EMPLOYMENT AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

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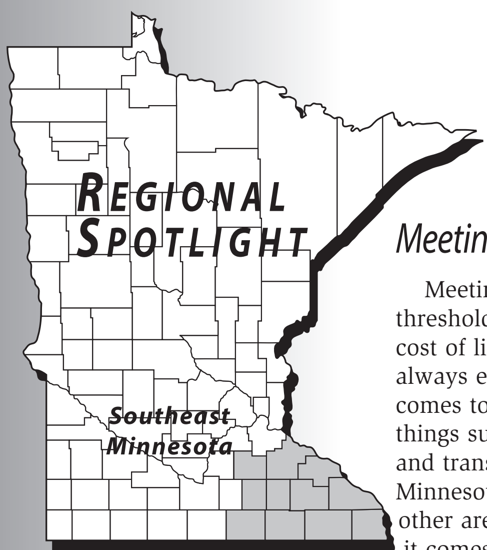


Occupations, Vacancies, and the Cost of Living in Southeast Minnesota

Meeting the Need

Meeting the monetary threshold to afford the basic cost of living needs is not always easy, especially when it comes to the high price tags on things such as housing, food, and transportation. Southeast Minnesota is no different than other areas in the state when it comes to those financial realities.

As seen in Table 1, a two-parent household with one child and one parent working full-time while the other works part-time needs to make an annual wage of $48,828 in order to meet these basic cost of living needs in Southeast Minnesota. There is, of course, variation when looking at this at the county level.

In theory the highest annual cost would be for those living in Olmsted County, the center of the Rochester Metropolitan Statistical Area. However, the highest cost of living is surprisingly found in Rice County. In fact, Olmsted County ranks fourth highest in the Southeast Region, behind Rice, Goodhue, and Dodge counties.

Rising Expenses

Within the region as a whole, housing is the most expensive cost of living need, followed by transportation and food. While the data in Table 1 show that child care is relatively modest in cost, this is because of the assumption that the parent that is working part-time cares for the child(ren) when not at work, thus decreasing the need for full-time child care. The cost of child care almost doubles in the region when both parents are working full-time.

Feature:

In this issue:

Table 1. Cost of Living by County, Southeast Minnesota

Area	Yearly Cost	Hourly Wage	Child Care	Food	Health Care	Housing	Transportation	Other	Taxes
Southeast Minnesota	$48,828	$15.65	$280	$760	$408	$817	$762	$493	$549
Rice	$52,762	$16.91	$280	$754	$408	$910	$883	$521	$641
Goodhue	$51,465	$16.50	$344	$757	$408	$783	$897	$482	$618
Dodge	$51,303	$16.44	$255	$752	$408	$909	$821	$520	$610
Olmsted	$50,078	$16.05	$335	$764	$408	$909	$657	$523	$577
Houston	$48,110	$15.42	$223	$761	$408	$829	$760	$497	$531
Fillmore	$47,746	$15.30	$215	$758	$408	$659	$966	$444	$529
Steele	$46,456	$14.89	$225	$761	$408	$773	$732	$480	$492
Wabasha	$46,449	$14.89	$265	$755	$408	$694	$801	$453	$495
Mower	$45,502	$14.58	$225	$761	$408	$736	$725	$469	$468
Winona	$45,237	$14.50	$238	$759	$408	$721	$719	$463	$462
Freeborn	$44,413	$14.23	$224	$761	$408	$659	$760	$445	$444

Source: DEED Cost of Living

Regional Spotlight SOUTHEAST MINNESOTA

However, even as child care costs increase, the average hourly wage each parent needs to earn drops from $15.65 per hour to $12.83 because of the additional earnings from another 20 hours of work per week. DEED's Cost of Living database calculates results for 24 different family compositions, ranging from a single person working part-time to a partnered household with four or more children having both partners working full-time. It is worth noting that wage needs vary depending on the composition and work status of the family members (see Table 2).

As seen in Table 3, the median hourly wage across all occupations is greater than needed to meet the basic cost of living needs for a typical family in the Southeast region. In fact, when we break it down by occupational group, only seven of the 22 categories — healthcare support, food preparation and serving related, building and grounds cleaning and maintenance, personal care and service, sales and related, farming, fishing and forestry, and transportation and material moving occupation — have median wages that do not meet the cost of living hourly wage needed. Additionally, there are some occupational groups whose median hourly wage greatly exceeds the $15.65 needed, including management ($42.07), computer and mathematical ($39.39), and architecture and engineering occupations ($33.34).

Table 2. Cost of Living With One Child, Southeast Minnesota

Family Composition	Annual Cost	Hourly Wage
Single	$43,404	$20.87
Partnered - 1 Full-Time Worker	$42,732	$20.54
Partnered - 1 Full-Time, One Part-Time Worker	$48,828	$15.65
Partnered - 2 Full-Time Workers	$53,388	$12.83

Source: DEED Cost of Living

Table 3. Occupational Employment Statistics, Southeast Minnesota

Occupational Title	Employment	10th Percentile Hourly Wage	Median Hourly Wage
Total, All Occupations	228,960	$9.28	$17.77
Management Occupations	11,080	$21.79	$42.07
Business and Financial Operations Occupations	7,700	$16.94	$27.23
Computer and Mathematical Occupations	6,210	$21.60	$39.39
Architecture and Engineering Occupations	3,200	$19.62	$33.34
Life, Physical, and Social Science Occupations	2,130	$18.94	$28.37
Community and Social Services Occupations	4,440	$12.13	$21.48
Legal Occupations	740	$17.04	$28.98
Education, Training, and Library Occupations	14,410	$11.29	$22.72
Arts, Design, Entertainment, Sports, and Media Occupations	2,810	$10.41	$19.68
Healthcare Practitioners and Technical Occupations	25,350	$17.14	$29.45
Healthcare Support Occupations	11,570	$9.98	$13.56
Protective Service Occupations	4,010	$11.16	$21.41
Food Preparation and Serving Related Occupations	12,370	$8.36	$9.29
Building and Grounds Cleaning and Maintenance Occupations	6,160	$8.84	$12.26
Personal Care and Service Occupations	7,920	$8.62	$10.83
Sales and Related Occupations	18,050	$8.54	$11.41
Office and Administrative Support Occupations	31,200	$9.90	$16.50
Farming, Fishing, and Forestry Occupations	450	$9.93	$14.20
Construction and Extraction Occupations	5,870	$13.30	$22.87
Installation, Maintenance, and Repair Occupations	7,660	$12.75	$20.62
Production Occupations	28,830	$10.82	$16.11
Transportation and Material Moving Occupations	16,790	$9.18	$15.54

Dark Highlight: 10th percentile wages that exceed that needed to meet basic cost of living needs
Light Highlight: Median wages that do not meet that neededed to meet basic cost of living needs

Source: DEED Occupational Employment Statistics (OES)

Unfortunately, the 10th percentile wages — usually considered entry-level — see far fewer of these occupational groups making the cut to meet the basic cost of living needs. In fact, the numbers reverse from those of the median wages and only seven of the 22 occupational categories have 10th percentile hourly wages above $15.65. These are in management, business and financial operations, computer and mathematical, architecture and engineering, life, physical and social science, legal, and healthcare practitioners and technical occupations.

Job Vacancies

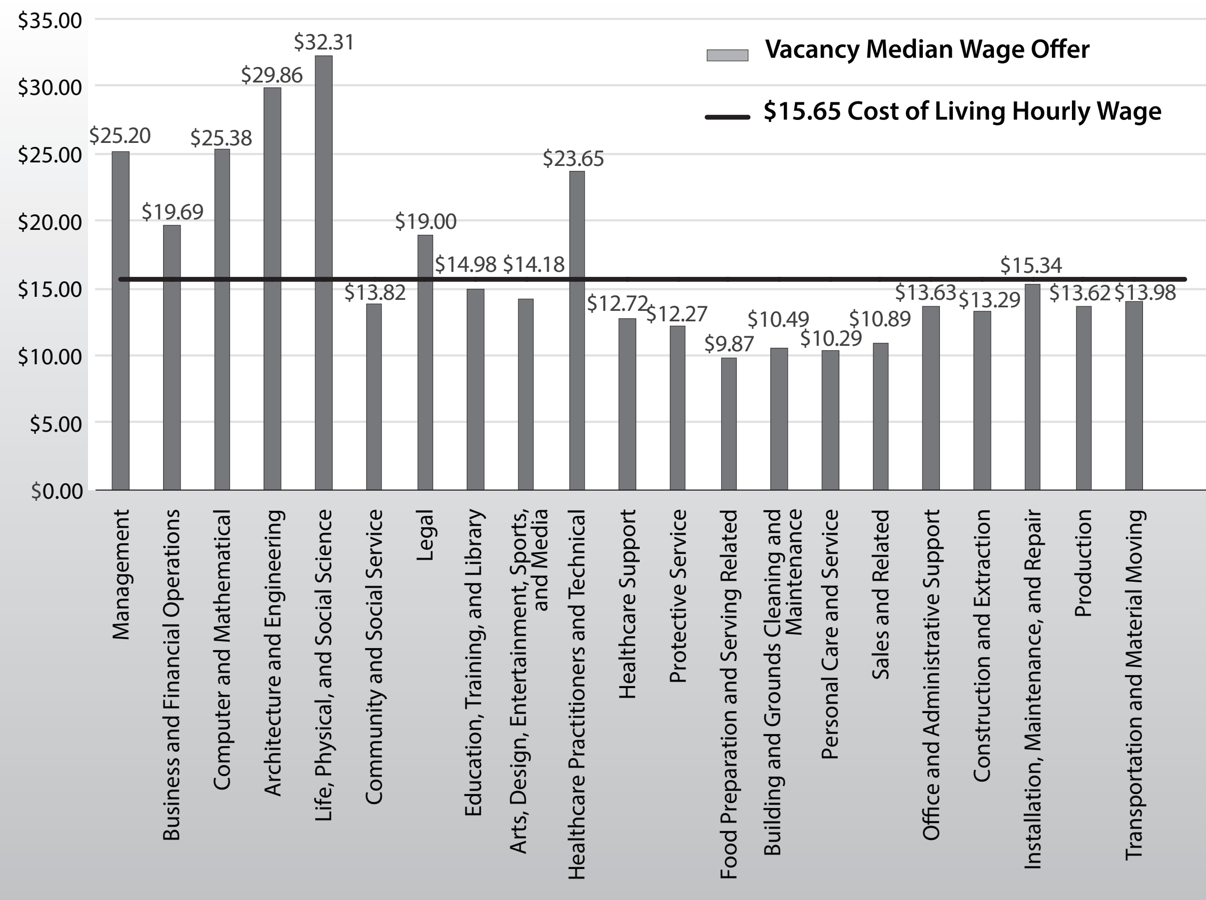
The good news is that there are over 8,000 current vacancies in the region. However, many of them have median wage offers that fall below what is needed to meet the basic cost of living needs for a typical family in the region. As seen in Figure 1, there are only seven occupational groups that have vacancies with median wage offers that meet the cost of living threshold, while the remaining 15 fall below, including the groups with the largest number of current job openings.

The recent vacancy data show other issues with the characteristics of the job postings. As seen in Table 4, many of the occupational groups with the most openings do not pay the hourly wage needed to meet the basic cost of living needs for a typical family. However, it is possible that those wages may meet the needs of other household compositions, such as a single person or a partnered couple without children.

Not only are the median wage offers across all vacancies below $15.65, the top six groups with the most vacancies share this characteristic, and it's not until healthcare practitioners and technical occupation, with 488 vacancies, that we see the first median wage offers that make the cut. To put it into context, that's almost one-third of the current vacancies (5,215) that don't fit the bill.

Some of these low-paying vacancies have high percentages that are part-time, temporary, or seasonal, leading to a double whammy of low hourly wage offers and part-time hours. These lead to lower earnings from fewer hours in general, jobs that only last for a certain period of time, or jobs that have seasonal layoffs. For example, of the 1,458 vacancies in food preparation and serving related occupations, which had the most openings in the region, 64 percent (933 vacancies) are part-time. As shown in the above figure, this set of occupations has a median wage offer of only $9.87 per hour. Likewise, about two-thirds of the openings

FIgure 1. Job Vacancy Median Wage Offers, Southeast Minnesota



Source: DEED Job Vacancy Survey (JVS)

Table 4. Job Vacancy Characteristics, Southeast Minnesota

Occupational Title	Vacancies	Percent Part-Time	Percent Temporary or Seasonal	Median Wage Offer
Total, All	8,174	42	14	$12.32
Food Preparation and Serving Related	1,458	64	11	$9.87
Sales and Related	931	57	3	$10.89
Personal Care and Service	914	72	18	$10.29
Education, Training, and Library	861	16	51	$14.98
Office and Administrative Support	537	36	1	$13.63
Healthcare Support	514	46	17	$12.72
Healthcare Practitioners and Technical	488	28	1	$23.65
Construction and Extraction	488	3	28	$13.29
Transportation and Material Moving	461	35	0	$13.98
Production	358	15	1	$13.62
Building and Grounds Cleaning and Maintenance	219	65	29	$10.49
Management	160	3	0	$25.20
Community and Social Service	135	52	3	$13.82
Installation, Maintenance, and Repair	119	19	11	$15.34
Architecture and Engineering	111	1	0	$29.86
Arts, Design, Entertainment, Sports, and Media	98	77	4	$14.18
Life, Physical, and Social Science	87	1	3	$32.31
Business and Financial Operations	60	7	0	$19.69
Legal	59	0	1	$19.00
Computer and Mathematical	57	5	0	$25.38
Protective Service	36	43	18	$12.27

Source: DEED Job Vacancy Survey (JVS)

for sales and related and personal care and service occupations were part-time, and wage offers were below $11.00 per hour.

Education, training, and library openings, which have a median wage offer that is slightly below what needs to be earned to meet the basic cost of living needs for a typical family, also see a high number of vacancies (861), but of those 51 percent (439 vacancies) are temporary or seasonal. Thus, earning potential is affected by a lack of full-time year-round employment.

While the cost of living in Southeast Minnesota is lower than some other regions, and there are indeed people employed in jobs that pay enough or more than enough to cover the basic cost of living needs for a typical family, there are other families that aren't earning enough to meet those needs. While cost of living needs vary depending on family composition and how many hours one or both parents work each week, Southeast Minnesota has its work cut out for itself to help fill the gap between what workers are being paid and what they need to be able to afford to live in the region.

by Mark Schultz
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Fun With Statistics

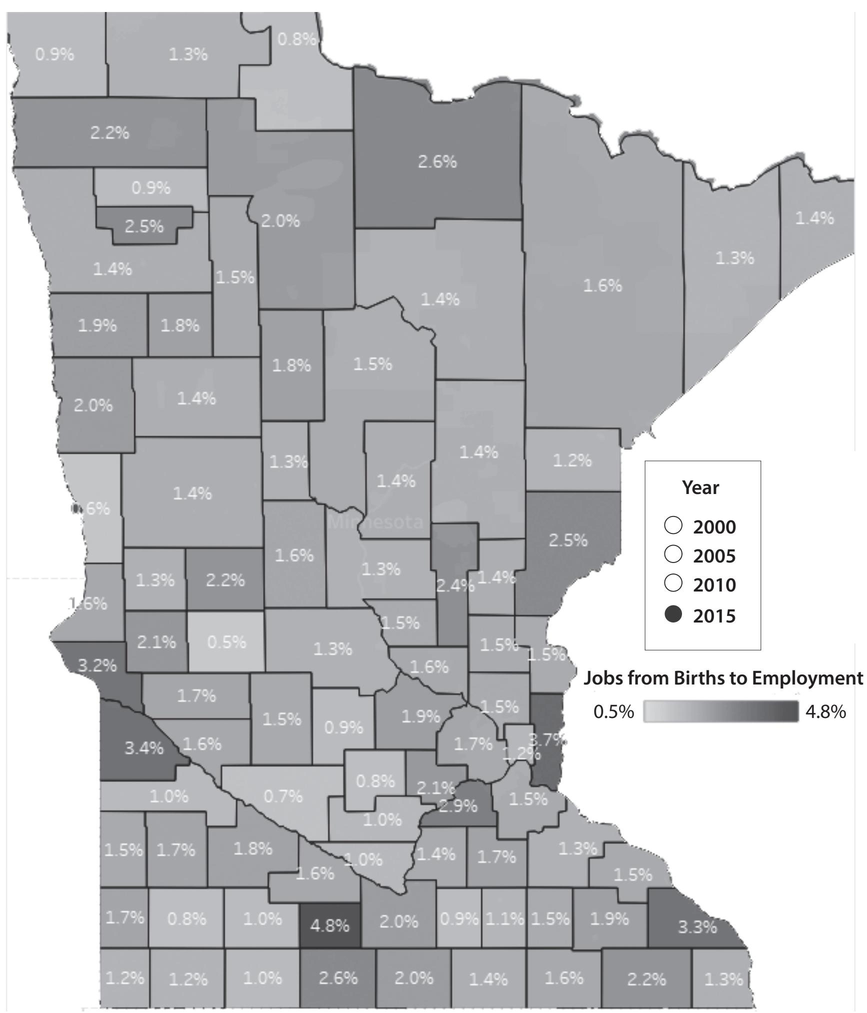
New Establishments Give Birth to Jobs

Some of the most exciting conversations in economic and community development circles focus on the potential of a new business coming to town which they refer to as births. These are business establishments that are likely opening for the first time, or at the very least employing workers for the first time in a year.

The graphic below illustrates the ratio of jobs created by births to all jobs in the county. For instance, counties with the largest economies will likely have the most jobs gained from new establishments. However, the ratio of jobs gained by births to total employment, uncovers which counties have a large share of jobs being created by new establishments, or establishment births, if you will.

It should be noted that just as jobs are created with the birth of an establishment, losses occur with the death of one also. It's possible that job gains from establishment births are entirely offset by losses from contractions, temporary closures, and establishment deaths.

Job Gains from New Establishments by County



by Luke Greiner

Labor Force Estimates

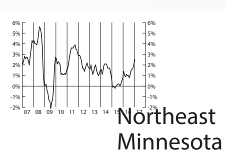
County/Area	Labor Force			Employment			Unemployment			Rate of Unemployment		
	Jan 2017	Dec 2016	Jan 2016	Jan 2017	Dec 2016	Jan 2016	Jan 2017	Dec 2016	Jan 2016	Jan 2017	Dec 2016	Jan 2016
United States ('000s)												
(Seasonally adjusted)	159,716	159,640	158,335	152,081	152,111	150,544	7,635	7,529	7,791	4.8%	4.7%	4.9%
(Unadjusted)	158,676	158,968	157,347	150,527	151,798	149,037	8,149	7,170	8,309	5.1	4.5	5.3
Minnesota												
(Seasonally adjusted)	3,006,195	3,003,239	2,990,354	2,885,168	2,881,845	2,874,083	121,027	121,394	116,271	4.0	4.0	3.9
(Unadjusted)	2,990,254	2,994,599	2,975,603	2,841,877	2,872,658	2,839,403	148,377	121,941	136,200	5.0	4.1	4.6
Metropolitan Statistical Areas (MSA)*												
Mpls.-St. Paul MSA	1,926,430	1,922,032	1,947,958	1,844,703	1,853,159	1,871,330	81,727	68,873	76,628	4.2	3.6	3.9
Duluth-Superior MSA	141,265	138,979	141,975	131,863	131,227	132,319	9,402	7,752	9,656	6.7	5.6	6.8
Rochester MSA	118,844	118,324	120,596	113,821	114,437	115,926	5,023	3,887	4,670	4.2	3.3	3.9
St. Cloud MSA	109,984	111,338	112,728	104,051	106,711	107,349	5,933	4,627	5,379	5.4	4.2	4.8
Mankato-N Mankato MSA	59,932	58,642	60,216	57,606	56,815	58,159	2,326	1,827	2,057	3.9	3.1	3.4
Fargo-Moorhead MSA	138,339	137,728	133,005	133,638	133,981	128,445	4,701	3,747	4,560	3.4	2.7	3.4
Grand Forks MSA	58,353	57,770	56,034	56,226	56,076	54,047	2,127	1,694	1,987	3.6	2.9	3.5
Region One	**49,539**	**48,991**	**50,160**	**45,274**	**45,706**	**46,674**	**4,265**	**3,285**	**3,486**	**8.6**	**6.7**	**6.9**
Kittson	2,398	2,455	2,587	2,254	2,335	2,399	144	120	188	6.0	4.9	7.3
Marshall	5,768	5,773	5,923	5,081	5,225	5,332	687	548	591	11.9	9.5	10.0
Norman	3,518	3,411	3,530	3,270	3,225	3,302	248	186	228	7.0	5.5	6.5
Pennington	9,185	9,284	9,233	8,285	8,398	8,491	900	886	742	9.8	9.5	8.0
Polk	17,606	17,210	17,916	16,591	16,429	16,985	1,015	781	931	5.8	4.5	5.2
Red Lake	2,405	2,330	2,416	2,119	2,135	2,165	286	195	251	11.9	8.4	10.4
Roseau	8,659	8,528	8,555	7,674	7,959	8,000	985	569	555	11.4	6.7	6.5
Region Two	**43,182**	**42,700**	**43,487**	**39,514**	**39,885**	**40,264**	**3,668**	**2,815**	**3,223**	**8.5**	**6.6**	**7.4**
Beltrami	23,636	23,694	24,060	21,952	22,400	22,565	1,684	1,294	1,495	7.1	5.5	6.2
Clearwater	4,940	4,741	4,912	4,209	4,240	4,264	731	501	648	14.8	10.6	13.2
Hubbard	9,683	9,350	9,384	8,754	8,603	8,577	929	747	807	9.6	8.0	8.6
Lake of the Woods	2,504	2,504	2,635	2,364	2,359	2,518	140	145	117	5.6	5.8	4.4
Mahnomen	2,419	2,411	2,496	2,235	2,283	2,340	184	128	156	7.6	5.3	6.3
Region Three	**160,145**	**159,399**	**163,669**	**148,030**	**149,372**	**151,599**	**12,115**	**10,027**	**12,070**	**7.6**	**6.3**	**7.4**
Aitkin	7,049	6,767	6,817	6,306	6,250	6,249	743	517	568	10.5	7.6	8.3
Carlton	17,453	17,032	17,432	16,163	16,050	16,277	1,290	982	1,155	7.4	5.8	6.6
Cook	2,851	3,009	3,062	2,650	2,837	2,881	201	172	181	7.1	5.7	5.9
Itasca	21,377	22,580	23,101	19,130	20,608	21,001	2,247	1,972	2,100	10.5	8.7	9.1
Koochiching	6,033	6,016	6,241	5,475	5,480	5,665	558	536	576	9.2	8.9	9.2
Lake	5,015	5,250	5,664	4,681	4,966	5,103	334	284	561	6.7	5.4	9.9
St. Louis	100,367	98,745	101,352	93,625	93,181	94,423	6,742	5,564	6,929	6.7	5.6	6.8
City of Duluth	44,367	43,703	44,384	42,320	42,074	42,634	2,047	1,629	1,750	4.6	3.7	3.9
Balance of St. Louis County	56,000	55,042	56,968	51,305	51,107	51,789	4,695	3,935	5,179	8.4	7.1	9.1
Region Four	**125,852**	**125,796**	**128,363**	**118,490**	**120,079**	**121,701**	**7,362**	**5,717**	**6,662**	**5.8**	**4.5**	**5.2**
Becker	18,281	18,470	18,884	17,035	17,460	17,708	1,246	1,010	1,176	6.8	5.5	6.2
Clay	35,882	35,817	36,651	34,140	34,484	35,060	1,742	1,333	1,591	4.9	3.7	4.3
Douglas	19,869	19,842	20,110	18,827	18,999	19,176	1,042	843	934	5.2	4.2	4.6
Grant	3,304	3,343	3,416	3,047	3,140	3,174	257	203	242	7.8	6.1	7.1
Otter Tail	31,067	30,492	31,156	28,879	28,873	29,235	2,188	1,619	1,921	7.0	5.3	6.2
Pope	6,272	6,496	6,657	5,927	6,228	6,335	345	268	322	5.5	4.1	4.8
Stevens	5,584	5,768	5,771	5,331	5,562	5,552	253	206	219	4.5	3.6	3.8
Traverse	1,862	1,825	1,902	1,749	1,730	1,806	113	95	96	6.1	5.2	5.0
Wilkin	3,731	3,743	3,816	3,555	3,603	3,655	176	140	161	4.7	3.7	4.2
Region Five	**82,900**	**81,112**	**83,073**	**75,899**	**75,547**	**76,701**	**7,001**	**5,565**	**6,372**	**8.4**	**6.9**	**7.7**
Cass	14,127	13,462	13,603	12,682	12,301	12,337	1,445	1,161	1,266	10.2	8.6	9.3
Crow Wing	31,140	30,665	31,178	28,770	28,675	28,953	2,370	1,990	2,225	7.6	6.5	7.1
Morrison	18,066	17,754	18,366	16,393	16,474	16,843	1,673	1,280	1,523	9.3	7.2	8.3
Todd	13,305	12,952	13,417	12,364	12,221	12,592	941	731	825	7.1	5.6	6.1
Wadena	6,262	6,279	6,509	5,690	5,876	5,976	572	403	533	9.1	6.4	8.2
Region Six East	**65,214**	**65,497**	**67,317**	**61,210**	**62,370**	**63,617**	**4,004**	**3,127**	**3,700**	**6.1**	**4.8**	**5.5**
Kandiyohi	24,146	23,771	24,424	22,783	22,725	23,140	1,363	1,046	1,284	5.6	4.4	5.3
McLeod	19,151	19,960	20,352	17,974	19,004	19,304	1,177	956	1,048	6.1	4.8	5.1
Meeker	13,208	13,262	13,666	12,348	12,590	12,846	860	672	820	6.5	5.1	6.0
Renville	8,709	8,504	8,875	8,105	8,051	8,327	604	453	548	6.9	5.3	6.2

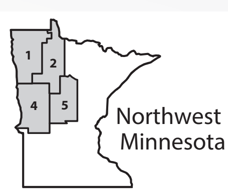
*Minneapolis-St. Paul Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA) now includes Sherburne County in Minnesota and Pierce County in Wisconsin. St. Cloud MSA is now comprised of Benton and Stearns counties.

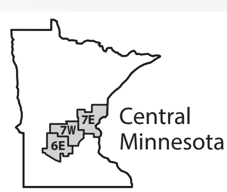
Labor Force Estimates

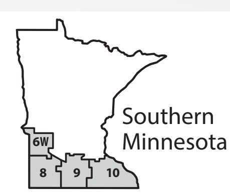
Numbers are unadjusted unless otherwise labeled.
Source: Department of Employment and Economic Development, Local Area Unemployment Statistics, and North Dakota Job Service, 2017.

County/Area	Labor Force			Employment			Unemployment			Rate of Unemployment		
	Jan 2017	Dec 2016	Jan 2016	Jan 2017	Dec 2016	Jan 2016	Jan 2017	Dec 2016	Jan 2016	Jan 2017	Dec 2016	Jan 2016
Region Six West	**24,057**	**23,845**	**25,021**	**22,567**	**22,659**	**23,328**	**1,490**	**1,186**	**1,693**	**6.2%**	**5.0%**	**6.8%**
Big Stone	2,761	2,643	2,816	2,540	2,480	2,610	221	163	206	8.0	6.2	7.3
Chippewa	6,985	6,816	7,065	6,558	6,486	6,586	427	330	479	6.1	4.8	6.8
Lac Qui Parle	3,694	3,738	3,938	3,480	3,564	3,712	214	174	226	5.8	4.7	5.7
Swift	5,172	5,104	5,465	4,827	4,823	4,977	345	281	488	6.7	5.5	8.9
Yellow Medicine	5,445	5,544	5,737	5,162	5,306	5,443	283	238	294	5.2	4.3	5.1
Region Seven East	**86,733**	**85,577**	**87,535**	**79,942**	**80,427**	**81,495**	**6,791**	**5,150**	**6,040**	**7.8**	**6.0**	**6.9**
Chisago	29,049	28,882	29,420	27,244	27,457	27,790	1,805	1,425	1,630	6.2	4.9	5.5
Isanti	20,491	20,410	20,819	19,119	19,350	19,587	1,372	1,060	1,232	6.7	5.2	5.9
Kanabec	9,158	8,687	8,978	8,164	7,949	8,076	994	738	902	10.9	8.5	10.0
Mille Lacs	12,987	12,870	13,201	11,763	11,952	12,111	1,224	918	1,090	9.4	7.1	8.3
Pine	15,048	14,728	15,117	13,652	13,719	13,931	1,396	1,009	1,186	9.3	6.9	7.8
Region Seven West	**232,316**	**232,660**	**236,280**	**219,613**	**222,689**	**224,742**	**12,703**	**9,971**	**11,538**	**5.5**	**4.3**	**4.9**
Benton	21,763	22,068	22,366	20,324	20,967	21,068	1,439	1,101	1,298	6.6	5.0	5.8
Sherburne	49,854	49,544	50,428	46,961	47,246	47,813	2,893	2,298	2,615	5.8	4.6	5.2
Stearns	88,221	89,270	90,362	83,727	85,744	86,281	4,494	3,526	4,081	5.1	3.9	4.5
Wright	72,478	71,778	73,124	68,601	68,732	69,580	3,877	3,046	3,544	5.3	4.2	4.8
Region Eight	**65,763**	**66,171**	**68,360**	**61,927**	**63,456**	**65,017**	**3,836**	**2,715**	**3,343**	**5.8**	**4.1**	**4.9**
Cottonwood	5,361	5,845	6,058	4,968	5,548	5,712	393	297	346	7.3	5.1	5.7
Jackson	6,295	6,175	6,503	5,825	5,922	6,223	470	253	280	7.5	4.1	4.3
Lincoln	3,440	3,414	3,517	3,232	3,254	3,330	208	160	187	6.0	4.7	5.3
Lyon	15,151	15,043	15,453	14,374	14,442	14,760	777	601	693	5.1	4.0	4.5
Murray	4,941	5,218	5,268	4,523	4,915	4,908	418	303	360	8.5	5.8	6.8
Nobles	11,490	11,436	11,974	10,866	11,019	11,390	624	417	584	5.4	3.6	4.9
Pipestone	4,829	4,894	5,087	4,536	4,713	4,833	293	181	254	6.1	3.7	5.0
Redwood	8,365	8,188	8,400	7,893	7,834	7,945	472	354	455	5.6	4.3	5.4
Rock	5,891	5,958	6,100	5,710	5,809	5,916	181	149	184	3.1	2.5	3.0
Region Nine	**133,215**	**130,534**	**134,859**	**126,146**	**125,270**	**128,638**	**7,069**	**5,264**	**6,221**	**5.3**	**4.0**	**4.6**
Blue Earth	39,548	38,677	39,733	37,955	37,447	38,319	1,593	1,230	1,414	4.0	3.2	3.6
Brown	14,902	14,266	14,885	13,989	13,654	14,080	913	612	805	6.1	4.3	5.4
Faribault	7,287	7,305	7,608	6,817	6,954	7,221	470	351	387	6.4	4.8	5.1
Le Sueur	15,895	15,839	16,172	14,657	14,882	15,125	1,238	957	1,047	7.8	6.0	6.5
Martin	10,549	10,246	10,682	9,917	9,842	10,180	632	404	502	6.0	3.9	4.7
Nicollet	20,384	19,965	20,483	19,651	19,368	19,840	733	597	643	3.6	3.0	3.1
Sibley	8,637	8,614	8,956	8,126	8,207	8,449	511	407	507	5.9	4.7	5.7
Waseca	9,357	9,359	9,808	8,823	8,944	9,282	534	415	526	5.7	4.4	5.4
Watonwan	6,656	6,263	6,532	6,211	5,972	6,142	445	291	390	6.7	4.6	6.0
Region Ten	**279,107**	**276,481**	**282,041**	**266,531**	**266,571**	**270,432**	**12,576**	**9,910**	**11,609**	**4.5**	**3.6**	**4.1**
Dodge	11,569	11,468	11,804	10,937	11,032	11,226	632	436	578	5.5	3.8	4.9
Fillmore	11,573	11,434	11,850	10,885	10,934	11,202	688	500	648	5.9	4.4	5.5
Freeborn	16,210	15,925	16,498	15,392	15,217	15,758	818	708	740	5.0	4.4	4.5
Goodhue	26,878	26,531	27,484	25,511	25,469	26,209	1,367	1,062	1,275	5.1	4.0	4.6
Houston	10,634	10,550	10,735	9,938	10,075	10,116	696	475	619	6.5	4.5	5.8
Mower	20,465	20,247	20,764	19,654	19,604	19,994	811	643	770	4.0	3.2	3.7
Olmsted	83,634	83,374	84,459	80,526	80,838	81,606	3,108	2,536	2,853	3.7	3.0	3.4
City of Rochester	61,253	60,977	61,702	59,103	59,347	59,911	2,150	1,630	1,791	3.5	2.7	2.9
Rice	36,095	35,335	35,828	34,479	33,995	34,290	1,616	1,340	1,538	4.5	3.8	4.3
Steele	20,894	20,699	20,597	19,893	19,902	19,726	1,001	797	871	4.8	3.9	4.2
Wabasha	12,068	12,048	12,483	11,473	11,633	11,892	595	415	591	4.9	3.4	4.7
Winona	29,087	28,870	29,539	27,843	27,872	28,413	1,244	998	1,126	4.3	3.5	3.8
Region Eleven	**1,642,231**	**1,638,954**	**1,661,406**	**1,576,730**	**1,583,098**	**1,600,268**	**65,501**	**55,856**	**61,138**	**4.0**	**3.4**	**3.7**
Anoka	189,652	189,256	192,027	180,896	181,997	184,016	8,756	7,259	8,011	4.6	3.8	4.2
Carver	55,112	54,623	55,508	52,868	52,759	53,442	2,244	1,864	2,066	4.1	3.4	3.7
Dakota	231,409	231,543	234,953	222,034	223,703	226,176	9,375	7,840	8,777	4.1	3.4	3.7
Hennepin	672,185	671,709	680,086	647,147	649,797	656,555	25,038	21,912	23,531	3.7	3.3	3.5
City of Bloomington	45,880	46,113	46,728	44,094	44,617	45,081	1,786	1,496	1,647	3.9	3.2	3.5
City of Minneapolis	229,800	229,304	232,061	221,106	222,008	224,316	8,694	7,296	7,745	3.8	3.2	3.3
Ramsey	278,031	277,151	281,019	266,659	267,395	270,266	11,372	9,756	10,753	4.1	3.5	3.8
City of St. Paul	152,409	151,714	153,941	146,091	146,420	147,992	6,318	5,294	5,949	4.1	3.5	3.9
Scott	78,993	78,384	79,498	75,811	75,704	76,549	3,182	2,680	2,949	4.0	3.4	3.7
Washington	136,849	136,288	138,315	131,315	131,743	133,264	5,534	4,545	5,051	4.0	3.3	3.7









Industrial Analysis

Overview

Minnesota lost 8,300 jobs (0.3 percent) in January on a seasonally adjusted basis. However, this decline is from December's estimated 2,921,400 jobs, which was revised up from the original preliminary 2,919,300 in recent year-end re-estimation. January's losses were spread among industry groups: Service Providers were off by 5,800 jobs (0.2 percent), and Goods Producers were down 2,500 (0.6 percent). Private sector employers shed 5,600 jobs (0.2 percent), while public sector employers lost 2,700 (0.6 percent). Over the year, Minnesota added 35,136 jobs (1.2 percent). Most of those jobs came from service providing industries, as private service providers added 28,380 jobs (1.4 percent), and Government employers added 4,413 jobs (1 percent). Goods Producers also grew over the year, although by a more modest 2,343 jobs (0.6 percent).

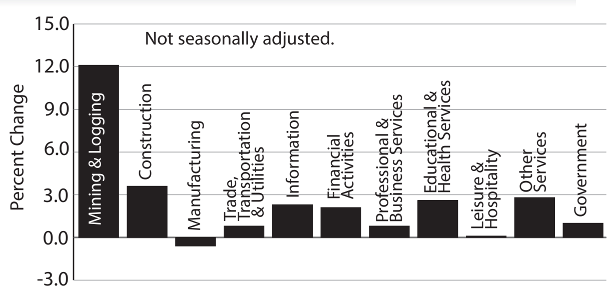
Mining and Logging

Employment in the Mining and Logging supersector was flat in January, holding at a seasonally adjusted 6,400 jobs. However, this is a significant upward revision from the 5,600 jobs that preliminary estimates showed at the end of 2016. Over the year, Mining and Logging added 662 jobs (12.1 percent). This is a dramatic change from December's 2.1 percent over-the-year decline and marks the first annual increase since the summer of 2015, as the steep declines in employment first showed up a little over a year ago.

Construction

Employment in the Construction supersector was down in January, shedding 900 jobs (0.8 percent) on a seasonally adjusted basis after adding 3,500 in November and 1,400 in December. Annually, the Construction supersector added 3,492 jobs (3.6 percent). While employment in Construction of Buildings actually declined by 969 (4.1 percent), growth in the other major component sectors more than made up for the loss. Specialty Trade Contractors added 3,832 jobs (6 percent) while Heavy and Civil Engineering Construction added 629 (6.6 percent).

MN Employment Growth
January 2016 to January 2017



Source: Department of Employment and Economic Development, Current Employment Statistics, 2017.

Manufacturing

Minnesota Manufacturers lost 1,600 jobs (0.5 percent) in January on a seasonally adjusted basis. Durable Goods Manufacturers drove the decline, shedding 2,400 jobs (1.2 percent) while their Non-Durable Goods counterparts added 800 jobs (0.7 percent). The monthly changes mirror the larger trends in the component sectors. Over the year, Durable Goods Manufacturers lost 3,445 jobs (1.7 percent), with losses spread among industry groups, while Non-Durable Goods Manufacturers added 1,634 jobs (1.4 percent). The end result is a net annual decline of 1,811 (0.6 percent) in Manufacturing. This represented the second consecutive month of over-the-year job losses in the supersector.

Trade, Transportation, and Utilities

Employment in Trade, Transportation, and Utilities was down by 4,100 (0.8 percent) in January. All three component sectors shed jobs, with Transportation, Warehousing, and Utilities leading the way with a decline of 2,100 (2 percent). Wholesale Trade lost 600 jobs, and Retail Trade lost 1,400, both of which represented a decline of 0.5 percent. Annually, the supersector added 4,222 jobs (0.8 percent), with all of those gains coming in Retail Trade (up 4,604 or 1.6 percent), with more than half of those new jobs coming from Food and Beverage Stores (up 2,410 or 4.6 percent). Wholesale Trade lost 312 jobs (0.2 percent), and Transportation, Warehousing, and Utilities lost 70 (0.1 percent).

Information

The Information supersector added 200 jobs (0.4 percent) in January on a seasonally adjusted basis. Annually, the supersector added 1,176 jobs (2.3 percent). This is a significant turnaround for the supersector, which has showed over-the-year job growth in only one month since 2013 – in October of 2016 the supersector showed 0.2 percent growth.

*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 100 jobs (0.1 percent) in January. A decline of 300 (0.9 percent) in Real Estate and Rental and Leasing was enough to bury the small 200 job (0.1 percent) growth in Finance and Insurance. Over the year, the supersector added 3,591 jobs (2.1 percent). Finance and Insurance added 3,395 jobs (2.4 percent), accounting for the lion's share of the supersectors growth, with components Credit Intermediation and Insurance Carrier and Related Activities each showing 2.7 percent annual growth (1,682 and 1,569 jobs, respectively). Real Estate and Rental and Leasing, the other major component, added 196 jobs (0.6 percent).

Professional and Business Services

Professional and Business Services lost 3,200 jobs (0.9 percent) in January. All three component sectors shed employment. Management of Companies and Enterprises led the way with a decline of 1,600 jobs (2 percent) while Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services lost 1,200 (0.8 percent), and Administrative and Support and Waste Management and Remediation Services lost 400 (0.3 percent). Annually, the supersector added 2,710 jobs (0.8 percent). Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services added 366 jobs (0.2 percent), Management of Companies and Enterprises added 1,381 (1.8 percent), and Administrative and Support and Waste Management and Remediation Services added 963 (0.8 percent).

Educational and Health Services

Educational and Health Services lost 700 jobs (0.1 percent) in January. Health Care and Social Assistance shed 800 jobs (0.2 percent), while Educational Services added 100 (0.1 percent). Annually, the supersector added 13,247 jobs (2.6 percent). Health Care and Social Assistance added 12,809 jobs (2.9 percent). Ambulatory Health Services had the fastest growth among component groups, adding 5,611 or 3.8 percent. Growth in Educational Services was much slower than its counterpart in the supersector, as the sector added 438 jobs or 0.7 percent.

Leisure and Hospitality

Leisure and Hospitality added 3,300 jobs (1.3 percent) in January on a seasonally adjusted basis. Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation added 2,500 jobs (6.3 percent) while Accommodation and Food Services showed more modest growth, adding 800 jobs or 0.4 percent. Annually, the supersector added 263 jobs (0.1 percent). Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation added 144 jobs (0.4 percent), while Accommodation and Food Services added 119 (0.1 percent).

Other Services

Employment in the Other Services supersector was up by 1,500 (1.3 percent) in January. Over the year, Other Services added 3,171 jobs (2.8 percent). All three component industry groups grew, with Repair and Maintenance adding 638 jobs (3 percent), Personal and Laundry Services adding 1,301 (4.6 percent), and Religious, Grantmaking, Civic, Professional, and Similar Organizations adding 1,232 (1.9 percent).

Government

Government employers lost 2,700 jobs (0.6 percent) in January. Local Government was the big weight on the group, losing 2,300 jobs (0.8 percent). Annually, public sector employment grew by 4,413 (1 percent). State employers lost 1,649 jobs (1.7 percent), while Local and Federal employment both grew (by 5,294 or 1.8 percent and by 768 or 2.4 percent, respectively).

by Nick Dobbins

Seasonally Adjusted Nonfarm Employment

In 1,000's

Industry	January 2017	December 2016	November 2016
Total Nonagricultural	**2,913.1**	**2,921.4**	**2,915.6**
Goods-Producing	**440.7**	**443.2**	**442.3**
Mining and Logging	6.4	6.4	6.5
Construction	118.0	118.9	117.5
Manufacturing	316.3	317.9	318.3
Service-Providing	**2,472.4**	**2,478.2**	**2,473.3**
Trade, Transportation, and Utilities	531.5	535.6	534.9
Information	51.1	50.9	50.9
Financial Activities	177.4	177.5	177.0
Professional and Business Services	372.6	375.8	374.2
Educational and Health Services	530.5	531.2	529.0
Leisure and Hospitality	264.9	261.6	262.4
Other Services	117.4	115.9	116.2
Government	427.0	429.7	428.7

Source: Department of Employment and Economic Development Current Employment Statistics, 2017.

Regional Analysis

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

Employment in the Minneapolis-St Paul MSA decreased by 36,406 (1.8 percent) in January. Other Services was the only supersector to expand for the month, adding 317 jobs (0.4 percent). The steepest decline came in Trade, Transportation, and Utilities, which lost 12,840 jobs (3.5 percent). While the metro area's large total job loss may look bleak. each of the previous three Januarys have shown losses of more than 2 percent. On an over-the-year basis the metro area added 27,617 jobs (1.4 percent). The only supersector to lose jobs on the year was Leisure and Hospitality, which was off by 1,487 (0.9 percent), with all of those losses coming in Accommodation and Food Services (down 2,503 or 1.7 percent). Among supersectors that saw annual growth, notable increases occurred in Other Services (up 2,585 or 3.3 percent), Government (up 6,602 or 2.7 percent), and Educational and Health Services (up 8,147 or 2.6 percent).

Duluth -Superior MSA

The Duluth-Superior MSA lost 2,779 jobs (2.1 percent) in January. Trade, Transportation, and Utilities was the big loser, dropping 1,057 jobs (4.1 percent) with losses in Retail Trade and in Transportation, Warehousing, and Utilities as well. Government employers also showed notable losses, off 654 jobs (2.4 percent), with declines in all three levels of Government (Federal, State, and Local). The only supersector to gain employment in January was Other Services, which added 12 jobs (0.2 percent). Over the year, employment in Duluth was up slightly as the MSA added 168 jobs (0.1 percent) over January of 2016. The gain is largely thanks to an over-the-year increase of 937 jobs (12.1 percent) in the Mining, Logging, and Construction supersector, the first month since July of 2015 that the supersector did not show an annual job loss. Supersectors with annual job losses in Duluth included Leisure and Hospitality (down 483 or 3.7 percent), Professional and Business Services (down 318 or 3.9 percent), and Trade, Transportation, and Utilities (down 323 or 1.3 percent).

Rochester MSA

Employment in the Rochester MSA was down by 1,887 (1.6 percent) in January. Losses were driven by Mining, Logging, and Construction (down 437 jobs or 10.6 percent), Trade, Transportation, and Utilities (down 558 or 3 percent), and Educational and Health Services (down 538 or 1.1 percent). The only two supersectors to add jobs in January were Manufacturing (up 244 or 2.3 percent) and Information (up 15 or 0.8 percent). Annually, the Rochester MSA added 872 jobs (0.8 percent). Educational and Health Services helped push the annual gains by adding 994 jobs (2.1 percent) over January 2016. Other supersectors to see notable growth included Manufacturing (up 328 or 3.2 percent) and Other Services (up 109 or 2.8 percent). Supersectors to shed jobs included Trade, Transportation, and Utilities (down 277 or 1.5 percent), Professional and Business Services (down 174 or 3.2 percent), and Information (down 62 jobs or 3.2 percent).

St. Cloud MSA

Employment in the St. Cloud metropolitan statistical area was down in January by 2,559 (2.3 percent). Mining, Logging, and Construction had the largest proportional decline, off by 5.8 percent (365 jobs). Trade, Transportation, and Utilities had the largest numerical decline, down 1,111 jobs (4.9 percent). The only supersector to add employment was Financial Activities, where employment was up by eight jobs (0.2 percent). Annually, the St. Cloud MSA added 1,412 jobs (1.3 percent). Mining, Logging, and Construction added a whopping 908 jobs (18 percent), and Educational and Health Services added 1,012 (4.8 percent) among other notable expanding supersectors. The most notable declines came in Leisure and Hospitality, which lost 548 jobs or 6.4 percent.

Mankato-North Mankato MSA

Employment in the Mankato-North Mankato MSA was down by 977 (1.7 percent) in January. Private sector employers lost 754 jobs (1.6 percent) while public sector jobs decreased by 223 (2.1 percent). Goods Producing supersectors lost 214 jobs (2.2 percent), and Service Providing supersectors lost 763 (1.6 percent). Annually, the Mankato-North Mankato MSA lost 153 jobs (0.3 percent). It was the only MSA in Minnesota to lose employment over the year. Goods producing supersectors actually added 39 jobs (0.4 percent), but those gains were more than erased by a loss of 192 jobs (0.4 percent) among service providing supersectors.

Fargo-Moorhead MSA

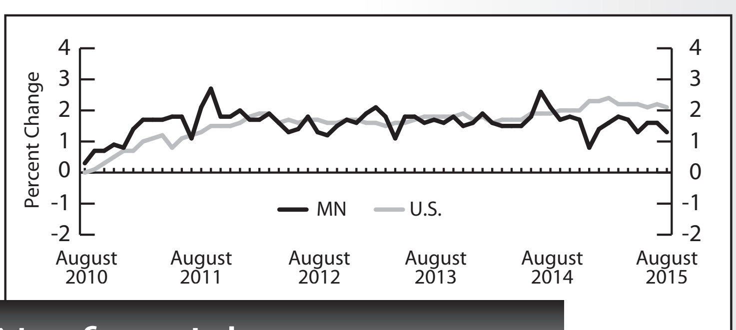
Employment in the Fargo-Moorhead MSA was down by 3,496 (2.4 percent) in January. Notable losses came in Mining, Logging, and Construction (down 505 or 5.8 percent) and Leisure and Hospitality (down 781 or 5.6 percent), among others. The only supersector to add jobs was Information, which grew by 100 (3.1 percent). Annually, the Fargo-Moorhead MSA added 3,440 jobs (2.5 percent). Educational and Health Services led the way with 1,485 new jobs (6.7 percent). Mining, Logging, and Construction added 314 jobs (4 percent), and Trade, Transportation, and Utilities added 503 (1.7 percent). The only supersector to contract over the year was Leisure and Hospitality, which lost 197 jobs (1.5 percent).

Grand Forks-East Grand Forks MSA

Employment in the Grand Forks-East Grand Forks MSA was down by 1,067 (1.8 percent) in January. Mining, Logging, and Construction lost 314 jobs (7.6 percent), while Trade, Transportation, and Utilities lost 326 (2.7 percent). The Manufacturing supersector had the largest numeric and proportional growth, adding 11 jobs or 0.3 percent. Annually, the MSA added 1,658 jobs (2.9 percent). Mining, Logging, and Construction added 998 jobs or 35.7 percent. The sharpest declines came in Information, which lost 26 jobs or 4.2 percent.

by Nick Dobbins

Source: Department of Employment and Economic Development, Current Employment Statistics, 2017; Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor, Current Employment Statistics, 2017.



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	
	Jan 2017	Dec 2016	Jan 2016	Dec 2016	Jan 2016	Jan 2017	Jan 2016	Jan 2017	Jan 2016	Jan 2017	Jan 2016
TOTAL NONFARM WAGE AND SALARY	**2,853.8**	**2,915.0**	**2,818.7**	**-2.1%**	**1.2%**	—	—	—	—	—	—
						—	—	—	—	—	—
GOODS-PRODUCING	**419.3**	**432.2**	**416.9**	**-3.0**	**0.6**	—	—	—	—	—	—
Mining, Logging, and Construction	**106.9**	**115.6**	**102.7**	**-7.5**	**4.0**	—	—	—	—	—	—
Mining and Logging	**6.1**	**6.2**	**5.5**	**-1.9**	**12.1**	—	—	—	—	—	—
Construction	100.7	109.3	97.3	-7.9	3.6						
Specialty Trade Contractors	67.8	71.8	64.0	-5.5	6.0	$1,211.30	$1,165.06	37.7	38.4	$32.13	$30.34
Manufacturing	**312.4**	**316.6**	**314.2**	**-1.3**	**-0.6**	**839.23**	**805.65**	**40.7**	**41.0**	**20.62**	**19.65**
Durable Goods	196.9	200.5	200.4	-1.8	-1.7	875.46	805.21	40.7	40.1	21.51	20.08
Wood Product Manufacturing	10.8	11.3	10.6	-4.6	1.6	—	—	—	—	—	—
Fabricated Metal Production	41.4	41.7	42.2	-0.7	-1.8	—	—	—	—	—	—
Machinery Manufacturing	32.7	32.8	33.4	-0.5	-2.1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Computer and Electronic Product	45.6	45.7	45.8	-0.2	-0.3	—	—	—	—	—	—
Navigational, Measuring, Electromedical and Control	26.4	26.4	25.9	-0.1	1.9	—	—	—	—	—	—
Transportation Equipment	10.8	10.8	11.2	-0.6	-4.2	—	—	—	—	—	—
Medical Equipment and Supplies Manufacturing	16.1	16.2	15.5	-0.7	3.6						
Nondurable Goods	115.5	116.1	113.8	-0.5	1.4	778.30	804.33	40.6	42.4	19.17	18.97
Food Manufacturing	45.5	46.3	45.0	-1.8	1.0	—	—	—	—	—	—
						—	—	—	—	—	—
SERVICE-PROVIDING	**2,434.5**	**2,482.8**	**2,401.7**	**-1.9**	**1.4**	—	—	—	—	—	—
Trade, Transportation, and Utilities	**525.9**	**546.2**	**521.7**	**-3.7**	**0.8**	—	—	—	—	—	—
Wholesale Trade	129.7	131.0	130.0	-1.1	-0.2	883.97	878.03	38.4	37.7	23.02	23.29
Retail Trade	296.3	309.0	291.7	-4.1	1.6	407.47	426.20	27.7	28.3	14.71	15.06
Motor Vehicle and Parts	35.6	35.9	34.2	-0.9	4.2	—	—	—	—	—	—
Building Material and Garden Equipment	24.4	25.5	24.3	-4.2	0.4	—	—	—	—	—	—
Food and Beverage Stores	55.0	56.4	52.6	-2.6	4.6	—	—	—	—	—	—
Gasoline Stations	24.8	25.1	24.6	-1.2	0.9	—	—	—	—	—	—
General Merchandise Stores	60.9	65.4	61.1	-6.8	-0.3	350.68	317.40	27.7	27.6	12.66	11.50
Transportation,Warehouse, Utilities	99.9	106.2	100.0	-5.9	-0.1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Transportation and Warehousing	87.7	93.8	87.6	-6.5	0.0	745.11	707.19	36.4	34.7	20.47	20.38
Information	**51.3**	**50.7**	**50.2**	**1.3**	**2.3**	**924.62**	**1,047.20**	**33.2**	**37.4**	**27.85**	**28.00**
Publishing Industries	18.8	19.1	19.2	-1.6	-2.3	—	—	—	—	—	—
Telecommunications	11.8	11.9	12.0	-0.3	-1.6	—	—	—	—	—	—
Financial Activities	**176.3**	**177.0**	**172.7**	**-0.4**	**2.1**	—	—	—	—	—	—
Finance and Insurance	142.8	142.9	139.4	0.0	2.4	1,102.93	940.90	37.4	36.3	29.49	25.92
Credit Intermediation	63.1	63.0	61.4	0.2	2.7	774.65	744.48	34.8	35.3	22.26	21.09
Securities, Commodity Contracts, and Other	19.5	19.5	19.4	0.1	0.7	—	—	—	—	—	—
Insurance Carriers and Related	60.2	60.4	58.6	-0.2	2.7	—	—	—	—	—	—
Real Estate and Rental and Leasing	33.4	34.1	33.2	-2.0	0.6	—	—	—	—	—	—
Professional and Business Services	**363.5**	**376.1**	**360.8**	**-3.4**	**0.8**	—	—	—	—	—	—
Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services	156.1	157.9	155.7	-1.2	0.2	—	—	—	—	—	—
Legal Services	18.0	18.3	17.9	-1.8	0.3	—	—	—	—	—	—
Accounting, Tax Preparation	18.5	17.2	18.1	7.8	2.3	—	—	—	—	—	—
Computer Systems Design	36.7	38.0	36.7	-3.6	-0.1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Management of Companies and Enterprises	78.7	79.9	77.4	-1.5	1.8	—	—	—	—	—	—
Administrative and Support Services	128.7	138.3	127.7	-7.0	0.8	—	—	—	—	—	—
Educational and Health Services	**527.4**	**531.4**	**514.1**	**-0.8**	**2.6**	—	—	—	—	—	—
Educational Services	67.1	69.8	66.6	-3.9	0.7	—	—	—	—	—	—
Health Care and Social Assistance	460.3	461.6	447.5	-0.3	2.9	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ambulatory Health Care	151.9	152.2	146.3	-0.2	3.8	1,362.82	1,293.08	36.4	36.6	37.44	35.33
Offices of Physicians	72.7	73.0	69.7	-0.4	4.3	—	—	—	—	—	—
Hospitals	107.6	107.8	106.4	-0.1	1.2	—	—	—	—	—	—
Nursing and Residential Care Facilities	107.9	108.6	106.2	-0.6	1.6	489.76	447.84	29.9	28.8	16.38	15.55
Social Assistance	92.9	93.1	88.6	-0.2	4.8	—	—	—	—	—	—
Leisure and Hospitality	**248.4**	**249.1**	**248.1**	**-0.3**	**0.1**	—	—	—	—	—	—
Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation	36.7	34.6	36.5	5.9	0.4	—	—	—	—	—	—
Accommodation and Food Services	211.7	214.5	211.6	-1.3	0.1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Food Services and Drinking Places	187.8	190.0	187.5	-1.2	0.2	266.11	256.41	19.8	19.8	13.44	12.95
Other Services	**116.5**	**116.3**	**113.3**	**0.2**	**2.8**	—	—	—	—	—	—
Religious, Grantmaking, Civic, Professional Organizations	64.8	64.5	63.5	0.4	1.9	—	—	—	—	—	—
Government	**425.3**	**436.0**	**420.9**	**-2.5**	**1.0**						
Federal Government	32.2	32.6	31.5	-1.0	2.4						
State Government	98.0	101.4	99.6	-3.4	-1.7						
State Government Education	59.4	62.8	62.0	-5.5	-4.2						
Local Government	295.1	302.1	289.8	-2.3	1.8						
Local Government Education	150.8	153.4	146.2	-1.7	3.1						

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, 2017.

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	
	Jan 2017	Dec 2016	Jan 2016	Dec 2016	Jan 2016	Jan 2017	Jan 2016	Jan 2017	Jan 2016	Jan 2017	Jan 2016
TOTAL NONFARM WAGE AND SALARY	**1,936.1**	**1,972.5**	**1,908.5**	**-1.8%**	**1.4%**	—	—	—	—	—	—
GOODS-PRODUCING	**260.9**	**267.1**	**260.9**	**-2.3**	**0.0**	—	—	—	—	—	—
Mining, Logging, and Construction	**66.4**	**70.1**	**66.5**	**-5.3**	**-0.2**	—	—	—	—	—	—
Construction of Buildings	16.0	16.9	15.9	-5.5	0.5	—	—	—	—	—	—
Specialty Trade Contractors	46.5	48.8	45.1	-4.6	3.0	$1,281.64	$1,242.01	36.4	38.5	$35.21	$32.26
Manufacturing	**194.6**	**197.0**	**194.4**	**-1.2**	**0.1**	**909.79**	**860.67**	**41.6**	**41.2**	**21.87**	**20.89**
Durable Goods	132.3	134.1	132.7	-1.4	-0.3	932.09	857.22	41.5	42.0	22.46	20.41
Fabricated Metal Production	28.8	29.0	29.4	-0.5	-2.0	—	—	—	—	—	—
Machinery Manufacturing	20.3	20.3	20.4	-0.2	-0.6	—	—	—	—	—	—
Computer and Electronic Product	37.1	37.2	36.9	-0.2	0.7	—	—	—	—	—	—
Navigational, Measuring, Electromedical and Control	24.8	24.8	24.2	-0.2	2.4	—	—	—	—	—	—
Medical Equipment and Supplies Manufacturing	14.6	14.9	14.2	-2.2	3.0	—	—	—	—	—	—
Nondurable Goods	62.3	62.9	61.7	-0.9	0.9	868.59	869.83	41.9	39.7	20.73	21.91
Food Manufacturing	14.9	15.1	14.6	-1.6	1.8	—	—	—	—	—	—
Printing and Related	14.9	15.0	15.1	-0.6	-1.7	—	—	—	—	—	—
SERVICE-PROVIDING	**1,675.1**	**1,705.4**	**1,647.5**	**-1.8**	**1.7**	—	—	—	—	—	—
Trade, Transportation, and Utilities	**351.4**	**364.3**	**349.0**	**-3.5**	**0.7**	—	—	—	—	—	—
Wholesale Trade	95.8	96.7	95.5	-1.0	0.3	870.24	878.22	39.2	38.3	22.20	22.93
Merchant Wholesalers - Durable Goods	47.9	48.5	48.1	-1.3	-0.4	—	—	—	—	—	—
Merchant Wholesalers - Nondurable Goods	27.5	27.9	27.2	-1.2	1.1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Retail Trade	186.8	194.9	185.1	-4.1	0.9	412.61	456.49	28.3	29.3	14.58	15.58
Food and Beverage Stores	34.0	34.9	31.5	-2.7	8.1	—	—	—	—	—	—
General Merchandise Stores	38.1	40.4	38.4	-5.5	-0.6	324.61	326.89	28.6	28.7	11.35	11.39
Transportation, Warehouse, Utilities	68.8	72.7	68.4	-5.3	0.6	—	—	—	—	—	—
Utilities	7.4	7.5	7.4	-0.9	-0.9	—	—	—	—	—	—
Transportation and Warehousing	61.4	65.2	61.0	-5.8	0.8	705.59	750.81	35.6	36.5	19.82	20.57
Information	**37.9**	**38.2**	**37.6**	**-0.8**	**0.9**						
Publishing Industries	14.8	15.1	15.2	-1.8	-2.6	—	—	—	—	—	—
Telecommunications	8.6	8.6	8.6	0.1	0.8	—	—	—	—	—	—
Financial Activities	**142.3**	**142.9**	**139.2**	**-0.4**	**2.2**	—	—	—	—	—	—
Finance and Insurance	114.9	115.1	112.2	-0.1	2.4	1,198.90	946.21	38.0	34.8	31.55	27.19
Credit Intermediation	46.8	46.7	45.5	0.1	2.8	—	—	—	—	—	—
Securities, Commodity Contracts, and Other	17.4	17.4	17.4	0.1	0.1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Insurance Carriers and Related	50.7	50.9	49.3	-0.4	2.9	—	—	—	—	—	—
Real Estate and Rental and Leasing	27.4	27.9	27.0	-1.8	1.3	—	—	—	—	—	—
Professional and Business Services	**315.9**	**326.2**	**309.9**	**-3.2**	**1.9**	—	—	—	—	—	—
Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services	140.2	141.9	136.3	-1.1	2.9	—	—	—	—	—	—
Legal Services	15.4	15.7	15.3	-1.9	0.7	—	—	—	—	—	—
Architectural, Engineering, and Related	18.3	18.5	17.7	-0.9	3.5	—	—	—	—	—	—
Computer Systems Design	34.2	35.2	34.1	-2.9	0.5	—	—	—	—	—	—
Management of Companies and Enterprises	71.2	72.3	70.1	-1.5	1.6	—	—	—	—	—	—
Administrative and Support Services	104.4	112.0	103.6	-6.8	0.8	—	—	—	—	—	—
Employment Services	47.9	54.3	49.9	-11.9	-4.1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Educational and Health Services	**325.2**	**327.7**	**317.1**	**-0.7**	**2.6**	—	—	—	—	—	—
Educational Services	45.6	47.4	44.6	-3.8	2.3	—	—	—	—	—	—
Health Care and Social Assistance	279.6	280.3	272.5	-0.2	2.6	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ambulatory Health Care	90.3	90.1	88.0	0.2	2.6	—	—	—	—	—	—
Hospitals	62.8	62.9	62.2	-0.2	0.9	—	—	—	—	—	—
Nursing and Residential Care Facilities	59.8	59.9	58.9	-0.2	1.4	—	—	—	—	—	—
Social Assistance	66.8	67.3	63.4	-0.8	5.4	—	—	—	—	—	—
Leisure and Hospitality	**171.1**	**171.3**	**172.6**	**-0.1**	**-0.9**	—	—	—	—	—	—
Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation	29.9	29.9	28.9	0.1	3.5	—	—	—	—	—	—
Accommodation and Food Services	141.2	141.4	143.7	-0.2	-1.7	286.42	287.17	20.4	21.1	14.04	13.61
Food Services and Drinking Places	128.3	129.6	130.7	-1.0	-1.8	279.39	272.22	20.1	20.3	13.90	13.41
Other Services	**80.0**	**79.7**	**77.4**	**0.4**	**3.3**	—	—	—	—	—	—
Repair and Maintenance	15.0	14.9	14.6	0.8	2.7	—	—	—	—	—	—
Religious, Grantmaking, Civic, Professional Organizations	41.8	41.7	40.8	0.1	2.4	—	—	—	—	—	—
Government	**251.3**	**255.1**	**244.7**	**-1.5**	**2.7**						
Federal Government	21.5	21.7	20.8	-0.8	3.4						
State Government	65.1	66.6	63.8	-2.3	2.0						
State Government Education	39.3	40.8	38.7	-3.7	1.5						
Local Government	164.7	166.9	160.1	-1.3	2.9						
Local Government Education	94.3	95.5	91.0	-1.3	3.7						

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, 2017.

Employer Survey

Duluth-Superior MSA

Industry	Jobs Jan 2017	Jobs Dec 2016	Jobs Jan 2016	% Chg. From Dec 2016	% Chg. From Jan 2016
TOTAL NONFARM WAGE AND SALARY	**132,754**	**135,533**	**132,586**	**-2.1%**	**0.1%**
GOODS-PRODUCING	**15,832**	**16,387**	**14,980**	**-3.4**	**5.7**
Mining, Logging, and Construction	8,697	9,108	7,760	-4.5	12.1
Manufacturing	7,135	7,279	7,220	-2.0	-1.2
SERVICE-PROVIDING	**116,922**	**119,146**	**117,606**	**-1.9**	**-0.6**
Trade, Transportation, and Utilities	24,493	25,550	24,816	-4.1	-1.3
Wholesale Trade	3,211	3,140	3,226	2.3	-0.5
Retail Trade	15,260	15,929	15,349	-4.2	-0.6
Transportation, Warehouse, Utilities	6,022	6,481	6,241	-7.1	-3.5
Information	1,393	1,406	1,385	-0.9	0.6
Financial Activities	5,874	5,911	5,750	-0.6	2.2
Professional and Business Services	7,764	8,043	8,082	-3.5	-3.9
Educational and Health Services	31,847	31,898	31,913	-0.2	-0.2
Leisure and Hospitality	12,593	12,738	13,076	-1.1	-3.7
Other Services	6,165	6,153	5,971	0.2	3.2
Government	26,793	27,447	26,613	-2.4	0.7

Rochester MSA

Industry	Jobs Jan 2017	Jobs Dec 2016	Jobs Jan 2016	% Chg. From Dec 2016	% Chg. From Jan 2016
TOTAL NONFARM WAGE AND SALARY	**117,119**	**119,006**	**116,247**	**-1.6%**	**0.8%**
GOODS-PRODUCING	**14,434**	**14,627**	**14,188**	**-1.3**	**1.7**
Mining, Logging, and Construction	3,697	4,134	3,779	-10.6	-2.2
Manufacturing	10,737	10,493	10,409	2.3	3.2
SERVICE-PROVIDING	**102,685**	**104,379**	**102,059**	**-1.6**	**0.6**
Trade, Transportation, and Utilities	17,861	18,419	18,138	-3.0	-1.5
Wholesale Trade	2,664	2,721	2,783	-2.1	-4.3
Retail Trade	12,417	12,757	12,568	-2.7	-1.2
Transportation, Warehouse, Utilities	2,780	2,941	2,787	-5.5	-0.3
Information	1,886	1,871	1,948	0.8	-3.2
Financial Activities	2,643	2,662	2,612	-0.7	1.2
Professional and Business Services	5,340	5,458	5,514	-2.2	-3.2
Educational and Health Services	48,442	48,980	47,448	-1.1	2.1
Leisure and Hospitality	10,005	10,139	10,102	-1.3	-1.0
Other Services	3,979	3,980	3,870	0.0	2.8
Government	12,529	12,870	12,427	-2.6	0.8

Employer Survey

St. Cloud MSA

Industry	Jobs Jan 2017	Jobs Dec 2016	Jobs Jan 2016	% Chg. From Dec 2016	% Chg. From Jan 2016
TOTAL NONFARM WAGE AND SALARY	**106,683**	**109,242**	**105,271**	**-2.3%**	**1.3%**
GOODS-PRODUCING	**20,942**	**21,375**	**20,036**	**-2.0**	**4.5**
Mining, Logging, and Construction	5,950	6,315	5,042	-5.8	18.0
Manufacturing	14,992	15,060	14,994	-0.5	0.0
SERVICE-PROVIDING	**85,741**	**87,867**	**85,235**	**-2.4**	**0.6**
Trade, Transportation, and Utilities	21,707	22,818	21,770	-4.9	-0.3
Wholesale Trade	4,757	4,718	4,591	0.8	3.6
Retail Trade	13,463	14,074	13,247	-4.3	1.6
Transportation, Warehouse, Utilities	3,487	4,026	3,932	-13.4	-11.3
Information	1,600	1,634	1,634	-2.1	-2.1
Financial Activities	4,981	4,973	4,996	0.2	-0.3
Professional and Business Services	8,267	8,627	8,384	-4.2	-1.4
Educational and Health Services	22,095	22,253	21,083	-0.7	4.8
Leisure and Hospitality	8,057	8,210	8,605	-1.9	-6.4
Other Services	3,740	3,751	3,678	-0.3	1.7
Government	15,294	15,601	15,085	-2.0	1.4

Mankato MSA

Industry	Jobs Jan 2017	Jobs Dec 2016	Jobs Jan 2016	% Chg. From Dec 2016	% Chg. From Jan 2016
TOTAL NONFARM WAGE AND SALARY	**56,921**	**57,898**	**57,074**	**-1.7**	**-0.3%**
GOODS-PRODUCING	**9,527**	**9,741**	**9,488**	**-2.2**	**0.4**
Mining, Logging, and Construction	--	--	--	--	--
Manufacturing	--	--	--	--	--
	--	--	--	--	--
SERVICE-PROVIDING	**47,394**	**48,157**	**47,586**	**-1.6**	**-0.4**
Trade, Transportation, and Utilities	--	--	--	--	--
Wholesale Trade	--	--	--	--	--
Retail Trade	--	--	--	--	--
Transportation, Warehouse, Utilities	--	--	--	--	--
Information	--	--	--	--	--
Financial Activities	--	--	--	--	--
Professional and Business Services	--	--	--	--	--
Educational and Health Services	--	--	--	--	--
Leisure and Hospitality	--	--	--	--	--
Other Services	--	--	--	--	--
Government	10,220	10,443	10,054	-2.1	1.7

Employer Survey

Fargo-Moorhead MSA

Industry	Jobs Jan 2017	Jobs Dec 2016	Jobs Jan 2016	% Chg. From Dec 2016	% Chg. From Jan 2016
TOTAL NONFARM WAGE AND SALARY	**139,782**	**143,278**	**136,342**	**-2.4%**	**2.5%**
GOODS-PRODUCING	**17,920**	**18,639**	**17,520**	**-3.9**	**2.3**
Mining, Logging, and Construction	8,149	8,654	7,835	-5.8	4.0
Manufacturing	9,771	9,985	9,685	-2.1	0.9
SERVICE-PROVIDING	**121,862**	**124,639**	**118,822**	**-2.2**	**2.6**
Trade, Transportation, and Utilities	30,815	31,430	30,312	-2.0	1.7
Wholesale Trade	9,003	9,099	8,946	-1.1	0.6
Retail Trade	16,248	16,632	15,937	-2.3	2.0
Transportation, Warehouse, Utilities	5,564	5,699	5,429	-2.4	2.5
Information	3,325	3,225	3,217	3.1	3.4
Financial Activities	11,227	11,309	10,856	-0.7	3.4
Professional and Business Services	15,527	15,985	15,295	-2.9	1.5
Educational and Health Services	23,582	23,696	22,097	-0.5	6.7
Leisure and Hospitality	13,295	14,076	13,492	-5.6	-1.5
Other Services	5,471	5,530	5,339	-1.1	2.5
Government	18,620	19,388	18,214	-4.0	2.2

Grand Forks-East Grand Forks MSA

Industry	Jobs Jan 2017	Jobs Dec 2016	Jobs Jan 2016	% Chg. From Dec 2016	% Chg. From Jan 2016
TOTAL NONFARM WAGE AND SALARY	**58,031**	**59,098**	**56,373**	**-1.8%**	**2.9%**
GOODS-PRODUCING	**7,964**	**8,267**	**6,860**	**-3.7**	**16.1**
Mining, Logging, and Construction	3,794	4,108	2,796	-7.6	35.7
Manufacturing	4,170	4,159	4,064	0.3	2.6
SERVICE-PROVIDING	**50,067**	**50,831**	**49,513**	**-1.5**	**1.1**
Trade, Transportation, and Utilities	11,955	12,281	12,120	-2.7	-1.4
Wholesale Trade	1,827	1,887	1,896	-3.2	-3.6
Retail Trade	7,891	8,045	7,916	-1.9	-0.3
Transportation, Warehouse, Utilities	2,237	2,349	2,308	-4.8	-3.1
Information	589	595	615	-1.0	-4.2
Financial Activities	1,846	1,854	1,820	-0.4	1.4
Professional and Business Services	2,967	3,054	2,928	-2.9	1.3
Educational and Health Services	9,723	9,785	9,514	-0.6	2.2
Leisure and Hospitality	6,266	6,265	6,266	0.0	0.0
Other Services	1,936	1,962	1,988	-1.3	-2.6
Government	14,785	15,035	14,262	-1.7	3.7

Source: Department of Employment and Economic Development, Current Employment Statistics, and North Dakota Job Service, 2017.

Minnesota Economic Indicators

Highlights

*The **Minnesota Index, U.S. Index, and Minnesota Leading Index** are generated by the Philadelphia Federal Reserve Bank. At the beginning of each year the indices are delayed by two months as revised component numbers are used to recalibrate the indices. Updated coincident indices are scheduled for release on April 3 (https://www.philadelphiafed.org/research-and-data/regional-economy/indexes/coincident) while leading indices will be released April 6 (https://www.philadelphiafed.org/research-and-data/regional-economy/indexes/leading/)*

Minnesota's adjusted **Wage and Salary Employment**, after climbing on average 6,100 jobs each month during the last half 2016, decreased by 8,300 jobs in January. The private sector shed 5,600 jobs while public sector payrolls shrank by 2,700. Job loss was heaviest in Trade, Transportation, and Utilities, Professional and Business Services, Government, and Manufacturing. Job growth was the strongest in the Other Services and the Leisure and Hospitality sectors.

Minnesota's unadjusted over-the-year job growth ticked up a notch to 1.2 percent. Nationally unadjusted over-the-year job growth was 1.5 percent for the second straight month. Minnesota has now trailed U.S. job growth for 30 consecutive months when viewed from the year-over-year perspective.

Minnesota wage and salary employment slipped a bit last year as revised employment numbers show average annual job growth in 2016 at 1.4 percent compared to 1.5 percent in 2015. The 39,700 jobs added last year were down slightly from the 42,500 added in 2015. The average job gain over the last six years was 43,000. Annual average job growth between 2002 and 2007, the seven year period between the 2001 recession and the Great Recessions, was only 12,100.

Minnesota's annual average job growth has lagged behind the national pace since 2014. The job growth gap declined last year as U.S. job growth dipped from 2.1 percent in 2015 to 1.7 percent in 2016. Job growth nationally may be slowing as labor markets across the country tighten up. The U.S. unemployment rate was 4.8 percent in February while Minnesota's rate has been below that since late 2013. Finding workers to hire has been a problem for Minnesota employers for several years.

Minnesota's 1.4 percent annual average job gain last year tied Wisconsin for 25th fastest growth among states. Oregon topped the nation with 3.4 percent growth while Wyoming brought up the rear with a 3.1 percent decline in jobs. Minnesota had the same growth rate as Wisconsin, trailed South Dakota (1.8 percent), and topped Iowa (1.2 percent) and North Dakota (-2.9 percent).

Online Help-Wanted Ads rose for the second straight month to 131,800. Online job advertising climbed 3.7 percent in Minnesota while tailing off 0.4 percent nationally. Job adverting in Minnesota, however, remained below last year's level for the eighth consecutive month. Help-wanted ads are off 6.8 percent from a year ago in Minnesota and 14.0 percent nationally. The decline seems inconsistent with broader trends in labor markets. The Conference Board, which produces the job posting numbers, announced that they are reviewing their methodology to insure accuracy and alignment with job market trends.

Minnesota's **Purchasing Managers' Index (PMI)** continued to rebound in January, increasing for the second straight month to 54.7. The index hasn't been this high since January 2015. The increase suggests that manufacturing activity in the state is beginning to gain some steam after having sputtered for most of 2016. Manufacturing employment increased by only 0.1 percent last year after having jumped 1.7 percent in 2015.

Adjusted **Manufacturing Hours** increased to 40.8 hours in January which was consistent with the uptick in the PMI index. Average weekly **Manufacturing Earnings** also pointed to a pickup in manufacturing as earnings spiked in January to $847.48. That was the largest factory paycheck in 17 months and the first time in two and a half year that manufacturing earnings, adjusted for inflation, were up over the year.

Adjusted **Residential Building Permits** spiked for the second time in three months, sending permits to levels not seen since March 2006. January's jump to 2,904, which may in part be due to a warm winter, is another indicator that home building in the state is nearing historical norms after slowly rebounding from the housing bust in 2005.

Adjusted **Initial Claims for Unemployment Benefits (UB)** plunged to 16,082 in January, the lowest level since June 2000. The mild winter weather is most likely behind some of the drop, but initial claims levels below 16,000 were common during the late 1990s, averaging 15,700 monthly between 1998 and 1999. Employers have become more reluctant to let workers go given how hard it is to find new workers.

by Dave Senf

Minnesota Index

INA

Source: The Federal Reserve Bank of Philadelphia, 2017

United States Index

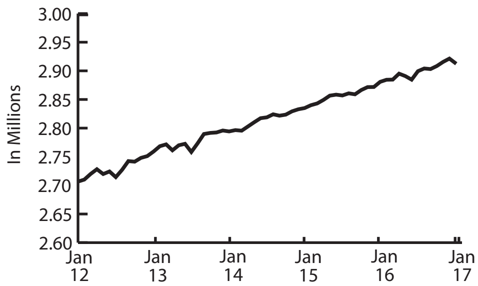
INA

Source: The Federal Reserve Bank of Philadelphia, 2017

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

2016	Aug	2.9041
	Sep	2.9031
	Oct	2.9084
	Nov	2.9156
	Dec	2.9214
2017	Jan	2.9131

% Chg From Month Ago -0.3

unadjusted

2016	Jan	2,818.7
2017	Jan	2,853.8

% Chg From Year Ago 1.2

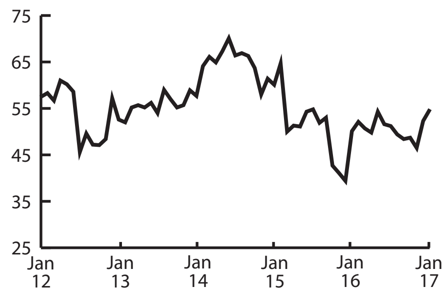
Source: Department of Employment and Economic Development, Current Employment Statistics Program, 2017

Minnesota Leading Index

INA

Source: The Federal Reserve Bank of Philadelphia, 2017

Purchasing Managers' Index

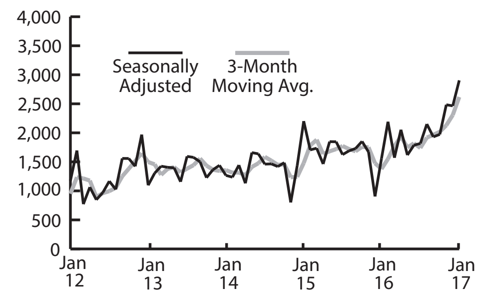


2016	Jan	50.1
	Feb	52.1
	Mar	50.7
	Apr	49.8
	May	54.3
	Jun	51.6
	Jul	51.2
	Aug	49.4
	Sep	48.4
	Oct	48.7
	Nov	46.5
	Dec	52.3
2017	Jan	54.7

% Chg From Month Ago 4.6
Year Ago 9.2

Source: Creighton University, Mid-America Survey of Business Conditions, 2017

Residential Building Permits



seasonally adjusted

2016	Aug	2,151
	Sep	1,931
	Oct	1,973
	Nov	2,483
	Dec	2,465
2017	Jan	2,904

% Chg From Month Ago 17.8

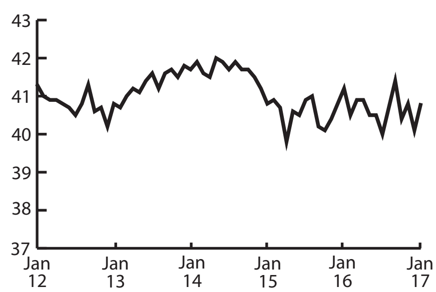
unadjusted

2016	Jan	754
2017	Jan	1,521

% Chg From Year Ago 101.7%

Source: Residential Building Permits, Census Bureau, U.S. Department of Commerce, 2017

Average Weekly Manufacturing Hours



seasonally adjusted

2016	Aug	40.7
	Sep	41.4
	Oct	40.4
	Nov	40.8
	Dec	40.1
2017	Jan	40.8

% Chg From Month Ago 1.8

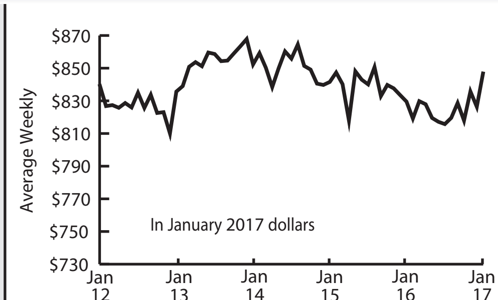
unadjusted

2016	Jan	41.0
2017	Jan	40.7

% Chg From Year Ago -0.7%

Source: Department of Employment and Economic Development, Current Employment Statistics Program, 2017

Manufacturing Earnings



seasonally adjusted

2016	Aug	819.58
	Sep	828.67
	Oct	817.92
	Nov	835.75
	Dec	826.36
2017	Jan	847.48

% Chg From Month Ago 2.6

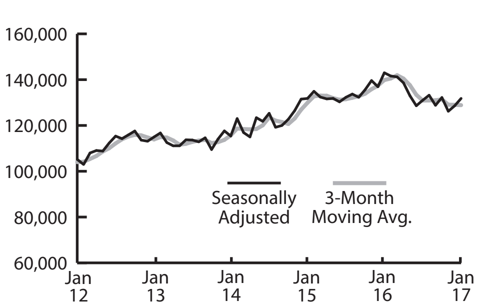
unadjusted

2016	Jan	820.91
2017	Jan	839.23

% Chg From Year Ago 2.2%

Source: Department of Employment and Economic Development, Current Employment Statistics Program, 2017

Online Help-Wanted Advertising

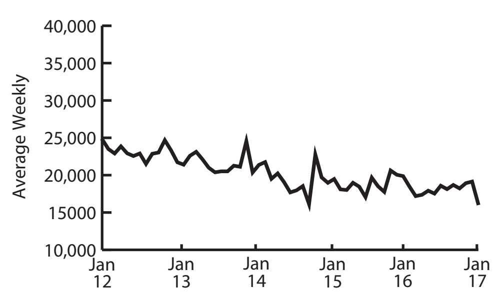


2016	Jan	143,000
	Feb	141,600
	Mar	141,200
	Apr	138,600
	May	133,000
	Jun	128,600
	Jul	131,000
	Aug	133,200
	Sep	128,800
	Oct	132,200
	Nov	126,200
	Dec	128,600
2017	Jan	131,800

% Chg From Month Ago 2.5
Year Ago -7.8

Source: The Conference Board Inc., 2017

Initial UB Claimants



seasonally adjusted

2016	Aug	18,126
	Sep	18,687
	Oct	18,226
	Nov	18,927
	Dec	19,142
2017	Jan	16,082

% Chg From Month Ago -16.0

unadjusted

2016	Jan	23,862
2017	Jan	22,143

% Chg From Year Ago -7.2%

Source: Department of Employment and Economic Development, Unemployment Insurance Program, 2017

Minnesota Employment Review

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Internet :
mn.gov/deed/lmi

Labor Market Information Help Line:
651.259.7384

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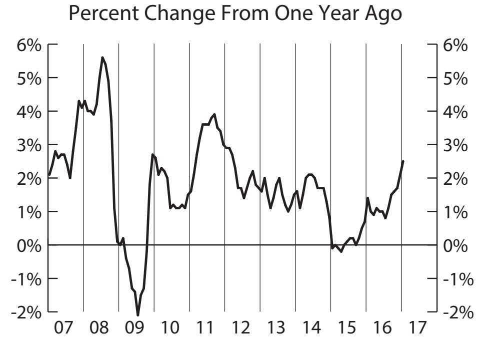
U.S. Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U)

The Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U) increased 0.6 percent in January on a seasonally adjusted basis the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics reported today. The increase was the largest seasonally adjusted all items increase since February 2013. A sharp 7.8 percent rise in the gasoline index accounted for nearly half the increase, and advances in the indices for shelter, apparel, and new vehicles also were major contributors.

Percent Change From One Year Ago



The all items index rose 2.5 percent for the 12 months ending January, the largest 12-month increase since March 2012, with the energy index increasing 10.8 percent, its largest 12-month increase since November 2011.

https://www.bls.gov/news.release/pdf/cpi.pdf

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.

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Assistant Director and Technical Supervisor: *Oriane Casale*

What's Going On?

East Central Career Fair set for April 18

Job seekers in East Central — and those eyeing a relocation — can find great careers here at the upcoming East Central Career Fair set for Tuesday, April 18.

The career fair will be held from 12:30-4:30 p.m. at the Armed Forces Reserve Center (AFRC), 505 Spirit River Drive, S. in Cambridge. It's a good opportunity to meet with hiring decision-makers in person without an appointment. Dozens of employers will be attending.

ASL interpreters will be available. If you require an accommodation to attend, email Christine Pribbernow at Christine.Pribbernow@state.mn.us.

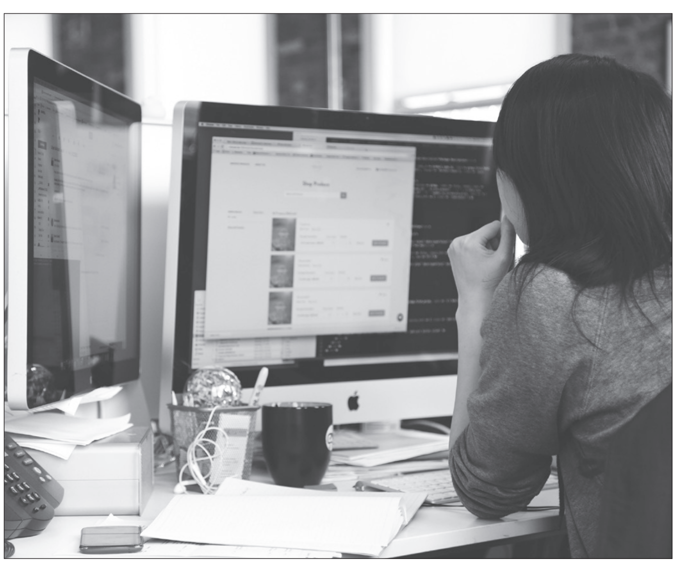
For more information, see **http://mn.gov/deed/events/east-central-fair.jsp**

EMPLOYMENT AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

How Did You LIke Us in 2016?

The mission of the Labor Market Information (LMI) Office of the Minnesota Department of Employment and Economic Development (DEED) is to collect, compile, and deliver high quality data and analysis about the state's labor market and economy. Our work supports Minnesota's businesses, its workforce and economic development system, and the workers of today and tomorrow.

We gather, analyze, and disseminate economic data on Minnesota's business community, workforce, and job market. We also provide key economic indicators, employment projections, and regional and statewide industry and workforce analysis along with information aimed at helping individuals make informed career decisions. We believe that access to high quality, up-to-date labor market information has played a role in making Minnesota one of the strongest job markets in America and that it will continue to help shape our economic future.



To improve our information and services, we regularly summarize related information including customer type, information requested, and satisfaction level. We share this information with you in the hopes that it may be as helpful for you to see how others are using our information as it is for us in guiding how we can best supply the information.

The information contained in this summary comes from several sources:

- Records of incoming telephone and email requests
- Web statistics from our Google Analytics web tracking tool
- Information from our mailing and email subscription lists
- DEED's customer satisfaction survey

Information from our 2016 customer summary is included in this article as well as updates on projects we have undertaken and services we have improved during the past year.

LMI Information Delivery Methods

The LMI Office offers a number of delivery methods for the data and information we provide. These methods include, but are not limited to:

♦ ***LMI Website:*** The majority of our customers access information directly from our website at **mn.gov/deed/data** or **mn.gov/deed/job-seekers/job-outlook/**. We keep our website as up-to-date and complete as possible, so customers know that they are getting the most current labor market information available for Minnesota. Almost all of the releasable data and information that we produce are made available on our website. Web use statistics are provided below.

♦ ***Analyst Services***: Our telephone and email Helpline and Regional Analyst teams assist customers in finding and understanding LMI data and information. The Regional Analysts also provide presentations and training sessions to a wide range of audiences, but many geared toward workforce and economic development professionals. Consultation services and data extraction and analysis are also available on a fee-for-service basis. The Helpline can be reached by telephone during normal business hours at 888-234-1114 or 651-259-7384 or by email at deed.lmi@state.mn.us or go to the new Regional Labor Markets pages at mn.gov/deed/data/regional-lmi .

♦ ***Electronic Notifications***: Customers who want to know when publications and data are updated can subscribe for email updates in the footer of the DEED website http://mn.gov/deed/ where it says 'Subscribe for e-mail updates'. These updates provide notification to subscribers when LMI data and publications are available.

♦ ***Direct Mailing List:*** This list is for customers who want to receive one or more copies of Minnesota Economic Trends or Minnesota Employment Review in the mail.

Table 1 provides a snapshot of customer contacts we made over the past year. The majority of LMI customers accessed information from our website, but a significant minority received LMI services through other means.

Accomplishments in 2016

During 2016 we continued to make enhancements, guided by the needs of our users, to content and navigation on the LMI pages of the DEED website.

We reorganized our menu of offerings by user category under the "data" tab at http://mn.gov/deed/data/ . Now the first links you see provide access to labor market information for "Job Seekers", "Career Explorers", "Employers" and "News Media" to help our customers more efficiently find the information they are looking for.

In 2016 we were able to tap a new data source, driver's license records. Linked to Unemployment Insurance Wage Records, we now have information on the demographic characteristics of our workforce that has not been available before. The Quarterly Employment Demographics (QED) tool which will soon be available on our website, will provide access to these data. For more information on this new data source and what it can be used for, read Steve Hine's article in the June issue of Trends.

Table 1. LMI Customers by Information Delivery Method, 2016

Type of Contact	Contacts	Number of Customers
Website	775,138 page views	505,273 unique page views
Telephone, email, mail requests	2,636 contacts	2,636 contacts
Presentations and trainings	329 presentations/trainings	11,019 audience members
E-Mail notification list including Labor Market Information and Local Look subscribers	134,556+ notifications sent by e-mail	11,213 subscribers
Trends print magazine	5,066 magazines sent by USPS mail	1,267 subscribers

Source: DEED LMI Office

Web Traffic

Bucking the conventional wisdom that 'people are afraid of data', our data tools are our most popular resource. Of 505,273 unique pageviews on the LMI website, our data tools accounted for 77 percent of the total (see Table 2).

Our on-line publications Current Economic Highlights, Minnesota Economic Trends, Minnesota Employment Review, and Regional LMI which includes the Local Look blog had a combined 18 percent of the unique pageviews to the LMI portion of the DEED website. Current Economic Highlights offers summary analysis of key data including wages, employment, unemployment, and unemployment insurance claims. Trends and Review are LMI's periodical publications available online and in print.

Last year we added an LMI Jobseeker Portal in the "For Jobseekers" portion of the DEED website in order to guide job seekers to LMI tools that we have built with them in mind. This remained the fourth most popular way that customers accessed LMI on the DEED website, accounting for 16,186 of the unique pageviews or 3.2 percent of the total.

Our most popular data tool is the Occupational Employment Statistics or OES tool, which shows employment and wages by occupation and region in Minnesota. This information can help employers benchmark wages and can help job seekers and students explore careers. Table 3 provides the ranked list of data tools.

Table 2. LMI Web Traffic, 2016

LMI Web Property	Pageviews*	Unique Pageviews*
Data Tools	630,812	392,973
Current Economic Highlights	39,413	30,806
Review	33,212	26,334
LMI Jobseeker Portal	20,433	16,186
Trends	21,306	16,758
Regional LMI and Local Look Blog	21,045	15,341
LMI Help	8,917	6,875
Grand Total	775,138	505,273

*A 'pageview' is counted every time a page is viewed or loaded. So if a user refreshes the page during a session, a second pageview is counted. A 'unique pageview' is counted once regardless of how many times the user loads the page during a session or visit on the website.

Source: Google Analytics

Table 3. Top LMI Data Tools Usage

LMI Data Tool	Pageviews	Unique Pageviews
Occupational Employment Statistics	80,109	40,510
Employment Outlook (Projections)	45,296	29,870
Cost of Living in Minnesota	33,457	27,585
Local Area Unemployment Statistics	54,740	27,092
Occupations in Demand	44,636	25,396
Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages	48,709	21,564
Career Profile	23,394	17,613
Current Employment Statistics	20,173	12,348
Match Jobs to Experience	20,131	12,115
Graduate Employment Outcomes	18,117	8,736

LMI Customer Satisfaction

Each year we examine information on LMI customer satisfaction from the DEED Employer-Customer Satisfaction Survey and the Regional Analyst Customer Consultation Satisfaction Survey.

♦ DEED Employer-Customer Satisfaction Survey – Labor Market Information Users

These results are for two groups of employers who identified themselves as have having obtained labor market information from a DEED representative, the internet, or a publication. The two groups were employers who posted job orders and employers who were visited by DEED business service representatives.

Results of the survey show that:

Overall, 93 percent felt that the information met their needs either very well or well. Ninety-seven percent felt that the information was presented in a clear and understandable manner. Overall, 97 percent used the information to make decisions about wages and salaries, for workforce or business planning, to prepare a report, or for another purpose.

All customers felt that it was easy or somewhat easy to find the information that they were looking for. This is up from 83 percent last year and 78 percent the year before. We hope that this improvement in satisfaction reflects the changes in organization and navigation that we've made to our website over the past several years.

♦ LMI Regional Analyst Customer Consultation Satisfaction Survey

Over the first half of 2016, contacts were extremely satisfied with the consultations that the LMI regional analysts provided, with almost all the key survey questions showing high levels of satisfaction.

Overall, 92 percent of respondents would definitely recommend an LMI regional analyst to a colleague who needed specific information about labor market data or statistics, and another 8 percent would probably recommend them.

Moreover 69 percent of the survey respondents used the information they received from a Regional Analyst to help them make a decision.

Other promising information from survey respondents shows:

98 percent responded 'very well' or 'well' that the LMI regional analyst understood what they were asking for

99 percent were 'very satisfied' or 'satisfied' that the information was presented in a clear and understandable manner

97 percent were 'very satisfied' or 'satisfied' that the product prepared by the LMI regional analyst was useful to them/a client/their organization

Overall, these results show that while LMI customers are able to obtain much of the information they need from our website, contact with our Regional Analysts improves their experience. That is likely because the RAs are able to help them find and understand geo-specific information most useful to them and do it one on one.

We always welcome comments and feedback on our products and services. You can email us at DEED.lmi@state.mn.us or telephone us at our helpline: 651-259-7384.

by Oriane Casale
Assisstant Director, LMI Office
Department of Employment and
Economic Development

W is for Waitstaff

Pressure Cooker

Much like the food they deliver to their hungry customers, waiters and waitresses can sometimes find themselves operating in a pressure cooker environment. Responsible for greeting guests, taking orders, and serving food and beverages to customers at restaurants, bars, hotels, and other food service establishments, waitstaff often have to work quickly and efficiently under considerable pressure and with a minimum number of errors.

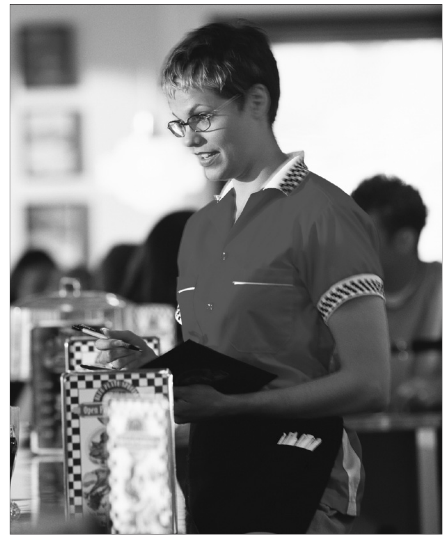
As front line employees bearing the responsibility for making sure that customers are satisfied with the food and the entire dining experience, waitstaff must work as a team with all the other members of the kitchen staff, including cooks, bartenders, dishwashers, and management. This requires excellent customer service, communication, and interpersonal skills.

Waiters and waitresses also need to be detail-oriented and must be able to describe items on the menu or make recommendations to customers. In addition, waitstaff also need the physical stamina to spend most of their time on their feet, often carrying heavy trays of food and dishes to and from the kitchen. It can be a challenging and demanding occupation in many ways.

Waiters, Waiters Everywhere

With 48,500 people employed across the state, waiters and waitresses are among the top 10 largest occupations in Minnesota. Just over 60 percent of those waiters and waitresses are employed in the Twin Cities metro area, with the other 19,000 waitstaff spread across the other five regions (see Table 1).

The occupation is not projected to see much new job growth in the next decade, but it still offers a tremendous amount of opportunity for jobseekers because of the many waitstaff who change jobs each year. In fact, with 23,320 replacement openings — an estimate of the need for new work force entrants to replace workers who leave an



occupation — waiters and waitresses are projected to have the fourth highest number of total openings among all jobs in the state.

Waitstaff also had the seventh largest number of job openings in the most recent Job Vacancy Survey, with more than 2,000 current postings from employers across the state. As is usually the case, about 1,150 of those openings were located in Greater Minnesota, compared to just under 900 vacancies in the Twin Cities.

Table 1. Employment Projections for Waiters and Waitresses, 2014-2024

Geographic Region	Estimated Employment, 2014	Projected Employment, 2024	Percent Change, 2014-2024	Numeric Change, 2014-2024	2014-2024 Replacement Openings	2014-2024 Total Openings
Minnesota	48,458	48,638	0.3%	180	+23,320	23,500
Twin Cities	29,680	30,047	1.2%	367	14,280	14,640
Northwest	4,523	4,395	-2.8%	-128	2,170	2,170
Central	4,011	4,104	2.3%	93	1,930	2,020
Southeast	3,670	3,626	-1.1%	-44	1,760	1,760
Northeast	3,173	3,055	-3.7%	-118	1,520	1,520
Southwest	3,163	3,048	-3.6%	-115	1,520	1,520

Source: DEED 2014-2024 Employment Outlook

Here's a Tip

Despite being one of the largest and most in-demand occupations in the state, it is also one of the lowest paying, at least based on median hourly wages reported by employers in the Occupational Employment Statistics (OES) program (see Table 2). Waiters and waitresses in Minnesota earned a median wage of $9.04 per hour. The 75th percentile wage was $9.53, meaning that 75 percent of waiters and waitresses in Minnesota earned less than that amount.

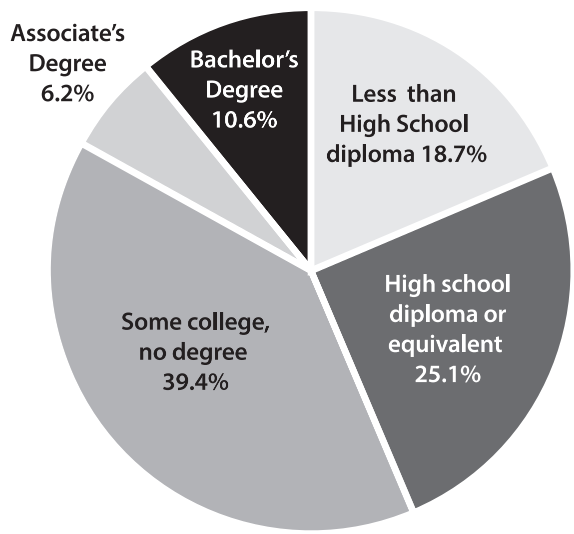
Of course, most waitstaff get their earnings from a combination of hourly wages and customer tips, which can vary greatly depending on the popularity, location, and type of dining establishment in which they work. In general, tips are much higher in upscale restaurants, but can also be higher in larger metropolitan areas, at busier establishments, and for workers who provide exceptional service.

Table 2. Hourly Wage Data for Waiters and Waitresses, 2016

Geography	Employment	Wage Percentiles				
		10th	25th	Median	75th	90th
Minnesota	49,130	$8.31	$8.58	$9.04	$9.53	$14.30
United States	2,505,630	$8.16	$8.71	$9.34	$11.76	$17.31

Source: DEED Occupational Employment Statistics

Figure 1. Educational Attainment for Waiters and Waitresses in Minnesota



Source: DEED Occupational Employment Statistics

On The Job

Once on the job, waiters and waitresses can work eccentric and unpredictable schedules, including early mornings, late evenings, weekends, and holidays. Nationally, about one in two waiters and waitresses worked part-time, and 67 percent of the job vacancies for waitstaff in Minnesota were for part-time work.

In addition to part-time, most waitstaff jobs are entry level, and no formal education or previous work experience is required to start working. Most waiters and waitresses learn the job through short-term on-the-job training, usually by following and learning from a more experienced member of the waitstaff who teaches them basic serving skills and the ins and outs of their particular establishment.

More sophisticated training programs might also help these new waiters and waitresses learn customer service skills, proper serving techniques, and how to deal with aggressive or hostile consumers. Typically this training lasts for only a couple of days or weeks before the new staff members are expected to be ready to work on their own. In Minnesota waitstaff who serve alcohol must be at least 18 years of age and should be familiar with state and local laws concerning the sale of alcoholic beverages.

While there are no formal educational requirements, it is interesting to note that nearly one in six waitstaff in Minnesota has a college degree, including more than 10 percent who have a bachelor's degree or higher (see Figure 1). Even if over-educated, many of the people who hold these jobs use them as a stepping stone in their career progression, picking up valuable skills along the way.

by Cameron Macht
Regional Analysis and Outreach Manager
Department of Employment and Economic Development

EMPLOYMENT AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT MINNESOTA

X is for X-ray (Radiologic) Technician

Radiologic technologists and technicians take x-rays at hospitals, clinics, and other healthcare facilities. They might also specialize in computed tomography (CT or CAT) scans, mammography, and other forms of medical imaging but would not include diagnostic medical sonographers, nuclear medicine technologists, or magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) technologists, which are all separate occupations with different technical skills and duties and are not included in this article.

While it may seem easy to picture what x-ray technicians do, they actually have a long list of typical tasks above and beyond just taking x-ray images although that is the primary responsibility. According to DEED's Occupational Employment Statistics tool, a radiologic technician:

- Operates or oversees the operation of radiologic and magnetic imaging equipment to produce photographs of the body for diagnostic purposes
- Operates mobile x-ray equipment in an operating room, emergency room, or at the patient's bedside
- Positions the imaging equipment and adjusts controls to set exposure time and distance, according to the specifications of the examination
- Positions the patient on the examining table and adjusts equipment to obtain the optimum view of specific the body area(s) requested by the physician
- Explains procedures and observes patients to ensure safety and comfort, reduce anxieties, and obtain patient cooperation during the scan
- Monitors the video display of the area(s) being scanned and adjusts density or contrast to improve picture quality
- Keys commands and data into a computer to document and specify scan sequences, adjust transmitters and receivers, or photograph certain images
- Reviews and evaluates developed x-rays, video tape, or computer generated information for technical quality
- Monitors the use of radiation safety measures to comply with government regulations and to ensure the safety of patients and staff
- Administers oral or injected contrast media to patients
- Demonstrates new equipment, procedures, and techniques and provides technical assistance to other staff

Source: DEED Occupational Employment Statistics (OES)

As such, radiologic technologists and technicians typically need an Associate's Degree and must also pass the American Registry of Radiological Technologists (ARRT) Limited Scope X-ray Operator Exam.[1] There are 10 programs focused on radiologic technology available through Minnesota State locations, including three certificate programs and seven Associate Degree programs, two of which can be completed online. In addition the Minnesota Department of Health provides a list of test locations, exams and handbooks, and related courses at training providers in the state and online.[2] These training programs usually include both classroom study — in courses like anatomy, pathology, and patient care — as well as significant work in a clinical setting.

Graduates from these programs will find a hospitable job market, with high current and future demand in a variety of health care settings. Data from DEED's Job Vacancy Survey shows that the number of job openings for radiologic technicians has been swelling in recent years, and median wage offers have been rising as well. Employers in the state have reported an average of

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[1]Minnesota Department of Health. X-ray Limited Scope X-Ray Operator and Bone Density Equipment Operator Exams. Retrieved from http://www.health.state.mn.us/divs/eh/radiation/xray/xrayoperator.html

[2]Minnesota State CAREERwise Education. Programs in Radiologic Technology/Science. Retrieved from https://www.careerwise.mnscu.edu/education/educationProgram?cip_default=510911

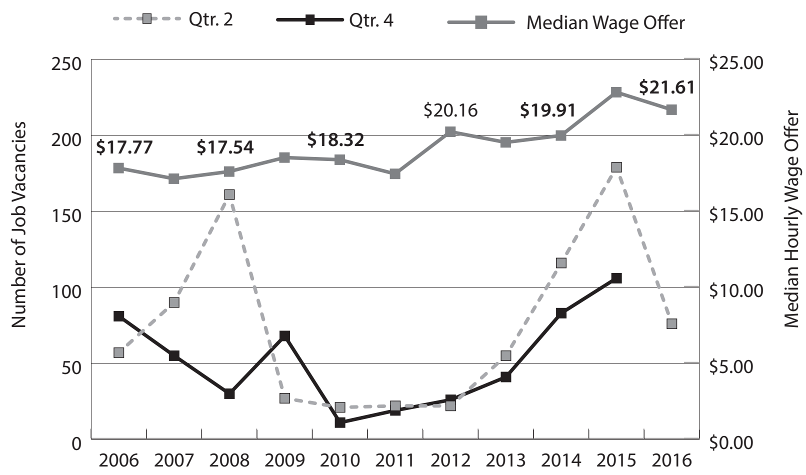
[3]Ibid.

more than 110 vacancies for radiologic technicians over the past three years, and the median hourly wage offer climbed to $21.61 in the second quarter of 2016, which was nearly $4.00 more per hour than in 2006 (see Figure 1).

Because of the 24-7 nature of the healthcare industry, most radiologic technicians work full time, and also work evenings, weekends, and in emergency situations. Obviously hazards from radiation exist in this occupation, but the use of shielding devices such as protective aprons, gloves, and walls help minimize and monitor exposure. X-ray technicians also wear badges that measure radiation levels and keep detailed records on their cumulative lifetime dose. Once placed, radiologic technicians enjoy relatively high wages. Entry level wages that start around $22 per hour rise to more than $30 at the median and to $38.50 at the 90th percentile. The largest number of x-ray technicians work in the Twin Cities metro area, but Southeast Minnesota also has a large concentration of workers to serve the region's rapidly growing healthcare sector (see Table 1).

Speaking of growth, as the population ages, there will be increased demand for x-ray technicians in Minnesota. Employment is projected to rise 10.7 percent from 2014 to 2024, more than twice as fast as the total of all occupations in the state. In addition to the more than 400 new jobs that are expected to be created, there may also be 730 replacement openings for existing workers who retire or leave the field. The bulk of the growth will again be found in the Twin Cities and Southeast Minnesota (see Table 2).

Figure 1. Job Vacancy Data for Radiologic (X-ray) Technicians in Minnesota, 2006 - 2016



Source: DEED Job Vacancy Survey

Table 1. Employment and Wage Data for Radiologic Technicians in Minnesota

Geography	Estimated Regional Employment	Median Hourly Wage
Minnesota	4,260	$30.47
Twin Cities	2,270	$31.06
Southeast	770	$32.44
Central	440	$29.68
Northwest	320	$26.49
Northeast	260	$29.37
Southwest	180	$26.64

Source: DEED OES program

Table 2. Employment Projections for Radiologic Technicians in Minnesota

	Projected Change, 2014-2024			
Geography	New Jobs Created	Percent Change	Replacement Openings	Total Openings
Minnesota	418	10.7%	730	1,150
Twin Cities	250	12.7%	370	620
Southeast	80	11.2%	130	210
Central	50	11.3%	80	130
Northwest	27	8.1%	60	90
Northeast	6	2.6%	40	40
Southwest	4	1.9%	30	40

Source: DEED 2014-2024 Employment Outlook

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