



Biennial Report  
2012 - 2013

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## A Message from the Chairman

My Fellow Montanans,

The Montana Board of Crime Control (MBCC) remains committed to strengthening communities, empowering citizens to prevent crime, ensuring public safety, and providing support to victim service agencies across Big Sky Country.

Despite continued financial challenges at the state and federal levels, MBCC has provided assistance and support to communities and their residents, by providing funding for life-saving services to victims of crime, implementing proven community-based crime prevention programs, and offering funding and technical assistance to law enforcement agencies and the judicial system.

It is my pleasure to work with a very competent and professional staff dedicated to fulfilling our statutory mission. We could not be successful without working partnerships with allied state agencies, law enforcement, victim advocates and juvenile coalitions from across the state. I also want to extend my gratitude to all members of the Board for their continued support and work, both to uphold MBCC's goals and to extend our vision.

On behalf of the entire Board, I hope this report will provide you with a clear understanding of our efforts and work, always with the ultimate goal of improving the lives of all Montanans.

Sincerely,



Mike Anderson  
Chairman

***The mission of the Board of Crime Control is to proactively contribute to safety, crime prevention, and victim assistance through planning, policy development, and coordination of the justice system in partnership with citizens, government, and communities.***



## A Message from the Executive Director

In 1968, the United States Congress created the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act. One element of this Act was the creation of the Law Enforcement Assistance Administration, designed to provide funding to states through planning, action, education, and research grants. Montana's State Administering Agency (SAA) is the Board of Crime Control of the Department of Justice, also known as the Montana Board of Crime Control.

As the seventh executive director of MBCC since 1968, I pledge to provide leadership and support to criminal and juvenile justice system stakeholders and non-profit community organizations statewide. Working together with MBCC Board Members and staff, my top priority is to help improve the safety and welfare of all of Montana's citizens. Several of the ways MBCC can achieve this are through the continued, efficient, and careful administration of funds; collection of crime data for use in analyzing crime trends; and the use of evidence-based, culturally competent programs.

The Montana Board of Crime Control, in its unique position, acts as the fulcrum between agencies and organizations working on issues of victim assistance; domestic violence; disproportionate minority contact; youth violence reduction, alcohol and substance abuse prevention and reduction of Driving Under the Influence of alcohol or drugs (DUI) rates; drug trafficking prevention, intervention, and suppression; and other efforts to improve the safety and well-being of Montanans. MBCC facilitates collaboration and data sharing; assists in the collection of uniform crime reporting data; provides technical assistance and expertise in the areas of grant writing and public safety planning; and facilitates communication among the hundreds of agencies and organizations working statewide to make Montana a better place to live.

It is my hope that the Montana Board of Crime Control can help make Montana a safer place to live through access to resources, technical assistance, and other tools for use by agencies, citizens, legislators, and tribal nations.

Brooke Marshall

Executive Director

Montana Board of Crime Control



***Vision:  
Montana is a safe place to live because the Montana Board of Crime Control leads and fosters excellent and effective coordination among federal, state, tribal, and local governments and the Board. Through the Board's leadership, resource sharing and collaboration are the norm.***



## Agency Overview

The Montana Board of Crime Control (MBCC) is the single state agency charged with identifying needs, facilitating programs, and administering millions of grant dollars dedicated to promoting public safety, crime prevention, and victim assistance throughout Montana.

The composition of the MBCC Board is dictated in statute (Montana Code Annotated 2-15-2006) and includes 18 members appointed by the Governor. The Board is representative of state and local law enforcement and criminal justice agencies, including agencies directly related to the prevention and control of juvenile delinquency, units of local government, and public agencies that maintain programs to reduce and control crime. It also includes individual citizens, representatives of professional and community organizations, and representatives of Montana's Native American tribes.

The MBCC is comprised of two bureaus:

- Public Safety and Community Justice; and
- Compliance/Performance.

The Public Safety and Community Justice Bureau manages the work related to a number of grants, initiatives, and projects. The activities of this bureau affect Montanans in every area of the state, with focuses that range from prevention and justice assistance to juvenile justice and victims' assistance.

The Compliance/Performance Bureau is responsible for the administrative and business functions of the agency. This includes managing more than \$17 million in total annual awards, which were allocated to 204 Montana organizations in Fiscal Year 2012.

### Core Values

- *Accountability*
- *Collaboration*
- *Integrity*
- *Respect*

*"The work of the Montana Board of Crime Control can be compared to a three-legged stool. The first leg represents crime prevention, and the second leg is statewide work with law enforcement agencies and justice system officials. The third leg represents efforts to improve community safety. Without any one of these areas – alone and in combination with one another – the agency could not be effective in its efforts to improve public safety."*

*- Executive Director Brooke Marshall*

### History

#### 1960s

President Johnson's National Commission on Law Enforcement and Administration of Justice encouraged formation of State agencies for crime prevention

- Congress created Law Enforcement Assistance Administration (LEAA) and provided funding for crime control efforts.
- Creation of the Montana Law Enforcement Planning Committee (LEPC)

#### 1970s

LEPC renamed the Montana Board of Crime Control (1972)

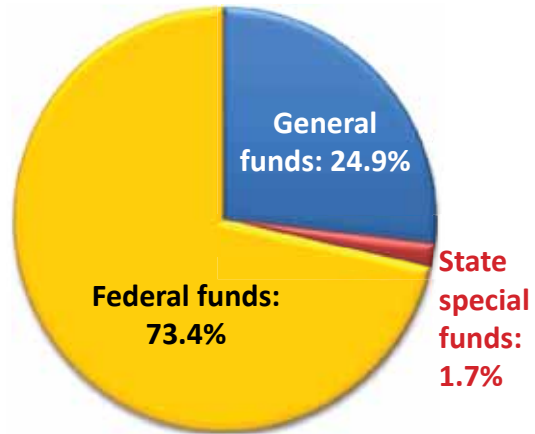


# Overview

## What we do

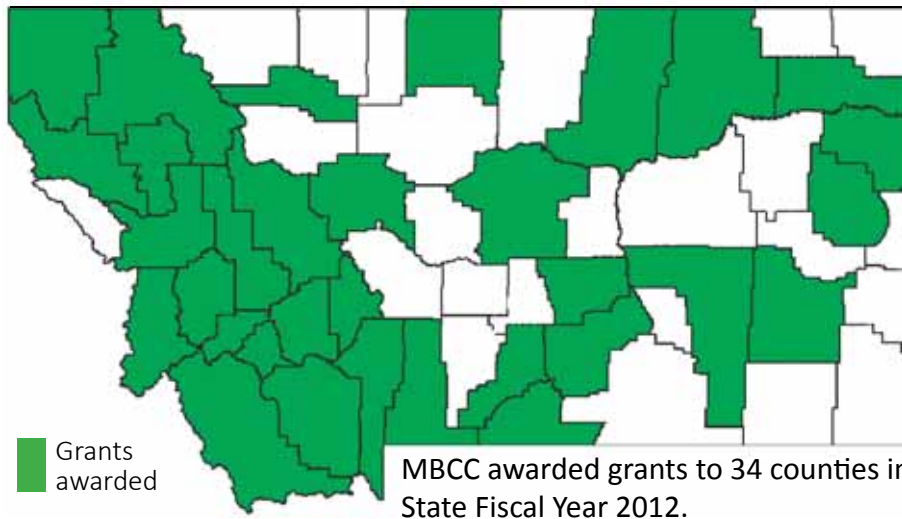
- Grant administration
- Program research and resource development
- Crime data collection and statistical analysis
- Crime reporting to FBI and law enforcement agencies
- Public safety and crime prevention planning
- Technical assistance for law enforcement and tribal governments
- Juvenile justice initiatives and programs

## MBCC funding sources 2012



Awards Administered by MBCC during Fiscal Year 2012*	In millions
Federal funds awarded to sub-grantees	\$8.974
State general funds for detention centers and state special revenue (misdemeanor probation)	\$1.093
Local match for FY 2012 awards	\$6.946
<b>Total awards</b>	<b>\$17.013</b>
Total number of active awards (FY 2012)	204

\*Fiscal Year 2012: July 1, 2011 through June 30, 2012



Check funding by year for your county:

- Go to: <http://mtibrsrp.mt.gov/public>
- Scroll to bottom of the page
- Select "Map of Grants by County"

### 1970s continued

- MONTCLIRC: A center for criminal justice legal research established at the University of Montana School of Law
- Annual *Crime in Montana* reports begun

### 1980s

- Jail standards developed
- New programs implemented
  - *Incident-based Reporting System* for crime statistics
  - *Reservation and Community Victims Assistance Program*

*Crime Stoppers* initiated statewide



*MBCC plays a major role in enforcement, education, prevention, and treatment in Montana's communities.*

## Trending: Crime Data Maps

The MBCC website provides access to maps that present month-to-month offense comparisons to illustrate crime trends and prevalence at the county level. The tool enhances the Montana Incident-Based Reporting System (MTIBRS) data by allowing users to visually examine the chronological fluctuation of offenses within and between counties. Crime data can be pulled from the MTIBRS; maps are constructed with a geographical information system.

Additional maps can be generated in the Montana Online Reporting (MOR) system to compare crime statistics between and within counties, using the statewide average as the reference point. These maps provide perspective on criminal activity occurring in Montana.

## Achievements

### MBCC hosted:

- Community Response to Domestic Violence training; and
- three community events for 2012 National Crime Victims' Rights Week.

### MBCC developed:

- Montana Crime Victims' Rights: A United Effort documentary.

### MBCC accessed:

- \$397,521 in competitive Harold Rogers Prescription Drug Monitoring Program grant funds.

### MBCC collaborated:

- with the Montana Law Enforcement Academy, Attorney General's Office, and University of Montana on the State Victim Assistance Academy Grant.

Interested? Go to <http://mbcc.mt.gov>

1. Click on "Data"
2. Choose "Crime Data"
3. Click on "Crime Data Maps"

From "Crime Data Maps," choose a month, a year (2011 or 2012), and a crime. The site will display a statewide, county-level map with the appropriate data.

### The Montana Board of Crime Control:

- collects and monitors crime data;
- identifies emerging trends and problems;
- researches need;
- collaborates on finding necessary funding; and
- brings everything together in a strategic plan to address issues.

## History

### 1990s

Grant Management Information System  
Regional Juvenile Detention Reform: juveniles removed from adult jails

- Criminal History Record system improvements
- Automated fingerprint ID systems

### Training/Certifications

- Juvenile detention
- Emergency communication
- Probation and Parole

### 2000s

Governor's Meth Summit





## Highlights

### ***Addressing illegal use of prescription drugs***

In Montana, prescription drugs and narcotics are the second most commonly abused illicit substances, following marijuana. Misuse, abuse, and illegal sale of prescription drugs are a threat to patient and public safety in Montana.

A recent study on prescription drug abuse estimated that there are 43,000 – 51,000 prescription drug abusers in Montana, accounting for 4 to 5 percent of the state’s population (Davis and Polzin, 2011). The study further estimated that 5,700 – 6,900 youth between 12 and 17 years of age abuse prescription drugs, representing 7 to 9 percent of Montana’s population in that age group. All told, prescription drug abuse costs Montana an estimated \$19.62 million annually, through law enforcement costs, treatment, health care, child and family services and lost productivity.

In response, MBCC and the Montana Board of Pharmacy convened a stakeholder group to study the issue. In 2009, Attorney General Steve Bullock formed a task force to develop strategies to combat the threat.

MBCC, the Montana Attorney General, and the Montana Board of Pharmacy introduced the *Prescription Drug Registry Bill* that passed into law in 2011. House Bill (HB) 83 created a prescription drug registry and MBCC funded oversight through the Montana Board of Pharmacy.

Immediate financing for creating and implementing the registry was unavailable, so MBCC secured a \$397,521 Harold Rogers Prescription Drug Monitoring grant to pay for the initial costs of creating and implementing the registry. The registry helps curb prescription drug diversion and allows doctors to distinguish between patients with legitimate needs and those who “doctor shop” in order to abuse medications.

## Accomplishments

### **MBCC invested \$481,638 in the Yellowstone County Sheriff’s Office Partnership with Rimrock Foundation between 2006 and 2012.**

*This funding supported the following accomplishments. The Partnership:*

- served 200+ highly addicted offenders, 82% of whom completed the program; and
- received the 2012 National Criminal Justice Association’s Western Region Award for Outstanding Criminal Justice Program.

### **MBCC invested \$172,934 in Cascade County Alliance for Youth between 2007 and 2012.**

*This funding supported the following accomplishments. The Alliance:*

- served 4,000+ youth; and
- implemented alternative revocation hearings, parental involvement protocols, and cross-agency information sharing.

### **MBCC invested \$399,689 in Custer County Attorney’s Victim/Witness Program between 1996 and 2012.**

*This funding supported the Custer County Attorney in filing 61 district court felony cases and serving 45 victims in 2011 alone.*



**2000s**  
*continued*

National Governors’ Association Policy Academy on substance abuse prevention and treatment

- Online sub-grant application system
- Ongoing funding of seven drug task force apprehension programs

- Forensic crime lab improvements
- FBI certification of MT National Incident Based Reporting System

**2010s**

Implemented the Automated Victims’ Information Database (AVID)

## Multi-Jurisdictional Drug Task Forces (DTFs)

Montana's 7 multi-jurisdictional DTFs are dedicated to detecting and apprehending drug traffickers and illegal drug offenders.

Drug-related offenses remain one of Montana's most serious public health and safety issues. This includes the growth in prescription drug abuse, which contributes to the deaths of more than 300 Montanans annually.

The issues are not limited to adults. *Montana's youth report the third-highest rate of prescription drug abuse in the nation, and more than half say prescription drugs are easier to get than street drugs* (Turner and Associates, 2011). The Montana Department of Justice Division of Criminal Investigation reports that more than four in ten (42%) of the cases drug agents handled in 2009 dealt with prescription drug abuse.

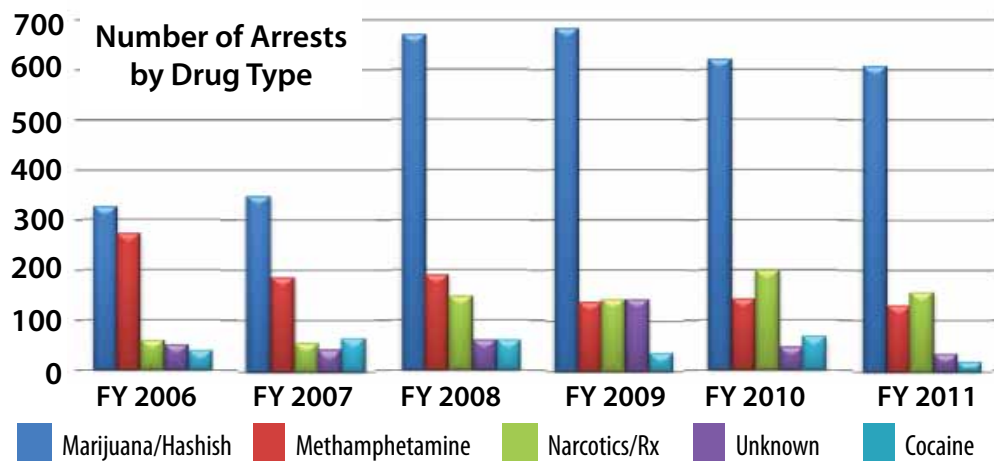
Montana's Drug Task Forces (DTFs) have played a major role in enforcing illegal prescription drug laws and in identifying and dismantling clandestine methamphetamine labs.

One result has been a sharp decrease in the number of methamphetamine labs. Labs decreased from a high of 124 labs in 2002 to seven labs in 2007, 2008, and 2011 (Montana Statistical Analysis Center, 2012). Although the DTFs have achieved a great deal of success, drug trafficking remains a critical issue.

Montana Incident-Based Reporting System (MTIBRS) data reveals that 2,801 drug violations were reported in 2011, the majority of which (2,229) were for possession. Even when offenses are not directly drug related, many are connected to substance use and abuse.

### Top 5 DTF Arrests by Drug Type (Fiscal Years 2006 - 2011)

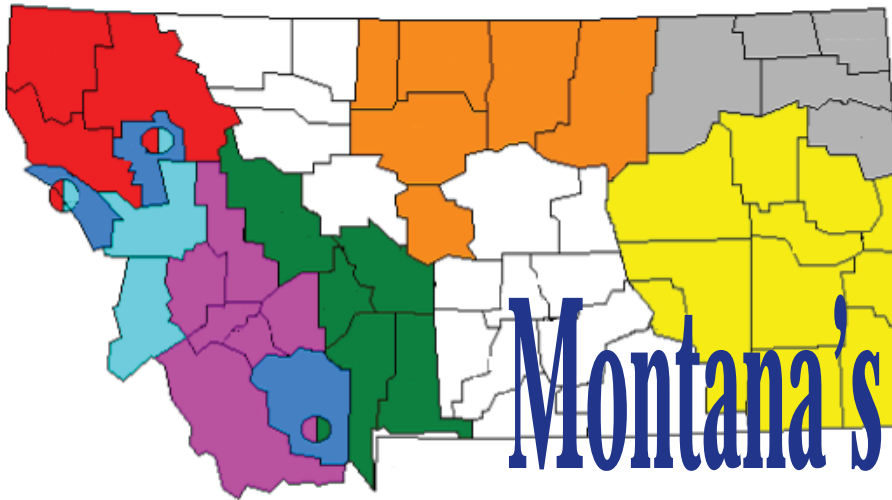
- Marijuana-related arrests accounted for about 54% of all DTF arrests
- Methamphetamine accounted for about 18% overall, but just 8% in FY 2011
- Prescription/narcotic-related arrests increased 161% between FY 2006 and FY 2011
- Cocaine-related arrests have remained relatively consistent



*Prescription drug abuse contributes to 300 Montana deaths annually, making it 15 times more deadly than the abuse of meth, heroin, and cocaine combined.*

—Montana Attorney General's Office, 2009

Drug Task Force (DTF) drug arrests on Montana's four major drug-trafficking corridors have yielded huge amounts of drugs, cash, and weapons.



*The 7 DTFs funded by MBCC together made 1,034 arrests in 2012.*

## Montana's DTFs

Task Force	Members (cities, counties, tribes, and/or agencies)	Jurisdictional Area in Square Miles*	Jurisdictional Population* Density/ Square Mile	Total Arrests 2012
<b>DTFs are funded by MBCC's Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant and managed by MBCC.</b>				
North-west TF	Lincoln, Flathead, Sanders, Lake & Mineral counties, Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes, Kalispell, Whitefish, and Columbia Falls	14,171	155,462 11.0	101
Tri-Agency TF	Liberty, Hill, Blaine, Phillips, Chouteau & Judith Basin counties, Fort Belknap and Rocky Boy's reservations, and Havre	19,539	37,411 1.9	88
Eastern TF	Garfield, McCone, Dawson, Wibaux, Prairie, Rosebud, Treasure, Custer, Fallon, Carter & Powder River counties; Baker, Broadus, Glendive & Miles City police departments; cities of Baker, Broadus, Glendive & Miles City; Montana Department of Justice Division of Criminal Investigation	30,345	41,799 1.4	39
Missouri River TF	Lewis and Clark, Meagher, Broadwater, Gallatin & Park counties, Bozeman, Helena, Belgrade, Livingston, and West Yellowstone	12,450	178,827 14.4	141
West Central TF	Missoula, Ravalli, Mineral & Lake counties, Flathead Agency Tribal Police, Missoula Police Department, and Missoula County Attorney's Office	7,693	183,743 23.9	576
South-west TF	Powell, Granite, Deer Lodge, Silver Bow, Jefferson, Beaverhead & Madison counties, Dillon, MT Dept. of Justice, Division of Criminal Investigation	16,293	82,052 5.0	24
Big Muddy River TF	Valley, Daniels, Sheridan, Roosevelt & Richland counties; Fort Peck Tribes; cities of Wolf Point, Fairview, and Glasgow	12,468	33,365 2.7	65
Covered by 2 TFs	Madison, Lake & Mineral counties: Madison County is covered by the Southwest and Missouri River TFs. Lake and Mineral counties are covered by both the Northwest and West Central TFs.	6,481	40,815 6.3	

\* Data Source: MT Census & Economic Information Center 2011 County Population Estimates ([www.CEIC.MT.gov](http://www.CEIC.MT.gov))

**The State Drug Task Force is funded by the state's general fund and managed by the MT Department of Justice Division of Criminal Investigation. This task force operates in all 56 counties and regularly collaborates in drug investigations with the seven MBCC-funded drug task forces as well as local law enforcement agencies throughout Montana.**



*Some of MBCC's growing priorities are gangs and drug offenders who endanger children. Key activities include supporting detection, apprehension, enforcement, and data tracking, as well as reporting crimes associated with these priorities.*

## Montana's Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) Program

The Montana Board of Crime Control has received Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) block grant funding from the U.S. Department of Justice, Bureau of Justice Assistance for more than 20 years.

The national JAG Program is administered by the Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA). The Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (Byrne/JAG) Program is the leading source of federal justice funding to state and local jurisdictions. The JAG Program provides states, tribes, and local governments with the funding necessary to support a range of activities, including law enforcement, prosecution and courts, crime prevention and education, corrections and community corrections, drug treatment and enforcement, planning, evaluation, technology improvement, and crime victim and witness initiatives. JAG allocations are calculated by the Bureau of Justice Statistics (BJS) based on the statutory JAG formula (Office of Justice Programs, 2012).

JAG-funded projects may address crime by providing services directly to individuals and/or communities, and by improving the effectiveness and efficiency of criminal justice systems, processes, and procedures.

JAG funds are flexible, which means that MBCC can administer them to address problems across the criminal justice system. MBCC has awarded the majority of JAG funds to support local multi-jurisdictional drug task forces (DTFs).

JAG Funds are also awarded to police departments, sheriff's offices, and state entities such as the Montana Supreme Court and the Montana Public Defender's Office. Municipalities receive JAG funds for projects such as taser training and equipment, records management, patrol vehicles, youth programs, and treatment courts.



- Between 2005 and 2012, Montana received \$12,446,317 in federal Byrne/JAG funds. These funds provide direct support for law enforcement and public safety efforts throughout Montana.
- In 2009, thanks to the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA), Montana's JAG program received an additional \$3,165,819.

*MBCC awards JAG funds throughout Montana using an annual granting process. For more information on JAG and other MBCC grants, visit: <http://mbcc.mt.gov> and click on "Grant Resources."*



## Paul Coverdell Forensic Science Improvement Grants

Using Paul Coverdell Forensic Science Improvement Grants Program funds, MBCC awards grants to help improve the quality and timeliness of forensic science and medical examiner services. Among other things, funds may be used to eliminate a backlog in the analysis of forensic evidence, and to train and employ forensic laboratory personnel to eliminate backlog. Recipients must use the Coverdell grant for one or more of three purposes:

1. To carry out a program intended to improve the quality and timeliness of forensic science or medical examiner services in the state, including services provided by laboratories operated by the state and by units of local government within the state.
2. To eliminate a backlog in the analysis of forensic science evidence, including, among other things, a backlog with respect to firearms examination, latent prints, toxicology, controlled substances, forensic pathology, questioned documents, and trace evidence.
3. To train, assist, and employ forensic laboratory personnel as needed to eliminate such a backlog.

The Forensic Science Division Laboratory (FSDL) located within the Montana Department of Justice is the recipient of Coverdell funds. The FSDL is the only laboratory in Montana. It provides forensic services to all of Montana's law enforcement agencies and includes the State Medical Examiner's Office. Services are provided to local, state, tribal, and federal law enforcement agencies upon request.

The Montana Crime Lab also provides services to other state agencies, including the Department of Corrections Probation and Parole, the Department of Public Health and Human Services, and the Department of Fish, Wildlife, and Parks. Services include pathology, toxicology, drug chemistry, trace, DNA/serology, tool mark/firearms, breath test analysis, and latent print/impression evidence.

Coverdell funds are instrumental in providing fundamental services to Montana agencies statewide. The Coverdell grant allows expenditures in a number of areas, including staff travel for training and certification, laboratory equipment and supplies, consultants/contracts, and personnel services.

### ***Program Highlight***

Senate Bill 42 allows police to obtain warrants to require blood or breath tests for repeat offenders when they have probable cause to believe that the individual is driving while intoxicated. Since passage, blood alcohol submissions have increased by as much as 375 percent.

- Coverdell funds were recently allocated to allow purchase of a new blood alcohol instrument to measure for blood alcohol content for DUI charges.

### ***Data Bites***

In 2011, 4,120 individuals aged 18+ were arrested in Montana for driving under the influence of alcohol (DUI).

- 917 were in Central Montana;
- 549 were in Eastern Montana; and
- 2,654 were in Western Montana.

In 2011, 44 youth under age 18 were arrested for DUI.

- 12 were in Central Montana;
- 12 were in Eastern Montana; and
- 20 were in Western Montana.

Source: MTIBRS, 2011

## Residential Substance Abuse Treatment for State Prisoners (RSAT)

### ***Substance Use Disorders and Corrections***

According to *Housing as a Platform for Formerly Incarcerated Persons* (Fontaine and Biess, 2012), national averages suggest that 80 percent of people who are incarcerated in jail or prison have histories of drug abuse.

- According to the Montana Reentry Initiative website (<http://cor.mt.gov/reentry>), about 2,100 offenders leave Montana correctional facilities and return to their communities each year.
- The Montana Department of Corrections Biennial Report (2011) revealed an overall recidivism rate of 37.6 percent. This equates to about 451 people who will return to prison.
- More than 44 percent of Montana prison admissions result from parole violations.

### ***The MBCC Response to Recidivism***

Research has strongly linked substance use with recidivism, and treatment with reductions in recidivism (Huebner, 2006). Efforts carried out under MBCC's Residential Substance Abuse Treatment (RSAT) grant are critical to reducing recidivism in Montana.

RSAT funds are used to develop and implement substance abuse treatment programs in jails (state, local, and tribal) and in correctional and detention facilities. These funds are also used to create and maintain community-based aftercare services for offenders. The goal is to break the cycle of drugs and violence by reducing illegal drug demand, use, and trafficking. RSAT funds are also used to enhance the capacity to provide substance abuse treatment for incarcerated inmates, to prepare offenders for community reintegration, and to assist communities in delivering community-based treatment and aftercare services.

Priorities for jail-based RSAT programs include:

- creating a therapeutic environment by separating the treatment population from the general correctional population;
- setting treatment guidelines calling for a minimum of three months;
- focusing on participants' substance abuse issues; and
- helping participants develop the cognitive, behavioral, social, vocational, and other skills needed to solve their substance abuse-related problems.

Aftercare programs must coordinate correctional treatment and treatment courts, with social services and rehabilitation programs. They can include a range of services, from housing or vocational assistance to drug testing and treatment.

***About 2,100 offenders leave Montana's prisons each year; approximately 451 will recidivate.***

***Offenders were using alcohol and/or drugs in the commission of 32% of all crimes, 46% of all aggravated assaults, and 41% of all simple assaults.***

- MTIBRS, 2011

## RSAT Program Highlight: *Yellowstone County Jail-Based Treatment Program*

The Yellowstone County Jail-Based Treatment Program was designed to provide evidence-based treatment that can address the individual criminogenic needs of each offender. Since 2006, the program has implemented a best-practice approach that increases treatment completion rates and reduces substance abuse and recidivism rates. The project links with three adult drug courts in Billings, which work with offenders too severely addicted to respond to outpatient treatment.

Program participants have access to long-term intensive treatment, case management, and community-based supervised probation, including random drug screening. The Yellowstone County Jail-Based Treatment Program is a partnership between the Yellowstone County Sheriff's Office and the Rimrock Foundation's addiction treatment center. The project goal is to demonstrate the efficacy of intensive treatment coupled with community supervision.

Participants are treated for approximately three months after incarceration. Five days a week, program participants are transported from Yellowstone County Detention Facility to the Silver Leaf Center, where Rimrock Foundation provides treatment services for offenders who have addictions. After discharge from jail, participants step down to an intensive outpatient program supervised by the drug court.

Transporting participants from the jail and away from the general population to a neutral site embodies the concept of a therapeutic community and is one of the unique and effective attributes of this program. Treatment modalities include daily group therapy, psycho-education, stress management, and leisure education. The program offers intensive family sessions and training in a range of life skills, including such topics as budgeting, life skills, and parenting. Participants also have access to education about health-related topics including health issues, medical and psychiatric services, and medications.

Case management emphasizes gainful employment, education, and securing safe housing. Targeted case management can dramatically increase communication within the treatment team. Participants can access a sober housing program that may serve as transitional housing for a moderate monthly rent.

*The treatment process is initiated in jail and continues throughout an individual's work with the drug court. Each participant has the benefit of an individualized treatment plan and extensive case management.*



Silver Leaf Treatment Facility



## Underage Drinking and Risk Behaviors

According to *The Surgeon General's Call to Action to Prevent and Reduce Underage Drinking*, underage alcohol use is a major public health problem. Underage drinking contributes to a wide range of problems, including motor vehicle crashes (the greatest single mortality risk for underage drinkers); interpersonal violence; suicide; and unintentional injuries (U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, 2007).

The Montana Prevention Needs Assessment (PNA) Survey has been administered to youth in 8<sup>th</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup>, and 12<sup>th</sup> grades in even-numbered years since 1998. The most recent data available for the biannual Prevention Needs Assessment Survey of 8<sup>th</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup>, and 12<sup>th</sup> grade students was from 2010.

All available data indicates that drinking is prevalent among Montana's youth. The 2012 data was not available at the time this report was written.

	8th	10th	12th
Behavior	Percentage		
Had more than just a few sips of alcoholic beverages to drink within the past 30 days	20%	35.8%	49.2%
Had practiced binge drinking (5 or more drinks in a row) within the past two weeks.	10.9%	21%	32.4%
Behavior	Number of Times		
# of times drove a vehicle after drinking alcohol during the past 30 days	2.9	8.5	18.1
# of times rode in a vehicle driven by someone drinking alcohol during the past 30 days	26.5	28.7	29.9
# of times in past 12 months drunk or high in school	9.3	20.6	24.6
Source: State Prevention Needs Assessment data for 2010: <a href="http://prevention.mt.gov/pna/">http://prevention.mt.gov/pna/</a>			

The *Youth Risk Behavior Survey* (YRBS) is a self-report instrument administered to Montana youth in odd-numbered years. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) initiated the survey to identify leading causes of mortality, morbidity, and social problems among 9<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> grade youth (Montana Office of Public Instruction, 2011).

Risk Behavior	Percent
Rode in a car driven by someone who had been drinking alcohol during the past 30 days	26.1%
Drove a car when they had been drinking alcohol during the past 30 days	10.6%
Had at least one drink of alcohol in lifetime	72.8%
Had first drink of alcohol before age 13	21.4%
Had at least one drink of alcohol during the past 30 days	38.3%
Had 5 or more drinks of alcohol in a row during the past 30 days	25.2%
Had at least one drink of alcohol on school property during past 30 days	3.5%
Source: Montana YRBS data for 2011: <a href="http://www.opi.mt.gov/pdf/YRBS/11/Trend/11Trend_HS.pdf">www.opi.mt.gov/pdf/YRBS/11/Trend/11Trend_HS.pdf</a>	

***Adolescents who begin drinking before age 15 are 4 times as likely to become alcohol dependent as those who abstain until 21; every year of delayed initiation correlates with a 14% reduction in the odds of lifetime alcohol dependence.***

– Grant and Dawson (1997)

***The Enforcing Underage Drinking Laws (EUDL) Program works statewide, with an active presence in 16 counties. These counties are home to 579,044 Montanans, or 59% of Montana's population.***





## Enforcing Underage Drinking Laws Program (EUDL)

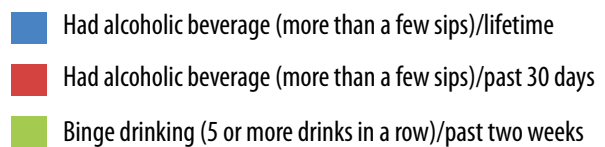
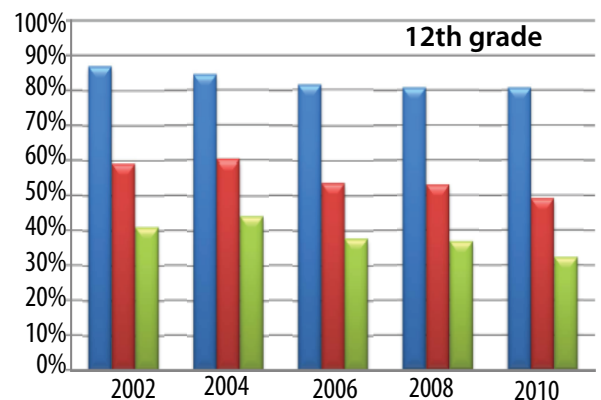
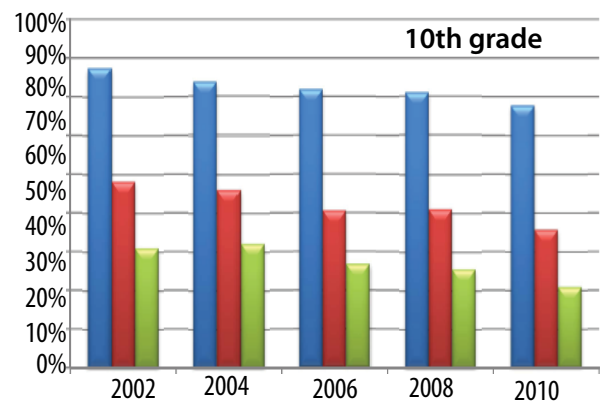
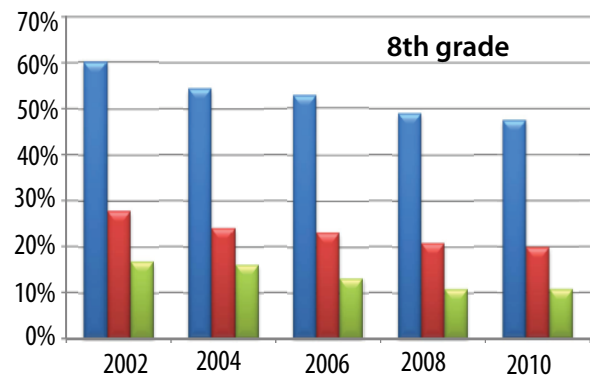
The Board of Crime Control’s response to an epidemic of underage use of alcohol includes the Enforcing Underage Drinking Laws Program (EUDL), which is designed to reduce underage drinking and the sale of alcoholic beverages to youth. MBCC has been the recipient of EUDL funds since 1998. This project is statewide, and it implements strategies at state and local levels.

Activities include but are not limited to: task force meetings, party patrols, advertising/education, campaigns, compliance checks, and changes in public policy relating to underage consumption. EUDL has three key components: enforcement, media, and coalition.

1. **Enforcement** activities include compliance checks, party patrols, shoulder tap operations, parking lot surveillance, sobriety checkpoints, emphasis/saturation patrols, fake ID enforcement, source investigations, and other innovative enforcement activities such as searching social networking sites.
2. **Media** activities include producing op-ed articles, billboards, writing letters, giving interviews, participating in events that draw coverage, conducting media education (active enforcement of underage drinking laws, zero tolerance, limitations on access, advertising initiatives), and conducting educational activities in the community.
3. **Coalition** activities include working with schools, colleges, government officials, businesses, and community members, and involving youth in task force and leadership activities.

The EUDL Program encourages partnerships. Together enforcement, media, and coalition efforts work together to reduce underage drinking.

*Data from the PNA and YRBS surveys have both shown steady, downward trends in adolescent drinking behaviors over time, which can be partially attributed to EUDL Program Efforts.*



### Prevention Needs Assessment Trends



## Juvenile Detention Alternative Initiative (JDAI)

### ***History of JDAI in Montana***

Since 1988, the federal Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act (JJDP) has required states to identify and address Disproportionate Minority Confinement (DMC) among juveniles.

Montana identified issues with DMC and realized that the issue needed to be addressed early, prior to a youth's first contact with the juvenile justice system. Before anything could be done, a clear understanding of the issue was needed. In 2003, MBCC analyzed the use of juvenile detention in Montana. The analysis revealed that minority youth were most often placed in detention for technical violations, and that Cascade, Hill, Missoula, and Yellowstone counties were placing the greatest numbers of minority youth in detention.

The Juvenile Detention Alternative Initiative (JDAI) developed by the Annie E. Casey Foundation (AECF) had shown success in reducing DMC at three points on the juvenile justice continuum: arrest, diversion, and detention. The Youth Justice Council and its DMC Committee developed a plan to implement JDAI in Montana.

***Research indicates that incarceration is not an effective mechanism for youth rehabilitation.***

***– AECF, 2012***

### ***JDAI Milestones in Montana***

MBCC applied for and received funding from the Annie E. Casey Foundation. Montana's Juvenile Detention Alternative Initiative was introduced in February 2007 in the four counties identified by the 2003 study.

Montana became an official JDAI site in 2008. That same year, MBCC engaged the National Council of Crime and Delinquency to do a detention utilization study. A risk assessment instrument (RAI) was subsequently selected, then implemented in the pilot sites in 2009.

***Reoffending and recidivism rates are extremely high among youth who are placed in detention.***

### ***Juvenile Justice in Montana***

Montana juveniles generally enter the justice system after contact with law enforcement. With a parent or guardian, youth appear in front of the juvenile probation officer to answer to allegations. Most will never see the Youth Court judge. Instead they will work through the juvenile probation officer to resolve the matter through an informal process. If the referral is forwarded to the county attorney and a petition is filed, the youth will appear before the Youth Court Judge through a formal process (Montana Judicial Branch, 2011).

***• In 2011, there were 6,597 juvenile arrests in Montana***

***- MTIBRS, 2011***

***• 4,837 youth were referred to Youth Court***

***- MT Judicial Branch, 2011***



## Fast Facts

- The five most common offenses associated with referrals to juvenile probation are theft, disorderly conduct, runaway, criminal mischief, and criminal possession of drug paraphernalia.
- 80 percent of referrals are handled informally, and 14 percent (1,049 youth) are handled formally.
- Of the 4,837 formal referrals to Youth Court:
  - 851 result in out-of-home placements.
  - 81 are referred to the Department of Corrections for placement in a youth correctional facility.
  - Most referrals result in a ticket and a report from law enforcement.

Source: Montana Judicial Branch, 2011

**National data suggests that within three years of release, around 75% of youth will be rearrested, and as many as 72% will be convicted of a new offense. – AECF, 2011**

2011 Youth Offenses (Under Age 18)	
Crimes Against Persons	1,251
Crimes against Property	3,594
Type B Offenses	4,810
Total: 10,802	
<i>Note: Crimes included in each category have been listed in Appendix A.</i>	
Source: MTIBRS, 2011	

## JDAI and Risk Assessment

The Juvenile Detention Alternatives Initiative (JDAI) helps ensure that all youth involved with the Juvenile Justice System (JJS) have opportunities to develop into healthy, productive adults. The JDAI perspective – supported by the Annie E. Casey Foundation – holds that juveniles are often unnecessarily or inappropriately detained, leading to long-lasting impacts on youth development and public safety (Hollist, 2012b).

One of the tools used to determine whether or not juveniles pose a public safety risk if released from the JJS is the *Montana Pre-Adjudicatory Risk Assessment Instrument (RAI)*. Since 2009, Yellowstone, Cascade, Hill, and Missoula counties have used the tool on a pilot basis during the predisposition phase of the decision-making process.

MBCC supported research to assess the performance of the RAI instrument in 2012 (Hollist et al., 2012b). Analysis focused on race and cultural sensitivity in assessing offender risk and public safety outcomes when juveniles were released from detention.

The study showed that the RAI *is* being administered impartially and with racial sensitivity. Minority juveniles are not treated differently or adversely affected. The study also established the RAI as a suitable tool for meeting public safety needs.

### **The MBCC Response**

The Hollist study (2012b) made a number of recommendations related to the RAI. MBCC has already begun working with the Office of Courts Administration staff to implement recommendations, obligating funds to program the Juvenile Detention Reporting database and the rescored RAI into the Juvenile Courts Assessment and Tracking System (JCATS). The vision? To provide juvenile detention facilities with access to the pre-populated and pre-scored RAIs for youth to help determine whether a youth is a viable candidate for detention or would be better placed in a local detention alternative.

For more information, visit:

<http://mbcc.mt.gov/JuvenileJustice/JuvJustice.asp>



## Disproportionate Minority Contact (DMC)

### **What is DMC?**

Disproportionate Minority Contact (DMC) refers to the unequal distribution of minority youth who come into contact with the Juvenile Justice System (JJS). Minorities are typically over-represented within the JJS.

### **DMC Legislation**

The Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act of 2002 examines potential over-representation at all decision points within the juvenile justice continuum. It also requires states to implement data-based prevention and system improvement efforts to reduce any identified disproportionate representation and assure equal treatment for all youth, regardless of race or ethnicity (Hollist, et al., 2012).

### **Is DMC a Problem in Montana?**

Yes. *Assessing the Mechanisms that Contribute to Disproportionate Minority Contact in Montana's Juvenile Justice System* (Hollist et al., 2012a) identified several important disparities when American Indian (AI) juvenile outcomes were compared to those of their White counterparts.

- The percentages of felony cases were nearly equal (17%), but cases involving AI juveniles were more likely to be formally adjudicated as delinquent (71.9% versus 59.1%).
- Cases involving AI juveniles were more likely to result in confinement in secure placement (30.5% for AI versus 27.5%).
- Cases involving AI juveniles were 72.0% more likely to result in delinquency findings when using a race-only model.

### **FAST FACTS**

- There is very little difference between AI and White juveniles in terms of types of offenses and JJS response.
- Likelihood of confinement was six times greater when the juvenile resided in a non-intact family, as compared to a youth who lived with both biological parents.
- Confinement in secure placement was 48% more likely when the juvenile had a history of mental health issues.

The findings of the 2012 study suggest multiple, often overlapping, factors hinging less on race and ethnicity than on extra-legal and social factors. Though issues pertaining to DMC and race/ethnicity are present, they are embedded within such challenges as:

- Generational poverty;
- Family disruption;
- Trauma;
- Substance abuse; and
- Lack of effective treatment options.

For more information, read the online report at:

- <http://mbcc.mt.gov/>
- Go to *Data*, then *Montana Statistical Analysis Center*.
- Click on *DMC Assessment*.

*DMC is an indirect outcome of poverty. The strain of poverty diminishes opportunity and a world view of prospects for the future.*

- Hollist et al., 2012

## DMC Assessment: the Findings

*Assessing the Mechanisms that Contribute to Disproportionate Minority Contact in Montana’s Juvenile Justice Systems* (Hollist et al., 2012a) evaluated a range of quantitative data in order to assess the role of non-racial factors (e.g., extra-legal, situational, and social influences) that are not part of the ratios used to calculate disproportionate minority contact. Some of the findings follow.

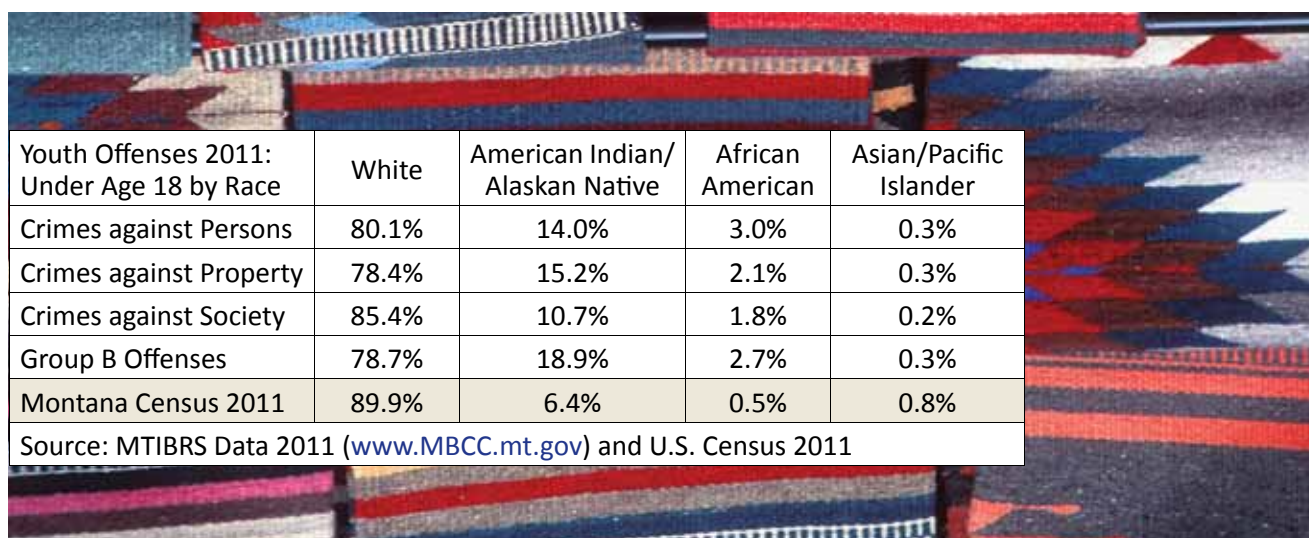
- Cases involving males were almost three times more likely than those involving females to result in delinquency findings at adjudication.
- Delinquency findings were 60 percent more likely in cases where the juvenile had a history of mental health issues.
- Cases involving juveniles living in non-intact families were 55 percent more likely to result in delinquency findings at adjudication.
- The likelihood of confinement in secure placement was almost six times greater in cases where the juvenile resided in a non-intact family when compared to cases where the juvenile lived with the biological father and mother.
- Confinement in secure placement was 48 percent more likely in cases involving juveniles with a history of mental health issues.

### **The MBCC Response to DMC**

The Hollist study (2012a) was an important step to determining factors that contribute to DMC in Montana. Based on study results, researchers made a number of recommendations that will be addressed by the standing, 15-member MBCC Youth Justice Advisory Council.

The reduction of DMC is a process with short- and long-term implications. Effective responses and interventions must be based on cooperative multidimensional approaches.

- For more information visit: <http://mbcc.mt.gov> and click on *Juvenile Justice*.



Youth Offenses 2011: Under Age 18 by Race	White	American Indian/ Alaskan Native	African American	Asian/Pacific Islander
Crimes against Persons	80.1%	14.0%	3.0%	0.3%
Crimes against Property	78.4%	15.2%	2.1%	0.3%
Crimes against Society	85.4%	10.7%	1.8%	0.2%
Group B Offenses	78.7%	18.9%	2.7%	0.3%
Montana Census 2011	89.9%	6.4%	0.5%	0.8%

Source: MTIBRS Data 2011 ([www.MBCC.mt.gov](http://www.MBCC.mt.gov)) and U.S. Census 2011

*In 2009 and 2010, 7,286 citations were issued to juveniles in the study’s four representative counties: Cascade, Hill, Missoula, and Yellowstone.*

## Do the Write Thing Challenge

For the past five years, Montana youth have participated in the Do the Write Thing Challenge, a writing campaign that provides middle school students with the opportunity to examine the causes of – and solutions to – youth violence. Students have used many forms of expression, including essays, poems, and plays to express the effects of violence in their homes, schools, and communities, and to describe what they do about it.

Student's submissions come to the Montana Board of Crime Control and are read by a panel of volunteer readers. Ten finalists are selected from among the participants. Ultimately, two ambassadors, one boy and one girl, are selected to represent Montana at the National Recognition Week event in Washington D.C. The winning submissions are published and placed in the Library of Congress.

During National Recognition Week, student ambassadors have the opportunity to present their views on youth violence to national leaders, including the Secretary of Education, the Attorney General, the Secretary of the Interior, and members of Congress.

As the Do the Write Thing Challenge has grown and developed in Montana, support has increased among teachers, parents, and volunteers. Julie Fischer of MBCC is the State Chair for the Do the Write Thing Challenge, which is an initiative of the National Campaign to Stop Violence (NCSV) supported by the Kuwait-America Foundation and Southwest Airlines.

Following are excerpts from the 2012 Do the Write Thing competition.

*Violence has affected my life in many ways. One of the ways it has affected my life is when my mom left. I felt like my mom wasn't there, so I think I sometimes acted out negatively. I was filling in the gap my mom left in me with negative emotions. . .*

*. . . Parenting to me is a number one cause for violent behavior. Children learn from their parents and sometimes it's not always positive. Young people get blamed for violent behavior, but it might be a reflection of their home life. With no one to look up to, a kid can start making bad choices. . .*

– from the 2012 winning boy's essay

***Sometimes it feels like we are born into this world as it falls apart. – winning boy***



Do the Write Thing Event



Do the Write Thing Finalists

***Montana's Do the Write Thing Program has grown from 4 schools and a handful of students in 2008 to 11 schools and 208 participants in 2012.***



Do the Write Thing Challenge

*. . . I remember one day, when I was around nine or ten, I overheard my parents talking. My dad, telling a story of a man he works with, who was beaten within an inch of his life, and my mom, worried silently over his wife and children. Only an inch? A mere inch that separated this man from meeting his death. An inch was all he had to live for. An inch was all his family had to hold on to. An inch of hope is what they could believe in. In a way, my whole town is only holding on by an inch. The rest has been gnawed away by violence.*

– From the 2012 winning girl's essay

*We are a group of sad people. Sad people become angry, then angry people become violent, and the violence creates sadness. It's a vicious cycle that never seems to cease. No one will stop it. No one wants to stop it, but it will keep running over us making us smaller and smaller until we disappear completely.*

*In the words of Sherman Alexie, my reservation feels as if it's "located one million miles north of Important, and two billion miles west of Happy." That makes me feel little, and insignificant. Most people think that this violence doesn't affect me at all. They think that because I come from a good home, violence has nothing to do with me. It does, though. – From the 2012 winning girl's essay*

*. . . I went along doing my normal chores, dishes, sweeping and mopping, laundry, and my room. Then I would go outside and play with my dog. But as soon as I start throwing the stick for my dog, I would hear yelling inside. My stepfather yelled so loud I could hear him from my backyard. He would be screaming my name, so I would run inside to see what the problem is.*

*When I entered the house of horror I would see our medium-sized garbage can filled with empty cans of Budweiser or Bud Lite. The chemicals from the can stung and bit my eyes. Then I would see my dad. He would've found the smallest mistake, a missed dish or dirt on the stairs, and he would yell and spank me 4 or 5 times. I would run past my mother crying into my room; and knowing my mother, she got mad.*

*At first she would tell him gently that is not acceptable and he would come and apologize to me. But later in the relationship, he would yell at her and she would yell back. They would fight for half an hour to an hour or till my father got so mad that he hit her and threw her or something at the wall. My mother would be so mad and hurt that she would storm out of the house, forgetting me and my brother.*

– From the 2012 runner-up girl's essay



## Juvenile Justice: Title II Formula Grants

MBCC is the recipient of Title II Formula Grant funds distributed by the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP). Title II funds are used to increase the availability and types of delinquency prevention and intervention programs available throughout the state, as well as to help improve the juvenile justice system.

The Youth Justice Council of the MBCC has set a number of priorities for Title II funding. These priorities are reflected in the way funds are used. For Fiscal Years 2012 - 2013, 38 Title II sub-grants entities will directly benefit youth through efforts ranging from mentoring programs, positive youth development, schools, youth coalitions, diversion, juvenile justice system improvement, and efforts to reduce disproportionate minority contact.

Those served by Title II funds include Montana youth at risk of coming into contact with the juvenile justice system and their families. Eligible applicants include units of local government, federally recognized tribal governments, nonprofit agencies, and local educational agencies. Among all projects funded, 72 percent used evidence-based models in their work with youth. Collectively, the efforts of programs funded by Title II in Montana are encouraging:

- 75 percent of the youth served exhibited short-term change, and 71 percent exhibited a long-term change in antisocial behavior;
- 77 percent showed improved short-term, and 91 percent showed improved long-term school attendance;
- 81 percent showed improved short- and long-term social competence.

### **Program Highlight: BBBS**

The Big Brothers Big Sisters (BBBS) of Lake County's Native American Mentoring Initiative uses an evidence-based in-school and site-based mentoring model to serve the 60 percent of school-aged youth considered to be at risk in Lake County and on the Flathead Reservation. The bonding inherent to mentoring relationships is a strong protective factor. BBBS of Lake County and the Flathead Reservation follows national evidence-based standards of practice for selecting, screening, training, and appropriately matching mentors.

BBBS formed partnerships with the Arlee, Ronan, Hot Springs, and St. Ignatius School Districts. The program recruited high school students to mentor at-risk elementary youth. More than half of the students involved in the mentoring program have shown behavioral improvement, and more than a third report improved family relationships.

*Among youth involved in the programs MBCC supports through Title II funding, 91 percent showed improved, long-term school attendance.*





## Community Prevention Grants Program: Title V

Title V of the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (JJDP) Act of 1974 established Incentive Grants for Local Delinquency Prevention Programs, better known as the Community Prevention Grants Program. Through the Title V Program, MBCC provides communities with means to develop and implement approaches to delinquency prevention that are comprehensive and research-based. This program provides a community framework focused on reducing risk factors and increasing protective factors in the community, schools, and families. The intent is to keep at-risk youth out of the juvenile justice system and intervene so that first-time and non-serious offenders do not sink deeper into the juvenile justice system.

Through the Title V process, community stakeholders collaborate on a three-year prevention plan designed to reduce risk factors associated with juvenile delinquency and to decrease juvenile problem behaviors. Eligible applicants include units of local governments and federally recognized tribal governments. Programs funded with Title V grant monies are required to provide a 50 percent local match. For Fiscal Years 2012 and 2013, MBCC is funding two programs: Cascade County's Parenting to Prevent Juvenile Delinquency and Hill County Sheriff's Office Smart Moves Prevention Program.

### **Results**

Among youth participating in MBCC-funded Title V Programs in 2011:

- 83% noted change in antisocial behavior;
- 81% noted improved family relationships;
- 95% did not have any legal offenses in the short term, and 61% did not have any legal offenses in the long term.

### **Program Highlight:**

#### ***Great Falls Alliance for Youth***

Alliance for Youth is a Great Falls nonprofit that coordinates prevention and intervention programs within the school district and the community. Executive Director Janet Meissner and her staff work with upper elementary and middle school students and their families, focusing on those who are not already involved in the juvenile justice system, but who are at risk for future involvement. They also work with upper-elementary and middle-school aged students and their families who have histories of relatively minor offenses.

The goal is to prevent delinquent behavior or reduce recidivism among the target population. Specific activities include providing Parenting Wisely and Home-Based Family Therapy to at least 110 at-risk youth and 55 parents in order to improve the long- and short-term prosocial behaviors of most of the youth who complete the program.

Those who receive services through Cascade County's programs typically show improvement in school attendance and academic performance. There are declines in substance use and criminal behavior. In general, behavior and accountability improve. Parents who successfully complete the program also note improved family management and communication.

The program has served 231 youth and adults in the Cascade County community. After three years of federal grant support, the program will be sustained by a United Way grant and a fee for service agreement negotiated with the Department of Child and Family Services.

## Juvenile Accountability Block Grant

The Juvenile Accountability Block Grant (JABG) program supports the efforts of states, tribes, and local units of government in their efforts to strengthen their juvenile justice systems. The goal of the JABG is to reduce juvenile offending through the use of accountability-based initiatives. These initiatives focus on the offender and on the juvenile justice system. Juvenile offenders are made aware of – and held responsible for – loss, damage, or injury to the victim of an offense.

Strengthening the juvenile justice system requires increased capacity to develop youth competence, track juveniles through the system, and provide restorative justice sanctions that reinforce the obligations to the victim.

The Youth Justice Council (YJC) set JABG funding priorities on the basis of a variety of resources, including the Title II Formula Grant Three-Year Plan, statewide data, trends, needs identified through a survey of probation officers, and gaps in the system along the continuum of key decision points.

Funding priorities for the JABG funds included early prevention and intervention, alternatives to detention, better access to mental health services, restorative justice programs, and programs that enable juvenile courts and probation officers to be more effective in holding offenders accountable and reducing recidivism.

### Results

MBCC provided JABG program monies to 26 Montana programs for the period from July 1, 2011 through June 30, 2013. Each program was required to provide a ten percent match, and 88 percent of them were using evidence-based programs or practices.

These programs make a real difference for youth.

- 80% of youth who exited these programs in the past 6 - 12 months had not reoffended.
- 92% exhibited short-term changes in behavior.
- 71% of those who exited the programs 6 to 12 months earlier continued to exhibit changed behavior.
- 93% showed greater short-term social competence.
- 100% of those who exited the programs 6 to 12 months earlier continued to show greater social competence.
- 77% of youth showed a short-term reduction in antisocial behavior.
- 61% of those who exited the programs 6 to 12 months earlier continued to show a reduction in antisocial behavior.

*A meta-analysis identified risk factors that predict juvenile recidivism. Offense history, family problems, ineffective use of leisure time, delinquent peers, and conduct problems were all strong predictors.*

- Cottle, Lee, and Heilbrun, 2001



## Juvenile Accountability Block Grant

### **Program Highlight:**

#### **Hill County Youth Reporting Center**

The Hill County Youth Reporting Center (YRC) is a community-based, pre-adjudication alternative to detention for juveniles who would otherwise be transported to – and detained in – the Juvenile Detention Center in Cascade County.

The YRC is a response to community need identified by a disparate group of stakeholders, including juvenile justice system stakeholders, schools, community groups, and mental health providers. These groups came together as part of the Hill County Juvenile Detention Alternatives Initiative (JDAI) project. The group spent several years collecting and analyzing local data pertaining to youth detention. They reviewed program literature and visited model programs. Through this process, they identified the need for a YRC. The collaborative work paid off: the reporting center doors opened January 2, 2011.

The YRC provides daily services to youth ranging from supervision to tutoring, and from career exploration to job skill development. Youth receive mentoring and have opportunities to recreate, participate in health education, and to benefit from life skills development. The YRC also provides anger management and conflict resolution classes, as well as a program that accommodates restitution repayment and community service. Collectively, the program efforts assist young offenders with breaking the delinquent patterns of behavior while learning healthy life skills.

The YRC is operated by the HELP Committee and the Boys & Girls Club of the Hi-Line. HELP is a nonprofit, community-based organization with an extensive network of formal and informal supports. The agency has well-trained staff and a history of staff retention, both of which are key to running a successful program. The Juvenile Crime Enforcement Coalition (JCEC) oversees program operations. The JCEC is comprised of community leaders from sectors including law enforcement, the county attorney's office, youth court, city court, the Hill County Detention Center, the public schools, the 12th District Juvenile Probation Office, and the HELP Committee/Boys & Girls Club.

Program participants are between the ages of 12 and 17, and have been referred by a partnering agency. Participants can be assigned specific hours and/or programs. The YRC is available for up to 20 hours per week, weekday evenings and some Saturday mornings. During the summer, the center operates during the mornings, after which youth may stay for free lunch.

In 2011, the YRC served 117 youth, about 62 percent of whom were male. Nearly 60 percent were White and 35 percent were Native American. The two greatest referral sources were the City Court and the Juvenile Probation Office. Youth devoted 528 hours to community service and earned \$1,257 in restitution. At least one staff member worked alongside the youth during the community service program to further relationships and to supervise the youth.

The YRC staff plans to expand the program to meet community need and would like to add a staff member to run the community service program. This would allow the YRC to serve more youth and to put more time in on community projects. Another program goal is to certify additional staff in anger management, conflict resolution, and the Thinking for a Change curriculum.

- For more information, visit the Hill County YRC website: [www.havrehelp.com](http://www.havrehelp.com).

## Intimate Partner Violence (IPV)

In Fiscal Year (FY) 2011, Montanans reported 3,996 crimes related to domestic violence to law enforcement (MTIBRS, 2011). Many acts of domestic and sexual violence go unreported and may remain hidden until a victim comes to the attention of law enforcement, seeks care at a hospital, or gathers the courage to flee the abuser.

Thousands of survivors are served by the programs funded by MBCC. In FY 2011, Montana's providers delivered services to 10,243 primary victims of domestic violence, 2,006 secondary victims, and 282 witnesses. Collectively, this represents 11,625 people of all ages, 906 of whom endured multiple instances of victimization. Crisis lines fielded calls from an additional 17,377 individuals seeking help for issues related to domestic violence. As alarming as they are, these numbers may be low because they only include providers receiving MBCC funding (AVID Data, 2011).

Victim service providers receiving funds from MBCC in FY 2011 provided 147,135 units of service to the victims of IPV. The most common services included crisis counseling, information/referral, criminal justice advocacy, personal advocacy, and follow-up services. MBCC has documented underserved IPV victim populations, most notably those who live in rural areas, persons who are homeless or living in extreme poverty, those who have behavioral health or other disabilities.

Domestic-Violence Related Crimes 2011	
Simple Assault	2,793
Aggravated Assault	467
Murder and Non-negligent Manslaughter	4
Negligent Manslaughter	1
Forcible Rape	28
Forcible Fondling	30
Sexual Assault With An Object	2
Forcible Sodomy	4
Incest	9
Statutory Rape	2
Intimidation	39
Impersonation	1
Kidnapping/Abduction	45
Family Offenses (Nonviolent)	14
Destruction/Damage/Vandalism	210
Arson	1
Burglary/Breaking & Entering	27
Theft From Motor Vehicle	2
All Other Larceny	16
Motor Vehicle Theft	12
Robbery	2
Theft from Building	9
Shoplifting	1
Trespass of Real Property	10
Weapon Law Violations	2
Curfew/Loitering/Vagrancy Violations	5
Disorderly Conduct	53
Driving Under the Influence	13
Liquor Law Violations	16
Drug Equipment Violations	23
Drug/Narcotic Violations	19
Runaway	3
All Other Offenses	133
Total Crimes	3,996
<b>Source: MTIBRS, 2011 (mbcc.mt.gov)</b>	

*Between 2000 and the end of 2010, Intimate Partner Violence led to 98 fatalities in Montana.*

- Montana Department of Justice, 2011



## STOP Violence Against Women (VAWA)

The STOP (Services, Training, Officers, and Prosecutors) VAWA Program promotes a coordinated, multidisciplinary approach to enhancing advocacy and improving the criminal justice system's response to violent crimes against women. It encourages developing and improving effective law enforcement and prosecution strategies, as well as improved advocacy and services.

Initially passed in 1994, VAWA created the first U.S. federal legislation acknowledging domestic violence and sexual assault as crimes and provided federal resources to encourage community-coordinated responses to combating violence. Its reauthorization in 2000 improved the established foundation by creating a much-needed legal assistance program for victims and by expanding the definition of crime to include dating violence and stalking. Reauthorization in 2005 created new programs to meet the emerging needs of communities working to prevent violence.

Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) funding is also used to support law enforcement and prosecution services. In FY 2011, funds supported grants to the Helena and Billings police departments, as well as the Lewis and Clark and Gallatin county sheriffs' offices. These agencies used VAWA funds to investigate 704 cases of violence against women. FY 2011 funds also supported prosecution services for the City of Billings and the Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes.

### ***MBCC Responses to Domestic Violence: the Billings Domestic Violence Unit***

The Billings City Domestic Violence (DV) Unit was created in 2001 and includes a full-time officer, two victim/witness specialists, and a domestic violence prosecutor, all of whom focus on cases involving domestic violence, sexual assault and stalking. The DV Prosecutor is responsible for all stages of prosecution in these cases.

- *Though both genders can become victims of IPV, about 75% of victims recorded in the AVID database are female; and*
- *about 74% of victims reported in the MTIBRS database are female.*

The DV Prosecutor provides a range of services covering the continuum of a domestic violence case from identification to resolution. This starts with reviewing police investigations and directing follow-up investigations, and includes making charging decisions, preparing court documents, and staffing cases with the DV Unit staff. The prosecutor also meets with victims, appears at court hearings, collaborates with pretrial service agencies to ensure offender compliance, tries cases, and handles appeals. Once offenders are convicted, the DV Prosecutor collaborates with probation officers and court staff. In the event of noncompliance, the DV Prosecutor oversees formal revocation proceedings or informal intervention proceedings, as needed.

*People of all ages and both genders can be victims of sexual assault. The perpetrator can be a relative, acquaintance, or stranger. Nationally, 1 in 6 women and 1 in 33 men will be sexually assaulted in their lifetimes.*

*- Tjaden and Thoennes, 1998*

## STOP VAWA Highlights

Prosecutors have an ethical obligation to seek justice, not merely to convict. Consider the following scenario.

*A victim contacts 911 to report that her live-in boyfriend is drunk, destroying personal items throughout the house, and has threatened to hit her. The police respond and locate the offender, who has passed out. Now that he is no longer a threat to the victim, she refuses to provide a formal statement. Nevertheless, the police arrest the offender and file a criminal complaint against him for causing the victim reasonable apprehension of bodily injury (a form of partner or family member assault).*

*Before the offender is arraigned, a DV Unit victim/witness specialist contacts the victim. She confides that the offender has a drinking problem and becomes violent when he drinks. She also discloses that he has sexually assaulted her in the past.*

*The victim has a child with the offender, and because he refuses to let her work, she is financially dependent on him. He has isolated her from her family and friends, and she has no other support system. For all of these reasons, she refuses to provide a statement or to testify at the trial.*

*The Domestic Violence Prosecutor is trained to recognize and respond to the use of physical, verbal, and emotional abuse.*

### **Domestic Violence Prosecutor**

In Billings, the DV Prosecutor assesses whether or not a conviction can be gained through evidence-based prosecution. Given the factors detailed above, there may be little that can be done to get a conviction, but the DV Unit can take other steps to promote victim safety and offender accountability. All avenues are pursued before dismissing a case.

The response starts with the decision to make an arrest. Under Montana law, an arrest is the preferred response in most cases of partner or family member assault. Once charged, the offender is issued a 72-hour no contact order and may not post bail until seen by a judge. (The DV Prosecutor also reviews compliance with this procedure in every case reviewed.)

DV Unit staff attempts to establish contact with the victim before the offender can be released. Making early

contact provides the opportunity to collect information about the offender and offers victim/witness specialists a chance to support and educate the victim on the dynamics of domestic violence and the importance of holding offenders accountable.

Victim/witness specialists also take the opportunity to make referrals to agencies that can offer further assistance.

By taking an aggressive, pro-prosecution stance, the DV Prosecutor can seize opportunities for effective, early intervention, in hope of preventing further violence. Prosecution is not always the answer, and too often the prosecutor must provide incentives to the offender to get the offender to attend treatment or batterer intervention programs.



# STOP VAWA Highlights

## **Sexual Assault Services Program (SASP)**

SASP was created by the Violence Against Women and Department of Justice Reauthorization Act of 2005 and is the first federal funding dedicated to providing direct intervention and assistance for victims of sexual assault. The purpose is to provide intervention, advocacy, support, and assistance for victims of sexual assault, as well as household members and others affected by the sexual assault.

It can take years for victims to recover from the physical and psychological trauma caused by rape and other forms of sexual violence. Survivors often need a range of supports and victim-centered social services including such as rape crisis centers, and 24-hour sexual assault hotlines. SASP can also provide for crisis intervention, accompaniment to medical and criminal justice appointments, and more.

## **Program Highlight – DOVES**

DOVES, in Lake County, provides individual counseling for victims of sexual assault and their family members. DOVES contracts with three licensed therapists, each of whom have extensive experience working with victims of sexual assault. Victims can rarely afford counseling, and the SASP grant enables them to receive the help they need to recover.

DOVES collaborates with the Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes (CSKT) Victim Assistance Program, SAFE Harbor, the local DV shelter, and representatives from various tribal and non-tribal health care providers. The program currently offers community-based, linguistically and culturally specific services through a range of services and supports, including a 24-hour hot line; crisis intervention and referral; and comprehensive service coordination.

The following vignette was written by a sexual assault counselor. It shows how complicated these situations can be, and how a compassionate, trained response can make a difference.

*The young teen seems more mature than her stated age when she comes to counseling after being assaulted multiple times by multiple offenders. At our first session, I let the mother know that she was entitled to know what her daughter disclosed in counseling, but that it would be better for her daughter if we could speak confidentially. I also explained that since her daughter is a minor, I would be required by law to report any unsafe situations I learned about in our sessions. Both agreed, and we embarked on our counseling journey.*

*The girl described incidents of abuse by various individuals and cried as she wondered why they had targeted her and how she could stop it from happening again. I assisted her in understanding that this was not her fault. We discussed healthy boundaries and formed a safety plan about who to talk to in case she had reason to fear further abuse. Together, we also acknowledged that by telling her mom, she had taken steps to stop the abuse. This was her best choice, because her mother stepped in to protect her, and she wasn't exposed to the abuser again after that.*

*A few months later, she feels more confident and more connected to her emotions. She is dealing with her feelings in a healthy way and tells me that she is confident in her ability to ask for help if she needs it. She is also thinking about her future, her goals, and her strengths. Though she still experiences triggers of Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder, she is learning to manage them. As we move forward, we hope to further strengthen her self-esteem and continue to support her achievements and goals. The girl and her mother have thanked me for supporting them as Native women. Our hope is that her health and courage will continue to grow and strengthen her, the family, and the community around them.*

## Victims of Crime Act (VOCA)



MBCC awards Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) grants to public agencies and nonprofit organizations with records of providing effective services to victims on an annual basis. Congress enacted VOCA in 1984, establishing a Crime Victims Fund primarily collected from federal fines and penalties.

The purpose of VOCA funding is to provide direct services to victims as soon as possible after a crime occurs. The intent is to reduce the severity of consequences, to improve a victim's willingness to cooperate with the criminal justice process, and to restore the victim's faith in the criminal justice system. Advocates respond to victims' emotional and physical needs. By providing a measure of safety and security for victims, they help stabilize lives.

Eligibility for VOCA requires that agencies use funds to provide direct services to victims of all crimes. VOCA agencies must practice non-discrimination even when they disagree with the way the state is prosecuting a criminal case. They must provide services at no cost and maintain the confidentiality of their clients.

*\*Counties included in each of the crime regions have been detailed in Appendix B.*

Age	Montana Region*		
	Central	Eastern	Western
Under 10	257	47	405
10 - 17	871	187	1,264
18 - 24	2,285	516	3,378
25 - 34	3,057	627	3,936
35 - 44	2,296	432	2,961
45 - 54	2,224	387	2,671
55 - 64	1,559	317	1,892
65+	1,090	203	1,257
Unknown	584	550	2,276
Totals	14,223	3,266	20,040

### Program Highlight – VWAS

Victim-Witness Assistance Services (VWAS) of Great Falls is a law enforcement-based nonprofit agency that assists Cascade County crime victims, witnesses, and their families. They place an emphasis on holding offenders accountable and enhancing safety.

VWAS staff members help victims and their families maneuver the criminal justice system, explain how it works, and provide emotional support. They track court case information and will accompany victims to court. The range of assistance offered includes: jail-release notification to victims; crime victim compensation applications; orders of protection; restitution requests; victim impact statements for sentencing hearings; victim notification forms from the Department of Corrections; and notification of appeals and other post-conviction relief. VWAS will also contact prosecution and probation/parole officers with victims' concerns. The agency also provides information and referral to other community resources as needed and advocates for victims' rights on local, state, and national levels.

*“In 2010, my three-year-old daughter was murdered. From the very beginning, right up until today, our victim advocate was there for us.”*

- a victim's mother





## A Letter to VWAS

*In 2010, my three-year-old daughter was murdered. I had little knowledge of the criminal justice system prior to this devastating crime against my child. I had the support of many family and friends, but none who knew the processes that were about to occur. From the very beginning, right up until today our victim advocate was there for us.*

*Our advocate immediately provided me with resources and support to help our family cope with the financial and emotional loss of our angel. They came with me to meetings with lawyers and police, and always informed me beforehand what to expect.*

*After the trial, VWAS continued to support me, providing me with information on how to be updated on any changes in the status of the offender. They provided me with paperwork and offered to help me complete it. All I have to do is call with a question, and they promptly give me the answer. If they don't have it, they will get it quickly and get it to me. They hold close ties with many other community organizations and are able to provide resources to victims in a wide variety of situations. This is a great asset to our community. VWAS advocates show genuine compassion for victims of crimes and their families.*

*I went on to become an RN in the emergency room after the death of my daughter. VWAS has a strong presence there as well. If a crime victim comes in (which happens more frequently than many people know), they will come, no matter the time of day or night. They have never acted as if this was a burden or inconvenience. They come ready to help, and they come with sincere compassion. On a personal and a professional level, it is a great comfort to know that there is someone there to provide victims and their families with answers, support, and guidance.*

*VWAS is very active in our community. They frequently and publicly educate people on things like domestic violence, child abuse, stalking, and sexual abuse. These topics are taboo to many people, but VWAS is breaking the silence that helps perpetuate these crimes. They do this with their heads held high, showing victims that they no longer have to keep their trauma secret. They put themselves into situations that can only be emotionally taxing, with the hopes of a brighter tomorrow for victims.*

*There is no way to measure the comfort that VWAS provides to victims and families during their darkest hours.*

*With deepest thanks from a victim's mother*



*In 2011, there were 19 murders in Montana: 8 were by firearms, 4 by knives, 1 with a blunt object, 1 asphyxiation, and 3 by "personal weapons" such as hands or feet. The majority took place in residential settings (58%) or in fields or the woods (26%). – MTIBRS, 2011*

## Misdemeanor Probation

The 2005 Montana Legislature enacted legislation establishing a Domestic Violence Intervention Program. Through this program, MBCC provides grants to communities so that they can hire misdemeanor probation or compliance officers. These officers monitor compliance with sentencing requirements for offenders convicted of partner or family member assault or the violation of an order of protection. The purpose is to promote victim safety and offender accountability through case management and compliance monitoring. Funding comes from a portion of each Montana marriage license fee. MBCC identifies priorities for funding services and activities, as well as criteria for the receipt of program funds. MBCC also evaluates the effectiveness of services and activities.

### *Program Highlight: the Accountability Project*

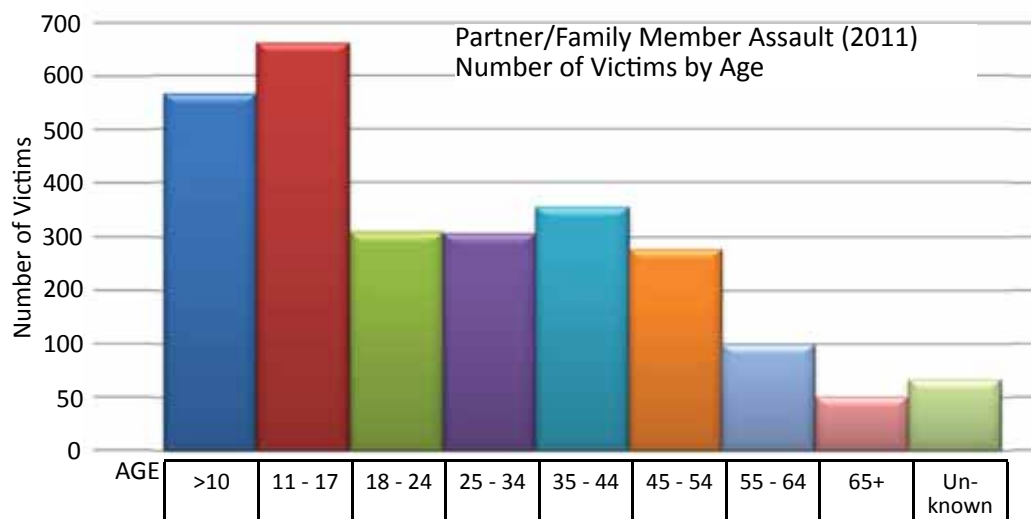
The Missoula City Attorney’s Office (MCAO) hired a Domestic Violence Compliance Legal Assistant in September 2011 to oversee the Accountability Project. This project coordinates information sharing among the MCAO and criminal justice agencies in order to increase offender compliance. The purpose is to monitor and ensure compliance with pretrial conditions of release. Even more importantly, the project monitors and ensures compliance with sentencing conditions.

Prior to implementing the Accountability Project, the vast majority of offenders found guilty of Partner/Family Member Assault (PFMA) did not comply with sanctions imposed by the court at the time of sentencing.

Implementing the Accountability Project allows officials to prepare timely Petitions to Revoke when the offender fails to comply with the conditions of sentencing. This indefinitely suspends the jurisdictional time clock pending arrest of the offenders.

*Research finds that almost half of all men who are assigned to attend interventions for batterers do not finish the program.*

- Stover, Meadows, and Kaufman, 2009





## Data-Driven Responses

### **MTIBRS**

The MBCC's Montana Incident-Based Reporting System (MTIBRS) is the state's central repository for information on offenses and arrests known to non-tribal law enforcement agencies. MTIBRS collects information on 61 data elements that describe incident characteristics, such as date, time, and location of incident/arrest; weapons used; victim and offender demographics; relationship of the victim to the offender(s); suspected use of substances during crime commission; and more. The MTIBRS is certified by the Federal Bureau of Investigation's Uniform Crime Reporting program.

### **QAR: Quality Assurance Review Program**

Accurate crime data reveals trends and patterns that law enforcement agencies can use to help reduce crime and lawmakers can use as a basis for policy. Accurate data also serves as the justification for effective resource planning and allocation of federal and state grants.

The QAR Program helps ensure accurate crime data by reviewing data integrity. Local agencies submit crime data to the Montana Incident Based Reporting System (MTIBRS), which is then reviewed for accuracy and statistical integrity.

Each agency participating in MTIBRS is reviewed every four years. The Data Quality Assurance Reviewer informs each agency of the scheduled review. After materials have been submitted to the reviewer, a report of findings and recommended training is presented to the agency during an on-site review.

### **MOR**

Accurate crime data also contributes to the ability to maintain public safety and to reassure the public. MBCC collects crime data from about 100 local law enforcement agencies and makes it available through its MTIBRS Online Reporting (MOR) system. This new, interactive crime reporting website allows users to select reports based on offense, offender, victim and other data elements. Users can create and export custom reports based on many variables and in multiple formats. Data is available from 2005 to the most complete current year and is refreshed quarterly. Visit: <http://mbcc.mt.gov/Data/CrimeData/MOR.asp>

### **ARD**

Montana's Arrest-Related Death Program (ARD) collects data to help the Bureau of Justice Statistics (BJS) account for persons who died in the process of an arrest or attempted arrest. For these purposes, an "arrest-related" death is one that occurs any time a person's freedom to leave is restricted by state or local law enforcement personnel. This includes the time law enforcement personnel are pursuing or attempting to apprehend persons of interest or criminal suspects, regardless of whether physical custody has been established. Arrest-related deaths also include situations that do not include arrest, such as deaths that involve assistance in restraining or transporting individuals in need of medical or mental health care. With the exception of innocent bystanders, hostages, and law enforcement personnel, all persons who die in the presence of state or local law enforcement are included in the ARD statistics.

### **Jail Suicide Data Collection Program**

Through this relatively new effort, information is collected on suicides within Montana's jails and correctional centers.

## National Criminal History Improvement Program

Since the early 1990s, Montana's justice community has worked in partnership to establish integrated system capabilities to enhance the accuracy and completeness of criminal records and reporting. Work continues to improve the accuracy and completeness of criminal records and their availability to the Interstate Identification Index (III).

A pilot deployment of Montana's electronic disposition reporting project in 2007 brought numerous issues to light, including inconsistent or incorrect use of the Montana Automated Numbering System (MANS) intended to provide consistency through each phase of the criminal justice process. There were also problems with matching arrests with dispositions as a result of missing or incorrect MANS identifiers. Problems related to MANS were also identified in a SEARCH study completed in 2011.

Resolving these issues has gained urgency. Montana will not be able to deploy its electronic disposition processing system statewide until these issues are resolved. Montana has made significant progress in improving record completeness, accuracy, and timeliness.

For example, the percentage of criminal fingerprint cards captured electronically through LiveScan has risen from less than one percent in 2003 to 78 percent in 2011. As of December 31, 2011, Montana had 213,627 criminal records with 487,513 criminal history cycles, 179,714 (85%) of which are included in the Interstate Identification Index.

With completion of a project (2012) to digitize approximately 22,000 ten-fingerprint cards not currently in the electronic criminal history record system, Montana will be reporting all of its records to III.

More progress has been made as well. In the fall of 2011, through membership in the Western Identification Network, MBCC assisted the Department of Justice with procuring a new Automated Fingerprint Identification System (AFIS) with the capacity to receive and process next generation identification modalities such as palm prints and facial recognition. A project is currently underway to upgrade livescan security in order to ensure that all fingerprint transactions are encrypted and device management is limited to authorized personnel.

### ***Court Central Repository***

Montana does not have a unified court system, but its courts have worked to standardize technologies. The state Judicial Branch has adopted standards that rely on a common case management system in Montana's Courts of Limited Jurisdiction and District Courts. (Limited Jurisdiction Courts primarily handle misdemeanor offenses and protection orders; District Courts adjudicate cases including criminal felonies, involuntary commitments, and family law.) In conjunction with the common case management system, Montana courts have implemented a Central Court Repository (CCR) for all court case information.



*As of  
3/20/2012,  
Montana had  
2,127 active  
sex offenders  
registered in  
NCIC.*

- MBCC data,  
2012



## National Criminal History Improvement Program

### Protection Order Files

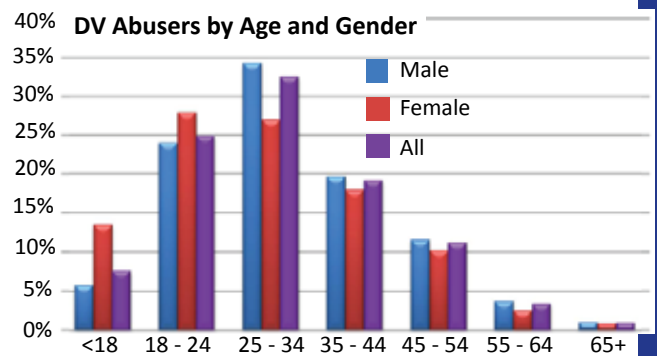
Risks to victims increase exponentially at (and after) separation from the abuser, a phenomenon referred to as “separation violence” (Metaberry, et al., no date). At least one study determined that women who live with a gun in the home were nearly three times more likely to be murdered than women with no gun in the home (Wiebe, 2003).

Starting in the 1990s, provisions were added to federal law to prevent domestic abusers from obtaining guns. These laws are enforced, in part, by Brady Law background checks performed on firearm transactions.

Montana has been making significant progress in a range of efforts to address domestic violence by implementing strategies to keep victims safe and hold perpetrators accountable. The 2001 Montana Legislature enacted the Uniform Interstate Enforcement of Domestic Violence Protection Orders Act. One important provision requires immediate entry of all qualifying protection orders into the National Crime Information Center (NCIC) Protection Order file. Montana is strongly committed to Full Faith and Credit in the enforcement and entry of protection orders, as demonstrated by the following table.

### Domestic Abusers in Montana: 2011

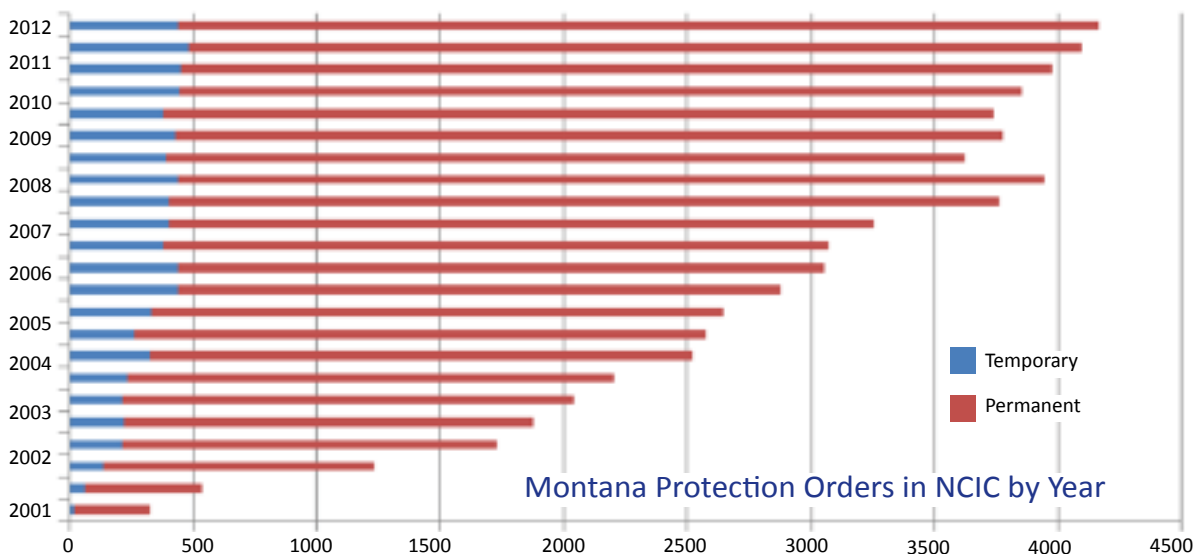
MTIBRS data for 2011 provides information about domestic violence-related crimes perpetrated by a total of 3,148 abusers. Though domestic violence is often considered to be a male crime, 755 (24%) of the abusers were female. Surprisingly, younger abusers (up to age 24) are more likely to be female than male, though among groups aged 25+, males are increasingly likely to be the abusers until age 65+.



Gender also influenced the weapons used (table limited to top four).

DV Related Crime	Female	Male	All
Personal (e.g., hands, feet)	565	1,809	2,374
None	68	306	374
Other	78	154	232
Dangerous weapons	48	105	153

Source: MTIBRS, 2011



## Montana Crime Prevention Conference

The annual Crime Prevention Conference sponsored by the Montana Board of Crime Control and the Montana Crime Prevention Association contributes to public safety and crime prevention efforts and initiatives by offering training opportunities for Montanans. This conference also provides access to continuing education credits for law enforcement professionals, counselors, educators, attorneys, and social workers.

Those who attend the annual conference include leaders from the public and private sectors, and all levels of city, county, tribal, and state governments. Participants come together to discuss real problems and to share strategies that are working well in Montana's communities, then leave with ideas for enhancing public safety in their own communities.

The 2012 Crime Prevention Conference: *Connecting People, Connecting Communities*, brought together experts who provided information on a range of topics, including:

- Victim services;
- Human trafficking;
- Alcohol-related public safety;
- Juvenile detention;
- Prisoner reentry;
- Drug-endangered children;
- Recognition and identification of street gangs;
- Trauma;
- Problem-solving courts;
- Cross-jurisdictional and cultural collaboration in Indian Country; and
- Fraud and white-collar crime.

One of the unique components of the Crime Prevention Conferences is that they feature Montana experts as well as nationally recognized speakers and trainers. The result is a showcase of best practices, promising programs, cutting-edge information, and approaches that are working well for Montana's communities. The conference also provides an unparalleled opportunity for cross-sector sharing.



MBCC Executive Director Brooke Marshall with MBCC Vice President, Rick Kirn

### Feedback from the 2012 Crime Prevention Conference:

- *I thought the planning was extraordinary.*
- *I learned a great deal.*
- *It was an excellent week.*
- *The closing session was outstanding.*
- *The conference was great.*
- *The flash drive with presentations on it was genius.*
- *This was a great way to share information.*



2012 MBCC Chair Mike Anderson presents MBCC's Lifetime Achievement Award to Mona Sumner of Billings.

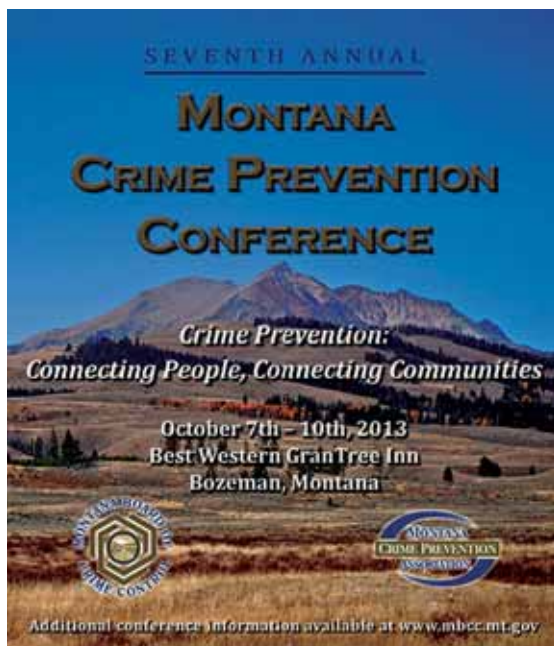
*Over the past six years, the Crime Prevention Conference has trained more than 1,000 Montanans, brought in 250 trainers, and included 125 exhibitors.*

## National Crime Victims' Rights Week

Each year since 1981, the Office for Victims of Crime has helped lead communities throughout the country in observing National Crime Victims' Rights Week. Rallies, candlelight vigils, and a host of commemorative activities are held to promote victims' rights and to honor crime victims and those who advocate on their behalf. In 2013, April 21 - 27 was designated Crime Victims' Rights Week.

The 2013 theme was *New Challenges, New Solutions*, and specifically recognized programs that support survivors of violent crime. As recently as 30 years ago, crime victims had no access to crime victim compensation, nor to services that would help them rebuild their lives. They were often excluded from courtrooms, treated as an afterthought by criminal justice systems, and denied an opportunity to speak at sentencing.

Stay tuned for the 7th Annual Montana Crime Prevention Conference



Decades of advocacy and hard work have changed that. Today, every state in the country has enacted crime victims' rights laws and established crime victim compensation funds. In 2012, more than 37,000 Montanans fell victim to crimes. Thanks to the help of hundreds of programs across the state, victims can seek shelter, medical services, legal assistance, and counseling.

In honor of Crime Victims' Rights Week, MBCC facilitated an event at the State Capitol on April 23, 2013. This event was planned in conjunction with the Office for Victims of Crime, the Office of Justice Programs, the U.S. Department of Justice, and the Department of Public Health and Human Services.

Following the event, MBCC screened its documentary, *Montana Crime Victims' Rights: a United Effort* (2012).

The documentary, created in collaboration with Ryan United, features prosecutors, law enforcement officers, victim advocates, victims and (then) Attorney General Steve Bullock. The film was developed to educate criminal justice practitioners, law makers, victims, and Montana citizens about the rights of victims and the services available to them.

For more information on Crime Victims' Rights Week, or to learn how you can become involved, visit [www.mbcc.mt.gov](http://www.mbcc.mt.gov).

*What lies behind us and what lies ahead of us are tiny matters compared to what lives within us.*

- Henry David Thoreau

## More about Montana: Fast Facts

- Montana is home to 998,199 people (U.S. Census Bureau, 2011), which equates to an average population of 6.8 persons per square mile.
  - Montana is the fourth largest state, comprised of 56 counties and covering approximately 147,046 square miles. The state runs approximately 559 miles from east to west and 321 miles from north to south.
  - Three-fourths of the state is populated with towns that are home to fewer than 1,000 people, and 46 of Montana's 56 counties retain frontier status.
  - There are six large population centers. Billings, in Yellowstone County, is the largest, with a population of approximately 147,972 people (U.S. Census Bureau, 2010).
  - Nearly all Montana counties (82%) and all seven of the federally recognized Indian Reservations retain frontier status, generally defined as fewer than seven persons per square mile.
- There are seven individual Native American Reservations in Montana, and one tribe – the Little Shell Chippewa – that has no designated lands. The reservations and the tribes they are home to include:
- Blackfeet Reservation (Blackfeet Tribe)
  - Crow Reservation (Crow Tribe)
  - Flathead Reservation (Salish-Kootenai and Pend d'Oreilles Tribes)
  - Fort Belknap Reservation (Assiniboine and Gros Ventre Tribes)
  - Fort Peck Reservation (Sioux and Assiniboine Tribes)
  - Northern Cheyenne Reservation (Northern Cheyenne Tribe)
  - Rocky Boy's Reservation (Chippewa and Cree Tribes)
- Reservations are territories reserved by tribes as permanent homelands. Each is a sovereign nation under the law. Together these native lands cover 8,242,648 acres (12,879 square miles) of Montana. On average (2004-2009), each tribal law enforcement officer was responsible for policing 77,781 acres (MBCC, 2011).

*In 2011, there were 2.1 full-time, sworn law enforcement officers for every 1,000 Montanans. Many police jurisdictions cover hundreds of square miles.*

- MBCC data, 2012

Data Bites: 2011		
Total reported offenses: 51,882	• Crimes against people	10,671
	• Crimes against property	36,713
	• Crimes against society	5,243
Total arrests: 29,443	• Adult arrests	23,323
	• Juvenile arrests	6,120
Total offenses cleared: 15,297	• Percent of offenses cleared	29.48%
Total population: 998,199	• Arrests per 100,000 population	2,950
Source: <a href="http://mbcc.mt.gov/Data/CrimeData/MOR.asp">http://mbcc.mt.gov/Data/CrimeData/MOR.asp</a> .		





## More about MBCC: Projects and Publications

In addition to the accomplishments detailed earlier in this document, MBCC contributes to public safety and crime prevention through a range of initiatives and through its efforts to facilitate education and training for Montanans. Some of the efforts, publications, and accomplishments not described elsewhere in this report follow.

### ***The Alliance for Drug-Endangered Children***

MBCC was instrumental in developing and implementing Montana's Alliance for Drug Endangered Children (DEC) State Board. MBCC also helped develop standard protocols for law enforcement, child protection teams, and the medical community for use in dealing with Drug Endangered Children.

### ***Montana Law Enforcement Information and Records Association (MTLEIRA)***

MBCC helped found the Montana Law Enforcement Information and Records Association in 2008. This independent non-profit association of law enforcement employees identifies and promotes best practices for criminal justice support services, provides education and training, and promotes information exchange. MBCC will assist MTLEIRA with ensuring record quality as one of its 2012-13 goals. The process will begin with a survey to evaluate record managers' technical assistance needs and succession planning strategies.

### ***Detention Data Information System***

Montana's jails, detention facilities, and prisons continue to operate at or beyond capacity. Local law enforcement and other criminal justice system stakeholders have asked MBCC to facilitate the state's strategic response to overcrowding. After detailed consideration of the issue, MBCC decided to develop a repository to collect data from the state's jails. This data is critical to gaining insight into jail overcrowding.

### ***A Sampling of MBCC Publications***

- Crime in Montana reports, 2001 - 2011
- Hate Crime in Montana, 2001- 2011
- Law Enforcement Personnel in Montana, 2002 - 2011
- Montana Crime Reporting Newsletter
- Montana Gang Threat Assessment Report, 2011
- Montana Crime Victimization and Safety Survey Report, 2011
- The Montana Pre-Adjudicatory Detention Risk Assessment Instrument: a Validation and Assessment Study, 2012
- Law and Justice Interim Committee White Paper, 2012
- Assessing the Mechanisms that Contribute to Disproportionate Minority Contact in Montana's Juvenile Justice Systems, 2012

*To access these and other MBCC publications or to learn more about MBCC's projects, visit:*

<http://mbcc.mt.gov/PlanProj/PubsProjs.asp>.

### ***Additional Accomplishments***

MBCC implemented:

- the Automated Victims' Information Database (AVID).

MBCC conducted:

- Grant Writing and Compliance Training for victim service providers.

MBCC provided financial assistance to:

- the Montana/Wyoming Tribal Leaders for Prescription Drug Summit,
- the Missoula Office of Planning and Grants for Sexual Assault Prevention Marketing Campaign, and
- the Montana Coalition Against Domestic and Sexual Violence for Oil Boom Listening Session.

## Crimes by Category

Crimes Against Persons	Assault (Aggravated), Assault (Simple), Forcible Fondling, Forcible Rape, Forcible Sodomy, Incest, Intimidation, Justifiable Homicide, Murder and Non-negligent Homicide, Negligent Manslaughter, Sexual Assault with an Object, Statutory Rape
------------------------	---

Crimes against Property	Arson, Bribery, Burglary/Breaking and Entering, Counterfeiting/Forgery, Credit Card/Auto Teller Fraud, Destruction/Damage/Vandalism of Property, Embezzlement, False Pretenses/Swindle/Confidence Game, Impersonation, Larceny (All Other), Motor Vehicle Theft, Pocket-picking, Purse Snatching, Robbery, Shoplifting, Stolen Property Offenses, Theft from Building, Theft from Coin Operated Device, Theft from Motor Vehicle, Theft of Motor Vehicle Parts/Accessories, Welfare Fraud, Wire Fraud
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Crimes against Society	Assisting or Promoting Prostitution, Betting/Wagering, Drug Equipment Violations, Drug/Narcotic Violations, Gambling Equipment Violations, Operating/Promoting/Assisting Gambling, Pornography/Obscene Material, Prostitution, Sports Tampering, Weapon Law Violations
------------------------	--

Type B Offenses	All Other Offenses, Bad Checks, Curfew/Loitering/Vagrancy Violations, Disorderly Conduct, Driving Under the Influence, Family Offenses (non-violent), Liquor Law Violations, Peeping Tom, Runaway, Trespass of Real Property
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Source: MTIBRS, 2013





## Crime Region by Montana County

### Central

Big Horn  
Carbon  
Cascade  
Choteau  
Fergus  
Glacier  
Golden Valley  
Judith Basin  
Meagher  
Musselshell  
Pondera  
Stillwater  
Sweet Grass  
Teton  
Toole  
Wheatland  
Yellowstone

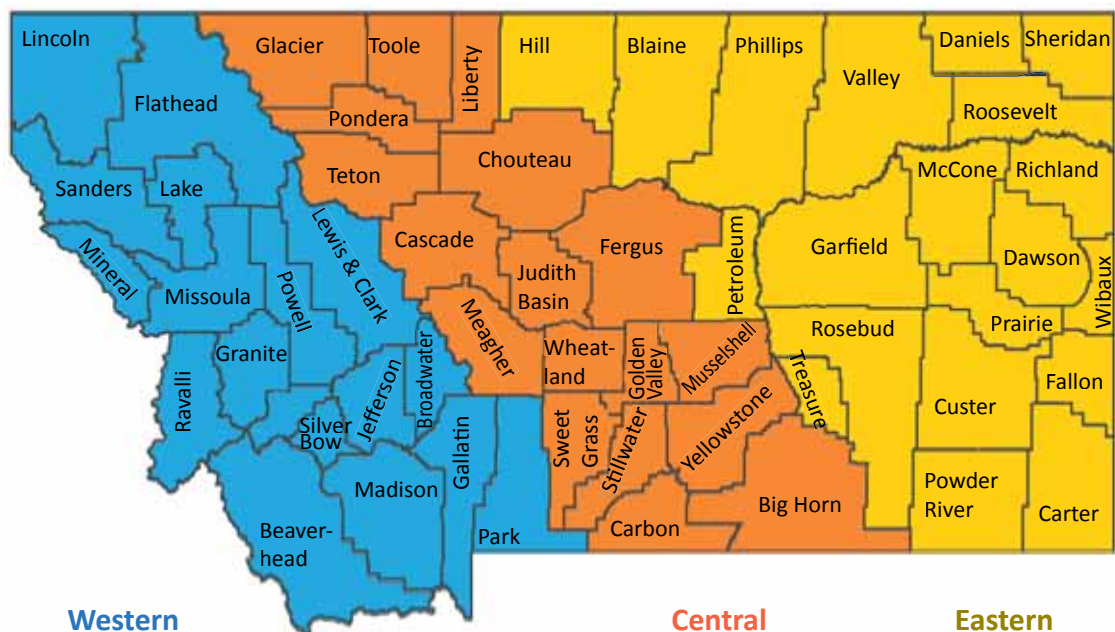
### Eastern

Blaine  
Carter  
Custer  
Daniels  
Dawson  
Fallon  
Garfield  
Hill  
Liberty  
McCone  
Petroleum  
Phillips  
Powder River  
Prairie  
Richland  
Roosevelt  
Rosebud  
Sheridan  
Treasure  
Valley  
Wibaux

### Western

Beaverhead  
Broadwater  
Deer Lodge  
Flathead  
Gallatin  
Granite  
Jefferson  
Lake  
Lewis and Clark  
Lincoln  
Madison  
Mineral  
Missoula  
Park  
Powell  
Ravalli  
Sanders  
Silver Bow

Montana Crime Regions



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