

Wyoming Unemployment Insurance Claims Information, August 2017: Initial Claims Drop to 10-Year Low

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The 1,120 initial Unemployment Insurance (UI) claims in August marked the lowest month for new initial claims in Wyoming in the last decade. Initial claims have decreased from prior year levels every month since September 2016.

However, Wyoming’s labor force and monthly employment also have continued to decline. Wyoming’s labor force (the number of employed persons plus the number of unemployed persons actively seeking work) declined by 7,066 (-2.3%) from July 2016 to July 2017, while the number of employed persons decreased by 2,543 (-0.9%) .

There are several possible explanations for the concurrent decline in persons working and initial UI claims:

- People left the workforce entirely.
- People lost their jobs and quickly found jobs in other states.
- People voluntarily separated from their employers and found work in other states.

Initial Claims

Initial UI claims decreased by 42.0% (-811 claims) from August 2016 to August 2017.

Notable decreases occurred in natural resources & mining (-57.7% or -101 claims), construction (-53.7%, or -257), and trade, transportation, & utilities (-41.8%, or -120). All industries and counties demonstrated a decrease in initial claims, or were generally unchanged.

Continued Claims

Over the year, the number of unique claimants dropped by 50.1% (-2,689 claimants) while the number of individuals who exhausted their benefits decreased by 51.5% (-299 individuals). Total weeks claimed decreased by 50.1% (-11,062 weeks).

All counties and industries experienced a decrease in total weeks claimed over the year.

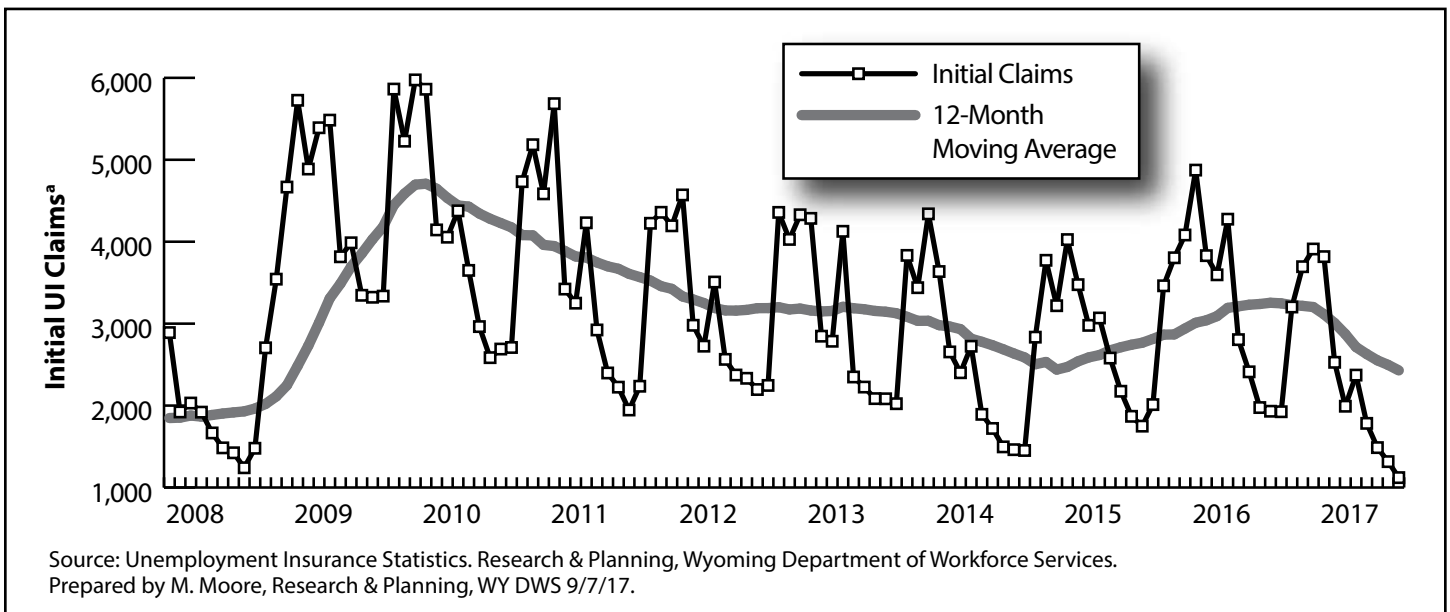
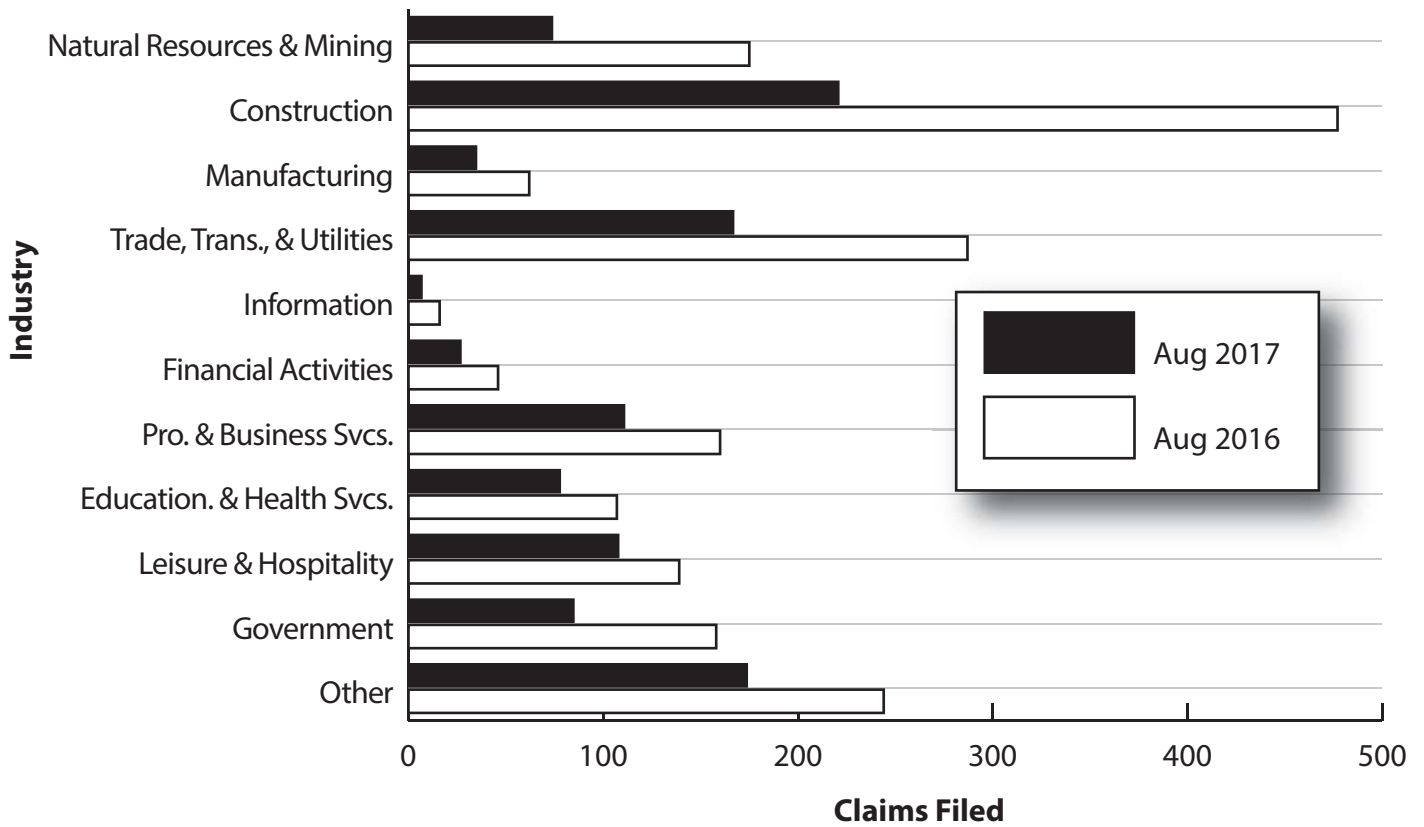


Figure: Initial Unemployment Insurance Claims for Wyoming, January 2008 to August 2017

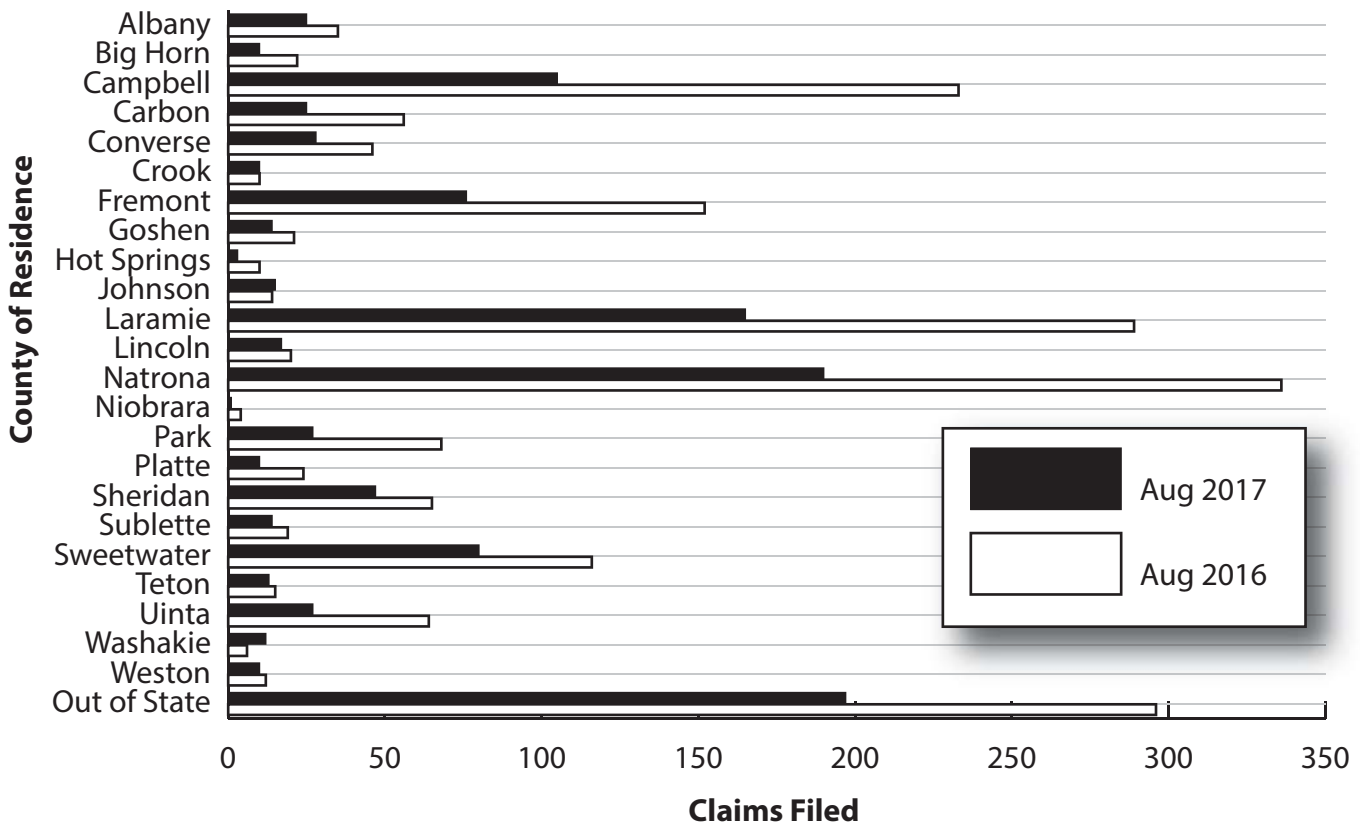
Initial Claims Tables

	Claims Filed			Percent Change Claims Filed		Difference
	Aug-17	Jul-17	Aug-16	Aug-17 Jul-17	Aug-17 Aug-16	Aug-17 Aug-16
<u>Wyoming Statewide</u>						
Total Claims Filed	1,120	1,316	1,931	-14.9	-42.0	-811
Goods-Producing	331	386	715	-14.2	-53.7	-384
Natural Resources and Mining (11,21)	74	66	175	12.1	-57.7	-101
Mining (21)	69	59	171	16.9	-59.6	-102
Oil & Gas Extraction (211)	12	7	25	71.4	-52.0	-13
Construction (23)	221	267	477	-17.2	-53.7	-256
Manufacturing (31 - 33)	35	51	62	-31.4	-43.5	-27
Service-Providing	528	621	813	-15.0	-35.1	-285
Trade, Transportation, and Utilities (22,42,44-45,48-49)	167	181	287	-7.7	-41.8	-120
Wholesale Trade (42)	30	28	71	7.1	-57.7	-41
Retail Trade (44 - 45)	111	112	140	-0.9	-20.7	-29
Transportation, Warehousing and Utilities (22,48 - 49)	26	41	76	-36.6	-65.8	-50
Information (51)	7	15	16	-53.3	-56.3	-9
Financial Activities (52, 53)	27	28	46	-3.6	-41.3	-19
Professional and Business Services (54 - 56)	111	117	160	-5.1	-30.6	-49
Educational and Health Services (61 - 62)	78	113	107	-31.0	-27.1	-29
Leisure and Hospitality (71 - 72)	108	137	139	-21.2	-22.3	-31
Other Services, except Public Admin. (81)	23	24	50	-4.2	-54.0	-27
Government	85	163	158	-47.9	-46.2	-73
Federal Government	14	15	23	-6.7	-39.1	-9
State Government	11	22	19	-50.0	-42.1	-8
Local Government	59	125	115	-52.8	-48.7	-56
Local Education	17	37	28	-54.1	-39.3	-11
Unclassified	174	145	244	20.0	-28.7	-70
<u>Laramie County (Place of Residence)</u>						
Total Claims Filed	165	173	289	-4.6	-42.9	-124
Goods-Producing	38	37	85	2.7	-55.3	-47
Construction	30	31	64	-3.2	-53.1	-34
Service-Providing	107	109	160	-1.8	-33.1	-53
Trade, Transportation, and Utilities (22,42,44-45,48-49)	30	29	56	3.4	-46.4	-26
Financial Activities (52, 53)	6	7	9	-14.3	-33.3	-3
Professional and Business Services (54 - 56)	39	24	46	62.5	-15.2	-7
Educational and Health Services (61 - 62)	14	23	18	-39.1	-22.2	-4
Leisure and Hospitality (71 - 72)	8	17	17	-52.9	-52.9	-9
Government	7	17	23	-58.8	-69.6	-16
Unclassified	11	8	19	37.5	-42.1	-8
<u>Natrona County (Place of Residence)</u>						
Total Claims Filed	189	182	336	3.8	-43.8	-147
Goods-Producing	51	50	121	2.0	-57.9	-70
Construction	38	29	76	31.0	-50.0	-38
Service-Providing	118	116	179	1.7	-34.1	-61
Trade, Transportation, and Utilities (22,42,44-45,48-49)	35	24	58	45.8	-39.7	-23
Financial Activities (52, 53)	8	9	11	-11.1	-27.3	-3
Professional and Business Services (54 - 56)	15	25	22	-40.0	-31.8	-7
Educational and Health Services (61 - 62)	24	18	28	33.3	-14.3	-4
Leisure and Hospitality (71 - 72)	25	27	36	-7.4	-30.6	-11
Government	12	9	12	33.3	0.0	0
Unclassified	6	5	22	20.0	-72.7	-16

Initial Unemployment Insurance Claims by Major Industry, August 2017



Initial Unemployment Insurance Claims by County of Residence, August 2017

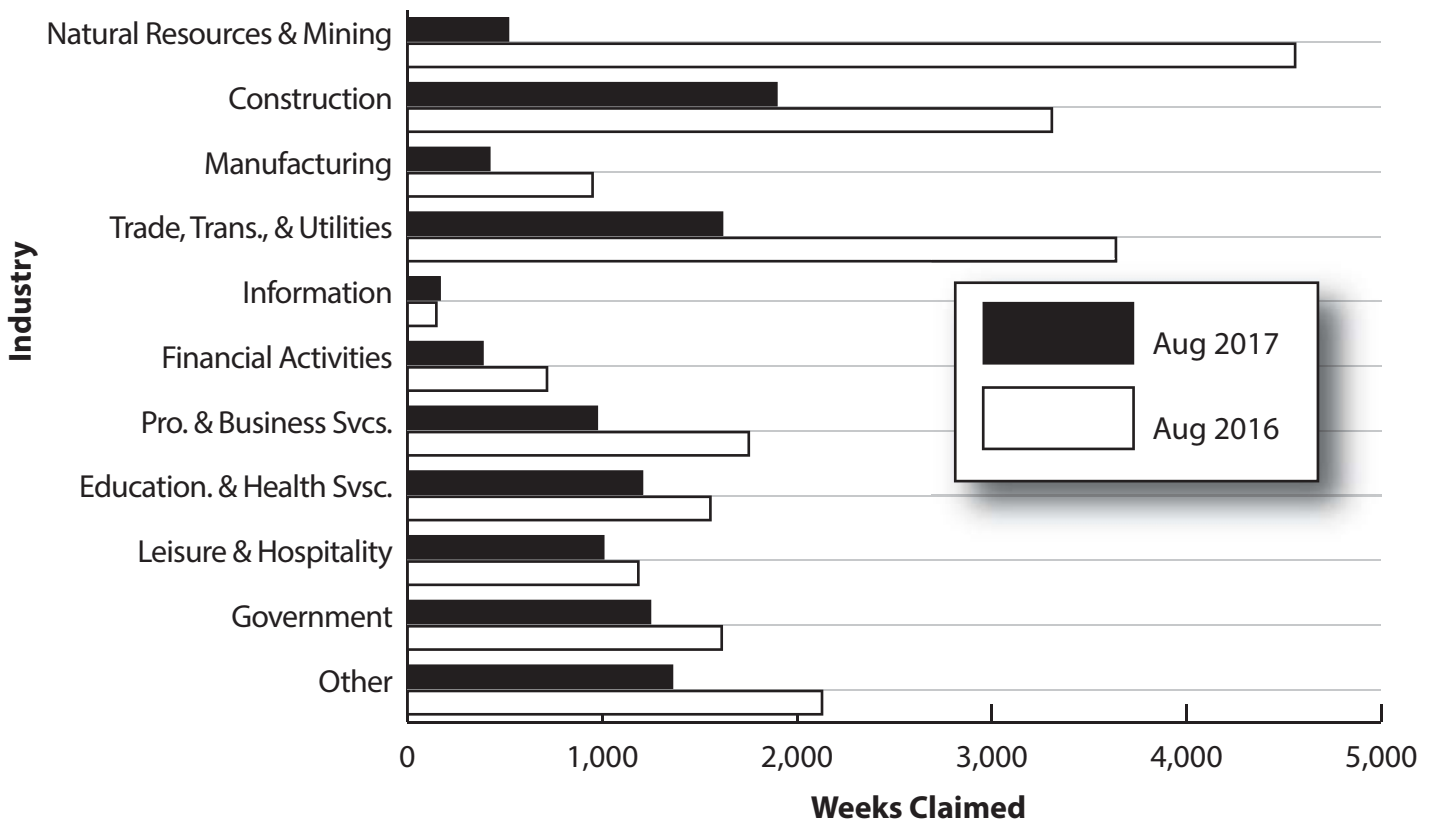


Source: Research & Planning, Wyoming Department of Workforce Services. Retrieved from <http://doe.state.wy.us/LMI/ui.htm>.

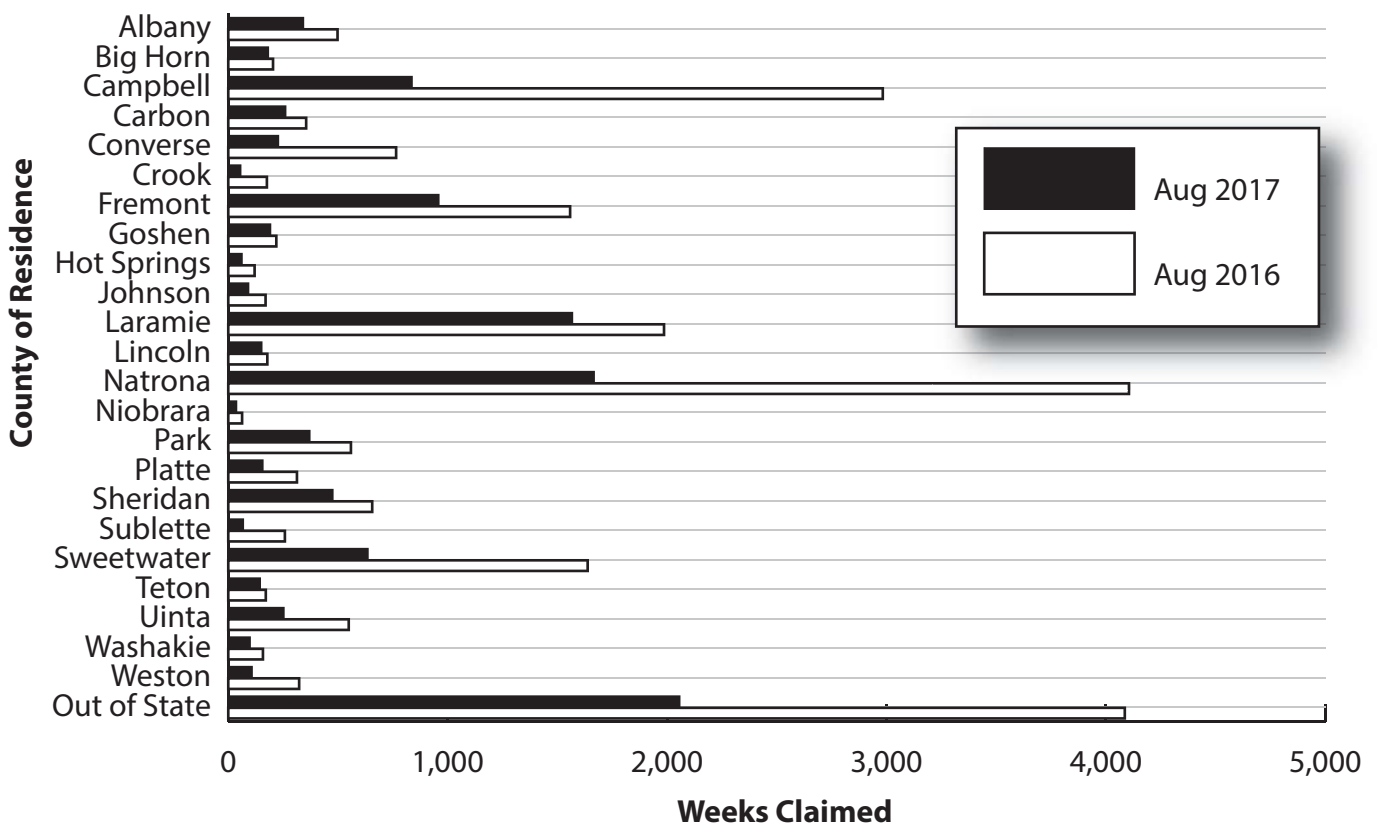
Continued Weeks Claimed Tables

	Claims Filed			Percent Change Claims		Difference
	Aug-17	Jul-17	Aug-16	Aug-17 Jul-17	Aug-17 Aug-16	Aug-17 Aug-16
<u>Wyoming Statewide</u>						
Total Continued Weeks Claimed	11,030	12,069	22,092	-8.6	-50.1	-11,062
Total Unique Claimants	2,675	3,406	5,364	-21.5	-50.1	-2,689
Benefit Exhaustions	282	273	581	3.3	-51.5	-299
Benefit Exhaustion Rates	10.5%	8.0%	10.8%	2.5%	-0.3%	
Goods-Producing	2,841	3,213	8,817	-11.6	-67.8	-5,976
Natural Resources and Mining (11,21)	519	640	4,557	-18.9	-88.6	-4,038
Mining (21)	478	592	4,443	-19.3	-89.2	-3,965
Oil & Gas Extraction (211)	95	166	460	-42.8	-79.3	-365
Construction (23)	1,897	2,031	3,308	-6.6	-42.7	-1,411
Manufacturing (31 - 33)	423	541	950	-21.8	-55.5	-527
Service-Providing	5,578	6,099	9,532	-8.5	-41.5	-3,954
Trade, Transportation, and Utilities (22,42,44-45,48-49)	1,618	1,827	3,637	-11.4	-55.5	-2,019
Wholesale Trade (42)	291	344	1,343	-15.4	-78.3	-1,052
Retail Trade (44 - 45)	921	994	1,237	-7.3	-25.5	-316
Transportation, Warehousing and Utilities (22,48 - 49)	406	489	1,057	-17.0	-61.6	-651
Information (51)	168	152	148	10.5	13.5	20
Financial Activities (52, 53)	388	390	716	-0.5	-45.8	-328
Professional and Business Services (54 - 56)	975	1,023	1,752	-4.7	-44.3	-777
Educational and Health Services (61 - 62)	1,207	1,308	1,555	-7.7	-22.4	-348
Leisure and Hospitality (71 - 72)	1,008	1,146	1,185	-12.0	-14.9	-177
Other Services, except Public Admin. (81)	207	246	534	-15.9	-61.2	-327
Government	1,248	1,228	1,613	1.6	-22.6	-365
Federal Government	160	150	208	6.7	-23.1	-48
State Government	131	152	160	-13.8	-18.1	-29
Local Government	956	925	1,244	3.4	-23.2	-288
Local Education	297	277	387	7.2	-23.3	-90
Unclassified	1,361	1,527	2,128	-10.9	-36.0	-767
<u>Laramie County (Place of Residence)</u>						
Construction						
Total Continued Weeks Claimed	1,569	1,669	1,985	-6.0	-21.0	-416
Total Unique Claimants	378	455	502	-16.9	-24.7	-124
Goods-Producing	288	333	477	-13.5	-39.6	-189
Construction	232	268	262	-13.4	-11.5	-30
Service-Providing	1,059	1,094	1,239	-3.2	-14.5	-180
Trade, Transportation, and Utilities (22,42,44-45,48-49)	310	355	419	-12.7	-26.0	-109
Financial Activities (52, 53)	97	87	85	11.5	14.1	12
Professional and Business Services (54 - 56)	274	236	273	16.1	0.4	1
Educational and Health Services (61 - 62)	198	206	244	-3.9	-18.9	-46
Leisure and Hospitality (71 - 72)	103	131	121	-21.4	-14.9	-18
Government	155	146	183	6.2	-15.3	-28
Unclassified	66	95	85	-30.5	-22.4	-19
<u>Natrona County (Place of Residence)</u>						
Total Continued Weeks Claimed	1,667	1,824	4,104	-8.6	-59.4	-2,437
Total Unique Claimants	401	508	1,011	-21.1	-60.3	-610
Goods-Producing	381	402	1,680	-5.2	-77.3	-1,299
Construction	252	232	513	8.6	-50.9	-261
Service-Providing	1,150	1,269	2,229	-9.4	-48.4	-1,079
Trade, Transportation, and Utilities (22,42,44-45,48-49)	311	381	1,007	-18.4	-69.1	-696
Financial Activities (52, 53)	89	94	133	-5.3	-33.1	-44
Professional and Business Services (54 - 56)	160	171	288	-6.4	-44.4	-128
Educational and Health Services (61 - 62)	281	294	408	-4.4	-31.1	-127
Leisure and Hospitality (71 - 72)	205	229	221	-10.5	-7.2	-16
Government	77	87	116	-11.5	-33.6	-39
Unclassified	58	63	77	-7.9	-24.7	-19

Continued Unemployment Insurance Claims by Major Industry, August 2017



Continued Unemployment Insurance Claims by County of Residence, August 2017



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

Wyoming Normalized^a Unemployment Statistics: Continued Claims by County of Residence, August 2017

County	Aug 2017	Aug 2016	Over-the-Year Change	
			N	%
Albany	343	498	-155	-31.1
Big Horn	183	204	-22	-10.6
Campbell	838	2,983	-2,145	-71.9
Carbon	262	355	-94	-26.3
Converse	229	765	-535	-70.0
Crook	57	176	-119	-67.5
Fremont	960	1,558	-598	-38.4
Goshen	193	219	-26	-11.9
Hot Springs	63	120	-56	-47.1
Johnson	93	170	-77	-45.4
Laramie	1,569	1,986	-417	-21.0
Lincoln	153	178	-24	-13.7
Natrona	1,668	4,105	-2,437	-59.4
Niobrara	38	63	-25	-39.7
Park	372	559	-187	-33.4
Platte	158	313	-155	-49.6
Sheridan	477	656	-179	-27.3
Sublette	69	258	-189	-73.2
Sweetwater	637	1,638	-1,000	-61.1
Teton	146	171	-25	-14.6
Uinta	254	549	-295	-53.8
Washakie	100	158	-59	-37.2
Weston	109	323	-214	-66.2
Out of State	2,058	4,086	-2,028	-49.6
Normalized Total^a	11,030	22,093	-11,063	-50.1
Real Total^b	12,737	25,511	-12,774	-50.1

^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.

^bRaw claims data that have not been multiplied by the normalization factor.

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>