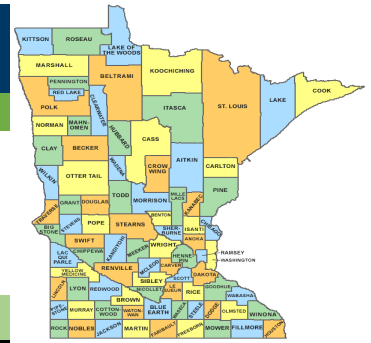


COUNTY PROFILE

Jackson Co.

Jackson Co. is a part of Economic Development Region 8, which is located in the Southwest Planning Region.



POPULATION CHARACTERISTICS

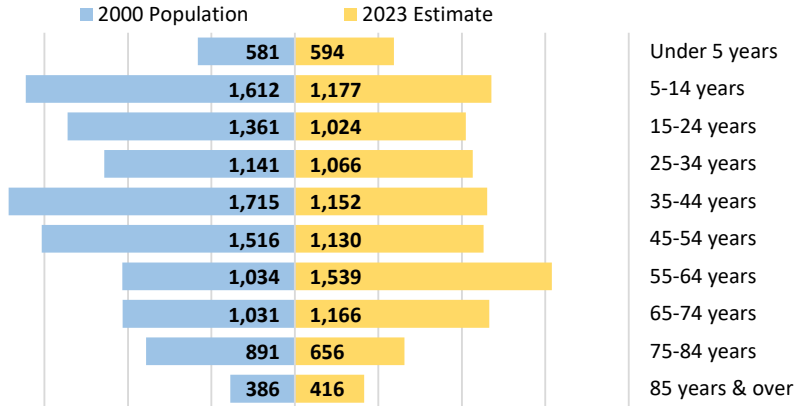
2023 population:	9,919 people
Population change, 2020-2023	-70 people -0.7% decline

Median Age:	44.4 years
state:	38.5 years

Jackson Co. is the 67th largest of the 87 counties in the state. Its population decreased so far this decade, ranking as the 59th fastest growing in the state from 2020 to 2023. Jackson 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	594	6.0%
5-14 years	1,177	11.9%
15-24 years	1,024	10.3%
25-34 years	1,066	10.8%
35-44 years	1,152	11.6%
45-54 years	1,130	11.4%
55-64 years	1,539	15.5%
65-74 years	1,166	11.8%
75-84 years	656	6.6%
85 years & over	416	4.2%
Total Population	9,919	100.0%

Figure 1. Population Pyramid, 2000-2023



Source: Census 2023 Population Estimates, 2018-2022 ACS

Jackson 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, Jackson Co. welcomed net international immigration - gaining new Minnesotans from foreign countries (see Table 2).

Table 2. Cumulative Estimates of the Components of Population Change, 2020-2023

	Total Population Change	April 1, 2020 to July 1, 2023					
		Natural Increase	Vital Events		Net Migration		
			Births	Deaths	Total	International	Domestic
Jackson Co.	-75	-37	320	357	-47	21	-68
State of Minnesota	31,111	40,368	207,857	167,489	-11,352	34,624	-45,976

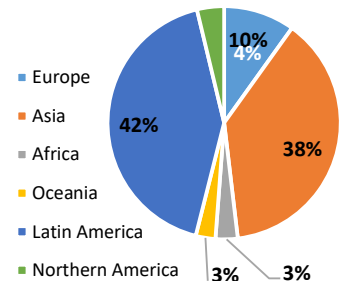
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Population Estimates Program

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

	Jackson Co.		Change 2010-2022		Minnesota	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Percent	Change
Foreign-born Population	293	2.9%	14	5.0%	8.5%	31.3%
Europe	29	9.9%	3	11.5%	9.3%	-0.6%
Asia	112	38.2%	-52	-31.7%	36.7%	30.2%
Africa	9	3.1%	9	#DIV/0!	28.1%	93.1%
Oceania	8	2.7%	8	#DIV/0!	0.4%	20.4%
Americas:	135	46.1%	46	51.7%	25.4%	7.5%
Latin America	124	42.3%	50	67.6%	22.9%	9.0%
Northern America	11	3.8%	-4	-26.7%	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

Jackson Co.

Jackson 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

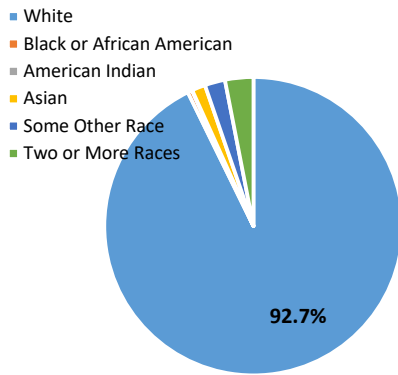


Table 4. Race and Hispanic Origin, 2022	Jackson Co.			Minnesota	
	Number	Percent	Change from 2011-2022	Percent	Change from 2011-2022
Total	9,990	100.0%	-3.3%	100.0%	7.9%
White	9,265	92.7%	-6.3%	79.7%	-0.4%
Black or African American	49	0.5%	88.5%	6.7%	44.3%
American Indian or Alaska Native	3	0.0%	-76.9%	0.9%	-10.2%
Asian or Other Pac. Islanders	146	1.5%	-18.4%	5.1%	37.1%
Some Other Race	220	2.2%	64.2%	2.3%	84.7%
Two or More Races	307	3.1%	274.4%	5.3%	159.6%
Hispanic or Latino origin	426	4.3%	69.0%	5.7%	34.6%

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

POPULATION PROJECTIONS

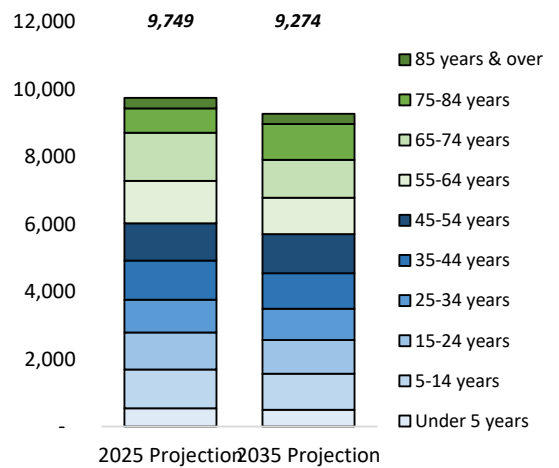
According to the Minnesota State Demographic Center, Jackson Co.'s population is expected to decline from 2025 to 2035, with a rate of change that is slower than the projected statewide growth rate (4.5%). Despite the decline, the number of people aged 65 years and older is expected to increase over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

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

Jackson Co.	2025 Projection	2035 Projection	Numeric Change	Percent Change
Under 5 years	538	495	-43	-8.0%
5-14 years	1,152	1,076	-76	-6.6%
15-24 years	1,101	999	-102	-9.3%
25-34 years	970	923	-47	-4.8%
35-44 years	1,162	1,052	-110	-9.5%
45-54 years	1,107	1,165	58	5.2%
55-64 years	1,257	1,077	-180	-14.3%
65-74 years	1,429	1,125	-304	-21.3%
75-84 years	718	1,060	342	47.6%
85 years & over	315	302	-13	-4.1%
Total Population	9,749	9,274	-475	-4.9%

Source: Minnesota State Demographic Center

Figure 4. Projections by Age Group, 2025-2035

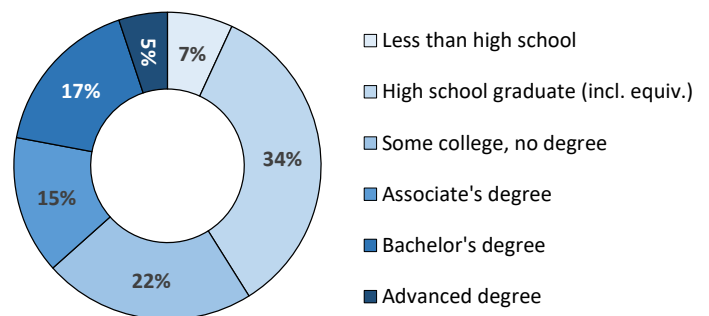


EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT

Jackson 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. Jackson 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:	93.1%
College-educated:	58.9%
state:	68.5%
Associate's Degree:	14.5%
Bachelor's Degree:	16.9%
Advanced Degree:	5.1%

Figure 5. Educational Attainment, 2022



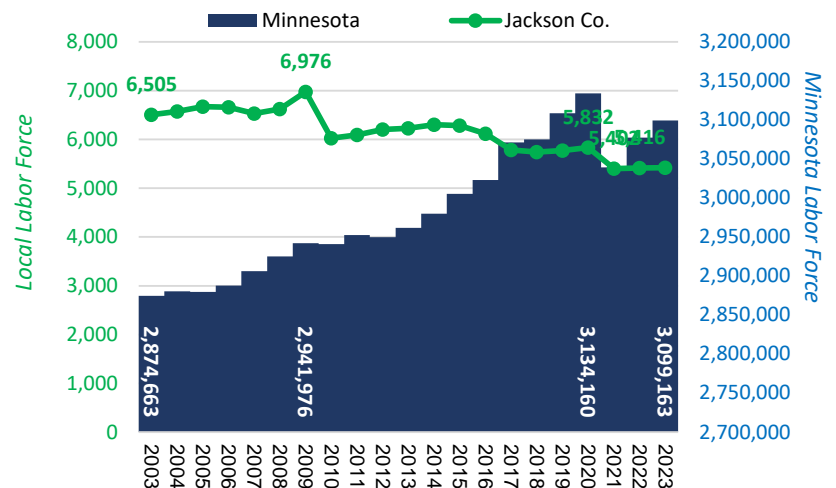
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2018-2022 American Community Survey

LABOR FORCE TRENDS

At 2.5%, Jackson Co. had a higher unemployment rate than the state in 2023. After the pandemic recession Jackson Co.'s unemployment rate declined compared to the 3.7% pre-pandemic rate posted in 2019. The number of unemployed workers actively seeking work in Jackson Co. increased over the past year, and is down compared to 2019.

5,416 available workers	
Labor Force change, 2008-2023	-1,203 workers -18.2% decline
2.5% unemployment rate	2.7% state
135 unemployed workers	

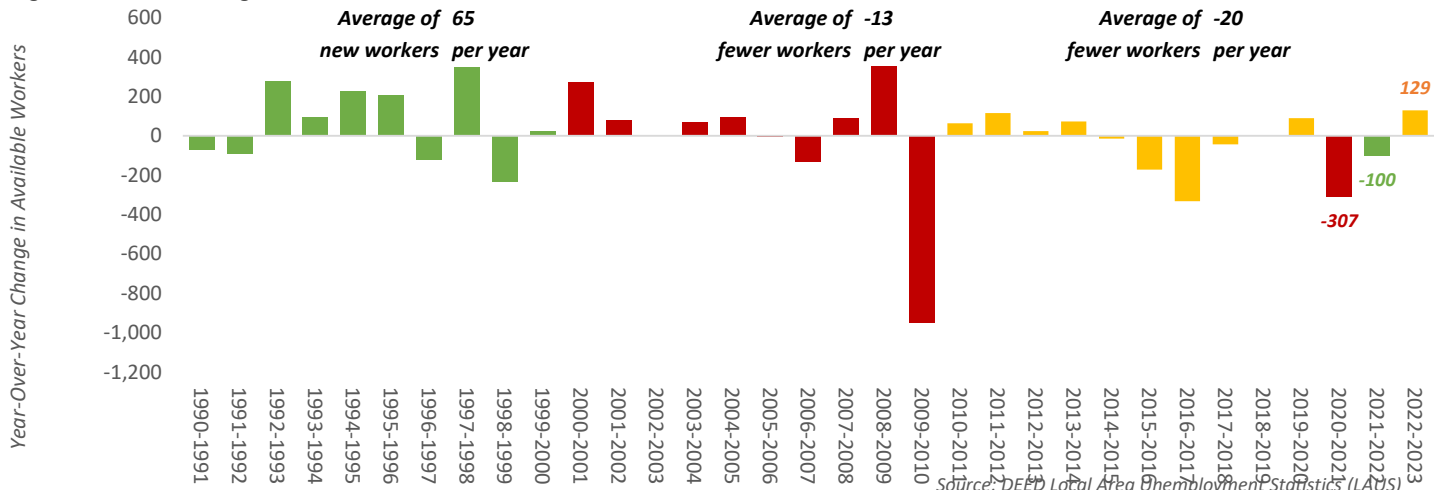
Figure 6. Annual Labor Force Estimates



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, Jackson 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, Jackson Co. is expected to see a labor force decline from 2025 to 2035 (see Table 6).

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



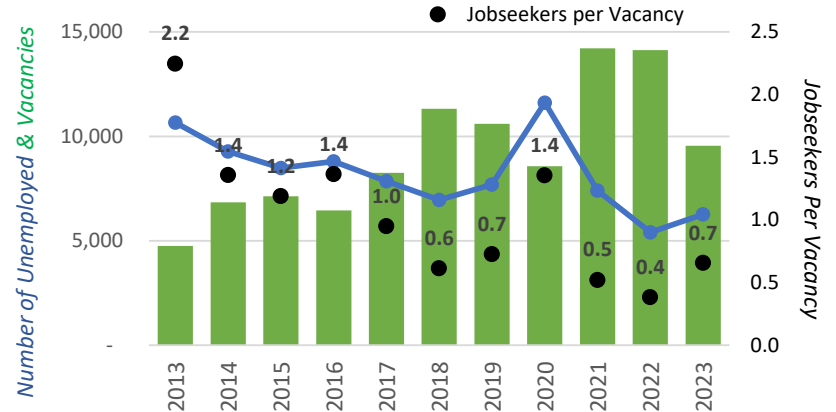
Source: DEED Local Area Unemployment Statistics (LAUS)

Table 6. Labor Force Projections, 2025-2035	Labor Force Projection	
	2025	2035
16 to 24 years	781	714
25 to 54 years	2,899	2,805
55 to 64 years	970	831
65 years & over	514	429
Total Labor Force	5,164	4,778

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 Southwest returned to pre-pandemic levels, but employers are still seeing challenges finding enough workers for open jobs (see Figure 8).

Figure 8. Jobseekers Per Vacancy, 2013-2023



Source: DEED Job Vacancy Survey, LAUS program

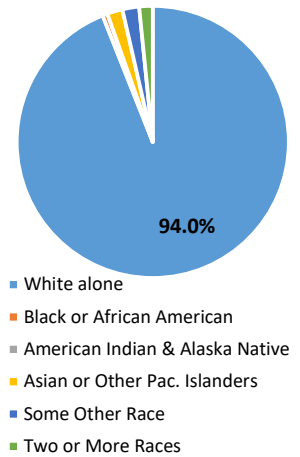
LABOR FORCE CHARACTERISTICS

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

	Jackson 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	5,378	66.5%	2.0%	68.7%	4.0%	2,895	2,480
16 to 19 years	315	71.1%	3.5%	53.0%	9.8%	201	114
20 to 24 years	411	87.8%	0.0%	83.1%	6.7%	193	218
25 to 44 years	2,050	91.7%	0.9%	88.8%	3.5%	1,146	904
45 to 54 years	970	85.2%	0.2%	87.8%	2.9%	473	497
55 to 64 years	1,196	77.2%	2.9%	72.8%	3.1%	626	570
65 to 74 years	385	32.8%	10.4%	27.6%	3.3%	229	156
75 years & over	48	4.4%	6.3%	6.6%	3.2%	27	21
Employment Characteristics by Race & Hispanic Origin							
White alone	5,053	66.3%	2.1%	67.8%	3.4%		
Black or African American	32	76.2%	0.0%	71.5%	8.7%		
American Indian & Alaska Native	0	0.0%	0.0%	57.6%	11.9%		
Asian or Other Pac. Islanders	98	72.1%	3.1%	73.9%	3.6%		
Some Other Race	107	80.5%	0.0%	76.1%	6.1%		
Two or More Races	86	57.0%	0.0%	74.3%	6.6%		
Hispanic or Latino	245	86.0%	0.8%	77.0%	6.3%		
Employment Characteristics by Disability, 20 to 64 years							
With Any Disability, 20 to 64 years	279	60.3%	0.7%	54.4%	10.2%		
Employment Characteristics by Educational Attainment, 25 to 64 years							
Population, 25 to 64 years	4,218	85.7%	1.3%	84.4%	3.3%		
Less than H.S. Diploma	198	58.1%	1.7%	67.2%	4.6%		
H.S. Diploma or Equivalent	1,068	83.8%	0.2%	76.8%	2.5%		
Some College or Assoc. Degree	1,756	88.2%	1.0%	85.1%	3.6%		
Bachelor's Degree or Higher	1,194	90.7%	0.9%	90.3%	2.0%		

Figure 9. Labor Force by Race, 2022



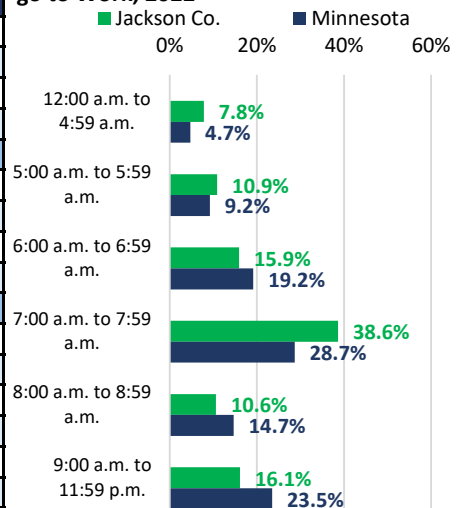
Source: 2018-2022 American Community Survey, 5-Year Estimates

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

Table 8. Commuting Characteristics, 2022

	Jackson Co.		Minnesota	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Worked in state of residence	4,814	92.7%	2,867,086	97.7%
Worked in county of residence	3,521	67.8%	1,957,366	66.7%
Worked out of county of residence	1,293	24.9%	909,720	31.0%
Worked outside state of residence	379	7.3%	67,495	2.3%
MEANS OF TRANSPORTATION TO WORK				
Car, truck, or van	4,414	85.0%	2,387,561	81.6%
Public transportation (excl. taxicab)	26	0.5%	81,926	2.8%
Other method (walk, bike, taxi, etc.)	379	7.3%	122,889	4.2%
Worked at home	379	7.3%	333,556	11.4%
TRAVEL TIME TO WORK				
Less than 10 minutes	1,901	36.6%	465,223	15.9%
10 to 19 minutes	1,366	26.3%	895,335	30.6%
20 to 29 minutes	1,007	19.4%	649,557	22.2%
30 to 44 minutes	644	12.4%	567,631	19.4%
45 to 59 minutes	78	1.5%	190,186	6.5%
60 or more minutes	203	3.9%	158,000	5.4%
Mean travel time to work (minutes)	17.5 minutes		23.3 minutes	

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



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

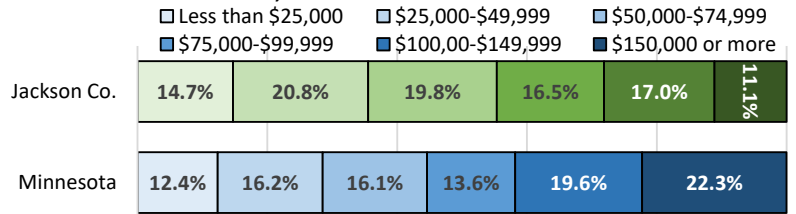
INCOMES, COST OF LIVING, & HOUSING

Jackson Co. had a lower median household income than the state, and a higher percentage of households with incomes below \$50,000. Overall, Jackson Co. had the 48th highest median household income of the 87 counties in the state.

Median Household Income	\$68,368
state	\$84,313
Median Family Income	\$85,029
state	\$107,072
Per Capita Income	\$37,818
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. Jackson Co. had a lower cost of living than the state, with a required hourly wage of \$13.31 for a single person living alone to meet a basic needs cost of living, and an hourly wage requirement of \$17.28 for a typical family with 2 adults and 1 child (see Table 9).

Table 9. Basic Needs Cost of Living Estimates, 2023

Category	Single Yearly Cost of Living	Hourly Wage Required	Monthly Costs						
			Child Care	Food	Health Care	Housing	Transportation	Other	Taxes
Single Adult, 0 children									
Jackson Co.	\$27,683	\$13.31	\$0	\$420	\$161	\$641	\$551	\$254	\$280
State of Minnesota	\$34,704	\$16.68	\$0	\$419	\$160	\$1,021	\$572	\$345	\$375
Typical Family: 2 Adults (1 working full-time, 1 part-time), 1 child									
Jackson Co.	\$53,918	\$17.28	\$275	\$957	\$576	\$853	\$929	\$433	\$470
State of Minnesota	\$67,320	\$21.58	\$544	\$955	\$574	\$1,285	\$977	\$536	\$739

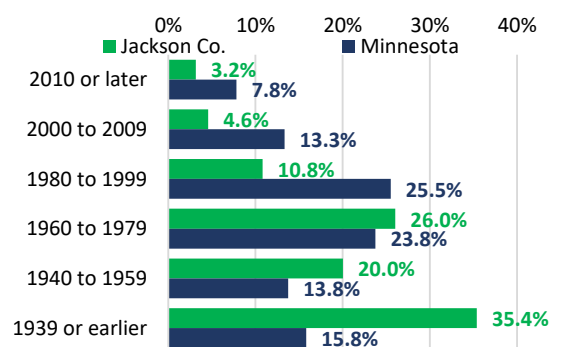
Source: DEED Cost of Living tool

Jackson Co. had a lower median house value than the state, having the 72nd highest value of the 87 counties in 2022. Jackson 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	Jackson Co.		Minnesota
	Total	Percent	Percent
Total	3,550	100.0%	100.0%
Less than \$50,000	338	9.5%	4.1%
\$50,000 to \$99,999	814	22.9%	4.6%
\$100,000 to \$149,999	699	19.7%	7.1%
\$150,000 to \$199,999	614	17.3%	10.7%
\$200,000 to \$299,999	614	17.3%	27.1%
\$300,000 to \$499,999	341	9.6%	31.7%
\$500,000 or more	130	3.7%	14.7%
Median (dollars)	\$140,500		\$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 **\$1,194**

state \$1,818

Percentage of households with a mortgage spending 30% or more of their income on housing costs **16.3%**

state 22.0%

Median monthly rent costs **\$764**

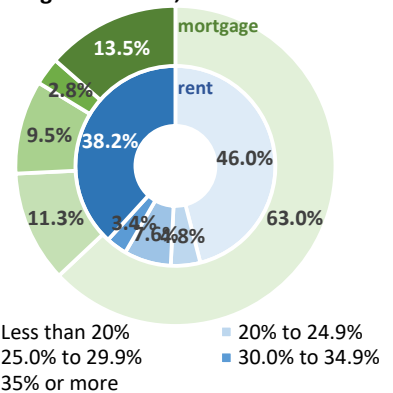
state \$1,178

Percentage of renters spending 30% or more of their household income on rent **41.6%**

state 46.7%

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

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



OCCUPATIONS

At \$22.81 in 2024, wages were lower in Region 8 than the state. Overall, Region 8 had the 9th highest median hourly wage level of the 13 economic development regions in the state. Wages were highest for management occupations (\$46.14) and lowest for food preparation and serving related jobs (\$14.46) (see Table 11).

Table 11. Occupational Employment & Wage Statistics, 2024

Occupational Group	Region 8				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	\$22.81	52,080	100.0%	1.0	\$25.22	2,881,100	100.0%
Management	\$46.14	2,680	5.1%	0.7	\$57.75	201,710	7.0%
Business & Financial Operations	\$32.67	2,190	4.2%	0.6	\$39.26	202,700	7.0%
Computer & Mathematical	\$39.94	540	1.0%	0.3	\$50.83	98,240	3.4%
Architecture & Engineering	\$38.82	730	1.4%	0.7	\$42.97	58,320	2.0%
Life, Physical & Social Science	\$34.31	390	0.7%	0.7	\$39.93	29,220	1.0%
Community & Social Service	\$27.33	920	1.8%	0.9	\$27.92	57,930	2.0%
Legal	\$37.81	110	0.2%	0.3	\$51.15	19,040	0.7%
Education, Training & Library	\$24.94	3,840	7.4%	1.3	\$28.22	163,340	5.7%
Arts, Design, Entertainment & Media	\$23.27	380	0.7%	0.6	\$29.01	36,160	1.3%
Healthcare Practitioners & Technical	\$37.34	2,720	5.2%	0.8	\$43.01	184,410	6.4%
Healthcare Support	\$18.03	3,060	5.9%	1.0	\$18.07	169,580	5.9%
Protective Service	\$29.14	660	1.3%	0.8	\$28.87	45,860	1.6%
Food Preparation & Serving Related	\$14.46	3,920	7.5%	0.9	\$15.07	232,190	8.1%
Building, Grounds Cleaning & Maint.	\$18.02	1,610	3.1%	1.1	\$18.83	79,660	2.8%
Personal Care & Service	\$17.30	690	1.3%	0.6	\$17.60	59,420	2.1%
Sales & Related	\$17.09	4,450	8.5%	1.0	\$18.82	242,440	8.4%
Office & Administrative Support	\$22.23	5,920	11.4%	0.9	\$23.86	352,250	12.2%
Farming, Fishing & Forestry	\$21.24	240	0.5%	3.8	\$22.13	3,520	0.1%
Construction & Extraction	\$26.91	2,220	4.3%	1.1	\$32.44	110,960	3.9%
Installation, Maintenance & Repair	\$26.09	2,410	4.6%	1.3	\$29.54	104,530	3.6%
Production	\$21.77	7,330	14.1%	2.0	\$23.05	203,810	7.1%
Transportation & Material Moving	\$22.79	5,060	9.7%	1.2	\$19.80	225,820	7.8%

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

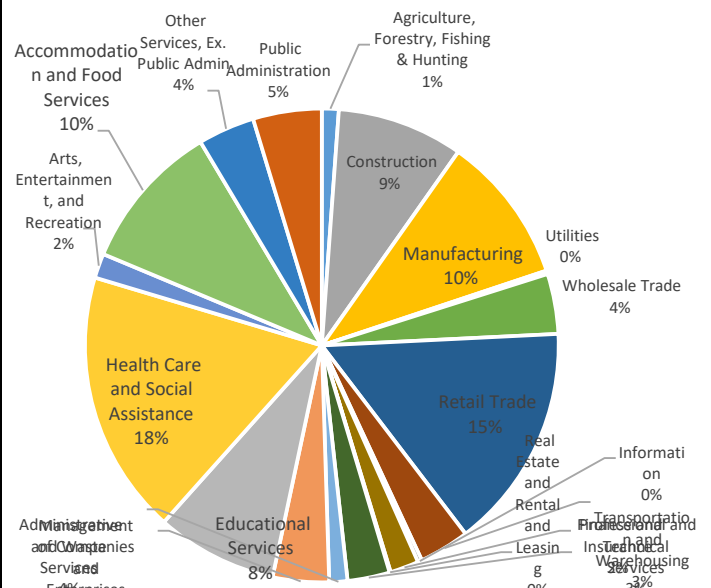
JOB VACANCY SURVEY

Jackson Co. is a part of the Southwest planning region. There were 9546 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. Southwest Job Vacancy Survey Results, 2023

Occupational Group	Number of Vacancies	Wage Offer
Total, All Occupations	9,546	\$19.74
Management	202	\$32.04
Business & Financial Operations	520	\$25.88
Computer & Mathematical	100	\$37.50
Architecture & Engineering	96	\$28.56
Life, Physical & Social Sciences	69	\$24.18
Community & Social Service	258	\$23.46
Education, Training & Library	453	\$18.35
Healthcare Practitioners & Technical	738	\$31.97
Healthcare Support	508	\$16.76
Protective Service	177	\$22.52
Food Preparation & Serving Related	1,180	\$15.32
Building, Grounds Cleaning & Maint.	432	\$16.90
Personal Care & Service	188	\$14.60
Sales & Related	1,164	\$15.93
Office & Administrative Support	563	\$19.27
Construction & Extraction	431	\$25.04
Installation, Maintenance & Repair	653	\$22.92
Production	540	\$18.93
Transportation & Material Moving	773	\$21.15

Figure 14. Job Vacancies by Industry, 2023



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

Source: DEED Occupations in Demand

Jackson 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 Projections, 2020-2030

Southwest Planning Region	Estimated Employment 2020	Projected Employment 2030	Percent Change 2020-2030
Total, All Industries	195,812	203,504	3.9%
Natural Resources & Mining	5,931	6,026	1.6%
Utilities	713	735	3.1%
Construction	7,573	8,082	6.7%
Manufacturing	30,107	30,719	2.0%
Wholesale Trade	8,045	8,118	0.9%
Retail Trade	18,569	17,653	-4.9%
Transportation & Warehousing	7,385	7,817	5.8%
Information	2,152	2,001	-7.0%
Finance & Insurance, Real Estate	8,098	8,232	1.7%
Professional Services & Mgmt. of Companies	5,283	5,512	4.3%
Admin. Support & Waste Mgmt.	3,421	3,636	6.3%
Educational Services	15,564	16,274	4.6%
Health Care & Social Assistance	29,352	32,081	9.3%
Leisure & Hospitality	11,744	14,382	22.5%
Other Services	6,756	7,462	10.4%
Public Administration	13,193	13,517	2.5%

Source: DEED 2020-2030 Employment Outlook

Figure 15. Regional Occupational Employment Projections, 2020-2030

