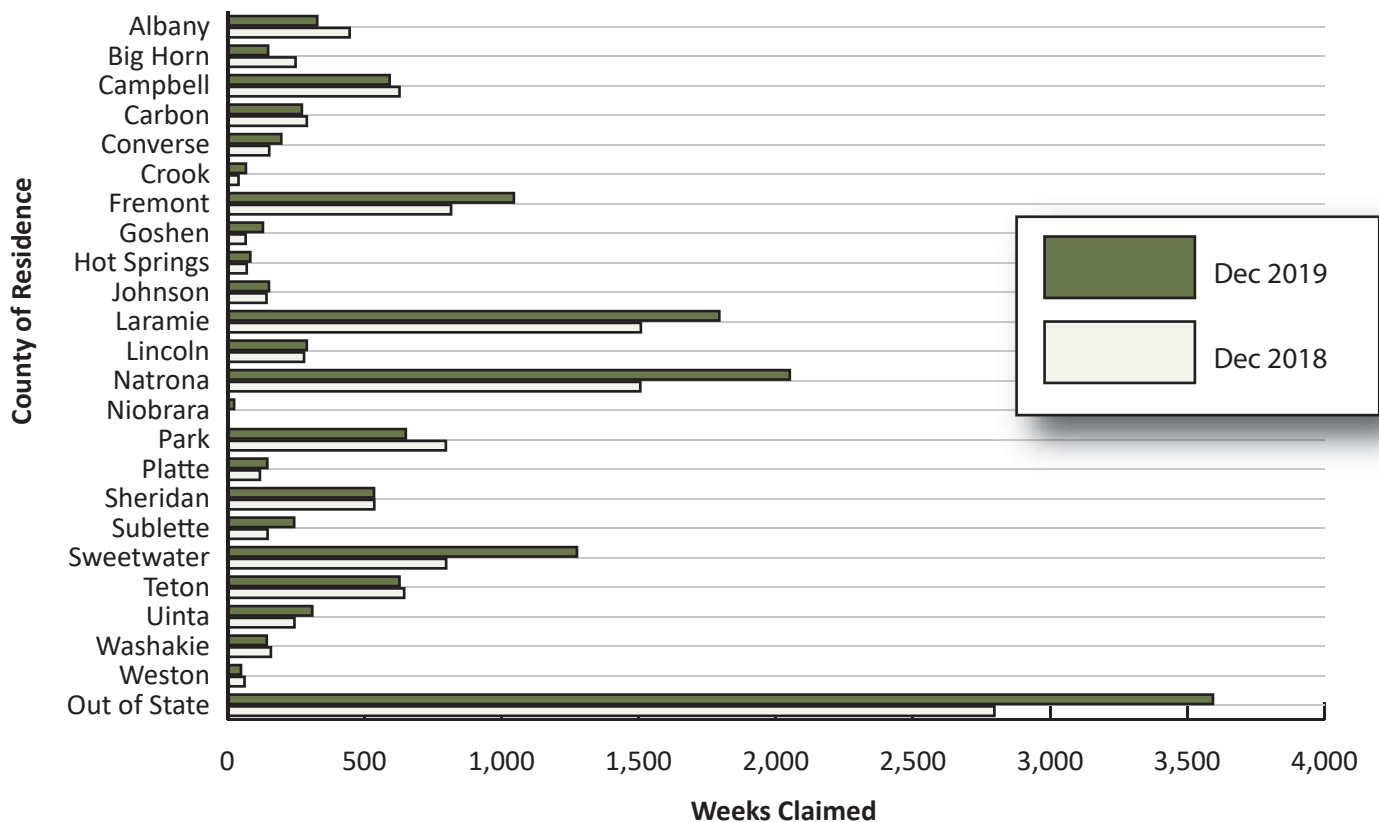


Figure 5: Continued Unemployment Insurance Claims by County of Residence, December 2019



Source: Research & Planning, Wyoming Department of Workforce Services. Retrieved from <https://doe.state.wy.us/LMI/ui.htm>.

Table 3: Wyoming Normalized<sup>a</sup> Unemployment Statistics:  
Continued Claims by County of Residence, December 2019

County	Dec 19	Dec 18	Over-the-Year Change	
			N	%
Albany	328	446	-118	-26.5
Big Horn	149	249	-100	-40.0
Campbell	592	628	-36	-5.7
Carbon	272	290	-18	-6.3
Converse	197	153	44	29.1
Crook	68	41	27	65.8
Fremont	1,045	816	228	28.0
Goshen	130	67	63	93.5
Hot Springs	84	71	13	18.2
Johnson	152	143	9	6.1
Laramie	1,794	1,508	286	19.0
Lincoln	290	280	10	3.5
Natrona	2,051	1,506	546	36.2
Niobrara	25	4	21	475.0
Park	651	797	-146	-18.3
Platte	146	119	27	22.7
Sheridan	535	536	-1	-0.2
Sublette	244	147	96	65.4
Sweetwater	1,275	798	477	59.8
Teton	628	645	-17	-2.7
Uinta	310	245	65	26.5
Washakie	144	159	-15	-9.5
Weston	50	63	-13	-20.7
Unknown	81	70	11	15.4
Out of State	3,594	2,797	797	28.5
<b>Normalized Total<sup>a</sup></b>	<b>14,833</b>	<b>12,579</b>	<b>2,254</b>	<b>17.9</b>
<b>Real Total<sup>b</sup></b>	<b>13,703</b>	<b>11,620</b>	<b>2,083</b>	<b>17.9</b>

<sup>a</sup>An 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.

<sup>b</sup>Raw claims data that have not been multiplied by the normalization factor.  
N/D = Not discloseable due to confidentiality.

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: Research & Planning, Wyoming Department of Workforce Services. Retrieved from <http://doe.state.wy.us/LMI/ui.htm>