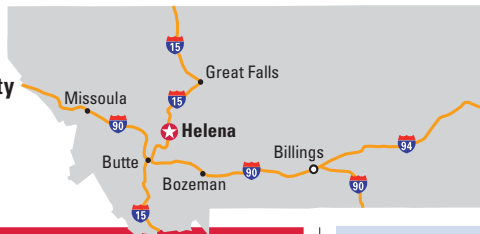


MONTANA



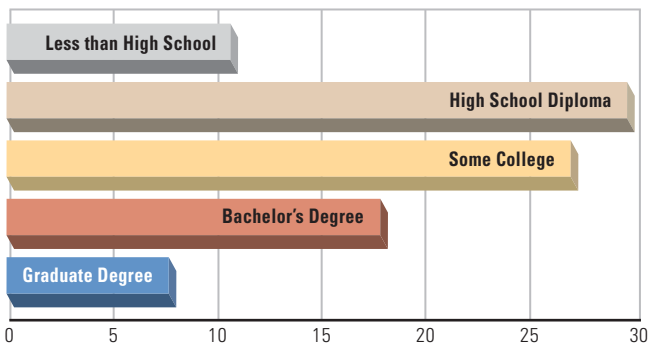
Governor's Ofc. of Econ. Opportunity
State Capitol
Helena, MT 59620
 Evan Barrett, Chief Bus. Dev. Officer
 406-444-5470



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

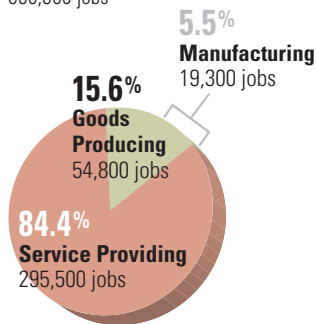
Population 2009: 962,658 **Population growth forecast 2009-2013:** 4.98% **Median household income:** \$41,954

Work Force Education by Percentage



Private Sector Employment

350,300 jobs



Employment by Majority-Owned U.S. Affiliates of Foreign Firms in 2007: **7,700**
 Percent of Total State Employment: **2.1**

Median Hourly Wage for Production Occupations: **\$14.12**
 Right-to-work state? **NO**

U.S. Recovery Act Highlight: Mont. Dept. of Labor & Industry **\$6.3 million**

Legislative Update

- The legislature directed a revision of the state's energy policy with the goal of rebuilding and extending transmission lines, integrating wind energy and maximizing state land use for energy generation.
- Workers' compensation was a big issue in 2009. A bill was signed into

law creating separate pools for small businesses that develop safety programs and return-to-work policies and show a record of a safe workplace for more than three years. The bill provides financial incentives for these businesses.