

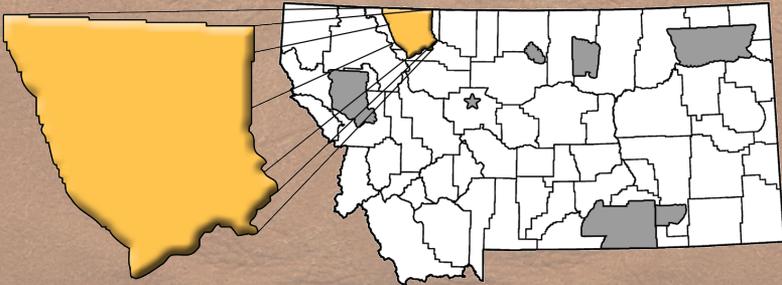


Blackfeet Reservation

Demographic and Economic Information



Photo Courtesy of Donnie Sexton, Travel Montana



Blackfeet Nation

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Blackfeet Reservation

The Blackfeet Reservation, home to the largest Native American population in Montana, is the third largest reservation encompassing approximately 1.5 million acres. It lies along the eastern slope of the Rocky Mountains on the Canadian border, and is the eastern gateway to Glacier National Park in Montana. The major communities within the reservation include Browning, East Glacier, Heart Butte, Seville, St. Mary's, Babb, and Starr School. Major highway access is through U.S. Highway 89 (north/south) and U.S. Highway 2 (east/west). Air travelers will take pleasure in viewing the magnificent landscape on the way from the Starr-Browning Airstrip, Cut Bank International Airport, Glacier Park International Airport, and Great Falls International Airport.

Approximately 56 percent of the nearly 17,000 enrolled tribal members live on the reservation. The Blackfeet (Pikuni or Southern Piegan) combined with their three counterparts in Canada (Northern Piegan, Kainai and Siksika Nations) make up the Blackfoot Confederacy. The tribes call themselves "Niitsitapi" meaning "original people."

The Blackfeet Tribal Business Council, headquartered in Browning, governs the Nation. It consists of nine elected members representing their reservation districts and includes the Chairman, Vice-Chairman, Secretary and Sergeant-At-Arms. Entities interested in doing business with the Blackfeet Tribe or on the reservation should engage the Office of the Chairman. Visitors should be mindful of tribal protocol, laws and regulations. Interested business parties are encouraged to become familiar with the Blackfeet Planning Department, the Tribal Employment Rights Ordinance (TERO) Office, the Environmental Protection Office, as well as the business licensing requirements of the Tribe's Department of Commerce. Additional information regarding the tribal government is available online at www.blackfeetnation.com.

A diverse mix of tribal and private enterprises is growing on the reservation. Recent tribal ventures include the Glacier Family Foods grocery store, the Blackfeet Advanced Technologies manufacturing facility located in the Tribe's industrial park, B Bar T Construction Company, and a forthcoming Holiday Inn Express hotel. Tribal enterprises include Section 17 corporations such as Siyeh Development Corporation which operates Glacier Peaks Casino, Glacier Family Foods, and StarLink Cable. Oki Communications, a telecommunications company located in Browning, and the Blackfeet Utility Commission are examples of successful business partnerships. Private enterprise is also an emerging sector, enhanced by tribal member owned businesses offering a range of goods and services. Major employers on the reservation are the Blackfeet Tribe, Siyeh Development Corporation, Browning Public Schools, Indian Health Service, Bureau of Indian Affairs, and Blackfeet Housing Authority.

The Blackfeet Manpower One-Stop Center located in Browning was the first designated Native American One-Stop Center in the state working to train and pair job seekers with local and regional employers. It offers activities and services to incumbent or laid off workers, youth, new entrants to the workforce, veterans, and persons with disabilities. The Blackfeet Community College serves members of the community and prepares students for achievement in higher education and meaningful employment, while integrating the Blackfeet culture and language. The average annual college enrollment is over 600 students. Additional information regarding the tribal college services is available online at www.bfcc.org.

Blackfeet Wage & Salary Employment Annual Averages 2009 - 2011

Industry	Employment			Wages			2009-2011 Growth	
	2009	2010	2011	2009	2010	2011	Emp.	Wage
Total	3,030	2,964	2,727	\$30,932	\$32,060	\$35,020	-10.0%	1.9%
Total private	805	830	698	\$21,709	\$22,572	\$28,354	-13.3%	13.3%
Goods Producing	83	93	109	\$27,092	\$27,657	\$39,193	31.3%	90.0%
Construction	27	37	60	\$25,080	\$25,243	\$43,963	122.2%	289.5%
Service Providing	722	747	589	\$21,090	\$21,738	\$26,348	-18.4%	1.9%
Trade, Transportation, and Utilities	157	159	173	\$19,928	\$21,628	\$22,686	10.2%	25.4%
Retail Trade	*	156	161	N/A	\$20,975	\$19,751	N/A	N/A
Professional and Business Services	15	*	37	\$26,200	N/A	\$31,895	146.7%	200.3%
Education and Health Services	42	37	35	\$29,295	\$30,840	\$32,551	-16.7%	-7.4%
Education	25	24	22	\$25,294	\$25,540	\$24,085	-12.0%	-16.2%
Health Services	17	13	13	\$35,178	\$40,624	\$46,878	-23.5%	1.9%
Leisure and Hospitality	474	484	309	\$20,458	\$20,805	\$27,366	-34.8%	-12.8%
Arts, Entertainment and Recreation	7	6	6	\$27,869	\$34,126	\$34,891	-14.3%	7.3%
Accommodation and Food Services	467	478	303	\$20,347	\$20,638	\$27,217	-35.1%	-13.2%
Accommodation	358	366	190	\$22,700	\$22,443	\$34,449	-46.9%	-19.5%
Food Services	109	112	113	\$12,616	\$14,739	\$15,058	3.7%	23.7%
Other Services	13	10	12	\$8,744	\$13,449	\$11,254	-7.7%	18.8%
Total Government	2,225	2,134	2,029	\$34,269	\$35,750	\$37,313	-8.8%	-0.7%
Federal	415	443	420	\$55,292	\$56,848	\$58,760	1.2%	7.6%
Local	1,810	1,691	1,609	\$29,446	\$30,223	\$31,715	-11.1%	-4.3%
Local Government Education	625	618	603	\$34,705	\$35,518	\$36,241	-3.5%	0.8%
Local Government Non-Education	1,185	1,073	1,006	\$26,672	\$27,173	\$29,002	-15.1%	-7.7%

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 Blackfeet Reservation and Related Areas

	American Indian Population					
	Census		% Change	Estimate		% Change
	2000	2010	2000-2010	2011	2012	2011-2012
Geography						
Blackfeet Reservation	8,507	8,944	5.14%	n/a	n/a	n/a
Glacier County	8,186	8,807	7.59%	8,636	8,728	1.07%
Browning	964	942	-2.28%	n/a	n/a	n/a
East Glacier Park Village CDP	205	198	-3.41%	n/a	n/a	n/a
North Browning CDP	2,062	2,305	11.78%	n/a	n/a	n/a
South Browning CDP	1,583	1,748	10.42%	n/a	n/a	n/a
Starr School CDP	241	245	1.66%	n/a	n/a	n/a
Pondera County	929	891	-4.09%	884	900	1.81%
Heart Butte CDP	654	567	-13.30%	n/a	n/a	n/a

	Total Population					
	Census		% Change	Estimate		% Change
	2000	2010	2000-2010	2011	2012	2011-2012
Geography						
Blackfeet Reservation	10,100	10,405	3.02%	n/a	n/a	n/a
Glacier County	13,247	13,183	-0.48%	13,624	13,711	0.64%
Browning	1,065	1016	-4.60%	n/a	n/a	n/a
East Glacier Park Village CDP	396	363	-8.33%	n/a	n/a	n/a
North Browning CDP	2,200	2,408	9.45%	n/a	n/a	n/a
South Browning CDP	1,677	1,785	6.44%	n/a	n/a	n/a
Starr School CDP	248	252	1.61%	n/a	n/a	n/a
Pondera County	6,424	6,153	-4.22%	6,257	6,165	-1.47%
Heart Butte CDP	698	582	-16.62%	n/a	n/a	n/a

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

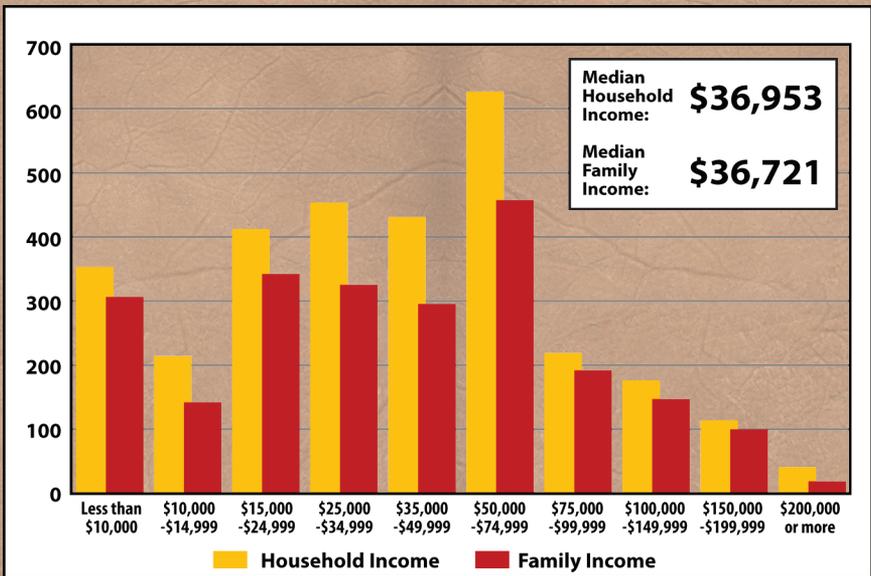
CDP = Census designated places. CDPs are delineated for each decennial census as the statistical counterparts of incorporated places. CDPs are delineated to provide data for settled concentrations of population that are identifiable by name but are not legally incorporated under the laws of the state 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.

Blackfeet Reservation - Educational Attainment Population 25 Years and Older

Educational Attainment	American Indian			Total Population
	Male	Female	Total %	
Less than high school diploma	22.4%	17.7%	19.9%	21.9%
High school graduate, GED, or alternative	27.2%	22.4%	24.7%	23.8%
Some college or associate's degree	43.6%	46.0%	44.8%	39.5%
Bachelor's degree or higher	6.8%	14.0%	10.5%	14.9%

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

Blackfeet 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

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

Occupation	American Indian	Total
Total - All Occupations	2,927	3,964
Total Male	1,316	1,867
Management, business, science, and arts occupations	473	805
Service occupations	328	416
Sales and office occupations	106	114
Natural resources, construction, and maintenance occupations	324	431
Production, transportation, and material moving occupations	85	103
Total Female	1,611	2,097
Management, business, science, and arts occupations	508	713
Service occupations	528	750
Sales and office occupations	511	540
Natural resources, construction, and maintenance occupations	15	39
Production, transportation, and material moving occupations	49	53

*Includes both Blackfeet Reservation and Off-Reservation Trust Land, MT

Source: 2007-2011 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates

Blackfeet 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	4,482	3,846	636	14.2%
<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	4,901	3,964	937	19.1%
<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	5,478	1,725	3,753	68.5%
<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	50.6%	55.6%
Rental Occupied	49.5%	44.4%

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

Blackfeet Reservation - Agricultural Statistics 2007 Census of Agriculture

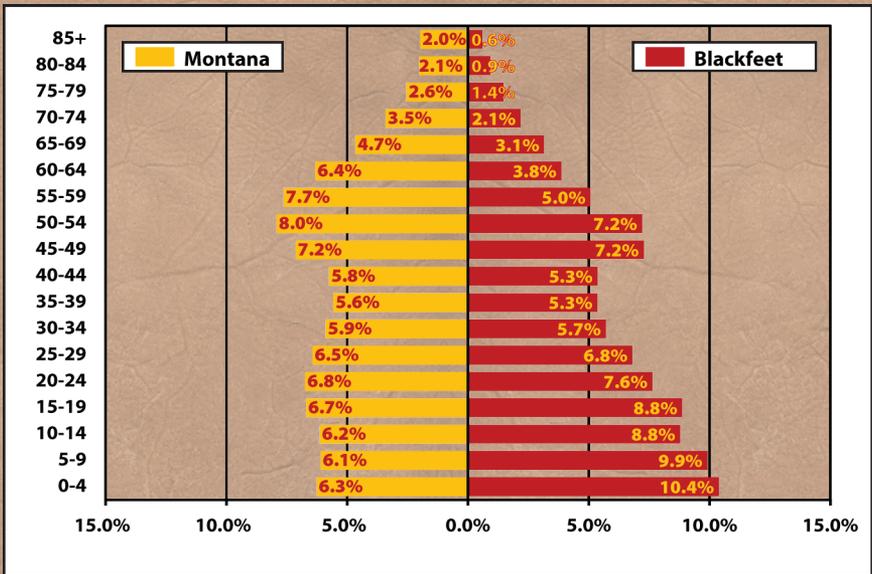
	2002		2007	
	All Farms	Farms Operated by American Indians	All Farms	Farms Operated by American Indians
Farms				
Farms: (number)	354	198	584	377
Land in farms (acres)	1,602,499	957,487	1,879,735	1,036,990
Average size of farms (acres)	4,527	4,836	3,219	2,751
Farms by size: (number)				
Less than 1,000 acres	125	86	317	249
1,000 acres or more	229	112	267	128
Farms by value of products sold and government payments received: (number)				
Less than \$100,000	259	175	425	321
\$100,000 or more	95	23	159	56
Farms by type of organization: (number)				
Family, Individual, Partnership	308	184	527	366
Corporation, Cooperative, Trust	46	14	57	11
Livestock Inventory and Crops Harvested				
Livestock and Poultry Inventory (number)				
Cattle and calves	42,318	21,781	69,981	36,604
Hogs and pigs	17,518	(D)	28,540	5
Sheep and lambs	290	(D)	587	-
Horses and ponies	2,995	2,313	6,452	5,537
Bison	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Chickens (layers and broilers)	25,934	48	45,675	172
Crops Harvested (acres)				
Corn for grain	-	-	-	-
Corn for silage or greenchop	-	-	-	-
Wheat for grain, All	113,100	7,582	133,522	27,453
Winter wheat for grain	(D)	-	43,588	(D)
Durum wheat for grain	(D)	(D)	2,938	(D)
Spring wheat for grain	103,032	(D)	86,996	16,545
Barley for grain	87,349	11,679	103,347	9,802
Oats for grain	650	180	368	(D)
Sunflower seed, All	-	-	-	-
Soybeans for beans	-	-	-	-
Hay, haylage, grass silage	43,782	18,811	55,413	21,834
Operator Demographics				
Primary occupation: (number)				
Farming	400	164	487	221
Other	184	98	419	270
Place of residence: (number)				
On farm operated	470	227	710	392
Not on farm operated	114	35	196	99
Years on present farm: (number)				
Less than 10 years	141	63	193	114
10 years or more	443	199	713	377
Age group: (number)				
Under 55 years	360	168	452	250
55 years and over	224	94	454	241
Average age of operators	50.7	50.0	54.8	54.4

(D): Not Disclosable

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

Blackfeet 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 Blackfeet Indian Community.



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