

Emergency Medical Services (EMS) and Trauma Systems Section

Children, Families, Health and Human
Services Interim Committee

September 23, 2025



DEPARTMENT OF
**PUBLIC HEALTH &
HUMAN SERVICES**

Current EMS Capabilities

| Agency Type | License Level | Count |
|---------------------------------------|---------------------------|------------|
| Ground Transport (GTA) | | 156 |
| | Advanced Life Support | 31 |
| | Basic w/ALS Authorization | 112 |
| | Basic Life Support | 13 |
| Non-transport (NTA) | | 86 |
| | Advanced Life Support | 2 |
| | Basic w/ALS Authorization | 52 |
| | Basic Life Support | 32 |
| Air Medical – Rotor Wing (RWA) | | 11 |
| | Advanced Life Support | 11 |
| Air Medical – Fixed Wing (FWA) | | 14 |
| | Advanced Life Support | 14 |
| All Agencies | | 267 |



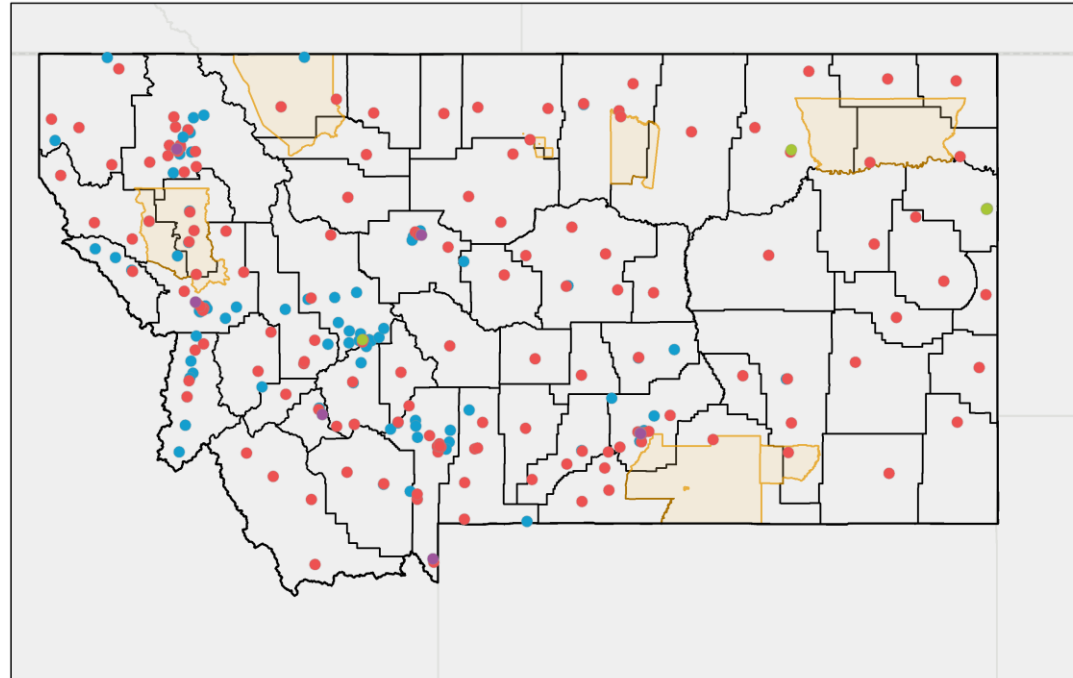
Current EMS Capabilities (cont.)

| Agency Type | Organization Type | Paid | Volunteer | All |
|---------------------------------------|------------------------|------------|------------|------------|
| Ground Transport (GTA) | | 71 | 85 | 156 |
| | Fire Department | 18 | 21 | 39 |
| | Governmental, Non-Fire | 3 | 24 | 27 |
| | Hospital | 15 | 8 | 23 |
| | Private, Non-Hospital | 32 | 32 | 64 |
| | Tribal | 3 | | 3 |
| Non-transport (NTA) | | 19 | 67 | 86 |
| | Fire Department | 9 | 53 | 62 |
| | Governmental, Non-Fire | 3 | 7 | 10 |
| | Private, Non-Hospital | 7 | 7 | 14 |
| Air Medical – Rotor Wing (RWA) | | 11 | | 11 |
| | Hospital | 5 | | |
| | Private, Non-Hospital | 6 | | |
| Air Medical – Fixed Wing (FWA) | | 14 | | 14 |
| | Hospital | 8 | | |
| | Private, Non-Hospital | 6 | | |
| All Agencies | | 115 | 152 | 267 |



Location of EMS Agencies

Montana EMS Map



8/21/2025

EMS Agencies

- Ground Ambulance Service
- Non-Transporting Unit
- Air Medical Service - Fixed Wing
- Air Medical Service - Rotor Wing

Montana State Library, Sources: Esri, TomTom, Garmin, FAO, NOAA, USGS,
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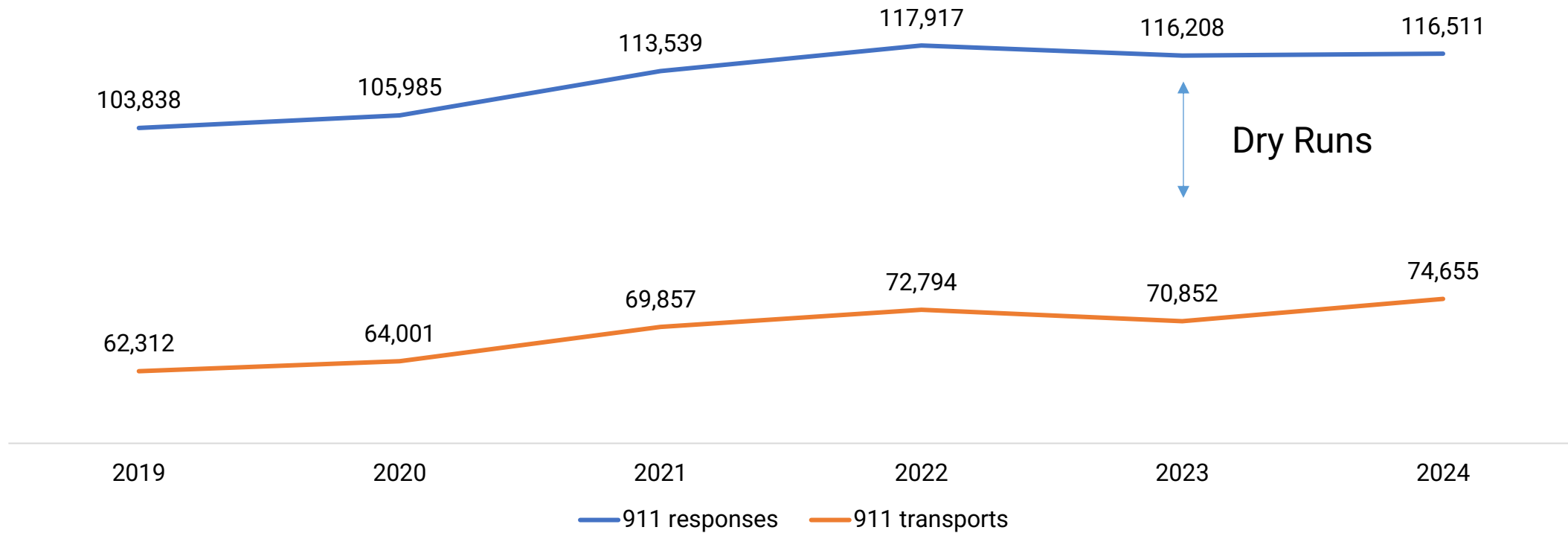


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Current EMS Capabilities

911 Response

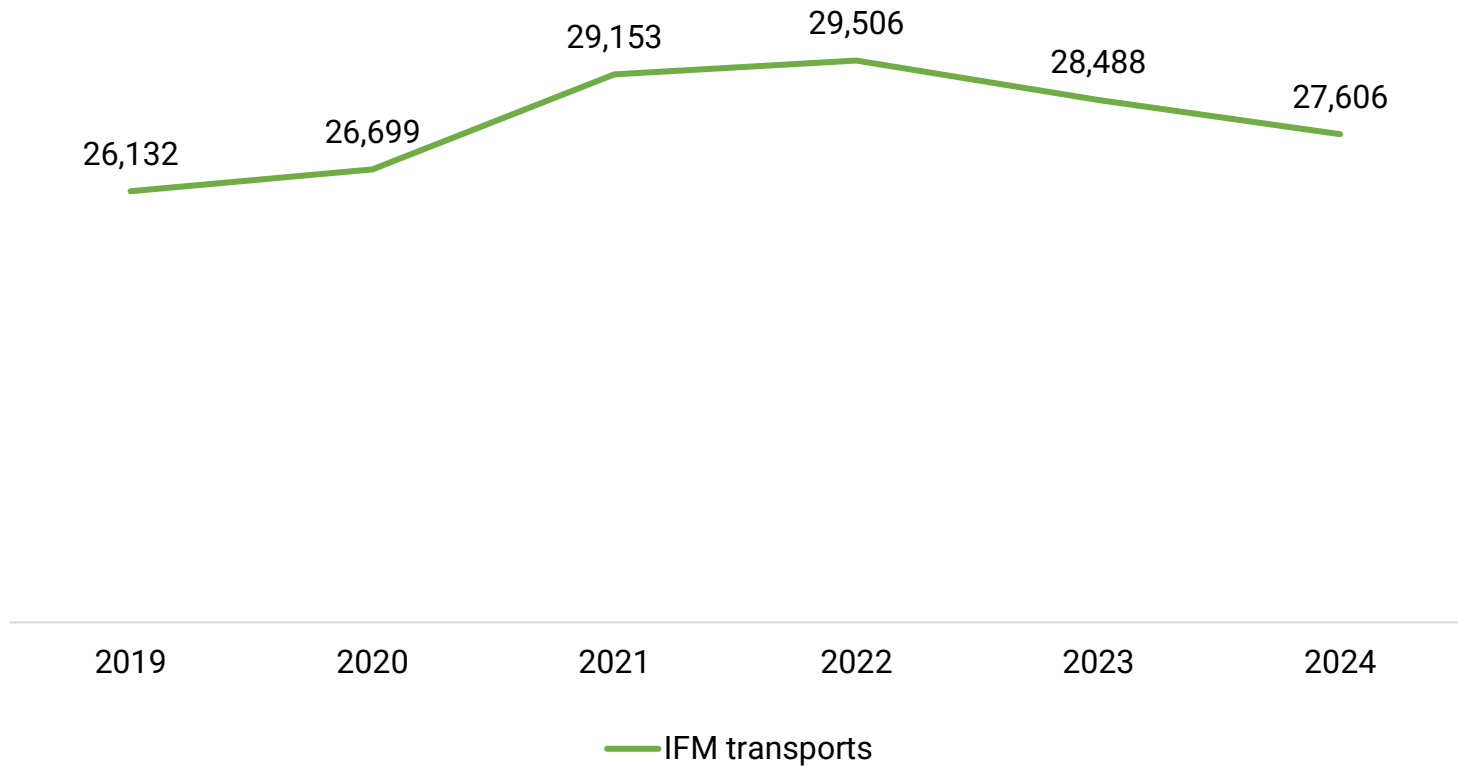
911 Activations & 911 Transports by Year



Current EMS Capabilities

Inter-Facility Transports

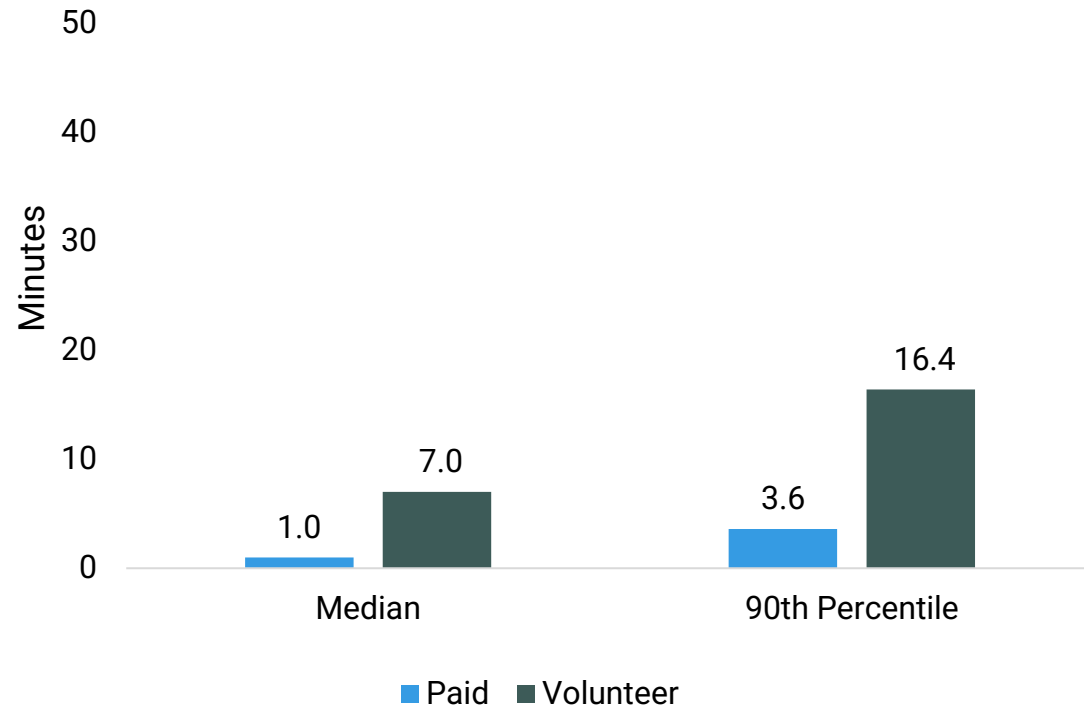
Interfacility Transports by Year



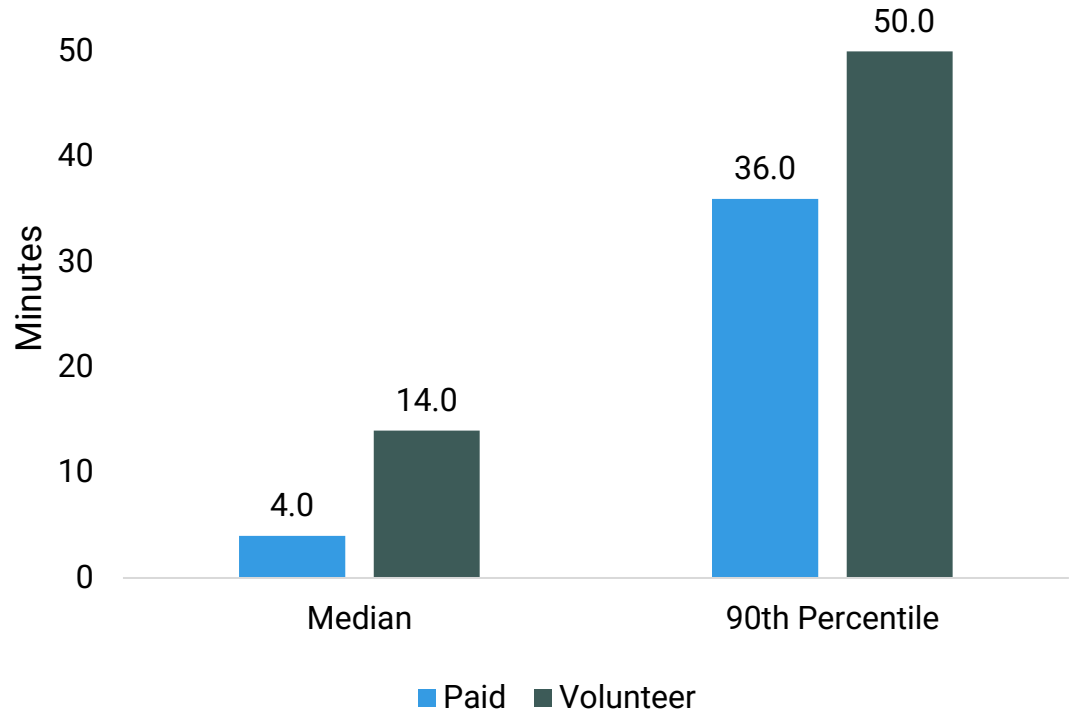
Current EMS Capabilities

Chute Time

911 Ground Amb. (2024)



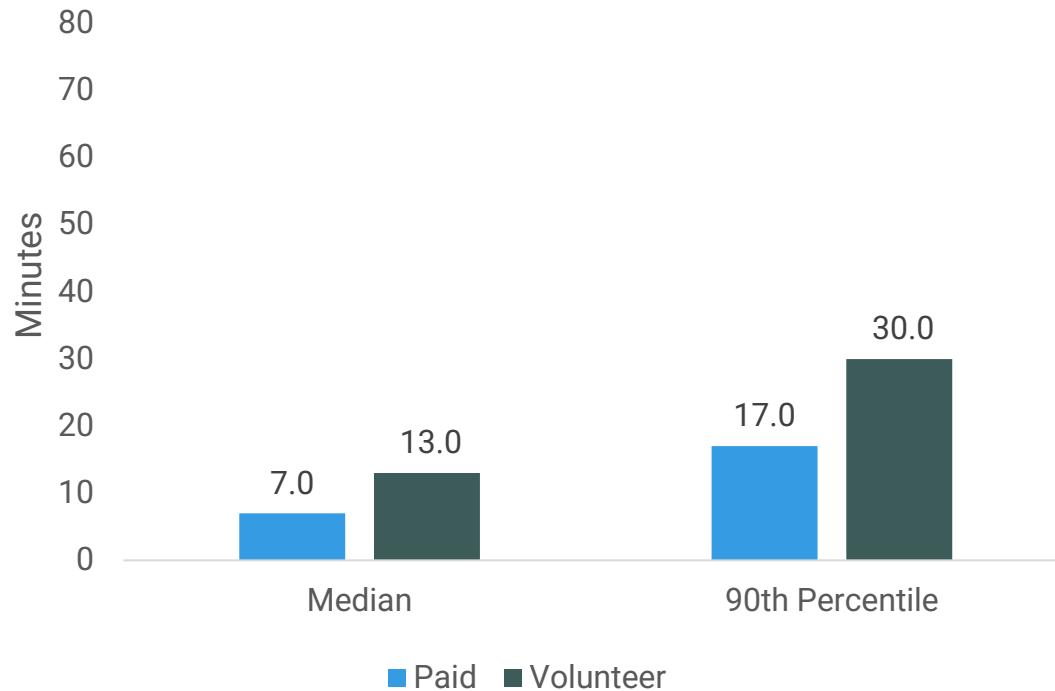
Interfacility Ground Amb. (2024)



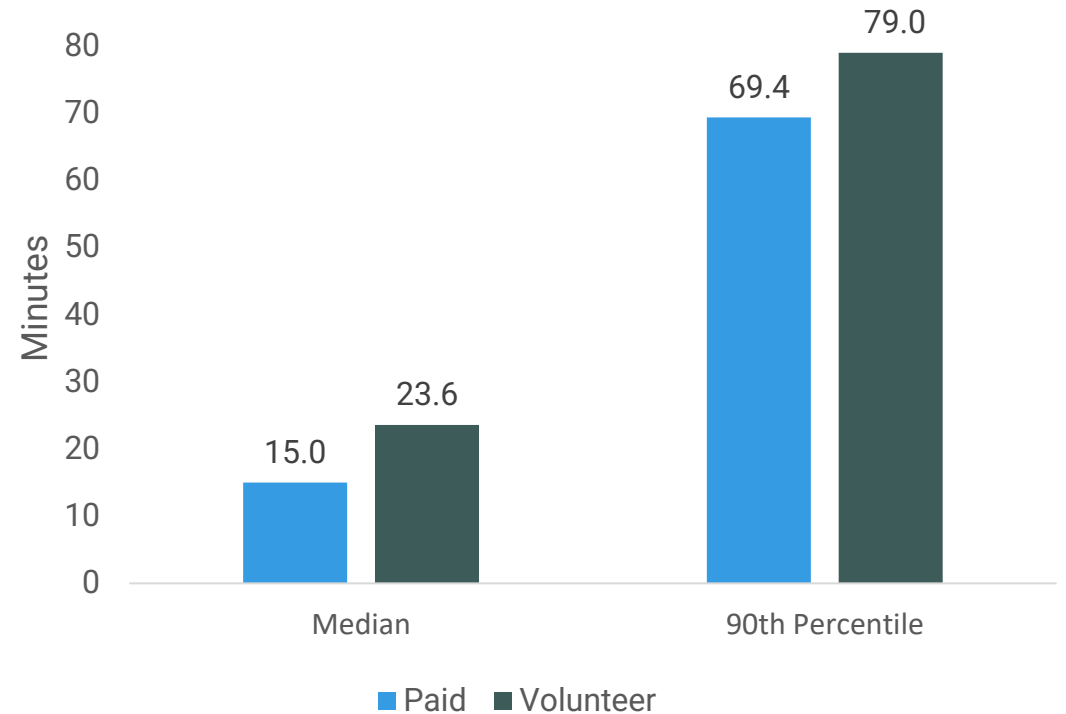
Current EMS Capabilities

Response Time

911 Ground Amb. (2024)

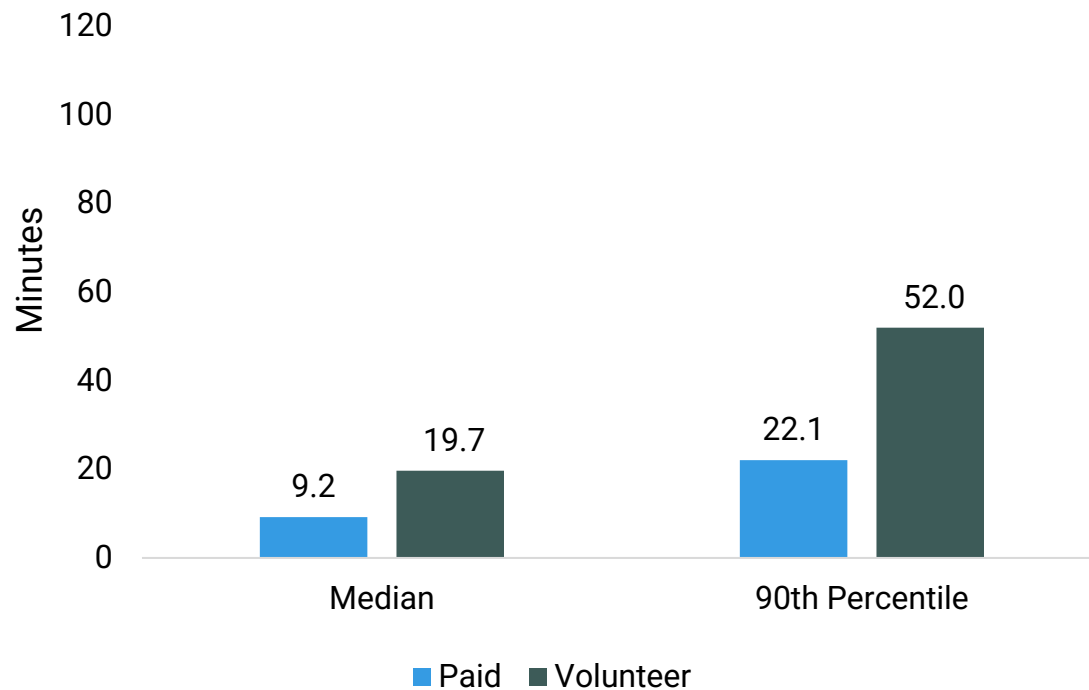


Interfacility Ground Amb. (2024)

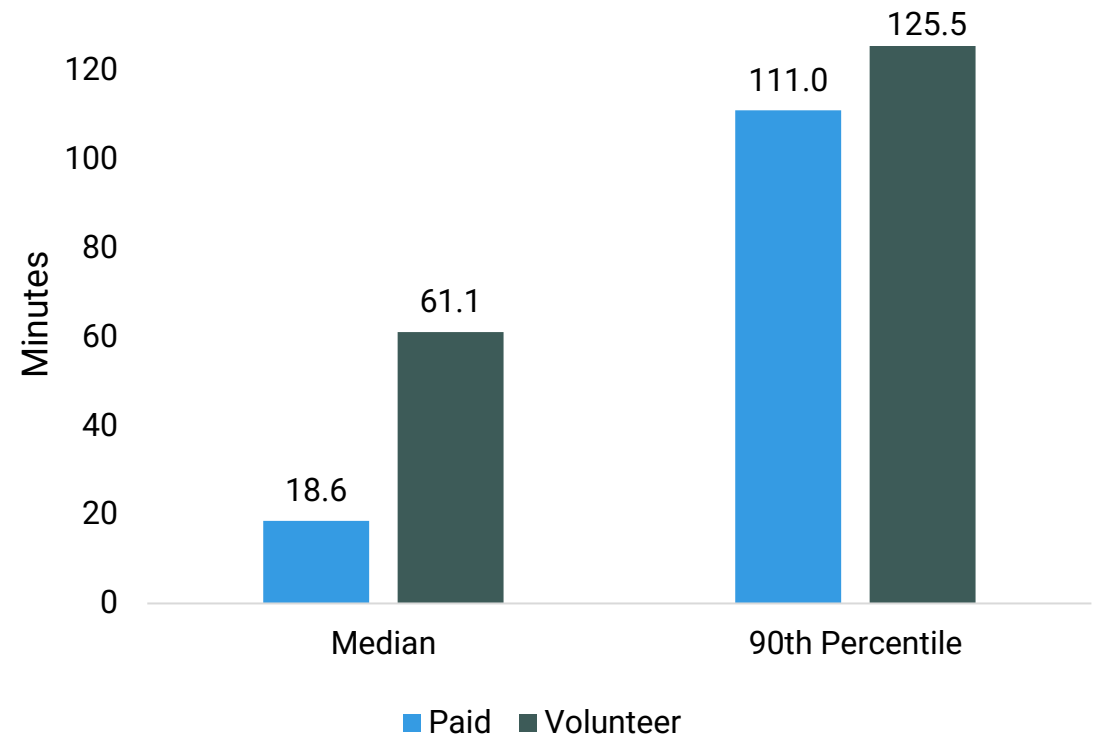


Current EMS Capabilities Transport Time

911 Ground Amb. (2024)



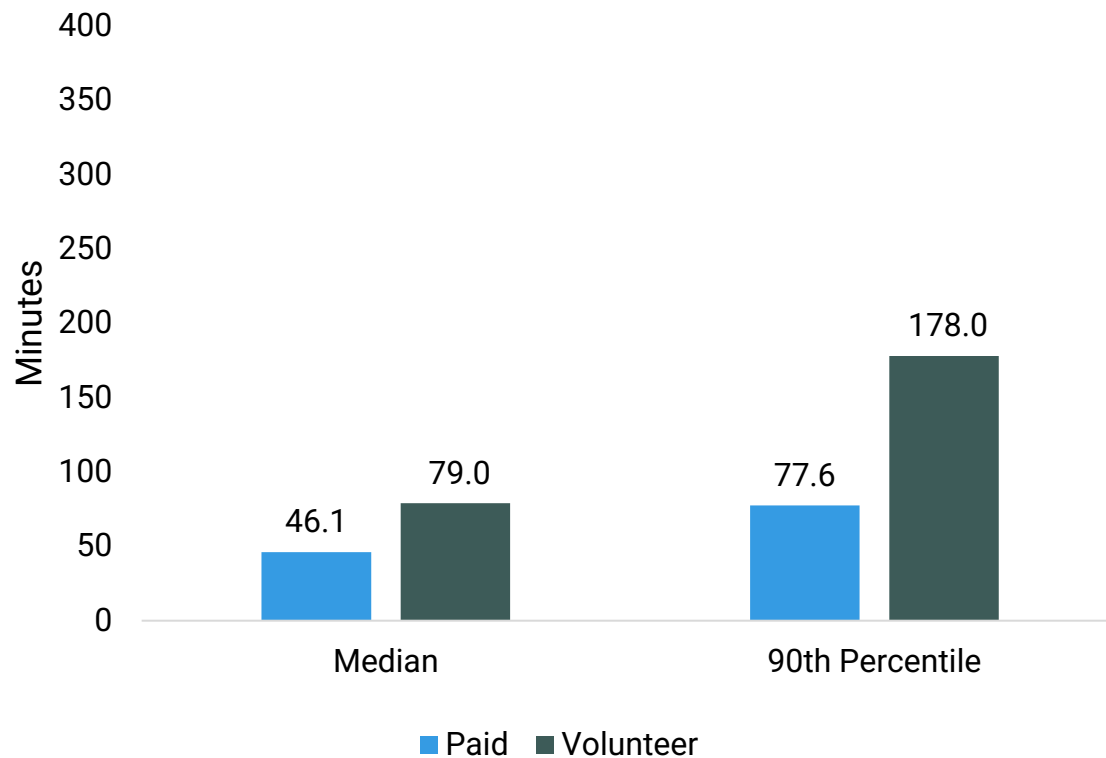
Interfacility Ground Amb. (2024)



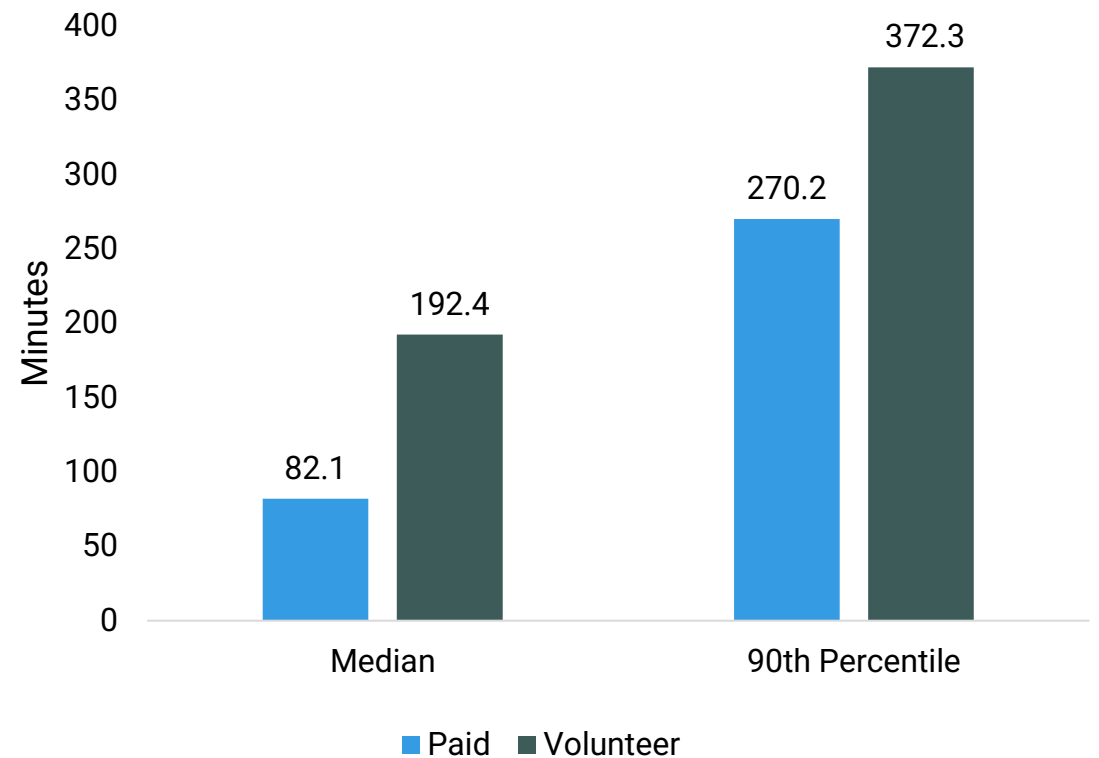
Current EMS Capabilities

Total Call Time

911 Ground Amb. (2024)

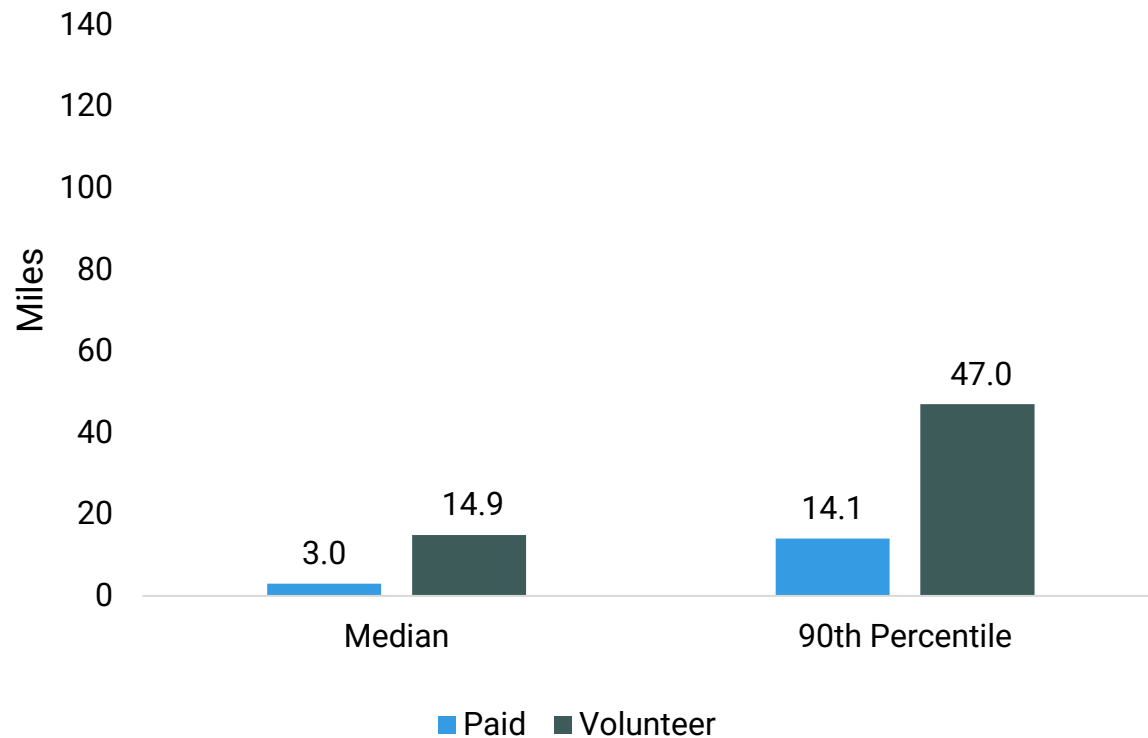


Interfacility Ground Amb. (2024)

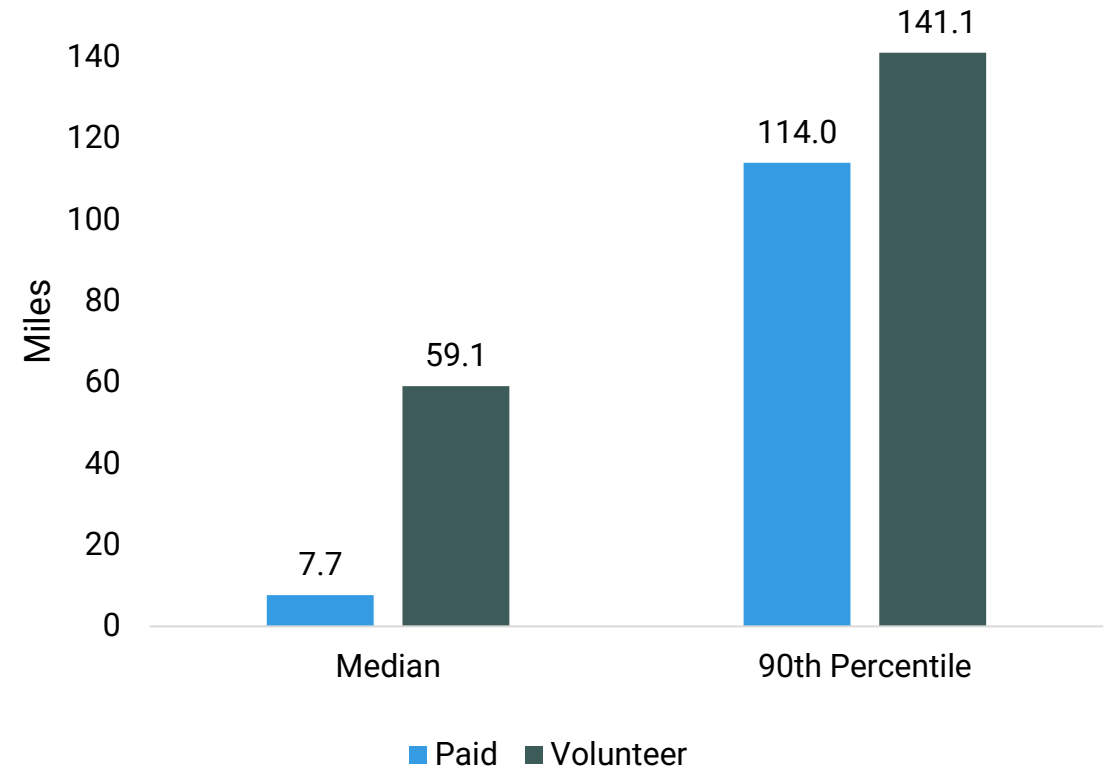


Current EMS Capabilities Loaded Distance

911 Ground Amb. (2024)

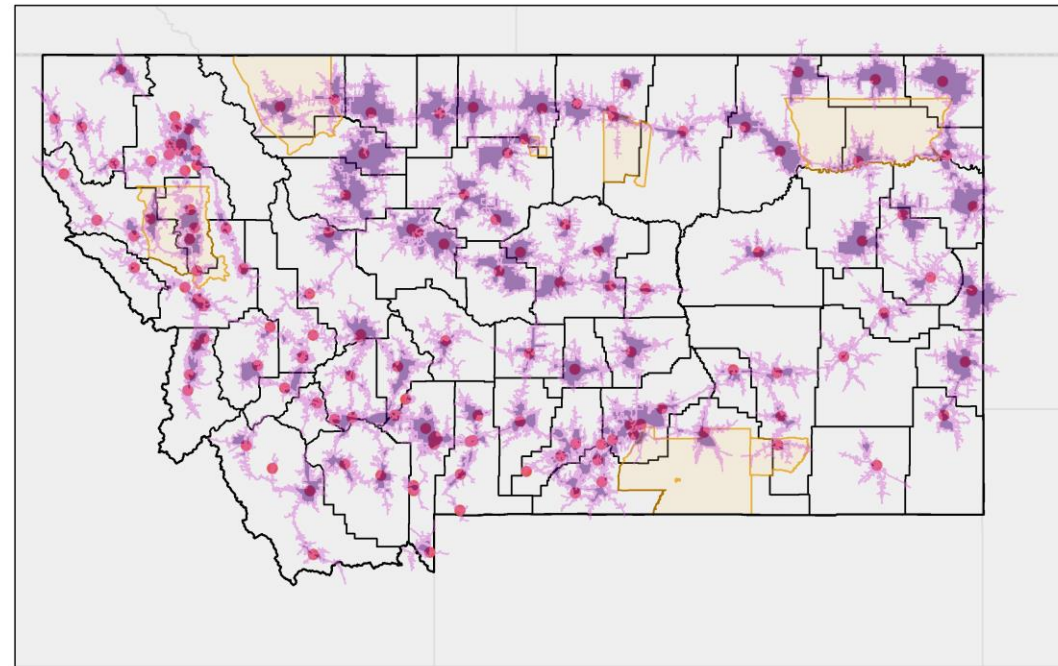


Interfacility Ground Amb. (2024)



25-Minute Drive Times – Ground Ambulance

Montana EMS Map



8/21/2025

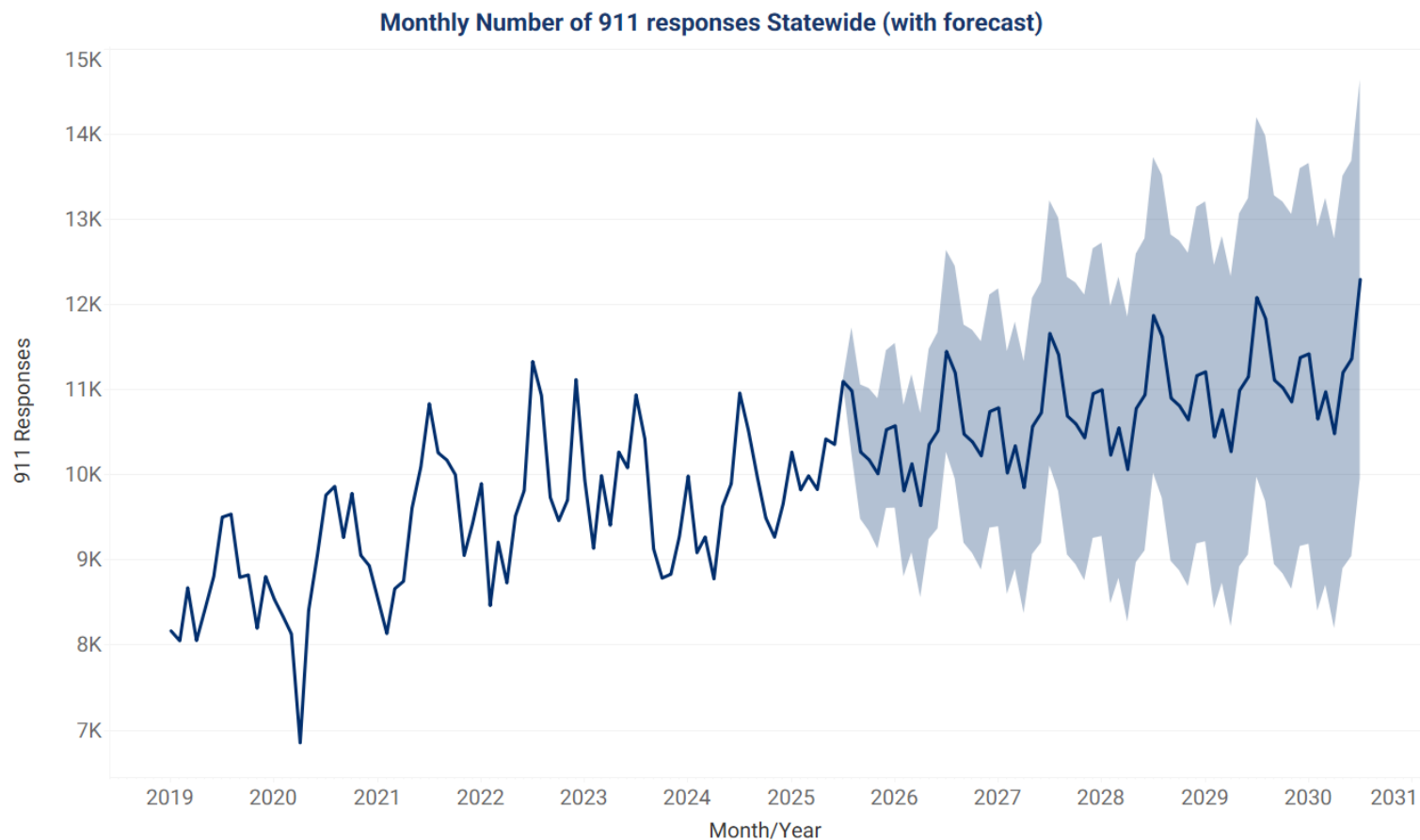
25.0 Minutes EMS Agencies
● Ground Ambulance Service

Montana State Library, Sources: Esri, TomTom, Garmin, FAO, NOAA, USGS, © OpenStreetMap contributors, and the GIS User Community

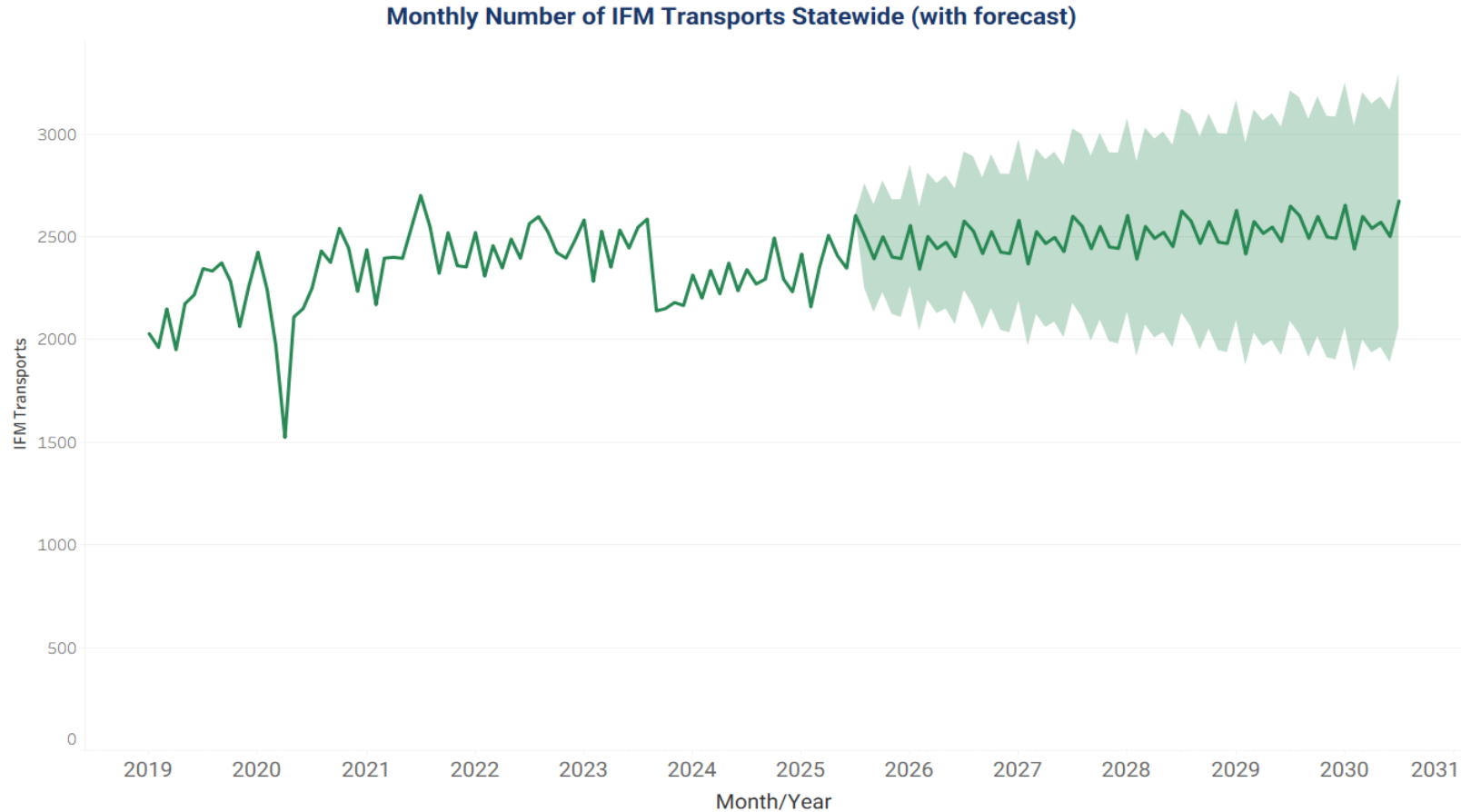


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Estimates of Future Demand 911 Response

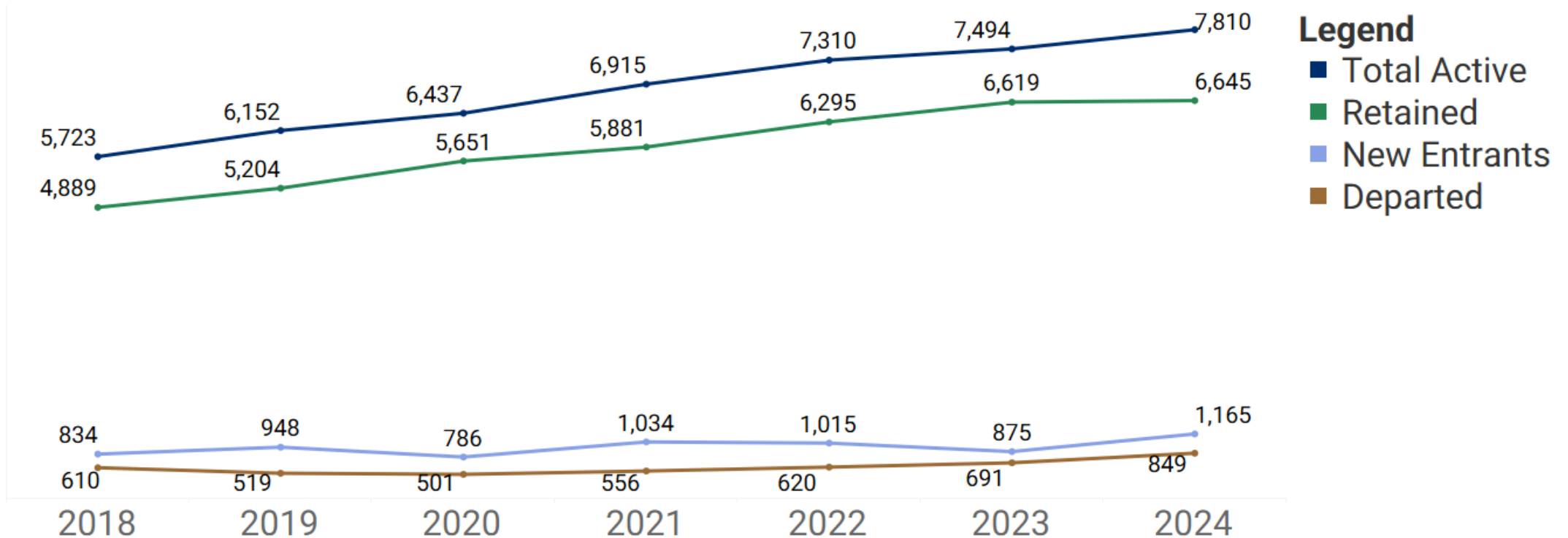


Estimates of Future Demand Interfacility Transport



Workforce

Number of licensed emergency care providers (ECPs)



Workforce (cont.)

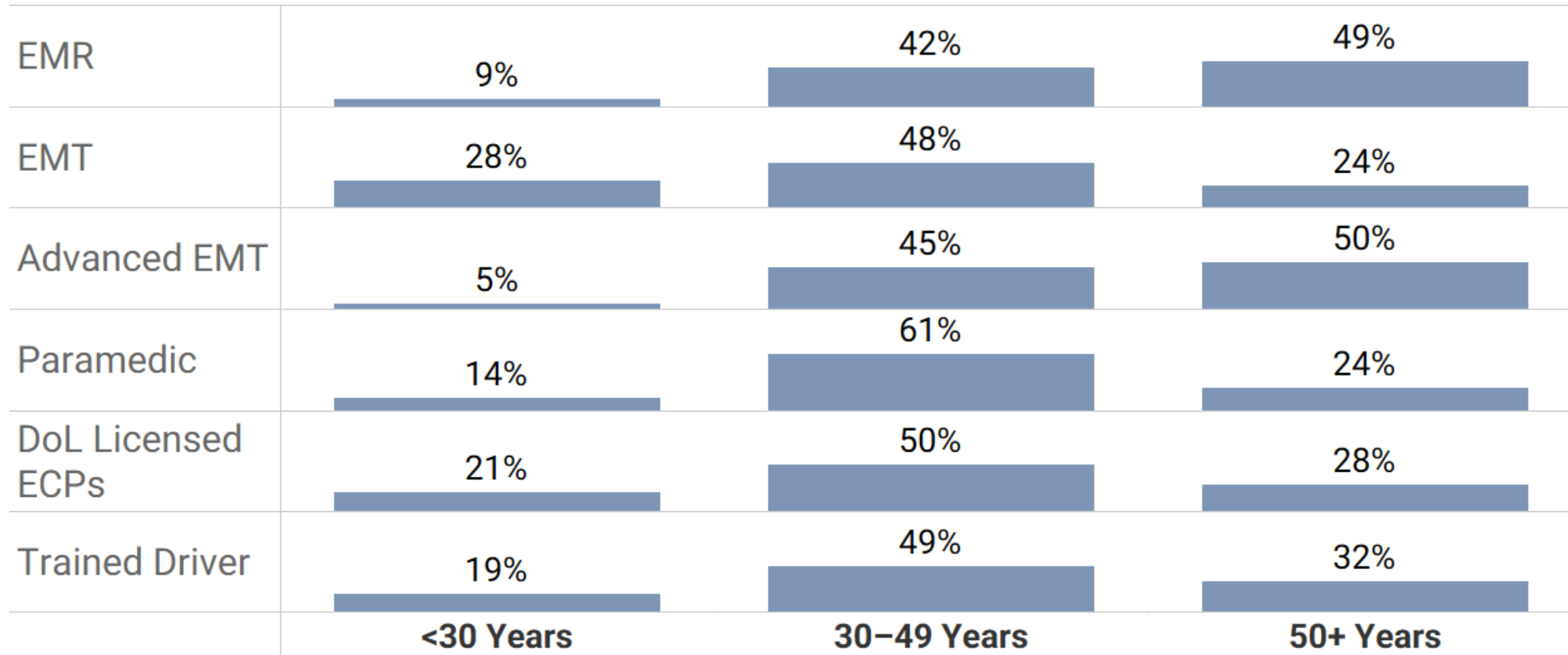
Licensed vs. rostered emergency care providers (ECPs), 2025

| License Type | Active License | Rostered | Percent Rostered |
|--------------------|----------------|--------------|------------------|
| EMR | 260 | 138 | 53.1% |
| EMT | 4,580 | 2,194 | 47.9% |
| Advanced EMT | 640 | 472 | 73.8% |
| Paramedic | 1,728 | 866 | 50.1% |
| Grand Total | 7,208 | 3,670 | 47.9% |



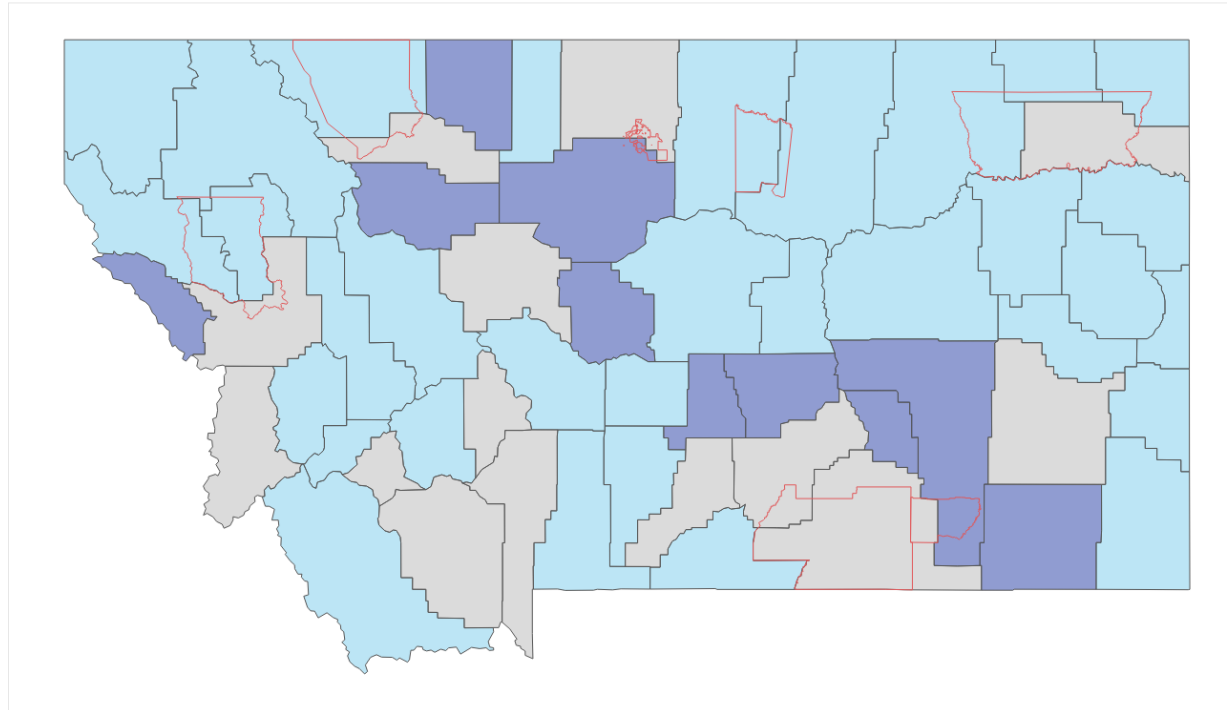
Workforce (cont.)

Age distribution of rostered emergency care providers (ECPs), 2025



Risk Factor: Aging Workforce

Percent of rostered emergency care providers (ECPs) aged 50 or older, 2025



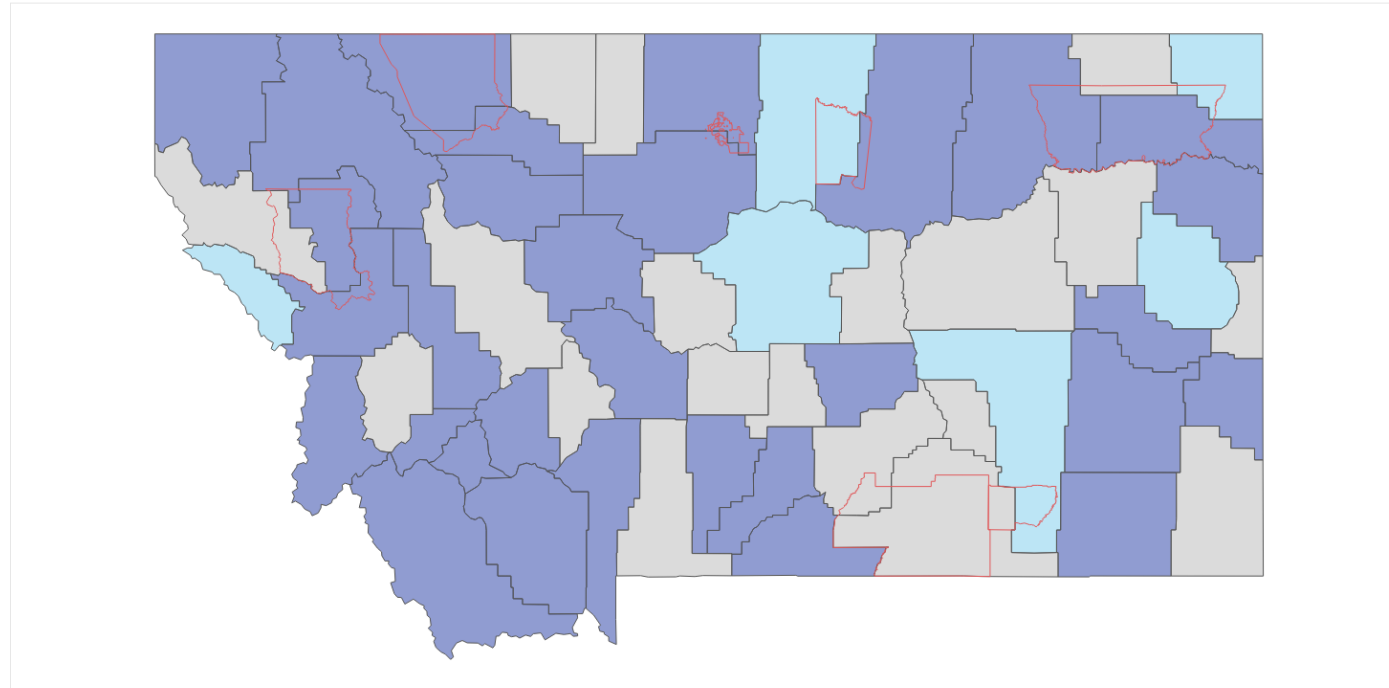
Legend

- 0%-24%
- 25% to 49%
- 50% or greater



Risk Factor: 911 Response Volume Increase

Percent change in count of 911 responses predicted from 7/2024 to 7/2030



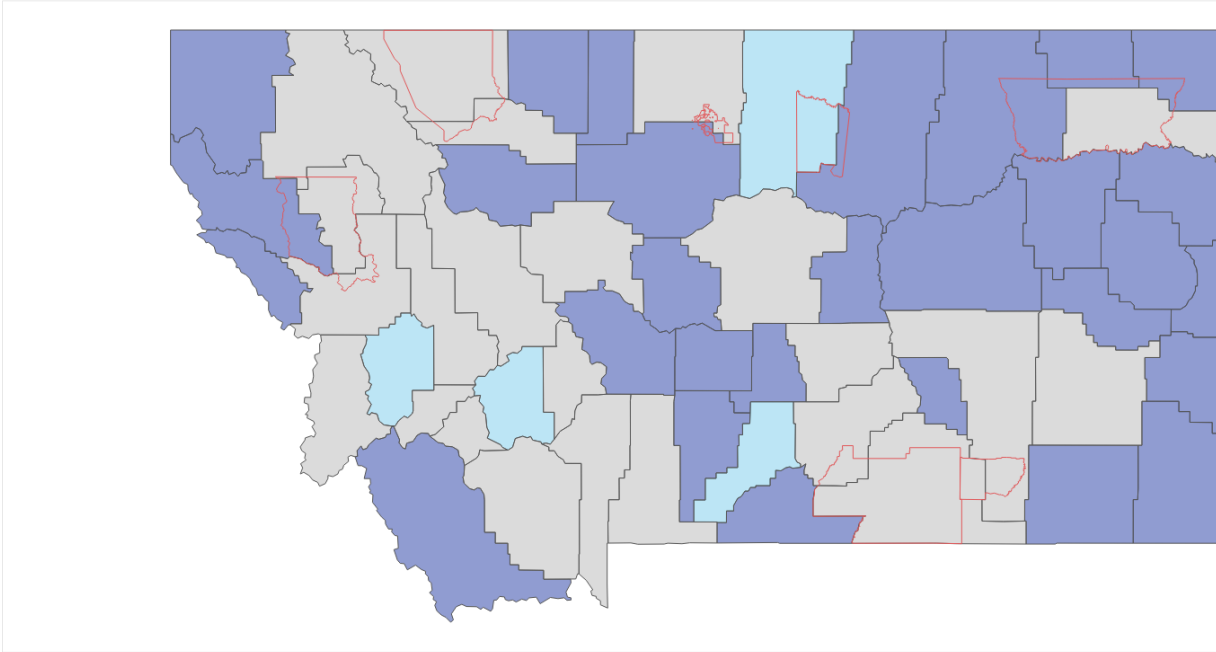
Legend

- No change, or decrease
- >0% to 9% increase
- 10% or greater increase



Risk Factor: High Percent of Transports by Volunteer Agencies

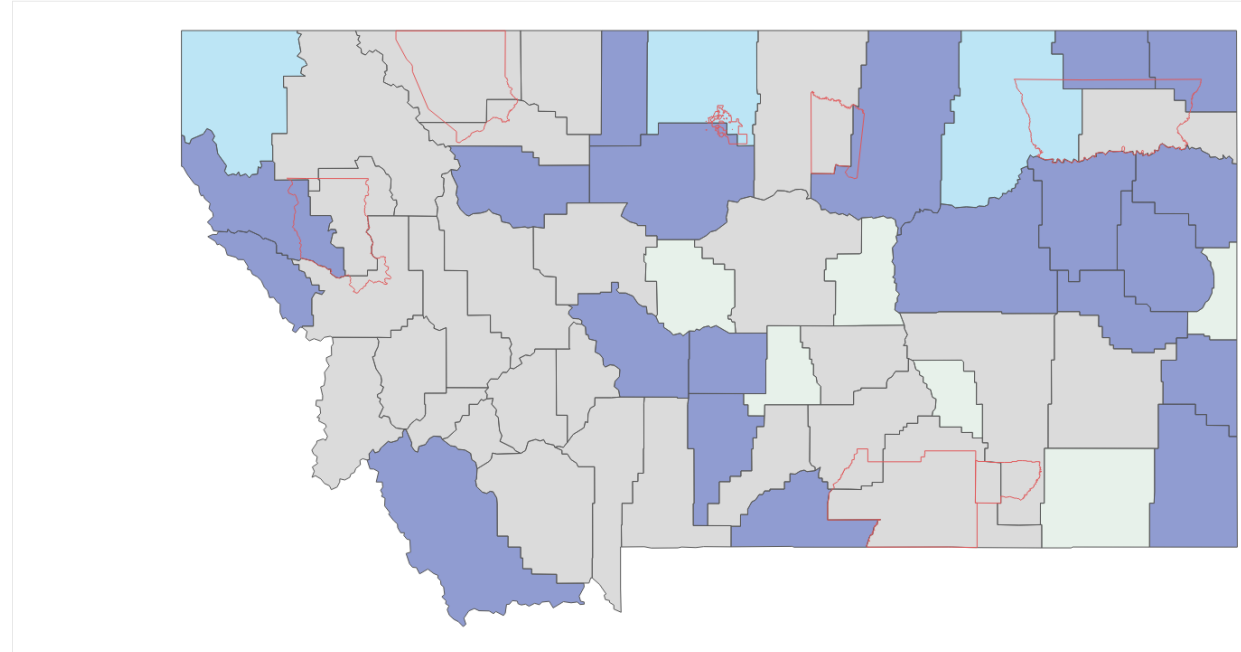
Percent of ground ambulance 911 transports done by volunteer agencies, 2024



Legend

- 0%-9%
- 10% to 49%
- 50% or greater

Percent of ground ambulance IFM transports done by volunteer agencies, 2024



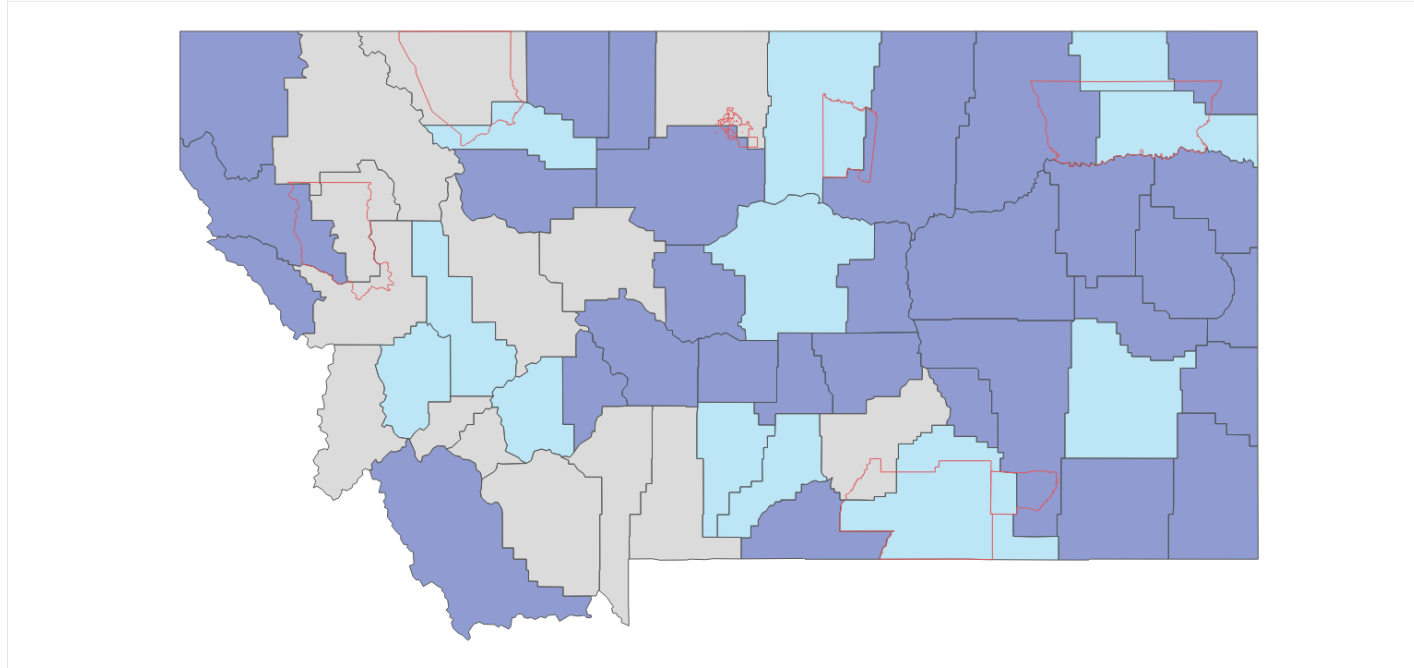
Legend

- No data
- 0%-9%
- 10% to 49%
- 50% or greater



Risk Factor: Long 911 Chute Times

Median chute time, ground ambulance 911 transports, 2024



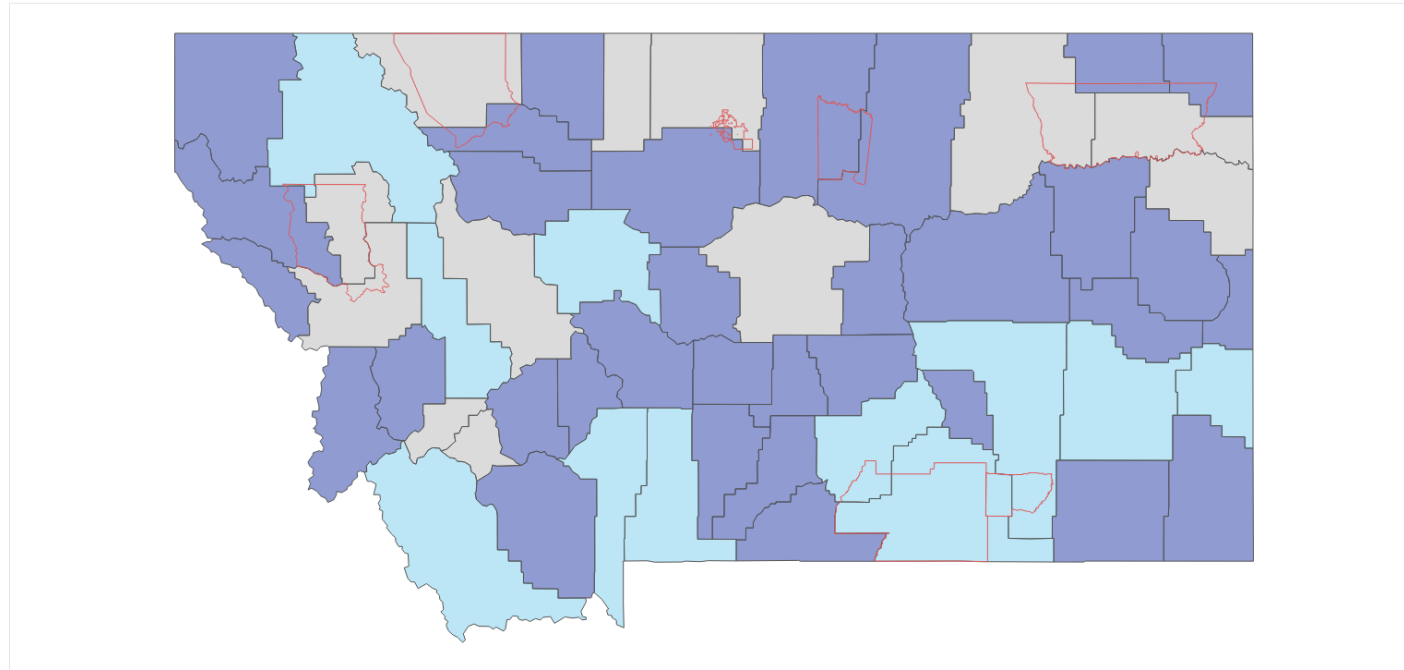
Legend

- 00:00:00 - 00:01:59
- 00:02:00 - 00:04:59
- 00:05:00 or greater

Risk Factor

Long 911 Total Call Times

Median total call time, ground ambulance 911 transports, 2024



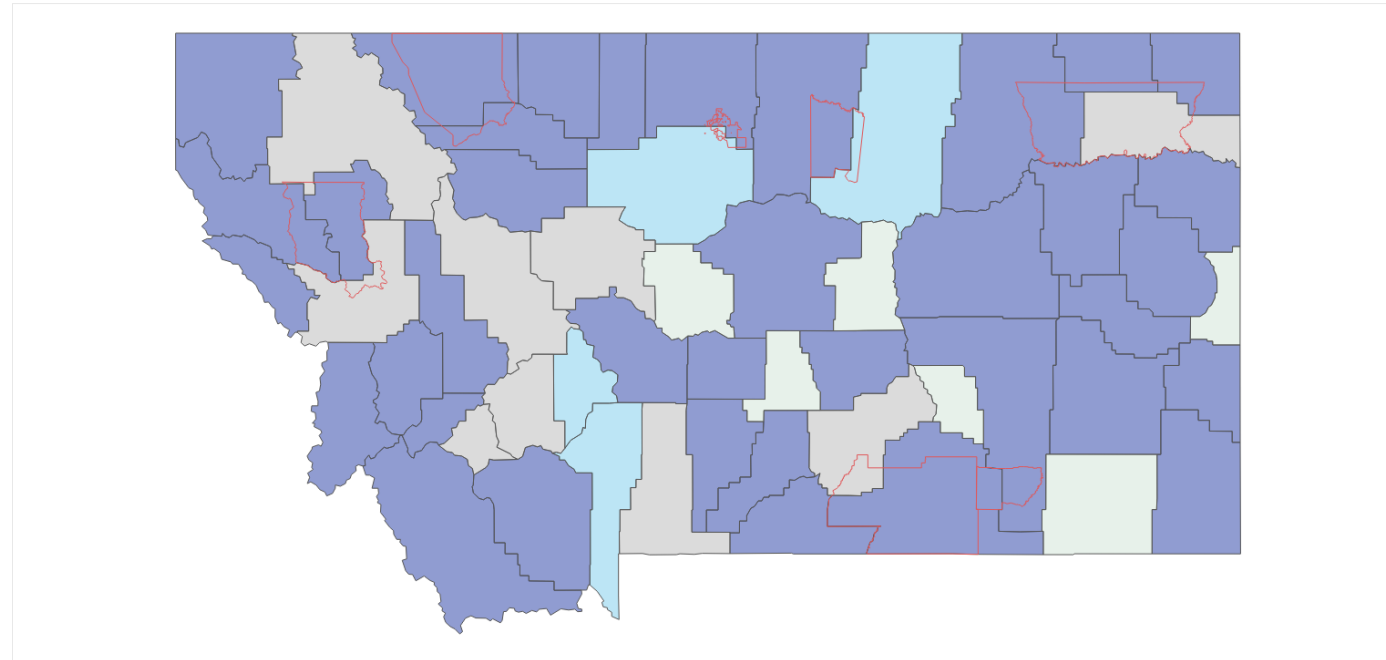
Legend

- 00:00:00 - 00:44:59
- 00:45:00 - 00:59:59
- 01:00:00 or greater

Risk Factor

Long Interfacility Total Call Time

Median total call time, ground ambulance IFM transports, 2024



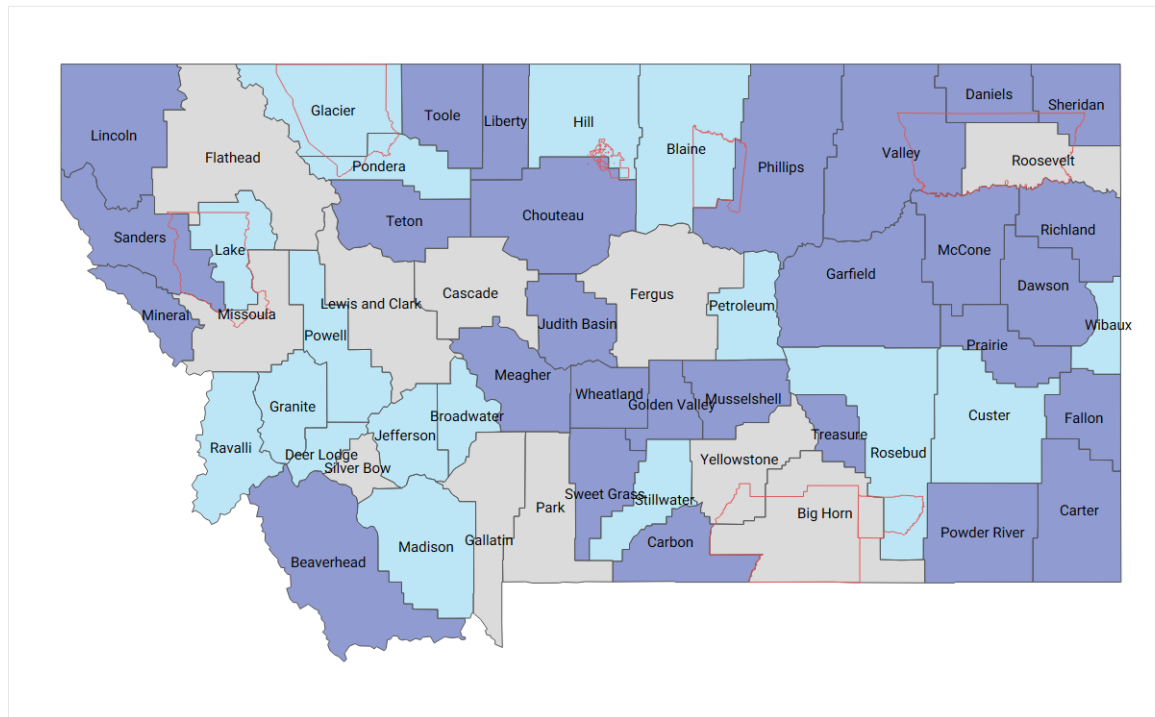
Legend

- No Data
- 00:00:00 - 01:29:59
- 01:30:00 - 01:59:59
- 02:00:00 or greater



Combined Risk Factors Underserved Areas

Counties with EMS Risk Factors, 2024



Legend

- 0-1 Risk Factors
- 2-3 Risk Factors
- 4 or more Risk Factors



Funding EMS Education

2024-2025 DPHHS Support for EMS Education

- US Department of Transportation - \$49,700
- US Health and Human Services Block Grant - \$100,000
- US HHS HRSA Flex - \$106,000
 - \$56,000 HRSA Flex Funding
 - \$250,000 HRSA Flex EMS Supplement Grant (\$250,000 each year for 5 years)



Resources

2025 DPHHS Trauma System Legislative Report

<https://dphhs.mt.gov/assets/publichealth/EMSTS/2024TraumaLegislativeReportFinal.pdf>

EMS in Montana: Crisis on the Horizon

<https://dphhs.mt.gov/assets/publichealth/EMSTS/Data/EMSSurveyReport2020.pdf>

Licensed Montana EMS Services

<https://dphhs.mt.gov/assets/publichealth/EMSTS/EMS/LicensedMontanaEMSAgencies.pdf>

Ambulance Deserts: Geographic Disparities in the Provision of Ambulance Services

["Ambulance Deserts: Geographic Disparities in the Provision of Ambulanc" by Yvonne Jonk PhD, Carly Milkowski MPH et al.](#)

Treat and No Transport Reimbursement Review April 2023_Summary

<https://dphhs.mt.gov/publichealth/EMSTS/data#gsc.tab=0>



Contact Information

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Conclusion

