

Wyoming Unemployment Falls to 3.2% in May 2022

The Research & Planning section of the Wyoming Department of Workforce Services reported today that the state's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate decreased slightly from 3.3% in April to 3.2% in May. Wyoming's unemployment rate is lower than the current U.S. rate of 3.6%. From April to May, seasonally adjusted employment of Wyoming residents rose by 523 individuals (0.2%) as people returned to work.

From April to May, unemployment rates followed their normal seasonal pattern and decreased in most counties. In May, warmer weather typically brings seasonal job gains in construction, professional & business services, leisure & hospitality, and government. The largest decreases in unemployment were seen in Teton (down from 4.3% to 3.3%), Sublette (down from 4.4% to 3.5%), Big Horn (down from 3.9% to 3.2%), and Park (down from 3.5% to 2.9%) counties.

From May 2021 to May 2022, unemployment rates fell in every county. The largest decreases occurred in key energy producing counties. Natrona County's unemployment rate fell from 6.2% to 3.8%, Sweetwater County's rate fell from 6.0% to 3.7%, Sublette County's rate fell from 5.8% to 3.5%, Converse County's rate fell from 5.1% to 2.8%, and Campbell County's rate fell from 5.5% to 3.3%.

Niobrara County, at 1.8%, had the lowest unemployment rate in May. It was followed by Crook County at 2.2%, and Weston and Goshen counties, both at 2.3%. The highest unemployment rates were found in Natrona County at 3.8%, Sweetwater County at 3.7%, and Sublette and Washakie counties, both at 3.5%.

Total nonfarm employment in Wyoming (not seasonally adjusted and measured by place of work) rose from 278,400 in May 2021 to 283,700 in May 2022, an increase of 5,300 jobs (1.9%). Employment was unusually low in 2021 because of economic disruptions related to the pandemic.

Research & Planning has scheduled the June unemployment news release for July 25, 2022.

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

County	Labor Force			Employment			Unemployed Number			Unemployment Rate		
	May 2022 (p)	Apr 2022 (r)	May 2021 (b)	May 2022 (p)	Apr 2022 (r)	May 2021 (b)	May 2022 (p)	Apr 2022 (r)	May 2021 (b)	May 2022 (p)	Apr 2022 (r)	May 2021 (b)
Albany	20,960	21,379	20,620	20,429	20,857	19,895	531	522	725	2.5	2.4	3.5
Big Horn	5,426	5,288	5,415	5,252	5,082	5,170	174	206	245	3.2	3.9	4.5
Campbell	21,575	21,833	21,789	20,860	21,043	20,593	715	790	1,196	3.3	3.6	5.5
Carbon	7,523	7,286	8,033	7,308	7,033	7,731	215	253	302	2.9	3.5	3.8
Converse	7,720	7,727	7,489	7,505	7,480	7,105	215	247	384	2.8	3.2	5.1
Crook	4,112	3,894	3,951	4,020	3,798	3,812	92	96	139	2.2	2.5	3.5
Fremont	18,736	18,736	18,855	18,122	18,028	17,921	614	708	934	3.3	3.8	5.0
Goshen	6,729	6,590	6,621	6,575	6,435	6,384	154	155	237	2.3	2.4	3.6
Hot Springs	2,218	2,203	2,256	2,164	2,146	2,161	54	57	95	2.4	2.6	4.2
Johnson	4,434	4,270	4,290	4,319	4,134	4,108	115	136	182	2.6	3.2	4.2
Laramie	48,851	49,626	48,328	47,457	48,099	46,241	1,394	1,527	2,087	2.9	3.1	4.3
Lincoln	9,478	9,309	9,474	9,204	9,020	9,091	274	289	383	2.9	3.1	4.0
Natrona	38,173	39,114	38,665	36,705	37,380	36,254	1,468	1,734	2,411	3.8	4.4	6.2
Niobrara	1,293	1,244	1,276	1,270	1,219	1,230	23	25	46	1.8	2.0	3.6
Park	15,915	14,863	15,947	15,458	14,338	15,310	457	525	637	2.9	3.5	4.0
Platte	4,654	4,551	4,591	4,531	4,417	4,402	123	134	189	2.6	2.9	4.1
Sheridan	16,174	15,998	15,991	15,745	15,519	15,287	429	479	704	2.7	3.0	4.4
Sublette	3,964	3,795	4,043	3,826	3,627	3,807	138	168	236	3.5	4.4	5.8
Sweetwater	18,736	19,010	19,432	18,049	18,225	18,274	687	785	1,158	3.7	4.1	6.0
Teton	15,464	14,896	15,160	14,958	14,258	14,523	506	638	637	3.3	4.3	4.2
Uinta	8,644	8,579	9,063	8,354	8,276	8,583	290	303	480	3.4	3.5	5.3
Washakie	3,929	3,896	3,961	3,793	3,744	3,794	136	152	167	3.5	3.9	4.2
Weston	3,728	3,712	3,754	3,644	3,607	3,618	84	105	136	2.3	2.8	3.6
Statewide	288,435	287,798	289,009	279,546	277,763	275,297	8,889	10,035	13,712	3.1	3.5	4.7
Statewide Seasonally Adjusted.....										3.2	3.3	4.7
U.S.....										3.4	3.3	5.5
U.S. Seasonally Adjusted.....										3.6	3.6	5.8

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

Data are not seasonally adjusted except where otherwise specified.

Labor Force = Employment + Unemployed Number

Unemployment Rate = Unemployed Number/Labor Force

Wyoming Seasonally Adjusted Statewide Labor Force Estimates

	May-22	April-22	May-21	Change		Change	
				Month		Year	
				absolute	percent	absolute	percent
Total Civilian Labor Force	290,851	290,691	290,753	160	0.1%	98	0.0%
Employed	281,623	281,100	277,103	523	0.2%	4,520	1.6%
Unemployed	9,228	9,591	13,650	-363	-3.8%	-4,422	-32.4%
Unemployment Rate	3.2	3.3	4.7				

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>

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