

Appendix F: Additional Data

Montana's Population by Race and Ethnicity

As the population of Montana grew between 2000 and 2010, the racial and ethnic composition of the state underwent a slight shift. Overall, the population grew by 9.67% during that time, though different racial and ethnic groups within the total population grew at different rates. The white population, which accounted for the largest proportion of Montanans in both years, grew by 8.29%. This rate was lower than the overall growth rate, meaning that the white population comprised a smaller proportion of the population in 2010 than in 2000. The racial category with the largest rate of change in the decade was persons of two or more races, which grew by 58.78%. This was followed by the Black population, with an increase of 49.59%.

From 2000 to 2010, the Hispanic population grew at a faster rate than the non-Hispanic population. In 2000, Hispanic residents accounted for 2.00% of the population. After experiencing a rate of growth of 57.98% between 2000 and 2010, the Hispanic population came to account for 2.90% of the total population. Meanwhile, the non-Hispanic population only grew by 8.68% and the proportion of non-Hispanic Montana residents fell by almost one percentage point.

2017 saw the population of Montana increase to 1,029,862, with continued shifts in racial and ethnic composition. Overall, the population grew by 4.09% from 2010 to 2017, though different racial and ethnic groups within the total population grew at different rates. The white population, which again accounted for the largest proportion of Montanans, grew by 3.58%. As in the previous decade, this rate was lower than the overall growth rate, meaning that the white population comprised a smaller proportion of the population in 2017 than in 2010. The racial category with the largest rate of change in the decade was the Asian population, which grew by 19.11%. This was followed by persons of two or more races, with an increase of 13.65%.

From 2010 to 2017, the Hispanic population grew at a faster rate than the non-Hispanic population. In 2010, Hispanic residents accounted for 2.90% of the population. After experiencing a rate of growth of 28.22% between 2010 and 2017, the Hispanic population came to account for 3.56% of the total population. Meanwhile, the non-Hispanic population only grew by 3.37% and the proportion of non-Hispanic Montana residents fell by over a half of a percentage point.

Montana's population by race and ethnicity is presented in **Table F-1**.

According to intercensal data through 2010 and population estimates through 2017 (**Table F-2**), while the white population saw modest growth that did not keep pace with the state's overall growth, the black population more than doubled. All other minorities saw growth that exceeded the overall population percentage increase during this period as well. The Asian and Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander populations grew at rates exceeding five times the overall growth rate, although these populations remain relatively small. The second fastest growing group was persons of two or more races, with a 114.7% growth rate. The Hispanic population's growth also outpaced the overall growth in the state, with an increase of 119.2% between 2000 and 2017.

Table F-1 – Montana Population by Race and Ethnicity

Race	2000 Census		2010 Census		% Change 00–10	2017 ACS		% Change 10–17
	Pop	% of Total	Pop	% of Total		Pop	% of Total	
White	817,229	90.60%	884,961	89.40%	8.29%	916,664	89.01%	3.58%
Black	2,692	0.30%	4,027	0.40%	49.59%	4,438	0.43%	10.21%
American Indian	56,068	6.20%	62,555	6.30%	11.57%	66,865	6.49%	6.89%
Asian	4,691	0.50%	6,253	0.60%	33.30%	7,448	0.72%	19.11%
Native Hawaiian/ Pacific Islander	470	0.10%	668	0.10%	42.13%	571	0.06%	-14.52%
Other	5,315	0.60%	5,975	0.60%	12.42%	5,492	0.53%	-8.08%
Two or More Races	15,730	1.70%	24,976	2.50%	58.78%	28,384	2.76%	13.65%
Total	902,195	100.00%	989,415	100.00%	9.67%	1,029,862	100.00%	4.09%
Non-Hispanic	884,114	98.00%	960,850	97.10%	8.68%	993,236	96.44%	3.37%
Hispanic	18,081	2.00%	28,565	2.90%	57.98%	36,626	3.56%	28.22%

Data Source: 2000 and 2010 Census SF1 Data and 2017 5-Year ACS Data

Table F-2 – Montana Intercensal Population Estimates by Race and Ethnicity

Year	White	Black	American Indian	Asian	Native Hawaiian/ Pacific Islander	Two or More Races	Total	Hispanic
2000	824,269	2,813	56,355	4,806	488	13,469	902,200	18,084
2001	826,639	3,154	57,048	5,119	538	14,463	906,961	19,546
2002	829,714	3,372	57,582	5,225	564	15,210	911,667	20,622
2003	835,759	3,619	58,241	5,339	585	16,087	919,630	21,814
2004	844,155	3,863	58,900	5,561	642	16,888	930,009	22,766
2005	852,189	3,899	59,782	5,685	641	17,906	940,102	24,153
2006	862,738	4,107	60,364	5,857	695	18,931	952,692	25,301
2007	872,545	4,192	61,181	6,034	731	20,023	964,706	26,440
2008	882,291	4,282	61,852	6,205	732	21,053	976,415	27,373
2009	887,526	4,354	62,711	6,429	787	22,175	983,982	28,210
2010	891,529	4,215	63,495	6,379	734	23,063	989,415	28,565
2011	895,793	4,901	64,722	6,871	771	23,808	996,866	30,363
2012	899,875	5,440	65,832	7,156	768	24,451	1,003,522	32,017
2013	906,144	5,405	66,848	7,421	822	25,281	1,011,921	33,621
2014	911,917	5,465	67,859	7,769	830	26,091	1,019,931	35,188
2015	918,364	5,638	68,579	8,102	856	26,778	1,028,317	36,724
2016	926,475	5,856	69,263	8,456	895	27,711	1,038,656	38,117
2017	935,792	6,114	69,913	8,842	910	28,922	1,050,493	39,633
Percent Change 2000-2017	13.5%	117.3%	24.1%	84.0%	86.5%	114.7%	16.4%	119.2%

Data Source: Census Bureau, Intercensal Estimates 2000-2010; Census Bureau, 2017 Population Estimates

Geographic analysis of racial distribution was conducted by calculating the percentage share of total population within each census tract of the particular sub-population; i.e., racial or ethnic group. That share was then plotted on a map. The goal of this analysis was to identify areas with disproportionate concentrations of each sub-population. HUD defines a population as having a disproportionate share when a portion of a population is more than 10 percentage points higher than the jurisdiction average. For example, the white population accounted for 89.4% of the total population of the State in 2010—accordingly, the disproportionate share threshold for that population was 99.4% in that year. Any areas in which more than 99.4% of the population was white were therefore said to hold a disproportionate share of white residents.

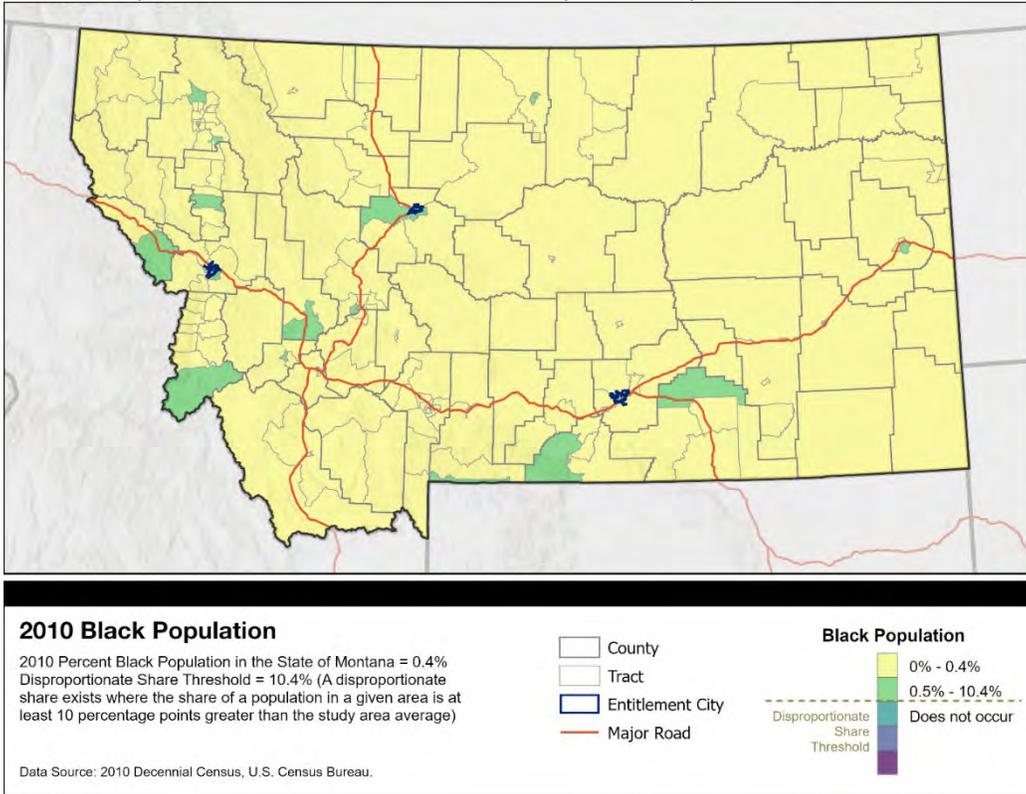
In the year 2000, white residents accounted for 90.60% of the population of Montana. In the years 2010 and 2017 white residents accounted for 89.40% and 89.01% of the population, respectively. Due to the high proportion, a disproportionate share of the white population was not possible in 2000 as it exceeds 100%. In 2010 the disproportionate share of the white population was 99.40%; in 2017 the disproportionate share of the white population was 99.01%. No census tracts saw a disproportionate share of whites in either year.

By contrast, the Black population accounted for only 0.30% of the population in 2000. In the years 2010 and 2017 Black residents accounted for 0.40% and 0.43% of the population, respectively. In 2010 and 2017, no areas of the state saw a disproportionate share of the Black population, although some areas had higher concentrations than others (**Maps F-1 and F-2**).

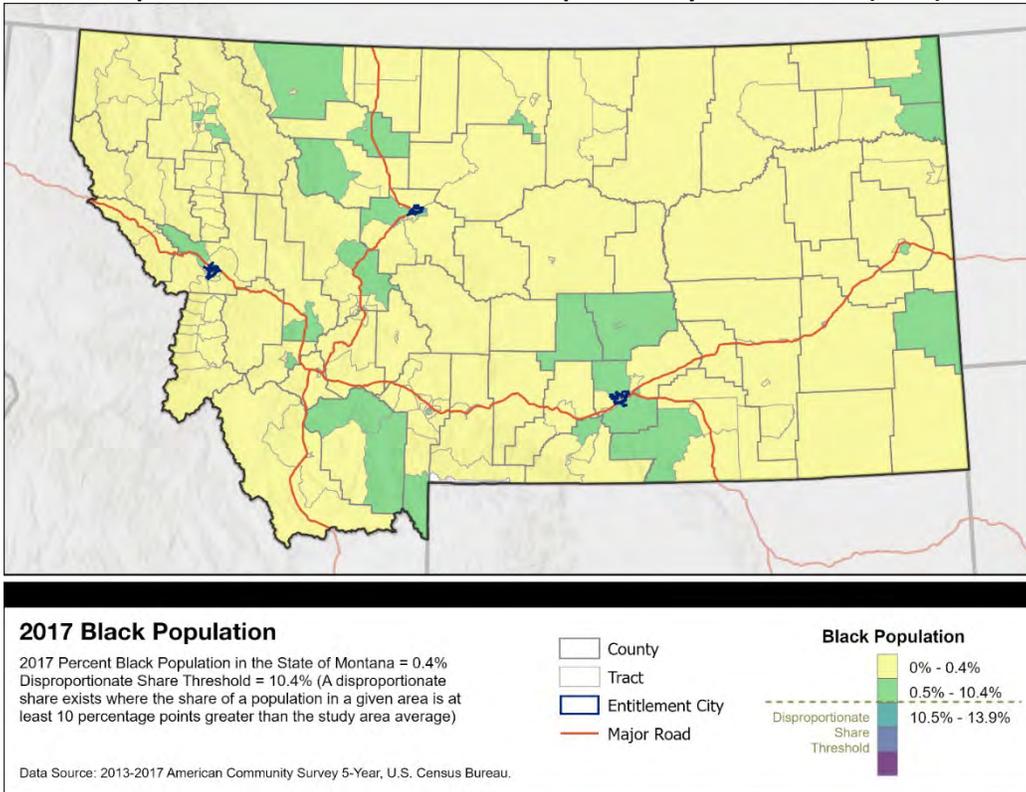
Montana's Hispanic population in 2010 and 2017 is shown in **Maps F-3 and F-4**. In the years 2010 and 2017 Hispanic residents accounted for 2.90% and 3.56% of the population, respectively. In 2010 the disproportionate share of the Hispanic population was 12.90%; in 2017 the disproportionate share of the Hispanic population was 13.56%. Areas of high concentration shifted from 2010 to 2017, and some census tracts saw a disproportionate share of Hispanics in these years as shown in **Maps F-3 and F-4**.

Montana's American Indian population in 2010 and 2017 is shown in **Maps F-5 and F-6**. In the years 2010 and 2017 American Indian residents accounted for 6.30% and 6.49% of the population, respectively. In 2010 the disproportionate share of the American Indian population was 16.30%; in 2017 the disproportionate share of the American Indian population was 16.49%. The American Indian population was largely concentrated in and around tribal trust and reservation lands in 2010 to 2017, and some census tracts saw a disproportionate share of the American Indian population in these years as shown in **Maps F-5 and F-6**.

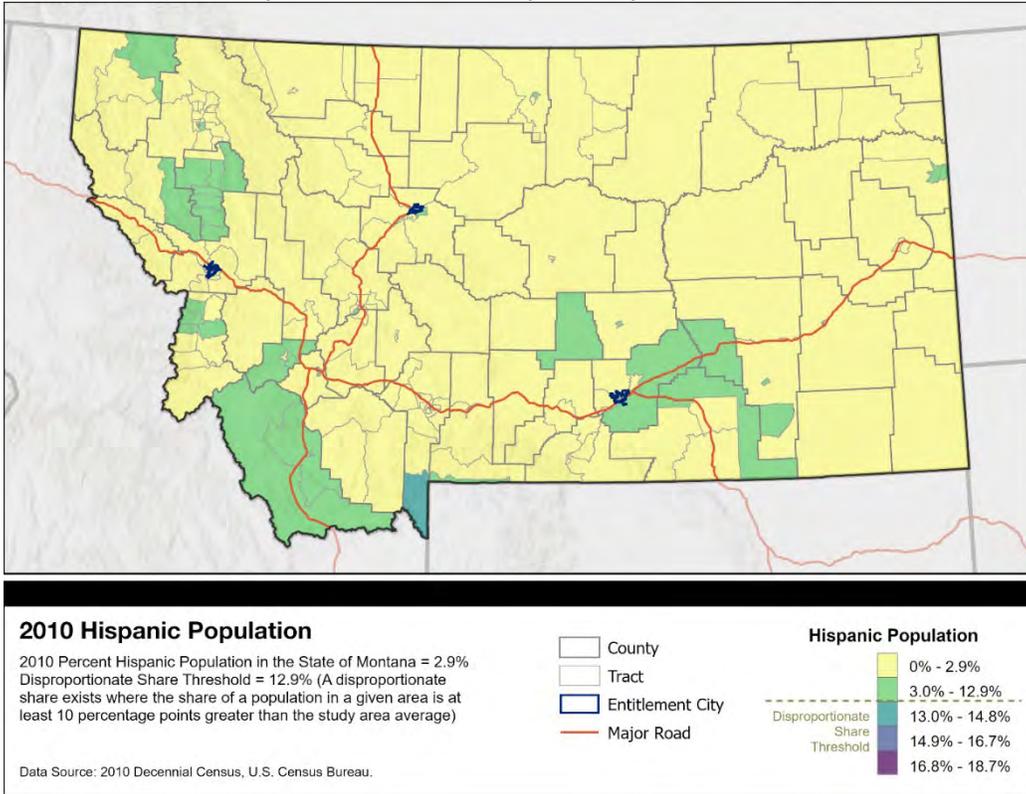
Map F-1 – Montana’s Percent Black Population by Census Tract (2010)



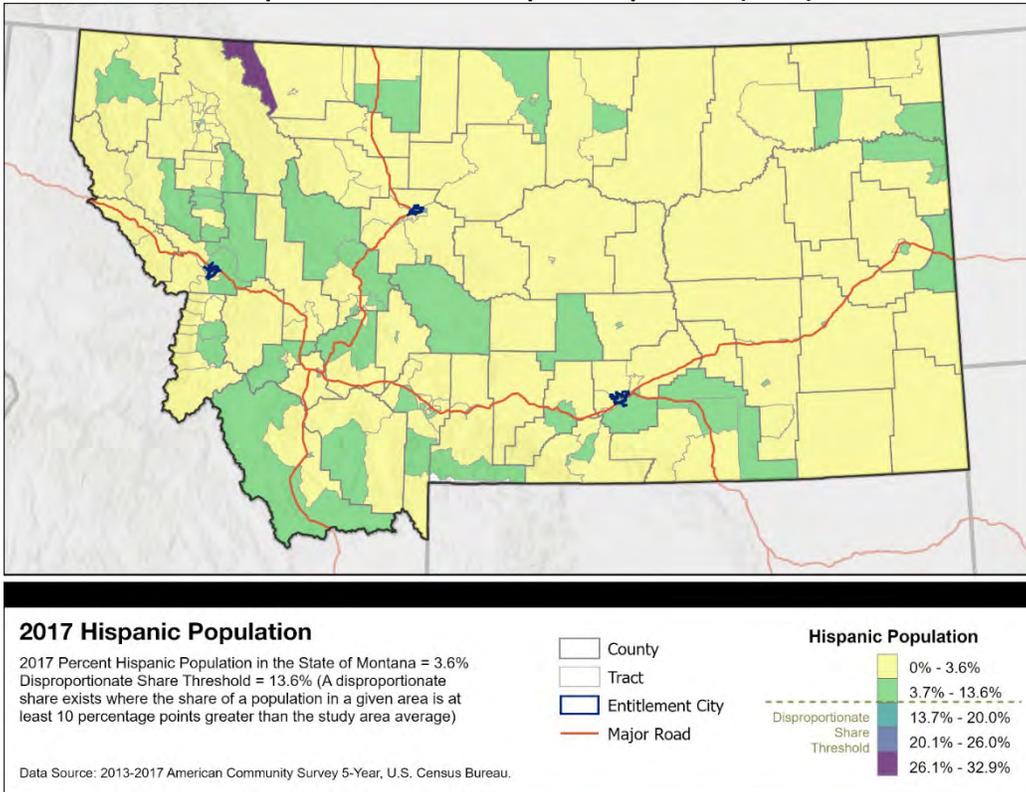
Map F-2 – Montana’s Percent Black Population by Census Tract (2017)



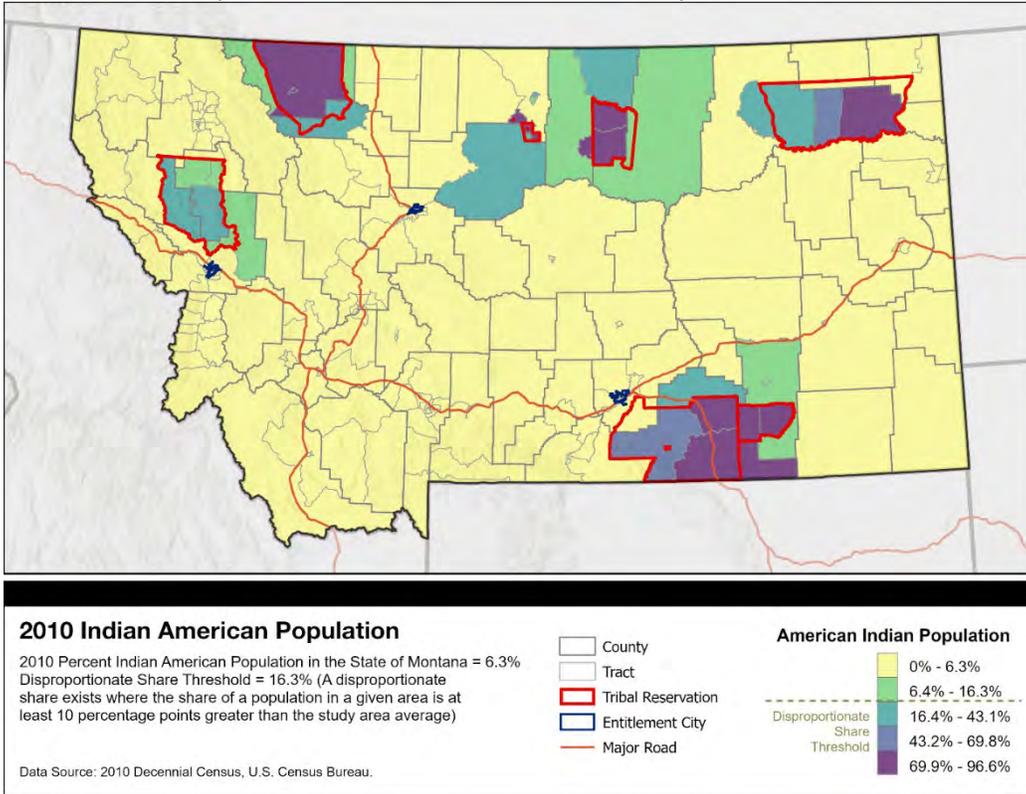
Map F-3 – Montana’s Hispanic Population (2010)



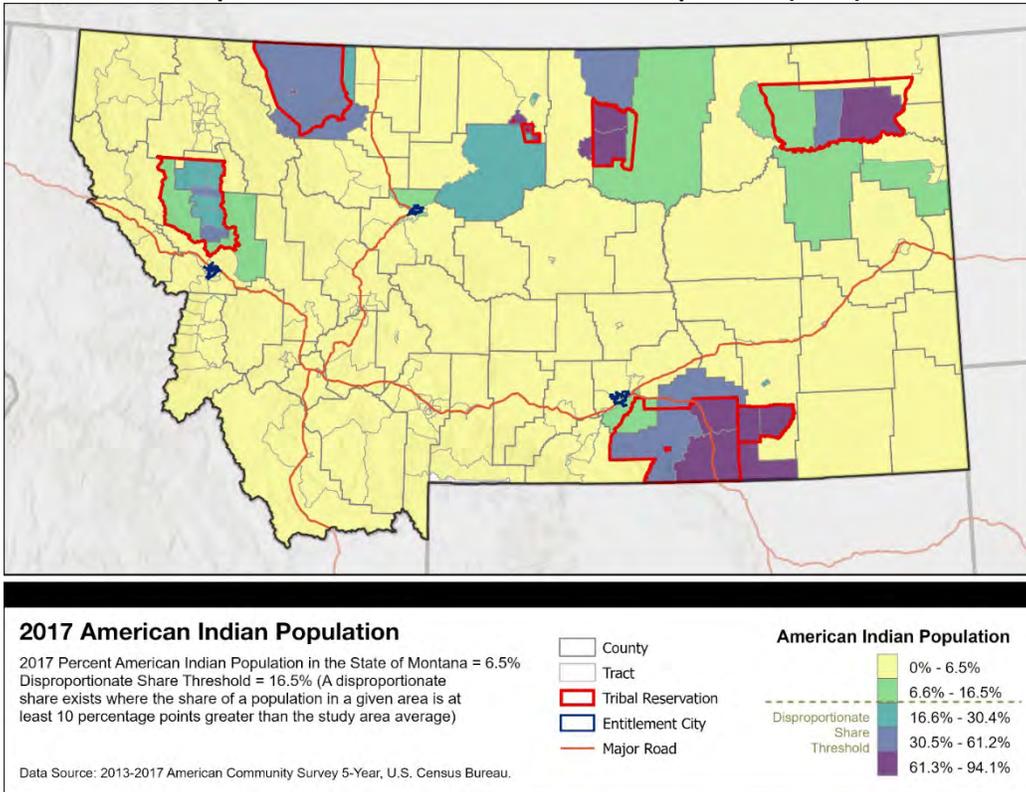
Map F-4 – Montana’s Hispanic Population (2017)



Map F-5 – Montana’s American Indian Population (2010)



Map F-6 – Montana’s American Indian Population (2017)



Montana’s Population by Age

Montana’s population by age is presented in **Table F-3**. The State of Montana experienced a shift in the population between 2000 and 2010 as growth in the number of older residents generally outpaced growth in the number of younger residents. The fastest-growing cohort during this period was persons age 55 to 64; this cohort grew by 63.13% between 2000 and 2010. The next fastest-growing cohort at this time was persons age 65 and older; this cohort grew by 21.33% over the decade and represented 14.80% of the overall population in 2010. In contrast, the cohorts of persons age 5 to 19 and 35 to 54 had negative rates of change, reflecting a net decline in these age groups.

Looking to 2017, the fastest-growing cohort was persons age 65 and older; this cohort grew by 20.03% between 2010 and 2017. In a slight shift, the second fastest-growing cohort at this time was persons age 20 to 24 with growth at 8.99%, which barely outpaced persons age 55 to 64 with growth at 8.98%.

The cohort age 35 to 54 was the largest proportion of the total population across all years analyzed; however, this cohort’s growth decreased consistently, falling by 5.14% from 2000 to 2010 and then by 6.00% from 2010 to 2017. The cohort age 5 to 19 was the second largest proportion of the total population across all years analyzed; this cohort also declined from 2000 to 2010 with a 6.89% drop but saw minor growth with a 1.56% increase from 2010 to 2017. The only other cohort to decline in the years surveyed was persons under age 5, which represented 6.30% of the total population in 2010 and only 5.94% of the total population in 2017.

Table F-3 – Montana Population by Age

Age	2000 Census		2010 Census		% Change 00–10	2017 ACS		% Change 10–17
	Population	% of Total	Population	% of Total		Population	% of Total	
Under 5	54,869	6.10%	62,423	6.30%	13.77%	61,218	5.94%	-1.93%
5 to 19	202,571	22.50%	188,613	19.10%	-6.89%	191,554	18.60%	1.56%
20 to 24	58,379	6.50%	67,138	6.80%	15.00%	73,171	7.10%	8.99%
25 to 34	103,279	11.40%	122,864	12.40%	18.96%	129,445	12.57%	5.36%
35 to 54	277,029	30.70%	262,777	26.60%	-5.14%	247,002	23.98%	-6.00%
55 to 64	85,119	9.40%	138,858	14.00%	63.13%	151,334	14.69%	8.98%
65 or Older	120,949	13.40%	146,742	14.80%	21.33%	176,138	17.10%	20.03%
Total	902,195	100.00%	989,415	100.00%	9.67%	1,029,862	100.00%	4.09%

Data Source: 2000 and 2010 Census SF1 Data and 2017 5-Year ACS Data

As shown in **Table F-4**, intercensal and population estimates of yearly populations by age group bear out Montana’s shift toward an older population and reveal that this trend appears to have continued since the 2010 Census. According to estimates, residents over the age of 65 grew by 57.5% through 2017. Growth was even more rapid among residents age 55 to 64 years; this cohort grew by 78.8% between 2000 and 2017. In contrast, cohorts of persons age 45 to 54 declined during this period. The number of persons age 25 to 44 was decreasing until 2005, then steadily increased through 2017. Persons age 45 to 54 increased until 2008, then steadily decreased through 2017.

Table F-4 – Intercensal and Population Estimates by Age

Age	Under 14 Years	15 to 24 Years	25 to 44 Years	45 to 54 Years	55 to 64 Years	65 and Over	Total
2000	186,131	129,690	245,217	135,092	85,119	120,951	902,200
2001	183,089	133,372	238,899	140,941	88,135	122,525	906,961
2002	181,177	135,506	234,222	143,136	93,830	123,796	911,667
2003	179,948	138,559	230,567	146,358	98,903	125,295	919,630
2004	179,744	139,711	229,675	148,742	104,861	127,276	930,009
2005	179,004	141,303	228,195	151,320	110,849	129,431	940,102
2006	179,539	141,748	228,548	153,021	117,054	132,782	952,692
2007	180,806	139,293	231,371	153,740	123,481	136,015	964,706
2008	182,632	138,276	233,215	153,172	128,789	140,331	976,415
2009	183,628	135,694	234,399	151,768	134,566	143,927	983,982
2010	184,312	133,862	235,809	149,832	138,858	146,742	989,415
2011	184,714	135,108	237,289	144,304	144,953	150,498	996,866
2012	184,993	136,102	239,068	139,457	146,561	157,341	1,003,522
2013	186,142	136,907	242,109	134,750	148,758	163,255	1,011,921
2014	187,297	137,160	244,809	130,987	150,188	169,490	1,019,931
2015	188,402	136,823	248,093	127,803	151,218	175,978	1,028,317
2016	189,637	136,818	251,823	125,322	152,041	183,015	1,038,656
2017	191,072	136,163	257,819	122,747	152,169	190,523	1,050,493
Percent Change 2000-2017	2.7%	5.0%	5.1%	-9.1%	78.8%	57.5%	16.4%

Data Source: Census Bureau, Intercensal Estimates 2000-2010; Census Bureau, 2017 Population Estimates

The Elderly

The elderly, as defined by the Census Bureau, comprises any person age 65 or older. Per Census data, 120,949 Montanans in 2000 were considered elderly while 146,742 Montanans in 2010 were considered elderly. According to ACS data, the elderly population increased to 176,138 in 2017. **Table F-5** segregates the elderly into several smaller cohorts, revealing that persons age 65 to 69 comprised the largest proportion of the elderly population in Montana from 2000 to 2017, followed by persons age 70 to 74. As shown in **Table F-4**, the elderly population, as a whole, saw the second most growth of all age groups between 2000 and 2013. The number of persons over 65 grew by 36.23% over that period. The population with the most growth during that timeframe was persons age 55 to 64, indicating that Montana’s elderly population will continue to grow at an increasing rate in the future.

Table F-5 – Elderly Population by Age

Age	2000 Census		2010 Census		% Change 00–10	2017 ACS		% Change 10–17
	Population	% of Total	Population	% of Total		Population	% of Total	
65 to 69	32,541	26.90%	46,556	31.73%	43.07%	61,359	34.84%	31.80%
70 to 74	29,978	24.79%	34,186	23.30%	14.04%	42,914	24.36%	25.53%
75 to 79	24,703	20.42%	25,637	17.47%	3.78%	30,208	17.15%	17.83%
80 to 84	18,390	15.20%	20,342	13.86%	10.61%	20,802	11.81%	2.26%
85 or Older	15,337	12.68%	20,021	13.64%	30.54%	20,855	11.84%	4.17%
Total	120,949	100.00%	146,742	100.00%	21.33%	176,138	100.00%	20.03%

Data Source: 2000 and 2010 Census SF1 Data and 2017 5-Year ACS Data

The Frail Elderly

A segment of the elderly population is considered to be frail elderly, which means elderly persons whose physiological circumstances may limit functional capabilities; this is often quantified as those who are 85

years or older. **Table F-5** shows that there were 20,021 persons considered frail elderly in Montana in 2010 and that this cohort grew to 20,855 by 2017, representing an increase of 4.17%.

Persons with Disabilities

Disability is defined by the Census Bureau as a lasting physical, mental, or emotional condition that makes it difficult for a person to do activities, go outside the home alone, or work. By this definition, 127,803 and 138,205 Montanans were considered to be persons with disability in 2012 and 2017, respectively (**Table F-6**). Persons 65 and older had the highest disability rate in these years, but the age group with the fastest growth of disability was persons under 5. With more than 13% of its population living with a disability in both years surveyed, Montana’s disability rate slightly exceeded the national rate of approximately 12%.¹

Table F-6 – Disability by Age

Age	2012 ACS		2017 ACS		% Change 12–17
	Disabled Population	Disability Rate	Disabled Population	Disability Rate	
Under 5	343	0.56%	548	0.90%	59.77%
5 to 17	8,247	5.12%	8,083	4.93%	-1.99%
18 to 64	66,179	10.85%	70,309	11.38%	6.24%
65 and Older	53,034	37.05%	59,265	34.57%	11.75%
Total	127,803	13.11%	138,205	13.62%	8.14%

Data Source: 2012 and 2017 5-Year ACS Data

Table F-7 shows that in 2012 and 2017 disability rates tended to be higher for male than for female residents and higher for elderly than for younger residents. More than 50% of residents of either sex over the age of 75 were observed to be living with a disability in 2012 and just under 50% of these were so observed in 2017. Data show that disability rates decrease progressively in the lower age ranges.

¹ The data on disability status was derived from answers to long-form questionnaire items 16 and 17 for the 1-in-6 sample. Item 16 asked about the existence of the following long-lasting conditions: (a) blindness, deafness, or a severe vision or hearing impairment, (sensory disability) and (b) a condition that substantially limits one or more basic physical activities such as walking, climbing stairs, reaching, lifting, or carrying (physical disability). Item 16 was asked of a sample of the population 5 years old and over. Item 17 asked whether the individual had a physical, mental, or emotional condition lasting 6 months or more that made it difficult to perform certain activities. The four activity categories were: (a) learning, remembering, or concentrating (mental disability); (b) dressing, bathing, or getting around inside the home (self-care disability); (c) going outside the home alone to shop or visit a doctor’s office (going outside the home disability); and (d) working at a job or business (employment disability). Categories 17a and 17b were asked of a sample of the population 5 years old and over; 17c and 17d were asked of a sample of the population 16 years old and over. For data products which use the items individually, the following terms are used: sensory disability for 16a, physical disability for 16b, mental disability for 17a, self-care disability for 17b, going outside the home disability for 17c, and employment disability for 17d. For data products which use a disability status indicator, individuals were classified as having a disability if any of the following three conditions was true: (1) they were 5 years old and over and had a response of “yes” to a sensory, physical, mental, or self-care disability; (2) they were 16 years old and over and had a response of “yes” to going outside the home disability; or (3) they were 16 to 64 years old and had a response of “yes” to employment disability.

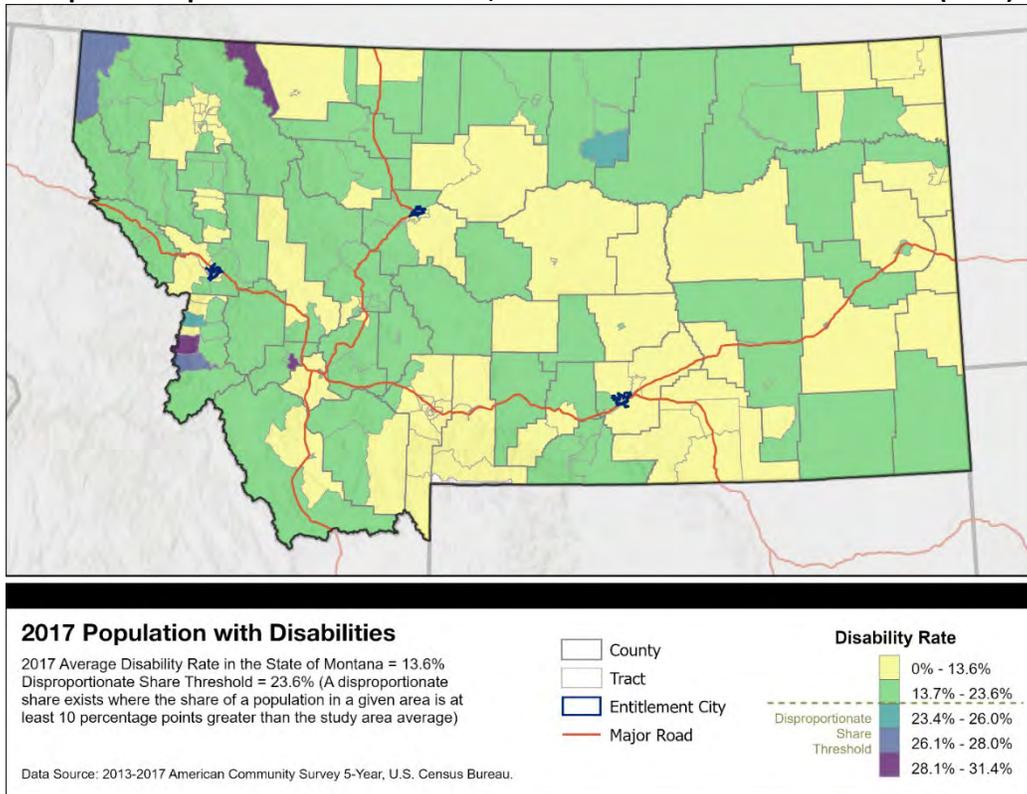
Table F-7 – Disability by Age and Sex

Age	Male		Female		Total	
	Disabled Population	Disability Rate	Disabled Population	Disability Rate	Disabled Population	Disability Rate
2012 ACS						
Under 5	155	0.50%	188	0.63%	343	0.56%
5 to 17	5,059	6.13%	3,188	4.06%	8,247	5.12%
18 to 34	7,481	6.90%	5,467	5.26%	12,948	6.10%
35 to 64	28,874	14.60%	24,357	12.18%	53,231	13.39%
65 to 74	12,068	30.17%	8,913	22.06%	20,981	26.10%
75 or Older	14,191	52.19%	17,862	50.25%	32,053	51.09%
Total	67,828	13.93%	59,975	12.29%	127,803	13.11%
2017 ACS						
Under 5	296	0.94%	252	0.85%	548	0.90%
5 to 17	4,834	5.74%	3,249	4.07%	8,083	4.93%
18 to 34	8,979	7.88%	6,349	5.78%	15,328	6.85%
35 to 64	29,059	14.86%	25,922	13.06%	54,981	13.95%
65 to 74	15,409	29.73%	10,895	21.19%	26,304	25.48%
75 or Older	15,122	49.50%	17,839	47.39%	32,961	48.34%
Total	73,699	14.52%	64,506	12.72%	138,205	13.62%

Data Source: 2012 and 2017 5-Year ACS Data

However, there were several counties within the state that tended to have higher concentrations of persons with disabilities; as shown in **Map F-7**. These counties are spread throughout Montana, but with a larger grouping on the western side of the state.

Map F-7 – Population with Disabilities, Non-Entitlement Areas of Montana (2017)



Group Quarters Population

The Census Bureau defines group quarters as “places where people live or stay in a group living arrangement, which are owned or managed by an entity or organization providing housing and/or services for the residents.” The group quarters population is further divided into two overall categories:

- The institutionalized population includes persons under formally authorized supervised care or custody, such as those living in correctional institutions, nursing homes, juvenile institutions, halfway houses, mental or psychiatric hospitals, and wards.
- The non-institutionalized population includes persons who live in group quarters other than institutions, such as college dormitories, military quarters, or group homes. These latter settings include community-based homes that provide care and supportive services, such as those with alcohol and drug addictions. This particular category also includes emergency and transitional shelters for the homeless.

The number of residents living in group quarters in Montana rose from 24,762 in 2000 to 28,849 in 2010, a growth of 16.5%. Much of this growth was driven by the rising number of Montanans in non-institutionalized facilities. By contrast, the institutionalized population fell by 1.2%, despite a 29.4% rise in those interned in correctional facilities. From 2010 to 2017, the group quarters population was relatively unchanged with 28,839 total residents in 2017, a 0.0% change from 2010 (**Table F-8**).

Table F-8 – Group Quarters Population

Group Quarters Type	2000 Census		2010 Census		% Change 00-10	2017 ACS		% Change 10–17
	Population	% of Total	Population	% of Total		Population	% of Total	
Institutionalized								
Correctional Institutions	4,124	16.7%	5,338	18.5%	29.4%	5,366	18.6%	0.5%
Juvenile Facilities	n/a	n/a	1,020	3.5%	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Nursing Homes	6,470	26.1%	5,200	18.0%	-19.6%	5,200	18%	0.0%
Other Institutions	1,474	6.0%	371	1.3%	-74.8%	1,383	4.8%	272.8%
Subtotal	12,068	48.7%	11,929	41.3%	-1.2%	11,949	41.4%	0.2%
Non-institutionalized								
College Dormitories	7,035	28.4%	8,332	28.9%	18.4%	8,346	28.9%	0.2%
Military Quarters	404	1.6%	678	2.4%	67.8%	n/a	n/a	n/a
Other Noninstitutional	5,255	21.2%	7,910	27.4%	50.5%	8,544	29.6%	8.0%
Subtotal	12,694	51.3%	16,920	58.7%	33.3%	16,890	58.6%	-0.2%
Total Group Quarters Population	24,762	100%	28,849	100%	16.5%	28,839	100%	0.0%

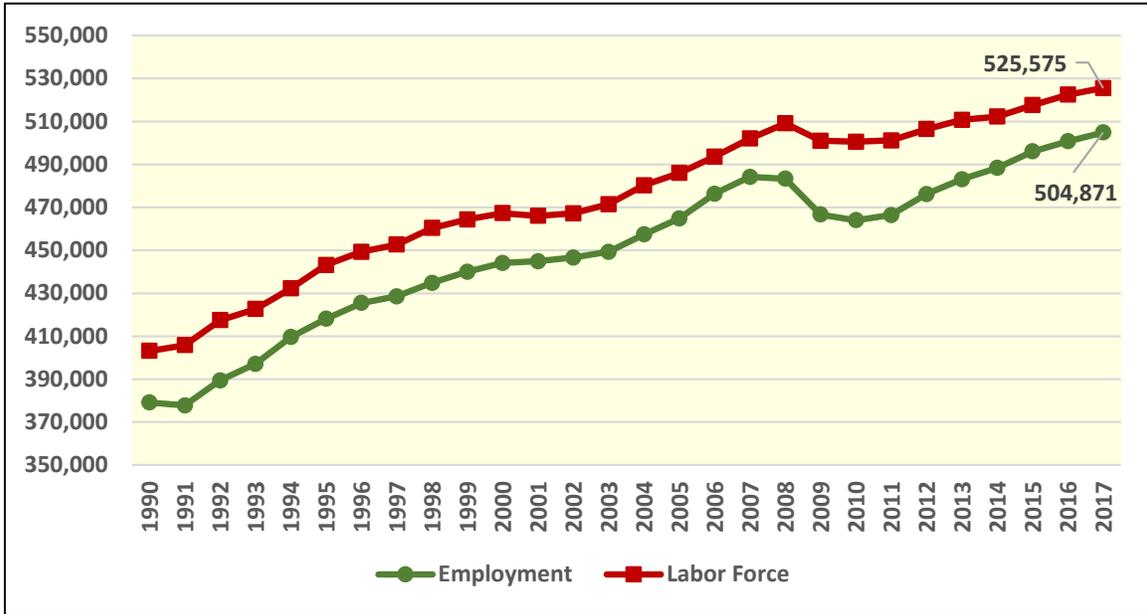
Data Source: 2000 and 2010 Census SF1 Data; 2017 5-Year ACS Data (All percent figures are relative to the Total Group Quarters Population.)

Economic Conditions

Labor Force and Employment

According to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS), the size of the labor force, which represents the number of residents either working or looking for work, and the number of workers employed in Montana have both grown considerably for more than 2 decades, though the worldwide recession in 2008 did leave its mark on the Montanan labor market. As seen in **Chart F-1** the state saw a sharp decline in employment, starting in 2008, after which employment rose as was the trend prior to the recession.

Chart F-1 – Montana’s Labor Force Statistics (1990–2017 BLS, LAUS Data)



Prior to 2007, unemployment in Montana had been on a generally downward trend for nearly 2 decades thanks to the steady growth in the number of employed persons, which slightly but consistently outpaced the rate at which new members were added to the labor force. However, a large growth in unemployment came after 2007, when the unemployment rate jumped and continued to rise until 2010. Since 2010, the unemployment rate in the state has been falling steadily, reaching 3.9% in 2017. Looking at this rate compared with the national unemployment rate, Montana has had a lower rate than the national average since 2002 as shown in **Chart F-2**.

Chart F-2 – Montana’s Unemployment Rate, Annual (1990–2017 BLS, LAUS and CPS Data)

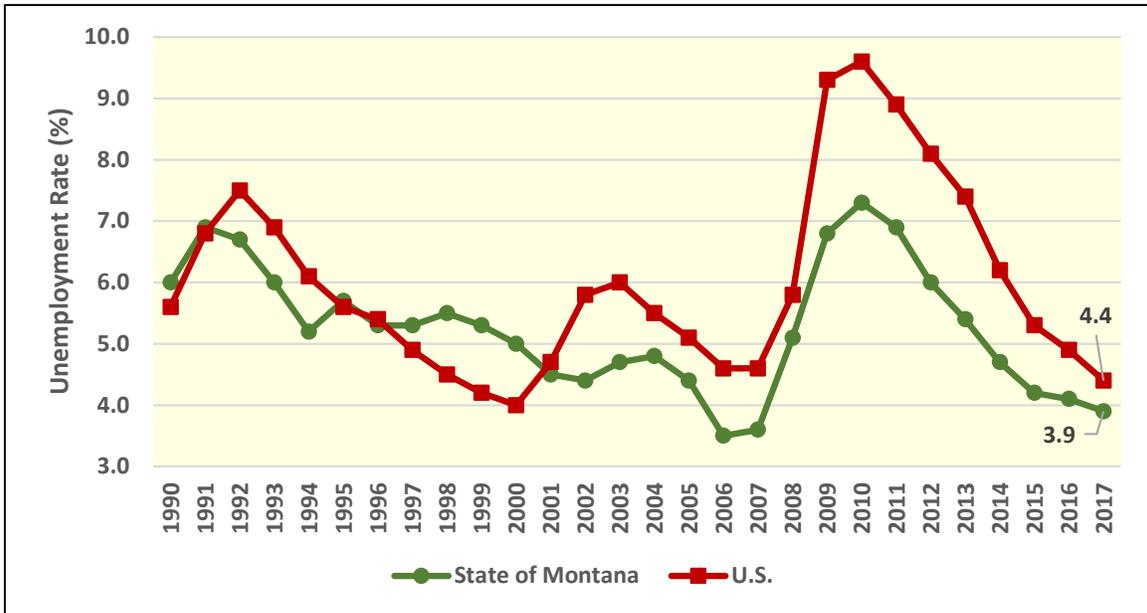
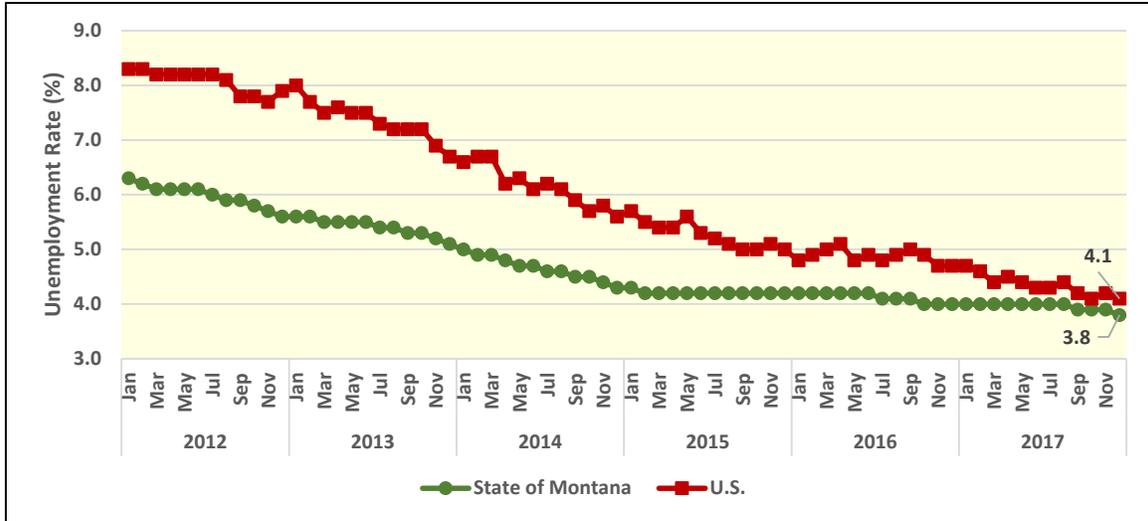


Chart F-3 shows the state’s monthly unemployment rate since 2012. The state saw its highest unemployment rate at the beginning of 2012, and it has been declining since that time, reaching 3.8% at the end of 2017.

Chart F-3 – Montana’s Unemployment Rate, Monthly (2012-2017 BLS, LAUS and CPS Data)

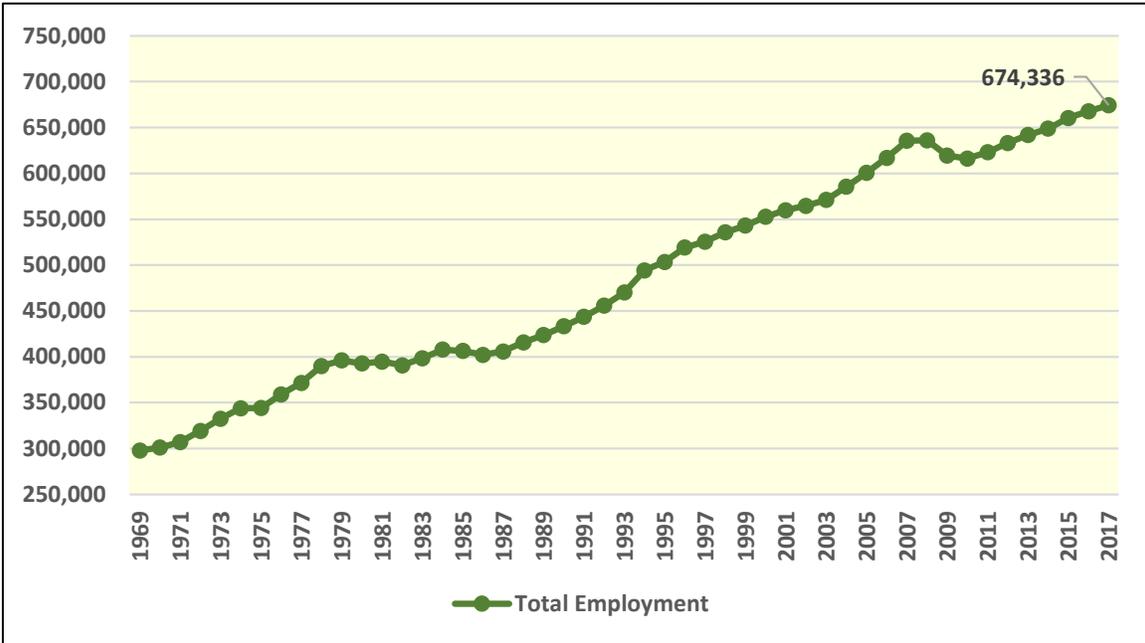


Full and Part-Time Employment

The Bureau of Economic Analysis (BEA) provides an alternate index of employment; a count of full-time and part-time jobs in the state. These data differ from the BLS data discussed previously in that they are collected where workers are employed rather than at the household level, and the same person may be counted twice in this dataset if he or she works more than one job.

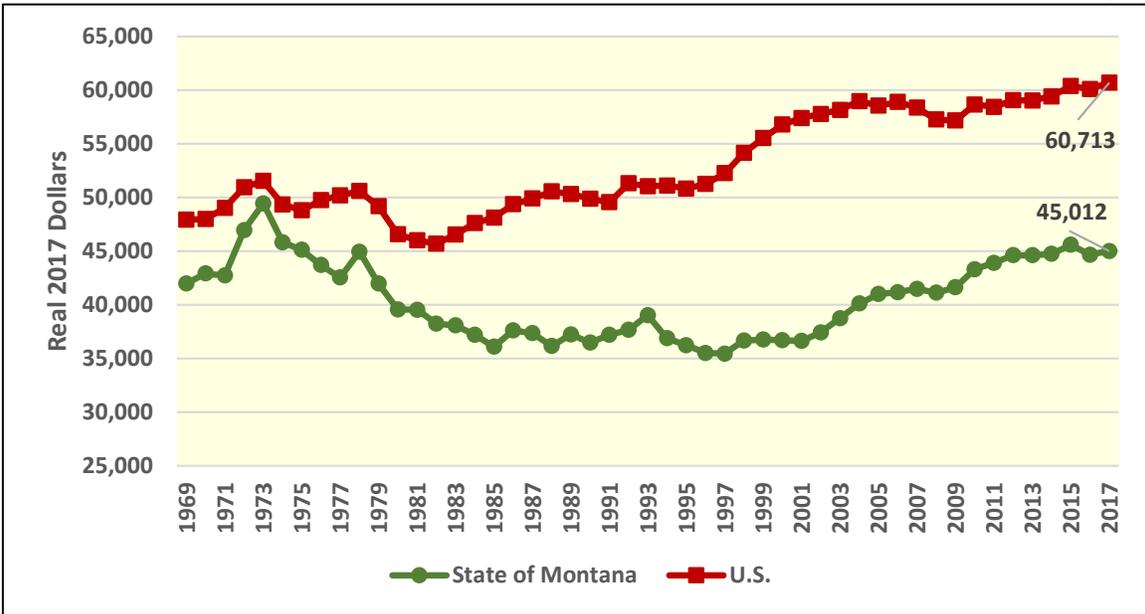
The count of jobs in the state and the count of labor force participants both yield a similar portrait; of steady growth in the labor market until 2008. In fact, the BEA data indicate that this growth has been steady since 1969, and that growth in the number of jobs has been uniformly positive for over 4 decades. In 1969, there were around 300,000 jobs in the state. By 2008, that number had grown close to 650,000. However, with the onset of the recession of the late 2000s the number of jobs in the state began to fall, and by 2010 the state had lost over 20,000 jobs. Since 2010, the number of jobs in the state has recovered, reaching 674,336 in 2017 (**Chart F-4**).

Chart F-4 – Montana’s Full- and Part-Time Employment (1969–2017 BEA Data)



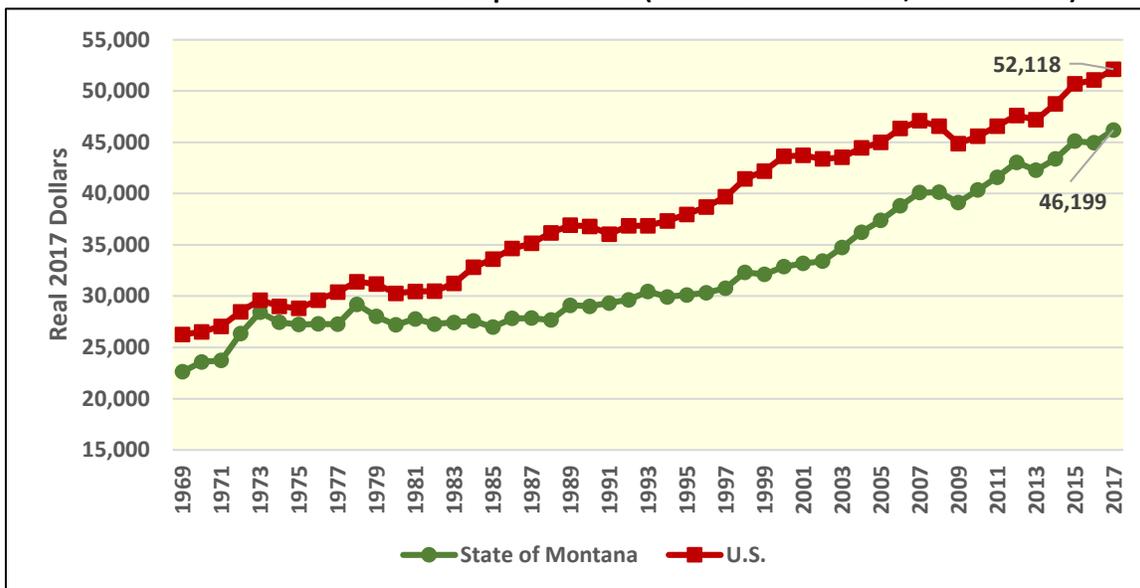
Montana’s real average earnings per job are presented in **Chart F-5**, which reveals a general upward trend in earnings since about 2000. In 2017, real average earnings were \$45,012 per job, which was lower than the national average of \$60,713.

Chart F-5 – Montana’s Real Average Earnings Per Job (1969–2017 BEA Data, 2017 Dollars)



Growth in real per capita income (PCI), which is defined as the total personal income from all sources divided by the number of residents in the state, was smoother than growth in wages during the period from 1969 to 2017. The gap between Montana and the nation has widened slightly since the 1980s but has begun to narrow slightly since the recession. Real PCI fell in the state of Montana after 2008, consistent with the nation. However, it began to climb and is now higher than it was prior to the recession. This is shown in **Chart F-6**.

Chart F-6 – Montana’s Real Per Capita Income (1969–2017 BEA Data, 2017 Dollars)



Poverty

The Census Bureau uses a set of income thresholds that vary by family size and composition to determine poverty status. If a family’s total income is less than the threshold for that size family, then that family, and every individual in it, is considered poor. The poverty thresholds do not vary geographically, but they are updated annually for inflation using the Consumer Price Index. The official poverty definition counts monetary income earned before taxes and does not include capital gains and non-cash benefits such as public housing, Medicaid, and food stamps. Poverty is not defined for persons in military barracks and institutional group quarters or unrelated individuals under the age of 15, such as foster children. These groups are excluded from poverty calculations, as they are considered neither poor nor non-poor.

In Montana the poverty rate in 2000 was 14.6%, with 128,355 persons living in poverty. The state had over 14,000 children under the age of 6 living in poverty in 2000, and another 28,554 children between the ages of 6 and 17 living in poverty. By 2010, there were 16,451 children under the age of 6 living in poverty, and 25,549 children between the ages of 6 to 17 living in poverty. In 2017 the number of children in poverty declined from 2010, with 14,584 children under the age of 6 living in poverty and 24,231 children between the ages of 6 and 17 living in poverty. The group experiencing the highest rate of poverty in all years—2000, 2010, and 2017—was persons age 18 to 64. This group’s percentage of the total population in poverty increased each year, culminating in 63.3% of the total population in 2017. The elderly (age 65 and older) also saw increases over this period, culminating in 9.8% of the total population in poverty by 2017. Of note, Montana’s overall poverty rate decreased slightly from 14.6% in 2000 to 14.4% in 2017 (**Table F-9**).

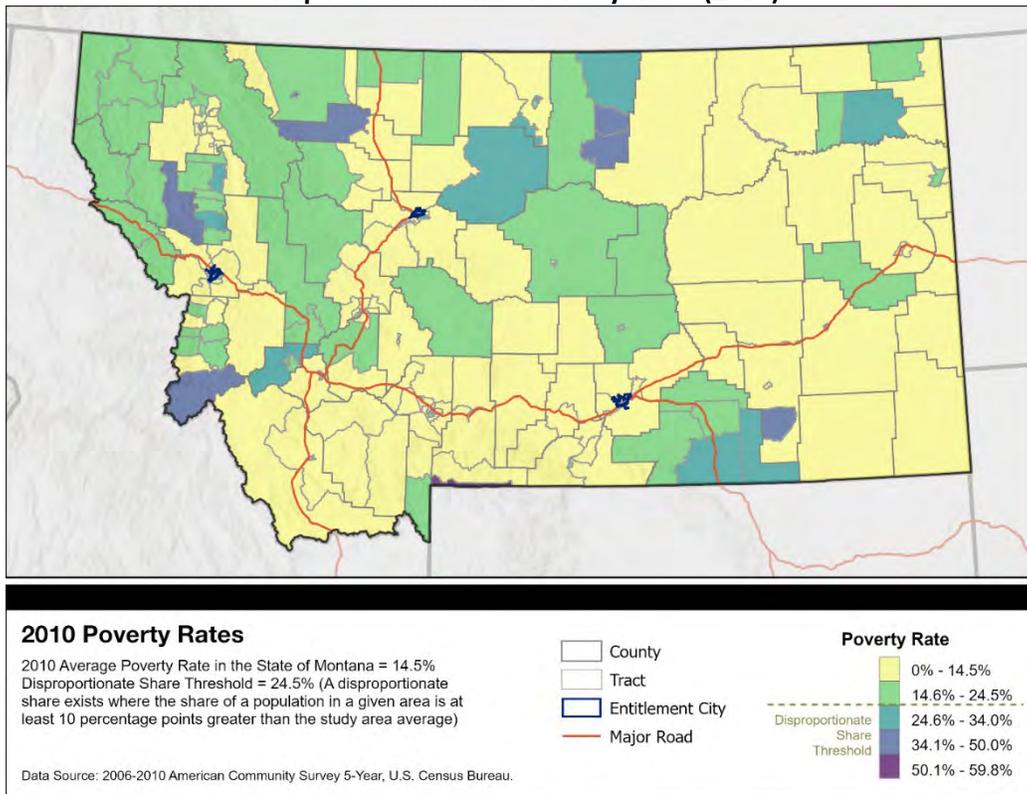
Table F-9 – Poverty by Age

Age	2000 Census		2010 ACS		2017 ACS	
	Persons in Poverty	% of Total	Persons in Poverty	% of Total	Persons in Poverty	% of Total
Under 6	14,358	11.2%	16,451	11.9%	14,584	10.1%
6 to 17	28,554	22.2%	25,549	18.5%	24,231	16.8%
18 to 64	75,074	58.5%	84,193	61.0%	91,213	63.3%
65 or Older	10,369	8.1%	11,916	8.6%	14,170	9.8%
Total	128,355	100%	138,109	100%	144,198	100%
Poverty Rate	14.6%	--	14.5%	--	14.4%	--

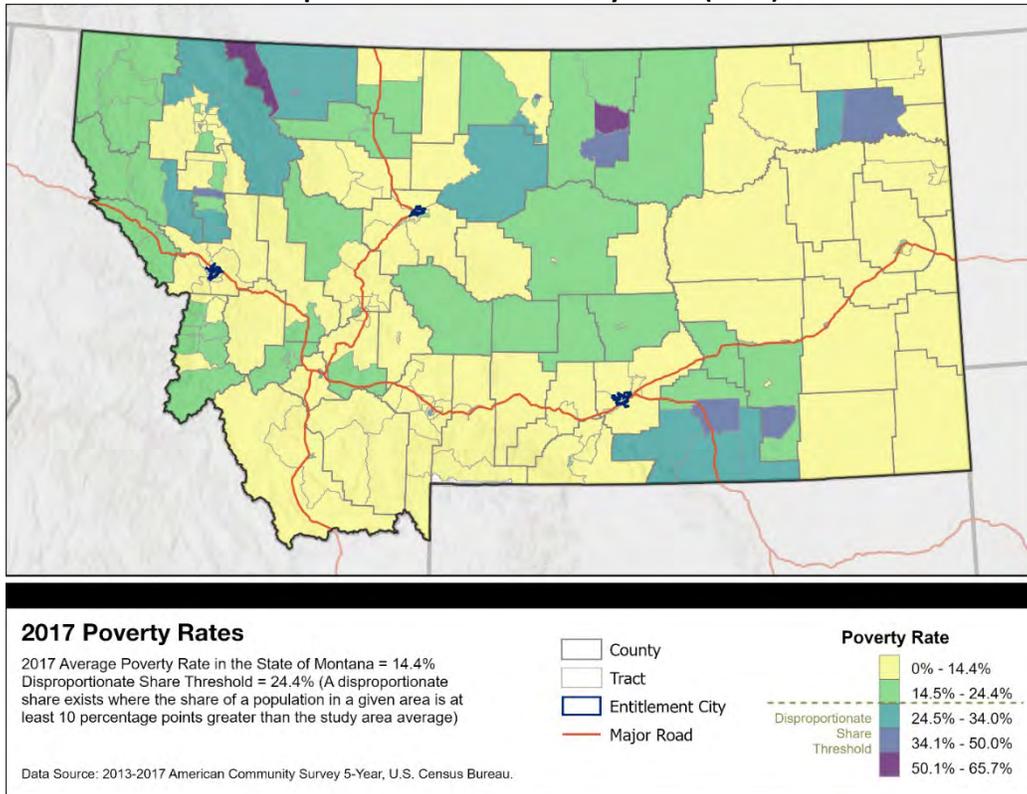
Data Source: 2000 Census SF3 Data; 2010 and 2017 5-Year ACS Data

Maps F-8 and F-9 show shifts in concentrations of poverty and areas of disproportionate poverty throughout the state during 2010 and 2017. Montana saw some areas with higher concentrations of poverty in 2017 than it did in 2010.

Map F-8 – Montana’s Poverty Rates (2010)



Map F-9 – Montana’s Poverty Rates (2017)



More recent poverty data for Montana, extracted from the Census Bureau’s Small Area Income and Poverty Estimates (SAIPE) program. Having held steady between 13.3% and 14.6% for most of the decade, the poverty rate increased to 15.0 in 2009 and rose slightly each following year. As of 2012 the poverty rate was at 15.6, close to the national poverty rate of 15.9 for the same year.

Despite the level of poverty in Montana, HUD’s estimate of the median family income increased from 2000 through 2013. During this thirteen year period, the median family income increased from \$39,900 to \$58,500. The biggest growth was seen between 2003 and 2004, with an 8.4% increase. Since 2010, growth has slowed, with only 5.4% increase in median family income between 2010 and 2014.

Summary

Between 1980 and 2013, the population in Montana increased from 902,195 to just over 1 million. By 2017, the population in Montana was 1,029,862, which represents a growth rate of 4.09% from 2010. The majority of the population in Montana is white; however, other racial and ethnic groups are growing at generally faster rates than the white population. The largest proportion of Montana’s population is 35 to 54 years old, and Montana is aging, with its fastest-growing cohort in 2017 consisting of those age 65 and older and its second and third fastest growing cohorts consisting of those age 20 to 24 and 55 to 64, respectively. Montana’s population is expected to continue growing and aging into the future.

With the exception of the 2008 recession, Montana’s economy has shown steady growth as reflected by labor force, employment, and wage and income data. Economic trends in Montana have generally mirrored trends nationally, with few exceptions.

Poverty rates in Montana have ranged from just over 13% to more than 16%. Montana’s highest poverty rates correspond with the 2008 recession with recovery beginning in 2015 (**Table F-10**). Of all years analyzed (since 2000), 2017 was Montana’s lowest poverty rate at 12.7%; however, 2017 data show that poverty concentration is occurring in some areas of the state.

Table F-10 – Poverty Rate

Year	Individuals in Poverty	Poverty Rate
2000	117,677	13.3%
2001	124,776	14.0%
2002	126,154	14.0%
2003	129,109	14.2%
2004	125,081	13.6%
2005	132,226	14.6%
2006	132,537	14.4%
2007	131,433	14.1%
2008	132,971	14.1%
2009	142,257	15.0%
2010	146,257	15.2%
2011	148,183	15.2%
2012	153,105	15.6%
2013	159,248	16.1%
2014	151,915	15.2%
2015	144,634	14.4%
2016	136,439	13.4%
2017	130,616	12.7%

Data Source: Census Bureau SAIPE Poverty Estimates, 2000-2017