

# TRENDS

## UI Benefit Recipients, Payments Decrease in 2021

by: Sherry Wen, Principal Economist

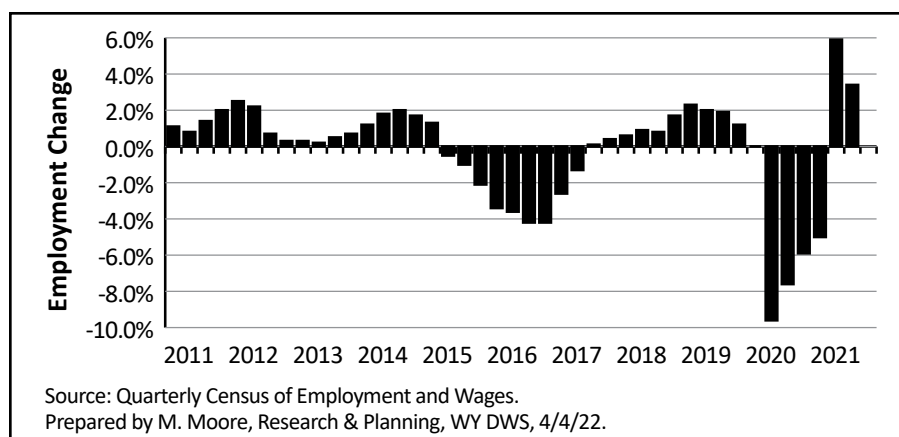
*Wyoming saw a substantial drop in Unemployment Insurance (UI) recipients and benefit claims in 2021, after experiencing record highs in 2020. The number of benefit recipients and payments both fell to less than half their 2020 levels. In addition, all industries and counties experienced decreases in claimants and payments.*

The COVID-19 pandemic and continued low energy prices forced substantial job losses and record Unemployment Insurance (UI) claims in

Wyoming in 2020. However, the most current data from the Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages (QCEW) indicate that Wyoming's UI-covered

employment experienced substantial over-the-year increases in second and third quarter 2021 (5.9% and 3.4%, respectively; see Figure 1). In addition, the number of UI claimants and the total amount of benefits paid decreased to less than half their 2020 levels.

This article examines selected UI statistics and provides additional information for a better understanding of Wyoming's current economy.



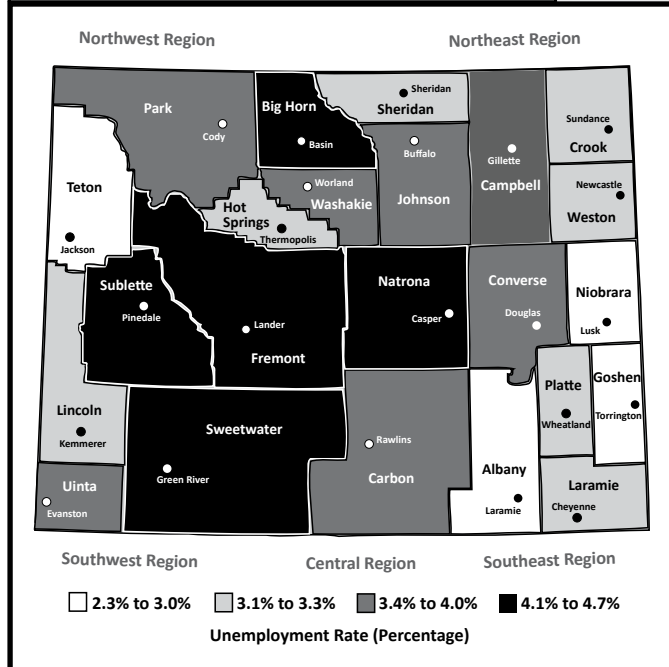
**Figure 1: Over-the-Year Percent Change in Average Monthly Employment (Number of Jobs Worked) in Wyoming, 2011Q1-2021Q3**

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### Unemployment Rate by Wyoming County, March 2022 (Not Seasonally Adjusted)



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## Wyoming Labor Force Trends

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## Benefit Recipients and Exhaustees

Statewide, a total of 20,536 unemployed workers received UI benefits in 2021 (see Figure 2), a decrease of 52.9% from the 43,630 recipients in 2020, which marked the highest level in the last 25 years. The number of UI benefit recipients in 2021 was still higher than pre-pandemic levels; for example, there were 13,144 UI recipients in 2019.

The number of claimants in 2021 includes regular UI-covered employed workers and individuals covered by special programs of the federal Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES)

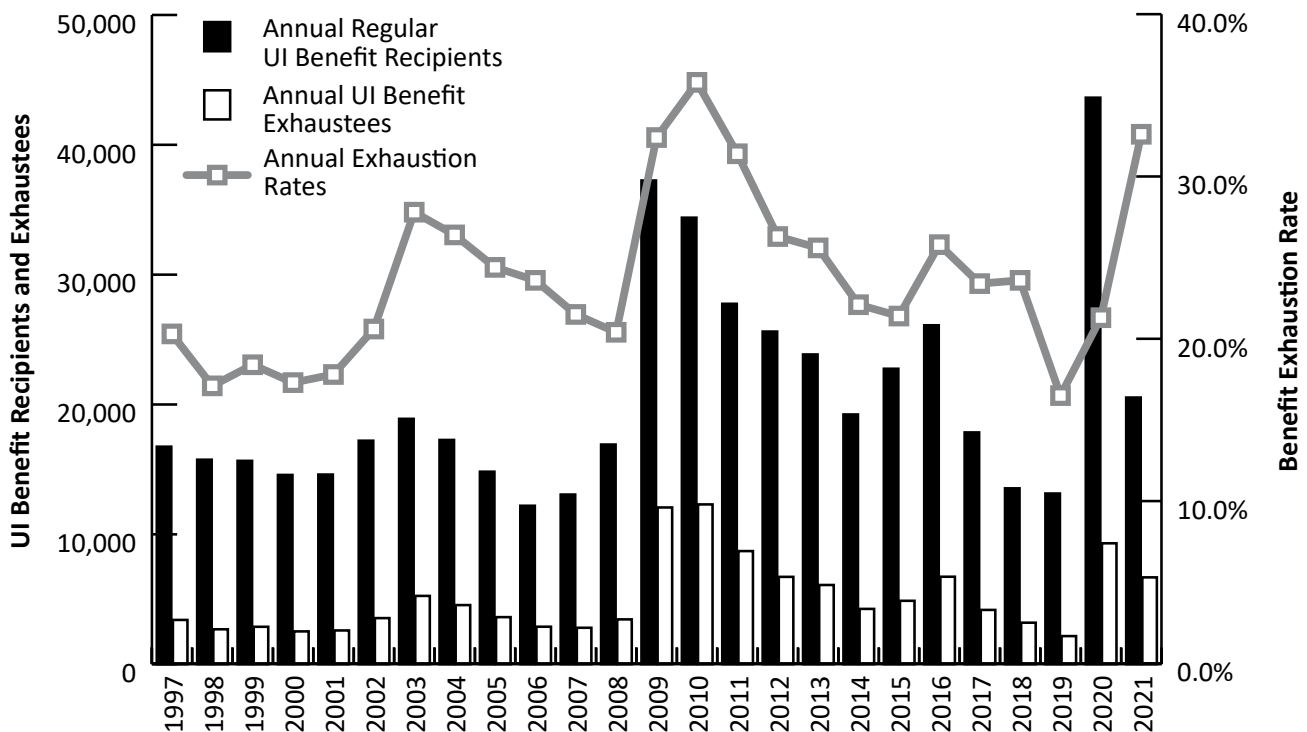
### Now Online

#### Unemployment Insurance Claims Data

<https://doe.state.wy.us/LMI/UI.htm>

Act of 2020 who were not covered by UI (CARES Act, 2020).

The number of UI recipients who exhausted their eligible regular UI benefits decreased from 9,309 in 2020 to 6,686 in 2021 (-2,623, or -28.2%). However, the overall exhaustion rate (the number of exhaustees divided by the number of UI recipients) increased from 21.3% to 32.6%. This increase was likely due to a larger proportion of UI recipients who started to collect benefits in 2020, then exhausted them by 2021.



Source: Wyoming Unemployment Insurance (UI) claims database.

Prepared by S. Wen, Research & Planning, WY DWS, 2/15/22.

Figure 2: Wyoming Annual UI Benefit Recipients, Exhaustees, and Exhaustion Rates, 1997-2021

Greater numbers of exhaustees and exhaustion rates usually indicate that it was more difficult for people to find work. During the pandemic, however, there may have been other reasons, such as individuals planning to start their own business while collecting UI benefits, instead of looking for work right away.

Every county experienced double-digit percentage

decreases in UI recipients from 2020 to 2021 (see Table 1). Natrona County had the largest decrease (-4,055 recipients, or -52.7%), followed by Laramie (-2,972, or -55.0%) and Campbell (-2,242, or -58.4%) counties.

Out-of-state UI recipients made up 17.1% of the total in 2021, the second largest share overall. Natrona County had the largest share

(17.7%), while Laramie County had the third largest (11.9%). Over the year, the number of out-of-state benefit recipients fell by 3,103 (-46.9%).

At the industry level (see Table 2, page 5), construction had the largest number of UI recipients (4,991, or 24.3%), followed by accommodation & food services (2,785, or 13.6%), mining (1,864, or 9.1%), and health care & social assistance (1,401, or 6.8%).

Out-of-state individuals made up large proportions of benefit recipients in several industries. For example, out-of-state claimants accounted for approximately one-third of all recipients in nonclassified (35.8%) and management of companies & enterprises industries (33.3%).

Industries in which out-of-state individuals made up at least one in five claimants included professional & technical services (25.5%), accommodation & food services (23.1%), construction (20.6%).

The number of UI benefit recipients decreased by double-digit percentages in all industries from 2020 to 2021 (see Table 3, page

**Table 1: Unemployment Insurance Recipients in Wyoming by County of Residence of Claimant, 2020 and 2021**

County	2020		2021		Change, 2020-21	
	N	Column %	N	Column %	N	%
Albany	1,247	2.9	605	2.9	-642	-51.5
Big Horn	403	0.9	298	1.5	-105	-26.1
Campbell	3,840	8.8	1,598	7.8	-2,242	-58.4
Carbon	668	1.5	390	1.9	-278	-41.6
Converse	925	2.1	529	2.6	-396	-42.8
Crook	248	0.6	129	0.6	-119	-48.0
Fremont	2,349	5.4	1,167	5.7	-1,182	-50.3
Goshen	405	0.9	171	0.8	-234	-57.8
Hot Springs	228	0.5	95	0.5	-133	-58.3
Johnson	423	1.0	214	1.0	-209	-49.4
Laramie	5,408	12.4	2,436	11.9	-2,972	-55.0
Lincoln	1,071	2.5	428	2.1	-643	-60.0
Natrona	7,693	17.6	3,638	17.7	-4,055	-52.7
Niobrara	59	0.1	45	0.2	-14	-23.7
Park	1,690	3.9	766	3.7	-924	-54.7
Platte	389	0.9	200	1.0	-189	-48.6
Sheridan	1,495	3.4	729	3.5	-766	-51.2
Sublette	552	1.3	282	1.4	-270	-48.9
Sweetwater	3,043	7.0	1,450	7.1	-1,593	-52.3
Teton	2,914	6.7	952	4.6	-1,962	-67.3
Uinta	1,054	2.4	508	2.5	-546	-51.8
Washakie	403	0.9	200	1.0	-203	-50.4
Weston	263	0.6	120	0.6	-143	-54.4
Out-of-State	6,613	15.2	3,510	17.1	-3,103	-46.9
Unclassified	247	0.6	76	0.4	-171	-69.2
<b>Total</b>	<b>43,630</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>20,536</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>-23,094</b>	<b>-52.9</b>

Source: Wyoming Unemployment Insurance (UI) claims database.  
Prepared by S. Wen, Research & Planning, WY DWS, 2/15/22.

6). The largest decreases were seen in accommodation & food services (-5,186, or -65.1%), mining (-3,075, or -62.3%), health care & social assistance (-2,373, or -62.9%), retail trade (-1,941, or -61.2%), and construction (-1,880, or -27.4%).

In terms of UI exhaustion rate, more than half of all recipients exhausted their benefits in wholesale trade (52.1%) and mining (51.4%) in 2021. Nearly all industries had greater exhaustion rates in 2021 compared to 2020, with the exception of agriculture and finance & insurance).

The higher exhaustion rates in 2021 are likely related to COVID-19 related business closings and layoffs in 2020,

which caused a huge increase in UI benefit recipients, with some of them continuing to collect and then exhausting their benefits in 2021.

In summary, many of the industries hit hardest by the pandemic showed larger decreases in UI recipients from 2020 to 2021, such as accommodation & food services, mining, construction, and health care & social assistance. This may indicate a substantial improvement in these industries' employment situations.

Some demographic trends of UI recipients and the relationship with the UI exhaustion rates seem more consistent over the years (see Table 4, page 7). Data show that older benefit recipients had more

**Table 2: Wyoming Unemployment Insurance (UI) Recipients by Industry and Residency, 2021**

NAICS <sup>a</sup> Code	Industry	Wyoming Residents		Out-of-State Residents		Total	
		N	Row %	N	Row %	N	Column %
11	Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing, & Hunting	133	94.3	8	5.7	141	0.7
21	Mining, Including Oil & Gas	1,519	81.5	345	18.5	1,864	9.1
22	Utilities	27	90.0	3	10.0	30	0.1
23	Construction	3,964	79.4	1,027	20.6	4,991	24.3
31-33	Manufacturing	827	94.0	53	6.0	880	4.3
42	Wholesale Trade	573	92.7	45	7.3	618	3.0
44-45	Retail Trade	1,123	91.4	105	8.6	1,228	6.0
48-49	Transportation & Warehousing	812	89.9	91	10.1	903	4.4
51	Information	129	92.1	11	7.9	140	0.7
52	Finance & Insurance	174	90.6	18	9.4	192	0.9
53	Real Estate & Rental & Leasing	274	91.3	26	8.7	300	1.5
54	Professional & Technical Services	521	74.5	178	25.5	699	3.4
55	Mgmt. of Companies & Enterprises	10	66.7	5	33.3	15	0.1
56	Administrative & Waste Services	1,088	89.6	126	10.4	1,214	5.9
61	Educational Services	341	87.7	48	12.3	389	1.9
62	Health Care & Social Assistance	1,315	93.9	86	6.1	1,401	6.8
71	Arts, Entertainment, & Recreation	214	83.3	43	16.7	257	1.3
72	Accommodation & Food Services	2,142	76.9	643	23.1	2,785	13.6
81	Other Services	411	91.5	38	8.5	449	2.2
92	Public Administration	393	92.0	34	8.0	427	2.1
	Nonclassified	1,036	64.2	577	35.8	1,613	7.9
	<b>Total</b>	<b>17,026</b>	<b>82.9</b>	<b>3,510</b>	<b>17.1</b>	<b>20,536</b>	<b>100.0</b>

<sup>a</sup>North American Industry Classification System.

Source: Wyoming Unemployment Insurance (UI) claims database.

Prepared by S. Wen, Research & Planning, WY DWS, 2/15/22.

difficulty finding reemployment compared to younger individuals in Wyoming based on their benefit exhaustion rates. For example, benefit recipients ages 55-64 and 65 and older had substantially higher exhaustion rates in 2021 (40.0% and 45.7%, respectively) than UI recipients ages 25-34 (30.8%) and 35-44 (33.8%).

As also shown in Table 4 (see page 7), individuals with higher wages before their layoff had lower exhaustion rates. A higher pre-layoff wage would qualify an individual for more weeks of UI benefits. The maximum number of weeks an individual can collect regular UI benefits in Wyoming is 26 weeks. Claimants with more eligible weeks have a lower exhaustion rate, since the longer duration

provides them with more time to find a job before exhausting their benefits.

## UI Benefit Expenses

The Wyoming Department of Workforce Services' UI division paid a total of \$159.5 million in benefits to unemployed workers in 2021. This included \$58.2 million from the state UI trust fund and \$101.3 million from other UI funds and the federal CARES Act (see Figure 3, page 8). Focusing just on the UI state trust fund, benefit expenses decreased from the historically high \$173.5 million in 2020 to \$58.2 million in 2021 (-\$115.3 million, or -66.4%). The \$58.2 million in benefit expenses was higher than pre-pandemic levels, but much closer to the \$43.8

**Table 3: Wyoming Unemployment Insurance (UI) Recipients and Benefit Exhaustion Rates by Industry, 2020-2021**

NAICS <sup>a</sup> Code	Industry	UI Recipients		Change		Exhaustion Rate	
		2020	2021	N	%	2020	2021
11	Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing, & Hunting	196	141	-55	-28.1	25.6	23.4
21	Mining, Including Oil & Gas	4,939	1,864	-3,075	-62.3	30.9	51.4
22	Utilities	46	30	-16	-34.8	16.7	33.3
23	Construction	6,871	4,991	-1,880	-27.4	25.1	25.9
31-33	Manufacturing	1,433	880	-553	-38.6	22.8	33.1
42	Wholesale Trade	1,258	618	-640	-50.9	29.9	52.1
44-45	Retail Trade	3,169	1,228	-1,941	-61.2	21.3	37.7
48-49	Transportation & Warehousing	2,021	903	-1,118	-55.3	24.0	34.2
51	Information	330	140	-190	-57.6	19.4	36.4
52	Finance & Insurance	222	192	-30	-13.5	31.3	28.1
53	Real Estate & Rental & Leasing	663	300	-363	-54.8	26.1	48.0
54	Professional & Technical Services	1,118	699	-419	-37.5	29.8	38.6
55	Mgmt. of Companies & Enterprises	24	15	-9	-37.5	13.8	33.3
56	Administrative & Waste Services	1,909	1,214	-695	-36.4	30.6	32.3
61	Educational Services	1,350	389	-961	-71.2	20.5	35.0
62	Health Care & Social Assistance	3,774	1,401	-2,373	-62.9	11.9	29.8
71	Arts, Entertainment, & Recreation	789	257	-532	-67.4	18.5	37.4
72	Accommodation & Food Services	7,971	2,785	-5,186	-65.1	19.1	30.2
81	Other Services	1,278	449	-829	-64.9	20.0	36.7
92	Public Administration	758	427	-331	-43.7	27.5	35.6
	Nonclassified	3,511	1,613	-1,898	-54.1	9.5	17.7
<b>Total</b>		<b>43,630</b>	<b>20,536</b>	<b>-23,094</b>	<b>-52.9</b>	<b>22.5</b>	<b>32.6</b>

<sup>a</sup>North American Industry Classification System.

Source: Wyoming Unemployment Insurance (UI) claims database.

Prepared by S. Wen, Research & Planning, WY DWS, 2/15/22.

million in 2019 and the \$42.4 million in 2018.

Nearly half (47.1%, or \$75.1 million) of total UI benefits in 2021 were paid to those who worked in construction, mining, and accommodation & food services (see Table 5, page 8). Benefit recipients from construction collected one-fourth (25.1%,

or \$40.0 million) of the total, followed by mining (11.8%, or \$18.9 million) and accommodation & food services (10.2%, or \$16.2 million).

All industries showed large decreases in benefit payments from 2020 to 2021,

(Text continued on page 9)

**Table 4: Selected Demographics of Unemployment Insurance Recipients, Exhaustees, and Exhaustion Rate, 2020 and 2021**

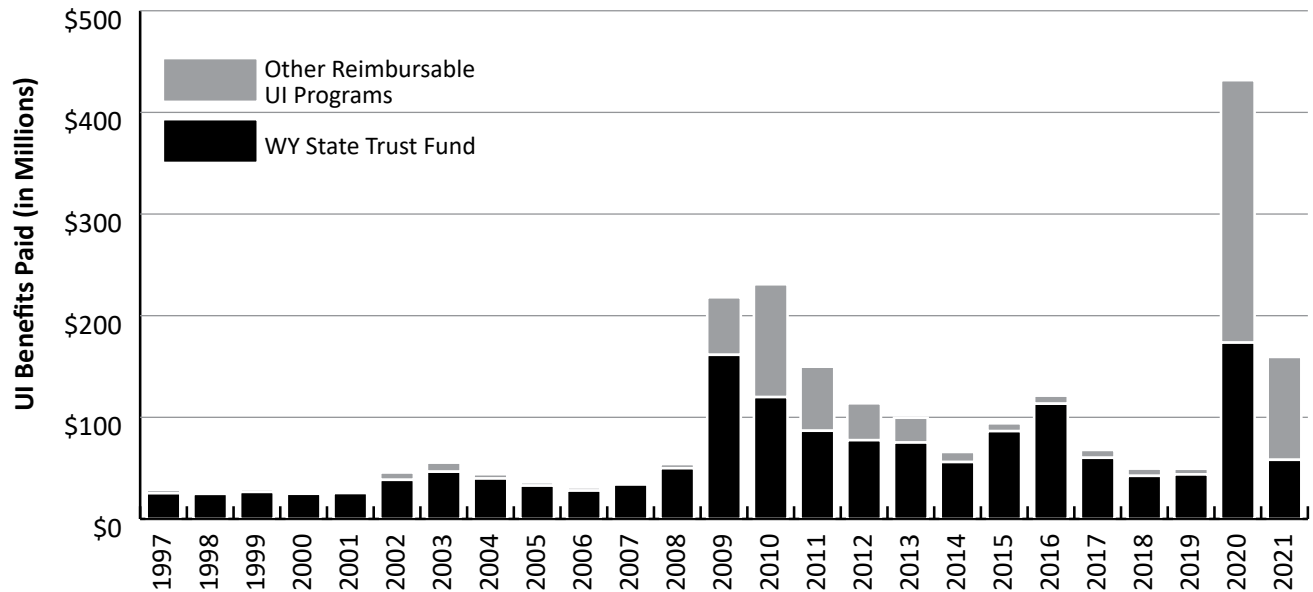
Category		2020			2021		
		UI Benefit Recipients	UI Benefit Exhaustees	Exhaustion Rate	UI Benefit Recipients	UI Benefit Exhaustees	Exhaustion Rate
Age	16-24	4,692	703	15.0	1,484	374	25.2
	25-34	11,045	2,133	19.3	4,587	1,414	30.8
	35-44	9,485	2,081	21.9	4,632	1,564	33.8
	45-54	7,063	1,721	24.4	3,578	1,229	34.3
	55-64	6,671	1,850	27.7	3,687	1,475	40.0
	65+	2,352	821	34.9	1,379	630	45.7
	Unknown	2,322	N/A		1,189	N/A	N/A
Gender	Men	24,748	6,087	24.6	12,757	4,349	34.1
	Women	16,560	3,222	19.5	6,590	2,337	35.5
	Unknown	2,322	N/A	0.0	1,189	N/A	N/A
Total Base Period Wages <sup>a</sup>	\$0-\$9,999	7,039	2,822	40.1	4,467	3,262	73.0
	\$10,000-\$19,999	6,985	1,581	22.6	2,797	759	27.1
	\$20,000-\$29,999	6,526	1,327	20.3	3,002	728	24.3
	\$30,000-\$39,999	5,428	888	16.4	2,673	576	21.5
	\$40,000-\$49,999	4,124	694	16.8	2,036	406	19.9
	\$50,000-\$59,999	2,966	471	15.9	1,456	283	19.4
	\$60,000+	8,240	1,526	18.5	2,916	672	23.0
	Unknown	2,322	N/A	0.0	1,189	N/A	N/A
Weeks Eligible for Benefit	0-9	3,878	2,163	55.8	3,302	2,957	89.6
	10-14	2,973	982	33.0	1,489	519	34.9
	15-19	4,986	1,313	26.3	2,793	758	27.1
	20-25	8,885	1,538	17.3	4,171	826	19.8
	Maximum = 26	20,586	3,313	16.1	7,592	1,626	21.4
	Unknown	2,322	N/A	0.0	1,189	N/A	N/A
Number of Employers in Base Period <sup>a</sup>	1	21,538	3,800	17.6	9,456	2,136	22.6
	2	10,114	1,994	19.7	4,251	970	22.8
	3	3,930	823	20.9	1,593	412	25.9
	4	1,582	337	21.3	572	151	26.4
	5 or More	907	214	23.6	353	87	24.6
	Unknown	5,559	2,141	38.5	4,311	2,930	68.0
<b>Total</b>		<b>43,630</b>	<b>9,309</b>	<b>21.3</b>	<b>20,536</b>	<b>6,686</b>	<b>32.6</b>

<sup>a</sup>The *base period* refers to the earliest four of the five complete calendar quarters before an individual filed a benefits claim.

N/D = Not discloseable due to confidentiality. N/A = Not available.

Source: Wyoming Unemployment Insurance (UI) claims database.

Prepared by S. Wen, Research & Planning, WY DWS, 2/15/22.



Source: Wyoming Unemployment Insurance (UI) claims database.  
Prepared by S. Wen, Research & Planning, WY DWS, 2/15/21.

**Figure 3: Unemployment Insurance Benefits Paid in Wyoming, 1997 to 2021**

**Table 5: Unemployment Insurance Benefit Expenses for Wyoming by Industry, 2019-2020**

County	2020		2021		Change, 2020-2021	
	UI Benefit	Column %	UI Benefit	Column %	\$	%
Agriculture	\$1,575,292	0.4	\$949,913	0.6	-\$625,379	-39.7
Mining, Including Oil & Gas	\$69,212,145	16.0	\$18,879,189	11.8	-\$50,332,956	-72.7
Utilities	\$390,367	0.1	\$263,760	0.2	-\$126,607	-32.4
Construction	\$67,044,737	15.5	\$40,017,677	25.1	-\$27,027,060	-40.3
Manufacturing	\$14,081,185	3.3	\$6,811,907	4.3	-\$7,269,278	-51.6
Wholesale Trade	\$14,627,737	3.4	\$5,877,492	3.7	-\$8,750,245	-59.8
Retail Trade	\$26,711,639	6.2	\$8,676,499	5.4	-\$18,035,140	-67.5
Transportation & Warehousing	\$21,089,731	4.9	\$7,711,243	4.8	-\$13,378,488	-63.4
Information	\$3,268,396	0.8	\$1,156,924	0.7	-\$2,111,472	-64.6
Finance & Insurance	\$2,196,200	0.5	\$1,389,146	0.9	-\$807,054	-36.7
Real Estate & Rental & Leasing	\$7,213,101	1.7	\$2,636,905	1.7	-\$4,576,196	-63.4
Professional & Technical Services	\$13,063,577	3.0	\$6,180,378	3.9	-\$6,883,199	-52.7
Mgmt. of Companies & Enterprises	\$247,417	0.1	\$94,936	0.1	-\$152,481	-61.6
Administrative & Waste Services	\$18,514,698	4.3	\$8,978,018	5.6	-\$9,536,680	-51.5
Educational Services	\$13,234,383	3.1	\$2,662,890	1.7	-\$10,571,493	-79.9
Health Care & Social Assistance	\$26,017,375	6.0	\$8,828,738	5.5	-\$17,188,637	-66.1
Arts, Entertainment, & Recreation	\$6,949,239	1.6	\$1,790,858	1.1	-\$5,158,381	-74.2
Accommodation & Food Services	\$72,339,777	16.8	\$16,247,522	10.2	-\$56,092,255	-77.5
Other Services (except Public Admin.)	\$11,924,821	2.8	\$3,319,219	2.1	-\$8,605,602	-72.2
Public Administration	\$6,993,981	1.6	\$3,318,097	2.1	-\$3,675,884	-52.6
Nonclassified	\$35,043,394	8.1	\$13,659,841	8.6	-\$21,383,553	-61.0
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$431,739,192</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>\$159,451,152</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>-\$272,288,040</b>	<b>-63.1</b>

Source: Wyoming Unemployment Insurance (UI) claims database.  
Prepared by S. Wen, Research & Planning, WY DWS, 2/15/22.

(Text continued from page 7)

with the largest decreases found in accommodation & food services (-\$56.1 million, or -77.5%), mining (-\$50.3 million, or -72.7%), and construction (-\$27.0 million, or -40.3%).

The UI benefit *wage replacement rate* refers to the amount of a person's average weekly wage that is covered by the benefit amount. For example, the average weekly

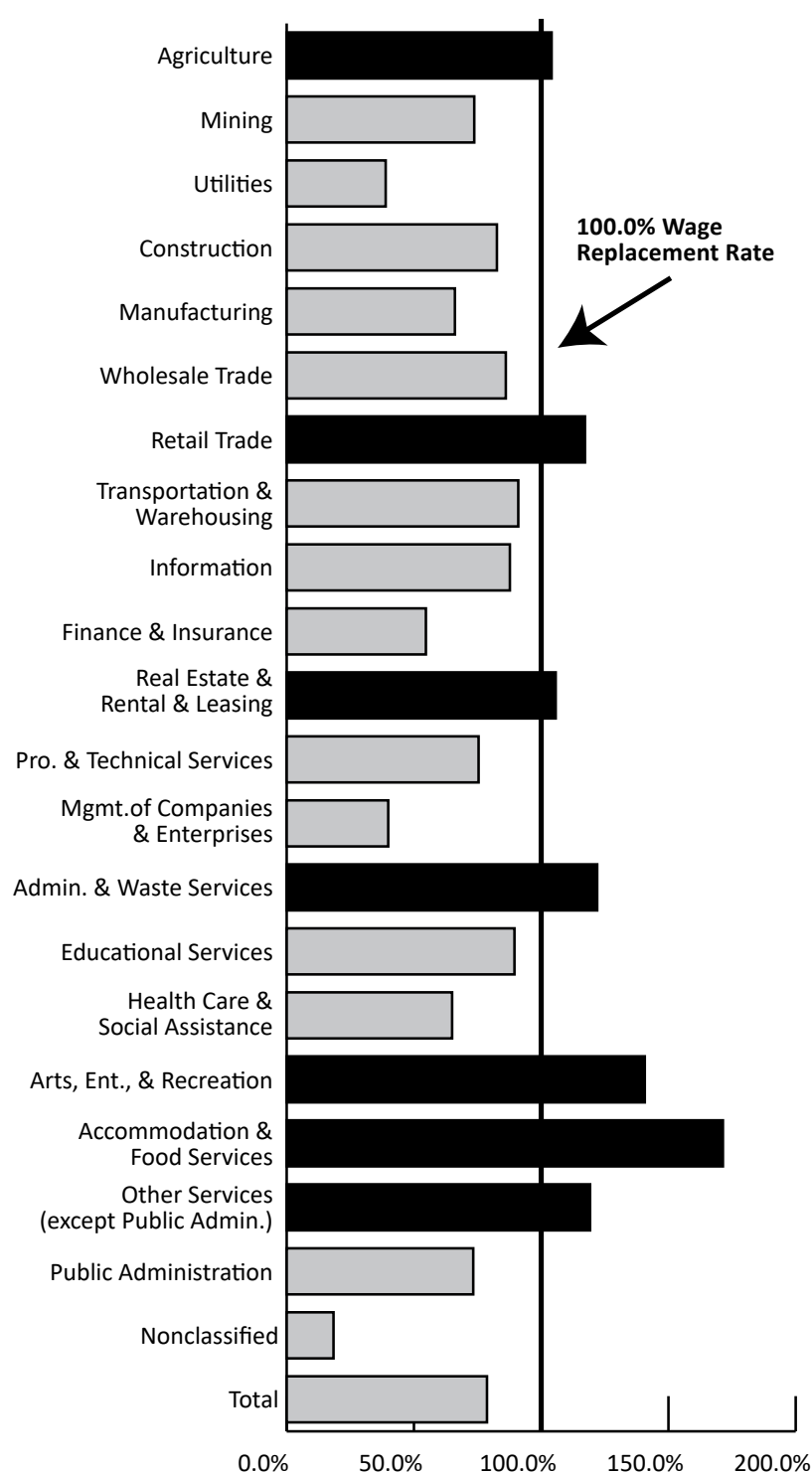
wage replacement rate of 73.7% in mining in 2021 means that the average weekly benefit replaced nearly three-fourths of the average weekly wage for that industry. Table 6 provides three years worth of data for comparison purposes. Due to federal CARES Act funds, Wyoming experienced a substantial increase in wage replacement in 2020, and an even larger replacement in 2021.

Statewide, the average wage replacement

**Table 6: Average Weekly Wage, Average Weekly Benefit, and Benefit Replacement Rates for Unemployment Insurance Benefit Recipients in Wyoming, 2019-2021**

Industry	Average Weekly Wage			Average Weekly Benefit Amount			Average Weekly Wage Replacement Rate (%)		
	2019	2020	2021	2019	2020	2021	2019	2020	2021
Agriculture	\$693	\$701	\$718	\$450	\$910	\$747	64.9	129.9	104.1
Mining	\$1,735	\$1,791	\$1,747	\$481	\$828	\$1,287	27.7	46.2	73.7
Utilities	\$1,772	\$1,822	\$1,817	\$498	\$1,138	\$707	28.1	62.5	38.9
Construction	\$1,029	\$1,103	\$1,088	\$521	\$833	\$899	50.7	75.5	82.6
Manufacturing	\$1,290	\$1,322	\$1,352	\$386	\$723	\$894	30.0	54.7	66.1
Wholesale Trade	\$1,224	\$1,263	\$1,246	\$460	\$782	\$1,073	37.6	61.9	86.1
Retail Trade	\$559	\$578	\$611	\$382	\$855	\$716	68.4	147.9	117.2
Transportation & Warehousing	\$1,013	\$1,054	\$1,055	\$484	\$892	\$961	47.8	84.7	91.0
Information	\$857	\$885	\$969	\$384	\$825	\$850	44.7	93.3	87.7
Finance & Insurance	\$1,208	\$1,292	\$1,402	\$481	\$685	\$767	39.8	53.0	54.7
Real Estate & Rental & Leasing	\$935	\$967	\$949	\$458	\$803	\$1,002	49.0	83.0	105.7
Professional & Technical Services	\$1,233	\$1,316	\$1,414	\$431	\$764	\$1,066	34.9	58.0	75.4
Mgmt. of Companies & Enterprises	\$1,987	\$1,940	\$2,732	\$378	\$937	\$1,091	19.0	48.3	39.9
Administrative & Waste Services	\$689	\$729	\$729	\$429	\$869	\$889	62.3	119.2	122.0
Educational Services	\$841	\$853	\$902	\$610	\$897	\$806	72.5	105.1	89.5
Health Care & Social Assistance	\$940	\$973	\$1,020	\$396	\$824	\$663	42.1	84.7	65.0
Arts, Entertainment, & Recreation	\$570	\$582	\$630	\$410	\$881	\$887	71.9	151.4	140.7
Accommodation & Food Services	\$409	\$424	\$440	\$394	\$804	\$755	96.3	189.8	171.4
Other Services (except Public Admin.)	\$705	\$744	\$761	\$466	\$814	\$907	66.1	109.5	119.2
Public Administration	\$1,007	\$1,015	\$1,044	\$448	\$865	\$765	44.5	85.3	73.3
Nonclassified	\$1,226	\$1,856	\$1,745	\$167	\$327	\$321	13.6	17.6	18.4
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$924</b>	<b>\$959</b>	<b>\$980</b>	<b>\$415</b>	<b>\$734</b>	<b>\$772</b>	<b>44.9</b>	<b>76.5</b>	<b>78.7</b>

Source: Wyoming Unemployment Insurance (UI) claims database.  
Prepared by S. Wen, Research & Planning, WY DWS, 2/15/21.



Dark bars indicate wage replacement rate greater than 100.0%.  
 Source: Wyoming Unemployment Insurance (UI) claims database.  
 Prepared by M. Moore, Research & Planning, WY DWS, 3/16/22.

**Figure 4: Unemployment Insurance Benefit Wage Replacement Rate for Wyoming by Industry, 2021**

rate increased from 44.9% in 2019 to 76.5% in 2020 and 78.7% in 2021. A higher wage replacement rate makes it easier for unemployed workers and their families to cover expenses while receiving UI benefits.

Higher-paying industries usually have a low wage replacement rate, and lower-paying industries have a higher replacement rate. Claimants from seven industries were paid more than 100% of their average weekly wage (see Figure 4). As an example, benefit recipients in accommodation & food services had an average weekly wage of \$440 in 2021, and received an average benefit amount of \$755, or 171.4% of their average weekly wage.

Each of Wyoming's 23 counties experienced a double-digit decrease in benefit expenses from 2020 to 2021 (see Table 7, page 11). Natrona County showed the largest decrease (-\$50.1 million, or -62.4%), followed by Laramie (-\$29.9 million, or -63.2%) and Campbell (-\$24.7 million, or -64.9%). Benefits paid to out-of-state recipients decreased from \$77.5 million to \$29.5 million (-\$48.0 million, or -61.9%).

Wyoming's most populous counties made up the largest share of benefits. Natrona County had \$30.1 million in UI benefits paid, while Laramie had \$17.3 million (10.9%). Nearly \$1 of every \$5 paid to UI benefit recipients went to out-of-state claimants (\$29.5 million, or 18.5%).

Weekly, monthly, and annual Unemployment Insurance claims data for Wyoming can be found online at <https://doe.state.wy.us/LMI/UI.htm>.

## Conclusion

The number of Wyoming UI recipients and the UI benefit expenses showed large decreases from 2020 from 2021. All industries and counties experienced double-digit percentage decreases. This UI data may indicate that Wyoming's economy has recovered to some extent from the economic downturn that lasted from 2020 to 2021, especially for those industries and counties hit hardest by the pandemic.

**Table 7: Unemployment Insurance Benefit Expenses by County for Wyoming, 2020-2021**

County	2020		2021		Change, 2020-2021	
	UI Benefit	Column %	UI Benefit	Column %	\$	%
Albany	\$10,216,657	2.4	\$4,225,025	2.6	-\$5,991,632	-58.6
Big Horn	\$3,514,194	0.8	\$2,112,121	1.3	-\$1,402,073	-39.9
Campbell	\$38,136,510	8.8	\$13,388,186	8.4	-\$24,748,324	-64.9
Carbon	\$6,054,344	1.4	\$2,953,739	1.9	-\$3,100,605	-51.2
Converse	\$10,903,767	2.5	\$4,240,538	2.7	-\$6,663,229	-61.1
Crook	\$2,244,153	0.5	\$959,685	0.6	-\$1,284,468	-57.2
Fremont	\$22,272,963	5.2	\$9,146,826	5.7	-\$13,126,137	-58.9
Goshen	\$3,134,137	0.7	\$1,086,085	0.7	-\$2,048,052	-65.3
Hot Springs	\$2,127,991	0.5	\$762,860	0.5	-\$1,365,131	-64.2
Johnson	\$3,940,030	0.9	\$1,769,708	1.1	-\$2,170,322	-55.1
Laramie	\$47,254,080	10.9	\$17,383,595	10.9	-\$29,870,485	-63.2
Lincoln	\$8,526,118	2.0	\$2,842,963	1.8	-\$5,683,155	-66.7
Natrona	\$80,209,852	18.6	\$30,129,917	18.9	-\$50,079,935	-62.4
Niobrara	\$538,291	0.1	\$351,374	0.2	-\$186,917	-34.7
Park	\$13,789,547	3.2	\$5,491,242	3.4	-\$8,298,305	-60.2
Platte	\$3,842,869	0.9	\$1,442,723	0.9	-\$2,400,146	-62.5
Sheridan	\$12,128,282	2.8	\$4,943,222	3.1	-\$7,185,060	-59.2
Sublette	\$5,717,744	1.3	\$2,533,487	1.6	-\$3,184,257	-55.7
Sweetwater	\$32,599,906	7.6	\$11,929,393	7.5	-\$20,670,513	-63.4
Teton	\$29,359,776	6.8	\$5,328,417	3.3	-\$24,031,359	-81.9
Uinta	\$10,322,657	2.4	\$3,986,574	2.5	-\$6,336,083	-61.4
Washakie	\$3,415,528	0.8	\$1,414,865	0.9	-\$2,000,663	-58.6
Weston	\$2,513,100	0.6	\$1,005,656	0.6	-\$1,507,444	-60.0
Unknown (WY)	\$1,483,484	0.3	\$487,842	0.3	-\$995,642	-67.1
Out-of-State	\$77,493,212	17.9	\$29,535,109	18.5	-\$47,958,103	-61.9
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$431,739,192</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>\$159,451,152</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>-\$272,288,040</b>	<b>-63.1</b>

Source: Wyoming Unemployment Insurance (UI) claims database.

Prepared by S. Wen, Research & Planning, WY DWS, 2/15/22.

# New Short-Term Projections Show Job Growth for Wyoming

by: *Laura Yetter, Senior Economist*

Wyoming is projected to gain approximately 9,000 jobs from second quarter 2021 (2021Q2) to second quarter 2023 (2023Q2), according to the most recent short-term industry and occupational projections from the Research & Planning (R&P) section of the Wyoming Department of Workforce Services. This is a 3.2% increase in the number of jobs in Wyoming. The change reflects roughly 15,000 more jobs from last year's short-term occupational projections as the COVID pandemic lessens, and oil & gas recover in 2021 and 2022.

Projections are based on historical trends of how employment levels respond to market conditions. Wyoming experienced three periods of economic downturn over the last 12 years: 2009Q1 to 2010Q1, 2015Q2 to 2016Q4, and 2020Q2 to 2021Q1. The projections discussed in this article were prepared during a period of increased employment and wage growth as Wyoming recovered from the COVID-19 pandemic.

Comprehensive industry and occupational projections are available online at <https://doe.state.wy.us/LMI/projections.htm>.

## Industry Projections

Industries are classified according to the North American Industry Classification System, (NAICS). The industry projections are developed at the three-digit NAICS subsector level and then summed to the two-digit major industries shown in Table 1 (see page 13). The full industry projections table with three-digit NAICS subsectors can be found online.

Short-term industry projections

### Now Online

#### Short-Term Industry and Occupational Projections, 2021-2023

<https://doe.state.wy.us/LMI/projections.htm>

indicate that Wyoming's employment is expected to increase from 268,776 in 2021Q2 to 277,393 in 2023Q2, an increase of 8,617 jobs, or 3.2%. At the two-digit sector level, the largest increases in employment are projected for construction (1,567, or 7.3%), accommodation & food services (1,127, or 3.5%), and health care & social assistance (1,074, or 3.2%). The only projected decrease in employment is found in utilities (-43, or -1.8%).

## Occupational Projections

Occupations are classified using the Standard Occupational Classification (SOC) system. R&P's short-term projections include occupational projection tables for each two-digit major group and by educational requirement.

In addition to growth or decline, short-term occupational projections also take into consideration anticipated openings due to workers exiting the workforce (*exits*) or changing occupations (*transfers*) from 2021Q2 to 2023Q2. *Total openings* refers to the sum of projected growth or decline in the number of jobs in a given occupation, plus the number of exits and transfers.

Projected growth or decline is a small component of total openings. In addition to the roughly 9,000 job openings due to growth, Wyoming is projected to have

25,330 openings due to exits and 39,332 openings due to transfers, or 73,698 total openings.

Table 2 (see page 14) shows the 10 occupations with the greatest number of projected growth openings for Wyoming. Heavy & tractor-trailer truck drivers is projected to add the greatest number

of jobs (454, or 6.5%), followed by construction laborers (338, or 8.3%), retail salespersons (242, or 2.9%), carpenters (222, or 6.5%), and stockers & order fillers (220, or 5.6%). Of the 10 occupations with the greatest number of projected growth openings, only two require some education beyond a high school diploma.

Of the 73,698 total projected openings from 2021 to 2023, the majority are in occupations that require a high school diploma or less (see Figure 1, page 15). Jobs requiring no formal education make up 34.0% of all projected openings, while those requiring a high school diploma account for 39.3%, a combined 73.3%. In other words, jobs requiring some postsecondary education account for approximately one-fourth (26.7%) of all projected growth openings. Occupations requiring a bachelor's degree account for 13.2% of all projected growth openings.

Table 3 (see page 16) shows the top five occupations by total projected openings for each educational requirement. Occupations with no formal educational requirement account for approximately one in three (34.0%) total job openings. The greatest projected openings in this group include fast food & counter workers (2,840), retail salespersons (2,579), and cashiers (2,196).

Occupations requiring a high school diploma or equivalent account for the largest proportion of total openings (39.3%). The greatest projected growth is seen in occupations such

**Table 1: Short-Term Industry Projections for Wyoming, 2021Q2-2023Q2**

NAICS <sup>a</sup> Code	Industry	Base 2021Q2	Projected 2023Q2	Change, 2021-2023	
				N	%
11	Agriculture	2,816	2,918	102	3.6
21	Mining	14,469	14,829	360	2.5
22	Utilities	2,370	2,327	-43	-1.8
23	Construction	21,338	22,905	1,567	7.3
31-33	Manufacturing	9,649	9,840	191	2.0
42	Wholesale Trade	7,344	7,464	120	1.6
44-45	Retail Trade	29,451	30,229	778	2.6
48-49	Transportation & Warehousing	12,652	13,432	780	6.2
51	Information	2,929	2,935	6	0.2
52	Finance & Insurance	7,155	7,422	267	3.7
53	Real Estate & Rental & Leasing	3,912	4,043	131	3.3
54	Professional, Scientific, & Technical Services	9,850	10,562	712	7.2
55	Mgmt. of Companies & Enterprises	832	892	60	7.2
56	Admin & Waste Mgmt. & Remediation Services	9,040	9,378	338	3.7
61	Educational Services	28,285	28,551	266	0.9
62	Health Care & Social Assistance	33,337	34,411	1,074	3.2
71	Arts, Ent., & Recreation	3,792	3,875	83	2.2
72	Accommodation & Food Services	32,269	33,396	1,127	3.5
81	Other Services (except Government)	6,955	7,265	310	4.5
99	Government	30,331	30,719	388	1.3
<b>Total Industries</b>		<b>268,776</b>	<b>277,393</b>	<b>8,617</b>	<b>3.2</b>

<sup>a</sup>North American Industry Classification System.

Source: Wyoming Short-Term Industry and Occupational Employment Projections, 2021Q2-2023Q2.

Prepared by L. Yetter, Research & Planning, WY DWS, 2/25/22.

as office clerks, general (1,954), stockers & order fillers (1,465), and home health & personal care aides (1,156).

Occupations requiring a post-secondary non-degree award or some college, no degree, account for 9.0% of total projected openings. Of the 6,630 projected openings in this group, approximately one in three (2,027) are heavy & tractor-trailer truck drivers.

Other occupations requiring a post-secondary certificate or some college that have relatively large numbers of total projected openings include bookkeeping, accounting, & auditing clerks (783) and nursing assistants (743).

The occupations requiring an associate's degree account for 1.9% of total projected openings. The occupations with the greatest number of projected openings

**Table 2: Short-Term Occupational Employment Projections for the Top 10 Occupations in Wyoming with the Greatest Number of Projected Growth Openings, 2021-2023**

SOC <sup>a</sup> Code	SOC Title	Base Employment (2021Q2)	Projected Employment (2023Q2)	Change (Growth)		Types of Openings				Requirements		
				N	%	Exits	Transfers	Growth	Total	Education	Ex-perience	Training
00-0000	<b>Total, All Occupations</b>	<b>286,001</b>	<b>295,037</b>	<b>9,036</b>	<b>3.2</b>	<b>25,330</b>	<b>39,332</b>	<b>9,036</b>	<b>73,698</b>			
53-3032	Heavy & Tractor-Trailer Truck Drivers	7,004	7,458	454	6.5	592	981	454	2,027	Post-secondary non-degree award	None	Short-term OJT <sup>b</sup>
47-2061	Construction Laborers	4,089	4,427	338	8.3	252	575	338	1,165	No formal education	Less than 5 years	Moderate OJT <sup>b</sup>
41-2031	Retail Salespersons	8,315	8,557	242	2.9	943	1,394	242	2,579	No formal education	None	None
47-2031	Carpenters	3,441	3,663	222	6.5	207	443	222	872	High school diploma or equivalent	None	None
53-7065	Stockers & Order Fillers	3,921	4,141	220	5.6	459	786	220	1,465	High school diploma or equivalent	5 years or more	None
35-2014	Cooks, Restaurant	3,082	3,292	210	6.8	375	546	210	1,131	No formal education	Less than 5 years	None
31-1120	Home Health & Personal Care Aides	3,826	4,034	208	5.4	503	445	208	1,156	High school diploma or equivalent	None	None
43-9061	Office Clerks, General	7,574	7,780	206	2.7	838	910	206	1,954	High school diploma or equivalent	None	Moderate OJT <sup>b</sup>
11-1021	General & Operations Managers	4,700	4,885	185	3.9	191	594	185	970	Bachelor's degree	None	Short-term OJT <sup>b</sup>
47-1011	First-Line Supervisors of Construction Trades & Extraction Workers	2,684	2,856	172	6.4	157	359	172	688	High school diploma or equivalent	None	None

<sup>a</sup>Standard Occupational Classification.

<sup>b</sup>On-the-job training.

N/D = Not discloseable due to confidentiality.

Source: Wyoming Short-Term Industry and Occupational Employment Projections, 2021Q2-2023Q2.

Prepared by L. Yetter, Research & Planning, WY DWS, 2/25/22.

are forest & conservation technicians (175), preschool teachers, except special education (151), and paralegals & legal assistants (148).

Occupations requiring a bachelor's degree make up the greatest proportion of all occupations that require some post-secondary education, and account for 13.2% of all projected openings. General & operations managers have the greatest number of projected openings (970), followed by short-term substitute teachers (686) and registered nurses (668).

Occupations requiring a master's degree

have the least projected openings (874) of all educational groups, and account for 1.2% of total projected openings. The occupations with the greatest projected openings are educational, guidance, school, & vocational counselors (136), followed by librarians & medical collections specialists (98) and nurse practitioners (79).

Finally, occupations requiring a doctoral or professional degree make up 1.3% of all projected openings. Lawyers have the greatest number of projected openings (157), followed by post-secondary teachers, all other (76) and physical therapists (70).

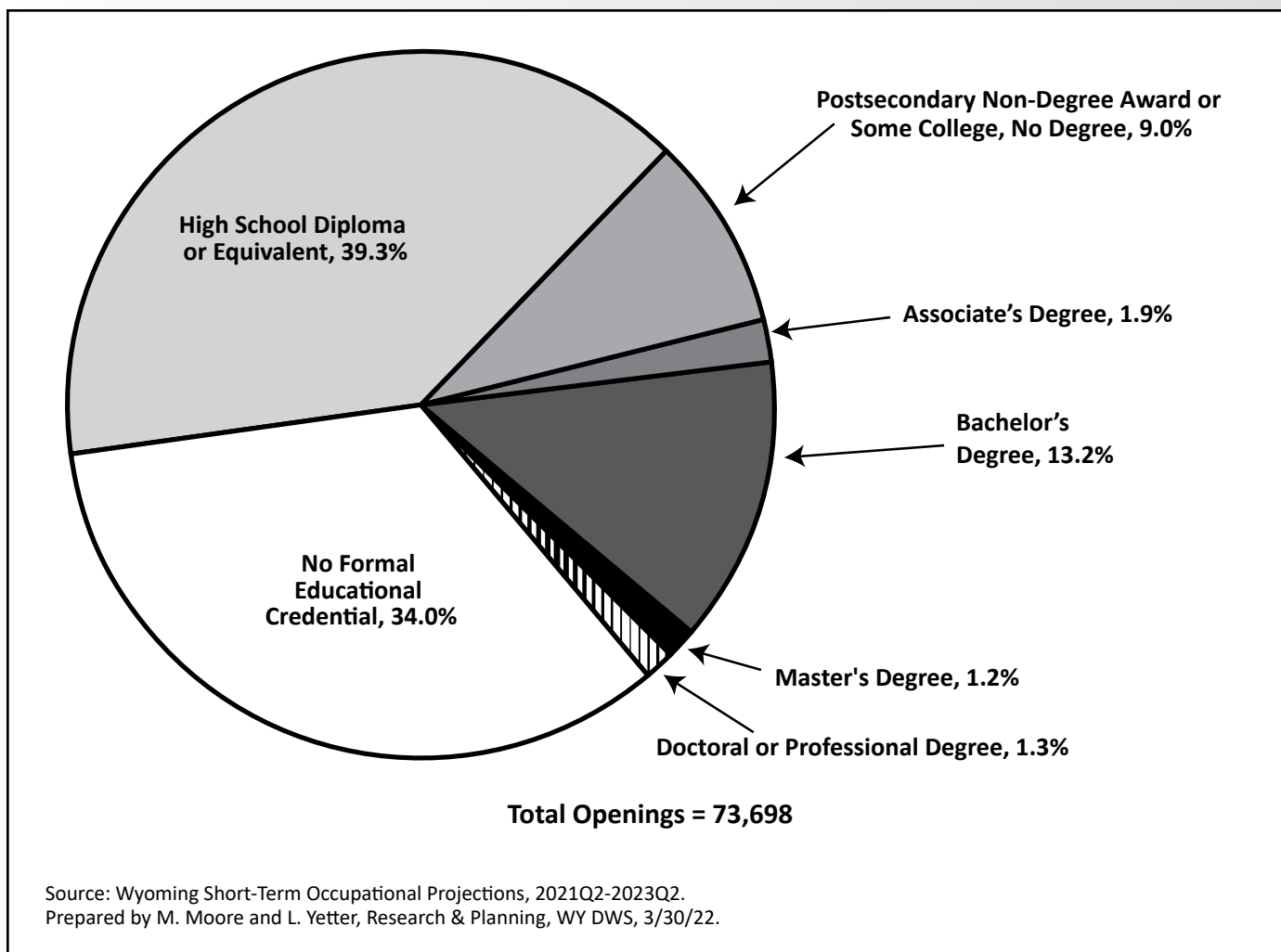


Figure 1: Projected Total Job Openings in Wyoming by Educational Requirement, 2021-2023

Table 3: Top 5 Occupations by Total Projected Openings for Wyoming by Educational Requirement, 2021-2023

		Employment		Openings Due to:			
SOC <sup>a</sup> Code	Occupation	2021Q2	2023Q2	Exits	Transfers	Growth	Total
No Formal Educational Credential							
35-3023	Fast Food & Counter Workers	6,754	6,839	1,318	1,437	85	2,840
41-2031	Retail Salespersons	8,315	8,557	943	1,394	242	2,579
41-2011	Cashiers	5,944	5,983	1,015	1,142	39	2,196
35-3031	Waiters & Waitresses	4,749	4,840	704	1,145	91	1,940
37-2011	Janitors & Cleaners, Except Maids & Housekeeping Cleaners	5,094	5,209	643	722	115	1,480
Subtotal, No Formal Educational Requirement		72,539	74,929	8,990	12,828	2,390	24,208
High School Diploma or Equivalent							
43-9061	Office Clerks, General	7,574	7,780	838	910	206	1,954
53-7065	Stockers & Order Fillers	3,921	4,141	459	786	220	1,465
31-1120	Home Health & Personal Care Aides	3,826	4,034	503	445	208	1,156
47-2031	Carpenters	3,441	3,663	207	443	222	872
47-2073	Operating Engineers & Other Construction Equipment Operators	3,714	3,772	245	537	58	840
Subtotal, High School Diploma or Equivalent		115,251	118,725	9,625	15,893	3,474	28,992
Postsecondary Non-Degree Award or Some College, No Degree							
53-3032	Heavy & Tractor-Trailer Truck Drivers	7,004	7,458	592	981	454	2,027
43-3031	Bookkeeping, Accounting, & Auditing Clerks	3,194	3,268	379	330	74	783
31-1131	Nursing Assistants	2,798	2,859	362	320	61	743
25-9045	Teaching Assistants, Except Postsecondary	3,511	3,551	316	330	40	686
49-3023	Automotive Service Technicians & Mechanics	1,664	1,715	100	229	51	380
Subtotal, Postsecondary Non-Degree Award or Some College, No Degree		26,743	27,773	2,381	3,219	1,030	6,630
Associate's Degree							
19-4071	Forest & Conservation Technicians	643	661	35	122	18	175
25-2011	Preschool Teachers, Except Special Education	649	669	54	77	20	151
23-2011	Paralegals & Legal Assistants	533	565	42	74	32	148
29-1292	Dental Hygienists	553	569	40	28	16	84
29-2034	Radiologic Technologists	435	447	24	38	12	74
Subtotal, Associate's Degree		6,374	6,599	405	798	225	1,428
Bachelor's Degree							
11-1021	General & Operations Managers	4,700	4,885	191	594	185	970
25-3031	Substitute Teachers, Short-Term	2,779	2,829	335	301	50	686
29-1141	Registered Nurses	5,103	5,235	276	260	132	668
13-2011	Accountants & Auditors	2,108	2,186	120	254	78	452
25-2021	Elementary School Teachers, Except Special Ed.	2,480	2,501	153	200	21	374
Subtotal, Bachelor's Degree		51,191	52,676	2,939	5,334	1,485	9,758
Master's Degree							
21-1012	Educational, Guidance, School, & Vocational Counselors	671	683	44	80	12	136
25-4022	Librarians & Media Collections Specialists	473	482	47	42	9	98
29-1171	Nurse Practitioners	357	396	16	24	39	79
21-1023	Mental Health & Substance Abuse Social Workers	285	293	16	37	8	61
11-9032	Ed. Admin., Elementary & Secondary School	383	386	19	36	3	58
Subtotal, Master's Degree		4,588	4,729	286	447	141	874
Doctoral or Professional Degree							
23-1011	Lawyers	1,093	1,147	48	55	54	157
25-1199	Postsecondary Teachers, All Other	405	407	36	38	2	76
29-1123	Physical Therapists	527	554	21	22	27	70
29-1051	Pharmacists	633	651	24	25	18	67
29-1131	Veterinarians	260	284	9	8	24	41
Subtotal, or Professional Degree		6,855	7,049	377	376	194	947
Total, All Occupations							
Total, All Occupations		286,001	295,037	25,330	39,332	9,036	73,698

<sup>a</sup>Standard Occupational Classification.

Source: Wyoming Short-Term Occupational Projections, 2021Q2-2023Q2.

Prepared by L. Yetter and M. Moore, Research &amp; Planning, WY DWS, 2/25/22.

## Wyoming Unemployment Falls to 3.4% in March 2022

by: David Bullard, Senior Economist

The Research & Planning section of the Wyoming Department of Workforce Services reported that the state's seasonally adjusted<sup>1</sup> unemployment rate fell from 3.6% in February to 3.4% in March. Wyoming's unemployment rate is slightly lower than the current U.S. rate of 3.6% and much lower than its March 2021 level of 5.0%. From February to March, seasonally adjusted employment of Wyoming residents increased by 796 individuals (0.3%) as people returned to work.

From February to March, most county unemployment rates followed their normal seasonal pattern and fell slightly. The largest decreases occurred in Platte County (down from 3.8% to 3.3%) and Big Horn County (down from 5.0% to 4.5%).

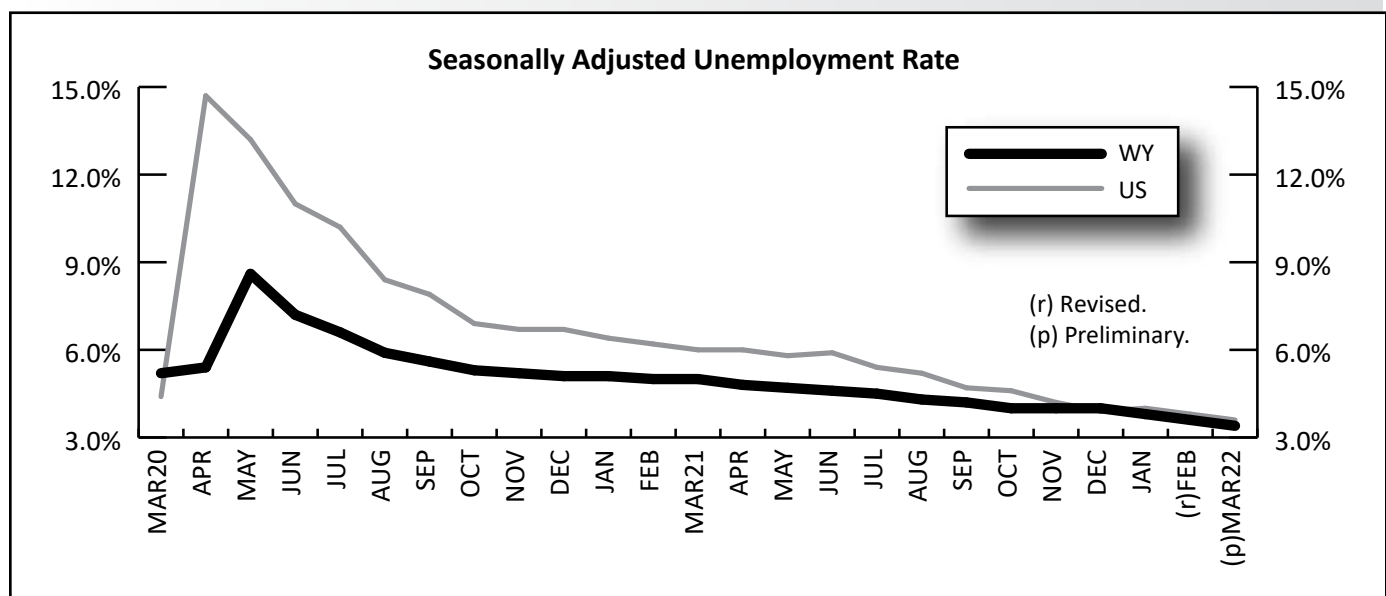
From March 2021 to March 2022,

<sup>1</sup> Seasonal adjustment is a statistical procedure to remove the impact of normal regularly recurring events (such as weather, major holidays, and the opening and closing of schools) from economic time series to better understand changes in economic conditions from month to month.

unemployment rates fell in every county. Unemployment rates were unusually high during much of 2021 because of the pandemic. The largest decreases were found in Natrona (down from 7.5% to 4.7%), Sublette (down from 7.1% to 4.6%), Converse (down from 6.0% to 3.5%), Uinta (down from 6.0% to 3.9%), and Campbell (down from 6.2% to 4.1%) counties.

Teton County had the lowest unemployment rate in March at 2.3%. It was followed by Niobrara County at 2.6% and Goshen County at 2.8%. The highest unemployment rates were found in Natrona County at 4.7% and Sublette County and Sweetwater County, each at 4.6%.

Total nonfarm employment in Wyoming (not seasonally adjusted and measured by place of work) rose from 270,300 in March 2021 to 278,500 in March 2022, an increase of 8,200 jobs (3.0%). Employment was lower than normal in March 2021 because of economic disruptions related to the pandemic.



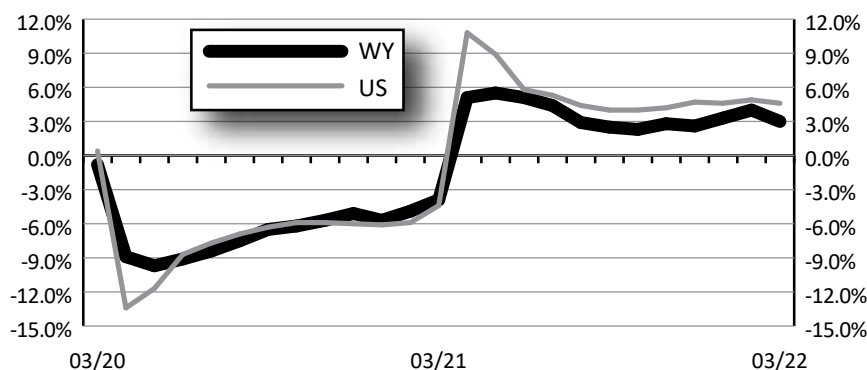
## Current Employment Statistics (CES) Estimates and Research & Planning's Internal Estimates, March 2022

by: David Bullard, Senior Economist

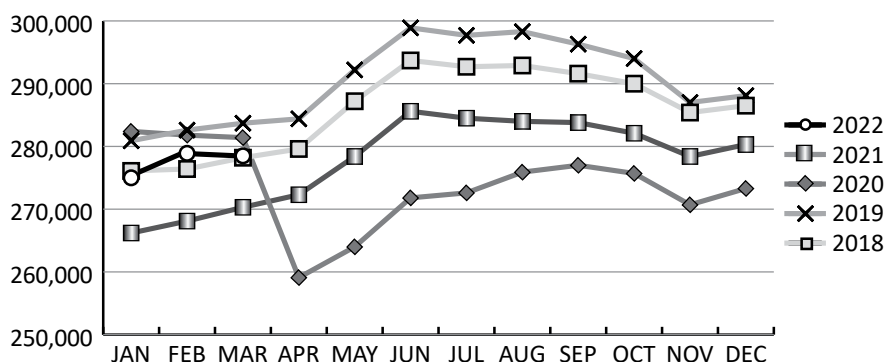
Industry Sector	Research & Planning's Internal Estimates	Current Employment Statistics (CES) Estimates	N Difference	% Difference
<b>Total Nonfarm</b>	<b>275,152</b>	<b>278,500</b>	<b>3,348</b>	<b>1.2%</b>
Natural Resources & Mining	15,226	15,100	-126	-0.8%
Construction	18,926	20,900	1,974	9.4%
Manufacturing	9,637	9,600	-37	-0.4%
Wholesale Trade	7,662	7,500	-162	-2.2%
Retail Trade	28,500	30,100	1,600	5.3%
Transportation & Utilities	14,003	13,700	-303	-2.2%
Information	2,927	3,000	73	2.4%
Financial Activities	11,290	11,100	-190	-1.7%
Professional & Business Services	19,548	19,900	352	1.8%
Educational & Health Services	28,785	28,800	15	0.1%
Leisure & Hospitality	35,057	35,200	143	0.4%
Other Services	15,516	16,000	484	3.0%
Government	68,075	67,600	-475	-0.7%

Internal Estimates were run in February 2022 and based on QCEW data through September 2021.

### Nonagricultural Employment Growth (Percentage Change Over Previous Year)



### Wyoming Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment



### State Unemployment Rates March 2022 (Seasonally Adjusted)

State	Unemp. Rate
Puerto Rico	6.5
District of Columbia	6.0
New Mexico	5.3
Alaska	5.0
Nevada	5.0
California	4.9
Pennsylvania	4.9
Illinois	4.7
Connecticut	4.6
Maryland	4.6
New York	4.6
Delaware	4.5
Michigan	4.4
Texas	4.4
Massachusetts	4.3
Louisiana	4.2
Mississippi	4.2
New Jersey	4.2
Washington	4.2
Hawaii	4.1
Ohio	4.1
Kentucky	4.0
Oregon	3.8
Colorado	3.7
West Virginia	3.7
Maine	3.6
Missouri	3.6
<b>United States</b>	<b>3.6</b>
North Carolina	3.5
Rhode Island	3.4
South Carolina	3.4
<b>Wyoming</b>	<b>3.4</b>
Arizona	3.3
Iowa	3.3
Florida	3.2
Tennessee	3.2
Arkansas	3.1
Georgia	3.1
Virginia	3.0
Alabama	2.9
North Dakota	2.9
Wisconsin	2.8
Idaho	2.7
Oklahoma	2.7
Vermont	2.7
Kansas	2.5
Minnesota	2.5
New Hampshire	2.5
South Dakota	2.5
Montana	2.3
Indiana	2.2
Nebraska	2.0
Utah	2.0

## Wyoming Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment

by: David Bullard, Senior Economist

### State Unemployment Rates March 2022 (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

State	Unemp. Rate
Puerto Rico	5.8
District of Columbia	5.7
Alaska	5.1
Delaware	4.7
Illinois	4.7
New York	4.7
New Mexico	4.6
Pennsylvania	4.6
Michigan	4.5
Nevada	4.4
Ohio	4.4
Connecticut	4.3
Maryland	4.3
Washington	4.3
California	4.2
Kentucky	4.2
Maine	4.1
New Jersey	4.1
Oregon	4.0
West Virginia	4.0
Texas	3.9
Louisiana	3.8
Massachusetts	3.8
<b>United States</b>	<b>3.8</b>
<b>Wyoming</b>	<b>3.7</b>
Missouri	3.6
North Carolina	3.6
Colorado	3.5
Hawaii	3.5
Mississippi	3.5
Georgia	3.3
Iowa	3.3
North Dakota	3.3
South Carolina	3.3
Wisconsin	3.3
Arkansas	3.2
Idaho	3.1
Rhode Island	3.0
Tennessee	3.0
Kansas	2.9
Oklahoma	2.9
Arizona	2.8
Minnesota	2.8
Montana	2.8
Florida	2.7
Indiana	2.7
Virginia	2.7
Alabama	2.5
South Dakota	2.5
New Hampshire	2.4
Vermont	2.4
Nebraska	2.3
Utah	2.1

	Employment in Thousands			% Change Total Employment	
	Mar 22	Feb 22	Mar 21	Mar 22 Feb 22	Mar 22 Mar 21
<b>CAMPBELL COUNTY</b>					
<b>TOTAL NONAG. WAGE &amp; SALARY EMPLOYMENT</b>	<b>23.0</b>	<b>23.1</b>	<b>23.1</b>	<b>-0.4</b>	<b>-0.4</b>
<b>TOTAL PRIVATE</b>	<b>18.3</b>	<b>18.3</b>	<b>18.3</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>
<b>GOODS PRODUCING</b>	<b>6.7</b>	<b>6.7</b>	<b>6.7</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>
Natural Resources & Mining	4.8	4.8	4.5	0.0	6.7
Construction	1.4	1.4	1.7	0.0	-17.6
Manufacturing	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.0	0.0
<b>SERVICE PROVIDING</b>	<b>16.3</b>	<b>16.4</b>	<b>16.4</b>	<b>-0.6</b>	<b>-0.6</b>
Trade, Transportation, & Utilities	4.9	4.9	5.1	0.0	-3.9
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	1.5	1.5	1.4	0.0	7.1
Educational & Health Services	1.2	1.2	1.2	0.0	0.0
Leisure & Hospitality	2.3	2.3	2.2	0.0	4.5
Other Services	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.0	0.0
<b>GOVERNMENT</b>	<b>4.7</b>	<b>4.8</b>	<b>4.8</b>	<b>-2.1</b>	<b>-2.1</b>

	Employment in Thousands			% Change Total Employment	
	Mar 22	Feb 22	Mar 21	Mar 22 Feb 22	Mar 22 Mar 21
<b>SWEETWATER COUNTY</b>					
<b>TOTAL NONAG. WAGE &amp; SALARY EMPLOYMENT</b>	<b>20.4</b>	<b>20.2</b>	<b>20.3</b>	<b>1.0</b>	<b>0.5</b>
<b>TOTAL PRIVATE</b>	<b>15.8</b>	<b>15.7</b>	<b>15.7</b>	<b>0.6</b>	<b>0.6</b>
<b>GOODS PRODUCING</b>	<b>5.8</b>	<b>5.8</b>	<b>5.7</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>1.8</b>
Natural Resources & Mining	3.6	3.6	3.3	0.0	9.1
Construction	1.0	1.0	1.2	0.0	-16.7
Manufacturing	1.2	1.2	1.2	0.0	0.0
<b>SERVICE PROVIDING</b>	<b>14.6</b>	<b>14.4</b>	<b>14.6</b>	<b>1.4</b>	<b>0.0</b>
Trade, Transportation, & Utilities	4.2	4.2	4.3	0.0	-2.3
Information	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.0
Financial Activities	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.0	0.0
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	2.3	2.2	2.2	4.5	4.5
Other Services	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.0	0.0
<b>GOVERNMENT</b>	<b>4.6</b>	<b>4.5</b>	<b>4.6</b>	<b>2.2</b>	<b>0.0</b>

	Employment in Thousands			% Change Total Employment	
	Mar 22	Feb 22	Mar 21	Mar 22 Feb 22	Mar 22 Mar 21
<b>TETON COUNTY</b>					
<b>TOTAL NONAG. WAGE &amp; SALARY EMPLOYMENT</b>	<b>20.7</b>	<b>20.9</b>	<b>19.8</b>	<b>-1.0</b>	<b>4.5</b>
<b>TOTAL PRIVATE</b>	<b>18.0</b>	<b>18.2</b>	<b>17.2</b>	<b>-1.1</b>	<b>4.7</b>
<b>GOODS PRODUCING</b>	<b>2.4</b>	<b>2.4</b>	<b>2.5</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>-4.0</b>
Natural Resources, Mining & Construction	2.2	2.2	2.3	0.0	-4.3
Manufacturing	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.0	0.0
<b>SERVICE PROVIDING</b>	<b>18.3</b>	<b>18.5</b>	<b>17.3</b>	<b>-1.1</b>	<b>5.8</b>
Trade, Transportation, & Utilities	2.6	2.6	2.5	0.0	4.0
Information	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.0	0.0
Financial Activities	1.3	1.3	1.3	0.0	0.0
Professional & Business Services	2.1	2.1	2.0	0.0	5.0
Educational & Health Services	1.2	1.2	1.3	0.0	-7.7
Leisure & Hospitality	7.7	7.9	6.9	-2.5	11.6
Other Services	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.0	0.0
<b>GOVERNMENT</b>	<b>2.7</b>	<b>2.7</b>	<b>2.6</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>3.8</b>

## Economic Indicators

by: David Bullard, Senior Economist

*The number of people working part-time for economic reasons fell 27.9% from March 2021 to March 2022, suggesting that the economy continues to recover.*

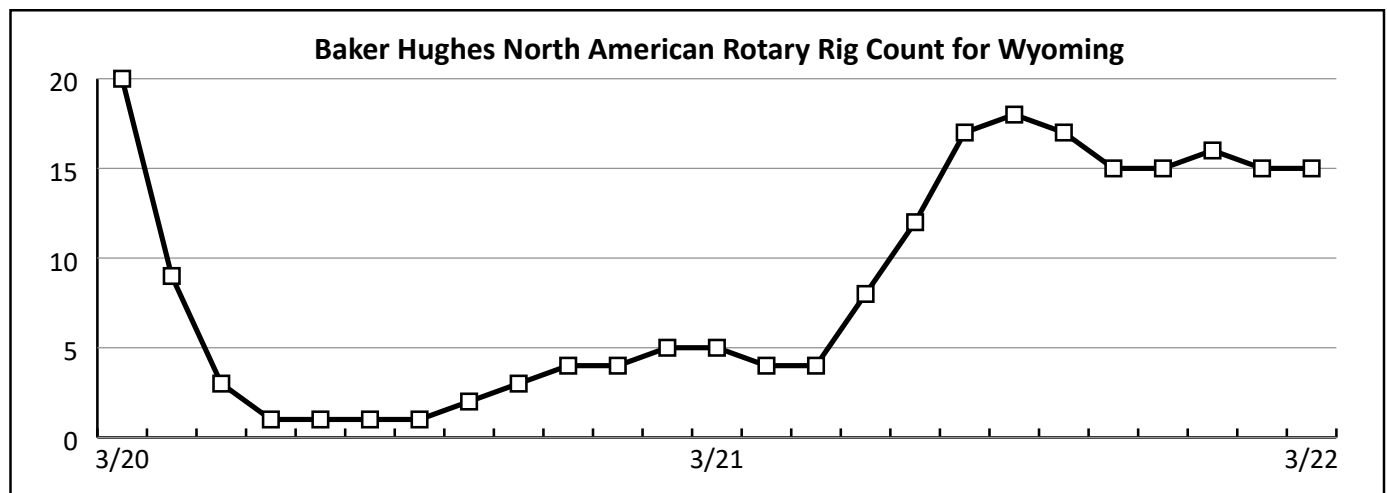
	Mar 2022 (p)	Feb 2022 (r)	Mar 2021 (b)	Percent Change Month	Year
<b>Wyoming Total Nonfarm Employment</b>	<b>278,500</b>	<b>278,900</b>	<b>270,300</b>	<b>-0.1</b>	<b>3.0</b>
Wyoming State Government	14,500	14,300	14,700	1.4	-1.4
Laramie County Nonfarm Employment	47,300	47,300	45,800	0.0	3.3
Natrona County Nonfarm Employment	37,600	37,300	36,400	0.8	3.3
<b>Selected U.S. Employment Data</b>					
U.S. Multiple Jobholders	7,496,000	7,557,000	7,004,000	-0.8	7.0
As a percent of all workers	4.7%	4.8%	4.7%	N/A	N/A
U.S. Discouraged Workers	330,000	393,000	488,000	-16.0	-32.4
U.S. Part Time for Economic Reasons	4,266,000	4,349,000	5,913,000	-1.9	-27.9
<b>Wyoming Unemployment Insurance</b>					
Weeks Compensated	11,872	10,732	23,523	10.6	-49.5
Benefits Paid	\$5,113,868	\$4,601,200	\$9,881,823	11.1	-48.2
Average Weekly Benefit Payment	\$430.75	\$428.74	\$420.09	0.5	2.5
<b>Consumer Price Index (U) for All U.S. Urban Consumers</b>					
(1982 to 1984 = 100)					
All Items	287.5	283.7	264.9	1.3	8.5
Food & Beverages	294.1	291.2	271.1	1.0	8.5
Housing	293.6	291.5	276.0	0.7	6.4
Apparel	128.9	127.9	120.7	0.8	6.8
Transportation	264.5	253.2	215.8	4.5	22.6
Medical Care	539.7	536.9	524.7	0.5	2.9
Recreation (Dec. 1997=100)	129.4	129.1	123.6	0.2	4.8
Education & Communication (Dec. 1997=100)	143.5	143.9	141.3	-0.3	1.5
Other Goods & Services	498.5	496.0	472.6	0.5	5.5
<b>Producer Prices (1982 to 1984 = 100)</b>					
All Commodities	259.0	253.2	215.0	2.3	20.5
<b>Wyo. Bldg. Permits (New Privately Owned Housing Units Authorized)</b>					
Total Units	239	244	187	-2.0	27.8
Valuation	\$94,132,000	\$81,048,000	\$95,540,000	16.1	-1.5
Single Family Homes	228	178	164	28.1	39.0
Valuation	\$92,849,000	\$73,338,000	\$92,409,000	26.6	0.5
Casper MSA <sup>1</sup> Building Permits	18	18	12	0.0	50.0
Valuation	\$4,368,000	\$3,455,000	\$3,150,000	26.4	38.7
Cheyenne MSA Building Permits	49	105	53	-53.3	-7.5
Valuation	\$10,851,000	\$7,000,000	\$11,946,000	55.0	-9.2

### Baker Hughes North American Rotary Rig Count for Wyoming

15 15 5 0.0 200.0

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

<sup>1</sup>Metropolitan Statistical Area.



## Wyoming County Unemployment Rates

by: Carola Cowan, BLS Programs Supervisor

*The highest unemployment rates were found in Natrona County at 4.7% and Sublette County and Sweetwater County, each at 4.6%.*

REGION County	Labor Force			Employed			Unemployed			Unemployment Rates		
	Mar 2022	Feb 2022	Mar 2021	Mar 2022	Feb 2022	Mar 2021	Mar 2022	Feb 2022	Mar 2021	Mar 2022	Feb 2022	Mar 2021
	(p)	(r)	(b)	(p)	(r)	(b)	(p)	(r)	(b)	(p)	(r)	(b)
<b>NORTHWEST</b>	<b>44,867</b>	<b>44,620</b>	<b>45,159</b>	<b>43,041</b>	<b>42,659</b>	<b>42,709</b>	<b>1,826</b>	<b>1,961</b>	<b>2,450</b>	<b>4.1</b>	<b>4.4</b>	<b>5.4</b>
Big Horn	5,133	5,079	5,255	4,900	4,824	4,963	233	255	292	4.5	5.0	5.6
Fremont	18,880	18,762	18,959	18,096	17,928	17,877	784	834	1,082	4.2	4.4	5.7
Hot Springs	2,190	2,176	2,242	2,122	2,107	2,144	68	69	98	3.1	3.2	4.4
Park	14,745	14,676	14,784	14,162	14,036	13,995	583	640	789	4.0	4.4	5.3
Washakie	3,919	3,927	3,919	3,761	3,764	3,730	158	163	189	4.0	4.2	4.8
<b>NORTHEAST</b>	<b>49,691</b>	<b>49,433</b>	<b>49,768</b>	<b>47,846</b>	<b>47,493</b>	<b>47,017</b>	<b>1,845</b>	<b>1,940</b>	<b>2,751</b>	<b>3.7</b>	<b>3.9</b>	<b>5.5</b>
Campbell	22,009	21,928	22,239	21,100	20,981	20,859	909	947	1,380	4.1	4.3	6.2
Crook	3,805	3,780	3,692	3,688	3,659	3,536	117	121	156	3.1	3.2	4.2
Johnson	4,097	4,080	4,164	3,943	3,910	3,947	154	170	217	3.8	4.2	5.2
Sheridan	16,028	15,910	15,918	15,480	15,322	15,065	548	588	853	3.4	3.7	5.4
Weston	3,752	3,735	3,755	3,635	3,621	3,610	117	114	145	3.1	3.1	3.9
<b>SOUTHWEST</b>	<b>56,708</b>	<b>56,647</b>	<b>57,476</b>	<b>54,644</b>	<b>54,417</b>	<b>54,356</b>	<b>2,064</b>	<b>2,230</b>	<b>3,120</b>	<b>3.6</b>	<b>3.9</b>	<b>5.4</b>
Lincoln	9,424	9,418	9,421	9,109	9,094	8,967	315	324	454	3.3	3.4	4.8
Sublette	3,876	3,865	3,873	3,696	3,681	3,598	180	184	275	4.6	4.8	7.1
Sweetwater	19,310	19,175	19,892	18,428	18,211	18,580	882	964	1,312	4.6	5.0	6.6
Teton	15,525	15,669	15,268	15,173	15,281	14,731	352	388	537	2.3	2.5	3.5
Uinta	8,573	8,520	9,022	8,238	8,150	8,480	335	370	542	3.9	4.3	6.0
<b>SOUTHEAST</b>	<b>84,179</b>	<b>83,562</b>	<b>82,960</b>	<b>81,515</b>	<b>80,664</b>	<b>79,303</b>	<b>2,664</b>	<b>2,898</b>	<b>3,657</b>	<b>3.2</b>	<b>3.5</b>	<b>4.4</b>
Albany	21,531	21,029	21,175	20,917	20,378	20,393	614	651	782	2.9	3.1	3.7
Goshen	6,581	6,525	6,545	6,395	6,321	6,287	186	204	258	2.8	3.1	3.9
Laramie	50,363	50,337	49,514	48,681	48,493	47,165	1,682	1,844	2,349	3.3	3.7	4.7
Niobrara	1,226	1,225	1,234	1,194	1,193	1,186	32	32	48	2.6	2.6	3.9
Platte	4,478	4,446	4,492	4,328	4,279	4,272	150	167	220	3.3	3.8	4.9
<b>CENTRAL</b>	<b>54,608</b>	<b>54,450</b>	<b>54,284</b>	<b>52,246</b>	<b>51,920</b>	<b>50,526</b>	<b>2,362</b>	<b>2,530</b>	<b>3,758</b>	<b>4.3</b>	<b>4.6</b>	<b>6.9</b>
Carbon	7,673	7,624	7,490	7,411	7,336	7,117	262	288	373	3.4	3.8	5.0
Converse	7,571	7,536	7,426	7,305	7,250	6,981	266	286	445	3.5	3.8	6.0
Natrona	39,364	39,290	39,368	37,530	37,334	36,428	1,834	1,956	2,940	4.7	5.0	7.5
<b>STATEWIDE</b>	<b>290,048</b>	<b>288,712</b>	<b>289,646</b>	<b>279,290</b>	<b>277,152</b>	<b>273,909</b>	<b>10,758</b>	<b>11,560</b>	<b>15,737</b>	<b>3.7</b>	<b>4.0</b>	<b>5.4</b>
Statewide Seasonally Adjusted .....										3.4	3.6	5.0
U.S. ....										3.8	4.1	6.2
U.S. Seasonally Adjusted .....										3.6	3.8	6.0

Prepared in cooperation with the Bureau of Labor Statistics. Benchmarked 03/2022 Run Date 04/2022.

Data are not seasonally adjusted except where otherwise specified.

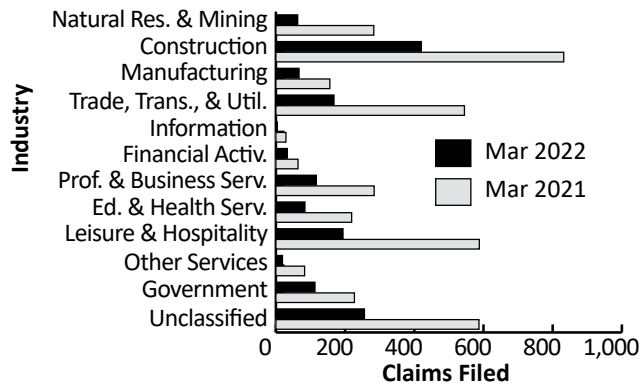
(p) Preliminary. (r) Revised. (b) Benchmarked.

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

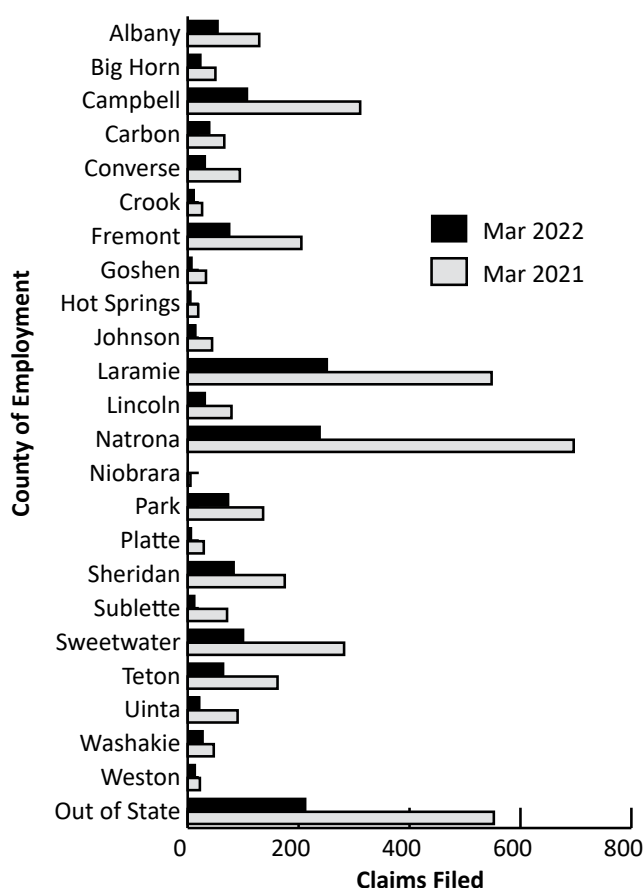
by: **Laura Yetter, Senior Economist**

*There were 1,544 initial claims in March 2022, down 60.4% (-2,359 claims) from March 2021.*

**Initial Unemployment Insurance  
Claims by Industry, March 2022**



**Initial Unemployment Insurance  
Claims by County, March 2022**



## Initial Claims

	Claims Filed			% Change	
	Mar 22	Feb 22	Mar 21	Over the Month	Over the Year
<b>Wyoming Statewide</b>					
Total Claims Filed	1,544	1,935	3,903	-20.2	-60.4
TOTAL GOODS-PRODUCING	551	878	1,272	-37.2	-56.7
Natural Resources & Mining	63	99	283	-36.4	-77.7
Mining	54	90	262	-40.0	-79.4
Oil & Gas Extraction	0	6	17	-100.0	-100.0
Construction	420	661	832	-36.5	-49.5
Manufacturing	67	117	156	-42.7	-57.1
TOTAL SERVICE-PROVIDING	623	618	1,816	0.8	-65.7
Trade, Transportation, & Utilities	168	194	545	-13.4	-69.2
Wholesale Trade	23	22	82	4.5	-72.0
Retail Trade	82	88	280	-6.8	-70.7
Transportation, Warehousing & Utilities	63	83	182	-24.1	-65.4
Information	4	5	29	-20.0	-86.2
Financial Activities	33	29	64	13.8	-48.4
Professional & Business Services	117	161	284	-27.3	-58.8
Educational & Health Services	84	75	219	12.0	-61.6
Leisure & Hospitality	194	127	588	52.8	-67.0
Other Services, except Public Admin.	19	23	83	-17.4	-77.1
TOTAL GOVERNMENT	113	103	227	9.7	-50.2
Federal Government	51	37	74	37.8	-31.1
State Government	6	17	25	-64.7	-76.0
Local Government	54	48	127	12.5	-57.5
Local Education	11	7	45	57.1	-75.6
UNCLASSIFIED	256	334	587	-23.4	-56.4
<b>Laramie County</b>					
Total Claims Filed	252	294	548	-14.3	-54.0
TOTAL GOODS-PRODUCING	116	135	200	-14.1	-42.0
Construction	101	117	159	-13.7	-36.5
TOTAL SERVICE-PROVIDING	90	90	245	0.0	-63.3
Trade, Transportation, & Utilities	23	29	65	-20.7	-64.6
Financial Activities	11	8	15	37.5	-26.7
Professional & Business Services	21	22	54	-4.5	-61.1
Educational & Health Services	18	8	30	125.0	-40.0
Leisure & Hospitality	8	17	63	-52.9	-87.3
TOTAL GOVERNMENT	9	16	22	-43.8	-59.1
UNCLASSIFIED	34	51	78	-33.3	-56.4
<b>Natrona County</b>					
Total Claims Filed	239	285	696	-16.1	-65.7
TOTAL GOODS-PRODUCING	96	134	224	-28.4	-57.1
Construction	84	113	161	-25.7	-47.8
TOTAL SERVICE-PROVIDING	103	100	374	3.0	-72.5
Trade, Transportation, & Utilities	32	24	143	33.3	-77.6
Financial Activities	7	0	11	N/D	-36.4
Professional & Business Services	27	30	56	-10.0	-51.8
Educational & Health Services	12	20	51	-40.0	-76.5
Leisure & Hospitality	19	18	85	5.6	-77.6
TOTAL GOVERNMENT	6	3	20	100.0	-70.0
UNCLASSIFIED	33	47	76	-29.8	-56.6

N/D = Not discloseable due to confidentiality.

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

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

by: *Laura Yetter, Senior Economist*

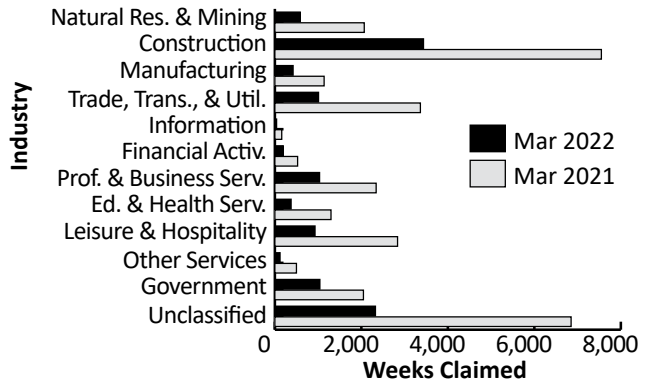
*Total continued weeks claimed decreased from 30,685 in March 2021 to 11,522 in March 2022 (-19,163, or -62.5%). Total unique claimants decreased from 7,749 to 3,376 (-4,373, or -56.4%).*

### Continued Claims

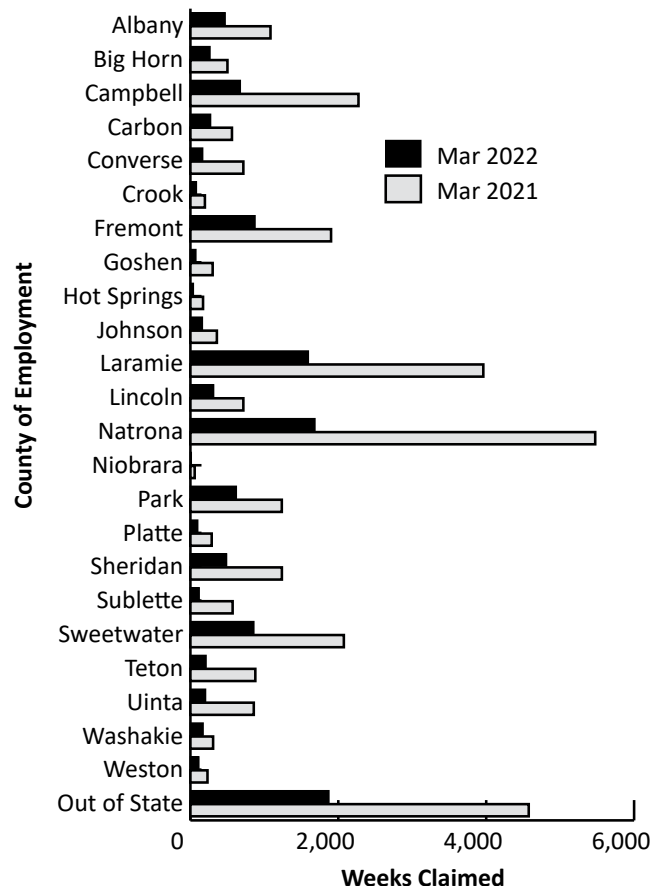
	Claims Filed			% Change	
	Mar 22	Feb 22	Mar 21	Over the Month	Over the Year
<b>Wyoming Statewide</b>					
Total Weeks Claimed	11,522	12,965	30,685	-11.1	-62.5
Total Unique Claimants	3,376	4,202	7,749	-19.7	-56.4
TOTAL GOODS-PRODUCING	4,446	5,082	10,757	-12.5	-58.7
Natural Resources & Mining	587	655	2,067	-10.4	-71.6
Mining	474	503	1,907	-5.8	-75.1
Oil & Gas Extraction	46	45	213	2.2	-78.4
Construction	3,437	4,022	7,550	-14.5	-54.5
Manufacturing	422	403	1,139	4.7	-62.9
TOTAL SERVICE-PROVIDING	3,707	4,145	11,029	-10.6	-66.4
Trade, Transportation, & Utilities	1,010	1,090	3,365	-7.3	-70.0
Wholesale Trade	170	185	613	-8.1	-72.3
Retail Trade	419	481	1,555	-12.9	-73.1
Transportation, Warehousing & Utilities	420	423	1,195	-0.7	-64.9
Information	40	43	159	-7.0	-74.8
Financial Activities	194	232	526	-16.4	-63.1
Professional & Business Services	1,034	1,268	2,342	-18.5	-55.8
Educational & Health Services	376	378	1,298	-0.5	-71.0
Leisure & Hospitality	929	980	2,837	-5.2	-67.3
Other Services, except Public Admin.	120	151	499	-20.5	-76.0
TOTAL GOVERNMENT	1,041	1,120	2,048	-7.1	-49.2
Federal Government	578	657	855	-12.0	-32.4
State Government	78	92	270	-15.2	-71.1
Local Government	384	371	922	3.5	-58.4
Local Education	82	76	245	7.9	-66.5
UNCLASSIFIED	2,326	2,616	6,850	-11.1	-66.0
<b>Laramie County</b>					
Total Weeks Claimed	1,596	1,824	3,961	-12.5	-59.7
Total Unique Claimants	488	601	1,017	-18.8	-52.0
TOTAL GOODS-PRODUCING	733	833	1,380	-12.0	-46.9
Construction	667	769	1,079	-13.3	-38.2
TOTAL SERVICE-PROVIDING	478	546	1,493	-12.5	-68.0
Trade, Transportation, & Utilities	147	156	452	-5.8	-67.5
Financial Activities	26	28	92	-7.1	-71.7
Professional & Business Services	144	190	393	-24.2	-63.4
Educational & Health Services	58	72	212	-19.4	-72.6
Leisure & Hospitality	71	64	277	10.9	-74.4
TOTAL GOVERNMENT	58	62	209	-6.5	-72.2
UNCLASSIFIED	327	381	878	-14.2	-62.8
<b>Natrona County</b>					
Total Weeks Claimed	1,685	1,927	5,474	-12.6	-69.2
Total Unique Claimants	491	621	1,359	-20.9	-63.9
TOTAL GOODS-PRODUCING	559	676	1,872	-17.3	-70.1
Construction	459	558	1,324	-17.7	-65.3
TOTAL SERVICE-PROVIDING	666	745	2,370	-10.6	-71.9
Trade, Transportation, & Utilities	210	219	814	-4.1	-74.2
Financial Activities	47	66	121	-28.8	-61.2
Professional & Business Services	187	218	458	-14.2	-59.2
Educational & Health Services	80	67	288	19.4	-72.2
Leisure & Hospitality	105	128	471	-18.0	-77.7
TOTAL GOVERNMENT	49	54	177	-9.3	-72.3
UNCLASSIFIED	409	451	1,054	-9.3	-61.2

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

### Continued Unemployment Insurance Claims by Industry, March 2022



### Continued Unemployment Insurance Claims by County, March 2022



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

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