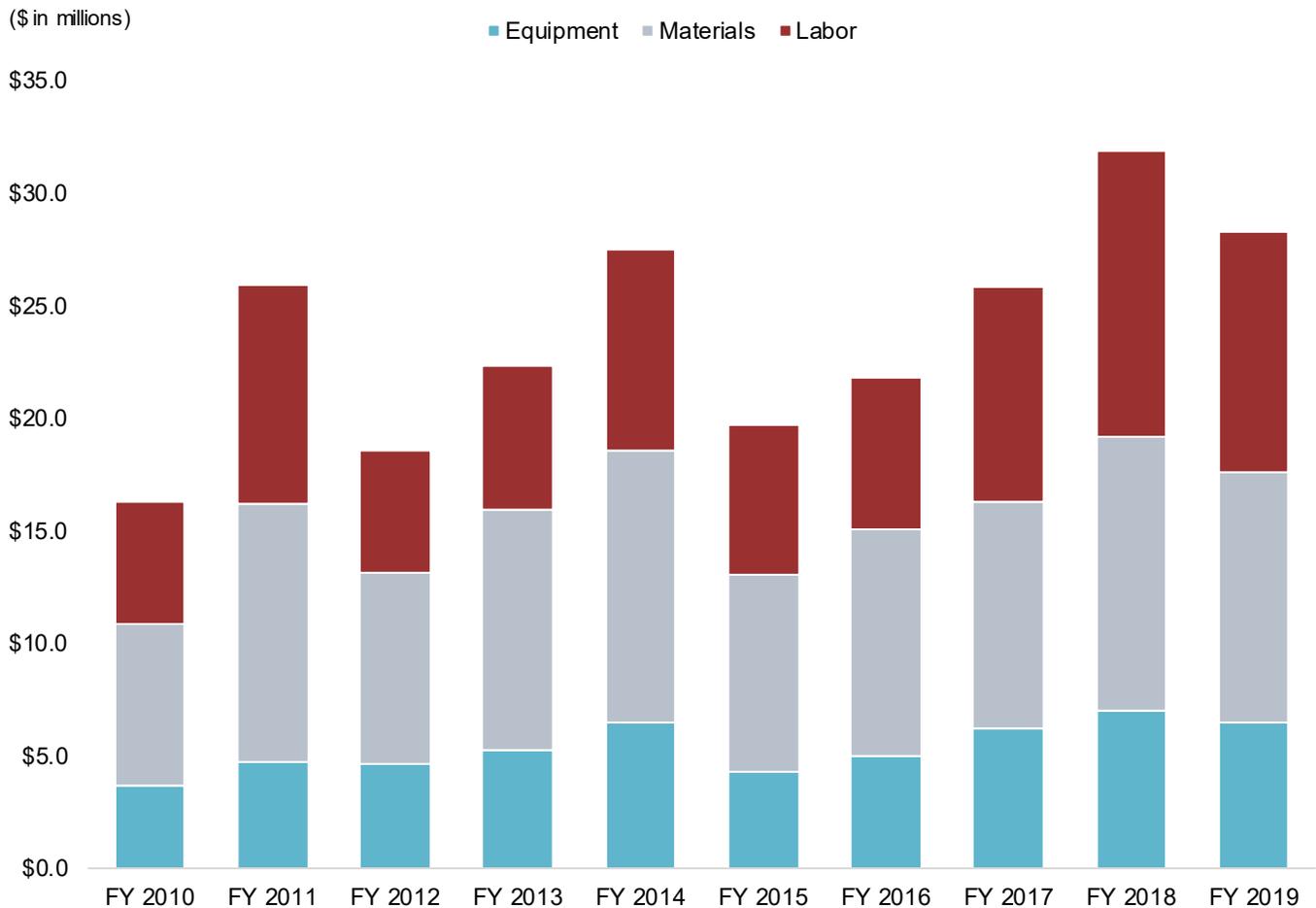


Montana Department of Transportation’s winter highway and road maintenance costs through the end of April 2019 were mostly for materials including sand, gravel and de-icer.



This chart includes data for the entire winter season within a state fiscal year between FY 2010 and FY 2018. In FY 2019, the data is for winter maintenance activities through the end of April. (Data provided by Montana Department of Transportation)

Full winter maintenance costs from FY 2010 through FY 2017 averaged \$22.3 million. In FY 2018, extreme winter conditions increased costs by almost \$10 million from the average, or 43.2%.

In FY 2019 through the end of April, an unusually long winter season with less snowfall than the previous year, winter maintenance costs were \$28.3 million, 11.3% less than the year before. The winter maintenance season is mostly over in Montana now, but snow plowing activities continue on the Beartooth Highway (US-212). It is expected to open by Memorial Day weekend without significant new snowfall. The costs of winter highway materials in the FY 2019 winter season accounted for 39.4% of the total costs. Personal service costs have been \$10.6 million or 37.7% of total costs and include overtime costs required for plowing roads. Equipment costs in the FY 2019 season were \$6.5 million, which is consistent with recent years.