

# METHODOLOGY FOR MINNESOTA COUNTY LABOR FORCE PARTICIPATION PROJECTIONS BY AGE, 2015-2030

*By Megan Dayton*

This document describes the methodology used to produce labor force participation projections for the 87 counties of Minnesota by age cohort for each five-year interval from 2015 to 2030. The method for projecting future population is outlined below.

**STEP 1:** Project population by age for all 87 counties in Minnesota following the methodology outlined in the methodology document associated with Minnesota State Demographic Center's most recent county population projections dataset: [https://mn.gov/admin/assets/methodology-2015-2050-mn-counties-projections-by-age-sex-msdc-march2017\\_tcm36-284991.pdf](https://mn.gov/admin/assets/methodology-2015-2050-mn-counties-projections-by-age-sex-msdc-march2017_tcm36-284991.pdf)

**STEP 2:** Apply the labor force participation rate in the American Community Survey 2011-2015 to the projected population in each age cohort and each county, and hold that rate constant over the projections horizon.

This limited county-level analysis is a simple extrapolation of current labor force participation rates measured by the American Community Survey's most recent dataset. Each age cohort within each county has a rate of labor force participation that remains unchanged in this dataset. Changes occurring in the labor force numbers in this dataset are due to the components of demographic change—births, deaths, and migration.

For more information regarding the methodology described here, please contact Megan Dayton at [megan.dayton@state.mn.us](mailto:megan.dayton@state.mn.us) (preferred) or 651.201.2461.