



Montana Nonprofit Association

# Montana Nonprofit Economic Impact Report

Released January 2025

In 2023, Montana nonprofit organizations employed 60,181 people and paid over \$3.6 billion in wages at 2,850 distinct places of business.

The data in this report is compiled from Montana Department of Labor & Industry's work, with updated methodology to improve analysis across time, which is why numbers may not match prior MNA Economic Impact reports.

Nonprofits paid more than **\$3.6B** in wages in 2023

Nonprofits employ more than **11%** of working Montanans

## Nonprofit Employment, Wages, and Establishments 2020-2023

Employment	2020	2021	2022	2023
MT Nonprofits	55,918	59,808	60,499	60,181
Percent of State Total	12.3%	11.9%	11.9%	11.8%
Total Wages	2020	2021	2022	2023
MT Nonprofits	\$2.9 Billion	\$3.2 Billion	\$3.4 Billion	\$3.6 Billion
Percent of State Total	13.4%	12.9%	12.7%	12.6%
Number of Establishments*	2020	2021	2022	2023
MT Nonprofits	2,650	2,797	2,908	2,850
Percent of State Total	5.2%	4.9%	4.9%	4.8%

Source: Montana Department of Labor and Industry Nonprofit Establishment Match, 2020-2023  
\*Establishment is defined by the Department of Labor as "a distinct physical place of business rather than to an entire business or enterprise, which may include several separate places of business."

In 2023, nonprofits employed 11.8% of Montana's total workforce, the third highest percentage after retail trade and accommodation and food services. For wages, nonprofits had the largest share at 12.6%, followed by professional and technical services (9.2%) and construction (9.0%).

## Did you know?

- Nonprofits pay more in wages than any other industry in Montana.
- More than 1 in 10 Montanans is employed by a nonprofit.

Charitable nonprofits operate in partnership with the business sector and government in every county and in all Tribal Nations across Montana. Nonprofits provide essential services, support Montana’s quality of life, and serve as our state’s social safety net. Nonprofits are frontline workers, guardians of community well-being, employers, and economic drivers. Across Montana, nonprofit leaders and board members bring community-based, efficient, and people-centered solutions to many of Montana’s most pressing issues.

### Top 5 Industries by Share of Employment 2023

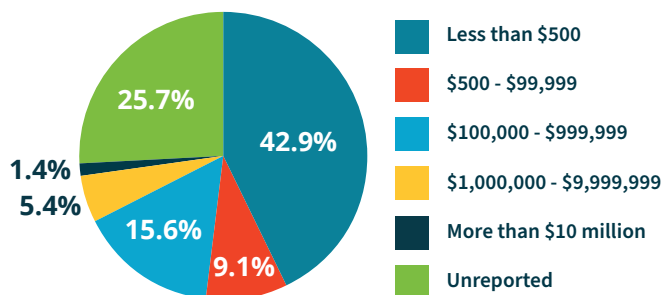
Rank	Industry	Percent
1	Retail Trade	12.2%
2	Accommodation and Food Services	11.9%
3	<b>Nonprofits</b>	<b>11.8%</b>
4	Construction	7.7%
5	Public Administration	7.3%

### Top 5 Industries by Share of Wages 2023

Rank	Industry	Percent
1	<b>Nonprofits</b>	<b>12.6%</b>
2	Professional and Technical Services	9.2%
3	Construction	9.0%
4	Retail Trade	8.6%
5	Public Administration	8.5%

Source: Montana Department of Labor and Industry Nonprofit Establishment Match, 2023

### Nonprofit Operating Budgets



Source: IRS Tax Exempt Organization Master List, 2023. Note: Data is summarized based on tax filing year and is subject to change.

## County Breakdown and Income Amounts

County	# of Organizations	Income Generated in 2023
Beaverhead	121	\$61,827,599
Big Horn	72	\$68,085,451
Blaine	52	\$17,032,852
Broadwater	37	\$10,489,983
Carbon	109	\$42,463,402
Carter	12	\$9,464,569
Cascade	472	\$1,431,475,429
Chouteau	75	\$13,762,682
Custer	89	\$126,814,720
Daniels	21	\$13,305,090
Dawson	71	\$66,957,928
Deer Lodge	62	\$142,830,956
Fallon	37	\$11,731,183
Fergus	96	\$76,981,717
Flathead	757	\$372,536,113
Gallatin	861	\$1,441,631,381
Garfield	15	\$1,039,574
Glacier	66	\$30,856,976
Golden Valley	7	\$0
Granite	43	\$844,527
Hill	126	\$201,989,244
Jefferson	109	\$4,725,323
Judith Basin	35	\$1,270,967
Lake	195	\$136,472,249
Lewis and Clark	605	\$960,429,837
Liberty	24	\$1,668,493
Lincoln	179	\$73,540,252
Madison	106	\$36,245,488
McCone	23	\$5,246,989
Meagher	26	\$9,748,175
Mineral	38	\$12,203,626
Missoula	904	\$1,262,295,476
Musselshell	43	\$25,050,865
Park	178	\$136,518,063
Petroleum	6	\$1,172,336
Phillips	45	\$15,891,194
Pondera	53	\$4,338,348
Powder River	32	\$761,854
Powell	60	\$41,457,161
Prairie	16	\$147,531
Ravalli	380	\$196,092,816
Richland	93	\$119,185,844
Roosevelt	69	\$68,135,369
Rosebud	59	\$34,336,732
Sanders	123	\$43,748,822
Sheridan	48	\$22,398,584
Silver Bow	211	\$339,518,256
Stillwater	84	\$25,604,130
Sweet Grass	47	\$18,067,055
Teton	84	\$3,863,857
Toole	25	\$12,212,807
Treasure	5	\$41,214
Valley	86	\$57,431,567
Wheatland	23	\$12,763,063
Wibaux	14	\$14,269
Yellowstone	915	\$1,346,649,595
<b>Total</b>	<b>8,144</b>	<b>\$9,171,369,583</b>





## Rural vs Urban Nonprofits

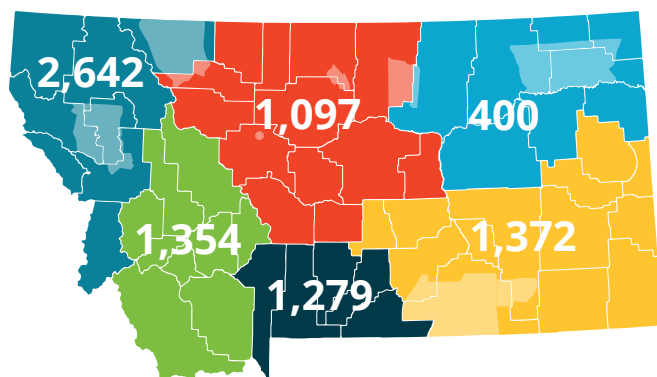
**38%** of nonprofits operate in rural areas but only represent **28%** of nonprofit wages.

**62%** of nonprofits operate in urban areas and represent **72%** of nonprofit wages.

### Wage Paying Nonprofits by Rural and Urban Area

County	Establishments	Employment	Total Wages (Millions)	Average Wages
Cascade	173	5,687	\$355.6	\$62,524
Flathead	264	6,037	\$414.5	\$68,665
Gallatin	339	5,808	\$346.4	\$59,636
Lewis & Clark	250	5,097	\$284.0	\$55,719
Missoula	337	6,790	\$389.6	\$57,372
Silver Bow	91	2,194	\$116.5	\$53,090
Yellowstone	309	11,691	\$833.4	\$71,288
<b>Urban Counties</b>	<b>1,763</b>	<b>43,303</b>	<b>\$2,739.9</b>	<b>\$63,272</b>
<b>Rural Counties</b>	<b>1,087</b>	<b>16,878</b>	<b>\$909.5</b>	<b>\$53,888</b>
<b>State Total</b>	<b>2,850</b>	<b>60,181</b>	<b>\$3,649.4</b>	<b>\$60,640</b>

Source: Montana Department of Labor and Industry Nonprofit Establishment Match, 2023



### Nonprofits by Region

- Western MT Glacier Country
- Missouri River Country
- Yellowstone Country
- Central MT
- Southeast MT
- Southwest MT



# Volunteering is a Montana value

Here are some of the ways Montanans contributed to their community in 2023:

- **343,982** formal volunteers contributed **27.3 million** hours of service through organizations worth an estimated **\$843.4 million**
- **37.2%** of residents formally volunteered through organizations
- **68.0%** of residents informally helped others by exchanging favors with their neighbors
- **79.1%** of residents had a conversation or spent time with their neighbors
- **29.9%** of residents belonged to an organization
- **60.5%** of residents donated **\$25 or more** to charity

Source: <https://americorps.gov/about/our-impact/volunteering-civic-life/mt>

Montana's charitable nonprofits generated over **\$9.1 billion of revenue** across the state in 2023. This is returned to communities through wages, programs, events, training, support of local businesses and vendors, and direct services.

As nonprofits bring in more revenue, generate more well-paying jobs for thousands of Montanans across the state while providing critical services to enhance our communities' well-being.

A well-funded sector means better-served communities and a more vibrant Montana.



Montana Nonprofit Association

This report is brought to you by Montana Nonprofit Association (MNA), a statewide association dedicated to the strength and excellence of nonprofits in Montana. We are working toward a future where nonprofits have the resources needed to fulfill their missions, are strategically connected with one another and partners in business and government, and are recognized and celebrated for their contributions to the quality of life in Montana's communities. Our members, representing over 800 organizations, address a broad array of missions, come from every corner of the state, and range in size from the smallest all-volunteer nonprofits to some of the largest organizations in Montana. Together, we are a force for good.



[mtnonprofit.org](http://mtnonprofit.org)



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