The Montana and U.S.

Economic Outlook:

Is the Federal Government's

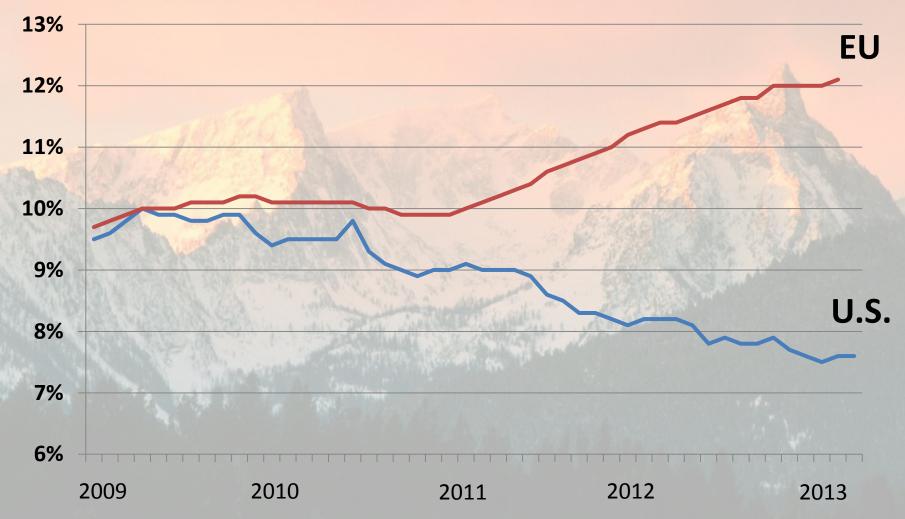
Footprint About to Shrink?

Patrick M. Barkey, Director
Bureau of Business and Economic Research
The University of Montana

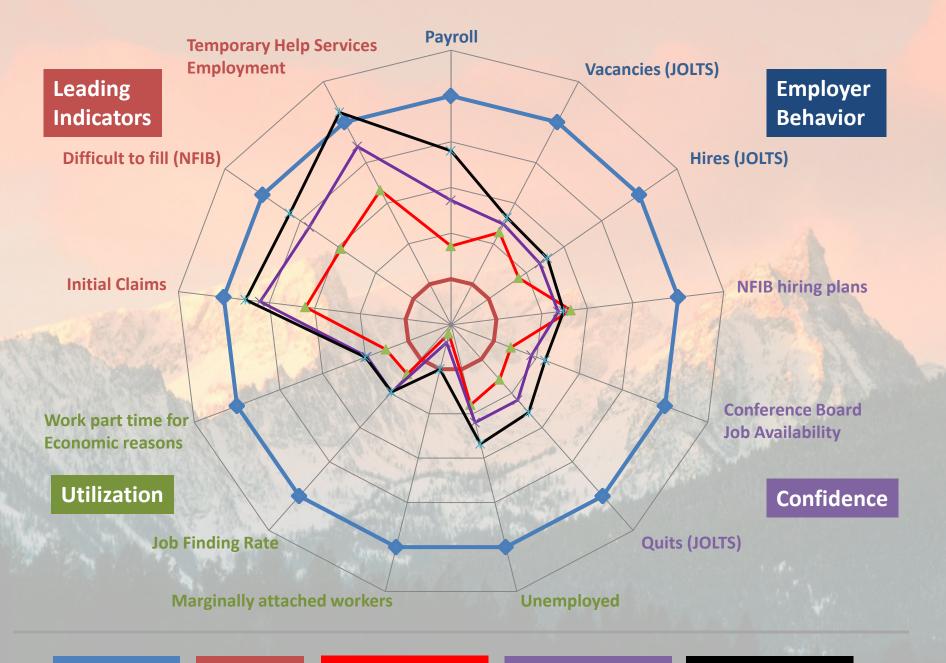
# 2013: Slow Growth Fatigue for U.S. Policymakers?

- Despite housing, consumer spending rebound, growth will be slower this year than 2012
- Labor market is still sick
- End of Federal Reserve stimulus is in sight
- U.S. budget debate still unresolved

## **Unemployment Rates Are Improving**



Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics



2007Q4 = 100

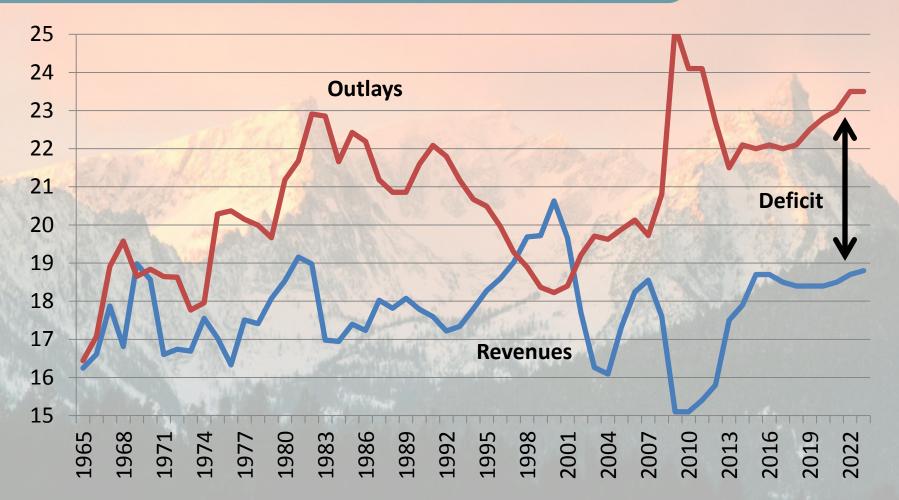
2009Q4 = 0

Jan. '11 to Mar. '11

Jan. '12 to Mar. '12

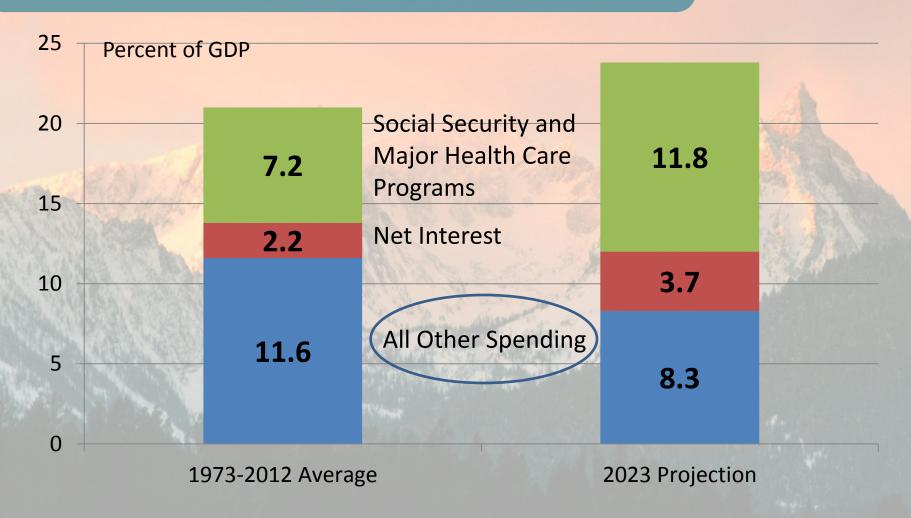
Jan. '13 to Mar. '13

## **Current Deficits Are Not the Issue**

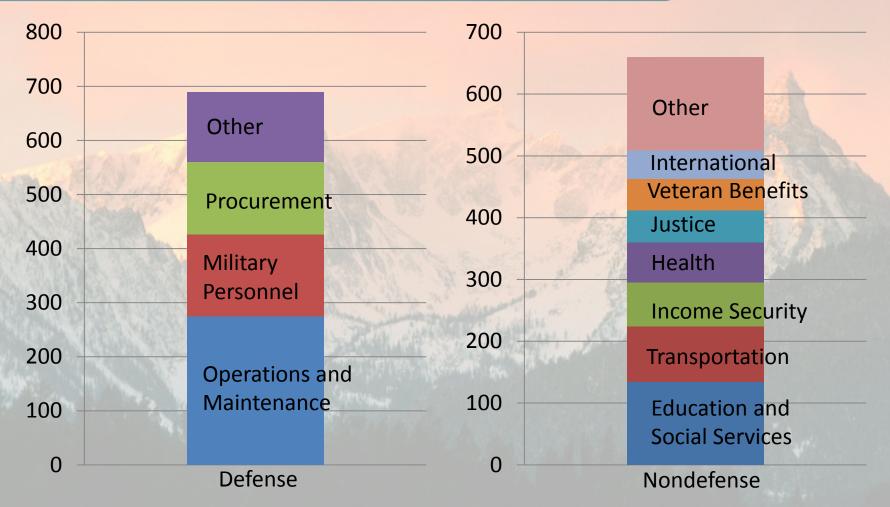


Federal Revenues and Outlays as a Percentage of GDP Source: Congressional Budget Office Alternative Fiscal Scenario

# What Kinds of Spending Are At Risk?

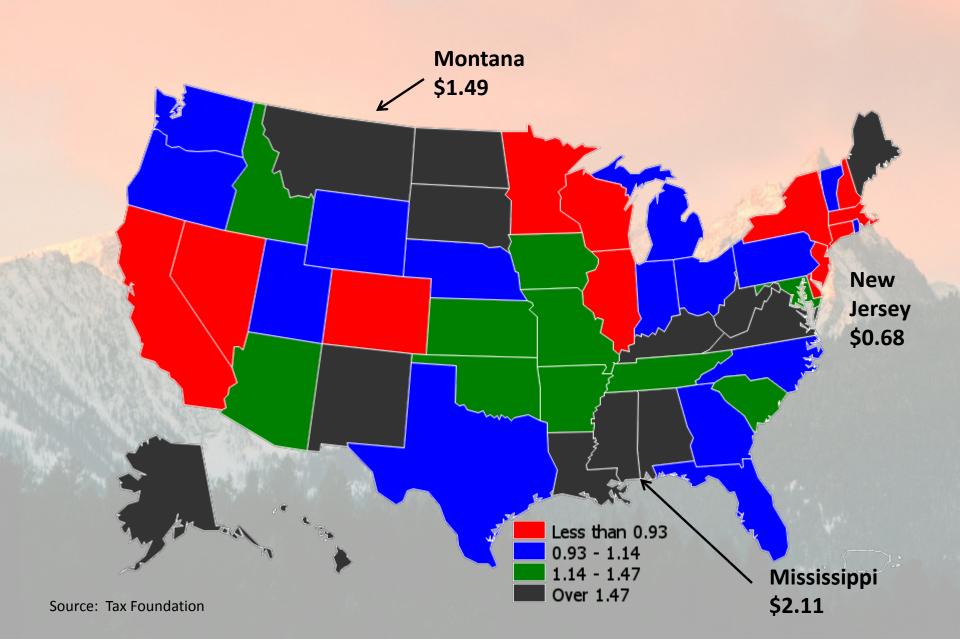


## What Kinds of Spending Are At Risk?



2010 Spending, Billions of Dollars
Source: Congressional Budget Office

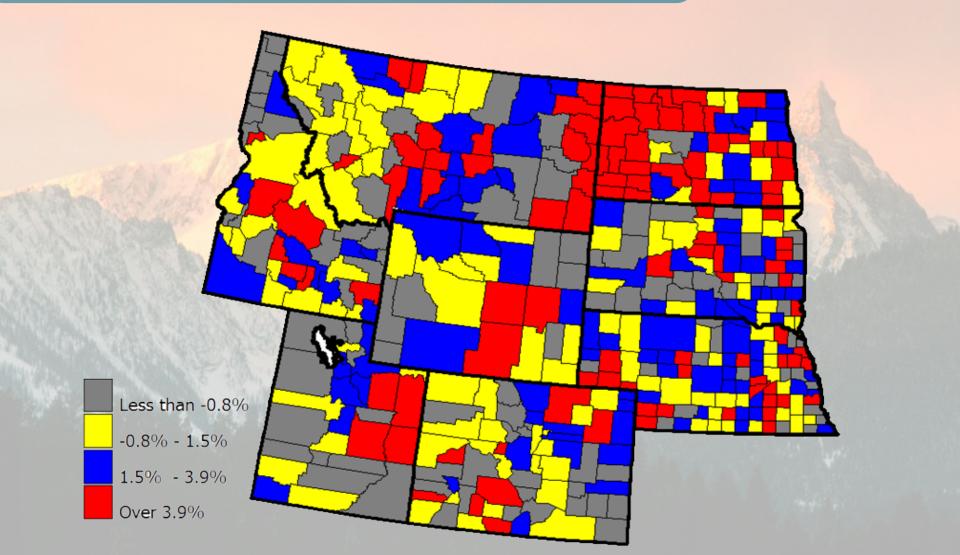
#### Federal Spending per Dollar of Taxes Collected, 2005



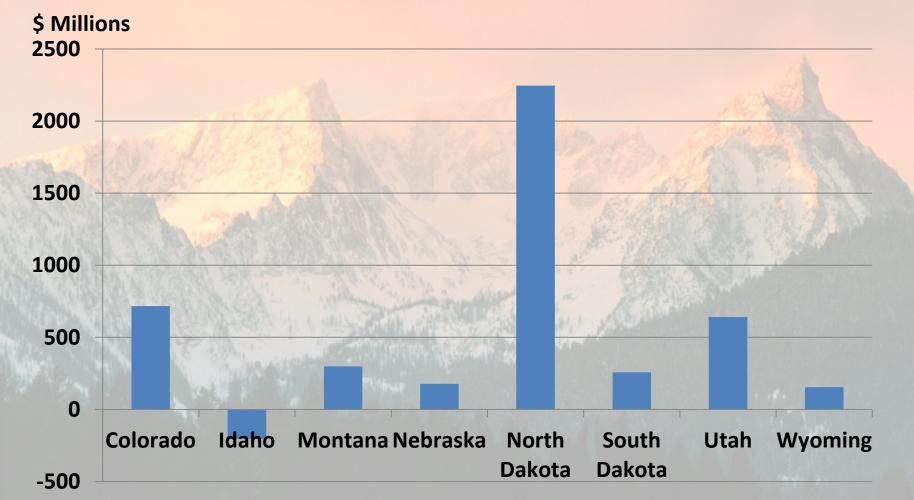
## 2012: A Better Year for Montana

- Strong income growth, but not quite as strong as state tax collections would suggest
- Evidence of energy activity is everywhere
- A glimmer of growth in the west
- Sitting out the party: retail and government

## Real Wage Growth, Percent, 2011-2012

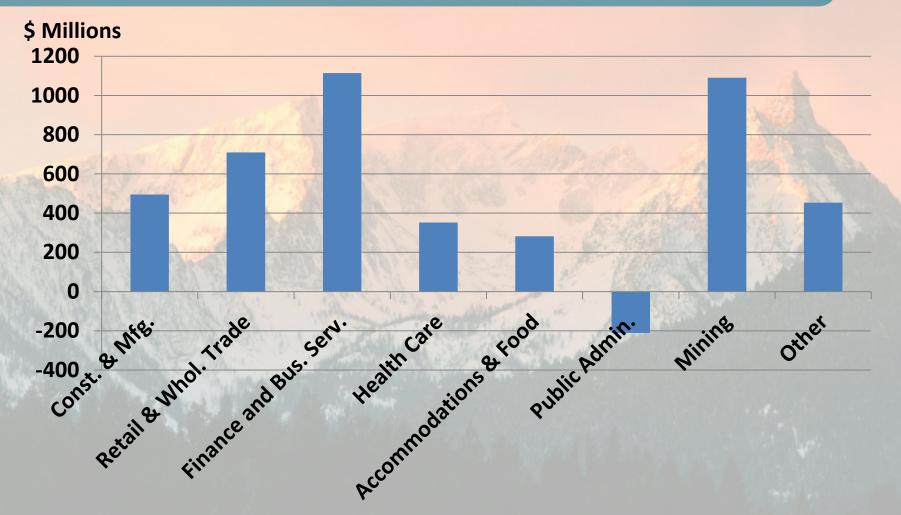


# Where's the Growth? Total Real Wage Growth



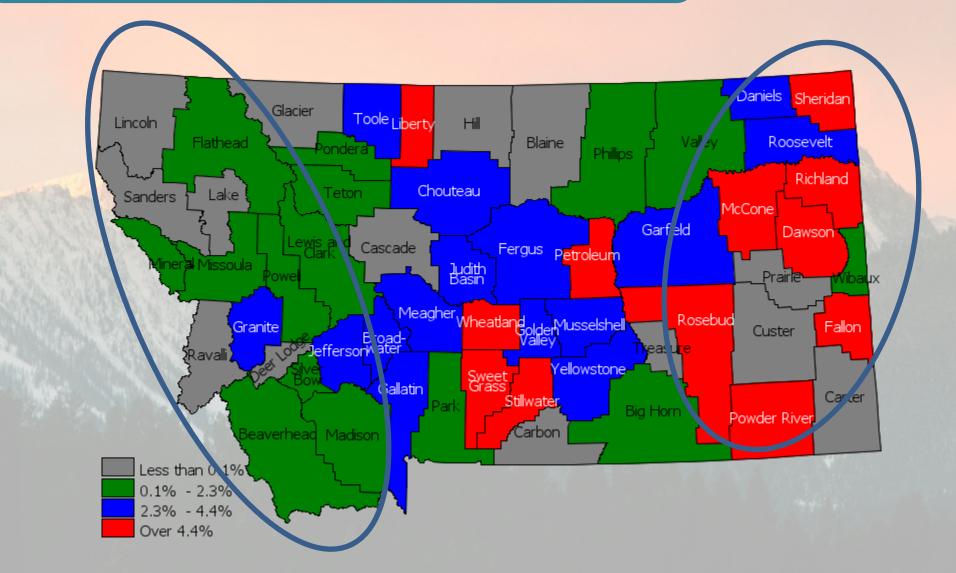
Difference between Inflation-adjusted Wages and Salaries, 2012 vs. 2011

# Where's the Growth? Mountain/Plains Real Wage Growth

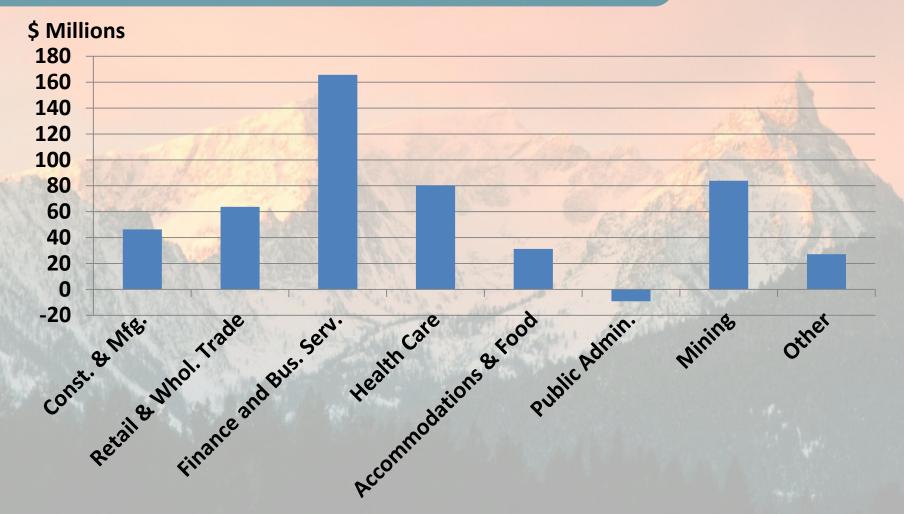


Difference between Inflation-adjusted Wages and Salaries, FY2012 vs. FY2011

## Real Wage Growth, Percent, 2011-2012

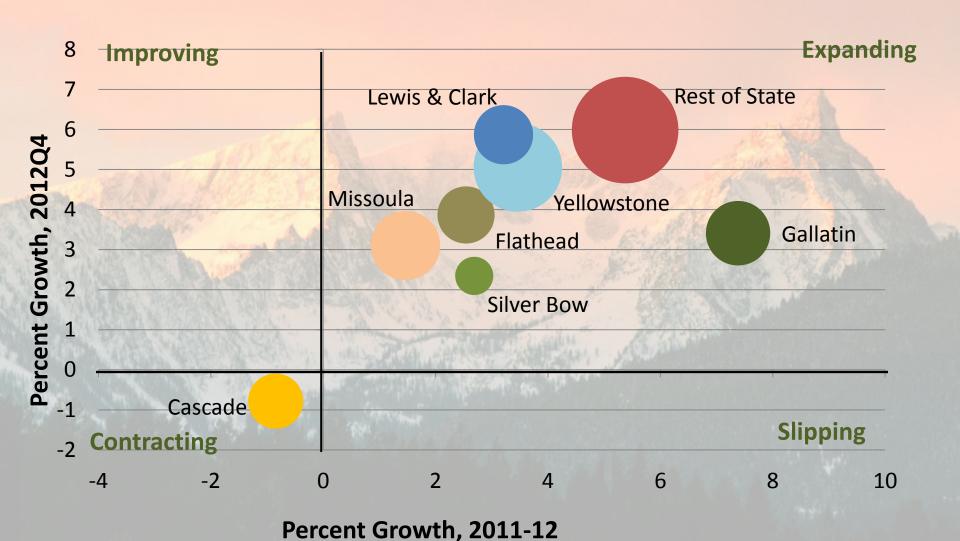


# Where's the Growth? Montana Real Wage Growth

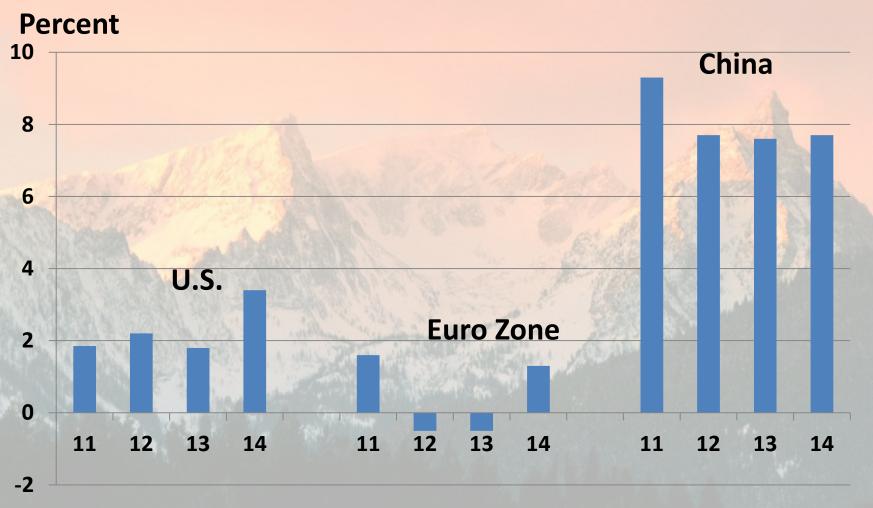


### **Most Areas of State Are Expanding**

**Percent Growth, Real Wages** 

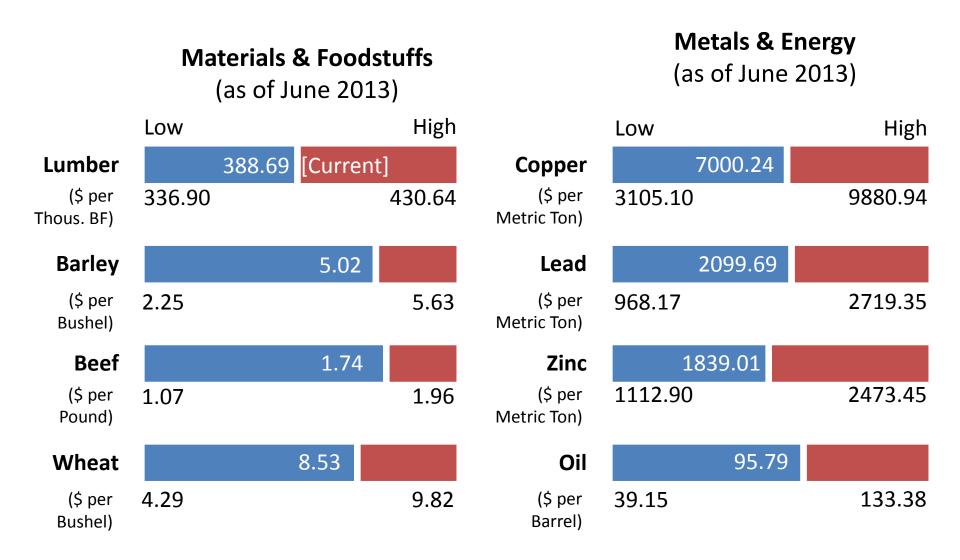


#### **Global Growth Has Stumbled**



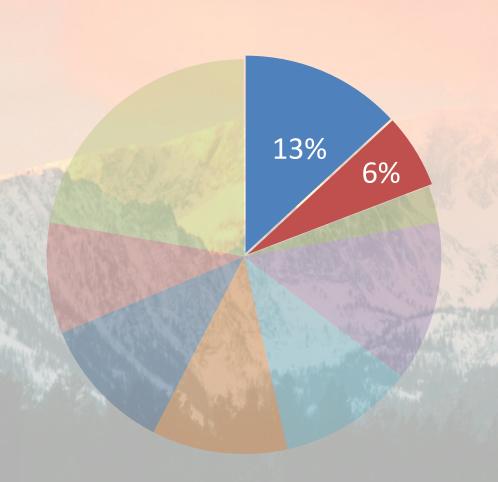
Percent Change in Real Gross Domestic Product Source: Moody's Analytics

## **Commodity Prices:** Favorable to Montana



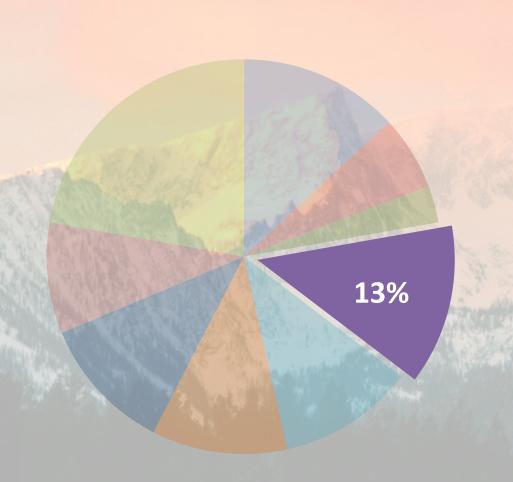
### Summary

- Montana goes into 2013 with good momentum, but some factors helping 2012 growth won't be sustained
- Softening in commodity prices and sluggish national growth are new headwinds
- Optimism over new home construction



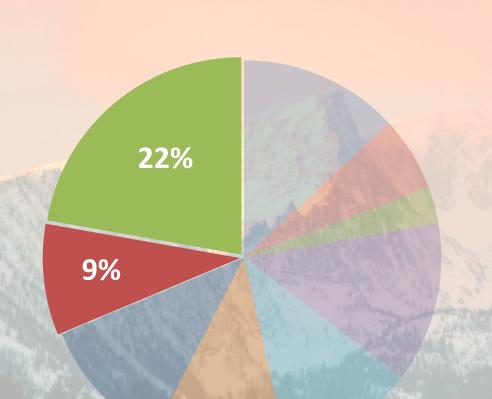
#### **Energy and Mining:**

Drilling activity has tapered down on both sides of eastern border. Emerging economies deceleration taking some steam out of metals prices.



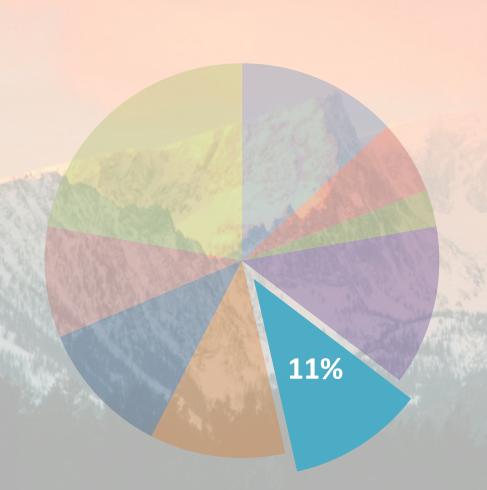
#### **Agriculture and Related:**

Sustained high prices, but slightly off of last year's high. Yield prospects good. Policy uncertainty ahead.



#### **Federal Military and Civilian:**

Short and medium term risks have risen. Current mild declines expected to continue.



#### **Nonresident travel:**

Growth remains constrained by weak U.S. consumer spending.

## Change in Nonfarm Earnings, Montana, 2010-2016

