Great Falls, Montana

Community Contact
City of Great Falls
Gregory T. Doyon, City Manager
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Great Falls, MT 59401

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Fax (406) 727-0005
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Web Site https://greatfallsmt.net

Municipal Office Hours Monday through Friday
8am – 5pm

County Cascade

Incorporated 1888

Origin: The City of Great Falls is the county seat of Cascade County and is the third largest city in Montana. Situated on the Missouri River, the City is approximately 50 miles east of the Continental Divide, and 120 miles south of the Canadian border. The present Great Falls town site was first noted in the journals of Lewis and Clark in 1805 as they portaged around “the thundering Great Falls of the Missouri”. In 1885, Paris Gibson, a Minneapolis City planner and engineer, recognized the potential of the area’s abundant resources and central location. Gibson’s legacy was a carefully planned City that makes Great Falls unique today.

Population per the 1890 Census: 3,979
Population for 2020: 60,442

Population Trends: Population change for Great Falls totaled 939 over 47 years, from 60,091 in 1970 to 59,144 in 2017. The largest decennial percent changes were 4.3% between 2000 and 2010.


Type of Government Commission - Manager
Mayor Bob Kelly
Commissioners
Eric Hinebauch
Susan Wolff
Joe McKenney
Rick Tryon

Departments:
Administration, Fire, Finance, Human Resources, Legal, Park and Recreation, Planning and Community Development, Police, Public Works

Budget: Municipal Appropriations, 21-22 $130,968,277
Budget: School Appropriations, 21-22 $105,430,694
Capital Improvement Plan Yes
Where do your Property Taxes Go

Calculated Property tax

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Tax Rate</th>
<th>Taxable Market Value (Example)</th>
<th>Calculated Property tax</th>
<th>Where do your Property Taxes Go</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2020</td>
<td>1.06%</td>
<td>$100,000</td>
<td>$1,057.49</td>
<td>Public Schools: $568, City of Great Falls: $282, Cascade County: $177, Transit District: $30</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>


<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Community</th>
<th>County</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2020</td>
<td>60,442</td>
<td>84,414</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2018</td>
<td>58,990</td>
<td>81,654</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2010</td>
<td>58,505</td>
<td>81,327</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2000</td>
<td>56,690</td>
<td>80,356</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1990</td>
<td>55,097</td>
<td>77,391</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1980</td>
<td>56,884</td>
<td>80,696</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1970</td>
<td>60,091</td>
<td>81,804</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Demographics (data.Census.gov- ACS Survey Estimate)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Gender</th>
<th>Male</th>
<th>Female</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Pop.</td>
<td>29,176</td>
<td>29,659</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Income, Inflation Adjusted $ (data.Census.gov)

- Per capita income: $52,226
- Median family income: $64,019
- Median household income: $46,965
- Median Earnings, full-time, year-round workers, 16 years and over: Male $43,620, Female $36,242

Individuals below the poverty level: 14.7%

Income Distribution by household

- Under $10,000: 6.8%
- $10,000 to $24,999: 18.2%
- $25,000 to $49,999: 27.6%
- $50,000 to $99,999: 29%
- $100,000 to $149,999: 11.2%
- $150,000 to $199,999: 6.6%
- Over $200,000: 3.6%

Employment Status – Over the age of 16

- Employed: 58.6%
- Not in Labor Force: 41.4%
- Federal, State or Local Gov’t workers: 15.2%
- Private company workers: 62.8%
- Private not-for-profit wage and Salary: 12.7%
- Self Employed own Incorporated Business: 3.1%
- Self-employed workers not incorporated: 6.2%

Area employment (data.Census.gov)

- Great Falls area employment by Occupation: 2010: 24,909, 2019: 27,650
- Total employed population over 16: 2010: 24,909, 2019: 27,650
- Management, business, science and arts: 2010: 7,778, 2019: 9,596
- Sales & Office occupations: 2010: 7,596, 2019: 6,761
- Natural Resources, construction, maintenance occupations: 2010: 2,316, 2019: 2,612
- Production, Transportation, material moving: 2010: 4,559, 2019: 3,114
**Driving distance to select cities:**
- Great Falls, Montana: 640 miles
- Helena, Montana: 90 miles
- Billings, Montana: 219 miles
- Lethbridge, Alberta: 185 miles
- Missoula, Montana: 165 miles
- Spokane, Washington: 362 miles
- Seattle, Washington: 613 miles
- Seattle, Washington: 362 miles

**Parking Downtown**
- 4,467 meters
- 10502 ft asphalt
- 580 miles

**Great Falls Housing Authority**
- Median home value: $174,500
- Median gross rent: $729
- Median home value: $176,500

**Building Permits**
- Residential permits issued: 303 in 2008, 261 in 2018
- Residential permit value: $23,995,370 in 2008, $14,433,565 in 2018
- Commercial permits issued: 109 in 2008, 189 in 2018

**City Planning**
- Annexation applications: 16 in 2008, 7 in 2018
- Subdivision applications: 16 in 2008, 7 in 2018
- Zoning applications: 25 in 2008, 6 in 2018

**Transportation**
- Road access: I-15, US 87, US 89
- Nearest interstate, exit: I-15 Exits 277, 278, 280
- Railroad: Burlington Northern RR
- Public transportation: Great Falls Transit District
- Greyhound Bus Services
- Great Falls International Airport
  - Runway: 10502 ft asphalt
  - Lighted?: Yes
  - Navigation aids?: Yes
  - Number of passenger airlines serving airport: 4
- Parking Downtown: 6
- Parking garages: 2
- Off street parking spaces: 1,122
- Metered parking spaces: 1095

**Commuting to Work**
- Workers 16 years and over
  - Drove alone, car/truck/van: 81.8%
  - Carpooled, car/truck/van: 10.1%
  - Public transportation: 1%
  - Walked: 2.1%
  - Other means: 1.5%
  - Worked at home: 3.5%
  - Mean travel time to work: 14.1 minutes

**Military in the Community**
- Great Falls Air National Guard
  - Assigned Personnel: 795
  - Economic impact:
    - ANG payroll: $49,859,949
    - Subsistence & lodging: $269,789
    - Operations & maintenance: $12,798,826
    - Total ANG impact: $62,928,564

**Recreation, Attractions, and Events**
- River’s Edge Trail: 60 miles of paved and single track trails along the Missouri River
- Golf Courses:
  - Anaconda Hills, Eagle Falls, Hickory Swings, Meadowlark Country Club
  - Electric City Water Park, Jaycee Pool and Splash Park, Water Tower Pool and Splash Park
- Swimming: Outdoor
- Tennis Courts: 24 courts at 8 locations
- Multi-Sports Complex: 8 softball fields
- Baseball:
  - Centene Stadium, Great Falls Voyagers
  - Westside and Americans Little League
  - Warden Park and West Bank Park
- Disc Golf Course:
  - Elks Riverside Park
- Horseback Riding:
  - Electric City Water Park
- Community Recreation Center:
  - Fitness Center, Classes, After School & Summer camps, Basketball, Steam Room & Sauna
- Performing Arts:
  - Mansfield Center for the Performing Arts at the Civic Center, Community Concerts, Great Falls Symphony
- Montana Expo Park:
  - State Fair, concerts, rodeos, horse races, trade shows
- Museums:
  - C.M. Russell, Children’s Museum, Paris
  - Gibson Square, The History Museum, Lewis and Clark Interpretive Center, MAFB, Ursuline Center
- Soccer:
  - Great Falls Soccer Foundation – Siebel Park
- Ice Skating/Hockey:
  - Great Falls Ice Plex
# Education and Child Care

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Educational Facilities</th>
<th>Great Falls Public Schools (<a href="http://www.gfps.k12.mt.us">www.gfps.k12.mt.us</a>)</th>
<th>Elementary</th>
<th>Middle/Junior High</th>
<th>High School</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Number of Schools</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grade Levels</td>
<td>Pre-K-6</td>
<td>7-8</td>
<td>9-12</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Enrollment</td>
<td>5470</td>
<td>1577</td>
<td>3014</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- **Montana School for the Deaf and Blind**
- **Great Falls Central Catholic High School (78)**
- **Holy Spirit Catholic School (150)**
- **Our Lady of Lourdes School (170)**
- **Foothills Community Christian School (201)**
- **Treasure State Academy (58)**

### Private/Parochial Schools:
- **Great Falls Central Catholic High School** (78)
- **Holy Spirit Catholic School** (150)
- **Our Lady of Lourdes School** (170)
- **Foothills Community Christian School** (201)
- **Treasure State Academy** (58)

### Nearest Colleges or Universities:
- **Great Falls College MSU**
- **University of Providence**
- **Apollos University**
- **Park University – Malmstrom AFB**

### Child Care
- **2018 MT Licensed Child Care Facilities (DHHS-Bureau of Child Care Licensing)**
  - Total Facilities: 57
  - Total Capacity: 2,048

### Major Employers

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Major Employer</th>
<th>2020 Number of Employees</th>
<th>2020 Percentage of Total Employment</th>
<th>2011 Number of Employees</th>
<th>2011 Percentage of Total Employment</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Malmstrom Air Force Base</td>
<td>3,960</td>
<td>11%</td>
<td>4,740</td>
<td>16%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Benefis Health Care Center</td>
<td>3,203</td>
<td>9%</td>
<td>2,550</td>
<td>8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Great Falls Public Schools</td>
<td>1,926</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>1,550</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Montana Air National Guard</td>
<td>1,012</td>
<td>3%</td>
<td>1,062</td>
<td>3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Great Falls Clinic</td>
<td>631</td>
<td>2%</td>
<td>583</td>
<td>2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Walmart</td>
<td>600</td>
<td>2%</td>
<td>487</td>
<td>2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>City of Great Falls</td>
<td>589</td>
<td>2%</td>
<td>527</td>
<td>2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cascade County</td>
<td>523</td>
<td>1%</td>
<td>527</td>
<td>2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Centene Corporation</td>
<td>319</td>
<td>1%</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Albertsons</td>
<td>285</td>
<td>1%</td>
<td>261</td>
<td>1%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

From City’s Annual Budget

### Fiscal Year Property Tax Levies and Collections

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fiscal Year</th>
<th>Total Tax Levy</th>
<th>Collected within the Fiscal Year of Levy</th>
<th>% Levy Collected</th>
<th>Collections in Subsequent Years</th>
<th>Total Tax Collections</th>
<th>% Total Tax Collections</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2012</td>
<td>14,722,663</td>
<td>13,104,833</td>
<td>89.01%</td>
<td>1,602,814</td>
<td>14,707,647</td>
<td>99.90%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2013</td>
<td>15,921,285</td>
<td>13,820,468</td>
<td>86.80%</td>
<td>2,085,898</td>
<td>15,906,366</td>
<td>99.91%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2014</td>
<td>15,877,678</td>
<td>14,442,695</td>
<td>90.96%</td>
<td>1,414,716</td>
<td>15,857,411</td>
<td>99.87%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2015</td>
<td>16,499,453</td>
<td>14,897,755</td>
<td>90.29%</td>
<td>1,460,132</td>
<td>16,357,887</td>
<td>99.14%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>17,481,060</td>
<td>15,536,927</td>
<td>88.88%</td>
<td>1,621,759</td>
<td>17,158,686</td>
<td>98.16%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>18,951,993</td>
<td>16,514,190</td>
<td>87.14%</td>
<td>2,202,068</td>
<td>18,716,257</td>
<td>98.76%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2018</td>
<td>20,555,516</td>
<td>17,914,888</td>
<td>87.15%</td>
<td>2,543,590</td>
<td>20,458,479</td>
<td>99.53%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2019</td>
<td>21,338,561</td>
<td>19,942,269</td>
<td>93.46%</td>
<td>749,764</td>
<td>20,692,033</td>
<td>96.97%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2020</td>
<td>23,254,940</td>
<td>22,916,657</td>
<td>98.55%</td>
<td>296,650</td>
<td>23,213,307</td>
<td>99.82%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2021</td>
<td>24,085,350</td>
<td>23,822,361</td>
<td>98.91%</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>23,822,361</td>
<td>98.91%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

From City’s Annual Financial Report