



Montana

Department of Labor and Industry

Commissioner's Office

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(HELENA) --- JUNE MONTANA EMPLOYMENT at 7.5%

(HELENA) ---The national economy and slowing federal investments in recovery projects continues to affect Montana, with the state's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate increasing slightly by 0.2% to 7.5%. Despite the uptick in the unemployment rate for the month, Montana's economy remains on the path to recovery, with about 3,000 jobs added in the last quarter. National figures also indicate slower job growth in June, with the U.S. unemployment rate increasing by 0.1% to 9.2% for June.

"The U.S. economic recovery has slowed in recent months, which has hampered Montana's economic recovery," says Labor Commissioner Keith Kelly. "Despite these headwinds, Montana's economy has expanded in the last quarter, adding about 3,000 jobs."

Seasonally adjusted total nonfarm payroll employment increased by 1,000 in June. The number of payroll jobs has increased by 3,100 in the last quarter. The estimate for the total number of Montanans who are working, including agricultural, payroll, and self-employed workers, decreased by 900 in June. Even with the small job loss for the month, total job levels for the second quarter of 2011 were 2,900 above the previous quarter.

The seasonally adjusted Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U) decreased 0.2% in June because of fall in the energy index as gasoline prices decreased from their recent highs. The index for all items less food and energy (also called core inflation) increased by 0.3% for the second straight month.

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**Unemployment figures are seasonally-adjusted. Seasonally-adjusted numbers remove the effects of events that follow a more or less regular month-to-month pattern each year. These adjustments make nonseasonal patterns easier to identify. The margin of error for the unemployment rate is plus or minus 1.0 percentage points at the 90 percent confidence level. All questions relating to the calculation of unemployment rates should be directed to the Montana Department of Labor and Industry's Research and Analysis Bureau at 1-800-541-3904.*

The July 2011 Labor Situation Report will be released on Friday, August 19, 2011.

******* INFORMATION AVAILABLE ON THE INTERNET *******

Monthly labor force information for Montana counties are available at:

<http://www.ourfactyourfuture.org/cgi/dataanalysis/?PAGEID=94&SUBID=205>

Monthly Montana industry employment information is available at:

<http://www.ourfactyourfuture.org/cgi/dataanalysis/?PAGEID=94&SUBID=199>

Annual labor force data for Indian Reservations in Montana are available at:

www.ourfactyourfuture.org/?PAGEID=67&SUBID=121