



Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Socioeconomic Profile

Iron County, WI

Selected Geographies:

Iron County, WI

Benchmark Geography:

U.S.

Report Date:

May 6, 2019

BLM Socioeconomic Profile

Iron County, WI

About the BLM Socioeconomic Profile (SEP) Tool

What is the BLM Socioeconomic Profile (SEP) Tool?

The [BLM Socioeconomic Profile \(SEP\)](#) tool delivers an easily understood report that provides an overview of socioeconomic conditions using indicators relevant to public land management. The report includes accurate and reliable county-level indicators. This tool also explains the context necessary to understand how these indicators describe the relationship between activities authorized on BLM-managed lands and surrounding communities.

How to use this report

This report is intended for multiple audiences for a variety of uses. BLM staff can use these reports to:

- Develop socioeconomic baselines for National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) analyses.
- Facilitate community engagement between the BLM, surrounding communities, and stakeholders by improving the BLM's and the public's understanding of baseline socioeconomic conditions and the extent to which the BLM contributes to those conditions.
- Learn about the economic and demographic conditions and trends near BLM-managed lands.
- Run consistent reports over time, and to track changes on individual or multiple BLM units.

Where do these data come from?

The BLM Socioeconomic Profile (SEP) tool adapted two existing Headwaters Economics on-line tools: the Economic Profile System (EPS) and Populations at Risk (PAR).

EPS and PAR use data from the Bureau of Labor Statistics, Census Bureau, U.S. Department of Commerce, and other reliable public sources. These tools are currently used by federal land managers, state and local elected officials, planners, city managers, journalists, and researchers throughout the country.

Headwaters Economics recommends that citations from SEP use the cited data source that is provided at the bottom of each Data and Graphics section. For example, poverty rates may be cited using: U.S. Department of Commerce. 2018. Census Bureau, American Community Survey Office, Washington, D.C.

More specifics on data sources can be found at the [SEP](#) webpage. Also see the "Additional Resources" section of the report for links to key data resources and suggestions for supplementing the data in this report.

What are the limitations of this report?

This report, and the reports available through EPS and PAR, provide valuable information on historical and existing economic and demographic conditions for a defined area. However, these reports do not:

- Contain information or modelling capabilities to conduct social or economic impact analyses.
- Contain information or modelling capabilities to conduct economic efficiency analysis and/or cost-benefit analysis.
- Evaluate many of the social and economic issues and values related to public land management, particularly perspectives and values of affected individuals and communities.
- Contain sub-county demographic or economic data (*with the exception of the EPS Demographics and PAR reports*).
- Provide specific data on the use of resources on BLM-managed lands (e.g., recreational visits or livestock grazing) or estimates of the economic contribution of activities on BLM-managed lands to the regional economy.

Need technical assistance?

For technical questions, contact Patty Gude at eps@headwaterseconomics.org or telephone 406-599-7425.

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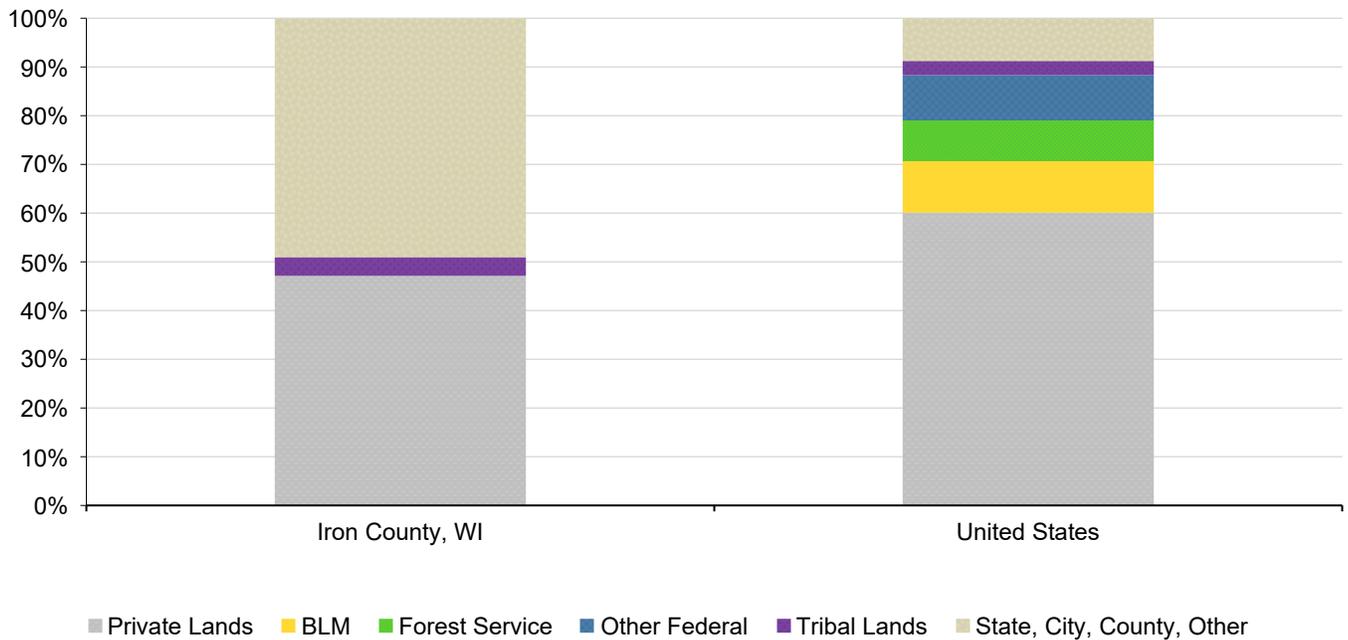
Land Ownership

Land Ownership, Acres	Iron County, WI	United States
Total Area	513,015	2,301,106,907
Private Lands	241,721	1,383,075,581
Federal Lands	25	649,455,740
BLM	0	242,951,818
Forest Service	25	192,507,338
Other Federal	0	213,996,584
Tribal Lands	19,716	66,666,114
State, City, County, Other	251,553	201,909,462

Percent of Total

Private Lands	47.1%	60.1%
Federal Lands	0.0%	28.2%
BLM	0.0%	10.6%
Forest Service	0.0%	8.4%
Other Federal	0.0%	9.3%
Tribal Lands	3.8%	2.9%
State, City, County, Other	49.0%	8.8%

Land Ownership, Percent of Land Area



Based on data from the following source(s): U.S. Geological Survey, Gap Analysis Program. 2016. Protected Areas Database of the United States (PADUS) version 1.4

BLM Socioeconomic Profile

Iron County, WI

Land Ownership

What is described in this section?

This section reports total acreage for the selected geographies and by land ownership type (i.e., private land, public land (federal and non-federal), and tribal land). The table shows this information and further subdivides Federally-managed lands into those managed by the BLM, the U.S. Forest Service, and other federal agencies. The graphic depicts the relative occurrence of each land ownership type for each selected geography.

No publicly available federal database contains summary statistics on the area of land by ownership. For this report, these statistics were calculated using Geographic Information System (GIS) tools and these two existing datasets:

U.S. Census Bureau's TIGER/Line County Boundaries: this annually updated dataset contains geospatial data on administration boundaries, such as state and county, for the U.S. (see: <https://www.census.gov/geo/maps-data/data/tiger-line.html>)

U.S. Geological Survey's Protected Areas Database (PAD-US): this dataset contains geospatial data that inventories "public parks and other protected open space." This translates to all non-private lands in the U.S. PAD-US differentiates by land ownership. (See <https://gapanalysis.usgs.gov/padus/>)

Although every attempt was made to use the best available GIS land ownership dataset, these data sometimes have errors or become outdated. Please report any inaccuracies to eps@headwaterseconomics.org.

These data are not specific to socioeconomics. For NEPA analyses it is common for land area estimates to be included to describe other aspects relevant to the impact analysis. The source of those estimates may differ from the data sources listed above.

Why is this relevant to the BLM?

Land ownership patterns provide important context for understanding the potential socioeconomic impacts of BLM management decisions in a given area. This context is a starting point that can be used to highlight several socioeconomic considerations. Some examples are:

Different land owners and managers have different interests, objectives, and constraints. Understanding these differences can improve understanding of potential challenges that may arise when considering different land management decisions. The BLM can use this information to ensure relevant entities are identified and targeted during the scoping and public comment periods of the NEPA process.

In areas with a high proportion of public lands (including non-federal), public land management actions can have a relatively large effect on economic activity and quality of life in local communities.

In areas with significant tracts of federal lands, state and local governments may rely heavily on federal land payments and revenue sharing (e.g., payments associated with federal mineral revenues and timber sales) and state and local tax revenues (e.g., severance and ad valorem taxes and sales and lodging taxes) generated from activities on federal lands. For more information on federal land payments see the section covering this topic at the end of this report.

In areas with relatively few public lands, it is likely that public lands play a relatively minor role in the local economy. However, those public lands may still serve important roles such as providing public access to recreation areas for which there are few substitutes.

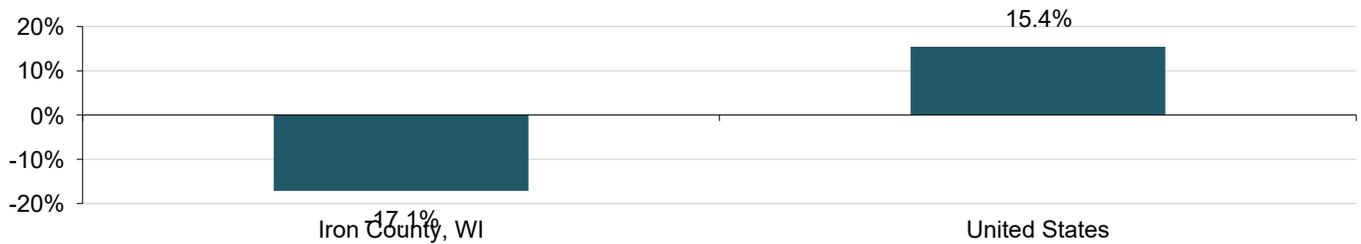
BLM Socioeconomic Profile

Iron County, WI

Overview

	Iron County, WI	United States
Population		
Population, 2000	6,843	282,162,411
Population, 2017	5,671	325,719,178
Employment		
Employment, 2000	3,788	165,370,800
Employment, 2017	2,632	196,132,200
Per Capita Income		
Per Capita Income, 2000 (2018 \$s)	\$31,505	\$44,698
Per Capita Income, 2017 (2018 \$s)	\$49,555	\$52,880

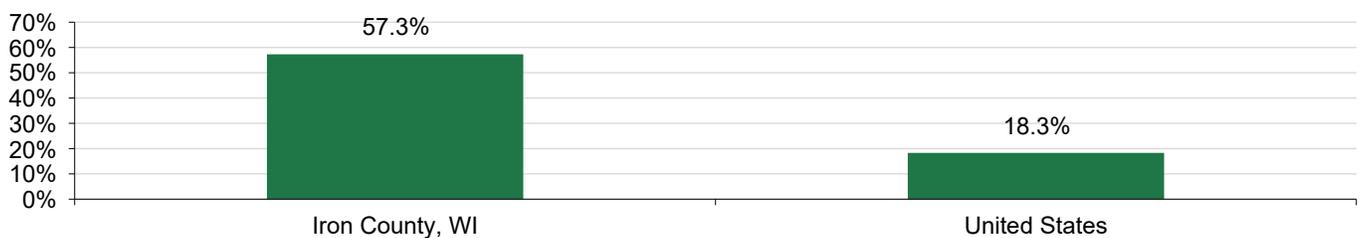
Population, Percent Change, 2000 to 2017



Employment, Percent Change, 2000 to 2017



Per Capita Income, Percent Change, 2000 to 2017



Based on data from the following source(s): U.S. Department of Commerce. 2018. Bureau of Economic Analysis, Regional Economic Accounts, Washington, D.C.

BLM Socioeconomic Profile

Iron County, WI

Overview

What is described in this section?

This section shows population, employment, and per capita income in 2000 and the most recent year data are available. The graphs show how these indicators have changed since 2000.

Population estimates reported in this section come from the Census Bureau's Population Estimates Program (PEP). These estimates include the total resident population (citizens and non-citizens). PEP produces estimates on July 1 of every year by adjusting decennial census base counts using existing data series such as births, deaths, Federal tax returns, Medicare enrollment, and immigration.

Employment estimates for the most recent year are reported by the Department of Commerce Bureau of Economic Analysis (BEA). The BEA employment estimates represent "the number of jobs, full-time plus part-time, by place of work" and include "wage and salary jobs, sole proprietorships [i.e., self-employed], and general partners [i.e., partners which can include corporations and other legal entities]." Jobs by Industry are shown in the next section of this report.

Per capita income is a common measure of the financial well-being of an area, and is calculated by dividing total personal income by total population. Total personal income estimates are reported by the BEA by place of residency and include wages and salaries, supplements to wages and salaries, and proprietors' income (i.e. labor earnings), as well as non-labor income (i.e. dividends, interest, and rent; and transfer payments). All income figures in this report are adjusted for inflation for the year reported (i.e. shown in real terms). Note that these estimates of income differ from those developed through the Census Bureau's American Community Survey and should not be compared with those estimates (which are also found in the EPS reports called "Demographics.")

Why is this relevant to the BLM?

Population, employment, and per capita income are three of the most basic indicators for describing the socioeconomic context of an area. Presented together these indicators provide initial insight into the magnitude, trends, and relationships between the population, the economy, and individual wealth within a defined region. For example, while there are exceptions, areas with population, employment, and per capita income growing faster than surrounding areas are likely attracting or retaining people due to certain factors such as employment opportunities, potential for higher earnings, and potential for improved quality of life.

This context serves as a starting point for understanding how people in an area may interact with, or be affected by, BLM decisions. For example, an area with a small population and relatively low growth rates may be more sensitive to land management decisions that have the potential to meaningfully affect local economic activity or demographics. Conversely, an area with a large population and a high number of employment opportunities is unlikely to be highly dependent on BLM-managed lands from an economic activity perspective. However, there may be higher demands on BLM-managed lands near larger population and economic centers and a higher likelihood of conflict between diverse stakeholders.

Trends in one area that substantially deviate from those in surrounding areas suggest additional research may be useful to better understand causes and what role public land management decisions might have in the area. Additional research would also be useful when trends for these indicators within one area appear at odds.

BLM Socioeconomic Profile

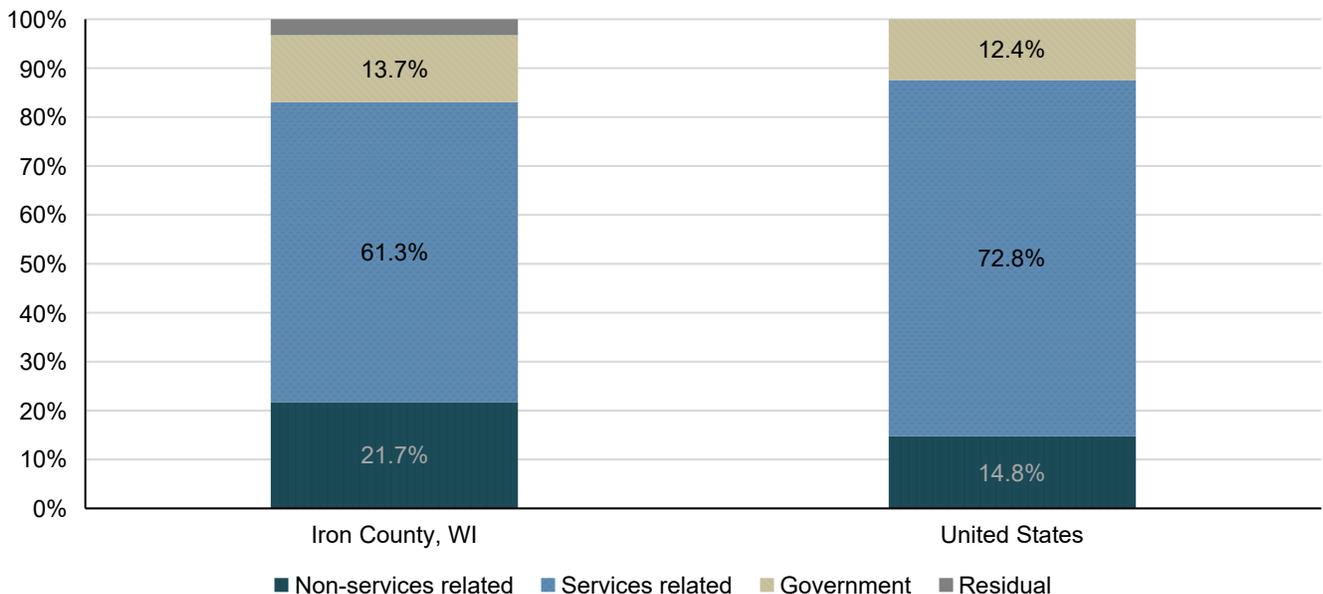
Iron County, WI

Jobs by Industry (2017)

	Iron County, WI	United States
Total number of jobs	2,632	196,132,200
Non-services related	~572	29,007,900
Farm	61	2,631,000
Forestry, fishing, & ag. services	na	926,400
Mining (including fossil fuels)	na	1,511,100
Construction	278	10,634,600
Manufacturing	~233	13,304,800
Services related	~1,614	142,719,300
Utilities	1	663,500
Wholesale trade	51	6,478,900
Retail trade	290	19,222,200
Transportation and warehousing	36	7,663,800
Information	16	3,384,400
Finance and insurance	~35	10,510,200
Real estate and rental and leasing	122	9,105,900
Professional and technical services	97	13,721,000
Management of companies	3	2,667,400
Administrative and waste services	71	12,088,500
Educational services	13	4,691,200
Health care and social assistance	362	22,201,200
Arts, entertainment, and recreation	67	4,455,500
Accommodation and food services	316	14,697,400
Other services, except public admin.	134	11,168,200
Government	360	24,405,000
Residual	86	0

All employment data are reported by *place of work*. Estimates for data that were not disclosed are indicated with tildes (~).

Jobs by Industry, Percent of Total, 2017



Based on data from the following source(s): U.S. Department of Commerce. 2018. Bureau of Economic Analysis, Regional Economic Accounts, Washington, D.C.

BLM Socioeconomic Profile

Iron County, WI

Jobs by Industry (2017)

What is described in this section?

This section shows employment by industry based on data reported by the U.S. Department of Commerce Bureau of Economic Analysis (BEA) for the most recent published year. The BEA employment estimates represent “the number of jobs, full-time plus part-time, by place of work” and include “wage and salary jobs, sole proprietorships [i.e., self-employed], and general partners [i.e., partners which can include corporations and other legal entities].”

For this report, employment is grouped into three broad categories:

- (1) Non-services related industries (construction, utilities, farming, mining, and manufacturing, and natural resource industries).
- (2) Services related industries.
- (3) Government (federal military and civil services, state and local government employment, and government enterprise).

Some employment data are withheld by the BEA to avoid the disclosure of potentially confidential information. In many cases, Headwaters Economics is able to use supplemental data from the U.S. Department of Commerce to estimate these data gaps. These values are indicated with tildes (~). When an estimate is not possible, a value of “na” is reported. Residual employment is also accounted for in this section. Residual employment is the number of jobs remaining after accounting for reported or estimated jobs in the three categories above.

Why is this relevant to the BLM?

These employment data illustrate the various sectors that currently exist in a regional economy. The Jobs by Industry “snapshot” helps identify drivers of the local economy and the level of economic diversity. Further inferences can be drawn by comparing the proportion of employment in a sector across geographies. For example, if the farm sector accounts for 10 percent of the jobs in one county, but 1 to 3 percent in several adjacent counties, it is reasonable to conclude that the farm sector plays a particularly important role in that county.

These data can also describe the relative contribution of activities authorized on BLM-managed lands to the regional economy, particularly for non-services industries. For example, if 10 percent of total employment in a specific county is in the mining industry and there are several large mining operations (including oil and gas) authorized on BLM-managed lands in that county, then one can conclude that mineral activities on public lands constitutes an important driver for the regional economy. These types of comparisons can be drawn for all activities that occur on BLM-managed lands. In the case of recreation, there is no stand-alone sector, but comparisons to various service related industries affected by visitor expenditures provide some insight.

Socioeconomic baseline sections in NEPA documents often include employment by industry. It is appropriate to include this information when an issue has been identified related to how jobs or the regional economy will be affected by the federal action under review. These data provide context and baseline employment data that are necessary to interpreting employment impacts.

BLM Socioeconomic Profile

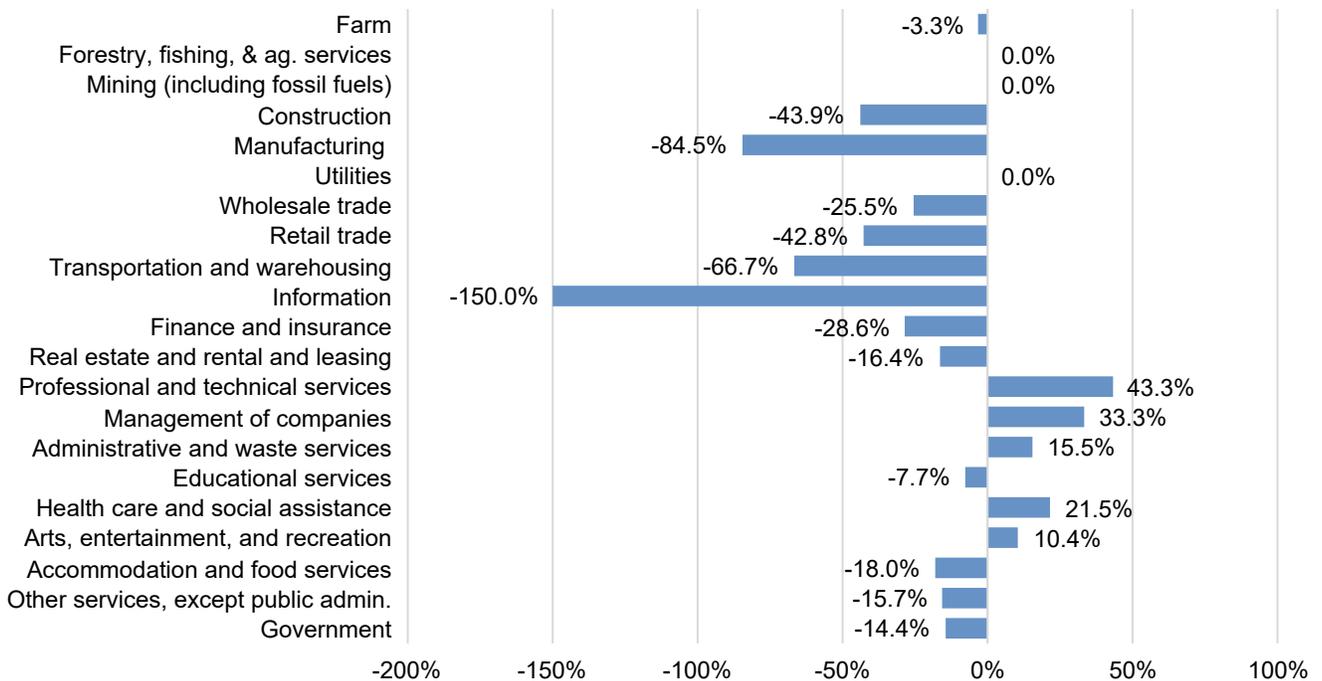
Iron County, WI

Jobs by Industry (Change from 2001 to 2017)

	Iron County, WI	United States
Total change in jobs	-571	30,610,000
Non-services related	-321	-2,403,300
Farm	-2	-432,000
Forestry, fishing, & ag. services	na	124,900
Mining (including fossil fuels)	na	702,700
Construction	-122	817,900
Manufacturing	-197	-3,616,800
Services related	-155	31,759,300
Utilities	0	47,700
Wholesale trade	-13	245,500
Retail trade	-124	964,400
Transportation and warehousing	-24	2,183,800
Information	-24	-663,400
Finance and insurance	-10	2,709,600
Real estate and rental and leasing	-20	3,557,500
Professional and technical services	42	3,449,200
Management of companies	-1	878,100
Administrative and waste services	11	2,485,000
Educational services	-1	1,679,900
Health care and social assistance	78	6,947,800
Arts, entertainment, and recreation	-7	1,290,400
Accommodation and food services	-57	3,891,200
Other services, except public admin.	-21	2,092,600
Government	-52	1,254,000
Residual	-43	0

All employment data are reported by *place of work*. Estimates for data that were not disclosed are indicated with tildes (~).

Percent Change in Jobs by Industry, 2001 to 2017, Iron County, WI



Based on data from the following source(s): U.S. Department of Commerce. 2018. Bureau of Economic Analysis, Regional Economic Accounts, Washington, D.C.

BLM Socioeconomic Profile

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Jobs by Industry (Change from 2001 to 2017)

What is described in this section?

This section compares current employment by industry, as presented in the *Jobs by Industry* section and as discussed in its accompanying study guide, to 2001 employment levels as reported by the BEA. To maintain consistency across reporting periods, current and historic employment estimates are reported based on the 2001 North American Industrial Classification System (NAICS).

As discussed in the previous study guide, employment sectors have been grouped into three broad categories:

- (1) Non-services related industries (construction, utilities, farming, mining, and manufacturing, and natural resource industries).
- (2) Services related industries.
- (3) Government (federal military and civil services, state and local government employment, and government enterprise).

Some employment data are withheld by the BEA to avoid the disclosure of potentially confidential information. In many cases, Headwaters Economics is able to use supplemental data from the U.S. Department of Commerce to estimate these data gaps. These estimates are indicated with tildes (~). When an estimate is not possible, a value of "na" is reported. Residual employment is also accounted for in this section.

Why is this relevant to the BLM?

While current employment levels can provide a snapshot of economies, comparing how employment has changed over time can provide insight into how local economies have changed, which industries may be growing or declining, and whether local economies are becoming more or less diverse.

BLM management decisions can affect employment opportunities, especially in natural resource dependent industries. Changes in employment levels are particularly of interest when they have occurred in sectors where a high percentage of local employment is concentrated. If a meaningful change in employment is shown in one of these concentrated employment sectors, additional investigation into the driving factor(s) is recommended. Changes in employment may be largely attributable to national or local market factors (for example, a decline in home construction nationally would reduce the demand for timber and decrease employment in the forestry sector or an increase in oil prices could lead to increased oil and gas development and higher employment in the mining sector). Alternately, observed changes in local employment in certain sectors may be attributable to BLM land management decisions, such as the authorization of a large development project that affects public land use.

It may also be relevant to consider changes in employment in industries that may not seem dependent on natural resources. For example, unlike other natural resource dependent industries, employment associated with recreation is not captured in a single economic sector. Instead, recreationists who spend money in hotels, restaurants, ski resorts, gift shops, and elsewhere support employment in retail trade; passenger transportation; arts, entertainment, and recreation; and accommodations and food sectors. If employment in one of these sectors has meaningfully changed, it may be appropriate to consider the possible link to changes in recreational use on BLM management lands.

When management decisions could impact employment in counties surrounding BLM managed lands, socioeconomic baseline reports should explain how local employment opportunities have changed over time.

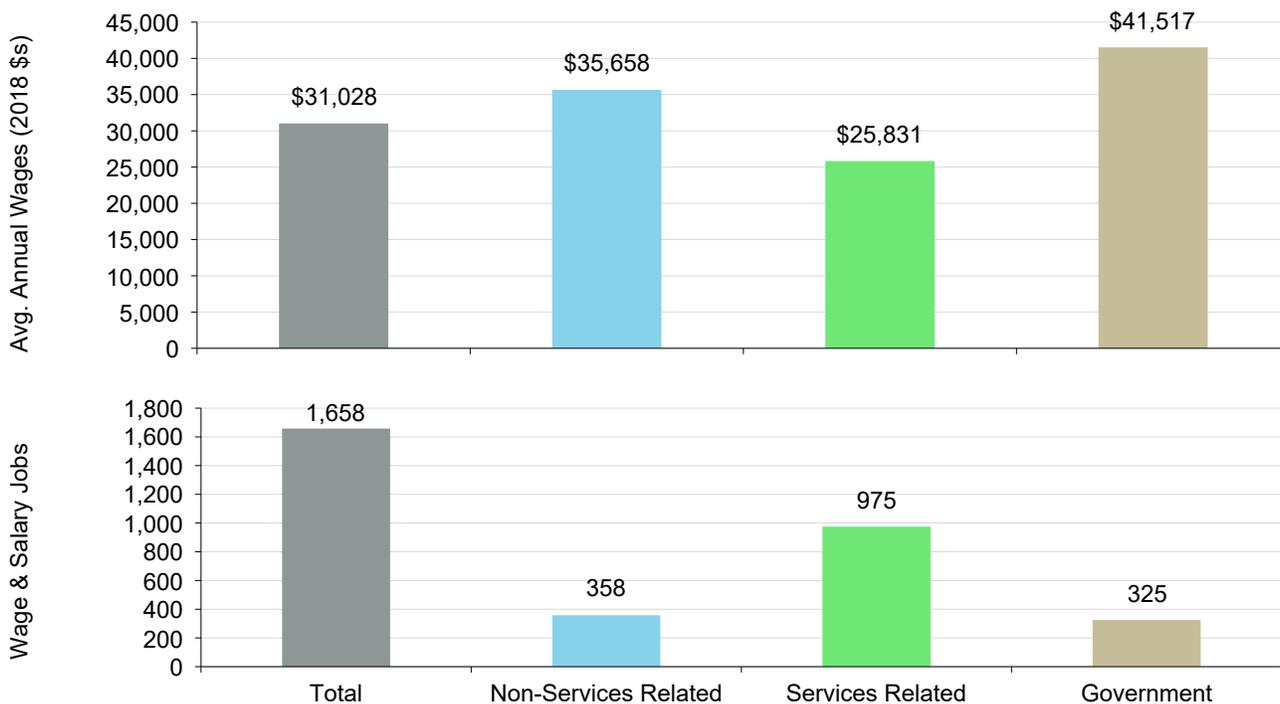
BLM Socioeconomic Profile

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Wages by Industry

Employment and Wages in 2017, Aggregated Region	Wage & Salary Employment	% of Total Wage & Salary Employment	Avg. Annual Wages (2018 \$s)	United States Avg. Annual Wages (2018 \$s)
Total	1,658		\$31,028	\$56,719
Private	1,333	80.4%	\$28,471	\$56,666
Non-Services Related	358	21.6%	\$35,658	\$65,496
Natural Resources and Mining	21	1.3%	\$32,411	\$58,223
Agriculture, forestry, fishing & hunting	na	na	na	\$35,292
Mining (incl. fossil fuels)	na	na	na	\$104,581
Construction	161	9.7%	\$39,932	\$62,193
Manufacturing (Incl. forest products)	176	10.6%	\$32,136	\$68,444
Services Related	975	58.8%	\$25,831	\$54,814
Trade, Transportation, and Utilities	257	15.5%	\$23,605	\$47,259
Information	7	0.4%	\$49,362	\$108,259
Financial Activities	72	4.3%	\$28,467	\$95,153
Professional and Business Services	58	3.5%	\$32,574	\$74,266
Education and Health Services	316	19.1%	\$33,718	\$50,382
Leisure and Hospitality	257	15.5%	\$15,680	\$23,744
Other Services	8	0.5%	\$18,776	\$38,215
Unclassified	0	0.0%	na	\$57,228
Government	325	19.6%	\$41,517	\$57,022
Federal Government	15	0.9%	\$41,944	\$82,362
State Government	14	0.8%	\$42,037	\$60,213
Local Government	296	17.9%	\$41,471	\$50,913

Wages & Employment by Major Industry, Iron County, WI, 2017



Based on data from the following source(s): U.S. Department of Labor. 2018. Bureau of Labor Statistics, Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages, Washington, D.C.

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Wages by Industry

What is described in this section?

This section focuses on average annual wages by industry for wage and salary jobs in the aggregated region. It is important to note that the aggregated region is not broken out by county, whereas earlier industry and job numbers were given on a county by county basis. For this report, industries are separated into government and private sectors. Private sector industries are further classified as Non-Services Related or Services Related. The table shows:

Wages and Salary Employment: The number of filled jobs, whether full or part-time, temporary or permanent, by place of work. Major exclusions include self-employed workers, most agricultural workers on small farms, all members of the Armed Forces, elected officials in most states, most employees of railroads, some domestic workers, most student workers at schools, and employees of certain small nonprofit organizations.

Percent of Total Employment: The share of total wages and salary employment attributable to each sector.

Average Annual Wages: The average annual wage for each sector in the aggregated region (total annual wages and salaries divided by total wage and salary employment). Wages include bonuses, stock options, severance pay, profit distributions, cash value of meals and lodging, tips and other gratuities, and, in some states, employer contributions to certain deferred compensation plans such as 401(k) plans. Employer contributions to other benefits (such as health insurance and pensions) are not included.

These data are from the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages (QCEW). Other sections of this report use different data that is from the BEA. BEA data are different because it includes proprietors, accounts for the value of benefits, and is summarized into slightly different industry categories.

Depending on the counties selected, some data may not be available due to disclosure restrictions that prevent the BLS from publishing identifiable information provided by respondents. Industry level totals for states and the U.S. include the undisclosed data suppressed at the county level.

Why is this relevant to the BLM?

While total employment is often used as a key economic indicator, it is also important to consider the wages associated with different types of jobs available in an area and how these jobs relate to BLM management decisions. This information can be particularly useful when evaluating a project on BLM-managed lands that is likely to affect specific industries.

Particularly in rural areas, some of the highest wage jobs are in the manufacturing and natural resource dependent industries (e.g., forestry, oil and gas drilling and support services, and mining) that are often associated public lands. Usually, these high wage industries employ fewer people than other sectors. Some services-related industries also offer high wages (e.g., information, financial activities, and professional and business services). Furthermore, even if the average wages for a given sector are relatively low, that sector may still be an important driver of the local economy if it supports a significant share of the total jobs in the area. Finally, wages provide a good counter-part to the per capita income figure. In some areas per capita income can be high (sometimes driven by a high proportion of non-labor income) while wages are low. A good indicator of an overall strong local economy is when both per capita income and wages are relatively high.

These data can provide a more complete picture of the effects of activities authorized on BLM-managed lands, especially when compared to the employment changes reported in the *Jobs by Industry* sections. For example, the BLM is analyzing the authorization of a new mine or a timber sale. Wage data for *Mining (incl. fossil fuels)* and *Agriculture, forestry, fishing & hunting* sectors, respectively, can provide useful baseline information for these likely affected sectors.

BLM Socioeconomic Profile

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Non-labor Income

Non-Labor Income in 2017	Iron County, WI	United States
Personal Income (thous. of 2018 \$s)	281,025	17,223,936,818
Non-Labor Income	149,333	6,365,700,398
Dividends, Interest, Rent	68,294	3,437,437,091
Age-Related Transfer Payments	54,948	1,660,249,167
Hardship-Related Payments	19,468	907,920,427
Other Transfer Payments	6,623	360,093,713
Labor Earnings	131,692	10,858,236,420

Percent of Total Personal Income

Non-Labor Income	53.1%	37.0%
Dividends, Interest, Rent	24.3%	20.0%
Age-Related Transfer Payments	19.6%	9.6%
Hardship-Related Payments	6.9%	5.3%
Other Transfer Payments	2.4%	2.1%
Labor Earnings	46.9%	63.0%

Components of Personal Income, Iron County, WI



Non-labor income accounted for 74 percent of real personal income growth (\$65M) between 2000 and 2017.

Non-Labor & Labor Income, Percent of Total Personal Income, 2017



Based on data from the following source(s): U.S. Department of Commerce. 2018. Bureau of Economic Analysis, Regional Economic Accounts, Washington, D.C.

BLM Socioeconomic Profile

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Non-labor Income

What is described in this section?

This section describes the components of non-labor income and how they have changed over time, as reported by the Bureau of Economic Analysis (BEA).

The table reports total personal income (by place of residence) for the most recent year available and divides this income into labor earnings (e.g., wages and salary, including benefits and proprietor's income) and non-labor income. Non-labor income includes:

Dividends, Interest, and Rent: This is generally considered to be income generated by investments.

Age-Related Transfer Payments: These include Medicare and Social Security benefits.

Hardship-Related Transfer Payments: These include Medicaid, Food Stamps (SNAP), Supplemental Security Income (SSI), Unemployment Insurance, and other income maintenance benefits.

Other Transfer Payments: These include all transfer payment not included in the other categories, including veterans' benefits, government-provided education and training subsidies, Workers' Compensation Insurance, railroad retirement and disability, and other government retirement and disability payments.

The line graph in the middle of the page shows the change in labor and non-labor income since 2000. The bar graph at the bottom of the page shows the relative contribution of each type of income to total personal income.

Why is this relevant to the BLM?

Non-labor income can represent a significant proportion of total personal income, particularly in rural areas and small cities – and the proportion has grown rapidly in many areas over the last three decades. Some populations may rely more on investment income, others on retirement benefits, and still others on welfare-related income streams.

A high proportion of non-labor income, and rapid growth in non-labor income that exceeds state or national averages, might indicate that a place is attractive to retirees. The in-migration of people who bring investment and retirement income with them is often associated with a high quality of life, good health care facilities, and affordable housing. Non-labor income can also be important to places with struggling economies, either as a source of income maintenance for the poor or as a more stable form of income in areas with declining industries and employment opportunities. Income maintenance payments can also be important to households living in seasonal recreation based economies. The natural amenities in these communities may support a high quality of life, but the high cost of living and limited employment opportunities during the off-season can make it difficult for some residents to maintain a stable life style. Sometimes non-labor income is a high percent of total personal income simply because labor income is small. This would be an indicator of hardship because of the lack of a robust labor market. In contrast, growth in both non-labor and labor income is generally seen as a sign of a strong local economy.

Non-labor income may be relevant to public land decisions because the data provide insight on the people that reside in the area. If investment income is significant and growing, understanding the role public lands play in attracting and retaining these types of individuals is relevant. If age-related transfer payments are significant and growing, it may be important to consider whether public land resources are meeting the needs of an aging population. If poverty-related transfer payments are significant and growing, it may be an indicator that environmental justice issues related to public lands management should be considered.

BLM Socioeconomic Profile

Iron County, WI

Migration and Natural Population Change

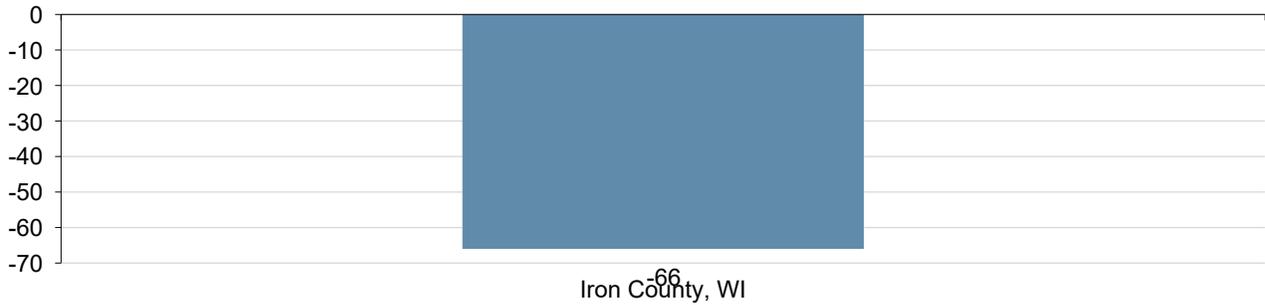
	Iron County, WI	United States
Average Annual Population Change, 2000-2017	-66	2,570,452
From Natural Change	-50	1,559,476
From Net Migration	-13	963,339
From Residual	-3	47,637

Factors Contributing to Population Change*, 2000-2017

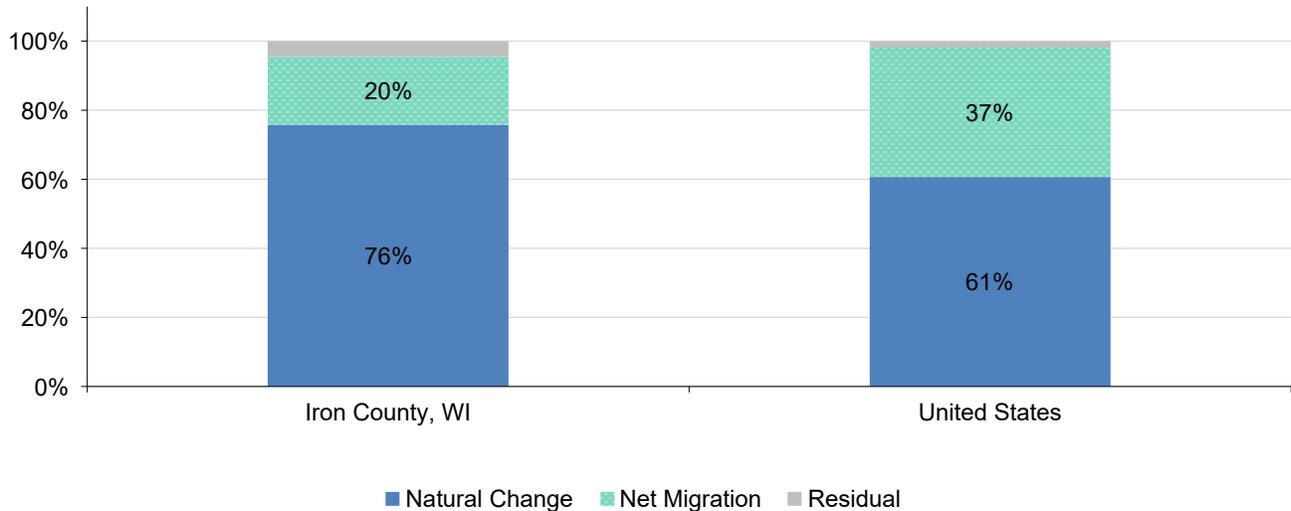
Natural Change	75.8%	60.7%
Net Migration	19.7%	37.5%
Residual	4.5%	1.9%

The residual is a minor statistical correction made by the U.S. Census, and represents change in the population that cannot be attributed to any specific demographic component of population change.

Average Annual Population Change, 2000-2017



Factors Contributing to Population Change*, 2000-2017



* The absolute value of the individual component of population change divided by the sum of the absolute values of the three components (natural change, net migration, and the residual).

Based on data from the following source(s): U.S. Department of Commerce. 2018. Census Bureau, Population Division, Washington, D.C.

Migration and Natural Population Change

What is described in this section?

This section reports average annual population change, and factors contributing to that change, from the U.S. Census Bureau's Population Estimates Program (PEP). Factors that affect population change include natural causes, such as births and deaths, and the migration of residents in or out of a geographic region. Overall population change is equal to the sum of natural change and migration. This includes migration by both international and domestic residents. These data represent the average annual change since 2000. Given the estimates are annualized it is possible that changes in certain years may differ in a meaningful way from the averages reported here.

The average annual population change is provided in both tabular and graphic form. The bottom graphic shows the relative role of natural change and net migration in the overall change in population. The percentages in the bottom graph convey the amount of overall population change that can be attributable to each factor.

The PEP makes a minor statistical correction called a "residual" to ensure state and county population estimates sum to the national total. The residual represents the change in the population that cannot be attributed to any specific demographic component of population change.

Why is this relevant to the BLM?

Understanding a community and its sense of place includes considering if people are attracted to, or moving away, from it. Identifying population trends (i.e., population growth or decline), and the factors contributing to these changes over time, can provide a starting point. If an area has experienced substantial growth that is primarily attributable to in-migration, for example, this may be an indication that desirable jobs opportunities are increasing, that the area supports a high quality of life, or both. Similarly, if the population of an area is declining due to out-migration, it would be important to understand the potential reasons, such as the loss of employment opportunities in specific industries, youth leaving for education or new opportunities, or elderly people leaving for better medical facilities.

Recognizing how and why populations surrounding BLM-managed lands are changing can be relevant to a wide range of BLM management decisions. Decisions affecting job opportunities and the livelihoods of surrounding residents, recreation access and opportunities, scenic quality, or demands placed on public services and local infrastructure are just a few examples of management decisions that may have different implications depending on local population trends. If a BLM management decision could affect the factors that have been driving population change in recent years, then this information should be included in a socioeconomic baseline.

For more detailed information about demographics for a given area (including sub-county areas), create an EPS Demographics report at <https://headwaterseconomics.org/eps>.

BLM Socioeconomic Profile

Iron County, WI

Poverty (Identifying Environment Justice Populations)

Poverty, 2017*	Iron County, WI	United States
People	5,604	313,048,563
Families	1,757	78,298,703
People Below Poverty	851	45,650,345
Families below poverty	195	8,253,388

Percent of Total

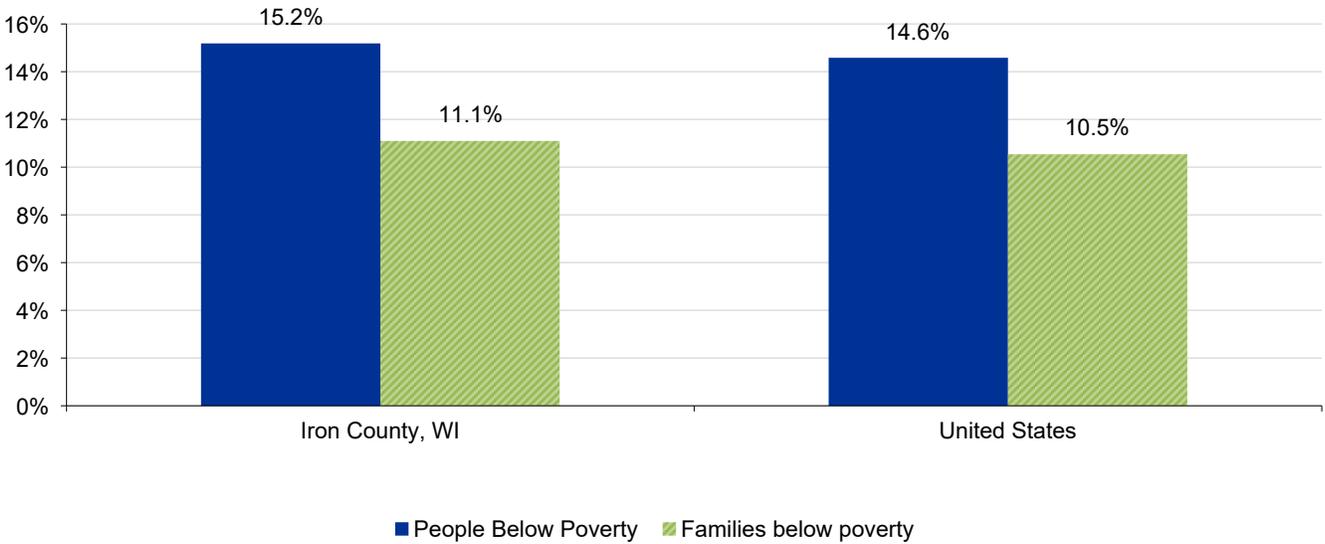
People Below Poverty	15.2%	14.6%
Families below poverty	11.1%	10.5%

High Reliability: Data with coefficients of variation (CVs) < 12% are in black to indicate that the sampling error is relatively small.

Medium Reliability: Data with CVs between 12 & 40% are in orange to indicate that the values should be interpreted with caution.

Low Reliability: Data with CVs > 40% are displayed in red to indicate that the estimate is considered very unreliable.

Individuals & Families Below Poverty, 2017*



* ACS 5-year estimates used. The 2017 estimate is based on data collected between 2013 and 2017.

Based on data from the following source(s): U.S. Department of Commerce. 2018. Census Bureau, American Community Survey Office, Washington, D.C.

BLM Socioeconomic Profile

Iron County, WI

Poverty (Identifying Environment Justice Populations)

What is described in this section?

This section includes the number of individuals and families living in poverty as reported by the Census' American Community Survey (ACS) 5-year estimates. The Census Bureau uses a set of income thresholds that vary by family size and composition to define who is living in poverty. If the total income for a family or an unrelated individual falls below the relevant poverty threshold, then the family or an unrelated individual is classified as being "below the poverty level."

The official definition of poverty uses money income before taxes and does not include capital gains or noncash benefits (such as public housing, Medicaid, and food stamps).

The Census Bureau defines a family as a group of two or more people who reside together and who are related by birth, marriage, or adoption. All such people are considered members of one family. Families are identified based on responses to a census question on "relationship to the householder." If an individual or group of individuals (such as housemates) are not living with family members, their individual incomes are compared with their applicable individual poverty threshold.

Poverty status cannot be determined for people in institutional group quarters (i.e., correctional facilities, nursing homes, and mental hospitals), college dorms, military barracks, and living situations without conventional housing (excluding shelters). Additionally, poverty status cannot be determined for unrelated individuals under the age of 15 (i.e., foster children) because income questions are asked of people age 15 and older.

Why is this relevant to the BLM?

The BLM is required to identify and consider how agency actions and policies may affect low-income populations. Executive Order (E.O.) 12898 *Federal Actions to Address Environmental Justice in Minority Populations and Low-Income Populations* directs federal agencies to identify and address, whenever feasible, disproportionately high and adverse human health or environmental effects of their actions on minority and low-income populations, to the greatest extent practicable and permitted by law. The Presidential Memorandum released with E.O. 12898 directed all federal agencies to analyze environmental justice (EJ) as part of their NEPA reviews. The BLM is required to identify low-income populations that may constitute environmental justice populations and to consider whether BLM management decisions may result in disproportionately high and adverse human health or environmental effects to these populations. A low-income population is present if the poverty rate of a defined geographic area is at or above the poverty rate of the reference area (typically the state).

Because affordability factors into decisions about where to live and about what goods and services to purchase, households with limited financial resources have a lower capacity to reduce their exposure to health and environment hazards. Low-income households may also have different natural resource consumption patterns, relying more heavily on public lands for subsistence resources and uses, such as: hunting, fishing, gathering edible plants, and collecting forest products and materials to heat their homes. While some people engage in these activities for recreation, many low-income households depend on this harvesting to provide for themselves and their families. Low-income households are also more sensitive to fee increases for uses of public lands.

The data in this section can be used to identify the presence of a low income population that could be affected by a BLM management decision. However, depending on the specific management decision, it may be more appropriate to consider demographic data at the sub-county level. Furthermore, while these data help to identify the presence of a low income population, further analysis is required to determine potential impacts to that population. Also, this analysis will not identify low-income populations that use a given BLM-managed opportunity but do not all live in the same place.

BLM Socioeconomic Profile

Iron County, WI

Minorities (Identifying Environment Justice Populations)

Race and Ethnicity, 2017*	Iron County, WI	United States
Total Population	5,748	321,004,407
White alone	5,562	234,370,202
Black or African American alone	36	40,610,815
American Indian alone	46	2,632,102
Asian alone	9	17,186,320
Native Hawaii & Other Pacific Is. alone	0	570,116
Some other race alone	16	15,553,808
Two or more races	79	10,081,044
Hispanic or Latino (of any race)	68	56,510,571
Not Hispanic or Latino	5,680	264,493,836
Not Hispanic & White alone	5,514	197,277,789
Total Minority Population	234	123,726,618

Percent of Total

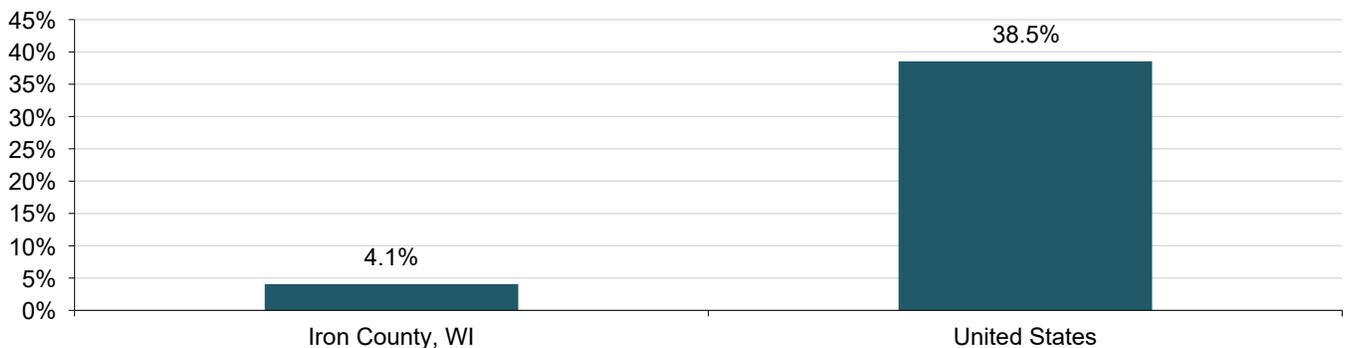
White alone	96.8%	73.0%
Black or African American alone	0.6%	12.7%
American Indian alone	0.8%	0.8%
Asian alone	0.2%	5.4%
Native Hawaii & Other Pacific Is. alone	0.0%	0.2%
Some other race alone	0.3%	4.8%
Two or more races	1.4%	3.1%
Hispanic or Latino (of any race)	1.2%	17.6%
Not Hispanic or Latino	98.8%	82.4%
Not Hispanic & White alone	95.9%	61.5%
Total Minority Population	4.1%	38.5%

High Reliability: Data with coefficients of variation (CVs) < 12% are in black to indicate that the sampling error is relatively small.

Medium Reliability: Data with CVs between 12 & 40% are in orange to indicate that the values should be interpreted with caution.

Low Reliability: Data with CVs > 40% are displayed in red to indicate that the estimate is considered very unreliable.

Minority Population, Percent of Total, 2017*



* ACS 5-year estimates used. The 2017 estimate is based on data collected between 2013 and 2017.

Based on data from the following source(s): U.S. Department of Commerce. 2018. Census Bureau, American Community Survey Office, Washington, D.C.

BLM Socioeconomic Profile

Iron County, WI

Minorities (Identifying Environment Justice Populations)

What is described in this section?

This section reports the size of minority populations by racial and ethnic groups as reported by the Census' American Community Survey (ACS) 5-year estimates. The Census Bureau defines race and ethnicity independently. The U.S. Census Bureau provides the following definitions:

Race: ACS respondents can self-identify race as "White," "Black or African American," "American Indian and Alaska Native," "Asian" and "Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander".

Some Other Race: This includes all other responses not included above. Respondents providing write-in entries such as multiracial, mixed, interracial, or a Hispanic/Latino group (for example, Mexican, Puerto Rican, or Cuban) in the "Some other race" write-in space are included in this category.

Two or More Races: This includes people who either checked two or more race response check boxes, provided multiple write-in responses, or submitted some combination of check boxes and write-in responses.

Ethnicity: ACS respondents identify themselves as either Hispanic or Latino or Not Hispanic or Latino. The terms Hispanic and Latino are generally used to denote people living in the United States with cultural ties to Latin America or other Spanish speaking countries. Individuals self-identifying as having a Hispanic, Latino, or Spanish heritage can do so by selecting from categories listed on the Census questionnaire "Mexican, Mexican American, or Chicano;" "Puerto Rican;" "Cuban," or "other Spanish, Hispanic, or Latino." People who identify as being of Spanish, Hispanic, or Latino culture can be of any race or combination of races.

For the purpose of environmental justice, the BLM defines a minority individual as a person whose race is not White or a person who is Hispanic or Latino (or both). Thus the "Total Minority Population" is calculated by subtracting those who identify as both "Not Hispanic or Latino" and "White alone" from "Total Population."

Why is this relevant to the BLM?

Different groups of people may value and use public lands in different ways. Understanding the various values, beliefs, and attitudes of minority populations living in an area is important to public land managers working to meet the needs of the public, or when evaluating potentially adverse impacts on a population. Furthermore, research has demonstrated that minority populations have a higher likelihood of being exposed to health and environmental risks than non-minority populations.

As discussed in the previous section on poverty, the BLM is mandated under E.O. 12898 to identify and address any disproportionately high and adverse human health or environmental effects of its programs, policies, and actions on minority and low-income populations. The Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) guidance on Environmental Justice states that minority EJ populations are considered to be present when (a) the minority population of the affected area exceeds 50 percent or (b) the minority population percentage of the affected area is meaningfully greater than the minority population percentage in the general population or other appropriate unit of geographic analysis (typically the state). The BLM recommends using 10 percentage points as the threshold of "meaningfully greater." This definition of a minority population can apply to one specific race or ethnic group, or to the total minority population.

Race and ethnicity data can help identify if and where minority populations that constitute Environmental Justice populations may exist. However, depending on the management decision, it may be more appropriate to consider demographic data at the sub-county level. Furthermore, while these data help identify the presence of a minority income population, further outreach and analysis is required to determine potential impacts to the populations.

BLM Socioeconomic Profile

Iron County, WI

Other Socioeconomic Indicators

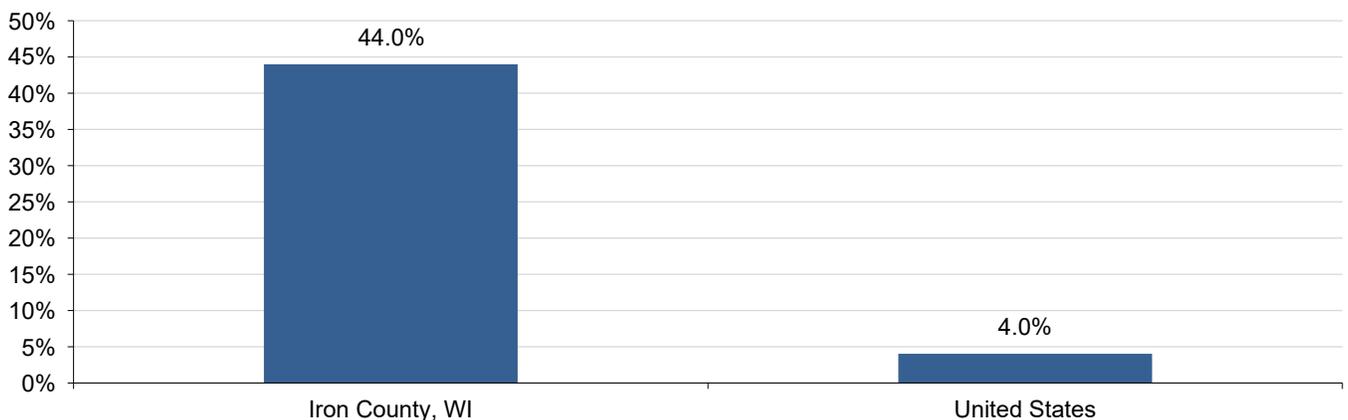
	Iron County, WI	United States
Unemployment		
Avg. Annual Unemployment Rate, 2017	6.2%	4.4%
Median Age		
Median Age, 2010*	49.9	36.9
Median Age, 2017*	53.8	37.8
Housing		
Total Housing Units, 2017*	6,008	135,393,564
Occupied	49.1%	87.8%
Vacant	50.9%	12.2%
Seasonal, recreational, occasional	44.0%	4.0%
Commuting		
Workers 16 years and over, 2017*	2,497	148,432,042
Worked in county of residence	52.7%	72.4%
Mean travel time to work (minutes)	20	25
Education		
Total Population 25 yrs or older	4,624	216,271,644
Bachelor's degree or higher	19.3%	30.9%

High Reliability: Data with coefficients of variation (CVs) < 12% are in black to indicate that the sampling error is relatively small.

Medium Reliability: Data with CVs between 12 & 40% are in orange to indicate that the values should be interpreted with caution.

Low Reliability: Data with CVs > 40% are displayed in red to indicate that the estimate is considered very unreliable.

Seasonal, Recreational Housing, 2017*



* ACS 5-year estimates used. The 2017 estimate is based on data collected between 2013 and 2017.

Based on data from the following source(s): U.S. Department of Labor. 2018. Bureau of Labor Statistics, Local Area Unemployment Statistics, Washington, D.C.; U.S. Department of Commerce. 2018. Census Bureau, American Community Survey Office, Washington, D.C.

BLM Socioeconomic Profile

Iron County, WI

Other Socioeconomic Indicators

What is described in this section?

This section summarizes additional indicators that can provide insight into the socioeconomic characteristics of an area and that may be relevant to BLM management decisions.

Annual **unemployment rate** is reported for the most recent year. The Bureau of Labor Statistics estimates this rate by dividing the number of people who are jobless, looking for jobs, and available for work by the size of the labor force. Only persons 16 years and over in the civilian non-institutional population are included in this statistic.

Four additional topics from Census Bureau's American Community Survey (ACS) 5-year estimates are provided.

Median Age: The age that divides the population (including those who live in group quarters) into two numerically equal groups (i.e., half the people are younger than this age and half are older).

Housing: A housing unit is a house, an apartment, a mobile home, a group of rooms, or a single room that is occupied as separate living quarters (or, if vacant, intended for occupancy). Group quarters such as college residence halls, nursing facilities, military barracks, and correctional facilities are not included in housing unit counts. Vacant units classified as "Seasonal, Recreational, or Occasional Use" refers to units used, or intended for use, only in certain seasons or for weekends or other occasional use throughout the year.

Commuting: Includes individuals 16 years and older that worked during the prior week by county of residence. For these workers, the percent that worked in that county as well as mean travel time are summarized.

Education: Population count of those 25 years or older (including the group quarters population) and the proportion of that population that has completed a bachelor's degree or higher.

Why is this relevant to the BLM?

These indicators are used to provide context about an area that may be affected by public land management decisions.

The rate of unemployment provides information on the strength of the local economy and the availability of workers. This baseline indicator is useful for understanding potential impacts of BLM decisions that could affect economic activity and employment opportunities. Note that this statistic does not include discouraged workers who are unemployed but not looking for work because few opportunities for paid employment exist, as is the case in many remote Alaska villages, for example.

The other four topics in this section provide insight into the types of communities surrounding BLM-administered land and how the area may be affected by BLM project-level decisions. For example, a relatively high or low median age may be an indication of a certain type of community (for example, retirement or university towns). Similarly, high vacancy rates due to seasonal, recreational, or occasional use (i.e., "second homes") often indicate the desirability of a place for recreation and tourism. Information on vacancy rates and commuting patterns can be useful for evaluating potential impacts associated with BLM project-level decisions. Areas with low vacancy rates could struggle to accommodate any population influxes connected with new projects on BLM managed land. High in-commuting rates may indicate the presence of a "bedroom" community in an adjacent county and/or the presence of a regional service center. This scenario can separate tax revenues from demands for services, complicating fiscal planning for local governments. Education is often correlated with the capacity and resiliency of a community and its ability to respond to potential changes in the local economy.

BLM Socioeconomic Profile

Iron County, WI

Federal Land Payments by Geography of Origin

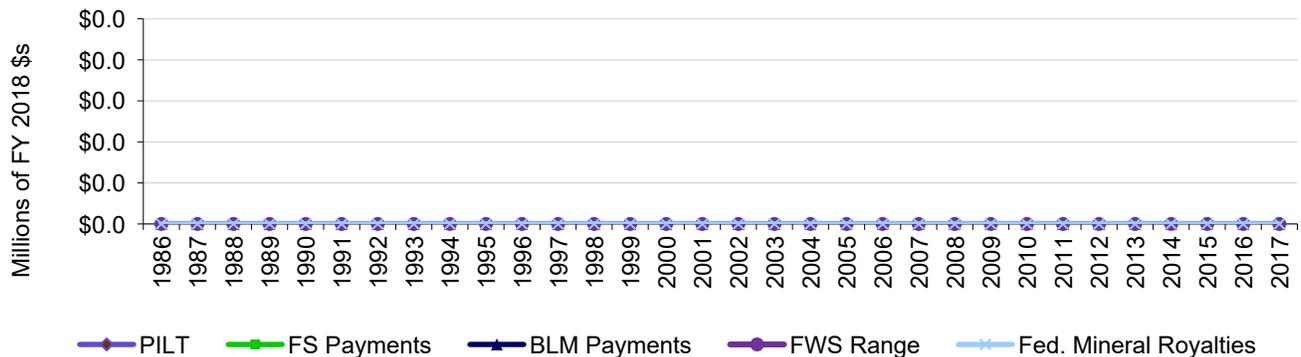
	Iron County, WI	United States
Total Federal Land Payments to State and Local Gov., FY 2017 (FY 2018 \$s)	0	2,392,820,254
PILT	0	475,699,827
Forest Service Payments	0	299,617,579
BLM Payments	0	122,943,586
USFWS Refuge Payments	0	21,552,581
Federal Mineral Revenue Payments	0	1,473,006,681

Percent of Total

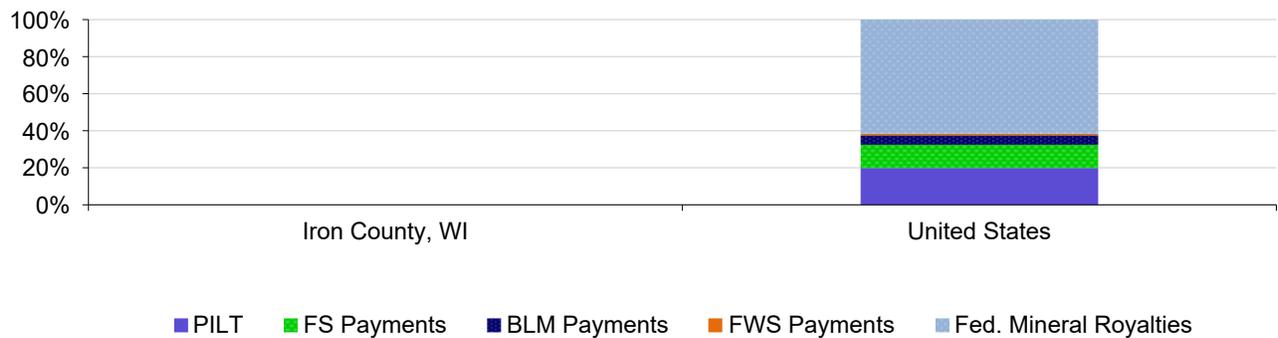
PILT	na	19.9%
Forest Service Payments	na	12.5%
BLM Payments	na	5.1%
USFWS Refuge Payments	na	0.9%
Federal Mineral Revenue Payments	na	61.6%

This page shows payments disbursed directly to state and local governments. States may share a portion of their payments with counties. These state "pass through" disbursements are not reported here. For more information see https://headwaterseconomics.org/wp-content/uploads/EPS_Federal_Land_Payments_Documentation.pdf.

Components of Federal Land Payments per Fiscal Year, Iron County, WI



Components of Federal Land Payments, FY 2017, Iron County, WI



Based on data from the following source(s): U.S. Department of Interior. 2018. Payments in Lieu of Taxes (PILT), Washington, D.C.; U.S. Department of Agriculture. 2018. Forest Service, Washington, D.C.; U.S. Department of Interior. 2018. Bureau of Land Management, Washington, D.C.; U.S. Department of Interior. 2018. U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Washington, D.C.; U.S. Department of Interior. 2018. Office of Natural Resources Revenue, Washington, D.C.

BLM Socioeconomic Profile

Iron County, WI

Federal Land Payments by Geography of Origin

What is described in this section?

This section describes federal payments made to compensate state and local governments for non-taxable federal lands within their borders. Payments are funded by federal appropriations (e.g., Payments in Lieu of Taxes (PILT) and Secure Rural School programs) and from receipts received by federal agencies from activities on federal public lands (e.g., timber, grazing, and minerals). Some payments are made to state governments while others are made directly to the counties. For payments made to states, some funds may be passed on to the county of origin, but this process differs across states.

The table reports both the total payments received and the share of each payment type for the fiscal year (Oct. 1 – Sept. 30) available. The five components of federal payments include:

PILT: These payments compensate county governments for non-taxable federal lands within their borders. PILT payments are calculated by the Department of Interior based on a complex formula that factors in a county's population, revenue sharing payments it receives under other laws, and the amount of Federal land within the affected county. PILT payments are subject to a population cap and are affected by congressional appropriations. See: <https://www.doi.gov/pilt>.

Forest Service Payments: These payments are based on USFS receipts and must be used for county roads and local schools. They include the 25% Fund, the Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act, and the Bankhead-Jones Farm Tenant Act.

BLM Payments: These payments are based on a portion of receipts generated on BLM-administered lands, including grazing fees collected under the Taylor Grazing Act and timber receipts generated on Oregon and California Railroad Revested (O&C) grant lands. BLM also makes payments to counties with O&C lands under the Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act. See Table 3-30 in BLM's Public Land Statistics for more information (<https://www.blm.gov/about/data/public-land-statistics>).

USFWS Refuge Payments: These payments are equal to a portion of receipts collected from activities on National Wildlife Refuges, a percentage of the market value of the land, or a minimum per acre amount, whichever is greater. USFWS payments are paid directly to the counties where USFWS lands are located.

Federal Mineral Royalties, Bonus Bids, and Rents: The U.S. Office of Natural Resources Revenue (ONRR) collects revenues associated with federal "leasable" minerals (i.e., oil, natural gas, coal, and certain non-energy solid minerals) and geothermal energy. These revenues include lease sale revenues (i.e., bonus bids, fees, and first year's rent), annual rents on mineral leases, and production royalties. ONRR distributes 49% of the revenues collected back to the state of origin. The exception is revenues associated with geothermal leasing and production, which are paid directly to counties.

Government distributions of federal land payments may be underreported for counties due to data limitations from USFWS, ONRR, and some states that make discretionary distributions of mineral payments and some BLM payments. As noted above, federal mineral payments are largely distributed to states. States' distributions of these revenues to counties are not tracked in this report.

Why is this relevant to the BLM?

These programs can represent a significant portion of local government revenue in rural counties with large federal land holdings.

These data can be used to describe the potential fiscal impact of changes in authorized activities on BLM-managed lands or changes in land ownership. For example, BLM decisions related to land exchange, disposal, or acquisition have implications on PILT payments (and also state and local property taxes). Furthermore, exploring the proportion of total annual county revenues provided by PILT payments offers insight into the importance of this revenue stream for the county.

Data Sources: U.S. Department of Interior. 2018. Payments in Lieu of Taxes (PILT), , Washington, D.C.; U.S. Department of Agriculture. 2018. Forest Service, , Washington, D.C.; U.S. Department of Interior. 2018. Bureau of Land Management, , Washington, D.C.; U.S. Department of Interior. 2018. U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, , Washington, D.C.; U.S. Department of Interior. 2018. Office of Natural Resources Revenue, , Washington, D.C.; reported by Headwaters Economics' Populations at Risk, headwaterseconomics.org/eps.

BLM Socioeconomic Profile

Iron County, WI

Additional Resources

What is the BLM Socioeconomic Profile (SEP) Tool?

The SEP tool relies largely on federal data published by the Bureau of Economic Analysis (BEA), Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS), and Census Bureau (Census). The advantages of these sources include complete U.S. coverage, annual updates, and consistent methodologies across time and space. Below are links to the programs that collect and manage the data used in this report.

- **Census**

This report includes data from two Census programs. Population counts often differ between the programs due to different methods and reporting periods. Population Estimates Program
<https://www.census.gov/programs-surveys/popest.html>
American Community Survey
<https://www.census.gov/programs-surveys/acs>

- **BLS**

Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages (QCEW)
<https://www.bls.gov/cew/>
Local Area Unemployment Statistics
<https://www.bls.gov/lau/>

- **BEA**

Regional Economic Accounts
<https://www.bea.gov/data/economic-accounts/regional>
Methodologies and definitions (in particular, see Local Area Personal Income)
<https://www.bea.gov/resources/methodologies>

Economic Profile System (EPS)

The 14 reports available through EPS provide easy access to more detailed information on demographics, economics, and land use. Of particular note are the demographic and industry-specific reports. EPS's Agriculture report can provide additional perspective on the farm sector within a given area, such as the number of farms by crop and livestock type, farm business income and expenses, and wage and employment by farm type. This information can be useful, for example, when the BLM is evaluating a management decision that could affect livestock grazing. The Mining (including Oil & Gas) report provides additional detail on employment, income, and wages associated with different types of mineral activities in a given area. The Timber and Tourism reports are other EPS industry reports with additional information related to specific activities occurring on BLM-managed lands. The EPS Demographics report provides sub-county data such as demographics for cities, towns, and places.

Other Resources

There are numerous other sources of economic, demographic, and social data that could supplement the information available in the SEP and EPS reports. Examples include:

- Other government sources such as the Energy Information Administration and USDA's Census of Agriculture.
- State and local sources that may have data available that either fills in gaps or provides more accuracy at small geographic scales. Such sources of data include state and local employment departments, city and county governments (e.g., building departments, departments of motor vehicles, or county tax assessors), local and state Chambers of Commerce, and local and state economic development commissions. As noted in the *Federal Land Payments by Geography of Origin* section, the ONRR distributes 49% of the collected federal mineral revenues back to the state of origin (with the exception of revenues associated with geothermal leases). Federal mineral payments can represent significant revenues for counties. Because these reports do not track for how states distribute federal mineral revenues to counties, additional research should be conducted for areas with high leasable mineral production from public lands. Reviewing state and county budgets, or contacting these entities, can provide the information and data needed to understand these revenue streams.
- Other secondary data sources including industry associations or advocacy groups and academic literature.