

## Wyoming Unemployment Rate Unchanged at 4.0% in September 2017

The Research & Planning section of the Wyoming Department of Workforce Services reported today that the state's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate remained unchanged from August to September at 4.0%. Wyoming's unemployment rate was significantly lower than its year-ago level of 5.1%, and slightly lower than the current U.S. unemployment rate of 4.2%. From September 2016 to September 2017, Wyoming's labor force (the sum of all employed and unemployed individuals) decreased significantly, falling by 7,668 people, or 2.5%.

From August to September, most county unemployment rates followed their normal seasonal pattern and increased slightly. It is not unusual for unemployment rates to rise in September as seasonal job losses are seen in leisure & hospitality, retail trade, and professional & business services. The largest unemployment rate increases occurred in Sublette (up from 3.2% to 3.6%), Johnson (up from 3.0% to 3.3%), Teton (up from 1.6% to 1.9%), Lincoln (up from 2.8% to 3.0%), and Park (up from 3.0% to 3.2%) counties. Unemployment rates fell slightly in Platte (down from 3.5% to 3.2%), Goshen (down from 2.8% to 2.5%), and Fremont (down from 4.7% to 4.4%) counties.

From September 2016 to September 2017, unemployment rates fell in almost every county. Teton County's unemployment rate was unchanged at 1.9%. The largest decreases occurred in Campbell (down from 6.7% to 4.3%), Natrona (down from 6.5% to 4.5%), Converse (down from 5.6% to 3.7%), and Fremont (down from 6.2% to 4.4%) counties.

The highest unemployment rates in September were found in Natrona (4.5%), Fremont (4.4%), and Campbell (4.3%) counties. The lowest unemployment rates were reported in Teton (1.9%), Niobrara (2.3%), Albany (2.5%), and Goshen (2.5%) counties.

Total nonfarm employment (not seasonally adjusted and measured by place of work) fell from 284,100 in September 2016 to 281,800 in September 2017, a decrease of 2,300 jobs (or -0.8%; not a statistically significant change).

Research & Planning has scheduled the October employment news release for November 21, 2017.

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

County	Labor Force			Employment			Unemployed Number			Unemployment Rate		
	Sep 2017 (p)	Aug 2017 (r)	Sep 2016 (b)	Sep 2017 (p)	Aug 2017 (r)	Sep 2016 (b)	Sep 2017 (p)	Aug 2017 (r)	Sep 2016 (b)	Sep 2017 (p)	Aug 2017 (r)	Sep 2016 (b)
Albany	20,434	18,668	21,239	19,917	18,162	20,670	517	506	569	2.5	2.7	2.7
Big Horn	5,428	5,522	5,623	5,239	5,332	5,414	189	190	209	3.5	3.4	3.7
Campbell	22,752	23,290	23,921	21,783	22,304	22,325	969	986	1,596	4.3	4.2	6.7
Carbon	8,012	8,158	8,632	7,755	7,905	8,311	257	253	321	3.2	3.1	3.7
Converse	7,504	7,609	7,759	7,224	7,316	7,321	280	293	438	3.7	3.9	5.6
Crook	3,708	3,870	3,909	3,607	3,768	3,766	101	102	143	2.7	2.6	3.7
Fremont	19,362	19,447	19,981	18,504	18,527	18,733	858	920	1,248	4.4	4.7	6.2
Goshen	7,016	7,166	7,153	6,841	6,964	6,944	175	202	209	2.5	2.8	2.9
Hot Springs	2,331	2,386	2,480	2,257	2,312	2,377	74	74	103	3.2	3.1	4.2
Johnson	4,249	4,387	4,305	4,107	4,254	4,136	142	133	169	3.3	3.0	3.9
Laramie	47,365	48,327	48,032	45,796	46,766	46,333	1,569	1,561	1,699	3.3	3.2	3.5
Lincoln	8,860	8,935	9,048	8,594	8,682	8,723	266	253	325	3.0	2.8	3.6
Natrona	38,579	38,993	40,260	36,840	37,250	37,647	1,739	1,743	2,613	4.5	4.5	6.5
Niobrara	1,356	1,396	1,410	1,325	1,363	1,370	31	33	40	2.3	2.4	2.8
Park	15,952	16,979	16,647	15,444	16,474	16,065	508	505	582	3.2	3.0	3.5
Platte	4,726	4,762	4,842	4,576	4,593	4,653	150	169	189	3.2	3.5	3.9
Sheridan	15,861	16,023	16,096	15,349	15,536	15,505	512	487	591	3.2	3.0	3.7
Sublette	4,292	4,435	4,399	4,138	4,291	4,168	154	144	231	3.6	3.2	5.3
Sweetwater	21,381	21,586	21,799	20,542	20,757	20,632	839	829	1,167	3.9	3.8	5.4
Teton	16,116	17,495	16,365	15,810	17,210	16,049	306	285	316	1.9	1.6	1.9
Uinta	9,287	9,294	9,363	8,951	8,961	8,889	336	333	474	3.6	3.6	5.1
Washakie	4,145	4,199	4,275	4,006	4,064	4,116	139	135	159	3.4	3.2	3.7
Weston	3,834	3,813	4,010	3,703	3,686	3,827	131	127	183	3.4	3.3	4.6
<b>Statewide</b>	<b>292,551</b>	<b>296,742</b>	<b>301,548</b>	<b>282,307</b>	<b>286,478</b>	<b>287,974</b>	<b>10,244</b>	<b>10,264</b>	<b>13,574</b>	<b>3.5</b>	<b>3.5</b>	<b>4.5</b>
<b>Statewide Seasonally Adjusted.....</b>										<b>4.0</b>	<b>4.0</b>	<b>5.1</b>
<b>U.S.....</b>										<b>4.1</b>	<b>4.5</b>	<b>4.8</b>
<b>U.S. Seasonally Adjusted.....</b>										<b>4.2</b>	<b>4.4</b>	<b>4.9</b>

(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

	<b>Wyoming Seasonally Adjusted Statewide Labor Force Estimates</b>			Change			
	September-17	August-17	September-16	Month		Year	
				absolute	percent	absolute	percent
Total Civilian Labor Force	293,820	294,375	301,488	-555	-0.2%	-7,668	-2.5%
Employed	281,944	282,654	286,145	-710	-0.3%	-4,201	-1.5%
Unemployed	11,876	11,721	15,343	155	1.3%	-3,467	-22.6%
Unemployment Rate	4.0	4.0	5.1				
<b>Definitions:</b>							
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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**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>

Contacts:

David Bullard, Senior Economist	<a href="mailto:david.bullard@wyo.gov">david.bullard@wyo.gov</a>	307-473-3810
Carola Cowan, BLS Programs Supervisor	<a href="mailto:carola.cowan@wyo.gov">carola.cowan@wyo.gov</a>	307-473-3804

Wyoming Department of Workforce Services  
 Research & Planning  
 PO Box 2760  
 Casper WY 82602-2760