

4th Quarter 2015 Index

Great Falls metro area average weekly wage growth 2005-2015: 33%

Missoula metro growth: 26%

US metro average: 28%

Cascade County per capita income as percentage of U.S. average in 2000: 82%

In 2010: 96%

In 2014: 97%

Cascade County inflation adjusted increase in per capita income 2000-2014: \$9,293

National average increase: \$4,606

Cascade County food and beverage sales in 2000: \$124,000,000

Sales in 2014 after inflation adjustment: \$149,000,000

Cascade County total retail sales increase 2000-2014 after adjusting for inflation: 13.2%

Great Falls property taxes compared to average of the 6 other major Montana cities:
23% less

Average property taxes/fees paid per person in City of Great Falls: \$441

Average in Missoula: \$807

Bozeman: \$753

Billings: \$750

Helena: \$644

Kalispell: \$581

Forbes' ranking of Great Falls amongst best places to retire: Top 25 nationwide

Number of site selection consultants pitched during quarter: 17

Number of local businesses coached during quarter: 71

Number of coaching sessions: 276

Number of business training sessions offered during quarter: 7

Number of business participants: 57

New contracts won by PTAC clients during quarter: \$735,043

New capital investment secured by small business clients during quarter: \$791,988

Total of GFDA gap and bridge financing loans closed during quarter: \$429,000

Additional loans approved: \$1,456,000

Current SBA 504 loan 20 year fixed interest rate in, including all fees: 4.324%

Equity required on SBA 504 loan deals: as low as 10%

Downtown renovation and construction permits issued during quarter: 20

Total for 2015: 75

Value of permits issued during quarter: \$2,794,960

Total value for 2015: \$10,798,827

Downtown Great Falls volunteer hours during quarter: 8,447
Total volunteer hours for 2015: 36,627
Number of new businesses opened downtown in 2015: 8
Occupancy reached in downtown Times Square building during quarter: 100%
Percentage of U.S. grown dry peas produced in Montana: 48%
Acres of pulse crops grown in Montana in 2014: 701,780
Projected acres by 2019: 1,500,000
Barrels of fuel ethanol consumed in Montana in 2014: 1,023,000
Barrels of fuel ethanol produced in Montana: 0
Barrels consumed in Montana and Utah combined in 2014: 3,208,000
Barrels produced in Montana and Utah: 0
GTF passenger traffic in 2006: 290,622
In 2014: 385,784
GTF ranking amongst all 322 U.S. commercial airports by Travel Math: 10th
Estimated record number of Glacier National Park visitors in 2015: 2,366,056
Estimated percentage visitor increase from record 2014: 1.7%
Montana State Fund dividend to employers as % of workers comp premiums paid: 27%
Decrease in MT unemployment insurance contribution rate from 2015 to 2016: 26%
Estimated percentage of U.S. employees who are engaged in their work: 33%
Percentage of engaged employees who are ignored by their managers: 2%
Year that women in U.S. became more educated than men: 2014
Percentage of U.S. men (25 years or older) with bachelor degrees in 2014: 29.9%
Percentage of U.S. women (25 years or older) with bachelor degrees in 2014: 30.2%
Percent of manufacturers who say shortage of skilled workers has negatively impacted
their ability to expand: 75%
Percent that expect shortage to worsen: 69%
Estimated percentage of tasks American workers perform that today's robots are capable
of doing: 45%
Number of robots that work in U.S. factories: 260,000
Global app sales in 2015: \$51 billion
Projected sales in 2020: \$101 billion
Heavy industrial rail-served acres available for immediate construction
in Great Falls AgriTech Park: 31.5

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