What’s Happening in Big Sky Country?

• Rapid Recovery from Pandemic Recession
  • Jobs recovered by May 2021
  • GDP recovered by 2020 Q3

• Growth Moderates in 2022

• Headwinds to Future Economic Growth
  1. Tight labor markets
  2. Inflation
Real GDP Growth

Source: US Bureau of Economic Analysis
Rapid Employment Growth

Average from 2011 to 2019 = 1.3% or 6,500 per year

2020 to 2022 = 3.5% or 18,300 jobs

2.8xs FASTER

Source: LAUS, BLS & MTDLI
More Workers (and People) Than Ever Before

Population 2022 based on 2021 estimate projected by average growth rate over past three years.

Employment ~25,300 more people than pre-pandemic

Labor Force ~20,900 more people than pre-pandemic

Population: ~32,600 more than pre-pandemic

*Population 2022 based on 2021 estimate projected by average growth rate over past three years.
Unemployment Rate Hits Record Low

The number of long-term unemployed fell 56% to a record low in 2022.

Source: CPS and LAUS, BLS & MTDLI
Over 2 Job Openings for Every Person!

2009 Recession: 3 People Per Job Opening
Pre-Pandemic: 1.4 Job Openings Per Person
Now: 2.7 Jobs Per Person

2003-2022

Labor Force Participation Rate Dropping In MT and Nationwide

Source: CPS and LAUS, BLS & MTDLI

Baby Boomers Hit Retirement Age

MT 62.4%

US 62.1%

Montana Department of LABOR & INDUSTRY

Source: CPS and LAUS, BLS & MTDLI
Retirements on the Rise

Source: CPS and LAUS, BLS & MTDLI

- Retired 203,000
- School 35,000
- Illness/Disability 42,000
- Caring for Family 34,000
- Other 13,000
Childcare Meets 43% of Demand

Source: 2017-2021 ACS 5-Year Estimates and average licensed child care capacity in 2022 as reported by Montana Department of Health and Human Services.
Labor Underutilization of Parents

Source: CPS and LAUS, BLS & MTDLI

- 20,000
- 40,000
- 60,000
- 80,000
- 100,000
- 120,000

2017  2018  2019  2020  2021  2022

61,900 Pre-Recession
71,400 Recession Peak
69,200 Current

Parents Working Reduced Hours
Absent or Part-Time Due to Family Responsibilities
Not in the Labor Force Due to Family Responsibilities

Source: CPS and LAUS, BLS & MTDLI
Real Wage and Income Growth

Source: US BLS and Montana Dept. of Labor and Industry, QCEW and CPI-U. Bureau of Economic Analysis Per Capita Income. Over-the-year change in real average weekly wage growth as of Q2.
54% Increase in Median Home Price Since 2015

Source: Census Bureau American Community Survey 2021 1-Year Estimates. Regional MLS Median Sales Price.
Montana ranks 2\textsuperscript{nd} in the nation for largest percentage of in-migration from 2020 to 2022.

- Net in-migration of 41,000 people from 2020 to 2022, which represents 3.8\% of our population.
- Average 6,200 net in-migrants moving to Montana each year from 2010 to 2019.
More Information at lmi.mt.gov

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