

Alberta Locations

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
LIBRARY

MEDICINE HAT

As of October, 1986

Overview

Population 42,182

Distance From Major Centres 579 km (360 miles) south/southeast of Edmonton
291 km (181 miles) southeast of Calgary

Connecting Highway(s) Trans Canada Highway #1 east & west; #3, #41

Railway(s) Canadian Pacific Mainline Terminal Point

Major Economic Base Manufacturing/Regional agricultural service centre

Economic Development Contacts

Municipal David A Cormier, Manager, Economic Development
580 First Street S.E.
Medicine Hat, Alberta T1A 8E6
Tel: (403) 529-8353

**Alberta Economic Development
and Trade Regional Office**

Vaughan Hullock
Business Development Representative
#217 Provincial Building
770 - 6th Street S.W.
Medicine Hat, Alberta T1A 4J6
Tel: (403) 529-3630

Information contained in this profile is as current as possible. However, where appropriate, preference is given to published data from standard sources over current, unpublished data. Source list available on request.

 **THE
ALBERTA
ADVANTAGE**

MEDICINE HAT

Location

County/District	Municipal District of Cypress
Census Division	#1
Elevation	709.5 metres (2,328 feet)
Latitude/Longitude	50°03'N/110°49'N

Climate**Temperature**

<i>Seasonal Averages — January</i>	-12.6° C	(9.3° F)
<i>— April</i>	5.6° C	(42.1° F)
<i>— July</i>	19.9° C	(67.8° F)
<i>— October</i>	7.4° C	(45.3° F)

Annual Precipitation 347.9 mm (13.7 in.)

Rain 236.2 mm (9.3 in.)

Snow 125.5 cm (49.4 in.)

Frost Free Days 129

Hours Sunshine/Year 2344.9

Population

	Community	County/District	40 km Radius
1966	25,574	3,792	N/A
1971	26,518	3,604	N/A
1976	32,811	4,409	40,405
1981	39,934	5,390	N/A
Current Estimate	41,717	-	N/A

Population Breakdown

MEDICINE HAT

As of: 1986

Age	Males	Females	Total
0-14	4,539	4,673	9,212
15-19	1,540	1,430	2,970
20-24	1,908	2,093	4,001
25-44	6,589	6,423	1,301
45-64	3,545	3,782	7,327
65 +	2,448	3,212	5,660

Labour Force**As of:** 1981

	Male	Female
Population	15,060	15,615
Employed	11,550	7,445
Unemployed	560	490
Participation Rate	80.4	50.8
Unemployment Rate	4.6	6.2

Wage Rates*Prevailing Provincial (Hourly) Minimum Scales*

Full-Time Workers:

18 Years and Older \$3.80

Under 18 Years \$3.65

Part-Time Students: \$3.30

Detailed Salary and Wage Rates for Selected Areas Available Upon Request

MEDICINE HAT

Major Employers

Name of Company	Business Activity	Number of Employees
City of Medicine Hat	Municipal Administration	1,000
IXL Industries Ltd.	Manufacture of Brick & Sewer Tile	300
Canadian Fertilizers Ltd.	Anhydrous Ammonia & Urea Fertilizer	194
Goodyear Canada Inc.	Rubber Tires	130
Alberta Gas Chemicals Ltd.	Methanol Production	125
Ogilvie Flour Mills	Flour	94
Western Co-op Fertilizers Ltd.	Chemical Fertilizers	75
Joyline Manufacturing	Oilfield Equipment Manufacture	65
Wittke Iron Works	Metal Fabrication	50
R.L. Grain Ltd.	Business Forms	45
Central Alberta Dairy Pool Ltd.	Fluid Milk Products	44
Crane Canada Inc.	Foundry	40
Cancarb Ltd.	Carbon Black	40
Hycroft China Ltd.	Sanitary Ware	37
Vertican Western Inc.	Venetian Blinds	30
Independent Porcelain Co. Ltd.	Electrical Insulators	26
S.F. Scott Mfg. Co. Ltd.	Playground, Parks & Sports Equipment	25
Kurt's Iron Works Ltd.	Steel Fabrication	20
Catalyst Recovery Canada Ltd.	Catalyst Regeneration	16
Westar (1984) Ltd.	Hockey Sticks	10
Alberta Linseed Oil Co. Ltd.	Linseed Oil and Cake	10
Plainsman Clays Ltd.	Potting Clay	8

Retail and Service Trade Statistics

MEDICINE HAT

As of: 1984*Statistical Area Covered* City of Medicine Hat

	<i>Total Trade</i>	<i>Retail</i>	<i>Service</i>
Outlets	610	395	215
Employees			
<i>Full-Time</i>	3,384	2,006	1,378
<i>Part-Time</i>	2,106	1,250	856
Payroll (\$000)	62,916	44,167	18,748
Receipts (\$000)	486,114	419,315	66,799

Major Services Available Architectural firms, Consulting engineers, Surveyors, General contractors, Paving contractors, Pipeline contractors, Structural steel fabricators, Industrial suppliers, Machinists, Lawyers, Accountants, Oil field services, Advertisers, Caterers.

Manufacturing Statistics**As of:** 1983*Statistical Area Covered* City of Medicine Hat

Establishments 40 (58 total)

Employees

Male

DETAILS NOT AVAILABLE DUE TO CONFIDENTIALITY REQUIREMENTS OF THE "STATISTICS BUREAU ACT RSA"

*Female**Total*

Payroll (\$000)

Cost of Materials/Supplies (\$000)

Value of Shipments (\$000)

Transportation**Connecting Highways
(Load Limits)**

#3 (none), #41 (north-90%)(south-75%)
Trans Canada Highway #1 (none)

Truck Transport

Medicine Hat is served by more than 50 trucking firms
offering short and long distance hauling

Available Warehouse and Terminal Facilities Yes

Railways Canadian Pacific

Available Warehouse and Terminal Facilities Yes

Pick-up and Delivery Yes

Spur Trackage Yes

Air Services

Local Airport Medicine Hat Municipal Airport

All Weather Facilities Yes

Longest Runway 1,538 metres (5,059 feet)

Carriers (scheduled/charter) Time Air - Scheduled, Bar X H Air Inc. - Charter
(fixed wing) Air Switch Ltd. - Charter (helicopter)

Nearest Commercial Services Medicine Hat Municipal Airport

Nearest Air Freight Facilities Medicine Hat Municipal Airport (Time Air)

Bus Services

Local Yes

Intercommunity Regularly Scheduled

Utilities*Contact the Following for Service Rates and Details***Electric Power**

City of Medicine Hat
 Electrical Department, 580 - 1st Street S.E.
 Medicine Hat, Alberta T1A 8E6
 Tel: (403) 529-8270

Natural Gas

City of Medicine Hat
 Gas Department, 580 - 1st Street S.E.
 Medicine Hat, Alberta T1A 8E6
 Tel: (403) 529-8248

Telephone

Alberta Government Telephones
 456 - 5th Street S.E.
 Medicine Hat, Alberta T1A 0N1
 Tel: (403) 529-3311

Water Supply**Source of Water**

South Saskatchewan River

Reservoir Capacity — Treated Water

32,458,440 l. (7.14 million gals.)

Pumping Capacity

195,478,000 l. (43 million gals.) per day

Average Line Pressure

448.5 kPa (65 p.s.i.)

Average Daily Consumption

47,317,500 l. (12.5 million gals.)

Restrictions

None specified

Water Analysis (milligrams per litre)

<i>Data Source</i>	Alberta Environment			<i>Date</i>	September, 1985
<i>Total Dis. Solids</i>	261.1	<i>Cl</i>	11.0	<i>SO₄</i>	100.0
<i>Total Hardness</i>	165.6	<i>F</i>	0.14	<i>NO₃/NO₂</i>	0.05
<i>Total Alkalinity</i>	104.0	<i>Fe</i>	0.09	<i>NO₂</i>	0.05
<i>pH</i>	7.7	<i>Mg</i>	19.0	<i>HCO₃</i>	126.8
		<i>K</i>	2.6	<i>CO₃</i>	0.0
		<i>Na</i>	31.0	<i>Ca</i>	35.0

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Utilities (cont'd.)**Sewage**

Type of Treatment Lagoon: 4 aerated and 1 aerobic ponds
 Primary and secondary

Provision for Disposal of Chemicals Limited. Used oil reservoirs at
 sanitary landfill

Industrial Fuels Available

Coal: Regional Oil: Local Propane: Local

Other Municipal Services**Garbage***Method/Frequency of Collection*

Industrial Truck/weekly

Commercial Truck/contract

Residential Truck/weekly

Solid Waste Disposal Land Fill Site

Fire Protection Full Time

Police Protection Municipal

Other Services Industrial Surveillance/Municipal/Contract

Municipal Finance

Mill Rates (Year) 1985

Industrial/Commercial 28.747

Residential 17.465

Per Capita Debt 2,172

Year of Last General Assessment 1984

Latest Total Assessment 1,047,987,320

Equalized Assessment Per Capita 6,582 (1986)

Basis of Assessment; *Land at 65% of market value. Industrial buildings at 65% of present day replacement costs. Equipment at 65% of present day replacement cost (15% on new equipment).*

Business Properties

MEDICINE HAT

As of October, 1986

Medicine Hat has, at present, a large variety of industrial sites from private and municipal-owned sources. Most parcels are in, or are planned as, industrial parks with full services. There are approximately 647 hectares (1,600 acres) of land in reserve for future industrial use, mostly located in the heavily industrialized northwest sector of the city. This area, known as Brier Industrial Estates, has approximately 28 hectares (70 acres) and 16 hectares (40 acres) of light and heavy industrial land respectively in lot sizes from .4 hectare to 4 hectares (1 acre to 10 acres). Large complexes requiring extensive acreages can be accommodated in the reserve lands to the north of the existing industrial subdivisions. Also in the northwest sector is a privately-owned industrial subdivision available on a lease basis only to smaller industry and service oriented companies. Trackage is available to many lots.

The other major industrial area in Medicine Hat is located in the southwest next to the municipal airport. There are 12 hectares (30 acres) municipal-owned land available with full services 16 hectares (plus 40 acres) in reserve and 10 hectares (25 acres) of privately owned land with partial services. No trackage available.

Current buildings are the metal clad Knight Schmidt building with 8,489 square metres (91,377 square feet) which includes a 334 square metre (3,600 square feet) office under one roof, two concrete tilt-up warehouses of 3,553 square metres (38,254 square feet) which includes a 55.7 square metre (600 square feet) office, Medalta warehouses at approximately 2,787 square metres (30,000 square feet), Medicine Hat Implements at 557 square metres (6,000 square feet) and other warehouse/shop bays of 92.9 square metres (1,000 square feet) to 232 square metres (2,500 square feet) each. The availability of space is changeable and the City of Medicine Hat Economic Development Manager should be contacted for updates as the situation requires.

MEDICINE HAT

Building Permits**As of:** 1985

	<i>Value (\$000)</i>	<i>% of Total</i>	<i># Permits</i>
Residential	9,532	14.5	612
Commercial	9,991	15	91
Industrial	8,388	12.5	7
Institutional	38,614	58	20
Total	66,525	100	730

Housing

Residential Lots — Availability Ample Supply

Single Detached Homes Reasonable Supply*Mobile Home Lots* Ample Supply3-Bdrm., 1200 Sq. Ft. Bungalow — *Sample**Average Cost (incl. land)* \$75,000*Average Taxes* \$800

Rental Accommodation

Apartments 3,207*Vacancy Rate* 3% (April, 1986)**Medical**Hospitals/No. Beds 1 Active/308
1 Auxiliary/136

Health Units Yes

No. Dentists 18

No. Doctors 47

Optometrists 6

No. Surgeons 4 General, 1 Orthopedic

No. Chiropractors 10

Medical Clinics Yes

Nursing Homes Yes

Ambulance Service Yes, with Paramedic Service

Senior Citizens Lodge Yes

MEDICINE HAT

Education**Schools***Day Care/Nursery* 13*Elementary* 20*Junior High* 2*High School* 3*Vocational* 2*Other* Medicine Hat College, Hillcrest Christian College,
George P. Vanier School for the Retarded**Additional Programs**

Continuing Adult Education

Financial Institutions

Avco Financial Services

Bank of Montreal

Bank of Nova Scotia

Beneficial Canada Inc.

Canada Trust

Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce

Continental Bank of Canada

Household Finance Corp. of Canada

Medicine Hat Credit Union

Financial Trust Company

Royal Trust Company

Toronto Dominion Bank

Traders Group Ltd.

Trans Canada Credit Corp. Ltd.

Treasury Branch

Central Trust Co. Ltd.

Principal Financial Centre

Royal Bank of Canada

Communications**Newspapers**

Daily - Medicine Hat News, Weekly - Shopper

Radio Stations

CHAT Radio 1270, CJCY 1390, CKUA FM 9730, CKUA 1460

Television Channels

Local CHAT TV, CTV, CBC French Network & 9 cable channels

Tourist/Accommodation Facilities

Hotels/Motels

Medicine Hat has approximately 23 hotels and motels

Meeting Facilities

Hotel & convention facilities available for meetings

Parks and Campgrounds — *See Alberta Accommodation Guide For Details*

Recreational Facilities

Skating Rinks—Indoor (4)
Curling Rink
Swimming Pools (6)
Lawn Bowling Green
Bowling Alleys (2)
Water Slides (3)

Baseball Diamonds (16)
Racquetball Courts (2)
Soccer Fields (4)
Golf Courses (3)
Football Fields (4)
Tennis Courts (11)

Organizations

Kiwanis
Sororities
I.O.O.F.
Rotary
Canadian Legion
Big Brother

I.O.D.E.
Boy Scouts
Girl Guides
Masons
Kinsmen
Eagles

Optomists
Chamber of Commerce
Lions
Elks
Moose
Many other assorted clubs and organizations

Regional Resources

Resources Available Locally

Natural gas, sand/gravel, clay, aquifer water, oil, sub-bituminous coal, agriculture

Products

Hard and soft wheat flour, methanol, linseed oil, liquid ammonia, clay products, carbon dioxide, rubber tires, carbon black, nitrate fertilizers, hothouse vegetables and flowers

Brief History

In 1847, a detachment of North West Mounted Police built a barracks on the South Saskatchewan River; an area that is now known as Police Point in northeast Medicine Hat.

Medicine Hat had its true origin with the extension of the Canadian Pacific Railway which reached the community in 1883. It was incorporated as a town in 1899 and by 1907 was formally incorporated as a city. Between 1907 and 1914, the city expanded quickly until World War I slowed its growth. In recent years, however, its population has shown a steady and rapid climb, rising from 9,529 in 1940 to 41,493 with the 1984 annexation.

In 1883, when the C.P.R. work gang was drilling for water, gas was discovered. In 1901, the City set up a municipal gas system and in 1903 interested itself in drilling a test well, resulting in an enormous supply of dry gas being found at a depth of 305 metres (1,000 feet). This resource has proven to be the main attraction to industry, which was not slow in taking advantage of a cheap source of fuel. Initially, rolling mills, tent and awning factories, foundries and clay products plants were established. Alberta Linseed Oil, IXL Industries and the Crane Canada Foundry are some of the remaining examples. Flour milling also started with one of the four original mills currently operating.

In 1956, Northwest Nitro Chemicals led the way in an industrial expansion that is still ongoing. The variety of economic activity in the community is its heart and Medicine Hat shows every sign of good economic health now and in the future.

Government

Municipal Office

580 First Street S.E.
Medicine Hat, Alberta T1A 8E6
Tel: (403) 529-8353

Council Mayor T.J. "Ted" Grimm and 8 Aldermen
Administration Contact Larry Godin, City Clerk
580 First Street S.E.
Medicine Hat, Alberta T1A 8E6
Tel: (403) 529-8220

Planning Authority Southeast Alberta Regional Planning Commission
Chinook Place, 623 - 4 Street S.E.
Medicine Hat, Alberta T1A 0L1
Tel: (403) 527-3326

Member of Parliament Bob Porter
607 - 4th Street, S.E.
Medicine Hat, Alberta T1A 0L1
Tel: (403) 527-1867

Member of Legislative Assembly Honourable J.D. Horsman
320 Legislature Building
Edmonton, Alberta T5K 2B8
Tel: (403) 427-2339

Provincial/Federal Services

Provincial Most Provincial services are available in Medicine Hat

Federal Agriculture Canada
Veterinary Inspection Directorate
Dept. of National Defence
Public Works Transport Canada
Canada Employment Centre
Prairie Farm Rehabilitation Adm.
Canada Mortgage and Housing
Post Office
Employment & Immigration Canada
Customs & Excise/Health & Welfare

Alberta Economic Development and Trade

Edmonton Offices 17th Floor, 10025 Jasper Avenue
Edmonton, Alberta T5J 3Z3
Telephone: (403) 427-5267
Telex: 037-3651