



The American Rescue Plan's Impact on Montana on Two-Year Anniversary

- **Powered a Strong Recovery with Montana unemployment falling to 2.6% and reached record lows in 2022:** Montana's unemployment rate has fallen from 4% in January 2021 to 2.6% in December 2022, as the state added 26,000 jobs and now has more jobs than it did pre-Covid. In fact, Montana's unemployment rate averaged 2.6% in 2022, the lowest annual rate on record.
- **Led to record 40,000 new Small Business Applications in Montana:** In 2021 and 2022, Montanans applied to start 40,000 new businesses, the highest 2-year total on record.
- **ARP Provided Direct Pandemic Recovery Funds to All 180 Montana towns, cities, and counties** – avoiding cuts and investing in public safety, housing, workforce development, and other critical areas.
- **Provided Vital Education Funding to 300 School Districts in Montana to support academic recovery and student mental health and reopen safely:** 300 school districts in Montana were provided funding to support academic recovery and student mental health and reopen safely.
- **920 Child Care Programs in Montana Received Support to Help Keep Their Doors Open, impacting up to 24,000 children.**
- **Working Family Tax Relief through the Expanded Child Tax Credit for 119K Montana families with 211K children:** In Montana, the American Rescue Plan's historic Child Tax Credit benefited an estimated 119,000 families with 211,000 children.
- **Expanded Earned Income Tax Credit for 84K workers in Montana:** The American Rescue Plan's expanded EITC provided up to \$1,500 of tax relief to an estimated 84,000 Montana workers without dependent children.
- **Saved 51,000 Montanans an average of \$994 per year on their health care:** In 2022, 51,000 Montanans saved an average of \$994 on their health premiums from the American Rescue Plan. With the Inflation Reduction Act's extension of these savings, 54,000 Montanans signed up for quality, affordable care in the 2023 ACA open enrollment period.
- **Emergency Rental Assistance to Thousands of Hard-Pressed Renters in Montana:** In Montana, state and local governments made 22,000 payments to help families meet their ongoing rent and utilities costs and 21,000 payments to help families address past due rent and utility bills.
- **48,000 Montana College Students received direct financial relief through the Higher Education Emergency Relief Program in 2021 alone:** In 2021, 24 Montana colleges and universities made direct financial assistance payments to 48,000 college students to help them stay enrolled and cover their bills.
- **American Rescue Plan's Emergency Connectivity Fund is addressing the homework gap for 2,000 Montana students:** providing about 18,000 connected devices (including hotspots) for students.
- **328 Montana Restaurants received vital relief** through the American Rescue Plan's Restaurant Revitalization Fund.