

Wyoming Unemployment Rises to 3.8% in July

The Research & Planning section of the Wyoming Department of Workforce Services reported today that the state's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate increased slightly from 3.7% in June to 3.8% in July (not a statistically significant change). Wyoming's labor force (the sum of employed and unemployed individuals) fell by 5,984 people (-2.0%) from July 2017 to July 2018, a statistically significant decrease. A decreasing labor force suggests that individuals may be moving to other states or giving up their job search.

From June to July, most county unemployment rates followed their normal seasonal pattern and decreased. Unemployment rates often fall in July as seasonal job gains are seen in leisure & hospitality, construction, professional & business services, and other sectors. The largest decreases in unemployment occurred in Hot Springs (down from 3.9% to 3.3%), Teton (down from 2.4% to 1.9%), and Park (down from 3.8% to 3.3%) counties.

From July 2017 to July 2018, unemployment rates increased in 15 counties and decreased or remained unchanged in eight counties. The largest increases were seen in Albany (up from 2.9% to 3.9%), Goshen (up from 3.0% to 3.9%), and Big Horn (up from 3.6% to 4.2%) counties. Unemployment rates fell in Converse (down from 4.3% to 3.7%), Campbell (down from 4.6% to 4.1%), Natrona (down from 4.8% to 4.4%), and Sweetwater (down from 4.4% to 4.1%) counties.

In July, the lowest unemployment rates were found in Teton (1.9%), Crook (3.0%), and Niobrara (3.1%) counties. The highest rates were reported in Fremont (5.1%), Natrona (4.4%), Big Horn (4.2%), and Uinta (4.2%) counties.

Total nonfarm employment (not seasonally adjusted and measured by place of work) rose significantly from 288,300 in July 2017 to 296,600 in July 2018, an increase of 8,300 jobs (or 2.9%).

Research & Planning has scheduled the August employment news release for September 25, 2018.

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

County	Labor Force			Employment			Unemployed Number			Unemployment Rate		
	Jul 2018 (p)	Jun 2018 (r)	Jul 2017 (b)	Jul 2018 (p)	Jun 2018 (r)	Jul 2017 (b)	Jul 2018 (p)	Jun 2018 (r)	Jul 2017 (b)	Jul 2018 (p)	Jun 2018 (r)	Jul 2017 (b)
										(p)	(r)	(b)
Albany	18,179	18,695	19,008	17,474	17,933	18,448	705	762	560	3.9	4.1	2.9
Big Horn	5,283	5,431	5,615	5,062	5,194	5,412	221	237	203	4.2	4.4	3.6
Campbell	22,720	22,697	23,101	21,797	21,726	22,039	923	971	1,062	4.1	4.3	4.6
Carbon	7,834	7,976	8,214	7,565	7,688	7,934	269	288	280	3.4	3.6	3.4
Converse	7,336	7,415	7,426	7,067	7,133	7,105	269	282	321	3.7	3.8	4.3
Crook	3,777	3,847	3,869	3,665	3,726	3,763	112	121	106	3.0	3.1	2.7
Fremont	18,594	18,693	19,278	17,655	17,719	18,268	939	974	1,010	5.1	5.2	5.2
Goshen	6,658	6,914	7,069	6,399	6,646	6,860	259	268	209	3.9	3.9	3.0
Hot Springs	2,292	2,285	2,395	2,216	2,195	2,311	76	90	84	3.3	3.9	3.5
Johnson	4,332	4,346	4,500	4,182	4,192	4,356	150	154	144	3.5	3.5	3.2
Laramie	47,378	46,716	48,512	45,651	44,860	46,865	1,727	1,856	1,647	3.6	4.0	3.4
Lincoln	8,796	8,998	8,981	8,513	8,674	8,714	283	324	267	3.2	3.6	3.0
Natrona	38,628	38,370	39,364	36,944	36,574	37,490	1,684	1,796	1,874	4.4	4.7	4.8
Niobrara	1,324	1,324	1,393	1,283	1,278	1,352	41	46	41	3.1	3.5	2.9
Park	16,846	16,523	17,381	16,284	15,898	16,825	562	625	556	3.3	3.8	3.2
Platte	4,755	4,740	4,895	4,572	4,560	4,728	183	180	167	3.8	3.8	3.4
Sheridan	15,580	15,768	16,166	15,036	15,167	15,621	544	601	545	3.5	3.8	3.4
Sublette	4,552	4,402	4,470	4,399	4,234	4,310	153	168	160	3.4	3.8	3.6
Sweetwater	20,502	20,891	20,973	19,653	19,984	20,055	849	907	918	4.1	4.3	4.4
Teton	17,322	16,541	17,884	16,989	16,152	17,588	333	389	296	1.9	2.4	1.7
Uinta	8,719	9,015	9,091	8,350	8,611	8,720	369	404	371	4.2	4.5	4.1
Washakie	4,057	4,113	4,138	3,900	3,935	3,989	157	178	149	3.9	4.3	3.6
Weston	3,567	3,709	3,702	3,442	3,569	3,577	125	140	125	3.5	3.8	3.4
Statewide	289,031	289,410	297,426	278,099	277,648	286,332	10,932	11,762	11,094	3.8	4.1	3.7
Statewide Seasonally Adjusted.....										3.8	3.7	4.0
U.S.....										4.1	4.2	4.6
U.S. Seasonally Adjusted.....										3.9	4.0	4.3

(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			
	July-18	June-18	July-17	Month		Year	
				absolute	percent	absolute	percent
Total Civilian Labor Force	286,781	287,889	292,765	-1,108	-0.4%	-5,984	-2.0%
Employed	275,802	277,101	280,961	-1,299	-0.5%	-5,159	-1.8%
Unemployed	10,979	10,788	11,804	191	1.8%	-825	-7.0%
Unemployment Rate	3.8	3.7	4.0				
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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