#### **COUNTY PROFILE**

### Aitkin Co.

Aitkin Co. is a part of Economic Development Region 3, which is located in the Northeast Planning Region.

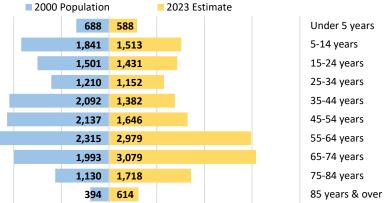
#### **POPULATION CHARACTERISTICS**



Aitkin Co. is the 53rd largest of the 87 counties in the state. Its population increased so far this decade, ranking as the 14th fastest growing in the state from 2020 to 2023. Aitkin 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).

Table 1. Population by Age Group, 2023						
	Number	Percent				
Under 5 years	588	3.7%				
5-14 years	1,513	9.4%				
15-24 years	1,431	8.9%				
25-34 years	1,152	7.2%				
35-44 years	1,382	8.6%				
45-54 years	1,646	10.2%				
55-64 years	2,979	18.5%				
65-74 years	3,079	19.1%				
75-84 years	1,718	10.7%				
85 years & over	614	3.8%				
Total Population	16,102	100.0%				
Source: Census 2023 Population Estimates, 2018-2022 ACS						

Figure 1. Population Pyramid, 2000-2023



Aitkin Co. suffered a negative natural increase - more deaths than births from 2020 to 2023, but also experienced net in-migration - meaning more people moved in than moved out. In addition to domestic in-migration, Aitkin 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, 2020-2023								
	Total		April 1, 2020 to July 1, 2023					
	Population	Natural	Vital Events Net Migration			Vital Events		on
	Change	Increase	Births	Deaths	Total	International	Domestic	
Aitkin Co.	396	-476	339	815	870	19	851	
State of Minnesota	31,111	40,368	207,857	167,489	-11,352	34,624	-45,976	

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

Compared to the state, Aitkin Co. has a smaller percentage of foreign-born residents. From 2010 to 2022, Aitkin Co. saw a decrease in the number of foreign-born residents, though it was slower than the statewide increase.

number of foreign both residents, thought was slower than the statewide increase.							
Table 3. Place of Birth for the Foreign Born	Aitkin Co.		Change 2	010-2022	Minnesota		
Population, 2022	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Percent	Change	
Foreign-born Population	113	0.7%	-65	-36.5%	8.5%	31.3%	
Europe	23	20.4%	-40	-63.5%	9.3%	-0.6%	
Asia	14	12.4%	-27	-65.9%	36.7%	30.2%	
Africa	3	2.7%	1	50.0%	28.1%	93.1%	
Oceania	0	0.0%	0	#DIV/0!	0.4%	20.4%	
Americas:	73	64.6%	1	1.4%	25.4%	7.5%	
Latin America	45	39.8%	11	32.4%	22.9%	9.0%	
Northern America	28	24.8%	-10	-26.3%	2.5%	-4.6%	

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

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

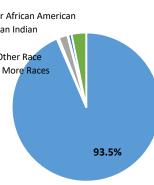


**COUNTY PROFILE** 

Aitkin 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

- White
- Black or African American
- American Indian
- Asian
- Some Other Race
- Two or More Races



		Aitkin Co.			Minnesota		
Table 4. Race and Hispanic Origin, 2022	Number	Percent	Change from 2011-2022	Percent	Change from 2011-2022		
Total	15,859	100.0%	-2.7%	100.0%	7.9%		
White	14,833	93.5%	-4.8%	79.7%	-0.4%		
Black or African American	73	0.5%	192.0%	6.7%	44.3%		
American Indian or Alaska Native	303	1.9%	-8.5%	0.9%	-10.2%		
Asian or Other Pac. Islanders	29	0.2%	-42.0%	5.1%	37.1%		
Some Other Race	117	0.7%	333.3%	2.3%	84.7%		
Two or More Races	504	3.2%	72.0%	5.3%	159.6%		
Hispanic or Latino origin	229	1.4%	56.8%	5.7%	34.6%		

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

#### **POPULATION PROJECTIONS**

According to the Minnesota State Demographic Center, Aitkin Co.'s population is expected to decline from 2025 to 2035, with a rate of change that is slower than the projected statewide growth rate (4.5%). Despite the decline, 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 2025 2035 Numeric Percent Aitkin Co. **Projection** Projection Change Change Under 5 years 594 573 -21 -3.5% 5-14 years 1,355 1,346 -9 -0.7% 1,179 1,364 -185 -13.6% 15-24 years 25-34 years 1,182 1,190 8 0.7% 35-44 years 1,378 1,398 20 1.5% 1,554 1,709 155 10.0% 45-54 years 55-64 years 2,599 2,079 -520 -20.0% 65-74 years 3,274 3,015 -259 -7.9% 75-84 years 1,887 2.187 300 15.9%

485 569 84 17.3% 15,672 15,245 -427 -2.7%

Figure 4. Projections by Age Group, 2025-2035 18,000 15,245 15,672 ■ 85 years & over 16,000 ■ 75-84 years 14,000 **□** 65-74 years 12,000 **□** 55-64 years 10,000 ■ 45-54 years 8,000 ■ 35-44 years 6,000 ■ 25-34 years 4,000 ■ 15-24 years 2,000 ■ 5-14 years □ Under 5 years 2025 Projection 2035 Projection

Source: Minnesota State Demographic Center

#### **EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT**

85 years & over

**Total Population** 

Aitkin 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. Aitkin 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:

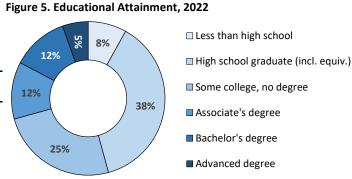
91.9%



Associate's Degree: 12.0% 11.9% Bachelor's Degree: Advanced Degree: 5.4%

state:

College-educated:



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

**COUNTY PROFILE Aitkin Co** 

#### LABOR FORCE TRENDS

At 4.5%, Aitkin Co. had a higher unemployment rate than the state in 2023. After the pandemic recession Aitkin Co.'s unemployment rate declined compared to the 6.5% prepandemic rate posted in 2019. The number of unemployed workers actively seeking work in Aitkin Co. increased over the past year, and is down compared to 2019.



**Figure 6. Annual Labor Force Estimates** 



Source: DEED Local Area Unemployment Statistics

2020-202

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

Aitkin Co. Figure 7. Annual Change in Labor Force, 1990-2023 1,200 Average of 199 Average of 11 Average of 20 new workers per year new workers per year new workers per year 1,000 Year-Over-Year Change in Available Workers 800 600 400 200 n -200 -96 -400

2005-2006 2006-2007 2007-2008 2008-2009 2009-2010

2000-200:

1999-2000

.998-1999

1997-1998

2001-2002 2002-2003 2003-2004 2004-2005

Table 6. Labor Force	Labor Force Projection			
Projections, 2025-2035	2025 2035			
16 to 24 years	798	702		
25 to 54 years	3,426	3,578		
55 to 64 years	1,423	1,138		
65 years & over	711	690		
Total Labor Force	6,358	6,107		

1991-1992

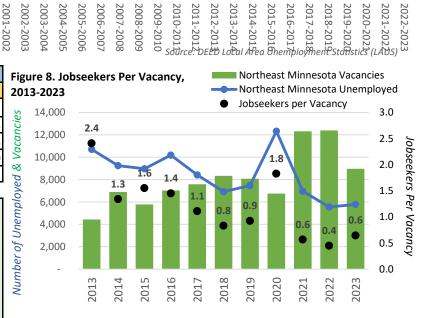
.992-1993 .993-1994 .994-1995 .995-1996 996-1997

.990-199:

-600

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. In 2023, job vacancies in Northeast returned to pre-pandemic levels, but employers are still seeing challenges finding enough workers for open jobs (see Figure 8).



Source: DEED Job Vacancy Survey, LAUS program

**COUNTY PROFILE** Aitkin Co.

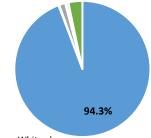
#### LABOR FORCE CHARACTERISTICS

average commute time than the state.

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

	2						
	1	Aitkin Co.		Minne	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	6,504	47.9%	5.8%	68.7%	4.0%	3,367	3,136
16 to 19 years	296	50.4%	4.1%	53.0%	9.8%	126	170
20 to 24 years	509	83.3%	7.5%	83.1%	6.7%	279	230
25 to 44 years	2,088	83.6%	6.1%	88.8%	3.5%	1,073	1,015
45 to 54 years	1,341	82.7%	7.9%	87.8%	2.9%	728	613
55 to 64 years	1,606	54.7%	4.1%	72.8%	3.1%	805	801
65 to 74 years	525	17.3%	5.7%	27.6%	3.3%	276	248
75 years & over	140	6.1%	0.7%	6.6%	3.2%	80	59
Employment Characteristics by Race & Hispanic Origin						Figure 9. La	abor Force l
White alone	6,136	47.8%	5.1%	67.8%	3.4%	Race, 2022	
Black or African American	14	34.1%	50.0%	71.5%	8.7%		
American Indian & Alaska Native	92	45.8%	29.3%	57.6%	11.9%		
Asian or Other Pac. Islanders	19	95.0%	0.0%	73.9%	3.6%		
Some Other Race	33	29.2%	0.0%	76.1%	6.1%		_\\
Two or More Races	214	58.2%	14.5%	74.3%	6.6%		V
Hispanic or Latino	120	72.7%	12.5%	77.0%	6.3%		
Employment Characteristics by Disability,	20 to 64 years						
With Any Disability, 20 to 64 years	614	49.1%	9.3%	54.4%	10.2%		94.3%
<b>Employment Characteristics by Education</b>	al Attainment, 25	to 64 years					
Population, 25 to 64 years	5,034	71.4%	5.9%	84.4%	3.3%	White al	
Less than H.S. Diploma	321	67.7%	8.0%	67.2%	4.6%		African Americ
H.S. Diploma or Equivalent	1,472	62.9%	4.9%	76.8%	2.5%		n Indian & Ala
Some College or Assoc. Degree	2,232	76.4%	5.0%	85.1%	3.6%		Other Pac. Isla
Bachelor's Degree or Higher	1,009	76.7%	2.8%	90.3%	2.0%	Some Ot	her Race

Figure 9. Labor Force by Race, 2022



- White alone
- Black or African American
- American Indian & Alaska Native
- Asian or Other Pac. Islanders
- Some Other Race
- Two or More Races

A larger percentage of workers in Aitkin Co. worked in the same county in which they live compared to the state. Aitkin Co. also had a longer

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

	Aitkin	Co	Minne	ocoto	Γ
	_				ŀ
Table 8. Commuting Characteristics, 2022	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Į i
Worked in state of residence	5,881	99.0%	2,867,086	97.7%	l
Worked in county of residence	4,087	68.8%	1,957,366	66.7%	ĺ
Worked out of county of residence	1,794	30.2%	909,720	31.0%	İ
Worked outside state of residence	59	1.0%	67,495	2.3%	ĺ
MEANS OF TRANSPORTATION TO WORK					ĺ.
Car, truck, or van	5,061	85.2%	2,387,561	81.6%	
Public transportation (excl. taxicab)	6	0.1%	81,926	2.8%	İ
Other method (walk, bike, taxi, etc.)	244	4.1%	122,889	4.2%	6
Worked at home	630	10.6%	333,556	11.4%	İ
TRAVEL TIME TO WORK					ĺ.
Less than 10 minutes	1,057	17.8%	465,223	15.9%	ĺ
10 to 19 minutes	1,800	30.3%	895,335	30.6%	ĺ
20 to 29 minutes	1,081	18.2%	649,557	22.2%	8
30 to 44 minutes	939	15.8%	567,631	19.4%	İ
45 to 59 minutes	303	5.1%	190,186	6.5%	ĺ
60 or more minutes	760	12.8%	158,000	5.4%	ĺ
Mean travel time to work (minutes)	28.6	minutes	23.3	minutes	ĺ

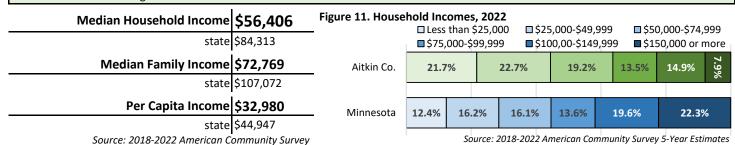
Figure 10. Time Leaving Home to go to Work, 2022 Aitkin Co. ■ Minnesota 0% 20% 40% 12:00 a.m. to 5.0% 4:59 a.m. 5:00 a.m. to 5:59 a.m. 9.2% 6:00 a.m. to 6:59 17.5% 19.2% 7:00 a.m. to 7:59 33.8% a.m. 28.7% 8:00 a.m. to 8:59 a.m. 14.7% 9:00 a.m. to 19.4% 11:59 p.m. 23.5%

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

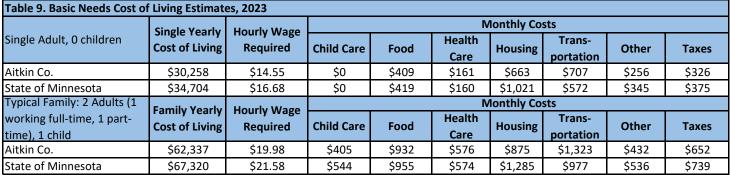
**COUNTY PROFILE Aitkin Co** 

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

Aitkin Co. had a lower median household income than the state, and a higher percentage of households with incomes below \$50,000. Overall, Aitkin Co. had the 85th 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. Aitkin Co. had a lower cost of living than the state, with a required hourly wage of \$14.55 for a single person living alone to meet a basic needs cost of living, and an hourly wage requirement of \$19.98 for a typical family with 2 adults and 1 child (see Table 9).



Source: DEED Cost of Living tool

Aitkin Co. had a lower median house value than the state, having the 31st highest value of the 87 counties in 2022. Aitkin 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-	Aitkin	Co.	Minnesota	Figure 12. Year St	ructure	Built, 2	022
occupied Housing Units, 2022	Total	Percent	Percent		%	10%	
Total	5,751	100.0%	100.0%	■ Aitki		F F0/	■ M
Less than \$50,000	300	5.2%	4.1%	2010 or later		5.5% 7.8%	
\$50,000 to \$99,999	611	10.6%	4.6%	2000 to 2009			
\$100,000 to \$149,999	699	12.2%	7.1%				13.3
\$150,000 to \$199,999	907	15.8%	10.7%	1980 to 1999			
\$200,000 to \$299,999	1,433	24.9%	27.1%	1960 to 1979			
\$300,000 to \$499,999	1,353	23.5%	31.7%				
\$500,000 or more	448	7.8%	14.7%	1940 to 1959		1	11.4% ■ 13.
Median (dollars)	\$222,1	L <b>00</b>	\$286,800	1939 or earlier		10	0.6%

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

0% 20% 10% 30% Aitkin Co ■ Minnesota 2010 or later 18.9% 2000 to 2009 13.3% 27.1% 1980 to 1999 25.5% 26.5% 1960 to 1979 23.8% 11.4% 1940 to 1959 13.8% 10.6% 1939 or earlier

Median monthly owner costs, owner-occupied units with a mortgage

state \$1,818

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

33.0%

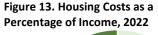
22.0%

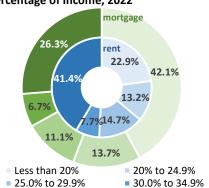
Median monthly rent costs \$815

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

state 46.7%

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





35% or more

COUNTY PROFILE Aitkin Co.

#### **OCCUPATIONS**

At \$23.41 in 2024, wages were lower in Region 3 than the state. Overall, Region 3 had the 5th highest median hourly wage level of the 13 economic development regions in the state. Wages were highest for management occupations (\$45.28) and lowest for food preparation and serving related jobs (\$14.4) (see Table 11).

Table 11. Occupational Employment & Wage Statistics, 20	24						
	Region 3				Stat	te of Minnes	ota
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	\$23.41	138,010	100.0%	1.0	\$25.22	2,881,100	100.0%
Management	\$45.28	7,740	5.6%	0.8	\$57.75	201,710	7.0%
Business & Financial Operations	\$34.89	5,970	4.3%	0.6	\$39.26	202,700	7.0%
Computer & Mathematical	\$42.37	2,090	1.5%	0.4	\$50.83	98,240	3.4%
Architecture & Engineering	\$40.12	2,180	1.6%	0.8	\$42.97	58,320	2.0%
Life, Physical & Social Science	\$35.31	1,820	1.3%	1.3	\$39.93	29,220	1.0%
Community & Social Service	\$25.46	4,280	3.1%	1.5	\$27.92	57,930	2.0%
Legal	\$40.53	540	0.4%	0.6	\$51.15	19,040	0.7%
Education, Training & Library	\$25.65	8,350	6.1%	1.1	\$28.22	163,340	5.7%
Arts, Design, Entertainment & Media	\$23.33	1,250	0.9%	0.7	\$29.01	36,160	1.3%
Healthcare Practitioners & Technical	\$39.02	11,510	8.3%	1.3	\$43.01	184,410	6.4%
Healthcare Support	\$17.99	9,260	6.7%	1.1	\$18.07	169,580	5.9%
Protective Service	\$26.04	3,070	2.2%	1.4	\$28.87	45,860	1.6%
Food Preparation & Serving Related	\$14.40	13,910	10.1%	1.3	\$15.07	232,190	8.1%
Building, Grounds Cleaning & Maint.	\$17.48	4,560	3.3%	1.2	\$18.83	79,660	2.8%
Personal Care & Service	\$17.17	3,050	2.2%	1.1	\$17.60	59,420	2.1%
Sales & Related	\$16.96	11,740	8.5%	1.0	\$18.82	242,440	8.4%
Office & Administrative Support	\$22.44	16,760	12.1%	1.0	\$23.86	352,250	12.2%
Farming, Fishing & Forestry	\$22.88	220	0.2%	1.3	\$22.13	3,520	0.1%
Construction & Extraction	\$32.73	7,590	5.5%	1.4	\$32.44	110,960	3.9%
Installation, Maintenance & Repair	\$29.94	6,760	4.9%	1.4	\$29.54	104,530	3.6%
Production	\$24.87	6,550	4.7%	0.7	\$23.05	203,810	7.1%
Transportation & Material Moving	\$21.66	8,810	6.4%	0.8	\$19.80	225,820	7.8%

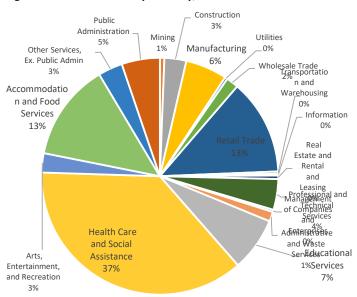
Source: DEED Occupational Employment & Wage Statistics, Qtr. 1 2024

#### **JOB VACANCY SURVEY**

Aitkin Co. is a part of the Northeast planning region. There were 8963 job vacancies posted by employers in 2023, indicating extensive opportunity in the region, with openings across several occupations and industries (see Figure 14).

Table 12. Northeast Job Vacancy Survey Results, 2023					
	Number of Wag				
Occupational Group	Vacancies	Offer			
Total, All Occupations	8,963	\$18.49			
Management	144	\$39.89			
Business & Financial Operations	246				
Computer & Mathematical	35	\$35.32			
Architecture & Engineering	195	\$36.71			
Life, Physical & Social Sciences	70	\$33.94			
Community & Social Service	333	\$21.88			
Education, Training & Library	426				
Healthcare Practitioners & Technical	1,244	\$34.84			
Healthcare Support	982	\$15.95			
Protective Service	129	\$19.03			
Food Preparation & Serving Related	1,043	•			
Building, Grounds Cleaning & Maint.	436	\$16.13			
Personal Care & Service	346	\$14.10			
Sales & Related	826	\$16.06			
Office & Administrative Support	594	\$16.61			
Construction & Extraction	59	\$23.67			
Installation, Maintenance & Repair	760	\$20.03			
Production	420	\$21.97			
Transportation & Material Moving	499	\$17.36			

Figure 14. Job Vacancies by Industry, 2023



Source: DEED Job Vacancy Survey, 2023

**COUNTY PROFILE Aitkin Co** 

## **OCCUPATIONS IN DEMAND**

Table 13. Northeast Plannin	g 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	Substance abuse, behavioral & mental health counselors
\$32,409/yr	\$38,023/yr	\$78,892/yr	\$47,421/yr
Retail Salespersons	Licensed Practical & Licensed Vocational Nurses	Police & Sheriff's Patrol Officers	General & Operations Managers
\$30,436/yr	\$50,965/yr	\$69,705/yr	\$74,719/yr
Cashiers	Automotive Service Technicians &	Clinical Laboratory Technologists	Secondary School Teachers
\$28,649/yr	Mechanics \$48,638/yr	& Technicians \$62,998/yr	\$64,162/yr
Maintenance & Repair	Medical Assistants	Dental Hygienists	Social & Community Service
Workers, General \$51,214/yr	\$44,580/yr	\$80,434/yr	Managers \$65,308/yr
Waiters & Waitresses	Industrial Machinery Mechanics	Radiologic Technologists & Technicians	Elementary School Teachers
\$23,385/yr	\$67,655/yr	\$67,078/yr	\$62,554/yr
Janitors & Cleaners, exc.  Maids & Housekeeping	Dental Assistants	Surgical Technologists	Accountants & Auditors
\$34,993/yr	\$54,500/yr	\$62,349/yr	\$66,865/yr
Driver/Sales Workers	Electricians	Forest & Conservation Technicians	Pharmacists
\$27,752/yr	\$77,859/yr	\$49,163/yr	\$137,104/yr
Fast Food & Counter Workers	First-Line Supervisors of Personal Service Workers	Respiratory Therapists	Human Resources Specialists
\$28,490/yr	\$41,164/yr	\$75,469/yr	\$63,477/yr
Stockers & Order Fillers	Computer User Support Specialists	Cardiovascular Technologists & Technicians	Preschool Teachers
\$32,400/yr	\$56,023/yr	\$79,749/yr	\$34,916/yr
Maids & Housekeeping	Mobile Heavy Equipment Mechanics, exc.	Computer Network Support	Child, Family, & School Social
Cleaners	Engines	Specialists	Workers
\$30,367/yr	\$63,006/yr	\$70,683/yr	\$66,072/yr

Source: DEED Occupations in Demand

Aitkin Co. is a part of the Northeast planning region, which is projected to see a 5.5% 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	Projected Employ-	Percent Change				
		5.5%				
•		1.6%				
	1,097	-15.3%				
	6,368	4.2%				
8,329	8,166	-2.0%				
3,122	3,127	0.2%				
16,275	15,391	-5.4%				
4,783	4,977	4.1%				
1,145	1,210	5.7%				
5,760	5,883	2.1%				
5,359	5,695	6.3%				
2,916	3,095	6.1%				
11,884	12,440	4.7%				
32,183	35,151	9.2%				
14,347	17,531	22.2%				
5,703	6,304	10.5%				
14,780	15,572	5.4%				
	Estimated Employment 2020 148,527 4,938 1,295 6,111 8,329 3,122 16,275 4,783 1,145 5,760 5,359 2,916 11,884 32,183 14,347 5,703 14,780	Estimated Employment         Projected Employment 2030           148,527         156,642           4,938         5,018           1,295         1,097           6,111         6,368           8,329         8,166           3,122         3,127           16,275         15,391           4,783         4,977           1,145         1,210           5,760         5,883           5,359         5,695           2,916         3,095           11,884         12,440           32,183         35,151           14,347         17,531           5,703         6,304				

# Figure 15. Regional Occupational

Employment Projections, 2020-2030				
■ From employment gr -5,0	rowth			
Management Occupations	577 2,535			
Business and Financial				
Computer and	209 442			
Architecture and	91 623			
Life, Physical, and Social	71 369			
Community and Social	465 1,799			
Legal Occupations	45   200			
Educational Instruction and	657 3,631			
Arts, Design,	184 859			
Healthcare Practitioners	961 3,284			
Healthcare Support	1,290 6,744			
Protective Service	249 1,403			
Food Preparation and	2,067 9,637			
Building and Grounds	526 3,401			
Personal Care and Service	524 <b>2,9</b> 66			
Sales and Related	-5 <mark>90 7,506</mark>			
Office and Administrative	-465 <b>7,812</b>			
Farming, Fishing, and	181 290			
Construction and Extraction	276 2,492			
Installation, Maintenance,	199 2,286			
Production Occupations	-241 <b>2,</b> 588			
Transportation and	513 4,567			

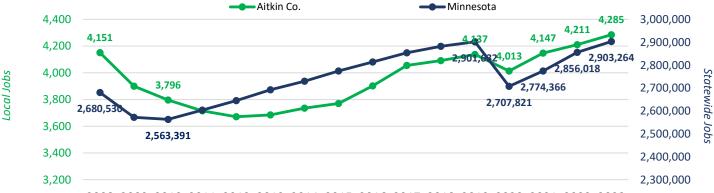
COUNTY PROFILE Aitkin Co.

#### **ECONOMIC CHARACTERISTICS**

Coming out of the pandemic recession, after gaining jobs over the past year, Aitkin Co. had the 66th largest economy of the 87 counties in the state. Aitkin Co. was the 39th fastest growing in the past year and the 14th fastest growing since 2019. From 2019 to 2023, employment in Aitkin Co. grew despite the pandemic recession.

476business establishments\$46,272annual average wage4,285jobs\$198,276,277total industry payrollJob change, 2019-2023148 jobs 3.6% increase

Figure 16. Industry Employment Statistics, 2008-2023

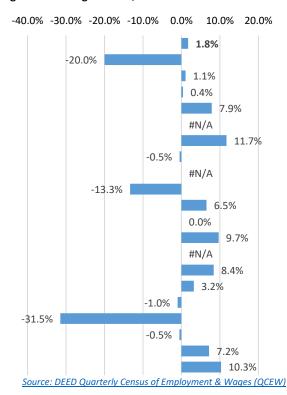


2008 2009 2010 2011 2012 2013 2014 2015 2016 2017 2018 2019 2020 2021 2022 2023

Source: DEED QCEW program

			Average
Table 15. Aitkin Co. Industry Employment	Number of	Percent of	Annual
Statistics, 2023	Jobs	Total Jobs	Wage
Total, All Industries	4,285	100.0%	\$46,272
Agriculture, Forestry, Fish & Hunt	24	0.6%	\$44,022
Mining	48	1.1%	\$37,000
Construction	249	5.8%	\$51,721
Manufacturing	397	9.3%	\$56,693
Utilities	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A
Wholesale Trade	124	2.9%	\$53,547
Retail Trade	610	14.2%	\$31,529
Transportation & Warehousing	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A
Information	13	0.3%	\$69,811
Finance & Insurance	98	2.3%	\$53,279
Real Estate & Rental & Leasing	19	0.4%	\$27,623
Professional & Technical Services	97	2.3%	\$36,527
Management of Companies	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A
Admin. Support & Waste Mgmt. Svcs.	104	2.4%	\$21,956
Educational Services	447	10.4%	\$10,205
Health Care & Social Assistance	763	17.8%	\$16,395
Arts, Entertainment, & Recreation	61	1.4%	\$31,723
Accommodation & Food Services	561	13.1%	\$18,999
Other Services	149	3.5%	\$23,105
Public Administration	364	8.5%	\$51,284

Figure 17. Change in Jobs, 2022-2023



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

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