



FACTS AT A GLANCE

Citizens rated “high paying jobs” as the number one issue for the community in 2004 (City of Cheyenne Citizen Survey). Economic indicators for the past five years show that the Cheyenne Area economy has been steadily growing.

Job Profile

- The total number of full-time jobs in Laramie County grew from 34,444 to 41,845 between 1991 and 2003, an increase of 21.3 percent.
- Service sector employment (such as professional services, food service) and retail in the County accounts for 30.0 percent of all jobs.
- Government sector employment accounts for 29.0 percent of all jobs.
- The local unemployment rate in 2004 in the County (3.8%) is well below the national rate (5.6%) as well as the state rate (4.0%).
- The total number of new housing units constructed in 2003 (785 units) was at a record high, which resulted in a significant boost in new construction sector jobs.
- Total full-time employment in Laramie County is projected to increase from 41,845 in 2003 to 59,629 in 2030 a compound increase of over 1.9% percent annually.

Major Employers

- The top five employers in the Cheyenne Area are F.E Warren AFB, the State of Wyoming, the U.S. Government, Laramie County School District No. 1, and United Medical Centers. Major private employers in the area include the Union Pacific Railroad, Lowe’s, Sierra Trading Post, and Echo Star Communications.

Income and Earnings Growth

- Cheyenne’s workers average annual earnings were estimated at \$28,938 in 2003. Median household income in 2000 was \$38,856.
- The gap between Laramie County’s per capita income and national per capita income has closed considerably in recent years. The county is now ahead of the state’s per capita income.
- Government sector payroll increased from \$5.9 million in 1999 to \$6.8 million in 2001.

Employment Percentage by Industry

Industry	L.C.	WY	U.S.
Farming	1.7	4.4	1.7
Mining	0.3	6.5	.04
Construction	5.9	8.9	7.6
Manufacturing	3.3	5.0	15.9
Transportation/Utilities	4.4	2.3	4.1
Financial, Insurance, & Real Estate	8.1	12.1	4.1
Services	29.9	6.7	5.9
Government	29.0	4.8	7.8
Retail Trade	13.0	42.9	47.3
Wholesale Trade	1.8	6.4	5.4



TRENDS

- Job growth for 2003 (2.7%) in Laramie County was well above the County’s historical growth rate of one percent.
- According to the Cheyenne Citizens Survey, the “Need for More and Better Paying Jobs” and “Economic Growth and Development” have consistently been at the top of citizens concerns.
- The primary long-term challenge facing the community is the lack of economic diversification and historical dependence on government jobs.
- Cheyenne LEADS, the community’s organization for economic development, recently acquired an additional 612 acres for business development in the I-25/I-80 area.

Sources: Economic Indicators for Greater Cheyenne, Center for Economic and Business Data for Laramie County, December 2004



This page blank

