

ALBERTA
SOUTHWEST

GLENWOOD

Economic Report

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Executive Summary

Glenwood presents the profile of a very small local economy with a weaker labour market in 2021 than five years earlier, alongside a modest but active business base in 2025. The clearest change over the census period was a retreat in labour market engagement. Both the employment rate and participation rate fell noticeably between 2016 and 2021, and the number of employed residents also declined. In the 2021 snapshot, employed residents and those not in the labour force were evenly matched, while no residents were recorded as unemployed. That combination suggests that Glenwood's labour market was defined less by visible unemployment than by reduced participation and a smaller share of residents in work.

The business picture is somewhat different. Glenwood's establishment count rose over the recent period despite year-to-year fluctuation, reaching its highest level in 2025 after dipping in 2024. The local business base remains small and is concentrated in very small firms, especially businesses without employees, with only a limited number of employer establishments. Sectorally, activity is spread across several areas rather than dominated by a broad commercial centre. Agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting forms the largest establishment group, while accommodation and food services is prominent both in establishments and in employment. Public administration stands out as the main recent employment gain, while much of the rest of the sector mix appears stable or thinly represented. The result is a business structure that is active and somewhat varied, but still narrow in scale and sensitive to small shifts.

Income patterns add to that picture of modest scale. Household after-tax income in 2021 was concentrated in the middle brackets, with limited presence at either the lowest or highest ends. Individual after-tax income and employment income, however, were more concentrated in lower and lower-middle ranges, and counts thinned sharply at higher income levels. Work activity also reflected this softer labour market, with more residents reporting no work or part-year and part-time work than full-year, full-time employment. Glenwood therefore appears as a village with a small, functioning business base and a mixed economic profile, but one in which labour market participation, employment, and higher-end individual earnings were limited at the time captured by the data.

Employment Rate

Glenwood’s employment rate was 48.7% in 2021, down 13.0% from 56.0% in 2016. This places the five-year change at a decline of 7.3 percentage points.

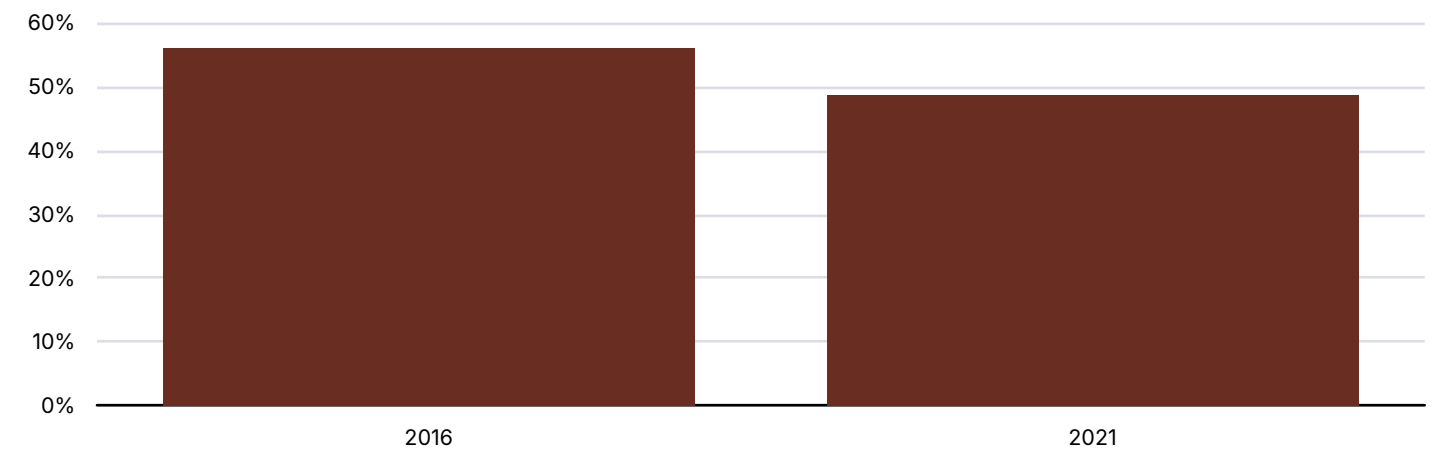


Figure 1.1: Shows the share of the working-age population that is employed. It helps indicate overall labour market health and how fully local talent is being used. (Glenwood, 2016-2021)¹

Glenwood’s employment rate for the labour force aged 15 years and over declined between the 2016 and 2021 censuses. It was 56.0% in 2016 and 48.7% in 2021, a five-year change of -13.0%. The pattern points to a clear downward trend over the period, with the 2021 rate remaining below the earlier level. Within this time frame, the data shows reduced employment share rather than stability or recovery.

Glenwood’s employment rate was 48.7% in 2021, down from 56.0% in 2016, a 13.0% decline over five years. That level sat below several nearby comparators, including Cardston County at 65.1% and Willow Creek No. 26 at 68.7%, while remaining close to Cardston at 50.5% and above Hill Spring at 30.8%. The pattern points to a comparatively weaker labour market position in 2021.

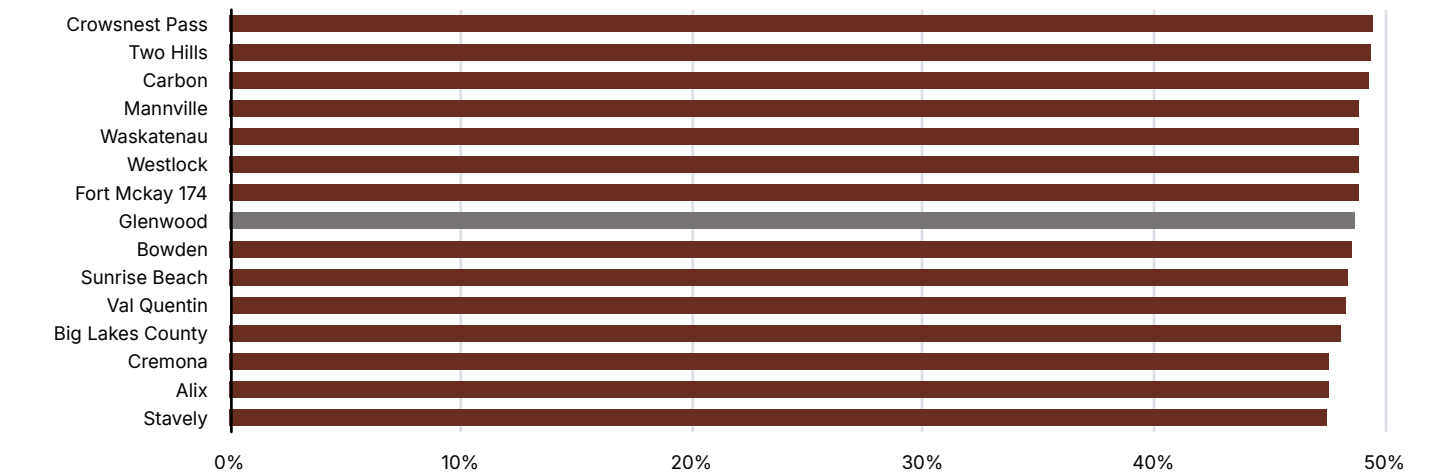


Figure 1.2: Comparison of Employment Rate with other locations (Glenwood, 2021)¹

Business Establishments

Glenwood had 44 business establishments in 2025, up 18.9% from 2024. The count was 37 in 2024 and 43 in 2023, following 31 in 2022, showing year-to-year movement over the period.

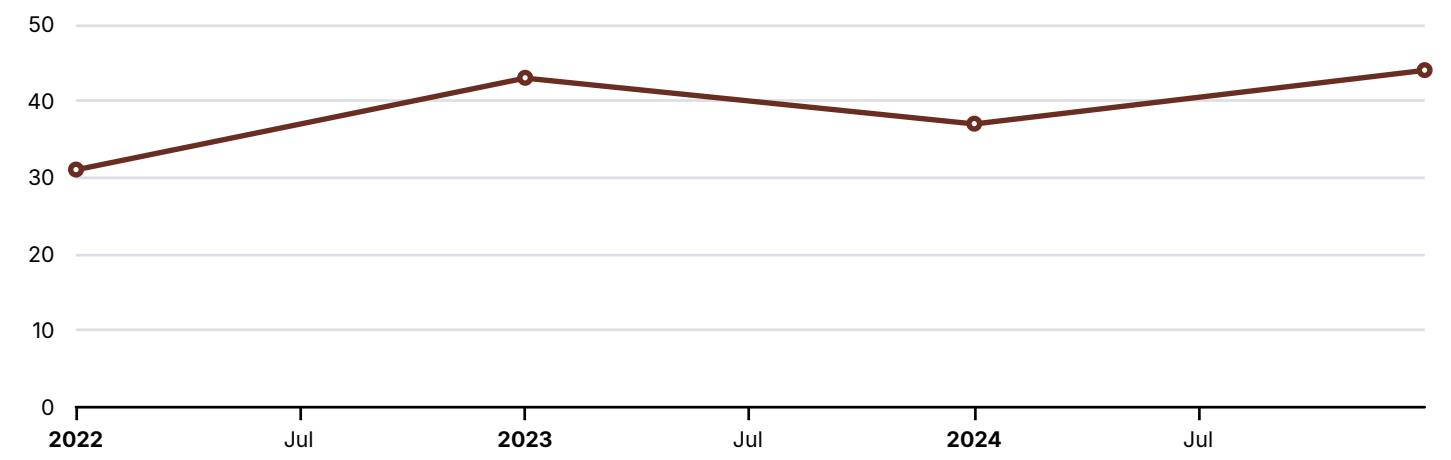
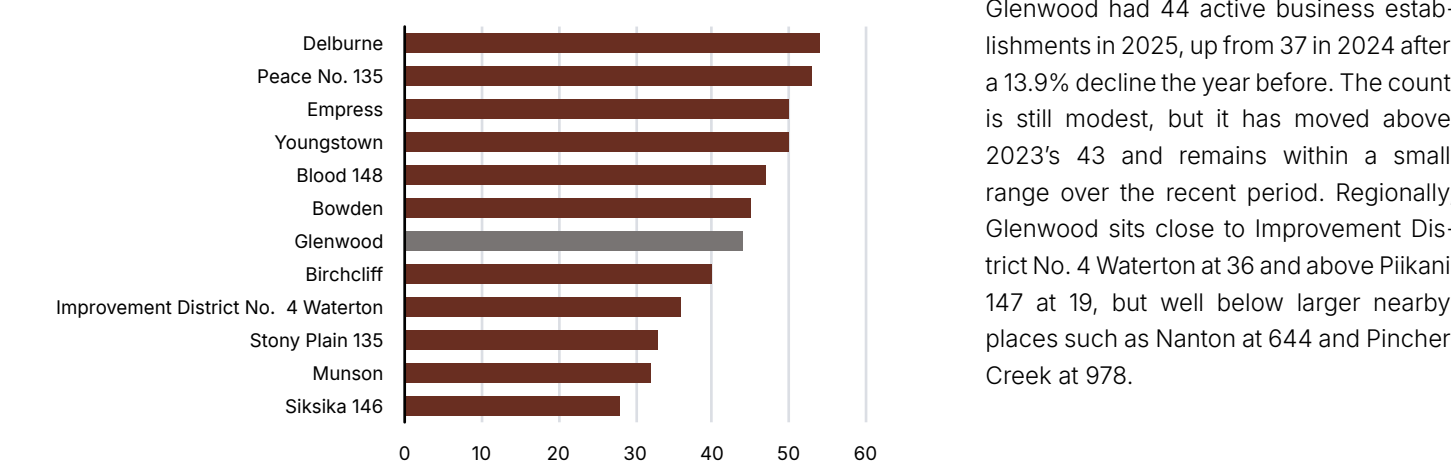


Figure 2.1: Shows the total number of active business establishments in the area, including those without employees. It helps indicate the scale and diversity of the local business base. (Glenwood, 2022-2025)²

Glenwood had 44 active business establishments in 2025, the highest count in the period shown. The series points to a small but changing business base rather than a steady flat trend. The number of establishments rose from 31 in 2022 to 43 in 2023, a gain of 38.7%. It then slipped to 37 in 2024, before increasing again by 18.9% in 2025. That pattern shows short-term volatility around a generally higher level than in 2022. Even after the 2024 decline, the 2025 total remained above both 2022 and 2024. For a village, the figures suggest a business base that is active but not stable from year to year.



Glenwood had 44 active business establishments in 2025, up from 37 in 2024 after a 13.9% decline the year before. The count is still modest, but it has moved above 2023's 43 and remains within a small range over the recent period. Regionally, Glenwood sits close to Improvement District No. 4 Waterton at 36 and above Piikani 147 at 19, but well below larger nearby places such as Nanton at 644 and Pincher Creek at 978.

Figure 2.2: Comparison of Business Establishments with other locations (Glenwood, 2025)²

Employment by Sector

Glenwood’s employment remained concentrated in agriculture and public administration in 2025, with 12 people and 8 people respectively. Agriculture was unchanged from 2024, while public administration rose 166.7% from 3 people.

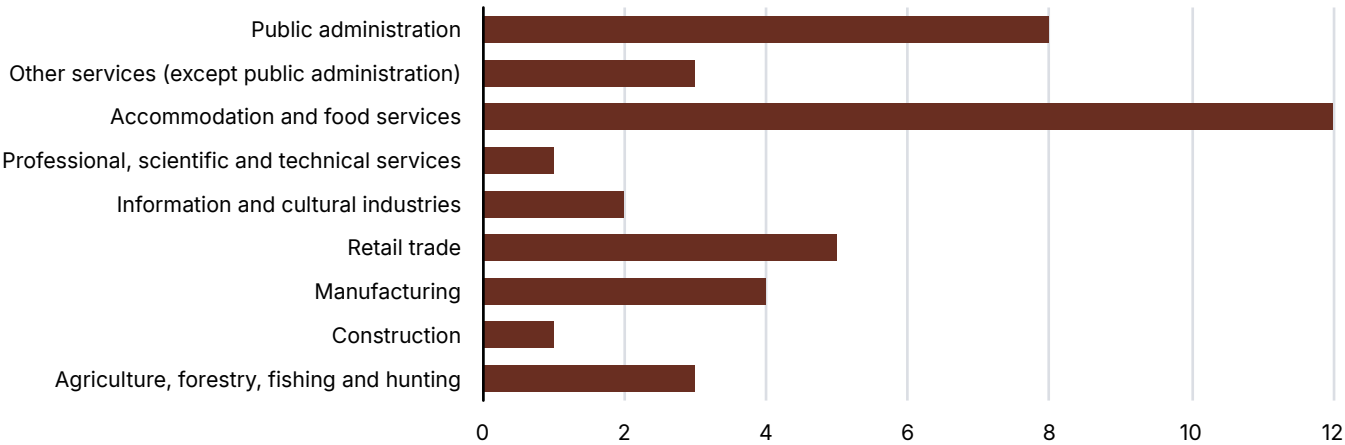
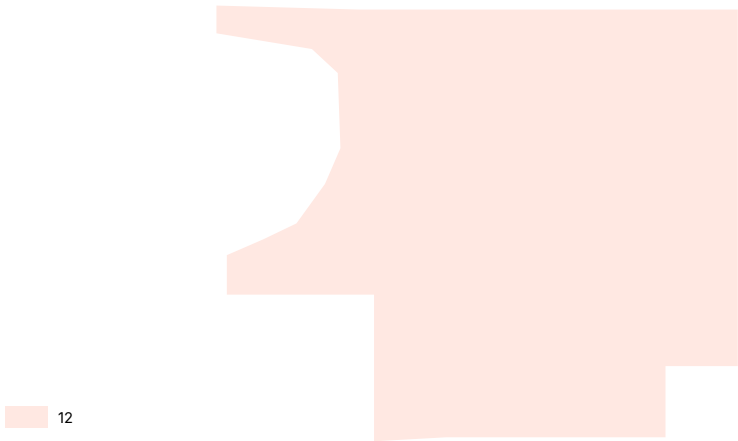


Figure 3.1: Shows how employment is distributed across industry sectors. It helps indicate which sectors account for the largest share of local jobs. (Glenwood, 2025)³

In Glenwood, employment in 2025 is concentrated in a few sectors, with accommodation and food services leading the listed industries at 12 people. Public administration follows with 8, while retail trade accounts for 5 and manufacturing for 4. Agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting and other services each employ 3 people, and information and cultural industries have 2. Construction and professional, scientific and technical services each have 1. The clearest recent change is public administration, which rose 166.7% from the previous year, while the other reported sectors were flat or had no change reported.



In 2025, Glenwood’s employment mix among employees aged 15 and over was led by accommodation and food services, with 12 people, followed by public administration at 8. Retail trade employed 5, manufacturing 4, agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting 3, and other services 3. Information and cultural industries had 2, while construction and professional, scientific and technical services each had 1. Public administration also showed the only notable year-over-year increase, at 166.7%.

Figure 3.2: Distribution of Largest Group: Naics - Accommodation and food services (Glenwood)³

Establishments by Sector

Glenwood’s business base in 2025 was led by agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting with 11 establishments, while accommodation and food services had 6. Retail trade rose to 3, and other services reached 4, up 33.33% year over year.

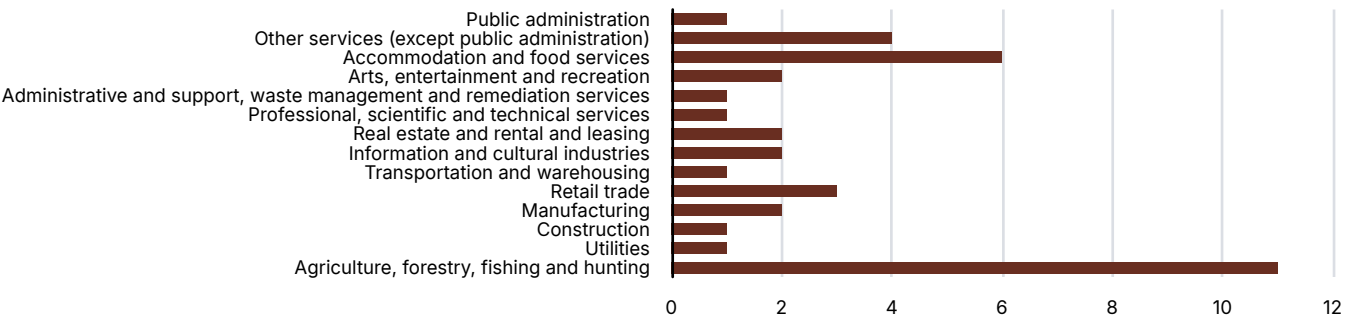


Figure 4.1: Shows how business establishments are distributed across sectors. It helps indicate the sector mix of the local business base. (Glenwood, 2025)²

In 2025, Glenwood’s business base was concentrated in a few sectors. Agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting had 11 establishments, more than any other sector, followed by accommodation and food services with 6 and other services with 4. Retail trade had 3, while manufacturing, information and cultural industries, real estate and rental and leasing, and arts, entertainment and recreation each had 2. Most other sectors had 1 establishment apiece. Recent changes were mixed: real estate and rental and leasing doubled from the year before, retail trade rose by 50%, and other services increased by 33.3%, while most sectors were unchanged.

In 2025, Glenwood’s business base was concentrated in a few sectors, with agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting leading at 11 establishments. Accommodation and food services followed with 6, while other services had 4 and retail trade had 3. Several sectors were represented by only one establishment, including utilities, construction, transportation and warehousing, professional services, administrative services, and public administration. Two sectors showed the clearest recent change. Retail trade rose by 50% from a year earlier, and real estate and rental and leasing doubled. This mix points to a small, varied local establishment base rather than a single dominant commercial cluster.



Figure 4.2: Distribution of Largest Group: Naics - Agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting (Glenwood)²

Establishments by Size

Glenwood’s establishments remained concentrated among businesses without employees, at 29 in 2025, up 7.4% from 2024. The 1 to 4 employee group rose to 11, a 57.1% increase, while 5 to 9 employee firms reached 4.

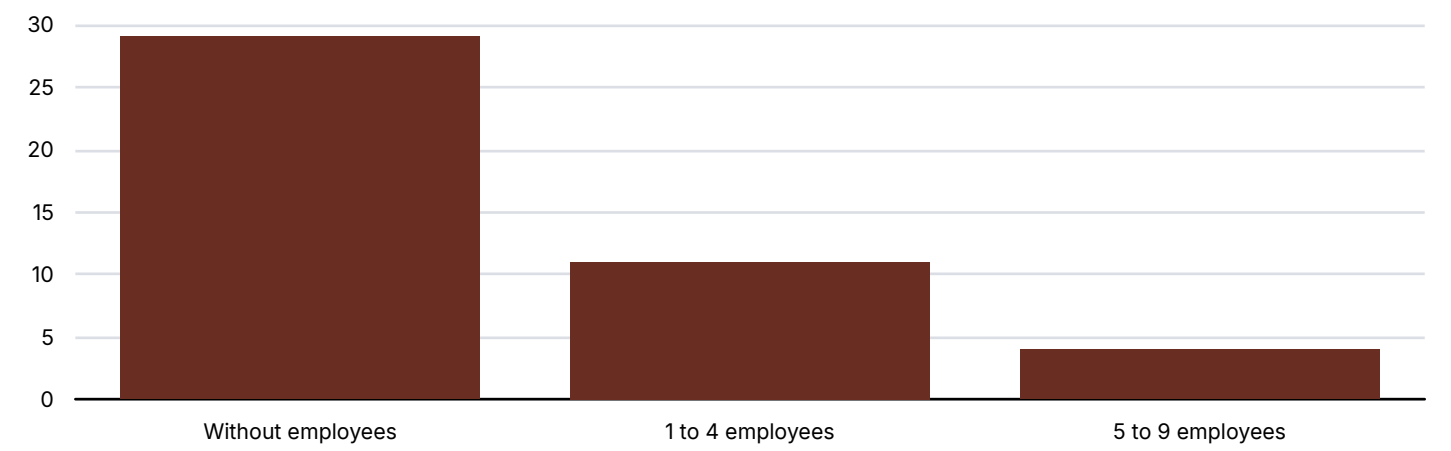


Figure 5.1: Shows how businesses are distributed by number of employees. It helps indicate whether the local economy is dominated by very small, small, or larger firms. (Glenwood, 2025)²

Glenwood’s business base is weighted toward very small establishments, with 29 businesses without employees in 2025. Smaller employer firms are present but much fewer in number, including 11 establishments with 1 to 4 employees and 4 with 5 to 9 employees. The recent changes were positive across all three size groups. Establishments without employees rose 7.4% over the year, while the 1 to 4 employee group grew 57.1% and the 5 to 9 employee group increased 33.3%. That pattern suggests local business activity is concentrated in the smallest categories, with the sharpest recent growth among employer firms. The data points to a small-scale business profile rather than a broad mix of larger establishments.



Figure 5.2: Distribution of Largest Group: Business Establishment Size - Without employees (Glenwood)²

Household After-Tax Income

In Glenwood, the \$90,000 to \$99,999 group remained largest in 2021 with 10 households, unchanged from 2016. Middle-income groups of \$60,000 to \$79,999 also each held 10 households.

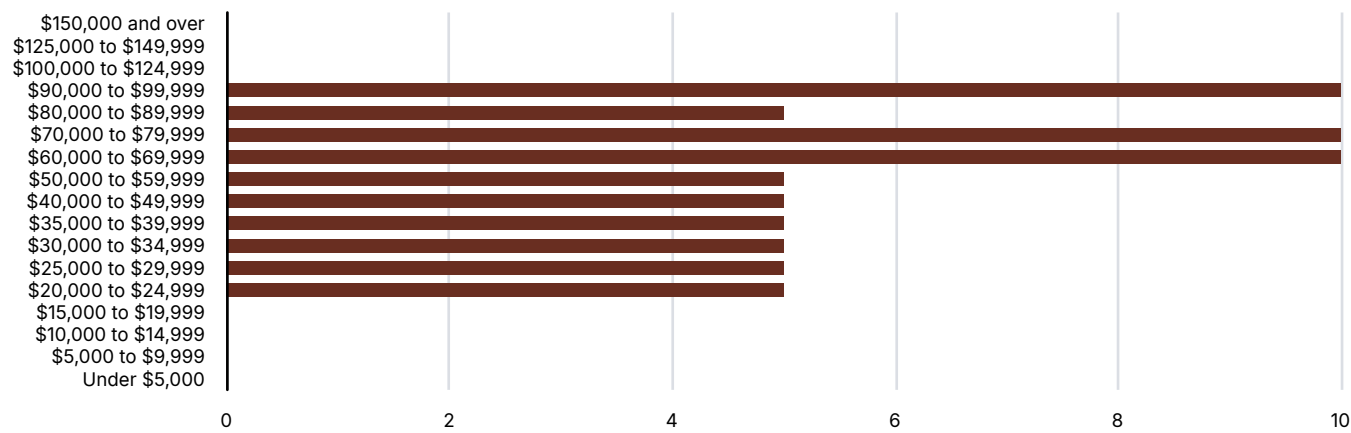


Figure 6.1: Shows household income after taxes across income groups. It helps indicate the resources households have available for day-to-day living after taxes are paid. (Glenwood, 2021)¹

In 2021, Glenwood’s household after-tax income profile was concentrated in the middle ranges, with the largest counts in the \$60,000 to \$69,999, \$70,000 to \$79,999, and \$90,000 to \$99,999 brackets, each at 10 households. Several other brackets sat at 5 households, while the lowest and highest income groups were empty. The distribution also shows declines in some lower and upper ranges over five years. Households under \$5,000, \$15,000 to \$19,999, \$100,000 to \$124,999, \$125,000 to \$149,999, and \$150,000 and over each fell by 100%. This points to a compact income spread centered in the middle-income brackets. Source: Statistics Canada, Census Profile.



In Glenwood, household after-tax income in 2021 was concentrated in the middle ranges, with 10 households each in the \$60,000 to \$69,999, \$70,000 to \$79,999, and \$90,000 to \$99,999 bands. Several lower and higher brackets recorded no households. Over five years, the \$60,000 to \$69,999 group doubled, while some lower bands fell.

Figure 6.2: Distribution of Largest Group: Income Group Household - \$60,000 to \$69,999 (Glenwood)¹

Individual After-Tax Income

Glenwood’s largest income group in 2021 was \$20,000 to \$29,999, with 105 people. Another 70 were in \$30,000 to \$39,999, while 55 had under \$10,000 and 45 earned \$10,000 to \$19,999.

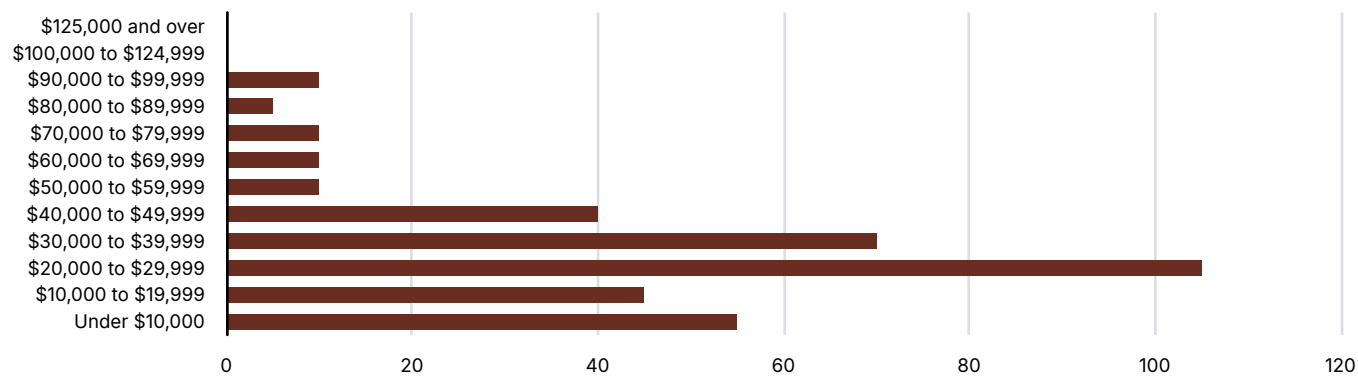


Figure 7.1: Shows individual after-tax income across income groups. It helps indicate the level of disposable income people have after taxes are paid. (Glenwood, 2021)¹

In Glenwood, individual after-tax income in 2021 was concentrated in the middle and lower income groups for residents aged 15 and over in private households. The largest count was in the \$20,000 to \$29,999 range, with 105 people, followed by 70 people in the \$30,000 to \$39,999 band. There were 55 people under \$10,000 and 45 in the \$10,000 to \$19,999 range, while only 10 to 0 people appeared in the higher bands above \$50,000. The distribution points to a modest income profile.

In 2021, Glenwood’s individual after-tax income profile was concentrated in the lower and middle brackets for people aged 15 and over in private households. The largest group was \$20,000 to \$29,999, with 105 people, followed by 70 people in the \$30,000 to \$39,999 range and 55 people under \$10,000. Counts fell sharply above \$40,000, with only 10 people each in several higher brackets and none reported above \$100,000. The pattern suggests limited representation at the top end of the income distribution.



Figure 7.2: Distribution of Largest Group: Income Group Individual - \$20,000 to \$29,999 (Glenwood)¹

Individual Employment Income

In Glenwood, the largest income group was under \$5,000, with 55 people. Another 40 were in the \$5,000 to \$9,999 range, while 30 each were in the \$10,000 to \$19,999 and \$20,000 to \$29,999 groups.

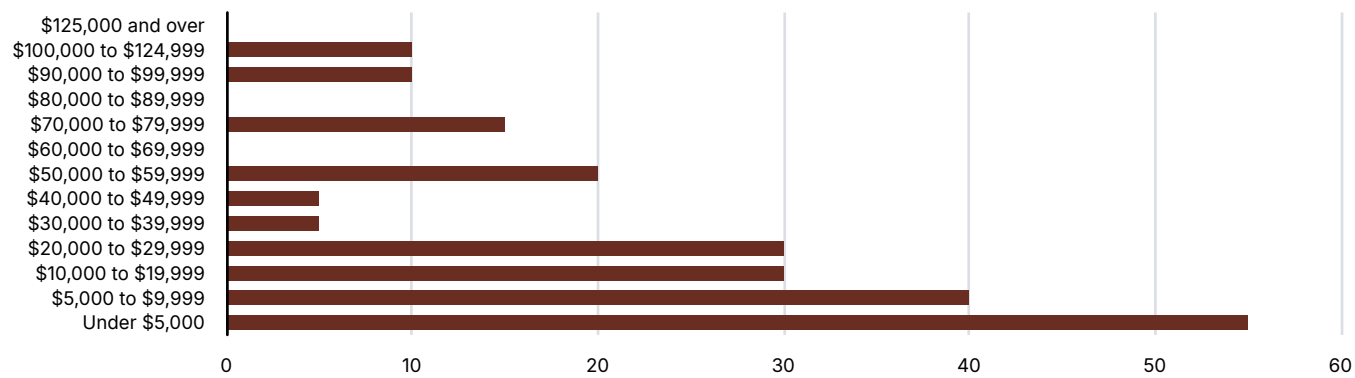


Figure 8.1: Shows individual employment income across income groups. It helps indicate how earnings from work are distributed among residents. (Glenwood, 2021)¹

Glenwood’s 2021 individual employment income profile is concentrated in the lower brackets, with 55 people under \$5,000 and 40 in the \$5,000 to \$9,999 range. The next largest groups are \$10,000 to \$19,999 and \$20,000 to \$29,999, at 30 people each. Higher-income brackets are much smaller: 20 people earned \$50,000 to \$59,999, 15 earned \$70,000 to \$79,999, and 10 each were in \$90,000 to \$99,999 and \$100,000 to \$124,999. No one was reported in \$60,000 to \$69,999, \$80,000 to \$89,999, or \$125,000 and over.

In Glenwood, individual employment income in 2021 was concentrated in the lower and middle ranges for residents aged 15 and over in private households. The largest groups were under \$5,000 at 55 people and \$5,000 to \$9,999 at 40 people, followed by \$10,000 to \$19,999 and \$20,000 to \$29,999 at 30 each. At the upper end, 125,000 and over recorded no people. Midrange brackets were thin, with several zero-count categories.



Figure 8.2: Distribution of Largest Group: Income Group Individual - Under \$5,000 (Glenwood)¹

Labour Force Participation Rate

Glenwood’s labour force participation rate was 51.3% in 2021, down from 62.0% in 2016. That five-year change equals a 17.3% decline, leaving participation 10.7 percentage points lower.

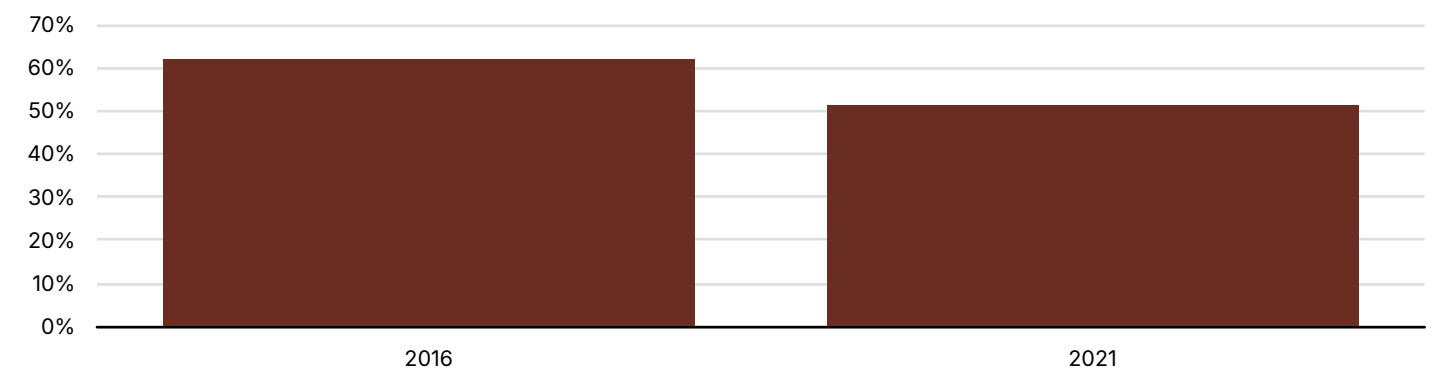


Figure 9.1: Shows the share of the working-age population that is employed or actively looking for work. It helps indicate the level of labour market engagement. (Glenwood, 2016-2021)¹

Glenwood’s labour force participation rate declined between 2016 and 2021, showing a weaker level of labour market engagement over the period. The rate was 62.0% in 2016 and 51.3% in 2021, a drop of 10.7 percentage points. The five-year change was -17.3%. That recent decline is the main pattern in the data. With no benchmark provided, the trend can only be read within Glenwood itself. In practical terms, fewer working-age residents were employed or looking for work in 2021 than in 2016, based on the figures provided.

Glenwood’s labour force participation rate was 51.3% in 2021, down from 62.0% in 2016. That 17.3% five-year decline places the village in a weaker position than several nearby places in the same census area. By comparison, Nanton stood at 64.2%, Cowley at 73.0%, and Cardston County at 68.1% in 2021. Glenwood was also below Claresholm at 52.6% only slightly, and below Fort Macleod at 55.2%. The pattern points to lower labour market engagement than many local peers. It sits in the middle of the group only when measured against the lowest values, not the stronger ones.

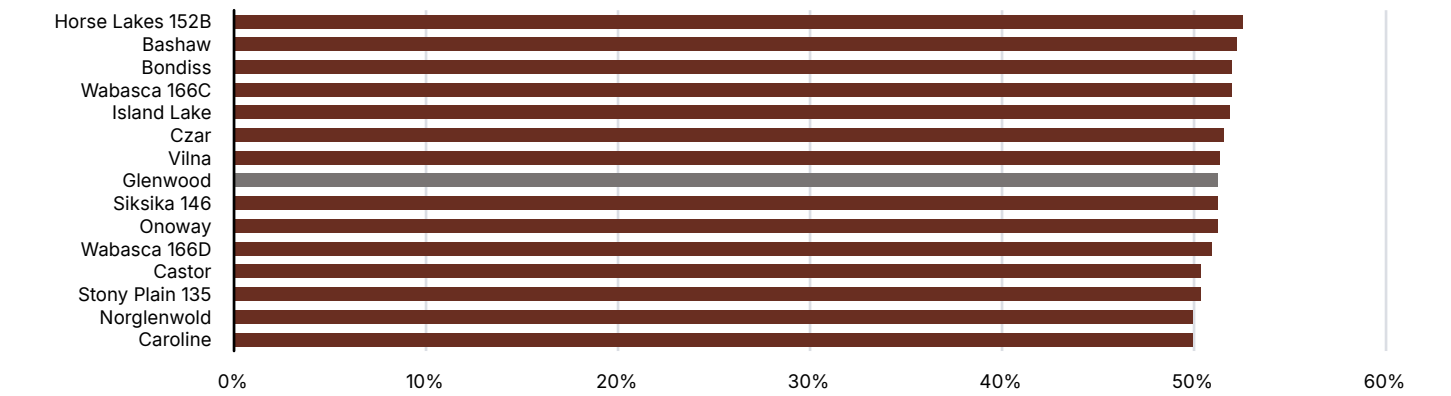


Figure 9.2: Comparison of Labour Force Participation Rate with other locations (Glenwood, 2021)¹

Labour Force Status

In Glenwood, the largest labour force status group remained 95 people not in the labour force in 2021. Employed residents fell from 140 in 2016 to 95, while unemployed residents declined from 15 to zero.

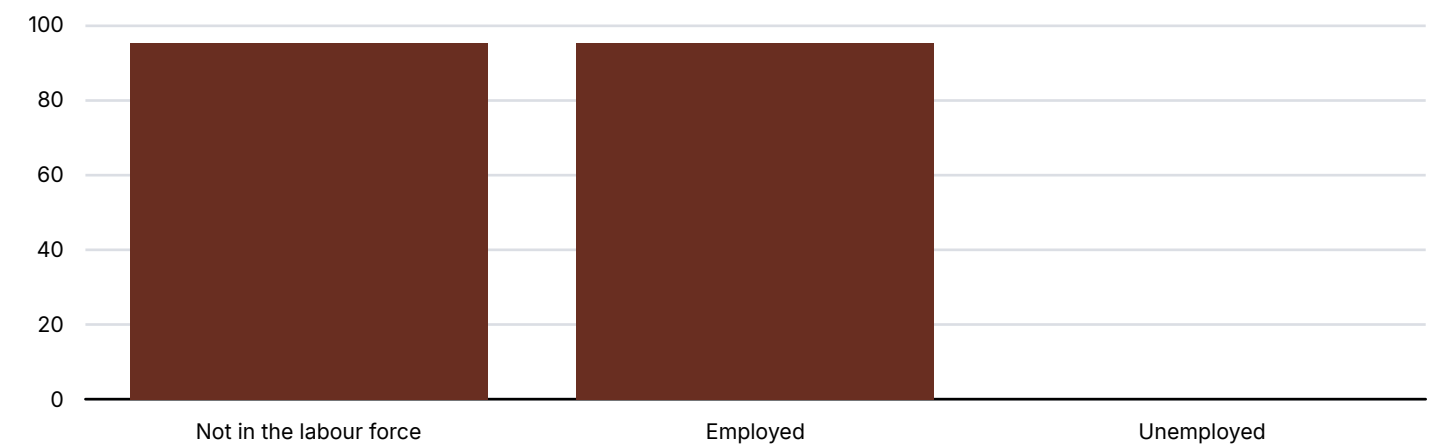


Figure 10.1: Shows whether residents are employed, unemployed, or not in the labour force. It helps indicate how people are participating in the labour market. (Glenwood, 2021)¹

In Glenwood, labour force status in 2021 was evenly split between residents employed and those not in the labour force, with 95 people in each group among the population aged 15 years and over. No residents were recorded as unemployed. That gives the village a very compact labour force profile for the year. The pattern suggests a small community where employment and non-participation were balanced at the time of the census. With unemployment at zero, the labour market snapshot shows no recorded joblessness, though the data do not explain why. In plain terms, Glenwood’s 2021 labour force status was defined more by parity than by contrast.



In Glenwood, labour force status was split evenly in 2021 between residents who were employed and those not in the labour force, at 95 people each, while no residents were unemployed. That pattern suggests a small population with limited visible unemployment in the census count. At the descendant dissemination area level, employed residents were also 95, but that figure was down 29.6% over five years, while those not in the labour force were unchanged and unemployment fell to zero.

Figure 10.2: Distribution of Largest Group: Labour Force Status - Not in the labour force (Glenwood)¹

Work Activity

In Glenwood, the largest work-activity group in 2021 was did not work at 80 people, unchanged from 2016. Worked full year full time fell to 50 people, while part-year and/or part-time declined to 65 people.

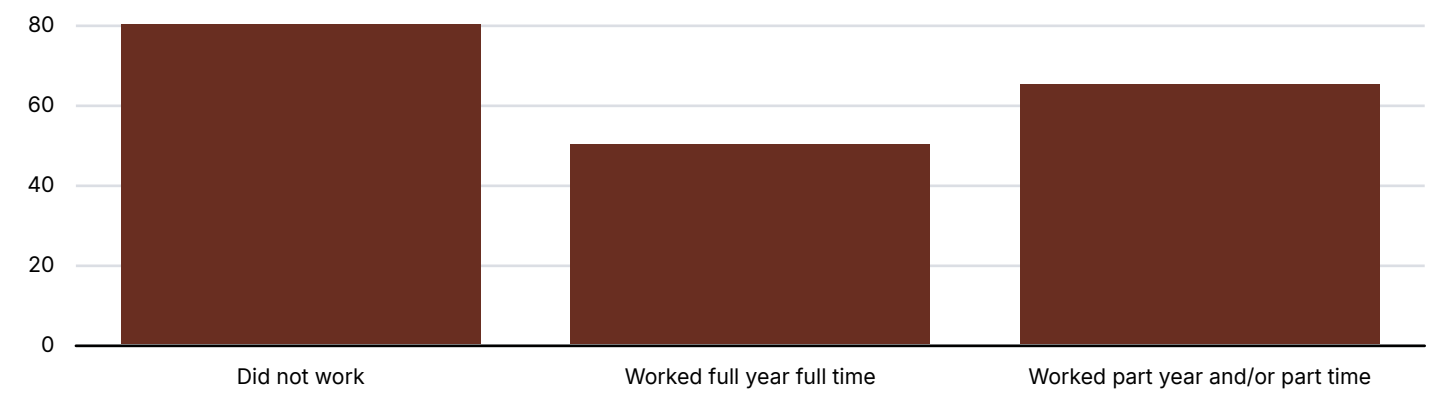


Figure 11.1: Shows the amount of work activity people had during the reference period. It helps indicate attachment to work over the year, not just at a single point in time. (Glenwood, 2021)¹

In Glenwood in 2021, work activity among people aged 15 years and over was split across three groups. The largest group did not work, with 80 people. Another 65 worked part year and/or part time, while 50 worked full year full time. The 5-year changes point to declines in both working categories. Full-year, full-time work fell by 33.3%, and part-year and/or part-time work declined by 31.6%. The pattern suggests a smaller working population in 2021 than five years earlier, alongside a sizeable group with no work activity during the reference period.

In Glenwood, work activity in 2021 shows a mixed pattern among people aged 15 and over. The largest group did not work, with 80 people. Another 65 people worked part year and/or part time, while 50 worked full year full time. Compared with five years earlier, the two working groups were both lower, at -33.3% for full year full time and -31.6% for part year and/or part time. The number who did not work was unchanged. Source: Statistics Canada, Census Profile.



Figure 11.2: Distribution of Largest Group: Work Activity - Did not work (Glenwood)¹

Employed Residents by Occupation

In Glenwood, occupations in education, law and social, community and government services became the largest group at 35 people in 2021, up 133.3% from 2016, while trades, transport and equipment operators fell to 30.

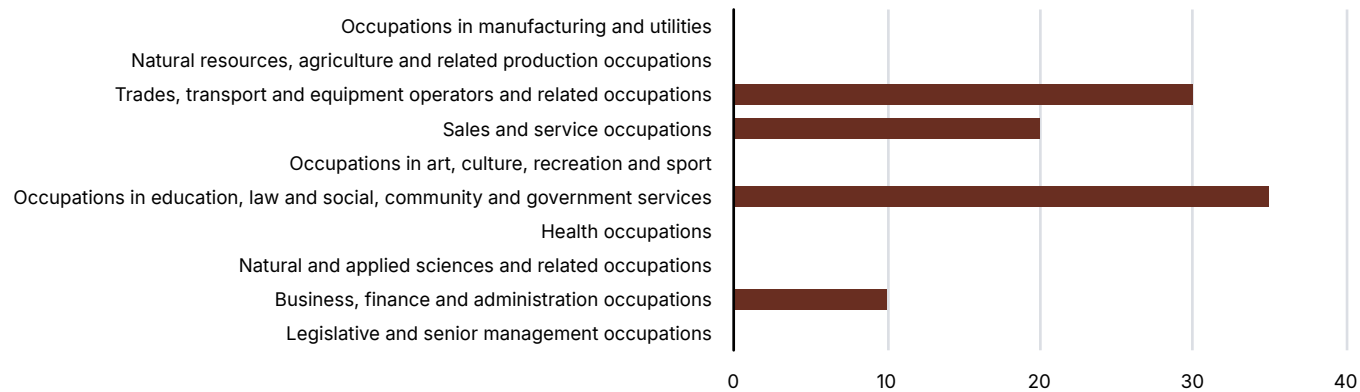


Figure 12.1: Shows the occupations held by employed residents. It helps indicate the community's skill mix and the kinds of work people do. (Glenwood, 2021)¹

In 2021, Glenwood’s employed residents were concentrated in a few occupations, with the largest share in occupations in education, law and social, community and government services at 35 people, up 133.3% over five years. Trades, transport and equipment operators followed at 30, while sales and service occupations accounted for 20 and business, finance and administration occupations for 10. Several other occupation groups were at zero.

In Glenwood, employed residents are concentrated in a few occupation groups, with education, law and social, community and government services leading at 35 people in 2021. Trades, transport and equipment operators followed at 30, while sales and service had 20 and business, finance and administration had 10. Several other occupation groups recorded no employed residents. This points to a narrow occupational mix in the local labour force.



Figure 12.2: Distribution of Largest Group: Occupation - Occupations in education, law and social, community and government services (Glenwood)¹

Data Sources

1. Statistics Canada, Census Profile. Published in Dec 15, 2022.
2. Statistics Canada, Business Register. Published in Jun 1, 2025.
3. Statistics Canada, Business Register; Localintel, Employment by Industry Estimates of Census Areas. Published in Mar 13, 2026.

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