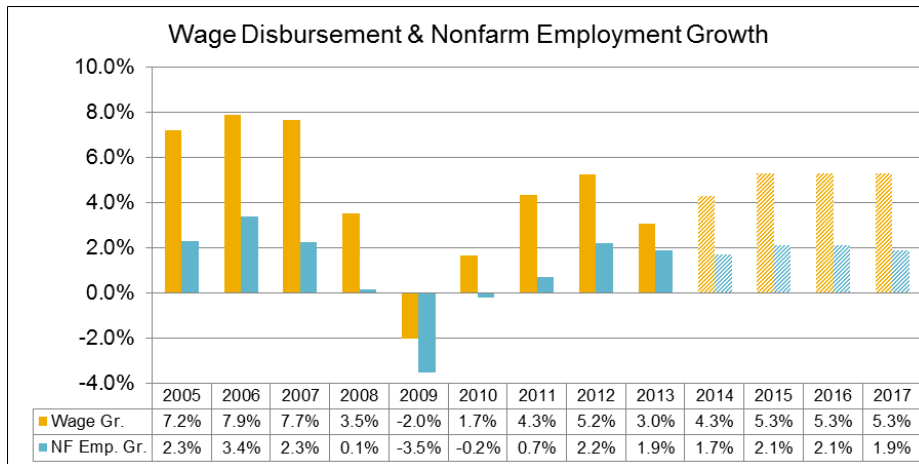


Employment is a key indicator for the health of Montana’s economy. Nonfarm employment is used directly in the individual income forecast; and used implicitly in the single most important underlying economic variable, wage disbursements. Montana personal and disposable incomes—used in producing several consumption tax sources—are also related to employment.



DLI Employment Projections

2013:

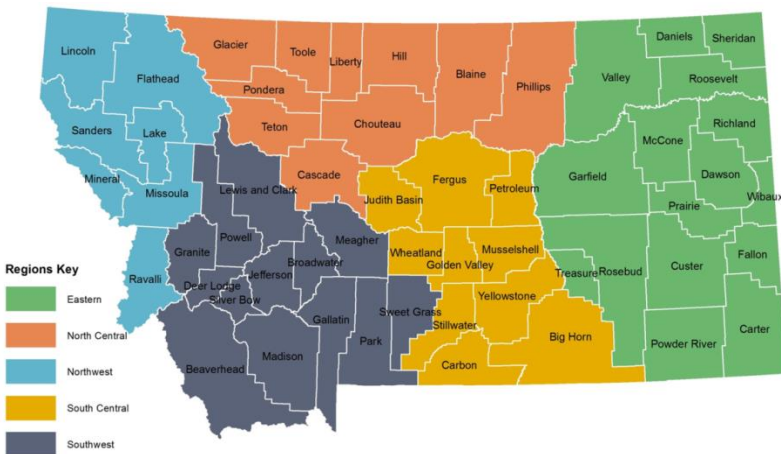
2014:

2015:

2016:

2017:

Although regional growth differences don’t impact the revenue estimate directly, understanding the regional outlook can inform employment expectations by industry.



Notes:

Potential Questions

- The healthcare industry is the largest private sector industry in Montana in terms of employment. Given the potential for high-paying jobs in this industry, and increasing healthcare demands due to an aging population and the impact of the Affordable Care Act, what is the outlook for the industry’s impact on Montana payroll income? What are some of the labor force pressures?
- What is the outlook for growth in high-paying oil-related jobs? Will the primary impact of further Bakken development likely be concentrated in the oil-producing counties, or will secondary and tertiary impacts drive labor and wage growth in larger communities—resulting in a larger economic impact overall?