



# 2007 Economic Profile

## Gallatin & Park Counties, Montana

### **Prospera Business Network**

(formerly Gallatin Development Corporation)

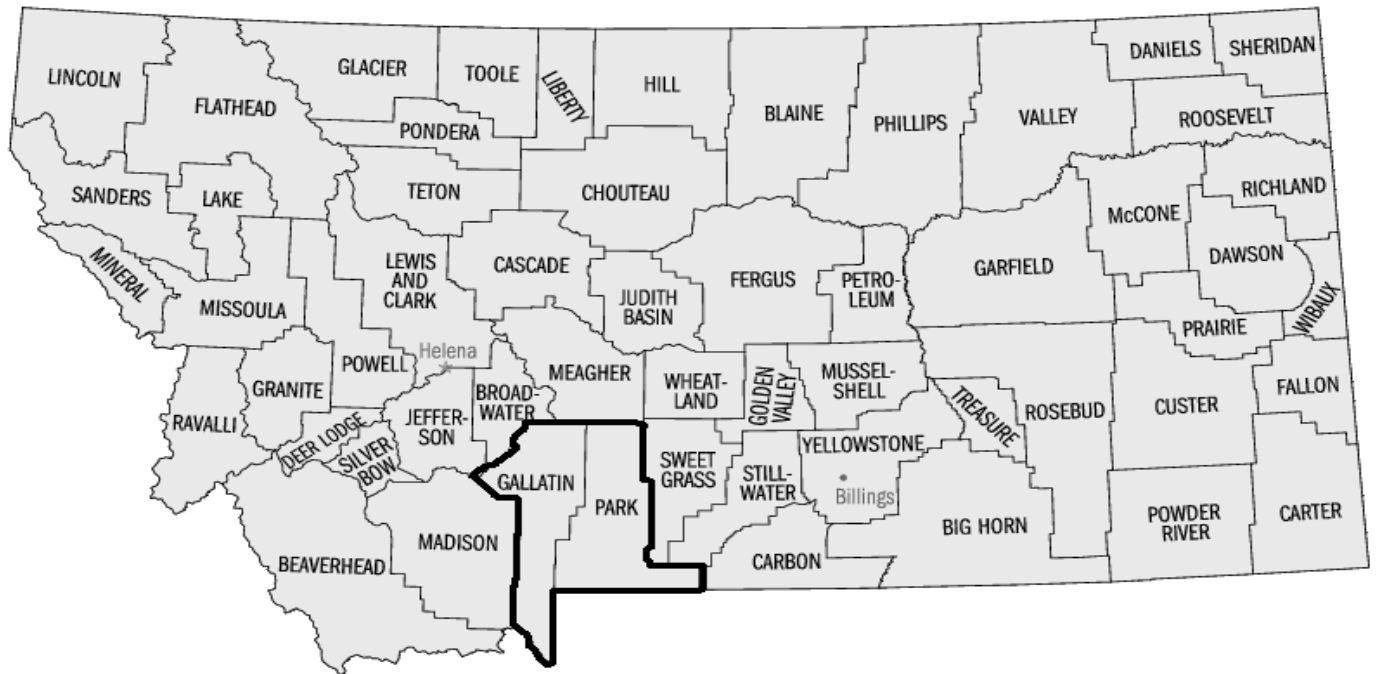
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# Gallatin & Park Counties, Montana



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*The Economic Profile of Gallatin and Park Counties* is researched and published annually by Prospera Business Network (formerly known as the Gallatin Development Corporation). Prospera Business Network is a private, non-profit, membership-based economic development organization serving both Gallatin and Park Counties in southwestern Montana. Originally established in 1985, Prospera is the leading economic development organization serving a two-county region that is one of the fastest growing economic areas in the northern Rocky Mountains.

*The 2007 Economic Profile* provides a comprehensive description of the regional economy with an emphasis on population demographics, the cost of living, employment, and major industries. Also included is useful information and resources for business relocation.

The Gallatin and Park County region represents one of the fastest growing economic areas in the northern Rocky Mountains. According to recent estimates, Gallatin County currently has a population of 80,921<sup>1</sup> and its county seat, Bozeman, has 35,061<sup>2</sup> residents. Park County's population is at 16,084<sup>3</sup> and its county seat, Livingston, currently has 7,279<sup>4</sup> residents. The region, with its Big Sky vistas, extensive mountain ranges and wilderness areas, blue-ribbon trout streams and rivers, world-class downhill skiing, and Yellowstone National Park, is a recreational paradise.

The population in the city of Bozeman grew 18% between 2000 and 2004. Other cities in Gallatin and Park Counties have grown at a similar rate. In spite of this growth, Bozeman has retained its "small town character" and has a thriving historic downtown shopping and dining district. In 2005, American Cities Business Journals, a national publisher of business newspapers in 41 major American cities, ranked Bozeman first among the nation's top sixteen small-sized markets (cities with fewer than 100,000 people). The ranking cited Bozeman's high ratio of small businesses per 100,000 people and a two-year growth rate of 10.7 percent.

As home to Montana State University, together with a highly educated and qualified workforce (43.2 percent have a bachelor's degree or higher<sup>5</sup>), Gallatin County consistently ranks as one of the nation's most livable areas. In fact, Gallatin County was given "A's" in both "vibrancy and vitality" and "civic capacity and engagement" and was named as the best place in the Rockies for "healthy living and small business creation" in the recent "The State of the Rockies Report Card" by researchers at Colorado College.

Bozeman is just one of the communities located in Gallatin County. In 2001, the city was among 10 communities nationwide that won the All-America City Award. This is the longest-running and most prestigious civic award in the nation. Sponsored by the American Civic League, in cooperation with Allstate Insurance Company, the honor recognizes communities in which government, businesses, schools, non-profit agencies, churches, and clubs collaborate to resolve critical community issues. Bozeman's application and presentation featured more than 50 cooperative public-private programs including the Downtown Revitalization Project and the Skate Park. At least 15 of these creative programs are regional or national models, an extraordinary number for a community of our size.



Just to the east of Gallatin County, and on the northern border of Yellowstone National Park, Park County includes the beautiful Paradise and Shields Valleys. Park County is Montana's 12th most populous county with 16,084<sup>6</sup> residents. Because of its proximity to Yellowstone National Park and abundance of outdoor recreation, Park County continues to grow steadily. Park County's diverse economy includes agriculture, logging, mining, recreation, services, and technology businesses. Park County has a rich ranching and railroad heritage, and is a hot spot for anglers and floaters of the Yellowstone River, which flows through the county. According to the Montana Almanac, the county was established in 1887 and named after Yellowstone National Park because of its proximity to the area. With nearly all of Yellowstone National Park residing in Wyoming, and more job opportunities in Bozeman, about one-fifth of Park County's residents commute out of the county for employment.

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<sup>1</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, 2006 Population Estimates

<sup>2</sup> Ibid.

<sup>3</sup> Ibid.

<sup>4</sup> Ibid.

<sup>5</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, 2005 American Community Survey

<sup>6</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, 2006 Population Estimates

This part of southwest Montana has an almost ideal climate, with four seasons and mild temperatures. The area does not tend to experience the extremes of heat or cold that are found in other parts of the state. With an average of 320 days of sunshine each year, Bozeman has more annual days of sun than Houston, Texas.<sup>7</sup> Yes, it is even sunny in the winter!

Climate here reflects the mountain location. Summers are pleasant, characterized by warm days, cool nights, and an abundance of sunshine. Hot weather and humid conditions are infrequent. The area is among one of the few regions in the country where the average summer climate is comfortable due to the moderate combined heat and humidity. Most summers have seven or fewer days with temperatures exceeding 90°F. In the early autumn season, daily temperatures average a high of 70 degrees and can linger until the middle of October. Shortly thereafter, temperatures generally drop to highs in the 40s and 50s and lows in the 20s or 30s.

Fluctuating temperatures characterize winters in the region. Mild winter weather is not unusual and a week or more of consistently cold weather is rare. For winter sports enthusiasts, the relative low humidity (averages around 58.9%) and light winds provide an ideal climate for outdoor activities. Ski and snowboarding seasons usually extend from mid-December to mid-April.

Spring tends to come late for the area with a third of the precipitation falling during April, May and June. The average growing season is 107 days with the first significant frost occurring around the 12<sup>th</sup> of September.

The following table represents climate comparison averages<sup>8</sup> for Bozeman and Livingston, as well as other notable areas within Montana and nearby states.

Climate Comparison	Annual Precipitation	January High/Low	April High/Low	July High/Low	October High/Low
Billings, MT	14.77 in.	33 / 15	58 / 35	86 / 58	59 / 37
<b>Bozeman, MT</b>	<b>19.29 in.</b>	<b>33 / 14</b>	<b>56 / 31</b>	<b>82 / 52</b>	<b>59 / 33</b>
Great Falls, MT	14.89 in.	32 / 11	56 / 30	82 / 50	58 / 33
Helena, MT	11.32 in.	30 / 10	57 / 31	83 / 52	58 / 31
Kalispell, MT	17.21 in.	29 / 14	56 / 31	80 / 47	55 / 28
<b>Livingston, MT</b>	<b>15.73 in.</b>	<b>35 / 16</b>	<b>55 / 31</b>	<b>85 / 50</b>	<b>60 / 33</b>
Missoula, MT	17.04 in.	32 / 17	57 / 33	82 / 50	57 / 33
Bismarck, ND	16.84 in.	21 / -1	56 / 31	85 / 56	58 / 32
Denver, CO	15.81 in.	43 / 15	61 / 34	88 / 59	66 / 36
Sioux Falls, SD	24.69 in.	25 / 3	59 / 33	86 / 60	61 / 35

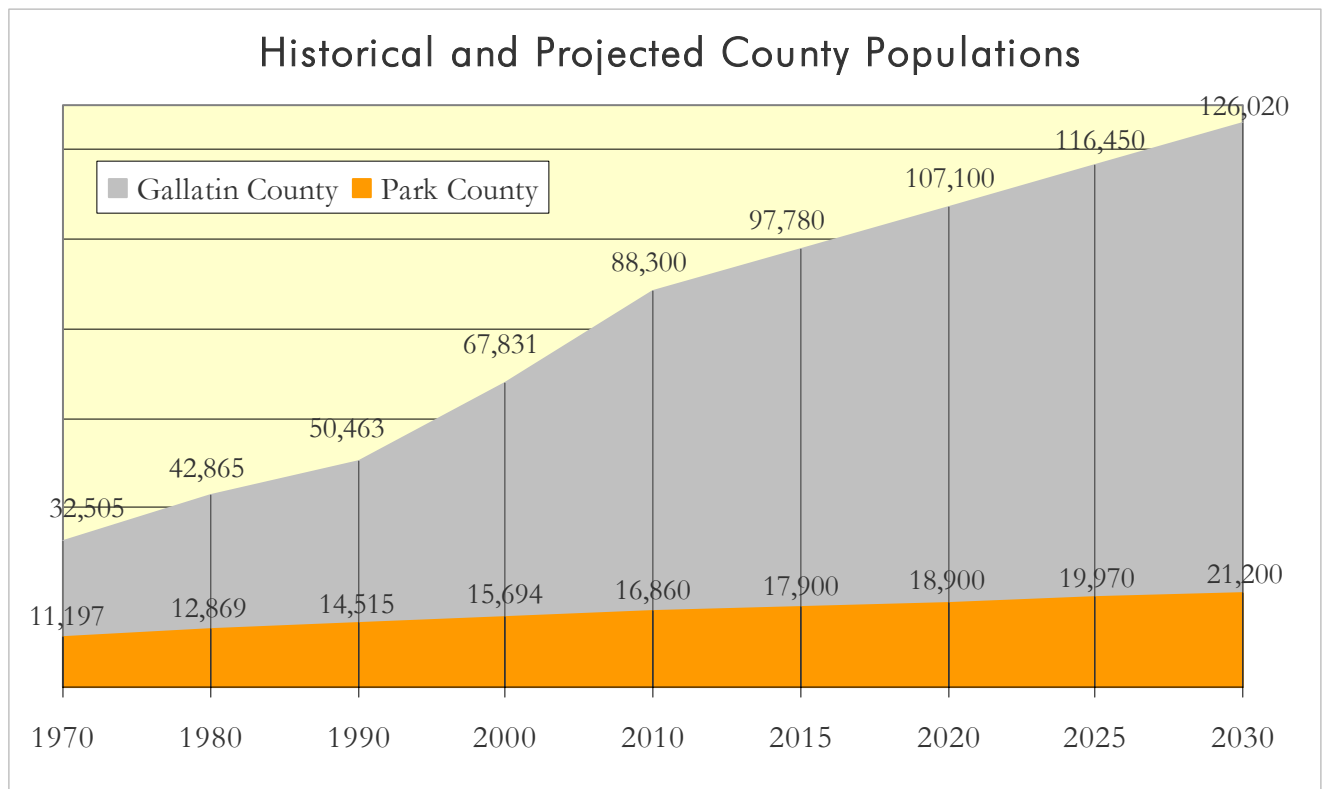
<sup>7</sup> Montana State University

<sup>8</sup> The Weather Channel

Population	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
<b>Gallatin County</b>	<b>68,285</b>	<b>69,804</b>	<b>71,078</b>	<b>73,282</b>	<b>75,608</b>	<b>78,262</b>	<b>80,921</b>
Belgrade	5,929	6,368	6,664	6,911	7,127	7,119	7,323
Bozeman	27,939	28,736	29,541	30,876	32,430	33,584	35,061
Manhattan	1,402	1,417	1,420	1,451	1,483	1,466	1,492
Three Forks	1,734	1,749	1,767	1,818	1,874	1,847	1,845
West Yellowstone	1,180	1,184	1,202	1,218	1,233	1,224	1,232
<b>Park County</b>	<b>15,728</b>	<b>15,726</b>	<b>15,830</b>	<b>15,763</b>	<b>15,760</b>	<b>15,965</b>	<b>16,084</b>
Clyde Park	311	310	311	331	334	348	347
Cooke City	140	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Gardiner	851	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Livingston	6,986	6,974	7,046	7,039	7,046	7,146	7,279
Wilsall	237	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a

*Source: U.S. Census Bureau. Numbers for years following 2000 reflect estimates derived from the 2000 Census report.*

*Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 1970-2000 Decennial Census data; 2010-2030 population projections processed by the Montana Department of Commerce Census and Economic Information Center*



## General Demographics

Age Distribution	Median Age	Under 5 Years	18 and Over	65 and Over
<b>Gallatin County*</b>	<b>33.8</b>	<b>5,565</b>	<b>60,469</b>	<b>6,094</b>
Belgrade	29.1	502	4,024	347
Big Sky	34.3	62	1,034	83
Bozeman	25.4	1,366	23,102	2,200
Manhattan	38.1	82	1,024	183
Three Forks	37.5	118	1,238	259
West Yellowstone	37.0	64	913	62
<b>Park County</b>	<b>40.6</b>	<b>904</b>	<b>11,999</b>	<b>2,336</b>
Clyde Park	42.7	15	237	50
Cooke City	43.4	3	128	14
Gardiner	39.3	43	674	66
Livingston	40.3	381	5,295	1,272
Wilsall	43.9	15	181	47

*Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2000 data (most current available). \*Gallatin County data is derived from 2005 estimates.*

Level of Education	High School or Above	Bachelor's or Above
<b>Gallatin County*</b>	<b>94.7%</b>	<b>43.2%</b>
Belgrade	93.2%	27.3%
Big Sky	97.9%	46.8%
Bozeman	94.3%	49.5%
Manhattan	87.5%	29.5%
Three Forks	89.5%	16.7%
West Yellowstone	87.0%	28.2%
<b>Park County</b>	<b>87.6%</b>	<b>23.1%</b>
Clyde Park	80.9%	14.5%
Cooke City	75.4%	23.7%
Gardiner	94.0%	28.8%
Livingston	85.0%	20.0%
Wilsall	84.6%	14.7%

*Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2000 data & 2005 estimates.*

Travel Time to Work	Minutes
<b>Gallatin County*</b>	<b>17.0</b>
Belgrade	18.4
Big Sky	12.9
Bozeman	13.9
Manhattan	23.3
Three Forks	23.0
West Yellowstone	6.5
<b>Park County</b>	<b>21.3</b>
Clyde Park	30.3
Cooke City	6.6
Gardiner	12.9
Livingston	19.1
Wilsall	33.9

*Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2000 data & 2005 estimates.*

Income Levels	Median Household	Median Family	Per Capita Personal	Individuals Below Poverty
<b>Gallatin County*</b>	<b>\$45,987</b>	<b>\$55,333</b>	<b>\$23,577</b>	<b>12.4%</b>
Belgrade	\$37,392	\$40,378	\$15,266	11.4%
Big Sky	\$39,688	\$62,750	\$31,492	6.2%
Bozeman	\$32,156	\$41,723	\$16,104	20.2%
Manhattan	\$38,242	\$45,521	\$17,024	7.1%
Three Forks	\$31,212	\$39,938	\$15,362	7.7%
West Yellowstone	\$30,703	\$37,250	\$19,136	12.9%
<b>Park County</b>	<b>\$31,739</b>	<b>\$40,561</b>	<b>\$17,704</b>	<b>11.4%</b>
Clyde Park	\$28,194	\$35,278	\$15,646	10.0%
Cooke City	\$25,000	\$50,625	\$31,618	15.8%
Gardiner	\$30,125	\$46,071	\$17,810	8.2%
Livingston	\$28,980	\$40,505	\$16,636	12.1%
Wilsall	\$29,643	\$30,357	\$14,585	17.9%

*Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2000 data & 2005 estimates.*

Housing Statistics	Household Size		Housing Occupancy Types		
	People	Families	Owned	Rented	Vacant
<b>Gallatin County*</b>	<b>2.53</b>	<b>3.02</b>	<b>61.9%</b>	<b>38.1%</b>	<b>11.0%</b>
Belgrade	2.68	3.12	62.1%	37.9%	4.8%
Big Sky	2.13	2.67	56.2%	43.8%	68.0%
Bozeman	2.26	2.85	42.9%	57.1%	6.0%
Manhattan	2.25	3.03	75.0%	25.0%	5.0%
Three Forks	2.51	3.08	75.4%	24.6%	5.5%
West Yellowstone	2.15	2.76	37.6%	62.4%	35.7%
<b>Park County</b>	<b>2.27</b>	<b>2.88</b>	<b>66.4%</b>	<b>33.6%</b>	<b>17.2%</b>
Clyde Park	2.26	2.96	75.9%	24.1%	12.7%
Cooke City	1.77	2.44	58.2%	41.8%	68.0%
Gardiner	1.96	2.73	53.3%	46.7%	12.5%
Livingston	2.16	2.86	60.6%	39.4%	8.2%
Wilsall	2.82	2.85	78.4%	21.6%	14.3%

*Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2000 data & 2005 estimates.*

Area cost of living can be measured by two distinct indexes, the ACCRA Cost of Living Index and the Consumer Price Index. The former is specific to the city of Bozeman, while the latter represents the western region of the United States. Livingston-specific data is not yet available.

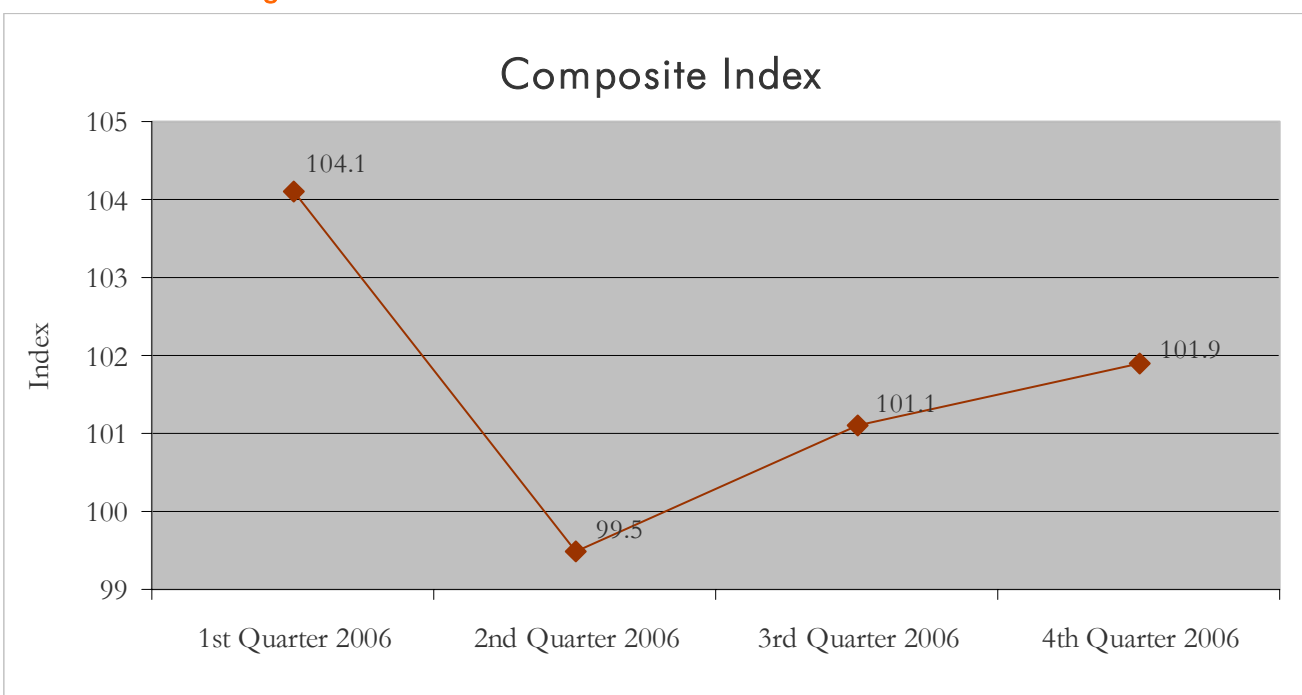
## Cost of Living Index

The Cost of Living Index (COLI) is a comparison study among over 300 urban areas around the nation. Each quarter, participating organizations collect data within their respective cities on consumer goods, services, housing, transportation, utilities, and health care. Compiled and published by ACCRA<sup>9</sup>, a national organization of community and economic development research professionals, the study measures regional differences for a mid-management standard of living. The national average composite index is set at 100. Prospera Business Network gathers and records this data for the city of Bozeman. Adjacent urban areas have not yet been included, but with continued growth they may be added in the near future.

## Consumer Price Index

The Consumer Price Index<sup>10</sup> (CPI) is a measure of the average change over time in the prices paid by urban consumers for a market range of goods and services. The CPI differs from the Cost of Living Index in that it is derived from detailed expenditure information provided by families and individuals on items they actually purchased, whereas the COLI is based on current available prices to consumers. Also, the CPI encompasses regions, and only details information on some major metro areas. The charts below indicate the CPI for urban areas in the western region of the US. This area includes Montana, Wyoming, Colorado, New Mexico, Arizona, Utah, Idaho, Washington, Oregon, Nevada, California, Alaska and Hawaii. The average index is set at 100.

## ACCRA Cost of Living Index

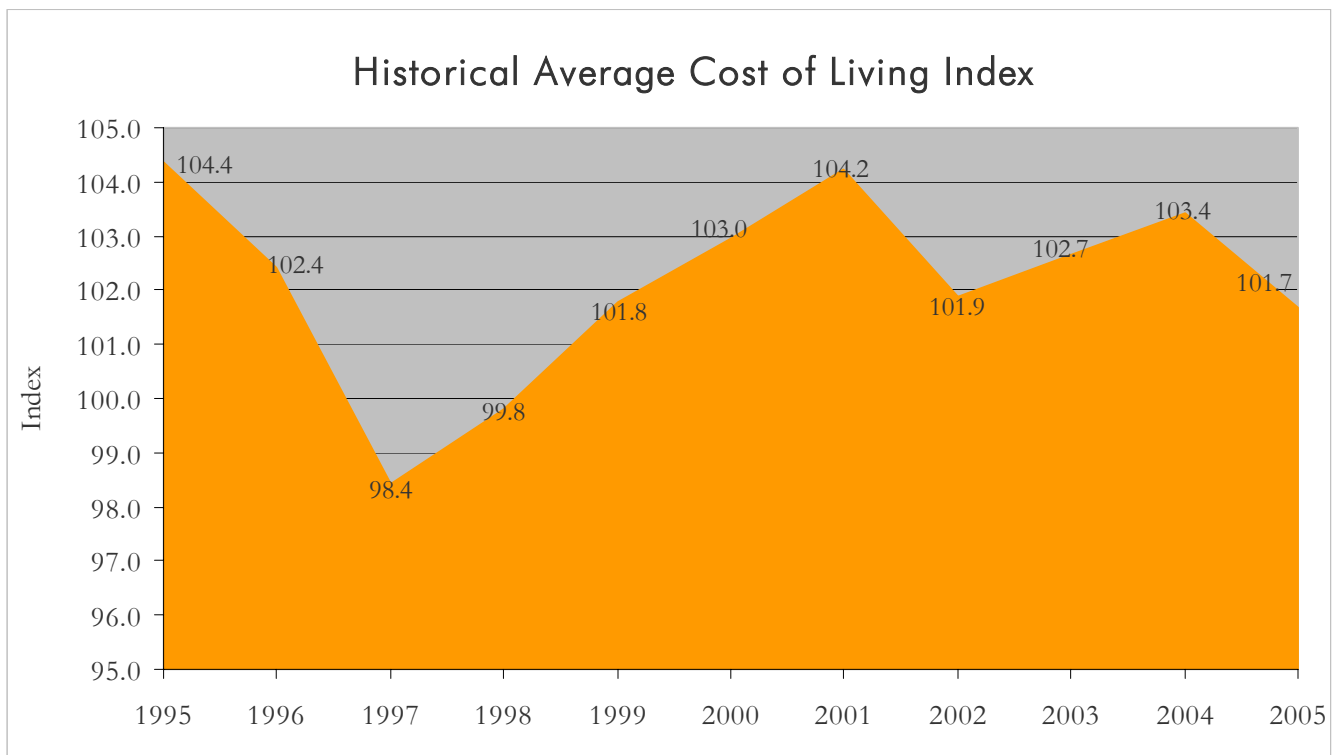


<sup>9</sup> ACCRA – The Council for Community and Economic Research

<sup>10</sup> U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics

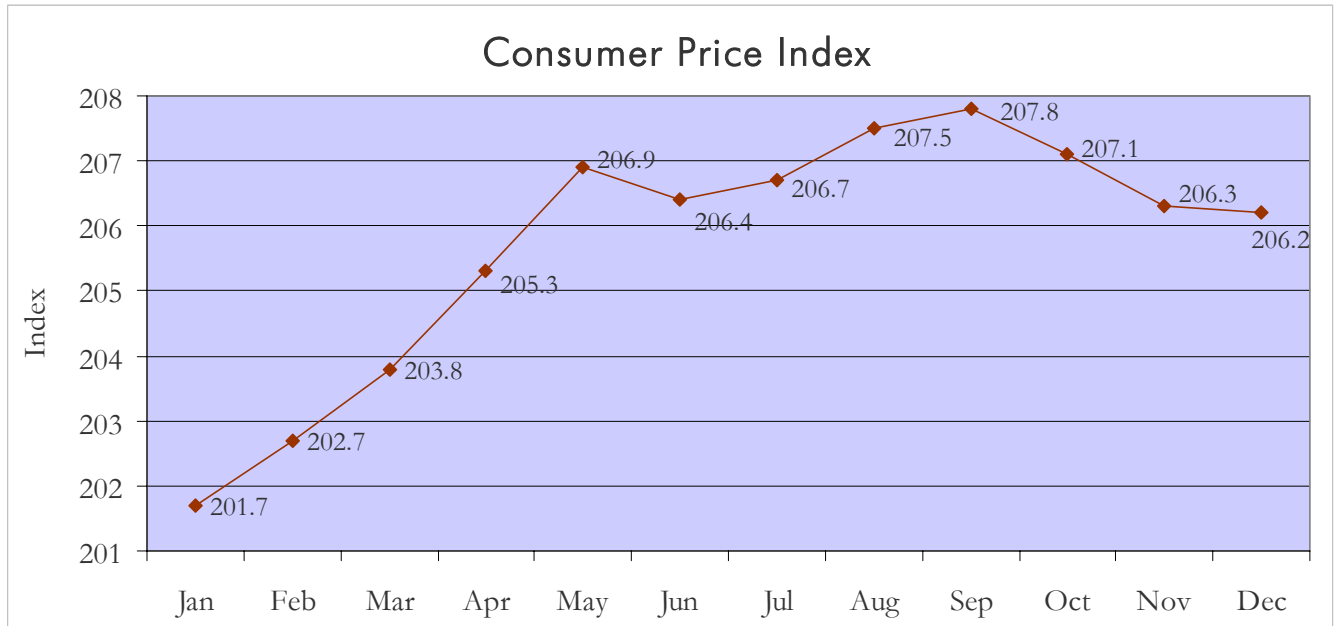
Focus Area Categories						
Quarter/Year	Grocery	Housing	Utilities	Transportation	Health	Goods & Services
1/2006	95.4	106.3	112.5	89.8	99.6	107.9
2/2006	93.6	104.2	101.6	88.1	97.0	100.8
3/2006	94.0	109.4	102.8	91.4	97.7	99.9
4/2006	96.4	112.8	100.6	99.3	99.0	96.6
<b>Average</b>	<b>94.9</b>	<b>108.2</b>	<b>104.4</b>	<b>92.2</b>	<b>98.3</b>	<b>101.3</b>

*Note: Various items are included in the focus area categories. For more detailed information on these items, contact the Prospera Business Network office at (406) 587-3113.*

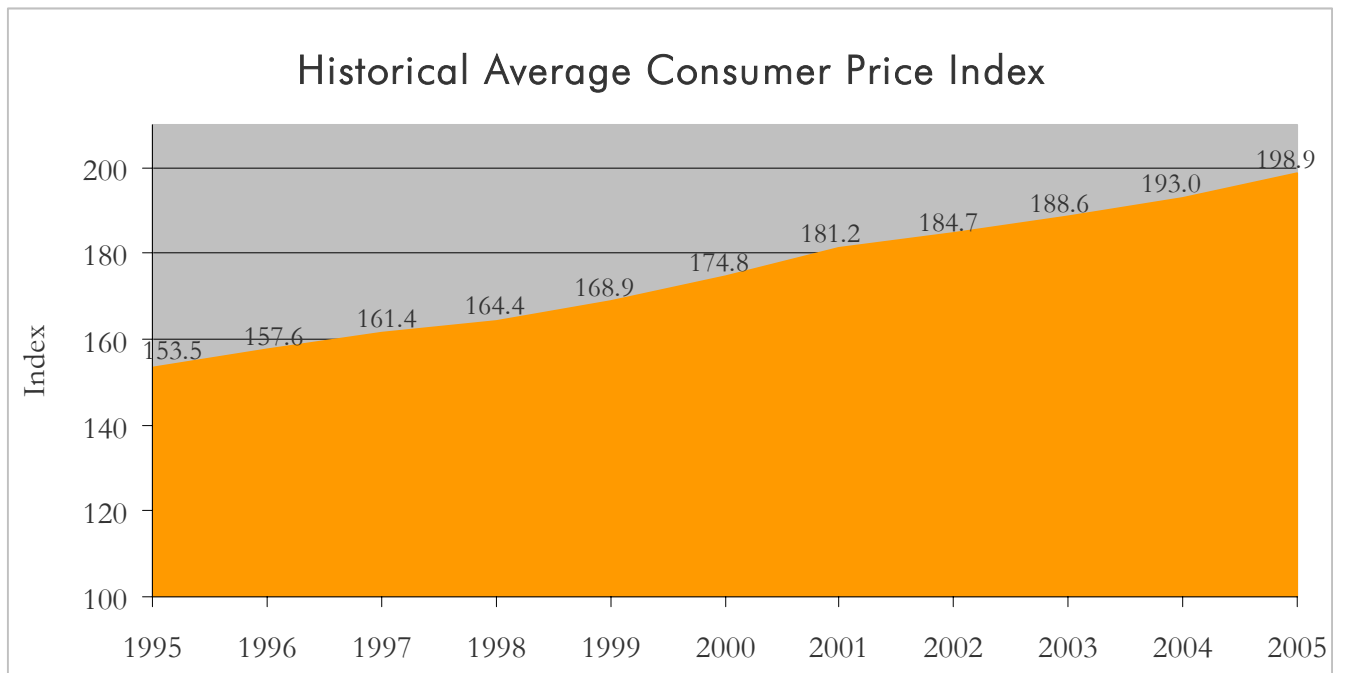


*Source: ACCRA Cost of Living Index*

## Consumer Price Index



Source: U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, 2006 data



Source: U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics

## Quality of Life

Since both Gallatin and Paradise Valleys are surrounded by several mountain ranges and thousands of acres of national forest land, where trail systems and wilderness areas abound, the area's quality of life is undoubtedly exceptional. Two of the entrances to Yellowstone National Park, America's oldest and best-known protected area, are a scenic 90-mile drive south from Bozeman and only 55 miles south from Livingston; enabling residents to enjoy the park year round. Furthermore, Glacier National Park, another of the country's most beautiful areas, is only a short day's drive to the northwest.

Not only is the landscape attractive, but so are some of the other elements the Valleys have to offer. The table below indicates just a few of Montana's qualities compared to other states.

	California	Colorado	Montana	Oregon	South Dakota	Washington
<b>Education<sup>11</sup></b>						
Ranking of High School Graduates	44th	17th	<b>7th</b>	16th	11th	6th
Students Per Computer	5.1	4.2	<b>2.7</b>	4.5	1.8	3.9
Percentage of Schools Offering Distance Learning for Students	10%	19%	<b>18%</b>	12%	46%	15%
Access to Technology	F	D-	<b>A-</b>	D-	A	C
Overall Grade in Technology	C-	C-	<b>C</b>	D	C	B-
<b>Quality of Life</b>						
Most Livable State Ranking <sup>12</sup>	35th	16th	<b>24th</b>	34th	9th	25th
Crime Rate <sup>13</sup>	4.0	4.3	<b>3.2</b>	4.9	2.1	5.2
<b>Vacation Costs<sup>14</sup></b>						
State Ranking	46th	34th	<b>12th</b>	24th	6th	31st
Total Cost Per Day	\$301.46	\$260.85	<b>\$207.70</b>	\$229.78	\$192.14	\$242.98

<sup>11</sup> Technology Counts 2006 Report (ranking of graduates where 1 = the most)

<sup>12</sup> Morgan Quitno Press, 2005 Most Livable State Report

<sup>13</sup> Small Business & Entrepreneurship Council, Small Business Survival Index 2006 (rate per 100 residents)

<sup>14</sup> AAA Report, 2005 State Vacation Costs Survey (ranking reversed from original report to maintain consistency; cost per day includes a lodging rate for 2 people, 2 beds, plus an extra person charge for 2 children, as well as 3 meals for 4 people excluding beverages, taxes, and gratuity)

# The Economy

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As a whole, Gallatin and Park Counties have a diverse economy comprising such industries as manufacturing, construction, government, technology, retail, service, agriculture, and tourism. Some communities within the county include most or all of these industries, and others are more dependent on just a few. The town of West Yellowstone, for example, thrives almost entirely on tourism.

The largest single employer in the area is Montana State University, providing work for approximately 3,500 people. In addition, the more than 11,000 students at MSU have a significant impact on the local economy. *(Please note: Montana State University students who have established residency are included in U.S. Census data which is referenced throughout this document).*

The following pages will address the Gallatin County and Park County economies in depth, including economic indicators by industry.

## Cost of Doing Business

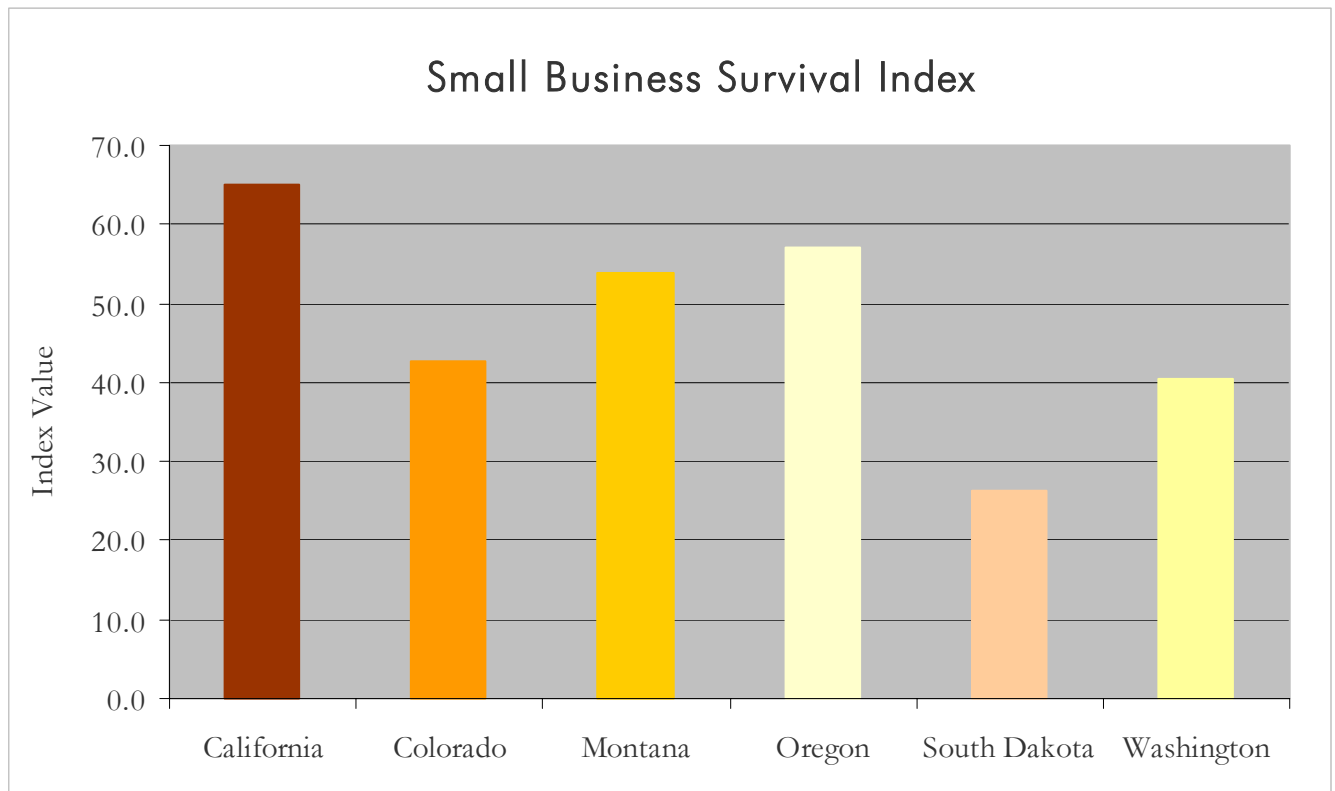
The Small Business & Entrepreneurship Council<sup>15</sup> (SBE Council), a national nonpartisan, nonprofit small business advocacy group, regularly releases annual rankings of public policy climates for small business and entrepreneurship for each state known as the "Small Business Survival Index."

According to SBE Council chief economist Raymond J. Keating, author of the study, "The 'Small Business Survival Index' aims to gauge, state by state, whether public policies help or hurt the entrepreneurial sector of our economy, which of course is so important for economic growth, innovation and job creation."

The Index analyzes 26 major government-imposed or government-related costs affecting small businesses and entrepreneurs, including an assortment of taxes and measures that reflect various regulatory costs. These costs are added together to compute an overall rating.

Keating notes, "The 'Small Business Survival Index' allows states to be compared in terms of their tax burdens and many of their regulatory costs. As explained in the study, economic common sense, backed up by a large body of economic literature, makes clear that these policies matter a great deal to entrepreneurs, businesses, employees and overall economic health."

In terms of policy climates, the most entrepreneur-friendly states, according to our comparisons here, are: South Dakota (1), Washington (5), and Colorado (8). In contrast, the most anti-entrepreneur policy environments are found in: Montana (30), Oregon (39), and California (49). (*Numbers in parentheses indicate rank among U.S. states.*) The table below shows our comparison states' index levels. A lower number represents the greatest economic viability for small business and entrepreneurs.



<sup>15</sup> Small Business & Entrepreneurship Council, Small Business Survival Index 2006

Clearly, no one single ranking can predict the costs or sustainability for every business operation. There are infinite factors impacting economic decision-making, and varying measures, with differing importance depending on the industry, that can be utilized. The information below is intended to be a guide toward approaching the task of understanding the cost comparison of Montana to other states.

	California	Colorado	Montana	Oregon	South Dakota	Washington
<b>Tax Rates<sup>16</sup></b>						
Personal Income	10.3	4.6	<b>6.9</b>	9.0	0.0	0.0
Capital Gains	10.3	4.6	<b>6.9</b>	9.0	0.0	0.0
Corporate Income	8.8	4.6	<b>6.8</b>	6.6	0.0	0.0
Property	2.7	2.8	<b>3.7</b>	3.2	3.0	2.9
Unemployment	1.0	1.3	<b>4.7</b>	4.1	1.7	4.0
State Sales <sup>17</sup>	7.25	2.9	<b>0.0</b>	0.0	4.0	6.5
<b>State Tax Rankings<sup>18</sup></b>						
Total Collected	1st	26th	<b>46th</b>	30th	50th	15th
Per Capita	9th	47th	<b>33rd</b>	41st	50th	16th
<b>Labor Costs<sup>13</sup></b>						
Annual Salary <sup>19</sup>	\$42,510	\$40,280	<b>\$30,220</b>	\$37,280	\$29,170	\$41,460
Right To Work Law	No	No	<b>No</b>	No	Yes	No
Worker's Comp	\$1.91	\$1.01	<b>\$2.00</b>	\$0.92	\$0.77	\$1.80
<b>Cost of Living Measures</b>						
Cost of Living Index <sup>20</sup>	141.4	98.8	<b>99.9</b>	104.7	93.5	104.6
Average Home Price	\$619,478	\$289,977	<b>\$274,904</b>	\$302,159	\$221,281	\$305,537
Residential Electric <sup>21</sup>	\$129.07	\$65.17	<b>\$64.86</b>	\$63.97	\$73.50	\$49.11
Commercial Electric	\$201.00	\$87.00	<b>\$84.00</b>	\$95.69	\$108.00	\$94.00
Residential Phone <sup>22</sup>	n/a	\$14.88	<b>\$16.73</b>	\$13.80	\$16.65	\$12.50
Business Phone	n/a	\$38.00	<b>\$38.00</b>	\$34.00	\$38.00	\$34.00

<sup>16</sup> Small Business & Entrepreneurship Council, Small Business Survival Index 2006 (tax rates at top of market; state workers' compensation benefits per \$100 of covered wages)

<sup>17</sup> Federation of Tax Administrators

<sup>18</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, Governments Division, 2005 data (1 = highest tax burden)

<sup>19</sup> U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, May 2005 data (average total of all private industries)

<sup>20</sup> ACCRA Cost of Living Index, 2005 annual averages (home cost = new 2400 sq ft home, specific requirements)

<sup>21</sup> NorthWestern Energy (average cost per 750 kWh residential and 1,000 kWh commercial, any size)

<sup>22</sup> Qwest Communications, basic local phone service charges (excludes taxes, surcharges, installation, and other fees)

Gallatin and Park Counties have a number of resources available to people interested in starting, expanding, or improving their business. Many of these services are offered free of charge or at a low cost to the business owner. Services cover all industries and levels of entrepreneurship.

**Prospera Business Network** (formerly Gallatin Development Corporation) is the leading non-profit economic development organization in Gallatin and Park Counties. Prospera is dedicated to encouraging and supporting business expansion, retention, and relocation by providing access to guidance, capital, professional development, networking and recognition. A private, non-profit organization, Prospera assists businesses with:

- Business expansions
- Financial planning
- Economic statistics
- Loan facilitation
- Procurement assistance
- Entrepreneurial development
- Educational seminars
- Networking events
- Relocation assistance

Contact: (406) 587-3113 / [info@prosperabusinessnetwork.com](mailto:info@prosperabusinessnetwork.com) / [www.prosperabusinessnetwork.com](http://www.prosperabusinessnetwork.com)

The **Small Business Development Center (SBDC)**, a program of the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA), was established to make technical assistance available to small businesses throughout the United States. In Gallatin and Park Counties, the SBDC is hosted by the Northern Rocky Mountain Resource Conservation and Development Area (RC&D). It is a source for no-cost, professional and confidential business counseling for new and existing businesses. The local area SBDC provides assistance with:

- Business plans
- Marketing strategies
- Financing options
- Cash flow breakdown
- Buy-sell analysis
- Sources of capital

Contact: (406) 582-5700 / [www.nrmrcd.org](http://www.nrmrcd.org)

The **Service Corps of Retired Executives (SCORE)**, a program of the SBA, is primarily comprised of retired volunteers from professional fields such as law, finance, business consultation, and the like. They also include individuals who spent their careers serving as executive officers or on company boards of directors. These professionals provide no-cost counseling and mentoring to both new and existing businesses through local area Chambers of Commerce.

Contact: (406) 586-5421 / [www.score.org](http://www.score.org)

**TechRanch** is an organization designed as a technology business incubator, working with start-up ventures that are focused on developing software, bio-technology, Internet products, and various other technologies. Their mission is to provide the best environment for the rapid and successful development of technology-based companies. TechRanch offers two levels of assistance to technology entrepreneurs: in-residence and clients-at-large. Client companies must meet a series of necessary criteria and pay a nominal monthly service fee, as well as provide a small equity stake in their venture.

Contact: (406) 556-0272 / [www.techranch.org](http://www.techranch.org)

**TechLink** connects companies with federal laboratories for joint research and technology transfer. Its purpose is to contribute to the success of both technology-based companies and key resource-based industries within the state and immediate region. TechLink provides specialized assistance in the realm of advanced materials, aerospace development, agricultural technologies, bio-medicine, bio-technology, electronics, environmental technologies, information technologies, information software, photonics, and sensors. TechLink strives to build productive partnerships for the licensing, transfer, development, and commercialization of technology.

Contact: (406) 994-7700 / [techlink@montana.edu](mailto:techlink@montana.edu) / [www.techlinkcenter.org](http://www.techlinkcenter.org)

The **Montana Manufacturing Extension Center** (MMEC) is a statewide manufacturing outreach and assistance center staffed by full-time professionals with degrees in engineering, and extensive experience in manufacturing and business in a variety of industries. MMEC provides help in design and implementation of manufacturing plans that yield lower costs, higher production, and increased product quality. After an initial assessment, a field engineer works to locate, direct, and coordinate the proper mix of resources and skills needed to best assist the business in growth and improvement.

Contact: (406) 994-3812 / [mmec@coe.montana.edu](mailto:mmec@coe.montana.edu) / [www.mtmanufacturingcenter.com](http://www.mtmanufacturingcenter.com)

The **Montana World Trade Center** (MWTC) is a nonprofit organization whose purpose is to help Montana businesses establish and strengthen their international commercial capabilities. The Center develops untapped international trade opportunities and helps businesses capitalize on prospects to expand their market share around the world. Through a partnership with MWTC, businesses can realize international sales and expansion goals that may otherwise be unattainable.

Contact: (406) 243-6982 / [mwtc@mwtc.org](mailto:mwtc@mwtc.org) / [www.mwtc.org](http://www.mwtc.org)

# Chambers of Commerce

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The area Chambers of Commerce encourage businesses by providing support through professional staff and legislative voices both locally and at the state level. Most Chambers also provide an array of networking and training opportunities throughout the year. The following Chambers of Commerce are organized in the area:

## Gallatin County

### **Belgrade Chamber of Commerce**

10 East Main Street  
Belgrade, MT 59714  
(406) 388-1616  
info@belgradechamber.org  
www.belgradechamber.org

### **Big Sky Chamber of Commerce**

P.O. Box 160100  
Big Sky, MT 59716  
(406) 995-3000  
info@bigskychamber.com  
www.bigskychamber.com

### **Bozeman Area Chamber of Commerce**

2000 Commerce Way  
Bozeman, MT 59715  
(406) 586-5421  
info@bozemanchamber.com  
www.bozemanchamber.com

## Park County

### **Livingston Area Chamber of Commerce**

303 East Park Street  
Livingston, MT 59047  
(406) 222-0850  
info@livingston-chamber.com  
www.livingston-chamber.com

### **Gardiner Chamber of Commerce**

P.O. Box 81  
Gardiner, MT 59030  
(406) 848-7971  
info@gardinerchamber.com  
www.gardinerchamber.com

### **Manhattan Chamber of Commerce**

P.O. Box 606  
Manhattan, MT 59741  
(406) 284-4162  
manhattanmontana@yahoo.com  
www.manhattanmontana.com

### **Three Forks Chamber of Commerce**

P.O. Box 1103  
Three Forks, MT 59752  
(406) 285-4753  
chamber@threeforksmontana.com  
www.threeforksmontana.com

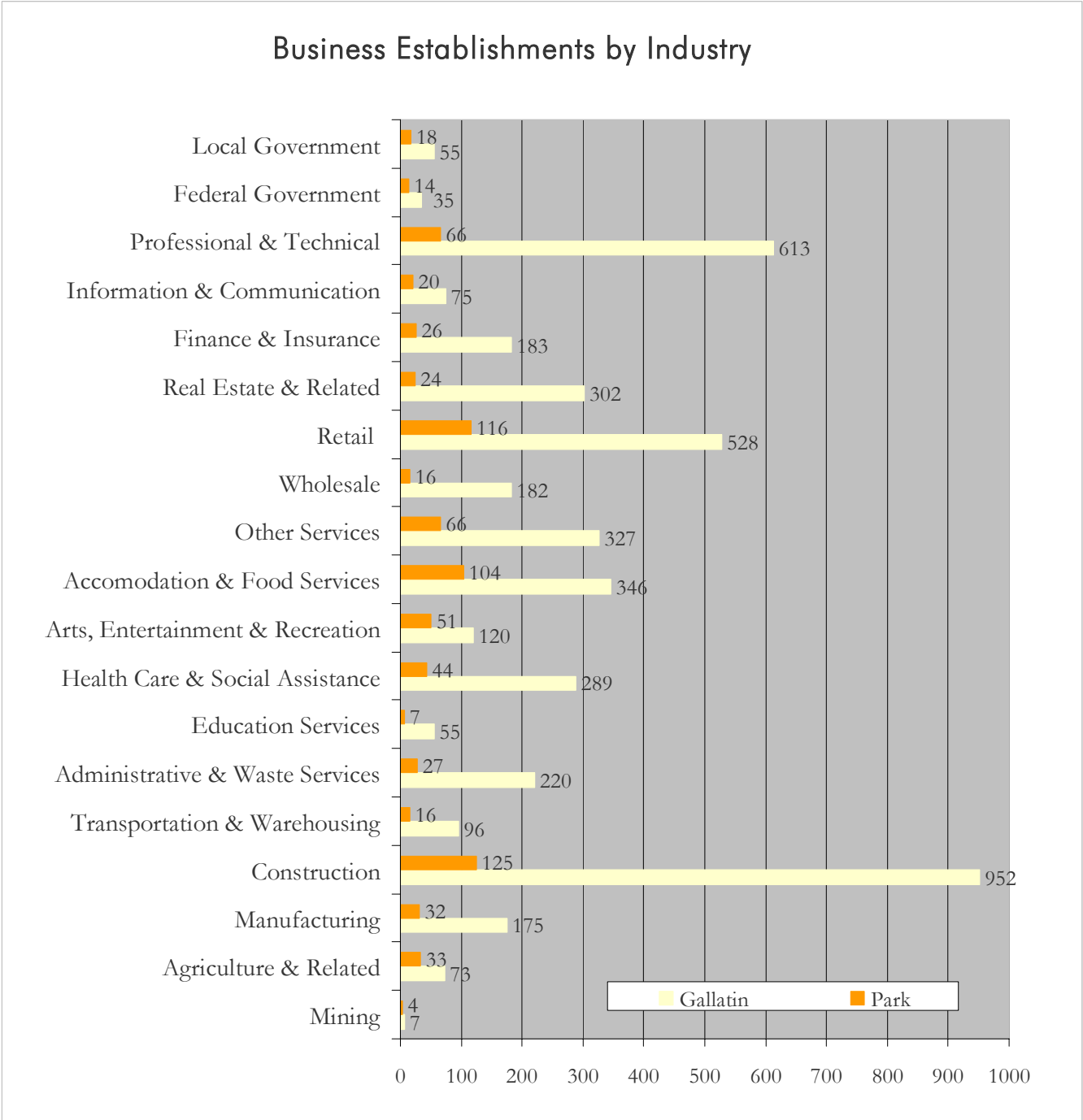
### **West Yellowstone Chamber of Commerce**

P.O. Box 458  
West Yellowstone, MT 59758  
(406) 646-7701  
visitorservices@westyellowstonechamber.com  
www.westyellowstonechamber.com

### **Cooke City Chamber of Commerce**

P.O. Box 1071  
Cooke City, MT 59020  
(406) 838-2495  
info@cookecitychamber.org  
www.cookecitychamber.org

The area's economy is progressively varied and continues to show growth. With current business establishments reaching **4,633** in Gallatin County and **809** in Park County, the number of businesses since 2004 has increased by 21.5%.<sup>23</sup> While the valleys are home to a broad range of industries, dominant sectors include construction, professional and technical services and retail.



<sup>23</sup> Montana Department of Labor & Industry, Research & Analysis Bureau, annual 2005 data

## Largest Employers

The Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages (QCEW) Program of the Montana Department of Labor and Industry, compiles employment and wage information for all employers covered under unemployment insurance. Since data is reported and collected each quarter, listings reflect information obtained within a specific year and quarter. Due to confidentiality laws, the listings cannot be ranked in order of employment and no further employment data can be provided.

The list below<sup>24</sup> includes only private industry employers subject to unemployment insurance. Railroads, government agencies (including public school districts and universities) are excluded.

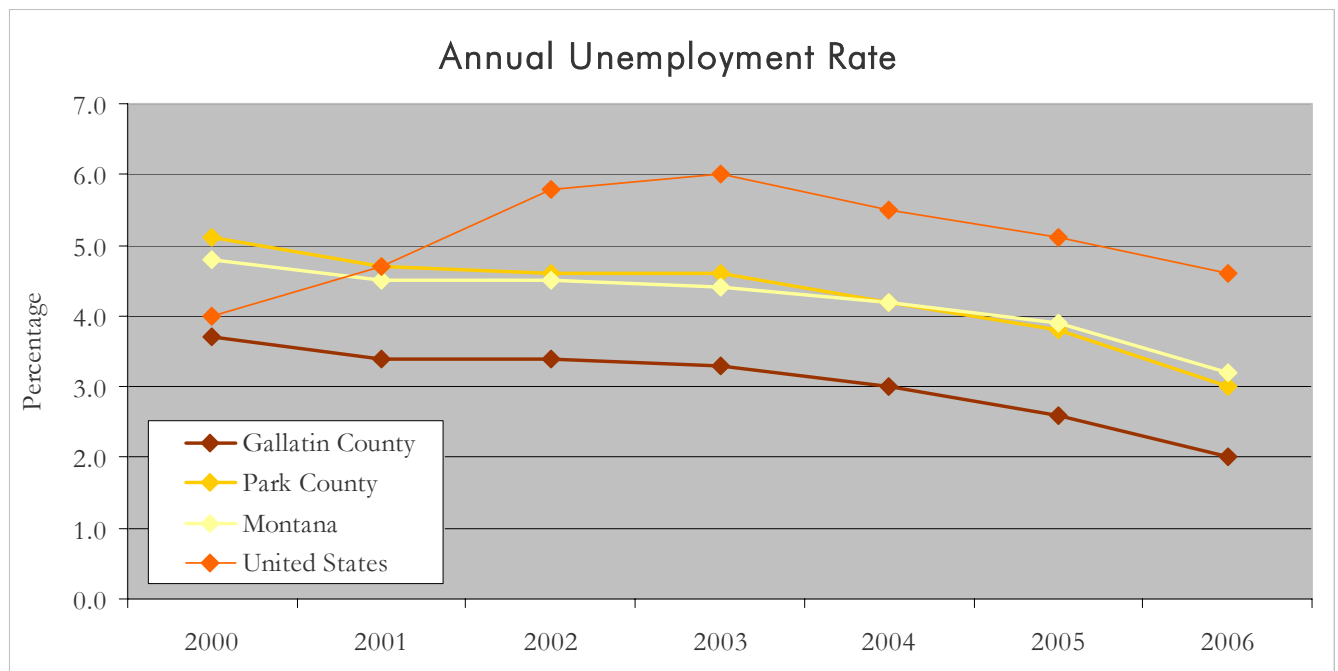
	Number of Employees
<b>Gallatin County</b>	
Bozeman Deaconess Hospital	500-999
Home Care Services	250-499
RightNow Technologies	250-499
Wal-Mart	250-499
Albertson's	100-249
Bozeman Daily Chronicle	100-249
Community Food Co-Op	100-249
Costco	100-249
First Security Bank	100-249
Best Western GranTree Inn	100-249
JTL Group of Belgrade	100-249
Kenyon Noble Lumber & Hardware	100-249
Laidlaw Transit	100-249
Martel Construction	100-249
Murdoch's Ranch & Home Supply	100-249
Ressler Chevrolet Cadillac & Toyota	100-249
Schlauch-Bottcher Construction	100-249
Simkins-Hallin Lumber	100-249
Williams Plumbing & Heating	100-249
Zoot Enterprises	100-249
<b>Park County</b>	
Livingston Memorial Hospital	250-499
Chico Hot Springs Resort	100-249
Church Universal & Triumphant	100-249
PrintingForLess.com	100-249
Albertson's	50-99
Best Western at Mammoth Hot Springs	50-99
Community Health Partners	50-99
Evergreen Healthcare	50-99
Mountain Sky Guest Ranch	50-99

<sup>24</sup> Montana Department of Labor & Industry, Research & Analysis Bureau, 2006 second quarter data

## Labor Force

The following data<sup>25</sup> outlines civilian labor force trends in Gallatin and Park Counties over the course of seven years. The data is based on annual information and is not seasonally adjusted.

	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
<b>Gallatin County</b>							
Labor Force	41,466	41,529	41,977	42,881	48,645	50,753	53,930
Employed	39,922	40,134	40,542	41,445	47,204	49,450	52,857
Unemployed	1,524	1,395	1,435	1,436	1,441	1,303	1,073
<b>Park County</b>							
Labor Force	9,045	8,692	8,669	8,566	8,754	8,942	9,310
Employed	8,585	8,285	8,273	8,173	8,383	8,605	9,031
Unemployed	460	407	396	393	371	337	279

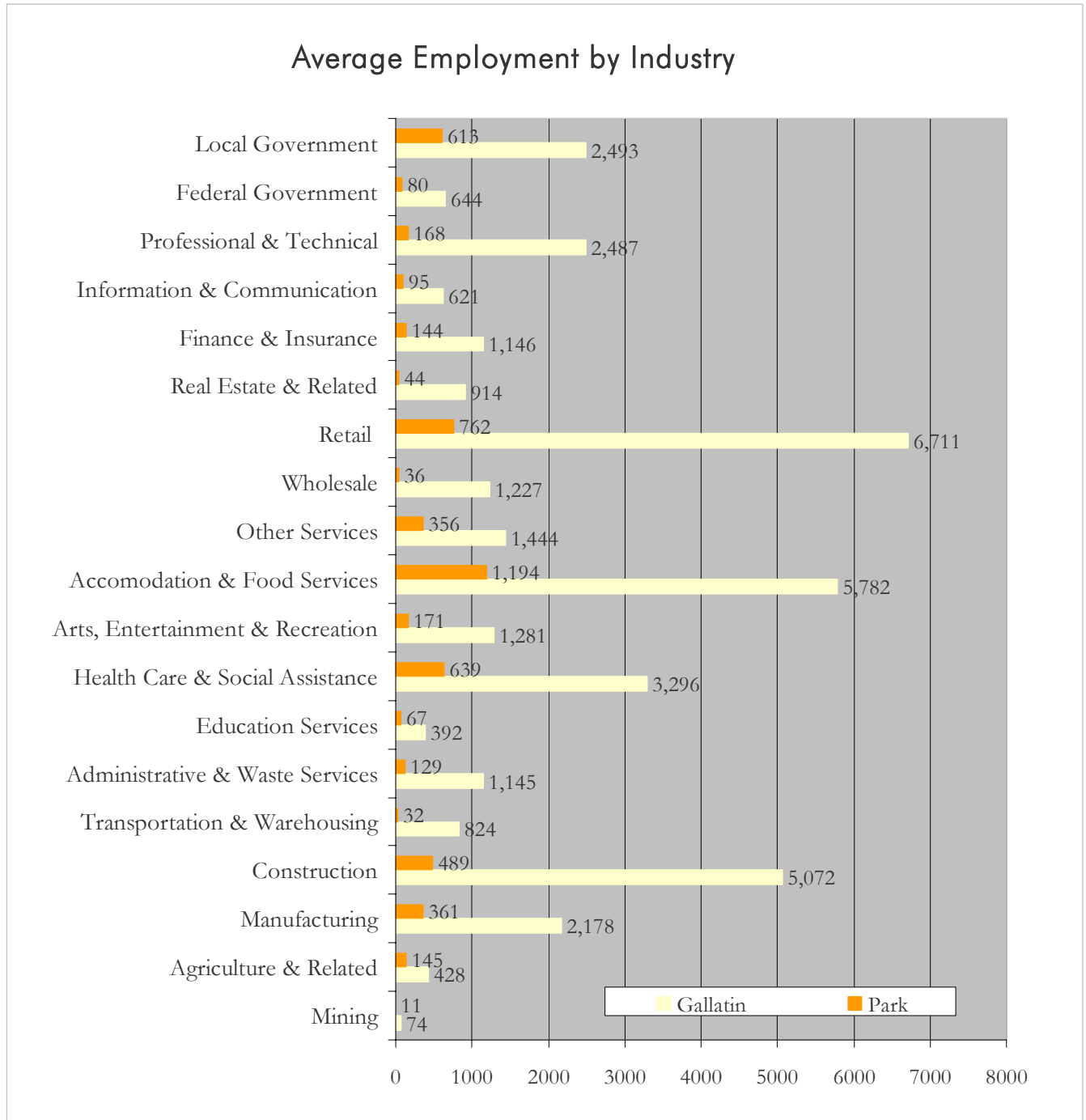


<sup>25</sup> Montana Department of Labor & Industry, Research & Analysis Bureau

## Sector Employment

Both Gallatin and Park Counties have diverse employment bases which set them apart from many other communities in Montana. In fact, Gallatin County was ranked 4<sup>th</sup> among all *micropolitan areas* (urban area with a population of less than 50,000) in the Rocky Mountain region for *Balanced Employment Composition*<sup>26</sup> in 2004.

Gallatin County provides jobs for over **38,000** people while Park County employs just over **5,500**. Primary industry employers are retail trade, accommodation and food services, and construction.<sup>27</sup>



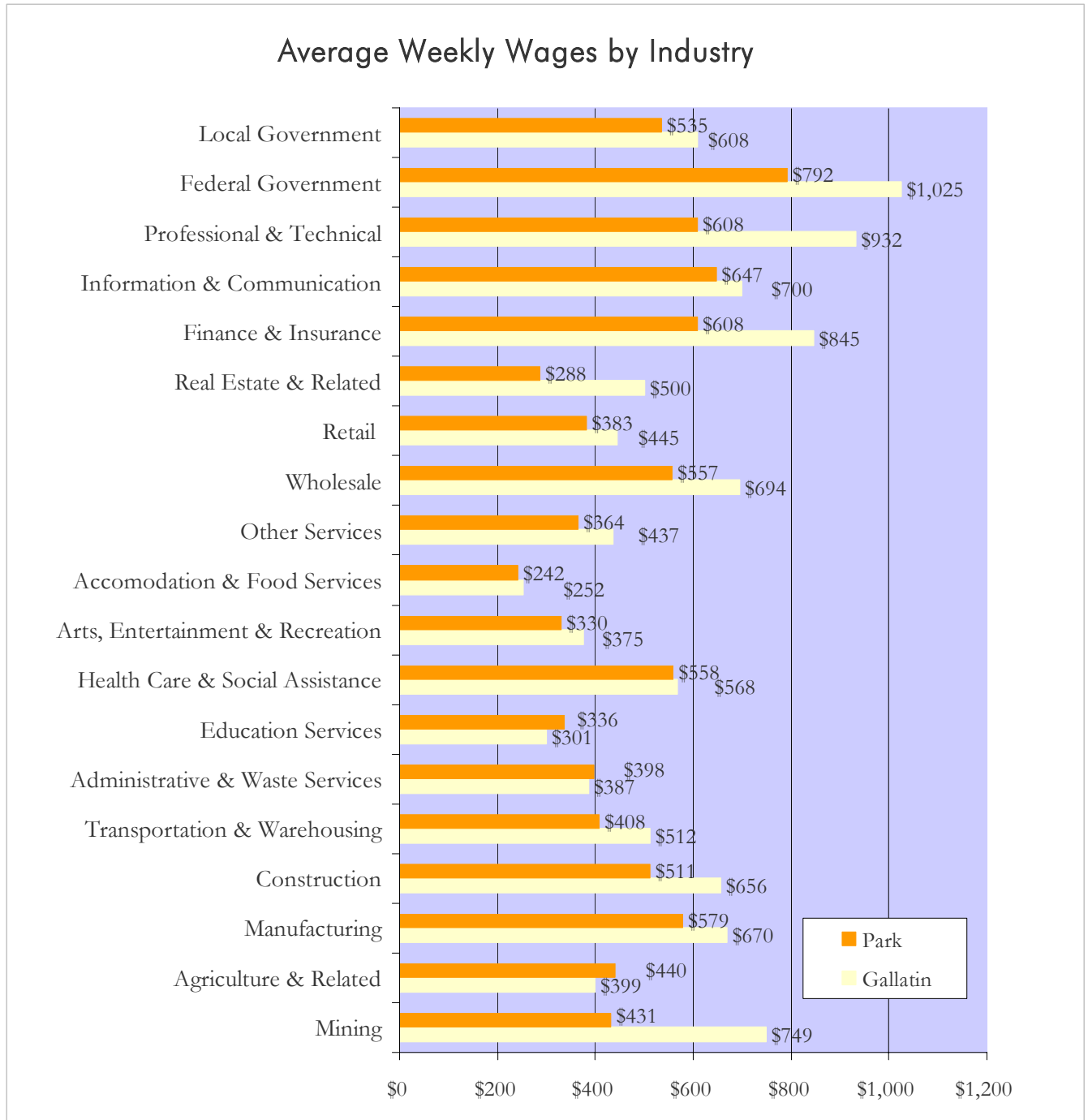
<sup>26</sup> Colorado College State of the Rockies Report Card

<sup>27</sup> Montana Department of Labor & Industry, Research & Analysis Bureau, annual 2005 data

## Sector Wage Detail

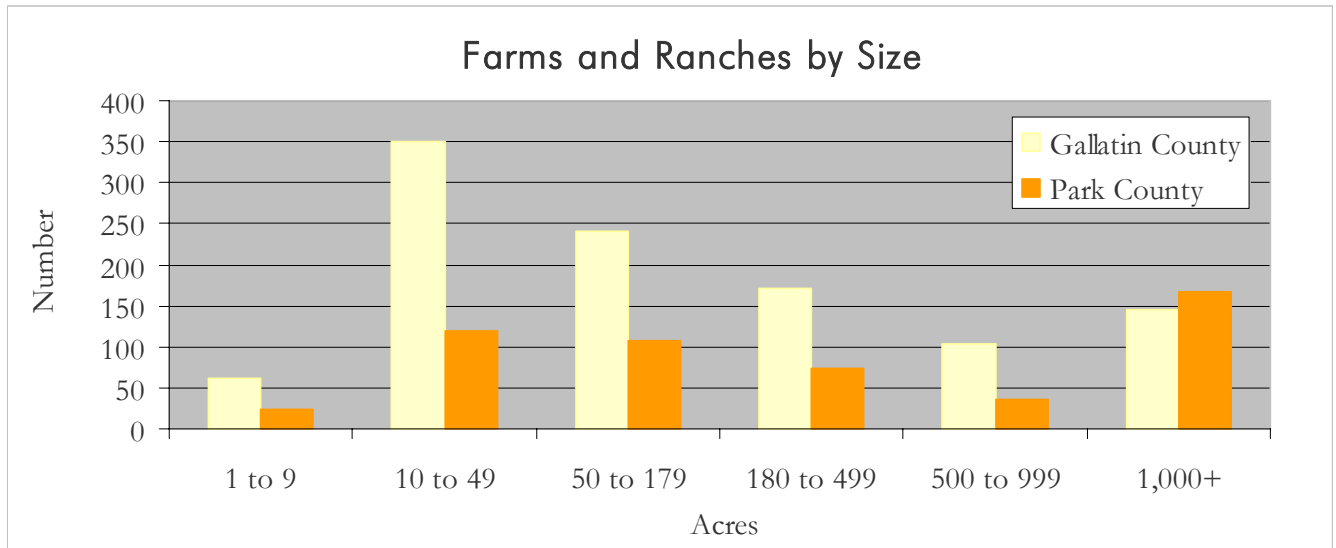
The data<sup>28</sup> below indicates weekly wage amounts reported by industry businesses over the course of the 2005 year.

Dominating wage distribution in Gallatin County is federal government, professional and technical services and finance and insurance. In Park County, the distribution is much the same with an additional majority sum stemming from the information and communication field.



<sup>28</sup> Montana Department of Labor & Industry, Research & Analysis Bureau, Quarterly Census of Employment & Wages

Agriculture plays a large role in the Gallatin and Park County economies, landscapes, and communities. The U.S. Department of Agriculture's 2002 Census of Agriculture (the most current census data available for agriculture) reported 708,728 acres (42.5% of land) within Gallatin County as ranch or farm land and 847,067 acres (50.4% of land) in Park County.<sup>29</sup> There are 1,074 farms in Gallatin County, generating \$32.7 million from livestock and \$29.8 million from crops, making the county the sixth highest contributor to the state's agricultural economy. In Park County, the 527 farms located there provide \$16.8 million in livestock receipts and \$5.8 million in crops.<sup>30</sup>



Source: U.S. Department of Agriculture, 2002 Census of Agriculture

Product	Gallatin County	Park County
Potatoes	1,238,000 hundredweight	n/a
Oats	30,500 bushel	25,000 bushel
Hay (dry)	275,200 tons	133,600 tons
Wheat	3,029,000 bushel	325,000 bushel
Barley	1,297,000 bushel	181,000 bushel
Cattle & Calves	62,000 head	42,000 head
Sheep & Lambs	4,100 head	1,800 head

Note: Data has been gathered for selected crops and livestock and is not describing the only products raised or produced in the area.

<sup>29</sup> U.S. Department of Agriculture, Montana Agricultural Statistics Service

<sup>30</sup> U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of Economic Analysis, 2003 data

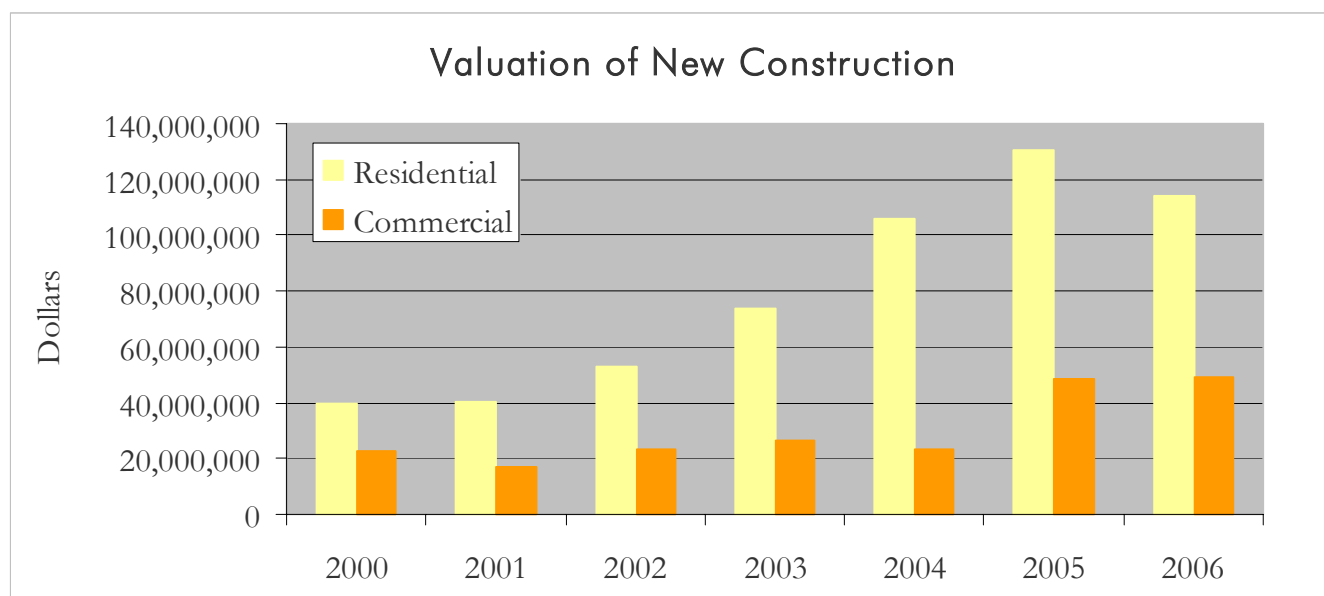
<sup>31</sup> U.S. Department of Agriculture, National Agricultural Statistics Service, 2006 data

## Construction

Construction in both Gallatin and Park Counties currently outweighs any other industry in established businesses and ranks third in the number of jobs offered to individuals in Gallatin County. This undoubtedly makes construction an extremely important part of the area's economy.

The data<sup>32</sup> below indicates the increase in the number of new units developed and the total valuation assessed since 2000 within the Bozeman and Livingston jurisdictional areas. Information from other areas within Gallatin and Park Counties are not yet available.

New Construction Activity (Units)	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
<b>City of Bozeman</b>							
Residential	413	388	504	576	856	949	661
Commercial	17	32	36	35	34	42	48
Other	6	16	15	49	15	10	6
<b>City of Livingston</b>							
Residential	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	19
Commercial	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	1
Other	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	0



*Note: City of Livingston data is not currently available for this chart.*

*Source: City of Bozeman, Building Department*

<sup>32</sup> City of Bozeman and City of Livingston, Building Departments

Home to more than 100 technology companies, the Gallatin Valley is conceivably the high-tech center for the state. Companies range from computer software development, to laser technology, to pharmaceutical research. The tremendous growth of this industry has been attributed to the various resources available through Montana State University, Bozeman, a leading science and technology center and award-winning university, as well as the availability of a state-of-the-art telecommunications infrastructure and the quality of life enjoyed here. Listed below is a sampling of the technology companies located in the area.

**ILX Lightwave** is a market and technology leader in providing high performance test and measurement solutions for people who work with laser diodes and other photonic components. Founded in 1986 with the introduction of the industry's first precision laser diode current source, the company has continued to build from its strengths in precision measurement and control to offer a full line of innovative instruments and test systems. Today, ILX instruments include laser diode current sources, temperature controllers, mounting fixtures, optical power and wavelength meters, precision fiber optic sources, laser diode LIV testers, and laser diode burn-in and reliability test systems. ILX products are used throughout the world in research and development laboratories and in production areas, wherever photonic technology is advancing.

Contact: (406) 586-1244 / [www.ilxlightwave.com](http://www.ilxlightwave.com)

**LigoCyte Pharmaceuticals** focuses on researching and creating products for the treatment of inflammatory and infectious disease. Having already produced a number of drug compounds to modify immune responses by honing in on cell binding interactions and their role in the immune system – addressing the disease process itself rather than simply treating the resulting symptoms.

LigoCyte claims that current drugs are losing ground in the fight against disease, despite decades of progressive research. New, infectious diseases are appearing and spreading with frightening speed. Therefore, the company believes it is poised to change the way the world fights disease using proprietary technology, and developing a pipeline of therapeutic drugs and vaccines. With the ability to recruit “top-level scientists”, given the nature of the Bozeman environment and resources, LigoCyte is well on its way to continued success.

Contact: (406) 585-2733 / [ligocyte@ligocyte.com](mailto:ligocyte@ligocyte.com) / [www.ligocyte.com](http://www.ligocyte.com)

**RightNow Technologies** is a leading provider of web-based customer service management systems. The company's award-winning flagship product, RightNow Web, integrates customer self-help, live customer interaction, e-mail management, and service contracts administration. With this program, RightNow guarantees a significant reduction in customer support expenses. Approximately 1,800 organizations worldwide use RightNow solutions including British Airways, Cisco Systems, Continental Tire North America, Nikon, and the U.S. Social Security Administration.

Contact: (406) 522-4212 / [www.rightnow.com](http://www.rightnow.com)

**PrintingForLess.com** is an online provider of high quality color printing in the short to medium run color printing market based in Livingston. PFL sells more full color printing online than any other commercial printing company in the U.S. Committed to customer service, PFL has had more than 50,000 customers use its service since 1999.

Contact: (800) 930-6040 / [infor@printingforless.com](mailto:infor@printingforless.com) / [www.printingforless.com](http://www.printingforless.com)

Gallatin County boasts approximately 180 manufacturing companies. With another 30 in Park County, the area is notably a key center for manufacturing in the state. Companies range in nature from producing pet toys and materials, to building massive machinery and trailers, to developing portable environmentally-friendly toilets. The strength of this industry is due in part to the ability to ship and receive products easily by interstate, rail, or air travel. A number of resources within the two-county region provide many unique opportunities for manufacturing here. Listed below is a sampling of the manufacturing companies located in the area.

**Gibson Guitar – Montana Division** is an internationally successful, multi-faceted, manufacturing company dependent as much upon the quality of the wood as it is on talented, dedicated workers. Without such first class individuals joining together to create a unique and beautiful product, manufacturing guitars in Bozeman would be little more than a dream. Having the right product is not enough to be successful. The product should be made in a timely manner, react to customer demand, and utilize quality people in order to maintain performance. Gibson Guitar has found all of these in Montana and has been successful with its acoustic division because it has the right product and is located in the right place to get the job done.

Contact: (406) 587-4117 / [www.gibson.com](http://www.gibson.com)

**West Paw Design** manufactures high quality pet toys and bedding for dogs and cats. Made in Bozeman, Montana, they are a small but mighty company dedicated not only to creating safe, fun, and durable products for pets, but also in making a contribution to the greater picture. By keeping their manufacturing local, West Paw not only provides great jobs in the Gallatin Valley, but they also get to know each other as friends and family. Paying a fair wage, providing good benefits, and offering a successful profit-sharing program, the company is dedicated to supporting their employees and the community.

Contact: (406) 585-0505 / [www.westpawdesign.com](http://www.westpawdesign.com)

**Simms Fishing Products** is the world's premier fly-fishing gear company, widely known for its main product line, fishing waders. They manufacture premium quality fishing gear and apparel including waders, footwear, outerwear, and accessories. The company produces its main product line, waders, in Bozeman. This truly global company has developed a business strategy keeping good jobs in Montana with over 60 employees in Bozeman. Simms produces more than 120 products, sells products in 31 countries, and sources raw materials and finished goods from 12 countries. It has distribution deals with some 400 independents and most major specialty chains, as well as partnerships with the companies behind Gore-Tex and Polartec.

Contact: (406) 585-3557 / [www.simmsfishing.com](http://www.simmsfishing.com)

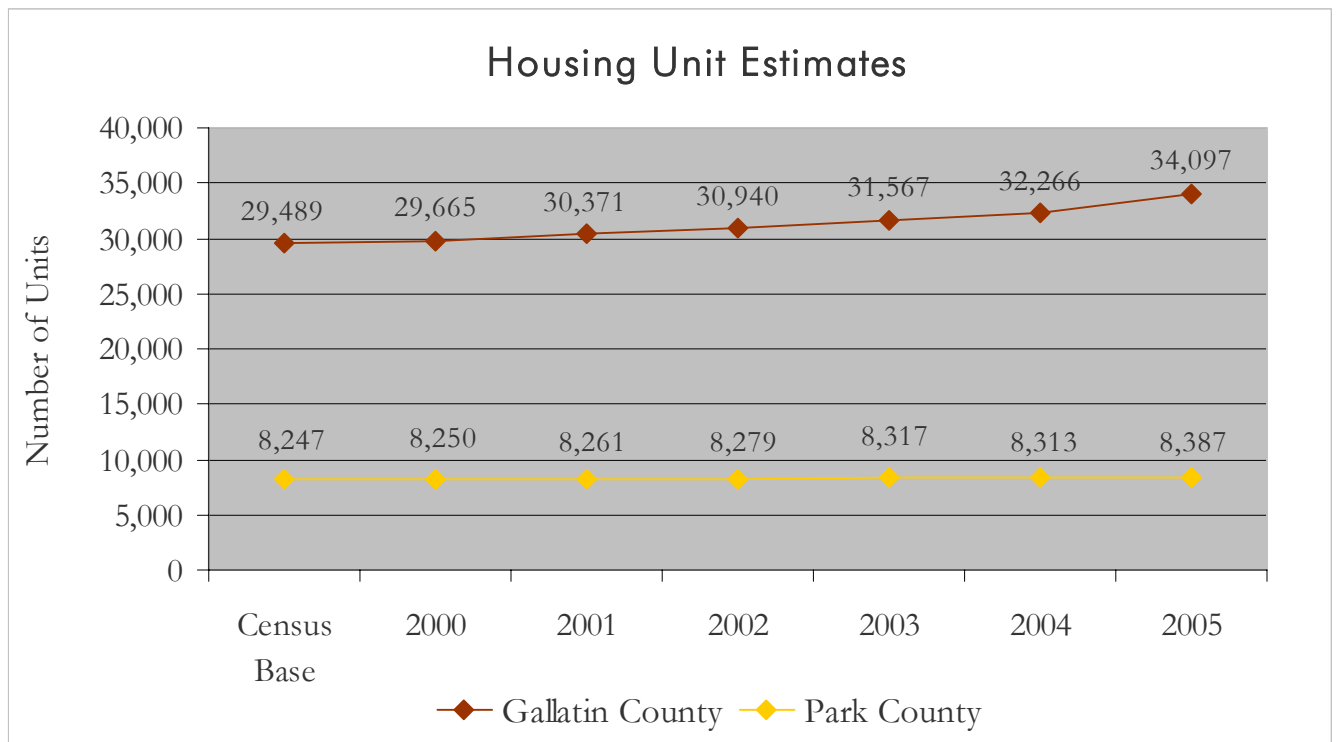
**TowHaul / Smith Equipment USA** designs and manufactures custom trailers that decrease costs and increase mobility in open pit mines around the world. They have succeeded in developing a product line suitable for today's needs and tomorrow's demands in the mining industry. They specialize in ongoing technical support for their customers and stand behind their products, which include the TowHaul Removable Gooseneck, front loading lowboy, and various trailer designs. The name of Smith has been a leader in off-road lowboys since 1977. Lowboys and TowHooks by Smith are in service throughout the world, including China, Europe, and South America. Many of the first units built in the 1970's are still in service today, testifying to their durability. In 1990, the Smith company relocated to Bozeman.

Contact: (406) 388-3424 / [www.towhaul.com](http://www.towhaul.com)

Real estate continues to boom in Gallatin and Park Counties. New construction activity remains strong and land and home sale prices remain high.

The data<sup>33</sup> below indicates the sale of residential property for single family homes in Gallatin and Park Counties, as well as the total estimated number of housing units<sup>34</sup> in the area.

Residential Sales in Gallatin and Park Counties					
Location Type		Units Sold		Average Sale	
		2005	2006	2005	2006
Bozeman	City Limits	410	363	\$302,576	\$344,690
	Suburbs < 1 Acre	127	106	\$314,061	\$345,773
	Suburbs > 1 Acre	171	168	\$549,693	\$691,516
Belgrade	Area < 1 Acre	205	245	\$205,701	\$230,222
	Area > 1 Acre	26	54	\$372,613	\$441,395
Livingston	City Limits	199	170	\$161,790	\$203,840
	Outside City in Park County	68	59	\$481,432	\$389,488



<sup>33</sup> Gallatin Association of REALTORS

<sup>34</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, Population Division, data released in August 2006

Gallatin County's primary trade area extends over a combined five-county region throughout Park, Madison, Meagher, and Broadwater Counties, serving a population of nearly 111,000<sup>35</sup> people. The area accounts for approximately \$1,311,037,000 in sales, 13% of the state overall.<sup>36</sup> Retail trade is currently the largest industry in Gallatin County in terms of number of people employed and third in the number of business establishments. In Park County, retail is also a primary economic factor as the largest industry providing employment opportunities and the second largest industry in business establishments. Per capita, residents in Gallatin County contribute \$15,515 to retail sales, whereas individuals in Park County contribute \$8,269.<sup>37</sup> Below is a breakdown of the retail trade industry in Gallatin and Park Counties.<sup>38</sup>

Retail Sales by Store Group		
Industry	Gallatin County	Park County
Motor Vehicle & Parts Dealers	\$252,345	\$35,204
Furniture & Home Furnishing Stores	\$49,927	\$2,918
Electronics & Appliance Stores	\$29,832	n/a
Building Material, Garden Equipment Stores & Dealers	\$140,524	\$2,334
Food & Beverage Stores	\$142,310	\$29,598
Health & Personal Care Stores	\$26,878	n/a
Gasoline Service Stations	\$90,473	\$34,375
Clothing & Clothing Accessory Stores	\$40,743	\$1,710
Sporting Goods, Hobby, Book & Music Stores	\$55,558	\$3,035
General Merchandise Stores	\$166,187	n/a
Miscellaneous Store Retailers	\$79,433	n/a
Non-Store Retailers	\$28,981	\$568

<sup>35</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, 2006 Population Estimates

<sup>36</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, 2002 Economic Census (most current available)

<sup>37</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, State and County QuickFacts, 2002 data

<sup>38</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, 2002 Economic Census (most current available)

## Tourism and Recreation

Montana is known for its vast beauty and wealth of outdoor activities. The landscape within Gallatin and Park Counties are arguably one of the best examples of both, establishing tourism as a major component of the area's economy. Gallatin Field Airport is the 2<sup>nd</sup> busiest airport in the state. With mountain ranges lining the valleys, Yellowstone National Park just a short drive away, and pristine rivers running through, the two counties offer a tremendous variety of outdoor recreational opportunities. The data below gives a snapshot of the impact of tourism and recreation on the local economy.

Airline Boardings	Departures	Arrivals
2006	327,856	321,432
2005	323,806	325,455
2004	308,985	310,558
2003	281,052	282,871
2002	274,499	278,473
2001	256,134	273,026
2000	242,650	240,049

*Source: Gallatin Field Airport*

Skier Numbers	Big Sky	Bridger Bowl
2006-07	308,000	n/a
2005-06	323,000	n/a
2004-05	290,000	158,000
2003-04	294,000	168,266
2002-03	294,000	145,000
2001-02	317,778	170,000
2000-01	320,000	158,275

*Source: Big Sky Resort and Bridger Bowl*

Fishing Licenses	Resident	Non-Resident
2006	n/a	n/a
2005	n/a	n/a
2004	n/a	n/a
2003	16,523	35,902
2002	15,746	38,389
2001	13,251	37,990
2000	12,685	34,234

*Source: Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks*

Yellowstone National Park	Visitors
2006	n/a
2005	2,835,649
2004	2,868,316
2003	3,019,376
2002	2,983,051
2001	2,752,346
2000	2,838,233

*Source: National Park Service*

Visitor Type*	Percentage
Self	17%
Couple	34%
Immediate Family	31%
Extended Family	4%
Family & Friends	6%
Friends	7%
Business Associates	1%

*Source: Institute for Tourism & Recreation Research (ITRR), University of Montana*

Visitor Group Size*	Percentage
1 Traveler	15 %
2 Travelers	45 %
3 Travelers	11 %
4 Travelers	13 %
5 Travelers	7 %
6 Travelers	3 %
7 Travelers	2 %
8 Travelers	2 %
9 Travelers	<1 %

*Source: ITRR, University of Montana*

Expenditures*	Amount
Gas	\$223,236,051
Restaurant	\$205,375,833
Retail	\$127,325,621
Hotel	\$95,336,287
Grocery	\$82,921,658
Guide	\$55,149,763
Auto	\$43,515,175
Camping	\$16,098,541
Fees	\$28,085,702
Transportation	\$7,500,615
Service	\$21,679,864
Gambling	\$4,840,464
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$911,065,575</b>

*Source: ITRR, University of Montana*

Visitor Age Groups*	Percentage
0-5 Years	9%
6-10 Years	11%
11-17 Years	16%
18-24 Years	9%
25-34 Years	18%
35-44 Years	26%
45-54 Years	36%
55-64 Years	34%
65-74 Years	19%
75 and Over	5%

*Source: ITRR, University of Montana*

Lodging Tax Revenue	Gallatin County	Park County
2006	\$3,678,279	\$739,427
2005	\$3,323,830	\$650,880
2004	\$2,979,266	\$601,688
2003	\$2,834,389	\$599,261
2002	\$2,779,943	\$520,154
2001	\$2,589,745	\$479,682
2000	\$2,508,014	\$454,697

Source: MT Dept. of Commerce, Travel Montana

Activities Participated In*	Percentage
Driving for Pleasure	56%
Wildlife Watching	50%
Shopping	38%
Day Hiking	33%
Picnicking	31%
Visiting Historical Sites	27%
Visiting Museums	21%
Nature Study	18%
Visiting Lewis & Clark Sites	17%
Fishing	15%
Developed Camping	15%
Visiting Native American Sites	12%
Downhill Skiing	11%
Visiting Festivals or Events	9%
Birding	8%
River Rafting/Floating	7%
Horseback Riding	7%
Gambling	5%
Art Exhibits	5%
Primitive Camping	5%
Snowmobiling	5%
Backpacking	5%
Golfing	4%
Sporting Event	4%
Road/Tour Biking	3%
Canoeing/Kayaking	3%
Mountain Biking	3%
Hunting	2%
Off Highway Riding/ATV	2%
Attending Performing Arts	2%
Cross-Country Skiing	2%
Snowboarding	2%
Motorboating	2%
Snowshoeing	2%

*Source: ITRR, University of Montana*

## Infrastructure and Local Government

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When most people think of Montana, they imagine a state of farms and ranches where the cattle outnumber people. While that is a fair description of a large part of the state, we are also home to some amazing and cutting edge businesses. The area is home to a number of professional and technical companies which require state-of-the-art telecommunication capabilities and systems in order to function. Due to the fact that our infrastructure is newer than many other states, it is also more up to date.

The following pages will discuss the infrastructure and government of Gallatin and Park Counties in depth.

## Internet Service Providers

Despite the rural nature of the area, quality Internet services are available. We are home to many companies that rely on high-speed Internet connections and the Bozeman area in particular has several areas with redundant systems. We currently have multiple DS3 connections BGP4 routed to the Internet. Areas where wired DSL is not currently available have other options, including wireless DSL and satellite service. Several Internet service providers are based in Gallatin County and available services and rates are comparable to the rest of the country. For convenience, we have listed some of the local providers here:

3 Rivers Communications  
(800) 796-4567  
[www.3rivers.net](http://www.3rivers.net)

Global Net  
(406) 587-5095  
[www.theglobal.net](http://www.theglobal.net)

OneEighty Communications  
(406) 922-4000  
[www.oneeighty.com](http://www.oneeighty.com)

Bresnan Communications  
(866) 442-9678  
[www.bresnan.com](http://www.bresnan.com)

Little Apple Technologies  
(406) 284-3174  
[www.littleappletech.com](http://www.littleappletech.com)

transARIA  
(800) 982-4375  
[www.transaria.com](http://www.transaria.com)

Bridgeband Communications  
(406) 586-1102  
[www.bridgeband.net](http://www.bridgeband.net)

Montana.Net  
(800) 240-2892  
[www.montana.net](http://www.montana.net)

Qwest Communications  
(800) 996-2516  
[www.qwest.com](http://www.qwest.com)

## Cellular Phone Service

Digital cellular coverage extends across Gallatin and Park Counties as well as most of Montana with the exception of remote mountain canyons. The following are some companies that provide service in the area:

Alltel  
(406) 585-0561  
[www.alltel.com](http://www.alltel.com)

Qwest Wireless  
(406) 585-4124  
[www.qwest.com](http://www.qwest.com)

Verizon Wireless  
(800) 256-4646  
[www.verizonwireless.com](http://www.verizonwireless.com)

Chinook Wireless  
(406) 522-9950  
[www.chinookwireless.com](http://www.chinookwireless.com)

## Other Available Services

Telecommunication services are also available through a local center providing extensive resources for individuals, organizations, and businesses in a full range of areas.

The **Burns Telecommunications Center** (BTC) opened its doors in February of 1997 in the Engineering and Physical Sciences Building at Montana State University. It functions as a self-sustaining, multi-purpose, instructional communications facility at the University. Utilizing state-of-the-art technology, the BTC is a community resource that joins with individuals, schools, non-profit organizations, and businesses to assist them in employing multi-media, telecommunications, and networking technologies to enhance their programs and services.

Facilities available at the Burns Telecommunications Center are:

- **NASA Multimedia Development Lab:** includes comprehensive training and support services, desktop video, video editing, and CD-ROM production.
- **Computer Classroom:** networked with ATM to each of 24 desktops.
- **Conference Room:** includes interactive video conferencing capabilities
- **Distance-learning Classrooms:** three spaces provide interactive video connections to state, regional, and national video networks and offers full multi-media capability.
- **TCI Amphitheater:** 218-seat room includes a multi-media smart-podium, video production equipment, interactive video conferencing, satellite reception and uplink capability, and TV broadcast capability.

There are a number of programs offered by BTC; a few of them are listed here.

- Small Business Management Institute
- Montana AG Live
- International Whirling Disease Research Forum
- Master Gardener
- Radon and Indoor Air Quality
- Advanced Earth and Foundation Engineering
- Solid Waste Forum
- Rural Health Care Systems
- Population Based Health
- National Teachers Enhancement Network
- Computer classes for children and adults

For more information on rates, scheduling, events, services and much more, visit the Burns Telecommunications Center website at <http://btc.montnana.edu> or call (406) 994-6550.

## Newspapers

There are currently seven daily or weekly papers in Gallatin County. Four of these papers are printed by Big Sky Publishing, including The Bozeman Daily Chronicle, The Belgrade News, The Lone Peak Lookout, and West Yellowstone News.

### Daily

Bozeman Daily Chronicle  
(406) 587-4491  
www.bozemanchronicle.com

Livingston Enterprise  
(406) 222-2000  
www.livingstonenterprise.com

### Weekly

Belgrade News  
(406) 388-5101  
www.belgrade-news.com

Livingston Weekly  
(406) 222-3633  
www.livingstonweekly.com

Three Forks Herald  
(406) 285-3414  
www.threeforksherald.net

Big Sky Sun  
(406) 586-1066  
www.thebigskysun.com

Lone Peak Lookout  
(406) 995-4133  
www.lonepeaklookout.com

West Yellowstone News  
(406) 646-9719  
www.westyellowstonenews.com

Big Sky Weekly  
(406) 995-3878  
www.thebigskyweekly.com

## Television

Local television stations serve the area, as well as do multiple cable and satellite companies. Television stations reporting local and regional news include:

KBZK (CBS 7/26)  
(406) 586-3280

KWIB (ABC 18/28)  
(406) 586-3594

Gallatin Valley Community  
(406) 587-8302

KTVM (NBC 6/42)  
(406) 586-0296

KUSM (PBS 9)  
(406) 994-3437

## Radio

Two major broadcasting companies, Clear Channel Communications and Reier Broadcasting Company, serve the area along with several independent stations. The stations provide a wide spectrum of music and programming styles for a variety of listeners.

**Clear Channel Communications**  
KMMS (95.1 FM)  
Classic & New Rock

Contact: (406) 586-2343  
KISN (96.7 FM)  
Contemporary Rock

KXLB (100.7 FM)  
Country

KMMS (1450 AM)  
Talk Radio

KZMY (103.5 FM)  
Soft Rock

KPRK (1340 AM)  
Oldies

**Reier Broadcasting Company**

Contact: (406) 587-9999

KBOZ (1090 AM)  
Talk Radio

KBOZ (93.7 FM)  
Oldies

KBOZ (99.9 FM)  
Country

KBOZ (1230 AM)  
Lite

KBOZ (97.5 FM)  
Rock

**Independent Stations**

KGLT (91.9 FM)  
Alternative Public Radio  
(406) 994-4492

KCMM (99.1 FM)  
Contemporary Christian  
(406) 388-4281

KBZM (104.5 FM)  
Classic Rock  
(406) 582-1045

KGVW (640 AM)  
Christian Talk & Music  
(406) 388-4281

KBMC (106.7 / 102.1 FM)  
Public Radio  
(800) 441-2941

KWYS (920 AM)  
(406) 646-7361

KEZQ (92.9 FM)  
(406) 646-7361

A variety of transportation corridors make Gallatin and Park Counties easily accessible for both people and products. Of particular importance are Gallatin Field Airport, Interstate 90 (a primary east/west route connecting the northern tier states) and Montana Rail Link.

## **Air Services**

Gallatin Field Airport (BZN), located just ten minutes west of Bozeman, is the 7<sup>th</sup> busiest passenger airport in the Pacific Northwest and the 2<sup>nd</sup> busiest in Montana. More than half a million passengers use the facility every year. It is served by five airlines: Big Sky Airlines, Delta Airlines/Delta Connection, Horizon Air, Northwest Airlines, and United Express, providing daily, non-stop jet service to Boise, Butte, Chicago, Denver, Minneapolis/St. Paul, Salt Lake City, and Seattle/Tacoma. Seasonal non-stop jet service includes Atlanta, Detroit, Los Angeles, and San Francisco.

### ***Corporate / Private Plane Services***

Excellent facilities for corporate jets and private planes are also available. There are two Fixed Base Operators located at Gallatin Field.

**Arlin's Aircraft Service** provides a broad range of services for corporate jet and transient aircrafts including complete customer service, fuel, maintenance, concierge services, and many other amenities.

Contact: (406) 388-1351 / [arlins@arlins.com](mailto:arlins@arlins.com) / [www.arlins.com](http://www.arlins.com)

The **Yellowstone Jetcenter** offers professional line and concierge services as well as maintenance by factory trained technicians. The Jetcenter also has over 65,000 square feet of heated hangar space available for aircraft storage needs.

Contact: (800) 700-5381 / [info@ysjet.com](mailto:info@ysjet.com) / [www.ysjet.com](http://www.ysjet.com)

### ***Charter Services***

There are currently three companies providing charter services out of Gallatin Field Airport.

#### **Montana Aircraft**

(406) 581-3278

#### **Summit Aviation**

(406) 388-8359  
[www.flysummit.com](http://www.flysummit.com)

#### **Sunbird Aviation**

(406) 388-4152  
[www.sunbirdaviation.com](http://www.sunbirdaviation.com)

### ***Air Cargo / Express***

Gallatin Field is an active air cargo and express airport with over 8 million pounds of cargo and mail passing through each year. Services are provided through the following:

#### **DHL**

(800) 225-5345  
[www.dhl.com](http://www.dhl.com)

#### **Horizon Air**

(800) 547-7660  
[www.horizonair.com](http://www.horizonair.com)

#### **Expressit Air Freight**

(406) 587-4404

#### **Delta Air Lines**

(800) 352-2746  
[www.delta.com](http://www.delta.com)

#### **Northwest Airlines**

(800) 692-2746  
[www.nwa.com](http://www.nwa.com)

#### **Security Armored Express**

(800) 380-6296

#### **FedEx**

(800) 463-3339  
[www.fedex.com](http://www.fedex.com)

#### **UPS - United Parcel Service**

(800) 742-5877  
[www.ups.com](http://www.ups.com)

## Railroad Services

**Montana Rail Link, Inc.** is an FRA Class II regional railroad with more than 900 miles of track serving 100 stations in the states of Montana, Idaho, and Washington. The company operates a fleet of more than 2,100 freight cars and 120 locomotives. The rail connects with the Burlington Northern and Santa Fe Railway (BNSF) at Laurel, Helena, and Garrison in Montana, at Spokane, Washington, and with the Union Pacific Railroad at Sandpoint, Idaho.

Contact: (800) 338-4750/ [www.montanarail.com](http://www.montanarail.com)

## Freight and Transfer Companies

There are currently six motor freight hauling companies offering services in the area. Each offers pickup, delivery, and warehousing and several also have computerized freight tracing. Van lines, trucking transportation brokers, and other forms of truck rentals and transportation are also available.

### *Motor Freight Companies*

**Ken Dykema Trucking, Inc.**  
(406) 284-3146

**Mergenthaler Transfer & Storage**  
(406) 586-5497

**USF Reddaway**  
(800) 933-0333

**North Park Transportation**  
(406) 388-0040

**Northern Routes Transportation**  
(406) 763-4568

**Yellow Transportation**  
(800) 610-6500

### *Trucking Transportation Brokers*

**Big Trucks Brokerage**  
(406) 388-7771

**Precision Transport**  
(406) 582-1168

**T&M Transporting**  
(877) 449-2477

**Landstar Transportation**  
(406) 586-5405

### *Van Lines*

**Atlas Van Lines**  
(800) 877-1091

**United Van Lines**  
(800) 851-5749

## Self-Moving Services

**Budget Truck Rental**  
(406) 388-4912

**U-Haul Co.**  
(406) 586-4541

## **Car Rentals**

### **Alamo/National Rent A Car**

Gallatin Field Airport  
(406) 388-6694

### **Avis Rent-A-Car**

Gallatin Field Airport  
(406) 388-6414

### **Big Sky Car Rentals**

West Yellowstone  
(406) 646-9564

### **Budget Rent-A-Car**

Gallatin Field Airport  
(406) 388-4091

### **Enterprise Rent-A-Car**

Main Street, Bozeman  
(406) 586-8010

### **Enterprise Rent-A-Car**

Gallatin Field Airport  
(406) 388-7420

### **Gallatin Car Rental**

Highway 191, Big Sky  
(406) 995-4577

### **Hertz Rent-A-Car**

Gallatin Field Airport  
(406) 388-6939

### **Rent-A-Wreck**

Frontage Road, Belgrade  
(406) 388-4189

### **Thrifty Car Rental**

505 East Main, Belgrade  
(406) 388-3484

### **Classic Limo**

(866) 688-5466

## **Other Services**

### **All Valley Cab**

(406) 388-9999

### **Greyhound Bus**

(800) 367-2277

### **Karst Stage and 4X4 Stage**

(406) 556-3540

[www.karststage.com](http://www.karststage.com)

### **Skyline Bus**

(406) 995-6287

### **Streamline Bus**

(406) 587-2434

## Electric and Natural Gas Energy

NorthWestern Energy provides regulated electric and natural gas transmission and distribution services to 640,000 customers across Montana, South Dakota and Nebraska. In 2002, NorthWestern became the default supplier as the state of Montana transitioned to a deregulated customer choice environment. This means that NorthWestern Energy will continue to provide electric service to those Montana customers who have not chosen an alternative supplier.

Contact: (888) 467-2669 / [www.northwesternenergy.com](http://www.northwesternenergy.com)

Energy Rates	Electric	Natural Gas
Residential	\$70.78 / 750 kWh	\$11.07 / 10 monthly Dkt
Small Commercial	\$92.00 / 1,000 kWh	\$11.10 / 15 monthly Dkt
Medium Commercial	\$83.64 / 14,000 kWh	\$11.10 / 20 monthly Dkt
Large Commercial	\$76.53 / 180,000 kWh	\$11.10 / 50 monthly Dkt
Small Industrial	\$61.10 / 650,000 kWh	\$11.10 / 1000 monthly Dkt

## Phone Service

The primary company for phone service in the area is Qwest Communications. Although there are other available choices, Qwest is the only provider offering full services for residential and commercial clients.

**Qwest Communication's** basic residential service is **\$16.73** per month while their business plan starts at **\$38.00** a month (service only - does not include added fees, installation charges, or long distance service).

Contact: (800) 244-1111 Residential / (800) 603-6000 Commercial / [www.qwest.com](http://www.qwest.com)

**OneEighty Communications** offers a complete spectrum of voice services for both small and large businesses. From the most basic of local dial tone, operator service and IntraLATA long-distance, to value-added features such as three-way calling, call waiting and call forwarding.

Contact: (406) 922-4000 / [www.oneeighty.com](http://www.oneeighty.com)

## Municipal Water and Wastewater Treatment

Each incorporated city manages its own water and wastewater treatment services and facilities. In unincorporated areas the water source is primarily from wells and wastewater is most often handled by septic tanks.

	Water Source	Capacity	Storage	Wastewater
<b>Bozeman</b>				
	Hyalite Reservoir, Middle, Bozeman, and Lyman Creeks	15 million gallons per day	Two reservoirs with a combined capacity of 6 million gallons	Treatment facility capable of handling 11.5 million gallons per day
<b>Belgrade</b>				
	Deep water wells	6 million gallons per day	One reservoir with a capacity of 500,000 gallons	Three lagoon system capable of handling 1.2 million gallons per day
<b>Manhattan</b>				
	Horizontal wells and a spring line	3.4 million gallons per day	None	Lagoon at this time, updating to a mechanical system soon
<b>Three Forks</b>				
	Deep water wells	720,000 gallons per day; currently working on adding another well with 250,000 gallons per day capacity	One reservoir with a capacity of 1 million gallons	Lagoon designed for a maximum of 3,500 people; currently 1,800 people use the system
<b>West Yellowstone</b>				
	Whiskey Spring and three auxiliary wells	1.5 million gallons per day	One reservoir with a capacity of 1 million gallons	Lagoons, with a capacity of 500,000 gallons per day
<i>Note: Park County information has not yet been determined for this publication.</i>				

## Garbage Collection

**Allied Waste Industries** offers garbage collection services throughout Gallatin County from Monday through Friday. Their services include:

- Residential and Commercial Collection
- Environmentally Sound Waste Processing and Disposal
- Solid Waste and Construction Debris Removal
- Recycling Collection

Contact: (406) 586-0606 / [www.alliedwaste.com](http://www.alliedwaste.com)

Garbage collection is offered by the **City of Bozeman** to Bozeman residents and commercial businesses within city limits. The Solid Waste Division provides weekly collection from Monday through Thursday for residential garbage and Monday through Saturday for commercial waste.

The Solid Waste Division collects compost weekly from May through September, crews clear alleys of brush twice a year, and residents can dispose of yard waste at the landfill at no additional charge to those using the City's garbage collection services.

Contact: (406) 582-2332 / [www.bozeman.net](http://www.bozeman.net)

In **Park County**, garbage collection is available for residences and businesses within the County's incorporated areas and the City of Livingston's jurisdictional boundary. For all unincorporated areas, a network of Green Box Sites, convenience centers for refuse, are located throughout the County. Park County and the City of Livingston work cooperatively to provide these services by way of a transfer station.

The main features of the collection service area includes:

- Residential and Commercial Collection
- Composting Operation
- Solid Waste and Construction Debris Disposal
- Recycling Program

Contact: (406) 222-4187 / [www.parkcounty.org](http://www.parkcounty.org)

## Landfill Disposal

The **Bozeman City Landfill** is open between 8:00am and 3:30pm, Tuesday through Saturday. As of October 16, 2005, the City of Bozeman Landfill is only open to City of Bozeman non-commercial residents for the purpose of disposing household waste. Commercial customers and non-city residents are not allowed to utilize the Bozeman landfill. A photo ID and proof of city residency must be presented at the landfill scale. All City and County residents may continue to drop off compost, grass, brush, and similar waste materials such as pallets, clean dimensional lumber, and sawdust to the landfill for a fee. They accept the following:

- Household trash with occasional mix of construction waste
- Clean and un-insulated wire

- White goods - appliances such as water heaters, washers, driers, stoves, refrigerators, air conditioners, and freezers. Refrigerators, freezers, and air conditioners must have doors removed and certification stating Freon has been eliminated.
- Compostable material

Currently, the **Gallatin County Landfill** in Logan is open to all City and County residents, including commercial establishments. Hours of operation are from Monday through Friday, 8:00am to 4:30pm and Saturday, 9:00am to 1:30pm. This landfill accepts the following:

- Household trash with occasional mix of construction waste
- Clean and un-insulated wire
- White goods - appliances such as water heaters, washers, driers, stoves, refrigerators, air conditioners, and freezers. Refrigerators, freezers, and air conditioners must have doors removed and certification stating Freon has been eliminated.
- Compostable material
- Construction materials and containers, including demolition

The **Park County Landfill** is open to members of the refuse district Monday through Saturday, 7:00am to 4:30pm. It does not accept waste from the residential or commercial sectors but does accept the following:

- Construction materials and containers, including demolition
- Carpet, furniture, mattresses
- White goods - appliances such as water heaters, washers, driers, stoves, refrigerators, air conditioners, and freezers. Refrigerators, freezers, and air conditioners must have doors removed and certification stating Freon has been eliminated.
- Compostable material

### Law Enforcement

Law enforcement services are provided by Gallatin and Park Counties and the various community police departments within. The table below indicates the amount of crime<sup>39</sup> recorded over the 2006 year in seven main categories.

Crime Rate	Population Served	Homicide	Rape	Robbery	Assault	Burglary	DUI	Vehicle Theft
<b>Gallatin County</b>								
Belgrade Police Department	7,113	0	6	2	9	22	28	21
Bozeman Police Department	32,722	0	21	15	48	136	378	123
Gallatin County Sheriff's Office	31,885	1	10	2	39	80	217	52
Manhattan Police Department	1,498	0	0	0	2	3	10	0
West Yellowstone Police Department	1,246	0	0	0	10	1	28	4
<b>Park County</b>								
Livingston Police Department	7,129	0	3	2	18	23	85	16
Park County Sheriff's Office	8,812	0	1	1	21	23	38	6

### Fire Protection

Gallatin County is served by 13 fire departments while Park County is served by 7 departments. Whether managed by volunteers or by paid employees, each department is dedicated to their community's needs. They continuously work together to provide the best possible fire protection for area residents. The table below lists each department and a summary<sup>40</sup> of their services.

Fire Services	Location	Type	Stations	Firefighters
<b>Gallatin County</b>				
Amsterdam Rural Fire District	Amsterdam/ Churchill	Volunteer	1	18
Belgrade Rural Fire District	Belgrade	Mostly Volunteer	4	47

<sup>39</sup> Montana Board of Crime Control, 2006 data

<sup>40</sup> Fire Departments Net

Bighorn Fire Company	Bozeman	Mostly Volunteer	2	19
Bozeman Fire Department	Bozeman	Career	2	28
Bridger Canyon Rural Fire Department	Bozeman	Volunteer	2	20
Clarkston Fire Service	Clarkston	Volunteer	1	32
Fort Ellis Rural Fire Department	Bozeman	Volunteer	1	20
Gallatin Gateway Rural Fire Department	Gallatin Gateway	Volunteer	2	18
Manhattan Volunteer Fire Department	Manhattan	Volunteer	1	27
Northside Rural Fire District	West Yellowstone	Volunteer	1	30
Three Forks Volunteer Fire Department	Three Forks	Volunteer	1	28
West Yellowstone Fire Department	West Yellowstone	Mostly Volunteer	1	25
Willow Creek Rural Fire Department	Willow Creek	Volunteer	1	20
<b>Park County</b>				
Clyde Park Volunteer Fire Department	Clyde Park	Volunteer	1	10
Cooke City – Silvergate Volunteer Fire Department	Cooke City	Volunteer	2	8
Gateway Hose Company	Gardiner	Volunteer	1	15
Livingston Fire & Ambulance Department	Livingston	Mostly Career	1	20
Paradise Valley Fire Service Area	Emigrant	Volunteer	1	22
Park County Rural Fire District	Livingston	Volunteer	1	26
Wilsall Volunteer Fire Department	Wilsall	Volunteer	1	16

## Gallatin County

Gallatin County recently hired a County Administrative Officer (CAO), a non-elected position to oversee 14 county departments. The CAO reports to the Gallatin County Commission. The commission is made up of 3 full-time paid positions. Commissioners serve 6-year terms. A detailed list of departments and positions can be found on the County's website at [www.gallatin.mt.gov](http://www.gallatin.mt.gov).

### **Gallatin County Commission Office**

311 West Main Street, Rm 306  
Bozeman, MT 59715  
(406) 582-3000

### **County Administrative Officer**

Earl Mathers

### **County Commissioners**

Bill Murdock  
Joe Skinner  
Stephen White

## City of Belgrade

Belgrade has a City Manager to oversee the operations of its departments. This non-elected position reports to the Belgrade City Council and Mayor. The City Council is made up of 6 elected members, serving terms of 4 years. The Mayor serves a 2-year term, while the Deputy Mayor serves 1 for year. Both the City Council and the Mayor are volunteer unpaid positions. A detailed list of departments and positions can be found at [www.ci.belgrade.mt.us](http://www.ci.belgrade.mt.us).

### **Belgrade City Office**

91 East Central Avenue  
Belgrade, MT 59714  
(406) 388-3760

### **City Manager**

Joe Menicucci

### **Mayor**

Russell Nelson

### **Deputy Mayor**

Tudor Gee

### **City Council**

Brad Cooper  
Tudor Gee  
Bill Green  
Anne Koentopp  
Robert Retterath  
John Youngberg

## City of Bozeman

Bozeman also has a City Manager to oversee the operations of its departments. This non-elected position reports to the Bozeman City Commission and Mayor. The City Commission, elected with no party affiliation, consists of 5 members. They are elected to 4-year terms as part-time paid officials. Terms are staggered and elections are held every two years. The candidate who receives the most votes in an election becomes the Mayor during the last two years of his or her term. A detailed list of departments and positions can be found at [www.bozeman.net](http://www.bozeman.net).

### **Bozeman City Hall**

411 East Main Street  
Bozeman, MT 59715  
(406) 582-2300

### **City Manager**

Chris Kukulski

### **Mayor**

Jeff Krauss

### **City Commission**

Sean Becker  
Kaaren Jacobson  
Jeff Rupp  
Steve Kirchhoff

### Town of Manhattan

Manhattan has a Mayor - Council form of government. The position of Mayor is a paid position and the term is for 4 years. The Town Council is made up of 4 members. They are elected to 4-year, overlapping terms as part-time volunteer officials with a stipend supplemented for each meeting they attend.

#### Manhattan Town Office

120 West Main Street  
Manhattan, MT 59741  
(406) 284-3235

#### Mayor

Tony Haag

#### Town Council

Ell Bennett  
Gregg Dietz  
Dr. Ed King  
Dan Ryan

### City of Three Forks

Three Forks also has a Mayor - Council form of government. The position of Mayor is paid and requires a 4-year term. The City Council is made up of 6 members. They are elected to 4-year, overlapping terms as part-time paid officials.

#### Three Forks City Office

206 Main Street  
Three Forks, MT 59752  
(406) 285-3431

#### Mayor

Gene Townsend

#### City Council

Rodney Sorensen  
John Marceau  
Ted Schlepp  
Scott Koelzer  
Edward Pharp  
Kelli Cazier

### Town of West Yellowstone

West Yellowstone has an Operations Manager to oversee its departments. This non-elected position reports to the West Yellowstone Town Council and Mayor. The Town Council is made up of 5 members. They are elected to 4-year terms as part-time volunteer officials. Terms are staggered and elections are held every two years. The Mayor is elected once a year by the Town Council from among the council members. The Mayor and Council members are paid a stipend for each meeting they attend and are provided with the same benefits that are offered to all town employees. For a detailed list of departments and positions visit [www.townofwestyellowstone.com](http://www.townofwestyellowstone.com).

#### West Yellowstone Town Office

124 Yellowstone Avenue  
West Yellowstone, MT 59758  
(406) 646-7795

#### Operations Manager

Fred Rice

#### Mayor

Mary Phillips

#### Town Council

Gibson Bailey  
Jerry Johnson  
Glen Loomis  
Jack Clarkson

## Park County

Park County has a commissioner form of government made up of 3 members. They are elected for 4 years and are non-partisan. One commissioner runs in the non-presidential year and the other two run in a presidential year. All legislative, executive and administrative powers and duties belong to the commissioners unless specifically designated to other officials. The commissioners appoint other department heads and employees, except those appointed by other elected officials. A detailed list of departments and positions can be found on the County's website at [www.parkcounty.org](http://www.parkcounty.org).

### Park County Commission Office

414 East Callender  
Livingston, MT 59047  
(406) 222-4106

### Park County Commissioners

Larry Lahren  
Jim Durgan  
Dick Murphy

## City of Livingston

The City of Livingston operates under the Commission - Manager form of government, consisting of an elected 5 member Commission and a manager appointed by the Commission. The manager is responsible to the Commission for the administration of all local government affairs. Commission members are elected at large and on a non-partisan basis for 4-year overlapping terms of office. A detailed list of departments and positions can be found at [www.ci.belgrade.mt.us](http://www.ci.belgrade.mt.us).

### Livingston City Office

414 East Callender  
Livingston, MT 59047  
(406) 222-2005

### City Manager

Edwin Meece

### City Commission

Steve Caldwell  
Vicki Blakeman  
Mary Beebe  
Rick VanAken  
Patricia Grabow

## State Legislators Representing Gallatin and Park Counties

As established by the 1972 Montana Constitution, the Montana Legislature consists of a Senate and a House of Representatives acting on behalf of the various districts within each county. Sessions take place every odd-numbered year and last for a maximum of 90 legislative days. Special Sessions can be called to deal with specified problems. For more information visit [www.leg.mt.gov](http://www.leg.mt.gov).

### Senators

#### Gallatin County

Joe Balyeat (R) SD 34  
Bob Hawks (D) SD 33  
Larry Jent (D) SD 32  
Gary Perry (R) SD 35

#### Park County

John Esp (R) SD 31

### Representatives

#### Gallatin County

Roger Koopman (R) HD 70  
Jennifer Pomnichowski (D) HD 63  
Scott Sales (R) HD 68  
John Sinrud (R) HD 67  
Jack Wells (R) HD 69  
Brady Wiseman (D) HD 65

#### Park County

Bruce Malcolm (R) HD 61  
Bob Ebinger (D) HD 62

## Meeting Facilities

Both Gallatin and Park Counties are well-equipped to hold conferences, trainings and events in a number of local facilities. Below is a sampling of available space throughout the area. Please note that many banks and businesses also have meeting space available for reservation, many at little to no charge. Some guidelines may apply for use of these spaces. Contact the facility in advance in order to fully understand the scope of their services.

	Location	Contact	Maximum Capacity
<b>Gallatin County</b>			
Best Western GranTree Inn	Bozeman	(800) 624-5865	1,000
Bozeman Public Library	Bozeman	(406) 582-2400	150
Bridger Bowl	Bozeman	(406) 556-5730	295
Comfort Inn	Bozeman	(406) 587-2322	200
Emerson Center	Bozeman	(406) 587-9797	586
Gallatin Gateway Inn	Gallatin Gateway	(406) 763-4672	170
Gallatin River Lodge	Bozeman	(406) 388-0148	40
Holiday Inn	Bozeman	(406) 587-4561	600
Hilton Garden Inn	Bozeman	(406) 582-9900	384
Strand Union Building, MSU	Bozeman	(406) 994-3083	2,000
Wingate Inn	Bozeman	(406) 582-4995	175
Yellowstone Conference Center	Big Sky	(800) 548-4487	950
<b>Park County</b>			
Best Western Yellowstone Inn	Livingston	(406) 222-6110	450
Chico Hot Springs	Pray	(800) 468-9232	250
Livingston Depot Center	Livingston	(406) 222-2300	375
Livingston Travel Lodge	Livingston	(406) 222-6320	250
Mountain Sky Guest Ranch	Emigrant	(406) 333-4911	60

## Services and Cultural Amenities

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The communities in Gallatin and Park Counties may seem like small towns, but they are rich with the essential services and cultural amenities often found in much larger cities. The following pages outline the area's medical and education facilities as well as cultural amenities and recreation opportunities.

## Hospital Services

**Bozeman Deaconess Hospital** is the only hospital in Gallatin County. Its primary service area includes Gallatin County and parts of Park County. It has earned the reputation of providing high quality services at a reasonable rate. According to a recent Montana Hospital Association comparison brochure, Bozeman Deaconess Hospital's overall rates are well below the overall state average. The physicians who participate on the medical staff and who utilize the hospital for their patients represent numerous specialties along with the highest credentials, training, and expertise in their fields of practice.

Highland Park Medical Campus provides more than 80,000 square feet of professional medical office space for health care providers in the community. Attached to Bozeman Deaconess Hospital, the facility provides both physicians and patients with convenient access to the hospital and outpatient services. Outpatient services provided include surgery; retail pharmacy; respiratory, physical, occupational, and speech therapy; cardiac pulmonary rehabilitation; radiation therapy; dialysis; sleep disorder testing; laboratory and radiology screening and diagnostic testing and imaging; EEG and EKG diagnostics; clinical pharmacy; nutrition, diabetes and exercise counseling; and community outreach services.

Contact: (406) 585-5000 / [www.bozemandeaconess.com](http://www.bozemandeaconess.com)

**Livingston HealthCare**, an affiliate of Billings Clinic, is a unique group of healthcare professionals providing services to the residents of Park County and surrounding communities. Included in those services are a 25-bed hospital, a multi-specialty physician practice, home care, home oxygen, hospice care, and the regionally-renowned Orthopedic and Rehabilitation Institute. A not-for-profit organization, Livingston HealthCare is governed by a Board of Directors and populated by community volunteers.

Contact: (406) 222-3541 / [www.livingstonhealthcare.org](http://www.livingstonhealthcare.org)

## Clinics

**Community Health Partners** is a private, non-profit, consumer-directed healthcare organization which provides high quality, cost-effective and comprehensive primary and preventative care to medically underserved and uninsured people. This type of community-based provider is also commonly referred to as a Federally Qualified Health Center (FQHCs) because it meets rigorous federal standards related to quality of care and services as well as cost, and it is qualified to receive cost-based reimbursement under Medicaid and Medicare law. Patients who fall into lower income categories can qualify for their sliding fee scale to make quality healthcare both more accessible and affordable. The organization also accepts private insurance as well as Medicaid and Medicare. Open five days a week with some evening hours, services generally include primary care visits, health education, disease screening and control, case management, laboratory services, dental care, pharmacy services, substance abuse counseling, and social services.

Contact: (406) 585-1360 Bozeman / (406) 222-1111 Livingston / [www.chphealth.org](http://www.chphealth.org)

Quality education is a vital component in creating and maintaining a vibrant community. With this in mind, Gallatin and Park Counties view education as a highly valued commodity in the area. In fact, the U.S. Census Bureau reported in 2000 that 93.3% of adults over the age of 25 hold a high school diploma in Gallatin County and 41.0% of adults over 25 hold a bachelor's degree or higher. In Park County, 87.6% were reported to have a high school diploma and 23.1% have a bachelor's degree or higher. This is considerably higher than the national average which recorded 80.4% of adults in the United States over the age of 25 with a high school diploma and 24.4% with a bachelor's degree or higher.

As a whole, Montana's educational outlook is greater than the national average on several levels including percentage of high school graduates, college degrees and test scores. The table below displays the outcome of the most recent Scholastic Aptitude Test for Montana and the United States.<sup>41</sup>

Scholastic Aptitude Test Scores	2006	
	Male	Female
<b>Critical Reading</b>		
Montana	536	539
National	505	502
<b>Mathematics</b>		
Montana	559	532
National	536	502
<b>Writing</b>		
Montana	514	532
National	491	502

*Note: The maximum SAT score in each subject area is 800. Data reported here are for high school graduates in the year 2006. Numbers reflect the current version of the SAT Reasoning Test, first administered in March 2005.*

### Public and Private Education

There are numerous public and private schools throughout Gallatin and Park Counties offering educational programs from pre-school and kindergarten levels to high school. The average student/teacher ratio in Gallatin County is 16.3 and 13.6 in Park County.<sup>42</sup> The tables below list both public and private schools in the area. For additional information regarding these schools please visit [www.opi.state.mt.us](http://www.opi.state.mt.us).

<sup>41</sup> CollegeBoard SAT Profile Report

<sup>42</sup> Montana Office of Public Instruction, 2005 data

Public Schools	Location	Grades	Enrollment	Contact
<b>Gallatin County</b>				
Amsterdam School	Amsterdam	K-6	90	(406) 282-7216
Anderson School	Bozeman	K-8	194	(406) 587-1305
Belgrade Intermediate	Belgrade	4-6	690	(406) 388-3311
Belgrade Middle School	Belgrade	7-8	427	(406) 388-3311
Bozeman High School	Bozeman	9-12	1916	(406) 522-6200
Belgrade High School	Belgrade	9-12	811	(406) 388-4224
Chief Joseph Middle School	Bozeman	6-8	539	(406) 522-6300
Cottonwood School	Bozeman	K-6	14	(406) 763-4913
Emily Dickinson School	Bozeman	K-5	516	(406) 522-6650
Gallatin Gateway School	Gallatin Gateway	K-8	160	(406) 763-4415
Hawthorne School	Bozeman	K-5	296	(406) 522-6700
Heck/Quaw Elementary	Belgrade	K-5	510	(406) 388-4104
Irving School	Bozeman	K-5	306	(406) 522-6600
LaMotte School	Bozeman	K-8	61	(406) 586-2838
Longfellow School	Bozeman	K-5	313	(406) 522-6150
Malmborg School	Bozeman	K-8	16	(406) 586-2759
Manhattan School	Manhattan	K-8	369	(406) 284-3250
Manhattan High School	Manhattan	9-12	203	(406) 284-3341
Monforton School	Bozeman	K-8	162	(406) 586-1557
Morning Star School	Bozeman	K-5	549	(406) 522-6500
Ophir School	Big Sky	K-8	168	(406) 995-4281
Pass Creek School	Belgrade	K-8	14	(406) 388-6353
Ridge View Elementary	Belgrade	PK-4	455	(406) 388-4534
Sacajawea Middle School	Bozeman	6-8	660	(406) 522-6400
Springhill School	Belgrade	K-8	9	(406) 586-6485
Three Forks School	Three Forks	K-8	372	(406) 285-3503
Three Forks High School	Three Forks	9-12	192	(406) 285-3509
West Yellowstone School	West Yellowstone	K-8	144	(406) 646-7617
West Yellowstone High School	West Yellowstone	9-12	66	(406) 646-7617
Whittier School	Bozeman	K-5	274	(406) 522-6750
Willow Creek School	Willow Creek	K-12	58	(406) 285-6991

Public Schools	Location	Grades	Enrollment	Contact
<b>Park County</b>				
Arrowhead School	Pray	K-8	154	(406) 333-4359
BA Winans School	Livingston	K-5	271	(406) 222-0192
Cooke City School	Cooke City	K-5	3	(406) 838-2285
East Side School	Livingston	K-5	304	(406) 222-1773
Gardiner School	Gardiner	K-8	157	(406) 848-7563
Gardiner High School	Gardiner	9-12	90	(406) 848-7261
Park High School	Livingston	9-12	570	(406) 222-0448
Pine Creek School	Livingston	K-8	32	(406) 222-0059
Shields Valley School	Wilsall	K-8	168	(406) 578-2535
Shields Valley High School	Wilsall	9-12	91	(406) 686-4621
Sleeping Giant Middle School	Livingston	6-8	335	(406) 222-3292
Springdale School	Springdale		4	(406) 932-6756

Private Schools	Location	Grades	Contact
<b>Gallatin County</b>			
Abaetern Academy	Bozeman	3-12	(406) 920-1778
Bootstrap Ranch	Belgrade	9-12	(406) 388-4451
Bozeman Christian School	Bozeman	K-12	(406) 586-8061
Bridger Alternative School	Bozeman	9-12	(406) 522-6100
Carden School	Bozeman	K-8	(406) 522-7890
Good Friends Montessori	Bozeman	K-6	(406) 587-3817
Great Beginnings Montessori	Bozeman	PS-K	(406) 587-0132
Greenwood Academy	Bozeman	PS-K	(406) 587-2429
Headwaters Academy	Bozeman	6-8	(406) 585-9997
Heritage Christian	Bozeman	K-11	(406) 587-9311
Highland Montessori	Bozeman	PS-K	(406) 585-0171
Learning Circle Montessori	Bozeman	PS-5	(406) 585-3778
Manhattan Christian School	Manhattan	PS-12	(406) 282-7261
Mount Ellis Academy	Bozeman	K-12	(406) 587-5178
Pallas Athena's Montessori	Bozeman	P-2	(406) 556-8459
Petra Academy	Bozeman	K-12	(406) 582-8165
Sourdough Montessori	Bozeman	PS-K	(406) 582-1548
<b>Park County</b>			
Crestview Academy	Livingston	K-5	(406) 999-9999

## Higher Education

Montana State University in Bozeman and the Bozeman Tech Center both offer degree programs in a range of subjects and levels. In some cases, distance learning is available through Internet courses and/or “mixed-mode” programs, combining both an online component and scheduled classroom sessions. Students enjoy the flexibility and convenience of an online course as well as the benefits of face-to-face meetings for interactive instruction.

**Montana State University**<sup>43</sup>, a unit of the Montana University System, was founded in 1893. With roughly 13,000 students, MSU is considered a mid-sized public university with 826 instructional faculty. Its student-faculty ratio is 16 to 1. During the fall 2006 semester, a new headcount enrollment record of 12,338 students was reached. Of those, 10,832 were undergraduate students and 1,506 were enrolled at the graduate level. MSU offers baccalaureate degrees in 53 fields, master’s degrees in 42 fields and doctoral degrees in 18 fields. Approximately 65% of the students are Montana residents. In 2005-06, the University awarded a total of 2301 degrees: 1821 bachelor’s degrees, 440 master’s degrees and 40 doctoral degrees.

In 2006, MSU reached \$103 million in research expenditures—the first time the university has surpassed \$100 million. That ranks MSU in the top 100 of research universities nationwide. In the six-state region of Montana, Wyoming, Idaho, Washington, Oregon and Alaska, MSU’s research is equaled only by Washington State University, the University of Washington and Oregon State University.

As a land-grant university, MSU has a long tradition of supporting basic and applied research and creative activity. During 2005-06, the University attracted \$103,048,866 in grants and contracts—87% from federal agencies, 8% from private corporations and foundations, and 5% from state sources. MSU currently holds 94 patents for innovations and processes developed through faculty research, with 136 additional patents pending, and has 111 license and option agreements with private firms, 70 of which are with Montana companies.

Programs of particular interest to Montana businesses are those conducted by the engineering faculty, the Agricultural Experiment Station, the Departments of Agricultural Economics, Economics, Biology, Chemistry, Computer Science, Plant Pathology, Microbiology, Physics, and Plant and Soil Science.

The MSU Alumni Association maintains a database of all individuals who have attended the university. The database contains current, active addresses for 71,737 individual alumni, 48% of whom reside in Montana.

Here are just a few of the recognitions that Montana State University in Bozeman has received:

- A new classification system by the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching designated MSU as one of 94 top-tier research universities with “very high research activity.” This Tier One Carnegie research designation places MSU among the most prestigious universities in the nation, such as Yale University, Harvard University and Johns Hopkins University.
- In 2004, College of Engineering seniors outperformed all peer groups nationally on the Fundamentals of Engineering exam and continue to set records on the national test.
- Ranks 8<sup>th</sup> in the country for universities with the most students who have received the prestigious Goldwater Scholarship, given for excellence in math and science.
- In 2003, Outside Magazine ranked MSU as the fifth best university in the magazine’s annual “Top 40 College Towns” poll, which ranks colleges and universities that combine the best intellectual and outdoor potential.

Contact: (406) 994-0211 / [www.montana.edu](http://www.montana.edu)

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<sup>43</sup> Montana State University

**Bozeman Tech Center** is a satellite campus of Montana State University–Great Falls College of Technology. The Tech Center provides educational opportunities for working individuals and training opportunities for the business community. It is a part of the Communications and Extended Learning Division of MSU–Great Falls. The Tech Center offers Associate Degree and Transfer Degree programs; specialized academic programs such as CISCO, A+, and Microsoft Certification; continuing education courses such as computer and business classes; and customized training for Bozeman area businesses and organizations, both group and individual.

Degree program classes are held on nights and weekends or through distance learning over the Internet. Specialized academic courses are only held on nights and weekends at the Tech Center facility. Continuing education courses are held during the day on weekdays and some early weekday evenings. Customized training courses are designed according to client needs.

Contact: (406) 522-0830 / [boztech@msugf.edu](mailto:boztech@msugf.edu) / [www.outreach.msugf.edu/bozeman/index.htm](http://www.outreach.msugf.edu/bozeman/index.htm)

### **Other Sources of Training Assistance**

There are several sources of employment and training assistance available through organizations dedicated to matching the right jobs with the right people. Services range from interview training to classes in computer programs. Below are a few of the services currently available.

**Job Service of Montana** maintains offices in Bozeman, Livingston, West Yellowstone and satellite sites on the Montana State University campus. The agency's goals and responsibilities are continually evolving to meet the needs of both the employer and the job seeker. All services are federally funded and available to the employer and job seeker at no cost. Activities provided by the Job Service include:

#### **Employers**

- Labor exchange services (job listings, job matching, screening, and recruitment).
- Information and referrals to economic development services and other government funded programs for hiring and training targeted workers.
- Information relevant to business needs, including labor market data and government programs and regulations.
- Seminars, fact sheets, and newsletters on topics of interest.
- Downsizing support provided by the dislocated worker unit and rapid response teams.
- Assistance with customized training and apprenticeship programs.
- Additional information and assistance is available in personnel laws, recruitment and selection, applicant testing, and human resource software.

#### **Job Seekers**

- Job searches, referrals and development.
- Vocational guidance.
- Testing services (computer programs, typing, letter writing, etc.)
- Counseling and case management.
- Computer access for word-processing, spreadsheets, resume developing, viewing CD-ROMs, and self-directed skills assessments.

- Internet access and e-mail communications.
- Welfare to work program.
- Copy and fax machines.
- TV/VCR for videos, mock interviewing, etc.
- Additional information and assistance is available in the job application process, with the Resource Center and Dial-A-Job Line, and for veterans.

Contact: (406) 586-5455 Bozeman / (406) 222-0520 Livingston / [www.montanajobs.mt.gov](http://www.montanajobs.mt.gov)

**Human Resource Development Council (HRDC)** of District IX is a community development agency with a history of assisting individuals, families and communities by performing community action work. Established in 1975, the organization serves Gallatin, Park and Meagher Counties. Its mission is to assist community and individual needs by developing resources that provide opportunities and essential services such as health and nutrition, emergency response, affordable housing, Head Start programs, youth development, volunteerism, transportation, energy assistance, conservation and community development.

Employment-related services are tailored toward identifying barriers to employment goals and mediating those barriers to achieve standards required by individual employers. The list below indicates a few of the Job Training Partnership Services offered to employers and eligible applicants through HRDC:

- Vocational assessment and barrier identification
- Career plan development
- Job task analysis and job description development
- Hiring plan development and implementation for Community Development Block Grants
- Training service coordination
- Interview and job search assistance

Contact: (406) 587-4486 Bozeman / (406) 222.0896 Livingston / [info@hrdc9.org](mailto:info@hrdc9.org) / [www.hrdc9.org](http://www.hrdc9.org)

**Career Transitions** primarily serves clients on a scholarship basis through individual counseling and training programs focused on personal growth, building job skills, communication, career assessment, self-esteem, job-search activities and basic computer knowledge. The organization offers a variety of assessment tools exploring skills and interests in order to match job goals, training proficiencies and career paths. Assessments include Math and English evaluations, Meyers-Briggs personality profiles and more. Classes focus on areas such as verbal and written communication, interviewing, resumes and cover letters, computer literacy, advanced software training, and computerized accounting.

Contact: (406) 388-6701 / [www.careertransitions.com](http://www.careertransitions.com)

## University Libraries

**Montana State University Libraries** contain more than 670,000 books in addition to 2.1 million pieces of microforms and 6,643 subscriptions to serials, all accessible through an on-line catalog system.<sup>44</sup> The library also serves as a depository for U.S., Montana and Canadian government documents. The MSU Library serves the general public as well as MSU students: any Montana adult citizen can check out books. The library is also a major interlibrary loan lender to Montana libraries. For more information, visit their website at [www.lib.montana.edu](http://www.lib.montana.edu).

## Public Libraries

### **Belgrade Public Library**

106 North Broadway  
Belgrade, MT 59714  
(406) 388-4346  
[www.mtbel.mtlib.org](http://www.mtbel.mtlib.org)

### **Bozeman Public Library**

626 East Main St.  
Bozeman, MT 59715  
(406) 582-2400  
[www.bozemanlibrary.org](http://www.bozemanlibrary.org)

### **Manhattan Public Library**

200 West Fulton  
Manhattan, MT 59741  
(406) 284-3341 ext 1222

### **Three Forks Public Library**

607 Main Street  
Three Forks, MT 59752  
(406) 285-3747

### **West Yellowstone Public Library**

220 Yellowstone Avenue  
West Yellowstone, MT 59758  
(406) 646-9017

### **Livingston-Park County Public Library**

228 West Callender Street  
Livingston, MT 59047  
(406) 222-0862  
[www.library.ycsi.net](http://www.library.ycsi.net)

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<sup>44</sup> Montana State University Library, 2003 statistics

## Cultural Life and Recreation

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Gallatin and Park Counties offer a wealth of cultural events and recreational opportunities throughout the year. In fact, *Outside Magazine* has rated Bozeman one of the 15 best sport cities in the United States. The community received this recognition because of the outstanding opportunities for fly-fishing, downhill skiing, hunting, hiking, camping, climbing, canoeing and kayaking. Besides outdoor recreation, there are museums, rodeos, country fairs, art galleries, theatrical playhouses, music venues, parks, resorts, public lands and more which provide a variety of enjoyment for every predilection. Below is a listing of just a few of the area's cultural and recreational expressions.

### Events and Entertainment

**The Downtown Bozeman Partnership's**, *Music on Main* free summer concert series runs July through September. The series offers weekly concerts held on a closed-off block of Main Street in downtown Bozeman and is open to the public. Many downtown businesses stay open late on concert nights and many downtown restaurants and bars, as well as street vendors, offer special food and beverage items for sale.

Contact: (406) 586-4008 / [info@historicbozeman.com](mailto:info@historicbozeman.com) / [www.historicbozeman.com](http://www.historicbozeman.com)

Founded in 1967, the **Bozeman Symphony** is an integral part of the cultural community in Gallatin County. From its regular concert season, to special events like the annual pops concert in Big Sky, the Bozeman Symphony is not to be missed.

Contact: (406) 585-9774 / [info@bozemansymphony.org](mailto:info@bozemansymphony.org) / [www.bozemansymphony.org](http://www.bozemansymphony.org)

**The Sweet Pea Festival of the Arts** takes place during the first week of August. From the first festival in 1978, to the current three-day festival attended by over 18,000 people, the Sweet Pea is a longtime Bozeman summer tradition. Sweet Pea's mission is to cultivate and support the arts in Bozeman by bringing together local, regional and national performers and artists. The Sweet Pea begins with the Bite of Bozeman, an evening celebration of food and drink on a closed-down Main Street in downtown Bozeman. The Festival includes everything from a parade down Main Street and a 5 kilometer run, to the arts and crafts show in the park displaying the work of area artists, and the performances of Shakespeare in the Parks, live music, theater, and dance.

Contact: (406) 586-4003 / [sweetpea@imt.net](mailto:sweetpea@imt.net) / [www.sweetpeafestival.org](http://www.sweetpeafestival.org)

The **Emerson Cultural Center** is an organization with four venues displaying artwork of emerging and established contemporary regional artists and artwork of students and faculty of their education programs. The Emerson shows three-month exhibits in conjunction with the Downtown Gallery Walk on the second Friday of every month during the summer. They also offer community outreach including tours, lectures, classes and workshops. The Emerson brings special events such as Lunch on the Lawn, exhibitions, music, dance and theatre to the community. The building houses artists' galleries and studios, a theatre, several non-profits, a restaurant and meeting rooms for the public.

Contact: (406) 587-9797 / [office@themerson.org](mailto:office@themerson.org) / [www.themerson.org](http://www.themerson.org)

Ranked as the nation's tenth top rodeo over the Independence Holiday, the **Livingston Roundup** is held every year, July 2<sup>nd</sup> through the 4<sup>th</sup>, and draws competitors and visitors from all over the USA and Canada. It has been a popular annual PRCA event in the heart of Montana cattle country since 1924, drawing over 10,000 spectators every year to its open air arena near the Yellowstone River.

Contact: (406) 222-7277 / frosting18@wispwest.net

Each year during the third week of July, Livingston hosts its annual **Summerfest** in Sacajawea Park located along the banks of the Yellowstone River. The three-day gala includes such planned events as kids' activities, a basketball shoot, beer garden, live music, art and craft vendors and free swimming.

Contact: (406) 222-8155 / livingstonrec@hotmail.com / www.ci.livingston.mt.us/summerfest

Since the summer of 2000, the Corporation for the Northern Rockies has been hosting an annual **Sustainability Fair** in Livingston. Dedicated to teaching participants about sustainable living, the event aims to extend the understanding of ways to protect the region's environmental and economic health through everyday choices. This is the place to meet local food producers, small businesses and multinational corporations committed to preserving our natural heritage and reducing our impact on the planet. Highlights include interactive displays, electric-hybrid vehicles, kids' activities, natural and local foods, personal readings on lowering environmental impacts, green building demonstrations, notable speakers, musical entertainment and much more.

Contact: (406) 222-0730 / info@northrock.org / www.northrock.org

## Museums

The **Museum of the Rockies** is the largest natural history museum in the region with 94,000 square feet under the roof. It stewards nearly 300,000 objects and 500,000,000 years of history. One of the finest paleontology collections in North America is located here, along with strong core collections in western history, textiles, Native American artifacts and photography. The museum's permanent exhibitions, which tell the story of development in the Northern Rockies over the past 4 billion years, are augmented by changing exhibits representing various facets of cultural and natural history. The Museum of the Rockies has also established an 11 acre, fully operational, on-site 19<sup>th</sup> century farm preserving the state's agricultural traditions and is home to the only Digistar planetarium in the Northern Rockies.

The museum is both a college-level division of Montana State University and an independent 501(c)(3) non-profit institution. It's commitment to a productive research agenda is widely recognized. In 2001, the Society for Vertebrate Paleontology held its international meeting here and in 1999, the American Association of Museums (AAM) utilized the facility for its National Learning in Museums Seminar. AAM recently selected the Museum of the Rockies' long-range plan as a model for other regional museums.

Contact: (406) 994-3466 / wwwmor@montana.edu / www.museumoftherockies.org

The mission of the **American Computer Museum (Compuseum)** is to collect, preserve, interpret and display artifacts and history of the information age. At the Compuseum, spectators will discover how information translated from ancient cave paintings of southern France to the Internet. Displays are interwoven and presented in a 30,000-year timeline with thousands of historic artifacts and supporting materials. Visitors from all 50 states and over 30 countries have marveled at the vast scope of the Compuseum's collection. The museum has spectacular exhibits of antique office equipment and furniture including typewriters, cash registers, and adding machines on through the enormous room-sized computers of the 1940s through the 1970s. The stories of radio, television, the transistor, the microprocessor, and other important inventions are showcased with world-class artifacts including an original Apollo Moon Mission Guidance Computer, a piece of the ENIAC computer, and the first generations of the personal computer including the Altair, Apple I, the IBM PC, the first portable computers and hundreds of hand-held electronic calculators including the prototype of the very first one!

Contact: (406) 582-1288 / www.compuseum.org

Housed in an historic jail, the Gallatin County **Pioneer Museum** offers visitors an insight into the past. The building, listed on the National Register of Historic Places, retains much of its character from the days when it held law-breakers. Visitors can step inside an authentic 1870's log cabin and share the close sense of family togetherness in a 12-by-14-foot home. The museum contains the world's only model of Fort Ellis, built along the Bozeman Trail to provide protection to immigrants coming into the new territory. Strolling through the museum, visitors learn about John Bozeman and his untimely death, and view artifacts of the native peoples who lived in the valley long before Lewis and Clark came through the area in 1805. Guns, tools, and automobiles are also on display.

A resource library is available to the public at the Pioneer Museum, with family histories and books unavailable elsewhere. In addition to the books, there are more than 10,000 photographs archived for quick viewing and available for copy, with a fee.

Contact: (406) 522-8122 / [www.pioneermuseum.org](http://www.pioneermuseum.org)

Located in the former North Side School, the **Yellowstone Gateway Museum** is home to an extensive collection of artifacts and exhibits featuring Park County, Yellowstone Park, the railroad, pioneer days and old west history. Also on display are many items of Park County's natural history, prehistory and geology. Here you can see the tools of the area's trades, everything from coal to gold mining, agriculture, firemen, peace officers, railroading and more. The Yellowstone Gateway Museum also maintains birth, death and cemetery records, and can help to conduct genealogical searches and research studies.

Contact: (406) 222-4184 / [museum@ycsi.net](mailto:museum@ycsi.net) / [www.livingstonmuseums.org](http://www.livingstonmuseums.org)

The historic **Livingston Depot** was built in 1902 as the Northern Pacific Railroad's original access to Yellowstone National Park. Its majestic colonnade and ornate architectural detail greeted travelers until 1979 when AMTRAK suspended passenger service to southern Montana. Burlington Northern, successor to the Northern Pacific, briefly used it for offices until donating it to the City of Livingston in 1985.

Two years and \$800,000 later, the restored depot opened as a museum operated by the Livingston Depot Foundation, a non-profit membership-based organization dedicated to preserving this monument to the Livingston area's past. The museum operates from May to October, providing historic exhibits and cultural programs. In the winter months, it serves as a community cultural center, hosting such diverse events as concerts, banquets, holiday programs and wedding receptions.

Contact: (406) 222-2300 / [depot@ycsi.net](mailto:depot@ycsi.net) / [www.livingstonmuseums.org](http://www.livingstonmuseums.org)

## **Parks and Ski Resorts**

**Yellowstone National Park** is America's first national park. It was established in 1872 to preserve and protect a unique landscape for the benefit and enjoyment of present and future generations. The human history of the Yellowstone region goes back more than 11,000 years. Many groups of Native Americans used the park as their homes, hunting grounds and transportation routes. One of the largest national parks, Yellowstone is greater in size than Rhode Island and Delaware combined. It resides in three different states, Wyoming, Montana and Idaho. The Park is home to a number of wildlife species as well as plant-life and offers year-round activities for a range of interests. Preserved within the area are distinctive features such as Old Faithful and the Grand Canyon of the Yellowstone. Because of its popularity and size, Yellowstone has a tremendous economic impact on communities surrounding it and on the state of Montana.

Contact: (307) 344-7381 / [www.nps.gov/yell](http://www.nps.gov/yell)

With the most vertical feet in the United States, **Big Sky Ski & Summer Resort** offers skiers 3,600 acres of

terrain and more than 145 named runs on three separate mountains. The average annual snowfall at Big Sky is 400 inches. The resort has a lift capacity of 20,000 skiers per hour and is consistently recognized in national ski magazines for short or non-existent lift lines. Ski runs are available for all levels of expertise with 21% stated as expert terrain, 37% advanced, 25% intermediate and 17% beginner. In the summer, Big Sky Resort is a mecca for mountain biking, hiking, rock climbing, horseback riding and scenic lift rides. Not to mention their year-round spa services. Located just 48 miles from Bozeman, accommodations here range from economy to luxury.

Contact: (406) 995-5000 / [info@bigskyresort.com](mailto:info@bigskyresort.com) / [www.bigskyresort.com](http://www.bigskyresort.com)

**Bridger Bowl** is located just 16 miles north of Bozeman and is flanked by two large bowls to the north and the south. Most of the ski area offers wide open terrain with a variety of landscapes including long slopes, glades, chutes and gullies in addition to other smaller bowls. Bridger boasts a vertical rise of 2,600 feet with 1,500 acres and 69 trails. The terrain includes 10% at expert levels, 30% advanced, 35% intermediate and 25% beginner. The longest ski run is 3 miles and the average annual snowfall at Bridger Bowl is 350 inches. As summer roles around, Bridger Bowl shifts gears catering to mountain hikes, weddings and fine dining.

Contact: (406) 587-2111 / [skitrip@bridgerbowl.com](mailto:skitrip@bridgerbowl.com) / [www.bridgerbowl.com](http://www.bridgerbowl.com)

**Moonlight Basin** is a recent addition to the resort catalog in Montana and is located in Big Sky just beyond Big Sky Ski & Summer Resort. With 1,850 vertical feet and 1,249 skiable acres, it is becoming a leading year-round destination offering outstanding recreational activities. 36% of the terrain includes expert level runs, 41% intermediate and 23% beginner. Throughout the winter there are opportunities for cross country skiing, dogsledding, ice skating, sleigh rides, snowmobile and snowcoach tours, as well as mountain activities for kids and daily tours. During the summer months the resort offers opportunities for camping, fly fishing, guided hikes, kayaking, mountain biking, rafting, rock climbing and more.

Contact: (406) 993-6000 / [resort@moonlightbasin.com](mailto:resort@moonlightbasin.com) / [www.moonlightbasin.com](http://www.moonlightbasin.com)

## Cities and Towns

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The area's cities and towns form an extensive array of diverse communities with exceptional qualities. Each location has the basic amenities of most towns as well as a sense of community like no other. Since it would be difficult to describe every community in full detail and do them justice, brief summaries are provided on the following pages. Descriptions are derived from *Visit Montana – The Official State Travel Information Site*. To learn more about our local communities, check out their website at [www.visitmt.com](http://www.visitmt.com).

## Belgrade

Belgrade was named by a Serbian capitalist from Belgrade (now Yugoslavia), who in 1883 was a special guest on the train taking president Villard of the Northern Pacific Railroad to Gold Creek for a ceremony to drive the last spike. The post office was established in 1887 with Thomas Quaw as postmaster. Quaw, a realtor, had purchased land along the railroad tracks ten miles from Bozeman and established a grain trading business. From the turn of the century through the 1930's, Belgrade continued to expand, gaining businesses, professionals and the trappings of an established community. However, speculation in Belgrade slowed, the depression took its toll, and Belgrade settled into the quiet farming community it was to remain for some time.

Today, Belgrade has established itself as an independent community with excellent services and the unbeatable experience of a small town. Located in the center of the Gallatin Valley, Belgrade is just minutes away from many of the area's major attractions. The town also hosts the Annual Barnes Steam & Power Show which provides demonstrations of threshing grain, saw-milling, plowing, as well as displays of steam engines, old gas tractors, and much more.

### City Office

91 East Central Avenue  
Belgrade, MT 59714  
(406) 388-3760  
[www.ci.belgrade.mt.us](http://www.ci.belgrade.mt.us)

### Chamber of Commerce

P.O. Box 1126  
Belgrade, MT 59714  
(406) 388-1616  
[www.belgradechamber.org](http://www.belgradechamber.org)

## Big Sky

The scenic community of Big Sky is nestled high in mountain meadows, surrounded by timberland, the Spanish Peaks Primitive Area and the Gallatin National Forest. Majestic 11,166-foot Lone Mountain towers over the paradise, where in 1969, Chet Huntley, the late newscaster, and a group of corporate investors purchased some ranchland. Chet loved his native Montana and wanted to contribute to its tourism industry by establishing a year-round resort with complete lodging and recreational facilities.

Big Sky is the home of Big Sky Ski and Summer Resort. This lively village is a year-round playground for outdoor recreation enthusiasts. Golf, tennis, hiking, horseback riding, fishing, mountain biking, whitewater rafting, skiing and snowmobiling are all spoken here. Hiking is also popular in the nearby Lee Metcalf Spanish Peaks Wilderness as well as numerous other forest service lands.

For an exquisite breathtaking view of Lone Mountain, stop by Soldier's Chapel, built in 1955. This small church of native stone and logs was built as a memorial to the fallen soldiers of World War II and to serve the needs of the ranchers and families living in the Gallatin Canyon and their many summer visitors.

### Chamber of Commerce

P.O. Box 160100  
Big Sky, MT 59716  
(406) 995-3000  
[www.bigskychamber.com](http://www.bigskychamber.com)

## Bozeman

In 1864, John Bozeman led a wagon train over Bozeman Pass into the Gallatin Valley where his friends W.J. Beall and D.E. Rouse staked out the town site for the city of Bozeman. The city has seen steady growth since the day its first log cabin was erected in 1864. Many early settlers were ricochets from the gold fields of

Bannack, Butte and Helena. These ex-miners would learn the more stable lifestyle of merchants and farmers. Today, Bozeman is one of Montana's major tourism and agriculture centers.

To describe Bozeman is not an easy task. It is one of the most diverse small towns in the Rocky Mountain West. Bozeman is blessed with an eclectic mix of ranchers, artists, professors, ski enthusiasts and entrepreneurs drawn to the area for its world class outdoor recreation, Montana State University and a slice of old fashioned Americana.

Downtown Bozeman has been an important and historic gateway to the West for more than 100 years. Merchants outfitted explorers, miners, ranchers and the army with supplies to sustain them. Today, the downtown area of Bozeman features rows of turn-of-the-century buildings with more than 100 shops and restaurants lining this beautiful and historic retailing corridor.

Art and culture is alive and well in Bozeman. It is home to many museums, talented artists and excellent galleries. You can find opera, theatre, symphony and ballet, as well as rodeo, the Sweet Pea Festival, the Montana Winter Fair and the Gallatin County Fair. Those same features make Bozeman attractive to tourists, meeting planners, travel writers and tour operators. In addition to the numerous attractions in Bozeman, there are literally hundreds of sights within a short drive, including Yellowstone National Park, that lure visitors from around the world.

Bozeman is surrounded by four mountain ranges, thousands of acres of the Gallatin National Forest and hundreds of miles of blue ribbon trout streams. The recreation opportunities are virtually endless. Hiking, biking, fly fishing and rafting abound. Bozeman is also an important winter recreation area with two major ski destinations nearby. Bridger Bowl is located 16 miles northeast of town and Big Sky Ski and Summer Resort is 45 miles south.

The National Register of Historic Places, the nation's list of heritage properties worthy of preservation, includes nine historic districts in Bozeman: the Bon Ton Historic District, the Bozeman Brewery Historic District, the Cooper Park Historic District, the Lindley Place Historic District, the Main Street Historic District, the North Tracy Avenue Historic District, Northern Pacific - Story Mill Historic District, South Tracy Avenue Historic District and South Tracy - South Black Historic District.

**City Office**

411 East Main Street  
Bozeman, MT 59715  
(406) 582-2300  
www.bozeman.net

**Chamber of Commerce**

2000 Commerce Way  
Bozeman, MT 59715  
(406) 586-5421  
www.bozemanchamber.com

**Manhattan**

Manhattan is twenty miles northwest of Bozeman. The name was chosen by a group of New York investors who had bought land in the area and also operated the Manhattan Malting Company. Previous postal names were Moreland and Hamilton, though the latter community was about a mile south of the present town. Manhattan eventually moved to the site chosen by the railroad for a station. Prohibition ended a profitable twenty-three years in the malting business for Manhattan, but the stone malt house still stands today.

Families from the Netherlands populated the town, moving to the area to grow barley for the local malters. They settled together in a tightly knit society that flourishes today. By 1898, Manhattan was becoming quite important to the Valley with about 150 inhabitants and a school enrollment of 75. There was a general store, two hotels, one meat market, two blacksmith shops and one saloon. Today Manhattan's most productive industries are seed potatoes, dairy and wheat farms, commercial beef, registered cattle, and some unique cottage businesses such as food specialties, woodcarving, artisans, and antiques.

Fishing is a great pastime with miles of "blue ribbon" trout streams in the area. Public golf courses are within a short drive and nearby National Forests provide miles of hiking and biking trails in addition to high

mountain lakes for camping and fishing. For history buffs, there is a wealth of information in local museums and libraries about the Lewis and Clark Expedition who explored this area in the summers of 1805 and 1806.

The wide, open spaces and rural roadways offer stunning views of small family dairy farms, wheat fields, sweeping mountain ranges and lots of wildlife. Look north to the Horseshoe Hills that border the town of Manhattan, east to the Bridger Range and south to the snowcapped Spanish Peaks Wilderness. Special community events and seasonal festivals celebrate the community's heritage and rural lifestyle.

#### **Town Office**

120 West Main Street  
Manhattan, MT 59741  
(406) 284-3235

#### **Chamber of Commerce**

P.O. Box 606  
Manhattan, MT 59741  
(406) 284-4162  
[www.manhattanmontana.com](http://www.manhattanmontana.com)

### **Three Forks**

The three forks of the Missouri River were discovered by Lewis and Clark in 1805, located at the historically significant site where the Madison, Gallatin and Jefferson rivers converge. Lewis and Clark were unable to decide which river was the Missouri so they named the three rivers. The first fork was named for Albert Gallatin, Secretary of the Treasury; the second for James Madison, Secretary of State, and the third for Thomas Jefferson, President of the United States. Thus, the rivers were named and the location became known as Three Forks. Before Lewis and Clark ventured into the area, it was used frequently for travel, was a site of battles between the Crow and the Blackfoot Indians, and eventually became a trading post between the whites and the Crow.

One of the main attractions in this area is the Headwaters Heritage Museum constructed in 1910. It was originally housed in one of the first banks in Three Forks. In 1925, it was damaged by an earthquake and later was restored to its original design. Displays include replicas of a turn-of-the-century village and thousands of historical artifacts, such as a small anvil salvaged from the ruins of an 1810 Missouri Fur Company trading post.

Montana's first state park, Lewis and Clark Caverns State Park, is located 17 miles west of Three Forks on Montana Highway 2. It features one of the most highly decorated limestone caverns in the Northwest. Filled with an endless variety of beautiful, colored formations, these spectacular caverns are electrically lighted and safe to visit. The Madison Buffalo Jump is located off I-90 near Three Forks. The area vividly demonstrates a hunting technique used in Montana 2,000 years ago with interpretive displays and a leisurely hiking trail. Missouri Headwaters State Park has historical exhibits, interpretive signs, scenic viewpoints, picnic areas and hiking trails. Located about eight miles west of Three Forks on Highway 287 is another state park, The Parker Homestead State Park. It is the smallest state park in Montana (1.67 acres) consisting of a historic sod-roofed cabin tucked under a few large cotton trees.

#### **City Office**

206 Main Street  
Three Forks, MT 59752  
(406) 285-3431

#### **Chamber of Commerce**

P.O. Box 1103  
Three Forks, MT 59752  
(406) 285-4753  
[www.threeforksmontana.com](http://www.threeforksmontana.com)

### **West Yellowstone**

West Yellowstone serves at the western entrance to Yellowstone National Park. Though comparatively quiet during winter, West Yellowstone booms in the spring when summer residents return and tourists come to

visit Yellowstone National Park. The natural scenic wonders of the nation's oldest national park include geysers, brilliant hot pools, bubbling mud cauldrons, rugged mountain peaks, majestic waterfalls, streams and beautiful lakes.

West Yellowstone is known as the trout fishing and snowmobiling capital of the world, as such, numerous companies in the area offer snowmobile and ski rentals. Anglers come from all over the world to test their skills in the blue-ribbon trout streams surrounding the area. The town sits on a high plateau and receives an extraordinary amount of snow in winter. Residents take advantage of this by grooming hundreds of miles of snowmobile and cross-country ski trails and hosting races in both sports. In summer, the area also offers extraordinary opportunities at Hebgen and Quake lakes and the picturesque Madison River.

West Yellowstone is also home to Montana's first IMAX Theatre, presenting a six-story high screen with stereo surround sound. The Grizzly and Wolf Discovery Center is located here, which offers an educational experience and viewing area for visitors to watch live grizzlies and wolves in their own natural habitat. The Museum of the Yellowstone, located at the historic Union Pacific Depot, was built between 1907 and 1909 and houses collections including rare, vintage portrait photographs of great Indian chiefs; rare artifacts, such as clothing and weapons; authentic sabers, handguns and rifles used by the US Cavalry; mountain men essentials like beaver traps and the Hawkin rifle; wildlife dioramas and special exhibits on Trains and Yellowstone, Bears of Yellowstone, and Yellowstone Fires. Adventure documentary films of the Old West, Yellowstone Park (including the fires of 1988) and wildlife and Native American history are shown in the theater. The museum bookstore contains over 5,000 books and a large selection of videos on natural history, Western Americana, and Native American history.

**Town Office**

124 Yellowstone Avenue  
West Yellowstone, MT 59758  
(406) 646-7795

**Chamber of Commerce**

P.O. Box 485  
West Yellowstone, MT 59758  
(406) 646-7701  
[www.wyyellowstone.com/chamber](http://www.wyyellowstone.com/chamber)

## Clyde Park

Clyde Park sits just north of Livingston. It was originally called Sunnyside, which was also the name of “Madame Bulldog’s” stage stop and travelers’ rest station. When the post office was established at her place in May 1885, it took the name Sunnyside as well. In 1887 the post office was moved to the ranch of Messrs. Harvey and Tregloan who were raising Clydesdale horses imported from England. The name was changed to Clyde Park after these horses and the park-like appearance of the valley. The name followed the post office as it moved from one ranch to another with each new postmaster appointment.

In 1900, the post office was moved to the present site of Clyde Park at a four-way crossroad. The roads led to farms and ranches—one to Rock Creek Ranch, one to Brackett Creek, one to White Sulphur Springs, and one to Livingston. Supplies in the early days were hauled into Clyde Park by Jim Bowen, known as the “Cayuse Kid,” who freighted with a twenty-four horse jerk line. By 1914, the Northern Pacific Railroad was making its run up Shields Valley past Clyde Park six times a week.

The Crazy Mountains and the Bridger Range provide a breathtaking view for Clyde Park nestled in the Shields Valley between these two mountain ranges. The area is excellent for hiking, snowmobiling and cross-country skiing. Clyde Park also offers varied opportunities to get a taste of what life is really like in rural Montana and to experience a working cattle ranch. Branding calves, sorting cattle, trailing cattle to and from summer pastures, harvesting hay for the winter: this has been the pattern shaping the lives of Clyde Park’s ranchers for nearly a hundred and fifty years.

## Cooke City

Cooke City is one of the entrances to Yellowstone National Park. Its beginnings stem from the early 1870’s when eager miners set up the area as a prospecting hole. Named for one of those miners, Jay Cooke, Jr., a few weathered cabins with moss-covered roofs from the old days can still be found here. Before the railroads came in, Cooke City was the receiving point for goods shipped by boat up the Missouri and Yellowstone rivers and then forwarded by stage and pack train over the winding trail through Red Lodge. From here, Buffalo Bill’s Indian trade goods were shipped to Cody, Wyoming. In 1877, Chief Joseph and the retreating Nez Perce tribe swept through Cooke City and burned the gold mills. New ones were built but the ore was too poor in grade to be mined commercially so the miners eventually left for richer fields. The town still has a rustic old west atmosphere, which can be traced to these mining roots.

Cooke City is an alpine village with snow much of the year. Surrounded by national forest, wilderness and Yellowstone National Park, the area is an outdoors enthusiast’s dream. Winter season brings the best in snowmobiling and cross-country skiing on both groomed and un-groomed trails. During the summer, the fishing is fantastic on nearby lakes, rivers or streams. There are also a number of opportunities for horseback riding, hiking, fishing, camping and photography with the impressive mountain peaks and lush valleys throughout.

Cooke City is perhaps most famous for the road that connects the community with Red Lodge. Called “the most scenic drive in America,” the Beartooth Pass on US Highway 212 has dramatic switchbacks traversing the spectacular Beartooth Range of south-central Montana. The Pass is open only in summer months (approximately June-October), however the town is accessible year-round by way of the Gardiner entrance at Yellowstone Park (US Highway 89).

### Chamber of Commerce

P.O. Box 1071

Cooke City, MT 59020

(406) 838-2495

[www.cookecitychamber.org](http://www.cookecitychamber.org)

## Gardiner

Gardiner is located in southwest Montana and is situated in breathtaking Paradise Valley with the Yellowstone River running right through. Founded in 1880, Gardiner is a center of activity for visitors to the region, serving as the original and only year round entrance to Yellowstone National Park. It was named for Johnston Gardiner, a trapper and mountain man who worked along the upper Yellowstone and its tributaries in the 1830s. Early efforts at settlement here were frustrated by the hostility of Crow Indians who hunted the area. A dispute over the location of the town site also caused a twenty-year delay in getting the railroad into the town. The Northern Pacific came to Cinnabar, a few miles to the north, in 1883, but it was not extended to Gardiner until 1902.

Placer gold was discovered at the mouth of Bear Gulch by "Uncle Joe" Brown and two other prospectors during the winter of 1865-1866. "Uncle Joe" is said to have taken \$1,800 worth of gold out of the mouth of the creek in May 1866. He put in a system of ditches and erected the first quartz mill. In July 1883, gold was discovered in placer mines within "city limits." Robert "Buckskin Jim" Cutler claimed the diggings and got into an argument with McCartney over ownership and town sites, which delayed bringing in the railroad.

The population in June 1883 was listed as 200 with six restaurants, five general stores, two hardware stores, two fruit stands, two barber shops, one newsstand, one billiard hall, two dancehalls, four houses of ill fame, one blacksmith, twenty-one saloons and one milkman. Since there was no sawmill in the area, the "houses" were tents and log shacks made of hand-hewn logs.

President Theodore Roosevelt came to Gardiner in April 1903 to dedicate an arch made of basaltic rock through which travelers could go on their way to the "Yellowstone Wonderland." The overall height of the arch is 50 feet with an entrance arch of 30 feet high and 20 feet wide. The arch is inscribed with the words, 'For the Benefit and Enjoyment of All People,' a quote taken from the congressional act which made Yellowstone a National Park in 1872.

### Chamber of Commerce

P.O. Box 81

Gardiner, MT 59030

(406) 848-7971

[www.gardinerchamber.com](http://www.gardinerchamber.com)

## Livingston

Located between the Gallatin and Crazy Mountain ranges and surrounded by the Absaroka-Beartooth Wilderness Area, the town of Livingston is nestled along the free flowing Yellowstone River. Main Street and the historic districts are reminders of the city's bygone golden era. The downtown buildings from the 1880's and 1890's still stand as a testimony of the old west and give Livingston its special turn-of-the-century charm. Because of its historic flavor and beautiful natural surroundings, Livingston has also been seen on the silver screen in several movies including the very popular *A River Runs Through It*.

Originally occupied by Native Americans for thousands of years, this special place along the Absaroka Mountains was named after the Crow Indian Nation. Captain William Clark's expedition brought some of the first white men to travel through this area. He, with his men and Sacajawea, stopped here along the great bend of Yellowstone to rest and eat on July 15, 1806.

Soon traders, trappers and miners discovered the area and established a small settlement on the river called Benson's Landing. Then came the great "iron horse" and in the early 1880's the Northern Pacific Railroad sent Joseph McBride to find a location to open a store that would supply railroad workers. He chose the site of present day Livingston, bypassing the settlement of Benson's Landing just a few miles down the Yellowstone. Soon the town was a base camp with repair shops.

Though the original tent town was called Clark City, by 1882 Livingston was renamed for a Northern Pacific Railroad executive. The railroad's presence created a thriving community with a busy downtown complete with 30 saloons, 6 general stores, 6 hotels, 6 restaurants and a red light district. At one time, up to 2,200 men who worked for the railroad were based right in Livingston. With the West not yet completely civilized and characters like Calamity Jane in town, there was plenty of excitement in Livingston.

By the time 1902 arrived, the Northern Pacific opened its third and most prestigious depot in town – the largest depot west of the Mississippi River at that time. Livingston soon became known across the country as ‘the gateway to Yellowstone National Park’. For 43 years, everyone traveled by rail through Livingston to the park's north entrance in Gardiner. Though the rail line to the park is gone, the Livingston Depot Center still stands as a railroad museum and beautiful monument to that era.

Livingston has much to offer locals and tourists alike. The area abounds with outfitters and guides to accommodate all sportsmen. Located on blue ribbon fishing waters of the legendary Yellowstone River, Livingston is home to the International Federation of Fly Fishers. For adventure, whitewater rafting is very popular on the Yellowstone River and there are plenty of trails to hike, bike, bird watch, horseback ride, hunt, fish, golf, ski, rock climb and camp. For a western-life experience, there are working ranches in the area that are willing to take in a tenderfoot too.

Over the decades, Livingston has become an arts mecca with many artists and writers making their homes here. The downtown area has over 15 art galleries with over 200 artisans throughout Park County. From June through September, the Livingston Gallery Association presents the Downtown Art Walk every fourth Friday of the month. In late summer, the Park County Studio 2-Day Tour allows art lovers to see artists working in their own studios.

#### **Livingston City Office**

414 East Callender  
Livingston, MT 59047  
(406) 222-2005

#### **Chamber of Commerce**

303 E. Park St.,  
Livingston, MT 59047  
(406) 222-0850  
[www.livingston-chamber.com](http://www.livingston-chamber.com)

#### **Wilsall**

Wilsall began as the terminus of a Northern Pacific spur line. The community is located on Shields Creek in the Bridger Mountain Range approximately twenty miles northeast of Bozeman. The town was laid out by Walker B. Jordan who combined the named of his son Will, and his daughter-in-law Sally, to coin the town's name. Due to its location in the Shields River Valley, Wilsall boasts great fishing access and abundant hiking opportunities in the Crazy Mountains just minutes away.