New from Research & Planning: Wyoming Benefits Survey 2016

by: Lisa Knapp, Senior Research Analyst, and Michael Moore, Editor excerpted from Wyoming Benefits Survey 2016 (http://doe.state.wy.us/LMI/benefits/benefits_2016.pdf)

The purpose of this article is to provide samples of the data, tables, and figures available in the latest Wyoming Benefits Survey publication.

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♦ he Wyoming Benefits Survey, conducted by the Research & Planning (R&P) section of the Wyoming Department of Workforce Services, is designed to collect data from Wyoming employers about the workplace benefits they offer their employees. The survey questionnaire is sent to a random sample of Unemployment Insurance (UI) covered employers from the Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages database on a quarterly basis. Generally, around 70% or more of the questionnaires are completed and returned each quarter (Knapp, 2016). The resulting estimates are based on the average employment in the state during each quarter and the preceding seven quarters which, in the case of the results used for this analysis, includes employment between fourth quarter 2014 (2014Q4) and third

quarter 2016 (2016Q3). Wyoming Benefits Survey 2016 (Benefits 2016) is available at http://doe.state.wy.us/LMI/benefits/benefits_2016.pdf.

A selection of tables containing data for employers and the total number of jobs — broken out by full- and part-time status, employer size class (the number of employees working for a business), industry, and Wyoming substate region — are presented in *Benefits 2016*. Sample tables and figures constructed from those data are included with this article. Based on responses to the survey, full-time employment is estimated to be at least 35 hours worked per week.

The tables and figures included in

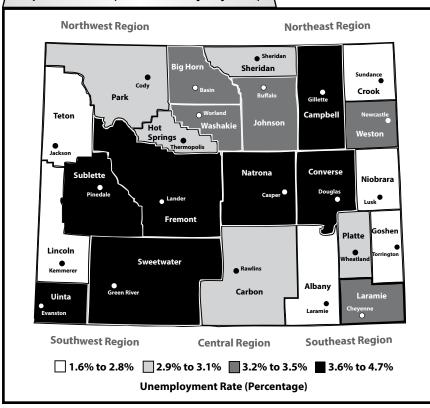
(Text continued on page 3)

Research & Planning

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- In September 2017, the average hourly wage for registered nurses in the Cheyenne Metropolitan Statistical Area (\$33.33) was higher than the statewide average (\$31.00) and any of Wyoming's other substate regions. ... page 12
- The dollar amount of benefits paid by Wyoming Unemployment Insurance fell by 55.6% from September 2016 to September 2017. ... page 16

Unemployment Rate by Wyoming County, September 2017 (Not Seasonally Adjusted)



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Wyoming Labor Force Trends

A monthly publication of the Wyoming Department of Workforce Services, John Cox, Director

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Subscriptions, additional copies, and back issues available free of charge.

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ISSN 0512-4409





(Text continued from page 1)

Benefits 2016 contain the following information:

- Total number of jobs and total number of jobs offered selected benefits by full- and part-time status.
- Percent of employers offering selected benefits to their fulltime, part-time, and total jobs.
- Percent of full-time, part-time, and total jobs offered selected benefits.
- Percent of full-time, part-time, and total jobs offered and enrolled in selected benefits (take-up rate).

Also included are charts and graphics showing the change in selected benefits offered over the last five years (2011Q4-2016Q3).

The tables and figures presented in this article primarily include the most frequently offered benefits, such as health insurance, dependent health insurance, paid holidays, paid vacation leave, and retirement plans. *Benefits 2016*, however, includes data on several other benefits, such as child care assistance,

tuition assistance, flexible spending, and short- and long-term disability.

Analysis

As shown in Table 1, approximately three-fourths (74.4%) of jobs in Wyoming in 2016Q3 were full-time

with an estimated 35 hours or more worked per week. A greater proportion of employers offered benefits to their full-time jobs than to their part-time jobs (see Table 2). For example, 43.6% of employers offered health insurance to their full-time jobs, but only 4.5% offered the benefit to their part-time jobs. Likewise, 39.3% of

Table 1: Total Number of Jobs in Wyoming by Full- and Part-Time Status, 2016Q3

	Full-T	ime	Part-T	ime	Tot	al
	N	%	N	%	N	%
ΙΤ	204,552	74.4	70,263	25.6	274,815	100.0

Estimates based on employment between 2014Q4 and 2016Q3.

Full-time employment is estimated to be at least 35 hours worked per week based on responses to the Wyoming Benefits Survey.

Source: Wyoming Benefits Survey 2016.

Prepared by L. Knapp, Research & Planning, WY DWS, 11/16/17.

Table 2: Total Number of Jobs and Number of Jobs Offered Selected Benefits, Percent of Employers Offering Selected Benefits, and Percent of Jobs Offered Selected Benefits by Full- and Part-Time Status, 2016Q3

	Benefit	Full-Time	Part-Time	Total
Number of	Total	204,552	70,263	274,815
Jobs	Dependent Health Insurance	155,435	6,718	162,154
	Health Insurance	165,049	7,166	172,215
	Paid Holidays	161,684	14,512	176,196
	Paid Vacation Leave	138,901	9,693	148,595
	Retirement Plan	155,436	21,313	176,749
% of	Dependent Health Insurance	36.0	3.8	24.6
Employers	Health Insurance	43.6	4.5	29.9
Offering Benefits	Paid Holidays	53.5	16.6	37.8
benefits	Paid Vacation Leave	47.4	10.4	33.1
	Retirement Plan	39.3	13.1	27.3
% of Jobs	Dependent Health Insurance	76.0	9.6	59.0
Offered	Health Insurance	80.7	10.2	62.7
Benefits	Paid Holidays	79.0	20.7	64.1
	Paid Vacation Leave	67.9	13.8	54.1
	Retirement Plan	76.0	30.3	64.3

Estimates based on employment between 2014Q4 and 2016Q3.

Full-time employment is estimated to be at least 35 hours worked per week based on responses to the Wyoming Benefits Survey.

Source: Wyoming Benefits Survey 2016.

Prepared by L. Knapp, Research & Planning, WY DWS, 12/1/17.

employers offered retirement plans to their full-time jobs, while 13.1% offered retirement benefits to part-time jobs. Nearly half of the Wyoming employers surveyed (47.4%) offered paid vacation leave to full-time jobs compared to 10.4% of employers who offered the benefit to part-time jobs.

Similarly, a greater proportion of full-time jobs were offered benefits (see Table 2, page 3). Among full-time jobs, 80.7% were offered health insurance, 76.0% were offered retirement benefits, and 79.0% were offered paid holidays. In comparison, 10.2% of part-time jobs were offered health insurance, 30.3% were offered retirement plans, and 20.7% were offered paid holidays.

Firm Size Class (Number of Employees)

Larger employers were more likely to offer benefits than smaller employers

(see Table 3). Employers with 50 or more employees were most likely to offer benefits; for example, 83.8% offered health insurance, 77.5% offered a retirement plan, and 65.5% offered paid vacation leave. By comparison, of all employers with 1-4 employees, 18.3% offered health insurance, 17.2% offered a retirement plan, and 21.4% offered paid vacation leave.

Jobs in larger firms were also more likely to be offered benefits. Of jobs in firms with 50 or more employees, 80.8% were offered health insurance, 85.2% were offered retirement plans, and 64.8% were offered paid vacation leave. As the size of the firm decreased, so did the proportion of jobs offered benefits. For example, 53.7% of jobs in firms with 20-49 employees were offered health insurance, compared to 41.2% of jobs in firms with 10-19 employees, 28.1% in firms with 5-9 employees, and 22.4% in firms with 1-4 employees.

Table 3: Total Number of Jobs and Number of Jobs Offered Selected Benefits, Percent of Employers Offering Selected Benefits, and Percent of All Jobs Offered Selected Benefits by Firm Size Class, 2016Q3

		Firm Size (Number of Employees)									
	Benefit	1-4	5-9	10-19	20-49	50+	Total				
Number of	Total	21,264	24,105	31,867	44,488	153,090	274,815				
Jobs	Dependent Health Insurance	3,517	5,231	11,412	22,342	119,652	162,154				
	Health Insurance	4,766	6,778	13,139	23,908	123,622	172,215				
	Paid Holidays	7,537	10,685	15,170	23,844	118,961	176,196				
	Paid Vacation Leave	5,912	9,297	13,427	20,740	99,219	148,595				
	Retirement Plan	4,657	6,376	12,128	23,097	130,490	176,749				
% of	Dependent Health Insurance	13.8	22.3	37.9	55.0	79.6	24.6				
Employers	Health Insurance	18.3	29.2	44.9	59.7	83.8	29.9				
Offering	Paid Holidays	26.7	45.1	51.2	55.7	75.0	37.8				
Benefits	Paid Vacation Leave	21.4	41.5	49.2	52.1	65.5	33.1				
	Retirement Plan	17.2	26.5	39.8	53.3	77.5	27.3				
% of Jobs	Dependent Health Insurance	16.5	21.7	35.8	50.2	78.2	59.0				
Offered	Health Insurance	22.4	28.1	41.2	53.7	80.8	62.7				
Benefits	Paid Holidays	35.4	44.3	47.6	53.6	77.7	64.1				
	Paid Vacation Leave	27.8	38.6	42.1	46.6	64.8	54.1				
	Retirement Plan	21.9	26.5	38.1	51.9	85.2	64.3				

Estimates based on employment between 2014Q4 and 2016Q3.

Source: Wyoming Benefits Survey 2016.

Prepared by L. Knapp, Research & Planning, WY DWS, 12/1/17.

Industry

The proportion of employers that offered benefits also varied by industry (see Table 4). The largest proportion of employers who offered benefits were in state & local government, while the smallest proportion of employers offering benefits was in leisure & hospitality. For example, 73.8% of employers in state & local government offered health insurance, compared to 17.2% of employers in leisure

inaustry	, 2016Q3							li	ndustr	у						
	Benefit	Natural Resources & Mining	Construction	Manufacturing	Wholesale Trade	Retail Trade	Transportation & Utilities	Information		Professional & Business Services	Educat Service	Health Care & Social Assistance		Other Services	State & Local Government	Total
Number	Total		22,638	9,784			10,996					34,816		7,322	•	274,815
of Jobs	Dependent Health Insurance	16,536				14,907	7,854	2,638	6,783			22,599			23,571	162,154
	Health Insurance	16,722				16,393	8,113	2,612	7,312			23,909	11,977		24,904	172,215
	Paid Holidays	14,969				21,727	7,874	3,002				22,348	7,725	,	25,894	176,196
	Paid Vacation Leave	13,164		5,953	4,967	17,470	6,409	2,510	4,970	7,437	21,946	13,546	12,310	2,890	24,350	148,595
	Retirement Plan	15,364	11,281	6,376		20,219	7,125	2,544	7,384			26,191			26,295	176,749
% of Employers Offering	Dependent Health Insurance	39.4	18.7	26.9	46.7	23.7	28.5	20.7	25.0	36.6	41.3	21.1	13.5	17.2	69.9	24.6
Benefits	Health Insurance	42.9	24.6	33.3	51.5	29.7	32.6	24.2	31.4	39.3	41.9	26.8	17.2	23.7	73.8	29.9
	Paid Holidays	41.1	29.9	48.5	57.8	41.3	30.0	42.8	38.6	55.5	44.0	41.8	11.9	38.4	80.0	37.8
	Paid Vacation Leave	39.9	27.9	39.6	48.2	42.6	31.3	32.8	27.5	41.8	37.7	30.1	23.6	33.2	73.5	33.1
	Retirement Plan	34.7	21.3	26.6	41.3	24.3	21.9	25.9	31.4	34.7	37.2	31.8	12.3	19.4	75.8	27.3
% of Jobs Offered Benefits	Dependent Health Insurance	89.0	49.7	74.2	71.9	45.7	71.4	70.2	63.4	40.9	89.5	64.9	25.5	28.9	78.3	59.0
	Health Insurance	90.0	56.3	76.0	75.5	50.2	73.8	69.5	68.3	50.4	87.4	68.7	28.9	33.7	82.7	62.7
	Paid Holidays	80.5	54.3	80.8	79.1	66.6	71.6	79.9	77.9	57.1	93.3	64.2	18.6	47.5	86.0	64.1
	Paid Vacation Leave	70.8	47.1	60.8	59.7	53.5	58.3	66.8	46.4	40.1	87.3	38.9	29.7	39.5	80.9	54.1
	Retirement Plan	82.7	49.8	65.2	70.1	62.0	64.8	67.7	69.0	50.2	91.2	75.2	31.8	36.5	87.4	64.3
Source: W	based on e /yoming Ber by L. Knapp	nefits Su	rvey 20	16.				,								

& hospitality. Other industries with relatively high proportions of employers offering health insurance included wholesale trade (51.5%), natural resources & mining (42.9%), and educational services (41.9%).

Similarly, many of those same industries also had the largest proportion of jobs offered benefits (see Table 4). The largest proportion of jobs offered health insurance were found in natural resources

& mining (90.0%), educational services (87.4%), state & local government (82.7%), manufacturing (76.0%), and wholesale trade (75.5%). Educational services (91.2%), state & local government (87.4%), and natural resources & mining (82.7%) were also the industries with the greatest proportion of jobs offered a retirement plan.

Substate Region

As shown in Figure 1, Wyoming is

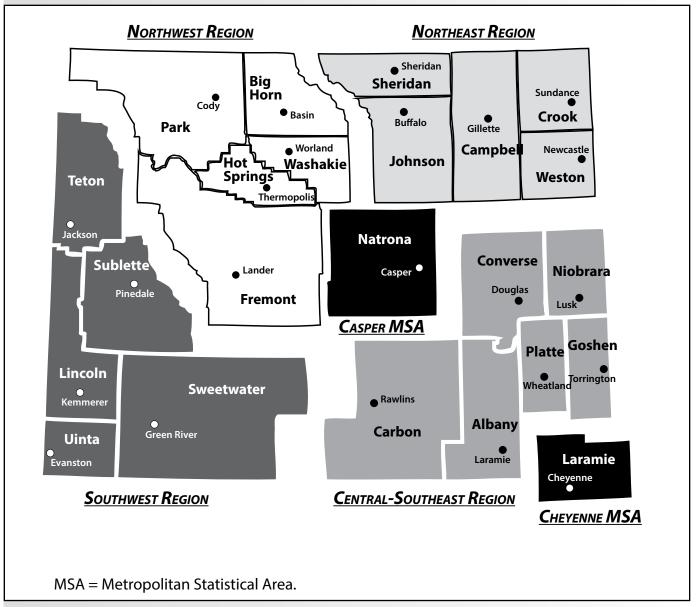


Figure 1: Map of Wyoming's Substate Regions

broken out into six regions, which includes the Casper and Cheyenne Metropolitan Statistical Areas (MSAs). Some businesses had jobs spread across the state and could not be placed into a single region; these employers and jobs were combined into a seventh category called *statewide*. Approximately one-third (33.5%) of all jobs

in Wyoming in 2016Q3 were in the statewide category (see Figure 2, page 8).

Statewide businesses had the largest proportion of employers who offered any of the benefits, most likely because statewide business tend to have a large number of employees and, as previously mentioned, a

Table 5: Total Number of Jobs, Percent of Employers Offering Benefits, and Percent of Jobs Offered Benefits by s by Substate Region, 2016Q3

	_				Reg	gion			
		Casper MSA ^a	Cheyenne MSA ^a	Central- Southeast	North- east	North- west	South- west	State- wide	Total
Number	Total	27,090	28,624	21,972	30,705	27,441	46,844	92,138	274,815
of Jobs	Dependent Health Insurance	14,895	15,869	10,752	16,432	13,778	23,552	66,877	162,154
	Health Insurance	15,917	16,954	11,605	17,641	14,779	25,417	69,902	172,215
	Paid Holidays	16,623	17,799	12,228	18,088	15,890	25,500	70,068	176,196
	Paid Vacation Leave	13,829	14,736	10,468	15,492	13,875	22,802	57,392	148,595
	Retirement Plan	15,945	17,250	11,652	17,174	14,867	25,411	74,450	176,749
% of Employers Offering	Dependent Health Insurance	24.6	23.8	22.2	23.1	21.0	22.5	53.3	24.6
Benefits	Health Insurance	29.9	29.2	27.3	28.4	26.1	27.8	58.5	29.9
	Paid Holidays	39.1	37.9	35.4	36.7	34.5	35.5	59.6	37.8
	Paid Vacation Leave	33.6	32.3	31.6	32.8	30.7	31.6	50.5	33.1
	Retirement Plan	27.4	27.1	24.8	25.5	24.1	25.3	53.5	27.3
% of Jobs Offered Benefits	Dependent Health Insurance	55.0	55.4	48.9	53.5	50.2	50.3	72.6	59.0
	Health Insurance	58.8	59.2	52.8	57.5	53.9	54.3	75.9	62.7
	Paid Holidays	61.4	62.2	55.7	58.9	57.9	54.4	76.0	64.1
	Paid Vacation Leave	51.0	51.5	47.6	50.5	50.6	48.7	62.3	54.1
	Retirement Plan	58.9	60.3	53.0	55.9	54.2	54.2	80.8	64.3

^aMetropolitan Statistical Area.

Estimates based on employment between 2014Q4 and 2016Q3.

Source: Wyoming Benefits Survey 2016.

Prepared by L. Knapp, Research & Planning, WY DWS, 11/9/17.

greater proportion of larger businesses offer benefits. For example, as shown in Table 5, 58.5% of employers in the statewide category offered health insurance, compared to less than 30% in each of the state's six regions; the total for all employers in Wyoming offering health insurance was 29.9%.

As with employers, the

largest proportion of jobs offered benefits were in companies categorized as statewide (see Table 5). More than half of all jobs in each of the substate regions were offered health insurance benefits, with 75.9% of all jobs in the statewide category offered health insurance. Of all jobs in the statewide category, 80.8% were

offered a retirement plan, followed by jobs in the Cheyenne (60.3%) and Casper (58.9%) MSAs.

Benefits Offered Over Time: 2011Q4-2016Q3

In 2015Q2, Wyoming entered a period of economic downturn that was influenced by "a substantial decline in the prices of oil, an extended period of low natural gas prices, and the erosion in the price of coal" (Gallagher, 2016). R&P has defined an economic downturn as period of at least two consecutive quarters during which employment and wages declined from prior-year levels. The over-the-year decline in employment that began in 2015Q2 continued through at least 2017O1, the most current quarter of data at the time this article was published.

Mohondro (2017) explained that firms avoid layoffs at the beginning of an economic downturn by reducing employee hours. Figure 3 (see page 9) shows that during the first four quarters of the recent downturn (2015Q2 to 2016Q1), the number of full-time jobs decreased, while the number of part-

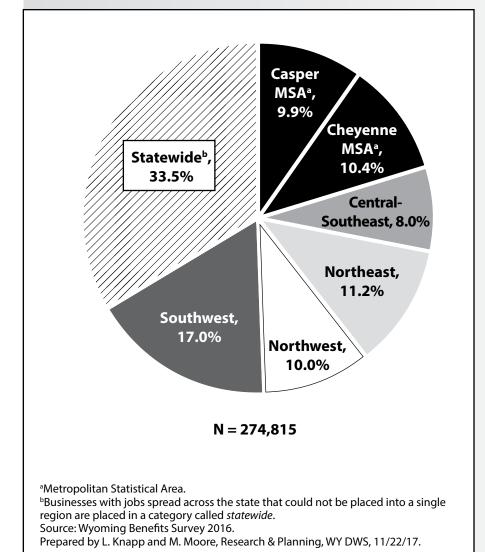


Figure 2: Total Jobs in Wyoming by Substate Region, 2016Q3

time jobs increased. This change may be the result of a reduction in hours worked, which would lead to some jobs being reclassified from full-time (at least 35 hours per week) to part-time (fewer than 35 hours per week). As previously discussed, part-time jobs were less likely to be offered benefits than full-time jobs (see Table 2, page 3). In other words, periods of economic downturn may result in fewer jobs being offered access to benefits as the number of hours worked

decreases and jobs are reclassified from fulltime to part-time status.

Medical Benefits

Wyoming experienced moderate growth in the total number of jobs in the state from 2011Q4 to 2015Q1. With the start of the economic downturn in 2015Q2 Wyoming consistently lost jobs at a greater rate than it had previously added them.

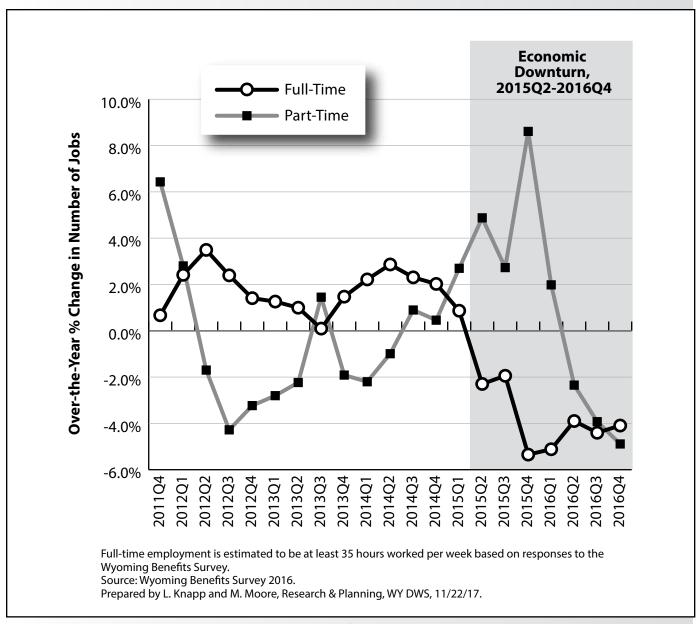


Figure 3: Over-the-Year Percent Change in the Number of Full- and Part-Time Jobs in Wyoming, 2011Q4-2016Q4

The percentage of Wyoming employers offering selected medical benefits began decreasing well before the start of the economic downturn, and has consistently declined over the last five years. In 2011Q4, 37.2% of Wyoming employers offered health insurance; that decreased to 29.9% by 2016Q3. A similar decline was also seen in the percentage of employers offering dental plans, dependent health insurance, and vision insurance.

The percentage of jobs offered health care benefits also decreased over the past five years, but at a slower rate. The percentage of jobs offered health insurance in 2016Q3 was 62.7%, down from a high of 68.3% in 2013Q4.

Insurance Benefits

The percentage of Wyoming jobs offered retirement and insurance benefits has remained relatively unchanged over the last five years. In 2016Q3, 64.3% of all jobs were offered access to a retirement plan, compared to 64.5% in 2011Q4.

A smaller percentage of part-time jobs was offered long- and short-term disability benefits than any of the other benefits discussed in this publication. The percentage of part-time jobs offered short-term disability insurance, for example, decreased from a high of 13.8% in 2013Q2 to a low of 5.8% in 2016Q3.

Paid Leave Benefits

Over the last five years, the percentage of employers offering paid personal leave has increased while the percentage of employers offering paid sick leave has decreased (see Figure 4, page 11). This is consistent with a national trend that has seen a decrease in paid sick leave and an increase in paid time off (PTO) banks, where all of an employee's

leave time is pooled into one bank and not designated specifically for vacation or sick leave. As part of a survey of 450 U.S. employers, Mercer (2016) found that 63% had moved to PTO plan policies in 2015, compared to 38% in 2010.

Conclusion

Overall, a greater proportion of fulltime jobs were offered benefits than parttime jobs. In addition, take-up rates — the percent of jobs that were offered benefits and enrolled — were higher among fulltime workers than part-time workers.

Large employers were more likely to offer benefits than smaller employers. For example, 83.8% of all employers with 50 or more employees offered health insurance, compared to 18.3% of employers with 1-4 employees.

The industries with the highest proportion of employers offering health insurance included state and local government, wholesale trade, natural resources & mining, and educational services. Leisure & hospitality had the smallest proportion of employers offering health insurance.

Wyoming is divided into six regions, which include the Casper and Cheyenne Metropolitan Statistical Areas. Businesses that had jobs spread out across the state and could not be placed into a single region are grouped into a seventh category called statewide. Employers in the statewide category offered benefits at a greater rate than any of the state's six regions. Employers considered statewide tend to have a larger number of jobs, and therefore were more likely to offer benefits.

Finally, the percentage of Wyoming employers offering health insurance has steadily declined over the last five years. In addition, Wyoming employers seem to be moving away from offering paid sick leave and toward paid time off, where all leave is maintained in one pool.

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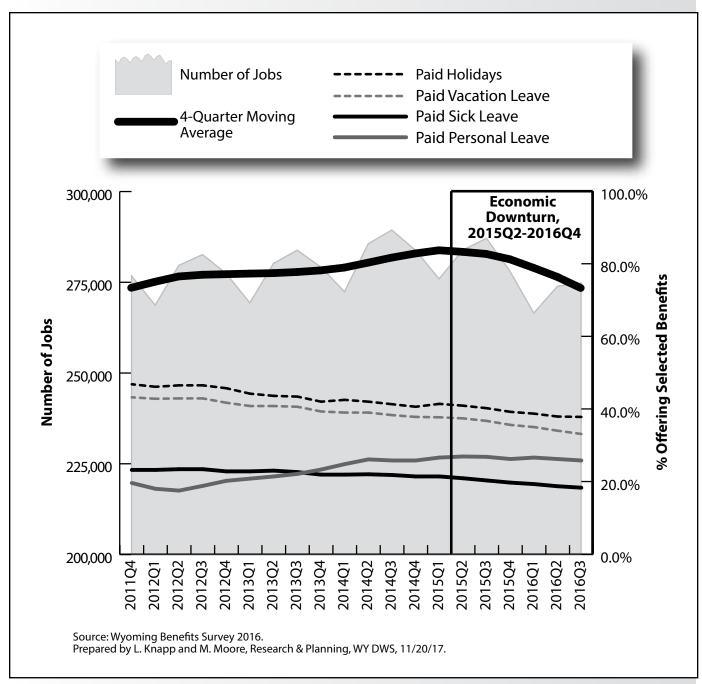


Figure 4: Total Number of Jobs and Percent of Wyoming Employers Offering Selected Paid Leave Benefits, 2011Q3-2016Q3 (20-Quarter Moving Average)

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Now Online

Wyoming Occupational Employment and Wages, September 2017

http://doe.state.wy.us/LMI/LEWISSept2017ECI/toc000.htm

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, and all workers are classified into one of the more than 840 detailed occupations based on survey responses from Wyoming employers. The data for Wyoming are collected for four regions and the two Metropolitan Statistical Areas (MSAs), Casper and Cheyenne (see page 6).

The Figure below uses OES data to compare the average hourly wage of registered nurses (SOC code 29-1141) in Wyoming by substate region.

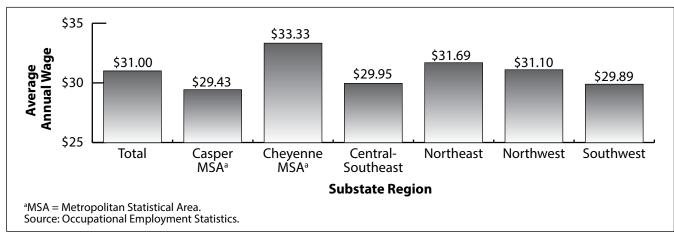


Figure: Average Hourly Wage of Registered Nurses (SOC 29-1141) in Wyoming by Substate Region, September 2017

Wyo. Unemployment Rate Unchanged at 4.0% in September 2017

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 remained unchanged from August to September at 4.0%. Wyoming's unemployment rate was significantly lower than its year-ago level of 5.1%, and slightly lower than the September U.S. unemployment rate of 4.2%. From September 2016 to September 2017, Wyoming's labor force (the sum of all employed and unemployed individuals) decreased significantly, falling by 7,668 people, or 2.5%.

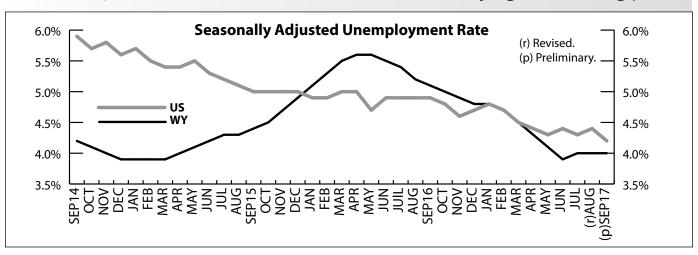
From August to September, most county unemployment rates followed their normal seasonal pattern and increased slightly. It is not unusual for unemployment rates to rise in September as seasonal job losses are seen in leisure & hospitality, retail trade, and professional & business services. The largest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

and Park (up from 3.0% to 3.2%) counties. Unemployment rates fell slightly in Platte (down from 3.5% to 3.2%), Goshen (down from 2.8% to 2.5%), and Fremont (down from 4.7% to 4.4%) counties.

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

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

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



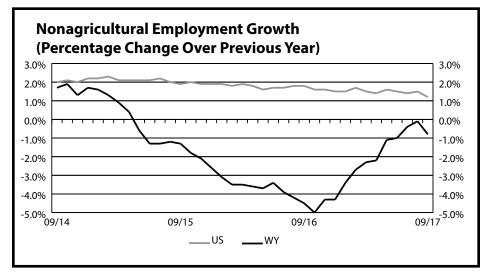
Seasonal adjustment is a statistical procedure to remove the impact of normal regularly recurring events (such as weather, major holidays, and the opening and closing of schools) from economic time series to better understand changes in economic conditions from month to month.

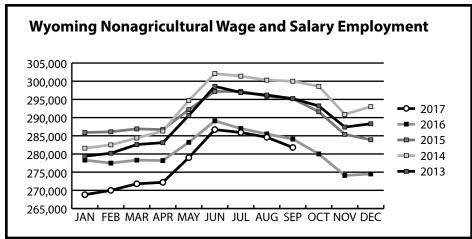
Current Employment Statistics (CES) Estimates and Research & Planning's Internal Estimates, September 2017

by: David Bullard, Senior Economist

Industry Sector	Research & Planning's Internal Estimates	Current Employment Statistics (CES) Estimates	N Difference	% Difference
Total Nonfarm	286,037	281,800	-4,237	-1.5%
Natural Resources & Mining	19,659	20,200	541	2.7%
Construction	21,879	22,200	321	1.4%
Manufacturing	9,454	9,400	-54	-0.6%
Wholesale Trade	8,026	8,100	74	0.9%
Retail Trade	29,902	30,500	598	2.0%
Transportation & Utilities	14,560	13,700	-860	-6.3%
Information	3,713	3,700	-13	-0.4%
Financial Activities	10,861	11,000	139	1.3%
Professional & Business Services	18,545	17,100	-1,445	-8.5%
Educational & Health Services	28,063	27,400	-663	-2.4%
Leisure & Hospitality	39,162	37,800	-1,362	-3.6%
Other Services	11,047	10,800	-247	-2.3%
Government	71,166	69,900	-1,266	-1.8%

Projections were run in August 2017 and based on QCEW data through March 2017.





State Unemployment Rates September 2017 (Seasonally Adjusted)

State	Unemp. Rate
Alaska	7.2
District of Columbia	6.5
New Mexico	6.2
Ohio	5.3
Kentucky	5.2
Mississippi	5.2
California	5.1
_ouisiana	5.1
West Virginia	5.1
llinois	5.0
Delaware	4.9
Nevada	4.9
New York	4.9
Pennsylvania	4.8
Arizona	4.7
New Jersey	4.7
Connecticut	4.6
Washington	4.6
Georgia	4.5
Oklahoma	4.5
Michigan	4.3
Oregon	4.2
Rhode Island	4.2
United States	4.2
North Carolina	4.1
Texas	4.0
Wyoming	4.0
Massachusetts	3.9
Montana	3.9
South Carolina	3.9
Alabama	3.8
Florida	3.8
ndiana	3.8
Kansas	3.8
Maryland	3.8
Missouri	3.8
Maine	3.7
Minnesota	3.7
/irginia	3.7
Arkansas	3.5
Wisconsin South Dakota	3.5
	3.4
Jtah owa	3.4 3.2
	3.0
Tennessee	
/ermont daho	2.9 2.8
uano Nebraska	2.8
New Hampshire	2.8
Colorado Hawaii	2.5
	2.5
North Dakota Puerto Rico	2.4
uer to nico	

Wyoming Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment

by: David Bullard, Senior Economist

by: David Bullard, Senior Economis	τ			0/ 61		
	F	mplovmen	nt	% Cha		
		Thousand		Aug 17	Sep 16	
	Sep 17	Aug 17	Sep 16	Sep 17	Sep 17	
CAMPBELL COUNTY						
TOTAL NONAG. WAGE & SALARY EMPLOYMENT	25.1	25.1	25.1	0.0	0.0	
TOTAL PRIVATE	19.9	20.0	19.9	-0.5	0.0	
GOODS PRODUCING	8.3	8.3	8.1	0.0	2.5	
Natural Resources & Mining	5.8	5.8	5.4	0.0	7.4	
Construction	2.1	2.1	2.3	0.0	-8.7	
Manufacturing	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.0	0.0	
SERVICE PROVIDING	16.8	16.8	17.0	0.0	-1.2	
Trade, Transportation, & Utilities	5.0	5.1	5.2	-2.0	-3.8	
Information Financial Activities	0.2 0.7	0.2 0.7	0.2 0.7	0.0	0.0	
Professional & Business Services	1.6	1.6	1.6	0.0 0.0	0.0 0.0	
Educational & Health Services	1.0	1.0	1.1	0.0	0.0	
Leisure & Hospitality	2.3	2.3	2.3	0.0	0.0	
Other Services	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.0	0.0	
GOVERNMENT	5.2	5.1	5.2	2.0	0.0	
	3.2	J. 1	٠.٤	2.0	0.0	
	_			% Change		
	Employment in Thousands			Total Employment Aug 17 Sep 16		
	Sep 17 Aug 17 Sep 16			Sep 17	Sep 10	
SWEETWATER COUNTY						
TOTAL NONAG. WAGE & SALARY EMPLOYMENT	22.1	22.2	22.1		0.0	
TOTAL NONAG. WAGE & SALARY EMPLOYMENT	23.1 18.5	23.3 18.8	23.1 18.4	-0.9 -1.6	0.0 0.5	
GOODS PRODUCING	7.5	7.6	7.4	-1.0	1.4	
Natural Resources & Mining	4.5	4.6	4.3	-2.2	4.7	
Construction	1.7	1.6	1.7	6.2	0.0	
Manufacturing	1.3	1.4	1.4	-7.1	-7.1	
SERVICE PROVIDING	15.6	15.7	15.7	-0.6	-0.6	
Trade, Transportation, & Utilities	4.5	4.6	4.7	-2.2	-4.3	
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	1.1	1.1	0.9	0.0	22.2	
Educational & Health Services	1.4	1.4	1.4	0.0	0.0	
Leisure & Hospitality	2.4	2.5	2.4	-4.0	0.0	
Other Services	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.0	0.0	
GOVERNMENT	4.6	4.5	4.7	2.2	-2.1	
				% Cha	ange	
		mploymen		Total Emp	loyment	
		Thousand		Aug 17	Sep 16	
TETON COUNTY	Sep 17	Aug 17	Sep 16	Sep 17	Sep 17	
TETON COUNTY						
TOTAL NONAG. WAGE & SALARY EMPLOYMENT	22.5	24.3	22.2	-7.4	1.4	
TOTAL PRIVATE	19.8	21.9	19.5	-9.6	1.5	
GOODS PRODUCING	2.4	2.5	2.4	-4.0	0.0	
Natural Resources, Mining & Construction	2.2	2.3	2.2	-4.3	0.0	
Manufacturing SERVICE PROVIDING	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.0	0.0	
Trade, Transportation, & Utilities	20.1 3.0	21.8 3.3	1 9.8 3.0	- 7.8 -9.1	1.5 0.0	
Information	0.2	3.3 0.2	0.2	-9.1 0.0	0.0	
Financial Activities	1.0	1.1	1.0	-9.1	0.0	
Professional & Business Services	2.1	2.2	2.0	-9.1 -4.5	5.0	
Educational & Health Services	1.2	1.2	1.2	0.0	0.0	
Leisure & Hospitality	9.4	10.8	9.2	-13.0	2.2	
Other Services	0.5	0.6	0.5	-16.7	0.0	
GOVERNMENT	2.7	2.4	2.7	12.5	0.0	

State Unemployment Rates September 2017 (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

State	Unemp. Rate
District of Columbia	7.0
Alaska	6.6
New Mexico	6.1
Louisiana	5.3
Nevada	5.0
New Jersey	4.8
Arizona	4.7
California	4.7
Delaware	4.7
Mississippi	4.7
New York	4.7
Ohio	4.7
Illinois	4.6
Michigan	4.5
Pennsylvania	4.4
Washington	4.4
West Virginia	4.4
Kentucky	4.3
Oklahoma	4.3
Georgia	4.2
Oregon	4.2
United States	4.1
Connecticut	4.0
North Carolina	4.0
Texas	4.0
South Carolina	3.8
Rhode Island	3.7
Florida	3.6
Indiana	3.6
Virginia	3.6
Maryland	3.5
Massachusetts	3.5
Wyoming	3.5
Arkansas	3.4
Kansas	3.4
Montana	3.4
Alabama	3.3
Missouri	3.3
South Dakota	3.1
Utah	3.1
lowa	3.0
Maine	3.0
Wisconsin	3.0
Minnesota	2.9
Tennessee	2.9
Vermont	2.9
New Hampshire	2.6
Idaho	2.5
Nebraska	2.5
Hawaii	2.4
Colorado	2.3
North Dakota	1.9
Puerto Rico	_

Economic Indicators

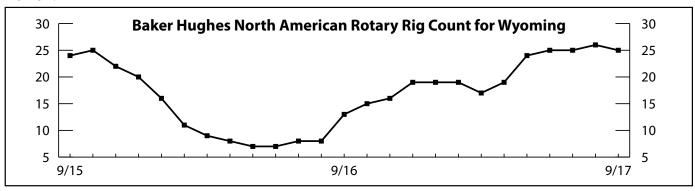
by: David Bullard, Senior Economist

The dollar amount of benefits paid by Wyoming Unemployment Insurance fell by 55.6% from September 2016 to September 2017.

201	Sep Aug 2017 (p) 2017 (r)		2016 (b)	Month	Change Year
Wyoming Total Nonfarm Employment 28	1,800	285,200	284,100	-1.2	-0.8
Wyoming State Government	15,100	14,000	15,500	7.9	-2.6
	47,200	47,400	46,300	-0.4	1.9
Natrona County Nonfarm Employment	38,700	38,600	38,400	0.3	0.8
Selected U.S. Employment Data					
	59,000	6,961,000	7,846,000	5.7	-6.2
As a percent of all workers	4.8%	4.5%	5.2%	N/A	N/A
	21,000	448,000	553,000	-6.0	-23.9
U.S. Part Time for Economic Reasons 4,81	18,000	5,204,000	5,550,000	-7.4	-13.2
Wyoming Unemployment Insurance	7.500	10.014	15.002	20.7	F4.0
Weeks Compensated Benefits Paid \$2.87	7,599 71,275	10,814 \$4,008,828	15,803	-29.7 -28.4	-51.9 -55.6
	71,275 377.85	\$4,008,828	\$6,459,600 \$408.76		
	57 7.85 56,755	\$370.71 265,713	\$408.76 262,964	1.9 0.4	-7.6 1.4
Insured Unemployment Rate	1.0%	1.2%	202,904	0.4 N/A	1. 4 N/A
insured Onemployment Rate	1.0%	1.2%	2.1%	IN/A	N/A
Consumer Price Index (U) for All U.S. Urban Consumers					
(1982 to 1984 = 100) All Items	246.8	245.5	241.4	0.5	2.2
	246.8 250.7	245.5 250.2	241.4 247.6	0.5 0.2	1.2
Food & Beverages Housing	250.7 253.0	250.2 252.6	247.6 246.1	0.2	2.8
Apparel	128.2	232.0 124.1	128.4	3.2	-0.2
Transportation	204.8	200.7	195.4	2.1	4.8
Medical Care	476.5	476.9	469.2	-0.1	1.6
Recreation (Dec. 1997=100)	118.9	118.9	116.9	0.0	1.6
Education & Communication (Dec. 1997=100)	136.2	135.7	139.2	0.4	-2.1
Other Goods & Services	434.1	433.3	425.5	0.2	2.0
		.55.5	.23.3	0.2	2.0
Producer Prices (1982 to 1984 = 100)					
All Commodities	194.5	193.7	186.9	0.4	4.1
Wyo. Bldg. Permits (New Privately Owned Housing Units Authorized)					
Total Units	191	187	162	2.1	17.9
Valuation \$48,88	82,000	\$61,047,000	\$35,330,000	-19.9	38.4
Single Family Homes	131	149	134	-12.1	-2.2
	56,000	\$57,523,000	\$32,713,000	-28.6	25.5
Casper MSA ² Building Permits	19	18	11	5.6	72.7
	16,000	\$3,513,000	\$2,214,000	37.1	117.5
Cheyenne MSA Building Permits	61	28	35	117.9	74.3
Valuation \$7,97	76,000	\$2,351,000	\$5,766,000	239.3	38.3
Baker Hughes North American Rotary Rig Count for Wyoming	25	26	13	-3.8	92.3

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

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.



¹Local Area Unemployment Statistics Program estimates.

²Metropolitan Statistical Area.

Wyoming County Unemployment Rates

by: Carola Cowan, BLS Programs Supervisor

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

	Labor Force				Employed		Uı	nemploye	ed	Unemployment Rates			
REGION	Sep 2017	Aug 2017	Sep 2016	Sep 2017	Aug 2017	Sep 2016	Sep 2017	Aug 2017	Sep 2016	Sep 2017	Aug 2017	Sep 2016	
County	(p)	(r)	(b)	(p)	(r)	(b)	(p)	(r)	(b)	(p)	(r)	(b)	
NORTHWEST	47,218	48,533	49,006	45,450	46,709	46,705	1,768	1,824	2,301	3.7	3.8	4.7	
Big Horn	5,428	5,522	5,623	5,239	5,332	5,414	189	190	209	3.5	3.4	3.7	
Fremont	19,362	19,447	19,981	18,504	18,527	18,733	858	920	1,248	4.4	4.7	6.2	
Hot Springs	2,331	2,386	2,480	2,257	2,312	2,377	74	74	103	3.2	3.1	4.2	
Park	15,952	16,979	16,647	15,444	16,474	16,065	508	505	582	3.2	3.0	3.5	
Washakie	4,145	4,199	4,275	4,006	4,064	4,116	139	135	159	3.4	3.2	3.7	
NORTHEAST	50,404	51,383	52,241	48,549	49,548	49,559	1,855	1,835	2,682	3.7	3.6	5.1	
Campbell	22,752	23,290	23,921	21,783	22,304	22,325	969	986	1,596	4.3	4.2	6.7	
Crook	3,708	3,870	3,909	3,607	3,768	3,766	101	102	143	2.7	2.6	3.7	
Johnson	4,249	4,387	4,305	4,107	4,254	4,136	142	133	169	3.3	3.0	3.9	
Sheridan	15,861	16,023	16,096	15,349	15,536	15,505	512	487	591	3.2	3.0	3.7	
Weston	3,834	3,813	4,010	3,703	3,686	3,827	131	127	183	3.4	3.3	4.6	
SOUTHWEST	59,936	61,745	60,974	58,035	59,901	58,461	1,901	1,844	2,513	3.2	3.0	4.1	
Lincoln	8,860	8,935	9,048	8,594	8,682	8,723	266	253	325	3.0	2.8	3.6	
Sublette	4,292	4,435	4,399	4,138	4,291	4,168	154	144	231	3.6	3.2	5.3	
Sweetwater	21,381	21,586	21,799	20,542	20,757	20,632	839	829	1,167	3.9	3.8	5.4	
Teton	16,116	17,495	16,365	15,810	17,210	16,049	306	285	316	1.9	1.6	1.9	
Uinta	9,287	9,294	9,363	8,951	8,961	8,889	336	333	474	3.6	3.6	5.1	
SOUTHEAST	80,897	80,319	82,676	78,455	77,848	79,970	2,442	2,471	2,706	3.0	3.1	3.3	
Albany	20,434	18,668	21,239	19,917	18,162	20,670	517	506	569	2.5	2.7	2.7	
Goshen	7,016	7,166	7,153	6,841	6,964	6,944	175	202	209	2.5	2.8	2.9	
Laramie	47,365	48,327	48,032	45,796	46,766	46,333	1,569	1,561	1,699	3.3	3.2	3.5	
Niobrara	1,356	1,396	1,410	1,325	1,363	1,370	31	33	40	2.3	2.4	2.8	
Platte	4,726	4,762	4,842	4,576	4,593	4,653	150	169	189	3.2	3.5	3.9	
CENTRAL	54,095	54,760	56,651	51,819	52,471	53,279	2,276	2,289	3,372	4.2	4.2	6.0	
Carbon	8,012	8,158	8,632	7,755	7,905	8,311	257	253	321	3.2	3.1	3.7	
Converse	7,504	7,609	7,759	7,224	7,316	7,321	280	293	438	3.7	3.9	5.6	
Natrona	38,579	38,993	40,260	36,840	37,250	37,647	1,739	1,743	2,613	4.5	4.5	6.5	
STATEWIDE	292,551	296,742	301,548	282,307	286,478	287,974	10,244	10,264	13,574	3.5	3.5	4.5	
Statewide Seaso	onally Adjust	ted						••••		4.0	4.0	5.1	
U.S										4.1	4.5	4.8	
U.S. Seasonally	Adjusted									4.2	4.4	4.9	

Prepared in cooperation with the Bureau of Labor Statistics. Benchmarked 03/2017. Run Date 10/2017.

Data are not seasonally adjusted except where otherwise specified.

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

Wyoming Normalized^a Unemployment Insurance Statistics: Initial Claims

by: Sherry Wen, Principal Economist

The total number of initial claims in Wyoming continued to decline in September 2017, down 33.6% (-646 claims) from September 2016.



Initial Unemployment Insurance Claims by County, September 2017								
County	Albany Big Horn Campbell Carbon Converse Crook Fremont Goshen Hot Springs Johnson Laramie Lincoln Natrona		•				2017 2016	
3	Niobrara Park Platte Sheridan Sublette	_						
	Sweetwater Teton Uinta Washakie Weston Out of State	-			_			.
Un	known (WY) <mark></mark> 0	50	100	150 Claim	200 s File	250 d	300	 350

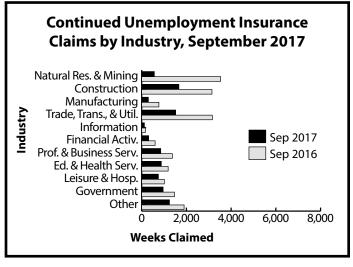
Initial Claims	Cla	ims Filed		Percent C Claims Sep 17 S	Filed
	Sep 17 /		-	•	•
Wyoming Statewide TOTAL CLAIMS FILED	1,278	1,120	1,924	14.1	-33.6
TOTAL GOODS-PRODUCING Natural Res. & Mining Mining Oil & Gas Extraction Construction Manufacturing TOTAL SERVICE-PROVIDING Trade, Transp., & Utilities Wholesale Trade Retail Trade Transp., Warehousing & Utilities Information Financial Activities Prof. and Business Svcs. Educational & Health Svcs. Leisure & Hospitality Other Svcs., exc. Public Admin. TOTAL GOVERNMENT Federal Government State Government Local Government Local Education UNCLASSIFIED	397 73 64 7 291 31 652 215 30 132 53 14 21 113 77 164 41 92 24 45 11	331 74 69 12 221 35 528 167 30 111 26 7 27 111 78 108 23 85 14 11 59 17	683 133 126 8 475 73 875 295 45 149 101 14 239 56 146 40 15 90 22 219	19.9 -1.4 -7.2 -41.7 31.7 -11.4 23.5 28.7 0.0 18.9 103.8 100.0 -22.2 1.8 -1.3 51.9 78.3 8.2 71.4 90.9 -23.7 -35.3 -21.8	-41.9 -45.1 -49.2 -12.5 -38.7 -57.5 -25.5 -27.1 -33.3 -11.4 -47.5 0.0 -27.6 -8.9 -32.5 -31.4 -26.8 -37.0 -40.0 -50.0 -50.0 -37.9
Laramie County				-	
TOTAL CLAIMS FILED TOTAL GOODS-PRODUCING Construction TOTAL SERVICE-PROVIDING Trade, Transp., & Utilities Financial Activities Prof. & Business Svcs. Educational & Health Svcs. Leisure & Hospitality TOTAL GOVERNMENT UNCLASSIFIED	202 68 57 110 25 7 23 18 20 12	38 30 107 30 6 39 14 8 7	73 58 93 31 4 20 11 17 14 9	78.9 90.0 2.8 -16.7 16.7 -41.0 28.6 150.0 71.4 -9.1	6.3 -6.8 -1.7 18.3 -19.4 75.0 15.0 63.6 17.6 -14.3 11.1
Natrona County					
TOTAL CLAIMS FILED TOTAL GOODS-PRODUCING Construction TOTAL SERVICE-PROVIDING Trade, Transp., & Utilities Financial Activities Prof. & Business Svcs. Educational & Health Svcs. Leisure & Hospitality TOTAL GOVERNMENT UNCLASSIFIED	193 67 49 112 37 2 17 19 22 8 5	51 38 118 35 8 15 24 25 12 6	349 136 83 190 70 3 31 33 32 11	2.1 31.4 28.9 -5.1 5.7 -75.0 13.3 -20.8 -12.0 -33.3 -16.7	-44.7 -50.7 -41.0 -41.1 -47.1 -33.3 -45.2 -42.4 -31.3 -27.3 -50.0
^a An average month is considered 4.33 weeks					

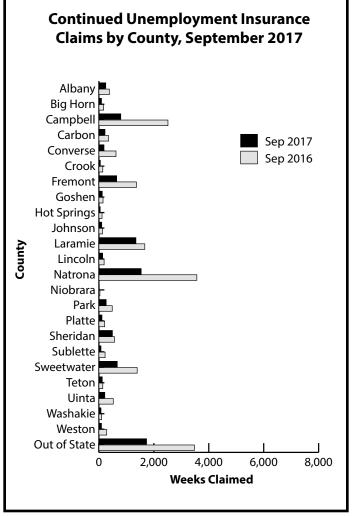
"An average month is considered 4.33 weeks. If a month has four weeks, the normalization factor is 1.0825. If the month has five weeks, the normalization factor is 0.866. The number of raw claims is multiplied by the normalization factor to achieve the normalized claims counts.

Wyoming Normalized^a Unemployment Insurance Statistics: Continued Claims by: Sherry Wen, Principal Economist

Over the year, the number of unique claimants with continued claims decreased by 50.1% (-2,710 individuals). Total continued weeks claimed decreased by 50.0% (9,398 claims).

Continued Claims	Claims Filed Sep 17 Aug 17 Sep 16			Percent Change Claims Filed Sep 17 Sep 17		
	3ep 17	Aug 17	sep 10	Aug 17	Sep 10	
Wyoming Statewide TOTAL WEEKS CLAIMED TOTAL UNIQUE CLAIMANTS Benefit Exhaustions Benefit Exhaustion Rates TOTAL GOODS-PRODUCING Natural Res. & Mining	9,403 2,697 217 8.0% 2,530 565	11,030 2,675 282 10.5% 2,841 519	18,801 5,407 574 10.6% 7,448 3,533		- 50.0 -50.1 -62.2 -2.6% -66.0 -84.0	
Mining Oil & Gas Extraction Construction Manufacturing TOTAL SERVICE-PROVIDING Trade, Transp., & Utilities Wholesale Trade	518	478	3,453	8.4	-85.0	
	94	95	422	-1.1	-77.7	
	1,664	1,897	3,144	-12.3	-47.1	
	299	423	770	-29.3	-61.2	
	4,670	5,578	7,989	-16.3	-41.5	
	1,521	1,618	3,159	-6.0	-51.9	
	261	291	1,118	-10.3	-76.7	
Retail Trade Transp., Warehousing & Utilities Information Financial Activities Prof. & Business Services Educational & Health Svcs. Leisure and Hospitality Other Svcs., exc. Public Admin.	122 312 852 877 747 232	921 406 168 388 975 1,207 1,008 207	1,149 892 162 601 1,373 1,184 1,011 492	-2.0 -12.1 -27.4 -19.6 -12.6 -27.3 -25.9	-21.4 -60.0 -24.7 -48.1 -37.9 -25.9 -26.1 -52.8	
TOTAL GOVERNMENT Federal Government State Government Local Government Local Education UNCLASSIFIED Laramie County	959	1,248	1,465	-23.2	-34.5	
	140	160	243	-12.5	-42.4	
	111	131	150	-15.3	-26.0	
	706	956	1,071	-26.2	-34.1	
	246	297	333	-17.2	-26.1	
	1,242	1,361	1,897	-8.7	-34.5	
TOTAL WEEKS CLAIMED TOTAL UNIQUE CLAIMANTS	1,346	1,569	1,671	-14.2	-19.4	
	397	378	465	5.0	-14.6	
TOTAL GOODS-PRODUCING Construction TOTAL SERVICE-PROVIDING Trade, Transp., and Utilities Financial Activities Prof. & Business Svcs. Educational and Health Svcs. Leisure & Hospitality TOTAL GOVERNMENT UNCLASSIFIED	264	288	416	-8.3	-36.5	
	206	232	246	-11.2	-16.3	
	932	1,059	985	-12.0	-5.4	
	300	310	386	-3.2	-22.3	
	90	97	59	-7.2	52.5	
	225	274	199	-17.9	13.1	
	152	198	163	-23.2	-6.7	
	76	103	75	-26.2	1.3	
	90	155	172	-41.9	-47.7	
	59	66	97	-10.6	-39.2	
Natrona County TOTAL WEEKS CLAIMED TOTAL UNIQUE CLAIMANTS	1,536	1,667	3,565	-7.9	-56.9	
	436	401	1,039	8.7	-58.0	
TOTAL GOODS-PRODUCING Construction TOTAL SERVICE-PROVIDING Trade, Transp., and Utilities Financial Activities Professional & Business Svcs. Educational & Health Svcs. Leisure & Hospitality TOTAL GOVERNMENT UNCLASSIFIED	407	381	1,439	6.8	-71.7	
	271	252	523	7.5	-48.2	
	985	1,150	1,924	-14.3	-48.8	
	309	311	872	-0.6	-64.6	
	56	89	97	-37.1	-42.3	
	123	160	223	-23.1	-44.8	
	253	281	368	-10.0	-31.3	
	157	205	212	-23.4	-25.9	
	95	77	121	23.4	-21.5	
	48	58	80	-17.2	-40.0	





^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.

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