

**WASHINGTON COUNTY  
WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD MEETING  
CareerForce  
Woodbury, MN  
June 18, 2025**

**Members Present**

Laurie Levine	Chris Eng	Erin Kampa
Nicole Lindscheid	Holly Jackson	Dr. Monica Brown
Nick Petrucelle		

**Action Team Members**

Commissioner Stan Karwoski

**Guests**

Conner Sager	Timothy O'Neill	Morgan Abbott
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**CareerForce Staff Present**

Rick Roy	Cory Sindt	Tatum Heller
Deb Cunningham		

**1. Meeting Called to Order & Determination of Quorum – Laurie Levine, Chair**

A quorum was determined.

- A Motion was made to approve the agenda, it was seconded, (vote taken) and the Motion was approved.
- A Motion was made to approve the March minutes, it was seconded, (vote taken) and the Motion was approved.
- Attendee Introductions

**2. Gold-Line Presentation - Morgan Abbott**

The Gold-Line – rapid transit bus line opened March 22. It's been operating three months and has been going well. The buses run on bus-only lanes indicated with red pavement. The route is 10 miles from Woodlane Drive in Woodbury to downtown St. Paul with frequent all-day service starting at 5:00 a.m. running until approximately midnight. Route starts about every 30 minutes and then ramps up to peak times running every 10 minutes. There are 16 stations. Riders pay at the station rather than the bus. There are safety guidelines for patrons on the website. We added about \$20 million to updating and adding bike and pedestrian trails along the entire route. Phase 2 will begin in August introducing electric buses into the fleet. There are 17 buses with 5 being electric. We are already working on extending the route to Minneapolis to have access to all the stadiums. It will be merging with the existing 94 corridor route and anticipated to pen 2027.

<https://www.metrotransit.org/route/gold>

In January, Metro Micro began within a boundary area of Woodbury. It's similar to rideshare programs like Uber or Lyft, with only a \$2 fee to ride. There's an app to download to your phone to request a ride or also a call in option. It's popular for senior centers and for shopping. During the first week 150 patrons used the Metro Micro. Each week 50-70 additional patrons have been using it.

<https://www.metrotransit.org/micro-woodbury>

### **3. Washington County Workforce Data Presentation - Timothy Oneill – DEED Labor Market Information Office**

Washington County's current unemployment rate is 2.7%. It's up slightly from 2.4% last year. 2.7% is still very low. It represents about 4,085 unemployed residents living in Washington County actively looking for work. Washington County's labor force size is approximately 151,500 which includes employed and unemployed persons actively looking for work. That's up about 5.1% over the last 5 years. It's the largest gain of the 7 counties in the metro area for labor force growth. A summary of National and State statistics shows growth is slowing down a little for employment gain over the years but Minnesota doing well with 35,000 plus jobs gained over the year. Healthcare is leading for employment growth in the last several years and predict it to be the largest growing in the next 10 years.

Washington County is the sixth largest employing County in the State. There are 7,000 establishments with the majority being small businesses. 73% have less than 10 employees and 95% have less than 50 employees.

*(Power Point Presentation attachment included)*

### **4. Action Team Updates**

#### **• Business Engagement Action Team**

*Rick Roy* - visited 29 businesses informing them of the Metro Transit Gold Line and passing along the flyer. Shared three factors to support their business:

1. They're location to the Gold Line
2. Help with retention – mention TAP Transportation Assistance Program
3. How the Gold Line can help with customer growth

Discussion regarding potentially having tv's on the buses informing commuters what businesses are located in the area or adding to the phone app what's near each stop.

*Laurie Levine* – The recent World Café Event was held downtown Stillwater. There were 80 registrations. Businesses are invited to attend. All six Chambers from Washington County attended. The next event is planned for fall 2025 and will be held in Oakdale. AI was also a great discussion and how businesses are being creative using it.

*Rick Roy* – Virtual Reality is moving forward. Some staff at Forest Lake School have been trained. This fall staff at Cottage Grove High School and the Alternative High School will be trained. Staff will be able to work with students on career exploration.

- **Community Engagement Action Team**

*Cory Sindt* – a few staff facilitated the June Community Resource Fair. Planning small pop-ups around the County checking on community needs. The County was represented by several staff from the library, Child Services, and CareerForce at the Juneteenth event at Ojibway Park in Woodbury. The County is working on a one-page information flyer highlighting resources the County offers.

- **Education Engagement Action Team**

*Tatum Heller* – Education and Community Teams have been meeting together. Discussion has been how to connect college and ABE students with bus & micro transit and educate how to use them.

## **5. Board Member and Guest Updates**

*Rick Roy* – Corrie’s House (Restoration for Survivors of Sex Trafficking) is now officially licensed. We’re looking into having our Career Services Specialist and Cindy Hinderks our employment workshop facilitator provide education and employment services and career exploration with the goal for the youth & young adults to help get their life back on track.

The Emergency Housing Center is scheduled to open this fall. Our plan is to bring employment services there.

We will be moving to our new location in Woodbury the end of August. Hoping to hold our September Workforce Development Board meeting in the new building.

There’s a 50% reduction in the State budget. Some affiliate sites throughout the State may need to close with possible layoffs. We’re trying to avoid a layoff. If needed, we would close our Cottage Grove Career Lab since it’s the closest to our Woodbury location and then partner with the libraries for job searchers. We’ve already moved our Forest Lake Career Lab into the Forest Lake library.

*Erin Kampa* – Voc Rehab Services, we’ve already had some layoffs and done some restructuring. We are expecting some cuts at the federal level. We did receive a grant at the federal level targeting individuals with cognitive barriers to get them job shadows, paid work experiences and exposure to work. The Woodbury office was chosen to do this. We’re still looking to relocate to a smaller location and possibly be closer to the Gold Line.

## **6. Call and Vote for Adjournment**

A Motion was made to adjourn the meeting, it was seconded, (vote taken) and the Motion was approved.



EMPLOYMENT AND  
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

# Washington County's Labor Market Current Conditions & Trends

*Timothy O'Neill – Twin Cities Labor Market Analyst*

*Labor Market Information Office – <http://mn.gov/deed/data>*



# WHAT IS DEED?

- The Minnesota Department of Employment and Economic Development is the state's principal economic development agency. DEED programs promote business recruitment, expansion and retention; international trade; workforce development; and community development.



- Each state produces employment and economic statistics in cooperation with the U.S. Department of Labor's Bureau of Labor Statistics
- LMI includes employment statistics, unemployment rates, wages and salaries, job projections and more
- LMI is the foundation for informed, market-responsive planning

## Data Center



[Regional Labor Markets](#)

Explore your region's labor market. Find comprehensive Regional Profiles you can download in PDF, as well as links to articles and data tools. Or contact your regional analyst.

1 2 3 4 5 6

## We've Got Your Number

Nothing tells a story like numbers. And here is where we let them do the talking.

Our data and data tools provide a comprehensive, nuts-and-bolts look at Minnesota's economy and workforce.

[Data Tools](#)

[Monthly Highlights](#)

[Regional Labor Markets](#)

# Meet the LMI Office

[mn.gov/deed/data](http://mn.gov/deed/data)



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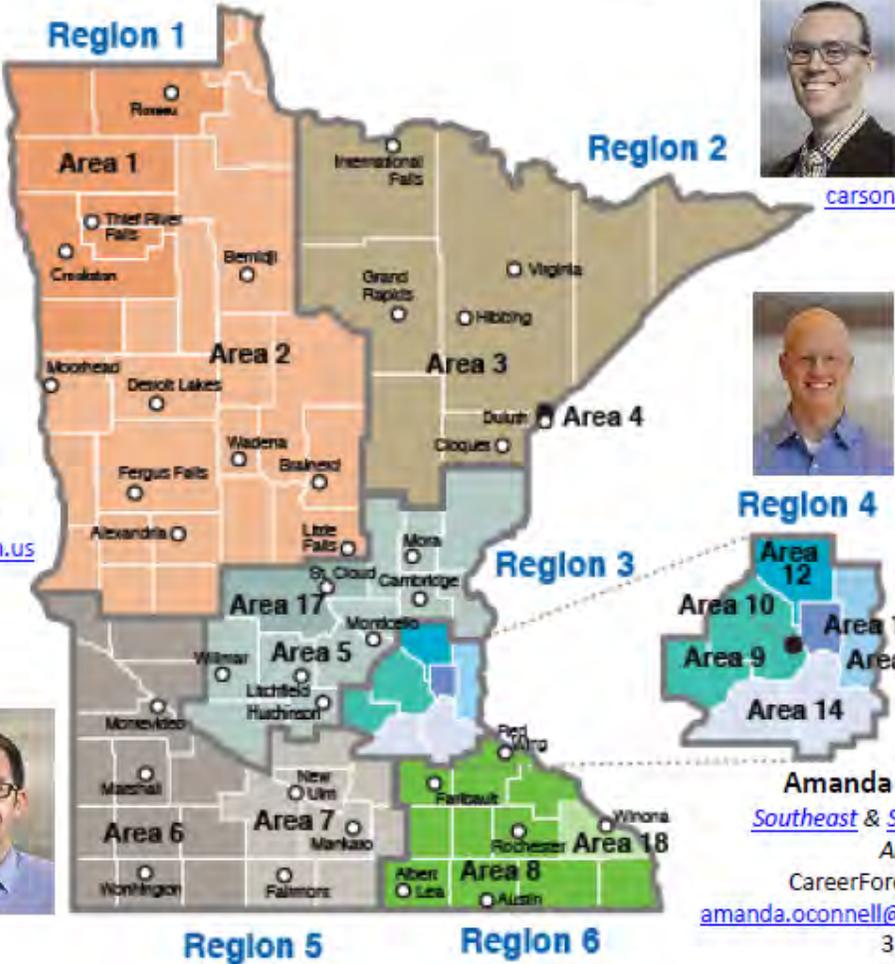
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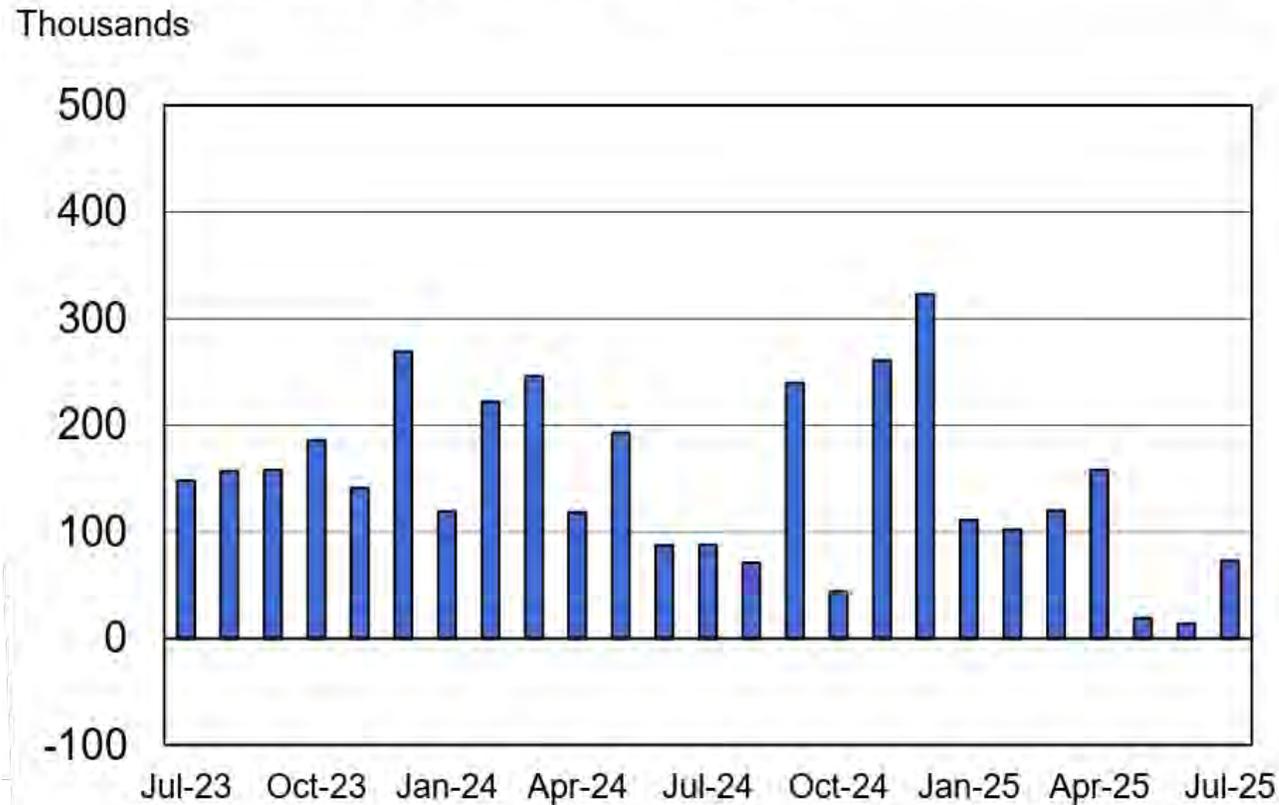


How is the job market doing?

# U.S. labor market situation

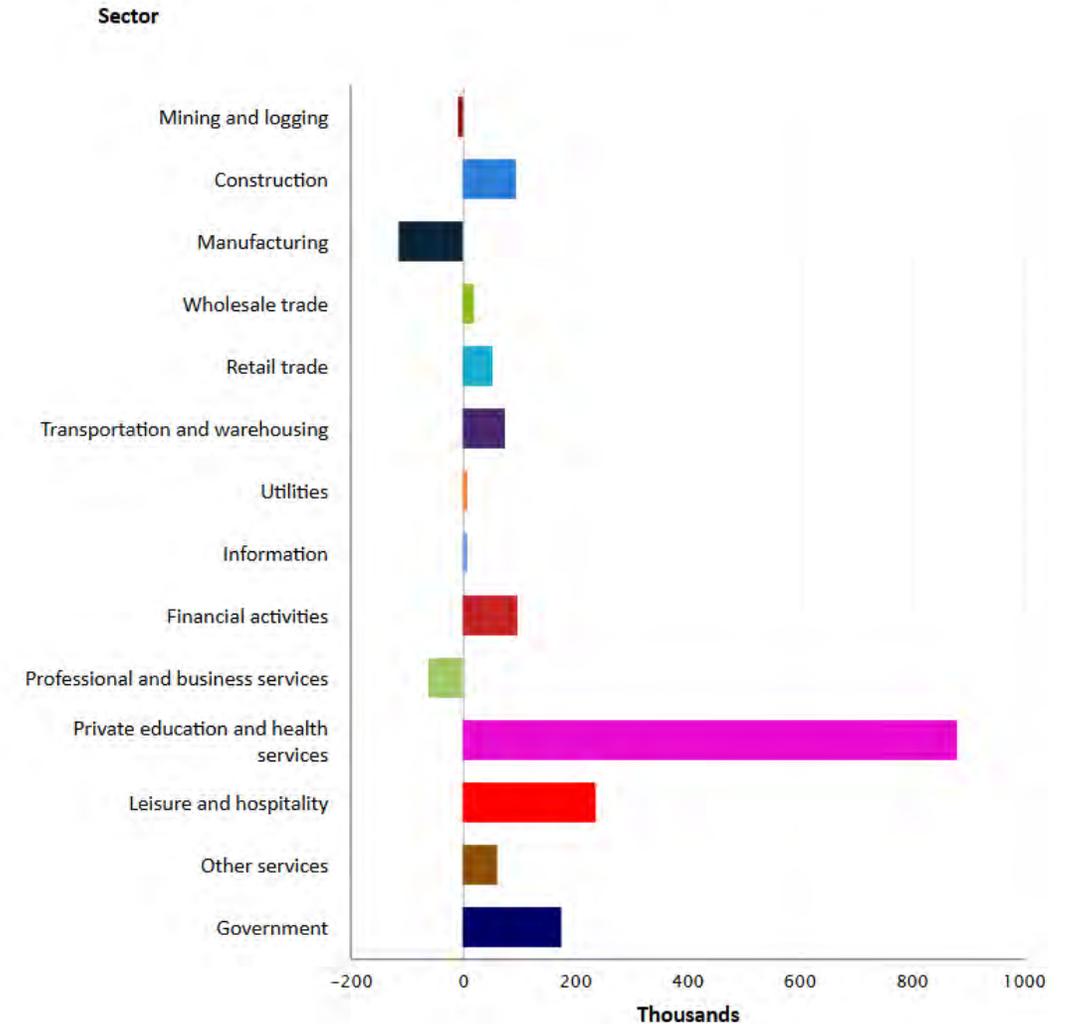
## July 2025

### Nonfarm payroll employment over-the-month change, seasonally adjusted, July 2023 – July 2025



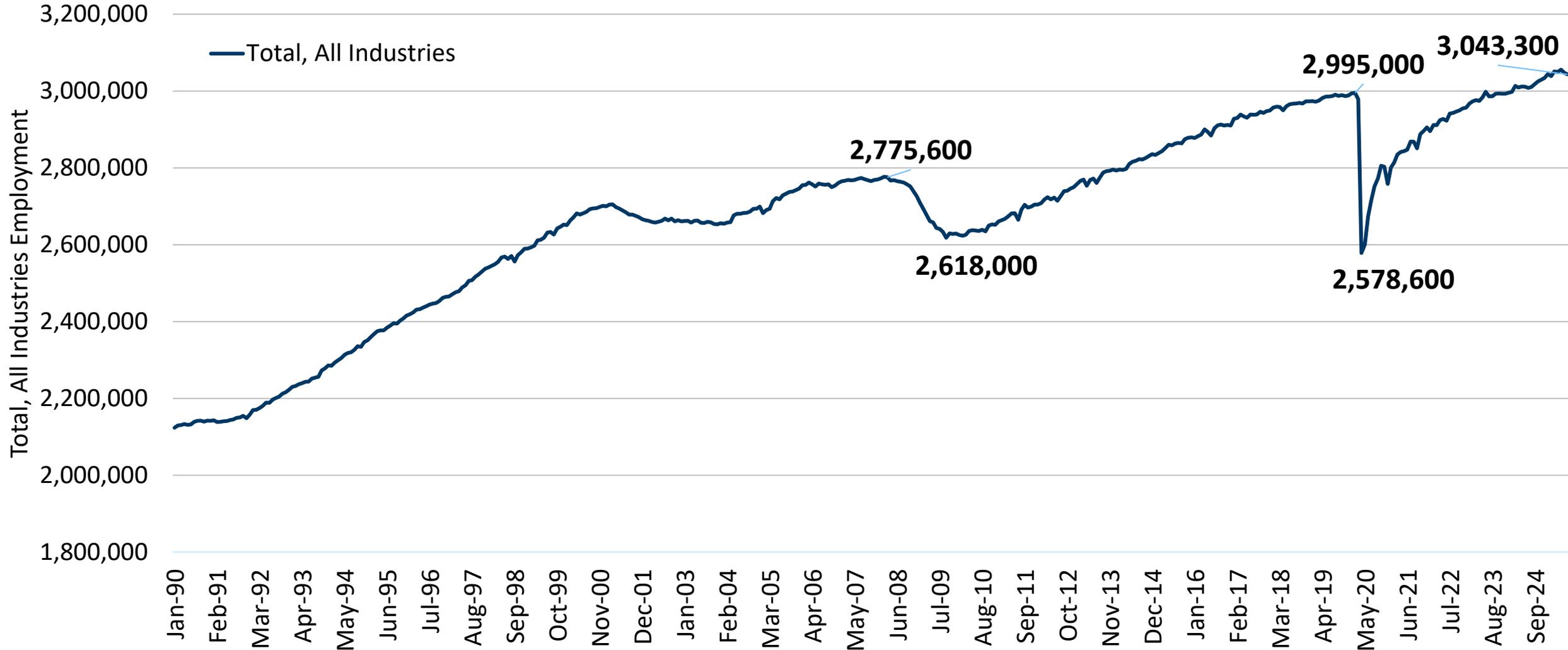
### Employment change by industry, July 2025, seasonally adjusted, 12-month net change

Click on bars to drill down



# Minnesota employment trends

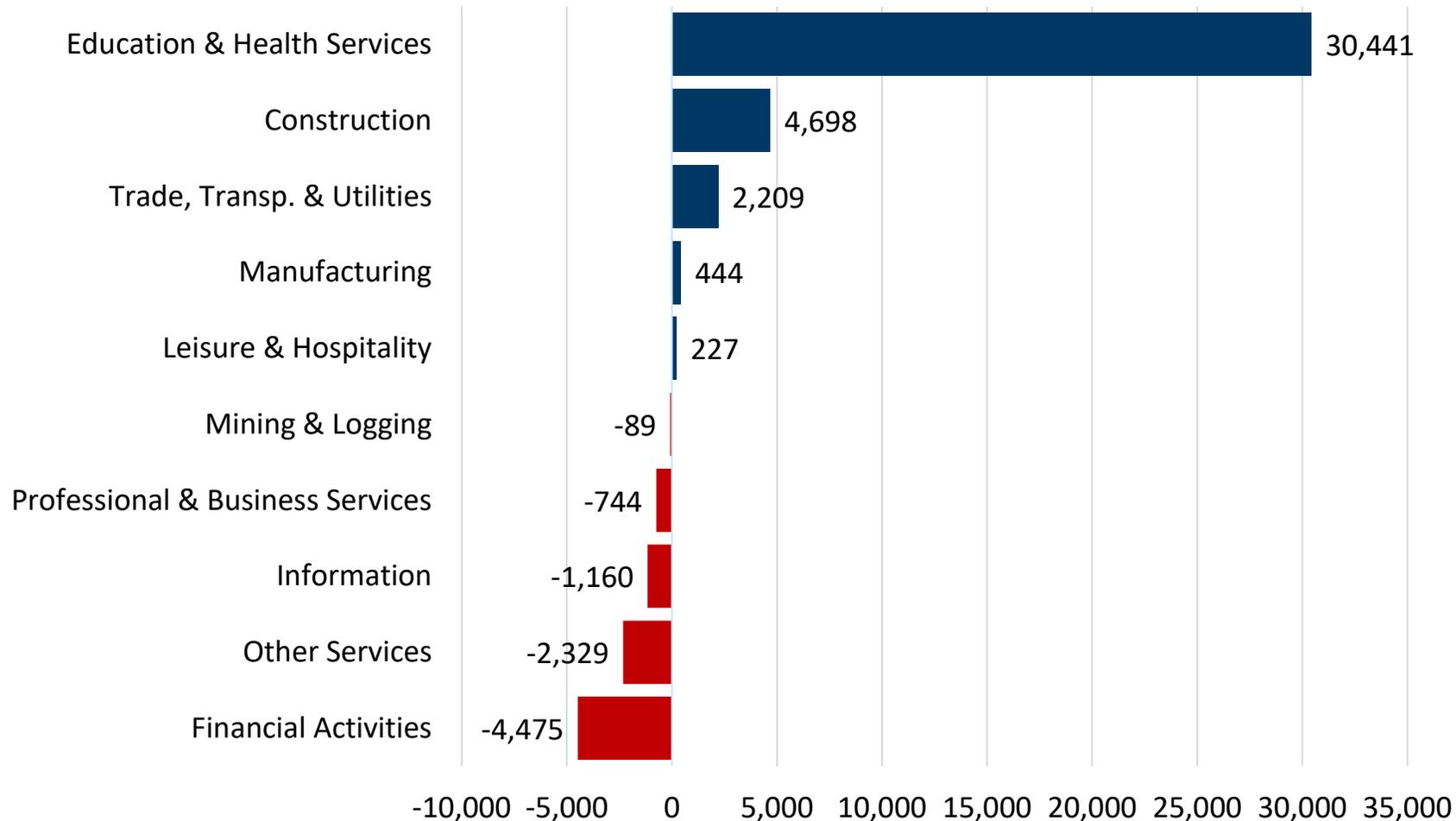
## Current Employment Statistics (CES): July 2025



# Minnesota employment trends

Current Employment Statistics (CES): July 2024 – July 2025

### July Over-the-Year Employment Change



- Minnesota **lost 4,400 jobs over July** but **gained 35,274 jobs over-the-year**.
- **Average hourly wages** for all private sector workers increased 99 cents to \$40.09 in July 2025 over the month. Over the year average hourly earnings increased \$2.44, up 6.5%.
  - Nationally private sector wages decreased 4 cents over the month and rose 3.8% over the year.
  - The CPI inflation index for all urban consumers rose 2.7% over the year in July.

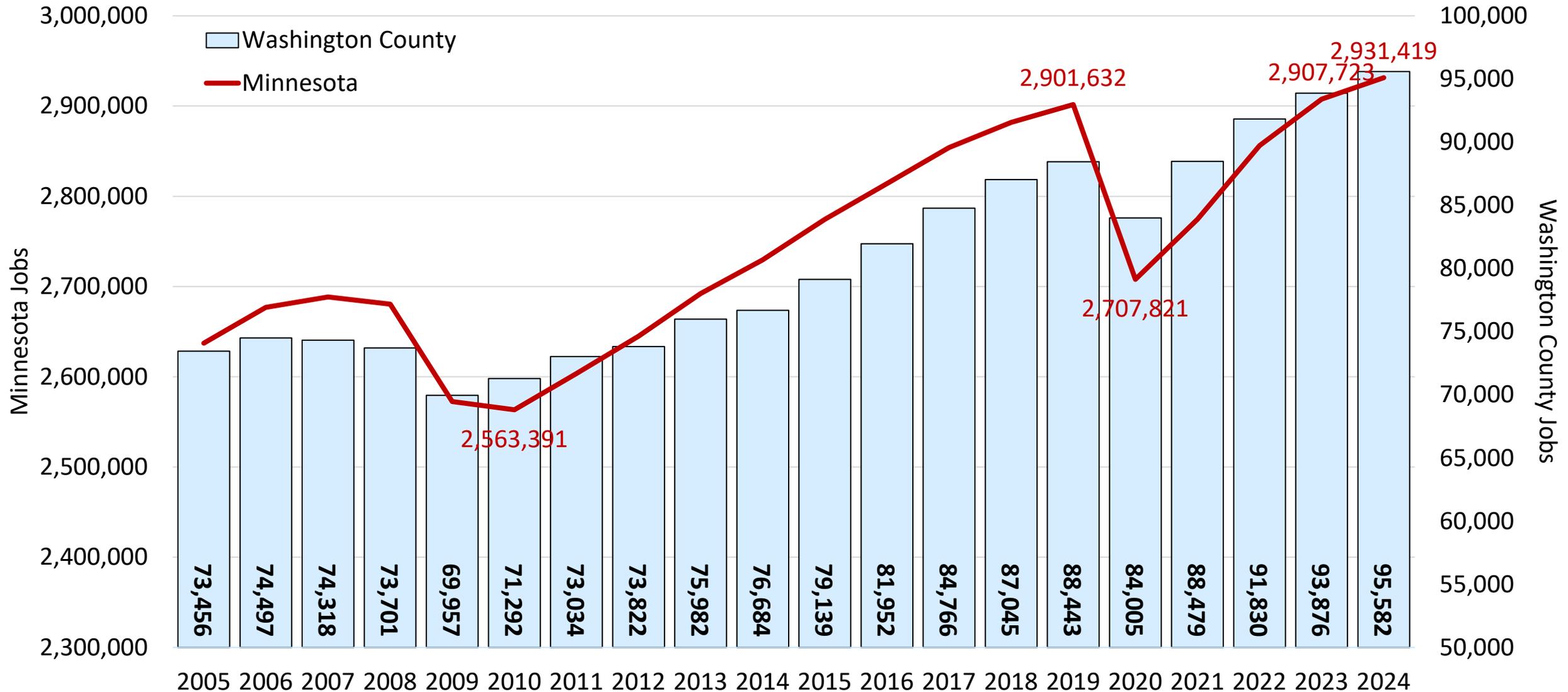
# Washington County industry employment

QCEW: annual 2024

Industry	Number of Jobs	Share of Total Jobs	Number of Establishments	Total Payroll (\$1,000s)	Avg. Annual Wage
<b>Total, All Industries</b>	<b>95,582</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>7,000</b>	<b>\$5,802,699</b>	<b>\$60,684</b>
Health Care & Social Assistance	15,697	16.4%	1,087	\$995,787	\$63,388
Retail Trade	14,630	15.3%	713	\$527,732	\$36,036
Manufacturing	11,621	12.2%	228	\$957,284	\$82,368
Accommodation & Food Services	9,942	10.4%	478	\$241,488	\$24,284
Educational Services	7,840	8.2%	194	\$449,529	\$57,148
Construction	4,979	5.2%	648	\$412,601	\$82,888
Professional, Scientific, & Technical Services	4,179	4.4%	842	\$363,996	\$87,048
Public Administration	3,880	4.1%	59	\$300,100	\$77,324
Other Services	3,741	3.9%	820	\$143,662	\$38,376
Transportation & Warehousing	3,355	3.5%	160	\$177,491	\$52,832
Wholesale Trade	2,914	3.0%	278	\$289,355	\$99,320
Finance & Insurance	2,887	3.0%	418	\$310,354	\$107,796
Administrative & Support Services	2,778	2.9%	323	\$150,571	\$54,132
Arts, Entertainment, & Recreation	2,415	2.5%	183	\$56,542	\$23,400
Management of Companies	1,841	1.9%	64	\$235,908	\$127,764
Real Estate & Rental & Leasing	921	1.0%	331	\$49,002	\$53,248
Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing & Hunting	906	0.9%	48	\$43,640	\$48,308
Information	705	0.7%	111	\$50,747	\$72,020
Utilities	298	0.3%	10	\$41,761	\$139,932
Mining	53	0.1%	9 n/a		\$109,252

# Washington County employment trends

QCEW: annual 2005 – 2024



# Washington County industry trends

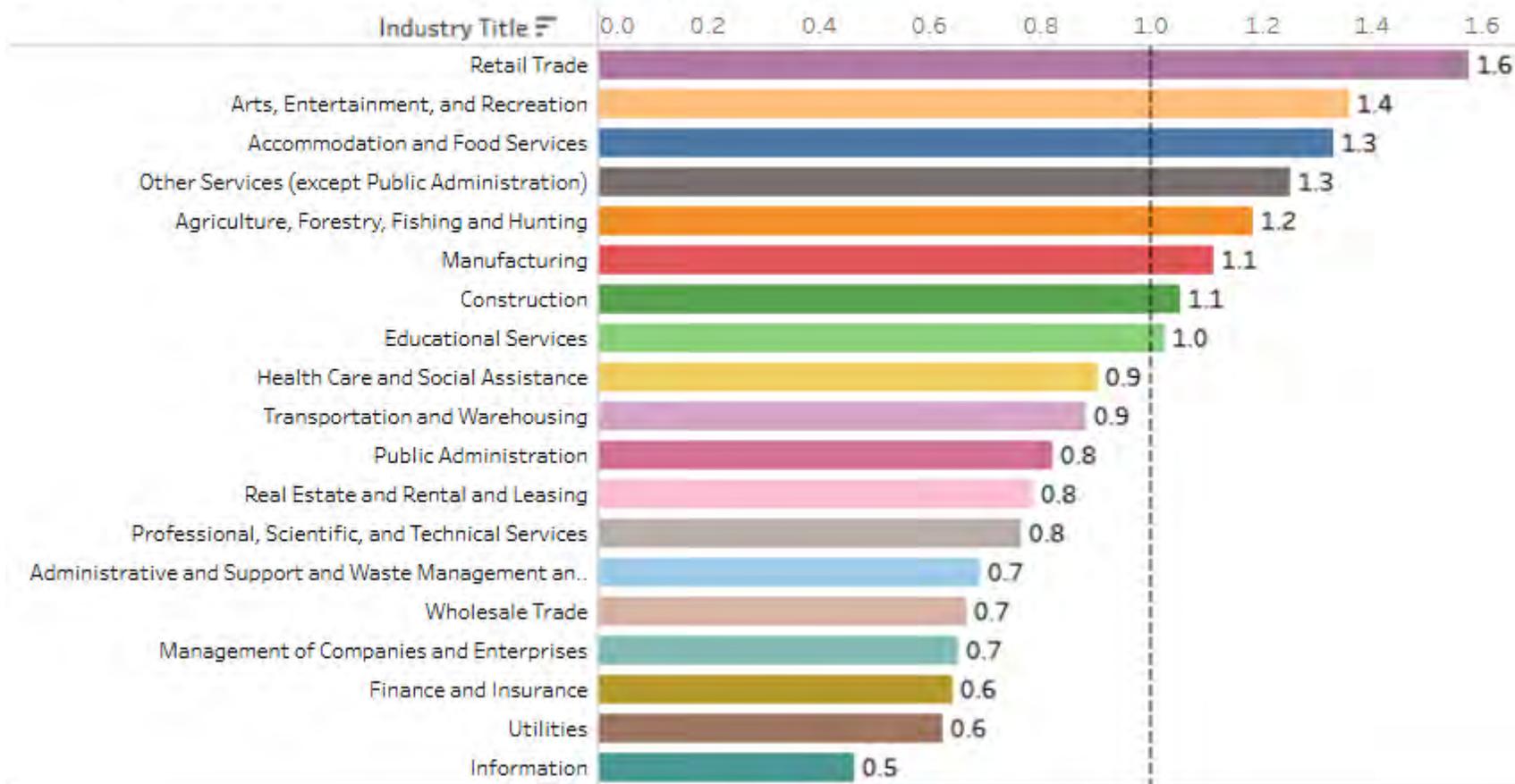
QCEW: annual 2019 – 2024

Industry	2024 Number of Jobs	2023 – 2024 Job Change		2019 – 2024 Job Change	
		Numeric	Percent	Numeric	Percent
<b>Total, All Industries</b>	<b>95,582</b>	<b>+1,706</b>	<b>+1.8%</b>	<b>+7,139</b>	<b>+8.1%</b>
Health Care & Social Assistance	15,697	+1,240	+8.6%	+3,263	+26.2%
Retail Trade	14,630	+208	+1.4%	+414	+2.9%
Manufacturing	11,621	-97	-0.8%	+1,614	+16.1%
Accommodation & Food Services	9,942	-50	-0.5%	+354	+3.7%
Educational Services	7,840	+309	+4.1%	+200	+2.6%
Construction	4,979	-136	-2.7%	+653	+15.1%
Professional, Scientific, & Technical Services	4,179	+142	+3.5%	+661	+18.8%
Public Administration	3,880	+173	+4.7%	+109	+2.9%
Other Services	3,741	+107	+2.9%	+212	+6.0%
Transportation & Warehousing	3,355	-18	-0.5%	+305	+10.0%
Wholesale Trade	2,914	-181	-5.8%	-69	-2.3%
Finance & Insurance	2,887	+134	+4.9%	-571	-16.5%
Administrative & Support Services	2,778	+12	+0.4%	+184	+7.1%
Arts, Entertainment, & Recreation	2,415	+125	+5.5%	+87	+3.7%
Management of Companies	1,841	-164	-8.2%	-32	-1.7%
Real Estate & Rental & Leasing	921	-8	-0.9%	+8	+0.9%
Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing & Hunting	906	+0	+0.0%	+116	+14.7%
Information	705	-93	-11.7%	-426	-37.7%
Utilities	298	+4	+1.4%	+56	+23.1%
Mining	53	+3	+6.0%	+1	+1.9%

# Washington County distinguishing industries

QCEW: annual 2024

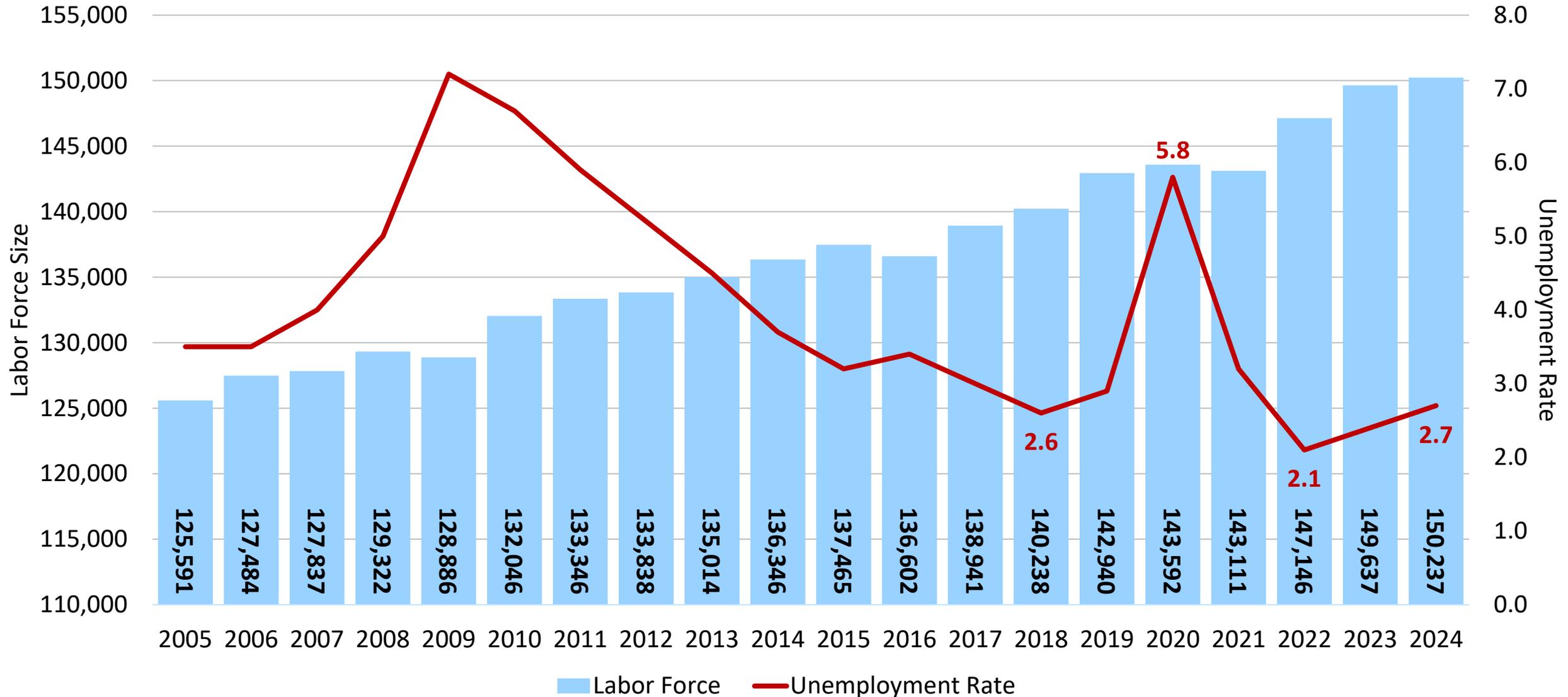
Industry Concentration by Select Area: Washington County





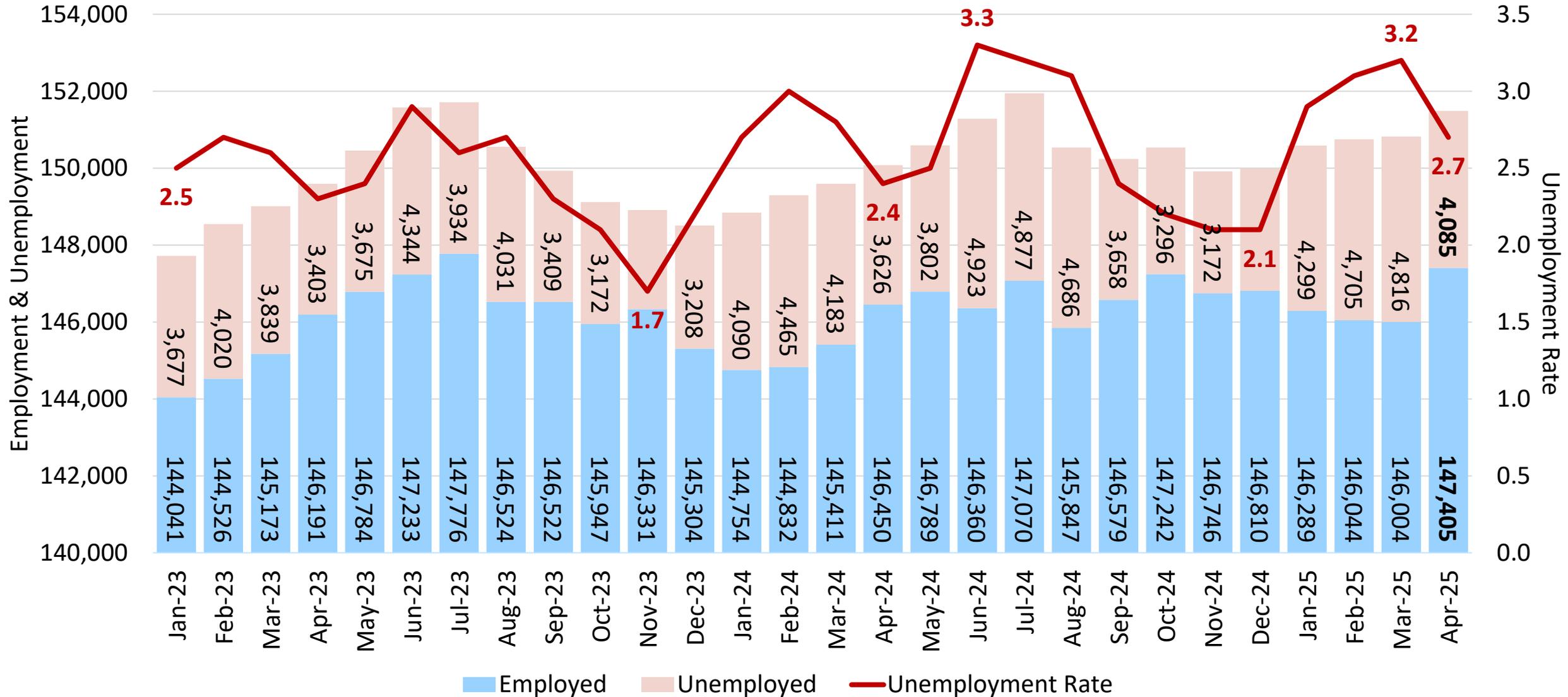
# Washington County annual labor force trends

LAUS: 2005 – 2024



# Washington County's monthly labor force trends

LAUS: 2023 – 2025



# Metro Area labor market situation

Local Area Unemployment Statistics (LAUS) – Annual 2024

**Table 1. Metro Area Labor Force Statistics, Annual 2024**

Area	Labor Force Size	2019-2024 Labor Force Change		Number of Unemployed	Unemp. Rate
		Numeric	Percent		
<b>Metro Area</b>	<b>1,762,477</b>	<b>+7,131</b>	<b>+0.4%</b>	<b>49,437</b>	<b>2.8%</b>
Hennepin County	716,187	-9,459	-1.3%	19,887	2.8%
Ramsey County	287,815	-8,805	-3.0%	8,465	2.9%
Dakota County	249,927	+5,485	+2.2%	6,867	2.7%
Anoka County	204,770	+5,986	+3.0%	6,182	3.0%
Washington County	150,237	+7,297	+5.1%	3,996	2.7%
Scott County	90,354	+3,672	+4.2%	2,412	2.7%
Carver County	63,187	+2,955	+4.9%	1,628	2.6%
<b>Minnesota</b>	<b>3,129,802</b>	<b>+18,129</b>	<b>+0.6%</b>	<b>94,296</b>	<b>3.0%</b>
United States	168,106,166	+4,567,500	+2.8%	6,760,750	4.0%

# Washington County labor force characteristics

Age

Employment Characteristics, 2023 5-Year Estimates				Percent of Total Labor Force
	Washington County			
	In Labor Force	Labor Force Partic. Rate	Unemployment Rate	
<b>Total Labor Force</b>	<b>146,972</b>	<b>68.5%</b>	<b>3.3%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>
16 to 19 years	6,716	47.6%	10.2%	4.6%
20 to 24 years	12,276	81.5%	7.0%	8.4%
25 to 44 years	61,546	89.6%	2.9%	41.9%
45 to 54 years	32,026	90.8%	2.2%	21.8%
55 to 64 years	27,415	73.2%	2.2%	18.7%
65 to 74 years	6,004	22.8%	3.1%	4.1%
75 years and over	970	5.5%	1.4%	0.7%

# Washington County labor force characteristics

Age

Employment Characteristics, 2023 5-Year Estimates				Percent of Total Labor Force
	Washington County			
	In Labor Force	Labor Force Partic. Rate	Unemployment Rate	
<b>Total Labor Force</b>	<b>146,972</b>	<b>68.5%</b>	<b>3.3%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>
White	118,482	67.2%	3.1%	80.6%
Black or African American	7,001	70.7%	4.3%	4.8%
American Indian and Alaska Native	281	51.2%	10.3%	0.2%
Asian	11,173	76.5%	2.6%	7.6%
Some other race	3,279	73.1%	2.4%	2.2%
Two or more races	6,728	77.3%	7.6%	4.6%
Hispanic or Latino origin (of any race)	7,534	78.1%	5.1%	5.1%

# Washington County population trends

ACS estimates

Cumulative Estimates of the Components of Population Change, 2020-2024							
	Total Population Change	April 1, 2020 to July 1, 2024					
		Natural Increase	Vital Events		Net Migration		
			Births	Deaths	Total	International	Domestic
Washington County	+16,403	+3,132	11,764	8,632	+13,426	+2,558	+10,868
Minnesota	+86,459	+51,570	268,689	217,119	+33,161	+81,091	-47,930

- Washington County's foreign-born population hit 21,700 people in 2023, making up 8.0% of the county's total population.
- Washington County's foreign-born population grew by 45.2% (+6,800 people) between 2013 and 2023.
- 60.4% of the county's foreign-born population is between the ages of 25 and 54 years (38.3% for the total population).

Race and Hispanic Origin, 2023	Washington County			
	Number	Percent	Change from 2013-2023 Numeric   Percent	
<b>Total</b>	<b>272,298</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>+30,983</b>	<b>+12.8%</b>
White	217,018	79.7%	+5,049	+2.4%
Black or African American	13,314	4.9%	+4,762	+55.7%
American Indian & Alaska Native	615	0.2%	-99	-13.9%
Asian & Other Pac. Islander	19,977	7.3%	+7,301	+57.6%
Some Other Race	6,038	2.2%	+4,305	+248.4%
Two or More Races	15,336	5.6%	+9,665	+170.4%
Hispanic or Latino origin	13,798	5.1%	+5,271	+61.8%

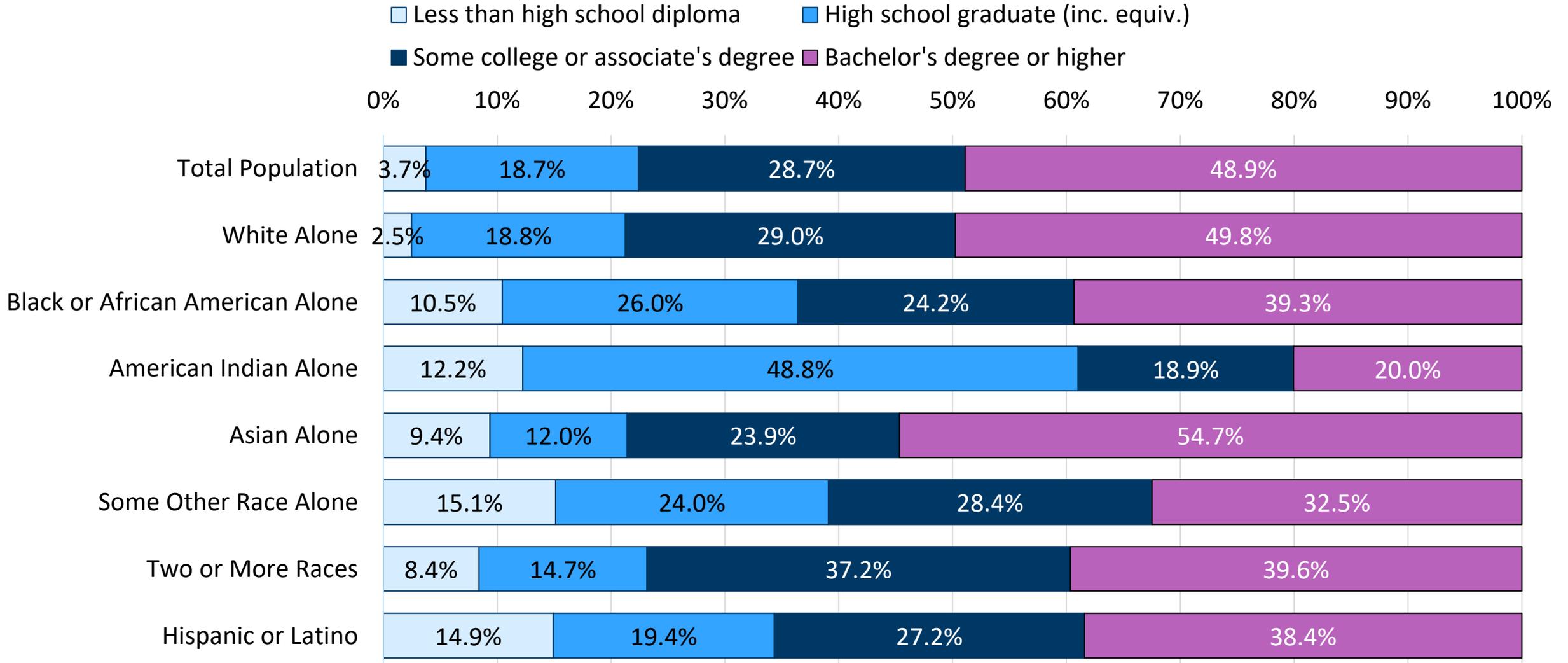
# Washington County labor force characteristics

## Poverty Status, Disability, and Educational Attainment

Employment Characteristics, 2023 5-Year Estimates				
	Washington County			Percent of Total Labor Force
	In Labor Force	Labor Force Partic. Rate	Unemployment Rate	
<b>Poverty Status in the Past 12 Months, 20 to 64 Years</b>				
Below Poverty Level	3,776	54.7%	19.2%	2.8%
At or Above the Poverty Level	129,457	87.6%	2.5%	97.2%
<b>Employment Characteristics by Disability, 20 to 64 Years</b>				
With any Disability	6,924	60.1%	7.3%	5.2%
<b>Employment Characteristics by Educational Attainment, 25 to 64 Years</b>				
<b>Population, 25 to 64 years</b>	<b>121,044</b>	<b>85.6%</b>	<b>2.6%</b>	<b>82.4%</b>
Less than H.S. Diploma	3,515	68.7%	3.8%	2.9%
H.S. Diploma or Equivalent	17,029	74.2%	2.1%	14.1%
Some College or A.D.	34,173	85.5%	3.4%	28.2%
Bachelor's Degree or Higher	66,254	90.3%	1.8%	54.7%

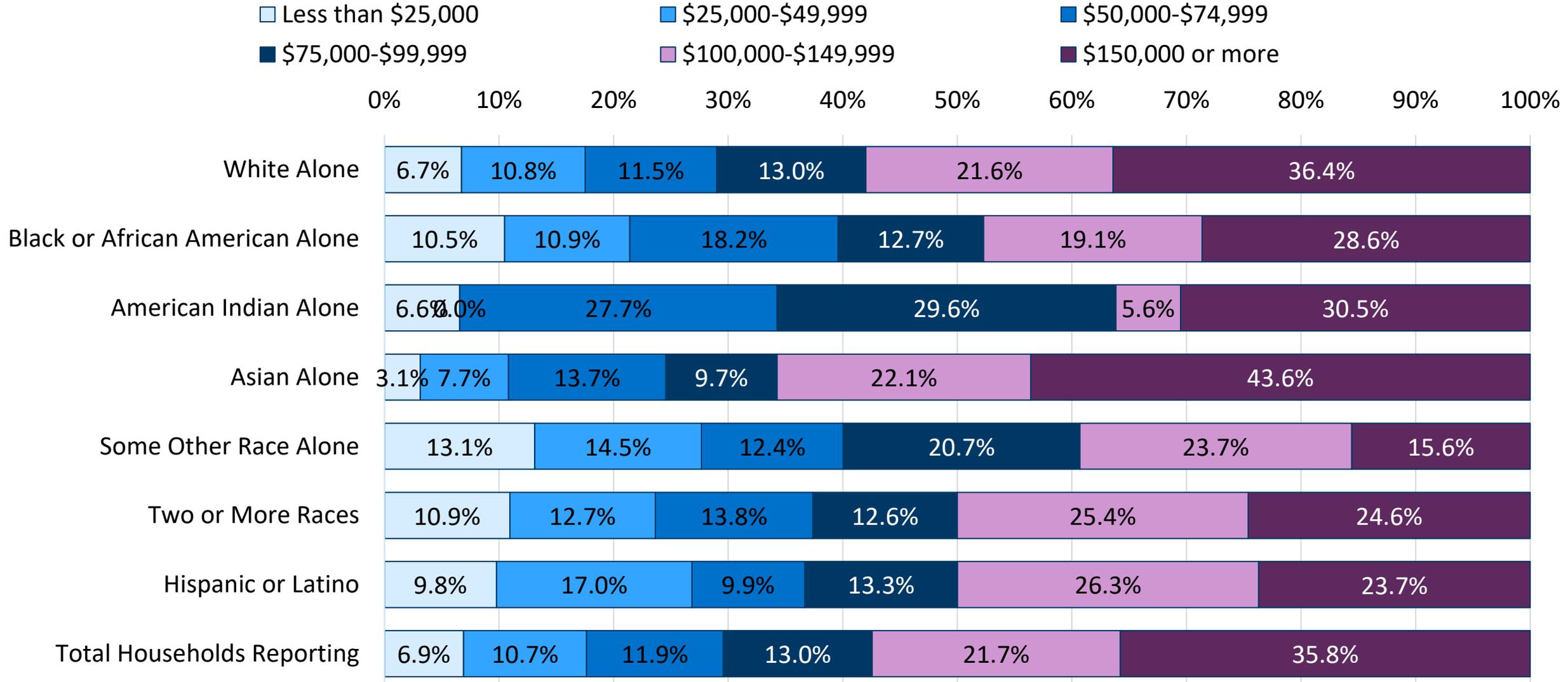
# Washington County population characteristics

## Educational Attainment; Population 25 years & over; 2023



# Washington County population characteristics

## Household income; 2023



Even more data...

## Data Center



### Get Some Answers

Labor market analysts are available to answer your questions weekdays from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Call our helpline at 651-259-7384 or 1-888-234-1114.



# Occupational employment in the Metro Area

## Occupational Employment and Wage Statistics (OEWS): 2025

Occupational Group	Number of Jobs	Hourly Wage Percentile				
		10 <sup>th</sup>	25 <sup>th</sup>	Median	75 <sup>th</sup>	90 <sup>th</sup>
<b>Total, All Occupations</b>	<b>1,762,280</b>	<b>\$16.48</b>	<b>\$19.47</b>	<b>\$28.48</b>	<b>\$42.50</b>	<b>\$63.28</b>
Office and Administrative Support	204,770	\$17.72	\$21.47	\$24.71	\$30.44	\$37.55
Business and Financial Operations	151,080	\$27.45	\$32.80	\$41.34	\$53.64	\$68.23
Sales and Related	143,270	\$14.47	\$16.98	\$21.11	\$35.10	\$51.80
Food Preparation and Serving Related	141,110	\$11.76	\$14.08	\$16.93	\$18.91	\$22.98
Transportation and Material Moving	130,360	\$16.48	\$18.58	\$23.20	\$29.50	\$36.54
Management	130,080	\$30.76	\$44.96	\$63.62	\$85.81	\$112.73
Production Occupations	110,390	\$18.35	\$20.95	\$24.01	\$29.85	\$37.29
Healthcare Support	110,250	\$15.26	\$17.25	\$18.64	\$22.42	\$26.20
Healthcare Practitioners and Technical	105,470	\$26.19	\$36.71	\$48.50	\$62.50	\$87.56
Educational Instruction and Library	98,540	\$17.76	\$21.82	\$28.44	\$38.41	\$48.24
Computer and Mathematical	71,750	\$30.29	\$39.35	\$51.35	\$64.95	\$80.11
Construction and Extraction	59,580	\$23.70	\$29.29	\$38.33	\$47.31	\$52.41
Installation, Maintenance, and Repair	56,240	\$21.03	\$24.96	\$31.26	\$39.12	\$47.87
Building and Grounds Cleaning and Maintenance	46,640	\$15.31	\$17.94	\$19.44	\$23.67	\$27.64
Architecture and Engineering	40,480	\$29.72	\$37.94	\$47.56	\$60.95	\$69.66
Personal Care and Service	39,470	\$13.46	\$15.06	\$17.89	\$22.58	\$28.68
Community and Social Service	34,680	\$22.02	\$24.31	\$30.01	\$38.71	\$47.01
Protective Service	27,730	\$17.58	\$21.13	\$29.42	\$40.74	\$51.53
Arts, Design, Entertainment, Sports, and Media	24,600	\$17.70	\$23.00	\$30.28	\$39.79	\$52.30
Life, Physical, and Social Science	18,450	\$22.98	\$30.67	\$40.63	\$51.60	\$66.52
Legal	16,390	\$25.57	\$36.68	\$53.02	\$81.34	\$110.36
Farming, Fishing, and Forestry	930	\$16.07	\$17.53	\$22.71	\$31.13	\$39.80

# Cost of living for individuals in Minnesota

## Cost of Living Calculator

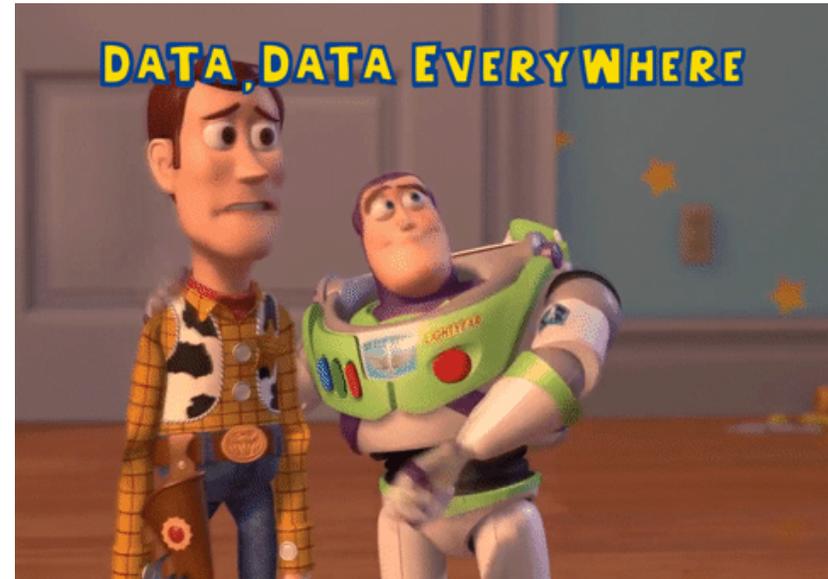
### Family Yearly Cost, Worker Hourly Wage, and Family Monthly Costs

Cost of Living, Minnesota DEED, Labor Market Information, 2024

		Yearly Cost	Hourly Wage	Child Care	Food	Health Care	Housing	Transport	Other	Taxes
Central Minnesota	19-50	\$36,468	\$17.53	0	414	155	1,099	630	350	391
	51+	\$36,780	\$17.68	0	397	194	1,099	630	346	399
Northeast Minnesota	19-50	\$31,188	\$14.99	0	413	150	857	573	294	312
	51+	\$31,464	\$15.13	0	397	188	857	573	290	317
Northwest Minnesota	19-50	\$30,744	\$14.78	0	416	151	792	614	279	310
	51+	\$31,020	\$14.91	0	399	189	792	614	276	315
Seven County Mpls-St Paul, MN	19-50	\$40,212	\$19.33	0	430	159	1,356	554	413	439
	51+	\$40,548	\$19.49	0	413	199	1,356	554	409	448
Southeast Minnesota	19-50	\$31,872	\$15.32	0	417	151	884	581	301	322
	51+	\$32,136	\$15.45	0	400	189	884	581	297	327
Southwest Minnesota	19-50	\$29,808	\$14.33	0	418	150	793	550	280	293
	51+	\$30,072	\$14.46	0	401	188	793	550	276	298
Washington County	19-50	<b>\$39,947</b>	<b>\$19.21</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>417</b>	<b>158</b>	<b>1,345</b>	<b>561</b>	<b>408</b>	<b>440</b>
	51+	<b>\$40,231</b>	<b>\$19.34</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>401</b>	<b>197</b>	<b>1,345</b>	<b>561</b>	<b>404</b>	<b>445</b>

# Labor market publications and assistance

- Main DEED website: [mn.gov/deed](https://mn.gov/deed)
- DEED Labor Market Information Office: [mn.gov/deed/data](https://mn.gov/deed/data)
  - Data tools
  - Reports and publications
  - Monthly highlights
- LMI Help: [mn.gov/deed/data/lmi-help](https://mn.gov/deed/data/lmi-help)
  - Send questions by email to [deed.lmi@state.mn.us](mailto:deed.lmi@state.mn.us)



- Regional Labor Market Analysts – Metro Area: Tim O’Neill ([timothy.oneill@state.mn.us](mailto:timothy.oneill@state.mn.us))