HIGHLIGHTS & STATISTICS

Senate District 37 2007

PREPARED FOR:

Senator Steve Gallus (D)
2319 Harvard Ave
Butte, MT 59701-3854

House District 74
Representative George Groesbeck (D)
2044 Carolina Ave
Butte, MT 59701-6025

House District 73
Representative Art Noonan (D)
1621 Whitman Ave
Butte, MT 59701-5380

MONTANA State Library
1515 East Sixth Avenue, Helena, MT
(406) 444-3115

The
Montana Index

	US	MT	RANK
Population, 2005 estimate	296,410,000	936,000	44
Population per square mile, 2004	83	6	48
Percent of population by race:			
African American	12.8	0.4	50
American Indian	1	6.4	5
Asian American	4.2	0.5	50
Hispanic	14.1	2.4	40
White (Non-Hispanic)	67.4	89.1	7
Mixed-Race	1.5	1.5	11
Percent of population that is under age 18	25	22.5	46
Percent of population over age 65	12.4	13.7	10
Percent of population that is female	50.8	50.1	39
Median age, 2004	36.2	39.6	4
Births per 1000 population, 2003	14.1	12.4	43
Deaths per 1000 population, 2003	8.31	8.28	24
Infant Mortality per 1000 live births, 2005	6.6	5.6	36
Per capita personal income, 2004	$33,041	$27,666	40
Percent of population in poverty, 2004	12.7	14.1	14
Percent of children under age 18 in poverty, 2004	17.8	16.5	26
Unemployment rate, 2005	5.1	4.5	34
Cost of Living index, 2005	100	100.7	21
Percentage change in home prices, 2000-2005	53.3	46.6	19
Home ownership percentage, 2004	69	72.4	21

Notable Rankings from 2004

There are more public road miles in Montana than interstate miles in the entire United States.

6th in the nation for traffic fatalities per 100 million vehicle miles (229 deaths).

2nd for percent of traffic fatalities related to alcohol.

7th for percent of traffic fatalities related to speeding.

3rd highest for suicide deaths, with 19.9 per 100,000 people.

10th highest high school graduation rate (77%).

Montana ranks 2nd in the nation for military veterans (14.3% of the population).

During 2004, 3789 Montanans served in the Active Duty military.
5775 served in the Reserves or National Guard.
As of 12/28/2006, 14 Montanans have been killed in Iraq
and 2 have been killed in Afghanistan.

Sources: CQ's State Fact Finder 2006 (Kendra A. Hovey and Harold A. Hovey, eds.)
State Rankings 2006: A Statistical View of the 50 United States (Kathleen O'Leary Morgan and Scott Morgan, eds.)
Iraq Coalition Casualty Count (www.icasualties.org)

Regional Growth & Economy

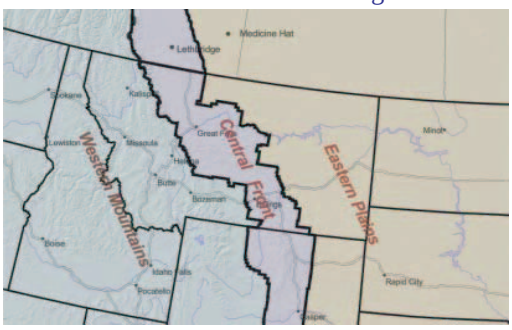
Many Montanas

Montana is a single state, but in reality there are many Montanas. Some are defined by their terrain, climate, land use, and population density. Others are defined by their economies. While Montanans commonly call their state rural, the reality is that most Montanans live in or near one of the state's cities where most recent economic growth has been focused. Montana's diversity can be the state's biggest obstacle to progress, or it can move the state forward.

The news media frequently feature articles about the "Montana economy," oftentimes reporting on its weaknesses and deficiencies. The difficulty with this is that there is no single Montana economy. In the chart below, Montana is seen as three somewhat distinct geographic regions. The Western Mountain region extends west from the eastern edge of the Rockies, a line that follows the front of the mountains along the Big Belt range east of Helena and south and east around the Absaroka Range into Wyoming. The area east of these mountains is the Central Front, which extends from northwest of Great Falls to southeast of Billings. East of the region, where the terrain stretches into the distance, is the Eastern Plains.

No state, including Montana, is isolated from major shifts in the nation's economy and in larger population trends. In the 1990's there was a massive population shift to the Interior West, making the Rocky Mountain West (the mountainous area encompassing much of Colorado, Utah, Idaho, Wyoming, and Montana) one of the nation's fastest growing regions. This migration sparked rapid growth in the western third of Montana. During the same period, Montana's Eastern Plains experienced out-migration, consistent with the trend in the larger northern Great Plains.

Montana's Three Regions



Recent Population Growth in Montana from West-to-East

Montana is the fourth largest in size of all states, but has a relatively small population (less than 1 million). The population growth in the Interior West region of the United States has recently become more focused in fewer areas. In Montana, this amenity-driven growth favors growth in the western mountainous portion of the state because of the mountains, forestlands and large national parks.

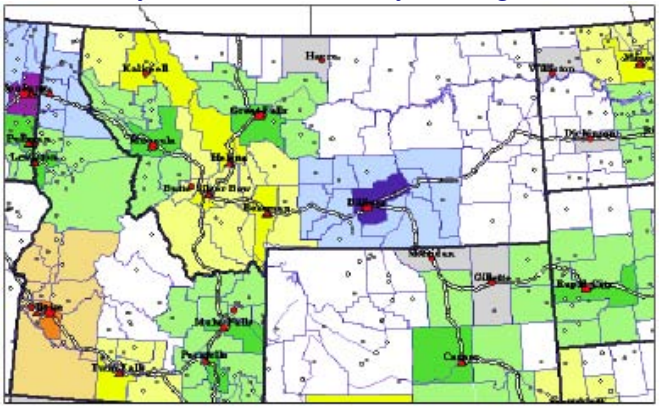
Growth since the 2000 Census is concentrated in the western region. Statewide growth between 2000 and 2005 (the most recent estimates) showed an increase of 33,475 people, with the 22 counties in the west accounting for 33,233 of this increase (which is over 99 percent of the increase). Most of this growth is in Gallatin, Flathead, Missoula, Ravalli, Lewis & Clark, Lake, and Jefferson counties (all with gains of over 1,000). Only Silver Bow, Deer Lodge, and Beaverhead counties had meaningful population losses in the west. Remaining growth in Montana was accounted for by Yellowstone in the central front. Every one of the 20 eastern plains counties had population decline.

Cities are Centers of Population and Economic Growth

Montana population, income, and employment trends differ systematically in urban and rural areas. Montana has no large cities by national standards, but it has many medium-size and small cities. These regional centers used to be too small to participate in urban-based economic growth. But with revolutionary changes in information technology and communications infrastructure, along with other changes in the economy, Montana cities can now accommodate the nation's expanding service-based economy.

The illustration at right depicts regional areas centered on the state's seven major cities (Billings and Yellowstone County shown in dark blue, Missoula and Great Falls shown in dark green, and Helena, Bozeman, Butte, and Flathead County shown in dark yellow). Counties closely linked to these centers are coded in light blue, light green and light yellow. Isolated rural counties are shown in white.

City-Centered Multi-County Sub-Regions



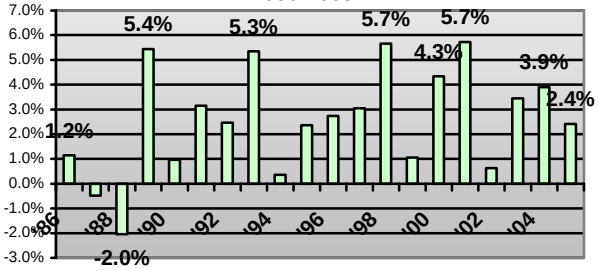
Source: Larry Swanson

Most Montanans believe the state is languishing economically, based upon state-level comparisons with other states. But in the regional population centers where most people live, personal income Growth, in inflation-adjusted dollars, increased more than three-fold between the 1980s and 1990s. In surrounding counties closely linked to these regional centers, growth in personal income more than doubled. Montana's cities are not only centers of population, they are also regional centers of finance, commerce, health care, education, and arts and entertainment.

Personal and Per-Capita Income Growth

The latest available annual data for personal income at the state level is 2005. The chart below shows personal income growth on an annual basis, adjusted for inflation, between 1985 and 2005. The state's economy came out of the doldrums of the '80s in the early '90s, spurred by a turnaround in population migration patterns – more people began to move to the state than the number moving away, stimulating income and employment growth.

Annual Real Growth in Personal Inc. in MT, 1990-2005



Source: Swanson (using BEA, U.S. Dept. of Commerce data and price deflators)

Between 1995 and 2005, personal income grew by more than 38% in Montana, ranking the state 22nd among all states. For the 2003-05 period, personal income grew by 6.4% in Montana, ranking it 21st. In four of the last 15 years, annual personal income growth exceeded 5%, but more recently income growth is slowing, falling to 2.4% growth for 2004-05.

Personal income in Montana has been growing much more rapidly than population and, as a result, per capita income growth has been relatively fast. Per capita income is simply total personal income divided by the total population. Montana's per capita income, in 2000 inflation-adjusted dollars, rose from $20,037 in 1995 to $22,900 in 2000 and to $25,900 in 2005. This 29% increase in per capita income between 1995 and 2005 ranked the state 8th among all states in the rate of growth.

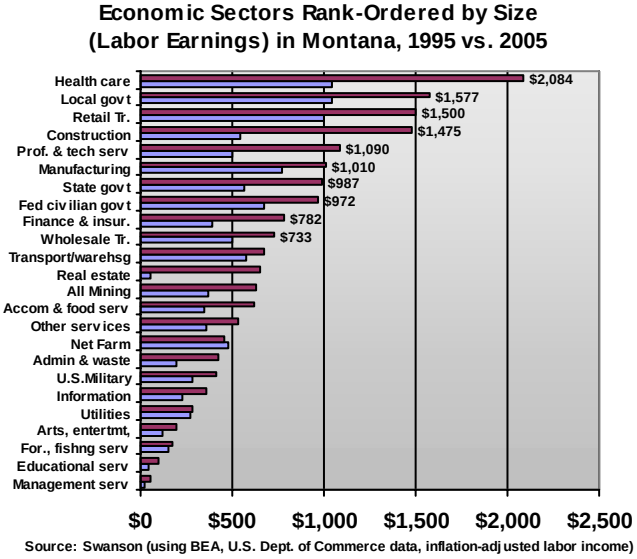
Economic Growth by Major Sector

The concentration of income and employment growth in Montana's cities has resulted from fundamental changes in the larger economy. These changes are favoring growth in health care; business, engineering, and management services; finance, insurance, and real estate; and construction.

There are 24 major sectors of the economy under the new NAICS industry codes used in compiling income and employment data. The single largest sector in Montana is health care which had labor earnings of almost $2.1 billion in 2005, as compared with a little over $1 billion in 1995. Next in size is local government, which includes all city and county governments as well as local public education.

The chart at right shows growth in each sector over the course of the last ten years. Economic expansion in Montana over the last ten years was greatest in health care – up by over $1 billion – and construction – up by $930 million in 2000 inflation-adjusted dollars. Real estate is 3rd, followed by professional and technical services (engineering services, accounting services, computer services, scientific services, etc.).

Employment earnings growth will continue to be concentrated in health care, professional and technical services, real estate and construction, finance and insurance, retail trade, and local government.



Overall Population Growth in Montana Expected to Slow

The U.S. Census Bureau released post-Census 2000 population projections for U.S. states in March, 2005. They project that the U.S. population as a whole will grow by 9% between 2000 and 2010, after growing at 13% between 1990 and 2000. Growth is projected at 9% for the 2010 to 2020 period and at 8% for the 2020 to 2030 period.

The very high population growth among most Rocky Mountain states during the '90s is projected to slow. Colorado grew by 31% in the '90s and is projected to grow by only 12% between 2000 and 2010 and by only 9% the subsequent decade. Idaho's growth is projected to fall from 28% in the '90s to 17% in the current decade and 15% and 13% in the next two decades after that.

Montana, which grew by 13% in the '90s – the same rate of growth as nationally – is projected to fall to 7% growth between 2000 and 2010, to 6% growth between 2010 and 2020, and to only 2% growth between 2020 and 2030 – falling significantly below the growth rate nationwide. Wyoming, which grew by 9% in the '90s, is projected to fall to 5% and 2% growth in the subsequent two decades and to slip into population decline after 2020. These growth projections incorporate the Census Bureau's expectations regarding area birth and death rates, as well as patterns of net migration.

It will be interesting to see how a decline in population growth will affect the economic balance between the three regions of Montana and between Montana's urban centers and rural areas.

Source: The information in this article was provided to Montana State Library by Dr. Larry Swanson at the O'Conner Center for the Rocky Mountain West, University of Montana. The introduction is excerpted from "Many Montanas," an article written by Dr. Swanson that appeared in the Montana's Agenda *newsletter, Winter 2005 issue.*

District Wildlife Highlights

Montana supports a wealth of biological resources, including over 600 vertebrate animals and over 2200 plant species native to the state. Montana ranks 13th among all U.S. states in mammal diversity with over 100 species. Habitat diversity also ranks among the highest in the nation, with over 300 native vegetation types documented.

Abandoned mines around Butte provide valuable habitat for many bat species, including the rare Townsend's Big-Eared Bat. One bat can eat between 600 and 1,000 flying insects in just an hour.

The mix of grassland, sagebrush, and forest in the Mount Haggin area provides habitat for a variety of mammals and birds.

The tiny, colorful mealy primrose grows in Warm Springs canyon. This is one of Montana's many rare plants that benefit from grazing, which reduces taller competing vegetation.

Much more information on Montana's animals, plants and habitats can be found on-line in the digital "Field Guides" maintained by the Natural Heritage Program at www.mtnhp.org or by contacting the Montana State Library at 406-444-3016. All photographs courtesy of the Natural Heritage Program unless otherwise stated.

MONTANA Natural Heritage Program

2007 Highlights and Statistics
Senate District 37

DEMOGRAPHICS

Population Growth in Montana and Selected Counties

	2000 Census	2005 Estimate	Percent Growth
United States	281,424,602	296,507,061	.05
Montana	902,195	935,670	.04
Silver Bow County	34,606	32,982	-4.69

Montana's population density is about 6.3 persons per square mile.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau

Household Income & Poverty Figures for 2003

	Median Household Income	% in Poverty All Ages	% in Poverty Ages < 18
United States	43,318	12.5	17.6
Montana	34,449	14.2	19.9
Silver Bow County	32,263	15.9	22.6

Montana ranked 27th among all U.S. states for median income in 2003.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau Website

Housing Units for Selected Counties

According to the U.S. Census Bureau, the total number of housing units in Montana increased 3.8% during this period.

	Housing Units April 2000	Housing Units July 2005	Percent Change
Silver Bow County	16,176	16,228	0.32

EDUCATION

Schools in Senate District 37

	Grade Schools	Middle Schools	High Schools	Mixed/K-12 Schools	Colleges
Public	5	1	0	2	1
Private	0	0	0	1	0

There are 949 K-12 schools in Montana; 90.5% of them are public schools. Montana has 22 public colleges and 6 private colleges.

Source: Montana Department of Administration, GIS Services Bureau. This data was last updated in May of 2004.

Libraries

There are 756 libraries in Montana. Besides public libraries, many of Montana's schools and colleges have libraries. Public agencies, hospitals and private companies also maintain libraries.

	Public	Branches	Book-mobiles	School	Academic	Special or Other	Total
Silver Bow County	1	0	0	13	2	4	20
Montana	80	29	4	560	26	53	756

Source: Montana State Library. The chart summarizes libraries in the Montana Library Directory as of December 2006. You can browse the directory for more detailed information about libraries: http://montanalibraries.org/Directory.

Montana Talking Book Library

Montana residents who are unable to use standard print materials due to visual, physical and/or reading disabilities may be eligible to borrow recorded books and playback equipment from the Montana Talking Book Library. Eligibility is determined based on National Library Service Standards. Currently, 3,775 Montanans are registered to use this free service. The following table summarizes Talking Book Library patrons for Senate District 37 counties.

The Talking Book Library is a program of the Montana State Library. To apply for services, contact 1-800-3323-3400 (in Helena 406-444-2064).

	Talking Book Library Patrons
Silver Bow County	185

LAND

Size

Senate District 37 is 554.06 square miles in size, or about 0.38 % of Montana's total land area (147,000 square miles). The average size of all senate districts in Montana is 2,938 square miles. District 37 ranks number 31 in size.

Statewide Land Ownership

Owner	Area (Sq. Miles)	Percent
Private	83,890	57.1
U.S. Forest Service	26,382	18
Bureau of Land Management	12,575	8.6
Tribal Land	8,431	5.7
State Trust Land	8,062	5.5
National Park Service	1,831	1.2
Fish and Wildlife Service	1,431	1
All Others	4,318	2.9
Total	**146,924**	**100**

Senate District 37 Land Ownership

Owner	Area (Sq. Miles)	Percent
Private	202	36.41
U.S. Forest Service	240	43.28
State Trust Land	19	3.43
Other State Land	22	3.92
Bureau of Land Management	72	12.96
Total	**554**	**100**

Source: Senate district sizes were obtained from the Montana State Libary, Natural Resource Information System (NRIS). Land ownership information is maintained by the Montana State Library, Natural Heritage Program and is based on data supplied by various state and federal agencies. The land ownership data was last updated in July 2005.

Private Land Agricultural Use

Montana has approximately 60,591,500 acres of land in agricultural production. Of this total, 64% are in grazing, 21% in fallow crop rotation, 10% in timber and 5% in all other uses. The following table summarized land being used for agricultural uses in Senate District 37.

Agricultural Use	Acres	% of Ag Use
Fallow Crop	0	0.00
Farmstead	467	0.25
Grazing	151,164	79.60
Wild Hay	3,111	1.64
Irrigated	7,829	4.12
Timber	27,337	14.39
Total	**189,908**	**100.00**

Source: Private Land Agricultural Use was derived using the state Cadastral GIS layer maintained by the Department of Administration, GIS Services Bureau, along with the Department of Revenue property tax database (CAMA). These classifications are maintained by the Department of Revenue for tax valuation purposes. This data was last updated in November of 2006.

WATER

Water Well Development in Senate District 37

Year	Wells Drilled	% of Total	Avg Depth (ft.)
Pre-1990	1,376	56.23	77.04
2000-2005	248	10.13	131.78
1990-1999	823	33.63	107.93
Total:	**2447**	**100.00**	**316.75**

There are approximately 198,500 water wells in Montana. 61% of Montana's wells were drilled prior to 1990. 24% were drilled in the 1990's and 15% were drilled since the year 2000.

Source: Montana Bureau of Mines and Geology's Ground Water Information Center (GWIC). This data was drawn from the GWIC database in October 2005.

Water Rights in Senate District 37

Type	Count
Water Reservation	2
Temporary Provisional Permit	2
Statement Of Claim	875
Reserved Claim	22
Provisional Permit	33
K - 62-73 Groundwater	14
Ground Water Certificate	1,113
Exempt Right	40
Total:	**2101**

There are well over 330,000 water rights in Montana. The Department of Natural Resources and Conservation maintains a database of water rights to assist Montana citizens and the Montana Water Court in the water rights adjudication process.

Source: Montana Department of Natural Resources and Conservation water rights database. Data was downloaded in November 2006.

Dams

Purpose	Count	Avg Height (ft.)	Min Height (ft.)	Max Height (ft.)	Total Capacity (Acre ft.)
Irrigation	1	15.00	15.00	15.00	67
Other	1	47.00	47.00	47.00	815
Stock / Small Farm Pond	2	25.00	20.00	30.00	139
Unknown	1	0.00	0.00	0.00	0
Water Supply	2	75.00	49.00	101.00	1,460
Total	**7**				**2,481**

There are approximately 3,700 dams in Montana. Predominant uses are stock/farm ponds (48%) and irrigation (22.4%).

Source: Dam information is derived from the Corps of Engineers National Inventory of Dams, with supplemental information from the Montana Department of Natural Resources and Conservation and Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks. This data was last updated in September of 2003.

ENVIRONMENT

Noxious Weed Distribution in Senate District 37

	Cinquefoil	Leafy Spurge	Russian Knapweed	Spotted Knapweed	Toadflax
Sections:		88	1	289	16
% of PLSS		14.0	0.2	45.9	2.5

Spotted Knapweed is the most predominant noxious weed in Montana with known presence in over 21% of the public land survey sections in Montana.

Source: Weed Survey and Mapping System sponsored by the Montana Noxious Weed Trust Fund. The data was collected in 1998-1999.

Leaking Underground Petroleum Storage Tanks in Senate District 37

Between 1981 and 2006 there were 4023 confirmed leak sites in Montana.

Source: Montana Department of Environmental Quality Remediation Division. This data was last updated in March 2006.

City	Years	Confirmed Leaks
Melrose	1993 - 1999	2
Divide	1990 - 1990	1
Butte	1989 - 2006	42
Total:		**45**

Abandoned Mines and Remediation Sites in Senate District 37

Site Type	Total
Abandoned Mines	128
Remediation Response	17

There are 6,956 abandoned mine sites and 790 other remediation sites in Montana.

Source: Montana Department of Environmental Quality Remediation Division. This data was last updated in October 2006.

This pamphlet represents a small sample of the information available from the Montana State Library.
Please contact us if you have additional information needs.

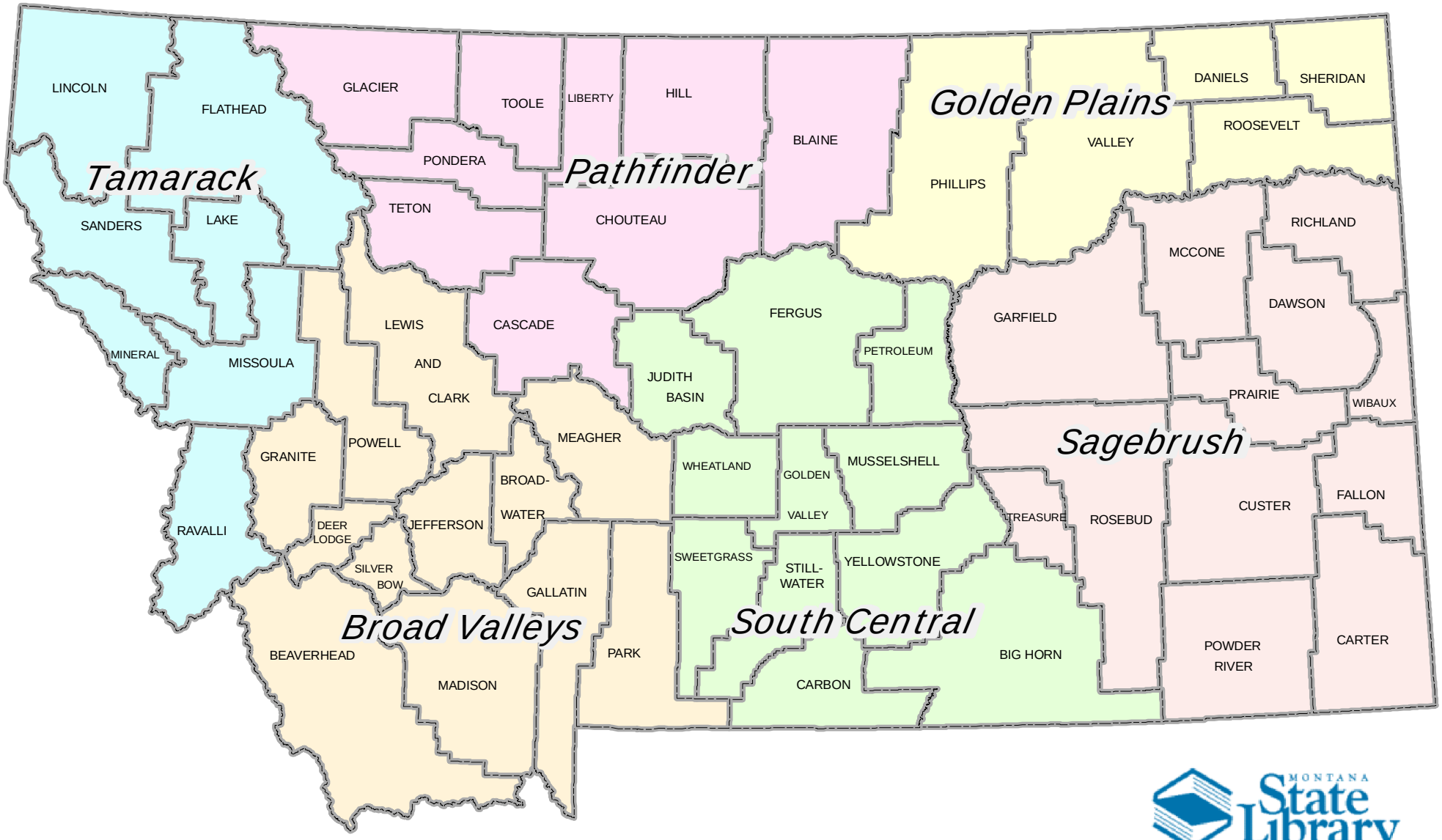
Montana State Library Reference Services
(406) 444-3016
msl.mt.gov

Montana Talking Book Library
(406) 444-2064 or (800) 332-3400
msl.mt.gov/tbl

Montana Natural Resource Information System
(406) 444-5354
nris.mt.gov

Montana Natural Heritage Program
(406) 444-5354
mtnhp.org

Montana Federations of Libraries



Map Number 05msl0011 -- 1/6/05

Montana Legislative Districts 2005-2014

Missoula

Helena

Bozeman

Great Falls

Billings

County Line
Lake or Stream
Highway

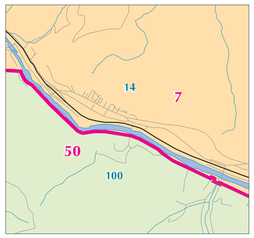
30 / 59 — 60

Each Senate District is a outlined and labeled in pink. The two House Districts that form each Senate District are separated by a blue line and labeled in blue.

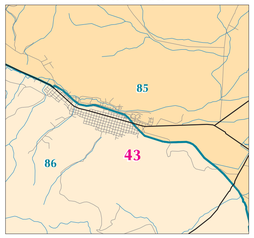
Scale of Miles
0 10 20 30 40 50 60 70 80 90 100

MONTANA
Natural Resource Information System
Montana State Library – 1515 East 6th Avenue
Helena, Montana – (406) 444-5357
Map Number 04leg0001 – 7/28/2003

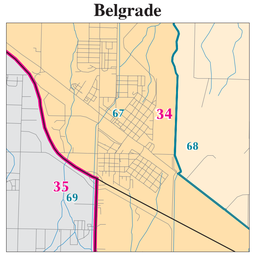
Alberton



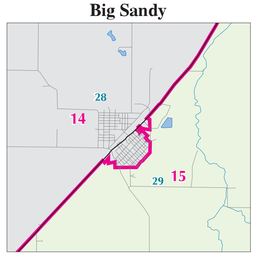
Anaconda



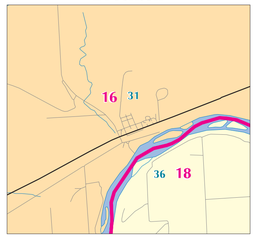
Belgrade



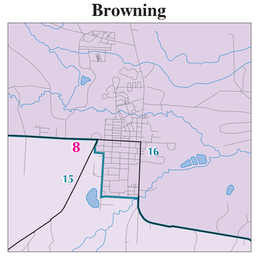
Big Sandy



Brockton



Browning



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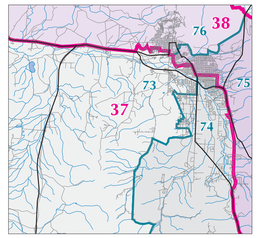
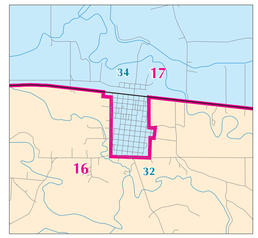
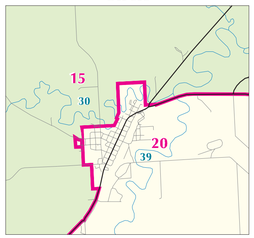


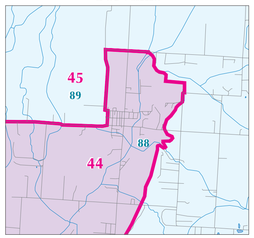
Chinook



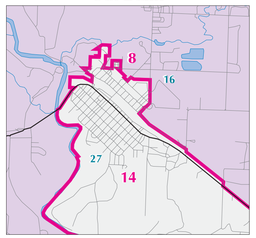
Circle



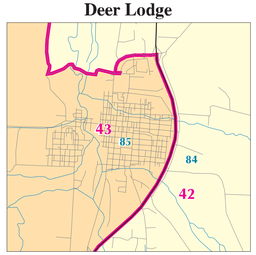
Corvallis



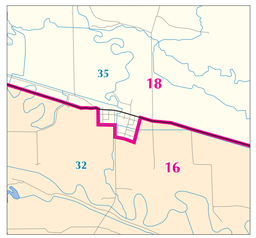
Cut Bank



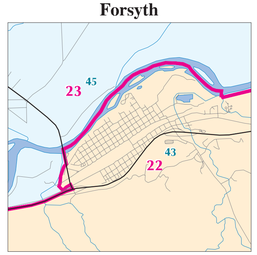
Deer Lodge



Dodson



Forsyth



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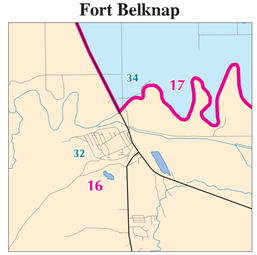

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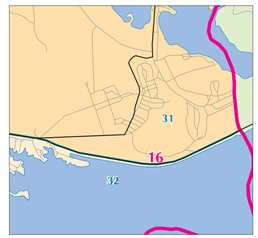

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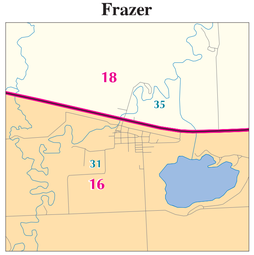

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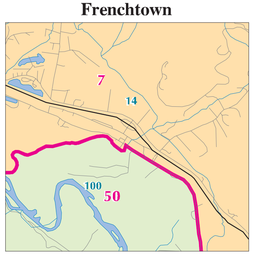

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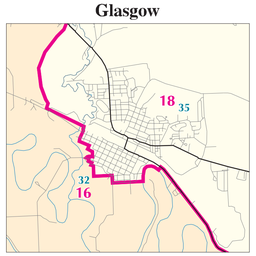

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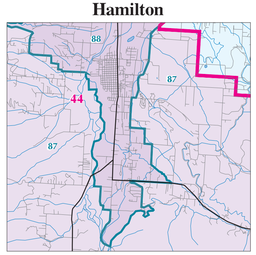

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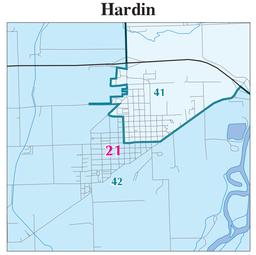

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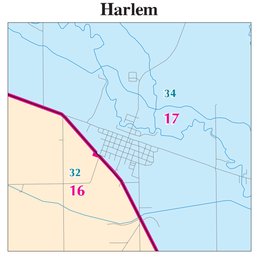

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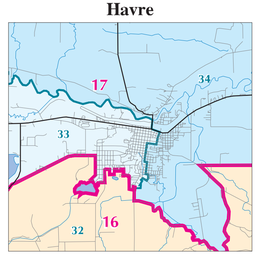

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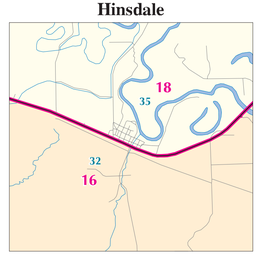

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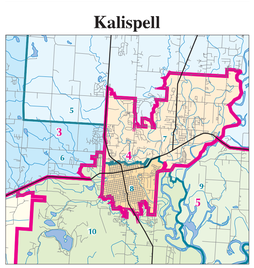

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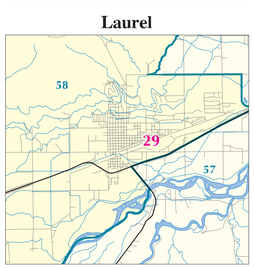

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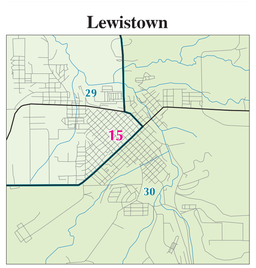

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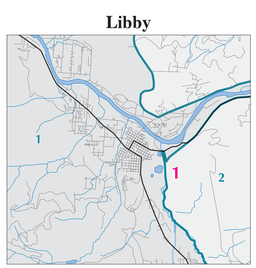

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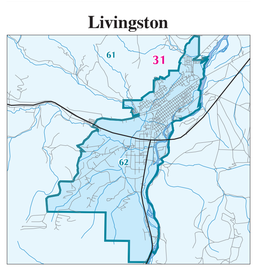

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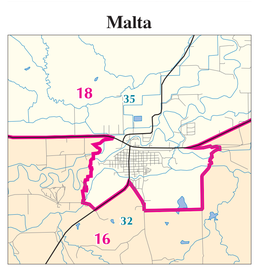

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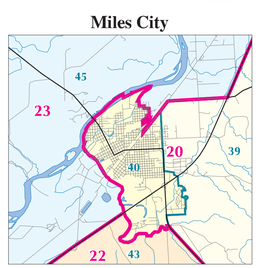

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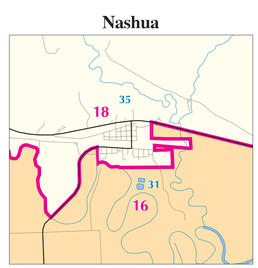

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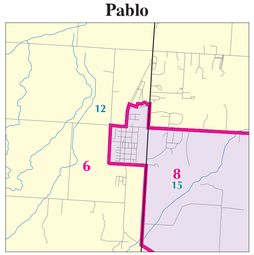

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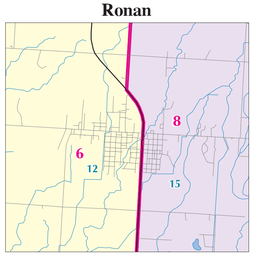

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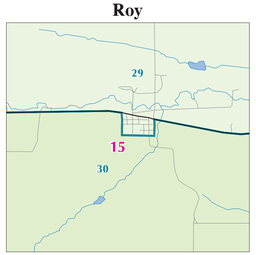

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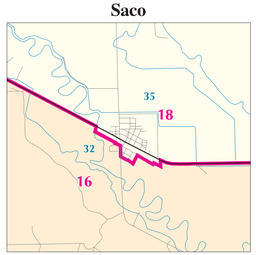

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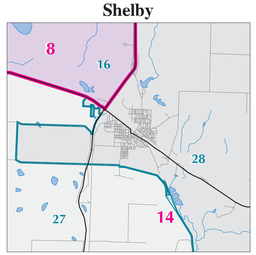

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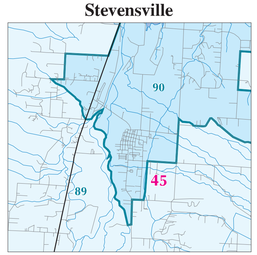

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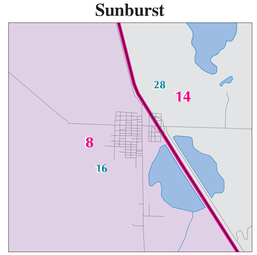

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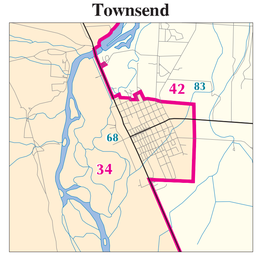

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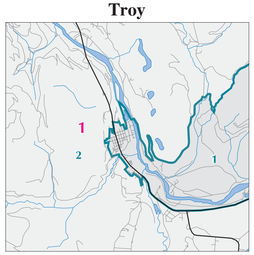

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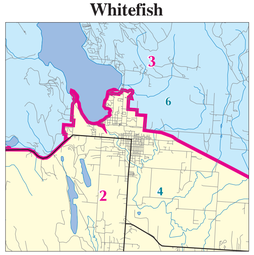

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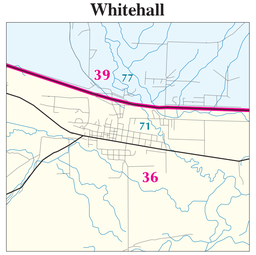

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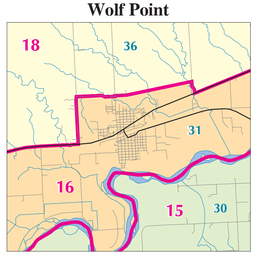

Montana Legislative Districts 2005-2014
District Boundaries near Selected Towns

Senate District Boundary

House District Boundary

Stream

Highway

Road or Street

14 Senate District Number

28 House District Number

Maps are not all the same scale

MONTANA
Natural Resource
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Map Number 04leg0001b – 8/7/2003