



ADMINISTRATION
& INFORMATION

ECONOMIC ANALYSIS DIVISION

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Wyoming Cost of Living Index for the Second Quarter of 2021

CHEYENNE - The second quarter of 2021 Wyoming Cost of Living Index (WCLI) is now available from the State of Wyoming, Economic Analysis Division. The WCLI consists of two parts, **Inflation**, which measures year-over-year change (annual) and the **Comparative Cost of Living Index** which compares each county's cost of living in one period (not over time) to the statewide average.

Inflation is reported for the State, by consumer category, and for five regions in the State. Inflation measures year-over-year price changes in six consumer categories. The inflation figures for the second quarter of 2021 represent the percent change in the price level of a standard basket of selected consumer items priced in the second quarter of 2021, compared with the price level of the same goods recorded one year ago (second quarter of 2020).

- All Items Statewide inflation 7.7%
- Statewide inflation by consumer category:
 - Transportation 23.3%
 - Recreation & Personal Care 8.0%
 - Housing 5.5%
 - Apparel 4.6%
 - Medical 3.6%
 - Food 1.9%
- Regional inflation rates:
 - Southwest 8.9%
 - Northeast 8.1%
 - Northwest 7.6%
 - Central 7.4%
 - Southeast 7.2%

Nationally, the inflation rate from June 2020 to June 2021 was 5.4% (CPI-U), as reported by the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) in the Consumer Price Index.

The Comparative Cost of Living Index represents each county's price level compared to the statewide average (100) during a single period, in this case, the second quarter of 2021. For the second quarter of 2021, the Comparative Cost of Living Index ranked Teton (165) as the county with the highest **All Items** value, which indicates that the cost of living in Teton County was estimated 65 percent higher than the statewide average in the quarter.

Comparative Cost of Living Index values for all counties in Wyoming are listed in Table 1 on page 3. Movement in ranking from a previous survey does not indicate that the price level has increased or decreased in a particular county. Instead, these values reflect relative price levels in each county, *at the time of data collection*, compared with the statewide average of 100. Comparative Cost of Living Index data were also produced by consumer category for every county.

Survey Methodology

The WCLI is produced biannually, the second quarter and the fourth quarter. Price data are collected in twenty-eight cities and towns in Wyoming and the data are used to build a Comparative Cost of Living Index by county and to estimate overall inflation rates for Wyoming and the five designated regions of the State. A map of the twenty-eight cities where price data were collected is on page 4.

Communities across the State are included in the WCLI based on the following criteria: First, the largest city or town in each county is priced; additionally, prices are collected in any city or town with populations greater than 5,000 or in cases of a city or town having at least 80 percent of a county's largest community's population. In counties where only one community was priced, those prices were used to represent the entire county. In counties where two communities were surveyed, a population-weighted average of the prices for the two communities was used for the entire county. In addition, starting with the second quarter of 2003 WCLI report, Afton, in Lincoln County, was added as a sampling point through legislative action in 2003. Kemmerer is still priced. Afton and Kemmerer report separate Comparative Cost of Living Index numbers. Beginning with the second quarter of 2004, Afton, has been included in the inflation calculations.

The 140 consumer items surveyed were aggregated into six categories, which were then weighted using item weights from the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS), Consumer Price Index (CPI-U), reflective of their overall importance in the average consumer's budget. These categories, and their respective weight components, include Housing (48.7%), Transportation (15.2%), Food (14.1%), Recreation & Personal Care (9.7%), Medical (8.9%), and Apparel (3.4%).

The data are weighted by population to more accurately represent the price changes experienced by the majority of consumers in Wyoming.

The Division wishes to extend its sincere appreciation to all of the businesses and individuals whose cooperation and assistance made this survey possible.

Table 1 - Wyoming Comparative Cost of Living Index - 2Q21
(Statewide Average = 100)

COUNTY	Index Number by Category:							Recreation & Personal Care
	All Items	Food	Housing	Apparel	Transportation	Medical		
Teton	165	112	225	131	103	101	105	
Lincoln-Afton	105	100	108	103	103	102	105	
Laramie	104	100	110	94	99	96	103	
Sublette	103	111	101	118	104	97	101	
Sheridan	100	103	98	102	100	103	102	
Campbell	99	109	94	102	99	100	106	
Converse	98	99	96	105	98	106	96	
Albany	98	100	97	104	98	94	97	
Johnson	97	112	88	119	101	97	106	
Park	97	106	92	114	101	99	94	
Natrona	96	94	94	91	99	98	100	
Carbon	95	94	93	92	100	109	93	
Fremont	95	95	90	96	100	112	94	
Sweetwater	95	94	91	88	101	104	96	
Crook	94	102	84	102	102	111	106	
Uinta	92	86	87	97	103	106	97	
Lincoln-Kemmerer	92	96	80	102	105	116	96	
Hot Springs	90	108	78	107	100	100	96	
Platte	90	96	82	113	99	86	102	
Niobrara	89	97	78	104	100	100	102	
Weston	89	99	76	101	100	107	102	
Big Horn	88	110	76	109	100	92	91	
Goshen	88	102	76	96	97	92	106	
Washakie	87	102	75	100	99	88	97	

Starting with the 2Q03 Comparative Index, Lincoln-Afton was included.

Table 2 - Annual Inflation Rates by Category

QUARTER:	Inflation Rate by Category (Statewide Average):							Recreation & Personal Care
	All Items	Food	Housing	Apparel	Transportation	Medical		
WEIGHTS:	100.0	14.1	48.7	3.4	15.2	8.9	9.7	
2Q15	0.9	1.7	1.9	2.5	-4.4	4.7	0.0	
4Q15	0.5	2.2	-0.3	5.9	-1.4	5.0	-0.5	
2Q16	-0.6	0.1	-0.6	-2.0	-2.7	4.3	-1.6	
4Q16	0.6	1.4	-1.2	3.2	4.5	3.7	-1.5	
2Q17	1.1	3.8	-0.3	5.4	1.1	3.3	1.3	
4Q17	2.3	3.5	1.7	1.9	2.8	3.2	2.1	
2Q18	3.3	2.1	2.1	6.6	8.7	3.6	-0.3	
4Q18	2.5	2.6	2.0	4.7	2.8	4.8	1.2	
2Q19	2.0	2.3	2.7	3.6	-0.8	5.0	-0.3	
4Q19	2.2	0.9	2.7	7.1	1.4	4.0	-0.4	
2Q20	1.1	4.9	2.6	2.7	-7.3	3.0	-1.0	
4Q20	2.0	2.7	3.2	4.0	-3.1	1.9	2.0	
2Q21	7.7	1.9	5.5	4.6	23.3	3.6	8.0	

Note: Item weights may not add to 100 due to rounding.

Note: The 2Q99 inflation calculations mark the first time the WCLI used all 23 counties to calculate the inflation rates.

Previously, only 15 counties were used. Starting with the 2Q04 report, the inflation numbers include Lincoln-Afton.

Table 3 - Annual Inflation Rates by Region

QUARTER:	U.S. CPI*	Statewide Inflation Rate By Region (All Items):					
		All Items	Southeast	Southwest	Central	Northeast	Northwest
2Q15	0.1	0.9	0.8	-1.1	0.7	2.4	2.3
4Q15	0.7	0.5	1.1	1.1	-2.1	0.9	2.7
2Q16	1.0	-0.6	1.0	-0.1	-3.2	-2.2	2.2
4Q16	2.1	0.6	3.1	-0.5	-1.3	-1.2	1.9
2Q17	1.6	1.1	1.7	1.1	0.2	0.4	2.7
4Q17	2.1	2.3	2.2	2.9	1.9	1.2	3.9
2Q18	2.9	3.3	3.2	1.8	3.6	4.1	3.2
4Q18	1.9	2.5	1.9	1.0	2.7	4.8	2.3
2Q19	1.6	2.0	1.7	2.2	2.3	2.3	1.9
4Q19	2.3	2.2	2.5	1.6	2.3	1.9	2.5
2Q20	0.6	1.1	1.8	0.2	1.7	-0.2	0.8
4Q20	1.4	2.0	1.9	1.9	2.7	0.9	2.1
2Q21	5.4	7.7	7.2	8.9	7.4	8.1	7.6

Note: The 2Q99 inflation calculations mark the first time the WCLI used all 23 counties to calculate the inflation rates.

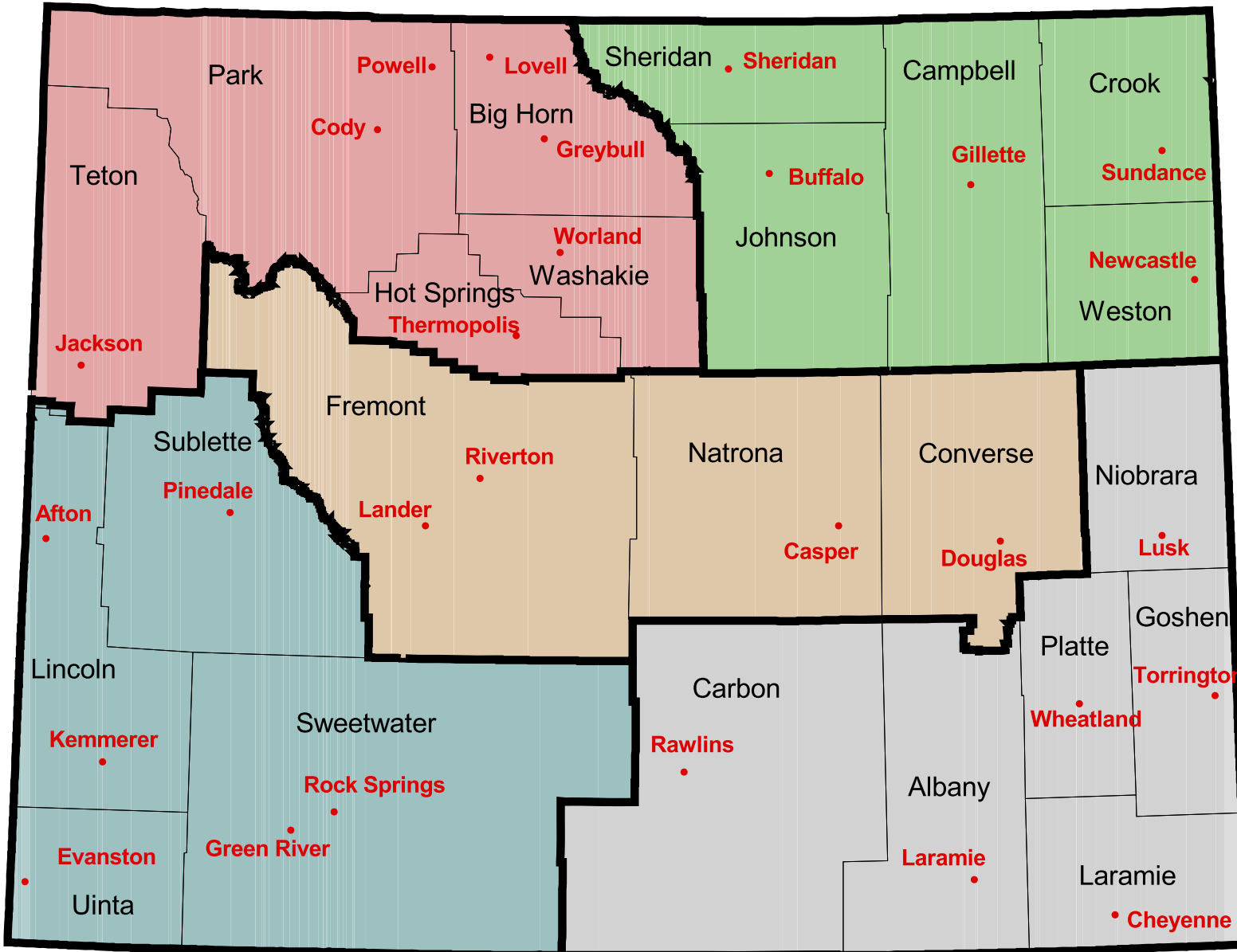
Previously, only 15 counties were used. Starting with the 2Q04 report, the inflation numbers include Lincoln-Afton.

* 4th Quarter represents the December to December and 2nd Quarter represents the June to June percent change in the US CPI-U.

Regional Composition for Inflation Estimate:

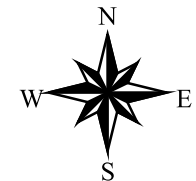
- Southeast: Albany, Carbon, Goshen, Laramie, Niobrara, and Platte counties.
- Southwest: Lincoln-Kemmerer, Lincoln-Afton, Sublette, Sweetwater, and Uinta counties.
- Central: Converse, Fremont, and Natrona counties.
- Northeast: Campbell, Crook, Johnson, Sheridan, and Weston counties.
- Northwest: Big Horn, Hot Springs, Park, Teton, and Washakie counties.

Surveyed Communities and WCLI Regions



WCLI Regions

- Southeast: Albany, Carbon, Goshen, Laramie, Niobrara, and Platte
- Southwest: Lincoln (Kemmerer), Lincoln (Afton), Sublette, Sweetwater, and Uinta
- Central: Converse, Fremont, and Natrona
- Northeast: Campbell, Crook, Johnson, Sheridan, and Weston
- Northwest: Big Horn, Hot Springs, Park, Teton, and Washakie



Note: Starting with the 2Q03 WCLI report, North Lincoln County (Afton) is included in the comparative index, and is tabulated separately from South Lincoln County (Kemmerer).

TABLE 4 - AVERAGE RENTAL RATES - 2Q21 & 2Q20

County	APARTMENT (1)			MOBILE HOME LOT (2)			HOUSE (3)			MOBILE HOME (4)		
	2Q21	2Q20	Percent Change	2Q21	2Q20	Percent Change	2Q21	2Q20	Percent Change	2Q21	2Q20	Percent Change
Albany	\$722	\$720	0.3%	\$440	\$410	7.3%	\$1,198	\$1,123	6.7%	\$796	\$802	-0.8%
Big Horn	\$508	\$510	-0.4%	\$216	\$204	5.6%	\$742	\$705	5.2%	\$509	\$478	6.3%
Campbell	\$717	\$699	2.6%	\$487	\$478	2.0%	\$1,162	\$1,128	3.0%	\$738	\$732	0.8%
Carbon	\$657	\$646	1.7%	\$392	\$383	2.4%	\$1,039	\$989	5.1%	\$941	\$910	3.3%
Converse	\$762	\$795	-4.2%	\$228	\$222	2.6%	\$1,039	\$1,139	-8.8%	\$785	\$778	0.9%
Crook	\$639	\$639	0.0%	NA	NA	NA	\$790	\$739	6.9%	NA	NA	NA
Fremont	\$744	\$721	3.3%	\$268	\$264	1.6%	\$985	\$936	5.3%	\$754	\$685	10.1%
Goshen	\$609	\$570	6.8%	NA	NA	NA	\$705	\$653	8.0%	NA	\$518	NA
Hot Springs	\$596	\$562	6.1%	NA	NA	NA	\$712	\$664	7.2%	NA	\$550	NA
Johnson	\$615	\$612	0.5%	\$249	\$235	5.9%	\$1,090	\$954	14.2%	\$648	\$563	15.0%
Laramie	\$924	\$906	2.0%	\$490	\$468	4.7%	\$1,455	\$1,347	8.0%	\$979	\$928	5.5%
Lincoln (Kemmerer)	\$544	\$515	5.6%	NA	NA	NA	\$650	\$604	7.5%	\$674	\$671	0.4%
Lincoln (Afton)	\$841	\$710	18.4%	NA	NA	NA	\$1,271	\$1,061	19.8%	NA	NA	NA
Natrona	\$774	\$754	2.8%	\$452	\$400	12.9%	\$1,101	\$1,110	-0.8%	\$706	\$717	-1.5%
Niobrara	\$550	\$550	0.0%	NA	NA	NA	\$848	\$864	-1.8%	NA	NA	NA
Park	\$711	\$668	6.5%	\$323	\$313	3.4%	\$997	\$951	4.8%	\$769	\$759	1.3%
Platte	\$616	\$575	7.2%	NA	NA	NA	\$782	\$798	-2.0%	NA	NA	NA
Sheridan	\$701	\$684	2.5%	\$423	\$338	25.1%	\$1,247	\$1,204	3.6%	\$771	\$649	18.8%
Sublette	\$865	\$725	19.3%	NA	NA	NA	\$1,202	\$1,095	9.7%	NA	NA	NA
Sweetwater	\$650	\$632	2.7%	\$450	\$446	1.0%	\$1,039	\$1,030	0.8%	\$835	\$816	2.3%
Teton	\$2,510	\$2,276	10.3%	\$740	\$696	6.3%	\$3,125	\$2,808	11.3%	\$1,443	\$1,373	5.0%
Uinta	\$716	\$608	17.8%	\$311	\$300	3.6%	\$919	\$843	9.0%	\$683	\$648	5.5%
Washakie	\$554	\$542	2.2%	NA	NA	NA	\$777	\$707	9.9%	NA	NA	NA
Weston	\$579	\$578	0.3%	\$178	\$175	1.7%	\$663	\$638	3.9%	\$529	\$528	0.2%
Southeast	\$817	\$800	2.0%	\$442	\$417	6.2%	\$1,272	\$1,187	7.1%	\$883	\$852	3.7%
Southwest	\$693	\$630	9.9%	\$411	\$398	3.3%	\$1,007	\$949	6.1%	\$771	\$723	6.7%
Central	\$764	\$748	2.2%	\$374	\$342	9.6%	\$1,061	\$1,062	-0.1%	\$729	\$714	2.1%
Northeast	\$688	\$674	2.1%	\$404	\$372	8.6%	\$1,121	\$1,076	4.2%	\$719	\$668	7.6%
Northwest	\$1,205	\$1,114	8.1%	\$423	\$402	5.1%	\$1,566	\$1,437	9.0%	\$898	\$863	4.0%
Statewide Average	\$814	\$781	4.2%	\$412	\$387	6.7%	\$1,194	\$1,134	5.3%	\$803	\$769	4.4%

Regions:

Southeast: Albany, Carbon, Goshen, Laramie, Niobrara, Platte
Southwest: Lincoln (Afton), Lincoln (Kemmerer), Sublette, Sweetwater, Uinta
Central: Converse, Fremont, Natrona
Northeast: Campbell, Crook, Johnson, Sheridan, Weston
Northwest: Big Horn, Hot Springs, Park, Teton, Washakie

(1) - Two-bedroom, unfurnished, excluding gas and electric.
(2) - Single-wide, including water.
(3) - Two or three-bedroom, single family, excluding gas and electric.
(4) - Two or three-bedroom, including lot rent.
Note: The regional averages are weighted by population within the region.
(NA) - There were too few observations to report the data.