Senate District 44 2004

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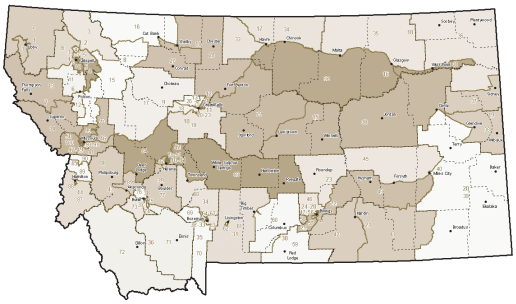

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THE MONTANA INDEX

	MT	U.S.
Population in 2000	902,195	281,421,906
Population, 2003 estimate	917,621	290,809,777
Persons per square mile	6.2	79.6
Percent of people under 18 (2000)	25.5%	25.7%
Percent of people 65 and over (2000)	13.4%	12.4%
High School graduates 25 years and older	87.2%	80.4%
College Degree 25 years and older	24.4%	24.4%
Home ownership rate (2000)	69.1%	66.2%
Median value of owner-occupied homes (2000)	$99,500	$119,600
Percentage of Medicare beneficiaries in rural areas	76%	23%

Per capita personal income in 2001 was $23,532 (ranking Montana 47th nationally)

9.1% of the population over age 65 lives in poverty (2002)

19.1% of children age 17 and under live in poverty (2002)

31.2% of female-headed families with children live in poverty (2002)

11,049 babies were born in 2002

32.8% of all births in 2001 were to unmarried women

15.65% of all births in 2001 were to women with fewer than 12 years of education

$35,754 was the estimated salary for public school teachers in 2003 (ranking 46th nationally)

19.3 deaths per 100,000 of the population were determined suicides in 2001 (ranking 2nd nationally)

There are more public road miles in Montana than interstate miles in the entire United States

The motor fuel sales tax revenue of $210 per capita ranks highest in the nation (2002)

There are 468 hospital beds per 100,000 population ranking 4th nationally (2002)

13 AIDS cases were reported in 2003 (200 total AIDS-related deaths through 2001)

21 animal rabies cases were reported in 2003

5,000 new cancer cases were reported in 2004

15.2% of all Montanans lacked health insurance in 2002

More than 90% of Montana's 273 communities have populations of less than 3,000 people

28% are households of only one person

78% of the population participates in gambling creating approximately $150 per household in annual tax

Montana ranks second nationally for military veterans as a percent of population (16.2% in 2000)

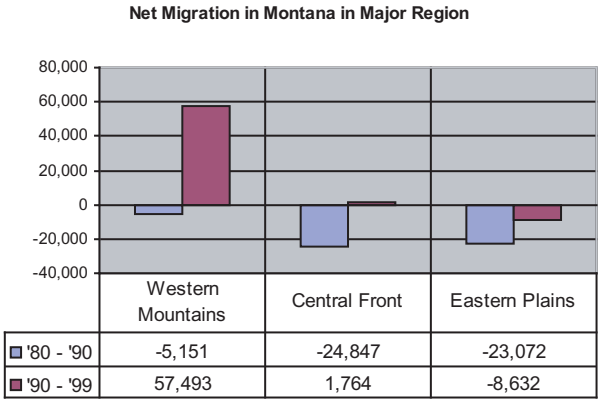
There were 3,713 Active Duty Military and 5,813 Reserve and National Guard in FY2003

As of 11/06/04 eight soldiers from Montana have died and 59 were wounded in action in Afganistan and Iraq

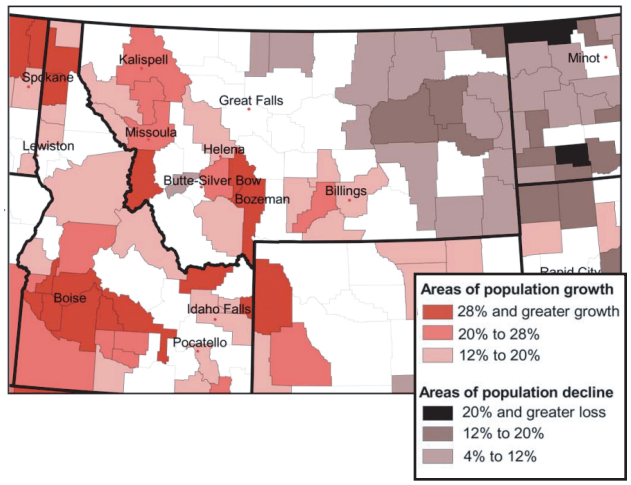
Sources: Montana Office of Rural Health, Montana State University-Bozeman; United States Census Bureau; Washington Headquarter Directorate for Information - Department of Defense

Regional Growth & Economy

Montana's fastest-growing counties are Ravalli (44% growth), Gallatin (34%), Broadwater (32%), Jefferson (27%), Lake (26%), Flathead (25%), Stillwater (25%), and Missoula (22%) - the only counties with gains of over 20% and counties all located in the Western Mountain region.



	Western Mountains	Central Front	Eastern Plains
'80 - '90	-5,151	-24,847	-23,072
'90 - '99	57,493	1,764	-8,632



Areas of Greatest Economic Growth and Decline

There are more than 70 different sub-sectors of the economy. The way in which the economy is restructuring can be viewed by identifying where the biggest gains and losses in those sub-sectors are occurring. In Montana, the five fastest growing sub-sectors of the economy during the period from the late 1980s to the late 1990s are: (1) health care services; (2) finance, insurance, real estate (aka "FIRE") and non-depositories; (3) special trade contractors; (4) business services; and (5) engineering and management services. All had gains of over $100 million in labor earnings.

Declining sub-sectors in Montana include production agriculture, lumber and wood products, railroads, trucking and warehousing, coal mining, and the U.S. military.

SUB-SECTOR CHANGE IN MONTANA, '87 - '97

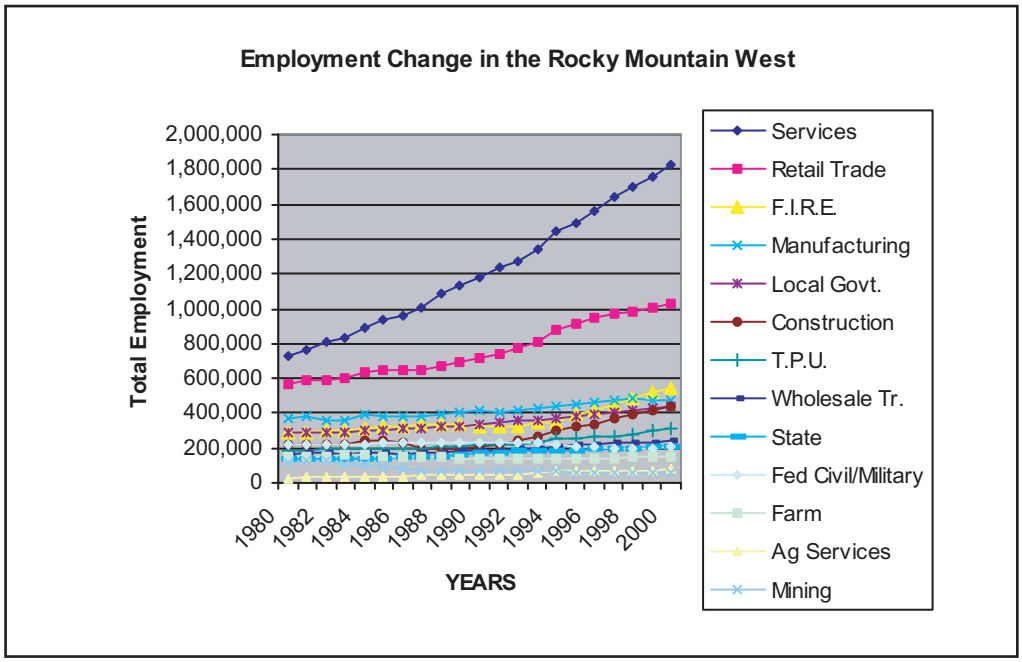
Fast-Growing Sub-Sectors (2000 dollars)
#1 Health care services + $408 mil. + 49%
#2 F.I.R.E., other than depos. + $223 mil. + 96%
#3 Special trade contractors + $197 mil. + 67%
#4 Business services + $177 mil. + 85%
#5 Engineering & mgmt services + $127 mil. + 69%
#6 Eating & drinking places + $106 mil. + 41%
#7 Auto dealers/service stations + $91 mil. + 44%
#8 Social services + $90 mil. +117%
#9 General building contractors + $78 mil. + 54%

Declining Sub-Sectors
#6 U.S. Military - $14 mil. - 6%
#5 Coal mining - $18 mil. - 20%
#4 Trucking & warehousing - $21 mil. - 7%
#3 Railroads - $ 28 mil. - 13%
#2 Lumber & wood prod. - $48 mil. - 15%
#1 Net farm income - $173 mil. - 45%

Employment Sectors

In the last decade when the economy of the Rocky Mountain West became one of the fastest growing regional economies in the nation, employment growth in the broad services sector accounted for 37 percent of all new jobs in the region. The chart below shows employment change in the five-state region by major sector over the course of the last twenty years. There are 13 major sectors of the economy and two of these, services and retail trade, now account for nearly half of all employment.

The sector with the third highest employment is Finance, Insurance and Real Estate (the "FIRE" sector) is followed by manufacturing, construction, and local government, which includes public education.

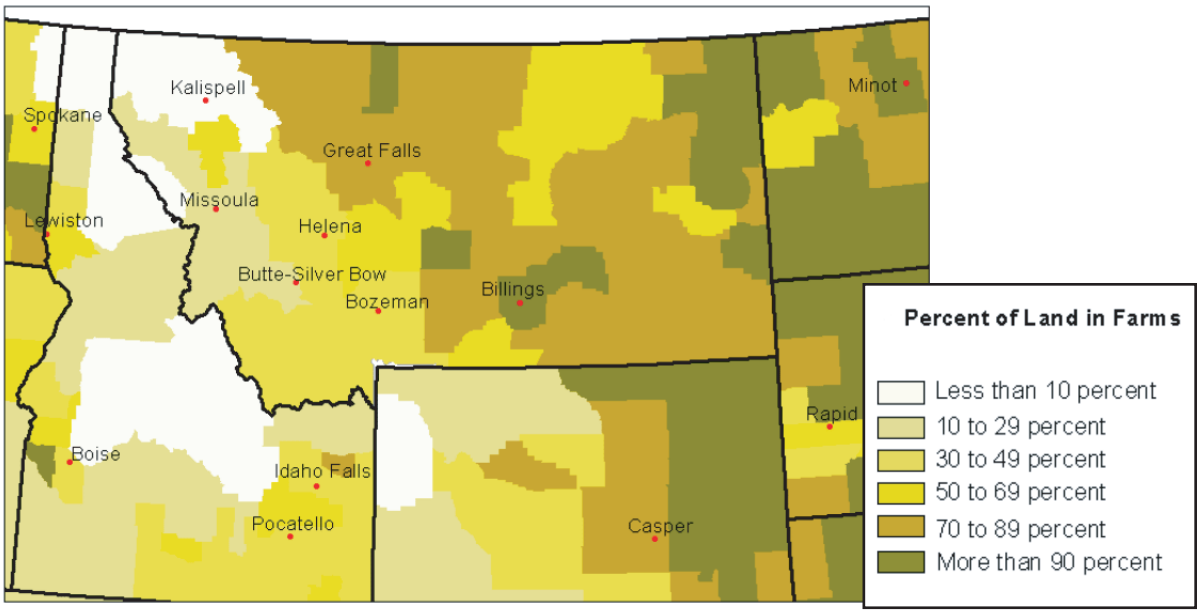


There is a perception in Montana that the state's economy is deteriorating, with many citing the growth in service and retail trade jobs and the loss of other "good" jobs in the economy. In actuality, the changing mix of jobs in Montana closely parallels the changing mix of jobs in the larger Rocky Mountain Region which has seen significant gains in economic performance in recent years. In the last decade, while service jobs grew by 37 percent in the fast-growing Rockies, they grew by 42 percent in Montana. Services and retail trade now account for nearly half of all jobs in the Rockies and for 49 percent of jobs in Montana in 2000.

Source for this page and the previous two pages credited to Dr. Larry Swanson at the O'Conner Center for the Rocky Mountain West, University of Montana. Excerpted with permission from http://www.crmw.org/read/downloads.asp on October 21, 2004.

Agriculture Overview

At the time of the most recent Census of Agriculture in 1997, there were 91,575 square miles of agricultural land in Montana; the equivalent of over 58.6 million acres. Over 60 percent of the state's total land area was in farmland. Almost half of this agricultural land is located in the 21 counties of the Eastern Plains region. These nearly 29 million acres cover about 77 percent of the total land in the east. Another 19 million acres of farmland is located in the 14 Central Front counties, covering over 80 percent of that region's land area. In the West, agricultural land totalled 10.7 million acres and covered about 32 percent of the total land area.



"Negative impacts associated with noxious weeds may be ecological or economic. Noxious weeds displace native plants, reduce biodiversity, eliminate threatened and endangered plant species, alter normal ecological processes (e.g. nutrient cycling, water cycling), decrease wildlife habitat, reduce recreational value, and increase soil erosion and stream sedimentation. These negative ecological impacts result in major economic losses." (See: *www.mtweed.org/Impacts/General/general.html*)

All Montana counties are required to control weeds listed as noxious by the state of Montana. Those species are: *Cardaria draba* (whitetop), *Centaurea diffusa* (diffuse knapweed), *Centaurea maculosa* (spotted knapweed), *Centaurea repens* (Russian knapweed), *Centaurea solstitialis* (yellow starthistle), *Chondrilla juncea* (rush skeletonweed), *Chrysanthemum leucanthemum* (ox-eye daisy), *Cirsium arvense* (Canada thistle). (See: *www.umt.edu/mnps/countyweedlist.pdf*)

District Wildlife Highlights

Montana supports a wealth of biological resources, including over 600 vertebrate animals and over 2200 plant species native to the state. Montana ranks 13th among all U.S. states in mammal diversity with over 100 species. Habitat diversity also ranks among the highest in the nation, with over 300 native vegetation types documented.

Black-backed Woodpeckers are year-round residents in Western Montana. They are colored to hide in a forest of blackened trees, and feed on the insects that flourish in recently burned timber.

Evergreen forests and their wild inhabitants are adapted to periodic wildfires.

Lemhi beardtongue grows only in southwestern Montana and adjacent Idaho. It thrives following natural disturbances, like fire. This plant was once considered for federal listing, until surveys by the Natural Heritage Program found many more populations than had been previously known.

Much more information on Montana's animals, plants and habitats can be found on-line in the digital "Field Guides" maintained by the Natural Heritage Program at www.mtnhp.org or by contacting the Montana State Library at 406-444-3016. All photographs courtesy of the Natural Heritage Program unless otherwise stated.

MONTANA Natural Heritage Program

2004 HIGHLIGHTS AND STATISTICS
SENATE DISTRICT 44

LAND INFORMATION

Size [1]

Senate district 44 is 1,764.4 square miles in size, or about 1.2% of Montana's total land area (147,000 square miles). The average size of all senate districts in Montana is 2,938 square miles. District 44 ranks number 22 in size.

Land Ownership [2]

STATEWIDE OWNERSHIP

OWNER	AREA (SQUARE MILES)	PERCENT
Private	83,679	56.95%
U.S. Forest Service	26,360	17.94%
Bureau of Land Management	12,513	8.52%
Tribal Land	8,431	5.74%
State Trust Land	8,052	5.48%
All Others	7,889	5.37%
TOTAL	146,924	

SENATE DISTRICT 44 OWNERSHIP

OWNER	AREA (SQUARE MILES)	PERCENT
U.S. Forest Service	1,460	82.77%
Private	271	15.33%
State Trust Land	31	1.75%
Water	3	0.15%
TOTAL	1,764	

Conservation Easements [3]

There are approximately 2,105 square miles of conservation easements in Montana, or about 1.43% of Montana's total land area (147,000 square miles).

SENATE DISTRICT 44 EASEMENTS:

EASEMENT HOLDER	AREA (SQUARE MILES)	PERCENT
Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation	6.6	37.93%
Montana Land Reliance	4.7	27.01%
The Nature Conservancy	3.4	19.54%
US Forest Service	2.6	14.94%
Bitterroot Land Trust	0.1	0.57%
US Dept of Agriculture	0.0	0.00%
Five Valleys Land Trust	0.0	0.00%
TOTAL	17.4	

Agricultural Use [4]

There are approximately 59,461,000 acres of land in private agricultural production. Of this total, 63% are in grazing, 21.2% are in fallow crop rotation, 9.1% in timber and 6.7% in all other uses .

SENATE DISTRICT 44 AGRICULTURAL USES (ACRES):

GRAZING	IRRIGATED	CONTIN. CROP	FALLOW CROP	TIMBER	WILD HAY	FARMSTEAD
55,692	15,902	8	24	77,807	202	1,340
36.9%	10.5%	0.0%	0.0%	51.5%	0.1%	0.9%

DEMOGRAPHICS

Population [5]

STATEWIDE POPULATION:

YEAR	TOTAL	WHITE	BLACK	AMERICAN INDIAN	ASIAN	OTHER
1990	799065	741111	2381	47679	4259	3635
2000	902195	817229	2692	56068	4691	21515
Change	103130 (12.9%)	76118 (10.3%)	311 (13.1%)	8389 (17.6%)	432 (10.1%)	17880 (491.8%)

SENATE DISTRICT 44 POPULATION:

YEAR	TOTAL	WHITE	BLACK	AMERICAN INDIAN	ASIAN	OTHER
1990	14641	14360	30	154	45	52
2000	19254	18571	17	188	65	413
Change	4613 (31.5%)	4211 (29.3%)	-13 (-43.3%)	34 (22.1%)	20 (44.4%)	361 (694.2%)

Schools [6]

There are 949 K-12 schools in Montana: 90.5% are public and 9.5% private. There are 22 public and 6 private colleges.

SENATE DISTRICT 44 SCHOOLS:

TYPE	GRADE SCHOOL	MIDDLE SCHOOL	HIGH SCHOOL	MIXED K-12	COLLEGE
PUBLIC	7	2	3	0	0
PRIVATE	1	0	1	1	0

Income / Poverty for Counties in this District [7]

The median income in Montana in 2000 was $33,281. The number of people (all ages) in poverty was 117,677 or about 13% of the total population.

SENATE DISTRICT 44 INCOME/POVERTY:

COUNTY	MEDIAN INCOME	TOTAL COUNTY POP.	NUMBER IN POVERTY	PERCENT IN POVERTY
Ravalli	$33,121	36,070	4,941	13.7%

Housing Units for Counties in this District [7]

The total number of housing units in Montana increased 1.6% from 413,172 to 419,726 between 2000 and 2003.

SENATE DISTRICT 44 HOUSING UNITS (ALL COUNTIES ENCOMPASSED BY DISTRICT):

COUNTY	HOUSING UNITS 2000	HOUSING UNITS 2003	PERCENT CHANGE
Ravalli	15,962	16,125	1.0%

WATER

Water Well Development [8]

There are approximately 187,500 water wells in Montana: 63.9% were drilled pre 1990, 25% in the 1990's, and 11.1% since 2000.

SENATE DISTRICT 44 WATER WELLS:

YEAR	# WELLS	% OF TOTAL	AVG DEPTH (FT)
Pre-1990	4,099	59.47%	68
1990-1999	2,094	30.38%	97
2000-2004	700	10.16%	112
TOTAL	6,893		

Water Rights [9]

There are over 320,000 water rights in Montana.

SENATE DISTRICT 44 WATER RIGHTS:

TYPE OF WATER RIGHT	COUNT	% OF TOTAL
STATEMENT OF CLAIM	4,452	47.43%
GROUND WATER CERTIFICATE	4,259	45.38%
EXEMPT RIGHT	357	3.80%
PROVISIONAL PERMIT	272	2.90%
K - 62-73 GROUNDWATER	26	0.28%
IRRIGATION DISTRICTS	11	0.12%
RESERVED CLAIM	5	0.05%
STOCKWATER PERMIT	3	0.03%
INTERSTATE TRANSFER CLAIM	1	0.01%
TOTAL	9,386	

Dams [10]

There are approximately 3,700 dams in Montana. Predominant uses are stock / farm ponds (48%) and irrigation (22.4%).

SENATE DISTRICT 44 DAMS:

DAM PURPOSE	# DAMS	AVG. HT.	MIN. HT.	MAX. HT.	STORAGE CAPACITY (ACRE/FEET)
Irrigation	11	18.6	10.0	30.0	5,815
Unknown	5	0.0	0.0	0.0	0
Stock / Small Farm Pond	1	45.0	45.0	45.0	203
Recreation	1	28.0	28.0	28.0	350
TOTAL	18				

Public Water Supplies [11]

There are nearly 2,100 public water supplies in Montana, serving nearly 622,000 residents and 271,000 non-residents.

SENATE DISTRICT 44 PUBLIC WATER SUPPLIES:

SOURCE	SUPPLIES	RESIDENT POPULATION SERVED	NON-RESIDENT POPULATION SERVED
Groundwater	60	6,954	4,687
Purchased	2	0	75
Surface Water	1	1,000	0
TOTAL	63		

ENVIRONMENTAL

Noxious Weed Distribution (known presence by section) [12]

Spotted Knapweed is the most predominant noxious weed in Montana with known presence in over 21% of the sections in Montana.

SENATE DISTRICT 44 NOXIOUS WEEDS:

	CINQUEFOIL	LEAFY SPURGE	RUSSIAN KNAPWEED	SPOTTED KNAPWEED	TOADFLAX	TOTAL # OF SECTIONS
# SECTION	725	32		1,430	9	1,925
% SECTION	37.7%	1.7%		74.3%	0.5%	

Leaking Underground Petroleum Storage Tanks [13]

Between 1981 and 2004 there were nearly 3,880 confirmed leak sites in Montana.

SENATE DISTRICT 44 LEAKING UNDERGROUND STORAGE TANKS:

CITY	YEAR RANGE	CONFIRMED LEAKS
Corvallis	1992 - 1997	3
Darby	1991 - 2002	11
Hamilton	1991 - 2003	23
Pinesdale	1996 - 1996	1
Sula	1988 - 1998	4
Victor	1998 - 1998	1

Abandoned Mines and Remediation Sites [14]

There are over 6,950 abandoned mine sites and over 740 other remediation sites in Montana.

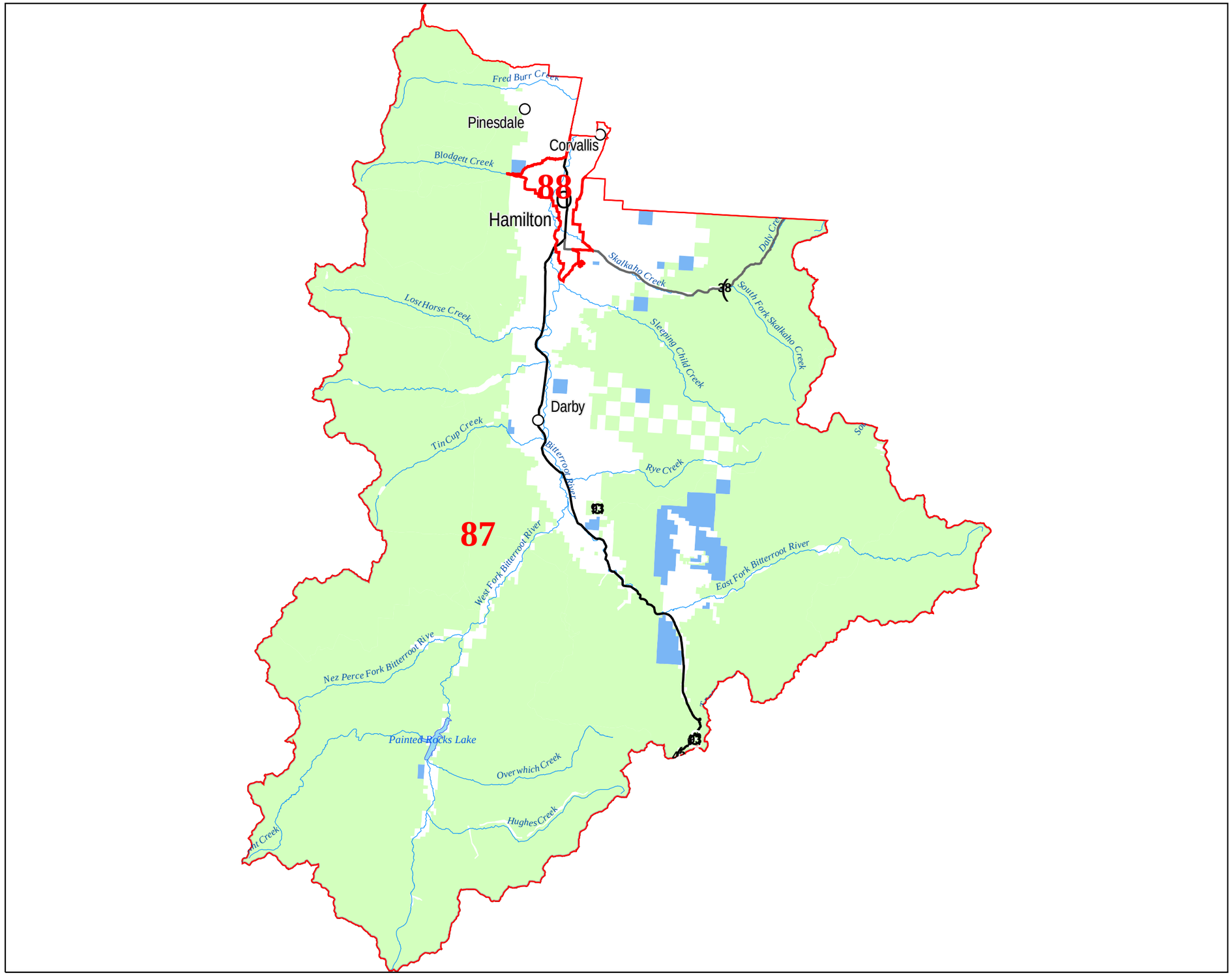
SENATE DISTRICT 44 ABANDONED MINES/REMEDIATION SITES:

SITE TYPE	SITE COUNT
Abandoned Mines	20
Remediation Response	6

SOURCES

1) Senate district sizes are derived from a GIS representation of Senate districts prepared by the Montana State Library's Natural Resource Information System (NRIS) in 2003.
2) Land ownership information is derived from a GIS data layer maintained by the Montana State Library's Natural Heritage Program based on data supplied by the various government agencies. Much of the public land ownership information was originally digitized by the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) from 1:100,000 scale BLM maps. The data has not been verified against county or Montana Department of Revenue records. This data was last updated in February of 2003.
3) Conservation easement information is derived from a GIS data layer maintained by the Natural Heritage Program based on data supplied by the various public agencies and various private land trusts. The data has not been verified against county or Montana Department of Revenue records. This data was last updated in February of 2003.
4) Private land agricultural use was derived using the state Cadastral (parcel) GIS layer maintained by the Department of Administration, along with the Department of Revenue property tax database (CAMA). These classifications are maintained by the Department of Revenue for tax valuation purposes. This data was last updated in November of 2003.
5) Population figures are based on the 2000 census data from the U.S. Census Bureau. Senate district population estimates include the total population of all census blocks the district touches, resulting, in some cases, in a slight over-estimate of the district's population.
6) School information is from a GIS layer created by the Department of Administration's GIS Bureau as part of a Homeland Security critical infrastructure project. This data was last updated in May of 2004.
7) Poverty and housing unit data is from the U.S. Census Bureau, based on the 2000 Census.
8) Groundwater well information is from the Montana Bureau of Mines and Geology's Groundwater Information Center (GWIC). This data was last updated in July of 2004.
9) Water rights information is from the Department of Natural Resources and Conservation water rights database. This data was last updated in November of 2004.
10) Dam information is derived from the Corps of Engineers National Inventory of Dams, with supplemental information from the Department of Natural Resources and Conservation and Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks. This data was last updated in September of 2003.
11) Public water supply data are from the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ). This data was last updated in February of 2002.
12) Noxious weed distribution data is from the Weed Survey and Mapping System sponsored by the Montana Noxious Weed Trust Fund. This data was collected in 1998-1999.
13) Leaking underground storage tank data is from the DEQ's Petroleum Release Section, Remediation Division. This data was last updated in November of 2004.
14) Abandoned mine data is from DEQ's Abandoned Mine Section, Remediation Division. Remediation response site data is from DEQ's Site Response and Federal Superfund Sections, Remediation Division. This data was last updated in November of 2004.

Senate District 44 Land Ownership



Legend

County Border

House Districts

Highways

Interstate

U.S. Route

Secondary

Montana Ro

Cities & Towns
2000 POPULATION

Under 50

51 - 1000

1001 - 2500

2501 - 10000

Over 10,000

Ownership

B of Land Management

Bureau of Reclamation

US Fish & Wildlife

National Park Service

US Forest Service

US Dept of Agriculture

Army Corp of Engineers

Department of Defense

State Land

MT FWP

Other State Land

Local Govt

Burea of Indian Affairs

Tribal Lands

Private

Plum Creek Timber

Private Land Trust

The Nature Conservancy

Water

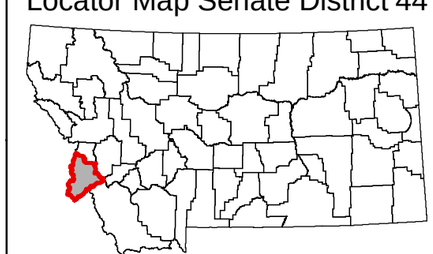
The Two House Districts In the
Senate District Are Labeled in Red

Dec 12, 2004

Miles

0 4 8 12 16

Locator Map Senate District 44



Montana State Library
Natural Resource
Information System

Montana State Library