

Wyoming Unemployment Rises to 3.0% in November 2023

The Research & Planning section of the Wyoming Department of Workforce Services reported today that the state's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate rose slightly from 2.9% in October to 3.0% in November. Wyoming's unemployment rate was much lower than its year-ago level of 3.9% and lower than the current U.S. unemployment rate of 3.7%

From October to November, all county unemployment rates followed their normal seasonal pattern and increased. Unemployment rates often increase in November as cooler weather and a seasonal slowdown in tourist activity cause job losses in many different sectors. The largest increases in unemployment occurred in Teton (up from 2.0% to 3.7%), Big Horn (up from 2.6% to 3.5%), and Park (up from 2.3% to 3.2%) counties.

From November 2022 to November 2023, unemployment rates fell in 22 of Wyoming's 23 counties. Hot Springs County was the exception. Its unemployment rate increased marginally from 2.8% in November 2022 to 2.9% in November 2023. The largest decreases occurred in Carbon (down from 4.0% to 2.9%), Niobrara (down from 3.5% to 2.5%), Teton (down from 4.5% to 3.7%), and Fremont (down from 3.9% to 3.1%) counties.

Teton County, at 3.7%, had the highest unemployment rate in November. It was followed by Big Horn County and Sublette County, both at 3.5%. The lowest unemployment rates were found in Weston County at 2.2% and Converse and Crook counties, both at 2.4%.

Current Employment Statistics (CES) estimates show that total nonfarm employment in Wyoming (not seasonally adjusted and measured by place of work) rose from 284,800 in November 2022 to 293,200 in November 2023, an increase of 8,400 jobs (2.9%).

December unemployment data will be released on January 24, 2024.

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

County	Labor Force			Employment			Unemployed Number			Unemployment Rate		
	Nov 2023 (p)	Oct 2023 (r)	Nov 2022 (b)	Nov 2023 (p)	Oct 2023 (r)	Nov 2022 (b)	Nov 2023 (p)	Oct 2023 (r)	Nov 2022 (b)	Nov 2023 (p)	Oct 2023 (r)	Nov 2022 (b)
Albany	22,572	22,040	22,169	21,968	21,559	21,503	604	481	666	2.7	2.2	3.0
Big Horn	5,105	5,159	5,042	4,928	5,027	4,855	177	132	187	3.5	2.6	3.7
Campbell	23,908	23,294	23,333	23,239	22,749	22,574	669	545	759	2.8	2.3	3.3
Carbon	7,148	7,311	7,156	6,940	7,137	6,869	208	174	287	2.9	2.4	4.0
Converse	7,798	7,708	7,755	7,609	7,543	7,557	189	165	198	2.4	2.1	2.6
Crook	3,818	3,947	3,751	3,727	3,867	3,644	91	80	107	2.4	2.0	2.9
Fremont	19,580	19,374	19,029	18,965	18,858	18,294	615	516	735	3.1	2.7	3.9
Goshen	6,488	6,524	6,392	6,308	6,376	6,199	180	148	193	2.8	2.3	3.0
Hot Springs	2,331	2,301	2,300	2,263	2,248	2,236	68	53	64	2.9	2.3	2.8
Johnson	4,290	4,370	4,189	4,167	4,263	4,041	123	107	148	2.9	2.4	3.5
Laramie	50,540	49,587	50,101	49,016	48,253	48,380	1,524	1,334	1,721	3.0	2.7	3.4
Lincoln	9,695	9,748	9,535	9,390	9,506	9,201	305	242	334	3.1	2.5	3.5
Natrona	40,955	40,019	40,458	39,668	38,884	38,937	1,287	1,135	1,521	3.1	2.8	3.8
Niobrara	1,130	1,174	1,165	1,102	1,150	1,124	28	24	41	2.5	2.0	3.5
Park	15,166	15,780	14,681	14,681	15,420	14,110	485	360	571	3.2	2.3	3.9
Platte	4,122	4,177	4,296	4,002	4,073	4,141	120	104	155	2.9	2.5	3.6
Sheridan	16,499	16,424	16,260	16,067	16,053	15,716	432	371	544	2.6	2.3	3.3
Sublette	3,927	4,004	3,816	3,789	3,887	3,664	138	117	152	3.5	2.9	4.0
Sweetwater	20,555	20,114	20,107	19,891	19,535	19,314	664	579	793	3.2	2.9	3.9
Teton	15,559	16,864	15,111	14,989	16,523	14,438	570	341	673	3.7	2.0	4.5
Uinta	9,306	9,117	9,148	8,990	8,862	8,798	316	255	350	3.4	2.8	3.8
Washakie	3,867	3,879	3,821	3,751	3,779	3,680	116	100	141	3.0	2.6	3.7
Weston	3,975	3,909	3,853	3,886	3,841	3,760	89	68	93	2.2	1.7	2.4
Statewide	298,334	296,820	293,469	289,336	289,392	283,035	8,998	7,428	10,434	3.0	2.5	3.6
Statewide Seasonally Adjusted.....										3.0	2.9	3.9
U.S.....										3.5	3.6	3.4
U.S. Seasonally Adjusted.....										3.7	3.9	3.6

(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

	November-23	October-23	November-22	Change			
				Month		Year	
				absolute	percent	absolute	percent
Total Civilian Labor Force	298,208	298,201	293,573	7	0.0%	4,635	1.6%
Employed	289,187	289,450	282,151	-263	-0.1%	7,036	2.5%
Unemployed	9,021	8,751	11,422	270	3.1%	-2,401	-21.0%
Unemployment Rate	3.0	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**

December 26, 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>

Contacts:

David Bullard, Senior Economist
Michael Moore, Research Supervisor

david.bullard@wyo.gov
michael.moore@wyo.gov

307-473-3810
307-473-3814

Wyoming Department of Workforce Services
Research & Planning
PO Box 2760
Casper WY 82602-2760