



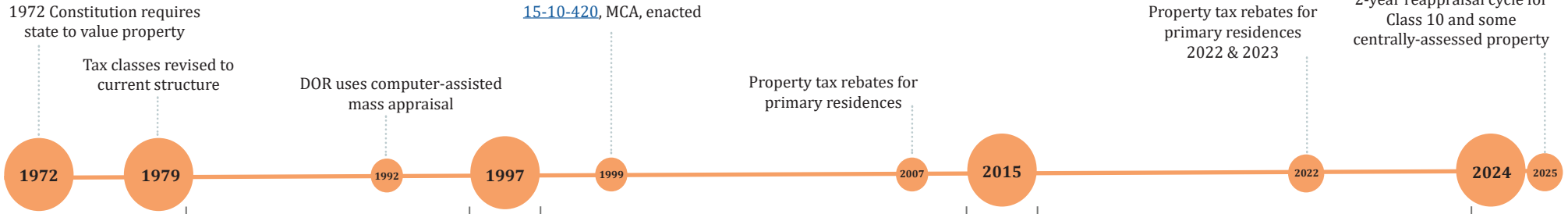
# PROPERTY TAXES IN MONTANA: A BRIEF HISTORY



AUGUST 2023

Data compiled from [MT Department of Revenue Biennial Reports](#) and [Montana Session Laws](#)

## TIMELINE



### Transition Pains

- Reappraisal cycles extended and lengths changed
- Frequent tax rate changes
- Infrequent mitigation
- Litigation (Barron, Sheehy, Roosevelt)

### 6-year Reappraisal (Classes 3, 4, & 10)

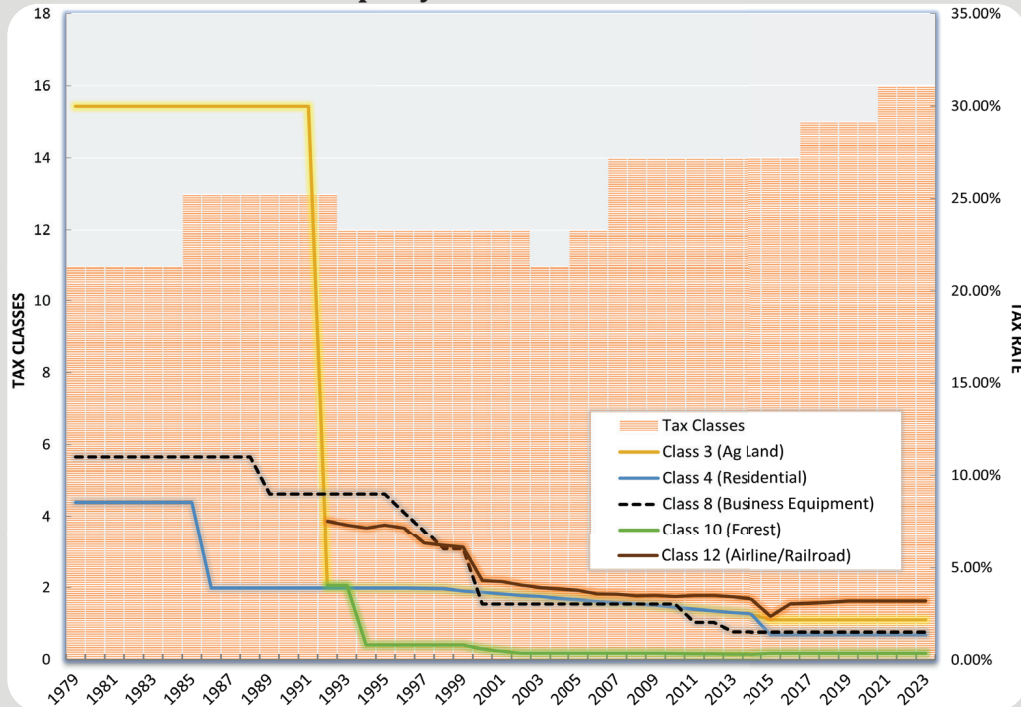
- First use of phase-in of reappraisal values
- Homestead/comstead exemptions enacted
- Mitigation for Classes 3, 4, and 10

### 2-year Reappraisal (Classes 3 & 4)

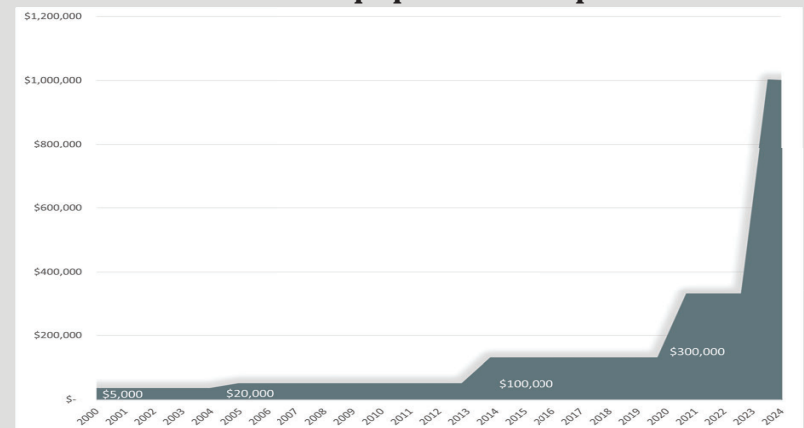
- Removal of phase-in, homestead and comstead exemptions
- No mitigation

Questions about this infographic?  
Contact Megan Moore, Research Analyst  
(406) 444 4496 | [megan.moore@legmt.gov](mailto:megan.moore@legmt.gov)

## Property Tax Classes & Rates



## Business Equipment Exemptions



Taxation of class 8 (business equipment) was frequently revised, both by dropping the rate and increasing the amount of value exempt from the tax. The current rate is tiered: 1.5% for the first \$6 million and 3% for value above \$6 million. The exemption amount will be \$1 million in 2024.

The graph to the left shows classes with tax rate changes since 1979. The class 4 residential rate for 1999 to 2014 reflects the homestead exemption. The class 4 commercial rate was about 0.5% less than the residential rate from 1999 to 2014.