

Wyoming Unemployment Falls to 3.1% in June 2022

The Research & Planning section of the Wyoming Department of Workforce Services reported today that the state's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate decreased from 3.2% in May to 3.1% in June. Wyoming's unemployment rate peaked at 8.6% in May 2020, and it has been gradually falling since then. The U.S. unemployment rate stood at 3.6% in June, and has remained at that level since March. Unemployment in Wyoming has been lower than the U.S. each month of 2022.

From May to June, most county unemployment rates followed their normal seasonal pattern and rose slightly. Unemployment rates sometimes increase in June as young people get out of school and start looking for work. The largest increases occurred in Lincoln (up from 2.9% to 3.7%), Albany (up from 2.5% to 3.1%), Goshen (up from 2.3% to 2.9%), Sweetwater (up from 3.6% to 4.2%), and Uinta (up from 3.3% to 3.9%) counties. Teton County's unemployment rate fell from 3.3% to 2.2% as employers hired for the summer tourist season.

From June 2021 to June 2022, unemployment rates fell in every county. Large decreases were seen in Natrona (down from 6.7% to 4.0%), Converse (down from 5.4% to 2.9%), Campbell (down from 6.1% to 3.6%), and Sublette (down from 6.2% to 3.8%) counties. Unemployment rates were unusually high in 2021 because of the pandemic, and recent decreases reflect a return to more normal levels.

Sweetwater County, at 4.2%, posted the highest unemployment rate in June. It was followed by Natrona County at 4.0% and Uinta County at 3.9%. The lowest unemployment rates were found in Teton County and Niobrara County (both at 2.2%). The next lowest rates were reported in Weston County at 2.5% and Crook County at 2.6%.

Total nonfarm employment in Wyoming (not seasonally adjusted and measured by place of work) rose from 285,600 in June 2021 to 291,800 in June 2022, an increase of 6,200 jobs (2.2%). Employment was unusually low in 2021 because of economic disruptions related to the pandemic.

Research & Planning has scheduled the July unemployment news release for August 22, 2022.

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

County	Labor Force			Employment			Unemployed Number			Unemployment Rate		
	Jun 2022 (p)	May 2022 (r)	Jun 2021 (b)	Jun 2022 (p)	May 2022 (r)	Jun 2021 (b)	Jun 2022 (p)	May 2022 (r)	Jun 2021 (b)	Jun 2022 (p)	May 2022 (r)	Jun 2021 (b)
Albany	21,386	20,950	19,886	20,729	20,423	19,055	657	527	831	3.1	2.5	4.2
Big Horn	5,458	5,424	5,536	5,261	5,250	5,274	197	174	262	3.6	3.2	4.7
Campbell	21,543	21,563	22,040	20,762	20,853	20,698	781	710	1,342	3.6	3.3	6.1
Carbon	7,686	7,520	8,514	7,445	7,306	8,191	241	214	323	3.1	2.8	3.8
Converse	7,685	7,719	7,532	7,459	7,505	7,125	226	214	407	2.9	2.8	5.4
Crook	3,997	4,109	4,042	3,894	4,018	3,878	103	91	164	2.6	2.2	4.1
Fremont	18,832	18,726	19,179	18,116	18,116	18,157	716	610	1,022	3.8	3.3	5.3
Goshen	6,435	6,725	6,585	6,246	6,572	6,320	189	153	265	2.9	2.3	4.0
Hot Springs	2,256	2,218	2,331	2,195	2,163	2,225	61	55	106	2.7	2.5	4.5
Johnson	4,547	4,433	4,450	4,417	4,318	4,258	130	115	192	2.9	2.6	4.3
Laramie	49,135	48,876	49,076	47,548	47,489	46,820	1,587	1,387	2,256	3.2	2.8	4.6
Lincoln	10,025	9,474	9,970	9,651	9,201	9,572	374	273	398	3.7	2.9	4.0
Natrona	38,595	38,226	39,037	37,048	36,768	36,407	1,547	1,458	2,630	4.0	3.8	6.7
Niobrara	1,247	1,293	1,292	1,220	1,270	1,239	27	23	53	2.2	1.8	4.1
Park	16,639	15,907	16,639	16,150	15,453	15,961	489	454	678	2.9	2.9	4.1
Platte	4,565	4,653	4,688	4,423	4,530	4,488	142	123	200	3.1	2.6	4.3
Sheridan	16,218	16,166	16,255	15,728	15,739	15,502	490	427	753	3.0	2.6	4.6
Sublette	3,928	3,961	4,153	3,777	3,824	3,897	151	137	256	3.8	3.5	6.2
Sweetwater	18,735	18,725	19,315	17,952	18,043	18,054	783	682	1,261	4.2	3.6	6.5
Teton	17,334	15,458	17,086	16,952	14,954	16,594	382	504	492	2.2	3.3	2.9
Uinta	8,609	8,635	8,948	8,276	8,351	8,420	333	284	528	3.9	3.3	5.9
Washakie	3,927	3,927	4,041	3,784	3,792	3,861	143	135	180	3.6	3.4	4.5
Weston	3,676	3,726	3,752	3,584	3,642	3,620	92	84	132	2.5	2.3	3.5
Statewide	292,459	288,412	294,347	282,618	279,580	279,615	9,841	8,832	14,732	3.4	3.1	5.0
Statewide Seasonally Adjusted.....										3.1	3.2	4.6
U.S.....										3.8	3.4	6.1
U.S. Seasonally Adjusted.....										3.6	3.6	5.9

(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

	June-22	May-22	June-21	Change		Change	
				Month		Year	
				absolute	percent	absolute	percent
Total Civilian Labor Force	290,676	290,847	290,486	-171	-0.1%	190	0.1%
Employed	281,713	281,630	277,176	83	0.0%	4,537	1.6%
Unemployed	8,963	9,217	13,310	-254	-2.8%	-4,347	-32.7%
Unemployment Rate	3.1	3.2	4.6				

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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