

Wyoming Unemployment Falls to 6.6% in August 2020

The Research & Planning section of the Wyoming Department of Workforce Services reported today that the state's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate fell from 7.1% in July to 6.6% in August. Wyoming's jobless rate has decreased in each of the past four months, and is currently lower than the U.S. rate of 8.4%.

Unemployment rates decreased from July to August in almost all Wyoming counties. The largest decreases occurred in Washakie County (down from 6.3% to 5.2%), Teton County (down from 5.7% to 4.6%), Sweetwater County (down from 8.8% to 7.8%), and Sheridan County (down from 5.2% to 4.2%). Lincoln County's unemployment rate rose slightly from 5.4% in July to 5.7% in August.

From August 2019 to August 2020, unemployment rates rose in every county. The largest increases were seen in Natrona County (up from 3.7% to 9.4%), Sweetwater County (up from 3.4% to 7.8%), Converse County (up from 2.4% to 6.4%), and Campbell County (up from 4.3% to 8.2%). The smallest increases occurred in Albany County (up from 3.1% to 3.3%) and Goshen County (up from 3.6% to 4.3%).

Natrona County had the highest unemployment rate in August at 9.4%. It was followed by Campbell County at 8.2%, Sweetwater County at 7.8%, and Uinta County at 7.3%. The lowest unemployment rates were found in Albany County at 3.3% and Weston, Niobrara, and Crook counties, each at 3.9%.

Total nonfarm employment in Wyoming (not seasonally adjusted and measured by place of work) decreased from 297,900 in August 2019 to 277,200 in August 2020, a decline of 20,700 jobs (-6.9%).

Research & Planning has scheduled the September unemployment news release for October 20, 2020.

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

County	Labor Force			Employment			Unemployed Number			Unemployment Rate		
	Aug 2020 (p)	Jul 2020 (r)	Aug 2019 (b)	Aug 2020 (p)	Jul 2020 (r)	Aug 2019 (b)	Aug 2020 (p)	Jul 2020 (r)	Aug 2019 (b)	Aug 2020 (p)	Jul 2020 (r)	Aug 2019 (b)
										(p)	(r)	(b)
Albany	21,652	21,939	19,023	20,947	21,071	18,440	705	868	583	3.3	4.0	3.1
Big Horn	5,367	5,474	5,451	5,115	5,188	5,250	252	286	201	4.7	5.2	3.7
Campbell	24,091	24,363	23,407	22,123	22,213	22,405	1,968	2,150	1,002	8.2	8.8	4.3
Carbon	7,826	7,940	8,495	7,496	7,563	8,282	330	377	213	4.2	4.7	2.5
Converse	9,231	9,347	9,045	8,642	8,693	8,824	589	654	221	6.4	7.0	2.4
Crook	3,872	3,982	3,802	3,721	3,804	3,690	151	178	112	3.9	4.5	2.9
Fremont	19,206	19,573	18,580	18,006	18,186	17,845	1,200	1,387	735	6.2	7.1	4.0
Goshen	6,762	6,914	6,610	6,472	6,587	6,370	290	327	240	4.3	4.7	3.6
Hot Springs	2,223	2,265	2,196	2,108	2,126	2,122	115	139	74	5.2	6.1	3.4
Johnston	4,209	4,314	4,275	3,978	4,044	4,150	231	270	125	5.5	6.3	2.9
Laramie	48,677	49,156	48,570	46,179	46,270	46,925	2,498	2,886	1,645	5.1	5.9	3.4
Lincoln	8,933	8,977	9,037	8,423	8,491	8,783	510	486	254	5.7	5.4	2.8
Natrona	39,482	40,113	39,398	35,752	36,006	37,952	3,730	4,107	1,446	9.4	10.2	3.7
Niobrara	1,282	1,327	1,223	1,232	1,269	1,194	50	58	29	3.9	4.4	2.4
Park	15,034	15,378	16,759	14,322	14,521	16,230	712	857	529	4.7	5.6	3.2
Platte	4,880	4,992	4,503	4,647	4,719	4,335	233	273	168	4.8	5.5	3.7
Sheridan	15,951	16,289	15,747	15,282	15,439	15,278	669	850	469	4.2	5.2	3.0
Sublette	4,172	4,276	4,249	3,887	3,952	4,086	285	324	163	6.8	7.6	3.8
Sweetwater	21,400	21,672	21,289	19,736	19,762	20,562	1,664	1,910	727	7.8	8.8	3.4
Teton	13,965	14,307	17,714	13,324	13,485	17,385	641	822	329	4.6	5.7	1.9
Uinta	9,123	9,218	9,127	8,454	8,481	8,802	669	737	325	7.3	8.0	3.6
Washakie	3,905	4,007	3,891	3,703	3,756	3,758	202	251	133	5.2	6.3	3.4
Weston	3,853	3,911	3,749	3,704	3,731	3,649	149	180	100	3.9	4.6	2.7
Statewide	295,091	299,734	296,141	277,249	279,357	286,316	17,842	20,377	9,825	6.0	6.8	3.3
Statewide Seasonally Adjusted.....										6.6	7.1	3.7
U.S.....										8.5	10.5	3.8
U.S. Seasonally Adjusted.....										8.4	10.2	3.7

(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			
	August-20	July-20	August-19	Month		Year	
				absolute	percent	absolute	percent
Total Civilian Labor Force	292,189	294,527	292,901	-2,338	-0.8%	-712	-0.2%
Employed	272,976	273,685	281,995	-709	-0.3%	-9,019	-3.2%
Unemployed	19,213	20,842	10,906	-1,629	-7.8%	8,307	76.2%
Unemployment Rate	6.6	7.1	3.7				
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: <https://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
Carola Cowan, BLS Programs Supervisor

david.bullard@wyo.gov
carola.cowan@wyo.gov

307-473-3810
307-473-3804

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