



THINKBILLINGS

M O N T A N A

BIG SKY
ECONOMIC
DEVELOPMENT

COMMUNICATIONS & UTILITIES

TELECOMMUNICATIONS

- Montana's 10 local exchange companies and numerous other telecommunications service providers offer advanced voice, data and video telecommunications services to business and residential consumers throughout the state. More than 5,000 miles of fiber optics link Montana's rural communities and urban centers with high-speed, broadband on-ramps to the Internet. A packet-switched, ATM-based fiber ring connects 90 full-motion distance learning videoconference sites in rural Montana communities.

- More than 80% of the state's population lives within 50 miles of a DS-3 direct connection to the Internet. The entire state has local dial-up connectivity to the Internet. Montana's switching architecture is 100% digital. High-speed cable-modem and DSL (digital subscriber line) services are being deployed not only in Montana's larger population centers, but also in remote communities with populations of 1,000 and under.

- Telephone and communications services in Billings are provided by AT&T, Century Link, Integra Telecom and Spectrum. These providers offer an advanced telecommunications infrastructure allowing a range of businesses to operate successfully wherever they choose.

GAS AND ELECTRIC

Gas service in Billings/Yellowstone County is provided by Montana-Dakota Utilities Co., division of MDU Resources Group, Inc.

- MDU provides VERY COMPETITIVE natural gas rates.
- MDU offers both interruptible and firm transportation rates for large customers.
- In Montana, Montana-Dakota Utilities provides service to approximately 80,760 natural gas customers in 40 communities.

Electrical service is provided by NorthWestern Energy and Yellowstone Valley Electric Cooperative.

- NorthWestern Energy provides electric and/or natural gas services to 349 cities in the western two-thirds of Montana, eastern South Dakota and central Nebraska.

- In Montana, the utility provides service to 339,400 customers in 187 communities.

- In Montana, NorthWestern Energy operate 17,300 miles of distribution power lines; 7,000 miles of transmission power lines, ranging from 50 to 500 kV; 272 circuit segments; approximately 125,000 transmission poles; and 336 transmission and distribution substations.

- As of 2020, 65% of NorthWestern Energy's electric generation portfolio comes from carbon-free resources.

- While Montana is the fourth largest state, it is first in the nation for wind speed (class 3 and above), available on a wide expanse of federal, state and private lands.

- In Montana, in 2012, the 40-megawatt Spion Kop Wind Project near Geyser was completed.

- Yellowstone Valley Electric Cooperative (YVEC) is one of the nation's 1,000 electric cooperatives. Yellowstone Valley Electric Cooperative (YVEC) is a not-for-profit rural electric cooperative serving 15,000 meters in Yellowstone, Carbon, Big Horn, Musselshell, Stillwater and Treasure Counties. Our system consists of over 2,300 miles of line in the above listed counties. Currently, YVEC has a total of 19 distribution substations, two transmission substations and over 2,300 miles of line serving over 14,500 meters.



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ELECTRIC

Northwestern Energy (888) 467-2669
Yellowstone Valley Electric Cooperative..... (406) 348-3411
YVEC Toll Free (800) 736-5323



GAS

Montana-Dakota Utilities (406) 896-4250



WATER

City of Billings (406) 657-8315
Lockwood Water User's Assoc. (406) 259-4120



SEWER

City of Billings (406) 657-8315



WASTE DISPOSAL

City of Billings (406) 657-8356



CELLULAR PHONE SERVICES

AT&T: 406-356-0598
Cellular Plus – Verizon: 406-655-4858
Spectrum..... (866) 991-6514



TELECOMMUNICATIONS

(Business or Residential)

BluePrint Solutions by TCT..... (406) 248-4204
Blackfoot Telecommunications..... (406) 541-5000
Connect Telephone & Computer Group (406) 248-8900
Echo Networks..... (406) 831-1820
Nemont..... (406) 650-8800
Spectrum..... (877) 273-7626
CenturyLink..... (855)-891-4083



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BILLINGS, MT ELECTRICITY STATISTICS

COMMERCIAL ELECTRICITY RATES IN BILLINGS

The average commercial electricity rate in Billings is **10.74¢/kWh**

This average (commercial) electricity rate in Billings is **17.63% greater than** the Montana average of 9.13¢/kWh

The average (commercial) electricity rate in Billings is **6.44% greater than** the national average rate of 10.09¢/kWh. Commercial rates in the U.S. range from 6.86¢/kWh to 34.88¢/kWh.

The average industrial electricity rate in Billings is **6.33¢/kWh**

This average (industrial) electricity rate in Billings is **24.12% greater than** the Montana average of 5.1¢/kWh

The average (industrial) electricity rate in Billings is **5.1% less than** the national average rate of 6.67¢/kWh. Industrial rates in the U.S. range from 4.13¢/kWh to 30.82¢/kWh.

INDUSTRIAL ELECTRICITY RATES IN BILLINGS

RESIDENTIAL ELECTRICITY RATES IN BILLINGS

The average residential electricity rate in Billings is **11.64¢/kWh**

This average (residential) electricity rate in Billings is **15.48% greater than** the Montana average of 10.08¢/kWh

The average (residential) electricity rate in Billings is **2.02% less than** the national average rate of 11.88¢/kWh. Residential rates in the U.S. range from 8.37¢/kWh to 37.34¢/kWh.