

# Crossroads Resource Center

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## ***Tools for Community Self-determination***

### **Western Montana Local Farm & Food Economy**

*Highlights of a data compilation*  
by Ken Meter, Crossroads Resource Center (Minneapolis) for

**Lake County Community Development Corporation  
High Stakes Foundation  
Alternative Energy Resources Organization  
Nourish the Flathead  
Community Food and Agriculture Coalition  
New West  
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*Covers Flathead, Lake, Missoula, Ravalli, & Sanders Counties in Montana*

#### **Western Montana Region (Bureau of Economic Analysis, 2008)**

276,652 residents receive \$9 billion of income annually. The two largest sources of personal income are capital income (interest, rent or dividend income), at \$2.1 billion, and transfer payments (from government programs such as pensions), at \$1.6 billion. These capital transfers account for over 40% of personal income.

The largest source of personal income from employment is government jobs, where workers earn a total of \$1.1 billion. Health care professions are next, with \$900 million of personal income. Construction and retail jobs follow, at \$600 million of personal income each. Manufacturing income ranks fifth, at \$400 million, with professional and technical workers ranking just below them, also earning about \$400 million.

Considering food-related industries only, personal income from working in the grocery or dining industries has risen from 2001 to 2008, while food manufacturing and farming income has fallen.

The region's population rose 110% from 131,586 in 1969. Forty years ago, the Western Montana region held 19% of the state's population; now it has 29% of the Montana population. Personal income has risen 280% during the same period (adjusted for inflation). Despite these increases in population and income, and rising consumer expenditures for food, farm income is falling, and very little planning has been devoted to ensuring a secure food supply for Western Montana residents.

**Issues affecting low-income residents of the region:**

90,529 Western Montana residents (34%) earn less than 185% of federal poverty guidelines. At this level of income, children qualify for free or reduced-price lunch at school. These lower-income residents spend \$186 million each year buying food, including \$29 million of SNAP benefits (Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, formerly known as food stamps) and additional millions in WIC (Women, Infants and Children) coupons. The region's farmers receive a combined total of \$5 million in subsidies (thirty-year average, 1979-2008), mostly to raise crops such as wheat and barley that are sold as commodities, not to feed local residents. *Data from Federal Census American Community Survey, 2005-2009, Bureau of Labor Statistics, & Bureau of Economic Analysis.*

Nine percent of Western Montana households (nearly 24,000 residents) earn less than \$10,000 per year. *Source: Federal Census; American Community Survey, 2005-2009.*

27% of adults aged 18-64 in the Kalispell metro area have no health insurance (2009). No recent data were available for Missoula, but in 2006, 19% of all Missoula metro area adults lacked insurance. Statewide rate was 21% in 2009. *Source: Centers for Disease Control. Data on health conditions is reported for the state and for metro areas only.*

**Food-related health conditions:**

6% of Kalispell metro residents (2009), and 4.7% of Missoula metro residents (2006), have been diagnosed with diabetes. The statewide rate was 7% (2009). *Source: Centers for Disease Control.* Medical costs for treating diabetes and related conditions in Western Montana are estimated at \$159 million per year. *Source: American Diabetes Association cost calculator.*

61% of Kalispell metro residents were overweight (36%) or obese (25%) in 2009.  
54% of Missoula metro residents were overweight (40%) or obese (14%) in 2006.  
62% of Montana residents were overweight (38%) or obese (24%) in 2009.  
*Source: Centers for Disease Control.*

63% of Kalispell metro area adults report they have at least 30 minutes of moderate physical activity five or more days per week, or vigorous physical activity for 20 or more minutes three or more days per week. No data were available for Missoula metro area residents for recent years. *Source: Centers for Disease Control.*

30% of Kalispell metro area residents reported in 2009 that they eat five or more servings of fruit or vegetables each day. 70% do not. This is a key indicator of health, since proper fruit and vegetable consumption has been connected to better health outcomes. No data were available for the Missoula metro area for recent years. Statewide, 26% of residents reported in 2009 that they eat five or more servings each day. *Source: Centers for Disease Control.*

## **The region's farms (Census of Agriculture, 2007)**

*Census of Agriculture data for 2007 were released February 4, 2009*

*The Census of Agriculture defines a “farm” as “an operation that produces, or would normally produce and sell, \$1,000 or more of agricultural products per year.”*

### *Land:*

- 5,113 farms. This is 17% of Montana farms.
- 225 (4.4%) of these are 1,000 acres or more in size.
- 2,901 (57%) farms are less than 50 acres.
- Average farm size is 347 acres, 17% of the state average of 2,079 acres.
- The region has 1.8 million acres of land in farms.
- This amounts to 3% of the state's farmland.
- The region holds 200,000 acres of harvested cropland; 2% of Montana's total.
- 2,936 farms (57%) have a total of 215,000 acres of irrigated land.
- This is 11% of Montana's irrigated acreage.
- 723 farms receive water from the Bureau of Reclamation.
- Average value of land and buildings per farm is \$807,759. This is half of the state average of \$1.6 million.

### *Sales:*

*With the exception of foods sold directly to consumers (see below), farmers typically sell commodities to wholesalers, brokers or manufacturers that require further processing or handling to become consumer items. The word “commodities” is used in this report to mean the crops and livestock sold by farmers through these wholesale channels. The term “products” encompasses commodity sales, direct sales, and any other sales.*

- \$141 million of crops and livestock sold (2007).
- \$58 million of crops sold (41% of sales).
- \$83 million of livestock and products sold (59% of sales).
- 3,615 (71%) of the region's farms had sales of less than \$10,000 in 2007.
- Total sales from these smaller farms was \$7 million, 5% of the region's farm commodity sales.
- 267 farms (5%) had sales of more than \$100,000.
- Total sales from these larger farms was \$92 million, 65% of farm commodity sales.
- 67% of region farms (3,447 of 5,113) reported net losses in 2007, far higher than the state total of 49%.

### *Production Expenses:*

- Depreciation charges were the single most important production expense for Western Montana farmers, totaling \$21 million.
- Feed purchases ranked second, at \$17 million.
- Supplies, repairs, and maintenance costs totaled nearly \$17 million.
- Farmers spent \$16 million to hire laborers.
- Interest expenses totaled \$13 million.
- Gasoline, fuels, and oil costs totaled \$12 million.
- Purchases of livestock totaled \$11 million.
- Western Montana farmers paid nearly \$11 million in property taxes.

*Cattle & Dairy:*

- 1,710 ranches and farms hold an inventory of 110,105 cattle.
- 82,790 cattle were sold in 2007 for total sales of \$58 million, a 26% increase over 2002 sales of \$46 million.
- 59 farms raise 3,238 milk cows. Milk and dairy sales totaled \$11.5 million.
- 2,189 farms produced 341,942 tons of forage crops (hay, etc.) on 142,945 acres, with 1,360 farms selling \$12 million.
- 19 farms raised 35,638 tons of corn for greenchop or silage, on 1,603 acres.

*Other livestock & animal products:*

- 101 farms hold an inventory of 2,009 hogs and pigs.
- Hog and pig sales totaled \$602,000 from 124 farms.
- 3,653 hogs and pigs were sold in 2007.
- 244 farms hold an inventory of 7,664 sheep and lambs.
- 231 farms sold \$583,000 of sheep and goats.
- 369 farms raised poultry or eggs. This is an increase of 167% in the number of farms selling poultry from 2002 to 2007.
- Poultry and egg sales for the region's farmers totaled more than \$186,000. *[Sales figures for poultry and eggs were not released by USDA for Ravalli County, in an effort to protect confidentiality, so these sales totals are incomplete.]*
- 467 farms hold an inventory of 10,294 laying hens.
- 531 Western Montana farms sold \$4.3 million of horses and ponies.

*Grains, Dry Edible Beans, Oil Crops, and others:*

- 16 farms sold more than \$816,000 (126,464 bushels) of corn on 1,159 acres in 2007. *[Sales figures for corn sales were not released by USDA for Flathead or Sanders County, in an effort to protect confidentiality, so these sales totals are incomplete.]*
- 132 of the region's farmers sold 1.5 million bushels of wheat, both spring and winter wheat, raised on 28,834 acres.
- The region's wheat crop was sold for \$8.5 million, 1% of the state's wheat sales.
- 48 farms raised 141,536 bushels of oats on 1,947 acres.
- 119 farms produced 861,241 bushels of barley on 13,839 acres, worth at least \$2.4 million. *[Sales figures for barley sales were not released by USDA for Missoula or Sanders County, in an effort to protect confidentiality, so these sales totals are incomplete.]*

*Vegetables & Melons (some farmers state that Ag Census data does not fully represent vegetable production):*

- 139 farms sold at least \$10 million of vegetables from 2,850 acres. *[Sales figures for vegetables were not released by USDA for Ravalli County, in an effort to protect confidentiality, so these sales totals are incomplete.]*
- This is 44% of the vegetable farms in the state of Montana, and at least 26% of state vegetable sales.
- The number of farms raising vegetables in the region increased 65% from 2002 to 2007.
- 56 farms sell potatoes.

*Fruits (some farmers state that Ag Census data does not fully represent fruit production):*

- The region has 359 farms with a total of 1,417 acres of orchards.
- Fruit and nut sales totaled more than \$6.6 million. *[Sales figures for fruits and nuts were not released by USDA for Missoula or Ravalli County, in an effort to protect confidentiality, so these sales totals are incomplete.]*
- The number of farms raising fruit in the region increased 8% from 2002 to 2007.

*Nursery and Greenhouse plants*

- 186 farms sold \$15.5 million of nursery and ornamental crops.
- The number of farms selling nursery items increased 16% from 2002 to 2007, and sales increased 18%.
- 32 farms sell Christmas trees.

*Direct and organic sales:*

- 489 farms sold \$2 million of food directly to consumers. This is an 11% rise in the number of farms (439 in 2002) selling direct, and a 22% increase in direct sales, from 2002 to 2007.
- The Western Montana region sold 32% of all direct food sales recorded in the state, and holds 38% of the state's farms that sell directly.
- Direct sales accounted for 1.4% of the region's farm product sales, 3.5 times the national average of 0.4%.
- 53 farms market through community supported agriculture (CSA).
- 262 of the region's farms produce value-added products.
- 786 farms in the region sold organic foods (\$1.1 million or more in sales).
- This is 36% of Montana's organic farms.

*Conservation practices:*

- 759 (15%) farms use conservation methods such as no-till, limited tilling, filtering field runoff to remove chemicals, fencing animals to prevent them from entering streams, etc.
- 1,325 farms practice rotational management or intensive grazing.
- 66 farms generate energy or electricity on the farm.

## **County Highlights**

### **Flathead County highlights (Agriculture Census 2007):**

- 1,094 farms. This is 2% more than in 2002.
- 251,597 acres of land in farms.
- Average farm size is 230 acres, up 6% from 2002.
- \$33 million of farm products sold in 2007.
- Of this, \$17 million (52%) was earned selling crops.
- Sales of livestock and related products totaled \$16 million (48%).
- Most prevalent farm size was 10-49 acres, with 472 farms in this category.
- Ranks 1<sup>st</sup> in Montana for sales of “other animals,” with \$5.7 million. [*This category includes animals other than cattle, sheep, goats, hogs, or poultry*].
- Ranks 1<sup>st</sup> in state for sales of nursery and ornamental crops, with \$5.2 million.
- Ranks 1<sup>st</sup> in Montana for sales of Christmas trees, with \$144,000.
- Ranks 2<sup>nd</sup> in state for acres of Christmas trees, with 1,021.
- Ranks 3<sup>rd</sup> in Montana for fruit and nut production, with \$347,000 in sales.
- Ranks 5<sup>th</sup> in Montana for aquaculture, with \$130,000 in sales.
- Ranks 6<sup>th</sup> in state for sales of vegetables, with \$1.05 million.
- Ranks 6<sup>th</sup> in state for sales of horses and ponies, with \$860,000 in sales.
- Ranks 7<sup>th</sup> in Montana for inventory of horses and ponies, with 3,660.

### **Lake County highlights (Agriculture Census 2007):**

- 1,280 farms, 8% more than in 2002.
- 637,306 acres of land in farms.
- Average farm size is 498 acres, 2% less than in 2002.
- \$51 million of farm products sold in 2007.
- Of this, \$23 million (45%) was earned selling crops.
- Receipts from selling livestock and related products totaled \$28 million (55%).
- Cattle and calf sales totaled \$21 million.
- Most prevalent farm size was 10-49 acres, with 460 farms.
- Ranks 1<sup>st</sup> in Montana for fruit and nut sales, with \$6.2 million.
- Ranks 2<sup>nd</sup> in the state for vegetable sales, with \$8.5 million.
- Ranks 2<sup>nd</sup> in Montana for acreage of both vegetables and potatoes, with about 2,400 acres each.
- Ranks 3<sup>rd</sup> in Montana for farm sales of milk and dairy products, with \$4.4 million.
- Ranks 4<sup>th</sup> in state for sales of horses and ponies, with \$954,000.
- Ranks 5<sup>th</sup> in Montana for Christmas tree sales, with \$6,000.
- Ranks 6<sup>th</sup> in state for inventory of horses and ponies, with 4,943.
- Ranks 7<sup>th</sup> in state for aquaculture, with \$91,000 in sales.
- Ranks 8<sup>th</sup> in state for sales of nursery and ornamental crops, with \$1.3 million.
- Ranks 9<sup>th</sup> in Montana for number of bee colonies.

### **Missoula County highlights (Agriculture Census 2007):**

- 699 farms; 9% more than in 2002.
- 281,893 acres of land in farms.
- Average farm size is 403 acres, same as in 2002.

- \$7.6 million of farm products sold in 2007.
- Of this, \$2.7 million (36%) was earned selling crops.
- Sales of livestock and related products totaled \$4.9 million (64%).
- Most prevalent farm size was 10-49 acres, with 265 farms in this category.
- Ranks 2<sup>nd</sup> in state for sales of horses and ponies, with \$1.1 million.
- Ranks 4<sup>th</sup> in Montana for sales of fruits and nuts [*sales figures were not released by USDA in an effort to protect confidentiality*].
- Ranks 6<sup>th</sup> in state for Christmas tree sales [*sales figures were not released by USDA in an effort to protect confidentiality*].
- Ranks 9<sup>th</sup> in Montana for sales of nursery and ornamental crops, with \$1 million.

**Ravalli County highlights (Agriculture Census 2007):**

- 1,532 farms; 6% more than in 2002.
- 262,872 acres of land in farms.
- Average farm size is 172 acres, 1% larger than in 2002.
- \$35 million of farm products sold in 2007.
- Of this, \$8 million (23%) was earned selling crops.
- Sales of livestock and related products totaled \$27 million (77%).
- Most prevalent farm size was 10-49 acres, with 753 farms in this category.
- Ranks 1<sup>st</sup> in state for inventory of pheasants.
- Ranks 1<sup>st</sup> in Montana for sales of horses and ponies, with \$1.3 million.
- Ranks 2<sup>nd</sup> in state for farm sales of milk and dairy products, with \$6 million.
- Ranks 2<sup>nd</sup> in Montana for sales of fruits and nuts [*sales figures were not released by USDA in an effort to protect confidentiality*].
- Ranks 4<sup>th</sup> in Montana for number of horses and ponies, with 5,038.
- Ranks 5<sup>th</sup> in state for sales of nursery and ornamental crops, with \$2.9 million.
- Ranks 9<sup>th</sup> in Montana for sales of vegetables [*sales figures were not released by USDA in an effort to protect confidentiality*].
- Ranks 9<sup>th</sup> in state for sales of Christmas trees [*sales figures were not released by USDA in an effort to protect confidentiality*].

**Sanders County highlights (Agriculture Census 2007):**

- 508 farms; 9% more than in 2002.
- 341,913 acres of land in farms.
- Average farm size is 673 acres; down 10% from 2002.
- \$14 million of farm products sold in 2007.
- Of this, \$6.4 million (46%) was earned selling crops.
- Sales of livestock and related products totaled \$7.6 million (54%).
- Most prevalent farm size was 10-49 acres, with 152 farms in this category.
- Ranks 1<sup>st</sup> in Montana for acres of nursery and ornamentals, with 453.
- Ranks 1<sup>st</sup> in state for number of llamas [*inventory numbers were not released by USDA in an effort to protect confidentiality*].
- Ranks 2<sup>nd</sup> in Montana for sales of nursery and ornamental crops, with \$5 million.
- Ranks 3<sup>rd</sup> in state for sales of Christmas trees, with \$34,000.
- Ranks 4<sup>th</sup> in state for acres of Christmas trees, with 186.
- Ranks 5<sup>th</sup> in Montana for fruit and nut production, with \$101,000 in sales.

## **State of Montana highlights**

### **Montana highlights (Agriculture Census 2007):**

- 29,524 farms; 6% more than in 2002.
- 61 million acres of land in farms.
- Average farm size is 2,079 acres.
- \$2.8 billion of farm products sold in 2007.
- Of this, \$1.3 billion (45%) was earned selling crops.
- Sales of livestock and related products totaled \$1.5 billion (55%).
- Most prevalent farm size was 1000 or more acres, with 9,791 farms in this category.
- Second most prevalent farm size was 10-49 acres, with 5,462 farms in this category.
- Ranks 31<sup>st</sup> in the nation in farm product sales.
- Ranks 2<sup>nd</sup> in U.S. for acres devoted to barley, with 718,551.
- Ranks 2<sup>nd</sup> in U.S. for acres devoted to dry edible beans, with 222,415.
- Ranks 2<sup>nd</sup> in U.S. for acres devoted to lentils, with 87,797.
- Ranks 3<sup>rd</sup> in U.S. for acreage devoted to wheat (5 million acres).
- Ranks 5<sup>th</sup> in U.S. for acreage devoted to forage crops (2.8 million acres).
- Ranks 7<sup>th</sup> in nation for inventory of sheep and lambs (272,012).
- 49% of Montana farms (14,493 of 29,524) reported net losses in 2007.
- 1,287 state farms earned \$6.3 million selling products directly to consumers, \$1.7 million (40%) more than in 2002, when 1,164 farms sold \$4.5 million of products directly.
- Direct food sales from farms account for more sales than the state's 20<sup>th</sup>-largest crop, cherries.
- Direct sales totaled 0.2% of the state's farm product sales, one-half the national average of 0.4%.
- 229 farms devote 195,204 acres to organic production. This includes 58,868 acres of harvested cropland, and 75,807 acres of pastureland.
- 37,260 acres on 106 farms are undergoing organic conversion.
- 207 of these organic farms sold \$8.7 million of organic products, including \$6.8 million of crops (this may include ornamental and greenhouse crops), \$847,000 of livestock and poultry, and \$1 million of products from livestock and poultry (such as milk or eggs).
- Organic food sales account for more sales than the state's 15<sup>th</sup>-largest crop, chicken eggs.
- 148 farms market through community supported agriculture (CSA).
- 1,224 state farms produce value-added products.
- 7,115 (24%) farms use conservation methods.
- 7,707 farms practice rotational management or intensive grazing.
- 514 farms generate energy or electricity on the farm.



**Montana's top 25 farm products in 2007 (Economic Research Service)**

*See chart on next page*

	<b>\$ millions</b>
1 Wheat	949.9
2 Cattle and calves	896.1
3 Barley	189.8
4 Hay	116.4
5 Sugar beets	50.9
6 Lentils	42.9
7 Dairy products	42.8
8 Hogs	36.5
9 Potatoes	34.4
10 Greenhouse/nursery	30.2
11 Dry peas	27.1
12 Sheep and lambs	18.7
13 Corn	15.4
14 Honey	14.8
15 Chicken eggs	6.9
16 Dry beans	6.8
17 Safflower	5.3
18 Oats	3.5
19 Wool	2.4
20 Cherries	1.6
21 Flaxseed	1.3

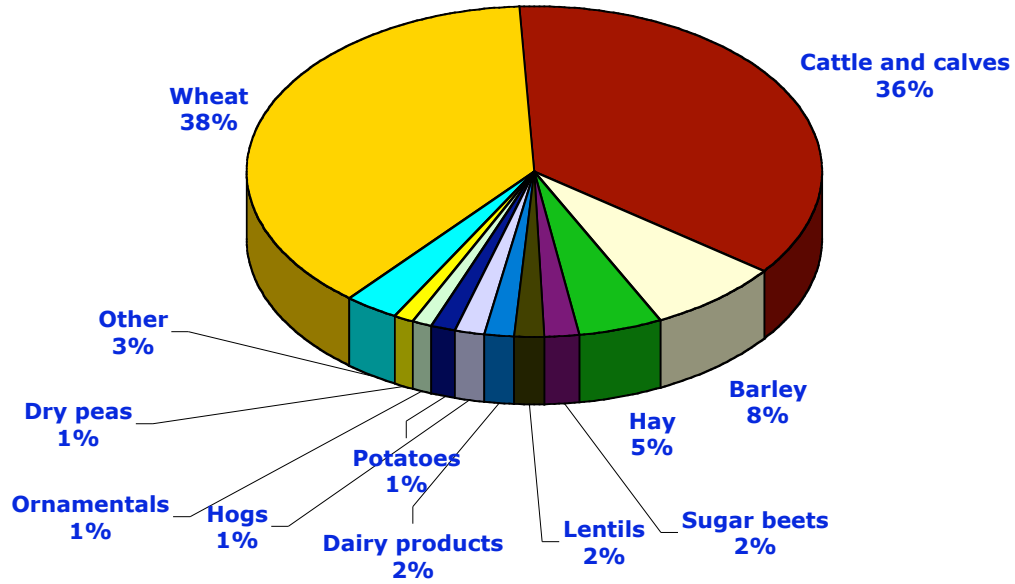
*Note: aquaculture, turkeys, and mushrooms were also listed among Montana's top 25 products, in that order, but sales figures for these products were not released by ERS. Sales for these products combined appear to total about 3% of the state's farm product sales of \$2.6 billion in 2009.*

Note also that at \$2 million, direct sales from farmers to consumers amount to more than the value of the 20<sup>th</sup> ranking product, cherries.

Montana's top 25 farm products in 2007 (Economic Research Service)

See table on previous page

Top farm products sold by Montana farms, 2009



Source: USDA Economic Research Service

**Balance of Cash Receipts and Production Costs (BEA):**

Western Montana Region ranchers and farmers sell \$167 million of food commodities per year (a thirty-year average for 1979-2008), spending \$198 million to raise them, for an average loss of \$31 million each year. These figures do not include federal subsidies (see below). *Note that these sales figures compiled by the BEA may differ from cash receipts recorded by the USDA Agriculture Census (above).*

Since 1979, farm producers have spent \$940 million more producing crops and livestock than they earned by selling these products. This amounts to a loss of 19% of farm product sales. Total cash flow for farmers in the region has been negative for all but three years since 1979. Moreover, 73% of the region's farms and ranches reported net losses in 2007 (Ag Census), even after federal subsidies are taken into account. Western Montana Region farmers and ranchers earned \$76 million less by selling commodities in 2008 than they earned in 1969 (in 2008 dollars).

Farmers and ranchers earn \$15 million per year of farm-related income — primarily custom work, and rental income (thirty-year average for 1979-2008). Federal farm support payments are relatively small, averaging \$5 million per year for the entire region (for the years 1979-2008). Overall, this means farm families rely heavily on off-farm jobs to make ends meet, and for health care benefits.

**The region's consumers:**

Western Montana Region consumers spend \$749 million buying food each year, including \$440 million for home use. Most of this food is produced outside the region. Only \$2 million of food products (1.4% of farm cash receipts, and 0.3% of the region's consumer market) are sold by farmers directly to consumers.

Estimated change in net assets for all region households combined was a loss of \$954 million in 2008 alone (BLS). This places further pressure on residents trying to pay for food.

**Farm and food economy summary:**

Farmers lose \$31 million each year producing food commodities, and spend \$80 million buying inputs from external suppliers, for a total loss of \$111 million to the region. Federal subsidies (see above) do not fully compensate for these losses, and moreover, only are given to farmers who grow select crops, such as wheat and barley.

Meanwhile, consumers spend an estimated \$680 million buying food from outside the region. Adding losses from the farm economy to these consumer dollars that flow away from the region, total loss to the region is \$785 million of potential wealth *each year*. This loss amounts to more than four times of the value of all commodities farmers raise in the region.

**Western Montana Region — markets for food eaten at home (2008):**

	<i>millions</i>
Meats, poultry, fish, and eggs	\$ 94.5
Fruits & vegetables	84.3
Cereals and bakery products	56.2
Dairy products	50.3
“Other,” incl. sweets, fats, & oils	155.2

If Western Montana consumers purchased only 15% of the food they need for home use directly from farmers in the region, this would produce \$66 million of new farm income in the region.

**Missoula Metro region — markets for food eaten at home (2008):**

*Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics*

Missoula residents purchase \$291 million of food each year; \$171 million to eat at home. Home purchases break down in the following way:

	<i>millions</i>
Meats, poultry, fish, and eggs	\$ 36.7
Fruits & vegetables	32.8
Cereals and bakery products	21.8
Dairy products	19.6
“Other,” incl. sweets, fats, & oils	60.4

**Kalispell Metro region — markets for food eaten at home (2008):**

*Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics*

Kalispell residents purchase \$241 million of food each year; \$142 million to eat at home. Home purchases break down in the following way:

	<i>millions</i>
Meats, poultry, fish, and eggs	\$ 30.4
Fruits & vegetables	27.1
Cereals and bakery products	18.1
Dairy products	16.2
“Other,” incl. sweets, fats, & oils	50.0

**Helena Metro region — markets for food eaten at home (2008):**

*Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics*

Helena residents purchase \$196 million of food each year; \$115 million to eat at home. Home purchases break down in the following way:

	<i>millions</i>
Meats, poultry, fish, and eggs	\$ 24.7
Fruits & vegetables	22.1
Cereals and bakery products	14.7
Dairy products	13.2
“Other,” incl. sweets, fats, & oils	40.7

**Butte region — markets for food eaten at home (2008):**

*Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics*

Butte residents purchase \$89 million of food each year; \$52 million to eat at home. Home purchases break down in the following way:

	<i>millions</i>
Meats, poultry, fish, and eggs	\$ 11.2
Fruits & vegetables	10.0
Cereals and bakery products	6.7
Dairy products	6.0
“Other,” incl. sweets, fats, & oils	18.4

**State of Montana — markets for food eaten at home (2008):**

*Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics*

Montanans purchase \$2.6 billion of food per year, \$1.5 billion of this to eat at home. Home purchases break down in the following way:

	<i>millions</i>
Meats, poultry, fish, and eggs	\$ 331
Fruits & vegetables	295
Cereals and bakery products	197
Dairy products	176
“Other,” incl. sweets, fats, & oils	543

**Key data sources:**

**Bureau of Economic Analysis data on farm production balance**

<http://www.bea.doc.gov/bea/regional/reis/>

**Food consumption estimates from Bureau of Labor Statistics Consumer Expenditure Survey**

<http://www.bls.gov/cex/home.htm>

**U.S. Census of Agriculture**

<http://www.nass.usda.gov/census/>

**USDA/Economic Research Service food consumption data:**

<http://www.ers.usda.gov/data/foodconsumption/>

**USDA/ Economic Research Service farm income data:**

<http://ers.usda.gov/Data/FarmIncome/finfidmu.htm>

**For more information:**

To see results from *Finding Food in Farm Country* studies in other regions of the U.S.:

<http://www.crcworks.org/locales.html>

To read the original *Finding Food in Farm Country* study from Southeast Minnesota (written for the Experiment in Rural Cooperation): <http://www.crcworks.org/ff.pdf>

To view a PowerPoint presented in March, 2008, by Ken Meter at Rep. Collin Peterson's (D-MN) Minnesota agricultural forum, called the "Home Grown Economy":

<http://www.crcworks.org/crcppts/petersonkm08.pdf>

To get a brief list of essential food facts, many of which are cited in the presentation above,

<http://www.crcworks.org/foodmarkets.pdf>

To link to further analysis of farm and food economies in the U.S.:

<http://www.crcworks.org/econ.html>

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