

GFDA Quarterly Index 2nd Quarter 2014

Net jobs created in Great Falls metro area January-June 2014: 1,262

Net jobs created 1990-1999: 399

Net jobs created 1980-1999: (70)

Annual rate of job growth in Great Falls metro area in 1990's: 0.13%

Annual rate of job growth in 2014: 6.4%

Increase in Great Falls metro area labor force January-June 2014: 1,035

Increase 1990-1999: 425

Increase 1980-1999: (479)

Annual rate of labor force growth in 1990's: 0.13%

Annual rate of labor force growth in 2014: 5.0%

Number of current job openings at Great Falls Job Service: 883

Number of jobs Moody's predicted Great Falls metro area would lose 2012-2014: 200

Jobs gained so far: 2,669

Great Falls metro area per capita income growth in 2012: 3.52%

GF metro GDP in 2012: \$3.218 billion

GFDA targeted industry tradeshow exhibits during quarter:

2 energy, 2 agri-processing, 1 manufacturing

National site selection consultant events networked at during quarter: 3

Commercial real estate, retail and restaurant national events networked at during quarter: 1

Primary sector grand openings in Great Falls during quarter: 2

Primary sector groundbreakings in Great Falls during quarter: 2

Number of acres Loenbro bought for its new Great Falls fabrication facility: 52

Big box retail projects announced during quarter: 1

Size of project: 189,000 SF big box, gas station and four 1-2 acre pads

Number straight years Great Falls metro area has improved its economic strength ranking: 8

Number of metro areas we climbed above in 2014 ranking: 11

Number metro areas we've climbed above since 2006: 199

Downtown volunteer hours in 1st quarter 2014: 8,257

New businesses opened downtown in 1st quarter 2014: 5

Number of places GF climbed in 2014 Best Cities for Job Growth: 97

Number of small businesses coached during quarter: 74

Number of coaching sessions: 101

Number of businesses launched by Start-Up Spark clients during quarter: 3
Number small business trainings offered: 2
Number of entrepreneurs who participated: 34
GF metro area national ranking for Regional Impact of
Quality of Life on Entrepreneurial Decisions: 14th
Montana's Entrepreneurial Index ranking for second year in a row: 1st
Amount of GFDA/HPF loan commitments issued during quarter: \$5,967,000
Investment that will be leveraged by GFDA/HPF loans: \$21,582,354
GFDA/HPF delinquent loan rate: 0%
Equity required for SBA 504 loan deals: as low as 10%
Percentage of U.S. ICBM missiles that DOD announced it would keep in warm status: 100%
Size of new hospital announced by Great Falls Clinic: 60,000 SF, 19 beds
Great Falls metro area national ranking in Prime Workforce Indicators: 40th out of 379
Great Falls metro national ranking in 3 Year Change 2009-2012 in Workforce 18-44 Years
with Bachelors Degree or Higher as % of Total Workforce: 12th
Percentage of STEM jobs (science, technology, engineering and mathematics)
that don't require a bachelor's degree: 50%
GF average per capita property taxes compared to other major Montana cities: 1/3rd lower
Nonresident visitor expenditures in central Montana in 2013: \$402 million
Increase since 2011: 53%
Share spent in Cascade County: \$248 million
Average flight ticket price drop at GTF since 2008: 22%
Average national ticket price increase: 10%
Increase in average price of house sold in Great Falls 2011-2013: 7%
Average price in 2013: \$169,838
Increase in median price of house sold 2011-2013: 6%
Median price in 2013: \$157,500
Median price in Yellowstone County in 2013: \$219,000
Increase in Cascade County home values 2008-2013: 11.6%
Biomedical research funds McLaughlin Research Institute has brought to GF: \$70 million
Number of straight years median age in Cascade County has gone down: 3
Median age in 2013: 38.1
Montana ranking of most fiscally prudent states: 1st
MT ranking amongst residents with most pride in state: 1st
Montana ranking by U.S. Chamber in Growth of Self-Employed: 1st
Montana ranking in Export Growth: 3rd
Per Capita Income Growth: 6th
Business Tax Climate: 7th
Number of times GFDA staff has been asked who big box retailer is: millions
Number of times we've been incorrectly told who it is: gazillions
Number of times we've been told who it is correctly: our lips are sealed