

COUNTY PROFILE

Houston Co.

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

POPULATION CHARACTERISTICS



Houston Co. is the 51st largest of the 87 counties in the state. Its population decreased so far this decade, ranking as the 66th fastest growing in the state from 2020 to 2023. Houston 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).

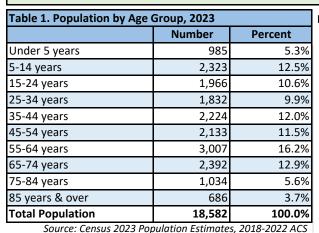
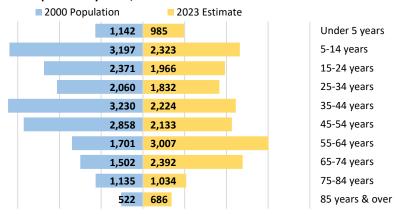


Figure 1. Population Pyramid, 2000-2023



Houston Co. suffered a negative natural increase - more deaths than births from 2020 to 2023, but also experienced net out-migration - meaning more people moved out than moved in. Despite suffering domestic out-migration, Houston Co. welcomed net international inmigration - 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	Natural Vital Events Net Migration					
	Change	Increase	Births	Deaths	Total	International	Domestic	
Houston Co.	-264	-248	432	680	-17	9	-26	
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, Houston Co. has a smaller percentage of foreign-born residents. From 2010 to 2022, Houston Co. saw an increase in the number of foreign-born residents, though it was slower than the statewide increase.

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Houston Co.		Change 2	010-2022	Minnesota		
Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Percent	Change	
248	1.3%	15	6.4%	8.5%	31.3%	
47	19.0%	-71	-60.2%	9.3%	-0.6%	
78	31.5%	16	25.8%	36.7%	30.2%	
20	8.1%	20	#DIV/0!	28.1%	93.1%	
0	0.0%	0	#DIV/0!	0.4%	20.4%	
103	41.5%	50	94.3%	25.4%	7.5%	
56	22.6%	25	80.6%	22.9%	9.0%	
47	19.0%	25	113.6%	2.5%	-4.6%	
	Number 248 47 78 20 0 103 56	Houston Co. Number Percent	Number Percent Number 248 1.3% 15 47 19.0% -71 78 31.5% 16 20 8.1% 20 0 0.0% 0 103 41.5% 50 56 22.6% 25	Houston Co. Change 2010-2022 Number Percent Number Percent 248 1.3% 15 6.4% 47 19.0% -71 -60.2% 78 31.5% 16 25.8% 20 8.1% 20 #DIV/0! 0 0.0% 0 #DIV/0! 103 41.5% 50 94.3% 56 22.6% 25 80.6%	Houston Co. Change 2010-2022 Minne Number Percent Percent Percent 248 1.3% 15 6.4% 8.5% 47 19.0% -71 -60.2% 9.3% 78 31.5% 16 25.8% 36.7% 20 8.1% 20 #DIV/0! 28.1% 0 0.0% 0 #DIV/0! 0.4% 103 41.5% 50 94.3% 25.4% 56 22.6% 25 80.6% 22.9%	

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

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



Houston 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
Some Other Race

Two or More Races



94.5%

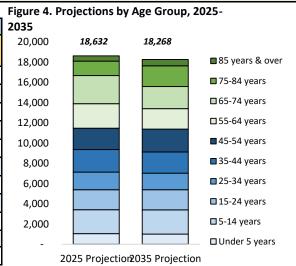
		Houston C	Minnesota		
Table 4. Race and Hispanic Origin, 2022	Number	Percent	Change from 2011-2022	Percent	Change from 2011-2022
Total	18,826	100.0%	-1.5%	100.0%	7.9%
White	17,796	94.5%	-4.8%	79.7%	-0.4%
Black or African American	107	0.6%	57.4%	6.7%	44.3%
American Indian or Alaska Native	40	0.2%	-7.0%	0.9%	-10.2%
Asian or Other Pac. Islanders	93	0.5%	69.1%	5.1%	37.1%
Some Other Race	64	0.3%	357.1%	2.3%	84.7%
Two or More Races	726	3.9%	207.6%	5.3%	159.6%
Hispanic or Latino origin	267	1.4%	115.3%	5.7%	34.6%

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

POPULATION PROJECTIONS

According to the Minnesota State Demographic Center, Houston 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 Houston Co. **Projection** Projection Change Change Under 5 years 1,045 1,006 -39 -3.7% 5-14 years 2,372 2.394 22 0.9% 1,973 1,996 1.2% 15-24 years 23 25-34 years 1,750 1,629 -121 -6.9% 35-44 years 2,224 2,102 -122 -5.5% 2,104 159 7.6% 45-54 years 2,263 55-64 years 2,433 2,013 -420 -17.3% 65-74 years 2,784 2,186 -598 -21.5% 75-84 years 1,420 2.053 633 44.6% 99 85 years & over 527 626 18.8% **Total Population** 18,632 18,268 -364 -2.0%



Source: Minnesota State Demographic Center

EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT

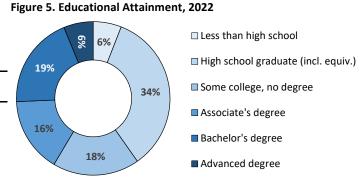
Houston Co. has a higher percentage of adults (18 years & over) with at least a high school diploma than the state (93.0%), and a lower percentage of people with at least some college experience. Houston Co. also has a higher percentage of people with an Associate's degree and a lower percentage of people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

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

94.1%

College-educated: 59.7%
state: 68.5%

Associate's Degree: 15.8%
Bachelor's Degree: 19.4%
Advanced Degree: 6.2%



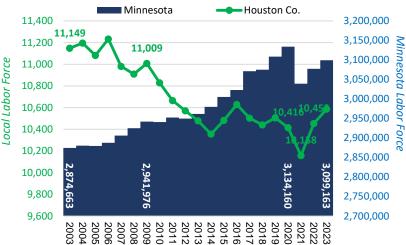
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2018-2022 American Community Survey

LABOR FORCE TRENDS

At 2.3%, Houston Co. had a lower unemployment rate than the state in 2023. After the pandemic recession Houston Co.'s unemployment rate declined compared to the 3.4% pre-pandemic rate posted in 2019. The number of unemployed workers actively seeking work in Houston Co. increased over the past year, and is down compared to 2019.



Figure 6. Annual Labor Force Estimates



Source: DEED Local Area Unemployment Statistics

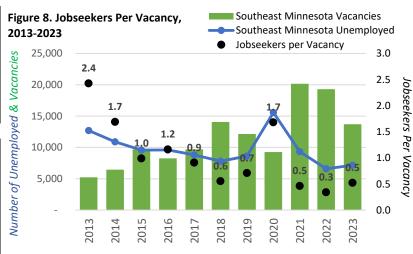
Labor force growth has slowed in recent years. After experiencing a net gain of workers each year from 1990 to 2000, Houston Co. averaged an annual loss of fewer workers from 2000 to 2010, and most recently a loss of fewer workers since 2010 (see Figure 7). Moving forward, Houston Co. is expected to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

Houston Co. Figure 7. Annual Change in Labor Force, 1990-2023 400 Average of 120 Average of -13 Average of -42 new workers per year fewer workers per year fewer workers per year 300 Year-Over-Year Change in Available Workers 214 200 100 -100 -131 -200 -300 -400 -500 2010-2011 2013-20145 2001-2002 2002-2003 2000-200: 2003-2004 2004-2005 2005-2006 2006-2007 2007-2008 2008-2009 2009-2010 2011-201 2012-201 1991-1992 .990-199: .992-1993 .993-1994 .994-1995 .995-1996 .996-1997 .997-1998 .998-1999 .999-200C

Table 6. Labor Force	Labor Force Projection			
Projections, 2025-2035	2025 2035			
16 to 24 years	1,243	1,247		
25 to 54 years	5,516	5,434		
55 to 64 years	1,998	1,653		
65 years & over	886	752		
Total Labor Force	9,643	9,086		

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 Southeast 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

LABOR FORCE CHARACTERISTICS

Houston Co. had a lower labor force participation rate than the state. The labor force in Houston 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, 20					
	He	ouston Co.		Minne	esota
	In Labor Force (available workers)	Labor Force Partic. Rate	Unemp. Rate	Labor Force Partic. Rate	Unemp. Rate
Total Labor Force	10,196	67.1%	1.6%	68.7%	4.0%
16 to 19 years	499	59.5%	4.2%	53.0%	9.8%
20 to 24 years	728	83.2%	0.8%	83.1%	6.7%
25 to 44 years	3,776	91.9%	0.9%	88.8%	3.5%
45 to 54 years	1,915	88.6%	2.0%	87.8%	2.9%
55 to 64 years	2,501	82.1%	1.0%	72.8%	3.1%
65 to 74 years	688	28.4%	4.9%	27.6%	3.3%
75 years & over	85	4.9%	0.0%	6.6%	3.2%
Employment Characteristics by Race & H	Hispanic Origin				
White alone	9,725	67.1%	1.5%	67.8%	3.4%
Black or African American	67	77.9%	16.4%	71.5%	8.7%
American Indian & Alaska Native	21	55.3%	0.0%	57.6%	11.9%
Asian or Other Pac. Islanders	24	25.8%	0.0%	73.9%	3.6%
Some Other Race	33	84.6%	0.0%	76.1%	6.1%
Two or More Races	324	72.6%	0.0%	74.3%	6.6%
Hispanic or Latino	122	68.5%	0.0%	77.0%	6.3%
Employment Characteristics by Disabilit	y, 20 to 64 years				
With Any Disability, 20 to 64 years	446	58.0%	8.3%	54.4%	10.2%
Employment Characteristics by Education	nal Attainment, 25	to 64 years			
Population, 25 to 64 years	8,189	87.9%	1.2%	84.4%	3.3%
Less than H.S. Diploma	287	79.5%	1.5%	67.2%	4.6%
H.S. Diploma or Equivalent	2,243	82.6%	0.5%	76.8%	2.5%
Some College or Assoc. Degree	3,324	91.6%	1.3%	85.1%	3.6%
Bachelor's Degree or Higher	2,339	89.6%	0.6%	90.3%	2.0%

Figure 9. Labor Force by Race, 2022

Labor Force by Gender

Female

4,843

276

314

1,757

957

1,229

291 19

Male

5,348

223

414

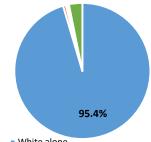
2,019

957

1,272

397

66



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

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

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

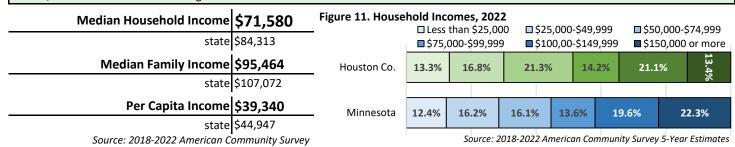
	Houston Co.		Minn	esota	ı
Table 8. Commuting Characteristics, 2022	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	£
Worked in state of residence	5,370	54.5%	2,867,086	97.7%	ĺ
Worked in county of residence	4,345	44.1%	1,957,366	66.7%	ĺ
Worked out of county of residence	1,035	10.5%	909,720	31.0%	ĺ
Worked outside state of residence	4,483	45.5%	67,495	2.3%	ĺ
MEANS OF TRANSPORTATION TO WORK					Ĺ
Car, truck, or van	8,483	86.1%	2,387,561	81.6%	5
Public transportation (excl. taxicab)	20	0.2%	81,926	2.8%	İ
Other method (walk, bike, taxi, etc.)	325	3.3%	122,889	4.2%	6
Worked at home	1,035	10.5%	333,556	11.4%	ĺ
TRAVEL TIME TO WORK					7
Less than 10 minutes	1,892	19.2%	465,223	15.9%	ĺ
10 to 19 minutes	3,242	32.9%	895,335	30.6%	İ
20 to 29 minutes	1,517	15.4%	649,557	22.2%	8
30 to 44 minutes	2,069	21.0%	567,631	19.4%	İ
45 to 59 minutes	542	5.5%	190,186	6.5%	İ
60 or more minutes	581	5.9%	158,000	5.4%	ĺ
Mean travel time to work (minutes)	23.5	minutes	23.3	minutes	ĺ

Figure 10. Time Leaving Home to go to Work, 2022 ■ Houston Co. ■ Minnesota 0% 20% 40% 12:00 a.m. to 8.9% 4:59 a.m. 5:00 a.m. to 5:59 a.m. 9.2% 6:00 a.m. to 6:59 18.1% 19.2% 7:00 a.m. to 7:59 29.9% a.m. 28.7% 8:00 a.m. to 8:59 12.0% a.m. 14.7% 9:00 a.m. to 18.2% 11:59 p.m. 23.5%

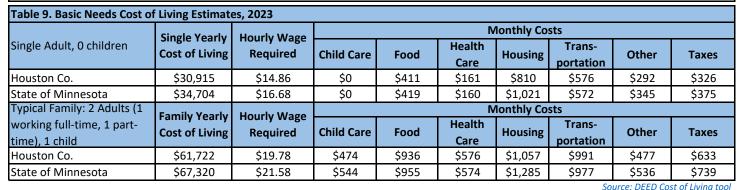
Source: 2018-2022 American Community Survey, 5-Year Estimates

INCOMES, COST OF LIVING, & HOUSING

Houston Co. had a lower median household income than the state, and a higher percentage of households with incomes below \$50,000. Overall, Houston Co. had the 34th 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. Houston Co. had a lower cost of living than the state, with a required hourly wage of \$14.86 for a single person living alone to meet a basic needs cost of living, and an hourly wage requirement of \$19.78 for a typical family with 2 adults and 1 child (see Table 9).



Houston Co. had a lower median house value than the state, having the 37th highest value of the 87 counties in 2022. Houston 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-	Houston Co. Minne		Minnesota	Figure 12. Year St	ructure Built,	2022
occupied Housing Units, 2022	Total	Percent	Percent	0	% 10%	
Total	6,653	100.0%	100.0%	■ Hous		■ N
Less than \$50,000	288	4.3%	4.1%	2010 or later	4.7% 7.89	%
\$50,000 to \$99,999	582	8.7%	4.6%	2000 to 2009	8.5	
\$100,000 to \$149,999	1,019	15.3%	7.1%			13.3
\$150,000 to \$199,999	1,031	15.5%	10.7%	1980 to 1999		
\$200,000 to \$299,999	2,013	30.3%	27.1%	1960 to 1979		
\$300,000 to \$499,999	1,142	17.2%	31.7%			
\$500,000 or more	578	8.7%	14.7%	1940 to 1959		13.
Median (dollars)	\$216,4	100	\$286,800	1939 or earlier		

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

0% 10% 20% 30% Houston Co. ■ Minnesota 2010 or later 7.8% 2000 to 2009 22.1% 1980 to 1999 25.5% 24.5% 1960 to 1979 23.8% 15.1% 1940 to 1959 13.8% 25.1% 1939 or earlier

Figure 13. Housing Costs as a

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

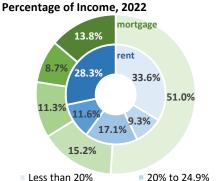
22.5%

Median monthly rent costs \$870

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



Less than 20% 25.0% to 29.9%

20% to 24.9%

35% or more

30.0% to 34.9%

OCCUPATIONS

At \$24.26 in 2024, 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 (\$51.51) and lowest for food preparation and serving related jobs (\$14.57) (see Table 11).

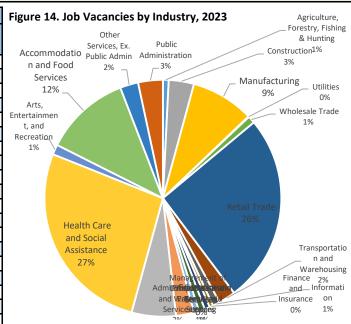
Table 11. Occupational Employment & Wage Statistics, 2024								
		Regio	า 10		Stat	te of Minnes	nnesota	
Occupational Group	Median Hourly Wage	Estimated Regional Jobs	Share of Total Jobs	Regional Location Quotient	Median Hourly Wage	Estimated Statewide Jobs	Share of Total Jobs	
Total, All Occupations	\$24.26	240,340	100.0%	1.0	\$25.22	2,881,100	100.0%	
Management	\$51.51	13,250	5.5%	0.8	\$57.75	201,710	7.0%	
Business & Financial Operations	\$37.97	9,740	4.1%	0.6	\$39.26	202,700	7.0%	
Computer & Mathematical	\$50.87	5,270	2.2%	0.6	\$50.83	98,240	3.4%	
Architecture & Engineering	\$40.43	3,540	1.5%	0.7	\$42.97	58,320	2.0%	
Life, Physical & Social Science	\$38.64	2,120	0.9%	0.9	\$39.93	29,220	1.0%	
Community & Social Service	\$30.48	4,670	1.9%	1.0	\$27.92	57,930	2.0%	
Legal	\$43.12	690	0.3%	0.4	\$51.15	19,040	0.7%	
Education, Training & Library	\$28.42	14,670	6.1%	1.1	\$28.22	163,340	5.7%	
Arts, Design, Entertainment & Media	\$26.08	1,990	0.8%	0.7	\$29.01	36,160	1.3%	
Healthcare Practitioners & Technical	\$48.05	29,150	12.1%	1.9	\$43.01	184,410	6.4%	
Healthcare Support	\$18.85	14,270	5.9%	1.0	\$18.07	169,580	5.9%	
Protective Service	\$28.97	3,950	1.6%	1.0	\$28.87	45,860	1.6%	
Food Preparation & Serving Related	\$14.57	20,590	8.6%	1.1	\$15.07	232,190	8.1%	
Building, Grounds Cleaning & Maint.	\$18.08	6,760	2.8%	1.0	\$18.83	79,660	2.8%	
Personal Care & Service	\$17.17	4,830	2.0%	1.0	\$17.60	59,420	2.1%	
Sales & Related	\$17.36	18,280	7.6%	0.9	\$18.82	242,440	8.4%	
Office & Administrative Support	\$23.45	27,760	11.6%	0.9	\$23.86	352,250	12.2%	
Farming, Fishing & Forestry	\$20.01	320	0.1%	1.1	\$22.13	3,520	0.1%	
Construction & Extraction	\$30.88	8,370	3.5%	0.9	\$32.44	110,960	3.9%	
Installation, Maintenance & Repair	\$28.53	8,550	3.6%	1.0	\$29.54	104,530	3.6%	
Production	\$22.72	22,500	9.4%	1.3	\$23.05	203,810	7.1%	
Transportation & Material Moving	\$22.01	19,080	7.9%	1.0	\$19.80	225,820	7.8%	

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

JOB VACANCY SURVEY

Houston Co. is a part of the Southeast planning region. There were 13711 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. Southeast Job Vacancy Survey Results, 2023				
Number of W				
Occupational Group	Vacancies	Offer		
Total, All Occupations	13,711	\$0.27		
Management	212	\$0.15		
Business & Financial Operations	467	\$0.02		
Computer & Mathematical	97	\$0.04		
Architecture & Engineering	297	\$0.01		
Life, Physical & Social Sciences	171	\$0.01		
Community & Social Service	608	\$0.08		
Education, Training & Library	418	\$0.27		
Healthcare Practitioners & Technical	964	\$0.18		
Healthcare Support	1,534	\$0.30		
Protective Service	192	\$0.45		
Food Preparation & Serving Related	1,856	\$0.40		
Building, Grounds Cleaning & Maint.	314	\$0.12		
Personal Care & Service	455	\$0.24		
Sales & Related	2,426	\$0.55		
Office & Administrative Support	548	\$0.18		
Construction & Extraction	160	\$0.00		
Installation, Maintenance & Repair	732	\$0.05		
Production	690	\$0.10	٦	
Transportation & Material Moving	1,108	\$0.15	٦	



Source: DEED Job Vacancy Survey, 2023

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	Automotive Service Technicians &	Registered Nurses	Elementary School Teachers		
Care Aides	Mechanics		•		
\$33,154/yr	\$48,274/yr	\$86,697/yr	\$63,367/yr		
First-Line Supervisors of	Nursing Assistants	Clinical Laboratory Technologists	Pharmacists		
Retail Sales Workers	400.0001	& Technicians	4		
\$44,169/yr	\$38,287/yr	\$60,703/yr	\$143,081/yr		
Laborers & Freight, Stock, &	Hairdressers, Hairstylists, &	Radiologic Technologists &	Secondary School Teachers		
Material Movers, Hand	Cosmetologists	Technicians			
\$40,221/yr	\$36,972/yr	\$80,182/yr	\$65,242/yr		
Heavy & Tractor-Trailer	Licensed Practical & Licensed Vocational	Police & Sheriff's Patrol Officers	Accountants & Auditors		
Truck Drivers	Nurses				
\$55,244/yr	\$52,969/yr	\$71,226/yr	\$70,366/yr		
Retail Salespersons	Medical Assistants	Dental Hygienists	Software Developers		
\$31,528/yr	\$49,832/yr	\$84,003/yr	\$104,831/yr		
Stockers & Order Fillers	Electricians	Biological Technicians	Medical & Health Services		
Stockers & Order Fillers		-	Managers		
\$33,967/yr	\$66,736/yr	\$66,195/yr	\$101,144/yr		
Janitors & Cleaners, exc.	Industrial Machinery Mechanics	Surgical Technologists	Physician Assistants		
Maids & Housekeeping	ÅE2 720 /	¢60.0757	6420.224 /		
\$37,499/yr	\$52,730/yr	\$68,975/yr	\$129,221/yr		
Teaching Assistants, exc.	Computer User Support Specialists	Paralegals & Legal Assistants	Industrial Engineers		
Postsecondary					
\$37,835/yr	\$63,467/yr	\$63,872/yr	\$83,210/yr		
Bartenders	Heating, Air Conditioning, & Refrigeration	Industrial Engineering	Physicians, All Other		
40-010/	Mechanics & Installers	Technologists & Technicians			
\$25,042/yr	\$64,819/yr	\$62,105/yr	NA		
Customer Service	Dental Assistants	Computer Network Support	Nurse Practitioners		
Representatives	AF0 672 /	Specialists	6424.4647		
\$41,637/yr	\$58,673/yr	\$73,341/yr	\$134,164/yr		

Source: DEED Occupations in Demand

Houston 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					
Southeast Planning Region	Estimated Employment 2020	Projected Employ- ment 2030	Percent Change 2020-2030		
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 Compani	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%		

Figure 15. Regional Occupational

Employment Projections, 2020-2030						
From employment gr	owth 000	5,000	xit openings 15,000			
-5,0	500	3,000	13,000			
Management Occupations	564	6,880				
Business and Financial	355	2 ,692				
Computer and	171	976				
Architecture and	145	704				
Life, Physical, and Social	97	379				
Community and Social	539	1 ,957				
Legal Occupations	72	312				
Educational Instruction and	1,099	5,797				
Arts, Design,	211	1,268				
Healthcare Practitioners	2,85	8,417				
Healthcare Support	1,99	10,457				
Protective Service	226	1 ,834				
Food Preparation and	3,2	95 15,489				
Building and Grounds	515	5,041				
Personal Care and Service		4,581				
Sales and Related		2 12,007				
Office and Administrative	-996	12,332				
Farming, Fishing, and	-11	918				
Construction and Extraction	521	3,228				
Installation, Maintenance,		2, 969				
Production Occupations	62	9,269				
Transportation and	1,367	9,066				

ECONOMIC CHARACTERISTICS

Coming out of the pandemic recession, after gaining jobs over the past year, Houston Co. had the 59th largest economy of the 87 counties in the state. Houston Co. was the 26th fastest growing in the past year and the 49th fastest growing since 2019. From 2019 to 2023, employment in Houston Co. is still down from the pandemic recession.

458 business establishments \$44,438 annual average wage

5,084 jobs \$225,924,804 total industry payroll

Job change, 2019-2023 -2.1% decline

Figure 16. Industry Employment Statistics, 2008-2023

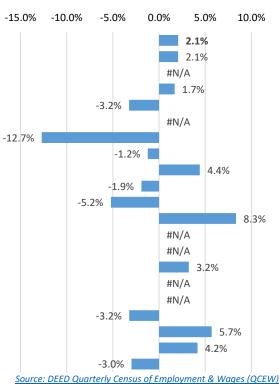


2008 2009 2010 2011 2012 2013 2014 2015 2016 2017 2018 2019 2020 2021 2022 2023

Source: DEED QCEW program

			Average
Table 15. Houston Co. Industry	Number of	Percent of	Annual
Employment Statistics, 2023	Jobs	Total Jobs	Wage
Total, All Industries	5,084	100.0%	\$44,438
Agriculture, Forestry, Fish & Hunt	148	2.9%	\$30,144
Mining	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A
Construction	362	7.1%	\$63,955
Manufacturing	477	9.4%	\$47,295
Utilities	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A
Wholesale Trade	55	1.1%	\$47,242
Retail Trade	483	9.5%	\$28,099
Transportation & Warehousing	449	8.8%	\$66,921
Information	154	3.0%	\$64,544
Finance & Insurance	109	2.1%	\$61,271
Real Estate & Rental & Leasing	39	0.8%	\$21,945
Professional & Technical Services	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A
Management of Companies	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A
Admin. Support & Waste Mgmt. Svcs.	128	2.5%	\$54,233
Educational Services	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A
Health Care & Social Assistance	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A
Arts, Entertainment, & Recreation	60	1.2%	\$14,087
Accommodation & Food Services	297	5.8%	\$13,875
Other Services	200	3.9%	\$25,347
Public Administration	424	8.3%	\$40,008

Figure 17. Change in Jobs, 2022-2023



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

web: www.mn.gov/deed/data/regional-lmi/

Data updated: June 4, 2024