

Wyoming Unemployment Insurance Claims Report

December 2020

Information for Wyoming by Industry and County of Residence of Claimant

by: Sherry Wen, Principal Economist, Chris McGrath, Senior Statistician, 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, December 2020

Initial and Continued Claims Both Decrease from November

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

Initial Unemployment Insurance (UI) claims in Wyoming decreased by 7.7% over the month, while total continued weeks claimed decreased by 1.1%. The over-the-month decrease in continued weeks claimed was the smallest for any month during the COVID-19 pandemic and followed six months of much greater decreases. See *Figure 1 and Figure 2, page 4.*

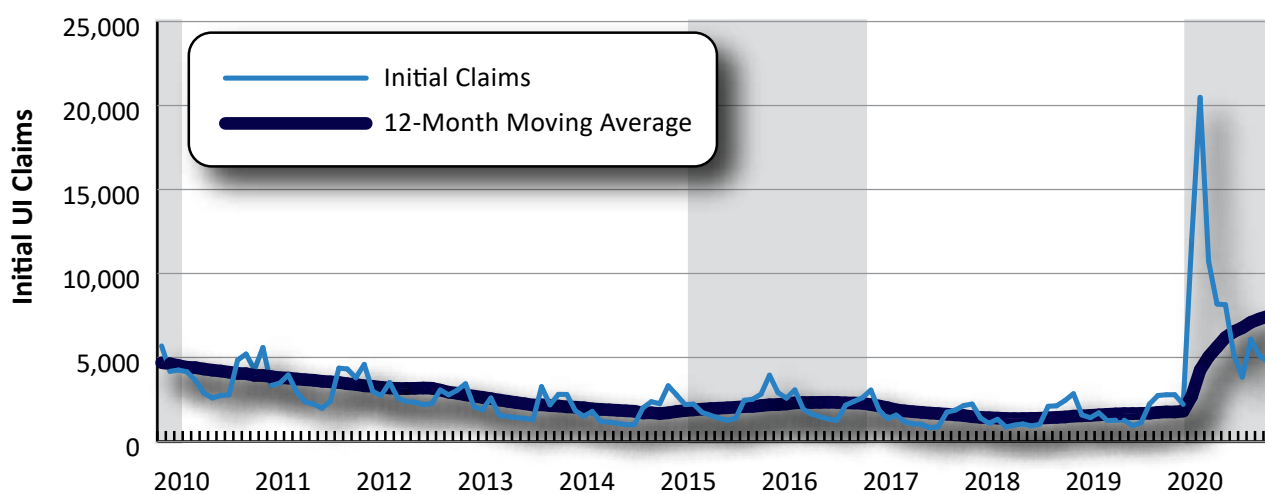
Initial Claims

Wyoming had 4,739 initial claims (see Definitions, page 9) in December, down from 5,133 in November (-394, or -7.7%). Leisure & hospitality had the greatest over-the-month decrease in initial claims (-323, or -34.9%). Most other service-providing industries experienced smaller increases or decreases in initial claims, such as retail

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.

trade (-27, or -11.0%) and wholesale trade (16, or 26.2%). Wyoming's good-producing industries experienced over-the-month increases in initial claims, including construction (352, or 33.3%), manufacturing (91, or 102.2%), and natural resources & mining (17, or 5.9%). Initial claims decreased or remained unchanged in all levels of government, including federal (-113, or -44.3%), local (-38, or -26.6%), and state (0, or 0.0%) government. See *Table 1 (page 5) and Figure 3 (page 6).*



*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.

Prepared by C. McGrath, Research & Planning, WY DWS, 1/22/21.

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

Several counties saw over-the-month decreases in initial claims, such as Teton (-295, or -76.8%), Park (-24, or -11.1%), and Lincoln (-22, or -19.8%) counties. Sheridan (51, or 34.0%) and Campbell (45, or 13.2%) counties experienced the greatest over-the-month increases. See Figure 4 (page 6) and Table 3 (page 9).

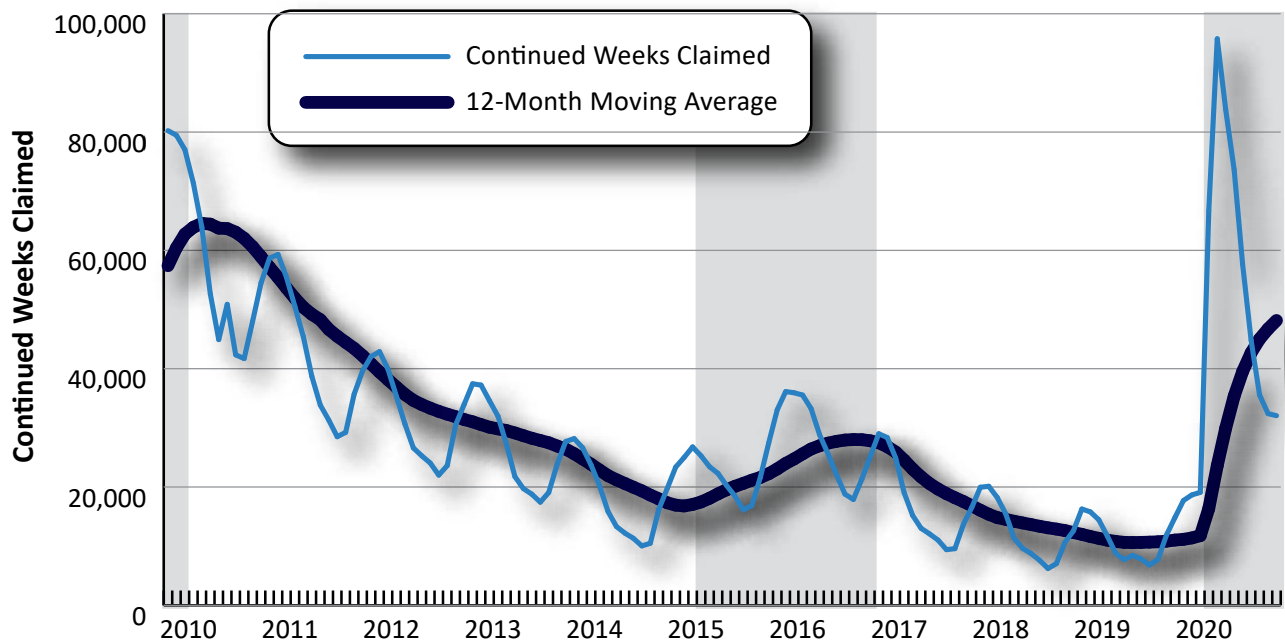
Continued Claims

The total number of continued weeks claimed decreased from 32,402 to 32,057 (-345, or -1.1%). The total number of unique claimants decreased from 10,558 to 8,895 (-1,663, or -15.8%). See Figure 2 and Table 2, page 7.

Continued claims decreased in most private sector industries, including natural resources & mining (-910, or -22.3%),

leisure & hospitality (-568, or -12.5%), trade, transportation, warehousing, & utilities (-435, or -10.7%), and education & health services (-185, or -11.8%). These large decreases were largely offset by a substantial increase in continued claims in construction (1,547, or 31.4%). Wyoming regularly sees large over-the-month increases in continued claims in construction in December and January. See Table 2, page 7, and Figure 5, page 8.

Continued claims increased in 15 counties, led by Big Horn (204, or 75.6%), Laramie (187, or 5.3%), and Sweetwater (184, or 8.1%) counties. Over-the-month decreases were seen in eight counties, including Teton (-756, or -36.7%), Campbell (-331, or -11.7%), Natrona (-146, or -2.3%), and Converse (-145, or -14.1%) counties. 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.

Prepared by C. McGrath, Research & Planning, WY DWS, 1/22/21.

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

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

Industry	Initial Claims Filed			Over-the-Month Change		Over-the-Year Change	
	Dec 2020	Nov 2020	Dec 2019	N	%	N	%
Total Claims Filed	4,739	5,133	2,223	-394	-7.7	2,516	113.2
Goods-Producing	1,895	1,436	1,189	459	32.0	706	59.4
Natural Resources & Mining (11, 21)	307	290	228	17	5.9	79	34.6
Mining (21)	276	253	210	23	9.1	66	31.4
Oil & Gas Extraction (211)	20	16	5	4	25.0	15	300.0
Construction (23)	1,408	1,056	881	352	33.3	527	59.8
Manufacturing (31-33)	180	89	78	91	102.2	102	130.8
Service-Providing	1,832	2,174	628	-342	-15.7	1,204	191.7
Trade, Transportation, & Utilities (22, 42, 44-45, 48-49)	449	462	168	-13	-2.8	281	167.3
Wholesale Trade (42)	77	61	27	16	26.2	50	185.2
Retail Trade (44-45)	218	245	69	-27	-11.0	149	215.9
Transportation, Warehousing & Utilities (22, 44-49)	153	154	71	-1	-0.6	82	115.5
Information (51)	12	17	4	-5	-29.4	8	200.0
Financial Activities (52-53)	60	63	25	-3	-4.8	35	140.0
Professional & Business Services (54-56)	407	405	183	2	0.5	224	122.4
Education & Health Services (61-62)	234	225	64	9	4.0	170	265.6
Leisure & Hospitality (71-72)	603	926	156	-323	-34.9	447	286.5
Other Services, except Public Admin. (81)	64	73	25	-9	-12.3	39	156.0
Government	277	429	153	-152	-35.4	124	81.0
Federal Government	142	255	97	-113	-44.3	45	46.4
State Government	30	30	9	0	0.0	21	233.3
Local Government	105	143	45	-38	-26.6	60	133.3
Local Education	43	42	12	1	2.4	31	258.3
Unclassified	733	1,092	252	-359	-32.9	481	190.9
Laramie County							
Total Claims Filed	653	670	335	-17	-2.5	318	94.9
Goods-Producing	273	215	209	58	27.0	64	30.6
Construction	243	186	179	57	30.6	64	35.8
Service-Providing	256	274	75	-18	-6.6	181	241.3
Trade, Transportation, & Utilities (22,42,44-45,48-49)	55	74	24	-19	-25.7	31	129.2
Financial Activities (52, 53)	13	5	0	8	160.0	13	--
Professional & Business Services (54 - 56)	62	79	24	-17	-21.5	38	158.3
Educational & Health Services (61 - 62)	52	37	5	15	40.5	47	940.0
Leisure & Hospitality (71 - 72)	57	66	16	-9	-13.6	41	256.3
Government	23	28	12	-5	-17.9	11	91.7
Unclassified	100	151	38	-51	-33.8	62	163.2
Natrona County							
Total Claims Filed	919	898	342	21	2.3	577	168.7
Goods-Producing	350	271	195	79	29.2	155	79.5
Construction	264	213	150	51	23.9	114	76.0
Service-Providing	433	397	124	36	9.1	309	249.2
Trade, Transportation, & Utilities (22,42,44-45,48-49)	119	105	42	14	13.3	77	183.3
Financial Activities (52, 53)	9	15	7	-6	-40.0	2	28.6
Professional & Business Services (54 - 56)	91	72	25	19	26.4	66	264.0
Educational & Health Services (61 - 62)	71	56	15	15	26.8	56	373.3
Leisure & Hospitality (71 - 72)	125	119	26	6	5.0	99	380.8
Government	25	31	5	-6	-19.4	20	400.0
Unclassified	109	198	16	-89	-44.9	93	581.3

N/D = Not discloseable due to confidentiality.

Source: Unemployment Insurance claims database. Reviewed by S. Wen, Research & Planning, WY DWS, 1/25/21.

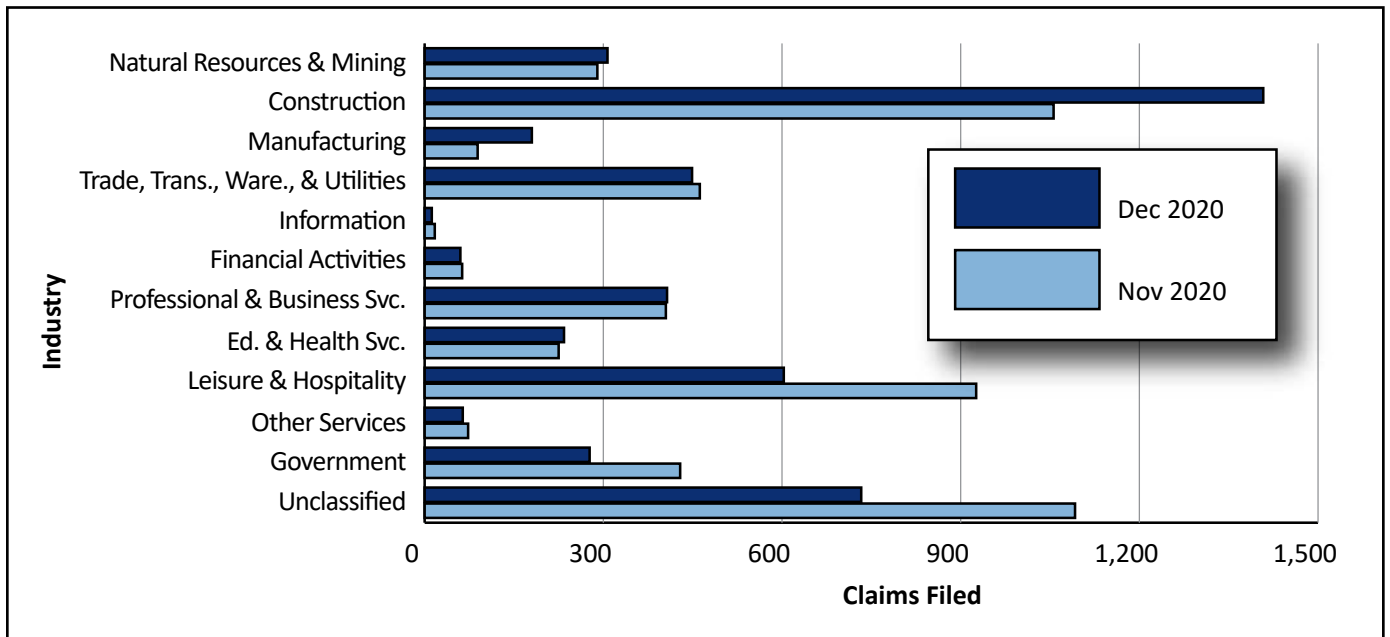


Figure 3: Initial Unemployment Insurance Claims by Major Industry in Wyoming, November and December 2020

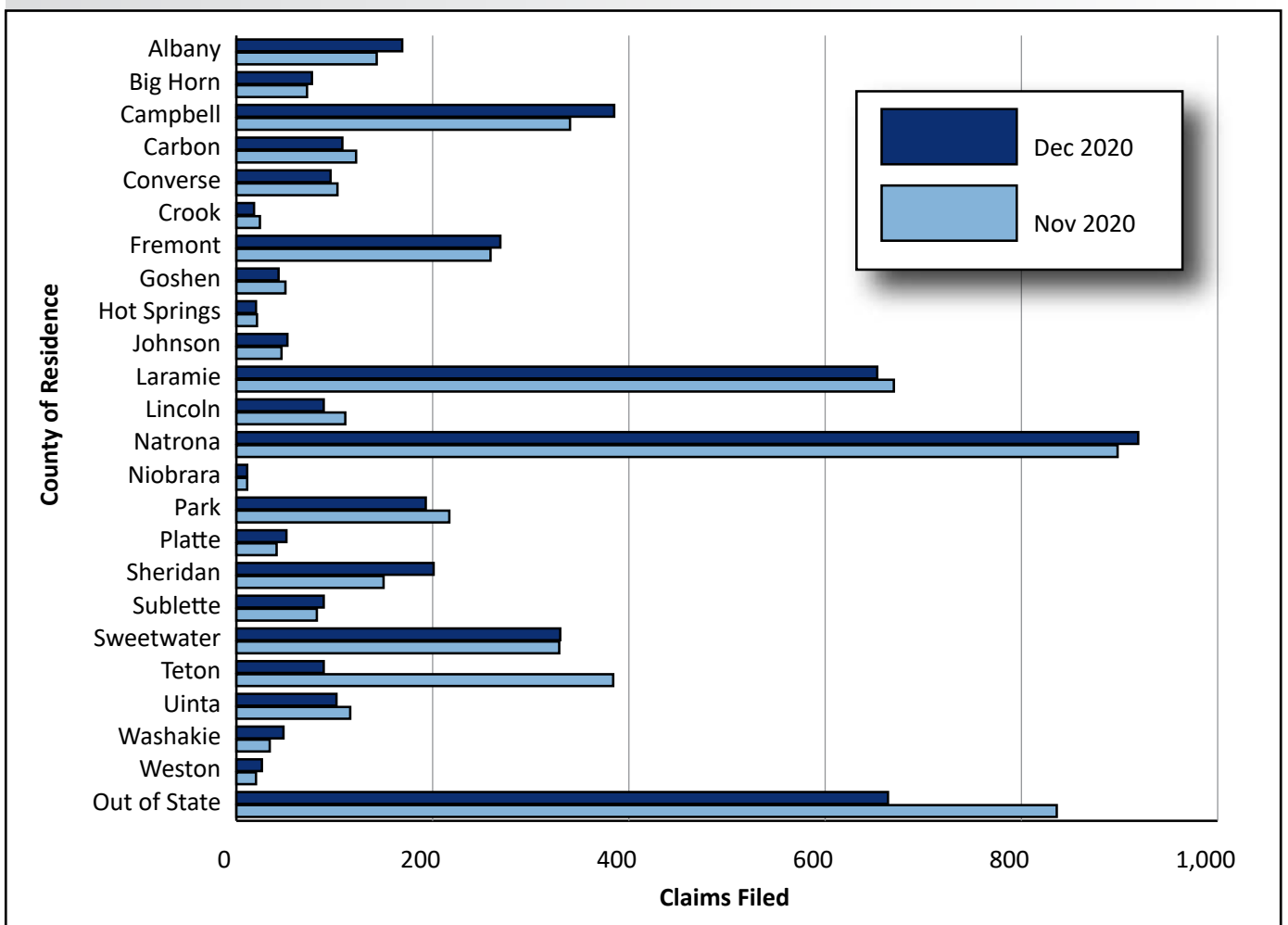


Figure 4: Initial Unemployment Insurance Claims by County of Residence, November and December 2020

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

Industry	Continued Weeks Claimed			Over-the-Month Change		Over-the-Year Change	
	Dec 2020	Nov 2020	Dec 2019	N	%	N	%
Total Continued Weeks Claimed	32,057	32,402	11,866	-345	-1.1	20,191	170.2
Total Unique Claimants	8,895	10,558	4,132	-1,663	-15.8	4,763	115.3
Goods-Producing	10,692	10,060	4,729	632	6.3	5,963	126.1
Natural Resources & Mining (11, 21)	3,169	4,079	1,194	-910	-22.3	1,975	165.4
Mining (21)	3,044	3,976	1,094	-932	-23.4	1,950	178.2
Oil & Gas Extraction (211)	193	190	65	3	1.6	128	196.9
Construction (23)	6,475	4,928	3,161	1,547	31.4	3,314	104.8
Manufacturing (31-33)	1,047	1,052	373	-5	-0.5	674	180.7
Service-Providing	12,984	14,095	4,543	-1,111	-7.9	8,441	185.8
Trade, Transportation, & Utilities (22, 42, 44-45, 48-49)	3,646	4,081	1,140	-435	-10.7	2,506	219.8
Wholesale Trade (42)	965	1,278	205	-313	-24.5	760	370.7
Retail Trade (44-45)	1,493	1,521	500	-28	-1.8	993	198.6
Transportation, Warehousing & Utilities (22, 44-49)	1,187	1,280	434	-93	-7.3	753	173.5
Information (51)	186	207	66	-21	-10.1	120	181.8
Financial Activities (52-53)	604	578	193	26	4.5	411	213.0
Professional & Business Services (54-56)	2,586	2,486	1,102	100	4.0	1,484	134.7
Education & Health Services (61-62)	1,387	1,572	399	-185	-11.8	988	247.6
Leisure & Hospitality (71-72)	3,981	4,549	1,487	-568	-12.5	2,494	167.7
Other Services, except Public Admin. (81)	591	619	153	-28	-4.5	438	286.3
Government	1,992	1,742	1,195	250	14.4	797	66.7
Federal Government	775	400	629	375	93.8	146	23.2
State Government	242	237	87	5	2.1	155	178.2
Local Government	975	1,105	478	-130	-11.8	497	104.0
Local Education	305	308	89	-3	-1.0	216	242.7
Unclassified	6,387	6,503	1,398	-116	-1.8	4,989	356.9
Laramie County							
Total Claims Filed	3,741	3,554	1,434	187	5.3	2,307	160.9
Total Unique Claimants	1,046	1,185	549	-139	-11.7	497	90.5
Goods-Producing	1,119	889	632	230	25.9	487	77.1
Construction	825	556	581	269	48.4	244	42.0
Service-Providing	1,662	1,672	559	-10	-0.6	1,103	197.3
Trade, Transportation, & Utilities (22,42,44-45,48-49)	462	503	174	-41	-8.2	288	165.5
Financial Activities (52, 53)	87	68	45	19	27.9	42	93.3
Professional & Business Services (54 - 56)	360	372	154	-12	-3.2	206	133.8
Educational & Health Services (61 - 62)	296	306	57	-10	-3.3	239	419.3
Leisure & Hospitality (71 - 72)	361	320	65	41	12.8	296	455.4
Government	190	205	88	-15	-7.3	102	115.9
Unclassified	768	786	155	-18	-2.3	613	395.5
Natrona County							
Total Claims Filed	6,074	6,220	1,641	-146	-2.3	4,433	270.1
Total Unique Claimants	1,714	2,043	569	-329	-16.1	1,145	201.2
Goods-Producing	2,018	2,061	812	-43	-2.1	1,206	148.5
Construction	1,067	785	529	282	35.9	538	101.7
Service-Providing	2,901	3,012	640	-111	-3.7	2,261	353.3
Trade, Transportation, & Utilities (22,42,44-45,48-49)	1,026	1,204	206	-178	-14.8	820	398.1
Financial Activities (52, 53)	210	210	19	0	0.0	191	1,005.3
Professional & Business Services (54 - 56)	514	444	193	70	15.8	321	166.3
Educational & Health Services (61 - 62)	296	379	76	-83	-21.9	220	289.5
Leisure & Hospitality (71 - 72)	546	484	91	62	12.8	455	500.0
Government	174	107	60	67	62.6	114	190.0
Unclassified	981	1,039	127	-58	-5.6	854	672.4

Source: Unemployment Insurance claims database.

Reviewed by S. Wen, Research & Planning, WY DWS, 1/25/21.

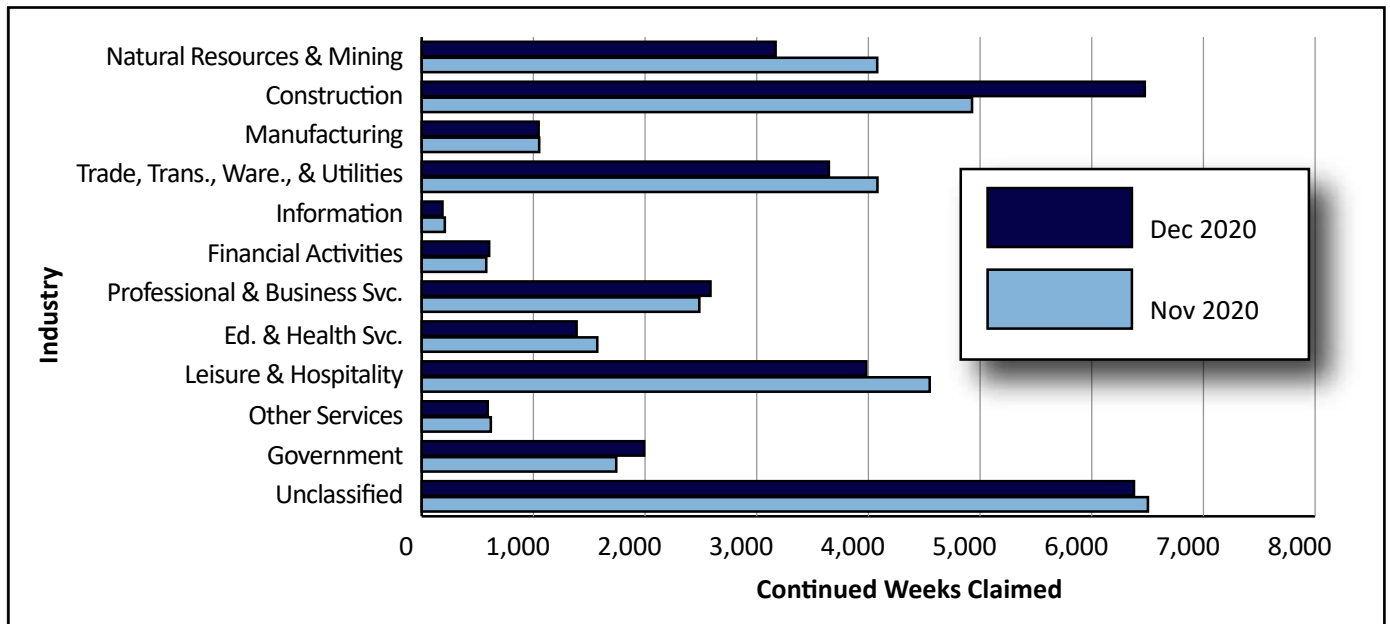


Figure 5: Continued Unemployment Insurance Claims by Major Industry in Wyoming, November and December 2020

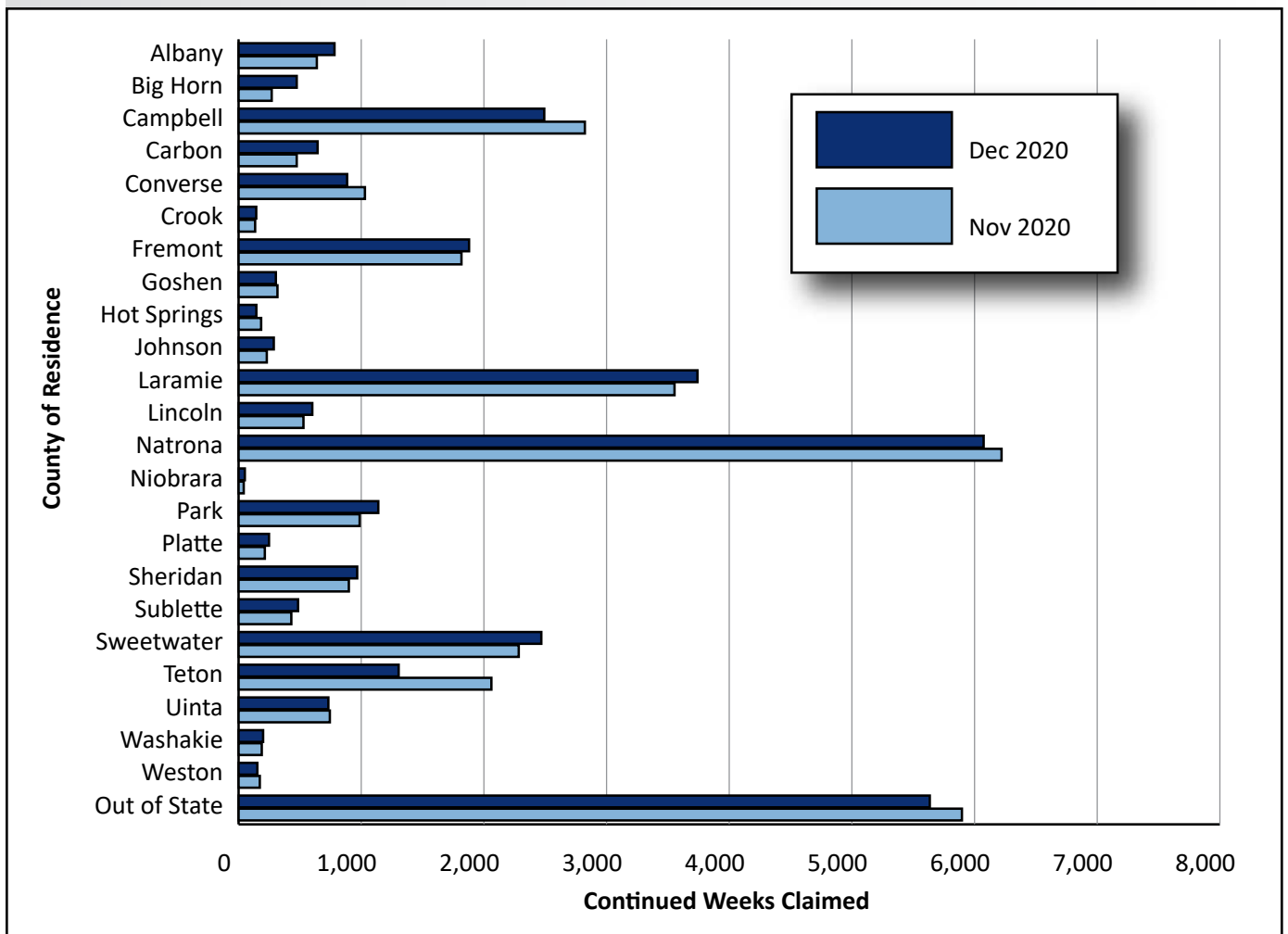


Figure 6: Continued Unemployment Insurance Claims by County of Residence in Wyoming, November and December 2020

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

County	Dec 2020	Nov 2020	Change	
			N	%
Albany	169	143	26	18.2
Big Horn	77	72	5	6.9
Campbell	385	340	45	13.2
Carbon	108	122	-14	-11.5
Converse	96	103	-7	-6.8
Crook	18	24	-6	-25.0
Fremont	269	259	10	3.9
Goshen	43	50	-7	-14.0
Hot Springs	20	21	-1	-4.8
Johnson	52	46	6	13.0
Laramie	653	670	-17	-2.5
Lincoln	89	111	-22	-19.8
Natrona	919	898	21	2.3
Niobrara	11	11	0	0.0
Park	193	217	-24	-11.1
Platte	51	41	10	24.4
Sheridan	201	150	51	34.0
Sublette	89	82	7	8.5
Sweetwater	330	329	1	0.3
Teton	89	384	-295	-76.8
Uinta	102	116	-14	-12.1
Washakie	48	34	14	41.2
Weston	26	20	6	30.0
Unknown	26	40	-14	-35.0
Out of State	664	836	-172	-20.6
Total	4,739	5,133	-394	-7.7

Source: Unemployment Insurance claims database.

Reviewed by S. Wen, Research & Planning, WY DWS, 1/25/21.

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 2020 to December 2020

County	Dec 2020	Nov 2020	Change	
			N	%
Albany	782	638	144	22.6
Big Horn	474	270	204	75.6
Campbell	2,492	2,823	-331	-11.7
Carbon	644	474	170	35.9
Converse	885	1,030	-145	-14.1
Crook	144	135	9	6.7
Fremont	1,879	1,817	62	3.4
Goshen	304	317	-13	-4.1
Hot Springs	145	184	-39	-21.2
Johnson	287	230	57	24.8
Laramie	3,741	3,554	187	5.3
Lincoln	601	529	72	13.6
Natrona	6,074	6,220	-146	-2.3
Niobrara	51	42	9	21.4
Park	1,139	987	152	15.4
Platte	248	214	34	15.9
Sheridan	967	899	68	7.6
Sublette	485	430	55	12.8
Sweetwater	2,468	2,284	184	8.1
Teton	1,305	2,061	-756	-36.7
Uinta	732	744	-12	-1.6
Washakie	200	189	11	5.8
Weston	153	173	-20	-11.6
Unknown	211	252	-41	-16.3
Out of State	5,635	5,897	-262	-4.4
Normalized Total^a	32,057	32,402	-345	-1.1

^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, 1/25/21.



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