

Wyoming Unemployment Insurance Claims Report

February 2021

Information for Wyoming by Industry and County of Residence of Claimant

by: Sherry Wen, Principal Economist, Chris McGrath, Senior Statistician, and Michael Moore, Editor
Research & Planning, Wyoming Department of Workforce Services

Published March 23, 2021



Wyoming Unemployment Insurance Claims Report, February 2021

Information for Wyoming by Industry and County of Residence of Claimant

Wyoming Department of Workforce Services

Robin Sessions Cooley, Director

Research & Planning

Tony Glover, Manager

Carola Cowan, Bureau of Labor Statistics Programs Supervisor

Prepared by:

Chris McGrath, Senior Statistician

Michael Moore, Editor

Sherry Wen, Principal Economist

Editorial Committee:

David Bullard, Matthew Halama, Lisa Knapp, Aubrey Kofoed,

Chris McGrath, Michael Moore, and Laura Yetter

Published March 23, 2021.

©2021 by the Wyoming Department of Workforce Services, Research & Planning

Department of Workforce Services Nondiscrimination Statement

The Department of Workforce Services does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, sex, age, or disability. It is our intention that all individuals seeking services from our agency be given equal opportunity and that eligibility decisions be based upon applicable statutes, rules, and regulations.

Research & Planning

P.O. Box 2760

Casper, WY 82602

Phone: (307) 473-3807

Fax: (307) 473-3834

R&P Website: <https://doe.state.wy.us/LMI/>

Unemployment Insurance Claims Data: <https://doe.state.wy.us/LMI/ui.htm>

URL for this report: https://doe.state.wy.us/LMI/UI/UI_Claims_0221.pdf

"Your Source for Wyoming Labor Market Information"

Who We Are

Research & Planning (R&P) functions as an exclusively statistical entity within the Wyoming Department of Workforce Services. R&P collects, analyzes, and publishes timely and accurate labor market information (LMI) meeting established statistical standards. We work to make the labor market more efficient by providing the public and the public's representatives with the information needed for evidence-based, informed decision making.



Wyoming Unemployment Insurance Claims Report, February 2021

Initial and Continued Claims Down from January

by: **Michael Moore, Editor, and Sherry Wen, Principal Economist**

Unemployment Insurance (UI) claims in Wyoming decreased from January to February, as initial claims fell by 17.8% and the number of total continued weeks claimed dropped by 7.8%. Initial claims often peak in December and January and then decrease in February. See *Figure 1* and *Figure 2, page 4*.

Initial Claims

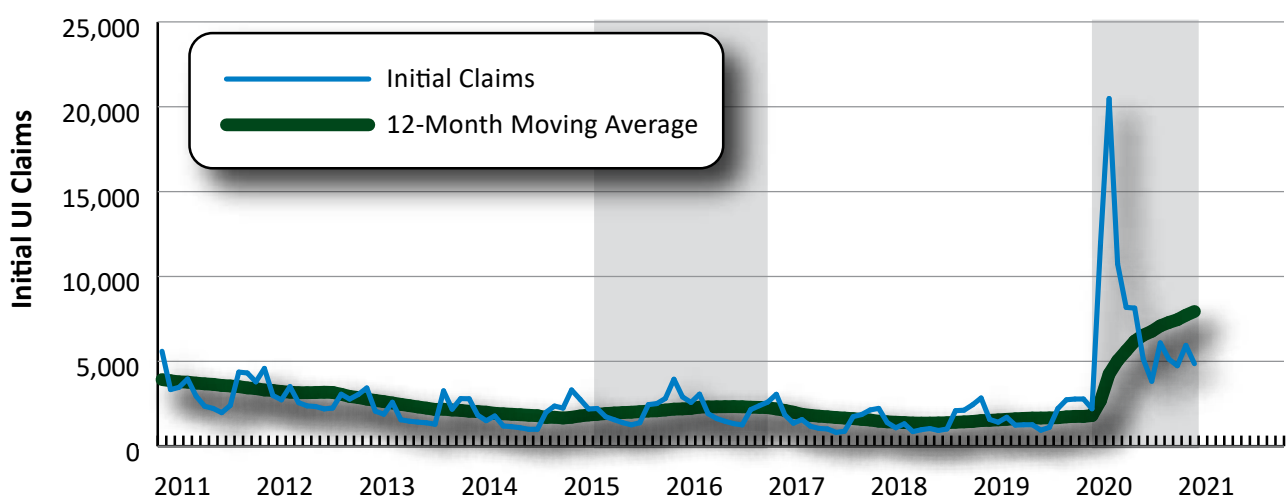
Wyoming had 4,883 initial claims (see Definitions, page 9) in February, down from 5,940 in January (-1,057 claims, or -17.8%). The number of claims declined in most industries over the month, led by construction (-259, or -17.8%) and leisure & hospitality (-184, or -25.6%). Initial claims decreased for federal (-117, or -58.5%), state (-10, or -20.0%), and

Weekly UI Claims

Weekly Unemployment Insurance claims for Wyoming are now available online at https://doe.state.wy.us/LMI/UI/weekly_UI_TOC.htm.

local (-34, or -18.8%) government. The greatest over-the-month increase in initial claims was seen in manufacturing (53, or 30.5%). See *Table 1 (page 5)* and *Figure 3 (page 6)*.

Initial claims declined in nearly all counties over the month, with the greatest decreases seen in Laramie (-146, or -18.7%), Natrona (-136, or -14.0%), and Teton (-105, or -43.2%) counties. The only over-the-month increases were seen in Big



*An *initial claim* is a claim filed by an unemployed individual after a separation from an employer.

Shaded areas indicate period of economic downturn (2015Q2-2016Q4) and 2020 COVID-19 pandemic: March 2020 to present.

Source: Unemployment Insurance (UI) statistics. Research & Planning, WY DWS.

Prepared by M. Moore, Research & Planning, WY DWS, 3/17/21.

Figure 1: Total Number of Initial Unemployment Insurance Claims for Wyoming by Year and Month, January 2011 to February 2021

Horn (17, or 19.8%) and Sheridan (13, or 5.9%) counties. The number of out-of-state claimants decreased by 193, or 23.1%. See *Figure 4 (page 6) and Table 3 (page 9)*.

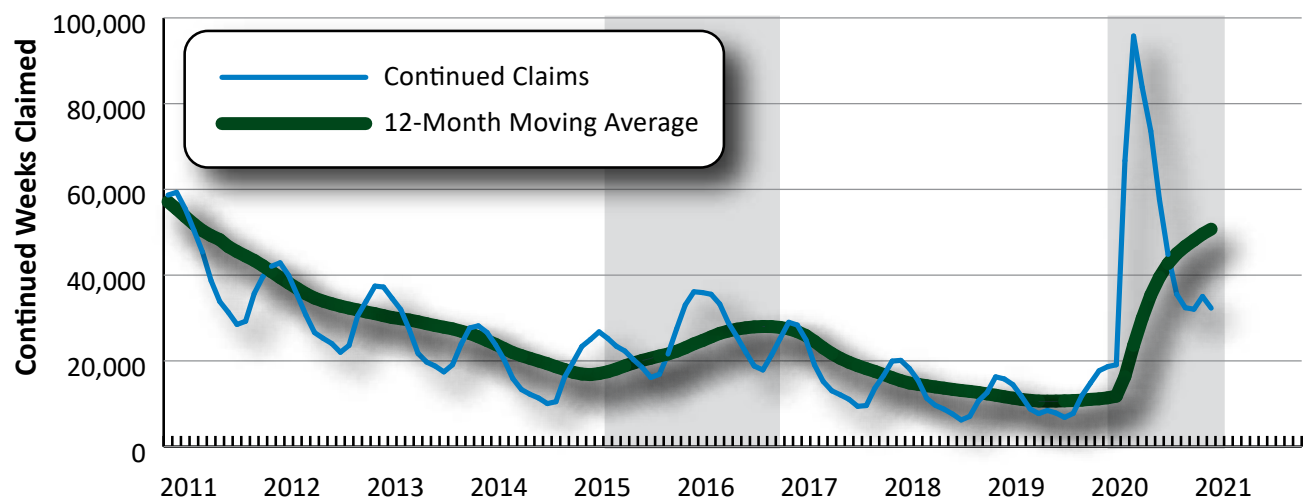
Continued Claims

The total number of continued weeks claimed decreased from 35,032 in January to 32,305 in February (-2,727, or -7.8%). The total number of unique claimants declined from 11,450 to 9,727 (-1,723, or -15.0%). See *Figure 2 and Table 2, page 7*.

Continued claims decreased in nearly all industries, with the greatest declines seen in mining (-1,503, or -39.1%), wholesale trade (-468, or -39.2%), and leisure & hospitality (-455, or -12.5%). Over-the-month increases were seen in federal government (88, or 9.5%),

information (10, or 7.1%), and state government (three, or 1.1%). Continued claims in the industry considered "unclassified" increased by 1,483 weeks, or 34.8%. See *Table 2, page 7, and Figure 5, page 8*.

As previously mentioned, mining showed the greatest over-the-month decrease in continued weeks claimed. In addition, total continued weeks claimed decreased in several counties that have a high concentration of mining jobs, including Natrona (-1,238, or -17.5%), Campbell (-474, or -16.2%), Sweetwater (-338, or -12.3%), and Converse (-184, or -18.8%) counties. Several counties showed an increase in continued weeks claimed, including Big Horn (115, or 25.7%), Albany (110, or 12.2%), and Sheridan (87, or 7.7%) counties. See *Figure 6, page 8, and Table 4, page 9*.



*A person who has already filed an initial claim and who has experienced a week of unemployment then files a *continued claim* to claim benefits for that week of unemployment.

Shaded areas indicate period of economic downturn (2015Q2-2016Q4) and 2020 COVID-19 pandemic: March 2020 to present.

Source: Unemployment Insurance (UI) statistics. Research & Planning, WY DWS.

Prepared by M. Moore, Research & Planning, WY DWS, 3/19/21.

Figure 2: Total Number of Unemployment Insurance Continued Weeks Claimed for Wyoming by Year and Month, January 2011 to February 2021

Table 1: Initial Unemployment Insurance Claims in Wyoming, February 2021

| Industry | Initial Claims Filed | | | Over-the-Month Change | | Over-the-Year Change | |
|---|----------------------|--------------|--------------|-----------------------|--------------|----------------------|--------------|
| | Feb 2021 | Jan 2021 | Feb 2020 | N | % | N | % |
| Total Claims Filed | 4,883 | 5,940 | 2,206 | -1,057 | -17.8 | 2,677 | 121.4 |
| Goods-Producing | 1,776 | 2,003 | 1,156 | -227 | -11.3 | 620 | 53.6 |
| Natural Resources & Mining (11, 21) | 356 | 377 | 198 | -21 | -5.6 | 158 | 79.8 |
| Mining (21) | 336 | 337 | 193 | -1 | -0.3 | 143 | 74.1 |
| Oil & Gas Extraction (211) | 12 | 23 | 15 | -11 | -47.8 | -3 | -20.0 |
| Construction (23) | 1,192 | 1,451 | 851 | -259 | -17.8 | 341 | 40.1 |
| Manufacturing (31-33) | 227 | 174 | 106 | 53 | 30.5 | 121 | 114.2 |
| Service-Providing | 1,895 | 2,295 | 716 | -400 | -17.4 | 1,179 | 164.7 |
| Trade, Transportation, & Utilities (22, 42, 44-45, 48-49) | 591 | 685 | 257 | -94 | -13.7 | 334 | 130.0 |
| Wholesale Trade (42) | 74 | 95 | 33 | -21 | -22.1 | 41 | 124.2 |
| Retail Trade (44-45) | 305 | 325 | 101 | -20 | -6.2 | 204 | 202.0 |
| Transportation, Warehousing & Utilities (22, 44-49) | 211 | 264 | 122 | -53 | -20.1 | 89 | 73.0 |
| Information (51) | 20 | 17 | 9 | 3 | 17.6 | 11 | 122.2 |
| Financial Activities (52-53) | 73 | 102 | 37 | -29 | -28.4 | 36 | 97.3 |
| Professional & Business Services (54-56) | 363 | 449 | 184 | -86 | -19.2 | 179 | 97.3 |
| Education & Health Services (61-62) | 235 | 233 | 68 | 2 | 0.9 | 167 | 245.6 |
| Leisure & Hospitality (71-72) | 536 | 720 | 122 | -184 | -25.6 | 414 | 339.3 |
| Other Services, except Public Admin. (81) | 73 | 86 | 36 | -13 | -15.1 | 37 | 102.8 |
| Government | 270 | 433 | 94 | -163 | -37.6 | 176 | 187.2 |
| Federal Government | 83 | 200 | 46 | -117 | -58.5 | 37 | 80.4 |
| State Government | 40 | 50 | 14 | -10 | -20.0 | 26 | 185.7 |
| Local Government | 147 | 181 | 33 | -34 | -18.8 | 114 | 345.5 |
| Local Education | 49 | 69 | 11 | -20 | -29.0 | 38 | 345.5 |
| Unclassified | 940 | 1,208 | 239 | -268 | -22.2 | 701 | 293.3 |
| Laramie County | | | | | | | |
| Total Claims Filed | 633 | 779 | 325 | -146 | -18.7 | 308 | 94.8 |
| Goods-Producing | 205 | 244 | 138 | -39 | -16.0 | 67 | 48.6 |
| Construction | 167 | 216 | 127 | -49 | -22.7 | 40 | 31.5 |
| Service-Providing | 272 | 339 | 141 | -67 | -19.8 | 131 | 92.9 |
| Trade, Transportation, & Utilities (22,42,44-45,48-49) | 76 | 99 | 46 | -23 | -23.2 | 30 | 65.2 |
| Financial Activities (52, 53) | 10 | 25 | 9 | -15 | -60.0 | 1 | 11.1 |
| Professional & Business Services (54 - 56) | 79 | 80 | 46 | -1 | -1.3 | 33 | 71.7 |
| Educational & Health Services (61 - 62) | 29 | 46 | 11 | -17 | -37.0 | 18 | 163.6 |
| Leisure & Hospitality (71 - 72) | 57 | 71 | 15 | -14 | -19.7 | 42 | 280.0 |
| Government | 37 | 42 | 8 | -5 | -11.9 | 29 | 362.5 |
| Unclassified | 116 | 152 | 36 | -36 | -23.7 | 80 | 222.2 |
| Natrona County | | | | | | | |
| Total Claims Filed | 836 | 972 | 336 | -136 | -14.0 | 500 | 148.8 |
| Goods-Producing | 303 | 337 | 192 | -34 | -10.1 | 111 | 57.8 |
| Construction | 224 | 229 | 140 | -5 | -2.2 | 84 | 60.0 |
| Service-Providing | 360 | 430 | 114 | -70 | -16.3 | 246 | 215.8 |
| Trade, Transportation, & Utilities (22,42,44-45,48-49) | 123 | 141 | 36 | -18 | -12.8 | 87 | 241.7 |
| Financial Activities (52, 53) | 16 | 19 | 9 | -3 | -15.8 | 7 | 77.8 |
| Professional & Business Services (54 - 56) | 62 | 95 | 31 | -33 | -34.7 | 31 | 100.0 |
| Educational & Health Services (61 - 62) | 41 | 46 | 17 | -5 | -10.9 | 24 | 141.2 |
| Leisure & Hospitality (71 - 72) | 97 | 99 | 11 | -2 | -2.0 | 86 | 781.8 |
| Government | 28 | 42 | 4 | -14 | -33.3 | 24 | 600.0 |
| Unclassified | 145 | 161 | 24 | -16 | -9.9 | 121 | 504.2 |

N/D = Not discloseable due to confidentiality.

Source: Unemployment Insurance claims database. Reviewed by S. Wen, Research & Planning, WY DWS, 3/18/21.

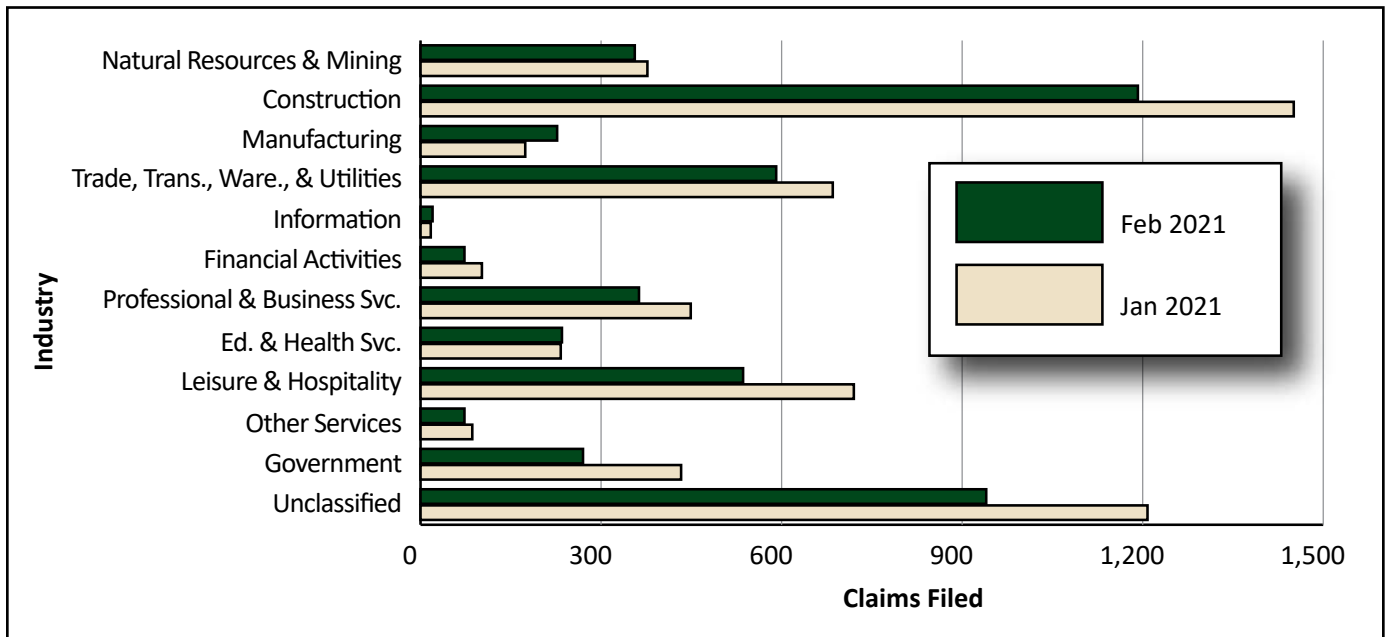


Figure 3: Initial Unemployment Insurance Claims by Major Industry in Wyoming, January and February 2021

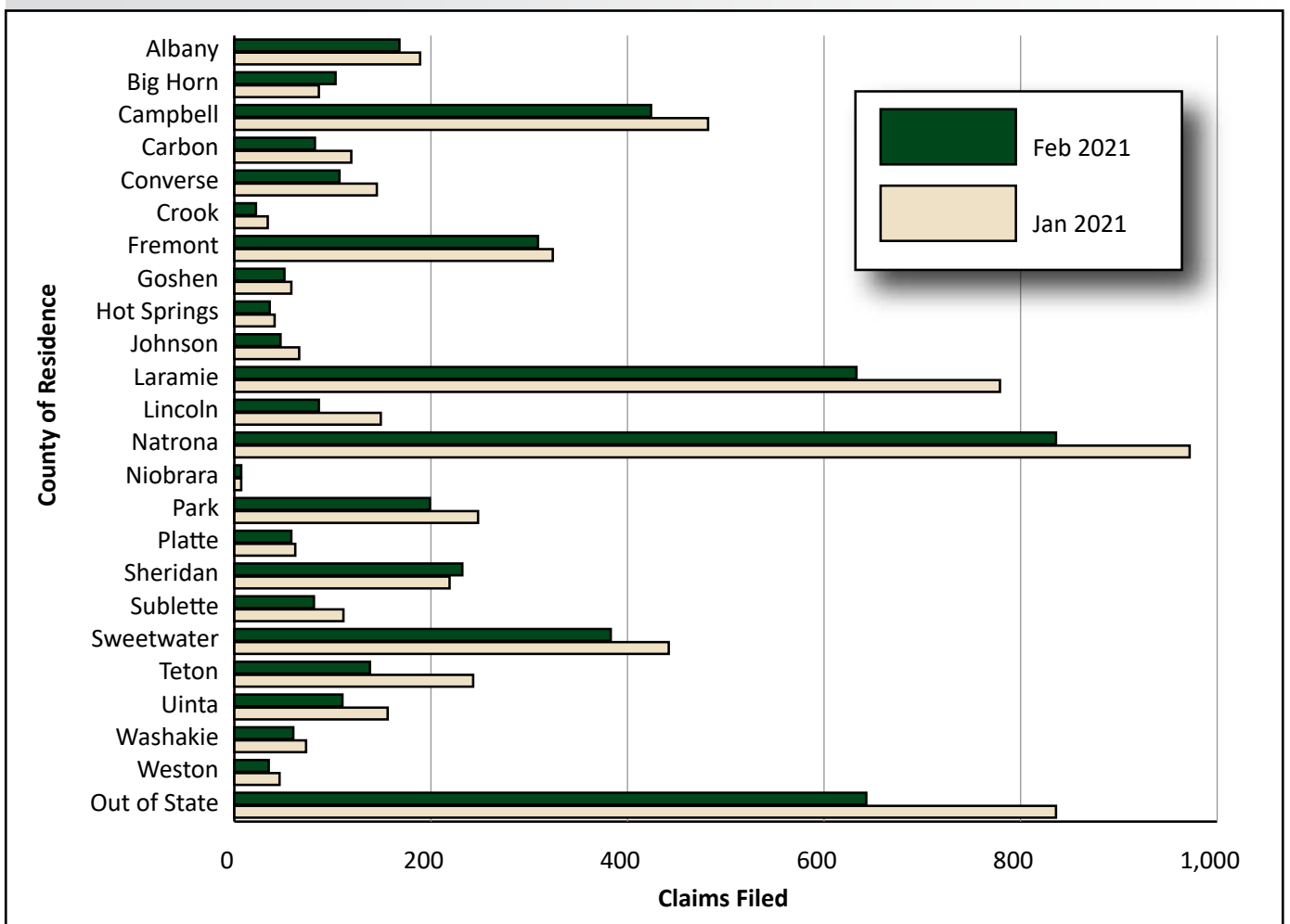


Figure 4: Initial Unemployment Insurance Claims by County of Residence, January and February 2021

Table 2: Unemployment Insurance Continued Weeks Claimed in Wyoming, February 2021

| Industry | Continued Weeks Claimed | | | Over-the-Month Change | | Over-the-Year Change | |
|---|-------------------------|---------------|---------------|-----------------------|--------------|----------------------|--------------|
| | Feb 2021 | Jan 2021 | Feb 2020 | N | % | N | % |
| Total Continued Weeks Claimed | 32,305 | 35,032 | 18,659 | -2,727 | -7.8 | 13,646 | 73.1 |
| Total Unique Claimants | 9,727 | 11,450 | 5,784 | -1,723 | -15.0 | 3,943 | 68.2 |
| Goods-Producing | 12,384 | 14,405 | 8,903 | -2,021 | -14.0 | 3,481 | 39.1 |
| Natural Resources & Mining (11, 21) | 2,534 | 4,077 | 1,822 | -1,543 | -37.8 | 712 | 39.1 |
| Mining (21) | 2,343 | 3,846 | 1,664 | -1,503 | -39.1 | 679 | 40.8 |
| Oil & Gas Extraction (211) | 213 | 244 | 67 | -31 | -12.7 | 146 | 217.9 |
| Construction (23) | 8,668 | 8,975 | 6,343 | -307 | -3.4 | 2,325 | 36.7 |
| Manufacturing (31-33) | 1,182 | 1,353 | 737 | -171 | -12.6 | 445 | 60.4 |
| Service-Providing | 11,948 | 14,145 | 6,044 | -2,197 | -15.5 | 5,904 | 97.7 |
| Trade, Transportation, & Utilities (22, 42, 44-45, 48-49) | 3,472 | 4,479 | 1,768 | -1,007 | -22.5 | 1,704 | 96.4 |
| Wholesale Trade (42) | 725 | 1,193 | 268 | -468 | -39.2 | 457 | 170.5 |
| Retail Trade (44-45) | 1,464 | 1,805 | 773 | -341 | -18.9 | 691 | 89.4 |
| Transportation, Warehousing & Utilities (22, 44-49) | 1,282 | 1,479 | 726 | -197 | -13.3 | 556 | 76.6 |
| Information (51) | 151 | 141 | 101 | 10 | 7.1 | 50 | 49.5 |
| Financial Activities (52-53) | 573 | 710 | 307 | -137 | -19.3 | 266 | 86.6 |
| Professional & Business Services (54-56) | 2,714 | 3,138 | 1,798 | -424 | -13.5 | 916 | 50.9 |
| Education & Health Services (61-62) | 1,309 | 1,395 | 528 | -86 | -6.2 | 781 | 147.9 |
| Leisure & Hospitality (71-72) | 3,180 | 3,635 | 1,303 | -455 | -12.5 | 1,877 | 144.1 |
| Other Services, except Public Admin. (81) | 545 | 645 | 237 | -100 | -15.5 | 308 | 130.0 |
| Government | 2,227 | 2,221 | 1,519 | 6 | 0.3 | 708 | 46.6 |
| Federal Government | 1,014 | 926 | 794 | 88 | 9.5 | 220 | 27.7 |
| State Government | 270 | 267 | 145 | 3 | 1.1 | 125 | 86.2 |
| Local Government | 942 | 1,027 | 580 | -85 | -8.3 | 362 | 62.4 |
| Local Education | 261 | 290 | 74 | -29 | -10.0 | 187 | 252.7 |
| Unclassified | 5,743 | 4,260 | 2,190 | 1,483 | 34.8 | 3,553 | 162.2 |
| Laramie County | | | | | | | |
| Total Claims Filed | 4,045 | 4,182 | 2,347 | -137 | -3.3 | 1,698 | 72.3 |
| Total Unique Claimants | 1,229 | 1,354 | 757 | -125 | -9.2 | 472 | 62.4 |
| Goods-Producing | 1,519 | 1,644 | 1,053 | -125 | -7.6 | 466 | 44.3 |
| Construction | 1,270 | 1,321 | 962 | -51 | -3.9 | 308 | 32.0 |
| Service-Providing | 1,625 | 1,851 | 900 | -226 | -12.2 | 725 | 80.6 |
| Trade, Transportation, & Utilities (22,42,44-45,48-49) | 476 | 527 | 250 | -51 | -9.7 | 226 | 90.4 |
| Financial Activities (52, 53) | 94 | 107 | 53 | -13 | -12.1 | 41 | 77.4 |
| Professional & Business Services (54 - 56) | 428 | 427 | 346 | 1 | 0.2 | 82 | 23.7 |
| Educational & Health Services (61 - 62) | 233 | 290 | 97 | -57 | -19.7 | 136 | 140.2 |
| Leisure & Hospitality (71 - 72) | 309 | 378 | 76 | -69 | -18.3 | 233 | 306.6 |
| Government | 211 | 215 | 121 | -4 | -1.9 | 90 | 74.4 |
| Unclassified | 688 | 471 | 272 | 217 | 46.1 | 416 | 152.9 |
| Natrona County | | | | | | | |
| Total Claims Filed | 5,849 | 7,087 | 2,557 | -1,238 | -17.5 | 3,292 | 128.7 |
| Total Unique Claimants | 1,736 | 2,352 | 814 | -616 | -26.2 | 922 | 113.3 |
| Goods-Producing | 2,142 | 2,736 | 1,343 | -594 | -21.7 | 799 | 59.5 |
| Construction | 1,431 | 1,481 | 939 | -50 | -3.4 | 492 | 52.4 |
| Service-Providing | 2,653 | 3,481 | 907 | -828 | -23.8 | 1,746 | 192.5 |
| Trade, Transportation, & Utilities (22,42,44-45,48-49) | 907 | 1,301 | 327 | -394 | -30.3 | 580 | 177.4 |
| Financial Activities (52, 53) | 147 | 228 | 59 | -81 | -35.5 | 88 | 149.2 |
| Professional & Business Services (54 - 56) | 503 | 648 | 230 | -145 | -22.4 | 273 | 118.7 |
| Educational & Health Services (61 - 62) | 287 | 335 | 111 | -48 | -14.3 | 176 | 158.6 |
| Leisure & Hospitality (71 - 72) | 542 | 657 | 122 | -115 | -17.5 | 420 | 344.3 |
| Government | 202 | 187 | 64 | 15 | 8.0 | 138 | 215.6 |
| Unclassified | 851 | 681 | 242 | 170 | 25.0 | 609 | 251.7 |

Source: Unemployment Insurance claims database.

Reviewed by S. Wen, Research & Planning, WY DWS, 3/18/21.

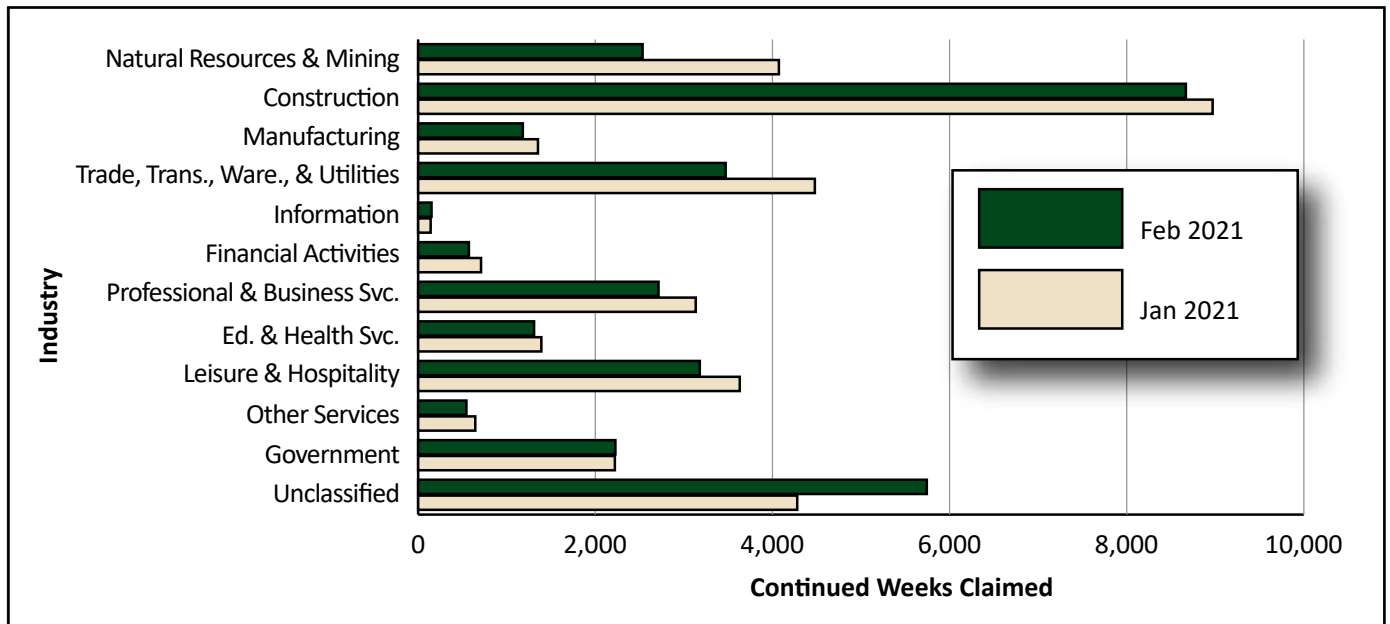


Figure 5: Continued Unemployment Insurance Claims by Major Industry in Wyoming, January and February 2021

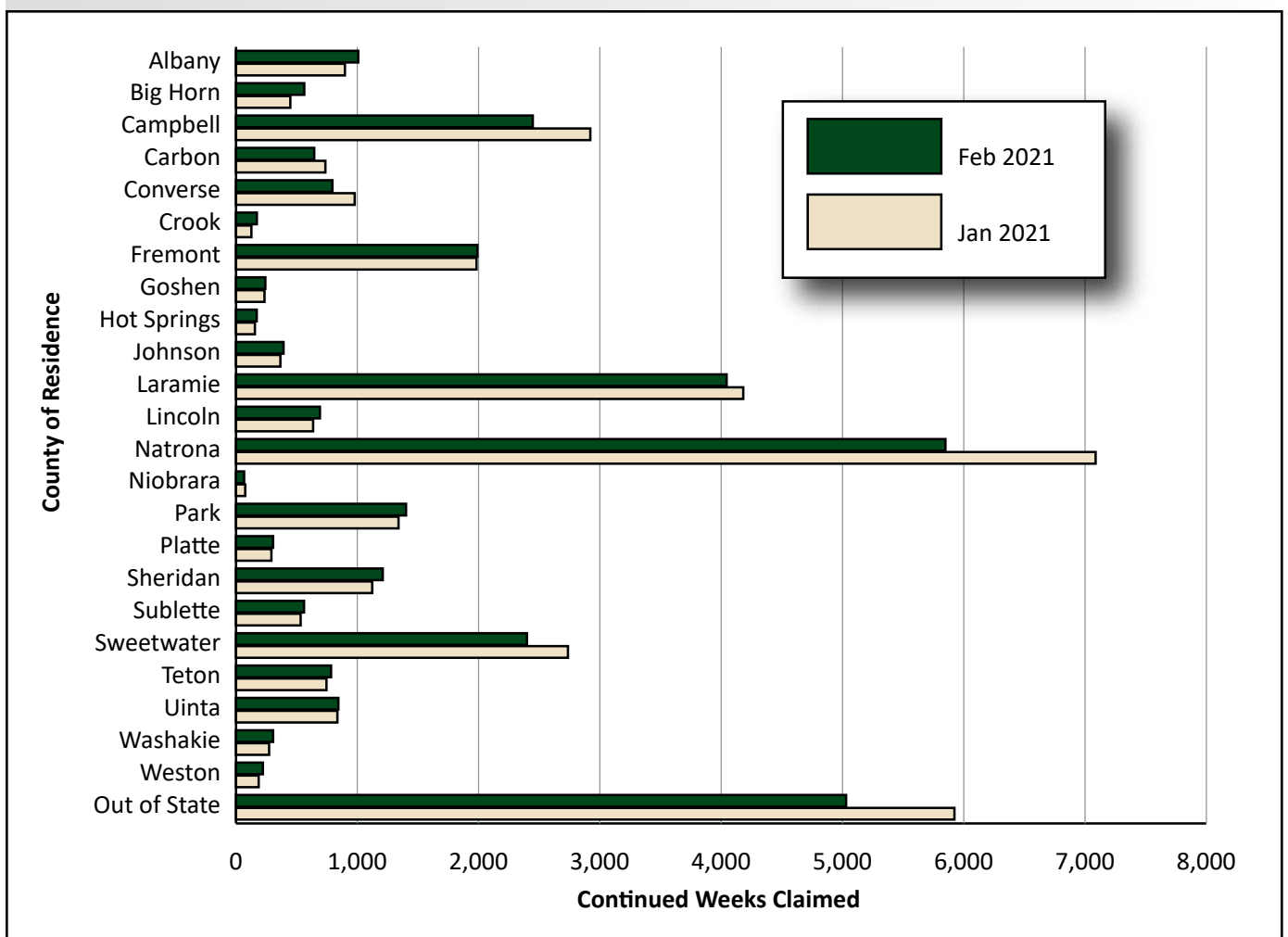


Figure 6: Continued Unemployment Insurance Claims by County of Residence in Wyoming, January and February 2021

Table 3: Initial Unemployment Insurance Claims for Wyoming by County of Residence, January 2021 to February 2021

| County | Feb 2021 | Jan 2021 | Change | |
|--------------|--------------|--------------|---------------|--------------|
| | | | N | % |
| Albany | 168 | 189 | -21 | -11.1 |
| Big Horn | 103 | 86 | 17 | 19.8 |
| Campbell | 424 | 482 | -58 | -12.0 |
| Carbon | 82 | 119 | -37 | -31.1 |
| Converse | 107 | 145 | -38 | -26.2 |
| Crook | 22 | 34 | -12 | -35.3 |
| Fremont | 309 | 324 | -15 | -4.6 |
| Goshen | 51 | 58 | -7 | -12.1 |
| Hot Springs | 36 | 41 | -5 | -12.2 |
| Johnson | 47 | 66 | -19 | -28.8 |
| Laramie | 633 | 779 | -146 | -18.7 |
| Lincoln | 86 | 149 | -63 | -42.3 |
| Natrona | 836 | 972 | -136 | -14.0 |
| Niobrara | 7 | 7 | 0 | 0.0 |
| Park | 199 | 248 | -49 | -19.8 |
| Platte | 58 | 62 | -4 | -6.5 |
| Sheridan | 232 | 219 | 13 | 5.9 |
| Sublette | 81 | 111 | -30 | -27.0 |
| Sweetwater | 383 | 442 | -59 | -13.3 |
| Teton | 138 | 243 | -105 | -43.2 |
| Uinta | 110 | 156 | -46 | -29.5 |
| Washakie | 60 | 73 | -13 | -17.8 |
| Weston | 35 | 46 | -11 | -23.9 |
| Unknown | 20 | 41 | -21 | -51.2 |
| Out of State | 643 | 836 | -193 | -23.1 |
| Total | 4,883 | 5,940 | -1,057 | -17.8 |

Source: Unemployment Insurance claims database.

Reviewed by S. Wen, Research & Planning, WY DWS, 3/18/21.

Box: Definitions

Initial Claim: An initial claim is filed by an unemployed individual after a separation from an employer. The claim requests a determination of basic eligibility for the Unemployment Insurance benefits.

Continued Weeks Claimed: The number of weeks of UI benefits claimed during the reference period. An unemployed individual who has already filed an initial claim and who has experienced a week of unemployment and then filed a continued claim to claim benefits for that week of unemployment.

Table 4: Wyoming Normalized^a Unemployment Statistics: Continued Claims by County of Residence, January 2021 to February 2021

| County | Feb 2021 | Jan 2021 | Change | |
|-------------------------------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|-------------|
| | | | N | % |
| Albany | 1,008 | 898 | 110 | 12.2 |
| Big Horn | 563 | 448 | 115 | 25.7 |
| Campbell | 2,447 | 2,921 | -474 | -16.2 |
| Carbon | 645 | 737 | -92 | -12.5 |
| Converse | 795 | 979 | -184 | -18.8 |
| Crook | 172 | 127 | 45 | 35.4 |
| Fremont | 1,990 | 1,983 | 7 | 0.4 |
| Goshen | 242 | 235 | 7 | 3.0 |
| Hot Springs | 171 | 156 | 15 | 9.6 |
| Johnson | 392 | 366 | 26 | 7.1 |
| Laramie | 4,045 | 4,182 | -137 | -3.3 |
| Lincoln | 692 | 636 | 56 | 8.8 |
| Natrona | 5,849 | 7,087 | -1,238 | -17.5 |
| Niobrara | 67 | 76 | -9 | -11.8 |
| Park | 1,402 | 1,340 | 62 | 4.6 |
| Platte | 306 | 292 | 14 | 4.8 |
| Sheridan | 1,210 | 1,123 | 87 | 7.7 |
| Sublette | 561 | 533 | 28 | 5.3 |
| Sweetwater | 2,399 | 2,737 | -338 | -12.3 |
| Teton | 784 | 746 | 38 | 5.1 |
| Uinta | 844 | 836 | 8 | 1.0 |
| Washakie | 306 | 273 | 33 | 12.1 |
| Weston | 222 | 187 | 35 | 18.7 |
| Unknown | 149 | 198 | -49 | -24.7 |
| Out of State | 5,030 | 5,923 | -893 | -15.1 |
| Normalized Total^a | 32,305 | 35,032 | -2,727 | -7.8 |


^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.

All totals are subject to rounding error and may not add to the sum of their respective components.

The table above conforms to Wyoming Employment Security Law - Wyoming Statute 27-3-603 regarding confidentiality.

Source: Unemployment Insurance claims database.

Reviewed by S. Wen, Research & Planning, WY DWS, 3/17/21.



This publication was produced by the Research & Planning section of the Wyoming Department of Workforce Services.

**Research & Planning
P.O. Box 2760
Casper, WY 82602
Phone: (307) 473-3807
Fax: (307) 473-3834
Website: <https://doe.state.wy.us/LMI>
Email: dws-researchplanning@wyo.gov**

Material contained in this publication is in the public domain and may be reproduced without special permission provided that source credit is given to: **Unemployment Insurance Monthly Claims Report, February 2021**, Wyoming Department of Workforce Services, Research & Planning.

This workforce product was funded by a grant awarded by the U.S. Department of Labor's Employment and Training Administration. The product was created by the recipient and does not necessarily reflect the official position of the U.S. Department of Labor. The U.S. Department of Labor makes no guarantees, warranties, or assurances of any kind, express or implied, with respect to such information, including any information on linked sites and including, but not limited to, accuracy of the information or its completeness, timeliness, usefulness, adequacy, continued availability, or ownership. This product is copyrighted by the institution that created it. Internal use by an organization and/or personal use by an individual for non-commercial purposes is permissible. All other uses require the prior authorization of the copyright owner.