Billings Area Economic Summary

This summary presents a sampling of economic information for the area; supplemental data are provided for regions and the nation. Subjects include unemployment, employment, wages, prices, spending, and benefits. All data are not seasonally adjusted and some may be subject to revision. Area definitions may differ by subject. For more area summaries and geographic definitions, see [www.bls.gov/regions/economic-summaries.htm](http://www.bls.gov/regions/economic-summaries.htm).

### Unemployment rates for the nation and selected areas

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Area</th>
<th>Aug-21</th>
<th>Aug-22</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>United States</td>
<td>3.8</td>
<td>5.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Montana</td>
<td>3.1</td>
<td>2.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Billings area</td>
<td>3.0</td>
<td>2.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carbon Co.</td>
<td>3.1</td>
<td>2.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Golden Valley Co.</td>
<td>3.0</td>
<td>2.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yellowstone Co.</td>
<td>3.0</td>
<td>2.5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: U.S. BLS, Local Area Unemployment Statistics.

### Average weekly wages for all industries by county

**Billings area, first quarter 2022**
(U.S. = $1,374; Area = $1,033)

![Map showing area wages](image)

### Over-the-year changes in employment on nonfarm payrolls and employment by major industry sector

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Industry</th>
<th>Aug. 2022</th>
<th>Change from Aug. 2021 to Aug. 2022</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total nonfarm</td>
<td>91.0</td>
<td>3.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mining, logging, and construction</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Manufacturing</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trade, transportation, and utilities</td>
<td>21.8</td>
<td>0.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Information</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Financial activities</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Professional and business services</td>
<td>9.1</td>
<td>-0.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Education and health services</td>
<td>16.1</td>
<td>0.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Leisure and hospitality</td>
<td>15.1</td>
<td>2.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other services</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Government</td>
<td>9.6</td>
<td>0.2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Over-the-year change in the prices paid by urban consumers for selected categories

12-month percent change in CPI-U, August 2022

- All items: Mountain division 9.6, U.S. city average 8.3
- Food: Mountain division 11.8, U.S. city average 11.4
- Energy: Mountain division 16.2, U.S. city average 23.8

Source: U.S. BLS, Consumer Price Index.

Over-the-year changes in the selling prices received by producers for selected industries nationwide

12-month percent changes in PPI

- General freight trucking
- Hospitals
- Telecommunications

Source: U.S. BLS, Producer Price Index.

Average annual spending and percent distribution for selected categories

Average annual expenditures, United States and West, 2021

- West:
  - All other items: $12,929
  - Personal insurance & pensions: $8,973
  - Healthcare: $5,447
  - Food: $26,078
  - Transportation: $12,083
  - Housing: $5,447
- United States:
  - All other items: $22,624
  - Personal insurance & pensions: $10,961
  - Healthcare: $5,452
  - Food: $22,624
  - Transportation: $10,961
  - Housing: $5,452

Source: U.S. BLS, Consumer Expenditure Survey.

Average hourly wages for selected occupations

- Occupation: Billings area vs. United States
- Petroleum pump system operators, refinery operators, and gaugers: Billings $44.76, United States $38.70
- Plumbers, pipefitters, and steamfitters: Billings $34.03, United States $30.46
- Licensed practical and licensed vocational nurses: Billings $23.16, United States $24.93
- Surveying and mapping technicians: Billings $20.92, United States $23.95
- Rehabilitation counselors: Billings $18.24, United States $21.51
- Retail salespersons: Billings $15.27, United States $15.35


Employer costs per hour worked for wages and selected employee benefits by geographic division

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Private industry, June 2022</th>
<th>Mountain (1)</th>
<th>United States</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total compensation</td>
<td>$36.02</td>
<td>$38.91</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wages and salaries</td>
<td>25.53</td>
<td>27.44</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total benefits</td>
<td>10.49</td>
<td>11.47</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Paid leave</td>
<td>2.49</td>
<td>2.87</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vacation</td>
<td>1.29</td>
<td>1.47</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Supplemental pay</td>
<td>1.22</td>
<td>1.37</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Insurance</td>
<td>2.87</td>
<td>2.96</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Retirement and savings</td>
<td>1.17</td>
<td>1.33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Legally required benefits</td>
<td>2.73</td>
<td>2.93</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(1) The states that compose the Mountain census division are: AZ, CO, ID, MT, NV, NM, UT, and WY.

Source: U.S. BLS, Employer Costs for Employee Compensation.

Over-the-year changes in wages and salaries

12-month percent changes in ECI

Source: U.S. BLS, Employment Cost Index.