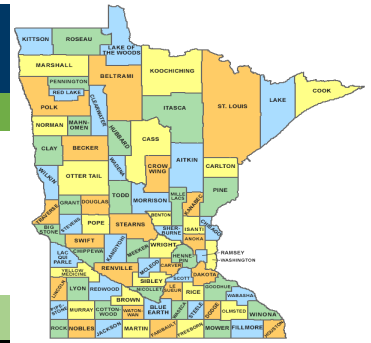


COUNTY PROFILE

Mower Co.

Mower Co. is a part of Economic Development Region 10, which is located in the Southeast Planning Region.



POPULATION CHARACTERISTICS

2022 population:	40,140 people
Population change, 2010-2022	977 people 2.5% increase

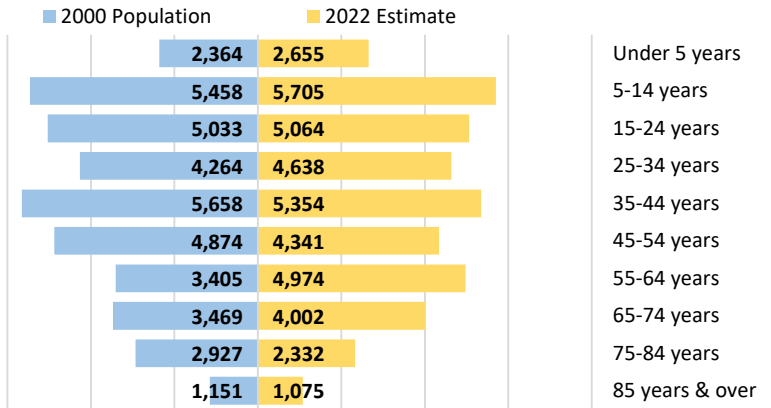
Median Age:	39.1 years
state:	38.5 years

Mower Co. is the 26th largest of the 87 counties in the state. Its population increased over the past decade, ranking as the 39th fastest growing in the state from 2010 to 2022. Mower Co.'s population has an older median age than the state and a larger 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).

	Number	Percent
Under 5 years	2,655	6.6%
5-14 years	5,705	14.2%
15-24 years	5,064	12.6%
25-34 years	4,638	11.6%
35-44 years	5,354	13.3%
45-54 years	4,341	10.8%
55-64 years	4,974	12.4%
65-74 years	4,002	10.0%
75-84 years	2,332	5.8%
85 years & over	1,075	2.7%
Total Population	40,140	100.0%

Source: Census Population Estimates, 2018-2022 ACS

Figure 1. Population Pyramid, 2000-2022



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

	Total Population Change	April 1, 2020 to July 1, 2022					
		Natural Increase	Vital Events		Net Migration		
			Births	Deaths	Total	International	Domestic
Mower Co.	106	147	1,100	953	-74	371	-445
State of Minnesota	10,680	26,917	144,350	117,433	-17,365	20,012	-37,377

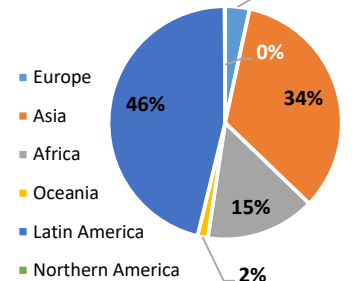
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Population Estimates Program

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

	Mower Co.		Change 2010-2022		Minnesota	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Percent	Change
Foreign-born Population	4,459	11.1%	1,801	67.8%	8.5%	31.3%
Europe	151	3.4%	7	4.9%	9.3%	-0.6%
Asia	1,507	33.8%	1,164	339.4%	36.7%	30.2%
Africa	678	15.2%	472	229.1%	28.1%	93.1%
Oceania	64	1.4%	61	2033.3%	0.4%	20.4%
Americas:	2,059	46.2%	97	4.9%	25.4%	7.5%
Latin America	2,056	46.1%	121	6.3%	22.9%	9.0%
Northern America	3	0.1%	-24	-88.9%	2.5%	-4.6%

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

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



COUNTY PROFILE

Mower Co.

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

Figure 3. Population by Race, 2022

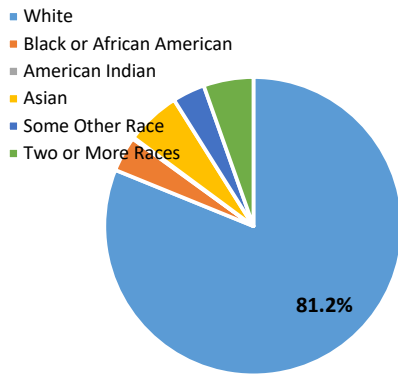


Table 4. Race and Hispanic Origin, 2022	Mower Co.			Minnesota	
	Number	Percent	Change from 2011-2022	Percent	Change from 2011-2022
Total	40,082	100.0%	2.8%	100.0%	7.9%
White	32,527	81.2%	-9.9%	79.7%	-0.4%
Black or African American	1,534	3.8%	97.2%	6.7%	44.3%
American Indian or Alaska Native	65	0.2%	-11.0%	0.9%	-10.2%
Asian or Other Pac. Islanders	2,375	5.9%	318.9%	5.1%	37.1%
Some Other Race	1,410	3.5%	70.5%	2.3%	84.7%
Two or More Races	2,171	5.4%	239.2%	5.3%	159.6%
Hispanic or Latino origin	5,064	12.6%	30.4%	5.7%	34.6%

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

POPULATION PROJECTIONS

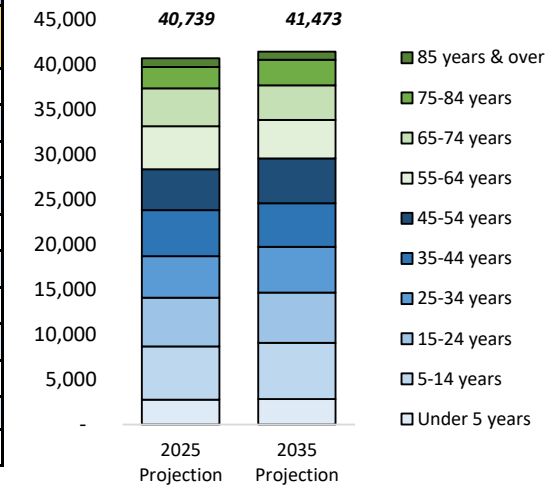
According to the Minnesota State Demographic Center, Mower Co.'s population is expected to grow from 2025 to 2035, with a rate of change that is slower than the projected statewide growth rate (4.5%). In addition to the overall growth, the number of people aged 65 years and older is expected to increase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

Table 5. Population Projections by Age Group, 2025-2035

Mower Co.	2025 Projection	2035 Projection	Numeric Change	Percent Change
Under 5 years	2,769	2,832	63	2.3%
5-14 years	5,932	6,268	336	5.7%
15-24 years	5,395	5,580	185	3.4%
25-34 years	4,646	5,092	446	9.6%
35-44 years	5,109	4,836	-273	-5.3%
45-54 years	4,552	4,982	430	9.4%
55-64 years	4,763	4,306	-457	-9.6%
65-74 years	4,232	3,845	-387	-9.1%
75-84 years	2,364	2,823	459	19.4%
85 years & over	977	909	-68	-7.0%
Total Population	40,739	41,473	734	1.8%

Source: Minnesota State Demographic Center

Figure 4. Projections by Age Group, 2025-2035



EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT

Mower Co. has a lower percentage of adults (18 years & over) with at least a high school diploma than the state (93.0%), and a lower percentage of people with at least some college experience. Mower 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.

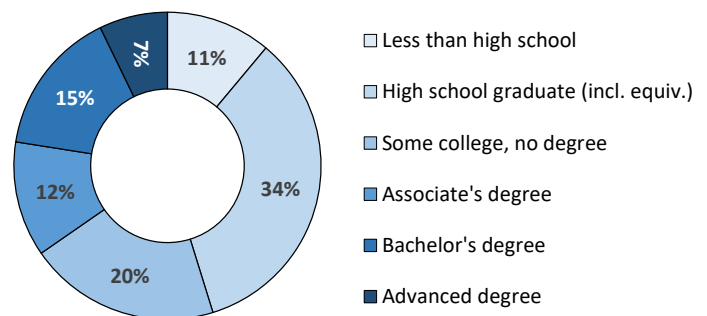
Percentage of the adult population (18 years & over) with at least a high school diploma:

88.9%

College-educated: 54.8%
state: 68.5%

Associate's Degree: 12.1%
Bachelor's Degree: 15.3%
Advanced Degree: 7.2%

Figure 5. Educational Attainment, 2022



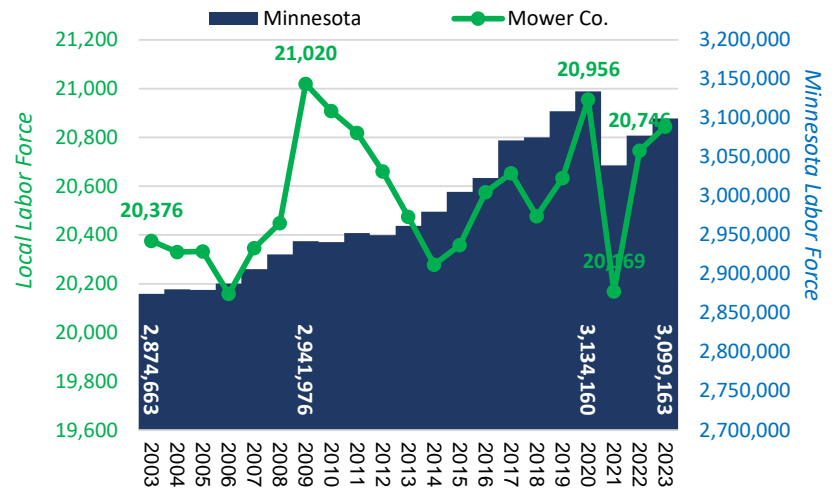
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2018-2022 American Community Survey

LABOR FORCE TRENDS

At 2.5%, Mower Co. had a lower unemployment rate than the state in 2023. After the pandemic recession Mower Co.'s unemployment rate declined compared to the 3.2% pre-pandemic rate posted in 2019. The number of unemployed workers actively seeking work in Mower Co. increased over the past year, and is down compared to 2019.

20,746 available workers	
Labor Force change, 2008-2023	396 workers 1.9% increase
2.5% unemployment rate	2.7% state
519 unemployed workers	

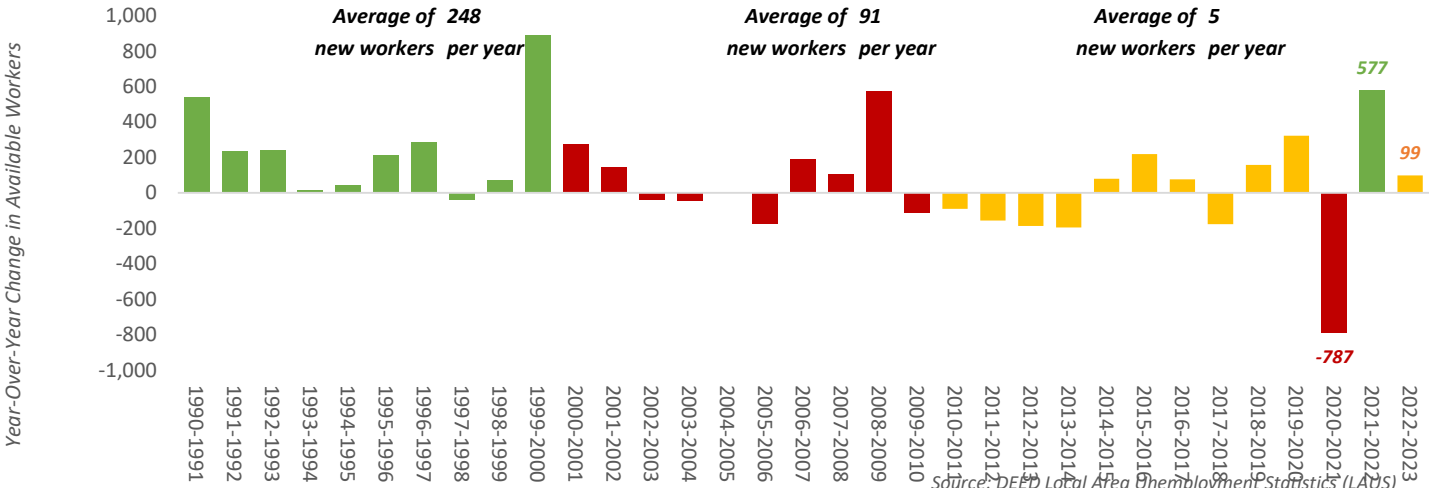
Figure 6. Annual Labor Force Estimates



Source: DEED Local Area Unemployment Statistics

Labor force growth has slowed in recent years. After experiencing a net gain of workers each year from 1990 to 2000, Mower 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, Mower Co. is expected to add workers from 2025 to 2035 (see Table 6).

Figure 7. Annual Change in Labor Force, 1990-2023



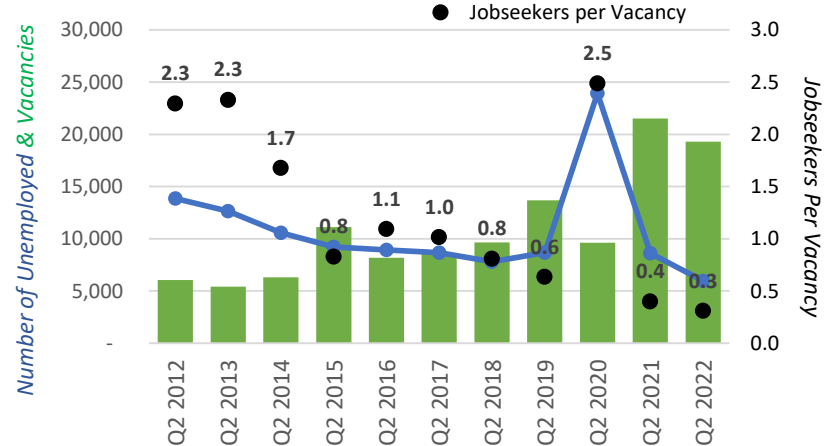
Source: DEED Local Area Unemployment Statistics (LAUS)

Table 6. Labor Force Projections, 2025-2035	Labor Force Projection	
	2025	2035
16 to 24 years	3,263	3,388
25 to 54 years	12,195	12,710
55 to 64 years	3,415	3,087
65 years & over	1,419	1,328
Total Labor Force	20,292	20,514

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 Southeast 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).

Figure 8. Jobseekers Per Vacancy, 2012-2022



Source: DEED Job Vacancy Survey, LAUS program

LABOR FORCE CHARACTERISTICS

Mower Co. had a lower labor force participation rate than the state. The labor force in Mower 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

	Mower Co.			Minnesota		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	20,137	64.8%	3.2%	68.7%	4.0%	11,248	8,893
16 to 19 years	1,001	48.5%	17.9%	53.0%	9.8%	469	532
20 to 24 years	2,023	86.6%	5.0%	83.1%	6.7%	1,140	883
25 to 44 years	8,492	85.1%	2.6%	88.8%	3.5%	4,830	3,663
45 to 54 years	3,706	85.5%	1.8%	87.8%	2.9%	1,965	1,743
55 to 64 years	3,561	71.7%	1.7%	72.8%	3.1%	1,932	1,631
65 to 74 years	1,163	29.1%	1.0%	27.6%	3.3%	849	315
75 years & over	191	5.6%	0.0%	6.6%	3.2%	63	126

Employment Characteristics by Race & Hispanic Origin

White alone	16,525	63.2%	3.1%	67.8%	3.4%
Black or African American	607	68.0%	3.0%	71.5%	8.7%
American Indian & Alaska Native	17	70.8%	5.9%	57.6%	11.9%
Asian or Other Pac. Islanders	1,060	72.6%	3.5%	73.9%	3.6%
Some Other Race	881	81.2%	1.6%	76.1%	6.1%
Two or More Races	1,052	71.7%	6.5%	74.3%	6.6%
Hispanic or Latino	2,474	78.0%	5.8%	77.0%	6.3%

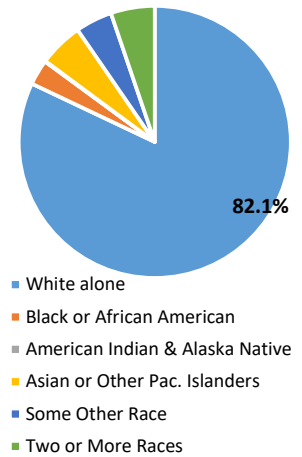
Employment Characteristics by Disability, 20 to 64 years

With Any Disability, 20 to 64 years	1,178	51.0%	11.2%	54.4%	10.2%
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Employment Characteristics by Educational Attainment, 25 to 64 years

Population, 25 to 64 years	15,770	81.8%	2.2%	84.4%	3.3%
Less than H.S. Diploma	1,270	71.0%	3.6%	67.2%	4.6%
H.S. Diploma or Equivalent	4,829	79.2%	0.6%	76.8%	2.5%
Some College or Assoc. Degree	5,623	84.7%	1.4%	85.1%	3.6%
Bachelor's Degree or Higher	4,041	85.0%	1.8%	90.3%	2.0%

Figure 9. Labor Force by Race, 2022



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

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

Table 8. Commuting Characteristics, 2022

	Mower Co.		Minnesota	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Worked in state of residence	18,759	97.8%	2,867,086	97.7%
Worked in county of residence	13,868	72.3%	1,957,366	66.7%
Worked out of county of residence	4,891	25.5%	909,720	31.0%
Worked outside state of residence	422	2.2%	67,495	2.3%

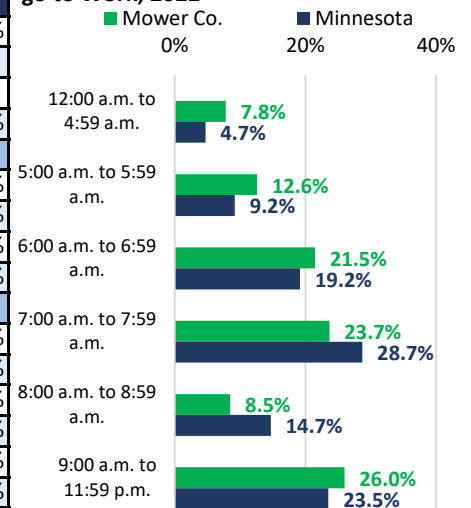
MEANS OF TRANSPORTATION TO WORK

Car, truck, or van	17,033	88.8%	2,387,561	81.6%
Public transportation (excl. taxicab)	211	1.1%	81,926	2.8%
Other method (walk, bike, taxi, etc.)	825	4.3%	122,889	4.2%
Worked at home	1,132	5.9%	333,556	11.4%

TRAVEL TIME TO WORK

Less than 10 minutes	6,982	36.5%	465,223	15.9%
10 to 19 minutes	5,313	27.8%	895,335	30.6%
20 to 29 minutes	2,110	11.0%	649,557	22.2%
30 to 44 minutes	2,263	11.8%	567,631	19.4%
45 to 59 minutes	1,554	8.1%	190,186	6.5%
60 or more minutes	921	4.8%	158,000	5.4%
Mean travel time to work (minutes)	19.6 minutes		23.3 minutes	

Figure 10. Time Leaving Home to go to Work, 2022



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

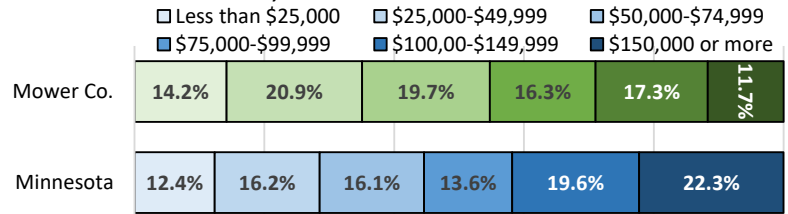
INCOMES, COST OF LIVING, & HOUSING

Mower Co. had a lower median household income than the state, and a higher percentage of households with incomes below \$50,000. Overall, Mower Co. had the 56th highest median household income of the 87 counties in the state.

Median Household Income	\$66,972
state	\$84,313
Median Family Income	\$87,333
state	\$107,072
Per Capita Income	\$33,921
state	\$44,947

Source: 2018-2022 American Community Survey

Figure 11. Household Incomes, 2022



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

The cost of living has increased over the past 2 years with costs up in many areas. Mower Co. had a lower cost of living than the state, with a required hourly wage of \$14.08 for a single person living alone to meet a basic needs cost of living, and an hourly wage requirement of \$15.95 for a typical family with 2 adults and 1 child (see Table 9).

Table 9. Basic Needs Cost of Living Estimates, 2022

Category	Single Yearly Cost of Living	Hourly Wage Required	Monthly Costs						
			Child Care	Food	Health Care	Housing	Transportation	Other	Taxes
Single Adult, 0 children									
Mower Co.	\$29,295	\$14.08	\$0	\$395	\$163	\$662	\$753	\$256	\$212
State of Minnesota	\$34,992	\$16.82	\$0	\$403	\$159	\$961	\$760	\$330	\$303
Typical Family: 2 Adults (1 working full-time, 1 part-time), 1 child									
Mower Co.	\$49,749	\$15.95	\$339	\$903	\$528	\$887	\$879	\$433	\$177
State of Minnesota	\$60,720	\$19.46	\$574	\$921	\$555	\$1,216	\$886	\$517	\$391

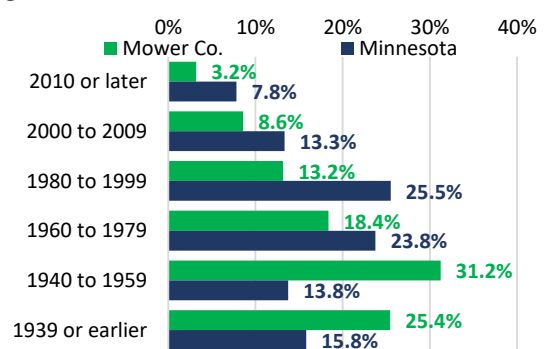
Source: DEED Cost of Living tool

Mower Co. had a lower median house value than the state, having the 65th highest value of the 87 counties in 2021. Mower Co.'s housing stock was older than the state's, with a lower percentage of units built since 2000 (see Figure 12).

Table 10. Estimated Value of Owner-occupied Housing Units, 2022	Mower Co.		Minnesota
	Total	Percent	Percent
Total	11,744	100.0%	100.0%
Less than \$50,000	622	5.3%	4.1%
\$50,000 to \$99,999	2,277	19.4%	4.6%
\$100,000 to \$149,999	2,602	22.2%	7.1%
\$150,000 to \$199,999	2,041	17.4%	10.7%
\$200,000 to \$299,999	2,242	19.1%	27.1%
\$300,000 to \$499,999	1,482	12.6%	31.7%
\$500,000 or more	478	4.1%	14.7%
Median (dollars)	\$158,000		\$286,800

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

Figure 12. Year Structure Built, 2022



Median monthly owner costs, owner-occupied units with a mortgage	\$1,242
state	\$1,818

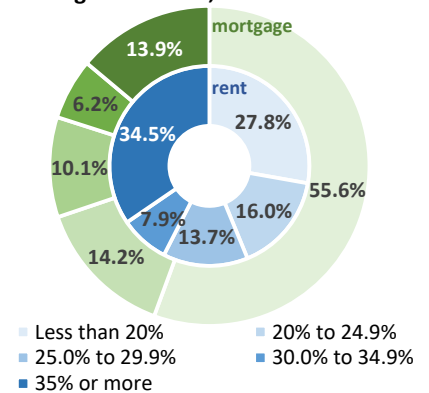
Percentage of households with a mortgage spending 30% or more of their income on housing costs	20.1%
state	22.0%

Median monthly rent costs	\$818
state	\$1,178

Percentage of renters spending 30% or more of their household income on rent	42.5%
state	46.7%

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

Figure 13. Housing Costs as a Percentage of Income, 2022



OCCUPATIONS

At \$23.44 in 2023, wages were lower in Region 10 than the state. Overall, Region 10 had the 2nd highest median hourly wage level of the 13 economic development regions in the state. Wages were highest for management occupations (\$48.3) and lowest for food preparation and serving related jobs (\$14.24) (see Table 11).

Table 11. Occupational Employment & Wage Statistics, 2023

Occupational Group	Region 10				State of Minnesota		
	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	\$23.44	236,590	100.0%	1.0	\$24.25	2,827,310	100.0%
Management	\$48.30	12,310	5.2%	0.8	\$51.58	193,760	6.9%
Business & Financial Operations	\$34.82	9,260	3.9%	0.5	\$38.19	201,940	7.1%
Computer & Mathematical	\$42.65	4,280	1.8%	0.5	\$49.73	99,250	3.5%
Architecture & Engineering	\$38.83	3,390	1.4%	0.8	\$40.60	53,100	1.9%
Life, Physical & Social Science	\$37.08	2,520	1.1%	1.0	\$39.37	29,070	1.0%
Community & Social Service	\$28.75	4,480	1.9%	1.0	\$25.82	54,820	1.9%
Legal	\$40.10	740	0.3%	0.5	\$47.87	18,730	0.7%
Education, Training & Library	\$24.64	14,590	6.2%	1.1	\$24.82	158,830	5.6%
Arts, Design, Entertainment & Media	\$24.58	2,110	0.9%	0.7	\$28.80	37,630	1.3%
Healthcare Practitioners & Technical	\$41.68	30,920	13.1%	2.0	\$41.07	186,700	6.6%
Healthcare Support	\$18.00	14,050	5.9%	1.0	\$17.40	162,400	5.7%
Protective Service	\$28.06	3,460	1.5%	1.0	\$25.83	40,620	1.4%
Food Preparation & Serving Related	\$14.24	19,140	8.1%	1.1	\$14.89	216,970	7.7%
Building, Grounds Cleaning & Maint.	\$17.95	6,300	2.7%	1.0	\$18.26	76,210	2.7%
Personal Care & Service	\$15.98	4,470	1.9%	0.9	\$16.96	58,120	2.1%
Sales & Related	\$16.54	18,100	7.7%	0.9	\$18.14	239,500	8.5%
Office & Administrative Support	\$22.20	27,900	11.8%	1.0	\$23.06	345,830	12.2%
Farming, Fishing & Forestry	\$18.65	420	0.2%	1.2	\$19.84	4,060	0.1%
Construction & Extraction	\$29.56	8,510	3.6%	0.9	\$31.00	113,930	4.0%
Installation, Maintenance & Repair	\$25.43	8,300	3.5%	1.0	\$27.95	98,670	3.5%
Production	\$20.84	22,610	9.6%	1.3	\$22.07	209,380	7.4%
Transportation & Material Moving	\$19.69	18,740	7.9%	1.0	\$19.80	227,780	8.1%

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

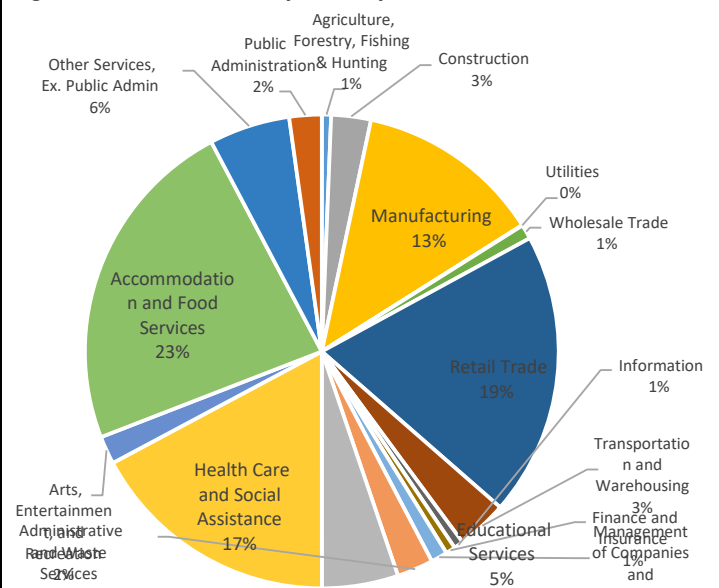
JOB VACANCY SURVEY

Mower Co. is a part of the Southeast planning region. There were 19304 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. Southeast Job Vacancy Survey Results, 2022

Occupational Group	Number of Vacancies	Wage Offer
Total, All Occupations	19,304	\$16.08
Management	333	\$30.93
Business & Financial Operations	254	\$24.78
Computer & Mathematical	188	\$33.61
Architecture & Engineering	186	\$29.46
Life, Physical & Social Sciences	152	\$24.51
Community & Social Service	171	\$23.79
Education, Training & Library	490	\$20.68
Healthcare Practitioners & Technical	1,328	\$31.77
Healthcare Support	1,139	\$15.40
Protective Service	100	\$19.68
Food Preparation & Serving Related	4,822	\$13.72
Building, Grounds Cleaning & Maint.	945	\$15.09
Personal Care & Service	805	\$15.13
Sales & Related	2,248	\$14.59
Office & Administrative Support	828	\$16.86
Construction & Extraction	924	\$19.83
Installation, Maintenance & Repair	739	\$14.23
Production	1,593	\$15.96
Transportation & Material Moving	1,752	\$16.97

Figure 14. Job Vacancies by Industry, 2022



Source: DEED Job Vacancy Survey, 2022

OCCUPATIONS IN DEMAND

Table 13. Southeast 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 \$33,154/yr	Automotive Service Technicians & Mechanics \$48,274/yr	Registered Nurses \$86,697/yr	Elementary School Teachers \$63,367/yr
First-Line Supervisors of Retail Sales Workers \$44,169/yr	Nursing Assistants \$38,287/yr	Clinical Laboratory Technologists & Technicians \$60,703/yr	Pharmacists \$143,081/yr
Laborers & Freight, Stock, & Material Movers, Hand \$40,221/yr	Hairdressers, Hairstylists, & Cosmetologists \$36,972/yr	Radiologic Technologists & Technicians \$80,182/yr	Secondary School Teachers \$65,242/yr
Heavy & Tractor-Trailer Truck Drivers \$55,244/yr	Licensed Practical & Licensed Vocational Nurses \$52,969/yr	Police & Sheriff's Patrol Officers \$71,226/yr	Accountants & Auditors \$70,366/yr
Retail Salespersons \$31,528/yr	Medical Assistants \$49,832/yr	Dental Hygienists \$84,003/yr	Software Developers \$104,831/yr
Stockers & Order Fillers \$33,967/yr	Electricians \$66,736/yr	Biological Technicians \$66,195/yr	Medical & Health Services Managers \$101,144/yr
Janitors & Cleaners, exc. Maids & Housekeeping \$37,499/yr	Industrial Machinery Mechanics \$52,730/yr	Surgical Technologists \$68,975/yr	Physician Assistants \$129,221/yr
Teaching Assistants, exc. Postsecondary \$37,835/yr	Computer User Support Specialists \$63,467/yr	Paralegals & Legal Assistants \$63,872/yr	Industrial Engineers \$83,210/yr
Bartenders \$25,042/yr	Heating, Air Conditioning, & Refrigeration Mechanics & Installers \$64,819/yr	Industrial Engineering Technologists & Technicians \$62,105/yr	Physicians, All Other NA
Customer Service Representatives \$41,637/yr	Dental Assistants \$58,673/yr	Computer Network Support Specialists \$73,341/yr	Nurse Practitioners \$134,164/yr

Source: DEED Occupations in Demand

Mower Co. is a part of the Southeast planning region, which is projected to see a 5.1% 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 Projections, 2020-2030

	Estimated Employment 2020	Projected Employment 2030	Percent Change 2020-2030
Southeast Planning Region			
Total, All Industries	261,589	274,824	5.1%
Natural Resources & Mining	3,447	3,477	0.9%
Utilities	1,160	1,150	-0.9%
Construction	9,396	9,891	5.3%
Manufacturing	36,536	36,636	0.3%
Wholesale Trade	7,047	7,342	4.2%
Retail Trade	25,379	24,160	-4.8%
Transportation & Warehousing	7,801	8,311	6.5%
Information	2,943	2,941	-0.1%
Finance & Insurance, Real Estate	6,025	6,133	1.8%
Professional Services & Mgmt. of Companies	7,642	7,966	4.2%
Admin. Support & Waste Mgmt.	8,158	8,815	8.1%
Educational Services	19,447	20,396	4.9%
Health Care & Social Assistance	64,850	70,687	9.0%
Leisure & Hospitality	19,129	23,366	22.1%
Other Services	8,287	9,159	10.5%
Public Administration	13,990	14,748	5.4%

Source: DEED 2020-2030 Employment Outlook

Figure 15. Regional Occupational Employment Projections, 2020-2030

