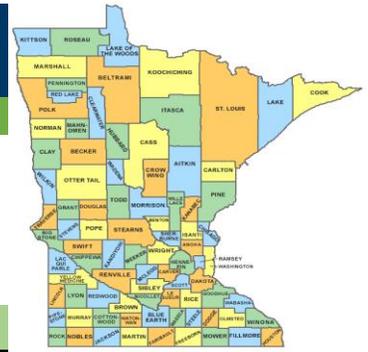


**COUNTY PROFILE**

**Koochiching Co.**

Koochiching Co. is a part of Economic Development Region 3, which is located in the Northeast Planning Region.



**POPULATION CHARACTERISTICS**

2024 population:	<b>11,594 people</b>	Median Age:	<b>50.5 years</b>
Population change, 2020-2024	-468 people -3.9% decline	state:	38.6 years

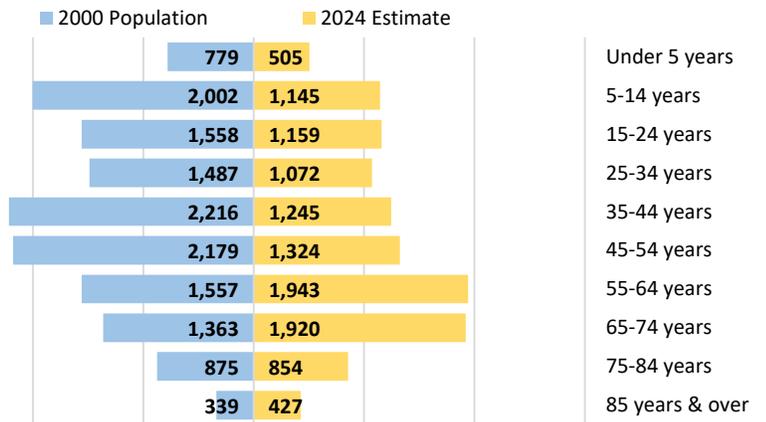
Koochiching Co. is the 62nd largest of the 87 counties in the state. Its population decreased so far this decade, ranking as the 85th fastest growing in the state from 2020 to 2024. Koochiching Co.'s population has an older median age than the state and a larger percentage of people aged 65 years and older. The population is aging, especially as the Baby Boom generation moves through the population pyramid (see Figure 1).

**Table 1. Population by Age Group, 2024**

	Number	Percent
Under 5 years	505	4.4%
5-14 years	1,145	9.9%
15-24 years	1,159	10.0%
25-34 years	1,072	9.2%
35-44 years	1,245	10.7%
45-54 years	1,324	11.4%
55-64 years	1,943	16.8%
65-74 years	1,920	16.6%
75-84 years	854	7.4%
85 years & over	427	3.7%
<b>Total Population</b>	<b>11,594</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

Source: Census 2024 Population Estimates, 2019-2023 ACS

**Figure 1. Population Pyramid, 2000-2024**



Koochiching Co. suffered a negative natural increase - more deaths than births from 2020 to 2024, but also experienced net out-migration - meaning more people moved out than moved in. Despite suffering domestic out-migration, Koochiching 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, 2020-2024**

	Total Population Change	April 1, 2020 to July 1, 2024					
		Natural Increase	Vital Events		Net Migration		
			Births	Deaths	Total	International	Domestic
Koochiching Co.	-471	-372	418	790	-95	8	-103
State of Minnesota	86,459	51,570	268,689	217,119	33,161	81,091	-47,930

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

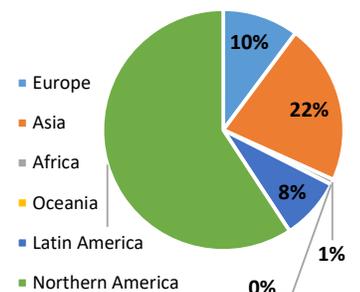
Compared to the state, Koochiching Co. has a smaller percentage of foreign-born residents. From 2013 to 2023, Koochiching Co. saw a decrease in the number of foreign-born residents, though it was slower than the statewide increase.

**Table 3. Place of Birth for the Foreign Born Population, 2023**

	Koochiching Co.		Change 2013-2023		Minnesota	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Percent	Change
<b>Foreign-born Population</b>	<b>422</b>	<b>3.5%</b>	<b>-254</b>	<b>-37.6%</b>	<b>8.6%</b>	<b>24.7%</b>
Europe	43	10.2%	-45	-51.1%	8.8%	-3.4%
Asia	91	21.6%	23	33.8%	35.7%	18.1%
Africa	3	0.7%	-9	-75.0%	28.3%	78.8%
Oceania	0	0.0%	0	#DIV/0!	0.4%	5.4%
Americas:	285	67.5%	-223	-43.9%	26.7%	8.7%
Latin America	35	8.3%	26	288.9%	24.2%	9.7%
Northern America	250	59.2%	-249	-49.9%	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

Koochiching Co.

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

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

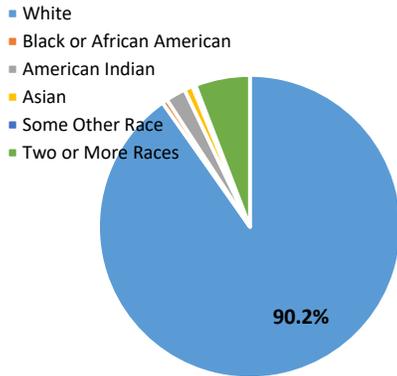


Table 4. Race and Hispanic Origin, 2023	Koochiching Co.			Minnesota	
	Number	Percent	Change from 2013-2023	Percent	Change from 2013-2023
<b>Total</b>	<b>11,950</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>-9.8%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>6.8%</b>
White	10,783	90.2%	-13.6%	78.4%	-2.2%
Black or African American	67	0.6%	-38.5%	6.8%	38.9%
American Indian or Alaska Native	253	2.1%	-35.0%	0.9%	-11.6%
Asian or Other Pac. Islanders	108	0.9%	71.4%	5.1%	29.6%
Some Other Race	42	0.4%	82.6%	2.7%	96.1%
Two or More Races	697	5.8%	280.9%	6.2%	168.3%
Hispanic or Latino origin	175	1.5%	60.6%	6.2%	37.5%

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

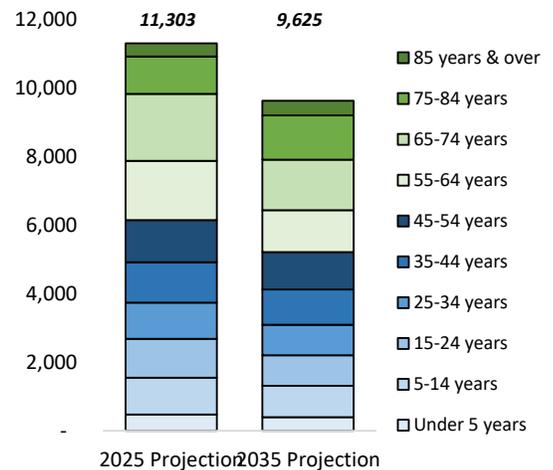
## POPULATION PROJECTIONS

According to the Minnesota State Demographic Center, Koochiching Co.'s population is expected to decline from 2025 to 2035, with a rate of change that is slower than the projected statewide growth rate (3.7%). Despite the decline, the number of people aged 65 years and older is expected to decrease over the next decade (see Figure 4 and Table 5).

Table 5. Population Projections by Age Group, 2025-2035				
Koochiching Co.	2025 Projection	2035 Projection	Numeric Change	Percent Change
Under 5 years	473	395	-78	-16.5%
5-14 years	1,078	914	-164	-15.2%
15-24 years	1,134	896	-238	-21.0%
25-34 years	1,053	884	-169	-16.0%
35-44 years	1,178	1,035	-143	-12.1%
45-54 years	1,226	1,088	-138	-11.3%
55-64 years	1,732	1,220	-512	-29.6%
65-74 years	1,955	1,472	-483	-24.7%
75-84 years	1,084	1,295	211	19.5%
85 years & over	390	426	36	9.2%
<b>Total Population</b>	<b>11,303</b>	<b>9,625</b>	<b>-1,678</b>	<b>-14.8%</b>

Source: Minnesota State Demographic Center

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



## EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT

Koochiching 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. Koochiching 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.

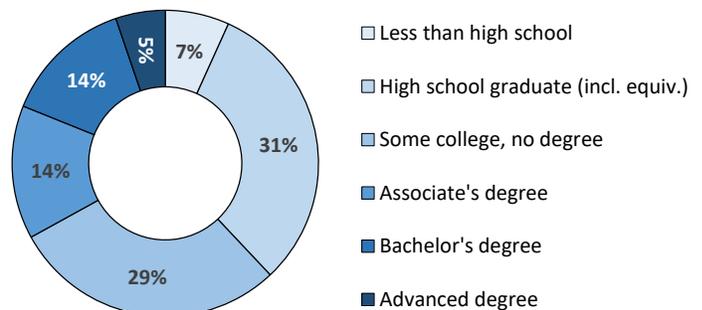
Percentage of the adult population (18 years & over) with at least a high school diploma:

**93.2%**

College-educated: **62.0%**  
state: 68.8%

Associate's Degree: **14.1%**  
Bachelor's Degree: **13.7%**  
Advanced Degree: **5.2%**

**Figure 5. Educational Attainment, 2023**



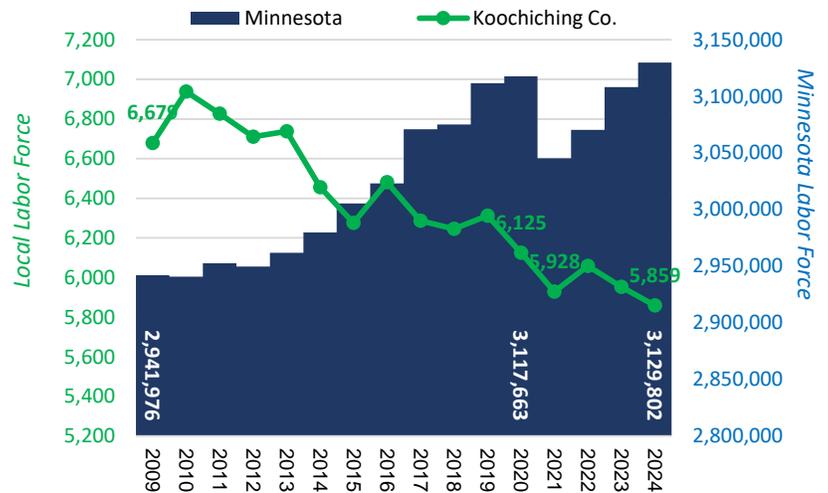
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2019-2023 American Community Survey

LABOR FORCE TRENDS

At 4.1%, Koochiching Co. had a higher unemployment rate than the state in 2024. After the pandemic recession Koochiching Co.'s unemployment rate declined compared to the 6.1% pre-pandemic rate posted in 2019. The number of unemployed workers actively seeking work in Koochiching Co. increased over the past year, and is down compared to 2019.

<b>5,859</b>	available workers
<i>Labor Force change, 2009-2024</i>	<b>-820 workers</b> <b>-12.3% decline</b>
<b>4.1%</b>	unemployment rate
<i>3.0%</i>	state
<b>240</b>	unemployed workers

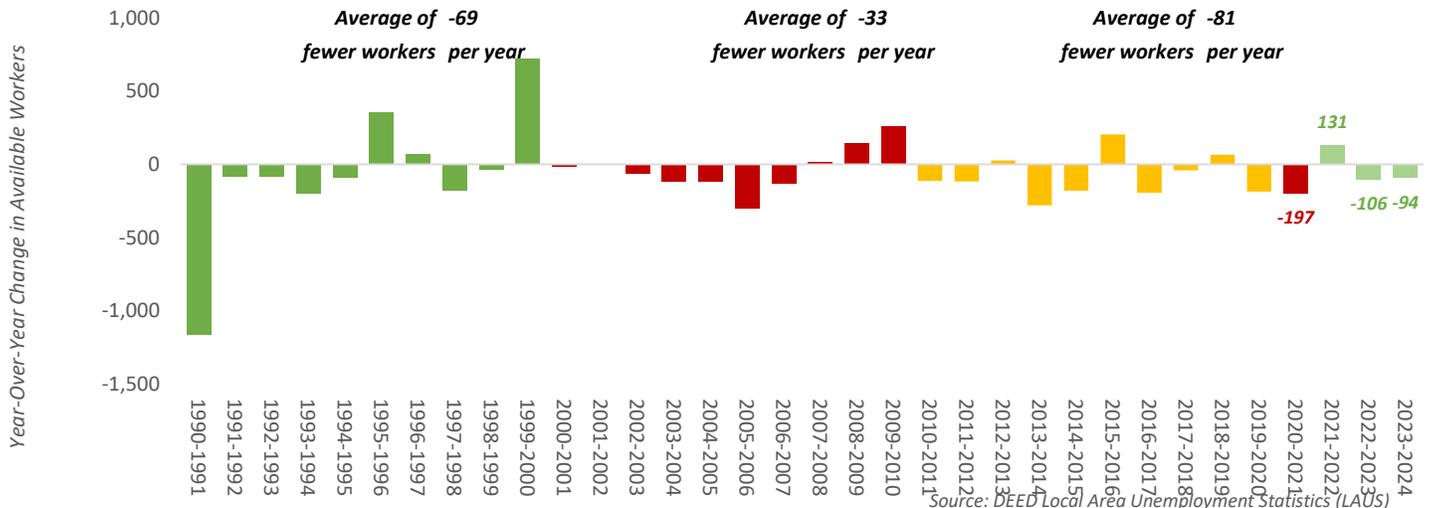
Figure 6. Annual Labor Force Estimates



Source: DEED Local Area Unemployment Statistics

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

Figure 7. Annual Change in Labor Force, 1990-2024



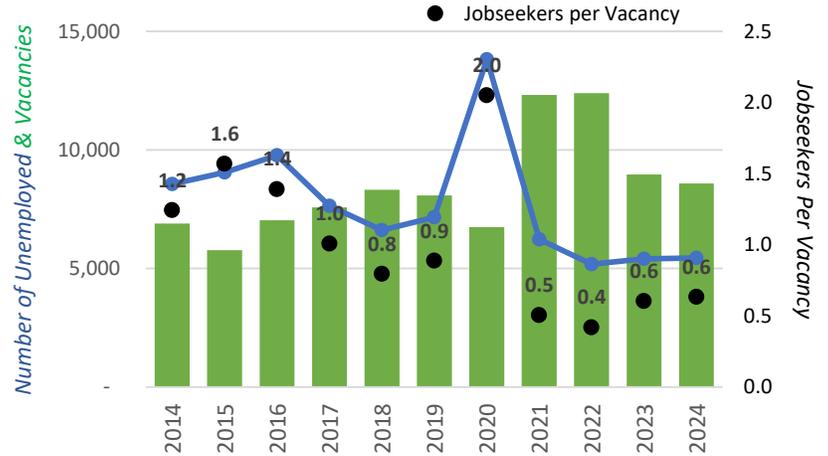
Source: DEED Local Area Unemployment Statistics (LAUS)

Table 6. Labor Force Projections, 2025-2035	Labor Force Projection	
	2025	2035
16 to 24 years	807	639
25 to 54 years	3,094	2,690
55 to 64 years	1,125	793
65 years & over	478	369
<b>Total Labor Force</b>	<b>5,504</b>	<b>4,490</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 2024, job vacancies in Northeast 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, 2014-2024



Source: DEED Job Vacancy Survey, LAUS program

**LABOR FORCE CHARACTERISTICS**

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

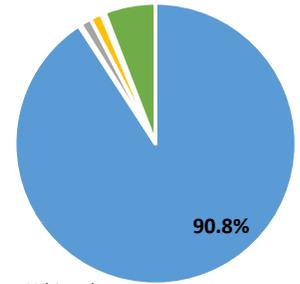
**Table 7. Employment Characteristics, 2023**

	Koochiching 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>5,947</b>	<b>59.1%</b>	<b>4.2%</b>	<b>68.5%</b>	<b>3.9%</b>	<b>3,030</b>	<b>2,913</b>
16 to 19 years	334	65.5%	23.7%	52.7%	9.9%	129	205
20 to 24 years	471	94.8%	0.8%	83.4%	6.5%	279	192
25 to 44 years	2,181	91.3%	4.8%	88.7%	3.5%	1,089	1,091
45 to 54 years	1,177	86.2%	2.6%	87.8%	2.9%	619	557
55 to 64 years	1,301	65.0%	1.4%	72.8%	3.0%	654	647
65 to 74 years	461	23.3%	2.6%	27.8%	3.4%	241	220
75 years & over	20	1.5%	0.0%	6.6%	3.1%	19	1

**Employment Characteristics by Race & Hispanic Origin**

White alone	5,401	58.8%	4.5%	67.5%	3.4%
Black or African American	16	27.6%	0.0%	71.0%	8.4%
American Indian & Alaska Native	75	35.4%	1.3%	57.7%	11.4%
Asian or Other Pac. Islanders	80	85.1%	0.0%	74.6%	3.5%
Some Other Race	26	68.4%	0.0%	75.9%	5.6%
Two or More Races	349	73.6%	0.6%	74.2%	6.1%
Hispanic or Latino	99	70.2%	0.0%	77.1%	5.9%

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



- White alone
- Black or African American
- American Indian & Alaska Native
- Asian or Other Pac. Islanders
- Some Other Race
- Two or More Races

**Employment Characteristics by Disability, 20 to 64 years**

With Any Disability, 20 to 64 years	430	52.2%	11.9%	55.3%	9.5%
-------------------------------------	-----	-------	-------	-------	------

**Employment Characteristics by Educational Attainment, 25 to 64 years**

Population, 25 to 64 years	4,657	80.9%	3.3%	84.4%	3.3%
Less than H.S. Diploma	92	39.3%	2.0%	67.1%	4.7%
H.S. Diploma or Equivalent	1,151	68.0%	0.0%	76.5%	2.6%
Some College or Assoc. Degree	2,240	86.9%	5.7%	85.0%	3.6%
Bachelor's Degree or Higher	1,174	93.8%	0.2%	90.5%	2.0%

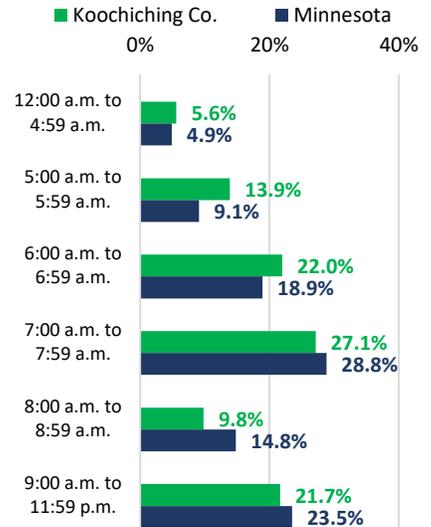
Source: 2019-2023 American Community Survey, 5-Year Estimates

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

**Table 8. Commuting Characteristics, 2022**

	Koochiching Co.		Minnesota	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Worked in state of residence	5,568	99.6%	2,870,678	97.8%
Worked in county of residence	5,221	93.4%	1,984,232	67.6%
Worked out of county of residence	347	6.2%	886,447	30.2%
Worked outside state of residence	22	0.4%	64,576	2.2%
<b>MEANS OF TRANSPORTATION TO WORK</b>				
Car, truck, or van	4,601	82.3%	2,286,563	77.9%
Public transportation (excl. taxicab)	22	0.4%	61,640	2.1%
Other method (walk, bike, taxi, etc.)	397	7.1%	120,345	4.1%
Worked at home	570	10.2%	463,770	15.8%
<b>TRAVEL TIME TO WORK</b>				
Less than 10 minutes	2,353	42.1%	478,446	16.3%
10 to 19 minutes	1,738	31.1%	924,605	31.5%
20 to 29 minutes	721	12.9%	651,626	22.2%
30 to 44 minutes	257	4.6%	551,828	18.8%
45 to 59 minutes	157	2.8%	176,115	6.0%
60 or more minutes	363	6.5%	149,698	5.1%
<b>Mean travel time to work (minutes)</b>	<b>16.3 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

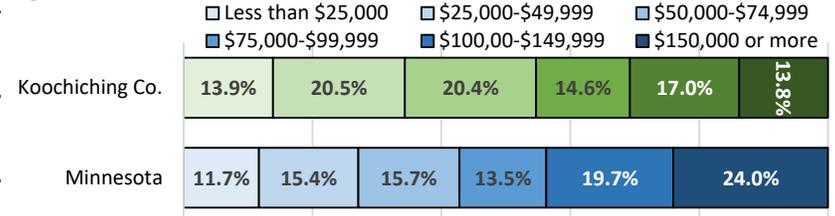
**INCOMES, COST OF LIVING, & HOUSING**

Koochiching Co. had a lower median household income than the state, and a higher percentage of households with incomes below \$50,000. Overall, Koochiching Co. had the 65th highest median household income of the 87 counties in the state.

<b>Median Household Income</b>	<b>\$69,115</b>
state	\$87,556
<b>Median Family Income</b>	<b>\$85,230</b>
state	\$111,492
<b>Per Capita Income</b>	<b>\$40,221</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. Koochiching Co. had a lower cost of living than the state, with a required hourly wage of \$13.36 for a single person living alone to meet a basic needs cost of living, and an hourly wage requirement of \$17.73 for a typical family with 2 adults and 1 child (see Table 9).

Table 9. Basic Needs Cost of Living Estimates, 2024

Single Adult, 0 children	Single Yearly Cost of Living	Hourly Wage Required	Monthly Costs						
			Child Care	Food	Health Care	Housing	Transportation	Other	Taxes
Koochiching Co.	\$27,788	\$13.36	\$0	\$414	\$150	\$699	\$534	\$257	\$262
State of Minnesota	\$36,768	\$17.68	\$0	\$424	\$156	\$1,154	\$573	\$365	\$392
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
Koochiching Co.	\$55,313	\$17.73	\$389	\$942	\$530	\$931	\$932	\$433	\$452
State of Minnesota	\$70,308	\$22.53	\$545	\$964	\$556	\$1,446	\$1,028	\$557	\$763

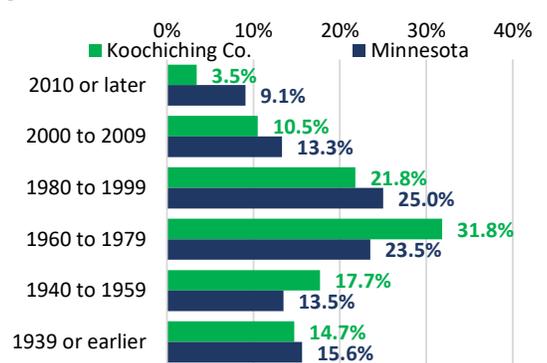
Source: DEED Cost of Living tool

Koochiching Co. had a lower median house value than the state, having the 80th highest value of the 87 counties in 2022. Koochiching Co.'s housing stock was older than the state's, with a lower percentage of units built since 2000 (see Figure 12).

Table 10. Estimated Value of Owner-occupied Housing Units, 2022	Koochiching Co.		Minnesota
	Total	Percent	Percent
<b>Total</b>	<b>4,683</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>
Less than \$50,000	505	10.8%	4.0%
\$50,000 to \$99,999	987	21.1%	4.0%
\$100,000 to \$149,999	928	19.8%	6.2%
\$150,000 to \$199,999	948	20.2%	8.9%
\$200,000 to \$299,999	635	13.6%	25.7%
\$300,000 to \$499,999	485	10.4%	33.6%
\$500,000 or more	195	4.2%	17.5%
<b>Median (dollars)</b>	<b>\$143,700</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>\$1,210</b>
state	\$1,890

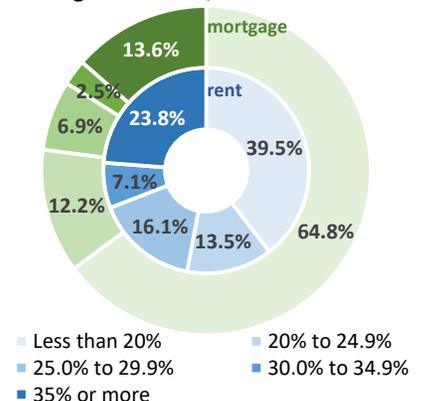
<b>Percentage of households with a mortgage spending 30% or more of their income on housing costs</b>	<b>16.1%</b>
state	22.5%

<b>Median monthly rent costs</b>	<b>\$774</b>
state	\$1,235

<b>Percentage of renters spending 30% or more of their household income on rent</b>	<b>30.9%</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 \$23.47 in 2024, wages were lower in Region 3 than the state. Overall, Region 3 had the 7th highest median hourly wage level of the 13 economic development regions in the state. Wages were highest for management occupations (\$46.38) and lowest for food preparation and serving related jobs (\$14.56) (see Table 11).

Table 11. Occupational Employment & Wage Statistics, 2025

Occupational Group	Region 3				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>\$23.47</b>	<b>139,940</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>1.0</b>	<b>\$26.22</b>	<b>2,920,470</b>	<b>100.0%</b>
Management	\$46.38	7,780	5.6%	0.8	\$59.38	200,060	6.9%
Business & Financial Operations	\$36.09	6,060	4.3%	0.6	\$39.95	208,210	7.1%
Computer & Mathematical	\$38.42	2,100	1.5%	0.4	\$50.02	97,460	3.3%
Architecture & Engineering	\$40.58	2,240	1.6%	0.8	\$45.03	57,950	2.0%
Life, Physical & Social Science	\$36.86	1,730	1.2%	1.1	\$38.33	32,150	1.1%
Community & Social Service	\$27.67	4,330	3.1%	1.5	\$29.82	59,290	2.0%
Legal	\$40.98	530	0.4%	0.5	\$49.52	20,750	0.7%
Education, Training & Library	\$25.07	8,410	6.0%	1.0	\$27.84	170,270	5.8%
Arts, Design, Entertainment & Media	\$23.54	1,280	0.9%	0.7	\$28.84	36,030	1.2%
Healthcare Practitioners & Technical	\$40.04	11,570	8.3%	1.3	\$46.51	187,480	6.4%
Healthcare Support	\$18.28	10,020	7.2%	1.2	\$18.67	176,750	6.1%
Protective Service	\$27.12	3,020	2.2%	1.3	\$29.37	46,960	1.6%
Food Preparation & Serving Related	\$14.56	14,420	10.3%	1.2	\$16.05	240,830	8.2%
Building, Grounds Cleaning & Maint.	\$17.77	4,660	3.3%	1.2	\$19.16	81,700	2.8%
Personal Care & Service	\$17.15	3,520	2.5%	1.2	\$17.54	63,300	2.2%
Sales & Related	\$16.71	11,750	8.4%	1.0	\$18.66	244,780	8.4%
Office & Administrative Support	\$22.70	16,400	11.7%	1.0	\$24.07	340,040	11.6%
Farming, Fishing & Forestry	\$24.08	230	0.2%	1.5	\$23.48	3,300	0.1%
Construction & Extraction	\$34.23	7,820	5.6%	1.4	\$34.20	114,050	3.9%
Installation, Maintenance & Repair	\$30.21	6,770	4.8%	1.3	\$30.40	105,650	3.6%
Production	\$25.14	6,360	4.5%	0.6	\$23.56	205,220	7.0%
Transportation & Material Moving	\$21.57	8,930	6.4%	0.8	\$19.80	228,260	7.8%

Source: DEED Occupational Employment & Wage Statistics, Qtr. 1 2025

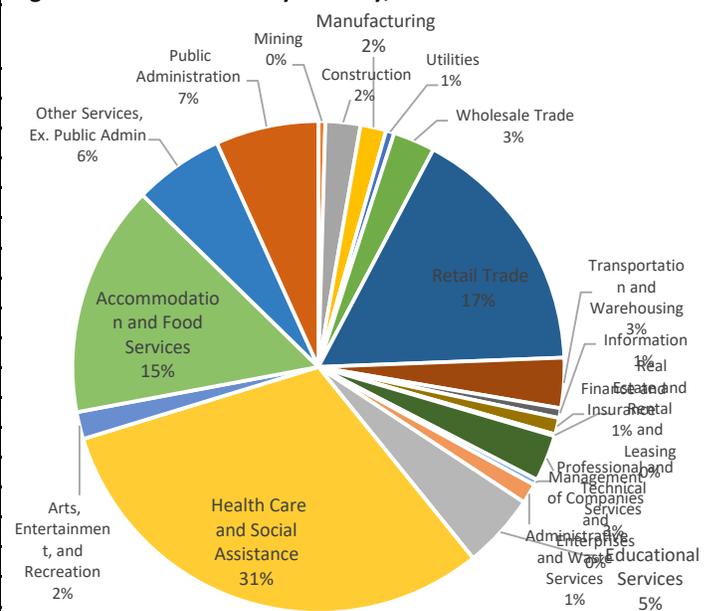
JOB VACANCY SURVEY

Koochiching Co. is a part of the Northeast planning region. There were 8587 job vacancies posted by employers in 2024, indicating extensive opportunity in the region, with openings across several occupations and industries (see Figure 14).

Table 12. Northeast Job Vacancy Survey Results, 2024

Occupational Group	Number of Vacancies	Wage Offer
<b>Total, All Occupations</b>	<b>8,587</b>	<b>\$18.66</b>
Management	185	\$50.94
Business & Financial Operations	276	\$26.51
Computer & Mathematical	30	\$29.91
Architecture & Engineering	305	\$31.47
Life, Physical & Social Sciences	77	\$28.87
Community & Social Service	229	\$20.86
Education, Training & Library	302	\$21.23
Healthcare Practitioners & Technical	1,091	\$39.45
Healthcare Support	976	\$17.84
Protective Service	79	\$20.78
Food Preparation & Serving Related	1,381	\$14.85
Building, Grounds Cleaning & Maint.	290	\$15.85
Personal Care & Service	453	\$16.99
Sales & Related	1,347	\$15.90
Office & Administrative Support	303	\$17.38
Construction & Extraction	61	\$24.60
Installation, Maintenance & Repair	331	\$22.85
Production	83	\$20.38
Transportation & Material Moving	435	\$19.58

Figure 14. Job Vacancies by Industry, 2024



Source: DEED Job Vacancy Survey, 2024

OCCUPATIONS IN DEMAND

Table 13. Northeast Planning Region Occupations in Demand, 2025

Less than High School	High School or Equivalent	Some College or Assoc. Deg.	Bachelor's Degree or Higher
Home Health and Personal Care Aides \$36,611/yr	Nursing Assistants \$43,783/yr	Registered Nurses \$84,451/yr	General and Operations Managers \$77,788/yr
Retail Salespersons \$33,817/yr	Heavy and Tractor-Trailer Truck Drivers \$62,124/yr	Radiologic Technologists and Technicians \$76,419/yr	Accountants and Auditors \$74,639/yr
Food Preparation Workers \$33,094/yr	Hairdressers, Hairstylists, and Cosmetologists \$39,033/yr	Police and Sheriff's Patrol Officers \$79,035/yr	Pharmacists \$143,951/yr
Fast Food and Counter Workers \$30,019/yr	Licensed Practical and Licensed Vocational Nurses \$57,976/yr	Veterinary Technologists and Technicians \$47,241/yr	Project Management Specialists \$94,155/yr
Janitors and Cleaners, Except Maids and \$37,249/yr	Medical Assistants \$47,235/yr	Dental Hygienists \$91,369/yr	Financial Managers \$128,471/yr
Waiters and Waitresses \$22,952/yr	Automotive Service Technicians and Mechanics \$53,239/yr	Surgical Technologists \$66,757/yr	Elementary School Teachers, Except Special Education \$61,345/yr
First-Line Supervisors of Food Preparation and \$43,418/yr	Substance abuse, behavioral disorder, and mental health counselors \$51,475/yr	Respiratory Therapists \$81,337/yr	Substitute Teachers, Short-Term \$41,454/yr
Cashiers \$29,732/yr	Bookkeeping, Accounting, and Auditing Clerks \$48,935/yr	Physical Therapist Assistants \$64,843/yr	Medical and Health Services Managers \$103,535/yr
Teaching Assistants, Except Postsecondary \$38,028/yr	Electricians \$85,688/yr	Civil Engineering Technologists and Technicians \$79,462/yr	Human Resources Specialists \$67,642/yr
Cooks, Restaurant \$36,715/yr	Pharmacy Technicians \$47,252/yr	Cardiovascular Technologists and Technicians \$86,132/yr	Industrial Engineers \$95,993/yr

Source: DEED Occupations in Demand

Koochiching Co. is a part of the Northeast planning region, which is projected to see a 3.3% 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

Northeast Planning Region	Estimated Employment 2022	Projected Employment 2032	Percent Change 2022-2032
<b>Total, All Industries</b>	<b>153,945</b>	<b>159,102</b>	<b>3.3%</b>
Natural Resources & Mining	5,228	5,268	0.8%
Utilities	1,352	1,342	-0.7%
Construction	7,006	7,544	7.7%
Manufacturing	8,777	9,016	2.7%
Wholesale Trade	3,202	3,359	4.9%
Retail Trade	16,565	16,360	-1.2%
Transportation & Warehousing	4,151	4,437	6.9%
Information	1,222	1,208	-1.1%
Finance & Insurance, Real Estate	5,827	5,846	0.3%
Professional Services & Mgmt. of Companies	5,808	6,264	7.9%
Admin. Support & Waste Mgmt.	3,097	3,231	4.3%
Educational Services	12,004	12,056	0.4%
Health Care & Social Assistance	31,799	33,864	6.5%
Leisure & Hospitality	17,159	18,243	6.3%
Other Services	5,953	6,118	2.8%
Public Administration	15,176	15,440	1.7%

Source: DEED 2022-2032 Employment Outlook

Figure 15. Regional Occupational Employment Projections, 2022-2032



ECONOMIC CHARACTERISTICS

Coming out of the pandemic recession, after losing jobs over the past year, Koochiching Co. had the 66th largest economy of the 87 counties in the state. Koochiching Co. was the 82nd fastest growing in the past year and the 70th fastest growing since 2020. From 2020 to 2024, employment in Koochiching Co. has grown since the pandemic recession.

426 business establishments

\$56,863 annual average wage

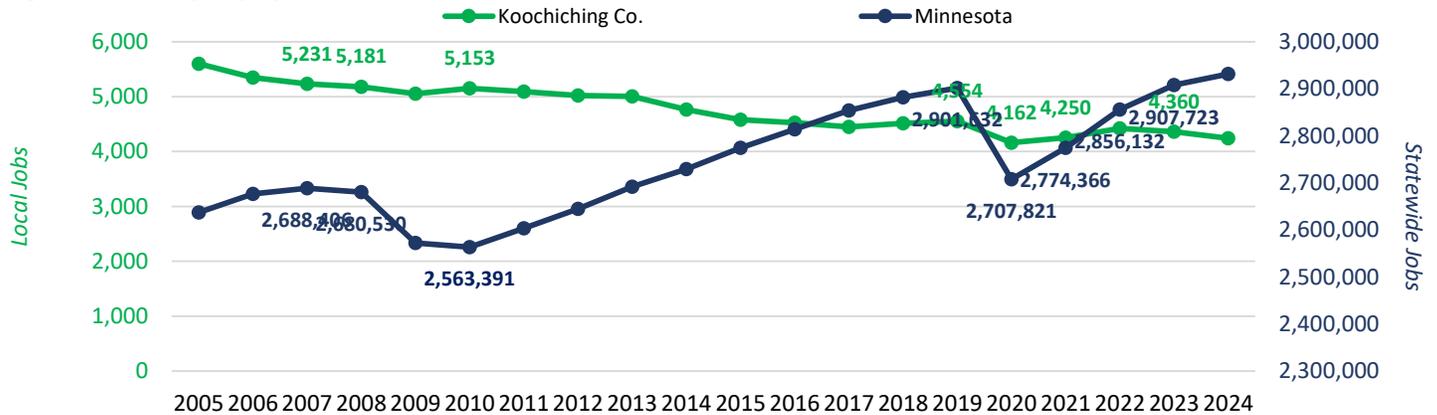
4,242 jobs

\$241,212,193 total industry payroll

Job change, 2020-2024: 80 jobs, 1.9% increase

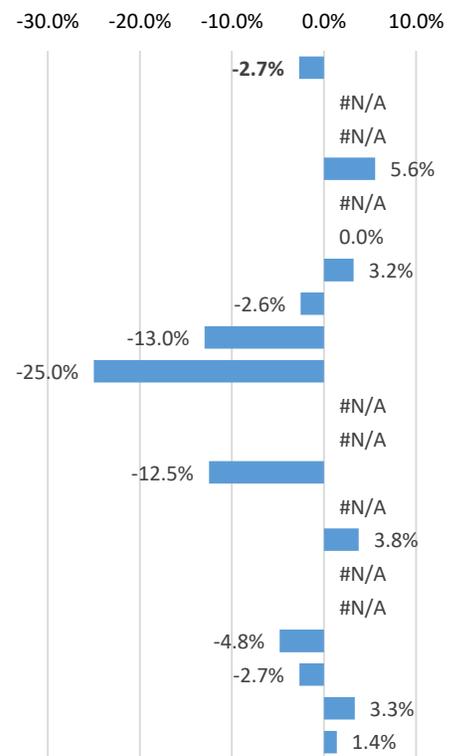
Figure 16. Industry Employment Statistics, 2005-2024

Source: DEED QCEW program



Industry	Number of Establishments	Number of Jobs	Percent of Total Jobs	Average Annual Wage
<b>Total, All Industries</b>	<b>426</b>	<b>4,242</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>\$56,863</b>
Agriculture, Forestry, Fish & Hunt	23	66	1.6%	\$10,123
Mining	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A
Construction	41	171	4.0%	\$76,546
Manufacturing	9	633	14.9%	\$25,059
Utilities	3	12	0.3%	\$109,283
Wholesale Trade	11	64	1.5%	\$53,823
Retail Trade	72	573	13.5%	\$30,649
Transportation & Warehousing	26	141	3.3%	\$58,647
Information	8	39	0.9%	\$37,193
Finance & Insurance	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A
Real Estate & Rental & Leasing	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A
Professional & Technical Services	15	35	0.8%	\$32,880
Management of Companies	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A
Admin. Support & Waste Mgmt. Svcs.	17	110	2.6%	\$28,203
Educational Services	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A
Health Care & Social Assistance	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A
Arts, Entertainment, & Recreation	14	99	2.3%	\$50,484
Accommodation & Food Services	50	582	13.7%	\$21,477
Other Services	35	93	2.2%	\$16,989
Public Administration	21	441	10.4%	\$67,080

Figure 17. Change in Jobs, 2023-2024



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

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

**Carson Gorecki** | Regional Analyst, Northeast Minnesota  
 CareerForce Duluth | 402 West 1st Street | Duluth MN 55802-1516  
 Office: 218-302-8413 | Email: carson.gorecki@state.mn.us  
 web: [www.mn.gov/deed/data/regional-lmi/](http://www.mn.gov/deed/data/regional-lmi/)

Data updated: May 23, 2025