# Wyoming Economic Update

## Alison Felix

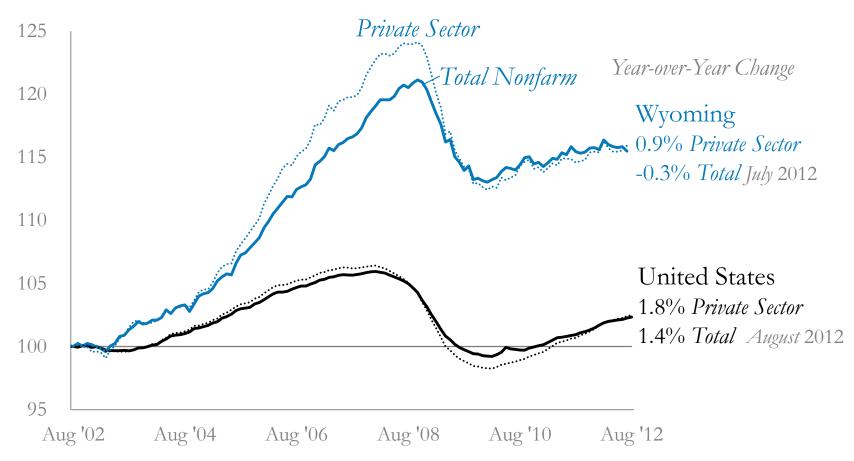
Economist & Branch Executive
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Employment growth slowed in the second quarter but remains well above year ago levels in the U.S.

#### NONFARM EMPLOYMENT GROWTH

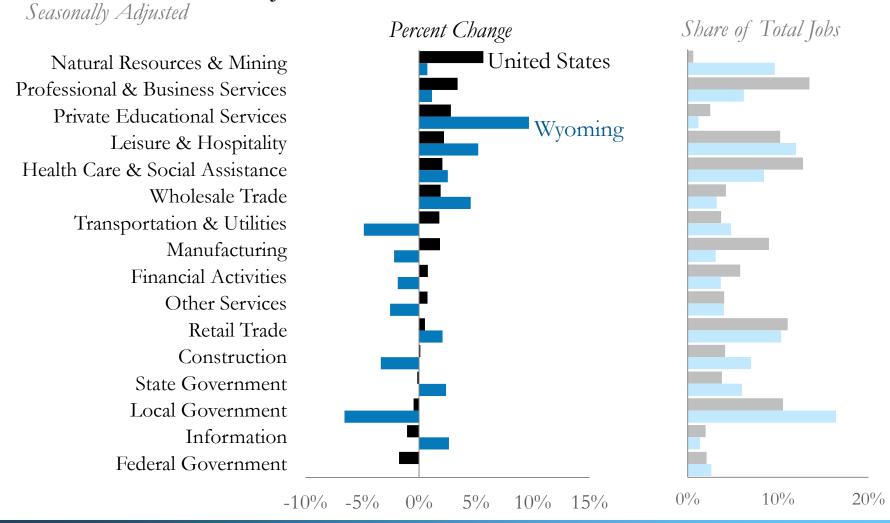
Index 100 = August 2002, Seasonally Adjusted



Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics

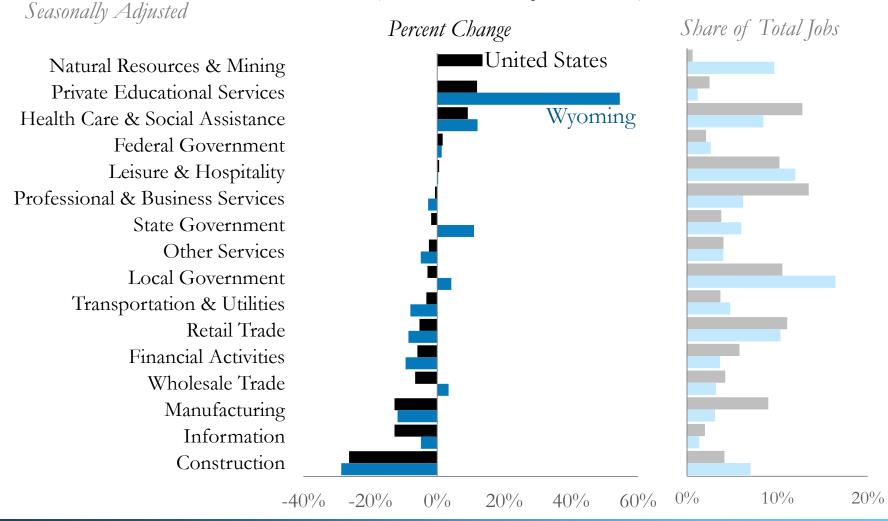
## Over the past year, employment gains were widespread across industries.

## NONFARM EMPLOYMENT OVER THE PAST YEAR, JULY 2012



## However, employment is still below pre-recession levels in many industries.

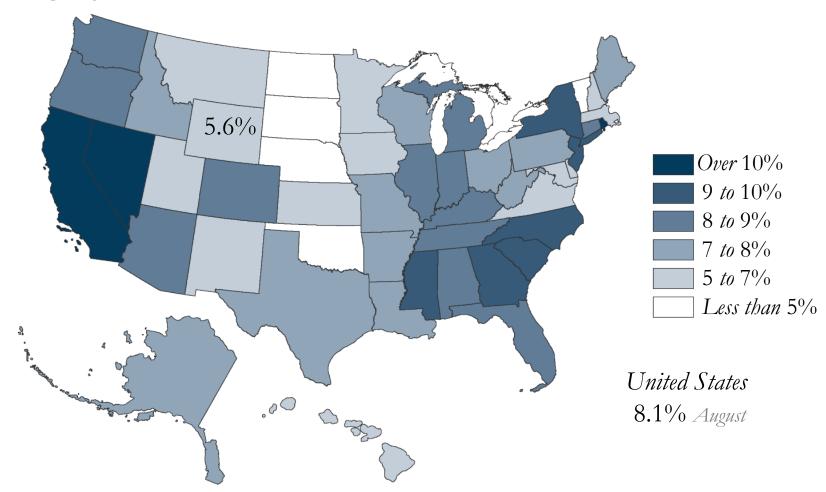
NONFARM EMPLOYMENT SINCE THE RECESSION STARTED (DEC. 2007 TO JULY 2012)



Although unemployment rates have fallen, rates remain high across much of the country.

## JULY 2012 UNEMPLOYMENT RATE

Seasonally Adjusted



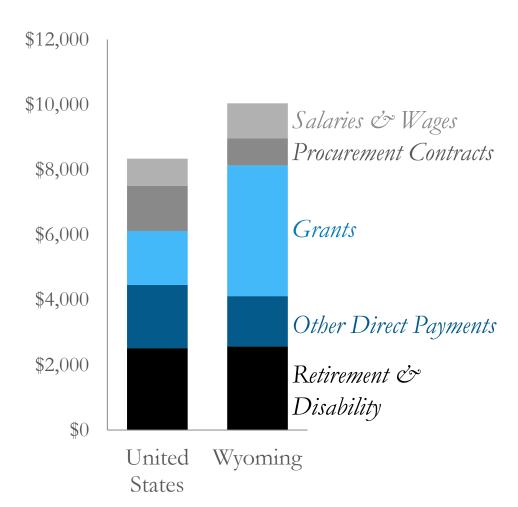
Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics

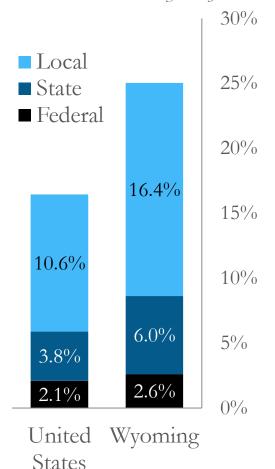
Wyoming relies more heavily on government expenditures due in part to federal spending on national parks and its small population size.



## GOVERNMENT SHARE OF TOTAL NONFARM EMPLOYMENT

Seasonally Adjusted

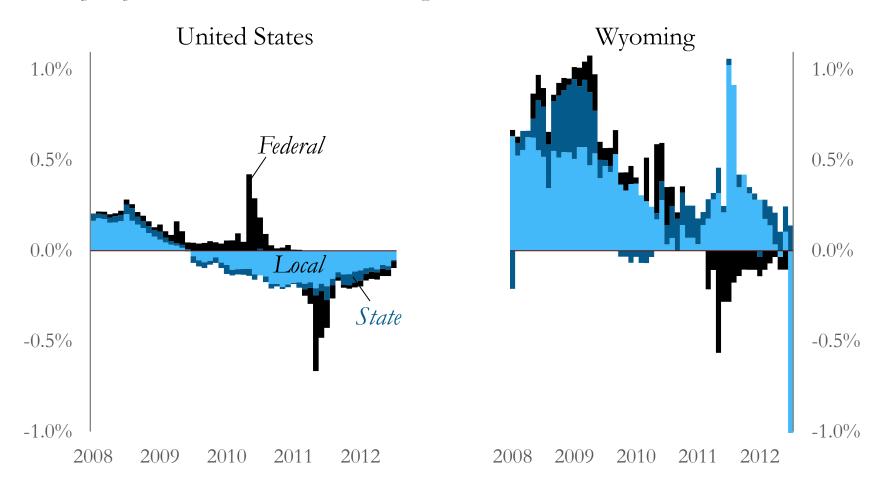




Job losses in the government sector lagged private sector job losses by more than a year.

#### GOVERNMENT CONTRIBUTIONS TO TOTAL JOB GROWTH

Seasonally Adjusted, Contribution to Percent Change

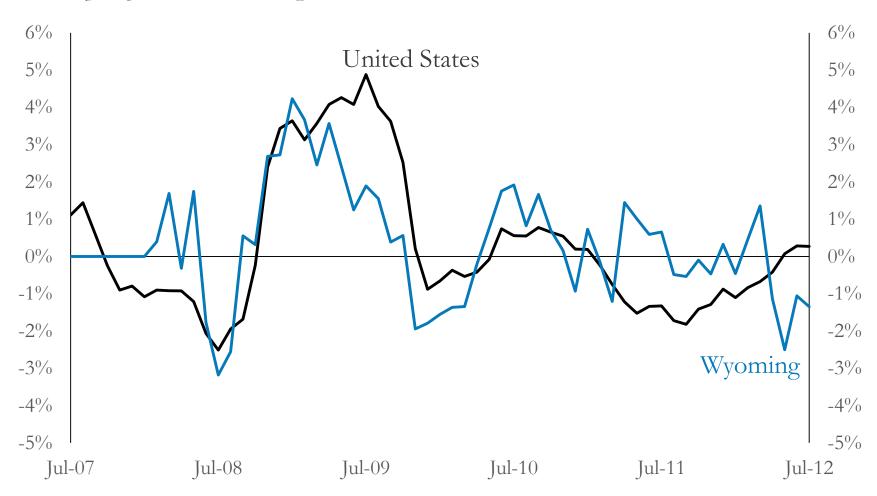


Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics

After outpacing national wage gains for almost two years, real wages have fallen slightly in recent months.

#### REAL AVERAGE HOURLY EARNINGS

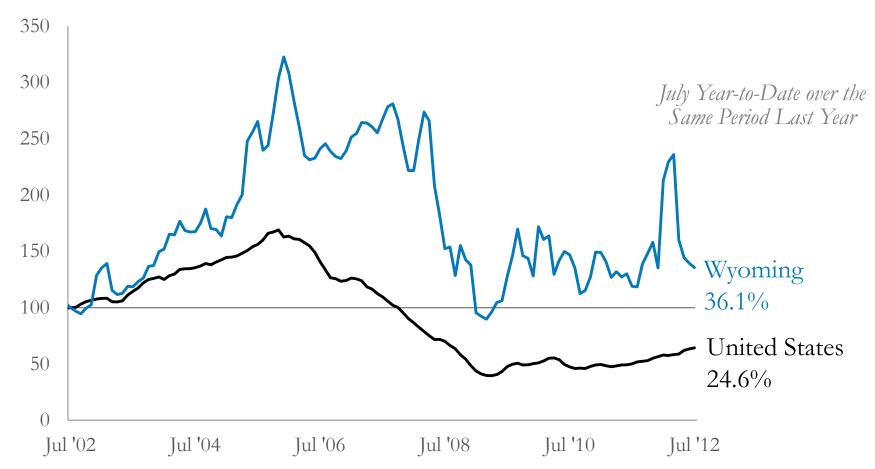
Seasonally Adjusted, Percent Change over Prior Year



Residential construction activity is picking up but remains well below prerecession levels.

#### VALUE OF RESIDENTIAL CONSTRUCTION CONTRACTS

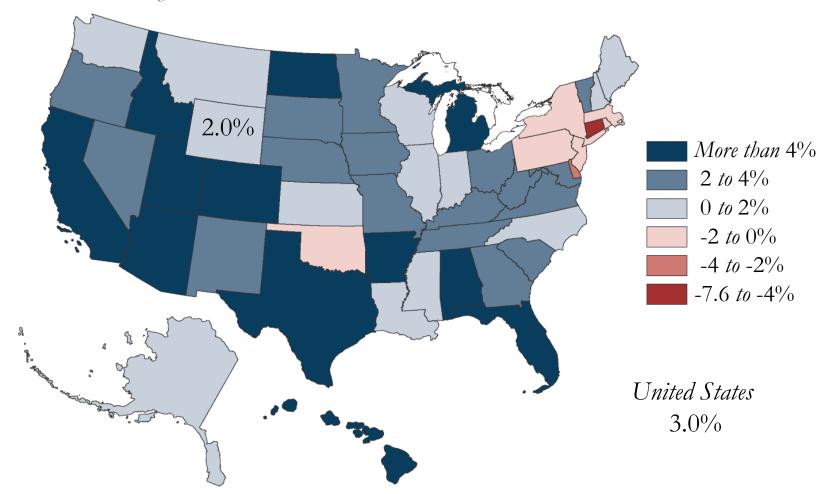
Index 100 = July 2002, Seasonally Adjusted, Three-Month Moving Average



## Home prices have stabilized over the past year across most of the nation.

### CHANGE IN HOME PRICES Year-over-Year, 2012Q2

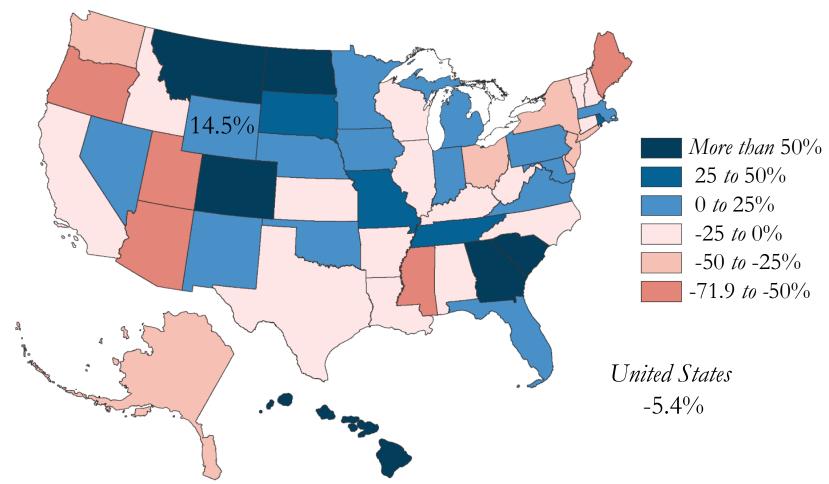
FHFA Purchase-Only Index



Improvements in non-residential construction activity have varied across the country.

#### Value of Non-Residential & Non-Building Construction

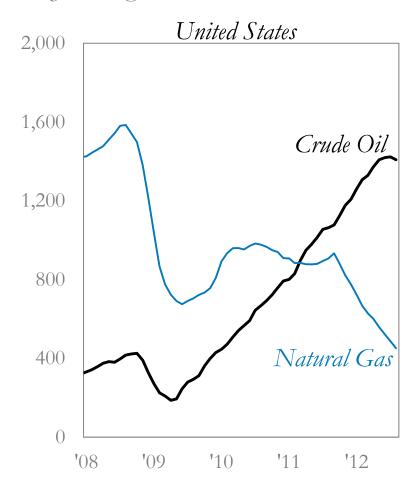
Percent Change, Cumulative Year-to-Date January through July 2012

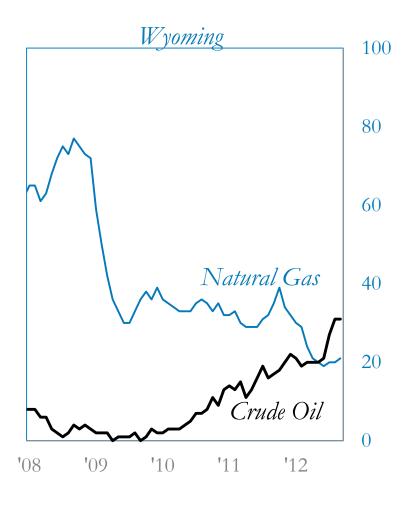


Drilling activity is responding to prices with oil drilling up and natural gas drilling down.

#### ACTIVE DRILLING RIG COUNTS

Monthly Average

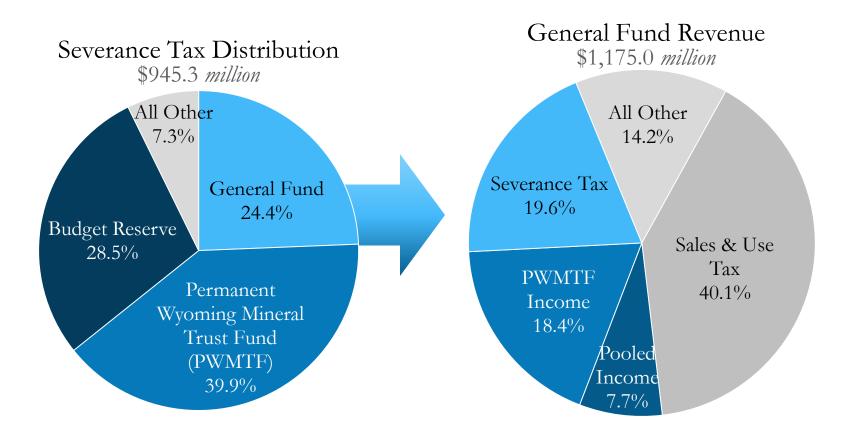




Source: Baker Hughes 12

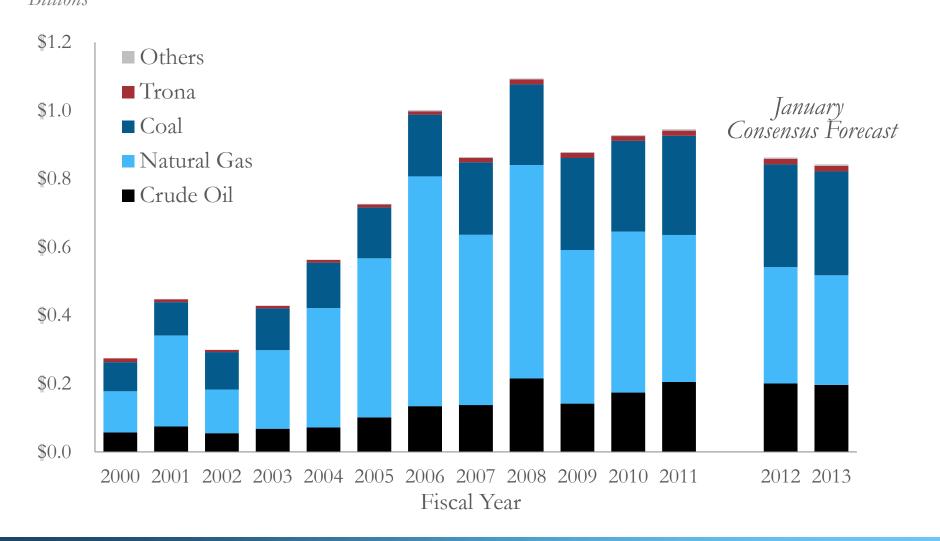


## WYOMING STATE GOVERNMENT REVENUE STRUCTURE Fiscal Year 2011



Severance tax revenue is projected to decline slightly due to lower natural gas prices.

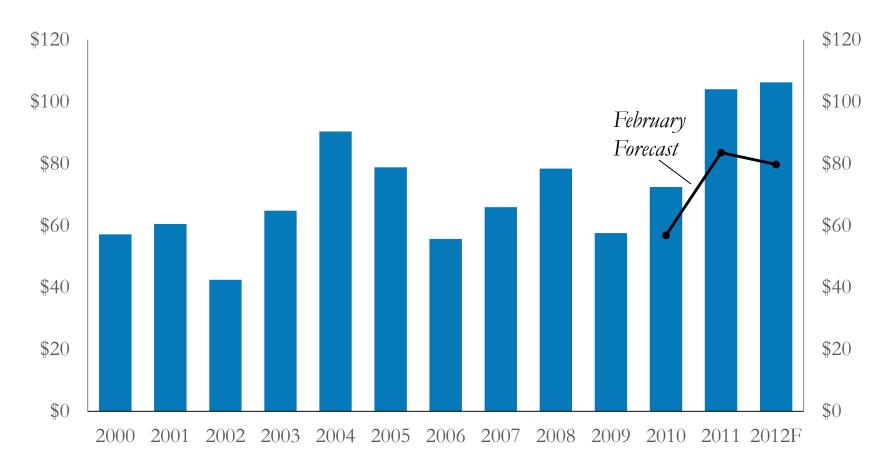
## WYOMING STATE SEVERANCE TAX REVENUE Billions



Despite the worst drought in three decades, U.S. net farm incomes are projected to reach record highs in 2012.

#### U.S. REAL NET FARM INCOME

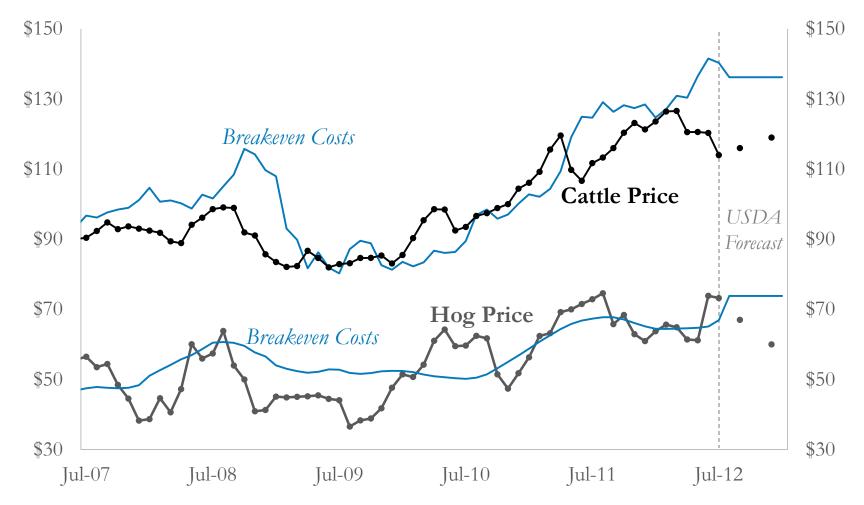
Constant 2005 Dollars (Billions)



The livestock industry continues to struggle with higher feed costs and drought conditions.

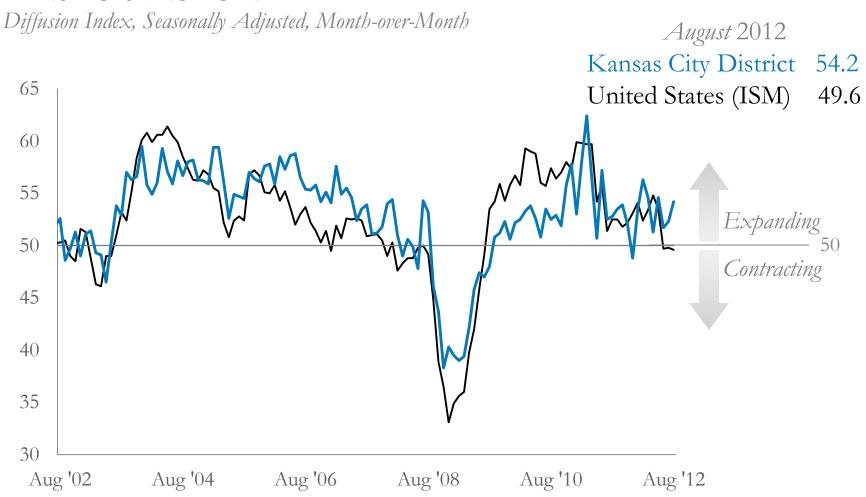
#### U.S. LIVESTOCK PRICES & BREAKEVEN COSTS

Dollars per Hundredweight



## The manufacturing sector continues to expand in the Tenth District.

#### MANUFACTURING ACTIVITY

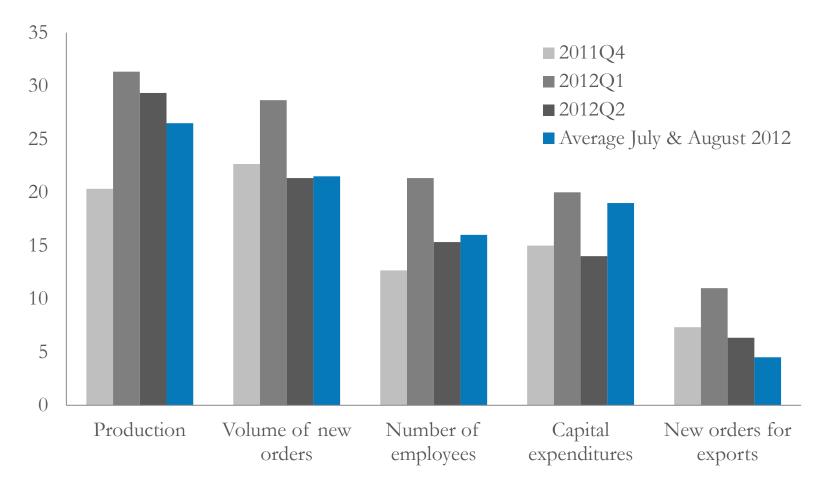


Note: Federal Reserve Surveys are computed on an ISM Basis (50 = no change)

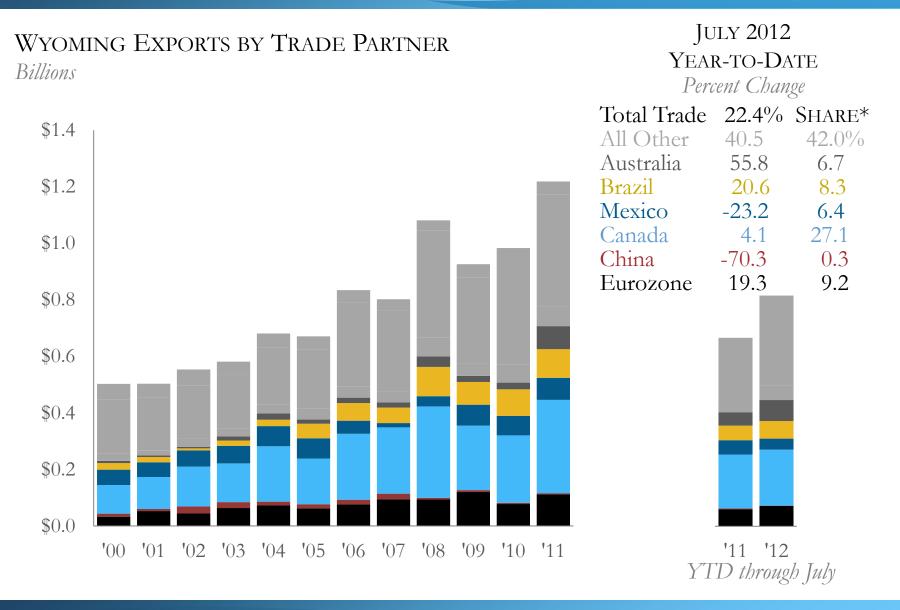
Manufacturers in the Tenth District expect higher levels of activity over the next six months.

#### TENTH DISTRICT MANUFACTURING EXPECTATIONS

Diffusion Index, Seasonally Adjusted, Six Months Ahead



Wyoming exports have increased this year despite the global economic slowdown.



#### Conclusions

- The Wyoming economy continues to expand at a modest pace.
- Construction activity is increasing in both residential and nonresidential sectors. Housing conditions are also improving with more sales, higher prices and lower inventories.
- Growth in the energy sector has slowed somewhat due to low natural gas prices and less coal production. The agriculture sector remains strong for crop producers but the livestock sector continues to struggle.

# Wyoming Economic Update

This presentation will be available at http://www.kc.frb.org/denver/

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