

# TRENDS

## WYOMING NEW HIRES IN 2011, PART 1

### Even During an Economic Downturn, Wyoming Employers Continued to Hire New Workers

by: Lisa Knapp, Research Analyst

*Wyoming employers are constantly hiring new workers. Whether total employment is increasing, declining, or stagnant, hiring activity is always occurring. This article is the first in a series that examines the characteristics of jobs for which new workers were hired from fourth quarter 2010 (2010Q4) to third quarter 2011 (2011Q3).*

Since fourth quarter 2009 (2009Q4), the Research & Planning (R&P) section of the Wyoming Department of Workforce Services has conducted a New Hires Job Skills Survey designed to collect information about the jobs hired in Wyoming. The data collected by this survey provide a rich source of information about occupations in the state that would otherwise be unavailable. This includes data on demographics, benefits, skills, wage rates, and the gender wage gap. This data is available at both the state and the sub-state regional levels.

During the state's economic downturn in 2009, when total employment decreased

substantially, Wyoming employers continued to hire new workers (see Figure 1, page 3). From 2009Q4 to 2010Q3, Wyoming employers added 112,065 new hires.

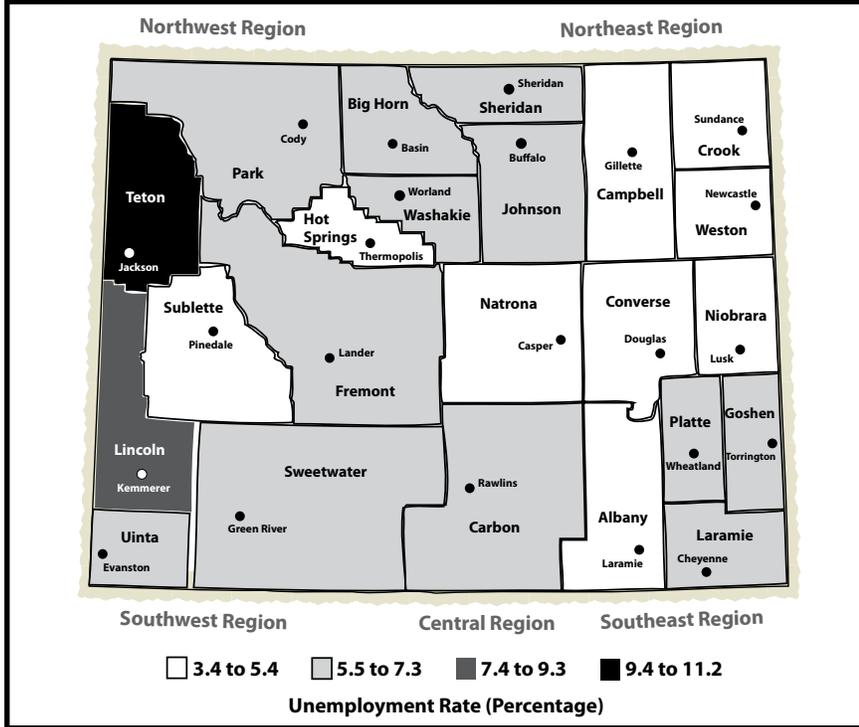
From 2010Q4 to 2011Q3, as the state was recovering from that downturn, employers added 129,369 new hires, an increase of 17,304. During this time, more people were hired as truck drivers, heavy & tractor-trailer, than any other occupation (5,843, or 4.5% of all new hires; see Table 1, page 3). Wyoming

(Text continued on page 3)

## HIGHLIGHTS

- The 15 lowest-paying occupations in Wyoming made up 7.1% of the state's total employment, according to the latest Occupational Employment Statistics estimates. ... *page 11*
- The total number of people found working in Wyoming grew from 350,921 in 2010 to 354,427 in 2011. While the number of males and females working in Wyoming continued to decline, the number of unknown (likely nonresident) workers increased. ... *page 13*

Unemployment Rate by Wyoming County, April 2012 (Not Seasonally Adjusted)



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employers also hired an estimated 5,070 retail salespersons (3.9%) and 4,860 office clerks, general (3.8%).

This analysis includes data collected from 2010Q4 to 2011Q3 and is intended to give an overview of the types of jobs that

were filled during that time by industry and region.

### Methodology and Prior Research

The New Hires Survey collects information about newly hired employees in Wyoming (Knapp, 2011). This information includes duties, wages and benefits, necessary licenses or certifications, and job skills. A new hire is defined as an employee who has not worked for a particular employer since 1992 (the first year for which comparable data are available) and is used to identify what jobs are being filled across the state. The new hire job skills questionnaire is

**Table 1: Top 5 Number and Percentage of New Hires in Wyoming by Occupation, 2010Q4 to 2011Q3**

SOC Code	Occupation	Estimated New Hires	%
53-3032	Truck Drivers, Heavy & Tractor-Trailer	5,843	4.5
41-2031	Retail Salespersons	5,070	3.9
43-9061	Office Clerks, General	4,860	3.8
37-2012	Maids & Housekeeping Cleaners	4,717	3.6
41-2011	Cashiers	4,639	3.6
<b>Total, All Occupations</b>		<b>129,369</b>	<b>100.0</b>

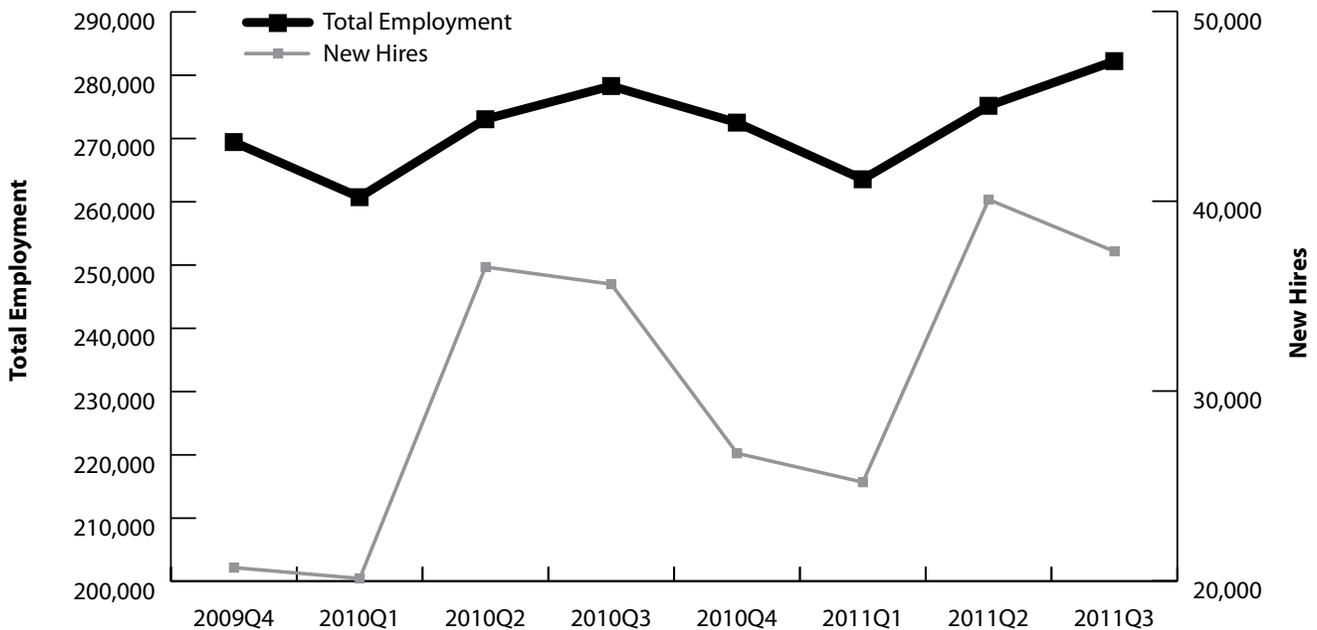


Figure 1: Total Employment and New Hires in Wyoming, 2009Q4-2011Q3

sent to a random sample of employers each quarter, and R&P has received a response rate of 70.0% or more every quarter except one. R&P has been able to use these data in a variety of ways.

Prior to the implementation of the New Hires Survey, R&P was only able to examine Wyoming's gender wage gap at the industry level. The new hires data now make it possible to see if Wyoming employers are offering the same wages and hours to males and females working in the same occupation. Glover (2011) examined the first year of data (2009Q4 to 2010Q3) and analyzed 184 occupations for which new workers were hired. Of those, males were paid significantly more in 31 occupations, while females were paid significantly more in 9 occupations. There was no significant difference in pay in the remaining 144 occupations.

New hires data were also used in conjunction with other surveys and databases to provide an in-depth analysis of Wyoming's manufacturing industry. Data collected from the New Hires Survey illustrated that even during an economic downturn, such as the one Wyoming experienced in 2009, employers continue to hire new workers. Even though total employment in the manufacturing industry decreased each year from 2008 to 2010, employers added 2,568 new hires from 2009Q4 to 2010Q3 (Moore, 2011). Information collected through the New Hires Survey was linked to R&P's Wage Records database to examine turnover in manufacturing. Of those 2,568 new hires, 77.0% were still employed one quarter after hire.

More information about the methodology used for this survey and the full results can be found online at <http://>

[doe.state.wy.us/LMI/newhires.htm](http://doe.state.wy.us/LMI/newhires.htm).

## **New Hires by Industry**

The largest percentage of new hires were employed by businesses in the leisure & hospitality industry (28,534, or 22.1%; see Table 2, page 5). Of those, an estimated 4,072 (14.3%) were maids & housekeeping cleaners, an estimated 3,122 (10.9%) were combined food preparation & serving workers, and an estimated 2,879 (10.1%) were dishwashers.

Of the new hires, 14.8% (19,157) were employed in the retail trade industry. A quarter of these (4,835, or 25.2%) worked as retail salespersons and more than one-fifth (4,030, or 21.0%) worked as cashiers. An estimated 682 new hires (3.6%) in this industry were employed as merchandise displays & window trimmers.

Of the total new hires, 11.0% (14,238) worked in the construction industry. An estimated 2,519 (17.7%) of these new hires in this industry worked as construction laborers, and an estimated 1,260 (8.8%) worked as operating engineers & other construction equipment operators. In this industry, 969 carpenters (6.8%) were hired.

An estimated 9.7% (12,583) of new hires were employed by businesses in the natural resources & mining industry. Roustabouts, oil & gas, made up 2,704 (21.5%) of these. Another 11.9% (1,493) of new hires in this industry were truck drivers, heavy & tractor-trailer, and 5.8%

(Text continued on page 7)

Table 2: Top Five Occupations for New Hires for Each Industry in Wyoming, 2010Q4-2011Q3

Industry	SOC Code	Occupation	Estimated New Hires	Industry %
Natural Resources & Mining	47-5071	Roustabouts, Oil & Gas	2,704	21.5
	53-3032	Truck Drivers, Heavy & Tractor-Trailer	1,493	11.9
	47-5013	Service Unit Operators, Oil, Gas, & Mining	734	5.8
	45-2093	Farmworkers, Farm & Ranch Animals	599	4.8
	47-5081	Helpers--Extraction Workers	541	4.3
<b>Total, All Occupations</b>			<b>12,583</b>	<b>9.7</b>
Construction	47-2061	Construction Laborers	2,519	17.7
	47-2073	Op. Engineers & Other Construction Equipment Operators	1,260	8.8
	47-2031	Carpenters	969	6.8
	47-2111	Electricians	969	6.8
	53-3032	Truck Drivers, Heavy & Tractor-Trailer	727	5.1
<b>Total, All Occupations</b>			<b>14,238</b>	<b>11.0</b>
Manufacturing	51-4121	Welders, Cutters, Solderers, & Brazers	361	9.8
	51-9198	Helpers--Production Workers	346	9.4
	53-3032	Truck Drivers, Heavy & Tractor-Trailer	256	6.9
	53-7064	Packers & Packagers, Hand	226	6.1
	43-9061	Office Clerks, General	196	5.3
<b>Total, All Occupations</b>			<b>3,695</b>	<b>2.9</b>
Wholesale Trade, Transportation, & Utilities	53-3032	Truck Drivers, Heavy & Tractor-Trailer	2,737	33.7
	53-7062	Laborers and Freight, Stock, & Material Movers, Hand	741	9.1
	43-9061	Office Clerks, General	419	5.2
	49-3031	Bus and Truck Mechanics & Diesel Engine Specialists	334	4.1
	51-4121	Welders, Cutters, Solderers, & Brazers	218	2.7
<b>Total, All Occupations</b>			<b>8,121</b>	<b>6.3</b>
Retail Trade	41-2031	Retail Salespersons	4,835	25.2
	41-2011	Cashiers	4,030	21.0
	27-1026	Merchandise Displayers & Window Trimmers	682	3.6
	53-7064	Packers & Packagers, Hand	682	3.6
	41-1011	First-Line Supervisors/Managers of Retail Sales Workers	620	3.2
<b>Total, All Occupations</b>			<b>19,157</b>	<b>14.8</b>
Information	35-3022	Counter Att., Cafeteria, Food Concession, & Coffee Shop	127	9.2
	41-3011	Advertising Sales Agents	120	8.7
	43-4121	Library Assistants, Clerical	99	7.2
	39-3091	Amusement & Recreation Attendants	85	6.2
	25-4021	Librarians	57	4.1
<b>Total, All Occupations</b>			<b>1,381</b>	<b>1.1</b>
Financial Activities	43-3071	Tellers	679	17.7
	43-9061	Office Clerks, General	453	11.8
	43-4051	Customer Service Representatives	294	7.7
	43-4171	Receptionists & Information Clerks	235	6.1
	47-5071	Roustabouts, Oil and Gas	140	3.7
<b>Total, All Occupations</b>			<b>3,832</b>	<b>3.0</b>

(Table continued on page 6)

(Table continued from page 5)

Table 2: Top Five Occupations for New Hires for Each Industry in Wyoming, 2010Q4-2011Q3

Industry	SOC Code	Occupation	Estimated New Hires	Industry %
Professional & Business Services	37-2011	Janitors & Cleaners, Exc. Maids & Housekeeping Cleaners	1,119	10.3
	37-3011	Landscaping & Groundskeeping Workers	1,021	9.4
	43-9061	Office Clerks, General	789	7.3
	53-3032	Truck Drivers, Heavy & Tractor-Trailer	491	4.5
	33-9032	Security Guards	348	3.2
<b>Total, All Occupations</b>			<b>10,848</b>	<b>8.4</b>
Educational Services	25-3098	Substitute Teachers	1,004	14.8
	25-3021	Self-Enrichment Education Teachers	438	6.5
	25-9041	Teacher Assistants	438	6.5
	53-3022	Bus Drivers, School	360	5.3
	27-2032	Choreographers	309	4.6
<b>Total, All Occupations</b>			<b>6,768</b>	<b>5.2</b>
Health Care & Social Services	31-1014	Nursing Assistants	1,165	9.5
	39-9011	Child Care Workers	1,123	9.2
	43-9061	Office Clerks, General	1,040	8.5
	39-9021	Personal & Home Care Aides	832	6.8
	29-1141	Registered Nurses	791	6.5
<b>Total, All Occupations</b>			<b>12,237</b>	<b>9.5</b>
Leisure & Hospitality	37-2012	Maids & Housekeeping Cleaners	4,072	14.3
	35-3021	Combined Food Prep. & Serving Workers, Incl. Fast Food	3,122	10.9
	35-9021	Dishwashers	2,879	10.1
	35-3031	Waiters & Waitresses	2,752	9.6
	35-3011	Bartenders	2,626	9.2
<b>Total, All Occupations</b>			<b>28,534</b>	<b>22.1</b>
Other Services Except Public Administration	43-9061	Office Clerks, General	438	9.7
	49-3023	Automotive Service Technicians & Mechanics	421	9.4
	53-7061	Cleaners of Vehicles & Equipment	193	4.3
	35-3011	Bartenders	175	3.9
	53-6031	Service Station Attendants	175	3.9
<b>Total, All Occupations</b>			<b>4,502</b>	<b>3.5</b>
Public Administration	37-3011	Landscaping & Groundskeeping Workers	303	9.6
	37-2011	Janitors & Cleaners, Exc. Maids & Housekeeping Cleaners	211	6.7
	39-3091	Amusement & Recreation Attendants	211	6.7
	33-3051	Police & Sheriff's Patrol Officers	185	5.9
	33-9092	Lifeguards, Ski Patrol, & Other Rec. Protective Svc. Workers	171	5.4
<b>Total, All Occupations</b>			<b>3,159</b>	<b>2.4</b>
<b>Total, All Industries</b>			<b>129,369</b>	<b>100.0</b>

(Text continued from page 4)

(734) worked as service unit operators, oil, gas, & mining.

### **New Hires by Region**

As noted earlier, new hires data are now available for Wyoming's substate regions. More new hires were added in Wyoming's southwest region (28,769, or 22.2%) than in any other region in the state (see Table 3, page 8; due to rounding, there are only 129,353 new hires accounted for in this table). Of these, an estimated 6.3% (1,820) worked as truck drivers, heavy & tractor-trailer, and approximately 5.2% (1,485) were cashiers. An estimated 1,142 roustabouts, oil & gas (4.0%) were hired in this region.

An estimated 20,714 new hires (16.0%) were employed in the northeast region. Of those, 5.2% (1,073) worked as truck drivers, heavy & tractor-trailer. Another 3.6% (756) worked as retail salespersons and 754 (3.6%) new hires were roustabouts, oil & gas.

An estimated 14.9% of new hires (19,278) worked in the northwest region. Approximately 4.2% (814) of these were maids and housekeeping cleaners and approximately 3.6% (694) were truck drivers, heavy & tractor-trailer. An estimated 3.5% (675) of new hires in this region were bartenders.

The 17,034 new hires employed in the central-southeast region of the state accounted for 13.2% of all new hires. Of these, an estimated 1,095 (6.4%) worked as maids & housekeeping cleaners. An

estimated 894 (5.2%) new hires worked as cashiers, and an estimated 653 (3.8%) new hires worked as waiters & waitresses.

The 18,483 new hires in the Casper metropolitan statistical area (MSA), accounted for 14.3% of all new hires in Wyoming. Of those, an estimated 1,032 (5.6%) worked as office clerks, general, and an estimated 787 (4.3%) were hired as retail salespersons. There were 676 (3.7%) truck drivers, heavy & tractor-trailer, hired in this region.

There were 15,194 new hires employed in the Cheyenne MSA which accounted for 11.7% of the state's total. Of those, approximately 5.0% (753) were retail salespersons. An estimated 4.0% (612) were office clerks, general, and 3.7% (561) were truck drivers, heavy & tractor-trailer.

An estimated 9,881 (7.6%) new hires could not be placed into any particular region and made up the balance of state in Table 3. Of those, an estimated 581 (5.9%) worked as retail salespersons, 5.2% (513) worked as truck drivers, heavy & tractor-trailer, and an estimated 3.8% (372) were cashiers.

### **Occupations by Industry and Region**

Another way to use the new hires data is to look at how a single occupation is dispersed across industries or regions. For example, Figure 2 (see page 9) shows the proportion of all truck drivers, heavy & tractor-trailer, hired in each industry. As expected, the largest proportion of truck drivers was hired by businesses in the

(Text continued on page 9)

Table 3: Top 5 Occupations for New Hires for Each Region in Wyoming, 2010Q4-2011Q3

Region	SOC Code	Occupation	Estimated	
			New Hires	Region %
Northwest Region	37-2012	Maids & Housekeeping Cleaners	814	4.2
	53-3032	Truck Drivers, Heavy & Tractor-Trailer	694	3.6
	35-3011	Bartenders	675	3.5
	43-9061	Office Clerks, General	644	3.3
	41-2031	Retail Salespersons	590	3.1
<b>Total All Occupations</b>			<b>19,278</b>	<b>14.9</b>
Southwest Region	53-3032	Truck Drivers, Heavy & Tractor-Trailer	1,820	6.3
	41-2011	Cashiers	1,485	5.2
	47-5071	Roustabouts, Oil & Gas	1,142	4.0
	37-2012	Maids & Housekeeping Cleaners	1,109	3.9
	41-2031	Retail Salespersons	968	3.4
<b>Total All Occupations</b>			<b>28,769</b>	<b>22.2</b>
Northeast Region	53-3032	Truck Drivers, Heavy & Tractor-Trailer	1,073	5.2
	41-2031	Retail Salespersons	756	3.6
	47-5071	Roustabouts, Oil & Gas	754	3.6
	43-9061	Office Clerks, General	748	3.6
	47-2061	Construction Laborers	744	3.6
<b>Total All Occupations</b>			<b>20,714</b>	<b>16.0</b>
Central-Southeast Region	37-2012	Maids & Housekeeping Cleaners	1,095	6.4
	41-2011	Cashiers	894	5.2
	35-3031	Waiters & Waitresses	653	3.8
	43-9061	Office Clerks, General	646	3.8
	41-2031	Retail Salespersons	635	3.7
<b>Total All Occupations</b>			<b>17,034</b>	<b>13.2</b>
Casper MSA	43-9061	Office Clerks, General	1,032	5.6
	41-2031	Retail Salespersons	787	4.3
	53-3032	Truck Drivers, Heavy & Tractor-Trailer	676	3.7
	35-9021	Dishwashers	672	3.6
	41-2011	Cashiers	509	2.8
<b>Total All Occupations</b>			<b>18,483</b>	<b>14.3</b>
Cheyenne MSA	41-2031	Retail Salespersons	753	5.0
	43-9061	Office Clerks, General	612	4.0
	53-3032	Truck Drivers, Heavy & Tractor-Trailer	561	3.7
	35-3021	Combined Food Prep. & Serving Workers, Incl. Fast Food	531	3.5
	41-2011	Cashiers	412	2.7
<b>Total All Occupations</b>			<b>15,194</b>	<b>11.7</b>
Other (Balance of State)	41-2031	Retail Salespersons	581	5.9
	53-3032	Truck Drivers, Heavy & Tractor-Trailer	513	5.2
	41-2011	Cashiers	372	3.8
	37-2012	Maids & Housekeeping Cleaners	351	3.6
	35-3021	Combined Food Prep. & Serving Workers, Incl. Fast Food	338	3.4
<b>Total All Occupations</b>			<b>9,881</b>	<b>7.6</b>
<b>Total, All Regions</b>			<b>129,353</b>	<b>100.0</b>

(Text continued from page 7)

natural resources & mining industries (25.6%), followed by the construction industry (12.4%).

Figure 3 (see page 10) shows how these same truck drivers were employed across state planning regions. As expected, the largest proportions of truck drivers were found in the Southwest region (31.1%) and in the Northeast region (18.4%), as those are the two regions with the highest proportion of energy production-related jobs. In comparison, only 11.9% of truck drivers were hired by employers in the Northwest region of the state and 8.7% were employed in the Central-Southeast region.

### More on New Hires

Research & Planning has collected two full years' worth of data on Wyoming new hires. The first year of data covers 2009Q4 through 2010Q3, when Wyoming was in the midst of an economic downturn. The most recent data cover 2010Q4 through 2011Q3, when the state began to recover from this downturn. A future article will compare and contrast these two periods.

Additional articles will look at other aspects of the jobs for which people have been hired, such as wages, hours worked,

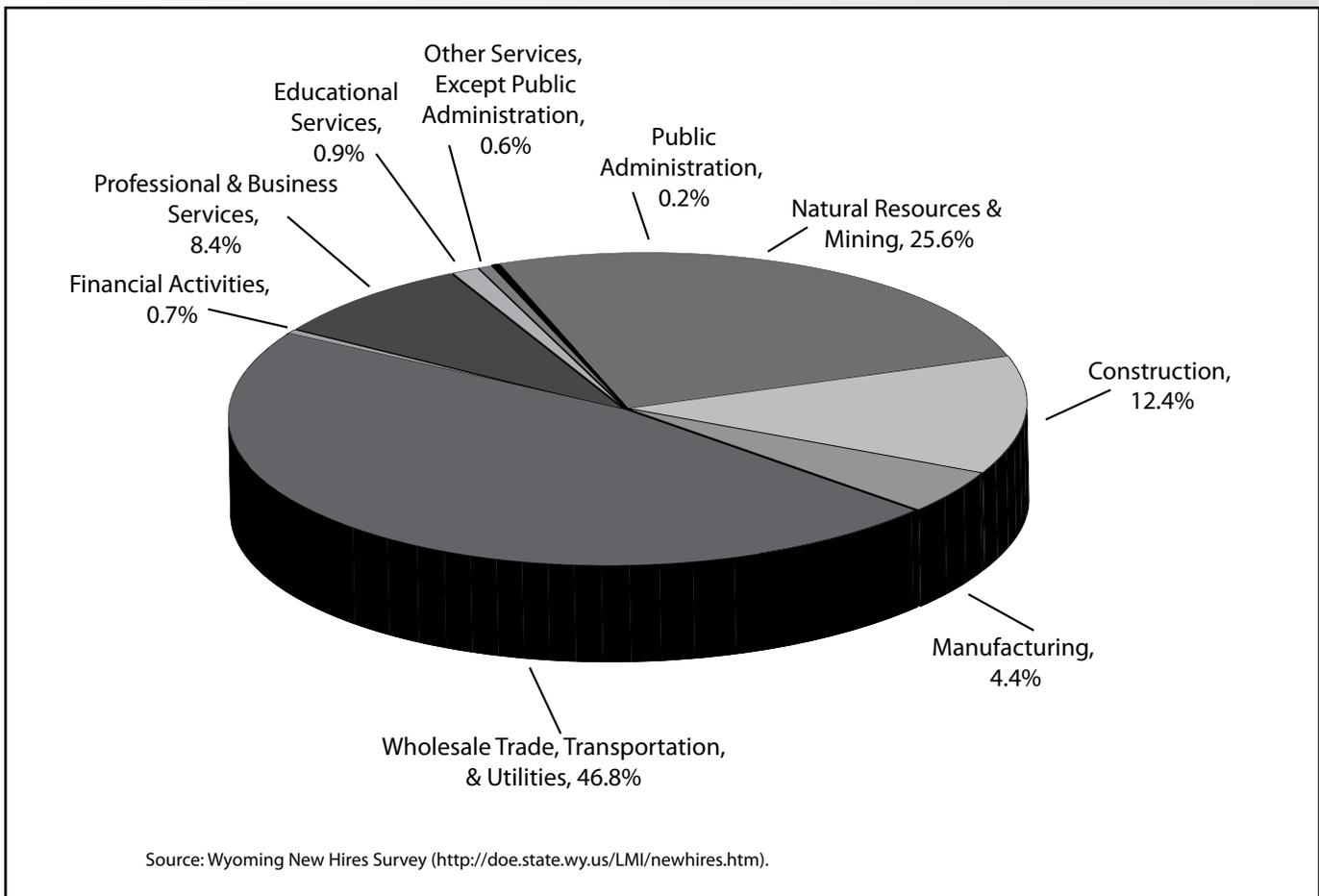


Figure 2: Newly Hired Truck Drivers, Heavy & Tractor-Trailer, in Wyoming by Industry, 2011

demographics, turnover, and more.

The data gathered through the New Hires survey are available online at <http://doe.state.wy.us/LMI/newhires.htm>.

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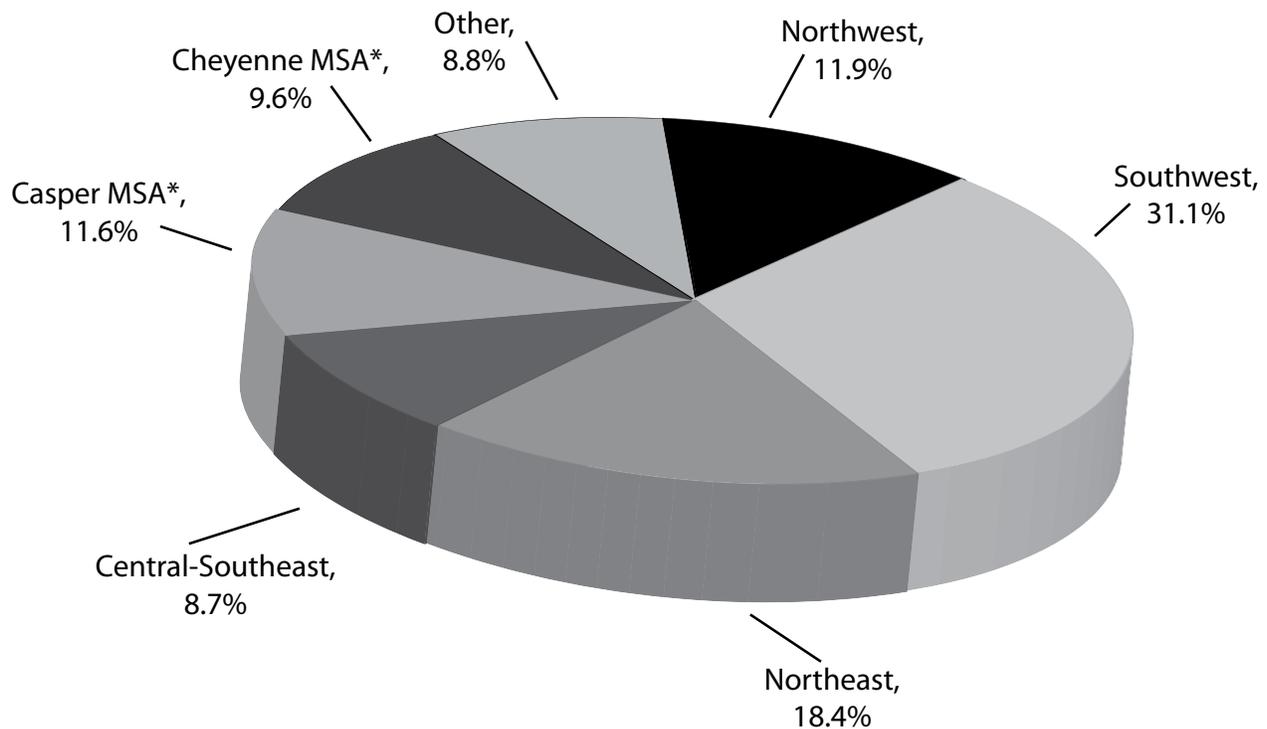
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\* Metropolitan Statistical Area.

Source: Wyoming New Hires Survey (<http://doe.state.wy.us/LMI/newhires.htm>).

Figure 3: Newly Hired Truck Drivers, Heavy & Tractor-Trailer, in Wyoming by Region, 2011

## Latest Occupational Wage Data Now Available

by: Deana Hauf, Senior Statistician

The most recent occupational wage data for Wyoming are now available for statewide, regional, and county levels at <http://doe.state.wy.us/LMI/oes.htm>.

These data are from the Occupational Employment Statistics (OES) program, which provides employment and wage estimates by area and by industry for wage and salary workers in 22 major occupational groups and nearly 800 detailed occupations. Wage data have been updated to the March 2012 Employment Cost Index (ECI).

Of the 15 highest paying occupations in Wyoming, 11 were health care professionals, three were management occupations and one was in sales (see Table 1). These occupations have a total employment of 2,160, less than 1.0% of the statewide total of 272,570. The wages for these occupations ranged from \$51.72 to \$125.38 an hour, a difference of \$73.66.

The 15 lowest paying occupations in Wyoming were in food preparation and serving related (9), personal care and service (3), building cleaning (1),

**Table 1: Employment and Wages for Wyoming's 15 Highest- and 15 Lowest-Paying Occupations, March 2012**

Occupational Title	Employment	Mean Hourly Wage (\$)
<b>Lowest-Paying Occupations</b>		
Counter Attendants, Cafeteria, Food Concession, & Coffee Shop	930	\$8.53
Dining Room & Cafeteria Att. & Bartender Helpers	530	8.53
Manicurists & Pedicurists	40	8.55
Waiters & Waitresses	4,690	9.03
Combined Food Prep. & Serving Workers, Incl. Fast Food	4,540	9.15
Bartenders	1,930	9.17
Hosts & Hostesses, Restaurant, Lounge, & Coffee Shop	620	9.17
Dishwashers	1,320	9.22
Cooks, Fast Food	970	9.42
Maids & Housekeeping Cleaners	3,500	9.50
Ushers, Lobby Attendants, & Ticket Takers	50	9.59
Floor Sanders & Finishers		9.68
Motion Picture Projectionists	40	9.70
Helpers—Painters, Paperhangers, Plasterers, & Stucco Masons		9.77
Cooks, Short Order	70	9.78
<b>Highest-Paying Occupations</b>		
Industrial Production Managers	230	\$51.72
Podiatrists	10	56.22
Compensation & Benefits Managers	10	56.75
Sales Representatives, Wholesale & Manufacturing, Technical & Scientific Products	370	57.40
Pediatricians, General	70	67.66
Chief Executives	300	68.44
Dentists, General	170	73.34
Dentists, All Other Specialists	10	82.78
Psychiatrists	50	83.28
Family & General Practitioners	400	91.33
Internists, General	90	98.86
Physicians and Surgeons, All Other	240	103.88
Obstetricians and Gynecologists	40	122.06
Surgeons	100	125.14
Anesthesiologists	70	125.38

Blank cells are not available or not disclosable.

and construction occupations (2). The lowest paying occupations had a much smaller wage spread than the highest paying occupations. The wages for these 15 occupations range from \$8.53 to \$9.78 an hour, a difference of just \$1.25.

The 15 lowest-paying occupations accounted for 7.1% (19,230) of the state's total employment. Waiters & waitresses was one of the top 10 highest employing occupations for Wyoming, with 4,690.

This occupation was also one of the top 10 highest employing occupations in the U.S. (see Table 2).

Occupational profiles for all occupations and states are available from the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics at <http://www.bls.gov/oes/current/oesrrest.htm>.

The Employment Cost Index website can be found at: <http://www.bls.gov/news.release/eci.toc.htm>

**Table 2: Top 10 Occupations for Wyoming and the U.S. by Total Employment, May 2011**

Rank	SOC <sup>1</sup> Code	Occupational Title	Employment	Mean Hourly Wage <sup>2</sup> (\$)
<b>Wyoming</b>				
1	41-2031	Retail Salespersons	7,900	12.09
2	53-3032	Truck Drivers, Heavy & Tractor-Trailer	6,150	20.80
3	41-2011	Cashiers	5,810	9.72
4	43-6014	Secretaries & Administrative Assistants, Except Legal, Medical, & Executive	5,760	14.64
5	47-2073	Operating Engineers & Other Construction Equipment Operators	5,600	23.04
6	11-1021	General & Operations Managers	5,190	41.96
7	29-1111	Registered Nurses	4,800	29.29
8	43-3031	Bookkeeping, Accounting, & Auditing Clerks	4,700	16.79
9	35-3031	Waiters & Waitresses	4,690	8.94
10	37-2011	Janitors & Cleaners, Except Maids & Housekeeping Cleaners	4,550	12.53
<b>Total, All Occupations</b>			<b>272,570</b>	<b>\$20.44</b>
<b>U.S.</b>				
1	41-2031	Retail Salespersons	4,270,550	12.08
2	41-2011	Cashiers	3,314,870	9.73
3	43-9061	Office Clerks, General	2,828,140	13.90
4	35-3021	Combined Food Preparation & Serving Workers, Including Fast Food	2,799,430	9.03
5	29-1111	Registered Nurses	2,724,570	33.23
6	35-3031	Waiters & Waitresses	2,289,010	10.05
7	43-4051	Customer Service Representatives	2,212,820	15.92
8	37-2011	Janitors & Cleaners, Except Maids & Housekeeping Cleaners	2,068,460	11.94
9	53-7062	Laborers & Freight, Stock, & Material Movers, Hand	2,063,580	12.62
10	43-6014	Secretaries & Administrative Assistants, Except Legal, Medical, & Executive	1,955,570	15.87
<b>Total, All Occupations</b>			<b>128,278,550</b>	<b>\$21.74</b>

<sup>1</sup>Standard Occupational Classification System.

<sup>2</sup>The wages in this table have not been updated to the March 2012 Employment Cost Index.

Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

## Wyoming Employment Grows from 2010 to 2011

by: Michael Moore, Associate Editor

Wyoming's total employment grew by 3,506 (1.0%) from 2010 to 2011, an indication that the state continued to recover from the recent economic downturn (see Table 1). However, most of this growth was due to the increase in the number of workers classified as "unknown." These are typically nonresident workers who do not possess a Wyoming driver's license, and for whom demographic data are not available. These may be nonresident workers temporarily working in the natural resources & mining or leisure & hospitality industries, or recent transplants to the state who have not yet obtained a Wyoming driver's license.

The number of females (-2,273, or -1.7%) and males (-3,168, or -2.0%) working in Wyoming decreased from 2010 to 2011. A substantial increase of nonresident workers (8,947, or 16.6%) kept Wyoming's total employment from declining for the third consecutive year.

The addition of older workers and nonresidents offset the loss of workers in all other age groups. Wyoming added 1,065 (2.3%) workers in the 55-64 age group and 474 (3.7%) workers age 65 and older. A significant decline was seen among workers in the 45-54 age group (-2,935, or -4.6%).

The number of workers age 24 and under in Wyoming reached a 20-year low in 2011. In 2008, prior to the downturn, there were 64,754 workers age 24 or under working in Wyoming. Total employment for this age group plummeted over the next three years, and in 2011 there were 13,568 fewer people in this

Table 1: Total Employment in Wyoming by Gender and Age Group, 2010 to 2011

	2010	2011	Change	
			N	%
<b>Gender</b>				
Female	136,406	134,133	-2,273	-1.7%
Male	160,679	157,511	-3,168	-2.0%
Unknown	53,836	62,783	8,947	16.6%
<b>Total</b>	<b>350,921</b>	<b>354,427</b>	<b>3,506</b>	<b>1.0%</b>
<b>Age</b>				
19 and Under	20,277	19,274	-1,003	-4.9%
20-24	33,282	31,912	-1,370	-4.1%
25-34	67,561	66,417	-1,144	-1.7%
35-44	55,465	54,917	-548	-1.0%
45-54	63,353	60,418	-2,935	-4.6%
55-64	46,430	47,495	1,065	2.3%
65 and Older	12,875	13,349	474	3.7%
Unknown	51,678	60,645	8,967	17.4%
<b>Total</b>	<b>350,921</b>	<b>354,427</b>	<b>3,506</b>	<b>1.0%</b>

age group working in Wyoming (-21.0%; see Figure 1, page 14) compared to 2008. The 2011 total of 51,186 represents the smallest amount of workers age 24 or under in Wyoming dating back to 1992, the earliest year for which R&P has comparable records.

### Gender Wage Gap

The wage gap between males and females in Wyoming continued to widen in 2011 as the state continued to recover from the recent economic downturn (see Figure 2, page 14). In 2009, females were paid 61.1 cents for every dollar paid to males. By 2011, females were paid 58.5 cents for every dollar paid to males.

Wage disparity in Wyoming has historically been linked to the types of jobs offered to males and females. Males often are hired for jobs in industries that offer higher pay and more hours, such as natural resources & mining and construction. When the economy contracts, as was the case in 2009 and 2010, many males who are employed in these industries lose their jobs, which results in a narrowing of the wage gap.

The gender wage gap was widest in Sweetwater

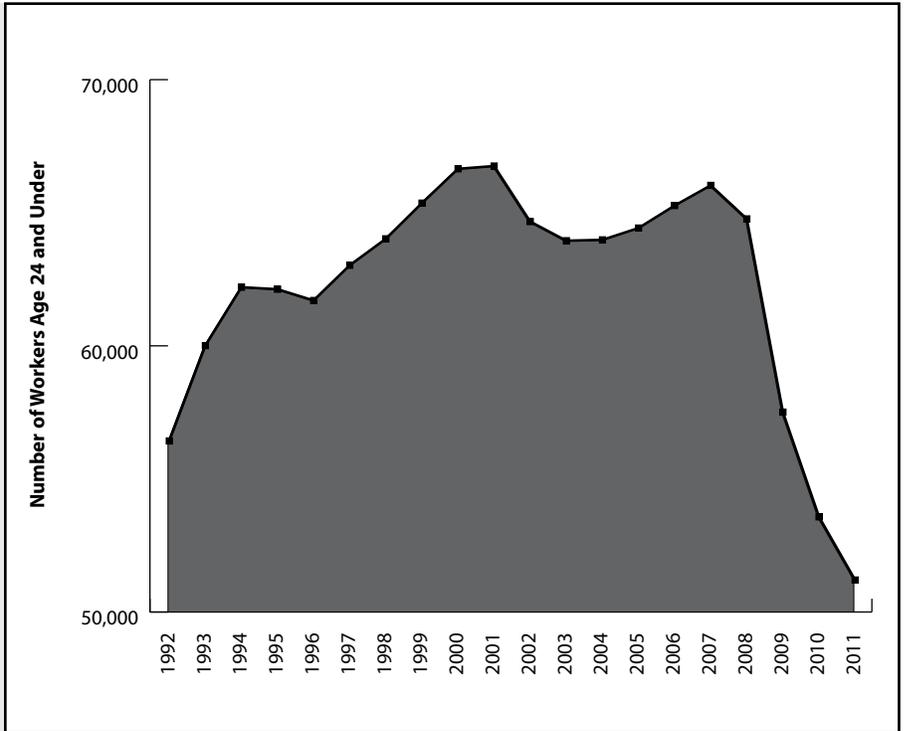


Figure 1: Number of Wyoming Workers Age 24 and Under, 1992 to 2011

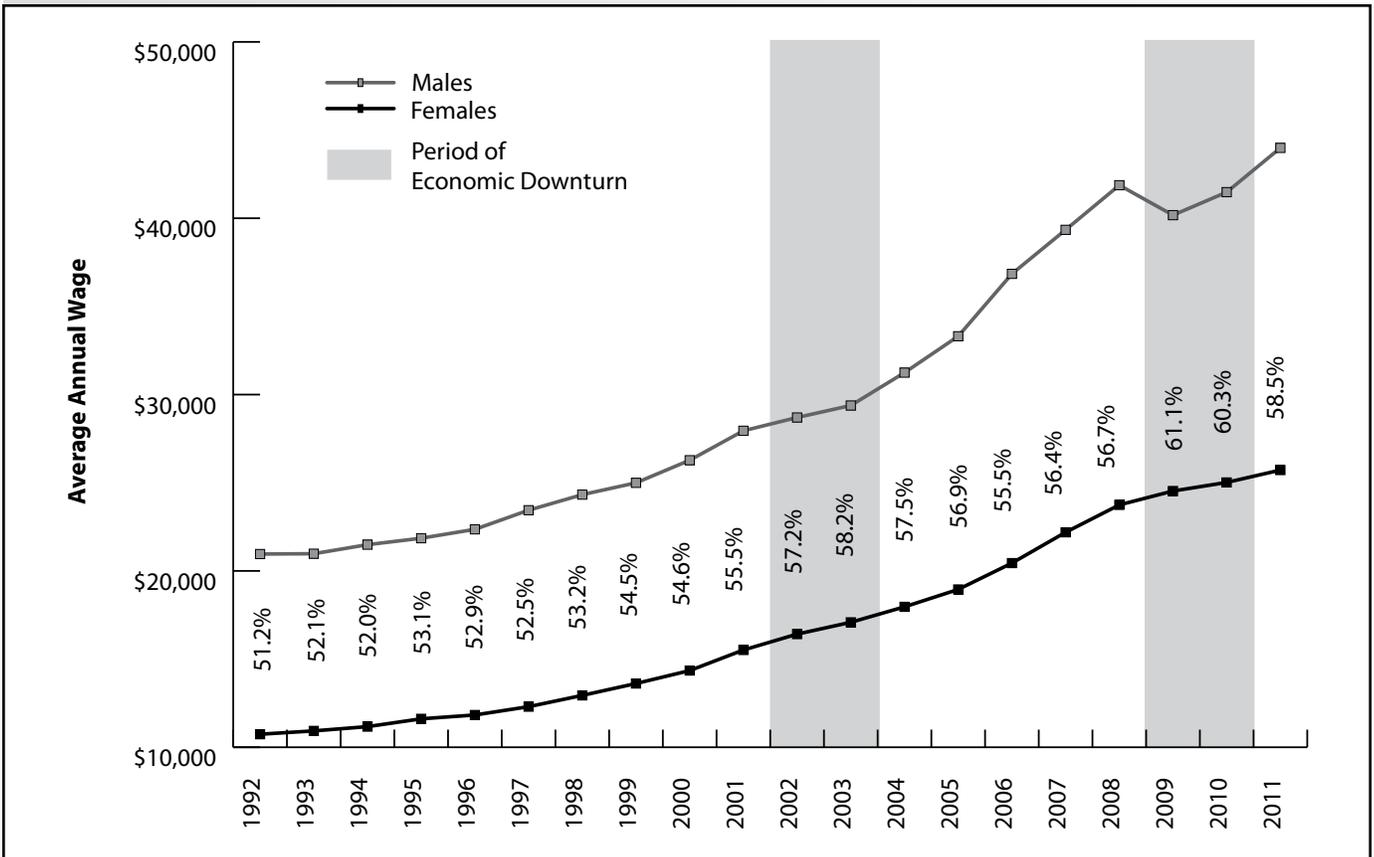


Figure 2: Average Annual Wages for Males and Females Working in Wyoming and the Gender Wage Gap, 1992 to 2011

County, where females earned just 45.9% of males' wages, or 45.9 cents per every dollar paid to males. Other counties in which females earned considerably less than males were Lincoln (48.3%), Sublette (49.7%), Weston (50.9%), and Uinta (51.6%) counties.

In Teton County, females earned 77.4% of the wages earned by males in 2011. The only other counties in which females earned 70% or higher of males' wages were Niobrara (75.6%), Laramie (74.1%), and Goshen (72.6%) counties.

### Industry Changes

Several industries grew in total employment from 2010 to 2011. The most substantial growth was seen in Wyoming's natural resources & mining industry (3,251, or 9.2%). Significant increases were

also seen in wholesale trade, transportation, & utilities (1,022, or 4.3%) and professional & business services (954, or 3.8%).

Employment in Wyoming's construction industry declined by 7.7% (-3,174) over the year. Employment in this industry has declined consistently since 2009. The only other significant decline was found in information (-176, or -3.4%). Marginal declines of less than 1.0% were seen in retail trade (-0.3%), financial activities (-0.8%), and public administration (-0.7%).

Wyoming wages by county, industry, age, and gender are available from 1992-2011 at [http://doe.state.wy.us/LMI/earnings\\_tables/2012/index.htm](http://doe.state.wy.us/LMI/earnings_tables/2012/index.htm).

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## Occupation Spotlight

There are an estimated 1,070 workers classified as plumbers, pipefitters, and steamfitters in Wyoming.

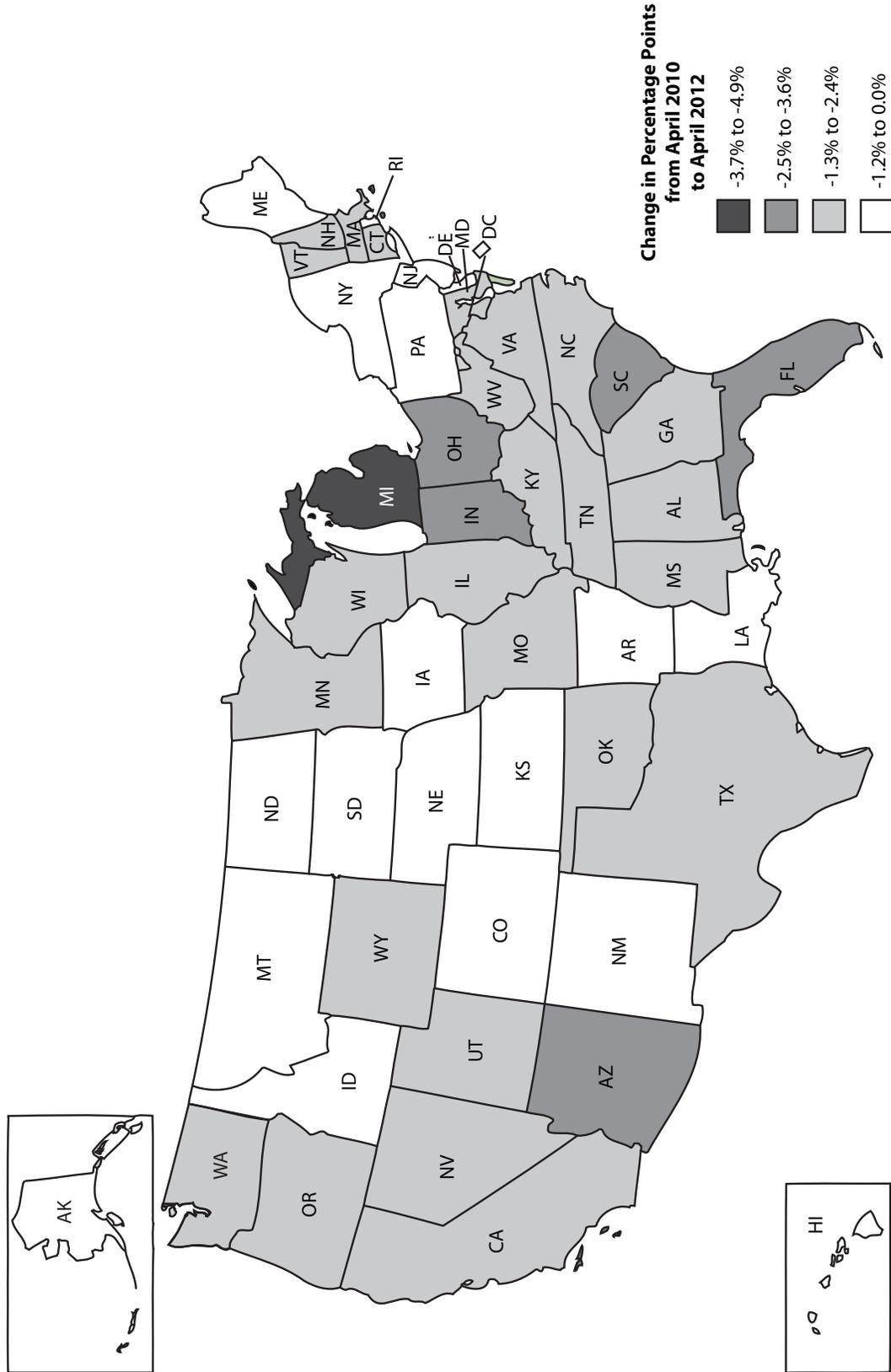
According to the Occupational Employment Statistics (OES) survey, workers in this occupation in Wyoming earn a mean wage of \$22.25 per hour. Those in the 90th percentile earn \$30.46 per hour.

Wage data for specific occupations are available online at <http://doe.state.wy.us/LMI/oes.htm>. Click on the "Statewide, Regional and MSA Data (estimates for Wyoming wages for May 2011 updated using March 2012 Employment Cost Index)."



**Plumbers,  
Pipefitters, and  
Steamfitters**

# Twelve-Month Percentage Point Change in Seasonally Adjusted Unemployment Rates by State, April 2010 to April 2012



Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, Local Area Unemployment Statistics program. Extracted June 18, 2012.

# Wyoming Jobless Rate Unchanged at 5.3% in April 2012

by: David Bullard, Senior Economist

The Research & Planning section of the Wyoming Department of Workforce Services has reported that the state's seasonally adjusted<sup>1</sup> unemployment rate held steady at 5.3% in April. It decreased considerably from its year-ago level of 6.0% and remained significantly lower than the current U.S. rate of 8.1%. Seasonally adjusted employment of Wyoming residents was essentially unchanged from March to April (-37 individuals, or 0.0%), but rose significantly from a year earlier (an increase of 5,306 individuals, or 1.9%).

Most county unemployment rates decreased from March to April. Teton County was the exception, where the unemployment rate rose from 6.6% in March to 11.2% in April. It is normal for Teton County's jobless rate to increase in April as that month marks the end of the winter tourist season.

Teton County posted the highest unemployment rate in April (11.2%). It was followed by Lincoln (8.5%), Fremont (6.6%), and Johnson (6.4%) counties. The lowest jobless rates were found in Sublette (3.4%), Campbell (4.1%), and Albany (4.1%) counties.

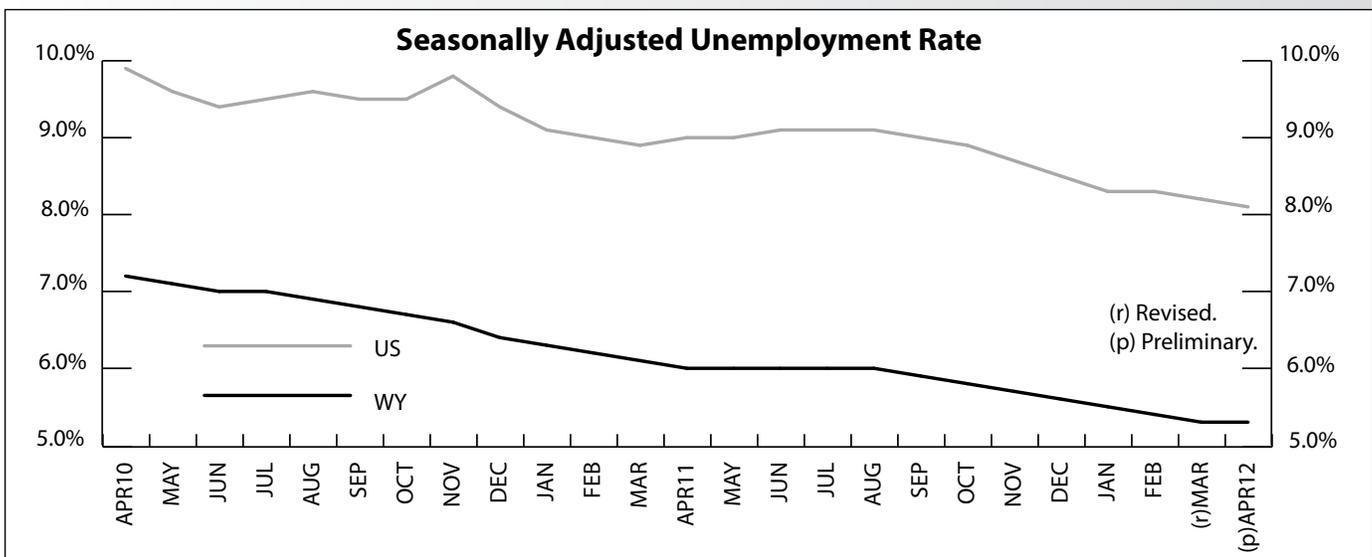
Compared to a year earlier, jobless rates decreased in most areas of the state. Large decreases were seen in Teton (down from 13.4% to 11.2%), Johnson (down from 7.8% to 6.4%), Lincoln (down from 9.6% to 8.5%), and Carbon (down from 6.8% to 5.8%) counties. Unemployment rates increased slightly in Niobrara (up from 4.2% to 4.7%), Washakie (up from 5.5% to 5.8%), and Platte (up from 5.3% to 5.5%) counties.

Total nonfarm employment (measured by place of work) increased from 279,300 in April 2011 to 280,700 in April 2012, a gain of 1,400 jobs (0.5%).



Research & Planning Wyoming DWS

<sup>1</sup> 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, April 2012

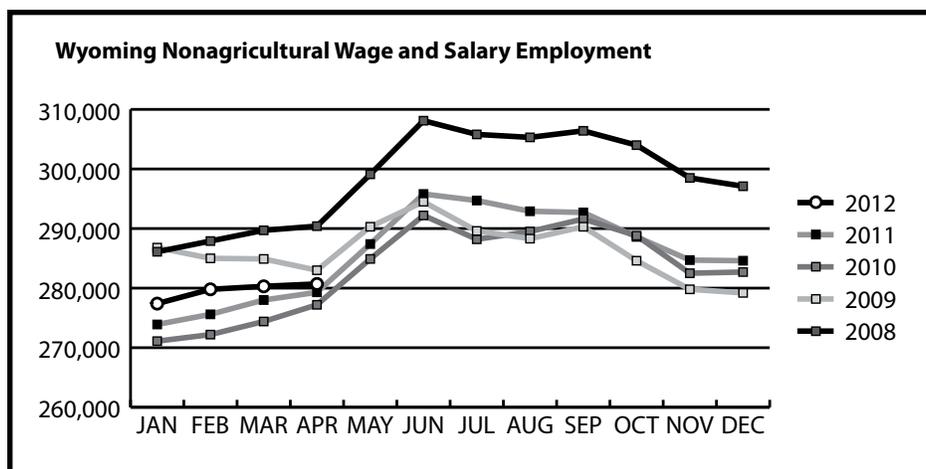
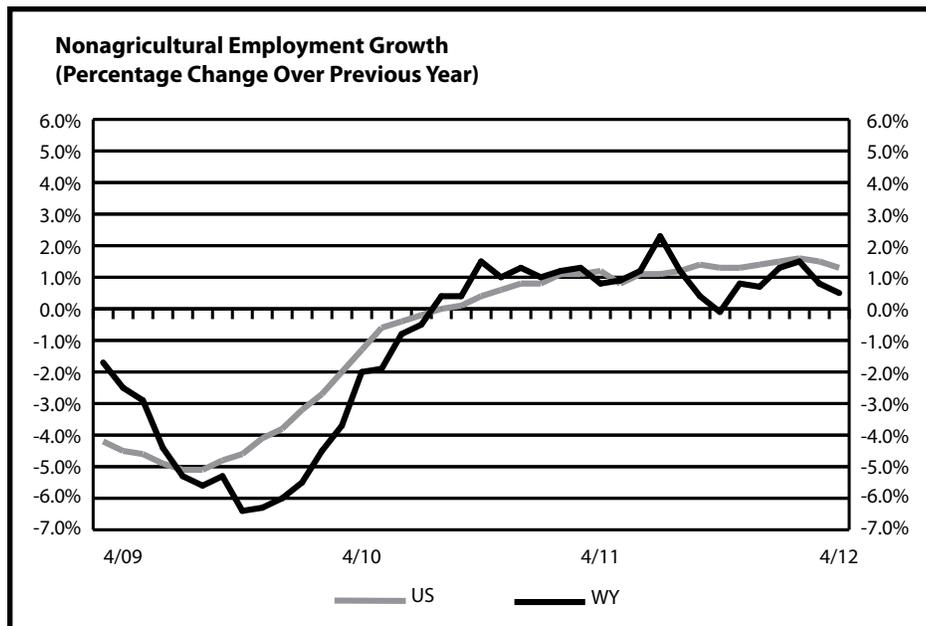
by: David Bullard, Senior Economist

Industry Sector	Research & Planning's Short-Term Projections	Current Employment Statistics (CES) Estimates	N Difference	% Difference
<b>Total Nonfarm Employment</b>	<b>285,858</b>	<b>280,700</b>	<b>-5,158</b>	<b>-1.8%</b>
Natural Resources & Mining	28,016	27,200	-816	-3.0%
Construction	20,593	19,600	-993	-5.1%
Manufacturing	9,186	9,000	-186	-2.1%
Wholesale Trade	9,218	9,200	-18	-0.2%
Retail Trade	28,184	28,900	716	2.5%
Transportation & Utilities	14,607	13,900	-707	-5.1%
Information	3,820	3,900	80	2.1%
Financial Activities	10,642	10,500	-142	-1.4%
Professional & Business Services	18,145	17,500	-645	-3.7%
Educational & Health Services	26,863	26,500	-363	-1.4%
Leisure & Hospitality	30,302	28,300	-2,002	-7.1%
Other Services	11,878	11,800	-78	-0.7%
Government	74,404	74,400	-4	0.0%

Projections run in January 2012 and based on QCEW Data through December 2011.

## State Unemployment Rates April 2012 (Seasonally Adjusted)

State	Unemp. Rate
Puerto Rico	14.8
Nevada	11.7
Rhode Island	11.2
California	10.9
District of Columbia	9.5
North Carolina	9.4
New Jersey	9.1
Georgia	8.9
South Carolina	8.8
Mississippi	8.7
Illinois	8.7
Florida	8.7
Oregon	8.5
New York	8.5
Michigan	8.3
Kentucky	8.3
Arizona	8.2
Washington	8.1
<b>United States</b>	<b>8.1</b>
Indiana	7.9
Colorado	7.9
Tennessee	7.8
Idaho	7.7
Connecticut	7.7
Pennsylvania	7.4
Ohio	7.4
Missouri	7.3
Maine	7.2
Arkansas	7.2
Alabama	7.2
Louisiana	7.1
Texas	6.9
New Mexico	6.9
Alaska	6.9
Delaware	6.8
Wisconsin	6.7
West Virginia	6.7
Maryland	6.7
Massachusetts	6.3
Hawaii	6.3
Montana	6.1
Kansas	6.1
Utah	6.0
Virginia	5.6
Minnesota	5.6
<b>Wyoming</b>	<b>5.3</b>
Iowa	5.1
Oklahoma	5.0
New Hampshire	5.0
Vermont	4.6
South Dakota	4.3
Nebraska	3.9
North Dakota	3.0



# Wyoming Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment

by: David Bullard, Senior Economist

	Employment in Thousands			% Change Total Employment	
	Apr 12	Mar 12	Apr 11	Mar 12	Apr 11
	12	12	11	12	12
<b>CAMPBELL COUNTY</b>					
<b>TOTAL NONAG. WAGE &amp; SALARY EMPLOYMENT</b>	<b>29.0</b>	<b>28.5</b>	<b>27.7</b>	<b>1.8</b>	<b>4.7</b>
<b>TOTAL PRIVATE</b>	<b>24.0</b>	<b>23.5</b>	<b>22.9</b>	<b>2.1</b>	<b>4.8</b>
<b>GOODS PRODUCING</b>	<b>11.3</b>	<b>11.1</b>	<b>10.8</b>	<b>1.8</b>	<b>4.6</b>
Natural Resources & Mining	8.6	8.5	8.0	1.2	7.5
Construction	2.2	2.1	2.3	4.8	-4.3
Manufacturing	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.0	0.0
<b>SERVICE PROVIDING</b>	<b>17.7</b>	<b>17.4</b>	<b>16.9</b>	<b>1.7</b>	<b>4.7</b>
Trade, Transport., & Utilities	5.6	5.6	5.4	0.0	3.7
Information	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.0	0.0
Financial Activities	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.0	0.0
Professional & Bus. Services	1.9	1.8	1.7	5.6	11.8
Educational & Health Serv.	1.0	1.0	1.0	0.0	0.0
Leisure & Hospitality	2.1	2.0	2.0	5.0	5.0
Other Services	1.2	1.1	1.1	9.1	9.1
<b>GOVERNMENT</b>	<b>5.0</b>	<b>5.0</b>	<b>4.8</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>4.2</b>

	Employment in Thousands			% Change Total Employment	
	Apr 12	Mar 12	Apr 11	Mar 12	Apr 11
	12	12	11	12	12
<b>SWEETWATER COUNTY</b>					
<b>TOTAL NONAG. WAGE &amp; SALARY EMPLOYMENT</b>	<b>25.6</b>	<b>25.5</b>	<b>24.9</b>	<b>0.4</b>	<b>2.8</b>
<b>TOTAL PRIVATE</b>	<b>20.6</b>	<b>20.5</b>	<b>20.0</b>	<b>0.5</b>	<b>3.0</b>
<b>GOODS PRODUCING</b>	<b>9.2</b>	<b>9.1</b>	<b>8.6</b>	<b>1.1</b>	<b>7.0</b>
Natural Resources & Mining	6.1	6.1	5.7	0.0	7.0
Construction	1.7	1.6	1.6	6.2	6.2
Manufacturing	1.4	1.4	1.3	0.0	7.7
<b>SERVICE PROVIDING</b>	<b>16.4</b>	<b>16.4</b>	<b>16.3</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.6</b>
Trade, Transport., & Utilities	5.1	5.1	5.0	0.0	2.0
Information	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.0	0.0
Financial Activities	0.8	0.8	0.9	0.0	-11.1
Professional & Bus. Services	1.2	1.2	1.3	0.0	-7.7
Educational & Health Serv.	1.0	1.0	1.1	0.0	-9.1
Leisure & Hospitality	2.4	2.4	2.2	0.0	9.1
Other Services	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.0	0.0
<b>GOVERNMENT</b>	<b>5.0</b>	<b>5.0</b>	<b>4.9</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>2.0</b>

	Employment in Thousands			% Change Total Employment	
	Apr 12	Mar 12	Apr 11	Mar 12	Apr 11
	12	12	11	12	12
<b>TETON COUNTY</b>					
<b>TOTAL NONAG. WAGE &amp; SALARY EMPLOYMENT</b>	<b>14.6</b>	<b>16.0</b>	<b>13.7</b>	<b>-8.7</b>	<b>6.6</b>
<b>TOTAL PRIVATE</b>	<b>12.3</b>	<b>13.6</b>	<b>11.4</b>	<b>-9.6</b>	<b>7.9</b>
<b>GOODS PRODUCING</b>	<b>1.7</b>	<b>1.6</b>	<b>1.4</b>	<b>6.3</b>	<b>21.4</b>
Nat. Res., Mining & Const.	1.6	1.5	1.3	6.7	23.1
Manufacturing	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.0
<b>SERVICE PROVIDING</b>	<b>12.9</b>	<b>14.4</b>	<b>12.3</b>	<b>-10.4</b>	<b>4.9</b>
Trade, Transport., & Utilities	2.0	2.1	2.0	-4.8	0.0
Information	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.0	0.0
Financial Activities	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.0	0.0
Professional & Bus. Services	1.4	1.3	1.3	7.7	7.7
Educational & Health Serv.	0.9	1.0	0.9	-10.0	0.0
Leisure & Hospitality	5.0	6.3	4.5	-20.6	11.1
Other Services	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.0	0.0
<b>GOVERNMENT</b>	<b>2.3</b>	<b>2.4</b>	<b>2.3</b>	<b>-4.2</b>	<b>0.0</b>

## State Unemployment Rates April 2012 (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

State	Unemp. Rate
Puerto Rico	14.2
Nevada	11.5
Rhode Island	11.1
California	10.5
New Jersey	9.1
North Carolina	9.1
Georgia	8.7
Illinois	8.6
Oregon	8.5
South Carolina	8.5
District of Columbia	8.3
Florida	8.3
Mississippi	8.3
New York	8.1
Colorado	8.0
Michigan	8.0
Washington	7.9
Idaho	7.8
Kentucky	7.8
Indiana	7.7
<b>United States</b>	<b>7.7</b>
Tennessee	7.6
Arizona	7.5
Connecticut	7.5
Maine	7.4
Alaska	7.3
Ohio	7.3
Pennsylvania	7.0
West Virginia	7.0
Arkansas	6.9
Missouri	6.9
Delaware	6.8
Wisconsin	6.8
Alabama	6.7
Maryland	6.5
Texas	6.5
Louisiana	6.4
Montana	6.3
New Mexico	6.2
Hawaii	6.0
Utah	6.0
Massachusetts	5.9
Kansas	5.8
<b>Wyoming</b>	<b>5.6</b>
Virginia	5.4
Minnesota	5.2
Iowa	5.1
Vermont	5.0
New Hampshire	4.7
Oklahoma	4.4
South Dakota	4.3
Nebraska	3.7
North Dakota	3.1

## Economic Indicators

by: Margaret Hiatt, Administrative/Survey Support Specialist

*Benefits paid by Wyoming unemployment insurance fell by 21.3% from April 2011 to April 2012.*

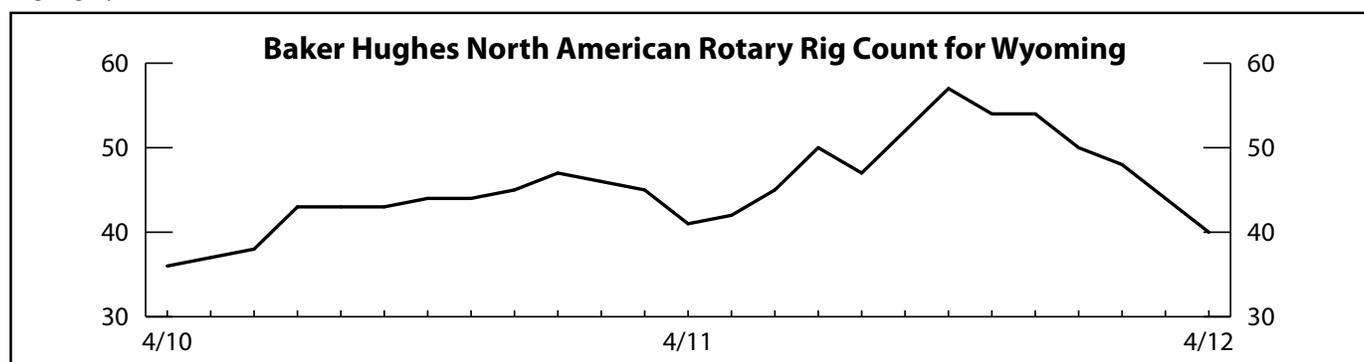
	Apr 2012 (p)	Mar 2012 (r)	Apr 2011 (b)	Percent Change Month	Percent Change Year
<b>Wyoming Total Nonfarm Employment</b>	<b>280,700</b>	<b>280,300</b>	<b>279,300</b>	<b>0.1</b>	<b>0.5</b>
Wyoming State Government	17,500	17,400	17,400	0.6	0.6
Laramie County Nonfarm Employment	45,000	44,900	44,100	0.2	2.0
Natrona County Nonfarm Employment	41,100	40,900	39,200	0.5	4.8
<b>Selected U.S. Employment Data</b>					
U.S. Multiple Jobholders	6,947,000	7,052,000	6,887,000	-1.5	0.9
As a percent of all workers	4.9%	5.0%	4.9%	N/A	N/A
U.S. Discouraged Workers	968,000	865,000	989,000	11.9	-2.1
U.S. Part Time for Economic Reasons	7,694,000	7,867,000	8,425,000	-2.2	-8.7
<b>Wyoming Unemployment Insurance</b>					
Weeks Compensated	20,680	24,780	27,339	-16.5	-24.4
Benefits Paid	\$6,912,673	\$8,323,950	\$8,781,163	-17.0	-21.3
Average Weekly Benefit Payment	\$334.27	\$335.91	\$321.20	-0.5	4.1
State Insured Covered Jobs <sup>1</sup>	262,470	261,927	255,477	0.2	2.7
Insured Unemployment Rate	2.8%	3.3%	2.9%	N/A	N/A
<b>Consumer Price Index (U) for All U.S. Urban Consumers</b> (1982 to 1984 = 100)					
All Items	230.1	229.4	224.9	0.3	2.3
Food & Beverages	223.1	232.7	226.2	-4.1	-1.4
Housing	221.7	221.5	217.9	0.1	1.7
Apparel	128.5	127.3	122.2	1.0	5.1
Transportation	223.1	220.8	216.9	1.0	2.9
Medical Care	412.5	411.5	398.8	0.2	3.4
Recreation (Dec. 1997=100)	114.7	114.7	113.4	0.0	1.1
Education & Communication (Dec. 1997=100)	133.3	113.2	130.6	17.7	2.0
Other Goods & Services	393.3	392.4	386.2	0.2	1.8
Producer Prices (1982 to 1984 = 100)					
All Commodities	203.9	204.3	203.1	-0.2	0.4
<b>Wyo. Bldg. Permits (New Privately Owned Housing Units Authorized)</b>					
Total Units	156	277	152	-43.7	2.6
Valuation	\$35,893,000	\$45,313,000	\$38,594,000	-20.8	-7.0
Single Family Homes	140	130	142	7.7	-1.4
Valuation	\$34,612,000	\$35,460,000	\$37,616,000	-2.4	-8.0
Casper MSA <sup>2</sup> Building Permits	17	137	17	-87.6	0.0
Valuation	\$3,473,000	\$10,993,000	\$2,605,000	-68.4	33.3
Cheyenne MSA Building Permits	28	38	16	-26.3	75.0
Valuation	\$4,446,000	\$4,755,000	\$2,876,000	-6.5	54.6
<b>Baker Hughes North American Rotary Rig Count for Wyoming</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>44</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>-9.1</b>	<b>-2.4</b>

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

<sup>1</sup>Local Area Unemployment Statistics Program estimates.

<sup>2</sup>Metropolitan 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

From April 2011 to April 2012, unemployment rates increased slightly in Niobrara, Washakie, and Platte counties.

REGION County	Labor Force			Employed			Unemployed			Unemployment Rates		
	Apr 2012 (p)	Mar 2012 (r)	Apr 2011 (b)									
<b>NORTHWEST</b>	<b>47,410</b>	<b>46,658</b>	<b>46,239</b>	<b>44,498</b>	<b>43,414</b>	<b>43,232</b>	<b>2,912</b>	<b>3,244</b>	<b>3,007</b>	<b>6.1</b>	<b>7.0</b>	<b>6.5</b>
Big Horn	5,324	5,175	5,079	4,998	4,811	4,726	326	364	353	6.1	7.0	7.0
Fremont	19,772	19,746	19,774	18,476	18,333	18,405	1,296	1,413	1,369	6.6	7.2	6.9
Hot Springs	2,618	2,565	2,598	2,502	2,436	2,464	116	129	134	4.4	5.0	5.2
Park	15,318	14,838	14,341	14,398	13,785	13,435	920	1,053	906	6.0	7.1	6.3
Washakie	4,378	4,334	4,447	4,124	4,049	4,202	254	285	245	5.8	6.6	5.5
<b>NORTHEAST</b>	<b>55,380</b>	<b>55,315</b>	<b>54,945</b>	<b>52,573</b>	<b>52,189</b>	<b>51,826</b>	<b>2,807</b>	<b>3,126</b>	<b>3,119</b>	<b>5.1</b>	<b>5.7</b>	<b>5.7</b>
Campbell	28,257	28,406	27,998	27,094	27,130	26,729	1,163	1,276	1,269	4.1	4.5	4.5
Crook	3,579	3,502	3,532	3,387	3,291	3,334	192	211	198	5.4	6.0	5.6
Johnson	3,970	3,898	3,883	3,717	3,613	3,581	253	285	302	6.4	7.3	7.8
Sheridan	16,266	16,211	16,258	15,236	15,048	15,096	1,030	1,163	1,162	6.3	7.2	7.1
Weston	3,308	3,298	3,274	3,139	3,107	3,086	169	191	188	5.1	5.8	5.7
<b>SOUTHWEST</b>	<b>64,570</b>	<b>65,072</b>	<b>64,232</b>	<b>60,514</b>	<b>61,301</b>	<b>59,611</b>	<b>4,056</b>	<b>3,771</b>	<b>4,621</b>	<b>6.3</b>	<b>5.8</b>	<b>7.2</b>
Lincoln	8,066	8,064	8,200	7,382	7,343	7,413	684	721	787	8.5	8.9	9.6
Sublette	8,110	8,232	7,474	7,838	7,944	7,197	272	288	277	3.4	3.5	3.7
Sweetwater	25,317	25,459	25,181	24,195	24,163	23,931	1,122	1,296	1,250	4.4	5.1	5.0
Teton	12,424	12,667	12,323	11,034	11,826	10,666	1,390	841	1,657	11.2	6.6	13.4
Uinta	10,653	10,650	11,054	10,065	10,025	10,404	588	625	650	5.5	5.9	5.9
<b>SOUTHEAST</b>	<b>78,086</b>	<b>78,532</b>	<b>78,133</b>	<b>73,826</b>	<b>73,784</b>	<b>73,701</b>	<b>4,260</b>	<b>4,748</b>	<b>4,432</b>	<b>5.5</b>	<b>6.0</b>	<b>5.7</b>
Albany	20,842	20,892	20,654	19,994	19,902	19,775	848	990	879	4.1	4.7	4.3
Goshen	6,684	6,523	6,570	6,298	6,131	6,184	386	392	386	5.8	6.0	5.9
Laramie	44,979	45,707	45,205	42,249	42,662	42,326	2,730	3,045	2,879	6.1	6.7	6.4
Niobrara	1,299	1,267	1,274	1,238	1,203	1,220	61	64	54	4.7	5.1	4.2
Platte	4,282	4,143	4,430	4,047	3,886	4,196	235	257	234	5.5	6.2	5.3
<b>CENTRAL</b>	<b>58,825</b>	<b>59,031</b>	<b>58,273</b>	<b>55,921</b>	<b>55,854</b>	<b>54,919</b>	<b>2,904</b>	<b>3,177</b>	<b>3,354</b>	<b>4.9</b>	<b>5.4</b>	<b>5.8</b>
Carbon	7,672	7,570	7,647	7,226	7,059	7,125	446	511	522	5.8	6.8	6.8
Converse	7,840	7,852	7,726	7,489	7,475	7,366	351	377	360	4.5	4.8	4.7
Natrona	43,313	43,609	42,900	41,206	41,320	40,428	2,107	2,289	2,472	4.9	5.2	5.8
<b>STATEWIDE</b>	<b>304,272</b>	<b>304,608</b>	<b>301,820</b>	<b>287,333</b>	<b>286,542</b>	<b>283,288</b>	<b>16,939</b>	<b>18,066</b>	<b>18,532</b>	<b>5.6</b>	<b>5.9</b>	<b>6.1</b>
Statewide Seasonally Adjusted .....										5.3	5.3	6.0
U.S. ....										7.7	8.4	8.7
U.S. Seasonally Adjusted .....										8.1	8.2	9.0

Prepared in cooperation with the Bureau of Labor Statistics. Benchmarked 02/2012. Run Date 05/2012.

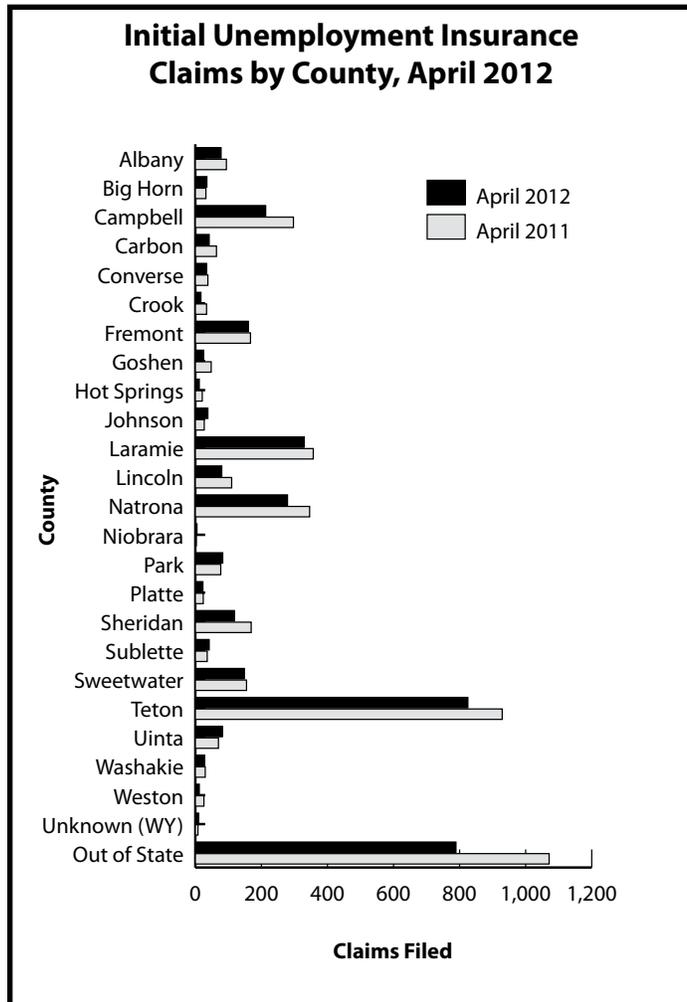
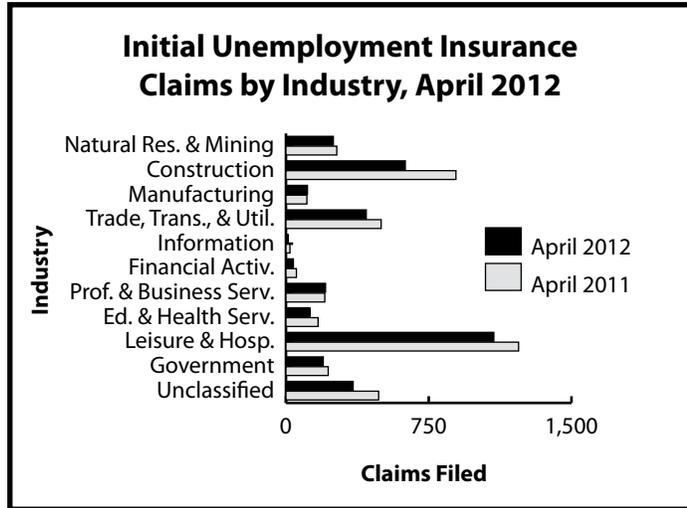
Data are not seasonally adjusted except where otherwise specified.

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

# Wyoming Normalized<sup>a</sup> Unemployment Insurance Statistics: Initial Claims

by: Sherry Wen, Senior Economist

Initial claims decreased over the year in most industries. Significant declines were seen in construction (-266, or -29.8%) and leisure & hospitality (-130, or -10.6%).



Initial Claims	Claims Filed		Percent Change Claims Filed		
	Apr 12	Mar 12	Apr 12	Mar 12	
<b>Wyoming Statewide</b>	<b>3,511</b>	<b>2,723</b>	<b>4,229</b>	<b>28.9</b>	<b>-17.0</b>
<b>TOTAL CLAIMS FILED</b>					
TOTAL GOODS-PRODUCING	989	965	1,270	2.5	-22.1
Natural Res. & Mining	249	231	267	7.8	-6.7
Mining	220	201	242	9.5	-9.1
Oil & Gas Extraction	15	4	13	275.0	15.4
Construction	627	560	893	12.0	-29.8
Manufacturing	113	174	110	-35.1	2.7
TOTAL SERVICE-PROVIDING	1,973	1,276	2,250	54.6	-12.3
Trade, Transp., & Utilities	422	368	500	14.7	-15.6
Wholesale Trade	63	56	54	12.5	16.7
Retail Trade	222	195	278	13.8	-20.1
Transp., Warehousing & Utilities	137	117	168	17.1	-18.5
Information	11	8	21	37.5	-47.6
Financial Activities	39	50	55	-22.0	-29.1
Prof. and Business Svcs.	208	160	204	30.0	2.0
Educational & Health Svcs.	126	142	169	-11.3	-25.4
Leisure & Hospitality	1,092	495	1,222	120.6	-10.6
Other Svcs., exc. Public Admin.	75	53	79	41.5	-5.1
TOTAL GOVERNMENT	196	176	222	11.4	-11.7
Federal Government	73	74	87	-1.4	-16.1
State Government	18	23	27	-21.7	-33.3
Local Government	105	79	108	32.9	-2.8
Local Education	25	22	24	13.6	4.2
UNCLASSIFIED	353	306	487	15.4	-27.5

Laramie County					
<b>TOTAL CLAIMS FILED</b>	<b>326</b>	<b>308</b>	<b>355</b>	<b>5.8</b>	<b>-8.2</b>
TOTAL GOODS-PRODUCING	114	94	134	21.3	-14.9
Construction	95	78	122	21.8	-22.1
TOTAL SERVICE-PROVIDING	160	171	171	-6.4	-6.4
Trade, Transp., & Utilities	53	51	61	3.9	-13.1
Financial Activities	5	16	9	-68.8	-44.4
Prof. & Business Svcs.	32	50	27	-36.0	18.5
Educational & Health Svcs.	27	24	37	12.5	-27.0
Leisure & Hospitality	36	19	27	89.5	33.3
TOTAL GOVERNMENT	33	30	31	10.0	6.5
UNCLASSIFIED	19	13	19	46.2	0.0

Natrona County					
<b>TOTAL CLAIMS FILED</b>	<b>276</b>	<b>235</b>	<b>343</b>	<b>17.4</b>	<b>-19.5</b>
TOTAL GOODS-PRODUCING	107	99	119	8.1	-10.1
Construction	67	67	82	0.0	-18.3
TOTAL SERVICE-PROVIDING	153	123	195	24.4	-21.5
Trade, Transp., & Utilities	50	41	57	22.0	-12.3
Financial Activities	7	4	6	75.0	16.7
Prof. & Business Svcs.	30	23	39	30.4	-23.1
Educational & Health Svcs.	32	21	34	52.4	-5.9
Leisure & Hospitality	19	23	37	-17.4	-48.6
TOTAL GOVERNMENT	13	7	13	85.7	0.0
UNCLASSIFIED	3	6	16	-50.0	-81.3

<sup>a</sup>An 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.

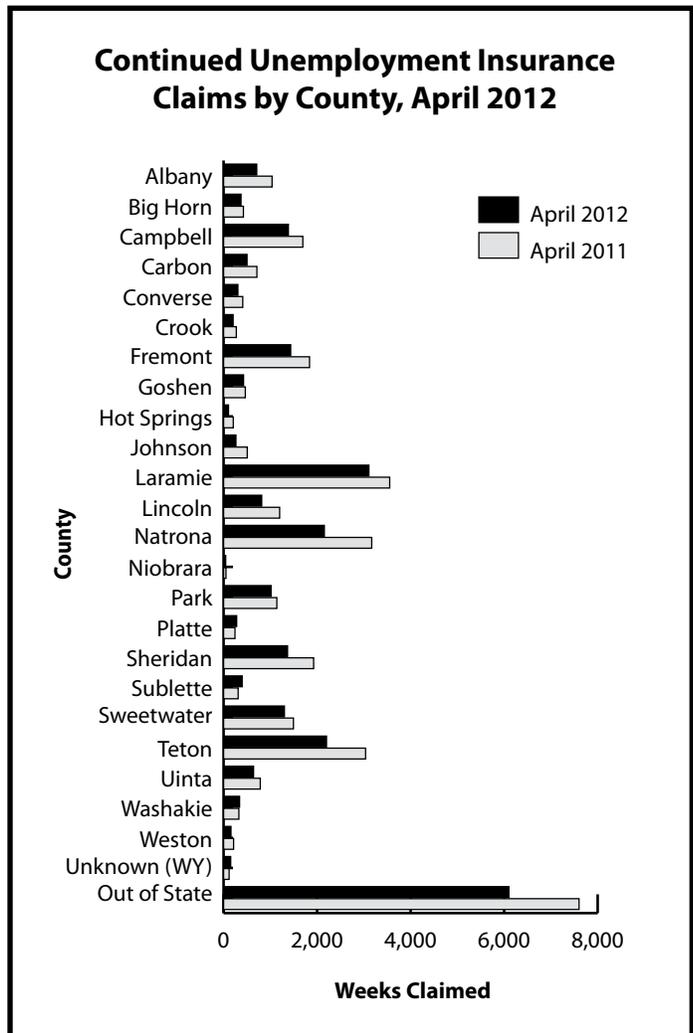
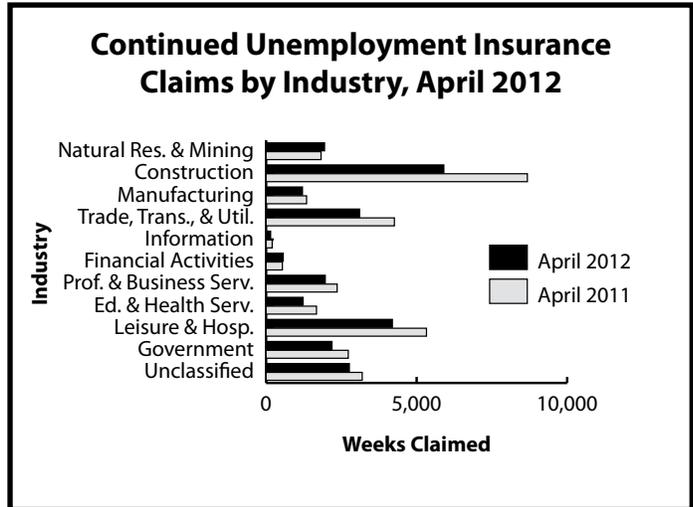
# Wyoming Normalized<sup>a</sup> Unemployment Insurance Statistics: Continued Claims

by: Sherry Wen, Senior Economist

Continued claims in financial activities increased over the year (5.2%), including a 50.5% increase in Laramie County.

## Continued Claims

	Claims Filed		Percent Change		Claims Filed	
	Apr 12	Mar 12	Apr 11	Mar 12	Apr 12	Apr 11
<b>Wyoming Statewide</b>						
<b>TOTAL WEEKS CLAIMED</b>	<b>25,796</b>	<b>29,647</b>	<b>32,734</b>	<b>-13.0</b>	<b>-21.2</b>	
<b>EXTENDED WEEKS CLAIMED</b>	<b>9,518</b>	<b>10,266</b>	<b>17,773</b>	<b>-7.3</b>	<b>-46.4</b>	
<b>TOTAL UNIQUE CLAIMANTS<sup>b</sup></b>	<b>7,908</b>	<b>8,630</b>	<b>10,035</b>	<b>-8.4</b>	<b>-21.2</b>	
<i>Benefit Exhaustions</i>	842	763	1,138	10.4	-26.0	
<i>Benefit Exhaustion Rates</i>	10.6%	8.8%	11.3%	1.8%	-0.7%	
<b>TOTAL GOODS-PRODUCING</b>	<b>9,052</b>	<b>12,278</b>	<b>11,847</b>	<b>-26.3</b>	<b>-23.6</b>	
Natural Res. & Mining	1,941	2,143	1,825	-9.4	6.4	
Mining	1,723	1,866	1,618	-7.7	6.5	
Oil & Gas Extraction	136	165	118	-17.6	15.3	
Construction	5,903	8,866	8,678	-33.4	-32.0	
Manufacturing	1,208	1,269	1,344	-4.8	-10.1	
<b>TOTAL SERVICE-PROVIDING</b>	<b>11,792</b>	<b>11,377</b>	<b>14,966</b>	<b>3.6</b>	<b>-21.2</b>	
Trade, Transp., & Utilities	3,106	3,285	4,261	-5.4	-27.1	
Wholesale Trade	422	483	539	-12.6	-21.7	
Retail Trade	1,809	1,964	2,722	-7.9	-33.5	
Transp., Warehousing & Utilities	875	838	1,000	4.4	-12.5	
Information	150	172	202	-12.8	-25.7	
Financial Activities	569	597	541	-4.7	5.2	
Prof. & Business Services	1,965	2,442	2,360	-19.5	-16.7	
Educational & Health Svcs.	1,227	1,227	1,673	0.0	-26.7	
Leisure and Hospitality	4,195	3,056	5,327	37.3	-21.3	
Other Svcs., exc. Public Admin.	580	598	602	-3.0	-3.7	
<b>TOTAL GOVERNMENT</b>	<b>2,187</b>	<b>2,709</b>	<b>2,729</b>	<b>-19.3</b>	<b>-19.9</b>	
Federal Government	1,061	1,369	1,262	-22.5	-15.9	
State Government	229	252	258	-9.1	-11.2	
Local Government	897	1,088	1,209	-17.6	-25.8	
Local Education	211	218	213	-3.2	-0.9	
<b>UNCLASSIFIED</b>	<b>2,765</b>	<b>3,283</b>	<b>3,192</b>	<b>-15.8</b>	<b>-13.4</b>	
<b>Laramie County</b>						
<b>TOTAL WEEKS CLAIMED</b>	<b>3,107</b>	<b>4,046</b>	<b>3,551</b>	<b>-23.2</b>	<b>-12.5</b>	
<b>TOTAL UNIQUE CLAIMANTS</b>	<b>910</b>	<b>1,181</b>	<b>1,065</b>	<b>-22.9</b>	<b>-14.6</b>	
<b>TOTAL GOODS-PRODUCING</b>	<b>1,037</b>	<b>1,782</b>	<b>1,228</b>	<b>-41.8</b>	<b>-15.6</b>	
Construction	746	1,405	1,049	-46.9	-28.9	
<b>TOTAL SERVICE-PROVIDING</b>	<b>1,597</b>	<b>1,733</b>	<b>1,824</b>	<b>-7.8</b>	<b>-12.4</b>	
Trade, Transp., and Utilities	441	547	599	-19.4	-26.4	
Financial Activities	152	154	101	-1.3	50.5	
Prof. & Business Svcs.	458	464	363	-1.3	26.2	
Educational and Health Svcs.	225	221	415	1.8	-45.8	
Leisure & Hospitality	216	249	247	-13.3	-12.6	
<b>TOTAL GOVERNMENT</b>	<b>344</b>	<b>381</b>	<b>402</b>	<b>-9.7</b>	<b>-14.4</b>	
<b>UNCLASSIFIED</b>	<b>129</b>	<b>150</b>	<b>97</b>	<b>-14.0</b>	<b>33.0</b>	
<b>Natrona County</b>						
<b>TOTAL WEEKS CLAIMED</b>	<b>2,155</b>	<b>2,561</b>	<b>3,169</b>	<b>-15.9</b>	<b>-32.0</b>	
<b>TOTAL UNIQUE CLAIMANTS</b>	<b>638</b>	<b>764</b>	<b>928</b>	<b>-16.5</b>	<b>-31.3</b>	
<b>TOTAL GOODS-PRODUCING</b>	<b>790</b>	<b>1,100</b>	<b>987</b>	<b>-28.2</b>	<b>-20.0</b>	
Construction	533	860	678	-38.0	-21.4	
<b>TOTAL SERVICE-PROVIDING</b>	<b>1,161</b>	<b>1,247</b>	<b>1,968</b>	<b>-6.9</b>	<b>-41.0</b>	
Trade, Transp., and Utilities	368	430	726	-14.4	-49.3	
Financial Activities	74	71	65	4.2	13.8	
Professional & Business Svcs.	226	236	350	-4.2	-35.4	
Educational & Health Svcs.	229	215	305	6.5	-24.9	
Leisure & Hospitality	129	152	323	-15.1	-60.1	
<b>TOTAL GOVERNMENT</b>	<b>122</b>	<b>131</b>	<b>137</b>	<b>-6.9</b>	<b>-10.9</b>	
<b>UNCLASSIFIED</b>	<b>82</b>	<b>83</b>	<b>77</b>	<b>-1.2</b>	<b>6.5</b>	



<sup>a</sup>An 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.

<sup>b</sup>Does not include claimants receiving extended benefits.

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Research & Planning  
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