

## Wyoming Unemployment Unchanged at 4.1% in December

The Research & Planning section of the Wyoming Department of Workforce Services reported today that the state's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate remained unchanged from November to December at 4.1%. Wyoming's unemployment is slightly higher than the current U.S. unemployment rate of 3.9%.

From November to December, most county unemployment rates followed their normal seasonal pattern and increased. Unemployment rates often rise in December as colder weather brings seasonal job losses in construction and other sectors. The largest increases in unemployment occurred in Big Horn (up from 4.2% to 5.2%), Washakie (up from 3.4% to 4.1%), Platte (up from 3.0% to 3.5%), and Sublette (up from 4.0% to 4.5%) counties.

When compared to a year earlier, most county unemployment rates fell slightly or remained unchanged. The largest decreases were seen in Weston (down from 3.8% to 3.0%), Converse (down from 4.0% to 3.2%), Natrona (down from 5.0% to 4.3%), and Fremont (down from 5.2% to 4.7%) counties. Unemployment rates rose in Big Horn (up from 4.1% to 5.2%) and Sublette (up from 4.0% to 4.5%) counties.

In December, the highest unemployment rates were found in Big Horn (5.2%), Park (4.8%), and Fremont (4.7%) counties. Niobrara County reported the lowest unemployment rate at 2.4%. It was followed by Goshen County at 2.9%, and Weston, Crook, and Albany counties, all at 3.0%.

Total nonfarm employment in Wyoming (not seasonally adjusted and measured by place of work) increased from 280,400 in December 2017 to 288,600 in December 2018, a gain of 8,200 jobs (or 2.9%).

Research & Planning has scheduled the January employment news release for March 12, 2019.

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

County	Labor Force			Employment			Unemployed Number			Unemployment Rate		
	Dec 2018 (p)	Nov 2018 (r)	Dec 2017 (b)	Dec 2018 (p)	Nov 2018 (r)	Dec 2017 (b)	Dec 2018 (p)	Nov 2018 (r)	Dec 2017 (b)	Dec 2018 (p)	Nov 2018 (r)	Dec 2017 (b)
										(p)	(r)	(b)
Albany	21,006	21,203	20,808	20,386	20,572	20,249	620	631	559	3.0	3.0	2.7
Big Horn	5,179	5,267	5,309	4,911	5,045	5,093	268	222	216	5.2	4.2	4.1
Campbell	22,623	23,028	22,782	21,780	22,175	21,846	843	853	936	3.7	3.7	4.1
Carbon	7,542	7,728	7,701	7,257	7,453	7,408	285	275	293	3.8	3.6	3.8
Converse	7,623	7,564	7,360	7,381	7,319	7,063	242	245	297	3.2	3.2	4.0
Crook	3,540	3,713	3,566	3,434	3,607	3,455	106	106	111	3.0	2.9	3.1
Fremont	18,590	18,943	19,181	17,710	18,075	18,177	880	868	1,004	4.7	4.6	5.2
Goshen	6,776	6,975	7,012	6,580	6,787	6,831	196	188	181	2.9	2.7	2.6
Hot Springs	2,123	2,171	2,261	2,047	2,101	2,184	76	70	77	3.6	3.2	3.4
Johnson	4,085	4,133	4,070	3,928	3,985	3,909	157	148	161	3.8	3.6	4.0
Laramie	47,411	47,506	47,661	45,629	45,821	45,922	1,782	1,685	1,739	3.8	3.5	3.6
Lincoln	8,469	8,607	8,530	8,135	8,301	8,201	334	306	329	3.9	3.6	3.9
Natrona	38,704	38,925	39,476	37,042	37,286	37,495	1,662	1,639	1,981	4.3	4.2	5.0
Niobrara	1,233	1,293	1,282	1,203	1,263	1,253	30	30	29	2.4	2.3	2.3
Park	14,640	14,918	14,893	13,943	14,251	14,206	697	667	687	4.8	4.5	4.6
Platte	4,501	4,672	4,683	4,342	4,531	4,519	159	141	164	3.5	3.0	3.5
Sheridan	15,232	15,620	15,530	14,652	15,081	14,889	580	539	641	3.8	3.5	4.1
Sublette	4,142	4,261	4,192	3,955	4,092	4,026	187	169	166	4.5	4.0	4.0
Sweetwater	21,065	21,265	21,518	20,217	20,462	20,644	848	803	874	4.0	3.8	4.1
Teton	14,550	13,631	14,928	14,070	12,824	14,412	480	807	516	3.3	5.9	3.5
Uinta	8,715	9,105	9,011	8,375	8,742	8,639	340	363	372	3.9	4.0	4.1
Washakie	4,049	4,109	4,116	3,885	3,970	3,958	164	139	158	4.1	3.4	3.8
Weston	3,713	3,766	3,720	3,602	3,652	3,580	111	114	140	3.0	3.0	3.8
<b>Statewide</b>	<b>285,511</b>	<b>288,404</b>	<b>289,592</b>	<b>274,463</b>	<b>277,396</b>	<b>277,960</b>	<b>11,048</b>	<b>11,008</b>	<b>11,632</b>	<b>3.9</b>	<b>3.8</b>	<b>4.0</b>
<b>Statewide Seasonally Adjusted.....</b>										<b>4.1</b>	<b>4.1</b>	<b>4.1</b>
<b>U.S.....</b>										<b>3.7</b>	<b>3.5</b>	<b>3.9</b>
<b>U.S. Seasonally Adjusted.....</b>										<b>3.9</b>	<b>3.7</b>	<b>4.1</b>

(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			
	December-18	November-18	December-17	Month	Change		Year
				absolute	percent	absolute	percent
Total Civilian Labor Force	286,749	286,248	292,305	501	0.2%	-5,556	-1.9%
Employed	275,130	274,489	280,200	641	0.2%	-5,070	-1.8%
Unemployed	11,619	11,759	12,105	-140	-1.2%	-486	-4.0%
Unemployment Rate	4.1	4.1	4.1				
<b>Definitions:</b>							
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>

**Contacts:**

David Bullard, Senior Economist	<a href="mailto:david.bullard@wyo.gov">david.bullard@wyo.gov</a>	307-473-3810
Carola Cowan, BLS Programs Supervisor	<a href="mailto:carola.cowan@wyo.gov">carola.cowan@wyo.gov</a>	307-473-3804

Wyoming Department of Workforce Services  
Research & Planning  
PO Box 2760  
Casper WY 82602-2760