

## Wyoming Unemployment Rate Falls to 4.3% in April 2017

The Research & Planning section of the Wyoming Department of Workforce Services reported today that the state's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate fell significantly from 4.5% in March to 4.3% in April. Wyoming's unemployment rate was also significantly lower than its April 2016 level of 5.6%. Seasonally adjusted employment of Wyoming residents decreased slightly from March to April, falling by an estimated 509 individuals (-0.2%).

From March to April, most county unemployment rates followed their normal seasonal pattern and decreased. Seasonal job gains are often seen in April, as employment grows in construction, retail trade, and professional & business services. The largest unemployment rate decreases occurred in Johnson (down from 5.4% to 4.3%), Park (down from 5.4% to 4.4%), Weston (down from 4.8% to 3.9%), Uinta (down from 5.5% to 4.6%), and Sublette (down from 5.6% to 4.7%) counties. Teton County's unemployment rate rose from 2.8% in March to 4.9% in April as the end of the ski season resulted in job losses.

From April 2016 to April 2017, unemployment rates fell in all of Wyoming's 23 counties. However, labor force also fell in 13 counties, suggesting that some of the people who were unemployed in April 2016 have left the state or dropped out of the labor force. The largest unemployment rate decreases occurred in Sublette (down from 8.1% to 4.7%), Campbell (down from 8.4% to 5.1%), Converse (down from 6.9% to 4.3%), and Natrona (down from 7.8% to 5.5%) counties.

In April 2017, the highest unemployment rates were found in Fremont and Natrona counties (both 5.5%). The lowest rates occurred in Albany (2.6%), Goshen (2.7%), and Niobrara (2.8%) counties.

The estimate of total nonfarm jobs (not seasonally adjusted and measured by place of work) fell from 278,200 in April 2016 to 271,800 in April 2017, a decrease of 6,400 jobs (or -2.3%; a statistically significant decrease).

Research & Planning has scheduled the May employment news release for June 20, 2017.

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

County	Labor Force			Employment			Unemployed Number			Unemployment Rate		
	Apr 2017 (p)	Mar 2017 (r)	Apr 2016 (b)	Apr 2017 (p)	Mar 2017 (r)	Apr 2016 (b)	Apr 2017 (p)	Mar 2017 (r)	Apr 2016 (b)	Apr 2017 (p)	Mar 2017 (r)	Apr 2016 (b)
Albany	21,379	21,861	21,666	20,822	21,194	21,003	557	667	663	2.6	3.1	3.1
Big Horn	5,478	5,442	5,537	5,249	5,188	5,229	229	254	308	4.2	4.7	5.6
Campbell	23,495	23,877	25,448	22,302	22,521	23,301	1,193	1,356	2,147	5.1	5.7	8.4
Carbon	8,032	8,363	8,207	7,705	7,969	7,773	327	394	434	4.1	4.7	5.3
Converse	7,723	7,778	8,066	7,392	7,392	7,509	331	386	557	4.3	5.0	6.9
Crook	3,577	3,616	3,621	3,440	3,450	3,429	137	166	192	3.8	4.6	5.3
Fremont	20,086	20,258	20,286	18,973	18,954	18,717	1,113	1,304	1,569	5.5	6.4	7.7
Goshen	6,869	7,036	6,995	6,682	6,825	6,739	187	211	256	2.7	3.0	3.7
Hot Springs	2,416	2,505	2,400	2,321	2,396	2,277	95	109	123	3.9	4.4	5.1
Johnson	4,168	4,125	4,089	3,990	3,901	3,837	178	224	252	4.3	5.4	6.2
Laramie	49,918	50,584	49,124	48,216	48,552	47,094	1,702	2,032	2,030	3.4	4.0	4.1
Lincoln	8,609	8,826	8,559	8,257	8,433	8,090	352	393	469	4.1	4.5	5.5
Natrona	39,816	40,449	42,183	37,641	37,963	38,910	2,175	2,486	3,273	5.5	6.1	7.8
Niobrara	1,312	1,322	1,312	1,275	1,275	1,271	37	47	41	2.8	3.6	3.1
Park	15,291	15,433	15,097	14,622	14,605	14,308	669	828	789	4.4	5.4	5.2
Platte	4,923	4,754	4,763	4,744	4,538	4,518	179	216	245	3.6	4.5	5.1
Sheridan	16,218	16,247	16,207	15,604	15,488	15,415	614	759	792	3.8	4.7	4.9
Sublette	4,122	4,237	4,121	3,928	3,998	3,788	194	239	333	4.7	5.6	8.1
Sweetwater	22,324	22,643	22,645	21,337	21,464	21,153	987	1,179	1,492	4.4	5.2	6.6
Teton	14,201	15,013	13,836	13,507	14,600	12,925	694	413	911	4.9	2.8	6.6
Uinta	9,275	9,318	9,591	8,850	8,802	8,978	425	516	613	4.6	5.5	6.4
Washakie	4,177	4,231	4,206	3,987	4,037	3,984	190	194	222	4.5	4.6	5.3
Weston	3,947	4,016	4,035	3,792	3,824	3,792	155	192	243	3.9	4.8	6.0
<b>Statewide</b>	<b>297,353</b>	<b>301,932</b>	<b>301,994</b>	<b>284,635</b>	<b>287,366</b>	<b>284,041</b>	<b>12,718</b>	<b>14,566</b>	<b>17,953</b>	<b>4.3</b>	<b>4.8</b>	<b>5.9</b>
<b>Statewide Seasonally Adjusted</b> .....										<b>4.3</b>	<b>4.5</b>	<b>5.6</b>
<b>U.S.</b> .....										<b>4.1</b>	<b>4.6</b>	<b>4.7</b>
<b>U.S. Seasonally Adjusted</b> .....										<b>4.4</b>	<b>4.5</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			
	April-17	March-17	April-16	Month		Year	
				absolute	percent	absolute	percent
Total Civilian Labor Force	302,194	303,601	303,236	-1,407	-0.5%	-1,042	-0.3%
Employed	289,329	289,838	286,201	-509	-0.2%	3,128	1.1%
Unemployed	12,865	13,763	17,035	-898	-6.5%	-4,170	-24.5%
Unemployment Rate	4.3	4.5	5.6				
<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>

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