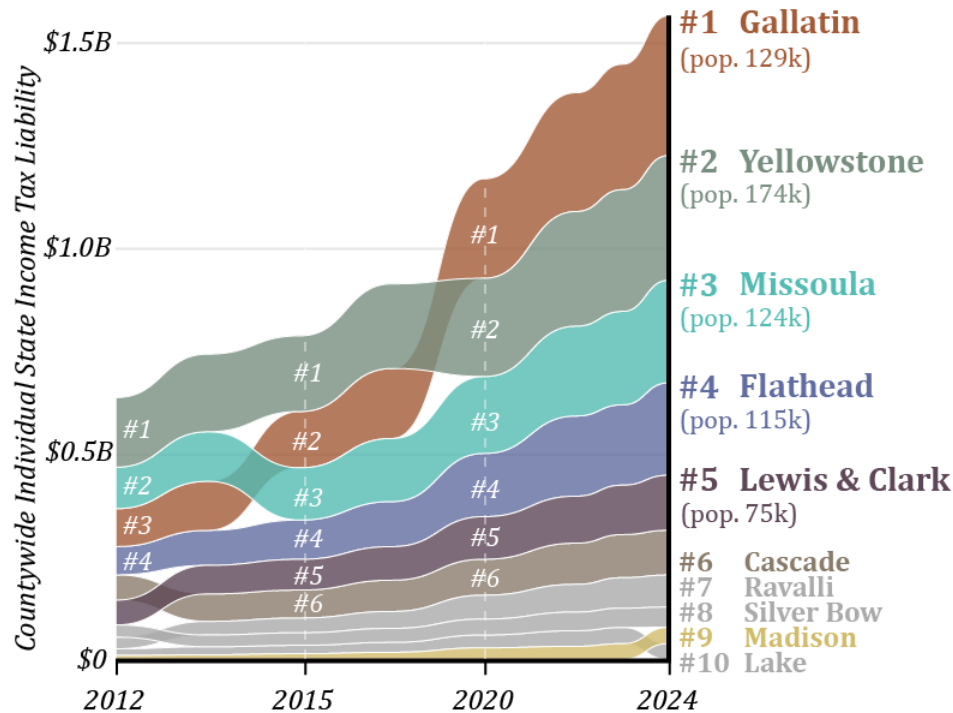


## Top 10 Montana Counties by Income Tax Bills

Gallatin County pays more than Yellowstone despite smaller population



Source: LFD analysis of Montana Department of Revenue income tax data, 2025 U.S. Census Bureau population estimates



Montana's most populous counties are the biggest contributors to the state General Fund when it comes to individual income tax bills. However, the state's most populated county, Yellowstone, is no longer the largest source of income tax dollars. Between 2012 and 2020, Gallatin County rose in ranking from third to first for individual income tax liability, surpassing both Yellowstone and Missoula counties.

For tax year 2024, Gallatin County resident taxpayers owed \$340 million in individual income tax, or about \$2,639 per capita based on 2025 population figures. In comparison, taxpayers in Yellowstone County owed \$303 million, or about \$1,741 per capita, and taxpayers in Missoula County owed \$249 million, or about \$2,017 per capita.

The remaining counties in the top 10 are Montana's other most populous counties, with one exception. Madison County, which includes Ennis and the Yellowstone Club portion of Big Sky, has only 10,000 residents, but its residents' high per capita income tax liability — about \$3,948 — places it ninth on the list.

More analysis of this and other dynamics involving tax collections and Montana's economic picture are available in LFD's [2029 Biennium Outlook](#). A prior Chart of the Week also explored [the portion of General Fund revenues supported by income taxes](#).