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"I'm from the Government and I'm Here to Help"

Public-Sector Employment in Southwest Minnesota

From Education to Health Care to Public Safety, the government provides a wide range of services — and jobs — to residents in Southwest Minnesota. Through the first three quarters of 2012, there were 1,280 government establishments providing 30,567 covered jobs in the 23-county Southwest Minnesota planning region.

According to data from DEED's Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages (QCEW) program, public sector employment accounts for approximately 18 percent of total employment in the region, with the private sector supplying the other 82 percent of jobs. That is higher than in the state of Minnesota as a whole, where less than 14 percent of jobs are in the public sector (Table 1).

Instead, government locations are more dispersed in Southwest Minnesota to provide services to residents spread across the region. Government establishments accounted for just over 10 percent of firms in Southwest Minnesota, almost double the number in the state. While there are more locations, they are smaller offices. In Southwest Minnesota these government establishments average 24 employees per site, compared to 44 employees per site in the state.

Region 6W, which includes Big Stone, Chippewa, Lac qui Parle, Swift, and Yellow Medicine Counties, had the highest percentage of government employment with more than one-fourth of total jobs in the public sector. Approximately 13 percent of firms and 27.7 percent of jobs were government. About 19 percent of the jobs in the nine counties in Region 8 – Cottonwood, Jackson, Lincoln, Lyon, Murray, Nobles, Pipestone, Redwood, and Rock — were public sector, accounting for about one in every five jobs. The largest number of businesses and jobs were located in Region 9 — which encompasses Blue Earth, Brown, Faribault, Le Sueur, Martin, Nicollet, Sibley, Waseca, and Watonwan counties, as well as the Mankato-North Mankato Metropolitan Statistical Area – but it had the lowest concentration of government employment at 15.4 percent.

Government Ownership: Keeping it Local

When reported to the QCEW program, government ownership falls into three levels: federal, state, and local. In Minnesota just over 70 percent of government employment is local, about 20 percent is state, and about 10 percent is federal. In comparison, only 5.5 percent of Southwest Minnesota's government jobs were federal and only 16.5 percent were state. The remaining 78 percent of government employment in the region was local.

Almost three-fourths of government employment is concentrated in two industries: Educational Services and Public Administration. Through the first three quarters of 2012 Educational Services provided 13,049 jobs at 183 government-run institutions, primarily elementary and secondary schools, but also colleges and universities. Public Administration – which includes executive, legislative, and general government; justice, public order, and safety activities, and administration of human resources, environmental quality, economic, and housing, urban planning, and community development programs – provided an average of 9,457 jobs at 736 government agencies (see Table 2).

The third largest public sector industry is Health Care and Social Assistance, which averaged 4,654 jobs at 39 government establishments. That included 3,671 jobs at city, county, or state-

Feature:

Teen Summer Employment 2013

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Regional Spotlight Southwest Minnesota

Table 1
Industry Employment Statistics, Q1-Q3 2012

Ownership Level	Region 6W Number of Firms	Region 6W Number of Jobs	Region 8 Number of Firms	Region 8 Number of Jobs	Region 9 Number of Firms	Region 9 Number of Jobs	Southwest Region Number of Firms	Southwest Region Number of Jobs	State of Minnesota Number of Firms	State of Minnesota Number of Jobs
Total, All Ownerships	1,611	17,894	4,054	53,383	6,677	101,030	12,342	172,307	168,853	2,631,519
Total Government	212	4,955	459	10,041	609	15,571	1,280	30,567	8,324	363,904
Federal Government	60	237	123	523	130	959	313	1,719	1,822	31,598
State Government	39	154	99	1,256	132	3,591	270	5,001	2,079	74,473
Local Government	113	4,563	237	8,261	346	11,020	696	23,844	4,422	257,832
Private Sector	1,399	12,939	3,596	43,342	6,069	85,459	11,064	141,740	160,529	2,267,615

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

owned hospitals, which was nearly half (44.2%) of total employment at hospitals in the region (8,305 total jobs). Southwest Minnesota also had a small, but notable, amount of government employment in the arts, entertainment, and recreation and in the accommodation and food services industries, primarily at the region's tribal casino resorts.

Table 2
Government Employment in Southwest Minnesota, Q1-Q3 2012

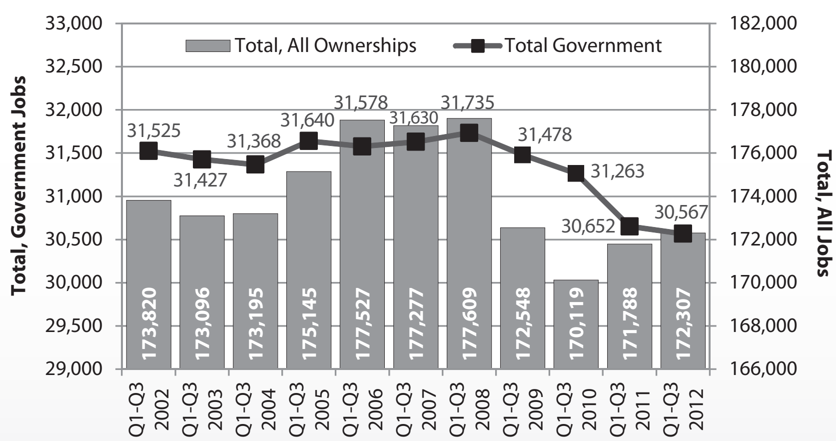
	Number of Firms	Number of Jobs	Q1-Q3 2012 Total Payroll	Average Annual Wages
Total, All Government	1,279	30,568	$851,076,479	$37,123
Educational Services	183	13,049	$365,571,071	$37,354
Health Care and Social Assistance	39	4,654	$138,633,759	$39,715
Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation	14	432	$8,236,576	$25,441
Accommodation and Food Services	4	733	$13,171,049	$23,947
Public Administration	736	9,457	$252,202,749	$35,557

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

Shrinking Big Government

Contrary to popular opinion, government has consistently comprised a smaller percentage of total employment over the last decade. While the private sector gained almost 3,600 net new jobs from 2002 to 2008, the government sector added just 210 net new jobs. The overall economy grew 2.2 percent, while government employment increased just 0.7 percent. Instead, government employment in the region hovered between a low of 31,368 jobs in 2004 and a high of 31,735 jobs in 2008 (Figure 1).

Figure 1: Southeast Minnesota Employment Trends, 2002-2012



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

Since then, government employment has declined each year, dropping more than 1,100 jobs in the last four years. While total employment fell about 3 percent from the peak in 2008 to the recovery in 2012, government employment is still down almost 4 percent. Private sector employment bottomed out in 2010 and has seen slow but steady net job gains in the last two years. Government employment saw a smaller drop from 2008 to 2010, but has been sliced in response to tight budgets the last two years.

Those cuts were not uniform across all regions. Regions 8 and 9 both lost government employment during the first year of the recession, stabilized in 2009 and 2010, then sank further in 2011 and 2012, with Region 8 suffering the biggest losses each year. Region 6W actually added government jobs in the last two years, with steady gains in local government.

By the People, For the People

Even though government employment has been shrinking since the recession, some occupations are still in demand and offer competitive wages across the region. Based on DEED's Occupations in Demand

Table 3

Southwest Minnesota Government Occupations in Demand, 2012

Occupation	Demand (1-5 Stars)			Median Annual Salary			Education
	6W	8	9	6W	8	9	
Social and Human Service Assistants	****	*****	*****	$23,703	$24,716	$35,449	High School or Equivalent
Teacher Assistants	*****	****	***	$22,897	$25,227	$24,235	High School or Equivalent
First-line Managers of Correctional Officers	**	**		$67,227	$52,193	n/a	High School or Equivalent
First-line Managers of Police and Detectives	**	**	**	$57,856	$66,655	$69,214	High School or Equivalent
Correctional Officers and Jailers	*	****	*****	$40,458	$34,527	$44,993	High School or Equivalent
Detectives and Criminal Investigators		*	**	n/a	$67,492	$58,421	High School or Equivalent
Police and Sheriff's Patrol Officers	*****	*****	****	$37,194	$44,143	$49,941	High School or Equivalent
Gaming Surveillance Officers	**	**		$29,874	$29,874	n/a	High School or Equivalent
Court, Municipal, and License Clerks	**	**	**	$48,227	$45,617	$41,357	High School or Equivalent
Highway Maintenance Workers	*	*	*	$40,006	$39,148	$42,538	High School or Equivalent
Water and Wastewater Treatment Plant and Systems Operators	***	*	**	$38,754	$45,762	$47,855	High School or Equivalent
Police, Fire, Ambulance Dispatchers	**	**	**	$44,291	$39,585	$40,549	High School or Equivalent
Library Technicians	*	*	*	$29,654	$28,739	$36,077	Postsecondary, Non-Degree
Firefighters	*	*	*	$29,101	$27,675	$28,442	Postsecondary, Non-Degree
Civil Engineering Technicians	****	*****	****	$57,757	$55,309	$54,667	Associate Degree
Eligibility Interviewers, Government Programs	**	**	**	$46,121	$41,522	$38,496	Associate Degree
Tax Examiners and Collectors	****	****	****	n/a	$52,984	n/a	Bachelor's Degree
Zoologists and Wildlife Biologists		*		n/a	$54,804	n/a	Bachelor's Degree
Conservation Scientists	***	***	**	$66,465	$74,979	$56,918	Bachelor's Degree
Environmental Scientists		***	***		$59,178	$58,629	Bachelor's Degree
Child, Family, and School Social Workers	****	*****	*****	$44,627	$46,338	$49,616	Bachelor's Degree
Probation Officers and Correctional Treatment Specialists	***	***		$65,287	$65,287	n/a	Bachelor's Degree
Kindergarten Teachers	*	*	*	$47,803	$50,543	$44,343	Bachelor's Degree
Elementary School Teachers	*****	*****	*	$50,651	$46,983	$50,290	Bachelor's Degree
Middle School Teachers	**	**	*	$50,707	$43,890	$47,323	Bachelor's Degree
Secondary School Teachers	*	**	*	$50,792	$51,460	$49,739	Bachelor's Degree
Special Education Teachers	**	**	**	$48,730	$50,196	$49,096	Bachelor's Degree
Education Administrators	**	**	**	$82,541	$80,878	$88,367	Master's Degree
Postsecondary Vocational Education Teachers		****	**	n/a	$52,638	$64,878	Master's Degree
Librarians	*	*	*	$50,786	$53,798	$44,589	Master's Degree

n/a = Salary data not available

Source: Minnesota Department of Employment and Economic Development Occupations in Demand (OID) tool

(OID) data tool, jobs with a high concentration of government employment (at least 70 percent of total jobs) range in demand from low (one star) to high (five stars), depending on current job vacancies, unemployment insurance claims, and regional employment (Table 3).

Not surprisingly, many of the occupations that were in the highest demand were in the Educational and Health Services and the Justice, Public Order, and Safety sectors. For example, social and human service assistants were in high demand in all three regions, although wages were relatively low. Likewise, police and sheriff's patrol officers, civil engineering technicians, tax examiners, and social workers were also in high demand across the region, but offered much higher wages.

Most of those occupations require postsecondary education or training, leading to higher salaries and lower unemployment rates. Of the top 30 government occupations, just 12 required a high school education or equivalency, while the other 18 required postsecondary education, including 14 that required a bachelor's degree or higher.

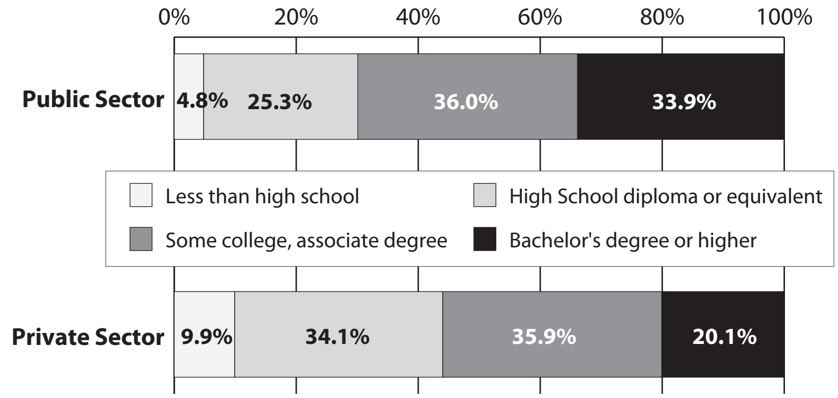
Educational Services

According to DEED's Quarterly Workforce Indicators program, less than 5 percent of jobs in the public sector are held by workers with less than a high school diploma, which is half the amount in the private sector (9.9%). In contrast, more than one-third of workers in the public sector had a bachelor's degree or higher (33.9%), compared to just one-fifth of workers in the private sector. In sum, almost 70 percent of jobs in the public sector were held by workers with some college, an associate degree, a bachelor's degree, or higher (Figure 2).

The public sector workforce also has more older workers and fewer younger workers. In 2012 just over half (50.1%) of the public sector workforce in the region was 45 to 64 years of age, compared to 37 percent in the private sector. Almost 24 percent of public sector workers were 55 to 64 years of age, meaning one-fourth of the workforce is within 10 years of retirement age, although not all will retire, as demonstrated by the 6 percent of the government workforce that is already 65 years and older.

In contrast, only one-fourth of public sector workers are in the early stages of their careers, with 17.5 percent aged 25 to 34 years and less than 7 percent under 24 years of age. In comparison, almost 40 percent of private sector workers are in the youngest age groups, including 19 percent that are 14 to 24 years of age (Table 4).

Figure 2: Southwest Minnesota Workforce Demographics



Source: DEED LEHD Quarterly Workforce Indicators (QWI) program

Table 4
Southwest Minnesota Workforce Demographics, 2012

	Southwest Minnesota Planning Region					
	Total, All Ownerships	Percent	Private Sector	Percent	Public Sector	Percent
Total Workforce	181,814	100%	151,506	100%	30,308	100%
14-24 years	31,348	17.2%	29,278	19.3%	2,070	6.8%
25-34 years	37,893	20.8%	32,600	21.5%	5,293	17.5%
35-44 years	31,903	17.5%	25,926	17.1%	5,977	19.7%
45-54 years	40,473	22.3%	32,499	21.5%	7,974	26.3%
55-64 years	30,781	16.9%	23,574	15.6%	7,207	23.8%
65 years & over	9,412	5.2%	7,622	5.0%	1,790	5.9%
Male	86,794	47.7%	75,923	50.1%	10,871	35.9%
Female	95,018	52.3%	75,582	49.9%	19,436	64.1%

Source: DEED LEHD Quarterly Workforce Indicators (QWI) program

Long-Term Belt-Tightening

Still struggling with the impact of the Great Recession, Southwest Minnesota government is expected to lose about 550 jobs from 2010 to 2020, according to DEED's Employment Outlook tool. That includes declines in both federal and local government but a small increase in state government.

While local elementary and secondary schools will likely continue to cut back on staff, jobs in state colleges and universities in the region are expected to increase slightly. State and local hospitals are also expected to see measured job gains — about 3.5 to 5 percent — in the region, but pale in comparison to the almost 20 percent expansion expected at privately-owned hospitals.

In some instances the lower availability of government services conflicts with the higher value placed on them. For example, fires still need to be fought, yet communities have fewer dollars to pay firefighters after cuts to local government aid, less money in reserves, and lower tax bases. Instead, tight government budgets may compel volunteers to fill roles previously held by government-paid employees. As the data above shows there aren't many job openings for paid firefighters in the region, but many communities run volunteer fire departments.

The data show that government jobs are decreasing in the post-recessionary economy, and they aren't expected to grow in the long term either. But even with government employment shrinking, a need for services is still in place, and the remaining workforce must continue to do more with less. All levels of government will need to adapt and find new ways to provide much needed services and jobs to Southwest Minnesota.

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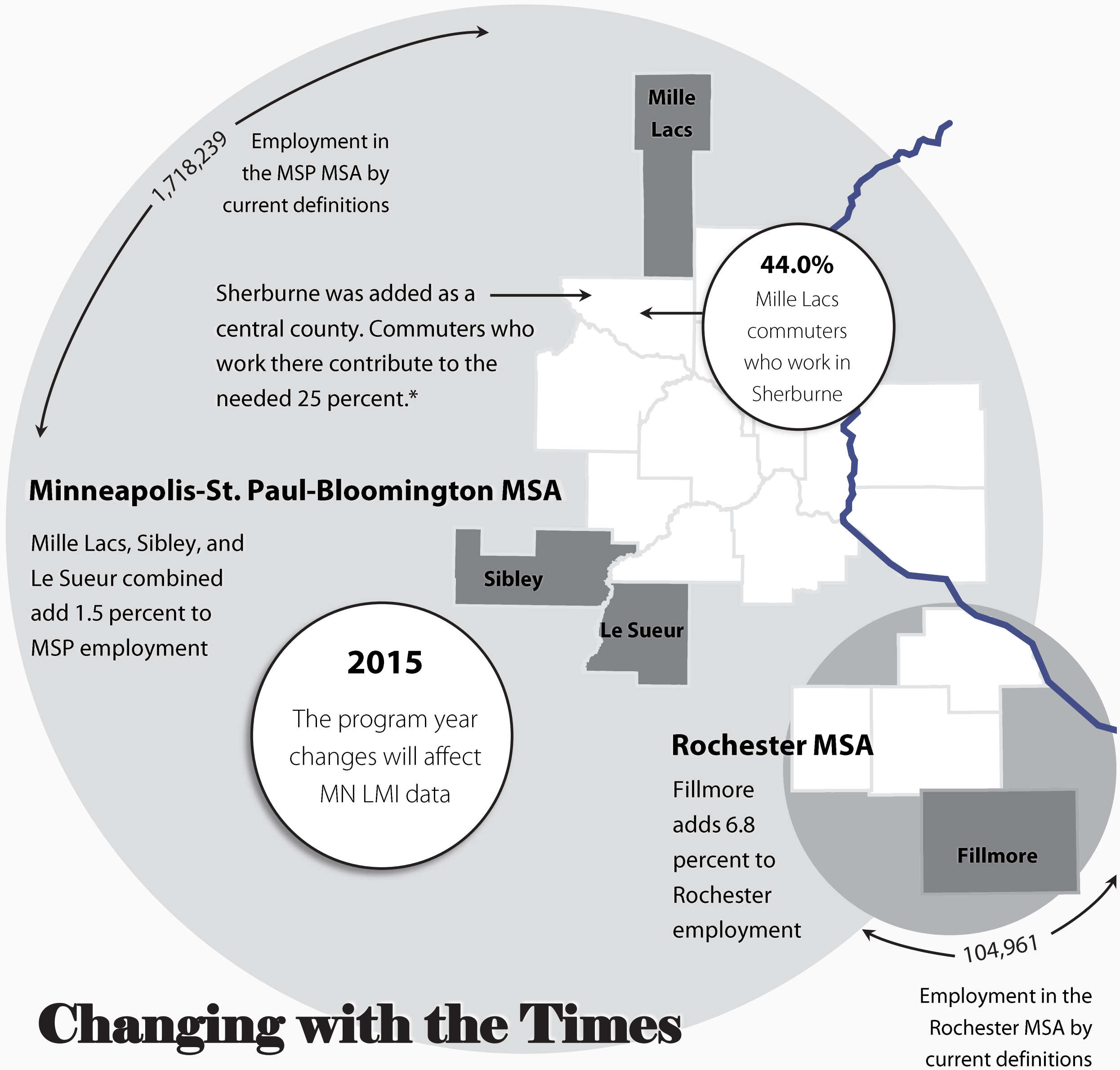


Changing with the Times

The U.S. Office of Management and Budget has redefined Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA) boundaries following the release of new Census data. The definitions are used for all federal statistical purposes and other applications. In Minnesota two MSAs had counties added.

*Counties are part of the MSA if 25 percent of workers commute to a ‘central county.’

by Amanda Rohrer

Labor Force Estimates

Numbers are unadjusted unless otherwise labeled.
Source: Department of Employment and Economic Development, Local Area Unemployment Statistics, and North Dakota Job Service, 2013.

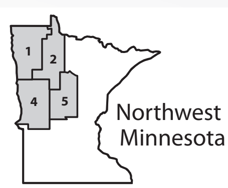
County/ Area	Labor Force			Employment			Unemployment			Rate of Unemployment		
	Mar 2013	Feb 2013	Mar 2012	Mar 2013	Feb 2013	Mar 2012	Mar 2013	Feb 2013	Mar 2012	Mar 2013	Feb 2013	Mar 2012
United States ('000s)												
(Seasonally adjusted)	155,028	155,524	154,707	143,286	143,492	142,034	11,742	12,032	12,673	7.6%	7.7%	8.2%
(Unadjusted)	154,512	154,727	154,316	142,698	142,228	141,412	11,815	12,500	12,904	7.6	8.1	8.4
Minnesota												
(Seasonally adjusted)	2,982,320	2,985,671	2,970,972	2,821,513	2,821,356	2,802,850	160,807	164,315	168,122	5.4	5.5	5.7
(Unadjusted)	2,959,806	2,954,568	2,958,938	2,787,766	2,777,226	2,770,974	172,040	177,342	187,964	5.8	6.0	6.4
Metropolitan Statistical Areas (MSA)*												
Mpls.-St. Paul MSA	1,866,515	1,862,555	1,845,490	1,767,084	1,759,979	1,735,317	99,431	102,576	110,173	5.3	5.5	6.0
Duluth-Superior MSA	144,205	144,279	144,583	134,070	133,597	133,739	10,135	10,682	10,844	7.0	7.4	7.5
Rochester MSA	104,636	104,495	104,696	99,503	99,128	99,149	5,133	5,367	5,547	4.9	5.1	5.3
St. Cloud MSA	108,026	108,354	108,894	101,398	101,237	101,905	6,628	7,117	6,989	6.1	6.6	6.4
Grand Forks MSA	55,090	53,791	53,769	52,252	50,982	51,148	2,838	2,809	2,621	5.2	5.2	4.9
Fargo-Moorhead MSA	118,985	118,776	119,458	113,805	113,219	114,374	5,180	5,557	5,084	4.4	4.7	4.3
Region One	**50,858**	**50,900**	**51,865**	**47,269**	**47,292**	**48,090**	**3,589**	**3,608**	**3,775**	**7.1**	**7.1**	**7.3**
Kittson	2,661	2,672	2,722	2,487	2,495	2,538	174	177	184	6.5	6.6	6.8
Marshall	5,469	5,475	5,652	4,858	4,874	5,057	611	601	595	11.2	11.0	10.5
Norman	3,575	3,600	3,823	3,335	3,360	3,566	240	240	257	6.7	6.7	6.7
Pennington	9,513	9,443	9,495	8,657	8,640	8,655	856	803	840	9.0	8.5	8.8
Polk	18,354	18,308	18,328	17,321	17,280	17,118	1,033	1,028	1,210	5.6	5.6	6.6
Red Lake	2,423	2,402	2,537	2,174	2,189	2,287	249	213	250	10.3	8.9	9.9
Roseau	8,863	9,000	9,308	8,437	8,454	8,869	426	546	439	4.8	6.1	4.7
Region Two	**39,728**	**39,676**	**40,614**	**36,100**	**36,015**	**36,761**	**3,628**	**3,661**	**3,853**	**9.1**	**9.2**	**9.5**
Beltrami	21,783	21,757	22,175	20,048	20,004	20,326	1,735	1,753	1,849	8.0	8.1	8.3
Clearwater	4,226	4,227	4,354	3,524	3,543	3,673	702	684	681	16.6	16.2	15.6
Hubbard	8,891	8,848	9,042	8,005	7,935	8,067	886	913	975	10.0	10.3	10.8
Lake of the Woods	2,384	2,396	2,448	2,249	2,255	2,306	135	141	142	5.7	5.9	5.8
Mahnomen	2,444	2,448	2,595	2,274	2,278	2,389	170	170	206	7.0	6.9	7.9
Region Three	**167,483**	**167,232**	**168,255**	**154,983**	**154,300**	**154,973**	**12,500**	**12,932**	**13,282**	**7.5**	**7.7**	**7.9**
Aitkin	7,028	7,047	7,271	6,382	6,394	6,568	646	653	703	9.2	9.3	9.7
Carlton	17,743	17,738	17,959	16,466	16,407	16,438	1,277	1,331	1,521	7.2	7.5	8.5
Cook	2,920	2,912	2,951	2,692	2,679	2,706	228	233	245	7.8	8.0	8.3
Itasca	23,561	23,315	23,333	21,539	21,312	21,298	2,022	2,003	2,035	8.6	8.6	8.7
Koochiching	6,517	6,447	6,656	5,887	5,842	6,020	630	605	636	9.7	9.4	9.6
Lake	6,106	6,152	6,155	5,667	5,664	5,759	439	488	396	7.2	7.9	6.4
St. Louis	103,608	103,621	103,930	96,350	96,002	96,184	7,258	7,619	7,746	7.0	7.4	7.5
City of Duluth	45,372	45,403	45,601	42,576	42,422	42,503	2,796	2,981	3,098	6.2	6.6	6.8
Balance of St. Louis County	58,236	58,218	58,329	53,774	53,580	53,681	4,462	4,638	4,648	7.7	8.0	8.0
Region Four	**125,180**	**124,598**	**125,583**	**117,738**	**117,011**	**117,831**	**7,442**	**7,587**	**7,752**	**5.9**	**6.1**	**6.2**
Becker	17,685	17,471	17,708	16,320	16,157	16,405	1,365	1,314	1,303	7.7	7.5	7.4
Clay	35,375	35,231	34,312	33,695	33,489	32,511	1,680	1,742	1,801	4.7	4.9	5.2
Douglas	20,638	20,524	20,784	19,494	19,345	19,546	1,144	1,179	1,238	5.5	5.7	6.0
Grant	3,238	3,252	3,304	2,965	2,976	3,028	273	276	276	8.4	8.5	8.4
Otter Tail	29,900	29,745	30,940	27,755	27,543	28,718	2,145	2,202	2,222	7.2	7.4	7.2
Pope	6,480	6,512	6,550	6,164	6,191	6,200	316	321	350	4.9	4.9	5.3
Stevens	6,495	6,516	6,396	6,254	6,247	6,112	241	269	284	3.7	4.1	4.4
Traverse	1,630	1,639	1,822	1,523	1,537	1,712	107	102	110	6.6	6.2	6.0
Wilkin	3,739	3,708	3,767	3,568	3,526	3,599	171	182	168	4.6	4.9	4.5
Region Five	**80,410**	**80,123**	**82,491**	**73,200**	**72,698**	**74,817**	**7,210**	**7,425**	**7,674**	**9.0**	**9.3**	**9.3**
Cass	13,326	13,165	13,529	11,846	11,734	11,978	1,480	1,431	1,551	11.1	10.9	11.5
Crow Wing	31,154	31,015	31,706	28,463	28,191	28,779	2,691	2,824	2,927	8.6	9.1	9.2
Morrison	17,342	17,366	17,812	15,743	15,700	16,177	1,599	1,666	1,635	9.2	9.6	9.2
Todd	12,282	12,312	12,944	11,409	11,387	11,997	873	925	947	7.1	7.5	7.3
Wadena	6,306	6,265	6,500	5,739	5,686	5,886	567	579	614	9.0	9.2	9.4
Region Six East	**62,967**	**62,953**	**66,881**	**58,470**	**58,381**	**61,945**	**4,497**	**4,572**	**4,936**	**7.1**	**7.3**	**7.4**
Kandiyohi	23,815	23,762	25,191	22,354	22,274	23,642	1,461	1,488	1,549	6.1	6.3	6.1
McLeod	18,978	18,901	19,853	17,513	17,444	18,221	1,465	1,457	1,632	7.7	7.7	8.2
Meeker	12,279	12,320	12,908	11,349	11,345	11,844	930	975	1,064	7.6	7.9	8.2
Renville	7,895	7,970	8,929	7,254	7,318	8,238	641	652	691	8.1	8.2	7.7

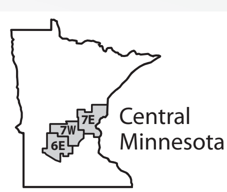
*Minneapolis-St. Paul Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA) now includes Sherburne County in Minnesota and Pierce County in Wisconsin. St. Cloud MSA is now comprised of Benton and Stearns counties.

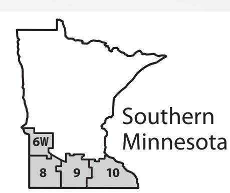
Labor Force Estimates

Numbers are unadjusted unless otherwise labeled.
Source: Department of Employment and Economic Development, Local Area Unemployment Statistics, and North Dakota Job Service, 2013.

County/ Area	Labor Force			Employment			Unemployment			Rate of Unemployment		
	Mar 2013	Feb 2013	Mar 2012	Mar 2013	Feb 2013	Mar 2012	Mar 2013	Feb 2013	Mar 2012	Mar 2013	Feb 2013	Mar 2012
Region Six West	**24,881**	**24,963**	**25,793**	**23,296**	**23,342**	**24,176**	**1,585**	**1,621**	**1,617**	**6.4%**	**6.5%**	**6.3%**
Big Stone	2,785	2,796	2,928	2,594	2,607	2,738	191	189	190	6.9	6.8	6.5
Chippewa	7,326	7,339	7,354	6,880	6,892	6,901	446	447	453	6.1	6.1	6.2
Lac Qui Parle	4,129	4,146	4,329	3,880	3,883	4,079	249	263	250	6.0	6.3	5.8
Swift	5,060	5,074	5,441	4,705	4,712	5,050	355	362	391	7.0	7.1	7.2
Yellow Medicine	5,581	5,608	5,741	5,237	5,248	5,408	344	360	333	6.2	6.4	5.8
Region Seven East	**85,624**	**85,467**	**85,703**	**77,960**	**77,734**	**77,392**	**7,664**	**7,733**	**8,311**	**9.0**	**9.0**	**9.7**
Chisago	29,228	29,135	29,092	27,004	26,895	26,524	2,224	2,240	2,568	7.6	7.7	8.8
Isanti	21,241	21,174	21,008	19,557	19,478	19,208	1,684	1,696	1,800	7.9	8.0	8.6
Kanabec	8,186	8,220	8,386	7,183	7,180	7,322	1,003	1,040	1,064	12.3	12.7	12.7
Mille Lacs	12,594	12,587	12,665	11,295	11,279	11,254	1,299	1,308	1,411	10.3	10.4	11.1
Pine	14,375	14,351	14,552	12,921	12,902	13,084	1,454	1,449	1,468	10.1	10.1	10.1
Region Seven West	**229,078**	**229,164**	**228,848**	**214,027**	**213,411**	**212,530**	**15,051**	**15,753**	**16,318**	**6.6**	**6.9**	**7.1**
Benton	22,480	22,510	22,622	20,872	20,839	20,976	1,608	1,671	1,646	7.2	7.4	7.3
Sherburne	50,185	50,177	49,758	46,718	46,529	45,887	3,467	3,648	3,871	6.9	7.3	7.8
Stearns	85,546	85,844	86,273	80,526	80,398	80,929	5,020	5,446	5,344	5.9	6.3	6.2
Wright	70,867	70,633	70,195	65,911	65,645	64,738	4,956	4,988	5,457	7.0	7.1	7.8
Region Eight	**67,902**	**67,835**	**70,359**	**64,381**	**64,145**	**66,714**	**3,521**	**3,690**	**3,645**	**5.2**	**5.4**	**5.2**
Cottonwood	6,330	6,303	6,811	5,995	5,967	6,436	335	336	375	5.3	5.3	5.5
Jackson	7,250	7,282	7,373	6,948	6,981	7,058	302	301	315	4.2	4.1	4.3
Lincoln	3,492	3,507	3,649	3,283	3,297	3,437	209	210	212	6.0	6.0	5.8
Lyon	14,754	14,729	15,006	13,972	13,901	14,211	782	828	795	5.3	5.6	5.3
Murray	5,783	5,746	6,073	5,422	5,374	5,718	361	372	355	6.2	6.5	5.8
Nobles	11,309	11,314	11,767	10,817	10,770	11,235	492	544	532	4.4	4.8	4.5
Pipestone	5,502	5,465	5,784	5,210	5,159	5,463	292	306	321	5.3	5.6	5.5
Redwood	8,222	8,252	8,387	7,683	7,681	7,875	539	571	512	6.6	6.9	6.1
Rock	5,260	5,237	5,509	5,051	5,015	5,281	209	222	228	4.0	4.2	4.1
Region Nine	**131,177**	**131,438**	**133,848**	**123,416**	**123,362**	**125,536**	**7,761**	**8,076**	**8,312**	**5.9**	**6.1**	**6.2**
Blue Earth	38,637	38,774	38,525	36,791	36,806	36,572	1,846	1,968	1,953	4.8	5.1	5.1
Brown	14,781	14,785	15,570	13,795	13,745	14,466	986	1,040	1,104	6.7	7.0	7.1
Faribault	7,377	7,426	7,692	6,853	6,915	7,145	524	511	547	7.1	6.9	7.1
Le Sueur	14,437	14,413	14,567	13,155	13,130	13,276	1,282	1,283	1,291	8.9	8.9	8.9
Martin	10,776	10,748	11,720	10,138	10,091	11,041	638	657	679	5.9	6.1	5.8
Nicollet	19,601	19,693	19,652	18,766	18,773	18,654	835	920	998	4.3	4.7	5.1
Sibley	10,065	10,103	10,026	9,474	9,498	9,416	591	605	610	5.9	6.0	6.1
Waseca	10,039	10,044	10,343	9,359	9,347	9,621	680	697	722	6.8	6.9	7.0
Watonwan	5,464	5,452	5,753	5,085	5,057	5,345	379	395	408	6.9	7.2	7.1
Region Ten	**271,832**	**271,439**	**274,191**	**256,968**	**255,803**	**257,660**	**14,864**	**15,636**	**16,531**	**5.5**	**5.8**	**6.0**
Dodge	11,289	11,252	11,279	10,580	10,541	10,543	709	711	736	6.3	6.3	6.5
Fillmore	11,193	11,138	11,520	10,426	10,396	10,735	767	742	785	6.9	6.7	6.8
Freeborn	15,993	15,936	16,651	15,032	14,936	15,501	961	1,000	1,150	6.0	6.3	6.9
Goodhue	25,647	25,762	25,703	24,143	24,097	24,059	1,504	1,665	1,644	5.9	6.5	6.4
Houston	10,845	10,797	10,908	10,051	9,983	9,982	794	814	926	7.3	7.5	8.5
Mower	21,050	20,918	21,497	19,989	19,826	20,297	1,061	1,092	1,200	5.0	5.2	5.6
Olmsted	81,494	81,389	81,472	77,714	77,421	77,437	3,780	3,968	4,035	4.6	4.9	5.0
City of Rochester	59,384	59,297	59,305	56,650	56,437	56,448	2,734	2,860	2,857	4.6	4.8	4.8
Rice	32,147	32,140	32,675	30,083	29,939	30,348	2,064	2,201	2,327	6.4	6.8	7.1
Steele	21,087	21,010	21,216	19,895	19,796	19,835	1,192	1,214	1,381	5.7	5.8	6.5
Wabasha	11,853	11,854	11,946	11,209	11,166	11,169	644	688	777	5.4	5.8	6.5
Winona	29,234	29,243	29,324	27,846	27,702	27,754	1,388	1,541	1,570	4.7	5.3	5.4
Region Eleven	**1,622,686**	**1,618,779**	**1,604,509**	**1,539,957**	**1,533,732**	**1,512,547**	**82,729**	**85,047**	**91,962**	**5.1**	**5.3**	**5.7**
Anoka	191,055	190,682	189,306	180,157	179,429	176,950	10,898	11,253	12,356	5.7	5.9	6.5
Carver	51,456	51,365	50,695	48,694	48,497	47,828	2,762	2,868	2,867	5.4	5.6	5.7
Dakota	233,247	232,521	230,727	221,242	220,348	217,304	12,005	12,173	13,423	5.1	5.2	5.8
Hennepin	662,290	660,470	654,104	630,329	627,782	619,110	31,961	32,688	34,994	4.8	4.9	5.3
City of Bloomington	48,460	48,241	47,771	46,034	45,848	45,214	2,426	2,393	2,557	5.0	5.0	5.4
City of Minneapolis	216,131	215,670	213,557	205,496	204,666	201,839	10,635	11,004	11,718	4.9	5.1	5.5
Ramsey	274,681	274,196	272,058	260,506	259,453	255,869	14,175	14,743	16,189	5.2	5.4	6.0
City of St. Paul	146,891	146,729	145,637	138,975	138,413	136,501	7,916	8,316	9,136	5.4	5.7	6.3
Scott	75,728	75,499	74,752	71,569	71,279	70,295	4,159	4,220	4,457	5.5	5.6	6.0
Washington	134,229	134,046	132,867	127,460	126,944	125,191	6,769	7,102	7,676	5.0	5.3	5.8







Industrial Analysis

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

Overview

The trend of strong employment growth experienced a hiccup in March as the state lost an estimated 5,200 jobs. February employment was also revised downward by 4,600 to post a still robust final February gain of 9,000. The loss in March was the first decline since July 2012. It is important not to read too much into a single, although sizeable, loss. Further, it is common for at least some offsetting adjustment to occur in the month following a large change such as we experienced in February. Often such large changes are related to an alteration of normal seasonal patterns which are then at least partly balanced by later developments. The weather has been relatively cold and is likely dampening some job growth. In March there were six supersectors that posted a loss for the month with substantial declines in Educational and Health Services, down 2,900, Leisure and Hospitality, down 2,100, and Government, down 1,500. There were three supersectors that added employment: Trade, Transportation, and Utilities, Construction, and Professional and Business Services with gains of 1,400, 800, and 400, respectively. Mining and Logging and Information showed no change. The weak monthly results caused the annual rate of growth to drop to 1.7 percent in March, down five tenths of a percentage point from February. Despite the drop, Minnesota's annual growth was still slightly better than the 1.5 percent gain for the U.S. Every supersector showed a gain over the past year with Trade, Transportation, and Utilities estimated to have the largest gain at 15,600 and also the third highest rate of growth at 3.2 percent.

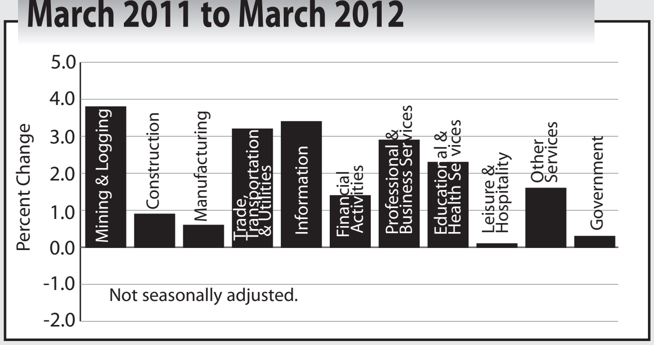
Mining and Logging

There was no change in employment in March following increases the three previous months. Over the past year the supersector added 300 jobs.

Construction

Construction industries added 800 jobs over the past month despite less than stellar weather conditions. Although modest, this increase was the third consecutive and the fifth in the last six months. Specialty Trade Contractors and Construction of Buildings showed fairly strong growth but Heavy and Civil Engineering Construction lagged. It seems clear that Construction is set for expansion in 2013 with permitting for new units improving, prices of existing homes up, and the volume of homes for sale at much lower levels. This will likely be negatively impacted by the increased income tax rate and sequestration, but adding Construction as another source of economic growth is an important step forward. Over the past year Construction was up 0.9 percent, with essentially all of the increase coming in Specialty Trade Contractors where employment increased 1.2 percent.

MN Employment Growth
March 2011 to March 2012



Source: Department of Employment and Economic Development, Current Employment Statistics, 2013.

Manufacturing

Manufacturing saw a second consecutive month of decline with a loss of 400 in March. The loss was entirely caused by a fall of 1,200 in Nondurable Goods Manufacturing where there was modest weakness in all of the estimated component industries. Durable Goods Manufacturing showed an increase of 800, snapping back after losses posted in January and February. Wood Product and Fabricated Metal Product Manufacturing experienced strong monthly growth to account for a large portion of the monthly change. The weakness the past two months was not wholly unexpected as the Minnesota Business Conditions Index, a leading indicator, spent several months in negative territory last fall. This index has turned positive once again indicating conditions have improved and making better manufacturing job growth more likely in coming months. Compared to last year the supersector was up only 0.6 percent with all of the growth coming in Durable Goods Manufacturing.

Trade, Transportation, and Utilities

Estimates showed a job gain of 1,400 in Trade, Transportation, and Utilities for the month. This gain came despite a loss of 2,100 in Retail Trade. The loss in Retail Trade was the first since July and nearly erased February's gain. General Merchandise Stores and Building Materials and Garden Equipment Stores fared poorly for the month. These losses were outweighed by gains of 1,900 in Transportation, Warehousing, and Utilities and 1,600 in Wholesale Trade. Nationally, the pace of consumer spending has slowed and the full impact of the tax increase combined with sequestration has yet to be felt. This may prove a challenge to Retail growth for the year. Over the past 12 months the supersector added 15,600 jobs with healthy growth in the three major components including the addition of 6,000 jobs in Retail Trade. The majority of this growth occurred since last August.

Information

The Information supersector showed no change to its estimated employment total in March with only slight countervailing changes in its two estimated components. Over the past year Information employment was up 3.4 percent, with all of the increase coming from outside of traditional Publishing and Telecommunications industries.

*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 posted a loss of 800 for the month to post its first loss since last October. Finance and Insurance showed a loss of 400 with nearly all the decline coming from very weak results in Insurance Carriers. An additional loss of 400 in Real Estate and Rental and Leasing was probably at least partly from the lingering winter weather as home sales activity usually increases as spring arrives. Over the past 12 months Financial Activities added 2,400 jobs with all but about 600 of this gain coming in Credit Intermediation. The improvement in Real Estate will be beneficial to this supersector but Mortgage Refinancing has slowed.

Professional and Business Services

Professional and Business Services employment increased 400 for the month as small gains in Professional and Technical Services and Management of Companies outweighed a loss of 700 in Administrative and Support Services. This was the fifth consecutive increase for the supersector, with the most consistent growth coming from Professional and Technical Services. Following two months of very strong growth, Administrative and Support declined with weak outcomes in both the Services to Buildings and the Employment Services industry groupings. Annual growth was estimated to be a healthy 2.9 percent with all three major component groups showing good rates of growth over the past year.

Educational and Health Services

The loss of 2,900 in Educational and Health Services was the largest monthly loss since September 2009. Education showed a drop of 1,600 marking the second large decline for Private Education in three months. To some extent the loss is probably associated with the difficulty of adjusting for the impact of spring break in the seasonal adjustment process. There was also a rare loss in Health Care and Social Assistance which fell for the first time since July 2011 and the largest loss since July 2010. Much of the monthly loss came in Nursing and Residential Care Facilities. On an annual basis the supersector added 10,900 jobs with 7,700 of these additions in Ambulatory Health Care Services. Social Assistance employment growth has slowed with only an estimated gain of 300 for the past year.

Leisure and Hospitality

After five consecutive months of employment growth, Leisure and Hospitality reversed ground to lose an estimated 2,100 jobs in March. The colder and wetter than usual weather associated with March is likely to have had a negative impact on seasonal hiring in these industries. Accommodation and Full Service Restaurants seem to have been particularly impacted by this leading to a loss of 1,500 in Accommodation and Food Services. Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation also contributed a loss of 400. The estimates showed that Leisure and Hospitality was barely in positive territory compared to last year, with an estimated gain of only 200 over the past year. This is an area where Minnesota is lagging the U.S. substantially with a gain of 2.3 percent estimated for the nation as a whole. Accommodation and Full - Service Restaurants both showed losses, largely negating the modest annual increases in Limited-Service Restaurants and in Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation.

Other Services

Similar to February, March saw a miniscule loss of 100 in Other Services. This resulted from a slight weakness in Religious, Grantmaking, Civic, Professional, and Similar Organizations. Annual growth totaled 1,900, equal to 1.6 percent. Repair and Maintenance and Religious, Grantmaking, Civic, Professional, and Similar Organizations showed gains of 2.2 and 2.1 percent, respectively.

Government

Government employment fell by 1,500 in March as there were substantial losses in Local Government and to a lesser extent Federal Government. The loss in Local Government was fairly equally distributed among education and non-education units of government. The reduction in Federal Government was distributed fairly equally between postal locations and other federal offices. Over the past year there was a gain of 1,400 estimated with this gain coming largely in Local Government Education.

by Jerry Brown

Seasonally Adjusted Nonfarm Employment

In 1,000's

Industry	March 2013	Feburary 2013	January 2013
Total Nonagricultural	**2,770.1**	**2,775.3**	**2,765.4**
Goods-Producing	**411.0**	**410.6**	**410.1**
Mining and Logging	7.3	7.3	7.2
Construction	97.3	96.5	95.0
Manufacturing	306.4	306.8	307.9
Service-Providing	**2,359.1**	**2,364.7**	**2,355.3**
Trade, Transportation, and Utilities	517.4	516.0	514.5
Information	54.7	54.7	54.8
Financial Activities	178.5	179.3	177.8
Professional and Business Services	345.5	345.1	338.9
Educational and Health Services	485.0	487.9	486.9
Leisure and Hospitality	249.0	251.1	248.8
Other Services	116.6	116.7	116.9
Government	412.4	413.9	416.7

Source: Department of Employment and Economic Development Current Employment Statistics, 2013.

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

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

Employment in the Minneapolis-St. Paul-Bloomington MSA increased 0.1 percent (1,815) over the month and 1.8 percent (31,360) over the year. Over the month the strongest gains were in Mining, Logging, and Construction (up 2.0 percent, 949), in Trade, Transportation, and Utilities (up 0.4 percent, 1,193), and in Leisure and Hospitality (up 1.4 percent, 2,215). There were significant losses in Financial Activities (down 0.3 percent), 463) and Professional and Business Services (down 0.3 percent, 717). Government employment fell 0.5 percent (1,321) over the month. Over the year, all major industries saw growth with the exceptions of Mining, Logging, and Construction (down 0.2 percent, 107) and Leisure and Hospitality (down 0.3 percent, 420).

Duluth -Superior MSA

Employment in the Duluth-Superior MSA increased 0.1 percent (100) over the month and 0.9 percent (1,152) over the year. Significant gains were in Mining, Logging, and Construction (up 3.1 percent, 225), in Other Services (up 1.2 percent, 67), and in Professional and Business Services (up 0.4 percent, 32). Significant declines occurred in Trade, Transportation, and Utilities (down 0.5 percent, 129) and in Government (down 0.2 percent, 49). Over the year only a handful of industries saw declines, including Government (down 2.3 percent), Manufacturing (down 1.5 percent), Information (down 1.0 percent), and Other Services (down 0.8 percent).

Rochester MSA

Employment in the Rochester MSA increased 0.2 percent (223) over the month and 0.8 percent (840) over the year. Government employment fell 0.5 percent (48) over the month and 3.9 percent (426) over the year. In the Private Sector the monthly gains came largely from Leisure and Hospitality (up 2.0 percent, 169) and from Other Services (up 2.0 percent, 70). Over the year, gains were dominated by Educational and Health Services (up 3.1 percent, 1,319).

St. Cloud MSA

Employment in the St. Cloud MSA increased 0.3 percent (265) over the month and 0.8 percent (775) over the year. Government employment declined 0.9 percent (141) over the month and 1.1 percent (183) over the year. In the Private Sector the largest numeric monthly gains were in Mining, Logging, and Construction (up 3.8 percent, 161) and in Educational and Health Services (up 0.8 percent, 149). Over the year the largest gains were in Educational and Health Services (up 2.6 percent, 499), in Mining, Logging, and Construction (up 8.3 percent, 334), and in Trade, Transportation, and Utilities (up 1.7 percent, 334).

Mankato-North Mankato MSA

Employment in the Mankato-North Mankato MSA declined 0.2 percent (128) over the month and increased 1.4 percent (757) over the year. The declines were driven by Private Service-Providing employment (down 0.4 percent, 146) as the Government decline of 0.5 percent (47) was balanced out by gains of 0.7 percent (65) in Goods-Producing. Over the year, Goods-Producing fared the best with gains of 4.4 percent (397).

Fargo-Moorhead MSA

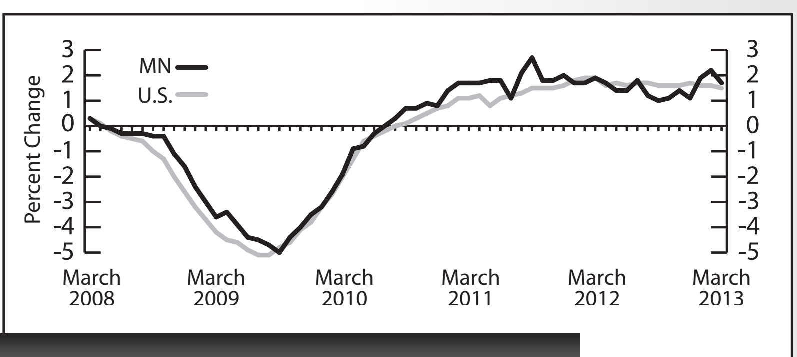
Employment in the Fargo-Moorhead MSA increased over the month of March to 130,585 (up 0.2 percent, 237). Over the year, employment increased 3.6 percent (4,503). Government employment declined 146 (0.8 percent) over the month and 120 (0.7 percent) over the year, with most monthly losses coming from Federal and Local Government, but the annual declines came from State Government employment. In the Private Sector the largest gains were in Mining, Logging, and Construction (up 5.0 percent, 361) and in Educational and Health Services (up 0.6 percent, 117). Professional and Business Services saw the largest decline, falling 1.3 percent (201) over the month.

Grand Forks-East Grand Forks MSA

Employment in the Grand Forks-East Grand Forks MSA fell 0.1 percent (48) over the month but increased 1.6 percent (884) over the year. Government employment fell 0.4 percent (65) over the month and 0.5 percent (69) over the year, with most of the declines coming from State Government employment and only partially balanced out by gains in Local Government employment. No one industry dominated the Private Sector change, but there were significant increases in Leisure and Hospitality (up 0.8 percent, 47) and in Mining, Logging, and Construction (up 0.7 percent, 18).

by Amanda Rohrer

Source: Department of Employment and Economic Development, Current Employment Statistics, 2013; Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor, Current Employment Statistics, 2013.



Total Nonfarm Jobs
U.S. and MN over-the-year percent change

Employer Survey of Minnesota Nonfarm Payroll Jobs, Hours and Earnings

Numbers are unadjusted.

Note: State, regional and local estimates from past months (for all tables pages 11-13) may be revised from figures previously published.

Industry	Jobs* (Thousands)			Percent Change From**		Production Workers Hours and Earnings: Average Weekly Earnings		Average Weekly Hours		Average Hourly Earnings	
	Mar 2013	Feb 2013	Mar 2012	Feb 2013	Mar 2012	Mar 2013	Mar 2012	Mar 2013	Mar 2012	Mar 2013	Mar 2012
TOTAL NONFARM WAGE AND SALARY	**2,720.6**	**2,717.0**	**2,674.2**	**0.1%**	**1.7%**	—	—	—	—	—	—
						—	—	—	—	—	—
GOODS-PRODUCING	**389.2**	**386.6**	**386.4**	**0.7**	**0.7**	—	—	—	—	—	—
Mining and Logging	**6.9**	**6.9**	**6.6**	**-0.4**	**3.8**	—	—	—	—	—	—
Construction	**80.4**	**77.9**	**79.6**	**3.1**	**0.9**	—	—	—	—	—	—
Specialty Trade Contractors	51.8	50.3	51.2	2.9	1.2	$1,168.37	$1,251.24	39.7	41.2	$29.43	$30.37
Manufacturing	**301.9**	**301.7**	**300.1**	**0.1**	**0.6**	**811.92**	**774.52**	**40.8**	**40.7**	**19.90**	**19.03**
Durable Goods	193.4	192.2	191.1	0.6	1.2	831.00	778.10	41.2	40.4	20.17	19.26
Wood Product Manufacturing	10.1	9.9	10.2	2.1	-0.8	—	—	—	—	—	—
Fabricated Metal Production	42.0	41.8	40.5	0.5	3.7	—	—	—	—	—	—
Machinery Manufacturing	32.0	32.0	31.7	0.0	0.9	—	—	—	—	—	—
Computer and Electronic Product	45.1	45.3	45.9	-0.4	-1.7	—	—	—	—	—	—
Navigational, Measuring, Electromedical and Control	24.9	25.0	24.8	-0.2	0.3	—	—	—	—	—	—
Transportation Equipment	9.9	9.9	9.8	-0.1	1.2	—	—	—	—	—	—
Medical Equipment and Supplies Manufacturing	15.7	15.6	15.9	0.1	-1.3	—	—	—	—	—	—
Nondurable Goods	108.5	109.5	109.1	-0.9	-0.5	783.10	767.75	40.2	41.1	19.48	18.68
Food Manufacturing	44.0	43.9	42.7	0.2	3.0	—	—	—	—	—	—
Paper Manufacturing	32.7	32.9	33.9	-0.5	-3.6	—	—	—	—	—	—
Printing and Related	22.9	23.1	23.4	-0.6	-2.0	—	—	—	—	—	—
SERVICE-PROVIDING	**2,331.4**	**2,330.5**	**2,287.8**	**0.0**	**1.9**	—	—	—	—	—	—
Trade, Transportation, and Utilities	**507.0**	**504.0**	**491.4**	**0.6**	**3.2**	—	—	—	—	—	—
Wholesale Trade	131.6	129.9	126.2	1.3	4.3	976.60	890.19	38.8	36.8	25.17	24.19
Retail Trade	280.4	280.4	274.4	0.0	2.2	367.40	356.45	27.5	28.2	13.36	12.64
Motor Vehicle and Parts	30.7	30.5	30.3	0.7	1.3	—	—	—	—	—	—
Building Material and Garden Equipment	23.0	22.6	23.5	1.5	-2.3	—	—	—	—	—	—
Food and Beverage Stores	49.4	49.3	48.4	0.2	2.0	—	—	—	—	—	—
Gasoline Stations	23.4	23.2	22.9	0.7	2.3	—	—	—	—	—	—
General Merchandise Stores	59.4	59.8	61.2	-0.8	-3.0	309.23	328.78	28.5	29.7	10.85	11.07
Transportation,Warehouse, Utilities	95.0	93.7	90.8	1.4	4.6	—	—	—	—	—	—
Transportation and Warehousing	82.3	81.1	78.2	1.4	5.2	643.92	660.48	37.7	38.4	17.08	17.20
Information	**54.9**	**55.2**	**53.0**	**-0.6**	**3.4**	**730.30**	**715.79**	**32.4**	**35.4**	**22.54**	**20.22**
Publishing Industries	20.8	20.8	21.0	-0.2	-1.3	—	—	—	—	—	—
Telecommunications	13.7	13.6	13.7	0.4	-0.6	—	—	—	—	—	—
Financial Activities	**177.4**	**178.2**	**175.0**	**-0.5**	**1.4**	—	—	—	—	—	—
Finance and Insurance	139.4	139.9	137.5	-0.4	1.4	878.62	901.99	35.3	35.4	24.89	25.48
Credit Intermediation	54.1	54.2	52.8	-0.2	2.4	675.68	612.48	33.4	31.9	20.23	19.20
Securities, Commodity Contracts, and Other	18.0	18.1	18.3	-0.8	-1.6	—	—	—	—	—	—
Insurance Carriers and Related	63.3	63.6	63.3	-0.4	0.1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Real Estate and Rental and Leasing	38.0	38.3	37.5	-0.8	1.4	—	—	—	—	—	—
Professional and Business Services	**335.9**	**336.7**	**326.5**	**-0.2**	**2.9**	—	—	—	—	—	—
Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services	133.9	134.2	129.2	-0.3	3.6	—	—	—	—	—	—
Legal Services	18.7	18.7	18.7	0.1	-0.3	—	—	—	—	—	—
Accounting, Tax Preparation	15.8	16.1	16.3	-1.4	-3.1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Computer Systems Design	30.5	30.6	30.3	-0.5	0.4	—	—	—	—	—	—
Management of Companies and Enterprises	75.5	75.6	73.5	-0.1	2.7	—	—	—	—	—	—
Administrative and Support Services	126.4	126.8	123.7	-0.3	2.2	—	—	—	—	—	—
Educational and Health Services	**486.8**	**487.6**	**475.9**	**-0.2**	**2.3**	—	—	—	—	—	—
Educational Services	66.7	67.8	67.3	-1.6	-0.9	—	—	—	—	—	—
Health Care and Social Assistance	420.1	419.9	408.6	0.1	2.8	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ambulatory Health Care	137.0	136.8	129.3	0.2	5.9	1,170.32	1,057.51	34.3	33.7	34.12	31.38
Offices of Physicians	66.5	66.3	62.5	0.4	6.4	—	—	—	—	—	—
Hospitals	103.0	102.9	101.4	0.1	1.6	—	—	—	—	—	—
Nursing and Residential Care Facilities	104.6	104.9	102.7	-0.3	1.9	419.33	385.70	28.8	27.2	14.56	14.18
Social Assistance	75.5	75.3	75.2	0.2	0.4	—	—	—	—	—	—
Leisure and Hospitality	**232.6**	**230.8**	**232.4**	**0.8**	**0.1**	—	—	—	—	—	—
Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation	35.0	34.3	34.4	1.8	1.6	—	—	—	—	—	—
Accommodation and Food Services	197.6	196.5	198.0	0.6	-0.2	—	—	—	—	—	—
Food Services and Drinking Places	174.5	173.2	174.2	0.7	0.2	229.95	218.59	21.0	20.7	10.95	10.56
Other Services	**116.7**	**116.0**	**114.8**	**0.6**	**1.6**	—	—	—	—	—	—
Religious, Grantmaking, Civic, Professional Organizations	68.8	68.6	67.4	0.2	2.1						
Government	**420.1**	**421.8**	**418.7**	**-0.4**	**0.3**						
Federal Government	30.5	30.9	31.4	-1.3	-2.9						
State Government	102.1	101.9	102.8	0.1	-0.7						
State Government Education	64.9	64.9	66.8	0.0	-2.8						
Local Government	287.5	289.0	284.4	-0.5	1.1						
Local Government Education	144.5	144.8	143.4	-0.2	0.8						

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, 2013.

Employer Survey of Twin Cities Nonfarm Payroll Jobs, Hours and Earnings

Numbers are unadjusted.

Note: State, regional and local estimates from past months (for all tables pages 11-13) may be revised from figures previously published.

Industry	Jobs* (Thousands)			Percent Change From**		Production Workers Hours and Earnings					
						Average Weekly Earnings		Average Weekly Hours		Average Hourly Earnings	
	Mar 2013	Feb 2013	Mar 2012	Feb 2013	Mar 2012	Mar 2013	Mar 2012	Mar 2013	Mar 2012	Mar 2013	Mar 2012
TOTAL NONFARM WAGE AND SALARY	**1,765.6**	**1,763.8**	**1,734.3**	**0.1%**	**1.8%**	—	—	—	—	—	—
GOODS-PRODUCING	**230.4**	**229.7**	**228.1**	**0.3**	**1.0**	—	—	—	—	—	—
Mining, Logging, and Construction	**49.6**	**48.7**	**49.7**	**2.0**	**-0.2**	—	—	—	—	—	—
Construction of Buildings	11.6	11.5	11.7	1.5	-0.8	—	—	—	—	—	—
Specialty Trade Contractors	35.6	35.1	33.2	1.4	7.1	$1,246.98	$1,298.35	39.7	39.9	$31.41	$32.54
Manufacturing	**180.8**	**181.0**	**178.4**	**-0.1**	**1.4**	**845.24**	**815.22**	**40.5**	**40.7**	**20.87**	**20.03**
Durable Goods	125.7	125.4	123.1	0.2	2.1	877.40	834.76	41.0	40.7	21.40	20.51
Fabricated Metal Production	28.2	28.1	27.3	0.4	3.5	—	—	—	—	—	—
Machinery Manufacturing	19.7	19.7	19.4	-0.2	1.7	—	—	—	—	—	—
Computer and Electronic Product	35.6	35.7	35.6	-0.3	-0.2	—	—	—	—	—	—
Navigational, Measuring, Electromedical and Control	23.4	23.5	23.2	-0.3	0.8	—	—	—	—	—	—
Medical Equipment and Supplies Manufacturing	14.1	14.1	14.4	0.0	-2.4	—	—	—	—	—	—
Nondurable Goods	55.2	55.6	55.3	-0.8	-0.3	784.48	779.69	39.6	40.8	19.81	19.11
Food Manufacturing	11.9	11.9	11.9	0.2	0.4	—	—	—	—	—	—
Printing and Related	14.5	14.6	14.6	-0.5	-0.6	—	—	—	—	—	—
SERVICE-PROVIDING	**1,535.2**	**1,534.1**	**1,506.1**	**0.1**	**1.9**	—	—	—	—	—	—
Trade, Transportation, and Utilities	**315.2**	**314.1**	**308.9**	**0.4**	**2.1**	—	—	—	—	—	—
Wholesale Trade	81.8	80.6	79.3	1.4	3.1	958.49	933.62	37.9	36.8	25.29	25.37
Merchant Wholesalers - Durable Goods	43.7	42.8	41.9	1.9	4.2	—	—	—	—	—	—
Merchant Wholesalers - Nondurable Goods	24.1	23.9	24.0	0.5	0.4	—	—	—	—	—	—
Retail Trade	171.5	171.5	167.7	0.0	2.3	351.18	353.01	27.5	28.7	12.77	12.30
Food and Beverage Stores	28.1	28.1	27.3	0.1	3.1	—	—	—	—	—	—
General Merchandise Stores	36.0	36.3	37.0	-0.8	-2.8	321.13	333.87	29.9	31.0	10.74	10.77
Transportation, Warehouse, Utilities	61.9	61.9	61.8	0.1	0.2	—	—	—	—	—	—
Utilities	7.4	7.3	7.4	1.4	0.5	—	—	—	—	—	—
Transportation and Warehousing	54.5	54.6	54.4	-0.1	0.1	718.62	706.03	41.3	40.6	17.40	17.39
Information	**38.8**	**38.9**	**38.4**	**-0.2**	**0.9**	**756.05**	**814.50**	**31.7**	**37.5**	**23.85**	**21.72**
Publishing Industries	16.4	16.4	16.4	0.1	-0.1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Telecommunications	9.5	9.5	9.6	0.6	-1.0	—	—	—	—	—	—
Financial Activities	**140.1**	**140.6**	**138.9**	**-0.3**	**0.9**	—	—	—	—	—	—
Finance and Insurance	109.3	109.6	108.6	-0.3	0.6	1,092.19	1,079.61	37.2	37.1	29.36	29.10
Credit Intermediation	37.7	37.6	36.4	0.3	3.4	—	—	—	—	—	—
Securities, Commodity Contracts, and Other	16.1	16.3	16.6	-1.1	-2.9	—	—	—	—	—	—
Insurance Carriers and Related	52.9	53.0	52.6	-0.1	0.6	—	—	—	—	—	—
Real Estate and Rental and Leasing	30.8	31.0	30.3	-0.4	1.7	—	—	—	—	—	—
Professional and Business Services	**271.1**	**271.9**	**266.5**	**-0.3**	**1.7**	—	—	—	—	—	—
Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services	106.6	107.1	103.5	-0.4	3.0	—	—	—	—	—	—
Legal Services	15.8	15.8	15.7	0.1	0.4	—	—	—	—	—	—
Architectural, Engineering, and Related	14.6	14.7	14.6	-0.2	0.1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Computer Systems Design	25.9	26.0	25.3	-0.4	2.5	—	—	—	—	—	—
Management of Companies and Enterprises	67.0	67.0	67.4	0.1	-0.6	—	—	—	—	—	—
Administrative and Support Services	97.5	97.8	95.5	-0.3	2.0	—	—	—	—	—	—
Employment Services	49.2	48.9	46.4	0.7	6.1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Educational and Health Services	**296.1**	**296.1**	**284.5**	**0.0**	**4.1**	—	—	—	—	—	—
Educational Services	47.4	47.6	45.3	-0.4	4.7	—	—	—	—	—	—
Health Care and Social Assistance	248.7	248.5	239.3	0.1	4.0	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ambulatory Health Care	81.4	80.8	76.2	0.7	6.8	—	—	—	—	—	—
Hospitals	59.7	59.8	58.3	-0.1	2.5	—	—	—	—	—	—
Nursing and Residential Care Facilities	55.5	55.4	53.7	0.2	3.3	—	—	—	—	—	—
Social Assistance	52.1	52.5	51.1	-0.7	2.0	—	—	—	—	—	—
Leisure and Hospitality	**155.8**	**153.6**	**156.3**	**1.4**	**-0.3**	—	—	—	—	—	—
Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation	25.7	25.2	26.5	2.1	-3.0	—	—	—	—	—	—
Accommodation and Food Services	130.1	128.4	129.8	1.3	0.3	260.14	256.51	22.7	22.6	11.46	11.35
Food Services and Drinking Places	119.1	117.4	117.3	1.5	1.6	255.97	242.00	22.2	21.9	11.53	11.05
Other Services	**77.2**	**77.1**	**76.0**	**0.2**	**1.6**	—	—	—	—	—	—
Repair and Maintenance	13.3	13.3	13.0	-0.2	2.0	—	—	—	—	—	—
Religious, Grantmaking, Civic, Professional Organizations	43.1	43.0	42.2	0.0	2.1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Government	**240.7**	**242.0**	**236.6**	**-0.5**	**1.7**						
Federal Government	19.6	20.0	20.3	-1.7	-3.4						
State Government	68.6	68.3	67.4	0.4	1.8						
State Government Education	43.2	43.1	43.0	0.3	0.5						
Local Government	152.5	153.7	149.0	-0.8	2.4						
Local Government Education	88.9	89.2	86.3	-0.3	3.0						

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, 2013.

Employer Survey

Industry	St. Cloud MSA Jobs Mar 2013	St. Cloud MSA Jobs Feb 2013	St. Cloud MSA Jobs Mar 2012	St. Cloud MSA % Chg. From Feb 2013	St. Cloud MSA % Chg. From Mar 2012	Rochester MSA Jobs Mar 2013	Rochester MSA Jobs Feb 2013	Rochester MSA Jobs Mar 2012	Rochester MSA % Chg. From Feb 2013	Rochester MSA % Chg. From Mar 2012
TOTAL NONFARM WAGE AND SALARY	**101,076**	**100,811**	**100,301**	**0.3%**	**0.8%**	**104,596**	**104,373**	**103,756**	**0.2%**	**0.8%**
GOODS-PRODUCING	**19,208**	**18,983**	**18,856**	**1.2**	**1.9**	**12,629**	**12,560**	**13,259**	**0.5**	**-4.8**
Mining, Logging, and Construction	4,380	4,219	4,046	3.8	8.3	2,661	2,600	2,780	2.3	-4.3
Manufacturing	14,828	14,764	14,810	0.4	0.1	9,968	9,960	10,479	0.1	-4.9
SERVICE-PROVIDING	**81,868**	**81,828**	**81,445**	**0.0**	**0.5**	**91,967**	**91,813**	**90,497**	**0.2**	**1.6**
Trade, Transportation, and Utilities	20,094	20,115	19,760	-0.1	1.7	15,712	15,755	15,341	-0.3	2.4
Wholesale Trade	4,096	4,073	3,868	0.6	5.9	2,295	2,296	2,227	0.0	3.1
Retail Trade	12,645	12,693	12,586	-0.4	0.5	11,053	11,081	10,824	-0.3	2.1
Transportation, Warehouse, Utilities	3,353	3,349	3,306	0.1	1.4	2,364	2,378	2,290	-0.6	3.2
Information	1,643	1,644	1,629	-0.1	0.9	1,700	1,726	1,575	-1.5	7.9
Financial Activities	4,356	4,384	4,223	-0.6	3.1	2,339	2,357	2,349	-0.8	-0.4
Professional and Business Services	7,985	7,951	8,159	0.4	-2.1	4,913	4,858	4,857	1.1	1.2
Educational and Health Services	19,529	19,380	19,030	0.8	2.6	44,386	44,391	43,067	0.0	3.1
Leisure and Hospitality	8,530	8,499	8,647	0.4	-1.4	8,833	8,664	8,902	2.0	-0.8
Other Services	3,397	3,380	3,480	0.5	-2.4	3,655	3,585	3,551	2.0	2.9
Government	16,334	16,475	16,517	-0.9	-1.1	10,429	10,477	10,855	-0.5	-3.9

Employer Survey

Industry	Duluth-Superior MSA Jobs Mar 2013	Duluth-Superior MSA Jobs Feb 2013	Duluth-Superior MSA Jobs Mar 2012	Duluth-Superior MSA % Chg. From Feb 2013	Duluth-Superior MSA % Chg. From Mar 2012	Mankato-North Mankato MSA Jobs Mar 2013	Mankato-North Mankato MSA Jobs Feb 2013	Mankato-North Mankato MSA Jobs Mar 2012	Mankato-North Mankato MSA % Chg. From Feb 2013	Mankato-North Mankato MSA % Chg. From Mar 2012
TOTAL NONFARM WAGE AND SALARY	**128,883**	**128,783**	**127,731**	**0.1%**	**0.9%**	**53,528**	**53,656**	**52,771**	**-0.2%**	**1.4%**
GOODS-PRODUCING	**14,581**	**14,331**	**14,646**	**1.7**	**-0.4**	**9,396**	**9,331**	**8,999**	**0.7**	**4.4**
Mining, Logging, and Construction	7,412	7,187	7,367	3.1	0.6	--	--	--	--	--
Manufacturing	7,169	7,144	7,279	0.3	-1.5	--	--	--	--	--
						--	--	--	--	--
SERVICE-PROVIDING	**114,302**	**114,452**	**113,085**	**-0.1**	**1.1**	**44,132**	**44,325**	**43,772**	**-0.4**	**0.8**
Trade, Transportation, and Utilities	23,766	23,895	23,210	-0.5	2.4	--	--	--	--	--
Wholesale Trade	3,160	3,142	2,953	0.6	7.0	--	--	--	--	--
Retail Trade	14,711	14,767	14,554	-0.4	1.1	--	--	--	--	--
Transportation, Warehouse, Utilities	5,895	5,986	5,703	-1.5	3.4	--	--	--	--	--
Information	1,330	1,347	1,344	-1.3	-1.0	--	--	--	--	--
Financial Activities	5,335	5,357	5,280	-0.4	1.0	--	--	--	--	--
Professional and Business Services	7,345	7,313	7,339	0.4	0.1	--	--	--	--	--
Educational and Health Services	30,647	30,664	30,049	-0.1	2.0	--	--	--	--	--
Leisure and Hospitality	13,186	13,201	12,490	-0.1	5.6	--	--	--	--	--
Other Services	5,884	5,817	5,934	1.2	-0.8	--	--	--	--	--
Government	26,809	26,858	27,439	-0.2	-2.3	9,261	9,308	9,358	-0.5	-1.0

Employer Survey

Industry	Grand Forks-East Grand Forks MSA Jobs Mar 2013	Grand Forks-East Grand Forks MSA Jobs Feb 2013	Grand Forks-East Grand Forks MSA Jobs Mar 2012	Grand Forks-East Grand Forks MSA % Chg. From Feb 2013	Grand Forks-East Grand Forks MSA % Chg. From Mar 2012	Fargo-Moorhead MSA Jobs Mar 2013	Fargo-Moorhead MSA Jobs Feb 2013	Fargo-Moorhead MSA Jobs Mar 2012	Fargo-Moorhead MSA % Chg. From Feb 2013	Fargo-Moorhead MSA % Chg. From Mar 2012
TOTAL NONFARM WAGE AND SALARY	**55,808**	**55,856**	**54,924**	**-0.1%**	**1.6%**	**130,585**	**130,348**	**126,082**	**0.2%**	**3.6%**
GOODS-PRODUCING	**6,242**	**6,259**	**5,823**	**-0.3**	**7.2**	**17,592**	**17,189**	**16,362**	**2.3**	**7.5**
Mining, Logging, and Construction	2,609	2,591	2,346	0.7	11.2	7,590	7,229	6,300	5.0	20.5
Manufacturing	3,633	3,668	3,477	-1.0	4.5	10,002	9,960	10,062	0.4	-0.6
SERVICE-PROVIDING	**49,566**	**49,597**	**49,101**	**-0.1**	**0.9**	**112,993**	**113,159**	**109,720**	**-0.1**	**3.0**
Trade, Transportation, and Utilities	12,276	12,308	11,731	-0.3	4.6	28,863	28,829	27,523	0.1	4.9
Wholesale Trade	2,010	1,973	1,969	1.9	2.1	8,520	8,480	8,121	0.5	4.9
Retail Trade	8,063	8,126	7,767	-0.8	3.8	15,543	15,602	14,742	-0.4	5.4
Transportation, Warehouse, Utilities	2,203	2,209	1,995	-0.3	10.4	4,800	4,747	4,660	1.1	3.0
Information	605	623	629	-2.9	-3.8	3,228	3,226	3,269	0.1	-1.3
Financial Activities	1,656	1,665	1,637	-0.5	1.2	9,145	9,111	8,964	0.4	2.0
Professional and Business Services	2,711	2,705	2,881	0.2	-5.9	15,502	15,703	14,283	-1.3	8.5
Educational and Health Services	9,567	9,545	9,355	0.2	2.3	20,989	20,872	20,529	0.6	2.2
Leisure and Hospitality	6,156	6,109	6,226	0.8	-1.1	12,933	12,940	12,701	-0.1	1.8
Other Services	2,012	1,994	1,990	0.9	1.1	5,074	5,073	5,072	0.0	0.0
Government	14,583	14,648	14,652	-0.4	-0.5	17,259	17,405	17,379	-0.8	-0.7

Source: Department of Employment and Economic Development, Current Employment Statistics, and North Dakota Job Service, 2013.

Minnesota Economic Indicators

Highlights

The **Minnesota Index**, after shifting into high gear in December and January, has downshifted during the last two months. The index advanced 0.2 percent in March, matching February's pace. The unemployment rate inched down and manufacturing hours spiked, but the index was held back by declining employment. The index, which is a monthly measure of economic activity in the state, increased 1.1 percent in the first quarter compared to 1.0 percent during the first quarter last year.

The U.S. index increased 0.3 percent for the third month in a row in March, pushing U.S. economic growth over the first quarter up to 0.8 percent. Minnesota's index, after running ahead of the national index for most of the last half of 2012, has slipped slightly behind the national pace over the last two months. Minnesota's economy, as measured by the index, is up 2.9 percent from a year ago while the U.S. economy is up 2.8 percent.

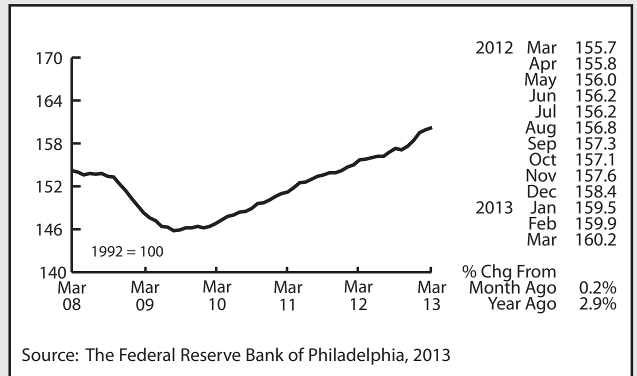
Minnesota's **Wage and Salary Employment** dipped for the first time in eight months, slipping 0.2 percent in March. Goods-producing industries added 400 jobs while service-providing industries combined to cut 5,600 positions leaving a net job loss of 5,200. Job cutbacks were highest in Educational and Health Services, Leisure and Hospitality, and Government. Trade, Transportation, and Utilities, Construction, and Professional and Business Services were the only sectors to expand payrolls in March.

March's employment drop may be only a seasonal adjustment glitch arising from the colder than normal weather. The usual warmer weather hiring uptick may have been partially shifted to April and May. Minnesota's unadjusted over-the-year job growth slipped to a still robust 1.7 percent. Minnesota job growth exceeded the national rate for the third straight month as jobs nationally were 1.5 percent higher in March than last year.

Minnesota's adjusted online **Help-Wanted Ads** stumbled for the second straight month, siding 3.5 percent in March. U.S. help-wanted ads were also down for the second consecutive month with ad levels sliding 3.1 percent from February. The consecutive monthly drops in Minnesota's online job advertising is the first since the middle of 2009 right before the bleeding of jobs during the Great Recession ended. The drop in total employment and in online help-wanted ads were the only two negative indicators in March.

Minnesota's **Purchasing Managers' Index (PMI)** reversed a two-month slide in March, jumping to 55.2. The positive reading points towards a pickup in manufacturing activity in Minnesota in the months ahead. The employment component of the index has been above 50 for five months now suggesting that manufacturing hiring should pick up over the next few months. Manufacturing payrolls expanded by 2.7 percent in 2011 but only 1.6 percent last year. Minnesota manufacturers have recovered only 18,000 of the 50,000 lost during the Great Recession.

Adjusted **Manufacturing Hours** spiked up for the second time in three months in March pushing factory hours to their highest level since January 2012. March's 41.1 factory workweek is another sign that Minnesota's manufacturers are ramping up production. The longer workweek is another good indicator that hiring may be on the rise over the next few months.



Source: The Federal Reserve Bank of Philadelphia, 2013

Minnesota Index

Adjusted **Manufacturing Earnings** were up for the third straight month in March boosted by the longer workweek. March's average earnings of $818.06 is the fattest paycheck in 28 months. Average manufacturing earnings after adjusting for inflation were 3.8 percent higher than a year ago.

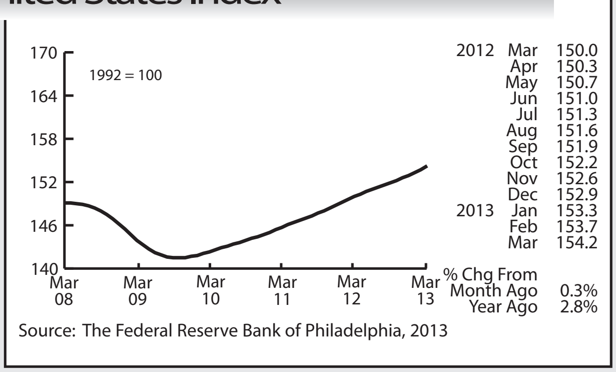
The **Minnesota Leading Index**, which skyrocketed up to its highest level since 1997 in January, has come back down to earth during the last two months. March's 1.68, however, is still a bullish sign for Minnesota's economy over the next six months. If the 1.68 reading is accurate and the economy remains strong through the second half of 2013, Minnesota may end the year with its largest GDP expansion since 2000.

Adjusted **Residential Building Permits** rebounded in March, climbing 15.9 percent. Optimism and confidence in the home building industry continues to gain momentum as a shortage of home listings in the face of rising demand has home buyers turning to new home construction.

Adjusted **Initial Claims for Unemployment Benefits (UB)** inched upward in March but remained relatively low, suggesting that the layoff rate remains subdued. Unadjusted initial claims are down 1.4 percent from last year, indicating that job growth is likely to rebound over the next few months as the weather warms up.

by Dave Senf

United States Index

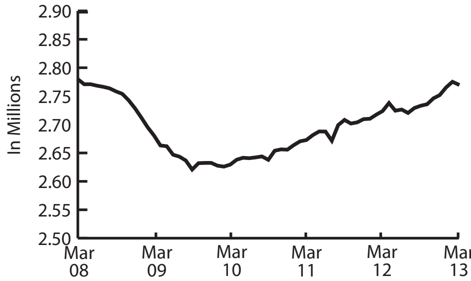


Source: The Federal Reserve Bank of Philadelphia, 2013

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

Minnesota Economic Indicators

Wage and Salary Employment



seasonally adjusted

2012	Oct	2.7357
	Nov	2.7461
	Dec	2.7519
2013	Jan	2.7654
	Feb	2.7753
	Mar	2.7701

% Chg From Month Ago -0.2%

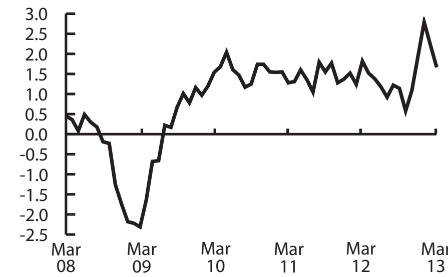
unadjusted

2012	Mar	2,674.2
2013	Mar	2,720.6

% Chg From Year Ago 1.7%

Source: Department of Employment and Economic Development, Current Employment Statistics Program, 2013

Minnesota Leading Index

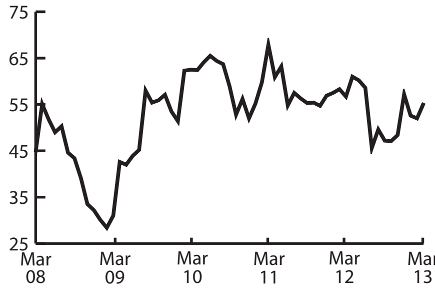


2012	Mar	1.82
	Apr	1.52
	May	1.38
	Jun	1.18
	Jul	0.92
	Aug	1.22
	Sep	1.14
	Oct	0.58
	Nov	1.08
	Dec	1.94
2013	Jan	2.79
	Feb	2.23
	Mar	1.68

% Chg From Month Ago -24.9%
Year Ago -8.0%

Source: The Federal Reserve Bank of Philadelphia, 2013

Purchasing Managers' Index

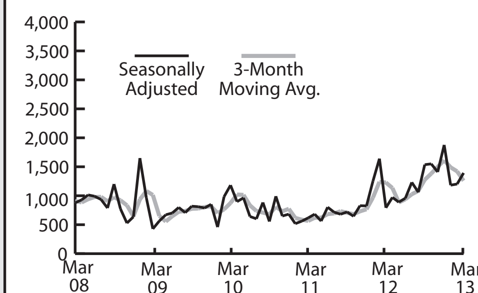


2012	Mar	56.7
	Apr	61.0
	May	60.2
	Jun	58.6
	Jul	45.6
	Aug	49.6
	Sep	47.2
	Oct	47.1
	Nov	48.4
	Dec	57.2
2013	Jan	52.6
	Feb	52.0
	Mar	55.2

% Chg From Month Ago 6.2%
Year Ago -2.6%

Source: Creighton University, Mid-America Survey of Business Conditions, 2013

Residential Building Permits



seasonally adjusted

2012	Oct	1,550
	Nov	1,410
	Dec	1,877
2013	Jan	1,183
	Feb	1,202
	Mar	1,393

% Chg From Month Ago 15.9%

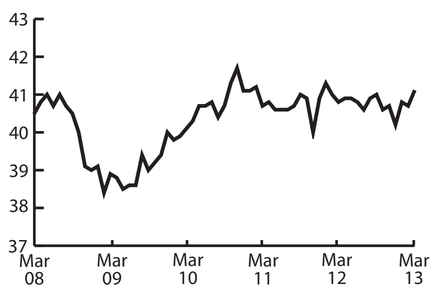
unadjusted

2012	Mar	688
2013	Mar	1,187

% Chg From Year Ago 72.5%

Source: Residential Building Permits, Census Bureau, U.S. Department of Commerce, 2013

Average Weekly Manufacturing Hours



seasonally adjusted

2012	Oct	40.6
	Nov	40.7
	Dec	40.2
2013	Jan	40.8
	Feb	40.7
	Mar	41.1

% Chg From Month Ago 0.9%

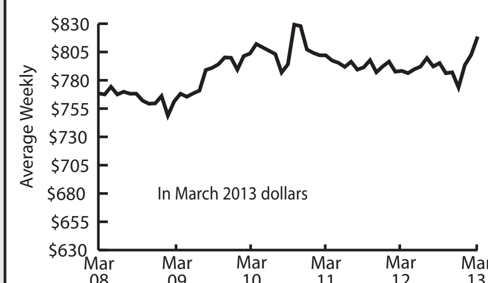
unadjusted

2012	Mar	40.7
2013	Mar	40.8

% Chg From Year Ago 0.2%

Source: Department of Employment and Economic Development, Current Employment Statistics Program, 2013

Manufacturing Earnings



seasonally adjusted

2012	Oct	786.23
	Nov	787.08
	Dec	773.67
2013	Jan	793.44
	Feb	802.47
	Mar	818.06

% Chg From Month Ago 1.9%

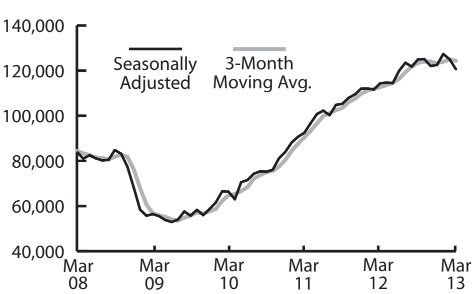
unadjusted

2012	Mar	782.05
2013	Mar	811.92

% Chg From Year Ago 3.8%

Source: Department of Employment and Economic Development, Current Employment Statistics Program, 2013

Online Help-Wanted Advertising

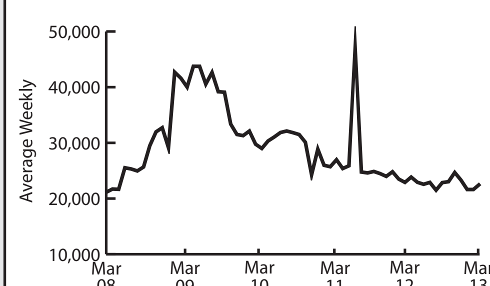


2012	Mar	114,352
	Apr	114,697
	May	114,456
	Jun	119,892
	Jul	123,486
	Aug	121,796
	Sep	124,973
	Oct	125,104
	Nov	122,066
	Dec	122,500
2013	Jan	127,366
	Feb	125,028
	Mar	120,633

% Chg From Month Ago -3.5%
Year Ago 5.5%

Source: The Conference Board Inc., 2013

Initial UB Claimants



seasonally adjusted

2012	Oct	23,029
	Nov	24,679
	Dec	23,317
2013	Jan	21,623
	Feb	21,624
	Mar	22,576

% Chg From Month Ago 4.4%

unadjusted

2012	Mar	20,702
2013	Mar	19,878

% Chg From Year Ago -4.0%

Source: Department of Employment and Economic Development, Unemployment Insurance Program, 2013

Minnesota Employment **Review**

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www.PositivelyMinnesota.com/lmi/

Labor Market Information Help Line:
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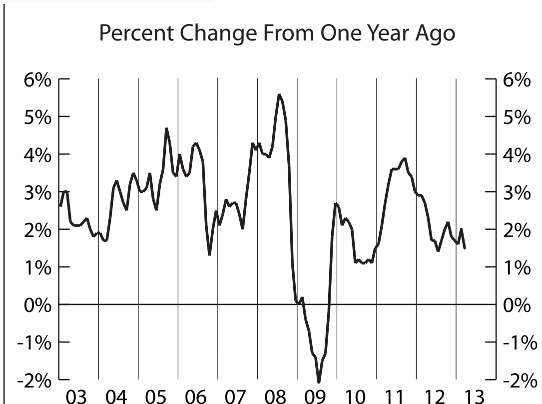
U.S. Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U)



On a seasonally adjusted basis the March CPI-U for all items decreased 0.2 percent over the month. The index increased 1.5 percent from March 2012, not seasonally adjusted. The monthly decrease was dominated by an abrupt decline in energy prices. Despite a large gain in the index last month, March's decline is a return to the trend for most of the last six months and contributes to a 3.1 percent over-the-year decline. In the index for all items less food and energy, results for various categories were increases of less than 0.5 percent. Used Cars and Trucks (+1.2 percent) and Apparel (-1.0 percent) were exceptions. There was an overall monthly gain of 0.1 percent and a 12-month gain of 1.9 percent.

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

What's Going On?

Coming Up This Summer: Minnesota Veterans Career Fair

Minnesota veterans who are looking for a job, interested in exploring new careers, or want to learn about educational opportunities should attend the annual Minnesota Veterans Career Fair. This is the largest veterans career fair in Minnesota, offering job seekers an excellent opportunity to speak directly with employers and employers the chance to connect with a highly trained, experienced and talented pool of job seekers.

The career fair is set for 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., Tuesday, **July 16**, at the Earle Brown Heritage Center, 6155 Earle Brown Drive, Brooklyn Center.

For more information, go to **www.PositivelyMinnesota.com/Calendar_of_Events/Minnesota_Veterans_Career_Fair/index.aspx**

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POSITIVELY Minnesota
Department of Employment and Economic Development

Teen Summer Employment 2013

In the wake of our recent recession young Minnesotans looking for a summer job face a significant challenge. Today the economies of both Minnesota and the United States are slowly recovering, and labor markets are improving. Minnesota's overall unemployment rate has been improving since 2009, and we have nearly matched our pre-recession job total. Some of these improvements will benefit teen job seekers who, along with many other Minnesotans, are still dealing with a challenging labor market.

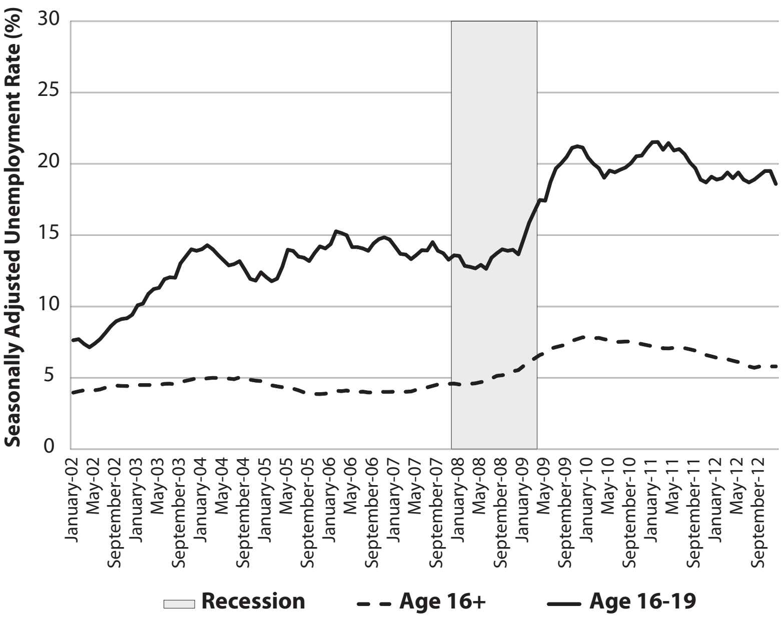
Most teens, even among those participating in the labor force, are not engaged in full-time work and are not financially dependent on their wages. However, they are still considered 'unemployed' if they are able to work, actively seek employment, and unable to find it. As Figure 1 illustrates, unemployment rates are much higher for teens in Minnesota than for the workforce at large. According to the Current Population Survey, by December of 2012, 18.6 percent of Minnesotans ages 16 to 19 were unemployed compared to 5.8 percent for the entire workforce in the state.

Nationally the picture is even worse with an unemployment rate of 23.5 percent for teens in December 2012.

One encouraging sign is that the annual average teen unemployment rate in Minnesota actually decreased from 2011 to 2012. That marks the first such improvement since unemployment spiked in 2009.

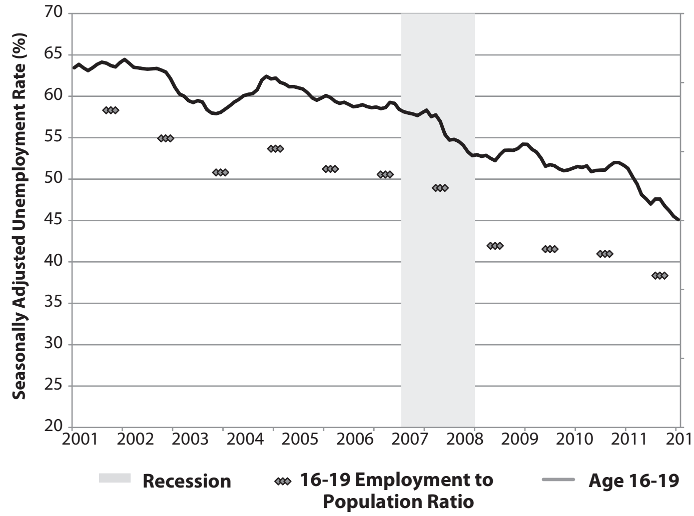
When jobs are scarce, young people are more likely than older workers to be shut out of the workforce. For instance, between July 2007 and July 2009 the unemployment rate in Minnesota rose by 2.9 percent while the teen unemployment rate rose by 5.8 percent. This pattern, which holds not just for this recession in Minnesota but in past recessions and nationwide as well, is at least

Figure 1: Minnesota Unemployment Rates by Age, 2002-2012



Source: Current Population Survey, Bureau of Labor Statistics

Figure 2: Minnesota Teen Labor Force Participation Rate and Employment-Population Ratio



Source: Current Population Survey, Bureau of Labor Statistics

partially attributable to teens facing stiffer competition from more experienced workers who have lost their jobs in a tightening market and are forced to take positions they wouldn't seek otherwise.

Teen Participation in the Labor Force

State and national teen labor force participation rates and employment-to-population ratios have been dropping since long before the recession. These trends may be largely attributable to teens eschewing early employment in favor of additional education or value-added pursuits like internships.

Figure 2 illustrates the declines over the past decade. The employment-to-population ratio, which is calculated by dividing the number of employed 16-19 year-olds by their total population and multiplying the result by 100, dropped sharply following the recession from an average of 50.5 percent in third quarter 2007 to 41.9 percent during the same period in 2009. Despite this steep decline Minnesota's ratio remains markedly stronger than the nation's at 38.3 in summer 2012 compared with 26.2 nationwide.

While Minnesota tends to outperform the nation for teen employment, one area in which we lag is in the racial employment gap. Paralleling similar issues in the adult workforce, teens from racial minority groups in Minnesota have disproportionately low employment and labor force participation rates when compared to the population as a whole. In 2012 the state average unemployment rate for all teens was 19.1 percent, while it was 24.2 percent for Hispanic teens and a whopping 32.2 percent for black teens. This is despite the labor force participation rates that are lower for these same groups. While the statewide average was 47.7 percent, only 45.7 percent of Hispanic teens participated in the labor market, with an even smaller 29.8 percent of black teens.

The Importance of the Teen Labor Market

Opinions differ on how important a healthy teen labor market is to the larger economy. While more young people are choosing to bypass paid employment in favor of internships, college, and other pursuits, for some teens the ability to find a job is incredibly important to their current and future financial well-being. Many of the teens included in this cohort are former high school students who have just completed their education and are entering the workforce for the first time as adults. For those people especially, the costs of not being able to find a good job can be astronomical.

One recent study has estimated the financial cost of the estimated 6.7 million 16 to 24 year olds in America who are neither working nor attending school to be $1.6 trillion[1] over the course of their lives. The Economic Policy Institute, which has studied the issue of graduates entering the job market during the recession, estimates that current grads could see their earnings suffer for 10 to 15 years simply because they are entering the labor market at an inopportune time[2].

While the exact impact is hard to quantify, the potential benefits of a teen's first job are plentiful. From learning how to search and interview for a job, to developing the necessary soft work skills, to the money in their pockets, summer jobs can offer teens a number of advantages whether they intend join the workforce permanently or leave their jobs to continue their education in the fall.

Table 1: Teen (Age 14-18) Employment Data Comparison, Minnesota: Summer 2007, 2010, 2011

	Number Employed				Average Monthly Earnings			
	Summer 2007	Summer 2010	Summer 2011	Percent Change 2010-2011	Summer 2007	Summer 2010	Summer 2011	Percent Change 2010-2011
All Sectors	121,383	83,126	84,108	**1.2%**	$631	$643	$680	**5.8%**
Accommodation and Food Services	38,732	29,363	29,441	**0.3%**	$562	$559	$588	**5.2%**
Retail Trade	32,332	19,267	19,399	**0.7%**	$584	$572	$607	**6.1%**
Health Care and Social Assistance	7,908	6,126	5,977	**-2.4%**	$710	$717	$757	**5.6%**
Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation	6,098	4,599	4,567	**-0.7%**	$530	$466	$532	**14.2%**
Other Services	4,893	3,514	3,484	**-0.9%**	$464	$510	$538	**5.5%**
Public Administration	4,664	3,389	3,384	**-0.1%**	$443	$422	$431	**2.1%**
Manufacturing	4,035	2,324	2,467	**6.2%**	$1,163	$1,333	$1,510	**13.3%**

*Third quarter data for each year.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Longitudinal Employer-Household Dynamics, Quarterly Workforce Indicators for Minnesota.

Where Teens Work

While teen workers in Minnesota take summer jobs across every industry, they tend to be concentrated in a handful of industries. In the summer of 2011, which is the most recent data available, employment for Minnesotans age 14 to18 was higher in Accommodation and Food Services and in Retail Trade than it was in all other industries combined by a substantial margin. The industries shown in Table 1 accounted for more than 80 percent of teen summer employment.

As Table 1 shows, employment in the largest industries for teen workers appeared to level off between the summers of 2010 and 2011 after suffering precipitous drops in the immediate aftermath of the recession. Small declines in less vital teen industries such as Health Care and Social Assistance and Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation were balanced by marginal gains in Accommodation and Food Services and in Retail Trade, the current drivers of teen employment. In addition to the stabilizing employment picture, wages in these industries also showed healthy growth between 2010 and 2011.

Table 2: Projected Summer Employment by Industry, All Ages

Industry	Estimated 2012 Q3 Employment	Projected 2013 Q3 Employment	Percent Change
Total, All Industries	2,748,460	2,792,725	1.6%
Accommodation and Food Services	206,015	208,296	1.1%
Retail Trade	281,189	284,206	1.0%
Health Care and Social Assistance	418,661	429,402	2.5%
Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation	37,613	38,146	1.4%
Other Services	117,075	118,356	1.0%
Public Administration	392,664	396,399	0.9%
Manufacturing	310,623	313,189	0.8%

Source: Minnesota Department of Employment and Economic Development, LMI Short-Term Industry Projections

Employment Outlook

While there are many characteristics that set the summer teen labor market apart from the job picture as a whole, a strong connection still exists. With that in mind, looking at employment forecasts for the most important industries for summer teen employment can give us a sense of the type of job market they will face. As Table 2 indicates, forecasts for all major industries for teen workers show positive growth between 2012 and 2013, with Accommodation and Food Services and Retail Trade each showing 1 percent or better growth. This bodes well for teens looking to enter the workforce this summer.

Minnesota is still recovering from the effects of the recession, and difficult job markets historically hit teens harder than the market at large. Additionally, the long-term trend appears to be toward decreased employment for teens. It follows that we may not see the same recovery in teen employment rates that we have begun seeing in the labor force as a whole. However, there does appear to be stabilization or improvement in some important indicators including total employment numbers in key industries. Together, this suggests that while the teen summer job market isn't likely to see a dramatic improvement this year, it could be marginally easier for teens to find work than it was last summer.

Help for Teens Entering the Job Market

There are a variety of resources and organizations aimed at helping teens navigate the job market. Many have a specific focus, such as woodworking, agriculture, or business. In addition to the selected programs listed below, DEED maintains a list of youth employment and training service providers across the state of Minnesota, which is searchable by county. That information can be found at: **www.PositivelyMinnesota.com/assets/youth/services/myproviders.shtml**.

If you're a youth looking to join the workforce, you can also improve your chances by having a well written resume that has been proofread by at least one additional person, finding as many references as possible from people you know already in the workforce, and being sure to pursue whatever opportunities you're able to find. While it may be more difficult to find a job in the current market, early success may make a big difference later on.

by Nick Dobbins
Labor Market Information Office
Minnesota Department of Employment
and Economic Development

Minnesota Youth Employment Programs and Services

This is a partial list of Minnesota youth employment programs and services. Many available opportunities are not listed here so please do your own research on what may be available in your community.

Minnesota Conservation Corps: environmental services, statewide
www.conservationcorps.squarespace.com/youth-opportunities/

Tree Trust Youth Summer Employment Program: paid work in a variety of positions. Washington, Dakota, and suburban Hennepin counties.
www.treetrust.org/jobs-2/youth-young-adults/

Youth Express: Program in the metro area, including a 15-session class and business apprentice opportunities.
www. keystonecommunityservices.org/our-services/youth-express

YouthJobCorps: paid internships for low-income students, St. Paul
www.stpaul.gov/index.aspx?NID=2928

YouthLead: services for disadvantaged youth, Ramsey County
www.co.ramsey.mn.us/workforce/Youth.htm

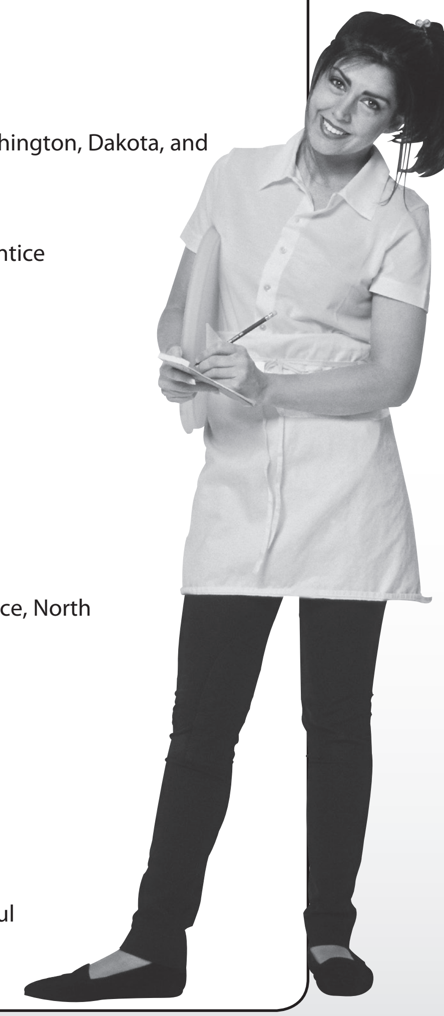
Elpis Enterprises: woodworking, screen printing, and experiential workshops, St. Paul
www.elpisenterprises.org/a/j/who-we-are

Cookie Cart: bakery operations (paid), career readiness, workforce skills, and customer service, North Minneapolis
www.cookiecart.org/bakery.html

EMERGE StreetWerks: summer employment program and youth services, Minneapolis
www.emerge-mn.org/workforce

MN Landscape Arboretum, Urban Garden Youth Employment: entrepreneurship and leadership, Metro
www.arboretum.umn.edu/urbangardenyouthemployment.aspx

Youth Farm & Market Project: personal development and farming, Minneapolis and St. Paul
www.youthfarmmn.org/about-youth-farm/our-programs/



[1]Belfield, Clive R., Henry M. Levin and Rachel Rosen. January 2012. "The Economic Value of Opportunity Youth" Page 26.
www.serve.gov/new-images/council/pdf/econ_value_opportunity_youth.pdf

[2]Shierholz, Heidi, Natalie Sabadish and Nicholas Finio. April 10, 2013. Economic Policy Institute, Briefing Paper #360. Page 2.
www.epi.org/publication/class-of-2013-graduates-job-prospects/