

Can High School Students Use Labor Market Information to Make Informed Career Choices?

By: Michele Holmes, Public Relations Specialist

High school students from Star Lane Center in the Natrona County School District were shown how to access occupational projections, wages, and other data provided by the Research & Planning section of the Wyoming Department of Workforce Services. The students were tasked with analyzing their chosen career paths and presenting their findings to the Wyoming Workforce Development Council.

A recent partner project between the Research & Planning (R&P) section of the Wyoming Department of Workforce Services and Star Lane Center, a high school program of the Natrona County School District (NCSD), helped students use Labor Market Information (LMI) with minimal supervision to make informed career choices and assess vocational training opportunities proposed by the school district. R&P worked with the students and faculty to develop a series of questions for students to address during the course of the project.

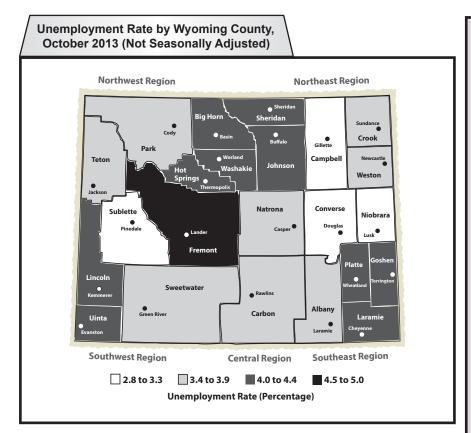
The project required students to use occupational projections and wage information to analyze their chosen career paths in terms of the education required for the career and the potential for earnings once employed. Students were also asked to assess some of the vocational training opportunities proposed by NCSD's forthcoming Center for Advanced and Professional Studies (CAPS) program. Students were given access to occupational wages, projections, and other R&P data in order to complete the project. Occupational wages and projections information used by the students can be found on R&P's website at http://doe.state. wy.us/LMI/projections.htm.

The project was led by Tony Glover and Michele Holmes from R&P, and instructor George Vlastos from Star Lane Center. Star

(Text continued on page 3)

HIGHLIGHTS

- Wyoming will need to fill 31,888 jobs during each of the next 10 years due to replacement need. By comparison, Wyoming is projected to add only 5,401 new jobs annually during this period. ... page 5
- Seasonally adjusted employment of Wyoming residents fell slightly from September to October, decreasing by 456 individuals (-0.2%). ... page 13



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Wyoming Labor Force Trends

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Lane is a unique half-day high school program in Casper which uses problembased learning to fulfill curriculum requirements and give students the skills they need to succeed in the workforce. The project between R&P and the Star Lane students culminated with a presentation of the students' findings to the Wyoming Workforce **Development Council** (WWDC) in Casper (see Figure). The WWDC "was established by Governor's Executive Order 1998-1, reconstituted under the Workforce Investment Act of 1998, and further reconstituted under Governor's Executive Order 2009-1" (WWDC, n.d.). The Council's mission is to "shape strategies and

policies to develop, recruit and retain Wyoming's workforce."

During the students' presentation to the WWDC, students demonstrated their ability to create a career plan using R&P datasets and O*NET OnLine (http://www. onetonline.org). Students analyzed R&P occupational projection data to look at the annual wages and job openings for the CAPS occupations, compared the U.S. workforce development system to other countries' systems, and concluded by explaining how their experience with a problembased curriculum like the one at Star Lane has prepared them to acquire the technical and soft skills

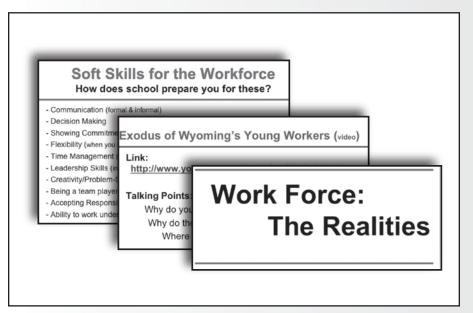


Figure: Slides from the Labor Market Information Presentation Given by Students from Star Lane Center to the Wyoming Workforce Development Council, 2013

needed to successfully enter the workforce. After the presentation, the students took part in a question and answer session with WWDC members.

Star Lane Center is currently the only high school program in Casper that uses the problembased approach to fulfill curriculum requirements. According to the NCSD website, their "curriculum is embedded in a series of problems, issues, scenarios, ideas, or concepts that are timely, relevant and, we hope, intriguing. We contact community members and/or professionals with expertise in fields related to our ideas to help us craft a problem that will lead students to the required high school subject matter. The experts also suggest what the final product should include and who should be the audience for the final presentation" (NCSD, n.d.).

In the Star Lane model, there are no tests; students demonstrate their subject matter knowledge during the construction and presentation of a final presentation. Science requirements are met by analyzing complex data and forming hypotheses; English requirements are met by assimilating and communicating research findings to a group of experts in the field. Each five-week project culminates in a multimedia presentation to community experts and stakeholders, and students must participate in a question and answer period after their presentation.

The problem-based approach to learning is something the NCSD plans to expand through its Pathways to 2025 program, which encompasses four new career tracks and will give students the opportunity to enter a specific career academy beginning in 2015. According to a recent article in the Casper Star-Tribune on the district's new system, the program will allow students to focus on "real problems" and "real issues," making the curriculum more valuable to students entering the workforce upon graduation (Todd, 2014). According to Todd, the "district's goal is to engage more students, increase graduation rates, close achievement gaps throughout the district and better prepare students for a transition to college, the workforce, or other training programs." The goals of the new Pathways to 2025 program are similar to the goals of Star Lane Center, and focus on readving students with the skills they need to enter the workforce after graduation.

Overall this initial pilot effort produced a valuable experience for the students.

"The problem statement did a fine job of orienting the students to the realities of the workforce and what's in place to help them prepare for a career," Star Lane Instructor George Vlastos said. "It also provided them with well-defined expectations in terms of outcomes, both individually, culling relevant information from a variety of databases to make their career plans, and collectively working as a group to analyze specific data for the sake of producing short videos and making recommendations of how high schools should ready graduates for the workforce. (It was) rather astounding watching the students wrap their minds around what is waiting for them in the working world. They recognize the positive as well as the negative aspects of the careers they're considering and have a firm understanding of what Wyoming and the surrounding region hold for their future. The impact of this unit opened eyes and changed minds, no doubt for the better."

R&P plans to pursue other projects with Star Lane Center, such as working closer with the WWDC to formulate a problem statement for the students.

To view the presentation given by the Star Lane students to the WWDC, visit http://www.starlanecenter.com/slideshows. php.

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Long-Term Occupational Projections by Educational Level and Replacement Need: 2012 to 2022

by: Valerie A. Davis, Senior Statistician

A ccording to the latest projections from the Research & Planning section of the Wyoming Department of Workforce Services, Wyoming is expected to add 54,006 new jobs from 2012 to 2022, but the best outlook for employment will be the need to replace workers who leave the state's workforce over the 10-year period (Glover, 2013).

Wyoming will need to fill 31,888 jobs during each of the next 10 years due to replacement need. These openings are due to workers leaving Wyoming's workforce because of retirement, job change, family priorities, death, or other reasons. By As Wyoming's labor market grows over the next 10 years, it will continue to be mostly made up of occupations that require a high school diploma or less.

comparison, Wyoming is projected to add only 5,401 new jobs annually during this period.

The three major occupational groups with the largest number of annual openings due to replacement need are also projected to add a substantial number of new jobs each year through 2022. As seen in

Table 1: Wyoming Occupational Projections by Major Occupational Group, 2012-2022						
		Employ	/ment		Annua	Openings
						Replacement
Major Occupational Group	2012	2022	Change	%	Growth	Need
Total All Occupations	280,767	334,773	54,006	19.2	5,401	31,888
Management Occupations	12,272	14,531	2,259	18.4	226	1,344
Business & Financial Operations Occupations	7,989	9,356	1,366	17.1	137	751
Computer & Mathematical Occupations	2,678	3,173	496	18.5	50	240
Architecture & Engineering Occupations	4,915	6,046	1,131	23	113	517
Life, Physical, & Social Science Occupations	4,337	5,200	864	19.9	86	367
Community & Social Services Occupations	4,325	5,326	1,001	23.1	100	426
Legal Occupations	1,728	2,008	280	16.2	28	176
Education, Training, & Library Occupations	19,529	25,864	6,335	32.4	633	1,757
Arts, Design, Entertainment, Sports, & Media Occupations	2,790	3,106	316	11.3	32	284
Healthcare Practitioners & Technical Occupations	13,361	16,082	2,722	20.4	272	1,359
Healthcare Support Occupations	6,255	7,534	1,280	20.5	128	655
Protective Service Occupations	6,560	7,562	1,003	15.3	100	509
Food Preparation & Serving Related Occupations	25,237	28,985	3,747	14.8	375	3,306
Building & Grounds Cleaning & Maintenance Occupations	11,571	13,559	1,988	17.2	199	1,351
Personal Care & Service Occupations	7,334	8,853	1,520	20.7	152	860
Sales & Related Occupations	22,820	24,522	1,702	7.5	170	2,743
Office & Administrative Support Occupations	37,319	43,245	5,926	15.9	593	3,958
Farming, Fishing, & Forestry Occupations	371	334	-37	-10	-4	31
Construction & Extraction Occupations	33,794	41,530	7,736	22.9	774	5,356
Installation, Maintenance, & Repair Occupations	18,188	22,311	4,123	22.7	412	1,863
Production Occupations	13,187	15,319	2,132	16.2	213	1,323
Transportation & Material Moving Occupations	21,272	26,464	5,192	24.4	519	2,381

December 2013

http://doe.state.wy.us/LMI

Table 1, the construction & extraction major occupational group will have the most job openings due to replacement need at 5,356 annually, and will also add the most new jobs at 774. The second highest replacement need job openings yearly will be in the office & administrative support major occupational group with 3,958 and 593 new jobs. The food preparation and serving related major occupational group is projected to have 3,306 annual openings due to replacement need and add 375 new jobs each year.

Levels of Education

The total number of occupations requiring a high school education or less is projected to grow by 33,099 (17.7%) by 2022. Of the top 10 occupations with the highest number of annual openings due to replacement need, four will increase by more than 700. These are retail salespersons at 999; heavy & tractor-trailer truck drivers at 808; combined food preparation & serving workers, including fast food at 724; and cashiers at 718. The total number of projected annual openings due to replacement need for this educational level is 22,412 (see Table 2).

Table 2: Top 10 Occupations Requiring High School or Less in Wyomingby Projected Replacement Need Job Openings, 2012 to 2022

		-	-		
	E	mployme	nt	Annua	l Openings
Occupation	2012	2022	Change	Growth	Replacement Need
Retail Salespersons	7,855	8,159	304	30	999
Heavy & Tractor-Trailer Truck Drivers	6,591	8,375	1,784	178	808
Combined Food Preparation & Serving Workers, Including Fast Food	5,507	6,193	686	69	724
Cashiers	5,775	5,857	82	8	718
Waiters & Waitresses	5,085	5,848	763	76	687
Operating Engineers & Other Construction Equipment Operators	5,683	7,105	1,422	142	665
Service Unit Operators, Oil, Gas, & Mining	3,186	4,661	1,475	147	653
Office Clerks, General	5,585	6,698	1,113	111	642
Construction Laborers	3,170	3,438	268	27	566
First-Line Supervisors of Construction Trades & Extraction Workers	3,296	4,002	706	71	556
Total , All Occupations	186,866	219,965	33,099	3,310	22,412

*There is a 1% estimation error associated with aggregations due to rounding at the sub-state region\3-digit NAICs dis-aggregate estimates.

Table 3: Top 10 Occupations Requiring Some College in Wyoming byProjected Replacement Need Job Openings, 2012 to 2022

	Employment			Annua	l Openings
Occupation	2012	2022	Change	Growth	Replacement Need
Electricians	2,583	3,048	464	46	394
Substitute Teachers	2,944	3,958	1,014	101	264
Plumbers, Pipefitters, & Steamfitters	1,026	1,125	99	10	181
Mobile Heavy Equipment Mechanics, Except Engines	1,307	1,644	338	34	152
Automotive Service Technicians & Mechanics	1,397	1,715	318	32	132
Heating, Air Conditioning, & Refrigeration Mechanics & Installers	550	646	96	10	77
Business Operations Specialists, All Other	963	1,137	175	17	74
Hairdressers, Hairstylists, & Cosmetologists	490	526	37	4	63
Pharmacy Technicians	532	581	49	5	59
Emergency Medical Technicians & Paramedics	607	729	121	12	56
Total, All Occupations	17,566	21,222	3,656	366	1,924

*There is a 1% estimation error associated with aggregations due to rounding at the sub-state region\3-digit NAICs dis-aggregate estimates.

Table 4: Top 10 Occupations Requiring a Certificate in Wyoming byProjected Replacement Need Job Openings, 2012 to 2022

	En	nployme	nt	Annua	l Openings
Occupation	2012	2022	Change	Growth	Replacement Need
Teacher Assistants	3,467	4,619	1,152	115	335
Licensed Practical & Licensed Voc. Nurses	740	884	144	14	80
Executive Secretaries & Executive Administrative Assistants	897	1,049	152	15	76
Preschool Teachers, Except Special Education	545	708	163	16	72
Billing & Posting Clerks	656	793	137	14	65
Wholesale & Retail Buyers, Exc. Farm Products	130	160	29	3	14
Computer, Automated Teller, & Office Machine Repairers	106	131	25	3	13
Flight Attendants	ND	ND	ND	1	8
Conveyor Operators & Tenders	64	72	8	1	3
Real Estate Brokers	25	30	5	1	3
Total, All Occupations	6,690	8,507	1,817	182	668

*There is a 1% estimation error associated with aggregations due to rounding at the sub-state region\3-digit NAICs dis-aggregate estimates.

Table 5: Top 10 Occupations Requiring an Associate's Degree in Wyomingby Projected Replacement Need Job Openings, 2012 to 2022					
	En	nploymei	nt	Annua	l Openings
Occupation	2012	2022	Change	Growth	Replacement Need
Registered Nurses	4,469	5,318	849	85	450
Dental Hygienists	410	527	117	12	41
Loan Interviewers & Clerks	414	430	16	2	39
Radiologic Technologists	384	460	77	8	36
Veterinary Technologists & Technicians	243	290	47	5	30
Medical & Clinical Laboratory Technicians	293	354	61	6	29
Computer Systems Analysts	247	291	44	4	26
Electrical & Electronics Repairers, Commercial & Industrial Equipment	193	255	62	6	24
Human Resources Assistants, Except Payroll & Timekeeping	238	291	54	5	24
Respiratory Therapists	229	269	40	4	23
Total, All Occupations	8,936	10,621	1,685	169	879

*There is a 1% estimation error associated with aggregations due to rounding at the sub-state region\3-digit NAICs dis-aggregate estimates.

Table 3 shows that five of the top 10 occupations requiring some college are projected to replace workers at a rate of over 100 per year: electricians at 394; substitute teachers at 264; plumbers, pipefitters, & steamfitters at 181; mobile heavy equipment mechanics, except engines at 152; and automotive service technicians & mechanics at 132. The total number of annual openings due to replacement need for this educational level is 1,924.

Five of the top 10 occupations requiring a certificate are projected to have more than 50 replacement need openings for each of these 10 years: teacher assistants at 335; licensed practical & licensed vocational nurses at 80; executive secretaries & executive administrative assistants at 76; preschool teachers, except special education at 72; and billing & posting clerks at 65 (see Table 4). The total projected number of annual openings due to replacement need for this educational level is 668

The only occupation requiring an associate's degree that is projected to have more than 100 annual openings due to replacement need is registered nurses at 450. Table 5 shows that the total number of annual openings due to replacement need for this educational level is 879.

For jobs requiring a bachelor's degree, five of the top 10 have projected replacement need openings of more than 170 annually. These are general & operations managers at 654; elementary school teachers, except special education at 253; sales representatives, wholesale & manufacturing, except technical & scientific products at 208; secondary school teachers, except special & career/technical education at 175: and accountants & auditors at 174. Table 6 shows the total number of projected annual openings due to replacement need for this educational level is 4,580.

For jobs requiring a master's degree, only three of the top 10 have projected annual openings of at least 40 due to replacement need: educational, guidance, school, & vocational counselors at 64; education administrators, elementary & secondary school at 40; and physical therapists at 40 (see Table 7). The total number of projected replacement need jobs each year for this educational level is 668.

Table 6: Top 10 Occupations Requiring a Bachelor's Degree in Wyoming by Projected Replacement Need Job Openings, 2012 to 2022

	Employment			Annua	al Openings
Occupation	2012	2022	Change		Replacement Need
General & Operations Managers	5,334	6,343	1,009	101	654
Elementary School Teachers, Exc. Special Education	2,812	3,772	960	96	253
Sales Reps., Wholesale & Manufacturing, Exc. Tech. & Scientific Products	2,021	2,611	590	59	208
Secondary School Teachers, Exc. Special & Career/Technical Ed.	1,977	2,663	685	69	175
Accountants & Auditors	1,779	2,112	333	33	174
Social & Human Service Assistants	1,013	1,222	209	21	110
Middle School Teachers, Exc. Special & Career/Technical Ed.	1,063	1,425	362	36	95
Civil Engineers	869	1,008	139	14	88
Petroleum Engineers	542	741	199	20	86
Airline Pilots, Copilots, & Flight Engineers	ND	ND	ND	5	73
Total, All Occupations	45,772	55,625	9,853	985	4,580

ND = not discloseable due to confidentiality.

*There is a 1% estimation error associated with aggregations due to rounding at the sub-state region\3-digit NAICs dis-aggregate estimates.

Table 7: Top 10 Occupations Requiring a Master's Degree in Wyoming by Projected Replacement Need Job Openings, 2012 to 2022

	Employment			Annua	l Openings
Occupation	2012	2022	Change	Growth	Replacement Need
Educational, Guidance, School, & Vocational Counselors	707	922	215	22	64
Education Admin., Elementary & Secondary School	448	606	158	16	40
Physical Therapists	386	482	96	10	40
Postsecondary Teachers, All Other	385	506	122	12	35
Mental Health Counselors	300	386	86	9	33
Librarians	395	500	105	10	31
Zoologists & Wildlife Biologists	343	403	59	6	29
Mental Health & Substance Abuse Social Workers	246	310	63	6	28
Rehabilitation Counselors	237	282	45	4	27
Occupational Therapists	244	310	67	7	26
Total, All Occupations	7,242	9,133	1,891	189	668

*There is a 1% estimation error associated with aggregations due to rounding at the sub-state region\3-digit NAICs dis-aggregate estimates.

Table 8: Top 10 Occupations Requiring a Doctoral or Professional Degreein Wyoming by Projected Replacement Need Job Openings, 2012 to 2022

	En	nploymei	nt	Annua	l Openings
					Replacement
Occupation	2012	2022	Change	Growth	Need
Lawyers	853	999	147	15	88
Pharmacists	535	588	53	5	57
Physicians & Surgeons, All Other	313	387	74	7	28
Family & General Practitioners	265	330	65	7	24
Veterinarians	178	214	37	4	21
Dentists, General	199	254	55	5	20
Biological Scientists, All Other	245	284	39	4	19
Biological Science Teachers, Postsecondary	130	170	40	4	11
English Language & Literature Teachers, Postsecondary	124	163	39	4	11
Mathematical Science Teachers, Postsecondary	125	166	41	4	10
Total, All Occupations	4,831	5,932	1,100	110	452

*There is a 1% estimation error associated with aggregations due to rounding at the sub-state region\3-digit NAICs dis-aggregate estimates.

Of the top 10 occupations requiring a doctoral or professional degree, only two are projected to have more than 50 annual openings due to replacement need: lawyers at 88 and pharmacists at 57. The total projected number of annual openings due to replacement need for this educational level is 452 (see Table 8).

Of the 21 occupations requiring more than a high school diploma that are projected to have at least 60 annual openings due to replacement need, four are in the health care and social assistance field: registered nurses (450); social & human service assistants (209); licensed practical & licensed vocational nurses (80); and education, guidance, school, & vocational counselors (64).

Of the 12 occupations requiring a bachelor's degree or higher that are projected to have at least 75 annual openings due to replacement need, five are in the education field: elementary school teachers, except special education (960); secondary school teachers, except special & career/ technical education (685); middle school teachers, except special & career/ technical education (362); teacher assistants (335); and substitute teachers (264).

Conclusion

As Wyoming's labor market grows over the next 10 years, it will continue to be mostly made up of occupations that require a high school diploma or less. The three major occupational groups with the largest number of annual openings due to replacement need are construction & extraction, office & administrative support, and food preparation & serving related, all of which require a high school diploma or less.

Detailed occupational projections are available online at http://doe.state. wy.us/LMI/projections.htm.

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Glover, T. (2013). Wyoming's Occupational Projections 2012 to 2022. Casper:

Wyoming Department of Workforce Services, Research & Planning.



2013 Publications from Research & Planning

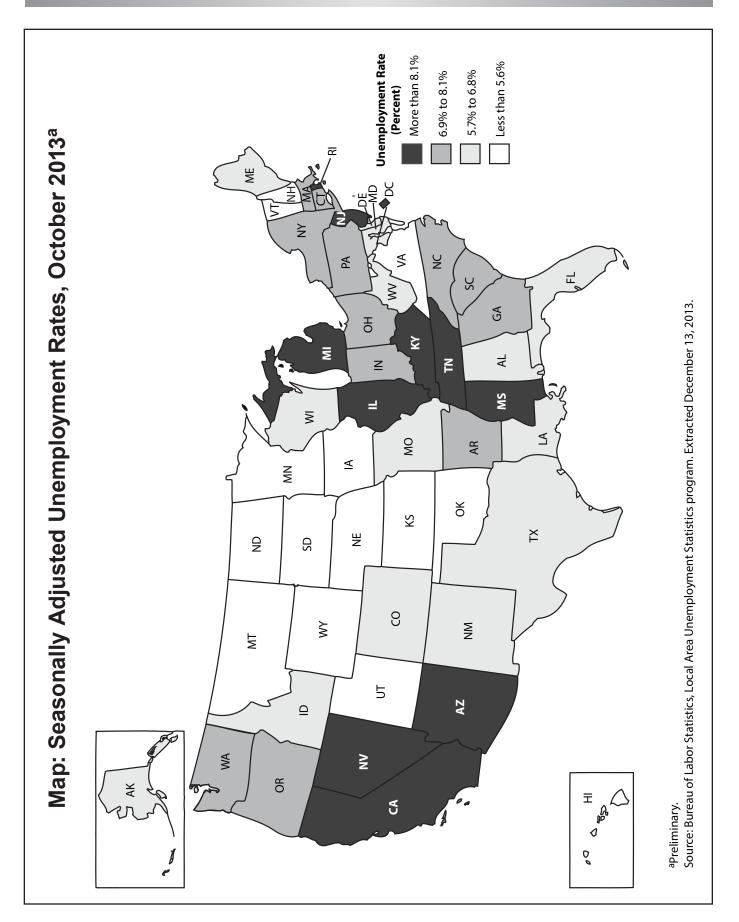
Research & Planning produced a variety of reports and publications in 2013. Many are available in print, and all may be found online at http://doe.state.wy.us/LMI. For print copies, call (307) 473-3807 or e-mail phil.ellsworth@wyo.gov or michael.moore@wyo.gov.

Vyoming Labor For	ice Trends
lanuary 2013 hrough December 2013	Monthly publication with current employment, unemployment, employment growth, unemployment insurance claims, county and regional data, and analysis of workforce topics.264 pages http://doe.state.wy.us/LMI/trends.htm (12- month total)
Trends Issue Date	Feature Articles
December 2013	Can High School Students Use Labor Market Information to Make Informed Career Choices? Long-Term Occupational Projections by Educational Level and Replacement Need: 2012 to 2022
November 2013	What Do Wyoming Employers Want? Evidence from the New Hires Survey
October 2013	Local Jobs and Payroll in Wyoming: Job Growth Remains Weak in First Quarter 2013
September 2013	Youths and Nonresidents in Wyoming's Labor Force, Part 2: Career Paths and Labor Shortages
August 2013	Health Care and Retail Sales Top Occupational Employment in Wyoming by Industry; Wyoming Occupational Fatalities Increase Slightly in 2012; Wyoming Lags Behind Surrounding States in Job Growth
July 2013	Local Jobs and Payroll in Wyoming: Mining Sector Contracts in Fourth Quarter 2012 ; The Cornerstone: Building an American Public Policy for Educational Attainment and Success in the Labor Market
June 2013	Youths and Nonresidents in Wyoming's Labor Force, Part 1: How it Works and Why it Matters; Wyoming Mass Layoffs Fall Slightly in 2012; BLS Discontinues Mass Layoff Statistics Program
May 2013	Wyoming Unemployment Insurance Benefit Expenses, Number of Recipients Decline in 2012; Demographics of UI Claimants: More Males Continue to Receive Benefits than Females
April 2013	Local Jobs and Payroll in Wyoming: Sharp Slowdown in Job Growth in Third Quarter 2012; Alternative Measures of Labor Underutilization and the Recession
March 2013	Wyoming Saw Little Change in Number of Occupational Injuries and Illnesses in 2011
February 2013	Small Businesses Play a Big Role in Wyoming's Economy
January 2013	Local Jobs and Payroll in Wyoming: Construction Continues to Grow in 2012Q2; BLS Offers Redesigned Site on Employment, Wages

News Releases & Publications	DESCRIPTION	URL
Labor Force Estimates – January 2013 through December 2013	Updates on the labor force in Wyoming, including statewide and county unemployment rates.	http://doe.state.wy.us/LMI/news_archive.htm
Quarterly Covered Employment and Wages	Employment and payroll news by industry and county, updated quarterly.	http://doe.state.wy.us/LMI/QCEW/toc.htm
Census of Fatal Occupational Injuries and Illnesses	Wyoming occupational fatality rates by industry.	http://doe.state.wy.us/LMI/CFOI/toc.htm
Survey of Occupational Injuries and Illnesses	Nonfatal work-related injuries and illnesses, including incidence rates by industry and details of the cases with days away from work.	http://doe.state.wy.us/LMI/OSH/toc.htm

News Releases & Publications	DESCRIPTION	URL
Research & Planning Quarterly News	Excerpts of Research & Planning's work presented to the Wyoming Workforce Development Council at quarterly meetings.	http://doe.state.wy.us/LMI/releases.htm
Projections		
Occupational Projections 2012 to 2022	Long-term and short-term projections for Wyoming employment by occupation for 2012 to 2022 and 2012 to 2014. Projections are available for occupations by industry and for Wyoming's sub-state regions.	http://doe.state.wy.us/Imi/projections.htm
Wages		
Occupational Employment Statistics (OES) in Wyoming	Occupational wage data for Wyoming at the statewide, county, and metropolitan statistical area (MSA) levels.	http://doe.state.wy.us/LMI/OES_toc.htm
Earnings in Wyoming by County, Industry, Age, & Gender	Provides wage and salary earnings by demographics from 2000 to 2012.	http://doe.state.wy.us/LMI/earnings_ tables/2013/index.html
Education		
Occupational Employment Statistics (OES) in Wyoming	Occupational wage data for Wyoming at the statewide, county, and metropolitan statistical area (MSA) levels.	http://doe.state.wy.us/LMI/OES_toc.htm
Current Status of Cost Pressures on Teacher Salaries in Wyoming	Explores the factors that influence the availability of highly qualified teachers " and the cost pressures (in regard to teacher salaries) facing school districts in Wyoming. 34 pages.	http://doe.state.wy.us/lmi/education_costs.htm
Monitoring School District Human Resource Cost Pressures: A Report to the Wyoming Joint Appropriations Interim Committee and the Joint Education Interim Committee	Provides a comparison of employment and wages in local government (public) schools in Wyoming and surrounding states. 70 pages.	http://doe.state.wy.us/lmi/education_costs.htm
The Cornerstone: Building an American Public Policy for Educational Attainment and Success in the Labor Market	Examines how the requirements for "success" in the workforce shift based on changing industrial needs, technological advancements, war, changes in natural resources and social attitudes toward education. 29 pages.	http://doe.state.wy.us/lmi/w_r_research/ cornerstone.pdf
Benefits		
Wyoming Benefits Survey 2012	Examines the benefits that Wyoming employers are offering their employees. 36 pages.	http://doe.state.wy.us/lmi/benefits2012/index.htm

http://doe.state.wy.us/LMI



Wyoming Unemployment Rate Fell to 4.5% in September Then Rose to 4.6% in October 2013

by: David Bullard, Senior Economist

The Research & Planning section of the Wyoming Department of Workforce Services has reported that the state's seasonally adjusted¹ unemployment rate fell to 4.5% in September and then rose to 4.6% in October (neither change was statistically significant). Wyoming's unemployment rate decreased from its year-ago level of 5.1% and remained significantly lower than the current U.S. unemployment rate of 7.3%. Seasonally adjusted employment of Wyoming residents fell slightly, decreasing by 456 individuals (-0.2%) from September to October.

County unemployment rates followed their normal seasonal pattern and increased from September to October. Employment tends to decrease in October in many sectors, including leisure & hospitality and construction. Teton County's unemployment rate rose from 3.4% in September to 5.4% in October, likely because the summer tourist season ended and the ski season had not begun. Large unemployment rate increases were also seen in Park (up from 3.8% to 4.8%),

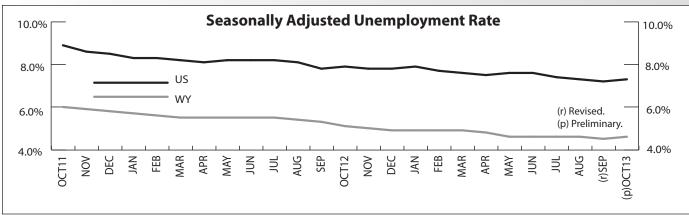
Seasonal adjustment is a statistical procedure to remove the impact of normal regularly recurring events (such as weather, major holidays, and the opening and closing of schools) from economic time series to better understand changes in economic conditions from month to month. Johnson (up from 4.3% to 5.0%), and Lincoln (up from 4.3% to 5.0%) counties.

The highest unemployment rates in October were found in Fremont (5.5%), Teton (5.4%), Johnson (5.0%), and Lincoln (5.0%) counties. Sublette County had the lowest unemployment rate (3.0%). It was followed by Converse (3.1%), Campbell (3.3%), and Niobrara (3.4%) counties.

From October 2012 to October 2013, the unemployment rate fell in 18 counties, rose in four counties, and was unchanged in Big Horn County. The largest decreases occurred in Lincoln (down from 5.9% to 5.0%), Teton (down from 6.1% to 5.4%), and Laramie (down from 5.2% to 4.5%) counties. Unemployment rates increased slightly in Johnson (up from 4.6% to 5.0%), Washakie (up from 4.1% to 4.5%), Goshen (up from 4.2% to 4.3%), and Niobrara (up from 3.3% to 3.4%) counties.

Total nonfarm employment (measured by place of work) rose from 292,600 in October 2012 to 295,000 in October 2013, a gain of 2,400 jobs (0.8%).



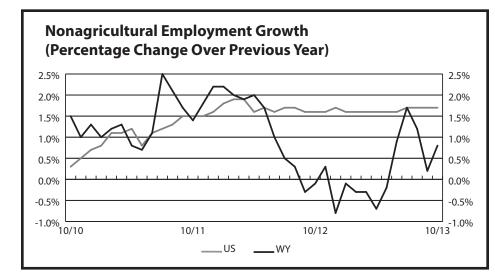


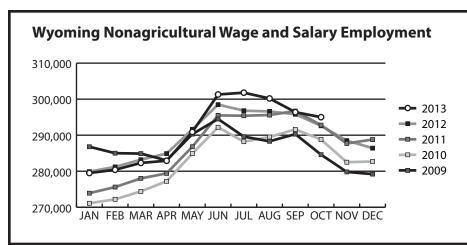
Current Employment Statistics (CES) Estimates and Research & Planning's Short-Term Projections, October 2013

by: David Bullard, Senior Economist

Industry Sector	Research & Planning's Short-Term Projections	Current Employment Statistics (CES) Estimates	N Difference	% Difference
Total Nonfarm Employment	295,888	295,000	-888	-0.3%
Natural Resources & Mining	26,729	26,100	-629	-2.4%
Construction	23,723	25,100	1,377	5.5%
Manufacturing	9,969	10,100	131	1.3%
Wholesale Trade	9,208	9,900	692	7.0%
Retail Trade	29,756	30,100	344	1.1%
Transportation & Utilities	15,085	15,100	15	0.1%
Information	3,781	3,900	119	3.1%
Financial Activities	11,036	10,400	-636	-6.1%
Professional & Business Services	18,353	18,000	-353	-2.0%
Educational & Health Services	27,072	27,100	28	0.1%
Leisure & Hospitality	34,690	33,400	-1,290	-3.9%
Other Services	10,631	10,500	-131	-1.2%
Government	75,855	75,300	-555	-0.7%

Projections were run in August 2013 and based on QCEW data through March 2013.





State Unemployment Rates October 2013 (Seasonally Adjusted)

· ·	
State	Unemp. Rate
Puerto Rico	14.7
Nevada	9.3
Rhode Island	9.2
Michigan	9.0
District of Columbia	8.9
Illinois	8.9
California	8.7
Mississippi	8.5
Kentucky	8.4
New Jersey	8.4
Tennessee	8.4
Arizona	8.2
Georgia	8.1
North Carolina	8.0
Connecticut	7.9
New York	7.7
Oregon	7.7
Arkansas	7.5
Indiana	7.5
Ohio	7.5
Pennsylvania	7.5
South Carolina	7.5
United States	7.3
Massachusetts	7.2
Washington	7.0
Colorado	6.8
Delaware	6.8
Florida	6.7
Idaho	6.7
Maine	6.7
Maryland	6.7
New Mexico	6.6
Alabama	6.5
Alaska	6.5
Louisiana	6.5
Missouri	6.5
Wisconsin	6.5
Texas	6.2 6.2
West Virginia	
Kansas	5.6
Virginia Oklahoma	5.6 5.5
	5.2
Montana New Hampshire	5.2
Minnesota	4.8
lowa	4.6
Utah	4.6
Wyoming	4.6
Vermont	4.5
Hawaii	4.4
Nebraska	3.9
South Dakota	3.7
North Dakota	2.7
	,

Wyoming Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment

by: David Bullard, Senior Economist

	Employment in Thousands Oct 13 Sep 13 Oct 12			% Cha Total Emp Sep 13 Oct 13	
CAMPBELL COUNTY					
TOTAL NONAG. WAGE & SALARY EMPLOYMENT	28.7	28.8	28.4	-0.3	1.1
TOTAL PRIVATE	23.5	23.6	23.3	-0.4	0.9
GOODS PRODUCING	11.1	11.1	10.9	0.0	1.8
Natural Resources & Mining	8.1	8.1	8.0	0.0	1.3
Construction	2.5	2.5	2.4	0.0	4.2
Manufacturing	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.0	0.0
SERVICE PROVIDING	17.6	17.7	17.5	-0.6	0.6
Trade, Transportation, & Utilities	5.6	5.6	5.6	0.0	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	1.7	1.7	1.7	0.0	0.0
Educational & Health Services	1.1	1.1	1.1	0.0	0.0
Leisure & Hospitality	2.1	2.2	2.1	-4.5	0.0
Other Services	1.0	1.0	1.0	0.0	0.0
GOVERNMENT	5.2	5.2	5.1	0.0	2.0
		mploymer Thousanc Sep 13	% Cha Total Emp Sep 13 Oct 13		

	00015	Sep 15	00112	00115	0((15
SWEETWATER COUNTY					
TOTAL NONAG. WAGE & SALARY EMPLOYMENT	25.7	25.6	26.0	0.4	-1.2
TOTAL PRIVATE	20.7	20.7	21.0	0.0	-1.4
GOODS PRODUCING	9.1	9.1	9.5	0.0	-4.2
Natural Resources & Mining	5.7	5.7	6.1	0.0	-6.6
Construction	2.0	2.0	2.0	0.0	0.0
Manufacturing	1.4	1.4	1.4	0.0	0.0
SERVICE PROVIDING	16.6	16.5	16.5	0.6	0.6
Trade, Transportation, & Utilities	5.1	5.1	5.1	0.0	0.0
Information	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.0	0.0
Financial Activities	0.9	0.9	0.8	0.0	12.5
Professional & Business Services	1.1	1.1	1.1	0.0	0.0
Educational & Health Services	1.1	1.1	1.1	0.0	0.0
Leisure & Hospitality	2.5	2.5	2.5	0.0	0.0
Other Services	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.0	0.0
GOVERNMENT	5.0	4.9	5.0	2.0	0.0

		mploymer Thousand	% Cha Total Emp Sep 13		
	Oct 13	Sep 13	Oct 12	Oct 13	Oct 13
TETON COUNTY					
TOTAL NONAG. WAGE & SALARY EMPLOYMENT	17.6	19.3	17.2	-8.8	2.3
TOTAL PRIVATE	15.2	16.8	14.8	-9.5	2.7
GOODS PRODUCING	2.0	2.0	1.9	0.0	5.3
Natural Resources, Mining & Construction	1.9	1.9	1.8	0.0	5.6
Manufacturing	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.0
SERVICE PROVIDING	15.6	17.3	15.3	-9.8	2.0
Trade, Transportation, & Utilities	2.3	2.4	2.2	-4.2	4.5
Information	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.0	0.0
Financial Activities	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.0	0.0
Professional & Business Services	1.7	1.8	1.7	-5.6	0.0
Educational & Health Services	1.0	1.0	1.0	0.0	0.0
Leisure & Hospitality	6.7	8.1	6.6	-17.3	1.5
Other Services	0.5	0.5	0.4	0.0	25.0
GOVERNMENT	2.4	2.5	2.4	-4.0	0.0

State Unemployment Rates October 2013 (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

(not occoondity)	, tajaotoa,
State	Unemp. Rate
Puerto Rico	14.7
District of Columbia	9.9
Nevada	9.2
Rhode Island	8.5
California	8.3
Illinois	8.3
Michigan	8.3
Mississippi	8.2
Tennessee	8.2
New Jersey	8.1
Arizona	8.0
Georgia	8.0
Kentucky	8.0
Connecticut	7.5
New York	7.5
North Carolina	7.5
South Carolina	7.2
Oregon	7.1
Arkansas	7.0
Indiana	7.0
Ohio	7.0
United States	7.0
Pennsylvania	6.9
Massachusetts	6.8
Maryland	6.7
Florida	6.6
Delaware	6.5
Alabama	6.4
Washington	6.4
New Mexico	6.3
Colorado	6.2
Alaska	6.1
Louisiana	6.1
Texas	6.0
Idaho	5.8
Maine	5.7
Missouri	5.7
Wisconsin	5.7
Oklahoma	5.6
West Virginia	5.6
Virginia	5.5
Kansas	5.1
New Hampshire	5.0
Montana	4.8
Hawaii	4.7
Utah	4.4
Wyoming	4.2
Minnesota	4.1
lowa	3.9
Vermont	3.7
Nebraska	3.4
South Dakota	3.4
North Dakota	1.9

Economic Indicators

by: David Bullard, Senior Economist

The number of building permits issued in the Casper Metropolitan Statistical Area increased 177.8% from October 2012 to October 2013.

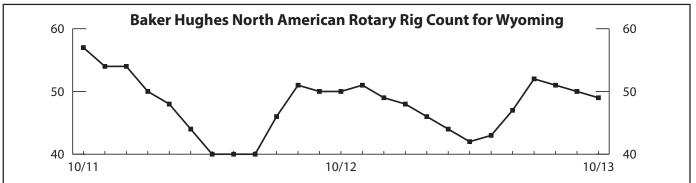
	Oct 2013 (p)	Sep 2013 (r)			Change Year
Wyoming Total Nonfarm Employment	295,000	296,400	292,600	-0.5	0.8
Wyoming State Government	16,100	15,900	16,300	1.3	-1.2
Laramie County Nonfarm Employment	46,400	46,400	45,600	0.0	1.8
Natrona County Nonfarm Employment	42,400	41,800	42,200	1.4	0.5
Selected U.S. Employment Data					
U.S. Multiple Jobholders	6,989,000	6,952,000	6,976,000	0.5	0.2
As a percent of all workers	4.8%	4.8%	4.8%	N/A	N/A
U.S. Discouraged Workers	815,000	852,000	813,000	-4.3	0.2
U.S. Part Time for Economic Reasons	7,700,000	7,522,000	7,870,000	2.4	-2.2
Wyoming Unemployment Insurance					
Weeks Compensated	14,575	11,267	17,577	29.4	-17.1
Benefits Paid	\$5,125,318	\$4,160,714	\$6,059,319	23.2	-15.4
Average Weekly Benefit Payment	\$351.65	\$369.28	\$344.73	-4.8	2.0
State Insured Covered Jobs ¹	272,521	275,406	268,262	-1.0	1.6
Insured Unemployment Rate	1.8%	1.6%	2.1%	N/A	N/A
Consumer Price Index (U) for All U.S. Urban Consumers					
(1982 to 1984 = 100)	222 5	2244	224.2	0.0	1.0
All Items	233.5	234.1	231.3	-0.3	1.0
Food & Beverages	237.8	237.4	234.7	0.1	1.3 2.1
Housing	228.4 131.1	228.8 129.7	223.7 131.4	-0.2 1.1	-0.2
Apparel Transportation	214.9	218.1	220.2	-1.4	-0.2
Medical Care	428.1	428.0	418.4	-1.4	2.4
Recreation (Dec. 1997=100)	115.2	115.2	114.8	0.0	0.4
Education & Communication (Dec. 1997=100)	136.9	136.7	134.8	0.0	1.6
Other Goods & Services	402.7	402.7	396.3	0.0	1.6
	402.7	402.7	570.5	0.0	1.0
Producer Prices (1982 to 1984 = 100) All Commodities	202.5	204.0	203.5	-0.7	-0.5
	202.5	204.0	203.5	-0.7	-0.5
Wyo. Bldg. Permits (New Privately Owned Housing Units Authorized) Total Units	175	162	150	8.0	16.7
Valuation	\$38,014,000	\$36,606,000	\$39,346,000	3.8	-3.4
Single Family Homes	128 \$24,766,000	124 \$25 584 000	130	3.2	-1.5
Valuation Casper MSA ² Building Permits	\$34,766,000 50	\$35,584,000	\$37,893,000	-2.3 51.5	-8.3 177.8
		33 \$7722 000	18 \$2,804,000	-37.1	25.0
Valuation Chavanna MSA Building Parmits	\$4,866,000	\$7,733,000	\$3,894,000	-37.1 -49.2	-35.4
Cheyenne MSA Building Permits Valuation	31 \$6,128,000	61 \$7,071,000	48 \$6,704,000	-49.2 -13.3	-35.4 -8.6
valuation	30,120,000	\$7,071,000	<i>३0,704,</i> 000	-13.3	-0.0
Baker Hughes North American Rotary Rig Count for Wyoming	49	50	50	-2.0	-2.0

(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

The highest unemployment rates in October were found in Fremont (5.5%), Teton (5.4%), Johnson (5.0%), and Lincoln (5.0%) counties. Sublette County had the lowest unemployment rate (3.0%).

	Labor Force				Employed		Ur	nemploye	ed	Unemp	loymen	t Rates
	Oct	Sep	Oct	Oct	Sep	Oct	Oct	Sep	Oct	Oct	Sep	Oct
REGION	2013	2013	2012	2013	2013	2012	2013	2013	2012	2013	2013	2012
County	(p)	(r)	(b)	(p)	(r)	(b)	(p)	(r)	(b)	(p)	(r)	(b)
NORTHWEST	47,349	47,879	47,915	44,968	45,764	45,480	2,381	2,115	2,435	5.0	4.4	5.1
Big Horn	5,332	5,265	5,403	5,069	5,031	5,138	263	234	265	4.9	4.4	4.9
Fremont	20,033	20,002	19,794	18,932	19,006	18,676	1,101	996	1,118	5.5	5.0	5.6
Hot Springs	2,555	2,559	2,584	2,450	2,456	2,476	105	103	108	4.1	4.0	4.2
Park	15,035	15,748	15,637	14,319	15,148	14,878	716	600	759	4.8	3.8	4.9
Washakie	4,394	4,305	4,497	4,198	4,123	4,312	196	182	185	4.5	4.2	4.1
NORTHEAST	55,243	55,130	55,398	53,124	53,193	53,024	2,119	1,937	2,374	3.8	3.5	4.3
Campbell	28,057	27,978	28,077	27,127	27,099	26,985	930	879	1,092	3.3	3.1	3.9
Crook	3,584	3,563	3,656	3,445	3,439	3,495	139	124	161	3.9	3.5	4.4
Johnson	4,127	4,137	4,040	3,919	3,960	3,855	208	177	185	5.0	4.3	4.6
Sheridan	16,111	16,114	16,272	15,398	15,474	15,468	713	640	804	4.4	4.0	4.9
Weston	3,364	3,338	3,353	3,235	3,221	3,221	129	117	132	3.8	3.5	3.9
SOUTHWEST	64,820	65,788	64,466	62,061	63,428	61,506	2,759	2,360	2,960	4.3	3.6	4.6
Lincoln	7,969	8,083	7,814	7,574	7,738	7,356	395	345	458	5.0	4.3	5.9
Sublette	6,959	6,942	7,121	6,749	6,750	6,895	210	192	226	3.0	2.8	3.2
Sweetwater	25,152	25,042	25,138	24,212	24,167	24,180	940	875	958	3.7	3.5	3.8
Teton	13,773	14,668	13,302	13,023	14,163	12,488	750	505	814	5.4	3.4	6.1
Uinta	10,967	11,053	11,091	10,503	10,610	10,587	464	443	504	4.2	4.0	4.5
SOUTHEAST	77,986	77,317	78,729	74,699	74,236	75,085	3,287	3,081	3,644	4.2	4.0	4.6
Albany	19,983	19,680	20,968	19,278	19,006	20,208	705	674	760	3.5	3.4	3.6
Goshen	6,692	6,396	6,803	6,401	6,126	6,516	291	270	287	4.3	4.2	4.2
Laramie	45,666	45,577	45,456	43,615	43,664	43,096	2,051	1,913	2,360	4.5	4.2	5.2
Niobrara	1,384	1,378	1,397	1,337	1,334	1,351	47	44	46	3.4	3.2	3.3
Platte	4,261	4,286	4,105	4,068	4,106	3,914	193	180	191	4.5	4.2	4.7
CENTRAL	61,662	60,882	60,800	59,272	58,678	58,307	2,390	2,204	2,493	3.9	3.6	4.1
Carbon	8,456	8,500	8,180	8,113	8,183	7,814	343	317	366	4.1	3.7	4.5
Converse	8,583	8,460	8,191	8,320	8,213	7,908	263	247	283	3.1	2.9	3.5
Natrona	44,623	43,922	44,429	42,839	42,282	42,585	1,784	1,640	1,844	4.0	3.7	4.2
STATEWIDE	307,060	307,000	307,308	294,124	295,300	293,403	12,936	11,700	13,905	4.2	3.8	4.5

Statewide Seasonally Adjusted	4.6	4.5	5.1
U.S	7.0	7.0	7.5
U.S. Seasonally Adjusted	7.3	7.2	7.9

Prepared in cooperation with the Bureau of Labor Statistics. Benchmarked 02/2013. Run Date 11/2013.

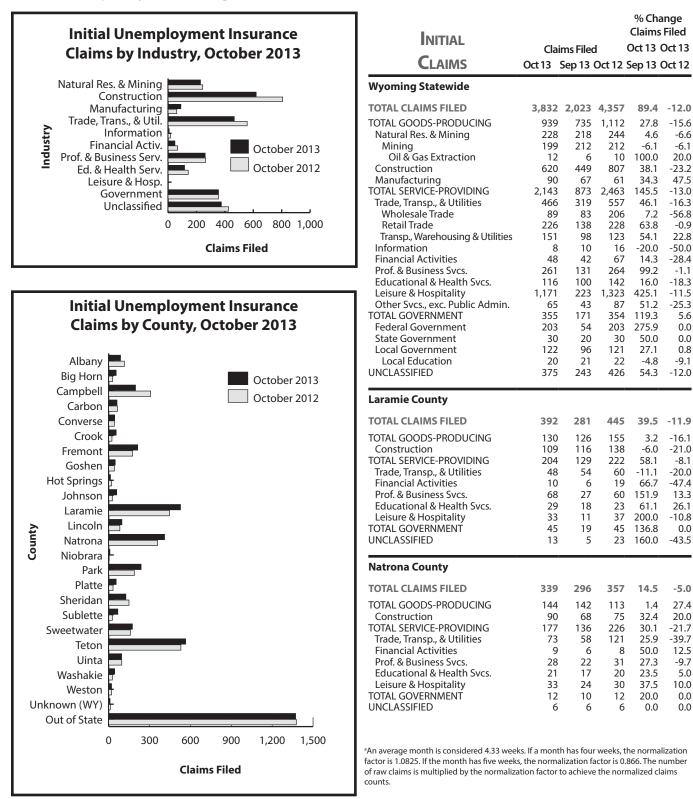
Data are not seasonally adjusted except where otherwise specified.

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

Wyoming Normalized^a Unemployment Insurance Statistics: Initial Claims

by: Patrick Harris, Principal Economist

Initial claims followed their normal seasonal patterns from September to October, with significant increases in leisure & hospitality and federal government.



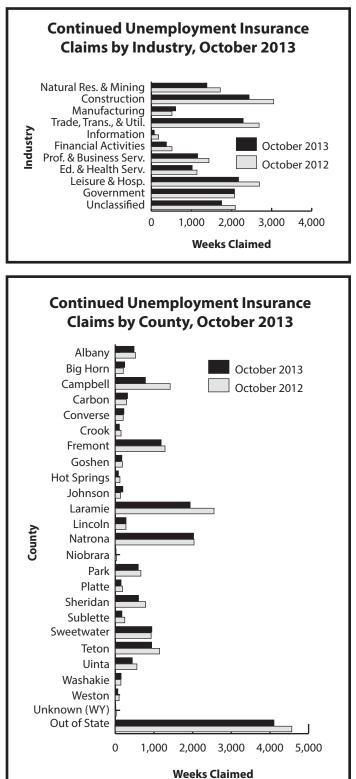
Wyoming Normalized^a Unemployment Insurance Statistics: Continued Claims

by: Patrick Harris, Principal Economist

The total number of continued weeks claimed in October 2013 decreased or remained flat over the year in all industries except manufacturing, which increased 17.9% from October 2012.

CONTINUED			% Ch Claims	5 Filed	
CLAIMS		ms Filed Sep 13			Oct 13
	00.13	Sep 13		Sep 13	Oct 12
Wyoming Statewide TOTAL WEEKS CLAIMED EXTENDED WEEKS CLAIMED TOTAL UNIQUE CLAIMANTS ^b Benefit Exhaustions Benefit Exhaustion Rates	16,206 2,878 4,514 342 0	14,567 2,866 4,231 329 0	18,748 4,869 5,071 430 0	11.3 0.4 6.7 4.0 -0.2%	-13.6 -40.9 -11.0 -20.5 -0.9%
TOTAL GOODS-PRODUCING Natural Res. & Mining Oil & Gas Extraction Construction Manufacturing TOTAL SERVICE-PROVIDING Trade, Transp., & Utilities Wholesale Trade Retail Trade Transp., Warehousing & Utilities Information Financial Activities Prof. & Business Services Educational & Health Svcs. Leisure & Hospitality Other Svcs., exc. Public Admin. TOTAL GOVERNMENT Federal Government State Government Local Government Local Education UNCLASSIFIED	4,428 1,384 1,290 122 2,438 605 7,682 2,289 477 1,180 632 73 375 1,153 1,018 2,174 595 1,914 558 279 1,077 267 1,752	4,361 1,402 1,346 122 2,347 610 6,400 2,114 456 1,103 555 3,65 1,101 1,043 979 706 1,644 306 2,37 1,100 2,90 2,160	5,286 1,719 1,613 1,45 3,052 2,687 730 1,291 666 1,291 666 1,291 6,44 1,436 1,137 2,695 636 2,074 5,24 5,279 1,235 3,51 2,093	1.5 -1.3 -4.2 0.0 3.9 -0.8 20.0 8.3 4.6 7.0 13.9 -14.1 2.7 4.7 4.7 -2.4 122.1 -15.7 42.6 82.4 12.7 -2.1 -7.9 -18.9	-16.2 -19.5 -20.0 -15.9 -20.1 17.9 -17.4 -14.8 -34.7 -8.6 -5.1 -59.7 -27.0 -19.7 -10.5 -19.3 -6.4 13.0 0.0 0.0 -12.8 -23.9 -16.3
Laramie County					
TOTAL WEEKS CLAIMED TOTAL UNIQUE CLAIMANTS	1,977 531	1 ,872 543	2,552 650	5.6 -2.2	- 22.5 -18.3
TOTAL GOODS-PRODUCING Construction TOTAL SERVICE-PROVIDING Trade, Transp., & Utilities Financial Activities Prof. & Business Svcs. Educational & Health Svcs. Leisure & Hospitality TOTAL GOVERNMENT UNCLASSIFIED	455 359 1,132 368 84 279 208 112 332 58	453 334 1,093 366 89 216 239 121 252 73	542 433 1,578 432 128 328 210 253 332 98	0.4 7.5 3.6 0.5 -5.6 29.2 -13.0 -7.4 31.7 -20.5	-16.1 -17.1 -28.3 -14.8 -34.4 -14.9 -1.0 -55.7 0.0 -40.8
Natrona County	1 000	2 0 1 5	2 0 2 5		2.1
TOTAL WEEKS CLAIMED TOTAL UNIQUE CLAIMANTS TOTAL GOODS-PRODUCING Construction	1,993 536 739 310	2,015 617 644 215	2,035 561 613 239	-1.1 -13.1 14.8 44.2	- 2.1 - 4.5 20.6 29.7
TOTAL SERVICE-PROVIDING Trade, Transp., & Utilities Financial Activities Professional & Business Svcs. Educational & Health Svcs. Leisure & Hospitality TOTAL GOVERNMENT UNCLASSIFIED	1,111 362 32 237 162 159 102 41	1,236 366 45 262 170 156 83 51	1,273 472 54 243 218 184 102 45	-10.1 -1.1 -28.9 -9.5 -4.7 1.9 22.9 -19.6	-12.7 -23.3 -40.7 -2.5 -25.7 -13.6 0.0 -8.9

^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.



December 2013

http://doe.state.wy.us/LMI

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