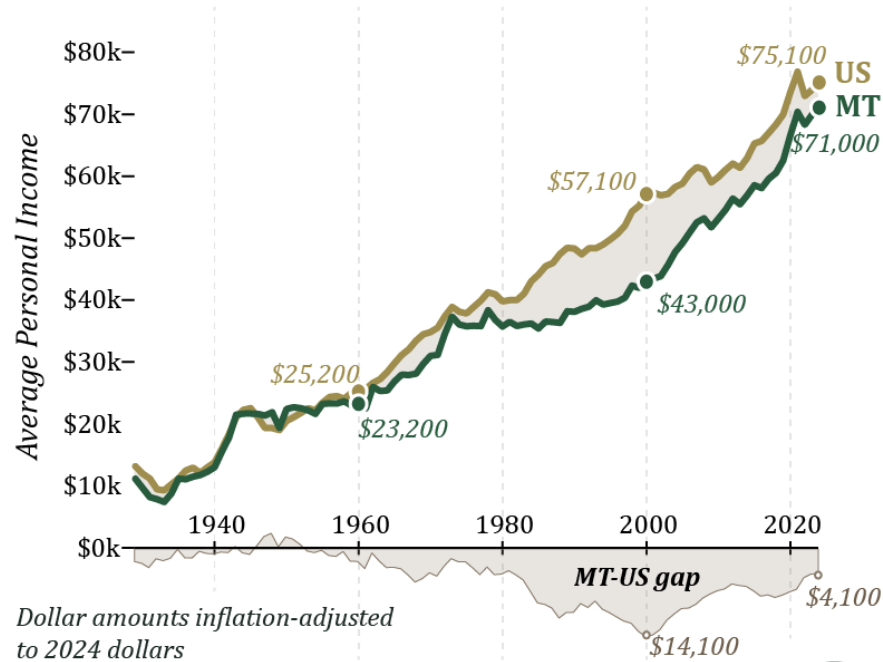


Average Personal Income in Montana vs. U.S.

Montana incomes have historically been lower than the U.S. as a whole, but the gap has been shrinking since 2000.



Data: U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis / Chart: LFD



Average personal income in Montana has been lower than the nation as a whole since the 1950s, but the gap has narrowed since 2000. Data from the U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis indicates that the average Montanan earned about \$71,000 in 2024, \$4,100 less than the national average.

In the year 2000, the gap between the U.S. and Montana average incomes was \$14,100. That year, Montanans earned \$43,000 on average. (These dollar amounts are adjusted for inflation to allow fair comparison to 2024 dollars.)

Personal income statistics include both wage and salary income, as well as non-wage income such as Social Security benefits, business income, and investment earnings. Average income is calculated by dividing estimates of the state or nation's total personal income by the total number of residents.

More analysis on the state's economic and income trends is available in [Economic and Income Trends in Montana](#), a presentation delivered to the legislature's Modernization and Risk Analysis (MARA) Committee on February 25, 2026.