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News from the Bureau of Business and Economic Research

2017 Montana Economic
Outlook Seminar

The High Wage Jobs Puzzle

Finding Montana's
Place in the New
Geography of Jobs



Registration is Now Open for the 2017 Economic Outlook

The High Wage Job Puzzle - Finding Montana's Place in the New Geography of Jobs

In the past, natural resources drove local economic prosperity. Economies thrived where soil was fertile, timber and minerals were abundant, and where transportation by water was easy (e.g., at the confluence of rivers or at natural ports). Today, knowledge matters more. Natural resources and access to markets still matter, but many industries and occupations are increasingly concentrated in a few places where skilled, creative workers are abundant. This program examines what these

changes might mean for Montana's economy. Can Montana -- particularly its entrepreneurs - figure out how to develop a more robust "knowledge" economy - an economy that allows more of Montana's young, creative, and ambitious people to remain in Montana?

January thru March 2017

*Helena, Great Falls, Missoula, Billings, Bozeman, Butte, Kalispell,
Sidney and Miles City*

***With live webcast available Wednesday, February 1, 2017 from
Bozeman!***

[Register Here](#)

New BBER Survey on How Montanans Get Their News



A new survey shows that more Montanans are turning to the internet for news than any other source. And it says most Montana online news consumers are getting it via their smartphones.

Sixty-nine percent of Montanans said they got their news online in the prior week, compared to 57 percent who said they got it on TV. Forty percent said they got it from a newspaper.

John Baldridge, with the UM's Bureau of Business and Economic Research oversaw the survey, which was conducted in September.

Baldridge says that when they go online, most Montanans are still accessing traditional media sources.

"They'll probably first look for their local newspaper's website, and then a local TV or radio station."

The survey was commissioned by the Greater Montana Foundation. It was done over the phone with 567 Montana adults.

Read more [here](#).

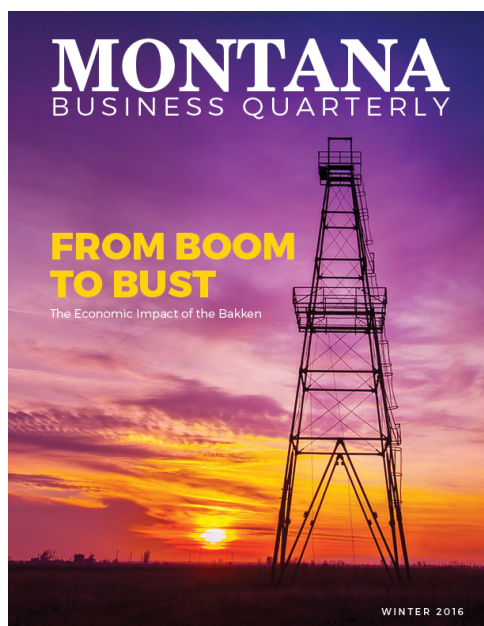
Forest Industry Research Program

The FIRP released two studies on energy consumption and emissions at softwood sawmills in the

the FPRP released the studies on energy consumption and emissions at softwood sawmills in the southwest and in Montana.

- Loeffler, Dan; Anderson, Nathaniel; Morgan, Todd A.; Sorenson, Colin B. 2016. On-site energy consumption and selected emissions at softwood sawmills in the southwestern United States. [Forest Products Journal. 66\(5/6\): 326-337.](#)
- Loeffler, Dan; Anderson, Nathaniel; Morgan, Todd A.; Sorenson, Colin B. 2016. On-site energy consumption at softwood sawmills in Montana. [Forest Products Journal. 66\(3/4\): 155-163.](#)

Montana Business Quarterly Winter 2016



In this issue of the Montana Business Quarterly:

- One Beer at a Time - a new look at the craft brewing industry
- From Boom to Bust - an economic history of the Bakken
- Picking the Right College - is there a relationship between quality and earnings?
- Traveler Spending - Geotravellers spend more time and Money in Montana

**Season's Greetings and Happy Holidays from everyone at the UM
Bureau of Business and Economic Research**

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See you in 2017!

Don't forget to register for the Economic Outlook Seminars!

Click [Here](#) to Register!

