

## Labor Market, 2023

**Population:** 33,338  
**Labor Force:** 14,309  
**Employed:** 13,795  
**Unemployed:** 514  
**Unemployment Rate:** 3.6%  
 (Above as the Statewide Rate of 2.9%)

## Employment Growth

**858 jobs gained** since 2020, about **7%** of total jobs.

## Income and Benefits

**\$78,186** average household income in 2022, ranking Lake County **30th** highest among Montana counties.

**84.6%** of population with health insurance coverage.

**13.2%** of households receiving SNAP benefits in last year.

**19.0%** of the population with income below the federal poverty level (above the state average of 12.4%).

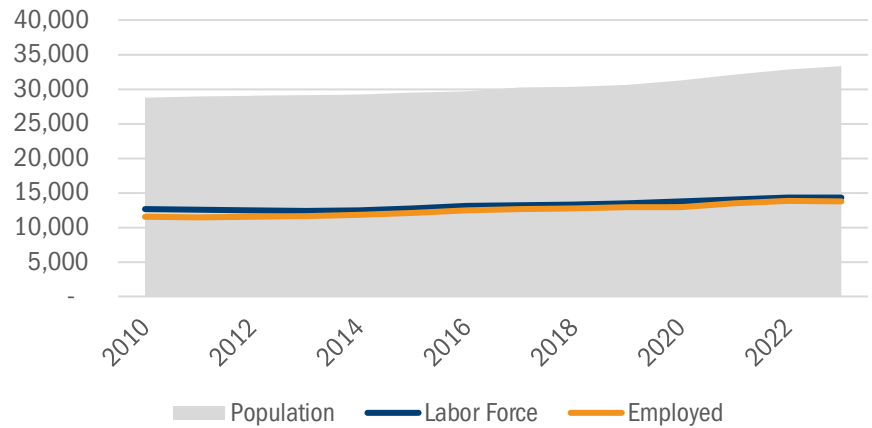
## Highest Paying Industries

Average Annual Wage, 2023

1. Utilities - \$139,880
2. Management - \$117,670
3. Professional & Technical Services - \$74,340
4. Information - \$63,360
5. Finance & Insurance - \$58,130

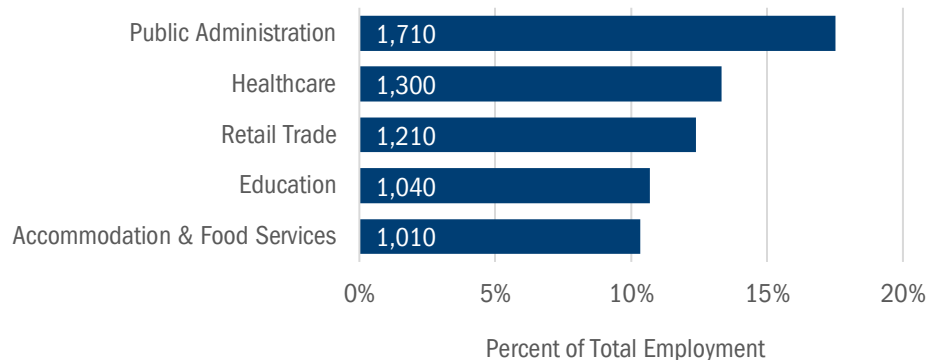
## Workforce Size in Lake County

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.

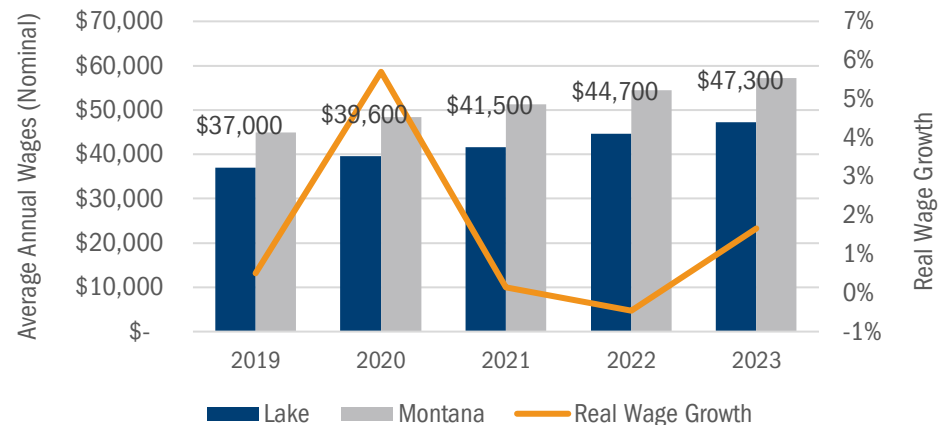
## Top Employing Industries, 2023



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**

**56.6%** of Lake County's population over 15 participates in the labor force, below the statewide rate of 63.0%.

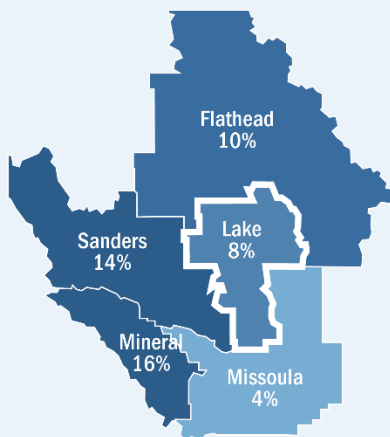
**78.6%** of Lake County's prime working age population (25 to 54 years old) participates in the labor force, below the statewide rate of 84.2%.

**Population Boom in Northwest Montana**

Lake County had **2,720 more people move in** than out from 2020 to 2023, about **8%** of the population, the **8<sup>th</sup>** most in the state.

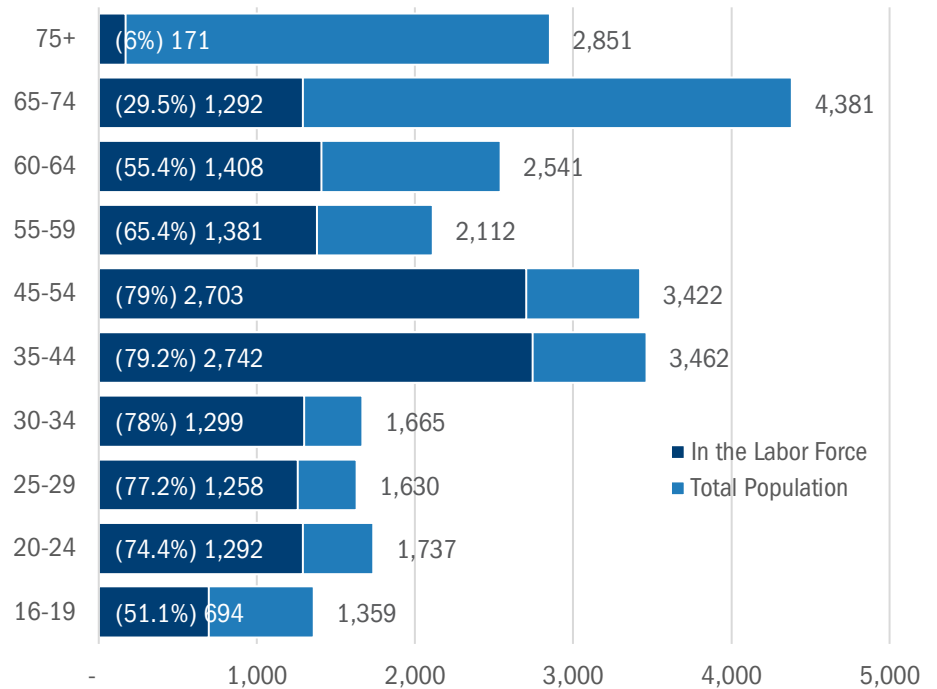
**10.0%** of workers in Lake County **work from home**, similar to the statewide average of 10.6%.

**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.

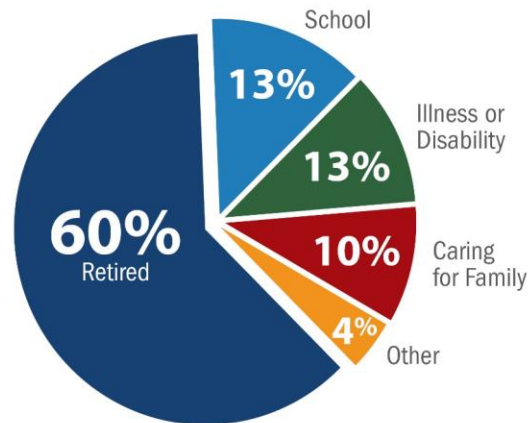
**Population by Age Group and Participation in Labor Force**



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.

**Flathead Indian Reservation, 2023**

**Labor Force:** 14,101

**Employed:** 13,566

**Unemployment Rate:** 3.8%



Empowering Montanans  
Through Work & Opportunity