

**Montana Continues to Grow**

<http://ceic.mt.gov/EstimatesCntyPop.asp>

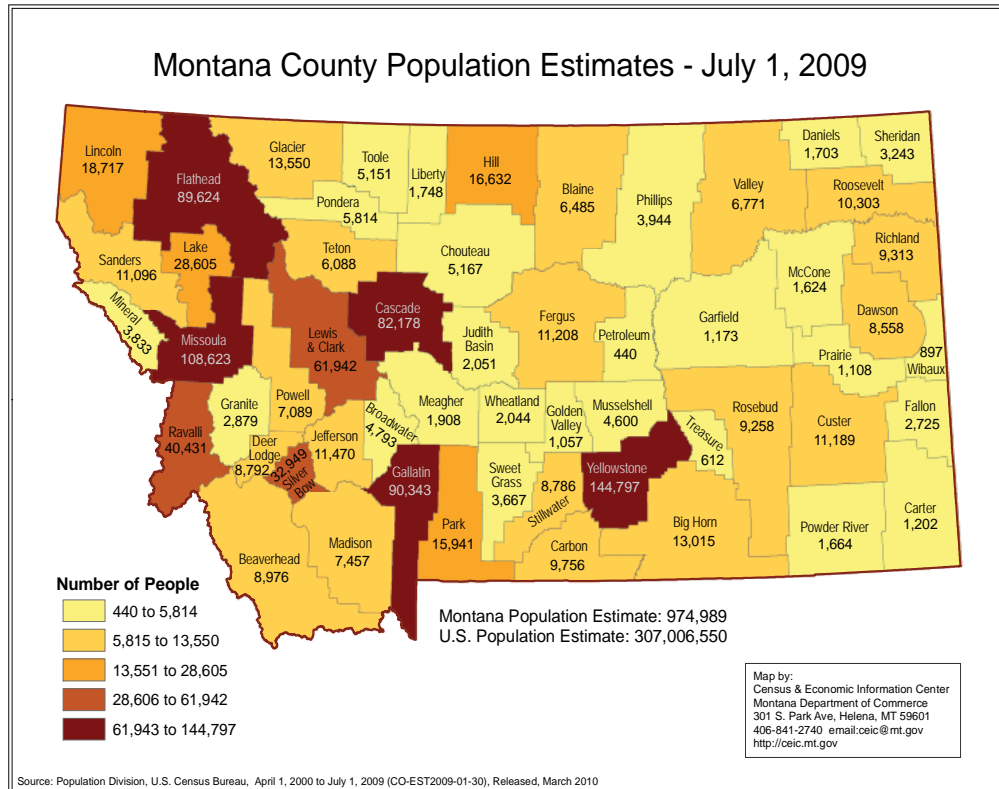
By Susan Ockter, Senior Economist

On March 23, 2010, the U.S. Census Bureau released the 2009 County Population Estimates. Between Census Day, April 1, 2000 and July 1, 2009, 108,579 births occurred in the state and 77,395 Montanans passed away. In addition, 3,042 persons became residents in the state. Overall, Montana's population rose 72,799 in 9 years and 3 months, for an increase of 8.1% in Montana's total population from 2000 to 2009. Births, deaths, and migration are the components of change for populations.

The Census Bureau releases county population estimates and demographic components of change (births, deaths, and migration) annually in March. In general, estimates released in a given year refer to the population on July 1 of the previous year.

The following link provides more county specific information and detailed statistics about population estimates, components of change, and county population estimate data maps: <http://ceic.mt.gov/EstimatesCntyPop.asp>.

During this nine year period, 21 counties realized population increases while 35 lost population. Gallatin County saw 22,511 new residents, a



33.2% increase which ranked the county 99th nationally. At the other end of the spectrum, Treasure County had the greatest percentage decrease in population between 2000 and 2009, losing 249 residents for a 28.9% decrease in population.

These estimates are based on 2000 Census data and updated by using administrative records to estimate components of population change; namely births, deaths, and domestic and international migration.

**CONTACT**

**Mary Craige, Bureau Chief**  
Christine Bell, Web Developer  
Susan Ockert, Sr. Economist  
Lorie Palm, GIS Coordinator  
Maria Tromly, Admin. Assistant

P.O. Box 200500  
301 S. Park Avenue  
Helena, Montana 59620-0500  
406.841.2740  
406.841.2702 TDD  
<http://ceic.mt.gov>



**SIX FASTEST GROWING COUNTIES**

County	July 1, 2009	April 1, 2000	Percent Change	Rank
Gallatin	90,343	67,832	33.2	1
Flathead	89,624	74,471	20.3	2
Jefferson	11,470	10,047	14.2	3
Missoula	108,623	95,799	13.4	4
Ravalli	40,431	36,073	12.1	5
Yellowstone	144,797	129,348	11.9	6

Source: U.S. Census Bureau