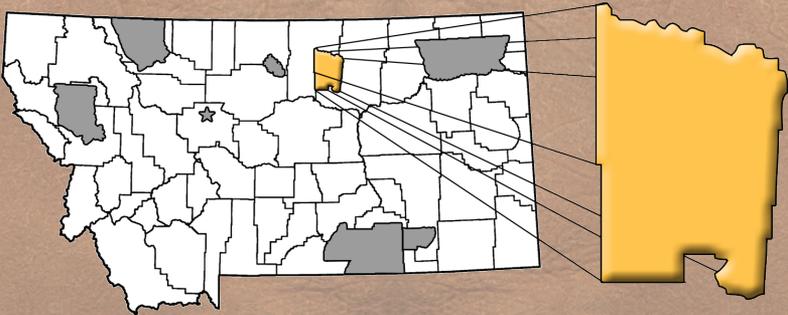


Fort Belknap Reservation

Demographic and Economic Information



Photo Courtesy of Donnie Sexton, Travel Montana



Fort Belknap Indian Community

656 Agency Main Street

Harlem, MT 59526

Phone: (406) 353-2205 | Fax: (406) 353-4541

www.ftbelknap.org

Revised October 2013

Fort Belknap Reservation

The Fort Belknap Indian Reservation is homeland to both the Gros Ventre and Assiniboine Tribes, governed as one American Indian Nation. The reservation encompasses a 1,090 sq. mile area located mainly in Blaine County, north central Montana. Nearly the size of the entire state of Rhode Island, Fort Belknap's landscape is diversified with elevations from 2,300 to 5,000 ft. within the southern and western boundaries bearing the Twin, Wild Horse, and Snake Buttes, Bears Paw and Little Rocky Mountain ranges to alluvial bottom land, glacial till plains, rolling grassland, river "breaks" and farm and ranch lands within the northern boundary extending to the Milk River. Major highway access is through Montana Highway 66 (north/south) and U.S. Highway 2 (east/west). Air travelers will enjoy viewing the beautiful scenery on the way from the Havre City-County Airport, Glasgow Airport, Lewistown Municipal Airport, and Great Falls International Airport.

There are an estimated 7,000 enrolled tribal members of whom approximately 50 percent live on or near the reservation. The Gros Ventre call themselves "A-A-NI-NIN" meaning "white clay people." The Assiniboine refer to themselves as "Nakoda" meaning the "generous ones."

The Fort Belknap Indian Community Council (FBICC), headquartered in Fort Belknap Agency, is the governing body comprised of ten enrolled members of the Fort Belknap Tribes. Entities interested in doing business with the Fort Belknap Tribes should engage the Office of the FBICC President and become familiar with the Tribes' Planning and Environmental Departments, Island Mountain Development Group, and Tribal Employment Rights Ordinance Office, or visit Fort Belknap's website at <http://ftbelknap.org> for more information. Visitors should be mindful of tribal protocol, laws and regulations.

The reservation consists of four districts: Agency, Hays, Lodge Pole, and Dodson, for both cultural and tribal governmental purposes. The Agency district is the major regional job center, offering small to medium-sized service businesses, health clinic, college, convenience store, gas station, call center, restaurant, casino, smoke house, construction, and housing. The principal employers are the tribal government, Indian Health Service, Bureau of Indian Affairs, and Aaniiih Nakoda College. The tribal enterprise Little Rockies Meat Packing Plant and Native American economic development corporation Island Mountain Development Group are major contributors in creating opportunities for business, job, and resource development. Since 1990, the tribal government's Unemployment and

Workers Compensation Programs are self-insured through the Fort Belknap Insurance Company, which operates through codes that are similar to the State of Montana Codes and approved by the Tribal Council.

Promotion of career development, higher education and career awareness are achieved through the tribal Talent Search and Upward Bound programs. In addition, the tribal 477 Employment and Training Programs provide comprehensive education, work-based learning and employment training services. The Aaniiih Nakoda College (ANC), a two-year accredited institution, yields an average annual college enrollment of 149 students. The ANC offers quality post-secondary education programs that promote academic achievement and helps students succeed in an American technological society while maintaining cultural integrity. In partnership with the Developing Montana and North Dakota (DeMaND) Workforce program, ANC builds degree programs that align with the workforce needs of local and regional employers by offering enhanced degree or certification programs in the areas of welding, carpentry, certified nurse assistant, phlebotomy, hazardous materials and hazardous waste operations, Commercial Driver's License (CDL) training, and fire-fighting. Additional information regarding the tribal college services is available online at www.ancollege.edu.

Fort Belknap Wage & Salary Employment Annual Averages 2009 - 2011

Industry	Employment			Wages			2009-2011 Growth	
	2009	2010	2011	2009	2010	2011	Emp.	Wage
Total	327	340	351	\$39,905	\$41,634	\$42,194	7.3%	5.7%
Total Private	33	35	65	\$18,117	\$21,004	\$19,079	97.0%	5.3%
Service Providing	N/A	35	N/A	N/A	\$21,004	N/A	N/A	N/A
Retail Trade	N/A	13	41	N/A	\$27,028	\$18,165	N/A	N/A
Total Government	294	305	286	\$42,350	\$44,002	\$47,448	-2.7%	12.0%
Federal	152	N/A	N/A	\$53,573	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Public Administration	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Local	142	N/A	N/A	\$30,338	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics Note: This data is based on the Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages (QCEW) series which compiles data reported by all employers covered under Montana unemployment insurance. Some sectors are not shown to preserve confidentiality of individual businesses.

American Indian and Total Population for Fort Belknap Reservation and Related Areas

Geography	American Indian Population					
	Census		% Change	Estimate		% Change
	2000	2010	2000-2010	2011	2012	2011-2012
Fort Belknap Reservation	2,790	2,704	-3.08%	n/a	n/a	n/a
Blaine County	3,188	3,217	0.91%	3,210	3,300	2.80%
Fort Belknap Agency CDP	1,207	1,249	3.48%	n/a	n/a	n/a
Hays CDP	664	786	18.37%	n/a	n/a	n/a
Lodge Pole CDP	207	257	24.15%	n/a	n/a	n/a
Phillips County	352	357	1.42%	366	329	-10.11%

Geography	Total Population					
	Census		% Change	Estimate		% Change
	2000	2010	2000-2010	2011	2012	2011-2012
Fort Belknap Reservation	2,959	2,851	-3.65%	n/a	n/a	n/a
Blaine County	7,009	6,491	-7.39%	6,565	6,683	1.80%
Fort Belknap Agency CDP	1,262	1,293	2.46%	n/a	n/a	n/a
Hays CDP	702	843	20.09%	n/a	n/a	n/a
Lodge Pole CDP	214	265	23.83%	n/a	n/a	n/a
Phillips County	4,601	4,253	-7.56%	4,250	4,128	-2.87%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau n/a = Not available

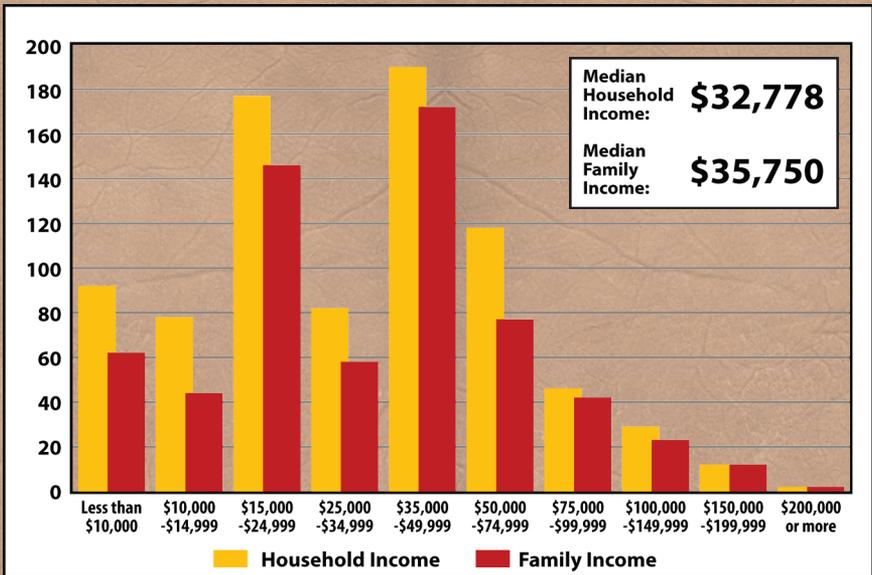
CDP = Census designated places. CDPs are delineated for each decennial census as the statistical counterparts of incorporated places. CDPs are delineated to provide data for settled concentrations of population that are identifiable by name but are not legally incorporated under the laws of the state in which they are located. The boundaries usually are defined in cooperation with local and tribal officials. These boundaries, which usually coincide with visible features or the boundary of an adjacent incorporated place or other legal entity boundary, have no legal status, nor do these places have officials elected to serve traditional municipal functions.

Fort Belknap Reservation - Educational Attainment Population 25 Years and Older

Educational Attainment	American Indian			Total Population
	Male	Female	Total %	
Less than high school diploma	15.8%	16.0%	15.9%	15.5%
High school graduate, GED, or alternative	28.4%	19.1%	23.7%	25.8%
Some college or associate's degree	52.5%	45.8%	49.1%	47.5%
Bachelor's degree or higher	3.3%	19.1%	11.3%	11.1%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2007-2011 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates

Fort Belknap Reservation - Distribution of Income by Family and Household, 5-Year Estimates 2006-2010



Household Income: This includes the income of the householder and all other individuals 15 years or older in the household, whether they are related to the householder or not. Because many households consist of only one person, average household income is usually less than average family income.

Family Income: In compiling statistics on family income, the incomes of all members 15 years old and over related to the householder are summed and treated as a single amount.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2007-2011 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates

Fort Belknap Reservation* - Occupation by Gender Employed Civilian Population 16 Years and Over

Occupation	American Indian	Total
Total - All Occupations	669	741
Total Male	314	366
Management, business, science, and arts occupations	90	124
Service occupations	66	66
Sales and office occupations	15	15
Natural resources, construction, and maintenance occupations	107	112
Production, transportation, and material moving occupations	36	49
Total Female	355	375
Management, business, science, and arts occupations	153	162
Service occupations	81	81
Sales and office occupations	117	120
Natural resources, construction, and maintenance occupations	1	9
Production, transportation, and material moving occupations	3	3

*Includes both Fort Belknap Reservation and Off-Reservation Trust Land, MT
Source: 2007-2011 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates

Fort Belknap Reservation - Labor Force Statistics

The labor force statistics come from three separate sources. The dissimilar numbers result from the differing definitions and statistical techniques used by each source. These differences are explained below:

Source	Year	Labor Force	Employed	Unemp.	Unemp. Rate
MT Dept. of Labor & Industry	2012	881	781	100	11.4%
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Statistics represent labor characteristics of the reservation, not the tribe. • Labor Force definition <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Civilian, non-institutional population 16 years and older • The sum of Employment and Unemployment • Employment definition <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Did any work as paid employees • Worked in their own business, profession, or farm • Worked 15 hours or more as unpaid workers in a family owned enterprise • Unemployment definition <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Have not worked during monthly survey period (usually the week of the 12th of the month) • Available for work <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Actively seeking a job during last four weeks • Unemployment Rate equals the number Unemployed divided by number in the Labor Force 					

Source	Year	Labor Force	Employed	Unemp.	Unemp. Rate
U.S. Census Bureau	2007-11	840	741	99	11.8%
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Statistics represent labor characteristics of the reservation, not the tribe. • Uses the same definitions for Labor Force, Employment, and Unemployment as U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics • From the American Community Survey • Rate reflects the five-year estimates from the years 2007 to 2011 					

Source	Year	Labor Force	Employed	Unemp.	Unemp. Rate
U.S. Bureau of Indian Affairs	2005	2,794	849	1,945	69.6%
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Statistics represent labor characteristics of the tribe, not the reservation. • Labor Force definition <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Number of tribal members between 16 and 64 years old • Available for work <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Not disabled or incarcerated • Employment definition <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tribal members working for money • Unemployment calculated by subtracting Employment from Labor Force 					

Owner and Renter Occupied Housing Units

Housing	American Indian	Total
Owner Occupied	45.0%	45.9%
Rental Occupied	55.0%	54.1%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey 2007 to 2011

Fort Belknap Reservation - Agricultural Statistics 2007 Census of Agriculture

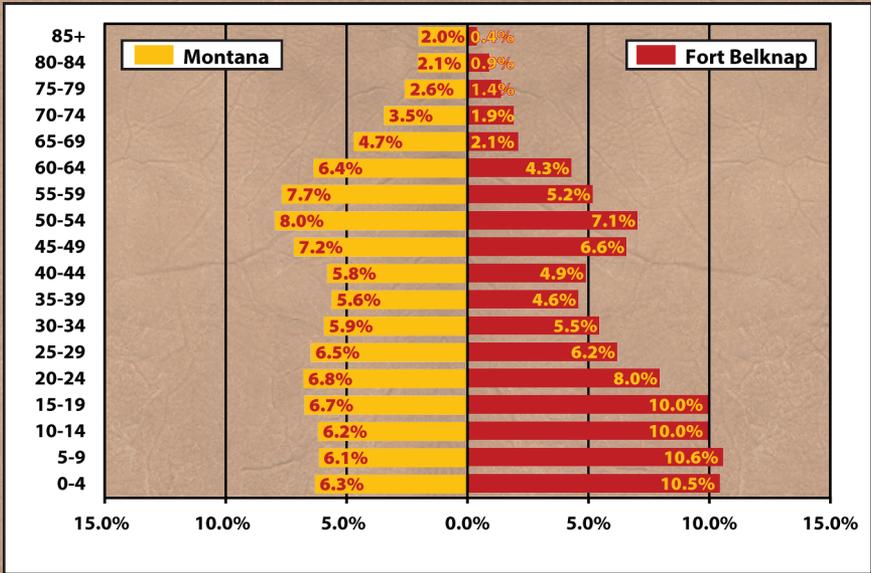
	2002		2007	
	All Farms	Farms Operated by American Indians	All Farms	Farms Operated by American Indians
Farms				
Farms: (number)	121	83	224	175
Land in farms (acres)	829,926	634,270	800,087	499,153
Average size of farms (acres)	6,859	7,642	3,572	2,852
Farms by size: (number)				
Less than 1,000 acres	48	37	119	106
1,000 acres or more	73	46	105	69
Farms by value of products sold and government payments received: (number)				
Less than \$100,000	93	74	177	157
\$100,000 or more	28	9	47	18
Farms by type of organization: (number)				
Family, Individual, Partnership	108	78	216	170
Corporation, Cooperative, Trust	13	5	8	5
Livestock Inventory and Crops Harvested				
Livestock and Poultry Inventory (number)				
Cattle and calves	16,026	6,228	23,136	8,355
Hogs and pigs	(D)	-	-	-
Sheep and lambs	571	(D)	3,282	(D)
Horses and ponies	647	512	1,731	1,341
Bison	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Chickens (layers and broilers)	0	0	(D)	(D)
Crops Harvested (acres)				
Corn for grain	-	-	-	-
Corn for silage or greenchop	-	-	-	-
Wheat for grain, All	43,985	15,246	37,427	19,762
Winter wheat for grain	(D)	-	14,606	4,961
Durum wheat for grain	(D)	-	-	-
Spring wheat for grain	42,422	15,246	22,821	14,801
Barley for grain	1,295	605	524	(D)
Oats for grain	(D)	-	(D)	-
Sunflower seed, All	-	-	-	-
Soybeans for beans	-	-	-	-
Hay, haylage, grass silage	17,608	6,195	30,020	13,391
Operator Demographics				
Primary occupation: (number)				
Farming	114	55	166	96
Other	83	56	168	138
Place of residence: (number)				
On farm operated	155	90	250	173
Not on farm operated	42	21	84	61
Years on present farm: (number)				
Less than 10 years	51	26	82	50
10 years or more	146	85	252	184
Age group: (number)				
Under 55 years	112	62	181	119
55 years and over	85	49	153	115
Average age of operators	52.8	53.2	53.0	54.6

(D): Not Disclosable

Source: U.S. Department of Agriculture, National Agricultural Statistics Service

Fort Belknap Reservation - Population Pyramid

Percent of Total Reservation Population by Age Group



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2010

All Tribal Demographic and Economic Information Flyers are available online at:
<http://www.ourfactsyourfuture.org/?PAGEID=67&SUBID=121>.



Produced collaboratively by the State of Montana Governor's Office of Indian Affairs, the Department of Commerce, the Department of Labor and Industry, and the Fort Belknap Indian Community.



Governor's Office of Indian Affairs

State Capitol Building, Room 202 - P. O. Box 200801 - Helena, Montana 59620
 Ph: (406) 444-3702 - Email: oia@mt.gov - <http://tribalnations.mt.gov>



Census & Economic Information Center

P. O. Box 200505, Helena, MT 59620-0505
 Ph: (406) 841-2740 - Email: ceic@mt.gov - www.ceic.mt.gov

State Tribal Economic Development Commission

P. O. Box 200505, Helena, MT 59620-0505
 Ph: (406) 841-2821 - www.tribal.mt.gov



Research & Analysis Bureau

P. O. Box 1728 - Helena, MT 59624-1728
 Ph: (406) 444-2430 or (800) 541-3904
 Email: webmasterrad@mt.gov - www.ourfactsyourfuture.org

Montana Department of
LABOR & INDUSTRY

2,000 copies of this public document were published at an estimated cost of \$0.25 per copy, for a total cost of \$509.00 which includes \$509.00 for printing and \$0.0 for distribution.