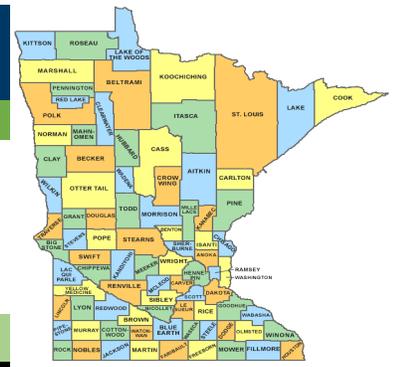


COUNTY PROFILE

Polk Co.

Polk Co. is a part of Economic Development Region 1, which is located in the Northwest Planning Region.



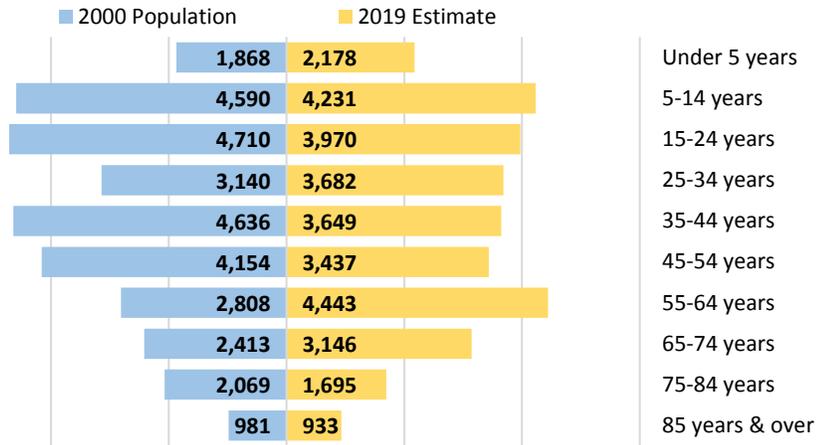
POPULATION CHARACTERISTICS

Polk Co.'s population has decreased so far this decade, ranking as the 49th fastest growing of the 87 counties in the state from 2010 to 2019. It is now the 34th largest in the state. Polk 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).

Current population:	31,364 people	Median Age:	38.9 years
Population change, 2010-2019	-236 people -0.7% decline	state:	38.3 years

	Number	Percent
Under 5 years	2,178	6.9%
5-14 years	4,231	13.5%
15-24 years	3,970	12.7%
25-34 years	3,682	11.7%
35-44 years	3,649	11.6%
45-54 years	3,437	11.0%
55-64 years	4,443	14.2%
65-74 years	3,146	10.0%
75-84 years	1,695	5.4%
85 years & over	933	3.0%
Total Population	31,364	100.0%

Figure 1. Population Pyramid, 2000-2019



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Population Estimates

Polk Co. enjoyed a natural increase - more births than deaths from 2010 to 2019, but also experienced net out-migration - meaning more people moved out than moved in. Despite suffering domestic out-migration, Polk Co. welcomed net international in-migration - gaining new Minnesotans from foreign countries (see Table 2).

	Total Population Change	April 1, 2010 to July 1, 2019					
		Natural Increase	Vital Events		Net Migration		
			Births	Deaths	Total	International	Domestic
Polk Co.	-236	668	3,836	3,168	-894	393	-1,287
State of Minnesota	335,705	250,488	637,356	386,868	88,161	114,414	-26,253

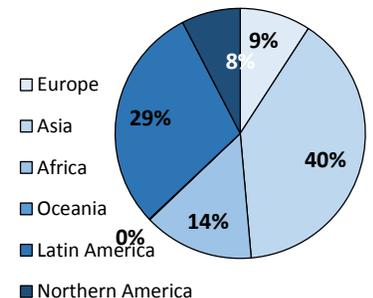
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Population Estimates Program

Compared to the state, Polk Co. has a smaller percentage of foreign-born residents. From 2010 to 2018, Polk Co. saw an increase in the number of foreign-born residents, which was faster than the statewide increase.

	Polk Co.		Change 2010-2018		Minnesota	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Percent	Change
Foreign-born Population	1,037	3.3%	318	44.2%	8.4%	25.8%
Europe	95	9.2%	7	8.0%	10.2%	4.8%
Asia	409	39.4%	137	50.4%	37.7%	27.8%
Africa	148	14.3%	121	44.8%	24.5%	61.1%
Oceania	1	0.1%	-9	-90.0%	0.5%	41.9%
Americas:	384	37.0%	62	19.3%	27.1%	9.8%
Latin America	305	29.4%	83	37.4%	24.6%	11.8%
Northern America	79	7.6%	-21	-21.0%	2.6%	-6.0%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2014-2018 American Community Survey

Figure 2. Place of Birth for the Foreign Born Population, 2018



COUNTY PROFILE

Polk Co.

Polk Co.'s population was becoming more racially diverse over time. Since 2000, the county's white population declined, but the number of people of other races increased (see Table 4).

Figure 3. Population by Race, 2018

- White
- Black or African American
- American Indian
- Asian
- Some Other Race
- Two or More Races

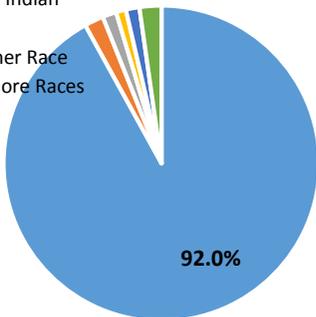


Table 4. Race and Hispanic Origin, 2018	Polk Co.			Minnesota	
	Number	Percent	Change from 2000-2018	Percent	Change from 2000-2018
Total	31,591	100.0%	0.7%	100.0%	12.4%
White	29,058	92.0%	-1.6%	83.3%	4.7%
Black or African American	618	2.0%	494.2%	6.2%	99.3%
American Indian or Alaska Native	448	1.4%	9.8%	1.1%	7.3%
Asian or Other Pac. Islanders	321	1.0%	221.0%	4.8%	83.8%
Some Other Race	438	1.4%	-45.7%	1.8%	48.7%
Two or More Races	708	2.2%	73.5%	2.9%	90.7%
Hispanic or Latino origin	2,016	6.4%	34.2%	5.3%	104.2%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2014-2018 American Community Survey

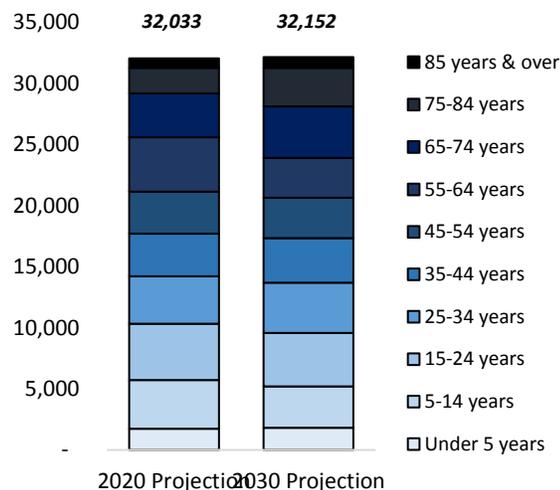
POPULATION PROJECTIONS

According to the Minnesota State Demographic Center, Polk Co.'s population is expected to grow from 2020 to 2030, with a rate of change that is slower than the projected statewide growth rate (5.0%). 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, 2020-2030				
Polk Co.	2020 Projection	2030 Projection	Numeric Change	Percent Change
Under 5 years	1,723	1,801	78	4.5%
5-14 years	4,001	3,392	-609	-15.2%
15-24 years	4,606	4,391	-215	-4.7%
25-34 years	3,879	4,112	233	6.0%
35-44 years	3,487	3,639	152	4.4%
45-54 years	3,442	3,301	-141	-4.1%
55-64 years	4,450	3,253	-1,197	-26.9%
65-74 years	3,599	4,209	610	16.9%
75-84 years	2,069	3,163	1,094	52.9%
85 years & over	777	891	114	14.7%
Total Population	32,033	32,152	119	0.4%

Source: Minnesota State Demographic Center

Figure 4. Projections by Age Group, 2020-2030



EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT

Polk Co. has a lower percentage of adults (18 years & over) with at least a high school diploma than the state (92.4%), and a lower percentage of people with at least some college experience. Polk 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.

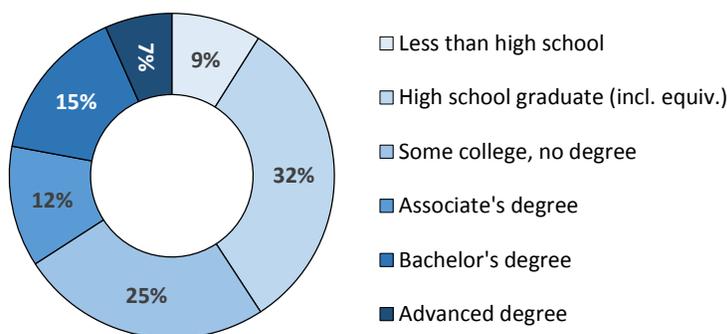
Percentage of the adult population (18 years & over) with at least a high school diploma:

91.1%

College-educated: 59.2%
state: 67.1%

Associate's Degree: **12.0%**
Bachelor's Degree: **15.4%**
Advanced Degree: **6.7%**

Figure 5. Educational Attainment, 2018



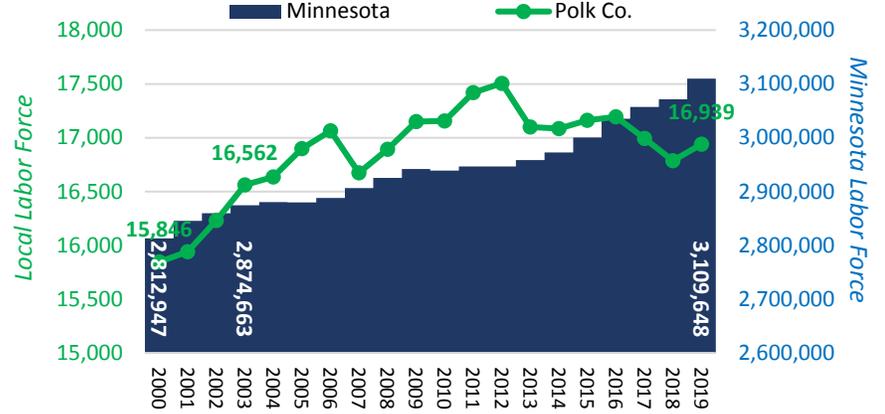
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2014-2018 American Community Survey

LABOR FORCE TRENDS

The number of workers in Polk Co. increased over the past year. Long term, Polk Co.'s labor force expanded more slowly from 2004 to 2019, compared to a statewide growth rate of 8.0% (see Figure 6).

16,939 available workers	
Labor Force change, 2004-2019	305 workers 1.8% increase
4.0% unemployment rate	
3.2% state	
678 unemployed workers	

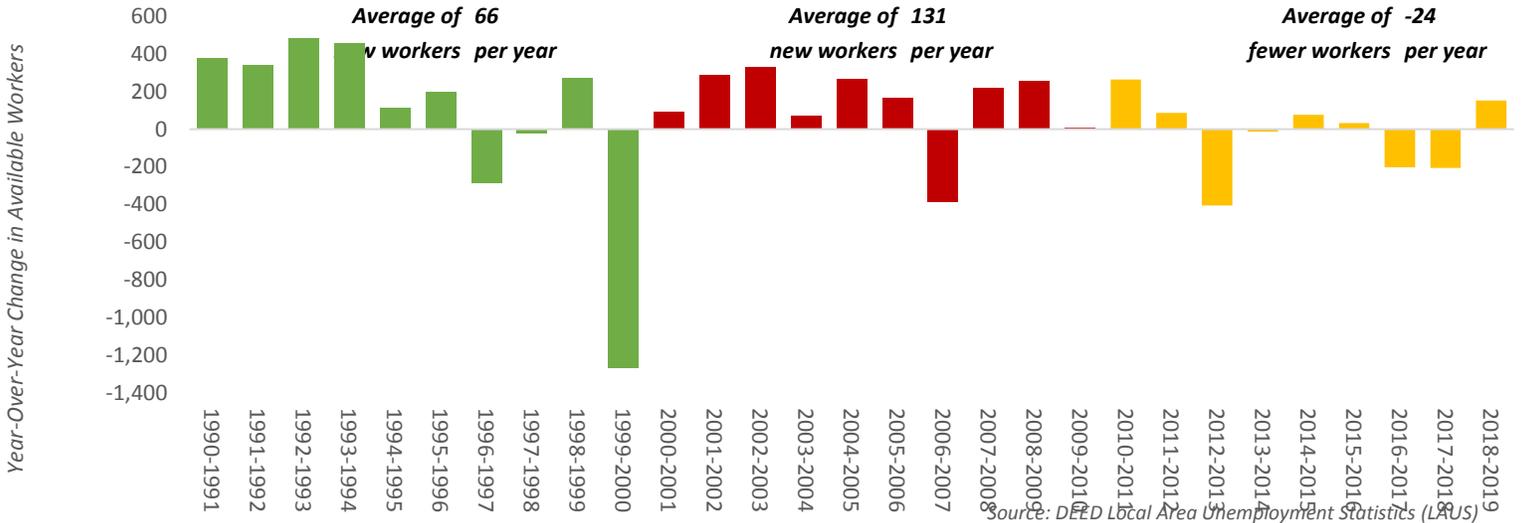
Figure 6. Annual Labor Force Estimates



Source: DEED Local Area Unemployment Statistics

At 4%, Polk Co. had a higher unemployment rate than the state in 2019. Polk Co.'s unemployment rate increased compared to 3.7% in 2018, and was lower than the 5.9% rate posted in 2009. The number of unemployed workers actively seeking work in Polk Co. increased over the past year, and is down compared to 2009.

Figure 7. Annual Change in Labor Force, 1990-2019



Source: DEED Local Area Unemployment Statistics (LAUS)

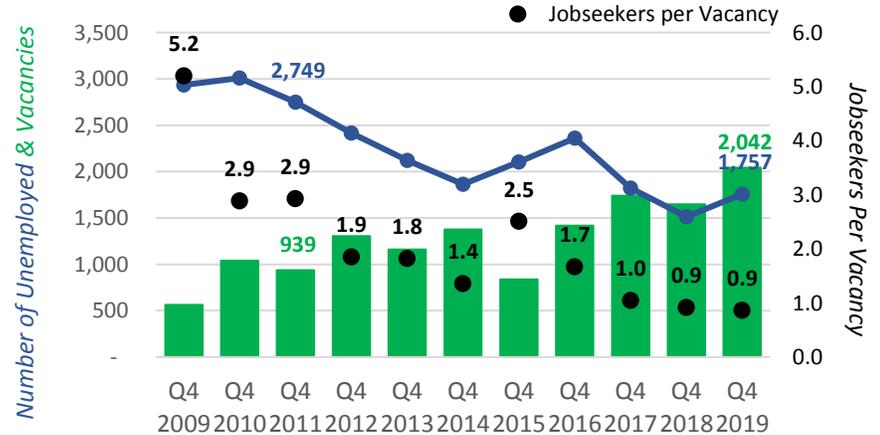
Labor force growth has slowed in recent years. After experiencing a net gain of workers from 1990 to 2000, Polk Co. averaged an annual gain of new workers from 2000 to 2010, and most recently a loss of fewer workers since 2010 (see Figure 7). Moving forward, Polk Co. is expected to see a labor force decline from 2020 to 2030 (see Table 6).

	Labor Force Projection	
	2020	2030
16 to 24 years	3,048	2,925
25 to 54 years	9,341	9,553
55 to 64 years	3,205	2,343
65 years & over	1,167	1,409
Total Labor Force	16,761	16,230

Source: Minnesota State Demographic Center

Polk Co. is a part of Region 1, which includes Kittson, Marshall, Norman, Pennington, Polk, Red Lake, and Roseau County. The labor market has grown extremely tight in recent years, dropping to a ratio of 0.9 jobseekers per vacancy during the 4th quarter of 2019 (see Figure 8).

Figure 8. Jobseekers Per Vacancy, 2009-2019



Source: DEED Job Vacancy Survey, LAUS program

LABOR FORCE CHARACTERISTICS

Polk Co. had a lower labor force participation rate than the state. The labor force in Polk Co. is less racially diverse than the state (where 85.5% of workers are white alone), but is becoming more diverse over time.

Table 7. Employment Characteristics, 2018

	Polk Co.			Minnesota		Polk Co.	
	In Labor Force (available workers)	Labor Force Partic. Rate	Unemp. Rate	Labor Force Partic. Rate	Unemp. Rate	Male	Female
Total Labor Force	16,439	66.2%	3.4%	69.7%	3.9%	8,722	7,720
16 to 19 years	1,030	62.3%	6.4%	52.9%	11.7%	481	549
20 to 24 years	1,604	81.0%	4.7%	84.4%	6.4%	831	772
25 to 44 years	6,259	86.6%	2.3%	88.6%	3.5%	3,315	2,946
45 to 54 years	3,432	86.1%	2.9%	87.3%	2.8%	1,858	1,574
55 to 64 years	3,133	72.0%	4.8%	72.6%	3.0%	1,621	1,512
65 to 74 years	820	27.6%	1.8%	27.6%	2.4%	529	291
75 years & over	162	6.1%	2.5%	6.3%	2.6%	87	76

Employment Characteristics by Race & Hispanic Origin

White alone	15,463	66.7%	3.2%	69.5%	3.3%
Black or African American	317	72.0%	0.0%	70.7%	9.9%
American Indian & Alaska Native	156	44.1%	3.2%	58.5%	12.8%
Asian or Other Pac. Islanders	103	39.2%	0.0%	71.3%	4.7%
Some Other Race	193	66.8%	27.5%	77.2%	6.2%
Two or More Races	208	68.4%	3.8%	73.1%	7.6%
Hispanic or Latino	971	73.3%	7.8%	76.3%	6.5%

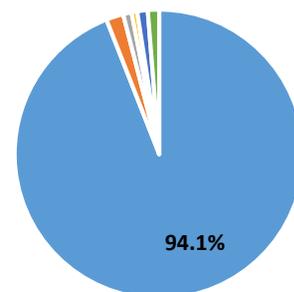
Employment Characteristics by Disability

With Any Disability	911	49.4%	12.3%	52.5%	9.0%
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Employment Characteristics by Educational Attainment

Population, 25 to 64 years	12,826	82.4%	3.1%	84.2%	3.2%
Less than H.S. Diploma	672	70.6%	4.1%	65.4%	4.5%
H.S. Diploma or Equivalent	3,541	77.8%	0.9%	78.6%	2.6%
Some College or Assoc. Degree	5,041	82.9%	2.0%	85.2%	3.2%
Bachelor's Degree or Higher	3,571	89.7%	2.4%	89.8%	1.9%

Figure 9. Labor Force by Race, 2018



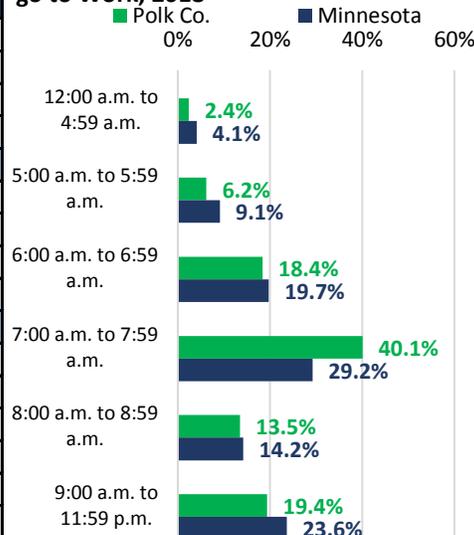
- White alone
- Black or African American
- American Indian & Alaska Native
- Asian or Other Pac. Islanders
- Some Other Race
- Two or More Races

Source: 2014-2018 American Community Survey, 5-Year Estimates

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

Table 8. Commuting Characteristics, 2018	Polk Co.		Minnesota	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Worked in state of residence	11,091	71.0%	2,807,811	97.5%
Worked in county of residence	9,826	62.9%	1,831,557	63.6%
Worked out of county of residence	1,265	8.1%	979,134	34.0%
Worked outside state of residence	4,530	29.0%	71,995	2.5%
MEANS OF TRANSPORTATION TO WORK				
Car, truck, or van	13,981	89.5%	2,488,152	86.4%
Public transportation (excl. taxicab)	125	0.8%	103,673	3.6%
Other method (walk, bike, taxi, etc.)	609	3.9%	126,711	4.4%
Worked at home	922	5.9%	164,149	5.7%
TRAVEL TIME TO WORK				
Less than 10 minutes	5,030	32.2%	455,009	15.8%
10 to 19 minutes	5,342	34.2%	869,701	30.2%
20 to 29 minutes	1,953	12.5%	639,317	22.2%
30 to 44 minutes	1,953	12.5%	564,442	19.6%
45 to 59 minutes	672	4.3%	192,947	6.7%
60 or more minutes	672	4.3%	158,389	5.5%
Mean travel time to work (minutes)	18.2 minutes		23.5 minutes	

Figure 10. Time Leaving Home to go to Work, 2018



Source: 2014-2018 American Community Survey, 5-Year Estimates

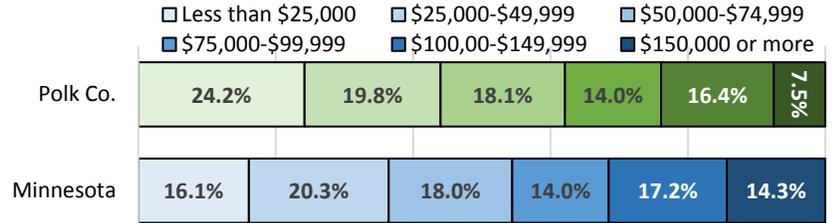
INCOMES, COST OF LIVING, & HOUSING

Polk Co. had a lower median household income than the state, and a higher percentage of households with incomes below \$50,000. Overall, Polk Co. had the 41st highest median household income of the 87 counties in the state.

Median Household Income	\$57,151
state	\$68,411
Median Family Income	\$79,204
state	\$86,204
Per Capita Income	\$28,856
state	\$36,245

Source: 2014-2018 American Community Survey

Figure 11. Household Incomes, 2018



Source: 2014-2018 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates

Polk Co. also had a lower cost of living than the state, with a required hourly wage of \$13.56 for a single person living alone to meet a basic needs cost of living, and an hourly wage requirement of \$15.57 for a typical family with 2 adults and 1 child (see Table 9).

Table 9. Basic Needs Cost of Living Estimates, 2019

Single Adult, 0 children	Single Yearly Cost of Living	Hourly Wage Required	Monthly Costs						
			Child Care	Food	Health Care	Housing	Transportation	Other	Taxes
Polk Co.	\$28,200	\$13.56	\$0	\$335	\$166	\$668	\$593	\$281	\$307
State of Minnesota	\$30,900	\$14.86	\$0	\$335	\$137	\$759	\$629	\$336	\$379
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
Polk Co.	\$48,576	\$15.57	\$204	\$766	\$659	\$886	\$680	\$463	\$390
State of Minnesota	\$55,548	\$17.80	\$511	\$764	\$484	\$986	\$729	\$537	\$618

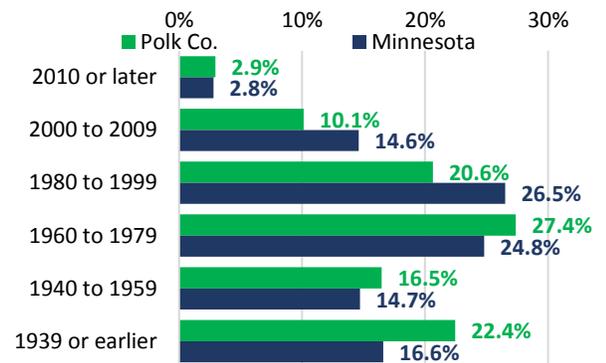
Source: DEED Cost of Living tool

Polk Co. had a lower median house value than the state, having the 41st highest value of the 87 counties in 2018. Polk 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, 2018	Polk Co.		Minnesota
	Total	Percent	Percent
Total	9,182	100.0%	100.0%
Less than \$50,000	916	10.0%	5.7%
\$50,000 to \$99,999	1,592	17.3%	9.4%
\$100,000 to \$149,999	1,734	18.9%	15.2%
\$150,000 to \$199,999	1,692	18.4%	19.8%
\$200,000 to \$299,999	2,174	23.7%	25.7%
\$300,000 to \$499,999	901	9.8%	17.6%
\$500,000 or more	173	1.9%	6.6%
Median (dollars)	\$158,200		\$199,700

Source: 2014-2018 American Community Survey, 5-Year Estimates

Figure 12. Year Structure Built, 2018



Median monthly owner costs, owner-occupied units with a mortgage **\$1,277**

state \$1,547

Percentage of households with a mortgage spending 30% or more of their income on housing costs **20.3%**

state 22.6%

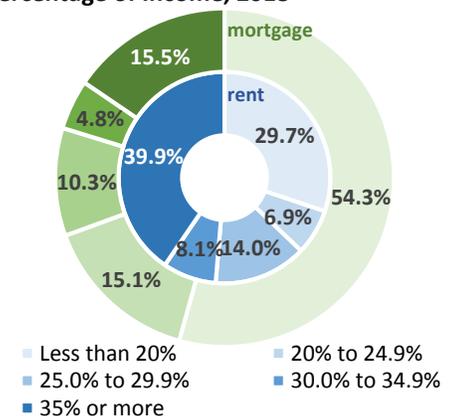
Median monthly rent costs **\$707**

state \$944

Percentage of renters spending 30% or more of their household income on rent **47.9%**

state 45.9%

Figure 13. Housing Costs as a Percentage of Income, 2018



Source: 2014-2018 American Community Survey, 5-Year Estimates

OCCUPATIONS

At \$19.11 in 2020, wages were lower in Region 1 than the state. Overall, Region 1 had the 4th highest median hourly wage level of the 13 economic development regions in the state. Wages were highest for management occupations (\$44.67) and lowest for food preparation and serving related jobs (\$12.34) (see Table 11).

Table 11. Occupational Employment Statistics, 2020

Occupational Group	Region 1				State of Minnesota		
	Median Hourly Wage	Estimated Regional Jobs	Share of Total Jobs	Regional Location Quotient	Median Hourly Wage	State-wide Jobs	Share of Total Jobs
Total, All Occupations	\$19.11	38,810	100.0%	1.0	\$21.49	2,880,650	100.0%
Management	\$44.67	1,520	3.9%	0.7	\$24.38	165,310	5.7%
Business & Financial Operations	\$26.96	1,240	3.2%	0.5	\$12.43	244,300	8.5%
Computer & Mathematical	\$32.31	300	0.8%	0.2	\$17.72	4,060	0.1%
Architecture & Engineering	\$30.98	1,000	2.6%	1.3	\$20.03	363,800	12.6%
Life, Physical & Social Science	\$25.00	280	0.7%	0.8	\$24.31	100,060	3.5%
Community & Social Service	\$22.19	820	2.1%	1.1	\$13.65	70,290	2.4%
Legal	\$28.83	80	0.2%	0.3	\$18.06	216,890	7.5%
Education, Training & Library	\$20.63	4,720	12.2%	2.1	\$38.00	55,520	1.9%
Arts, Design, Entertainment & Media	\$16.00	450	1.2%	0.9	\$28.97	104,900	3.6%
Healthcare Practitioners & Technical	\$28.83	2,050	5.3%	0.8	\$37.35	20,050	0.7%
Healthcare Support	\$14.97	1,730	4.5%	0.8	\$24.52	38,540	1.3%
Protective Service	\$21.43	590	1.5%	1.0	\$15.37	277,000	9.6%
Food Preparation & Serving Related	\$12.34	1,170	3.0%	0.4	\$23.34	57,200	2.0%
Building, Grounds Cleaning & Maint.	\$14.80	1,120	2.9%	1.0	\$15.23	83,860	2.9%
Personal Care & Service	\$13.10	400	1.0%	0.4	\$36.07	190,800	6.6%
Sales & Related	\$13.18	2,560	6.6%	0.7	\$42.71	97,960	3.4%
Office & Administrative Support	\$19.30	4,250	11.0%	0.9	\$52.70	170,650	5.9%
Farming, Fishing & Forestry	\$18.84	120	0.3%	2.2	\$19.03	212,650	7.4%
Construction & Extraction	\$21.92	1,020	2.6%	0.7	\$22.45	45,030	1.6%
Installation, Maintenance & Repair	\$22.69	1,420	3.7%	1.1	\$14.81	163,160	5.7%
Production	\$20.62	6,990	18.0%	2.4	\$33.87	171,550	6.0%
Transportation & Material Moving	\$17.30	4,980	12.8%	1.7	\$34.35	27,070	0.9%

Source: DEED Occupational Employment Statistics, Qtr. 1 2020

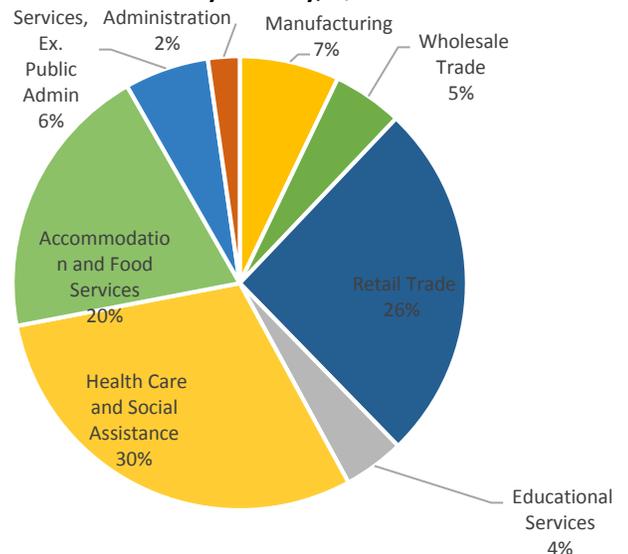
JOB VACANCY SURVEY

Polk Co. is a part of Region 1, which includes Kittson, Marshall, Norman, Pennington, Polk, Red Lake, and Roseau County. There were 2042 job vacancies posted by employers in the 4th Quarter of 2019, indicating extensive opportunity in the region, with openings across several occupations and industries (see Figure 14).

Table 12. Region 1 Job Vacancy Survey Results, Qtr. 4 2019

Occupational Group	Number of Vacancies	Wage Offer
Total, All Occupations	2,042	\$14.77
Management	21	\$34.36
Business & Financial Operations	35	\$27.72
Computer & Mathematical	#N/A	#N/A
Architecture & Engineering	20	\$26.25
Life, Physical & Social Sciences	21	\$20.23
Community & Social Service	8	\$21.75
Education, Training & Library	#N/A	#N/A
Healthcare Practitioners & Technical	98	\$18.56
Healthcare Support	#N/A	#N/A
Protective Service	118	\$24.44
Food Preparation & Serving Related	46	\$14.46
Building, Grounds Cleaning & Maint.	9	\$17.46
Personal Care & Service	468	\$11.97
Sales & Related	76	\$12.87
Office & Administrative Support	405	\$12.46
Construction & Extraction	251	\$13.39
Installation, Maintenance & Repair	57	\$14.08
Production	12	\$15.62
Transportation & Material Moving	102	\$19.05

Figure 14. Job Vacancies by Industry, Qtr. 4 2019



Source: DEED Job Vacancy Survey, Qtr. 4 2019

OCCUPATIONS IN DEMAND

Table 13. Northwest Occupations in Demand, 2019

Less than High School	High School or Equivalent	Some College or Assoc. Deg.	Bachelor's Degree or Higher
Cashiers \$23,786	Heavy & Tractor-Trailer Truck Drivers \$43,420	Registered Nurses \$72,740	Secondary School Teachers \$58,240
Personal Care Aides \$25,859	First-Line Supervisors of Retail Sales Workers \$38,753	Nursing Assistants \$33,025	Physical Therapists \$86,468
Retail Salespersons \$26,276	First-Line Supervisors of Food Prep & Serving Workers \$33,190	Licensed Practical & Licensed Vocational Nurses \$44,340	Software Developers, Applications \$82,009
Combined Food Preparation & Serving \$23,717	Teacher Assistants \$30,528	Electricians \$54,844	Speech-Language Pathologists \$64,692
Maids & Housekeeping Cleaners \$27,599	Maintenance & Repair Workers, General \$39,560	Heating, Air Cond. (HVAC) & Refrig. Mechanics \$49,128	Child, Family, & School Social Workers \$52,059
Janitors & Cleaners \$29,961	Secretaries & Administrative Assistants \$37,053	Automotive Service Technicians & Mechanics \$39,943	Financial Managers \$92,497
Cooks, Restaurant \$27,757	Computer-Controlled Machine Tool Operators, Metal \$37,226	Radiologic Technologists \$63,730	Market Research Analysts & Marketing Specialists \$55,481
Laborers & Freight, Stock & Material Movers, Hand \$31,939	Sales Representatives, Wholesale & Manufacturing \$52,984	Clinical Laboratory Technologists & Technicians \$54,492	Family & General Practitioners \$205,245
Waiters & Waitresses \$22,570	Welders, Cutters, Solderers, & Brazers \$41,694	Medical Records & Health Information Technicians \$45,171	Industrial Engineers \$78,049
Construction Laborers \$35,085	Driver/Sales Workers \$34,851	Dental Assistants \$44,030	Human Resources Specialists \$54,389

Source: DEED Occupations in Demand

Polk Co. is a part of the Northwest planning region, which is projected to see a 4.2% 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, 2016-2026

Northwest Planning Region	Estimated Employment 2016	Projected Employment 2026	Percent Change 2016-2026
Total, All Industries	262,786	273,747	4.2%
Natural Resources & Mining	6,204	7,474	20.5%
Utilities	1,193	1,146	-3.9%
Construction	10,252	11,287	10.1%
Manufacturing	28,471	30,356	6.6%
Wholesale Trade	11,833	13,030	10.1%
Retail Trade	28,429	27,261	-4.1%
Transportation & Warehousing	7,030	7,246	3.1%
Information	2,660	2,599	-2.3%
Finance & Insurance, Real Estate	7,335	7,553	3.0%
Professional Services & Mgmt. of Companies	5,653	6,045	6.9%
Administrative & Waste Services	5,031	6,427	27.7%
Educational Services	23,095	22,758	-1.5%
Health Care & Social Assistance	36,018	39,725	10.3%
Leisure & Hospitality	25,622	26,206	2.3%
Other Services, Ex. Public Admin	10,328	10,314	-0.1%
Public Administration	21,609	22,418	3.7%

Source: DEED 2016-2026 Employment Outlook

Figure 15. Regional Occupational Employment Projections, 2016-2026

