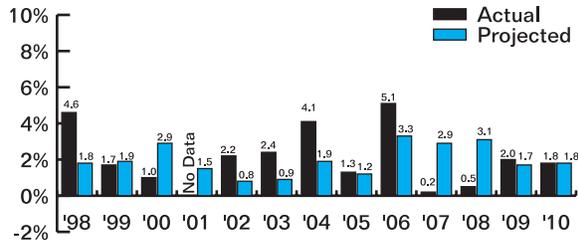


Cascade County

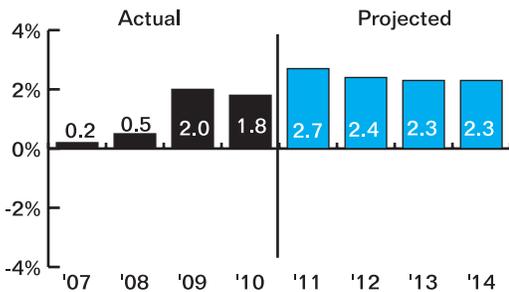
The Great Falls area economy experienced fewer recession impacts than any other area in Montana. It was the only major city in Montana that did not decline at anytime. Even so, certain sectors – mostly wholesale trade, retail trade, and construction – were hard hit. Malmstrom Air Force Base (including both civilian and military workers) accounts for almost one-half of the economic base in Cascade County, and stable or slightly increasing staffing levels lend stability to the local economy. Great Falls continues as the dominant medical center in North Central Montana, and growth in the sector during 2008 and 2009 helped to mute recession effects in other industries.

Figure 1
Actual and Projected Percent Change in Nonfarm Labor Income, Cascade County, 1998-2010



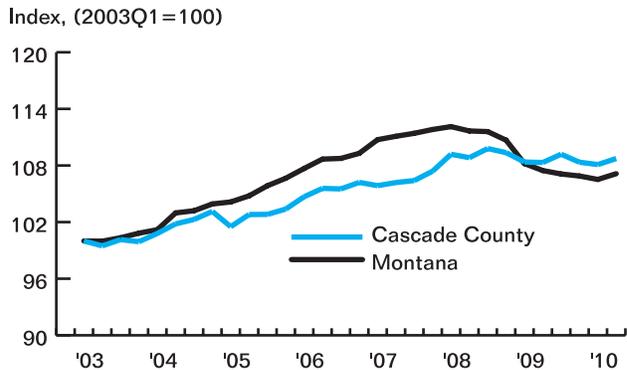
Sources: Bureau of Business and Economic Research, The University of Montana; Bureau of Economic Analysis, U.S. Department of Commerce.

Figure 2
Actual and Projected Percent Change in Nonfarm Labor Income, Cascade County, 2007-2014



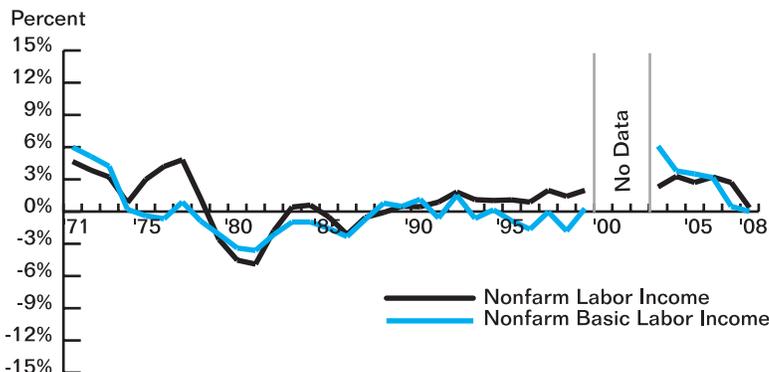
Sources: Bureau of Business and Economic Research, The University of Montana; Bureau of Economic Analysis, U.S. Department of Commerce.

Figure 3
Nonfarm Wage and Salary Employment, Montana & Cascade County, 2003 Q1 to 2010 Q2



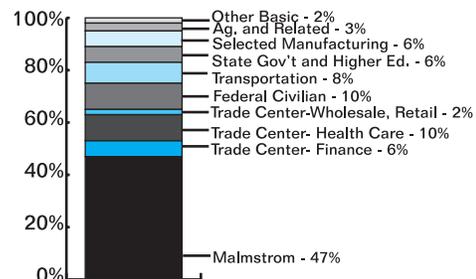
Note: Data seasonally adjusted by BBER. Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages.

Figure 4
Nonfarm Labor Income and Nonfarm Basic Labor Income, Cascade County, Percent Change, 1971-2008 (In Constant Dollars)



Note: 1971-1999 are three-year averages. 2002-2008 are two-year averages. Source: Bureau of Economic Analysis, U.S. Department of Commerce.

Figure 5
Labor Income in Basic Industries, Cascade County, 2008-2010 (Percent of Total)



Sources: Bureau of Business and Economic Research, The University of Montana; Bureau of Economic Analysis, U.S. Department of Commerce.