



3rd Quarter 2017 Index

Cascade County rank amongst all U.S. mid-sized counties (50,000-149,999 population) in 2017 Fourth Economy Index: 10th

Size of site for proposed Madison Food Park: 3,018 acres

Great Falls articles in food & agricultural processing industry publications during quarter: 24

Cascade County GDP growth over past 3 years: 12.6%

GDP dollar increase over past 3 years: \$391 million

Great Falls MSA 2016 GDP real growth rate rank amongst Montana metro areas: 1st

Cascade County average annual increase in manufacturing employment over last 16 quarters: 6.1%

Pounds of pasta the expanded Pasta Montana plant will produce each year: 80 million

Pasta Montana wheat purchases since business start: over \$300 million

Number of new apartments scheduled for Spring construction start in Great Falls: 340+

Increase in Great Falls HUD fair market apartment rents over past 3 years for 2-bedroom units: 16.5%

For 4-bedroom units: 36.5%

Percentage of local workforce having attained post-secondary education: 60%

Cascade County workers currently in part-time jobs who are willing and able to work full-time jobs: 1,200

Local part-time and self-employed workers interested in full-time work: 24.9%

Local currently employed workers who consider themselves to be overqualified: 22.8%

Local current workers interested in changing jobs: 32.4%

Community volunteers who constructed new West Bank Park playground in one day: 200+

Day care openings to be created by Play N Learn Academy's new facility: 120

GFDA/HPF gap and bridge loans approved during quarter: \$712,500

Additional private investment these loans will leverage: \$1,592,799

New loan capital grants won during quarter: \$686,500

Number of businesses, developments and non-profits assisted by GFDA/HPF gap and bridge loans in past 5 fiscal years: 41

Amount of loans made: \$22,704,908

Additional investment leveraged by our loans: \$159,006,865

New apartments built in Great Falls made possible by our loans over past 5 fiscal years: 296

Free brownfield assessments provided to Great Falls developers and non-profits over past five fiscal years: 30

Number of local entrepreneurs and businesses coached by GFDA during quarter: 112

Of these, number of new coaching clients: 34
Number of business training sessions offered during quarter: 7
Number of business participants: 86
Number of businesses started or bought by coached clients: 5
New private investment secured by small business clients during quarter: \$505,516
Government contracts won by small business clients during quarter: \$227,697
Number of local businesses & entrepreneurs coached by GFDA over past 5 fiscal years: 387
Number of coached clients who started successful new businesses: 44
Local businesses assisted with government contracting over past 5 fiscal years: 352
Site selection consultants networked with during quarter: 22
Bankers and brokers networked with during quarter: 27
Number of out-of-state targeted business development trips during quarter: 3
Number of companies in GFDA's active pipeline: 156
Number of these that are local existing companies: 71
Number that are proposed business start-ups: 36
Number that are attraction prospects: 49
Number of food and agri-processing companies GFDA has targeted and is pursuing to attract to Great Falls region: 118
Contacts receiving GFDA's weekly Top 10: 3,919
Increase in Montana certified organic acreage in 2016: 6.2%
Increase in Montana certified organic farms in 2016: 13%
Montana state rank in organic acreage: 2nd
American households with organic food in home: 82%
Montana rank for highest percentage of female business owners: 1st
Percent: 9.87%
U.S. employees who work at home at least sometimes: 43%
U.S. hourly workers who receive schedules from employers no more than a week in advance: 41%
Americans who plan to work past retirement age: 74%
Teachers who have recently been recognized for good work: 29%
U.S. adult non-homeowners who expect to buy homes in five years: 49%
U.S. households that have Amazon Prime accounts: Two-thirds
Average college student debt when leaving school: \$34,000
Number of U.S. craft beer breweries: 5,234
Number of U.S. craft distilleries: 1,150
Projected number of craft distilleries in five years: 2,000

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For info contact Jolene Schalper at JSchalper@GFdevelopment.org or 1-406-750-4481