



United Way Challenge to America: Goals for the Common Good

Prepared for United Way of Yellowstone County

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United Way Challenge to America: Goals for the Common Good

About This Assessment...

Introduction

The United Way of America Challenge to America identified three focus areas:

1. Education: Helping children and youth achieve their potential
2. Income: Promoting financial stability and independence among working families.
3. Health: Improving peoples' health

Within each of the above areas, United Way identified specific 10-year goals that they consider to be both 'aspirational' and 'aggressive.'

The purpose of the following report to United Way of Yellowstone County is to provide education, income, and health data about Yellowstone County, Montana. Local data for each of United Way's 10-year goals are included and, when local data are not available, state data are used. This information will help to identify and prioritize areas of high need in Yellowstone County.

The community defined for this assessment includes each of the ZIP Codes that make up Yellowstone County, Montana.

Secondary Data

Existing vital statistics and other health, education, and income-related data were obtained for this report. A complete list of references is included at the end of each major section. Local data were used when available. When not available, Montana data were used.

Primary Data

The Prevention Needs Assessment was a primary data source.



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Sociodemographic Data for Yellowstone County

Population

- From 1970 to 2006, the population grew by 50,290 people (57% increase or an annual increase of 1.3%).
- In Yellowstone County, the population increase was 10% between April 1 2000 and July 1, 2007 as compared to 7.2% in Montana.
- During the past 36 years (2006 data), the population growth in Yellowstone County has outpaced Montana and the nation.
- The population has gotten older since 1990. The median age in 2000 was 36.9 years as compared to 33.4 years in 1990.
- The largest age category is 40 to 44 (10,923 people) or 8.4% of the total in 2006.
- Total population in 2000 was 129,352: an increase of 14% since 1990 (113,419).
- The age group that grew the fastest is 45-49 years, an increase of 3,693 people (2.1% increase).

Growth projections since 2000

1990 Census	2000 Census	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2010	2015	2020	2025
113,490	129,352	130,400	132,020	133,650	135,240	136,800	144,500	152,370	160,510	168,905



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In Yellowstone County, Montana *White* householders had a median household income (in 2005 Dollars) of \$43,690 according to the Decennial Census of 2000, which was 1.7 percent greater than the median income in 2000.

According to the 2000 Census, the *Asian* headed households in the area have median household incomes of \$45,965. This median is 7 percent greater than the reported median household income, in the area, for all households.

The *American Indian and Alaska Native* householders in Yellowstone County reported an income level of \$26,396; this level was 38.6 percent less than the areas median level for all households.

Hispanic in Yellowstone County, Montana, according to the 2000 census, had a median household income of \$30,969; this income level is 27.9 percent less than the reported median household income for all households in the area.

Black or African American householders reported household income levels that were 39.8 percent less than the overall reported level in 2000, with a reported median of \$25,886.

When put side-by-side with other counties (or parishes) throughout the United States, Yellowstone County, Montana may be understood as having a medium-low poverty rate amid the residents with a poverty rate of 11.1 percent of people living in a family with an income below the poverty level in 1999. The *American Indian and Alaska Native* race/ethnicity demographic category, owns the foremost rate of poverty with 36.1 percent of the people in 2000 living in poverty. The population that is aged *Under 5 years* have the most percent of people living in poverty in Yellowstone County, reporting 19.3 percent of the population in this age category living in poverty.



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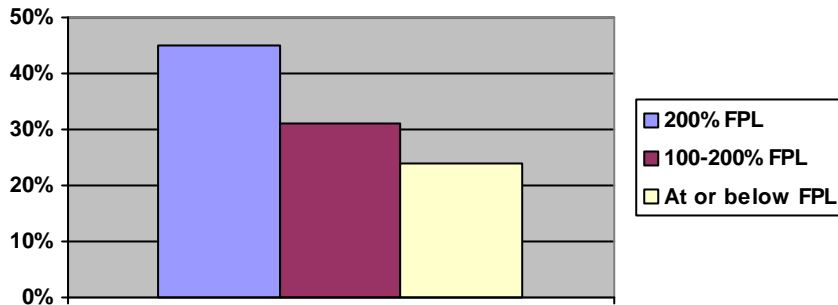
Yellowstone County Profile – 2006

Category	Yellowstone County	Montana
Population		
Total	136,691	935,670
White	127,878	852,389
American Indian	4,724	60,879
Other	4,089	22,879
Gender		
Female	69,754	468,762
Male	66,937	466,908
Population by age		
0-4	8,448	53,559
5-9	8,179	52,025
10-13	6,955	46,306
14-17	7,497	53,104
<18	31,079	204,994
18-24	13,313	99,819
25-44	36,472	233,618
45-64	37,321	268,405
65+	18,506	128,834
18+	105,612	730,676
Median age by gender		
Female	40.3	41.1
Male	37.3	38.6
Median age by race		
White	37.9	38.8
American Indian	24.6	24.4
All	38.8	39.9
Median age at death		
Male	75	75
Female	81	81
White	79	79
American Indian	52	60
All	78	78
Educational attainment of population < 25 years old		
High School or GED	89%	87%
Bachelors Degree	26%	24%
Median household income	\$41,255	\$35,574
Per capita income	\$31,220	\$27,657
Percent below FPL		
All ages	12.0%	13.6%
<18 years	16.0%	19.0%
50% of FPL	4%	
100% of FPL	11%	
150% of FPL	20%	
200% of FPL	31%	
Low birth weight	7.2%	6.9%
Suicide rate per /100,000	16.7	19.0



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Nearly one in four Montana children live at or below the federal poverty



- 63,717 young children under age 6 in Montana
- Median Family Income (with child): \$40,000*
- 100% FPL is \$22,900 for family of four in 2009

*U.S. Current Population Survey, combined average of 2004, 2005, 2006

Crime in 2004 and 2005 (reported by the sheriff's office or county police, not the county total):

Crime	2004	2005
Murders	0	0
Rapes	13	7
Robberies	1	3
Assaults	68	76
Burglaries	101	157
Thefts	582	632
Auto thefts	49	54



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Datasource: U.S. Bureau of the Census. 2000 Decennial Census. 2005 American Community Survey. Available at:
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United Way Indicators



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Education

HELPING CHILDREN AND YOUTH ACHIEVE THEIR POTENTIAL

Target Issue 1: Readiness to succeed in school

Intended result: Children enter school developmentally on track in the areas of literacy and social, emotional and intellectual skills.

Indicator: Percentage of 3 – 5 year olds with 3 or 4 (of 4) school readiness skills.

What Is School Readiness?

- Ability to take directions
- Language development
- Good physical health
- Phonemic awareness
- Ability to work with others

Risk Factor Study for Inadequate School Readiness

The 1995 National Household Education Survey report examined the prevalence of selected accomplishments and difficulties in a national sample of 4,423 children from 3 to 5 years of age who had not yet started kindergarten. The accomplishments consist of signs of emerging literacy and numeracy, such as pretending to read stories or counting to 20, and small motor skills, such as buttoning clothes and holding a pencil properly.

The results demonstrated that educational risk is a multifaceted phenomenon. Many observers believe that low family income is the key factor behind educational failure, but the results of this research did not support this view. When compared to low family income, the following risk factors were often as good or better predictors of the child's developmental accomplishments and difficulties:

- Low maternal education
- Minority-language status
- Family structure



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While it is difficult to determine with accuracy the percentage of children in Yellowstone County who have school readiness skills, it is possible to identify factors that might facilitate or hinder school readiness.

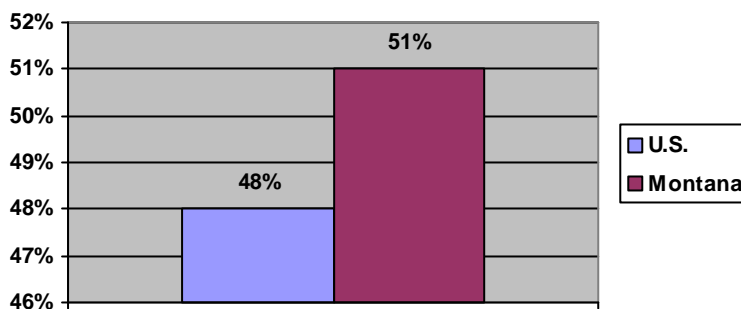
As of 2007, there were 68,599 children under age 6 and 35,599 children under age 3 in Montana. Of that total, 49% were less than 200% of the federal poverty level (FPL). Approximately 38% of these children were at risk due to one or more of the following:

- Living with a single parent
- Living in poverty
- Linguistically isolated
- Parents have less than a high school education
- Parents have no paid employment

In 2006, 4,658 children were enrolled in Head Start, and 638 were enrolled in early Head Start.

Montana did better than the U.S. with respect to the following early childhood readiness factors:

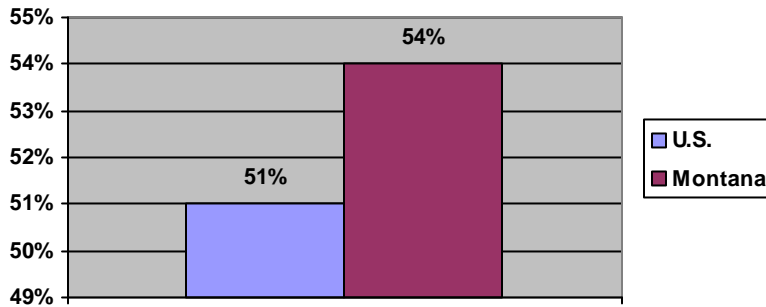
Young children who are read to every day (2003).



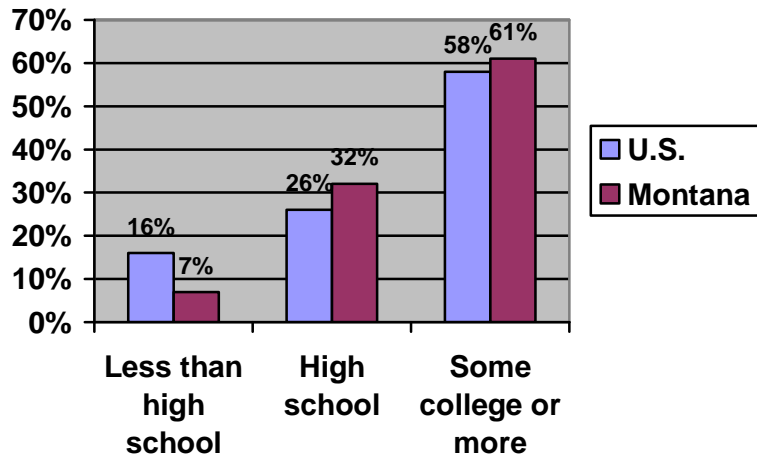


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Low income young children with a parent employed full time.



Educational levels of mothers with young children.





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Montana Early Childhood Profile. State data were calculated from the Annual Social and Economic Supplement (the March supplement) of the Current Population Survey from 2006, 2007, and 2008, representing information from calendar years 2005, 2006, and 2007. NCCP averaged three years of data because of small sample sizes in less populated states. The national data were calculated from the 2008 data, representing information from the previous calendar year. Available at:
http://www.nccp.org/profiles/pdf/profile_early_childhood_MT.pdf



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Target Issue 2a: Academic Achievement

Intended result a: Elementary students are prepared to succeed in later grades.

Indicator a: Percentage of fourth graders who are proficient in reading and math.

Montana and the United States

Definitions of Reading Proficiency

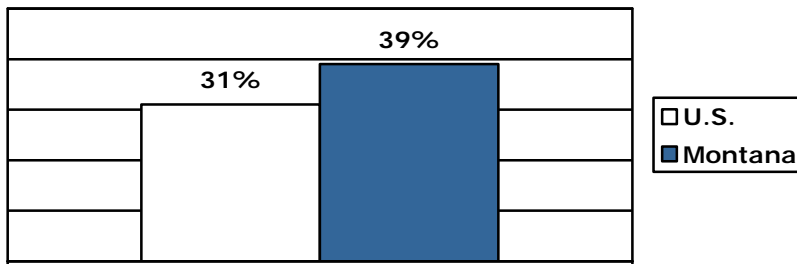
- Below Basic 207 or lower
- Basic 208-237
- Proficient 238-267
- Advanced 268 –500

Definitions of Mathematics Proficiency

- Below Basic 214 and below
- Basic 215-248
- Proficient 249-281
- Advanced 282 and above

Montana 4th graders read better than U.S. 4th graders (2007)

**Fourth-grade reading proficiency
(2007)**



Of 52 states and jurisdictions that participated, Montana students' scores were:

- Higher than 31 states
- Similar to 17 states
- Lower than only 3 states

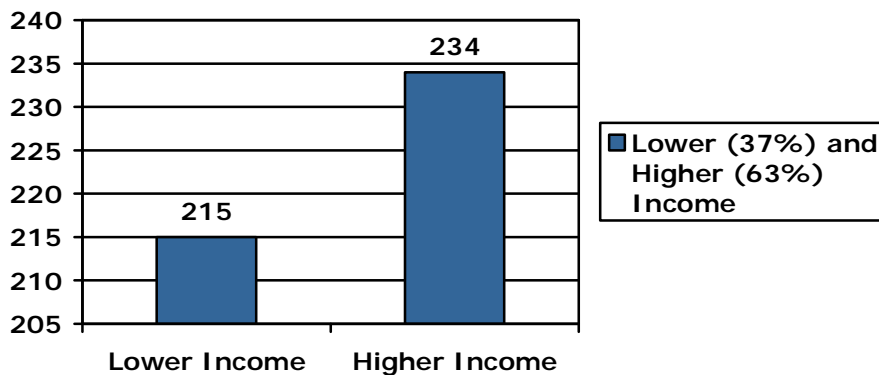


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Average 4th grade reading scores in Montana in 2007 was 227 and higher than the national average score of 220. The percentage of 4th graders who are proficient in reading was 39% in 2007. This percentage was not significantly different from that in 2005 (36%) or 1994 (35%).

The percentage of students in Montana who performed at or above the NAEP Basic level was 75% in 2007. This percentage was greater than that in 2005 (71%) and was greater than that in 1994 (69%).

In 2007, students who were eligible for free/reduced-price school lunch, a proxy for poverty, had an average score that was lower than that of students who were not eligible for free/reduced-price school lunch by 19 points. The average score for students who were eligible for free/reduced-price school lunch was lower than the score of those not eligible by 21 points.



4th Grade mathematics results in Montana public schools in 2007.

- Montana average score: 244
- US average score: 239

Of 52 states and jurisdictions, Montana students' scores were:

- Higher than 30 states
- Similar to 15 states
- Lower than only 6 states



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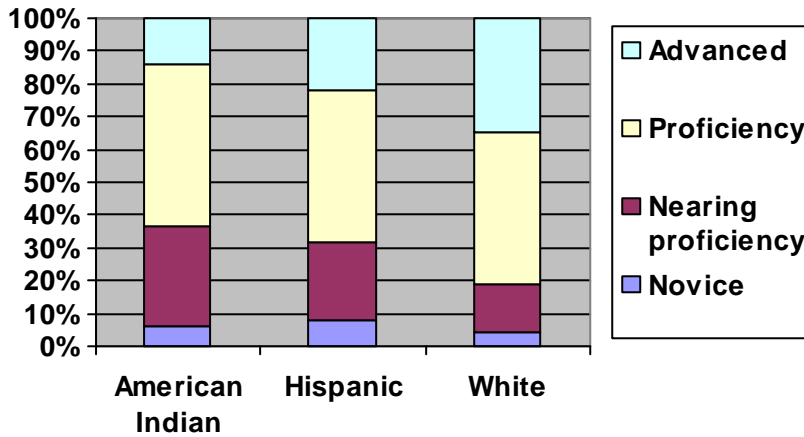
Yellowstone County

There are several elementary school districts in Yellowstone County. Data below include Billings School District, Huntley-Project School District (Worden), and Shepherd School District (Laurel).

Billings

Percent of Billings School District 4th graders reading at advanced, proficiency, nearing proficiency, and novice levels by ethnicity (2007/2008).

4 th grade	American Indian	Hispanic	White	Billings	State Total	District Total
Advanced	14	22	35	81%	79%	78%
Proficient	49	46	46			
Nearing proficiency	30	24	15	19%	21%	22%
Novice	6	8	4			

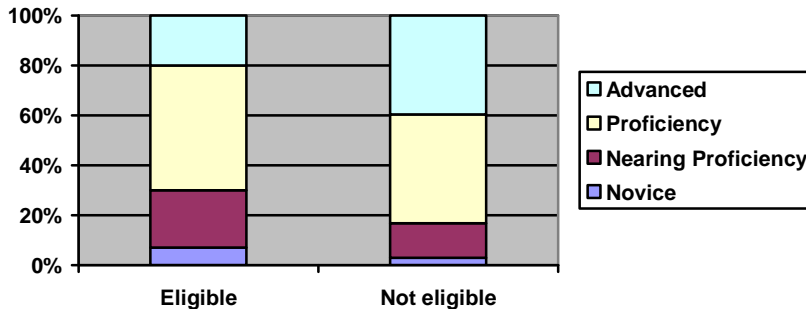




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Percent of Billings School District 4th graders reading at advanced, proficiency, nearing proficiency, and novice levels by socioeconomic indicators (2007/2008).

4 th grade	Eligible for reduced lunch	Not eligible for reduced lunch
Advanced	20	40
Proficient	50	44
Nearing proficiency	23	14
Novice	7	3



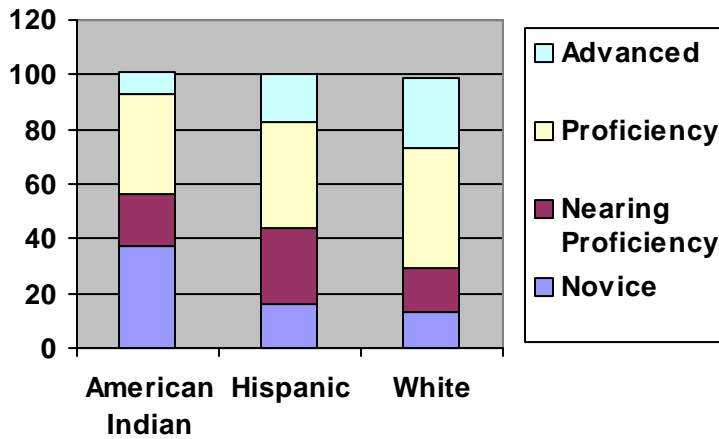
Percent of Billings School District 4th graders doing math at advanced, proficient, nearing proficiency, and novice levels by ethnicity (2007/2008).

4 th grade	American Indian	Hispanic	White	Billings	State Total	District Total
Advanced	8	17	26	70%	67%	67%
Proficient	37	39	44			
Nearing proficiency	19	28	16			
Novice	37	16	13	29%	33%	33%

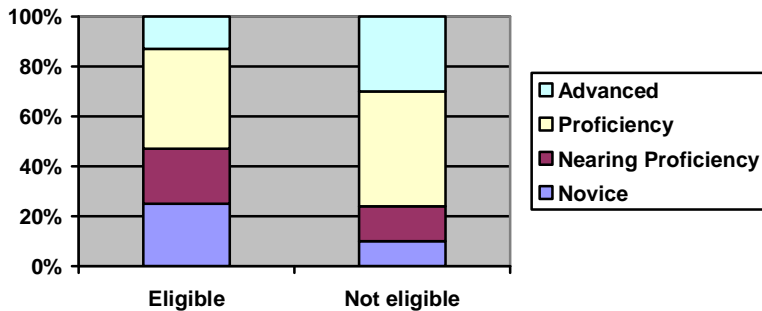


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Percent of Billings School District 4th graders doing math at advanced, proficient, nearing proficiency, and novice levels by socioeconomic indicators.



4 th grade	Eligible for reduced lunch	Not eligible for reduced lunch
Advanced	13	30
Proficient	40	46
Nearing proficiency	22	14
Novice	25	10





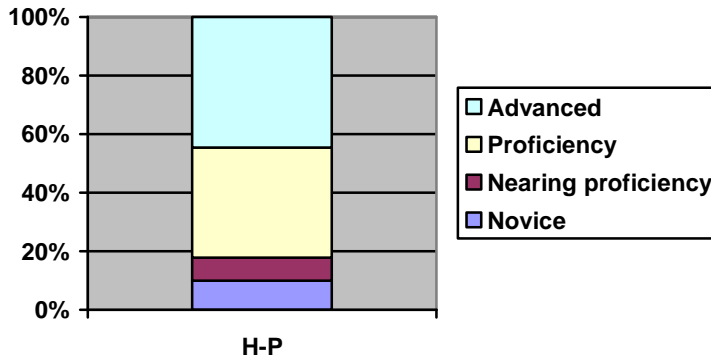
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Huntley Project

Percent of Huntley Project (Worden) 4th graders reading at advanced, proficiency, nearing proficiency, and novice levels by ethnicity (2007/2008).

4 th grade	American Indian	Hispanic	White	H-P	State Total	District Total
Advanced	Insufficient data	Insufficient data	45	83%	79%	78%
Proficient			38			
Nearing proficiency			8	18%	21%	22%
Novice			10			

Percent of Huntley Project 4th graders reading at advanced, proficiency, nearing proficiency, and novice levels by socioeconomic indicators (2007/2008).

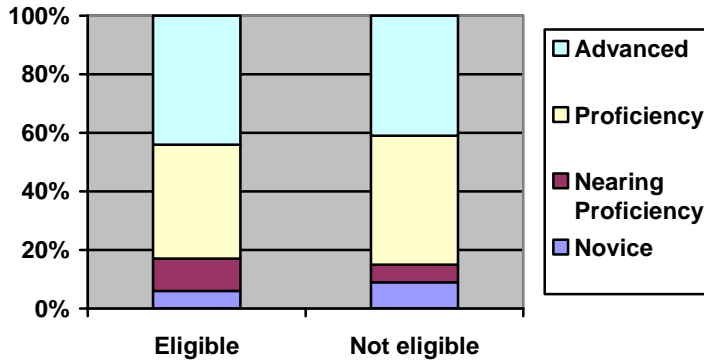


4 th grade	Eligible for reduced lunch	Not eligible for reduced lunch
Advanced	44	41
Proficient	39	44
Nearing proficiency	11	6
Novice	6	9



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Percent of Huntley Project (Worden) 4th graders doing math at advanced, proficiency, nearing proficiency, and novice levels by ethnicity (2007/2008)

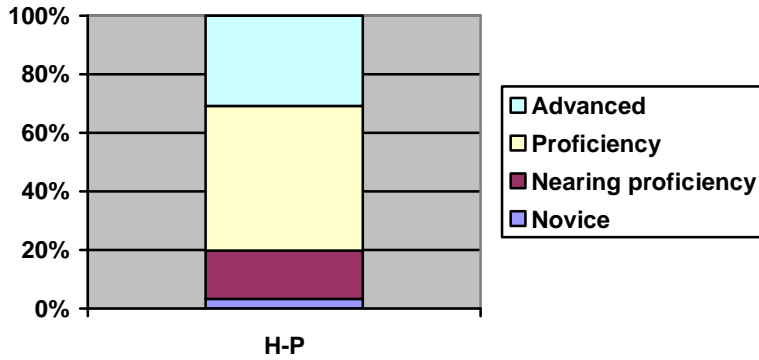


4 th grade	American Indian	Hispanic	White	H-P	State Total	District Total
Advanced	Insufficient data	Insufficient data	28	73%	67%	67%
Proficiency			45			
Nearing proficiency			15	18%	33%	33%
Novice			3			



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Percent of Huntley Project 4th graders doing math at advanced, proficient, nearing proficiency, and novice levels by socioeconomic indicators.

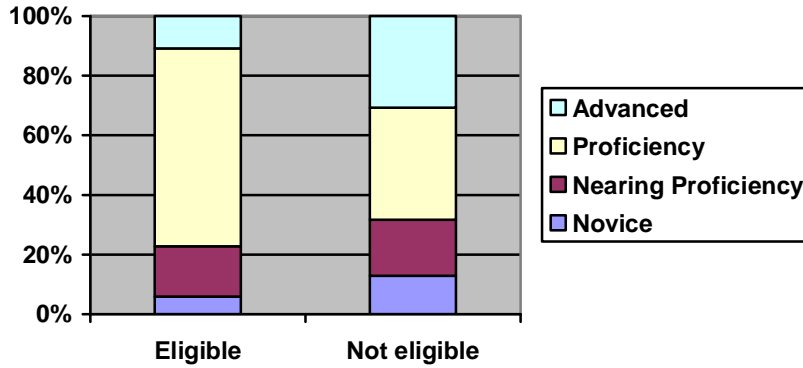


4 th grade	Eligible for reduced lunch	Not eligible for reduced lunch
Advanced	11	31
Proficient	67	38
Nearing proficiency	17	19
Novice	6	13



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Percent of Shepherd School District 4th graders reading at advanced, proficiency, nearing proficiency, and novice levels by ethnicity (2007/2008).

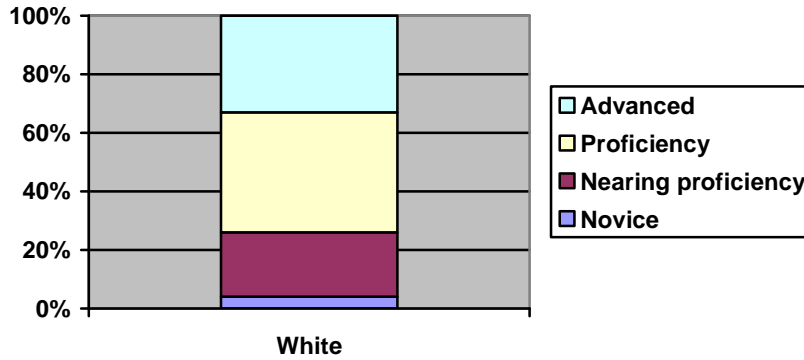


4 th grade	American Indian	Hispanic	White	Shepherd	State Total	District Total
Advanced	Insufficient data	Insufficient data	33	74%	79%	78%
Proficient			41			
Nearing proficiency			22	26%	21%	22%
Novice			4			



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Percent of Shepherd 4th graders reading at advanced, proficiency, nearing proficiency, and novice levels by socioeconomic indicators (2007/2008).

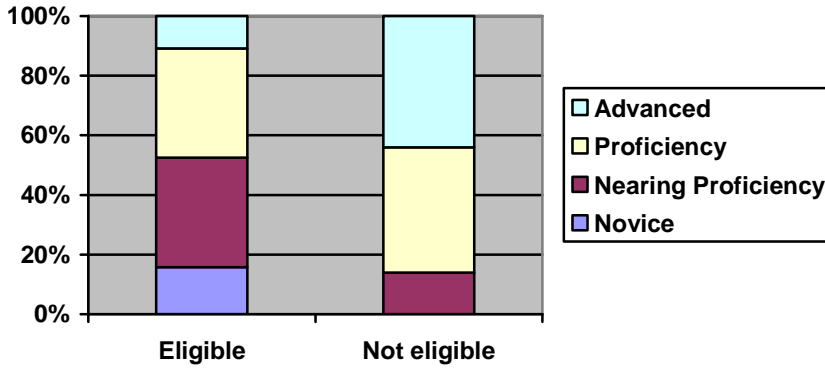


4 th grade	Eligible for reduced lunch	Not eligible for reduced lunch
Advanced	11	44
Proficient	37	42
Nearing proficiency	37	14
Novice	16	0



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Percent of Shepherd School District 4th graders doing math at advanced, proficiency, nearing proficiency, and novice levels by ethnicity (2007/2008)

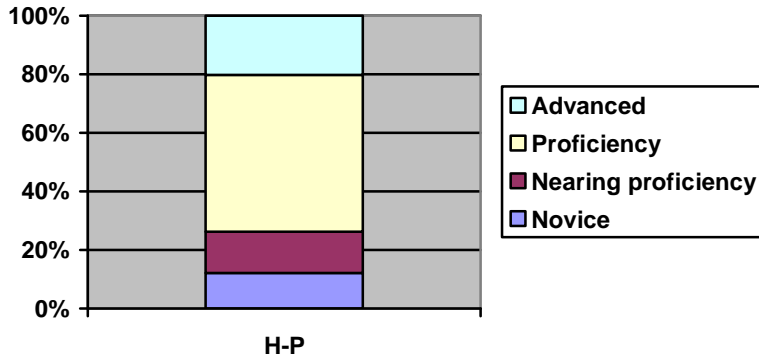


4 th grade	American Indian	Hispanic	White	Shepherd	State Total	District Total
Advanced	Insufficient data	Insufficient data	20	73%	67%	67%
Proficiency			53			
Nearing proficiency			14			
Novice			12	26%	33%	33%

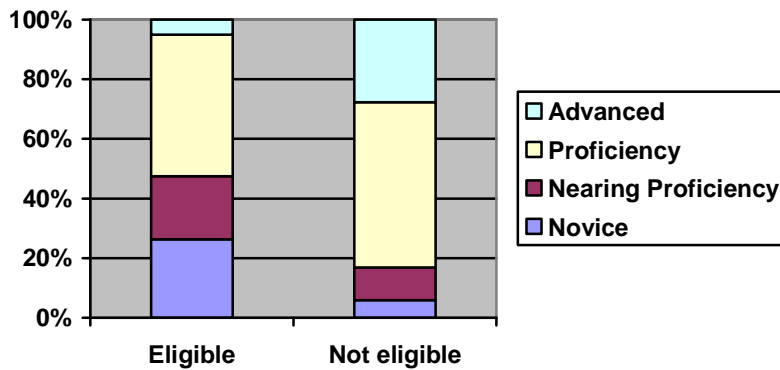


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Percent of Shepherd 4th graders doing math at advanced, proficient, nearing proficiency, and novice levels by socioeconomic indicators.



4 th grade	Eligible for reduced lunch	Not eligible for reduced lunch
Advanced	5	28
Proficient	47	56
Nearing proficiency	21	11
Novice	26	6



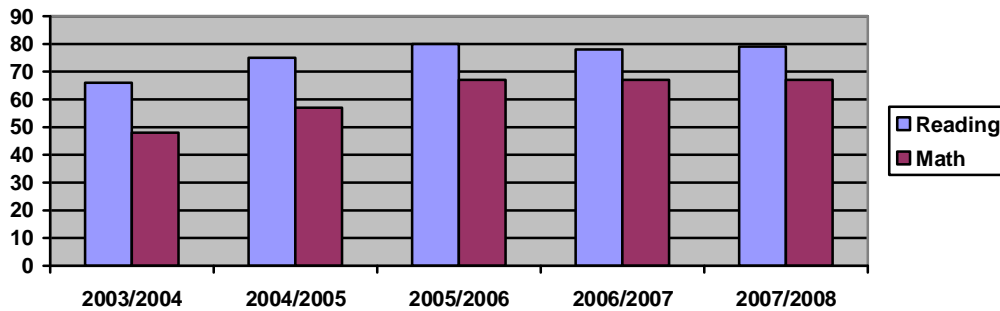


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Data trends

Proficiency scores in both reading and math for 4th graders were compared between the Yellowstone school district averages and the Montana state averages for the years between 2003 and 2008. Gains were made in both reading and math.

	2003/2004	2004/2005	2005/2006	2006/2007	2007/2008
Reading District	66%	75%	80%	80%	79%
Montana	65%	75%	80%	78%	78%
Math District	48%	57%	67%	67%	67%
Montana	45%	57%	64%	68%	67%





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The Nation's Report Card. Reading 2007 State Snapshot Report. IES National Center for Education Statistics. NCES 2007-497MT4. Available at: <http://nces.ed.gov/nationsreportcard/pdf/stt2007/2007497MT4.pdf> and http://nationsreportcard.gov/math_2007/m0005.asp Accessed on May 12, 2009 and

Montana Office of Public Instruction. No Child Left Behind Report Card (2007/2008). Available by district, school, and grade at: <http://www.opi.state.mt.us/> /Accessed on May 18, 2009.



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Target Issue 2b. Academic Achievement

Intended result b: Young people graduate from high school.

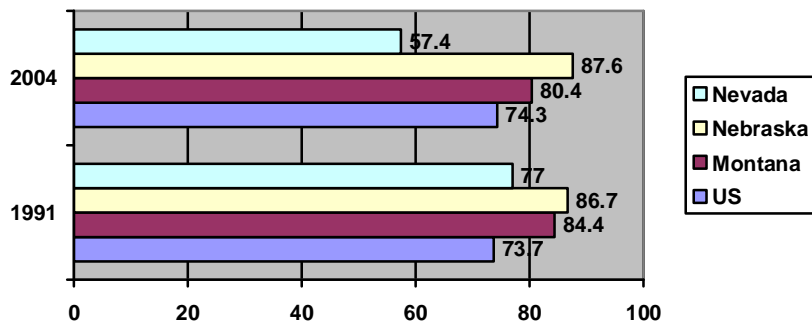
Indicator b: Percentage of public high school students who graduate on time. .

The averaged freshman graduation rate for public high schools provides an estimate of the percentage of high school students who graduate. The rate uses aggregate enrollment data to estimate the size of an incoming freshman class and aggregate counts of the number of diplomas awarded 4 years later.

The percent of freshman graduation rates for public secondary schools 1990-91 through 2003-2004 indicated that the rate for Montana was 84.4 in 1991 and 80.4 in 2004. In the United States, the rates were 73.7 in 1991, and 74.3 in 2004. The table below shows rates for Florida, Massachusetts, Mississippi, New York, Washington, and Wyoming. The highest rate was in Nebraska (87.6) and the lowest was in Nevada (57.4).

Percent of freshman graduation rates for public secondary schools 1990-91 through 2003-2004

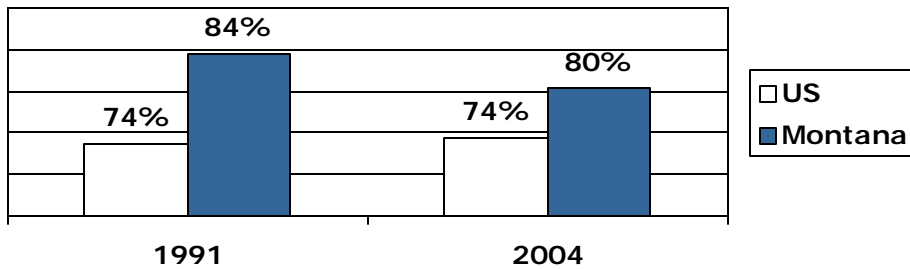
	1991	2004
Florida	65.6	66.4
Massachusetts	79.1	79.3
Mississippi	63.3	62.7
Montana	84.4	80.4
New York	66.1	60.9
Washington	75.7	74.6
Wyoming	81.1	76.0
United States	73.7	74.3





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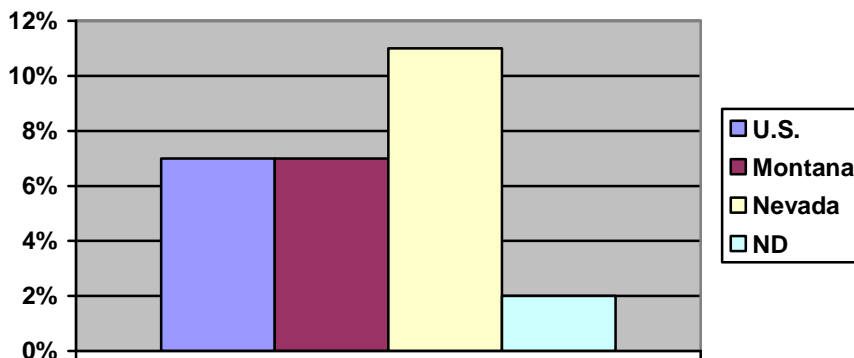
Percent students graduating on time in MT compared to US average (1991 & 2004)



Population ages 16 to 19 who are high school dropouts in 2000 and 1990.

State	Percent in 1990	Percent in 2000
Florida	14.3	11.9
Massachusetts	8.5	6.6
Mississippi	11.8	12.2
Montana	8.1	8.0
New York	9.9	8.8
Washington	10.6	8.7
Wyoming	6.9	7.5

High School dropout rates for Montana (7%) compared to U.S. average (7%), Nevada (11% and highest) and North Dakota (2% and lowest) for 2007.





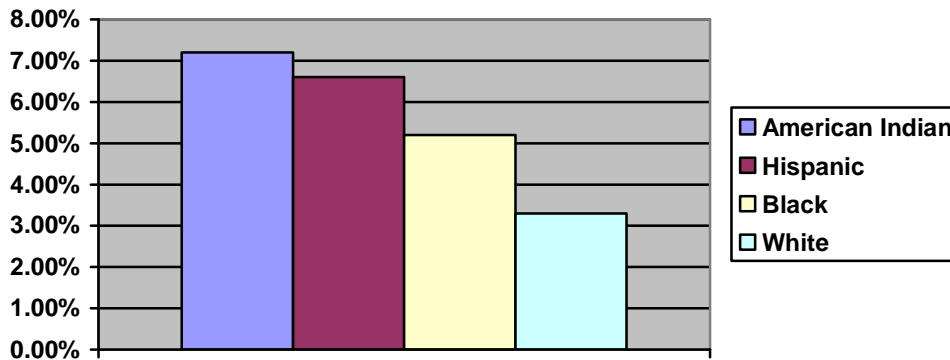
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Yellowstone County dropout rates (3-year average, 2006)

Yellowstone County High School	Percent drop-out rate
Billings Senior	4.6%
Laurel	3.57%
Shepherd	3.19%
Billings West	3.02%
Custer	1.10%
Huntley Project	0.88%
Billings Central	0.40%

Montana Office of Public Instruction reported lower dropout rates (3.5%) over a 5-year period (2002-2007) in contrast to a 7.0% national dropout rate.

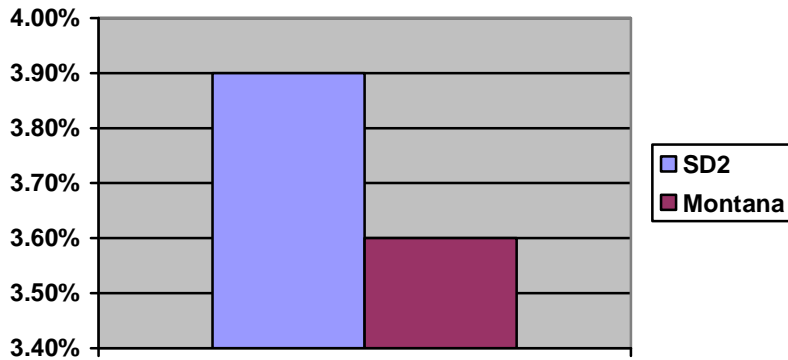
American Indian students had the highest dropout rates in 2006/2007. (American Indian 7.2%; Hispanic 6.6%, Black 5.2%, White 3.3%).





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School District 2 had a higher dropout rate (3.9%) than Montana (3.6%) in 2006.



In Yellowstone County, the percent of high school dropouts age 16 to 19 was 8.2% and Yellowstone ranked 22 out of 56 counties in 2000.

County	Percent	Rank
Yellowstone	8.2%	22
Liberty	23.5%	1
Lake	18.6%	2
Powell	18.2%	3
Montana	8.0%	34 out of 48 states

Percent of high school dropouts age 16 to 19.

State	Percent	Rank
Florida	11.9%	10
Mississippi	12.2%	6
Montana	8.0%	34
New York	8.8%	25
Washington	8.7%	27
Wyoming	7.5%	38



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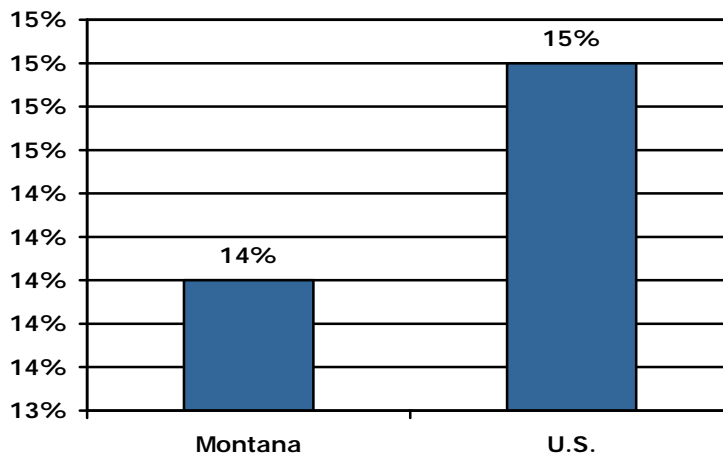
Target Issue 3: Productive and engaged young adults

Intended result Young adults make a successful transition from high school to work life.

Indicator: Percentage of 18-24 year olds who are neither working nor in school.

The percentage of Montana's young adults (ages 18-24) not attending school, not working, and no degree beyond high school is similar to other states and US average in 2007.

Percentage of Montana's young adults (ages 18-24) not attending school

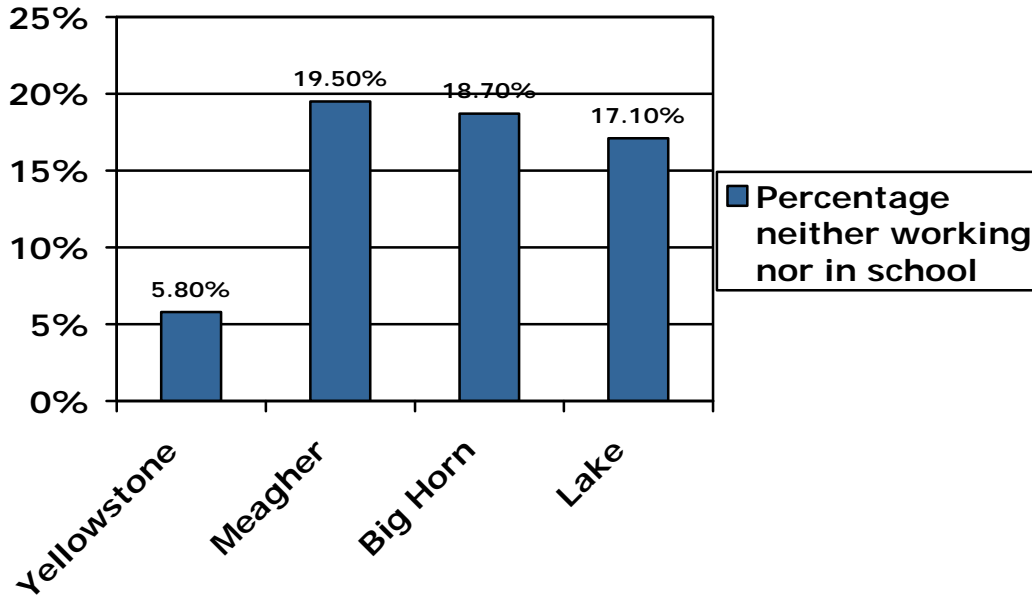




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Yellowstone County ranks 39 (56 is best) for teens (ages 16-19) neither working nor in school and Meagher, Big Horn, and Lake Counties had the highest percentage of teens who were neither working nor in school (2000 Census data).

Teens (ages 16-19) neither working nor in school



In 2000, in Yellowstone County the percentage of teens (16-19) not enrolled in school and not working was 5.8%. Out of 56 Montana counties, Yellowstone ranked 39. The top ranked county for not being enrolled and not working was Meagher at 19.5%, followed by Big Horn at 18.7%, and Lake County at 17.1%. Montana ranked 33 in the US with 7.6% of all teens 16-19 not enrolled in school and not working.

Percent of teens not enrolled in school and not working in Yellowstone County and top ranking counties in Montana.

County	Percent	Rank
Yellowstone	5.8%	39
Meagher	19.5%	1
Big Horn	18.7%	2
Lake	17.1%	3
Montana	7.6%	33 out of 48 states



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Montana compared to five other states (Florida, Mississippi, New York, Washington and Wyoming) with regard to the percent of 16-19 year olds who are neither working nor enrolled in school.

State	Percent	Rank
Florida	9.7%	15
Mississippi	11.8%	5
Montana	7.6%	33
New York	8.1%	28
Washington	9.1%	21
Wyoming	7.5%	35

County comparison: In Yellowstone County, the percent of the population aged 18 to 24 who have some college education but no degree was 38.4% (see table below).

County	Percent	Rank
Yellowstone	38.4%	7
Gallatin	61.8%	1
Beaverhead	58.8%	2
Missoula	52.8%	3
Meagher	9.9%	56

State comparison: Percent of the population aged 18 to 24 who have some college education but no degree.

State	Percent	Rank
Florida	29.6%	50
Mississippi	34.4%	33
Montana	39.1%	7
New York	33.6%	38
Washington	33.5%	41
Wyoming	36.3%	19



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County comparison: In Yellowstone County, the percent of the population 18 to 24 who have an Associate or Bachelor's Degree is 11.7%.

	Percent	Rank
Yellowstone	11.7%	10
Golden Valley	31.3	1
Sheridan	19.4	2
Power River	19.3	3
Lincoln	2.6%	56

The following measures reflect those young adults who are considered having difficulty navigating what most would consider a successful transition to adulthood.

Young adults enrolled in or completed college (percent) (2007).

State comparison: Montana young adults enrolled in or completed college are neither high nor low as compared to other states.

State	Percent
Florida	42%
Massachusetts	59%
Mississippi	39%
Montana	42%
Washington	40%
Wyoming	36%

Young adults ages 18-24 not attending school, not working and no degree beyond high school (percent) (2007). Again, Montana statistics suggest that youth are neither high nor low but are 'middle of the road.'

State	Percent
Florida	16%
Massachusetts	10%
Mississippi	21%
Montana	14%
New York	14%
Washington	14%
Wyoming	13%
U.S.	15%

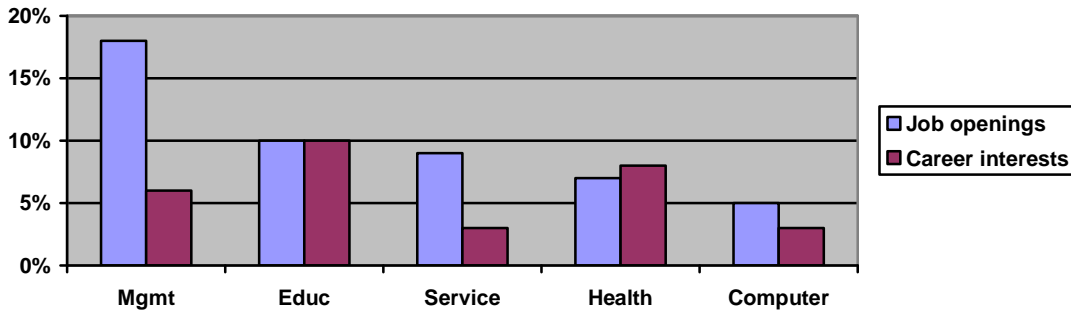


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High Growth Montana career fields

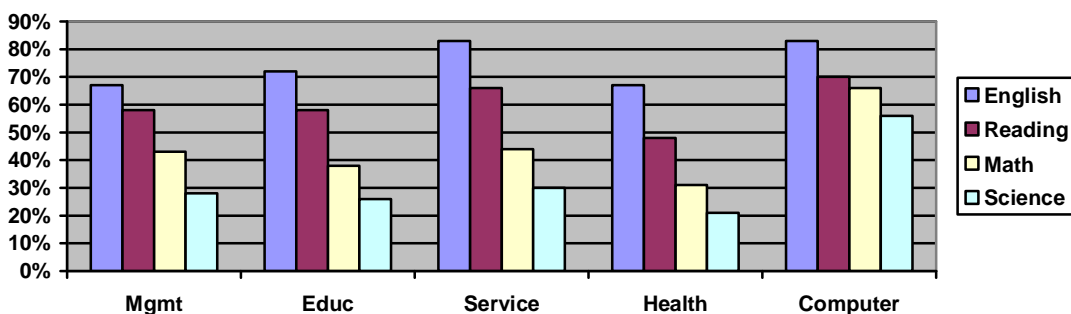
Gaps between expected jobs and interested students are apparent for careers in management (convention planners, hotel/restaurant managers, etc.), community services (social workers, school counselors, etc.), and computer specialties (computer programmers, database administrators, etc.), with more jobs expected than students interested in jobs in these fields. Montana may be faced with potential labor shortfalls in fields where skilled individuals are most needed.

Projected annual job openings and Montana high school students' interests in high growth Montana career fields (2008)



It appears that there is no gap between students interested in education (secondary teachers, administrators, etc.), and the jobs that will be available in this field. There are also slightly more students interested in health care (nurses, occupational therapists, etc.) than jobs that will be available in this field. However, many of the students interested in the education and health care fields are not ready to meet or exceed one or more of ACT's College Readiness Benchmarks in English, reading, mathematics, or science, as shown in Figure 2. Students who are interested and college ready are more likely to be successful in the coursework needed to enter these high-growth career fields.

ACT College-readiness benchmark performance of Montana high school students interested in high growth Montana career fields by subject (2008)





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Students are ready to succeed in entry-level college courses if they meet ACT's College Readiness Benchmarks. In Montana, more than three-quarters of students are prepared for first-year college coursework in English for two of the five high-growth career fields, and more than two-thirds of students pursuing the other three fields are prepared for college-level English. Fewer students interested in these high-growth fields are prepared to succeed in college-level social science courses (indicated by ACT Reading Benchmark), with students pursuing health care careers being the least prepared and students pursuing computer specialties careers being the most prepared.

More than one-half of students wanting to enter computer specialties are ready for college-level math or science courses. Less than one-half of students pursuing careers in management, education, community services, and health care are ready for college-level math, while less than one-third of students pursuing these careers are ready for college-level science.

Overall, the pattern of readiness for college coursework is similar across the five high growth career fields: Student preparation is highest for English and social sciences, and much lower for math and science. The lower levels of preparation among graduating high school students is alarming, given the high demand for science- and math-intensive careers such as nursing, pharmacy, and teaching.

2008

Subject	English	Reading	Math	Science
Management	67%	58%	43%	28%
Education	72%	58%	38%	26%
Community Service	83%	66%	44%	30%
Health care	67%	48%	31%	21%
Computer specialties	83%	70%	66%	56%



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Based on 2008 ACT-tested Montana students ($n = 3,958$) with valid career information.



United Way Challenge to America: Goals for the Common Good

Income

Promoting Financial Stability and Independence Among Working Families

Target Issue 1: Achieving greater financial stability

Intended result: Lower-income working families move towards financial independence.

Indicator: Percentage of lower-income working families who spend more than 40% of their income on housing*

*Working families have one (or two parents) working 50 or more weeks (combined) during the previous year. Lower-income means that the family income was less than 250% of the federal poverty level. In 2009, the FPL was \$22,900 for a family of four and 250% of FPL for a family of four was \$55,125/year.

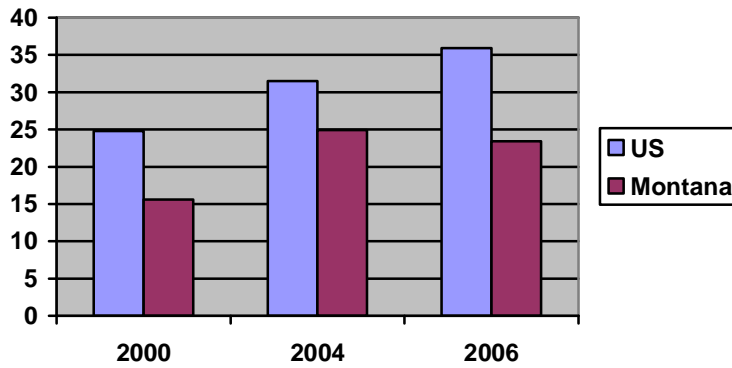
The table and figure below show the percentage of lower income working families who spent 40% of their monthly income on housing in the U.S. and Montana. The percentage of those spending 40% or more on housing is consistently lower in Montana.



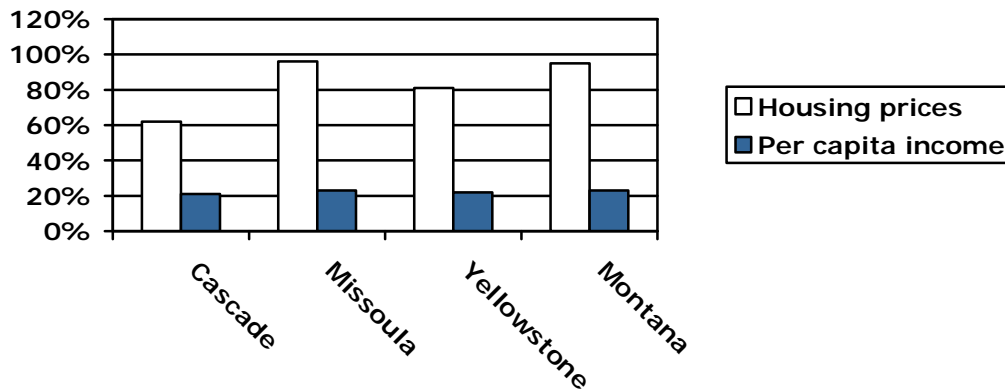
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40% Housing Burden for U.S. and Montana

Year	United States	Montana
2000	24.8%	15.6%
2004	31.5%	24.9%
2006	35.9%	23.4%



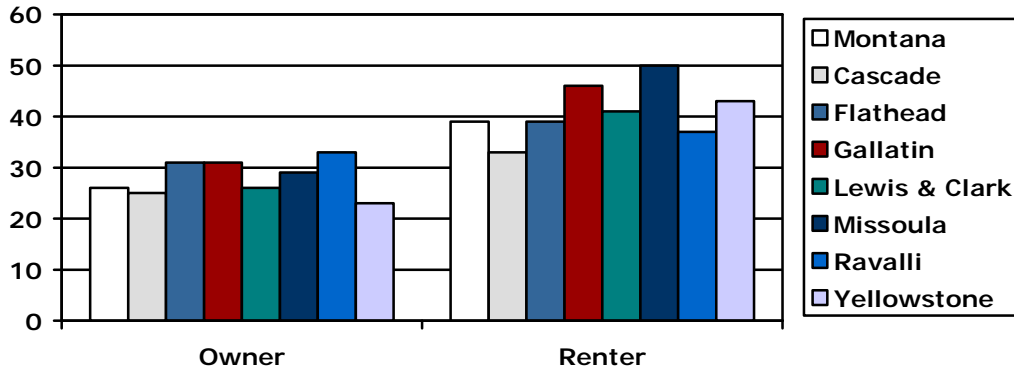
In Montana, the growth in housing prices has outpaced the per capita income since 1998 (2009 report)





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Percentage of homeowners and renters paying more than 30% of income towards housing in selected Montana counties (2007)





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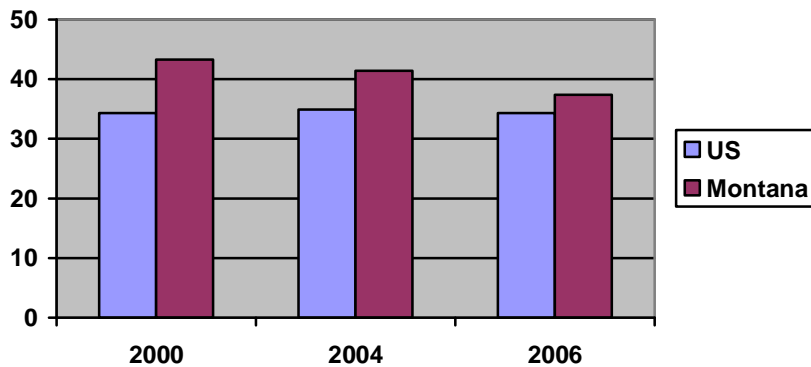
Target Issue 2: Increasing Income

Intended result: Working families earn enough income to support a decent standard of living.

Indicator: Percentage of working families who are lower-income

The table below shows the percentage of families who are considered lower income. The percentages for the U.S. remain relatively stable. Montana's percentages drop from one year to the next. Even so, the percentage of Montana families who are lower-income is higher than the U.S. average.

Year	United States	Montana
2000	34.3	43.3
2004	34.9	41.4
2006	34.3	37.4



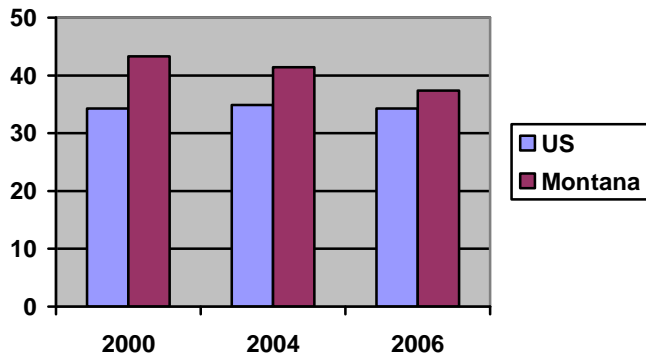


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The table below shows the percentage of *working* families who are lower income. The percent of lower-income working families remains stable in the U.S. Montana's percentages drop from one year to the next. Even so, the percentage of working families who are lower-income is higher in Montana than in the U.S.

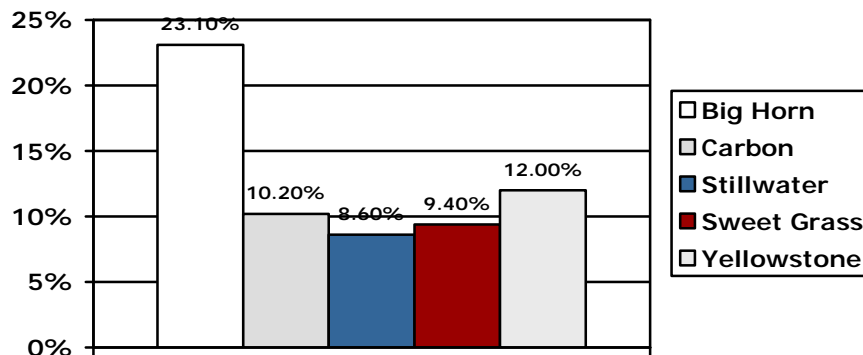
Percentage of working families who are lower income

Year	United States	Montana
2000	23.7%	34.3%
2004	23.4%	32.3%
2006	23.4%	28.9%



In South Central Montana, Big Horn County had the highest levels of poverty in 2004 using FPL guidelines

Levels of poverty in 2004





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Target Issue 3: Building Savings

Intended result: Lower-income working families have safe vehicles for saving and have enough money saved for emergencies

Indicator: Percentage of lower-income working families who have a checking or savings account with a minimum of \$300. *

*The summed accounts have more than \$300 measured in the previous year and the current year.

Safety net is equal to the share of 250% of poverty level apportioned for a given time period. So, a 1-month safety net is 250% of the poverty level divided by 12. A 3-month safety net is 250% of the federal poverty level divided by 4, and so on.

The table below shows the percent of individuals reported a saved amount greater than \$300 in various accounts. The sample size was 111 and included residents of both Idaho and Montana in 2004. This is not a reliable source of information given the lack of specific geographic representation and small sample size.

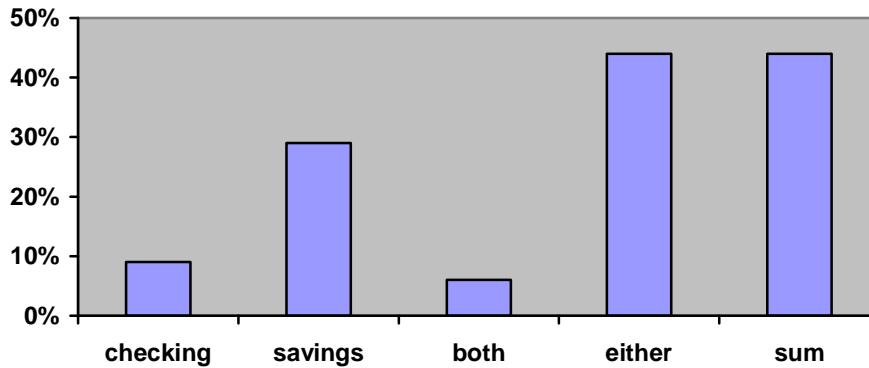
Percent of individuals reported a saved amount greater than \$300 in various accounts

Montana and Idaho	Percentage
Checking greater than \$300, Savings less than \$300.	9%
Savings greater than \$300, Checking less than \$300.	29%
Both checking and savings have \$300 each.	6%
Either checking or savings is greater than \$300.	44%
The sum of checking and savings is greater than \$300.	44%



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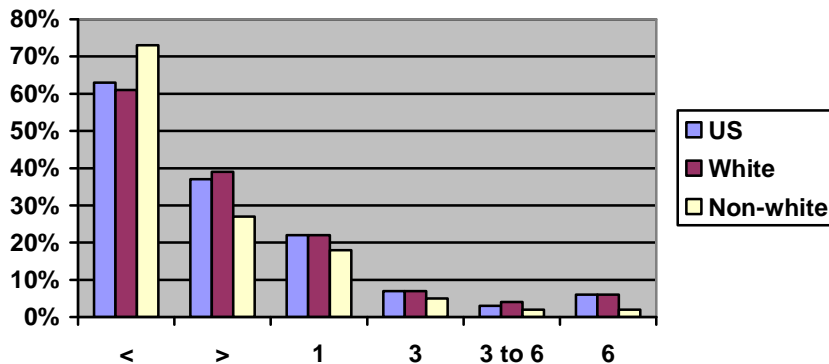
Lower-income working families with savings of greater than and less than \$300 (combined Idaho and Montana data)



In a 2004 U.S. sample of lower income working families (below 250% of poverty), few had an adequate 'safety net' (n=10,027).

Percentage of lower income working families with more or less than \$300, and a 1-, 3-, 3-6-, or 6-month safety net.

	<\$300	>\$300	1 month	3 months	3-6 months	6 months
US (n=10,027)	63%	37%	22%	7%	3%	6%
White (n=7,518)	61%	39%	22%	7%	4%	6%
Non-white (n=2509)	73%	27%	18%	5%	2%	2%





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Target Issue 4: Gaining and sustaining assets

Intended result: Lower-income working families build appreciating assets

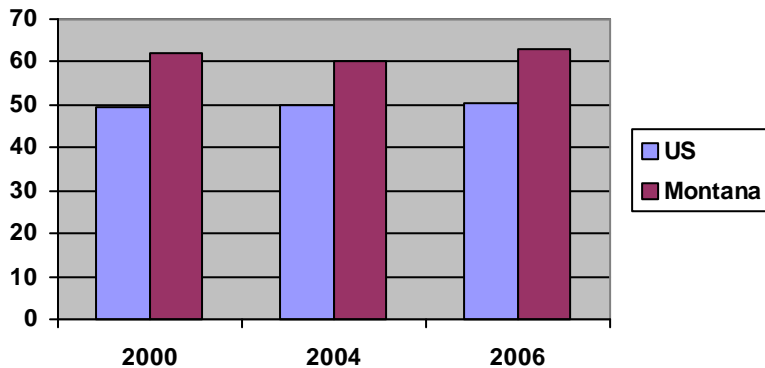
Indicator: Homeownership rate for lower-income working families. *

*Working families have one (or two) parents working 50 or more weeks (combined) during the previous year. Lower-income means that the family income was less than 250% of the federal poverty level.

The table below indicates the percentage o lower-income working families in the US and Montana who own a home. Both the U.S. and Montana families show a slight increase in home ownership though overall a greater percentage of lower-income working families in Montana own a home.

Percentage of lower-income families who own a home.

Year	United States	Montana
2000	49.5%	62.1%
2004	50.1%	60.0%
2006	50.2%	62.9%





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Federal Register Vol. 74, No. 14, January 23, 2009, pp. 4199-4201. Monthly and yearly percentage data calculated by FHCE and rounded to the nearest dollar.

50-State Data. Income status of children under age 18, by home ownership.

Available at: <http://www.nccp.org/tools/table.php?submit=Create+Table7States>



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Health

Improving People's Health

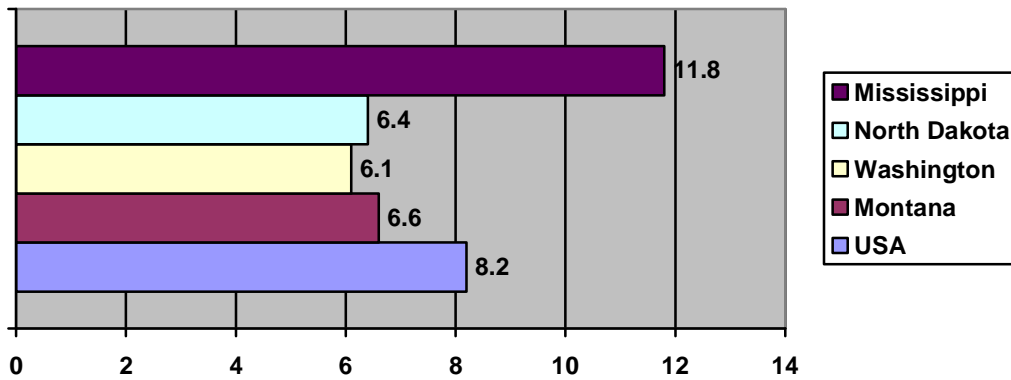
Target Issue 1: Maternal health and infant well-being

Intended result: Babies are born at low risk of any preventable health problems

Indicator: Percentage of babies born who are low birth weight*

*Below 2.5 kg (2,500 grams, or 5 pounds 8 ounces).

Percentage of low birth weight babies in Mississippi (highest in the U.S.), North Dakota, Washington (lowest in the U.S.), Montana, and the U.S. for 2005.

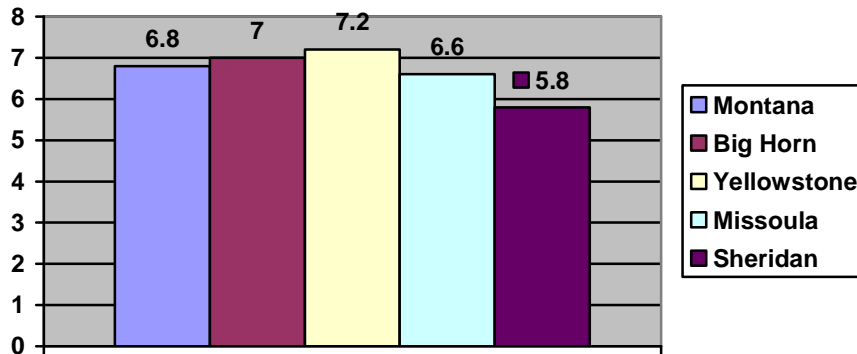




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In Yellowstone County, the percentage of low birth weight babies was 7.2% compared to Montana (6.8%) for 1998-2002.

Yellowstone County percentage of low birth weight babies for 1998-2002.





United Way Challenge to America: Goals for the Common Good

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Target Issue 2: Basic health care coverage and prevention

Intended result: Children and youth receive timely, regular, preventive health care

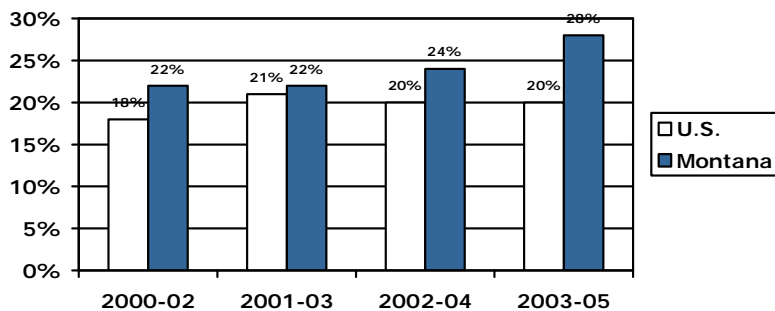
Indicator: Percentage of children under age 18 who do not have health care insurance.

Percentages for Montana and US for 2003 regarding children’s health (ages 0-17).

	MT	USA
Current health insurance.	87.4	91.2
Currently uninsured or not insured for some time during last year.	19.5	14.9
Preventive medical care visit in last year.	67.0	77.8
Preventive medical and dental care visit in last year.	48.9	58.8
Percentage of children with current emotional developmental, or behavioral problem who received some type of mental health care during last year.	68.4	58.7

The percentage of children under 18 and below FPL without health insurance is greater for Montana (3 year averages

Percentage of children under 18 and below FPL without health insurance





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The number and percentage of children without health insurance declined dramatically between 1999 and 2002. The number declined by 1.8 million and the percentage fell by 2.6 percentage points. This improvement was concentrated among low-income children (those with incomes below 200 percent of the federal poverty thresholds), and was associated with increased coverage through Medicaid and the State Children's Health Insurance Program (SCHIP). Improvements in coverage were largest for Hispanic and black children, but occurred for white children as well. Increases in health services use were widespread. Despite these gains, millions of children eligible for Medicaid or SCHIP coverage remain uninsured.

Childhood Obesity

Approximately 28,000 of 104,000 Montana children ages 10-17 (27.3%) are considered overweight or obese according to BMI for age standards. One in 3 (33.1%) Montana children on public health insurance are overweight or obese.

Montana children are more likely than their counterparts nationwide to be physically active for at least 4 days/week, and less likely to spend 2 hours or more in front of a television or computer screen.

Approximately 28.2% of lower income children ages 2-5 are overweight or obese.

	Montana percentage	U.S. percentage
Percentage ages 10-17 who are overweight or obese.	27.3	30.6
State rank (1 is best)	16	
Percentage ages 6-17 active at least 4 days/week	63.1	59.0
Percentage ages 6-17 spend < 2 hours/day on television and computer (video games)	37.5	44.9

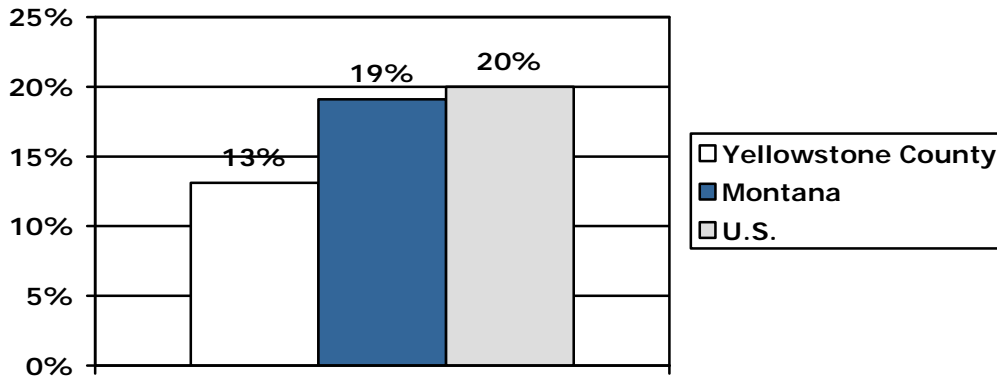
Percentage overweight or obese by income

	Montana percentage	U.S. percentage
<100% FPL	37.7	39.8
>400% FPL	21.2%	22.9%
Percentage overweight or obese by type of insurance:		
Public	33.1	39.6
Private	24.1	26.7



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Fewer Yellowstone County adults were uninsured than Montana or U.S. adults ages 18-64 years in 2005.



Adult health care coverage and prevention (2007)

Activity	Montana percentage	U.S. percentage
No health care coverage (18-64 years)	20.4%	17.0%
No fecal occult blood test within last 2 years	72.1%	75.8%
Never had sigmoidoscopy or colonoscopy	47.1%	42.9%
No mammogram in last 2 years	27.8%	23.5%

Risk Factors and Preventive Services (2007)

Activity	Montana percentage	U.S. percentage
Consume fewer than 5 fruits and vegetables per day	74.7%	75.6%



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Target Issue 3a: Healthy youth and adults

Intended result: Youth and adults are healthy and avoiding risky behavior

Indicator a: Percentage of grade 9-12 students who are healthy and avoiding risky behavior *

*Percentage of grade 9-12 students who reported not being involved in violence; no smoking or drug use; no alcohol binge drinking (including drunk driving); practicing abstinence or safe sex; and not being overweight.

High School Students

Behavior	Montana percent	U.S. percent
Overweight	13.3%	15.8%
Consume fewer than 5 veggies and fruit per day	82.9%	78.6%
Not attending PE class	46.2%	46.4%
Current cigarette smoking	20.0%	20.0%

2007 Youth Risk Behavioral Survey data

The Youth Risk Behavioral Survey (YRBS) monitors priority health risk behaviors that contribute to the leading causes of death, disability, and social problems among youth and adults in the United States. The national YRBS is conducted every two years during the spring semester and provides data representative of 9th through 12th grade students in public and private schools throughout the United States. The Montana YRBS also is conducted every 2 years and provides data representative of 9th through 12th grade students in public schools throughout Montana.

An excellent presentation of all summarized YRBS data can be found at:
<http://www.opi.state.mt.us/YRBS/>



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2007 Youth Risk Behavioral Survey

Behavior	Montana percent	U.S. percent	Montana youth risk?
Behaviors that contribute to unintentional injury or violence.			
Rarely or never wore seatbelt when riding in a car driven by someone else.	14.2	11.1	Greater risk
Rode with a driver who had been drinking alcohol one or more times in prior 30 days.	32.9	29.1	Greater risk
Carried a weapon at least one day in prior 30 days.	22.1	18.0	Greater risk
In a physical fight one or more times in prior 30 days.	32.8	35.5	Less risk
Did not go to school because felt unsafe at school or on their way to or from school one more times in prior 30 days.	4.2	5.5	Less risk
Seriously considered attempting suicide prior 12 months	15.1	14.5	Equal
Attempted suicide one or more times in prior 12 months	7.9	6.9	Equal
Tobacco use			
Lifetime cigarette use (ever tried)	52.1	50.3	Equal
Current cigarette use smoked cigarettes on at least one day in prior 30 days	20.0	20.0	Equal
Current smokeless tobacco use one more days in prior 30 days.	12.9	7.9	Greater risk
Alcohol and other drug use			
Lifetime alcohol use one or more drinks on at least one day during lifetime	77.8	75.0	Equal
Current alcohol use one or more drinks on at least one day in prior 30 days.	46.5	44.7	Equal
Episodic heavy drinking five or more drinks in a row within two hours on at least one day during prior 30 days.	32.7	26.0	Greater risk
Lifetime marijuana use one or more times during life.	39.1	38.1	Equal
Lifetime cocaine.	8.3	7.2	Equal
Lifetime methamphetamine use.	4.6	4.4	Equal
Lifetime inhalant use.	16.2	13.3	Greater
Offered, sold, or given an illegal drug by someone on school property.	24.9	22.3	Equal



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Sexual behavior			
Ever had sexual intercourse	45.7	47.8	Equal
Currently sexually active (sexual intercourse with at least one person in prior 3 months).	31.2	35.0	Less risk
Had sexual intercourse with 4 or more persons during lifetime.	13.7	14.9	Equal
Did not use a condom during last sexual intercourse.	36.7	38.5	Equal



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Trend data for Montana youth from 1995 –2007

Behavior: Injury and Violence	'95'	'97'	'99'	'01'	'03'	'05'	'07'
Never/rarely wore seatbelt in a car driven by someone else.	31.9	32.0	23.1	19.8	17.8	13.9	14.2
Never or rarely wore a seat belt when driving a car.				18.7	19.5	15.8	14.9
Rode in a car driven by someone who had been drinking alcohol during the past 30 days.	48.1	46.6	43.1	39.3	36.9	34.4	32.9
Drove a car when they had been drinking alcohol during the past 30 days.	27.4	26.7	22.7	21.8	20.4	18.5	16.0
Carried a weapon such as a gun, knife, or club during the past 30 days.	22.6	23.8	20.3	21.4	19.4	21.4	22.1
Carried a gun during the past 30 days.	9.4	9.8	8.6	9.0	8.7	9.0	7.8
Carried a weapon on school property during the past 30 days.	12.4	12.4	9.2	8.7	7.2	10.2	9.7
Did not go to school because they felt unsafe at school or on their way to or from school during the past 30 days.	2.8	4.4	3.0	5.5	3.4	4.2	4.2
Felt so sad or hopeless for two weeks or more in a row that they stopped doing some usual activities during the past 12 months	25.9	26.6	26.4	25.6	25.8	25.9	26.6
Seriously considered attempting suicide during the past 12 months	21.8	23.9	18.6	19.4	18.9	17.5	21.8
Made a plan about how they would attempt suicide during the past 12 months	19.2	18.7	15.6	16.3	14.8	14.6	19.2
Actually attempted suicide during the past 12 months	8.5	8.4	6.7	10.4	9.7	10.3	7.9
Had a suicide attempt resulting in injury, poisoning, or overdose that required medical treatment during the past 12 months	2.8	2.4	2.5	3.7	3.0	3.1	2.8

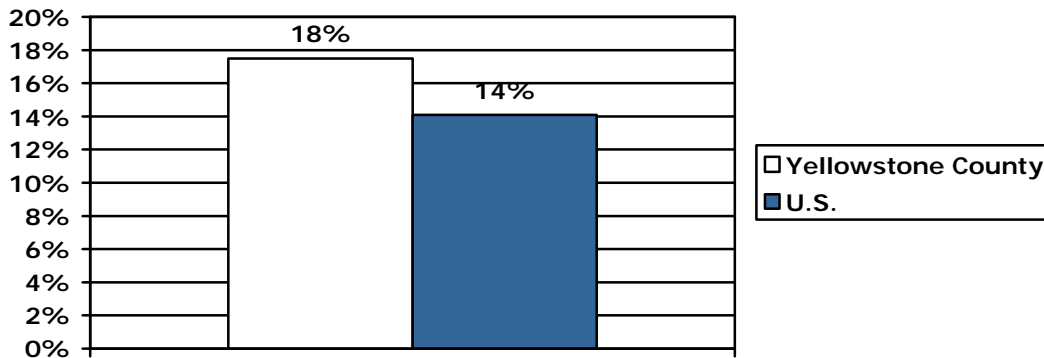


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Montana districts or schools required to provide preventive health services when needed (2006)

Service	Required	Not required
Alcohol or other drug use prevention	Yes	
HIV prevention	Yes	
Injury prevention and safety counseling		No
Nutrition and dietary behavior counseling		No
Physical activity and fitness counseling		No
Pregnancy prevention		No
STD prevention	Yes	
Suicide prevention		No
Tobacco use prevention	Yes	
Violence prevention	Yes	

Percentage of children in Yellowstone County overweight compared to national percentage (2006).





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In the 2008 Prevention Needs Assessment report (a survey of all youth in grades 8, 10, and 12 in even years (e.g., 2002, 2004, 2006, 2008) teens in Yellowstone County were more likely to use alcohol.

Likelihood of teens to use alcohol

Behavior	Yellowstone County	U.S.
Use alcohol in past 30 days.		
8 th grade	20.2%	15.9%
10 th grade	39.0%	28.8%
12 th grade	53.9%	43.1%

The primary drugs of addiction for teens according to the PNA were:

- Marijuana (54.1%)
- Alcohol (32.5%)
- Amphetamines (6.0%)
- Other (7.4%)



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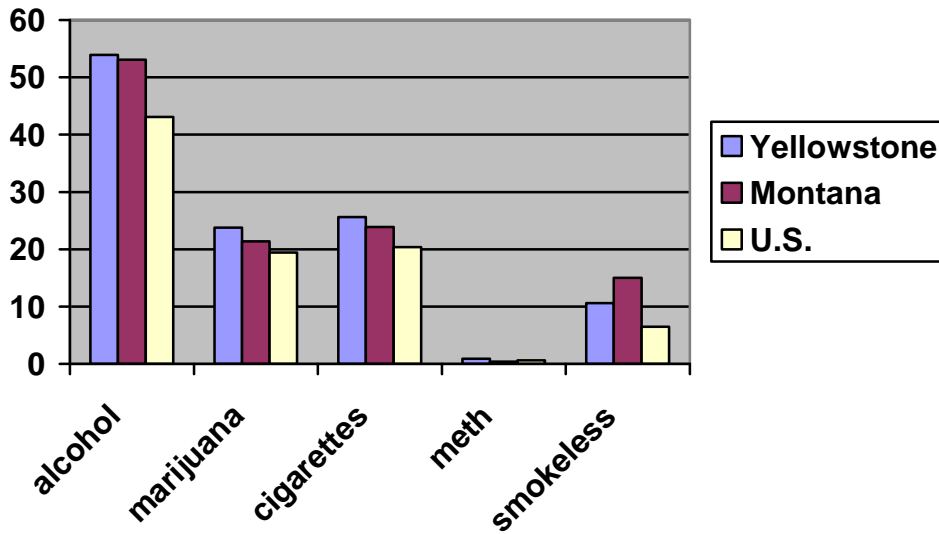
Percentage of teens in Yellowstone County as compared to Montana and U.S. teens who used alcohol, marijuana, cigarettes, meth, and smokeless tobacco in the past 30 days.

	Yellowstone Co.	Montana	U.S.
Used alcohol in past 30 days			
8 th	20.2	21.0	15.9
10 th	39.0	41.2	28.8
12 th	53.9	53.1	43.1
Used marijuana in past 30 days			
8 th	4.7	5.4	5.8
10 th	18.9	16.4	13.8
12 th	23.8	21.4	19.4
Used cigarettes in past 30 days			
8 th	7.8	7.8	6.8
10 th	19.0	17.0	12.3
12 th	25.6	23.9	20.4
Used meth in past 30 days			
8 th	.3	.1	.7
10 th	1.0	.5	.7
12 th	.9	.4	.6
Used smokeless tobacco in past 30 days			
8 th	2.6	3.6	3.5
10 th	8.3	10.7	5.0
12 th	10.6	15.0	6.5



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Yellowstone County 12th graders compared to Montana and U.S. 12th graders. In all categories except smokeless tobacco, Montana 12th graders report higher uses of alcohol, marijuana, cigarettes, and meth in the last 30 days.



Of 3,305 8th, 10th, and 12th graders who participated in the 2008 PNA, drugs least reported were cocaine, methamphetamine, and stimulants. Drugs most reported were alcohol, cigarette smoking, marijuana, sedatives, and smokeless tobacco.

Among the 473 students who reported using marijuana in the past 30 days, 235 had used it fewer than 5 times and 238 reported using it more than 5 times in the past 30 days.

For those who used marijuana more frequently, they reported that: “My best friends are more likely to have...”

- Smoked cigarettes
- Tried alcohol
- Used other drugs
- Have been suspended.
- Have sold illegal drugs.
- Steal motor vehicles
- Have been arrested
- Have dropped out of school
- Have carried a handgun



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They also reported that: “My best friends are less likely to...”

- Participate in school clubs.
- Make a commitment to be drug free.
- Try to do well in school.
- Like school.
- Regularly attend church.

When compared to those who did not use marijuana in the past 30 days, students who reported using marijuana were more likely to report that it was less wrong to:

- Take a handgun to school.
- Steal anything worth more than \$5.00.
- Pick a fight.
- Attack someone to hurt him or her.
- Miss school all day.
- Drink alcohol.
- Smoke cigarettes.
- Smoke marijuana.
- Use LSD, cocaine/illegal drugs.

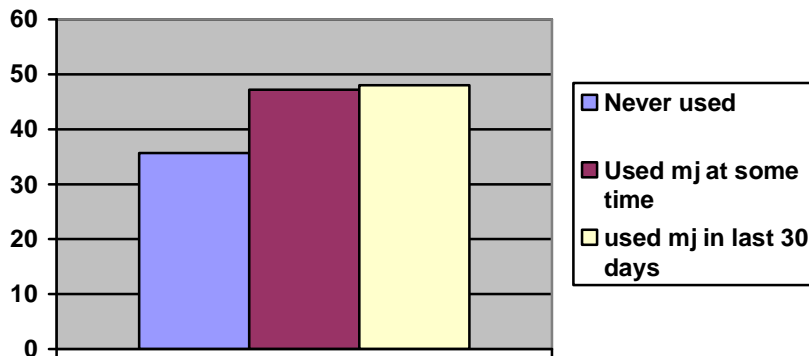


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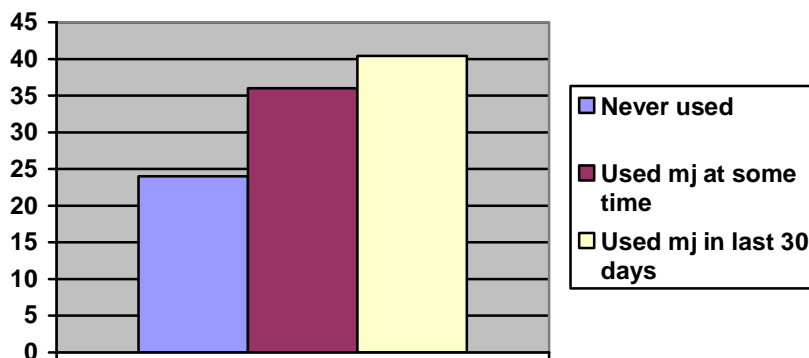
Depression and Marijuana Use Among Yellowstone County Teens

Past year feelings of depression (2008 PNA data)

Teens who used marijuana in the past 30 days were more likely to report depression.



Teens who used marijuana in the past 30 day were more likely to report that life was not worth it (2008 PNA data)



National data indicate that a teen who has been depressed at some time in the past year is more than twice as likely to have used marijuana (25%) as teens who have not been depressed (12.0%) (2006 National Survey on Drug Use and Health, SAMHSA, 2007).



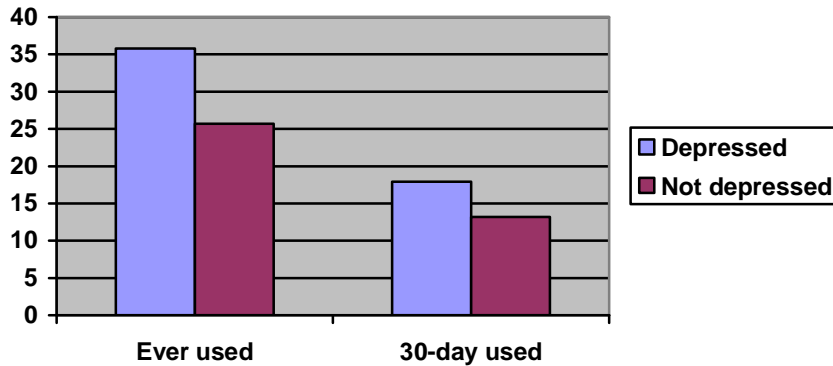
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In Yellowstone County, 1264 teens reported that they had felt depressed in the past year. Of those reporting depression, 812 (64.2%) had never used marijuana and 452 (35.8%) had used marijuana. 1029 had not used marijuana in the past 30 days (82.1%), and 224 had used marijuana in the past 30 days (17.9%) (see table below).

While the Yellowstone County statistics do not indicate that teens reporting depression used marijuana twice as much as non-depressed teens, teens reporting depression are more likely to report using marijuana at some time and within the past 30 days (35.8% versus 25.7%) and 17.9% versus 13.2% respectively).

Teens Reporting Depression And Marijuana Use

	Used marijuana in the past	Used marijuana in the last 30 days
Depressed	452 (35.8%)	224 (17.9%)
Not depressed	506 (25.7%)	250 (13.2%)

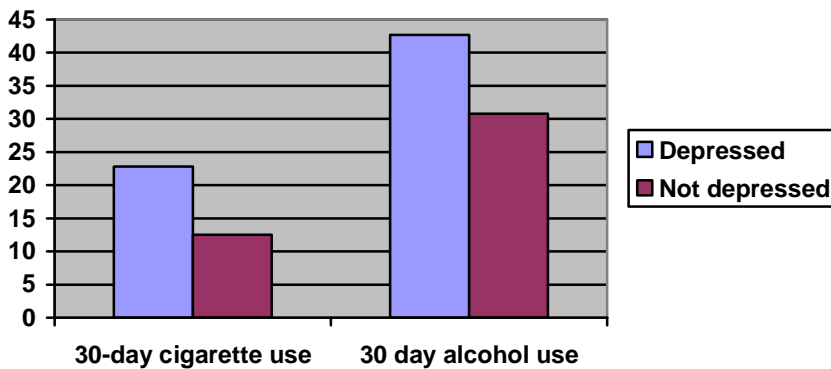


Further, depressed teens were more likely to engage in other risky behaviors, as well. They were more likely than non-depressed teens to report daily cigarette use and alcohol use (2006 National Survey on Drug Use and Health, SAMHSA, 2007). In national data, depressed teens are more likely to report daily cigarette use (5% vs. 3%) and heavy alcohol use (5% vs. 2%).



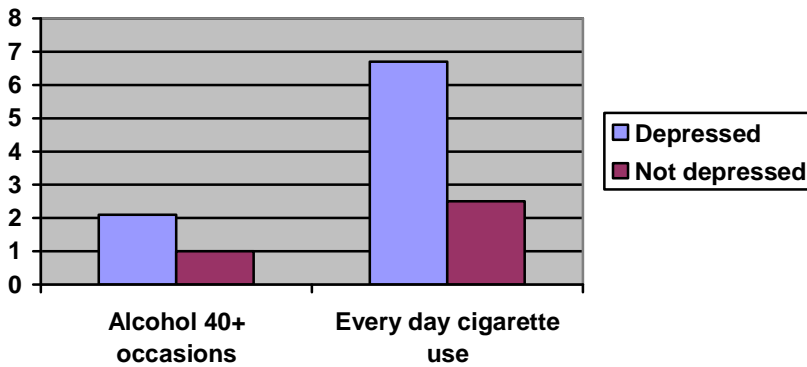
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In Yellowstone County, if a teen reported depression, he/she was more likely to smoke cigarettes in the past 30 days and use alcohol in the past 30 days



In Yellowstone County, a teen reporting depression was more than twice as likely to smoke cigarettes every day and use alcohol on more than 40 occasions as a non-depressed teen

	Used alcohol 40+ occasions in last 30 days	Smoked cigarettes every day in last 30 days
Not depressed	1.0%	2.5%
Depressed	2.1%	6.7%





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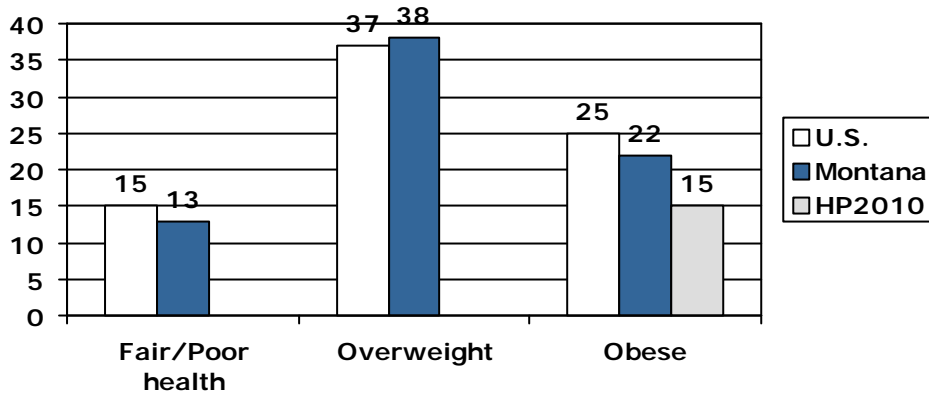
Target Issue 3b: Healthy youth and adults

Intended result: Youth and adults are healthy and avoiding risky behavior

Indicator b: Percentage of adults 18 and over who are healthy and avoiding risky behavior.

The cost of providing health care for older adults is three to five times greater than the cost for someone younger than 65 years. By 2030, the U.S. health care spending is projected to increase by 25% due to demographic shifts.

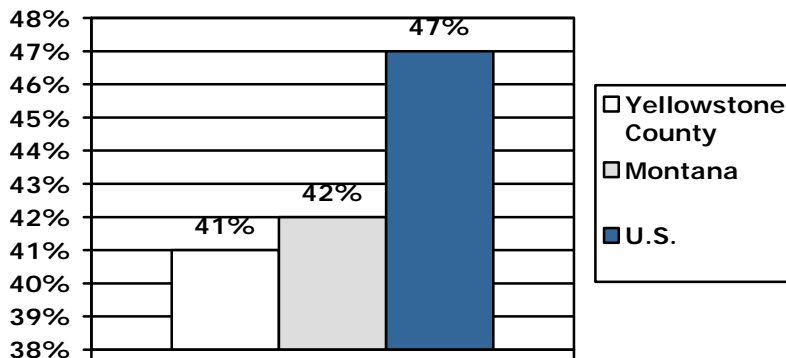
More than one-third of U.S. deaths are preventable. Three behaviors – smoking, poor diet, and physical inactivity – were the root causes of almost 35% of U.S. deaths in 2000. These behaviors are risk factors are frequently behind the development of the U.S. leading chronic diseases including heart disease, cancer, stroke, and diabetes



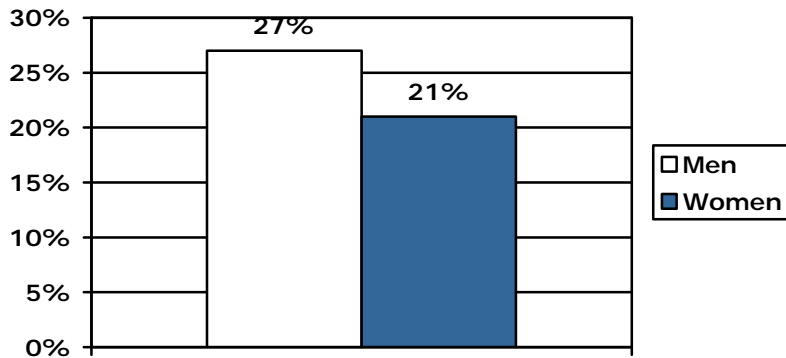


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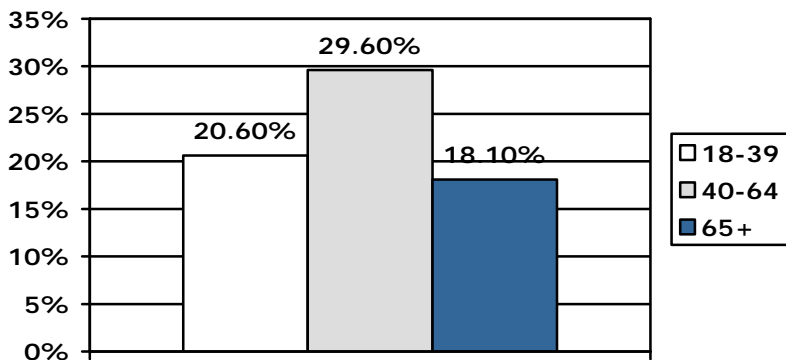
Self-reports of health status among Montana adults (2006) indicated that the percentage of Montanans reporting poor health and obesity was slightly less (better) than U.S. adults.



Fewer Yellowstone County adults met physical activity recommendations than the national average (2006).



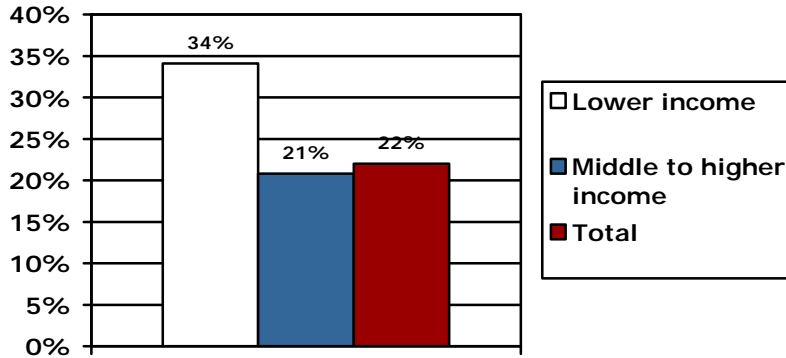
Men reported more obesity than women in Yellowstone County (2005)



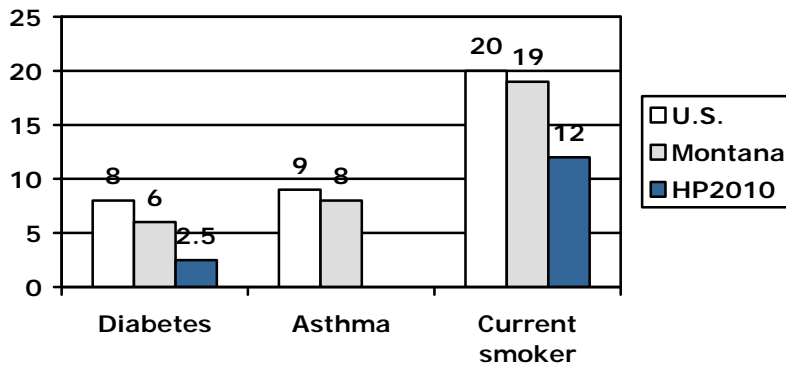


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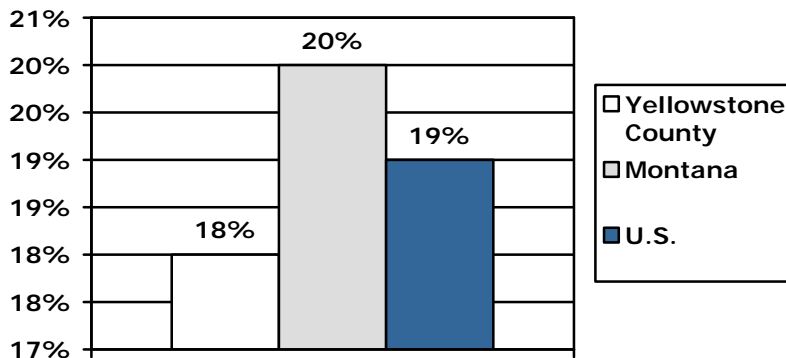
Those who were 40-64 years old were more likely to report obesity than other age groups in Yellowstone County (2006).



Lower income were more likely to report obesity than higher income in Yellowstone County (2006)



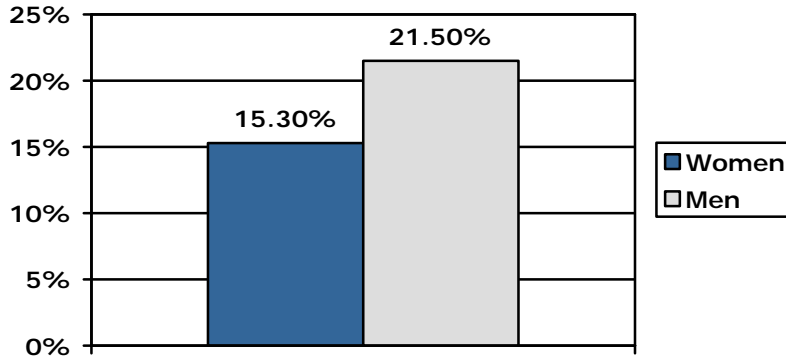
Percentage of Montanans reporting diabetes, asthma, current smoking less than U.S. in 2006.



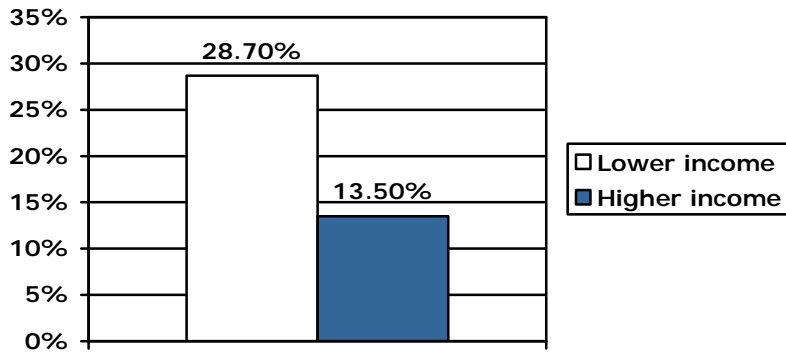


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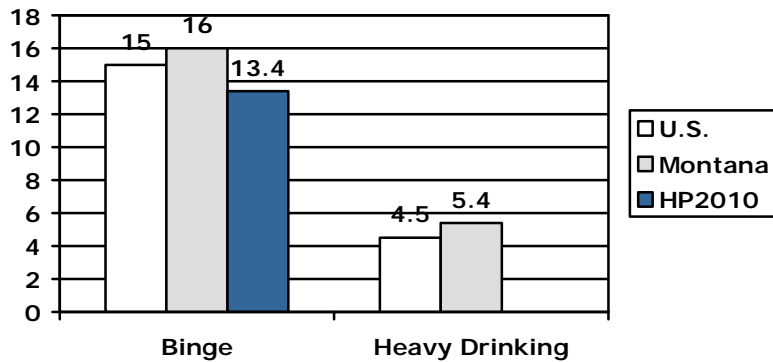
Percentage of current cigarette smokers in Yellowstone County was slightly lower than state and national percentages (2005).



There were more women than men smokers in Yellowstone County (2005).



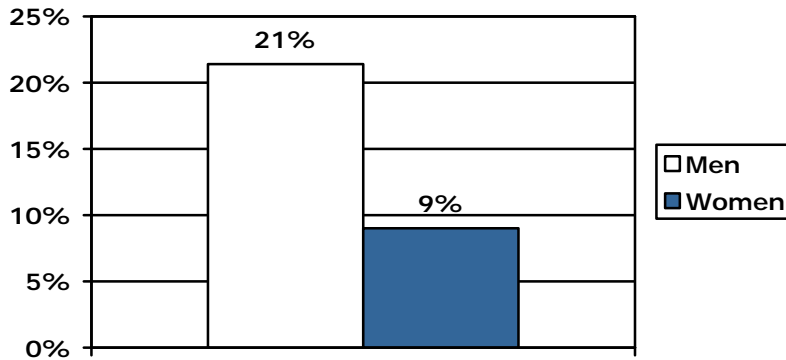
There was a greater percentage of lower income smokers than higher income smokers (2005).



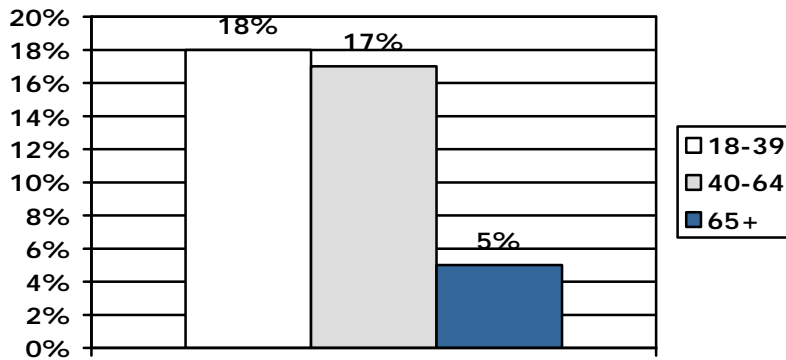


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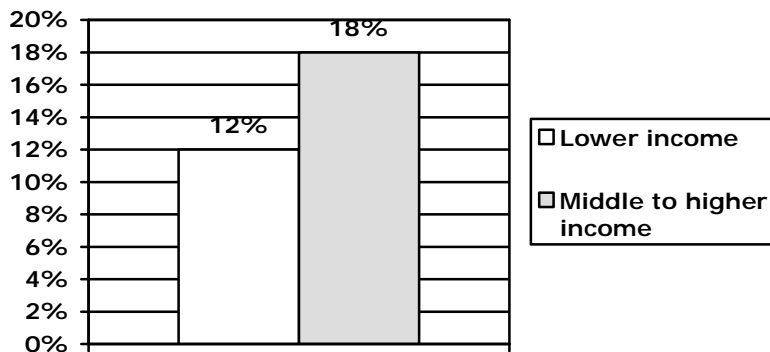
Percentage of Montanans who reported binge drinking, and heavy drinking higher than U.S. adults in 2006.



In Yellowstone County, 15.3% of adults reported binge drinking and men outnumbered women (2005).



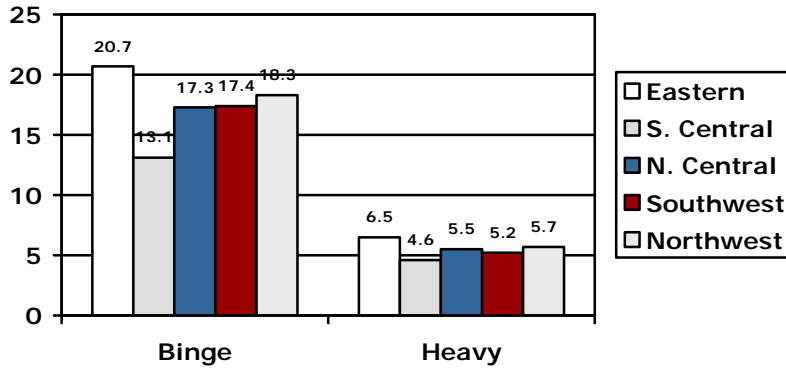
Younger adults tended to report more binge drinking than older adults in Yellowstone County (2005).



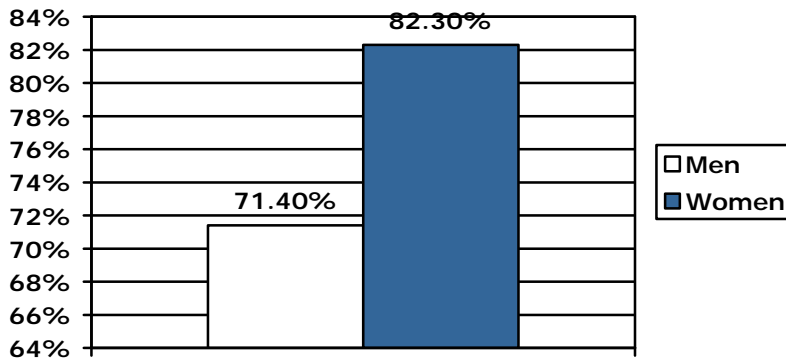


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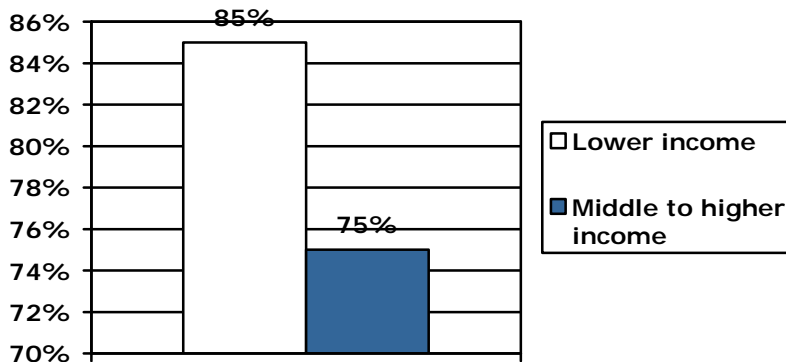
Lower income individuals reported less binge drinking than higher income individuals in Yellowstone County (2005).



Reported binge and heavy drinking among adults within Montana regions in 2007.



Yellowstone County adults reported that they always wore a seatbelt and women more than men (2005).





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Lower income adults were more likely to report wearing a seatbelt as compared to middle to higher income adults in Yellowstone County (2005).

From 1990 to 2005, the prevalence of high blood pressure rose from 19 to 24% for Montana adults. During the same period, the prevalence of high blood cholesterol rose from 25% to 33%. One out of five Montana adults was obese in 2005.



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Summary

The population of Yellowstone County is increasing faster than Montana and the U.S. It is also aging with a higher percentage of adults 65 years and older than in many states.

Lower-income is a serious risk factor in many of the United Way indicators in Yellowstone County and Montana. Lower-income is measured as less than 200-250% of the federal poverty level or approximately \$55,000/year or less for a family of four. Lower income families are at increased risk for children not being ready for school, poorer academic achievement, and less productive and engaged young adults.

As an ethnic minority group, both American Indians and Hispanics tend to have lower income and experience poorer health. Lower income individuals are less likely to have adequate medical insurance. They tend to be more overweight and obese, smoke cigarettes, and in general have poorer health. Teens in Yellowstone County appear to be at greater risk in the areas of alcohol, marijuana, cigarette smoking, and methamphetamine use.

Several specific conclusions can be made regarding the United Way indicators and Yellowstone County/Montana:

The high school dropout rates are too high in American Indian and Hispanic students.

Montana lower-income families pay too large a percentage of their income on housing.

The percentage of overweight children in Yellowstone County is too high.

The percentage of teens not wearing seatbelts, carrying weapons, and riding with drinking drivers should be reduced.

The percentage of teens using smokeless tobacco, in heavy episodic drinking, using inhalants should be reduced.

The teen suicide rate is high and must be reduced.

Adults need to increase adult leisure time.

Adults need to reduce smoking and binge drinking.

Adults have a too high incidence of obesity, which needs to be decreased.

The data for this report were collected with the specific United Way indicators in mind. There are many additional sociodemographic factors that place individuals and families at risk for poor health, financial instability, and poor educational attainment in Yellowstone County and eastern Montana that were not addressed in this report. For instance, geographic and social isolation, serious shortage of health care providers, lack of employment opportunities, outmigration of young



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families from small rural communities, a poor economy forcing small businesses to close and families to relocate, schools closing because of dwindling populations, an aging population, all must be considered as well when looking at the United Way goals of improving education, income, and health.