

Wyoming Unemployment Unchanged at 2.9% in October 2023

The Research & Planning section of the Wyoming Department of Workforce Services reported today that the state’s seasonally adjusted unemployment rate remained unchanged from September to October at 2.9%. Wyoming’s unemployment rate was much lower than its October 2022 level of 3.9% and lower than the current U.S. rate of 3.9%. From October 2022 to October 2023, Wyoming’s labor force grew by an estimated 4,626 individuals (1.6%).

From September to October, most county unemployment rates remained low and stable. Unemployment increased slightly in Teton County (up from 1.5% to 2.0%), in Johnson County (up from 2.2% to 2.4%), and in Park County (up from 2.1% to 2.3%). Weston County’s unemployment rate fell from 2.0% to 1.7%.

Unemployment rates decreased from their year-ago levels in every county, suggesting steady improvement in Wyoming’s economy. The largest decreases in unemployment occurred in Carbon (down from 3.8% to 2.4%), Washakie (down from 3.7% to 2.6%), Sweetwater (down from 4.0% to 2.9%), Fremont (down from 3.8% to 2.7%), and Big Horn (down from 3.7% to 2.6%) counties.

Weston County reported the lowest unemployment rate in October at 1.7%. It was followed by Crook, Niobrara, and Teton counties, each at 2.0%. The highest unemployment rates were found in Sublette and Sweetwater counties, both at 2.9%.

Current Employment Statistics (CES) estimates show that total nonfarm employment in Wyoming (not seasonally adjusted and measured by place of work) rose from 287,200 in October 2022 to 295,100 in October 2023, an increase of 7,900 jobs (2.8%).

November unemployment data will be released on December 26, 2023.

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

County	Labor Force			Employment			Unemployed Number			Unemployment Rate		
	Oct 2023 (p)	Sep 2023 (r)	Oct 2022 (b)	Oct 2023 (p)	Sep 2023 (r)	Oct 2022 (b)	Oct 2023 (p)	Sep 2023 (r)	Oct 2022 (b)	Oct 2023 (p)	Sep 2023 (r)	Oct 2022 (b)
Albany	21,867	21,874	21,767	21,385	21,369	21,110	482	505	657	2.2	2.3	3.0
Big Horn	5,161	5,188	5,184	5,028	5,048	4,991	133	140	193	2.6	2.7	3.7
Campbell	23,297	23,307	22,922	22,750	22,740	22,163	547	567	759	2.3	2.4	3.3
Carbon	7,312	7,388	7,387	7,138	7,213	7,109	174	175	278	2.4	2.4	3.8
Converse	7,708	7,637	7,726	7,543	7,474	7,517	165	163	209	2.1	2.1	2.7
Crook	3,947	3,890	3,953	3,867	3,815	3,844	80	75	109	2.0	1.9	2.8
Fremont	19,375	19,478	19,022	18,858	18,951	18,305	517	527	717	2.7	2.7	3.8
Goshen	6,524	6,403	6,554	6,376	6,258	6,359	148	145	195	2.3	2.3	3.0
Hot Springs	2,301	2,303	2,289	2,248	2,248	2,222	53	55	67	2.3	2.4	2.9
Johnson	4,366	4,363	4,310	4,263	4,265	4,175	103	98	135	2.4	2.2	3.1
Laramie	49,549	49,528	49,143	48,212	48,216	47,431	1,337	1,312	1,712	2.7	2.6	3.5
Lincoln	9,748	9,943	9,653	9,506	9,708	9,351	242	235	302	2.5	2.4	3.1
Natrona	39,967	39,984	39,532	38,835	38,860	38,065	1,132	1,124	1,467	2.8	2.8	3.7
Niobrara	1,174	1,155	1,222	1,150	1,132	1,188	24	23	34	2.0	2.0	2.8
Park	15,779	16,377	15,521	15,421	16,028	15,011	358	349	510	2.3	2.1	3.3
Platte	4,177	4,153	4,406	4,074	4,048	4,254	103	105	152	2.5	2.5	3.4
Sheridan	16,424	16,405	16,294	16,053	16,038	15,772	371	367	522	2.3	2.2	3.2
Sublette	4,004	3,985	3,950	3,887	3,872	3,800	117	113	150	2.9	2.8	3.8
Sweetwater	20,118	20,150	19,790	19,536	19,569	19,002	582	581	788	2.9	2.9	4.0
Teton	16,864	18,018	16,615	16,523	17,741	16,156	341	277	459	2.0	1.5	2.8
Uinta	9,119	9,084	9,021	8,862	8,827	8,702	257	257	319	2.8	2.8	3.5
Washakie	3,880	3,846	3,878	3,779	3,745	3,735	101	101	143	2.6	2.6	3.7
Weston	3,908	3,905	3,829	3,841	3,828	3,739	67	77	90	1.7	2.0	2.4
Statewide	296,567	298,363	293,968	289,134	290,993	284,001	7,433	7,370	9,967	2.5	2.5	3.4
Statewide Seasonally Adjusted.....										2.9	2.9	3.9
U.S.....										3.6	3.6	3.4
U.S. Seasonally Adjusted.....										3.9	3.8	3.7

(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			
	October-23	September-23	October-22	Month		Year	
				absolute	percent	absolute	percent
Total Civilian Labor Force	298,154	298,664	293,528	-510	-0.2%	4,626	1.6%
Employed	289,402	289,968	282,076	-566	-0.2%	7,326	2.6%
Unemployed	8,752	8,696	11,452	56	0.6%	-2,700	-23.6%
Unemployment Rate	2.9	2.9	3.9				
Definitions:							
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**

November 20, 2023

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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