2\textsuperscript{nd} Quarter 2015 Index

Great Falls metro ranking for Prime Workforce amongst all U.S. metro areas: Top 15%
Ranking amongst U.S. metro areas with population under 160,000: 16\textsuperscript{th}
Great Falls metro 2014 increase in annual average weekly wage: 5.2%
Great Falls increase relative to Montana average increase: 49% greater
Relative to U.S. average increase: 60% greater
Great Falls total wage increase in 2014: 4.9%

Out-of-state business development trips during quarter to pitch Great Falls: 3
Number of miles driven on Calgary/Spokane business development trip: 1,110

Pairs of shoes worn out at RECON commercial real estate event: 2

June unemployment rate for Great Falls metro: 3.9%

Number of job openings currently posted at Great Falls Job Service: 904
  Number posted on SimplyHired.com: 1,434

Great Falls Best Small Cities ranking amongst 1,300 cities in U.S.: Top 100

Number of agri-processing competitive business cases for Great Falls region developed during quarter: 3
Number of new out-of-state prospects generated by first business case while still in its draft form: 3

Percentage of Great Falls employers surveyed during quarter that expect to increase employment in next 12 months: 47%
Percent that expect to keep employment stable: 50%
Percent that expect to decrease employment: 3%

Percent of employees at surveyed companies who have been with firm 4 or more years: 92%

Number of local businesses coached during quarter: 81
  Number of coaching sessions: 188

Number of business training sessions offered during quarter: 5
  Number of business participants: 69

Number of outreach meetings with local companies during quarter: 22

Apartment vacancy rate in Great Falls: 2.2%
  Montana average: 5.5%
  National average: 6.5%

Increase in Great Falls single-family home rental rates in 2014: 13.4%

Great Falls cost of living relative to national average: 90%
  Cost of doing business: 93%

Great Falls office rental rates relative to national average: 40%
Personal income growth in Great Falls metro in 2014: 4.8%
Predicted income growth for 2015: 4.8%
Predicted for 2016: 6.3%
Downtown Great Falls volunteer hours during quarter: 9,673
Downtown renovations permitted during quarter: 16
Total of GFDA and High Plains Financial gap and bridge financing loans closed during fiscal year 2015: $4,087,000
Total investment leveraged by these loans: $22,049,748
Additional loans approved to close in FY 2016: $2,939,000
Total investment to be leveraged by these loans: $26,751,620
SBA 20 year fixed loan interest rate in July, including all fees: 4.961%
10-year loan fixed rate: 4.326%
Equity required on SBA 504 loan deals: as low as 10%
Great Falls metro GDP growth predicted for 2015: 2.6%
For 2016: 3.1%
Growth in Great Falls metro employment predicted in 2016: 2.2%
Montana ranking of entrepreneurial activity for 3rd year in a row: 1st
Montana ranking for lowest obesity rate: 3rd
Montana ranking of states whose residents say their state is the best or one of the best states to live in: 1st
Montana ranking for lowest hospital inpatient charges in nation: 1st
Montana ranking for lowest hospital outpatient charges: 2nd
Last year federal gas tax was raised: 1993
Last year Montana gas tax was raised: 1994
Today’s purchasing power of a 1994 dollar: 62¢
Estimated extra maintenance cost each Montanan pays every year due to poor condition of some roads: $292 to $484
Percentage of U.S. employees who say they are engaged in their work: 32.4%
Percentage of managers: 35%
Number of transactions MasterCard processes per hour: 160 million
Estimated number of economic development organizations in North America: 10,000+
Number of accredited economic development organizations in North America: 43 including GFDA
Number of U.S. commercial spaceports licensed by the FAA: 10