



On the surface, the recession appeared to have bypassed Beaver County during 2009. It stood alone as the one county in Utah to actually gain jobs. Was Beaver County just ignoring the downturn while everyone suffered? Not necessarily. The spurt in the county's employment growth occurred in mining and wind-farm construction. By 2010, these jobs had been blown away and Beaver County is currently showing its own employment declines.

Counts from the 2010 Census place Beaver County's population at just over 6,600 residents. That makes Beaver County the seventh smallest county (population) in Utah. Between 2000 and 2010, the county's population grew by 10 percent—less than half the statewide rate 24-percent rate of expansion.

Following state and national trends, Beaver County has become more racially and ethnically diverse over the past decade. Currently, about 14 percent of the county's population belongs to an ethnic or racial minority. That's notably below the state average of 19 percent, but ranks fairly high among rural Utah counties. With 11 percent of total population, the Hispanic/Latino ethnic group constitutes Beaver County largest minority.

Like many small counties, Beaver County's largest employment industry is government. (Remember that public education is included in government job totals.) However, Beaver County stands apart from its rural peers because covered agriculture* is the next largest industry in the county. Most farm employment is not covered under the laws that permit us to collect job counts. What makes the difference in Beaver County? One large facility, Circle Four Farms, a livestock production company, provides a hefty share of employment and wages.

The Union Pacific Railroad and United Parcel Service also combine to make the transportation industry claim a larger-than-average share of employment. In addition, leisure/hospitality employment generates a large portion of Beaver County's jobs. ●

Beaver County

For more information see: <http://jobs.utah.gov/countyinfo>

**Covered agricultural employment includes only farm employment covered under the Utah Employment Security Act. Many owner-operated agricultural establishments (and therefore a large share of farm employment) are not covered under this law.*

