

HELENA BUSINESS CLIMATE 6-YEAR TREND REPORT From 2007 through Dec. 2012

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(updated January, 2013)



HELENA - Your Montana Capital City!

- ❖ Historically Most Stable Economy Of The Larger Cities In Montana
- ❖ Higher Median Income Levels
- ❖ Many corporate offices located here
- ❖ 41% of Local Economy is State Govt. Jobs
(62% 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:

2007: Helena ranked 23rd

2008: Helena ranked 13th

2009: Helena ranked 9th

2010: Helena ranked 6th

2011: Helena ranked 2nd!!!!

2012: Helena AGAIN ranked 2nd!!!!

“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. 2007: 1.9%

DEC. 2008 4.0%

DEC. 2009 4.6%

DEC. 2010 5.1%

DEC. 2011 5.2%

DEC 2012 4.4%

(Mt. 5.8%)



EMPLOYMENT: Median Wages

Our Facts Your Future (MT.GOV):

**HELENA - \$34,114 (median)
\$38,149 (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% have Associate Degree
 - 2.7% have Professional Degree
 - 21.3% have Bachelor's Degree
 - 6.9% have Master's Degree
 - .8% have Doctorate Degree



COST OF LIVING INDEX

	<u>2010</u>	<u>2011</u>	<u>2012</u>
Overall Index =	100%	100%	106%
Food -	112%	108%	108%
Utilities -	94%	92%	92%
Other -	104%	100%	103%

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



BUSINESS FACTS...

- 78% of all businesses in the Helena Area have 10 or less employees
- There are now 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*



Residential Permits

- RESIDENTIAL - City of Helena

- 2007 - 216 permits = \$31.2 million
- 2008 - 184 permits = \$21.0 million
- 2009 - 226 permits = \$21.5 million
- 2010 - 244 permits = \$29.2 million
- 2011 - 211 permits = \$26.5 million

2012- 195 permits = \$27.4 million

PLUS 254 permits for septic in the valley

outside city limits....(comp. to 198 in '11, 332
in '10, 284 -"09 & 08.....

& 426 - '07)



HOME PERMIT INFO:

- Of 211 permits = 67 total new residences (within city limits)
- Of the 67 = 44 were spec homes (not owned when permitted) ½ under \$200,000.
- Homes: 29 private: of those 3 were \$500,000- \$600,000, 9 were \$300,000-500,000.



Average Home Prices

2007 - \$225,000

2008 - \$224,888

2009 - \$211,822

2010 - \$213,705

2011 - \$208,486.

2012 - \$210,351 (\$195,000 median)

(Helena Assoc. of Realtors)

829 homes sold in 2012

(Includes single family, condo and townhomes)



Commercial Building permits

- 2007 - 187 permits - \$44.9 million
- 2008 - 175 permits - \$59.8 million
- 2009 - 196 permits - \$64.8 million
- 2010 - 231 permits - \$53.7 million
- 2011 - 215 permits - \$42.0 million
- 2012 - 209 permits - \$50.4 million



Projects finished in 2012

Started in 2011 - finished in 2012.....

**Browning, Kalyacec, Berry, Hoven - 5.11
Million**

First Interstate Bank - 5.04 million

**Dr. Rencher, Helena Eye, Pediatric
Dentistry Building - 3.54 million**



Large Projects Started in 2012:

- *Town Pump & Magic Diamond Casino
on Sanders St. 2.26 million
- *Waterford/Touchmark New units
\$5.03 million
- *Great Divide Dental - \$750,000.
- *Staples - 1.6 million
- *Natural Grocers 1.7 million
- *Shodair - home & services 1.4 million



MORE:

Intermountain building on Dredge Dr.

5.2 million

Helena Community Credit Union Branch

2.37 million

St. Petes Med. Office (Broadway)

just under 1 million (finish top floor)

Summit Optical - \$726,000.



MORE:

- STOCKMAN BANK - est. 4 million
- Strip Mall by Home Depot (4 stores)
(TJ Max, Ulta Bath & Body, Carnival Shoes, and Rue 21)
- Professional building: Crowley Fleck Law Firm, Mike Miller State Farm, Helena Orthodontics, and Dr. Jeff Foster - Est. 5 Million



COMING.....?

- **COMING:** 2 Dormitories at Carroll
(Eventually will be a total of 6)

POSSIBLY COMING:

Rosauers Food Store off Washington
Pet Smart



Helena Regional Airport

2012 Stats:

Boardings were down 5.6% - However -

Recent study show that load factors are up - now
at over 80%

High Load factors = retaining existing service

Future plans are for eliminating 50 seat jets and
replace with 70, 90, and 100 seat jets.



Helena Regional Airport (2)

- 2nd TSA Checkpoint was built \$125,000
- \$900,000 remodel of Fire Station 2
- \$2.4 million Ramp rehabilitation & de-Ice pad for expanded aircraft parking
- 1 million grant for Semi truck, mobile helicopter, car, haz-mat, structural, and tanker fire training trailers.
- New snow removal equipment - \$1.6 mil
- Acquired new mobile fire and hazmat trainers - \$1.mill (Thanks Sen. Baucus!)
- Acquired FedEx Boeing 727 for training and for Helena College training



HELENA AIRPORT (3):

- **COMING:**
- New runway and airfield lighting system - 2 million
- Additional non-aeronautical business development to diversify revenues sources - maintaining our air services!



Tourism info:

In 2012 -

More rooms occupied (up by 3000 room nights over 2011), most revenue generated - up \$600,000 over 2011, and the highest average daily rate (up 1 dollar over 2011) in Helena hotels.....EVER.

Smith Travel
Report



CHAMBER REQUESTS

Relocation Packets

- ❖ 2000+ last year

Tourist Packets

- ❖ Distribute over 30,000 per year



It's great to live
in Montana's Capital City!



CREDITS.....

- City of Helena Ourfactsyourfuture.org
- L & C County Bestplaces.net
- Helena Airport Authority
- Helena Association of Realtors
- www.policom.com
- US Census 2000
- Helena Area Chamber of Commerce
- Smith Travel and Research



The Helena Area Chamber of Commerce

YOUR BUSINESS ADVOCATE

