

# ECONOMIC OVERVIEW OF POWDER RIVER COUNTY

## Labor Market, 2023

**Population:** 1,743  
**Labor Force:** 1,018  
**Employed:** 993  
**Unemployed:** 25  
**Unemployment Rate:** 2.5%  
 (Below the Statewide Rate of 2.9%)

## Employment Growth

**55 jobs gained** since 2020, about 6% of total jobs.

## Income and Benefits

**\$89,103** average household income in 2022, ranking Powder River County the **12th** highest among Montana counties.

**92.3%** of population with health insurance coverage.

**2.4%** of households receiving SNAP benefits in last year.

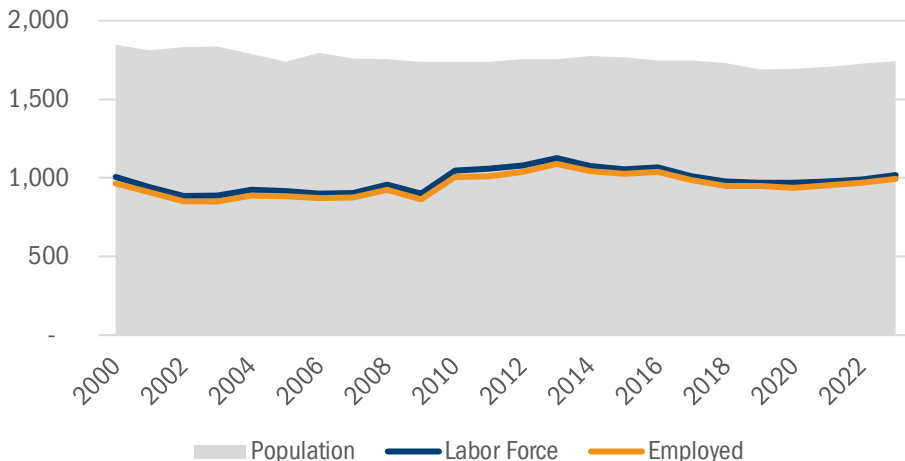
**12.7%** of the population with income below the federal poverty level (similar to the state average of 12.4%).

## Highest Paying Industries

*Average Annual Wage, 2023*

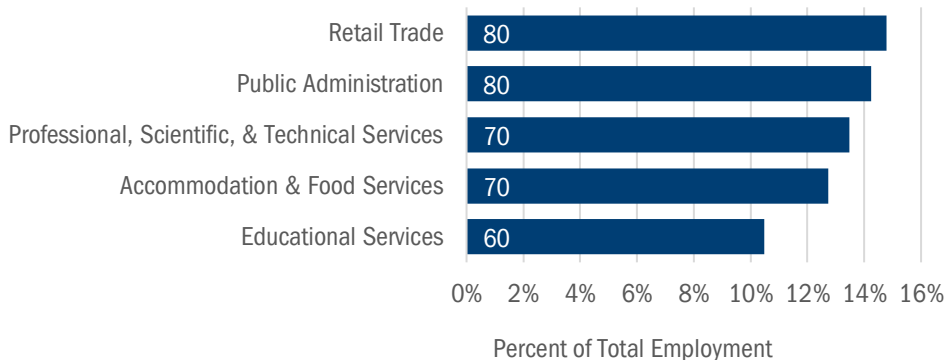
1. Professional & Technical Services - \$130,880
2. Administrative & Support Services - \$110,180
3. Construction - \$45,810
4. Healthcare - \$41,830
5. Public Administration - \$40,590

## Workforce Size in Powder River County



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.

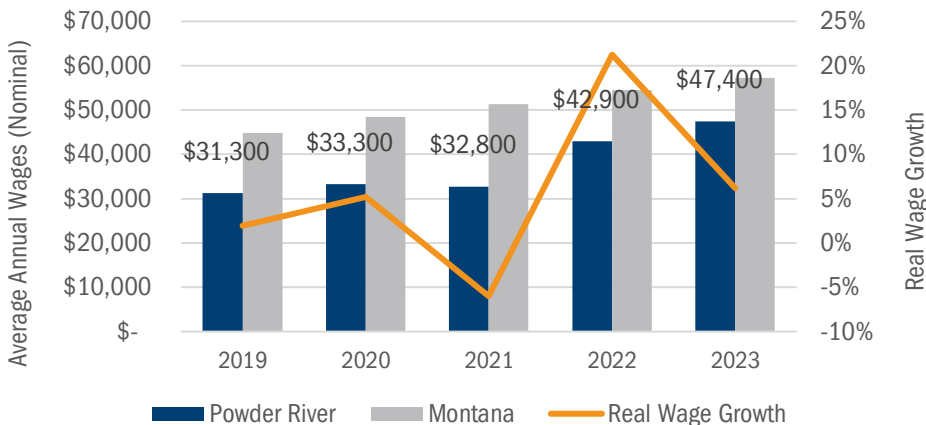
## Top Employing Industries, 2023



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

**61.3%** of Powder River County's population over 15 participates in the labor force, similar to the statewide rate of 63.0%.

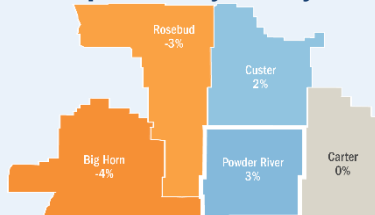
**79.2%** of Powder River County's prime working age population (25 to 54 years old) participates in the labor force, below the statewide rate of 84.2%

### Mixed Population Changes in Southeast Montana

Powder River County had **50 more people move in** than out since 2020, about **3%** of the population.

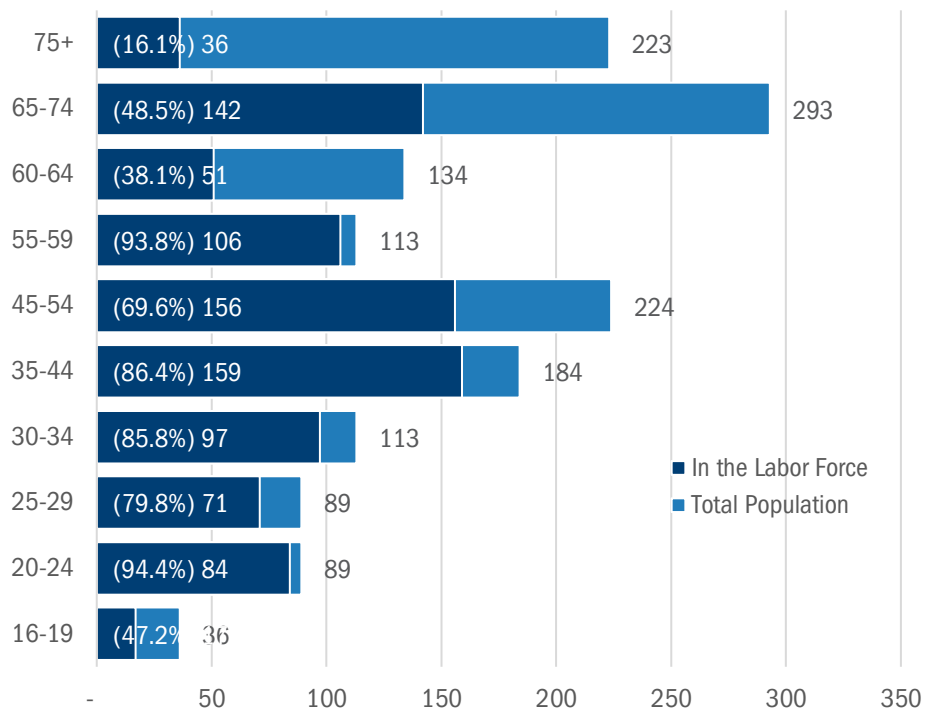
**12.8%** of workers in Powder River County **work from home**, greater than the statewide average of 10.6%.

### 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.

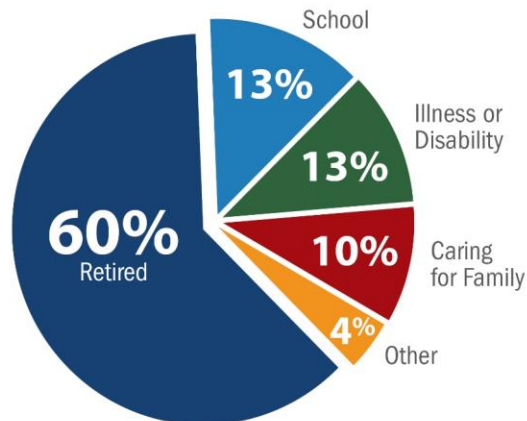
### Population by Age Group and Participation in Labor Force



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.

#### Crow Reservation, 2023

Labor Force: 2,432  
 Employed: 2,271  
 Unemployment Rate: 6.6%

#### Northern Cheyenne Reservation, 2023

Labor Force: 1,321  
 Employed: 1,211  
 Unemployment Rate: 8.3%