

Wyoming Unemployment Rate Falls to 4.9% in November 2016

The Research & Planning section of the Wyoming Department of Workforce Services reported today that the state's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate fell significantly from 5.1% in October to 4.9% in November. Wyoming's unemployment rate remained higher than the current U.S. rate (4.6%) and significantly higher than its November 2015 level of 4.3%. Seasonally adjusted employment of Wyoming residents increased significantly from October to November, rising by an estimated 1,749 individuals (0.6%). However, employment remained well below last year's level (down 3,735 individuals, or -1.3%). Additionally, Wyoming's labor force has declined in over-the-year comparisons for each of the past 25 months.

From October to November, unemployment rates decreased slightly in 17 counties and increased in five counties, while Johnson County's unemployment rate was unchanged. In Teton County, unemployment rose from 3.1% to 5.6% as the summer tourist season had ended and the ski season had not begun. The largest decrease in unemployment occurred in Campbell County (down from 6.3% to 5.9%).

From November 2015 to November 2016, unemployment rates fell in 11 counties, rose in 10 counties, and were unchanged in two counties (Johnson and Platte). Sizeable declines were seen in Teton (down from 6.7% to 5.6%), Lincoln (down from 4.5% to 3.8%), Sheridan (down from 4.2% to 3.7%), and Park (down from 4.8% to 4.3%) counties. The largest unemployment rate increases occurred in Campbell (up from 4.0% to 5.9%), Weston (up from 3.0% to 4.5%), Converse (up from 3.7% to 5.1%), and Natrona (up from 5.2% to 6.0%) counties.

The lowest unemployment rates in November were found in Albany (2.6%), Niobrara (2.6%), and Goshen (2.7%) counties. The highest rates were reported in Natrona (6.0%), Campbell (5.9%), and Fremont (5.8%) counties.

Total nonfarm employment (not seasonally adjusted and measured by place of work) fell from 285,400 in November 2015 to 276,600 in November 2016, a decrease of 8,800 jobs (or -3.1%; a statistically significant decrease).

Research & Planning has scheduled the December employment news release for January 24, 2017.

Civilian Labor Force, Employment and Unemployment--by place of residence

County	Labor Force			Employment			Unemployed Number			Unemployment Rate		
	Nov 2016 (p)	Oct 2016 (r)	Nov 2015 (b)	Nov 2016 (p)	Oct 2016 (r)	Nov 2015 (b)	Nov 2016 (p)	Oct 2016 (r)	Nov 2015 (b)	Nov 2016 (p)	Oct 2016 (r)	Nov 2015 (b)
Albany	22,514	22,208	22,207	21,926	21,581	21,572	588	627	635	2.6	2.8	2.9
Big Horn	5,708	5,715	5,539	5,476	5,493	5,303	232	222	236	4.1	3.9	4.3
Campbell	24,141	23,985	25,689	22,720	22,471	24,654	1,421	1,514	1,035	5.9	6.3	4.0
Carbon	8,441	8,533	8,826	8,123	8,190	8,499	318	343	327	3.8	4.0	3.7
Converse	7,988	7,936	8,333	7,581	7,516	8,022	407	420	311	5.1	5.3	3.7
Crook	3,731	3,734	3,686	3,593	3,585	3,559	138	149	127	3.7	4.0	3.4
Fremont	20,620	20,439	20,443	19,417	19,195	19,323	1,203	1,244	1,120	5.8	6.1	5.5
Goshen	7,424	7,320	7,424	7,222	7,100	7,202	202	220	222	2.7	3.0	3.0
Hot Springs	2,475	2,451	2,392	2,371	2,344	2,297	104	107	95	4.2	4.4	4.0
Johnson	4,258	4,305	4,096	4,073	4,119	3,920	185	186	176	4.3	4.3	4.3
Laramie	49,051	48,079	49,396	47,339	46,262	47,563	1,712	1,817	1,833	3.5	3.8	3.7
Lincoln	8,682	8,852	8,219	8,355	8,533	7,853	327	319	366	3.8	3.6	4.5
Natrona	41,481	41,425	42,383	38,993	38,833	40,191	2,488	2,592	2,192	6.0	6.3	5.2
Niobrara	1,357	1,372	1,299	1,322	1,332	1,260	35	40	39	2.6	2.9	3.0
Park	15,610	16,009	15,290	14,934	15,377	14,559	676	632	731	4.3	3.9	4.8
Platte	4,814	4,806	4,933	4,614	4,614	4,728	200	192	205	4.2	4.0	4.2
Sheridan	16,394	16,279	15,905	15,786	15,661	15,242	608	618	663	3.7	3.8	4.2
Sublette	4,297	4,333	4,486	4,073	4,102	4,263	224	231	223	5.2	5.3	5.0
Sweetwater	22,372	22,156	22,922	21,210	20,989	21,815	1,162	1,167	1,107	5.2	5.3	4.8
Teton	13,907	15,201	13,155	13,130	14,737	12,279	777	464	876	5.6	3.1	6.7
Uinta	9,688	9,593	9,606	9,224	9,114	9,119	464	479	487	4.8	5.0	5.1
Washakie	4,361	4,333	4,366	4,203	4,167	4,201	158	166	165	3.6	3.8	3.8
Weston	4,041	3,988	3,994	3,861	3,803	3,873	180	185	121	4.5	4.6	3.0
Statewide	303,355	303,050	304,589	289,547	289,118	291,298	13,808	13,932	13,291	4.6	4.6	4.4
Statewide Seasonally Adjusted.....										4.9	5.1	4.3
U.S.....										4.4	4.7	4.8
U.S. Seasonally Adjusted.....										4.6	4.9	5.0

(p) Preliminary, (r) Revised, (b) Benchmarked.

Data are not seasonally adjusted except where otherwise specified.

Labor Force = Employment + Unemployment Number

Unemployment Rate = Unemployment Number/Labor Force

	Wyoming Seasonally Adjusted Statewide Labor Force Estimates			Change			
	November-16	October-16	November-15	Month		Year	
				absolute	percent	absolute	percent
Total Civilian Labor Force	302,395	301,438	304,586	957	0.3%	-2,191	-0.7%
Employed	287,683	285,934	291,418	1,749	0.6%	-3,735	-1.3%
Unemployed	14,712	15,504	13,168	-792	-5.1%	1,544	11.7%
Unemployment Rate	4.9	5.1	4.3				
Definitions:							
Employed	All persons who, during the reference week, did any work at all as paid employees, worked in their own business, profession, or on their own farm, or worked 15 hours or more as unpaid workers in a family business.						
Unemployed	All persons who had no employment during the reference week, were available for work, and had made specific efforts to find employment sometime during the 4-week period ending with the reference week.						
Labor Force	All persons who meet the criteria given above as either employed or unemployed.						
Unemployment Rate	The number of unemployed as a percent of the labor force.						
Seasonal Adjustment	A statistical procedure to remove the impact of normal regularly recurring events (such as weather, major holidays, and the opening and closing of schools) from economic time series to better understand changes in economic conditions from month to month.						

Wyoming Department of Workforce Services

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Internet Address: <http://doe.state.wy.us/LMI/news.htm>

Access R&P's monthly publication on Wyoming's labor market at <http://doe.state.wy.us/LMI/trends.htm>

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