

Wyoming Unemployment Unchanged at 3.0% in December 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 November to December at 3.0%. Wyoming's unemployment rate was considerably lower than its December 2022 level of 3.9% and lower than the current U.S. unemployment rate of 3.7%.

From November to December, unemployment rates decreased in every county. It is somewhat unusual to see county unemployment rates fall in December. The largest decreases occurred in Teton (down from 3.7% to 2.0%), Hot Springs (down from 2.9% to 2.2%), Uinta (down from 3.4% to 2.8%), Goshen (down from 2.8% to 2.2%), and Albany (down from 2.7% to 2.1%) counties.

From December 2022 to December 2023, unemployment rates fell in every county, suggesting that the state's labor market continues to tighten. The largest decreases occurred in Carbon (down from 4.1% to 2.7%), Washakie (down from 3.9% to 2.6%), Sweetwater (down from 4.2% to 2.9%), Sublette (down from 4.3% to 3.0%), and Sheridan (down from 3.6% to 2.3%) counties.

The highest unemployment rates in December were found in Big Horn County at 3.3%, Sublette County at 3.0%, and Sweetwater County at 2.9%. The lowest unemployment rates were reported in Teton County at 2.0%, and Weston, Converse, and Albany counties, each at 2.1%.

Current Employment Statistics (CES) estimates show that total nonfarm employment in Wyoming (not seasonally adjusted and measured by place of work) rose from 286,700 in December 2022 to 295,000 in December 2023, an increase of 8,300 jobs (2.9%).

January unemployment data will be released on March 12, 2024.

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

County	Labor Force			Employment			Unemployed Number			Unemployment Rate		
	Dec 2023 (p)	Nov 2023 (r)	Dec 2022 (b)	Dec 2023 (p)	Nov 2023 (r)	Dec 2022 (b)	Dec 2023 (p)	Nov 2023 (r)	Dec 2022 (b)	Dec 2023 (p)	Nov 2023 (r)	Dec 2022 (b)
										(p)	(r)	(b)
Albany	21,880	22,587	21,912	21,410	21,984	21,225	470	603	687	2.1	2.7	3.1
Big Horn	4,957	5,109	4,971	4,795	4,932	4,769	162	177	202	3.3	3.5	4.1
Campbell	23,265	23,924	23,041	22,732	23,256	22,296	533	668	745	2.3	2.8	3.2
Carbon	6,899	7,154	7,010	6,713	6,945	6,720	186	209	290	2.7	2.9	4.1
Converse	7,581	7,802	7,661	7,421	7,614	7,450	160	188	211	2.1	2.4	2.8
Crook	3,725	3,821	3,720	3,639	3,730	3,606	86	91	114	2.3	2.4	3.1
Fremont	19,048	19,593	18,754	18,508	18,979	18,029	540	614	725	2.8	3.1	3.9
Goshen	6,339	6,494	6,382	6,199	6,313	6,184	140	181	198	2.2	2.8	3.1
Hot Springs	2,267	2,333	2,280	2,217	2,265	2,209	50	68	71	2.2	2.9	3.1
Johnson	4,160	4,297	4,125	4,053	4,171	3,971	107	126	154	2.6	2.9	3.7
Laramie	49,287	50,604	49,825	47,991	49,082	48,054	1,296	1,522	1,771	2.6	3.0	3.6
Lincoln	9,609	9,701	9,604	9,363	9,397	9,270	246	304	334	2.6	3.1	3.5
Natrona	39,691	40,982	39,831	38,611	39,695	38,318	1,080	1,287	1,513	2.7	3.1	3.8
Niobrara	1,107	1,131	1,156	1,082	1,103	1,116	25	28	40	2.3	2.5	3.5
Park	14,883	15,177	14,571	14,476	14,692	13,999	407	485	572	2.7	3.2	3.9
Platte	4,050	4,125	4,280	3,942	4,005	4,114	108	120	166	2.7	2.9	3.9
Sheridan	16,134	16,510	16,150	15,765	16,079	15,574	369	431	576	2.3	2.6	3.6
Sublette	3,791	3,930	3,741	3,677	3,792	3,581	114	138	160	3.0	3.5	4.3
Sweetwater	19,940	20,569	19,815	19,367	19,906	18,979	573	663	836	2.9	3.2	4.2
Teton	16,958	15,571	16,670	16,626	15,001	16,253	332	570	417	2.0	3.7	2.5
Uinta	9,035	9,312	9,013	8,782	8,997	8,666	253	315	347	2.8	3.4	3.8
Washakie	3,786	3,870	3,808	3,689	3,754	3,659	97	116	149	2.6	3.0	3.9
Weston	3,873	3,978	3,808	3,792	3,889	3,711	81	89	97	2.1	2.2	2.5
Statewide	292,264	298,574	292,126	284,848	289,580	281,752	7,416	8,994	10,374	2.5	3.0	3.6
Statewide Seasonally Adjusted.....										3.0	3.0	3.9
U.S.....										3.5	3.5	3.3
U.S. Seasonally Adjusted.....										3.7	3.7	3.5

(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			
	December-23	November-23	December-22	Month		Year	
				absolute	percent	absolute	percent
Total Civilian Labor Force	297,661	298,253	293,595	-592	-0.2%	4,066	1.4%
Employed	288,693	289,233	282,247	-540	-0.2%	6,446	2.3%
Unemployed	8,968	9,020	11,348	-52	-0.6%	-2,380	-21.0%
Unemployment Rate	3.0	3.0	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**

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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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