

**COUNTY PROFILE**

**Meeker Co.**

Meeker Co. is a part of Economic Development Region 6E, which is located in the Central Planning Region.



**POPULATION CHARACTERISTICS**

2023 population:	<b>23,490 people</b>
Population change, 2020-2023	90 people 0.4% increase

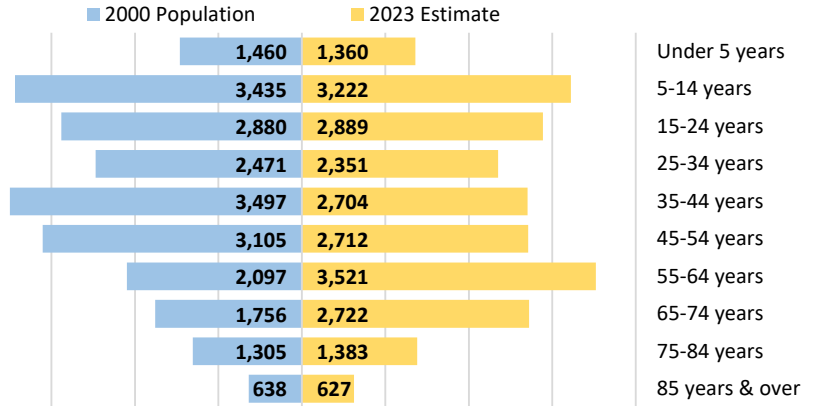
Median Age:	<b>42.3 years</b>
state:	38.5 years

Meeker Co. is the 43rd largest of the 87 counties in the state. Its population increased so far this decade, ranking as the 44th fastest growing in the state from 2020 to 2023. Meeker 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	1,360	5.8%
5-14 years	3,222	13.7%
15-24 years	2,889	12.3%
25-34 years	2,351	10.0%
35-44 years	2,704	11.5%
45-54 years	2,712	11.5%
55-64 years	3,521	15.0%
65-74 years	2,722	11.6%
75-84 years	1,383	5.9%
85 years & over	627	2.7%
<b>Total Population</b>	<b>23,490</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

Source: Census 2023 Population Estimates, 2018-2022 ACS

Figure 1. Population Pyramid, 2000-2023



Meeker 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, Meeker Co. welcomed net international in-migration - gaining new Minnesotans from foreign countries (see Table 2).

	Total Population Change	April 1, 2020 to July 1, 2023					
		Natural Increase	Vital Events		Net Migration		
			Births	Deaths	Total	International	Domestic
Meeker Co.	86	-4	812	816	89	24	65
State of Minnesota	31,111	40,368	207,857	167,489	-11,352	34,624	-45,976

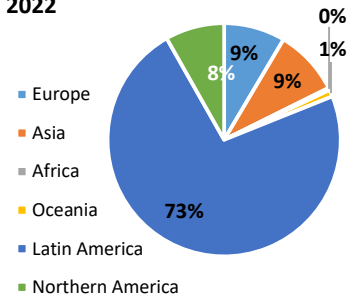
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Population Estimates Program

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

	Meeker Co.		Change 2010-2022		Minnesota	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Percent	Change
<b>Foreign-born Population</b>	<b>317</b>	<b>1.4%</b>	<b>-39</b>	<b>-11.0%</b>	<b>8.5%</b>	<b>31.3%</b>
Europe	27	8.5%	4	17.4%	9.3%	-0.6%
Asia	29	9.1%	-62	-68.1%	36.7%	30.2%
Africa	1	0.3%	1	#DIV/0!	28.1%	93.1%
Oceania	3	0.9%	3	#DIV/0!	0.4%	20.4%
Americas:	257	81.1%	15	6.2%	25.4%	7.5%
Latin America	231	72.9%	7	3.1%	22.9%	9.0%
Northern America	26	8.2%	8	44.4%	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



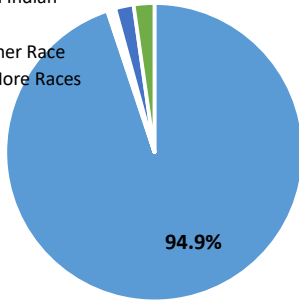
## COUNTY PROFILE

Meeker Co.

Meeker 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



	Meeker Co.			Minnesota	
	Number	Percent	Change from 2011-2022	Percent	Change from 2011-2022
<b>Total</b>	<b>23,352</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>0.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>7.9%</b>
White	22,154	94.9%	-2.8%	79.7%	-0.4%
Black or African American	75	0.3%	50.0%	6.7%	44.3%
American Indian or Alaska Native	80	0.3%	15.9%	0.9%	-10.2%
Asian or Other Pac. Islanders	49	0.2%	-47.3%	5.1%	37.1%
Some Other Race	469	2.0%	153.5%	2.3%	84.7%
Two or More Races	525	2.2%	218.2%	5.3%	159.6%
Hispanic or Latino origin	998	4.3%	39.0%	5.7%	34.6%

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

## POPULATION PROJECTIONS

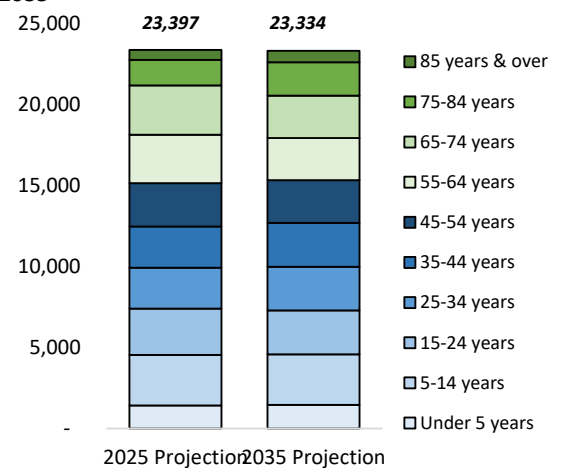
According to the Minnesota State Demographic Center, Meeker Co.'s population is expected to decline from 2025 to 2035, with a rate of change that is slower than the projected statewide growth rate (4.5%). Despite the decline, the number of people aged 65 years and older is expected to increase over the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

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

Meeker Co.	2025 Projection	2035 Projection	Numeric Change	Percent Change
Under 5 years	1,428	1,462	34	2.4%
5-14 years	3,120	3,128	8	0.3%
15-24 years	2,861	2,708	-153	-5.3%
25-34 years	2,523	2,700	177	7.0%
35-44 years	2,555	2,715	160	6.3%
45-54 years	2,674	2,631	-43	-1.6%
55-64 years	2,999	2,614	-385	-12.8%
65-74 years	3,048	2,613	-435	-14.3%
75-84 years	1,576	2,063	487	30.9%
85 years & over	613	700	87	14.2%
<b>Total Population</b>	<b>23,397</b>	<b>23,334</b>	<b>-63</b>	<b>-0.3%</b>

Source: Minnesota State Demographic Center

**Figure 4. Projections by Age Group, 2025-2035**

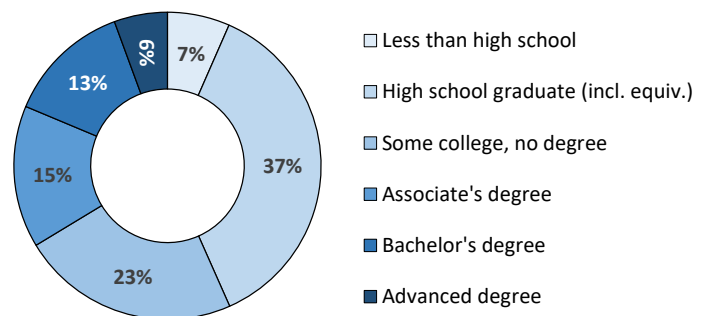


## EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT

Meeker 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. Meeker 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.

<b>Percentage of the adult population (18 years &amp; over) with at least a high school diploma:</b>	<b>93.4%</b>
<b>College-educated:</b>	<b>56.6%</b>
state:	68.5%
<b>Associate's Degree:</b>	<b>15.0%</b>
<b>Bachelor's Degree:</b>	<b>13.1%</b>
<b>Advanced Degree:</b>	<b>5.6%</b>

**Figure 5. Educational Attainment, 2022**



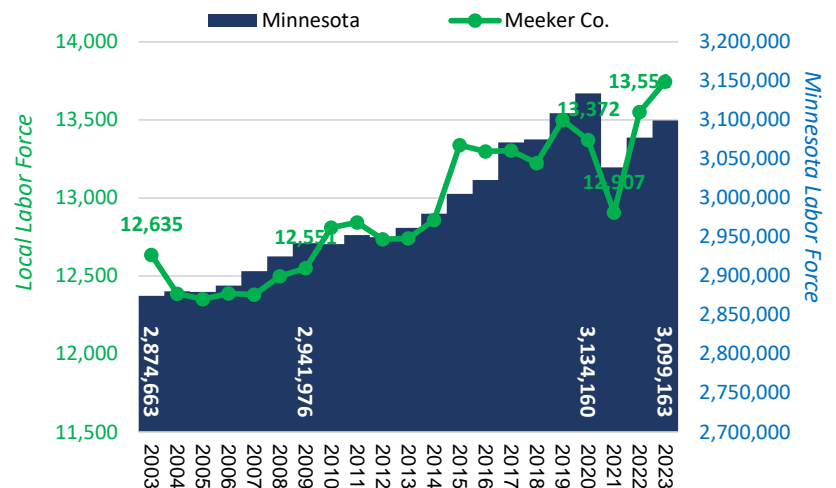
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2018-2022 American Community Survey

LABOR FORCE TRENDS

At 2.9%, Meeker Co. had a higher unemployment rate than the state in 2023. After the pandemic recession Meeker Co.'s unemployment rate declined compared to the 4.1% pre-pandemic rate posted in 2019. The number of unemployed workers actively seeking work in Meeker Co. increased over the past year, and is down compared to 2019.

<b>13,551</b> available workers	
Labor Force change, 2008-2023	1,248 workers 10.0% increase
<b>2.9%</b> unemployment rate	
2.7% state	
<b>393</b> unemployed workers	

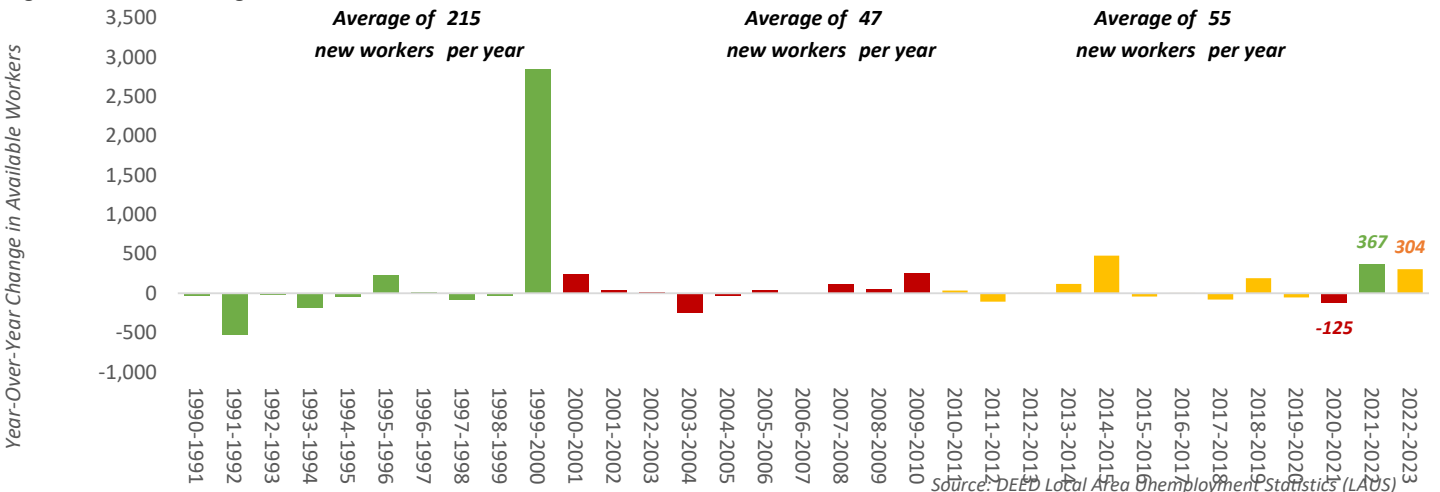
Figure 6. Annual Labor Force Estimates



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, Meeker 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, Meeker 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



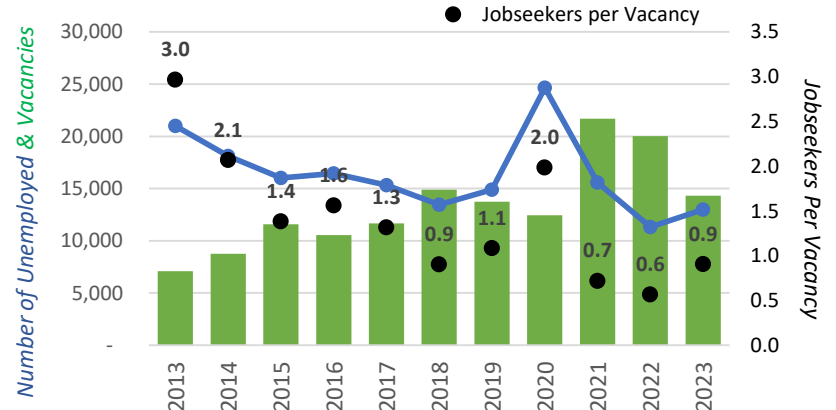
Source: DEED Local Area Unemployment Statistics (LAUS)

Table 6. Labor Force Projections, 2025-2035	Labor Force Projection	
	2025	2035
16 to 24 years	1,885	1,800
25 to 54 years	6,868	7,130
55 to 64 years	2,181	1,901
65 years & over	920	836
<b>Total Labor Force</b>	<b>11,854</b>	<b>11,667</b>

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 Central 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

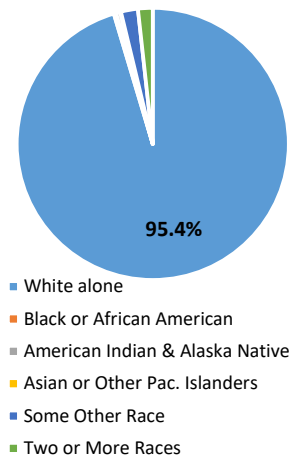
**LABOR FORCE CHARACTERISTICS**

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

	Meeker 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
<b>Total Labor Force</b>	<b>12,088</b>	<b>65.6%</b>	<b>2.5%</b>	<b>68.7%</b>	<b>4.0%</b>	<b>6,603</b>	<b>5,480</b>
16 to 19 years	694	58.9%	6.2%	53.0%	9.8%	341	353
20 to 24 years	1,181	89.3%	4.2%	83.1%	6.7%	633	549
25 to 44 years	4,468	88.9%	3.0%	88.8%	3.5%	2,467	2,001
45 to 54 years	2,372	88.0%	2.4%	87.8%	2.9%	1,308	1,065
55 to 64 years	2,545	72.7%	0.7%	72.8%	3.1%	1,332	1,214
65 to 74 years	712	26.3%	0.8%	27.6%	3.3%	436	277
75 years & over	108	5.4%	1.9%	6.6%	3.2%	86	21
<b>Employment Characteristics by Race &amp; Hispanic Origin</b>							
White alone	11,531	65.5%	2.5%	67.8%	3.4%		
Black or African American	34	46.6%	0.0%	71.5%	8.7%		
American Indian & Alaska Native	59	89.4%	0.0%	57.6%	11.9%		
Asian or Other Pac. Islanders	11	22.9%	27.3%	73.9%	3.6%		
Some Other Race	244	72.6%	6.6%	76.1%	6.1%		
Two or More Races	211	70.6%	0.0%	74.3%	6.6%		
Hispanic or Latino	460	68.6%	0.0%	77.0%	6.3%		
<b>Employment Characteristics by Disability, 20 to 64 years</b>							
With Any Disability, 20 to 64 years	655	52.7%	7.3%	54.4%	10.2%		
<b>Employment Characteristics by Educational Attainment, 25 to 64 years</b>							
Population, 25 to 64 years	9,392	83.7%	2.2%	84.4%	3.3%		
Less than H.S. Diploma	429	69.0%	1.8%	67.2%	4.6%		
H.S. Diploma or Equivalent	2,836	78.9%	2.2%	76.8%	2.5%		
Some College or Assoc. Degree	3,998	85.5%	2.0%	85.1%	3.6%		
Bachelor's Degree or Higher	2,123	91.2%	1.7%	90.3%	2.0%		

**Figure 9. Labor Force by Race, 2022**



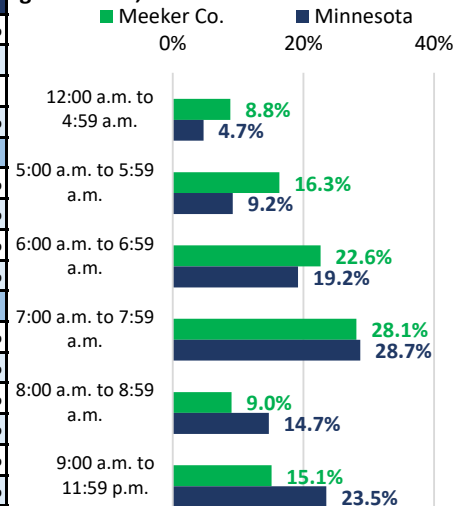
Source: 2018-2022 American Community Survey, 5-Year Estimates

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

**Table 8. Commuting Characteristics, 2022**

	Meeker Co.		Minnesota	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Worked in state of residence	11,566	99.5%	2,867,086	97.7%
Worked in county of residence	6,370	54.8%	1,957,366	66.7%
Worked out of county of residence	5,196	44.7%	909,720	31.0%
Worked outside state of residence	58	0.5%	67,495	2.3%
<b>MEANS OF TRANSPORTATION TO WORK</b>				
Car, truck, or van	10,380	89.3%	2,387,561	81.6%
Public transportation (excl. taxicab)	35	0.3%	81,926	2.8%
Other method (walk, bike, taxi, etc.)	384	3.3%	122,889	4.2%
Worked at home	814	7.0%	333,556	11.4%
<b>TRAVEL TIME TO WORK</b>				
Less than 10 minutes	2,999	25.8%	465,223	15.9%
10 to 19 minutes	3,162	27.2%	895,335	30.6%
20 to 29 minutes	1,802	15.5%	649,557	22.2%
30 to 44 minutes	1,790	15.4%	567,631	19.4%
45 to 59 minutes	744	6.4%	190,186	6.5%
60 or more minutes	1,139	9.8%	158,000	5.4%
<b>Mean travel time to work (minutes)</b>	<b>24.2 minutes</b>		<b>23.3 minutes</b>	

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



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

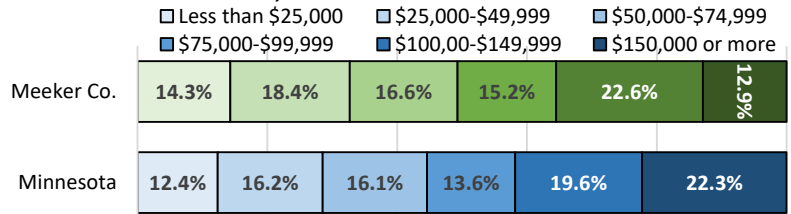
**INCOMES, COST OF LIVING, & HOUSING**

Meeker Co. had a lower median household income than the state, and a higher percentage of households with incomes below \$50,000. Overall, Meeker Co. had the 19th highest median household income of the 87 counties in the state.

<b>Median Household Income</b>	<b>\$75,926</b>
state	\$84,313
<b>Median Family Income</b>	<b>\$92,929</b>
state	\$107,072
<b>Per Capita Income</b>	<b>\$37,233</b>
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. Meeker Co. had a lower cost of living than the state, with a required hourly wage of \$14.3 for a single person living alone to meet a basic needs cost of living, and an hourly wage requirement of \$19.09 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									
Meeker Co.	\$29,744	\$14.30	\$0	\$407	\$161	\$689	\$646	\$262	\$314
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									
Meeker Co.	\$59,557	\$19.09	\$346	\$928	\$576	\$910	\$1,168	\$440	\$595
State of Minnesota	\$67,320	\$21.58	\$544	\$955	\$574	\$1,285	\$977	\$536	\$739

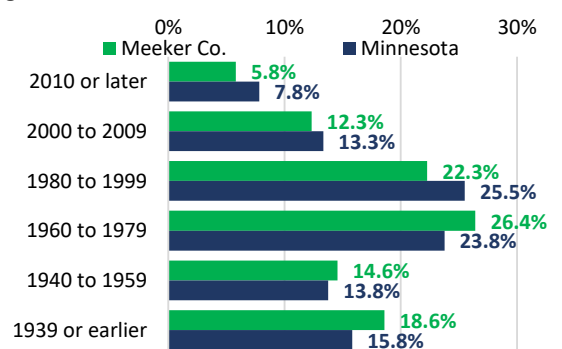
Source: DEED Cost of Living tool

Meeker Co. had a lower median house value than the state, having the 36th highest value of the 87 counties in 2022. Meeker 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	Meeker Co.		Minnesota
	Total	Percent	Percent
<b>Total</b>	<b>7,358</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>
Less than \$50,000	357	4.9%	4.1%
\$50,000 to \$99,999	572	7.8%	4.6%
\$100,000 to \$149,999	1,093	14.9%	7.1%
\$150,000 to \$199,999	1,316	17.9%	10.7%
\$200,000 to \$299,999	1,930	26.2%	27.1%
\$300,000 to \$499,999	1,475	20.0%	31.7%
\$500,000 or more	615	8.4%	14.7%
<b>Median (dollars)</b>	<b>\$216,800</b>		<b>\$286,800</b>

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** **\$1,490**

state \$1,818

**Percentage of households with a mortgage spending 30% or more of their income on housing costs** **22.7%**

state 22.0%

**Median monthly rent costs** **\$860**

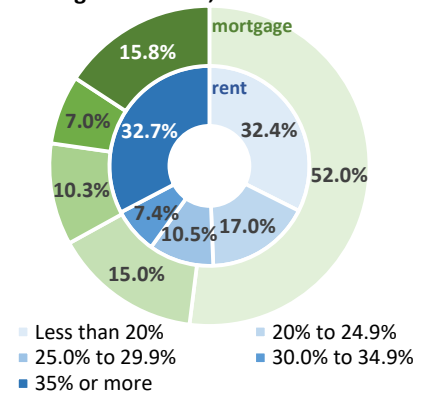
state \$1,178

**Percentage of renters spending 30% or more of their household income on rent** **40.1%**

state 46.7%

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

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





OCCUPATIONS

At \$22.72 in 2024, wages were lower in Region 6E than the state. Overall, Region 6E had the 4th lowest median hourly wage level of the 13 economic development regions in the state. Wages were highest for management occupations (\$46.75) and lowest for food preparation and serving related jobs (\$14.42) (see Table 11).

Table 11. Occupational Employment & Wage Statistics, 2024

Occupational Group	Region 6E				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
<b>Total, All Occupations</b>	<b>\$22.72</b>	<b>50,190</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>1.0</b>	<b>\$25.22</b>	<b>2,881,100</b>	<b>100.0%</b>
Management	\$46.75	2,600	5.2%	0.7	\$57.75	201,710	7.0%
Business & Financial Operations	\$33.43	1,780	3.5%	0.5	\$39.26	202,700	7.0%
Computer & Mathematical	\$38.50	490	1.0%	0.3	\$50.83	98,240	3.4%
Architecture & Engineering	\$39.59	970	1.9%	1.0	\$42.97	58,320	2.0%
Life, Physical & Social Science	\$34.10	270	0.5%	0.5	\$39.93	29,220	1.0%
Community & Social Service	\$29.26	1,090	2.2%	1.1	\$27.92	57,930	2.0%
Legal	\$31.58	150	0.3%	0.5	\$51.15	19,040	0.7%
Education, Training & Library	\$24.31	2,870	5.7%	1.0	\$28.22	163,340	5.7%
Arts, Design, Entertainment & Media	\$21.21	360	0.7%	0.6	\$29.01	36,160	1.3%
Healthcare Practitioners & Technical	\$39.40	2,900	5.8%	0.9	\$43.01	184,410	6.4%
Healthcare Support	\$17.70	4,210	8.4%	1.4	\$18.07	169,580	5.9%
Protective Service	\$26.87	680	1.4%	0.9	\$28.87	45,860	1.6%
Food Preparation & Serving Related	\$14.42	4,130	8.2%	1.0	\$15.07	232,190	8.1%
Building, Grounds Cleaning & Maint.	\$18.19	1,490	3.0%	1.1	\$18.83	79,660	2.8%
Personal Care & Service	\$16.94	730	1.5%	0.7	\$17.60	59,420	2.1%
Sales & Related	\$17.33	4,270	8.5%	1.0	\$18.82	242,440	8.4%
Office & Administrative Support	\$21.76	5,480	10.9%	0.9	\$23.86	352,250	12.2%
Farming, Fishing & Forestry	\$21.63	350	0.7%	5.7	\$22.13	3,520	0.1%
Construction & Extraction	\$28.25	2,040	4.1%	1.1	\$32.44	110,960	3.9%
Installation, Maintenance & Repair	\$26.38	2,250	4.5%	1.2	\$29.54	104,530	3.6%
Production	\$23.38	6,300	12.6%	1.8	\$23.05	203,810	7.1%
Transportation & Material Moving	\$21.88	4,810	9.6%	1.2	\$19.80	225,820	7.8%

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

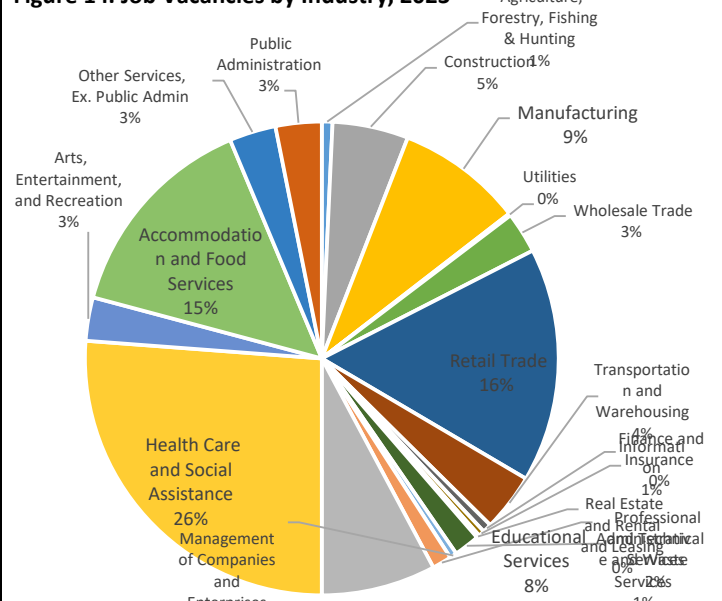
JOB VACANCY SURVEY

Meeker Co. is a part of the Central planning region. There were 14320 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. Central Job Vacancy Survey Results, 2023

Occupational Group	Number of Vacancies	Wage Offer
<b>Total, All Occupations</b>	<b>14,320</b>	<b>\$19.13</b>
Management	281	\$28.24
Business & Financial Operations	220	\$26.20
Computer & Mathematical	132	\$32.07
Architecture & Engineering	230	\$30.57
Life, Physical & Social Sciences	60	\$31.02
Community & Social Service	417	\$25.91
Education, Training & Library	597	\$19.04
Healthcare Practitioners & Technical	1,967	\$28.25
Healthcare Support	1,097	\$17.11
Protective Service	272	\$24.39
Food Preparation & Serving Related	2,319	\$14.84
Building, Grounds Cleaning & Maint.	318	\$16.27
Personal Care & Service	433	\$14.55
Sales & Related	1,632	\$17.55
Office & Administrative Support	747	\$17.98
Construction & Extraction	297	\$23.74
Installation, Maintenance & Repair	589	\$24.92
Production	993	\$20.14
Transportation & Material Moving	1,275	\$19.17

Figure 14. Job Vacancies by Industry, 2023



Source: DEED Job Vacancy Survey, 2023

OCCUPATIONS IN DEMAND

Table 13. Central Planning Region Occupations in Demand, 2022

Less than High School	High School or Equivalent	Some College or Assoc. Deg.	Bachelor's Degree or Higher
Fast Food & Counter Workers \$30,214/yr	Nursing Assistants \$39,353/yr	Registered Nurses \$86,694/yr	General & Operations Managers \$79,121/yr
Home Health & Personal Care Aides \$32,476/yr	Agricultural Technicians \$50,734/yr	Veterinary Technologists & Technicians \$40,013/yr	Elementary School Teachers \$64,300/yr
Cashiers \$29,935/yr	Licensed Practical & Licensed Vocational Nurses \$52,954/yr	Police & Sheriff's Patrol Officers \$74,178/yr	Secondary School Teachers \$64,602/yr
Retail Salespersons \$31,947/yr	Automotive Service Technicians & Mechanics \$50,038/yr	Architectural & Civil Drafters \$60,894/yr	Accountants & Auditors \$69,793/yr
First-Line Supervisors of Retail Sales Workers \$45,819/yr	Machinists \$57,338/yr	Electro-Mechanical & Mechatronics Technologists & Technicians \$52,181/yr	Middle School Teachers \$65,007/yr
Laborers & Freight, Stock, & Material Movers, Hand \$39,815/yr	Heating, Air Conditioning, & Refrigeration Mechanics & Installers \$64,161/yr	Clinical Laboratory Technologists & Technicians \$62,998/yr	Preschool Teachers \$36,959/yr
Janitors & Cleaners, exc. Maids & Housekeeping \$36,758/yr	Industrial Machinery Mechanics \$63,521/yr	Radiologic Technologists & Technicians \$76,318/yr	Substance abuse, behavioral & mental health counselors \$51,463/yr
First-Line Supervisors of Food Preparation & Serving \$39,562/yr	Hairdressers, Hairstylists, & Cosmetologists \$35,910/yr	Dental Hygienists \$84,542/yr	Substitute Teachers, Short-Term \$43,575/yr
Heavy & Tractor-Trailer Truck Drivers \$57,479/yr	Electricians \$63,794/yr	Surgical Technologists \$64,849/yr	Financial Managers \$120,404/yr
Teaching Assistants, exc. Postsecondary \$38,154/yr	Medical Assistants \$46,901/yr	Computer Network Support Specialists \$72,592/yr	Medical & Health Services Managers \$100,201/yr

Source: DEED Occupations in Demand

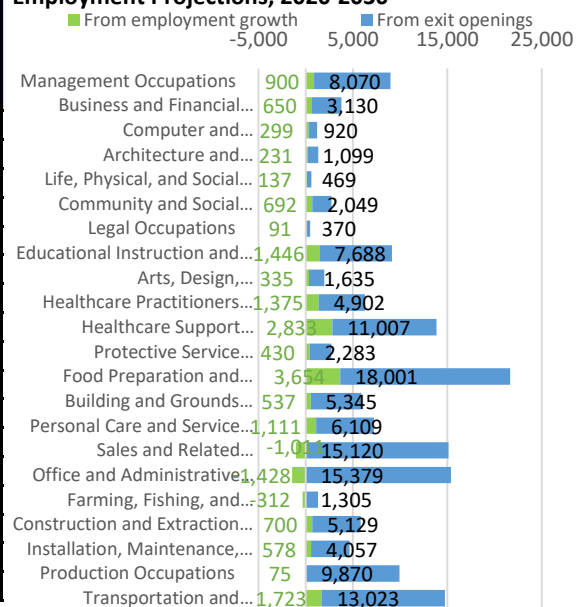
Meeker Co. is a part of the Central planning region, which is projected to see a 5% increase in employment levels over the next decade. In addition to new jobs created, there will be a much larger number of exit openings (see Figure 15).

Table 14. Regional Industry Employment Projections, 2020-2030

Central Planning Region	Estimated Employment 2020	Projected Employment 2030	Percent Change 2020-2030
<b>Total, All Industries</b>	<b>301,170</b>	<b>316,216</b>	<b>5.0%</b>
Natural Resources & Mining	5,416	4,879	-9.9%
Utilities	1,952	1,686	-13.6%
Construction	18,984	19,792	4.3%
Manufacturing	39,543	40,646	2.8%
Wholesale Trade	10,123	10,516	3.9%
Retail Trade	35,588	33,781	-5.1%
Transportation & Warehousing	10,098	10,685	5.8%
Information	2,639	2,842	7.7%
Finance & Insurance, Real Estate	9,550	9,649	1.0%
Professional Services & Mgmt. of Companies	8,562	9,119	6.5%
Admin. Support & Waste Mgmt.	9,545	10,066	5.5%
Educational Services	23,734	24,976	5.2%
Health Care & Social Assistance	46,672	52,213	11.9%
Leisure & Hospitality	21,963	26,961	22.8%
Other Services	10,108	11,290	11.7%
Public Administration	19,239	20,198	5.0%

Source: DEED 2020-2030 Employment Outlook

Figure 15. Regional Occupational Employment Projections, 2020-2030



**ECONOMIC CHARACTERISTICS**

Coming out of the pandemic recession, after gaining jobs over the past year, Meeker Co. had the 45th largest economy of the 87 counties in the state. Meeker Co. was the 5th fastest growing in the past year and the 4th fastest growing since 2019. From 2019 to 2023, employment in Meeker Co. grew despite the pandemic recession.

**670** business establishments

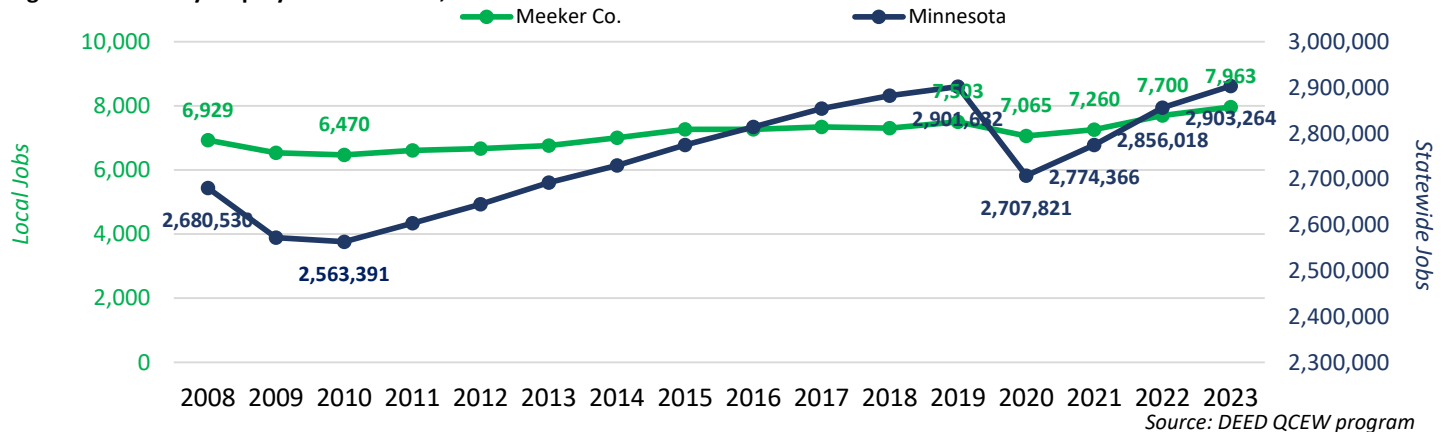
**\$51,564** annual average wage

**7,963** jobs

**\$410,602,895** total industry payroll

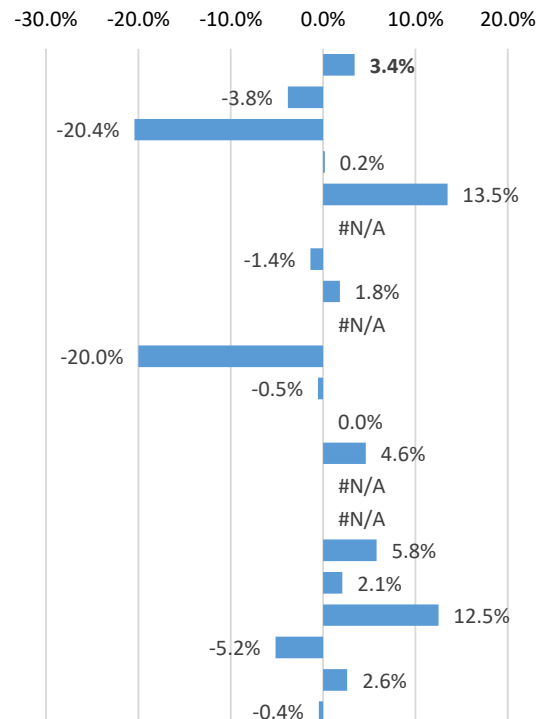
Job change, 2019-2023: 460 jobs, 6.1% increase

Figure 16. Industry Employment Statistics, 2008-2023



Industry	Number of Jobs	Percent of Total Jobs	Average Annual Wage
<b>Total, All Industries</b>	<b>7,963</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>\$51,564</b>
Agriculture, Forestry, Fish & Hunt	236	3.0%	\$47,265
Mining	13	0.2%	\$55,564
Construction	516	6.5%	\$64,566
Manufacturing	2,290	28.8%	\$62,333
Utilities	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A
Wholesale Trade	433	5.4%	\$65,982
Retail Trade	788	9.9%	\$34,617
Transportation & Warehousing	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A
Information	32	0.4%	\$38,554
Finance & Insurance	183	2.3%	\$70,848
Real Estate & Rental & Leasing	12	0.2%	\$14,424
Professional & Technical Services	249	3.1%	\$59,446
Management of Companies	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A
Admin. Support & Waste Mgmt. Svcs.	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A
Educational Services	565	7.1%	\$33,239
Health Care & Social Assistance	1,113	14.0%	\$33,941
Arts, Entertainment, & Recreation	27	0.3%	\$16,748
Accommodation & Food Services	442	5.6%	\$17,514
Other Services	196	2.5%	\$29,068
Public Administration	445	5.6%	\$50,620

Figure 17. Change in Jobs, 2022-2023



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

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