EMPLOYMENT AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Minnesota Employment Review

Review ONLINE

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How Sweet It Is

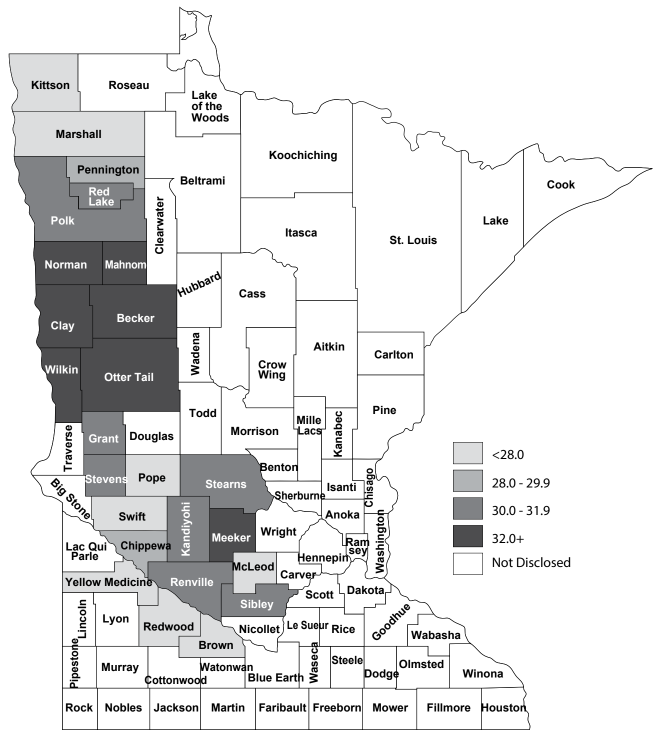
Sugar Manufacturing in Northwest Minnesota

Hard to Beet

As the birthplace of the snowmobile, Northwest Minnesota is well known for its high concentration of employment in the transportation equipment manufacturing industry. But another manufacturing sector that benefits from the cold winter weather is also a distinguishing industry in the region – sugar and confectionary manufacturing.

In their U.S. Sugar Production Background report the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Economic Research Service states that "the largest and most dynamic region for sugar beet production is in or close to the Red River Valley of western Minnesota and eastern North Dakota… the Red River region increased consistently through the 1990s and into the 2000s and has accounted for the majority of total planted U.S. sugar beet acreage. Long, cold winters aid the storage of sugar beets harvested in October and allow the slicing of sugar beets well into the following spring, thereby making more efficient use of slicing capacity at the factories."

Map 1. Sugar Beet Yield Minnesota, 2017
State Average: 30.6 Tons Per Acre



Source: USDA National Agricultural Statistics Service www.nass.usda.gov/Statistics_by_State/Minnesota/Publications/County_Estimates/2018/MN-CtyEst-Sugarbeets-16-17.pdf

But as important as the cold winter weather is, the region's temperate climatic conditions in the summer and fertile soil also leads to an excellent growing environment. Map 1 shows that Northwest Minnesota has the most productive land for sugar beet yields in the state. According to the Red River Sugarbeet Growers Association, well over 2,500 farmers grow sugar beets for the cooperative and the five factories in the region, including three on the Minnesota side of the border.

Regional Spotlight NORTHWEST MINNESOTA

Through 2018 Minnesota was easily the largest producer of sugar beets in the United States, with more than 415,000 acres planted and nearly 10.5 million tons of beets produced. Eight of the top 11 counties in the state for sugar beets are located in Northwest Minnesota, including four of the top five and the number one county in the state: Polk County. What's more, Polk County also ranks first in the entire United States for sugar beets – and Northwest Minnesota is home to eight of the top 34 counties for sugar beets nationwide.

County estimates from the USDA put Northwest Minnesota's sugar beet production at just over 8.9 million tons in 2017, and with an average price of about $46 per ton, that means more than $410 million in sales. That was down from approximately $50 per ton and $470 million in sales in 2016. However, an AgWeek article published in April 2019 stated that the estimated payment for 2018 crop beets will rise to $51 per ton, an important boost for an otherwise depressed farm economy that is struggling with low commodity prices for other crops including corn and soybeans.

Sugar is Big Business

In addition to the more than 2,000 farmers who grow sugar beets, Northwest Minnesota also has about 1,100 jobs at the eight sugar and confectionary product manufacturing establishments operating in the region. That yields a location quotient of 7.7 – meaning these jobs are nearly eight times more concentrated in Northwest Minnesota than the rest of the United States. At just over $54,000, average annual wages were also higher at sugar and confectionary product manufacturers than the total of all industries and even other manufacturing sectors (see Table 1).

Beet sugar manufacturers averaged just under 150 workers per site in 2017 compared to just 13.3 jobs per establishment across all industries in the region. After slicing jobs during the Great Recession and dropping as low as 888 jobs in the third quarter of 2011, the region has seen a steady recovery so far this decade. In fact, employment in sugar and confectionary product manufacturing has increased three times faster than the total of all industries between 2008 and 2018, enjoying a 14 percent increase. The region saw an even bigger spike during 2012, but much of that employment fluctuation was caused by a lockout that finally ended in May 2013 after a bitter 22-month ordeal. Long-term, the trendline shows that the sugar and confectionary product manufacturing operations in the region are expanding to meet demand (see Figure 1).

Likewise, USDA research shows that even though the number of farms growing sugar beets was declining, the average area harvested per farm was increasing. As the farms were getting bigger, yields were also increasing over time – with tons per acre rising more than 35 percent over the past decade in the counties in Northwest Minnesota.

Table 1. Northwest Minnesota Industry Employment Statistics, Qtr. 3 2018

NAICS Industry Title	NAICS Code	Number of Firms	Number of Jobs	Quarterly Payroll	Average Annual Wages
Total, All Industries	0	17,347	227,439	$2,271,726,061	$39,936
Manufacturing	31	838	29,718	$363,275,623	$48,880
Food Manufacturing	311	89	5,976	$72,329,337	$48,412
Sugar and Confectionery Product Manufacturing	**3113**	**8**	**1,076**	**$14,561,343**	**$54,080**

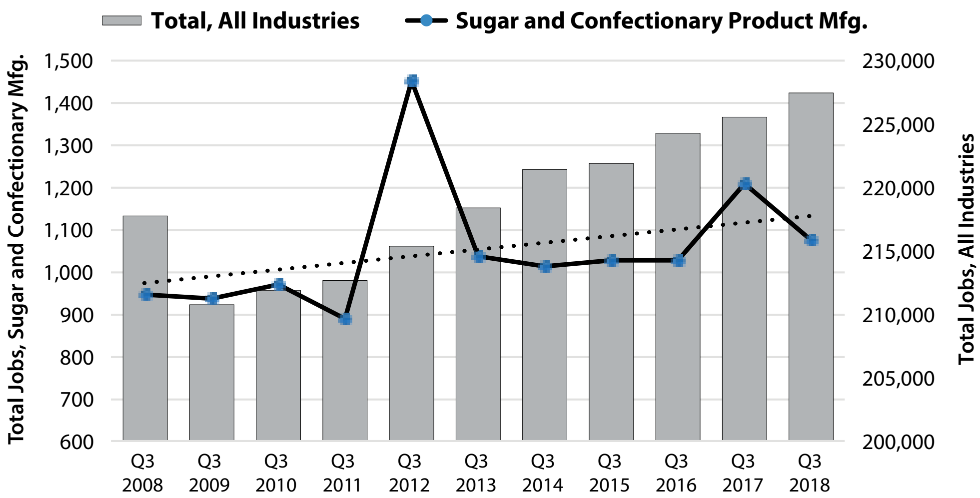
Source: DEED Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages

Creating Opportunities

This employment growth has not only created opportunities for farmers and farmworkers, it has also raised demand for workers at the sugar and confectionary product manufacturing plants. Of the top 15 occupations in demand in the industry, 13 can be started with a high school diploma or less, but a couple also benefit from having some vocational training or related work experience.

Not surprisingly, the lowest skilled jobs – such as packers and packagers, retail salespersons and cashiers, and janitors and cleaners – offer the lowest wages. However, several occupations – including general and operations managers, first-line supervisors, sales representatives, and industrial machinery mechanics – provide higher wages and good long-term career prospects (see Table 2).

Figure 1. Northwest Minnesota Industry Employment Statistics 3rd Qtr 2008 - 3rd Qtr 2018



Source: DEED Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages

Table 2. Top 15 Occupations in Demand in Sugar and Confectionary Product Manufacturing, 2018

SOC Code	SOC Occupational Title	Typical Education Required	Estimated Regional Employment	25th Percentile Wage	Median Hourly Wage	75th Percentile Wage
513092	Food Batchmakers	High school or less	570	$12.54	**$14.05**	$15.67
519111	Packaging and Filling Machine Operators	High school or less	1,140	$12.62	**$15.29**	$18.37
537064	Packers and Packagers, Hand	High school or less	600	$10.35	**$11.76**	$14.39
412031	Retail Salespersons	High school or less	6,060	$10.17	**$12.17**	$14.65
537062	Laborers, Freight, Stock and Material Movers	High school or less	2,940	$12.21	**$14.31**	$17.25
511011	First-Line Supervisors of Production Workers	High school or less	1,400	$22.24	**$26.50**	$33.50
499041	Industrial Machinery Mechanics	Vocational training	600	$17.43	**$20.64**	$25.34
519198	Helpers--Production Workers	High school or less	790	$12.88	**$14.77**	$17.66
412011	Cashiers	High school or less	6,890	$9.80	**$10.60**	$11.77
499071	Maintenance and Repair Workers, General	High school or less	2,160	$15.06	**$18.32**	$22.54
513093	Food Cooking Machine Operators	High school or less	130	$12.55	**$14.55**	$17.43
519199	Production Workers, All Other	High school or less	310	$12.86	**$14.57**	$17.14
537051	Industrial Truck and Tractor Operators	High school or less	690	$14.80	**$18.01**	$22.05
111021	General and Operations Managers	Bachelor's degree	2,520	$23.68	**$32.99**	$47.55
414012	Sales Representatives, Wholesale and Mfg.	High school or less	1,940	$15.82	**$23.86**	$31.67
372011	Janitors and Cleaners	High school or less	3,390	$11.22	**$13.83**	$17.32

Source: DEED Occupational Employment Statistics, Minnesota Educational Requirements for Occupations

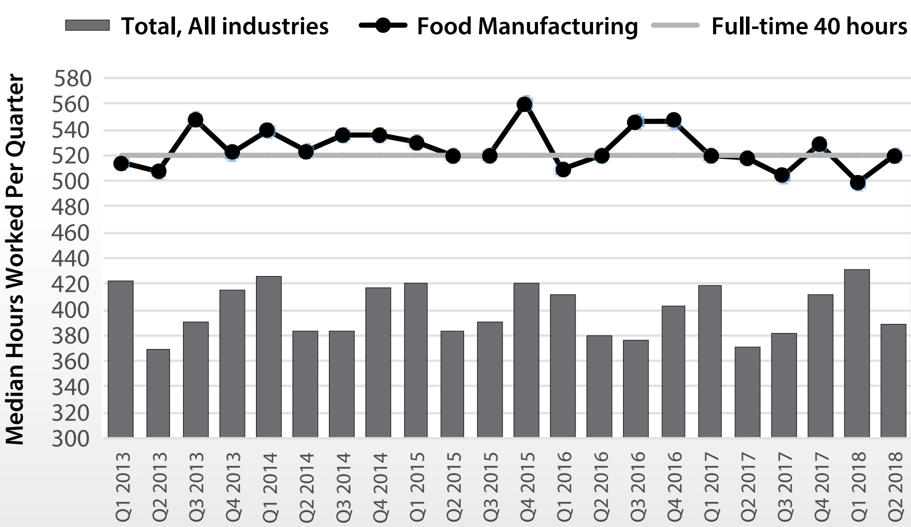
Harvest

Sugar beet harvest also requires hundreds of truck drivers and temporary seasonal employees who work at the piling stations. Weather-permitting, harvest typically begins in late September or early October, and it runs hot and heavy until completed. This often means three weeks or more of 24 hours a day, sev days a week harvesting activities.

Beyond that, Figure 2 shows that many workers in the industry receive overtime hours and pay through the year, especially during the third and fourth quarters. According to data from DEED's Quarterly Employment Demographics program, median hours worked in Food Manufacturing in Northeast Minnesota were above a full-time, 40-hour a week schedule in 17 of the past 22 quarters. Median hours peaked in the fourth quarter of 2015 at 560 hours, and averaged about 10 hours more per week than the total of all industries (see Figure 2).

Median hourly wages in Food Manufacturing also tend to peak during the third and fourth quarter of each year, leading to bigger paychecks throughout the winter. That's a sweet deal indeed.

Figure 2. Northwest Minnesota Median Hours Worked Per Quarter, 2013-2018



Source: DEED Quarterly Employment Demographics

SWEET OPPORTUNITY

One sweet opportunity the region can boast about is that a Minnesota sugar beet farmer's wife, known for her popular blog and best-selling cookbook, now has her own show on the Food Network. According to her bio on the Food Network site, "Molly Yeh is the star of Food Network's new series Girl Meets Farm. She rose to national prominence with the debut of her memoir, *Molly on the Range: Recipes and Stories from an Unlikely Life on a Farm*. Her cookbook was selected by the New York Times as one of the fall's top releases of 2016 and was the winner of the International Association of Culinary Professionals (IACP), 'Judge's Award.' The book was also selected by NPR as one of their Great Reads of 2016."[6]

by Cameron Macht

[1] *Background. United States Department of Agriculture Economic Research Service. Retrieved from www.ers.usda.gov/topics/crops/sugar-sweeteners/background.aspx*
[2] *The Sugarbeet Growers Association Story. Red River Valley Sugarbeet Growers Association. Retrieved from https://rrvsga.com/our-story/#economic*
[3] *Sugar and Sweeteners Yearbook Tables. United States Department of Agriculture Economic Research Service. Retrieved from www.ers.usda.gov/data-products/sugar-and-sweeteners-yearbook-tables.aspx*
[4] *Pates, Mikkel. "American Crystal boosts '18-crop beet price to $51 per ton." April 2, 2019. AgWeek. Retreieved from www.agweek.com/business/agriculture/4593740-american-crystal-boosts-18-crop-beet-price-51-ton*
[5] *Hughlett, Mike. "American Crystal Sugar lockout ends." StarTribune May 28, 2013. Retrieved from www.startribune.com/american-crystal-sugar-lockout-ends/209279061/*
[6] *"Molly Yeh Bio." Food Network. Retrieved from www.foodnetwork.com/profiles/talent/molly-yeh/molly-yeh-bio*

By the Numbers

87,430: That's the number of Retail Salespeople in Minnesota, making it the largest occupation in the state. The number of vacancies for Retail Salespersons across the state has increased 550 percent over the past decade, making it the number one occupation in demand. The median wage for Retail Salespersons was $12.38 in 2019.

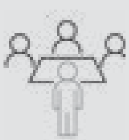
2.2%: That was the annual unemployment rate in Nicollet County in 2018, which was the lowest in the state. In addition to Nicollet County, nine other counties had unemployment rates of 2.5 percent or lower including Blue Earth, Carver, Dakota, Hennepin, Olmsted, Rock, Scott, Stevens, and Washington. In contrast, Clearwater County had the highest rate at 8.1 percent.

2,165: That's the number of graduates from Visual and Performing Arts programs at Minnesota colleges and universities in the 2016 school year. Almost one-third of these graduates are working in the retail trade, Accommodation and Food Services, or Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation industries.

100.4%: That's the projected growth rate for Wind Turbine Service Technicians, which is projected to be the fastest growing career in the state over the next decade. There are currently 271 jobs in the state, and there are expected to be 543 by the year 2026. Wind Turbine Service Technicians earn a median hourly wage of $26.80, with the largest number found in Southwest Minnesota.

$1,022: That's the estimated monthly cost of child care for a single child in Minnesota, according to the 2018 Cost of Living study. However, child care costs range from a low of $348 per month in Roseau County to a high of $1,469 in Hennepin County. Based on those estimates, the difference in the cost of providing child care between these two counties was nearly $13,000 per year.

61.0%: That's the percentage of the total jobs in the state that are located in the 7-County Twin Cities Metro Area. Minnesota had 2,881,172 covered jobs in 2018, with 1,758,550 of those at employer establishments in the Twin Cities. Jobs grew 1.1 percent in the Twin Cities over the past year compared to a 0.7 percent rise in Greater Minnesota.



8,900: That's the number of long-term unemployed persons in Minnesota in April of 2019. Long-term unemployment—lasting more than 26 weeks (six months)—imposes costs on people that go well beyond lost wages. Future earnings are lower, and health, relationships, and self-esteem can suffer. Thankfully, the number of long-term unemployed stayed below 10,000 people for the third consecutive month.

78.8%: That's the percentage of workers in the Health Care and Social Assistance industry that are female. In contrast, just 9 percent of workers in Mining and 12 percent of the Construction industry workforce are female. The median hourly wage for females was $18.50 across all industries, compared to $21.93 for males; but was $19.52 and $20.00, respectively, in Health Care and Social Assistance.

321,413: That's the annual estimate of manufacturing jobs in Minnesota for 2018, which is the highest number reported since the Great Recession in 2008. Manufacturers have regained 28,663 jobs since bottoming out in 2010, nearly a 10 percent increase.

by Cameron Macht

Labor Force Estimates

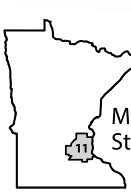
County/Area	Labor Force			Employment			Unemployment			Rate of Unemployment		
	Mar 2019	Feb 2019	Mar 2018	Mar 2019	Feb 2019	Mar 2018	Mar 2019	Feb 2019	Mar 2018	Mar 2019	Feb 2019	Mar 2018
United States ('000s)												
(Seasonally adjusted)	162,960	163,184	161,763	156,748	156,949	155,178	6,211	6,235	6,585	3.8%	3.8%	4.1%
(Unadjusted)	162,823	162,793	161,548	156,441	156,167	154,877	6,382	6,625	6,671	3.9	4.1	4.1
Minnesota												
(Seasonally adjusted)	3,090,766	3,086,454	3,065,535	2,992,131	2,991,857	2,973,003	98,635	94,597	92,532	3.2	3.1	3.0
(Unadjusted)	3,089,665	3,082,754	3,056,957	2,962,208	2,960,882	2,945,797	127,457	121,872	111,160	4.1	4.0	3.6
Metropolitan Statistical Areas (MSA)*												
Mpls.-St. Paul MSA	2,011,727	2,009,155	2,011,713	1,939,476	1,940,711	1,946,260	72,251	68,444	65,453	3.6	3.4	3.3
Duluth-Superior MSA	144,208	144,341	146,916	137,088	137,380	139,895	7,120	6,961	7,021	4.9	4.8	4.8
Rochester MSA	125,236	124,316	122,235	120,668	120,059	118,088	4,568	4,257	4,147	3.6	3.4	3.4
St. Cloud MSA	114,053	113,859	114,709	108,939	108,863	109,975	5,114	4,996	4,734	4.5	4.4	4.1
Mankato-N Mankato MSA	61,854	61,683	62,866	59,773	59,685	60,978	2,081	1,998	1,888	3.4	3.2	3.0
Fargo-Moorhead MSA	137,323	137,395	137,189	133,143	133,366	132,835	4,180	4,180	4,354	3.0	2.9	3.2
Grand Forks MSA	54,916	54,816	55,486	53,116	53,067	53,635	1,800	1,749	1,851	3.3	3.2	3.3
Region One	**47,232**	**47,051**	**47,560**	**44,276**	**44,111**	**44,739**	**2,956**	**2,940**	**2,821**	**6.3**	**6.2**	**5.9**
Kittson	2,320	2,306	2,346	2,210	2,190	2,254	110	116	92	4.7	5.0	3.9
Marshall	5,480	5,443	5,532	4,963	4,909	5,002	517	534	530	9.4	9.8	9.6
Norman	3,326	3,296	3,383	3,097	3,066	3,198	229	230	185	6.9	7.0	5.5
Pennington	9,017	9,001	8,912	8,381	8,355	8,263	636	646	649	7.1	7.2	7.3
Polk	16,836	16,781	17,035	15,967	15,938	16,230	869	843	805	5.2	5.0	4.7
Red Lake	2,247	2,225	2,299	2,062	2,057	2,100	185	168	199	8.2	7.6	8.7
Roseau	8,006	7,999	8,053	7,596	7,596	7,692	410	403	361	5.1	5.0	4.5
Region Two	**43,740**	**43,763**	**42,905**	**40,802**	**40,834**	**40,112**	**2,938**	**2,929**	**2,793**	**6.7**	**6.7**	**6.5**
Beltrami	24,558	24,559	23,874	23,197	23,243	22,561	1,361	1,316	1,313	5.5	5.4	5.5
Clearwater	4,578	4,609	4,585	4,016	4,021	3,996	562	588	589	12.3	12.8	12.8
Hubbard	9,761	9,755	9,588	8,992	8,971	8,940	769	784	648	7.9	8.0	6.8
Lake of the Woods	2,490	2,500	2,474	2,393	2,411	2,384	97	89	90	3.9	3.6	3.6
Mahnomen	2,353	2,340	2,384	2,204	2,188	2,231	149	152	153	6.3	6.5	6.4
Region Three	**164,527**	**164,469**	**163,544**	**155,306**	**155,511**	**155,045**	**9,221**	**8,958**	**8,499**	**5.6**	**5.4**	**5.2**
Aitkin	7,290	7,289	7,163	6,627	6,617	6,590	663	672	573	9.1	9.2	8.0
Carlton	17,926	17,927	17,857	16,863	16,897	16,856	1,063	1,030	1,001	5.9	5.7	5.6
Cook	2,839	2,845	2,832	2,653	2,657	2,679	186	188	153	6.6	6.6	5.4
Itasca	22,164	22,126	21,914	20,538	20,518	20,390	1,626	1,608	1,524	7.3	7.3	7.0
Koochiching	5,878	5,836	5,927	5,498	5,481	5,510	380	355	417	6.5	6.1	7.0
Lake	5,351	5,352	5,306	5,087	5,106	5,090	264	246	216	4.9	4.6	4.1
St. Louis	103,079	103,094	102,545	98,040	98,235	97,930	5,039	4,859	4,615	4.9	4.7	4.5
City of Duluth	46,088	46,114	45,843	44,389	44,477	44,339	1,699	1,637	1,504	3.7	3.5	3.3
Balance of St. Louis County	56,991	56,980	56,702	53,651	53,758	53,591	3,340	3,222	3,111	5.9	5.7	5.5
Region Four	**126,718**	**126,247**	**125,397**	**120,347**	**120,034**	**119,944**	**6,371**	**6,213**	**5,453**	**5.0**	**4.9**	**4.3**
Becker	18,527	18,466	18,265	17,387	17,397	17,310	1,140	1,069	955	6.2	5.8	5.2
Clay	36,118	36,086	35,950	34,594	34,635	34,595	1,524	1,451	1,355	4.2	4.0	3.8
Douglas	20,549	20,481	20,172	19,631	19,582	19,405	918	899	767	4.5	4.4	3.8
Grant	3,237	3,223	3,266	3,030	3,014	3,075	207	209	191	6.4	6.5	5.8
Otter Tail	31,257	31,079	30,749	29,407	29,206	29,162	1,850	1,873	1,587	5.9	6.0	5.2
Pope	6,432	6,418	6,309	6,153	6,145	6,086	279	273	223	4.3	4.3	3.5
Stevens	5,362	5,310	5,377	5,166	5,123	5,209	196	187	168	3.7	3.5	3.1
Traverse	1,716	1,688	1,776	1,619	1,597	1,697	97	91	79	5.7	5.4	4.4
Wilkin	3,520	3,496	3,533	3,360	3,335	3,405	160	161	128	4.5	4.6	3.6
Region Five	**83,936**	**83,798**	**82,499**	**77,988**	**77,811**	**77,354**	**5,948**	**5,987**	**5,145**	**7.1**	**7.1**	**6.2**
Cass	13,980	13,994	13,672	12,839	12,846	12,641	1,141	1,148	1,031	8.2	8.2	7.5
Crow Wing	32,034	32,046	31,443	30,056	30,072	29,689	1,978	1,974	1,754	6.2	6.2	5.6
Morrison	17,846	17,825	17,800	16,459	16,375	16,571	1,387	1,450	1,229	7.8	8.1	6.9
Todd	13,963	13,880	13,617	13,065	12,997	12,927	898	883	690	6.4	6.4	5.1
Wadena	6,113	6,053	5,967	5,569	5,521	5,526	544	532	441	8.9	8.8	7.4
Region Six East	**66,632**	**66,322**	**66,194**	**63,094**	**62,883**	**63,172**	**3,538**	**3,439**	**3,022**	**5.3**	**5.2**	**4.6**
Kandiyohi	25,032	24,955	24,778	23,805	23,736	23,750	1,227	1,219	1,028	4.9	4.9	4.1
McLeod	19,488	19,426	19,577	18,504	18,466	18,741	984	960	836	5.0	4.9	4.3
Meeker	13,211	13,131	13,139	12,439	12,396	12,474	772	735	665	5.8	5.6	5.1
Renville	8,901	8,810	8,700	8,346	8,285	8,207	555	525	493	6.2	6.0	5.7

**Minneapolis-St. Paul Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA) now includes Sherburne County in Minnesota and Pierce County in Wisconsin. St. Cloud MSA is now comprised of Benton and Stearns counties.*

Labor Force Estimates

Numbers are unadjusted unless otherwise labeled.
Source: Department of Employment and Economic Development, Local Area Unemployment Statistics, and North Dakota Job Service, 2019.

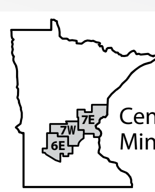
County/ Area	Labor Force			Employment			Unemployment			Rate of Unemployment		
	Mar 2019	Feb 2019	Mar 2018	Mar 2019	Feb 2019	Mar 2018	Mar 2019	Feb 2019	Mar 2018	Mar 2019	Feb 2019	Mar 2018
Region Six West	**23,272**	**23,043**	**23,252**	**21,970**	**21,816**	**22,155**	**1,302**	**1,227**	**1,097**	**5.6%**	**5.3%**	**4.7%**
Big Stone	2,425	2,401	2,458	2,253	2,238	2,311	172	163	147	7.1	6.8	6.0
Chippewa	7,015	6,933	6,906	6,639	6,578	6,594	376	355	312	5.4	5.1	4.5
Lac Qui Parle	3,480	3,452	3,544	3,278	3,246	3,375	202	206	169	5.8	6.0	4.8
Swift	4,951	4,931	5,000	4,690	4,670	4,745	261	261	255	5.3	5.3	5.1
Yellow Medicine	5,401	5,326	5,344	5,110	5,084	5,130	291	242	214	5.4	4.5	4.0
Region Seven East	**89,090**	**88,985**	**87,981**	**82,951**	**82,940**	**82,618**	**6,139**	**6,045**	**5,363**	**6.9**	**6.8**	**6.1**
Chisago	30,136	30,096	29,720	28,483	28,504	28,311	1,653	1,592	1,409	5.5	5.3	4.7
Isanti	21,504	21,496	21,232	20,246	20,253	20,128	1,258	1,243	1,104	5.9	5.8	5.2
Kanabec	9,204	9,168	9,103	8,337	8,309	8,310	867	859	793	9.4	9.4	8.7
Mille Lacs	13,190	13,188	12,982	12,080	12,085	12,023	1,110	1,103	959	8.4	8.4	7.4
Pine	15,056	15,037	14,944	13,805	13,789	13,846	1,251	1,248	1,098	8.3	8.3	7.3
Region Seven West	**241,927**	**241,698**	**237,990**	**230,837**	**230,816**	**228,341**	**11,090**	**10,882**	**9,649**	**4.6**	**4.5**	**4.1**
Benton	22,300	22,301	21,776	21,076	21,069	20,706	1,224	1,232	1,070	5.5	5.5	4.9
Sherburne	52,449	52,419	51,735	49,873	49,886	49,571	2,576	2,533	2,164	4.9	4.8	4.2
Stearns	91,753	91,558	89,877	87,863	87,794	86,456	3,890	3,764	3,421	4.2	4.1	3.8
Wright	75,425	75,420	74,602	72,025	72,067	71,608	3,400	3,353	2,994	4.5	4.4	4.0
Region Eight	**63,730**	**63,131**	**64,012**	**60,837**	**60,356**	**61,468**	**2,893**	**2,775**	**2,544**	**4.5**	**4.4**	**4.0**
Cottonwood	5,929	5,835	5,826	5,665	5,588	5,608	264	247	218	4.5	4.2	3.7
Jackson	5,634	5,621	5,709	5,404	5,391	5,513	230	230	196	4.1	4.1	3.4
Lincoln	3,199	3,178	3,261	3,022	3,005	3,104	177	173	157	5.5	5.4	4.8
Lyon	14,750	14,659	14,912	14,126	14,053	14,365	624	606	547	4.2	4.1	3.7
Murray	4,856	4,795	4,882	4,521	4,461	4,598	335	334	284	6.9	7.0	5.8
Nobles	11,256	11,161	11,273	10,837	10,782	10,910	419	379	363	3.7	3.4	3.2
Pipestone	4,965	4,899	4,884	4,686	4,628	4,645	279	271	239	5.6	5.5	4.9
Redwood	7,471	7,376	7,584	7,075	6,992	7,214	396	384	370	5.3	5.2	4.9
Rock	5,670	5,607	5,681	5,501	5,456	5,511	169	151	170	3.0	2.7	3.0
Region Nine	**133,400**	**132,964**	**133,087**	**127,322**	**127,035**	**127,674**	**6,078**	**5,929**	**5,413**	**4.6**	**4.5**	**4.1**
Blue Earth	40,860	40,745	40,542	39,452	39,390	39,295	1,408	1,355	1,247	3.4	3.3	3.1
Brown	14,560	14,500	14,580	13,799	13,763	13,879	761	737	701	5.2	5.1	4.8
Faribault	6,829	6,784	6,908	6,466	6,423	6,578	363	361	330	5.3	5.3	4.8
Le Sueur	16,275	16,268	16,103	15,131	15,132	15,100	1,144	1,136	1,003	7.0	7.0	6.2
Martin	10,160	10,139	10,217	9,717	9,680	9,834	443	459	383	4.4	4.5	3.7
Nicollet	20,994	20,938	20,815	20,321	20,295	20,264	673	643	551	3.2	3.1	2.6
Sibley	8,461	8,424	8,455	8,000	7,977	8,086	461	447	369	5.4	5.3	4.4
Waseca	8,714	8,692	8,981	8,251	8,240	8,458	463	452	523	5.3	5.2	5.8
Watonwan	6,547	6,474	6,486	6,185	6,135	6,180	362	339	306	5.5	5.2	4.7
Region Ten	**286,044**	**284,540**	**283,059**	**274,986**	**274,078**	**273,557**	**11,058**	**10,462**	**9,502**	**3.9**	**3.7**	**3.4**
Dodge	12,047	11,926	11,825	11,452	11,386	11,344	595	540	481	4.9	4.5	4.1
Fillmore	11,631	11,556	11,519	11,038	10,966	11,012	593	590	507	5.1	5.1	4.4
Freeborn	16,081	16,015	15,991	15,340	15,298	15,356	741	717	635	4.6	4.5	4.0
Goodhue	27,020	26,952	26,767	25,925	25,863	25,830	1,095	1,089	937	4.1	4.0	3.5
Houston	10,697	10,652	10,465	10,197	10,172	10,046	500	480	419	4.7	4.5	4.0
Mower	20,525	20,422	20,529	19,736	19,674	19,868	789	748	661	3.8	3.7	3.2
Olmsted	89,225	88,577	87,335	86,369	85,968	84,863	2,856	2,609	2,472	3.2	2.9	2.8
City of Rochester	65,951	65,423	63,853	63,900	63,603	62,044	2,051	1,820	1,809	3.1	2.8	2.8
Rice	37,322	37,227	36,871	35,817	35,771	35,614	1,505	1,456	1,257	4.0	3.9	3.4
Steele	20,241	20,141	20,448	19,392	19,344	19,665	849	797	783	4.2	4.0	3.8
Wabasha	12,333	12,257	12,237	11,809	11,739	11,754	524	518	483	4.2	4.2	3.9
Winona	28,922	28,815	29,072	27,911	27,897	28,205	1,011	918	867	3.5	3.2	3.0
Region Eleven	**1,719,419**	**1,716,744**	**1,699,477**	**1,661,494**	**1,662,658**	**1,649,616**	**57,925**	**54,086**	**49,861**	**3.4**	**3.2**	**2.9**
Anoka	198,209	197,899	195,817	190,545	190,641	189,234	7,664	7,258	6,583	3.9	3.7	3.4
Carver	58,013	57,934	57,520	56,097	56,117	55,805	1,916	1,817	1,715	3.3	3.1	3.0
Dakota	241,462	241,040	238,585	233,057	233,164	231,449	8,405	7,876	7,136	3.5	3.3	3.0
Hennepin	705,475	704,459	697,190	683,285	683,929	678,090	22,190	20,530	19,100	3.1	2.9	2.7
City of Bloomington	46,767	46,699	46,201	45,183	45,226	44,840	1,584	1,473	1,361	3.4	3.2	2.9
City of Minneapolis	242,019	241,678	240,143	234,392	234,613	233,280	7,627	7,065	6,863	3.2	2.9	2.9
Ramsey	290,026	289,532	286,677	280,060	280,271	278,026	9,966	9,261	8,651	3.4	3.2	3.0
City of St. Paul	159,084	158,797	159,015	153,567	153,683	153,947	5,517	5,114	5,068	3.5	3.2	3.2
Scott	83,307	83,199	82,446	80,483	80,525	79,932	2,824	2,674	2,514	3.4	3.2	3.0
Washington	142,927	142,681	141,242	137,967	138,011	137,080	4,960	4,670	4,162	3.5	3.3	2.9



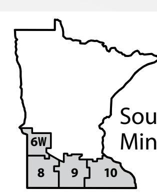
Minneapolis/ St. Paul

Northeast Minnesota


Northwest Minnesota



Central Minnesota



Southern Minnesota

*Monthly analysis is based on **seasonally adjusted** employment data; yearly analysis is based on **unadjusted** employment data.**

Overview

Employment in Minnesota was up by 1,500 (0.1 percent) in March which made up for only part of February's sharp drop of 7,800 jobs. March's moderate growth was mainly from a 3,200 job gain in Construction. Goods producers added 2,400 jobs (0.5 percent) while service providers cut 900 (0.0 percent). The private sector added 1,400 jobs (0.1 percent), and the public sector added 100 (0.0 percent). Annually the state added 7,282 jobs (0.3 percent) which is an improvement from the first month of negative over-the-year growth since 2010 recorded in February. Annual growth was concentrated among goods producers (up 7.698 or 1.8 percent) as the much larger service providing industry group reduced jobs by 416 (0.0 percent).

Mining and Logging

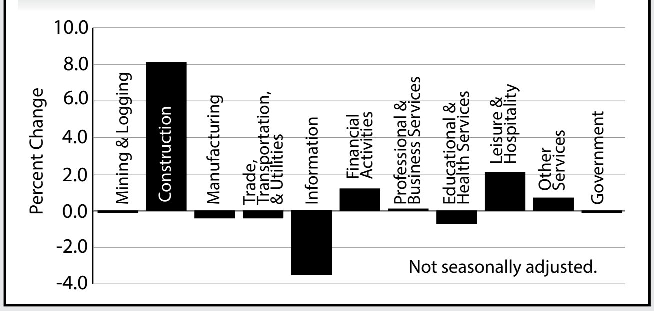
Mining and Logging employment was up a tad in March with 100 jobs added. On the year the supersector lost seven jobs (0.1 percent), so employment in the supersector was virtually unchanged from a year ago.

Construction

Employment in the Construction supersector jump 3,100 jobs in March (2.5.1 percent) as February's record snowfall melted away and construction activity picked up. On an annual basis the supersector added 8,748 jobs (8.4 percent). March marked the 11th consecutive month of over-the-year job growth in Construction. Through the first three months of the year Construction employment has averaged 7.9 percent higher than a year ago. Most of the job gain from a year ago came in Specialty Trade Contractors (up 7,648, 11.2 percent).

MN Employment Growth

March 2018 to March 2019



Source: Department of Employment and Economic Development, Current Employment Statistics, 2019.

Manufacturing

Employment in Minnesota's Manufacturing supersector was down 800 jobs (0.2 percent) in March. Durable Goods Manufacturing cut 600 jobs (0.3 percent) while Non-Durable Goods Manufacturing employment declined by 200 (0.2 percent). On the year the supersector's employment was down slightly with 1,042 fewer jobs (0.3 percent) than a year ago. Manufacturing employment picked up last year after two years of almost no growth but, much like national activity, manufacturing activity has slowed in 2019 in Minnesota as global growth slows and tariffs activity disrupts trade. March's negative over-the-year growth was all in Durable Goods Manufacturing, which cut 1,141 jobs (0.6 percent), while Non-Durable Goods Manufacturing added 98 jobs (0.1 percent).

Trade, Transportation, and Utilities

Employment in Trade, Transportation, and Utilities was flat in March with only 100 jobs added (0.0 percent). Wholesale Trade added 400 jobs (0.3 percent), Retail Trade was unchanged from February, and Transportation, Warehousing, and Utilities lost 300 (0.3 percent). Over the year the supersector lost 2,815 jobs (0.5 percent). The supersector has shown over-the-year declines in every month since December. The annual job losses, much like the monthly losses, were driven by Transportation, Warehousing, and Utilities, where employment was down by 3,849 (3.6 percent) from a year ago. Retail Trade was roughly than same as last year while Wholesale Trade employers ramped up employment by 1,166 jobs (0.9 percent) from last March.

Information

The Information supersector lost 300 jobs (0.6 percent) in March. Information employers have lost jobs in every month since December 2018 and on an annual basis since 2002. On an over-the-year basis the Information supersector lost 1,722 jobs (3.5 percent). Telecommunications employers cut 854 jobs (6.8 percent), and non-internet Publishing Industries lost 390 (2.1 percent).

*Over-the-year data are not seasonally adjusted because of small changes in seasonal adjustment factors from year to year. Also, there is no seasonality in over-the-year changes.

Financial Activities

The Financial Activities supersector lost 700 jobs (0.4 percent) in March with job declines in both Finance and Insurance (500, 0.3 percent) and Real Estate and Rental and Leasing (200, 0.6 percent). Annually the supersector added 2,194 (1.2 percent). Finance and Insurance accounted for all the job gains with Depository Credit Intermediation firms adding 977 jobs (1.9 percent) and Insurance Carriers and Related Activities companies ramping up employment by 1,549 (2.4 percent). Real Estate and Rental and Leasing was off by 139 jobs (0.4 percent).

Professional and Business Services

Professional and Business Services employment was down by 700 (0.2 percent) in March. The decline came in Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services (400, 0.2 percent) and Administrative and Support and Waste Management and Remediation Services (900, 0.7 percent). Management of Companies and Enterprises added 600 jobs (0.7 percent) in March. Annually the supersector was basically unchanged from last year as employment increased by only 41 jobs. Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services added 1,365, (0.8 percent), and Management of Companies and Enterprises added 1,185 jobs (1.5 percent). But Administrative and Support and Waste Management and Remediation Services reduced employment by 2,509 jobs (2.0 percent). The component's decline was caused by the loss of 7,129 jobs (12.5 percent) in the Employment Services sector.

Educational and Health Services

The Educational and Health Services supersector cut 300 jobs (0.1 percent) in March. Health Care and Social Assistance added 200 jobs (0.0 percent), but Educational Services reduced jobs by 500 (0.8 percent). Over the year Educational and Health Services employment was off by 3,532 (0.7 percent), with declines in both of its component sectors. Educational Services lost 1,242 jobs (1.8 percent), mostly in Colleges, Universities, and Professional Schools, while Health Care and Social Assistance lost 2,290 jobs (0.5 percent).

Leisure and Hospitality

Leisure and Hospitality employment was up by 200 (0.1 percent) in March with the loss of 500 jobs (0.2 percent) in Accommodation and Food Services sector offset by 700 jobs (1.4 percent) added in Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation. Annually the supersector added 5,333 jobs (2.1 percent). Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation added 3,983 (9.7 percent) and has had over-the-year jobs growth of greater than 5 percent in every month since October. Accommodation and Food Services added 1,440 (0.7 percent) jobs, with job growth in both Accommodations (340, 1.3 percent) and Food Services and Drinking Places (1,110, 1.6 percent).

Other Services

Employment in Other Services was up by 700 (0.6 percent) in March. The supersector has added jobs for four months in a row. Annually Other Services employers added 607 jobs (0.5 percent). Repair and Maintenance employers added 533 jobs (2.5 percent), and Religious, Grantmaking, Civic, Professional, and Similar Organizations added 732 (1.2 percent), while Personal and Laundry Services lost 678 jobs (2.4 percent).

Government

Government employers in Minnesota added 100 jobs (0.0 percent) in March. There was no change in Federal employment, state employment dropped by 100 jobs ((0.1 percent), and local government jobs jumped by 200 (0.1 percent). Over the year Government employers cut 522 jobs (0.1 percent) as all three levels of government reduced their workforces. Federal employers cut 200 jobs (0.6 percent), State cut 202 (0.2 percent), and Local cut 120 (0.0 percent).

by Nick Dobbins

Seasonally Adjusted Nonfarm Employment

In 1,000's

Industry	Mar 2019	Feb 2019	Jan 2019
Total Nonagricultural	**2,958.0**	**2,956.7**	**2,964.5**
Goods-Producing	**454.3**	**452.5**	**457.1**
Mining and Logging	6.8	6.7	6.8
Construction	128.0	125.2	128.6
Manufacturing	319.5	320.6	321.7
Service-Providing	**2,503.7**	**2,504.2**	**2,507.4**
Trade, Transportation, and Utilities	535.5	535.2	538.1
Information	47.5	47.9	48.0
Financial Activities	185.4	186.0	185.0
Professional and Business Services	377.4	377.8	375.8
Educational and Health Services	538.4	539.0	541.9
Leisure and Hospitality	280.8	280.2	281.2
Other Services	113.5	112.8	112.5
Government	425.2	425.3	424.9

Source: Department of Employment and Economic Development Current Employment Statistics, 2019.

Regional Analysis

Minneapolis-St. Paul-Bloomington Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA)

Employment in the Minneapolis-St. Paul-Bloomington MSA was up by 2,489 jobs (0.1 percent) in March. Goods producers added 2,612 jobs (1 percent), while service providers lost 123 (0 percent). Mining, Logging, and Construction was up by 3,013 (4.3 percent), and Leisure and Hospitality was up by 2,130 (1.2 percent). Government employers lost 2,442 jobs (1 percent) with losses at all three levels of government. Professional and Business Services also lost jobs, off by 1,072 or 0.3 percent, thanks to the loss of 1,310 jobs (1.3 percent) in Administrative and Support and Waste Management and Remediation Services. Over the year the metro area's employment was mostly flat, off by 76 jobs (0.0 percent). Gains in goods production (up 2,616 or 1 percent) were offset by losses in service provision (off 2,692, 0.2 percent). Financial Activities added 1,557 jobs (1.1 percent), Mining, Logging, and Construction added 1,437 (2 percent), and Manufacturing added 1,179 (0.6). Educational and Health Services lost 4,603 jobs (1.4 percent), while Professional and Business Services lost 1,261 (0.4 percent).

Duluth -Superior MSA

The Duluth-Superior MSA added 110 jobs (0.1 percent) in March, with all of those gains coming from the private sector (up 123 or 0.1 percent). Trade, Transportation, and Utilities added 163 jobs (0.7 percent). Educational and Health Services was among the most prominent job-losers, off by 140 jobs (0.4 percent). Other Services added 91 jobs (1.4 percent). Over the year the Duluth area lost 614 jobs (0.5 percent), with declines in almost all major published series. The biggest exception was Mining, Logging, and Construction, which added 228 jobs or 2.7 percent and was significant enough to push all goods producers into positive job growth for the year. Educational and Health Services lost 204 jobs (0.6 percent), Leisure and Hospitality lost 261 (1.9 percent), and Trade, Transportation, and Utilities lost 233 (1 percent).

Rochester MSA

The Rochester MSA added 827 jobs (0.7 percent) in March. Educational and Health Services employers added 440 jobs (0.9 percent), Leisure and Hospitality added 136 (1.2 percent), and Government employers added 187 (1.4 percent) mostly at the local government level. The biggest decline, in both a real and proportional sense, came in Trade, Transportation, and Utilities, which lost 59 jobs or 0.3 percent entirely from a decline of 81 (0.7 percent) in the Retail Trade component sector. Annually the Rochester area added 1,551 jobs (1.3 percent). Educational and Health Services added 636 (1.3 percent), Leisure and Hospitality added 275 (2.6 percent), and Manufacturing added 472 (4.6 percent). The largest over-the-year job loss in the area came from the smallest supersector, as Information shed 145 jobs or 8.3 percent. Trade, Transportation, and Utilities lost 111 jobs (0.6 percent), and Financial Activities lost 68 (2.4 percent).

St. Cloud MSA

The St. Cloud MSA added 150 jobs (0.1 percent) in March. Mining, Logging, and Construction added 239 jobs (3.8 percent), and Manufacturing added 121 (0.8 percent). Service providers lost 210 jobs (0.2 percent) with all but Other Services which added 3 jobs or 0.1 percent, losing jobs. Leisure and Hospitality lost 52 jobs (0.6 percent), and Educational and Health Services lost 86 (0.4 percent). Annually the St. Cloud MSA added 1,709 jobs (1.6 percent). Mining, Logging, and Construction led the way, adding 1,030 jobs or 18.8 percent. Educational and Health Services chipped in 770 jobs or 3.5 percent. Trade, Transportation, and Utilities lost 374 jobs (1.7 percent) on the loss of 478 jobs (3.6 percent) from the Retail Trade component. Information employers lost 110 jobs or 7.9 percent.

Mankato-North Mankato MSA

The Mankato-North Mankato MSA added 170 jobs (0.3 percent) with growth in every published employment series. Private sector employers added 136 jobs (0.3 percent) while public sectors employers added 34 (0.3 percent). Goods producers added 111 jobs (1.1 percent), and service providers added 59 (0.1 percent). On the year the Mankato-North Mankato MSA added 138 jobs (0.2 percent). Goods producers drove the growth, adding 166 jobs (1.7 percent), while service providers lost 28 (0.1 percent). The private sector lost 43 jobs (0.1 percent), and government employers added 181 (1.8 percent).

Fargo-Moorhead MSA

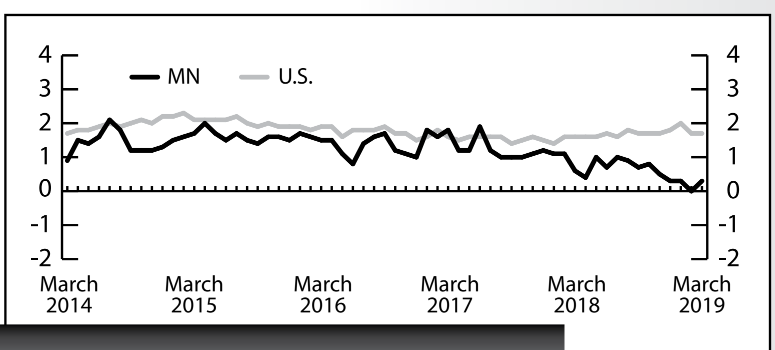
The Fargo-Moorhead MSA lost 144 jobs (0.1 percent) in March. It was the only reported MSA in Minnesota with over-the-month job losses. Unlike elsewhere in the state where the supersector had 3.1 percent growth, Mining, Logging, and Construction in Fargo lost 86 jobs (1.2 percent). The largest proportional decline came from government employment, which was off by 1.4 percent (290 jobs). Annually the Fargo-Moorhead MSA lost 498 jobs (0.4 percent). Trade, Transportation, and Utilities lost 742 jobs (2.5 percent) wtih a decline of 941 (6 percent) in Retail Trade. Leisure and Hospitality lost 663 jobs (4.7 percent).

Grand Forks-East Grand Forks MSA

The Grand Forks-East Grand Forks MSA added 113 jobs (0.2 percent) in March. Leisure and Hospitality led the growth, adding 160 jobs (2.7 percent). No other supersector in the MSA added or lost more than 60 jobs. Annually the Grand Forks-East Grand Forks MSA lost 741 jobs (1.3 percent). Trade, Transportation, and Utilities drove the declines, shedding 404 jobs (3.6 percent) with the loss of 490 jobs (6.7 percent) in Retail Trade. Government employers shed 508 jobs (3.5 percent), the bulk of those losses (483 jobs) coming from state-level employers. Notable annual increases occurred in Professional and Business Services (up 219 or 6.8 percent) and Financial Activities (up 112 or 5.8 percent).

by Nick Dobbins

Source: Department of Employment and Economic Development, Current Employment Statistics, 2019; Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor, Current Employment Statistics, 2019.



Total Nonfarm Jobs
U.S. and MN over-the-year percent change

Employer Survey of Minnesota Nonfarm Payroll Jobs, Hours and Earnings

Numbers are unadjusted.

Note: State, regional and local estimates from past months (for all tables pages 11-13) may be revised from figures previously published.

Industry	Jobs* (Thousands)			Percent Change From**		Production Workers Hours and Earnings: Average Weekly Earnings		Average Weekly Hours		Average Hourly Earnings	
	Mar 2019	Feb 2019	Mar 2018	Feb 2019	Mar 2018	Mar 2019	Mar 2018	Mar 2019	Mar 2018	Mar 2019	Mar 2018
TOTAL NONFARM WAGE AND SALARY	**2,908.4**	**2,904.3**	**2,900.8**	**0.1%**	**0.3%**	-	-	-	-	-	-
GOODS-PRODUCING	**433.8**	**430.2**	**426.8**	**0.8**	**1.6**	-	-	-	-	-	-
Mining, Logging, and Construction	**118.6**	**115.0**	**110.1**	**3.1**	**7.6**	-	-	-	-	-	-
Mining and Logging	**6.5**	**6.4**	**6.5**	**1.3**	**-0.1**	-	-	-	-	-	-
Construction	**112.0**	**108.5**	**103.6**	**3.2**	**8.1**	-	-	-	-	-	-
Specialty Trade Contractors	75.5	73.1	68.1	3.3	10.9	$1,164.61	$1,188.57	36.6	37.4	$31.82	$31.78
Manufacturing	**315.2**	**315.2**	**316.6**	**0.0**	**-0.4**	**913.04**	**872.81**	**40.4**	**40.9**	**22.60**	**21.34**
Durable Goods	199.7	200.1	201.2	-0.2	-0.8	942.07	923.24	39.8	41.7	23.67	22.14
Wood Product Manufacturing	11.5	11.4	11.4	1.2	0.8	-	-	-	-	-	-
Fabricated Metal Production	43.5	43.5	42.8	0.0	1.6	-	-	-	-	-	-
Machinery Manufacturing	34.6	34.6	33.5	0.1	3.4	-	-	-	-	-	-
Computer and Electronic Product	45.9	45.8	45.1	0.1	1.8	-	-	-	-	-	-
Navigational, Measuring, Electromedical and Control	27.0	27.0	26.3	-0.2	2.6	-	-	-	-	-	-
Transportation Equipment	10.9	10.9	10.7	0.4	2.3	-	-	-	-	-	-
Medical Equipment and Supplies Manufacturing	16.3	16.3	15.9	0.1	2.9	-	-	-	-	-	-
Nondurable Goods	115.6	115.2	115.4	0.3	0.1	864.41	793.21	41.3	39.7	20.93	19.98
Food Manufacturing	45.4	45.3	46.3	0.2	-2.1	-	-	-	-	-	-
SERVICE-PROVIDING	**2,474.6**	**2,474.1**	**2,474.0**	**0.0**	**0.0**	-	-	-	-	-	-
Trade, Transportation, and Utilities	**525.9**	**525.2**	**528.2**	**0.1**	**-0.4**	-	-	-	-	-	-
Wholesale Trade	130.6	129.3	129.1	1.0	1.2	1,068.94	906.78	38.8	38.1	27.55	23.80
Retail Trade	291.7	292.1	291.6	-0.1	0.0	428.56	435.55	26.1	28.1	16.42	15.50
Motor Vehicle and Parts	36.1	35.9	35.5	0.4	1.8	-	-	-	-	-	-
Building Material and Garden Equipment	25.2	24.6	25.4	2.6	-0.6	-	-	-	-	-	-
Food and Beverage Stores	56.0	56.0	54.8	0.0	2.1	-	-	-	-	-	-
Gasoline Stations	25.5	25.5	25.4	0.1	0.3	-	-	-	-	-	-
General Merchandise Stores	59.0	60.1	59.2	-1.8	-0.3	366.02	386.75	26.6	28.5	13.76	13.57
Transportation,Warehouse, Utilities	103.6	103.7	107.5	-0.1	-3.6		-		0.0		-
Transportation and Warehousing	91.4	91.7	95.1	-0.3	-3.9	747.30	732.60	31.8	33.0	23.50	22.20
Information	**47.5**	**47.6**	**49.2**	**-0.2**	**-3.5**	-	-	-	-	-	-
Publishing Industries	18.6	18.6	19.0	-0.2	-2.1	-	-	-	-	-	-
Telecommunications	11.7	11.8	12.6	-0.5	-6.8	-	-	-	-	-	-
Financial Activities	**184.3**	**184.7**	**182.1**	**-0.2**	**1.2**	-	-	-	-	-	-
Finance and Insurance	150.8	150.7	148.2	0.1	1.7	1,189.06	1,216.14	37.1	37.1	32.05	32.78
Credit Intermediation	65.1	65.2	64.3	-0.2	1.1	816.51	806.82	36.5	35.7	22.37	22.60
Securities, Commodity Contracts, and Other	20.4	20.4	20.2	-0.1	1.2	-	-	-	-	-	-
Insurance Carriers and Related	65.3	65.1	63.7	0.3	2.6	-	-	-	-	-	-
Real Estate and Rental and Leasing	33.5	34.0	33.9	-1.4	-1.1	-	-	-	-	-	-
Professional and Business Services	**368.6**	**369.7**	**368.2**	**-0.3**	**0.1**	-	-	-	-	-	-
Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services	162.9	163.7	161.4	-0.5	0.9	-	-	-	-	-	-
Legal Services	18.1	18.0	18.1	0.1	-0.2	-	-	-	-	-	-
Accounting, Tax Preparation	16.7	16.9	17.3	-1.2	-3.6	-	-	-	-	-	-
Computer Systems Design	35.3	35.7	36.3	-1.1	-2.8	-	-	-	-	-	-
Management of Companies and Enterprises	81.4	80.7	80.1	1.0	1.7	-	-	-	-	-	-
Administrative and Support Services	124.3	125.4	126.8	-0.9	-2.0	-	-	-	-	-	-
Educational and Health Services	**539.6**	**539.2**	**543.2**	**0.1**	**-0.7**	-	-	-	-	-	-
Educational Services	69.1	69.1	70.4	0.0	-1.8	-	-	-	-	-	-
Health Care and Social Assistance	470.4	470.1	472.9	0.1	-0.5	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ambulatory Health Care	155.5	155.5	156.3	0.0	-0.5	1,179.80	1,356.23	34.7	37.3	34.00	36.36
Offices of Physicians	75.3	75.2	74.6	0.1	0.9	-	-	-	-	-	-
Hospitals	115.6	115.0	113.7	0.5	1.7	-	-	-	-	-	-
Nursing and Residential Care Facilities	104.6	105.4	107.3	-0.8	-2.6	501.92	473.76	27.7	28.8	18.12	16.45
Social Assistance	94.7	94.1	95.5	0.7	-0.8	-	-	-	-	-	-
Leisure and Hospitality	**264.5**	**262.6**	**259.1**	**0.7**	**2.1**	-	-	-	-	-	-
Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation	43.8	43.2	40.2	1.4	8.9	-	-	-	-	-	-
Accommodation and Food Services	220.7	219.4	218.9	0.6	0.8	-	-	-	-	-	-
Food Services and Drinking Places	194.2	192.5	192.9	0.9	0.7	283.93	282.98	19.8	19.9	14.34	14.22
Other Services	**113.4**	**112.3**	**112.6**	**0.9**	**0.7**	-	-	-	-	-	-
Religious, Grantmaking, Civic, Professional Organizations	63.6	63.1	62.9	0.8	1.2	-	-	-	-	-	-
Government	**430.8**	**432.8**	**431.3**	**-0.5**	**-0.1**	-	-	-	-	-	-
Federal Government	31.8	31.9	32.0	-0.3	-0.6						
State Government	103.6	104.2	103.8	-0.6	-0.2						
State Government Education	62.4	63.2	63.6	-1.2	-1.9						
Local Government	295.4	296.7	295.6	-0.4	0.0						
Local Government Education	151.7	152.2	151.9	-0.3	-0.1						

Note: Not all industry subgroups are shown for every major industry category.

* Totals may not add because of rounding.

** Percent change based on unrounded numbers.

Source: Department of Employment and Economic Development, Current Employment Statistics, 2019.

Employer Survey of Twin Cities Nonfarm Payroll Jobs, Hours and Earnings

Numbers are unadjusted.

Note: State, regional and local estimates from past months (for all tables pages 11-13) may be revised from figures previously published.

Industry	Jobs* (Thousands)			Percent Change From**		Production Workers Hours and Earnings					
						Average Weekly Earnings		Average Weekly Hours		Average Hourly Earnings	
	Mar 2019	Feb 2019	Mar 2018	Feb 2019	Mar 2018	Mar 2019	Mar 2018	Mar 2019	Mar 2018	Mar 20198	Mar 2018
TOTAL NONFARM WAGE AND SALARY	**1,976.5**	**1,974.0**	**1,976.6**	**0.1%**	**0.0%**	-	-	-	-	-	-
GOODS-PRODUCING	**270.7**	**268.1**	**268.1**	**1.0**	**1.0**	-	-	-	-	-	-
Mining, Logging, and Construction	**73.8**	**70.8**	**72.3**	**4.3**	**2.0**	-	-	-	-	-	-
Construction of Buildings	17.8	17.5	17.4	1.5	2.3	-	-	-	-	-	-
Specialty Trade Contractors	47.6	45.8	48.6	3.9	-2.2	$1,184.94	$1,212.90	34.8	36.5	$34.05	$33.23
Manufacturing	**197.0**	**197.4**	**195.8**	**-0.2**	**0.6**	**930.29**	**916.52**	**40.5**	**42.1**	**22.97**	**21.77**
Durable Goods	135.3	135.6	133.6	-0.2	1.2	970.81	959.90	40.4	42.7	24.03	22.48
Fabricated Metal Production	30.0	30.1	29.7	-0.2	1.2	-	-	-	-	-	-
Machinery Manufacturing	20.8	20.7	20.3	0.0	2.5	-	-	-	-	-	-
Computer and Electronic Product	37.5	37.4	36.6	0.0	2.4	-	-	-	-	-	-
Navigational, Measuring, Electromedical and Control	25.3	25.3	24.6	-0.3	2.6	-	-	-	-	-	-
Medical Equipment and Supplies Manufacturing	15.5	15.4	15.0	0.3	3.3	-	-	-	-	-	-
Nondurable Goods	61.7	61.8	62.2	-0.2	-0.8	846.92	831.89	40.6	41.0	20.86	20.29
Food Manufacturing	13.9	13.9	14.3	0.0	-2.5	-	-	-	-	-	-
Printing and Related	13.5	13.5	14.0	-0.1	-3.9	-	-	-	-	-	-
SERVICE-PROVIDING	**1,705.8**	**1,705.9**	**1,708.5**	**0.0**	**-0.2**	-	-	-	-	-	-
Trade, Transportation, and Utilities	**356.1**	**356.8**	**355.3**	**-0.2**	**0.2**	-	-	-	-	-	-
Wholesale Trade	94.7	94.5	93.9	0.2	0.9	1,135.68	887.13	38.8	37.4	29.27	23.72
Merchant Wholesalers - Durable Goods	55.6	55.4	54.0	0.4	3.0	-	-	-	-	-	-
Merchant Wholesalers - Nondurable Goods	32.0	31.9	32.4	0.5	-1.1	-	-	-	-	-	-
Retail Trade	186.9	187.6	186.3	-0.4	0.3	456.40	460.60	28.0	29.3	16.30	15.72
Food and Beverage Stores	34.9	34.9	34.6	-0.1	0.9	-	-	-	-	-	-
General Merchandise Stores	38.1	38.8	36.8	-1.7	3.7	352.69	379.58	25.8	28.8	13.67	13.18
Transportation, Warehouse, Utilities	74.5	74.7	75.2	-0.2	-0.8	-	-	-	-	-	-
Utilities	7.4	7.3	7.5	1.1	-0.9	-	-	-	-	-	-
Transportation and Warehousing	67.1	67.4	67.7	-0.4	-0.8	891.87	742.22	37.6	34.0	23.72	21.83
Information	**37.0**	**37.1**	**37.6**	**-0.4**	**-1.7**	-	-	-	-	-	-
Publishing Industries	15.3	15.3	15.4	0.0	-0.7	-	-	-	-	-	-
Telecommunications	7.6	7.7	8.2	-0.7	-6.7	-	-	-	-	-	-
Financial Activities	**149.7**	**149.9**	**148.1**	**-0.1**	**1.1**	-	-	-	-	-	-
Finance and Insurance	122.3	122.2	120.8	0.1	1.2	1,249.45	1,232.90	37.6	37.6	33.23	32.79
Credit Intermediation	48.6	48.6	48.5	0.0	0.2	-	-	-	-	-	-
Securities, Commodity Contracts, and Other	18.2	18.2	18.1	0.0	0.3	-	-	-	-	-	-
Insurance Carriers and Related	55.5	55.4	54.2	0.2	2.4	-	-	-	-	-	-
Real Estate and Rental and Leasing	27.3	27.6	27.3	-1.1	0.3	-	-	-	-	-	-
Professional and Business Services	**316.8**	**317.9**	**318.1**	**-0.3**	**-0.4**	-	-	-	-	-	-
Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services	143.6	144.1	141.4	-0.3	1.6	-	-	-	-	-	-
Legal Services	15.5	15.5	15.5	0.0	0.0	-	-	-	-	-	-
Architectural, Engineering, and Related	19.5	19.5	18.7	0.0	4.0	-	-	-	-	-	-
Computer Systems Design	33.8	33.4	33.4	1.1	1.0	-	-	-	-	-	-
Management of Companies and Enterprises	74.9	74.2	73.4	0.9	2.0	-	-	-	-	-	-
Administrative and Support Services	98.3	99.6	103.2	-1.3	-4.7	-	-	-	-	-	-
Employment Services	44.9	45.5	49.2	-1.4	-8.8	-	-	-	-	-	-
Educational and Health Services	**332.2**	**331.0**	**336.8**	**0.4**	**-1.4**	-	-	-	-	-	-
Educational Services	45.6	45.5	47.7	0.2	-4.4	-	-	-	-	-	-
Health Care and Social Assistance	286.6	285.5	289.1	0.4	-0.9	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ambulatory Health Care	92.0	91.9	92.8	0.1	-0.8	-	-	-	-	-	-
Hospitals	68.6	68.4	67.4	0.4	1.8	-	-	-	-	-	-
Nursing and Residential Care Facilities	57.8	57.5	58.7	0.6	-1.5	-	-	-	-	-	-
Social Assistance	68.0	67.7	70.2	0.6	-3.1	-	-	-	-	-	-
Leisure and Hospitality	**183.6**	**181.5**	**182.1**	**1.2**	**0.8**	-	-	-	-	-	-
Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation	34.2	33.1	32.5	3.3	5.3	-	-	-	-	-	-
Accommodation and Food Services	149.4	148.4	149.6	0.7	-0.2	325.47	303.00	21.8	21.1	14.93	14.36
Food Services and Drinking Places	135.4	134.5	135.1	0.7	0.3	318.85	298.08	21.5	20.6	14.83	14.47
Other Services	**79.3**	**78.2**	**77.8**	**1.4**	**1.9**	-	-	-	-	-	-
Repair and Maintenance	14.9	14.7	14.4	1.7	3.7	-	-	-	-	-	-
Religious, Grantmaking, Civic, Professional Organizations	42.2	41.7	41.5	1.2	1.7	-	-	-	-	-	-
Government	**251.1**	**253.6**	**252.6**	**-1.0**	**-0.6**						
Federal Government	21.2	21.2	21.3	0.0	-0.7						
State Government	67.6	68.7	67.5	-1.5	0.2						
State Government Education	39.9	40.9	40.6	-2.6	-1.9						
Local Government	162.3	163.7	163.8	-0.9	-0.9						
Local Government Education	92.3	92.9	93.6	-0.7	-1.4						

Note: Not all industry subgroups are shown for every major industry category.

* Totals may not add because of rounding.

** Percent change based on unrounded numbers.

Source: Department of Employment and Economic Development, Current Employment Statistics, 2019.

Employer Survey

Industry	Duluth-Superior MSA Jobs Mar 2019	Jobs Feb 2019	Jobs Mar 2018	% Chg. From Feb 2019	% Chg. From Mar 2018	Rochester MSA Jobs Mar 2019	Jobs Feb 2019	Jobs Mar 2018	% Chg. From Feb 2019	% Chg. From Mar 2018
TOTAL NONFARM WAGE AND SALARY	**135,089**	**134,979**	**135,703**	**0.1%**	**-0.5%**	**122,065**	**121,238**	**120,514**	**0.7%**	**1.3%**
GOODS-PRODUCING	**16,423**	**16,327**	**16,224**	**0.6**	**1.2**	**15,107**	**15,045**	**14,416**	**0.4**	**4.8**
Mining, Logging, and Construction	8,675	8,601	8,447	0.9	2.7	4,270	4,197	4,051	1.7	5.4
Manufacturing	7,748	7,726	7,777	0.3	-0.4	10,837	10,848	10,365	-0.1	4.6
SERVICE-PROVIDING	**118,666**	**118,652**	**119,479**	**0.0**	**-0.7**	**106,958**	**106,193**	**106,098**	**0.7**	**0.8**
Trade, Transportation, and Utilities	24,084	23,921	24,317	0.7	-1.0	17,562	17,621	17,673	-0.3	-0.6
Wholesale Trade	3,184	3,173	3,252	0.3	-2.1	2,780	2,770	2,807	0.4	-1.0
Retail Trade	14,737	14,531	14,862	1.4	-0.8	12,164	12,245	12,093	-0.7	0.6
Transportation, Warehouse, Utilities	6,163	6,217	6,203	-0.9	-0.6	2,618	2,606	2,773	0.5	-5.6
Information	1,246	1,244	1,338	0.2	-6.9	1,603	1,597	1,748	0.4	-8.3
Financial Activities	5,449	5,471	5,639	-0.4	-3.4	2,723	2,733	2,791	-0.4	-2.4
Professional and Business Services	7,898	7,907	7,524	-0.1	5.0	6,069	6,022	5,980	0.8	1.5
Educational and Health Services	32,465	32,605	32,669	-0.4	-0.6	51,064	50,624	50,428	0.9	1.3
Leisure and Hospitality	13,629	13,687	13,890	-0.4	-1.9	11,017	10,881	10,742	1.2	2.6
Other Services	6,652	6,561	6,688	1.4	-0.5	3,785	3,767	3,719	0.5	1.8
Government	27,243	27,256	27,414	0.0	-0.6	13,135	12,948	13,017	1.4	0.9

Employer Survey

Industry	St. Cloud MSA Jobs Mar 2019	Jobs Feb 2019	Jobs Mar 2018	% Chg. From Feb 2019	% Chg. From Mar 2018	Mankato MSA Jobs Mar 2019	Jobs Feb 2019	Jobs Mar 2018	% Chg. From Feb 2019	% Chg. From Mar 2018
TOTAL NONFARM WAGE AND SALARY	**109,593**	**109,443**	**107,884**	**0.1%**	**1.6%**	**57,971**	**57,801**	**57,833**	**0.3%**	**0.2%**
GOODS-PRODUCING	**21,881**	**21,521**	**20,540**	**1.7**	**6.5**	**10,006**	**9,895**	**9,840**	**1.1**	**1.7**
Mining, Logging, and Construction	6,518	6,279	5,488	3.8	18.8	--	--	--	--	--
Manufacturing	15,363	15,242	15,052	0.8	2.1	--	--	--	--	--
						--	--	--	--	--
SERVICE-PROVIDING	**87,712**	**87,922**	**87,344**	**-0.2**	**0.4**	**47,965**	**47,906**	**47,993**	**0.1**	**-0.1**
Trade, Transportation, and Utilities	22,142	22,170	22,516	-0.1	-1.7	--	--	--	--	--
Wholesale Trade	5,069	5,030	5,032	0.8	0.7	--	--	--	--	--
Retail Trade	12,911	13,016	13,389	-0.8	-3.6	--	--	--	--	--
Transportation, Warehouse, Utilities	4,162	4,124	4,095	0.9	1.6	--	--	--	--	--
Information	1,283	1,284	1,393	-0.1	-7.9	--	--	--	--	--
Financial Activities	5,254	5,261	5,084	-0.1	3.3	--	--	--	--	--
Professional and Business Services	8,514	8,527	8,646	-0.2	-1.5	--	--	--	--	--
Educational and Health Services	22,910	22,996	22,140	-0.4	3.5	--	--	--	--	--
Leisure and Hospitality	8,031	8,083	8,220	-0.6	-2.3	--	--	--	--	--
Other Services	3,833	3,830	3,779	0.1	1.4	--	--	--	--	--
Government	15,745	15,771	15,566	-0.2	1.1	10,101	10,067	9,920	0.3	1.8

Employer Survey

Industry	Fargo-Moorhead MSA Jobs Mar 2019	Jobs Feb 2019	Jobs Mar 2018	% Chg. From Feb 2019	% Chg. From Mar 2018	Grand Forks-East Grand Forks MSA Jobs Mar 2019	Jobs Feb 2019	Jobs Mar 2018	% Chg. From Feb 2019	% Chg. From Mar 2018
TOTAL NONFARM WAGE AND SALARY	**140,021**	**140,165**	**140,519**	**-0.1%**	**-0.4%**	**55,314**	**55,201**	**56,055**	**0.2%**	**-1.3%**
GOODS-PRODUCING	**17,488**	**17,566**	**17,239**	**-0.4**	**1.4**	**6,861**	**6,861**	**6,727**	**0.0**	**2.0**
Mining, Logging, and Construction	7,250	7,336	7,262	-1.2	-0.2	2,416	2,398	2,418	0.8	-0.1
Manufacturing	10,238	10,230	9,977	0.1	2.6	4,445	4,463	4,309	-0.4	3.2
SERVICE-PROVIDING	**122,533**	**122,599**	**123,280**	**-0.1**	**-0.6**	**48,453**	**48,340**	**49,328**	**0.2**	**-1.8**
Trade, Transportation, and Utilities	29,485	29,723	30,227	-0.8	-2.5	10,855	10,880	11,259	-0.2	-3.6
Wholesale Trade	8,850	8,812	8,845	0.4	0.1	1,854	1,849	1,805	0.3	2.7
Retail Trade	14,756	15,057	15,697	-2.0	-6.0	6,802	6,812	7,292	-0.2	-6.7
Transportation, Warehouse, Utilities	5,879	5,854	5,685	0.4	3.4	2,199	2,219	2,162	-0.9	1.7
Information	3,064	3,049	3,032	0.5	1.1	545	554	556	-1.6	-2.0
Financial Activities	11,052	10,987	11,005	0.6	0.4	2,038	2,032	1,926	0.3	5.8
Professional and Business Services	15,434	15,145	15,593	1.9	-1.0	3,446	3,390	3,227	1.7	6.8
Educational and Health Services	25,297	25,352	24,618	-0.2	2.8	9,740	9,772	9,714	-0.3	0.3
Leisure and Hospitality	13,361	13,247	14,024	0.9	-4.7	6,012	5,852	6,275	2.7	-4.2
Other Services	5,023	4,989	4,984	0.7	0.8	1,932	1,923	1,978	0.5	-2.3
Government	19,817	20,107	19,797	-1.4	0.1	13,885	13,937	14,393	-0.4	-3.5

Source: Department of Employment and Economic Development, Current Employment Statistics, and North Dakota Job Service, 2019.

Minnesota Economic Indicators

Highlights

The **Minnesota Index** dipped for the fourth time over the last five months in March, slipping to 137.6. While wage and salary employment inched up, average weekly manufacturing hours declined, and the unemployment rate rose for the third straight month. The U.S. index increased 0.2 percent for the fourth month in a row, reaching 125.8.

March's reading was up over the year 1.7 percent for Minnesota and 2.9 percent for the U.S. The 1.7 gain was the smallest for the state since November 2016. The Minnesota Index, after averaging a 3.9 percent over-the-year increase in 2018, averaged only a 2.2 percent increase during the first three months. The pace of economic growth in Minnesota has slowed noticeable over the last six months. Seven other states recorded declining economic activity in March with Kansas stumbling the most followed by Hawaii, Maryland, and then Minnesota.

Minnesota adjusted **Wage and Salary Employment** recorded a weak rebound in March, inching up 1,300 jobs after cutting 7,800 in February. All the jobs added were in the private sector as public sector payroll numbers were down 100. Construction employment, after dropping by 3,500 the previous month, added 2,900 jobs in March. Manufacturing lost jobs for the third month in a row. Six sectors boosted employment while seven sectors reduced their workforce.

Unadjusted over-the-year job growth ticked up to 0.3 percent. That gain is down from the 0.7 percent average in 2018 and below the 1.7 percent rate for the U.S. in March. Labor demand, as evidenced by the level of job openings, remains robust, and layoff rates, as supported by low initial unemployment claims, continue at record-low levels.

Online Help-Wanted Ads tailed off in March to 141,900 but remain high by historic standards. Online postings fell 1.5 percent in Minnesota and 2.1 percent across the U.S. in March. Minnesota's share of online postings rose to 2.7 percent. Robust job listings in other states have drawn more people into the labor force, allowing solid hiring activity. Minnesota's pool of workers on the sideline has already been used up over the last few years which is limiting the hiring pace in Minnesota.

Minnesota's U-6 unemployment rate averaged 5.4 percent in 2018. The U-6 unemployment rate is the broadest measure of labor market slack as it includes marginally attached, discouraged, and involuntary part-time workers. Only Iowa and North Dakota had a lower U-6 rate in 2018. New Hampshire, Nebraska, South Dakota, and Vermont also had U-6 rates below 6.0 percent. The combined over-the-year job growth rates for these seven states in March was 0.6 percent compared to the 1.7 nationally. Job growth in Minnesota and the other states listed here have slowed as a result of very tight labor markets.

Minnesota's **Purchasing Managers' Index (PMI)** stumbled for the third month in a row to 53.0, the lowest reading in over two years. Minnesota's PMI continues to report in two comparable indices. The Mid-America Business Index climbed for the fourth consecutive month to 58.2 while the national PMI advanced to 55.3.

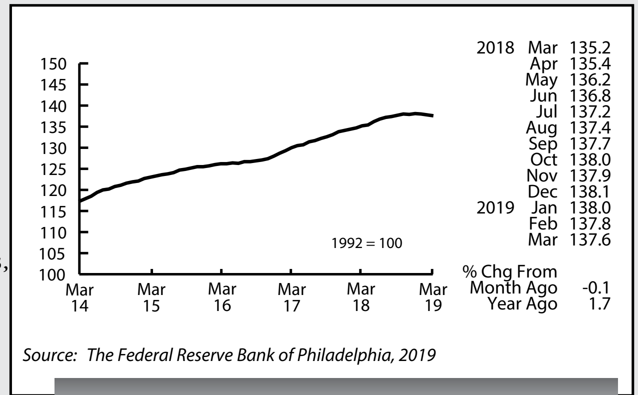
Adjusted average weekly **Manufacturing Hours** dropped noticeably in March to 40.3 hours, a 17-month low. The decline is consistent with other signals of slowing manufacturing activity in the state. Average weekly **Manufacturing Earnings**, adjusted for inflation and seasonality, inched up for the second straight month to $908.34 in March. Real manufacturing paychecks averaged 2.4 percent higher than the year before since the start of 2017.

The **Minnesota Leading Index** for March will be published during the first week in May (www.philadelphiafed.org/research-and-data/regional-economy/indexes/leading/) but February's recently published leading index predicts that Minnesota's economy will continue to face headwinds. February's reading of -0.5 is the lowest since April 2009. Minnesota has the unpleasant distinction of being one of six states with negative leading indices in February. The U.S. index was 1.1 in February, its lowest reading

Adjusted **Residential Building Permits** remain one of the few positive indicators for Minnesota's economy as permit numbers inched down slightly in March to 2,424 but remained well above the 39-year average of 2,100. Home-building permits through the first three months of 2019 are 10.2 percent higher than 2018 and the second highest level first quarter total since 2006.

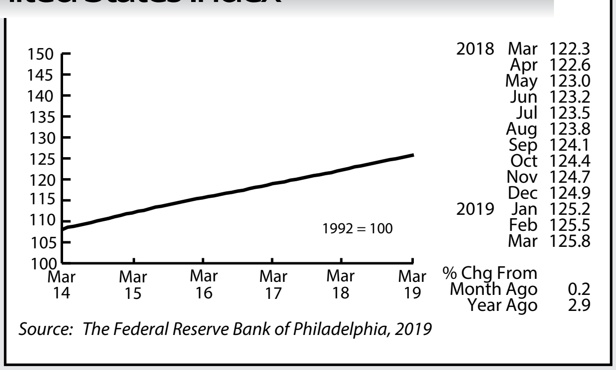
Adjusted **Initial Claims for Unemployment Benefits (UB)** fell for the second straight month to 15,961 in March. Employers continue to keep layoffs to a minimum in light of hiring difficulties and solid business conditions.

by Dave Senf



Minnesota Index

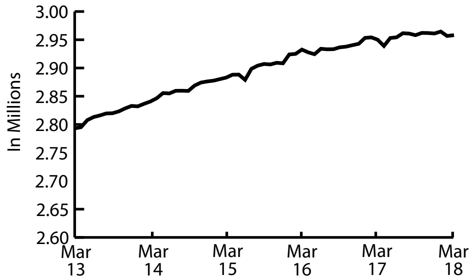
United States Index



Note: *All data except for Minnesota's PMI have been seasonally adjusted. See the feature article in the Minnesota Employment Review, May 2010, for more information on the Minnesota Index.*

Minnesota Economic Indicators

Wage and Salary Employment



seasonally adjusted

2018	Oct	2.9621
	Nov	2.9619
	Dec	2.9611
2019	Jan	2.9645
	Feb	2.9567
	Mar	2.9580

% Chg From Month Ago 0.0

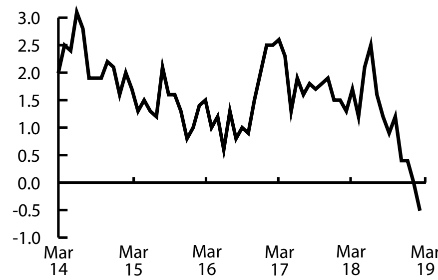
unadjusted

2018	Mar	2.9008
2019	Mar	2.9084

% Chg From Year Ago 0.3

Source: *Department of Employment and Economic Development, Current Employment Statistics Program, 2019*

Minnesota Leading Index

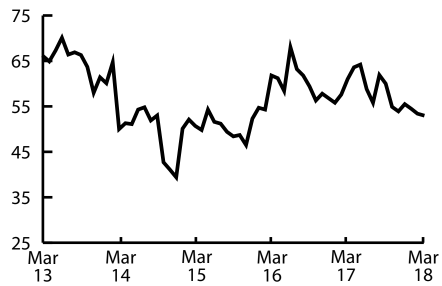


2018	Mar	1.7
	Apr	1.2
	May	2.1
	Jun	2.5
	Jul	1.6
	Aug	1.2
	Sep	0.9
	Oct	1.2
	Nov	0.4
	Dec	0.4
2019	Jan	0.0
	Feb	-0.5
	Mar	NA

% Chg From Month Ago NA
Year Ago NA

Source: *The Federal Reserve Bank of Philadelphia, 2019*

Purchasing Managers' Index

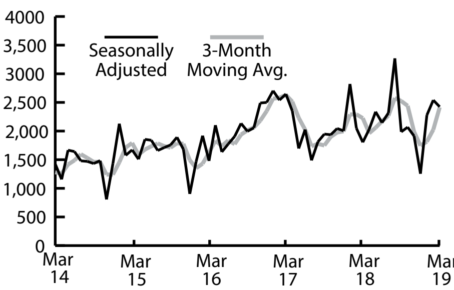


2018	Mar	61.0
	Apr	63.6
	May	64.2
	Jun	58.8
	Jul	55.8
	Aug	61.9
	Sep	60.0
	Oct	54.9
	Nov	53.9
	Dec	55.5
2019	Jan	54.5
	Feb	53.4
	Mar	53.0

% Chg From Month Ago -0.7
Year Ago -13.1

Source: *Creighton University, Mid-America Survey of Business Conditions, 2019*

Residential Building Permits



seasonally adjusted

2018	Oct	2,068
	Nov	1,913
	Dec	1,255
2019	Jan	2,278
	Feb	2,540
	Mar	2,424

% Chg From Month Ago -4.6

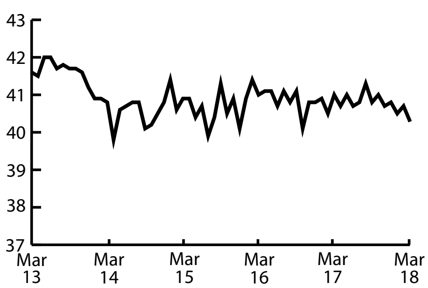
unadjusted

2018	Mar	1,650
2019	Mar	2,136

% Chg From Year Ago 29.5

Source: *Residential Building Permits, Census Bureau, U.S. Department of Commerce, 2019*

Average Weekly Manufacturing Hours



seasonally adjusted

2018	Oct	41.0
	Nov	40.7
	Dec	40.8
2019	Jan	40.5
	Feb	40.7
	Mar	40.3

% Chg From Month Ago -0.9

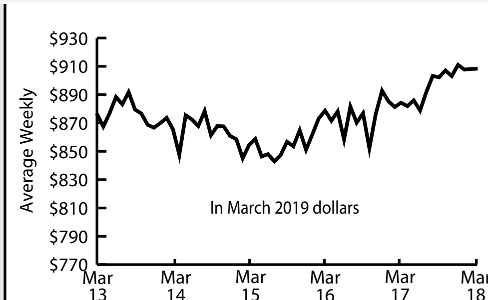
unadjusted

2018	Mar	40.9
2019	Mar	40.4

% Chg From Year Ago -1.2

Source: *Department of Employment and Economic Development, Current Employment Statistics Program, 2019*

Manufacturing Earnings



seasonally adjusted

2018	Oct	907.10
	Nov	903.15
	Dec	911.02
2019	Jan	907.69
	Feb	908.11
	Mar	908.34

% Chg From Month Ago 0.0

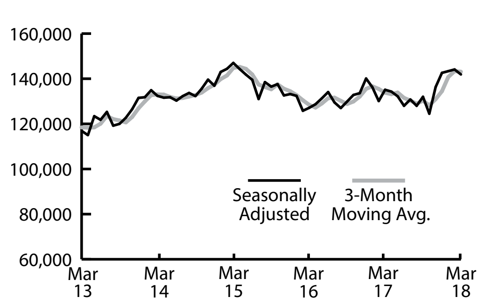
unadjusted

2018	Mar	884.43
2019	Mar	913.04

% Chg From Year Ago 3.2

Source: *Department of Employment and Economic Development, Current Employment Statistics Program, 2019*

Online Help-Wanted Advertising

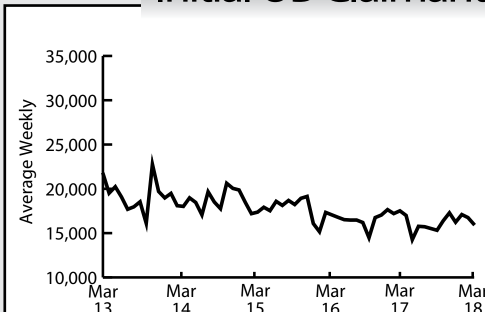


2018	Mar	135,100
	Apr	134,300
	May	132,200
	Jun	128,000
	Jul	130,800
	Aug	128,000
	Sep	132,000
	Oct	124,500
	Nov	136,300
	Dec	142,600
2019	Jan	143,350
	Feb	144,100
	Mar	141,900

% Chg From Month Ago -1.5
Year Ago 5.0

Source: *The Conference Board Inc., 2019*

Initial UB Claimants



seasonally adjusted

2018	Oct	16,394
	Nov	17,287
	Dec	16,232
2019	Jan	17,096
	Feb	16,753
	Mar	15,961

% Chg From Month Ago -4.7

unadjusted

2018	Mar	14,833
2019	Mar	14,153

% Chg From Year Ago -4.6

Source: *Department of Employment and Economic Development, Unemployment Insurance Program, 2019*

Minnesota Employment **Review**

DEED
Labor Market Information Office
1st National Bank Building
332 Minnesota Street, Suite E200
St. Paul, MN 55101-1351
651.259.7400 (voice)
1.888.234.1114 (toll free)
651.296.3900 (TTY)
1.800.657.3973 (TTY toll free)
e-mail :
DEED.lmi@state.mn.us
Internet :
mn.gov/deed/lmi

Labor Market Information Help Line:
651.259.7384

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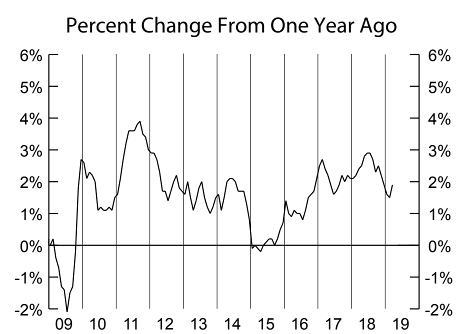
U.S. Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U)

The Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U) increased 0.4 percent in March on a seasonally adjusted basis after rising 0.2 percent in February the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics reported today. The energy index increased 3.5 percent, accounting for about 60 percent of the seasonally adjusted all items monthly increase.



The all items index increased 1.9 percent for the 12 months ending March, a larger increase than the 1.5-percent rise for the period ending February. The index for all items less food and energy rose 2.0 percent over the last 12 months.

www.bls.gov/cpi/

For more information on the U.S. CPI or the semi-annual Minneapolis-St. Paul CPI, call: 651.259.7384 or toll free 1.888.234.1114.

The employment and unemployment data in this publication were produced in cooperation with the Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor.

What's Going On?

CareerForce: Building Tomorrow's Workforce

CareerForce guides people toward rewarding careers, connects individuals to employment opportunities, and provides valuable economic and employment development information to employers.

Director of CareerForce Lorrie Janatopoulos will modernize and manage the physical and digital CareerForce resources that are focused on providing services to career seekers in Minnesota.

Nearly 50 CareerForce locations support employers and individuals to meet career or talent acquisition goals. Find your nearest CareerForce location at www.careerforcemn.com/locations.

CareerForce
It's your state of success

EMPLOYMENT AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Benchmarking Overview

In February the Current Employment Statistics (CES) program published newly-benchmarked estimates for 2018. The annual benchmarking process allows us to look back on the previous year's estimates and to discuss what has changed since they were originally published.

Benchmarking is the process by which the Bureau of Labor Statistics sets the baseline CES estimates for the previous year, bringing those numbers into line with Unemployment Insurance (UI) data, which are the product of a census of employers. CES values are reset to match UI findings through the third quarter (the newest available data), with the final three months of the year re-estimated from that baseline, and the following year's estimates built from the new foundation.[1] Because the national estimation process draws from survey data in every state, and total employment is built from a summary of component series, national estimates are fairly robust, with changes to total nonfarm employment at the national level generally fairly small. Individual supersectors show more change.

Table 1 illustrates the changes made in each major industry group for March of 2018, which is the only month that national data are tied directly to UI data.

Table 1: National CES Estimate Revisions for March 2018 Benchmark

CES Industry Code	CES Industry Title	As Revised	As Previously Published	Differences	
				Amount	Percent
00-000000	Total Nonfarm	148,279	148,280	-1	<0.05
05-000000	Total Private	125,870	125,956	-86	-0.1
06-000000	Goods-producing	20,527	20,516	11	0.1
07-000000	Service-providing	127,752	127,764	-12	<0.05
08-000000	Private Service-providing	105,343	105,440	-97	-0.1
10-000000	Mining and Logging	714	722	-8	-1.1
20-000000	Construction	7,201	7,164	37	0.5
30-000000	Manufacturing	12,612	12,630	-18	-0.1
31-000000	Durable Goods	7,886	7,883	3	<0.05
32-000000	Nondurable Goods	4,726	4,747	-21	-0.4
40-000000	Trade, Transportation, and Utilities	27,591	27,736	-145	-0.5
41-420000	Wholesale Trade	5,834.80	5,962	-127.2	-2.2
42-000000	Retail Trade	15,834.30	15,930.40	-96.1	-0.6
43-000000	Transportation and Warehousing	5,365.60	5,289	76.6	1.4
44-220000	Utilities	555.8	554.1	1.7	0.3
50-000000	Information	2,824	2,765	59	2.1
55-000000	Financial Activities	8,537	8,548	-11	-0.1
60-000000	Professional and Business Services	20,816	20,817	-1	<0.05
65-000000	Educational and Health Services	23,518	23,491	27	0.1
70-000000	Leisure and Hospitality	16,244	16,248	-4	<0.05
80-000000	Other Services	5,813	5,835	-22	-0.4
90-000000	Government	22,409	22,324	85	0.4

Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, Current Employment Statistics program
www.bls.gov/web/empsit/cesbmart.htm#Table2

[1] *United States Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, Technical Notes for the Current Employment Survey. www.bls.gov/web/empsit/cestn.htm#section7b*

State and area estimates are benchmarked for each available month individually, since the possibility for error is higher there.

The revisions to total nonfarm estimates at the state level are somewhat more dramatic. The average 2018 estimate dropped by roughly 10,000 jobs, going from 2,964,000 to 2,954,400 (0.32 percent). When we look at the revisions on a monthly basis, we can see that they tend to grow over time, as we get further from the prior years' benchmarked data. October of 2017's re-estimate was only off its benchmark level by 2,160 (0.07 percent), but by the time we reach the December 2018 re-estimate, the difference is 16,121 (0.54 percent).

Minnesota was one of 39 states, plus the District of Columbia, with downward revisions in the final benchmark month (December 2018), while 11 states had upward revisions.[2] Table 2 shows the original and revised estimates in Minnesota for each month since October 2017.

Series Reconstruction

As part of the 2018 benchmark activities, a large-scale Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages (QCEW) recoding event moved a significant amount of employment out of CES Series 41-425120, Wholesale Trade Agents and Brokers (NAICS 425120 in QCEW). Nationally, the change amounted to 336,000 jobs being moved out of the industry group, with many series being revised well beyond the normal benchmark timeframe, many of them all the way back to their original estimate.

Table 2: Monthly Total Nonfarm Employment Revisions for Minnesota, 2018 Benchmark

Year-Month	Revised Total Nonfarm Estimate	Originally Published Estimate	Difference	Percent Difference
17-Oct	2,964,272	2,966,432	-2,160	-0.07%
17-Nov	2,960,355	2,956,716	3,639	0.12%
17-Dec	2,946,667	2,941,511	5,156	0.17%
18-Jan	2,898,971	2,889,093	9,878	0.34%
18-Feb	2,904,971	2,896,993	7,978	0.27%
18-Mar	2,900,793	2,901,905	-1,112	-0.04%
18-Apr	2,924,727	2,922,115	2,612	0.09%
18-May	2,972,453	2,972,749	-296	-0.01%
18-Jun	2,996,934	3,018,542	-21,608	-0.72%
18-Jul	2,980,780	3,006,834	-26,054	-0.87%
18-Aug	2,980,579	3,002,119	-21,540	-0.72%
18-Sep	2,972,874	2,992,061	-19,187	-0.64%
18-Oct	2,986,820	3,003,363	-16,543	-0.55%
18-Nov	2,975,627	2,989,993	-14,366	-0.48%
18-Dec	2,956,831	2,972,952	-16,121	-0.54%

Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, Current Employment Statistics State and Area Estimates

[2] *Bureau of Labor Statistics' Current Employment Survey, 2018 State and Area Benchmark Article. www.bls.gov/sae/bmrk_article.htm*

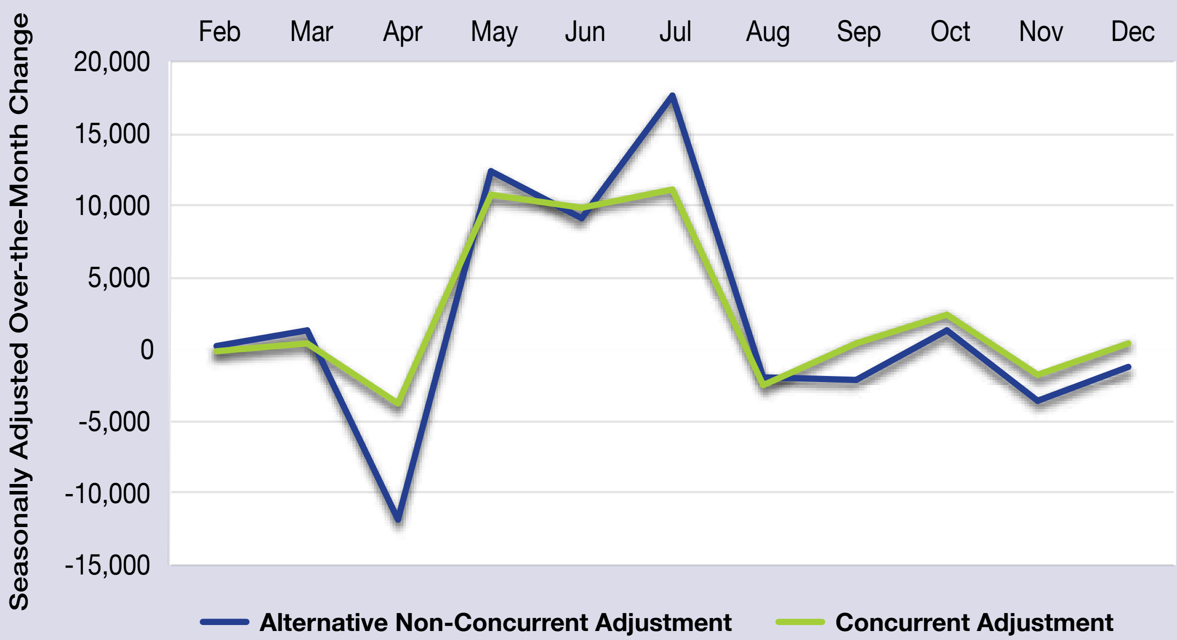
In Minnesota the closest published CES series affected was 41-425000, Wholesale Electronic Markets and Agents and Brokers. More than half of the jobs in that industry were moved elsewhere in the revision, and changes were made all the way back to the series' origin in 1990. 2017's average job count was revised from 21,207 to 8,511, a change of 60 percent. The 1990 series was revised from 26,850 to 13,573 (49 percent).

The spillover from this change, in combination with some other less dramatic revisions, led to changes across a wide array of industry groups. In all, five Minnesota supersectors were revised back to their origin in 1990 (Manufacturing, Trade, Transportation, and Utilities, Financial Activities, Professional and Business Services, and Educational and Health Services), and many other series were revised past the usual benchmarking window. The broadest-level summary series to be revised all the way back to 1990 were Goods-Producing and Service-Providing. Service providers lost a small amount of employment, which was moved to goods producers.

Concurrent Seasonal Adjustment

The completion of the 2018 benchmark also allows us the opportunity to look back at our first year of concurrent seasonal adjustment. Starting in January of 2018, the CES program began producing state seasonally adjusted estimates on a concurrent basis, recalculating each month to include all available data. This was a change from the previous method, which involved finding seasonal factors for the entire year at the outset, using only the available data from the previous year.

Figure 1. Over-the-Month Employment Change, Concurrent vs. Non-Concurrent



Source: Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, Current Employment Statistics, and Minnesota Department of Employment and Economic Development.

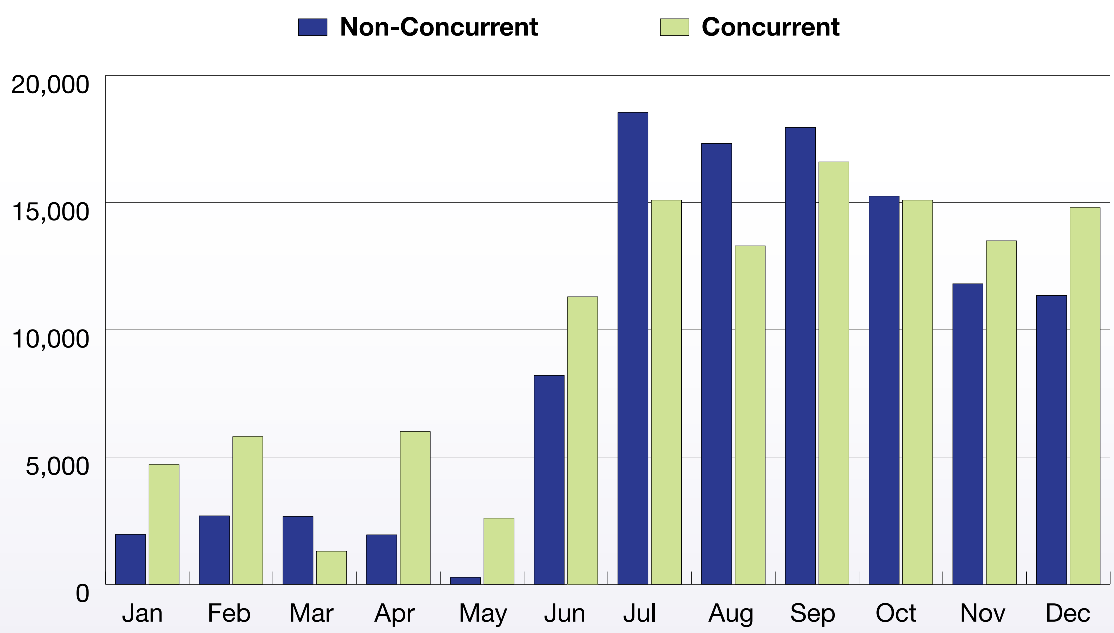
The move aims to improve both accuracy and smoothness of adjusted data, and extensive research demonstrated that it does precisely that[3]. There is room for some noise at the state level, however, and the situation bears watching.

In the first year of implementation, concurrent adjustment appeared to improve smoothness of estimates, at least at the total nonfarm level, as is illustrated in Figure 1.

As Figure 2 shows, however. overall accuracy is a mixed-bag on a month-by-month basis. This is largely to be expected, as the total difference in accuracy between the two adjustment methods has been shown to be quite small. In over 90 percent of tested series, overall gain or loss from concurrent adjustment was less than 0.1 percent[3].

by Nick Dobbins

Figure 2. Absolute Variation from Benchmarked Seasonally Adjusted Estimate, 2018



[3]Mance, S. Concurrent Seasonal Adjustment of State and Metro Payroll Employment Series October 2015. Available at: www.bls.gov/osmr/pdf/st150110.pdf

Minnesota Industry Snapshot

NAICS 713

Amusement, Gambling, and Recreation

This might be the most entertaining industry providing services ranging from amusement parks, casinos, golf courses, skiing, and marinas to bowling lanes. The industry is split among amusement and arcade parks (5.5 percent of employment), gambling establishments (16.3 percent of employment), and other amusement and recreation (78.2 percent of employment.

Four of every five jobs in this industry are in the private sector with most of the other employment in Native American casinos (classified as local government.) Amusement, Gambling, and Recreation employment accounts for 1.27 percent of Minnesota employment which is slightly less than the 1.35 percent nationwide. Employment in this industry is somewhat seasonal in Minnesota with employment during the summer months roughly 25 percent higher than during winter months.

In 2017, there were 1,868 establishments in the industry with 36,359 employees. Top-employing occupations within this industry typically require less education and have lower median wages. Many of the jobs are seasonal and provide entry level jobs for young adults (see Table 1). The industry's workforce is much younger than the overall workforce with 30 percent of employees younger than 24 years old compared to 14 percent for the overall workforce.

Table 1. Amusement, Gambling, and Recreation

Occupation	Employment 2016	Industry's Share of State Occupation Total	Median Wage	2016-2026 Employment Change	
				Numeric	Percent
Waiters and Waitresses	50,539	6.5%	$10.06	1,269	2.5
Amusement and Recreation Attendants	7,177	44.4%	$10.63	423	5.9
Fitness Trainers and Aerobics Instructors	5,994	45.6%	$18.37	332	5.5
Landscaping and Groundskeeping Workers	19,145	11.8%	$15.46	1,695	8.9
Bartenders	17,637	9.1%	$10.01	-152	-0.9
Janitors and Cleaners, Except Maids and Housekeeping	48,827	3.1%	$13.86	3,986	8.2
Cooks, Restaurant	25,614	5.3%	$13.03	1,832	7.2
Gaming Dealers	2,705	47.0%	$9.88	112	4.1
Cashiers	64,167	1.6%	$10.78	-260	-0.4
General and Operations Managers	43,543	2.0%	$43.59	3,220	7.4

Source: Deed Occupational Employment Statistics (OES) and DEED Employment Outlook

The percent of regional employment in this industry is higher than statewide in the Northwest, Northeast, and Southeast regions suggesting that some of the industry's employment in those regions is supported by tourism. Employment growth in the industry has lagged behind overall growth since 2010 but most of the slower growth is caused by casino-related employment being reclassified into the accommodations industry in Central Minnesota. Job growth in the industry is projected to be twice as fast as overall job growth over the next decade.

Table 2. Amusement, Gambling, and Recreation

	Number of Firms 2017	Number of Jobs 2017	Share of MN Amusement, Gambling, and Recreation	2010 - 2017 Job Change	Average Annual Wage
Minnesota	**1,868**	**36,359**		**785 (2.2%)**	**$20,540**
Metro Area	847	20,886	57.4%	3,747 (21.9%)	$20,436
Northwest Minnesota	255	4,119	11.3%	129 (-3.0%)	$21,372
Central Minnesota	248	2,871	7.9%	-2,804 (-49.4%)	$12,792
Northeast Minnesota	157	3,099	8.5%	-76 (-0.7%)	$23,660
Southeast Minnesota	158	3,592	9.9%	24 (-0.7%)	$24,908
Southwest Minnesota	156	1,674	4.6%	-35 (2.1%)	$16,068

Source: Deed Quarterly Census of Employment and Wage (QCEW)

EMPLOYMENT AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Minnesota Industry Snapshot

NAICS 112

Animal Production and Aquaculture

If you have driven the backroads of Minnesota you have probably seen the Animal Production, and Aquaculture industry in action. This industry is comprised of farms, ranches, and feedlots primarily engaged in keeping, gazing, breeding, or feeding animals. The aquaculture component of the industry are establishments primarily in farm-raising aquatic animals and plants and is a small part of the industry. Measuring employment in this industry is tricky since a large share of the workforce is self-employed. Minnesota's wage and salary employment in this industry is split mainly between dairy farms (40 percent) and hog farms (34 percent) with the rest of employment mainly at poultry farms involved in chicken and turkey raising activity.

Minnesota's Animal Production and Aquaculture wage and salary jobs account for 4.2 percent of nationwide jobs in the industry. Job growth in the industry was 23.1 percent in Minnesota and 16.9 percent nationally between 2010 and 2017. Wage and salary job growth is being driven by less self-employed operations and more large-scale operations that are ramping up hiring of wage and salary workers.

In 2017 there were 894 establishments in the industry with 11,121 employees. Workers in the industry are mainly either farmworkers or farm managers as these two occupations account for three out of every four workers (see Table 1). While the median age for farmers has been increasing for years now, the age structure of this industry's workforce doesn't differ all that much from the overall workforce. The industry's share of workers older than 55 years is actually a tad less, 21 to 23 percent, than the overall workforce.

Table 1. Animal Production and Aquaculture

Occupation	Employment 2016	Industry's Share of State Occupation Total	Median Wage	2016-2026 Employment Change	
				Numeric	Percent
Farmworkers, Farm, Ranch, and Aquacultural Animals	5,123	84.4%	$12.82	534	8.8
Farmers, Ranchers, and Other Agricultural Managers	2,806	5.5%	$37.48	-1,361	-2.7
Farmworkers and Laborers, Crop, Nursery, and Greenhouse	366	8.2%	$12.27	310	6.9
Agricultural Equipment Operators	347	27.4%	$16.40	162	12.8
First-Line Supervisors of Farming, Fishing, and Forestry Workers	222	31.6%	$32.58	79	11.2
Heavy and Tractor-Trailer Truck Drivers	175	0.5%	$26.23	2,458	6.4
Bookkeeping, Accounting, and Auditing Clerks	151	0.4%	$20.34	-1,009	-2.8
Animal Trainers	127	23.2%	$13.18	64	11.7
Animal Breeders	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Agricultural and Food Science Technicians	87	7.8%	$20.48	82	7.3

Source: Deed Occupational Employment Statistics (OES) and DEED Employment Outlook

Southwest Minnesota has the most jobs in this industry followed by Central Minnesota. Employment levels are minimal in the Metro Area and in Northeast Minnesota. Employment growth in the industry between 2010 and 2017 was twice as fast as overall employment growth, but, as mentioned before, that may be partially the result of wage and salary employment replacing self-employment in the industry and partially a change in the state law that affected coverage. This trend is expected to continue over the next decade as wage and salary job growth in the industry is expected to increase 11.6 percent in contrast to the 5.9 percent projected for overall job.

Table 2. Animal Production and Aquaculture

	Number of Firms 2017	Number of Jobs 2017	Share of MN Animal Production and Aquaculture	2010 - 2017 Job Change	Average Annual Wage
Minnesota	**894**	**11,121**		**2,085 (23.1%)**	**$39,998**
Metro Area	42	235	2.1%	79 (50.6%)	$34,182
Northwest Minnesota	145	2,045	18.4%	544 (36.2%)	$42,696
Central Minnesota	172	2,616	23.6%	213 (8.9%)	$36,184
Northeast Minnesota	4	32	0.3%	1 (3.2%)	$17,220
Southeast Minnesota	206	2,158	19.4%	428 (24.7%)	$32,968
Southwest Minnesota	315	4,010	36.1%	795 (24.7%)	$45,346

Source: Deed Quarterly Census of Employment and Wage (QCEW)

Minnesota Industry Snapshot

NAICS 315 Apparel Manufacturing

Apparel Manufacturing employment has been decreasing for years in Minnesota and nationwide. The industry, comprised of establishments primarily engaged in the manufacturing of clothing, had a national workforce of roughly 500,000 across the U.S. in 2000 with 1,800 jobs in Minnesota. Employment in the industry was down to 120,000 nationwide and 724 in Minnesota in 2017. Minnesota apparel manufacturers have actually staged a small rebound over the last few years with 40 jobs added since 2014. As a result the state's share of U.S. apparel manufacturing jobs has climbed from 0.4 percent in 2000 to 0.6 percent in 2017.

Almost a third of the employees in the industry work as sewing machine operators, but almost three times as many sewing machine operators are employed in the state's Textile Mill Products industry (NAICS 315). The apparel manufacturing industry employs 20.9 percent of Minnesota Fashion Designers and 26.1 percent of Textile Cutting Machine Setters, Operators, and Tenders (see Table 1). The industry's workforce is younger than the overall workforce as only 11.9 percent of workers are 55 years or above compared to 22.8 percent for all workers. Industry wages are relatively low as the median wage for sewing machine operators was $13.35 per hour in 2017 which is only 66 percent of the $20.07 median wage for all workers.

Table 1. Apparel Manufacturing

Occupation	Employment 2016	Industry's Share of State Occupation Total	Median Wage	2016-2026 Employment Change	
				Numeric	Percent
Sewing Machine Operators	2,641	8.6%	$13.35	-52	-2.0
Shipping, Receiving, and Traffic Clerks	13,936	0.4%	$17.07	-16	-0.1
General and Operations Managers	43,543	0.1%	$43.59	3,220	7.4
Textile Cutting Machine Setters, Operators, and Tenders	161	26.1%	$14.24	-24	-14.9
Graphic Designers	6,792	0.5%	$23.63	263	3.9
Office Clerks, General	57,496	0.1%	$17.03	-1,371	-2.4
Fashion Designers	172	20.9%	$24.55	-4	-2.3
Retail Salespersons	86,818	0.0%	$11.60	-852	-1.0
Sales Representatives, Wholesale and Manufacturing, Except Technical and Scientific Products	33,951	0.1%	$31.08	1,959	5.8
First-Line Supervisors of Production and Operating Workers	11,936	0.2%	$29.47	357	3.0

Source: Deed Occupational Employment Statistics (OES) and DEED Employment Outlook

Half of the apparel manufacturing jobs in Minnesota are in the Metro area with most of the remaining jobs in either Southwest or Southeast Minnesota (see Table 2). As mentioned before, wages in the industry are relatively low as wages averaged $33,148 in 2017 in contrast to the overall annual average of $56,167. The industry is expected to continue to cut jobs over the next 10 years with employment falling by a third in both Minnesota and nationwide by 2026. The downward trend in apparel manufacturing jobs has been fueled by increasing imports of apparel goods plus increased automation in the industry. Even if more clothes are manufactured in the U.S. in the future, job creation will most likely be moderate as increased productivity will limit job creation.

Table 2. Apparel Manufacturing

	Number of Firms 2017	Number of Jobs 2017	Share of MN Apparel Manufacturing	2010 - 2017 Job Change	Average Annual Wage
Minnesota	**80**	**724**		**-41 (-5.4)**	**$33,148**
Metro Area	52	373	51.5%	56 (17.7%)	38,620
Northwest Minnesota	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Central Minnesota	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Northeast Minnesota	5	39	5.4%	-17 (19.9%)	26,482
Southeast Minnesota	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Southwest Minnesota	3	155	21.4%	NA	23,002

Source: Deed Quarterly Census of Employment and Wage (QCEW)

Minnesota Industry Snapshot

NAICS 312

Beverage and Tobacco Product Manufacturing

This might be termed the sinner's industry as in addition to the production of nonalcoholic beverages it includes the manufacture of alcoholic – beer, wine, and distilled spirits – and tobacco products such as cigarettes and cigars. Minnesota has no employment in tobacco product manufacturing which nationally accounts for 5 percent the industry's employment. The industry accounts for 1.4 percent of employment in Minnesota versus 1.8 percent nationally.

Minnesota employment in breweries topped nonalcoholic production employment in 2015 and now accounted for 47 percent of the industries 4,088 workforce in 2017. Soft Drink and Ice Manufacturing was next in employment (37%) followed by distilleries (9%) and wineries (7%).

Employment in the industry is spread across roughly 100 occupations with the top 10 occupations (see Table 1) accounting for 60 percent of industry employment. The occupation most specific to this industry is Separating, Filtering, Clarifying, Precipitating and Still Machine Setters, Operators, and Tenders. Sales Representatives, which make up 4 percent of the workforce, have a median salary of $31.08 per hour which is considerably higher than the overall median of $20.07. The industry's workforce is younger than the overall workforce as only 12 percent of employees are 55 years or older in contrast to 22 percent for the overall workforce in Minnesota.

Table 1. Beverage and Tobacco Product Manufacturing

Occupation	Employment 2016	Industry's Share of State Occupation Total	Median Wage	2016-2026 Employment Change	
				Numeric	Percent
Packaging and Filling Machine Operators and Tenders	10,262	5.2%	$15.97	159	1.5
Merchandise Displayers and Window Trimmers	2,975	11.4%	$14.39	31	1.0
Laborers and Freight, Stock, and Material Movers, Hand	38,656	0.7%	$15.53	2,134	5.5
Separating, Filtering, Clarifying, Precipitating, and Still Machine Setters, Operators, and Tenders	749	31.4%	$18.80	66	8.8
Industrial Truck and Tractor Operators	10,251	1.8%	$19.25	766	7.5
Retail Salespersons	86,818	0.2%	$11.60	-852	-1.0
Sales Representatives, Wholesale and Manufacturing, Except Technical and Scientific Products	33,951	0.4%	$31.08	1,959	5.8
Industrial Machinery Mechanics	7,036	1.6%	$26.12	643	9.1
Coin, Vending, and Amusement Machine Servicers and Repairers	784	13.9%	$16.89	-69	-8.8
Light Truck or Delivery Services Drivers	16,503	0.6%	$17.58	916	5.6

Source: Deed Occupational Employment Statistics (OES) and DEED Employment Outlook

Employment in the industry has skyrocketed over the last few years climbing 85.2 percent between 2010 and 2017 which is more than seven times faster than overall employment growth (see Table 2). Industry growth in Minnesota has been twice as strong as nationwide with most of the increased powered by the explosion of breweries in the state. The industry's regional employment distribution is similar to population distribution but both the Central and Southwest regions have higher industry employment given population. The industry is expected to continue to expand its workforce faster than average as 600 jobs are projected over the next decade. That growth works out to 16.8 percent or almost three times the 5.9 percent rate projected for total employment growth.

Table 2. Beverage and Tobacco Product Manufacturing

	Number of Firms 2017	Number of Jobs 2017	Share of MN Beverage and Tobacco Product Manufacturing	2010 - 2017 Job Change	Average Annual Wage
Minnesota	163	4,088		1,881 (85.2%)	$41,814
Metro Area	80	2,448	59.3%	1,084 (79.5%)	$44,669
Northwest Minnesota	11	219	5.3%	101 (153.0%)	$23,877
Central Minnesota	19	668	16.2%	235 (54.3%)	$47,609
Northeast Minnesota	11	219	5.3%	NA	$29,792
Southeast Minnesota	13	185	4.5%	NA	$26,731
Southwest Minnesota	13	390	9.4%	143 (57.9%)	$34,180

Source: Deed Quarterly Census of Employment and Wage (QCEW)

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