

Wyoming Unemployment Insurance Claims Report

December 2022

**Information for Wyoming by Industry and
County of Residence of Claimant**

Research & Planning, Wyoming Department of Workforce Services

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“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, December 2022

Continued Claims Rise from Prior-Year Levels

by: *Laura Yetter, Senior Economist*

Continued Unemployment Insurance (UI) claims (see Definitions, page 9) in Wyoming increased from prior-year levels for the second consecutive month in December 2022. Before November 2022, initial claims had decreased from prior-year levels for 19 consecutive months. Initial and continued UI claims tend to increase during the winter months as seasonal workers lose their jobs and file for UI benefits.

Initial Claims

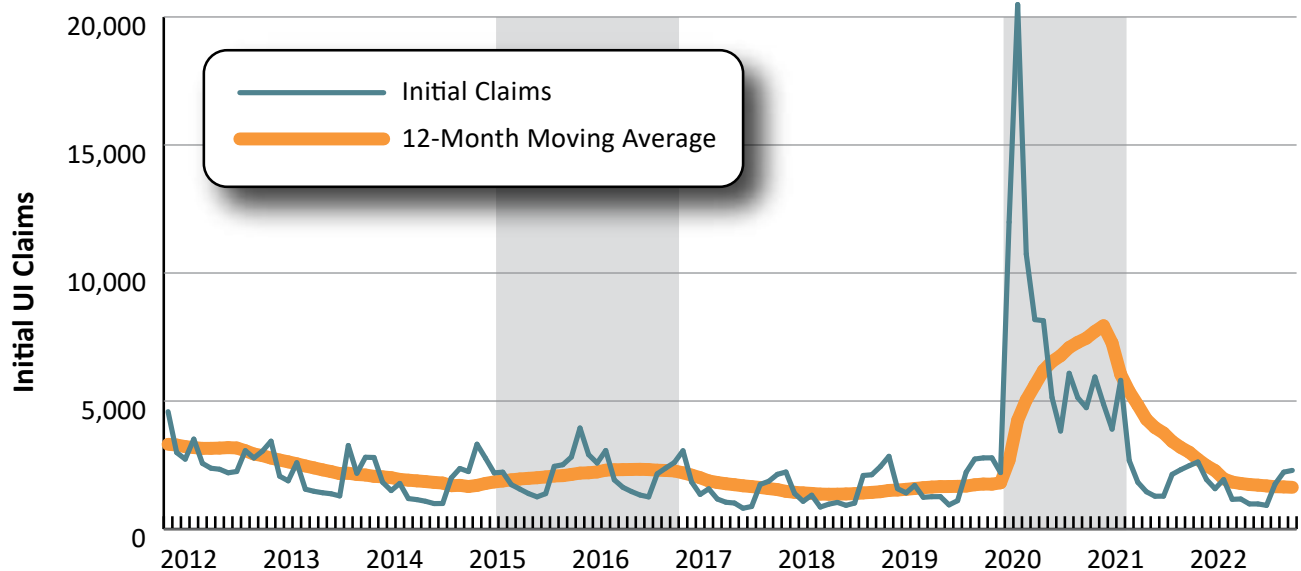
There were 2,291 initial claims in December 2022, down from 2,477 in December 2021 (-186, or -7.5%). Initial claims were also 17.6% lower than the 2,779 in December 2019 prior to the

pandemic (see Figure 1). From November to December, initial claims increased by 3.1%, or 68 claims.

The industries with the largest numbers of initial claims included construction (835), professional & business services (171), trade, transportation, & utilities (167), and leisure & hospitality (149). In recent months, increases in initial claims were driven by the construction sector; from

UI Claims Online

Weekly, monthly, and annual Unemployment Insurance claims for Wyoming available online at <https://doe.state.wy.us/LMI/UI.htm>.



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

Shaded areas indicate periods of economic downturn: 2015Q2-2016Q4 and 2020Q2-2021Q1.

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

Prepared by J. Cruz, Research & Planning, WY DWS, 1/17/23.

Figure 1: Total Number of Initial Unemployment Insurance Claims for Wyoming by Year and Month, January 2012 to December 2022

November to December, initial claims in construction increased from 610 to 835 (225 claims, or 36.9%; see Table 1, page 5, and Figure 4, page 6).

Laramie (353), Natrona (333), Fremont (176), and Sheridan (162) counties had the largest number of initial claims. In addition, there were 277 initial claims by out-of-state claimants (see Figure 4, page 6, and Table 3, page 9).

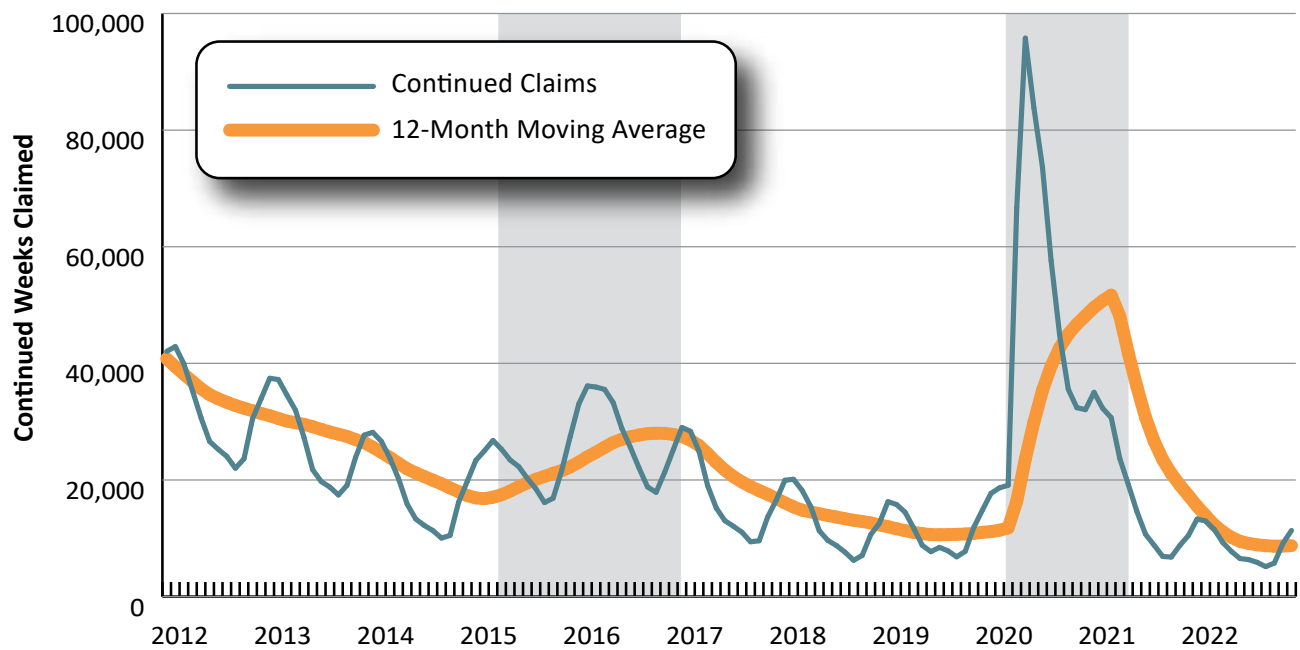
Continued Claims

The total number of continued weeks claimed increased from 10,490 in December 2021 to 11,344 in December 2022 (854, or 8.1%). The number of unique claimants increased from 3,332 to 3,976 (644, or 19.3%) over the year. However, continued claims remained 23.5% lower than the

14,833 in December 2019 prior to the pandemic (see Figure 2 and Table 2, page 7).

The industries with the most continued weeks claimed included construction (2,810), leisure & hospitality (1,059), government (1,037), and trade, transportation, & utilities (910). The greatest over-the-month increases in continued claims were found in construction (1,377, or 96.1%) and professional & business services (310, or 49.4%; see Figure 5, page 8).

There were more continued claims for out-of-state claimants (2,187) than any single county in Wyoming. The counties with the greatest numbers of continued claims were Laramie (1,634), Natrona (1,484), Sweetwater (738), and Fremont (687; 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 periods of economic downturn: 2015Q2-2016Q4 and 2020Q2-2021Q1.

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

Prepared by J. Cruz, Research & Planning, WY DWS, 1/17/23.

Figure 2: Total Number of Unemployment Insurance Continued Weeks Claimed for Wyoming by Year and Month, January 2012 to December 2022

Table 1: Initial Unemployment Insurance Claims in Wyoming, December 2022

Industry	Initial Claims Filed			Over-the-Month Change		Over-the-Year Change	
	Dec 2022	Nov 2022	Dec 2021	N	%	N	%
Total Claims Filed	2,291	2,223	2,477	68	3.1	-186	-7.5
Goods-Producing	1,033	743	1,130	290	39.0	-97	-8.6
Natural Resources & Mining (11, 21)	74	73	107	1	1.4	-33	-30.8
Mining (21)	56	50	83	6	12.0	-27	-32.5
Construction (23)	835	610	946	225	36.9	-111	-11.7
Manufacturing (31-33)	123	59	77	64	108.5	46	59.7
Service-Providing	591	819	778	-228	-27.8	-187	-24.0
Trade, Transportation, & Utilities (22, 42, 44-45, 48-49)	167	181	209	-14	-7.7	-42	-20.1
Wholesale Trade (42)	25	25	21	0	0.0	4	19.0
Retail Trade (44-45)	90	94	99	-4	-4.3	-9	-9.1
Transportation, Warehousing & Utilities (22, 44-49)	50	62	88	-12	-19.4	-38	-43.2
Information (51)	6	5	11	1	20.0	-5	-45.5
Financial Activities (52-53)	34	41	25	-7	-17.1	9	36.0
Professional & Business Services (54-56)	171	183	206	-12	-6.6	-35	-17.0
Education & Health Services (61-62)	42	57	102	-15	-26.3	-60	-58.8
Leisure & Hospitality (71-72)	149	325	191	-176	-54.2	-42	-22.0
Other Services, except Public Admin. (81)	19	24	32	-5	-20.8	-13	-40.6
Government	132	197	172	-65	-33.0	-40	-23.3
Federal Government	74	124	103	-50	-40.3	-29	-28.2
State Government	8	13	15	-5	-38.5	-7	-46.7
Local Government	48	58	53	-10	-17.2	-5	-9.4
Local Education	11	9	13	2	22.2	-2	-15.4
Unclassified	534	462	395	72	15.6	139	35.2
Laramie County							
Total Claims Filed	353	305	400	48	15.7	-47	-11.8
Goods-Producing	185	142	199	43	30.3	-14	-7.0
Construction	168	135	185	33	24.4	-17	-9.2
Service-Providing	75	88	129	-13	-14.8	-54	-41.9
Trade, Transportation, & Utilities (22,42,44-45,48-49)	25	32	46	-7	-21.9	-21	-45.7
Financial Activities (52, 53)	4	6	8	-2	-33.3	-4	-50.0
Professional & Business Services (54 - 56)	27	25	32	2	8.0	-5	-15.6
Educational & Health Services (61 - 62)	5	7	24	-2	-28.6	-19	-79.2
Leisure & Hospitality (71 - 72)	8	10	11	-2	-20.0	-3	-27.3
Government	5	12	16	-7	-58.3	-11	-68.8
Unclassified	87	62	55	25	40.3	32	58.2
Natrona County							
Total Claims Filed	333	301	410	32	10.6	-77	-18.8
Goods-Producing	155	114	181	41	36.0	-26	-14.4
Construction	128	97	169	31	32.0	-41	-24.3
Service-Providing	88	117	155	-29	-24.8	-67	-43.2
Trade, Transportation, & Utilities (22,42,44-45,48-49)	28	40	44	-12	-30.0	-16	-36.4
Financial Activities (52, 53)	3	9	4	-6	-66.7	-1	-25.0
Professional & Business Services (54 - 56)	21	28	36	-7	-25.0	-15	-41.7
Educational & Health Services (61 - 62)	10	11	25	-1	-9.1	-15	-60.0
Leisure & Hospitality (71 - 72)	19	22	33	-3	-13.6	-14	-42.4
Government	6	6	10	0	0.0	-4	-40.0
Unclassified	82	62	63	20	32.3	19	30.2

N/D = Not discloseable due to confidentiality.

Source: Unemployment Insurance claims database. Prepared by J. Cruz, Research & Planning, WY DWS, 1/17/23.

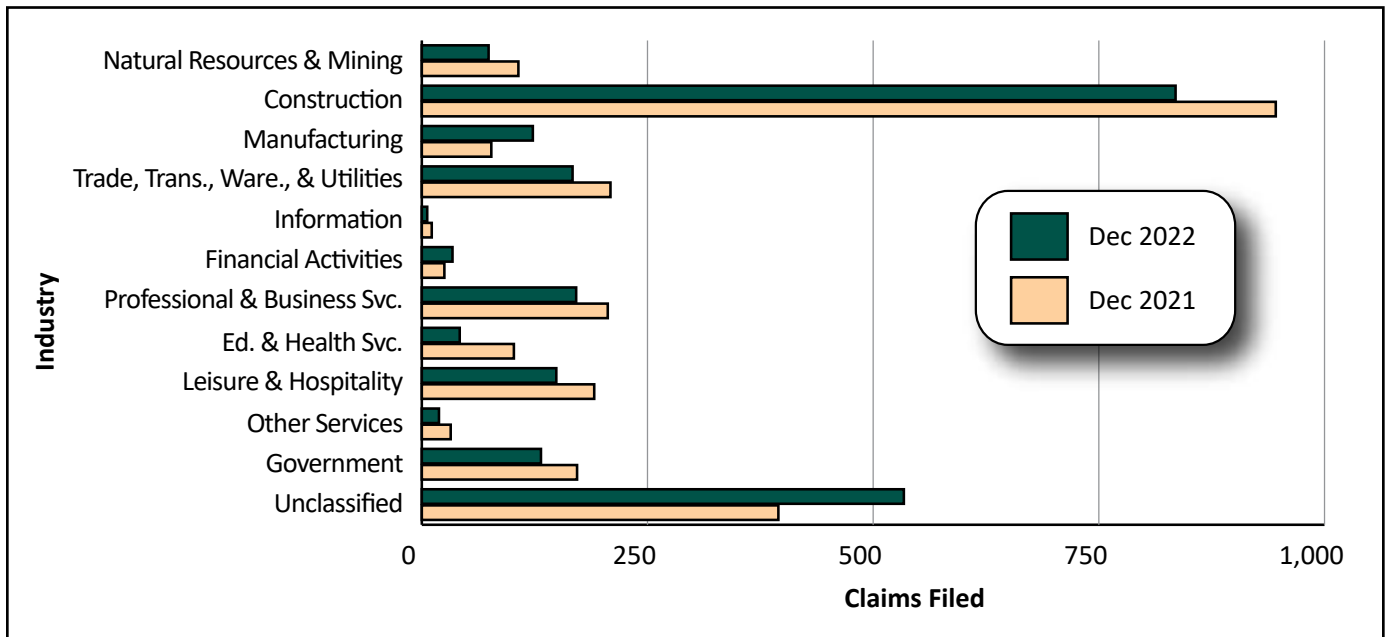


Figure 3: Initial Unemployment Insurance Claims by Major Industry in Wyoming, December 2021 and December 2022

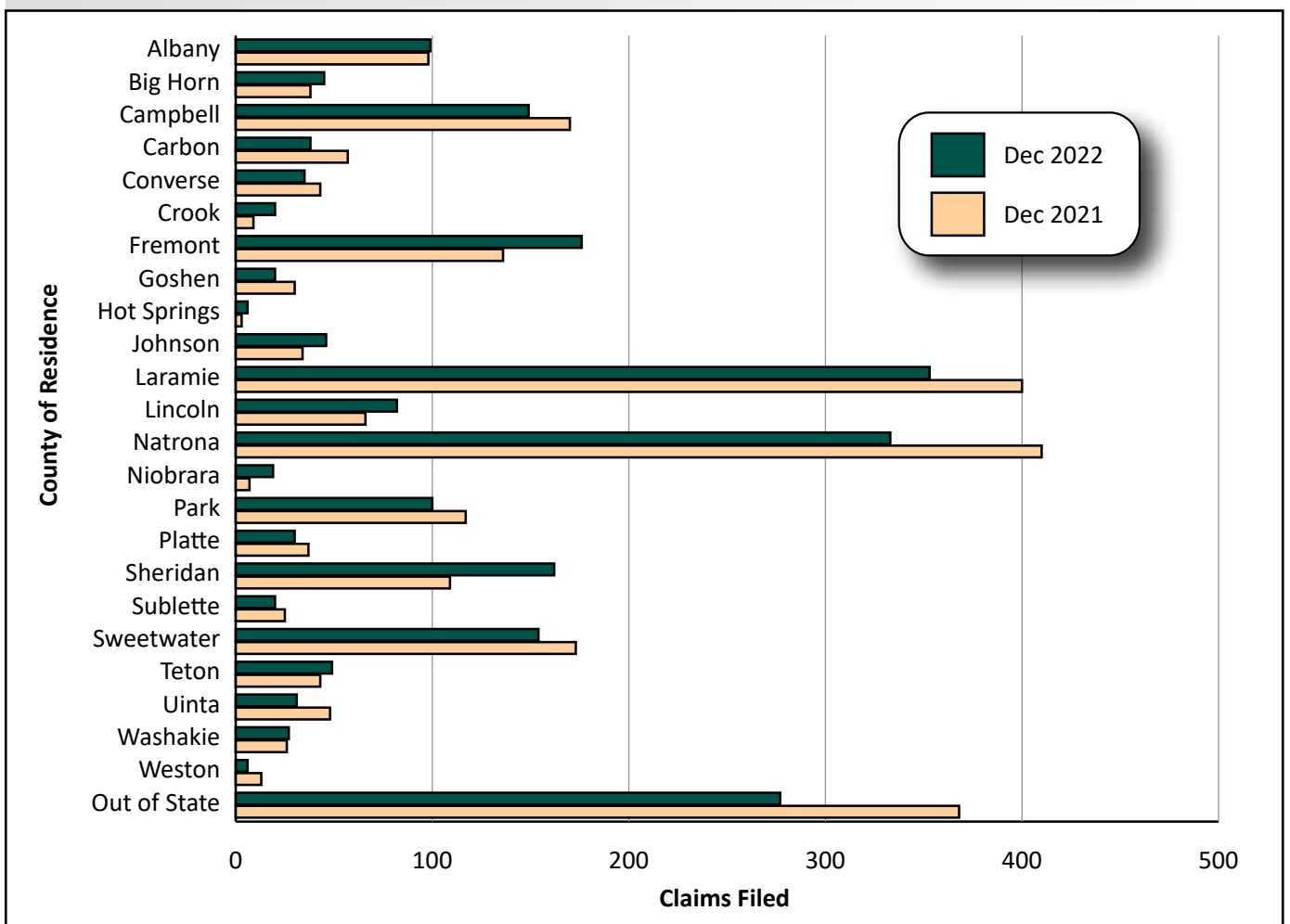


Figure 4: Initial Unemployment Insurance Claims by County of Residence, December 2021 and December 2022

Table 2: Unemployment Insurance Continued Weeks Claimed in Wyoming, December 2022

Industry	Continued Weeks Claimed			Over-the-Month Change		Over-the-Year Change	
	Dec 2022	Nov 2022	Dec 2021	N	%	N	%
Total Continued Weeks Claimed	11,344	9,130	10,490	2,214	24.2	854	8.1
Total Unique Claimants	3,976	2,789	3,332	1,187	42.6	644	19.3
Goods-Producing	3,564	1,993	3,258	1,571	78.8	306	9.4
Natural Resources & Mining (11, 21)	397	284	485	113	39.8	-88	-18.1
Mining (21)	284	244	381	40	16.4	-97	-25.5
Oil & Gas Extraction (211)	22	12	67	10	83.3	-45	-67.2
Construction (23)	2,810	1,433	2,448	1,377	96.1	362	14.8
Manufacturing (31-33)	357	276	324	81	29.3	33	10.2
Service-Providing	3,690	3,999	4,087	-309	-7.7	-397	-9.7
Trade, Transportation, & Utilities (22, 42, 44-45, 48-49)	910	812	1,059	98	12.1	-149	-14.1
Wholesale Trade (42)	133	123	185	10	8.1	-52	-28.1
Retail Trade (44-45)	548	467	539	81	17.3	9	1.7
Transportation, Warehousing & Utilities (22, 44-49)	228	220	335	8	3.6	-107	-31.9
Information (51)	36	44	60	-8	-18.2	-24	-40.0
Financial Activities (52-53)	277	240	199	37	15.4	78	39.2
Professional & Business Services (54-56)	910	609	924	301	49.4	-14	-1.5
Education & Health Services (61-62)	344	380	433	-36	-9.5	-89	-20.6
Leisure & Hospitality (71-72)	1,059	1,753	1,259	-694	-39.6	-200	-15.9
Other Services, except Public Admin. (81)	151	158	151	-7	-4.4	0	0.0
Government	1,037	859	1,027	178	20.7	10	1.0
Federal Government	528	391	607	137	35.0	-79	-13.0
State Government	106	93	81	13	14.0	25	30.9
Local Government	402	374	337	28	7.5	65	19.3
Local Education	105	83	78	22	26.5	27	34.6
Unclassified	3,052	2,278	2,117	774	34.0	935	44.2
Laramie County							
Total Claims Filed	1,634	1,137	1,204	497	43.7	430	35.7
Total Unique Claimants	554	372	426	182	48.9	128	30.0
Goods-Producing	612	314	406	298	94.9	206	50.7
Construction	566	277	344	289	104.3	222	64.5
Service-Providing	483	474	497	9	1.9	-14	-2.8
Trade, Transportation, & Utilities (22,42,44-45,48-49)	186	162	150	24	14.8	36	24.0
Financial Activities (52, 53)	40	39	25	1	2.6	15	60.0
Professional & Business Services (54 - 56)	140	117	177	23	19.7	-37	-20.9
Educational & Health Services (61 - 62)	70	79	60	-9	-11.4	10	16.7
Leisure & Hospitality (71 - 72)	28	36	32	-8	-22.2	-4	-12.5
Government	53	51	49	2	3.9	4	8.2
Unclassified	484	297	251	187	63.0	233	92.8
Natrona County							
Total Claims Filed	1,484	1,021	1,589	463	45.3	-105	-6.6
Total Unique Claimants	507	320	512	187	58.4	-5	-1.0
Goods-Producing	471	255	521	216	84.7	-50	-9.6
Construction	373	162	414	211	130.2	-41	-9.9
Service-Providing	560	452	670	108	23.9	-110	-16.4
Trade, Transportation, & Utilities (22,42,44-45,48-49)	142	117	212	25	21.4	-70	-33.0
Financial Activities (52, 53)	58	45	43	13	28.9	15	34.9
Professional & Business Services (54 - 56)	129	90	129	39	43.3	0	0.0
Educational & Health Services (61 - 62)	73	79	117	-6	-7.6	-44	-37.6
Leisure & Hospitality (71 - 72)	95	63	132	32	50.8	-37	-28.0
Government	54	41	45	13	31.7	9	20.0
Unclassified	397	271	352	126	46.5	45	12.8

Source: Unemployment Insurance claims database.
 Prepared by J. Cruz, Research & Planning, WY DWS, 1/17/23.

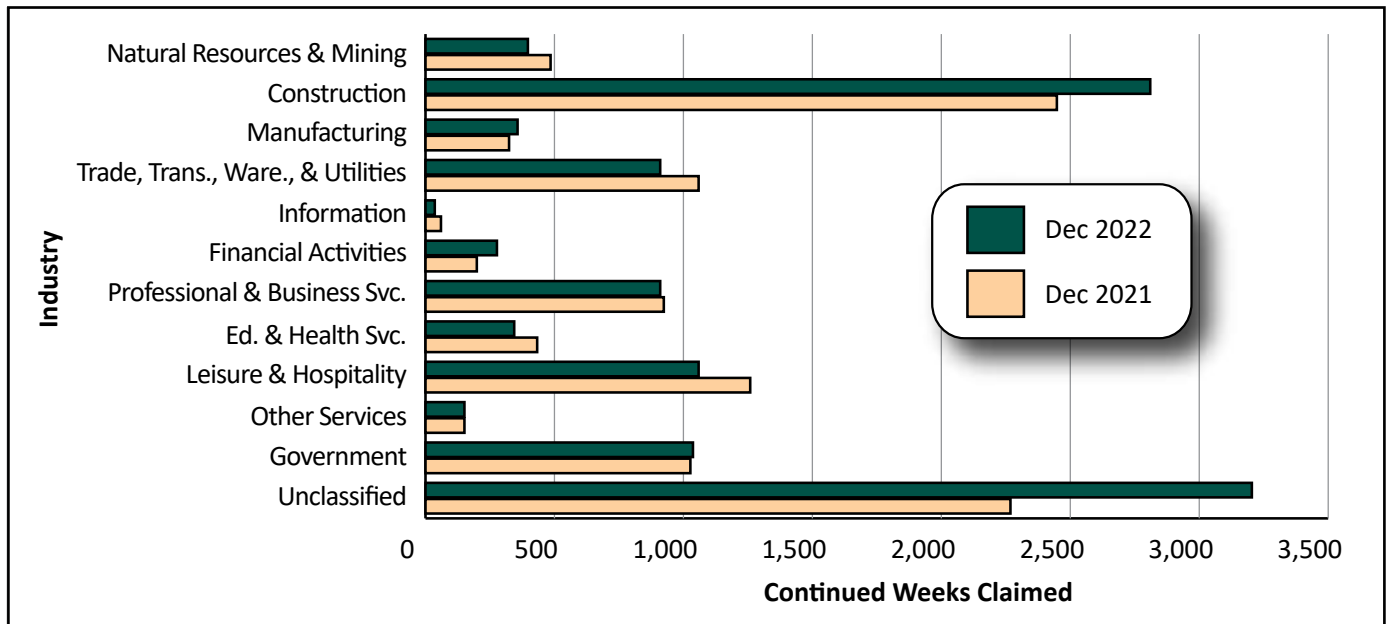


Figure 5: Continued Unemployment Insurance Claims by Major Industry in Wyoming, December 2021 and December 2022

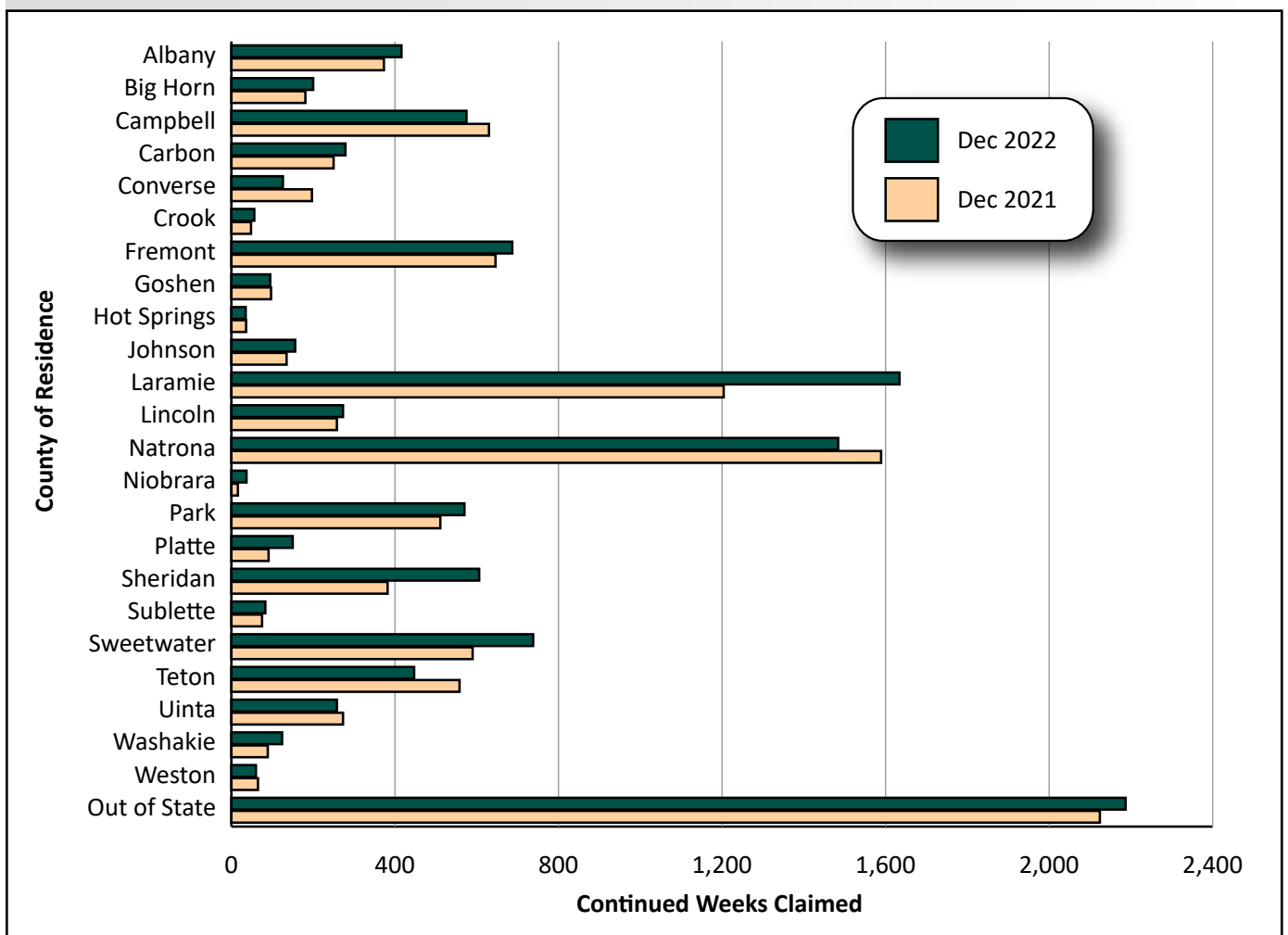


Figure 6: Continued Unemployment Insurance Claims by County of Residence in Wyoming, December 2021 and December 2022

Table 3: Initial Unemployment Insurance Claims for Wyoming by County of Residence, December 2021 and December 2022

County	Dec 2022	Dec 2021	Change	
			N	%
Albany	99	98	1	1.0
Big Horn	45	38	7	18.4
Campbell	149	170	-21	-12.4
Carbon	38	57	-19	-33.3
Converse	35	43	-8	-18.6
Crook	20	9	11	122.2
Fremont	176	136	40	29.4
Goshen	20	30	-10	-33.3
Hot Springs	N/D	3	N/D	N/D
Johnson	46	34	12	35.3
Laramie	353	400	-47	-11.8
Lincoln	82	66	16	24.2
Natrona	333	410	-77	-18.8
Niobrara	19	7	12	171.4
Park	100	117	-17	-14.5
Platte	30	37	-7	-18.9
Sheridan	162	109	53	48.6
Sublette	20	25	-5	-20.0
Sweetwater	154	173	-19	-11.0
Teton	49	43	6	14.0
Uinta	31	48	-17	-35.4
Washakie	27	26	1	3.8
Weston	6	13	-7	-53.8
Unknown	N/D	6	N/D	N/D
Out of State	277	368	-91	-24.7
Total	2,291	2,477	-186	-7.5

N/D = not discloseable due to confidentiality.

Source: Unemployment Insurance claims database.

Prepared by J. Cruz, Research & Planning, WY DWS, 1/17/22.

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, December 2021 and December 2022

County	Dec 2022	Dec 2021	Change	
			N	%
Albany	416	373	43	11.5
Big Horn	200	181	19	10.5
Campbell	575	630	-55	-8.7
Carbon	279	250	29	11.6
Converse	126	197	-71	-36.0
Crook	56	48	8	16.7
Fremont	687	646	41	6.3
Goshen	95	97	-2	-2.1
Hot Springs	35	36	-1	-2.8
Johnson	156	135	21	15.6
Laramie	1,634	1,204	430	35.7
Lincoln	273	258	15	5.8
Natrona	1,484	1,589	-105	-6.6
Niobrara	37	16	21	131.3
Park	570	511	59	11.5
Platte	150	91	59	64.8
Sheridan	606	382	224	58.6
Sublette	83	75	8	10.7
Sweetwater	738	590	148	25.1
Teton	447	558	-111	-19.9
Uinta	258	273	-15	-5.5
Washakie	124	89	35	39.3
Weston	60	65	-5	-7.7
Unknown	56	59	-3	-5.1
Out of State	2,187	2,124	63	3.0
Normalized Total^a	11,344	10,490	854	8.1

^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.
Prepared by J. Cruz, Research & Planning, WY DWS, 1/17/22.



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