

Population Thresholds for Businesses in the State of Montana

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APPROVAL

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Introduction

Population thresholds are important quantities for determining the potential support of businesses in a specified area. Economically, a population threshold is the minimum population of a city that can (successfully) support a certain business type. The study described in this paper was done for the Agricultural Extensions agent at Montana State University-Bozeman to help determine thresholds for cities and towns across the state of Montana.

Many factors contribute to placement and success when starting a business. This study will not attempt to predict the success or failure of a new business; however, it will provide certain guidelines regarding the population needed to support different business types. The number of businesses classified according to the Standard Industrial Classification (SIC) code were identified for 127 cities in Montana. 146 business types were used as the basis for the study. Data for business type and frequency were obtained from the 1997-1998 Montana Business Directory, and population estimates were obtained from the Montana Census Bureau's website, com.mt.gov/ceic/demog/estimate.

Objectives & Methods

The goal of this study was to find a model that would satisfactorily explain the relationship between the number of businesses in a community and the population of that community. Model selection was needed to determine the type of relationship between population and the number of businesses with certain SIC codes. After analyzing the graphs of population vs. the number of businesses for each type, it was determined that two separate models were required. Counts of some business types followed a linear trend, while some had definite curvature and needed a quadratic term in the model. For models where a quadratic term was used, the populations were centered to remove potential problems with population and population² being collinear. The centering was done by subtracting the overall mean population for all 127 cities from each individual city's population. Separate regressions were run for each business type, and the results are listed in Appendix A.

Once an appropriate model was selected, an inverse regression was run using the number of businesses as a predictor on population. This indicates how many people are needed to support x number of businesses. The tables in Appendix A give the information obtained by running the appropriate model for each business type. The columns represent the population needed for a town to support the number of businesses given in the column headings. The numbers in parentheses correspond to the standard error for each predicted population. For example, if an entrepreneur wanted to start up a pizza parlor in a town of 3000 people that already had 2 pizza parlors, what population would be needed in that town to support that third pizza parlor? According to the table in Appendix A, approximately 4749 people would be needed to support the third pizza parlor. Note that this number is not an exact population estimate. An approximate 95% confidence interval can be obtained for the true population mean needed by adding and subtracting two standard errors from the estimate. A loose interpretation of the interval is that we are 95% confident that between approximately $4749 \pm 2 * 454 = (3841, 5657)$ people are needed to support the third pizza parlor.

Cautions

Before proceeding, there are several data-related items that need to be mentioned. Information regarding many desired business types could not be gathered because of the lack of data available. Often times a certain business would not be located in a sufficient number of cities. Consequently, it was inappropriate to fit a regression model. Another problem that arose is that certain business types did not seem related to population at all. Consider the following examples:

1. There are only three registered Home Centers in Montana, two of which are located in Billings, and the other in Big Sandy which only has a population of 724. Because there are many larger cities that, if population is the best predictor of how many Home Centers are located in a city, should have Home Centers also. Again, there was not enough information about Home Centers to justify fitting a model.

2. Consider Retail Souvenir Shops. There are only four towns that have businesses registered as solely selling souvenirs. Three of those town's populations are between 500 and 10,000, and running a model for Retail Souvenir Shops would suggest that the larger the town, the less number of Retail Souvenir Shops it could support! Clearly this is an illogical conclusion; therefore, businesses of this type were dropped from the study.

A logical question that arises is: What influences the location of businesses that seem to decrease in frequency as population grows? Many businesses, such as mail order catalogs or small manufacturing plants, can be run out of a home, from a remote ranch or other places that do not require many local people for income. These businesses can be located anywhere with reasons for the location choice unknown to the researcher. Other specialty businesses may be open in towns that are located in special areas. Towns that border Yellowstone or Glacier National Park may be able to support a Souvenir Shop, where a town with a similar population in the middle of Eastern Montana may not have a market for one.

There are also statistical problems that arise. The results in Appendix A are to be used for the entire state of Montana. The data that was collected for the study was available data and does not represent a random sample of cities from across the state. This will not present a problem for using this data to look at thresholds for other cities in Montana if the assumption is made that the cities that were used in this study do not proportionally differ in their business frequencies from cities of similar populations that were not used in the study.

Another assumption that needs to be made when using these models is that business type A does not affect business type B. That is, if business type A moves into or leaves a city, this will not affect whether or not business type B can move into or leave that same city. This assumption is the assumption of independence between business types, and future studies can be done to determine the validity of this assumption.

Spatial correlation is another problem that may arise when studies of area such as this one are done. This study does not take into account the possibility that neighboring towns may influence whether or not a certain business will be successful in one of the other neighboring towns. Case in point: Belgrade, MT has a Harley Davidson Motorcycles Dealer. If another

Harley dealership opened in Bozeman, MT, which is only 8 miles from Belgrade, would they both be able to remain operational? Or would one of the dealerships eventually go out of business? The models used and the results printed in this paper assume that there is no correlation of this type from city to city.

Another concern that needs to be addressed is the method for attaining the population data. Although the most recent census data was for 1990, it would have been nonsensical to try use the census data of 1990 since it is now 1998 and Montana has undergone major growth in the '90s. The Montana Department of Commerce updates the population estimates for Montana each year. The populations used for this analysis represent the 1996 estimate of population, which is the most current available estimate. This introduces an extra error component to the predicted population thresholds that cannot be computed because error estimates of the Montana Department of Commerce's population estimates were not given. The intervals that are calculated from the threshold study are approximate and may need to be widened due to this extra error.

Conclusion

In conclusion, the population estimates given in Appendix A represent the population a town in Montana would need to support the given number of businesses for each type. The number of businesses range from 1 to 4 and are given as column headers. The standard errors of the estimates are also given so that confidence intervals can be obtained from the estimates. By simply adding and subtracting two times the standard error ($\text{estimate} \pm 2 * \text{se}$), one can obtain an approximate 95% confidence interval for the mean population needed to support a certain number of each given business type. These intervals can then be used to determine the threshold for a certain business type. Remember, the methods used are only as good as the data provided, so they are to be used as guidelines, not as laws or rules to govern whether a town would be able to support new businesses. There is plenty of opportunity for further study into the topic of population thresholds in Montana, and the author encourages the readers to develop the methods and results given in this paper.

APPENDIX A

Predicted Populations and Std. Errors for Businesses Fit With Quadratic Model

SIC CODE	1	2	3	4
0742-01 Veterinarians	1400 (300)	2631 (323)	4037 (398)	5618 (490)
0752-10 Pet Services	23675 (1939)	41278 (2815)	54522 (2886)	63407 (3020)
0782-04 Landscape Contractors	4140 (648)	7144 (874)	10060 (1165)	12886 (1459)
1542-14 Buildings-Pole	4769 (4759)	20680 (5007)	50659 (6550)	94706 (17071)
4213-04 Trucking	7177 (1446)	13979 (2450)	22626 (3124)	33120 (3538)
4512-02 Air Cargo Service	10083 (813)	18430 (1384)	26265 (1826)	33585 (2118)
4724-02 Travel Agencies & Bureaus	2658 (337)	4696 (483)	6914 (658)	9312 (822)
5211-10 Plumbing Fixtures & Supplies-New-Retail	3316 (715)	6294 (1158)	10296 (1500)	15320 (1713)
5211-35 Electric Equipment & Supplies-Retail	14856 (1965)	24609 (2749)	30417 (2845)	32279 (3693)
5211-42 Lumber-Retail	2809 (551)	5888 (821)	9560 (1138)	13823 (1407)
5271-02 Mobile Homes-Dealers	5014 (739)	9698 (1202)	15518 (1515)	22472 (1676)
5311-02 Department Stores	2431 (431)	4516 (602)	6940 (807)	9703 (991)
5411-05 Grocers-Retail	680 (211)	1834 (193)	3140 (229)	4597 (289)
5421-07 Meat-Retail	6079 (901)	13225 (1448)	21894 (1781)	32087 (2042)
5441-01 Candy & Confectionery-Retail	9733 (924)	19657 (1466)	31061 (1764)	43946 (1964)
5461-02 Bakers-Retail	3442 (381)	6119 (518)	8897 (687)	11775 (851)
5499-01 Health & Diet Foods-Retail	3168 (721)	6026 (1188)	9531 (1555)	13684 (1784)
5511-02 Automobile Dealers-New Cars	2753 (413)	5772 (552)	9081 (742)	12681 (919)
5511-03 Automobile Dealers-Used Cars	1976 (251)	3151 (268)	4353 (311)	5583 (367)
5531-14 Automobile Radio & Stereo Sys-cls/Svc	14386 (1320)	25596 (2130)	34757 (2521)	41869 (2547)
5541-01 Service Stations-Gasoline & Oil	1270 (327)	3018 (321)	4793 (375)	6594 (459)
5541-03 Truck Stops & Plazas	8657 (1747)	21439 (2307)	39951 (2560)	64194 (4474)
5561-03 Recreational Vehicles	8326 (979)	16703 (1529)	26048 (1769)	36362 (1836)
5571-06 Motorcycles & Motor Scooters-Dealers	2937 (463)	10094 (689)	22446 (796)	39994 (981)
5621-01 Women's Apparel-Retail	2179 (402)	3783 (475)	5459 (604)	7205 (748)
5661-01 Shoes-Retail	3857 (281)	6650 (412)	9583 (552)	12656 (679)
5699-05 Costumes-Masquerade & Theatrical	30205 (1900)	49911 (2760)	60875 (2905)	63096 (3294)
5699-07 Western Apparel	7386 (651)	14627 (1086)	22507 (1427)	31026 (1669)
5719-08 Wood Burning Stoves	2385 (1334)	7798 (1986)	17848 (2068)	32534 (1977)
5719-26 Lighting Fixtures-Retail	15753 (1996)	27632 (2812)	36849 (2726)	43402 (2870)
5722-16 Vacuum Cleaners-Household-Dealers	3814 (816)	7679 (1323)	12785 (1646)	19131 (1778)
5722-18 Sewing Machines-Household	9775 (1223)	21573 (1719)	36498 (1864)	54549 (2589)
5731-03 Television & Radio-Dealers	6170 (896)	11518 (1415)	16399 (1863)	20814 (2178)
5731-05 Stereophonic & High Fidelity Equip-Dlrs	2137 (655)	4118 (1108)	7375 (1427)	11906 (1602)
5734-07 Computer & Equipment Dealers	2656 (478)	4385 (698)	6253 (953)	8259 (1192)
5736-08 Musical Instruments-Dealers	6429 (766)	14487 (1174)	25341 (1321)	38992 (1362)
5812-08 Restaurants	573 (237)	783 (228)	995 (220)	1210 (215)
5812-22 Pizza	1865 (278)	3227 (345)	4749 (454)	6430 (567)
5912-05 Pharmacies	1794 (268)	3721 (314)	5789 (410)	7998 (515)
5921-02 Liquors-Retail	3077 (627)	7819 (1044)	14894 (1304)	24301 (1442)
5932-01 Book Dealers-Used & Rare	7158 (643)	14476 (1068)	22748 (1371)	31973 (1563)
5932-04 Consignment Shops	17727 (3044)	28555 (4877)	35015 (5740)	37108 (6150)
5932-29 Pawnbrokers	3251 (508)	5786 (808)	8578 (1101)	11625 (1344)
5941-13 Sporting Goods-Retail	1702 (456)	2538 (641)	3590 (873)	4857 (1093)

Quadratic Fit Predictions con't

SIC CODE	1	2	3	4
5941-20 Saddlery & Harness	3776 (721)	7301 (1178)	11944 (1550)	17704 (1805)
5941-31 Fishing Tackle-Dealers	11379 (1850)	18929 (2657)	23509 (2653)	25118 (2535)
5941-38 Camping Equipment	8591 (2130)	18733 (2969)	32239 (2804)	49108 (2848)
5943-01 Office Supplies	6165 (472)	12048 (773)	18210 (1045)	24651 (1258)
5944-09 Jewelers-Retail	2308 (412)	3909 (602)	5736 (819)	7789 (1015)
5946-01 Photographic Equip & Supplies-Retail	9714 (1098)	19314 (1746)	30235 (2077)	42477 (2245)
5947-12 Gift Shops	1311 (554)	1980 (575)	2701 (678)	3472 (819)
5993-01 Cigar Cigarette & Tobacco Dealers-Retail	10010 (967)	28256 (1243)	56047 (1656)	93382 (3322)
5999-17 Hot Tubs & Spas	203 (941)	4348 (1408)	13929 (1481)	28946 (1330)
5999-30 Pet Shops	5188 (635)	10960 (1027)	18478 (1254)	27743 (1339)
5999-93 Baseball Sports Cards & Memorabilia	7377 (1067)	16488 (1594)	28682 (1719)	43957 (1767)
6021-01 Banks	1178 (218)	2687 (230)	4361 (291)	6201 (367)
6035-01 Savings & Loan Associations	5246 (773)	11572 (1227)	19554 (1452)	29194 (1525)
6061-01 Credit Unions	3449 (390)	6762 (643)	10739 (868)	15377 (1034)
6211-01 Stock & Bond Brokers	3674 (402)	6518 (557)	9458 (742)	12495 (918)
6282-05 Financial Planning Consultants	4486 (390)	7733 (590)	11067 (801)	14488 (993)
6515-01 Mobile Homes-Parks & Communities	4675 (769)	7903 (1246)	11497 (1693)	15456 (2064)
6531-16 Real Estate Appraisers	3038 (528)	5169 (764)	7422 (1034)	9797 (1284)
7011-01 Hotels & Motels	934 (613)	1141 (555)	1403 (550)	1722 (590)
7011-07 Bed & Breakfast Accomodations	6527 (1113)	11070 (1737)	14959 (2301)	18194 (2725)
7033-01 Campgrounds	6098 (1088)	10798 (1584)	14089 (1906)	15971 (2116)
7211-01 Laundries	7593 (1190)	14772 (1968)	23278 (2433)	33111 (2635)
7212-01 Cleaners	3627 (247)	6473 (374)	9448 (512)	12553 (637)
7217-04 Carpet & Rug Cleaners	2770 (426)	5014 (590)	7413 (794)	9966 (986)
7231-06 Beauty Salons	618 (237)	1124 (223)	1639 (216)	2163 (218)
7241-01 Barbers	1890 (304)	3079 (331)	4306 (399)	5569 (484)
7261-03 Funeral Directors	4497 (540)	12462 (889)	23618 (1190)	37966 (1563)
7291-01 Tax Return Preparation & Filing	1570 (316)	2701 (321)	3855 (356)	5032 (410)
7299-06 Exercise & Physical Fitness Programs	5943 (1002)	13635 (1506)	24296 (1621)	37924 (1583)
7299-31 Electrolysis	18390 (1681)	32374 (2344)	43367 (2509)	51368 (3449)
7311-01 Advertising-Agencies & Counselors	7052 (713)	12409 (1167)	17448 (1596)	22170 (1962)
7322-01 Collection Agencies	3846 (636)	8127 (1045)	14112 (1278)	21800 (1338)
7335-01 Photographers-Commercial	5528 (603)	10146 (935)	14606 (1284)	18909 (1597)
7514-01 Automobile Renting & Leasing	2857 (506)	4796 (766)	6954 (1041)	9330 (1285)
7538-01 Automobile Repairing & Service	972 (340)	1373 (324)	1784 (321)	2205 (330)
7539-03 Wheel Alignment-Frame & Axle Svc-Auto	2010 (374)	3216 (579)	4743 (794)	6590 (982)
7622-02 Television & Radio-Service/Repair	4274 (860)	8239 (1456)	13805 (1891)	20971 (2157)
7629-02 Appliances-Household-Major-Repairing	4428 (499)	8443 (740)	12587 (1009)	16861 (1251)
7692-03 Welding	2378 (454)	4554 (537)	6848 (690)	9260 (857)
7699-04 Taxidermists	3280 (876)	6697 (1400)	11027 (1770)	16271 (1955)
7699-62 Locks & Locksmiths	6077 (838)	12528 (1338)	20424 (1629)	29764 (1765)
7841-02 Video Tapes & Discs-Renting & Leasing	4281 (524)	7619 (853)	11194 (1189)	15005 (1480)
7991-01 Health Clubs Studios & Gymnasiums	8304 (801)	15479 (1309)	22099 (1770)	28164 (2134)
7999-64 Skiing Equipment-Rental	11173 (843)	20170 (1395)	28017 (1867)	34716 (2224)

Quadratic Fit Predictions con't

SIC CODE	1	2	3	4
7999-68 Stables	11958 (1472)	20120 (2414)	26010 (3062)	29630 (3452)
8021-01 Dentists	1279 (213)	2102 (208)	2933 (215)	3773 (232)
8041-01 Chiropractors DC	1952 (397)	3409 (468)	4976 (596)	6653 (737)
8051-01 Nursing & Convalescent Homes	2946 (498)	6872 (761)	11978 (1015)	18264 (1213)
8059-04 Retirement Communities & Homes	4577 (720)	8600 (1187)	13058 (1592)	17951 (1888)
8351-01 Child Care Service	2085 (359)	3495 (426)	4955 (543)	6466 (674)
8412-01 Museums	3900 (1048)	10106 (1568)	19704 (1854)	32693 (2382)
8711-10 Engineers-Civil	12142 (1053)	21858 (1744)	29707 (2223)	35688 (2474)
8711-15 Engineers-Electrical	22796 (3080)	38088 (3914)	47797 (3775)	51924 (6653)
8713-01 Surveyors-Land	7802 (839)	14698 (1347)	20765 (1788)	26005 (2106)
8731-11 Environmental & Ecological Services	1291 (276)	1705 (269)	2123 (269)	2543 (274)

Predicted Populations and Std. Errors for Businesses Fit With Linear Model

SIC CODE	1	2	3	4
0781-03 Landscape Designers	9209 (644)	16673 (952)	24137 (1343)	31601 (1762)
1521-05 Home Improvements	5547 (487)	9665 (558)	13784 (684)	17902 (840)
1521-12 Home Builders	3239 (587)	5213 (593)	7187 (624)	9161 (679)
4724-01 Tourist Information	12689 (2170)	22611 (4268)	32533 (6438)	42455 (8626)
5331-01 Variety Stores	8934 (973)	17412 (1727)	25890 (2620)	34368 (3550)
5461-05 Doughnuts	18343 (1575)	34766 (3065)	51188 (4616)	67610 (6182)
5531-23 Tire Dealers-Retail	2006 (285)	4460 (281)	6913 (292)	9367 (316)
5551-04 Boat Dealers	6164 (628)	11295 (793)	16426 (1054)	21557 (1357)
5599-04 Snowmobiles	5709 (795)	10404 (1046)	15099 (1438)	19794 (1887)
5611-01 Men's Clothing & Furnishings-Retail	5715 (385)	10621 (453)	15527 (572)	20433 (717)
5632-10 Lingerie	19776 (1025)	37823 (1949)	55870 (2922)	73917 (3907)
5641-03 Childrens & Infants Wear-Retail	15337 (1098)	29487 (2079)	43637 (3132)	57787 (4205)
5712-16 Furniture-Dealers-Retail	2856 (539)	5094 (541)	7332 (571)	9570 (627)
5713-05 Carpet & Rug Dealers-New	3126 (537)	6137 (550)	9148 (613)	12159 (713)
5722-02 Appliances-Household-Major-Dealers	4680 (634)	9206 (742)	13733 (958)	18259 (1225)
5722-16 Vacuum Cleaners-Household-Dealers	6962 (516)	13212 (681)	19463 (928)	25714 (1208)
5731-07 Satellite Equipment & Systems-Retail	6920 (661)	13620 (936)	20319 (1332)	27018 (1770)
5734-01 Computer Software	4349 (473)	7452 (503)	10554 (571)	13657 (667)
5813-01 Bars	-253 (468)	1178 (448)	2610 (436)	4041 (433)
5932-05 Clothing-Used	8382 (631)	15300 (904)	22218 (1264)	29136 (1656)
5941-29 Guns & Gunsmiths	3940 (543)	7281 (578)	10622 (669)	13962 (798)
5941-41 Bicycles-Dealers	7673 (484)	14492 (660)	21312 (911)	28131 (1189)
5992-01 Florists-Retail	2325 (607)	5746 (611)	9167 (695)	12587 (836)
6411-12 Insurance	667 (212)	1030 (210)	1392 (208)	1754 (207)
6531-08 Real Estate Management	4584 (385)	7987 (413)	11391 (475)	14794 (559)
6552-02 Real Estate Developers	8461 (698)	15764 (1041)	23067 (1486)	30370 (1965)
7033-02 Recreational Vehicle Parks	6079 (830)	11497 (1183)	16915 (1701)	22333 (2273)
7299-17 Massage Therapists	3861 (489)	6849 (512)	9837 (574)	12825 (665)
7311-07 Advertising-Shoppers' Guides	11502 (1656)	20487 (3158)	29472 (4750)	38458 (6365)
7359-39 Aircraft Charter Rental & Leasing Svc	8742 (986)	16492 (1699)	24242 (2547)	31992 (3433)
7538-02 Automobile Machine Shop Service	10710 (706)	20270 (1157)	29829 (1695)	39389 (2257)
7542-03 Automobile Detail & Clean-Up Service	7870 (445)	14570 (602)	21270 (821)	27970 (1066)
7542-05 Car Washing-Coin Operated	10789 (1374)	18936 (2480)	27083 (3683)	35230 (4913)
7623-02 Refrigerators & Freezers-Service/Repair	10665 (540)	20374 (862)	30084 (1253)	39793 (1665)
7699-42 Farm Equipment-Repairing & Parts	7991 (1242)	14466 (2342)	20941 (3590)	27416 (4875)
7699-67 Motorcycles & Scooters-Rpr & Svc	9152 (576)	17152 (860)	25151 (1225)	33151 (1616)
7699-74 Bicycles-Repairing	12243 (793)	23217 (1372)	34191 (2032)	45165 (2714)
7812-11 Video Production & Taping Service	7697 (545)	14025 (736)	20353 (1004)	26681 (1302)
7993-02 Casinos	2450 (220)	4336 (218)	6222 (223)	8109 (234)
7997-06 Golf Courses-Private	22436 (1143)	43313 (2223)	64190 (3345)	85067 (4478)
8011-01 Physicians & Surgeons	1197 (233)	1458 (232)	1719 (231)	1981 (230)
8042-01 Optometrists OD	2543 (276)	5379 (277)	8214 (296)	11050 (330)
8049-11 Occupational Therapists	12943(1075)	24252(1953)	35561 (2918)	46870 (3905)
8111-03 Attorneys	1076 (296)	1312 (294)	1548 (293)	1785 (291)
8322-15 Marriage & Family Counselors	1802 (443)	2432 (438)	3062 (435)	3692 (434)
8711-20 Engineers-Environmental	6383 (526)	11164 (639)	15944 (818)	20725 (1028)
8712-02 Architects	3261 (443)	5214 (446)	7167 (465)	9121 (499)

APPENDIX B

Businesses For Which Information was Insufficient For Modelling

SIC Code and Business Name	SIC Code and Business Name
4119-01 Handicapped Transportation Service	4119-02 Ambulance Service
4121-01 Taxicabs & Transportation Service	4512-98 Air Transportation-Scheduled
4971-02 Irrigation Companies	5211-36 Energy Conservation Prods-Retail
5211-38 Home Centers	5311-04 Discount Stores
5499-20 Gourmet Shops	5531-29 Automobile Accessories
5611-04 Army & Navy Goods	5699-04 Dancing Supplies
5699-06 Dressmakers	5699-11 Riding Apparel & Equipment
5731-12 Video Games	5812-28 Coffee Shops
5912-02 Health Care Products	5932-22 Thrift Shops
5932-26 Second Hand Stores	5941-15 Skiing Equipment-Retail
5941-32 Fishing Tackle-Repairing & Parts	5941-33 Fishing Bait
5941-51 Outfitters	5943-05 Stationers-Retail
5945-20 Crafts	5947-15 Souvenirs-Retail
5994-02 Magazines-Dealers	5999-29 Pet Supplies & Foods-Retail
6411-09 Insurance-Life (Agents)	7213-02 Linen Supply Service
7299-10 Hair Removing	7299-24 Credit & Debt Counseling Services
7299-26 Dating Services	7299-44 Tanning Salons
7373-02 Computers-Equipment Installation	7533-01 Mufflers & Exhaust Systems-Engine
7537-01 Transmissions-Automobile	7538-14 Four Wheel Drive-Repairing & Service
7539-01 Automobile Radiator Repairing	7549-03 Automobile Lubrication Service
7629-01 Appliances-Household-Small-Repairing	7911-01 Dancing Instruction
7999-09 Bicycles-Renting	7999-29 Golf Courses-Miniature
8999-03 Writers	

APPENDIX C

Cities and 1996 Population Estimates

City	Population	City	Population	City	Population
Alberton	396	Anaconda	10093	Bainville	166
Baker	1755	Bearcreek	42	Belgrade	4846
Belt	596	Big Sandy	724	Big Timber	1698
Billings	91195	Boulder	1589	Bozeman	28522
Bridger	807	Broadus	532	Broadview	190
Brocton	363	Browning	1220	Butte	34051
Cascade	750	Chester	952	Chinook	1586
Choteau	1791	Circle	727	Clyde Park	337
Colombia Falls	3922	Columbus	1897	Conrad	2873
Culbertson	819	CutBank	3508	Darby	851
Deer Lodge	3782	Denton	373	Dillon	4382
Dodson	132	Drummond	270	Dutton	396
East Helena	1720	Ekalaka	433	Ennis	1000
Eureka	1108	Fairfield	842	Fairview	842
Flaxville	83	Forsyth	2141	Fort Benton	1660
Fort Peck	226	Froid	193	Fromberg	370
Geraldine	296	Glasgow	3656	Glendive	4557
Grass Range	169	Great Falls	55125	Hamilton	4059
Hardin	3225	Harlem	976	Harlowtown	1127
Havre	10232	Helena	27982	Hingham	178
Hobson	227	Hot Springs	464	Hysham	360
Ismay	20	Joliet	613	Jordan	445
Judith Gap	146	Kalispell	15678	Kevin	177
Laurel	6125	Lavina	165	Lewistown	6380
Libby	2701	Lima	278	Livingston	7509
Lodge Grass	559	Malta	2303	Manhattan	1380
Medicine Lake	328	Melstone	190	Miles City	8882
Missoula	51204	Moore	220	Nashua	381
Neihart	53	Opheim	145	Outlook	100
Philipsburg	940	Pinesdale	983	Plains	1201
Plentywood	1989	Plevna	133	Polson	4316
Poplar	920	Red Lodge	2204	Rexford	145
Richey	245	Ronan	1877	Roundup	2049
Ryegate	283	Saco	247	Scobey	1101
Shelby	2704	Sheridan	723	Sidney	4971
St Ignatius	913	Stanford	533	Stevensville	1965
Sunburst	422	Superior	978	Terry	665
Thompson Falls	1540	Three Forks	1481	Townsend	2004
Troy	1031	Twin Bridges	421	Valier	532
Virginia City	158	West Yellowstone	1069	Westby	234
White Sulphur Springs	964	Whitefish	5793	Whitehall	1326
Wibaux	605	Winifred	216	Winnet	190
Wolf Point	2874				