

Wyoming Unemployment Insurance Claims Report

January 2021

Information for Wyoming by Industry and County of Residence of Claimant

by: Sherry Wen, Principal Economist, Chris McGrath, Senior Statistician, and Michael Moore, Editor
Research & Planning, Wyoming Department of Workforce Services

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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, January 2021

Initial and Continued Claims Increase from December

by: Michael Moore, Editor, and Sherry Wen, Principal Economist

Unemployment Insurance (UI) claims in Wyoming followed their usual seasonal trends from December 2020 to January 2021, with initial claims increasing 23.8% and continued weeks claimed increasing 9.3%. The volume of claims remained much greater than pre-COVID-19 pandemic levels. See Figure 1 and Figure 2, page 4.

Initial Claims

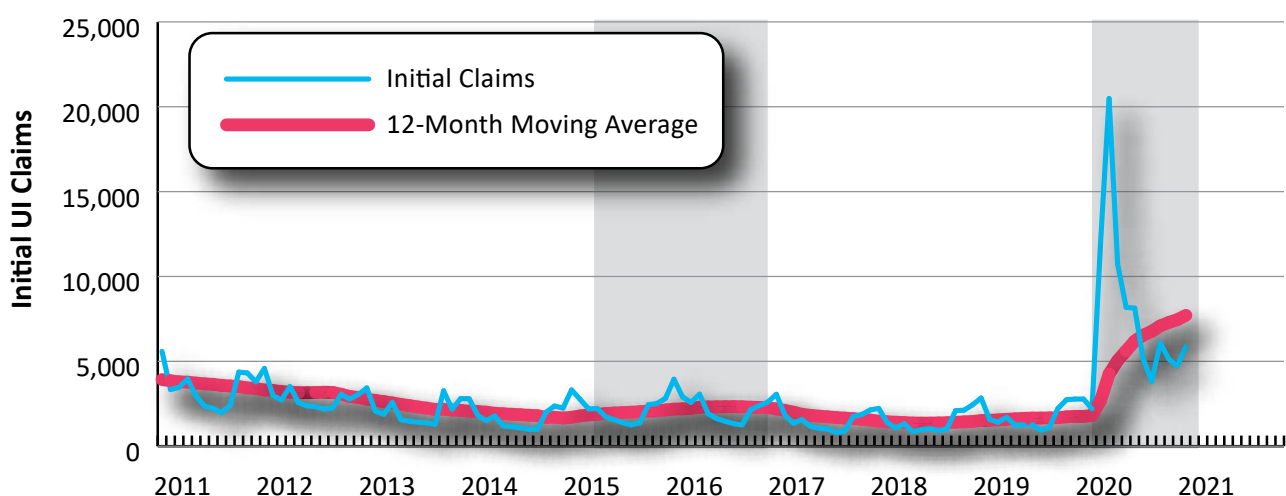
Wyoming had 5,870 initial claims (see Definitions, page 9) in January, up from 4,740 in December (1,130 more claims, or 23.8%). Nearly all industries showed double-digit percentage increases over the month, with the exception of manufacturing (-4.4%) and education & health services (-2.6%). The industries that

Weekly UI Claims

Weekly Unemployment Insurance claims for Wyoming are now available online at https://doe.state.wy.us/LMI/UI/weekly_UI_TOC.htm.

saw the greatest over-the-month increases included leisure & hospitality (107 more claims, or 17.7%), transportation, warehousing, & utilities (104, or 68.0%), and retail trade (100, or 45.9%). All levels of government saw over-the-month increases in initial claims, led by local government (74, or 70.5%). See Table 1 (page 5) and Figure 3 (page 6).

All counties saw over-the-month increases in initial claims, with the



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

Shaded areas indicate period of economic downturn (2015Q2-2016Q4) and 2020 COVID-19 pandemic: March 2020 to present.

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

Prepared by C. McGrath, Research & Planning, WY DWS, 2/17/21.

Figure 1: Total Number of Initial Unemployment Insurance Claims for Wyoming by Year and Month, January 2011 to January 2021

exception of Niobrara County (-4 claims, or -36.4%). The counties with the greatest increases were Teton (152, or 170.8%), Laramie (116, or 17.7%), and Sweetwater (111, or 33.6%). The number of out-of-state claimants increased by 160, or 24.1%. See *Figure 4 (page 6) and Table 3 (page 9)*.

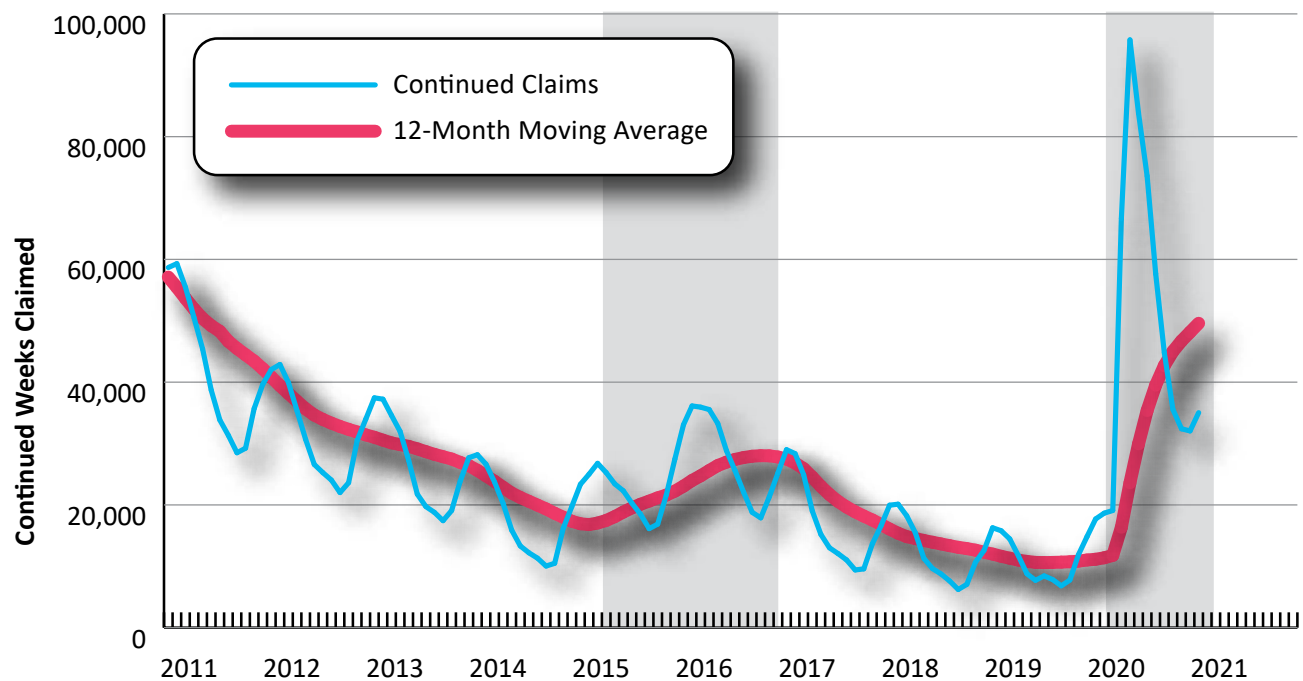
Continued Claims

The total number of continued weeks claimed increased from 32,057 to 35,032 (2,975, or 9.3%). The total number of unique claimants increased from 8,895 to 11,450 (2,555, or 28.7%). See *Figure 2 and Table 2, page 7*.

Continued claims increased in most

private sector industries, including construction (2,491, or 38.4%), mining (802, or 26.3%), and professional & business services (539, or 20.8%). Continued claims increased in federal (151, or 19.5%), state (25, or 10.3%), and local (52, or 5.3%) government. See *Table 2, page 7, and Figure 5, page 8*.

Continued claims increased in most counties, led by Natrona (1,013, or 16.7%), Laramie (441, or 11.8%), and Campbell (429, or 17.2%) counties. Teton County showed the greatest over-the-month decrease in continued claims (-559, or -42.8%). Continued claims for out-of-state claimants increased by 288 weeks (5.1%). 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 period of economic downturn (2015Q2-2016Q4) and 2020 COVID-19 pandemic: March 2020 to present.

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

Prepared by M. Moore, Research & Planning, WY DWS, 2/19/21.

Figure 2: Total Number of Unemployment Insurance Continued Weeks Claimed for Wyoming by Year and Month, January 2011 to January 2021

Table 1: Initial Unemployment Insurance Claims in Wyoming, January 2021

Industry	Initial Claims Filed			Over-the-Month Change		Over-the-Year Change	
	Jan 2021	Dec 2020	Jan 2020	N	%	N	%
Total Claims Filed	5,870	4,740	2,781	1,130	23.8	3,089	111.1
Goods-Producing	1,982	1,895	1,373	87	4.6	609	44.4
Natural Resources & Mining (11, 21)	373	307	227	66	21.5	146	64.3
Mining (21)	333	276	207	57	20.7	126	60.9
Oil & Gas Extraction (211)	23	20	7	3	15.0	16	228.6
Construction (23)	1,436	1,408	1,032	28	2.0	404	39.1
Manufacturing (31-33)	172	180	113	-8	-4.4	59	52.2
Service-Providing	2,249	1,834	950	415	22.6	1,299	136.7
Trade, Transportation, & Utilities (22, 42, 44-45, 48-49)	666	449	320	217	48.3	346	108.1
Wholesale Trade (42)	90	77	38	13	16.9	52	136.8
Retail Trade (44-45)	318	218	150	100	45.9	168	112.0
Transportation, Warehousing & Utilities (22, 44-49)	257	153	131	104	68.0	126	96.2
Information (51)	17	12	8	5	41.7	9	112.5
Financial Activities (52-53)	98	60	41	38	63.3	57	139.0
Professional & Business Services (54-56)	442	408	252	34	8.3	190	75.4
Education & Health Services (61-62)	228	234	90	-6	-2.6	138	153.3
Leisure & Hospitality (71-72)	710	603	193	107	17.7	517	267.9
Other Services, except Public Admin. (81)	85	64	43	21	32.8	42	97.7
Government	430	277	177	153	55.2	253	142.9
Federal Government	200	142	86	58	40.8	114	132.6
State Government	50	30	17	20	66.7	33	194.1
Local Government	179	105	73	74	70.5	106	145.2
Local Education	69	43	14	26	60.5	55	392.9
Unclassified	1,208	732	279	476	65.0	929	333.0
Laramie County							
Total Claims Filed	770	654	375	116	17.7	395	105.3
Goods-Producing	242	273	160	-31	-11.4	82	51.3
Construction	214	243	142	-29	-11.9	72	50.7
Service-Providing	333	257	158	76	29.6	175	110.8
Trade, Transportation, & Utilities (22,42,44-45,48-49)	95	55	46	40	72.7	49	106.5
Financial Activities (52, 53)	25	13	7	12	92.3	18	257.1
Professional & Business Services (54 - 56)	80	63	56	17	27.0	24	42.9
Educational & Health Services (61 - 62)	45	52	20	-7	-13.5	25	125.0
Leisure & Hospitality (71 - 72)	70	57	19	13	22.8	51	268.4
Government	42	23	23	19	82.6	19	82.6
Unclassified	152	100	33	52	52.0	119	360.6
Natrona County							
Total Claims Filed	962	919	397	43	4.7	565	142.3
Goods-Producing	335	350	213	-15	-4.3	122	57.3
Construction	228	264	160	-36	-13.6	68	42.5
Service-Providing	424	433	151	-9	-2.1	273	180.8
Trade, Transportation, & Utilities (22,42,44-45,48-49)	140	119	55	21	17.6	85	154.5
Financial Activities (52, 53)	19	9	7	10	111.1	12	171.4
Professional & Business Services (54 - 56)	93	91	40	2	2.2	53	132.5
Educational & Health Services (61 - 62)	45	71	17	-26	-36.6	28	164.7
Leisure & Hospitality (71 - 72)	97	125	20	-28	-22.4	77	385.0
Government	42	25	4	17	68.0	38	950.0
Unclassified	160	109	28	51	46.8	132	471.4

N/D = Not discloseable due to confidentiality.

Source: Unemployment Insurance claims database. Reviewed by S. Wen, Research & Planning, WY DWS, 2/17/21.

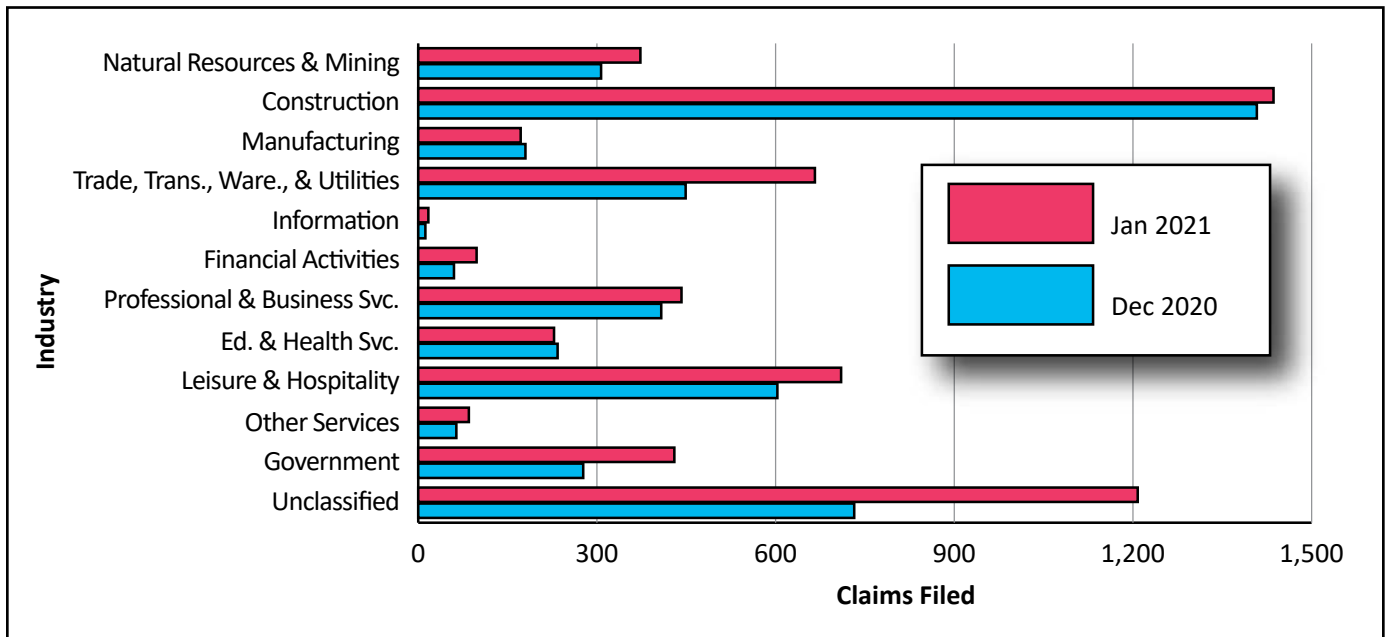


Figure 3: Initial Unemployment Insurance Claims by Major Industry in Wyoming, December 2020 and January 2021

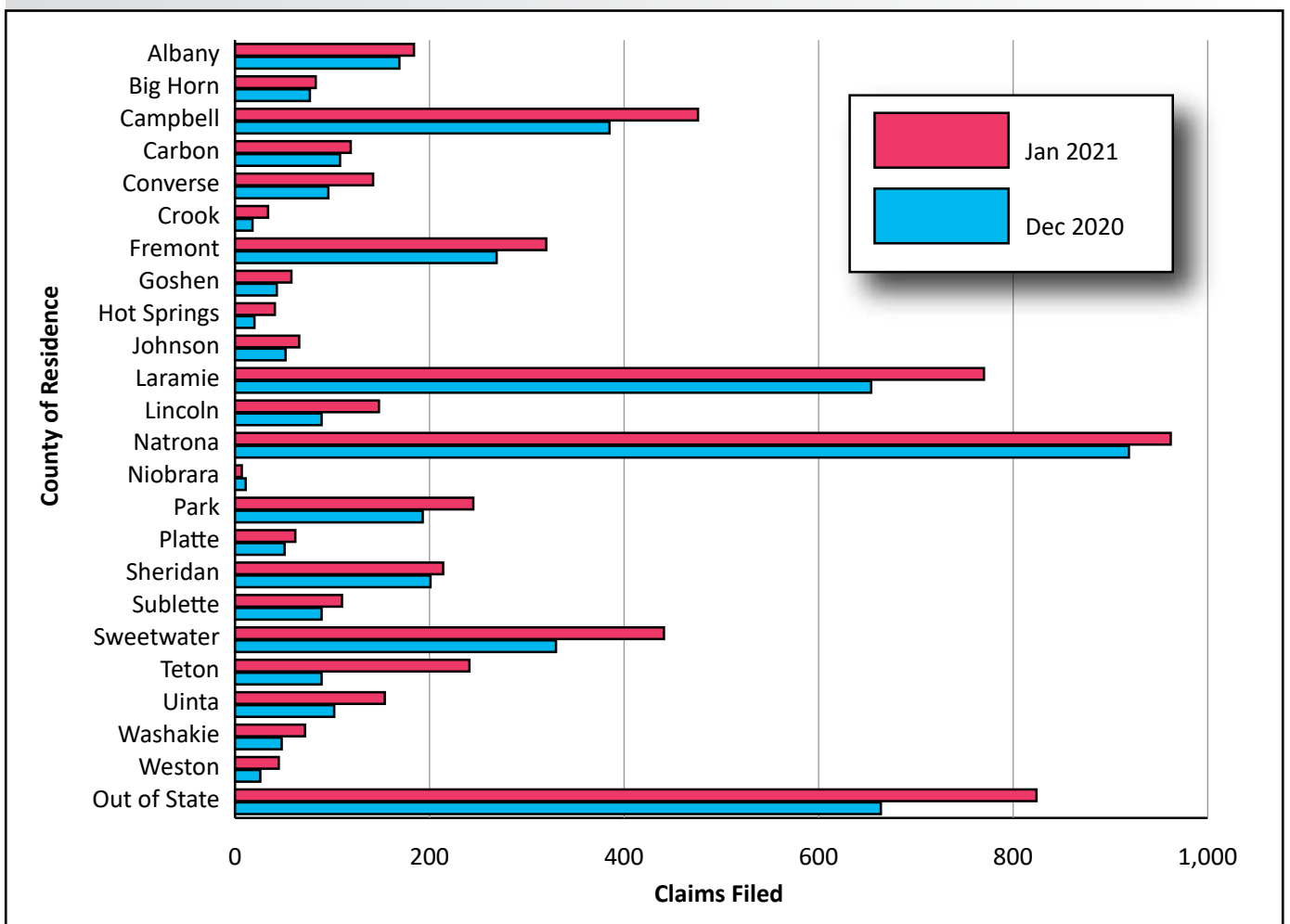


Figure 4: Initial Unemployment Insurance Claims by County of Residence, December 2020 and January 2021

Table 2: Unemployment Insurance Continued Weeks Claimed in Wyoming, January 2021

Industry	Continued Weeks Claimed			Over-the-Month Change		Over-the-Year Change	
	Jan 2021	Dec 2020	Jan 2020	N	%	N	%
Total Continued Weeks Claimed	35,032	32,057	17,707	2,975	9.3	17,325	97.8
Total Unique Claimants	11,450	8,895	4,917	2,555	28.7	6,533	132.9
Goods-Producing	14,397	10,701	8,234	3,696	34.5	6,163	74.8
Natural Resources & Mining (11, 21)	4,073	3,169	1,794	904	28.5	2,279	127.0
Mining (21)	3,846	3,044	1,617	802	26.3	2,229	137.8
Oil & Gas Extraction (211)	244	193	83	51	26.4	161	194.0
Construction (23)	8,970	6,479	5,787	2,491	38.4	3,183	55.0
Manufacturing (31-33)	1,353	1,052	652	301	28.6	701	107.5
Service-Providing	14,134	13,002	5,725	1,132	8.7	8,409	146.9
Trade, Transportation, & Utilities (22, 42, 44-45, 48-49)	4,479	3,655	1,531	824	22.5	2,948	192.6
Wholesale Trade (42)	1,193	969	245	224	23.1	948	386.9
Retail Trade (44-45)	1,805	1,498	709	307	20.5	1,096	154.6
Transportation, Warehousing & Utilities (22, 44-49)	1,479	1,187	576	292	24.6	903	156.8
Information (51)	141	186	90	-45	-24.2	51	56.7
Financial Activities (52-53)	710	604	282	106	17.5	428	151.8
Professional & Business Services (54-56)	3,134	2,595	1,633	539	20.8	1,501	91.9
Education & Health Services (61-62)	1,391	1,387	555	4	0.3	836	150.6
Leisure & Hospitality (71-72)	3,631	3,981	1,395	-350	-8.8	2,236	160.3
Other Services, except Public Admin. (81)	645	591	236	54	9.1	409	173.3
Government	2,221	1,992	1,569	229	11.5	652	41.6
Federal Government	926	775	852	151	19.5	74	8.7
State Government	267	242	122	25	10.3	145	118.9
Local Government	1,027	975	594	52	5.3	433	72.9
Local Education	290	305	103	-15	-4.9	187	181.6
Unclassified	4,280	6,361	2,177	-2,081	-32.7	2,103	96.6
Laramie County							
Total Claims Filed	4,182	3,741	2,206	441	11.8	1,976	89.6
Total Unique Claimants	1,354	1,046	626	308	29.4	728	116.3
Goods-Producing	1,644	1,119	1,150	525	46.9	494	43.0
Construction	1,321	825	1,030	496	60.1	291	28.3
Service-Providing	1,851	1,671	668	180	10.8	1,183	177.1
Trade, Transportation, & Utilities (22,42,44-45,48-49)	527	462	203	65	14.1	324	159.6
Financial Activities (52, 53)	107	87	48	20	23.0	59	122.9
Professional & Business Services (54 - 56)	427	368	183	59	16.0	244	133.3
Educational & Health Services (61 - 62)	290	296	78	-6	-2.0	212	271.8
Leisure & Hospitality (71 - 72)	378	361	80	17	4.7	298	372.5
Government	215	190	123	25	13.2	92	74.8
Unclassified	471	759	263	-288	-37.9	208	79.1
Natrona County							
Total Claims Filed	7,087	6,074	2,497	1,013	16.7	4,590	183.8
Total Unique Claimants	2,352	1,714	718	638	37.2	1,634	227.6
Goods-Producing	2,736	2,018	1,270	718	35.6	1,466	115.4
Construction	1,481	1,067	892	414	38.8	589	66.0
Service-Providing	3,481	2,901	958	580	20.0	2,523	263.4
Trade, Transportation, & Utilities (22,42,44-45,48-49)	1,301	1,026	306	275	26.8	995	325.2
Financial Activities (52, 53)	228	210	51	18	8.6	177	347.1
Professional & Business Services (54 - 56)	648	514	273	134	26.1	375	137.4
Educational & Health Services (61 - 62)	335	296	110	39	13.2	225	204.5
Leisure & Hospitality (71 - 72)	657	546	143	111	20.3	514	359.4
Government	187	174	72	13	7.5	115	159.7
Unclassified	681	981	195	-300	-30.6	486	249.2

Source: Unemployment Insurance claims database.

Reviewed by S. Wen, Research & Planning, WY DWS, 2/17/21.

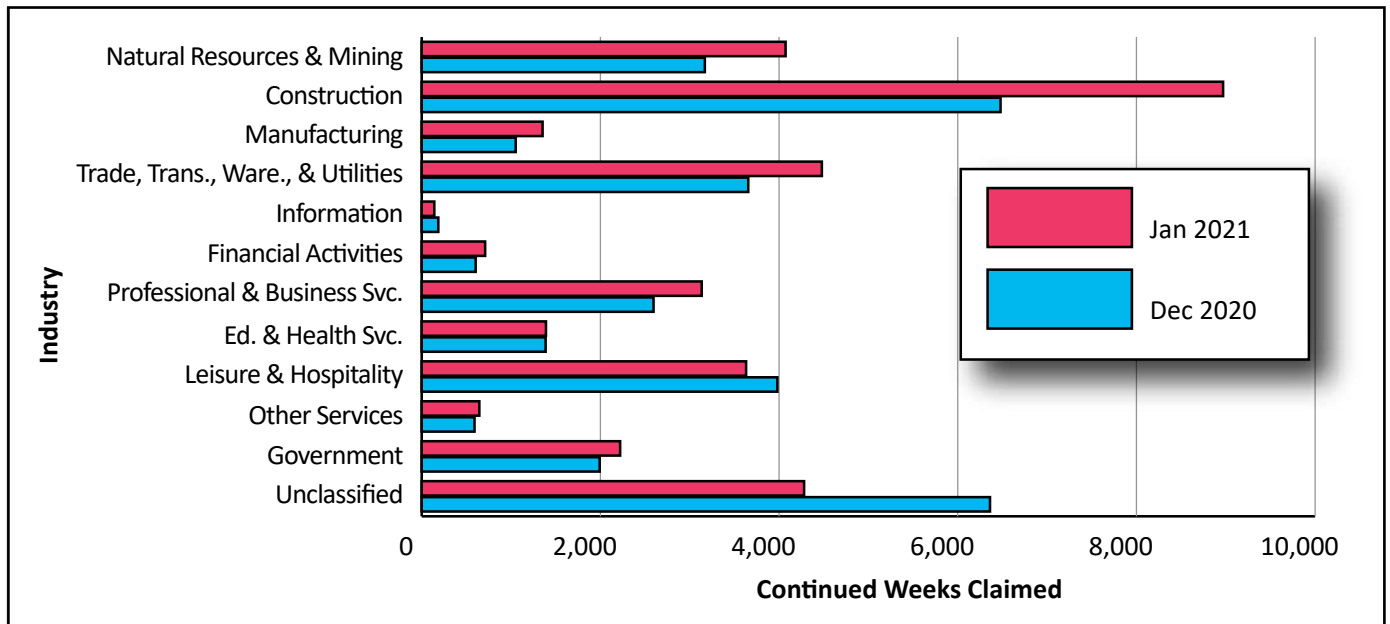


Figure 5: Continued Unemployment Insurance Claims by Major Industry in Wyoming, December 2020 and January 2021

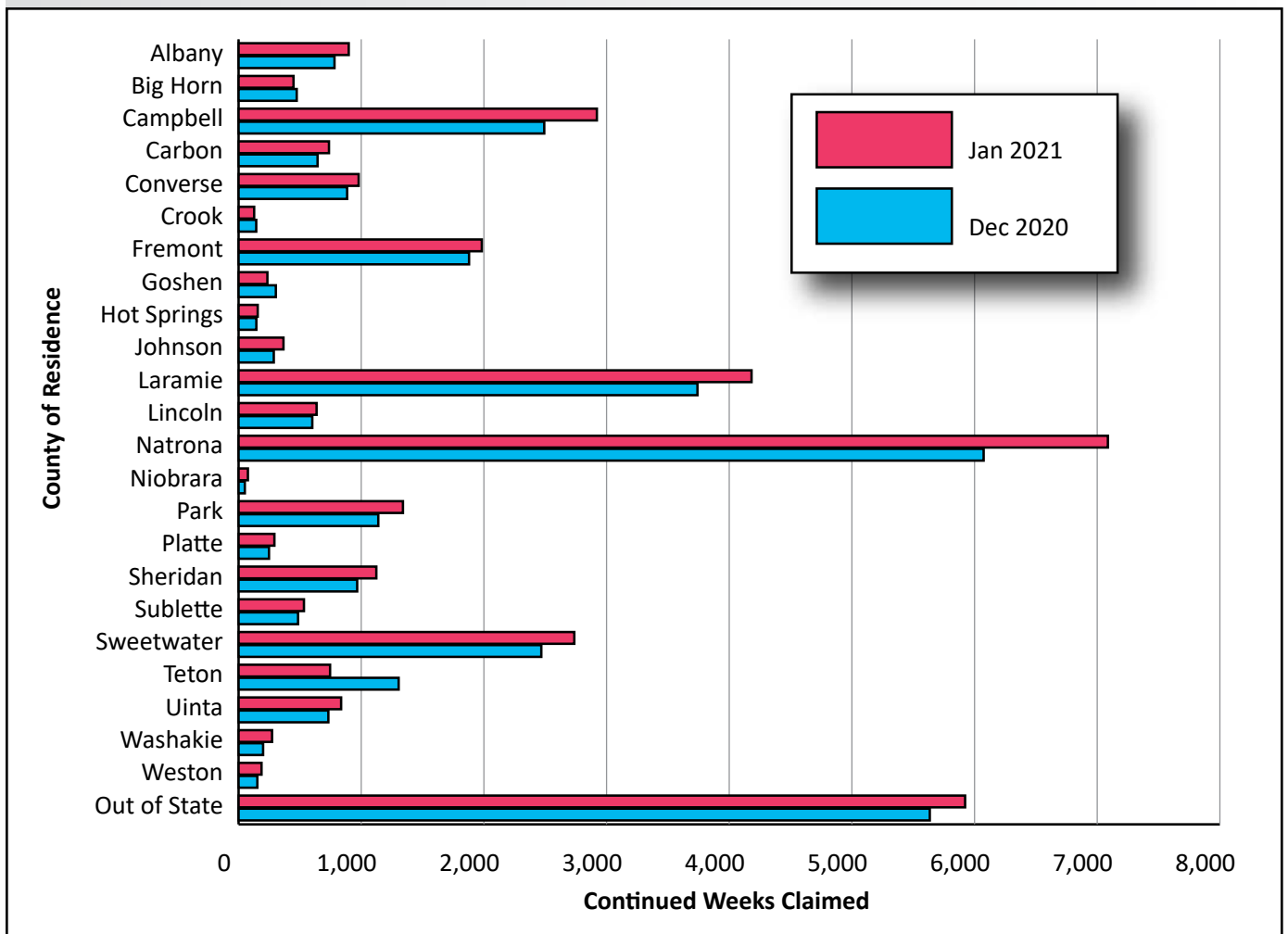


Figure 6: Continued Unemployment Insurance Claims by County of Residence in Wyoming, December 2020 and January 2021

Table 3: Initial Unemployment Insurance Claims for Wyoming by County of Residence, December 2020 to January 2021

County	Jan 2021	Dec 2020	Change	
			N	%
Albany	184	169	15	8.9
Big Horn	83	77	6	7.8
Campbell	476	385	91	23.6
Carbon	119	108	11	10.2
Converse	142	96	46	47.9
Crook	34	18	16	88.9
Fremont	320	269	51	19.0
Goshen	58	43	15	34.9
Hot Springs	41	20	21	105.0
Johnson	66	52	14	26.9
Laramie	770	654	116	17.7
Lincoln	148	89	59	66.3
Natrona	962	919	43	4.7
Niobrara	7	11	-4	-36.4
Park	245	193	52	26.9
Platte	62	51	11	21.6
Sheridan	214	201	13	6.5
Sublette	110	89	21	23.6
Sweetwater	441	330	111	33.6
Teton	241	89	152	170.8
Uinta	154	102	52	51.0
Washakie	72	48	24	50.0
Weston	45	26	19	73.1
Unknown	41	26	15	57.7
Out of State	824	664	160	24.1
Total	5,870	4,740	1,130	23.8

Source: Unemployment Insurance claims database.

Reviewed by S. Wen, Research & Planning, WY DWS, 2/17/21.

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 2020 to January 2021

County	Jan 2021	Dec 2020	Change	
			N	%
Albany	898	782	116	14.8
Big Horn	448	474	-26	-5.5
Campbell	2,921	2,492	429	17.2
Carbon	737	644	93	14.4
Converse	979	885	94	10.6
Crook	127	144	-17	-11.8
Fremont	1,983	1,879	104	5.5
Goshen	235	304	-69	-22.7
Hot Springs	156	145	11	7.6
Johnson	366	287	79	27.5
Laramie	4,182	3,741	441	11.8
Lincoln	636	601	35	5.8
Natrona	7,087	6,074	1,013	16.7
Niobrara	76	51	25	49.0
Park	1,340	1,139	201	17.6
Platte	292	248	44	17.7
Sheridan	1,123	967	156	16.1
Sublette	533	485	48	9.9
Sweetwater	2,737	2,468	269	10.9
Teton	746	1,305	-559	-42.8
Uinta	836	732	104	14.2
Washakie	273	200	73	36.5
Weston	187	153	34	22.2
Unknown	198	211	-13	-6.2
Out of State	5,923	5,635	288	5.1
Normalized Total^a	35,032	32,057	2,975	9.3

^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.

Reviewed by S. Wen, Research & Planning, WY DWS, 2/17/21.



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