

## Wyoming Unemployment Rate Falls to 5.1% in October 2016

The Research & Planning section of the Wyoming Department of Workforce Services reported today that the state's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate fell significantly from 5.4% (as revised) in September to 5.1% in October. Wyoming's unemployment rate has now fallen for three consecutive months, but remains higher than its October 2015 level of 4.3%. Seasonally adjusted employment of Wyoming residents increased significantly, rising by an estimated 1,813 individuals (0.6%) from September to October. Wyoming's labor force and employment both declined from year-ago levels. Labor force fell by 3,602 individuals (-1.2%) and employment fell by 5,997 individuals (-2.1%).

From September to October, most county unemployment rates changed very little. However, Teton County's unemployment rate rose from 2.0% to 3.0% and Park County's unemployment rate rose from 3.6% to 3.9%. Unemployment rates often increase in October in some parts of the state as the summer tourist season has ended and the winter season has not yet started. Falling unemployment rates were seen in Campbell (down from 6.9% to 6.3%), Natrona (down from 6.6% to 6.3%), Fremont (down from 6.4% to 6.1%), and Converse (down from 5.6% to 5.3%) counties.

From October 2015 to October 2016, unemployment rates rose in 17 counties, fell in two counties, and were unchanged in four counties. The largest increases were seen in Campbell (up from 3.8% to 6.3%), Converse (up from 3.4% to 5.3%), Natrona (up from 4.8% to 6.3%), and Weston (up from 3.1% to 4.6%) counties. Unemployment rates decreased in Teton (down from 3.8% to 3.0%) and Lincoln (down from 4.1% to 3.6%) counties and were unchanged in Albany (2.8%), Big Horn (3.9%), Goshen (3.0%), and Niobrara (2.9%) counties.

Campbell and Natrona counties had the highest unemployment rates in October (both 6.3%). The next highest rates were found in Fremont (6.1%), Converse (5.3%), Sublette (5.3%), and Sweetwater (5.3%) counties. Albany County posted the lowest unemployment rate (2.8%), followed by Niobrara (2.9%), Teton (3.0%), and Goshen (3.0%) counties.

Total nonfarm employment (not seasonally adjusted and measured by place of work) fell from 291,600 in October 2015 to 281,100 in October 2016, a decrease of 10,500 jobs (or -3.6%; a statistically significant decrease).

Research & Planning has scheduled the November employment news release for December 20, 2016.

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

County	Labor Force			Employment			Unemployed Number			Unemployment Rate		
	Oct 2016 (p)	Sep 2016 (r)	Oct 2015 (b)	Oct 2016 (p)	Sep 2016 (r)	Oct 2015 (b)	Oct 2016 (p)	Sep 2016 (r)	Oct 2015 (b)	Oct 2016 (p)	Sep 2016 (r)	Oct 2015 (b)
Albany	22,202	20,759	21,963	21,575	20,172	21,353	627	587	610	2.8	2.8	2.8
Big Horn	5,712	5,696	5,588	5,492	5,477	5,370	220	219	218	3.9	3.8	3.9
Campbell	23,978	23,711	25,471	22,465	22,077	24,510	1,513	1,634	961	6.3	6.9	3.8
Carbon	8,530	8,451	8,919	8,188	8,118	8,623	342	333	296	4.0	3.9	3.3
Converse	7,931	8,072	8,289	7,513	7,617	8,010	418	455	279	5.3	5.6	3.4
Crook	3,733	3,816	3,689	3,584	3,665	3,579	149	151	110	4.0	4.0	3.0
Fremont	20,432	20,331	20,244	19,190	19,038	19,250	1,242	1,293	994	6.1	6.4	4.9
Goshen	7,318	7,226	7,369	7,098	7,007	7,145	220	219	224	3.0	3.0	3.0
Hot Springs	2,450	2,449	2,382	2,343	2,342	2,292	107	107	90	4.4	4.4	3.8
Johnson	4,304	4,337	4,168	4,118	4,161	4,004	186	176	164	4.3	4.1	3.9
Laramie	48,035	46,970	48,659	46,224	45,215	46,910	1,811	1,755	1,749	3.8	3.7	3.6
Lincoln	8,849	8,903	8,450	8,531	8,569	8,104	318	334	346	3.6	3.8	4.1
Natrona	41,432	40,776	42,224	38,841	38,080	40,195	2,591	2,696	2,029	6.3	6.6	4.8
Niobrara	1,372	1,392	1,323	1,332	1,350	1,284	40	42	39	2.9	3.0	2.9
Park	16,005	16,522	15,706	15,373	15,927	15,118	632	595	588	3.9	3.6	3.7
Platte	4,804	4,877	4,942	4,612	4,680	4,759	192	197	183	4.0	4.0	3.7
Sheridan	16,274	16,291	15,858	15,657	15,680	15,264	617	611	594	3.8	3.8	3.7
Sublette	4,332	4,528	4,533	4,101	4,285	4,322	231	243	211	5.3	5.4	4.7
Sweetwater	22,149	21,722	22,715	20,983	20,519	21,710	1,166	1,203	1,005	5.3	5.5	4.4
Teton	15,196	16,112	14,498	14,733	15,784	13,951	463	328	547	3.0	2.0	3.8
Uinta	9,589	9,599	9,535	9,111	9,108	9,090	478	491	445	5.0	5.1	4.7
Washakie	4,332	4,285	4,344	4,166	4,121	4,201	166	164	143	3.8	3.8	3.3
Weston	3,986	3,999	3,972	3,801	3,810	3,848	185	189	124	4.6	4.7	3.1
<b>Statewide</b>	<b>302,944</b>	<b>300,824</b>	<b>304,839</b>	<b>289,030</b>	<b>286,802</b>	<b>292,891</b>	<b>13,914</b>	<b>14,022</b>	<b>11,948</b>	<b>4.6</b>	<b>4.7</b>	<b>3.9</b>
<b>Statewide Seasonally Adjusted.....</b>										<b>5.1</b>	<b>5.4</b>	<b>4.3</b>
<b>U.S.....</b>										<b>4.7</b>	<b>4.8</b>	<b>4.8</b>
<b>U.S. Seasonally Adjusted.....</b>										<b>4.9</b>	<b>5.0</b>	<b>5.0</b>

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

Data are not seasonally adjusted except where otherwise specified.

Labor Force = Employment + Unemployment Number

Unemployment Rate = Unemployment Number/Labor Force

	Wyoming Seasonally Adjusted Statewide Labor Force Estimates			Change			
	October-16	September-16	October-15	Month		Year	
				absolute	percent	absolute	percent
Total Civilian Labor Force	301,394	300,142	304,996	1,252	0.4%	-3,602	-1.2%
Employed	285,897	284,084	291,894	1,813	0.6%	-5,997	-2.1%
Unemployed	15,497	16,058	13,102	-561	-3.5%	2,395	18.3%
Unemployment Rate	5.1	5.4	4.3				
<b>Definitions:</b>							
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**

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**Research & Planning**

Internet Address: <http://doe.state.wy.us/LMI/news.htm>

Access R&P's monthly publication on Wyoming's labor market at <http://doe.state.wy.us/LMI/trends.htm>

Contacts:

David Bullard, Senior Economist	<a href="mailto:david.bullard@wyo.gov">david.bullard@wyo.gov</a>	307-473-3810
Carola Cowan, BLS Programs Supervisor	<a href="mailto:carola.cowan@wyo.gov">carola.cowan@wyo.gov</a>	307-473-3804

Wyoming Department of Workforce Services  
 Research & Planning  
 PO Box 2760  
 Casper WY 82602-2760