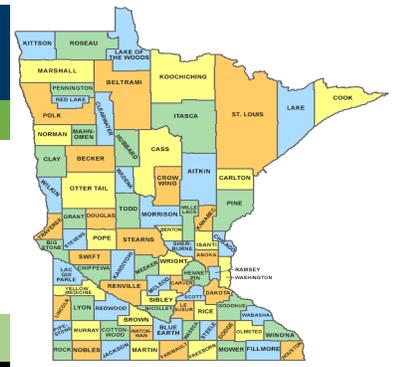


**COUNTY PROFILE**

**Stearns Co.**

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



**POPULATION CHARACTERISTICS**

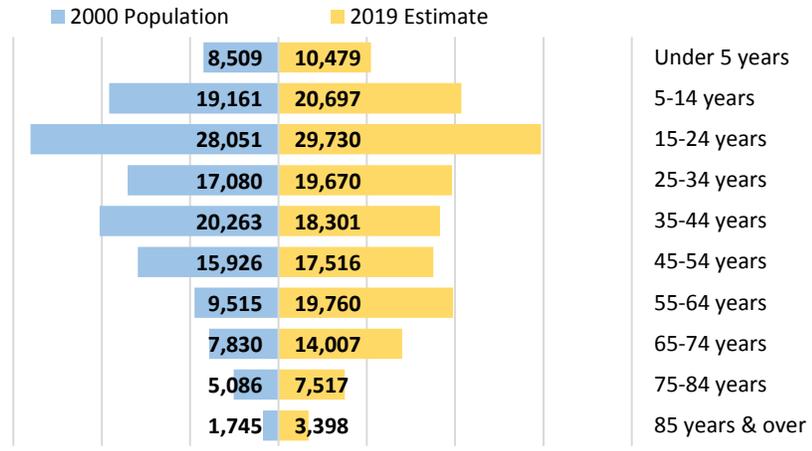
Stearns Co.'s population has increased so far this decade, ranking as the 13th fastest growing of the 87 counties in the state from 2010 to 2019. It is now the 7th largest in the state. Stearns Co.'s population has a younger median age than the state and a smaller percentage of people aged 65 years and older. The population is aging, especially as the Baby Boom generation moves through the population pyramid (see Figure 1).

Current population:	<b>161,075 people</b>
Population change, 2010-2019	10,433 people 6.9% increase

Median Age:	<b>35.0 years</b>
state:	38.3 years

	Number	Percent
Under 5 years	10,479	6.5%
5-14 years	20,697	12.8%
15-24 years	29,730	18.5%
25-34 years	19,670	12.2%
35-44 years	18,301	11.4%
45-54 years	17,516	10.9%
55-64 years	19,760	12.3%
65-74 years	14,007	8.7%
75-84 years	7,517	4.7%
85 years & over	3,398	2.1%
<b>Total Population</b>	<b>161,075</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

Figure 1. Population Pyramid, 2000-2019



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Population Estimates

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

Table 2. Components of Population Change, 2010-2019

	Total Population Change	April 1, 2010 to July 1, 2019					
		Natural Increase	Vital Events		Net Migration		
			Births	Deaths	Total	International	Domestic
Stearns Co.	10,433	9,140	18,346	9,206	1,333	5,028	-3,695
State of Minnesota	335,705	250,488	637,356	386,868	88,161	114,414	-26,253

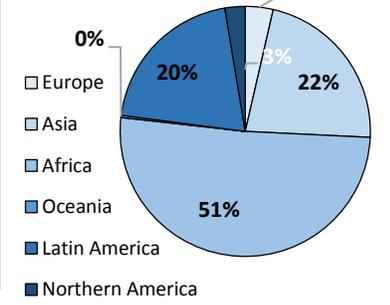
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Population Estimates Program

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

	Stearns Co.		Change 2010-2018		Minnesota	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Percent	Change
<b>Foreign-born Population</b>	<b>10,627</b>	<b>6.8%</b>	<b>4,817</b>	<b>82.9%</b>	<b>8.4%</b>	<b>25.8%</b>
Europe	382	3.6%	-112	-22.7%	10.2%	4.8%
Asia	2,356	22.2%	246	11.7%	37.7%	27.8%
Africa	5,421	51.0%	4,171	333.7%	24.5%	61.1%
Oceania	30	0.3%	29	2900.0%	0.5%	41.9%
Americas:	2,438	22.9%	483	24.7%	27.1%	9.8%
Latin America	2,160	20.3%	326	17.8%	24.6%	11.8%
Northern America	278	2.6%	157	129.8%	2.6%	-6.0%

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

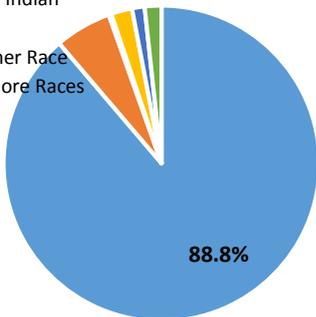
Figure 2. Place of Birth for the Foreign Born Population, 4% 2018



Stearns Co.'s population was becoming more racially diverse over time. Since 2000, the county's white population increased and 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



	Stearns Co.			Minnesota	
	Number	Percent	Change from 2000-2018	Percent	Change from 2000-2018
<b>Total</b>	<b>156,819</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>17.8%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>12.4%</b>
White	139,218	88.8%	8.9%	83.3%	4.7%
Black or African American	9,087	5.8%	718.6%	6.2%	99.3%
American Indian or Alaska Native	434	0.3%	24.0%	1.1%	7.3%
Asian or Other Pac. Islanders	3,376	2.2%	57.1%	4.8%	83.8%
Some Other Race	2,016	1.3%	219.0%	1.8%	48.7%
Two or More Races	2,688	1.7%	145.9%	2.9%	90.7%
Hispanic or Latino origin	5,168	3.3%	182.9%	5.3%	104.2%

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

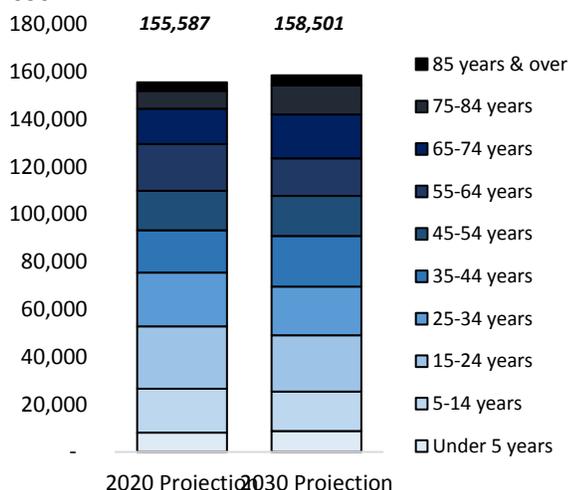
POPULATION PROJECTIONS

According to the Minnesota State Demographic Center, Stearns 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).

Stearns Co.	2020 Projection	2030 Projection	Numeric Change	Percent Change
Under 5 years	8,161	8,758	597	7.3%
5-14 years	18,468	16,571	-1,897	-10.3%
15-24 years	26,177	23,789	-2,388	-9.1%
25-34 years	22,680	20,426	-2,254	-9.9%
35-44 years	17,804	21,302	3,498	19.6%
45-54 years	16,656	16,874	218	1.3%
55-64 years	19,567	15,754	-3,813	-19.5%
65-74 years	14,908	18,543	3,635	24.4%
75-84 years	7,503	12,121	4,618	61.5%
85 years & over	3,663	4,363	700	19.1%
<b>Total Population</b>	<b>155,587</b>	<b>158,501</b>	<b>2,914</b>	<b>1.9%</b>

Source: Minnesota State Demographic Center

Figure 4. Projections by Age Group, 2020-2030



EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT

Stearns 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. Stearns 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.

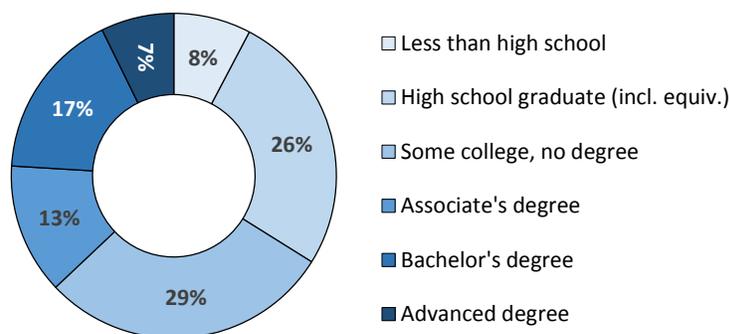
Percentage of the adult population (18 years & over) with at least a high school diploma:

**92.3%**

College-educated: **66.1%**  
state: 67.1%

Associate's Degree: **13.0%**  
Bachelor's Degree: **16.8%**  
Advanced Degree: **7.3%**

Figure 5. Educational Attainment, 2018



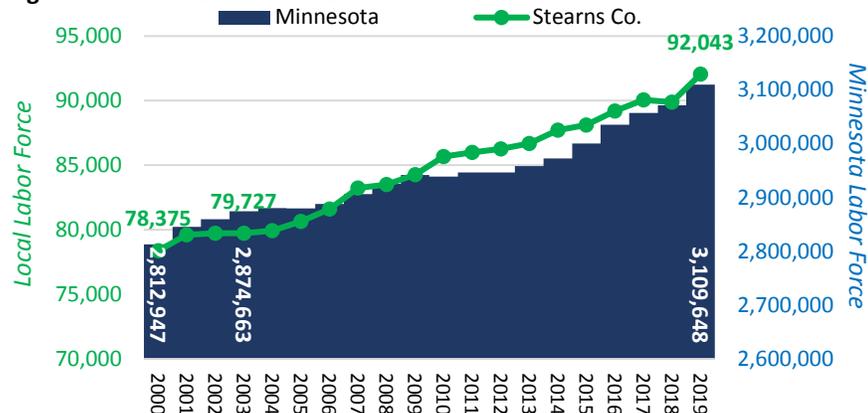
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2014-2018 American Community Survey

LABOR FORCE TRENDS

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

<b>92,043</b> available workers	
Labor Force change, 2004-2019	12,115 workers 15.2% increase
<b>3.2%</b> unemployment rate	
3.2% state	
<b>2,945</b> unemployed workers	

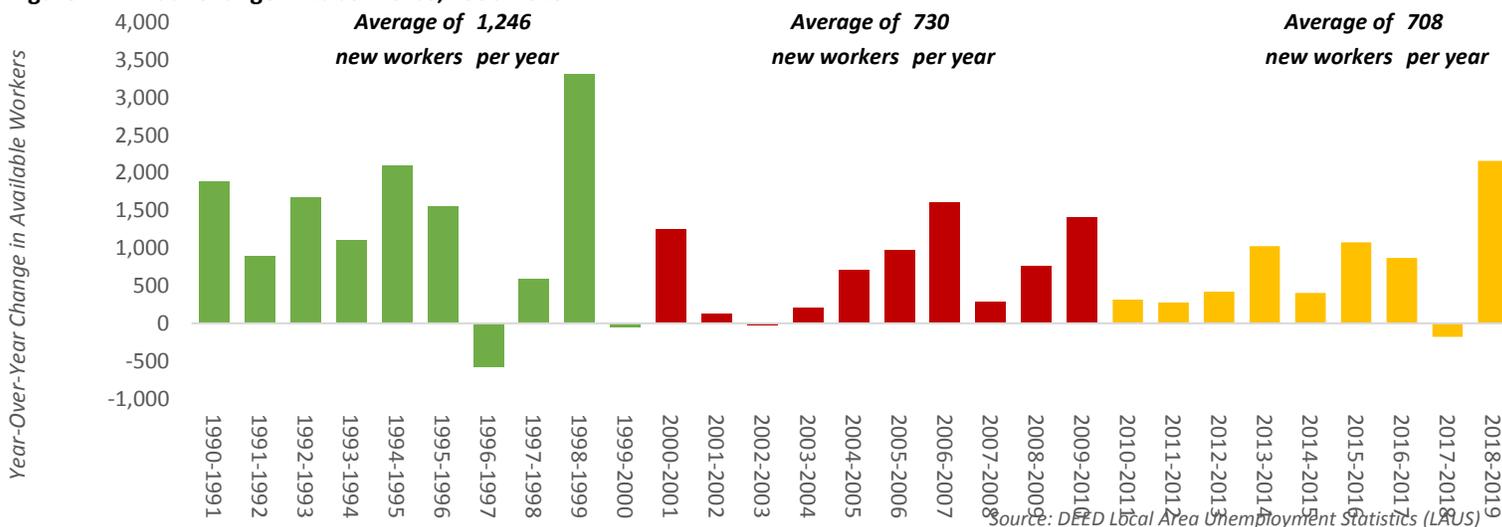
Figure 6. Annual Labor Force Estimates



Source: DEED Local Area Unemployment Statistics

At 3.2%, Stearns Co. had a equal to unemployment rate than the state in 2019. Stearns Co.'s unemployment rate increased compared to 2.9% in 2018, and was lower than the 7.8% rate posted in 2009. The number of unemployed workers actively seeking work in Stearns 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)

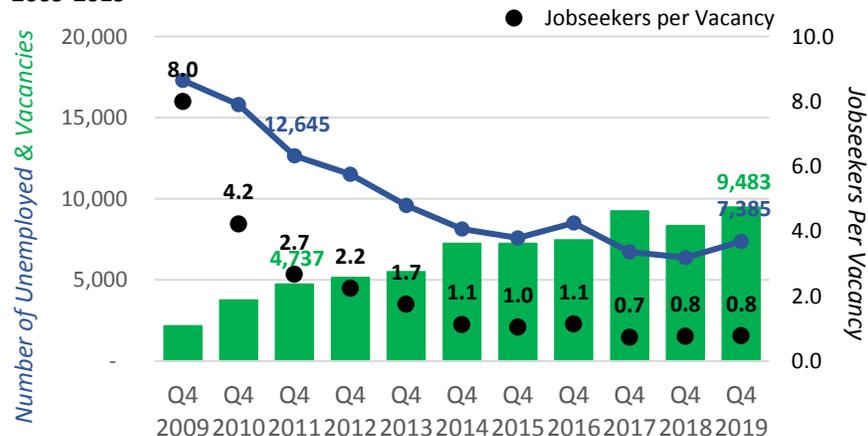
Labor force growth has slowed in recent years. After experiencing a net gain of workers from 1990 to 2000, Stearns Co. averaged an annual gain of new workers from 2000 to 2010, and most recently a gain of new workers since 2010 (see Figure 7). Moving forward, Stearns Co. is expected to see a labor force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

	Labor Force Projection	
	2020	2030
16 to 24 years	18,602	16,868
25 to 54 years	51,571	52,890
55 to 64 years	14,555	11,719
65 years & over	4,837	6,198
<b>Total Labor Force</b>	<b>89,565</b>	<b>87,674</b>

Source: Minnesota State Demographic Center

Stearns Co. is a part of Region 7W, which includes Benton, Sherburne, Stearns, and Wright County. The labor market has grown extremely tight in recent years, dropping to a ratio of 0.8 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**

Stearns Co. had a higher labor force participation rate than the state. The labor force in Stearns 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**

	Stearns Co.			Minnesota		Stearns Co.	
	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>89,927</b>	<b>72.1%</b>	<b>4.6%</b>	<b>69.7%</b>	<b>3.9%</b>	<b>46,736</b>	<b>43,148</b>
16 to 19 years	6,974	62.5%	14.3%	52.9%	11.7%	3,226	3,751
20 to 24 years	14,521	86.8%	6.3%	84.4%	6.4%	7,267	7,256
25 to 44 years	33,166	90.2%	4.3%	88.6%	3.5%	17,951	15,212
45 to 54 years	17,102	90.5%	2.3%	87.3%	2.8%	8,737	8,371
55 to 64 years	14,107	74.4%	2.7%	72.6%	3.0%	7,439	6,667
65 to 74 years	3,297	27.2%	1.2%	27.6%	2.4%	1,736	1,564
75 years & over	705	7.0%	4.1%	6.3%	2.6%	380	327

**Employment Characteristics by Race & Hispanic Origin**

White alone	81,285	71.8%	3.6%	69.5%	3.3%
Black or African American	4,355	76.1%	20.0%	70.7%	9.9%
American Indian & Alaska Native	147	45.4%	14.1%	58.5%	12.8%
Asian or Other Pac. Islanders	2,060	75.8%	12.3%	71.3%	4.7%
Some Other Race	868	78.1%	5.0%	77.2%	6.2%
Two or More Races	1,166	71.2%	3.3%	73.1%	7.6%
Hispanic or Latino	2,489	77.5%	5.3%	76.3%	6.5%

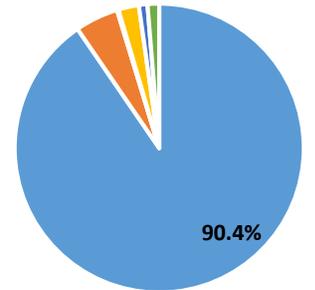
**Employment Characteristics by Disability**

With Any Disability	4,348	55.8%	11.0%	52.5%	9.0%
---------------------	-------	-------	-------	-------	------

**Employment Characteristics by Educational Attainment**

Population, 25 to 64 years	64,348	86.2%	3.4%	84.2%	3.2%
Less than H.S. Diploma	3,333	72.4%	3.9%	65.4%	4.5%
H.S. Diploma or Equivalent	14,872	81.8%	2.2%	78.6%	2.6%
Some College or Assoc. Degree	26,353	88.3%	3.6%	85.2%	3.2%
Bachelor's Degree or Higher	19,840	90.1%	1.8%	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 larger percentage of workers in Stearns Co. worked in the same county in which they live compared to the state. Stearns Co. also had a shorter average commute time than the state.

**Table 8. Commuting Characteristics, 2018**

	Stearns Co.		Minnesota	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Worked in state of residence	83,294	99.5%	2,807,811	97.5%
Worked in county of residence	68,394	81.7%	1,831,557	63.6%
Worked out of county of residence	14,901	17.8%	979,134	34.0%
Worked outside state of residence	419	0.5%	71,995	2.5%

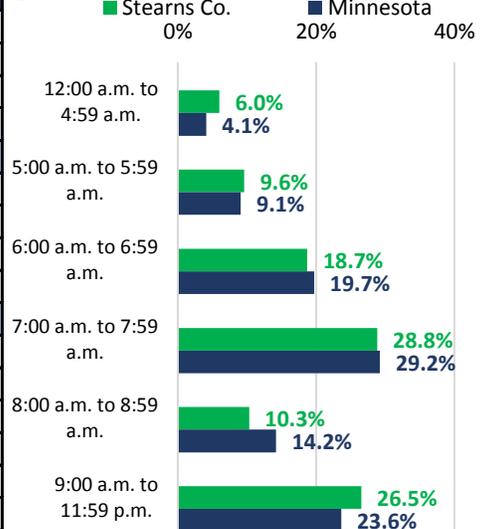
**MEANS OF TRANSPORTATION TO WORK**

Car, truck, or van	72,998	87.2%	2,488,152	86.4%
Public transportation (excl. taxicab)	1,172	1.4%	103,673	3.6%
Other method (walk, bike, taxi, etc.)	4,855	5.8%	126,711	4.4%
Worked at home	4,688	5.6%	164,149	5.7%

**TRAVEL TIME TO WORK**

Less than 10 minutes	18,835	22.5%	455,009	15.8%
10 to 19 minutes	31,895	38.1%	869,701	30.2%
20 to 29 minutes	14,817	17.7%	639,317	22.2%
30 to 44 minutes	9,962	11.9%	564,442	19.6%
45 to 59 minutes	3,432	4.1%	192,947	6.7%
60 or more minutes	4,772	5.7%	158,389	5.5%
<b>Mean travel time to work (minutes)</b>	<b>20.7 minutes</b>		<b>23.5 minutes</b>	

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



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

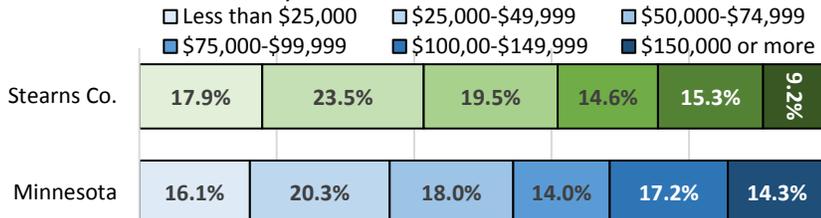
**INCOMES, COST OF LIVING, & HOUSING**

Stearns Co. had a lower median household income than the state, and a higher percentage of households with incomes below \$50,000. Overall, Stearns Co. had the 25th highest median household income of the 87 counties in the state.

<b>Median Household Income</b>	<b>\$60,606</b>
state	\$68,411
<b>Median Family Income</b>	<b>\$75,273</b>
state	\$86,204
<b>Per Capita Income</b>	<b>\$29,815</b>
state	\$36,245

Source: 2014-2018 American Community Survey

Figure 11. Household Incomes, 2018



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

Stearns Co. also had a lower cost of living than the state, with a required hourly wage of \$14.12 for a single person living alone to meet a basic needs cost of living, and an hourly wage requirement of \$16.08 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
Stearns Co.	\$29,376	\$14.12	\$0	\$329	\$166	\$697	\$643	\$288	\$325
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
Stearns Co.	\$50,184	\$16.08	\$279	\$754	\$659	\$870	\$742	\$455	\$423
State of Minnesota	\$55,548	\$17.80	\$511	\$764	\$484	\$986	\$729	\$537	\$618

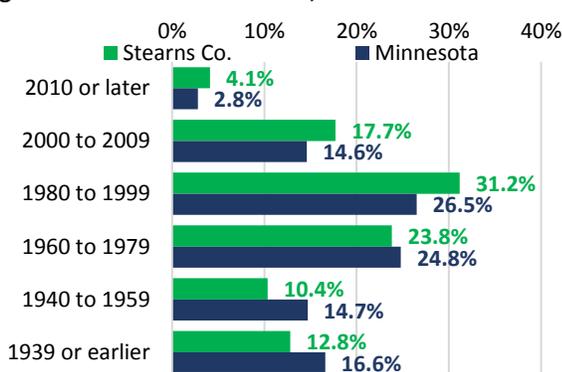
Source: DEED Cost of Living tool

Stearns Co. had a lower median house value than the state, having the 26th highest value of the 87 counties in 2018. Stearns 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, 2018	Stearns Co.		Minnesota
	Total	Percent	Percent
<b>Total</b>	<b>40,618</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>
Less than \$50,000	1,237	3.0%	5.7%
\$50,000 to \$99,999	3,558	8.8%	9.4%
\$100,000 to \$149,999	9,180	22.6%	15.2%
\$150,000 to \$199,999	10,286	25.3%	19.8%
\$200,000 to \$299,999	8,884	21.9%	25.7%
\$300,000 to \$499,999	5,663	13.9%	17.6%
\$500,000 or more	1,810	4.5%	6.6%
<b>Median (dollars)</b>	<b>\$176,000</b>		<b>\$199,700</b>

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 **\$1,372**

state \$1,547

Percentage of households with a mortgage spending 30% or more of their income on housing costs **23.2%**

state 22.6%

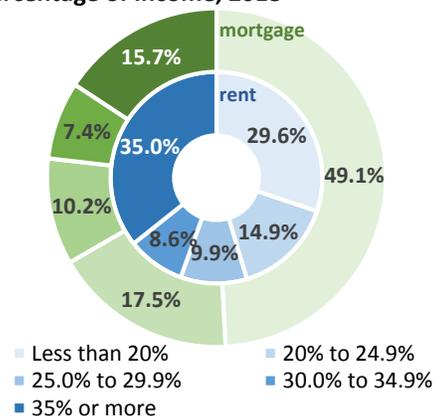
Median monthly rent costs **\$808**

state \$944

Percentage of renters spending 30% or more of their household income on rent **43.7%**

state 45.9%

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



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

OCCUPATIONS

At \$19.46 in 2020, wages were lower in Region 7W than the state. Overall, Region 7W had the 5th highest median hourly wage level of the 13 economic development regions in the state. Wages were highest for management occupations (\$45.77) and lowest for food preparation and serving related jobs (\$12.04) (see Table 11).

Table 11. Occupational Employment Statistics, 2020

Occupational Group	Region 7W				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
<b>Total, All Occupations</b>	<b>\$19.46</b>	<b>182,890</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>1.0</b>	<b>\$21.49</b>	<b>2,880,650</b>	<b>100.0%</b>
Management	\$45.77	8,990	4.9%	0.8	\$24.38	165,310	5.7%
Business & Financial Operations	\$30.33	6,960	3.8%	0.6	\$12.43	244,300	8.5%
Computer & Mathematical	\$32.14	3,250	1.8%	0.5	\$17.72	4,060	0.1%
Architecture & Engineering	\$34.05	2,420	1.3%	0.7	\$20.03	363,800	12.6%
Life, Physical & Social Science	\$31.58	1,040	0.6%	0.6	\$24.31	100,060	3.5%
Community & Social Service	\$24.77	2,640	1.4%	0.7	\$13.65	70,290	2.4%
Legal	\$29.84	670	0.4%	0.5	\$18.06	216,890	7.5%
Education, Training & Library	\$25.40	15,000	8.2%	1.4	\$38.00	55,520	1.9%
Arts, Design, Entertainment & Media	\$21.20	2,030	1.1%	0.8	\$28.97	104,900	3.6%
Healthcare Practitioners & Technical	\$33.21	11,900	6.5%	1.0	\$37.35	20,050	0.7%
Healthcare Support	\$14.97	8,700	4.8%	0.8	\$24.52	38,540	1.3%
Protective Service	\$26.38	2,510	1.4%	0.9	\$15.37	277,000	9.6%
Food Preparation & Serving Related	\$12.04	7,390	4.0%	0.5	\$23.34	57,200	2.0%
Building, Grounds Cleaning & Maint.	\$15.18	5,290	2.9%	1.0	\$15.23	83,860	2.9%
Personal Care & Service	\$13.00	3,830	2.1%	0.9	\$36.07	190,800	6.6%
Sales & Related	\$14.36	19,130	10.5%	1.1	\$42.71	97,960	3.4%
Office & Administrative Support	\$19.19	22,580	12.3%	1.0	\$52.70	170,650	5.9%
Farming, Fishing & Forestry	\$17.69	160	0.1%	0.6	\$19.03	212,650	7.4%
Construction & Extraction	\$28.55	10,180	5.6%	1.5	\$22.45	45,030	1.6%
Installation, Maintenance & Repair	\$23.13	8,430	4.6%	1.3	\$14.81	163,160	5.7%
Production	\$18.54	19,960	10.9%	1.5	\$33.87	171,550	6.0%
Transportation & Material Moving	\$17.71	19,840	10.8%	1.4	\$34.35	27,070	0.9%

Source: DEED Occupational Employment Statistics, Qtr. 1 2020

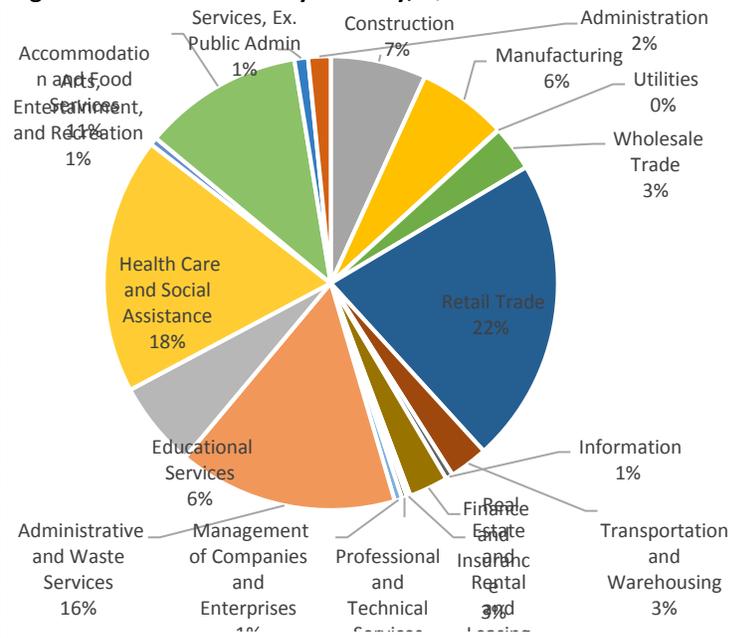
JOB VACANCY SURVEY

Stearns Co. is a part of Region 7W, which includes Benton, Sherburne, Stearns, and Wright County. There were 9483 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 7W Job Vacancy Survey Results, Qtr. 4 2019

Occupational Group	Number of Vacancies	Wage Offer
<b>Total, All Occupations</b>	<b>9,483</b>	<b>\$16.78</b>
Management	145	\$29.45
Business & Financial Operations	271	\$28.68
Computer & Mathematical	121	\$43.28
Architecture & Engineering	43	\$30.09
Life, Physical & Social Sciences	25	\$30.15
Community & Social Service	127	\$17.24
Education, Training & Library	13	\$24.67
Healthcare Practitioners & Technical	284	\$16.16
Healthcare Support	69	\$17.44
Protective Service	499	\$21.27
Food Preparation & Serving Related	453	\$14.38
Building, Grounds Cleaning & Maint.	35	\$12.11
Personal Care & Service	1,265	\$13.43
Sales & Related	1,424	\$26.43
Office & Administrative Support	696	\$12.27
Construction & Extraction	1,365	\$14.60
Installation, Maintenance & Repair	617	\$15.92
Production	658	\$29.32
Transportation & Material Moving	333	\$16.77

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



Source: DEED Job Vacancy Survey, Qtr. 4 2019

OCCUPATIONS IN DEMAND

Table 13. Central Occupations in Demand, 2019

Less than High School	High School or Equivalent	Some College or Assoc. Deg.	Bachelor's Degree or Higher
Retail Salespersons \$25,362	Heavy & Tractor-Trailer Truck Drivers \$48,425	Registered Nurses \$77,526	Elementary School Teachers \$57,806
Personal Care Aides \$26,819	First-Line Supervisors of Retail Sales Workers \$41,149	Nursing Assistants \$35,265	Secondary School Teachers \$58,086
Combined Food Preparation & Serving \$23,801	Teacher Assistants \$30,937	Licensed Practical & Licensed Vocational Nurses \$46,876	Software Developers, Applications \$85,496
Cashiers \$24,482	Carpenters \$50,024	Automotive Service Technicians & Mechanics \$39,870	Preschool Teachers, Except Special Education \$32,388
Stock Clerks & Order Fillers \$25,685	First-Line Supervisors of Food Prep & Serving Workers \$36,181	Heating, Air Cond. (HVAC) & Refrig. Mechanics \$51,059	Human Resources Specialists \$56,611
Janitors & Cleaners \$29,692	Welders, Cutters, Solderers, & Brazers \$46,676	Machinists \$49,847	Middle School Teachers \$60,055
Laborers & Freight, Stock & Material Movers, Hand \$34,830	Secretaries & Administrative Assistants \$41,947	Hairdressers, Hairstylists, & Cosmetologists \$30,265	Industrial Engineers \$82,415
Home Health Aides \$28,942	Office Clerks, General \$36,597	Police & Sheriff's Patrol Officers \$63,297	Market Research Analysts & Marketing Specialists \$52,743
Cooks, Restaurant \$27,711	Maintenance & Repair Workers, General \$43,720	Electricians \$68,811	Nurse Practitioners \$105,231
Maids & Housekeeping Cleaners \$26,215	Customer Service Representatives \$34,038	Radiologic Technologists \$62,286	Financial Managers \$93,620

Source: DEED Occupations in Demand

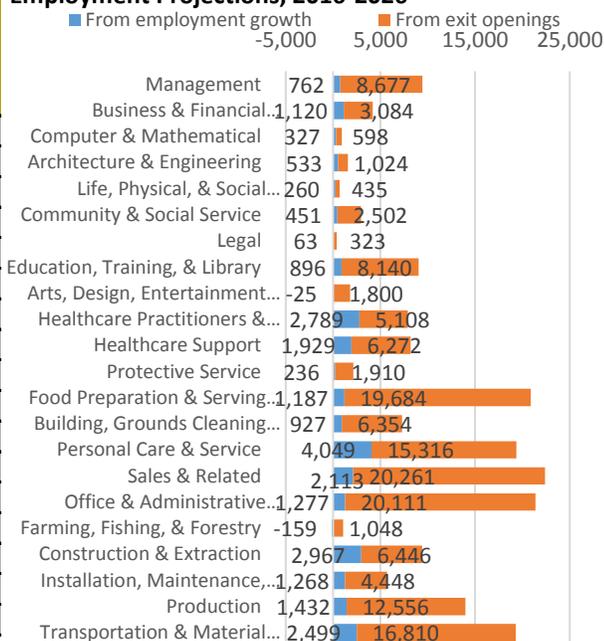
Stearns Co. is a part of the Central planning region, which is projected to see a 8.6% increase in employment levels over the next decade. In addition to new jobs created, there will be a much larger number of exit openings (see Figure 15).

Table 14. Regional Industry Employment Projections, 2016-2026

Central Planning Region	Estimated Employment 2016	Projected Employment 2026	Percent Change 2016-2026
<b>Total, All Industries</b>	<b>310,433</b>	<b>337,062</b>	<b>8.6%</b>
Natural Resources & Mining	4,811	4,456	-7.4%
Utilities	2,234	2,342	4.8%
Construction	16,522	20,503	24.1%
Manufacturing	41,361	43,677	5.6%
Wholesale Trade	10,237	11,189	9.3%
Retail Trade	35,825	37,842	5.6%
Transportation & Warehousing	10,210	11,568	13.3%
Information	2,855	2,673	-6.4%
Finance & Insurance, Real Estate	9,306	9,502	2.1%
Professional Services & Mgmt. of Companies	8,642	10,135	17.3%
Administrative & Waste Services	9,834	10,892	10.8%
Educational Services	25,717	26,325	2.4%
Health Care & Social Assistance	47,461	56,807	19.7%
Leisure & Hospitality	27,130	28,141	3.7%
Other Services, Ex. Public Admin	11,569	12,024	3.9%
Public Administration	18,239	20,261	11.1%

Source: DEED 2016-2026 Employment Outlook

Figure 15. Regional Occupational Employment Projections, 2016-2026



**ECONOMIC CHARACTERISTICS**

After gaining jobs over the past year, Stearns Co. had the 8th largest economy of the 87 counties in the state. Stearns Co. was the 34th fastest growing in the past year and the 30th fastest growing since 2014. From 2014 to 2019, employers in Stearns Co. added jobs, but lagged the state's 6.3% growth rate.

**4,361** business establishments

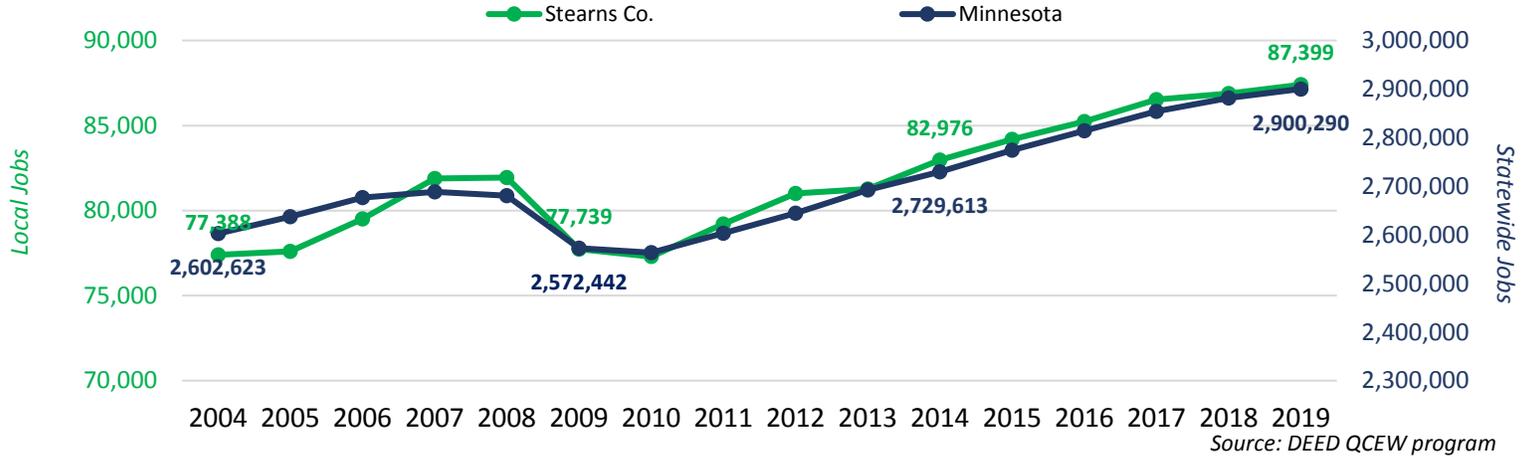
**\$48,230** annual average wage

**87,399** jobs

**\$4,215,217,697** total industry payroll

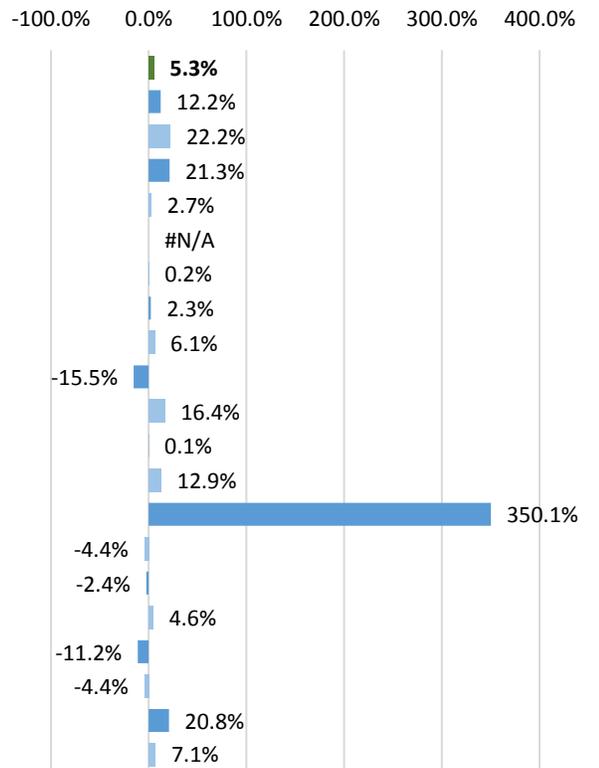
Job change, 2014-2019  
4,423 jobs  
5.3% increase

Figure 16. Industry Employment Statistics, 2004-2019



Industry	Number of Jobs	Percent of Total Jobs	Average Annual Wage
<b>Total, All Industries</b>	<b>87,399</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>\$48,230</b>
Agriculture, Forestry, Fish & Hunt	945	1.1%	\$36,403
Mining	143	0.2%	\$67,742
Construction	4,788	5.5%	\$65,943
Manufacturing	11,890	13.6%	\$52,723
Utilities	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A
Wholesale Trade	3,284	3.8%	\$58,059
Retail Trade	11,729	13.4%	\$30,973
Transportation & Warehousing	3,548	4.1%	\$50,698
Information	1,483	1.7%	\$58,464
Finance & Insurance	3,699	4.2%	\$65,480
Real Estate & Rental & Leasing	954	1.1%	\$31,954
Professional & Technical Services	2,360	2.7%	\$70,273
Management of Companies	1,958	2.2%	\$71,883
Admin. Support & Waste Mgmt. Svcs.	3,971	4.5%	\$31,101
Educational Services	7,328	8.4%	\$49,084
Health Care & Social Assistance	16,343	18.7%	\$58,225
Arts, Entertainment, & Recreation	876	1.0%	\$14,739
Accommodation & Food Services	6,190	7.1%	\$16,577
Other Services	2,863	3.3%	\$30,347
Public Administration	2,850	3.3%	\$60,323

Figure 17. Change in Jobs, 2014-2019



For more information on Stearns 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: 320-308-5378 | E-mail: luke.greiner@state.mn.us  
 web: [www.mn.gov/deed/data/regional-lmi/](http://www.mn.gov/deed/data/regional-lmi/)