

Wyoming Unemployment Falls to 3.8% in April

The Research & Planning section of the Wyoming Department of Workforce Services reported today that the state's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate fell from 3.9% in March to 3.8% in April, reaching its lowest level since November 2008. Seasonally adjusted employment of Wyoming residents decreased slightly from March to April, falling by an estimated 491 individuals (-0.2%; not a statistically significant change).

From March to April, most county unemployment rates followed their normal seasonal pattern and decreased. The largest declines were seen in Sheridan (down from 4.9% to 4.0%), Platte (down from 4.2% to 3.4%), Washakie (down from 5.1% to 4.3%), and Park (down from 5.2% to 4.5%) counties. Teton County's unemployment rate rose from 2.5% to 5.1%. Unemployment usually increases in Teton County in April as the ski season ends.

Compared to a year earlier, unemployment fell in 14 counties, rose slightly in eight counties and remained unchanged in Laramie County (3.4%). The largest decreases occurred in energy producing areas of the state. Natrona County's rate fell from 5.3% to 4.3%, Campbell County's rate fell from 4.9% to 3.9%, Sublette County's rate fell from 4.6% to 3.9%, and Converse County's rate fell from 4.2% to 3.5%. Unemployment rose in Big Horn (up from 4.2% to 4.7%), Goshen (up from 2.6% to 3.1%), and Albany (up from 2.5% to 2.8%) counties.

In April, the lowest unemployment rates were found in Niobrara (2.3%), Albany (2.8%), and Goshen (3.1%) counties. The highest rates occurred in Teton (5.1%), Fremont (4.9%), and Big Horn (4.7%) counties.

Total nonfarm employment (not seasonally adjusted and measured by place of work) rose from 275,200 in April 2017 to 280,400 in April 2018, an increase of 5,200 jobs (or 1.9%; not a statistically significant change).

Research & Planning has scheduled the May employment news release for June 19, 2018.

Civilian Labor Force, Employment and Unemployment--by place of residence

County	Labor Force			Employment			Unemployed Number			Unemployment Rate		
	Apr 2018 (p)	Mar 2018 (r)	Apr 2017 (b)	Apr 2018 (p)	Mar 2018 (r)	Apr 2017 (b)	Apr 2018 (p)	Mar 2018 (r)	Apr 2017 (b)	Apr 2018 (p)	Mar 2018 (r)	Apr 2017 (b)
Albany	20,651	20,942	21,228	20,069	20,312	20,690	582	630	538	2.8	3.0	2.5
Big Horn	5,115	5,097	5,257	4,877	4,847	5,034	238	250	223	4.7	4.9	4.2
Campbell	22,807	22,642	23,386	21,918	21,688	22,232	889	954	1,154	3.9	4.2	4.9
Carbon	7,405	7,495	7,735	7,134	7,189	7,419	271	306	316	3.7	4.1	4.1
Converse	7,354	7,473	7,552	7,100	7,193	7,233	254	280	319	3.5	3.7	4.2
Crook	3,437	3,443	3,500	3,326	3,319	3,369	111	124	131	3.2	3.6	3.7
Fremont	18,946	19,245	19,378	18,020	18,192	18,306	926	1,053	1,072	4.9	5.5	5.5
Goshen	6,532	6,587	6,820	6,328	6,388	6,640	204	199	180	3.1	3.0	2.6
Hot Springs	2,254	2,278	2,350	2,164	2,186	2,259	90	92	91	4.0	4.0	3.9
Johnson	4,031	4,048	3,998	3,864	3,875	3,827	167	173	171	4.1	4.3	4.3
Laramie	47,761	47,934	48,571	46,131	46,114	46,918	1,630	1,820	1,653	3.4	3.8	3.4
Lincoln	8,497	8,633	8,592	8,142	8,275	8,251	355	358	341	4.2	4.1	4.0
Natrona	39,100	39,507	39,730	37,411	37,645	37,641	1,689	1,862	2,089	4.3	4.7	5.3
Niobrara	1,241	1,259	1,262	1,212	1,228	1,228	29	31	34	2.3	2.5	2.7
Park	14,589	14,611	14,733	13,939	13,848	14,084	650	763	649	4.5	5.2	4.4
Platte	4,780	4,758	4,767	4,617	4,556	4,597	163	202	170	3.4	4.2	3.6
Sheridan	15,507	15,745	15,783	14,883	14,972	15,184	624	773	599	4.0	4.9	3.8
Sublette	4,154	4,283	3,996	3,994	4,110	3,811	160	173	185	3.9	4.0	4.6
Sweetwater	21,500	21,489	21,897	20,664	20,579	20,940	836	910	957	3.9	4.2	4.4
Teton	13,944	14,759	13,905	13,231	14,391	13,230	713	368	675	5.1	2.5	4.9
Uinta	8,683	8,802	9,132	8,306	8,403	8,720	377	399	412	4.3	4.5	4.5
Washakie	3,999	4,039	4,051	3,827	3,831	3,867	172	208	184	4.3	5.1	4.5
Weston	3,656	3,693	3,752	3,529	3,549	3,602	127	144	150	3.5	3.9	4.0
Statewide	285,942	288,761	291,377	274,685	276,688	279,082	11,257	12,073	12,295	3.9	4.2	4.2
Statewide Seasonally Adjusted.....										3.8	3.9	4.1
U.S.....										3.7	4.1	4.1
U.S. Seasonally Adjusted.....										3.9	4.1	4.4

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

Data are not seasonally adjusted except where otherwise specified.

Labor Force = Employment + Unemployment Number

Unemployment Rate = Unemployment Number/Labor Force

	Wyoming Seasonally Adjusted Statewide Labor Force Estimates			Change			
	April-18	March-18	April-17	Month		Year	
				absolute	percent	absolute	percent
Total Civilian Labor Force	290,331	291,076	293,812	-745	-0.3%	-3,481	-1.2%
Employed	279,364	279,855	281,632	-491	-0.2%	-2,268	-0.8%
Unemployed	10,967	11,221	12,180	-254	-2.3%	-1,213	-10.0%
Unemployment Rate	3.8	3.9	4.1				
Definitions:							
Employed	All persons who, during the reference week, did any work at all as paid employees, worked in their own business, profession, or on their own farm, or worked 15 hours or more as unpaid workers in a family business.						
Unemployed	All persons who had no employment during the reference week, were available for work, and had made specific efforts to find employment sometime during the 4-week period ending with the reference week.						
Labor Force	All persons who meet the criteria given above as either employed or unemployed.						
Unemployment Rate	The number of unemployed as a percent of the labor force.						
Seasonal Adjustment	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.						

**Wyoming Department of Workforce Services
Research & Planning**

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Internet Address: <http://doe.state.wy.us/LMI/news.htm>

Access R&P's monthly publication on Wyoming's labor market at <http://doe.state.wy.us/LMI/trends.htm>

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