

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR  
STATE OF MONTANA

STEVE BULLOCK  
GOVERNOR



ANGELA McLEAN  
LT. GOVERNOR

**NEWS RELEASE**  
GOVERNOR STEVE BULLOCK  
STATE OF MONTANA

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE, October 21, 2014**

**CONTACT:** Dave Parker, Governor's Office, 444-9844

Ashley Moon, Deputy Public Information Officer, Department of Labor & Industry, 444-1520

Barbara Wagner, Chief Economist, Department of Labor & Industry, 444-5474

**Montana's Unemployment Rate Down to 4.6 Percent**

HELENA – Montana's unemployment rate was down .1 percent in September to 4.6 percent. The unemployment rate has decreased by 0.7 percentage points since January. The U.S. unemployment rate decreased by 0.2 percentage points during the same period, to 5.9 percent.

"With nearly 1,000 jobs added last month, Montana's economy continues its strong growth," Governor Steve Bullock said. "Main Street Montana businesses are hiring, and more workers are on the job, which continues to fuel our growing economy."

"As businesses increase hiring and our labor force continues to grow, it's more important than ever to take steps to ensure workers have the skills and training to meet the demands of today's economy," said Labor Commissioner Pam Bucy. "Through partnerships between private employers and educational institutions, and an increased focus on apprenticeship and training opportunities, Montana is leading the nation in innovative workforce development strategies."

Total employment estimates suggested job growth of 983 jobs over the last month. Total employment estimates include payroll employment plus agricultural and self-employed workers. The labor force increased by 694 workers in September, while the number of unemployed declined by 289 workers. Payroll employment estimates indicate stronger over-the-month growth of 1,900 jobs, with widespread employment gains across all industries. Payroll employment has added 9,700 jobs over the past year.

###

*\*\* 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 0.8 percentage points at the 90 percent confidence level.*

STATE CAPITOL • P.O. BOX 200801 • HELENA, MONTANA 59620-0801  
TELEPHONE: 406-444-3111 • FAX: 406-444-5529 • WEBSITE: [WWW.MT.GOV](http://WWW.MT.GOV)

*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 next Labor Situation Report will be released on Friday, November 21, 2014. Information on the Consumer Price Index for September will be included in the next labor market situation report.**

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



Visit our website at [www.lmi.mt.gov](http://www.lmi.mt.gov) for additional information and analysis, including industry employment levels, background on the unemployment rate, and annual employment data for Montana's Indian Reservations. **This month's Economy at a Glance article provides economic information for Montana's Native American population.** County unemployment rates and employment levels are not seasonally adjusted and should be

compared to the unadjusted statewide unemployment rate of **3.8** percent. County labor force information can be found by using this link:

<http://www.ourfactsyourfuture.org/cgi/databrowsing/?PAGEID=4&SUBID=205>.

**###**