

June 2012

# Montana

## COUNTY FLIERS

### Economic and Demographic Information for

# STILLWATER COUNTY



Montana Department of  
**LABOR & INDUSTRY**  
Workforce Services Division





# STILLWATER COUNTY

Located in south central Montana, Stillwater County is the state's 25th most populous county, with a population of 9,117 residents according to the 2010 Census. Columbus, the county seat and a shipping center for surrounding farm and ranch lands, is the state's 34th largest city, with a population of 1,893 in 2010.<sup>1</sup> Other cities and towns in Stillwater County include Absarokee, Dean, Fishtail, Limestone, Molt, Nye, Park City, Rapelje, and Reed Point.

The Stillwater Mining Company, headquartered in Columbus, is one of the world's leading producers of platinum group metals and the only significant producer of palladium in the U.S.<sup>2</sup>

Tourism also plays an important role in Stillwater County's economy. From the Beartooth Absaroka Wilderness Area to the Stillwater and Yellowstone River Valleys, Stillwater County has no shortage of outdoor recreation opportunities. The Hailstone and Halfbreed National Wildlife Refuges are part of Stillwater County's Big Lake Complex, which is known for its abundance of waterfowl and migratory birds.

<sup>1</sup>U.S. Census Bureau, 2010 Decennial Census

<sup>2</sup>Stillwater County Chamber of Commerce, [www.stillwater-chamber.org/communities.php?itemid=38&catid=142](http://www.stillwater-chamber.org/communities.php?itemid=38&catid=142)

## TOP 10 PRIVATE EMPLOYERS IN STILLWATER COUNTY

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

Business Name	Size Class	Business Name	Size Class
Beartooth Manor	5	Special K Ranch	5
Beartooth Mountain Christian Ranch	4	Stillwater Community Hospital	5
Columbus IGA Plus	5	Stillwater Mining Company	9
McDonalds	5	Town Pump	5
Montana Silversmiths	6	Yellowstone Bank	4

Employment Size Class Coding: Class 9 = 1000+ employees, Class 6 = 100 to 249, Class 5 = 50 to 99, Class 4 = 20 to 49.

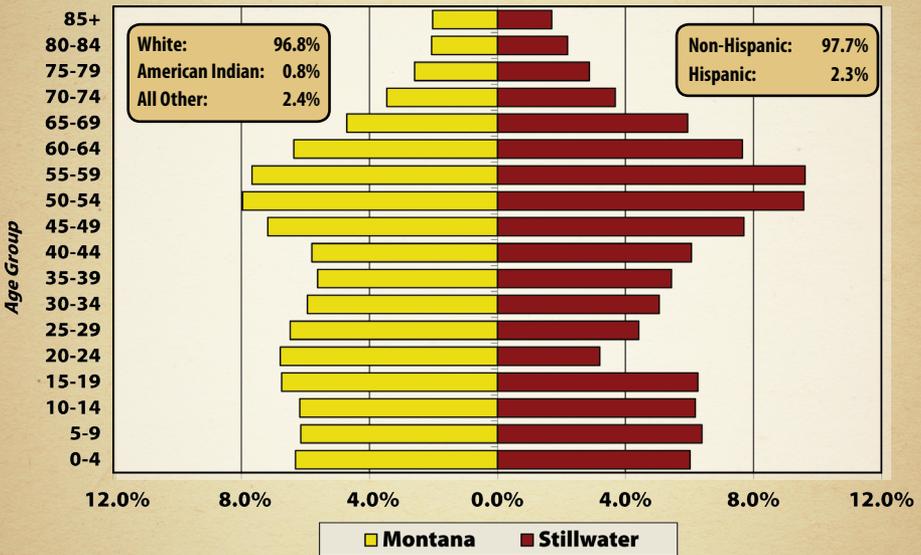
Source: Montana Department of Labor and Industry, Quarterly Census of Employment of Wages (QCEW) Program. This list ONLY includes industry employers subject to unemployment insurance. Railroads, tribal entities, and government agencies are excluded.

**POPULATION FOR STILLWATER COUNTY AND RELATED AREAS**

Geography	Census 2000	2002 Estimate	2004 Estimate	2006 Estimate	2008 Estimate	Census 2010	% Change 2000-2010
Stillwater County	8,195	8,354	8,292	8,455	8,688	9,117	11.3%
Columbus town	1,748	1,875	1,900	1,930	2,000	1,893	8.3%
Balance Stillwater County	6,447	6,479	6,392	6,525	6,688	7,224	12.1%

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

**DISTRIBUTION OF POPULATION BY AGE - STILLWATER COUNTY, 2010**



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

Educational Attainment	Stillwater County	Montana	United States
Less than a High School Diploma	8.6%	8.3%	14.4%
High School Diploma (or equivalent)	39.6%	29.9%	28.5%
Some College	23.9%	25.1%	21.3%
Associate's Degree	7.3%	7.9%	7.6%
Bachelor's Degree	15.5%	19.8%	17.7%
Graduate or Professional Degree	5.2%	9.0%	10.4%

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

## STILLWATER COUNTY - EMPLOYMENT BY INDUSTRY ANNUAL AVERAGES 2010

Industry	Number of Establishments	Average Annual Employment	Annual Wages Per Job
TOTAL ALL INDUSTRIES	321	2,999	\$51,092
TOTAL PRIVATE	288	2,536	\$54,967
AGRICULTURE, FORESTRY, FISHING & HUNTING	10	47	\$24,209
Crop production	1	*	*
Animal production	6	39	\$23,839
Forestry and logging	1	*	*
Agriculture & forestry support	2	*	*
MINING	9	*	*
Mining, except oil and gas	6	*	*
Support activities for mining	3	5	\$90,355
UTILITIES	7	19	\$65,424
CONSTRUCTION	52	124	\$31,049
Construction of buildings	14	37	\$26,090
Heavy and civil engineering construction	5	18	\$50,216
Specialty trade contractors	33	69	\$28,674
MANUFACTURING	13	250	\$35,061
Food manufacturing	2	*	*
Textile mills	1	*	*
Wood product manufacturing	3	45	\$25,115
Chemical manufacturing	1	*	*
Nonmetallic mineral product mfg	2	*	*
Fabricated metal product manufacturing	1	*	*
Furniture and related product mfg	1	*	*
Miscellaneous manufacturing	2	*	*
WHOLESALE TRADE	18	41	\$63,573
Merchant wholesalers, durable goods	5	20	\$37,443
Merchant wholesalers, nondurable goods	8	15	\$89,991
Electronic markets & agents and brokers	5	5	\$88,803
RETAIL TRADE	33	247	\$18,042
Motor vehicle and parts dealers	5	23	\$29,785
Furniture and home furnishings stores	1	*	*
Electronics and appliance stores	1	*	*
Building material & garden supply stores	4	19	\$22,783
Food and beverage stores	4	90	\$16,977
Gasoline stations	9	91	\$16,192
Clothing and clothing accessories stores	3	*	*
Sporting good, hobby, book, music stores	1	*	*
Miscellaneous store retailers	3	6	\$17,020
Nonstore retailers	2	*	*
TRANSPORTATION AND WAREHOUSING	5	8	\$35,196
Truck transportation	3	5	\$41,363

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

Industry	Number of Establishments	Average Annual Employment	Annual Wages Per Job
Support activities for transportation	2	*	*
<b>INFORMATION</b>	4	12	\$52,334
Publishing industries, except Internet	2	*	*
Telecommunications	2	*	*
<b>FINANCE AND INSURANCE</b>	7	42	\$36,068
Credit intermediation & related activity	3	31	\$35,454
Securities, comm. contracts, investments	1	*	*
Insurance carriers & related activities	3	*	*
<b>REAL ESTATE AND RENTAL AND LEASING</b>	8	11	\$17,645
Real estate	7	*	*
Rental and leasing services	1	*	*
<b>PROFESSIONAL AND TECHNICAL SERVICES</b>	30	75	\$53,940
MANAGEMENT OF COMPANIES AND ENTERPRISES	2	*	*
ADMINISTRATIVE AND WASTE SERVICES	13	34	\$17,721
Administrative and support services	12	*	*
Waste management and remediation service	1	*	*
<b>EDUCATIONAL SERVICES</b>	3	3	\$27,385
<b>HEALTH CARE AND SOCIAL ASSISTANCE</b>	18	235	\$21,361
Ambulatory health care services	5	*	*
Hospitals	1	*	*
Nursing and residential care facilities	3	103	\$17,925
Social assistance	9	43	\$9,618
<b>ARTS, ENTERTAINMENT, AND RECREATION</b>	12	61	\$15,617
Museums, historical sites, zoos, & parks	1	*	*
Amusements, gambling, and recreation	11	*	*
<b>ACCOMMODATION AND FOOD SERVICES</b>	26	207	\$11,779
Accommodation	3	34	\$12,063
Food services and drinking places	23	173	\$11,722
<b>OTHER SERVICES</b>	22	63	\$15,035
Repair and maintenance	5	22	\$24,674
Personal and laundry services	4	*	*
Membership associations & organizations	11	36	\$9,547
Private households	2	*	*
<b>TOTAL GOVERNMENT</b>	33	464	\$29,907
Local Government	15	412	\$29,433
State Government	6	14	\$28,912
Federal Government	12	38	\$35,404

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 STILLWATER COUNTY

	2007 Census	2002 Census	% Change
<b>FARMS</b>			
Farms: (number)	635	552	15%
Land in farms (acres)	857,474	890,326	-4%
Average size of farms (acres)	1,350	1,613	-16%
Median size of farms (acres)	311	640	-51%
Farms by size: (number)			
Less than 1,000 acres	451	352	28%
1,000 acres or more	184	200	-8%
Farms by value of products sold: (number)			
Less than \$100,000	554	492	13%
\$100,000 or more	81	60	35%
Farms by type of organization: (number)			
Family, Individual, Partnership	567	496	14%
Corporation, Cooperative, Trust	68	56	21%
<b>LIVESTOCK INVENTORY AND CROPS HARVESTED</b>			
Livestock and Poultry Inventory (number)			
Cattle and calves	51,946	46,809	11%
Hogs and pigs	*	*	*
Sheep and lambs	6,719	5,954	13%
Horses and ponies	1,866	1,757	6%
Bison	375	477	-21%
Chickens (layers and broilers)	*	949	*
Crops Harvested (acres)			
Corn for grain	548	454	21%
Corn for silage or greenchop	1,148	1,958	-41%
Wheat for grain, All	30,977	25,202	23%
Winter wheat for grain	21,288	13,317	60%
Spring wheat for grain	9,689	*	*
Durum wheat for grain	0	*	*
Oats for grain	1,145	589	94%
Barley for grain	5,379	8,700	-38%
Hay, haylage, grass silage	59,632	51,291	16%
Sunflower seed, All	*	*	*
<b>OPERATOR DEMOGRAPHICS</b>			
Primary occupation: (number)			
Farming	290	339	-14%
Other	345	213	62%
Place of residence: (number)			
On farm operated	483	464	4%
Not on farm operated	152	88	73%
Years on present farm: (number)			
Less than 10 years	177	166	7%
10 years or more	458	386	19%
Age group: (number)			
Under 55 years	274	278	-1%
55 years and over	361	274	32%
Average age of operators: (number)	57.5	55.7	3%

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

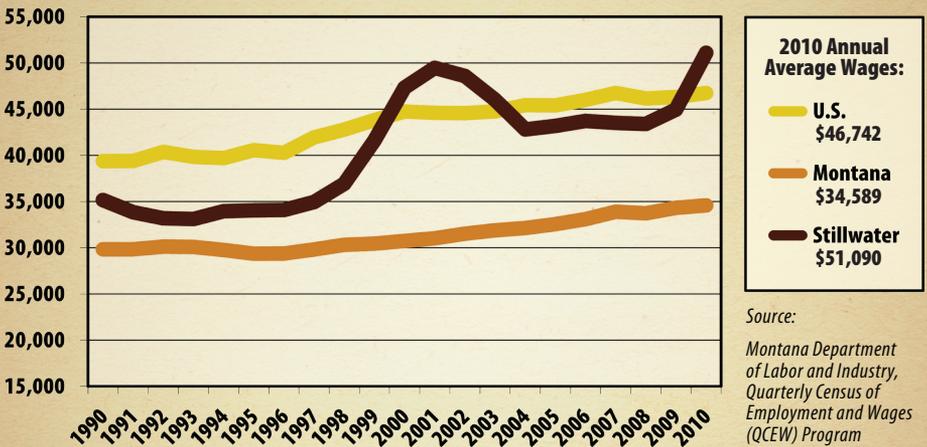
\* = Not Disclosable

**ANNUAL AVERAGE LABOR FORCE - STILLWATER COUNTY**

Year	Civilian Labor Force	Employed	Unemployed	Unemployment Rate
2010	4,236	3,968	268	6.3%
2009	4,435	4,184	251	5.7%
2008	4,609	4,428	181	3.9%
2007	4,508	4,375	133	3.0%
2006	4,425	4,309	116	2.6%
2005	4,345	4,217	128	2.9%

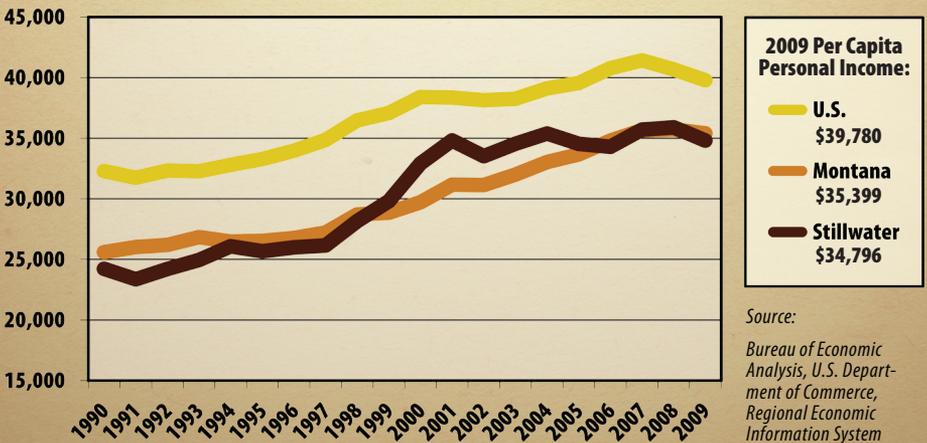
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Population Estimates Program

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



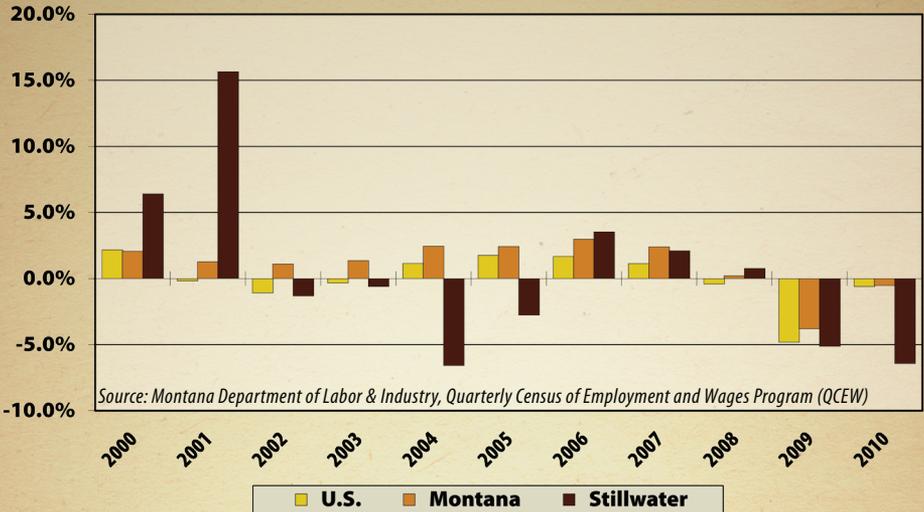
Source:  
Montana Department of Labor and Industry, Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages (QCEW) Program

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



Source:  
Bureau of Economic Analysis, U.S. Department of Commerce, Regional Economic Information System

## PERCENT CHANGE IN EMPLOYMENT - 2000 TO 2010 (United States, Montana, and Stillwater County)



## RESOURCES FOR STILLWATER COUNTY

### Chamber of Commerce

#### Stillwater County Chamber of Commerce

P. O. Box 783  
Columbus, MT 59019  
Ph: (406) 322-4505  
Email: [admin@stillwatercountychamber.com](mailto:admin@stillwatercountychamber.com)  
[www.stillwatercountychamber.com](http://www.stillwatercountychamber.com)

### Job Service Workforce Center

#### Billings Job Service Workforce Center

2121 Rosebud Drive, Stop B  
Billings, MT 59102-6274  
Ph: (406) 652-3080  
Email: [BillingsJSC@mt.gov](mailto:BillingsJSC@mt.gov)  
[wsd.dli.mt.gov/local/billings](http://wsd.dli.mt.gov/local/billings)

### Economic Development

#### Beartooth RC&D

110 South Main Street  
P. O. Box 180, Joliet, MT 59041  
Ph: (406) 962-3914  
Email: [info@beartooth.org](mailto:info@beartooth.org)  
[www.beartooth.org](http://www.beartooth.org)

#### Business Expansion And Retention (BEAR)

Contact: Melissa Kramer  
Ph: (406) 322-8050  
Email: [mkramer@co.stillwater.mt.us](mailto:mkramer@co.stillwater.mt.us)

### Newspaper

#### Stillwater County News

38 North 4th Street, P. O. Box 659  
Columbus, MT 59019  
Ph: (406) 322-5212  
[www.stillwatercountynews.com](http://www.stillwatercountynews.com)