

TRENDS

The Job Loss Index: A Better Representation of Job Losses in Wyoming

by: Lynae Mohondro, Senior Research Analyst

In Wyoming and other states dependent on oil and gas or other industries subject to instability, employment can drop without proportionate increase in the unemployment rate. This article introduces the concept of a Job Loss Index and explains how it can complement the unemployment rate in understanding how Wyoming's labor market works.

The total unemployment rate is one of the most widely recognized measures of the health of the labor market. However, some economic indicators measuring job loss may cause confusion about the state of the economy. In 2015, the Research & Planning (R&P) section of the Wyoming Department of Workforce Services published data showing substantial job losses and the media reported on hundreds of layoffs due to the decline in the oil and gas industry. During this time, Wyoming's total unemployment rate indicated little job loss. As employment estimates continue to decline in Wyoming, one might expect all available economic indicators to show an increase in job losses. However, different

tools and methods lead to different employment and unemployment estimates, which can be confusing to some customers of labor market information. This article introduces the concepts of a Job Loss Index, total unemployment rate, and insured unemployment rate.

Measures of Employment

Current Employment Statistics

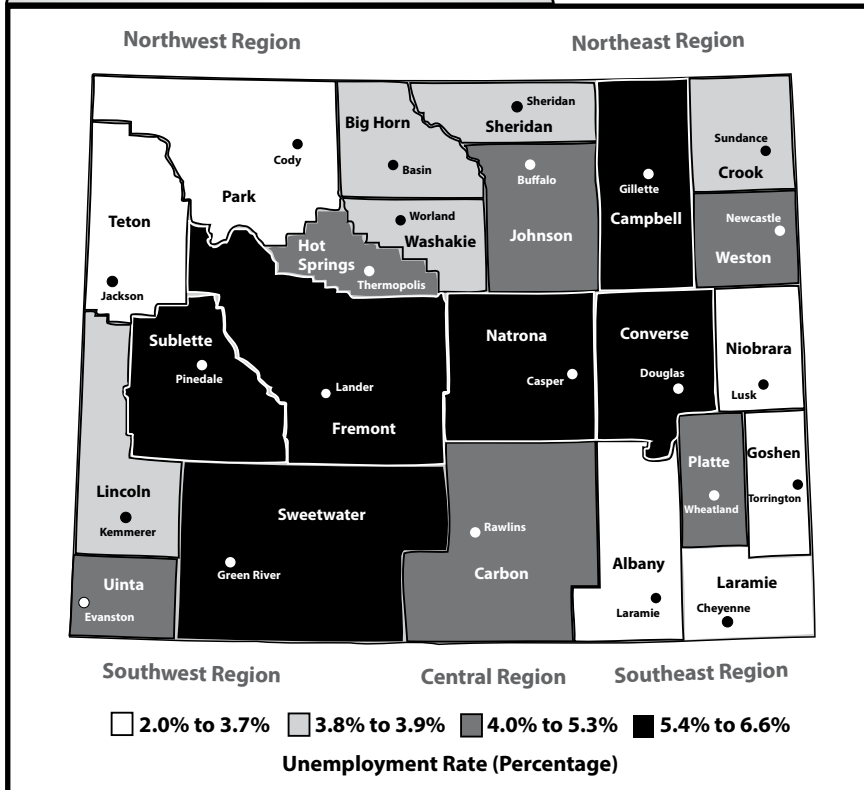
The Current Employment Statistics

(Text continued on page 3)

HIGHLIGHTS

- In May 2015, Wyoming's estimated total employment was 283,830. Approximately half (50.6%) of that total was concentrated in five major occupational groups: office & administrative support; construction & extraction; transportation & material moving; food preparation & serving related; and sales & related occupations. ... *page 7*
- The number of occupational fatalities in Wyoming decreased from 37 in 2014 to 34 in 2015. ... *page 11*

Unemployment Rate by Wyoming County, September 2016 (Not Seasonally Adjusted)



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(Text continued from page 1)

(CES) from the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) collects the number of jobs on employers' payrolls during the pay period that includes the 12th day of the month from a sample of about 623,000 establishments in the country (BLS, 2016a). The CPS estimates employment by place of work.

Current Population Survey

Unlike the CES, the Current Population Survey (CPS) from the U.S. Census Bureau counts individuals by place of residence. The total unemployment rate, which uses data collected from the CPS, is the measure of unemployed persons divided by the total labor force.¹ In order to be counted as unemployed in Wyoming, an individual must reside in Wyoming, be available to work, and be actively looking for a job (Bullard & Cowan, 2016). In 2015, the monthly total unemployment rate often did not appear to represent the job layoffs reported from the mining industry. There are five reasons for unemployment, as identified by the CPS. Individuals who left a job involuntarily or were on temporary layoff are defined as job losers, while persons who

left their job voluntarily are defined as job leavers. New entrants are individuals who have never worked while reentrants are individuals who were out of the labor force but had worked in the past. Individuals who completed temporary jobs are also counted as unemployed by the CPS.

The prevalence of unemployed individuals among the different reasons for unemployment plays a role in the failure of the CPS household survey to reflect the level of job loss. For example, an increase in job losers from the mining industry in combination with a decrease in entrants or reentrants may result in an apparent underrepresentation of the effects of job losses on the total unemployment rate.

Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages

The Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages (QCEW) from the BLS collects the wages and the number of jobs worked of establishments by industry (BLS, 2016b). The reports, which are based on Unemployment Insurance (UI) quarterly tax filings by employers, count the number of jobs worked by place of work; in other words, an individual with more than one job could be counted in the QCEW multiple times. The insured unemployment rate, another economic indicator, is

¹ The labor force is the total number of persons who are employed or unemployed and actively seeking work.

Definitions

Total Unemployment Rate	$\frac{\text{Number of Unemployed Persons}}{\text{Total Labor Force}}$
Insured Unemployment Rate	$\frac{\text{Average Number of Monthly UI}^a \text{ Weeks Claimed}}{\text{Number of Monthly Jobs in QCEW}}$
Job Loss Index	$\frac{\text{UI}^a \text{ Weeks Claimed Weighted by Persons}}{\text{Total Weeks Worked Weighted by Persons}}$

^aUnemployment Insurance.

measured by the average number of UI weeks claimed each month of the quarter divided by the number of jobs in the QCEW (UI Data Summary, 2016). The insured unemployment rate represents a measure of labor market wellbeing where both the number of UI weeks claimed and the number of jobs are based on place of work; however, both of these factors have different units of measure and may have different seasonal patterns and trends that could lead to a misrepresentation of the job gains and losses.

The CES and QCEW measure jobs by place of work, while the CPS and the total unemployment rate measure job loss by place of residence. Because of the different methods for counting jobs, a measure that reflects job loss needs to have the same concepts as the unit of measure in both jobholding and job loss. For this reason, R&P developed the Job Loss Index.

Discussion of the Job Loss Index

The Job Loss Index is the measure of UI weeks claimed divided by total weeks worked in Wyoming weighted by persons. The number of weeks worked is estimated by dividing total quarterly wages by the average weekly wage of the primary industry of the individual,² capping the number of weeks per quarter at 13. As noted earlier, for an individual to be counted in the total unemployment rate in Wyoming, the individual must reside in Wyoming. However, in each month of 2015, approximately one-fourth of the individuals claiming Wyoming UI benefits

resided in another state, and were not counted towards Wyoming's total unemployment rate (Mohondro, 2016). Therefore, although large layoffs have been taking place in the state, the total unemployment rate may not have included all individuals who lost their jobs. The Job Loss Index accounts for the individuals who have been laid off, regardless of where they reside.

Some economic indicators reveal more fluctuation in job losses than others. The Figure (see page 5) shows the Job Loss Index compared to the seasonally adjusted total unemployment rate from 2001Q1 to 2016Q1. Because the total unemployment rate is seasonally adjusted, it shows a relatively smooth trend over time; by comparison, the Job Loss Index is not seasonally adjusted, and shows more fluctuation that occurs from quarter to quarter. Both the total unemployment rate and Job Loss Index were highest in 2009 and 2010 during Wyoming's previous economic downturn. As shown in the Figure, Wyoming is entering a period where job loss is increasing at a greater rate than the total unemployment rate.

While the Job Loss Index may better represent job losses than the CPS and QCEW alone, it may underrepresent job losses due to UI requirements. To be eligible for UI benefits, an individual must have involuntarily separated from his job through no fault of his own, be available to work, and actively seeking work. In addition to nonmonetary requirements, during the base period (the first four of the last five completed calendar quarters) individuals must also have earned 8% of the statewide annual average wage, and a total wage at least 1.4 times the individual's high quarter wage during the base period (Wen, 2015). Individuals

² The industry in which an individual earned the highest wages during a given quarter.

who lose their jobs and do not meet these requirements will not be able to file for UI benefits and will not be counted in the Job Loss Index. Individuals will also not be counted in the Job Loss Index if they choose not to file for unemployment.

Conclusion

Wyoming is not alone when it comes to the discrepancy between measures of job loss and actual job losses in a state. In July 2016, Wyoming and North Dakota

had the largest over-the-year percentage decrease in nonfarm payroll jobs in the nation. While Wyoming’s total unemployment rate increased from 4.3% to 5.7% and exceeded the national total unemployment rate of 4.9%, North Dakota’s rate increased from 2.7% to 3.1% and remained significantly lower than the national rate (BLS, 2016c).

A lack of harmony exists among the different economic indicators, creating confusion about the health of the economy. In Wyoming and other states that depend on oil and gas or other industries subject

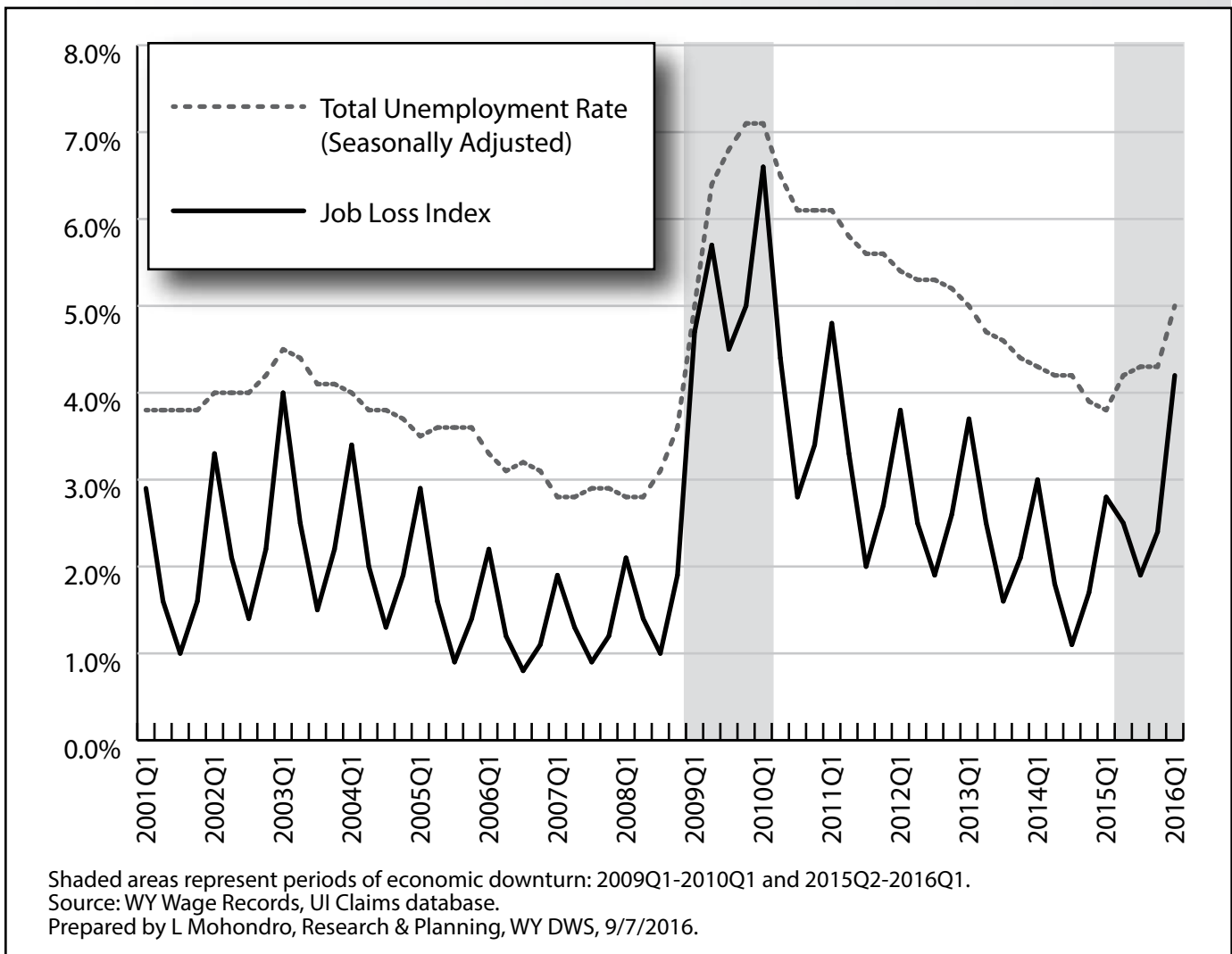


Figure: Wyoming Job Loss Index and Seasonally Adjusted Total Unemployment Rate, 2001Q1 to 2016Q1

to instability, employment dropped without a proportionate over-the-year increase in the total unemployment rate. As noted earlier, evidence of this occurred in North Dakota in July 2016 when a 2.2% decline in employment occurred, while the total unemployment rate only rose 0.4% and remained much lower than the national total unemployment rate (BLS, 2016c). While the QCEW and CPS alone do not illustrate a complete picture of job losses, the Job Loss Index is a tool that uses wage records and UI claims to provide an alternate representation of job losses in the economy.

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Now Online: 2015 New Hires Survey Estimates

The Research & Planning (R&P) section of the Wyoming Department of Workforce Services recently published 2015 estimates from the Wyoming New Hires Job Skills Survey. These estimates are available online at http://doe.state.wy.us/LMI/new_hires/2015/toc.htm.

Forthcoming articles on current and historic New Hires Survey data will be published in *Wyoming Labor Force Trends*.

Highlights of Wyoming's Occupational Employment and Wages for May 2015

by: Deana Hauf, Senior Statistician

In May 2015, Wyoming's estimated total employment was 283,830. Approximately half (50.6%) of that total was concentrated in five out of 22 major occupational groups: office & administrative support; construction & extraction; transportation & material moving; food preparation & serving related; and sales & related occupations.

The Occupational Employment Statistics (OES) program is a semiannual report that collects and produces occupational employment and wage rate estimates for workers in nonfarm establishments. In Wyoming, the OES program is conducted by the Research & Planning (R&P) section of the Wyoming Department of Workforce Services, in cooperation with the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS).

The OES employment and wage estimates are published using the 2010 Standard Occupational Classification

(SOC) system, which consists of four tiers: 22 major occupational groups; 94 minor occupational groups; 458 broad occupations; and more than 840 detailed occupations. All workers are classified into one of the detailed occupations based on survey responses from Wyoming employers. Only the major occupational groups and detailed occupations are discussed in this article. A sample of the SOC structure is provided in Table 1.

The purpose of this article is to provide the reader with an understanding of employment and wage estimates for

Table 1: Standard Occupational Classification Structure for Office & Administrative Support Occupations with May 2015 Employment and Wage Estimates for Wyoming

			May 2015 Wyoming Estimates ^b	
Tier	SOC ^a code	SOC ^a Title	N	Median Hourly Wage
Major Group	43-0000	Office & Administrative Support Occupations	36,600	\$15.47
Minor Group	43-3000	Financial Clerks		
Broad Group	43-3030	Bookkeeping, Accounting, & Auditing Clerks		
Detailed Occupation	43-3031	Bookkeeping, Accounting, & Auditing Clerks	3,510	\$17.04
Minor Group	43-6000	Secretaries & Administrative Assistants		
Broad Group	43-6010	Secretaries & Administrative Assistants		
Detailed Occupation	43-6014	Secretaries & Administrative Assistants, Except Legal, Medical, & Executive	5,000	\$16.44
Minor Group	43-9000	Other Office & Administrative Support Workers		
Broad Group	43-9060	Office Clerks, General		
Detailed Occupation	43-9061	Office Clerks, General	6,320	\$15.20

^aSource: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics. Standard Occupational Classification.

^bSource: Occupational Employment Statistics.

major occupational groups and detailed occupations in Wyoming in May 2015. For more information on the SOC classification system, please see <http://www.bls.gov/soc/>.

Major Occupational Groups

As shown in Table 2, Wyoming's estimated employment in May 2015 was 283,830, with a median hourly wage of \$18.41. Of the 22 major occupational groups, office & administrative support occupations accounted for the largest share of Wyoming's employment (36,600

employees, or 12.9% of total employment). Office & administrative support occupations had a median hourly wage of \$15.47, which was below the total statewide average of \$18.41 for all occupations.

The second largest occupational group was construction & extraction occupations, with 11.2% of total employment and a median hourly wage of \$22.37. Construction & extraction workers encompass all the trade workers involved in the building and renovation of new residential and commercial buildings. Also included are those who work in mines, quarries, and oil & gas fields.

Table 2: Employment and Median Hourly Wage for May 2015 by Major Occupational Group

SOC ^a Code	Major Occupational Group	2015 Employment		Median Hourly Wage
		N	Column %	
43-0000	Office & Administrative Support Occupations	36,600	12.9%	\$15.47
47-0000	Construction & Extraction Occupations	31,720	11.2%	\$22.37
53-0000	Transportation & Material Moving Occupations	25,330	8.9%	\$19.24
35-0000	Food Preparation & Serving Related Occupations	25,080	8.8%	\$9.35
41-0000	Sales & Related Occupations	24,750	8.7%	\$12.51
25-0000	Education, Training, & Library Occupations	19,980	7.0%	\$21.98
49-0000	Installation, Maintenance, & Repair Occupations	18,730	6.6%	\$23.77
29-0000	Healthcare Practitioners & Technical Occupations	14,140	5.0%	\$29.09
51-0000	Production Occupations	13,180	4.6%	\$23.30
11-0000	Management Occupations	11,520	4.1%	\$40.71
37-0000	Building & Grounds Cleaning & Maintenance Occupations	11,390	4.0%	\$11.93
13-0000	Business & Financial Operations Occupations	8,820	3.1%	\$28.09
39-0000	Personal Care & Service Occupations	7,540	2.7%	\$10.95
31-0000	Healthcare Support Occupations	6,880	2.4%	\$13.67
33-0000	Protective Service Occupations	6,030	2.1%	\$19.37
17-0000	Architecture & Engineering Occupations	5,690	2.0%	\$32.93
19-0000	Life, Physical, & Social Science Occupations	4,420	1.6%	\$25.92
21-0000	Community & Social Service Occupations	3,870	1.4%	\$21.47
27-0000	Arts, Design, Entertainment, Sports, & Media Occupations	3,280	1.2%	\$16.31
15-0000	Computer & Mathematical Occupations	2,650	0.9%	\$28.02
23-0000	Legal Occupations	1,770	0.6%	\$28.04
45-0000	Farming, Fishing, & Forestry Occupations	460	0.2%	\$13.86
00-0000	Total, All Occupations	283,830	100.0%	\$18.41

^aStandard Occupational Classification.

Source: Occupational Employment Statistics.

The next three largest occupational groups all had a similar number of employees: transportation & material moving occupations (25,330 employees, or 8.9% of total employment), food preparation & serving related occupations (25,080, or 8.8%), and sales & related occupations (24,750, or 8.7%). The median hourly wage for each of these groups, however, was quite different. Transportation & material moving occupations had a median hourly wage of \$19.24, compared to \$9.35 for food preparation & serving related occupations and \$12.51 for sales & related occupations.

Personal care & service occupations had the second lowest median hourly wage among all major occupational groups (\$10.95) and accounted for only 2.7% (7,540 employees) of the total employment.

The occupational group with the

smallest estimated employment for May 2015 was farming, fishing, & forestry occupations (460 employees, or 0.2% of total employment). Legal occupations and computer & mathematical occupations each made up less than 1.0% of Wyoming's total employment and had a median hourly wage of \$28.00.

The two occupational groups with the highest median hourly wage were management occupations (\$40.71) and architecture & engineering occupations (\$32.93), which accounted for 4.1% and 2.0% of total employment, respectively.

Detailed Occupations

Table 3 shows the top 15 detailed occupations with the largest estimated employment in May 2015 in Wyoming. The

Table 3: Top 15 Occupations with the Highest Employment in Wyoming, May 2015

SOC ^a Code	Detailed Occupation	2015 Employment		Median Hourly Wage	Median Annual Wage
		N	Column %		
41-2031	Retail Salespersons	8,500	3.0%	\$11.24	\$23,379
53-3032	Heavy & Tractor-Trailer Truck Drivers	7,020	2.5%	\$22.39	\$46,579
41-2011	Cashiers	6,550	2.3%	\$9.87	\$20,539
43-9061	Office Clerks, General	6,320	2.2%	\$15.20	\$31,609
35-3031	Waiters & Waitresses	5,260	1.9%	\$8.75	\$18,194
11-1021	General & Operations Managers	5,210	1.8%	\$42.70	\$88,811
35-3021	Combined Food Preparation & Serving Workers, Including Fast Food	5,150	1.8%	\$8.89	\$18,486
43-6014	Secretaries & Administrative Assistants, Except Legal, Medical, & Executive	5,000	1.8%	\$16.44	\$34,190
29-1141	Registered Nurses	4,910	1.7%	\$29.22	\$60,776
47-2073	Operating Engineers & Other Construction Equip. Operators	4,910	1.7%	\$26.23	\$54,561
37-2011	Janitors & Cleaners, Except Maids & Housekeeping Cleaners	4,730	1.7%	\$13.06	\$27,168
49-9042	Maintenance & Repair Workers, General	3,850	1.4%	\$18.65	\$38,794
37-2012	Maids & Housekeeping Cleaners	3,540	1.2%	\$10.09	\$20,995
53-7062	Laborers & Freight, Stock, & Material Movers, Hand	3,520	1.2%	\$14.87	\$30,936
43-3031	Bookkeeping, Accounting, & Auditing Clerks	3,510	1.2%	\$17.04	\$35,445
00-0000	Total all occupations	283,830	100.0%	\$18.41	

^aStandard Occupational Classification.

Source: Occupational Employment Statistics.

sales & related major occupational group included two of the top five detailed occupations with the largest employment: retail salespersons (8,500 employees, or 3.0% of total employment) and cashiers (6,550, or 2.3%). Both of these were relatively low-paying occupations, with median hourly wages of \$11.24 and \$9.87, respectively.

The detailed occupation with the second largest employment was heavy & tractor-trailer truck drivers, which is included in the transportation & material moving major occupational group. This occupation had an estimated employment of 7,020 (2.5% of total employment) and a median hourly wage of \$22.39.

The office clerks, general detailed occupation had the fourth highest employment of 6,320 and a median hourly wage of \$15.20. According to the SOC description for this occupation, office clerks, general “perform duties too varied and diverse to be classified in any specific office clerical occupation, requiring knowledge of office systems and procedures. Clerical duties may be

assigned in accordance with the office procedures of individual establishments and may include a combination of answering telephones, bookkeeping, typing or word processing, stenography, office machine operation, and filing” (BLS, 2010).

The waiters & waitresses detailed occupation had an estimated employment of 5,260 and a median hourly wage of \$8.75.

As shown in Table 3, of the five largest detailed occupations, only heavy & tractor-trailer truck drivers had a median hourly wage (\$22.39) above the statewide average of \$18.41.

Conclusion

Wyoming employment and wage estimates for May 2015 are available at the county, region, and statewide levels by industry at <http://doe.state.wy.us/LMI/EDSMarch2016ECI/toc000.htm>. National data and data for other states are available from the BLS at <http://www.bls.gov/oes/current/oessrcst.htm>. A tool for nationwide comparisons is also available from the BLS at http://www.bls.gov/oes/current/map_changer.htm

Reference

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Related: Private Sector and State Government Employment and Wages in Wyoming, May 2015

Research & Planning recently published a table with employment and wage estimates for occupations in state government compared to the statewide average across all industries.

This table is available at http://doe.state.wy.us/LMI/OES/WY_Private_and_State_2015.pdf.

Wyoming Occupational Fatalities Decrease to 34 in 2015

by: David Bullard, Senior Economist

The Research & Planning (R&P) section of the Wyoming Department of Workforce Services reported that the number of occupational fatalities declined from 37 in 2014 to 34 in 2015, a decrease of 3 deaths (-8.1%). From 1992 to 2015 there was an average of 34 occupational fatalities each year. Variations in fatalities from year to year are, to some extent, the result of the random nature of work-related accidents. Furthermore, there is not always a direct relationship between workplace fatalities and workplace safety. For example, suicides and homicides that occur in the workplace are included as occupational fatalities. In other cases, a sudden illness may be nearly coincidental with an accident that results in a workplace fatality. Occupational fatalities are counted in the state where the injury occurred, not necessarily the state of residence or the state of death.

The fatality counts featured in this release are compiled by the Census of Fatal Occupational Injuries (CFOI) program (a joint effort of R&P and the Bureau of Labor Statistics or BLS) and may not match those from other programs, such as the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) because of differences in scope and methodology. In addition to regular wage and salary employees, CFOI counts include volunteer workers and self-employed individuals. The CFOI program utilizes a wide variety of data sources, such as OSHA reports, workers' compensation, vital records, coroner's reports, media reports, and police and highway patrol reports of vehicle crashes. Additionally, similar data sources from other states are routinely used to identify workplace fatalities. For example, a worker fatally injured in a highway incident in Wyoming may be covered by workers'

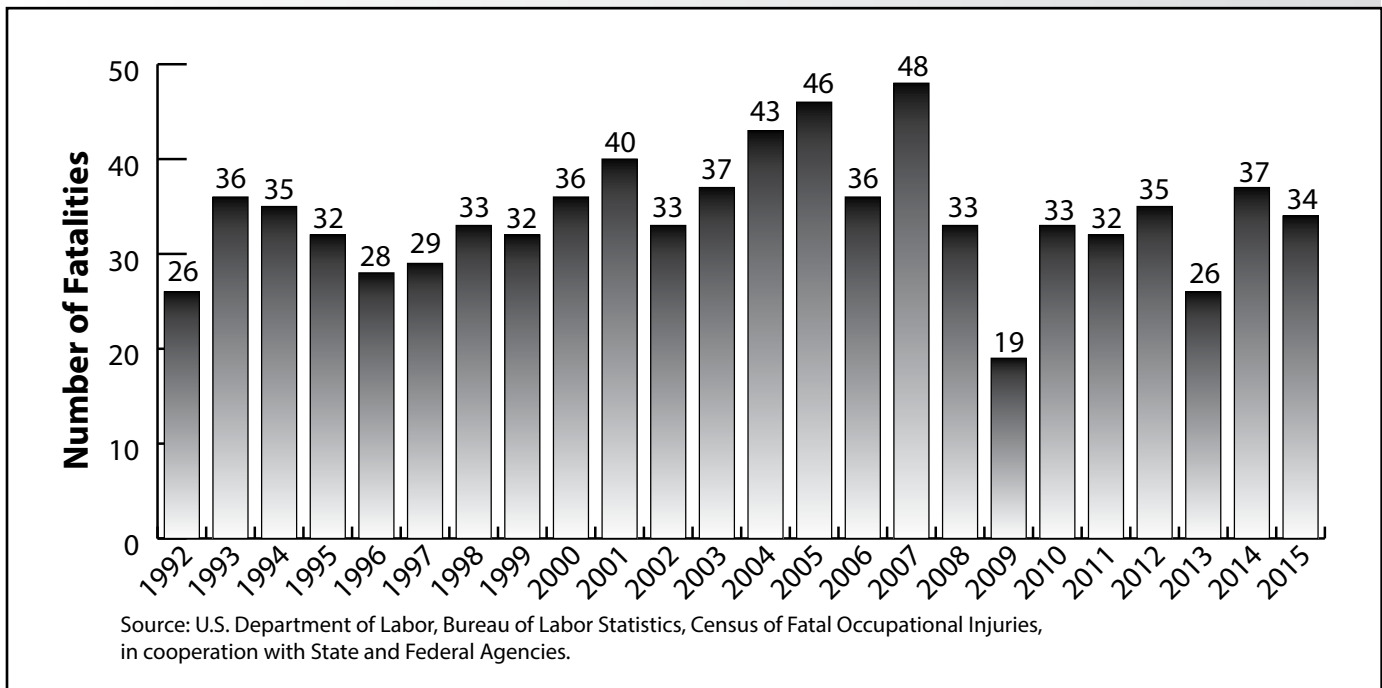


Figure 1: Wyoming Occupational Fatalities, 1992-2015

compensation in another state. That information is made available to R&P as part of confidential data sharing agreements between the states and federal government (BLS).

In 2015, 12 deaths occurred in natural resources & mining (or

35.3% of all deaths). Within that category, eight deaths were in agriculture (23.5%) and four deaths (11.8%) were in mining (including oil & gas). Trade, transportation, & utilities accounted for nine deaths (26.5%), with seven deaths in transportation & warehousing (20.6%). There were four deaths each in

construction (11.8%) and in professional & business services (11.8%). Half (50.0%) of workplace fatalities were the result of transportation incidents.

From 2003-2015, transportation incidents made up 57.5% of all workplace deaths. Transportation incidents include highway crashes as well as incidents involving aircraft and other vehicles.

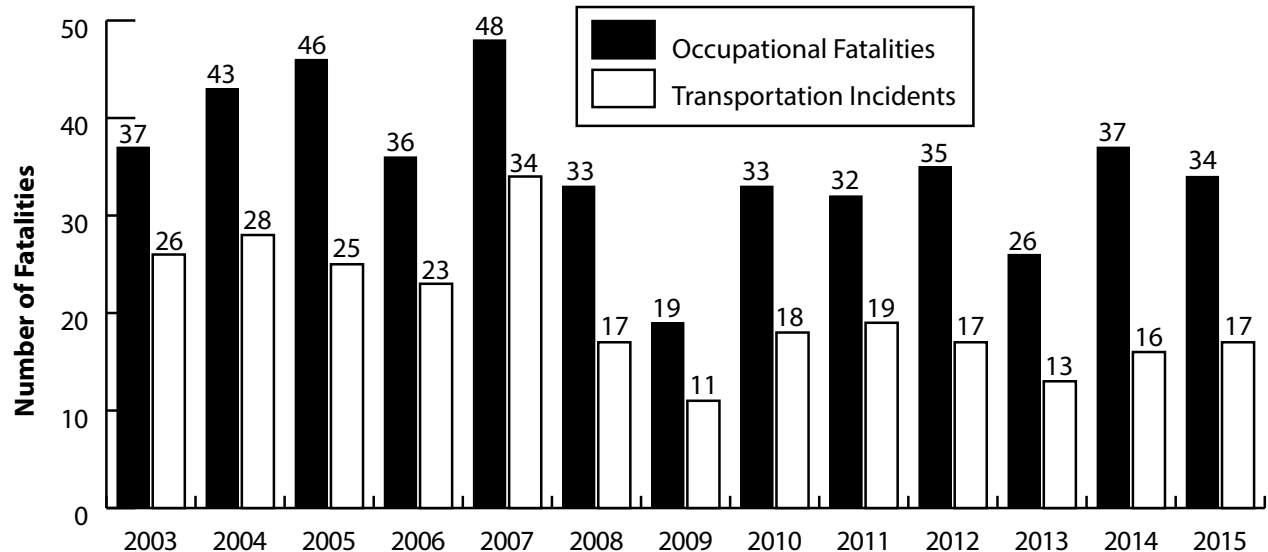
For official definitions used in the CFOI program, please visit <http://stats.bls.gov/iif/oshcdef.htm>.

Several data tables are available at <http://doe.state.wy.us/LMI/CFOI/toc.htm>.

Table: Wyoming Occupational Fatalities by Selected Industry, 2015

Industry	Number	Column %
Natural Resources & Mining	12	35.3
Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing, & Hunting	8	23.5
Mining, Quarrying, & Oil & Gas Extraction	4	11.8
Construction	4	11.8
Trade, Transportation, & Utilities	9	26.5
Transportation & Warehousing	7	20.6
Professional & Business Services	4	11.8
All Other Industries	5	14.7
Total	34	100.0

Source: U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, in cooperation with State and Federal Agencies, Census of Fatal Occupational Injuries.



Source: U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, Census of Fatal Occupational Injuries, in cooperation with State and Federal Agencies. From 2003 to 2010 transportation incidents are based on the BLS Occupational Injury and Illness Classification System (OIICS). From 2011 to 2015 transportation incidents are based on OIICS 2.01. Due to substantial differences between OIICS 2.01 and the original OIICS structure, data for transportation incidents from 2011 forward should not be compared to prior years.

Figure 2: Wyoming Occupational Fatalities and Transportation Incidents, 2003-2015

Wyo. Unemployment Rate Falls to 5.3% in September 2016

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 5.5% in August to 5.3% in September. Wyoming's unemployment rate was significantly higher than its September 2015 level of 4.3% and slightly higher than the September U.S. unemployment rate of 5.0%. Seasonally adjusted employment of Wyoming residents increased, rising by an estimated 1,441 individuals (0.5%) from August to September (not a statistically significant change).

From August to September, most county unemployment rates followed their normal seasonal pattern and fell slightly. Hot Springs County's unemployment rate increased marginally from 4.3% to 4.4% and unemployment rates were unchanged in Lincoln (3.8%), Sublette (5.4%), and Teton (2.0%) counties. The largest unemployment rate decreases occurred in Washakie (down from 4.5% to 3.8%), Platte (down from 4.6%

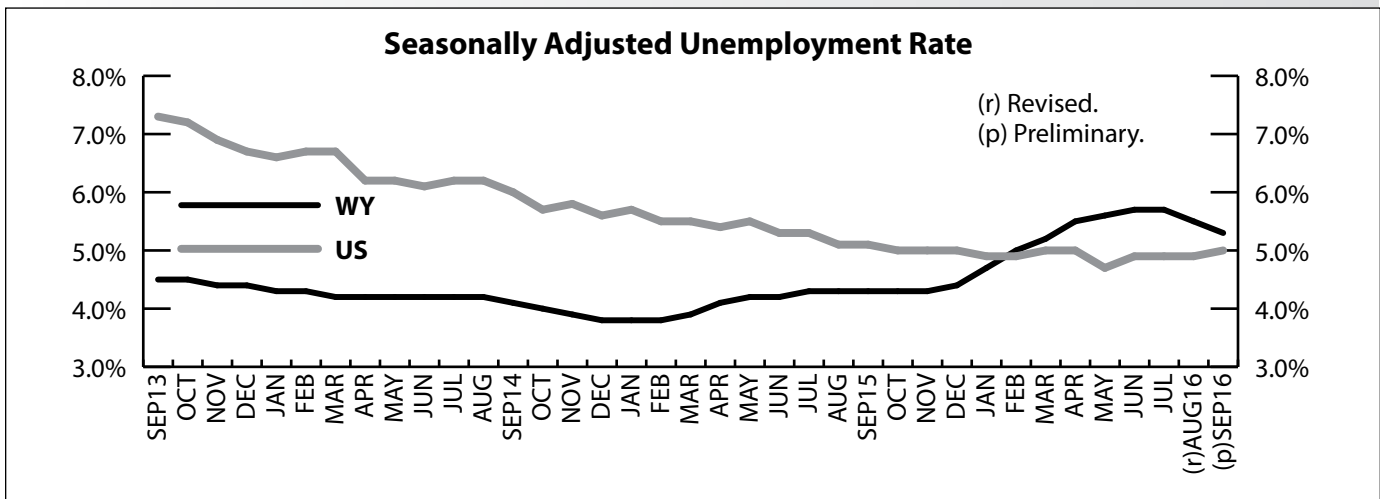
to 4.0%), Big Horn (down from 4.4% to 3.9%), and Albany (down from 3.3% to 2.8%) counties.

From September 2015 to September 2016, unemployment rates rose in 20 counties. The largest increases occurred in Campbell (up from 3.5% to 6.6%), Converse (up from 3.2% to 5.6%), Natrona (up from 4.7% to 6.6%), and Weston (up from 2.9% to 4.7%) counties. Teton County's unemployment rate fell from 2.3% to 2.0% and unemployment rates were unchanged in Big Horn (3.9%) and Lincoln (3.8%) counties.

In September 2016, the lowest unemployment rates were found in Teton (2.0%), Albany (2.8%), Niobrara (3.0%), and Goshen (3.0%) counties. Campbell and Natrona counties reported the highest unemployment rates (both 6.6%). They were followed by Fremont (6.4%), Converse (5.6%), and Sweetwater (5.5%) counties.

Total nonfarm employment (not seasonally adjusted and measured by place of work) fell from 295,200 in September 2015 to 285,900 in September 2016, a decrease of 9,300 jobs (or -3.2%; a statistically significant decrease).

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, September 2016

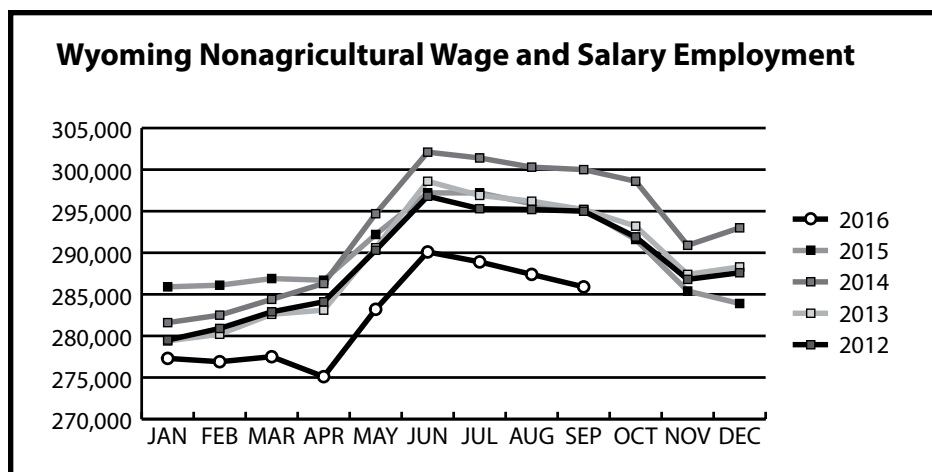
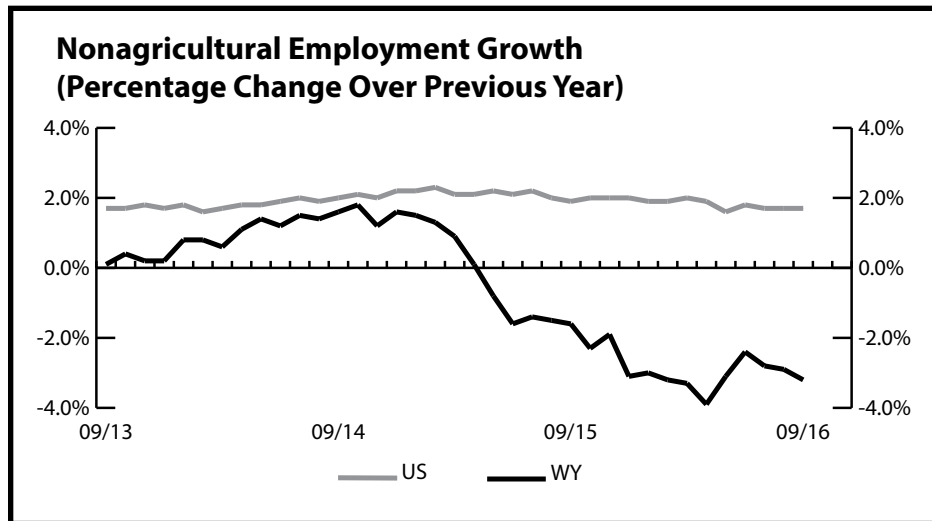
by: David Bullard, Senior Economist

Industry Sector	Research & Planning's Short-Term Projections	Current Employment Statistics (CES) Estimates	N Difference	% Difference
Total Nonfarm Employment	286,546	285,900	-646	-0.2%
Natural Resources & Mining	17,587	18,500	913	4.9%
Construction	23,948	22,900	-1,048	-4.6%
Manufacturing	9,324	9,900	576	5.8%
Wholesale Trade	8,649	8,200	-449	-5.5%
Retail Trade	31,473	30,700	-773	-2.5%
Transportation & Utilities	14,227	14,200	-27	-0.2%
Information	3,779	3,600	-179	-5.0%
Financial Activities	10,842	10,700	-142	-1.3%
Professional & Business Services	18,236	18,700	464	2.5%
Educational & Health Services	27,473	27,500	27	0.1%
Leisure & Hospitality	38,919	38,700	-219	-0.6%
Other Services	9,759	10,400	641	6.2%
Government	72,330	71,900	-430	-0.6%

Projections were run in August 2016 and based on QCEW data through March 2016.

State Unemployment Rates September 2016 (Seasonally Adjusted)

State	Unemp. Rate
Puerto Rico	11.9
Alaska	6.9
New Mexico	6.7
Louisiana	6.4
District of Columbia	6.1
Mississippi	6.0
Nevada	5.8
West Virginia	5.8
Pennsylvania	5.7
Rhode Island	5.6
Washington	5.6
Arizona	5.5
California	5.5
Illinois	5.5
Oregon	5.5
Alabama	5.4
Connecticut	5.4
New Jersey	5.3
Wyoming	5.3
Missouri	5.2
Oklahoma	5.2
Georgia	5.1
Kentucky	5.0
New York	5.0
United States	5.0
South Carolina	4.9
Ohio	4.8
Texas	4.8
Florida	4.7
North Carolina	4.7
Michigan	4.6
Tennessee	4.6
Indiana	4.5
Kansas	4.4
Delaware	4.3
Montana	4.3
Iowa	4.2
Maryland	4.2
Maine	4.1
Wisconsin	4.1
Arkansas	4.0
Minnesota	4.0
Virginia	4.0
Idaho	3.8
Colorado	3.6
Massachusetts	3.6
Utah	3.4
Hawaii	3.3
Vermont	3.3
Nebraska	3.2
North Dakota	3.0
New Hampshire	2.9
South Dakota	2.9



Wyoming Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment

by: David Bullard, Senior Economist

State Unemployment Rates September 2016 (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

	Employment in Thousands			% Change Total Employment	
	Sep 16	Aug 16	Sep 15	Aug 16 Sep 16	Sep 15 Sep 16
		Sep 16	Aug 16	Sep 15	Sep 16
CAMPBELL COUNTY					
TOTAL NONAG. WAGE & SALARY EMPLOYMENT	26.9	27.3	28.4	-1.5	-5.3
TOTAL PRIVATE	21.5	21.9	23.1	-1.8	-6.9
GOODS PRODUCING	9.1	9.3	10.5	-2.2	-13.3
Natural Resources & Mining	6.1	6.3	7.2	-3.2	-15.3
Construction	2.5	2.5	2.7	0.0	-7.4
Manufacturing	0.5	0.5	0.6	0.0	-16.7
SERVICE PROVIDING	17.8	18.0	17.9	-1.1	-0.6
Trade, Transportation, & Utilities	5.7	5.8	5.7	-1.7	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 & Business Services	1.6	1.6	1.7	0.0	-5.9
Educational & Health Services	1.1	1.1	1.0	0.0	10.0
Leisure & Hospitality	2.3	2.4	2.5	-4.2	-8.0
Other Services	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.0	0.0
GOVERNMENT	5.4	5.4	5.3	0.0	1.9

	Employment in Thousands			% Change Total Employment	
	Sep 16	Aug 16	Sep 15	Aug 16 Sep 16	Sep 15 Sep 16
		Sep 16	Aug 16	Sep 15	Sep 16
SWEETWATER COUNTY					
TOTAL NONAG. WAGE & SALARY EMPLOYMENT	23.5	23.2	24.5	1.3	-4.1
TOTAL PRIVATE	18.6	18.7	19.7	-0.5	-5.6
GOODS PRODUCING	7.5	7.4	8.3	1.4	-9.6
Natural Resources & Mining	4.3	4.3	4.9	0.0	-12.2
Construction	1.8	1.7	2.0	5.9	-10.0
Manufacturing	1.4	1.4	1.4	0.0	0.0
SERVICE PROVIDING	16.0	15.8	16.2	1.3	-1.2
Trade, Transportation, & Utilities	4.7	4.8	4.9	-2.1	-4.1
Information	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.0	0.0
Financial Activities	0.8	0.8	0.9	0.0	-11.1
Professional & Business Services	1.0	1.0	1.0	0.0	0.0
Educational & Health Services	1.3	1.3	1.3	0.0	0.0
Leisure & Hospitality	2.5	2.5	2.5	0.0	0.0
Other Services	0.6	0.7	0.6	-14.3	0.0
GOVERNMENT	4.9	4.5	4.8	8.9	2.1

	Employment in Thousands			% Change Total Employment	
	Sep 16	Aug 16	Sep 15	Aug 16 Sep 16	Sep 15 Sep 16
		Sep 16	Aug 16	Sep 15	Sep 16
TETON COUNTY					
TOTAL NONAG. WAGE & SALARY EMPLOYMENT	22.0	23.7	21.4	-7.2	2.8
TOTAL PRIVATE	19.4	21.3	18.8	-8.9	3.2
GOODS PRODUCING	2.5	2.6	2.3	-3.8	8.7
Natural Resources, Mining & Construction	2.3	2.4	2.1	-4.2	9.5
Manufacturing	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.0	0.0
SERVICE PROVIDING	19.5	21.1	19.1	-7.6	2.1
Trade, Transportation, & Utilities	3.0	3.3	3.0	-9.1	0.0
Information	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.0	0.0
Financial Activities	1.0	1.0	0.9	0.0	11.1
Professional & Business Services	2.0	2.1	2.0	-4.8	0.0
Educational & Health Services	1.2	1.3	1.1	-7.7	9.1
Leisure & Hospitality	9.0	10.3	8.8	-12.6	2.3
Other Services	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.0	0.0
GOVERNMENT	2.6	2.4	2.6	8.3	0.0

State	Unemp. Rate
Puerto Rico	13.1
Louisiana	6.7
New Mexico	6.7
District of Columbia	6.5
Alaska	6.4
Mississippi	5.8
Alabama	5.7
Arizona	5.6
Illinois	5.4
Nevada	5.4
Oklahoma	5.4
Pennsylvania	5.4
California	5.3
Georgia	5.3
West Virginia	5.3
New Jersey	5.2
Connecticut	5.1
New York	5.1
Rhode Island	5.1
Washington	5.1
Florida	5.0
Tennessee	5.0
Oregon	4.9
South Carolina	4.9
Texas	4.9
Kentucky	4.8
North Carolina	4.8
Ohio	4.8
United States	4.8
Missouri	4.7
Wyoming	4.6
Michigan	4.4
Delaware	4.3
Indiana	4.2
Kansas	4.0
Maryland	4.0
Virginia	4.0
Arkansas	3.9
Iowa	3.7
Montana	3.5
Wisconsin	3.5
Idaho	3.4
Maine	3.4
Minnesota	3.4
Vermont	3.4
Massachusetts	3.3
Hawaii	3.2
Nebraska	3.1
Colorado	3.0
Utah	2.9
New Hampshire	2.6
North Dakota	2.4
South Dakota	2.4

Economic Indicators

by: David Bullard, Senior Economist

Total nonfarm employment in Wyoming fell by 3.2% from September 2015 to September 2016.

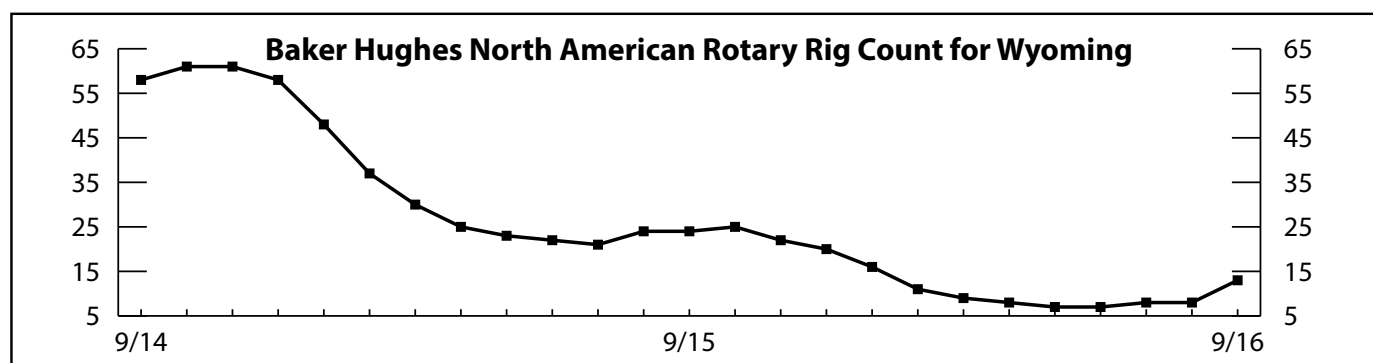
	Sep 2016 (p)	Aug 2016 (r)	Sep 2015 (b)	Percent Change Month	Percent Change Year
Wyoming Total Nonfarm Employment	285,900	287,200	295,200	-0.5	-3.2
Wyoming State Government	15,700	14,500	16,000	8.3	-1.9
Laramie County Nonfarm Employment	46,000	46,500	47,200	-1.1	-2.5
Natrona County Nonfarm Employment	39,600	40,000	41,800	-1.0	-5.3
Selected U.S. Employment Data					
U.S. Multiple Jobholders	7,846,000	7,234,000	7,297,000	8.5	7.5
As a percent of all workers	5.2%	4.8%	4.9%	N/A	N/A
U.S. Discouraged Workers	553,000	576,000	635,000	-4.0	-12.9
U.S. Part Time for Economic Reasons	5,550,000	5,963,000	5,693,000	-6.9	-2.5
Wyoming Unemployment Insurance					
Weeks Compensated	15,803	22,355	15,772	-29.3	0.2
Benefits Paid	\$6,459,600	\$9,149,753	\$6,427,855	-29.4	0.5
Average Weekly Benefit Payment	\$408.76	\$409.29	\$407.55	-0.1	0.3
State Insured Covered Jobs ¹	279,365	278,273	275,396	0.4	1.4
Insured Unemployment Rate	2.1%	2.4%	1.8%	N/A	N/A
Consumer Price Index (U) for All U.S. Urban Consumers (1982 to 1984 = 100)					
All Items	241.4	240.8	237.9	0.2	1.5
Food & Beverages	247.6	247.4	248.1	0.1	-0.2
Housing	246.1	245.5	239.7	0.3	2.7
Apparel	128.4	124.9	128.5	2.8	-0.1
Transportation	195.4	195.2	197.6	0.1	-1.1
Medical Care	469.2	468.4	447.3	0.2	4.9
Recreation (Dec. 1997=100)	116.9	117.1	116.0	-0.1	0.8
Education & Communication (Dec. 1997=100)	139.2	139.3	139.1	-0.1	0.1
Other Goods & Services	425.5	424.1	416.3	0.3	2.2
Producer Prices (1982 to 1984 = 100)					
All Commodities	187.0	186.2	189.1	0.4	-1.1
Wyo. Bldg. Permits (New Privately Owned Housing Units Authorized)					
Total Units	162	146	131	11.0	23.7
Valuation	\$35,330,000	\$43,001,000	\$32,556,000	-17.8	8.5
Single Family Homes	134	127	123	5.5	8.9
Valuation	\$32,713,000	\$37,359,000	\$31,838,000	-12.4	2.7
Casper MSA ² Building Permits	11	17	28	-35.3	-60.7
Valuation	\$2,214,000	\$4,025,000	\$7,081,000	-45.0	-68.7
Cheyenne MSA Building Permits	35	48	24	-27.1	45.8
Valuation	\$5,766,000	\$7,861,000	\$2,044,000	-26.7	182.1
Baker Hughes North American Rotary Rig Count for Wyoming	13	8	24	62.5	-45.8

(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

From August to September, most county unemployment rates followed their normal seasonal pattern and fell slightly.

REGION	Labor Force			Employed			Unemployed			Unemployment Rates		
	Sep 2016	Aug 2016	Sep 2015	Sep 2016	Aug 2016	Sep 2015	Sep 2016	Aug 2016	Sep 2015	Sep 2016	Aug 2016	Sep 2015
County	(p)	(r)	(b)	(p)	(r)	(b)	(p)	(r)	(b)	(p)	(r)	(b)
NORTHWEST	48,988	49,554	49,021	46,616	47,065	47,064	2,372	2,489	1,957	4.8	5.0	4.0
Big Horn	5,662	5,709	5,590	5,443	5,457	5,374	219	252	216	3.9	4.4	3.9
Fremont	20,208	19,931	20,241	18,920	18,621	19,279	1,288	1,310	962	6.4	6.6	4.8
Hot Springs	2,435	2,427	2,395	2,328	2,322	2,307	107	105	88	4.4	4.3	3.7
Park	16,423	17,212	16,485	15,829	16,581	15,936	594	631	549	3.6	3.7	3.3
Washakie	4,260	4,275	4,310	4,096	4,084	4,168	164	191	142	3.8	4.5	3.3
NORTHEAST	53,183	53,655	53,306	50,433	50,758	51,485	2,750	2,897	1,821	5.2	5.4	3.4
Campbell	24,841	25,176	25,433	23,213	23,469	24,531	1,628	1,707	902	6.6	6.8	3.5
Crook	3,826	3,946	3,774	3,676	3,787	3,672	150	159	102	3.9	4.0	2.7
Johnson	4,311	4,407	4,225	4,135	4,214	4,063	176	193	162	4.1	4.4	3.8
Sheridan	16,192	16,173	15,879	15,583	15,528	15,338	609	645	541	3.8	4.0	3.4
Weston	4,013	3,953	3,995	3,826	3,760	3,881	187	193	114	4.7	4.9	2.9
SOUTHWEST	60,805	61,560	60,968	58,215	58,902	58,678	2,590	2,658	2,290	4.3	4.3	3.8
Lincoln	8,842	8,785	8,618	8,509	8,449	8,292	333	336	326	3.8	3.8	3.8
Sublette	4,501	4,600	4,585	4,258	4,353	4,377	243	247	208	5.4	5.4	4.5
Sweetwater	21,981	21,734	22,583	20,780	20,495	21,625	1,201	1,239	958	5.5	5.7	4.2
Teton	15,940	17,039	15,601	15,616	16,699	15,240	324	340	361	2.0	2.0	2.3
Uinta	9,541	9,402	9,581	9,052	8,906	9,144	489	496	437	5.1	5.3	4.6
SOUTHEAST	80,935	79,774	82,578	78,147	76,726	79,905	2,788	3,048	2,673	3.4	3.8	3.2
Albany	20,634	19,192	20,869	20,048	18,550	20,296	586	642	573	2.8	3.3	2.7
Goshen	7,181	7,249	7,203	6,964	7,009	6,995	217	240	208	3.0	3.3	2.9
Laramie	46,891	47,093	48,148	45,143	45,195	46,464	1,748	1,898	1,684	3.7	4.0	3.5
Niobrara	1,383	1,411	1,343	1,341	1,364	1,311	42	47	32	3.0	3.3	2.4
Platte	4,846	4,829	5,015	4,651	4,608	4,839	195	221	176	4.0	4.6	3.5
CENTRAL	57,056	57,181	59,222	53,580	53,573	56,729	3,476	3,608	2,493	6.1	6.3	4.2
Carbon	8,400	8,438	8,989	8,068	8,096	8,739	332	342	250	4.0	4.1	2.8
Converse	8,065	8,087	8,281	7,611	7,605	8,012	454	482	269	5.6	6.0	3.2
Natrona	40,591	40,656	41,952	37,901	37,872	39,978	2,690	2,784	1,974	6.6	6.8	4.7
STATEWIDE	300,970	301,724	305,097	286,995	287,027	293,862	13,975	14,697	11,235	4.6	4.9	3.7
Statewide Seasonally Adjusted										5.3	5.5	4.3
U.S.										4.8	5.0	4.9
U.S. Seasonally Adjusted										5.0	4.9	5.1

Prepared in cooperation with the Bureau of Labor Statistics. Benchmarked 03/2016. Run Date 10/2016.

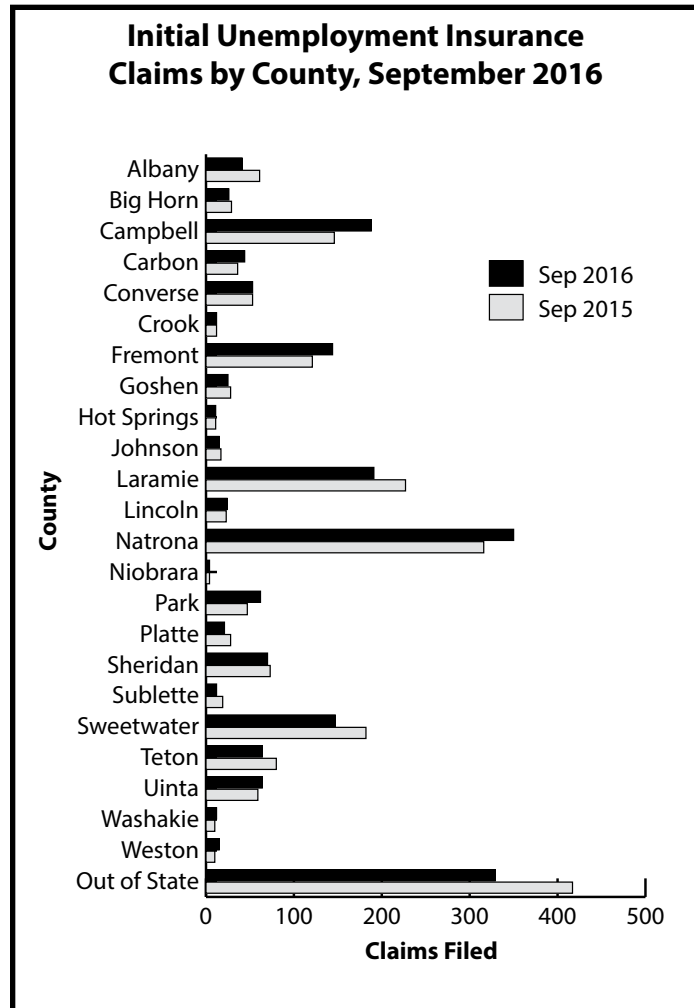
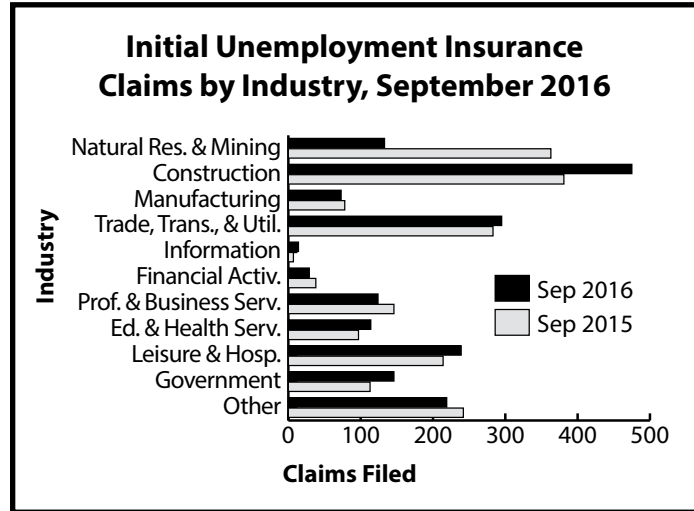
Data are not seasonally adjusted except where otherwise specified.

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

Wyoming Normalized^a Unemployment Insurance Statistics: Initial Claims

by: Patrick Manning, Principal Economist

Statewide initial claims decreased 4.3% (87 claims) from September 2015 to September 2016. This was the first over-the-year decrease in initial claims since December 2014.



Initial Claims	Claims Filed		Percent Change		
	Sep 16	Aug 16	Sep 16	Sep 15	
Wyoming Statewide	1,924	1,931	2,011	-0.4	-4.3
TOTAL CLAIMS FILED					
TOTAL GOODS-PRODUCING	683	715	824	-4.5	-17.1
Natural Res. & Mining	133	175	363	-24.0	-63.4
Mining	126	171	352	-26.3	-64.2
Oil & Gas Extraction	8	25	22	-68.0	-63.6
Construction	475	477	381	-0.4	24.7
Manufacturing	73	62	78	17.7	-6.4
TOTAL SERVICE-PROVIDING	875	813	831	7.6	5.3
Trade, Transp., & Utilities	295	287	283	2.8	4.2
Wholesale Trade	45	71	65	-36.6	-30.8
Retail Trade	149	140	112	6.4	33.0
Transp., Warehousing & Utilities	101	76	106	32.9	-4.7
Information	14	16	7	-12.5	100.0
Financial Activities	29	46	38	-37.0	-23.7
Prof. and Business Svcs.	124	160	146	-22.5	-15.1
Educational & Health Svcs.	114	107	97	6.5	17.5
Leisure & Hospitality	239	139	214	71.9	11.7
Other Svcs., exc. Public Admin.	56	50	38	12.0	47.4
TOTAL GOVERNMENT	146	158	113	-7.6	29.2
Federal Government	40	23	32	73.9	25.0
State Government	15	19	26	-21.1	-42.3
Local Government	90	115	53	-21.7	69.8
Local Education	22	28	13	-21.4	69.2
UNCLASSIFIED	219	244	242	-10.2	-9.5

Laramie County					
TOTAL CLAIMS FILED	190	289	226	-34.3	-15.9
TOTAL GOODS-PRODUCING	73	85	81	-14.1	-9.9
Construction	58	64	60	-9.4	-3.3
TOTAL SERVICE-PROVIDING	93	160	118	-41.9	-21.2
Trade, Transp., & Utilities	31	56	38	-44.6	-18.4
Financial Activities	4	9	9	-55.6	-55.6
Prof. & Business Svcs.	20	46	29	-56.5	-31.0
Educational & Health Svcs.	11	18	17	-38.9	-35.3
Leisure & Hospitality	17	17	15	0.0	13.3
TOTAL GOVERNMENT	14	23	17	-39.1	-17.6
UNCLASSIFIED	9	19	9	-52.6	0.0

Natrona County					
TOTAL CLAIMS FILED	349	336	316	3.9	10.4
TOTAL GOODS-PRODUCING	136	121	139	12.4	-2.2
Construction	83	76	60	9.2	38.3
TOTAL SERVICE-PROVIDING	190	179	158	6.1	20.3
Trade, Transp., & Utilities	70	58	68	20.7	2.9
Financial Activities	3	11	7	-72.7	-57.1
Prof. & Business Svcs.	31	22	24	40.9	29.2
Educational & Health Svcs.	33	28	15	17.9	120.0
Leisure & Hospitality	32	36	25	-11.1	28.0
TOTAL GOVERNMENT	11	12	6	-8.3	83.3
UNCLASSIFIED	10	22	11	-54.5	-9.1

^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

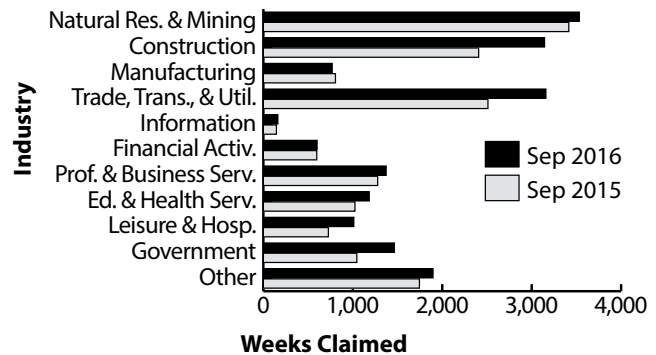
by: Patrick Manning, Principal Economist

Over the year, the number of unique claimants with continued claims increased 34.5% (1,386 individuals) in September 2016. Total continued weeks claimed increased by 16.5%, or 2,667 weeks claimed.

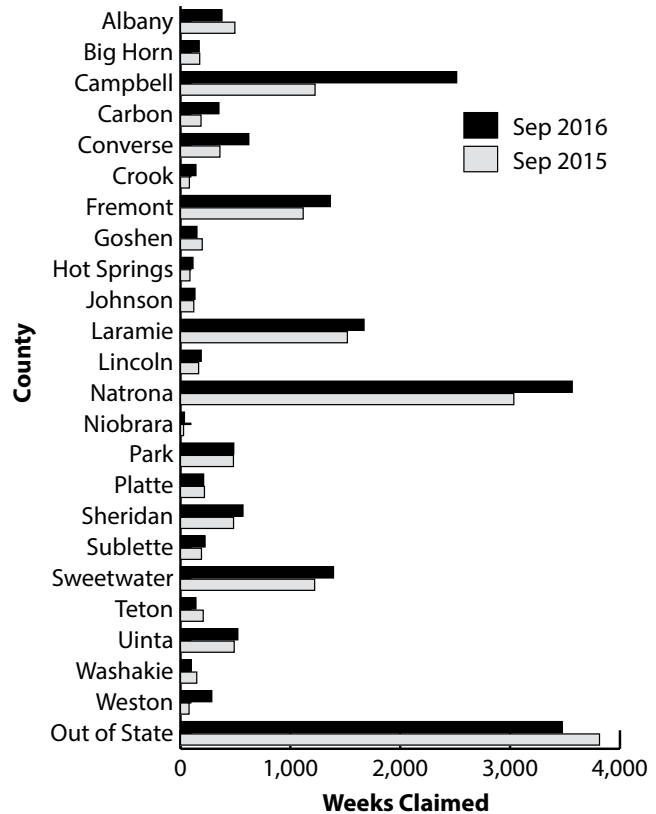
Continued Claims

	Percent Change Claims Filed				
	Claims Filed		Sep 16 Sep 16		
	Sep 16	Aug 16	Sep 15	Aug 16	Sep 15
Wyoming Statewide					
TOTAL WEEKS CLAIMED	18,801	22,092	16,134	-14.9	16.5
TOTAL UNIQUE CLAIMANTS^b	5,407	5,364	4,021	0.8	34.5
Benefit Exhaustions	574	581	439	-1.2	30.8
Benefit Exhaustion Rates	10.6%	10.8%	10.9%	-0.2%	-0.3%
TOTAL GOODS-PRODUCING					
Natural Res. & Mining	7,448	8,817	6,629	-15.5	12.4
Mining	3,533	4,557	3,415	-22.5	3.5
Oil & Gas Extraction	3,453	4,443	3,357	-22.3	2.9
Oil & Gas Extraction	422	460	272	-8.3	55.1
Construction	3,144	3,308	2,407	-5.0	30.6
Manufacturing	770	950	806	-18.9	-4.5
TOTAL SERVICE-PROVIDING					
Trade, Transp., & Utilities	7,989	9,532	6,714	-16.2	19.0
Wholesale Trade	3,159	3,637	2,511	-13.1	25.8
Retail Trade	1,118	1,343	776	-16.8	44.1
Transp., Warehousing & Utilities	1,149	1,237	840	-7.1	36.8
Information	892	1,057	895	-15.6	-0.3
Financial Activities	162	148	146	9.5	11.0
Prof. & Business Svcs.	601	716	597	-16.1	0.7
Educational & Health Svcs.	1,373	1,752	1,278	-21.6	7.4
Leisure and Hospitality	1,184	1,555	1,024	-23.9	15.6
Other Svcs., exc. Public Admin.	1,011	1,185	727	-14.7	39.1
Other Svcs., exc. Public Admin.	492	534	424	-7.9	16.0
TOTAL GOVERNMENT					
Federal Government	1,465	1,613	1,045	-9.2	40.2
State Government	243	208	192	16.8	26.6
Local Government	150	160	193	-6.3	-22.3
Local Education	1,071	1,244	659	-13.9	62.5
Local Education	333	387	225	-14.0	48.0
UNCLASSIFIED	1,897	2,128	1,745	-10.9	8.7
Laramie County					
TOTAL WEEKS CLAIMED	1,671	1,985	1,518	-15.8	10.1
TOTAL UNIQUE CLAIMANTS	465	502	387	-7.4	20.2
TOTAL GOODS-PRODUCING					
Construction	416	477	389	-12.8	6.9
Construction	246	262	262	-6.1	-6.1
TOTAL SERVICE-PROVIDING					
Trade, Transp., and Utilities	985	1,239	861	-20.5	14.4
Trade, Transp., and Utilities	386	419	254	-7.9	52.0
Financial Activities	59	85	80	-30.6	-26.3
Prof. & Business Svcs.	199	273	195	-27.1	2.1
Educational and Health Svcs.	163	244	182	-33.2	-10.4
Leisure & Hospitality	75	121	61	-38.0	23.0
TOTAL GOVERNMENT					
UNCLASSIFIED	172	183	200	-6.0	-14.0
UNCLASSIFIED	97	85	66	14.1	47.0
Natrona County					
TOTAL WEEKS CLAIMED	3,565	4,104	3,033	-13.1	17.5
TOTAL UNIQUE CLAIMANTS	1,039	1,011	733	2.8	41.7
TOTAL GOODS-PRODUCING					
Construction	1,439	1,680	1,437	-14.3	0.1
Construction	523	513	366	1.9	42.9
TOTAL SERVICE-PROVIDING					
Trade, Transp., and Utilities	1,924	2,229	1,462	-13.7	31.6
Trade, Transp., and Utilities	872	1,007	593	-13.4	47.0
Financial Activities	97	133	153	-27.1	-36.6
Professional & Business Svcs.	223	288	253	-22.6	-11.9
Educational & Health Svcs.	368	408	194	-9.8	89.7
Leisure & Hospitality	212	221	134	-4.1	58.2
TOTAL GOVERNMENT					
UNCLASSIFIED	121	116	65	4.3	86.2
UNCLASSIFIED	80	77	67	3.9	19.4

Continued Unemployment Insurance Claims by Industry, September 2016



Continued Unemployment Insurance Claims by County, September 2016



^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
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