

Wyoming Employment and Payroll: Weak Job Growth in First Quarter 2020

This report focuses on employment and wage growth in early 2020, before the COVID-19 pandemic and related restrictions affected Wyoming's economy. Job growth weakened considerably in first quarter 2020, mostly because of large job losses in the mining sector (including oil & gas). Even before the pandemic struck Wyoming, the state was experiencing very slow job growth. A brief preview of second quarter 2020 employment and wage data is included at the end of this report

From first quarter 2019 to first quarter 2020, Wyoming added 270 jobs (0.1%) and its total payroll increased by \$25.8 million (0.8%). The largest job growth occurred in leisure & hospitality (712 jobs), local government (including public schools, colleges, & hospitals; 378 jobs), construction (343 jobs), and health care & social assistance (252 jobs). Employment fell in mining (including oil & gas; -1,271 jobs), professional & business services (-170 jobs), retail trade (-154 jobs), and information (-140 jobs).

Laramie County added 736 jobs (1.6%) and its total payroll rose by \$19.1 million (3.5%). The largest job gains occurred in leisure & hospitality, local government (including public schools, colleges, & hospitals), transportation & warehousing, finance & insurance, and manufacturing.

Converse County gained 433 jobs (6.4%) and its total payroll increased by \$13.1 million (14.3%). Employment grew in construction, mining (including oil & gas), professional & business services, transportation & warehousing, and leisure & hospitality.

Campbell County's employment rose by 299 jobs (1.2%), but its total payroll fell by \$949,255 (-0.3%). Job gains were seen in retail trade, construction, leisure & hospitality, and other services.

Albany County added 167 jobs (1.1%) and its total payroll increased by \$7.5 million (4.9%). Modest job growth was seen in many sectors, including construction, state government, local government, other services, and private educational services.

Lincoln County gained 154 jobs (2.5%) and its total payroll grew by \$5.9 million (7.9%). Employment increased in retail trade, local government, and construction.

Table: Wyoming Covered Employment, Total Wages, & Average Weekly Wages by County, First Quarter 2019 & 2020^a

County	Average Monthly Employment				Total Wages (\$)				Average Weekly Wage			
	First Quarter		Change		First Quarter		Change		First Quarter		Change	
	2020	2019	N	%	2020	2019	\$	%	2020	2019	\$	%
Total Statewide	269,009	268,739	270	0.1	\$3,339,862,647	\$3,314,029,996	\$25,832,651	0.8	\$955	\$949	\$6	0.7
Albany	15,526	15,359	167	1.1	\$162,623,341	\$155,082,198	\$7,541,143	4.9	\$806	\$777	\$29	3.7
Big Horn	3,875	3,832	42	1.1	\$39,951,656	\$38,713,729	\$1,237,927	3.2	\$793	\$777	\$16	2.1
Campbell	24,917	24,619	299	1.2	\$365,720,195	\$366,669,450	-\$949,255	-0.3	\$1,129	\$1,146	-\$17	-1.5
Carbon	6,532	6,594	-62	-0.9	\$90,088,203	\$88,128,789	\$1,959,414	2.2	\$1,061	\$1,028	\$33	3.2
Converse	7,218	6,785	433	6.4	\$104,811,527	\$91,673,604	\$13,137,923	14.3	\$1,117	\$1,039	\$78	7.5
Crook	2,402	2,328	75	3.2	\$27,435,590	\$24,489,278	\$2,946,312	12.0	\$878	\$809	\$69	8.5
Fremont	14,860	14,884	-24	-0.2	\$155,763,440	\$153,943,849	\$1,819,591	1.2	\$806	\$796	\$11	1.3
Goshen	4,049	4,169	-120	-2.9	\$39,218,212	\$39,290,127	-\$71,915	-0.2	\$745	\$725	\$20	2.8
Hot Springs	1,829	1,825	4	0.2	\$17,265,767	\$17,141,351	\$124,416	0.7	\$726	\$723	\$4	0.5
Johnson	2,978	3,066	-89	-2.9	\$29,272,748	\$29,326,360	-\$53,612	-0.2	\$756	\$736	\$21	2.8
Laramie	46,822	46,086	736	1.6	\$568,472,304	\$549,409,790	\$19,062,514	3.5	\$934	\$917	\$17	1.8
Lincoln	6,409	6,255	154	2.5	\$80,838,261	\$74,912,879	\$5,925,382	7.9	\$970	\$921	\$49	5.3
Natrona	38,395	38,244	151	0.4	\$482,005,389	\$486,402,120	-\$4,396,731	-0.9	\$966	\$978	-\$13	-1.3
Niobrara	835	872	-37	-4.2	\$8,029,619	\$7,906,576	\$123,043	1.6	\$740	\$698	\$42	6.0
Park	12,428	12,336	92	0.7	\$132,839,446	\$130,856,974	\$1,982,472	1.5	\$822	\$816	\$6	0.8
Platte	3,420	3,649	-229	-6.3	\$37,176,800	\$46,360,774	-\$9,183,974	-19.8	\$836	\$977	-\$141	-14.4
Sheridan	13,170	13,044	126	1.0	\$143,471,651	\$138,111,928	\$5,359,723	3.9	\$838	\$814	\$24	2.9
Sublette	3,674	3,815	-140	-3.7	\$53,017,061	\$56,362,006	-\$3,344,945	-5.9	\$1,110	\$1,137	-\$27	-2.3
Sweetwater	21,170	22,118	-947	-4.3	\$314,646,509	\$332,588,972	-\$17,942,463	-5.4	\$1,143	\$1,157	-\$13	-1.2
Teton	20,425	20,368	57	0.3	\$267,348,881	\$269,350,936	-\$2,002,055	-0.7	\$1,007	\$1,017	-\$10	-1.0
Uinta	7,985	8,133	-148	-1.8	\$82,751,172	\$85,069,238	-\$2,318,066	-2.7	\$797	\$805	-\$7	-0.9
Washakie	3,459	3,456	2	0.1	\$37,680,890	\$36,294,504	\$1,386,386	3.8	\$838	\$808	\$30	3.7
Weston	2,317	2,316	1	0.0	\$24,544,159	\$23,723,082	\$821,077	3.5	\$815	\$788	\$27	3.4
Nonclassified ^b	4,315	4,586	-272	-5.9	\$74,889,826	\$72,221,482	\$2,668,344	3.7	\$1,335	\$1,211	\$124	10.2

^aPreliminary. ^bThe employer may be located statewide or in more than one county. Extract Date: October 2020

Source: Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages, developed through a cooperative program between Research & Planning and the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Sweetwater County lost 947 jobs (-4.3%) and its total payroll fell by \$17.9 million (-5.4%). The largest job losses occurred in mining (including oil & gas), construction, retail trade, professional & business services, and transportation & warehousing.

Employment in Platte County fell by 229 jobs (-6.3%) and its total payroll decreased by \$9.2 million (-19.8%). Job losses were seen in construction, real estate & rental & leasing, and health care & social assistance.

Visit our website at https://doe.state.wy.us/LMI/20Q1_QCEW/toc.htm for detailed tables for each county.

Preview—Second Quarter (April through June) 2020 Local Jobs and Payroll

As the COVID-19 pandemic and associated restrictions hit Wyoming in second quarter 2020, widespread job losses were seen in the state. Preliminary data show that from second quarter 2019 to second quarter 2020, Wyoming lost approximately 26,840 jobs (-9.6%) and total payroll fell by \$215 million (-6.4%). The largest job losses occurred in leisure & hospitality (approximately 10,420 jobs), mining (including oil & gas; approximately 4,550 jobs), local government (including public schools & colleges; approximately 3,100 jobs), construction (approximately 1,750 jobs), retail trade (approximately 1,400 jobs), and professional & business services (approximately 1,270 jobs). Smaller job losses were seen in health care & social assistance (approximately 980 jobs), other services (approximately 790 jobs), wholesale trade (approximately 710 jobs), and manufacturing (approximately 600 jobs).

Industry employment data for second quarter 2020 are available at https://doe.state.wy.us/LMI/QCEW_OTY/toc.htm

County level employment and wages data for second quarter 2020 are scheduled to be released on February 5, 2021.

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