



A Report to Our Citizens

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A Statewide Elected Office
established in the Wyoming
Constitution at Statehood



Wyoming's Leaders are working for:

- Vibrant communities where people enjoy living, working, and visiting
- Economic growth and diversification
- Good stewardship of our land, wildlife, and environment now and for the future
- Efficient, effective state government that does more with less
- Flattened budgets that reverse the steep uptrend of the last decade



Plans

- Continued implementation of the state energy strategy, released in May 2013
- A state water strategy (to be completed in 2014)
- Report to the Legislature in fall 2014 on the status of a state administrative code and updated rules data base system
- A unified network, which will help Wyoming lead in broadband

Wyoming accolades include:

- the best state for future retirees;
- #1 for business friendly tax climate;
- #5 for fiscal condition;
- #4 for best economic outlook; and
- #1 or #2 best run state in the last 4 annual rankings by 14/7 Wall Street.

These are just a few of the many accolades Wyoming has received recently. Perhaps, most importantly, Wyoming gained the highest credit rating, Triple A, from Standard & Poor's in 2011, and since then has kept it. This is recognition of our state's conservative budgeting and forecasting.

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<http://sao.state.wy.us>

Wyoming’s Progress In Fiscal Year 2013

Energy: The state’s energy strategy “Leading the Charge: Wyoming’s Action Plan for Energy, Environment and Economy” was released in May 2013. The strategy strikes the right balance between energy development and environmental stewardship. It was put together with the hard work of people from across the state and from diverse backgrounds, including industry, environmental groups and agriculture. It is meant to be

regularly revised, updated and integrated into budgeting and planning. Examples of specific initiatives to be undertaken include:

- Develop New and Expanded Marketing Opportunities for Wyoming Businesses and Industry
- Establish Standards for Baseline Pre-Development Water Quality Testing

- Develop a Policy Framework for Off-Site Mitigation
- Innovate for Hybrid Energy Systems

Each year new initiatives will be identified. For example, an integrated test center to develop commercial uses of CO2 is one of the newest initiatives, funded in the latest budget.

Water: A state water strategy is being developed and will be completed in 2014. Listening sessions were held last year. People from around the state weighed in about water

development, water management, water conservation and protection, and restoration. We have the information, science, and expertise at hand. We have the best water law which must remain intact. We must now begin the push for water

projects on the ground. Like the energy strategy, the water strategy will address, in a comprehensive way, a most precious resource in our semi-arid state – water.

Improving Roads: A 10-cent per gallon fuel tax increase was approved during the 2013 legislative session and took effect

July 1, 2013. The measure had broad-based support because it was clear that additional funds for maintenance of Wyoming roads were needed. Progress in using the

increased state fuel tax revenue was already evident by the end of the year.

Growth in Manufacturing:

According to data collected by Manufacturers’ News, between

October 2012 and October 2013, Wyoming added 584 manufacturing jobs. This was a 1.7% increase in one year and a full percentage higher than the national average. Wyoming now has 1,182

manufacturers who employ 34,302 workers. This marked the third straight year industrial employment grew in our state.

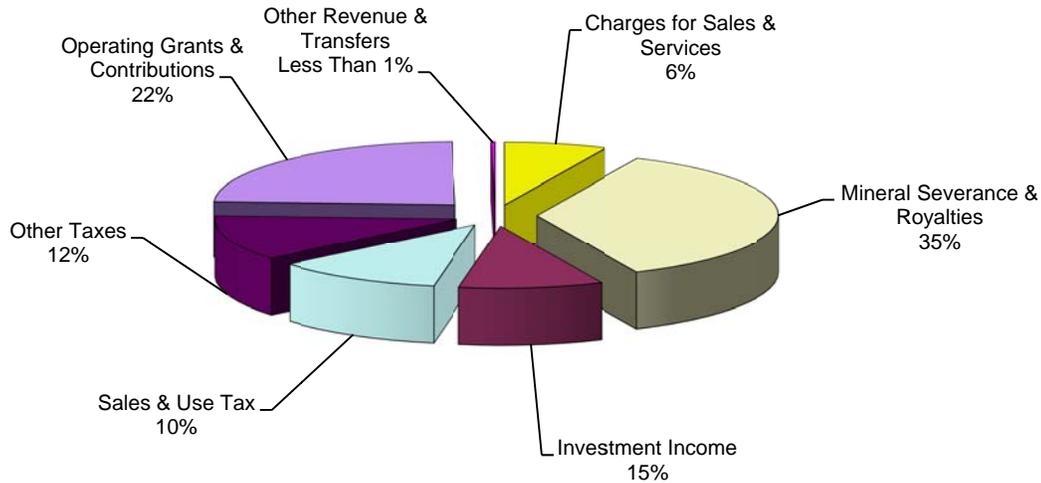
Demographic Information

	Fiscal Year 2012	Fiscal Year 2013
Population	568,158	576,412
Per Capita Income	\$47,898	\$48,670
Visitors to State Parks and Historic Site	2,847,456	2,915,409
Public School Enrollment	89,476	90,993
State Government Employees	9,442	9,397
Unemployment Rate	6.0%	5.4%

Wyoming’s Finances: Revenues and Expenses

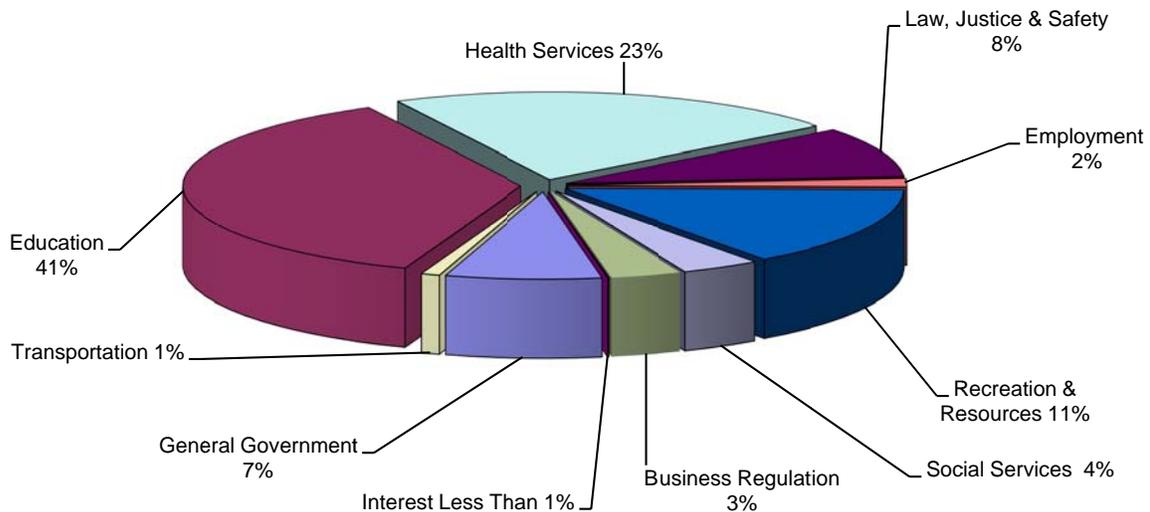
Primary Government Sources of Revenues

FY 2013 Revenues by Source



Primary Government Functional Expenses

FY 2013 Expenses by Function



An independent audit of the State’s financial statements resulted in an unqualified audit opinion, which is best possible audit opinion. Financial information in this report is derived from Generally Accepted Accounting Principles (GAAP) data in the State’s Comprehensive Annual Financial Report prepared by the State Auditor’s Office. To see the Comprehensive Annual Financial Report, visit: <http://sao.state.wy.us>.

2014 and Beyond Challenges and Opportunities

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Wyoming’s Elected Officials

Governor:
Matthew H. Mead

Secretary of State:
Max Maxfield

State Auditor:
Cynthia I. Cloud

State Treasurer:
Mark Gordon

Superintendent of Public
Instruction:
Cindy Hill

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**Thank you, Governor
Mead, for contributing
information contained
in this report.**



Photos courtesy of
Mark Gocke

A year ago, in response to lower revenue projections, the budget was reduced over 6%. The budget reductions took effect in July 2013. We weathered these reductions.

Last summer and fall, revenues came in better than expected, due largely to capital gains. It was good that a second deep budget cut was not in store so close on the heels of the first one.

Nevertheless, we continued work on a budget for the 2015-16 biennium that would be conservative, result in savings, and keep the budget line flattened. At the same time, through the budget, we could make important investments in Wyoming that would yield benefits not just for two years but for many years to come. The Legislature agreed with most executive branch budget recommendations and, as of early March 2014, we have a budget that invests wisely and well in our state. Investments include the following:

- \$175 million for communities, keeping them strong;
- providing for the unified network – the 21st century equivalent of the interstate highway system;
- funding for state facilities, which need updating;
- support for an integrated test center, which says loud and clear that coal is part of today, part of the future, and part of Wyoming;
- support for University of Wyoming and community colleges – our higher education system is strong and getting stronger;
- reducing the Developmental Disabilities wait list, an area where we could do better and we did;
- compensation increases for state employees, which helps keep the best talent here; and
- providing for tourism and predator control in support of two of our top three industries.

The opportunities ahead are exciting, and Wyoming is poised and ready for them.

Where there are challenges, we will continue to meet them. For example, the Environmental Protection Agency’s actions attempting to regulate regional haze, impose costly, unfeasible standards on power plants, and limit state boundaries have not gone unnoticed – we have opposed such actions. The problems created by a massive federal debt and regular federal deficits are also headwinds all states face. But, Wyoming and other states will continue to be leaders – balancing our budgets, growing our economies, adding jobs, and keeping the American dream alive for all our citizens. We are a “can-do” state and will tirelessly work for a better tomorrow – to leave a legacy even better than the one handed to us.