

HELENA BUSINESS CLIMATE 5-YEAR TREND REPORT From 2010 through Dec. 2014

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(updated January 2015)





HELENA – Your Montana Capital City!

- ❖ Historically Most Stable Economy Of The Larger Cities In Montana
- ❖ Higher Median Income Levels
- ❖ Many corporate offices located here
- ❖ 46% of Local Economy is State Govt. Jobs (71% if add in Fed/Local Govt.)





FACTS TO REMEMBER....

- 82% of L&C County's population lives in the Greater Helena Area
- Helena's share of Lewis & Clark County's employment & income is close to 90%





HOW DO WE MEASURE UP?





Policom Ranking for Economic Strength.....

OF 577 cities across the nation:

2010: Helena ranked 6th

2011: Helena ranked 2nd!!!!

2012: Helena ranked 2nd!!!!

2013: Helena ranked 2nd!!!!

2014: Helena ranked 3rd!!!

"Economic strength is the long term tendency for an area to consistently grow in both size and quality."





Employment in Helena Area...

(unemployment rates)

DEC. 2010 5.1%

DEC. 2011 5.2%

DEC. 2012 4.4%

DEC. 2013 3.8%

Nov. 2014 - 3.3%

(Montana - Current- 4.2%)





EMPLOYMENT: Median Wages

Our Facts Your Future (MT.GOV):

HELENA - \$34,114 (median)
\$40,456 (average)
\$39,407 (per capita income)
(highest micropolitan city in MT
under 50,000 people)



EDUCATION OF WORKFORCE

- In Lewis and Clark County:
 - 25.4% have some college
 - 5.1% Associate Degree
 - 2.7% Professional Degree
 - 21.3% Bachelor's Degree
 - 6.9% Master's Degree
 - .8% Doctorate Degree

+62% w/higher education at some level!





COST OF LIVING INDEX

	<u>2011</u>	<u>2012</u>	<u>2013</u>	<u>2014</u>
Overall Index =	100%	106%	105.5%	104%
Food –	108%	108%	108%	110%
Utilities -	92%	92%	92%	94%
Other –	100%	103%	103%	102%

**info from www.BestPlaces.net (Overall UP FROM 93.6 in 2009...)*

“Rapidly growing, highly educated workforce with 200+ days of sunshine!”
description from Sperling’s Best Places





BUSINESS FACTS...

- 78% of all businesses in the Helena Area have 10 or less employees
- There are approx. 3500 businesses in the entire Helena Valley
- 3000+ Jefferson Co. & 600+ Broadwater Co. workers travel to Helena to work each day.





Interesting fact:

Helena has the largest population within a 90 minute drive of any city in Montana

226,000 people

(doesn't include Missoula.....10 minutes further away..!)

*From 2005 study done w/Travel Montana, MDT
& Mt. Aeronautics Division*





Top 100....

LIVIBILITY.COM:

2013: Named Helena one of the

Top 100 Best Places To Live

(Quality of Life amenities of 1700+ US Cities)



Top Ten.....

- Helena was named in the top 10 Best Travel-Worthy State Capitols



by USA Today's Readers' choice contest.



Residential Permits

- **RESIDENTIAL – City of Helena**
 - 2010 – 244 permits = \$29.2 million
 - 2011 – 211 permits = \$26.5 million
 - 2012- 195 permits = \$27.4 million
 - 2013 – 215 permits = \$26.5 million
 - 2014 – 205 permits = \$41.8 million
- PLUS 248 permits for septic in the valley
outside city limits....(comp. to 232 in '13
And 254 in '12)**





CITY: HOME PERMIT INFO:

- Of 205 Residential permits = 48 total **new residences** Single Family Dwellings (within city limits)

Home Cost Analysis:

- 26 – under \$200,000.
- 15 - \$200,000+
- 6 - \$300,000+
- 1 - \$400,000+



MORE Residential

- Of 205 Residential permits = **31 total new multi-family Dwellings** (within city limits)

Cost Analysis:

- 14 – under \$300,000.
- 6 - \$300,000+
- 2 - \$400,000+
- 3 - \$500,000+
- 3 – 2+ million
- 3 – 3+ million
- 1 – 4+ million





Average Home Sale Prices

2010 - \$213,705

2011 - \$208,486

2012 - \$210,351

2013 - \$221,821

835 homes sold in 2013

2014 - \$229,894

869 homes sold in 2014

134 Average Days on Market

(Includes single family, condo and townhomes)

(Helena Association of Realtors)





Housing Starts

Lewis and Clark County:

Housing Starts: (excludes Helena)

2012 – 212

2013 - 257 - Up 28.9%

2014 – 203 - Down 21%





Commercial Building permits in the City

- 2010 – 231 permits - \$53.7 million
- 2011 – 215 permits - \$42.0 million
- 2012 - 209 permits - \$50.4 million
- 2013 – 215 permits – 48.1 million
- 2014 – 229 permits – 49.3 million





Projects finished in 2014

(permitted in 2013)

- Cinemark Expansion – 2.3 million
- Early Learning Center - 1.1 million
- TJ Max Build out - \$700,000
- Carroll College Dorms – (2) 4.4 million
- Panda Express – 1.1 million
- HAC Investments – 1.3 million
- Mt. Hospital Assoc. - 3.5 million
(includes SMA Architects)





More Large Projects finished in 2014

Super One Foods – 11 million

(opened June) 52,000 sq.ft.

L&C County transitional housing building
on 16th – 1.2 million

L&C County Cooperative Health (9th) - 4 .0
million

Summit Aerostructures – part of a 25
million project





More completed in 2014

- Big Lots (old Staples) $\frac{3}{4}$ mill.
- Pet Smart (old Micheals) 1.1 million
- FedEx Facility – 4.7 million





Large Projects Started in 2014:

Remington Apts. - 216 Units -McHugh Dr.

Boeing Helena Expansion – 10.7 million
(part of a 35 million project)

Carroll College Hunthausen Activity Center
- large project





MORE 2014 Starts:

Payne Financial – 2.8 million

Sherwin Williams – $\frac{3}{4}$ million

Montana Eyecare – 2.37 million





Coming Large Projects

Blue Cross Blue Shield – 100,000 sq. ft.
building

New State building (former Dept. of
Corrections building on 11th w/parking
garage





Helena Regional Airport Update

- Maintained strong passenger loads ensuring 4 major hubs (Seattle, MSP, SLC, Denver)
- Expanded short term parking lot, plus energy-efficient Lighting added
- Upgraded snow fleet w/\$1 million in equip.
- Expansion at Boeing (35 million) and new mfg. plant – Pioneer Aerostructures
- MT. Army Nat. Guard – added new helicopters to strengthen their long term mission





More from Helena Regional Airport

- **Coming:**
 - Automated long term parking lot pay system
 - Planning study for future terminal expansion and runway/taxiway improvements
 - \$38 million expansion of MT Army Guard facilities at the airport





TOURISM – Helena Hotels – 2014

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- **Occupancy was up 3%**
- **Average Daily Rate was up \$2.09**
- **Revenue per available room – up \$2.65
(Rev PAR)**
- **Revenue up \$1.46 million compared to
being up \$309,662 in 2013**

Smith Travel Research Report





CHAMBER REQUESTS

Relocation Packets

- ❖ 2000+ last year

Tourist Packets

- ❖ Distribute over 20,000 per year
 - ❖ + additional 10,000 guides and 20,000 maps!





CREDITS.....

- City of Helena
- L & C County
- Helena Airport Authority
- Helena Association of Realtors
- Montana Building Industry Assoc.
- www.policom.com
- US Census 2000
- Helena Area Chamber of Commerce
- Smith Travel and Research

Ourfactsyourfuture.org

Bestplaces.net

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The Helena Area Chamber of Commerce

YOUR BUSINESS ADVOCATE

