

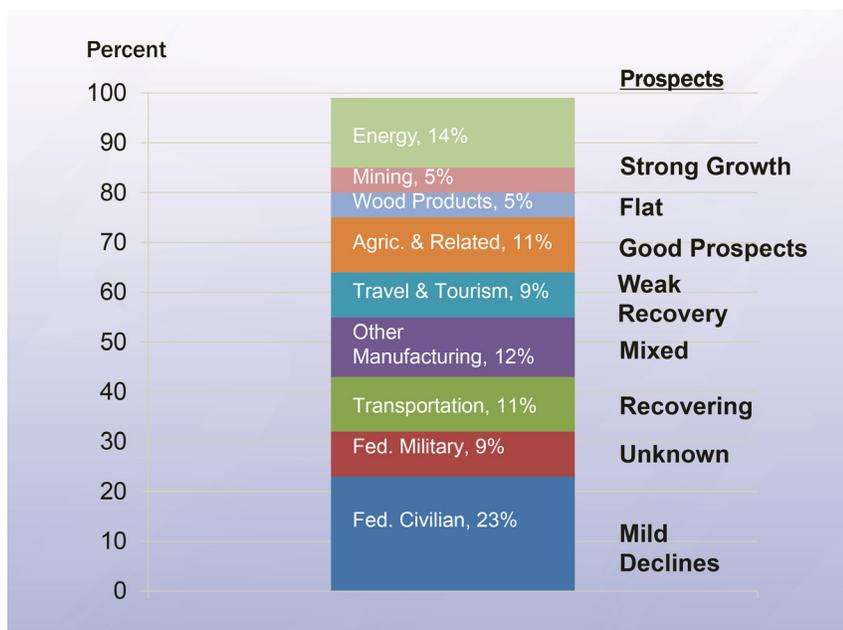
Natural Resources and Energy Research Program



MEASURING MONTANA'S ENERGY PROSPECTS



MONTANA'S BASIC INDUSTRIES 2012



Energy and mining represent nearly 20 percent of what drives Montana's economy. Natural resource development, if responsibly managed, has the potential to reshape the trajectory of the state's economic growth. That is why Montana's oldest and most respected business research center – The University of Montana's Bureau of Business and Economic Research – is establishing a new Natural Resources and Energy Program that examines the trends, issues, and factors affecting the outlook for one of the most dynamic and highest paying sectors in the Montana economy.

NATURAL RESOURCES AND ENERGY RESEARCH TEAM



Paul Polzin, Ph.D. has studied the Montana economy extensively during the past 35 years, with particular emphasis on the natural resources industry. He holds a Ph.D. in Economics from Michigan State University and is director emeritus of the Bureau of Business and Economic Research at The University of Montana. Dr. Polzin has published peer-reviewed articles in journals such as *The Annals of Regional Science*, *The Review of Regional Studies* and *Growth and Change*. He has served as president of the Western Regional Science Association and the Pacific Northwest Economics Conference.



Terry Johnson served the state of Montana for more than 39 years as an economist, statistician, and most recently as principal financial analyst for the Montana Legislature. Johnson earned a B.S. in mathematics from Montana State University and developed expertise in economic analysis and government finance. In July 2004 he became the first Montanan to receive a national award from the National Council of State Legislatures in recognition of his achievements in revenue forecasting, state fiscal and tax policy analysis.



Patrick Barkey, Ph.D. has served as director of the Bureau of Business and Economic Research since 2008. An economist with more than 26 years of experience in regional forecasting in both the public and private sector, Dr. Barkey is the author of several well-known studies on Montana's energy and coal industries. He holds a doctorate in Economics from the University of Michigan. As a research economist for American Electric Power, he developed and maintained large scale models of residential and industrial energy demand.

PROGRAM ACTIVITIES

- Impact analysis
- Feasibility studies
- Regional forecasting
- Industry studies
- Market research
- Labor supply analysis
- Sentiment surveys
- Community assessment
- Press interviews
- Tax and public policy analysis
- Consultant to state and local government

CONTACT

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