

Embracing the 'Rural Rebound' in the Northwest

Much has been made of the so-called 'brain drain' particularly in rural areas separated by distance and culture from the state's major metropolitan areas. This concept is often based solely on the exodus of 15- to 29-year-olds who leave hometowns for educational opportunities, career prospects, or to broaden their horizons.

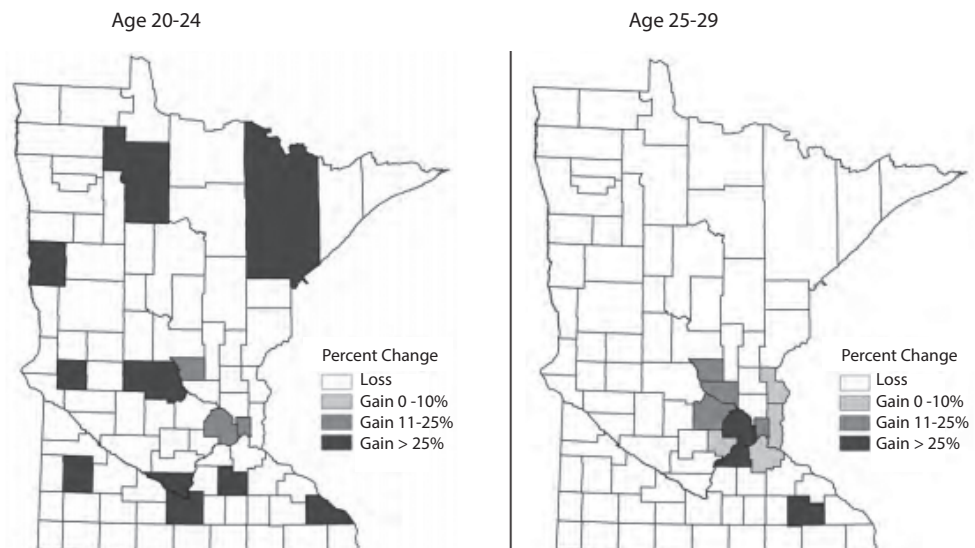
Without question, population data show geographical movement of younger age groups. However, this trend

typically is discussed out of context. The migration of people ages 15 to 29 is the rule rather than the exception in both rural and urban areas. Unfortunately, rural communities sometimes interpret the loss of their youth as a reflection on their community rather than a societal norm occurring throughout the state and country.

Since 2000 the only counties in Minnesota that experienced an increase in those busy 20- to 24-year-olds are home to four-year postsecondary institutions.

In Northwest Minnesota Beltrami, Clay, and Stevens counties all welcomed net in-migration, with Beltrami and Clay expanding more than 25 percent between 2000 and 2010. Since 2000, all other Northwest Minnesota counties experienced net out-migration among 20- to 24-year-olds, as did every other county in the state without a university. Rather than some phenomenon unique to rural communities, data show that the loss of younger populations is constant among all counties without a four-year university (Figure 1).

Figure 1: Percent Population Change Age 20-29 Cohorts, 2000-2010



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2000-2010

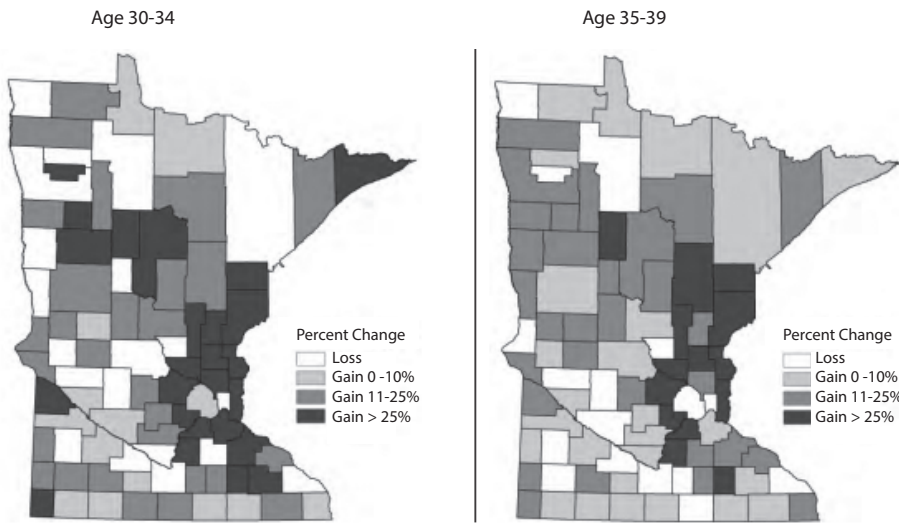
Feature:

Disability
Employment in
Minnesota

In this issue:

- 1 Regional Spotlight
- 5 Fun With Statistics
- 6 Local Area Unemployment Statistics
- 8 Industrial Analysis
- 10 Regional Analysis
- 11 Current Employment Statistics
- 14 Economic Indicators
- 16 What's Going On?

**Figure 2: Percent Population Change
Age 30-39 Cohorts, 2000-2010**



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2000-2010

against 2010 data to capture how, if no migration took place, the expected number of people matched up to actual population numbers a decade later. For example, if Northwest Minnesota had 20,000 people aged 20 to 29 in 2000, the same number of people would be ‘expected’ to comprise the 30- to 39-age cohort in 2010. The difference between the expected number and the actual number represents the net in- or out-migration of a region or county.

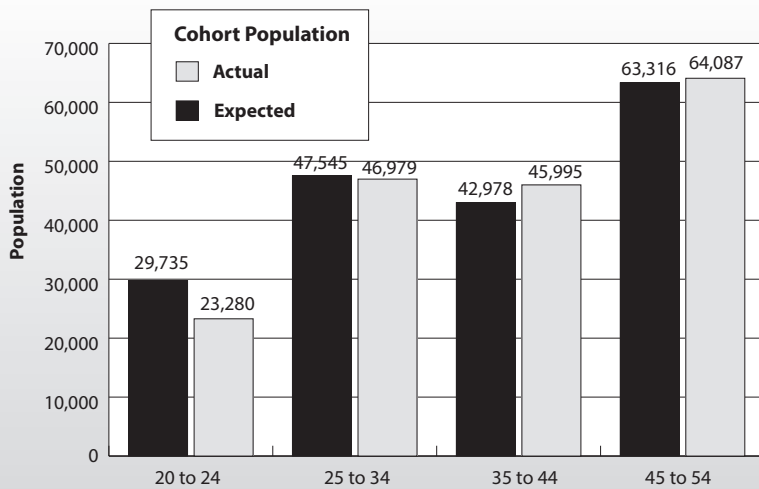
Figure 2 shows that most counties in Northwest Minnesota saw an increase in the number of 30- to 39-year-olds from 2000 to 2010. According to the research, workers in these age groups are at the peak of their careers and often contribute more to their communities at large. Additionally, they are often highly educated, and bring more connections and resources from other areas.²

Northwest Minnesota Migration Trends

In Northwest Minnesota, only Clay and Polk counties are designated as Metropolitan Statistical Areas, with Clay part of the Fargo-Moorhead MSA and Polk part of the Grand Forks-East Grand Forks MSA. While a good case can be made for an urban label for Beltrami County which has Bemidji State University, the remaining 24 rural counties traditionally find that a good portion of their young adults leave the area for other opportunities. Besides Clay with Moorhead State University and Stevens with the University of Minnesota-Morris, only Beltrami County with Bemidji State University experienced a net migration intake among the 20- to 24-year-old age cohorts from 2000-2010.

Current data estimates from the U.S. Census Bureau’s American Community Survey allow migration patterns in Northwest Minnesota to be examined from the end of the recession through the current recovery. Rather than the 10-year period used in prior research, this article compares cohorts over a five-year span from 2009 to 2013. In the five-year timeframe, age groups are examined in the following cohorts: 25 to 34, 35 to 44, and 45 to 54.

**Figure 3: Population Migration by Age Group
Rural Northwest Minnesota, 2009-2013**



Source: American Community Survey, 2009-2013 1-year estimates

U.S. Census data and new analysis from regional researchers and the University of Minnesota’s Ben Winchester have identified other demographic shifts in Minnesota as well, adding significant nuance to the discussion of rural population changes.¹ Instead of a ‘brain drain’, many counties are experiencing a

‘brain gain’. Winchester’s research has pointed to an increase in population cohorts aged 30 to 49 in most rural Minnesota counties in what’s known as the ‘rural rebound’.

Using the Simplified Cohort Approach, age cohorts from 2000 were examined

¹“Brain Gain in rural Minnesota.” www.extension.umn.edu/community/brain-gain/.
²www.extension.umn.edu/community/brain-gain/docs/continuing-the-trend.pdf

These age ranges coincide with those often tracked for industry employment demographics, which adds context on workforce demographics to the overall analysis, and their activity can be significantly relevant to job seekers and employers alike.

Regional Results

Since the end of the recession, migration trends throughout rural Northwest Minnesota mirror those found previously in rural areas across the state. There were nearly 6,000 fewer people ages 20 to 24 in rural Northwest Minnesota than expected, indicating an approximate 20 percent migration out of the region in this age group. But again, out-migration among 20 to 24 years olds is the rule, not the exception (Figure 3).

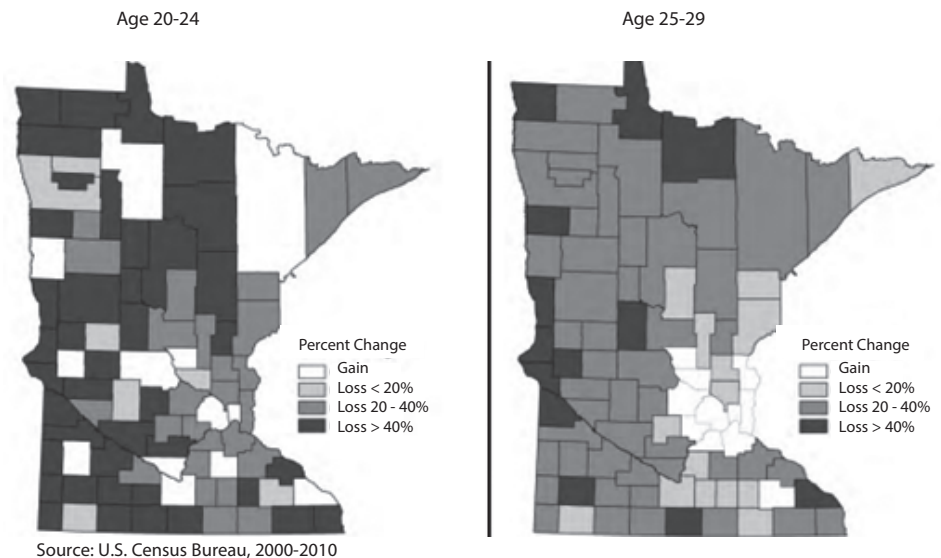
On the surface this sounds dire, but when compared to the earlier study examining 2000 to 2010, the amount of out-migration of 20-24 year olds actually decreased. In 18 of the 23 rural Northwest counties studied here, there was out-migration of more than 40 percent among this age group from 2000-2010 (Figure 4).

Migration Variation among Young Professional Cohorts

Net out-migration occurred among 25- to 34-year-olds in Northwest Minnesota as well, where approximately 566 (1.8 percent) fewer were found in 2013 than in 2009. But considering that from 2000 to 2010 the average Northwest Minnesota county experienced a 20 to 40 percent net migration loss in ages 25 to 29 alone³, the current trend is encouraging. From 2009-2013 Northwest Minnesota lost only 13 percent of people in this age cohort, while it added nearly as many individuals ages 30 to 34 in that time (Table 1).

This upward trend among 30- to 34-year-olds continues to offset the loss of 25- to 29-year-olds in the post-recession years. What's more, the loss of people in the 25 to 29 cohort looks to be diminishing. From 2000-2010, there was at least 20 percent out-migration in every Northwest county except Crow Wing (Figure 4).

**Figure 4: Percent Population Loss
Age 20-24 and 25-29 Year Cohorts, 2000-2010**



Middle Cohorts

Just as important to the economic health of the Northwest, if not more so, are the 35- to 54-year-old cohorts. These individuals make intangible contributions to their local economy and communities. As leaders, workers, and parents, their experience and know-how is rarely paralleled by younger generations. The Northwest not only maintained a high level of experience and expertise by retaining people in these age groups, but also continues to attract people in this demographic category. To anyone who's ever experienced the harsh conditions of a Northwest Minnesota winter, their

in-migration speaks volumes about the region's economy and overall quality of life.

Altogether, Northwest Minnesota experienced a net out-migration of nearly 6,000 residents ages 20 to 24, and a net in-migration of approximately 2,000 people in age groups 25 to 54. Major gains appear to have occurred in the 30- to 44-age range to counter the continued out-migration among ages 25 to 29. More importantly, those migrating to the region are more experienced and educated, while those leaving are often just beginning their education and careers.

**Table 1: Population Change
25-34-year-old Cohorts, 2009-2013**

Age Cohorts	Expected Population	Actual Population	Migration Number	Migration Percent
25-29	25,573	22,162	-3,411	-13.3%
30-34	21,972	24,817	2,845	11.5%
Total	47,545	46,979	-566	-1.8%

Source: American Community Survey, 2009-2013 1-year estimates

³www.extension.umn.edu/community/brain-gain/docs/continuing-the-trend.pdf

Manufacturing Hires

How does this translate to the workforce in Northwest Minnesota? Research shows that population cohorts ages 30 and above are returning to the region and have a lot to offer, but it's less clear what effect their arrival is having on the regional workforce. Manufacturers and most other industries in the Northwest should be elated to learn about this rural renewal, if it isn't already apparent. The manufacturing industry has added almost 3,000 jobs since 2010, with many new workers from the 25- to 44-year-old age groups (Figure 5). Industry subsectors with the most new hires among these ages were Fabricated Metal Product Manufacturing, Wood Manufacturing, Food Manufacturing, and Transportation Equipment Manufacturing.

New hires in these age groups are often well educated, work-tested, and bring various connections with them to the industry. This is not to say younger workers are bad hires — far from it. Statistically speaking, they are simply more likely to migrate out of the area for other opportunities. Instead, the tenure of middle-age workers is often longer and turnover rates are lower, making the employer's investment more apt to pay off (Figure 6).

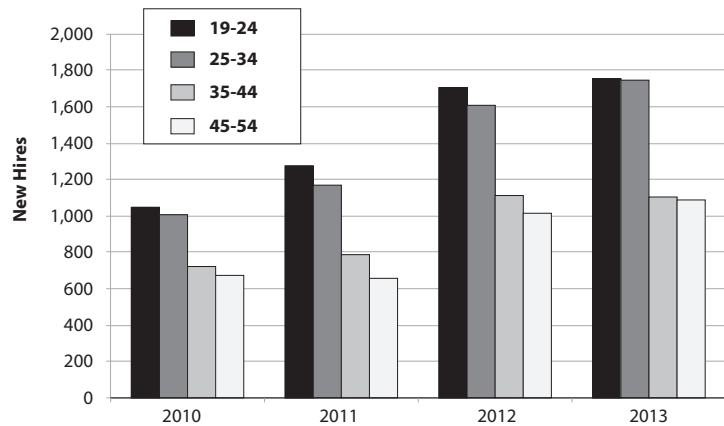
Conclusion

While there is more to be explored, early research contradicts conventional wisdom that a loss of talent is plaguing rural areas in Northwest Minnesota. On the contrary, the rural renewal in Northwest Minnesota indicates our communities and industries are benefitting from a talent in-migration that offsets the typical out-migration of young adults to college towns and elsewhere. While this revelation falls short of answering all the challenges faced by Minnesota's rural communities, it has reenergized the conversation among community leaders about what can and should be done to welcome and retain newcomers. More specifically, rural communities may obtain a better grasp of who is moving to their communities, what needs they have, and what amenities they value.

Interestingly, most of the middle-aged migrators moving to the Northwest are doing so for the quality of life rather than the quantity of jobs. In 2010, survey research by the Upper Minnesota Valley Regional Development Commission (UMVRDC) found that the top reasons for migration to rural Minnesota were 1) a desire for a simpler life; 2) safety and security; 3) affordable housing; 4) outdoor recreation; and 5) for those with children, locating a quality school. Surprisingly, jobs were not listed among the top ten reasons people relocated to rural areas.⁴

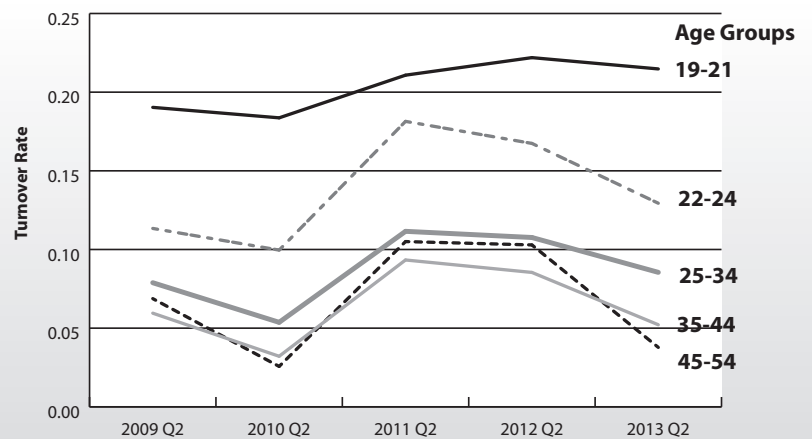
But most newcomers to the Northwest need good jobs too, and the manufacturing industry has been more than happy to provide them. Further research on where this influx of talent is finding work should also be of significant interest to employers and other job seekers.

Figure 5: New Manufacturing Hires by Age: Northwest Minnesota, 2010-2013



Source: DEED Quarterly Workforce Indicators

Figure 6: Manufacturing Turnover Rates by Age Cohort, 2009-2013



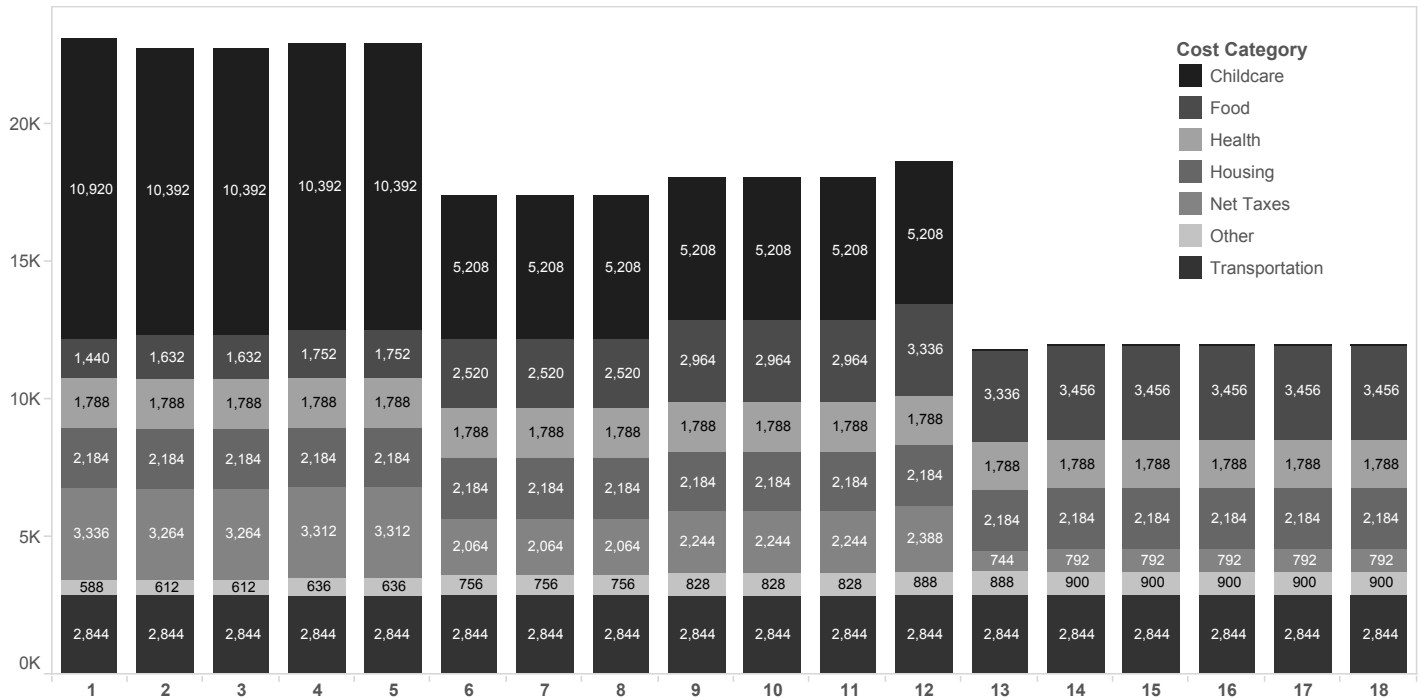
Source: DEED Quarterly Workforce Indicators

by Chet Bodin
Regional Analyst, NW Minnesota
Department of Employment and Economic Development

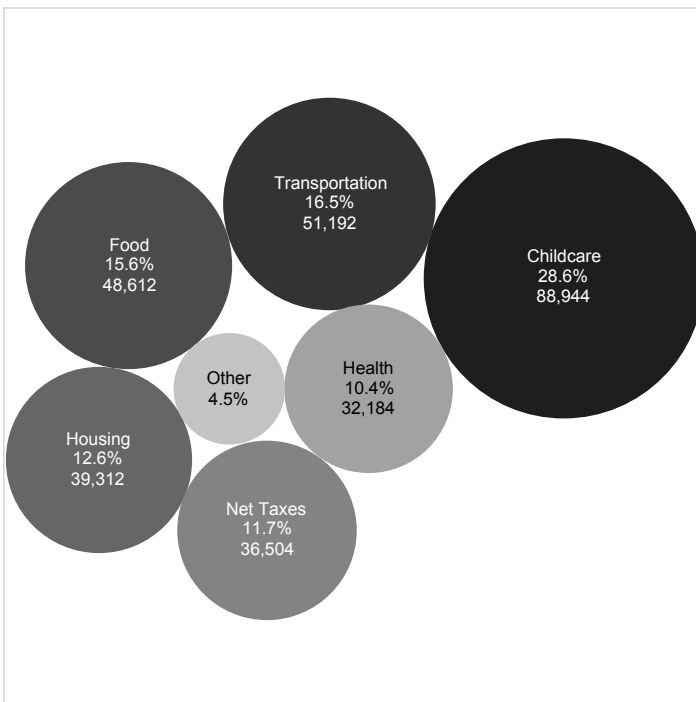
⁴www.edacenter.org/downloads/Ben_Winchester_Report_2.pdf

Cost of Living and Children

Costs by Category and Age



Lifetime expense of child by category



Minnesota's Cost of Living Calculator breaks out expenses for children of all ages. The costs of daycare, food, and housing can all vary by age.

This infographic looks at a statewide average for two-parent dual-income households with one child. The costs listed are those in excess of the same couple without children - it approximates the costs a couple incurs in each year of their child's life.

Childcare is the single largest expense, with Transportation, Food, and Housing also significant.

Note: The Cost of Living Calculator is intended to approximate the minimum expense of living safely and healthfully. Some families spend much more to feed or educate their children, and some families cut costs by relying on family. This is a baseline measure and cannot accommodate every variation.

Check online for the full Cost of Living Calculator:
<http://mn.gov/deed/data/data-tools/col/>

by Amanda Rohrer

Labor Force Estimates

County/ Area

County/ Area	Labor Force			Employment			Unemployment			Rate of Unemployment		
	Sept 2014	Aug 2014	Sept 2013	Sept 2014	Aug 2014	Sept 2013	Sept 2014	Aug 2014	Sept 2013	Sept 2014	Aug 2014	Sept 2013
United States ('000s) (Seasonally adjusted) (Unadjusted)	155,862 155,903	155,959 156,434	155,559 155,536	146,600 146,941	146,368 146,647	144,303 144,651	9,262 8,962	9,591 9,787	11,255 10,885	5.9% 5.7	6.1% 6.3	7.2% 7.0
Minnesota (Seasonally adjusted) (Unadjusted)	2,982,884 2,989,818	2,981,147 3,002,076	2,968,482 2,977,653	2,860,787 2,881,553	2,852,956 2,887,356	2,822,623 2,841,993	122,097 108,265	128,191 114,720	145,859 135,660	4.1 3.6	4.3 3.8	4.9 4.6
Metropolitan Statistical Areas (MSA)*												
Mpls.-St. Paul MSA	1,880,743	1,889,188	1,865,760	1,812,810	1,817,491	1,780,291	67,933	71,697	85,469	3.6	3.8	4.6
Duluth-Superior MSA	144,067	144,314	144,602	137,777	137,447	136,596	6,290	6,867	8,006	4.4	4.8	5.5
Rochester MSA	105,679	107,110	105,127	102,440	103,589	101,036	3,239	3,521	4,091	3.1	3.3	3.9
St. Cloud MSA	109,252	109,382	108,510	105,422	105,389	103,774	3,830	3,993	4,736	3.5	3.7	4.4
Mankato-N Mankato MSA	59,519	58,278	58,143	57,775	56,415	55,967	1,744	1,863	2,176	2.9	3.2	3.7
Fargo-Moorhead MSA	123,815	124,849	121,929	120,977	121,801	118,882	2,838	3,048	3,047	2.3	2.4	2.5
Grand Forks MSA	53,563	52,400	53,790	52,086	50,736	52,234	1,477	1,664	1,556	2.8	3.2	2.9
Region One	50,898	49,814	50,957	49,272	47,982	48,978	1,626	1,832	1,979	3.2	3.7	3.9
Kittson	2,640	2,640	2,666	2,555	2,542	2,558	85	98	108	3.2	3.7	4.1
Marshall	5,663	5,554	5,706	5,445	5,316	5,435	218	238	271	3.8	4.3	4.7
Norman	3,497	3,487	3,609	3,368	3,357	3,452	129	130	157	3.7	3.7	4.4
Pennington	9,785	9,649	9,716	9,510	9,342	9,342	275	307	374	2.8	3.2	3.8
Polk	17,873	17,230	17,740	17,279	16,541	17,079	594	689	661	3.3	4.0	3.7
Red Lake	2,303	2,281	2,313	2,226	2,190	2,214	77	91	99	3.3	4.0	4.3
Roseau	9,137	8,973	9,207	8,889	8,694	8,898	248	279	309	2.7	3.1	3.4
Region Two	40,688	40,893	40,773	38,717	38,751	38,442	1,971	2,142	2,331	4.8	5.2	5.7
Beltrami	22,160	22,160	22,197	21,148	21,069	20,967	1,012	1,091	1,230	4.6	4.9	5.5
Clearwater	4,234	4,163	4,221	3,928	3,836	3,898	306	327	323	7.2	7.9	7.7
Hubbard	9,525	9,756	9,575	9,083	9,270	9,034	442	486	541	4.6	5.0	5.7
Lake of the Woods	2,305	2,386	2,286	2,201	2,267	2,170	104	119	116	4.5	5.0	5.1
Mahnomen	2,464	2,428	2,494	2,357	2,309	2,373	107	119	121	4.3	4.9	4.9
Region Three	167,237	168,128	168,434	159,730	160,112	158,931	7,507	8,016	9,503	4.5	4.8	5.6
Aitkin	7,189	7,148	7,338	6,851	6,791	6,927	338	357	411	4.7	5.0	5.6
Carlton	17,623	17,572	17,677	16,862	16,829	16,731	761	743	946	4.3	4.2	5.4
Cook	3,600	3,768	3,575	3,484	3,641	3,448	116	127	127	3.2	3.4	3.6
Itasca	22,460	22,787	22,688	21,277	21,549	21,269	1,183	1,238	1,419	5.3	5.4	6.3
Koochiching	6,492	6,617	6,555	6,035	6,124	6,087	457	493	468	7.0	7.5	7.1
Lake	6,432	6,592	6,547	6,223	6,372	6,236	209	220	311	3.2	3.3	4.8
St. Louis	103,441	103,644	104,054	98,998	98,806	98,233	4,443	4,838	5,821	4.3	4.7	5.6
City of Duluth	45,653	45,611	45,702	43,699	43,615	43,362	1,954	1,996	2,340	4.3	4.4	5.1
Balance of St. Louis County	57,788	58,033	58,352	55,299	55,191	54,871	2,489	2,842	3,481	4.3	4.9	6.0
Region Four	128,140	130,281	127,271	124,398	126,358	122,738	3,742	3,923	4,533	2.9	3.0	3.6
Becker	18,081	19,580	18,002	17,472	18,910	17,259	609	670	743	3.4	3.4	4.1
Clay	35,515	35,108	34,547	34,658	34,253	33,537	857	855	1,010	2.4	2.4	2.9
Douglas	21,367	21,802	21,295	20,762	21,163	20,543	605	639	752	2.8	2.9	3.5
Grant	3,215	3,244	3,256	3,104	3,124	3,119	111	120	137	3.5	3.7	4.2
Otter Tail	31,126	31,872	31,352	30,062	30,744	30,053	1,064	1,128	1,299	3.4	3.5	4.1
Pope	6,674	6,669	6,665	6,499	6,481	6,444	175	188	221	2.6	2.8	3.3
Stevens	6,468	6,406	6,526	6,325	6,260	6,348	143	146	178	2.2	2.3	2.7
Traverse	1,735	1,755	1,792	1,675	1,694	1,721	60	61	71	3.5	3.5	4.0
Wilkin	3,959	3,845	3,836	3,841	3,729	3,714	118	116	122	3.0	3.0	3.2
Region Five	83,339	84,304	84,117	79,768	80,536	79,613	3,571	3,768	4,504	4.3	4.5	5.4
Cass	14,032	14,279	14,109	13,359	13,535	13,303	673	744	806	4.8	5.2	5.7
Crow Wing	33,630	34,075	33,989	32,195	32,618	32,059	1,435	1,457	1,930	4.3	4.3	5.7
Morrison	17,238	17,379	17,347	16,496	16,594	16,467	742	785	880	4.3	4.5	5.1
Todd	12,324	12,401	12,459	11,896	11,924	11,924	428	477	535	3.5	3.8	4.3
Wadena	6,115	6,170	6,213	5,822	5,865	5,860	293	305	353	4.8	4.9	5.7
Region Six East	67,056	67,275	67,429	64,788	64,778	64,540	2,268	2,497	2,889	3.4	3.7	4.3
Kandiyohi	25,001	25,027	25,047	24,231	24,186	24,107	770	841	940	3.1	3.4	3.8
McLeod	20,262	20,502	20,182	19,530	19,700	19,243	732	802	939	3.6	3.9	4.7
Meeker	12,604	12,616	12,671	12,170	12,149	12,117	434	467	554	3.4	3.7	4.4
Renville	9,189	9,130	9,529	8,857	8,743	9,073	332	387	456	3.6	4.2	4.8

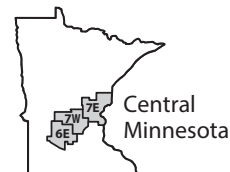
*Minneapolis-St. Paul Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA) now includes Sherburne County in Minnesota and Pierce County in Wisconsin. St. Cloud MSA is now comprised of Benton and Stearns counties.

Numbers are unadjusted unless otherwise labeled.
 Source: Department of Employment and Economic Development,
 Local Area Unemployment Statistics, and North Dakota Job Service, 2014.

Labor Force Estimates

County/ Area

County/ Area	Labor Force			Employment			Unemployment			Rate of Unemployment		
	Sept 2014	Aug 2014	Sept 2013	Sept 2014	Aug 2014	Sept 2013	Sept 2014	Aug 2014	Sept 2013	Sept 2014	Aug 2014	Sept 2013
Region Six West	24,334	24,215	24,789	23,572	23,340	23,772	762	875	1,017	3.1%	3.6%	4.1%
Big Stone	2,673	2,691	2,747	2,599	2,604	2,643	74	87	104	2.8	3.2	3.8
Chippewa	7,141	7,141	7,220	6,911	6,875	6,936	230	266	284	3.2	3.7	3.9
Lac Qui Parle	3,981	3,870	4,076	3,858	3,737	3,912	123	133	164	3.1	3.4	4.0
Swift	5,050	5,078	5,176	4,878	4,880	4,939	172	198	237	3.4	3.9	4.6
Yellow Medicine	5,489	5,435	5,570	5,326	5,244	5,342	163	191	228	3.0	3.5	4.1
Region Seven East	82,999	83,334	82,832	79,373	79,538	78,422	3,626	3,796	4,410	4.4	4.6	5.3
Chisago	28,228	28,344	27,978	27,164	27,237	26,682	1,064	1,107	1,296	3.8	3.9	4.6
Isanti	20,582	20,681	20,424	19,825	19,878	19,473	757	803	951	3.7	3.9	4.7
Kanabec	7,992	8,045	8,043	7,504	7,550	7,484	488	495	559	6.1	6.2	7.0
Mille Lacs	11,996	12,082	12,059	11,350	11,397	11,277	646	685	782	5.4	5.7	6.5
Pine	14,201	14,182	14,328	13,530	13,476	13,506	671	706	822	4.7	5.0	5.7
Region Seven West	228,271	228,972	226,417	220,247	220,523	216,562	8,024	8,449	9,855	3.5	3.7	4.4
Benton	22,615	22,589	22,475	21,757	21,750	21,416	858	839	1,059	3.8	3.7	4.7
Sherburne	49,362	49,505	48,838	47,474	47,602	46,632	1,888	1,903	2,206	3.8	3.8	4.5
Stearns	86,637	86,793	86,035	83,665	83,639	82,358	2,972	3,154	3,677	3.4	3.6	4.3
Wright	69,657	70,085	69,069	67,351	67,532	66,156	2,306	2,553	2,913	3.3	3.6	4.2
Region Eight	69,101	68,790	69,728	67,072	66,727	67,310	2,029	2,063	2,418	2.9	3.0	3.5
Cottonwood	6,373	6,286	6,460	6,120	6,062	6,214	253	224	246	4.0	3.6	3.8
Jackson	7,660	7,649	7,536	7,389	7,419	7,301	271	230	235	3.5	3.0	3.1
Lincoln	3,462	3,477	3,502	3,362	3,370	3,390	100	107	112	2.9	3.1	3.2
Lyon	15,019	14,825	15,101	14,601	14,371	14,570	418	454	531	2.8	3.1	3.5
Murray	5,980	5,922	6,033	5,839	5,774	5,854	141	148	179	2.4	2.5	3.0
Nobles	11,349	11,299	11,508	11,036	10,972	11,105	313	327	403	2.8	2.9	3.5
Pipestone	5,613	5,670	5,714	5,477	5,526	5,536	136	144	178	2.4	2.5	3.1
Redwood	7,953	8,048	8,139	7,679	7,752	7,781	274	296	358	3.4	3.7	4.4
Rock	5,692	5,614	5,735	5,569	5,481	5,559	123	133	176	2.2	2.4	3.1
Region Nine	132,575	132,000	132,095	128,134	127,232	126,635	4,441	4,768	5,460	3.3	3.6	4.1
Blue Earth	39,560	38,753	38,660	38,358	37,455	37,157	1,202	1,298	1,503	3.0	3.3	3.9
Brown	15,528	15,830	15,698	15,052	15,310	15,089	476	520	609	3.1	3.3	3.9
Faribault	7,317	7,402	7,469	7,034	7,086	7,120	283	316	349	3.9	4.3	4.7
Le Sueur	15,220	15,226	14,990	14,614	14,589	14,270	606	637	720	4.0	4.2	4.8
Martin	10,265	10,626	10,610	9,866	10,196	10,118	399	430	492	3.9	4.0	4.6
Nicollet	19,959	19,525	19,483	19,417	18,960	18,810	542	565	673	2.7	2.9	3.5
Sibley	9,518	9,430	9,724	9,223	9,113	9,343	295	317	381	3.1	3.4	3.9
Waseca	9,767	9,818	9,957	9,358	9,384	9,479	409	434	478	4.2	4.4	4.8
Watonwan	5,441	5,390	5,504	5,212	5,139	5,249	229	251	255	4.2	4.7	4.6
Region Ten	274,392	275,869	274,488	265,347	266,082	262,962	9,045	9,787	11,526	3.3	3.5	4.2
Dodge	11,161	11,347	11,099	10,819	10,940	10,671	342	407	428	3.1	3.6	3.9
Fillmore	11,405	11,460	11,505	11,029	11,051	11,038	376	409	467	3.3	3.6	4.1
Freeborn	16,136	16,087	16,382	15,547	15,472	15,614	589	615	768	3.7	3.8	4.7
Goodhue	25,672	25,825	25,642	24,785	24,884	24,500	887	941	1,142	3.5	3.6	4.5
Houston	10,535	10,488	10,529	10,179	10,104	10,047	356	384	482	3.4	3.7	4.6
Mower	21,246	21,403	21,362	20,570	20,681	20,491	676	722	871	3.2	3.4	4.1
Olmsted	82,735	83,795	82,328	80,219	81,119	79,119	2,516	2,676	3,209	3.0	3.2	3.9
City of Rochester	60,454	61,237	60,197	58,557	59,213	57,754	1,897	2,024	2,443	3.1	3.3	4.1
Rice	32,677	32,727	32,726	31,412	31,330	31,144	1,265	1,397	1,582	3.9	4.3	4.8
Steele	21,919	21,753	21,963	21,234	21,008	21,090	685	745	873	3.1	3.4	4.0
Wabasha	11,783	11,968	11,701	11,402	11,530	11,246	381	438	455	3.2	3.7	3.9
Winona	29,123	29,016	29,251	28,151	27,963	28,002	972	1,053	1,249	3.3	3.6	4.3
Region Eleven	1,640,788	1,648,197	1,628,327	1,581,136	1,585,393	1,553,091	59,652	62,804	75,236	3.6	3.8	4.6
Anoka	191,639	192,363	190,148	184,588	185,085	181,314	7,051	7,278	8,834	3.7	3.8	4.6
Carver	51,694	51,983	51,311	49,977	50,112	49,091	1,717	1,871	2,220	3.3	3.6	4.3
Dakota	234,371	235,526	232,522	226,199	226,808	222,187	8,172	8,718	10,335	3.5	3.7	4.4
Hennepin	673,024	676,200	668,408	648,386	650,132	636,885	24,638	26,068	31,523	3.7	3.9	4.7
City of Bloomington	49,570	49,789	49,212	47,799	47,927	46,951	1,771	1,862	2,261	3.6	3.7	4.6
City of Minneapolis	219,765	220,876	218,319	211,232	211,801	207,486	8,533	9,075	10,833	3.9	4.1	5.0
Ramsey	277,970	279,294	275,669	267,118	267,837	262,380	10,852	11,457	13,289	3.9	4.1	4.8
City of St. Paul	148,326	149,087	147,288	142,127	142,509	139,606	6,199	6,578	7,682	4.2	4.4	5.2
Scott	135,539	136,018	134,307	130,830	131,182	128,509	4,709	4,836	5,798	3.5	3.6	4.3
Washington	76,551	76,813	75,962	74,038	74,237	72,725	2,513	2,576	3,237	3.3	3.4	4.3



Industrial Analysis

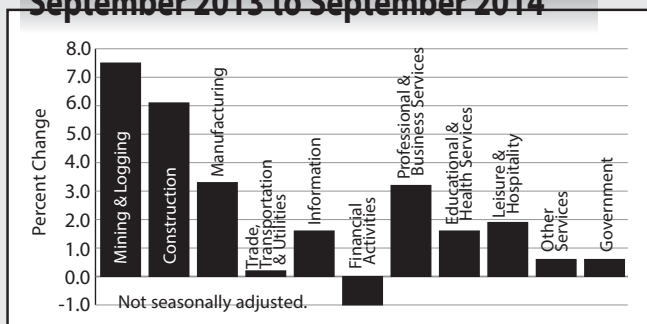
Overview

Seasonally adjusted employment spiked in September as Minnesota added 7,200 jobs (0.3 percent) over the month. This increase comes even after August employment was revised upward, adding 2,700 jobs to the preliminary estimate to come in at 2,827,500. Significant seasonal growth occurred in Professional and Business Services (up 4,100 or 1.2 percent), Leisure and Hospitality (up 3,900, 1.6 percent), and Other Services (up 1,300, 1.1 percent) among other supersectors. The only supersectors to show losses were Mining and Logging (down 200, 2.6 percent), Financial Activities (down 400, 0.2 percent), and Government (down 4,200, 1.0 percent). Private employers as a group added 11,400 jobs (0.5 percent) as goods producers and service providers both grew by 0.3 percent (1,100 and 6,100 jobs, respectively). Annually, the state has gained 45,098 nonfarm jobs (1.6 percent). There was annual employment growth in every supersector except Financial Activities which lost 1,752 jobs (1 percent) over the year.

Mining and Logging

Employment in the Mining and Logging supersector was down slightly in September, giving back some of their large increase from August to settle at 7,400, down 200 jobs or 2.6 percent. For the year, Mining and Logging has gained 541 jobs or 7.5 percent.

MN Employment Growth September 2013 to September 2014



Source: Department of Employment and Economic Development, Current Employment Statistics, 2014.

Construction

Construction employment jumped slightly in September, adding 200 jobs (0.2 percent) over August estimates. Employment remains strong on an annual basis as well, growing by 6,996 (6.1 percent). Annual growth is largely from big increases in Heavy and Civil Engineering Construction (up 3,688 or 19.7 percent) and Specialty Trade Contractors (up 5,096, 7.2 percent).

Manufacturing

Employment levels in Manufacturing grew in September as the supersector added 1,100 jobs (0.3 percent) since August. The increase came entirely from a strong month for Nondurable Goods Manufacturing (up 1,200 jobs, 1.1 percent) as Durable Goods employment was largely static, losing 100 jobs (0.0 percent). On the year, Manufacturing employment continues to grow, up 10,376 jobs (3.3 percent) over the past 12 months. Durable and Non-Durable goods manufacturing have both shown significant job growth, up 4.2 and 1.9 percent, respectively.

Trade, Transportation, and Utilities

Employment in Trade, Transportation, and Utilities was up slightly in September, growing by 300 jobs (0.1 percent). Small seasonally adjusted losses in Retail Trade (down 400, 0.1 percent) and in Transportation, Warehousing, and Utilities (down 200, 0.2 percent) were offset by the addition of 900 jobs (0.7 percent) in Wholesale Trade. On the year, employment in the supersector is up 1,007 jobs (0.2 percent) as gains in Wholesale Trade (1,391, 1.1 percent) again made up for losses in Retail Trade (down 860, 0.3 percent), with Transportation, Warehousing, and Utilities also up slightly, adding 476 jobs (0.5 percent).

Information

Information employment was unchanged in September, remaining level at 54,500. For the year, the supersector remains up slightly, adding 851 jobs (1.6 percent) over September 2013. This is in spite of significant employment declines in the two published component industry groups, as Publishing Industries (except Internet) lost 685 jobs (3.2 percent) and Telecommunications lost 165 jobs (1.2 percent).

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

Financial Activities

Financial Activities employment continued its seasonally adjusted decline in September, losing 400 jobs (0.2 percent) on the month. The decline was split evenly between the two component industries, Finance and Insurance (down 0.1 percent) and Real Estate and Rental and Leasing (down 0.5 percent), which both lost 200 jobs. Employment in the supersector is also down for the year, off 1,752 jobs (1.0 percent) from September 2013.

Professional and Business Services

Professional and Business Services added a significant number of jobs in September as employment grew by 4,100 (1.2 percent) over August estimates on the strength of 2,700 additional jobs in Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services (1.9 percent) and 1,200 jobs in Administrative and Support Services (0.9 percent). Annually, employment grew by 11,161 (3.2 percent) with increases in every major component industry group. The largest numerical increase came in Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services (up 5,628, 4.2 percent) and the largest proportional increase was in Services to Buildings and Dwellings (up 3,877, 13.1 percent).

Educational and Health Services

Employment in Educational and Health Services was up by 1,100 (0.2 percent) in September, buoyed by increases in both Educational Services (up 100, 0.1 percent) and Health Care and Social Assistance (up 1,000, 0.2 percent). For the year, the supersector's employment was up 8,022 (1.6 percent) on the backs of increases in Ambulatory Health Care Services (up 4,804, 3.5 percent), Social Assistance (up 2,841, 3.6 percent), and Elementary and Secondary Schools (up 1,218, 5.9 percent).

Leisure and Hospitality

Employment in Leisure and Hospitality displayed strong growth in September as the supersector added 3,900 jobs (1.6 percent). The increase came entirely in Accommodation and Food Service, which added 4,300 jobs (2.0 percent) as the other component sector, Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation, lost 400 jobs (1.0 percent). Annually, Leisure and Hospitality

employment is up 4,901 (1.9 percent), with growth similarly focused in Accommodation and Food Services, and more specifically in Food Services and Drinking Places, which added 6,755 jobs (3.6 percent), representing the lion's share of the supersector's annual growth.

Other Services

Other Services employment grew sharply in September; 1,300 jobs (1.1 percent) were added. The supersector has not seen a month of more dramatic seasonally adjusted growth since July 2003 when 1,400 jobs were added. The annual growth is less extreme, with the supersector adding just 678 jobs (0.6 percent) since September 2013, the majority of that growth coming in Religious, Grantmaking, Civic, Professional, and Similar Organizations.

Government

Government employers shed 4,200 jobs (1.0 percent) in September, with Federal employers holding steady and State and Local Government losing 1,600 and 2,600 jobs, respectively. Annually, Government employment is up slightly, with 2,347 more jobs (0.6 percent) than in September 2013. Most of the movement appears to be coming in education. Local Government Educational Services has added 5,332 jobs (4.2 percent) making up for a loss of 3,016 (4.7 percent) in State Government Educational Services.

by Nick Dobbins

Seasonally Adjusted Nonfarm Employment

	In 1,000's		
Industry	Sept 2014	Aug 2014	July 2014
Total Nonagricultural	2,834.7	2,827.5	2,818.7
Goods-Producing	435.4	434.3	430.6
Mining and Logging	7.4	7.6	7.3
Construction	110.2	110.0	107.7
Manufacturing	317.8	316.7	315.6
Service-Providing	2,399.3	2,393.2	2,388.1
Trade, Transportation, and Utilities	514.1	513.8	514.2
Information	54.5	54.5	54.2
Financial Activities	179.0	179.4	180.2
Professional and Business Services	359.6	355.5	353.5
Educational and Health Services	500.5	499.4	497.5
Leisure and Hospitality	255.1	251.2	250.0
Other Services	118.7	117.4	117.2
Government	417.8	422.0	421.3

Source: Department of Employment and Economic Development Current Employment Statistics, 2014.

Regional Analysis

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

Employment was up slightly before seasonal adjustment in September, as the metro added 1,371 jobs (0.1 percent). The gain came largely from the public sector, as private employers lost 9,628 jobs (0.6 percent). Government employment, on the other hand, was up 10,999 (4.8 percent) on the month. This government employment increase was a common trait in all metros this month as schools ramped up hiring for fall classes. The biggest losses came in the Trade, Transportation, and Utilities supersector which shed 5,381 jobs (1.7 percent). For the year, the Twin Cities metro added 30,677 jobs overall (1.7 percent), with most of the increase coming from the private sector. The only supersectors to contract were Trade, Transportation, and Utilities (down 5,925, 1.9 percent) and Information (down 273, 0.7 percent). Notable annual expansions included Educational and Health Services (up 10,542, or 3.6 percent), Leisure and Hospitality (up 6,962, 4 percent), Manufacturing (up 8,156, 4.5 percent), and Professional and Business Services (up 7,246, 2.6 percent).

Duluth-Superior MSA

Employment increased in September as the metro added 923 jobs (0.7 percent). Gains among service providers (up 1,554 or 1.3 percent) overcame job losses in goods producers (down 631, 3.6 percent) for the month. Government employment led the way, with both State and Local government showing significant employment jumps (up 1,324 or 20.7 percent and 1,060 or 7.0 percent, respectively) as the fall semester got under way. On the flip side, the largest

employment declines came in Leisure and Hospitality (down 645, 4.4 percent) and Mining, Logging, and Construction (down 519, 5.2 percent). Annually, Duluth employment has grown by 986 jobs (0.7 percent) with the largest increases coming in Educational and Health Services (up 679, 2.2 percent) and Mining, Logging, and Construction (387, 4.3 percent).

Rochester MSA

The Rochester MSA lost jobs in September as employment ticked down by 910 jobs (0.8 percent) from August estimates. Job losses were spread across a number of supersectors, with notable examples including Trade, Transportation, and Utilities (down 193, 1.2 percent), Leisure and Hospitality (down 323, 3.3 percent), and Educational and Health Services (down 282, 0.6 percent). The Government supersector showed the largest employment increase of the month, adding 106 jobs (1.0 percent). Annually, employment is up 1,446 (1.3 percent) in Rochester, with growth in every supersector save Mining, Logging, and Construction (down 166 or 4.2 percent) and Financial Activities (down 40, 1.5 percent).

St. Cloud MSA

Employment in the St. Cloud MSA continued to grow in September as the area added 540 jobs (0.5 percent) over August estimates. As was the case across the state, private sector employment dropped for the month (down 1,064 or 1.1 percent), but overall employment was buoyed by strong growth in Government employment (up 1,604, 11.8 percent) as

the new school year started. For the year, St. Cloud added jobs as well, up 2,102 (2.0 percent) over September 2013. The largest annual gains came in Mining, Logging, and Construction which was up 846 (15.4 percent) while the steepest decline came in Government employment which was off by 352 (2.3 percent).

Mankato-North Mankato MSA

Employment jumped sharply in September, adding 1,723 jobs (3.2 percent) after growing by less than 100 in August estimates. Both private and public sector employment grew in Mankato, up 1,000 (2.2 percent) and 723 (8.9 percent), respectively. For the year, the metro area has added 1,853 jobs (3.4 percent) with goods producers and service providers both growing.

Fargo-Moorhead MSA

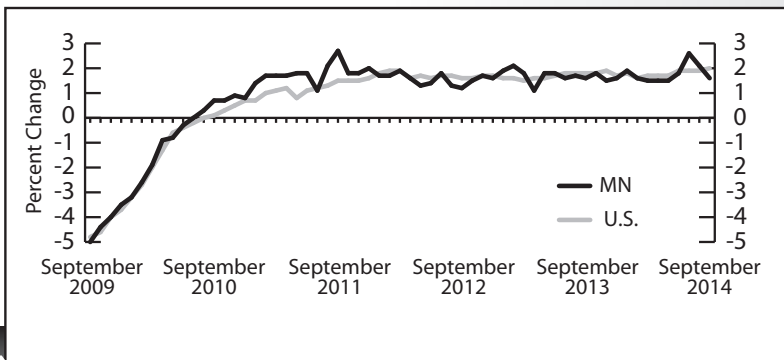
Employment was up sharply in September as the area added 2,176 jobs (1.6 percent) over August estimates. The monthly increase came thanks to the addition of 2,584 jobs (16.8 percent) in Government, as the private sector lost 408 jobs (0.3 percent) on the month. The Fargo-Moorhead metro also added jobs over the past year, with September estimates coming in at 4,060 (3.0 percent) higher than in 2013. However, the annual increase was almost entirely from growth in private sector employment. Mining, Logging, and Construction led the way with the addition of 1,854 jobs (20.9 percent) since September 2013.

Grand Forks-East Grand Forks MSA

Employment was also up significantly in the Grand Forks-East Grand Forks MSA. The metro area added 2,776 jobs (5.1 percent) on the strength of an additional 2,225 Government employees (18.6 percent), primarily in the Local Government sector. Annually, metro area employment remains up only slightly, with 507 more jobs (0.9 percent) than in September 2013. Over-the-year gains in Educational and Health Services, Mining, Logging, and Construction, and Trade, Transportation, and Utilities were partially balanced by losses in the Leisure and Hospitality and the Government supersectors.

by Nick Dobbins

Source: Department of Employment and Economic Development, Current Employment Statistics, 2014; Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor, Current Employment Statistics, 2014.



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

Industry	Jobs* (Thousands)			Percent Change: From**		Production Workers Hours and Earnings					
	Sept 2014	Aug 2014	Sept 2013	Aug 2014	Sept 2013	Average Weekly Earnings		Average Weekly Hours		Average Hourly Earnings	
						Sept 2014	Sept 2013	Sept 2014	Sept 2013	Sept 2014	Sept 2013
TOTAL NONFARM WAGE AND SALARY	2,849.6	2,851.8	2,804.5	-0.1%	1.6%	—	—	—	—	—	—
GOODS-PRODUCING	449.2	453.8	431.3	-1.0	4.1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Mining and Logging	7.7	8.0	7.2	-2.7	7.5	—	—	—	—	—	—
Construction	121.2	123.6	114.2	-1.9	6.1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Specialty Trade Contractors	76.0	76.8	70.9	-1.0	7.2	\$1,116.83	\$1,232.68	38.3	41.8	\$29.16	\$29.49
Manufacturing	320.3	322.3	309.9	-0.6	3.3	841.77	832.97	41.9	41.9	20.09	19.88
Durable Goods	204.3	206.2	196.1	-0.9	4.2	841.02	838.09	42.8	41.8	19.65	20.05
Wood Product Manufacturing	10.6	10.8	10.7	-1.6	-1.0	—	—	—	—	—	—
Fabricated Metal Production	43.3	43.4	41.7	-0.3	3.9	—	—	—	—	—	—
Machinery Manufacturing	32.0	32.2	32.1	-0.7	-0.4	—	—	—	—	—	—
Computer and Electronic Product	44.6	45.1	44.6	-1.0	-0.1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Navigational, Measuring, Electromedical and Control	24.8	25.0	24.5	-1.0	1.0	—	—	—	—	—	—
Transportation Equipment	11.9	12.0	11.2	-0.3	6.7	—	—	—	—	—	—
Medical Equipment and Supplies Manufacturing	15.1	15.3	15.1	-1.1	-0.3	—	—	—	—	—	—
Nondurable Goods	116.0	116.1	113.8	-0.2	1.9	843.21	824.88	40.5	42.0	20.82	19.64
Food Manufacturing	47.2	47.7	47.1	-0.9	0.2	—	—	—	—	—	—
Paper Manufacturing	32.8	32.8	33.2	0.1	-1.1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Printing and Related	23.7	23.6	23.5	0.2	0.8	—	—	—	—	—	—
SERVICE-PROVIDING	2,400.4	2,397.9	2,373.2	0.1	1.1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Trade, Transportation, and Utilities	513.4	518.6	512.3	-1.0	0.2	—	—	—	—	—	—
Wholesale Trade	131.9	134.4	130.5	-1.9	1.1	959.62	1,012.74	39.2	40.3	24.48	25.13
Retail Trade	286.6	291.4	287.5	-1.6	-0.3	406.33	402.71	28.9	28.4	14.06	14.18
Motor Vehicle and Parts	33.8	34.1	32.4	-0.9	4.4	—	—	—	—	—	—
Building Material and Garden Equipment	25.7	26.6	25.9	-3.2	-0.5	—	—	—	—	—	—
Food and Beverage Stores	50.9	52.0	51.6	-2.1	-1.5	—	—	—	—	—	—
Gasoline Stations	23.9	24.1	23.6	-1.1	0.9	—	—	—	—	—	—
General Merchandise Stores	60.1	60.9	60.6	-1.3	-0.8	313.49	318.60	29.0	29.5	10.81	10.80
Transportation, Warehouse, Utilities	94.8	92.8	94.3	2.1	0.5	—	—	—	—	—	—
Transportation and Warehousing	81.3	79.5	81.2	2.2	0.2	617.90	592.50	34.5	35.5	17.91	16.69
Information	53.8	54.1	52.9	-0.6	1.6	763.52	817.60	33.4	36.5	22.86	22.40
Publishing Industries	20.6	20.8	21.3	-0.9	-3.2	—	—	—	—	—	—
Telecommunications	13.3	13.2	13.4	0.7	-1.2	—	—	—	—	—	—
Financial Activities	179.2	181.1	180.9	-1.1	-1.0	—	—	—	—	—	—
Finance and Insurance	138.4	139.1	141.1	-0.5	-1.9	884.66	966.44	35.5	37.0	24.92	26.12
Credit Intermediation	53.2	53.5	55.0	-0.6	-3.2	718.59	788.07	34.9	36.2	20.59	21.77
Securities, Commodity Contracts, and Other	18.2	18.4	18.4	-1.0	-0.9	—	—	—	—	—	—
Insurance Carriers and Related	66.6	66.9	66.6	-0.5	0.0	—	—	—	—	—	—
Real Estate and Rental and Leasing	40.8	41.9	39.8	-2.8	2.4	—	—	—	—	—	—
Professional and Business Services	360.2	362.1	349.0	-0.5	3.2	—	—	—	—	—	—
Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services	140.2	140.3	134.6	0.0	4.2	—	—	—	—	—	—
Legal Services	18.8	19.0	18.7	-1.1	0.4	—	—	—	—	—	—
Accounting, Tax Preparation	15.4	15.6	14.2	-1.3	8.8	—	—	—	—	—	—
Computer Systems Design	33.1	33.3	31.9	-0.8	3.5	—	—	—	—	—	—
Management of Companies and Enterprises	79.3	79.9	76.9	-0.7	3.2	—	—	—	—	—	—
Administrative and Support Services	140.6	141.9	137.5	-0.9	2.3	—	—	—	—	—	—
Educational and Health Services	500.0	494.8	492.0	1.0	1.6	—	—	—	—	—	—
Educational Services	66.9	59.2	66.1	13.1	1.3	—	—	—	—	—	—
Health Care and Social Assistance	433.1	435.6	425.9	-0.6	1.7	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ambulatory Health Care	141.5	142.8	136.7	-0.9	3.5	1,220.45	1,210.65	34.9	34.6	34.97	34.99
Offices of Physicians	67.4	67.8	66.2	-0.6	1.7	—	—	—	—	—	—
Hospitals	104.3	104.9	104.8	-0.6	-0.5	—	—	—	—	—	—
Nursing and Residential Care Facilities	105.4	106.7	105.4	-1.2	0.1	438.06	437.90	29.4	30.2	14.90	14.50
Social Assistance	81.8	81.2	79.0	0.8	3.6	—	—	—	—	—	—
Leisure and Hospitality	264.1	272.8	259.2	-3.2	1.9	—	—	—	—	—	—
Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation	41.9	47.1	42.5	-11.0	-1.4	—	—	—	—	—	—
Accommodation and Food Services	222.2	225.8	216.7	-1.6	2.5	—	—	—	—	—	—
Food Services and Drinking Places	194.5	195.4	187.7	-0.5	3.6	253.41	247.95	21.1	22.5	12.01	11.02
Other Services	118.9	117.6	118.2	1.1	0.6	—	—	—	—	—	—
Religious, Grantmaking, Civic, Professional Organizations	69.6	68.5	69.0	1.6	0.9	—	—	—	—	—	—
Government	411.0	396.8	408.7	3.6	0.6	—	—	—	—	—	—
Federal Government	31.2	31.3	31.4	-0.4	-0.5	—	—	—	—	—	—
State Government	101.9	90.9	104.3	12.1	-2.3	—	—	—	—	—	—
State Government Education	60.6	51.9	63.7	16.9	-4.7	—	—	—	—	—	—
Local Government	278.0	274.6	273.1	1.2	1.8	—	—	—	—	—	—
Local Government Education	131.9	114.6	126.6	15.1	4.2	—	—	—	—	—	—

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, 2014.

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*			Percent Change		Production Workers Hours and Earnings					
	(Thousands)			From**		Average Weekly Earnings		Average Weekly Hours		Average Hourly Earnings	
	Sept 2014	Aug 2014	Sept 2013	Aug 2014	Sept 2013	Sept 2014	Sept 2013	Sept 2014	Sept 2013	Sept 2014	Sept 2013
TOTAL NONFARM WAGE AND SALARY	1,843.0	1,841.6	1,812.3	0.1%	1.7%	—	—	—	—	—	—
GOODS-PRODUCING	260.8	262.3	252.5	-0.6	3.3	—	—	—	—	—	—
Mining, Logging, and Construction	69.7	70.3	69.6	-0.8	0.1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Construction of Buildings	16.1	16.3	14.9	-1.5	8.1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Specialty Trade Contractors	47.0	47.8	45.9	-1.5	2.6	\$1,245.75	\$1,309.59	38.7	41.8	\$32.19	\$31.33
Manufacturing	191.1	192.0	182.9	-0.5	4.5	886.08	842.54	42.6	40.9	20.80	20.60
Durable Goods	131.8	132.8	125.4	-0.8	5.1	863.01	867.36	43.0	41.6	20.07	20.85
Fabricated Metal Production	28.6	28.7	28.1	-0.3	1.8	—	—	—	—	—	—
Machinery Manufacturing	19.5	19.8	19.6	-1.7	-0.3	—	—	—	—	—	—
Computer and Electronic Product	35.5	35.8	35.3	-0.9	0.5	—	—	—	—	—	—
Navigational, Measuring, Electromedical and Control	23.4	23.6	23.0	-0.9	1.8	—	—	—	—	—	—
Medical Equipment and Supplies Manufacturing	13.9	14.0	14.0	-0.8	-0.9	—	—	—	—	—	—
Nondurable Goods	59.3	59.1	57.5	0.3	3.2	935.21	795.14	41.9	39.5	22.32	20.13
Food Manufacturing	13.6	13.7	13.4	-0.8	1.4	—	—	—	—	—	—
Printing and Related	15.2	15.1	15.0	0.4	1.4	—	—	—	—	—	—
SERVICE-PROVIDING	1,582.2	1,579.4	1,559.8	0.2	1.4	—	—	—	—	—	—
Trade, Transportation, and Utilities	313.8	319.2	319.7	-1.7	-1.9	—	—	—	—	—	—
Wholesale Trade	80.4	81.3	81.7	-1.1	-1.6	937.10	1,003.70	38.9	40.1	24.09	25.03
Merchant Wholesalers - Durable Goods	43.8	44.5	43.3	-1.6	1.1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Merchant Wholesalers - Nondurable Goods	24.6	25.0	24.5	-1.6	0.4	—	—	—	—	—	—
Retail Trade	172.3	176.4	175.3	-2.3	-1.7	434.40	391.97	30.0	28.8	14.48	13.61
Food and Beverage Stores	28.8	29.6	29.5	-2.8	-2.3	—	—	—	—	—	—
General Merchandise Stores	37.2	37.8	37.2	-1.8	0.0	319.03	333.54	29.9	30.6	10.67	10.90
Transportation, Warehouse, Utilities	61.1	61.5	62.7	-0.6	-2.6	—	—	—	—	—	—
Utilities	7.7	7.7	7.7	0.5	0.4	—	—	—	—	—	—
Transportation and Warehousing	53.4	53.8	55.0	-0.8	-3.0	775.06	779.96	40.9	43.5	18.95	17.93
Information	38.3	38.6	38.5	-0.9	-0.7	—	—	—	—	—	—
Publishing Industries	16.4	16.5	16.7	-0.9	-1.9	—	—	—	—	—	—
Telecommunications	9.5	9.4	9.5	1.1	-0.6	—	—	—	—	—	—
Financial Activities	141.7	143.9	141.3	-1.5	0.3	—	—	—	—	—	—
Finance and Insurance	108.4	109.8	108.8	-1.3	-0.4	950.45	1,118.63	34.3	37.4	27.71	29.91
Credit Intermediation	37.0	37.5	38.4	-1.2	-3.5	—	—	—	—	—	—
Securities, Commodity Contracts, and Other	16.6	16.7	16.3	-0.7	1.8	—	—	—	—	—	—
Insurance Carriers and Related	53.7	54.2	53.1	-1.0	1.0	—	—	—	—	—	—
Real Estate and Rental and Leasing	33.3	34.2	32.4	-2.4	2.9	—	—	—	—	—	—
Professional and Business Services	285.1	286.8	277.9	-0.6	2.6	—	—	—	—	—	—
Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services	109.8	110.7	106.9	-0.8	2.7	—	—	—	—	—	—
Legal Services	15.8	15.9	15.7	-1.2	0.4	—	—	—	—	—	—
Architectural, Engineering, and Related	16.1	16.5	15.6	-2.4	3.2	—	—	—	—	—	—
Computer Systems Design	27.2	27.3	26.2	-0.3	3.8	—	—	—	—	—	—
Management of Companies and Enterprises	71.0	71.5	69.1	-0.7	2.8	—	—	—	—	—	—
Administrative and Support Services	104.3	104.5	101.9	-0.2	2.4	—	—	—	—	—	—
Employment Services	48.9	47.8	49.7	2.2	-1.6	—	—	—	—	—	—
Educational and Health Services	306.7	302.1	296.2	1.5	3.6	—	—	—	—	—	—
Educational Services	44.1	39.2	42.7	12.5	3.3	—	—	—	—	—	—
Health Care and Social Assistance	262.6	262.9	253.4	-0.1	3.6	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ambulatory Health Care	84.7	85.2	81.6	-0.7	3.7	—	—	—	—	—	—
Hospitals	61.4	61.4	61.0	0.0	0.7	—	—	—	—	—	—
Nursing and Residential Care Facilities	57.9	58.1	56.2	-0.5	3.0	—	—	—	—	—	—
Social Assistance	58.6	58.1	54.7	0.9	7.2	—	—	—	—	—	—
Leisure and Hospitality	179.6	183.2	172.6	-2.0	4.0	—	—	—	—	—	—
Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation	32.2	35.5	32.0	-9.4	0.6	—	—	—	—	—	—
Accommodation and Food Services	147.4	147.7	140.7	-0.2	4.8	278.30	272.11	22.3	23.6	12.48	11.53
Food Services and Drinking Places	134.3	134.2	126.9	0.1	5.8	268.36	263.12	21.4	23.0	12.54	11.44
Other Services	77.7	77.2	78.0	0.6	-0.4	—	—	—	—	—	—
Repair and Maintenance	13.3	13.2	13.4	0.7	-1.0	—	—	—	—	—	—
Religious, Grantmaking, Civic, Professional Organizations	43.3	43.4	43.2	-0.3	0.3	—	—	—	—	—	—
Government	239.3	228.3	235.6	4.8	1.6	—	—	—	—	—	—
Federal Government	19.8	19.8	20.1	-0.4	-1.5	—	—	—	—	—	—
State Government	72.2	62.7	70.4	15.2	2.6	—	—	—	—	—	—
State Government Education	44.0	36.7	42.5	19.7	3.4	—	—	—	—	—	—
Local Government	147.3	145.8	145.2	1.0	1.5	—	—	—	—	—	—
Local Government Education	82.0	69.6	78.5	17.7	4.4	—	—	—	—	—	—

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, 2014.

Employer Survey

Industry

TOTAL NONFARM WAGE AND SALARY

GOODS-PRODUCING

Mining, Logging, and Construction
Manufacturing

SERVICE-PROVIDING

Trade, Transportation, and Utilities
Wholesale Trade
Retail Trade
Transportation, Warehouse, Utilities
Information
Financial Activities
Professional and Business Services
Educational and Health Services
Leisure and Hospitality
Other Services
Government

Duluth-Superior MSA

Jobs % Chg. From

	Sept 2014	Aug 2014	Sept 2013	Aug 2014	Sept 2013
TOTAL NONFARM WAGE AND SALARY	134,274	133,351	133,288	0.7%	0.7%
GOODS-PRODUCING	16,822	17,453	16,479	-3.6	2.1
Mining, Logging, and Construction	9,368	9,887	8,981	-5.2	4.3
Manufacturing	7,454	7,566	7,498	-1.5	-0.6
SERVICE-PROVIDING	117,452	115,898	116,809	1.3	0.6
Trade, Transportation, and Utilities	24,417	24,770	24,283	-1.4	0.6
Wholesale Trade	3,162	3,183	3,119	-0.7	1.4
Retail Trade	15,402	15,723	15,293	-2.0	0.7
Transportation, Warehouse, Utilities	5,853	5,864	5,871	-0.2	-0.3
Information	1,456	1,475	1,429	-1.3	1.9
Financial Activities	5,441	5,506	5,508	-1.2	-1.2
Professional and Business Services	7,841	7,936	7,823	-1.2	0.2
Educational and Health Services	31,827	31,576	31,148	0.8	2.2
Leisure and Hospitality	14,103	14,748	14,438	-4.4	-2.3
Other Services	6,686	6,572	6,367	1.7	5.0
Government	25,681	23,315	25,813	10.1	-0.5

Rochester MSA

Jobs % Chg. From

	Sept 2014	Aug 2014	Sept 2013	Aug 2014	Sept 2013
TOTAL NONFARM WAGE AND SALARY	109,250	110,160	107,804	-0.8%	1.3%
GOODS-PRODUCING	14,496	14,652	14,267	-1.1	1.6
Mining, Logging, and Construction	3,758	3,800	3,924	-1.1	-4.2
Manufacturing	10,738	10,852	10,343	-1.1	3.8
SERVICE-PROVIDING	94,754	95,508	93,537	-0.8	1.3
Trade, Transportation, and Utilities	16,549	16,742	16,227	-1.2	2.0
Wholesale Trade	2,266	2,345	2,276	-3.4	-0.4
Retail Trade	11,859	12,097	11,566	-2.0	2.5
Transportation, Warehouse, Utilities	2,424	2,300	2,385	5.4	1.6
Information	1,761	1,799	1,691	-2.1	4.1
Financial Activities	2,586	2,613	2,626	-1.0	-1.5
Professional and Business Services	5,711	5,677	5,488	0.6	4.1
Educational and Health Services	43,867	44,149	43,705	-0.6	0.4
Leisure and Hospitality	9,592	9,915	9,394	-3.3	2.1
Other Services	3,857	3,888	3,714	-0.8	3.9
Government	10,831	10,725	10,692	1.0	1.3

Employer Survey

Industry

TOTAL NONFARM WAGE AND SALARY

GOODS-PRODUCING

Mining, Logging, and Construction
Manufacturing

SERVICE-PROVIDING

Trade, Transportation, and Utilities
Wholesale Trade
Retail Trade
Transportation, Warehouse, Utilities
Information
Financial Activities
Professional and Business Services
Educational and Health Services
Leisure and Hospitality
Other Services
Government

St. Cloud MSA

Jobs % Chg. From

	Sept 2014	Aug 2014	Sept 2013	Aug 2014	Sept 2013
TOTAL NONFARM WAGE AND SALARY	106,714	106,174	104,612	0.5%	2.0%
GOODS-PRODUCING	21,674	21,967	20,725	-1.3	4.6
Mining, Logging, and Construction	6,342	6,499	5,496	-2.4	15.4
Manufacturing	15,332	15,468	15,229	-0.9	0.7
SERVICE-PROVIDING	85,040	84,207	83,887	1.0	1.4
Trade, Transportation, and Utilities	20,955	21,024	20,791	-0.3	0.8
Wholesale Trade	4,285	4,297	4,182	-0.3	2.5
Retail Trade	13,217	13,235	13,142	-0.1	0.6
Transportation, Warehouse, Utilities	3,453	3,492	3,467	-1.1	-0.4
Information	1,633	1,634	1,710	-0.1	-4.5
Financial Activities	4,539	4,569	4,541	-0.7	0.0
Professional and Business Services	9,186	9,500	8,830	-3.3	4.0
Educational and Health Services	20,326	20,841	19,930	-2.5	2.0
Leisure and Hospitality	9,750	9,508	9,078	2.5	7.4
Other Services	3,505	3,589	3,509	-2.3	-0.1
Government	15,146	13,542	15,498	11.8	-2.3

Mankato-North Mankato MSA

Jobs % Chg. From

	Sept 2014	Aug 2014	Sept 2013	Aug 2014	Sept 2013
TOTAL NONFARM WAGE AND SALARY	56,210	54,487	54,357	3.2	3.4%
GOODS-PRODUCING	10,407	10,263	10,039	1.4	3.7
Mining, Logging, and Construction	--	--	--	--	--
Manufacturing	--	--	--	--	--
SERVICE-PROVIDING	45,803	44,224	44,318	3.6	3.4
Trade, Transportation, and Utilities	--	--	--	--	--
Wholesale Trade	--	--	--	--	--
Retail Trade	--	--	--	--	--
Transportation, Warehouse, Utilities	--	--	--	--	--
Information	--	--	--	--	--
Financial Activities	--	--	--	--	--
Professional and Business Services	--	--	--	--	--
Educational and Health Services	--	--	--	--	--
Leisure and Hospitality	--	--	--	--	--
Other Services	--	--	--	--	--
Government	8,869	8,146	8,689	8.9	2.1

Employer Survey

Industry

TOTAL NONFARM WAGE AND SALARY

GOODS-PRODUCING

Mining, Logging, and Construction
Manufacturing

SERVICE-PROVIDING

Trade, Transportation, and Utilities
Wholesale Trade
Retail Trade
Transportation, Warehouse, Utilities
Information
Financial Activities
Professional and Business Services
Educational and Health Services
Leisure and Hospitality
Other Services
Government

Fargo-Moorhead MSA

Jobs % Chg. From

	Sept 2014	Aug 2014	Sept 2013	Aug 2014	Sept 2013
TOTAL NONFARM WAGE AND SALARY	138,544	136,368	134,484	1.6%	3.0%
GOODS-PRODUCING	20,969	21,175	19,059	-1.0	10.0
Mining, Logging, and Construction	10,723	10,988	8,869	-2.4	20.9
Manufacturing	10,246	10,187	10,190	0.6	0.6
SERVICE-PROVIDING	117,575	115,193	115,425	2.1	1.9
Trade, Transportation, and Utilities	29,426	29,343	29,113	0.3	1.1
Wholesale Trade	9,334	9,355	8,911	-0.2	4.8
Retail Trade	15,054	15,056	15,377	0.0	-2.1
Transportation, Warehouse, Utilities	5,038	4,932	4,825	2.2	4.4
Information	3,327	3,328	3,283	0.0	1.3
Financial Activities	10,015	10,134	9,802	-1.2	2.2
Professional and Business Services	16,044	16,408	15,778	-2.2	1.7
Educational and Health Services	21,840	21,686	21,307	0.7	2.5
Leisure and Hospitality	13,862	13,882	13,353	-0.1	3.8
Other Services	5,132	5,067	5,152	1.3	-0.4
Government	17,929	15,345	17,637	16.8	1.7

Grand Forks-East Grand Forks MSA

Jobs % Chg. From

	Sept 2014	Aug 2014	Sept 2013	Aug 2014	Sept 2013
TOTAL NONFARM WAGE AND SALARY	57,103	54,327	56,596	5.1%	0.9%
GOODS-PRODUCING	7,505	7,192	7,189	4.4	4.4
Mining, Logging, and Construction	3,770	3,753	3,507	0.5	7.5
Manufacturing	3,735	3,439	3,682	8.6	1.4
SERVICE-PROVIDING	49,598	47,135	49,407	5.2	0.4
Trade, Transportation, and Utilities	12,288	12,213	12,134	0.6	1.3
Wholesale Trade	2,013	2,047	1,978	-1.7	1.8
Retail Trade	8,397	8,238	8,120	1.9	3.4
Transportation, Warehouse, Utilities	1,878	1,928	2,036	-2.6	-7.8
Information	620	626	607	-1.0	2.1
Financial Activities	1,727	1,733	1,728	-0.4	-0.1
Professional and Business Services	2,951	2,802	2,906	5.3	1.6
Educational and Health Services	9,930	9,882	9,663	0.5	2.8
Leisure and Hospitality	5,908	5,915	6,037	-0.1	-2.1
Other Services	1,958	1,973	2,003	-0.8	-2.3
Government	14,216	11,991	14,329	18.6	-0.8

Source: Department of Employment and Economic Development, Current Employment Statistics, and North Dakota Job Service, 2014.

Highlights

The **Minnesota Index** increased 0.4 percent for the fourth consecutive month in September, indicating that Minnesota's economy has shifted into high gear. The index hasn't been this high for as many consecutive months since late 1999 into early 2000. Job growth was strong for the second month in a row, and the unemployment rate declined by 0.2 points for the second straight month. The only negative: Average weekly manufacturing hours tailed off. The pace of economic growth has doubled since earlier in the year, and if the current pace continues through the rest of 2014, Minnesota's GDP will top 3 percent for the first time since 2010.

Minnesota's index in September was up 3.6 percent from a year ago compared to the U.S. index, which was 3.2 percent higher than a year ago. The last time Minnesota's index was 3.6 percent higher over the year was August 2000. Minnesota's index has been outpacing the U.S. index over the last three months. Both indices are real-time monthly proxies for GDP growth and are subject to significant revisions as preliminary data are revised.

Adjusted **Wage and Salary Employment** climbed strongly for the second straight month with 7,200 jobs added in September to go with the revised 8,800 jobs added in August. The combined two-month gain is the largest two-month gain since last October and November. The uptick in hiring over the last two months is

a welcome development as job growth was weak during the first half of the year. All of the job growth was in the private sector which added 11,400 jobs; the public sector cut 4,100 jobs. September's private sector job jump was the 10th highest monthly gain over the last 24 years. Professional and Business Services added the most jobs with solid job additions also in Leisure and Hospitality, Other Services, Educational and Health Services, and Manufacturing.

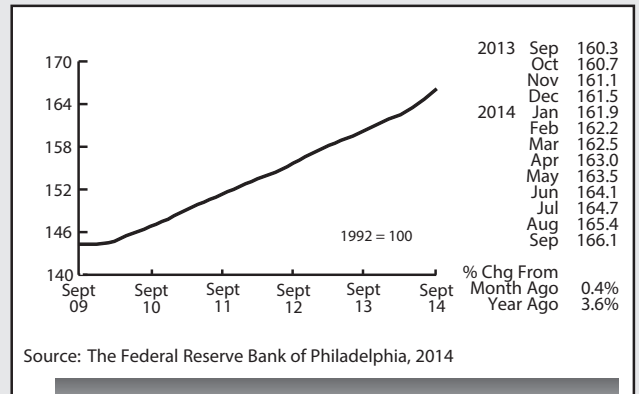
Minnesota job growth over the year, using unadjusted job numbers, slipped to 1.6 percent, well below the 2.0 percent annual increase recorded nationally. Minnesota's average over-the-year gain through September, however, is 1.8 percent as is the national average.

Minnesota's adjusted online **Help-Wanted Ads** lost ground in September, slipping 4.4 percent. However, September's 120,000 ads are the fourth highest on record, suggesting that labor demand remains strong by this measure. Online help-wanted ads also dipped nationally, falling by 2.6 percent. The state's share of online job advertising was 2.4 percent in September, well above the state's 2.0 percent share of the nation's wage and salary employment.

Minnesota's **Purchasing Managers' Index (PMI)** inched down to a still very solid 66.3 in September. Minnesota's PMI has been above 60 for eight straight months. That is the longest streak of consecutive months of 60-plus, beating out a seven-month, 60-plus span during the first half of 2010. Manufacturing

employment is up by more than 3 percent over the last three months which is the best over-the-year growth since early 2011.

Adjusted **Manufacturing Hours** fell to 41.5 hours in September which was the shortest workweek since April. Despite the decline, the factory workweek remains high and, if there is no further decline, 2014's



Source: The Federal Reserve Bank of Philadelphia, 2014

Minnesota Index

annual average weekly manufacturing hours will finish among the highest on record. **Manufacturing Earnings** slipped from the second-highest total in August to \$832.87 in September. Factory paychecks are still on pace to be 1.3 percent higher, roughly \$550, in real terms for 2014 than 2013.

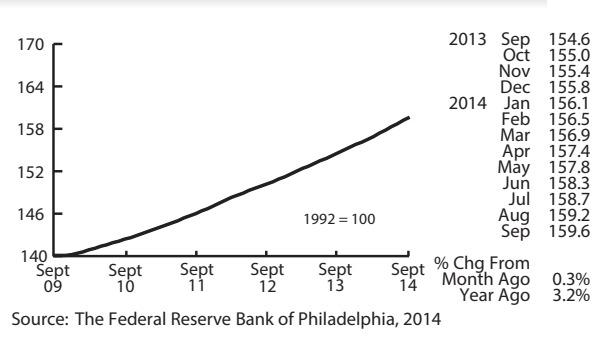
The **Minnesota Leading Index** dropped in September but remains elevated by historical standards. The index hasn't been this strong since the last half of 1999. The index, which predicts Minnesota's GDP expansion six months out, is signaling that the state's economy will be growing at a 4 percent annual rate through next March. Minnesota's leading index has been running substantially higher than the U.S. index since April. The index, however, gets revised as updated data come in, so expectations should be held in check.

After plunging in July, adjusted **Residential Building Permits** zigzagged down in September, adding to this year's disappointing home-building market. Home building has not been as strong as expected despite the continual improvement in the state's economy.

Adjusted **Initial Claims for Unemployment Benefits (UB)** rose for the second straight month in September but were down 6.9 percent from a year ago (unadjusted basis). Layoff levels remain low, suggesting that job growth will remain steady through the rest of the year.

by Dave Senf

United States Index

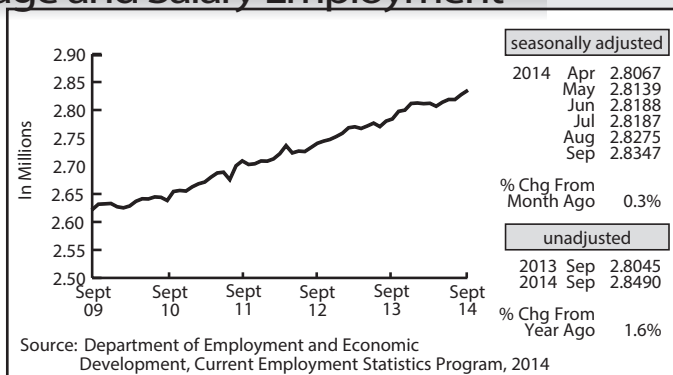


Source: The Federal Reserve Bank of Philadelphia, 2014

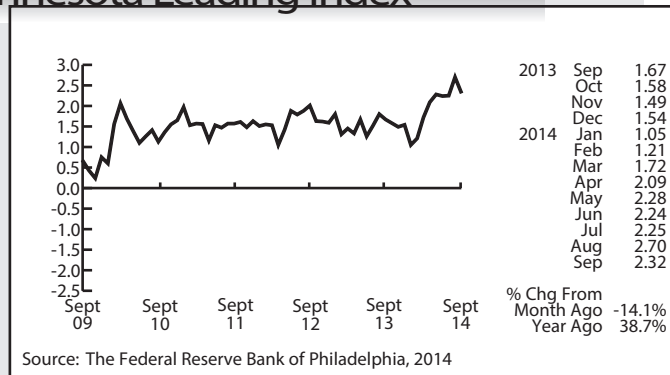
Note: All data except for Minnesota's PMI have been seasonally adjusted. See the feature article in the Minnesota Employment Review, May 2010, for more information on the Minnesota Index.

Minnesota Economic Indicators

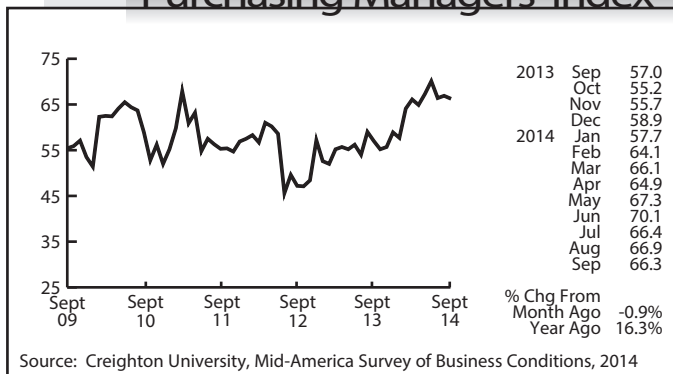
Wage and Salary Employment



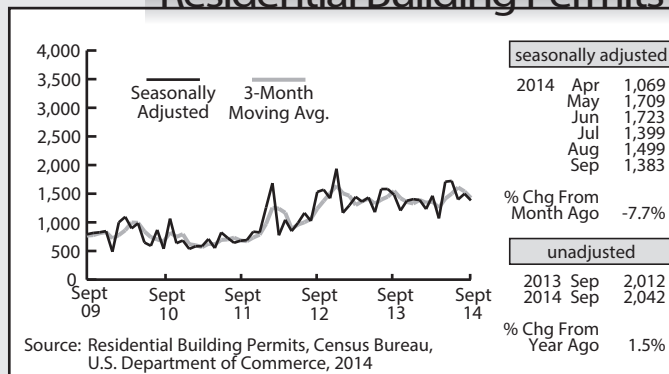
Minnesota Leading Index



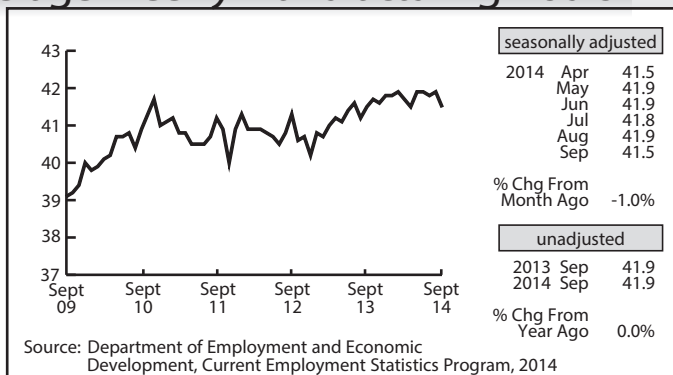
Purchasing Managers' Index



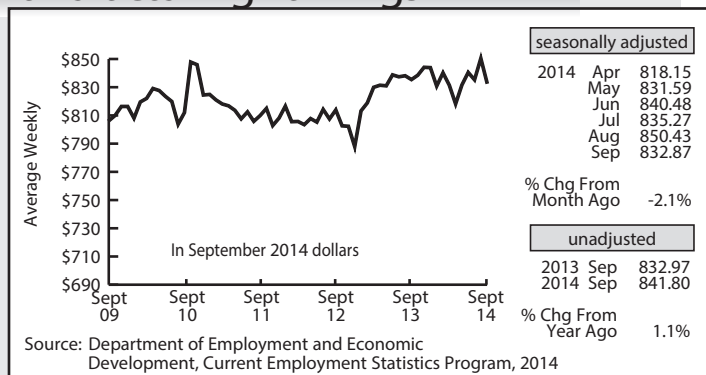
Residential Building Permits



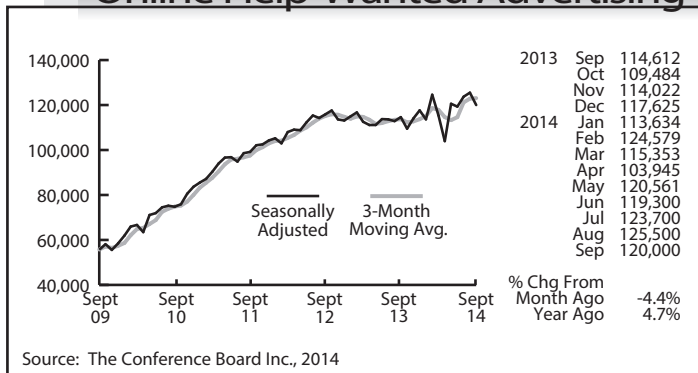
Average Weekly Manufacturing Hours



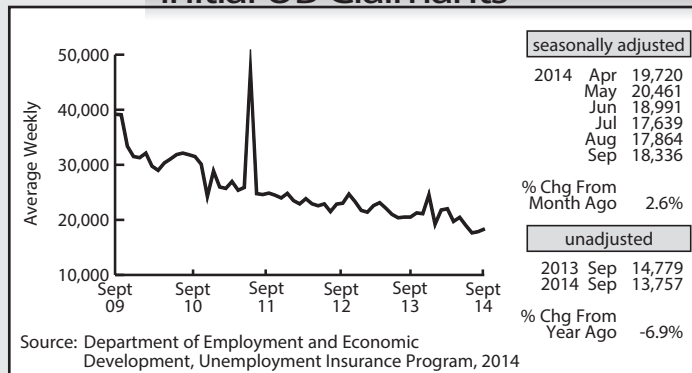
Manufacturing Earnings



Online Help-Wanted Advertising



Initial UB Claimants



Review

Minnesota Employment



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

An equal opportunity employer and service provider.
Upon request, this document can be made available
in alternative formats.

PRE-SORTED
FIRST-CLASS MAIL
POSTAGE & FEES
PAID
PERMIT NO. 8717

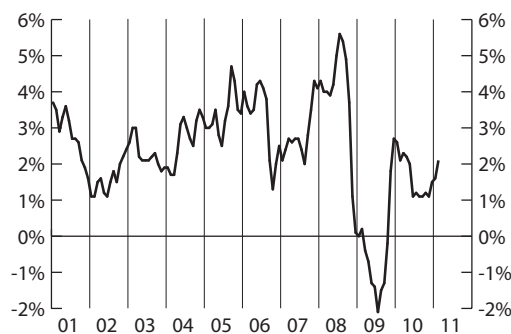
U.S. Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U)

The CPI-U increased 0.1 percent in September on a seasonally adjusted basis, the BLS reported. Along with the shelter index, the index for medical care increased, and the indices for alcoholic beverages and for personal care advanced slightly. Indices for airline fares and for used cars and trucks declined.

Over the last 12 months the all items index increased 1.7

percent as increases in shelter and food indices outweighed declines in energy indices. The food index rose 0.3 percent as five of the six major grocery store food group indices increased. The energy index declined 0.7 percent. The 12-month change in the index for all items less food and energy remained at 1.7 percent.

Percent Change From One Year Ago



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

The employment and unemployment data in this publication were produced in cooperation with the Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor.
© 2014 by the Department of Employment and Economic Development, Labor Market Information Office

Editor:

Carol Walsh

Technical Editors:

M. B. Hummel
Dave Senf

Statistics:

Nick Dobbins

Writers:

Chet Bodin
Nick Dobbins
Mohamed Alfash
Dave Senf

Graphics/Layout:

Mary Moe

Webpage Preparation:

Mary Moe

Commissioner:

Katie Clark Sieben

LMI Office

Director:
Steve Hine

Assistant
Director and
Technical
Supervisor:
Oriane Casale

What's Going On?

SSB offers podcasts for job seekers

State Services for the Blind's Communication Center offers several career podcasts full of helpful advice and insights for job seekers and workers trying to advance their careers. Local, regional and national experts speak on a variety of employment-related issues and trends, such as five phrases never to use on a resume, where the jobs are, and how much time you should spend on a job search.

Transcripts are included with each podcast.

Here is more:

<http://tinyurl.com/knua9yt>

Minnesota
Department of Employment and Economic Development

Disability Employment in Minnesota

This article on disability employment in Minnesota, the final in a series, is based on 2012 American Community Survey (ACS) data. The ACS replaced the Decennial Census long form in 2005. The report will discuss four major characteristics of disability employment in Minnesota in 2012: Disability prevalence, employment rate, full-time/full-year employment, and poverty.

Legislative Work on Disability Employment

At the national level Executive Order 13548 directs the federal government, as the largest employer in the nation, to become a role model for the employment of individuals with disabilities. This is in support of Executive Order 13163, which directs the federal government to adopt a goal of hiring 100,000 individuals with disabilities within five years. In March 2014 the U.S. Department of Labor announced changes in regulations for implementing Section 503 of the Rehabilitation Act. Section 503 now includes a rule to ensure that contractors doing business with the federal government reserve 7 percent of their jobs for people with disabilities.

At the state level Executive Order 14-14 directs all state agencies to increase employment of people with disabilities to at least 7 percent by August 2018. This directive was driven by reports showing that, although Minnesota maintains one of the highest rates of disability employment in the nation, the number of state employees with disabilities had declined since 1999. The executive order followed the Reform 2020 budget package which invests about \$400,000 in a two-year plan (2012–2014) to support 18- to 26-year-old Minnesotans with disabilities in having access to employment.



Photo: courtesy SSB

Table 1

Disability Prevalence

Area	2011 Percent with Disabilities	2012 Percent with Disabilities	Percent Change
U.S.	12.1%	12.1%	0.0%
Minnesota	9.9%	10.3%	0.4%

Disability Prevalence in Working Age Cohort

Area	2011 Percent with Disabilities	2012 Percent with Disabilities	Percent Change
U.S.	10.5%	10.4%	-0.1%
Minnesota	7.9%	8.5%	0.6%

Source: ACS Data

Disability Prevalence

According to the American Community Survey (ACS) definitions, disability status covers six major categories: Ambulatory Disability, Cognitive Disability, Hearing Disability, Independent Living Disability, Self-Care Disability, and Visual Disability.

Table 1 shows that in 2012 about 10.3 percent of the entire non-institutionalized population in Minnesota reported a disability, increasing from 9.9 percent in 2011, while the national prevalence rate remained the same as it was in 2011 at 12.1 percent. The 5,322,800 population of non-institutionalized people living in Minnesota included 548,248 people with disabilities, about one in 10. Their prevalence in the working-age group, ages 21–64, increased to 8.5 percent in Minnesota and 10.4 percent at the national level. Thus, the 2012 disability prevalence rate in Minnesota increased by 0.6 percent from 2011 while the national rate decreased by about 0.1 percent.



Photo: courtesy SSB

Workforce Participation and Employment Rate as of 2012

As shown in Table 2, the 2012 ACS data indicate that the share of working-age people with disabilities participating in the workforce in the U.S.

increased slightly from 33.4 percent in 2011 to 33.5 percent in 2012. Of the 18,890,100 total, non-institutionalized, working age people with disabilities in the United States, 6,328,000 were employed. Minnesota employment for the total number of people with disabilities showed a significant decrease of 5 percent from 2011 to 2012 and 42.7 percent from 47.7 percent, while employment for the total number of Minnesotans without disabilities increased from 81.8 percent in 2011 to 83.4 in 2012. The 5 percent decline of employment among people with disabilities may point to a ‘last-in/first-out’ protocol. Another disappointing indicator from the 2012 data is that Minnesota fell from second to fifth place in the rate of disability employment among states.

Full-Time/Full-Year Employment

The ACS defines full-time status as working 35 or more hours per week and full-year status as working 50 or more weeks in a 12-month period.

Chart 1 illustrates how employed people with disabilities continued to be less likely to maintain a full-time/full-year status than those with no disability in 2012. Although there was a 0.2 percent improvement in 2012, only 20.9 percent of working-age people with disabilities in the U.S. claimed a full-time/full-year employment status compared to 56.4 percent of workers without disabilities, an increase

Table 2

Workforce Participation Percent of Total Population Employed

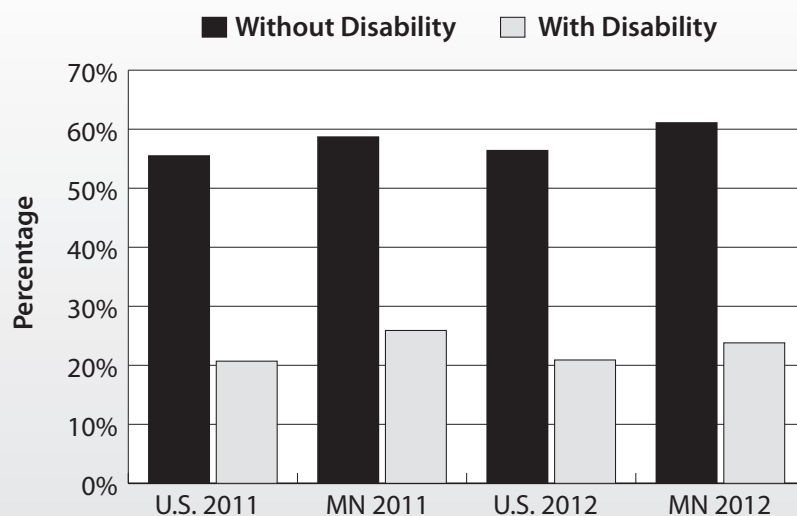
Area	2011	2012	Percent Change
U.S.	71.2%	71.8%	0.6%
Minnesota	79.1%	79.9%	0.8%

Percent of Population with Disabilities Employed

Area	2011 Percent	2012 Percent	Percent Change
U.S.	33.4%	33.5%	0.1%
Minnesota	47.7%	42.7%	-5.0%

Source: ACS Data

Chart 1: Full-Time/Full-Year Employment



from 55.5 percent in 2011. In Minnesota the percent of full-time/full-year employment status among working-age people with disabilities decreased to 23.8 percent from 25.9 percent during the same time period. The full-time/full-year rate among Minnesotans in the working-age group without disabilities increased by 2.4 percent in 2012,

rising from 58.7 percent in 2011 to 61.1 percent in 2012.

Poverty

According to the Institute for Research on Poverty at the University of Wisconsin at Madison, the official U.S. poverty measure is based on the federal

poverty thresholds created in 1982 and adjusted annually to be aligned with cost-of-living increases. The poverty level is calculated based on the cost of minimum food consumption with the assumption that families spend a third of their income on food. These poverty thresholds consider the size of the family and are indexed to 2008 dollars using poverty factors based on the Consumer Price Index. The poverty level in this article specifies the percentage of people with disabilities in the working-age group in the U.S. and in Minnesota who were living below the poverty line in 2012.

Particularly relevant to the low rates of employment and full-time/full-year status is the poverty level among people with disabilities. Chart 2 shows that in 2012 an estimated 28.4 percent of the

18,823,698 people in the working-age group with a disability in the U.S. were living below the poverty line compared to 27.8 percent in 2011. This is more than twice the rate of poverty among those of working age without disabilities, 12.1 in 2012, down about 0.4 percent from 2011. In Minnesota 27.1 percent of working-age people with disabilities were living under the poverty level in 2012, an increase of 1.8 percent from 2011 and more than three times the rate of the same age group without disabilities. Such an indicator should be considered a warning since the overall poverty rate for Minnesotans with disabilities has increased over time compared to those without disabilities whose poverty level decreased from 9.1 percent in 2011 to 8.8 percent in 2012.

Conclusion

People with disabilities are still under-employed in Minnesota and nationwide. Even the advances made in recent years have proved to be insufficient to meet the needs of people with disabilities who are participating in the workforce, both those who are employed and those searching for employment. People with disabilities in Minnesota and in the nation benefit from measures taken to enhance their employment opportunities in government agencies, but they still suffer from underemployment economy-wide. There is more to be accomplished to offer those with disabilities the lives they deserve.

by Mohamed Mourssi Alfash
 Labor Market Information Office
 Minnesota Department of Employment
 and Economic Development

Chart 2: Poverty Level Comparison: Disability vs. No Disability

