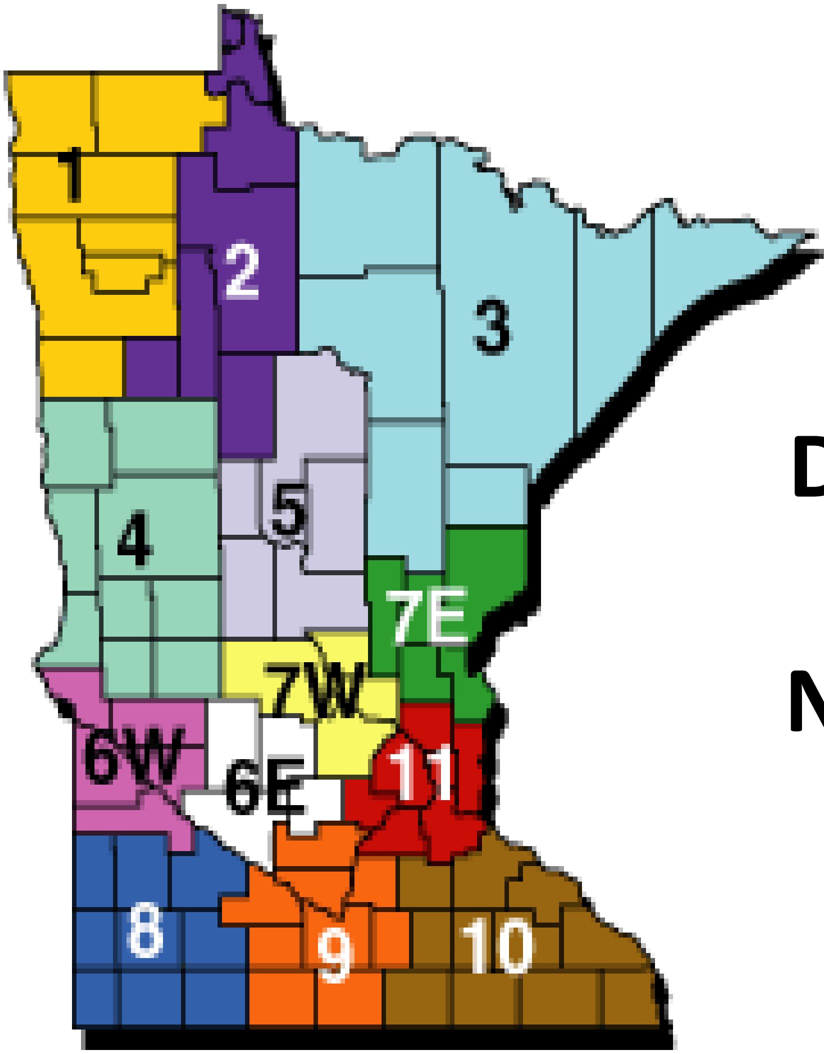

Economic Development Region 5: North Central

Covering the following counties:

Cass, Crow Wing, Morrison, Todd, and Wadena

2022 REGIONAL PROFILE

Updated December 2022

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DEMOGRAPHICS

POPULATION CHANGE

Economic Development Region 5 – North Central (EDR5) is a mostly rural, five-county region located in the middle of the state, just north of the St. Cloud Metro Area. Region 5 was the seventh largest of 13 economic development regions (EDRs) in the state, accounting for 3% of the state's total population. Region 5 combined with Regions 1, 2, and 4 make up the 26-county Northwest Minnesota Planning Area. Region 5 was the second largest of the four EDR's in Northwest Minnesota. It had an increase of 8,312 residents or 5.1% from 2010 to 2021, compared to 7.6% statewide (Table 1).

Table 1. Population Change 2010-2021

	2010 Population	2021 Estimates	*2010-2021 Change*	
			Number	*Percent*
Region 5	**163,003**	**171,315**	***+8,312***	***+5.1%***
Cass Co.	28,567	30,639	*+2,072*	*+7.3%*
Crow Wing Co.	62,500	67,270	*+4,770*	*+7.6%*
Morrison Co.	33,198	33,992	*+794*	*+2.4%*
Todd Co.	24,895	25,237	*+342*	*+1.4%*
Wadena Co.	13,843	14,177	*+334*	*+2.4%*
Northwest Minnesota	**553,805**	**577,515**	***+23,710***	***+4.3%***
Region 1	86,091	83,278	*-2,813*	*-3.3%*
Region 2	83,023	85,908	*+2,885*	*+3.5%*
Region 4	221,688	237,014	*+15,326*	*+6.9%*
State of Minnesota	**5,303,925**	**5,707,390**	***+403,465***	***+7.6%***

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Population Estimates

All five counties in Region 5 increased population since 2010. Crow Wing County is the largest county and grew the fastest, adding 4,770 residents, matching the state's pace of growth. Cass County grew almost as fast at 7.3%, but was less than half the size of Crow Wing County, so this growth added 2,072 residents. Morrison, Todd, and Wadena Counties also grew, but at slower rates and in smaller numbers.

COMPONENTS OF POPULATION CHANGE

The recent population increase in Region 5 was fueled primarily by in-migration. That is, 2,162 more people moved into the region than moved out. International net migration added 23 residents to the gain of 2,139 people moving in from other places in the U.S. However, the region had a natural decrease with 350 more deaths than births (Table 2).

Table 2. Estimates of the Components of Population Change, 2020-2021

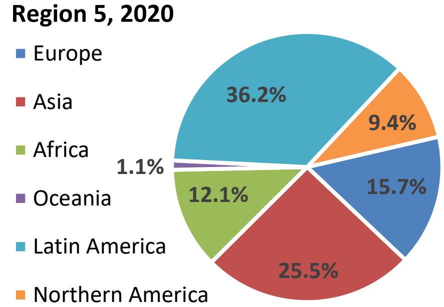
			Vital Events		Net Migration		
	Total Change	*Natural Increase*	Births	Deaths	*Total*	*Inter-national*	*Domestic*
Region 5	*+1,789*	*-350*	2,187	2,537	*+2,162*	*+23*	*+2,139*
Minnesota	*+896*	*+12,512*	79,493	66,981	*-11,734*	*+4,213*	*-15,947*

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

With in-migration, Region 5 was home to 2,603 foreign born residents, accounting for 1.5% of the total population. The largest number of immigrants came from Latin America, followed by Asia, Europe, Canada, and Africa (Figure 1). However, the fastest increase in immigrants were from Africa which more than tripled from 2010 to 2020 with an increase of 214 residents. Immigrants from Asia rose by 229, an increase of 53%.

Based on year of entry, Region 5's foreign born population was longer settled than the rest of the state. Over 34% of the region's immigrants entered the U.S. before 1990, compared to just 19.8% statewide. Compared to statewide, the region had 10% fewer foreign-born residents enter from 2000 to 2009, 20.9% in Region 5 compared to 30.9% statewide. A larger share of the region's foreign-born residents was in their prime working years: 55.4% were aged 25 to 54, compared to 32.4% of the native-born population. While a larger percentage of foreign-born residents had an advanced degree than native born residents, immigrants were also much more likely to have less than a high school diploma.

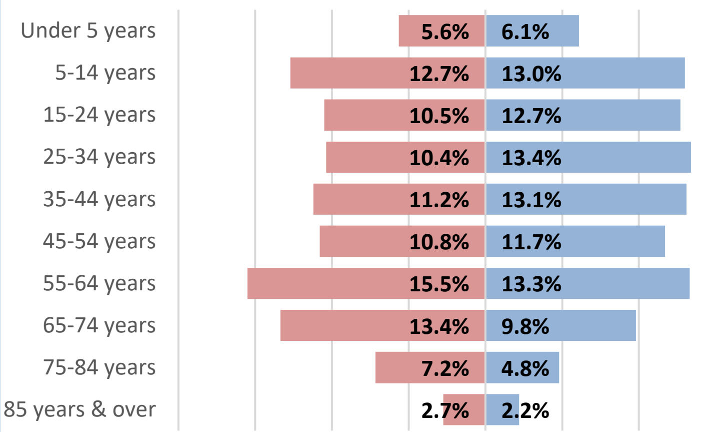
Figure 1. Place of Birth for the Foreign Born Population in Region 5, 2020



POPULATION BY AGE GROUP

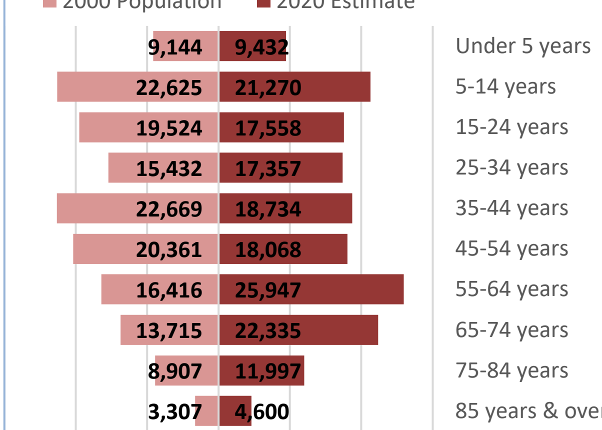
Region 4 had an older population than the state with nearly 39% of the region's population 55 or older, compared to 30.1% statewide. In contrast, the region had a smaller percentage of people in every under 55 age group, including 25 to 54 years – typically considered the "prime working years." A large portion of the population is a part of the Baby Boom generation, which is creating a significant shift in regional demographics over time. Between 2000 and 2020, the region saw an increase of nearly 23,400 residents aged 55 years or older. Still, both the 25 to 34 population and under 5 population increased from 2000 to 2020 (Figure 2 and 3).

Figure 2. Percentage of Population by Age Group, 2020



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Population Estimates

Figure 3. Region 5 Population Pyramid, 2000-2020



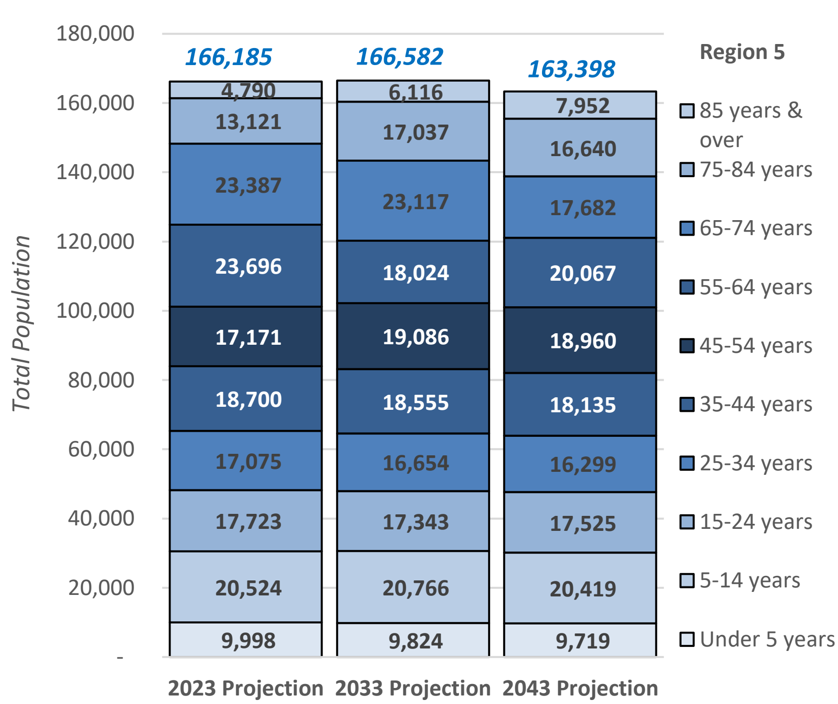
Source: U.S. Census Bureau

POPULATION PROJECTIONS BY AGE GROUP

The population of Region 5 is projected to hold steady over the next decade. Population projections from the [Minnesota State Demographic Center] show an expected gain of just 337 residents from 2023 to 2033, a 0.2% increase (see Figure 4). By comparison, the projected growth statewide from 2023 to 2033 is 5.6%. Then the region may start losing residents over the following decade.

The region's fastest growth is expected in the oldest age groups, reflecting the aging of the large Baby Boomer cohort. The next-largest Millennial cohort swells the age 45 to 54 group by 2033. Net outmigration of young adults is projected to continue. Note that there are 17,723 people aged 15 to 24 in 2023, but 16,654 aged 25-34 projected in 2033.

Figure 4. Population Projections by Age Group, 2023-2043



Source: Minnesota State Demographic Center

POPULATION BY RACE

Table 3. Race and Hispanic Origin, 2020	Region 5			Minnesota	
	Number	Percent	*Change from 2010-2020*	Percent	*Change from 2010-2020*
Total	**169,526**	**100.0%**	***+4.5%***	**100.0%**	***+8.9%***
White	154,175	90.9%	*0.0%*	77.5%	*-2.6%*
Black or African American	927	0.5%	*+25.8%*	7.0%	*+54.9%*
American Indian & Alaska Native	4,480	2.6%	*+25.3%*	1.2%	*+24.0%*
Asian & Other Pacific Islander	836	0.5%	*+18.9%*	5.3%	*+46.4%*
Some Other Race	2,171	1.3%	*+158.1%*	3.0%	*+122.8%*
Two or More Races	6,937	4.1%	*+218.8%*	6.1%	*+221.3%*
Hispanic or Latino	4,452	2.6%	*+60.7%*	6.1%	*+47.9%*

Source: 2016-2020 American Community Survey, 5-year estimates

The population in Region 5 is less racially diverse than the state overall but is becoming more diverse over time. Nearly 91% of the region's residents are white, compared to 77.5% of residents statewide. However, while the region's white population had no change between 2010 and 2020, every other racial and ethnic group had rapid growth. The region's increased diversity drove its population growth. Minnesota overall increased diversity even more and grew nearly twice as fast (Table 3).

The region's Two or More Races population increased the most with an additional 4,761 residents, and nearly matched the statewide growth rate. The region has a larger percentage of American Indians than statewide and experienced slightly faster growth. However, the region's Hispanic or Latino population grew much faster, reaching essentially the same size as the American Indian population.

EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT

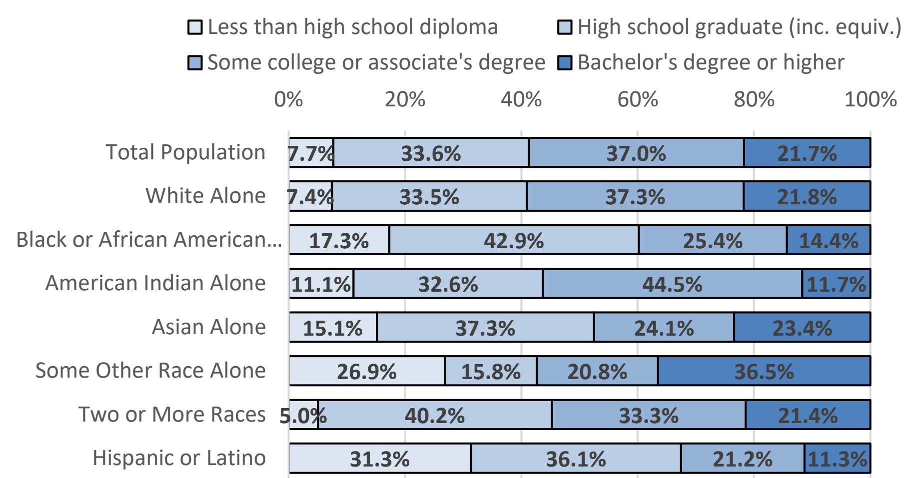
Table 4. Educational Attainment for the Adult Population, 2020	Region 5		Minnesota
	Number	**Percent**	**Percent**
Total, 18 years & over	**128,290**	**100.0%**	**100.0%**
Less than high school	10,981	8.6%	7.2%
High school grad. (incl. equiv.)	43,399	33.8%	24.7%
Some college, no degree	31,452	24.5%	22.8%
Associate's degree	16,254	12.7%	11.0%
Bachelor's degree	18,322	14.3%	23.0%
Advanced degree	7,882	6.1%	11.2%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2016-2020 American Community Survey

With 20.4% of adults aged 18 years and over holding a bachelor's or advanced degree, Region 5 had lower educational attainment than statewide, where 34.2% of adults have a bachelor's or advanced degree. In contrast, the region had a higher percentage of people with an associate's degree or some college, and high school or less (Table 4).

Educational attainment varies significantly by race and ethnicity in Region 5. Compared to white alone, more than double the share of Black or African American, Asian, and Hispanic or Latino residents had less than a high school diploma. A significantly larger share of American Indian residents also had less than high school, while Two or More Races had the smallest percentage with less than high school. Some Other Race had the highest percentage with less than high school as well as the highest with a bachelor's degree or higher. American Indian had the highest share with some college or an associate's degree (Figure 5).

Figure 5. Region 5 Educational Attainment for the population aged 25 years & over by Race or Origin, 2020



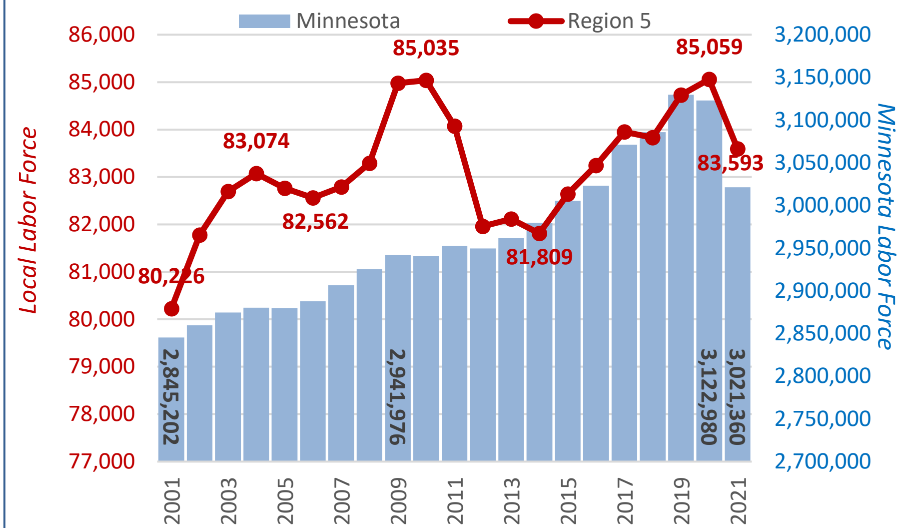
Source: 2016-2020 American Community Survey

LABOR FORCE

LABOR FORCE CHANGE

According to data from DEED's Local Area Unemployment Statistics program, Region 5 had an annual average labor force of nearly 83,600 workers in 2021. The size of the labor force has fluctuated significantly since 2001, growing much more rapidly than statewide until 2004, but then dropping through 2006 while the state plateaued. The regional labor force then grew more rapidly than statewide until 2009, with many re-entering the labor force in response to the Great Recession, before making a precipitous drop from 2010 to 2012. The regional labor force then increased rapidly from 2014 to 2020 and had narrowly surpassed its prior peak of 2010.

Figure 6. Annual Labor Force Estimates, 2001-2021

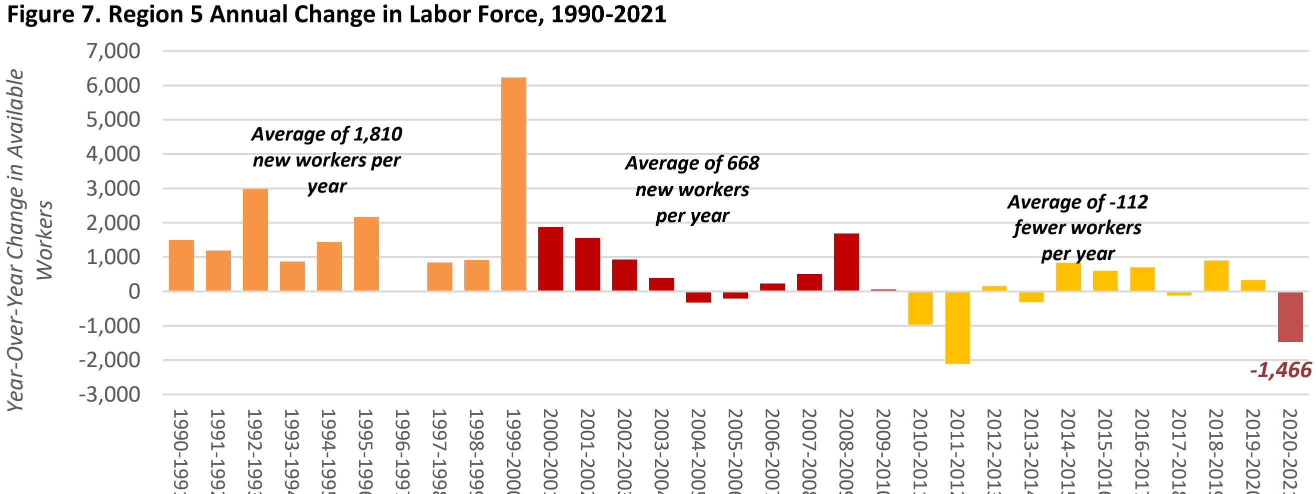


Source: DEED Local Area Unemployment Statistics (LAUS) program

Unlike statewide and the other regions in the Northwest Planning Area, Region 5's labor force drop in 2021 was smaller than its drop a decade earlier in the aftermath of the Great Recession. The region's labor force shrunk by 1,466 workers or -1.7% from 2020 to 2021, compared to a decline of 2,110 workers or -2.5% from 2011 to 2012. By comparison, Minnesota's labor force shrunk -3.3% from 2020 to 2021. However, unlike 2011 the region now has many jobs available such that the 2021 drop produces a very tight labor market.

Averaging a net gain of 1,810 additional labor force participants per year between 1990 and 2000, Region 5 employers were able to tap into a large and growing pool of talented workers. From 2000 to 2010 the region's labor force growth slowed, and then from 2010 to 2020 Region 5's labor force shrank by an average 112 workers per year (Figure 7). In the face of increasingly tight labor markets and a growing scarcity of workers, a more diverse workforce in terms of age, gender, race, ethnicity, disability status, and immigration has been and will continue to be a vital source of the workers that employers need to succeed. As the white, native-born workforce continues to age, younger workers of different races or from different countries will comprise the fastest growing segment of the labor force.

Figure 7. Region 5 Annual Change in Labor Force, 1990-2021



Source: DEED Local Area Unemployment Statistics (LAUS)

LABOR FORCE PROJECTIONS

Despite the projected population increase in Region 5 shown in Figure 4, the regional labor force is expected to contract 3.1% from 2023 to 2033. Applying current labor force participation rates to future population projections by age group creates labor force projections for the region. As more of the Baby Boom generation leaves the labor force, the projections show the largest losses in workers aged 55 to 74 years by 2033. The numbers of teen workers and those aged 25 to 44 are also expected to decline. While the number of workers aged 20 to 24, 45 to 54, and 75 and over increase by approximately 2,000 workers, these increases do not overcome the losses. The anticipated contraction may lead employers to adapt their hiring and management practices in order to compete (Table 5).

Table 5. EDR 5-North Central Labor Force Projections

	2023 Labor Force Projection	2033 Labor Force Projection	*2023-2033 Change*	
			Numeric	*Percent*
16 to 19 years	4,227	4,028	*-199*	*-4.7%*
20 to 24 years	6,790	6,865	*+75*	*+1.1%*
25 to 44 years	31,097	30,605	*-492*	*-1.6%*
45 to 54 years	14,517	16,136	*+1,619*	*+11.2%*
55 to 64 years	15,367	11,689	*-3,678*	*-23.9%*
65 to 74 years	6,228	6,156	*-72*	*-1.2%*
75 years & over	1,040	1,345	*+304*	*+29.3%*
Total Labor Force	**79,267**	**76,824**	***-2,443***	***-3.1%***

Source: calculated from Minnesota State Demographic Center population projections and 2016-2020 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates

EMPLOYMENT CHARACTERISTICS

With 61.2% of the population aged 16 and older in the labor force, Region 5 had a much lower labor force participation rate than statewide. While most age groups had lower participation rates, that 8.1% participation difference was only matched by the 55 to 64 age group. Every other age group in the region was closer to statewide and the under-25 age groups had higher participation. Thus, the overall participation rate is lower because the region's population is older with a larger percentage retired (Table 6).

Participation rates varied by race and differed from statewide rates. Besides Asian, every other race and ethnic group in the region had higher participation than White Alone. American Indian, Some Other Race, and Hispanic or Latino had higher participation than statewide. However, the unemployment rates for American Indian and Hispanic or Latino were the highest in the region, and higher than for these groups statewide. Like statewide, unemployment rates were higher for young workers and those with any disability. Finally, like everywhere, participation is higher and unemployment is lower as education level increases.

Table 6. EDR 5-North Central Employment Characteristics, 2020

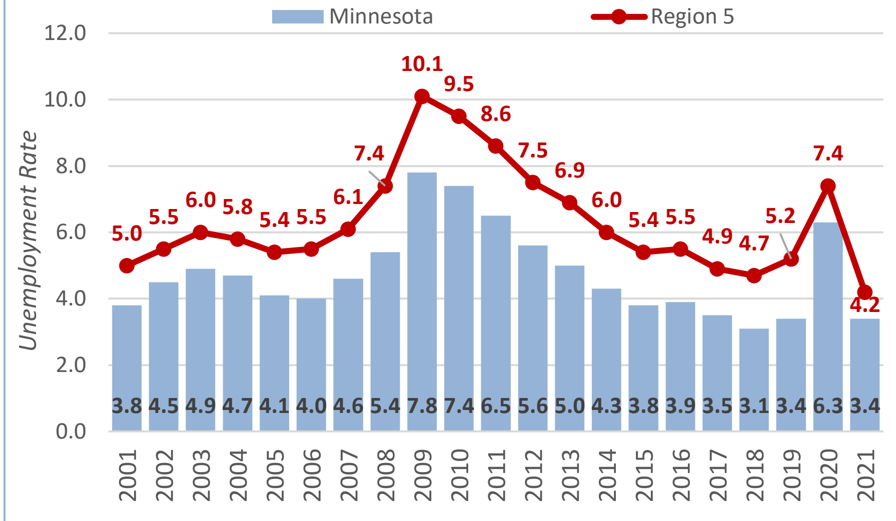
	EDR 5 – North Central			Minnesota	
Age Group	Labor Force	Labor Force Partic. Rate	Unemp. Rate	Labor Force Partic. Rate	Unemp. Rate
Total Labor Force	**81,165**	**61.2%**	**4.6%**	**69.3%**	**3.8%**
16 to 19 years	3,928	53.3%	7.7%	52.0%	11.0%
20 to 24 years	6,888	86.9%	7.2%	83.8%	6.2%
25 to 44 years	30,602	86.9%	4.8%	88.7%	3.4%
45 to 54 years	16,524	84.5%	3.6%	87.6%	2.8%
55 to 64 years	16,720	64.9%	4.5%	73.0%	3.1%
65 to 74 years	5,565	26.6%	2.2%	28.4%	2.5%
75 years & over	920	5.8%	3.2%	6.8%	2.4%
Employment Characteristics by Gender					
Male	42,896	64.6%	5.1%	73.0%	4.2%
Female	38,259	57.8%	4.1%	65.6%	3.4%
Employment Characteristics by Race & Hispanic Origin					
White alone	75,811	60.8%	4.6%	68.9%	3.2%
Black or African American	497	62.0%	0.8%	71.3%	8.7%
American Indian & Alaska Native	1,505	63.1%	13.0%	57.9%	12.7%
Asian or Other Pacific Islanders	386	56.5%	3.4%	72.0%	4.0%
Some Other Race	945	79.8%	1.6%	72.7%	6.2%
Two or More Races	1,982	68.1%	3.6%	73.3%	7.1%
Hispanic or Latino	1,963	77.4%	12.7%	76.5%	6.3%
Employment Characteristics by Disability					
With Any Disability	4,962	48.7%	9.3%	52.9%	8.9%
Employment Characteristics by Educational Attainment					
Population 25 to 64 years	63,871	79.3%	4.4%	84.4%	3.2%
Less than H.S. Diploma	3,584	63.2%	6.6%	66.3%	4.5%
H.S. Diploma or Equivalent	18,556	74.9%	2.8%	77.9%	2.5%
Some College or Assoc. Degree	27,392	82.5%	3.6%	85.2%	3.3%
Bachelor's Degree or Higher	14,313	84.7%	1.7%	90.0%	1.9%

Source: 2016-2020 American Community Survey, 5-Year Estimates

UNEMPLOYMENT RATES

According to the Local Area Unemployment Statistics program, the unemployment rate in Region 5 consistently hovers a bit over one or two percentage points above the statewide rate, shifting in sync with economic fluctuations. During the Great Recession, the region's rate rose to 10.1% in 2009, but fell back to prerecession rates by 2015. Since then, the regional rate dropped to a low of 4.7% in 2018 before rising to 7.4% due to the COVID-19 pandemic. In 2021, the unemployment rate dropped to a new low signaling an extremely tight labor market (Figure 8).

Figure 8. Unemployment Rates, 2001-2021

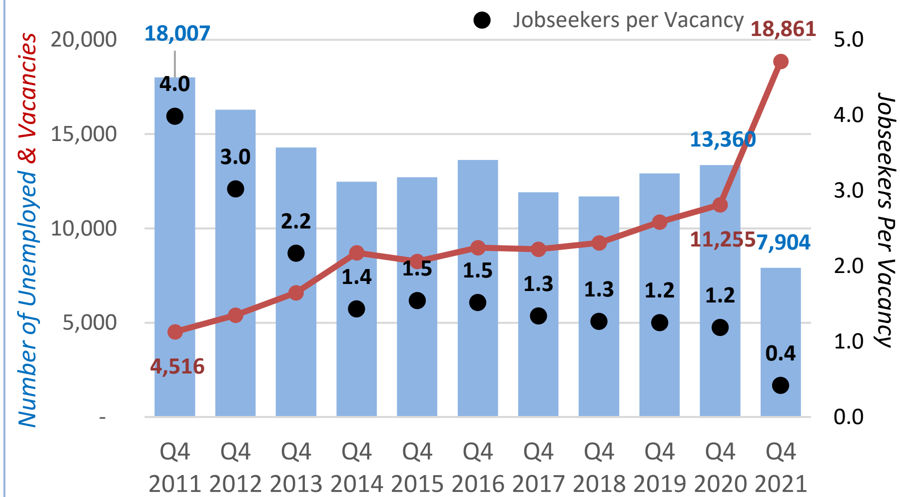


Source: DEED Local Area Unemployment Statistics (LAUS) program

JOBSEEKERS PER VACANCY

As the number of available workers has declined, the region's labor market has tightened. One clear demonstration of this is the ratio of unemployed jobseekers per vacancy, which dipped to 0.4-to-1 in the fourth quarter of 2021 (Figure 9). There were an estimated 18,861 openings – a record high – compared to 7,904 unemployed jobseekers in the region. The rapid pandemic spike in unemployment and drop in job vacancies does not show up on this fourth quarter over-the-year series of Figure 9 because these impacts played out in first through third quarters of 2020.

Figure 9. Jobseekers Per Vacancy, 2011-2021



Source: DEED Job Vacancy Survey, LAUS program

COMMUTE SHED AND LABOR SHED

The majority (62.4%) of Region 5 residents also work within the region. However, Region 5 is a net exporter of labor, having fewer jobs than available workers. In 2019, 45,631 workers both lived and worked in Region 5, while another 16,103 workers commuted to the region for work. This is compared to 27,546 workers who lived in the region but commuted to outside areas for work (Table 7 and Figure 10).

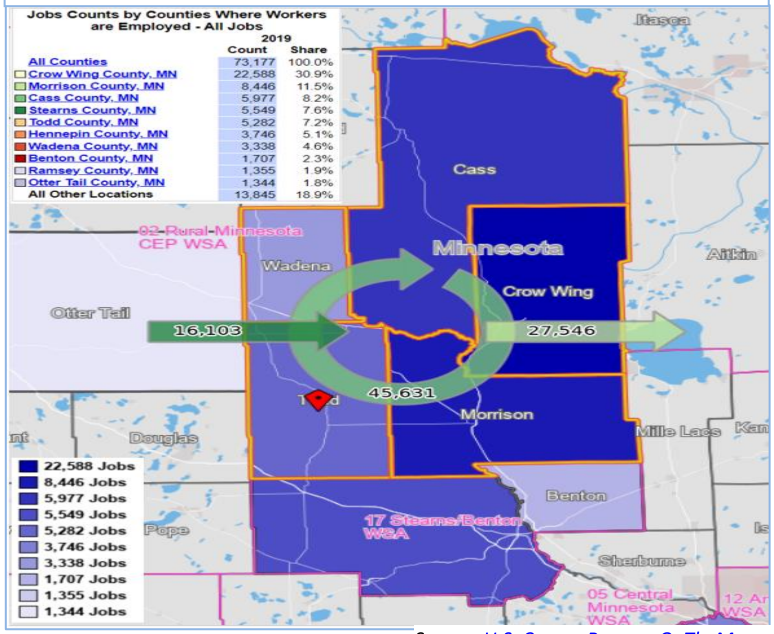
Table 7. Region 5 Inflow/Outflow Job Counts (All Jobs), 2019	2019	
	Count	Share
Employed in the Selection Area	62,734	100.0%
Employed in the Selection Area but Living Outside	16,103	26.1%
Employed and Living in the Selection Area	45,631	73.9%
Living in the Selection Area	73,177	100.0%
Living in the Selection Area but Employed Outside	27,546	37.6%
Living and Employed in the Selection Area	45,631	62.4%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, OnTheMap

Crow Wing County is easily the largest employment center in the region and the biggest draw for workers, followed by Morrison and Cass counties. The St. Cloud metro area draws over 7,250 Region 5 residents to Stearns and Benton Counties, compared to 5,997 that work in Todd and 3,338 that work in Wadena (Figure 10). Employers in the region draw workers from surrounding counties, mainly Beltrami, Stearns, Otter Tail, and Hubbard.

The average commute time for workers the region was 23.8 minutes, the same as for workers statewide. Nearly 53% of workers commuted less than 20 minutes each way, compared to 50.6% statewide. About 7.6% of workers worked at home, and 3% were able to walk to work.

Figure 10. EDR 5-North Central Labor and Commute Shed, 2019



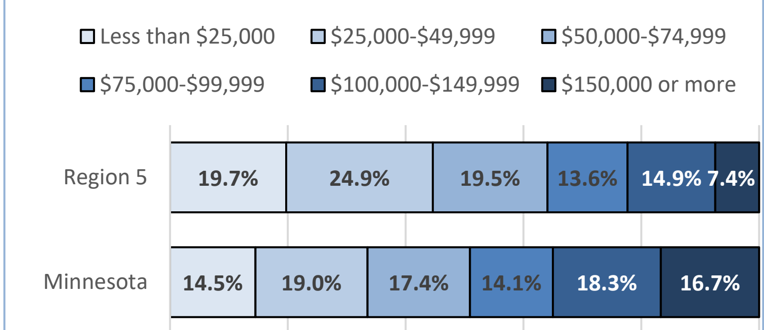
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, OnTheMap

INCOMES, WAGES AND OCCUPATIONS

HOUSEHOLD INCOMES

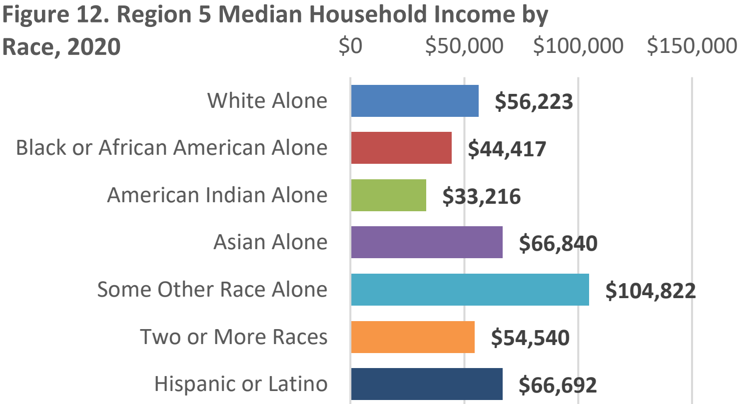
Household incomes were significantly lower in Region 5 than statewide. The median household income in North Central was $55,822 in 2020, compared to $73,382 in Minnesota. The biggest divergence was the share of households with $150,000 or more income, which was 7.4% in Region 5 compared to 16.7% statewide. Additionally, 44.6% of the region's households had income under $50,000, compared to 33.5% statewide. A similar share of households had income of $50,000 to $74,999 (Figure 11).

Figure 11. Household Incomes, 2020



Source: 2016-2020 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates

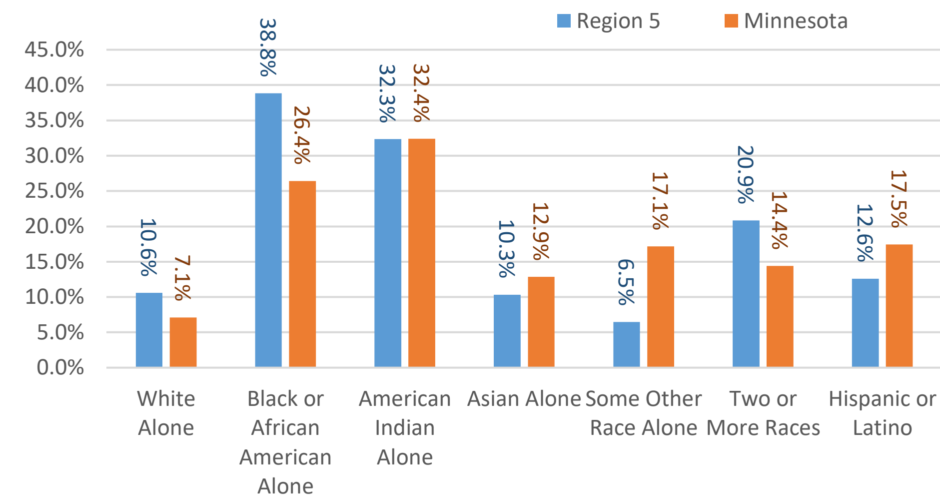
Figure 12. Region 5 Median Household Income by Race, 2020



Source: 2016-2020 American Community Survey

Like educational attainment, incomes varied widely by race or ethnicity in the region. American Indian and Black or African American households reported the lowest incomes in Region 5. Two or More Races household income was much closer to white alone, while Asian alone and Hispanic or Latino households reported higher incomes (Figure 12). However, small sample sizes for some race groups, particularly Some Other Race, cause large margins of error and big swings compared to previous years.

Figure 13. Percent Below Poverty Level by Race or Origin, 2020



Source: 2016-2020 American Community Survey, 5-Year Estimates

Overall, Region 5's poverty rate was 11.5%, which was higher than the statewide rate of 9.3%. Like incomes, poverty levels varied widely by race and origin. It was estimated that nearly 38.8% of the region's Black or African American population was below the poverty level in 2020, compared to just 10.6% of the white population. Poverty levels were also high for American Indians, but more like statewide than for other groups. The poverty rate for Two or More Races was nearly 21%, much higher than statewide. However, Asian, Some Other Race, and Hispanic or Latino had lower poverty rates than statewide. Also, unlike statewide, Asian and Some Other Race had lower poverty rates than whites in Region 5 (Figure 13).

COST OF LIVING

According to DEED's Cost of Living tool, the basic needs budget for an average Minnesota family (which consists of 2 adults and 1 child, with 1 full-time and 1 part-time worker) was $60,540 in 2021. The cost of living for a similar family in Region 5 was $49,392 – which was the eighth highest of the 13 economic development regions in the state. The highest monthly costs were for transportation, food, and housing; though the region's housing, child care, and taxes were significantly lower than statewide. In order to meet the basic needs cost of living for the region, the two workers in the family scenario described would need to earn $15.83 per hour working a combined 60 hours per week.

DEED's Cost of Living tool provides different estimates for household compositions including single people, partnered couples, and up to 4 children. For a single person living alone and working full-time, the estimated yearly cost in Region 5 would be $29,244, which would require an hourly wage of $14.06 to meet the basic needs standard of living (Table 8).

Table 8. Family Yearly Cost, Worker Hourly Wage, and Family Monthly Costs, 2021

Family Composition	Number of Workers	Yearly Cost of Living	Hourly Wage Required	Monthly Costs						
				Child Care	Food	Health Care	Housing	Trans-portation	Other	Taxes
EDR 5-North Central										
Single, 0 children	1 FT	$29,244	$14.06	$0	$351	$152	$590	$762	$258	$324
Single, 1 child	1 FT	$44,060	$21.66	$550	$519	$482	$780	$678	$356	$300
2 parents, 1 child	**1 FT, 1 PT**	**$49,392**	**$15.83**	**$275**	**$803**	**$538**	**$780**	**$895**	**$434**	**$391**
2 parents, 2 children	2 FT	$67,176	$16.15	$907	$1,049	$549	$1,014	$947	$565	$567
State of Minnesota										
Single, 0 children	1 FT	$33,708	$16.21	$0	$359	$157	$903	$663	$345	$382
2 parents, 1 child	**1 FT, 1 PT**	**$60,540**	**$19.40**	**$579**	**$822**	**$561**	**$1,151**	**$772**	**$540**	**$620**

Source: DEED Cost of Living tool

WAGES AND OCCUPATIONS

According to DEED's Occupational Employment & Wage Statistics, the median hourly wage for all occupations in Region 5 was $18.83 in the first quarter of 2022. This wage was $4.41 below the state's median hourly wage and the lowest of the 13 EDRs (Table 9). Given commuting patterns, Region 7W's $22.94 median wage is a draw for workers. However, the biggest determinant of wage is occupation.

A major reason for Region 5's lower wages is the fact that 19.2% of the Region's employment is in lower-wage Sales & Related and Food Preparation & Serving occupations. While the two largest occupation groups both in Region 5 and the state are Office & Administrative Support and Sales & Related, the state has a larger share of Transportation & Material Moving and Production occupations which pay higher wages.

Table 9. Occupational Employment Statistics by Region, 1st Qtr. 2022	Median Hourly Wage	Estimated Regional Employment
Region 1 – Northwest	$22.41	34,150
Region 2 – Headwaters	$19.15	30,150
Region 3 – Arrowhead	$22.54	131,110
Region 4 – West Central	$19.40	83,490
Region 5 – North Central	**$18.83**	**59,090**
Region 6E – SW Central	$18.94	47,920
Region 6W – Upper MN Valley	$18.94	15,790
Region 7E – East Central	$21.95	45,770
Region 7W – Central	$22.94	165,010
Region 8 – Southwest	$19.10	50,230
Region 9 – South Central	$21.92	96,160
Region 10 – Southeast	$23.32	231,930
Region 11 – Twin Cities	$24.47	1,642,620
State of Minnesota	**$23.81**	**2,695,450**

Source: DEED Occupational Employment Statistics

Location quotient reveals the occupation groups with higher regional concentrations than statewide. Region 5 has high concentrations of Food Preparation & Serving, Education, Training & Library, Construction & Extraction, Community & Social Service, and Farming, Fishing & Forestry workers compared to statewide. Except for Food Preparation & Serving, all of these pay at least 95% of statewide wages. The following occupation groups also approach statewide wages: Healthcare Support, Protective Service, Transportation & Material Moving, Personal Care & Service, and Production (Table 10).

Table 10. EDR 5-North Central Occupational Employment Statistics, 1st Qtr. 2022

	Region 5-North Central				State of Minnesota		
	Median Hourly Wage	Estimated Regional Employment	*Share of Total Employment*	*Location Quotient*	Median Hourly Wage	Estimated Regional Employment	*Share of Total Employment*
Total, All Occupations	**$18.83**	**59,090**	***100.0%***	***1.0***	**$23.81**	**2,695,450**	***100.0%***
Office & Administrative Support	$18.80	7,350	*12.4%*	*1.0*	$23.12	334,550	*12.4%*
Sales & Related	$14.48	5,770	*9.8%*	*1.1*	$17.25	245,390	*9.1%*
Food Preparation & Serving Related	$13.19	5,570	*9.4%*	*1.3*	$14.65	198,800	*7.4%*
Production	$18.66	5,000	*8.5%*	*1.1*	$19.59	198,940	*7.4%*
Education, Training & Library	$23.67	4,460	*7.5%*	*1.4*	$24.48	149,990	*5.6%*
Transportation & Material Moving	$18.70	4,410	*7.5%*	*1.0*	$19.30	209,780	*7.8%*
Healthcare Practitioners & Technical	$36.66	3,970	*6.7%*	*1.0*	$38.73	190,180	*7.1%*
Healthcare Support	$15.24	3,530	*6.0%*	*1.0*	$15.37	162,530	*6.0%*
Construction & Extraction	$28.60	3,210	*5.4%*	*1.4*	$30.09	107,180	*4.0%*
Management	$37.86	2,990	*5.1%*	*0.8*	$50.51	181,090	*6.7%*
Installation, Maintenance & Repair	$23.49	2,630	*4.5%*	*1.2*	$25.34	96,660	*3.6%*
Business & Financial Operations	$30.04	2,100	*3.6%*	*0.5*	$38.08	192,700	*7.1%*
Building, Grounds Cleaning & Maint.	$15.34	2,000	*3.4%*	*1.2*	$17.98	75,850	*2.8%*
Community & Social Service	$24.11	1,590	*2.7%*	*1.4*	$24.68	53,670	*2.0%*
Personal Care & Service	$14.53	1,210	*2.0%*	*1.0*	$15.24	56,580	*2.1%*
Protective Service	$24.38	990	*1.7%*	*1.1*	$25.07	40,580	*1.5%*
Architecture & Engineering	$33.62	570	*1.0%*	*0.5*	$39.39	51,970	*1.9%*
Computer & Mathematical	$37.66	550	*0.9%*	*0.2*	$48.34	101,560	*3.8%*
Life, Physical & Social Science	$30.97	430	*0.7%*	*0.8*	$37.30	26,140	*1.0%*
Arts, Design, Entertainment & Media	$19.04	410	*0.7%*	*0.5*	$26.08	36,710	*1.4%*
Legal	$29.94	200	*0.3%*	*0.5*	$40.08	19,860	*0.7%*
Farming, Fishing & Forestry	$18.42	160	*0.3%*	*1.7*	$18.55	4,350	*0.2%*

Source: DEED Occupational Employment Statistics, Qtr. 1 2022

While the highest-paying jobs are in Management and Computer & Mathematical occupations, these pay lower wages than statewide. However, Healthcare Practitioners & Technical, Architecture & Engineering, and Life, Physical & Social Science occupations have high wages that are close to statewide wages. Nearly all high-wage occupations require postsecondary education.

JOB VACANCY SURVEY

Employers in the 26-county Northwest Planning region reported 18,861 job vacancies in the fourth quarter of 2021, the highest in the history of the survey going back to 2001. Demand for workers surged during the COVID-19 pandemic recovery and was high across most industry sectors. The sectors with the most openings, each with over 1,000, were Retail Trade (5,236 vacancies), Health Care & Social Assistance (4,684), Accommodation & Food Services (2,941), and Manufacturing (1,594). Over 76% of the region's vacancies were in these sectors.

This increase in demand for workers fueled substantially increased wage offers. The median wage offer for all vacancies increased to $16.85, or 18%, from $14.26 a year prior in fourth quarter 2020. Most occupation groups saw wage offers increase more than inflation. In contrast, Management Occupations and Personal Care & Service Occupations had a slight decrease in median wage offer. Life, Physical & Social Science Occupations had a slight increase, but well below inflation.

The largest number of vacancies and highest vacancy rates were in Sales & Related, Food Preparation & Serving Related, and Healthcare Support occupations. These occupation groups have many jobs and have high turnover. Personal Care & Service occupations also have high vacancy rates and have a similar share of part-time vacancies as the three occupational groups with the highest number of vacancies. Community & Social Service and Management have the highest share requiring more than one year of work experience (Table 11).

Table 11. Northwest Minnesota Job Vacancy Survey Results, Qtr. 4 2021

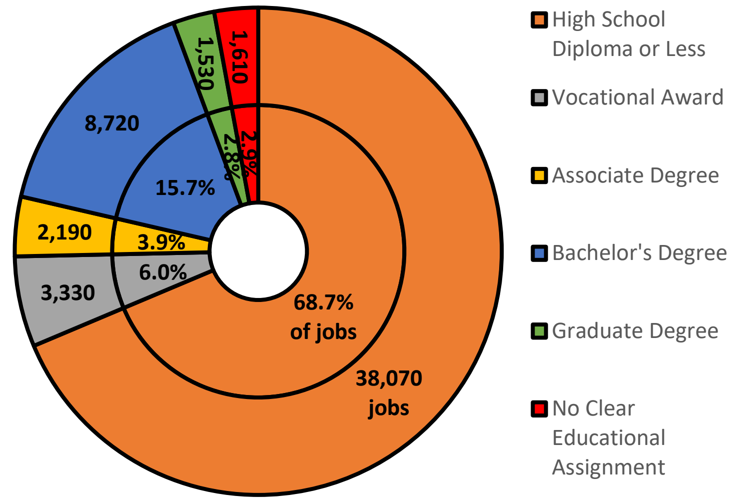
	Number of Total Vacancies	Percent Part-time	Percent Temporary or Seasonal	Requiring Post-Secondary Education	Requiring 1 or More Years of Work Exp.	Requiring Certificate or License	Median Hourly Wage Offer	*Job Vacancy Rate*
Total, All Occupations	**18,861**	**34%**	**3%**	**25%**	**41%**	**52%**	**$16.85**	**9.0**
Sales & Related	4,162	46%	0%	3%	23%	74%	$14.28	21.0
Food Preparation & Serving Related	3,442	49%	3%	1%	19%	14%	$13.29	19.1
Healthcare Support	2,232	52%	2%	28%	39%	46%	$16.53	18.8
Healthcare Practitioners & Technical	1,510	25%	4%	91%	62%	90%	$25.93	11.2
Production	1,160	12%	2%	10%	31%	8%	$18.18	6.1
Transportation & Material Moving	1,053	34%	4%	0%	23%	70%	$18.00	6.4
Office & Administrative Support	1,009	11%	3%	15%	79%	38%	$19.05	4.0
Personal Care & Service	697	51%	15%	75%	9%	82%	$13.53	17.1
Installation, Maintenance & Repair	660	6%	3%	24%	77%	67%	$22.47	7.3
Management	636	3%	0%	49%	94%	48%	$28.08	5.8
Business & Financial Operations	481	18%	0%	58%	72%	61%	$29.28	6.4
Community & Social Service	442	4%	0%	85%	96%	87%	$23.13	8.3
Education, Training & Library	332	19%	12%	63%	73%	73%	$18.91	2.1
Building, Grounds Cleaning & Maint.	300	34%	13%	3%	23%	8%	$15.80	4.6
Construction & Extraction	183	1%	1%	18%	75%	60%	$26.58	2.0
Architecture & Engineering	148	0%	1%	78%	80%	35%	$32.01	5.0
Arts, Design, Entertainment & Media	127	14%	6%	6%	86%	49%	$20.84	6.5
Protective Service	121	45%	0%	38%	57%	86%	$20.41	3.7
Computer & Mathematical	68	2%	2%	87%	94%	15%	$31.07	3.2
Life, Physical & Social Sciences	51	0%	0%	79%	76%	67%	$21.33	3.3

Source: DEED Job Vacancy Survey, Qtr. 4 2021

EDUCATIONAL REQUIREMENTS

Similar to the Job Vacancy Survey results, DEED's Occupational Employment & Wage Statistics program shows that only around 28% of current jobs held in the region require post-secondary education for entry. The other roughly 70% require no more than a high school diploma or less and some amount of on-the-job training (Figure 14).

Figure 14. Region 5 Share of Jobs by Educational Requirements, 2022



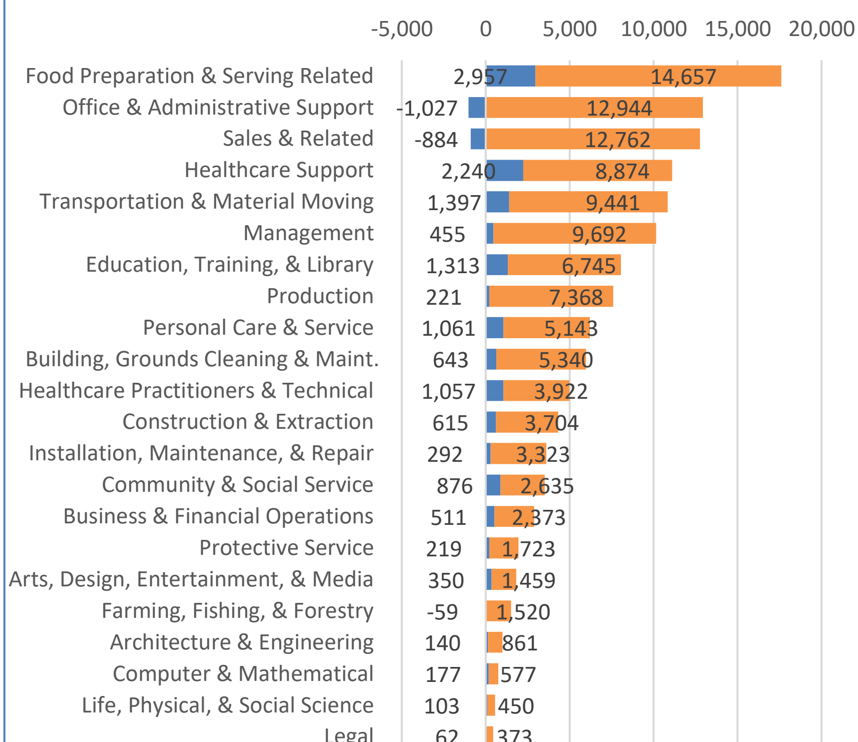
Source: *DEED Occupational Employment & Wage Statistics*

Certain careers – such as dentists, lawyers, and teachers – require a college education, while other jobs – including cost estimators, sales representatives, and correctional officers – do not. College is an excellent way to move up career ladders and open windows of opportunity to fields that would otherwise be closed, such as nursing or engineering. Many of these occupations offer high wages and are in high demand in the job market. While education is typically a worthwhile investment, college can be expensive – with average annual expenses ranging between $19,500 and more than $52,000 per year in Minnesota.[1] For those who go to college, choice of major matters – different programs lead to different jobs that earn different amounts of money.

EMPLOYMENT PROJECTIONS

Overall, the Northwest Planning Region is projected to grow 5.1% from 2020 to 2030, a gain of 12,719 new jobs. In addition, the region is also expected to need 115,886 replacement openings to fill jobs left vacant by retirements and other career changers. Food Preparation & Serving and Healthcare Support occupations are expected to see the most growth. Note that this timeframe includes recovery from pandemic losses. Office & Administrative Support and Sales & Related are expected to decline but rank second and third in openings due to the large number of replacements needed for those leaving these occupations. Every occupational group will show some future demand through replacement openings (Figure 15).

Figure 15. Northwest Minnesota Regional Employment Projections, 2020-2030



Source: *DEED 2020-2030 Employment Outlook*

[1] http://www.ohe.state.mn.us/mPg.cfm?pageID=94

OCCUPATIONS IN DEMAND

According to DEED's Occupations in Demand tool, there are over 500 occupations in demand (OID) in Northwest Minnesota, and about 300 occupations are showing relatively high demand. Training and education requirements of these occupations range from short-term on-the-job training to postsecondary education and advanced degrees. Most OID require a high school diploma or less, and less than one-third require a bachelor's degree or higher. While OID exist in every sector, the region's major industries are well represented as many of the jobs are concentrated in health care and social assistance, education, and manufacturing. There are also OID employed in many industries, including managers, accountants, and computer support (Table 12).

Table 12. Northwest Minnesota Occupations in Demand by Education Level, 2021

High School or Less	Vocational Training	Some College or Assoc. Degree	Bachelor's Degree or Higher
Retail Salespersons $28,575/yr	Nursing Assistants $33,844/yr	Registered Nurses $72,324/yr	Elementary School Teachers $56,870/yr
Home Health and Personal Care Aides $28,195/yr	Licensed Practical and Licensed Vocational Nurses $46,911/yr	Radiologic Technologists and Technicians $63,225/yr	Secondary School Teachers $59,020/yr
Fast Food and Counter Workers $24,863/yr	Medical Assistants $43,116/yr	Industrial Engineering Technologists and Technicians $47,468/yr	General and Operations Managers $83,202/yr
First-Line Supervisors of Retail Sales Workers $45,337/yr	Automotive Service Technicians and Mechanics $44,859/yr	Respiratory Therapists $66,748/yr	Mental Health and Substance Abuse Social Workers $51,793/yr
Heavy and Tractor-Trailer Truck Drivers $46,529/yr	Computer User Support Specialists $49,748/yr	Police and Sheriff Patrol Officers $62,502/yr	Child, Family, and School Social Workers $53,854/yr
Stockers and Order Fillers $29,252/yr	Machinists $47,328/yr	Electrical and Electronic Engineering Technicians $52,953/yr	Accountants and Auditors $62,678/yr
Customer Service Representatives $38,926/yr	Electricians $60,567/yr	Surgical Technologists $52,040/yr	Social and Community Service Managers $73,316/yr
First-Line Supervisors of Production Workers $60,581/yr	Industrial Machinery Mechanics $54,148/yr	Clinical Laboratory Technologists and Technicians $57,045/yr	Medical and Health Services Managers $91,879/yr
Social and Human Service Assistants $37,793/yr	Computer Numerically Controlled Tool Programmers $64,600/yr	Veterinary Assistants and Laboratory Animal Caretakers $30,140/yr	Financial Managers $98,220/yr
First-Line Supervisors of Food Prep. & Serving Workers $37,413/yr	Emergency Medical Technicians and Paramedics $37,098/yr	Electro-Mechanical and Mechatronics Technicians $43,611/yr	Industrial Engineers $78,819/yr

Source: DEED Occupations in Demand

ECONOMY

INDUSTRY EMPLOYMENT

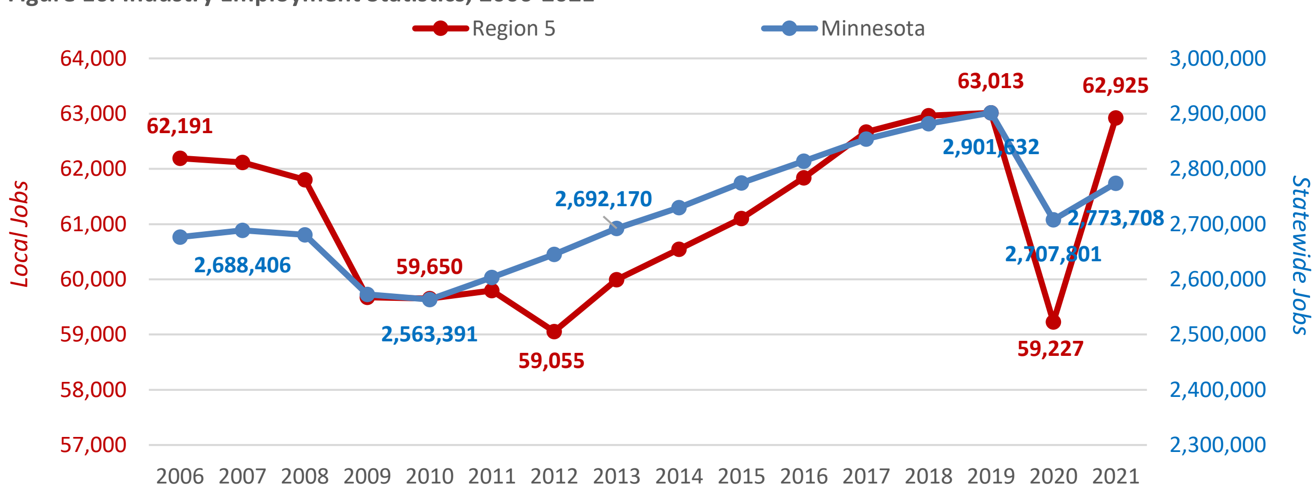
According to DEED's Quarterly Census of Employment & Wages (QCEW) program, Region 5 was home to 5,221 business establishments providing 62,925 jobs covered by unemployment insurance, with a total payroll of nearly $3 billion. That was 2.3% of total employment in the state of Minnesota. Average annual wages were $47,061 in the region, which was about $20,000 lower than the average annual wage statewide (Table 13).

Table 13. EDR 5 – North Central Industry Employment, 2021				Average Annual Wage	2020-2021		2019-2021	
Geography	Number of Firms	Number of Jobs	Total Payroll		*Change in Jobs*	*Percent Change*	*Change in Jobs*	*Percent Change*
EDR 5-North Central	**5,221**	**62,925**	**$2,961,283,146**	**$47,061**	***+3,698***	***+6.2%***	***-88***	***-0.1%***
Cass Co.	912	11,699	$619,751,107	$52,975	*+2,126*	*+22.2%*	*+1,175*	*+11.2%*
Crow Wing Co.	2,227	28,854	$1,350,878,704	$46,818	*+1,220*	*+4.4%*	*-919*	*-3.1%*
Morrison Co.	1,036	10,581	$448,014,467	$42,341	*+138*	*+1.3%*	*-143*	*-1.3%*
Todd Co.	604	6,329	$303,648,731	$47,977	*-13*	*-0.2%*	*-154*	*-2.4%*
Wadena Co.	442	5,460	$238,990,137	$43,771	*+224*	*+4.3%*	*-47*	*-0.9%*
State of Minnesota	**185,788**	**2,773,708**	**$185,969,067,414**	**$67,047**	***+65,907***	***+2.4%***	***-127,924***	***-4.4%***
Source: DEED Quarterly Census of Employment & Wages (QCEW)								

In terms of employment, Crow Wing County is by far the region's largest economic center with 28,854 jobs at 2,227 firms, accounting for 46% of all jobs in the region. Cass was a distant second with fewer than half as many jobs, but in 2021 had the highest average wages of the region's counties. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, most counties in the region have not regained 2019 employment levels. However, Cass County experienced a 2021 employment surge, mainly in Construction. Every other county experienced job loss of varying degrees, but all were closer to pre-pandemic levels than Minnesota in 2021.

Region 5 had modest job growth of 1.2% over the past 15 years compared to 3.5% growth statewide. However, Region 5 experienced significant swings in employment. The Great Recession inflicted substantial employment declines starting in 2007, and the region experienced a final drop to reach the low in 2012. Then the region added jobs at a brisk pace until 2017 when it surpassed its 2006 employment level, four years later than Minnesota. Region 5 job growth continued more slowly to the peak of 2019. The pandemic recession caused a 6% job loss in 2020, on pace with the 6.7% loss statewide. However, the region's employment sprung back faster than statewide (Figure 16).

Figure 16. Industry Employment Statistics, 2006-2021



Source: DEED QCEW program

With 10,844 jobs at 594 establishments, the Health Care & Social Assistance industry sector employs the most workers in Region 5, accounting for 17.2% of total employment. The sector's share of jobs dropped from 18.2% in 2020 as the pandemic and its aftereffects have been a challenge for worker recruitment and retention. The industry lost over 380 jobs in 2020 and remained 2.9% below 2019 employment. Most of the losses from 2019 to 2021 were in Nursing & Residential Care, losing 229 jobs or 6.9%, and Ambulatory Health Care (including clinics and offices of doctors dentists and other health professionals), losing 167 jobs or 6.4%. The other two subsectors fared better with Hospitals gaining 66 jobs (2%) and Social Assistance essentially flat.

The second and third largest industries in Region 5 are Retail Trade and Accommodation & Food Services. Retail Trade regained nearly all jobs lost in 2020, while Accommodation & Food Services remained down 497 jobs from 2019. Despite rapid restaffing in 2021, this sector had the largest employment drop from 2019 to 2021. Manufacturing is the fourth largest industry in terms of jobs, but due to higher average wages has the second-largest payrolls. Manufacturing regained most of the jobs lost in 2020 and is just 0.3% below 2019 employment. Employment in Educational Services makes it the fifth largest sector but remained nearly as far below pre-pandemic levels as Accommodation & Food Services employment. While Educational Services did not drop as much in 2020, it regained only 41 of the lost jobs in 2021. Public Administration is the next largest sector and one of six industries that continued to lose jobs from 2020 to 2021.

Construction was the star industry adding nearly 1,500 jobs at blistering 44.5% growth rate over two years. Wholesale Trade also had significant growth, adding 196 jobs in 2021 to greatly overcome slight losses in 2020. The related Transportation & Warehousing industry also overcame 2020 job losses but netted more modest two-year growth. Management of Companies is the only other sector to gain employment over both 2020 to 2021 and 2019 to 2021 timeframes. However, Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing & Hunting was the only industry to gain jobs from 2019 to 2020 while losing jobs from 2020 to 2021 (Table 14).

Table 14. EDR 5-North Central Industry Employment Statistics, 2021

Region 5	2021 Annual Data				*2020-2021*		*2019-2021*	
NAICS Industry Title	**Number of Firms**	**Number of Jobs**	**Total Payroll ($1,000s)**	**Avg. Annual Wage**	***Change in Jobs***	***Percent Change***	***Change in Jobs***	***Percent Change***
Total, All Industries	**5,221**	**62,925**	**$2,961,283**	**$47,061**	***+3,698***	***+6.2%***	***-88***	***-0.1%***
Health Care & Social Assistance	594	10,844	$582,718	$53,736	*+57*	*+0.5%*	*-326*	*-2.9%*
Retail Trade	730	8,667	$285,568	$32,949	*+192*	*+2.3%*	*-4*	*0.0%*
Accommodation & Food Services	523	7,252	$164,057	$22,622	*+1,078*	*+17.5%*	*-497*	*-6.4%*
Manufacturing	280	6,601	$346,360	$52,471	*+241*	*+3.8%*	*-17*	*-0.3%*
Educational Services	108	5,619	$259,148	$46,120	*+41*	*+0.7%*	*-461*	*-7.6%*
Public Administration	201	5,117	$264,805	$51,750	*-17*	*-0.3%*	*-84*	*-1.6%*
Construction	674	4,855	$417,420	$85,977	*+1,354*	*+38.7%*	*+1,495*	*+44.5%*
Finance & Insurance	223	2,152	$144,866	$67,317	*-34*	*-1.6%*	*-52*	*-2.4%*
Other Services	484	1,882	$47,217	$25,089	*+188*	*+11.1%*	*-117*	*-5.9%*
Wholesale Trade	132	1,729	$88,154	$50,985	*+196*	*+12.8%*	*+188*	*+12.2%*
Professional & Technical Services	244	1,620	$91,444	$56,447	*-15*	*-0.9%*	*-121*	*-7.0%*
Transportation & Warehousing	221	1,530	$64,090	$41,889	*+61*	*+4.2%*	*+39*	*+2.6%*
Admin. Support & Waste Mgmt. Svcs.	246	1,480	$59,844	$40,435	*+152*	*+11.4%*	*-4*	*-0.3%*
Arts, Entertainment, & Recreation	120	1,038	$27,292	$26,293	*+206*	*+24.8%*	*-126*	*-10.8%*
Agriculture, Forestry, Fish & Hunt	129	834	$30,327	$36,363	*-10*	*-1.2%*	*+17*	*+2.1%*
Information	104	674	$35,950	$53,338	*+25*	*+3.9%*	*-15*	*-2.2%*
Real Estate & Rental & Leasing	165	597	$21,041	$35,244	*-26*	*-4.2%*	*-27*	*-4.3%*
Utilities	16	222	$21,759	$98,013	*0*	*0.0%*	*-1*	*-0.4%*
Management of Companies	20	186	$7,836	$42,126	*+12*	*+6.9%*	*+32*	*+20.8%*
Mining	7	23	$1,388	$60,362	*-3*	*-10.4%*	*-5*	*-17.9%*

Source: DEED Quarterly Census of Employment & Wages (QCEW) program

EMPLOYMENT DEMOGRAPHICS

DEED's Quarterly Employment Demographics (QED) program shows an aging workforce in the region over the past 10 years. One-quarter of workers in the region were 55 years or older, compared to 22% statewide and just 20.1% in the region one decade earlier. In contrast, the percentage of workers under age 25 was falling.

Wages were climbing across the board for all workers due to rising demand and a tight labor market. While wages were still lowest for the youngest workers who tend to fill lower-skilled, less-than-fulltime jobs in industries like retail trade and accommodation and food services, the two youngest age groups enjoyed the fastest percentage increase in wages from 2010 to 2020. Wages were highest for workers between 45 and 64 years of age.

Also reflecting the tightening labor market, hours worked trended higher for all age groups, with the greatest gains for those aged 20 to 24. The aged 55 to 64 had the next largest increase in hours, closely followed by those aged 65 and older. Those aged 45 to 54 had the smallest increase but continued to work the most hours. Males worked more hours than females, though the gap was narrowing (Table 15).

Table 15. Workforce Demographics by Age Group and Gender, Total of All Industries, 2009-2019

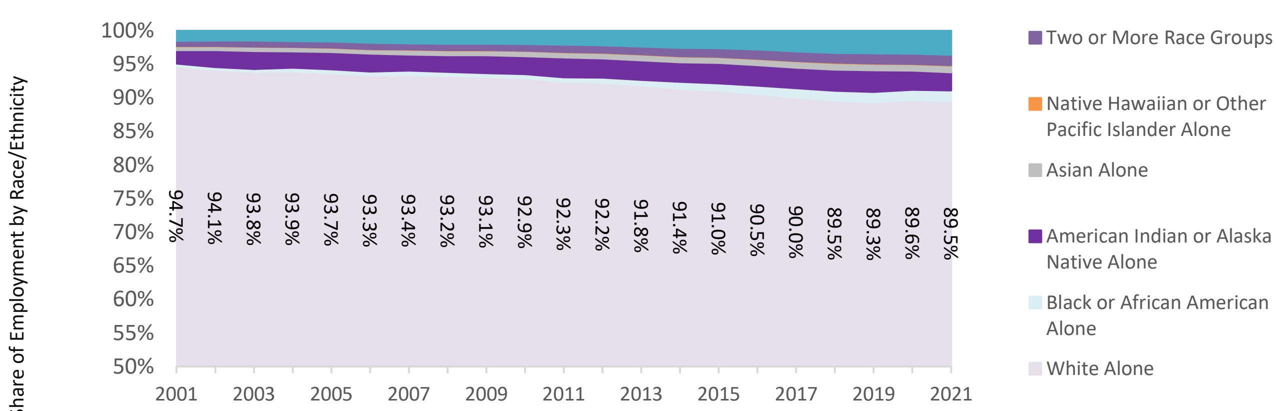
EDR 5-North Central	Percentage of Workers		*Percent of Workers, Minnesota*		Median Hourly Wage		Median Hours Worked (Per Qtr.)	
	2020	2010	*2020*	*2010*	2020	2010	2020	2010
Total, all ages	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	$18.94	$13.25	396	390
19 years & under	7.0%	8.4%	6.0%	6.5%	$11.94	$7.56	127	120
20 to 24 years	9.1%	10.3%	10.1%	11.1%	$15.59	$9.96	285	263
25 to 44 years	40.4%	38.3%	43.2%	42.7%	$21.20	$14.69	448	444
45 to 54 years	18.4%	22.9%	18.7%	23.0%	$23.20	$15.99	477	474
55 to 64 years	18.5%	15.6%	16.9%	13.5%	$21.12	$15.40	456	441
65 years & over	6.5%	4.5%	5.1%	3.3%	$15.53	$11.08	200	186
Male	46.2%	44.2%	49.1%	49.0%	$20.84	$14.87	457	452
Female	53.8%	55.8%	50.9%	51.0%	$18.22	$12.33	363	350

Source: DEED Quarterly Employment Demographics

EMPLOYMENT DIVERSITY

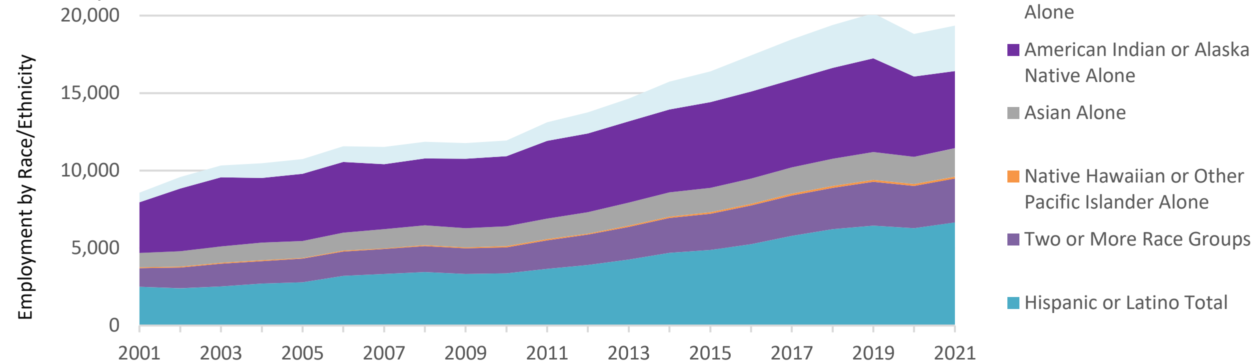
The Quarterly Workforce Indicators program provides workforce demographics for counties and workforce service areas (WSAs). Region 5 is part of the 19-county WSA2 that encompasses EDRs 2, 4, and 5. People of color held 19,350 of the 176,997 jobs in WSA2 in 2021, which was 10.5% of employment. This was nearly double the 5.3% share two decades ago (Figure 17).

Figure 17. WSA2 Employment by Race and Ethnicity, All Industries, 2001-2021



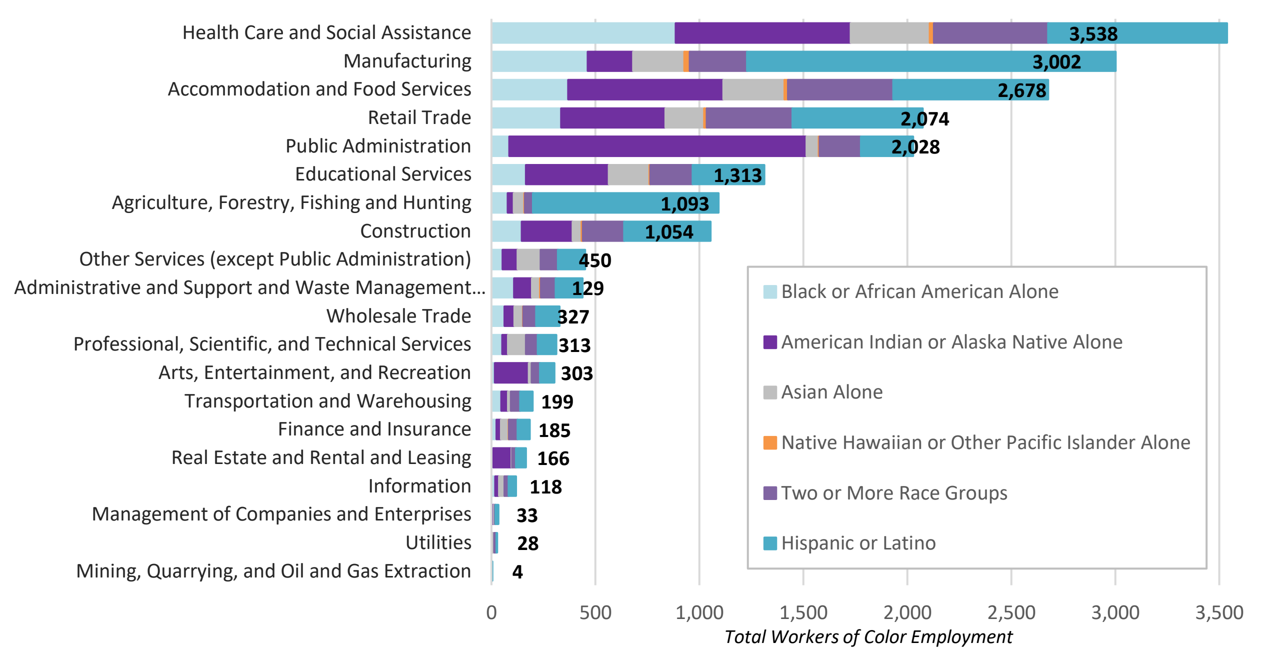
Workers of color filled an additional 10,769 jobs in WSA2 since 2001, accounting for over 47% of the total new jobs added. With 6,660 jobs, Hispanic or Latino was the largest group of color in WSA2's economy, increasing 166% since 2021. American Indian was the next largest group of color with 4,990 jobs in 2021 and growing 50.6%. However, American Indians had the largest pandemic declines, losing 21.2% of their jobs since 2019. Black or African Americans held 2,925 jobs and had the fastest growth. Two or More Races held 2,832 jobs, growing 135.9%. Asians had 1,831 jobs in 2021, growing 97.6%. Besides Whites and American Indians, all other racial and ethnic groups increased employment from 2019 to 2021, filling much neded positions in an extremely tight labor market (Figure 18).

Figure 18. WSA2 Workers of Color Employment, All Industries, 2001-2021



Most sectors in the region are non-diverse, but there are industries that rely more heavily on workers of color. Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing & Hunting relies on 26% people of color including 21% Hispanic or Latino. Public Administration is staffed by 17.5% workers of color, and with 1,430 American Indian workers it has the largest number of any sector. Accommodation & Food Services has 15.2% workers of color, with the largest number of Two or More Races at 506. Manufacturing has 13.4% workers of color, with the largest number of Hispanic or Latino workers of any sector at 1,773. Health Care & Social Assistance has the largest number of workers of color, but at 10.5% of jobs it matches all industries in WSA2 (Figure 19).

Figure 19. WSA2 People of Color Employment by Industry, 2021



INDUSTRY PROJECTIONS

Region 5 in included in the 26-county Northwest Planning Area which is projected to grow 5.1% from 2020 to 2030, a gain of 12,719 new jobs. Health Care & Social Assistance is expected to add the most jobs. Not only is it the region's largest industry, it is also the third fastest growing and accounts for over 35% of the total increase in jobs by 2030. Arts Entertainment & Recreation and Accommodation and Food Services are the fastest-growing industries, with a large portion of this growth reflecting the rebound in employment after large losses in the pandemic recession. Likewise, Other Services is another fast-growing sector that experienced large employment losses in 2020 and a subsequent rebound (Table 16).

Table 16. Northwest Industry Projections, 2020-2030

Industry	Estimated Employment 2020	Projected Employment 2030	*Percent Change 2020-2030*	*Numeric Change 2020-2030*
Total, All Industries	**250,722**	**263,441**	***+5.1%***	***+12,719***
Health Care & Social Assistance	36,901	41,390	*+12.2%*	*+4,489*
Manufacturing	27,999	28,618	*+2.2%*	*+619*
Retail Trade	26,846	25,467	*-5.1%*	*-1,379*
Public Administration	22,824	23,240	*+1.8%*	*+416*
Educational Services	22,015	23,101	*+4.9%*	*+1,086*
Accommodation & Food Services	17,040	20,515	*+20.4%*	*+3,475*
Wholesale Trade	11,829	12,347	*+4.4%*	*+518*
Construction	10,693	11,157	*+4.3%*	*+464*
Other Services, Ex. Public Admin	9,052	10,144	*+12.1%*	*+1,092*
Transportation & Warehousing	6,436	6,741	*+4.7%*	*+305*
Finance & Insurance	6,053	6,227	*+2.9%*	*+174*
Agriculture, Forestry, Fish & Hunt	5,574	5,505	*-1.2%*	*-69*
Professional & Technical Services	4,927	5,360	*+8.8%*	*+433*
Arts, Entertainment & Recreation	3,406	4,303	*+26.3%*	*+897*
Administrative & Waste Services	3,889	4,139	*+6.4%*	*+250*
Information	2,276	2,229	*-2.1%*	*-47*
Real Estate & Rental & Leasing	1,425	1,414	*-0.8%*	*-11*
Utilities	1,135	970	*-14.5%*	*-165*
Management of Companies	660	665	*+0.8%*	*+5*
Mining	216	235	*+8.8%*	*+19*

Source: DEED 2020-2030 Employment Outlook

NONEMPLOYER ESTABLISHMENTS

Region 5 was home to 12,957 self-employed businesses or "nonemployers" in 2019, which are defined by the U.S. Census Bureau as "businesses without paid employees that are subject to federal income tax, originating from tax return information of the Internal Revenue Service (IRS)." Region 5 saw a slight increase over the past decade and these non-employers generated sales receipts of over $645 million in 2019. Crow Wing County had the most nonemployers, and along with Todd overcame losses in the other three counties to produce the region's gains (Table 17).

Table 17. Nonemployer Statistics, 2019

	2019		*2009-2019*	
	Number of Firms	Receipts ($1,000s)	*Change in Firms*	*Percent Change*
Region 5	**12,957**	**$645,080**	***+88***	***+0.7%***
Cass Co.	2,596	$132,676	-141	-5.2%
Crow Wing Co.	5,376	$267,740	+297	+5.8%
Morrison Co.	2,304	$116,076	-32	-1.4%
Todd Co	1,673	$83,354	+37	+2.3%
Wadena Co.	1,008	$45,234	-73	-6.8%
Minnesota	**418,080**	**$20,377,253**	***+39,926***	***+10.6%***

Source: U.S. Census, Nonemployer Statistics program

CENSUS OF AGRICULTURE

Region 5 is not as large of an agriculture producer as other parts of Greater Minnesota, but there are 4,806 farms producing just over $672 million in the market value of products sold in 2017 according to the U.S. Department of Agriculture. Except for Morrison, the rest of the counties in the region rank in the bottom half of Minnesota counties in the market value of products sold (Table 18).

Table 18. Census of Agriculture, 2017

	Number of Farms	Market Value of Products Sold	*State Rank*
Region 5	**4,806**	**$672,544,000**	***9***
Cass Co.	432	$26,464,000	*76*
Crow Wing Co.	494	$19,054,000	*78*
Morrrison Co.	1,760	$394,721,000	*12*
Todd Co.	1,604	$179,461,000	*52*
Wadena Co.	516	$52,844,000	*68*
Minnesota	**68,822**	**$18,395,390,000**	

Source: 2017 Census of Agriculture

Upon request, this information can be made available in alternate formats by contacting Anthony Schaffhauser at anthony.schaffhauser@state.mn.us.