Community Colleges:

THE HEARTBEAT OF WYOMING COMMUNITIES

Wyoming's community colleges are the heartbeat of their communities—educating local residents, powering workforce pipelines, supporting employers, and anchoring rural economies. Every campus is a hub for opportunity, innovation, and community vitality.

HIGH ROI FOR WYOMING → Every $1 Invested Generates...

From the WY Aggregate Economic Impact Study (2022–23)

$2.80 in higher future earnings for students

$2.40 in taxpayer benefits

$6.60 in social benefits

$1.1B total annual statewide economic impact

Student Impact

- Community college graduates earn **$10,000–$12,000 more per year** than high school graduates.
- Students see lifetime earnings increases that strengthen families and communities.

Taxpayer & Community Impact

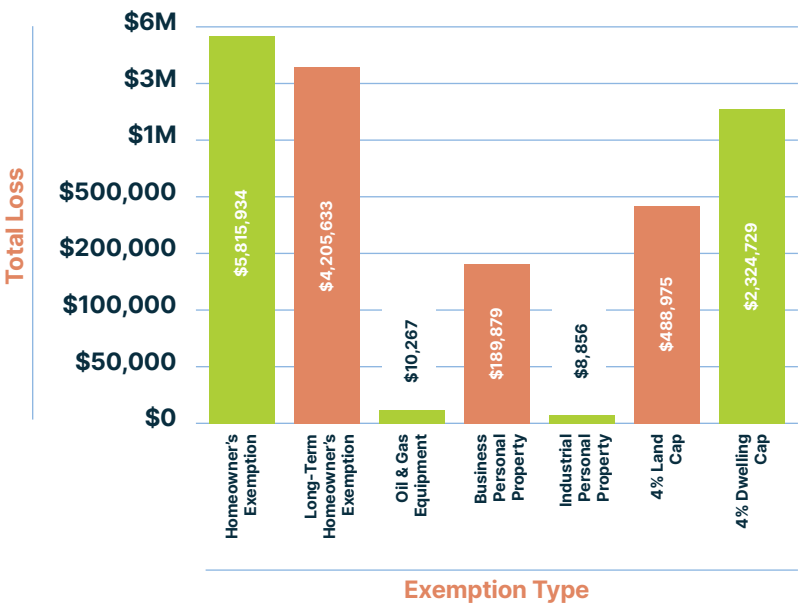
- Colleges generate **$277.3 million** in added tax revenue and public-sector savings.
- Reduced reliance on social services, increased workforce participation, and stronger local economies

PROPERTY TAX RELIEF MEASURES → Real losses, real consequences

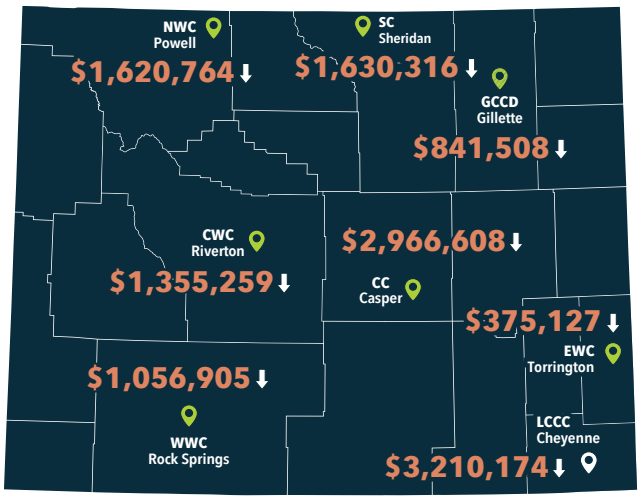
2024, 2025 & 2026 Numbers

Systemwide Losses to Date

$13,044,277



Campus-Level Impacts College Total Loss



Prepared by Ken Guille-Department of Revenue-Property Tax Division. The figures were pulled directly from the statewide CAMA system on August 7, 2026. The mill levies reflect the amounts that are reported to the State Board of Equalization. The amount of loss from residential exemptions is shown. The veterans' exemption is not included. Other exemptions found in W.S.39-11-105 like religious, charitable, etc. are also not included in the totals. The levy for a voter approved bond was taken out of the final calculation for the totals.

(November 2026)

CITIZEN'S INITIATIVE #1

A Direct Threat to Community Colleges

The proposed ballot initiative would dramatically restructure Wyoming's property tax system. While framed as relief, it would further erode the colleges' most stable revenue source.

If Initiative #1 Passes, Wyoming Risks:

- Deepening the **$13M already lost** from legislative exemptions
- **Cuts to workforce programs** in healthcare, trades, energy, IT, early childhood, and public safety
- **Reduced ability** for boards to respond to local needs
- **Higher tuition** pressures
- **Loss of faculty** and staff
- **Fewer community services** and partnerships
- **Weakened rural economies** that rely on their colleges

WACCT'S POSITION

WACCT opposes Initiative #1 because it threatens the stability, affordability, and workforce mission of Wyoming's community colleges. WACCT will continue educating the public about the real impacts of property tax reform and the essential role colleges play in Wyoming's future.

Cumulative Impacts:

- $13M Cumulative Revenue Loss (2024-2026)
- Projected Annual Losses of $4M if Initiative #1 Passes

From Wyoming Community College Commission

COMMUNITY COLLEGES ARE WYOMING'S HEARTBEAT

Protecting them protects Wyoming's future.

WACCT
WYOMING ASSOCIATION OF COMMUNITY COLLEGE TRUSTEES