



**BUREAU OF BUSINESS AND
ECONOMIC RESEARCH**

UNIVERSITY OF MONTANA

19th Economic Outlook Seminar



Tuesday, March 12, 2019
Sidney, Montana



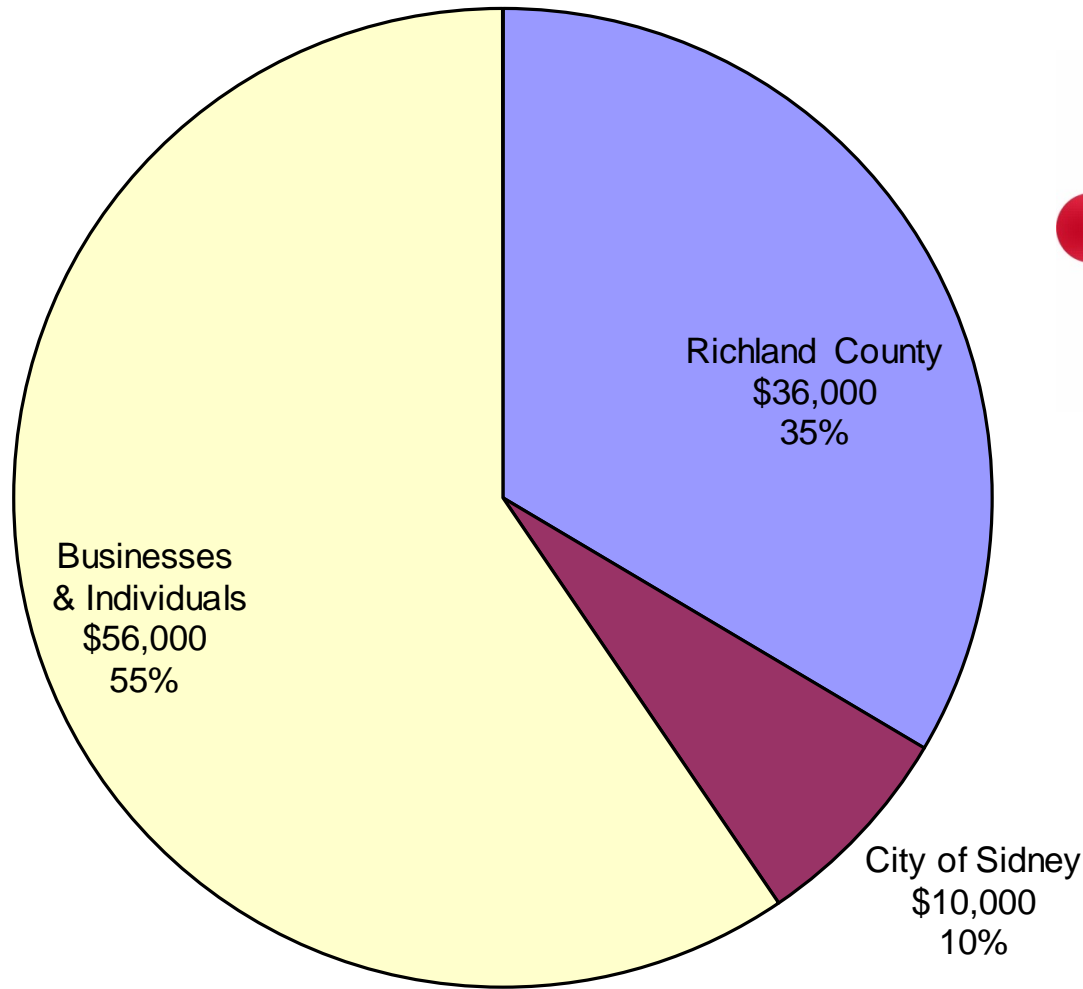
Back row L-R: Mark Rehbein, Chip Gifford, Alan Seigfreid, Craig Averett, Don Steinbeisser, Blaine Rogers, Shane Gorder, Leif Anderson, Gary Schoepp, and Bryce Baker. Front row L-R: Pam Burman, Tami Christensen, Leslie Messer, Jackie Washechek, Katie Dasinger, Vanessa Pooch, Cami Skinner, and Randy Olson. Not pictured are: Jason Brothen, Dave Garland, Bill Henderson, Walt McNutt, Brandon Taylor, and Heather VanGelder.

OUR MISSION

To take action or encourage action by others which will assist potential new or existing businesses to improve their chances of survival and contribution to economic growth in Richland County, Montana



2018 REDC OPERATIONAL BUDGET



OVERALL PERFORMANCE

- Walk in Developers
- Small Bus Consultations
- Letters of Support
- Presentations
- Grant research requests
- Touched bases w/ 100% of our membership



SMALL BUSINESS START UP

- Business Planning
- Grant Research
- Technical Assistance
- General “where do I go to....?”
- Confidentiality





Leslie Messer
Executive Director



Katie Dasinger
Program Coordinator





- Concept initiated by our very own Katie Dasinger
- Offered gathering and educational opportunities throughout the school calendar year: Aug – May, once a month
- Spirit of Montana Award
- 2018 Montana Young Professional Woman of the Year

REVOLVING LOAN FUND

- Initial investment by Richland County Commissioners: \$1 M
- As of 2/28/2019 total amount disbursed: \$804,000
- Remaining principal balance due: \$239,000
- Amount that is available to lend: \$840,000
- Total number of jobs tied to the RLF fund: 120
- Rough estimate of interest from all CD's since 2008 is \$52,000
- RLF investment has resulted in \$4.7 Million in project development in Richland County



RICHLAND COUNTY

- ▶ CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE: 5,589
- ▶ EMPLOYED: 5,430
- ▶ UNEMPLOYED: 159
- ▶ RATE: 2.8%



2017 TOP 10 PRIVATE EMPLOYERS:

EMPLOYER

CLASS

Continental Resources:

5

Elkhorn Construction:

5

Franz Construction:

5

ONEOK:

5

Reynolds Market:

6

Sidney Health Center:

7

Sidney Sugars:

7

Town Pump:

5

Valley View IGA:

5

XTO Energy

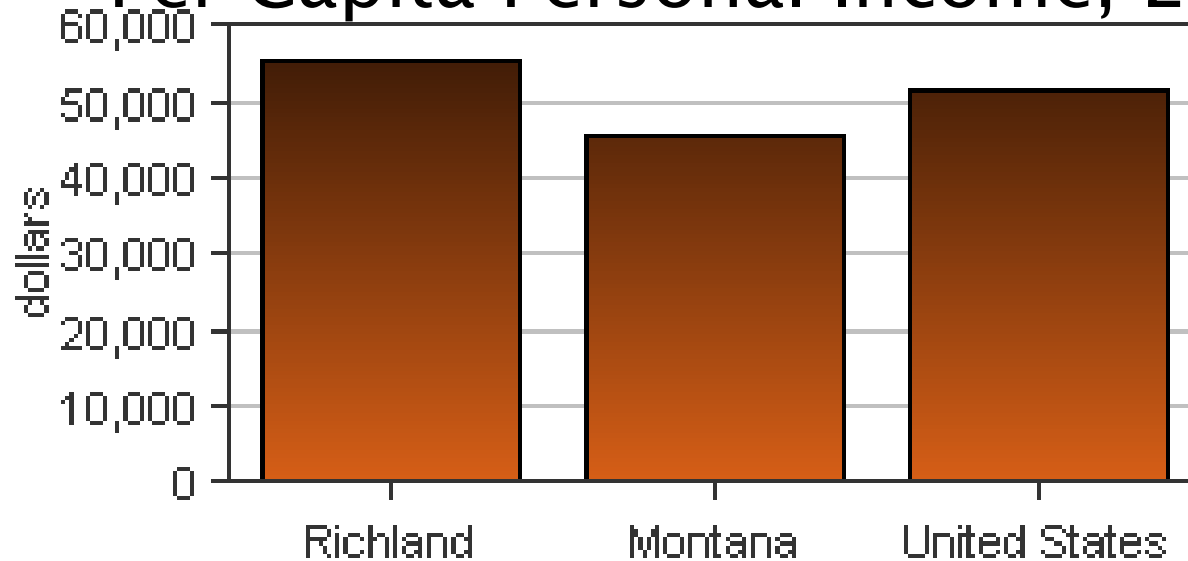
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Employment Size Class Coding: Class 9 = 1000+ employees, Class 8 = 500 to 999 employees, Class 7 = 250 to 499 employees, Class 6 = 100 to 249 employees, Class 5 = 50 to 99 employees, Class 4 = 20 to 49 employees, Class 3 = 10 to 19 employees.

Information provided by the Bureau of Economic Analysis

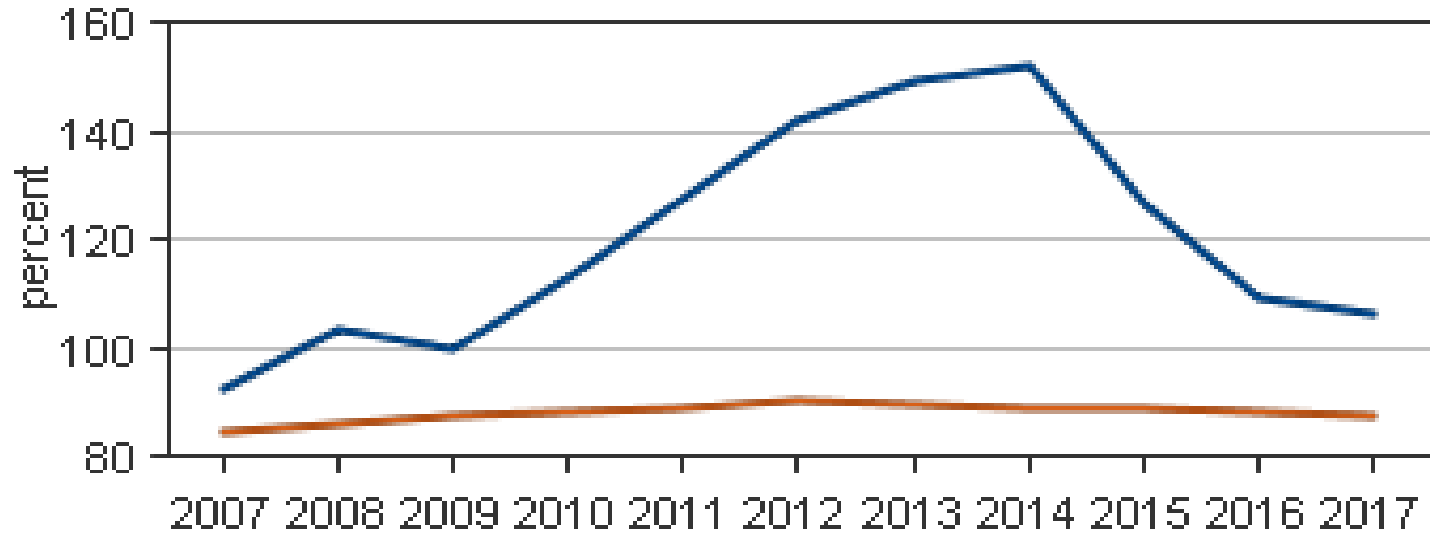
Per Capita Personal Income, 2017



\$55,167



Information provided by the Bureau of Economic Analysis



Per Capita Income as a percentage of the United States



Lower Yellowstone Irrigation Project

- ▣ Participated in focus session to better understand the most up to date information regarding lawsuit
- ▣ On going communications throughout the year educating, informing, and encouraging action to public
- ▣ Coordinated 4 bus trips to Great Falls to witness injunction hearings
- ▣ Spearheaded letter writing campaign to Federal offices in support of LYIP & funding



Lower Yellowstone Irrigation Project



RICHLAND
ECONOMIC
DEVELOPMENT

LOWER YELLOWSTONE IRRIGATION PROJECT SUPPORT CELEBRATION!!



Community Outreach: Fairview



Community Outreach: Lambert



Community Outreach: Savage



ECONOMIC CONCERNS: WESTMORELAND SAVAGE COAL MINE



ECONOMIC CONCERNS: MDU COAL FIRED GENERATION



ECONOMIC CONCERNS: SIDNEY SUGARS, INC.



ECONOMIC CONCERNS: SHOPKO RESTRUCTURE



Leslie Messer, Executive Director
Katie Dasinger, Program Coordinator

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www.richlandeconomicdevelopment.com
A Non-Profit countywide economic development corporation

February 25, 2019

Michelle Hansen, Media Relations
Shopko Corporation

Michelle,

We are sending you this letter in regards to our Hometown Shopko store (544) here in Sidney, Montana. We understand that the company is going through re-structuring, and that as a corporation, you are looking to significantly reduce redundancies; however we request that every effort is made to keep our local Shopko store open. Please see the following:

By keeping our Hometown Shopko open:

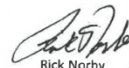
1. More money is kept in the community and purchasing local helps grow other businesses as well as the local tax base
2. Our local charities and non-profits remain strong due to donations from Shopko
3. Sidney's unique character is broadened with Shopko here, and that plays a big factor how we compete on a regional basis
4. Shopko is one of our larger employers, which means that less people have to commute, less traffic and pollution
5. The Sidney Shopko (544) hires people with great customer service, which means more repeat customers
6. Our Shopko provides items that we can't get anywhere else: underwear, family shoes, coats & mittens, DVD's, small electronics, seasonal décor, thread, to name just a few

We continue to support our Hometown Shopko, and we know that if it closes, our residents within the region will have no choice but to shop on-line or out of town for their basic needs. This will have a very negative affect on our economy and the existing businesses.


Please stay in communication with us as to how we may be able to persuade Shopko Corporate to keep our store open in Sidney Montana.


Thank you in advance,


Leslie Messer
Executive Director
REDC


Rick Norby
Mayor
City of Sidney


Loren Young
Chairman
Richland County


Laura Schieber
President
Sidney Chamber


Brian Bieber
Mayor
Town of Fairview

OUR OFFICE IS
LOCATED AT
1060 SOUTH
CENTRAL AVE
SUITE 3
SIDNEY, MT

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THANK YOU!



ANY

QUESTIONS?