

## Wyoming Unemployment Falls to 3.8% in February 2023

The Research & Planning section of the Wyoming Department of Workforce Services reported today that the state's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate fell from 3.9% in January to 3.8% in February. Wyoming's unemployment rate was slightly higher than the current U.S. rate of 3.6% and higher than its February 2022 level of 3.4%. From January to February, seasonally adjusted employment of Wyoming residents rose by 1,180 people (0.4%) suggesting that people were going back to work.

From January to February, unemployment rates fell in every county. Unemployment often decreases in February, as seasonal job gains occur in various sectors. Large decreases in unemployment were seen in Sweetwater (down from 5.3% to 4.7%), Platte (down from 4.5% to 4.0%), Albany (down from 3.8% to 3.4%), Big Horn (down from 5.2% to 4.8%), Campbell (down from 4.0% to 3.6%), Carbon (down from 4.8% to 4.4%), and Converse (down from 3.3% to 2.9%) counties.

From February 2022 to February 2023, unemployment rates rose in 15 counties, fell in five counties, and remained unchanged in three counties. The largest increases occurred in Niobrara (up from 2.7% to 4.7%), Lincoln (up from 3.5% to 4.1%), and Fremont (up from 4.4% to 5.0%) counties. Notable declines in unemployment were seen in Converse (down from 3.5% to 2.9%) and Campbell (down from 4.0% to 3.6%) counties.

Fremont County had the highest unemployment rate in February at 5.0%. It was followed by Sublette County and Big Horn County, each at 4.8%. The lowest unemployment rates were found in Teton County at 2.5%, Weston County at 2.8%, and Converse County at 2.9%.

Total nonfarm employment in Wyoming (not seasonally adjusted and measured by place of work) rose from 276,000 in February 2022 to 283,000 in February 2023, an increase of 7,000 jobs (2.5%).

Research & Planning has scheduled the March unemployment news release for April 24, 2023.

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

County	Labor Force			Employment			Unemployed Number			Unemployment Rate		
	Feb 2023 (p)	Jan 2023 (r)	Feb 2022 (b)	Feb 2023 (p)	Jan 2023 (r)	Feb 2022 (b)	Feb 2023 (p)	Jan 2023 (r)	Feb 2022 (b)	Feb 2023 (p)	Jan 2023 (r)	Feb 2022 (b)
Albany	22,382	21,755	21,541	21,620	20,922	20,872	762	833	669	3.4	3.8	3.1
Big Horn	4,992	5,021	5,104	4,754	4,761	4,849	238	260	255	4.8	5.2	5.0
Campbell	23,419	23,467	22,206	22,582	22,537	21,323	837	930	883	3.6	4.0	4.0
Carbon	7,057	7,111	7,104	6,743	6,767	6,819	314	344	285	4.4	4.8	4.0
Converse	7,758	7,801	7,552	7,536	7,543	7,287	222	258	265	2.9	3.3	3.5
Crook	3,819	3,785	3,800	3,693	3,649	3,679	126	136	121	3.3	3.6	3.2
Fremont	19,185	19,165	18,690	18,231	18,170	17,873	954	995	817	5.0	5.2	4.4
Goshen	6,529	6,429	6,505	6,313	6,200	6,300	216	229	205	3.3	3.6	3.2
Hot Springs	2,308	2,317	2,237	2,235	2,237	2,170	73	80	67	3.2	3.5	3.0
Johnson	4,152	4,156	4,154	3,982	3,978	3,983	170	178	171	4.1	4.3	4.1
Laramie	50,399	50,644	48,914	48,433	48,525	47,074	1,966	2,119	1,840	3.9	4.2	3.8
Lincoln	9,785	9,829	9,296	9,379	9,393	8,966	406	436	330	4.1	4.4	3.5
Natrona	40,478	40,488	38,400	38,748	38,648	36,666	1,730	1,840	1,734	4.3	4.5	4.5
Niobrara	1,202	1,192	1,223	1,145	1,133	1,190	57	59	33	4.7	4.9	2.7
Park	14,749	14,739	14,624	14,098	14,048	13,987	651	691	637	4.4	4.7	4.4
Platte	4,369	4,366	4,413	4,193	4,171	4,247	176	195	166	4.0	4.5	3.8
Sheridan	16,389	16,349	15,846	15,731	15,646	15,264	658	703	582	4.0	4.3	3.7
Sublette	3,803	3,776	3,839	3,619	3,582	3,662	184	194	177	4.8	5.1	4.6
Sweetwater	19,944	20,108	19,255	19,008	19,050	18,357	936	1,058	898	4.7	5.3	4.7
Teton	17,050	17,163	15,880	16,628	16,697	15,495	422	466	385	2.5	2.7	2.4
Uinta	9,050	9,084	8,705	8,664	8,672	8,348	386	412	357	4.3	4.5	4.1
Washakie	3,820	3,856	3,818	3,643	3,671	3,656	177	185	162	4.6	4.8	4.2
Weston	3,843	3,849	3,718	3,735	3,737	3,606	108	112	112	2.8	2.9	3.0
<b>Statewide</b>	<b>296,482</b>	<b>296,449</b>	<b>286,831</b>	<b>284,714</b>	<b>283,736</b>	<b>275,675</b>	<b>11,768</b>	<b>12,713</b>	<b>11,156</b>	<b>4.0</b>	<b>4.3</b>	<b>3.9</b>
<b>Statewide Seasonally Adjusted.....</b>										<b>3.8</b>	<b>3.9</b>	<b>3.4</b>
<b>U.S.....</b>										<b>3.9</b>	<b>3.9</b>	<b>4.1</b>
<b>U.S. Seasonally Adjusted.....</b>										<b>3.6</b>	<b>3.4</b>	<b>3.8</b>

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

Data are not seasonally adjusted except where otherwise specified.

Labor Force = Employment + Unemployed Number

Unemployment Rate = Unemployed Number/Labor Force

	Wyoming Seasonally Adjusted Statewide Labor Force Estimates			Change			
	February-23	January-23	February-22	Month		Year	
				absolute	percent	absolute	percent
Total Civilian Labor Force	295,533	294,594	288,931	939	0.3%	6,602	2.3%
Employed	284,414	283,234	279,182	1,180	0.4%	5,232	1.9%
Unemployed	11,119	11,360	9,749	-241	-2.1%	1,370	14.1%
Unemployment Rate	3.8	3.9	3.4				
<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  
Research & Planning**

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

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

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