

**COUNTY PROFILE**

**Wright Co.**

Wright Co. is a part of Economic Development Region 7W, which is located in the Central Planning Region.



**POPULATION CHARACTERISTICS**

2023 population: **151,150 people**

Population change, 2020-2023: **9,813 people**  
**6.9% increase**

Median Age: **37.4 years**

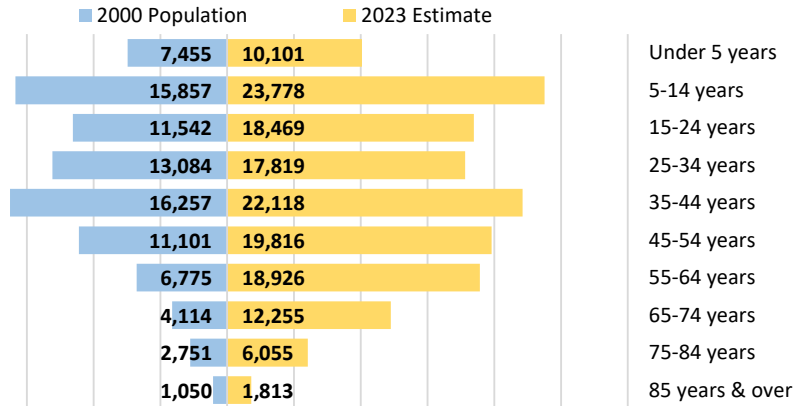
state: **38.6 years**

Wright Co. is the 10th largest of the 87 counties in the state. Its population increased so far this decade, ranking as the 1st fastest growing in the state from 2020 to 2023. Wright Co.'s population has a younger median age than the state and a smaller percentage of people aged 65 years and older. The population is aging, especially as the Baby Boom generation moves through the population pyramid (see Figure 1).

	Number	Percent
Under 5 years	10,101	6.7%
5-14 years	23,778	15.7%
15-24 years	18,469	12.2%
25-34 years	17,819	11.8%
35-44 years	22,118	14.6%
45-54 years	19,816	13.1%
55-64 years	18,926	12.5%
65-74 years	12,255	8.1%
75-84 years	6,055	4.0%
85 years & over	1,813	1.2%
<b>Total Population</b>	<b>151,150</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

Source: Census 2023 Population Estimates, 2019-2023 ACS

Figure 1. Population Pyramid, 2000-2023



Wright Co. enjoyed a natural increase - more births than deaths from 2020 to 2023, but also experienced net in-migration - meaning more people moved in than moved out. In addition to domestic in-migration, Wright Co. welcomed net international in-migration - gaining new Minnesotans from foreign countries (see Table 2).

Table 2. Cumulative Estimates of the Components of Population Change, 2020-2023

	Total Population Change	April 1, 2020 to July 1, 2023					
		Natural Increase	Vital Events		Net Migration		
			Births	Deaths	Total	International	Domestic
Wright Co.	9,801	2,577	6,017	3,440	7,224	309	6,915
State of Minnesota	31,111	40,368	207,857	167,489	-11,352	34,624	-45,976

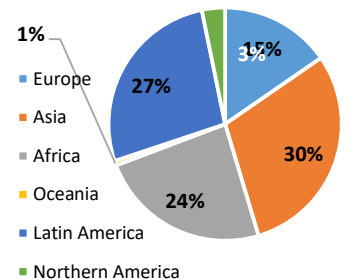
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Population Estimates Program

Compared to the state, Wright Co. has a smaller percentage of foreign-born residents. From 2013 to 2023, Wright Co. saw an increase in the number of foreign-born residents, which was faster than the statewide increase.

	Wright Co.		Change 2013-2023		Minnesota	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Percent	Change
<b>Foreign-born Population</b>	<b>5,631</b>	<b>3.9%</b>	<b>1,832</b>	<b>48.2%</b>	<b>8.6%</b>	<b>24.7%</b>
Europe	866	15.4%	294	51.4%	8.8%	-3.4%
Asia	1,689	30.0%	540	47.0%	35.7%	18.1%
Africa	1,344	23.9%	1,041	343.6%	28.3%	78.8%
Oceania	36	0.6%	13	56.5%	0.4%	5.4%
Americas:	1,696	30.1%	-56	-3.2%	26.7%	8.7%
Latin America	1,515	26.9%	-13	-0.9%	24.2%	9.7%
Northern America	181	3.2%	-43	-19.2%	2.5%	0.4%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2019-2023 American Community Survey

Figure 2. Place of Birth for the Foreign Born Population, 2023



## COUNTY PROFILE

Wright Co.

Wright Co.'s population was becoming more racially diverse over time. Since 2013, the white population increased and the number of people of other races increased (see Table 4).

**Figure 3. Population by Race, 2023**

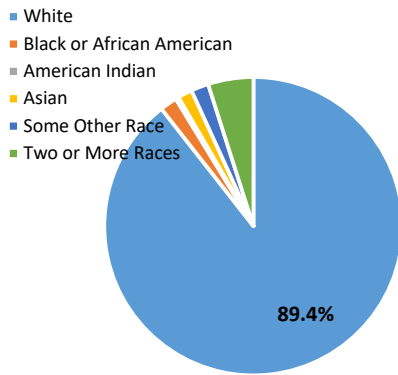


Table 4. Race and Hispanic Origin, 2023	Wright Co.			Minnesota	
	Number	Percent	Change from 2013-2023	Percent	Change from 2013-2023
<b>Total</b>	<b>145,270</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>15.2%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>6.8%</b>
White	129,900	89.4%	9.0%	78.4%	-2.2%
Black or African American	2,707	1.9%	116.2%	6.8%	38.9%
American Indian or Alaska Native	489	0.3%	-7.4%	0.9%	-11.6%
Asian or Other Pac. Islanders	2,266	1.6%	60.3%	5.1%	29.6%
Some Other Race	2,757	1.9%	66.2%	2.7%	96.1%
Two or More Races	7,151	4.9%	241.3%	6.2%	168.3%
Hispanic or Latino origin	5,077	3.5%	57.7%	6.2%	37.5%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2019-2023 American Community Survey

## POPULATION PROJECTIONS

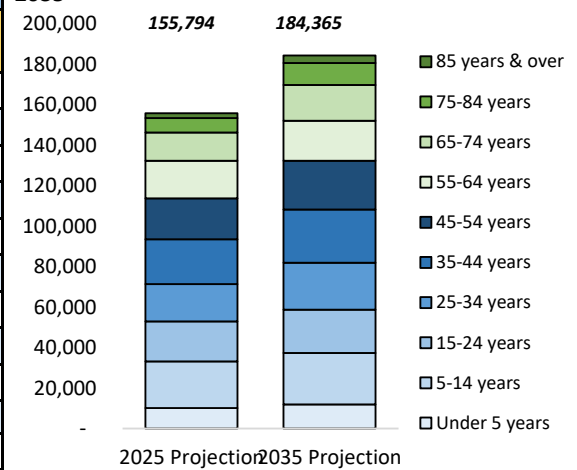
According to the Minnesota State Demographic Center, Wright Co.'s population is expected to grow from 2025 to 2035, with a rate of change that is faster than the projected statewide growth rate (3.7%). In addition to the overall growth, the number of people aged 65 years and older is expected to increase over the next decade (see Figure 4 and Table 5).

**Table 5. Population Projections by Age Group, 2025-2035**

Wright Co.	2025 Projection	2035 Projection	Numeric Change	Percent Change
Under 5 years	10,157	11,922	1,765	17.4%
5-14 years	22,962	25,417	2,455	10.7%
15-24 years	19,859	21,349	1,490	7.5%
25-34 years	18,390	23,298	4,908	26.7%
35-44 years	22,154	26,250	4,096	18.5%
45-54 years	20,249	24,127	3,878	19.2%
55-64 years	18,593	19,813	1,220	6.6%
65-74 years	14,048	17,655	3,607	25.7%
75-84 years	7,011	10,841	3,830	54.6%
85 years & over	2,371	3,693	1,322	55.8%
<b>Total Population</b>	<b>155,794</b>	<b>184,365</b>	<b>28,571</b>	<b>18.3%</b>

Source: Minnesota State Demographic Center

**Figure 4. Projections by Age Group, 2025-2035**

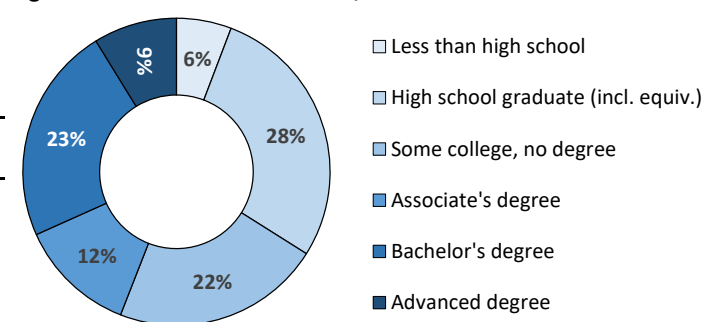


## EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT

Wright Co. has a higher percentage of adults (18 years & over) with at least a high school diploma than the state (93.2%), and a lower percentage of people with at least some college experience. Wright Co. also has a higher percentage of people with an Associate's degree and a lower percentage of people with a Bachelor's degree or higher.

<b>Percentage of the adult population (18 years &amp; over) with at least a high school diploma:</b>	<b>94.2%</b>
<b>College-educated:</b>	<b>66.1%</b>
state:	68.8%
<b>Associate's Degree:</b>	<b>12.4%</b>
<b>Bachelor's Degree:</b>	<b>22.9%</b>
<b>Advanced Degree:</b>	<b>8.8%</b>

**Figure 5. Educational Attainment, 2023**



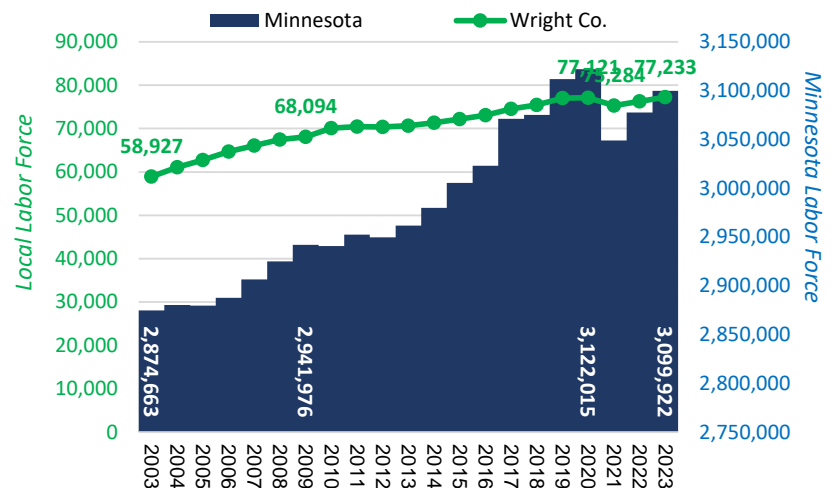
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2019-2023 American Community Survey

LABOR FORCE TRENDS

At 2.9%, Wright Co. had a higher unemployment rate than the state in 2023. After the pandemic recession Wright Co.'s unemployment rate declined compared to the 3.3% pre-pandemic rate posted in 2019. The number of unemployed workers actively seeking work in Wright Co. increased over the past year, and is down compared to 2019.

<b>77,233</b> available workers	
Labor Force change, 2008-2023	9,793 workers 14.5% increase
<b>2.9%</b> unemployment rate	2.8% state
<b>2,240</b> unemployed workers	

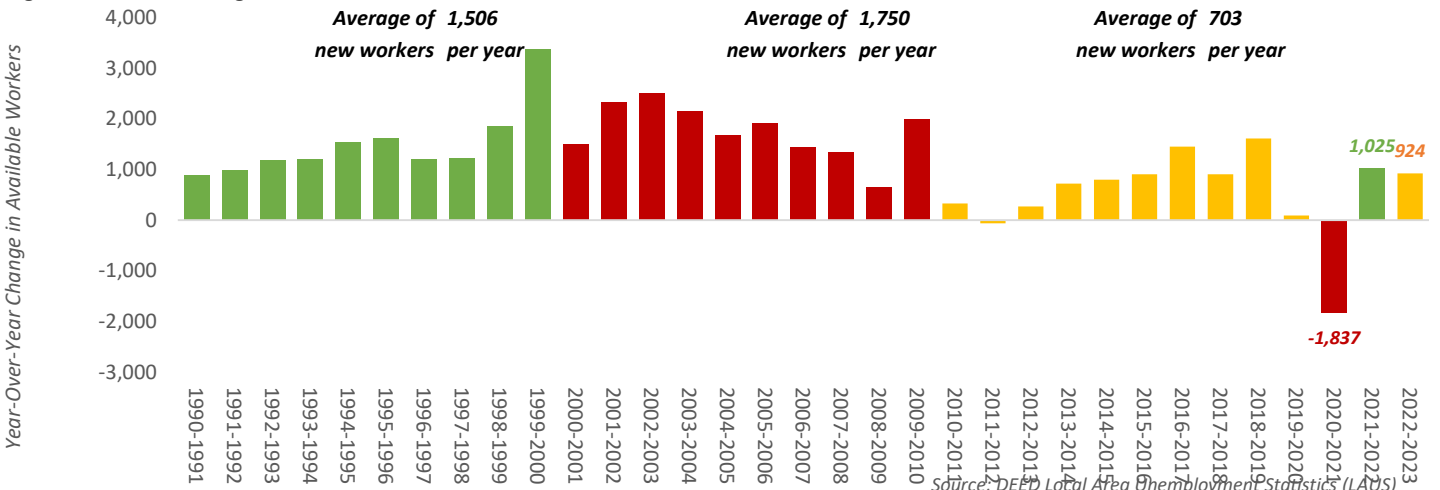
Figure 6. Annual Labor Force Estimates



Source: DEED Local Area Unemployment Statistics

Labor force growth has slowed in recent years. After experiencing a net gain of workers each year from 1990 to 2000, Wright Co. averaged an annual gain of new workers from 2000 to 2010, and most recently a gain of new workers since 2010 (see Figure 7). Moving forward, Wright Co. is expected to add workers from 2025 to 2035 (see Table 6).

Figure 7. Annual Change in Labor Force, 1990-2023



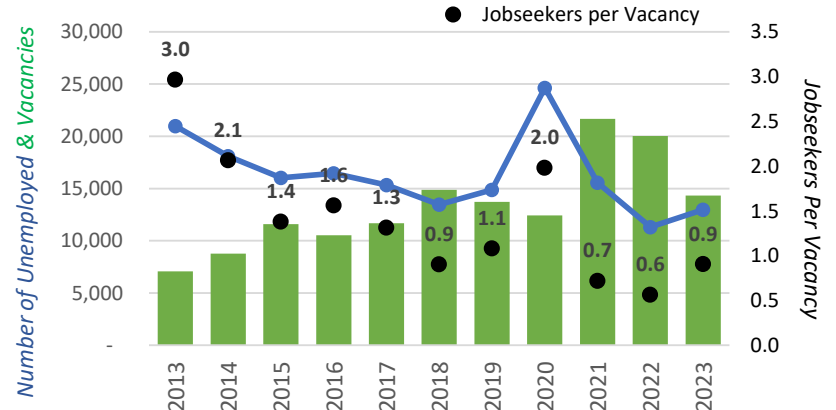
Source: DEED Local Area Unemployment Statistics (LAUS)

	Labor Force Projection	
	2025	2035
16 to 24 years	12,091	13,151
25 to 54 years	55,024	66,675
55 to 64 years	14,336	15,276
65 years & over	4,515	5,820
<b>Total Labor Force</b>	<b>85,965</b>	<b>100,921</b>

Source: Minnesota State Demographic Center, 2019-2023 ACS

The labor market had grown extremely tight in recent years, with less than 1 jobseeker per vacancy until the pandemic recession intervened in early 2020 and the number of unemployed workers spiked. In 2023, job vacancies in Central returned to pre-pandemic levels, but employers are still seeing challenges finding enough workers for open jobs (see Figure 8).

Figure 8. Jobseekers Per Vacancy, 2013-2023



Source: DEED Job Vacancy Survey, LAUS program

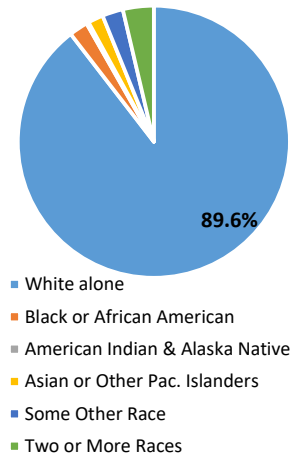
**LABOR FORCE CHARACTERISTICS**

Wright Co. had a higher labor force participation rate than the state. The labor force in Wright Co. is less racially diverse than the state (where 80.0% of workers are white alone), but is becoming more diverse over time.

**Table 7. Employment Characteristics, 2023**

	Wright Co.			Minnesota		Labor Force by Gender	
	In Labor Force (available workers)	Labor Force Partic. Rate	Unemp. Rate	Labor Force Partic. Rate	Unemp. Rate	Male	Female
<b>Total Labor Force</b>	<b>80,297</b>	<b>72.7%</b>	<b>2.1%</b>	<b>68.5%</b>	<b>3.9%</b>	<b>43,378</b>	<b>36,898</b>
16 to 19 years	4,214	51.2%	4.6%	52.7%	9.9%	2,360	1,854
20 to 24 years	6,289	86.6%	2.9%	83.4%	6.5%	3,446	2,841
25 to 44 years	34,475	89.8%	2.0%	88.7%	3.5%	18,305	16,177
45 to 54 years	17,502	91.9%	1.6%	87.8%	2.9%	9,520	7,991
55 to 64 years	14,025	77.1%	2.2%	72.8%	3.0%	7,669	6,350
65 to 74 years	3,369	28.6%	2.3%	27.8%	3.4%	1,821	1,544
75 years & over	401	5.3%	0.0%	6.6%	3.1%	257	141
<b>Employment Characteristics by Race &amp; Hispanic Origin</b>							
White alone	71,908	71.9%	2.2%	67.5%	3.4%		
Black or African American	1,786	86.8%	4.3%	71.0%	8.4%		
American Indian & Alaska Native	220	64.1%	10.9%	57.7%	11.4%		
Asian or Other Pac. Islanders	1,459	82.5%	1.3%	74.6%	3.5%		
Some Other Race	1,991	87.9%	0.6%	75.9%	5.6%		
Two or More Races	2,947	73.6%	1.1%	74.2%	6.1%		
Hispanic or Latino	2,675	79.6%	0.0%	77.1%	5.9%		
<b>Employment Characteristics by Disability, 20 to 64 years</b>							
With Any Disability, 20 to 64 years	2,969	56.7%	6.9%	55.3%	9.5%		
<b>Employment Characteristics by Educational Attainment, 25 to 64 years</b>							
Population, 25 to 64 years	66,015	87.3%	1.9%	84.4%	3.3%		
Less than H.S. Diploma	2,549	75.1%	2.4%	67.1%	4.7%		
H.S. Diploma or Equivalent	14,330	80.5%	2.0%	76.5%	2.6%		
Some College or Assoc. Degree	22,994	87.4%	2.2%	85.0%	3.6%		
Bachelor's Degree or Higher	26,119	92.9%	1.3%	90.5%	2.0%		

**Figure 9. Labor Force by Race, 2023**



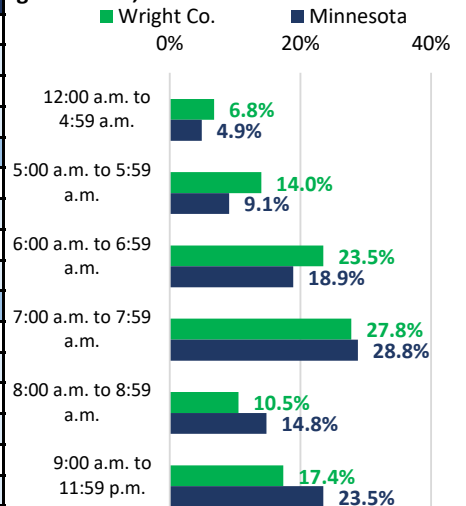
Source: 2019-2023 American Community Survey, 5-Year Estimates

A smaller percentage of workers in Wright Co. worked in the same county in which they live compared to the state. Wright Co. also had a longer average commute time than the state.

**Table 8. Commuting Characteristics, 2022**

	Wright Co.		Minnesota	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Worked in state of residence	77,120	99.6%	2,870,678	97.8%
Worked in county of residence	37,708	48.7%	1,984,232	67.6%
Worked out of county of residence	39,412	50.9%	886,447	30.2%
Worked outside state of residence	310	0.4%	64,576	2.2%
<b>MEANS OF TRANSPORTATION TO WORK</b>				
Car, truck, or van	65,893	85.1%	2,286,563	77.9%
Public transportation (excl. taxicab)	310	0.4%	61,640	2.1%
Other method (walk, bike, taxi, etc.)	1,239	1.6%	120,345	4.1%
Worked at home	10,066	13.0%	463,770	15.8%
<b>TRAVEL TIME TO WORK</b>				
Less than 10 minutes	9,369	12.1%	478,446	16.3%
10 to 19 minutes	15,563	20.1%	924,605	31.5%
20 to 29 minutes	12,853	16.6%	651,626	22.2%
30 to 44 minutes	21,293	27.5%	551,828	18.8%
45 to 59 minutes	10,376	13.4%	176,115	6.0%
60 or more minutes	7,898	10.2%	149,698	5.1%
<b>Mean travel time to work (minutes)</b>	<b>30.3 minutes</b>		<b>23.1 minutes</b>	

**Figure 10. Time Leaving Home to go to Work, 2023**



Source: 2019-2023 American Community Survey, 5-Year Estimates

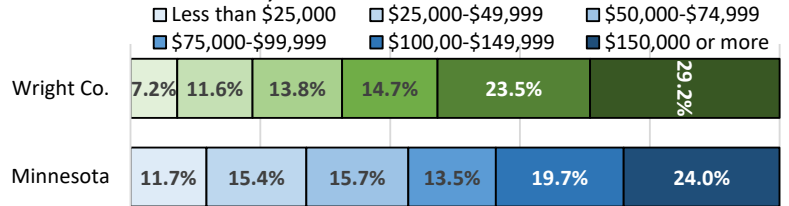
**INCOMES, COST OF LIVING, & HOUSING**

Wright Co. had a higher median household income than the state, and a lower percentage of households with incomes below \$50,000. Overall, Wright Co. had the 4th highest median household income of the 87 counties in the state.

<b>Median Household Income</b>	<b>\$106,666</b>
state	\$87,556
<b>Median Family Income</b>	<b>\$123,867</b>
state	\$111,492
<b>Per Capita Income</b>	<b>\$44,946</b>
state	\$46,957

Source: 2019-2023 American Community Survey

Figure 11. Household Incomes, 2023



Source: 2019-2023 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates

The cost of living has increased over the past 2 years with costs up in many areas. Wright Co. had a higher cost of living than the state, with a required hourly wage of \$18.19 for a single person living alone to meet a basic needs cost of living, and an hourly wage requirement of \$22.61 for a typical family with 2 adults and 1 child (see Table 9).

Table 9. Basic Needs Cost of Living Estimates, 2023

Single Adult, 0 children	Single Yearly Cost of Living	Hourly Wage Required	Monthly Costs						
			Child Care	Food	Health Care	Housing	Transportation	Other	Taxes
Wright Co.	\$37,839	\$18.19	\$0	\$403	\$157	\$1,168	\$622	\$376	\$427
State of Minnesota	\$34,704	\$16.68	\$0	\$419	\$160	\$1,021	\$572	\$345	\$375
Typical Family: 2 Adults (1 working full-time, 1 part-time), 1 child	Family Yearly Cost of Living	Hourly Wage Required	Monthly Costs						
			Child Care	Food	Health Care	Housing	Transportation	Other	Taxes
Wright Co.	\$70,532	\$22.61	\$458	\$918	\$567	\$1,456	\$1,107	\$568	\$804
State of Minnesota	\$67,320	\$21.58	\$544	\$955	\$574	\$1,285	\$977	\$536	\$739

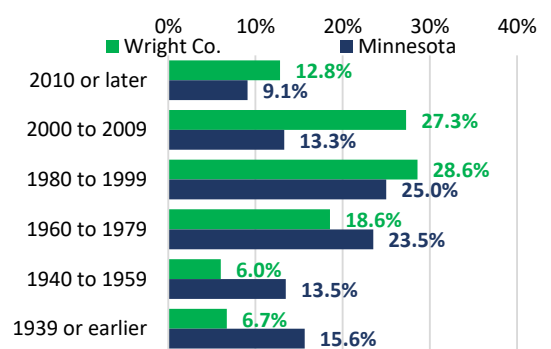
Source: DEED Cost of Living tool

Wright Co. had a higher median house value than the state, having the 6th highest value of the 87 counties in 2022. Wright Co.'s housing stock was newer than the state's, with a higher percentage of units built since 2000 (see Figure 12).

Table 10. Estimated Value of Owner-occupied Housing Units, 2022	Wright Co.		Minnesota
	Total	Percent	Percent
<b>Total</b>	<b>44,451</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>
Less than \$50,000	1,637	3.7%	4.0%
\$50,000 to \$99,999	671	1.5%	4.0%
\$100,000 to \$149,999	641	1.4%	6.2%
\$150,000 to \$199,999	2,425	5.5%	8.9%
\$200,000 to \$299,999	12,897	29.0%	25.7%
\$300,000 to \$499,999	18,957	42.6%	33.6%
\$500,000 or more	7,223	16.2%	17.5%
<b>Median (dollars)</b>	<b>\$332,800</b>		<b>\$305,500</b>

Source: 2019-2023 American Community Survey, 5-Year Estimates

Figure 12. Year Structure Built, 2023



<b>Median monthly owner costs, owner-occupied units with a mortgage</b>	<b>\$2,004</b>
state	\$1,890

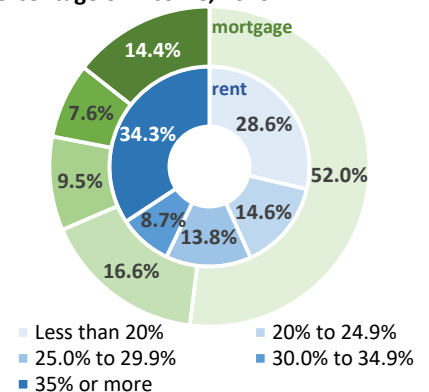
<b>Percentage of households with a mortgage spending 30% or more of their income on housing costs</b>	<b>22.0%</b>
state	22.5%

<b>Median monthly rent costs</b>	<b>\$1,246</b>
state	\$1,235

<b>Percentage of renters spending 30% or more of their household income on rent</b>	<b>42.9%</b>
state	47.2%

Source: 2019-2023 American Community Survey, 5-Year Estimates

Figure 13. Housing Costs as a Percentage of Income, 2023



OCCUPATIONS

At \$23.85 in 2024, wages were lower in Region 7W than the state. Overall, Region 7W had the 3rd highest median hourly wage level of the 13 economic development regions in the state. Wages were highest for management occupations (\$49.28) and lowest for food preparation and serving related jobs (\$14.86) (see Table 11).

Table 11. Occupational Employment & Wage Statistics, 2024

Occupational Group	Region 7W				State of Minnesota		
	Median Hourly Wage	Estimated Regional Jobs	Share of Total Jobs	Regional Location Quotient	Median Hourly Wage	Estimated Statewide Jobs	Share of Total Jobs
<b>Total, All Occupations</b>	<b>\$23.85</b>	<b>175,560</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>1.0</b>	<b>\$25.22</b>	<b>2,881,100</b>	<b>100.0%</b>
Management	\$49.28	10,050	5.7%	0.8	\$57.75	201,710	7.0%
Business & Financial Operations	\$36.54	7,440	4.2%	0.6	\$39.26	202,700	7.0%
Computer & Mathematical	\$39.21	2,020	1.2%	0.3	\$50.83	98,240	3.4%
Architecture & Engineering	\$40.46	2,180	1.2%	0.6	\$42.97	58,320	2.0%
Life, Physical & Social Science	\$38.17	970	0.6%	0.5	\$39.93	29,220	1.0%
Community & Social Service	\$29.06	3,000	1.7%	0.8	\$27.92	57,930	2.0%
Legal	\$42.84	610	0.3%	0.5	\$51.15	19,040	0.7%
Education, Training & Library	\$29.80	11,820	6.7%	1.2	\$28.22	163,340	5.7%
Arts, Design, Entertainment & Media	\$24.61	1,410	0.8%	0.6	\$29.01	36,160	1.3%
Healthcare Practitioners & Technical	\$41.29	11,000	6.3%	1.0	\$43.01	184,410	6.4%
Healthcare Support	\$17.97	9,000	5.1%	0.9	\$18.07	169,580	5.9%
Protective Service	\$30.48	2,750	1.6%	1.0	\$28.87	45,860	1.6%
Food Preparation & Serving Related	\$14.86	15,280	8.7%	1.1	\$15.07	232,190	8.1%
Building, Grounds Cleaning & Maint.	\$18.49	5,480	3.1%	1.1	\$18.83	79,660	2.8%
Personal Care & Service	\$17.27	3,330	1.9%	0.9	\$17.60	59,420	2.1%
Sales & Related	\$18.13	16,610	9.5%	1.1	\$18.82	242,440	8.4%
Office & Administrative Support	\$23.15	20,100	11.4%	0.9	\$23.86	352,250	12.2%
Farming, Fishing & Forestry	\$19.15	190	0.1%	0.9	\$22.13	3,520	0.1%
Construction & Extraction	\$31.65	10,400	5.9%	1.5	\$32.44	110,960	3.9%
Installation, Maintenance & Repair	\$29.23	7,460	4.2%	1.2	\$29.54	104,530	3.6%
Production	\$23.06	18,010	10.3%	1.5	\$23.05	203,810	7.1%
Transportation & Material Moving	\$22.19	16,470	9.4%	1.2	\$19.80	225,820	7.8%

Source: DEED Occupational Employment & Wage Statistics, Qtr. 1 2024

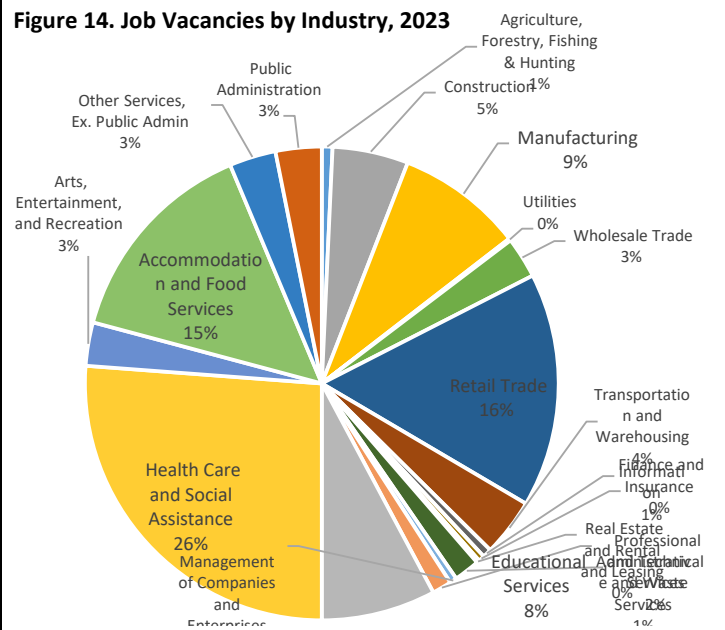
JOB VACANCY SURVEY

Wright Co. is a part of the Central planning region. There were 14320 job vacancies posted by employers in 2023, indicating extensive opportunity in the region, with openings across several occupations and industries (see Figure 14).

Table 12. Central Job Vacancy Survey Results, 2023

Occupational Group	Number of Vacancies	Wage Offer
<b>Total, All Occupations</b>	<b>14,320</b>	<b>\$19.13</b>
Management	281	\$28.24
Business & Financial Operations	220	\$26.20
Computer & Mathematical	132	\$32.07
Architecture & Engineering	230	\$30.57
Life, Physical & Social Sciences	60	\$31.02
Community & Social Service	417	\$25.91
Education, Training & Library	597	\$19.04
Healthcare Practitioners & Technical	1,967	\$28.25
Healthcare Support	1,097	\$17.11
Protective Service	272	\$24.39
Food Preparation & Serving Related	2,319	\$14.84
Building, Grounds Cleaning & Maint.	318	\$16.27
Personal Care & Service	433	\$14.55
Sales & Related	1,632	\$17.55
Office & Administrative Support	747	\$17.98
Construction & Extraction	297	\$23.74
Installation, Maintenance & Repair	589	\$24.92
Production	993	\$20.14
Transportation & Material Moving	1,275	\$19.17

Figure 14. Job Vacancies by Industry, 2023



Source: DEED Job Vacancy Survey, 2023

OCCUPATIONS IN DEMAND

Table 13. Central Planning Region Occupations in Demand, 2023

Less than High School	High School or Equivalent	Some College or Assoc. Deg.	Bachelor's Degree or Higher
Retail Salespersons \$35,817/yr	Heavy and Tractor-Trailer Truck Drivers \$60,953/yr	Registered Nurses \$97,279/yr	General and Operations Managers \$82,833/yr
Home Health and Personal Care Aides \$35,952/yr	Nursing Assistants \$40,289/yr	Radiologic Technologists and Technicians \$79,926/yr	Elementary School Teachers, Except Special Education \$65,116/yr
Fast Food and Counter Workers \$30,548/yr	Licensed Practical and Licensed Vocational Nurses \$58,035/yr	Police and Sheriff's Patrol Officers \$78,056/yr	Secondary School Teachers, Except Special and Career/Technical \$66,539/yr
Cashiers \$31,985/yr	Automotive Service Technicians and Mechanics \$49,872/yr	Industrial Engineering Technologists and Technicians \$64,316/yr	Medical and Health Services Managers \$108,690/yr
Stockers and Order Fillers \$38,723/yr	Machinists \$61,397/yr	Calibration Technologists and Technicians \$51,876/yr	Preschool Teachers, Except Special Education \$38,309/yr
Janitors and Cleaners, Except Maids and \$37,511/yr	Emergency Medical Technicians \$43,830/yr	Dental Hygienists \$95,926/yr	Accountants and Auditors \$73,436/yr
Waiters and Waitresses \$24,272/yr	Bookkeeping, Accounting, and Auditing Clerks \$49,071/yr	Detectives and Criminal Investigators \$77,932/yr	Child, Family, and School Social Workers \$65,914/yr
Childcare Workers \$32,303/yr	Electricians \$79,223/yr	Surgical Technologists \$66,288/yr	Industrial Engineers \$97,918/yr
First-Line Supervisors of Retail Sales Workers \$47,389/yr	Substance abuse, behavioral disorder, and mental health counselors \$54,808/yr	Human Resources Assistants, Except Payroll and Timekeeping \$49,531/yr	Project Management Specialists \$85,453/yr
Customer Service Representatives \$44,527/yr	Medical Assistants \$48,462/yr	Veterinary Technologists and Technicians \$46,438/yr	Special Education Teachers, Secondary School \$69,045/yr

Source: DEED Occupations in Demand

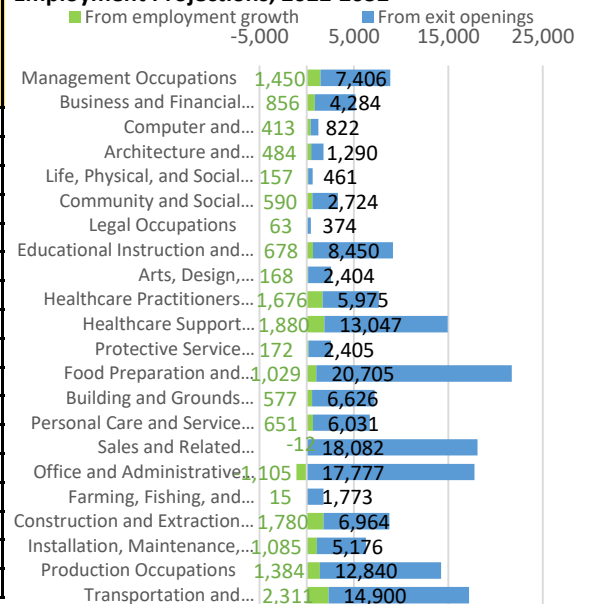
Wright Co. is a part of the Central planning region, which is projected to see a 5.2% increase in employment levels over the next decade. In addition to new jobs created, there will be a much larger number of exit openings (see Figure 15).

Table 14. Regional Industry Employment Projections, 2022-2032

	Estimated Employment 2022	Projected Employment 2032	Percent Change 2022-2032
<b>Central Planning Region</b>			
<b>Total, All Industries</b>	<b>315,929</b>	<b>332,231</b>	<b>5.2%</b>
Natural Resources & Mining	5,649	5,809	2.8%
Utilities	1,986	1,998	0.6%
Construction	20,532	22,780	10.9%
Manufacturing	41,539	44,543	7.2%
Wholesale Trade	11,219	12,105	7.9%
Retail Trade	35,711	35,808	0.3%
Transportation & Warehousing	9,287	10,143	9.2%
Information	3,002	3,214	7.1%
Finance & Insurance, Real Estate	10,142	10,528	3.8%
Professional Services & Mgmt. of Companies	9,040	9,979	10.4%
Admin. Support & Waste Mgmt.	10,369	11,004	6.1%
Educational Services	24,622	24,913	1.2%
Health Care & Social Assistance	45,668	49,836	9.1%
Leisure & Hospitality	26,046	27,642	6.1%
Other Services	10,880	11,311	4.0%
Public Administration	20,424	21,077	3.2%

Source: DEED 2022-2032 Employment Outlook

Figure 15. Regional Occupational Employment Projections, 2022-2032



ECONOMIC CHARACTERISTICS

Coming out of the pandemic recession, after gaining jobs over the past year, Wright Co. had the 10th largest economy of the 87 counties in the state. Wright Co. was the 17th fastest growing in the past year and the 10th fastest growing since 2019. From 2019 to 2023, employment in Wright Co. grew despite the pandemic recession.

**3,852** business establishments

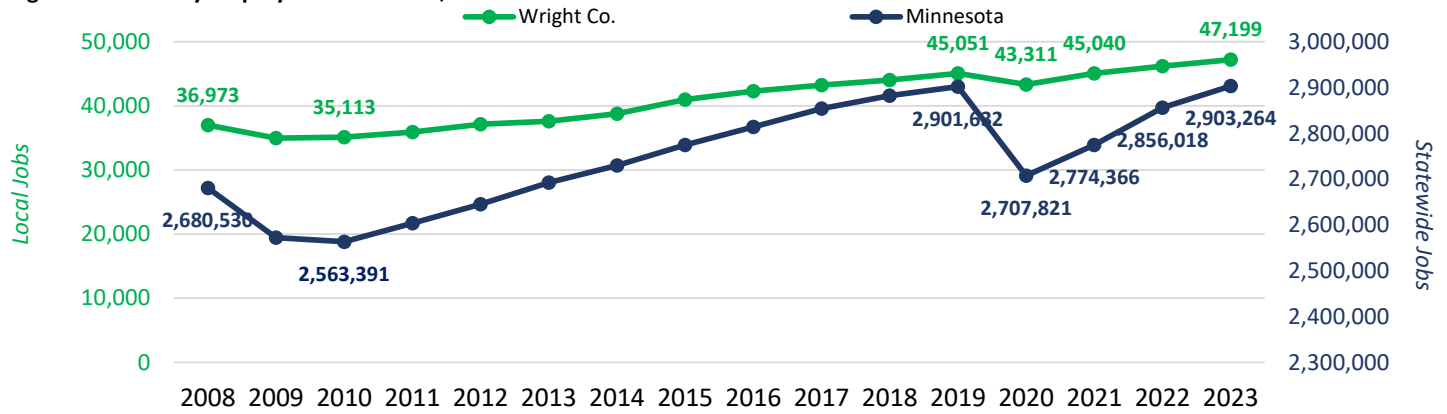
**\$53,585** annual average wage

**47,199** jobs

**\$2,529,155,962** total industry payroll

Job change, 2019-2023: 2,148 jobs, 4.8% increase

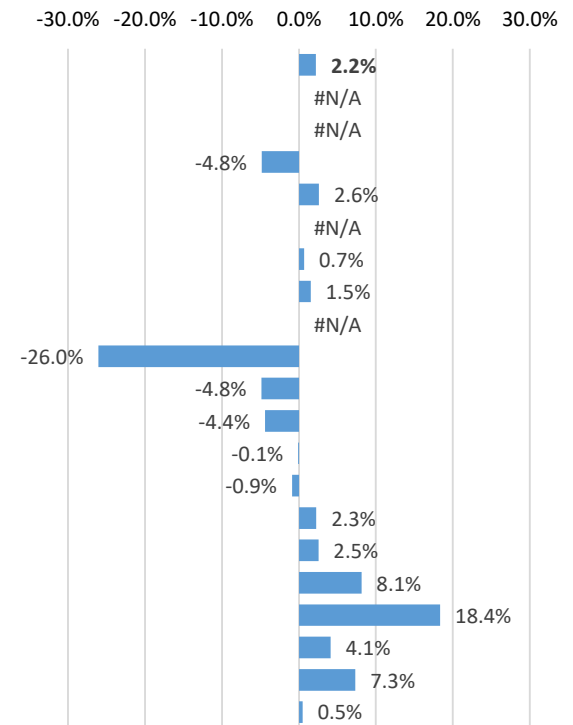
Figure 16. Industry Employment Statistics, 2008-2023



Source: DEED QCEW program

Table 15. Wright Co. Industry Employment Statistics, 2023	Number of Jobs	Percent of Total Jobs	Average Annual Wage
<b>Total, All Industries</b>	<b>47,199</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>\$53,585</b>
Agriculture, Forestry, Fish & Hunt	692	1.5%	\$12,284
Mining	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A
Construction	4,572	9.7%	\$79,025
Manufacturing	6,904	14.6%	\$72,840
Utilities	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A
Wholesale Trade	1,663	3.5%	\$76,694
Retail Trade	7,190	15.2%	\$31,853
Transportation & Warehousing	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A
Information	247	0.5%	\$64,190
Finance & Insurance	805	1.7%	\$84,761
Real Estate & Rental & Leasing	217	0.5%	\$48,000
Professional & Technical Services	964	2.0%	\$65,598
Management of Companies	222	0.5%	\$77,155
Admin. Support & Waste Mgmt. Svcs.	1,719	3.6%	\$55,138
Educational Services	4,786	10.1%	\$51,043
Health Care & Social Assistance	6,057	12.8%	\$48,338
Arts, Entertainment, & Recreation	877	1.9%	\$16,331
Accommodation & Food Services	4,437	9.4%	\$21,260
Other Services	1,608	3.4%	\$34,935
Public Administration	1,647	3.5%	\$57,797

Figure 17. Change in Jobs, 2022-2023



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

For more information on Wright Co.'s population, labor force, and economic trends, contact:

**Luke Greiner** | Regional Analyst, Central & Southwest  
 CareerForce St. Cloud | 1542 Northway Dr. Door 2 | St. Cloud MN 56303  
 Office: 320-223-6992 | E-mail: luke.greiner@state.mn.us  
 web: [www.mn.gov/deed/data/regional-lmi/](http://www.mn.gov/deed/data/regional-lmi/)

Data updated: December 31, 2024