

Wyoming Unemployment Rate Falls to 3.9% in June 2017

The Research & Planning section of the Wyoming Department of Workforce Services reported today that the state's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate fell from 4.1% in May to 3.9% in June (a statistically significant decrease). Seasonally adjusted employment of Wyoming residents decreased from May to June, falling by an estimated 2,088 individuals (-0.7%; a statistically significant decrease). From June 2016 to June 2017, Wyoming's labor force dropped by an estimated 5,210 people (-1.7%), suggesting that individuals have moved to other states and/or given up their job search.

From May to June, unemployment rates fell in 13 counties, rose slightly in nine counties, and remained steady in Campbell County. The largest decreases were seen in Teton (down from 3.9% to 2.2%), Sublette (down from 4.5% to 4.0%), Crook (down from 3.5% to 3.1%), Lincoln (down from 3.7% to 3.3%), and Park (down from 3.9% to 3.5%) counties. Unemployment rates rose slightly in Niobrara (up from 2.7% to 3.3%), Albany (up from 2.8% to 3.3%), and Goshen (up from 2.8% to 3.1%) counties. It is not unusual for unemployment rates to increase in June as young people get out of school and start looking for work.

From June 2016 to June 2017, unemployment rates fell in every county and labor force decreased in 19 counties. The largest unemployment rate decreases occurred in Campbell (down from 8.2% to 5.1%), Converse (down from 7.1% to 4.2%), Natrona (down from 7.7% to 5.3%), and Sweetwater (down from 6.7% to 4.5%) counties.

Fremont County (5.4%) posted the highest unemployment rate in June. It was followed by Natrona (5.3%), Campbell (5.1%), and Sweetwater (4.5%) counties. The lowest unemployment rates were found in Teton (2.2%), Crook (3.1%), and Goshen (3.1%) counties.

The estimate of total nonfarm jobs (not seasonally adjusted and measured by place of work) fell from 289,100 in June 2016 to 286,700 in June 2017, a decrease of 2,400 jobs (or -0.8%; not a statistically significant change).

Research & Planning has scheduled the July employment news release for August 22, 2017.

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

County	Labor Force			Employment			Unemployed Number			Unemployment Rate		
	Jun 2017 (p)	May 2017 (r)	Jun 2016 (b)	Jun 2017 (p)	May 2017 (r)	Jun 2016 (b)	Jun 2017 (p)	May 2017 (r)	Jun 2016 (b)	Jun 2017 (p)	May 2017 (r)	Jun 2016 (b)
Albany	19,287	20,922	20,426	18,659	20,338	19,633	628	584	793	3.3	2.8	3.9
Big Horn	5,809	5,595	5,965	5,573	5,359	5,655	236	236	310	4.1	4.2	5.2
Campbell	23,194	23,134	24,373	22,019	21,960	22,376	1,175	1,174	1,997	5.1	5.1	8.2
Carbon	8,590	8,187	8,871	8,281	7,872	8,481	309	315	390	3.6	3.8	4.4
Converse	7,752	7,674	8,062	7,430	7,357	7,489	322	317	573	4.2	4.1	7.1
Crook	3,983	3,729	4,073	3,860	3,599	3,884	123	130	189	3.1	3.5	4.6
Fremont	19,971	19,932	20,459	18,888	18,873	18,970	1,083	1,059	1,489	5.4	5.3	7.3
Goshen	7,118	6,919	7,341	6,899	6,726	7,073	219	193	268	3.1	2.8	3.7
Hot Springs	2,484	2,426	2,544	2,392	2,329	2,417	92	97	127	3.7	4.0	5.0
Johnson	4,576	4,283	4,567	4,407	4,115	4,356	169	168	211	3.7	3.9	4.6
Laramie	48,666	49,322	48,594	46,881	47,602	46,447	1,785	1,720	2,147	3.7	3.5	4.4
Lincoln	9,136	8,719	9,191	8,838	8,398	8,783	298	321	408	3.3	3.7	4.4
Natrona	38,908	38,878	41,371	36,854	36,783	38,167	2,054	2,095	3,204	5.3	5.4	7.7
Niobrara	1,432	1,351	1,468	1,385	1,314	1,417	47	37	51	3.3	2.7	3.5
Park	17,480	16,089	17,769	16,875	15,459	17,027	605	630	742	3.5	3.9	4.2
Platte	5,045	5,087	5,065	4,866	4,912	4,810	179	175	255	3.5	3.4	5.0
Sheridan	16,592	16,199	16,676	16,002	15,629	15,925	590	570	751	3.6	3.5	4.5
Sublette	4,519	4,257	4,493	4,339	4,067	4,221	180	190	272	4.0	4.5	6.1
Sweetwater	21,563	21,944	22,172	20,599	20,993	20,686	964	951	1,486	4.5	4.3	6.7
Teton	17,126	14,850	16,939	16,754	14,275	16,511	372	575	428	2.2	3.9	2.5
Uinta	9,259	9,282	9,421	8,857	8,870	8,832	402	412	589	4.3	4.4	6.3
Washakie	4,276	4,182	4,373	4,100	4,004	4,165	176	178	208	4.1	4.3	4.8
Weston	3,920	3,921	4,046	3,777	3,772	3,813	143	149	233	3.6	3.8	5.8
Statewide	300,684	296,884	308,256	288,533	284,608	291,137	12,151	12,276	17,119	4.0	4.1	5.6
Statewide Seasonally Adjusted.....										3.9	4.1	5.5
U.S.....										4.5	4.1	5.1
U.S. Seasonally Adjusted.....										4.4	4.3	4.9

(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			
	June-17	May-17	June-16	Month		Year	
				absolute	percent	absolute	percent
Total Civilian Labor Force	297,491	300,151	302,701	-2,660	-0.9%	-5,210	-1.7%
Employed	285,820	287,908	285,904	-2,088	-0.7%	-84	0.0%
Unemployed	11,671	12,243	16,797	-572	-4.7%	-5,126	-30.5%
Unemployment Rate	3.9	4.1	5.5				
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

July 25, 2017

Research & Planning

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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