

TRENDS

Fewer Youth Working in Wyoming

by: Michele Holmes, Public Relations Specialist;

Tables and Figures by: Lynae Hammer, Office Support Specialist

This article examines the hiring rate for youth ages 18-20 in Wyoming, the total hires for all ages, and the industries in Wyoming with the most new hires over the last 10 years. This article is part of a series which will examine hiring patterns for youth and other workers in the state, and seek to answer the question of how different age groups interact with the labor market in Wyoming. The series will compare the long-term employment opportunities available to young people with other segments of the workforce.

“Here is the situation. For decades Wyoming has had challenges keeping our kids in Wyoming after they graduate. Research shows that of all 18-year-olds working in Wyoming, on any given year, only an estimated 40 percent are still working in Wyoming 10 years later. We’re losing 60 percent of our greatest talent.” – Governor Matt Mead, 2015 State of the State

The migration of youth from Wyoming has long been a concern for educators, policymakers, and workforce development personnel. In 2012, the Research & Planning (R&P) section of the Wyoming Department of Workforce Services published a study titled,

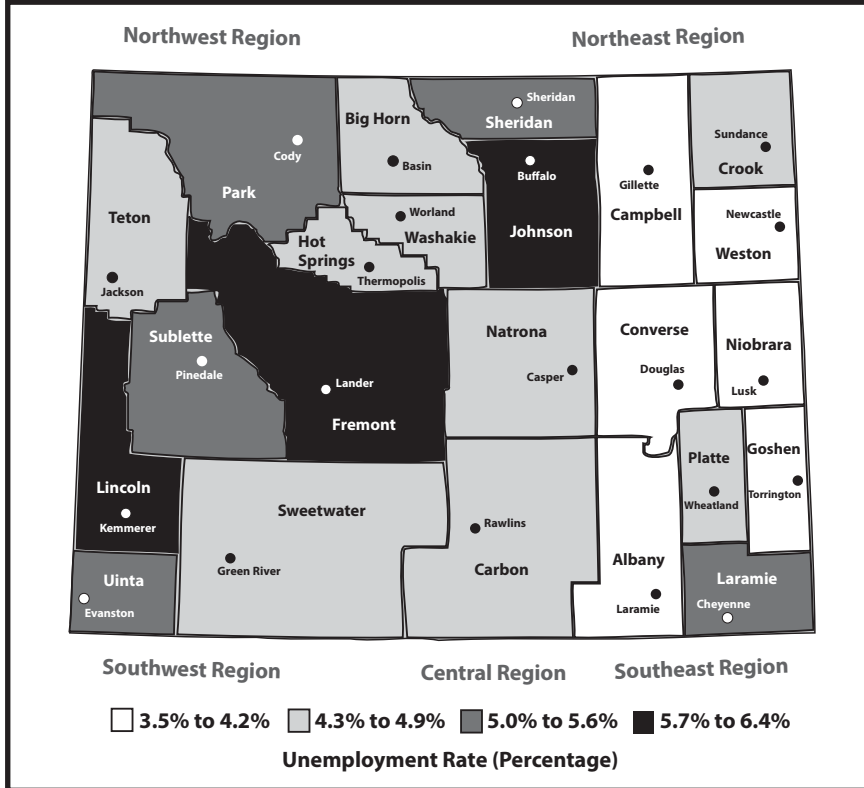
A Decade Later: Tracking Wyoming’s Youth Into the Labor Force, which sought to answer the questions of where youth go when they leave the state and what industries they find work in after they leave. Findings of the study indicated that youth in Wyoming “appear to have difficulty finding jobs in industries that require a higher education, such as health care & social assistance, educational services, and public administration” (Glover, 2012). Other key findings of the study include the retention rate for 18-year-olds from each year from 1992 to 2006, which was 55.8%. Because the migration of youth is an issue

(Text continued on page 3)

HIGHLIGHTS

- Employment in Wyoming’s community college system makes up nearly half (47.4%) of the total employment in higher education – more than twice that of any other border state. *page 7*
- The Baker Hughes rig count for Wyoming fell from 58 in December to 48 in January, suggesting a slowdown in drilling activity. ... *page 12*

Unemployment Rate by Wyoming County, January 2015 (Not Seasonally Adjusted)



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(Text continued from page 1)

affecting so many in the state, R&P analyzed the hiring patterns for 18- to 20-year-olds during the last decade.

The number of youth ages 18-20 in Wyoming’s workforce has declined by 22% over the last decade. Despite recent growth in the economy, “overall employment remained approximately 2,250 jobs (0.1%) below its first quarter 2008 level. In short, the state has yet to make up all the job losses of 2009 and 2010” (Bullard, 2014). Identifying the types of jobs people are finding as the labor market seeks to reach its 2008 level, and whether all segments of the workforce are having equal success in job attainment, may inform workforce development policy decisions. Analysis of hiring rates includes the total hire rate by quarter for the last decade and the total number of hires by age and industry for Wyoming for first quarter 2014 (2014Q1).

From 2004Q1 to 2014Q1, the number of youth ages 18-20 working in Wyoming dropped from 17,846 to 13,817, a decline of 4,029, or -22% (see Table). The peak quarter for hiring workers ages 18-20 in the last decade was 2005Q2 with 11,708

young people hired in the state. In 2010Q1 the number of young people hired fell to 3,749. Part of the reason

for the decline in hiring activity over the past decade may be due to a decrease in population of youth ages 18-

Table: Total Number of Hires in Wyoming by Quarter 1992Q2-2014Q1

Year and Quarter	Total Hires	Total in Workforce	Total Hire Rate	Ages 18-20				
				Total Hires	Total in Workforce	Total Hire Rate	Females	Males
2004Q1	49,038	269,527	18.2	6,309	17,846	35.4	3,076	3,233
2004Q2	77,389	301,416	25.7	11,243	23,249	48.4	5,269	5,974
2004Q3	68,992	308,454	22.4	8,999	24,204	37.2	4,320	4,678
2004Q4	58,490	292,341	20.0	7,090	19,037	37.2	3,332	3,758
2005Q1	49,497	278,874	17.7	6,427	18,163	35.4	2,950	3,476
2005Q2	79,151	312,182	25.4	11,708	23,998	48.8	5,435	6,273
2005Q3	72,774	320,921	22.7	9,557	25,096	38.1	4,516	5,041
2005Q4	63,046	304,179	20.7	7,064	18,941	37.3	3,247	3,816
2006Q1	56,035	293,970	19.1	6,862	18,435	37.2	3,162	3,700
2006Q2	85,811	326,868	26.3	11,708	23,782	49.2	5,527	6,181
2006Q3	78,914	337,196	23.4	9,396	24,572	38.2	4,526	4,868
2006Q4	66,238	321,000	20.6	7,341	19,343	38.0	3,397	3,942
2007Q1	60,574	310,135	19.5	6,955	18,795	37.0	3,276	3,678
2007Q2	89,324	343,536	26.0	11,441	23,573	48.5	5,330	6,111
2007Q3	79,834	350,712	22.8	9,215	24,381	37.8	4,329	4,886
2007Q4	67,980	335,447	20.3	7,410	19,533	37.9	3,443	3,967
2008Q1	58,011	320,432	18.1	6,622	18,647	35.5	3,033	3,589
2008Q2	86,126	350,914	24.5	11,037	23,348	47.3	5,048	5,989
2008Q3	78,079	359,673	21.7	9,190	24,645	37.3	4,254	4,935
2008Q4	62,645	338,773	18.5	6,431	19,042	33.8	2,967	3,463
2009Q1	44,463	308,587	14.4	4,839	16,664	29.0	2,409	2,429
2009Q2	64,758	325,337	19.9	8,117	19,566	41.5	3,895	4,222
2009Q3	56,531	326,216	17.3	6,523	20,321	32.1	3,246	3,277
2009Q4	45,061	307,769	14.6	4,317	15,415	28.0	2,103	2,214
2010Q1	36,669	288,847	12.7	3,749	13,959	26.9	1,893	1,856
2010Q2	66,931	319,494	20.9	8,272	18,474	44.8	3,912	4,360
2010Q3	63,128	330,905	19.1	7,017	20,337	34.5	3,318	3,699
2010Q4	51,287	315,535	16.3	4,968	15,821	31.4	2,379	2,589
2011Q1	39,655	294,099	13.5	4,008	14,226	28.2	1,929	2,079
2011Q2	69,628	324,827	21.4	8,638	18,722	46.1	4,113	4,525
2011Q3	66,498	337,210	19.7	7,379	20,648	35.7	3,561	3,818
2011Q4	53,128	321,198	16.5	5,077	16,005	31.7	2,391	2,686
2012Q1	44,830	303,704	14.8	4,540	14,848	30.6	2,226	2,314
2012Q2	72,678	333,886	21.8	8,480	18,847	45.0	3,999	4,481
2012Q3	64,598	340,232	19.0	6,725	19,705	34.1	3,290	3,435
2012Q4	50,598	321,466	15.8	4,772	15,097	31.6	2,309	2,463
2013Q1	42,413	304,338	14.0	4,205	14,030	30.0	2,051	2,153
2013Q2	72,490	334,955	21.7	8,393	18,239	46.0	3,998	4,394
2013Q3	62,495	340,334	18.5	6,482	19,197	33.8	3,063	3,417
2013Q4	53,192	323,087	16.5	4,530	14,677	30.9	2,146	2,384
2014Q1	44,039	307,179	14.3	4,174	13,817	30.2	1,996	2,178

Source: Wyoming Wage Records database.

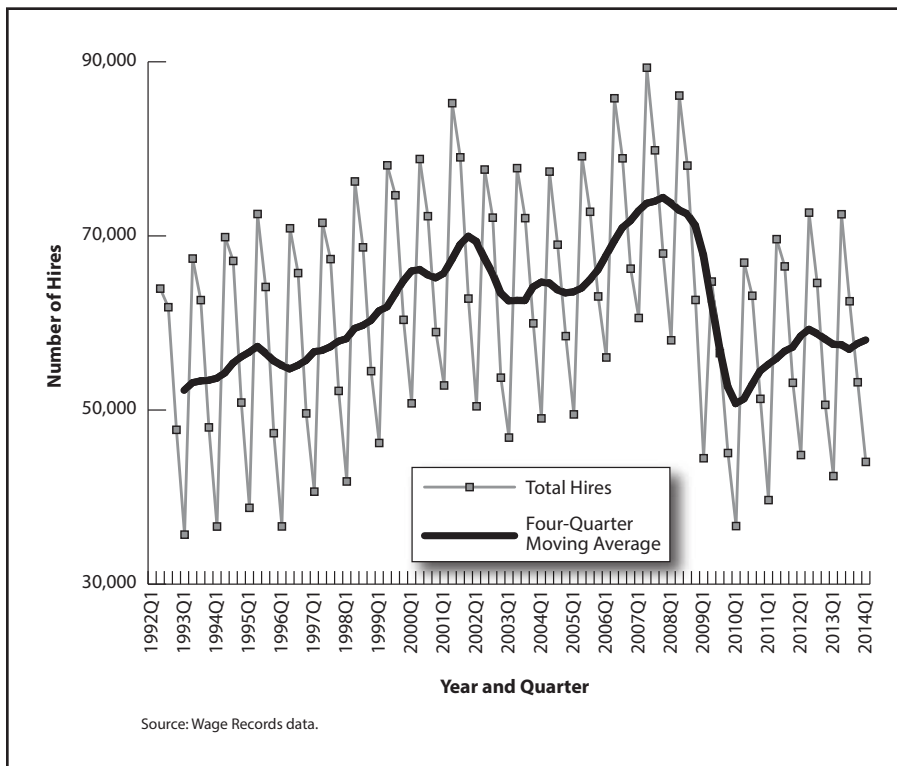


Figure 1: Total Number of Wyoming Hires by Year and Quarter, 1992Q1-2014Q1

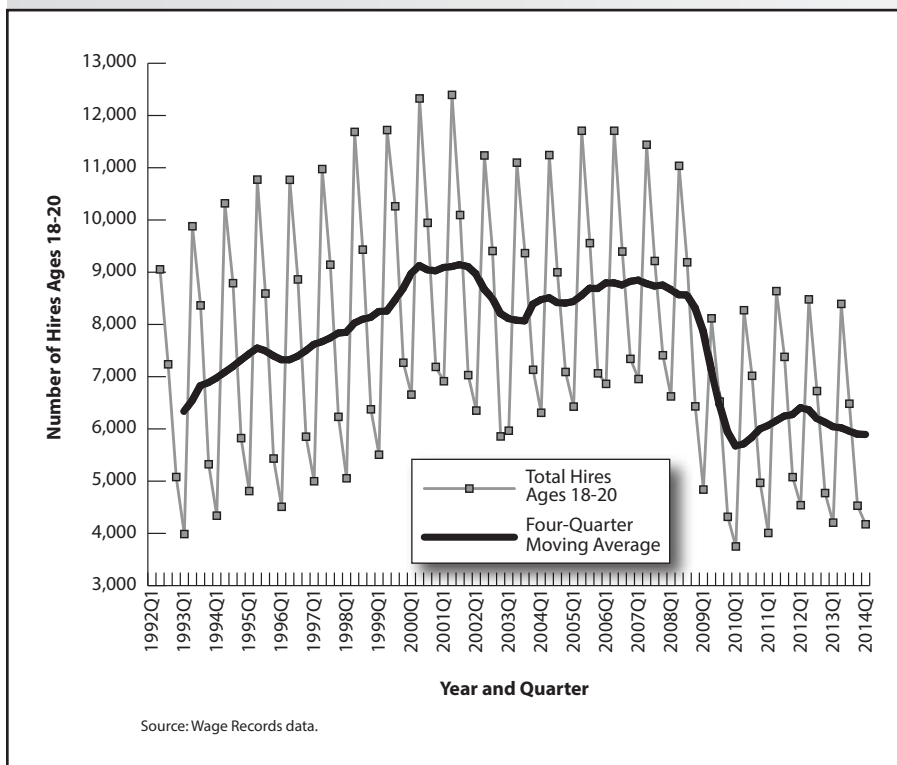


Figure 2: Total Number of Wyoming Hires Ages 18-20 by Year and Quarter, 1992Q1-2014Q1

20 residing in Wyoming. As seen in Figure 1 (see page 4), since 2010Q1 the hiring trend for all ages increased 14.4%, while the hiring trend for youth only increased 3.8% (see Figure 2). According to the U.S. Census Bureau (2014), the population of 18-20 year olds in Wyoming from 2003 to 2013 decreased from 24,941 to 23,506 (-1,435, or -5.8%).

Since 2004, slightly more males than females ages 18-20 have been hired in Wyoming. There were the most hires of female workers ages 18-20 in 2002Q2 and the fewest in 2010Q1 (see Figure 3, page 5). Hires for male workers ages 18-20 peaked in 2001Q2 and were the lowest in 2010Q1. Since the economic downturn in 2009, hires of males and females have been closer to equal. In 2014Q1, young males made up 52% of new hires and young females made up 48% of new hires for those ages 18-20.

As seen in Figure 4 (see page 5), there were 44,034 hires in Wyoming for all industries and all age groups in 2014Q1. The majority of hires were in the leisure and hospitality industry (9,355 hires, or 21%) and the construction industry (5,838 hires, or 13%). Industries with the fewest hires were agriculture, forestry, fishing,

& hunting (389 hires) and information (453 hires).

In 2014Q1, there were 4,174 hires in Wyoming for youth ages 18-20. The majority of hires for youth ages 18-20 were found in the leisure and hospitality (1,373 hires, or 33%) and retail trade (870 hires, or 21%; see Figure 5, page 7) industries. Industries hiring less than 1% of youth were agriculture, forestry, fishing, & hunting (27 hires) and information (29 hires).

R&P conducts a New Hires Survey and has done so since 2009. The survey “collects information about newly hired employees in Wyoming,” and includes

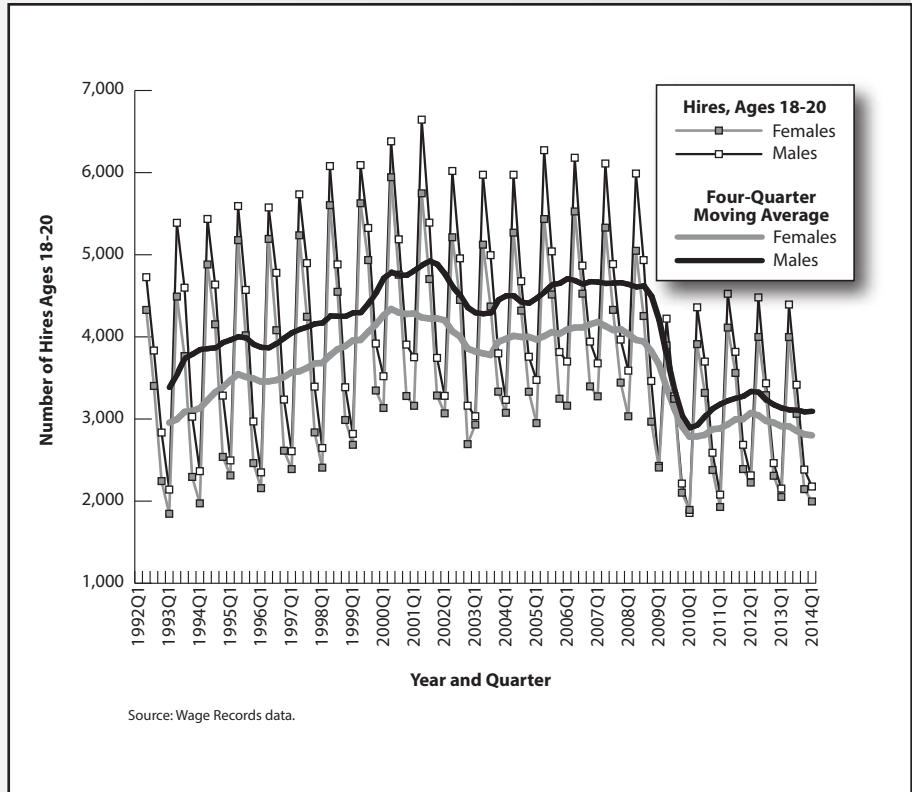


Figure 3: Total Number of Wyoming Hires Ages 18-20 by Gender and Year and Quarter, 1992Q1-2014Q1

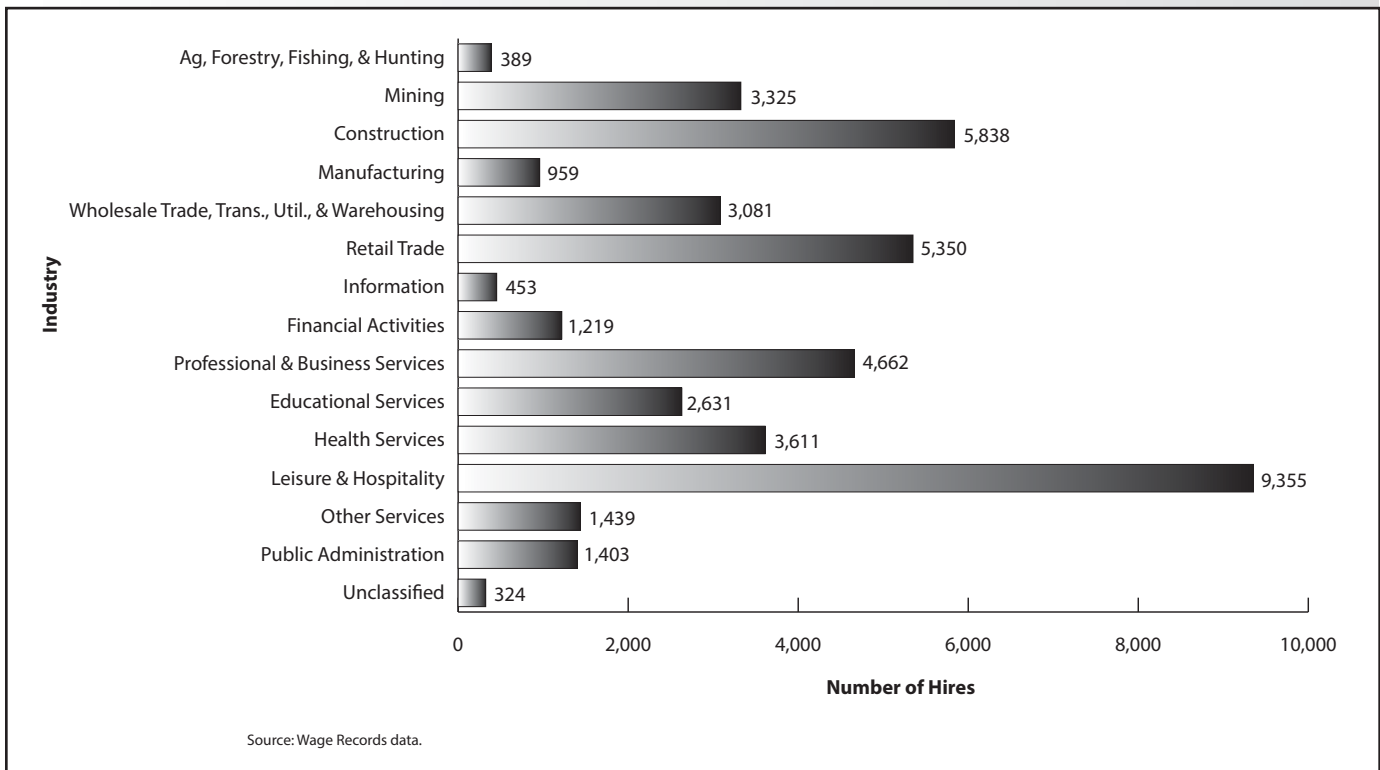


Figure 4: Total Hires in Wyoming by Industry, 2014Q1

information on “duties, wages and benefits, necessary licenses or certifications” (Knapp, 2012). The survey also asks about what skills employers deem important for the job.

With fewer young people being hired in Wyoming, it is possible that those ages 18 to 20 are delaying their first work experience, and the development of skills important to employers. For example, many young people find their first jobs in the retail trade industry – where 90% of employers surveyed said that service orientation was important to the job. In the same survey, only a third (33.7%) of employers were satisfied with their newly hired employees’ skills. The chance for a young person to develop skills like service orientation and other soft skills is critical for long-term success in the labor market, even in highly technical occupations (Bailey, 2014). The New Hires Survey finds that skills like critical thinking and operation and control are also in high demand across occupations. For more information on the

New Hires Survey, please visit <http://doe.state.wy.us/LMI/newhires.htm>

Conclusion

Declining numbers of youth in Wyoming’s workforce may have many consequences. Lost or delayed exposure to early work experience may contribute to a lack of soft skills when youth do finally enter the labor market. Skills employers want like customer service and critical thinking may be missing or underdeveloped in newly hired workers. In addition, those workers with fewer skills and less experience may lose their jobs first during an economic downturn. While it is clear that the hiring rate for persons ages 18-20 was lower than other segments of the workforce over the last decade, it is not clear if hiring rate is due to older workers hanging onto their jobs as the economy recovers, or simply fewer youth

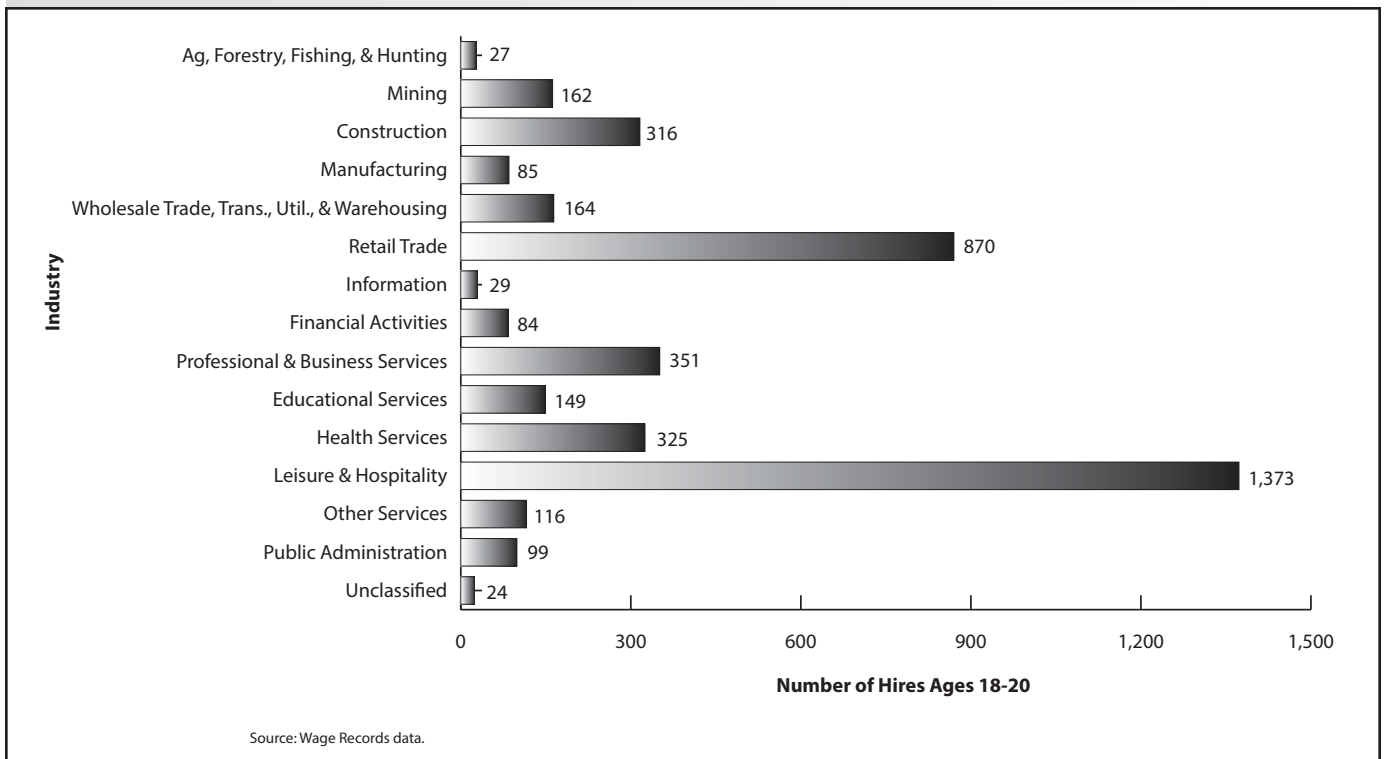


Figure 5: Total Hires Ages 18-20 in Wyoming by Industry, 2014Q1

choosing to work. The next article in the series will compare hiring rates for youth ages 18-20 with older segments of the workforce in Wyoming.

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Research & Planning Publishes Community College Market Pay Study

http://doe.state.wy.us/LMI/education_costs/community_college_pay_study.pdf

by: Michele Holmes, Public Relations Specialist

The Research & Planning (R&P) section of the Wyoming Department of Workforce Services recently released the *Wyoming Community College Market Pay Study*, after a request from Wyoming's community college presidents. The report focuses on wages earned by those working in community colleges in Wyoming, the history of compensation in Wyoming and the region, and labor market trends driving demand in the educational services industry. Key findings of the report include:

- Employment in Wyoming's community

college system makes up nearly half (47.4%) of the total employment in higher education (see the Table, page 8) – more than twice that of any other border state (p. 6).

- Postsecondary education administrators in Utah were paid an estimated \$90,990 in comparison to \$79,350 in Wyoming (p. 8).
- Public schools in Wyoming tend to pay higher average wages than community colleges, and Colorado community

colleges pay wages that are higher than both sectors in Wyoming (p. 10).

- Nearly one in three persons working in educational services in Wyoming is age 55 and over, and 67.2% of those workers hold a bachelor's degree or higher (see the Figure). The large number of workers approaching retirement age may represent a recruitment cost for community colleges in Wyoming (p. 18).

- Employment growth in all industries was stronger in Colorado, Utah, and Idaho than in Wyoming in third quarter 2013. Strong employment growth and occupational diversity in bordering states may attract labor, including teachers (p. 22).

The report also makes recommendations for further research, including responding to gaps in the data, many of which can be addressed through implementing a standardized approach to data collection. Research & Planning will meet later this month with human resources directors from Wyoming's community colleges to discuss

the implementation of standardized data collection and the possibilities for further market pay analysis.

The complete Wyoming

Community College Market Pay Study can be found at http://doe.state.wy.us/LMI/education_costs/community_college_pay_study.pdf.

Table: Distribution of Employment in Post Secondary Education for Wyoming and Border States, 2012/13

State	Colleges (6112)		Universities (6113)		Post Secondary
	N	Row %	N	Row %	N
Colorado	11,187	19.7	45,473	80.3	56,660
Idaho	2,209	14.5	13,062	85.5	15,271
Montana	1,594	14.0	9,813	86.0	11,407
Nebraska	6,033	21.2	22,429	78.8	28,462
South Dakota	860	9.4	8,275	90.6	9,134
Utah	5,165	13.6	32,939	86.4	38,104
Wyoming	3,374	47.4	3,744	52.6	7,118
Wyoming QCEW ^a	3,370	46.6	3,856	53.4	7,226

Source: Occupational Employment Statistics Aggregation for 2013.

^aSource: Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages (QCEW) Average for November 2012 and May 2013.

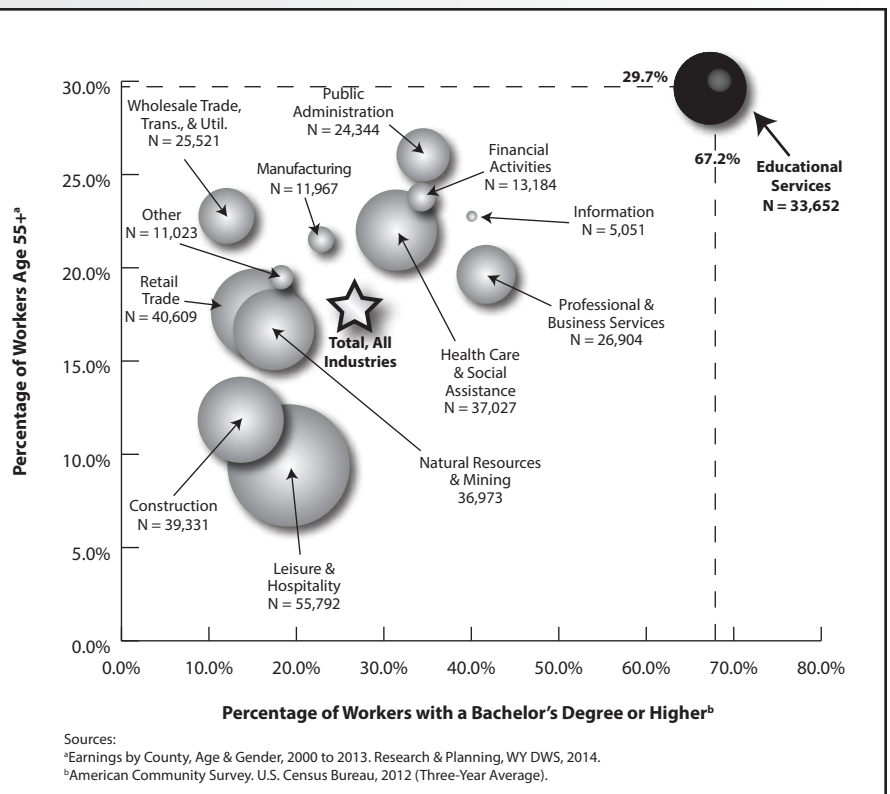


Figure: Percentage of Workers Age 55 and Older (2013) and Percentage of Workers with a Bachelor's Degree or Higher by Industry in Wyoming (2012)

Sources:
^aEarnings by County, Age & Gender, 2000 to 2013. Research & Planning, WY DWS, 2014.
^bAmerican Community Survey, U.S. Census Bureau, 2012 (Three-Year Average).

Wyoming Unemployment Rate Falls to 4.0% in January 2015

by: David Bullard, Senior Economist

The Research & Planning section of the Wyoming Department of Workforce Services reported that the state's seasonally adjusted¹ unemployment rate fell significantly from 4.2% in December 2014 to 4.0% in January 2015 (the estimated number of unemployed individuals decreased by 578). Wyoming's unemployment rate was lower than its January 2014 level of 4.3% and significantly lower than the January 2015 U.S. unemployment rate of 5.7%. Seasonally adjusted employment of Wyoming residents increased very slightly, rising by an estimated 340 individuals (0.1%) from December to January.

Most county unemployment rates followed their normal seasonal pattern and increased from December to January. Unemployment often increases in January because of seasonal job losses in many sectors, including construction, retail trade, and professional & business services. The largest over-the-month unemployment rate increases occurred in Johnson (up from 4.8% to 6.2%), Lincoln (up from 5.3% to 6.4%),

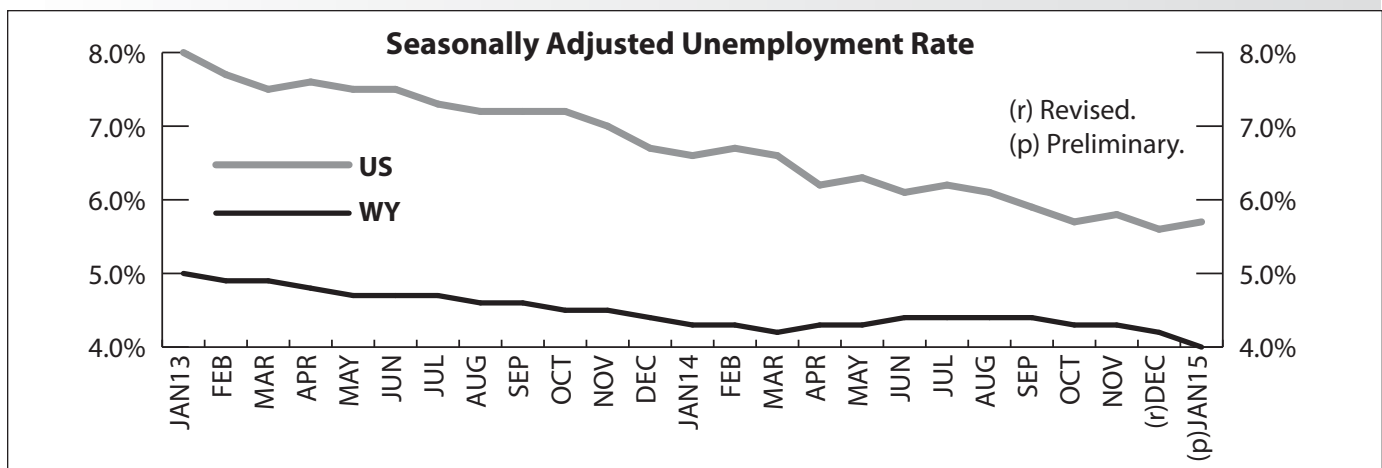
and Weston (up from 3.1% to 4.1%) counties. Teton County's unemployment rate fell from 5.0% in December to 4.3% in January.

From January 2014 to January 2015, unemployment rates fell in 20 counties and rose slightly in three counties. The largest decreases were seen in Big Horn (down from 6.1% to 4.9%), Uinta (down from 6.0% to 5.1%), Washakie (down from 5.7% to 4.9%), Teton (down from 5.1% to 4.3%), and Natrona (down from 5.2 to 4.4%) counties. Unemployment rates increased slightly in Sublette (up from 5.2% to 5.4%), Johnson (up from 6.1% to 6.2%), and Weston (up from 4.0% to 4.1%) counties.

Lincoln County (6.4%) posted the highest unemployment rate in January. It was followed by Fremont (6.2%), Johnson (6.2%), Park (5.6%), and Sheridan (5.6%) counties. The lowest unemployment rates were found in Converse (3.5%), Niobrara (3.6%), Goshen (3.8%), Campbell (3.8%), and Albany (3.8%) counties.

Total nonfarm employment (measured by place of work) rose from 281,600 in January 2014 to 286,800 in January 2015, a gain of 5,200 jobs (1.8%).

¹ Seasonal adjustment is 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.



Current Employment Statistics (CES) Estimates and Research & Planning's Short-Term Projections, January 2015

by: David Bullard, Senior Economist

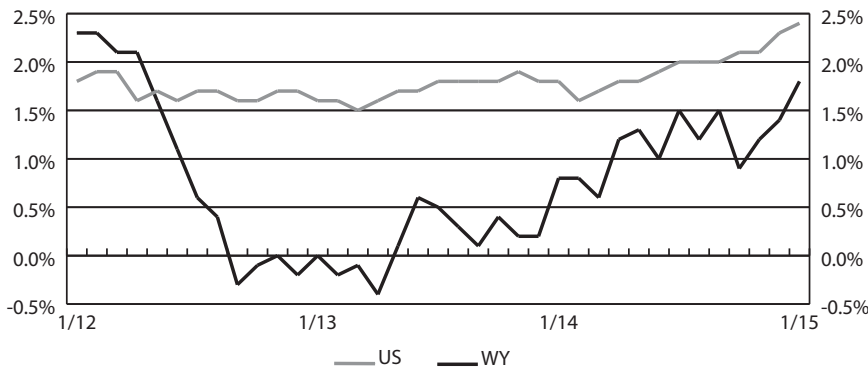
Industry Sector	Research & Planning's Short-Term Projections	Current Employment Statistics (CES) Estimates	N Difference	% Difference
Total Nonfarm Employment	283,610	286,800	3,190	1.1%
Natural Resources & Mining	27,285	26,400	-885	-3.4%
Construction	20,639	20,900	261	1.2%
Manufacturing	9,662	9,800	138	1.4%
Wholesale Trade	9,501	9,800	299	3.1%
Retail Trade	28,948	29,600	652	2.2%
Transportation & Utilities	15,712	16,000	288	1.8%
Information	3,748	3,800	52	1.4%
Financial Activities	11,145	11,400	255	2.2%
Professional & Business Services	17,413	18,300	887	4.8%
Educational & Health Services	27,211	27,600	389	1.4%
Leisure & Hospitality	32,158	33,000	842	2.6%
Other Services	9,585	9,600	15	0.2%
Government	70,603	70,600	-3	0.0%

Projections were run in February 2015 and based on QCEW data through September 2014.

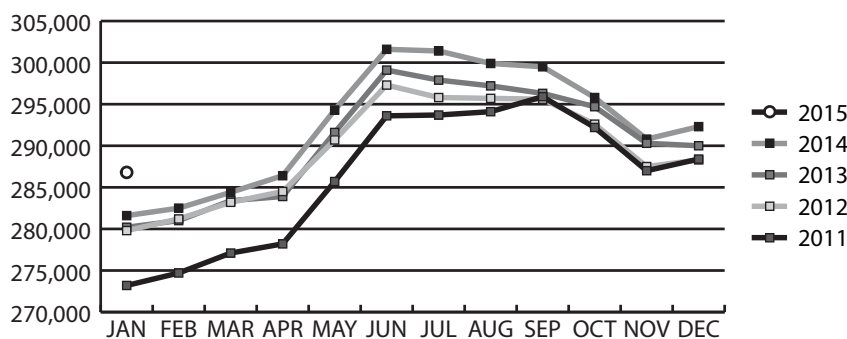
State Unemployment Rates January 2015 (Seasonally Adjusted)

State	Unemp. Rate
Puerto Rico	12.4
District of Columbia	7.7
Mississippi	7.1
Nevada	7.1
Louisiana	7.0
California	6.9
Tennessee	6.7
Arizona	6.6
South Carolina	6.6
Rhode Island	6.5
Georgia	6.4
Washington	6.4
Alaska	6.3
Connecticut	6.3
Michigan	6.3
New Jersey	6.3
Oregon	6.3
Illinois	6.1
Alabama	6.0
Indiana	6.0
New Mexico	5.9
West Virginia	5.9
New York	5.8
Florida	5.7
United States	5.7
Arkansas	5.6
Kentucky	5.5
Maryland	5.5
Missouri	5.5
North Carolina	5.4
Maine	5.2
Massachusetts	5.1
Ohio	5.1
Pennsylvania	5.1
Delaware	5.0
Wisconsin	5.0
Virginia	4.7
Montana	4.4
Texas	4.4
Colorado	4.2
Iowa	4.2
Kansas	4.2
Hawaii	4.1
Idaho	4.1
Vermont	4.1
New Hampshire	4.0
Wyoming	4.0
Oklahoma	3.9
Minnesota	3.7
South Dakota	3.4
Utah	3.4
Nebraska	2.9
North Dakota	2.8

Nonagricultural Employment Growth (Percentage Change Over Previous Year)



Wyoming Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment



Wyoming Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment

by: David Bullard, Senior Economist

State Unemployment Rates January 2015 (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

	Employment in Thousands			% Change Total Employment	
	Jan 15	Dec 14	Jan 14	Jan 15 Dec 14	Jan 15 Jan 14
	Jan 15	Dec 14	Jan 14	Dec 14	Jan 14
CAMPBELL COUNTY					
TOTAL NONAG. WAGE & SALARY EMPLOYMENT	28.9	29.4	28.0	-1.7	3.2
TOTAL PRIVATE	23.6	24.1	22.9	-2.1	3.1
GOODS PRODUCING	11.2	11.5	10.7	-2.6	4.7
Natural Resources & Mining	8.1	8.2	7.9	-1.2	2.5
Construction	2.5	2.7	2.3	-7.4	8.7
Manufacturing	0.6	0.6	0.5	0.0	20.0
SERVICE PROVIDING	17.9	17.9	17.3	-1.1	2.3
Trade, Transportation, & Utilities	5.8	5.9	5.7	-1.7	1.8
Information	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.0	0.0
Financial Activities	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.0	0.0
Professional & Business Services	1.7	1.7	1.6	0.0	6.2
Educational & Health Services	1.0	1.0	1.0	0.0	0.0
Leisure & Hospitality	2.2	2.3	2.2	-4.3	0.0
Other Services	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.0	0.0
GOVERNMENT	5.3	5.3	5.1	0.0	3.9

	Employment in Thousands			% Change Total Employment	
	Jan 15	Dec 14	Jan 14	Jan 15 Dec 14	Jan 15 Jan 14
	Jan 15	Dec 14	Jan 14	Dec 14	Jan 14
SWEETWATER COUNTY					
TOTAL NONAG. WAGE & SALARY EMPLOYMENT	24.0	24.9	24.8	-3.6	-3.2
TOTAL PRIVATE	19.3	20.0	20.0	-3.5	-3.5
GOODS PRODUCING	8.3	8.5	8.7	-2.4	-4.6
Natural Resources & Mining	5.7	5.7	5.8	0.0	-1.7
Construction	1.2	1.4	1.5	-14.3	-20.0
Manufacturing	1.4	1.4	1.4	0.0	0.0
SERVICE PROVIDING	15.7	16.4	16.1	-4.3	-2.5
Trade, Transportation, & Utilities	4.9	5.1	5.0	-3.9	-2.0
Information	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.0	0.0
Financial Activities	0.9	0.9	0.9	0.0	0.0
Professional & Business Services	1.0	1.0	1.1	0.0	-9.1
Educational & Health Services	1.2	1.3	1.1	-7.7	9.1
Leisure & Hospitality	2.2	2.3	2.3	-4.3	-4.3
Other Services	0.6	0.7	0.7	-14.3	-14.3
GOVERNMENT	4.7	4.9	4.8	-4.1	-2.1

	Employment in Thousands			% Change Total Employment	
	Jan 15	Dec 14	Jan 14	Jan 15 Dec 14	Jan 15 Jan 14
	Jan 15	Dec 14	Jan 14	Dec 14	Jan 14
TETON COUNTY					
TOTAL NONAG. WAGE & SALARY EMPLOYMENT	17.7	18.0	17.6	-1.7	0.6
TOTAL PRIVATE	15.3	15.5	15.2	-1.3	0.7
GOODS PRODUCING	1.7	2.0	1.7	-15.0	0.0
Natural Resources, Mining & Construction	1.6	1.8	1.6	-11.1	0.0
Manufacturing	0.1	0.2	0.1	-50.0	0.0
SERVICE PROVIDING	16.0	16.0	15.9	0.0	0.6
Trade, Transportation, & Utilities	2.6	2.6	2.4	0.0	8.3
Information	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.0	0.0
Financial Activities	0.9	0.9	0.8	0.0	12.5
Professional & Business Services	1.6	1.7	1.6	-5.9	0.0
Educational & Health Services	1.1	1.1	1.2	0.0	-8.3
Leisure & Hospitality	6.7	6.5	6.8	3.1	-1.5
Other Services	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.0	0.0
GOVERNMENT	2.4	2.5	2.4	-4.0	0.0

State	Unemp. Rate
Puerto Rico	10.8
District of Columbia	8.0
Mississippi	7.8
Nevada	7.5
California	7.3
Rhode Island	7.3
Alaska	7.1
Tennessee	7.1
Louisiana	7.0
New Jersey	7.0
Washington	7.0
West Virginia	7.0
Illinois	6.9
South Carolina	6.9
Connecticut	6.8
Indiana	6.7
Arizona	6.6
Michigan	6.6
Oregon	6.6
Arkansas	6.5
Georgia	6.5
New York	6.5
Alabama	6.3
New Mexico	6.2
Kentucky	6.1
Missouri	6.1
Ohio	6.1
United States	6.1
Maine	5.9
Maryland	5.9
North Carolina	5.9
Florida	5.8
Pennsylvania	5.8
Massachusetts	5.6
Delaware	5.4
Wisconsin	5.4
Montana	5.3
Virginia	5.0
Iowa	4.9
Idaho	4.8
Wyoming	4.8
Colorado	4.7
Kansas	4.6
Minnesota	4.6
Texas	4.6
Vermont	4.6
New Hampshire	4.5
Hawaii	4.3
Oklahoma	4.3
South Dakota	3.9
Utah	3.7
North Dakota	3.6
Nebraska	3.3

Economic Indicators

by: David Bullard, Senior Economist

The Baker Hughes rig count for Wyoming fell from 58 in December to 48 in January, suggesting a slowdown in drilling activity.

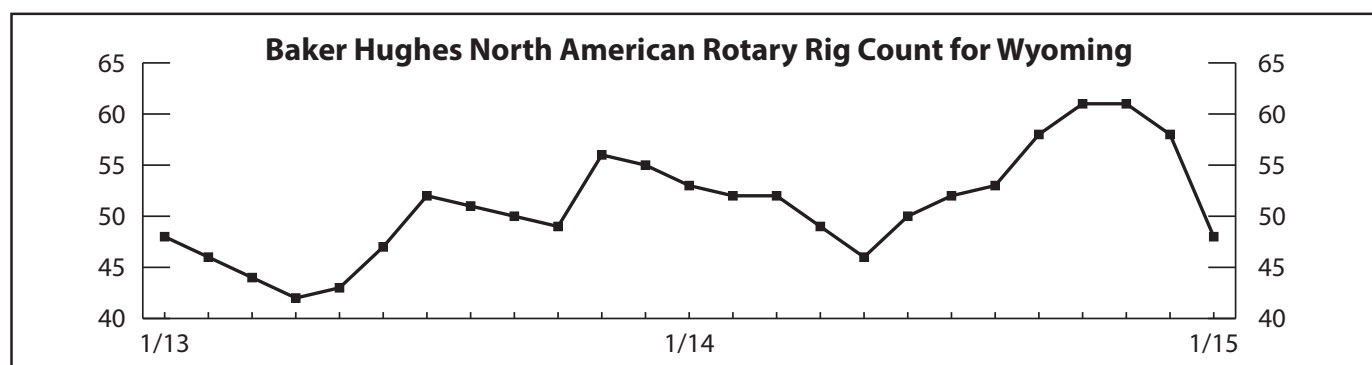
	Jan 2015 (p)	Dec 2014 (r)	Jan 2014 (b)	Percent Change Month	Year
Wyoming Total Nonfarm Employment	286,800	292,300	281,600	-1.9	1.8
Wyoming State Government	15,400	15,800	15,500	-2.5	-0.6
Laramie County Nonfarm Employment	46,400	47,600	45,400	-2.5	2.2
Natrona County Nonfarm Employment	43,300	43,200	41,700	0.2	3.8
Selected U.S. Employment Data					
U.S. Multiple Jobholders	7,289,000	7,308,000	6,685,000	-0.3	9.0
As a percent of all workers	5.0%	5.0%	4.7%	N/A	N/A
U.S. Discouraged Workers	682,000	740,000	837,000	-7.8	-18.5
U.S. Part Time for Economic Reasons	7,269,000	6,970,000	7,771,000	4.3	-6.5
Wyoming Unemployment Insurance					
Weeks Compensated	18,667	18,767	22,707	-0.5	-17.8
Benefits Paid	\$6,931,523	\$6,649,388	\$8,011,435	4.2	-13.5
Average Weekly Benefit Payment	\$371.32	\$354.31	\$352.82	4.8	5.2
State Insured Covered Jobs ¹	267,812	271,948	262,122	-1.5	2.2
Insured Unemployment Rate	2.4%	2.1%	2.9%	N/A	N/A
Consumer Price Index (U) for All U.S. Urban Consumers (1982 to 1984 = 100)					
All Items	233.7	234.8	233.9	-0.5	-0.1
Food & Beverages	246.1	245.6	238.8	0.2	3.1
Housing	235.5	234.7	230.3	0.4	2.3
Apparel	122.5	123.9	124.3	-1.1	-1.4
Transportation	190.9	199.8	213.5	-4.5	-10.6
Medical Care	441.0	439.7	429.6	0.3	2.6
Recreation (Dec. 1997=100)	115.3	114.9	115.3	0.4	0.0
Education & Communication (Dec. 1997=100)	137.6	137.4	137.0	0.1	0.4
Other Goods & Services	412.5	410.6	405.1	0.5	1.8
Producer Prices (1982 to 1984 = 100)					
All Commodities	192.1	197.6	203.8	-2.8	-5.7
Wyo. Bldg. Permits (New Privately Owned Housing Units Authorized)					
Total Units	70	90	69	-22.2	1.4
Valuation	\$16,357,000	\$25,628,000	\$19,443,000	-36.2	-15.9
Single Family Homes	61	82	69	-25.6	-11.6
Valuation	\$15,464,000	\$24,937,000	\$19,443,000	-38.0	-20.5
Casper MSA ² Building Permits	23	8	16	187.5	43.8
Valuation	\$5,260,000	\$1,511,000	\$2,155,000	248.1	144.1
Cheyenne MSA Building Permits	10	40	11	-75.0	-9.1
Valuation	\$1,491,000	\$6,447,000	\$1,969,000	-76.9	-24.3
Baker Hughes North American Rotary Rig Count for Wyoming	48	58	53	-17.2	-9.4

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

¹Local Area Unemployment Statistics Program estimates.

²Metropolitan Statistical Area.

Note: Production worker hours and earnings data have been dropped from the Economic Indicators page because of problems with accuracy due to a small sample size and high item nonresponse. The Bureau of Labor Statistics will continue to publish these data online at <http://www.bls.gov/eag/eag.wy.htm>.



Wyoming County Unemployment Rates

by: Carola Cowan, BLS Programs Supervisor

Most county unemployment rates followed their normal seasonal pattern and increased from December to January.

REGION County	Labor Force			Employed			Unemployed			Unemployment Rates		
	Jan 2015 (p)	Dec 2014 (r)	Jan 2014 (b)	Jan 2015 (p)	Dec 2014 (r)	Jan 2014 (b)	Jan 2015 (p)	Dec 2014 (r)	Jan 2014 (b)	Jan 2015 (p)	Dec 2014 (r)	Jan 2014 (b)
NORTHWEST	47,681	47,725	47,913	44,977	45,354	44,919	2,704	2,371	2,994	5.7	5.0	6.2
Big Horn	5,581	5,609	5,422	5,308	5,353	5,090	273	256	332	4.9	4.6	6.1
Fremont	20,442	20,377	20,670	19,166	19,306	19,331	1,276	1,071	1,339	6.2	5.3	6.5
Hot Springs	2,425	2,426	2,509	2,315	2,326	2,380	110	100	129	4.5	4.1	5.1
Park	14,954	14,990	15,004	14,117	14,232	14,057	837	758	947	5.6	5.1	6.3
Washakie	4,279	4,323	4,308	4,071	4,137	4,061	208	186	247	4.9	4.3	5.7
NORTHEAST	54,150	54,184	53,938	51,677	52,109	51,177	2,473	2,075	2,761	4.6	3.8	5.1
Campbell	26,239	26,383	26,004	25,248	25,546	24,853	991	837	1,151	3.8	3.2	4.4
Crook	3,672	3,637	3,781	3,507	3,488	3,599	165	149	182	4.5	4.1	4.8
Johnson	4,334	4,281	4,463	4,067	4,075	4,189	267	206	274	6.2	4.8	6.1
Sheridan	15,961	15,943	15,710	15,072	15,182	14,714	889	761	996	5.6	4.8	6.3
Weston	3,944	3,940	3,980	3,783	3,818	3,822	161	122	158	4.1	3.1	4.0
SOUTHWEST	59,052	59,316	60,359	56,164	56,622	57,096	2,888	2,694	3,263	4.9	4.5	5.4
Lincoln	8,058	7,985	8,117	7,544	7,559	7,540	514	426	577	6.4	5.3	7.1
Sublette	4,985	4,799	4,905	4,718	4,570	4,652	267	229	253	5.4	4.8	5.2
Sweetwater	22,791	23,111	23,664	21,749	22,198	22,519	1,042	913	1,145	4.6	4.0	4.8
Teton	13,676	13,698	13,808	13,093	13,013	13,110	583	685	698	4.3	5.0	5.1
Uinta	9,542	9,723	9,865	9,060	9,282	9,275	482	441	590	5.1	4.5	6.0
SOUTHEAST	82,624	83,687	82,587	78,872	80,361	78,511	3,752	3,326	4,076	4.5	4.0	4.9
Albany	20,504	21,043	20,616	19,730	20,376	19,789	774	667	827	3.8	3.2	4.0
Goshen	7,214	7,294	7,354	6,939	7,057	7,048	275	237	306	3.8	3.2	4.2
Laramie	48,891	49,420	48,513	46,458	47,220	45,867	2,433	2,200	2,646	5.0	4.5	5.5
Niobrara	1,328	1,304	1,410	1,280	1,262	1,355	48	42	55	3.6	3.2	3.9
Platte	4,687	4,626	4,694	4,465	4,446	4,452	222	180	242	4.7	3.9	5.2
CENTRAL	60,444	59,771	60,071	57,821	57,482	57,078	2,623	2,289	2,993	4.7	4.0	5.2
Carbon	8,113	8,100	8,499	7,742	7,759	8,085	371	341	414	5.1	4.4	6.3
Converse	8,413	8,331	8,342	8,115	8,081	8,020	298	250	322	3.7	3.4	4.3
Natrona	43,918	43,340	43,230	41,964	41,642	40,973	1,954	1,698	2,257	4.8	4.1	5.1
STATEWIDE	303,954	304,686	304,869	289,513	291,927	288,781	14,441	12,759	16,088	4.8	4.2	5.3
Statewide Seasonally Adjusted										4.0	4.2	4.3
U.S.										6.1	5.4	7.0
U.S. Seasonally Adjusted										5.7	5.6	6.6

Prepared in cooperation with the Bureau of Labor Statistics. Benchmarked 02/2015. Run Date 03/2015.

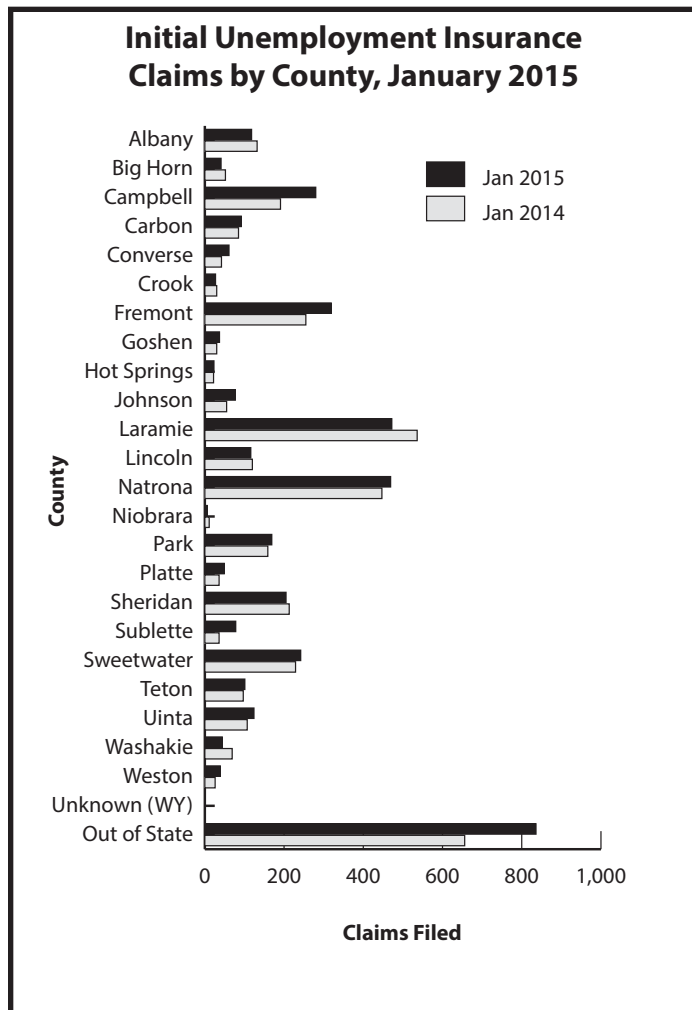
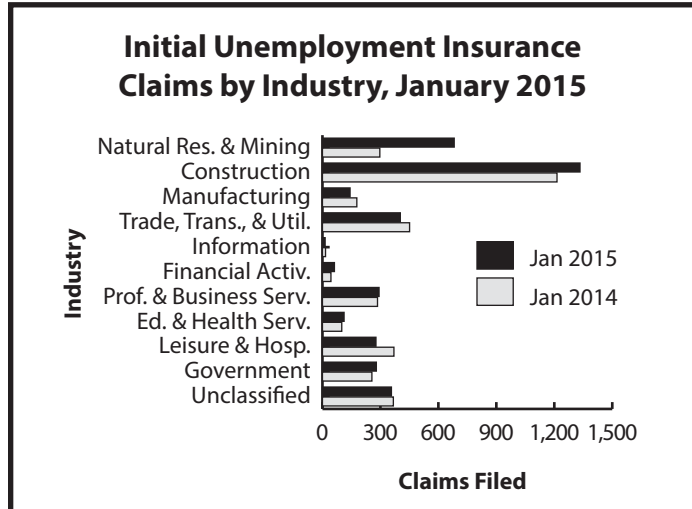
Data are not seasonally adjusted except where otherwise specified.

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

Wyoming Normalized^a Unemployment Insurance Statistics: Initial Claims

by: Patrick Manning, Principal Economist

Initial claims increased 10.7% from January 2014. The most substantial increase was seen in mining (141.9%).



Initial Claims	Percent Change Claims Filed				
	Claims Filed		Jan 15 Jan 15		
	Jan 15	Dec 14	Jan 14	Dec 14	Jan 14

Wyoming Statewide	4,025	3,218	3,636	25.1	10.7
TOTAL CLAIMS FILED					
TOTAL GOODS-PRODUCING	2,160	1,686	1,691	28.1	27.7
Natural Res. & Mining	682	264	297	158.3	129.6
Mining	658	243	272	170.8	141.9
Oil & Gas Extraction	51	14	12	264.3	325.0
Construction	1,333	1,318	1,214	1.1	9.8
Manufacturing	143	103	178	38.8	-19.7
TOTAL SERVICE-PROVIDING	1,228	982	1,321	25.1	-7.0
Trade, Transp., & Utilities	403	315	451	27.9	-10.6
Wholesale Trade	62	44	85	40.9	-27.1
Retail Trade	172	116	249	48.3	-30.9
Transp., Warehousing & Utilities	169	155	117	9.0	44.4
Information	14	11	16	27.3	-12.5
Financial Activities	62	32	44	93.8	40.9
Prof. and Business Svcs.	293	228	285	28.5	2.8
Educational & Health Svcs.	112	119	100	-5.9	12.0
Leisure & Hospitality	277	215	370	28.8	-25.1
Other Svcs., exc. Public Admin.	61	54	47	13.0	29.8
TOTAL GOVERNMENT	279	219	256	27.4	9.0
Federal Government	126	135	119	-6.7	5.9
State Government	33	12	20	175.0	65.0
Local Government	119	71	116	67.6	2.6
Local Education	16	15	26	6.7	-38.5
UNCLASSIFIED	357	329	367	8.5	-2.7

Laramie County	471	562	536	-16.2	-12.1
TOTAL CLAIMS FILED					
TOTAL GOODS-PRODUCING	230	341	291	-32.6	-21.0
Construction	185	296	253	-37.5	-26.9
TOTAL SERVICE-PROVIDING	189	183	207	3.3	-8.7
Trade, Transp., & Utilities	63	74	82	-14.9	-23.2
Financial Activities	11	8	3	37.5	266.7
Prof. & Business Svcs.	62	31	77	100.0	-19.5
Educational & Health Svcs.	32	28	15	14.3	113.3
Leisure & Hospitality	25	29	38	-13.8	-34.2
TOTAL GOVERNMENT	29	19	25	52.6	16.0
UNCLASSIFIED	22	18	11	22.2	100.0

Natrona County	468	415	446	12.8	4.9
TOTAL CLAIMS FILED					
TOTAL GOODS-PRODUCING	274	235	236	16.6	16.1
Construction	162	180	169	-10.0	-4.1
TOTAL SERVICE-PROVIDING	165	154	188	7.1	-12.2
Trade, Transp., & Utilities	70	51	76	37.3	-7.9
Financial Activities	8	1	6	700.0	33.3
Prof. & Business Svcs.	46	56	51	-17.9	-9.8
Educational & Health Svcs.	19	25	24	-24.0	-20.8
Leisure & Hospitality	18	18	32	0.0	-43.8
TOTAL GOVERNMENT	11	13	10	-15.4	10.0
UNCLASSIFIED	16	12	11	33.3	45.5

^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.

Wyoming Normalized^a Unemployment Insurance Statistics: Continued Claims

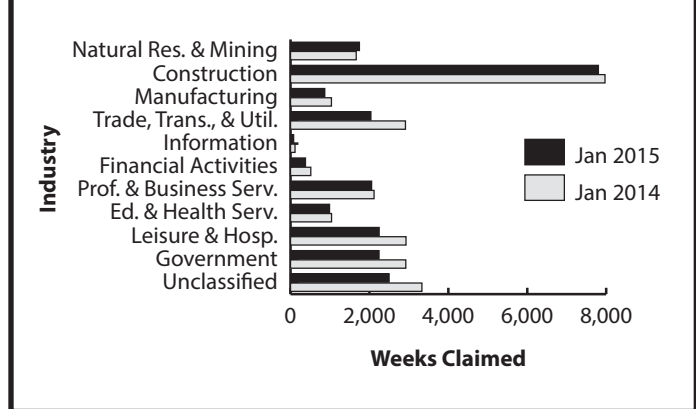
by: Patrick Manning, Principal Economist

Continued weeks claimed decreased 13.8% from January 2014, while the total number of unique claimants increased 5.7%.

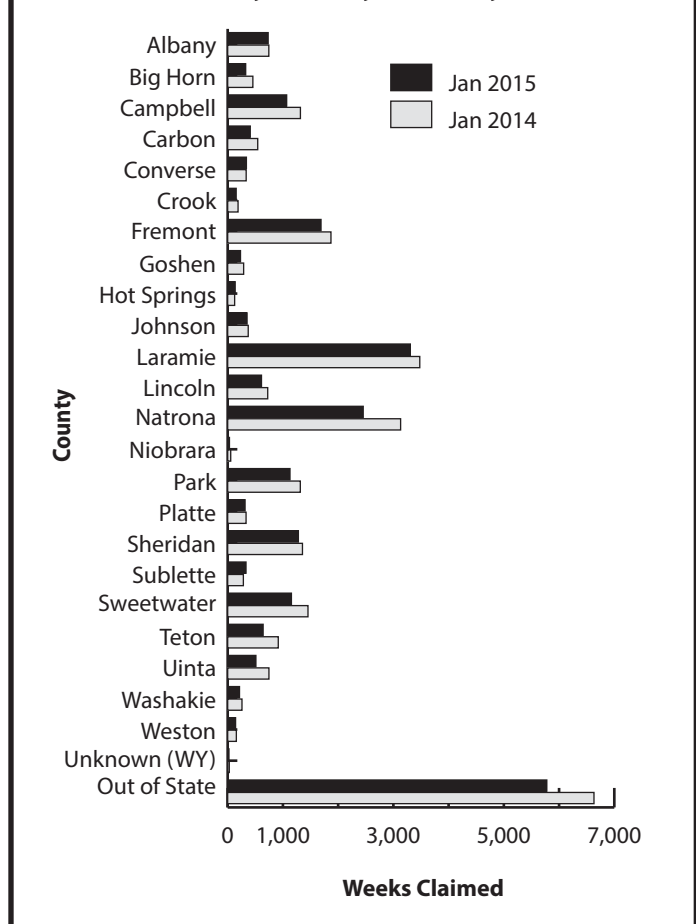
Continued Claims

	Claims Filed		Percent Change		Claims Filed	
	Jan 15	Dec 14	Jan 14	Dec 14	Jan 15	Jan 14
	Jan 15	Dec 14	Jan 14	Dec 14	Jan 14	Jan 14
Wyoming Statewide						
TOTAL WEEKS CLAIMED	23,362	19,747	27,109	18.3	-13.8	
TOTAL UNIQUE CLAIMANTS^b	7,120	5,117	6,733	39.1	5.7	
Benefit Exhaustions	326	273	482	19.4	-32.4	
Benefit Exhaustion Rates	4.6%	5.3%	7.2%	-0.8%	-2.6%	
TOTAL GOODS-PRODUCING	10,419	6,617	10,674	57.5	-2.4	
Natural Res. & Mining	1,746	1,069	1,665	63.3	4.9	
Mining	1,553	887	1,467	75.1	5.9	
Oil & Gas Extraction	132	127	170	3.9	-22.4	
Construction	7,803	4,930	7,970	58.3	-2.1	
Manufacturing	868	616	1,037	40.9	-16.3	
TOTAL SERVICE-PROVIDING	8,199	8,690	10,181	-5.7	-19.5	
Trade, Transp., & Utilities	2,037	1,885	2,913	8.1	-30.1	
Wholesale Trade	350	309	468	13.3	-25.2	
Retail Trade	960	872	1,519	10.1	-36.8	
Transp., Warehousing & Utilities	727	704	926	3.3	-21.5	
Information	79	75	114	5.3	-30.7	
Financial Activities	379	410	514	-7.6	-26.3	
Prof. & Business Services	2,055	1,681	2,117	22.2	-2.9	
Educational & Health Svcs.	989	922	1,040	7.3	-4.9	
Leisure and Hospitality	2,247	3,356	2,927	-33.0	-23.2	
Other Svcs., exc. Public Admin.	408	355	549	14.9	-25.7	
TOTAL GOVERNMENT	2,244	2,262	2,922	-0.8	-23.2	
Federal Government	1,271	1,328	1,459	-4.3	-12.9	
State Government	188	188	281	0.0	-33.1	
Local Government	783	745	1,182	5.1	-33.8	
Local Education	142	115	187	23.5	-24.1	
UNCLASSIFIED	2,499	2,177	3,330	14.8	-25.0	
Laramie County						
TOTAL WEEKS CLAIMED	3,307	2,550	3,477	29.7	-4.9	
TOTAL UNIQUE CLAIMANTS	1,012	689	889	46.9	13.8	
TOTAL GOODS-PRODUCING	1,763	1,126	1,711	56.6	3.0	
Construction	1,480	935	1,499	58.3	-1.3	
TOTAL SERVICE-PROVIDING	1,210	1,114	1,473	8.6	-17.9	
Trade, Transp., and Utilities	329	316	502	4.1	-34.5	
Financial Activities	80	90	114	-11.1	-29.8	
Prof. & Business Svcs.	416	336	406	23.8	2.5	
Educational and Health Svcs.	247	242	191	2.1	29.3	
Leisure & Hospitality	151	121	201	24.8	-24.9	
TOTAL GOVERNMENT	219	226	245	-3.1	-10.6	
UNCLASSIFIED	113	82	47	37.8	140.4	
Natrona County						
TOTAL WEEKS CLAIMED	2,454	1,870	3,130	31.2	-21.6	
TOTAL UNIQUE CLAIMANTS	769	497	791	54.7	-2.8	
TOTAL GOODS-PRODUCING	1,244	823	1,576	51.2	-21.1	
Construction	904	620	1,106	45.8	-18.3	
TOTAL SERVICE-PROVIDING	1,028	904	1,369	13.7	-24.9	
Trade, Transp., and Utilities	307	265	413	15.8	-25.7	
Financial Activities	44	36	59	22.2	-25.4	
Professional & Business Svcs.	369	326	334	13.2	10.5	
Educational & Health Svcs.	194	177	209	9.6	-7.2	
Leisure & Hospitality	124	97	273	27.8	-54.6	
TOTAL GOVERNMENT	93	73	111	27.4	-16.2	
UNCLASSIFIED	87	68	73	27.9	19.2	

Continued Unemployment Insurance Claims by Industry, January 2015



Continued Unemployment Insurance Claims by County, January 2015



^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.
^bDoes not include claimants receiving extended benefits.

**Wyoming Department of Workforce
Services, Research & Planning
P.O. Box 2760
Casper, WY 82602**

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