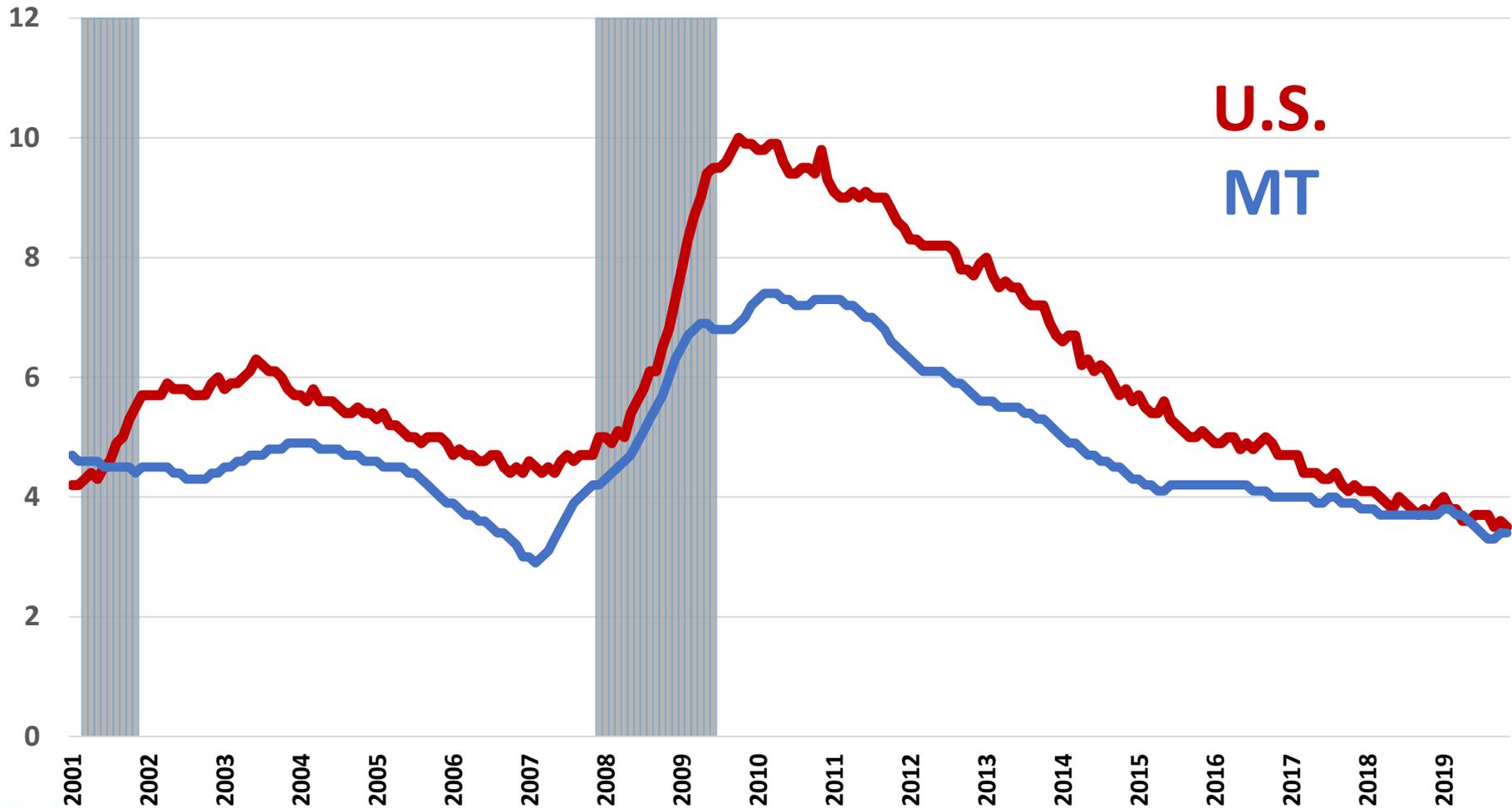


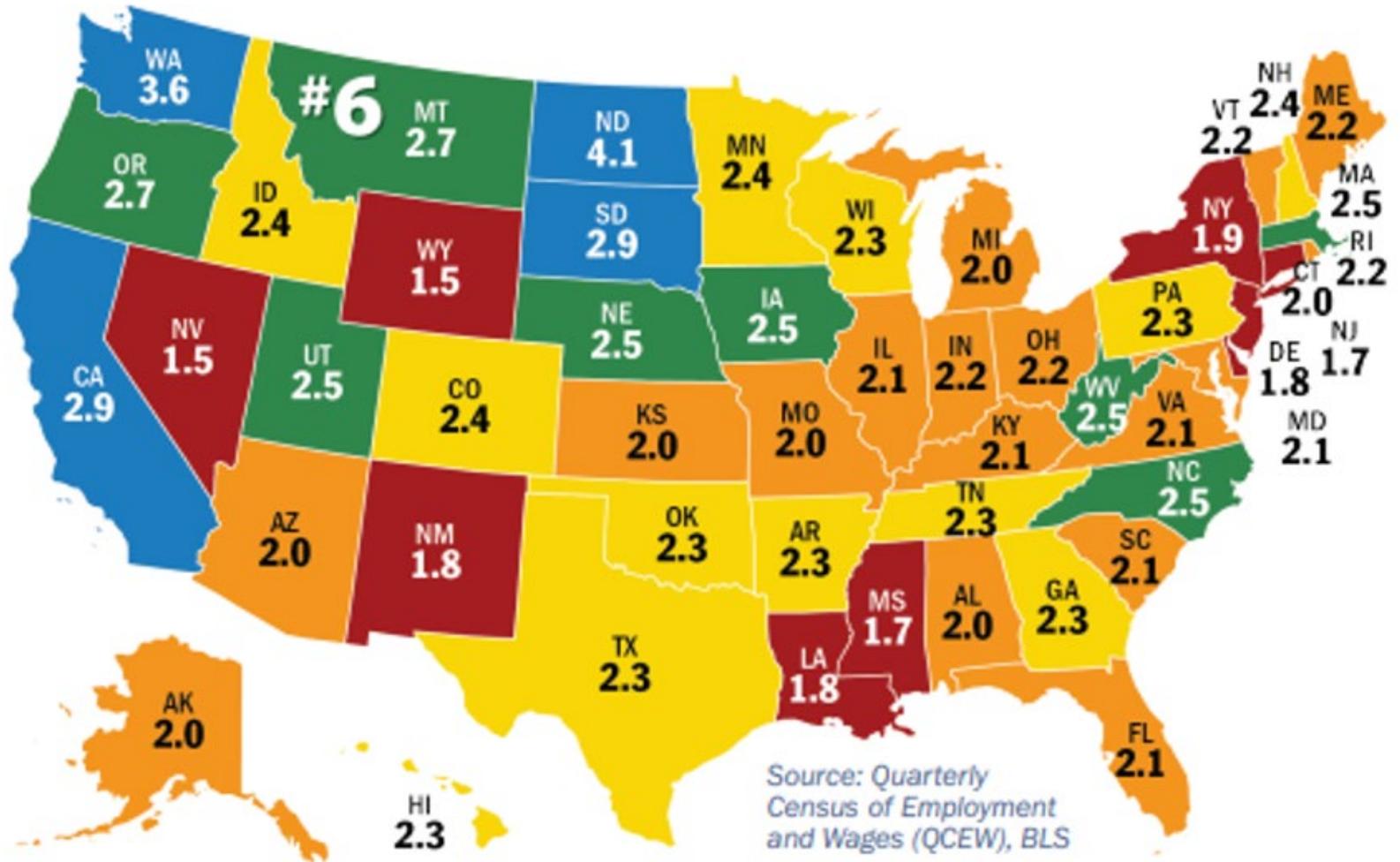


# Montana Economic Update

# Montana and U.S. Unemployment Rates

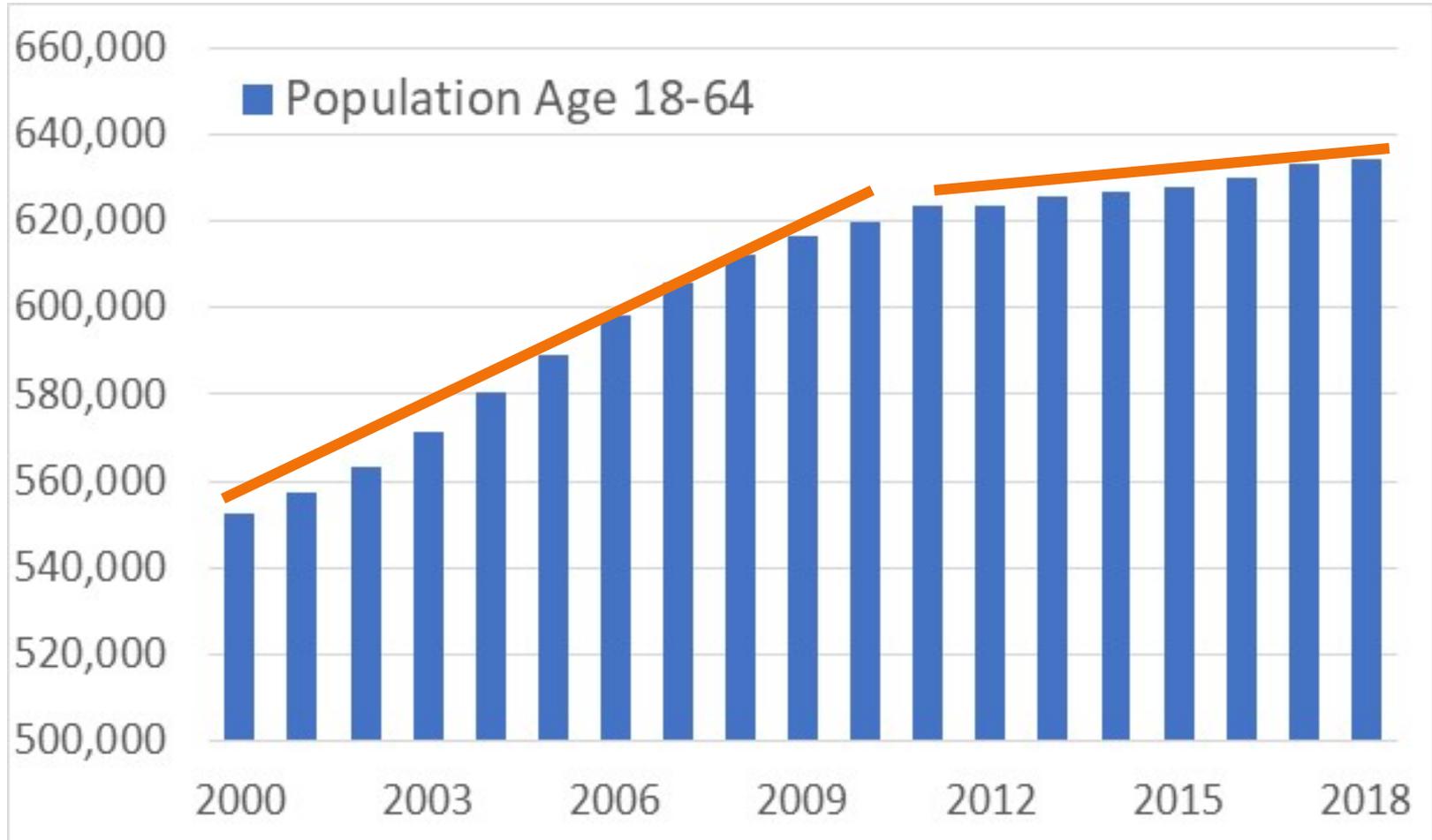


# 10-Year Wage Growth by State





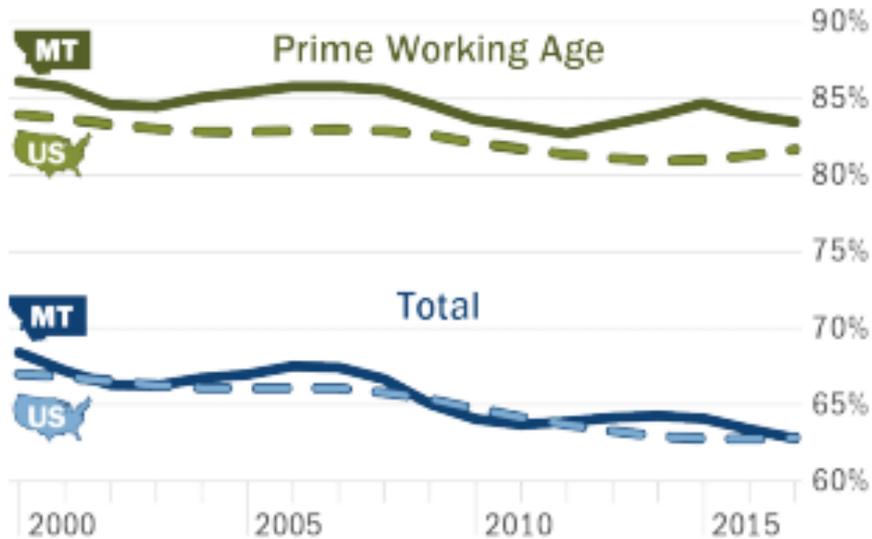
# Montana's Aging Population



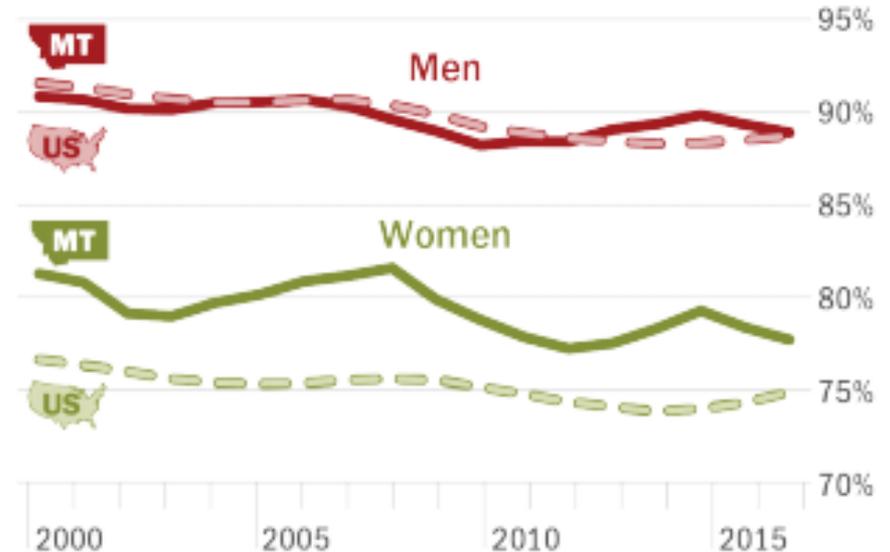


# Labor Force Participation

## Labor Force Participation Rates



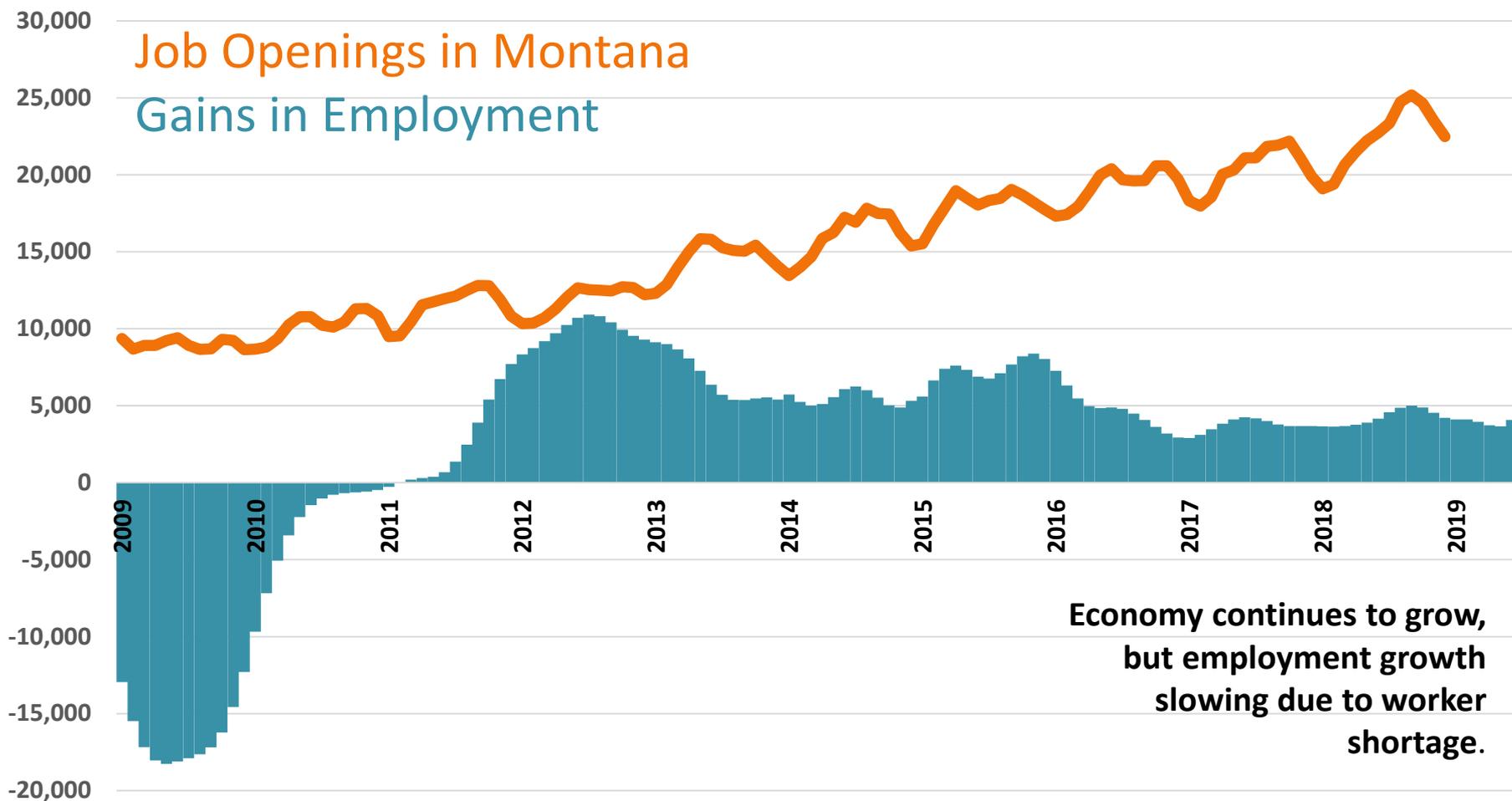
## LFPRs of the Prime Working Age by Gender



Source: Data for LFPRs by demographic is from the Bureau of Labor Statistics CPS. Note: LFPRs shown in this graph are a three-year moving average of the annual rates.

Prime working age = 25 to 54

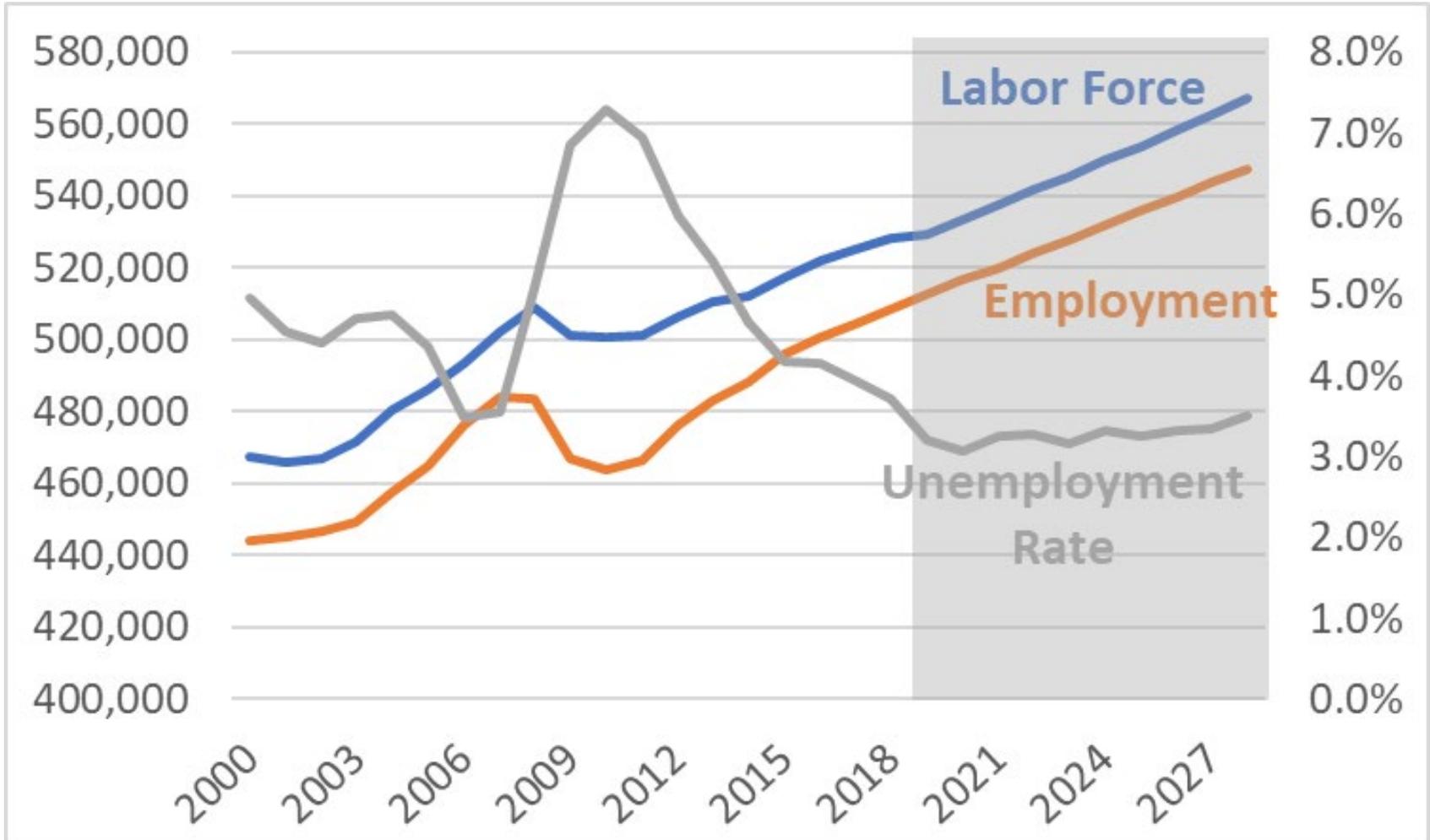
# Over-the-Year Employment Gains and Job Openings



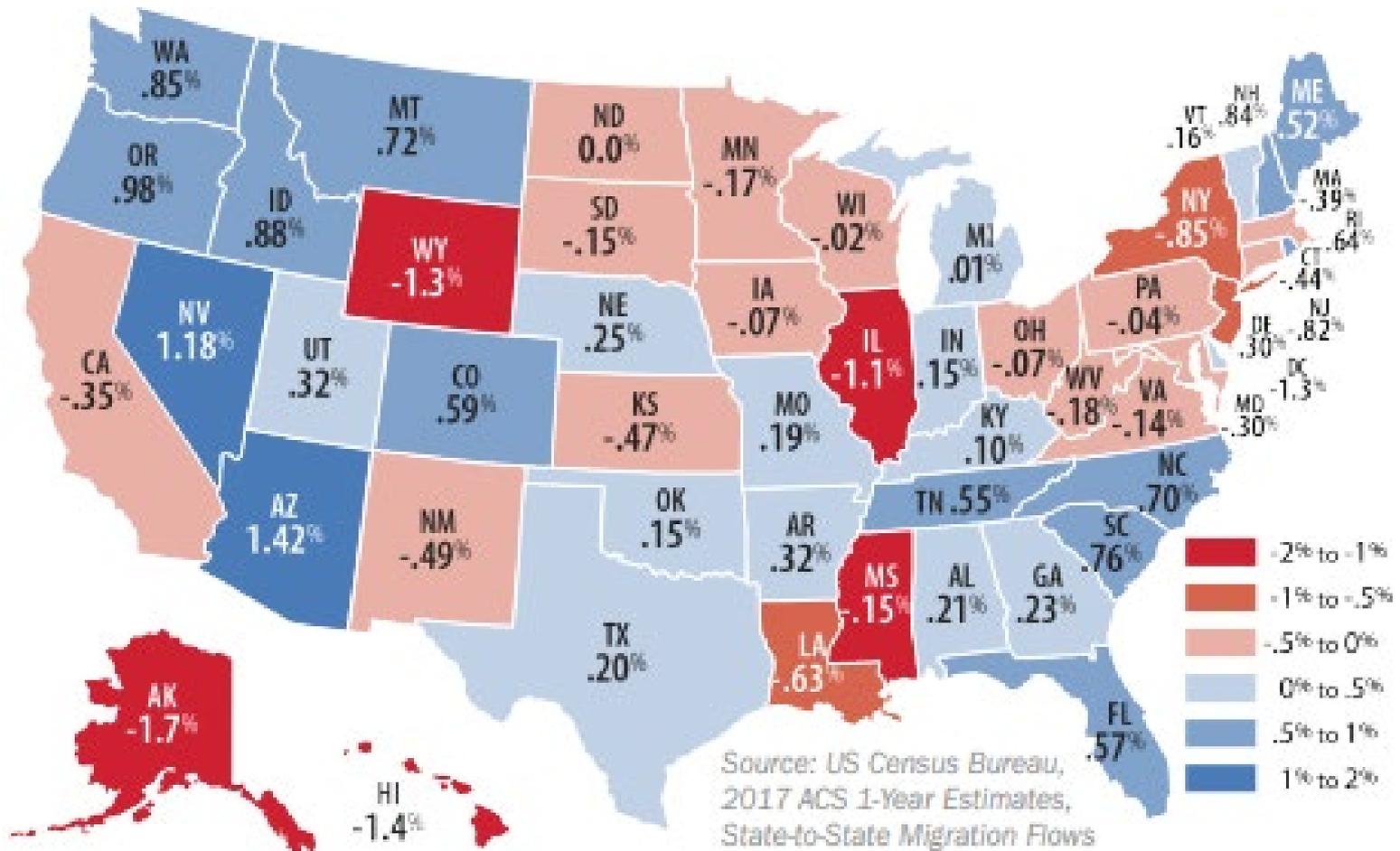
**Economy continues to grow,  
but employment growth  
slowing due to worker  
shortage.**



# Unemployment Rate



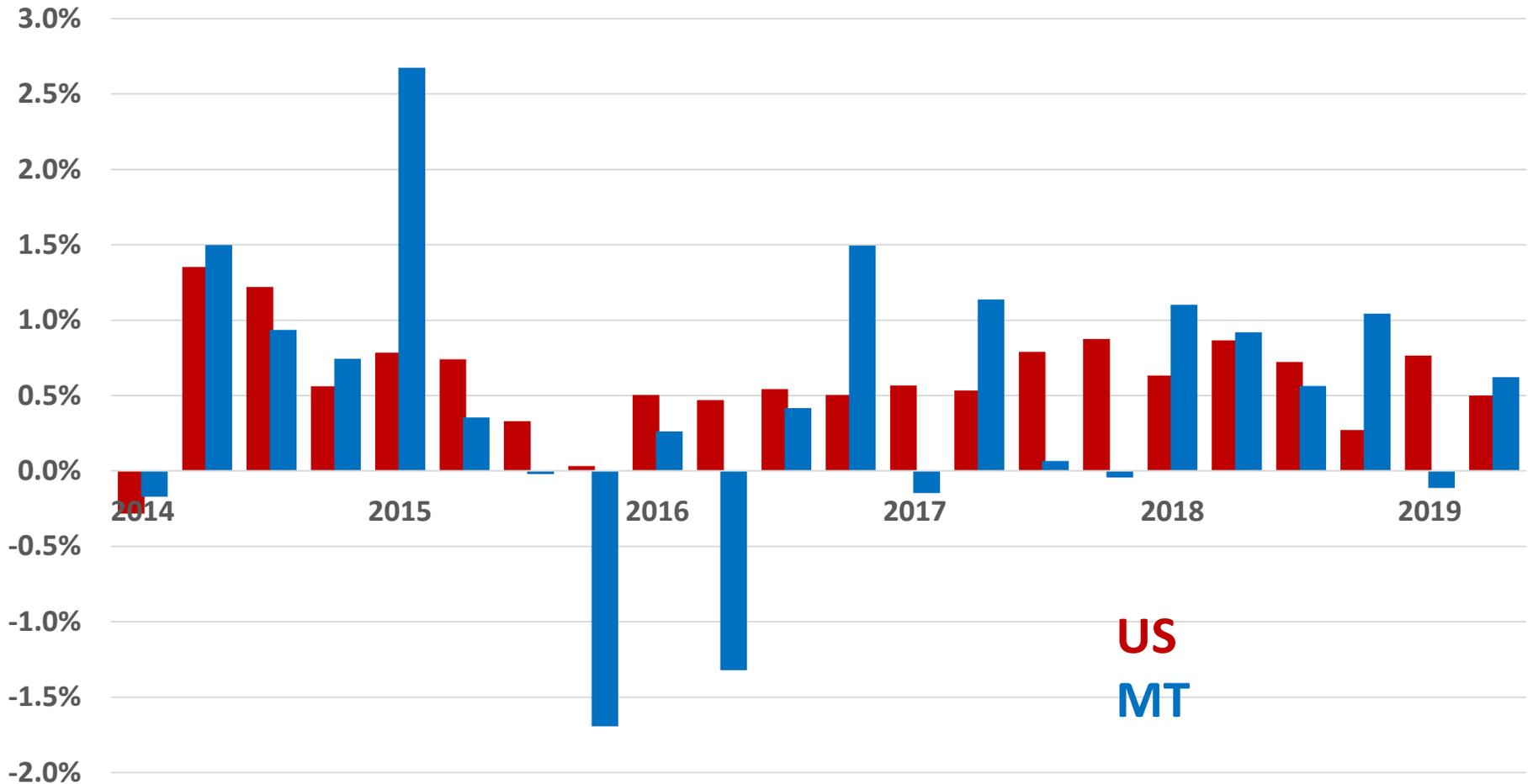
# Net Migration by State





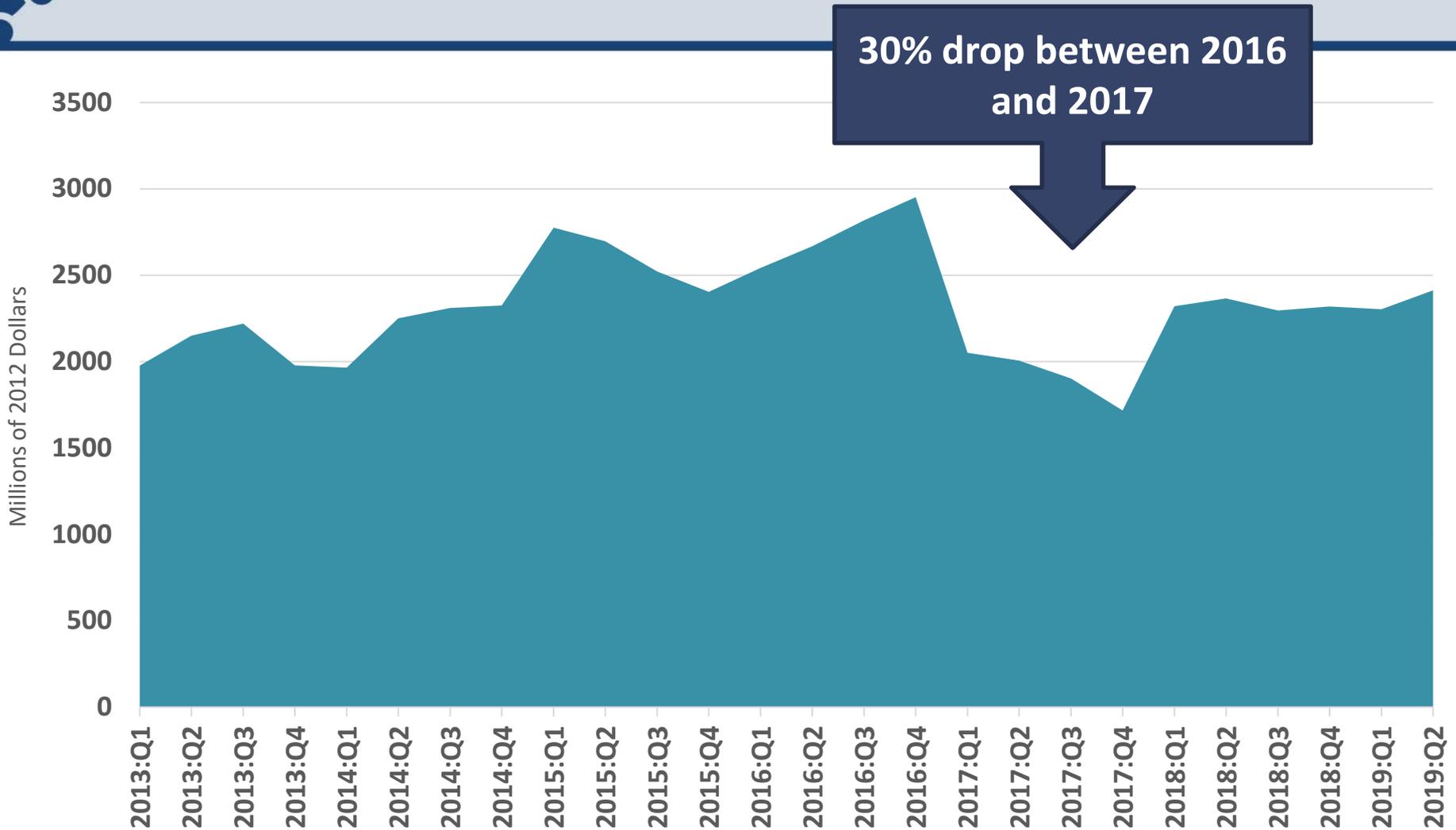


# Quarterly GDP Growth



US  
MT

# Montana Real Agriculture GDP



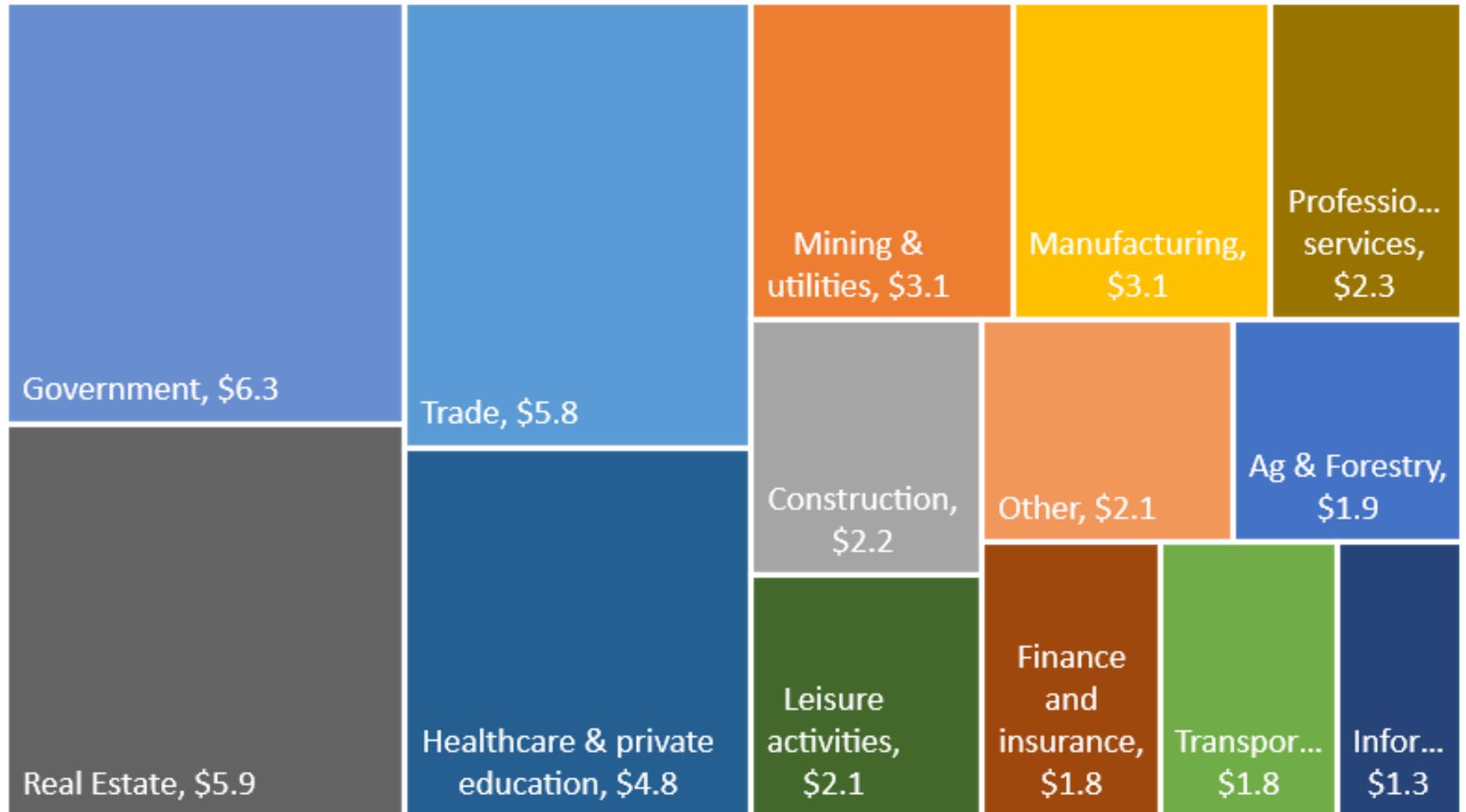
30% drop between 2016 and 2017



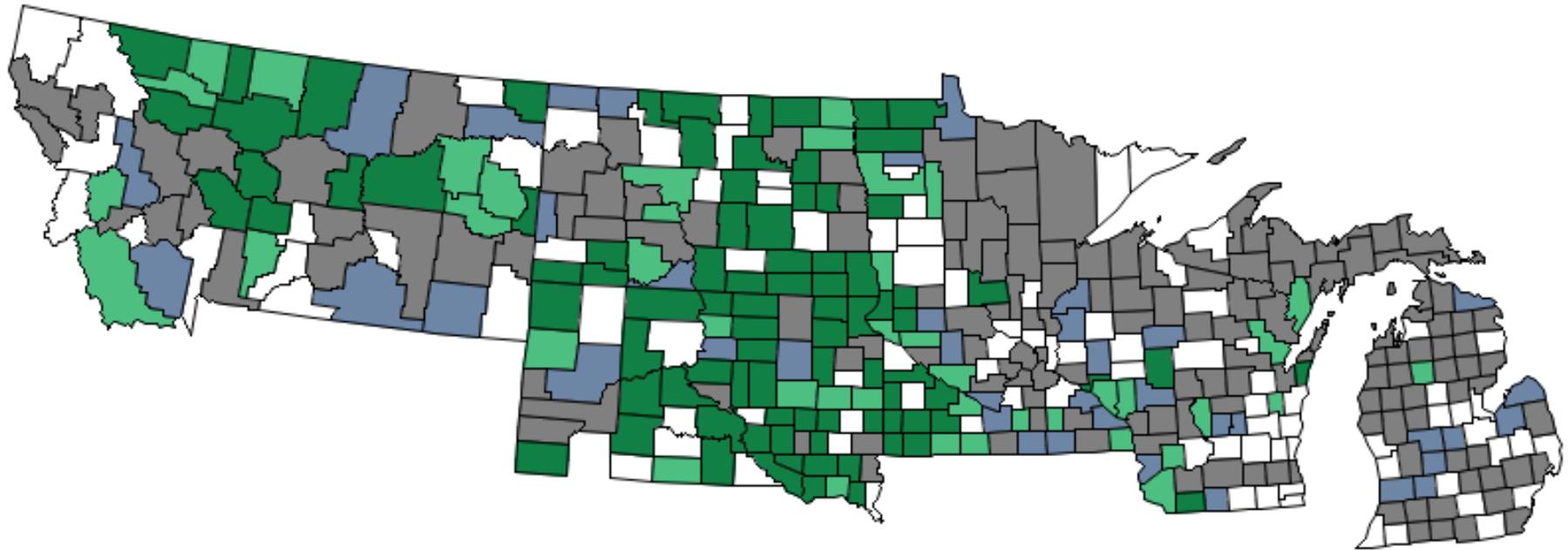


# Montana 2018 Real GDP by Industry

(billions of 2012 dollars)



# Agriculture as Percent of Total GDP



Share    -0.01    Less than 5%    5% to 10%    10% to 20%    Over 20%



# Ag impact

- Recent study found counties with high exposure to retaliatory tariffs (high relative ag exposure) experienced:
  - consumption drops of 3.8% to 5.5%
  - consumption decrease of \$1,600 per worker
  - 1% to 1.5% slowdown in job growth

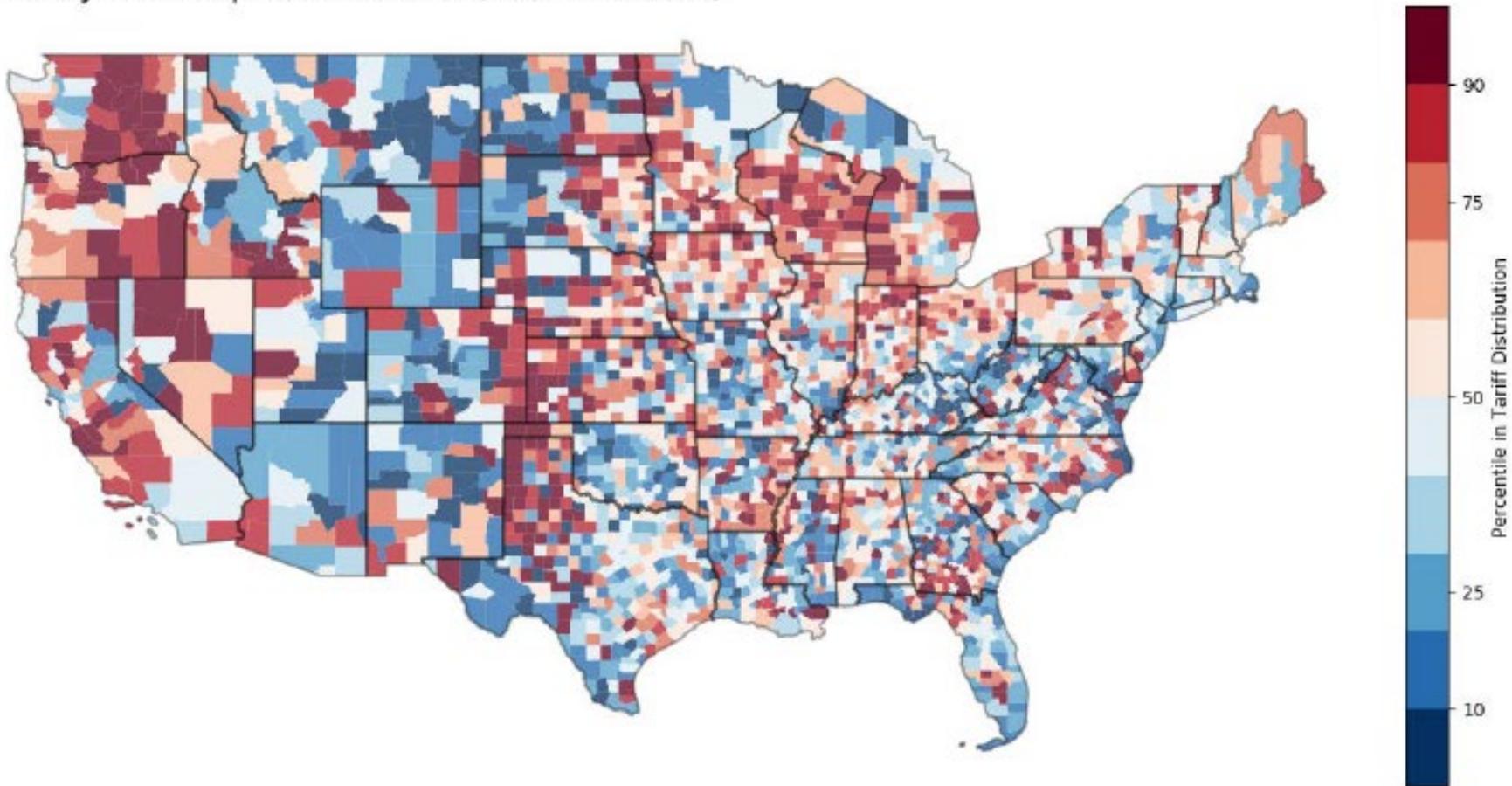
*Waugh, Michael. 2019. Working paper 26353, National Bureau of Economic Research*





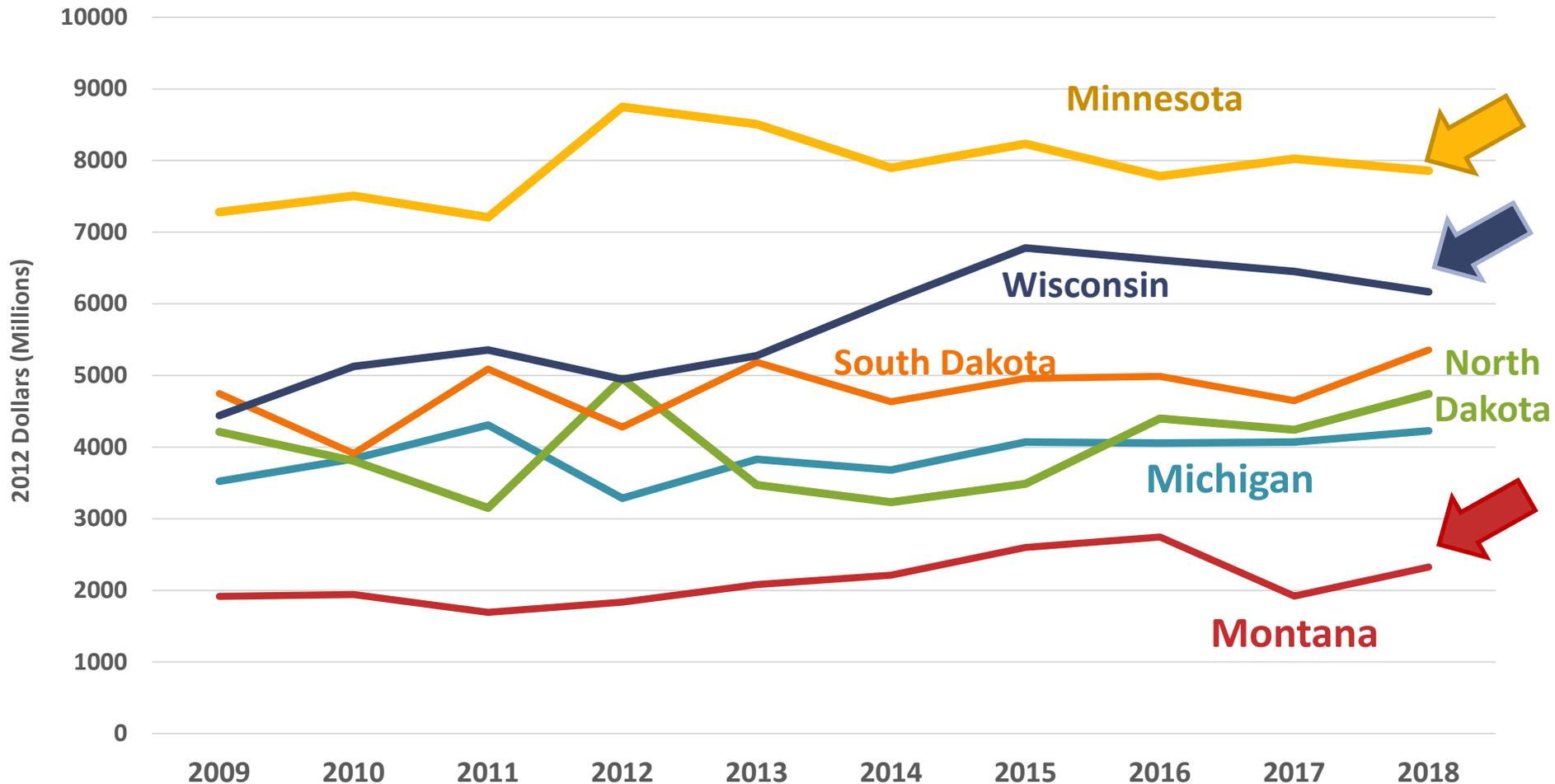
# Tariff Exposure to China from Waugh Research

US County Tariff Exposure to China (as of Dec 2018)





# Real GDP by States in the 9<sup>th</sup> District

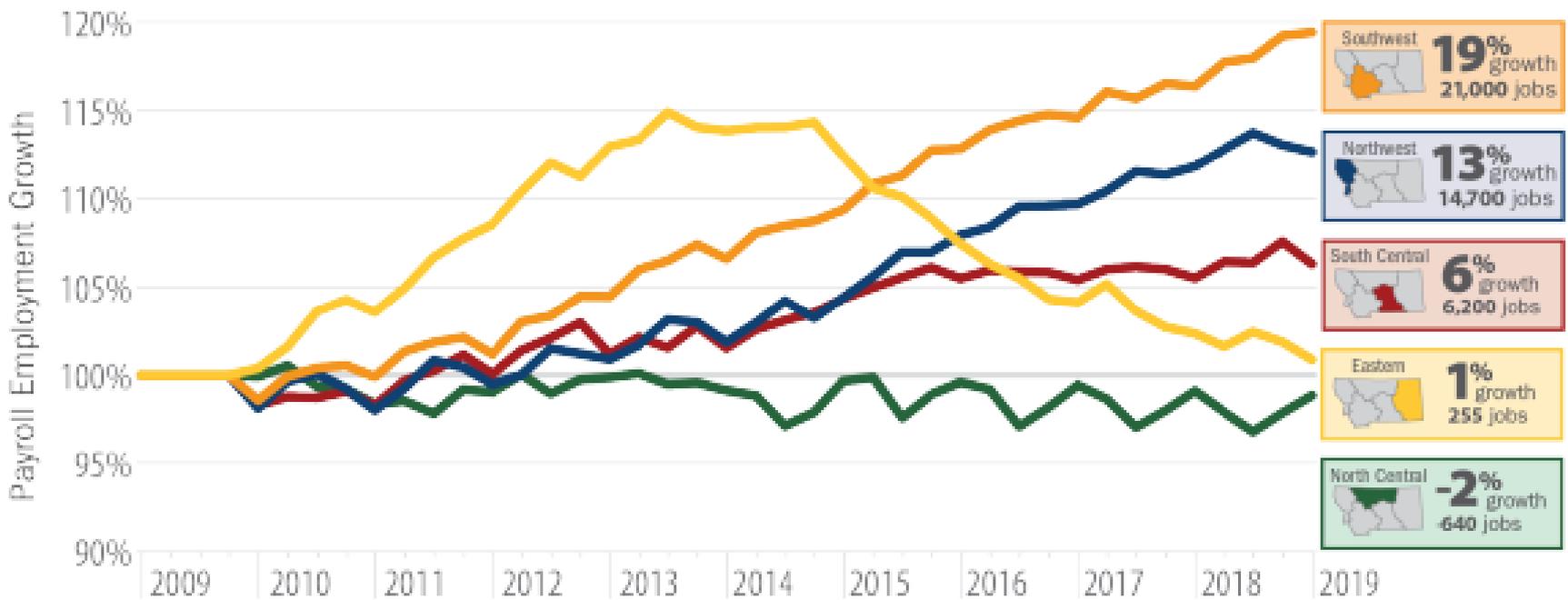






# Regional Job Growth

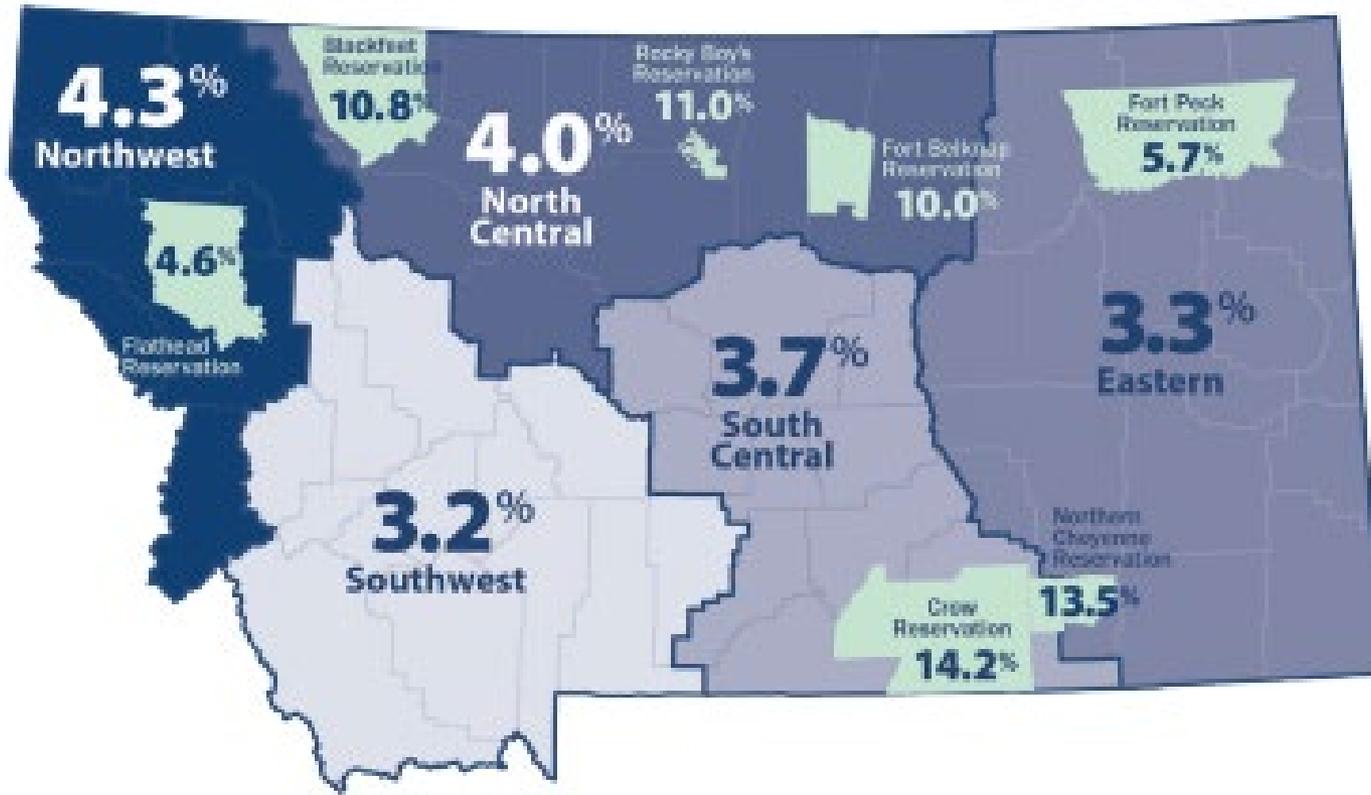
Indexed to 2009 Employment



Source: QCEW, BLS and MTDLI. Quarterly data indexed to 2007 same quarter employment.



# 2018 Regional Unemployment Rates

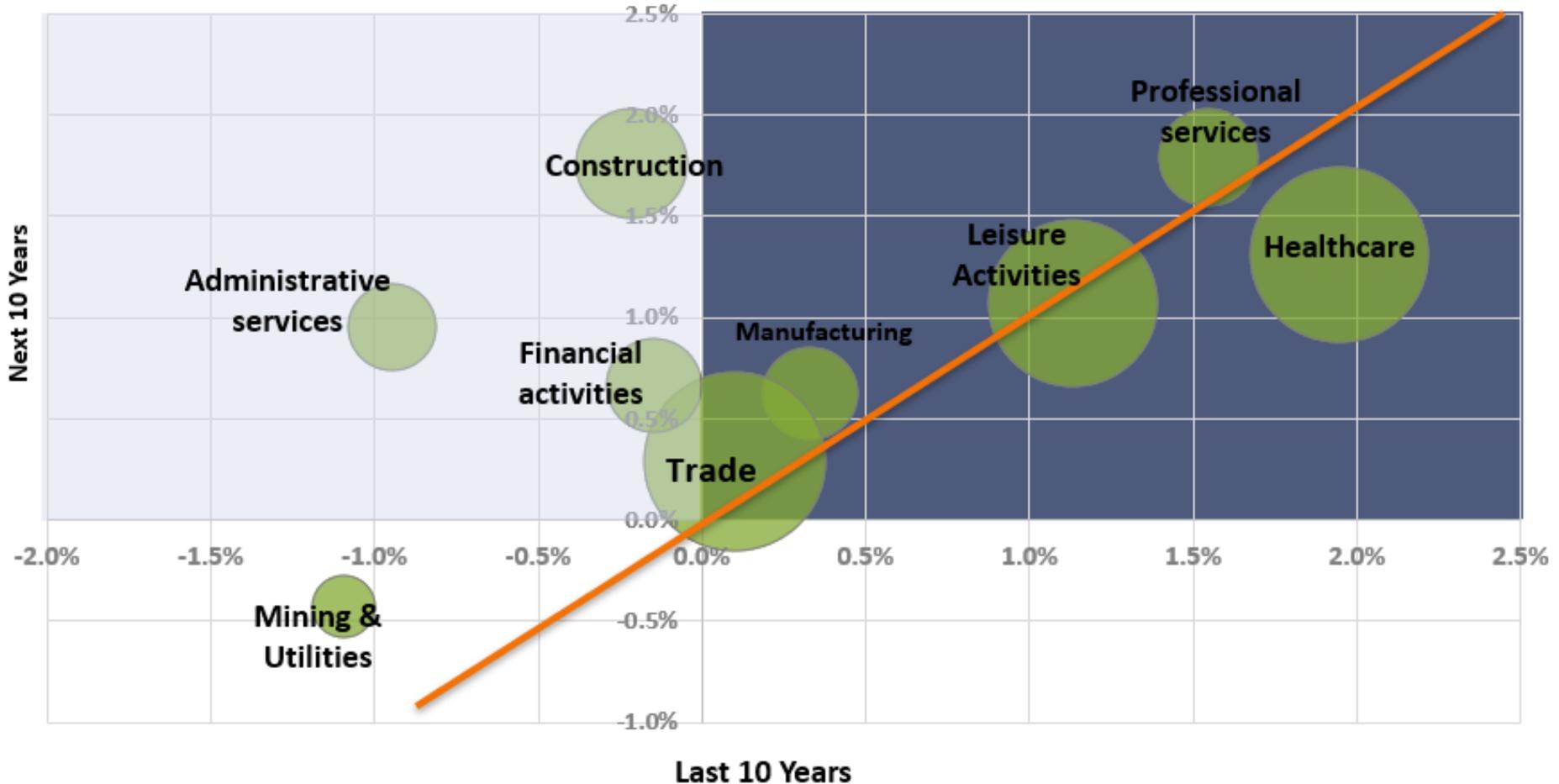


Source: LAUS, MTDLI



# Industry Projections

Forecasted and Historic Employment Growth by Industry





# Colstrip Power Plant Closure

- Units 1 & 2 Closed January 2020
  - Legal settlement required partial closure by 2022.
  - Represent roughly 30% of plant's production / coal use / tax base
- Full closure to around 2027, 2030, or 2035?
  - Most companies will fully depreciate by 2027

**Restoration  
Economic Impact  
and Duration Still  
Unclear**





# Take Away Points

- Montana's economy is growing with strong wage gains.
- Not without challenges.
  - Tight labor markets
  - Agriculture recovery
  - Loss of coal exports & power generation
- Transitioning to less industrial economy.
  - Growth professional service, technology, healthcare

# More Information at [Imi.mt.gov](http://Imi.mt.gov)

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