

STATE OF WYOMING
DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATION AND INFORMATION
ECONOMIC ANALYSIS DIVISION
2800 CENTRAL AVENUE
CHEYENNE, WYOMING 82002
PH. (307) 777-7504 FAX (307) 632-1819
E-mail: ai-ead-info@wyo.gov



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Thursday, March 26, 2015

Contact: Dr. Wenlin Liu, Principal Economist

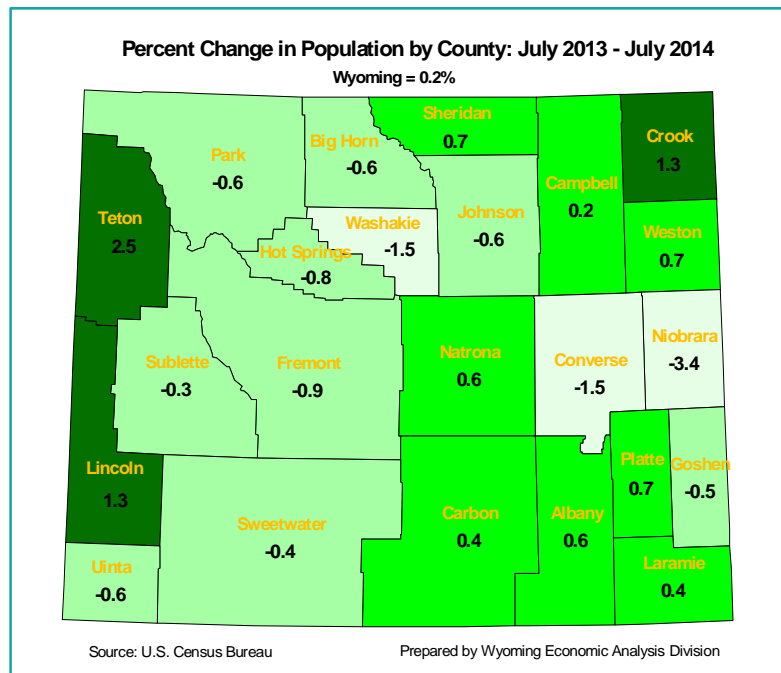
Teton County's Population Grew the Fastest in 2014

CHEYENNE -- Wyoming's total resident population reached 584,153 in July 2014, according to estimates released by the U.S. Census Bureau. The annual increase from July 2013 was 930 persons, or 0.2 percent, the slowest pace since 2001. The estimated net migration, after accounting for the natural change (7,626 births and 4,511 deaths), indicated that nearly 2,200 more persons left Wyoming than moved into the State between July 2013 and July 2014. In contrast, the annual population growth was 6,330 between July 2012 and July 2013, which implies that over 3,000 more people moved into the State than Wyoming residents moved out during that period.

Teton County led the state with the fastest population growth of 2.5 percent between July 2013 and July 2014. Crook and Lincoln were the only two other counties that demonstrated increases of more than 1.0 percent, each. "Migration is mostly driven by changes in employment, which is particularly true for Wyoming," said Dr. Wenlin Liu, principal economist with State of Wyoming, Economic Analysis Division. People tend to move to areas where there are jobs available, or conversely, may leave the area where employment opportunities becomes limited. "Strong construction, services, and viable tourism related activities in Teton County, without direct impact from energy price fluctuations, have resulted in a higher demand for labor," Liu continued. The job growth rate was 3.9 percent in Teton County, compared to 0.1 percent for the state between 2012 and 2013.

Over half of Wyoming's counties experienced population contractions. Niobrara, Converse, and Washakie counties experienced at least 1.5 percent declines, respectively.

"People tend to move to areas where economies are vibrant," said Dr. Liu. It appears that the change in employment always drives and leads the change in migration in the State. In other words, migration change normally follows, and lags the employment change. Mainly due to the severe drop in natural gas price in early 2012, the mineral extraction industry lost jobs and there was miniscule total employment growth during the second half of 2012 and most of 2013. As a result, workers responded and an out-migration occurred mostly in the second half of 2013. In addition, oil exploration in states such as North Dakota, Texas, and Colorado showed strong expansion, which attracted many Wyoming energy workers and residents during that period.



"However, the state's economy gradually regained strength in 2014, thanks to the strong expansion of oil drilling, rebounding construction, and the strength of the service providing industries. Consequently, an uptrend of migration into the state should follow, therefore a faster population growth is expected for the 2015 estimation," Liu continued.

Table 1. Annual Estimates of the Resident Population for Counties of Wyoming: April 1, 2010 to July 1, 2014

Geographic Area	April 1, 2010		Population Estimates					Change, 7/1/13 to 7/1/14		Change, 4/1/10 to 7/1/14	
	Census	Estimates Base	July 1, 2010	July 1, 2011	July 1, 2012	July 1, 2013	July 1, 2014	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Wyoming	563,626	563,767	564,358	567,631	576,893	583,223	584,153	930	0.2	20,386	3.6
Albany	36,299	36,299	36,440	36,913	37,363	37,574	37,811	237	0.6	1,512	4.2
Big Horn	11,668	11,668	11,674	11,745	11,778	12,006	11,930	-76	-0.6	262	2.2
Campbell	46,133	46,133	46,223	46,590	47,897	48,210	48,320	110	0.2	2,187	4.7
Carbon	15,885	15,885	15,835	15,818	15,679	15,791	15,854	63	0.4	-31	-0.2
Converse	13,833	13,833	13,817	13,720	14,005	14,316	14,097	-219	-1.5	264	1.9
Crook	7,083	7,083	7,108	7,121	7,139	7,158	7,248	90	1.3	165	2.3
Fremont	40,123	40,123	40,224	40,589	41,125	41,052	40,703	-349	-0.9	580	1.4
Goshen	13,249	13,247	13,411	13,604	13,670	13,578	13,514	-64	-0.5	267	2.0
Hot Springs	4,812	4,812	4,804	4,809	4,845	4,856	4,816	-40	-0.8	4	0.1
Johnson	8,569	8,569	8,568	8,627	8,606	8,622	8,573	-49	-0.6	4	0.0
Laramie	91,738	91,881	92,199	92,607	94,849	96,015	96,389	374	0.4	4,508	4.9
Lincoln	18,106	18,106	18,075	18,004	17,926	18,326	18,567	241	1.3	461	2.5
Natrona	75,450	75,450	75,466	76,416	78,686	81,143	81,624	481	0.6	6,174	8.2
Niobrara	2,484	2,484	2,491	2,484	2,475	2,549	2,463	-86	-3.4	-21	-0.8
Park	28,205	28,205	28,262	28,467	28,805	29,154	28,989	-165	-0.6	784	2.8
Platte	8,667	8,667	8,680	8,700	8,735	8,735	8,799	64	0.7	132	1.5
Sheridan	29,116	29,116	29,148	29,275	29,598	29,836	30,032	196	0.7	916	3.1
Sublette	10,247	10,247	10,231	10,127	10,412	10,087	10,057	-30	-0.3	-190	-1.9
Sweetwater	43,806	43,806	43,599	44,048	45,115	45,205	45,010	-195	-0.4	1,204	2.7
Teton	21,294	21,294	21,290	21,482	21,704	22,375	22,930	555	2.5	1,636	7.7
Uinta	21,118	21,118	21,103	20,917	20,989	21,031	20,904	-127	-0.6	-214	-1.0
Washakie	8,533	8,533	8,541	8,466	8,441	8,450	8,322	-128	-1.5	-211	-2.5
Weston	7,208	7,208	7,169	7,102	7,051	7,154	7,201	47	0.7	-7	-0.1

Note: The estimates are based on the 2010 Census and reflect changes to the April 1, 2010 population due to the Count Question Resolution program and geographic program revisions. See Geographic Terms and Definitions at <http://www.census.gov/popest/about/geo/terms.html> for a list of the states that are included in each region and division.

Table 2. Estimates of the Components of Population Change: July 1, 2013 to July 1, 2014

Geographic Area	Total Population Change ¹	Natural Change			Net Migration		
		Total	Births	Deaths	Total	Net International Migration	Net Domestic Migration
Wyoming	930	3,115	7,626	4,511	-2,187	485	-2,672
Albany	237	233	409	176	-10	121	-131
Big Horn	-76	34	151	117	-103	-1	-102
Campbell	110	466	754	288	-349	28	-377
Carbon	63	70	198	128	-36	5	-41
Converse	-219	61	183	122	-294	4	-298
Crook	90	33	94	61	63	3	60
Fremont	-349	129	583	454	-465	7	-472
Goshen	-64	15	147	132	-74	10	-84
Hot Springs	-40	-21	53	74	-16	10	-26
Johnson	-49	14	93	79	-72	5	-77
Laramie	374	504	1,266	762	-70	102	-172
Lincoln	241	134	244	110	103	1	102
Natrona	481	470	1,183	713	62	43	19
Niobrara	-86	9	25	16	-98	0	-98
Park	-165	85	328	243	-233	40	-273
Platte	64	8	91	83	56	-2	58
Sheridan	196	23	329	306	140	33	107
Sublette	-30	85	129	44	-140	27	-167
Sweetwater	-195	364	612	248	-573	13	-586
Teton	555	183	255	72	364	46	318
Uinta	-127	182	319	137	-315	-8	-307
Washakie	-128	9	90	81	-141	0	-141
Weston	47	25	90	65	14	-2	16

Table 3. Cumulative Estimates of the Components of Population Change: April 1, 2010 to July 1, 2014

Geographic Area	Total Population Change ¹	Natural Change			Net Migration		
		Total	Births	Deaths	Total	Net International Migration	Net Domestic Migration
Wyoming	20,386	12,957	31,985	19,028	7,195	2,033	5,162
Albany	1,512	998	1,777	779	479	460	19
Big Horn	262	40	605	565	223	-6	229
Campbell	2,187	2,123	3,192	1,069	36	104	-68
Carbon	-31	332	832	500	-370	18	-388
Converse	264	255	771	516	-6	12	-18
Crook	165	135	398	263	56	13	43
Fremont	580	693	2,554	1,861	-122	29	-151
Goshen	267	29	588	559	236	36	200
Hot Springs	4	-61	215	276	74	40	34
Johnson	4	64	398	334	-67	19	-86
Laramie	4,508	2,120	5,336	3,216	2,384	547	1,837
Lincoln	461	539	1,039	500	-81	0	-81
Natrona	6,174	1,744	4,652	2,908	4,408	174	4,234
Niobrara	-21	5	94	89	-22	0	-22
Park	784	239	1,344	1,105	535	164	371
Platte	132	-38	366	404	192	-8	200
Sheridan	916	166	1,421	1,255	678	141	537
Sublette	-190	367	549	182	-600	106	-706
Sweetwater	1,204	1,566	2,684	1,118	-341	42	-383
Teton	1,636	763	1,071	308	846	185	661
Uinta	-214	778	1,343	565	-1,016	-32	-984
Washakie	-211	31	402	371	-247	-4	-243
Weston	-7	69	354	285	-80	-7	-73

1. Total population change includes a residual. This residual represents the change in population that cannot be attributed to any specific demographic component. See Population Estimates Terms and Definitions at <http://www.census.gov/popest/about/terms.html>.