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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
Thursday, March 27, 2003  
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## **WYOMING COST OF LIVING FOR THE FOURTH QUARTER 2002**

The **Economic Analysis Division** has completed the Wyoming Cost of Living Index (WCLI) for the fourth quarter of 2002. The WCLI is a summarization of price data collected in twenty-seven cities and towns throughout Wyoming over the period of January 8, 9, and 10, 2003. The price data collected are used to build a comparative index and to estimate inflation rates for Wyoming and the five regions of the state.

Twenty-seven communities across the state were included in the WCLI based on the following criteria. First, the largest city or town in each county was priced. In addition, prices were collected in any city or town with a population of more than 5,000 persons or where a city or town had at least 85% of that 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 priced, a population based weighted average of the prices for the two communities was used for the entire county.

The 140 items surveyed were aggregated into six categories, which were then weighted according to their overall importance in the average consumer's budget. These categories and their respective weight components include Housing (46.3%), Transportation (17.1%), Food (14.7%), Recreation & Personal Care (10.3%), Apparel (5.8%), and Medical (5.8%)<sup>1</sup>. The Housing category, due to its relative importance in the average consumer's budget, carries the largest weight factor and is the most influential category in both the comparative index and the inflation rates.

## **COMPARATIVE INDEX**

The comparative index is found in **Table I**. It compares each county's price level to the statewide average for the fourth quarter of 2002. All twenty-three counties are included in the comparative index. Movement in ranking from a previous survey does not indicate that the price level has increased or decreased in a particular county. Instead, this table reflects only the price level of each county, *at the time of data collection*, compared with the statewide average of 100.

Ranking as the most expensive county in the State was Teton County with an **All Items** index value of 139, indicating that, on average, the county was 39% more expensive to live in than the rest of the State. "Teton County recorded values higher than the statewide average for all of the item categories, with the **Housing** category having the highest index number of 174," said Justin Ballard, senior economist with the State Economic Analysis Division. "Because the **Housing** category is the most heavily weighted category, Teton County's **All Items** number is driven higher by the greater costs of housing found in the county."

The larger counties of the northeast portion of the State continue to rank near the top of the comparative cost of living index. "Campbell, Johnson, and Sheridan counties posted **All Items** index values greater than the 102 and saw **Housing** index values at or above the statewide average," stated Ballard. "These counties have maintained their higher rankings over a number of WCLI periods due to the sustained energy activity in the region." Ballard continued, "If natural gas or coal suffered a prolonged decline in extraction activities, it would be expected that many of the index categories would decrease, particularly the heavily weighted **Housing** category. With this

<sup>1</sup> Total may not add to 100.0 due to rounding.

decrease in mining activity, unemployment would increase, people would be forced to move to find new jobs, causing an increase in the supply of available housing and decreasing rent values.”

Residing at the lower end of the comparative index are some of the less populated counties of the State. “Crook and Weston counties ranked as the least expensive counties to live in the State with an **All Items** index value of 87,” observed Ballard. “Because the counties that rank near the bottom of the comparative index have not experienced a significant influx of new people, shelter rental prices have remained relatively low compared to the rest of state and this helps keep the overall cost of living in these counties lower.”

## **ANNUAL INFLATION RATES**

**Tables II and III** show estimated Wyoming inflation rates. **Table II** shows estimated inflation rates for all categories, and the respective category weights. **Table III** shows the estimated annual **All Items** inflation rates for the five regions of the state, as well as statewide rates.

The Wyoming annual **All Items** inflation rate for the fourth quarter of 2001 through the fourth quarter of 2002, was 3.7%. The inflation rate represents the percent change in the price level of a standard basket of selected consumer items priced this quarter, compared with the price level of the same goods recorded one year ago.

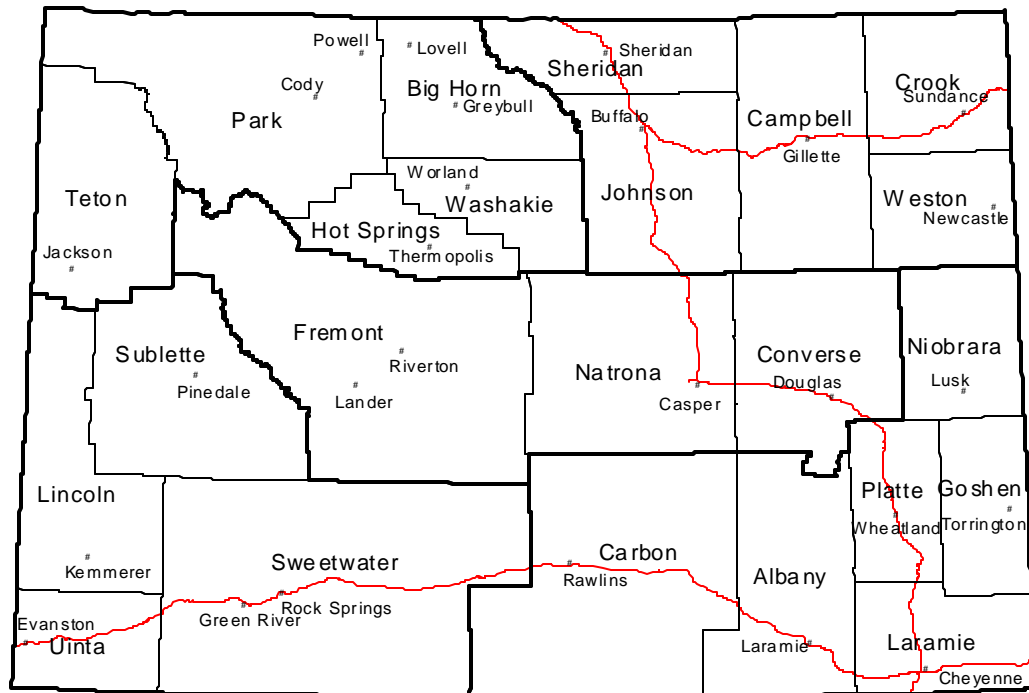
As it has for the past three WCLI pricing periods, the **Medical** category experienced the highest category inflation rate of 6.0%. “A broad increase in prices across the **Medical** category led to the relatively high increase in healthcare related costs,” commented Ballard. “Within the **Medical** category, health insurance costs experienced significant increases and if this trend continues, healthcare related inflation will continue to remain high.”

Two other categories that saw large price increases from a year ago were the **Transportation** and **Apparel** categories. “As people have seen at the gas pump, gasoline prices have recently spiked. At the time of pricing for the WCLI, the full impact of gasoline increases were not yet realized, but significant increases in gasoline prices were still incorporated into the 4.7% jump in **Transportation** related costs,” Ballard said. “The **Apparel** category saw an annual increase in prices of 4.5% in the fourth quarter of 2002. This category can be fairly volatile from quarter to quarter because many of the items priced are sometimes subject to discount sales and the timing of these sales from year to year can greatly effect the final **Apparel** inflation number.”

Both the Northeast and Central regions of the state saw inflation rates of 5.1%. “Not surprisingly, **Housing**, **Medical**, and **Transportation** inflation drove the overall price increases seen in these sections of the state,” commented Ballard. “Because the regional inflation rates are calculated using a smaller sample size than the **Statewide All Items** rate, they can be more volatile over time. Thus, when using the regional inflation rates, it must be noted that they can vary significantly from quarter to quarter.”

The data were weighted by population to more accurately represent the price changes experienced by the majority of consumers in Wyoming. Nationally, the inflation rate from December 2001 to December 2002 was 2.4% (CPI-U), as reported by the U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics. The WCLI is also available on our homepage at <http://eadiv.state.wy.us>. For additional information about the survey, or retrieving the information electronically, please contact the Division at (307) 777-7504 or email: [ead@state.wy.us](mailto:ead@state.wy.us). **The Division wishes to extend its sincere appreciation to all of the businesses and individuals whose cooperation and assistance made this survey possible.**

## SURVEY COMMUNITIES IN EACH COUNTY



### Regional Composition for Inflation Estimate:

**Southeast:** Albany, Carbon, Goshen, Laramie, Niobrara, and Platte counties

**Southwest:** Lincoln, 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.

**Table I**  
**Wyoming Comparative Cost of Living Index - 4Q02**  
**Prices as of January 8, 9, and 10, 2003 (Statewide Average = 100)**

COUNTY	Index Number by Category:						Recreation & Personal Care
	All Items	Food	Housing	Apparel	Transportation	Medical	
Teton	139	105	174	121	104	110	111
Sheridan	106	107	107	120	100	107	104
Sublette	105	96	107	123	101	97	110
Campbell	105	100	111	87	99	101	102
Laramie	104	107	109	94	98	100	97
Johnson	103	105	100	132	100	99	106
Albany	102	94	107	103	101	99	96
Natrona	99	105	98	103	100	98	96
Sweetwater	98	100	95	94	100	99	103
Park	97	99	92	107	101	102	101
Carbon	94	105	85	91	102	96	107
Converse	94	95	90	89	100	98	98
Fremont	93	89	91	87	101	99	100
Hot Springs	93	98	83	102	102	104	103
Uinta	93	92	89	87	100	105	98
Goshen	91	93	85	99	99	97	99
Platte	91	100	80	107	100	95	100
Lincoln	91	90	84	102	100	92	99
Big Horn	89	96	77	117	100	95	99
Washakie	89	92	78	112	99	101	98
Niobrara	88	90	74	104	101	103	106
Crook	87	93	76	98	100	93	101
Weston	87	89	76	93	101	109	100

**Table II**  
**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	14.7	46.3	5.8	17.1	5.8	10.3
4Q96	4.8	9.3	2.4	7.0	7.0	4.1	2.9
2Q97	2.8	4.9	2.1	2.8	2.4	3.3	2.8
4Q97	2.9	4.5	2.5	-0.6	0.9	4.7	5.0
2Q98	1.5	2.6	0.9	3.6	0.0	0.2	3.7
4Q98	2.2	2.8	2.6	4.0	-2.2	0.7	6.2
2Q99	2.6	3.7	3.2	1.1	0.7	3.0	2.3
4Q99	3.1	4.7	2.5	-0.2	4.5	3.4	3.1
2Q00	4.3	4.9	3.6	-1.2	7.9	5.2	3.3
4Q00	3.2	1.8	3.9	-0.4	2.9	4.0	3.9
2Q01	4.3	3.0	6.6	3.1	1.6	4.0	2.0
4Q01	3.5	5.0	4.5	1.8	-0.1	7.3	2.3
2Q02	2.5	1.9	3.1	0.5	-0.4	5.9	4.3
4Q02	3.7	3.3	3.1	4.5	4.7	6.0	3.9

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.

**Table III**  
**Annual Inflation Rates by Region**

QUARTER:	U.S. CPI*	Statewide All Items	Inflation Rate By Region (All Items):				
			Southeast	Southwest	Central	Northeast	Northwest
4Q96	3.3	4.8	5.2	4.0	5.0	4.2	4.9
2Q97	2.3	2.8	3.6	2.8	3.1	1.0	2.6
4Q97	1.7	2.9	3.3	4.0	1.9	3.0	2.2
2Q98	1.7	1.5	1.3	2.6	0.3	2.1	2.5
4Q98	1.6	2.2	2.7	2.8	1.4	2.0	2.4
2Q99	2.0	2.6	3.8	3.4	1.5	2.6	0.9
4Q99	2.7	3.1	3.6	2.6	2.8	3.4	3.0
2Q00	3.7	4.3	3.9	2.3	4.4	7.4	4.0
4Q00	3.4	3.2	2.8	2.6	3.4	6.9	3.8
2Q01	3.2	4.3	4.1	3.1	5.0	4.8	4.6
4Q01	1.6	3.5	4.9	2.3	2.9	4.0	2.6
2Q02	1.1	2.5	2.6	1.4	2.8	3.1	2.2
4Q02	2.4	3.7	3.0	2.5	5.1	5.1	2.7

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.

\* 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, 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.

**Table IV**  
Wyoming Cost of Living Index - Annual Inflation Rates

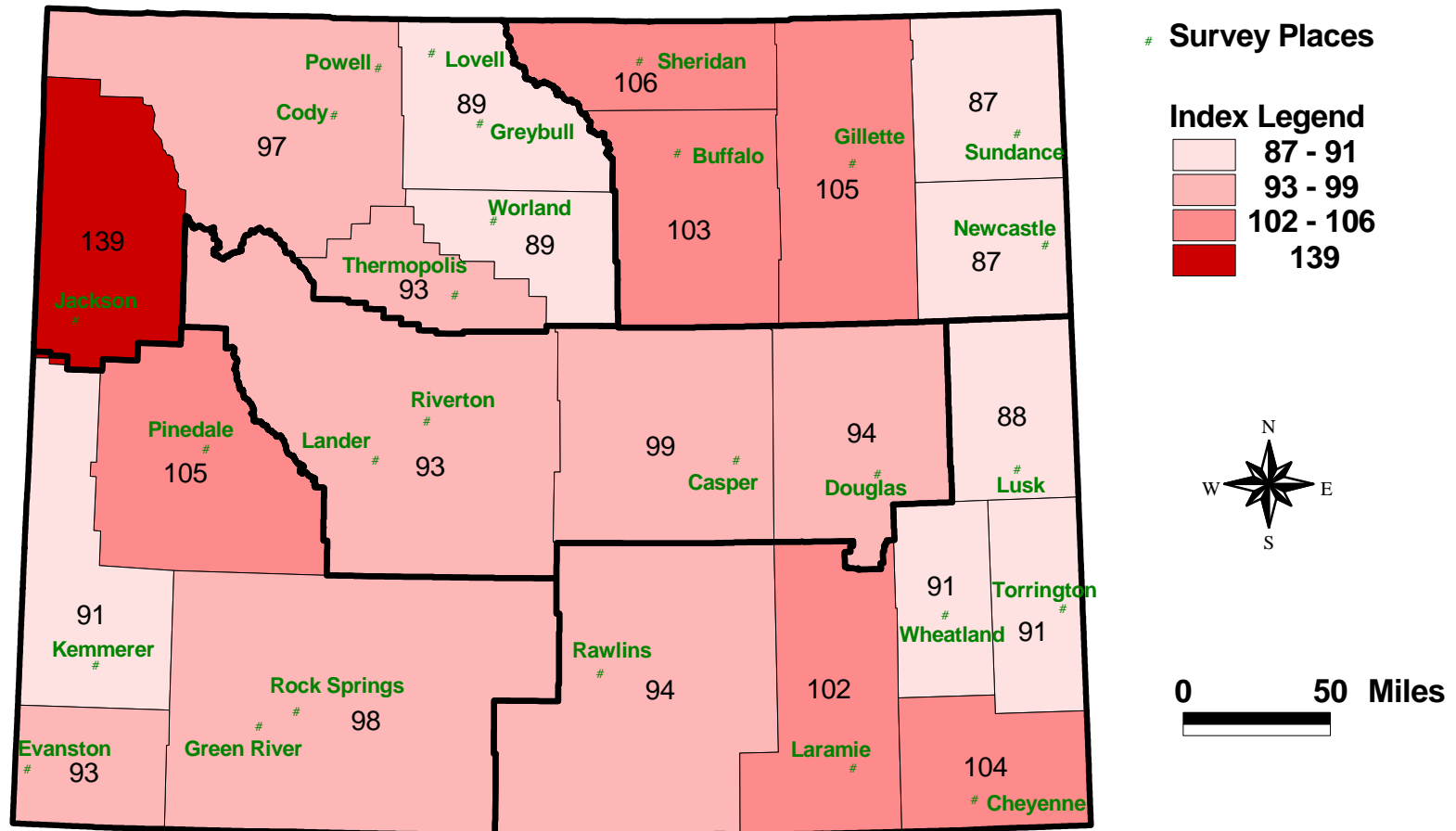
Quarter	U.S. CPI	WCLI All Items	Inflation Rate by Category (All Items):						Rec & Pers Care	Inflation Rate by Region (All Items):				
			Food	Housing	Apparel	Trans	Medical	SE		SW	CEN	NE	NW	
3Q79	12.1	13.2	10.2	11.7	19.2	25.8	8.5	6.3	13.4	13.0	11.8	14.1	16.3	
4Q79	13.3	13.6	9.0	15.4	23.1	17.7	10.5	7.1	14.8	14.2	13.1	13.7	12.1	
1Q80	14.7	15.5	8.3	20.4	8.6	19.1	12.6	7.2	14.1	16.5	18.6	13.5	13.7	
2Q80	14.3	12.3	10.7	11.8	14.4	15.7	11.8	11.0	13.1	12.4	10.6	14.3	12.9	
3Q80	12.7	12.5	13.4	12.2	11.3	12.7	16.3	10.7	12.9	15.3	12.2	12.5	10.3	
4Q80	12.4	12.5	12.1	16.8	11.5	5.4	11.3	9.1	11.6	14.8	12.9	10.8	14.7	
1Q81	10.6	9.9	9.8	11.7	10.0	6.8	8.2	8.6	10.7	16.2	7.7	9.8	8.7	
2Q81	9.6	10.7	7.2	15.1	8.1	6.7	9.3	7.6	8.6	12.4	13.0	11.7	9.1	
3Q81	11.0	11.8	5.6	18.5	5.2	7.1	7.1	8.0	11.1	11.1	13.3	13.1	11.3	
4Q81	8.9	7.0	3.2	8.1	5.3	7.7	9.2	7.4	6.7	10.2	7.7	4.7	6.7	
1Q82	6.8	7.4	5.2	10.8	4.8	2.0	9.2	7.1	5.6	6.6	8.9	8.9	8.8	
2Q82	7.1	5.2	4.4	6.6	6.9	1.7	7.4	4.4	4.1	7.2	4.3	6.8	6.0	
3Q82	5.0	1.5	1.9	-2.0	10.6	1.6	9.5	5.7	0.1	3.2	0.0	3.0	4.8	
4Q82	3.9	1.6	1.8	-1.1	5.3	1.1	8.0	7.5	0.7	1.5	0.5	5.1	3.5	
1Q83	3.6	0.0	0.2	-4.7	5.2	3.6	7.0	6.5	0.7	1.7	-2.3	0.6	1.3	
2Q83	2.6	1.1	-1.4	-2.8	2.3	3.7	8.4	7.9	3.8	-0.9	-1.6	2.1	3.7	
3Q83	2.9	1.2	0.4	-1.1	-0.8	2.8	6.5	5.1	4.5	-0.6	-0.7	2.2	2.6	
4Q83	3.8	1.4	1.9	-1.5	5.6	2.7	7.4	2.4	4.4	-1.3	1.1	2.2	2.8	
1Q84	4.7	3.1	3.1	1.9	2.7	5.0	5.2	2.7	3.9	1.0	1.3	6.5	4.6	
2Q84	4.2	3.5	4.6	2.2	1.0	5.1	3.7	3.3	5.6	2.1	2.0	4.4	4.0	
3Q84	4.2	3.2	3.4	3.1	2.9	4.7	3.1	0.5	4.8	4.7	2.2	2.6	4.3	
4Q84	4.0	2.9	3.2	3.4	-1.8	3.0	3.9	2.6	3.4	2.9	1.4	4.0	4.3	
1Q85	3.7	2.6	3.3	1.6	1.9	3.3	4.8	2.4	3.3	2.3	1.8	3.2	2.8	
2Q85	3.7	0.8	-0.6	-0.7	0.9	3.1	5.0	1.3	1.9	2.7	0.4	-1.0	0.7	
3Q85	3.2	1.7	-1.2	1.3	0.7	3.6	5.8	2.4	1.4	3.5	1.3	1.1	2.0	
4Q85	3.8	1.8	0.4	0.7	3.9	3.3	5.4	2.0	2.7	3.6	1.0	1.0	1.3	
1Q86	2.3	-0.9	-2.1	-0.4	0.5	-5.0	5.9	2.7	-0.5	0.1	-1.9	-2.0	0.6	
2Q86	1.7	-0.4	2.0	-0.7	1.6	-6.1	6.4	2.9	0.9	0.7	-1.5	-2.2	0.4	
3Q86	1.8	0.1	3.9	-0.2	3.6	-6.8	5.5	3.0	1.8	0.5	-1.0	-0.7	-0.5	
4Q86	1.1	-1.5	1.5	-2.7	-0.6	-7.7	5.9	4.9	-0.2	-3.0	-1.9	-2.2	-1.4	
1Q87	3.0	-0.2	2.5	-2.8	2.7	-2.1	5.6	3.2	1.3	-2.4	0.1	-0.7	0.1	
2Q87	3.7	-0.3	1.8	-3.2	1.7	0.3	5.7	2.3	0.1	-2.0	0.2	0.2	-0.1	
3Q87	4.3	-0.2	0.0	-2.7	-0.2	2.8	4.0	1.5	1.4	-2.9	0.3	-0.8	1.1	
4Q87	4.4	0.4	0.3	-2.1	2.3	3.7	3.2	2.5	1.6	-0.9	-0.5	1.8	0.6	
1Q88	3.9	0.3	-0.6	-2.4	1.2	3.7	4.1	2.9	1.6	0.0	-0.6	1.8	0.0	
2Q88	3.9	1.8	-0.2	-1.3	3.3	8.1	5.0	3.4	4.3	0.1	0.4	3.1	2.5	
4Q88	4.4	0.5	3.4	-3.0	2.8	2.5	4.9	2.1	1.0	-0.6	1.9	0.2	1.5	
2Q89	5.2	3.7	6.0	2.0	2.3	6.3	4.2	3.3	3.7	4.4	3.4	3.8	4.6	
4Q89	4.6	4.4	6.0	2.6	1.0	8.2	5.8	4.0	5.0	4.2	3.4	5.1	5.9	
2Q90	4.7	3.7	5.5	3.3	4.5	1.2	6.0	4.6	3.5	3.8	3.3	3.0	6.7	
4Q90	6.2	5.1	5.8	4.9	4.7	4.2	6.2	5.9	4.5	6.0	5.2	4.0	7.0	
2Q91	4.7	4.1	3.8	4.0	1.8	3.6	6.3	5.5	3.5	5.4	4.1	4.2	4.3	
4Q91	3.0	2.8	-0.7	5.1	1.9	-1.7	6.5	5.2	2.3	2.7	3.6	3.0	3.8	
2Q92	3.1	3.2	-1.5	5.2	0.3	2.8	8.6	2.0	3.1	3.9	3.4	2.7	3.4	
4Q92	3.0	3.7	1.9	3.2	-1.8	7.8	5.5	3.7	5.5	2.8	3.4	2.8	3.4	
2Q93	3.0	3.3	2.7	3.5	-2.4	5.7	5.9	1.8	4.8	2.2	3.7	2.4	3.2	
4Q93	2.7	4.0	3.8	6.7	-0.5	0.8	7.8	-0.1	4.2	2.7	4.4	5.0	4.6	
2Q94	2.5	4.5	3.4	6.7	2.5	2.5	6.6	1.2	4.3	4.1	4.4	4.6	6.7	
4Q94	2.7	4.6	4.1	5.6	-0.1	5.4	7.9	1.8	3.9	3.4	5.6	6.7	6.4	
2Q95	3.0	4.7	3.1	5.4	4.7	5.2	4.4	3.8	1.1	3.6	5.7	5.0	4.4	
4Q95	2.5	3.0	2.8	1.7	12.0	1.7	4.1	4.5	2.1	3.9	3.8	1.4	4.4	
2Q96	2.8	4.7	7.2	3.4	9.1	4.3	7.1	3.5	5.1	5.3	3.8	5.7	4.2	
4Q96	3.3	4.8	9.3	2.4	7.0	7.0	4.1	2.9	5.2	4.0	5.0	4.2	4.9	
2Q97	2.3	2.8	4.9	2.1	2.8	2.4	3.3	2.8	3.6	2.8	3.1	1.0	2.6	
4Q97	1.7	2.9	4.5	2.5	-0.6	0.9	4.7	5.0	3.3	4.0	1.9	3.0	2.2	
2Q98	1.7	1.5	2.6	0.9	3.6	0.0	0.2	3.7	1.3	2.6	0.3	2.1	2.5	
4Q98	1.6	2.2	2.8	2.6	4.0	-2.2	0.7	6.2	2.7	2.8	1.4	2.0	2.4	
2Q99	2.0	2.6	3.7	3.2	1.1	0.7	3.0	2.3	3.8	3.4	1.5	2.6	0.9	
4Q99	2.7	3.1	4.7	2.5	-0.2	4.5	3.4	3.1	3.6	2.6	2.8	3.4	3.0	
2Q00	3.7	4.3	4.9	3.6	-1.2	7.9	5.2	3.3	3.9	2.3	4.4	7.4	4.0	
4Q00	3.4	3.2	1.8	3.9	-0.4	2.9	4.0	3.9	2.8	2.6	3.4	6.9	3.8	
2Q01	3.2	4.3	3.0	6.6	3.1	1.6	4.0	2.0	4.1	3.1	5.0	4.8	4.6	
4Q01	1.6	3.5	5.0	4.5	1.8	-0.1	7.3	2.3	4.9	2.3	2.9	4.0	2.6	
2Q02	1.1	2.5	1.9	3.1	0.5	-0.4	5.9	4.3	2.6	1.4	2.8	3.1	2.2	
4Q02	2.4	3.7	3.3	3.1	4.5	4.7	6.0	3.9	3.0	2.5	5.1	5.1	2.7	

**WYOMING COST OF LIVING INDEX - TABLE Va**  
**AVERAGE RENTAL RATES - 4Q02 & 4Q01**

County	APARTMENT (1)			MOBILE HOME LOT (2)			HOUSE (3)			MOBILE HOME (4)		
	4Q02	4Q01	Percent Change	4Q02	4Q01	Percent Change	4Q02	4Q01	Percent Change	4Q02	4Q01	Percent Change
Albany	\$498	\$488	2.1%	\$221	\$205	7.9%	\$694	\$718	-3.3%	\$518	\$486	6.6%
Big Horn	\$305	\$344	-11.3%	\$99	\$89	11.2%	\$313	\$375	-16.5%	\$303	\$290	4.6%
Campbell	\$520	\$537	-3.0%	\$226	\$228	-1.0%	\$732	\$653	12.1%	\$581	\$575	1.1%
Carbon	\$359	\$383	-6.2%	\$110	\$118	-7.0%	\$472	\$443	6.7%	\$331	\$304	9.0%
Converse	\$407	\$370	10.1%	\$143	\$150	-5.0%	\$491	\$415	18.3%	\$353	\$319	10.8%
Crook	\$336	\$312	7.6%	\$115	\$100	15.0%	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Fremont	\$410	\$366	12.2%	\$163	\$144	13.2%	\$482	\$519	-7.2%	\$379	\$363	4.3%
Goshen	\$340	\$339	0.3%	\$115	\$120	-4.2%	\$466	\$428	8.7%	\$327	\$336	-2.6%
Hot Springs	\$373	\$336	11.1%	\$150	\$150	0.0%	\$398	\$339	17.7%	\$313	\$323	-3.0%
Johnson	\$457	\$415	10.1%	NA	\$136	NA	\$639	\$609	4.9%	\$454	\$421	7.8%
Laramie	\$478	\$470	1.7%	\$215	\$208	3.5%	\$762	\$757	0.6%	\$487	\$566	-14.0%
Lincoln	\$332	\$292	13.7%	\$163	\$158	3.2%	\$388	\$400	-3.1%	\$304	\$315	-3.4%
Natrona	\$392	\$394	-0.4%	\$164	\$163	0.3%	\$623	\$537	16.2%	\$507	\$427	18.6%
Niobrara	\$260	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	\$354	\$349	1.4%	NA	NA	NA
Park	\$389	\$394	-1.1%	\$171	\$166	2.8%	\$533	\$506	5.4%	\$362	\$367	-1.3%
Platte	\$354	\$350	1.2%	\$118	\$110	6.8%	\$440	\$425	3.5%	NA	\$288	NA
Sheridan	\$469	\$443	5.8%	\$235	\$183	28.4%	\$637	\$596	6.9%	\$595	\$420	41.6%
Sublette	\$534	\$441	21.1%	\$165	\$175	-5.7%	\$655	\$613	7.0%	\$457	\$350	30.6%
Sweetwater	\$392	\$390	0.5%	\$197	\$201	-2.2%	\$516	\$533	-3.2%	\$422	\$422	0.0%
Teton	\$1,019	\$905	12.6%	\$295	\$313	-5.6%	\$1,386	\$1,463	-5.3%	\$634	\$640	-0.9%
Uinta	\$374	\$344	8.7%	\$150	\$150	0.0%	\$486	\$480	1.3%	\$357	\$375	-4.8%
Washakie	\$338	\$334	1.0%	\$155	\$155	0.0%	\$372	\$364	2.2%	\$283	\$345	-17.9%
Weston	\$292	\$341	-14.4%	\$93	\$94	-1.6%	\$380	\$352	7.9%	\$343	\$335	2.4%
Southeast	\$448	\$445	0.9%	\$190	\$184	3.4%	\$669	\$665	0.7%	\$450	\$483	-6.8%
Southwest	\$387	\$364	6.5%	\$176	\$178	-1.1%	\$495	\$500	-1.1%	\$386	\$384	0.4%
Central	\$400	\$383	4.5%	\$161	\$156	3.5%	\$565	\$518	9.0%	\$451	\$396	13.8%
Northeast	\$466	\$463	0.6%	\$202	\$185	9.3%	\$639	\$587	8.9%	\$531	\$467	13.7%
Northwest	\$538	\$512	5.0%	\$189	\$190	-0.7%	\$698	\$713	-2.2%	\$413	\$422	-2.2%
Statewide Average	\$443	\$430	3.0%	\$183	\$178	3.1%	\$617	\$599	3.0%	\$448	\$436	2.8%
Regions:							(1) - Two-bedroom, unfurnished, excluding gas and electric.					
Southeast: Albany, Carbon, Goshen, Laramie, Niobrara, Platte							(2) - Single-wide, including water.					
Southwest: Lincoln, Sublette, Sweetwater, Uinta							(3) - Two or three-bedroom, single family, excluding gas and electric.					
Central: Converse, Fremont, Natrona							(4) - This price reflects total monthly rental expense, including lot rent.					
Northeast: Campbell, Crook, Johnson, Sheridan, Weston							(5) - The regional averages are weighted by population within the region.					
Northwest: Big Horn, Hot Springs, Park, Teton, Washakie							(NA) - There were too few observations to report the data.					

# Wyoming Comparative Cost of Living Index - 4Q02

(with surveyed communities in each county)



Prepared by Wyoming Department of A & I, Economic Analysis Division