# EMPLOYMENT AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

### **COUNTY PROFILE**

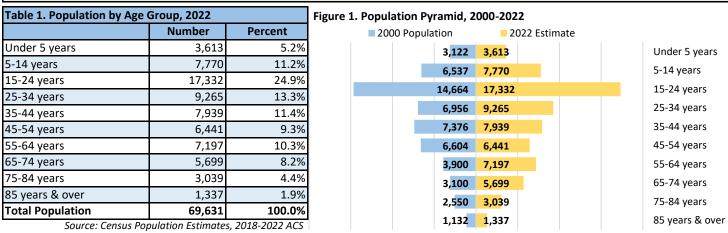
# **Blue Earth Co.**

Blue Earth Co. is a part of Economic Development Region 9, which is located in the Southwest Planning Region.

## **POPULATION CHARACTERISTICS**

2022 population:	69,631 people		
Population change,	5,618 people	Median Age:	<b>31.4</b> years
2010-2022	8.8% increase	state:	38.5 years

Blue Earth Co. is the 13th largest of the 87 counties in the state. Its population increased over the past decade, ranking as the 16th fastest growing in the state from 2010 to 2022. Blue Earth Co.'s population has a younger median age than the state and a smaller percentage of people aged 65 years and older. The population is aging, especially as the Baby Boom generation moves through the population pyramid (see Figure 1).



Blue Earth Co. enjoyed a natural increase - more births than deaths from 2020 to 2022, but also experienced net in-migration - meaning more people moved in than moved out. Despite suffering domestic out-migration, Blue Earth Co. welcomed net international in-migration - gaining new Minnesotans from foreign countries (see Table 2).

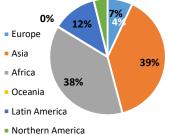
Table 2. Cumulative Estimates of the Components of Population Change, 2020-2022									
	Total	April 1, 2020 to July 1, 2022							
	Population	Natural	Natural Vital Events Net Migration						
	Change	Increase	Increase Births Deaths Total International Domestic						
Blue Earth Co.	502	315	1,591	1,276	159	315	-156		
State of Minnesota	tate of Minnesota 10,680 26,917 144,350 117,433 -17,365 20,012 -37,377								
	Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Population Estimates Program								

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Population Estimates Program

Compared to the state, Blue Earth Co. has a smaller percentage of foreign-born residents. From 2010 to 2022, Blue Earth Co. saw an increase in the number of foreign-born residents, which was faster than the statewide increase.

Table 3. Place of Birth for the Foreign Born	Blue E	arth Co.	Change 2	010-2022	Minnesota		
Population, 2022	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Percent	Change	
Foreign-born Population	4,085	5.9%	1,581	63.1%	8.5%	31.3%	
Europe	285	7.0%	-45	-13.6%	9.3%	-0.6%	
Asia	1,589	38.9%	514	47.8%	36.7%	30.2%	
Africa	1,543	37.8%	864	127.2%	28.1%	93.1%	
Oceania	4	0.1%	-8	-66.7%	0.4%	20.4%	
Americas:	664	16.3%	256	62.7%	25.4%	7.5%	
Latin America	507	12.4%	171	50.9%	22.9%	9.0%	
Northern America	157	3.8%	85	118.1%	2.5%	-4.6%	

Figure 2. Place of Birth for the Foreign Born Population, 2022



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2018-2022 American Community Survey



#### **COUNTY PROFILE**

**Blue Earth Co.** 

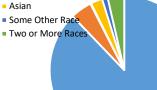
Blue Earth Co.'s population was becoming more racially diverse over time. Since 2011, the county's white population increased and the number of people of other races increased (see Table 4).

## Figure 3. Population by Race,









	В	lue Earth (	Minnesota		
Table 4. Race and Hispanic Origin, 2022	Number	Percent	Change from 2011-2022	Percent	Change from 2011-2022
Total	69,022	100.0%	8.9%	100.0%	<b>7.9%</b>
White	60,623	87.8%	3.0%	79.7%	-0.4%
Black or African American	3,217	4.7%	100.6%	6.7%	44.3%
American Indian or Alaska Native	109	0.2%	-27.8%	0.9%	-10.2%
Asian or Other Pac. Islanders	1,752	2.5%	34.4%	5.1%	37.1%
Some Other Race	846	1.2%	172.0%	2.3%	84.7%
Two or More Races	2,475	3.6%	115.6%	5.3%	159.6%
Hispanic or Latino origin	2,854	4.1%	77.8%	5.7%	34.6%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2018-2022 American Community Survey

# **POPULATION PROJECTIONS**

87.8%

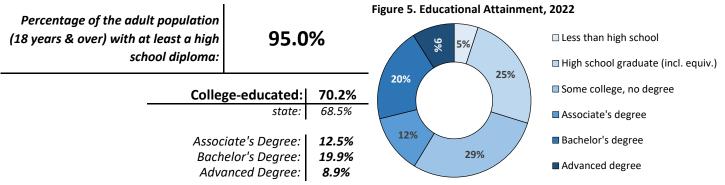
According to the Minnesota State Demographic Center, Blue Earth Co.'s population is expected to grow from 2025 to 2035, with a rate of change that is slower than the projected statewide growth rate (4.5%). In addition to the overall growth, the number of people aged 65 years and older is expected to increase over the next decade (see Figure 4 and Table 5).

					Figure 4. P	rojections	by Age Group	o, 2025-
<b>Table 5. Population Proj</b>	ections by Age Gro	up, 2025-2035			2035			
	2025	2035	Numeric	Percent	80,000	71,290	76,001	
Blue Earth Co.	Projection	Projection	Change	Change	70.000			85 years & over
Under 5 years	3,827	4,026	199	5.2%	70,000			<b>7</b> 5-84 years
5-14 years	7,762	8,173	411	5.3%	60,000			□ 65-74 years
15-24 years	18,068	19,264	1,196	6.6%	50,000			
25-34 years	8,947	9,825	878	9.8%	50,000			□ 55-64 years
35-44 years	8,462	8,201	-261	-3.1%	40,000			■ 45-54 years
45-54 years	6,788	8,437	1,649	24.3%	30,000			■ 35-44 years
55-64 years	6,523	6,513	-10	-0.2%	20.000			25-34 years
65-74 years	6,333	5,520	-813	-12.8%	20,000			15-24 years
75-84 years	3,393	4,638	1,245	36.7%	10,000			□ 5-14 years
85 years & over	1,187	1,404	217	18.3%	_			Under 5 years
Total Population	71,290	76,001	4,711	6.6%		2025	2035	
	S	ource: Minnesota	State Demoa	raphic Center	-	Projection	Projection	

Source: Minnesota State Demographic Center

# **EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT**

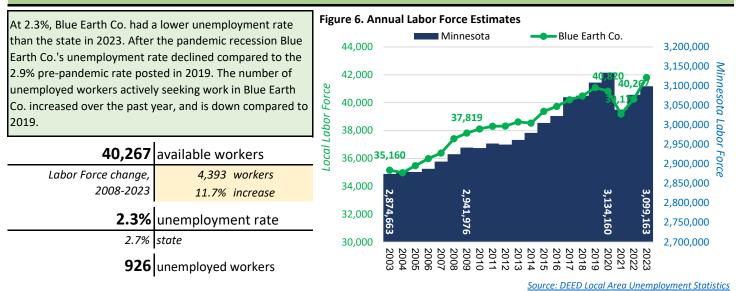
Blue Earth Co. has a higher percentage of adults (18 years & over) with at least a high school diploma than the state (93.0%), and a higher percentage of people with at least some college experience. Blue Earth Co. also has a higher percentage of people with an Associate's degree and a lower percentage of people with a Bachelor's degree or higher.



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2018-2022 American Community Survey

#### **COUNTY PROFILE**

# LABOR FORCE TRENDS



Labor force growth has slowed in recent years. After experiencing a net gain of workers each year from 1990 to 2000, Blue Earth Co. averaged an annual gain of new workers from 2000 to 2010, and most recently a gain of new workers since 2010 (see Figure 7). Moving forward, Blue Earth Co. is expected to add workers from 2025 to 2035 (see Table 6).

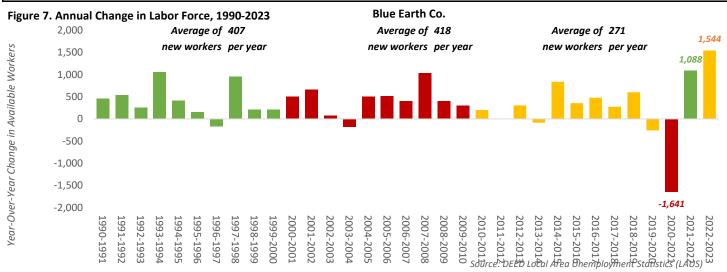
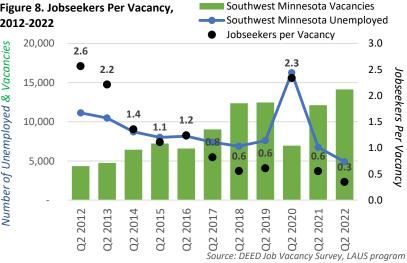


Table 6. Labor Force	Labor Force Projection					
Projections, 2025-2035	2025	2035	20			
16 to 24 years	12,589	13,655	S			
25 to 54 years	21,484	23,458	ncies			
55 to 64 years	4,952	4,945	8			
65 years & over	1,987	1,867	Va			
Total Labor Force	41,012	43,924	s po			

Source: Minnesota State Demographic Center, 2018-2022 ACS The labor market had grown extremely tight in recent years, with less than 1 jobseeker per vacancy until the pandemic recession intervened in early 2020 and the number of unemployed workers spiked. Job vacancies in Southwest reached new highs in the 4th quarter of 2021, quickly bringing back challenges in finding new workers and 2022 showed the lowest jobseeker-per-vacancy ratio on record (see Figure 8).



#### LABOR FORCE CHARACTERISTICS

Blue Earth Co. had a higher labor force participation rate than the state. The labor force in Blue Earth Co. is less racially diverse than the state (where 81.3% of workers are white alone), but is becoming more diverse over time.

Table 7. Employment Characteristics, 2022         Blue Earth Co.       Minnesota         Labor Force by Gender								
	Віц				esota	Labor Force	by Gender	
	In Labor Force (available workers)	Labor Force Partic. Rate	Unemp. Rate	Labor Force Partic. Rate	Unemp. Rate	Male	Female	
Total Labor Force	40,361	70.9%	3.7%	68.7%	4.0%	21,161	19,197	
16 to 19 years	3,362	61.0%	9.0%	53.0%	9.8%	1,418	1,946	
20 to 24 years	8,977	82.7%	4.3%	83.1%	6.7%	4,510	4,462	
25 to 44 years	15,320	89.8%	3.7%	88.8%	3.5%	8,435	6,887	
45 to 54 years	5,497	86.1%	2.0%	87.8%	2.9%	2,893	2,603	
55 to 64 years	5,416	75.9%	1.9%	72.8%	3.1%	2,755	2,662	
65 to 74 years	1,503	26.6%	1.8%	27.6%	3.3%	948	553	
75 years & over	286	6.6%	5.2%	6.6%	3.2%	202	84	
Employment Characteristics by Race & H	lispanic Origin					Figure 9. L	abor Force by	
White alone	35,857	70.6%	3.5%	67.8%	3.4%	Race, 2022		
Black or African American	1,606	69.3%	4.2%	71.5%	8.7%			
American Indian & Alaska Native	77	77.0%	0.0%	57.6%	11.9%			
Asian or Other Pac. Islanders	1,050	67.3%	11.5%	73.9%	3.6%			
Some Other Race	612	89.2%	1.5%	76.1%	6.1%			
Two or More Races	1,162	78.8%	5.9%	74.3%	6.6%		N N	
Hispanic or Latino	1,717	81.9%	7.6%	77.0%	6.3%			
<b>Employment Characteristics by Disabilit</b>	y, 20 to 64 years							
With Any Disability, 20 to 64 years	2,182	58.3%	14.0%	54.4%	10.2%		88.8%	
Employment Characteristics by Education	nal Attainment, 25	to 64 years						
Population, 25 to 64 years	26,232	85.8%	3.0%	84.4%	3.3%	White a		
Less than H.S. Diploma	923	66.2%	1.8%	67.2%	4.6%	<ul> <li>Black or African American</li> <li>American Indian &amp; Alaska Nation</li> </ul>		
H.S. Diploma or Equivalent	5,279	79.1%	2.3%	76.8%	2.5%			
Some College or Assoc. Degree	9,708	86.7%	3.9%	85.1%	3.6%	Asian or	Other Pac. Islanders	
Bachelor's Degree or Higher	10,324	91.3%	2.3%	90.3%	2.0%	Some O	ther Race	

Source: 2018-2022 American Community Survey, 5-Year Estimates

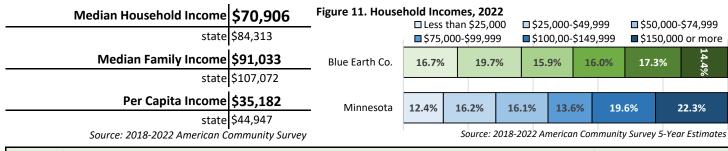
A larger percentage of workers in Blue Earth Co. worked in the same county in which they live compared to the state. Blue Earth Co. also had a shorter average commute time than the state.

	Blue Eart	h Co.	Minn	esota	Figure 10. Time Leaving Home to		
Table 8. Commuting Characteristics, 2022	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	go to Work, 20		- • • •
Worked in state of residence	37,206	99.7%	2,867,086	97.7%	Blue E	■ Minnesota )% 40%	
Worked in county of residence	28,586	76.6%	1,957,366	66.7%		20	40%
Worked out of county of residence	8,658	23.2%	909,720	31.0%	12:00 a.m. to		
Worked outside state of residence	112	0.3%	67,495	2.3%	4:59 a.m.	4.7%	
MEANS OF TRANSPORTATION TO WORK				-			
Car, truck, or van	32,168	86.2%	2,387,561	81.6%	5:00 a.m. to 5:59 a.m.	7.9%	
Public transportation (excl. taxicab)	634	1.7%	81,926	2.8%		9.2%	
Other method (walk, bike, taxi, etc.)	1,455	3.9%	122,889	4.2%	6:00 a.m. to 6:59	1	5.6%
Worked at home	3,097	8.3%	333,556	11.4%	a.m.		19.2%
TRAVEL TIME TO WORK					7:00 a.m. to 7:59		
Less than 10 minutes	8,844	23.7%	465,223	15.9%	a.m.		32.2%
10 to 19 minutes	17,539	47.0%	895,335	30.6%			20.776
20 to 29 minutes	5,374	14.4%	649,557	22.2%	8:00 a.m. to 8:59	13.	4%
30 to 44 minutes	3,247	8.7%	567,631	19.4%	a.m.	14	.7%
45 to 59 minutes	933	2.5%	190,186	6.5%	9:00 a.m. to		26.20/
60 or more minutes	1,381	3.7%	158,000	5.4%	11:59 p.m.		26.2%
Mean travel time to work (minutes)	17.4	minutes	23.3	minutes	I		

Source: 2018-2022 American Community Survey, 5-Year Estimates

# **INCOMES, COST OF LIVING, & HOUSING**

Blue Earth Co. had a lower median household income than the state, and a higher percentage of households with incomes below \$50,000. Overall, Blue Earth Co. had the 38th highest median household income of the 87 counties in the state.



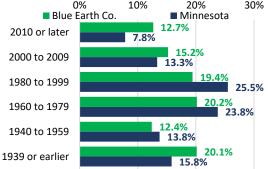
The cost of living has increased over the past 2 years with costs up in many areas. Blue Earth Co. had a lower cost of living than the state, with a required hourly wage of \$14.7 for a single person living alone to meet a basic needs cost of living, and an hourly wage requirement of \$15.8 for a typical family with 2 adults and 1 child (see Table 9).

Table 9. Basic Needs Cost of Living Estimates, 2022										
Single Vearly			Monthly Costs							
Cost of Living	, ,	Child Care	Food	Health Care	Housing	Trans- portation	Other	Taxes		
\$30,574	\$14.70	\$0	\$392	\$163	\$805	\$668	\$290	\$230		
\$34,992	\$16.82	\$0	\$403	\$159	\$961	\$760	\$330	\$303		
Family Voarly		-		N	Ionthly Co	sts				
Cost of Living	, ,	Child Care	Food	Health Care	Housing	Trans- portation	Other	Taxes		
\$49,282	\$15.80	\$241	\$895	\$528	\$1,041	\$773	\$469	\$160		
\$60,720	\$19.46	\$574	\$921	\$555	\$1,216	\$886	\$517	\$391		
	\$30,574 \$34,992 Family Yearly Cost of Living \$49,282	Cost of LivingRequired\$30,574\$14.70\$34,992\$16.82Family YearlyHourly WageCost of LivingRequired\$49,282\$15.80	Cost of LivingRequiredChild Care\$30,574\$14.70\$0\$34,992\$16.82\$0Family YearlyHourly WageChild CareCost of LivingRequiredChild Care\$49,282\$15.80\$241	Cost of LivingRequiredChild CareFood\$30,574\$14.70\$0\$392\$34,992\$16.82\$0\$403Family Yearly Cost of LivingHourly Wage RequiredEndFood\$49,282\$15.80\$241\$895	Single Yearly Cost of LivingHourly Wage RequiredHealth Care\$30,574\$14.70\$0\$392\$163\$34,992\$16.82\$0\$403\$159Family Yearly Cost of LivingHourly Wage RequiredMealth CareMealth Care\$49,282\$15.80\$241\$895\$528	Single Yearly Cost of LivingHourly Wage RequiredHourly Wage Child CareHealth CareHousing Housing\$30,574\$14.70\$0\$392\$163\$805\$34,992\$16.82\$0\$403\$159\$961Family Yearly Cost of LivingHourly Wage RequiredChild CareFoodHealth CareHousing \$961Family Yearly \$49,282\$15.80\$241\$895\$528\$1,041	Single Yearly Cost of LivingHourly Wage RequiredHourly CareHealth CareHousing portation\$30,574\$14.70\$0\$392\$163\$805\$668\$34,992\$16.82\$0\$403\$159\$961\$760Family Yearly Cost of LivingHourly Wage RequiredChild CareFoodHealth CareTrans- portation\$49,282\$15.80\$241\$895\$528\$1,041\$773\$60,720\$19.46\$574\$921\$555\$1,216\$886	Single Yearly Cost of LivingHourly Wage RequiredHourly Wage Child CareHealth CareHousing portationTrans- portationOther\$30,574\$14.70\$0\$392\$163\$805\$668\$290\$34,992\$16.82\$0\$403\$159\$961\$760\$330Family Yearly Cost of LivingHourly Wage RequiredChild CareFoodHealth CareTrans- portationOther\$49,282\$15.80\$241\$895\$528\$1,041\$773\$469		

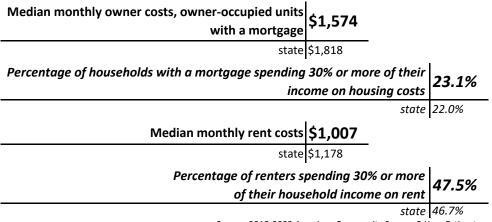
Blue Earth Co. had a lower median house value than the state, having the 26th highest value of the 87 counties in 2021. Blue Earth Co.'s housing stock was newer than the state's, with a higher percentage of units built since 2000 (see Figure 12).

Table 10. Estimated Value of Owner-	Blue Eart	Minnesota		
occupied Housing Units, 2022	Total Percent		Percent	
Total	16,635	100.0%	100.0%	
Less than \$50,000	983	5.9%	4.1%	
\$50,000 to \$99,999	717	4.3%	4.6%	
\$100,000 to \$149,999	1,694	10.2%	7.1%	
\$150,000 to \$199,999	2,686	16.1%	10.7%	
\$200,000 to \$299,999	5,648	34.0%	27.1%	
\$300,000 to \$499,999	3,576	21.5%	31.7%	
\$500,000 or more	1,331	8.0%	14.7%	
Median (dollars)	\$239,2	200	\$286,800	

Figure 12. Year Structure Built, 2022

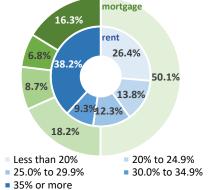


Source: 2018-2022 American Community Survey, 5-Year Estimates



Source: 2018-2022 American Community Survey, 5-Year Estimates





#### **Blue Earth Co**

#### **OCCUPATIONS**

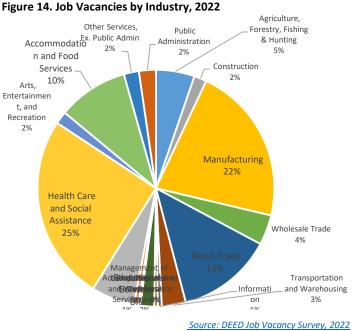
At \$22.61 in 2023, wages were lower in Region 9 than the state. Overall, Region 9 had the 5th highest median hourly wage level of the 13 economic development regions in the state. Wages were highest for management occupations (\$45.43) and lowest for food preparation and serving related jobs (\$14.54) (see Table 11).

Table 11. Occupational Employment & Wage Statistics, 202	23						
		Regio	n 9		Stat	e of Minnes	sota
Occupational Group	Median Hourly Wage	Estimated Regional Jobs	Share of Total Jobs	Regional Location Quotient	Median Hourly Wage	Estimated Statewide Jobs	Share of Total Jobs
Total, All Occupations	\$22.61	99,520	100.0%	1.0	\$24.25	2,827,310	100.0%
Management	\$45.43	5,560	5.6%	0.8	\$51.58	193,760	6.9%
Business & Financial Operations	\$31.55	4,010	4.0%	0.6	\$38.19	201,940	7.1%
Computer & Mathematical	\$37.11	1,170	1.2%	0.3	\$49.73	99,250	3.5%
Architecture & Engineering	\$37.38	1,530	1.5%	0.8	\$40.60	53,100	1.9%
Life, Physical & Social Science	\$31.23	820	0.8%	0.8	\$39.37	29,070	1.0%
Community & Social Service	\$25.09	2,520	2.5%	1.3	\$25.82	54,820	1.9%
Legal	\$33.36	380	0.4%	0.6	\$47.87	18,730	0.7%
Education, Training & Library	\$28.27	6,560	6.6%	1.2	\$24.82	158,830	5.6%
Arts, Design, Entertainment & Media	\$23.49	1,110	1.1%	0.8	\$28.80	37,630	1.3%
Healthcare Practitioners & Technical	\$37.27	5,550	5.6%	0.8	\$41.07	186,700	6.6%
Healthcare Support	\$15.81	5,840	5.9%	1.0	\$17.40	162,400	5.7%
Protective Service	\$26.80	1,270	1.3%	0.9	\$25.83	40,620	1.4%
Food Preparation & Serving Related	\$14.54	8,730	8.8%	1.1	\$14.89	216,970	7.7%
Building, Grounds Cleaning & Maint.	\$17.87	2,760	2.8%	1.0	\$18.26	76,210	2.7%
Personal Care & Service	\$15.07	2,030	2.0%	1.0	\$16.96	58,120	2.1%
Sales & Related	\$15.30	8,840	8.9%	1.0	\$18.14	239,500	8.5%
Office & Administrative Support	\$20.41	11,430	11.5%	0.9	\$23.06	345,830	12.2%
Farming, Fishing & Forestry	\$18.84	290	0.3%	2.0	\$19.84	4,060	0.1%
Construction & Extraction	\$27.63	4,130	4.1%	1.0	\$31.00	113,930	4.0%
Installation, Maintenance & Repair	\$24.77	4,590	4.6%	1.3	\$27.95	98,670	3.5%
Production	\$19.91	11,040	11.1%	1.5	\$22.07	209,380	7.4%
Transportation & Material Moving	\$19.57	9,370	9.4%	1.2	\$19.80	227,780	8.1%

#### **JOB VACANCY SURVEY**

Blue Earth Co. is a part of the Southwest planning region. There were 14128 job vacancies posted by employers in 2022, indicating extensive opportunity in the region, with openings across several occupations and industries (see Figure 14).

Table 12. Southwest Job Vacancy Survey	Results, 2022		Figure 14. Job Vacar
	Number of	Wage	Other
Occupational Group	Vacancies	Offer	Accommodatio
Total, All Occupations	14,128	\$16.55	n and Food
Management	430	\$27.04	Services _
Business & Financial Operations	151	\$24.64	Arts. 10%
Computer & Mathematical	99	\$31.77	Entertainmen
Architecture & Engineering	130	\$27.09	t, and
Life, Physical & Social Sciences	69	\$20.91	Recreation
Community & Social Service	159	\$25.21	
Education, Training & Library	731	\$17.88	
Healthcare Practitioners & Technical	1,252	\$25.17	
Healthcare Support	1,290	\$14.92	
Protective Service	142	\$19.76	Health Care
Food Preparation & Serving Related	2,626	\$13.56	and Social
Building, Grounds Cleaning & Maint.	379	\$15.50	Assistance
Personal Care & Service	135	\$12.78	25%
Sales & Related	1,467	\$14.33	
Office & Administrative Support	766	\$14.07	
Construction & Extraction	165	\$17.90	]
Installation, Maintenance & Repair	554	\$22.90	]
Production	1,782	\$18.26	]
Transportation & Material Moving	786	\$17.46	



Source: DEED Occupational Employment & Wage Statistics, Qtr. 1 2023

# **OCCUPATIONS IN DEMAND**

Table 13. Southwest Planning Region Occupations in Demand, 2022							
Less than High School	High School or Equivalent	Some College or Assoc. Deg.	Bachelor's Degree or Higher				
Home Health & Personal Care Aides	Nursing Assistants	Registered Nurses	Substitute Teachers, Short-Term				
\$32,800/yr	\$38,146/yr	\$80,694/yr	\$46,668/yr				
Retail Salespersons	Licensed Practical & Licensed Vocational Nurses	Police & Sheriff's Patrol Officers	General & Operations Managers				
\$30,660/yr	\$52,242/yr	\$66,050/yr	\$78,383/yr				
Heavy & Tractor-Trailer	Automotive Service Technicians &	Dental Hygienists	Elementary School Teachers				
Truck Drivers	Mechanics	Dental Hygienists					
\$51,299/yr	\$49,362/yr	\$82,983/yr	\$63,391/yr				
Cashiers	Dental Assistants	Clinical Laboratory Technologists & Technicians	Secondary School Teachers				
\$29,092/yr	\$54,422/yr	\$61,801/yr	\$64,067/yr				
Fast Food & Counter Workers	Machinists	Industrial Engineering Technologists & Technicians	Accountants & Auditors				
\$29,393/yr	\$49,288/yr	\$49,646/yr	\$66,142/yr				
Waiters & Waitresses	Electricians	Radiologic Technologists & Technicians	Preschool Teachers				
\$24,271/yr	\$63,396/yr	\$66,703/yr	\$35,451/yr				
Laborers & Freight, Stock, & Material Movers, Hand	Computer User Support Specialists	Computer Network Support Specialists	Medical & Health Services Managers				
\$39,654/yr	\$57,870/yr	\$72,682/yr	\$95,320/yr				
Office Clerks, General	Medical Assistants	Electrical & Electronic Engineering Technologists &	Industrial Production Managers				
\$41,160/yr	\$46,233/yr	\$66,192/yr	\$99,559/yr				
Maintenance & Repair Workers, General	Industrial Machinery Mechanics	Civil Engineering Technologists & Technicians	Lawyers				
\$49,219/yr	\$59,803/yr	\$71,840/yr	\$103,321/yr				
Teaching Assistants, exc. Postsecondary	Farm Equipment Mechanics & Service Technicians	Environmental Science & Protection Technicians, Including	Personal Financial Advisors				
\$36,756/yr	\$51,684/yr	\$39,218/yr	\$78,180/yr				
	·		Source: DEED Occupations in Demand				

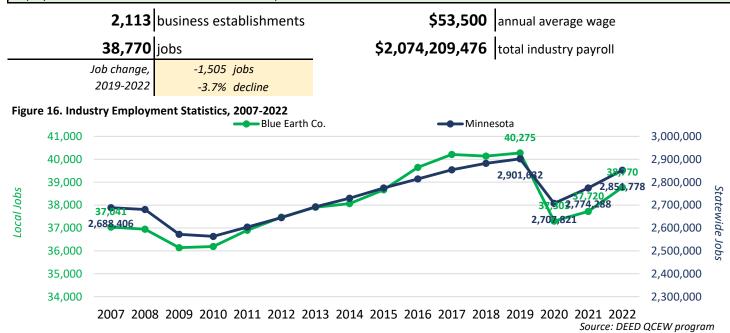
Blue Earth Co. is a part of the Southwest planning region, which is projected to see a 3.9% increase in employment levels over the next decade. In addition to new jobs created, there will be a much larger number of exit openings (see Figure 15).

Table 14. Regional Industry Employment P	Figure 15. Regional Occupational								
				Employment Projections, 2020-2030					
	Estimated	Projected	Percent	From employment gro -5.0					
	Employment	Employ-	Change	- , - , - , - , - , - , - , - , - , - ,					
Southwest Planning Region	2020	ment 2030	2020-2030	Management Occupations	312 <b>8,590</b>				
Total, All Industries	195,812	203,504	3.9%	Business and Financial Computer and	301 <b>1</b> ,897 83 432				
Natural Resources & Mining	5,931	6,026	1.6%	Architecture and	174 682				
Utilities	713	735	3.1%	Life, Physical, and Social	111 533				
Construction	7,573	8,082	6.7%	Community and Social	434 1,676				
Manufacturing	30,107	30,719	2.0%	Legal Occupations	47 194				
Wholesale Trade	8,045	8,118	0.9%	Educational Instruction and Arts, Design,	855 4,608				
Retail Trade	18,569	17,653	-4.9%	Healthcare Practitioners	196 1,129 729 2,738				
Transportation & Warehousing	7,385	7,817	5.8%	Healthcare Support	1,322 7,049				
Information	2,152	2,001	-7.0%	Protective Service	125 1,134				
Finance & Insurance, Real Estate	8,098	8,232	1.7%	Food Preparation and	2,02 <mark>6 9,744</mark>				
Professional Services & Mgmt. of Compani	5,283	5,512	4.3%	Building and Grounds	414 3,715				
Admin. Support & Waste Mgmt.	3,421	3,636	6.3%	Personal Care and Service Sales and Related	446 <b>3,452</b> -8 <mark>8</mark> 2 9,573				
Educational Services	15,564	16,274	4.6%	Office and Administrative	-999 10,245				
Health Care & Social Assistance	29,352	32,081	9.3%	Farming, Fishing, and	63 <b>1</b> ,651				
Leisure & Hospitality	11,744	14,382	22.5%	Construction and Extraction	433 2,623				
Other Services	6,756	7,462	10.4%	Installation, Maintenance,	515 2,660				
Public Administration	13,193	13,517	2.5%	Production Occupations Transportation and	-49 7,349				
Source: DEED 2020-2030 Employment Outlook									

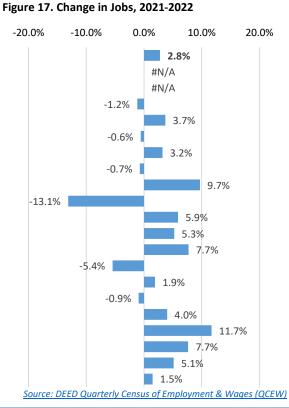
#### **COUNTY PROFILE**

# **ECONOMIC CHARACTERISTICS**

Coming out of the pandemic recession, after gaining jobs over the past year, Blue Earth Co. had the 12th largest economy of the 87 counties in the state. Blue Earth Co. was the 25th fastest growing in the past year and the 54th fastest growing since 2019. From 2019 to 2022, employment in Blue Earth Co. is still down from the pandemic recession.



			Average
Table 15. Blue Earth Co. Industry	Number of	Percent of	Annual
Employment Statistics, 2022	Jobs	Total Jobs	Wage
Total, All Industries	38,770	100.0%	\$53,500
Agriculture, Forestry, Fish & Hunt	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A
Mining	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A
Construction	1,865	4.8%	\$69 <i>,</i> 836
Manufacturing	4,234	10.9%	\$72,121
Utilities	179	0.5%	\$103,571
Wholesale Trade	1,062	2.7%	\$78,623
Retail Trade	5,498	14.2%	\$33 <i>,</i> 880
Transportation & Warehousing	1,607	4.1%	\$51,342
Information	523	1.3%	\$59 <i>,</i> 865
Finance & Insurance	1,184	3.1%	\$88,628
Real Estate & Rental & Leasing	801	2.1%	\$37,815
Professional & Technical Services	1,158	3.0%	\$84,523
Management of Companies	157	0.4%	\$90,269
Admin. Support & Waste Mgmt. Svcs.	955	2.5%	\$40,441
Educational Services	3,688	9.5%	\$59,051
Health Care & Social Assistance	8,397	21.7%	\$59,002
Arts, Entertainment, & Recreation	515	1.3%	\$16,480
Accommodation & Food Services	3,811	9.8%	\$19,093
Other Services	1,410	3.6%	\$35,774
Public Administration	1,292	3.3%	\$66,120



#### For more information on Blue Earth Co.'s population, labor force, and economic trends, contact:

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Data updated: February 13, 2024