

## Wyoming Unemployment Rises to 3.7% in December 2022

The Research & Planning section of the Wyoming Department of Workforce Services reported today that the state's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate rose slightly from 3.6% in November to 3.7% in December. Wyoming's unemployment rate was lower than its December 2021 level of 4.0%, but marginally higher than the current U.S. unemployment rate of 3.5%.

From November to December, most county unemployment rates followed their normal seasonal pattern and increased. Unemployment rates often rise in December as winter weather causes seasonal job losses in construction and other sectors. The largest increases in unemployment occurred in Big Horn (up from 3.2% to 3.8%), Sweetwater (up from 3.6% to 4.2%), Crook (up from 2.4% to 2.9%), and Hot Springs (up from 2.4% to 2.9%) counties. Teton County's unemployment rate fell from 3.8% in November to 2.4% in December as the start of the ski season boosted employment.

In December, most counties saw unemployment increase from year-ago levels. The largest increases were seen in Carbon (up from 3.0% to 3.8%), Niobrara (up from 2.4% to 3.1%), and Washakie (up from 3.0% to 3.7%) counties. Jobless rates fell in Converse (down from 3.3% to 2.7%), Campbell (down from 3.6% to 3.2%), and Natrona (down from 4.2% to 3.9%) counties.

Sweetwater County posted the highest unemployment rate at 4.2% in December. It was followed by Sublette County at 4.1%, Natrona County at 3.9%, Big Horn County at 3.8%, and Carbon County at 3.8%. The lowest unemployment rates were found in Weston and Teton counties, each at 2.4%.

Total nonfarm employment in Wyoming (not seasonally adjusted and measured by place of work) rose from 280,300 in December 2021 to 285,800 in December 2022, an increase of 5,500 jobs (2.0%).

Research & Planning has scheduled the January unemployment news release for March 14, 2023.

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

County	Labor Force			Employment			Unemployed Number			Unemployment Rate		
	Dec 2022 (p)	Nov 2022 (r)	Dec 2021 (b)	Dec 2022 (p)	Nov 2022 (r)	Dec 2021 (b)	Dec 2022 (p)	Nov 2022 (r)	Dec 2021 (b)	Dec 2022 (p)	Nov 2022 (r)	Dec 2021 (b)
Albany	21,631	21,771	21,377	20,988	21,207	20,861	643	564	516	3.0	2.6	2.4
Big Horn	5,040	5,082	5,068	4,848	4,920	4,887	192	162	181	3.8	3.2	3.6
Campbell	22,794	22,958	21,985	22,068	22,282	21,191	726	676	794	3.2	2.9	3.6
Carbon	7,191	7,299	7,617	6,918	7,053	7,387	273	246	230	3.8	3.4	3.0
Converse	7,558	7,613	7,497	7,352	7,436	7,252	206	177	245	2.7	2.3	3.3
Crook	3,709	3,723	3,672	3,602	3,632	3,582	107	91	90	2.9	2.4	2.5
Fremont	18,885	19,047	18,745	18,194	18,408	18,107	691	639	638	3.7	3.4	3.4
Goshen	6,342	6,316	6,378	6,159	6,154	6,216	183	162	162	2.9	2.6	2.5
Hot Springs	2,285	2,293	2,193	2,219	2,239	2,131	66	54	62	2.9	2.4	2.8
Johnson	4,103	4,140	4,076	3,959	4,013	3,945	144	127	131	3.5	3.1	3.2
Laramie	50,572	50,724	50,117	48,905	49,253	48,671	1,667	1,471	1,446	3.3	2.9	2.9
Lincoln	9,734	9,610	9,394	9,424	9,327	9,131	310	283	263	3.2	2.9	2.8
Natrona	38,841	39,291	39,111	37,334	37,896	37,460	1,507	1,395	1,651	3.9	3.6	4.2
Niobrara	1,175	1,175	1,206	1,138	1,141	1,177	37	34	29	3.1	2.9	2.4
Park	14,651	14,674	14,623	14,111	14,183	14,138	540	491	485	3.7	3.3	3.3
Platte	4,341	4,336	4,349	4,185	4,203	4,216	156	133	133	3.6	3.1	3.1
Sheridan	15,900	15,922	15,876	15,357	15,456	15,392	543	466	484	3.4	2.9	3.0
Sublette	3,717	3,769	3,835	3,563	3,635	3,683	154	134	152	4.1	3.6	4.0
Sweetwater	19,431	19,608	19,331	18,621	18,902	18,569	810	706	762	4.2	3.6	3.9
Teton	16,558	14,870	15,504	16,168	14,301	15,140	390	569	364	2.4	3.8	2.3
Uinta	8,831	8,909	8,620	8,500	8,605	8,312	331	304	308	3.7	3.4	3.6
Washakie	3,809	3,801	3,956	3,668	3,680	3,838	141	121	118	3.7	3.2	3.0
Weston	3,833	3,861	3,742	3,740	3,779	3,654	93	82	88	2.4	2.1	2.4
<b>Statewide</b>	<b>290,931</b>	<b>290,792</b>	<b>288,271</b>	<b>281,021</b>	<b>281,707</b>	<b>278,940</b>	<b>9,910</b>	<b>9,085</b>	<b>9,331</b>	<b>3.4</b>	<b>3.1</b>	<b>3.2</b>
<b>Statewide Seasonally Adjusted.....</b>										<b>3.7</b>	<b>3.6</b>	<b>4.0</b>
<b>U.S.....</b>										<b>3.3</b>	<b>3.4</b>	<b>3.7</b>
<b>U.S. Seasonally Adjusted.....</b>										<b>3.5</b>	<b>3.6</b>	<b>3.9</b>

(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**

	December-22	November-22	December-21	Change			
				Month		Year	
				absolute	percent	absolute	percent
Total Civilian Labor Force	290,127	289,414	289,831	713	0.2%	296	0.1%
Employed	279,487	279,069	278,283	418	0.1%	1,204	0.4%
Unemployed	10,640	10,345	11,548	295	2.9%	-908	-7.9%
Unemployment Rate	3.7	3.6	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**

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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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