

GATEWAY REGION STATISTICAL SUMMARY

Land Area	4,508,243.2 acres/7,044.13 square miles
Taxable Valuation	\$99,594,389
Population: 2006 est.	65,842
Median Age	40.7
Population 18 Years and over	46,217
Workforce Dec. 2007	35,338
Employed Dec. 2007	34,201
Unemployment rate Dec. 2007	4.6%
Per capita income	\$16,673
Median household income 2006	\$46,800
Average Earnings Per Job 2002	\$27,168
% of Pop. W/Bachelors' Degree or Higher	21.8%

Values are for 2000, except where noted.

POPULATION AND LABOR FORCE

Population

Based on July 1, 2006 population estimates, the District's population increased by 13,210 people or an average of 27% between Broadwater, Lewis and Clark and Meagher Counties from 1990 to 2006. The population increased by 18% from 1990 to 2000. The below table illustrates the population estimates for the three counties within the Gateway region.

<i>Population Trend 1990 to July 1, 2006</i>				
County	Estimated July 1, 2006	2000 Census	1990 Census	Change from 2000 to July 1, 2006
Broadwater	4,572	4,385	3,318	38%
Lewis and Clark	59,302	55,716	47,495	25%
Meagher County	1,968	1,932	1,819	8%

Source: 2000, 1990 Census and 2006 estimates <http://quickfacts.census.gov>

The region also continues to experience an aging of the population. As the population grows older, local per capita income becomes dependant on transfer payments and increased care for the elderly becomes necessary.

<i>Median Age 1990 to, 2006 (Male & Female)</i>			
County	1990	2000	2006
Broadwater	36.4	41.3	45.1
Lewis and Clark	34.1	38.0	40.2
Meagher County	37.7	42.8	44.0

Source: <http://www.ceic.mt.gov/1990STF1Cnty.asp>, 1990 & 2006 data run by county; 2000 census

Of the total Gateway area population of 64,965 people, in which males represent 47.5 percent of the population. Females constitute 52.5 percent. The below table describes the population by sex for each county.

<i>Population by Sex estimates for July 1, 2006</i>		
County	Male	Female
Broadwater	2,324	2,248
Lewis and Clark	29,144	30,158
Meagher County	992	976
Total	30,136	33,382

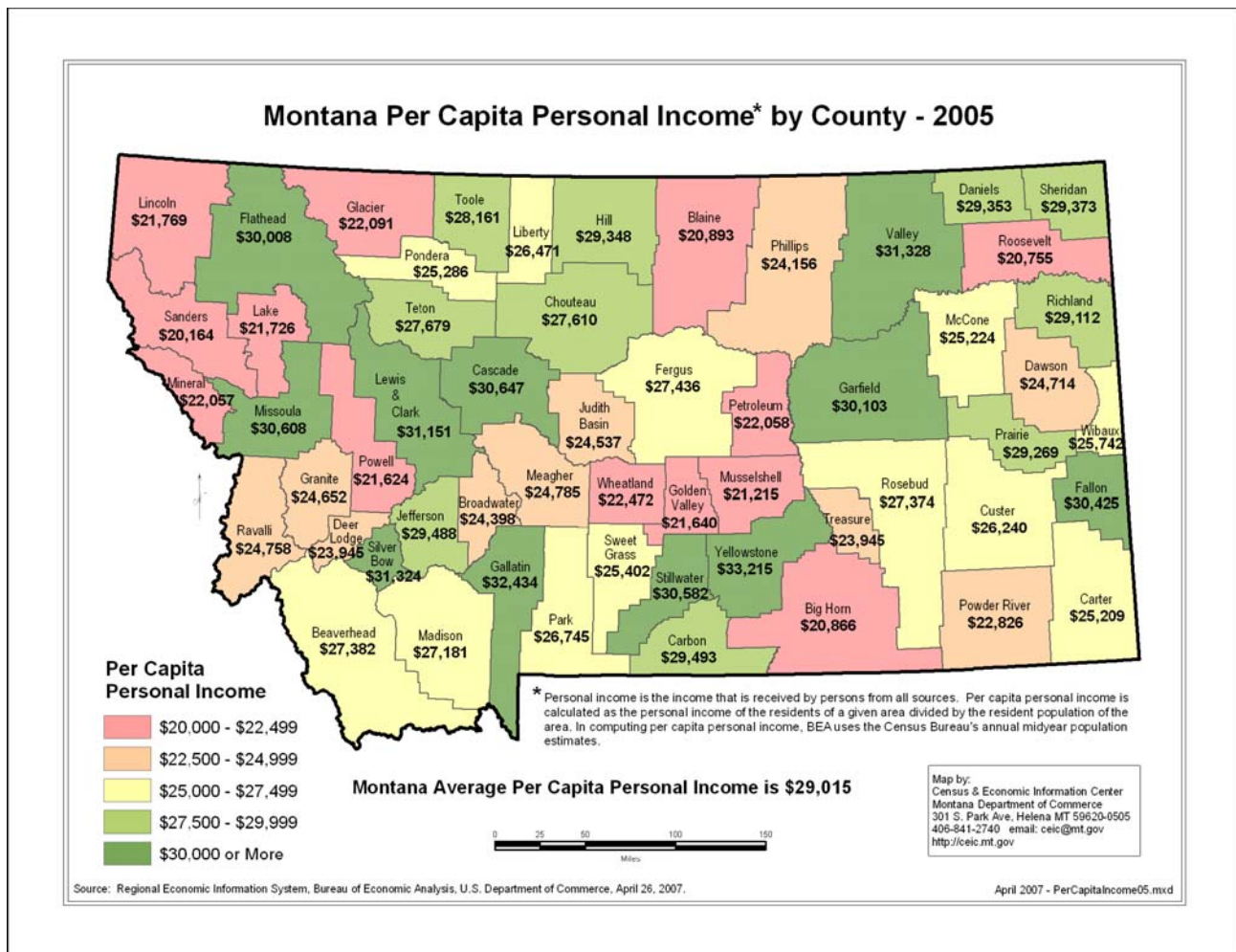
Source: <http://www.ceic.mt.gov/EstimatesCntyPop.asp> run by county

Labor Force, Employment, and Income

The Gateway Region is centrally located among population and economic centers of Montana. Surrounding the Region's borders are Bozeman, 100 miles to the southeast, Butte 50 miles to the southwest, Missoula 120 miles to the west, and Great Falls, 85 miles to the northeast. In 2005, the three-county area supported a population of 64,965 (Census) and 44,954 jobs (US Bureau of Economic Analysis, 2005).

Montana per capital personal income by county

Within the Gateway District, median family income ranges from the high in Lewis and Clark County of \$31,151 to the low in Broadwater County of \$24,398 for 2005. Montana's statewide level in 2005 was \$29,015.



Source: Regional Economic Information System, Bureau of Economic Analysis, U.S. Department of Commerce
http://ceic.mt.gov/graphics/Data_Maps/PerCapitaIncome05.gif

Below are tables for Lewis and Clark, Broadwater and Meagher counties that discuss general area statistics, population size, and labor force.

Lewis and Clark County*

General Area Statistics

Indicator	Value
Population	58,449
Average annual wage	\$27,039
Number in labor force	31,139
Number employed	29,940
Percent unemployed	3.9%
Median household income	\$37,360
Median housing value	\$112,200
Median gross rent	\$457
Per capita income	\$18,763
Poverty rate	10.9%
High school graduates	91.4%
Bachelor's degree or higher	31.6%

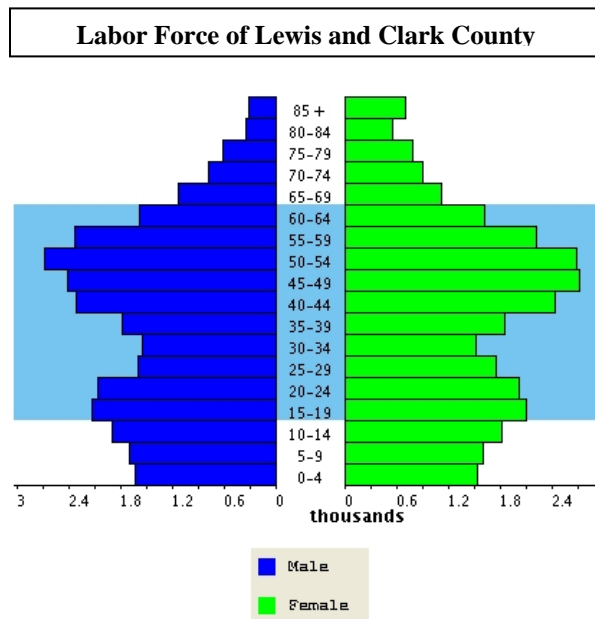


Population Size in Thousands

- 0+ -- 28
- 28+ -- 56
- 56+ -- 84
- 84+ -- 112
- 112+ -- 138

Labor Force: Lewis and Clark County

The 2004 labor force in Lewis and Clark was 31,139. The number of workers employed was 29,940 with an unemployment rate of 3.9%.



Total Personal Income

Lewis and Clark County

In 2005 Lewis and Clark had a per capita personal income (PCPI) of \$31,151. This PCPI ranked 5th in the state and was 107 percent of the state average, \$29,015, and 90 percent of the national average, \$34,471. The 2005 PCPI reflected an increase of 3.7 percent from 2004. The 2004-2005 state change was 4.2 percent and the national change was 4.2 percent. In 1995 the PCPI of Lewis and Clark was \$20,459 and ranked 5th in the state. The 1995-2005 average annual growth rate of PCPI was 4.3 percent. The average annual growth rate for the state was 4.7 percent and for the nation was 4.1 percent. (www.bea.gov).

Below is a table breaking down the population in Lewis and Clark County by age and sex.

Age Range	Male	Female
Total	28,712	29,737
0-4	1,620	1,520
5-9	1,688	1,595
10-14	1,882	1,811
15-19	2,111	2,084
20-24	2,058	2,000
25-29	1,592	1,744
30-34	1,537	1,509
35-39	1,769	1,837
40-44	2,298	2,415
45-49	2,398	2,693
50-54	2,665	2,660
55-59	2,315	2,204
60-64	1,570	1,608
65-69	1,134	1,117
70-74	776	904
75-79	617	783
80-84	353	559
85 +	329	694

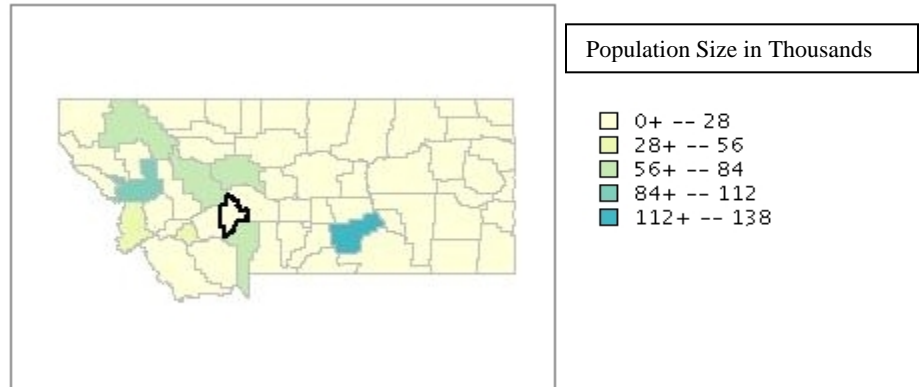
Data Sponsored By: [U.S. Census Bureau - Population Division](http://www.census.gov)

**Data Source: [POPEST/Census Bureau Version/County Population Estimates by Age, Sex, Race and Hispanic Origin/2005](http://www.census.gov/popest/censusbureau/version/county_population_estimates_by_age_sex_race_and_hispanic_origin/2005)

Broadwater County*

General Area Statistics

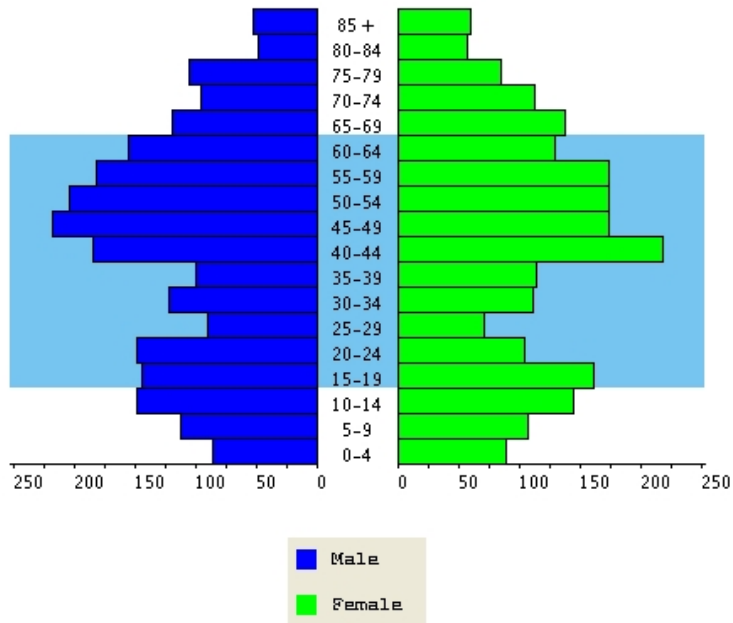
Indicator	Value
Population	4,517
Average annual wage	\$23,501
Number in labor force	2,277
Number employed	2,185
Percent unemployed	4.0%
Median household income	\$32,689
Median housing value	\$85,500
Median gross rent	\$409
Per capita income	\$16,237
Poverty rate	10.8%
High school graduates	85.2%
Bachelor's degree or higher	15.0%



Labor Force: Broadwater County

The 2004 labor force in Broadwater County was 2,277. The number of workers employed was 2,185 with an unemployment rate of 4%.

Labor Force of Broadwater County

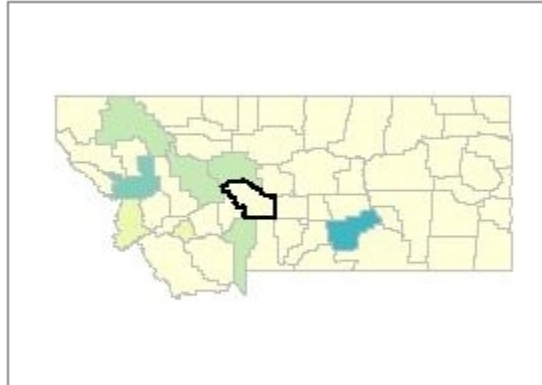


Per Capita income in Broadwater County

In 2005 Broadwater had a per capita personal income (PCPI) of \$24,398. This PCPI ranked 39th in the state and was 84 percent of the state average, \$29,015, and 71 percent of the national average, \$34,471. The 2005 PCPI reflected an increase of 4.7 percent from 2004. The 2004-2005 state change was 4.2 percent and the national change was 4.2 percent. In 1995 the PCPI of Broadwater was \$15,951 and ranked 32nd in the state. The 1995-2005 average annual growth rate of PCPI was 4.3 percent. The average annual growth rate for the state was 4.7 percent and for the nation was 4.1 (www.bea.gov).

Meagher County*

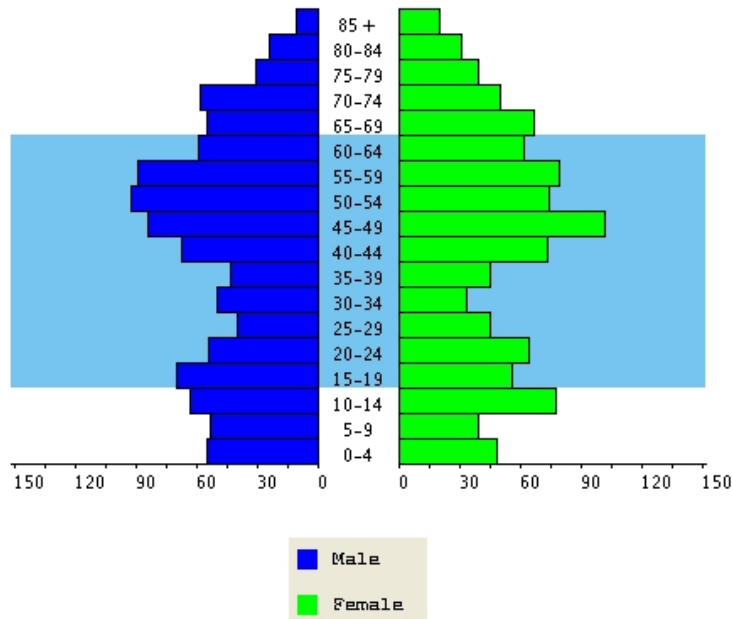
Indicator	Value
Population	1,999
Average annual wage	\$18,911
Number in labor force	936
Number employed	885
Percent unemployed	5.4%
Median household income	\$29,375
Median housing value	\$72,100
Median gross rent	\$373
Per capita income	\$15,019
Poverty rate	18.9%
High school graduates	83.4%
Bachelor's degree or higher	18.7%



Population Size in Thousands

- 0+ -- 28
- 28+ -- 56
- 56+ -- 84
- 84+ -- 112
- 112+ -- 138

Labor Force of Meagher County



Below is a table breaking down the population in Meagher County by age and sex.

Age Range	Male	Female
Total	998	1,001
0-4	55	48
5-9	53	39
10-14	63	77
15-19	70	56
20-24	54	64
25-29	40	45
30-34	50	33
35-39	43	45
40-44	67	73
45-49	84	101
50-54	92	74
55-59	89	79
60-64	59	61
65-69	55	66
70-74	58	50
75-79	31	39
80-84	24	31
85 +	11	20

Data Sponsored By: [U.S. Census Bureau - Population Division](#)

**Data Source: [POPEST/Census Bureau Version/County Population Estimates by Age, Sex, Race and Hispanic Origin/2005](#)

Per Capita Income in Meagher County

In 2005 Meagher had a per capita personal income (PCPI) of \$24,785. This PCPI ranked 34th in the state and was 85 percent of the state average, \$29,015, and 72 percent of the national average, \$34,471. The 2005 PCPI reflected an increase of 3.9 percent from 2004. The 2004-2005 state change was 4.2 percent and the national change was 4.2 percent. In 1995 the PCPI of Meagher was \$16,090 and ranked 30th in the state. The 1995-2005 average annual growth rate of PCPI was 4.4 percent. The average annual growth rate for the state was 4.7 percent and for the nation was 4.1 percent (www.bea.gov).

*These reports were run on 02/21/2008 via:

http://smpbf2.dsd.census.gov/TheDataWeb_HotReport/servlet/HotReportEngineServlet?emailname=whazard@census.gov&filename=ed_home.html

Unemployment Rates

The unemployment rates for the state of Montana are listed below as of December of 2007. The average unemployment rate for the Gateway District is 4.6%. This is slightly higher than Montana's unemployment rate of 3.7% and the national unemployment rate of 4.8%

December 2007 County Labor Force Statistics

	Non-Seasonally Adjusted			
	Labor Force	Employed	Unemployed	Rate
United States	153,705,000	146,334,000	7,371,000	4.8
Montana	496,917	478,527	18,390	3.7
Broadwater	2,258	2,166	92	4.1
Lewis & Clark	32,246	31,255	991	3.1
Meagher	834	780	54	6.5

Employment by Place of Work**Lewis and Clark County**

Lewis and Clark County's employment by place of work is listed below. In 2005, government was a major employer, followed by health care and social assistance and retail trade. There was a consistent increase in employment from 2001 to 2005 in construction, real estate and rental leasing, professional and technical services, accommodations and food service.

Employment by Place of Work	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005
Total Employment	38812	38661	39518	40422	41318
By Type:					
Wage and Salary Employment	31353	31023	31868	32337	32849
Proprietors Employment	7459	7638	7650	8085	8469
Farm Proprietors	547	588	546	544	550
Nonfarm Proprietors 2/	6912	7080	7104	7541	7919
By Industry:					
Farm Employment	689	700	680	679	677
Nonfarm Employment	38123	37961	38838	39743	40641
Private Employment	28902	28872	29478	30570	31327
Forestry, Fishing, Related Act., & Other 3/	187	251	240	D	D
Mining	80	59	90	D	D
Utilities	93	90	89	94	93
Construction	2204	2063	2161	2281	2426
Manufacturing	969	860	794	841	902
Wholesale Trade	767	744	710	748	772
Retail Trade	4443	4493	4598	4683	4637
Transportation & Warehousing	920	905	907	926	910
Information	1005	896	903	915	913
Finance & Insurance	2119	2162	2175	2265	2265
Real Estate & Rental & Leasing	1039	1167	1182	1290	1352
Professional & Technical Services	2676	2748	2711	2878	3023
Management of Companies & Enterprises	62	69	D	D	D
Administrative & Waste Services	1198	1268	D	D	D
Educational Services	654	701	720	803	828
Health Care & Social Assistance	4121	3909	3879	4118	4248
Arts, Entertainment & Recreation	1055	1047	1173	1190	1198
Accommodations & Food Services	2831	2882	3038	3188	3258
Other Services, Except Public Admin.	2449	2558	2640	2634	2729
Government & Government Enterprises	9221	9089	9360	9173	9314
Federal, Civilian	1397	1432	1527	1506	1483
Federal Military	308	313	309	306	298
State and Local	7516	7344	7524	7361	7533
State Government	5368	5170	5325	5180	5340
Local Government	2148	2174	2199	2181	2193

1/"Other" consists of the number of jobs held by U.S. residents employed by international organizations and foreign embassies and consulates in the United States.

2/Excludes limited partners.

3/"Other" consists of the number of jobs held by U.S. residents employed by international organizations and foreign embassies and consulates in the United States.

E - The estimate shown here constitutes the major portion of the true estimate.

(D) Not Shown to avoid disclosure of confidential information.

(L) Less than 10 jobs, but estimates are included in the totals.

(N) Data not available for this year.

Source: Regional Economic Information System
Bureau of Economic Analysis

Apr-06
Table CA25/CA25N

Broadwater County

Broadwater County's employment by place of work is listed below. In 2005 government is a major employer, followed by manufacturing; retail trade and construction are almost equal. There was a consistent increase in employment from 2001 to 2005 in real estate and rental leasing, manufacturing, accommodations and food service. There was only a slight increase in construction.

Employment by Place of Work	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005
Wage and Salary Employment	1297	1380	1421	1412	1471
Proprietors Employment	807	874	857	890	926
Farm Proprietors	242	247	242	241	244
Nonfarm Proprietors 2/	565	627	615	649	682
By Industry:					
Farm Employment	319	324	315	315	314
Nonfarm Employment	1785	1930	1963	1987	2083
Private Employment	1505	1621	1643	1661	1724
Forestry, Fishing, Related Act., & Other 3/	D	D	D	D	D
Mining	D	D	D	D	D
Utilities	D	L	L	L	L
Construction	113	142	138	D	145
Manufacturing	331	344	335	D	381
Wholesale Trade	D	41	43	46	48
Retail Trade	157	150	151	167	175
Transportation & Warehousing	91	128	126	99	76
Information	29	25	22	17	D
Finance & Insurance	40	41	57	59	57
Real Estate & Rental & Leasing	73	D	88	98	107
Professional & Technical Services	69	70	77	77	73
Management of Companies & Enterprises	D	D	D	D	D
Administrative & Waste Services	D	D	D	D	D
Educational Services	D	D	D	L	L
Health Care & Social Assistance	D	D	D	D	146
Arts, Entertainment & Recreation	45	42	57	57	55
Accommodations & Food Services	127	131	132	123	147
Other Services, Except Public Admin.	92	111	119	127	D
Government & Government Enterprises	280	309	320	326	359
Federal, Civilian	58	60	57	52	51
Federal Military	23	24	23	23	22
State and Local	199	225	240	251	286
State Government	29	47	50	65	81
Local Government	170	178	190	186	205

1/ The estimates for 2001-2005 are based on the 2002 North American Industry Classification System (NAICS), therefore industry estimates are not presented in this table.

2/Excludes limited partners.

3/"Other" consists of the number of jobs held by U.S. residents employed by international organizations and foreign embassies and consulates in the United States.

E - The estimate shown here constitutes the major portion of the true estimate.

(D) Not Shown to avoid disclosure of confidential information.

(L) Less than 10 jobs, but estimates are included in the totals.

(N) Data not available for this year.

Source:Regional Economic Information System

Bureau of Economic Analysis

Apr-06

Table CA25/CA25N

Meagher County

Meagher County's employment by place of work is listed below. Because of confidential information disclosure the below chart does not give enough data to accurately make conclusions. It does appear that farm proprietors have maintained themselves, despite an increase in total employment, whereas nonfarm proprietors have increased.

Employment by Place of Work	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005
Total Employment	1193	1189	1203	1212	1239
By Type:					
Wage and Salary Employment	680	670	690	683	692
Proprietors Employment	513	519	513	529	547
Farm Proprietors	143	145	143	142	144
Nonfarm Proprietors 2/	370	374	370	387	403
By Industry:					
Farm Employment	242	243	235	235	231
Nonfarm Employment	951	946	968	977	1008
Private Employment	771	767	790	794	832
Forestry, fishing, Related Act., & Other 3/	D	D	D	D	D
Mining	D	D	D	D	D
Utilities	D	D	D	D	D
Construction	D	57	D	D	D
Manufacturing	D	D	D	D	D
Wholesale Trade	D	D	D	D	D
Retail Trade	78	80	94	97	99
Transportation & Warehousing	D	D	D	D	D
Information	D	D	D	D	D
Finance and Insurance	D	D	D	D	D
Real Estate & Rental & Leasing	D	D	D	18	20
Professional & Technical Services	D	D	D	D	D
Management of Companies & Enterprises	0	0	0	0	0
Administrative & Waste Services	25	D	D	D	D
Educational Services	L	L	L	L	L
Health Care & Social Assistance	D	D	D	D	D
Arts, Entertainment, & Recreation	D	D	58	59	63
Accommodations & Food Services	D	D	121	109	107
Other Services, Except Public Admin.	63	65	66	68	66
Government & Government Enterprises	180	179	178	183	176
Federal, Civilian	36	36	39	36	35
Federal Military	10	10	10	10	10
State and Local	134	133	129	137	131
State Government	17	16	17	17	17
Local Government	117	117	112	120	114

1/The estimates for 2001-2005 are based on the 2002 North American Industry Classification System (NAICS), therefore industry estimates are not presented in this table.

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(D) Not Shown to avoid disclosure of confidential information.

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(N) Data not available for this year.

Source:Regional Economic Information System

Bureau of Economic Analysis

Apr-06

Table CA25/CA25N

TOP PRIVATE EMPLOYERS**Broadwater County**

Top 10 Private Employers in Broadwater County based on 3rd quarter 2006 data:
(in alphabetical order)

Business Name	Size Class#
Bob's Supermarket	4
Broadwater Health Center	5
Graymont Continental Lime	4
Horseshoe Café	4
Mint Bar	4
RY Timber	6
Teasers	4
Town Pump Convenience Store	4
Townsend Personal Care	4
Wheat Montana Bakery	6

Lewis and Clark County

Top 20 Private Employers in Lewis & Clark County based on 2nd quarter 2007 data:
(in alphabetical order)

Business Name	Size Class#
Albertson's	6
American Chemet Corporation	6
Blue Cross/Blue Shield	8
Carroll College	7
Costco	6
Dick Anderson Construction	6
Family Outreach	6
Helena Sand & Gravel	6
Home Depot	6
Independent Record	6
Mergenthaler Transfer & Storage	6
Montana Independent Living Project	6
Morrison-Maierle Inc	6
Mountain West Bank	6
St. Peter's Hospital	8
Shodair	6
Student Assistance Foundation	7
Wal-Mart	7
Watkins & Shepard	6
Westaff	6

Meagher County

Top 15 Private Employers for Meagher County based on 3rd quarter 2006 data:
(in alphabetical order)

Business Name	Size Class#
Bank of the Rockies	4
Berg Garage Inc	2
Camas Creek Cattle and Sheep Company	2
Dempsey's Tavern	3
Equestrian Center	2
Mathis Food Farm	3
Mountainview Medical Center	5
Seventy-One Ranch LP	3
Showdown Montana	3
6666 Ranch	2
Spa Hot Springs Motel	3
Stage Line Pizza	2
Stockman Bar	2
Super 8 Motel	3
Town Pump Food Stores	3

Size Class Breakdown: Size Class 3 = 10-19 employees; Size Class 4 = 20-49 employees; Size Class 5 = 50-99 employees; Size Class 6 = 100-249 employees; Size Class 7 = 250-499 employees; Size Class 8 = 500-999 employees; Size Class 9 = 1,000 and over employees.

The above charts were accessed at <http://www.ourfactsyourfuture.org/cgi/databrowsing/?PAGEID=4&SUBID=153> on 2/21/2008

Financial Institutions

The below chart is a list of financial institutions in Lewis and Clark, Broadwater and Meagher Counties.

Lewis and Clark County

American Federal Savings Bank
1400 Prospect Avenue
Helena, MT 59601

American General Finance
1040 Partridge Place
Helena, MT 59601

Bank of the Rockies
2000 Prospect Avenue
Helena, MT 59601

First Interstate Bank
3401 N Montana Avenue
Helena, MT 59602

First Bank of Lincoln
417 Main
Lincoln, MT 59639

First Security Bank
1721 11th Avenue
Helena, MT 59601

First Community Bank
2987 Prospect Avenue
Helena, MT 59601

Helena Community Credit Union
915 Kessler Avenue
Helena, MT 59601

Mountain West Bank
1225 Cedar Street
Helena, MT 59601

Rocky Mountain Credit Union
3400 N Montana
Helena, MT 59602

US Bank
302 N Last Chance Gulch
Helena, MT 59601

Valley Bank
P.O. Box 5269
Helena, MT 59601

Wells Fargo Bank
350 N Last Chance Gulch
Helena, MT 59601

Meagher County

Bank of the Rockies
205 W Main
White Sulphur Springs, MT 59645

Dutton State Bank
P.O. Box 16
Dutton, MT 59433

Broadwater County

American Federal Savings Bank
416 Broadway
Townsend, MT 59644

State Bank of Townsend
400 Broadway
Townsend, MT 59644

Telecommunications

Montana's 10 local exchange companies and numerous other telecommunications service providers offer advanced voice, data, and video telecommunications services to businesses and residential consumers throughout the state. More than 5,000 miles of fiber optics link Montana rural communities and urban centers with high-speed, broadband on-ramps to the internet. A packet-switched, ATM-based fiber ring connects 90 full-motion distance learning video conference sites in rural Montana communities.

More than 80 percent of the state's population lives within 50 miles of a DS-3 direct connection to the internet. The entire state has local dial-up connectivity to the internet. Montana's switching architecture is 100 percent digital. High-speed cable-modem and DSL (digital subscriber line) services are being deployed not only in Montana's larger population centers, but also in remote communities with populations of 1,000 and under.

Social Services

An abundant array of social services are offered in Broadwater, Lewis and Clark and Meagher Counties. Because of the vast array of services provided, only a few are listed below.

Employment

Alien Labor Certification
Job Service Activities
Trade Adjustment Assistance
Veterans Services
Vocational Rehabilitation
Center 4 Mental Health
MRC Employment Services
Helena Industries

Training/Education

Adult Learning Center
Apprenticeship
Low Income adults
WoRC (TANF)
WIA Title IB Adults
State Displaced Homemakers
Low Income Youth
WIA Title IB Youth-CTI
Job Corps.
Dislocated Workers
WIA Title IB
State Job Registry
Educational Opportunity Center
Experience Works
U of M-Helena College of Technology
Montana United Indian Association
Public Assistance Offices
Rural Employment Opportunities

Veterans Admin/VA Voc Rehab/Employment

Basic Needs

Friendship Center (Domestic/Sex Abuse)
Helena Food Share
Child Care Partnerships
Boyd Andrew Community Services-Chemical
Dependency Services
Low Income Energy Assistance
Unemployment Insurance
Montana Legal Services
Women, Infants and Children (WIC)
Helena Housing Authority
Tumbleweed Foster Care Program

(from Greeter Guide Index 05/25/2007 issue)

Arts and Culture

Broadwater County

Broadwater County has a number of annual events: Discovery Days, the Quilt show, the Broadwater County Fair, a rodeo, the Walleye Festival, and a fly-in at the airport.

There is also the Broadwater County Museum. The museum focuses on local area history. There are many exhibits, including those concerning mining, dental, a homestead cabin, a general store, a rural school, fossils, and the military. There are oral history tapes as well as bound volumes and newspapers (1870 to date). The Museum was built through the efforts of the Broadwater Historical Society, the Farm Service Bureau and the County Commissioners. It was finished in 1975. Work continues on registering, indexing, abstracting, repairing, displaying and filing acquisitions. In 1977, publication of a county history book, the *Broadwater Bygones* was completed and marking of all historical sites in the county is underway. http://www.srv.net/~inmontana/broadwater_county_museum/About-the-Museum.htm

Lewis and Clark County

Lewis and Clark County has several major arts and cultural organizations: The Archie Bray Foundation, Grandstreet Theater, The Holter Museum, The Myrna Loy Theater, The Montana Shakespeare Company, Artisan Dance, The Helena Symphony, The Montana Historical Society and the Myrna Loy Center.

The Archie Bray Foundation

The Archie Bray Foundation for the Ceramic Arts is a public, nonprofit, educational institution founded in 1951 by brickmaker Archie Bray, who intended it to be "a place to make available for all who are seriously and sincerely interested in any of the branches of the ceramic arts, a fine place to work." Its primary mission is to provide an environment that stimulates creative work in ceramics.

The Artist-in-Residence program is the core of the Bray's activities, and has drawn artists from around the world for over 50 years. This tradition is based on the Bray's rich history, the raw potential of the facility, and the people who come to the Bray to work. It allows individuals to pursue personal artistic goals and stimulates an exchange of ideas by bringing together artists of diverse backgrounds, cultures, and approaches to clay.

The Archie Bray Foundation provides free access to some of the finest ceramic art found anywhere in the nation. The Pottery Gallery, open year-round, displays and sells work by resident artists. During the summer the Bray's 3,500-square foot Warehouse Gallery, a converted brickyard building, features an exhibition of work by current resident artists. Solo exhibitions by departing resident artists take place at different times during the year, and additional Bray exhibitions are held at galleries throughout the country. From www.archiebray.org

Grandstreet Theatre

Grandstreet Theatre is a community-supported non-profit organization dedicated to providing high quality theatrical entertainment and education to audiences of all ages. Grandstreet nurtures its volunteers and supports the performing arts.

The Grandstreet Theatre School helps develop young actors between the ages of 5 and 18. Students attend classes once a week during the school year with others in the same age group. In July, summer session classes attract those interested in studying theater for two weeks.

Grandstreet's Theatre School expands student skills in character development, improvisation and playmaking while providing practical experience in rehearsal techniques. Class work is aimed at building character — both on and off the stage.

The Theatre School's goal is to provide training that inspires creative thinking, self-confidence, effective communication skills, fluid movement and vocal control. Each student receives training in acting, voice and diction, singing, movement, dance improvisation, musical theater and directing.
<http://www.grandstreet.net/>

The Holter Museum of Art

The Holter Museum of Art serves Montana and neighboring states with quality visual arts exhibitions. The program includes all media, brings national and international exhibits into the region, and provides a much needed venue for local and regional artists.

The Holter Museum is located in Helena, Montana's capital city, and is situated in a renovated building in the historic downtown area. Founded in 1987, the museum has become the place to experience contemporary art in central Montana. This distinction has been earned because of a growing record of impressive achievements. The Holter offers one of the finest exhibition spaces in the state. Each year more than 32,000 visitors, including 7,000 students, view its exhibits and participate in its educational offerings and numerous special events.

Helena Arts Council, the Holter's founding organization, undertook the purchase and renovation of the museum building. Donations from the local community helped fund the project. The same community spirit and participation continues to help the Holter grow and prosper.

In 1991, museum governance and ownership of the facility transferred from the Helena Arts Council to a newly incorporated and independent entity: The Holter Museum of Art, Inc. and its Board of Directors.

Seeking to nurture the creative spirit and make the visual arts accessible to all, the Holter is committed to promoting participation through outreach, innovative educational programming, and collaboration with other organizations.

With more than 300 annual offerings, the Holter has developed the most extensive art education program in Montana. Innovative collaborations with community organizations broaden the range of cultural activities available. To meet growing public demand, the Holter Museum has expanded.

Exhibitions provide the centerpiece to educational programs that are designed to enhance arts literacy. Additional gallery space to showcase regional art is key to continuing the Museum's tradition of excellence. A Collection Care, Storage, and Research Center is also critical to improve the Museum's ability to collect and properly care for its growing collection of regional art.

In addition to the exhibitions, the staff incorporates a variety of educational programs that relate to the museum's mission. They include docent programs for children and adults, artist lectures and workshops, outreach programs in public schools and collaborative projects with other cultural organizations. <http://www.holtermuseum.org/>

The Montana Shakespeare Company

In 1997 the Montana Shakespeare Company began with a humble setting in the unlikely of theatre locations. Sitting high above the city atop one of Helena's peaks, was a rustic turn of the century lime quarry. Privately owned and little used during much of the previous century it was turned into a simple, yet inviting, theatre under the wide open skies of Montana. With full moon rising behind the audience and towering cliffs surrounding them, a magical and intimate setting was created for MSC's premiere production of "A Midsummer Night's Dream." The following two summers at the quarry brought continued audience following with popular productions of "The Tempest" (1998) and "Macbeth" (1999).

The next two seasons brought MSC to the new Scola Courtyard at Carroll College. The fire season of that year ravaged the skies with ashen smoke but the company continued on with a critically acclaimed production of "The Taming of the Shrew," followed in 2001 with Sheridan's farce, "The Rivals."

In 2002 the Montana Shakespeare Company, moved to the heart of Helena itself. In the historic district affectionately dubbed "The Walking Mall," MSC presented Shakespeare's timeless tragedy "Romeo & Juliet" in the city's new Performance Park Square. In 2003 MSC transformed the square into the mythical Isle of Illyria; and 2004 will take the audience to Messina, Italy, the setting for the ever-popular "Much Ado About Nothing," and to Greece for "A Midsummer Night's Dream."

The Montana Historical Society

The Montana Historical Society operates a museum that is among the top ten attractions for tourists in Montana. The Museum collects, preserves, and interprets fine art, historical, archaeological, and ethnological artifacts that pertain to Montana and its adjoining geographic region. Besides caring for the Society's museum collections, program staff conduct research, produce exhibits - long-term exhibits, special exhibits, archived exhibits, and traveling exhibits, sponsor public programs, answer reference requests from the public, and provide technical assistance to other museums and historical societies.

The Museum collection--over 50,000 artifacts--contains art and three-dimensional artifacts relating to all aspects of Montana history and culture. Our Native American collection (6,000 pieces) contains artifacts from each of the many tribes who have called Montana home. The collection is especially strong in early reservation-era Blackfeet, Sioux, and Salish materials.



The new state of the art storage units for the Native American collection.

The Society's archaeological collection (2,500 pieces) is relatively small, but contains representative artifacts from many eras of human habitation in Montana. The Society is also the official repository for archaeological materials found on State-owned lands. Other artifact strengths include: costumes and textiles (3,100 pieces - e.g., ceremonial costumes worn by Odd Fellows and Rebekahs at the turn of the century, Governor and Mrs. Sam Ford's inaugural outfits of 1941, garments worn by Chinese immigrants in 1890s Butte); transportation artifacts (800 pieces - e.g., a 1910 ore wagon used at the Garnet mines, a wheel from the 1900 Missouri River steamboat "Rose"), paper and ephemera (4,000 pieces - e.g., a Class of 1900 Helena High School dance card, a 1912 calendar depicting an early Charles M. Russell watercolor); firearms (1,000 pieces) e.g. Jim Bridger's c.1870 Hawken rifle, Sitting Bull's 1866 Henry repeating rifle); and agriculture, cattle, and mining industry objects (3,000 pieces - e.g., mid-20th century ranch items, 700 veterinary-medicine artifacts, 1860s assaying equipment).



Jim Bridger's Hawken rifle and binocular, (c. 1850)

The collection also includes decorative arts and furnishings (3,000 pieces) many of which are housed in room settings at the Original Governor's Mansion, a three-story Queen Anne-Style mansion in Helena operated as an historic house museum. The

best known works in our art collection (8,000 pieces) are by Montana's "Cowboy Artist" Charles M. Russell. This collection (numbering over 200 pieces - 24 major oils, 33 major watercolors, 40 pen and inks, 15 original models, 60 bronzes, and 34 illustrated letters) is one of the most significant collections of Russell art anywhere. Another major art collection represents the life work of sculptor Bob Scriver (3,000 pieces). Bronzes of wildlife, frontier figures, and native people are the major themes of Scriver's art - influenced by the history and natural beauty of his Browning, Montana, home. The time period most completely represented in the collection is 1875-1925, but although continue to collect evidence of Montana's 20th century material culture.

From: <http://www.his.state.mt.us/museum/collections.asp>

Artisan Dance

Artisan Dance is Montana's first and only professional ballet company. In residence at Carroll College, dancers from around the nation and abroad unite to present high quality productions of classical and contemporary ballet.

Originating in 1995, Artisan Dance exists as a result of dancer's desires. A small group of dancers that came initially for private study has turned into a friendly network generated by the excitement of the dancers themselves.

Artisan Dance is dedicated to the preservation of classical ballet, the development of original work, collaboration with a full spectrum of performing and visual artists and providing quality education for all ages through and about the art of dance. From: www.artisandance.com

The Myrna Loy Center

The Myrna Loy Center presents contemporary media and performing arts; supports the creation of new works by Montana, regional and national artists; and nurtures a lifelong involvement in the arts through arts education and residencies. Performances include dance, art, film and other venues.

From: www.myrnaloycenter.com

The Upper Blackfoot Historical Society

In the Lincoln area, the Upper Blackfoot Valley Historical Society, UBVHS, Museum displays the Lincoln Gulch gold mine artifacts and shares the valley heritage with visitors. The museum, housed at the Hi Country Trading Post, the UBVHS has hundreds of antiques for history buffs to enjoy. Available through the UBVHS is a book, "Gold Pans and Singletrees", recalling the lives of Lincoln's longest and most famous residents. <http://www.experiencegoldwest.com/communities/lincoln.htm> and http://www.hicountry.com/Lincoln_2.htm

Meagher County

Meagher County has an arts council which acts as a presenter of performance artists and events. The council often arranges for visiting artists to spend time as artists in the schools.