Summary

The poverty rate for Daniels County decreased from 14.1% in 2010 to 10.1% in 2013. For the month of December in 2011 and 2014, the county’s unemployment rate increased from 3.5% to 3.1%. Median income in 2014 was higher in Daniels County ($48,643) than the state of Montana ($46,766). Eligibility for free and reduced school lunch in the county decreased from 20.9% in 2013 to 18.0% in 2016. The LIHEAP case load for the county decreased by 37.5% (16 in 2012 to 10 in 2015).

- The poverty rate in Daniels County is much lower than the state poverty rate. The current rate in Daniels County is 10.1% while the state rate is 15.2%. The Daniels County’s poverty rate declined over this period. The state rate increased over the same time period.

- The poverty rate for the youth (under 18) was higher in Daniels County than Montana; however, the poverty rates for working age adults (18 to 64) and elderly adults (65 and older) were lower in Daniels County than Montana.

- The poverty rate for youth, those under 18 years of age, was higher in Daniels County than the state (21.9% versus 19.7%).

- The poverty rate for those 18 to 64 was lower in Daniels County than the state (11.6% versus 14.5%). However, the poverty rate for elderly adults (65 and older) was lower in Daniels County than the state (8.2% versus 8.6%).
The unemployment rate in Daniels County was between 3.5% and 3.1% from 2011 to 2014. This is less than the statewide unemployment rate.

The SNAP Program had 54,535 cases active in June of 2015 providing benefits to 116,843 Montanans. The average monthly benefit per case was $254 (or $118 per person). This represents 11.8% of the Montana population. These numbers are down from 2012 when there were 58,918 cases representing 126,547 recipients or 12.8% of the population. Also in 2012, the average benefit was $276 per case or $128 per person. Each program statistic has declined since 2012.

In 2015, 3.6% of the population in Daniels County was receiving SNAP benefits. In 2012, 3.3% of the population received benefits.

The TANF program had 2,936 active cases in Montana in June of 2015 benefiting 7,007 individuals (0.71% of the population). The average benefit per case was $374 per month. These numbers are down from 2012 when there were 3,282 cases benefiting 8,162 individuals (0.82% of the population). The average benefit in 2012 was $426 per month.

County level data for the TANF is not available for Daniels County.
• The percentage of school-aged children eligible for free and reduced school lunch in the county decreased from 20.9% in 2013 to 18% in 2016, while the state decreased from 45.2% in 2013 to 42.6% in 2016.

Utilization of Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP)

• The LIHEAP case load decreased by 37.5% (16 in 2012 to 10 in 2015) for the county and increased by over 9.5% (10,765 in 2012 to 11,795 in 2015) for the state from December 2012 to December 2015. The LIHEAP payments per case decreased by 36% ($1,107 in 2012 to $705 in 2015) in the county and 10.8% ($580 in 2012 to $518 in 2015) for the state from December 2012 to December 2015.

Medicaid Utilization Estimates

• The county’s family adults, child, and disabled clients accounted for a higher percentage of Medicaid’s Physical Health funding utilization in 2014 than 2010. Medicaid Physical Health expenditures in the county decreased by 29.1% ($1.4 million in 2010 to $1.0 million in 2014), while increasing over 17.5% ($624.4 million in 2010 to $733.7 million in 2014) in the state.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Medicaid Physical Health</th>
<th>Daniels</th>
<th>Montana</th>
<th>%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2010 (x$1 million)</td>
<td>1.4</td>
<td>624.4</td>
<td>0.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2014 (x$1 million)</td>
<td>1.0</td>
<td>733.7</td>
<td>0.1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
From 2011 to 2014, the population of Daniels County increased by 10.0%.
During the same time period, the state of Montana’s population increased by 3.4%.

The labor force participation rate (LFPR) was somewhat higher in Daniels County than the state of Montana in 2011; but, was lower than the state of Montana from 2012 to 2014.

In 2014, the county’s Under 18 population was a lower proportion than for Montana. The county’s 65 & older population was a higher proportion than for Montana.
The dependency ratio is the number of young (0 to 17) and elderly (65 and older), who are said to be dependent, divided by the working age (18 to 64) population.

The county’s dependency ratio was substantially higher than the state’s dependency ratio from 2011 to 2014.

The county’s dependency ratio decreased from 74% in 2011 to 72% in 2014, while the state’s dependency ratio increased from 60% in 2011 to 62% in 2014. This high dependency ratio is driven by the county’s high old age dependency ratio (43% in the county versus 25% in the state).

In 2014, 6% of county residents aged 25 and older did not obtain a high school diploma, while the state average was 8%.

Data Note: Educational Attainment is measured by the American Community Survey 60 month (2010 to 2014) estimate.

Twenty Five percent of households in Montana earned less than $25,000 a year. Over the same time period, 47% of Montana households earned $50,000 or more.

The percentage of households in Daniels County with household income of less than $25,000 per year was nearly 20%, which is about 6% lower than the statewide rate.

Data Note: Income is measured by the American Community Survey 60 month (2010 to 2014) estimate.
The median income and the per-capita income amounts were higher for the county than the state.

Data Note: Income is measured by the American Community Survey 60 month estimate based on 2010 to 2014 data.

In Montana from 2010 to 2014, the percent of income generated by transfer receipts decreased from 21% to 19% of personal income. The percentage of personal income from dividends and interest increased from 21% to 23%.

In Daniels County from 2010 to 2014, the percent of income generated by transfer receipts increased from 22% to 26% of personal income. The percentage of personal income from dividends and interest increased from 19% to 35%. Both of these changes were due to a decline in overall personal income in Daniels County. Daniels County’s personal income represents 0.1% of the statewide total.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Personal Income (2014)</th>
<th>Daniels</th>
<th>Montana</th>
<th>%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>($ x 1000) Total Personal Income</td>
<td>$56,221</td>
<td>$40,843,525</td>
<td>0.1%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

From 2010 to 2014, the share of transfer payments for retirement and disability, medical benefits, and veteran’s benefits increased, while other transfer payments decreased for the state.

The share of transfer payments for retirement and disability increased, while other transfer payments decreased for the county.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Transfer Payments</th>
<th>Montana 2010</th>
<th>Montana 2014</th>
<th>Daniels 2010</th>
<th>Daniels 2014</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Retirement and disability insurance benefits (%)</td>
<td>38.9</td>
<td>42.7</td>
<td>41.9</td>
<td>45.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Medical benefits (%)</td>
<td>37.2</td>
<td>38.6</td>
<td>44.2</td>
<td>43.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Income maintenance benefits (%)</td>
<td>8.6</td>
<td>8.3</td>
<td>4.3</td>
<td>3.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unemployment insurance compensation (%)</td>
<td>4.8</td>
<td>1.6</td>
<td>2.3</td>
<td>1.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Veterans’ benefits (%)</td>
<td>4.3</td>
<td>4.8</td>
<td>3.3</td>
<td>3.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other (%)</td>
<td>6.2</td>
<td>4.1</td>
<td>4.1</td>
<td>2.6</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total cost (x$1,000,000) 2010 | 6,855 | 14
Total cost (x$1,000,000) 2014 | 7,489 | 14
From 2000 to 2013, EITC payments per EITC filer increased by 35.7% ($1,567 in 2000 to $2,126 in 2013) in the county and 35.1% ($1,556 in 2000 to $2,103 in 2013) in the state. The percentage of EITC filers (EITC filers/Total IRS filers) increased by 7% in the county and 18.3% in the state.

The data sources for this report can be found at [www.montana.edu/extensionecon/poverty.html](http://www.montana.edu/extensionecon/poverty.html).