

Wyoming Unemployment Falls to 3.7% in March 2023

The Research & Planning section of the Wyoming Department of Workforce Services reported today that the state's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate fell from 3.8% in February to 3.7% in March. Wyoming's unemployment rate was higher than its March 2022 level of 3.3% and slightly higher than the current U.S. unemployment rate of 3.5%. From February to March, seasonally adjusted employment of Wyoming residents rose by 1,467 individuals (0.5%) as people returned to work. Additionally, the state's labor force, which is comprised of employed and unemployed individuals, rose by 7,027 people, or 2.4% from March 2022 to March 2023.

From February to March, most county unemployment rates remained fairly stable. Niobrara County's unemployment rate fell from 4.7% to 3.5%. Notable increases in unemployment were seen in Washakie (up from 4.6% to 5.8%), Hot Springs (up from 3.2% to 3.8%), Converse (up from 2.8% to 3.2%), and Sweetwater (up from 4.7% to 5.1%) counties.

From March 2022 to March 2023, unemployment rates rose in 20 counties and fell in three counties. The largest increases occurred in Washakie (up from 4.4% to 5.8%) and Carbon (up from 3.7% to 4.5%) counties. Jobless rates fell in Weston (down from 3.2% to 2.7%), Campbell (down from 3.9% to 3.6%), and Converse (down from 3.4% to 3.2%) counties.

In March, Teton County had the lowest unemployment rate at 2.6%. It was followed by Weston County at 2.7% and Converse County at 3.2%. The highest unemployment rates were reported in Washakie County at 5.8%, Sweetwater County at 5.1%, and Fremont County at 4.9%.

Total nonfarm employment in Wyoming (not seasonally adjusted and measured by place of work) rose from 277,400 in March 2022 to 284,100 in March 2023, an increase of 6,700 jobs (2.4%).

Research & Planning has scheduled the April unemployment news release for May 22, 2023.

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

| County | Labor Force | | | Employment | | | Unemployed Number | | | Unemployment Rate | | |
|---|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|-------------------|---------------|---------------|-------------------|--------------|--------------|
| | Mar 2023 (p) | Feb 2023 (r) | Mar 2022 (b) | Mar 2023 (p) | Feb 2023 (r) | Mar 2022 (b) | Mar 2023 (p) | Feb 2023 (r) | Mar 2022 (b) | Mar 2023 (p) | Feb 2023 (r) | Mar 2022 (b) |
| Albany | 22,638 | 22,384 | 21,745 | 21,878 | 21,621 | 21,086 | 760 | 763 | 659 | 3.4 | 3.4 | 3.0 |
| Big Horn | 5,089 | 4,992 | 5,146 | 4,844 | 4,755 | 4,903 | 245 | 237 | 243 | 4.8 | 4.7 | 4.7 |
| Campbell | 23,602 | 23,418 | 22,475 | 22,745 | 22,583 | 21,592 | 857 | 835 | 883 | 3.6 | 3.6 | 3.9 |
| Carbon | 7,151 | 7,057 | 7,253 | 6,831 | 6,744 | 6,984 | 320 | 313 | 269 | 4.5 | 4.4 | 3.7 |
| Converse | 7,839 | 7,756 | 7,612 | 7,592 | 7,535 | 7,356 | 247 | 221 | 256 | 3.2 | 2.8 | 3.4 |
| Crook | 3,891 | 3,820 | 3,851 | 3,755 | 3,694 | 3,727 | 136 | 126 | 124 | 3.5 | 3.3 | 3.2 |
| Fremont | 19,383 | 19,184 | 18,790 | 18,428 | 18,232 | 17,986 | 955 | 952 | 804 | 4.9 | 5.0 | 4.3 |
| Goshen | 6,624 | 6,530 | 6,513 | 6,402 | 6,314 | 6,317 | 222 | 216 | 196 | 3.4 | 3.3 | 3.0 |
| Hot Springs | 2,343 | 2,308 | 2,261 | 2,253 | 2,235 | 2,190 | 90 | 73 | 71 | 3.8 | 3.2 | 3.1 |
| Johnson | 4,225 | 4,152 | 4,179 | 4,043 | 3,982 | 4,018 | 182 | 170 | 161 | 4.3 | 4.1 | 3.9 |
| Laramie | 50,530 | 50,394 | 49,143 | 48,542 | 48,426 | 47,399 | 1,988 | 1,968 | 1,744 | 3.9 | 3.9 | 3.5 |
| Lincoln | 9,857 | 9,786 | 9,397 | 9,438 | 9,379 | 9,062 | 419 | 407 | 335 | 4.3 | 4.2 | 3.6 |
| Natrona | 40,736 | 40,422 | 38,966 | 38,908 | 38,695 | 37,283 | 1,828 | 1,727 | 1,683 | 4.5 | 4.3 | 4.3 |
| Niobrara | 1,205 | 1,202 | 1,223 | 1,163 | 1,145 | 1,189 | 42 | 57 | 34 | 3.5 | 4.7 | 2.8 |
| Park | 14,934 | 14,748 | 14,667 | 14,241 | 14,099 | 14,060 | 693 | 649 | 607 | 4.6 | 4.4 | 4.1 |
| Platte | 4,447 | 4,368 | 4,455 | 4,267 | 4,193 | 4,300 | 180 | 175 | 155 | 4.0 | 4.0 | 3.5 |
| Sheridan | 16,632 | 16,389 | 16,076 | 15,951 | 15,732 | 15,506 | 681 | 657 | 570 | 4.1 | 4.0 | 3.5 |
| Sublette | 3,837 | 3,804 | 3,854 | 3,651 | 3,620 | 3,674 | 186 | 184 | 180 | 4.8 | 4.8 | 4.7 |
| Sweetwater | 20,211 | 19,945 | 19,438 | 19,189 | 19,009 | 18,591 | 1,022 | 936 | 847 | 5.1 | 4.7 | 4.4 |
| Teton | 17,098 | 17,050 | 15,878 | 16,650 | 16,629 | 15,514 | 448 | 421 | 364 | 2.6 | 2.5 | 2.3 |
| Uinta | 9,153 | 9,051 | 8,755 | 8,740 | 8,665 | 8,423 | 413 | 386 | 332 | 4.5 | 4.3 | 3.8 |
| Washakie | 3,883 | 3,821 | 3,814 | 3,659 | 3,644 | 3,648 | 224 | 177 | 166 | 5.8 | 4.6 | 4.4 |
| Weston | 3,866 | 3,843 | 3,795 | 3,761 | 3,735 | 3,674 | 105 | 108 | 121 | 2.7 | 2.8 | 3.2 |
| Statewide | 299,173 | 296,422 | 289,284 | 286,929 | 284,664 | 278,481 | 12,244 | 11,758 | 10,803 | 4.1 | 4.0 | 3.7 |
| Statewide Seasonally Adjusted..... | | | | | | | | | | 3.7 | 3.8 | 3.3 |
| U.S..... | | | | | | | | | | 3.6 | 3.9 | 3.8 |
| U.S. Seasonally Adjusted..... | | | | | | | | | | 3.5 | 3.6 | 3.6 |

(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 | | | Change | | | | |
|----------------------------|--|-------------|----------|----------|---------|----------|---------|--|
| | March-23 | February-23 | March-22 | Month | | Year | | |
| | | | | absolute | percent | absolute | percent | |
| Total Civilian Labor Force | 296,763 | 295,522 | 289,736 | 1,241 | 0.4% | 7,027 | 2.4% | |
| Employed | 285,872 | 284,405 | 280,300 | 1,467 | 0.5% | 5,572 | 2.0% | |
| Unemployed | 10,891 | 11,117 | 9,436 | -226 | -2.0% | 1,455 | 15.4% | |
| Unemployment Rate | 3.7 | 3.8 | 3.3 | | | | | |
| 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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