Montana Economic Update



Presented at the Minneapolis Federal Reserve REC Conference

January 13th, 2023



AMY WATSON, State Economist Montana Dept. of Labor & Industry awatson@mt.gov | 406-444-3245



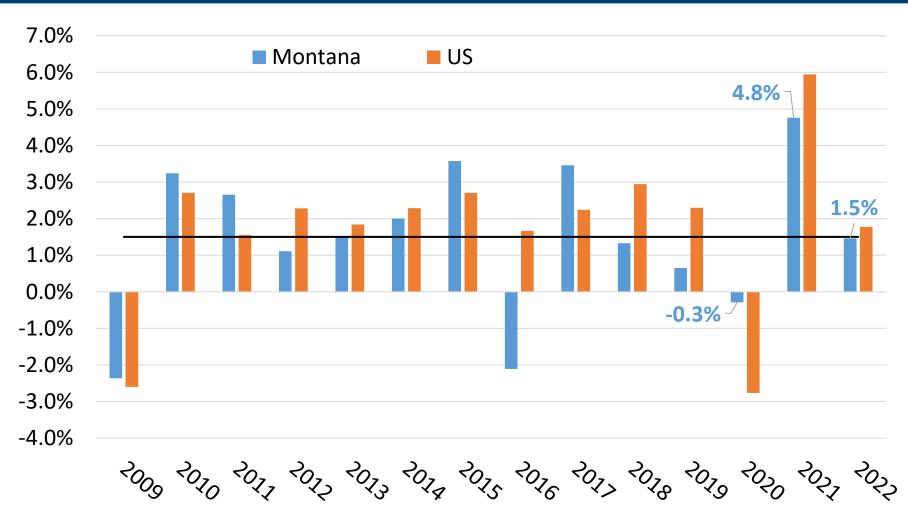
What's Happening in Big Sky Country?

- 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





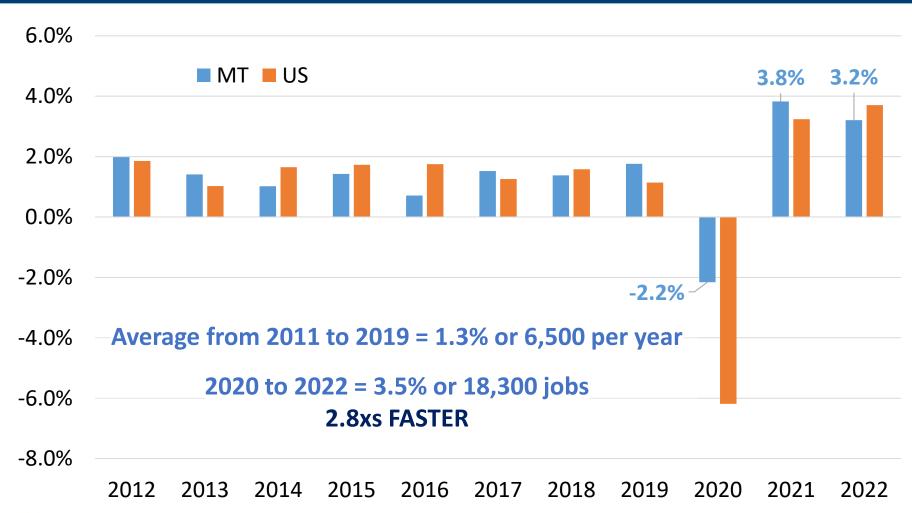
Real GDP Growth







Rapid Employment Growth

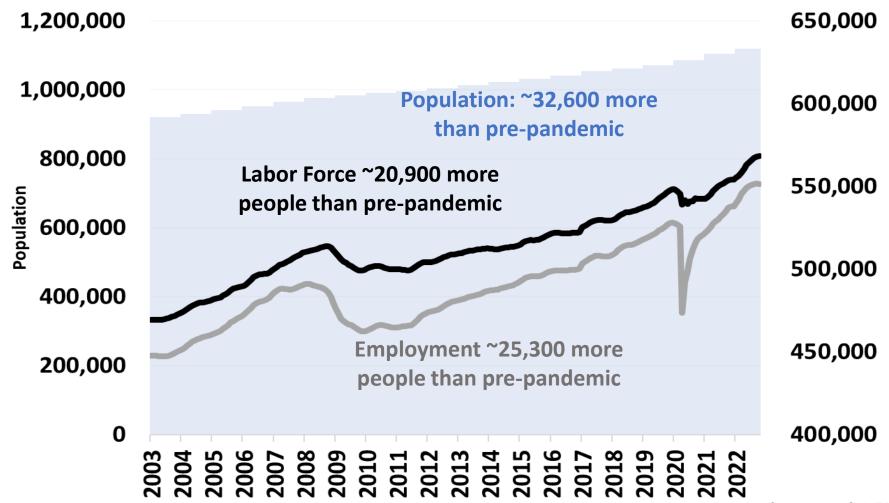




Source: LAUS, BLS & MTDLI



More Workers (and People) Than Ever Before

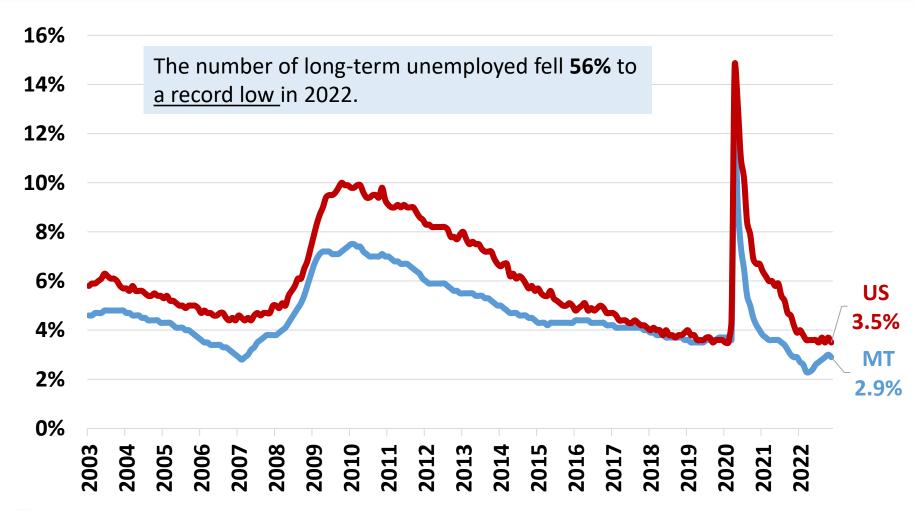




Source: LAUS, MTDLI.



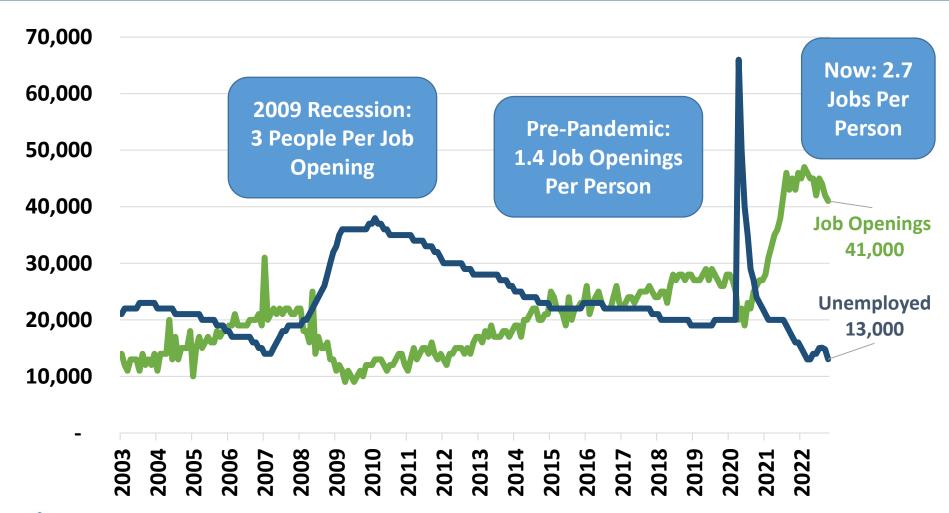
Unemployment Rate Hits Record Low







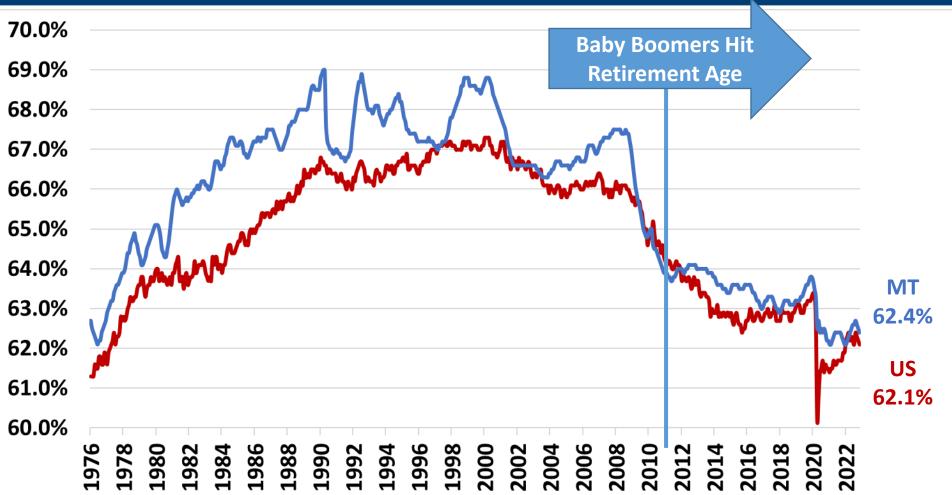
Over 2 Job Openings for Every Person!







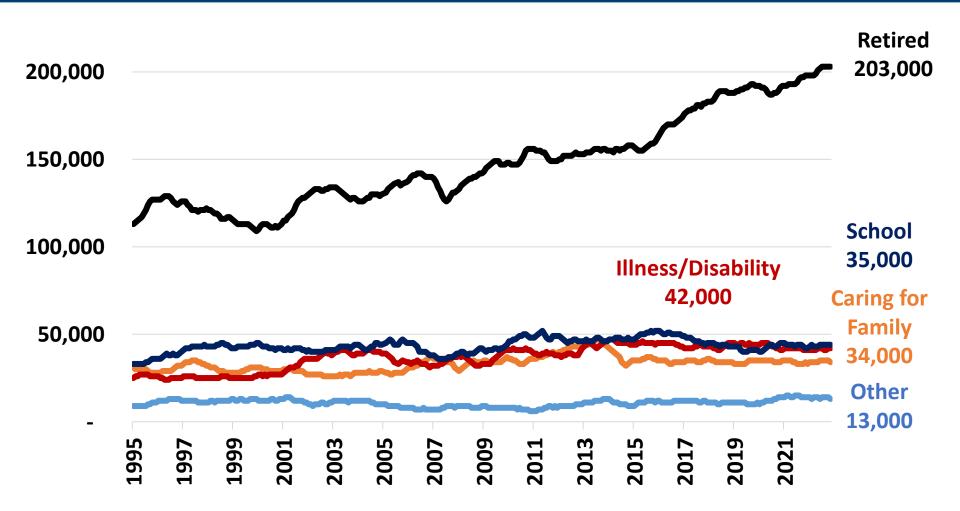
Labor Force Participation Rate Dropping In MT and Nationwide







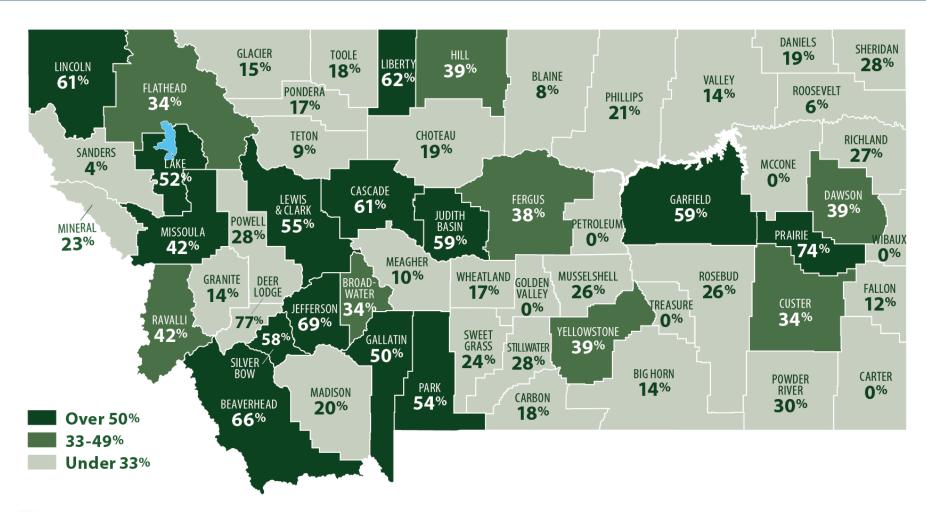
Retirements on the Rise







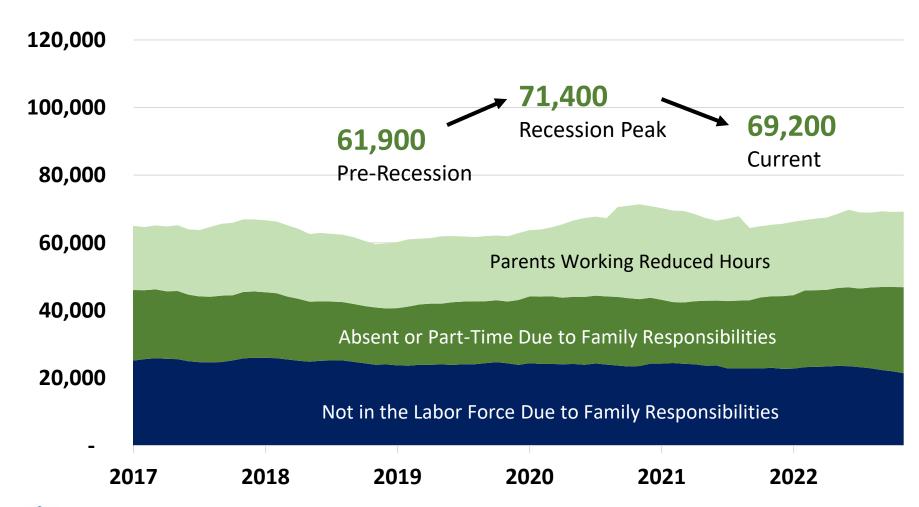
Childcare Meets 43% of Demand







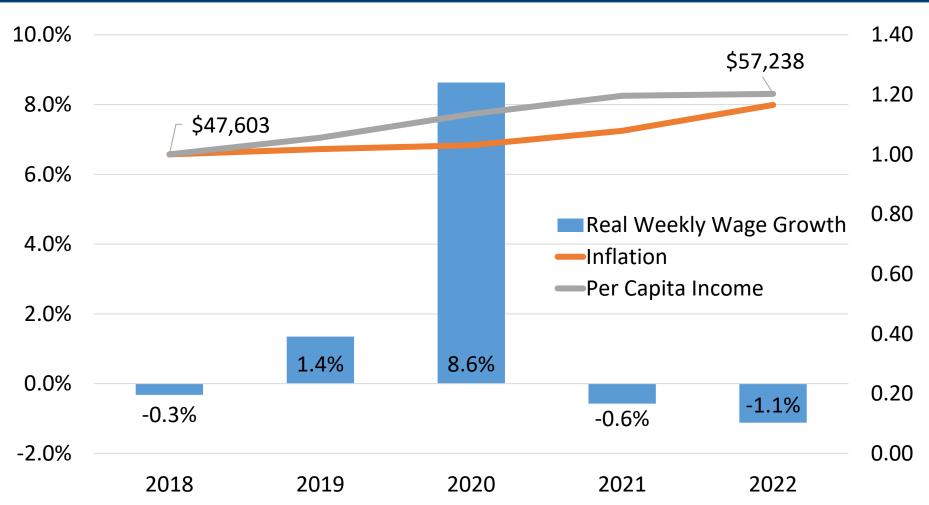
Labor Underutilization of Parents







Real Wage and Income Growth

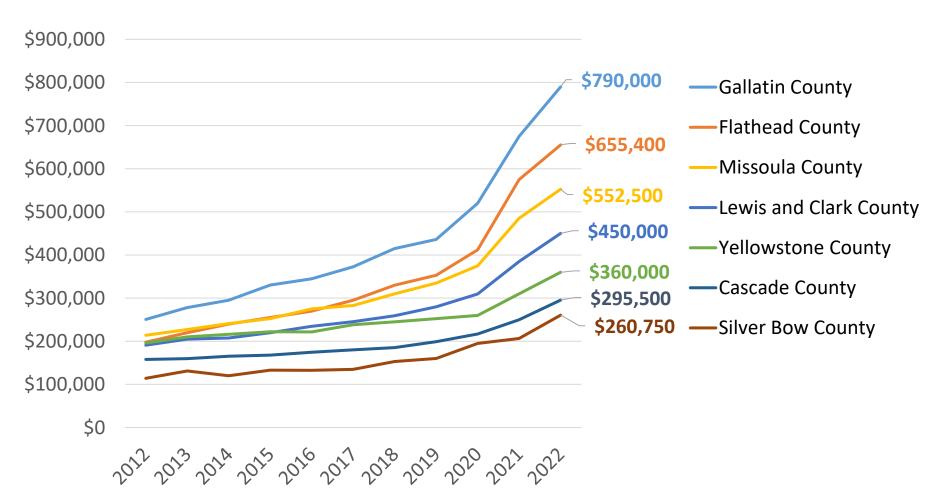




Source: US BLS and Montana Dept. of Labor and Industry, QCEW and CPI-U. Bureau of Economic Analysis Per Capita Income. Over-the-year change in real average weekly wage growth as of Q2.



54% Increase in Median Home Price Since 2015







The Move to Montana

Montana ranks **2**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 **Imi.mt.gov**

Amy Watson
MT Dept. of Labor & Industry
awatson@mt.gov

