

MONTANA

BIG SKY COUNTRY

Montana entered the union, officially becoming a state November 8, 1889.

The city of Helena became the capital of Montana only after a very suspicious and controversial election.

Montana's diverse geography covers more than 147,000 square miles, making it the fourth largest state in the nation.

High mountain desert climate. Long, cold winters, short growing season/spring summer, forest fires = travel challenges (meeting with partners, accessing care)

There are a total of 56 counties in Montana.

In terms of its population, Montana is only the 48th most densely populated of the 50 states.

Montana is a very rural and frontier state with a population of just over 1 million people and is broken down as follows:

GENDER

Male Population: 50.2%

Female Population: 49.8%

AGE

Under 18 years old: 22.1%

Age 18 years and over: 77.4%

65 years old and over: 14.8%

Median Age: 39.8

RACE

White: 89.4%

Black/African American: 0.4%

Native American (American Indian/Alaska Native): 6.3%

Hispanic or Latino: 2.9%

Asian: 0.6%

Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander: 0.1%

Two or more races: 2.5%

ECONOMIC

Per capita personal income, 2013: \$39,366

Median household income, \$46,230

Median family income, \$59,743

People below poverty 14.8%

Culture, values, current PH issues

Rural and frontier identity – wide open spaces, access to nature is prized, privacy, individualism, community, protectionism (Cows not Condos, public land use), commonality across interest groups

- These identities impact how cancer control happens in Montana: vast spaces

Not urban, but that doesn't mean uncultured!

Current PH Issues: meth and opiod abuse, suicide, ageing population, access to care: health insurance/Medicaid coverage, providers, travel distance, environmental factors (flooding, fires)