

TRENDS

What Do Wyoming Employers Want? Evidence from the New Hires Survey

by: Lisa Knapp, Senior Research Analyst

Research & Planning's New Hires Survey was designed to capture detailed information on occupations, benefits, wages, full- or part-time employment status, education and licensing requirements, and necessary skills for Wyoming jobs. These results are intended for use by a wide variety of audiences, including training providers and educators, job seekers, and employers.

The Research & Planning (R&P) section of the Wyoming Department of Workforce Services has conducted the Department of Workforce Services Job Skills Survey, otherwise known as the New Hires Survey, since fourth quarter 2009 (2009Q4). Although R&P uses many secondary data sets such as Wage Records, the Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages, and Wyoming driver's license files to conduct economic research, there are some questions that surveys are better suited to answer.

The results of the New Hires Survey are available on R&P's website (<http://doe.state.wy.us/LMI/newhires.htm>) and are updated annually. Training providers and educators

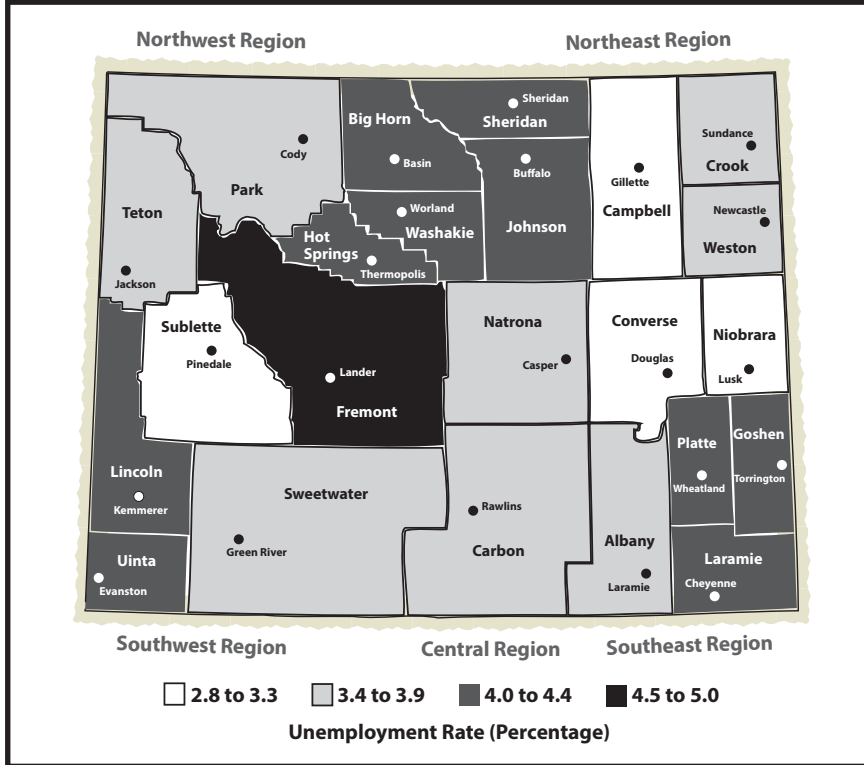
can use R&P's occupational projections data (<http://doe.state.wy.us/LMI/projections.htm>) to identify occupations that are projected to grow and can use data from the New Hires Survey, such as education and licensing requirements and necessary job skills, to inform their training programs. Likewise, job seekers can use New Hires Survey data to explore occupations in which they may be interested in terms of wages and benefits offered, licensing and educational requirements, and necessary job skills. Employers can use these data to compare the wages and benefits they offer their employees to statewide totals for similar occupations.

(Text continued on page 3)

HIGHLIGHTS

- The number of building permits issued for single-family homes in Wyoming fell 5.3% from September 2012 to September 2013. ... *page 12*
- Although the total number of initial unemployment insurance claims decreased over the year, substantial increases were seen in mining (27.7%) and construction (11.4%). ... *page 14*

Unemployment Rate by Wyoming County, September 2013 (Not Seasonally Adjusted)



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This article provides a brief overview of the characteristics of new hires by occupation across all industries. A second article will provide a detailed comparison of new hires in the health care & social assistance and educational services industries. Detailed results of the New Hires Survey by industry are currently available online at <http://doe.state.wy.us/LMI/newhires.htm>.

Methodology

The New Hires Survey collects information about wages and benefits, job duties, license and education requirements, and job skills for jobs filled in Wyoming. *New hires* are defined as workers who had not previously worked for a particular employer since 1992, the first year for which wage records are available for analyses (Knapp, 2011). New hires data are used in this research to identify jobs being filled across the state.

A random sample of new hires, chosen to statistically represent all industries, is drawn each quarter and a questionnaire with a cover letter is mailed to each worker's employer. The cover letter

includes a short description of the study's purpose, which is to collect information about the skill requirements of jobs in Wyoming, as well as a statement of how these data will be used. The cover

letter states that this information will be available to educators, training providers, and vocational counselors to help develop curriculums emphasizing the needed skills as indicated by the results of the survey,

but, as noted in the introduction of this article, the audience for these results is much broader than just educators.

The questionnaire identifies the time frame to which the study refers, which is typically six months prior to when the survey instruments are mailed out. The questions asked in the questionnaire refer to the job filled by the employee rather than the employee specifically, with the exception of one question asking the employer to rate his or her satisfaction with the employee's job skills.

This year, eight quarters of data were combined to create the new hires estimates used for this article. This was done because R&P samples a relatively small number of new hires each quarter and small samples can distort the estimates. Adding together two years of data improves these estimates. Although

New hires are defined as workers who had not previously worked for a particular employer since 1992, the first year for which wage records are available for analyses.

Results from Research & Planning's New Hires Survey are available online at <http://doe.state.wy.us/LMI/newhires.htm>.

the response rate can vary by industry and quarter, as shown in Table 1, R&P received an overall response rate of at least 70.0% for nearly all of the quarters included in this analysis.

More information about the methodology, including why new hires were chosen to represent jobs in the state and a more detailed explanation of the sampling methodology, as well as the complete results of this survey can be found at <http://doe.state.wy.us/LMI/newhires.htm>

Results

Table 2 (see page 5) provides an overview of the 20 occupations with the largest number of new hires between

2010Q4 and 2012Q3 across all industries combined. The occupation with the largest number of new hires during this period was cashiers (9,937), followed by truck drivers, heavy & tractor trailer (8,810), and retail salespersons (7,232).

Of these top 20 occupations, females made up the greatest proportion of all new hires employed as office clerks, general (65.6%), waiters & waitresses (63.4%), bartenders (62.9%), and cashiers (60.6%). while truck drivers, heavy & tractor trailer (79.3%), roustabouts, oil and gas (79.3%), and construction laborers (78.3%) had the largest proportions of male workers. *Nonresidents*, who are defined as “individuals without a Wyoming-issued driver’s license or at least four quarters of work history in Wyoming” (Jones, 2002), constituted at least one-fourth of all new hires in two occupations: maids &

Table 1: Response Rate by Quarter and Industry, Wyoming Department of Workforce Services Job Skills Survey, 2010Q4-2012Q3

Industry	2010Q4	2011Q1	2011Q2	2011Q3	2011Q4	2012Q1	2012Q2	2012Q3
Agriculture	68.5	77.1	71.7	68.6	73.0	82.9	71.2	87.0
Mining	60.3	72.1	79.2	78.3	68.4	69.5	57.3	82.6
Utilities	73.5	60.0	70.0	92.3	58.3	75.0	58.8	86.7
Construction	63.2	70.2	74.3	70.6	75.0	77.5	73.3	80.0
Manufacturing	69.0	68.0	80.7	72.4	76.4	68.5	76.4	78.9
Wholesale Trade	66.0	65.5	69.1	68.6	69.8	72.7	66.7	75.0
Retail Trade	67.6	80.7	71.8	71.2	73.0	75.9	64.4	75.8
Transportation & Warehousing	71.2	67.3	69.1	74.6	74.2	66.2	70.8	71.2
Information	68.3	71.4	77.5	68.2	75.0	69.8	59.6	79.2
Finance & Insurance	64.3	57.9	67.4	69.6	73.9	67.4	57.1	76.9
Real Estate & Rental & Leasing	68.4	68.3	66.0	72.9	78.3	69.6	67.8	67.8
Professional & Scientific Services	68.7	77.8	65.5	74.5	70.0	73.4	79.0	65.2
Management of Companies	62.5	54.5	58.8	65.0	80.0	66.7	31.3	100.0
Admin. & Waste Services	59.7	71.4	70.3	79.7	68.1	61.3	69.6	76.1
Educational Services	69.1	75.8	75.4	75.4	78.2	81.3	84.8	68.7
Health Care & Social Assistance	67.5	79.7	72.7	76.1	76.5	79.1	78.7	75.6
Arts, Entertainment, & Recreation	61.8	69.8	67.9	75.0	75.0	76.5	86.6	84.5
Accommodation & Food Services	62.9	72.3	67.1	72.7	68.6	80.6	67.0	77.9
Other Services	68.6	70.2	69.5	69.1	77.1	80.6	74.6	81.5
Public Administration	82.4	91.1	78.7	94.7	75.0	90.9	87.1	81.8
Total, All Industries	67.3	72.5	71.6	74.3	73.4	74.7	71.5	77.0

housekeeping cleaners (27.2%) and cooks, restaurant (26.0%). An article focusing specifically on nonresident new hires in Wyoming will be published in a future issue of *Wyoming Labor Force Trends*.

Thirteen of the top 20 occupations typically required a high school diploma or GED as the highest level of education. These occupations included truck drivers, heavy & tractor trailer; roustabouts, oil &

Table 2: Selected Characteristics of the 20 Occupations with the Largest Number of New Hires Across All Industries in Wyoming, 2010Q4-2012Q3

SOC ^a Code	Occupation Title	N ^b	% of Total	Typical Required Education	% Female	% Male	% Nonresident	% Turnover After 1 Quarter
41-2011	Cashiers	9,937	5.0	Less than High School Diploma	60.6	29.3	10.0	25.2
53-3032	Truck Drivers, Heavy & Tractor-Trailer	8,810	4.4	High School Diploma	9.3	79.3	11.3	23.1
41-2031	Retail Salespersons	7,232	3.6	High School Diploma	58.7	33.3	8.0	22.2
37-2012	Maids & Housekeeping Cleaners	6,668	3.3	High School Diploma	54.6	18.2	27.2	35.4
35-3021	Combined Food Preparation & Serving Workers ...	6,347	3.2	Less than High School Diploma	56.6	31.6	11.8	29.3
47-2061	Construction Laborers	6,338	3.2	High School Diploma	3.6	78.3	18.1	41.1
43-9061	Office Clerks, General	6,210	3.1	High School Diploma	65.6	28.3	6.2	13.4
35-3031	Waiters & Waitresses	5,460	2.7	High School Diploma	63.4	22.0	14.6	21.5
35-2014	Cooks, Restaurant	4,290	2.1	High School Diploma	26.5	47.5	26.0	23.8
37-3011	Landscaping & Groundskeeping Workers	3,907	1.9	Less than High School Diploma	24.3	65.7	10.0	25.8
47-5071	Roustabouts, Oil & Gas	3,901	1.9	High School Diploma	8.3	79.3	12.5	26.4
35-3011	Bartenders	3,761	1.9	High School Diploma	62.9	27.2	9.8	5.6
37-2011	Janitors & Cleaners, Except Maids & Housekeeping ...	3,740	1.9	High School Diploma	43.1	47.4	9.4	36.1
35-9021	Dishwashers	3,642	1.8	Less than High School Diploma	30.5	45.3	24.2	34.2
47-2073	Operating Engineers & Other Construction ...	3,614	1.8	Post Secondary Certificate	7.7	72.8	19.5	31.0
43-4081	Hotel, Motel, & Resort Desk Clerks	3,254	1.6	High School Diploma	46.9	42.4	10.7	20.9
53-7062	Laborers & Freight, Stock & Material Movers, Hand	3,171	1.6	High School Diploma	17.7	68.6	13.7	31.6
47-2031	Carpenters	2,619	1.3	High School Diploma	6.6	74.2	19.2	24.1
35-2011	Cooks, Fast Food	2,529	1.3	Less than High School Diploma	39.1	42.4	18.4	24.3
51-4121	Welders, Cutters, Solderers, & Brazers	2,499	1.2	Post Secondary Certificate	7.1	71.6	21.3	26.7
	Total, All Other Occupations	102,625	51.2	N/A	39.2	49.5	11.3	20.0
	Total, All Occupations	200,555	100.0	N/A	37.9	48.7	13.4	23.6

^aStandard Occupational Classification.

^bEstimated number of new hires.

gas; carpenters; and office clerks, general. Five occupations, including cashiers; combined food preparation & serving workers, including fast food; and cooks, fast food, typically required less than a high school diploma. Only two occupations (welders, cutters, solderers, & brazers; and operating engineers & other construction equipment operators) typically required education beyond high school.

For purposes of this article, *turnover rate* is defined as the percentage of new hires who left their employer by the quarter after the questionnaire was completed. Turnover rates were relatively high for all of the top 20 occupations,

but particularly for construction laborers (41.1%), janitors & cleaners (36.1%), and maids & housekeeping cleaners (35.4%). Bartenders (5.6%) had the lowest turnover rate of all occupations in the top 20.

Table 3 contains median wage and benefit data for the 20 occupations with the largest number of new hires. Employers who completed this questionnaire were asked to provide the employee's wages in whatever form they wanted (e.g., hourly, monthly, annually), but the results have all been converted to an hourly wage. If the employee was paid a piece rate (e.g., by the mile), that wage was included in a separate variable for piece

Table 3: Median Wage and Percent of Jobs Offered Benefits by Occupation for the 20 Occupations with the Largest Number of New Hires Across All Industries in Wyoming, 2010Q4-2012Q3

SOC ^a Code	Occupation Title	N ^b	Median Wage (\$)	Benefits		
				Percent Offered:		
				Health Insurance	Retirement Plan	Paid Time Off
41-2011	Cashiers	9,937	8.50	12.2	10.1	11.4
53-3032	Truck Drivers, Heavy & Tractor-Trailer	8,810	18.00	50.0	34.7	29.1
41-2031	Retail Salespersons	7,232	8.50	24.5	19.1	19.1
37-2012	Maids & Housekeeping Cleaners	6,668	8.50	20.0	5.7	25.7
35-3021	Combined Food Preparation & Serving Workers ...	6,347	8.00	19.3	4.2	8.4
47-2061	Construction Laborers	6,338	14.00	23.0	14.6	19.1
43-9061	Office Clerks, General	6,210	12.00	37.2	23.1	37.3
35-3031	Waiters & Waitresses	5,460	4.00	8.4	3.2	9.3
35-2014	Cooks, Restaurant	4,290	9.00	7.8	1.6	12.4
37-3011	Landscaping & Groundskeeping Workers	3,907	10.50	4.6	2.4	4.1
47-5071	Roustabouts, Oil & Gas	3,901	15.00	35.9	16.6	26.4
35-3011	Bartenders	3,761	7.25	0.0	0.0	3.5
37-2011	Janitors & Cleaners, Except Maids & Housekeeping	3,740	11.00	8.6	8.9	14.4
35-9021	Dishwashers	3,642	8.50	16.5	11.0	20.1
47-2073	Operating Engineers & Other Construction ...	3,614	18.00	49.9	28.5	23.5
43-4081	Hotel, Motel, & Resort Desk Clerks	3,254	8.50	12.8	10.4	10.4
53-7062	Laborers & Freight, Stock & Material Movers, Hand	3,171	12.00	35.3	23.1	35.2
47-2031	Carpenters	2,619	17.50	22.3	7.7	23.3
35-2011	Cooks, Fast Food	2,529	8.00	10.5	10.5	7.9
51-4121	Welders, Cutters, Solderers, & Brazers	2,499	18.00	55.1	31.7	33.2
	Total, All Other Occupations	102,625	12.82	42.5	33.4	38.2
	Total, All Occupations	200,555	\$12.32	31.8	22.1	26.8

^aStandard Occupational Classification.

^bEstimated number of new hires.

rate pay and is available on R&P's website (<http://doe.state.wy.us/LMI/newhires.htm>). The median wage for all new hires was \$12.32 per hour, but workers in 14 of the top 20 occupations had a median wage that was less than that.

Approximately 31.8% of all new hires were offered health insurance benefits, 22.1% were offered retirement benefits, and 26.8% were offered paid time off, although the proportion of workers who were offered these benefits varied by occupation. For example, 55.1% of welders, cutters, solderers, & brazers and 50.0% of truck drivers, heavy & tractor trailer were offered health insurance benefits. Just over one-third of truck drivers, heavy & tractor trailer (34.7%) and nearly one-third of welders, cutters, solderers, & brazers (31.7%) were offered retirement benefits, while 37.3% of office clerks, general and 35.2% of laborers and freight, stock, & material movers, hand were offered paid time off.

Employers were asked to rate five skills (service orientation, critical thinking, reading comprehension, technology design, and operation and control; see Box for definitions) in terms of how important they were to the positions filled by

Job Skills Definitions

Service Orientation: Actively looking for ways to help people.

Critical Thinking: Using logic and reasoning to identify the strengths and weaknesses of alternative solutions, conclusions or approaches to problems.

Reading Comprehension: Understanding written sentences and paragraphs in work related documents.

Technology Design: Generating or adapting equipment and technology to serve user needs.

Operation and Control: Controlling operations of equipment or systems.

Source: O*Net Online (<http://www.onetonline.org/skills/>).

new hires; the results for these questionnaire items are found in Table 4 (see page 8). Overall, for all new hires, 74.1% of employers identified critical thinking as important, while only 35.4% of employers rated technology design as important. Among individual occupations, 100.0% of employers rated service orientation as important for hotel, motel, & resort desk clerks. A large percentage of employers rated service orientation as important for cooks, fast food (97.4%) and cashiers (95.2%).

Critical thinking was rated as important by 94.1% of employers of carpenters and 90.7%

of employers with newly hired operating engineers & other construction equipment operators. However, critical thinking was considered important for only 48.1% of employers of newly hired maids and housekeeping cleaners and 47.6% of employers of waiters and waitresses. Reading comprehension was considered important by 88.7% of employers of office clerks, general positions and 78.5% of employers of hotel, motel, & resort desk clerk positions. More than 50% of employers identified technology design as an important skill for just three of the top 20 occupations: welders, cutters, solderers, & brazers (59.1%), operating

engineers & other construction equipment operators (52.0%) and carpenters (50.1%). Finally, operation and control was considered an important skill by nearly all employers of newly hired operating engineers & other construction equipment operators (96.4%), truck drivers, heavy & tractor-trailer (91.4%), and welders, cutters, solderers, and brazers (83.2%).

Conclusions

The results highlighted in this article are intended to provide a general overview of the positions that are most often filled by new hires in Wyoming. Many of these jobs tend to have lower wages, fewer benefits, and higher rates of turnover. The

Table 4: Percent of Employers that Rated Each Skill as Important for the 20 Occupations with the Largest Number of New Hires Across All Industries in Wyoming, 2010Q4-2012Q3

SOC ^a Code	Occupation Title	N ^b	Percent of Employers Who Identified Each Skill as Important				
			Service Orientation	Critical Thinking	Reading Comprehension	Technology Design	Operation and Control
41-2011	Cashiers	9,937	95.2	63.4	60.9	26.7	51.9
53-3032	Truck Drivers, Heavy & Tractor-Trailer	8,810	64.6	83.4	70.1	41.0	91.4
41-2031	Retail Salespersons	7,232	90.9	75.5	71.1	34.1	38.0
37-2012	Maids & Housekeeping Cleaners	6,668	87.9	48.1	43.7	17.2	37.4
35-3021	Combined Food Preparation & Serving Workers ...	6,347	88.5	53.3	58.3	18.1	50.8
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35-3031	Waiters & Waitresses	5,460	85.4	47.6	48.7	7.1	28.0
35-2014	Cooks, Restaurant	4,290	74.8	74.8	67.0	18.8	71.2
37-3011	Landscaping & Groundskeeping Workers	3,907	45.8	55.2	33.1	23.3	68.4
47-5071	Roustabouts, Oil & Gas	3,901	50.0	83.1	46.6	31.5	67.7
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51-4121	Welders, Cutters, Solderers, & Brazers	2,499	37.6	82.7	57.7	59.1	83.2
	Total, All Other Occupations	102,625	73.6	81.8	72.4	43.6	60.6
	Total, All Occupations	200,555	73.6	74.1	63.1	35.4	60.8

^aStandard Occupational Classification.

^bEstimated number of new hires.

employers of these jobs tend to rate service orientation and critical thinking as important more often than any other skill. Most of these occupations require only a high school education or less.

The next article in this series in *Wyoming Labor Force Trends* will compare new hires in health care & social assistance and educational services to the total number of new hires across all industries. As that article will show, there is much variance in the number of new hires, types of occupations filled, skill and education levels required, wages, and benefits when the number of new hires is broken down by industry. Although the overview offered in this article offers a starting point for people interested in these various aspects of the labor market, it is advisable to data users such as educators or job seekers to delve

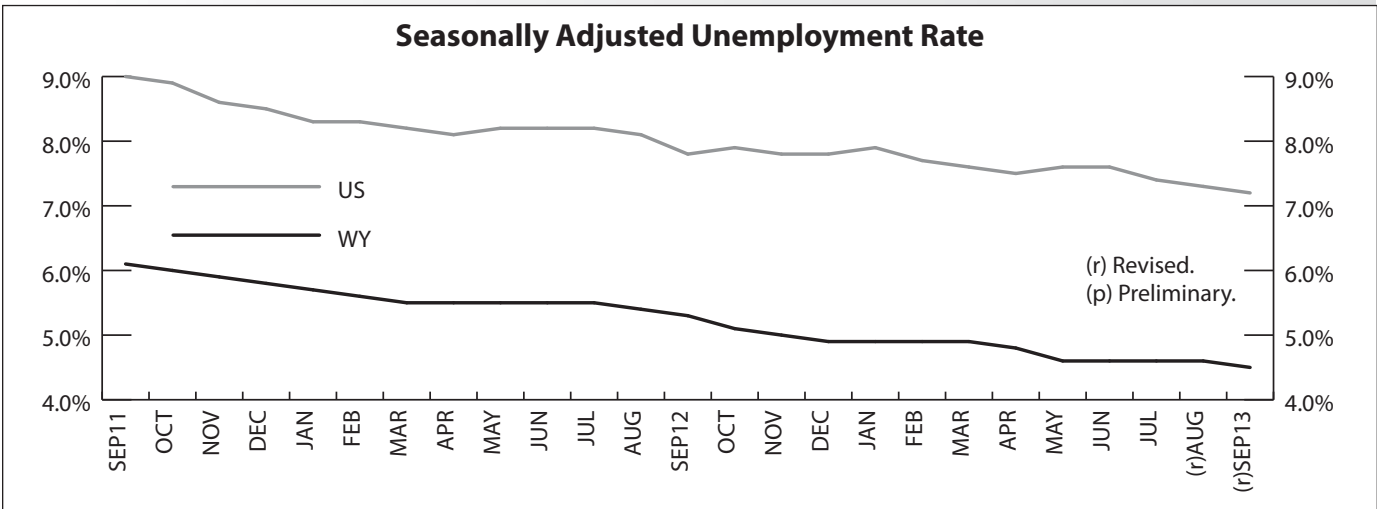
deeper into the industry-level data. This allows educators a clearer view of what an occupation offers and what will need to be taught, and jobseekers will see what needs to be learned to stand a better chance of becoming employed in that occupation.

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Note: Due to the federal government shutdown that lasted from October 1-16, a monthly news release was not issued in October 2013. The news release that contained information for September and October 2013 will be published in the December 2013 issue of *Wyoming Labor Force Trends*.



Current Employment Statistics (CES) Estimates and Research & Planning's Short-Term Projections, September 2013

by: David Bullard, Senior Economist

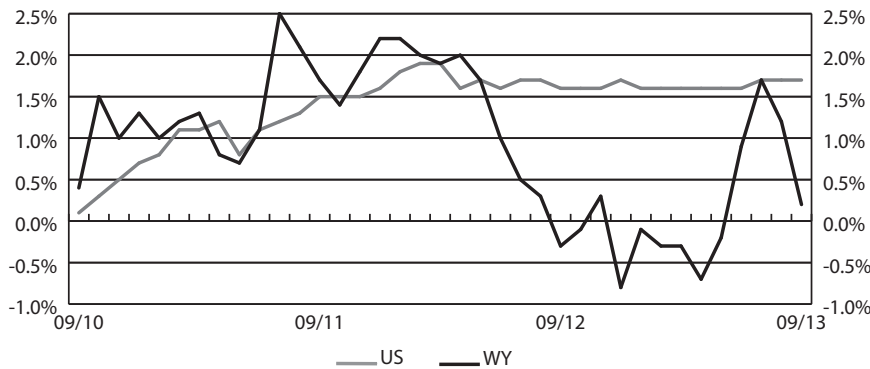
Industry Sector	Research & Planning's Short-Term Projections	Current Employment Statistics (CES) Estimates	N Difference	% Difference
Total Nonfarm Employment	299,399	296,400	-2,999	-1.0%
Natural Resources & Mining	26,820	25,800	-1,020	-4.0%
Construction	24,095	25,200	1,105	4.4%
Manufacturing	9,642	9,700	58	0.6%
Wholesale Trade	9,218	9,700	482	5.0%
Retail Trade	30,212	30,000	-212	-0.7%
Transportation & Utilities	15,166	15,000	-166	-1.1%
Information	3,828	3,900	72	1.8%
Financial Activities	11,101	10,300	-801	-7.8%
Professional & Business Services	18,540	18,100	-440	-2.4%
Educational & Health Services	27,003	26,700	-303	-1.1%
Leisure & Hospitality	37,996	37,000	-996	-2.7%
Other Services	10,750	10,500	-250	-2.4%
Government	75,028	74,500	-528	-0.7%

Projections run in August 2013 and based on QCEW Data through March 2013.

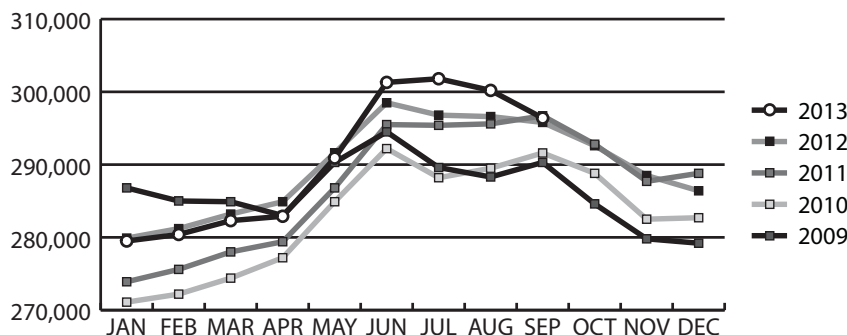
State Unemployment Rates September 2013 (Seasonally Adjusted)

State	Unemp. Rate
Puerto Rico	14.5
Nevada	9.4
Rhode Island	9.2
Illinois	9.1
Michigan	9.0
California	8.7
District of Columbia	8.6
Mississippi	8.5
New Jersey	8.4
Tennessee	8.4
Arizona	8.3
Georgia	8.3
Kentucky	8.3
North Carolina	8.3
Connecticut	8.0
South Carolina	7.9
Indiana	7.8
Oregon	7.8
New York	7.6
Pennsylvania	7.6
Arkansas	7.4
Ohio	7.4
United States	7.2
Massachusetts	7.1
Delaware	7.0
Colorado	6.9
Maine	6.9
Missouri	6.9
Washington	6.9
Florida	6.8
Idaho	6.8
Louisiana	6.8
Maryland	6.7
New Mexico	6.7
Wisconsin	6.6
Alaska	6.5
Alabama	6.4
Texas	6.3
West Virginia	6.2
Kansas	5.7
Virginia	5.6
Oklahoma	5.4
Montana	5.3
Minnesota	5.0
New Hampshire	5.0
Iowa	4.7
Utah	4.7
Vermont	4.6
Wyoming	4.5
Hawaii	4.3
Nebraska	4.1
South Dakota	3.7
North Dakota	2.8

Nonagricultural Employment Growth (Percentage Change Over Previous Year)



Wyoming Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment



Wyoming Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment

by: David Bullard, Senior Economist

State Unemployment Rates September 2013 (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

	Employment in Thousands			% Change Total Employment	
	Sep 13	Aug 13	Sep 12	Aug 13 Sep 13	Sep 12 Sep 13
	Sep 13	Aug 13	Sep 12	Sep 13	Sep 13
CAMPBELL COUNTY					
TOTAL NONAG. WAGE & SALARY EMPLOYMENT	28.8	28.0	28.4	2.9	1.4
TOTAL PRIVATE	23.6	23.8	23.4	-0.8	0.9
GOODS PRODUCING	11.1	11.2	11.1	-0.9	0.0
Natural Resources & Mining	8.1	8.2	8.1	-1.2	0.0
Construction	2.5	2.5	2.5	0.0	0.0
Manufacturing	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.0	0.0
SERVICE PROVIDING	17.7	16.8	17.3	5.4	2.3
Trade, Transportation, & Utilities	5.6	5.6	5.5	0.0	1.8
Information	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.0	0.0
Financial Activities	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.0	0.0
Professional & Business Services	1.7	1.8	1.7	-5.6	0.0
Educational & Health Services	1.1	1.1	1.0	0.0	10.0
Leisure & Hospitality	2.2	2.2	2.2	0.0	0.0
Other Services	1.0	1.0	1.0	0.0	0.0
GOVERNMENT	5.2	4.2	5.0	23.8	4.0
SWEETWATER COUNTY					
TOTAL NONAG. WAGE & SALARY EMPLOYMENT	25.6	25.5	25.8	0.4	-0.8
TOTAL PRIVATE	20.7	20.9	20.9	-1.0	-1.0
GOODS PRODUCING	9.1	9.0	9.4	1.1	-3.2
Natural Resources & Mining	5.7	5.7	6.0	0.0	-5.0
Construction	2.0	1.9	2.0	5.3	0.0
Manufacturing	1.4	1.4	1.4	0.0	0.0
SERVICE PROVIDING	16.5	16.5	16.4	0.0	0.6
Trade, Transportation, & Utilities	5.1	5.1	5.1	0.0	0.0
Information	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.0	0.0
Financial Activities	0.9	0.9	0.8	0.0	12.5
Professional & Business Services	1.1	1.2	1.1	-8.3	0.0
Educational & Health Services	1.1	1.2	1.1	-8.3	0.0
Leisure & Hospitality	2.5	2.6	2.5	-3.8	0.0
Other Services	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.0	0.0
GOVERNMENT	4.9	4.6	4.9	6.5	0.0
TETON COUNTY					
TOTAL NONAG. WAGE & SALARY EMPLOYMENT	19.3	21.1	19.1	-8.5	1.0
TOTAL PRIVATE	16.8	18.9	16.6	-11.1	1.2
GOODS PRODUCING	2.0	2.1	1.8	-4.8	11.1
Natural Resources, Mining & Construction	1.9	2.0	1.7	-5.0	11.8
Manufacturing	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.0
SERVICE PROVIDING	17.3	19.0	17.3	-8.9	0.0
Trade, Transportation, & Utilities	2.4	2.7	2.4	-11.1	0.0
Information	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.0	0.0
Financial Activities	0.8	0.9	0.8	-11.1	0.0
Professional & Business Services	1.8	1.9	1.7	-5.3	5.9
Educational & Health Services	1.0	1.2	1.0	-16.7	0.0
Leisure & Hospitality	8.1	9.4	8.2	-13.8	-1.2
Other Services	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.0	0.0
GOVERNMENT	2.5	2.2	2.5	13.6	0.0

State	Unemp. Rate
Puerto Rico	15.1
Nevada	9.2
Rhode Island	8.7
District of Columbia	8.6
Mississippi	8.6
Arizona	8.3
Illinois	8.3
Michigan	8.3
California	8.2
New Jersey	8.2
Tennessee	8.1
Kentucky	7.9
Georgia	7.7
Connecticut	7.6
North Carolina	7.6
South Carolina	7.5
New York	7.4
Ohio	7.2
Arkansas	7.0
Indiana	7.0
United States	7.0
Florida	6.9
Massachusetts	6.9
Pennsylvania	6.9
Oregon	6.7
Alabama	6.5
Colorado	6.5
Delaware	6.5
Louisiana	6.5
Texas	6.3
Washington	6.3
Maryland	6.2
New Mexico	6.2
Idaho	6.0
Maine	6.0
Missouri	6.0
Wisconsin	5.9
Alaska	5.5
West Virginia	5.5
Kansas	5.4
Oklahoma	5.3
Virginia	5.3
New Hampshire	4.8
Minnesota	4.6
Hawaii	4.5
Montana	4.5
Utah	4.4
Vermont	4.3
Iowa	4.1
Wyoming	3.8
Nebraska	3.6
South Dakota	3.4
North Dakota	2.0

Economic Indicators

by: David Bullard, Senior Economist

The number of building permits issued for single-family homes in Wyoming fell 5.3% from September 2012 to September 2013.

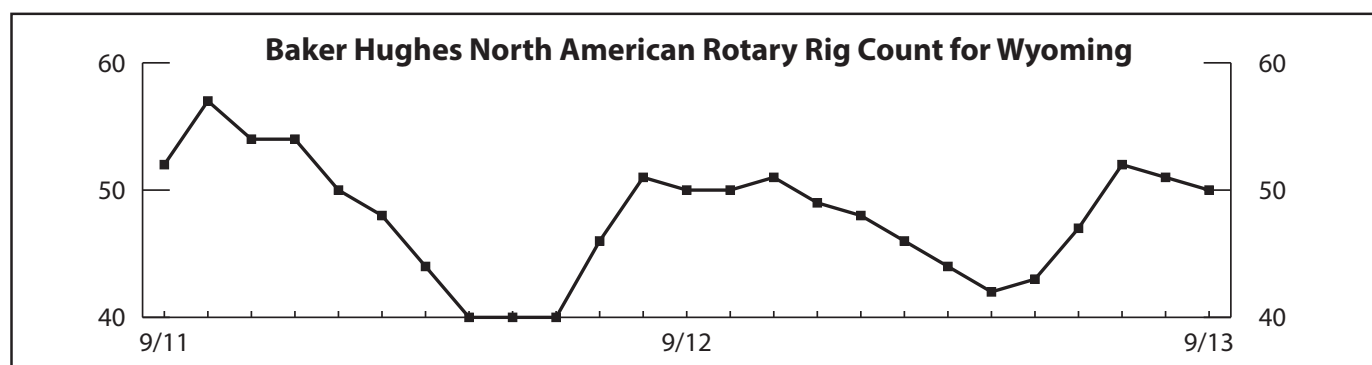
	Sep 2013 (p)	Aug 2013 (r)	Sep 2012 (b)	Percent Change Month	Percent Change Year
Wyoming Total Nonfarm Employment	296,400	300,200	295,800	-1.3	0.2
Wyoming State Government	15,900	14,900	16,300	6.7	-2.5
Laramie County Nonfarm Employment	46,400	46,700	45,100	-0.6	2.9
Natrona County Nonfarm Employment	41,800	41,600	41,700	0.5	0.2
Selected U.S. Employment Data					
U.S. Multiple Jobholders	6,952,000	6,776,000	6,818,000	2.6	2.0
As a percent of all workers	4.8%	4.7%	4.8%	N/A	N/A
U.S. Discouraged Workers	852,000	866,000	802,000	-1.6	6.2
U.S. Part Time for Economic Reasons	7,522,000	7,690,000	8,110,000	-2.2	-7.3
Wyoming Unemployment Insurance					
Weeks Compensated	11,267	12,791	13,097	-11.9	-14.0
Benefits Paid	\$4,160,714	\$4,623,227	\$4,613,165	-10.0	-9.8
Average Weekly Benefit Payment	\$369.28	\$361.44	\$352.23	2.2	4.8
State Insured Covered Jobs ¹	275,406	274,280	271,141	0.4	1.6
Insured Unemployment Rate	1.6%	1.8%	1.9%	N/A	N/A
Consumer Price Index (U) for All U.S. Urban Consumers (1982 to 1984 = 100)					
All Items	234.1	233.9	231.4	0.1	1.2
Food & Beverages	237.4	237.3	234.2	0.0	1.4
Housing	228.8	228.6	223.9	0.1	2.2
Apparel	129.7	125.8	128.6	3.1	0.8
Transportation	218.1	219.2	221.7	-0.5	-1.6
Medical Care	428.0	426.9	418.0	0.3	2.4
Recreation (Dec. 1997=100)	115.2	115.3	115.0	-0.1	0.2
Education & Communication (Dec. 1997=100)	136.7	136.1	134.6	0.4	1.5
Other Goods & Services	402.7	402.4	396.2	0.1	1.6
Producer Prices (1982 to 1984 = 100)					
All Commodities	204.0	204.3	204.4	-0.1	-0.2
Wyo. Bldg. Permits (New Privately Owned Housing Units Authorized)					
Total Units	162	167	190	-3.0	-14.7
Valuation	\$36,606,000	\$41,402,000	\$41,076,000	-11.6	-10.9
Single Family Homes	124	136	131	-8.8	-5.3
Valuation	\$35,584,000	\$39,414,000	\$36,871,000	-9.7	-3.5
Casper MSA ² Building Permits	33	50	25	-34.0	32.0
Valuation	\$7,733,000	\$7,375,000	\$4,521,000	4.9	71.0
Cheyenne MSA Building Permits	61	37	21	64.9	190.5
Valuation	\$7,071,000	\$6,031,000	\$1,984,000	17.2	256.4
Baker Hughes North American Rotary Rig Count for Wyoming	50	51	50	-2.0	0.0

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

¹Local Area Unemployment Statistics Program estimates.

²Metropolitan Statistical Area.

Note: Production worker hours and earnings data have been dropped from the Economic Indicators page because of problems with accuracy due to a small sample size and high item nonresponse. The Bureau of Labor Statistics will continue to publish these data online at <http://www.bls.gov/eag/eag.wy.htm>.



Wyoming County Unemployment Rates

by: Carola Cowan, BLS Programs Supervisor

Most county unemployment rates followed their normal seasonal pattern and decreased slightly from August to September.

REGION County	Labor Force			Employed			Unemployed			Unemployment Rates		
	Sep 2013	Aug 2013	Sep 2012	Sep 2013	Aug 2013	Sep 2012	Sep 2013	Aug 2013	Sep 2012	Sep 2013	Aug 2013	Sep 2012
	(r)	(r)	(b)	(r)	(r)	(b)	(r)	(r)	(b)	(r)	(r)	(b)
NORTHWEST	47,879	48,980	48,407	45,764	46,677	45,999	2,115	2,303	2,408	4.4	4.7	5.0
Big Horn	5,265	5,290	5,336	5,031	5,040	5,070	234	250	266	4.4	4.7	5.0
Fremont	20,002	19,984	19,744	19,006	18,883	18,626	996	1,101	1,118	5.0	5.5	5.7
Hot Springs	2,559	2,600	2,575	2,456	2,495	2,473	103	105	102	4.0	4.0	4.0
Park	15,748	16,785	16,354	15,148	16,128	15,621	600	657	733	3.8	3.9	4.5
Washakie	4,305	4,321	4,398	4,123	4,131	4,209	182	190	189	4.2	4.4	4.3
NORTHEAST	55,130	55,127	55,051	53,193	53,009	52,698	1,937	2,118	2,353	3.5	3.8	4.3
Campbell	27,978	27,735	27,721	27,099	26,773	26,654	879	962	1,067	3.1	3.5	3.8
Crook	3,563	3,606	3,690	3,439	3,473	3,531	124	133	159	3.5	3.7	4.3
Johnson	4,137	4,265	4,068	3,960	4,072	3,878	177	193	190	4.3	4.5	4.7
Sheridan	16,114	16,242	16,206	15,474	15,532	15,406	640	710	800	4.0	4.4	4.9
Weston	3,338	3,279	3,366	3,221	3,159	3,229	117	120	137	3.5	3.7	4.1
SOUTHWEST	65,788	67,423	65,637	63,428	64,950	62,867	2,360	2,473	2,770	3.6	3.7	4.2
Lincoln	8,083	8,126	7,924	7,738	7,750	7,468	345	376	456	4.3	4.6	5.8
Sublette	6,942	7,072	7,225	6,750	6,867	6,991	192	205	234	2.8	2.9	3.2
Sweetwater	25,042	25,299	24,869	24,167	24,368	23,904	875	931	965	3.5	3.7	3.9
Teton	14,668	15,876	14,557	14,163	15,383	13,930	505	493	627	3.4	3.1	4.3
Uinta	11,053	11,050	11,062	10,610	10,582	10,574	443	468	488	4.0	4.2	4.4
SOUTHEAST	77,317	76,782	77,515	74,236	73,458	73,851	3,081	3,324	3,664	4.0	4.3	4.7
Albany	19,680	18,095	20,567	19,006	17,379	19,804	674	716	763	3.4	4.0	3.7
Goshen	6,396	6,415	6,606	6,126	6,116	6,300	270	299	306	4.2	4.7	4.6
Laramie	45,577	46,607	44,788	43,664	44,550	42,433	1,913	2,057	2,355	4.2	4.4	5.3
Niobrara	1,378	1,396	1,410	1,334	1,347	1,367	44	49	43	3.2	3.5	3.0
Platte	4,286	4,269	4,144	4,106	4,066	3,947	180	203	197	4.2	4.8	4.8
CENTRAL	60,882	61,287	60,084	58,678	58,944	57,545	2,204	2,343	2,539	3.6	3.8	4.2
Carbon	8,500	8,598	8,213	8,183	8,265	7,855	317	333	358	3.7	3.9	4.4
Converse	8,460	8,504	8,176	8,213	8,244	7,882	247	260	294	2.9	3.1	3.6
Natrona	43,922	44,185	43,695	42,282	42,435	41,808	1,640	1,750	1,887	3.7	4.0	4.3
STATEWIDE	307,000	309,595	306,693	295,300	297,035	292,959	11,700	12,560	13,734	3.8	4.1	4.5
Statewide Seasonally Adjusted										4.5	4.6	5.3
U.S.										7.0	7.3	7.6
U.S. Seasonally Adjusted										7.2	7.3	7.8

Prepared in cooperation with the Bureau of Labor Statistics. Benchmarked 03/2013. Run Date 11/2013.

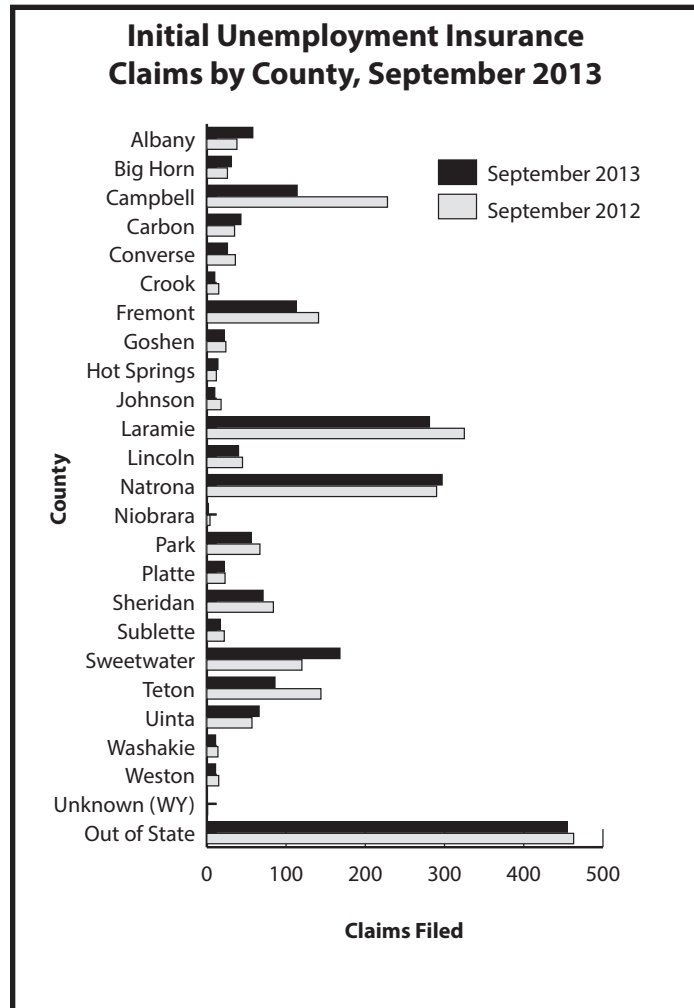
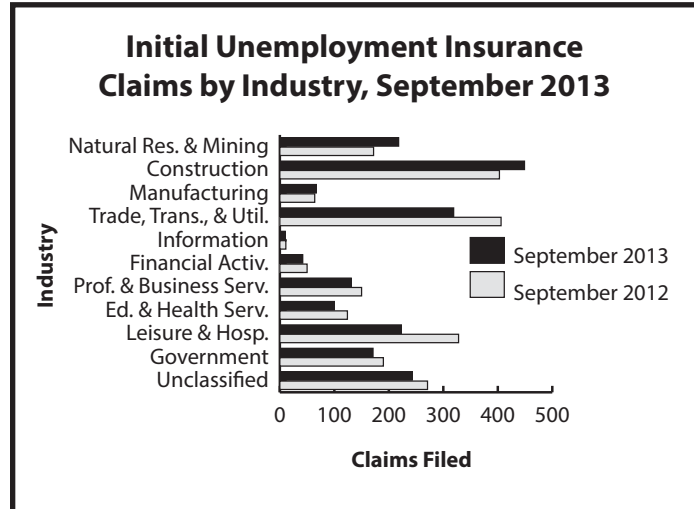
Data are not seasonally adjusted except where otherwise specified.

(p) Preliminary. (r) Revised. (b) Benchmarked. Note: because of the federal government shutdown, Research & Planning is publishing revised data (instead of preliminary) for September 2013.

Wyoming Normalized^a Unemployment Insurance Statistics: Initial Claims

by: Patrick Harris, Principal Economist

Although the total number of initial claims decreased over the year, substantial increases were seen in mining (27.7%) and construction (11.4%).



Initial Claims	Claims Filed		Percent Change	
	Sep 13	Aug 13	Sep 13	Sep 12
Wyoming Statewide	2,023	2,082	-2.8	-10.0
TOTAL CLAIMS FILED	2,023	2,082	-2.8	-10.0
TOTAL GOODS-PRODUCING	735	736	-0.1	14.7
Natural Res. & Mining	218	254	-14.2	26.7
Mining	212	246	-13.8	27.7
Oil & Gas Extraction	6	12	-50.0	-50.0
Construction	449	408	10.0	11.4
Manufacturing	67	72	-6.9	4.7
TOTAL SERVICE-PROVIDING	873	887	-1.6	-23.7
Trade, Transp., & Utilities	319	334	-4.5	-21.4
Wholesale Trade	83	147	-43.5	-52.0
Retail Trade	138	117	14.9	-7.4
Transp., Warehousing & Utilities	98	70	84	40.0
Information	10	6	11	66.7
Financial Activities	42	44	50	-4.5
Prof. and Business Svcs.	131	131	150	0.0
Educational & Health Svcs.	100	127	124	-21.3
Leisure & Hospitality	223	150	328	48.7
Other Svcs., exc. Public Admin.	43	88	69	-51.1
TOTAL GOVERNMENT	171	173	190	-1.2
Federal Government	54	32	57	68.8
State Government	20	27	23	-25.9
Local Government	96	113	109	-15.0
Local Education	21	20	31	5.0
UNCLASSIFIED	243	285	271	-14.7

Laramie County					
TOTAL CLAIMS FILED	281	259	324	8.5	-13.3
TOTAL GOODS-PRODUCING	126	81	95	55.6	32.6
Construction	116	67	82	73.1	41.5
TOTAL SERVICE-PROVIDING	129	148	182	-12.8	-29.1
Trade, Transp., & Utilities	54	54	43	0.0	25.6
Financial Activities	6	10	15	-40.0	-60.0
Prof. & Business Svcs.	27	19	46	42.1	-41.3
Educational & Health Svcs.	18	26	23	-30.8	-21.7
Leisure & Hospitality	11	28	28	-60.7	-60.7
TOTAL GOVERNMENT	19	22	32	-13.6	-40.6
UNCLASSIFIED	5	7	14	-28.6	-64.3

Natrona County					
TOTAL CLAIMS FILED	296	335	290	-11.6	2.1
TOTAL GOODS-PRODUCING	142	128	87	10.9	63.2
Construction	68	50	45	36.0	51.1
TOTAL SERVICE-PROVIDING	136	185	193	-26.5	-29.5
Trade, Transp., & Utilities	58	78	99	-25.6	-41.4
Financial Activities	6	8	4	-25.0	50.0
Prof. & Business Svcs.	22	23	27	-4.3	-18.5
Educational & Health Svcs.	17	21	20	-19.0	-15.0
Leisure & Hospitality	24	17	26	41.2	-7.7
TOTAL GOVERNMENT	10	15	4	-33.3	150.0
UNCLASSIFIED	6	6	4	0.0	50.0

^aAn average month is considered 4.33 weeks. If a month has four weeks, the normalization factor is 1.0825. If the month has five weeks, the normalization factor is 0.866. The number of raw claims is multiplied by the normalization factor to achieve the normalized claims counts.

Wyoming Normalized^a Unemployment Insurance Statistics: Continued Claims

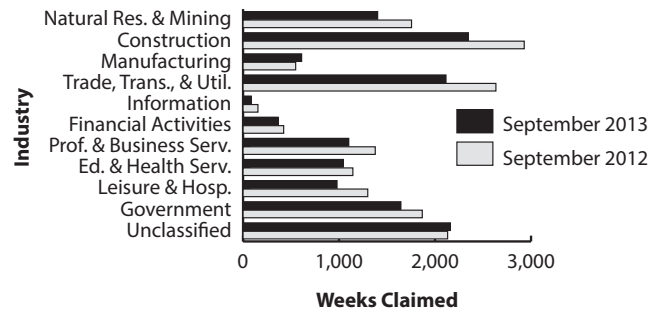
by: Patrick Harris, Principal Economist

The total number of continued weeks claimed decreased by 13.8% from September 2012.

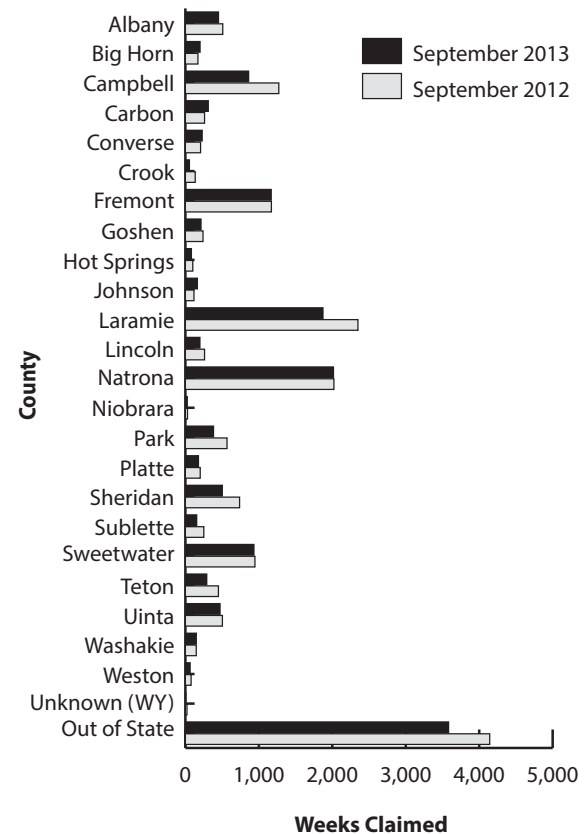
Continued Claims

	Claims Filed			Percent Change Claims Filed	
	Sep 13	Aug 13	Sep 12	Aug 13	Sep 12
	Sep 13	Aug 13	Sep 12	Aug 13	Sep 12
Wyoming Statewide					
TOTAL WEEKS CLAIMED	14,567	15,748	16,895	-7.5	-13.8
EXTENDED WEEKS CLAIMED	2,866	3,034	5,118	-5.5	-44.0
TOTAL UNIQUE CLAIMANTS^b	4,231	4,485	4,850	-5.7	-12.8
<i>Benefit Exhaustions</i>	329	387	377	-15.0	-12.7
<i>Benefit Exhaustion Rates</i>	7.8%	8.6%	7.8%	-0.9%	0.0%
TOTAL GOODS-PRODUCING	4,361	4,596	5,233	-5.1	-16.7
Natural Res. & Mining	1,402	1,511	1,755	-7.2	-20.1
Mining	1,346	1,419	1,645	-5.1	-18.2
Oil & Gas Extraction	122	145	152	-15.9	-19.7
Construction	2,347	2,444	2,929	-4.0	-19.9
Manufacturing	610	640	548	-4.7	11.3
TOTAL SERVICE-PROVIDING	6,400	7,109	7,663	-10.0	-16.5
Trade, Transp., & Utilities	2,114	2,261	2,634	-6.5	-19.7
Wholesale Trade	456	526	672	-13.3	-32.1
Retail Trade	1,103	1,213	1,321	-9.1	-16.5
Transp., Warehousing & Utilities	555	522	641	6.3	-13.4
Information	85	114	155	-25.4	-45.2
Financial Activities	365	351	423	4.0	-13.7
Prof. & Business Svcs.	1,101	1,163	1,377	-5.3	-20.0
Educational & Health Svcs.	1,043	1,424	1,144	-26.8	-8.8
Leisure and Hospitality	979	1,108	1,299	-11.6	-24.6
Other Svcs., exc. Public Admin.	706	683	625	3.4	13.0
TOTAL GOVERNMENT	1,644	1,763	1,867	-6.7	-11.9
Federal Government	306	285	364	7.4	-15.9
State Government	237	226	284	4.9	-16.5
Local Government	1,100	1,251	1,217	-12.1	-9.6
Local Education	290	376	372	-22.9	-22.0
UNCLASSIFIED	2,160	2,278	2,131	-5.2	1.4
Laramie County					
TOTAL WEEKS CLAIMED	1,872	1,914	2,349	-2.2	-20.3
TOTAL UNIQUE CLAIMANTS	543	547	675	-0.7	-19.6
TOTAL GOODS-PRODUCING	453	400	405	13.3	11.9
Construction	334	290	296	15.2	12.8
TOTAL SERVICE-PROVIDING	1,093	1,188	1,514	-8.0	-27.8
Trade, Transp., and Utilities	366	361	467	1.4	-21.6
Financial Activities	89	72	105	23.6	-15.2
Prof. & Business Svcs.	216	229	302	-5.7	-28.5
Educational and Health Svcs.	239	345	203	-30.7	17.7
Leisure & Hospitality	121	122	246	-0.8	-50.8
TOTAL GOVERNMENT	252	235	333	7.2	-24.3
UNCLASSIFIED	73	89	95	-18.0	-23.2
Natrona County					
TOTAL WEEKS CLAIMED	2,015	2,098	2,022	-4.0	-0.3
TOTAL UNIQUE CLAIMANTS	617	631	597	-2.2	3.4
TOTAL GOODS-PRODUCING	644	558	596	15.4	8.1
Construction	215	186	258	15.6	-16.7
TOTAL SERVICE-PROVIDING	1,236	1,385	1,261	-10.8	-2.0
Trade, Transp., and Utilities	366	404	441	-9.4	-17.0
Financial Activities	45	55	36	-18.2	25.0
Professional & Business Svcs.	262	279	275	-6.1	-4.7
Educational & Health Svcs.	170	220	263	-22.7	-35.4
Leisure & Hospitality	156	215	174	-27.4	-10.3
TOTAL GOVERNMENT	83	98	116	-15.3	-28.4
UNCLASSIFIED	51	56	47	-8.9	8.5

Continued Unemployment Insurance Claims by Industry, September 2013



Continued Unemployment Insurance Claims by County, September 2013



^aAn average month is considered 4.33 weeks. If a month has four weeks, the normalization factor is 1.0825. If the month has five weeks, the normalization factor is 0.866. The number of raw claims is multiplied by the normalization factor to achieve the normalized claims counts.

^bDoes not include claimants receiving extended benefits.

**Wyoming Department of Workforce
Services, Research & Planning
P.O. Box 2760
Casper, WY 82602**

**Official Business
Penalty for Private Use \$300
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