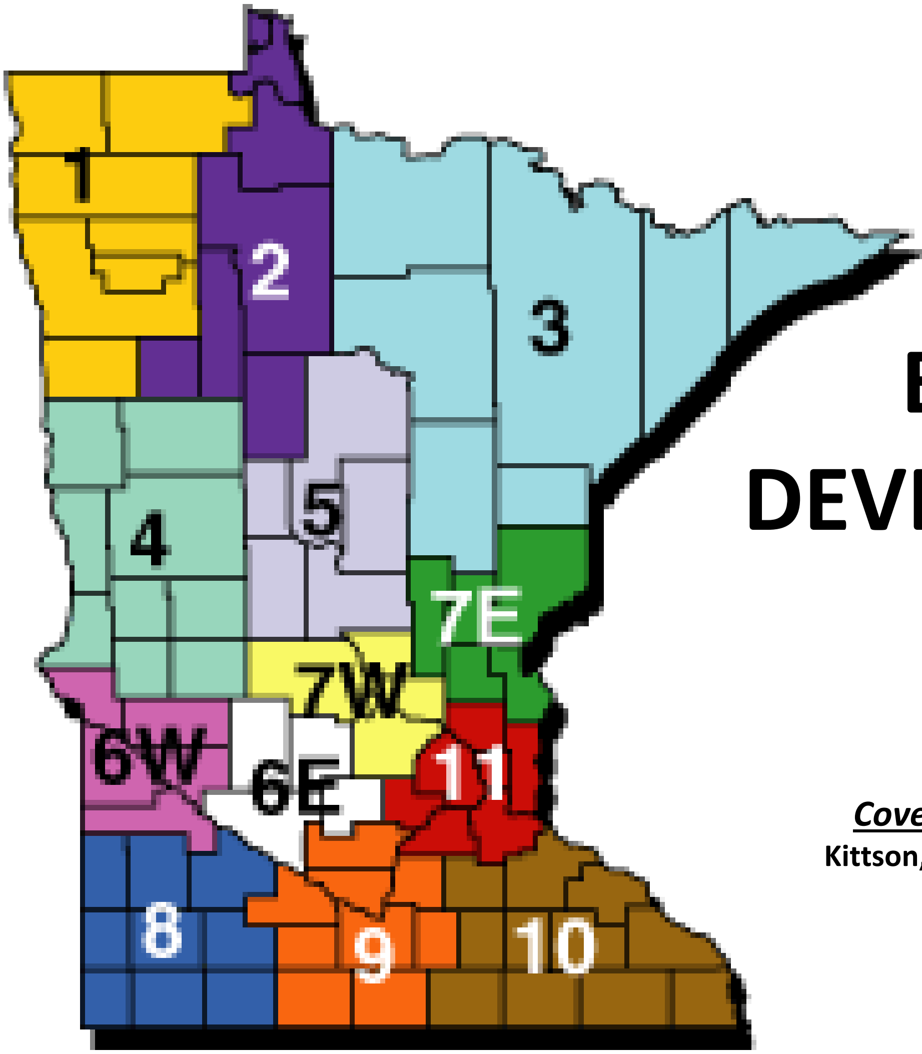

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT REGION 1: Northwest

Covering the following counties:
Kittson, Marshall, Norman, Pennington, Polk, Red Lake, and Roseau

2022 REGIONAL PROFILE

Updated December 2022

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DEMOGRAPHICS

POPULATION CHANGE

Economic Development Region 1 - Northwest is a mostly rural, 7-county region located in the northwest corner of the state, bordering North Dakota and Canada. Region 1 was the second smallest of 13 economic development regions (EDRs) in the state, accounting for 1.5% of the state's population. The region decreased by over 2,800 residents from 2010 to 2021, a -3.3% decline, compared to a 7.6% increase statewide. Region 1 is a part of the larger 26-county Northwest Planning Area, which saw a moderate population increase from 2010 to 2021 (Table 1).

Table 1. Population Change 2010-2021

	2010 Population	2021 Estimates	*2010-2021 Change*	
			Number	*Percent*
Region 1	**86,091**	**83,278**	***-2,813***	***-3.3%***
Kittson Co.	4,552	4,146	*-406*	*-8.9%*
Marshall Co.	9,439	8,988	*-451*	*-4.8%*
Norman Co.	6,852	6,416	*-436*	*-6.4%*
Pennington Co.	13,930	13,780	*-150*	*-1.1%*
Polk Co.	31,600	30,757	*-843*	*-2.7%*
Red Lake Co.	4,089	3,933	*-156*	*-3.8%*
Roseau Co.	15,629	15,258	*-371*	*-2.4%*
Northwest Minnesota	**553,805**	**577,515**	***+23,710***	***+4.3%***
State of Minnesota	**5,303,925**	**5,707,390**	***+403,465***	***+7.6%***

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Population Estimates

None of the seven counties in Region 1 added population since 2010. Polk County, which is part of the Grand Forks, ND metropolitan statistical area, is the largest county in the region and 34th largest of Minnesota's 87 counties, but saw a small decline of 843 people. Pennington County, the third largest county in the region, experienced the slowest decrease, declining only 1.1%, losing 150 people. Like other parts of Greater Minnesota, the most rural counties in the region had the most rapid population declines.

COMPONENTS OF POPULATION CHANGE

The recent population loss in Region 1 resulted from both a natural decrease – more deaths than births – and net outmigration. From 2020 to 2021, 175 more people died than were born, and 688 more people moved out of the region than moved in. The region's population loss would have been even greater if not for the net increase of 21 immigrants to the region (Table 2).

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

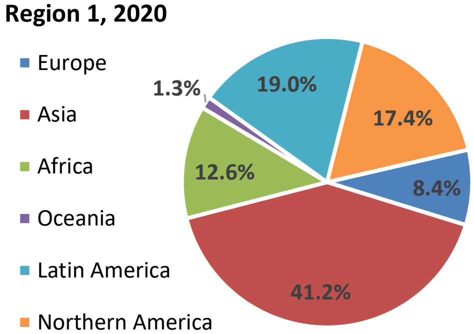
			Vital Events		Net Migration		
	Total Change	***Natural Increase***	**Births**	**Deaths**	***Total***	***Inter-national***	***Domestic***
Region 1	*-860*	*-175*	1,113	1,288	*-688*	*+21*	*-709*
Minnesota	*896*	*12,512*	79,493	66,981	*-11,734*	*4,213*	*-15,947*

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

As of 2020, Region 1 was home to 2,470 foreign-born residents, or 2.9% of the total population. The largest share of immigrants in the region came from Asia, Latin America, and Canada (Figure 1). Overall, the number of immigrants in the region increased by 35.8% from 2010 to 2020, which was even faster than the statewide growth rate of 28.3%. Based on year of entry, about 30% of Region 1's immigrants entered the U.S. since 2010, slightly higher than the 27.6% statewide. However, 31.7% entered the region prior to 1990, compared to 19.8% statewide. Unlike Minnesota statewide, Region 1 had slightly more immigrants prior to 1990 than since 2010.

Foreign-born residents have a younger age profile than the native-born population, with just over half between 15 and 44 years of age, compared to 34.4% of the region's total population. However, only 8% of the foreign-born population is under age 15, compared to 19.6% of the region's total population. While a similar percentage of foreign-born residents had a bachelor's degree or higher compared to native born residents, immigrants were much more likely to have less than a high school diploma.

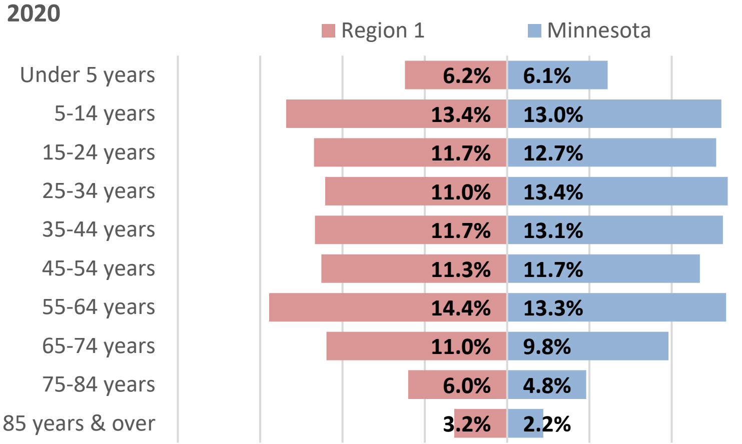
Figure 1. Place of Birth for the Foreign Born Population in Region 1, 2020



POPULATION BY AGE GROUP

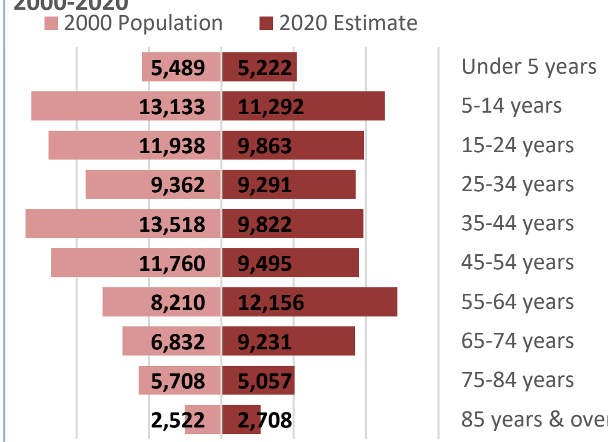
Region 1 has an older population than the state with over one-third (34.6%) of the region's population 55 or older, compared to 30.1% statewide. In contrast, just under one-third (31.4%) of the population was under 25, similar to the 31.8% statewide. That means Region 1 had a smaller percentage of people in the age 25 to 54 group – typically considered "prime working age." A large portion of the area's population is a part of the Baby Boom generation, which is creating a significant shift in regional demographics over time. Between 2000 and 2020, the age 55 and older population increased by 5,880 or 25% (Figure 2 and Figure 3).

Figure 2. Percentage of Population by Age Group, 2020



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Population Estimates

Figure 3. Region 1 Population Pyramid, 2000-2020



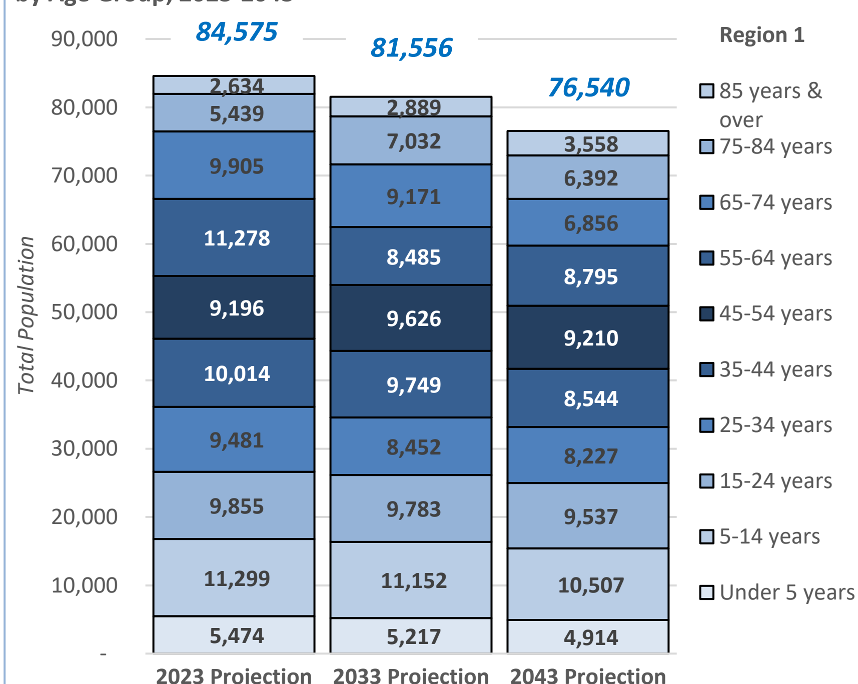
Source: U.S. Census Bureau

POPULATION PROJECTIONS BY AGE GROUP

The total population of Region 1 - Northwest is projected to continue its decline in the future. Population projections from the [Minnesota State Demographic Center] show that the area is expected to lose over 8,000 residents from 2023 to 2043, a -9.5% decrease (Figure 4). In comparison, the projected growth statewide from 2023 to 2043 is approximately 9.4%.

Population change varies by age. The region is expected to add about 430 residents aged 45 to 54 from 2023 to 2033 as the large Millennial cohort ages. As the even larger Boomer cohort ages, the 75 and older age groups increase by 1,848. Corresponding decreases occur in the aged 25 to 44 and 65 to 74 groups. Outmigration of youth is expected to continue, seen in the decrease from 11,299 aged 5 to 14 in 2023 to 9,783 aged 15 to 24 in 2033.

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



Source: Minnesota State Demographic Center

POPULATION BY RACE

The population in Region 1 is less diverse than the state but has been rapidly increasing in diversity since 2010. In 2020, just under 90% of the region's residents reported white alone as their race, compared to 77.5% of residents statewide. However, the number of white residents declined by just under 8% from 2010 to 2020, three times as fast as the statewide rate. Although the region had a smaller percentage of Black or African American and Two or More Races, those populations have rapidly increased, and at faster rates than statewide. American Indians and those of Hispanic or Latino origin also experienced rapid growth, albeit slower than statewide. Asian & Other Pacific Islander is the region's smallest racial group, and this group got a bit smaller (Table 3). Overall, the region's increased diversity stemmed its population decline.

Table 3. Race and Hispanic Origin, 2020	Region 1-Northwest			Minnesota	
	Number	Percent	*Change from 2010-2020*	Percent	*Change from 2010-2020*
Total	84,138	100.0%	*-2.4%*	100.0%	*+8.9%*
White	75,370	89.6%	*-7.8%*	77.5%	*-2.6%*
Black or African American	1,296	1.5%	*+159.2%*	7.0%	*+54.9%*
American Indian & Alaska Native	1,129	1.3%	*+12.7%*	1.2%	*+24.0%*
Asian & Other Pacific Islander	770	0.9%	*-3.9%*	5.3%	*+46.4%*
Some Other Race	1,278	1.5%	*+46.4%*	3.0%	*+122.8%*
Two or More Races	4,295	5.1%	*+228.1%*	6.1%	*+221.3%*
Hispanic or Latino	3,772	4.5%	*+31.9%*	6.1%	*+47.9%*

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

EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT

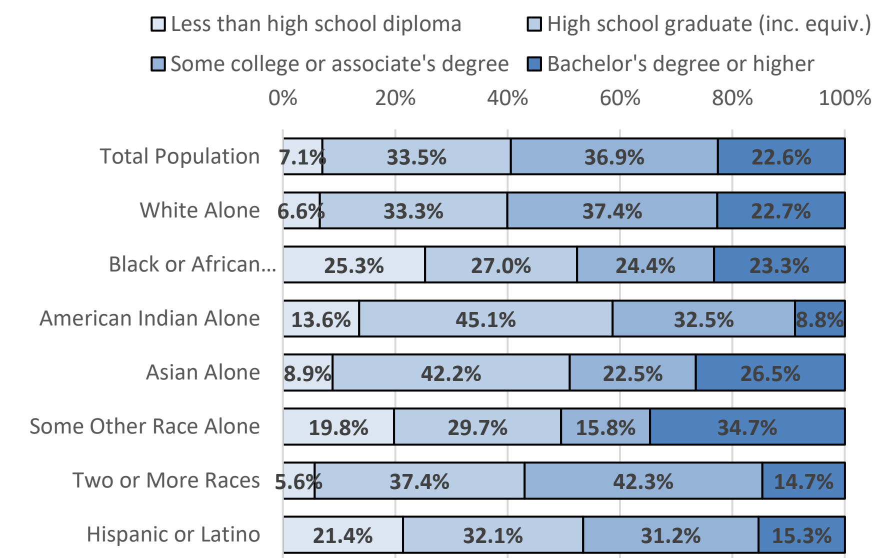
With 21.2% of adults aged 18 years and over holding a bachelor's or advanced degree, Region 1 had lower educational attainment than the state in 2020 where 34.2% of adults have a bachelor's or advanced degree. Like most of Greater Minnesota, Region 1 had a higher percentage of people with an associate's degree, some college, and a high school diploma. (Table 4).

Table 4. Educational Attainment for the Adult Population, 2020	EDR 1-Northwest		Minnesota
	Number	Percent	Percent
Total, 18 years & over	64,686	100.0%	100.0%
Less than high school	5,070	7.8%	7.2%
High school grad. (incl. equiv.)	21,904	33.9%	24.7%
Some college, no degree	15,135	23.4%	22.8%
Associate's degree	8,837	13.7%	11.0%
Bachelor's degree	10,236	15.8%	23.0%
Advanced degree	3,504	5.4%	11.2%

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

Like the rest of the state, educational attainment varies significantly by race and ethnicity in Region 1. Every group except White and Two or More Races had a larger than average percentage with less than high school. However, an above average share of Black and Asian residents had a bachelor's degree or higher. Those of Two or More Races had the largest share with some college or an associate's degree, and the smallest share with less than high school. American Indians had the largest percentage with high school and the smallest with higher education (Figure 5).

Figure 5. Region 1 Educational Attainment for the population aged 25 years & over by Race or Origin, 2020



Source: 2016-2020 American Community Survey

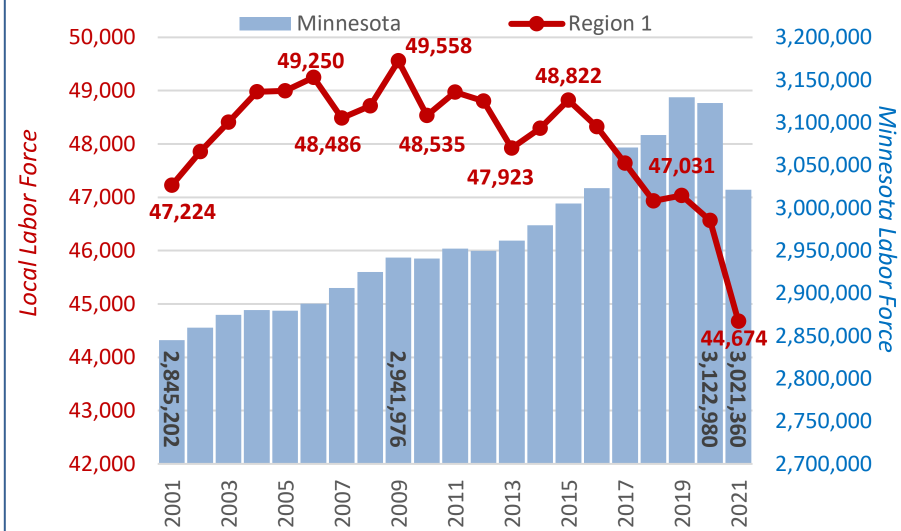
LABOR FORCE

LABOR FORCE CHANGE

According to data from DEED's [Local Area Unemployment Statistics](#) program, the annual average labor force in Region 1 dropped below 45,000 workers in 2021, the lowest since 1993. Despite the population decreasing since the 1980s, Region 1 maintained its labor force due to large Boomer cohort in the workforce. With the oldest Boomers reaching age 65 in 2011, the labor force has trended down since 2015. This trend accelerated downward in 2021 because of the effects of the pandemic lowering labor force participation (Figure 6).

Due to the pandemic, the labor force dropped by 1,890 workers or -4.1% in 2021. This decline surpasses any previous one-year decline since 1990 (Figure 7). By comparison, the next-largest decline since 1990 was 1,023 workers or -2.3% from 2009 to 2010 in the Great Recession. While we can expect some spring back in the labor force, it is important to realize that the trend is down due to the large number of Boomers retiring over the next five to ten years. This is likely to have an ongoing impact on the region's labor market.

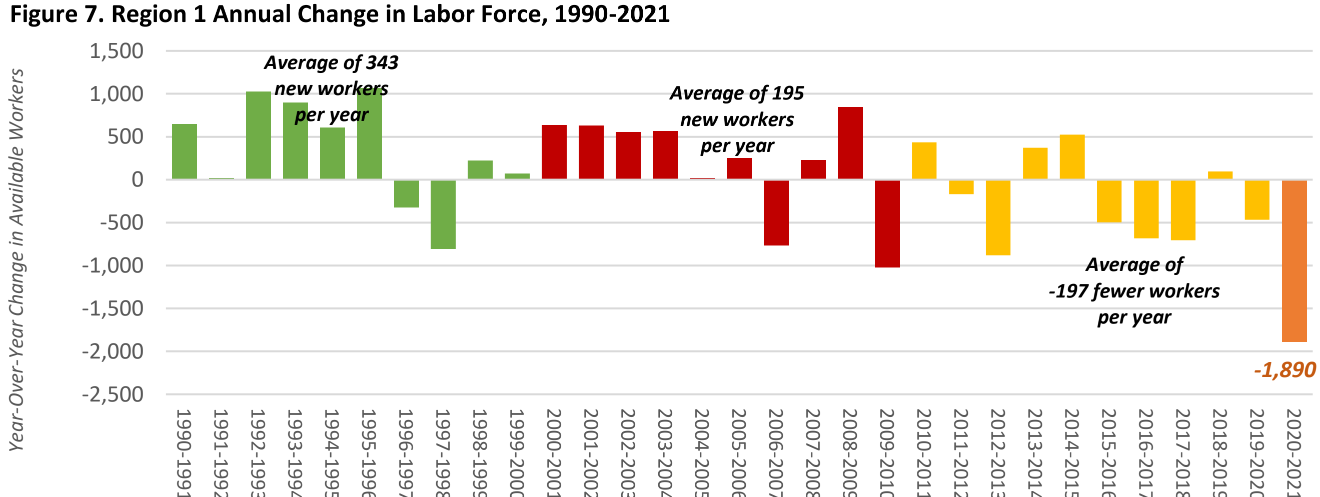
Figure 6. Annual Labor Force Estimates, 2001-2021



Source: DEED Local Area Unemployment Statistics (LAUS) program

Averaging a net gain of 343 additional labor force participants per year between 1990 and 2000, employers in Region 1 were able to tap into a large and growing pool of talented workers. Since then, the rate of regional labor force growth slowed and then began declining. Progressively tighter labor markets and a growing scarcity of workers is now recognized as one of the most significant barriers to future economic growth in Region 1. In the face of these constraints, it has become evident that a more diverse workforce in terms of age, gender, race, ethnicity, disability status, and immigration has been and will continue to be a vital source of the workers that employers need to succeed. As the white, native-born workforce continues to age, younger workers of different races or from different countries will comprise the fastest-growing segment of the labor force.

Figure 7. Region 1 Annual Change in Labor Force, 1990-2021



Source: DEED Local Area Unemployment Statistics (LAUS)

LABOR FORCE PROJECTIONS, 2023-2033

Much like the projected population decrease in Region 1 shown in Figure 4, the regional labor force is also expected to contract from 2023 to 2033. Applying current labor force participation rates to future population projections by age group creates labor force projections for the region, which show nearly a -6.7% drop, driven mainly by the aging Boomers exiting the labor force (Table 5).

The teenaged and young adult workforce remains steady. A sizable loss of workers aged 25 to 44 reflects the aging of the large Millennial cohort. However, there are not enough Millennials and Gen Xers to replace the aging Boomers, as reflected in the largest decline of workers aged 55 to 64, as well as a decline for workers aged 65 to 74. While workers aged 75 years and over have the largest percentage increase, low labor force participation expected for this eldest group predicts an increase of 135 workers. The anticipated labor market contraction may lead regional employers to adapt their management and hiring practices in order to compete for workers.

Table 5. Labor Force Projections, EDR 1-Northwest

	2023 Labor Force Projection	2033 Labor Force Projection	*2023-2033 Change*	
			Numeric	*Percent*
16 to 19 years	2,523	2,508	*-16*	*-0.6%*
20 to 24 years	3,705	3,673	*-32*	*-0.9%*
25 to 44 years	17,002	15,873	*-1,129*	*-6.6%*
45 to 54 years	8,114	8,494	*+379*	*+4.7%*
55 to 64 years	8,176	6,151	*-2,025*	*-24.8%*
65 to 74 years	2,952	2,734	*-219*	*-7.4%*
75 years & over	592	727	*+135*	*+22.9%*
Total Labor Force	**43,065**	**40,160**	***-2,905***	***-6.7%***

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

EMPLOYMENT CHARACTERISTICS

At just over 66% of the population over 16 years of age, Region 1 had a slightly lower labor force participation rate than the state. While the region had higher labor force participation rates than the state in all but three age groups, an older population lowered the overall rate. Those aged 16 to 19 years had significantly higher labor force participation in Region 1 than statewide (Table 6).

The region had lower labor force participation rates than the state for every racial and ethnic group. However, Region 1 had lower unemployment rates for Black or African American, American Indian, and Two or More Races, as well as for those with a disability. Regional unemployment rates were also lower for those age 25 to 64 at every education level, and much lower for those with Some College or an Associate's Degree.

Table 6. Region 1 - Northwest Employment Characteristics, 2020

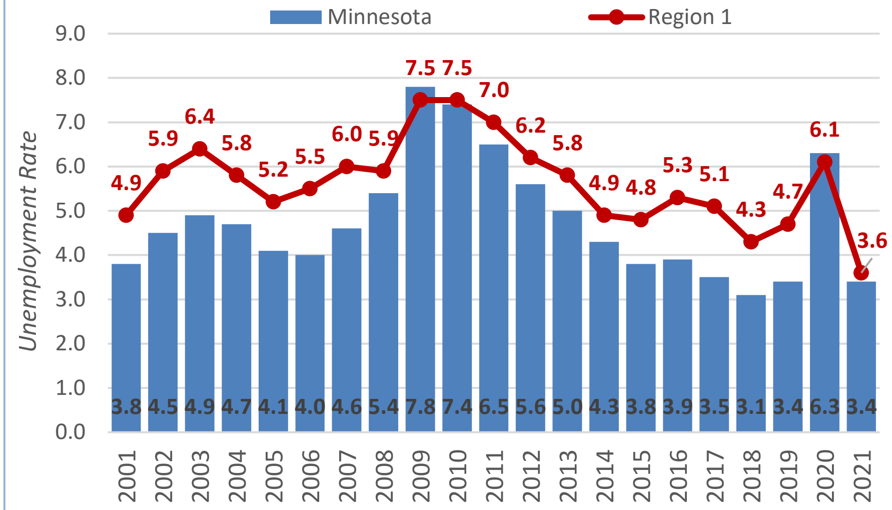
	Region 1-Northwest			Minnesota	
Age Group	Labor Force	Labor Force Partic. Rate	Unemp. Rate	Labor Force Partic. Rate	Unemp. Rate
Total Labor Force	**44,239**	**66.1%**	**3.4%**	**69.3%**	**3.8%**
16 to 19 years	2,369	58.1%	6.9%	52.0%	11.0%
20 to 24 years	4,003	83.7%	6.3%	83.8%	6.2%
25 to 44 years	16,743	87.2%	3.4%	88.7%	3.4%
45 to 54 years	8,944	88.2%	2.8%	87.6%	2.8%
55 to 64 years	9,041	72.5%	2.3%	73.0%	3.1%
65 to 74 years	2,582	29.8%	2.6%	28.4%	2.5%
75 years & over	556	7.3%	0.9%	6.8%	2.4%
Employment Characteristics by Gender					
Male	23,860	70.8%	3.8%	73.0%	4.2%
Female	20,380	61.3%	3.0%	65.6%	3.4%
Employment Characteristics by Race & Hispanic Origin					
White alone	41,507	66.3%	3.2%	68.9%	3.2%
Black or African American	583	70.3%	7.4%	71.3%	8.7%
American Indian & Alaska Native	432	51.7%	11.1%	57.9%	12.7%
Asian or Other Pacific Islanders	561	71.5%	5.2%	72.0%	4.0%
Some Other Race	413	58.9%	6.5%	72.7%	6.2%
Two or More Races	751	62.4%	6.0%	73.3%	7.1%
Hispanic or Latino	1,833	73.7%	8.0%	76.5%	6.3%
Employment Characteristics by Disability					
With Any Disability	2,271	48.5%	7.0%	52.9%	8.9%
Employment Characteristics by Educational Attainment					
Population 25 to 64 years	34,741	83.1%	2.9%	84.4%	3.2%
Less than H.S. Diploma	1,528	70.1%	4.3%	66.3%	4.5%
H.S. Diploma or Equivalent	10,168	79.6%	2.3%	77.9%	2.5%
Some College or Assoc. Degree	14,340	84.2%	1.7%	85.2%	3.3%
Bachelor's Degree or Higher	8,697	88.6%	1.3%	90.0%	1.9%

Source: 2015-2019 American Community Survey, 5-Year Estimates

UNEMPLOYMENT RATES

During the pandemic recovery, the region's unemployment rate dropped to all-time lows, going back to 1990 when the Local Area Unemployment Statistics program began. The average unemployment rate for 2021 plunged to 3.6% yet remained a bit higher than the 3.4% statewide rate. Except for in 2009 during the heights of the Great Recession and in the 2020 pandemic recession, Region 1 has consistently reported higher unemployment rates than Minnesota overall (Figure 8).

Figure 8. Unemployment Rates, 2001-2021

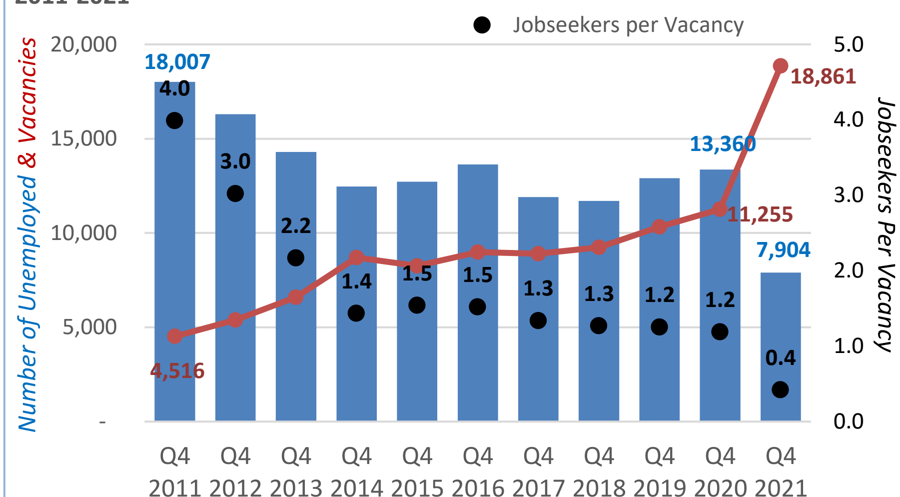


Source: DEED Local Area Unemployment Statistics (LAUS) program

JOBSEEKERS PER VACANCY

The unprecedented tight labor market is demonstrated by the ratio of unemployed jobseekers per job vacancy in the fourth quarter of 2021, which reached an all-time low of 0.4-to-1 in the 26-county Northwest Minnesota Planning Area that includes Region 1 (Figure 9). There were an estimated 18,861 openings – a record high – compared to 7,904 unemployed jobseekers. The rapid pandemic spike in unemployment and drop in job vacancies does not show up on this fourth quarter over-the-year series of Figure 9 because these impacts played out in the first through third quarters of 2020, but the labor market has returned to tight conditions, and even tighter.

Figure 9. Jobseekers Per Vacancy, 2011-2021



Source: DEED Job Vacancy Survey, LAUS program

COMMUTE SHED AND LABOR SHED

Nearly a third – 32.1%– of Region 1 residents work outside the region. Thus, Region 1 is a net exporter of labor, having fewer jobs than available workers. In 2019, 28,338 workers both lived and worked in Region 1, while another 7,409 workers commuted into the region for work. This is compared to 13,411 workers who lived in the region but commuted to outside areas for work (Table 7). The Grand Forks and Fargo, ND employment centers are the main work destinations outside the region (Table 7 and Figure 10).

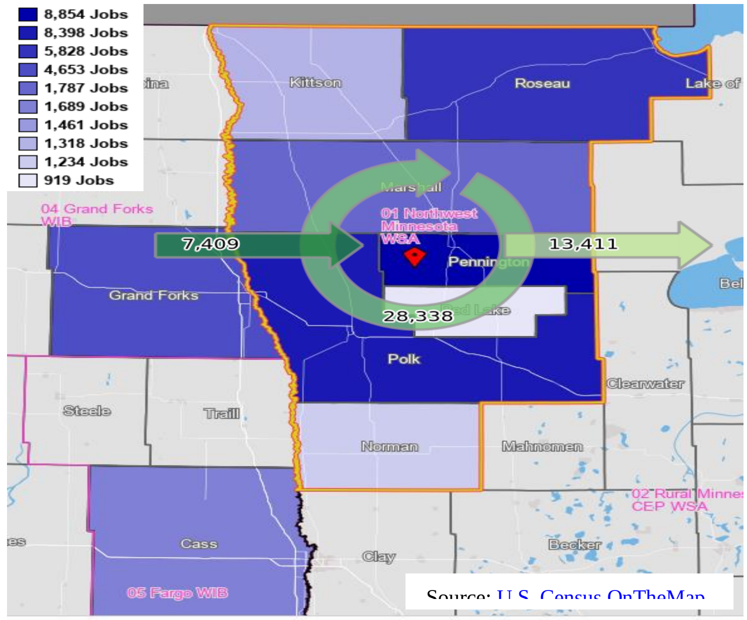
Table 7. 2019 Inflow/ Outflow Job Counts (All Jobs), EDR 1-Northwest	2019	
	Count	Share
Employed in the Selection Area	35,747	100.0%
Employed in the Selection Area but Living Outside	7,409	20.7%
Employed and Living in the Selection Area	28,338	79.3%
Living in the Selection Area	41,749	100.0%
Living in the Selection Area but Employed Outside	13,411	32.1%
Living and Employed in the Selection Area	28,338	67.9%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, OnTheMap

Pennington County was the largest employment center in the region with 8,854 workers, followed closely by Polk with 8,398. Over 41% of the region's workers are employed in these two counties. Roseau and Grand Forks County, ND account for an additional 14% and 11%, respectively. Marshall County is the destination of 4.3% of workers, followed closely by Cass County, ND with 4%.

The average commute time for workers was 20.2 minutes, compared to 23.8 minutes statewide. Just over 65% of workers commuted less than 20 minutes each way, compared to 45.8% statewide. About 7% of workers worked at home, and 3% walked to work.

Figure 10. EDR 1-Northwest Labor and Commute Shed, 2019

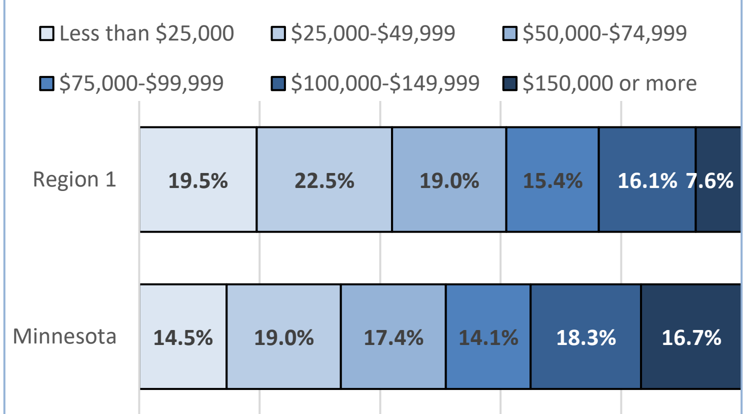


INCOMES, WAGES AND OCCUPATIONS

HOUSEHOLD INCOMES

Median household income was lower in Region 1 than statewide, $59,616 compared to $73,382. Region 1's median household income ranked 10th out of Minnesota's 13 EDRs. A smaller share of Region 1 households were in the highest two income brackets, while a larger Region 1 share were in the lowest income bracket. However, a larger percentage of Region 1 households were in the middle brackets between $25,000 and $100,000, nearly 57% compared to 50.5% statewide. As with statewide, the largest percentage of Region 1 households had incomes between $25,000 and $50,000 (Figure 11).

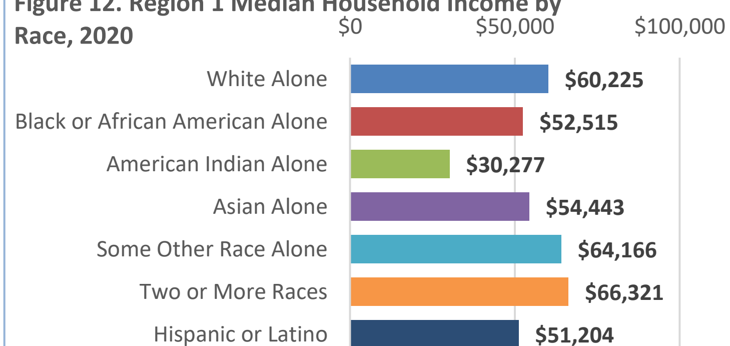
Figure 11. Household Incomes, 2020



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

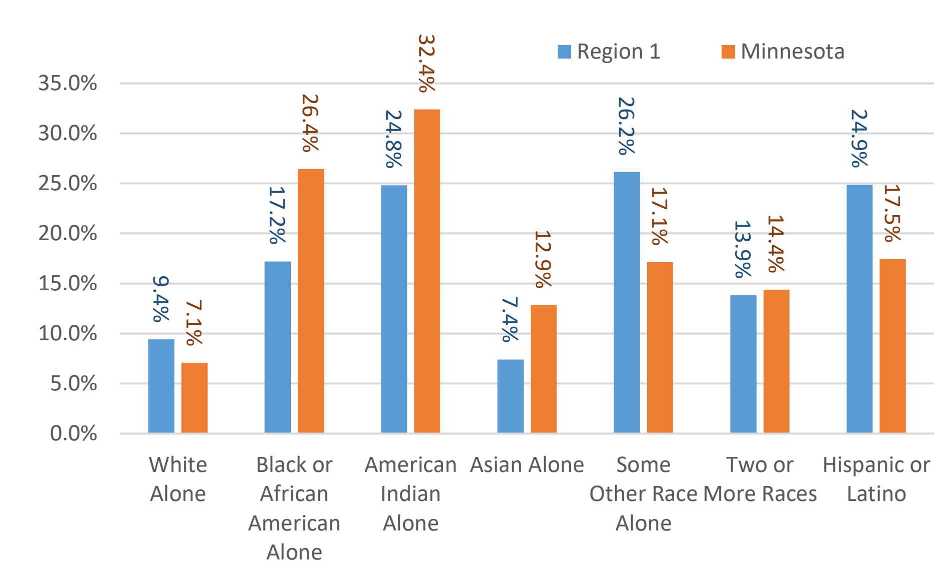
Incomes varied widely by race in Region 1, with the highest incomes reported by Two or More Races, Some Other Race, and white households. However, sample sizes were small for several of the racial or ethnic groups other than white, leading to large margins of error and big swings compared to previous years. Nevertheless, American Indian households consistently had much lower median incomes than white households (Figure 12).

Figure 12. Region 1 Median Household Income by Race, 2020



Source: 2016-2020 American Community Survey

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



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

Overall, Region 1's poverty rate was 10%, slightly above the statewide rate of 9.3%. Like incomes, poverty levels varied widely by race and origin, with poverty rates for American Indian, Some Other Race, and Hispanic or Latino groups all more than double those for white and Asian. Rates for Black or African American and Two or More Races were also much higher than average. It is notable that poverty rates for Some Other Race and Two or More Races are well above average when median household incomes (Figure 12) were also above average. It appears that the median income data do not reflect the income disparities for these groups. The region had higher poverty rates than statewide for white, Some Other Race, and Hispanic or Latino. However, the region had lower poverty rates than statewide for Black, American Indian, and Asian (Figure 13).

COST OF LIVING

According to DEED's Cost of Living tool, the basic needs budget for an average Minnesota family (which consists of 2 adults and 1 child, with 1 full-time and 1 part-time worker) was $60,540 in 2021. The cost of living for a similar family in Region 1-Northwest was $46,548 – which was the 3rd lowest of the 13 EDRs in the state, and lowest in the 26-county Northwest Planning Area. The highest monthly costs were for food, housing, and transportation; though the region's housing, childcare, and taxes were significantly lower than statewide. In order to meet the basic cost of living for the region, the workers in the family scenario described would need to earn $14.92 per hour working a combined 60 hours per week.

DEED's Cost of Living tool provides different estimates for household compositions including single people, partnered couples, and up to 4 children. For a single person living alone and working full-time, the estimated yearly cost in Region 1 would be $27,960 which would require an hourly wage of $13.44 to meet the basic needs cost of living (Table 8).

Table 8. Family Yearly Cost, Worker Hourly Wage, and Family Monthly Costs, 2022

Family Composition	Number of Workers	Yearly Cost of Living	Hourly Wage Required	Monthly Costs						
				Child Care	Food	Health Care	Housing	Trans-portation	Other	Taxes
EDR 1-Northwest										
Single, 0 children	1 FT	$27,960	$13.44	$0	$357	$152	$622	$635	$268	$296
Single, 1 child	1 FT	$41,340	$19.88	$412	$528	$482	$813	$638	$367	$205
2 parents, 1 child	**1 FT, 1 PT**	**$46,548**	**$14.92**	**$206**	**$816**	**$538**	**$813**	**$736**	**$446**	**$324**
2 parents, 2 children	2 FT	$63,288	$15.21	$728	$1065	$549	$1,088	$776	$589	$479
State of Minnesota										
Single, 0 children	1 FT	$33,708	$16.21	$0	$359	$157	$903	$663	$345	$382
2 parents, 1 child	**1 FT, 1 PT**	**$60,540**	**$19.40**	**$579**	**$822**	**$561**	**$1,151**	**$772**	**$540**	**$620**

Source: DEED Cost of Living tool

WAGES AND OCCUPATIONS

The median hourly wage for all occupations in Region 1 was $22.41 in the first quarter of 2021 (Table 9). As such, the region has the highest median wage in the Northwest Planning Area, despite having the lowest cost of living. Still, the median wage in Region 1 was $1.40 less than the statewide median, and $2.06 less than the median hourly wage in the Twin Cities metro area, which would amount to nearly $4,285 less per year for a full-time worker. Compared to the other northernmost areas, the median hourly wage in Region 1 was similar to EDR 3-Arrowhead ($22.54) and significantly higher than in EDR 2-Headwaters ($19.15).

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

Source: *DEED Occupational Employment & Wage Statistics, 2022*

Region 1 had over 4,500 workers employed in Production occupations which had a high location quotient, indicating a stronger concentration in the region. Median wages were also higher than statewide for Production occupations. Regional wages are also highly competitive in Transportation & Material Moving, Farming, Fishing & Forestry, and Architecture & Engineering occupations, all of which are also more highly concentrated than statewide as indicated by a location quotient greater than 1. Protective Service and Healthcare Support occupations had similar wages to statewide but were not more highly concentrated in the region (Table 10).

Table 10. EDR 1-Northwest Occupational Employment Statistics, 1st Qtr. 2022

	EDR 1-Northwest				State of Minnesota		
	Median Hourly Wage	Estimated Regional Employment	*Share of Total Employment*	*Location Quotient*	Median Hourly Wage	Estimated Employment	*Share of Total Employment*
Total, All Occupations	$22.41	34,150	*100.0%*	*1.0*	$23.81	2,695,450	*100.0%*
Production	$23.51	4,520	*13.2%*	*1.8*	$19.59	198,940	*7.4%*
Office & Administrative Support	$19.07	4,400	*12.9%*	*1.0*	$23.12	334,550	*12.4%*
Transportation & Material Moving	$19.12	3,210	*9.4%*	*1.2*	$19.30	209,780	*7.8%*
Sales & Related	$14.71	3,160	*9.3%*	*1.0*	$17.25	245,390	*9.1%*
Education, Training & Library	$23.55	2,510	*7.3%*	*1.3*	$24.48	149,990	*5.6%*
Food Preparation & Serving Related	$13.85	2,400	*7.0%*	*1.0*	$14.65	198,800	*7.4%*
Management	$46.36	1,980	*5.8%*	*0.9*	$50.51	181,090	*6.7%*
Healthcare Practitioners & Technical	$30.54	1,790	*5.2%*	*0.7*	$38.73	190,180	*7.1%*
Healthcare Support	$15.24	1,650	*4.8%*	*0.8*	$15.37	162,530	*6.0%*
Business & Financial Operations	$30.02	1,570	*4.6%*	*0.6*	$38.08	192,700	*7.1%*
Installation, Maintenance & Repair	$23.49	1,400	*4.1%*	*1.1*	$25.34	96,660	*3.6%*
Construction & Extraction	$27.03	980	*2.9%*	*0.7*	$30.09	107,180	*4.0%*
Building, Grounds Cleaning & Maint.	$15.46	920	*2.7%*	*1.0*	$17.98	75,850	*2.8%*
Architecture & Engineering	$38.13	710	*2.1%*	*1.1*	$39.39	51,970	*1.9%*
Community & Social Service	$23.74	630	*1.8%*	*0.9*	$24.68	53,670	*2.0%*
Personal Care & Service	$14.71	600	*1.8%*	*0.8*	$15.24	56,580	*2.1%*
Protective Service	$25.88	510	*1.5%*	*1.0*	$25.07	40,580	*1.5%*
Computer & Mathematical	$30.68	440	*1.3%*	*0.3*	$48.34	101,560	*3.8%*
Arts, Design, Entertainment & Media	$19.04	300	*0.9%*	*0.6*	$26.08	36,710	*1.4%*
Life, Physical & Social Science	$25.85	240	*0.7%*	*0.7*	$37.30	26,140	*1.0%*
Farming, Fishing & Forestry	$18.18	120	*0.4%*	*2.2*	$18.55	4,350	*0.2%*
Legal	$34.36	110	*0.3%*	*0.4*	$40.08	19,860	*0.7%*

Source: *DEED Occupational Employment & Wage Statistics, Qtr. 1 2022*

The lowest-paying occupational groups both in Region 1 and statewide is Food Preparation & Serving and Personal Care, which tend to have lower educational and training requirements. In contrast, the highest paying jobs are found in Management, Architecture & Engineering, Legal, Computer & Mathematical, Healthcare Practitioners, and Business & Financial Operations occupations, which require high levels of education and experience. However, the gaps in pay between the region and the state often exceed $5.00 per hour.

JOB VACANCY SURVEY

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

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

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

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

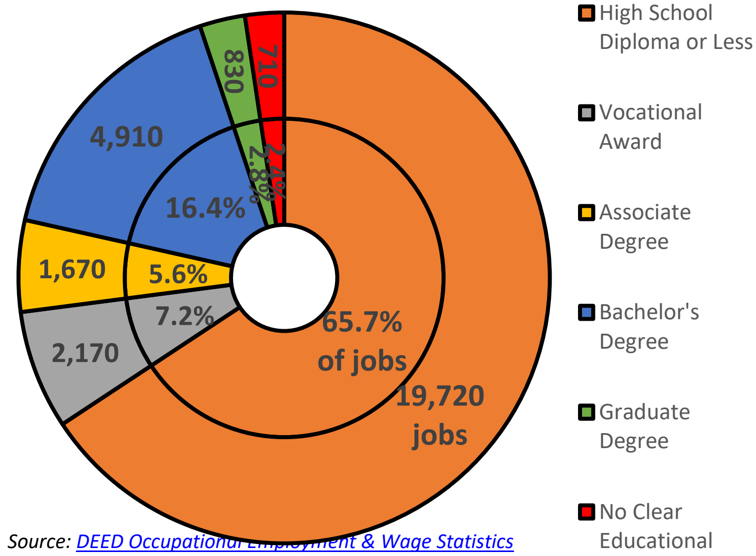
	Number of Total Vacancies	Percent Part-time	Percent Temporary or Seasonal	Requiring Post-Secondary Education	Requiring 1 or More Years of Work Exp.	Requiring Certificate or License	Median Hourly Wage Offer	*Job Vacancy Rate*
Total, All Occupations	**18,861**	**34%**	**3%**	**25%**	**41%**	**52%**	**$16.85**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

Source: DEED Job Vacancy Survey, Qtr. 4 2021

EDUCATIONAL REQUIREMENTS

Data from DEED's Occupational Employment & Wage Statistics program show that just under one-third of current jobs in Region 1 require post-secondary education. The other two-thirds require no more than a high school diploma, and sometimes less. However, some amount of on-the-job training is often needed (Figure 14).

Figure 14. Region 1 Share of Jobs by Educational Requirements, 2022



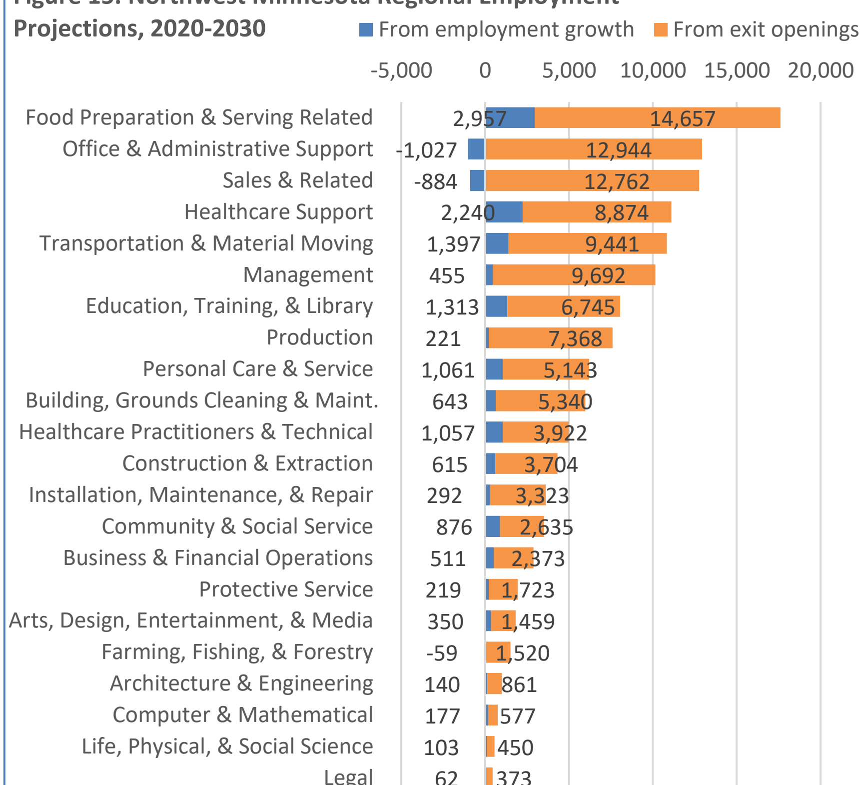
Source: *DEED Occupational Employment & Wage Statistics*

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

EMPLOYMENT PROJECTIONS

Overall, the 26-county Northwest Planning Region is projected to grow 5.1% from 2020 to 2030, a gain of 12,719 new jobs. In addition, the region is also expected to need 115,886 replacement openings to fill jobs left vacant by retirements and other career changers. Food Preparation & Serving and Healthcare Support occupations are expected to see the most growth. Note that this timeframe includes recovery from pandemic losses. Office & Administrative Support and Sales & Related are expected to decline but rank second and third in openings due to the large number of replacements needed for those leaving these occupations. Every occupational group will show some future demand through replacement openings (Figure 15).

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



Source: *DEED 2020-2030 Employment Outlook*

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

OCCUPATIONS IN DEMAND

According to DEED's Occupations in Demand tool, there are over 500 occupations in demand (OID) in the 26-county Northwest Minnesota Planning Region, and about 300 occupations are showing relatively high demand. Training and education requirements of these occupations range from short-term on-the-job training to postsecondary education and advanced degrees. Most OID require a high school diploma or less, and less than one-third require a bachelor's degree or higher. While OID exist in every sector, the region's major industries are well represented as many of the jobs are concentrated in health care and social assistance, education, and manufacturing. There are also OID employed in many industries, including managers, accountants, and computer support (Table 12).

Table 12. Northwest Minnesota Occupations in Demand by Education Level, 2022

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

Source: DEED Occupations in Demand

ECONOMY

INDUSTRY EMPLOYMENT

According to DEED's Quarterly Census of Employment & Wages (QCEW) program, Region 1 was home to 2,750 business establishments providing 35,292 jobs covered by state Unemployment Insurance in 2021, with a total payroll that approached $1.8 billion. Average annual wages were $50,871, which was $16,176 lower than the statewide average, but was highest of the four EDRs in the Northwest Planning Area (Table 13).

Table 13. EDR 1-Northwest Industry Employment Statistics, 2021

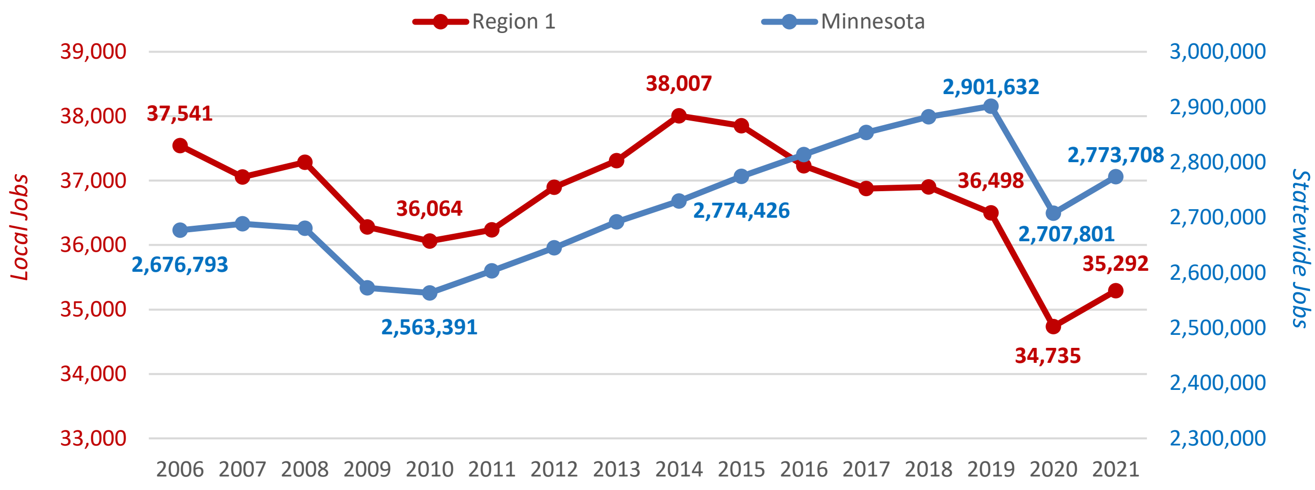
Geography	Number of Firms	Number of Jobs	Total Payroll	Average Annual Wage	2020-2021 Change in Jobs	2020-2021 Percent Change	2019-2021 Change in Jobs	2019-2021 Percent Change
EDR 1 – Northwest	**2,750**	**35,292**	**$1,795,326,323**	**$50,871**	***+557***	***+1.6%***	***-1,206***	***-3.3%***
Kittson Co.	188	1,438	$61,041,640	$42,449	*-15*	*-1.0%*	*-69*	*-4.6%*
Marshall Co.	333	2,255	$113,084,590	$50,148	*+67*	*+3.1%*	*+19*	*+0.8%*
Norman Co.	245	1,573	$69,063,669	$43,906	*+41*	*+2.7%*	*-16*	*-1.0%*
Pennington Co.	408	9,914	$524,550,795	$52,910	*+324*	*+3.4%*	*-275*	*-2.7%*
Polk Co.	1,001	11,373	$542,304,621	$47,684	*-130*	*-1.1%*	*-731*	*-6.0%*
Red Lake Co.	125	1,006	$39,636,505	$39,400	*+3*	*+0.3%*	*-34*	*-3.3%*
Roseau Co.	451	7,732	$445,664,503	$57,636	*+267*	*+3.6%*	*-99*	*-1.3%*
State of Minnesota	**185,788**	**2,773,708**	**$185,969,067,414**	**$67,047**	***+65,907***	***+2.4%***	***-127,924***	***-4.4%***

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

In terms of employment, Polk County is the largest county in Region 1 with 11,373 jobs at 1,001 firms, followed by Pennington County with 9,914 jobs. Pennington had significantly fewer firms (408) than Polk, with jobs concentrated in a few large employers and paying higher average wages. Roseau County is the third employment center in the region with 7,732 jobs and the highest average wages. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, all counties except for Marshall lost jobs from 2019 to 2021, and the region was down 1,206 jobs. The region's -3.3% job loss was not as much as Minnesota's -4.4% loss. However, Kittson and Polk had greater job loss and continued to shed jobs in 2021, while most other counties recovered.

In sum, Region 1 lost employment over the past 15 years, peaking in 2014 at just over 38,000 jobs and then diverging from the statewide job expansion through 2019 (Figure 16). The region's job losses from 2014 to 2019 reflect the population and labor force losses described in the initial pages of this document, while Figure 9 (page 7) shows that the job market remained strong from 2014 to 2019. Between 2014 and 2019, the region lost over 1,500 jobs, a decline of 4%. Region 1 will need more workers to get back to the pre-pandemic employment levels (see Figure 16).

Figure 16. Industry Employment Statistics, 2006-2021



Source: DEED QCEW program

With 6,929 jobs at 114 establishments, the Manufacturing industry by far employs the most people in Region 1. Even after losing 280 jobs since 2019, it still accounted for 19.6% of total regional jobs in 2021. With 2,738 jobs, the region has an extremely high concentration of employment in transportation equipment manufacturing, and over 900 jobs in food manufacturing.

Health Care & Social Assistance remained the second largest industry in terms of employment with 5,136 jobs but lost 318 jobs since 2019, the largest job loss of any sector. Due to the region's older population, the largest sectors were hospitals and nursing and residential care facilities with over 1,800 jobs each.

The next largest industry in Region 1 is Wholesale Trade, which gained 289 jobs or 6% from 2019 to 2021 and now accounts for 5,121 jobs in the region at 141 establishments. Wholesale Trade accounts for 14.5% of total employment in the region, compared to just 4.6% of total employment in the state. In addition, average annual wages in Wholesale Trade, at $65,511, were nearly $14,640 higher than the regional average of $50,871, and slightly higher than in Manufacturing at $65,107. Wholesale Trade employment is over three times more concentrated in the region than statewide.

Construction out-paced Wholesale Trade job growth with an 8% gain, but a much smaller 84 jobs added. Management of Companies had the fastest growth of 21.8% from 2019 to 2021, but given the small size of the industry, this was only 19 additional jobs. Professional & Technical Services added 24 jobs and Utilities added 5. All the industries that grew had above average wages.

Retail Trade is the fourth largest sector, but it lost the third most jobs behind Health Care & Social Assistance and Manufacturing. Like Health Care & Social Assistance, it continued to shed jobs in 2021, albeit at a much slower pace. Like Retail, Accommodation & Food Services was greatly affected by the pandemic nationwide and in the region. However, it regained a lot of the jobs lost in 2021. By far the largest percentage job declines were in Arts, Entertainment & Recreation, down nearly -20% from the pre-pandemic level (Table 14).

Table 14. EDR 1-Northwest Industry Employment Statistics, 2021

	2021 Annual Data				2020-2021		2019-2021	
NAICS Industry Title	Number of Firms	Number of Jobs	Total Payroll ($1,000s)	Avg. Annual Wage	Change in Jobs	Percent Change	Change in Jobs	Percent Change
Total, All Industries	**2,750**	**35,292**	**$1,795,326**	**$50,871**	***+557***	***+1.6%***	***-1,206***	***-3.3%***
Manufacturing	114	6,929	$451,126	$65,107	*+213*	*+3.2%*	*-280*	*-3.9%*
Health Care & Social Assistance	233	5,136	$251,895	$49,045	*-188*	*-3.5%*	*-318*	*-5.8%*
Wholesale Trade	141	5,121	$335,483	$65,511	*+301*	*+6.2%*	*+289*	*+6.0%*
Retail Trade	318	3,334	$95,176	$28,547	*-43*	*-1.3%*	*-211*	*-6.0%*
Educational Services	69	3,290	$154,466	$46,950	*+72*	*+2.2%*	*-113*	*-3.3%*
Public Administration	138	2,167	$116,446	$53,736	*-7*	*-0.3%*	*-88*	*-3.9%*
Accommodation & Food Services	185	1,893	$31,081	$16,419	*+123*	*+6.9%*	*-204*	*-9.7%*
Agriculture, Forestry, Fish & Hunt	329	1,163	$55,419	$47,652	*+6*	*+0.5%*	*-25*	*-2.1%*
Construction	287	1,132	$66,019	$58,321	*-8*	*-0.7%*	*+84*	*+8.0%*
Transportation & Warehousing	191	1,132	$61,038	$53,921	*+35*	*+3.2%*	*-5*	*-0.4%*
Other Services	219	915	$19,507	$21,319	*+19*	*+2.1%*	*-125*	*-12.0%*
Finance & Insurance	150	846	$55,306	$65,373	*-25*	*-2.9%*	*-32*	*-3.6%*
Arts, Entertainment, & Recreation	61	592	$14,933	$25,224	*+8*	*+1.4%*	*-146*	*-19.8%*
Professional & Technical Services	114	487	$29,699	$60,984	*+15*	*+3.2%*	*+24*	*+5.2%*
Information	41	412	$21,495	$52,171	*-2*	*-0.5%*	*-37*	*-8.2%*
Admin. Support & Waste Mgmt. Svcs.	81	360	$11,172	$31,035	*+23*	*+6.8%*	*-42*	*-10.4%*
Utilities	13	136	$11,675	$85,847	*+2*	*+1.5%*	*+5*	*+3.8%*
Management of Companies	10	106	$7,743	$73,046	*+11*	*+11.6%*	*+19*	*+21.8%*
Real Estate & Rental & Leasing	49	100	$3,272	$32,721	*0*	*0.0%*	*-3*	*-2.9%*
Mining	9	38	$2,374	$62,482	*+1*	*+2.7%*	*-4*	*-10.2%*

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

EMPLOYMENT DEMOGRAPHICS

According to DEED's Quarterly Employment Demographics (QED) program, the workforce in the region was aging over the past 10 years. Well over one-quarter (27.6%) of workers in the region were 55 years or older, compared to 22.0% statewide and just 21.3% in the region one decade earlier. In contrast, the percentage of workers under age 25 was falling. However, the number of hours worked increased for younger workers, as well as their wages (Table 15).

Wages were climbing across the board for all workers due to rising demand and a tight labor market. While wages were still lowest for the under-25 and oldest workers who tend to fill less-than-fulltime jobs in industries like Retail Trade and Accommodation & Food Services, these two age groups enjoyed the fastest percentage increase in wages from 2010 to 2020. Wages remained highest for workers aged 45 to 64.

Also reflecting the tightening labor market, hours worked trended higher for all age groups except the age 45 to 54 group which continued to work the most hours. The age 65 and over group had the largest increase in hours worked, followed by the under-25 groups. Although males continued to work more hours than females, females greatly increased hours over the decade, narrowing the gap in hours worked.

Table 15. Workforce Demographics by Age Group and Gender, Total of All Industries, 2010-2020

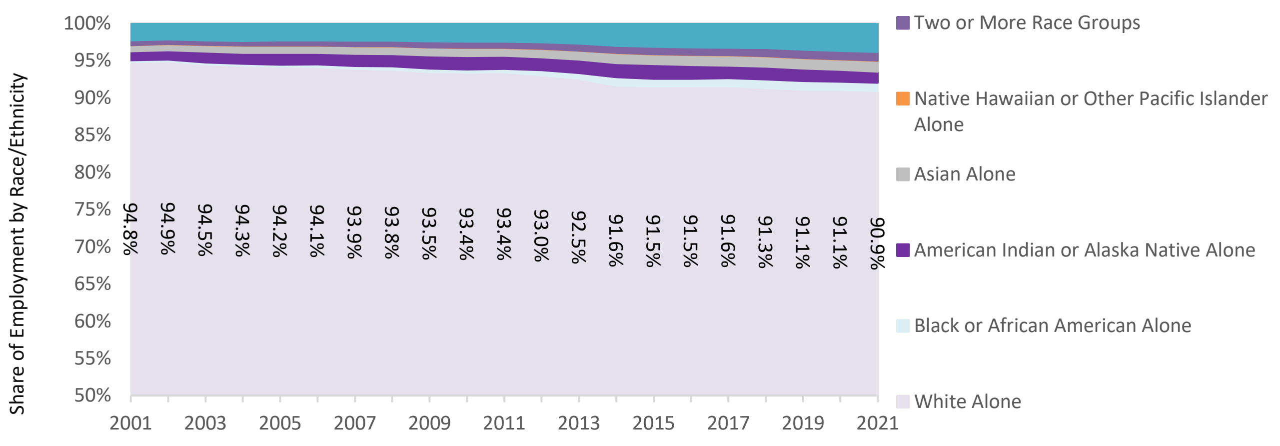
Region 1	Percentage of Workers		*Percent of Workers, Minnesota*		Median Hourly Wage		Median Hours Worked (Per Qtr.)	
	2020	2010	*2020*	*2010*	2020	2010	2020	2010
Total, all ages	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	$20.58	$14.74	434	433
19 years & under	6.3%	7.7%	6.0%	6.5%	$11.14	$7.73	132	122
20 to 24 years	8.8%	9.3%	10.1%	11.1%	$16.23	$10.92	305	295
25 to 44 years	38.3%	37.3%	43.2%	42.7%	$21.88	$15.64	473	468
45 to 54 years	19.0%	24.3%	18.7%	23.0%	$23.70	$16.60	480	480
55 to 64 years	20.3%	16.6%	16.9%	13.5%	$23.00	$16.44	480	477
65 years & over	7.3%	4.7%	5.1%	3.3%	$18.95	$12.36	239	203
Male	49.0%	47.3%	49.1%	49.0%	$22.50	$16.41	480	480
Female	51.0%	52.7%	50.9%	51.0%	$19.56	$13.16	408	388

Source: DEED Quarterly Employment Demographics

EMPLOYMENT DIVERSITY

People of color held 9.1% of the jobs in Region 1, according to data from the Quarterly Workforce Indicators program. In 2021, that equaled 3,185 workers of color, compared to 31,744 workers who are white alone. Workers of color held just 5.2% of total jobs in the region in 2001. The one-and-three-quarter-fold increase in workers of color is the cumulative outcome of a gradual increase in workforce diversity over the past two decades (Figure 17).

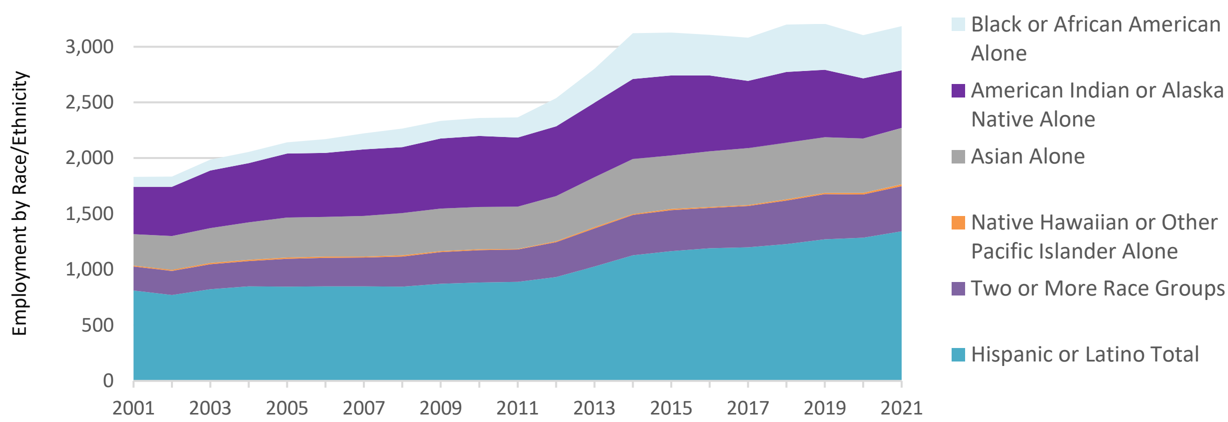
Figure 17. Region 1 Employment by Race and Ethnicity, All Industries, 2001-2021



Workers of color filled an additional 1,354 jobs in the region since 2001, while jobs filled by white alone workers declined by 1,518. With 1,343 jobs, Hispanic or Latino was the largest group of color in the region's economy, increasing 165% since 2001. American Indian was the next largest group of color with 519 jobs in 2021 and growing 122%. However, American Indians had the largest pandemic declines, losing 14.2% of their jobs since the peak of 605 in 2019, attributable to casino closures during the pandemic. Asians had 506 jobs in 2021, growing 179% since 2001.

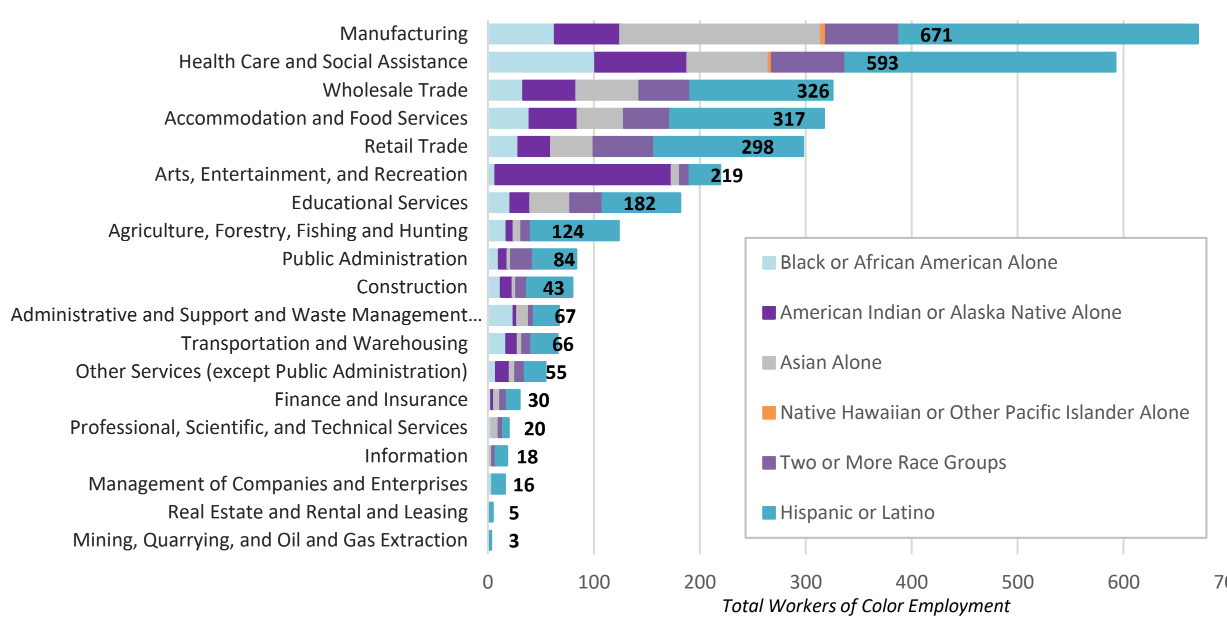
Workers of Two or More Races held 405 jobs, growing 189%. With 396 jobs in 2021, Black or African American had the fastest growth, increasing over four-and-a-half times from 87 jobs in 2001. Besides whites and American Indians, all other racial and ethnic groups increased employment from 2019 to 2021, filling much-neded positions in an extremely tight labor market (Figure 18).

Figure 18. Region 1 Workers of Color Employment, All Industries, 2001-2021



Most sectors in the region are non-diverse, but there are industries that rely more heavily on workers of color. Arts, Entertainment & Recreation, which includes casinos, is staffed by over 36% people of color including 27.6% American Indians. Administrative Support & Waste Management and Accommodation & Food Services also rely on a high percentage of workers of color, with 17.7% and 16.6%, respectively. Management of Companies has 12.6% workers of color, including 9.4% Hispanic or Latino. Manufacturing has 11.8% workers of color, the highest share of Asian workers of any sector (3.3%), and being the largest industry, also has the largest number of workers of color. Likewise, the large Health Care & Social Assistance sector has 593 workers of color, but at 10.7% of jobs, is only 1.6% higher than the total for all industries in the region (Figure 19).

Figure 19. Region 1 People of Color Employment by Industry, 2021



INDUSTRY PROJECTIONS

As noted above, Region 1 is part of the 26-county Northwest Minnesota Planning Region, which is projected to grow 5.1% from 2020 to 2030, a gain of 12,719 new jobs. Health Care & Social Assistance is expected to add the most jobs. Not only is it the region's largest industry, it is also the third fastest growing and may account for over 35% of the total increase in jobs by 2030. Arts Entertainment & Recreation and Accommodation & Food Services are the fastest-growing and second-fastest-growing industries, with a large portion of this growth reflecting the rebound in employment after large losses in the pandemic recession. Likewise, Other Services is another fast-growing sector that experienced large employment losses in 2020 and a subsequent rebound (Table 16).

Table 16. Northwest Industry Projections, 2020-2030

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

Source: DEED 2020-2030 Employment Outlook

NONEMPLOYER ESTABLISHMENTS

Region 1 was home to 5,710 self-employed businesses or "nonemployers" in 2019, which are defined by the U.S. Census Bureau as "businesses without paid employees that are subject to federal income tax, originating from tax return information of the Internal Revenue Service (IRS)." These non-employers generated sales receipts of over $234 million in 2019. Like covered employment, Region 1 saw a decline in nonemployers over the past decade. However, Kittson and Roseau Counties had gains (Table 17).

Table 17. Nonemployer Statistics, 2019

	2019		*2009-2019*	
	Number of Firms	Receipts ($1,000s)	*Change in Firms*	*Percent Change*
EDR 1 – Northwest	**5,710**	**$234,384**	***-202***	***-3.4%***
Kittson Co.	334	$13,077	*+12*	*+3.7%*
Marshall Co.	605	$23,532	*-46*	*-7.1%*
Norman Co.	470	$19,906	*-25*	*-5.1%*
Pennington Co.	819	$31,250	*-58*	*-6.6%*
Polk Co.	2,154	$91,318	*-53*	*-2.4%*
Red Lake Co.	221	$11,672	*-48*	*-17.8%*
Roseau Co.	1,107	$43,593	*+16*	*+1.5%*
Minnesota	**418,080**	**$20,377,253**	***+39,926***	***+10.6%***

Source: U.S. Census, Nonemployer Statistics program

CENSUS OF AGRICULTURE

Like other parts of Greater Minnesota, agriculture is a key industry in Region 1, with 4,891 farms producing just under $1.3 billion in the market value of products sold in 2017 according to the U.S. Department of Agriculture. That is 6th highest of the 13 regions in the state. Polk County is the most farm-reliant, ranking 7th overall in the state, while Marshall and Norman also rank in the top 40 (Table 18).

Table 18. Census of Agriculture, 2017

	Number of Farms	Market Value of Products Sold	*State Rank*
EDR 1 – Northwest	**4,891**	**$1,299,434,000**	***6***
Kittson Co.	528	$128,347,000	*56*
Marshall Co.	1,086	$261,455,000	*31*
Norman Co.	505	$218,262,000	*39*
Pennington Co.	409	$66,456,000	*64*
Polk Co.	1,258	$429,771,000	*7*
Red Lake Co.	263	$65,599,000	*65*
Roseau Co.	842	$129,544,000	*55*
Minnesota	**68,822**	**$18,395,390,000**	

Source: 2017 Census of Agriculture

***Upon request, this information can be made available in alternate formats for people with disabilities by contacting Anthony Schaffhauser at* (320) 441-6594 *or at* anthony.schaffhauser@state.mn.us.**