

ECONOMIC OVERVIEW OF CARTER COUNTY

Labor Market, 2023

Population: 1,418
Labor Force: 688
Employed: 674
Unemployed: 14
Unemployment Rate: 2.0%
 (Below the Statewide Rate of 2.9%)

Employment Growth

43 jobs gained since 2020, about 7% of total jobs.

Income and Benefits

\$61,341 average household income in 2022, ranking Carter County **54th** highest among Montana counties.

86.4% of population with health insurance coverage.

8.2% of households receiving SNAP benefits in last year.

17% of the population with income below the federal poverty level (above the state average of 12.4%).

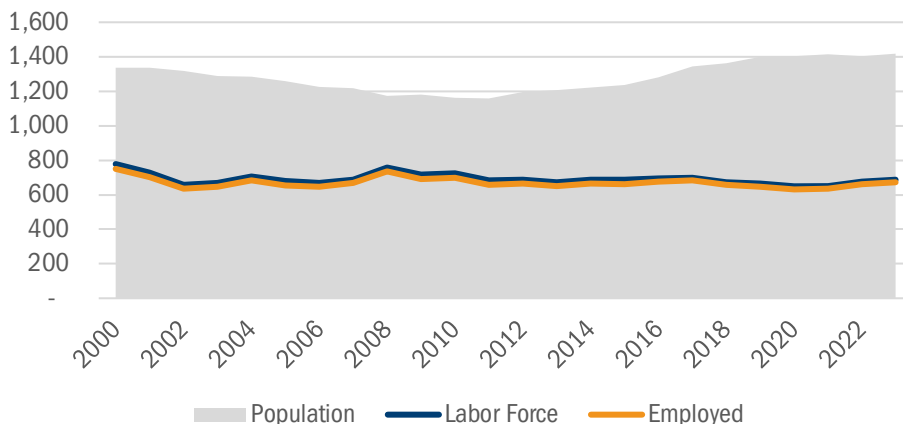
Highest Paying Industries

Average Annual Wage, 2023

1. Agriculture & Forestry - \$52,570
2. Public Administration - \$35,770
3. Retail Trade - \$33,970
4. Educational Services - \$31,740
5. Arts, Entertainment, & Recreation - \$23,110

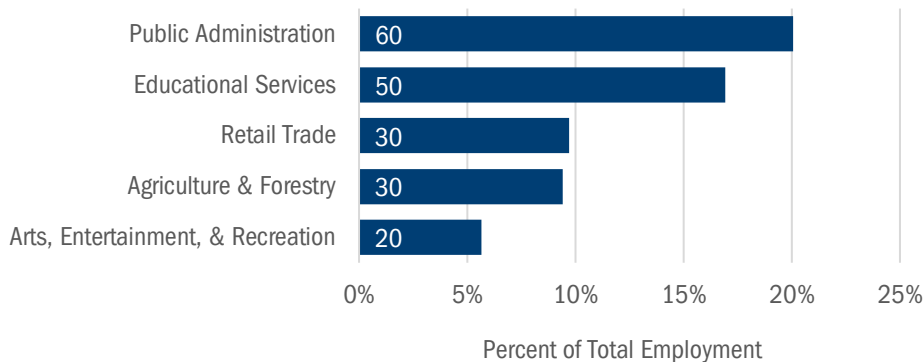
Workforce Size in Carter County

Employment, Labor Force, and Population



Source: Local Area Unemployment Statistics (LAUS), U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics. Population total intercensal tables, Population and Housing Estimates Program, U.S. Census Bureau.

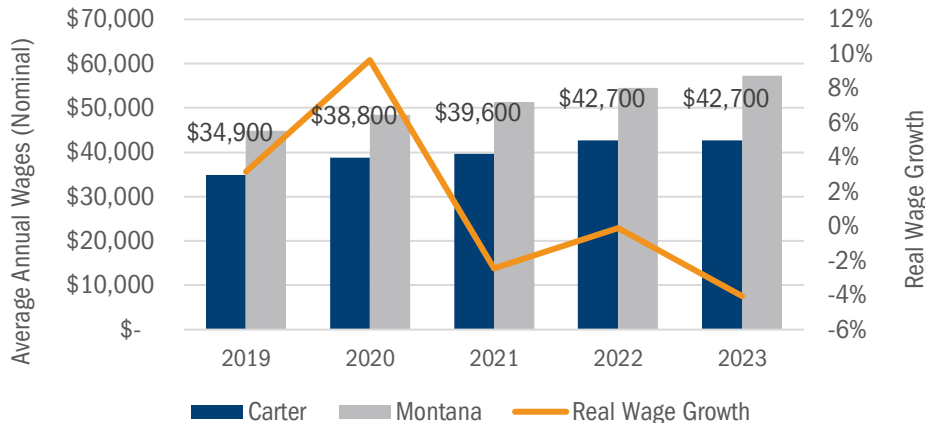
Top Employing Industries, 2023



Source: Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages (QCEW), U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Average Wage and Real Wage Growth

Comparison to Statewide Average



Source: U.S. BLS and Montana Department of Labor & Industry, QCEW and CPI-U. Wages rounded to nearest hundred.



Montana Department of
LABOR & INDUSTRY
 Governor Greg Gianforte
 Commissioner Sarah Swanson

Labor Force Participation

60.2% of Carter County's population over 15 participates in the labor force, below the statewide rate of 63.0%.

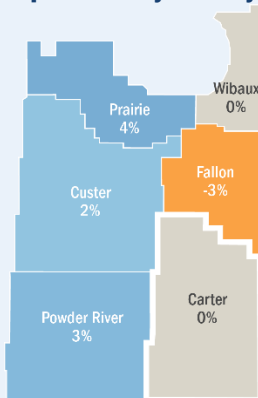
87.1% of Carter County's prime working age population (25 to 54 years old) participates in the labor force, above the statewide rate of 84.2%.

Stable Population

After a population increase in 2020, Carter County had the same number of people migrate in as out.

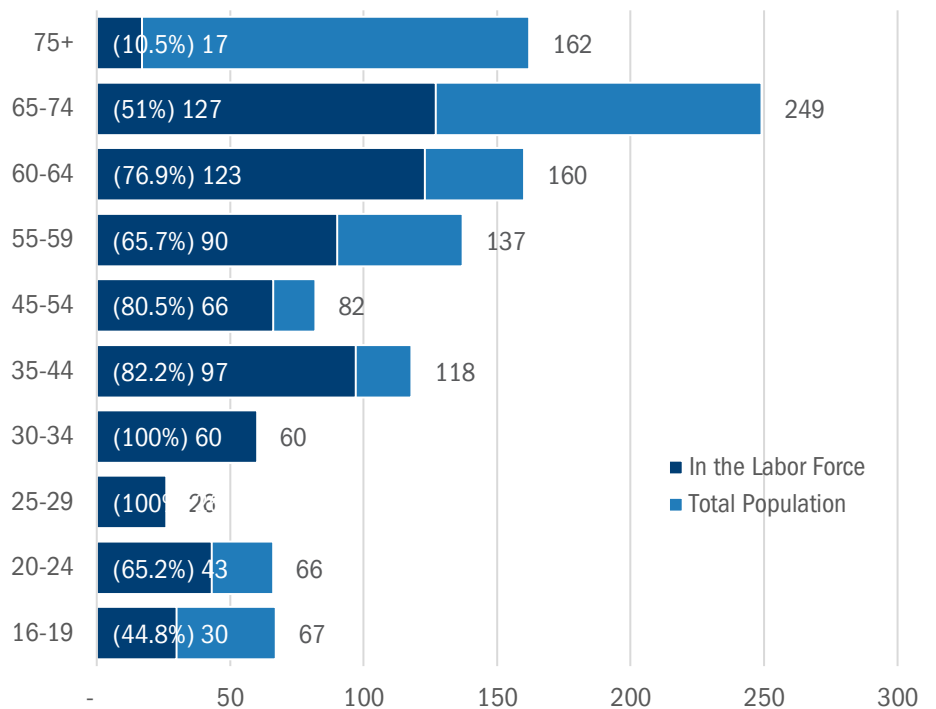
A greater share of workers **work from home** in Carter County than the statewide average of 10.6%.

Net Migration as a Percent of the Population by County



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Annual Resident Population Estimates, Estimated Components of Resident Population Change, and Rates of the Components of Population Changes for States and Counties: April 1, 2020 to July 1, 2023.

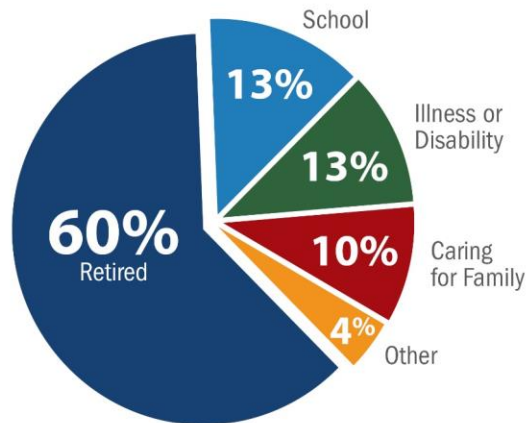
Population by Age Group and Participation in Labor Force



Source: Census Bureau American Community Survey 2022 5-Year Estimates. Labor force participation rates are in parentheses.

Most People Not Working are Retired

Reasons Not Participating in Montana Labor Force



Source: Current Population Survey (CPS), U.S. BLS and U.S. Census. MTDLI analysis of IPUMS CPS microdata for Montana for Jan through Dec 2023.

Carter County had the 3rd lowest unemployment rate among Montana Counties in 2023.