

Economy

Overview

- Riverton is the trade center for west central Wyoming.
- The city is also the agricultural center of the county and plays host to the only livestock auction service in a 250 mile radius.
- Tourism is a large economic driver for the city and helps support local retail in the downtown. See the Parks, Recreation and Resources profile for a description of Riverton’s events and attractions.
- The largest employment sectors are education and health services and retail, as indicated by the table below, comprising approximately 45% of Riverton’s employment.
- Energy sector employment has played an increasing role in the local economy not reflected in 2000 census numbers.

Top 10 Employers	Type	Employees
School District 25	Education	450
Wal-Mart	Retail	275
Central Wyoming College (CWC)	Education	228
Riverton Memorial Hospital	Healthcare	218
Community Entry Services	Social Services	120
City of Riverton	Government	117
Pertech	Manufacturing	90
Safeway	Grocery	85
BTI	Trucking	78
K-Mart	Retail	75

Source: Riverton Chamber of Commerce

Employment by Sector	% Total Employment	Average Median Wage
Transportation Warehousing	4.5	\$29,840
Information	2.7	\$29,835
Construction	6.4	\$28,150
Education & Health Services	29.8	\$27,413
Mining, Ag, Forestry & Fisheries	4.7	\$27,389
Professional & Business Services	5.2	\$25,843
Public Administration	6.2	\$25,572
Finance, Insurance & Real Estate	3.2	\$23,478
Services	7.5	\$22,103
Manufacturing	4.3	\$21,631
Wholesale Trade	3	\$19,603
Retail Trade	14.4	\$16,694
Leisure & Hospitality	8.2	\$13,439
Overall Average Median Wage		\$23,922

Source: Riverton Chamber of Commerce



KEY TRENDS

Economic Health

- Riverton’s economy 2008 is strong and all indications point to it being at the beginning of a boom cycle. The growing energy industry in the state is having impacts on Riverton’s housing supply and is increasing demand for services.
- The community wants to plan for a diverse and sustainable economy to be prepared for the “downside” of an economic boom.

Future Job Growth

- JobCorps, a federal facility, will provide 100 jobs by 2011 and training courses for 500 students.
- Energy-related job development is anticipated to continue to be strong through 2015 as several active energy companies continue exploration, drilling, and business development phases.

Sources:

2000 US Census
 Fremont Workforce Housing Assessment (2008)
 Riverton Chamber of Commerce

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Retail and Downtown

- **Riverton Business Mix:** The regional retail destination for central Wyoming, Riverton offers a range of goods and services including arts, farm/ranch supplies, clothing, jewelry and specialty gifts, and outdoors equipment.
- **Business Districts:** Riverton has two principal business districts:
 - **Downtown:** The downtown business district is focused along Main Street between Federal and Fifth Street.
 - **North Federal:** The North Federal business district extends the length of Federal within Riverton's city limits and offers a range of goods and services.
- **Recent Investment in the Downtown:** Downtown Riverton recently received significant investment to improve the streetscape, including: new sidewalks with decorative elements, landscaped center medians, benches, street trees, and flower planters.

Economic Development

- The **Strategic Plan for Economic Development** defines five main goals for Riverton's economy:
 1. Retaining and expanding business,
 2. Expanding infrastructure and essential services,
 3. Promoting training and education programs,
 4. Promoting and encouraging government cooperation,
 5. Responding to business opportunities that provide sustainable jobs.
- Key players planning for Riverton's economy include (but are not limited to): The City of Riverton, Fremont County, IDEA, Inc. (An Economic Development Organization), REEDA, Chamber of Commerce, Work Force Center, Wind River Visitors Council, Airport Board, and industry.