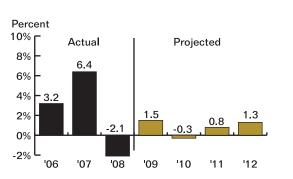
Ravalli County

Although not as prominent as in other Montana communities, the bursting of the real estate and construction bubble in Ravalli was the major cause of the decline in nonfarm labor income during 2008. In addition, the slowdown in nearby Missoula also contributed because of the large number of workers who live in Ravalli County but commute to jobs across the county line. Ravalli County's growth has decelerated significantly since the 1990s as migration has slowed. The prime home sites in the northern portion of the county are now occupied, and new residents face ever increasing time and congestion on Highway 93. On the positive side, Hamilton continues to evolve into a regional trade and service center, with the opening and expansion of major retailers and the growth of selected services.

Figure 2

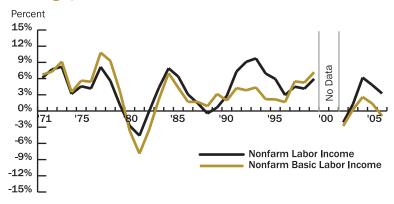
Actual and Projected Percent Change in Nonfarm Labor Income, Ravalli County, 2006-2012



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

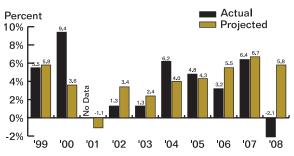
Figure 4

Nonfarm Labor Income and Nonfarm Basic Labor Income, Ravalli County, Percent Change, (in constant dollars)



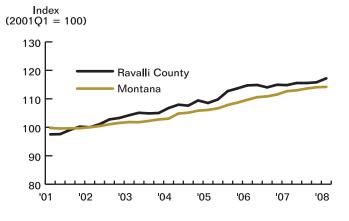
Note: 1971-1999 are three-year averages. Source: Bureau of Economic Analysis, U.S. Department of Commerce.

Figure 1 Actual and Projected Percent Change in Nonfarm Labor Income, Ravalli County, 1999-2008



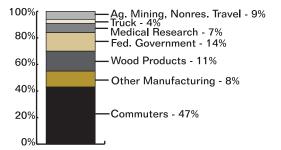
Sources: Bureau of Business and Economic Research, The University of Montana-Missoula; Bureau of Economic Analysis, U.S. Department of Commerce.

Figure 3 Nonfarm Wage and Salary Employment, Montana & Ravalli County, 2001 Q1 to 2008 Q1



Note: Data seasonally adjusted by BBER. Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Figure 5 Labor Income in Basic Industries, Ravalli County, 2006-2008 (percent of total)



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