#### **ECONOMIC OVERVIEW OF VALLEY COUNTY**

#### Labor Market, 2023

Population: 7,474 Labor Force: 3,962 Employed: 3,864 Unemployed: 98

**Unemployment Rate**: 2.5% (Below the Statewide Rate of 2.9%)

#### **Employment Growth**

**380 fewer jobs** since 2013, about 9% of total jobs.

#### **Income and Benefits**

**\$76,011** annual household income in 2022, ranking Valley County **35th** highest among Montana counties.

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

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

**12.3%** 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

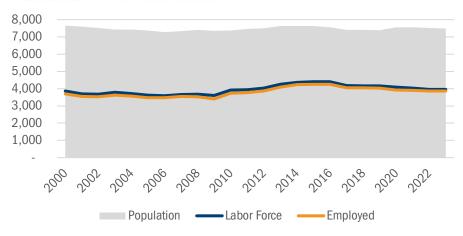
- **1.** Utilities \$81,670
- Professional, Scientific, & Technical Services - \$79,960
- 3. Finance & Insurance \$69,870
- **4.** Wholesale Trade \$64.250
- **5.** Mining & Extraction \$62,380

# Montana Department of LABOR & INDUSTRY

Governor Greg Gianforte Commissioner Sarah Swanson

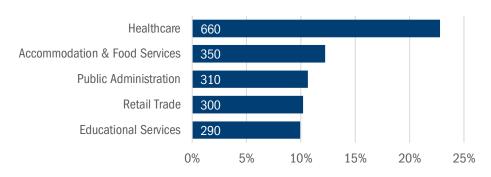
#### **Workforce Size in Valley County**

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

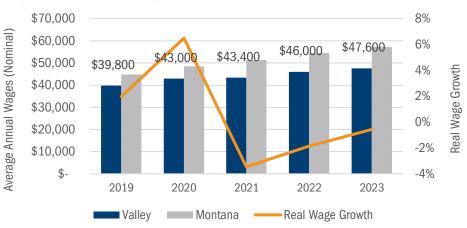


Percent of Total Employment

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.

#### **Labor Force Participation**

**60.1%** of Valley County's population over 15 participates in the labor force, below the statewide rate of 63.0%.

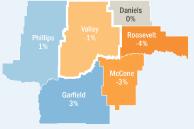
**83.9%** of Valley County's prime working age population (25 to 54 years old) participates in the labor force, similar to the statewide rate of 84.2%.

### **Declining Populations in Northeast Montana**

Valley County had **90 more people move out** than in from 2020 to 2023, about **1%** of the population.

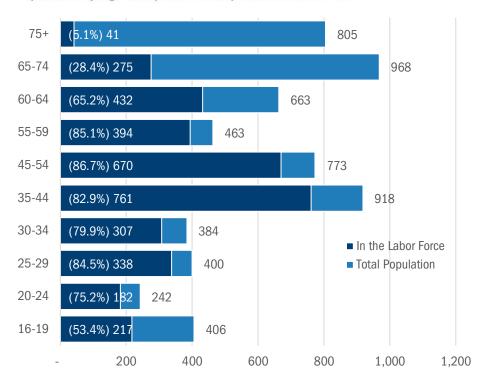
**14.6**% of workers in Valley County work from home, greater than the statewide average of 10.6%.

## 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.

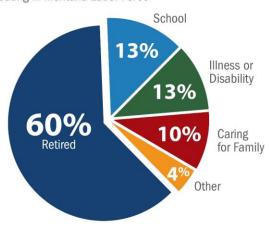
#### Population by Age Group and Participation in Labor Force



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.

#### Fort Peck Indian Reservation, 2023

Labor Force 3.888 Employment 3.701

Unemployment Rate 4.8%

