

## 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter 2015 Index

Number of existing business expansion deals announced during quarter: 2

Number of attraction deals announced: 1

Number of job openings listed at Great Falls Job Service: 902

Number listed on SimplyHired.com: 1,121

Increase in home sales in Great Falls market in 2014: 8.8%

Great Falls metro area increase in average sale price of existing homes  
predicted by Moody's for 2015: 5.5%

Great Falls metro area growth in Gross Metro Product  
projected by Moody's for 2015: 4.0%

Metro GDP growth predicted in 2016: 5.5%

Great Falls metro area increase in personal income projected by Moody's in 2015: 4.2%

Metro personal income increase predicted in 2016: 4.4%

Great Falls ranking by Forbes for best cities to retire in: Top 25

Lowest average airfare ranking of GTF amongst all 459 U.S. commercial airports: 95<sup>th</sup>

GTF ranking amongst Montana commercial airports: 1<sup>st</sup>

Lowest city taxes ranking of Great Falls amongst Montana's 7 largest cities: 1<sup>st</sup>

Great Falls city taxes compared to average of Montana's  
other six largest cities: 23% lower

Number of small businesses coached during quarter: 86

Number of coaching sessions: 175

Number of small business trainings offered: 7

Number of entrepreneurs who participated: 170

New capital secured by small business clients: \$1,924,170

Number of outreach meetings with existing companies  
in Great Falls region during quarter: 40

Targeted out-of-state industry events exhibited or networked at during quarter: 7

Number of site selection consultants met with in person during quarter: 10

Number spoke with on phone: 11

Number of site selection consultant RFP's responded to: 4

Amount of GFDA/HPF loans closed and approved during quarter: \$1,253,469

Additional private investment that will be leveraged by these loans: \$3,702,259

GFDA/HPF delinquent loan rate: 0%

Downtown volunteer hours during quarter: 9,189

Number of new downtown businesses opened during quarter: 4

Number of downtown property renovations during quarter: 19

Consecutive years United Way of Cascade County has set fundraising records: 6

Number of wind turbines in new wind farm in Fairfield to be built this year: 15

Height of each turbine: 42 stories

Power generation rating of each turbine: 1.7 megawatts

Total project investment: \$45-50 million

Percentage of U.S. companies that export: 5%

Percentage of companies on eBay that export: 97%

Percentage of corporate executives surveyed who said the availability of shovel ready sites is important to companies looking for locations to expand: 63%

Percentage who said availability of skilled labor is important: 82%

Percentage who said availability of housing is important: 70%

Montana record-setting high school graduation rate in 2014: 85.4%

Rate in 2009: 80.7%

Montana ranking for percentage of adults with high school diploma or higher: 1<sup>st</sup>

Montana ranking for increasing college graduates with 2-year degrees: 1<sup>st</sup>

Montana ranking in Gallups-Healthway's 2014 Well Being Index: 5<sup>th</sup>

Amount federal government purchased from Montana

small businesses in 2014: \$480 million

Amount Montana employers could save annually on worker compensation costs by lowering accident rates to national average: \$145 million

Montana ranking amongst states for business start-ups per capital: 1<sup>st</sup>

U.S. sales growth of organic food and non-food products in 2014: 11.3%

Percentage of U.S. GDP invested in infrastructure in 1960: 1%

Percentage invested in 2013: 0.06%

Estimated number of people across the globe who live without electricity: 1 billion

Number of people across the world who die every year

from cooking/heating fire smoke: 4 million

Number of west coast port terminal expansions or new construction projects approved to export coal for electric generation: 0

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