

SOCIO-ECONOMIC PROFILE OF BIG HORN COUNTY, WYOMING

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INTRODUCTION

In a rapidly changing world, timely and accurate information is essential to good decision-making. Local officials, state government, federal agencies, and the public need information on the structure and trends within a region's economy to more effectively conduct and participate in public policy decision-making processes. Information describing regional economic conditions can aid in the public policy decision-making process by providing a perspective on economic structure and changes over time. In addition, the identification of long-term trends can help residents, local official, state government, and federal agencies plan for the future. This report has been developed to provide baseline information on the structure and trends of the Big Horn County economy.

Four types of information are discussed in this report, including: 1) Demographics, 2) Land Characteristics, 3) County Government Finances, and 4) Natural Resource Based Industry Profiles. The Demographic section provides information on the characteristics of the residents of the county. The Land Characteristics section provides a perspective on the physical setting of the county. The County Government Finances section considers county government's ability to meet the needs of residents in terms of public services and public infrastructure. The industry profile section discusses the economic importance of natural resource based industries in the county.

Each type of information is discussed separately in the report. To put Big Horn County's information in perspective, the county data is compared to corresponding data for Wyoming and the United States. A variety of data sources were used to development this socio-economic profile including the Wyoming Department of Administration & Information – Economic Analysis Division's Wyoming County Profiles. The most current data available from these data sources was used in the report. All time series data involving dollars were adjusted for inflation to 2020 dollars to match the most recent data year used. This report is part of an ongoing cooperative effort between the University of Wyoming, the Wyoming County Commissioners Association, and the Wyoming Department of Administration and Information to develop a socio-economic database for Wyoming Counties.

COUNTY SUMMARY

Demographics

Overall Big Horn County experienced only limited population growth between 2000 and 2020, increasing from 11,389 residents in 2000 to 11,790 in 2020 (+3 percent). The county's population growth rate was significantly less than either the Wyoming population growth rate (17 percent) or the U.S. population growth rate (18 percent) between 2000 and 2020. During the time period, the county's population fluctuated, decreasing by 3 percent from 11,398 residents in 2000 to its minimum of 11,073 residents in 2003. Population growth continued to fluctuate in the next decade and reached a maximum of 12,022 residents in 2016, 6 percent higher than the 2000 population level. Big Horn County ended the 21-year period with 11,790 residents, resulting in a cumulative 3.4 percent population growth over the two decades.

Population increases can occur in one of two ways: 1) Natural Increase (more births than deaths) or 2) Net In-Migration (more people moving in than moving out). Between 2000 and 2020 Big Horn County experienced population growth due to both Natural Increase and positive Net Migration. Of the total county population growth of 3.4 percent during the time period, 2 percent (57 percent) came from Natural Increase and 1.5 percent (43 percent) came from Net Migration. Both types of population growth were substantially lower than the population growth rates for Wyoming. During the time period Wyoming experienced 17 percent population growth including 12 percent from Natural Increase (71 percent) and 5 percent from Net Migration (29 percent). While most of the county's population growth was from Net Migration, Wyoming population growth was fairly evenly divided between Natural Increase and Net Migration. The county's lower population growth rate from Natural Increase was probably due to the older age of the county's population and the county's lower population growth rate from Net Migration was probably due to the county's lower job growth rate both of which will be discussed later in the report.

In 2020, the largest age groups for Big Horn County residents were adults 45 to 64 years old (25 percent) and adults 65 years of age and older (21.9 percent). Combined, these two age groups represented nearly one-half of the total county population. The next largest age group was adults 25 to 44 years old (nearly 21.5 percent), followed by youth 5 to 17 (19 percent), young adults 18 to 24 (7 percent) and lastly youth under 5 (6 percent). The population distribution for the county was mostly overrepresented at the lower end of the age spectrum relative to Wyoming and the U.S. Compared to Wyoming and the U.S., the county had a similar proportion of its overall population in the less than 5 age category and higher proportion in the 5 to 17 age category. However, the county had a lower proportion of its overall population in the adults 18 to 24 and 25 to 44 age groups. On the older end of the age spectrum, the county had a comparable proportion of its overall population in the older age group of 45 to 65 and a higher proportion of the 65 and over age category. The median age for the county in 2015 (41.8 years) was 9 percent older than the median age for Wyoming (38.4 years) and 9 percent older than the median age for the U.S. (38.2 years).

White is the predominate category of race in Big Horn County, accounting for 96 percent of the total population. The percentage of the population that is White in the county is 3 percentage points higher

than the percentage for Wyoming (93 percent) and 24 percent points higher than the percentage for the U.S. (72 percent). The other five races identified by the federal government account for the remaining 4 percent with Two or More Races being the second most common (1.6 percent), Native American (1.5 percent), Black (0.8 percent), Asian (0.5 percent), and Pacific Islanders (less than 0.1 percent). The proportion of the county's population that was Black (0.8 percent versus 1.3 percent and 14.9 percent), Asian (0.5 percent versus 1.1 percent and 7.3 percent), Pacific Islander (less than 0.1 percent versus 0.1 percent and 0.2 percent), or Two or More Races (1.6 percent versus 2.2 percent and 5.1 percent) was less than either Wyoming or the U.S. The proportion of the county's population that was Native American was less than Wyoming but higher than the U.S. (1.4 percent versus 2.7 percent versus 0.8 percent).

The federal government defines the term "Hispanic" as an ethnicity rather than a specific race. Thus, Hispanics can be individuals of any race that self-identify themselves as "Hispanic" or "Latino" based on heritage, nationality group, lineage, or country of birth of the person or person's parents or ancestors before their arrival in the United States. In Big Horn County the percentage of the population classifying themselves as Hispanic (9 percent) was lower than the percentage for Wyoming (10 percent) and less than one-half the percentage for U.S. (19 percent).

Per capita income can serve as a general indicator of the economic well-being of a county's population. In 2000, per capita income in Big Horn County was \$25,713 in 2009 dollars. The per capita income for the county in 2000 was 27 percent below Wyoming's per capita income (\$35,373) and 31 percent below the U.S. per capita income (\$37,371). From 2000 to 2020, after adjusting for inflation, per capita income for the county increased by 29 percent to \$33,115. Despite this increase, in 2020 the county's per capita income was still 37 percent lower than Wyoming's (\$52,379), and 34 percent below the U.S. average (\$49,816).

There are three sources of per capita income: 1) net labor earnings including wages, salaries, and proprietor (self-employed) income, 2) government transfer payments such as Social Security, Medicare, Medicaid, and various income assistance program payments, and 3) investment income representing property income in the form of dividends, interest, and rents. The majority of the growth in the county's per capita income between 2000 and 2020 was the result of growth of transfer payments (51 percent) with 36 percent coming from increased net labor earnings and 13 percent coming from increased investment income. Transfer payments were the fastest growing individual source of per capita income between 2000 and 2020 increasing by 83 percent and increasing in the rate of change in recent years. Labor earnings increased by 17 percent and investment income increased by 18 percent. In 2000, net labor earnings represented 61 percent of total per capita income, with investment income representing 21 percent, and transfer payments representing 18 percent. In 2020, net labor income represented 56 percent of total per capita income, investment income represented 19 percent, and transfer payments represented 25 percent.

2020 per capita income for Big Horn County was \$39,318 in 2020 dollars. This level of income was 37 percent below per capita income for Wyoming and 34 percent below per capita income for the U.S.

Among the three regions, the county had the lowest per capita labor earnings (\$21,950) which was 38 percent below per capita labor earnings for Wyoming (\$35,318) and 38 percent below per capita labor earnings for the U.S. (\$35,439). In 2020, the county had per capita transfer payments of \$9,858 which was 13 percent higher than per capita transfer payments for Wyoming (\$8,714), and 23 percent lower than per capita transfer payments for the U.S. (\$12,796). The county's per capita investment income (\$7,510) was 59 percent below per capita investment income for Wyoming (\$18,157), and 31 percent lower than per capita investment income for the U.S. (\$10,913).

The county's 2020 unemployment rate (5.0 percent) was lower than Wyoming's unemployment rate (5.8 percent) and lower than the U.S. unemployment rate (8.1 percent). While total per capita income for the county was 37 percent below the state average, the Wyoming Economic Analysis Division estimates that the county's cost-of-living for the second quarter of 2020 was only 10 percent below the state average. While the county had lower costs compared to Wyoming for housing, medical, and recreation expenses, it had higher costs for transportation, apparel, and food. These differences in per capita income and costs of living suggest that, on average, Big Horn County residents were economically somewhat worse-off than the rest of the state in 2020. Similarly, the percent of the county's population that was below the poverty level (12.7 percent) was higher than the Wyoming's rate (11 percent) and only slightly lower than the U.S. rate (12.8 percent).

Overall, the educational attainment of Big Horn County's population in terms of a high school degree or higher (90 percent) was lower than Wyoming's (93 percent) and higher than the U.S. (89 percent). The county's population was somewhat less educated in terms of college bachelors or advanced degrees than Wyoming (19 percent vs. 27 percent) and the U.S. (19 percent vs. 33 percent). The percentage of the county population without a high school degree (10 percent) was higher than Wyoming's (7 percent) and lower than the U.S. (12 percent). The percentage of the county's population with only a high school degree (29 percent) was the same as Wyoming's (29 percent) and higher than the U.S. (27 percent). The percentage of the county's population with some college (31 percent) was higher than Wyoming's (26 percent) and the U.S. (20 percent). The percentage of the county's population with an associate degree (11 percent) was similar to Wyoming (11 percent) and higher than the U.S. (9 percent). The percentage of the county's population with either a bachelors (14 percent) or graduate/professional degree (5 percent) was below Wyoming's (18 percent and 10 percent) and the U.S. (20 percent and 13 percent).

In terms of access to educational resources, the county has four public school districts with a total of 14 schools and a 2020 fall enrollment of 2,536. The graduation rate for the public school system was 77 percent compared to a state average of 82 percent. The public school system had 208 certified teachers, 35 certified staff, 36 administrators, and 174 classified staff. Total general fund expenditures for the county's public school system were \$45.6 million in 2020 with an operating cost of \$20,882 per average daily membership. This compares with an average operating cost of \$18,210 per average daily membership for the state. Northwest College whose main campus is in Powell, Wyoming provides post-secondary educational services to the county.

Overall, Big Horn County experienced only limited employment growth between 2000 and 2020. Total employment in the county increased by 2.5 percent from 2000 through 2020 growing from 6,411 jobs in 2000 to 6,574 jobs in 2020. During this time period Wyoming employment increased by 19 percent and the U.S. employment increased by 15 percent. Employment in all three regions was negatively affected by the 2008 recession and the 2020 pandemic. Historically, the county's employment has been slower to recover than Wyoming or the U.S., however the county's recovery from the pandemic relative to Wyoming and the U.S. still remains to be observed. Between 2010 and 2019 the county's employment reached a high of 3 percent total growth in 2015 and a low of 2 percent total loss in 2018. Over the same decade, Wyoming reached a high of 6 percent total growth in 2019 and the U.S. a high of 17 percent total growth in 2019. The pandemic in 2020 negatively affected all three regions' job growth in similar ways.

From 2000 to 2020, employment in Big Horn County increased by 2.6 percent. This increase was only 14 percent of the employment increase for Wyoming (19 percent) and only 17 percent of the employment increase for the U.S. (15 percent) during the same time period. While self-employment jobs actually grew 4.7 percent between 2000 and 2020, wage and salary employment decreased 2.2 percent resulting in the final growth rate of 2.5 percent for this period. At the state level, wage and salary jobs represented 45 percent of the employment growth (+9 percent) with 55 percent coming from growth in self-employment jobs (+11 percent). At the national level, the ratio was 38 percent from wage and salary jobs (6 percent) to 62 percent from self-employment jobs (10 percent). The county had a much higher proportion of its overall job growth from increases in self-employed jobs rather than wage and salary jobs than either Wyoming or the U.S.

Local Government, which includes all employment associated with county government, towns and city government in the county, and the county's public school districts, was the largest source of employment in Big Horn County representing 18 percent of total county employment. Following Local Government was Agriculture (12 percent). Other major sources of employment were Construction (9 percent), Mining (7 percent), and Retail Trade (7 percent). Combined these five sectors represent more than one-half (54 percent) of the employment in the county.

The location quotients (LQ), in the fourth column of Figure 12, were used to identify Defining Industries in the county. A location quotient is the ratio of an industry's share of total employment in the region relative to the industry's share of total employment at the national level. A large location quotient is an indication of specialization within the county's economy. Defining Industries are important because they play a significant role in a region's growth over time. The Federal Reserve Bank of Kansas City considers Defining Industries as those with a locational quotient of at least 1.25 that account for at least 0.2 percent of total employment in the region. Based on this definition Big Horn County has six Defining Industries including: Mining (15.02), Agriculture (8.91), Forestry, Fishing, and Ag Support (4.17), Local Government (2.49), Utilities (1.63) and Construction (1.62). These six sectors are relatively more important in Big Horn County's economy than they are at the national level.

Employment in Big Horn County increased by 2.6 percent from 2001 through 2020. The largest increases in employment came from Construction (+188 jobs), Professional Services (+120 jobs), Agriculture (+113

jobs) Manufacturing (+107 jobs) and Local Government (+94 jobs). On the other hand, the two sectors with the largest loss in employment between 2001 and 2020 were Accommodations & Food Services (-192 jobs) and Mining (-510 jobs). In terms of individual sectors the fastest growing sectors were Educational Services (+229 percent) and Professional Services (+69 percent).

In addition to the number of jobs, the labor earnings associated with those jobs is an important consideration. Overall average earnings per job are a general measure of the economic well-being of the local workforce. Over time the Big Horn County economy has had difficulty generating relatively high paying jobs. In 2000, the average earnings per job for the county was \$36,199, in 2015 dollars, which was 11 percent below the Wyoming average earnings per job (\$40,501) and 33 percent below the U.S. average earnings per job (\$53,641). From 2000 through 2020, after adjusting for inflation, county average earnings per job increased by 19 percent to \$42,884. Despite this increase, 2020 county average earnings per job was 21 percent below the Wyoming average earnings per job (\$54,466) and 33 percent below the U.S. average earnings per job (\$63,750). While county average earnings per job was 21 percent below the state average in 2020, the Wyoming Economic Analysis Division estimates that the county's cost-of-living for the second quarter of 2020 was only 10 percent below the state average. This difference suggests that, on average, the county's workforce was economically somewhat worse-off than the rest of the state in 2020.

Average earnings per job (AEPJ), which includes employer paid benefits, varies substantially by sector. In 2020 AEPJ in Big Horn County ranged from over \$93,000 for the Transportation & Warehousing sector to less than \$4,000 for the Real Estate, Rental, & Leasing sector. After Utilities, the next highest AEPJ was in the Utilities sector (\$92,030), Federal-Civilian (\$87,190), State Government (\$73,773), Mining (\$70,502) and Local Government (\$67,042). Of the 23 sectors in the county's economy 7 had AEPJ greater than the Wyoming average (\$54,466) and 5 were above the U.S. average (\$63,750). The 6 sectors with AEPJ greater than the Wyoming and U.S. averages represented only 38 percent of the total employment in the county resulting in the overall lower AEPJ for the county. The low AEPJ for several of the sectors like Real Estate, Rental, & Leasing or Arts, Entertainment, & Recreation may be the result of a large number of part-time jobs in these sectors.

The combination of the number of jobs and the average earnings per job determines the relative importance of individual sectors in terms of total labor earnings in the Big Horn County economy. Labor earnings are important because they represent the major source of personal income for county residents. Overall county employment generated \$305.9 million in labor earnings in 2020. Local Government, due to its relatively large number of employees and above average earnings per job was the largest source of labor earnings for the county (26 percent). Following Local Government was Mining (11 percent), Construction (10 percent), Agriculture (9 percent), and Manufacturing (7 percent). Combined these five sectors represented 63 percent of total county labor earnings.

Land Characteristics

Big Horn County contains 2.0 million acres of land. The Federal government is the largest category of landownership in the county, accounting for 77 percent of this land area (1.5 million acres). Of the total Federal land, the BLM manages 75 percent, the Forest Service manages 23 percent, and the Park Service manages 1 percent. State land represents 4.5 percent of the county's land area (90,593 acres). Most of the state land in the county is state trust land (77 percent), with the remaining 23 percent being owned by other state entities. According to Headwaters Economics, local government owns less than 0.1 percent of the county's land area (410 acres). Private land represents only 19 percent of the surface area in the county (383,579 acres). Information from the Wyoming Department of Revenue on acres taxed as agricultural land indicates that 80 percent of the private land in the county is in agricultural use (308,374 acres). Of this total 62 percent is classified as range land (190,530 acres) and 38 percent is classified as irrigated crop land (117,844 acres).

Federal lands are managed for different purposes under differing statutory authority. Three categories of designation are presented in Figure 18: 1) Protected, 2) Restricted, and 3) General Use. Protected areas include National Parks and Preserves (NPS), Wilderness (NPS, FWS, FS, BLM), National Conservation Areas (BLM), National Monuments (NPS, FS, BLM), National Recreation Areas (NPS, FS, BLM), National Wild and Scenic Rivers (NPS, FS, BLM), Water Fowl Protection Areas (FWS), Wildlife Management Areas (FWS), Research Natural Areas (FS, BLM), Areas of Critical Environmental Concern (BLM), and National Wildlife Refuges (FWS). Restricted areas include Wilderness Study Areas (NPS, FWS, FS, BLM) and Inventoried Roadless Areas (FS). General Use areas include Public Domain Lands (BLM) and National Forests and Grasslands (FS). This data was obtained from the Economic Profile System – Human Dimension Toolkit (NPS = National Park Service, FWS = Fish and Wildlife, FS = Forest Service, and BLM = Bureau of Land Management).

In Big Horn County, Economic Profile System data indicates that 10 percent of Federal lands are designated as protected. Meanwhile, 16 percent of federal lands are designated as restricted, and 75 percent are designated for general use. In comparison, 19 percent of total federal lands in Wyoming are classified as protected, 11 percent are classified as restricted, and 71 percent are classified as general use.

County Government Finances

Wyoming Department of Audit information indicates that the total revenue for Big Horn County Government was \$13.4 million in FY2020. Of this total, the largest sources were State Aid which included the county's share of the 4 percent sales and use tax revenue (36 percent) and Taxes which included property taxes and any optional sales tax revenue (27 percent). Following State Aid and Taxes were Direct Federal Aid, including PILT payments (23 percent). Combined these three sources represented 86 percent of the total county government revenue in FY2020. Other sources of county government revenue included Miscellaneous Revenue (12 percent) and Charges for Services (3 percent).

Combined these revenue sources represented 15 percent of the total county government revenue in FY2020.

Compared to all counties in Wyoming, the county had a higher proportion of revenue from State Aid (36 percent vs. 26 percent). The county's proportion of revenue from Taxes was substantially lower relative to all counties in the state (27 percent vs. 47 percent) and the proportion from Direct Federal Aid was higher relative to all counties in the state (23 percent vs. 6 percent). Other sources of revenue were lower compared to all other counties in the state in terms of Miscellaneous Revenue (12 percent vs. 8 percent) and Charges for Services (3 percent vs. 6 percent). Overall, the county's per capita revenue (\$1,133) was 16.5 percent below the average for all counties in Wyoming (\$1,356).

The total assessed valuation for Big Horn County from 2020 production was \$197.4 million. Thirty-six percent of the total valuation was from Residential Property. Following Residential Property was Mineral Production (29 percent), Utilities (11 percent), Commercial Property (8 percent), Agricultural Property (9 percent), and Industrial Property (7 percent). The county's per capita assessed valuation (\$16,745) was one-half of Wyoming's per capita assessed valuation (\$33,916).

Compared to Wyoming, the county had a lower proportion of assessed valuation from Mineral Production (29 percent vs. 36 percent). The county's proportion of assessed valuation from Residential Property was slightly higher than that for Wyoming's (36 percent vs. 34 percent); the assessed valuation from Utilities was also slightly higher than Wyoming's (11 percent vs. 9 percent); the assessed valuation from Agricultural Property was the substantially higher than that for Wyoming's (9 percent vs. 2 percent); the assessed valuation from Commercial Property was similar to Wyoming's (8.0 percent vs. 8.6 percent) and the assessed valuation from Industrial Property was lower than Wyoming's (7 percent vs. 10 percent). In terms of Mineral Production, crude oil represented 54 percent of total county mineral assessed valuation, bentonite represented 42 percent of total county mineral assessed valuation, Gypsum represented 3 percent, natural gas represented 1 percent, and sand and gravel represented less than 1 percent of total county mineral assessed valuation.

In FY2020 Big Horn County's sales and use tax generated \$9.9 million in tax revenue. Of this total, 55 percent (\$5.4 million) was retained by state government and 45 percent (\$4.4 million) was returned to local governments in the county. In FY2020 county government's share of the returned sales and use tax revenue was approximately \$1.7 million (38 percent) with the remaining \$2.7 million (62 percent) going to municipal governments in the county. Thirty-four percent of the county's total sales and use tax revenue came from Retail Trade. Following Retail Trade was Public Administration (14 percent), Utilities (13 percent), Wholesale Trade (9 percent), Leisure & Hospitality (6 percent), and Mining (5.5 percent). Combined these six sectors contributed 82 percent of the county's total sales and use tax revenue. Public Administration represents sales and use tax revenue on motor vehicle purchases which are collected at the time of registration in Wyoming. Manufacturing, Financial Activities, Information, and Others combined contributed 18 percent of total county sales and use tax revenue.

Compared to total sales and use tax revenue for Wyoming, the county had a lower proportion of sales and use tax revenue from Retail Trade (34 percent vs. 37 percent). The county's proportion of sales and use tax revenue from Public Administration was higher than Wyoming's (14 percent vs. 10 percent); from Utilities was higher to Wyoming's (13 percent vs. 5 percent); from Wholesale Trade was higher than Wyoming's (9 percent vs. 7 percent); from Leisure & Hospitality was lower than Wyoming's (6 percent vs. 11 percent); and from Mining was lower than Wyoming's (6 percent vs. 14 percent). The county's proportion of sales and use tax revenue from Manufacturing was higher than Wyoming's (4 percent vs. 3 percent). Per capita sales and use tax revenues for the county (\$836) were about one-half (48 percent) of per capital sales and use tax revenues for Wyoming (\$1,756).

Based on the county's 2020 assessed valuation, most the county's top tax paying entities are businesses in the energy industry, with others in mining, chemicals, or transportation. Merit Energy is the largest tax contributor, with over half a million of the tax revenues going to the county. Together the top ten taxpayers contribute \$1.3 million in taxes to the county, nearly half of the county's total tax revenue.

The Economic Profile System-Human Dimensions Toolkit indicates that federal land payments to local governments in Big Horn County totaled \$1.7 million in FY2019. The largest source of federal land payments to the county was Payment in Lieu of Taxes (PILT) representing 74 percent of the total amount (\$1.2 million). PILT payments are intended to compensate county governments for non-taxable federal lands within their borders. It is based on a maximum per-acre payment reduced by other federal revenue sharing payments and subject to a per capita population cap. The second largest source of federal payments to the county was Forest Service payments representing 23 percent of the total amount (\$379,808). Forest Service payments can include 25 Percent Revenue Sharing funds, Secure Rural School & Community Self Determination Act funds, and Bankhead-Jones Forest Grasslands funds. The third source of federal payments to the county was BLM Payments representing 3 percent of the total amount (\$57,439). BLM payments represent revenue sharing funds including grazing fees through the Taylor Grazing Act. Of the \$1.7 million in Federal land payments to the county in FY2019, 85 percent went to county government (\$1.4 million), 10 percent went to local school districts (\$161,418), with 3 percent (\$57,202) going to grazing districts and 2 percent (\$30,385) going to Resource Advisory Councils. In FY2019 Federal Land Payments to the county represented \$0.80 per eligible acre of Federal land. The average for Wyoming was \$1.06 per eligible acre of Federal land.

The total cost of maintaining county government for Big Horn County in FY2020 was \$13.1 million. This represents a per capita cost of \$1,126 which was 12.5 percent below the average for all counties in Wyoming (\$1,287). The largest cost categories were County Sheriff (18 percent), Construction (16 percent), Jail (16 percent), Road and Bridge (9 percent), and Courthouse expenditures (7 percent). These five categories represented 65 percent of the total cost of maintaining county government.

Natural Resource-Based Industry Profiles

In 2020, the Mining sector in Big Horn County produced 1.1 million barrels of crude oil and 1.8 million tons of bentonite, 513,699 mcf of natural gas, 235,482 tons of Gypsum, and 36,771 tons of sand and

gravel. The mining production in the county had an assessed valuation of \$57.5 million dollars based on 2020 production. This valuation represented 29 percent of the total assessed valuation for the county. Based on the county mill levy, the mineral industry generated \$4.1 million in property tax revenue in 2020. Of this total, 63 percent went to K-12 schools (\$2.5 million), 17 percent went to county government (\$0.7 million), and 20 percent went to county special districts (\$0.8 million). Special districts in the county included: Hospital, Cemetery, Solid Waste Disposal, Rural Health Care, Conservation, and Senior Citizens' Services. In 2020 the mining industry in the county supported 488 jobs with labor earnings of \$34.2 million. This represented 7 percent of total employment and 13 percent of total labor earnings in the county. The percent of total employment in mining for the county was 15 times the national percentage (0.5 percent) indicating that Mining was an area of specialization within the county's economy. The average earnings per job for mining in the county were \$70,502 which was 2 times the county average (\$46,495). The mining industry ranked 4th out of 23 sectors in the county's economy in terms of total employment and 2nd out of 23 sectors in terms of total labor earnings.

In 2017, there were 586 agricultural operations in Big Horn County. These operations managed 322,241 acres in the county. Included in this acreage is 80 percent of the private land in the county. Of the total land in agriculture, 58 percent is classified as grazing land, 37 percent as cropland, 2 percent as woodlands, and 4 percent as farmsteads and buildings. The average size of an agricultural operation in the county was 550 acres. The total cattle and sheep inventory in the county was 61,761 head including 42,978 head of cattle and calves and 18,783 head of sheep and lambs. In addition, total hogs and pig inventory was 389 head. In 2019, the county ranked 17th out of 23 counties in Wyoming in terms of cattle and calves inventory and 9th out of 23 counties in terms of sheep and lambs inventory. It also ranked 2nd in barley production (2018 production), 3rd in sugar beet production, 4th in corn for grain, and 7th in alfalfa hay production. In terms of investment by agricultural operators, the estimated total market value of lands, buildings, and equipment for agriculture in the county was \$606.4 million. This total included \$512.2 million in land and buildings and \$94.2 million for equipment and machinery. The average investment per agricultural operation was \$1,034,860. In 2017 agricultural operations in the county paid \$2.6 million in property taxes.

The gross revenue for the agricultural industry in the county in 2020 was \$109.7 million. Of this total 49 percent was from cash receipts for crops, 28 percent was from cash receipts for livestock, 12 percent was from miscellaneous sources, and 12 percent was from government payments. Government payments were significantly higher and livestock cash receipts significantly lower than previous years likely due to the pandemic. Total employment for agriculture in 2020 was 796 jobs with labor earnings of \$29.7 million. This represented 12 percent of the total jobs in the county and 10 percent of the labor earnings. The percent of total employment in agriculture for the county was nearly 9 times the national percentage (1.4 percent) indicating that agriculture was an area of specialization within the county's economy. The average earnings per job for agriculture in the county were \$37,416 which was 81 percent of the county average (\$46,495). Average earnings per job in agriculture tend to be lower because most employment is self-employed and includes a large number of small part-time and lifestyle operations that generate limited labor earnings. The county's agriculture industry ranked 2nd out of 23 sectors in

the county's economy in terms of total employment and 4th out of 23 sectors in terms of total labor earnings.

In addition to jobs and income, agriculture also provides important natural resource amenities such as open space. Open space offers landscapes, lifestyles, and wildlife habitat that can have value to both residents and visitors. Open space is particularly important because it determines the character of the landscapes surrounding a community. Out of economic necessity, most agricultural operations in the county cover large areas of land; as a result, agriculture can contribute substantially to maintaining open spaces on private lands in a region. As noted above, 80 percent of the private land in Big Horn County is in agricultural use. Due to the natural resource amenities associated with agricultural land there is public support for the retention of lands in agriculture. For example, a 2014 survey sponsored by the Wyoming Stock Growers Association, the Wyoming Stock Growers Land Trust, the Nature Conservancy, and the University of Wyoming found that nearly 80 percent of Wyoming residents felt that they personally benefit from the presence of farms and ranches in Wyoming. In addition, 76 percent of respondents were concerned with the loss of family farms and ranches in the State. Other issues of serious concerns to respondents included the availability of water for farming and ranching (71 percent), and natural areas and rangeland being split up by new development (66 percent).

Dean Runyan Associates estimates that visitors spent \$25.9 million while in Big Horn County in 2020. In terms of accommodations, 54 percent of this spending was by visitors staying in campgrounds, 24 percent by visitors staying in private homes, 9 percent was by visitors staying in hotels/motels private homes, 5 percent was by visitors staying in vacation homes, and 8 percent was by visitors not staying overnight. In terms of purchases, 27 percent was spent on food services, 21 percent was spent on arts/entertainment/recreation, 16 percent was spent on retail sales, 9 percent was spent on accommodations, 14 percent was spent on local transportation and gas, and 13 percent was spent at food stores.

Dean Runyan estimated that the travel industry generated 360 direct jobs in the county in 2020. This represents 5 percent of total employment in the county. Nearly 44 percent of these jobs were in the accommodations and food service sector, 33 percent were in the arts/entertainment/recreation sector, and 17 percent were in the retail trade sector. The labor earnings associated with this employment was estimated to be \$5.9 million. This represents 2 percent of the total labor earnings for the county. Average earnings per job for the travel industry in the county for 2020 were \$16,288. Average earnings per job for the travel industry were 35 percent the county average (\$46,495).

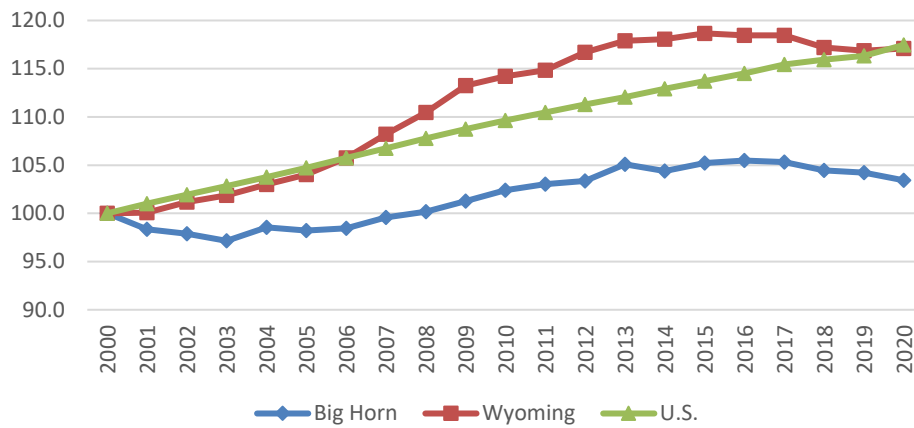
The tax revenue associated with the county's travel industry is estimated to be \$1.2 million with \$300,000 (24 percent) going to local government and \$900,000 (76 percent) going to state government.

Two public airports, in Greybull and Crowley support the agricultural and tourism industries in and around the county. Greybull is relatively busier, likely due to its BLM designation as a tanker base for forest firefighting, although both airports are significantly smaller compared to Wyoming's commercial services airports. Together, these two airports support \$4 million of economic activity in the local area

and 33 jobs. About 60 percent of the economic activity comes from operation expenditures while 40 percent is generated through payroll.

DEMOGRAPHICS

Figure 1.
Population Growth Index: 2000-2020

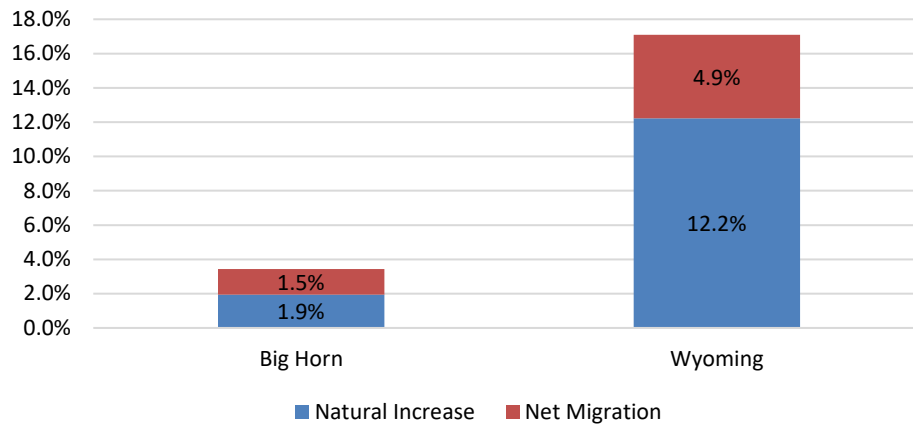


Overall Big Horn County experienced only limited population growth between 2000 and 2020, increasing from 11,389 residents in 2000 to 11,790 in 2020 (+3.4 percent). The county's population growth rate was significantly less than either the Wyoming population growth rate (17 percent) or the U.S. population growth rate (18 percent) between 2000 and 2020 (Figure 1). During the time period, the county's population fluctuated decreasing by 3 percent from 11,398 residents to 11,073 residents between 2000 and 2003; then increasing by 9 percent from 11,073 to 12,022 residents between 2003 and 2016; and then dipping slightly to 11,790 residents between 2016 and 2020.

Data Sources: Wyoming Department of Administration and Information. 2020. Economic Analysis Division, Big Horn County Profile.

U.S. Census Bureau. 2020. American Community Survey 5yr population estimates.

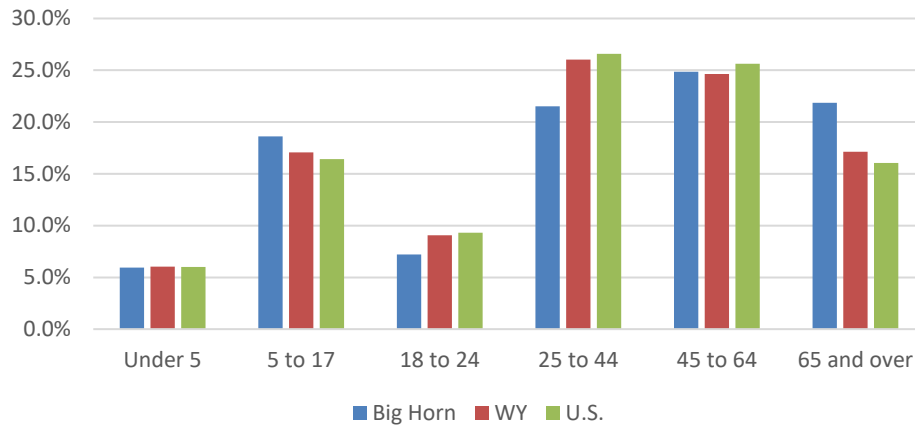
Figure 2. Comparison of Source of Population Change: 2000-2020



Population increases can occur in one of two ways: 1) Natural Increase (more births than deaths) or 2) Net In-Migration (more people moving in than moving out). Between 2000 and 2020 Big Horn County experienced population growth due to both Natural Increase and positive Net Migration (Figure 2). Of the total county population growth of 3.4 percent during the time period, 1.9 percent (57 percent) came from Natural Increase and 1.5 percent (43 percent) came from Net Migration. Both types of population growth were substantially lower than the population growth rates for Wyoming. During the time period Wyoming experienced 17 percent population growth including 12 percent from Natural Increase (72 percent) and 5 percent from Net Migration (28 percent). Both the county as well as the state received slightly more population growth from Natural Increase. The county's lower population growth rate from Net Migration was probably due to the older age of the county's population and the county's lower population growth rate from Net Migration was probably due to the county's lower job growth rate both of which will be discussed later in the report.

Data Source: Wyoming Department of Administration and Information. 2020. Economic Analysis Division, Wyoming County Profiles, 2020.

Figure 3. Comparison of Population Age Distribution: 2020

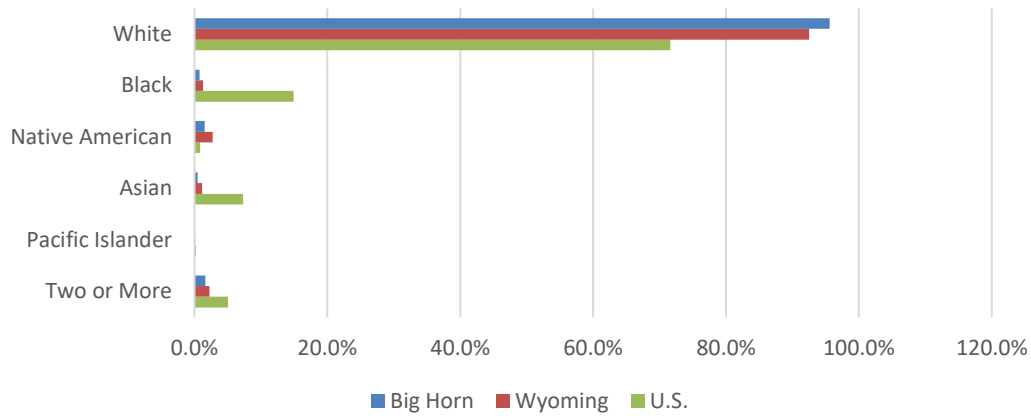


In 2020 the largest age groups for Big Horn County residents were adults 45- to 64-year-old (25 percent) and adults 65 and over (22 percent). Combined, these two age groups represented nearly one-half of the total county population (Figure 3). The next largest age group was adults 25- to 44-years-old (21 percent), followed by youth 5 to 17 (19 percent), young adults 18 to 24 (7 percent) and lastly youth under 5 (6 percent). The population distribution for the county was most overrepresented in the 65 and over age group relative to Wyoming and the U.S., while also having a larger share of the population in the 5- to 17-year-old group. Compared to Wyoming and the U.S., the county had a similar proportion of its overall population in the less than 5 age group as well as in the 45 to 64 age group. However, the county had a lower proportion of its overall population in the adults 18 to 24 and 25 to 44 age groups. On the older end of the age spectrum, the county had a comparable proportion of its overall population in the older age group of 45 to 65. The median age for the county in 2020 (41.8 years) was 9 percent older than the median age for Wyoming (38.4 years) and 9 percent older than the median age for the U.S. (38.2 years).

Data Source: Wyoming Department of Administration and Information. 2020. Economic Analysis Division, Big Horn County Profile.

U.S. Census Bureau. 2020. American Community Survey 5yr population estimates.

Figure 4.
Comparison of Population by Race: 2020

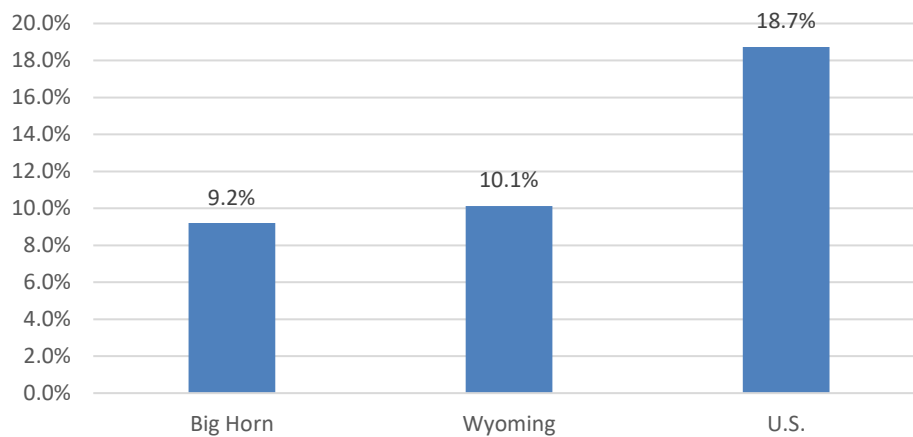


White is the predominate category of race in Big Horn County, accounting for 96 percent of the total population (Figure 4). The percentage of the population that is White in the county is 3 percentage points higher than the percentage for Wyoming (93 percent) and 24 percent points higher than the percentage for the U.S. (72 percent). The other five races identified by the federal government account for the remaining 4 percent with Two or More Races and Native American being the most common (1.6 percent and 1.5 percent, respectively), Black (0.8 percent), Asian (0.5 percent), and Pacific Islanders (less than 0.1 percent). The proportion of the county's population that was Black (0.8 percent versus 1.3 percent and 14.9 percent), Asian (0.5 percent versus 1.1 percent and 7.3 percent), Pacific Islander (less than 0.1 percent versus 0.1 percent and 0.2 percent), or Two or More Races (1.6 percent versus 2.2 percent and 5.1 percent) was less than either Wyoming or the U.S. The proportion of the county's population that was Native American was less than Wyoming but higher than the U.S. (1.5 percent versus 2.7 percent versus 0.8 percent).

Data Source: Wyoming Department of Administration and Information. 2020. Economic Analysis Division, Big Horn County Profile.

U.S. Census Bureau. 2020. American Community Survey 5yr population by race estimates.

Figure 5.
Comparison Percent of Population Hispanic: 2020

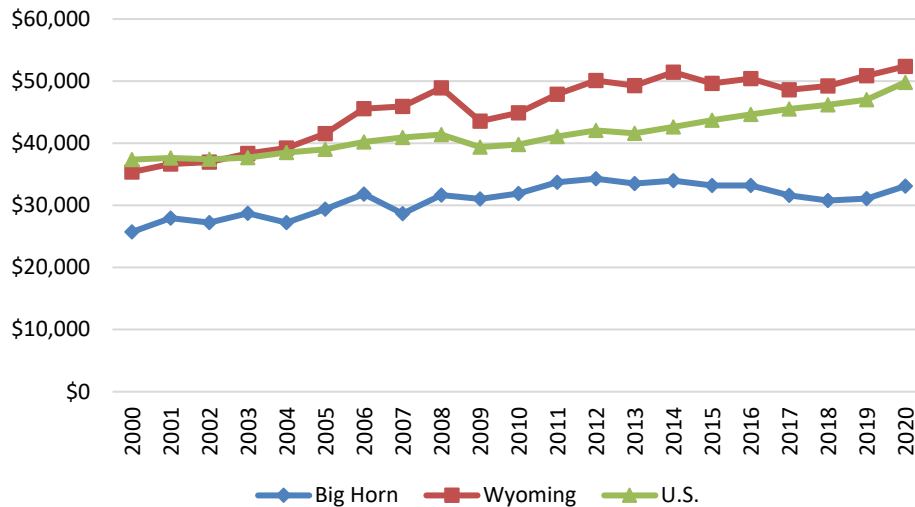


The federal government defines the term “Hispanic” as an ethnicity rather than a specific race. Thus Hispanics can be individuals of any race that self-identify themselves as “Hispanic” or “Latino” based on heritage, nationality group, lineage, or country of birth of the person or person’s parents or ancestors before their arrival in the United States. . In Big Horn County, as shown in Figure 5, the percentage of the population classifying themselves as Hispanic (9 percent) was lower than the percentage for Wyoming (10 percent) and only about one-half the percentage for U.S. (19 percent).

Data Source: Wyoming Department of Administration and Information. 2020. Economic Analysis Division, Big Horn County Profile.

U.S. Census Bureau. 2020. American Community Survey 5yr population by ethnicity estimates.

Figure 6.
Per Capita Income: 2000-2020
(Adjusted for Inflation)



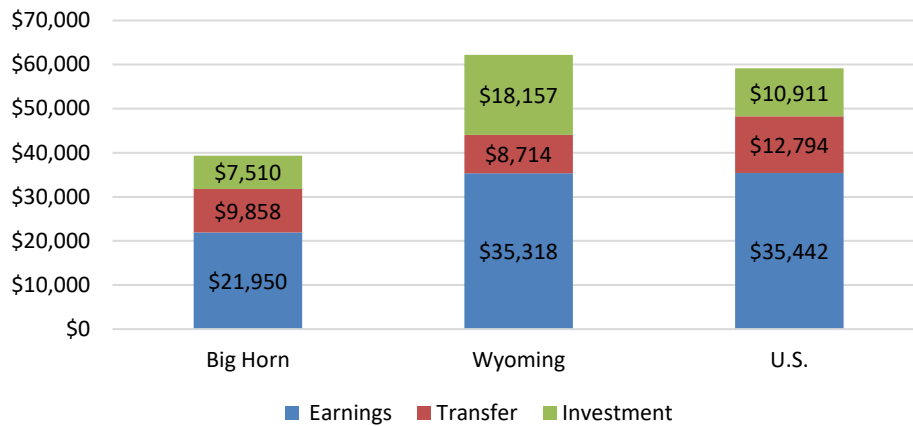
Per capita income can serve as a general indicator of the economic well-being of a county's population. In 2000, per capita income in Big Horn County was \$25,713 in 2009 dollars (Figure 6). The per capita income for the county in 2000 was 27 percent below Wyoming's per capita income (\$35,373) and 31 percent below the U.S. per capita income (\$37,371). From 2000 to 2020, after adjusting for inflation, per capita income for the county increased by 29 percent to \$33,115. Despite this increase, in 2020 the county's per capita income was still 37 percent lower than Wyoming's (\$52,379) and 34 percent below the U.S. average (\$49,816). During the most recent decade, per capita income reached a maximum of \$34,291 in 2012 and a minimum of \$30,805 in 2018.

There are three sources of per capita income: 1) net labor earnings including wages, salaries, and proprietor (self-employed) income, 2) government transfer payments such as Social Security, Medicare, Medicaid, and various income assistance program payments, and 3) investment income representing property income in the form of dividends, interest, and rents. Most of the growth in the county's per capita income between 2000 and 2020 was the result of growth of transfer payments (51 percent) with 37 percent coming from increased net earnings and 13 percent coming from increased investment income. Transfer payments were the fastest growing individual source of per capita income between 2000 and 2020 increasing by 83 percent, while labor earnings increased by 17 percent and investment income increased by 18 percent. In 2000, net labor earnings represented 61 percent of total per capita income, with investment income representing 21 percent, and transfer payments representing 18 percent. In 2020 net labor income represented 56 percent of total per capita income, investment income represented 19 percent, and transfer payments represented 25 percent. The fast growth in transfer payments between 2000 and 2020 is likely due to the growing share of residents in the county who are 65 years and older.

Data Source: Wyoming Department of Administration and Information. 2020. Economic Analysis Division, Big Horn County Profile.

U.S. Department of Commerce. 2020. Bureau of Economic Analysis, Regional Economic Accounts, Local Area Personal Income & Employment, Table SAINC30.

Figure 7.
Comparison of Per Capita Income by Source 2020



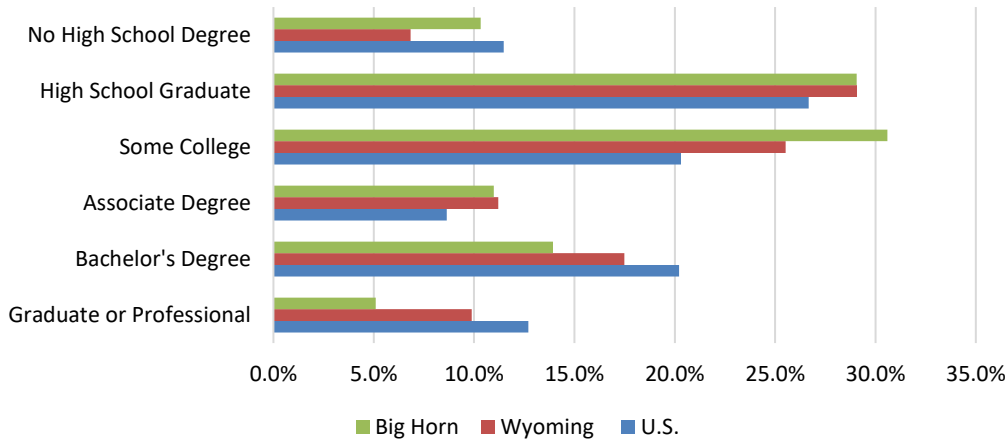
In 2020 per capita income for Big Horn County was \$39,318 in 2020 dollars (Figure 7). This level of income was 37 percent below per capita income for Wyoming and 34 percent below per capita income for the U.S. Among the three regions, the county had the lowest per capita labor earnings (\$21,950) which was 38 percent below per capita labor earnings for Wyoming (\$35,318) and 38 percent below per capita labor earnings for the U.S. (\$35,442). In 2020, the county had per capita transfer payments of \$9,858 which was 13 percent higher than per capita transfer payments for Wyoming (\$8,714), and 23 percent lower than per capita transfer payments for the U.S. (\$12,794). The county's per capita investment income (\$7,510) was 59 percent below per capita investment income for Wyoming (\$18,157), and 31 percent lower than per capita investment income for the U.S. (\$10,911).

The county's 2020 unemployment rate (5.0 percent) was lower than Wyoming's unemployment rate (5.8 percent) and lower than the U.S. unemployment rate (8.1 percent). While total per capita income for the county was 37 percent below the state average, the Wyoming Economic Analysis Division estimates that the county's cost-of-living for the second quarter of 2020 was only 10 percent below the state average. This difference suggests that, on average, county residents were economically somewhat worse-off than the average resident in the state in 2020. Similarly, the percent of the county's population that was below the poverty level (9.8 percent) was lower than the Wyoming's rate (10.8 percent) and lower than the U.S. rate (12.8 percent).

Data Source: U.S. Department of Commerce. 2020. Bureau of Economic Analysis, Regional Economic Accounts, Local Area Personal Income & Employment, Table SAINC30.

U.S. Census Bureau. American Community Survey. Table S1701, 2020: 5-year estimates

Figure 8.
Level of Educational Attainment, 2020
(Population 25 Years or Older)

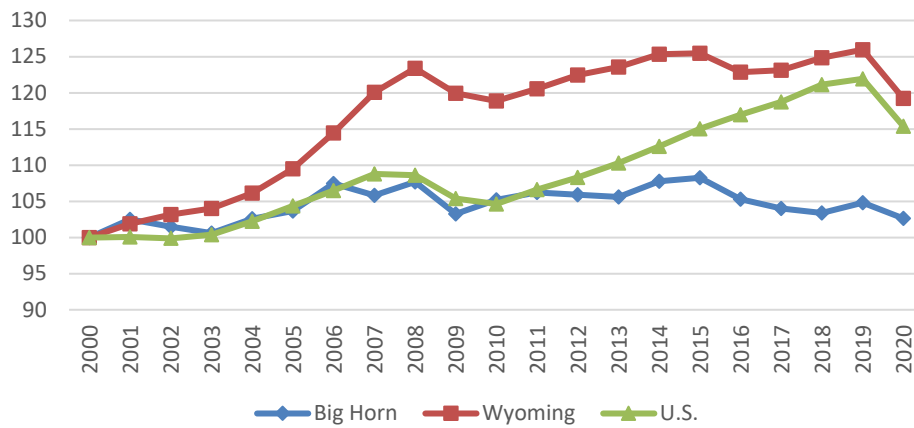


Overall, the educational attainment of Big Horn County's population in terms of a high school degree or higher (90 percent) was lower than Wyoming's (93 percent) and higher than the U.S. (89 percent). The county's population was somewhat less educated in terms of college bachelors or advanced degrees than Wyoming (19 percent vs. 27 percent) and the U.S. (19 percent vs. 33 percent). The percentage of the county population without a high school degree (10 percent) was higher than Wyoming's (7 percent) and lower than the U.S. (12 percent). The percentage of the county's population with only a high school degree (29 percent) was the same as Wyoming's (29 percent) but higher than the U.S. (27 percent). The percentage of the county's population with some college (31 percent) was higher than Wyoming's (26 percent) and the U.S. (20 percent). The percentage of the county's population with an associate degree (11 percent) was similar to Wyoming (11.2 percent) but higher than the U.S. (9 percent). The percentage of the county's population with either a bachelors (14 percent) or graduate/professional degree (5 percent) was below Wyoming's (18 percent and 10 percent) and the U.S. (20 percent and 13 percent).

In terms of access to educational resources, the county has four public school districts with a total of 14 schools and a 2019 fall enrollment of 2,536. The graduation rate for the public school system was 77 percent compared to a state average of 82 percent. The public school system had 208 certified teachers, 35 certified staff, 36 administrators, and 174 classified staff. Total general fund expenditures for the county's public school system was \$45.8 million in 2019 with an operating cost of \$20,882 per average daily membership. This compares with an average operating cost of \$18,210 per average daily membership for the state. Northwest College whose main campus is in Powell, Wyoming provides post-secondary educational services to the county.

Data Source: Wyoming Department of Administration and Information. 2020. Economic Analysis Division, Wyoming County Profiles 2020.

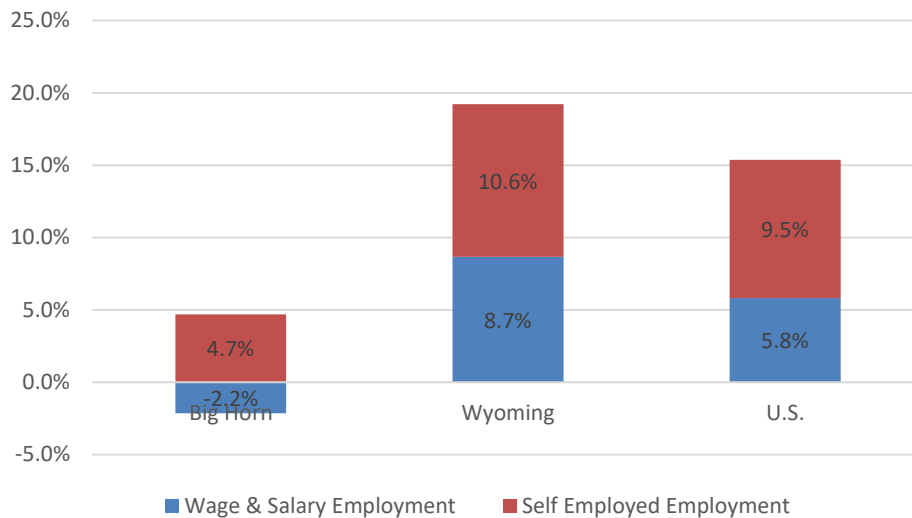
Figure 9.
Employment Growth Index: 2000-2020



Overall, Big Horn County experienced only limited employment growth between 2000 and 2020. Total employment in the county increased by 2.5 percent from 2000 through 2020 growing from 6,411 jobs in 2000 to 6,579 jobs in 2020 (Figure 9). During this time period Wyoming employment increased by 19 percent and the U.S. employment increased by 15 percent. Employment in all three regions was negatively affected by 2008 recession and the 2020 pandemic. Considering the 2008 recession, the county's employment was slower to recover than Wyoming or the U.S. Between 2010 and 2019 the county's employment increased by just 0.5 percent compared to a 6 percent increase for Wyoming and 16.5 percent increase for the U.S. Considering the 2020 recession, Big Horn County's total employment decreased nearly 2 percent between 2019 and 2020 compared to Wyoming's and the U.S.'s decrease of 5 percent each.

Data Source: U.S. Department of Commerce. 2020. Bureau of Economic Analysis, Regional Economic Accounts, Local Area Personal Income & Employment, Table CAINC30.

Figure 10.
Comparison of Employment Growth: 2000-2020



From 2000 to 2020, employment in Big Horn County increased by 2.5 percent (Figure 10). This increase was only 14 percent of the employment increase for Wyoming (19 percent) and only 17 percent of the employment increase for the U.S. (15 percent) during the same time period. All of the growth in employment in the county between 2000 and 2020 was in self-employment jobs (+4.7 percent) with wage and salary jobs actually contracting (-2.2 percent) and bringing down total employment growth. However this was exacerbated by the pandemic. Between 2000 and 2019 (pre-pandemic) wage and salary employment in the county only shrank 0.8 percent and self-employment grew 5.6 percent. At the state level, wage and salary jobs represented 45 percent of the employment growth (+9 percent) with 55 percent coming from growth in self-employment jobs (+11 percent). At the national level, the ratio was 38 percent from wage and salary jobs (6 percent) to 62 percent from self-employment jobs (9.5 percent). The county had a much higher proportion of its overall job growth from increases in self-employed jobs rather than wage and salary jobs than either Wyoming or the U.S.

Data Source: U.S. Department of Commerce. 2020. Bureau of Economic Analysis, Regional Economic Accounts, Local Area Personal Income & Employment, Table CAINC30.

Figure 11.

Big Horn County Employment by Sector: 2020

Sector	Jobs	Percent	LQ
Local Government	1,193	18.1%	2.49
Agriculture	796	12.1%	8.91
Construction	605	9.2%	1.62
Mining	488	7.4%	15.02
Retail Trade	456	6.9%	0.74
Manufacturing	364	5.5%	0.82
Management Services	294	4.5%	0.59
Professional Services	293	4.5%	0.59
Health Care & Social Assistance	280	4.3%	0.36
Other Services	247	3.8%	0.68
Accommodations & Food Service	223	3.4%	0.53
Finance & Insurance	219	3.3%	0.60
State Government	172	2.6%	0.93
Real Estate, Rental, & Leasing	165	2.5%	0.54
Transportation & Warehousing	148	2.2%	0.47
Forestry, Fishing, & Ag Support	133	2.0%	4.17
Wholesale Trade	111	1.7%	0.52
Federal - Civilian	100	1.5%	0.97
Information	79	1.2%	0.71
Arts, Entertainment, & Recreation	74	1.1%	0.60
Military	60	0.9%	0.91
Educational Services	46	0.7%	0.29
Utilities	33	0.5%	1.63
Total	6,579	100.0%	N.A.

Local Government, which includes all employment associated with county government, towns and city government in the county, and the county's public school districts, was the largest source of employment in Big Horn County representing 18 percent of total county employment (Figure 11). Following Local Government was Agriculture (12%). Other major sources of employment were Construction (9 percent), Mining (7 percent), and Retail Trade (7 percent). Combined these five sectors represent more than one-half of the employment in the county.

The location quotients (LQ), in the fourth column of Figure 11, were used to identify Defining Industries in the county. A location quotient is the ratio of an industry's share of total employment in the region relative to the industry's share of total employment at the national level. A large location quotient is an indication of specialization within the county's economy. Defining Industries are important because they play a significant role in a region's growth over time. The Federal Reserve Bank of Kansas City considers Defining Industries as those with a locational quotient of at least 1.25 that account for at least 0.2 percent of total employment in the region. Based on this definition Big Horn County has six Defining

Industries including: Mining (15.02), Agriculture (8.91), Forestry, Fishing, and Ag Support (4.17), Local Government (2.49), Utilities (1.63) and Construction (1.62). These six sectors are relatively more important in the county's economy than they are at the national level.

Data Source: U.S. Department of Commerce. 2020. Bureau of Economic Analysis, Regional Economic Accounts, Local Area Personal Income & Employment, Table CAEMP25N.

Figure 12.

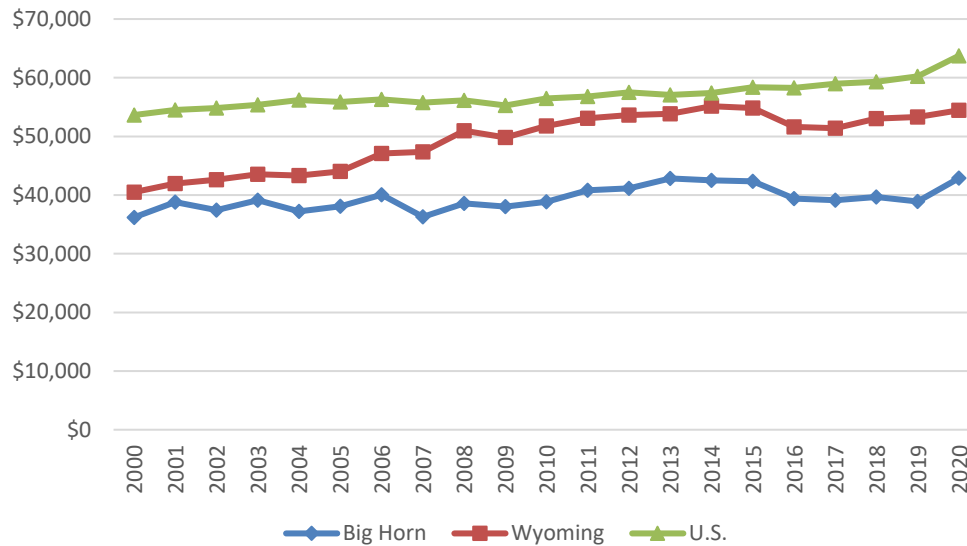
Change in Big Horn County Employment by Sector: 2001-2015

Sector	2001	2020	Change 2001-2020	Percent of Change	Percent Change
Utilities	32	1193	1161	14512.5%	3628.1%
Real Estate, Rental, & Leasing	100	294	194	2425.0%	194.0%
Forestry, Fishing, & Ag Support	88	280	192	2400.0%	218.2%
Construction	417	605	188	2350.0%	45.1%
Information	63	247	184	2300.0%	292.1%
Other Services	294	456	162	2025.0%	55.1%
Educational Services	14	172	158	1975.0%	1128.6%
Professional Services	173	293	120	1500.0%	69.4%
Federal - Civilian	111	223	112	1400.0%	100.9%
Manufacturing	257	364	107	1337.5%	41.6%
Military	64	100	36	450.0%	56.3%
Transportation & Warehousing	203	219	16	200.0%	7.9%
Arts, Entertainment, & Recreation	73	60	-13	-162.5%	-17.8%
Finance & Insurance	189	165	-24	-300.0%	-12.7%
Wholesale Trade	121	74	-47	-587.5%	-38.8%
Health Care & Social Assistance	190	79	-111	-1387.5%	-58.4%
State Government	212	46	-166	-2075.0%	-78.3%
Management Services	288	111	-177	-2212.5%	-61.5%
Accommodations & Food Service	415	148	-267	-3337.5%	-64.3%
Local Government	1099	796	-303	-3787.5%	-27.6%
Retail Trade	487	33	-454	-5675.0%	-93.2%
Mining	998	488	-510	-6375.0%	-51.1%
Agriculture	683	133	-550	-6875.0%	-80.5%
Total	6571	6579	8	100.0%	0.1%

Employment in Big Horn County increased by 0.12 percent from 2001 through 2020 (Figure 12). While some industries like utilities experienced substantial employment growth, others industries experienced decreasing employment growth, lowering net employment gains over the two decades. The largest increases in employment came from Utilities (+14512 jobs), Real Estate, Rental, & Leasing (+194 jobs), Forestry, Fishing, & Ag Support (+192 jobs), Construction (+188 jobs), and Information (+184 jobs). On the other hand, the two sectors with the largest loss in employment between 2001 and 2020 were Agriculture (-550 jobs) and Mining (-510 jobs). In terms of individual sectors the fastest growing sectors were Utilities (+14,512 percent) and Educational Services (+1,128 percent).

Data Source: U.S. Department of Commerce. 2020. Bureau of Economic Analysis, Regional Economic Accounts, Local Area Personal Income & Employment, Table CAEMP25N.

Figure 13.
Comparison of Average Earnings Per Job: 2000-2020
(Adjusted for Inflation)



In addition to the number of jobs, the labor earnings associated with those jobs is an important consideration. Overall average earnings per job are a general measure of the economic well-being of the local workforce. Figure 13 illustrates the continuing difficulty that the Big Horn County economy has had over time in generating relatively high paying jobs. In 2000, the average earnings per job for the county was \$36,199, in 2015 dollars, which was 11 percent below the Wyoming average earnings per job (\$40,501) and 32 percent below the U.S. average earnings per job (\$53,641). From 2000 through 2020, after adjusting for inflation, county average earnings per job increased by 19 percent to \$42,884. Despite this increase, 2020 county average earnings per job was 21 percent below the Wyoming average earnings per job (\$54,466) and 33 percent below the U.S. average earnings per job (\$63,750). While county average earnings per job was 21 percent below the state average in 2020, the Wyoming Economic Analysis Division estimates that the county's cost-of-living for the second quarter of 2020 was only 10 percent below the state average. This difference suggests that, on average, the county's workforce was economically somewhat worse-off than the state average in 2020.

Data Source: U.S. Department of Commerce. 2020. Bureau of Economic Analysis, Regional Economic Accounts, Local Area Personal Income & Employment, Table CAINC30.

Figure 14.

Average Earnings Per Job for Big Horn County: 2020

Sector	Jobs	(\$1,000)	AEPJ
Transportation & Warehousing	148	\$13,826	\$93,419
Utilities	33	\$3,037	\$92,030
Federal - Civilian	100	\$8,719	\$87,190
State Government	172	\$12,689	\$73,773
Mining	488	\$34,405	\$70,502
Local Government	1,193	\$79,981	\$67,042
Manufacturing	364	\$21,635	\$59,437
Wholesale Trade	111	\$5,927	\$53,396
Information	79	\$4,181	\$52,924
Construction	605	\$31,062	\$51,342
Professional Services	293	\$11,971	\$40,857
Finance & Insurance	219	\$8,283	\$37,822
Agriculture	796	\$29,783	\$37,416
Military	60	\$2,163	\$36,050
Other Services	247	\$6,939	\$28,093
Health Care & Social Assistance	280	\$7,566	\$27,021
Management Services	294	\$7,632	\$25,960
Forestry, Fishing, & Ag Support	133	\$2,998	\$22,541
Retail Trade	456	\$8,522	\$18,689
Accommodations & Food Service	223	\$3,256	\$14,599
Educational Services	46	\$302	\$6,565
Arts, Entertainment, & Recreation	74	\$411	\$5,554
Real Estate, Rental, & Leasing	165	\$601	\$3,642
Total	6,579	\$ 305,889	\$ 46,495

Average earnings per job (AEPJ), which includes employer paid benefits, varies substantially by sector. In 2020 AEPJ in Big Horn County ranged from over \$93,000 for the Transportation & Warehousing sector to less than \$4,000 for the Real Estate, Rental, & Leasing sector (Figure 14). After Transportation & Warehousing, the next highest AEPJ was in the Utilities sector (\$92,030), Federal-Civilian (\$87,190), State Government (\$73,773), Mining (\$70,502) and Local Government (\$67,042). Of the 23 sectors in the county's economy 5 had AEPJ greater than the Wyoming average (\$59,126) and the U.S. average (\$69,204). The 5 sectors with AEPJ greater than the Wyoming and U.S. averages represented only 14 percent of the total employment in the county resulting in the overall lower AEPJ for the county. The low AEPJ for several of the sectors like Real Estate, Rental, & Leasing may be the result of a large number of part-time jobs in these sectors.

Data Sources: U.S. Department of Commerce. 2020. Bureau of Economic Analysis, Regional Economic Accounts, Local Area Personal Income & Employment, Tables CAINC5N & CAEMP25N.

Figure 15.

Total Labor Earnings for Big Horn County: 2020

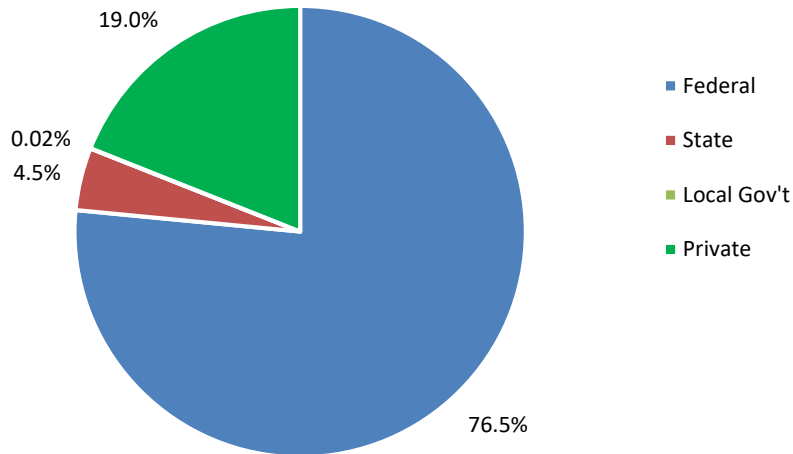
Sector	Jobs	AEPJ	Earnings (\$1,000)	Percent
Local Government	1,193	\$67,042	\$79,981	26.1%
Mining	488	\$70,502	\$34,405	11.2%
Construction	605	\$51,342	\$31,062	10.2%
Agriculture	796	\$37,416	\$29,783	9.7%
Manufacturing	364	\$59,437	\$21,635	7.1%
Transportation & Warehousing	148	\$93,419	\$13,826	4.5%
State Government	172	\$73,773	\$12,689	4.1%
Professional Services	293	\$40,857	\$11,971	3.9%
Federal - Civilian	100	\$87,190	\$8,719	2.9%
Retail Trade	456	\$18,689	\$8,522	2.8%
Finance & Insurance	219	\$37,822	\$8,283	2.7%
Management Services	294	\$25,960	\$7,632	2.5%
Health Care & Social Assistance	280	\$27,021	\$7,566	2.5%
Other Services	247	\$28,093	\$6,939	2.3%
Wholesale Trade	111	\$53,396	\$5,927	1.9%
Information	79	\$52,924	\$4,181	1.4%
Accommodations & Food Service	223	\$14,599	\$3,256	1.1%
Utilities	33	\$92,030	\$3,037	1.0%
Forestry, Fishing, & Ag Support	133	\$22,541	\$2,998	1.0%
Military	60	\$36,050	\$2,163	0.7%
Real Estate, Rental, & Leasing	165	\$3,642	\$601	0.2%
Arts, Entertainment, & Recreation	74	\$5,554	\$411	0.1%
Educational Services	46	\$6,565	\$302	0.1%
Total	6,579	\$46,495	\$305,889	100.0%

The combination of the number of jobs and the average earnings per job determines the relative importance of individual sectors in terms of total labor earnings in the Big Horn County economy (Figure 15). Labor earnings are important because they represent the major source of personal income for county residents. Overall county employment generated \$305.9 million in labor earnings in 2020. Local Government, due to its relatively large number of employees and above average earnings per job was the largest source of labor earnings for the county (26 percent). Following Local Government was Mining (11 percent), Construction (10 percent), Agriculture (9.7 percent), and Manufacturing (7.1 percent). Combined these five sectors represented 64 percent of total county labor earnings.

Data Sources: U.S. Department of Commerce. 2020. Bureau of Economic Analysis, Regional Economic Accounts, Local Area Personal Income & Employment, Tables CAINC5N & CAEMP25N.

LAND CHARACTERISTICS

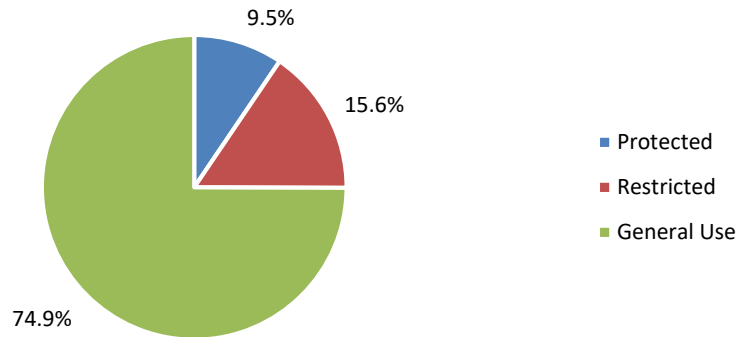
Figure 16.
Land Ownership in Big Horn County 2020
2,021,296 Acres



Big Horn County contains 2.0 million acres of land (Figure 16). The Federal government is the largest category of landownership in the county, accounting for 77 percent of this land area (1.5 million acres). Of the total Federal land, the BLM manages 75 percent, the Forest Service manages 23 percent, the Park Service manages 1 percent, and other Federal entities manage 1 percent. State land represents 5 percent of the county's land area (90,593 acres). Most of the state land in the county is state trust land (77 percent), with 23 percent managed by other state entities. Local government only owns 0.02 percent of the county's land area (410 acres). Private land represents only 19 percent of the surface area in the county (383,579 acres). Information from the Wyoming Department of Revenue on acres taxed as agricultural land indicates that 80 percent of the private land in the county is in agricultural use (308,374 acres). Of this total 62 percent is classified as range land (190,530 acres) and 38 percent is classified as irrigated crop land (117,844 acres).

Data Source: State of Wyoming Department of Revenue 2020 Annual Report. Headwaters Economics. 2020. Economic Profile System-Human Dimension Toolkit, A Profile of Land Use (page 4).

Figure 17.
Management Designation of Federal Lands in Big
Horn County



Federal lands are managed for different purposes under differing statutory authority. Three categories of designation are presented in Figure 17: 1) Protected, 2) Restricted., and 3) General Use.

- Protected Areas include National Parks and Preserves (NPS), Wilderness (NPS, FWS, FS, BLM), National Conservation Areas (BLM), National Monuments (NPS, FS, BLM), National Recreation Areas (NPS, FS, BLM), National Wild and Scenic Rivers (NPS, FS, BLM), Water Fowl Protection Areas (FWS), Wildlife Management Areas (FWS), Research Natural Areas (FS, BLM), Areas of Critical Environmental Concern (BLM), and National Wildlife Refuges (FWS).
- Restricted Areas include Wilderness Study Areas (NPS, FWS, FS, BLM) and Inventoried Roadless Areas (FS).
- General Use Areas include Public Domain Lands (BLM) and National Forests and Grasslands (FS).

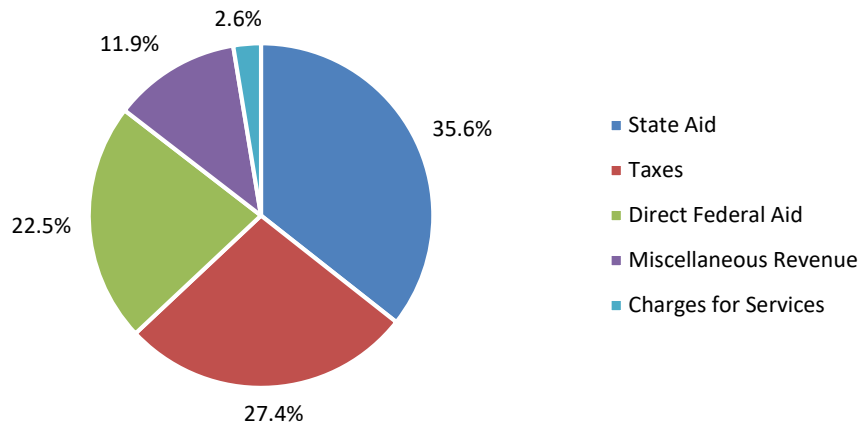
This data was obtained from the Economic Profile System – Human Dimension Toolkit (NPS = National Park Service, FWS = Fish and Wildlife, FS = Forest Service, and BLM = Bureau of Land Management).

In Big Horn County, Economic Profile System data indicates that 10 percent of Federal lands are designated as protected. Meanwhile, 16 percent of federal lands are designated as restricted and 75 percent are designated for general use. In comparison, 19 percent of total federal lands in Wyoming are classified as protected, 11 percent are classified as restricted, and 71 percent are classified as general use.

Data Source: Headwaters Economics. 2020. Economic Profile System-Human Dimension Toolkit, A Profile of Land Use (page 8).

County Government Finances

Figure 18.
Big Horn County Government Revenue: FY2020

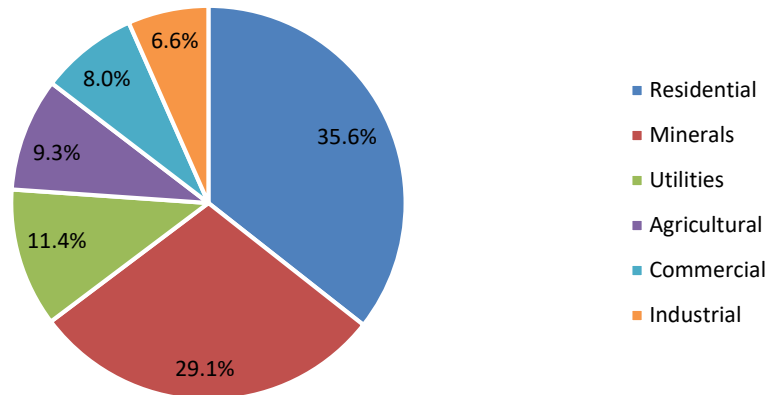


Wyoming Department of Audit information indicates that the total revenue for Big Horn County Government was \$13.4 million in FY2020 (Figure 18). Of this total, the largest sources were State Aid which included the county's share of the 4 percent sales and use tax revenue (36 percent) and Taxes which included property taxes and any optional sales tax revenue (27 percent). Following State Aid and Taxes were Direct Federal Aid, including PILT payments (23 percent). Combined these three sources represented 86 percent of the total county government revenue in FY2020. Other sources of county government revenue included Miscellaneous Revenue (12 percent) and Charges for Services (3 percent). Combined these revenue sources represented nearly 15 percent of the total county government revenue in FY2020.

Compared to all counties in Wyoming, the county had a higher proportion of revenue from State Aid (36 percent vs. 26 percent). The county's proportion of revenue from Taxes was substantially lower relative to all counties in the state (27 percent vs. 47 percent) and the proportion from Direct Federal Aid was higher relative to all counties in the state (23 percent vs. 6 percent). Miscellaneous Revenue was higher for Big Horn County relative to the state average (12 percent vs. 8 percent) while Charges for Services (3 percent vs. 6 percent) were lower compared to other counties in the state. Overall, the county's per capita revenue (\$1,133) was 17 percent below the average for all counties in Wyoming (\$1,356).

Data Source: Wyoming Department of Audit. 2021. Cost of Maintaining County Government in Wyoming: For Fiscal Year July 1, 2019-June 30, 2020: As prepared from Reports submitted to the Department of Audit Public Funds.

Figure 19.
Big Horn County Assessed Valuation: 2021
\$197,426,831

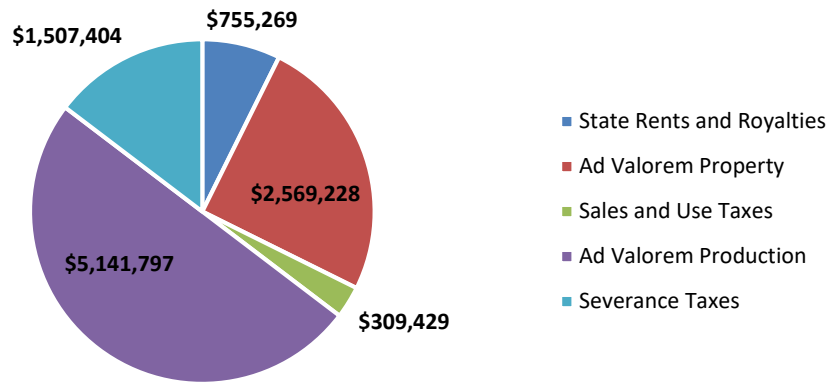


The total assessed valuation for Big Horn County in FY2021 was \$197.4 million (Figure 19). Thirty-six percent of the total valuation was from Residential Property. Following Residential Property was Minerals (29 percent), Utilities (11 percent), Agricultural Property (9 percent), Commercial Property (8 percent), and Industrial Property (7 percent). The county's per capita assessed valuation (\$16,745) was one-half of Wyoming's per capita assessed valuation (\$33,916). It should be noted that compared to FY2020, mineral valuation in FY2021 was down 45.17%, likely due to low energy prices related to the pandemic.

Compared to Wyoming, the county had a higher proportion of assessed valuation from Residential Property than that for Wyoming's (36 percent vs. 34 percent). The county had a lower proportion of assessed valuation from Mineral Production (29 percent vs. 36 percent), the assessed valuation from Utilities was also slightly higher than Wyoming's (11 percent vs. 9 percent), the assessed valuation from Agricultural Property was the substantially higher than that for Wyoming's (9 percent vs. 2 percent), the assessed valuation from Commercial Property was similar to Wyoming's (8 percent vs. 9 percent) and the assessed valuation from Industrial Property was lower than Wyoming's (7 percent vs. 10 percent). In terms of Mineral Production, crude oil represented 54 percent of total county mineral assessed valuation, bentonite represented 42 percent of total county mineral assessed valuation, gypsum represented 3 percent, natural gas represented 1 percent, and sand and gravel represented less than 1 percent of total county mineral assessed valuation.

Data Sources: Wyoming Department of Revenue. 2021. 2020 Annual Report.

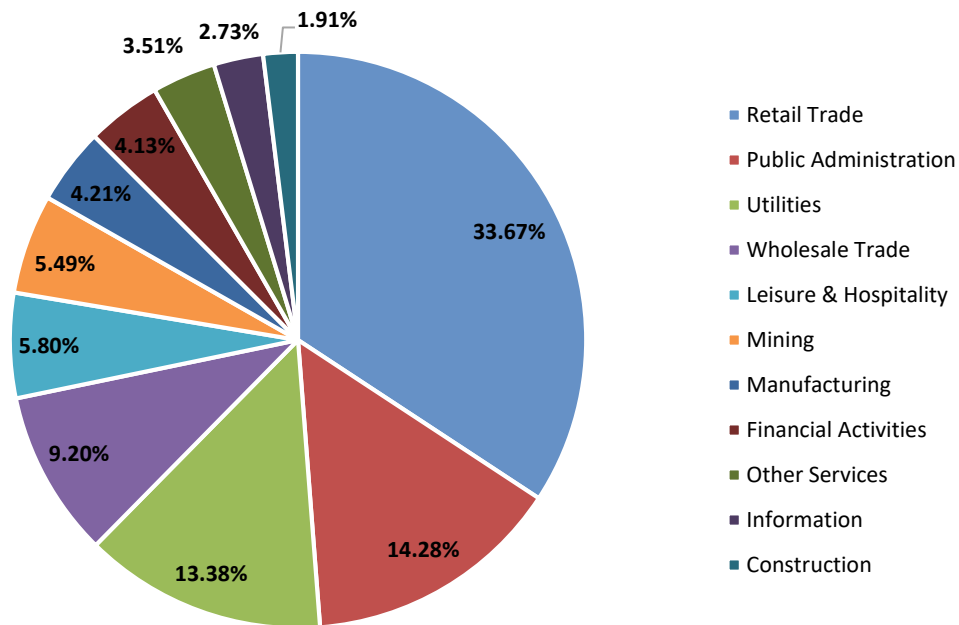
Figure 20.
Bentonite State Revenues (2019)



Wyoming is the largest producer of bentonite in the United States, producing 93% of the nation's bentonite in 2018. There are three primary regions of bentonite production in Wyoming, Big Horn Basin, the northeast, and near Casper. The Big Horn Basin production area has the largest concentration of bentonite operations, including mines as well as processing mills. In total, there are 12 mine and 15 processing locations in the state. A 2019 report on bentonite's importance to Wyoming's economy found that the industry supports over 770 jobs and contributes \$344 million to Wyoming's economy, including \$10.3 million in revenue to state and local governments (figure 20). The average annual earnings per job in the industry are estimated to be \$62,334, which is 34% higher than Big Horn County's average earnings across all jobs. Bentonite's broad uses in manufacturing, energy, and consumer products make the industry make it resilient to market fluctuations unlike other resource-based industries, making it both a relatively high paying and reliable industry for local economies.

Data Source: Wyoming Mining Association. 2019. Clay of a Thousand Uses: Wyoming Bentonite Concise Guide.

Figure 21.
Big Horn County Sales & Use Tax Revenue: FY2021



In FY2020 Big Horn County's sales and use tax generated \$9.9 million in tax revenue (Figure 20). Of this total, 55 percent (\$5.4 million) was retained by state government and 45 percent (\$4.4 million) was returned to local governments in the county. In FY2020 county government's share of the returned sales and use tax revenue was approximately \$1.7 million (38 percent) with the remaining \$2.7 million (62 percent) going to municipal governments in the county. Thirty-four percent of the county's total sales and use tax revenue came from Retail Trade. Following Retail Trade was Public Administration (14 percent), Utilities (13 percent), Wholesale Trade (9 percent), Leisure & Hospitality (6 percent), and Mining (6 percent). Combined these six sectors contributed 82 percent of the county's total sales and use tax revenue. Public Administration represents sales and use tax revenue on motor vehicle purchases which are collected at the time of registration in Wyoming. Manufacturing, Financial Activities, Other Services, and Information combined contributed 15 percent of total county sales and use tax revenue.

Compared to total sales and use tax revenue for Wyoming, the county had a lower proportion of sales and use tax revenue from Retail Trade (34 percent vs. 37 percent). The county's proportion of sales and use tax revenue from Public Administration was higher than Wyoming's (14 percent vs. 10 percent), from Utilities was higher than Wyoming's (13 percent vs. 5 percent), from Wholesale Trade was lower than Wyoming's (6 percent vs. 11 percent), from Mining was lower than Wyoming's (6 percent vs. 14 percent) and from Manufacturing was higher than Wyoming's (4 percent vs. 3 percent). The county's proportion of sales and use tax revenue from Financial Activities was similar to that for Wyoming's (4 percent vs. 4 percent). Per capita sales and use tax revenues for the county (\$836) were one-half of per capita sales and use tax revenues for Wyoming (\$1,756).

Data Sources: Wyoming Department of Administration and Information, Economic Analysis Division. 2021. Wyoming Sales, Use, and Lodging Tax Revenue Report, 41st Edition. Wyoming Department of Revenue. 2021. 2020 Annual Report.

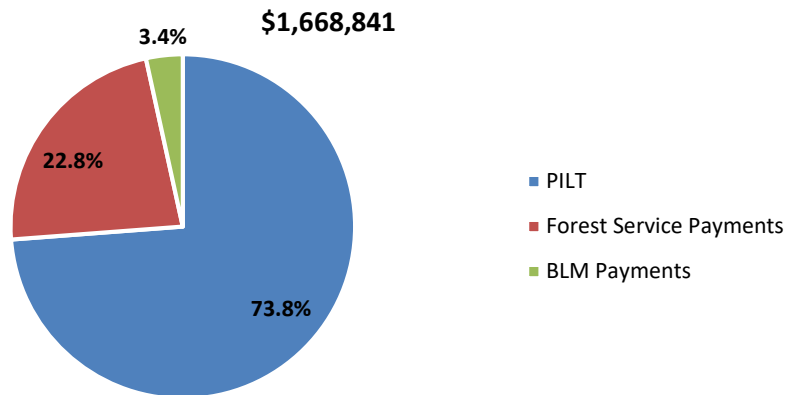
Figure 22.
Top Ten Taxpayers (2020)

Top Ten Taxpayers (2019 production year)	Valuation		County Proportion	
Merit Energy	\$	47,083,831	\$	565,005.97
M-I LLC	\$	12,112,552	\$	145,350.62
American Colloid	\$	11,942,361	\$	143,308.33
Halliburton Energy Services	\$	11,834,194	\$	142,010.33
Burlington Northern	\$	10,468,208	\$	125,618.50
Express Pipeline	\$	5,900,299	\$	70,803.59
White Rock Oil & Gas	\$	2,957,905	\$	35,494.86
Whiting Petroleum	\$	2,648,259	\$	31,779.11
WYO-BEN	\$	2,194,629	\$	26,335.55
American Colloid	\$	2,061,797	\$	24,741.56
Top Ten Valuation	\$	109,204,035	\$	1,310,448.42

Figure 21 shows the top ten taxpayers in Big Horn County in FY2020. The majority of Big Horn County's top tax paying entities are businesses in the energy industry with others in other mining, chemicals, or transportation. The largest tax contributor is Merit Energy, contributing \$565,006 in taxes to the county. Merit Energy's local tax contribution is nearly three times higher than the next highest, M-I LLC at \$145,351. Together, these top ten taxpayers total \$1.3 million in county taxes, nearly half of the county's total tax revenue portion of \$2.7 million.

Data Source: Big Horn County 2020 Assessed Valuation. Top Ten Taxpayers.

Figure 23.
Big Horn County Federal Land Payment: FY2019



The Economic Profile System-Human Dimensions Toolkit indicates that federal land payments to local governments in Big Horn County totaled \$1.7 million in FY2019 (Figure 21). The largest source of federal land payments to the county was Payment in Lieu of Taxes (PILT) representing 74 percent of the total amount (\$1.2 million). PILT payments are intended to compensate county governments for non-taxable federal lands within their borders. It is based on a maximum per-acre payment reduced by other federal revenue sharing payments and subject to a per capita population cap. The second largest source of federal payments to the county was Forest Service payments representing 23 percent of the total amount (\$379,808). Forest Service payments can include 25 Percent Revenue Sharing funds, Secure Rural School & Community Self Determination Act funds, and Bankhead-Jones Forest Grasslands funds. The third source of federal payments to the county was BLM Payments representing 3 percent of the total amount (\$57,439). BLM payments represent revenue sharing funds including grazing fees through the Taylor Grazing Act. Of the \$1.7 million in Federal land payments to the county in FY2019, 85 percent went to county government (\$1.4 million), 10 percent went to local school districts (\$161,418), with 3 percent (\$57,202) going to grazing districts and 2 percent (\$30,385) going to Resource Advisory Councils. In FY2019 Federal Land Payments to the county represented \$0.80 per eligible acre of Federal land in 2021 dollars. The average for Wyoming was \$1.06 per eligible acre of Federal land in 2021 dollars.

Data Source: Headwaters Economics. 2021. Economic Profile System-Human Dimension Toolkit, A Profile of Federal Land Payments (page 12).

Figure 24.

Big Horn County Government Costs, FY2020

Costs	Amount	Percent	Per Capita
County Sheriff	\$2,339,096	17.8%	\$200.47
Construction	\$2,073,994	15.8%	\$177.75
Jail	\$2,039,690	15.5%	\$174.81
Road and Bridge	\$1,157,964	8.8%	\$99.24
Courthouse	\$895,467	6.8%	\$76.75
Civil Defense/Emergency	\$427,446	3.3%	\$36.63
County Attorney	\$413,820	3.1%	\$35.47
County Clerk	\$401,433	3.1%	\$34.40
Capital	\$377,627	2.9%	\$32.36
County Assessor	\$359,774	2.7%	\$30.83
County Administration	\$357,376	2.7%	\$30.63
County Treasurer	\$333,069	2.5%	\$28.55
Fair	\$295,668	2.3%	\$25.34
County Hospital	\$275,428	2.1%	\$23.61
County Airport	\$265,099	2.0%	\$22.72
Distict Court	\$224,222	1.7%	\$19.22
County Commissioners	\$156,920	1.2%	\$13.45
Elections	\$134,022	1.0%	\$11.49
County Planner	\$133,368	1.0%	\$11.43
County Coroner	\$116,765	0.9%	\$10.01
Agricultural Department	\$94,623	0.7%	\$8.11
County Surveyor	\$87,221	0.7%	\$7.48
Social Services	\$86,560	0.7%	\$7.42
Health (Not Hospital)	\$52,060	0.4%	\$4.46
Fire	\$37,611	0.3%	\$3.22
Finacial Administration	\$3,600	0.0%	\$0.31
Library	\$250	0.0%	\$0.02
Total	\$13,140,173	100.0%	\$1,126.17

The total cost of maintaining county government for Big Horn County in FY2020 was \$13.1 million (Figure 22). This represents a per capita cost of \$1,126.17 which was 54 percent below the average for all counties in Wyoming (\$2,458). The largest cost categories were County Sheriff (18 percent), Construction (16 percent), Jail (16 percent), Road and Bridge (9 percent), and Courthouse (7 percent). These five categories represented 65 percent of the total cost of maintaining county government.

Data Source: Wyoming Department of Audit. 2021. Cost of Maintaining County Government in Wyoming: For Fiscal Year July 1, 2015-June 30, 2020, as prepared from Reports submitted to the Department of Audit Public Funds

NATURAL RESOURCE BASED INDUSTRY PROFILES

Figure 25.
Big Horn County Mining Industry

	Amount
<u>Mineral Production (2020)</u>	
Bentonite (Tons)	1,850,798
Crude Oil (Barrels)	1,099,237
Natural Gas (MCF)	513,699
Gypsum (Tons)	235,482
Sand & Gravel (Tons)	36,771
<u>Tax Revenue (2021 from 2020 Production)</u>	
Assessed Valuation	\$57,504,917
Property Tax Revenue	\$4,074,511
<u>Employment (2020)</u>	
Full & Part Time Jobs	488
Labor Earnings	\$34,225,000
Average Earnings Per Job	\$70,133

In 2020, the Mining sector in Big Horn County produced 1.1 million barrels of crude oil and 0.5 million mcf of natural gas, 1.9 million tons of bentonite, 0.2 million tons of gypsum, and 36,771 tons of sand and gravel (Figure 23). The mining production in the county had an assessed valuation of \$57.5 million dollars in 2021 (2021 assessed valuation for mineral production is based on 2020 production). This valuation represented 29 percent of the total assessed valuation for the county. Based on the county mill levy, the mineral industry generated \$4.1 million in property tax revenue in 2021. Of this total, 63 percent went to K-12 schools (\$2.6 million), 17 percent went to county government (\$0.7 million), and 20 percent went to county special districts (\$0.8 million). Special districts in the county included: Hospital, Cemetery, Solid Waste Disposal, Rural Health Care, Conservation, and Senior Citizens' Services. In 2020 the mining industry in the county supported 488 jobs with labor earnings of \$34.2 million. This represented 7 percent of total employment and 13 percent of total labor earnings in the county. The percent of total employment in mining for the county was 15 times the national percentage (0.5 percent) indicating that Mining was an area of specialization within the county's economy. The average earnings per job for mining in the county were \$70,133 which was 1.7 times the county average (\$40,899). The mining industry ranked 4th out of 23 sectors in the county's economy in terms of total employment and 2nd out of 23 sectors in terms of total labor earnings.

Data Sources: Wyoming Department of Revenue. 2022. 2021 Annual Report, State Assessed Valuation: Production Year 2020. U.S. Department of Commerce. 2020. Bureau of Economic Analysis, Regional Economic Accounts, Local Area Personal Income & Employment, Tables CAINC5N & CAEMP25N.

Figure 26.
Big Horn County Agricultural Industry

	Amount
<u>Assets (2017)</u>	
Total Land in Agriculture (Acres)	322,241
Cattle Inventory (Head)	42,978
Sheep Inventory (Head)	18,783
Investment - Land, Buildings, Equipment	\$606,428,000
Property Taxes Paid	\$2,622,000
<u>Gross Revenue (2020)</u>	\$109,678,000
<u>Employment (2020)</u>	
Jobs	796
Labor Earnings	\$29,783,000
Average Earnings Per Job	\$37,416

In 2017 there were 586 agricultural operations in Big Horn County. These operations managed 322,241 acres in the county (Figure 24). Included in this acreage is 80 percent of the private land in the county. Of the total land in agriculture, 58 percent is classified as grazing land, 37 percent as cropland, 4 percent as farmsteads and buildings, and 2 percent as woodlands. The average size of an agricultural operation in the county was 550 acres. The total cattle and sheep inventory in the county was 61,761 head including 42,978 head of cattle and calves and 18,783 head of sheep and lambs. In 2019, the county ranked 17th out of 23 counties in Wyoming in terms of cattle and calves inventory and 9th out of 23 counties in terms of sheep and lambs inventory. It also ranked 2nd in barley production, 3rd in sugar beet production, 4th in corn for grain, and 7th in alfalfa hay production. In terms of investment by agricultural operators, the estimated total market value of lands, buildings, and equipment for agriculture in the county was \$606.4 million. This total included \$512.2 million in land and buildings and \$94.2 million for equipment and machinery. The average investment per agricultural operation was \$1.0 million. In 2017 agricultural operations in the county paid \$2.6 million in property taxes.

The gross revenue for the agricultural industry in the county in 2020 was \$109.7 million. Of this total, 49 percent was from cash receipts for crops, 28 percent was from cash receipts for livestock, 11.5 percent was from government payments, and 12 percent was from miscellaneous income. Total employment for agriculture in 2020 was 796 jobs with labor earnings of \$29.8 million. This represented 12 percent of the total jobs in the county and 10 percent of the labor earnings. The percent of total employment in agriculture for the county was nearly 9 times the national percentage (1.4 percent) indicating that agriculture was an area of specialization within the county's economy. The average earnings per job for agriculture in the county were \$37,416 which was 80 percent of the county average (\$46,495). Average earnings per job in agriculture tend to be lower because most employment is self-employed and includes a large number of small part-time and lifestyle operations that generate limited labor earnings. The county's agriculture industry ranked 2nd out of 23 sectors in the county's economy in terms of total employment and 7th out of 23 sectors in terms of total labor earnings.

In addition to jobs and income, agriculture also provides important natural resource amenities such as open space. Open space offers landscapes, lifestyles, and wildlife habitat that can have value to both residents and visitors. Open space is particularly important because it determines the character of the landscapes surrounding a community. Out of economic necessity, most agricultural operations in the county cover large areas of land; as a result, agriculture can contribute substantially to maintaining open spaces on private lands in a region. As noted above, 80 percent of the private land in county is in agricultural use. Due to the natural resource amenities associated with agricultural land there is public support for the retention of lands in agriculture. For example, a 2014 survey sponsored by the Wyoming Stock Growers Association, the Wyoming Stock Growers Land Trust, the Nature Conservancy, and the University of Wyoming found that nearly 80 percent of Wyoming residents felt that they personally benefit from the presence of farms and ranches in Wyoming. In addition, 76 percent of respondents were concerned with the loss of family farms and ranches in the State. Other issues of serious concerns to respondents included the availability of water for farming and ranching (71 percent), and natural areas and rangeland being split up by new development (66 percent).

Data Sources: USDA. 2021. National Agricultural Statistics Service, 2017 Census of Agriculture: Wyoming State and County Data, Volume 1, Geographic Series Part 50, AC-12-A-50, Table 1. County Summary Highlights: 2017 and Table 8. Farms, Land in Farms, Value of Land and Buildings, and Land Use: 2017 and 2012. U.S. Department of Commerce. 2021. Bureau of Economic Analysis, Regional Economic Accounts, Local Area Personal Income & Employment, Tables CAINC5N & CAEMP25N. Freedman, K.S. and N.M. Koranta. 2014. Public Opinion on Natural Resource Conservation in Wyoming: Wyoming Open Space Initiative, Ruckelshaus Institute, A Division of the Haub School of Environment and Natural Resources, UW Extension B-1258, October 2014.

Figure 27.
Economic Impact of Wyoming Agricultural Industry (2014)

Impact	Contribution	Source
<u>Output</u>		
Direct	\$ 2.2 Billion	BEA
Secondary	\$ 2.2 Billion	IMPLAN
Total	\$ 4.4 Billion	
<u>Employment</u>		
Direct	14,032	BEA
Secondary	19,406	IMPLAN
Total	33,438	
<u>Labor Income</u>		
Direct	\$ 333.4 Million	BEA
Secondary	\$ 659.3 Million	IMPLAN
Total	\$ 992.6 Million	

Figure 26.
Economic Impact of Northcentral Wyoming's Cattle Industry (2017)

	Industry Total	Per federal AUM
Direct	\$ 106.7 Million	\$ 106.06
Secondary	\$ 111.8 Million	\$ 112.20
<u>Total Output</u>	\$ 218.5 Million	\$ 217.14
<u>Total Employment</u>	2,525 Jobs	0.002509 jobs
<u>Total Earnings</u>	\$ 67.0 Million	\$ 66.54

Figures 25 and 26 compare the economic contributions of Wyoming's Northcentral cattle industry in 2017 with the economic contributions of the entire state's 2014 agricultural industry. All dollars in figures 25 and 26 are presented in 2017 dollars despite coming from two different production years. The Northcentral region of Wyoming includes Big Horn, Johnson, Sheridan, and Washakie Counties. Compared with the total statewide economic contributions from all agriculture, the Northcentral region's cattle industry contributes \$218.5 million in total output, totaling about 5 percent of the state's total output from agriculture. The region's direct output from cattle ranching is \$106.7 million indicating a multiplier of 2.05. This means that for every dollar directly generated by the cattle industry in these four counties, an additional \$1.05 is generated by indirect and induced effects such as inventory purchases and increased consumer spending. The Northcentral region's cattle industry supports about 2,500 jobs which is 8 percent of the state's total jobs supported by all agriculture. The Northcentral region's cattle industry generates about \$67 million in labor earnings which is 7 percent of all labor earnings generated by agriculture in Wyoming.

Data Sources: Taylor, D., Foulke, T., Coupal, R. 2017. The Economic Importance of Wyoming Agricultural Production. University of Wyoming Extension Bulletin 1314.

Taylor, D. 2020. Economic Importance of Beef Cattle Ranching in Northcentral Wyoming. University of Wyoming Cooperative Extension Service.

Figure 28.
Big Horn County Travel Industry, 2020

	Amount
Visitor Spending	\$20.7 Million
Employment	362
Labor Income	\$5.9 Million
Average Earnings Per Job	\$16,288
Local Tax Revenue	\$0.3 Million
State Tax Revenue	\$0.9 Million

Dean Runyan Associates estimates that visitors spent \$20.7 million while in Big Horn County in 2016 (Figure 25). In terms of accommodations, 54 percent of this spending was by visitors staying in campgrounds, 24 percent by visitors staying in private homes, 9 percent was by visitors staying in hotels/motels private homes, 5 percent was by visitors staying in vacation homes, and 8 percent was by visitors not staying overnight. These travel behaviors were likely influenced by the 2020 pandemic and may be driven by practices such as social distancing (e.g., camping vs. hotel/motel). In terms of purchases, 27 percent was spent on food services, 21 percent was spent on arts/entertainment/recreation, 16 percent was spent on retail sales, 9 percent was spent on accommodations, 14 percent was spent on local transportation and gas, and 13 percent was spent at food stores.

Dean Runyan estimated that the travel industry generated 362 direct jobs in the county in 2020. This represents 5 percent of total employment in the county. Forty-four percent of these jobs were in the accommodations and food service sector, 32 percent were in the arts/entertainment/recreation sector, and 17 percent were in the retail trade sector. The labor earnings associated with this employment was estimated to be \$5.9 million. This represents 2 percent of the total labor earnings for the county. Average earnings per job for the travel industry in the county for 2020 were \$16,288. Average earnings per job for the travel industry were 35 percent the county average (\$46,495).

The tax revenue associated with the county's travel industry is estimated to be \$1.2 million with \$300,000 (24 percent) going to local government and \$0.9 million (76 percent) going to state government.

Data Source: Dean Runyan Associates. 2021. Wyoming Travel Impacts: 2000-2020, Prepared for Wyoming Office of Tourism, Cheyenne, Wyoming.

Figure 29.
Big Horn County Aviation Impacts, 2020

	Cowley	Greybull	Wyoming Average
Visitors	390	871	5,893
Aircraft	160	260	1,340
	<u>Statewide Impact</u>	<u>Statewide Impact</u>	<u>Wyoming Average</u>
Employment	6	32	646
Payroll	\$ 192,600	\$ 1,731,300	\$ 27,697,059
Expenditures	\$ 799,100	\$ 2,280,400	\$ 32,352,941
Economic Activity	\$ 991,700	\$ 4,011,700	\$ 58,823,529
State and Local Sales Tax Revenue	\$ 26,760	\$ 87,830	\$ 2,579,412
	<u>Local Impact</u>	<u>Local Impact</u>	<u>Wyoming Average</u>
Employment	4	29	646
Payroll	\$ 140,300	\$ 1,171,100	\$ 27,697,059
Expenditures	\$ 681,200	\$ 2,000,700	\$ 32,352,941
Economic Activity	\$ 821,500	\$ 3,180,800	\$ 58,823,529

The two public airports in Big Horn County provide essential services to the regions industries, including supporting aerial spraying for agriculture and transporting patients for healthcare and emergency services. In addition, Cowley airport offer recreational opportunities and Greybull offers aerial support for forest firefighting as it is designated as a tanker base by the BLM. Both Airports bring in significantly fewer aircraft and visitors compared to the state average, but the state average includes larger commercial airports such as those in Cheyenne, Casper, and Jackson. The nearest commercial service airports to Big Horn County are located in Sheridan and Cody.

Greybull Airport is busier than Cowley, but together, the two airports contribute over \$5 million to the statewide economy with \$4 million going to local entities. Of these economic contributions, Cowley Airport spends 81 percent on expenditures and 19 percent on payroll whereas Greybull Airport spends 57 percent on expenditures and 43 percent on payroll. The airports also support a total of 33 jobs in the local area (4 in Cowley and 29 in Greybull) and an additional 5 jobs outside of the locality (2 from Cowley and 3 from Greybull).

Data Source: Wyoming Department of Transportation. 2020. 2020 Aviation Economic Impact Study. Cowley and Greybull airports.

TABLES

Table 1. Population 2000-2020				
Year	Big Horn	Wyoming	U.S.	
2000	11,398	494,300	282,162,411	
2001	11,209	494,657	284,968,955	
2002	11,157	500,017	287,625,193	
2003	11,073	503,453	290,107,933	
2004	11,231	509,106	292,805,298	
2005	11,193	514,157	295,516,599	
2006	11,222	522,667	298,379,912	
2007	11,350	534,876	301,231,207	
2008	11,419	546,043	304,093,966	
2009	11,541	559,851	306,771,529	
2010	11,673	564,513	309,348,193	
2011	11,742	567,725	311,663,358	
2012	11,781	576,765	313,998,379	
2013	11,979	582,684	316,204,908	
2014	11,898	583,642	318,563,456	
2015	11,991	586,555	320,896,618	
2016	12,022	585,501	323,127,513	
2017	12,005	585,501	325,719,178	
2018	11,906	579,315	327,167,439	
2019	11,881	577,737	328,239,523	
2020	11,790	578,759	331,449,281	
Change	392	84,459	49,286,870	
Percent	3.4%	17.1%	17.5%	
Source (2020)	Big Horn	Wyoming		
Natural Increase	222	60,421		
Net Migration	170	24,038		
Total Change	392	84,459		
Source: WY Department of A & I - Economic Analysis Division				

Table 2. Age of Population, 2020						
				Big Horn	WY	U.S.
Age	Big Horn	WY	U.S.	Percent	Percent	Percent
Under 5	700	34,931	19,650,192	5.9%	6.0%	6.0%
5 to 17	2,195	98,803	53,646,546	18.6%	17.1%	16.4%
18 to 24	850	52,521	30,435,736	7.2%	9.1%	9.3%
25 to 44	2,538	150,718	86,831,842	21.5%	26.0%	26.6%
45 to 64	2,929	142,607	83,642,175	24.8%	24.6%	25.6%
65 and over	2,578	99,179	52,362,817	21.9%	17.1%	16.0%
Median Age	41.8	38.4	38.2			
Source: WY Department of A & I - Economic Analysis Division						

Table 3. Race and Ethnicity of Population 2020						
				Big Horn	Wyoming	U.S.
Race	Big Horn	Wyoming	U.S.	Percent	Percent	Percent
White	11,271	535,371	191,697,647	95.6%	92.5%	71.6%
Black	91	7,467	39,940,338	0.8%	1.3%	14.9%
Native American	178	15,778	2,251,699	1.5%	2.7%	0.8%
Asian	55	6,571	19,618,719	0.5%	1.1%	7.3%
Pacific Islander	4	593	622,018	0.03%	0.1%	0.2%
Two or More	191	12,976	13,548,983	1.6%	2.2%	5.1%
Total	11,790	578,756	267,679,404	100%	100%	100%
				Big Horn	Wyoming	U.S.
Ethnicity	Big Horn	Wyoming	U.S.	Percent	Percent	Percent
Hispanic	1,085	58,609	62,080,044	9.2%	10.1%	18.7%
Non-Hispanic	10,705	520,150	269,369,237	90.8%	89.9%	81.3%
Total	11,790	578,759	331,449,281	100%	100%	100%
Source: WY Department of A & I - Economic Analysis Division						

Table 4. Per Capita Income 2020						
				Big Horn	Wyoming	U.S.
Type	Big Horn	Wyoming	U.S.	Percent	Percent	Percent
Earnings	21,950	35,318	35,439	55.8%	56.8%	59.9%
Transfer Payments	9,858	8,714	12,796	25.1%	14.0%	21.6%
Investment	7,510	18,157	10,913	19.1%	29.2%	18.5%
Total	39,318	62,189	59,147	100%	100%	100%
	Deflated	Deflated	Deflated	Deflated	Deflated	Deflated
	Big Horn	Big Horn	Big Horn	Big Horn	Wyoming	U.S.
Year	Earnings	Transfer	Investment	Total	Total	Total
2000	\$15,797	\$4,539	\$5,377	\$25,713	\$35,373	\$37,371
2001	\$17,668	\$4,902	\$5,367	\$27,938	\$36,632	\$37,658
2002	\$17,199	\$5,113	\$4,900	\$27,212	\$36,943	\$37,412
2003	\$18,199	\$5,155	\$5,361	\$28,715	\$38,351	\$37,692
2004	\$17,546	\$5,237	\$4,442	\$27,225	\$39,244	\$38,505
2005	\$18,422	\$5,921	\$5,053	\$29,396	\$41,562	\$39,031
2006	\$20,104	\$6,173	\$5,562	\$31,839	\$45,571	\$40,230
2007	\$17,930	\$6,261	\$4,471	\$28,662	\$45,942	\$40,910
2008	\$19,702	\$6,694	\$5,258	\$31,654	\$48,910	\$41,394
2009	\$18,920	\$7,001	\$5,118	\$31,039	\$43,549	\$39,376
2010	\$19,705	\$7,035	\$5,163	\$31,903	\$44,901	\$39,791
2011	\$20,929	\$6,813	\$5,967	\$33,710	\$47,892	\$41,092
2012	\$20,958	\$6,670	\$6,663	\$34,291	\$50,125	\$42,073
2013	\$21,112	\$6,692	\$5,699	\$33,504	\$49,271	\$41,587
2014	\$21,167	\$6,963	\$5,823	\$33,954	\$51,461	\$42,649
2015	\$20,643	\$7,066	\$5,896	\$33,605	\$50,984	\$43,739
2016	\$19,619	\$7,117	\$5,868	\$32,604	\$49,808	\$44,623
2017	\$18,595	\$7,168	\$5,839	\$31,602	\$48,633	\$45,507
2018	\$17,536	\$7,419	\$5,850	\$30,805	\$49,224	\$46,195
2019	\$17,539	\$7,663	\$5,917	\$31,118	\$50,899	\$46,989
2020	\$18,487	\$8,303	\$6,325	\$33,115	\$52,379	\$49,816
Change	\$ 2,690	\$ 3,764	\$ 948	\$ 7,402	\$ 17,005	\$ 12,445
Percent of Total	36.3%	50.8%	12.8%	100%	N.A.	N.A.
Percent Change	17.0%	82.9%	17.6%	28.8%	44.1%	17.0%

Source: Bureau of Economic Analysis, Census Bureau, and Wyoming Workforce Services, St. Louis Fed

Table 5. Educational Attainment Level (Population 25 years and over), 2020

Degree	Big Horn	Wyoming	U.S.	Big Horn Percent	Wyoming Percent	U.S. Percent
No High School Degree	830	26,688	25,562,680	10.3%	6.8%	11.5%
High School Graduate	2,336	113,535	59,421,419	29.1%	29.1%	26.7%
Some College	2,459	99,677	45,242,162	30.6%	25.5%	20.3%
Associate Degree	882	43,761	19,254,254	11.0%	11.2%	8.6%
Bachelor's Degree	1,119	68,269	45,034,610	13.9%	17.5%	20.2%
Graduate or Professional	410	38,586	28,321,709	5.1%	9.9%	12.7%
Total Population 25 Yrs or Older	8,036	390,516	222,836,834	100%	100%	100%
High School Degree or Higher	7,206	363,828	197,274,154	89.7%	93.2%	88.5%
Bachelor's Degree or Higher	1,529	106,855	73,356,319	19.0%	27.4%	32.9%

Source: WY Department of A & I - Economic Analysis Division

Table 6. Employment, 2000-2020

Year	Big Horn W&S Jobs	Big Horn SE Jobs	Big Horn Total	Wyoming Total	U.S. Total
2000	4,639	1,772	6,411	324,018	165,370,800
2001	4,782	1,789	6,571	330,154	165,519,200
2002	4,717	1,789	6,506	334,232	165,159,100
2003	4,698	1,751	6,449	337,010	166,026,500
2004	4,836	1,741	6,577	343,853	169,036,700
2005	4,872	1,774	6,646	354,786	172,557,400
2006	5,069	1,820	6,889	370,803	176,123,600
2007	4,703	2,080	6,783	389,074	179,885,700
2008	4,763	2,141	6,904	399,728	179,639,900
2009	4,503	2,117	6,620	388,641	174,233,700
2010	4,564	2,181	6,745	385,217	173,034,700
2011	4,702	2,109	6,811	390,568	176,278,700
2012	4,685	2,106	6,791	396,774	179,081,700
2013	4,676	2,094	6,770	400,424	182,408,100
2014	4,776	2,134	6,910	406,028	186,168,100
2015	4,766	2,174	6,940	406,576	190,195,400
2016	4,633	2,116	6,749	398,130	193,425,900
2017	4,528	2,139	6,667	398,940	196,393,100
2018	4,462	2,165	6,627	404,530	200,280,200
2019	4,588	2,131	6,719	408,143	201,644,200
2020	4,501	2,073	6,579	386,291	190,776,800
Percent Change 2000-2020	2.7%	22.7%	2.6%	19.2%	15.4%

Source: Bureau of Economic Analysis

Table 7. Big Horn County Employment by Sector: 2020			
Sector	Jobs	Percent	LQ
Local Government	1,193	18.1%	2.49
Agriculture	796	12.1%	8.91
Construction	605	9.2%	1.62
Mining	488	7.4%	15.02
Retail Trade	456	6.9%	0.74
Manufacturing	364	5.5%	0.82
Management Services	294	4.5%	0.59
Professional Services	293	4.5%	0.59
Health Care & Social Assistance	280	4.3%	0.36
Other Services	247	3.8%	0.68
Accommodations & Food Service	223	3.4%	0.53
Finance & Insurance	219	3.3%	0.60
State Government	172	2.6%	0.93
Real Estate, Rental, & Leasing	165	2.5%	0.54
Transportation & Warehousing	148	2.2%	0.47
Forestry, Fishing, & Ag Support	133	2.0%	4.17
Wholesale Trade	111	1.7%	0.52
Federal - Civilian	100	1.5%	0.97
Information	79	1.2%	0.71
Arts, Entertainment, & Recreation	74	1.1%	0.60
Military	60	0.9%	0.91
Educational Services	46	0.7%	0.29
Utilities	33	0.5%	1.63
Total	6,579	100.0%	N.A.
Source: Bureau of Economic Analysis			

Table 8. Change in Big Horn County Employment by Sector 2001-2020					
			Change	Percent of	Percent
Sector	2001	2020	2001-2020	Change	Change
Utilities	32	1193	1161	14512.5%	3628.1%
Real Estate, Rental, & Leasing	100	294	194	2425.0%	194.0%
Forestry, Fishing, & Ag Support	88	280	192	2400.0%	218.2%
Construction	417	605	188	2350.0%	45.1%
Information	63	247	184	2300.0%	292.1%
Other Services	294	456	162	2025.0%	55.1%
Educational Services	14	172	158	1975.0%	1128.6%
Professional Services	173	293	120	1500.0%	69.4%
Federal - Civilian	111	223	112	1400.0%	100.9%
Manufacturing	257	364	107	1337.5%	41.6%
Military	64	100	36	450.0%	56.3%
Transportation & Warehousing	203	219	16	200.0%	7.9%
Arts, Entertainment, & Recreation	73	60	-13	-162.5%	-17.8%
Finance & Insurance	189	165	-24	-300.0%	-12.7%
Wholesale Trade	121	74	-47	-587.5%	-38.8%
Health Care & Social Assistance	190	79	-111	-1387.5%	-58.4%
State Government	212	46	-166	-2075.0%	-78.3%
Management Services	288	111	-177	-2212.5%	-61.5%
Accommodations & Food Service	415	148	-267	-3337.5%	-64.3%
Local Government	1099	796	-303	-3787.5%	-27.6%
Retail Trade	487	33	-454	-5675.0%	-93.2%
Mining	998	488	-510	-6375.0%	-51.1%
Agriculture	683	133	-550	-6875.0%	-80.5%
Total	6571	6579	8	100.0%	0.1%
Source: Bureau of Economic Analysis					

Table 9. Average Earnings Per Job, 2000-2020			
	Deflated	Deflated	Deflated
Year	Big Horn	Wyoming	U.S.
2000	\$36,199	\$40,501	\$53,641
2001	\$38,806	\$41,971	\$54,531
2002	\$37,423	\$42,589	\$54,832
2003	\$39,102	\$43,562	\$55,383
2004	\$37,193	\$43,318	\$56,178
2005	\$38,067	\$44,018	\$55,893
2006	\$40,073	\$47,082	\$56,295
2007	\$36,294	\$47,344	\$55,736
2008	\$38,580	\$50,942	\$56,134
2009	\$38,021	\$49,802	\$55,289
2010	\$38,844	\$51,797	\$56,471
2011	\$40,840	\$53,077	\$56,817
2012	\$41,116	\$53,606	\$57,525
2013	\$42,831	\$53,860	\$57,093
2014	\$42,527	\$55,141	\$57,413
2015	\$42,325	\$54,839	\$58,403
2016	\$39,401	\$51,612	\$58,275
2017	\$39,107	\$51,403	\$59,004
2018	\$39,665	\$53,040	\$59,300
2019	\$38,879	\$53,303	\$60,218
2020	\$42,884	\$54,466	\$63,750
Percent Change	18.5%	34.5%	18.8%
Source: Bureau of Economic Analysis			

Table 9a. Average Earnings Per Job for Big Horn County, 2020			
		Earnings	
Sector	Jobs	(\$1,000)	AEPJ
Utilities	\$ 33	\$ 3,037	\$ 92,030
Transportation & Warehousing	\$ 148	\$ 13,826	\$ 93,419
Federal - Civilian	\$ 100	\$ 8,719	\$ 87,190
State Government	\$ 172	\$ 12,689	\$ 73,773
Mining	\$ 488	\$ 34,405	\$ 70,502
Local Government	\$ 1,193	\$ 79,981	\$ 67,042
Information	\$ 79	\$ 4,181	\$ 52,924
Manufacturing	\$ 364	\$ 21,635	\$ 59,437
Construction	\$ 605	\$ 31,062	\$ 51,342
Wholesale Trade	\$ 111	\$ 5,927	\$ 53,396
Professional Services	\$ 293	\$ 11,971	\$ 40,857
Health Care & Social Assistance	\$ 280	\$ 7,566	\$ 27,021
Other Services	\$ 247	\$ 6,939	\$ 28,093
Finance & Insurance	\$ 219	\$ 8,283	\$ 37,822
Military	\$ 60	\$ 2,163	\$ 36,050
Management Services	\$ 294	\$ 7,632	\$ 25,960
Forestry, Fishing, & Ag Support	\$ 133	\$ 2,998	\$ 22,541
Retail Trade	\$ 456	\$ 8,522	\$ 18,689
Agriculture	\$ 796	\$ 29,783	\$ 37,416
Educational Services	\$ 46	\$ 302	\$ 6,565
Accommodations & Food Service	\$ 223	\$ 3,256	\$ 14,599
Arts, Entertainment, & Recreation	\$ 74	\$ 411	\$ 5,554
Real Estate, Rental, & Leasing	\$ 165	\$ 601	\$ 3,642
Total	\$ 6,579	\$ 305,889	\$ 46,495
Source: Bureau of Economic Analysis			

Table 10. Total Labor Earnings for Big Horn County: 2020				
			Earnings	
Sector	Jobs	AEPJ	(\$1,000)	Percent
Local Government	1,193	\$67,042	\$79,981	26.1%
Mining	488	\$70,502	\$34,405	11.2%
Construction	605	\$51,342	\$31,062	10.2%
Agriculture	796	\$37,416	\$29,783	9.7%
Manufacturing	364	\$59,437	\$21,635	7.1%
Transportation & Warehousing	148	\$93,419	\$13,826	4.5%
State Government	172	\$73,773	\$12,689	4.1%
Professional Services	293	\$40,857	\$11,971	3.9%
Federal - Civilian	100	\$87,190	\$8,719	2.9%
Retail Trade	456	\$18,689	\$8,522	2.8%
Finance & Insurance	219	\$37,822	\$8,283	2.7%
Management Services	294	\$25,960	\$7,632	2.5%
Health Care & Social Assistance	280	\$27,021	\$7,566	2.5%
Other Services	247	\$28,093	\$6,939	2.3%
Wholesale Trade	111	\$53,396	\$5,927	1.9%
Information	79	\$52,924	\$4,181	1.4%
Accommodations & Food Service	223	\$14,599	\$3,256	1.1%
Utilities	33	\$92,030	\$3,037	1.0%
Forestry, Fishing, & Ag Support	133	\$22,541	\$2,998	1.0%
Military	60	\$36,050	\$2,163	0.7%
Real Estate, Rental, & Leasing	165	\$3,642	\$601	0.2%
Arts, Entertainment, & Recreation	74	\$5,554	\$411	0.1%
Educational Services	46	\$6,565	\$302	0.1%
Total	6,579	\$46,495	\$305,889	100.0%
Source: Bureau of Economic Analysis				

Table 11. Land Ownership in Big Horn County					
		Percent	Percent		
Owner	Acres	of Total	of Type		
National Park Service	16,544	0.8%	1.1%		
Forest Service	351,142	17.4%	22.7%		
BLM	1,159,980	57.4%	75.0%		
Other Federal	19,048	0.9%	1.2%		
Total Federal	1,546,714	76.5%	100.0%		
State Trust Lands	70,006	3.5%	77.3%		
Other State	20,587	1.0%	22.7%		
Total State	90,593	4.5%	100.0%		
City, County, Other	410	0.02%	100.0%		
Total Local Government	410	0.02%	100.0%		
Conservation Easement	12,551	0.6%			
Total Private	383,579	19.0%			
Total Land Area	2,021,296	100.0%			

Source: WEAD County Profiles & WY Department of Revenue 2012 Annual Report

Table 12. Acres of Taxable Agricultural Land in Big Horn County

Classification	Acres	Percent		
Irrigated Land	117,844	38.21%		
Dry Farm Land	0	0.00%		
Range Lands	190,530	61.79%		
Total Land	308,374	100.00%		

Source: Wyoming Department of Revenue

Table 13. Management Designations of Federal Land in Big Horn County

Type	Acres	Percent		
Protected	159,659	9.5%		
Restricted	262,256	15.6%		
General Use	1,262,191	74.9%		
Total Federal	1,684,106	100.0%		

Source: Economic Profile System - Human Dimensions Toolkit

Table 14. Big Horn County Government Revenue, FY2020

Source	Amount	Percent
State Aid	\$4,755,792	35.6%
Taxes	\$3,656,429	27.4%
Direct Federal Aid	\$2,999,197	22.5%
Miscellaneous Revenue	\$1,595,398	11.9%
Charges for Services	\$345,967	2.6%
Other Local Government	\$0	0.0%
Total	\$13,352,783	100%
Source: Wyoming Department of Audit		

Table 15. Big Horn County Assessed Valuation, 2020

Property Type	Amount	Percent
Residential Property	\$ 70,295,204	35.6%
Minerals	\$ 57,504,917	29.1%
Utilities	\$ 22,440,172	11.4%
Agricultural Lands	\$ 18,343,575	9.3%
Commercial Property	\$ 15,772,520	8.0%
Industrial Property	\$ 13,070,443	6.6%
Total Valuation	\$ 197,426,831	100%
Crude Oil	\$ 31,623,096	53.9%
Bentonite	\$ 24,260,612	42.2%
Gypsum	\$ 1,580,961	2.7%
Natural Gas	\$ 601,367	1.0%
Sand & Gravel	\$ 40,248	0.1%
Coal	\$0	0.0%
Total Minerals	\$ 58,106,284	100%
Liquid Pipeline	\$ 7,450,197	58.3%
Major Electric	\$ 1,723,043	13.5%
Rural Electric	\$ 1,644,024	12.9%
Gas Pipeline	\$ 716,510	5.6%
Rural Telephone	\$ 568,273	4.4%
Gas distribution	\$ 187,471	1.5%
Cellular Telecomm.	\$ 173,820	1.4%
Cable and Satellite	\$ 122,966	1.0%
Reseller Telecomm.	\$ 103,169	0.8%
Municipal Electric	\$ 49,736	0.4%
Major Telecomm.	\$ 30,382	0.2%
Airline Companies	\$ 986	0.0%
Total Utilities	\$ 12,770,577	100.0%
Railroad (estimated)	\$ 5,757,514	
Source: Wyoming Department of Revenue		

Table 16. Big Horn County Sales & Use Tax Revenue, FY2020				
Industries	Sales Tax	Use Tax	Sales & Use	Percent
Retail Trade	\$ 3,137,140	\$ 182,865	\$ 3,320,005	33.7%
Public Administration	\$ 785,253	\$ 622,466	\$ 1,407,719	14.3%
Utilities	\$ 1,306,740	\$ 12,500	\$ 1,319,240	13.4%
Wholesale Trade	\$ 818,268	\$ 89,126	\$ 907,394	9.2%
Leisure & Hospitality	\$ 571,596	\$ (47)	\$ 571,549	5.8%
Mining	\$ 434,360	\$ 106,955	\$ 541,315	5.5%
Manufacturing	\$ 167,120	\$ 247,578	\$ 414,698	4.2%
Financial Activities	\$ 403,386	\$ 4,278	\$ 407,664	4.1%
Other Services	\$ 335,372	\$ 10,408	\$ 345,780	3.5%
Information	\$ 258,643	\$ 10,686	\$ 269,329	2.7%
Construction	\$ 79,933	\$ 108,097	\$ 188,030	1.9%
Pro & Business Services	\$ 78,884	\$ 3,980	\$ 82,864	0.8%
Transport & Warehouse	\$ 11,279	\$ 67,151	\$ 78,430	0.8%
Agr & Other	\$ 3,233	\$0	\$ 3,233	0.0%
Education & Health	\$ 1,868	\$0	\$ 1,868	0.0%
Total	\$ 8,393,075	\$ 1,466,043	\$ 9,859,118	100%
Source: Wyoming Economic Analysis Division				

Table 17. Big Horn County Federal Land Payments, FY2019		
Source	Amount	Percent
PILT	\$1,231,594	73.8%
Forest Service Payments	\$379,808	22.8%
BLM Payments	\$57,439	3.4%
Total	\$1,668,841	100%
Distributions	Amount	Percent
County Government	\$1,419,836	85.1%
Local School Districts	\$161,418	9.7%
Grazing Districts	\$57,202	3.4%
Resource Advisory Councils	\$30,385	1.8%
Total	\$1,668,841	100.0%
Source: Economic Profile System - Human Dimension Toolkit		

Table 18. Big Horn County Government Costs, FY2020			
Costs	Amount	Percent	Per Capita
County Sheriff	\$2,339,096	17.80%	\$200
Construction	\$2,073,994	15.78%	\$178
Jail	\$2,039,690	15.52%	\$175
Road and Bridge	\$1,157,964	8.81%	\$99
Courthouse	\$895,467	6.81%	\$77
Civil Defense/Emergency	\$427,446	3.25%	\$37
County Attorney	\$413,820	3.15%	\$35
County Clerk	\$401,433	3.06%	\$34
Capital	\$377,627	2.87%	\$32
County Assessor	\$359,774	2.74%	\$31
County Administration	\$357,376	2.72%	\$31
County Treasurer	\$333,069	2.53%	\$29
Fair	\$295,668	2.25%	\$25
County Hospital	\$275,428	2.10%	\$24
County Airport	\$265,099	2.02%	\$23
Distict Court	\$224,222	1.71%	\$19
County Commissioners	\$156,920	1.19%	\$13
Elections	\$134,022	1.02%	\$11
County Planner	\$133,368	1.01%	\$11
County Coroner	\$116,765	0.89%	\$10
Agricultural Department	\$94,623	0.72%	\$8
County Surveyor	\$87,221	0.66%	\$7
Social Services	\$86,560	0.66%	\$7
Health (Not Hospital)	\$52,060	0.40%	\$4
Fire	\$37,611	0.29%	\$3
Finacial Administration	\$3,600	0.03%	\$0
Library	\$250	0.00%	\$0
Total	\$13,140,173	1166900.00%	\$1,126
Source: Wyoming Department of Audit			

Table 19. Big Horn County Mining Industry						
Mineral Production 2020						
	Production					
Bentonite (Tons)	1,850,798					
Crude Oil (Barrels)	1,099,237					
Natural Gas (MCF)	513,699					
Gypsum (Tons)	235,482					
Sand & Gravel (Tons)	36,771					
Source: Wyoming Department of Revenue						
Tax Revenue 2021 (2020 Production)						
			County	K-12	Special	Total
	Assessed		Revenue	Revenue	Districts	Revenue
	Valuation	Percent	(12.000 Mills)	(44.456 Mills)	(14.399 Mills)	(70.855 Mills)
Crude Oil	\$31,021,729	53.9%	\$372,261	\$1,379,102	\$446,682	\$2,198,045
Natural Gas	\$601,367	1.0%	\$7,216	\$26,734	\$8,659	\$42,610
Bentonite	\$24,260,612	42.2%	\$291,127	\$1,078,530	\$349,329	\$1,718,986
Sand & Gravel	\$40,248	0.1%	\$483	\$1,789	\$580	\$2,852
Gypsum	\$1,580,961	2.7%	\$18,972	\$70,283	\$22,764	\$112,019
Total Minerals	\$57,504,917	100.0%	\$690,059	\$2,556,439	\$828,013	\$4,074,511
Percent			16.9%	62.7%	20.3%	100.0%
Source: Wyoming Department of Revenue						
Employment 2020						
			Percent			
	Mining	Total	Mining			
Jobs	488	6,574	7.4%			
Labor Income	\$34,225,000	\$268,873,000	12.7%			
Average Earnings/Job	\$70,133	\$40,899	171.5%			
Source: Bureau of Economic Analysis						

Table 20. Big Horn County Agricultural Industry, 2017				
<u>Physical Characteristics</u>				
			Number	Average
Land Use	Acres	Percent	of Farms	Size (Acres)
Total Cropland	117,850	36.6%		
Total Woodland	6,645	2.1%		
Grazing Land	185,967	57.7%		
Farmstead	11,779	3.7%		
Total Land	322,241	100.0%	586	550
	Cattle &	Sheep &	Total	
	Calves	Lambs	Head	
Inventory	42,978	18,783	61,761	
	Land &	Machinery &	Combined	
	Buildings	Equipment	Investment	
Market Value	\$512,197,000	\$94,231,000	\$606,428,000	
Average Per Farm	\$874,056	\$160,804	\$1,034,860	
Property Tax Paid	\$2,622,000			
Source: 2017 Census of Agriculture				
<u>Gross Revenue 2020</u>				
Cash Receipts - Livestock	\$30,692,000	28.0%		
Cash Receipts - Crops	\$53,406,000	48.7%		
Government Payments	\$12,640,000	11.5%		
Miscellaneous Income	\$12,940,000	11.8%		
Total Gross Revenue	\$109,678,000	100.0%		
Source: Bureau of Economic Analysis				
<u>Employment 2020</u>				Percent
	Agriculture	County Total	Agriculture	
Jobs	796	6,579	12.1%	
Labor Income	\$29,783,000	\$305,889,055	9.7%	
Average Earnings/Job	\$37,416	\$46,495	80.5%	
Source: Bureau of Economic Analysis				

Table 21. Big Horn County Travel Industry, 2020					
Visitor Spending					
	Amount				
	(Million\$)	Percent			
Accommodation					
Hotel, Motel	\$1.9	9.1%			
Campground	\$11.2	53.8%			
Private Home	\$5.0	24.0%			
Vacation Home	\$1.1	5.3%			
Day Travel	\$1.6	7.7%			
Total	\$20.8	100.0%			
	Amount				
	(Million\$)	Percent			
Purchases					
Accommodations	\$1.9	9.2%			
Food Service	\$5.6	27.1%			
Food Stores	\$2.6	12.6%			
Local Tran. & Gas	\$2.9	14.0%			
Art, Ent. & Rec	\$4.3	20.8%			
Retail Sales	\$3.4	16.4%			
Total	\$20.7	100.0%			
Employment					
			Earnings		Ave. Earn
Sector	Jobs	Percent	(Million\$)	Percent	Per Job
Accom & Food Service	161	44.4%	\$1.8	30.6%	\$11,208
Arts, Ent. & Rec.	117	32.5%	\$1.8	30.6%	\$15,332
Retail	61	16.8%	\$1.2	20.4%	\$19,737
Ground Tran	3	0.8%	\$0.1	1.6%	N.A.
Other Travel	20	5.5%	\$1.0	17.0%	\$50,000
Total	362	100.0%	\$5.9	100.0%	\$16,288
Tax Revenue					
	Amount				
	(Million\$)	Percent			
Local Tax Revenue	\$0.3	24.2%			
State Tax Revenue	\$0.9	75.8%			
Total Revenue	\$1.248	100.0%			
Source: Dean Runyan Associates					