

WHY WYOMING



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Photo by Wyoming Office of Tourism



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ABOUT

Population: 576,851

Size: 97,814 square miles (253,348 kilometers)

Capital: Cheyenne

Governor: Mark Gordon

President of the Senate: Bo Biteman

Speaker of the House: Chip Neiman

THE FACTS

Spend Less & Earn More: Wyoming has the most business-friendly tax climate in the nation.

Lucrative Business Climate: No personal or corporate state income taxes, low sales and property taxes, plus available manufacturing and data center sales tax exemptions.

Room for Adventure: Wyoming boasts two national parks, five national forests, 12 state parks and countless acres of public land to hunt, fish, bike, hike, climb, and roam.

TARGET INDUSTRIES

- Advanced Manufacturing
- Ag Innovation
- Blockchain Technology
- Data Centers & IT
- Firearms Manufacturing
- Nuclear
- Outdoor Products Manufacturing

CHECK OUT OUR
TARGET INDUSTRY
PROFILES





WHY WYOMING



**GOVERNOR
MARK
GORDON**

**33rd Governor
of the State
of Wyoming**

As Governor of the great state of Wyoming, I want to share a few reasons why our state is such an incredible place for businesses to grow and innovate. Wyoming has long been recognized for its majestic open spaces and outdoor amenities that enhance our quality of life. We are equally proud of the opportunities we provide to businesses seeking a location where they can thrive.

Wyoming consistently ranks among the most business-friendly states in the nation, offering a competitive tax structure — including no corporate or personal state income tax — and a regulatory environment designed to support and encourage innovation, not hinder it. Whether your enterprise is rooted in energy, advanced manufacturing, technology, outdoor recreation, or some other sector, Wyoming provides the stability and flexibility to help your business succeed.

In Wyoming, relationships matter. Local leaders continue to be proactive in enhancing business opportunities, prioritizing infrastructure investments and service improvements that make our communities welcoming to new businesses. One of our greatest strengths is the accessibility of state leaders and policy makers. As Governor, I take pride in maintaining an open door policy and directly engaging with business leaders, large and

small. Here, you won't find layers of bureaucracy separating you from elected officials; instead, you will find a collaborative spirit and a willingness to listen, problem-solve, and partner for mutual success.

Our central location in the Mountain West, combined with strong transportation infrastructure and a workforce that's always committed to getting the job done, allows companies to reach markets across the country. Safe, welcoming communities and an extraordinary quality of life makes Wyoming a place where both businesses and families can thrive.

I encourage you to visit our state, meet our people, and see firsthand why so many businesses are choosing Wyoming as their home. I join the Wyoming Business Council in standing ready to assist you in exploring opportunities and answering any questions you may have about relocating or expanding here.

Thank you for considering Wyoming. We look forward to welcoming you to our state and working together to build a prosperous future



**WHY
WYOMING?**

Visit the website

MOST BUSINESS-FRIENDLY TAX ENVIRONMENT

IN WYOMING YOU CAN SPEND LESS AND EARN MORE.

“We knew we wanted to move out of the state of Colorado, and our first choice was Wyoming. So we started moving all of the employees and millions of dollars of gear and machinery and everything else here to Riverton.”

- ARON SNYDER

President & CEO of Kifaru International

HOW WYOMING'S TAX ENVIRONMENT IMPACTS YOUR BOTTOM LINE

Relocating or starting your business in Wyoming is not just about tax savings—it's about strategically positioning yourself in an environment where success is inevitable.

With a low tax burden, including no corporate or personal state income tax, Wyoming has been identified by the Tax Foundation for well over a decade as having the most business-friendly tax climate in the nation.

PRO-BUSINESS

Wyoming's pro-business environment provides the perfect foundation for businesses and entrepreneurs to thrive.

The relocation of well-known brands like Microsoft, Meta, Weatherby, and Kifaru International has shone a spotlight on Wyoming's business-friendly climate, proving that the state's communities can successfully support these types of projects.

Kifaru International, a leading outdoor gear manufacturer, made the strategic decision to move from Colorado to Wyoming in 2021. The move not only aligned with the brand's rugged, independent ethos but also enabled Kifaru to expand in-house production and usher in a new era of innovation.

“We knew we wanted to move out of the state of Colorado, and our first choice was Wyoming,” said Aron Snyder, President and CEO of Kifaru International.

When Weatherby, a renowned gunmaker, was looking to relocate its 75-year-old family business from California, Wyoming became the clear frontrunner for its new factory headquarters. The company moved to Sheridan in 2019, and its business doubled in size within the first three years of operating in the state.

“The list of “why’s” was quite long but amongst the top were things like the welcoming people, access to outdoor recreation, business-friendly tax structure, reasonable regulations, and incentives that helped make it all possible,” explained CEO Adam Weatherby.

In July 2024, Meta announced plans to build an \$800 million, 715,000 sq. ft. project on over 900 acres at the High Plains Business Park in south Cheyenne.

“Wyoming stood out as an outstanding location for our newest data center thanks to its great access to infrastructure and energy, deep pool of talent, and amazing community partners,” said Brad Davis, director of data center community and economic development at Meta.

BENEFITS INCLUDE:

- **Cost Savings:** The absence of these taxes significantly reduces operational costs, making Wyoming an attractive location for businesses aiming to maximize profitability.
- **Incentives for Manufacturing and Data Centers:** Tax exemptions on equipment for data centers, as well as the purchase of equipment and power for manufacturers, make Wyoming particularly appealing for these industries.
- **Simplified Compliance:** With fewer taxes to manage, businesses face reduced administrative burdens and compliance costs.
- **Open Door Access:** Wyoming’s open-door access to the governor, legislators, and federal congressional delegation is especially attractive to companies in highly regulated industries.

KEY TAX ADVANTAGES IN WYOMING

Wyoming’s “most business-friendly tax environment” is a significant draw for businesses considering relocation. Here’s a breakdown of what this means and its implications for businesses:

01. NO CORPORATE OR PERSONAL STATE INCOME TAX

Businesses and individuals operating in Wyoming are not subject to state income taxes, allowing companies to reinvest profits and individuals to retain more earnings.

02. NO INVENTORY TAX

Businesses do not pay taxes on unsold goods or inventory, reducing the financial burden on industries like retail and manufacturing.

03. NO FRANCHISE TAX

Companies are not charged fees for the privilege of operating in Wyoming, unlike in many other states.

04. NO OCCUPATION TAX

Professionals and businesses are exempt from taxes imposed for working in specific professions.

05. NO VALUE-ADDED TAX (VAT)

Wyoming does not levy a consumption tax on the value added to goods and services, which is common in many other regions.

06. SALES TAX EXEMPTIONS FOR MANUFACTURING AND DATA CENTERS

With a statewide sales tax rate of just 4% and property tax rates among the lowest in the nation, Wyoming reduces the financial burden on operations and everyday living.

07. SALES TAX EXEMPTIONS FOR MANUFACTURING AND DATA CENTERS

Businesses engaged in manufacturing enjoy significant savings thanks to sales tax exclusions on equipment and electricity directly used in production. Data centers—an industry prone to high equipment turnover—benefit from sales and use tax exemptions on data center equipment, HVAC, and Uninterrupted Power Supply (UPS).

08. PERMIT EXEMPTIONS

Data centers are exempt from industrial siting permits when locating in an industrial or business park, which can save upwards of \$500,000 and reduce project timelines by 18 months.



CROSSROADS OF THE WEST

Wyoming's advantageous geographic location and ample transportation infrastructure provide reliable access to and from communities statewide.

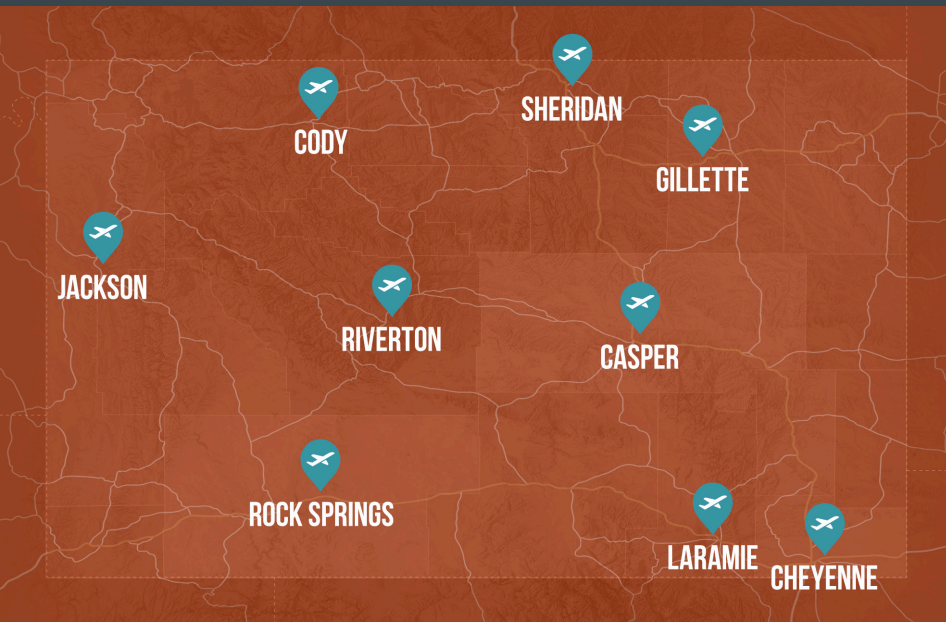
3 MAJOR INTERNATIONAL AIRPORTS SURROUND WY

/// Billings, MT
/// Denver, CO
/// Salt Lake City, UT

466 MILE RADIUS FROM GEOGRAPHIC CENTER

- 11,307,444 consumers can be reached within an 8-hour drive (466 miles) from Wyoming.



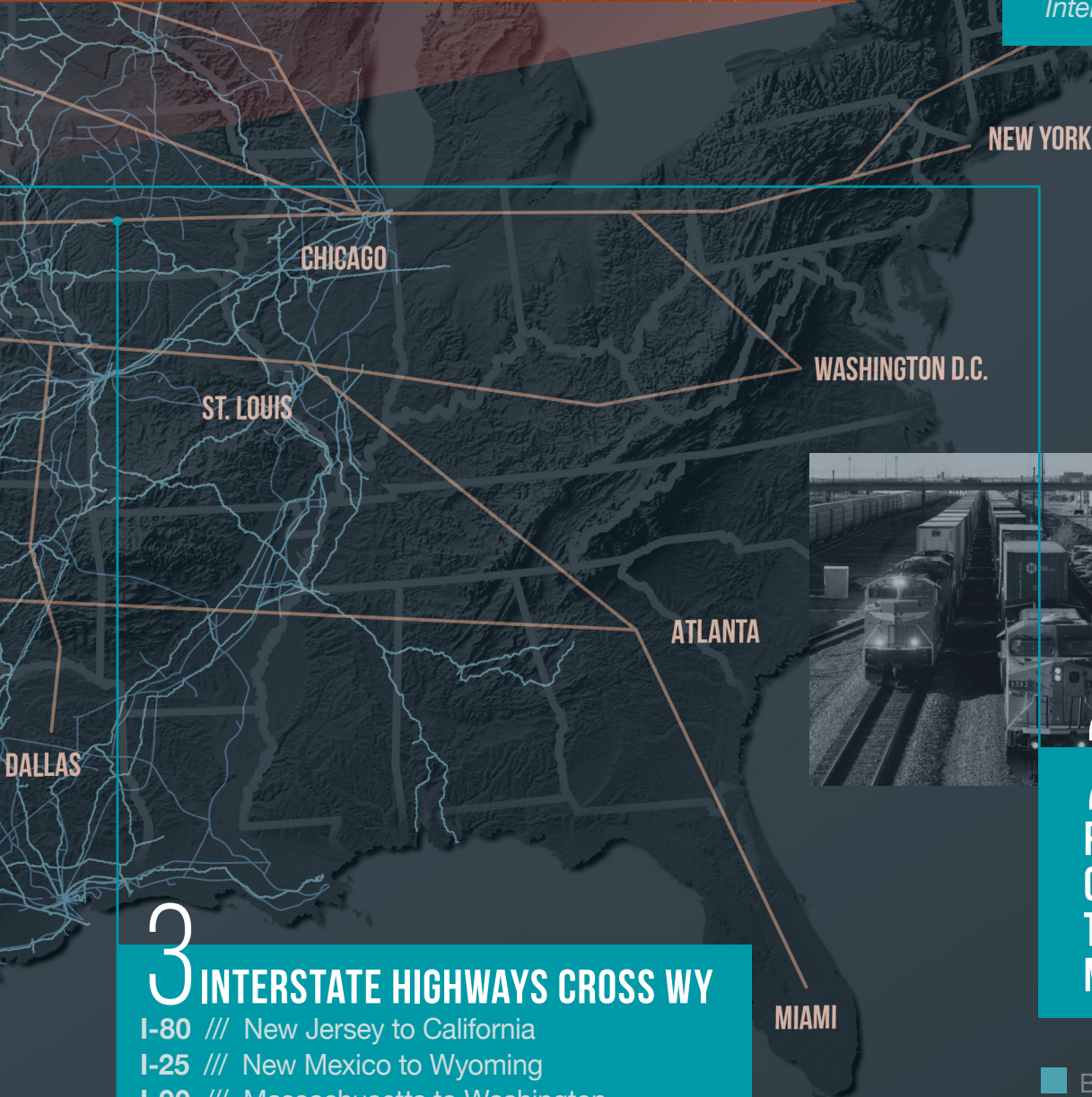


9 COMMERCIAL AIRPORTS IN WYOMING

- with final destination service to major cities around the world.

1 FOREIGN TRADE ZONE

- located in the center of Wyoming in Natrona County and includes Casper International Airport.



3 INTERSTATE HIGHWAYS CROSS WY

I-80 /// New Jersey to California
I-25 /// New Mexico to Wyoming
I-90 /// Massachusetts to Washington
- with 915 interstate miles across Wyoming



2 CLASS-ONE RAILROADS CONNECT WYOMING TO MAJOR MARKETS

- BNSF ROUTES
- UNION PACIFIC ROUTES
- INTERSTATE ROUTES

NORTHWEST WYOMING

BIG HORN COUNTY | HOT SPRINGS COUNTY
PARK COUNTY | WASHAKIE COUNTY

Photo by Wyoming Office of Tourism

THRIVING BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

Doing business in the heart of Northwest Wyoming offers a unique blend of opportunity. Anchored by a **robust tourism economy** driven by proximity to Yellowstone National Park and attractions like Cody's **Buffalo Bill Center of the West** (centerofthewest.org) and Thermopolis' **Hot Springs State Park** (wyoparks.wyo.gov), the region sees strong visitor traffic that fuels local **retail, hospitality, and recreation businesses**.

Northwest Wyoming is home to a diverse and growing **manufacturing sector** that includes industry leaders like Crown Cork & Seal and Wyoming Sugar Company in Worland, as well as Y-Text and Gunwerks in Cody—each demonstrating the region's ability to support high-quality manufacturing with access to skilled labor, reliable infrastructure, and business-friendly local governments. Combined with a quality of life that draws talent and investment, this region of Wyoming is well-positioned for companies looking to grow in a place that works as hard as they do.

SUCCESS STORIES



GUNWERKS IN CODY, WY

Watch our video



Gunwerks is a gun manufacturer with a passion for quality gear and a commitment to hunters' success.

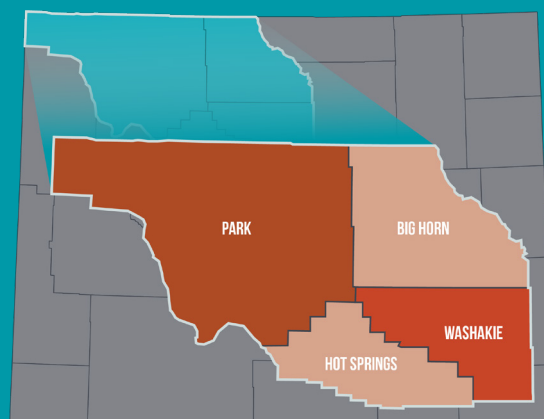
INDUSTRY CLUSTERS

- Agriculture
- Advanced Manufacturing
- Firearms and Outdoor Product Manufacturing
- Tourism and Hospitality

EDUCATION IN SUPPORT OF LOCAL BUSINESS

Northwest College (nwc.edu) offers educational programs designed for students interested in obtaining a two or four-year degree or wishing to enter directly into the workforce. Its Center for Training and Development provides quality training programs for communities and businesses throughout the area.

COUNTIES





WYOMING SUGAR COMPANY IN WORLAND, WY

Visit our website



Wyoming Sugar Company is a century-old, grower-owned sugar beet processing cooperative dedicated to producing high-quality granulated sugar.

DEMOGRAPHICS

- **Total Regional Population:** 55,387
- **Total Regional Labor Shed (within a 100-mile radius):** 123,206

- Source: Applied Geographic Solutions

TRANSPORTATION

The region's transportation network is bolstered by ongoing local investment in roads, logistics, and freight infrastructure to support growing manufacturing and tourism sectors.

INTERSTATES & HIGHWAYS

U.S. Highways 14, 16, 20, and 310 connect communities across the region, providing direct access to Interstates 90 and 25 and facilitating the efficient movement of goods to regional and national markets.

AIRPORTS

The region is served by Yellowstone Regional Airport in Cody, offering daily commercial flights to Denver International Airport.

RAILWAYS

Rail service through BNSF Railway and short-line carriers is available in parts of Big Horn and Washakie counties, supporting agricultural and industrial shipping needs.

PUBLIC LAND

79% (11,363 square miles) of the total land in Northwest Wyoming is public.



Photo by Wyoming Office of Tourism

TOURISM HOT SPOTS

- **East Entrance to Yellowstone National Park:** Epic scenic drive with views of Yellowstone Lake, Grand Canyon of Yellowstone, and Tower Falls.
- **Shoshone National Forest:** The nation's first national forest with 1,300+ miles of trails, 32 campgrounds, 11 picnic sites, and 4 scenic byways.
- **Hot Springs State Park:** Colorful, terraced hot springs, free bathhouse, 6.2 miles of accessible trails, picnic shelters, and a local bison herd.
- **Buffalo Bill State Park:** Recreation around Buffalo Bill Dam and reservoir with scenic camping, fishing, and boating opportunities.

POPULAR ACTIVITIES

- Cross-country, downhill, and backcountry skiing
- Mountain, road, and gravel biking
- Rafting, kayaking, and paddleboarding
- Blue ribbon fishing
- Hiking and backpacking
- Motorsports like snowmobiling and ATVs
- Rock and ice climbing



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NORTHEAST WYOMING

CAMPBELL COUNTY | CROOK COUNTY
JOHNSON COUNTY | SHERIDAN COUNTY
WESTON COUNTY

Photo by Wyoming Office of Tourism

WHERE OPPORTUNITY THRIVES

Northeast Wyoming offers many business advantages, including strategic access to **energy**, natural resources, and a highly skilled workforce. Anchored by Campbell County—home to the nation's most productive **coal** mines and the emerging frontier of **carbon innovation**—the region also supports a strong oil, gas, and manufacturing presence like L&H Industrial.

Communities like Sheridan and Buffalo are renowned for their vibrant downtowns, cultural events, **tourism**, and **advanced manufacturing** firms, such as Weatherby, Kennon Products, and Vacutech, which demonstrate that quality craftsmanship and innovation thrive here. Crook and Weston Counties add strength with timber, agriculture, and industrial services that benefit from proximity to the Black Hills and major transportation corridors. Combined with a pro-business climate, access to reliable infrastructure, and an unmatched quality of life, Northeast Wyoming is where opportunity meets resilience.

SUCCESS STORIES



**L&H INDUSTRIAL
IN GILLETTE, WY**

Watch our video



L&H Industrial specializes in technology innovations, custom manufacturing, and heavy machinery services for industries like mining, oil and gas, and railways.

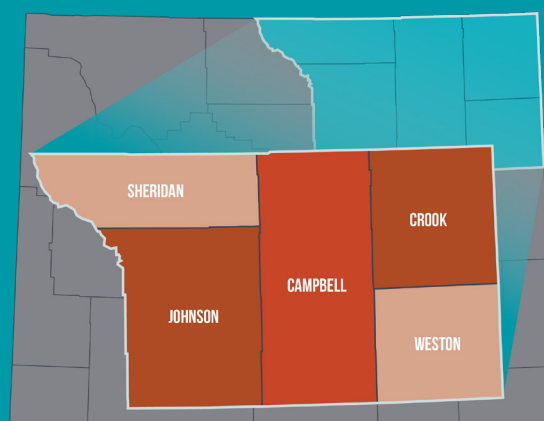
INDUSTRY CLUSTERS

- Advanced Manufacturing
- Agriculture
- Energy
- Mining
- Tourism

EDUCATION IN SUPPORT OF LOCAL BUSINESS

- **Gillette College** (gillettecollege.org) offers workforce training to enhance skills in the region.
- **Sheridan College** (sheridan.edu) provides technical and vocational programs with industry-aligned training.
- **Western Welding Academy** (westernweldingacademy.com) is focused on real-world training for welding careers.

COUNTIES





MOUNTAIN MEADOW WOOL IN BUFFALO, WY

Watch our video



Mountain Meadow Wool is a family-operated mill dedicated to supporting local ranchers.

DEMOGRAPHICS

- **Total Regional Population:** 96,879
- **Total Regional Labor Shed (within a 100-mile radius):** 128,384

- Source: Applied Geographic Solutions

TRANSPORTATION

Northeast Wyoming offers exceptional transportation access for industries ranging from coal and oil to tourism and advanced manufacturing. With continued investment in highway capacity, industrial access, and logistics corridors, Northeast Wyoming remains a key player in the movement of energy, goods, and people across the northern Rockies and beyond.

INTERSTATES & HIGHWAYS

Interstate 90 runs across Sheridan, Johnson, Campbell, and Crook Counties, connecting to Billings, Rapid City, and I-25. U.S. Highways 14, 16, 20, and 85 serve as critical east-west and north-south routes for freight and regional travel.

AIRPORTS

Sheridan County Airport (Sheridan) and Northeast Wyoming Regional Airport (Gillette) offer convenient daily flights to and from Denver International Airport.

RAILWAYS

The BNSF Railway provides extensive rail service throughout the Powder River Basin, supporting coal, aggregates, and industrial shipping.



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PUBLIC LAND

28% (4,742 square miles) of the total land in Northeast Wyoming is public.



Photo by Wyoming Office of Tourism

TOURISM HOT SPOTS

- **Devils Tower National Monument:** This 867-foot natural landmark offers ranger programs, night sky viewing, hiking, and climbing opportunities.
- **Bighorn National Forest:** Home to the Big Horn Mountains with 192,000 acres of wilderness and over 1,200 miles of trails for diverse recreation.
- **Keyhole State Park:** Features a 14,000-acre reservoir and 2,000 acres of land for swimming, boating, hiking, fishing, and bird-watching.

POPULAR ACTIVITIES

- Cross-country, downhill, and backcountry skiing
- Mountain, road, and gravel biking
- Blue ribbon fishing
- Hiking and backpacking

EAST CENTRAL WYOMING

CONVERSE COUNTY | NATRONA COUNTY
NIOBRARA COUNTY | PLATTE COUNTY

Photo by Wyoming Office of Tourism

BUSINESS-FRIENDLY COMMUNITIES

Central Wyoming offers a powerful mix of industrial strength, logistics advantages, and business-friendly communities. Natrona County, home to Casper, serves as a regional hub for **energy, finance, healthcare, and manufacturing**, with major players like Mesa Solutions, High Country Fabrication, and Wyoming Machinery Company alongside a growing small business and tech-forward ecosystem with Backwards Distilling Company, DISA Technologies, and Flowstate.

Converse County builds on its energy legacy with oil, gas, and wind developments and offers strategic Interstate 25 and rail access, while Platte and Niobrara counties offer ample industrial land and an agricultural base that supports **value-added processing** opportunities. Together, these counties offer an ideal combination of infrastructure, workforce readiness, and a supportive regulatory environment. With a central location, robust workforce training programs, and communities that prioritize growth, this region is primed for companies seeking long-term success and connectivity across the Mountain West.

SUCCESS STORIES



BACKWARDS DISTILLING COMPANY IN MILLS, WY

Watch our video



Backwards Distilling Company makes its products from grain to bottle at its distillery in Mills, and high-quality spirits await you at every sip in their Tasting Room in downtown Casper.

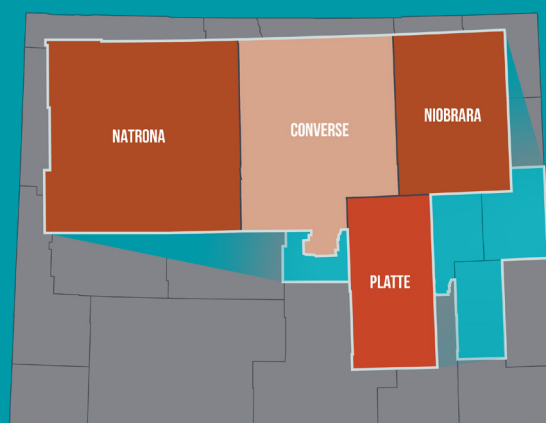
INDUSTRY CLUSTERS

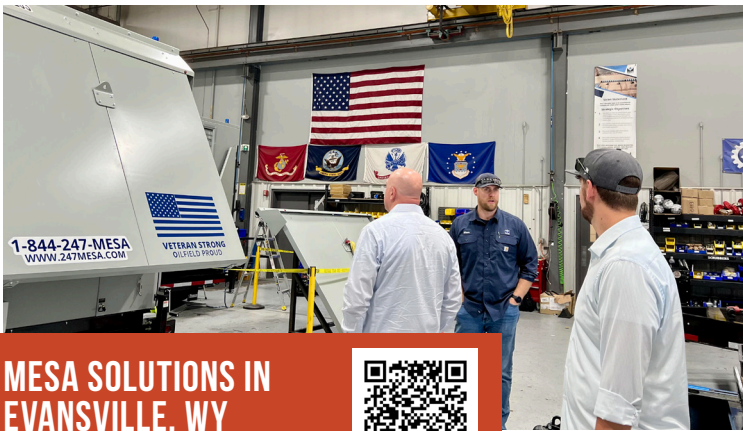
- Advanced Manufacturing
- Agriculture
- Energy
- Healthcare

EDUCATION IN SUPPORT OF LOCAL BUSINESS

Casper College serves as a vital component of the region's economic development by cultivating a skilled workforce, forging strong ties with the business community, and nurturing entrepreneurship. Visit caspercollege.edu.

COUNTIES





MESA SOLUTIONS IN EVANSVILLE, WY

Visit our website



Mesa Solutions is under construction on a new 220,000-square-foot plant, backed by a \$9 million state grant for public infrastructure supporting the project.

DEMOGRAPHICS

- **Total Regional Population:** 105,191
- **Total Regional Labor Shed (within a 100-mile radius):** 132,315

- Source: Applied Geographic Solutions

TRANSPORTATION

East Central Wyoming benefits from a highly connected transportation network ideal for logistics, manufacturing, and energy industries. The region's road and rail access is supported by continued investment in rural highway improvements and industrial access infrastructure—positioning East Central Wyoming as a strategic gateway between the Rockies and the Plains.

INTERSTATES & HIGHWAYS

Casper in Natrona County serves as a central hub, with Interstate 25 running north-south through the region.

AIRPORTS

Casper-Natrona County International Airport provides commercial flights to Denver International Airport and serves as the hub for the state's Foreign Trade Zone.

RAILWAYS

Rail service via BNSF Railway and Union Pacific supports bulk transport for agriculture, minerals, and industrial goods, with key intermodal and transload facilities in Casper and Douglas.

PUBLIC LAND

34% (4,898.5 square miles) of the total land in Northeast Wyoming is public.



Photo by Wyoming Office of Tourism

TOURISM HOT SPOTS

- **Glendo State Park:** A 22,000-acre park featuring Glendo Reservoir with water-based recreation, 45 miles of trails for excellent hiking and biking.
- **Guernsey State Park:** Located at Guernsey Reservoir, it provides more than 14 miles of restored trails and many other recreation opportunities.
- **Edness K. Wilkins State Park:** A nature lover's paradise, this 362-acre nature retreat is situated along the North Platte River.
- **State Historic Sites:** Explore **Fort Fetterman's** restored quarters, **Register Cliff's** sandstone inscriptions from westward pioneers, and **Independence Rock's** granite face etched with over 5,000 names of frontier travelers.

POPULAR ACTIVITIES

- Blue ribbon fishing
- Cross-country and downhill skiing
- Mountain, road, and gravel biking
- Whitewater Play Park in Casper



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WEST CENTRAL WYOMING

FREMONT COUNTY | SUBLETTE COUNTY
TETON COUNTY

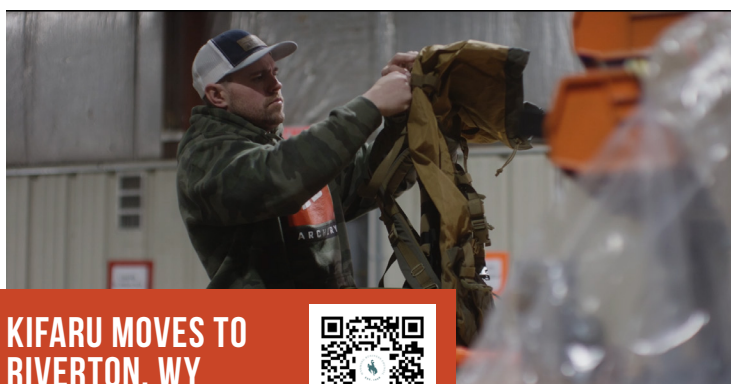
Photo by Wyoming Office of Tourism

OPPORTUNITY MEETS LIFESTYLE

Fremont, Teton, and Sublette counties offer a powerful mix of economic opportunity, workforce talent, and unmatched quality of life in the heart of western Wyoming. Fremont County serves as a regional hub for **healthcare, manufacturing, and start-ups**, with growing industries in **tech and outdoor gear** from popular names like Maven, Kifaru International, and Brunton. The Wind River Indian Reservation, composed of the Northern Arapaho and Eastern Shoshone tribes, presents unique partnership opportunities in the region with tribal enterprises and development initiatives.

Teton County's world-class **tourism** economy—anchored by Jackson Hole and nearby Grand Teton and Yellowstone national parks—supports thriving hospitality, recreation, and professional services sectors fueled by global visibility and entrepreneurial investment. Sublette County brings strength in **energy, agriculture, and value-added food production**, along with a growing tourism and second-home economy. Together, these counties offer strategic advantages for businesses looking to innovate, expand, and attract top talent in a setting that inspires success.

SUCCESS STORIES



KIFARU MOVES TO RIVERTON, WY

Watch our video



Kifaru International, an outdoor gear manufacturing company, relocated to Riverton from Colorado.

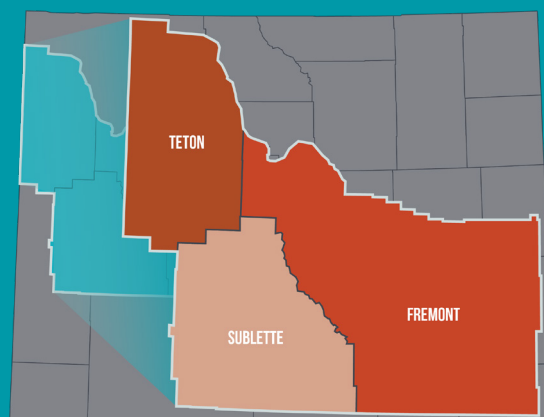
INDUSTRY CLUSTERS

- Agriculture
- Energy
- Outdoor Rec Manufacturing
- Tourism
- Tech Industry

EDUCATION IN SUPPORT OF LOCAL BUSINESS

- **Central Wyoming College** (cwc.edu) in Riverton provides training and certification programs.
- **Wyoming Catholic College** (wyomingcatholic.edu) is a private college in Lander.
- **National Outdoor Leadership School** (nols.edu) in Lander teaches wilderness skills and leadership.

COUNTIES





NOSO PATCHES IN JACKSON, WY

Watch our video



NoSo Patches manufactures durable and stylish patches for gear and apparel.

DEMOGRAPHICS

- **Total Regional Population:** 72,361
- **Total Regional Labor Shed (within a 100-mile radius):** 107,487

- Source: Applied Geographic Solutions

TRANSPORTATION

West Central Wyoming's transportation network supports a diverse economy rooted in tourism, energy, agriculture, and manufacturing. As the region continues to grow, especially in outdoor recreation, clean energy, and advanced manufacturing, transportation infrastructure remains a critical asset in supporting business operations and access to national markets.

INTERSTATES & HIGHWAYS

U.S. Highways 26, 287, 89, 189, and 191 connect key communities such as Jackson, Lander, Riverton, and Pinedale to broader markets across the region. These corridors link the area to Yellowstone and Grand Teton national parks, facilitating heavy tourism traffic while also supporting commercial freight and regional commuting.

AIRPORTS

Jackson Hole Airport, located within Grand Teton National Park, is the busiest commercial airport in the state, offering direct flights to major hubs such as Denver, Salt Lake City, Dallas, and Chicago. Riverton Regional Airport provides additional commercial service to Denver International Airport.



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PUBLIC LAND

88% (16,120.4 square miles) of the total land in West Central Wyoming is public.



Photo by Wyoming Office of Tourism

TOURISM HOT SPOTS

- **2 National Parks:** Discover iconic attractions like Old Faithful via **Yellowstone's South Entrance** and marvel at the majestic Teton Range in **Grand Teton National Park**.
- **2 National Forests:** Explore 4,300+ miles of trails, scenic byways, and unspoiled terrain across the **Bridger-Teton** (3.4M acres) and **Shoshone** (1.4M acres) **National Forests**.
- **2 State Parks:** Visit **Sinks Canyon**, where the river vanishes underground, or enjoy fishing and water recreation at **Boysen's** 19,560-acre reservoir.

POPULAR ACTIVITIES

- Rock climbing
- Mountain, road, and gravel biking
- Cross-country, downhill, and backcountry skiing
- Rafting, kayaking, and paddleboarding
- Blue ribbon fishing
- Hiking and backpacking

SOUTHWEST WYOMING

LINCOLN COUNTY | SWEETWATER COUNTY
UINTA COUNTY

Photo by Wyoming Office of Tourism

THRIVING INDUSTRIAL & ENERGY HUB

Southwest Wyoming forms a high-impact industrial and energy corridor, offering businesses access to world-class resources, infrastructure, and workforce. Sweetwater County is home to the largest natural trona reserves in the world, supporting a globally significant **soda ash industry** with major employers like WE Soda and Ciner. It also offers strong rail, highway, and pipeline access for **manufacturing, logistics, and energy services**. Uinta County builds on this strength with a robust oil and gas presence, rail-served industrial sites, and growing opportunities in manufacturing centered around Evanston.

Lincoln County is emerging as a center for next-generation energy development, highlighted by **TerraPower's Natrium advanced nuclear project in Kemmerer**. This multibillion-dollar investment is creating new opportunities in energy technology, construction, and long-term operations. With abundant resources, available industrial land, and a pro-business climate, this region is positioned for large-scale investment and long-term economic growth.

SUCCESS STORIES



WE SODA IN GREEN RIVER, WY

Watch our video



WE Soda, formerly Genesis Alkali, is a leading producer of natural soda ash.

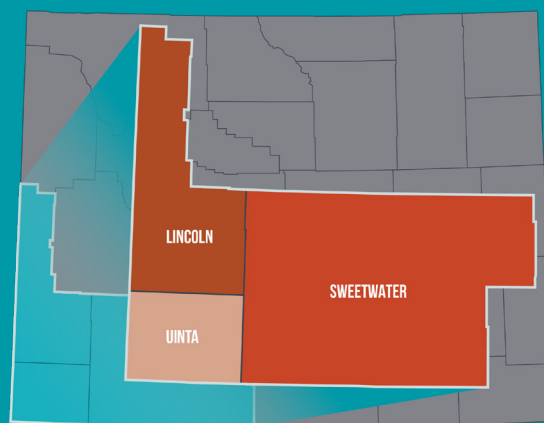
INDUSTRY CLUSTERS

- Advanced Manufacturing
- Agriculture
- Energy
- Mining
- Tourism

EDUCATION IN SUPPORT OF LOCAL BUSINESS

Western Wyoming College (westernwyoming.edu) in Rock Springs collaborates with businesses throughout its service area to develop programs responsive to industry needs, especially mining, energy, and healthcare.

COUNTIES





HISTORIC ROUNDHOUSE IN EVANSTON, WY

Watch our video



Built in 1912–1914, the historic Evanston Roundhouse & Railyards is one of the last intact roundhouses on the UPRR line. In 2009, the city was able to refurbish the first of four sections of the Roundhouse as a public facility.

DEMOGRAPHICS

- **Total Regional Population:** 83,309
- **Total Regional Labor Shed (within a 100-mile radius):** 412,347

- Source: Applied Geographic Solutions

TRANSPORTATION

Southwest Wyoming boasts a strong, multi-modal transportation network that supports large-scale industrial operations, energy production, and manufacturing. The region continues to invest in industrial access roads, rail-served sites, and logistics infrastructure to support both traditional and emerging industries.

INTERSTATES & HIGHWAYS

Interstate 80 runs directly through Sweetwater and Uinta Counties, serving as a major east-west freight corridor between Salt Lake City and the Midwest. U.S. Highways 189 and 30 provide north-south connectivity through Lincoln County, linking key communities like Kemmerer and Afton to regional markets.

AIRPORTS

Southwest Wyoming Regional Airport in Rock Springs serves the region's air needs and offers daily commercial service to Denver International Airport.

RAILWAYS

The Union Pacific Railroad serves the region with mainline and spur access to trona mines, power plants, and industrial facilities, enabling efficient bulk shipping.



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PUBLIC LAND

71% (11,792.8 square miles) of the total land in Southwest Wyoming is public.



Photo by Wyoming Office of Tourism

TOURISM HOT SPOTS

- **Bear River State Park:** See bison, elk, and enjoy scenic trails.
- **Fort Bridger State Historic Site:** Tour restored military buildings, a reconstructed trading post, and archaeological exhibits.
- **Flaming Gorge National Recreation Area:** Explore 207,363 acres of scenic landscape and the 91-mile Flaming Gorge Reservoir.
- **Killpecker Sand Dunes:** Ride ATVs, hike, or sled on 11,000 acres of open sand, with dunes up to 100 feet high.
- **Fossil Butte National Monument:** Discover one of the world's largest freshwater fish fossil deposits.

POPULAR ACTIVITIES

- Blue ribbon fishing
- Rafting, kayaking, and paddleboarding
- Hiking and backpacking
- Mountain, road, and gravel biking

SOUTHEAST WYOMING

ALBANY COUNTY | CARBON COUNTY
GOSHEN COUNTY | LARAMIE COUNTY & F.E. WARREN AFB

Photo by Wyoming Office of Tourism

INNOVATION MEETS OPPORTUNITY

Southeast Wyoming offers a dynamic mix of innovation, infrastructure, and industry. Cheyenne—the state capital—is a growing hub for **data centers, logistics, and manufacturing**, with direct access to Interstates 25 and 80. It also offers shovel-ready sites, strong utility infrastructure, and a pro-business environment that supports major employers like Microsoft, Meta, Magpul, Searing Industries, and Eagle Claw.

Albany County, anchored by the University of Wyoming in Laramie, brings **research, talent, and tech innovation** to the region, supporting startups and partnerships in energy and life sciences. Carbon County adds industrial strength with **energy assets**, including growing investment in major renewable projects like the 3,000-megawatt Chokecherry Sierra Madre Wind Development. Goshen County complements the region with a strong **agricultural** base, ideal for processing, value-added production, and agribusiness. With top-tier infrastructure, access to research and talent, and a business-friendly climate, this region is primed for companies looking to grow, innovate, and compete.

SUCCESS STORIES



CHEYENNE, WY - A HUB FOR DATA CENTERS

Watch our video



Cheyenne has capitalized on its assets to become a hub for data center activity, including combined investments of over \$1.8 billion from Meta and Microsoft.

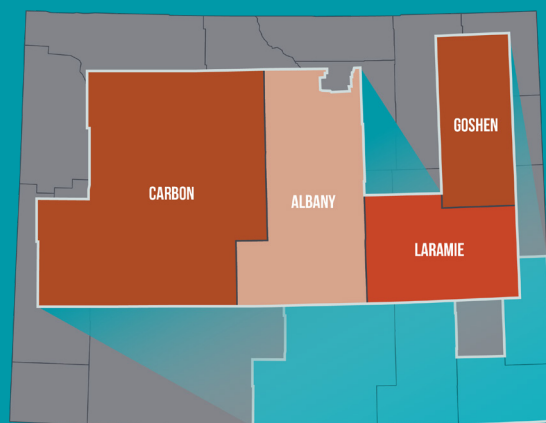
INDUSTRY CLUSTERS

- Agriculture
- Data Centers & Tech
- Distribution/Warehousing
- Energy
- Manufacturing
- Research & Development

EDUCATION IN SUPPORT OF LOCAL BUSINESS

- **Eastern Wyoming College** (ewc.wy.edu) offers workforce training programs.
- **Laramie County Community College** (lccc.wy.edu) provides workforce training.
- **University of Wyoming** (uwyo.edu) is renowned for research and innovation.
- **WyoTech** (wyotech.edu) trains students in automotive, diesel, collision repair, and welding.

COUNTIES





LANGUAGE I/O IN CHEYENNE, WY

Watch our video



Global enterprises rely on Language I/O to make providing multilingual support easy and cost-efficient.

DEMOGRAPHICS

- **Total Regional Population:** 167,044
- **Total Regional Labor Shed (within a 100-mile radius):** 458,052

- Source: Applied Geographic Solutions

TRANSPORTATION

Southeast Wyoming's transportation infrastructure offers robust connectivity for businesses. Ongoing investments ensure the region's infrastructure is ready to support continued economic growth across diverse industries.

INTERSTATES & HIGHWAYS

Interstates 80 and 25 intersect in Cheyenne, providing vital east-west and north-south freight corridors with direct access to Denver, Salt Lake City, and other national markets. U.S. Highways 85, 287, 30, and 26 connect rural communities to regional hubs and major interstates, supporting efficient movement of goods and services across the state.

AIRPORTS

The Cheyenne Regional and Laramie Regional airports offer multiple daily commercial flights to Denver International Airport.

RAILWAYS

The region is also served by Union Pacific and BNSF rail lines, with key freight spurs supporting manufacturing, agriculture, and energy operations.



KALEY HOLYFIELD

Wyoming Business Council
Southeast Regional Director
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PUBLIC LAND

40% (6,869.4 square miles) of the total land in Southeast Wyoming is public.



Photo by Wyoming Office of Tourism

TOURISM HOT SPOTS

- **Medicine Bow-Routt National Forest:** This 2.9 million-acre area offers outdoor activities like skiing at **Snowy Range**, rock climbing in **Vedauwoo**, and mountain biking at **Happy Jack Recreation Area**.
- **State Parks & Recreation Areas:** Explore **Curt Gowdy State Park's** renowned mountain biking trails and three reservoirs. **Seminole State Park** features water activities, especially incredible fly fishing, and **Hawk Springs State Recreation Area** provides fishing, boating, and scenic bluff views.
- **Historic Sites:** Visit the **Wyoming Territorial Prison** to see restored buildings from its outlaw past or explore **Fort Fred Steele**, a historic frontier army post.

POPULAR ACTIVITIES

- Cross-country, downhill, and backcountry skiing
- Mountain, road, and gravel biking
- Hiking and backpacking
- Fishing
- Rock climbing

WYOMING IS WORKFORCE READY

COMMUNITY COLLEGES STRENGTHEN INDUSTRY CLUSTERS

With plenty of breathing room, gorgeous vistas and an abundance of outdoor recreation, it's easy to see why Wyoming residents consider their state a best-kept secret for quality of life. Still, with its low population and all that wide-open space, Wyoming has had to get creative to address the state's workforce needs. From its high-schoolers to its adults headed back to school, Wyoming's unique training programs nurture a nimble, ready-to-work population for a wide range of industries.

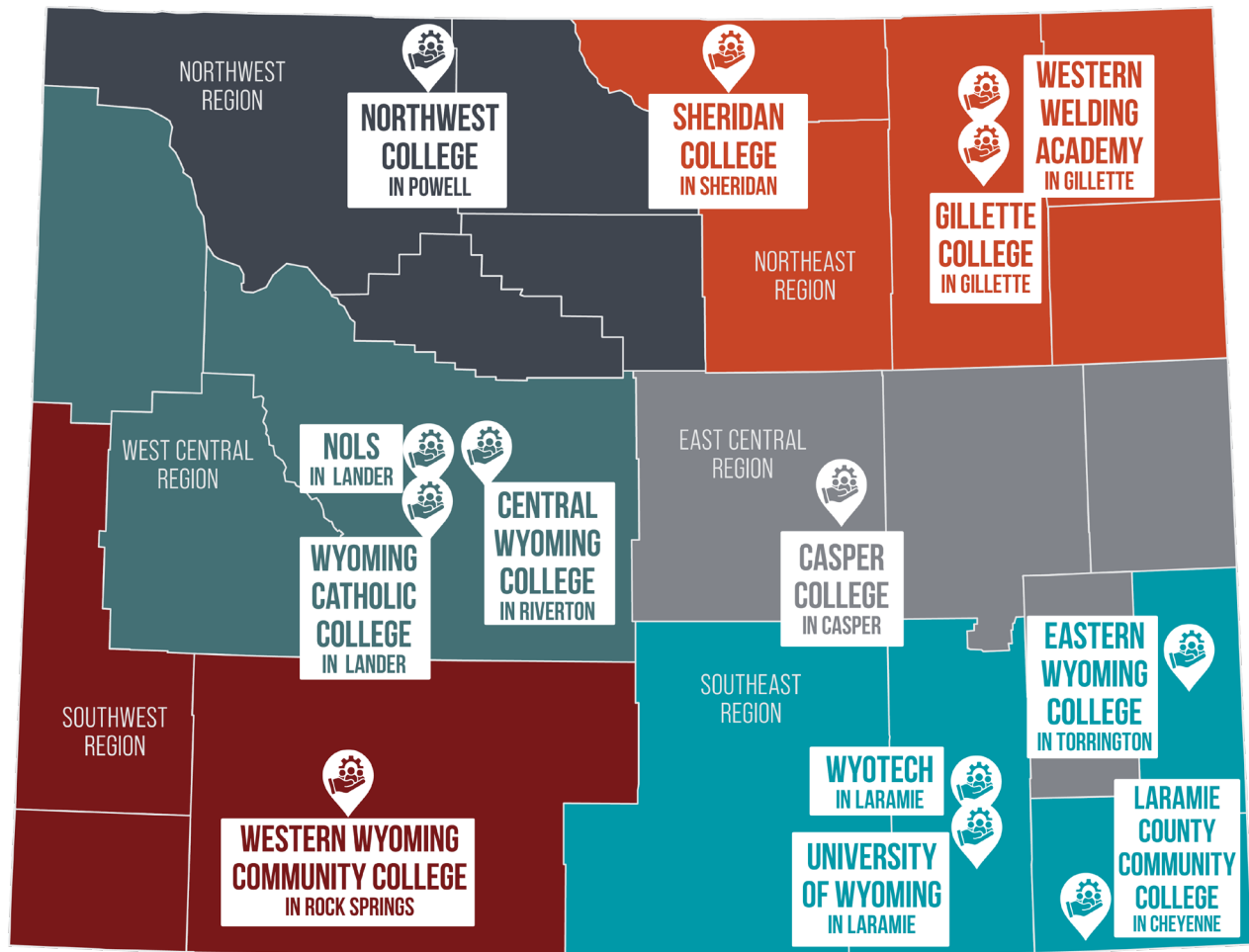
Wyoming's eight community colleges are more than educational institutions—they're strategic partners in regional economic development. By aligning education with the demands of key industries, these colleges create a seamless pipeline of talent for the state's growing sectors.



ADVANCED MANUFACTURING
& MATERIAL CENTER
AT LARAMIE COUNTY
COMMUNITY COLLEGE
(LCCC) IN CHEYENNE.

Photo by LCCC

HIGHER ED & TRAINING IN WYOMING



SUPPORTING MANUFACTURING AT SHERIDAN COLLEGE

When Weatherby, an internationally renowned firearms manufacturer, considered relocating to Sheridan, a significant factor was workforce availability. To meet Weatherby's needs, Sheridan College tailored its manufacturing and machine tool program to ensure graduates were equipped with the exact skills the company required. The college expanded its Machine Tool Technology program, providing Weatherby and other local manufacturers with a steady pipeline of qualified employees.

Adam Weatherby, the company's CEO, credited the growth of Sheridan College's machining program as a "deciding factor" in the relocation decision.

"Sheridan College is training many of our future employees, so the attitude, work ethic, and skills are a direct result of this establishment," he added.

MEETING INDUSTRY AND TECH DEMANDS AT LCCC

In Cheyenne, Laramie County Community College (LCCC) plays a crucial role in workforce development by staying responsive to both traditional and emerging sectors.

Welding, vital to the region's construction, infrastructure, and energy industries, remains a core pillar at LCCC. The college's welding program has expanded in response to strong demand, and the Weld Works initiative—a free program to train high school welding instructors—helps spread critical skills throughout southeast Wyoming.

LCCC is also a leader in tech workforce preparation. As Cheyenne's data center industry experiences rapid growth, LCCC partnered with Microsoft to launch the Microsoft Datacenter Academy. The Datacenter Technology program equips students with strong foundational IT skills for entry-level positions in this expanding field.

COMMUNITY COLLEGES LIKE LCCC ARE REDEVELOPING THEIR PROGRAMS TO ADDRESS EMERGING TECHNOLOGICAL FIELDS.



Photo by LCCG

Through its Advanced Manufacturing & Material Center (AMMC), LCCC is also preparing students for careers in machining and Computer Numerical Control (CNC) operations while meeting the region's manufacturing industries. The AMMC is housed in a renovated 14,200-square-foot space on campus for career and technical education.

POWERING THE ENERGY CAPITAL AT GILLETTE

As the nation's leading coal producer, Wyoming relies on electricians and technicians to power its economy. Gillette College—located in Campbell County, the “Energy Capital of the Nation”—has addressed this need through its Industrial Electricity and Electrical Apprenticeship programs. Advisory boards of industry professionals help ensure coursework stays relevant to evolving industry trends, making Gillette College a vital resource for companies in Campbell County and beyond.

BUSINESS COMMUNITY PARTNERS WITH COLLEGES & UNIVERSITY TO EXPAND INTERNSHIPS AND HANDS-ON LEARNING

The Wyoming Business Alliance, Wyoming Community College Commission, and the University of Wyoming have joined forces to connect students with businesses through internships and hands-on learning opportunities. By fostering relationships between local businesses and students, this partnership strengthens Wyoming's workforce and encourages talented graduates to stay and meet the state's critical industry needs.

“Wyoming's community colleges are uniquely positioned to partner with the business community to place students in internships and hands-on learning experiences, because they are training students in programs that feed directly into the state's economy.”

- PAIGE FENTON HUGHES

Interim Executive Director of Wyoming Community College Commission

CREATING A TALENT PIPELINE FOR INDUSTRY



The **Wyoming Innovation Partnership (WIP)** was created at the request of Governor Mark Gordon in 2021 to modernize and focus Wyoming's efforts to develop a resilient workforce and economy. The effort aims to better align Wyoming's economic development agenda by increasing collaborations between state entities and ultimately local partners.

The partnership involves the University of Wyoming (UW), the state's community colleges, Wyoming Business Council, Wyoming Department of Workforce Services, and Wyoming Department of Education with an emphasis on developing innovative solutions that support and enhance Wyoming's economy, workforce, and sources of revenue.

WIP has been creating opportunities in agriculture, digital infrastructure and technology, energy, entrepreneurship, healthcare, manufacturing,

tourism and hospitality, and workforce development. Here are some examples:

TECHNOLOGY

Sheridan College's WIP-backed **Software Development Program** offers hands-on training that seamlessly transfers into UW's computing programs. Western Wyoming Community College (WWCC) launched an Associate of **Applied Science in Cybersecurity** while Laramie County Community College (LCCC) is focusing on **artificial intelligence**.

AGRICULTURE

Eastern Wyoming College (EWC) and UW are collaborating on **advanced precision agriculture training**. Central Wyoming College (CWC) is working with UW on **controlled environment agriculture** (CEA) to educate students in innovative farming techniques.

ENERGY

WWCC has introduced Wyoming's first **Substation Technician Program**, offers **Powerline Technology program**, and expanded **Electrical and Instrumentation**.

MANUFACTURING

LCCC, Sheridan College, and CWC are introducing **advanced manufacturing training** with "micro-certifications" and industry-recognized credentials. Casper College is enhancing its **Manufacturing Technology and Automation degree** by integrating hybrid CNC and cobot work environments into the curriculum and developing a K-12 curriculum for CTE students in Natrona County schools.



**LEARN MORE ABOUT
WIP-BACKED EFFORTS**

Watch the videos



WYOMING INVESTS IN ITS PEOPLE

Wyoming recognizes what makes a well-run business successful: its people. Wyoming is in the enviable position of being able to invest in both its workforce of today and its workforce of tomorrow. This signals the availability of a solid labor force of skilled workers for businesses now and in the future.

LOW-COST, HIGH-IMPACT EDUCATION

K-12 EDUCATION FUNDING

Wyoming consistently ranks among the best per capita for K-12 education funding.

SCHOLARSHIPS FOR HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATES

Established in 2005 with a \$400 million endowment, the Hathaway Scholarship provides merit- and need-based financial support to help Wyoming high school graduates attend the University of Wyoming or any of the state's eight community colleges. By easing the financial burden of tuition, the program empowers students to pursue their dreams while strengthening Wyoming's workforce and economy.

WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT TRAINING FUND

The Wyoming Department of Workforce Services offers funding opportunities for training today's workforce that include:

- **Business Training Grants** for up to \$2,000 per trainee per fiscal year for non-preferred industries and up to \$3,000 per trainee for preferred industries.
- **Pre-Hire Economic Development Grants** to help foster economic growth for new or expanding businesses.
- **Internship Grants** to offer structured learning experiences to enhance skills, knowledge and abilities.
- **Pre-Obligation of Training Funds** allows Wyoming Economic Development Organizations to request funding in advance for companies relocating to their community. Once approved, funds can be used for the Pre-Hire Grant, Business Training Grants, or both.

Visit wbc.pub/WDTF



UNIVERSITY OF WYOMING

RESEARCH CENTERS OF EXCELLENCE

THE UNIVERSITY OF WYOMING HAS EARNED ITS RESEARCH LEVEL 1 (R1) STATUS FROM THE CARNEGIE CLASSIFICATION OF INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION, PLACING WYOMING'S ONLY FOUR-YEAR UNIVERSITY WITH THE TOP RESEARCH UNIVERSITIES IN THE UNITED STATES.

The University of Wyoming (UW) has launched several initiatives and research centers that help strengthen Wyoming's existing industries—energy, agriculture, and tourism—while opening doors for new ventures in areas like computing, blockchain, and advanced manufacturing.

RESEARCH POWERHOUSE

UW is a catalyst hiding in plain sight—linking businesses with skilled interns and graduates, targeted R&D, and faculty who can partner on real-world challenges. UW is one of 187 institutions nationwide designated as an R1 university by the American Council on Education and the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching. UW reported an impressive \$166 million in annual research spending—up a remarkable 78% since 2021.

CONNECTING BUSINESS WITH OPPORTUNITY

To make collaboration easier, UW established the **Office of Industry and Strategic Partnerships**, a single front door that aligns company needs with faculty expertise, student talent, facilities, and funding opportunities. Visit uwyo.edu/oisp.

DRIVING INNOVATION ACROSS SECTORS

The **Center for Entrepreneurship and Innovation** (uwyo.edu/innovation) nurtures startups and drives economic impact statewide through mentorship and pitch events.

Meanwhile, the **Center for Blockchain and Digital Innovation** (uwyo.edu/acct-fin/cbdi) serves as an interdisciplinary hub for blockchain and emerging technologies,

working in collaboration with Wyoming's community colleges to broaden its reach and impact.

Additionally, the **School of Computing** (uwyo.edu/soc) develops skilled graduates in applied computing, data science, and geospatial fields, feeding Wyoming's IT and high-tech workforce.

CUTTING EDGE ENERGY, TOURISM, AND AGRICULTURE

Energy businesses benefit from the **School of Energy Resources (SER)**, dedicated to advancing research in carbon capture, mineral discovery, and renewables. The SER directs and funds cutting-edge energy research and technology development, which integrates with the formulation and conduct of academic programs at UW and bridges academics and industry through targeted engagement efforts. Learn more at uwyo.edu/ser.

Tourism and hospitality, the state's second-largest industry, receive support through the **Jay Kemmerer WORTH Institute** (uwyo.edu/worth), offering students and businesses research, internships, and targeted job fairs.

Agriculture and food sectors gain a competitive edge through cutting-edge facilities like the **Plant Growth & Phenotyping Facility** and the **Center for Controlled Environment Agriculture**, which focuses on indoor farming techniques that ensure year-round production and nutrition security. Visit uwyo.edu/research/si/centers/cea.



Plant Growth and Phenotyping Facility at the University of Wyoming. Photo courtesy of UW.

COLORADO - WYOMING INITIATIVE GROWS CLIMATE TECH OPPORTUNITIES

A groundbreaking initiative in Colorado and Wyoming, called the NSF ASCEND Engine, is setting out to transform the region into a testing ground for cutting-edge environmental and climate technologies. The acronym ASCEND stands for Advanced Sensing and Computation for Environmental Decision-making.

The National Science Foundation's (NSF) Regional Innovation Engines program kickstarted the initiative with an initial funding of \$15 million for two years and a potential of funding up to \$160 million over the next decade.

The ASCEND Engine is a collaborative effort that unites world-class research institutions, national labs, and a vibrant entrepreneurial ecosystem along the Rocky Mountains in both states. For Wyoming, this includes the University of Wyoming, community colleges in the state, and a partnership with the National Center for Atmospheric Research - Wyoming Supercomputing Center in Cheyenne.

The first major outcome is the development and commercialization of advanced environmental technologies. These technologies - spanning from environmental monitoring to predictive analytics - aim to empower communities, governments, and industries to effectively navigate and adapt to the multifaceted challenges posed by climate change.

Learn more about getting involved at co-wyengine.org.

AVAILABLE SITES

Wyoming has available sites and buildings across the state, ranging from shovel-ready to existing industrial properties. The Wyoming Business Council has made significant investments over the years in infrastructure improvements all around Wyoming, including industrial and business parks. From data center hubs like Cheyenne to growing manufacturing clusters in Sheridan and Gillette, chances are we can help find a viable site that meets your needs.

Whether you need 2,000 square feet or 50,000 square feet, or are looking for 100 acres with room to expand, you can explore current inventory as well as relevant community data and facts at [WyomingSites.com](https://www.wyomingbusinesscouncil.com/sites).



WIRED FOR BUSINESS

The Wyoming Business Council aims to leave no Wyoming citizen behind and position every business to compete on a global scale by ensuring they each connect to the rest of the digital world with broadband internet capabilities that set the standard for all others to follow. Utilizing broadband infrastructure grant programs as well as a coalition of public officials and private telecommunications leaders, the state is working to improve service to all corners of Wyoming.

The Interstate 80 corridor is considered some of the best fiber in the world, which is what has helped attract data centers to Wyoming. Most Wyoming projects, including Meta, Lunavi, and Microsoft, are concentrated in Cheyenne, a region bisected by I-80.



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As Wyoming's economic development agency, the Wyoming Business Council has been entrusted to cultivate economic opportunities for current and future generations of Wyomingites. With a wide breadth of experience in recruitment, development, and investment services, the WBC works hard to create an economic framework so that Wyoming businesses and communities can thrive.