

Ravalli County Commissioners Office

From: MACO <MACO@mtcounties.org>
Sent: Monday, May 18, 2015 8:09 AM
To: MACO
Subject: Average Weekly Wage computed for SFY16
Attachments: AWW2014-UI-SFY16.docx

Elected Officials,

I am forwarding a memo from Mike Peery at the Department of Labor. The Department computes the change in the State Average Weekly Wage each year. This is used for many purposes but primarily in calculating increases for unemployment insurance and workers compensation benefits. The Montana Average Weekly Wage includes ALL employees covered under Montana Unemployment Insurance and only excludes federal employees so this data represents the increase in wages from one year to the next for virtually all employment in Montana.

The calendar year 2014 Average Weekly Wage was \$733.47 an increase of \$25.10 over last year's Average Weekly Wage of \$708.37. That represents a 3.5% increase.

Here are some links for more information about the Montana Average Wage:

<http://www.lmi.mt.gov/media/9549/art-0614.pdf>

<http://www.lmi.mt.gov/media/9705/eag-0115-art.pdf>

This year's Average Weekly Wage increase of 3.5% is in sharp contrast to the Consumer Price Index change from the Bureau of Labor Statistics that we sent out earlier of 1.6%. For more information about CPI go to our web site at: <http://www.mtcounties.org/resources/fiscal-information-forms/what-cpi> and to <http://www.bls.gov/cpi/>

Harold

Harold Blattie, Executive Director
Montana Association of Counties
2715 Skyway Drive
Helena MT 59602
406.449.4360 (W)
406.698.0939 (C)
406.442.5238 (F)
hblattie@mtcounties.org
www.mtcounties.org

From: Peery, Mike [mpeery@mt.gov]
Sent: Thursday, May 14, 2015 2:09 PM

To: Bucy, Pam; Cooney, Mike; Diane Perez; Duane, Rick; Dunlap, Darcie; Gengler, Dan; Gilbert, Kristy; Gullickson, Barb; Harold Blattie; Hubbard, Laurence; Hunt, Patricia; Kulow, Herb; Mike Taylor; Nordlund, Brenda; Peery, Mike; Rinehart, Annette; Routzahn, Randy; Rush, Shirley; Scrimm, David; Theresia LeSueur
Subject: Average Weekly Wage computed for SFY16

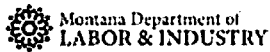
Attached is an electronic copy of the memo issued today for the Average Weekly Wage computed for UI purposes. Hardcopies are being sent to those listed at the bottom of the memo.

These data are to be used in State Fiscal Year 2016 and the computations were done using calendar year 2014 data.

Please let me know if you have any questions regarding these data.

Thanks,

Mike Peery
Supervisor, Labor Market Statistics/BLS Programs
Montana Department of Labor & Industry
Research & Analysis Bureau
(406) 444-5539





Montana Department of
LABOR & INDUSTRY

Workforce Services Division – Research & Analysis Bureau

TO: Pam Bucy
Commissioner

FROM: Mike Peery, Labor Market Statistics Supervisor
Research & Analysis Bureau

DATE: May 14, 2015

RE: Average Weekly Wage for State Fiscal Year 2016

In accordance with Sections 39-51-2105 and 39-51-2201 of the “Unemployment Insurance Laws” of Montana, following is the computation of the Average Weekly Wage which will govern the maximum and minimum weekly benefit payments during State Fiscal Year 2016. Average Annual Employment and Total Wages for calendar year 2014 are used in this computation.

All reimbursable employer accounts (Non-profit organizations, State and Local Government) are included, as established for prior years. Only Federal Government is excluded.

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|----------------------------|------------------|
| Average Annual Employment: | 427,229 |
| Total Wages: | \$16,294,653,016 |
| Average Annual Wage: | \$38,140.33 |

Average Weekly Wage: \$733.47

| | |
|--------------------------------|-------|
| Maximum Weekly Benefit Amount: | \$487 |
| Minimum Weekly Benefit Amount: | \$139 |

Minimum Qualifying Wages in the Base Period:

| | |
|---------------------------------|----------|
| (1) 7% of Average Annual Wage: | \$2,670 |
| (2) 50% of Average Annual Wage: | \$19,070 |

c: Brenda Nordlund
Laurence Hubbard