

# MONTANA



Governor's Ofc. of Econ. Opportunity  
State Capitol  
Helena, MT 59620

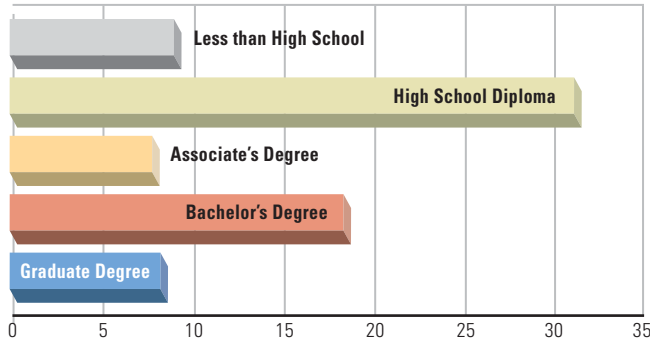
Evan Barrett, Chief Bus. Dev. Officer  
406-444-5470

*"Senate Bill 372 needlessly gives away hundreds of thousands of dollars of tax breaks to large, out-of-state corporations. Ordinarily I would not approve of such tax breaks to these large companies. But the Majority has given me an all-or-nothing choice."* — Gov. Brian Schweitzer upon signing Senate Bill 372 into law

**Governor:** Brian Schweitzer (D) **business.mt.gov**

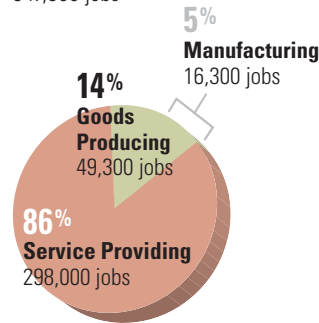
**Population 2011:** 997,565 **Population growth forecast 2011-2015:** 3.95% **Median household income:** \$49,661

## Work Force Education by Percentage



## Private Sector Employment

347,300 jobs



Property tax rank: **10**  
 Top corporate tax rate: **6.65**  
 Unemployment insurance burden rank by least percent of taxable wages: **16**  
 Worker's comp rank by lowest index: **1**  
 Industrial power prices (per million BTU): **\$15.98**  
 Ranked by low price: **12**

Median hourly wage for production occupations: **\$14.18**  
 Right-to-work state? **NO**

## Legislative Update

- Gov. Brian Schweitzer signed Senate Bill 372 in May, which reduces business equipment taxes for Montana businesses, but does not remove them from state tax rolls, the governor noted in a letter to Sec. of State

Linda McCullouch.

- A new loan participation program was created with the \$12.6 million in Federal funds awarded under the State Small Business Credit Initiative.