

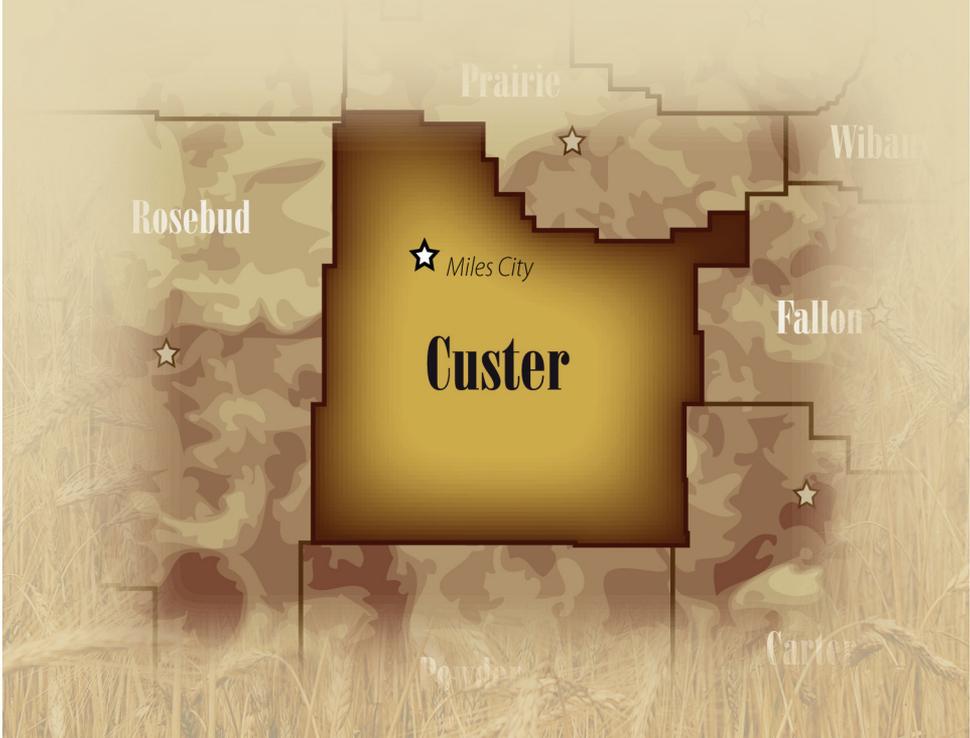
March 2012

Montana

COUNTY FLIERS

Economic and Demographic Information for

CUSTER COUNTY



Montana Department of
LABOR & INDUSTRY
Workforce Services Division



**Research
Analysis &
BUREAU**



CUSTER COUNTY

Custer County is Montana's 15th most populous county, with 11,699 residents according to the 2010 U.S. Census. Miles City, the county seat, is the state's 10th largest city, with a population estimated at 8,410 in 2010.¹ Other cities and towns in Custer County include Ismay, Kinsey, and Volborg.

Miles City serves as a center of commerce for much of eastern Montana, with a service area extending 100 miles in every direction. Tourism is an important component of the local economy, and the area offers both historical attractions, such the Range Riders Museum and the Custer County Art and Heritage Center, and ample opportunities for outdoor activities.²

Miles City is also widely known as the home of the Miles City Bucking Horse Sale, an event which has taken place annually for over 60 years, and nearly doubles the city's population during its three days of festivities.³ Miles City also hosts an annual Bluegrass Festival each September.

¹U.S. Census Bureau, 2010 Decennial Census

²Miles City Area Chamber of Commerce, www.milescitychamber.com/profile.php

³Miles City Star, www.milescitystar.com/bucking_horse

TOP 15 PRIVATE EMPLOYERS IN CUSTER COUNTY

(Based on 2nd Quarter 2011 Data - Listed in Alphabetical Order)

Business Name	Size Class	Business Name	Size Class
Albertson's	5	Montana's Rib & Chop House	5
Billings Clinic - Miles City	5	Sanjel USA	6
Eastern Montana Community Mental Health Center	5	Star Printing & Office Supply Co.	5
Eastern Montana Industries	5	Steadman's Hardware Inc.	5
Friendship Villa Care Center	5	Stockman Bank	6
Holy Rosary Healthcare	7	Town Pump	5
McDonald's	5	Wal-Mart	6
Montana Health Network	5		

Employment Size Class Coding: Class 7 = 250 to 499 employees, Class 6 = 100 to 249, Class 5 = 50 to 99, Class 4 = 20 to 49.

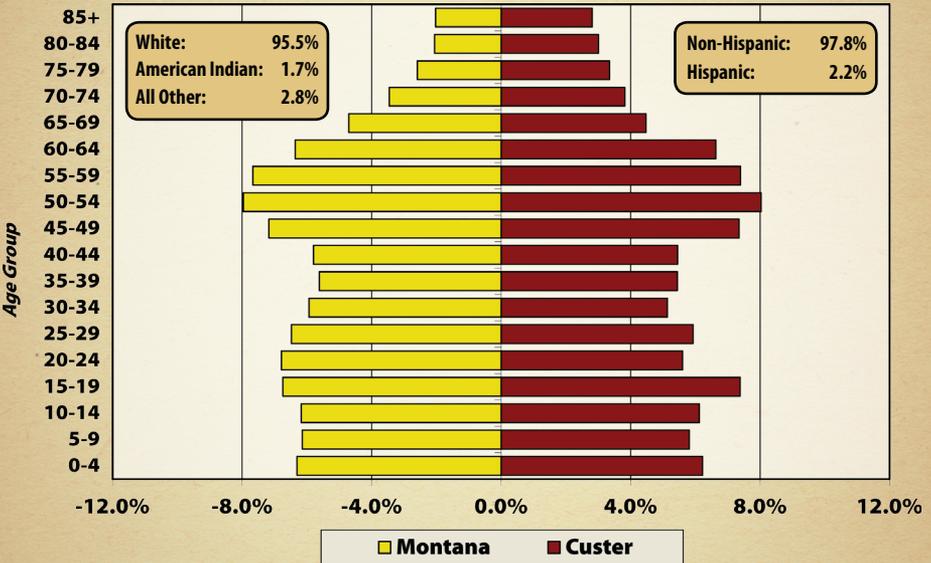
Source: Montana Department of Labor and Industry, Quarterly Census of Employment of Wages (QCEW) Program. This list ONLY includes industry employers subject to unemployment insurance. Railroads, tribal entities, and government agencies are excluded.

POPULATION FOR CUSTER COUNTY AND RELATED AREAS

Geography	Census 2000	2002 Estimate	2004 Estimate	2006 Estimate	2008 Estimate	Census 2010	% Change 2000-2010
Custer County	11,696	11,402	11,297	11,081	11,103	11,699	0.0%
Ismay town	26	25	25	25	25	19	-26.9%
Miles City city	8,487	8,278	8,201	8,032	8,059	8,410	-0.9%
Balance Custer County	3,183	3,099	3,071	3,024	3,019	3,270	2.7%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Population Estimates Program

DISTRIBUTION OF POPULATION BY AGE - CUSTER COUNTY, 2010



HIGHEST LEVEL OF EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT (population 25 years and older)

Educational Attainment	Custer County	Montana	United States
Less than a High School Diploma	8.5%	8.3%	14.4%
High School Diploma (or equivalent)	34.3%	29.9%	28.5%
Some College	27.2%	25.1%	21.3%
Associate's Degree	9.4%	7.9%	7.6%
Bachelor's Degree	15.7%	19.8%	17.7%
Graduate or Professional Degree	4.8%	9.0%	10.4%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey 2010 (US & MT), and 2005-2009 estimates (County).

CUSTER COUNTY - EMPLOYMENT BY INDUSTRY ANNUAL AVERAGES 2010

Industry	Number of Establishments	Average Annual Employment	Annual Wages Per Job
TOTAL ALL INDUSTRIES	461	5,423	\$33,658
TOTAL PRIVATE	423	4,271	\$32,139
AGRICULTURE, FORESTRY, FISHING & HUNTING	17	115	\$25,533
Crop production	3	17	\$45,689
Animal production	11	94	\$21,802
Agriculture & forestry support	3	4	\$29,286
MINING	1	*	*
Support activities for mining	1	*	*
UTILITIES	1	*	*
CONSTRUCTION	47	274	\$81,075
Construction of buildings	9	*	*
Heavy and civil engineering construction	4	*	*
Specialty trade contractors	34	103	\$32,343
MANUFACTURING	12	64	\$28,715
Food manufacturing	3	14	\$29,429
Beverage and tobacco product mfg	2	*	*
Textile product mills	1	*	*
Leather and allied product manufacturing	1	*	*
Plastics & rubber products manufacturing	1	*	*
Nonmetallic mineral product mfg	1	*	*
Fabricated metal product manufacturing	1	*	*
Computer and electronic product mfg	1	*	*
Furniture and related product mfg	1	*	*
WHOLESALE TRADE	24	181	\$30,131
Merchant wholesalers, durable goods	6	35	\$35,619
Merchant wholesalers, nondurable goods	14	132	\$29,452
Electronic markets & agents and brokers	4	14	\$22,862
RETAIL TRADE	54	797	\$24,120
Motor vehicle and parts dealers	10	130	\$35,447
Furniture and home furnishings stores	5	21	\$19,539
Electronics and appliance stores	2	*	*
Building material & garden supply stores	8	102	\$30,616
Food and beverage stores	4	132	\$21,513
Health and personal care stores	3	*	*
Gasoline stations	4	55	\$14,533
Clothing and clothing accessories stores	5	25	\$18,372
Sporting good, hobby, book, music stores	3	21	\$25,198
General merchandise stores	3	*	*
Miscellaneous store retailers	6	35	\$11,111
Nonstore retailers	1	*	*
TRANSPORTATION AND WAREHOUSING	25	173	\$41,669
Air transportation	1	*	*
Truck transportation	18	98	\$39,674
Transit and ground passenger transport	1	*	*
Pipeline transportation	1	*	*

CUSTER COUNTY - EMPLOYMENT BY INDUSTRY ANNUAL AVERAGES 2010 (cont.)

Industry	Number of Establishments	Average Annual Employment	Annual Wages Per Job
Support activities for transportation	1	*	*
Couriers and messengers	2	*	*
INFORMATION	7	104	\$22,844
Publishing industries, except Internet	1	*	*
Motion picture, sound recording industry	1	*	*
Broadcasting, except Internet	1	*	*
Telecommunications	4	23	\$42,948
FINANCE AND INSURANCE	30	257	\$45,971
Credit intermediation & related activity	9	188	\$47,013
Securities, comm. contracts, investments	6	8	\$42,222
Insurance carriers & related activities	15	62	\$43,282
REAL ESTATE AND RENTAL AND LEASING	16	38	\$15,911
Real estate	15	*	*
Rental and leasing services	1	*	*
PROFESSIONAL AND TECHNICAL SERVICES	29	176	\$28,929
MANAGEMENT OF COMPANIES AND ENTERPRISES	3	30	\$75,308
ADMINISTRATIVE AND WASTE SERVICES	14	59	\$15,113
Administrative and support services	12	*	*
Waste management and remediation service	3	*	*
EDUCATIONAL SERVICES	4	36	\$17,770
HEALTH CARE AND SOCIAL ASSISTANCE	47	913	\$33,862
Ambulatory health care services	24	219	\$46,795
Hospitals	1	*	*
Nursing and residential care facilities	7	*	*
Social assistance	15	234	\$17,774
ARTS, ENTERTAINMENT, AND RECREATION	17	110	\$12,124
Performing arts and spectator sports	2	*	*
Museums, historical sites, zoos, & parks	2	*	*
Amusements, gambling, and recreation	13	96	\$12,481
ACCOMMODATION AND FOOD SERVICES	38	652	\$11,661
Accommodation	8	145	\$11,680
Food services and drinking places	30	507	\$11,656
OTHER SERVICES	37	136	\$21,904
Repair and maintenance	15	53	\$31,180
Personal and laundry services	5	22	\$29,249
Membership associations & organizations	13	51	\$9,872
Private households	5	11	\$17,993
TOTAL GOVERNMENT	38	1,152	\$39,290
Local Government	12	583	\$30,834
State Government	13	336	\$44,134
Federal Government	13	233	\$53,500

Source: Montana Department of Labor and Industry, Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages (QCEW) program. The QCEW program compiles data reported by all employers covered under Montana Unemployment Insurance. Totals may not add due to nondisclosure of confidential industry data, or to rounding.

*Data not disclosable

AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS FOR CUSTER COUNTY

	2007 Census	2002 Census	% Change
FARMS			
Farms: (number)	411	425	-3%
Land in farms (acres)	2,127,013	1,904,133	12%
Average size of farms (acres)	5,175	4,480	16%
Median size of farms (acres)	425	640	-34%
Farms by size: (number)			
Less than 1,000 acres	244	244	0%
1,000 acres or more	167	181	-8%
Farms by value of products sold: (number)			
Less than \$100,000	294	313	-6%
\$100,000 or more	117	112	4%
Farms by type of organization: (number)			
Family, Individual, Partnership	352	375	-6%
Corporation, Cooperative, Trust	59	50	18%
LIVESTOCK INVENTORY AND CROPS HARVESTED			
Livestock and Poultry Inventory (number)			
Cattle and calves	99,521	87,172	14%
Hogs and pigs	22	115	-81%
Sheep and lambs	5,773	5,508	5%
Horses and ponies	1,985	2,046	-3%
Bison	*	759	*
Chickens (layers and broilers)	*	*	*
Crops Harvested (acres)			
Corn for grain	2,292	367	525%
Corn for silage or greenchop	5,156	5,747	-10%
Wheat for grain, All	21,345	12,185	75%
Winter wheat for grain	11,350	7,657	48%
Spring wheat for grain	9,995	4,528	121%
Durum wheat for grain	0	0	NA
Oats for grain	588	603	-2%
Barley for grain	3,454	2,113	63%
Hay, haylage, grass silage	62,410	33,390	87%
Sunflower seed, All	0	0	NA
OPERATOR DEMOGRAPHICS			
Primary occupation: (number)			
Farming	231	296	-22%
Other	180	129	40%
Place of residence: (number)			
On farm operated	330	364	-9%
Not on farm operated	81	61	33%
Years on present farm: (number)			
Less than 10 years	100	135	-26%
10 years or more	311	290	7%
Age group: (number)			
Under 55 years	186	248	-25%
55 years and over	225	177	27%
Average age of operators: (number)	56.8	53.7	6%

Source: U.S. Department of Agriculture, National Agricultural Statistics Service, 2007

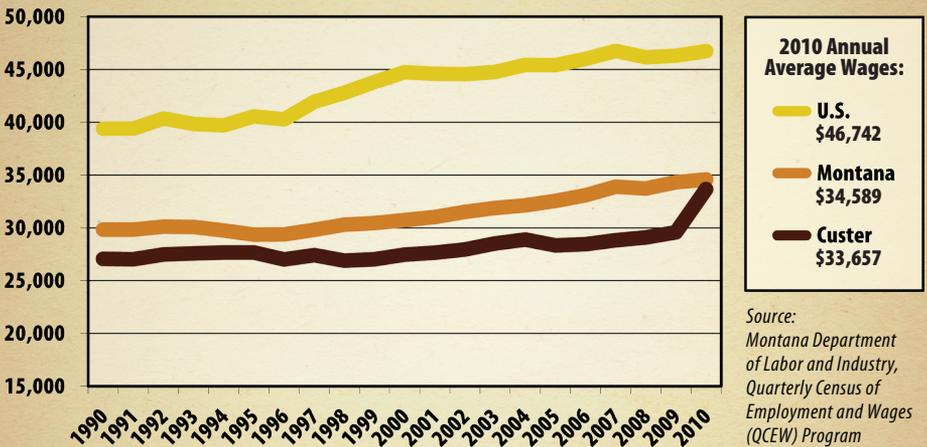
* = Not Disclosable

ANNUAL AVERAGE LABOR FORCE - CUSTER COUNTY

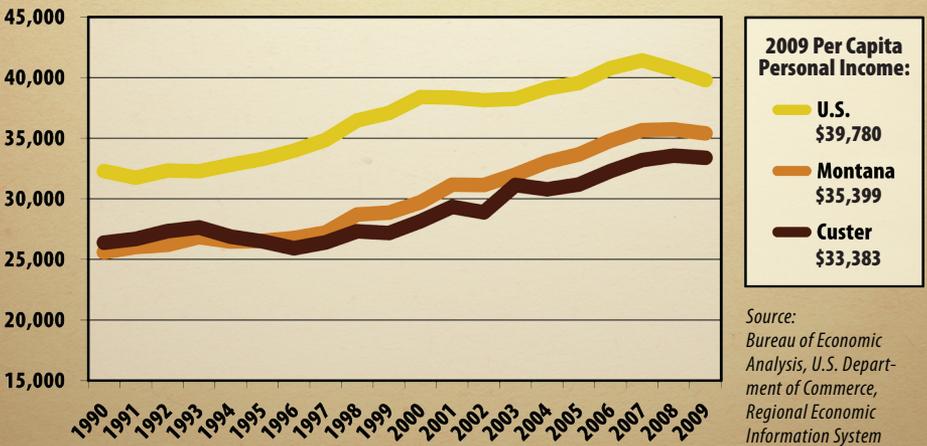
Year	Civilian Labor Force	Employed	Unemployed	Unemployment Rate
2010	5,949	5,666	283	4.8%
2009	5,802	5,541	261	4.5%
2008	5,888	5,667	221	3.8%
2007	5,760	5,578	182	3.2%
2006	5,680	5,508	172	3.0%
2005	5,559	5,373	186	3.3%

Source: Montana Department of Labor and Industry, Local Area Unemployment Statistics Program (LAUS)

ANNUAL AVERAGE WAGES - CUSTER COUNTY, 1990-2010
(In 2010 Dollars)

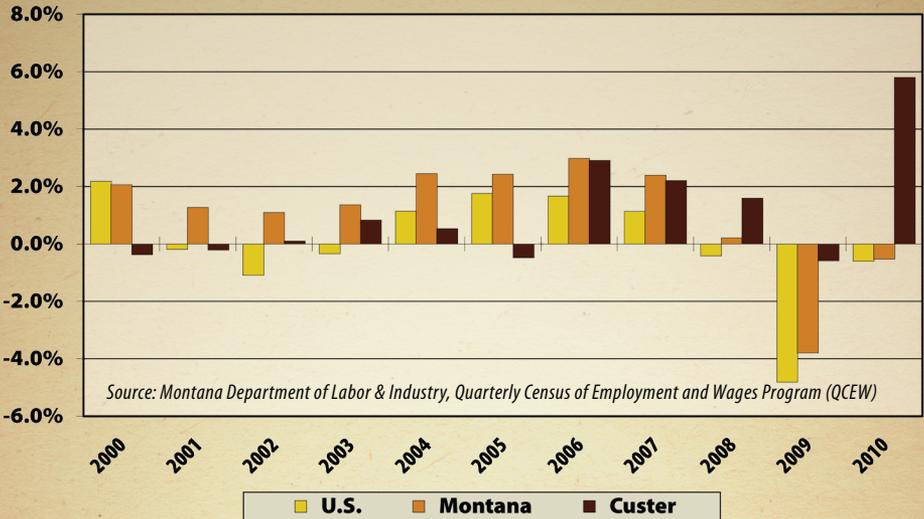


PER CAPITA PERSONAL INCOME - CUSTER COUNTY, 1990-2009
(In 2010 Dollars)



PERCENT CHANGE IN EMPLOYMENT - 2000 TO 2010

(United States, Montana, and Custer County)



RESOURCES FOR CUSTER COUNTY

Economic Development

Miles City Area
 Economic Development Council
 1010 Main Street
 Miles City, MT 59301
 (406) 234-2705
 E-mail: milesecon@midrivers.com

Chamber of Commerce

Miles City Area Chamber
 511 Pleasant Street
 Miles City, MT 59301
 (406) 234-2890
 E-mail: mcchamber@mcchamber.com
www.milescitychamber.com

Job Service Center

Miles City Job Service
 12 North 10th Street
 Miles City, MT 59301
 (406) 232-8340
 Email: MilesCityJSC@mt.gov
www.wsd.dli.mt.gov/local/milescity

Higher Education

Miles Community College
 2715 Dickinson Street
 Miles City, MT 59301
 (406) 874-6100 or
 (800) 541-9281
www.milesccl.edu

Newspapers

Miles City Star
 818 Main Street
 P. O. Box 1216
 Miles City, MT 59301
 (406) 234-0450 or
 (800) 323-6505
www.milescitystar.com