Finding employment and total wages for an industry
If you’re looking for data on employment and wages for a particular industry in Wyoming, the Wyoming Department of Workforce Services Research & Planning Section has you covered. Your first place to look is the Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages (QCEW) at doe.state.wy.us/LMI/toc_202.htm. There you’ll find the most comprehensive data available showing the number of employing units, average monthly employment, total wages, and the average weekly wage for many industries at the statewide, regional, and county level. According to the U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis, in terms of dollars, Unemployment Insurance covered payroll represents approximately 91.5% of all wage and salary disbursements and 43.8% of personal income in the state. To help your business make informed decisions, see R&P’s labor market information website at doe.state.wy.us/LMI.

National Safety Stand-Down to Prevent Falls in Construction
Federal OSHA and Wyoming OSHA is supporting the National Safety Stand-Down to Prevent Falls in Construction Industry. The event will occur May 4-15, 2015. For more information, visit osha.gov/StopFallsStandDown/resources.html

In short, construction employers are being asked to hold safety toolbox meetings with their employees about the importance of fall protection and what employers/employees can do to protect themselves from falls, which is the #1 cause for serious injury/death in their industry.

Wyoming New Business Formation in 2012 and 2013
New business formation and the rate of business formation are important indices of economic growth. They represent new sources of jobs, wages, and tax revenues for the state and local communities.

A new business is defined as a business that did not exist before but now actively provides goods or services, and hires employees and pays them wages. New branches of existing firms or the reopening of firms after temporarily closing are not considered new firms.

A total of 2,008 new firms opened in Wyoming in 2012 and 2,049 new firms opened in 2013. This upward growth trend has continued for four years since 2010 from the trough in 2009, which only gained 1,832 new firms and was the lowest level since 1996. During this time there were two periods of economic downturn in Wyoming: 2002 to 2003 and 2008 to 2009. During the four years (2004 to 2007) after the first downturn, the average growth rate was 5.1%. However, during the four

WY OSHA Consultation Discount Program
Are you an employer working in Wyoming that has at least 1 employee and maintains certificates of good standing with Wyoming Workers’ Compensation division? If so are you interested in saving 3%, 5%, 7%, or even 10% on your Workers’ Compensation Premiums? Contact Wyoming OSHA to see how you can take advantage of their OSHA Consultation Employer Discount Program by calling Alicia Trujillo at (307) 777-7787 or emailing her at alicia.trujillo@wyo.gov.

Workers’ Compensation Officer/Owner Average Wage for 2015
$11,313/quarter; $3,770/month

Unemployment Insurance Taxable Wage Base for 2015
$24,700
years (2010 to 2013) after the second downturn, the growth rate was only 2.9%. Growth rate is calculated by dividing the number of new businesses by the number of existing businesses.

New firms contributed 8,283 jobs in 2012 and 7,786 jobs in 2013, which counted for 3.0% and 2.8% state average employment, respectively. They also contributed $184.0 million in wages in 2012 and $170.4 million in 2013, equal to 1.5% and 1.4% state total wages, respectively. The total number of new firms in 2013 increased slightly (2.0%) from the previous year, but the associated initial jobs decreased 6.0%, and total wages decreased 7.4%. These opposite movements could be due to the proportion of small sized firms and low paying firms. The average firm size in 2013 was 3.8 jobs, down from 4.1 jobs in 2012. The highest average firm size was 4.8 jobs per firm in 1999.

This article is available in its entirety in the February 2015 issue of Wyoming Labor Force Trends. It is also available online at doe.state.wy.us/LMI/trends/215/ a1.htm.

**Risk Management**
The Risk Management Unit helps employers save money by improving workplace safety. A safe workplace prevents injuries on the job. The number of workplace injuries, and the costs associated with those injuries, directly impacts the employer’s workers compensation premiums. Therefore, the fewer injuries your employees experience, the more cost-savings.

Risk Management Analysis: Risk managers help employers save money by improving workplace safety using a risk management analysis. Employers receive a customized presentation of its workers’ compensation risk status, including workplace injuries, injury costs and premium expenditures (e.g. employer’s premium calculation, experience modification rating, reserves, and past, current and projected financial injury and claims costs). The Risk Management Unit offers two programs to assist employers in decreasing their workers’ compensation premiums.

- Safety Discount Program: By implementing a formal workplace safety program, employers may be eligible to receive up to a 10% premium discount.
- Drug Free Workplace Discount Program: Drug & Alcohol Testing: By implementing a workplace drug and alcohol testing program, employers may be eligible for a 5% premium discount. Please visit the following links to learn more about this program.

Wyoming Safety Improvement Fund: Employers may be eligible to receive up to $10,000 in funding for safety equipment, and health and safety training programs.

**RMA – General Standard Presentation**

Risk Management – Brief Overview

- Base Rates
- Employer Groups
- Credibility Factor

Experience Modification Rating (Alert employers to potential EMR calculation change effective 2017 – provide a copy of the White Paper.)

Premium

Data Trending

Workers’ Compensation Generally
- Impact when Employer pays medicals costs directly
- Injury report process
- Return to work/light duty
- Total Temporary Disability
- Investigation techniques
- Loss Runs – Claims Management
- Fraud (Offer in-depth presentation)

Safety Improvement Fund

Discount Programs, as applicable
- Safety Discount Program
- Drug & Alcohol Testing Discount Program
- OSHA Consultation Discount Program

OSHA Consultation

Safety Alliances

**Contact Info:**

Risk Management Unit
Workers' Compensation Division
Wyoming Department of Workforce Services
PO Box 20161
1510 E Pershing Blvd, 2nd Fl
Cheyenne, WY 82003
307-777-6763
BusinessRisk@wyo.gov