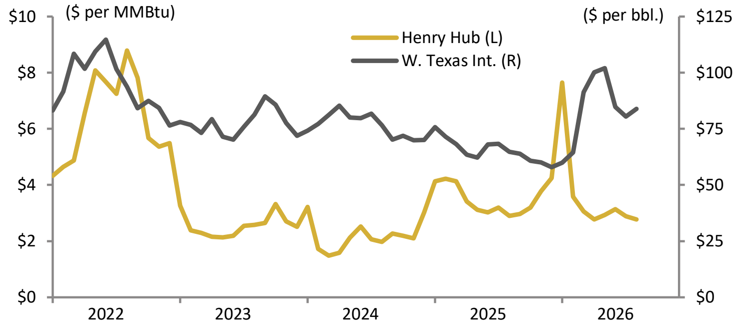
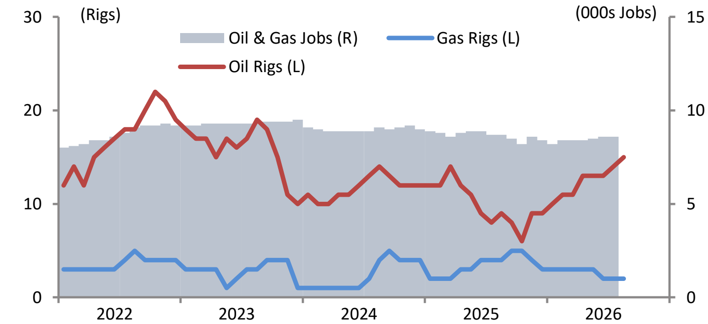
Wyoming Insight

WYOGOV

ECONOMIC ANALYSIS DIVISION • AUGUST 2026

Energy index: natural gas and crude oil prices, rig counts, and oil & gas employment.[1,3,8,11]



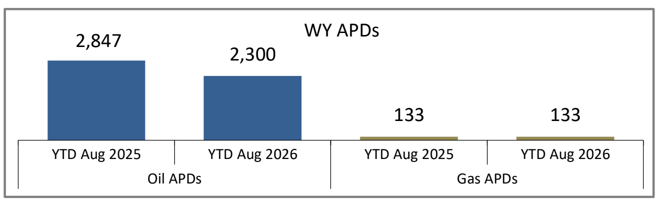


The West Texas Intermediate crude oil price averaged $83.90 per barrel in August, 4.3% more than the previous month and 29.4% more than a year ago. The Henry Hub natural gas price averaged $2.77 per MMBtu in August, $0.12 less than a month ago and $0.14 less than August 2025.

Oil & gas jobs numbered 8,600 in July, 100 less than the total a year ago. Average active oil rigs were 15 in August while the conventional gas rig count was 2. *Note: Oil & gas jobs include both the NAICS 211 (oil and gas extraction) and NAICS 213 (support activities for mining) subsectors.*

NATURAL GAS	[$/MMBtu]		
Historical Spot Prices [1]	**Aug 2025**	**Jul 2026**	**Aug 2026**
Opal Hub	$2.56	$2.21	$2.75
Cheyenne Hub	$2.48	$2.16	$2.40
Henry Hub	$2.91	$2.89	$2.77
Futures [2] (As of 8.31.26)	**Oct 2026**	**Nov 2026**	**Oct 2027**
NYMEX - Henry Hub	$2.94	$3.06	$3.28
January 2026 CREG [5]	**CY 2026**	**CY 2027**	**CY 2028**
CREG - All Gas ($ per Mcf)	$4.25	$4.30	$4.20

RIGS & APDs*[3]	Jun 2026/2025	Jul 2026/2025	Aug 2026/2025
Oil Rigs	13/9	14/8	15/9
Conventional Gas Rigs	2/4	2/4	2/4
Oil APDs	307/416	312/332	221/422
Conventional Gas APDs	21/6	4/8	41/26



Active conventional drilling rigs and applications for permits to drill (APDs).

CRUDE OIL & FUEL	[$/bbl.]		
Historical Spot Prices	**Aug 2025**	**Jul 2026**	**Aug 2026**
WY Sour[13]	$46.77	$56.56	$60.31
WY Sweet[13]	$55.95	$66.99	$71.96
W.Texas Int.[11]	$64.86	$80.46	$83.90
Futures [2] (As of 8.31.26)	**Oct 2026**	**Nov 2026**	**Oct 2027**
NYMEX - WTI	$85.76	$84.06	$71.80
January 2026 CREG [5]	**CY 2026**	**CY 2027**	**CY 2028**
CREG - All Oil	$55.00	$60.00	$65.00
		[$/gallon]	
WY Fuel Prices [14]	**Aug 2025**	**Jul 2026**	**Aug 2026**
Gasoline	$3.04	$3.94	$4.23
Diesel	$3.56	$4.71	$5.30

COAL - PRB*	[$/ton]		
Historical Spot Prices [11]	**Aug 2025**	**Jul 2026**	**Aug 2026**
PRB* 8800 Btu	$14.40	$14.68	$14.55
January 2026 CREG [5]	**CY 2026**	**CY 2027**	**CY 2028**
CREG Surface Coal	$14.25	$14.00	$14.00
WY Coal Production [11]	**May 26/25**	**Jun 26/25**	**Jul 26/25**
Millions of Tons	17.6/17.4	17.1/16.7	18.2/18.8

*Powder River Basin

Business indicators: cost of living, unemployment rates, per capita and quarterly personal income, and ag price index.

COST OF LIVING	4Q-2024	2Q-2025	4Q-2025
Wyoming[6]	4.6%	4.2%	3.4%
U.S. CPI[8]	2.9%	2.7%	2.7%

Cost of living measured as the percent change from the preceding year.

JOBLESS RATES[8]	Jul 2025	Jun 2026	Jul 2026
Wyoming - Seasonally Adj.	3.3%	3.2%	3.0%
U.S. - Seasonally Adj.	4.3%	4.2%	4.1%

NON-FARM JOBS[8]	Jul 2025	Jun 2026	Jul 2026
Wyoming - Seasonally Adj.	293,800	295,000	295,100

QUARTERLY PI[9]	3Q-2025	4Q-2025	1Q-2026
Wyoming	0.5%	4.0%	3.6%
Rocky Mountain Region	3.1%	3.4%	3.6%
U.S.	4.4%	2.4%	3.4%

Personal income measured as the annualized percent change from the preceding quarter.

AG PRICE INDEX[12]	May 2026/2025	Jun 2026/2025	Jul 2026/2025
U.S. - Ag. Production	140.7/140.7	138.7/138.8	133.0/136.6
U.S. - Crop Production	116.1/104.2	113.6/104.3	107.0/103.1
U.S. - Livestock Production	158.6/170.7	158.7/170.2	157.0/172.4

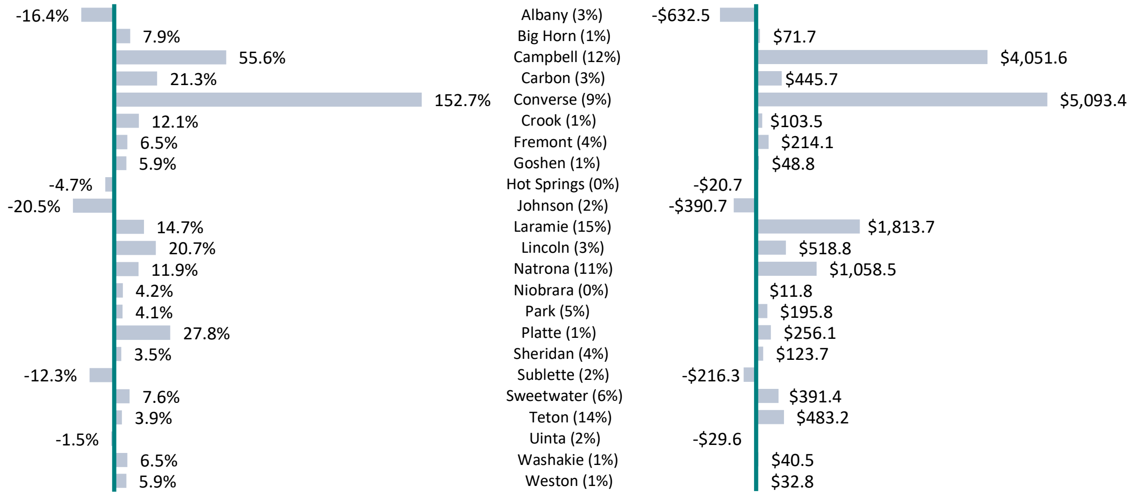
Prices received indexes; 2011 base.

Energy benchmarks: for fiscal and calendar years to date.

SPOT PRICES [As of August 31, 2026]	FY 2027 TD	CY 2026 TD
Opal Hub ($/MMBtu)	$2.48	$1.93
Henry Hub ($/MMBtu)	$2.83	$3.60
W. Texas Int. ($/bbl.)	$82.18	$83.44
Powder River Coal ($/ton)	$14.62	$14.96
Uranium ($/lb.)[4]	$88.03	$87.13

Data sources: [1]Natural Gas Intelligence, [2]CME Group, [3]WY Oil & Gas Conservation Commission, [4]Cameco, [5]January 2026 CREG Forecast, [6]WY Dept. of Admin. & Info.'s Economic Analysis Division, [7]WY Dept. of Revenue, [8]U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, [9]U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis, [10]U.S. Bureau of Census, [11]U.S. EIA, [12]USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service, [13]Oil Monster, and [14]Gas Buddy.

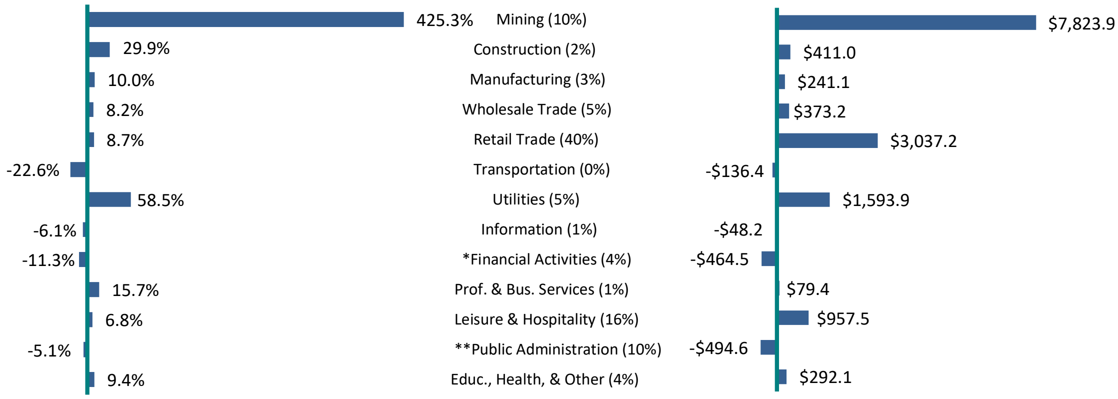
State & local shares of 4% sales and use tax collections.[7] [Change by County: August 2026 vs. August 2025 by percent and dollars (in thousands)]



In a year-over-year comparison (August 2026 vs. August 2025), sales and use tax collections statewide increased by $13.7 million or 16.9%. 18 of the 23 counties saw a year-over-year increase in collections. Converse County saw the largest increase in collections, up $5.1 million (+152.7%), followed by Campbell County, up $4.1 million (+55.6%). The large increases in these two counties are primarily due to a mining refund issued in August 2025 which skewed the year-over-year comparisons.

Note: Collections in August primarily reflect sales in July.

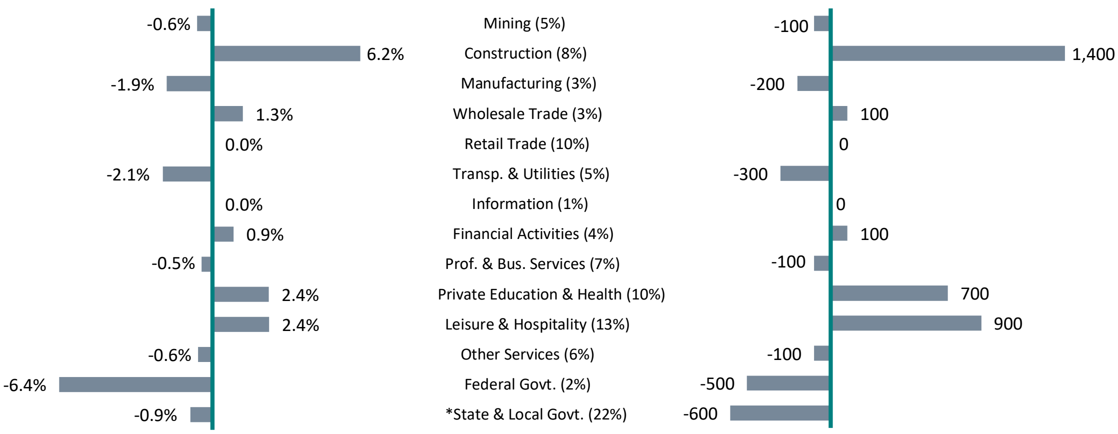
State & local shares of 4% sales and use tax collections.[7] [Change by Industry: August 2026 vs. August 2025 by percent and dollars (in thousands)]



In a year-over-year comparison (August 2026 vs. August 2025) by industry, the mining sector experienced the largest increase in collections, up $7.8 million (+425.3%). This substanial increase is primarily due to a tax refund that was issued in August a year ago. Additionally, retail trade had a strong month in August, increasing $3.0 million (+8.7%).

Note: Value in parentheses represents share of total collections.
*Taxes are mostly from automotive, machinery, and equipment leasing and rental.
**Reflects taxes from automobile purchases.

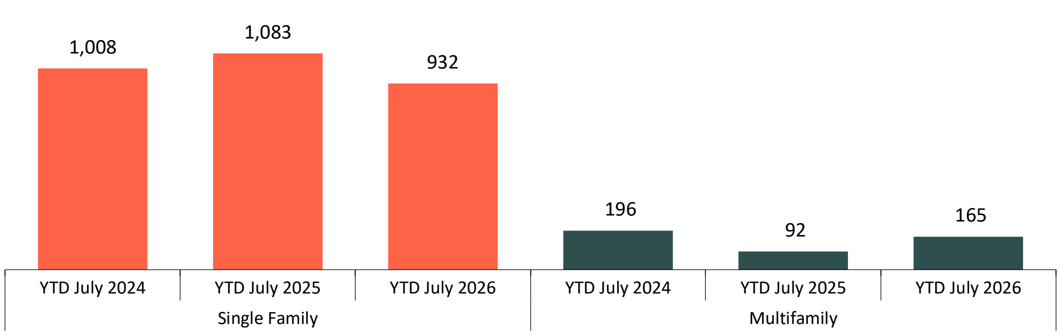
Nonfarm wage and salary employment.[8] [Change by Industry Sector: July 2026 vs. July 2025 by percent and jobs, seasonally adjusted]



Wyoming had 295,100 jobs in July, 1,300 more (+0.4%) than July 2025. The construction sector gained the most jobs (+1,400 jobs), followed by leisure & hospitality (+900 jobs). The mining sector experienced a small decline in employment, down 100 jobs (-0.6%).

Note: Value in parentheses represents share of total jobs.
*Includes public education and hospitals.

Residential building permits.[10] [Comparisons: Single family and multifamily units]



Single family housing units permitted calendar year-to-date through July 2026 decreased by 151 (-13.9%) compared to 2025. The number of multifamily units increased by 73 (+79.3%) over the same comparison.

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