The Economic Outlook for Custer County

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Real Non-Farm Earnings, Custer County vs. Montana
Index, 2007 = 100

Source: U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis
Real Non-Farm Earnings, Selected Counties vs. Montana Index, 2007 = 100

Source: U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis
Big Mining Declines Obscured Growth Elsewhere
Growth in Real Nonfarm Earnings, Custer County, 2014-15, Millions of Dollars

Source: U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis
Deterioration Continued in 2016

Percent Change in Real Wages, Custer County, Select Industries, 2014-2016

Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages
What Drives the Custer County Economy?

Earnings by Industry, 2015, Millions of Real Dollars

Source: U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis
Population Growth Since 2010 Reveals Changing Growth Patterns
Average Annual Population Growth, 2011-15

Source: Montana Census and Economic Information Center
Composition of Earnings in Custer County’s Basic Industries, 2014-16
Source: BBER and U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis

Energy Services:
Closures and setbacks

Outlook for Key Industries
State and Federal Government: Sources of stability

Outlook for Key Industries

Composition of Earnings in Custer County’s Basic Industries, 2014-16
Source: BBER and U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis
Agriculture and Related:

Cattle prices have hurt

Composition of Earnings in Custer County’s Basic Industries, 2014-16
Source: BBER and U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis
Growth in Nonfarm Earnings, Custer County, 2014-2020

Source: BBER and U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis
Average Projected Growth in Real Nonfarm Earnings, Percent, 2017-2020

- Cascade: 2.1%
- Custer: 1.3%
- Flathead: 3.3%
- Gallatin: 5.8%
- Missoula: 3.2%
- Richland: 3.8%
- Yellowstone: 2.7%

Source: Bureau of Business and Economic Research
Questions?