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

	American Indian Population					
	Census	Estimates				
Geography	**2000**	**2001**	**2002**	**2003**	**2004**	**2005**
Fort Belknap Reservation	2,790	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Blaine County	3,180	3,081	3,118	3,125	3,114	3,182
Fort Belknap Agency CDP*	1,207	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Hays CDP*	664	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Lodge Pole CDP*	207	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Phillips County	350	335	317	312	306	291

	Total Population					
	Census	Estimates				
Geography	**2000**	**2001**	**2002**	**2003**	**2004**	**2005**
Fort Belknap Reservation	2,959	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Blaine County	7,009	6,824	6,816	6,765	6,673	6,629
Fort Belknap Agency CDP*	1,262	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Hays CDP*	702	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Lodge Pole CDP*	214	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Phillips County	4,601	4,448	4,353	4,263	4,240	4,179

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

"Census designated places (CDPs) are delineated for data collection purposes in the census and are not incorporated places. CDPs are delineated to provide data for settled concentrations of population that are identifiable by name but are not legally incorporated under the laws of the state in which they are located. The boundaries usually are defined in cooperation with local and tribal officials. These boundaries often include concentrations of housing or other developments that are adjacent to an incorporated place or other type of legal boundary, but exclude areas that do not qualify as CDPs. Some CDPs have officially defined or recognized boundaries and names, and some do not."

Fort Belknap Information

Tribes: Gros Ventre and Assiniboine

Tribe Address:

Fort Belknap Community Council
RR 1, Box 66
Hays, MT 59527
(406) 353-2205
www.fortbelknap.com

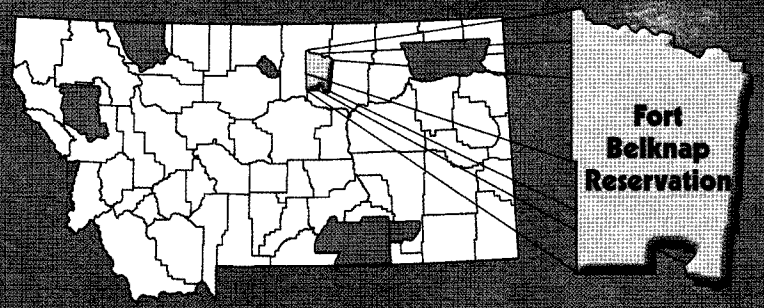
Fort Belknap College
P.O. Box 159, Harlem, MT 59526
(406) 353-2699
www.fbc.edu

Governor
Hon. Harley Harris

EXHIBIT NO. 9
DATE 1-26-07
BILL NO. SB 178

Demographic & Economic Information for

Fort Belknap Reservation



CEIC

Census Information Center, Census
Research Department of Commerce
P.O. Box 200505, Helena, MT 59620-0505
(406) 444-2896 Fax: (406) 444-2699
Hours: 8:00-5:00 MST
www.ceic.mt.gov

RESEARCH & ANALYSIS BUREAU

Montana Department of Labor & Industry
Montana Department of Commerce
P.O. Box 1728, Helena, MT 59624-1728
(406) 444-2430 Fax: (406) 444-2699
E-mail: geninfo@mt.gov
Hours: 8:00-5:00 MST
www.ceic.mt.gov/research.html

State Tribal Economic Development Commission
Governor's Office of Indian Affairs
State Capitol
Helena, MT 59620-0801
(406) 444-3771

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

Occupation	Total	American Indians
Total:	836	769
Male:	408	374
Mgmt., professional, and related occupations	121	98
Service occupations	89	87
Sales and office occupations	24	24
Farming, fishing, and forestry occupations	15	15
Construction, extraction, and maintenance occs.	100	91
Production, transport., and material moving occs.	59	59
Female:	428	395
Management, professional, and related occs.	185	165
Service occupations	92	92
Sales and office occupations	149	136
Farming, fishing, and forestry occupations	2	2
Construction, extraction, and maintenance occs.	0	0
Production, transport., and material moving occs.	0	0

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2000

Fort Belknap Reservation - Educational Attainment
Population 25 Years and Older

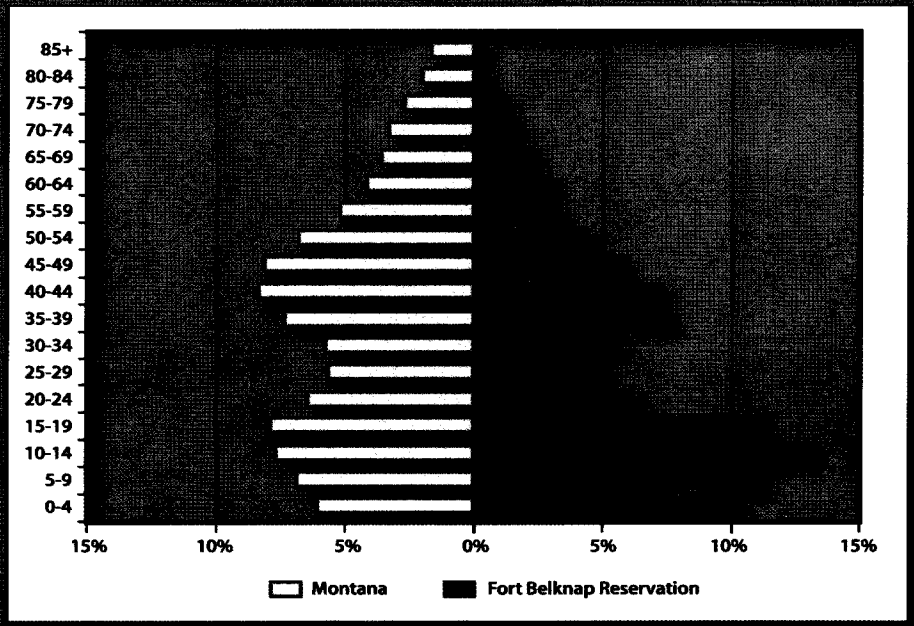
Educational Attainment	Total	American Indian
High School Diploma (or equivalent)	18.0%	17.7%
Associate Degree	13.9%	14.5%
Bachelor's Degree	9.1%	8.1%
Master's Degree	3.1%	2.3%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2000

Fort Belknap Wage & Salary Employment
Annual Averages 2005

Industry	Average Employment	Average Annual Wages Per Job
Total	333	$33,880
Total Private	28	$13,321
Service Providing	28	$13,321
Trade, Transportation, and Utilities	13	$12,758
Retail Trade	13	$12,758
Total Government	305	$35,721
Federal Government	148	$46,051
Local Government*	157	$25,984

Fort Belknap Reservation - Population Pyramid
Percent of Total Reservation Population by Age Group



Fort Belknap Reservation

The Fort Belknap Reservation, anchored in Fort Belknap Agency, is the fifth largest reservation in the state, encompassing 651,648 acres of rolling plains, river breaks and the Little Rocky Mountain range. It is home to 3,115 (49%) of the 6,304 Gros Ventre and Assiniboine tribal members.

The majority of employment is provided by the Gros Ventre and Assinboine tribes, which employs 291 full time and 74 part time workers in tribal government. Tribally owned businesses, such as the Little Rockies Meat Packing Plant, employ as many as 6-12 employees. The Fort Belknap College employs 55 staff members, and averages 20-30 graduates per year.

In October 2002, the Fort Belknap Indian Community (FBIC) launched the Fort Belknap 477 Employment and Training Program. The program integrates five tribal programs to provide comprehensive education, work-based learning, employment training, and related services that help individuals, families, and the community to overcome barriers to self-sufficiency. Six hundred and forty families participated in this vital program in 2005.

Little Rockies Meat Packing, Inc. (LRMI) is one of many partners in the program. The Employment and Training program helped provide 4-6 meat cutting trainees at start-up, two of whom are now permanently placed. Acquisition of the tribally owned meat packing facility occurred in 2002, USDA certification followed suit in 2003, and today LRMI is helping another spin off enterprise: Pride of the Little Rockies, a smoke house that will prepare smoked meat products (jerky, sausage, and meat sticks utilizing the beef and buffalo processed at LRMI).

Pride of the Little Rockies was given a financial boost with a $450,000 Department of Health and Human Services Administration for Native Americans grant award to renovate an existing tribal facility. This, in turn, will create 10-12 new full time jobs from the Employment and Training Program pool of individuals trained in Job Readiness and production/preparation.

FBIC is committed to career development from K-12, to postsecondary, to adult education with programs such as Talent Search (career awareness), Upward Bound (summer program with emphasis on Higher Ed), and the Tribal Business Information Center (entrepreneurial development). With nearly 29% of the population below the age of 18, the tribes realize they must continually build economic opportunities for the future. Currently the tribes are slated to begin construction on a $3 million water treatment facility this fall, have completed feasibility studies for alternative energy development (ethanol), and continue to attract tourism by offering big game and recreational hunting guides and outfitters.

Author: Michelle Robinson, DLI Commissioner's Office

Fort Belknap Reservation - Agricultural Statistics 2002 Census of Agriculture

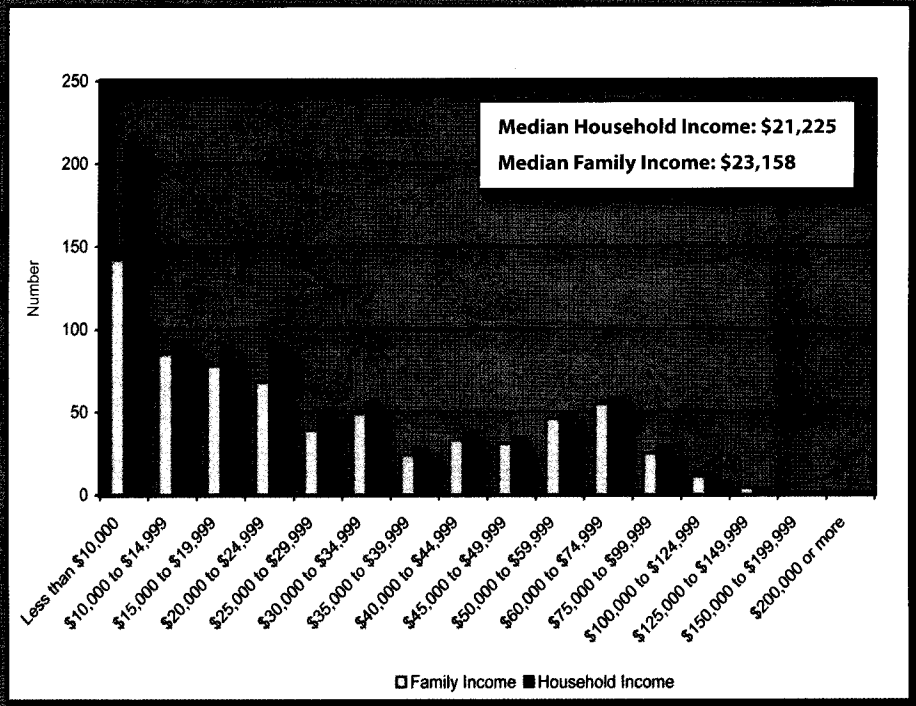
Farms		
Farms: (number)	236	53
Land in farms (acres)	829,926	634,270
Average size of farms (acres)	6,859	7,642
Farms by size: (number)		
Less than 1,000 acres	48	37
1,000 acres or more	73	46
Farms by value of products sold and government payments received: (number)		
Less than $100,000	93	74
$100,000 or more	28	9
Farms by type of organization: (number)		
Family, Individual, Partnership	108	78
Corporation, Cooperative, Trust	13	5

Livestock Inventory and Crops Harvested		
Livestock and Poultry Inventory (number)		
Cattle and calves	16,026	6,228
Hogs and pigs	(D)	-
Sheep and lambs	571	(D)
Horses and ponies	647	512
Bison	(D)	(D)
Chickens (layers and broilers)	0	0
Crops Harvested (acres)		
Corn for grain	-	-
Corn for silage or greenchop	-	-
Wheat for grain, All	43,985	15,246
Winter wheat for grain	(D)	-
Durum wheat for grain	(D)	-
Spring wheat for grain	42,422	15,246
Barley for grain	1,295	605
Oats for grain	(D)	-
Sunflower seed, All	-	-
Soybeans for beans	-	-
Hay, haylage, grass silage	17,608	6,195

Operator Demographics		
Primary occupation: (number)		
Farming	114	55
Other	83	56
Place of residence: (number)		
On farm operated	155	90
Not on farm operated	42	21
Years on present farm: (number)		
Less than 10 years	51	26
10 years or more	146	85
Age group: (number)		
Under 55 years	112	62
55 years and over	85	49
Average age of all operators: (number)	52.8	53.2

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

Fort Belknap Reservation - Distribution of Income by Family and Household from Census 2000



Owner and Renter Occupied Housing Units

Housing	Total	American Indian
Owner Occupied	53.3%	54.4%
Renter Occupied	46.7%	45.6%

Fort Belknap Reservation - Labor Force Statistics

The table below provides labor force statistics from three separate sources. The reader will notice some of the numbers are dissimilar, owing to the differing definitions and statistical techniques used by each source. These differences are explained below:

Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS):

- Statistics represent labor characteristics of the reservation, not the tribe.
- Unemployment rates produced by MT Department of Labor
- Labor Force definition
  - Civilian, non-institutional population 16 years and older
  - The sum of Employment and Unemployment
- Employment definition
  - Did any work as paid employees
  - Worked in their own business, profession, or farm
  - Worked 15 hours or more as unpaid workers in a family owned enterprise
- Unemployment definition
  - Have not worked during monthly survey period (usually the week containing the 12th of the month)
  - Available for work
  - Actively seeking a job during last four weeks
- Unemployment Rate definition
  - Equal to the number of Unemployed divided by number in the Labor Force

U.S. Census Bureau:

- Statistics represent labor characteristics of the reservation, not the tribe.
- Uses the same definitions for Labor Force, Employment, and Unemployment as BLS
- Self-reported every ten years
- Rate reflects employment status as of April 1st, 2000

Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA):

- Statistics represent labor characteristics of the tribe, not the reservation.
- Labor Force definition
  - Number of tribal members between 16 and 64 years old
  - Available for work
  - Not disabled or incarcerated
- Employment definition
  - Tribal members working for money
- Unemployment definition
  - Calculated by subtracting Employment from Labor Force

	Year	Labor Force	Employed	Unemployed	Unemp. Rate
Montana Department of Labor and Industry*	2005	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
U.S. Census Bureau	2000	1,086	836	250	23.0%
U.S. Bureau of Indian Affairs	2005	2,794	849	1,945	69.6%