

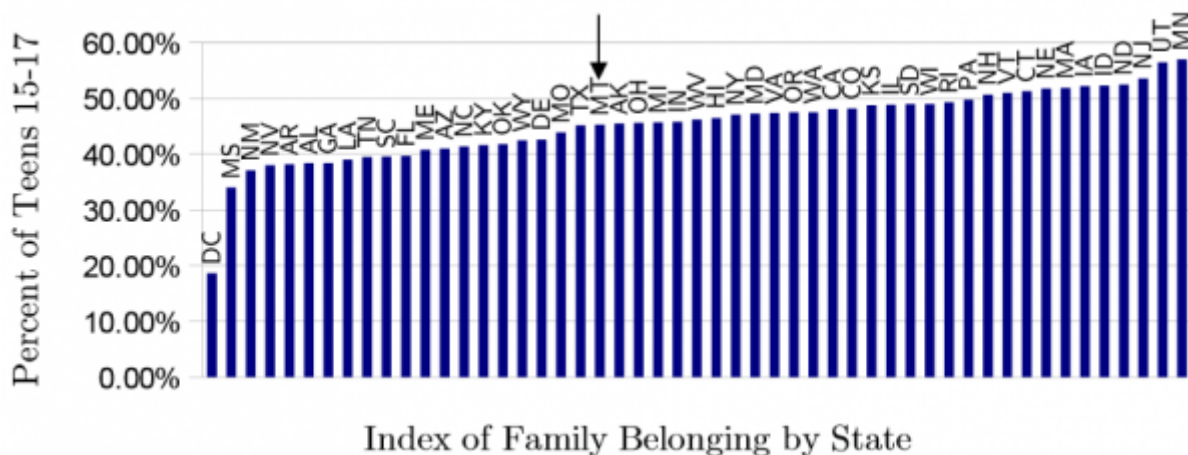
# State of the Family in Montana

The [United States Family Belonging Index](#) is 46 percent, with a corresponding Family Rejection Index of 54 percent, based on 2008-2012 data from the U.S. Census Bureau's American Community Survey. The action of parents determines the Family Belonging or Rejection Index within a nation, region, [state](#), or [racial or ethnic group](#)—whether they marry and belong to each other, or whether they reject one another through divorce or other means. Rejection leaves children without married parents committed to one another and to their children.

The Index of Family Belonging is determined by the fraction of children aged 15 to 17 in a given area who live with both their biological parents, who have been married since before or around the time of their birth.

## 1. Index of Belonging

Montana has a Family Belonging Index of 45.3 percent. In other words, 45.3 percent of Montana teenagers aged 15 to 17 have lived with their always-married parents since their birth, whereas 45.3 percent of these adolescents were raised in a non-intact family. Montana ranks 31st on the [state ranking](#) of the Index of Belonging and Rejection.<sup>1)</sup>

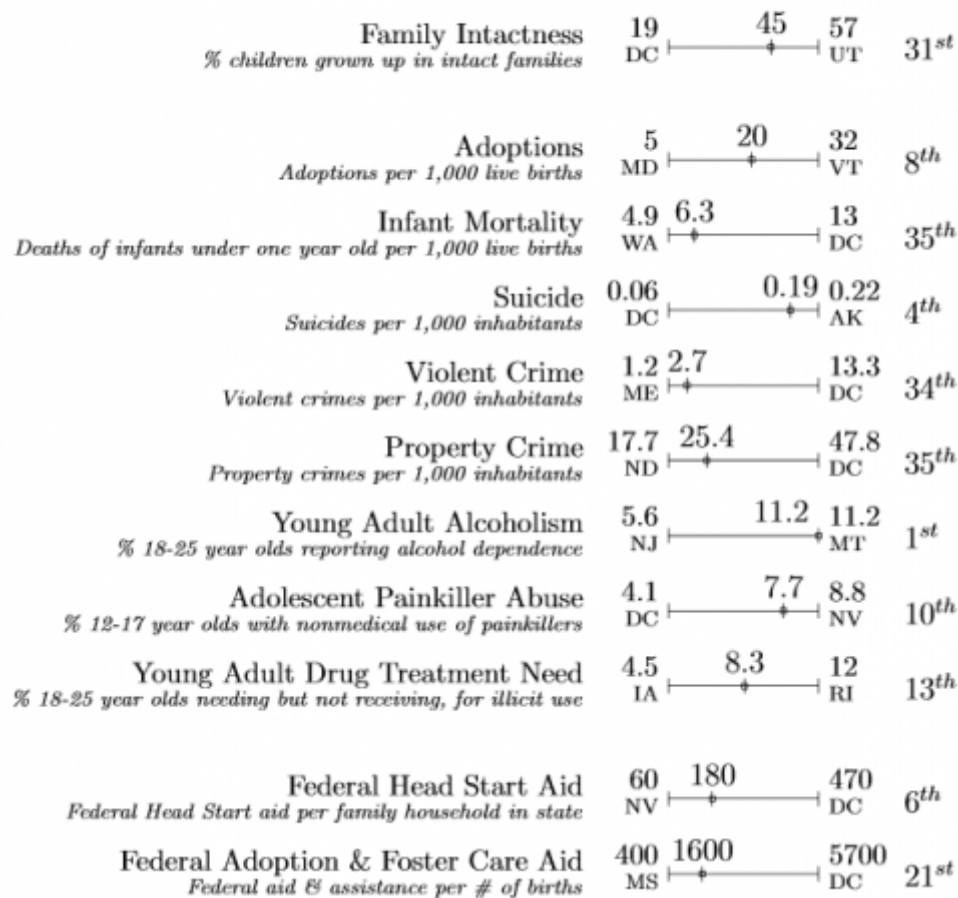


## 2. Outcomes by Index of Belonging

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Significant outcomes: Location between states at the extremes followed by state ranking, for Montana

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## 2.1 Youth Outcomes

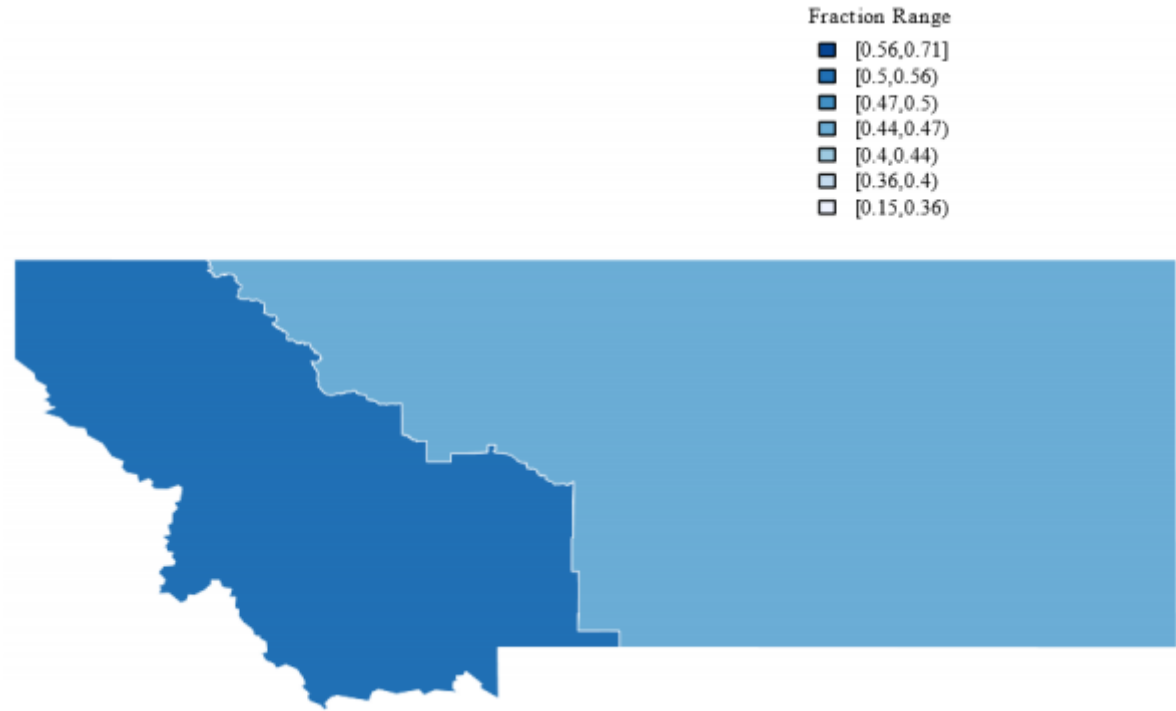
Youth Outcomes	Montana	Weakest State	Strongest State
Graduation rates (high school)	82	51.3 (NV)	89.6 (WI)
NAEP reading scores (eighth grade)	270	251 (MS)*	274 (MA)
Child poverty (percent in)	21%	31% (MS)	11% (NH)
Births to unmarried teenagers (percent of)	8.6%	14.1% (MS)	5.3% (UT)

## 3. Mapping Montana

See [Effects of Family Structure on Policy Outcomes](#)

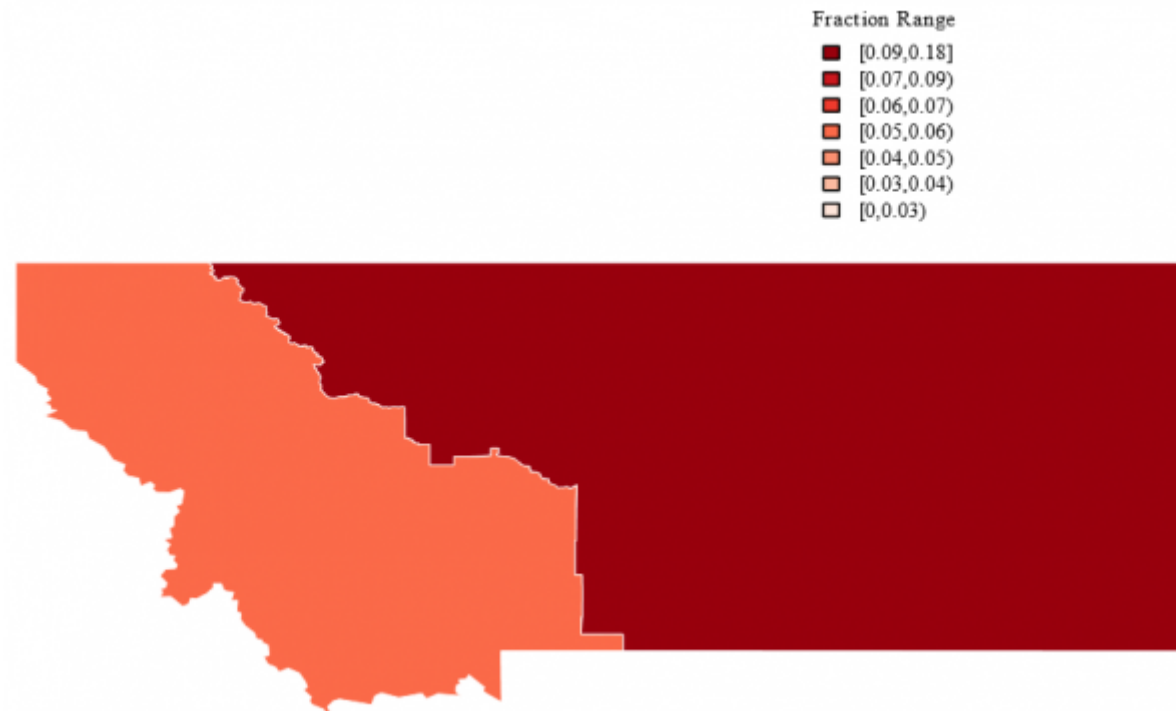
### 3.1 Family Intactness

#### Fraction of Families Intact



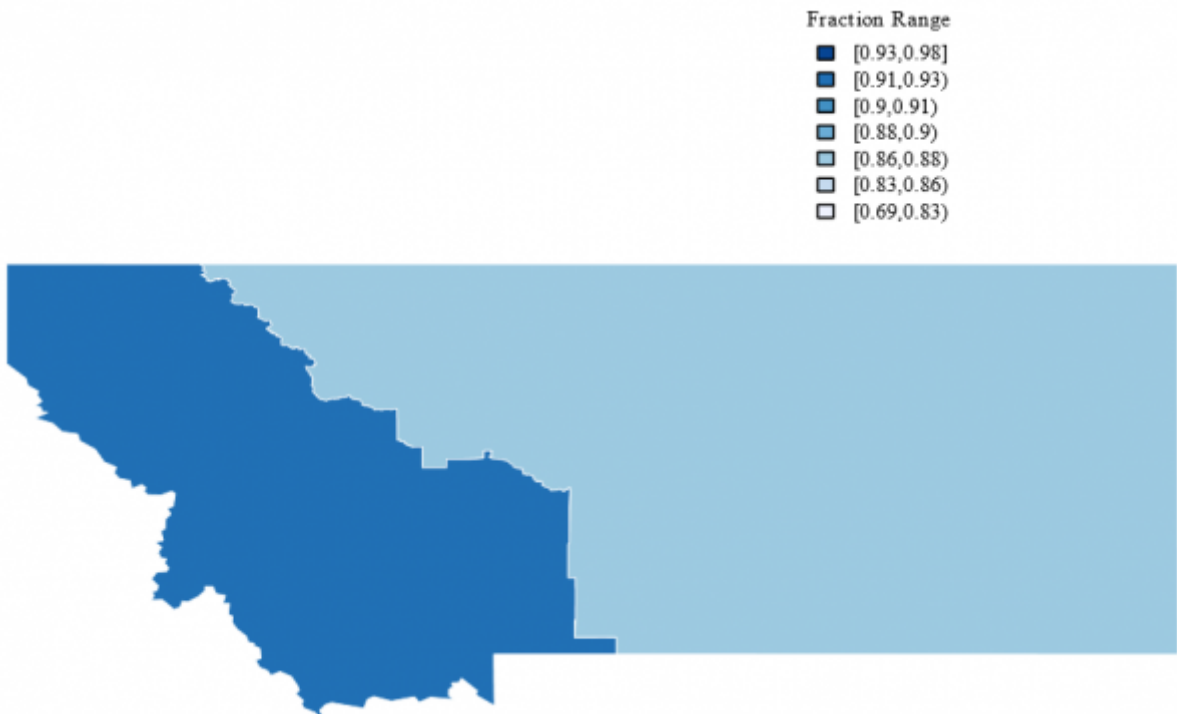
3.2 Teenage Out-of-Wedlock Births

Fraction of teenage out-of-wedlock births out of all births



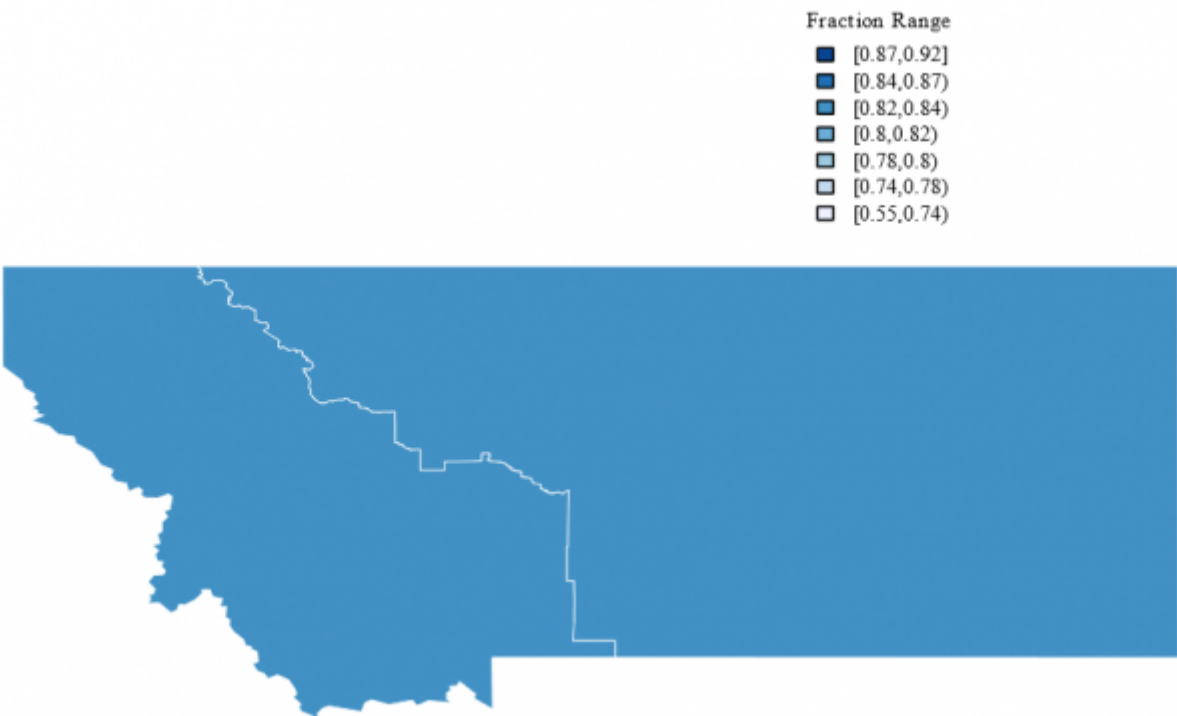
3.3 High School Graduates

Fraction of 19- to 20-year-olds who are high school graduates



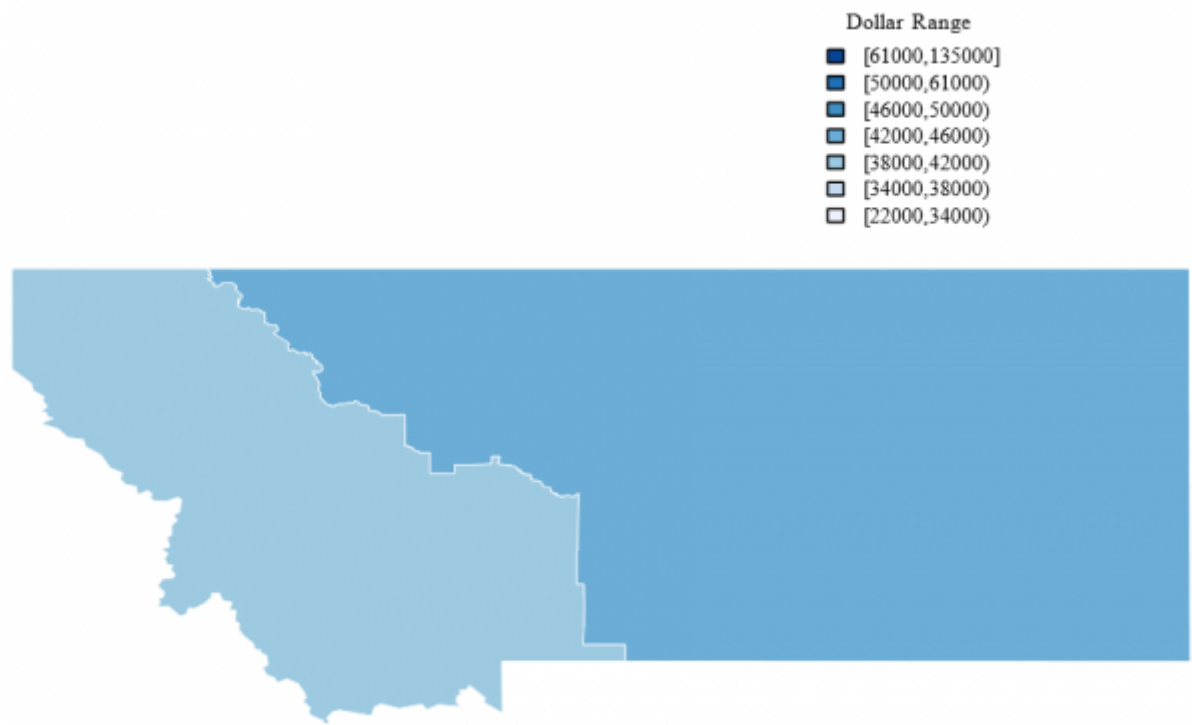
3.4 Employment

Fraction of 25- to 54-year-old men working



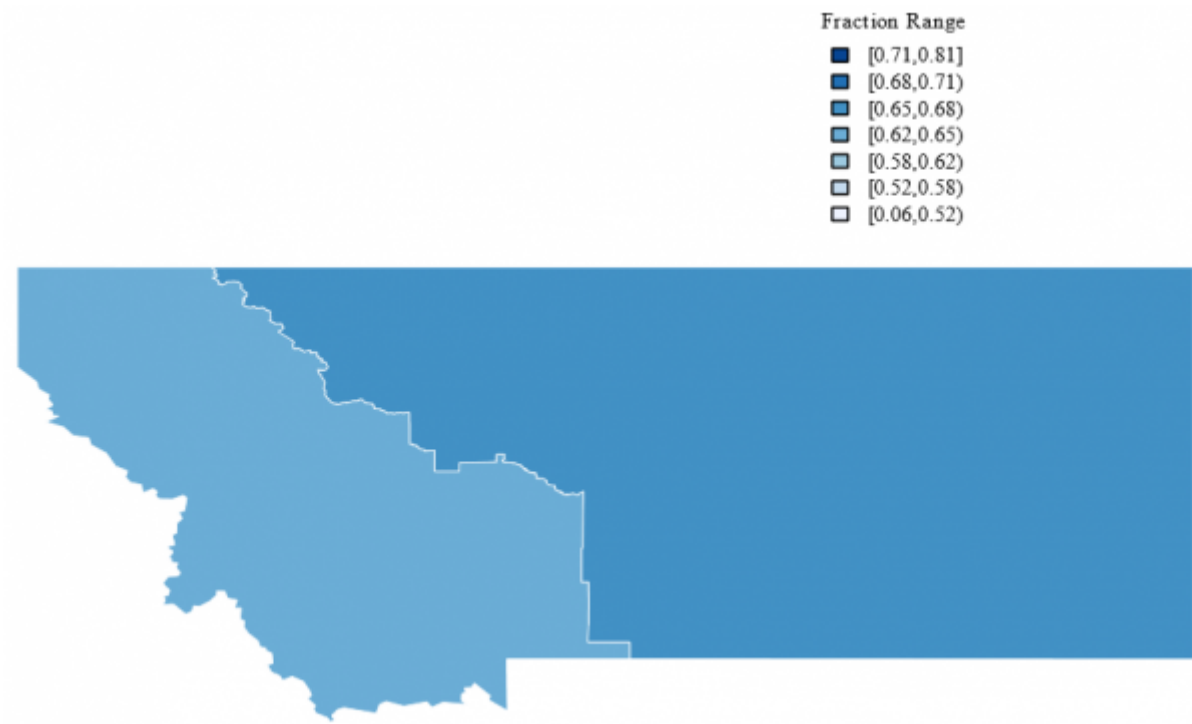
3.5 Earnings

Average earnings per 25- to 54-year-old male



3.6 Homeowners

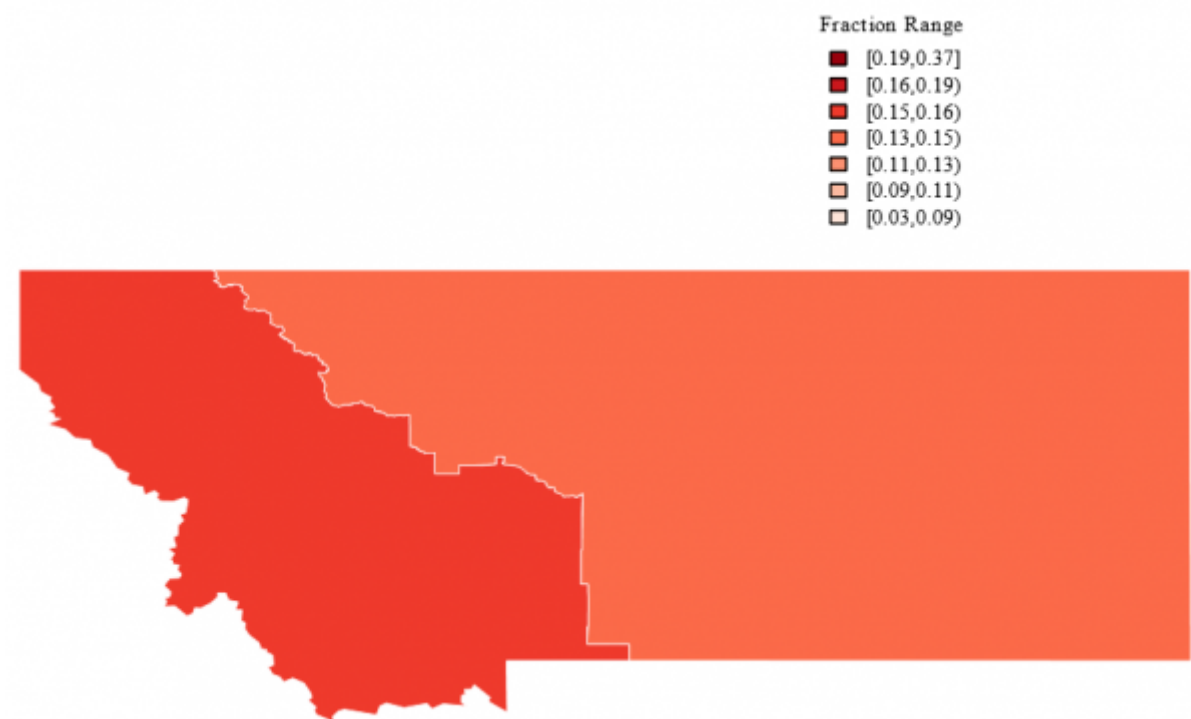
Fraction of households owning a home



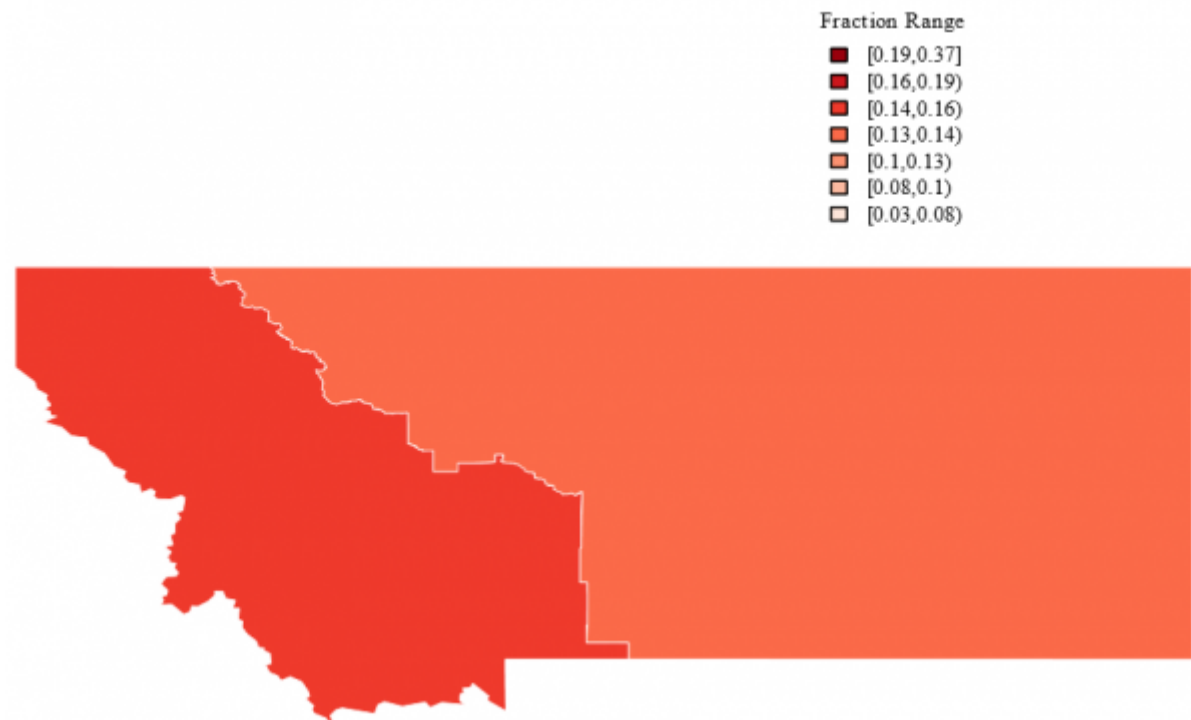
3.7 Poverty

[See Effects of Family Structure on Poverty](#)

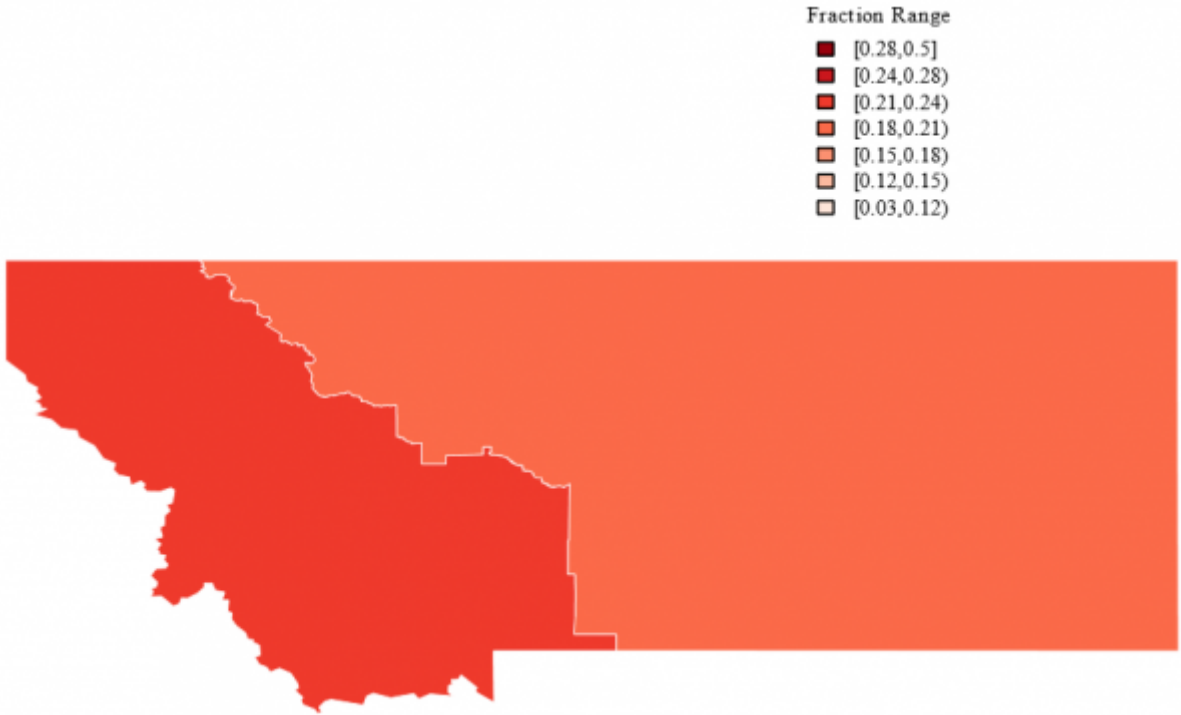
Fraction of the overall population below poverty



Fraction of 25- to 54-year-old females below the poverty line



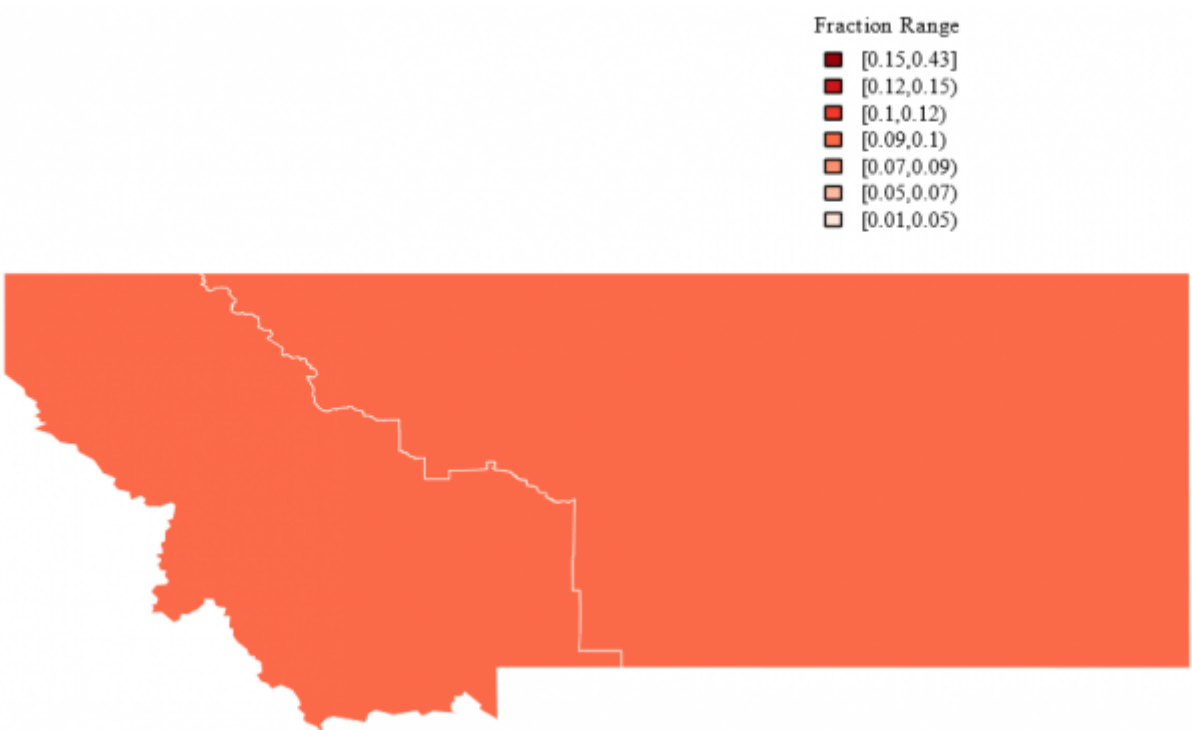
Fraction of minors below the poverty line



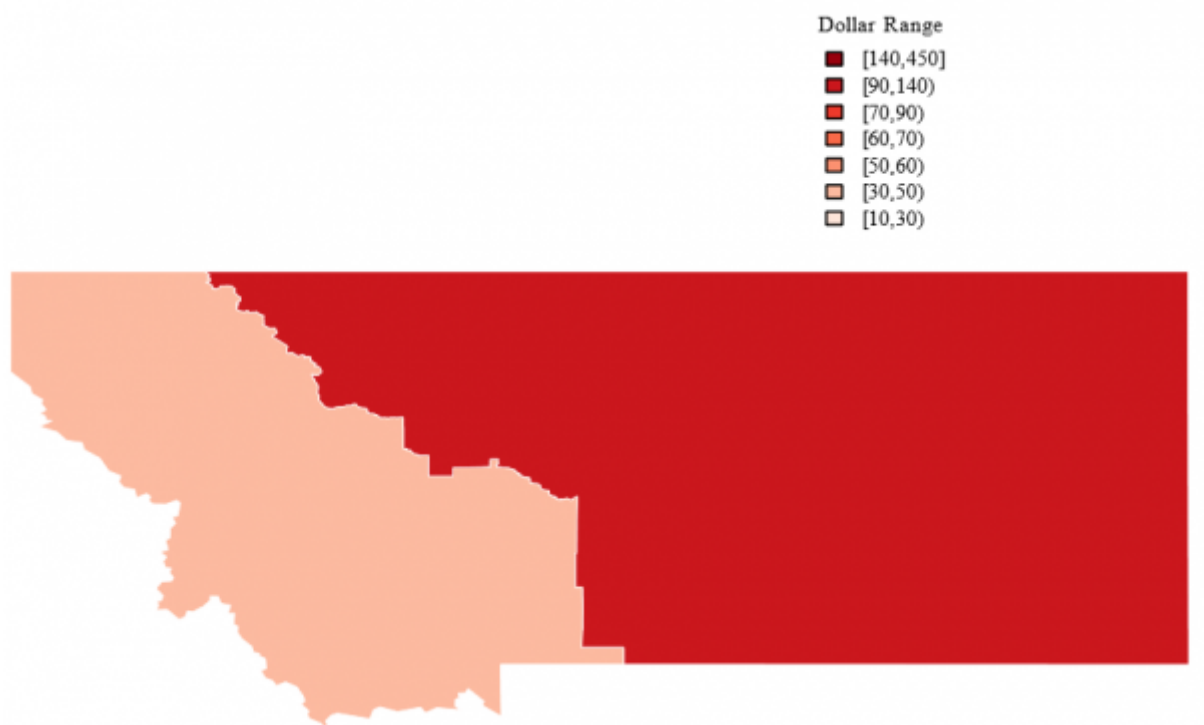
3.8 Government Dependence

[See Effects of Family Structure on Government Dependency](#) and [Effects of Welfare on Families](#)

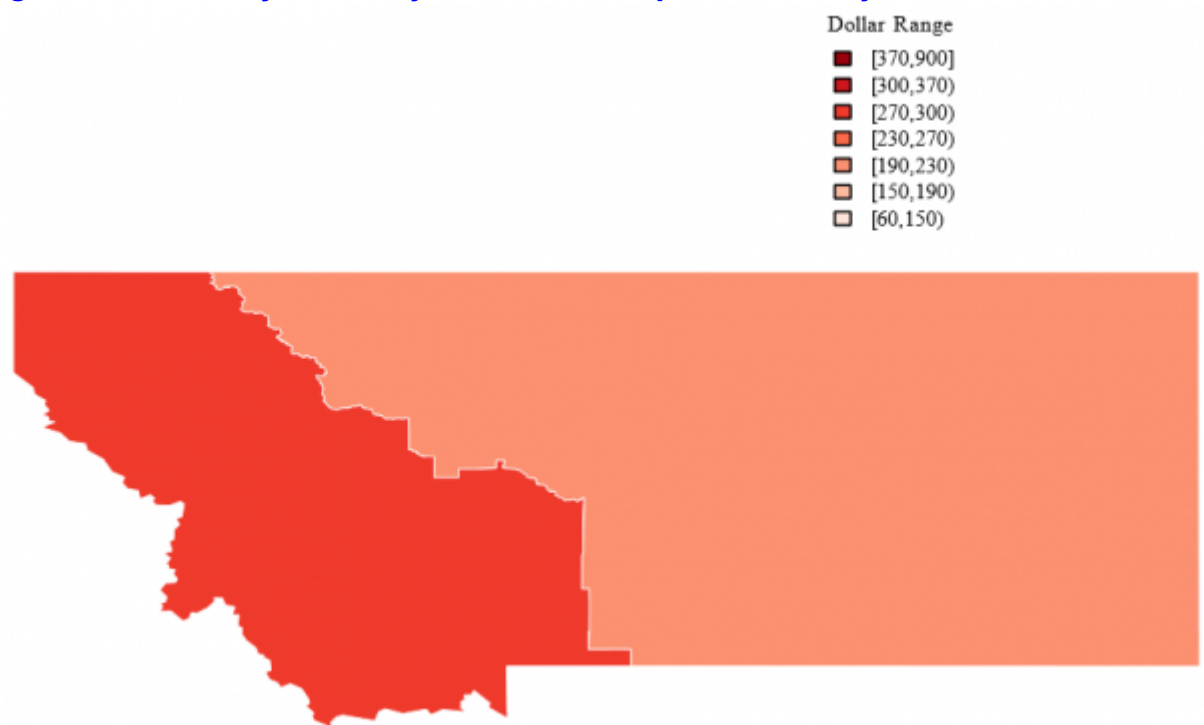
Fraction of households receiving food stamps



Average TANF and State Welfare Transfers per 25- to 54-year-old females

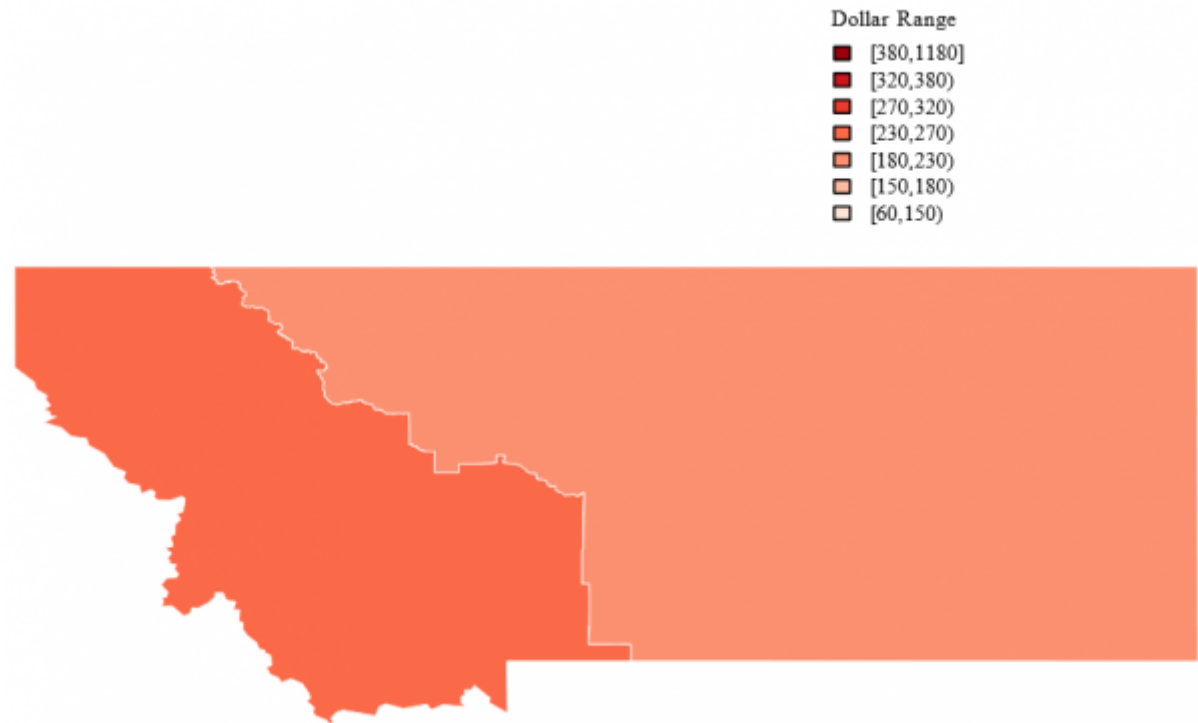


Average Social Security Disability Income (SSDI) per 25- to 54-year-olds

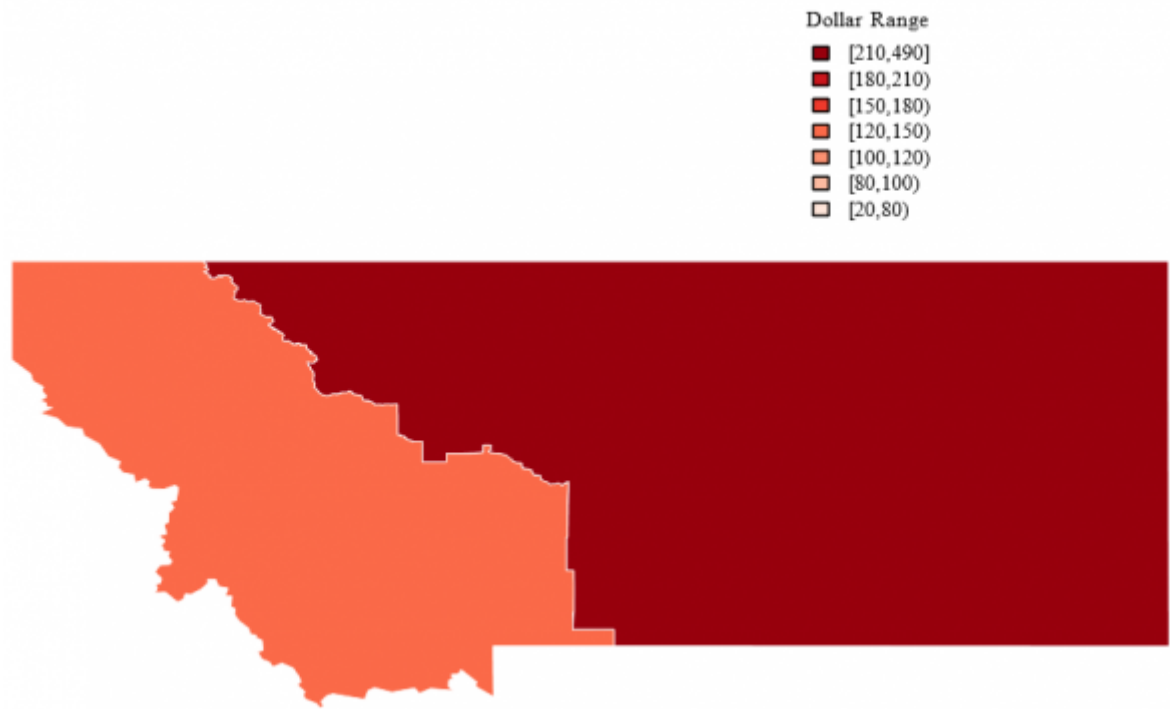


Average Social Security Disability Income (SSDI) per 25- to 54-year-old male

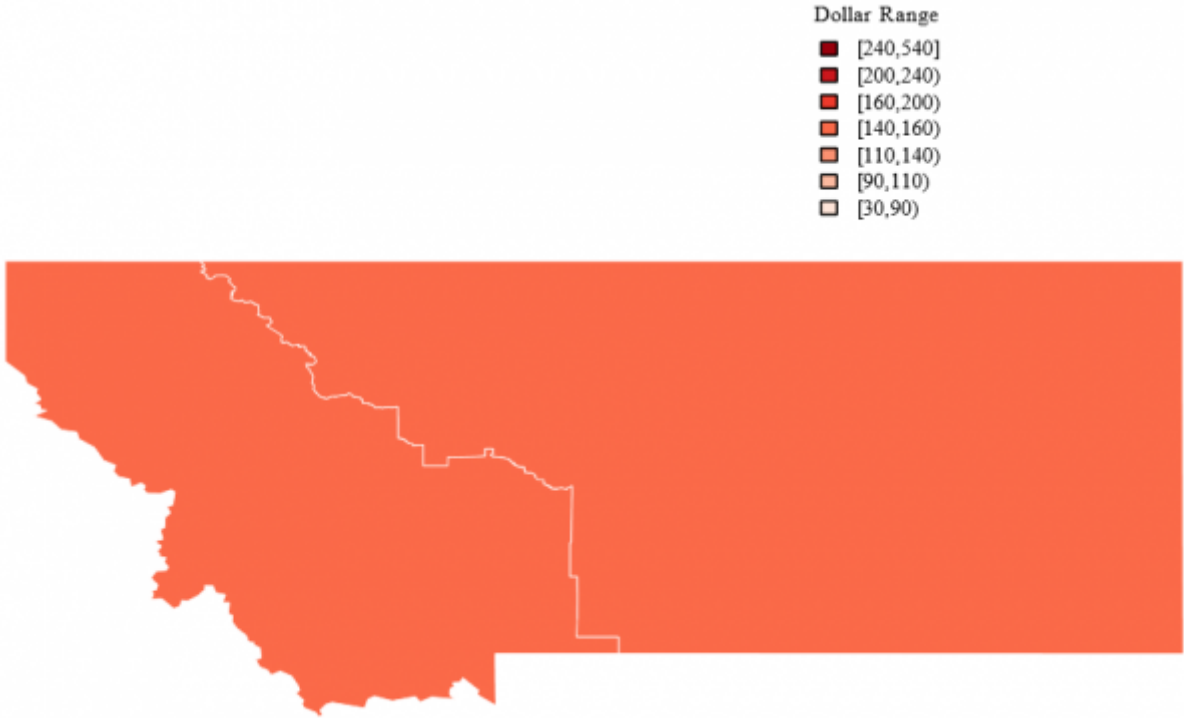




Average Supplemental Security Income (SSI) per 25- to 54-year-old male



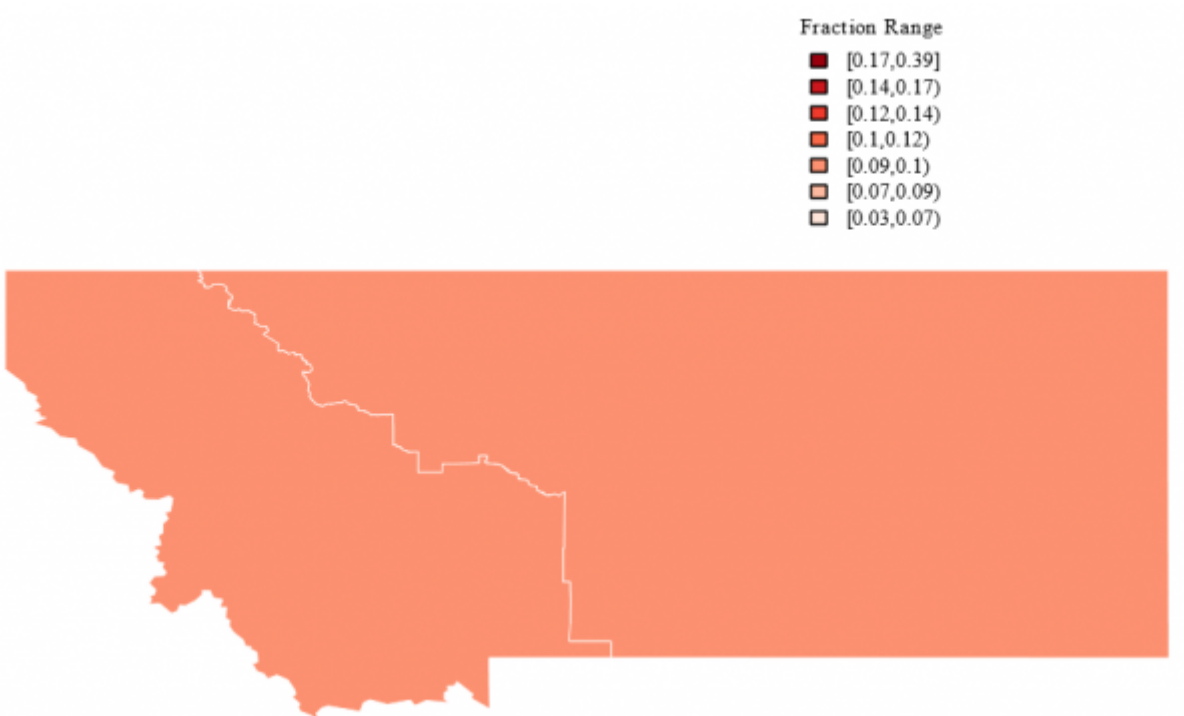
Average Supplemental Security Income (SSI) per 25- to 54-year-old female



3.9 Healthcare

[See Effects of Family Structure on Healthcare Coverage](#)

Fraction of 25- to 54-year-olds receiving public healthcare



Fraction of minors receiving public healthcare

Fraction Range

- [0.46,0.75]
- [0.39,0.46)
- [0.35,0.39)
- [0.31,0.35)
- [0.27,0.31)
- [0.21,0.27)
- [0.08,0.21)



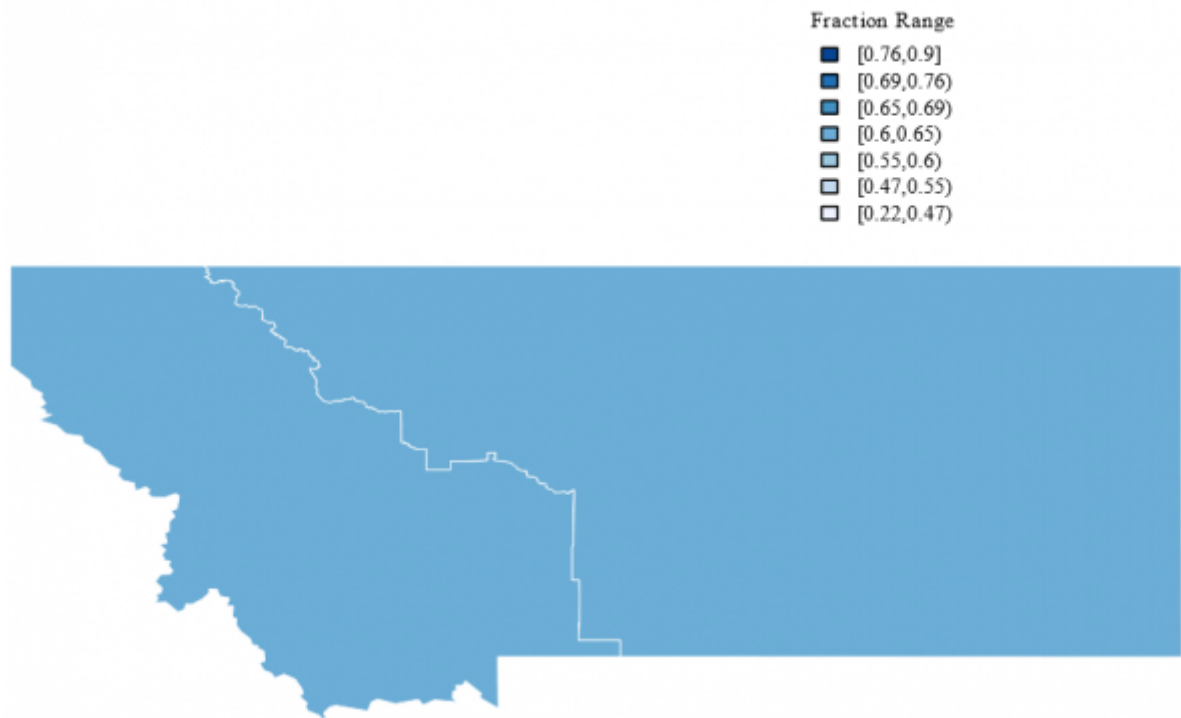
Fraction of 25- to 54-year-olds covered by private healthcare

Fraction Range

- [0.8,0.89]
- [0.75,0.8)
- [0.72,0.75)
- [0.68,0.72)
- [0.65,0.68)
- [0.59,0.65)
- [0.35,0.59)



Fraction of minors covered by private healthcare



1)  
This entry draws heavily from original research found in [Index of Family Belonging and Rejection: State by State \(2011\)](#), [Family Intactness: Influence on Major State Social Policy Outcomes](#), and [Family Intactness and Public Policy Outcomes by State](#).

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