

Wyoming Unemployment Falls to 4.0% in January

The Research & Planning section of the Wyoming Department of Workforce Services reported today that the state's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate fell from 4.1% in December to 4.0% in January. Wyoming's unemployment rate was the same as the U.S. unemployment rate of 4.0%.

From December to January, most county unemployment rates followed their normal seasonal pattern and increased. Jobless rates usually increase in January because of seasonal job losses in construction, retail trade, government, transportation & utilities, and other sectors. The largest increases in unemployment were seen in Johnson (up from 4.0% to 5.2%), Fremont (up from 4.9% to 5.9%), and Hot Springs (up from 3.7% to 4.7%) counties.

From January 2018 to January 2019, unemployment rates decreased in 14 counties, increased slightly in eight counties, and remained unchanged in Lincoln County. The largest decreases occurred in energy producing counties. Converse County's unemployment rate fell from 4.8% to 3.4%, Natrona County's rate fell from 5.6% to 4.7%, and Campbell County's rate fell from 4.9% to 4.0%.

In January, Teton County and Niobrara County tied for the lowest unemployment rate, each at 3.0%. The next lowest rates were found in Goshen County at 3.4%, Converse County at 3.4%, and Albany County at 3.5%. The highest jobless rates occurred in Fremont (5.9%), Park (5.7%), and Big Horn (5.6%) counties.

Total nonfarm employment in Wyoming (not seasonally adjusted and measured by place of work) increased from 276,100 in January 2018 to 281,300 in January 2019, a gain of 5,200 jobs (or 1.9%).

Research & Planning has scheduled the February employment news release for April 2, 2019.

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

County	Labor Force			Employment			Unemployed Number			Unemployment Rate		
	Jan 2019 (p)	Dec 2018 (b)	Jan 2018 (b)	Jan 2019 (p)	Dec 2018 (b)	Jan 2018 (b)	Jan 2019 (p)	Dec 2018 (b)	Jan 2018 (b)	Jan 2019 (p)	Dec 2018 (b)	Jan 2018 (b)
Albany	20,129	21,096	20,032	19,424	20,449	19,349	705	647	683	3.5	3.1	3.4
Big Horn	5,186	5,203	5,091	4,896	4,922	4,811	290	281	280	5.6	5.4	5.5
Campbell	22,588	22,615	22,906	21,674	21,755	21,784	914	860	1,122	4.0	3.8	4.9
Carbon	7,637	7,551	7,534	7,284	7,254	7,166	353	297	368	4.6	3.9	4.9
Converse	7,709	7,636	7,418	7,444	7,384	7,065	265	252	353	3.4	3.3	4.8
Crook	3,632	3,555	3,634	3,494	3,445	3,504	138	110	130	3.8	3.1	3.6
Fremont	18,727	18,673	18,943	17,628	17,752	17,697	1,099	921	1,246	5.9	4.9	6.6
Goshen	6,765	6,802	6,830	6,537	6,595	6,585	228	207	245	3.4	3.0	3.6
Hot Springs	2,150	2,135	2,239	2,050	2,056	2,142	100	79	97	4.7	3.7	4.3
Johnson	4,158	4,108	4,070	3,940	3,945	3,847	218	163	223	5.2	4.0	5.5
Laramie	48,271	47,663	47,734	46,199	45,794	45,584	2,072	1,869	2,150	4.3	3.9	4.5
Lincoln	8,619	8,524	8,664	8,213	8,170	8,261	406	354	403	4.7	4.2	4.7
Natrona	39,335	39,143	39,262	37,481	37,414	37,050	1,854	1,729	2,212	4.7	4.4	5.6
Niobrara	1,247	1,226	1,263	1,209	1,195	1,230	38	31	33	3.0	2.5	2.6
Park	14,801	14,749	14,659	13,953	14,019	13,795	848	730	864	5.7	4.9	5.9
Platte	4,585	4,509	4,672	4,391	4,344	4,453	194	165	219	4.2	3.7	4.7
Sheridan	15,400	15,304	15,465	14,646	14,698	14,642	754	606	823	4.9	4.0	5.3
Sublette	4,323	4,172	4,225	4,107	3,975	4,016	216	197	209	5.0	4.7	4.9
Sweetwater	21,021	21,144	21,389	20,019	20,259	20,338	1,002	885	1,051	4.8	4.2	4.9
Teton	14,935	14,635	14,789	14,484	14,131	14,395	451	504	394	3.0	3.4	2.7
Uinta	8,628	8,743	8,867	8,227	8,389	8,423	401	354	444	4.6	4.0	5.0
Washakie	4,037	4,059	4,098	3,834	3,888	3,906	203	171	192	5.0	4.2	4.7
Weston	3,729	3,711	3,732	3,589	3,595	3,576	140	116	156	3.8	3.1	4.2
Statewide	287,610	286,957	287,515	274,721	275,430	273,620	12,889	11,527	13,895	4.5	4.0	4.8
Statewide Seasonally Adjusted.....										4.0	4.1	4.0
U.S.....										4.4	3.7	4.5
U.S. Seasonally Adjusted.....										4.0	3.9	4.1

(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			
	January-19	December-18	January-18	Month		Year	
				absolute	percent	absolute	percent
Total Civilian Labor Force	289,477	289,204	290,567	273	0.1%	-1,090	-0.4%
Employed	277,831	277,292	278,871	539	0.2%	-1,040	-0.4%
Unemployed	11,646	11,912	11,696	-266	-2.2%	-50	-0.4%
Unemployment Rate	4.0	4.1	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**

March 12, 2019

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

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

Contacts:

David Bullard, Senior Economist	david.bullard@wyo.gov	307-473-3810
Carola Cowan, BLS Programs Supervisor	carola.cowan@wyo.gov	307-473-3804

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