EMPLOYMENT AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Review ONLINE

Minnesota Employment Review

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October 2018 Data...November 2018 Issue

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Are Older Workers Mixing Business With Pleasure?

With a tightening job market and labor force that is projected to grow much more slowly in the future as exemplified by a record number of job openings posted in 2018, businesses in Central Minnesota are struggling to find available workers. At the same time more than one in seven people in Central Minnesota are now 65 or older, and that portion of the population is expected to grow much more quickly in the future. Employers are in search of workers, and many older residents have a desire to continue working. But the fit needs to be right, which begs the question: will older workers stay in the labor force longer? Understanding some of the dynamics and challenges facing potential workers in this age category can help inform strategies to maximize the incentive and enjoyment for people to work into their golden years.

Decisions about work and retirement are facing many of the more than 105,000 residents in the region who are older than 64. Factors such as out-of-pocket health care costs, retirement account balances, health condition, and quality of work are just some of the considerations that impact when and why people retire. Regardless of the reason(s) for retiring, as larger numbers of employees become eligible for social security retirement benefits, employers in central Minnesota and across the country are holding their breath.

According to the 2017 Federal Reserve Report on the Economic Well-Being of U.S. Households, nationally half of retirees retired before age 62 and an additional one-quarter retired between the ages of 62 and 64. The most common factors for choosing when to retire were the desire to do things other than work and to spend time with family[1] (see Table 1).

Although retirees in Central Minnesota might be marching to their own

Table 1. Reasons Affecting Retirement By Age Retired

Reason	Don't Know	61 or Earlier	62-65	65+
Wanted to do other things	48%	56%	62%	61%
Wanted to spend more time with family	54%	52%	57%	57%
Poor health	63%	39%	31%	27%
Family responsibilities	52%	33%	33%	30%
Didn't like the work	32%	30%	28%	26%
Forced to retire or lack of available work	38%	23%	26%	25%
Note: Among retirees, resondents can select multiple answerss				

Source: 2017 Federal Reserve Survey of Household Economics and Decisionmaking

[1] Research is inconclusive about whether families want to spend more time with retirees.

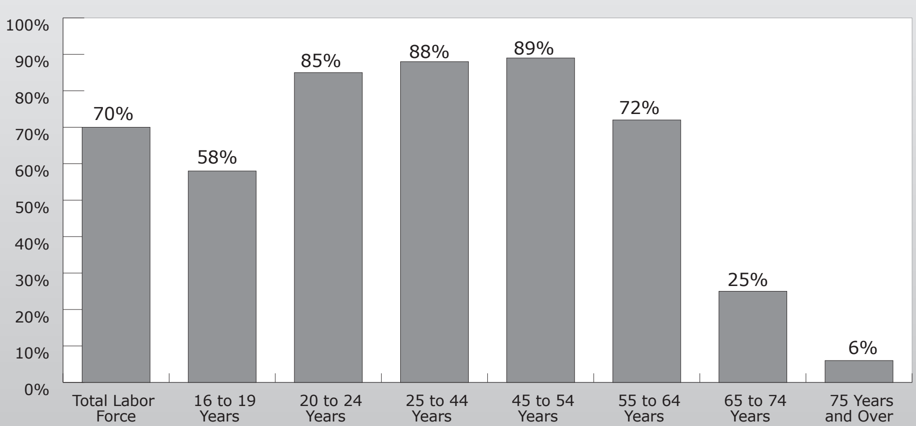
drummers rather than following the national trends, it's possible that a large number of potential workers in the region have retired because they didn't like the work or because they were forced to retire by a lack of available work. The latter seems unlikely in the current tight job market, however. Depending on their age, between a quarter and a third of retirees identified with those two reasons.

The Golden Years

Despite dramatic changes in the health of the economy since 2011, the labor force participation rate has remained unchanged since 2011 for residents 65 years and older in Central Minnesota. The labor force participation rate for adults begins to decline for people 55 to 64 years old, dropping to 72 percent from 89 percent for 45 to 54 year olds. But the decline is more significant for the next older cohort where it drops to a quarter for 65 to 74 year olds in Central Minnesota who participate in the labor force. The rate is slightly lower in Central Minnesota than the 27 percent statewide (see Figure 1).

The slowing labor force growth comes in part from the expansion of the older population, as more people beyond age 64 will start to exhibit the relatively low participation rates of this group, which will pull down the overall participation rate of the region. Counties like Renville that are noticeably older are already experiencing this phenomenon. On the other hand, if the participation rate for workers aged 65 to 74 increased to 30 percent, Central Minnesota could see an additional 2,691 workers, an amount equal to roughly half of the overall labor force growth in the region from 2016 to 2017.

Figure 1. Labor Force Participation Rate by Age, Central Minnesota



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey

Financial Incentives

According to household income data, the incentive to work beyond age 65 might be high for many in Central Minnesota, possibly of necessity. Using DEED's Cost Of Living tool, the basic needs cost for a partnered couple over 50 with no kids is just over $40,000 per year. However, 53 percent of current residents aged 65 years or older have a household income less than that amount.

It should be noted that the cost for a single person to live alone is lower at $32,196 in 2018, yet more than 40 percent of householders aged 65 years or older have a household income that is less than that basic-needs cost (see Figure 2).

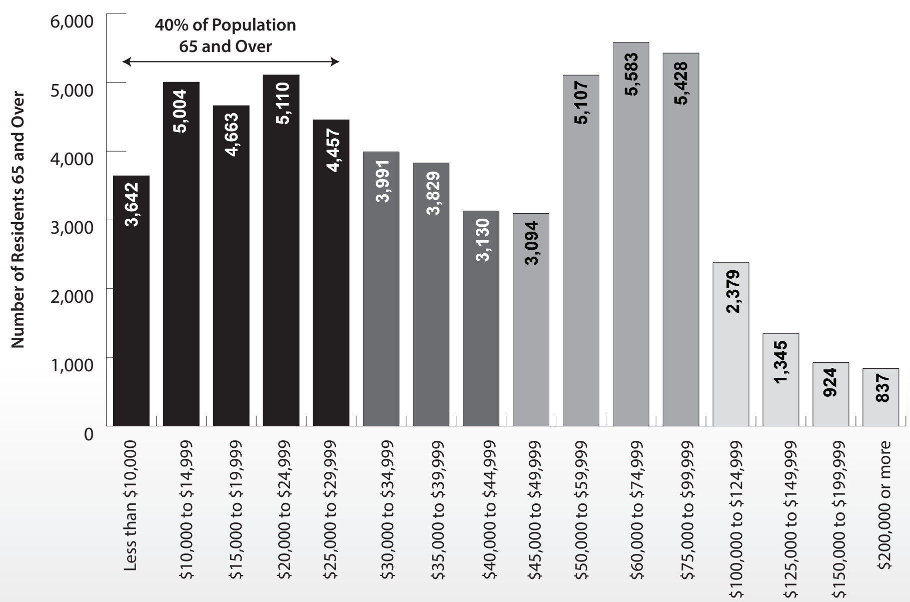
As Good As I Once Was

DEED's Quarterly Employment Demographics provides detailed wages, hours worked, and share of jobs held by workers of different ages. Annual data show that workers 65 or older held 5 percent of the jobs in Central Minnesota, although some segments of the economy have much higher concentrations. For instance, in the Transit and Ground Passenger Transportation industry one-quarter of jobs are held by workers 65 or older (see Figure 3).

The median wage earned for older workers in that industry is only about 90 cents higher than the median earned by all workers 65+ years, so it's unlikely that premium wages is the largest force at play in the high concentration. What's probably most appealing to older workers is the limited hours and flexible work schedules offered by transit companies. Many workers leave other careers to find enjoyable post-retirement employment as a driver for a local transit or bus company. The data show that despite increasing demand for transportation services, the median hours worked by workers 65 or older in the Ground Transportation industry is actually in decline. This bucks the trend in the broader economy where older workers are putting in more hours than ever before.

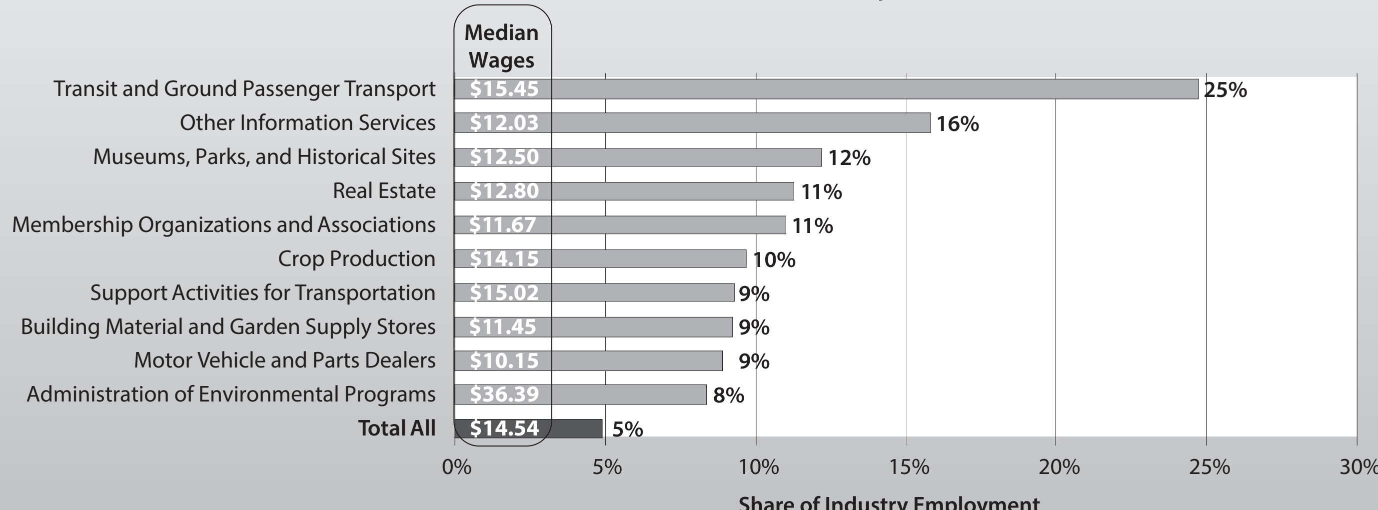
According to Sandie Westergren, the human resources director at Wacosa, a Central Minnesota based non-profit that provides services to individuals with disabilities and employs large numbers of drivers, *"The need and demand for drivers continues to increase, so accommodating workers' preferences means offering generous flexibility, to the extent where workers can sometimes pick their hours or shifts. Many older workers are looking for flexibility and enjoyment out of a job, so offering what they want is just part of our strategy to recruit and retain older workers."*

Figure 2. Household Income in Past 12 Months For Residents 65 and Older in Central Minnesota, 2016



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey

Figure 3. Top 10 Industries with Highest Concentration of Workers 65 or Older in Central Minnesota, 2016



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey

When asked about the declining number of hours worked by older workers in the transit industry, Westergren said that *"It makes perfect sense that hours could be decreasing in an effort to increase the number of folks who might be interested in working."* In other words, they are also seeing a trend of more older workers working fewer hours.

On the other end of the spectrum, industries that show the highest median wages for older workers employ them at much lower rates. Workers 65 and older have a median hourly wage of $31.04 in the Chemical Manufacturing Industry (Including Ethanol Production) in Central Minnesota, but they hold just 2 percent of the jobs in the industry. Considering the high wage and low availability of part-time openings at manufacturing plants, most of the older workers who are employed by the industries in Figure 4 are not post-retirement workers in a second career.

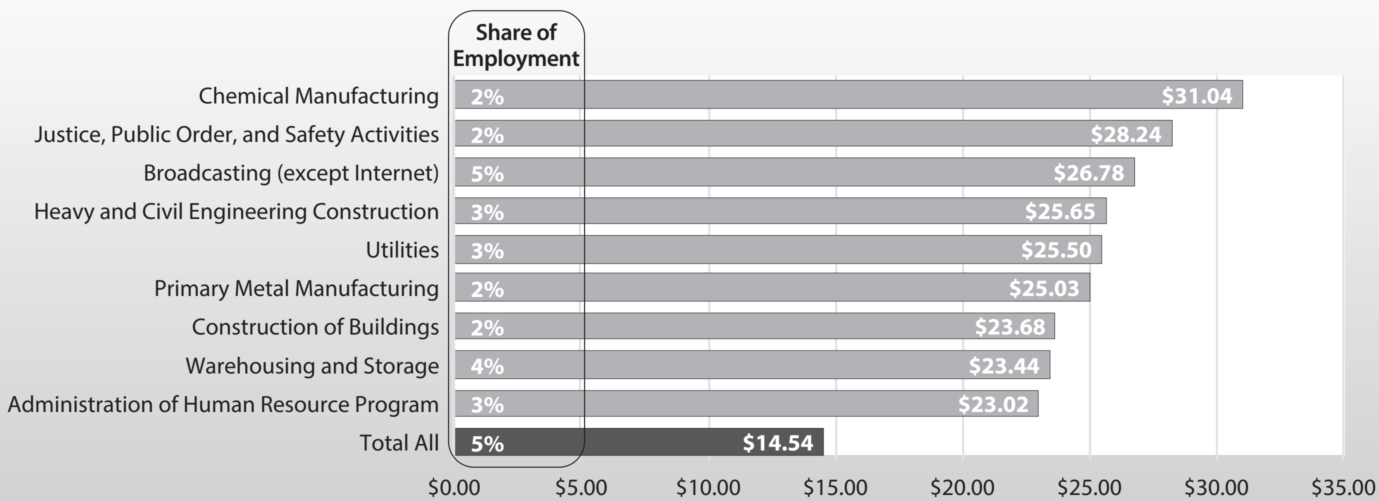
Comparing the median hours worked for employees 65 or older in Figure 3 and Figure 4 underscores the differences in how work-life balance might impact an older worker's decision to remain employed or regain employment after retirement. The average of the median hours worked for employees 65+ years in Figure 3 amounts to 12.5 hours per week, while the older workers at industries in Figure 4 typically put in over 30 hours per week.

With the reasons to retire heavily focused on dedicating time to other things and family, offering flexibility and shorter shifts appears not only to work to attract or keep older workers, but a part-time job could even be the "other thing" some retirees look for after "retirement". Increasing employment opportunities that fit well with older workers not only benefits those seeking to stay engaged in the labor force, but it can also help ease the labor crunch many employers are struggling with.

Report on Economic Well-being: www.federalreserve.gov/publications/files/2017-report-economic-well-being-us-households-201805.pdf

by Luke Greiner

Figure 4. Top Industries With Highest Median Wages for Workers 65 and Older in Central Minnesota



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey

Regional Spotlight CENTRAL MINNESOTA

Alternative Unemployment Rates

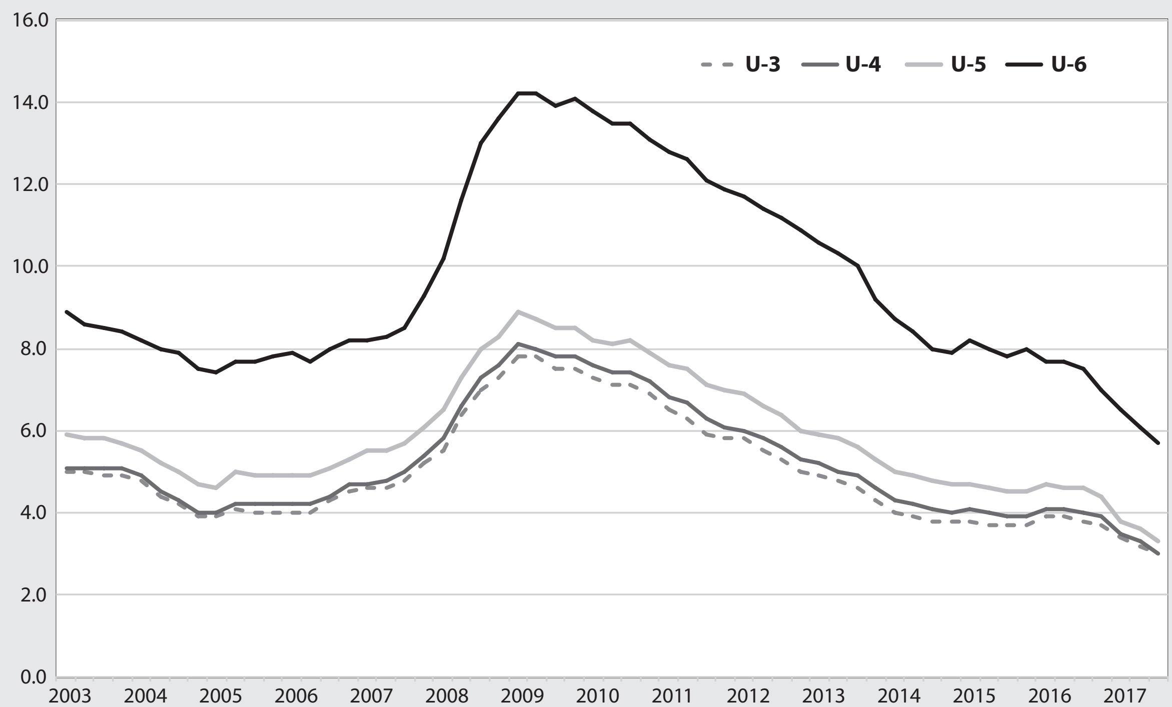
Over the last decade Minnesota's unemployment rate spiked to a 26-year high of 8.0 percent in August 2009 and then gradually fell over the next 10 years to an 18-year low of 2.8 percent in September 2018. The extreme swing in the state's unemployment rate in just 10 years has raised interest in alternative measures of unemployment. In addition to the official rate, called the U-3, other broader unemployment rates (U-1 to U-6) are estimated. These alternative unemployment measures account for discouraged workers, marginally attached workers, and involuntary part-time workers. Minnesota's alternative unemployment rates are now below their levels prior to the recession. Minnesota's alternative unemployment measures since 2003 are displayed and compared with other states and the U.S. rates in the visualization linked here.

Minnesota's alternative unemployment rates are published at mn.gov/deed/data/current-econ-highlights/alternative-unemployment.jsp. The U.S. alternative unemployment rates can be found at www.bls.gov/news.release/empsit.t15.htm while alternative unemployment rates for all states are posted at www.bls.gov/lau/stalt.htm.

At Tableau at https://public.tableau.com/profile/magda.olson#!/vizhome/Alternative_UnempRate/AlternativeMeasuresofUnemployment?publish=yes

by Dave Senf

Minnesota Alternative Unemployment Rates



Labor Force Estimates

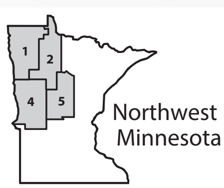
County/ Area	Labor Force			Employment			Unemployment			Rate of Unemployment		
	Oct 2018	Sept 2018	Oct 2017	Oct 2018	Sept 2018	Oct 2017	Oct 2018	Sept 2018	Oct 2017	Oct 2018	Sept 2018	Oct 2017
United States ('000s)												
(Seasonally adjusted)	162,637	161,926	160,371	156,562	155,962	153,846	6,075	5,964	6,524	3.7%	3.7%	4.1%
(Unadjusted)	162,723	161,958	160,465	156,952	156,191	154,223	5,771	5,766	6,242	3.5	3.6	3.9
Minnesota												
(Seasonally adjusted)	3,094,904	3,098,407	3,070,582	3,008,786	3,011,251	2,969,194	86,118	87,156	101,388	2.8	2.8	3.3
(Unadjusted)	3,084,915	3,073,214	3,059,916	3,018,330	3,004,686	2,986,626	66,585	68,528	73,290	2.2	2.2	2.4
Metropolitan Statistical Areas (MSA)*												
Mpls.-St. Paul MSA	2,007,145	2,005,919	1,990,577	1,964,573	1,961,652	1,943,638	42,572	44,267	46,939	2.1	2.2	2.4
Duluth-Superior MSA	144,125	143,439	143,214	140,209	139,518	138,811	3,916	3,921	4,403	2.7	2.7	3.1
Rochester MSA	121,328	120,459	119,745	119,081	118,146	117,291	2,247	2,313	2,454	1.9	1.9	2.0
St. Cloud MSA	113,096	111,990	111,510	110,724	109,537	108,958	2,372	2,453	2,552	2.1	2.2	2.3
Mankato-N Mankato MSA	63,942	62,374	61,993	62,831	61,160	60,843	1,111	1,214	1,150	1.7	1.9	1.9
Fargo-Moorhead MSA	135,646	135,265	137,919	133,166	132,484	135,645	2,480	2,781	2,274	1.8	2.1	1.6%
Grand Forks MSA	55,303	54,795	55,896	54,279	53,589	54,906	1,024	1,206	990	1.9	2.2	1.8
Region One	46,991	46,006	47,858	45,898	44,892	46,662	1,093	1,114	1,196	2.3	2.4	2.5
Kittson	2,355	2,280	2,370	2,316	2,237	2,325	39	43	45	1.7	1.9	1.9
Marshall	5,431	5,232	5,525	5,268	5,078	5,354	163	154	171	3.0	2.9	3.1
Norman	3,310	3,210	3,444	3,215	3,111	3,355	95	99	89	2.9	3.1	2.6
Pennington	8,739	8,654	8,985	8,544	8,476	8,781	195	178	204	2.2	2.1	2.3
Polk	17,122	16,791	17,150	16,734	16,374	16,731	388	417	419	2.3	2.5	2.4
Red Lake	2,219	2,167	2,300	2,158	2,110	2,232	61	57	68	2.7	2.6	3.0
Roseau	7,815	7,672	8,084	7,663	7,506	7,884	152	166	200	1.9	2.2	2.5
Region Two	43,265	43,309	43,103	41,978	42,046	41,710	1,287	1,263	1,393	3.0	2.9	3.2
Beltrami	23,787	23,702	23,990	23,151	23,034	23,261	636	668	729	2.7	2.8	3.0
Clearwater	4,567	4,520	4,628	4,381	4,332	4,414	186	188	214	4.1	4.2	4.6
Hubbard	10,327	10,531	9,784	10,001	10,246	9,473	326	285	311	3.2	2.7	3.2
Lake of the Woods	2,245	2,222	2,344	2,181	2,162	2,266	64	60	78	2.9	2.7	3.3
Mahnomen	2,339	2,334	2,357	2,264	2,272	2,296	75	62	61	3.2	2.7	2.6
Region Three	164,459	164,157	161,417	159,768	159,551	156,173	4,691	4,606	5,244	2.9	2.8	3.2
Aitkin	7,228	7,177	6,974	7,004	6,967	6,738	224	210	236	3.1	2.9	3.4
Carlton	17,809	17,712	17,558	17,341	17,233	17,030	468	479	528	2.6	2.7	3.0
Cook	3,520	3,831	3,025	3,467	3,781	2,964	53	50	61	1.5	1.3	2.0
Itasca	21,599	21,481	20,923	20,785	20,728	20,009	814	753	914	3.8	3.5	4.4
Koochiching	5,947	5,983	5,905	5,648	5,731	5,622	299	252	283	5.0	4.2	4.8
Lake	5,779	5,900	5,271	5,660	5,785	5,118	119	115	153	2.1	1.9	2.9
St. Louis	102,577	102,073	101,761	99,863	99,326	98,692	2,714	2,747	3,069	2.6	2.7	3.0
City of Duluth	46,436	46,321	45,768	45,338	45,094	44,610	1,098	1,227	1,158	2.4	2.6	2.5
Balance of St. Louis County	56,141	55,752	55,993	54,525	54,232	54,082	1,616	1,520	1,911	2.9	2.7	3.4
Region Four	128,522	127,771	127,260	125,930	125,095	124,632	2,592	2,676	2,628	2.0	2.1	2.1
Becker	18,865	18,908	18,159	18,475	18,494	17,718	390	414	441	2.1	2.2	2.4
Clay	36,032	35,786	36,631	35,338	35,022	35,915	694	764	716	1.9	2.1	2.0
Douglas	20,792	20,892	20,155	20,383	20,492	19,746	409	400	409	2.0	1.9	2.0
Grant	3,302	3,192	3,279	3,223	3,120	3,213	79	72	66	2.4	2.3	2.0
Otter Tail	31,964	31,952	31,257	31,257	31,265	30,571	707	687	686	2.2	2.2	2.2
Pope	6,448	6,300	6,376	6,336	6,192	6,259	112	108	117	1.7	1.7	1.8
Stevens	5,588	5,428	5,730	5,504	5,323	5,639	84	105	91	1.5	1.9	1.6
Traverse	1,821	1,763	1,834	1,785	1,726	1,797	36	37	37	2.0	2.1	2.0
Wilkin	3,710	3,550	3,839	3,629	3,461	3,774	81	89	65	2.2	2.5	1.7
Region Five	85,778	85,889	82,857	83,541	83,800	80,551	2,237	2,089	2,306	2.6	2.4	2.8
Cass	15,450	15,901	14,459	15,045	15,520	13,983	405	381	476	2.6	2.4	3.3
Crow Wing	33,512	33,883	31,682	32,698	33,092	30,841	814	791	841	2.4	2.3	2.7
Morrison	17,597	17,262	17,675	17,144	16,860	17,170	453	402	505	2.6	2.3	2.9
Todd	13,596	13,294	12,970	13,227	12,960	12,668	369	334	302	2.7	2.5	2.3
Wadena	5,623	5,549	6,071	5,427	5,368	5,889	196	181	182	3.5	3.3	3.0
Region Six East	67,533	66,562	65,623	66,176	65,193	64,163	1,357	1,369	1,460	2.0	2.1	2.2
Kandiyohi	25,144	24,921	24,338	24,691	24,452	23,883	453	469	455	1.8	1.9	1.9
McLeod	19,329	19,243	19,284	18,920	18,834	18,812	409	409	472	2.1	2.1	2.4
Meeker	13,266	13,123	13,168	12,971	12,842	12,854	295	281	314	2.2	2.1	2.4
Renville	9,794	9,275	8,833	9,594	9,065	8,614	200	210	219	2.0	2.3	2.5

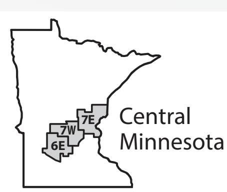
**Minneapolis-St. Paul Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA) now includes Sherburne County in Minnesota and Pierce County in Wisconsin. St. Cloud MSA is now comprised of Benton and Stearns counties.*

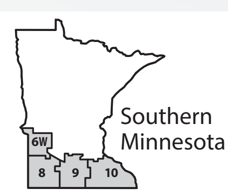
Labor Force Estimates

Numbers are unadjusted unless otherwise labeled.
Source: Department of Employment and Economic Development, Local Area Unemployment Statistics, and North Dakota Job Service, 2018.

County/Area	Labor Force Oct 2018	Labor Force Sept 2018	Labor Force Oct 2017	Employment Oct 2018	Employment Sept 2018	Employment Oct 2017	Unemployment Oct 2018	Unemployment Sept 2018	Unemployment Oct 2017	Rate of Unemployment Oct 2018	Rate of Unemployment Sept 2018	Rate of Unemployment Oct 2017
Region Six West	23,304	22,696	23,931	22,793	22,184	23,380	511	512	551	2.2	2.3	2.3
Big Stone	2,695	2,645	2,719	2,636	2,589	2,657	59	56	62	2.2	2.1	2.3
Chippewa	6,781	6,663	7,004	6,638	6,530	6,832	143	133	172	2.1	2.0	2.5
Lac Qui Parle	3,498	3,359	3,648	3,415	3,270	3,569	83	89	79	2.4	2.6	2.2
Swift	5,049	4,925	5,107	4,938	4,802	4,996	111	123	111	2.2	2.5	2.2
Yellow Medicine	5,281	5,104	5,453	5,166	4,993	5,326	115	111	127	2.2	2.2	2.3
Region Seven East	87,484	86,938	86,858	85,250	84,832	84,328	2,234	2,106	2,530	2.6	2.4	2.9
Chisago	29,716	29,633	29,425	29,032	28,960	28,698	684	673	727	2.3	2.3	2.5
Isanti	21,062	20,984	20,731	20,525	20,467	20,141	537	517	590	2.5	2.5	2.8
Kanabec	8,914	8,827	8,894	8,681	8,600	8,619	233	227	275	2.6	2.6	3.1
Mille Lacs	12,800	12,729	12,812	12,457	12,408	12,384	343	321	428	2.7	2.5	3.3
Pine	14,992	14,765	14,996	14,555	14,397	14,486	437	368	510	2.9	2.5	3.4
Region Seven West	239,667	238,248	236,246	234,560	233,035	230,701	5,107	5,213	5,545	2.1	2.2	2.3
Benton	22,156	21,947	21,856	21,658	21,455	21,293	498	492	563	2.2	2.2	2.6
Sherburne	51,811	51,672	50,737	50,654	50,523	49,483	1,157	1,149	1,254	2.2	2.2	2.5
Stearns	90,940	90,043	89,654	89,066	88,082	87,665	1,874	1,961	1,989	2.1	2.2	2.2
Wright	74,760	74,586	73,999	73,182	72,975	72,260	1,578	1,611	1,739	2.1	2.2	2.4
Region Eight	63,736	62,612	65,133	62,444	61,291	63,715	1,292	1,321	1,418	2.0	2.1	2.2
Cottonwood	5,309	5,208	5,086	5,159	5,050	4,874	150	158	212	2.8	3.0	4.2
Jackson	5,609	5,472	6,058	5,477	5,356	5,908	132	116	150	2.4	2.1	2.5
Lincoln	3,345	3,242	3,391	3,283	3,183	3,331	62	59	60	1.9	1.8	1.8
Lyon	15,000	14,721	15,271	14,703	14,422	15,002	297	299	269	2.0	2.0	1.8
Murray	4,945	4,840	4,873	4,841	4,730	4,768	104	110	105	2.1	2.3	2.2
Nobles	11,233	11,093	11,330	11,024	10,863	11,088	209	230	242	1.9	2.1	2.1
Pipestone	5,014	4,954	4,850	4,935	4,875	4,768	79	79	82	1.6	1.6	1.7
Redwood	7,349	7,234	8,343	7,184	7,058	8,134	165	176	209	2.2	2.4	2.5
Rock	5,932	5,848	5,931	5,838	5,754	5,842	94	94	89	1.6	1.6	1.5
Region Nine	136,400	133,802	135,071	133,604	130,947	132,139	2,796	2,855	2,932	2.0	2.1	2.2
Blue Earth	42,239	41,219	40,889	41,472	40,378	40,099	767	841	790	1.8	2.0	1.9
Brown	14,568	14,448	14,857	14,238	14,122	14,551	330	326	306	2.3	2.3	2.1
Faribault	7,346	7,271	7,291	7,196	7,110	7,100	150	161	191	2.0	2.2	2.6
Le Sueur	15,774	15,632	15,823	15,404	15,295	15,410	370	337	413	2.3	2.2	2.6
Martin	10,256	10,041	10,412	9,992	9,783	10,140	264	258	272	2.6	2.6	2.6
Nicollet	21,703	21,155	21,104	21,359	20,782	20,744	344	373	360	1.6	1.8	1.7
Sibley	8,633	8,452	8,673	8,460	8,277	8,495	173	175	178	2.0	2.1	2.1
Waseca	9,527	9,446	9,470	9,285	9,210	9,237	242	236	233	2.5	2.5	2.5
Watonwan	6,354	6,138	6,552	6,198	5,990	6,363	156	148	189	2.5	2.4	2.9
Region Ten	281,547	279,319	282,411	275,992	273,535	276,507	5,555	5,784	5,904	2.0	2.1	2.1
Dodge	11,640	11,504	11,505	11,388	11,242	11,259	252	262	246	2.2	2.3	2.1
Fillmore	11,533	11,303	11,434	11,303	11,079	11,187	230	224	247	2.0	2.0	2.2
Freeborn	15,967	15,705	16,261	15,553	15,330	15,780	414	375	481	2.6	2.4	3.0
Goodhue	26,769	26,560	26,821	26,243	26,017	26,256	526	543	565	2.0	2.0	2.1
Houston	10,712	10,534	10,697	10,512	10,335	10,485	200	199	212	1.9	1.9	2.0
Mower	20,505	20,338	20,568	20,063	19,885	20,188	442	453	380	2.2	2.2	1.8
Olmsted	86,067	85,772	84,744	84,542	84,185	83,047	1,525	1,587	1,697	1.8	1.9	2.0
City of Rochester	63,480	63,263	62,226	62,352	62,089	60,954	1,128	1,174	1,272	1.8	1.9	2.0
Rice	37,016	37,065	36,848	36,287	36,255	36,120	729	810	728	2.0	2.2	2.0
Steele	20,287	19,871	22,027	19,865	19,426	21,560	422	445	467	2.1	2.2	2.1
Wabasha	12,088	11,880	12,062	11,848	11,640	11,798	240	240	264	2.0	2.0	2.2
Winona	28,963	28,787	29,444	28,388	28,141	28,827	575	646	617	2.0	2.2	2.1
Region Eleven	1,716,228	1,715,902	1,701,713	1,680,395	1,678,284	1,662,049	35,833	37,618	39,664	2.1	2.2	2.3
Anoka	196,738	196,562	195,345	192,431	192,125	190,679	4,307	4,437	4,666	2.2	2.3	2.4
Carver	57,826	57,711	56,878	56,717	56,520	55,675	1,109	1,191	1,203	1.9	2.1	2.1
Dakota	241,438	241,270	239,421	236,564	236,193	234,050	4,874	5,077	5,371	2.0	2.1	2.2
Hennepin	704,698	704,950	698,881	690,062	689,573	682,247	14,636	15,377	16,634	2.1	2.2	2.4
City of Bloomington	47,099	47,084	47,627	46,059	46,027	46,486	1,040	1,057	1,141	2.2	2.2	2.4
City of Minneapolis	240,581	240,730	238,959	235,527	235,360	233,098	5,054	5,370	5,861	2.1	2.2	2.5
Ramsey	289,907	289,998	288,087	283,490	283,172	281,097	6,417	6,826	6,990	2.2	2.4	2.4
City of St. Paul	158,994	159,142	157,943	155,383	155,208	154,000	3,611	3,934	3,943	2.3	2.5	2.5
Scott	82,992	82,903	81,602	81,359	81,225	79,906	1,633	1,678	1,696	2.0	2.0	2.1
Washington	142,629	142,508	141,499	139,772	139,476	138,395	2,857	3,032	3,104	2.0	2.1	2.2







Industrial Analysis

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

Overview

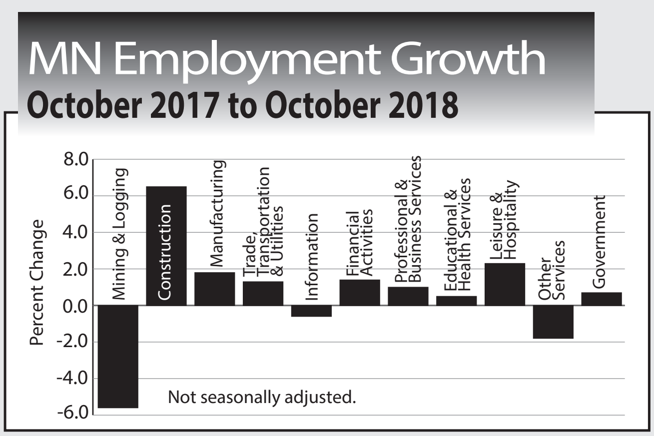
Employment in Minnesota was up by 3,400 (0.1 percent) in October on a seasonally adjusted basis, and September estimates were revised upward from a loss of 1,400 to a gain of 500. The gains came entirely from the private sector (up 3,900 or 0.2 percent) as government employers shed 500 jobs (0.1 percent). While the size of the growth over the past two months was small, it's noteworthy that there was seasonal growth at all as we entered fall, given the large employment gains the state saw in spring and early summer. Over the year Minnesota added 36,450 jobs (1.2 percent). While still strong, the over-the-year employment growth has been declining steadily every month since it hit a high of 2 percent in July. October's growth was shared by goods producers (up 13,722 or 3 percent) and service providers (up 22,728, 0.9 percent).

Mining and Logging

Mining and Logging employers lost 200 jobs (3.1 percent) in October. This was the first gain or loss of more than 100 jobs in the state's smallest supersector since November 2016. Annually Mining and Logging lost 378 jobs (5.6 percent). It was the largest over-the-year decline in the supersector since August of 2016.

Construction

Construction industry employers added 1,500 jobs (1.2 percent) on a seasonally adjusted basis in October. It was the seventh consecutive month of growth for the supersector. Annually Construction added 8,269 jobs (6.5 percent). It was the largest over-the-year growth rate of any supersector in the state. Specialty Trade Contractors shouldered most of that growth, adding 7,099 jobs (8.8 percent), although all three component sectors added jobs.



Source: Department of Employment and Economic Development, Current Employment Statistics, 2018.

Manufacturing

Employment in the Manufacturing supersector was up by 200 (0.1 percent) in October. Durable Goods manufacturers added all 200 of the jobs (up 0.1 percent) as employment in Non-Durable Goods remained at 119,100. Annually Manufacturing employers added 5,831 jobs (1.8 percent). It was the seventh consecutive month with greater than 1 percent over-the-year growth in the supersector. Durable Goods manufacturers added 5,051 jobs (2.5 percent) spread among a number of component sectors, while Non-Durable Goods manufacturers added 780 jobs (0.7 percent) driven in large part by 796 new jobs in Food Manufacturing.

Trade, Transportation , and Utilities

Trade, Transportation, and Utilities employment was up by 800 (0.1 percent) in October in large part from a larger than expected increase in Retail Trade employment (up 1,400 or 0.5 percent). Employment in Wholesale Trade was off by 700 (0.5 percent), and Transportation, Warehousing, and Utilities employment was up by 100 (0.1 percent). Over the year the state's largest supersector added 6,809 jobs (1.3 percent). Growth was spread somewhat evenly among component sectors. Wholesale Trade added 1,548 jobs (1.2 percent), Retail Trade added 3,040 (1 percent), and Transportation, Warehousing, and Utilities added 2,221 (2.1 percent) with virtually all of that growth coming in Transportation and Warehousing.

Information

Employment in the Information supersector was up slightly in October, adding 100 jobs (0.2 percent). It was the second consecutive month of growth for the troubled supersector. Annually Information employment was off by 290 jobs (0.6 percent) making it one of only two supersectors (Other Services) to shed jobs on the year.

*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

Financial Activities employment was up by 400 jobs (0.2 percent) in October. Finance and Insurance added 600 jobs (0.4 percent) while Real Estate and Rental and Leasing lost 200 (0.6 percent). Annually the supersector added 2,498 jobs (1.4 percent) with contributions from both major component sectors. Finance and Insurance added 1,568 jobs (1.1 percent) thanks primarily to Insurance Carriers and Related Activities (up 2,096, 3.4 percent). Real Estate and Rental and Leasing added 930 jobs (2.7 percent).

Professional and Business Services

Employment in Professional and Business Services was off by 700 (0.2 percent) in October. Two of three component sectors added jobs as Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services employment was up 500 (0.3 percent), and Management of Companies and Enterprises was up 900 (1.1 percent). However, those gains were erased by a loss of 2,100 jobs (1.5 percent) in Administrative and Support and Waste Management and Remediation Services. Annually the supersector added 3,705 jobs (1 percent). Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services added 2,894 (1.8 percent), and Management of Companies and Enterprises added 1,826 (2.3 percent).

Educational and Health Services

The Educational and Health Services supersector's employment growth was largely flat in October, up just 100 jobs (0.0 percent). Educational Services employment was off by 1,700 (2.5 percent), which almost completely offset the gain of 1,800 (0.4 percent) in Health Care and Social Assistance. Annually employment in Educational and Health Services was up by 2,780 (0.5 percent). Educational Services lost 947 jobs (1.4 percent) while Health Care and Social Assistance added 3,727 (0.8 percent).

Leisure and Hospitality

Leisure and Hospitality employment was up by 2,500 jobs (0.9 percent) in October. That gain was driven almost entirely by an increase of 2,300 jobs (5.1 percent) in Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation. The much larger Accommodation and Food Services component sector added 200 jobs (0.1 percent). On the year Leisure and Hospitality employment was up by 6,235 (2.3 percent). All of that gain came from Accommodation and Food Services (up 6,635 jobs or 3 percent).

Other Services

The Other Services supersector lost 800 jobs (0.7 percent) in October. It was the third consecutive month of over-the-month job losses for the supersector. Annually Other Services employment was off by 2,116 (1.8 percent), the largest proportional over-the-year drop of any supersector in the state. The decline was driven in large part by employment in Religious, Grantmaking, Civic, Professional, and Similar Organizations which was off by 1,734 (2.7 percent).

Government

Government employers lost 500 jobs (0.1 percent) in October. All of that loss came from State Government (down 700 or 0.7 percent). The other two levels of government each added 100 jobs. Annually public sector employers added 3,107 jobs (0.7 percent). State and Local Government led the way, adding 1,835 jobs (1.7 percent) and 1,668 jobs (0.6 percent) respectively.

by Nick Dobbins

Seasonally Adjusted Nonfarm Employment

In 1,000's

Industry	October 2018	September 2018	August 2018
Total Nonagricultural	**2,978.1**	**2,974.7**	**2,974.2**
Goods-Producing	**458.2**	**456.7**	**457.4**
Mining and Logging	6.2	6.4	6.4
Construction	127.0	125.5	125.1
Manufacturing	325.0	324.8	325.9
Service-Providing	**2,519.9**	**2,518.0**	**2,516.8**
Trade, Transportation, and Utilities	544.6	543.8	543.4
Information	50.4	50.3	50.2
Financial Activities	181.9	181.5	180.6
Professional and Business Services	377.9	378.6	377.8
Educational and Health Services	540.8	540.7	540.6
Leisure and Hospitality	278.4	275.9	276.5
Other Services	114.7	115.5	116.9
Government	431.2	431.7	430.8

Source: *Department of Employment and Economic Development, Current Employment Statistics, 2018.*

Regional Analysis

Monthly analysis is based on ***unadjusted*** employment data.

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

Employment in the Minneapolis-St. Paul MSA was up by 7,892 jobs (0.4 percent) in October. This was the lowest over-the-month growth by percent of any MSA in the state. As is to be expected in the fall, growth was hindered by declines in two warm-weather industries. Mining, Logging, and Construction lost 2,057 jobs (2.3 percent), and Leisure and Hospitality lost 5,058 (2.6 percent). The largest proportional growth came from Government employment (up 1.8 percent, 4,537 jobs), led by Local Government Education, which added 7,378 jobs (8.3 percent). Over the year the metro area added 33,536 jobs (1.7 percent), outpacing the state's 1.2 percent over-the-year growth. The largest proportional over-the-year growth in the metro came in Mining, Logging, and Construction which added 4,412 jobs (5.2 percent). By far the largest addition in real jobs came in Trade, Transportation, and Utilities, which was up by 10,125 (2.8 percent) with contributions from all three component sectors.

Duluth -Superior MSA

The Duluth-Superior MSA added 1,037 jobs (0.7 percent) in October. Government employers led the growth again this month, up 1,202 (4.4 percent) as schools continued to add staff for the new academic year. The steepest decline came in the highly seasonal Leisure and Hospitality supersector which shed 624 jobs (4.2 percent). Over the year the Duluth MSA added 2,016 jobs (1.5 percent), outpacing statewide over-the-year growth. A number of supersectors contributed to the increase. Among the most notable were Trade, Transportation, and Utilities (up 469 or 1.9 percent), Leisure and Hospitality (up 349, 2.4 percent), and Other Services (up 229, 3.5 percent). Educational and Health Services lost 111 jobs (0.3 percent).

Rochester MSA

Employment in the Rochester MSA was up slightly in October as the area added 639 jobs (0.5 percent). Government employers added 408 jobs (3.1 percent) with growth of 403 (3.8 percent) in Local Government. Trade, Transportation, and Utilities added 292 jobs (1.7 percent). The gains were somewhat muted by a number of supersectors with small employment declines. The most notable loss came in Leisure and Hospitality (down by 181 or 1.5 percent). Over the year the Rochester area added 785 jobs (0.6 percent). This was the lowest proportional over-the-year growth of any MSA entirely within Minnesota. Declines in two large supersectors kept down the area's growth as Trade, Transportation, and Utilities was down by 318 (1.8 percent), and Educational and Health Services lost 472 (1 percent). Every other supersector save Mining, Logging, and Construction added jobs.

St. Cloud MSA

Employment in the Saint Cloud MSA was up by 866 (0.8 percent) in October. Government employers added 651 jobs (4.4 percent), and Trade, Transportation, and Utilities added 310 (1.4 percent). Educational and Health Services lost 190 jobs (0.8 percent), and Mining, Logging, and Construction lost 95 (1.3 percent). Annually the Saint Cloud MSA added 1,764 jobs (1.6 percent). Manufacturing led the way in both actual and proportional over-the-year growth, up by 911 jobs or 6 percent. Educational and Health Services lost 157 jobs (0.7 percent), and Trade, Transportation and Utilities lost 151 (0.7 percent). Information shed 48 jobs (3.1 percent), the largest proportional decline in the area. All other supersectors added jobs.

Mankato-North Mankato MSA

The Mankato-North Mankato MSA added 1,568 jobs or 2.6 percent in October. This was the largest over-the-month growth rate of any MSA in Minnesota. Service providers did most of the heavy lifting, adding 1,437 jobs (2.9 percent), although goods producers added jobs as well. Annually the area added 1,765 jobs (2.9 percent), which was also the highest over-the-year growth rate in the state. Goods producers added 498 jobs (4.8 percent), and service providers added 1,267 (2.5 percent).

Fargo-Moorhead MSA

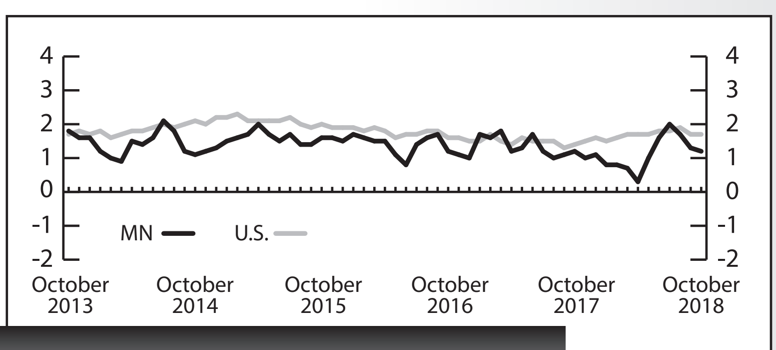
Employment in the Fargo-Moorhead MSA was up by 936 (0.7 percent) in October. Government employers added 620 jobs (3.2 percent), and Trade, Transportation, and Utilities added 357 (1.2 percent) on the strength of 293 new jobs in Retail Trade (up 1.9 percent). Annually the Fargo-Moorhead MSA added 717 jobs (0.5 percent). It was the lowest proportional over-the-year growth in the state. Leisure and Hospitality employment was off by 532 jobs (3.8 percent) on the year, the largest decline both proportionally and in total jobs. Educational and Health Services employment was up by 712 (2.9 percent), and Mining, Logging, and Construction was up by 389 (4.1 percent).

Grand Forks-East Grand Forks MSA

The Grand Forks-East Grand Forks MSA added 671 jobs (1.2 percent) in October. Government employers added 362 jobs (2.7 percent), and Leisure and Hospitality added 220 (3.4 percent). Bucking the trend in Minnesota, Trade, Transportation, and Utilities lost 51 jobs (0.4 percent), and Retail Trade lost 61 jobs (0.8 percent). It was the only MSA in the state besides Duluth to show declines in these industry groups. Annually the MSA added 765 jobs (1.3 percent). Leisure and Hospitality added 646 jobs (10.8 percent), leading the growth in both real and proportional terms. Government employers lost 465 jobs (3.2 percent), all of that coming at the hands of State Government (down 487, 6.7 percent).

by Nick Dobbins

Source: Department of Employment and Economic Development, Current Employment Statistics, 2018; Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor, Current Employment Statistics, 2018.



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	
	Oct 2018	Sept 2018	Oct 2017	Sept 2018	Oct 2017	Oct 2018	Oct 2017	Oct 2018	Oct 2017	Oct 2018	Oct 2017
TOTAL NONFARM WAGE AND SALARY	**3,002.9**	**2,992.1**	**2,966.4**	**0.4%**	**1.2%**	—	—	—	—	—	—
						—	—	—	—	—	—
GOODS-PRODUCING	**468.1**	**468.7**	**454.4**	**-0.1**	**3.0**	—	—	—	—	—	—
Mining, Logging, and Construction	**141.8**	**141.7**	**133.9**	**0.1**	**5.9**	—	—	—	—	—	—
Mining and Logging	**6.4**	**6.7**	**6.8**	**-3.4**	**-5.6**	—	—	—	—	—	—
Construction	**135.4**	**135.1**	**127.1**	**0.2**	**6.5**	—	—	—	—	—	—
Specialty Trade Contractors	87.8	86.8	80.7	1.2	8.8	$1,214.77	$1,353.82	36.7	41.0	$33.10	$33.02
Manufacturing	**326.3**	**327.0**	**320.5**	**-0.2**	**1.8**	**895.81**	**839.29**	**40.7**	**40.1**	**22.01**	**20.93**
Durable Goods	206.8	206.4	201.7	0.2	2.5	922.89	874.51	39.9	40.3	23.13	21.70
Wood Product Manufacturing	11.7	11.6	11.5	0.4	1.3	—	—	—	—	—	—
Fabricated Metal Production	43.0	43.1	42.2	-0.2	1.8	—	—	—	—	—	—
Machinery Manufacturing	32.8	32.8	32.2	0.0	1.8	—	—	—	—	—	—
Computer and Electronic Product	45.0	45.0	44.8	0.1	0.5	—	—	—	—	—	—
Navigational, Measuring, Electromedical and Control	26.3	26.3	26.1	0.1	0.7	—	—	—	—	—	—
Transportation Equipment	10.3	10.4	10.7	-1.0	-3.4	—	—	—	—	—	—
Medical Equipment and Supplies Manufacturing	16.5	16.4	16.2	0.6	1.9	—	—	—	—	—	—
Nondurable Goods	119.5	120.6	118.8	-0.9	0.7	850.99	781.69	41.9	39.7	20.31	19.69
Food Manufacturing	50.2	50.9	49.4	-1.4	1.6	—	—	—	—	—	—
SERVICE-PROVIDING	**2,534.8**	**2,523.3**	**2,512.0**	**0.5**	**0.9**	—	—	—	—	—	—
Trade, Transportation, and Utilities	**546.1**	**542.7**	**539.3**	**0.6**	**1.3**	—	—	—	—	—	—
Wholesale Trade	134.0	134.5	132.5	-0.4	1.2	1,075.08	948.92	39.7	38.7	27.08	24.52
Retail Trade	302.3	298.9	299.2	1.1	1.0	456.17	432.31	27.9	28.2	16.35	15.33
Motor Vehicle and Parts	35.9	35.8	35.4	0.3	1.4	—	—	—	—	—	—
Building Material and Garden Equipment	26.0	26.3	26.3	-1.1	-1.1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Food and Beverage Stores	59.0	58.8	55.5	0.4	6.3	—	—	—	—	—	—
Gasoline Stations	25.3	25.4	25.1	-0.3	0.6	—	—	—	—	—	—
General Merchandise Stores	61.4	59.5	60.3	3.2	1.9	391.42	389.82	28.2	29.2	13.88	13.35
Transportation,Warehouse, Utilities	109.7	109.3	107.5	0.4	2.1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Transportation and Warehousing	97.4	96.9	95.1	0.5	2.3	784.91	739.46	33.5	34.7	23.43	21.31
Information	**50.1**	**49.9**	**50.4**	**0.3**	**-0.6**	**1,119.35**	**1,079.76**	**37.6**	**34.3**	**29.77**	**31.48**
Publishing Industries	18.6	18.7	19.3	-0.4	-3.4	—	—	—	—	—	—
Telecommunications	12.8	12.8	13.1	-0.6	-2.5	—	—	—	—	—	—
Financial Activities	**182.0**	**181.8**	**179.5**	**0.1**	**1.4**	—	—	—	—	—	—
Finance and Insurance	146.3	146.0	144.7	0.2	1.1	1,228.27	1,144.58	37.7	37.9	32.58	30.20
Credit Intermediation	62.7	62.7	63.7	-0.1	-1.5	778.88	818.24	37.7	35.7	20.66	22.92
Securities, Commodity Contracts, and Other	19.8	19.7	19.4	0.5	2.3	—	—	—	—	—	—
Insurance Carriers and Related	63.8	63.5	61.7	0.4	3.4	—	—	—	—	—	—
Real Estate and Rental and Leasing	35.7	35.8	34.8	-0.3	2.7	—	—	—	—	—	—
Professional and Business Services	**383.8**	**378.9**	**380.1**	**1.3**	**1.0**	—	—	—	—	—	—
Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services	162.3	158.8	159.4	2.2	1.8	—	—	—	—	—	—
Legal Services	18.4	18.2	18.2	0.9	0.6	—	—	—	—	—	—
Accounting, Tax Preparation	15.1	14.7	14.8	2.5	2.0	—	—	—	—	—	—
Computer Systems Design	36.0	35.5	36.7	1.3	-1.9	—	—	—	—	—	—
Management of Companies and Enterprises	82.0	80.9	80.2	1.3	2.3	—	—	—	—	—	—
Administrative and Support Services	139.5	139.2	140.5	0.2	-0.7	—	—	—	—	—	—
Educational and Health Services	**541.4**	**538.0**	**538.6**	**0.6**	**0.5**	—	—	—	—	—	—
Educational Services	69.1	67.7	70.0	2.1	-1.4	—	—	—	—	—	—
Health Care and Social Assistance	472.3	470.4	468.6	0.4	0.8	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ambulatory Health Care	155.2	153.7	153.5	0.9	1.1	1,301.83	1,399.51	36.9	37.4	35.28	37.42
Offices of Physicians	75.7	75.4	74.3	0.4	1.8	—	—	—	—	—	—
Hospitals	113.4	113.1	112.2	0.3	1.1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Nursing and Residential Care Facilities	105.5	105.9	107.7	-0.3	-2.0	474.64	468.76	27.2	29.5	17.45	15.89
Social Assistance	98.2	97.6	95.2	0.6	3.1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Leisure and Hospitality	**276.6**	**287.0**	**270.3**	**-3.6**	**2.3**	—	—	—	—	—	—
Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation	47.7	49.6	48.1	-3.8	-0.8	—	—	—	—	—	—
Accommodation and Food Services	228.8	237.3	222.2	-3.6	3.0	—	—	—	—	—	—
Food Services and Drinking Places	198.5	205.0	194.3	-3.2	2.1	281.80	282.34	20.1	20.4	14.02	13.84
Other Services	**115.2**	**115.7**	**117.3**	**-0.4**	**-1.8**	—	—	—	—	—	—
Religious, Grantmaking, Civic, Professional Organizations	63.4	63.5	65.1	-0.2	-2.7	—	—	—	—	—	—
Government	**439.7**	**429.4**	**436.5**	**2.4**	**0.7**						
Federal Government	32.0	31.9	32.4	0.1	-1.2						
State Government	107.6	108.9	105.8	-1.2	1.7						
State Government Education	67.5	66.1	66.1	2.1	2.0						
Local Government	300.1	288.6	298.4	4.0	0.6						
Local Government Education	152.8	138.8	151.8	10.0	0.6						

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, 2018.

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	
	Oct 2018	Sept 2018	Oct 2017	Sept 2018	Oct 2017	Oct 2018	Oct 2017	Oct 2018	Oct 2017	Oct 2018	Oct 2017
TOTAL NONFARM WAGE AND SALARY	**2,047.8**	**2,039.9**	**2,014.2**	**0.4%**	**1.7%**	—	—	—	—	—	—
GOODS-PRODUCING	**292.4**	**293.9**	**282.0**	**-0.5**	**3.7**	—	—	—	—	—	—
Mining, Logging, and Construction	**89.1**	**91.1**	**84.7**	**-2.3**	**5.2**	—	—	—	—	—	—
Construction of Buildings	18.3	18.4	17.9	-0.5	2.4	—	—	—	—	—	—
Specialty Trade Contractors	58.9	59.9	56.9	-1.7	3.5	$1,255.51	$1,412.00	35.8	40.0	$35.07	$35.30
Manufacturing	**203.3**	**202.7**	**197.3**	**0.3**	**3.0**	**920.45**	**894.74**	**40.3**	**40.8**	**22.84**	**21.93**
Durable Goods	137.7	136.5	134.4	0.9	2.5	969.20	913.10	40.0	40.8	24.23	22.38
Fabricated Metal Production	30.1	30.1	29.5	0.0	2.0	—	—	—	—	—	—
Machinery Manufacturing	20.2	20.2	19.7	0.1	2.5	—	—	—	—	—	—
Computer and Electronic Product	37.2	37.0	36.5	0.5	2.0	—	—	—	—	—	—
Navigational, Measuring, Electromedical and Control	25.0	24.9	24.5	0.4	1.9	—	—	—	—	—	—
Medical Equipment and Supplies Manufacturing	16.0	15.8	15.1	1.1	6.0	—	—	—	—	—	—
Nondurable Goods	65.6	66.3	63.0	-1.0	4.2	830.27	855.11	40.9	40.7	20.30	21.01
Food Manufacturing	16.4	16.4	15.5	-0.4	5.5	—	—	—	—	—	—
Printing and Related	14.3	14.3	14.4	-0.2	-1.2	—	—	—	—	—	—
SERVICE-PROVIDING	**1,755.4**	**1,746.0**	**1,732.2**	**0.5**	**1.3**	—	—	—	—	—	—
Trade, Transportation, and Utilities	**372.9**	**369.4**	**362.8**	**1.0**	**2.8**	—	—	—	—	—	—
Wholesale Trade	101.1	101.2	98.1	-0.2	3.1	1,022.99	929.10	38.3	38.0	26.71	24.45
Merchant Wholesalers - Durable Goods	50.5	50.6	49.4	-0.2	2.2	—	—	—	—	—	—
Merchant Wholesalers - Nondurable Goods	28.6	28.7	28.4	-0.4	0.8	—	—	—	—	—	—
Retail Trade	194.5	191.6	189.5	1.5	2.6	469.53	448.58	28.7	29.3	16.36	15.31
Food and Beverage Stores	36.2	36.0	34.6	0.3	4.5	—	—	—	—	—	—
General Merchandise Stores	39.3	38.4	37.5	2.4	4.9	381.69	384.32	27.8	29.7	13.73	12.94
Transportation, Warehouse, Utilities	77.4	76.5	75.2	1.1	2.9	—	—	—	—	—	—
Utilities	7.5	7.4	7.5	0.4	-0.3	—	—	—	—	—	—
Transportation and Warehousing	69.9	69.1	67.7	1.2	3.3	855.56	792.36	36.5	37.2	23.44	21.30
Information	**37.3**	**37.4**	**37.6**	**-0.2**	**-0.9**						
Publishing Industries	15.1	15.1	15.3	-0.1	-1.6	—	—	—	—	—	—
Telecommunications	8.0	8.1	8.4	-1.2	-4.9	—	—	—	—	—	—
Financial Activities	**147.7**	**147.6**	**145.0**	**0.1**	**1.8**	—	—	—	—	—	—
Finance and Insurance	119.0	118.8	117.1	0.2	1.6	1,279.46	1,224.83	38.0	38.3	33.67	31.98
Credit Intermediation	46.5	46.6	47.8	-0.2	-2.6	—	—	—	—	—	—
Securities, Commodity Contracts, and Other	17.5	17.5	17.4	0.2	0.8	—	—	—	—	—	—
Insurance Carriers and Related	54.9	54.6	51.9	0.5	5.8	—	—	—	—	—	—
Real Estate and Rental and Leasing	28.7	28.8	27.9	-0.4	2.8	—	—	—	—	—	—
Professional and Business Services	**331.4**	**326.5**	**326.3**	**1.5**	**1.6**	—	—	—	—	—	—
Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services	143.7	140.2	139.6	2.5	3.0	—	—	—	—	—	—
Legal Services	15.8	15.6	15.7	1.2	1.0	—	—	—	—	—	—
Architectural, Engineering, and Related	19.6	19.4	19.1	1.1	2.6	—	—	—	—	—	—
Computer Systems Design	34.1	33.5	33.7	1.9	1.2	—	—	—	—	—	—
Management of Companies and Enterprises	73.2	72.1	73.3	1.5	-0.2	—	—	—	—	—	—
Administrative and Support Services	114.6	114.2	113.4	0.3	1.0	—	—	—	—	—	—
Employment Services	51.7	51.1	53.0	1.0	-2.6	—	—	—	—	—	—
Educational and Health Services	**336.0**	**333.9**	**333.9**	**0.6**	**0.6**	—	—	—	—	—	—
Educational Services	47.2	46.1	47.0	2.4	0.5	—	—	—	—	—	—
Health Care and Social Assistance	288.7	287.8	286.9	0.3	0.7	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ambulatory Health Care	91.7	90.6	90.8	1.3	1.0	—	—	—	—	—	—
Hospitals	67.9	67.7	67.1	0.2	1.2	—	—	—	—	—	—
Nursing and Residential Care Facilities	58.8	58.9	60.0	-0.2	-2.1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Social Assistance	70.4	70.6	69.0	-0.4	2.0	—	—	—	—	—	—
Leisure and Hospitality	**189.1**	**194.2**	**187.9**	**-2.6**	**0.6**	—	—	—	—	—	—
Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation	37.0	37.6	37.2	-1.5	-0.6	—	—	—	—	—	—
Accommodation and Food Services	152.1	156.6	150.7	-2.9	0.9	317.09	306.81	21.6	21.5	14.68	14.27
Food Services and Drinking Places	138.5	143.0	136.7	-3.2	1.3	314.15	299.88	21.4	21.0	14.68	14.28
Other Services	**80.9**	**81.5**	**81.5**	**-0.7**	**-0.7**	—	—	—	—	—	—
Repair and Maintenance	14.9	14.9	14.8	0.4	1.0	—	—	—	—	—	—
Religious, Grantmaking, Civic, Professional Organizations	43.0	43.4	43.3	-1.0	-0.6	—	—	—	—	—	—
Government	**260.1**	**255.5**	**257.2**	**1.8**	**1.1**						
Federal Government	21.2	21.1	21.5	0.4	-1.6						
State Government	70.8	72.7	69.5	-2.5	1.9						
State Government Education	43.9	43.2	43.2	1.7	1.6						
Local Government	168.0	161.7	166.1	3.9	1.1						
Local Government Education	96.3	88.9	94.9	8.3	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, 2018.

Employer Survey

Industry	Duluth-Superior MSA Jobs Oct 2018	Jobs Sept 2018	Jobs Oct 2017	% Chg. From Sept 2018	% Chg. From Oct 2017	Rochester MSA Jobs Oct 2018	Jobs Sept 2018	Jobs Oct 2017	% Chg. From Sept 2018	% Chg. From Oct 2017
TOTAL NONFARM WAGE AND SALARY	**140,763**	**139,726**	**138,747**	**0.7%**	**1.5%**	**121,772**	**121,133**	**120,987**	**0.5%**	**0.6%**
GOODS-PRODUCING	**17,725**	**17,557**	**17,112**	**1.0**	**3.6**	**15,605**	**15,579**	**15,400**	**0.2**	**1.3**
Mining, Logging, and Construction	9,934	9,804	9,497	1.3	4.6	4,826	4,854	4,869	-0.6	-0.9
Manufacturing	7,791	7,753	7,615	0.5	2.3	10,779	10,725	10,531	0.5	2.4
SERVICE-PROVIDING	**123,038**	**122,169**	**121,635**	**0.7**	**1.2**	**106,167**	**105,554**	**105,587**	**0.6**	**0.5**
Trade, Transportation, and Utilities	25,325	25,499	24,856	-0.7	1.9	17,813	17,521	18,131	1.7	-1.8
Wholesale Trade	3,217	3,209	3,241	0.2	-0.7	2,705	2,693	2,725	0.4	-0.7
Retail Trade	15,749	15,943	15,167	-1.2	3.8	12,102	11,867	12,525	2.0	-3.4
Transportation, Warehouse, Utilities	6,359	6,347	6,448	0.2	-1.4	3,006	2,961	2,881	1.5	4.3
Information	1,307	1,299	1,320	0.6	-1.0	1,875	1,893	1,861	-1.0	0.8
Financial Activities	5,992	6,024	5,907	-0.5	1.4	2,783	2,794	2,760	-0.4	0.8
Professional and Business Services	8,229	8,050	8,190	2.2	0.5	5,667	5,633	5,467	0.6	3.7
Educational and Health Services	32,390	32,117	32,501	0.9	-0.3	48,583	48,533	49,055	0.1	-1.0
Leisure and Hospitality	14,618	15,252	14,269	-4.2	2.4	11,861	12,042	11,048	-1.5	7.4
Other Services	6,834	6,787	6,605	0.7	3.5	4,075	4,036	3,985	1.0	2.3
Government	28,343	27,141	27,987	4.4	1.3	13,510	13,102	13,280	3.1	1.7

Employer Survey

Industry	St. Cloud MSA Jobs Oct 2018	Jobs Sept 2018	Jobs Oct 2017	% Chg. From Sept 2018	% Chg. From Oct 2017	Mankato MSA Jobs Oct 2018	Jobs Sept 2018	Jobs Oct 2017	% Chg. From Sept 2018	% Chg. From Oct 2017
TOTAL NONFARM WAGE AND SALARY	**113,050**	**112,184**	**111,286**	**0.8%**	**1.6%**	**61,982**	**60,414**	**60,217**	**2.6**	**2.9%**
GOODS-PRODUCING	**23,555**	**23,624**	**22,231**	**-0.3**	**6.0**	**10,952**	**10,821**	**10,454**	**1.2**	**4.8**
Mining, Logging, and Construction	7,403	7,498	6,990	-1.3	5.9	--	--	--	--	--
Manufacturing	16,152	16,126	15,241	0.2	6.0	--	--	--	--	--
						--	--	--	--	--
SERVICE-PROVIDING	**89,495**	**88,560**	**89,055**	**1.1**	**0.5**	**51,030**	**49,593**	**49,763**	**2.9**	**2.5**
Trade, Transportation, and Utilities	22,412	22,102	22,563	1.4	-0.7	--	--	--	--	--
Wholesale Trade	4,926	4,803	4,728	2.6	4.2	--	--	--	--	--
Retail Trade	13,173	13,090	13,810	0.6	-4.6	--	--	--	--	--
Transportation, Warehouse, Utilities	4,313	4,209	4,025	2.5	7.2	--	--	--	--	--
Information	1,507	1,496	1,555	0.7	-3.1	--	--	--	--	--
Financial Activities	5,510	5,454	5,267	1.0	4.6	--	--	--	--	--
Professional and Business Services	9,023	8,928	8,987	1.1	0.4	--	--	--	--	--
Educational and Health Services	22,299	22,489	22,456	-0.8	-0.7	--	--	--	--	--
Leisure and Hospitality	9,213	9,256	8,926	-0.5	3.2	--	--	--	--	--
Other Services	4,004	3,959	3,921	1.1	2.1	--	--	--	--	--
Government	15,527	14,876	15,380	4.4	1.0	10,765	10,201	9,971	5.5	8.0

Employer Survey

Industry	Fargo-Moorhead MSA Jobs Oct 2018	Jobs Sept 2018	Jobs Oct 2017	% Chg. From Sept 2018	% Chg. From Oct 2017	Grand Forks-East Grand Forks MSA Jobs Oct 2018	Jobs Sept 2018	Jobs Oct 2017	% Chg. From Sept 2018	% Chg. From Oct 2017
TOTAL NONFARM WAGE AND SALARY	**144,966**	**144,030**	**144,249**	**0.7%**	**0.5%**	**57,996**	**57,325**	**57,231**	**1.2%**	**1.3%**
GOODS-PRODUCING	**19,955**	**20,107**	**19,321**	**-0.8**	**3.3**	**7,863**	**7,955**	**7,576**	**-1.2**	**3.8**
Mining, Logging, and Construction	9,810	9,954	9,421	-1.5	4.1	3,204	3,349	3,211	-4.3	-0.2
Manufacturing	10,145	10,153	9,900	-0.1	2.5	4,659	4,606	4,365	1.2	6.7
SERVICE-PROVIDING	**125,011**	**123,923**	**124,928**	**0.9**	**0.1**	**50,133**	**49,370**	**49,655**	**1.6**	**1.0**
Trade, Transportation, and Utilities	30,545	30,188	30,460	1.2	0.3	11,541	11,592	11,548	-0.4	-0.1
Wholesale Trade	8,989	8,987	8,950	0.0	0.4	1,788	1,789	1,824	-0.1	-2.0
Retail Trade	15,650	15,357	15,748	1.9	-0.6	7,387	7,448	7,475	-0.8	-1.2
Transportation, Warehouse, Utilities	5,906	5,844	5,762	1.1	2.5	2,366	2,355	2,249	0.5	5.2
Information	3,079	3,091	3,111	-0.4	-1.0	567	566	576	0.2	-1.6
Financial Activities	11,504	11,491	11,268	0.1	2.1	1,924	1,920	1,924	0.2	0.0
Professional and Business Services	15,700	15,630	15,971	0.5	-1.7	3,376	3,380	3,370	-0.1	0.2
Educational and Health Services	25,188	25,145	24,476	0.2	2.9	10,067	9,869	9,771	2.0	3.0
Leisure and Hospitality	13,671	13,725	14,203	-0.4	-3.8	6,637	6,417	5,991	3.4	10.8
Other Services	5,572	5,521	5,503	0.9	1.3	2,008	1,975	1,997	1.7	0.6
Government	19,752	19,132	19,936	3.2	-0.9	14,013	13,651	14,478	2.7	-3.2

Source: Department of Employment and Economic Development, Current Employment Statistics, and North Dakota Job Service, 2018.

Minnesota Economic Indicators

Highlights

The **Minnesota Index** continued to climb in October but at a slightly reduce rate compared to the previous few months. October's 0.3 percent advance was the slowest since June but still above the 39-year average of 0.2 percent. Wage and salary employment rose as did average weekly manufacturing hours, but the unemployment rate was unchanged.

The 0.3 gain in the state's index ranked Minnesota 28th among states and between California and Utah. Minnesota's index, however, increased faster than the U.S. index for the sixth straight month. That is the longest Minnesota's index has been above the U.S. index since the seven-month period from January to July 2014. The over-the-year increase was 4.0 percent for the Minnesota index compared to 2.8 percent for the U.S. index. Over-the-year index growth in Minnesota has exceeded U.S. growth for 20 consecutive months which signals that economic activity in Minnesota has expanded at a faster rate for almost two years.

Minnesota's adjusted **Wage and Salary Employment** jumped slightly in October after a slight decrease in September was revised away. Employers added 3,400 jobs in October which was right in the neighborhood of the 3,440 jobs added on average this year. On a seasonally adjusted basis the state's employment has increased 34,400 through October using December 2017 as the starting point.

Private employers added 3,900 workers in October while the public sector cut 500 position. The bulk of employment gains came in Leisure and Hospitality and in Construction. Job cutbacks were the highest in Other Services, Professional and Business Service, and Government.

Minnesota's unadjusted over-the-year job growth dropped another notch in October to 1.2 percent. The 1.2 percent increase translates into 36,500 new jobs over the year. U.S. over-the-year job growth continued to remain strong coming in at 1.7 percent for the second straight month.

Online Help-Wanted Ads lost ground for the seventh month this year in October, dropping to 124,500, the lowest level since early 2014. Online job postings slipped 5.7 percent in Minnesota and 5.6 percent nationally in October. Online help-wanted ads peaked in Minnesota in March 2016 and in November 2015 nationally. Since then online job postings have gradually slipped both in Minnesota and nationwide. Minnesota job postings are down 15 percent from their peak while U.S. postings are down 22 percent. The decline over the last few years may be more nearly related to higher cost of online posting than to any softening in labor demand. Employers continue to report that they are having problems filling their job openings.

Minnesota's **Purchasing Managers' Index (PMI)** waned for the second month in a row in October, sliding to 54.9. That is the lowest reading since February 2017. The decline may be from shortages of skilled workers and negative impacts from tariffs and trade disruptions. The comparable national index also retreated in September to 57.9 as did the Mid-America Economic Index which retreated to 54.9. The Minnesota index, however, remains comfortably above the 50-point mark that indicates expansion rather than contraction of manufacturing activity in the state.

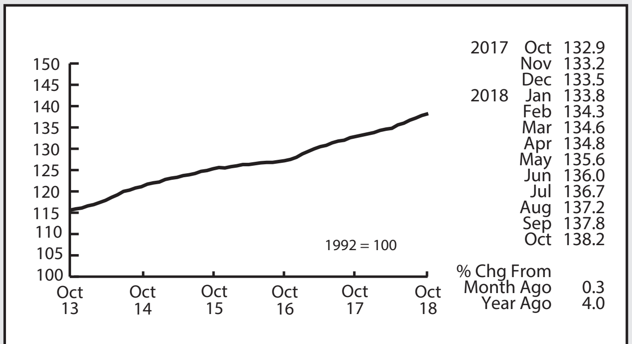
Adjusted average weekly **Manufacturing Hours,** after tailing off in September, climbed a bit in October to 40.8 hours. Average weekly **Manufacturing Earnings**, adjusted for inflation and seasonality, declined for the second month in a row but were still up 4.5 percent from a year ago.

The **Minnesota Leading Index** dipped for the second consecutive month in October, falling to 1.7, its lowest level since April. The U.S. leading index was 1.4 as Minnesota's index topped the U.S. index for the sixth straight month. The Minnesota leading index decline over the last two months suggests that Minnesota's economy is losing some momentum and that growth over the next six months will be lower than the recent solid rate.

Adjusted **Residential Building Permits** inched up in October after a big drop in September. October's 2,071 home building permits were just a tad below the 2,307 averaged so far this year. Home building permits averaged 2,102 in 2017, so at least through October home building permits are up 9.8 percent from last year.

Adjusted **Initial Claims for Unemployment Benefits (UB)** rose for the first time in four months in October to 16,090. Initial claims haven't been this high since April. The uptick in initial claims, however, was small, and initial claim levels remain well below historical averages. Total initial claims through October are roughly the same as over the same period last year.

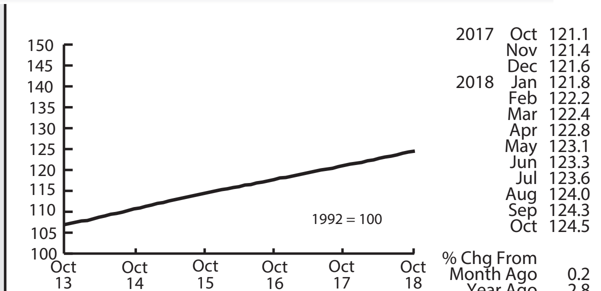
by Dave Senf



Source: The Federal Reserve Bank of Philadelphia, 2018

Minnesota Index

United States Index

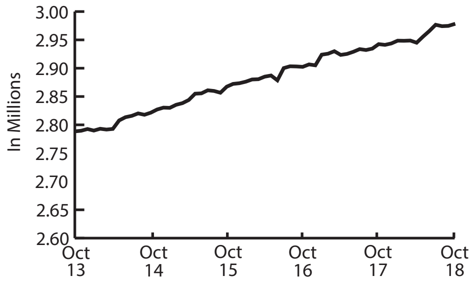


Source: The Federal Reserve Bank of Philadelphia, 2018

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	May	2.9557
	Jun	2.9656
	Jul	2.9767
	Aug	2.9742
	Sep	2.9747
	Oct	2.9781

% Chg From Month Ago 0.1

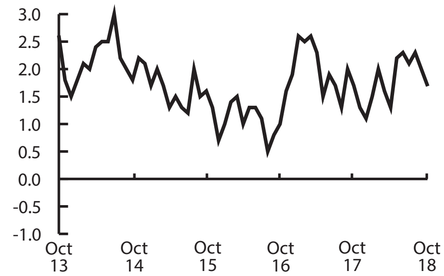
unadjusted

2017	Oct	2.9664
2018	Oct	3.0029

% Chg From Year Ago 1.2

Source: Department of Employment and Economic Development, Current Employment Statistics Program, 2018

Minnesota Leading Index

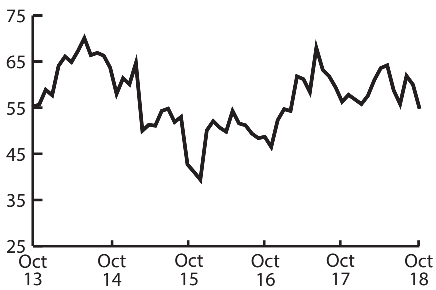


2017	Oct	1.7
	Nov	1.3
	Dec	1.1
2018	Jan	1.5
	Feb	2.0
	Mar	1.6
	Apr	1.3
	May	2.2
	Jun	2.3
	Jul	2.1
	Aug	2.3
	Sep	2.0
	Oct	1.7

% Chg From Month Ago -13.1
Year Ago 2.3

Source: The Federal Reserve Bank of Philadelphia, 2018

Purchasing Managers' Index

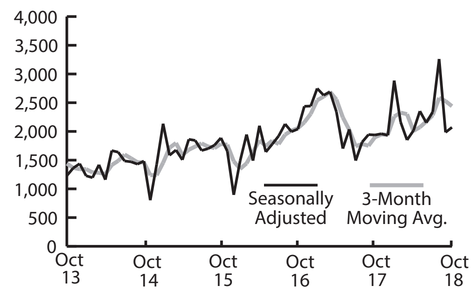


2017	Oct	56.3
	Nov	57.8
	Dec	56.8
2018	Jan	55.8
	Feb	57.6
	Mar	61.0
	Apr	63.6
	May	64.2
	Jun	58.8
	Jul	55.8
	Aug	61.9
	Sep	60.0
	Oct	54.9

% Chg From Month Ago -8.5
Year Ago -2.5

Source: Creighton University, Mid-America Survey of Business Conditions, 2018

Residential Building Permits



seasonally adjusted

2018	May	2,353
	Jun	2,152
	Jul	2,340
	Aug	3,261
	Sep	1,984
	Oct	2,071

% Chg From Month Ago 4.4

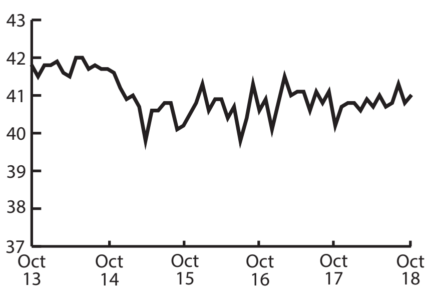
unadjusted

2017	Oct	2,373
2018	Oct	2,631

% Chg From Year Ago 10.9

Source: Residential Building Permits, Census Bureau, U.S. Department of Commerce, 2018

Average Weekly Manufacturing Hours



seasonally adjusted

2018	May	41.0
	Jun	40.7
	Jul	40.8
	Aug	41.3
	Sep	40.8
	Oct	41.0

% Chg From Month Ago 0.4

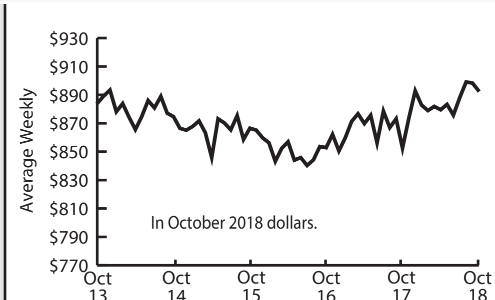
unadjusted

2017	Oct	40.1
2018	Oct	40.7

% Chg From Year Ago 1.5

Source: Department of Employment and Economic Development, Current Employment Statistics Program, 2018

Manufacturing Earnings



seasonally adjusted

2018	May	883.30
	Jun	875.76
	Jul	888.05
	Aug	899.07
	Sep	898.33
	Oct	892.70

% Chg From Month Ago -0.6

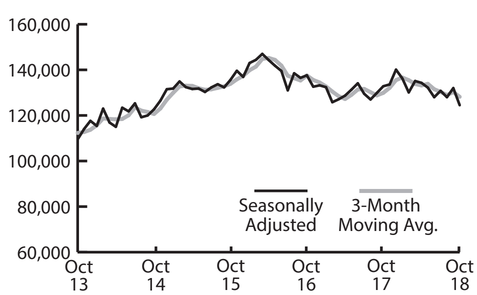
unadjusted

2017	Oct	855.9
2018	Oct	895.8

% Chg From Year Ago 4.7

Source: Department of Employment and Economic Development, Current Employment Statistics Program, 2018

Online Help-Wanted Advertising

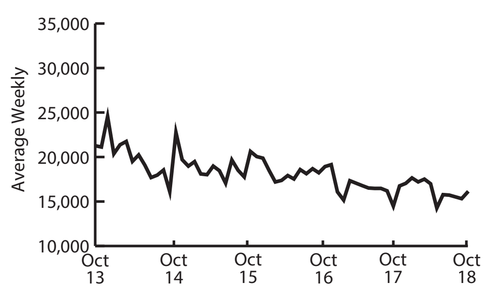


2017	Oct	132,800
	Nov	133,600
	Dec	140,100
2018	Jan	136,200
	Feb	130,100
	Mar	135,100
	Apr	134,300
	May	132,200
	Jun	128,000
	Jul	130,800
	Aug	128,000
	Sep	132,000
	Oct	124,500

% Chg From Month Ago -5.7
Year Ago -6.3

Source: The Conference Board Inc., 2018

Initial UB Claimants



seasonally adjusted

2018	May	14,264
	Jun	15,769
	Jul	15,719
	Aug	15,520
	Sep	15,320
	Oct	16,090

% Chg From Month Ago 5.0

unadjusted

2017	Oct	12,858
2018	Oct	14,690

% Chg From Year Ago 14.2

Source: Department of Employment and Economic Development, Unemployment Insurance Program, 2018

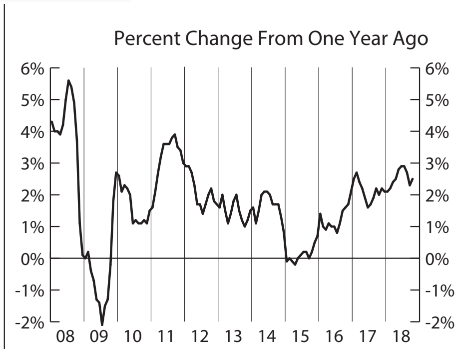
Minnesota Employment Review

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

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

The Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U) increased 0.3 percent in October on a seasonally adjusted basis after rising 0.1 percent in September the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics reported. An increase in the gasoline index was responsible for over one-third of the seasonally adjusted increase in the all items index. The increases in the gasoline and electricity indices led to a 2.4-percent rise in the energy index. The food index, in contrast, declined slightly in October.



The all items index rose 2.5 percent for the 12 months ending October, a larger increase than the 2.3-percent increase for the 12 months ending September. The index for all items less food and energy rose 2.1 percent for the 12 months ending October. The energy index increased 8.9 percent, while the food index increased more modestly, advancing 1.2 percent over the last 12 months.

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.

What's Going On?

Introducing MN's New Workforce System: CareerForce

Throughout the state Minnesota's WorkForce Centers are changing their name to CareerForce. Signs, business cards, and flyers will change over the coming months, and you can expect enhanced services for career seekers, employers, and communities. CareerForce is bringing the state's entire workforce system under one name. This makes CareerForce Minnesota's only unified talent development and matchmaking resource. An extensive network of partners is dedicated to delivering prosperous outcomes. Anyone may access innovative programs and services at CareerForce locations or on CareerForceMN.com.

EMPLOYMENT AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

How Did We Help You in Program Year 2017?

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 markets and economy. Our work supports Minnesota's businesses, its workforce and economic development system, and the workers of today and tomorrow.

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 Google Analytics web tracking tool
- Information from our mailing and email subscription lists
- DEED's customer satisfaction survey

Information from our 2017 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 in the section below.

- *Regional Analysts*: The Regional Analysts provide presentations and training sessions to a wide range of audiences including employers, students, educators, and workforce and economic development professionals. Our Regional Analysis team assists customers in finding and understanding regional LMI data and information. Find contact information and resources at the Regional Labor Markets pages at mn.gov/deed/data/regional-lmi

- *LMI Helpline*: LMI analysts can be reached by phone and email to answer questions and help customers find and access the information they are looking for. 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.

- *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 mn.gov/deed/ where it says 'Subscribe for e-mail updates'. These updates provide notification to subscribers when new or updated 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.

Web Traffic

Overall, LMI web traffic represented about 17 percent of all unique pageviews on the DEED website in PY 2017.

Bucking the conventional wisdom that 'people are afraid of data', our data tools are our most popular resource, comprising 30% of LMI unique pageviews (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 regular publications available online and in print.

Table 3 provides the list of LMI's top five data tools. Our most popular data tool is the Career and Education Explorer, DEEDs main career exploration tool, which lets you explore a wide range of occupations and related education. Find wages, demand, job opportunities, and more as well as links to the Eligible Training Provider listings including WIOA-certified trainings.

The Cost of Living Tool provides a yearly estimate of the basic-needs cost of living in Minnesota by county, region, and total state.

The Employment Outlook data tool shows one-year and 10-year projections of employment growth or decline by occupation and industry for Minnesota's regions, total state, and for the U.S.

The Occupational Employment Statistics or OES tool shows employment and wages by occupation and region in Minnesota. This information can help employers to benchmark wages and can help job seekers be better informed when applying for jobs.

Table 1: LMI Customers by Information Delivery Method, PY2017 (July 2017 to June 2018)

Type of Contact	Number of Customers
Website	484,805 unique page views
Telephone, email, mail requests	2,320 contacts
Presentations and trainings	338 presentations/trainings given 13,000 audience members
E-Mail notification lists: LMI press releases, Trends, Review, and Local Look subscribers	14,498 subscribers
Trends **print** magazine	735 subscribers, magazine sent quarterly

Source: DEED LMI Office

Local Area Unemployment Statistics include the statewide as well as regional unemployment rates, labor force size, and participation rates among other data.

Regional Analyst Customer Satisfaction

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

In 2017 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.

- ✦Ninety-nine percent of respondents felt that the LMI Regional Analyst who helped them understood what they were asking for (responded well or very well to the question).

- ✦Ninety-nine percent were satisfied or very satisfied that the information was presented in a clear and understandable manner.

- ✦Ninety-nine percent of respondents said that they were either very satisfied or satisfied that the product prepared by the LMI regional analyst was useful to the respondent, their client, or their organization, and 66 percent used it to make a decision.

- ✦Overall, 99 percent of respondents would either definitely or probably recommend an LMI Regional Analyst to a colleague who needed labor market information.

Table 2: LMI Web Traffic, PY2017

LMI Web Property	Unique Pageviews*
Data Tools	141,857
Current Economic Highlights	30,512
Review	29,021
Trends	21,145
LMI Jobseeker Portal	14,626
Regional LMI and Local Look Blog	11,709
LMI Help	5,547

*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 Five LMI Data Tools by Usage

LMI Data Tool	Unique Pageviews
Career and Education Explorer	41,106
Cost of Living in Minnesota	32,102
Employment Outlook (Projections)	24,575
Occupational Employment Statistics	18,094
Local Area Unemployment Statistics	17,886

Accomplishments in PY 2017

During 2017 and 2018 we continued to make enhancements, guided by the needs of our users, to content and data tools on the LMI portion of the DEED website.

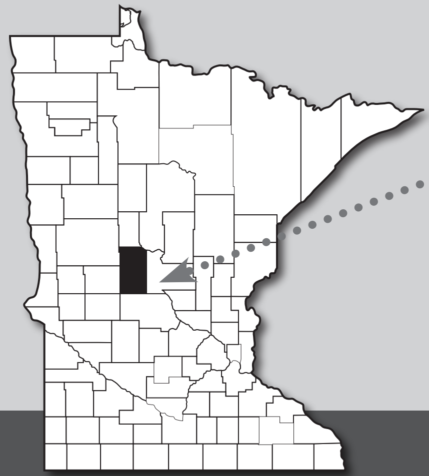
The LMI Regional Analysts have continued to refine the Regional Labor Market Portal based on customer feedback. Additional content added in PY2017 included regional Health Care and Social Assistance industry profiles.

We updated the national education requirements for occupations based on data and information for Minnesota. Minnesota educational requirements by occupation are now available on our website. The table also shows the distribution of minimum education requirements listed by employers who responded to the state's Job Vacancy Survey, which was an important consideration when choosing the typical requirement for each occupation. Other sources used include BLS's Occupational Employment Handbook, O*NET data, Minnesota graduation data, Minnesota Statutes and Rules, and current accreditation requirements for many professions.

We try to build new or upgrade a data tool every couple of years. This past year we rebuilt the Occupational Employment Statistics data tool, which was the oldest in our suite of tools. The new tool allows users to make all selections on one page rather than going through a several-page-long query. It also allows users to choose regions from a Minnesota county map. The tool provides side-by-side comparisons by region of employment and wages for occupations. We also updated the detailed pages to be more flexible. Users can now switch between regions to compare employment and wages right on the detailed pages. We always find feedback useful so please email us any thoughts, including complaints, that you have about this tool, and we will do our best to make useful changes.

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



CountySnapshot Todd

Located in central Minnesota along U.S. Highway 71, Todd County is home to just over 24,500 people. The population of the county ballooned dramatically between 1860 and 1940, fell steadily through the 1970s, and has remained stable through 2017. The county currently ranks as Minnesota's 42nd largest. Long Prairie, with over 3,300 people, is the county's largest city and the county seat.

Economy

Estimates	Todd County	Minnesota
Population	24,515	5,576,606
Labor Force	13,293	3,072,947
Average Unemployment	2.5% (333 people)	2.8% (87,117 people)
Per Capita Income	$24,410	$33,225
Cost of Living, Individual	$28,347 ($13.63 per hour)	$31,656 ($15.22 per hour)
Cost of Living, Average Family	$47,666 ($15.28 per hour)	$57,624 ($18.47 per hour)

Source: DEED Local Area Unemployment Statistics September 2018; DEED Cost of Living in Minnesota 2018; U.S. Census Bureau, 2016 American Community Survey Estimates, 2017 Population Estimates

As of annual 2017 Todd County had 557 establishments supplying 6,463 jobs. Over one in five of these jobs (21.2%) was government employment, significantly higher than the share of statewide jobs in government (13.4%). 93.0% of these government jobs were local government jobs, notably within Educational Services (825 jobs) and Public Administration (415 jobs).

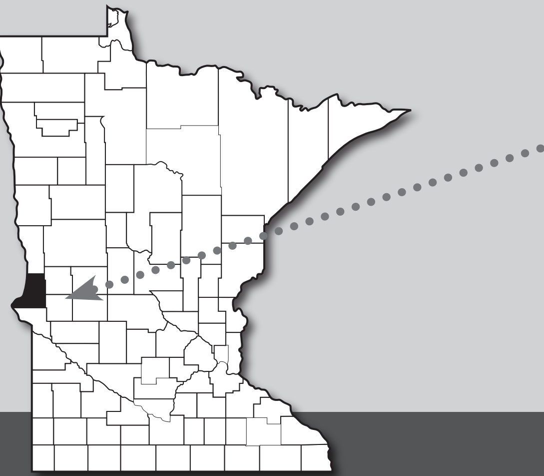
While government employment in Educational Services and Public Administration makes up a significant piece of Todd County's economy, private employment in Manufacturing takes the top spot for most jobs in the county. More specifically, there were just over 1,660 manufacturing jobs in Todd County in 2017, making up over one quarter of the county's total employment. For reference, Manufacturing makes up about one tenth of the state's total employment. With nearly 1,140 jobs, Health Care and Social Assistance is the county's second largest employing industry sector.

After peaking in 2004 Todd County's total employment declined by 8.6 percent (556 jobs) between 2004 and 2016. Nearly all of this loss was made up in a single year, however, as total employment spiked by 9.0 percent (532 jobs) between 2016 and 2017. Virtually all of this growth came from gains in Health Care and Social Assistance with the completion of a new hospital recently in Long Prairie. Growth in health care employment is almost guaranteed to continue into near future with construction underway on a new community well-being center, also in Long Prairie. Health Care and Social Assistance, making up just under 18 percent of Todd County's total employment, may soon pass Manufacturing as the county's top-employing industry sector.

Industry

	2017 Annual Data			2012 – 2017 Percent Change	
Top Industries of Employment	Number of Firms	Number of Jobs	Average Wage	Employment	Average Wage
Total, All Industries	**557**	**6,463**	**$39,260**	**521 (8.8%)**	**23.8%**
Educational and Health Services	65	1,961	$46,644	366 (22.9%)	30.9%
Manufacturing	38	1,663	$49,088	190 (12.9%)	15.8%
Trade, Transportation, and Utilities	154	989	$25,896	-27 (-2.7%)	5.7%
Public Administration	27	455	$38,376	-14 (-3.0%)	21.0%

Source: DEED Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages (QCEW)



CountySnapshot Traverse

After an hour and a half of driving west from Long Prairie on Minnesota Highway 27, you would drive into the City of Wheaton, the county seat of Traverse County. Making up the northern half of the distinctive bump on Minnesota's western border with North Dakota, Traverse County is also noted for being the state's least populated county. While the county's population grew steadily between 1870 and 1910, the population plateaued through 1950, before steadily declining through 2017. According to the Minnesota State Demographic Center, 3,333 people called Traverse County home in 2017. Just over 60 percent of the county's population lives in its four cities: Browns Valley, Dumont, Tintah, and Wheaton.

Economy

Estimates	Traverse County	Minnesota
Population	3,319	5,576,606
Labor Force	1,763	3,072,947
Average Unemployment	2.0% (36 people)	2.8% (87,117 people)
Per Capita Income	$30,992	$33,225
Cost of Living, Individual	$25,465 ($12.24 per hour)	$31,656 ($15.22 per hour)
Cost of Living, Average Family	$44,212 ($14.17 per hour)	$57,624 ($18.47 per hour)

Source: DEED Local Area Unemployment Statistics September 2018; DEED Cost of Living in Minnesota 2018; U.S. Census Bureau, 2016 American Community Survey Estimates, 2017 Population Estimates

Traverse County's population is considerably older than Minnesota's population overall. As of 2017, over one quarter (25.3 percent) of the county's population was 65 years of age and older. Comparatively, 15.4 percent of Minnesota's population is 65 years of age and older. Interestingly, all age cohorts witnessed declines in Traverse County between 2000 and 2017, except for those between the ages of 55 and 64. The Minnesota State Demographic Center projects Traverse County's total population to decline by 23.0 percent between 2020 and 2030, equivalent to approximately 700 people.

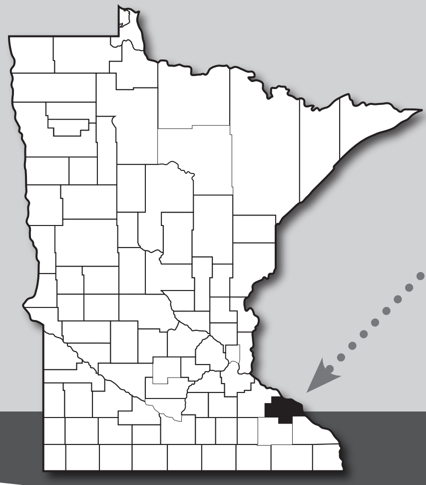
As of annual 2017 Traverse County had 143 establishments supplying 1,169 covered jobs. As such, Traverse County is Minnesota's 86th largest-employing county, beating out Red Lake County which had 1,025 covered jobs. Zooming in on industry employment, Health Care and Social Assistance with 178 jobs just beat out Retail Trade with 172 jobs to be Traverse County's largest-employing sector. Other major sectors with over 100 jobs in the county include Public Administration (148 jobs), Wholesale Trade (130 jobs), and Educational Services (115 jobs).

Within the past five years, between 2012 and 2017, Traverse County employment grew by 8.5 percent. Growth was led by Agriculture, Public Administration, Retail Trade, Educational Services, and Wholesale Trade. Health Care and Social Assistance employment declined by 22.3 percent during this time.

Industry

	2017 Annual Data			2012 – 2017 Percent Change	
Top Industries of Employment	Number of Firms	Number of Jobs	Average Wage	Employment	Average Wage
Total, All Industries	**143**	**1,169**	**$34,580**	**92 (8.5%)**	**14.3%**
Trade, Transportation, and Utilities	42	358	$38,584	13 (3.8%)	11.7%
Educational and Health Services	13	292	$30,576	-40 (-12.0%)	8.5%
Public Administration	9	148	$37,700	13 (9.6%)	22.7%
Natural Resources and Mining	22	99	$39,416	23 (30.3%)	8.8%

Source: DEED Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages (QCEW)



CountySnapshot Wabasha

Drive east and south from Wheaton, and you will enter the county seat of Wabasha County, also named Wabasha, in just under five hours. A part of the Rochester Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA), Wabasha County shares borders with Goodhue, Olmsted, and Winona counties. The Mississippi River shapes the county's eastern border.

Established in October, 1849, Wabasha County as well as the City of Wabasha are named after Sioux Chief Wa-pa-shaw. Wabasha County was one of the first large counties formed in the Minnesota Territory, but was significantly reduced in size when Minnesota became a state in 1858. The City of Wabasha, first settled in 1826, is Minnesota's oldest city. Today an estimated 2,453 people live in the City of Wabasha with 21,273 living in Wabasha County.

Economy

Estimates	Wabasha County	Minnesota
Population	21,608	5,576,606
Labor Force	11,905	3,072,947
Average Unemployment	2.0% (237 people)	2.8% (87,117 people)
Per Capita Income	$31,464	$33,225
Cost of Living, Individual	$28,808 ($13.85 per hour)	$31,656 ($15.22 per hour)
Cost of Living, Average Family	$49,026 ($15.71 per hour)	$57,624 ($18.47 per hour)

Source: DEED Local Area Unemployment Statistics September 2018; DEED Cost of Living in Minnesota 2018; U.S. Census Bureau, 2016 American Community Survey Estimates, 2017 Population Estimates

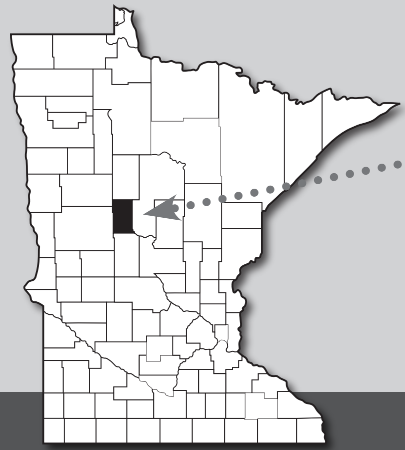
Wabasha County makes up a unique part of the 11-county Southeast Planning Region of Minnesota. At surface level the county only makes up 2.8 percent of the region's total 242,674 jobs. And what is the Southeast Planning Region especially known for? Health Care and Social Assistance. With nearly 64,000 jobs this industry makes up over one quarter of the region's total employment. Zooming in, seven of every 10 health care jobs in Southeast Minnesota are in Olmsted County (if you want to learn more about Olmsted County, check out the May 2018 issue of Employment Review). But this is about Wabasha County.

While there are over 800 Health Care and Social Assistance jobs in Wabasha County, the county has much higher concentrations of employment in Transportation and Warehousing, Public Administration, and Manufacturing. For instance, where Wabasha County makes up 2.8 percent of Southeast Minnesota's total employment, it makes up 5.6 percent of the region's employment in Transportation and Warehousing. Where the county has over 800 Health Care and Social Assistance jobs, it has over 1,500 manufacturing jobs. While manufacturing employment has declined in Wabasha County since 2005, recent trends show more stability in the industry sector. Recent investments in Fabricated Metal Product Manufacturing in Lake City may account for some of this.

Industry

	2017 Annual Data			2012 – 2017 Percent Change	
Top Industries of Employment	Number of Firms	Number of Jobs	Average Wage	Employment	Average Wage
Total, All Industries	**565**	**6,693**	**$36,348**	**-153 (-2.2%)**	**11.7%**
Manufacturing	30	1,538	$45,812	-199 (-11.5%)	0.7%
Educational and Health Services	61	1,381	$38,532	55 (4.1%)	16.1%
Trade, Transportation, and Utilities	135	1,373	$35,724	-16 (-1.2%)	18.1%
Leisure and Hospitality	72	700	$13,936	-75 (-9.7%)	39.6%

Source: DEED Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages (QCEW)



CountySnapshot Wadena

The alphabetical driving tour of this month's four counties is not the most efficient route to take. Nonetheless, our final journey takes us from one appropriately named county seat, Wabasha of Wabasha County, to another, Wadena of Wadena County. The journey cuts northwest into central Minnesota, and should take just over four hours. Fortunately, according to DEED's Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages (QCEW), Wadena has three hotels within city limits for travelers to choose from when they arrive. For the more adventurous, checking out and setting up camp in the Huntersville or Lyons State Forests is always an option, too.

Organized in February, 1873, Wadena County's population grew rapidly between 1880 and 1940. During those six decades, the county added nearly 10,700 people, growing by an annual average of 8.6%. Between 1940 and 2017, however, the county's total population grew by less than 1,000 people, hitting 7.5% growth for that entire span of 77 years. More recently, between 2000 and 2017, growth has been highest for those between 55 and 74 years of age. Overall, Wadena County's population is older than the state's population, with a median age of 41.6 years in the county compared to 37.9 years in Minnesota.

With an aging population and little to no in-migration, Wadena County faces the same challenge that Todd, Traverse, Wabasha, and most other counties in Minnesota face: how to keep growing. Since 2009 Wadena County's labor force size has dropped from a high of 6,729 people to 5,548 people. At the same time, the number of unemployed persons has fallen to a record low. In light of such trends employers in the county may find it increasingly difficult to find new people for available job postings.

Economy

Estimates	Wadena County	Minnesota
Population	13,669	5,576,606
Labor Force	5,548	3,072,947
Average Unemployment	3.2% (179 people)	2.8% (87,117 people)
Per Capita Income	$22,283	$33,225
Cost of Living, Individual	$27,389 ($13.17 per hour)	$31,656 ($15.22 per hour)
Cost of Living, Average Family	$46,509 ($14.91 per hour)	$57,624 ($18.47 per hour)

Source: DEED Local Area Unemployment Statistics September 2018; DEED Cost of Living in Minnesota 2018; U.S. Census Bureau, 2016 American Community Survey Estimates, 2017 Population Estimates

Industry

	2017 Annual Data			2012 – 2017 Percent Change	
Top Industries of Employment	Number of Firms	Number of Jobs	Average Wage	Employment	Average Wage
Total, All Industries	**407**	**5,386**	**$37,180**	**-241 (-4.3%)**	**11.2%**
Educational and Health Services	55	2,064	$39,624	-363 (-15.0%)	4.7%
Trade, Transportation, and Utilities	97	1,279	$35,048	-51 (-3.8%)	7.0%
Manufacturing	27	489	$41,600	-23 (-4.5%)	25.4%
Public Administration	17	367	$39,728	85 (30.1%)	8.4%

Source: DEED Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages (QCEW)

by Tim O'Neill