



TWIN CITIES METRO AREA ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT REGION 11

Covers counties:

Anoka, Carver, Dakota, Hennepin, Ramsey
Scott, and Washington

2025 REGIONAL PROFILE

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DEMOGRAPHICS

POPULATION CHANGE

The Twin Cities Metro Area planning region includes a total of seven counties, covering one Economic Development Region (EDR 11) and six Workforce Development Boards (WDBs). In sum, the Metro Area was home to just under 3.2 million people in 2024, comprising 55.2% of the state's total population. Recently, the region's population climbed 1.1% between 2020 and 2024, adding just over 36,000 people. In comparison, the state of Minnesota witnessed a 1.5% population gain. The regional population loss was experienced solely within Hennepin and Ramsey counties, with all other Metro Area counties experiencing significant population gains.

Population growth between 2020 and 2024 was especially rapid in Washington County (+6.1%), Carver County (+5.3%), Scott County (+4.2%), and Anoka County (+3.6%) (Table 1).

Overall, the Metro Area has witnessed population growth over longer periods of time. For example, the region's population grew by 7.9% between 2000 and 2010, adding just over 207,500 people, then the region's population grew by 11.0% between 2010 and 2024, adding over 313,500 people.

COMPONENTS OF POPULATION CHANGE

The Twin Cities Metro Area experienced a natural increase – more births than deaths – of nearly 48,000 people between 2020 and 2024. It should be noted, however, that the average annual number of deaths during

this period (26,122) were significantly higher than the average annual number of deaths between 2010 and 2019 (19,975). This is likely due to both an aging population and the immediate impacts of COVID-19. The average annual number of births between 2020 and 2024 (38,120) were about even with the annual average between 2010 and 2019 (40,377). While the Metro Area did see a natural increase in population between 2020 and 2024, there was a significant drop in net migration (-13,034 people). This was solely due to a loss of 70,107 people to domestic migration patterns. The region did witness just over 57,000 additional international immigrants during this period. Historically, the region gained about 9,500 international immigrants per year between 2010 and 2019 (Table 2).

As of 2023, the Metro Area had over 380,500 foreign-born residents, making up approximately 12.1% of the region's total population. Over three-quarters (77.8%) of the state's foreign-born population lives in the Metro Area. The largest shares of foreign-born persons in the Metro Area are originally from Asia (38%), Africa (29%), and Latin America (22%) (Figure 1). Over the past decade, between 2013 and 2023, the region's foreign-born population increased by 68,498 people (+22%), which was just behind the state growth rate of 24.7%. The most significant growth came with residents from eastern Africa (+28,483 people), western Africa (+13,659 people), south central Asia (+10,792 people), southeastern Asia (+7,739 people), and South America (+6,647 people).

Table 1. Population Change 2020-2024

	2020 Population	2023 Estimates	2020-2024 Change	
			Number	Percent
Twin Cities Metro	3,163,104	3,199,139	+36,035	+1.1%
Anoka Co.	363,887	376,840	+12,953	+3.6%
Carver Co.	106,922	112,628	+5,706	+5.3%
Dakota Co.	439,882	453,156	+13,274	+3.0%
Hennepin Co.	1,281,565	1,273,334	-8,231	-0.6%
Ramsey Co.	552,352	542,015	-10,337	-1.9%
Scott Co.	150,928	157,206	+6,278	+4.2%
Washington Co.	267,568	283,960	+16,392	+6.1%
State of Minnesota	5,706,494	5,793,151	+86,657	+1.5%

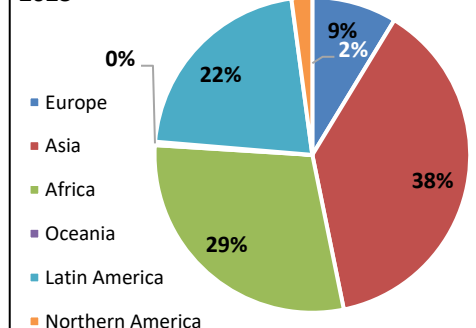
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Population Estimates Program

Table 2. Estimates of the Components of Population Change, 2020-2024

	Total Change	Natural Increase	Vital Events		Net Migration		
			Births	Deaths	Total	Inter- national	Domestic
Twin Cities	+36,059	+47,989	+152,478	-104,489	-13,034	+57,073	-70,107
Minnesota	+86,459	+51,570	+268,689	-217,119	+33,161	+81,091	-47,930

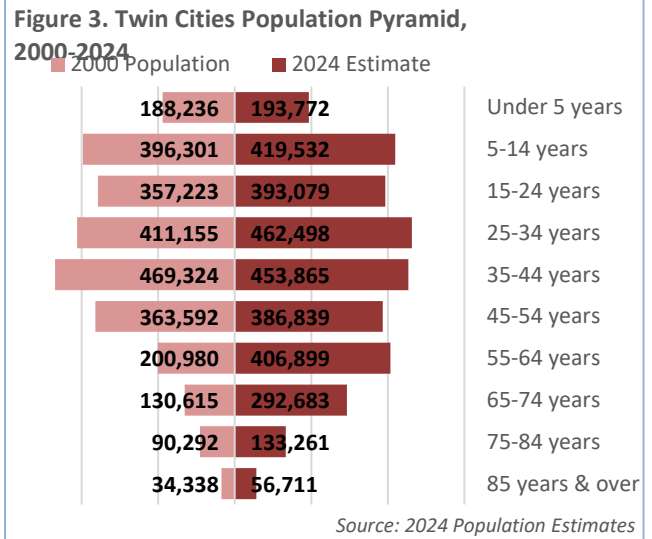
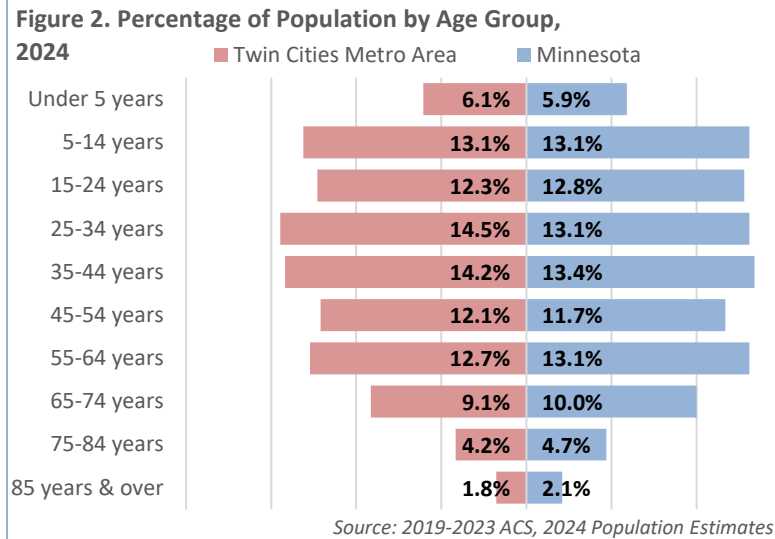
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Population Estimates Program

Figure 1. Twin Cities Place of Birth for the Foreign Born Population, 2023



POPULATION BY AGE GROUP

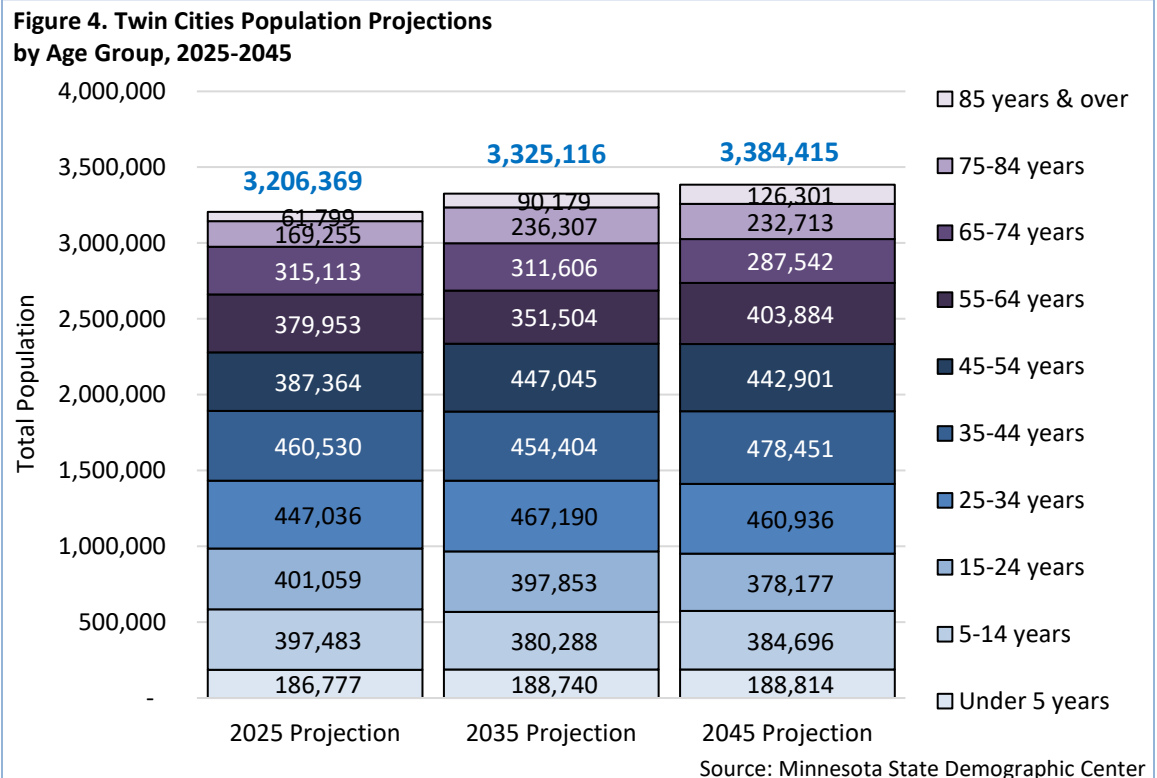
Overall, the Twin Cities Metro Area has a slightly younger population than the rest of the state, with just 15.1% of residents aged 65 years and over, compared to 16.8% statewide. Consequently, the Metro Area has a higher percentage of people in the 25- to 54-year-old age group, typically considered the “prime working years.” The share of school-aged children in the Metro Area and Minnesota is similar (Figure 2).



A large portion of the region’s population is a part of the Baby Boomer generation, or those people born between 1946 and 1964, which is creating a significant shift in the population over time. Where the number of residents between the ages of 35 and 44 years declined by almost 16,000 people between 2000 and 2024, the number of residents aged 55 years and over increased dramatically, rising by more than 430,000 people (Figure 3).

POPULATION PROJECTIONS BY AGE

According to population projections from the [State Demographic Center](#), the Twin Cities Metro Area is expected to gain an estimated 178,000 residents between 2025 and 2045, a 5.6% increase (Figure 4). This projected gain is slightly higher than the state’s projected growth, which is expected to add 5.5% during that time. Rapid growth is expected to continue for older age cohorts in the Twin Cities region and state.



POPULATION BY RACE

The Twin Cities Metro Area has a much more diverse population than the state overall, and it continues to become more diverse over time. In 2023, 71.0% of the region's residents reported white alone as their race, compared to 78.4% of residents statewide. The region

had especially higher concentrations of those reporting as Black or African American and Asian or Other Pacific Islander than the state overall. Beyond a smaller share of those reporting as white alone, the Metro Area also had a slightly smaller share of those reporting as American Indian or Alaska Native than the state (Table 3). Since 2013, those reporting Two or More Races and Some Other Race had the most rapid growth.

Table 3. Race and Hispanic Origin, 2023	Twin Cities Metro Area				Minnesota	
	Number	Percent	Change from 2013-2023 Numeric Percent		Percent	Change from 2013-2023
Total	3,156,517	100.0%	+266,970	+9.2%	100.0%	+6.8%
White	2,240,244	71.0%	-50,502	-2.2%	78.4%	-2.2%
Black or African American	321,168	10.2%	+79,348	+32.8%	6.8%	+38.9%
American Indian & Alaska Native	16,152	0.5%	-2,267	-12.3%	0.9%	-11.6%
Asian & Other Pac. Islander	248,469	7.9%	+55,717	+28.9%	5.1%	+29.6%
Some Other Race	103,689	3.3%	+47,468	+84.4%	2.7%	+96.1%
Two or More Races	226,795	7.2%	+137,206	+153.2%	6.2%	+168.3%
Hispanic or Latino origin	229,185	7.3%	+57,770	+33.7%	6.2%	+37.5%

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

EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT

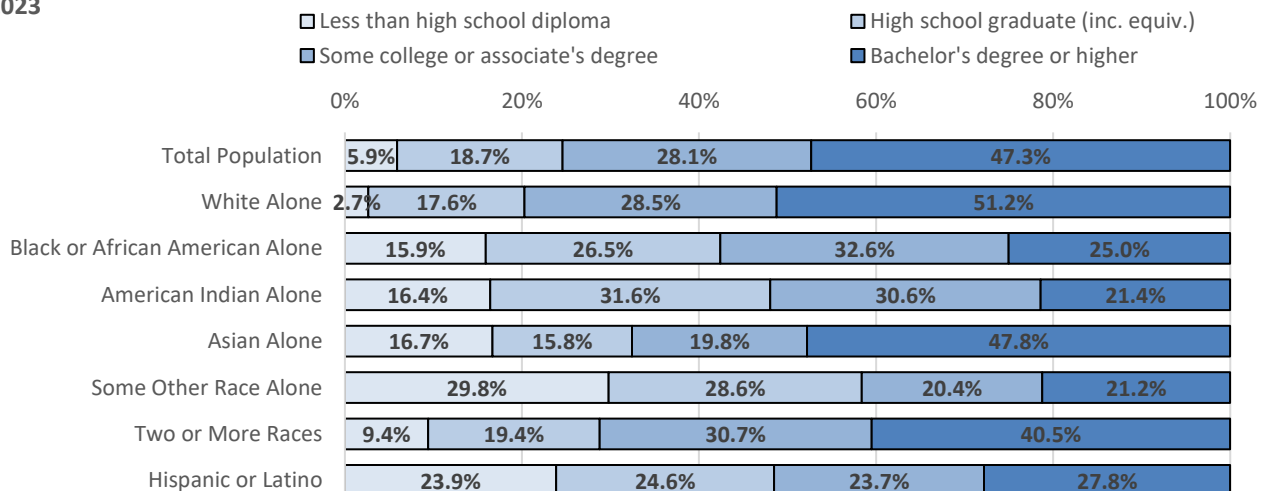
The Twin Cities Metro Area has more residents with higher educational attainment than the state overall. For example, 73.6% of those living in the Metro Area (that are 18 years of age and older) have attended a post-secondary institution or have obtained a degree. That includes 44.3% of the region's population with a bachelor's degree or more. Comparatively, 68.8% of the state's total population 18 years of age and older have attended a post-secondary institution, with 36.1% having a bachelor's degree or more (Table 4).

Table 4. Educational Attainment for the Adult Population, 2023	Metro Area		Minnesota
	Number	Percent	Percent
Total, 18 years & over	2,425,259	100.0%	100.0%
Less than high school	158,425	6.5%	6.8%
High school graduate (incl. equiv.)	481,859	19.9%	24.4%
Some college, no degree	479,104	19.8%	21.4%
Associate degree	230,900	9.5%	11.2%
Bachelor's degree	705,590	29.1%	24.0%
Advanced degree	369,381	15.2%	12.1%

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

Educational attainment varied significantly by race and ethnicity in the Metro Area. For example, where 97.3% of the white alone population 25 years and over reported having at least a high school diploma or equivalent, such figures were 70.2% for those reporting as some other race and 76.1% for those reporting Hispanic or Latino origins (Figure 5).

Figure 5. Twin Cities Educational Attainment for the population aged 25 years & over by Race or Origin, 2023

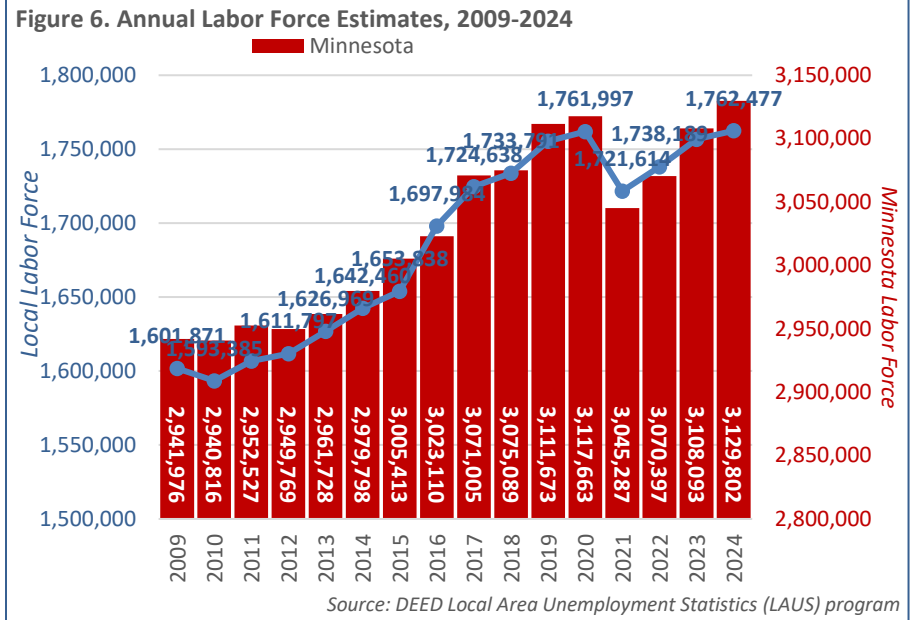


Source: 2019-2023 American Community Survey

LABOR FORCE

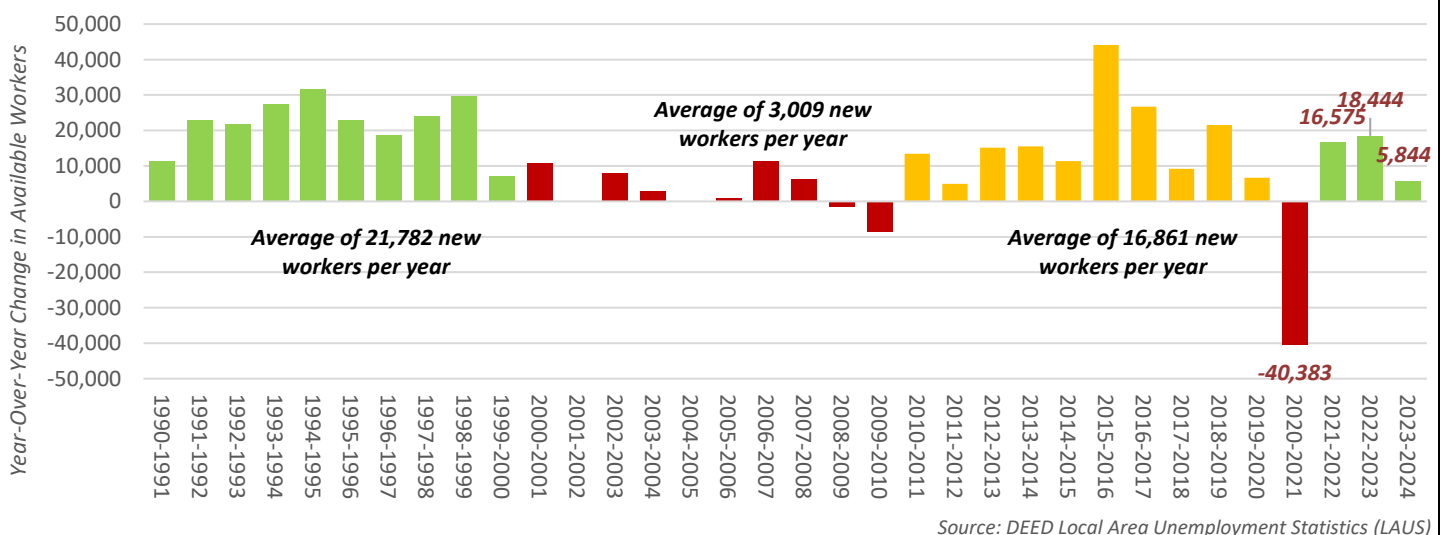
LABOR FORCE CHANGE

According to data from DEED's [Local Area Unemployment Statistics](#) program, the Twin Cities Metro Area's labor force has responded dramatically to the COVID-19 pandemic and recovery. After adding nearly 168,600 people (1.1% average annual growth) between 2010 and 2020, the region's labor force dropped by over 40,000 people between 2020 and 2021. The region's labor force then steadily recovered between 2021 and 2024. In 2024, the Twin Cities finally had more workers than it had in 2020, and is back on a growth trajectory (Figure 6). Despite the labor force growth, the number of unemployed workers has been declining, reaching a low of around 40,000 people in 2022, before inching back up to around 49,500 workers in 2024.



Even longer term, the Twin Cities Metro Area's labor force has experienced significant expansion. Between 1990 and 2000, for example, the region's labor force added an average of nearly 21,800 people per year (1.6% average annual growth rate). Between 2000 and 2010, labor force growth barely managed 3,000 per year (0.2% average annual growth rate), though that time period included two recessions. Between 2010 and 2020, labor force growth picked up again, adding an average of about 14,900 people per year (0.9% average annual growth) during the longest running economic expansion in modern times (Figure 7). Increasingly tight labor markets and a growing scarcity of workers is now recognized as one of the most significant barriers to future economic growth in Minnesota. In the face of these constraints, it has become evident that a more diverse workforce in terms of age, gender, race, ethnicity, disability status, and immigration has been and will continue to be a vital source of the workers that employers need to succeed. As the white, native-born workforce continues to age, younger workers of different races or from different countries will comprise the fastest growing segment of the labor force.

Figure 7. Twin Cities Metro Area Annual Change in Labor Force, 1990-2024



LABOR FORCE PROJECTIONS

If the Twin Cities Metro Area's population changes at the projected rates shown in Figure 4 above, the region would be expected to see a moderate increase in the labor force over the next decade. Applying current labor force participation rates to future population projections by age group creates labor force projections for the region, which show a steady 2.8% increase in workforce numbers between 2025 and 2035 (Table 5). In addition to the overall increase, the labor force will also see a significant shift over time, with large percentage gains in the number of workers aged 75 years and over. These gains will come as the share of workers between 55 and 74 years is anticipated to decrease. At the other end of the age spectrum, the region is expected to see significant gains in the number of workers between the ages of 25 and 54 years old. Currently, those workers between the ages of 25 and 54, or those in their "prime-working years" make up 64.4% of the Metro Area's total labor force. By 2035, this age cohort will account for about 66.2% of the region's total labor force. Employers in the area will need to respond to such shifts creatively.

	2025 Labor Force Estimate	2035 Labor Force Projection	2025-2035 Change	
			Numeric	Percent
16 to 19 years	80,359	76,979	-3,380	-4.2%
20 to 24 years	166,577	170,958	+4,382	+2.6%
25 to 44 years	811,759	824,306	+12,547	+1.5%
45 to 54 years	342,731	395,536	+52,804	+15.4%
55 to 64 years	282,753	261,582	-21,171	-7.5%
65 to 74 years	92,348	91,320	-1,028	-1.1%
75 years & over	15,812	22,342	+6,531	+41.3%
Total Labor Force	1,792,338	1,843,023	+50,685	+2.8%

Source: Calculated from Minnesota State Demographic Center population projections and 2019-2023 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates

EMPLOYMENT CHARACTERISTICS

With 70.9% of the working age population aged 16 years and over in the labor force, the Twin Cities had a notably higher labor force participation rate than the state's 68.5% rate. The labor force participation rate is the share of both the employed and unemployed over the civilian noninstitutional population, and the metro area was higher for nearly every age group.

In terms of unemployment, the Metro Area's overall rate of 4.0% in 2023 was nearly equal to the state's respective rate of 3.9% (Table 6). Labor force participation and unemployment varies significantly by age, race and ethnicity, veteran status, disability status, and educational attainment in the Metro Area. For example, labor force participation for teenagers 16 to 19 years old is much lower (49.9%), along with having much higher unemployment (12.0%). Similarly, labor force participation for those with reported disabilities is much lower (57.2%), along with having much higher unemployment (9.8%). With the return of very tight labor market conditions across the region and state, these are two populations that employers can focus on more to fill workforce needs. The same goes for those with less educational attainment, where those with less than a high school diploma have lower labor force participation (67.4%), along with higher unemployment (4.8%). Unemployment is typically higher for populations of color as well.

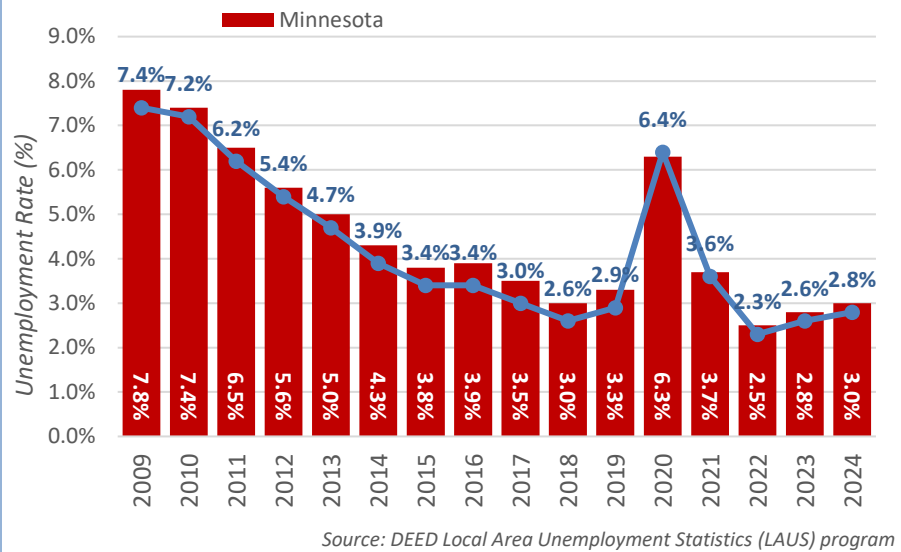
	Twin Cities Metro Area			Minnesota	
	In Labor Force	Labor Force Partic. Rate	Unemp. Rate	Labor Force Partic. Rate	Unemp. Rate
Total Labor Force	1,777,669	70.9%	4.0%	68.5%	3.9%
16 to 19 years	79,094	49.9%	12.0%	52.7%	9.9%
20 to 24 years	155,907	83.3%	7.1%	83.4%	6.5%
25 to 44 years	808,707	89.4%	3.5%	88.7%	3.5%
45 to 54 years	337,707	88.5%	2.9%	87.8%	2.9%
55 to 64 years	298,771	74.4%	3.2%	72.8%	3.0%
65 to 74 years	84,632	29.3%	3.6%	27.8%	3.4%
75 years & over	12,827	6.8%	3.8%	6.6%	3.1%
Employment Characteristics by Race & Hispanic Origin					
White alone	1,305,409	69.8%	3.3%	67.5%	3.4%
Black or African American	162,537	71.8%	7.8%	71.0%	8.4%
American Indian & Alaska Nat.	8,202	62.8%	9.3%	57.7%	11.4%
Asian or Other Pac. Islanders	141,230	75.2%	3.5%	74.6%	3.5%
Some Other Race	57,297	76.3%	5.8%	75.9%	5.6%
Two or More Races	103,183	76.1%	6.1%	74.2%	6.1%
Hispanic or Latino	122,998	77.9%	5.7%	77.1%	5.9%
Employment Characteristics by Veteran Status, 18 to 64 years					
Veterans	47,816	84.3%	4.3%	81.2%	4.1%
Employment Characteristics by Disability, 20 to 64 years					
With Any Disability	92,361	57.2%	9.8%	55.3%	9.5%
Employment Characteristics by Educational Attainment					
Population, 25 to 64 years	1,445,348	85.7%	3.3%	84.4%	3.3%
Less than H.S. Diploma	65,638	67.4%	4.8%	67.1%	4.7%
H.S. Diploma or Equivalent	217,476	77.0%	2.8%	76.5%	2.6%
Some College or Assoc. Deg.	398,905	85.3%	3.9%	85.0%	3.6%
Bachelor's Degree or Higher	763,148	90.9%	2.2%	90.5%	2.0%

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

UNEMPLOYMENT RATES

According to [Local Area Unemployment Statistics](#), the Metro Area has historically had a lower unemployment rate than Minnesota and the nation, regardless of the state of the economy. As of annual 2024, the Metro Area's unemployment rate stood at 2.8%, which represented approximately 49,500 unemployed persons. Minnesota's unemployment rate of 3.0% during that time represented approximately 94,000 people (Figure 8). As such, just over half of the state's unemployed persons resided within the Twin Cities Metro Area in 2024. The Metro Area's unemployment rate spiked during the COVID-19 pandemic to 12.1% in May 2020. This represented approximately 205,300 unemployed persons. Unemployment since that time has gradually declined, reaching historic lows in the spring months of 2022. In April 2022, for example, the unemployment rate in the region dropped to 1.9%, which represented approximately 32,300 unemployed persons. This was the lowest unemployment the region has experienced since 1998, when the labor force size was about 166,600 persons smaller.

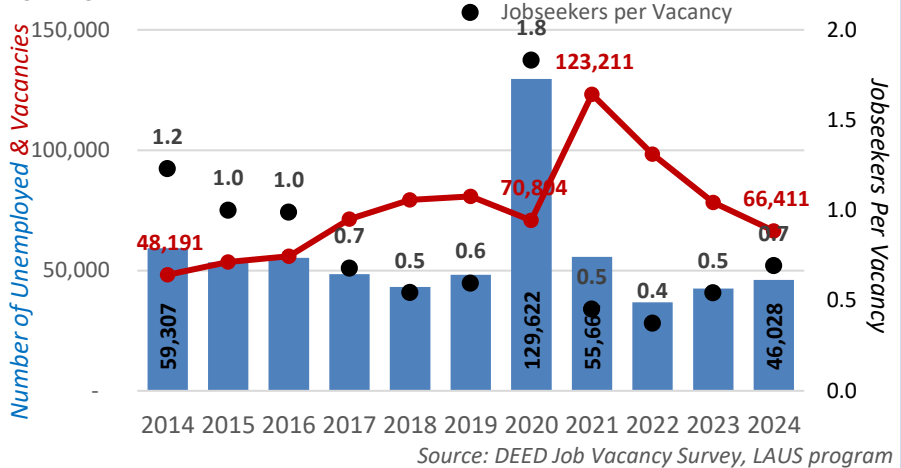
Figure 8. Unemployment Rates, 2009-2024



JOBSEEKERS PER VACANCY

As the number of available unemployed workers has declined and the economy continues to recover, the region's labor market has tightened. Prior to the pandemic, the region had seen three straight years with less than one jobseeker per vacancy, indicating an extremely tight labor market. The ratio jumped to 1.8 jobseekers per vacancy in 2020, then declined to an all-time low of 0.4 in 2022. The ratio climbed in the past two years, but there are still more job openings than unemployed workers (Figure 9).

Figure 9. Jobseekers Per Vacancy, 2014-2024



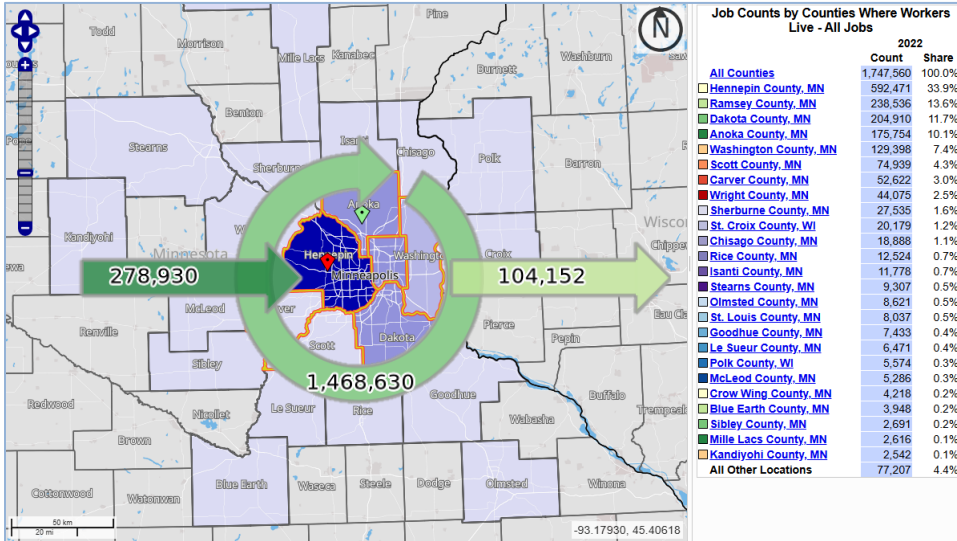
COMMUTE SHED AND LABOR SHED, 2022

According to commuting data from the [U.S. Census Bureau](#), the vast majority – about 93% – of workers who live in the Twin Cities Metro Area also work within the region. There is no doubt that the Metro Area is a net importer of labor, having more jobs than available workers. In sum, about 1,468,600 workers both lived and worked in the Metro Area in 2022, while over 278,900 workers drove into the region for work, compared to about 104,200 workers who lived in the region but drove to surrounding counties for work (Table 7 and Figure 10).

Table 7. Metro Area Inflow/Outflow Job Counts (All Jobs), 2022	2022	
	Count	Share
Employed in the Selection Area	1,747,560	100.0%
Employed in the Selection Area but Living Outside	278,930	16.0%
Employed and Living in the Selection Area	1,468,630	84.0%
Living in the Selection Area	1,572,782	100.0%
Living in the Selection Area but Employed Outside	104,152	6.6%
Living and Employed in the Selection Area	1,468,630	93.4%

Source: [U.S. Census Bureau, OnTheMap](#)

Figure 10. Metro Area Labor and Commute Shed, 2022



For those living in the Twin Cities Metro Area, top work destinations include Minneapolis, St. Paul, Bloomington, Eden Prairie, Minnetonka, Plymouth, Eagan, Edina, St. Louis Park, and Maple Grove. Nearly one-in-five Metro Area residents work in Minneapolis alone, with about one-in-ten working in St. Paul. Zooming out, just over half (50.4%) of Twin Cities' residents work in Hennepin County, with nearly one-fifth (17.7%) working in Ramsey County (Figure 10). For those outside residents commuting into the region for work, top origins include Wright Co., St. Louis Co., and Olmsted Co.

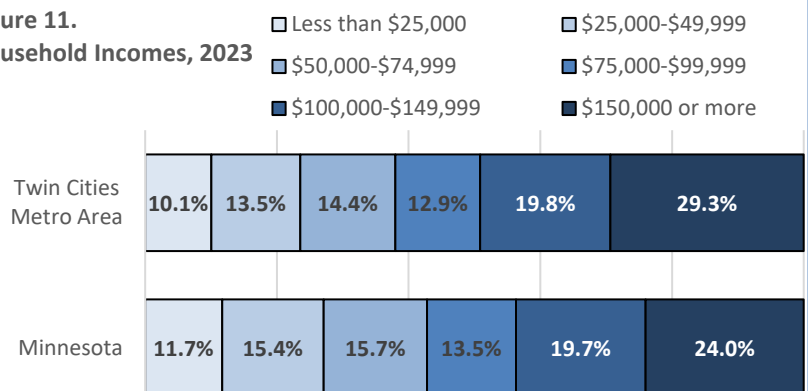
INCOMES, WAGES AND OCCUPATIONS

HOUSEHOLD INCOMES

As of 2023, household incomes were significantly higher in the Twin Cities Metro Area than they were for the rest of the state. The median household income in the Metro Area was \$98,517 in 2023, which was 12.5% higher than Minnesota's median household income of \$87,556. Even so, about one-quarter (23.6%) of the households in the region had incomes below \$50,000 in 2023, compared to 27.1% of such households statewide (Figure 11). Median household incomes ranged from \$81,004 in Ramsey County to over \$120,000 in Carver and Scott counties.

Figure 11.

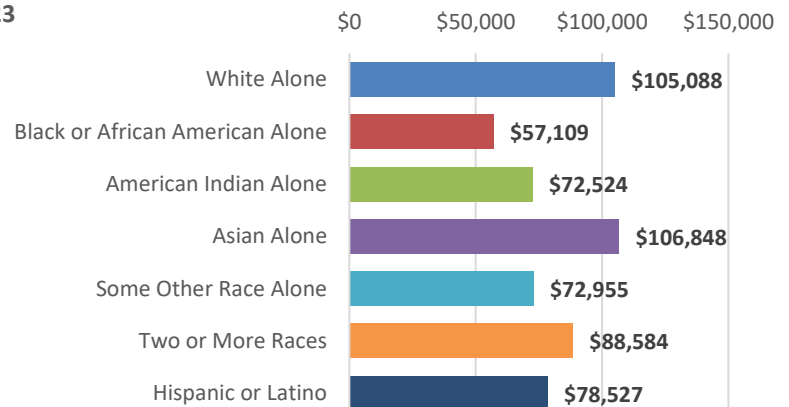
Household Incomes, 2023



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

Median household incomes varied significantly by race and ethnicity in the region. Black or African American households reported the lowest incomes in the Metro Area, with a median household income (\$57,109) that was about \$50,000 lower than the respective median household income for white households (\$105,088) (Figure 12). Only those reporting as white or Asian had median household incomes close to or above the median household income for the total of all households in the Twin Cities Metro Area. Households of other races saw much lower incomes.

Figure 12. Twin Cities Median Household Income by Race, 2023



Source: 2019-2023 American Community Survey

COST OF LIVING

According to DEED's [Cost of Living tool](#), the basic needs budget for an average Minnesota family (which consists of two adults and one child, with one full-time and one part-time worker) was \$70,308 in 2024. The cost of living for a similar family in the Twin Cities Metro Area was about \$76,524 – which was easily the highest of the six planning regions in the state. The highest monthly costs were for housing, food, and transportation, with housing, childcare, and taxes significantly higher than the rest of the state. To meet the basic cost of living for the region, each worker in the family scenario described would need to earn \$24.53 per hour, again one working part-time and one working full time.

DEED's Cost of Living tool provides different estimates for household compositions including single people, partnered couples, and up to four children. For a single person living alone and working full-time, the estimated yearly cost in the Metro Area would be about \$40,212 which would require an hourly wage of \$19.33 to meet the basic needs standard of living (Table 8).

Table 8. Family Yearly Cost, Worker Hourly Wage, and Family Monthly Costs, 2024										
Family Composition	Number of Workers	Yearly Cost of Living	Hourly Wage Required	Monthly Costs						
				Child Care	Food	Health Care	Housing	Trans- portation	Other	Taxes
Twin Cities Metro Area										
Single, 0 children	1 FT	\$40,212	\$19.33	\$0	\$430	\$159	\$1,356	\$554	\$413	\$439
Single, 1 child	1 FT	\$70,704	\$33.99	\$1,325	\$631	\$403	\$1,683	\$559	\$535	\$756
2 parents, 1 child	1 FT, 1 PT	\$76,524	\$24.53	\$662	\$979	\$572	\$1,683	\$980	\$616	\$885
2 parents, 2 children	2 FT	\$112,896	\$27.14	\$1,952	\$1,272	\$582	\$2,270	\$1,019	\$819	\$1,494
State of Minnesota										
Single, 0 children	1 FT	\$36,768	\$17.68	\$0	\$424	\$156	\$1,154	\$573	\$365	\$392
2 parents, 1 child	1 FT, 1 PT	\$70,308	\$22.53	\$545	\$964	\$556	\$1,446	\$1,028	\$557	\$763
Source: DEED Cost of Living tool										

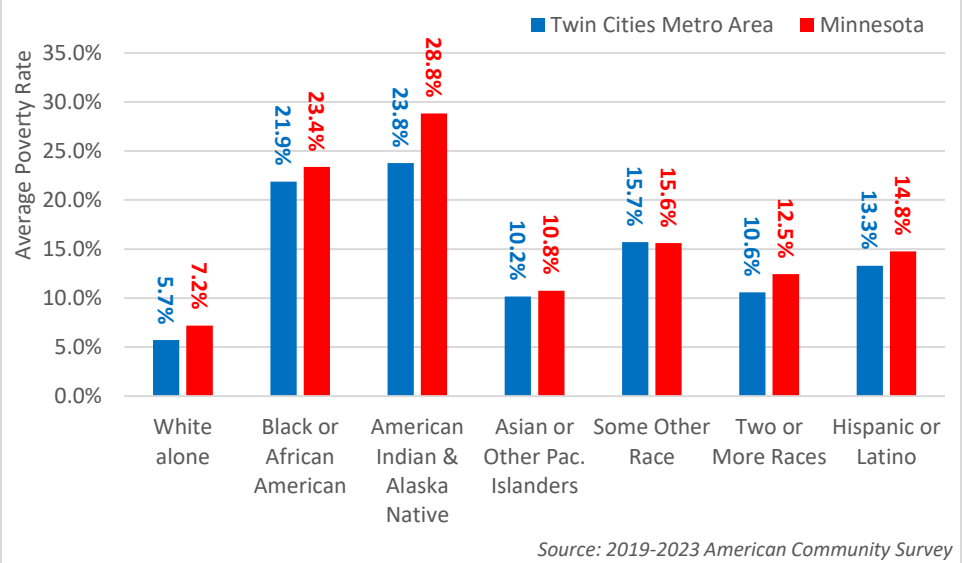
Source: [DEED Cost of Living tool](#)

Overall, the Metro Area's poverty rate was 8.5% in 2023, which was slightly below the statewide rate of 9.2%. Like incomes, poverty levels varied widely by race and origin. It was estimated that 23.8% of the region's American Indian or Alaska Native population was below the poverty level in 2023, compared to just 5.7% of the white population. About one-in-five (21.9%) of Black or African Americans in the region lived below the poverty level.

Such levels were also higher for those reporting Some Other Race (15.7%), Hispanic or Latino origins (13.3%), Asian (10.2%), and Two or More Races (10.6%). In all cases, the region's poverty rate was lower than the state's poverty rate (Figure 13).

The respective share of the population below the poverty level by county ranged from a low of 4.1% in Scott County and 4.2% in Carver County, to 5.0% in Washington County, 5.6% in Dakota County, and 6.6% in Anoka County to highs of 10.0% in Hennepin County and 12.4% in Ramsey County.

Figure 13. Percent Below the Poverty Level by Race or Origin, 2023



WAGES AND OCCUPATIONS

According to DEED's [Occupational Employment & Wage Statistics](#) program, the median hourly wage for all occupations in the Twin Cities Metro Area was \$28.48 in the first quarter of 2024, which was easily the highest wage level of the six planning regions in the state. The Metro Area's median hourly wage was \$2.26 above the state's median hourly wage. Working full-time and year-round, a worker earning the median wage in the Metro Area would earn about \$7,600 more than a worker earning the median wage in the next highest paying region in the state (Table 9).

Table 9. Occupational Employment Statistics by Region, 1 st Qtr. 2025	Median Hourly Wage	Estimated Regional Employment
Twin Cities Metro Area	\$28.48	1,762,280
Central Minnesota	\$23.85	280,040
Southeast Minnesota	\$24.82	244,290
Northwest Minnesota	\$22.98	223,320
Southwest Minnesota	\$23.24	169,900
Northeast Minnesota	\$23.47	139,940
State of Minnesota	\$26.22	2,920,470

Source: [DEED Occupational Employment & Wage Statistics](#)

The top four employing occupational groups in the Metro Area, being Office & Administrative Support, Business & Financial Operations, Sales & Related, and Food Prep & Serving Occupations, account for 36.3% of the region's total 1,762,280 jobs. The region stands out for having higher concentrations of Legal, Business & Financial Operations, Computer & Mathematical, Architecture & Engineering; and Arts, Design, Entertainment & Media workers (Table 10).

Table 10. Metro Area Occupational Employment Statistics, 1 st Qtr. 2025							
	Metro Area				State of Minnesota		
	Median Hourly Wage	Estimated Regional Employment	Share of Total Employment	Location Quotient	Median Hourly Wage	Estimated Regional Employment	Share of Total Employment
Total, All Occupations	\$28.48	1,762,280	100.0%	1.0	\$26.22	2,920,470	100.0%
Management	\$63.62	130,080	7.4%	1.1	\$59.38	200,060	6.9%
Business & Financial Operations	\$41.34	151,080	8.6%	1.2	\$39.95	208,210	7.1%
Computer & Mathematical	\$51.35	71,750	4.1%	1.2	\$50.02	97,460	3.3%
Architecture & Engineering	\$47.56	40,480	2.3%	1.2	\$45.03	57,950	2.0%
Life, Physical, & Social Science	\$40.63	18,450	1.0%	1.0	\$38.33	32,150	1.1%
Community & Social Service	\$30.01	34,680	2.0%	1.0	\$29.82	59,290	2.0%
Legal	\$53.02	16,390	0.9%	1.3	\$49.52	20,750	0.7%
Educational Instruction & Library	\$28.44	98,540	5.6%	1.0	\$27.84	170,270	5.8%
Arts, Design, Entertainment & Media	\$30.28	24,600	1.4%	1.1	\$28.84	36,030	1.2%
Healthcare Practitioners & Technical	\$48.50	105,470	6.0%	0.9	\$46.51	187,480	6.4%
Healthcare Support	\$18.64	110,250	6.3%	1.0	\$18.67	176,750	6.1%
Protective Service	\$29.42	27,730	1.6%	1.0	\$29.37	46,960	1.6%
Food Preparation & Serving Related	\$16.93	141,110	8.0%	1.0	\$16.05	240,830	8.2%
Building & Grounds Cleaning & Maint.	\$19.44	46,640	2.6%	0.9	\$19.16	81,700	2.8%
Personal Care & Service	\$17.89	39,470	2.2%	1.0	\$17.54	63,300	2.2%
Sales & Related	\$21.11	143,270	8.1%	1.0	\$18.66	244,780	8.4%
Office & Administrative Support	\$24.71	204,770	11.6%	1.0	\$24.07	340,040	11.6%
Farming, Fishing, & Forestry	\$22.71	930	0.1%	0.5	\$23.48	3,300	0.1%
Construction & Extraction	\$38.33	59,580	3.4%	0.9	\$34.20	114,050	3.9%
Installation, Maintenance, & Repair	\$31.26	56,240	3.2%	0.9	\$30.40	105,650	3.6%
Production	\$24.01	110,390	6.3%	0.9	\$23.56	205,220	7.0%
Transportation & Material Moving	\$23.20	130,360	7.4%	0.9	\$22.85	228,260	7.8%

Source: [DEED Occupational Employment & Wage Statistics, Qtr. 1 2025](#)

When analyzing occupational groups by wage, the lowest-paying jobs are concentrated in Food Preparation & Serving; Building, Grounds Cleaning & Maintenance; Sales & Related; Personal Care & Service; and Healthcare Support, which tend to have lower educational and training requirements. In contrast, the highest paying jobs are found in Management; Computer & Mathematical; Legal; Architecture & Engineering; Healthcare Practitioners; Business & Financial Operations; and Life, Physical, & Social Science occupations, which all need higher levels of education and experience, including many that require postsecondary training.

JOB VACANCY SURVEY

Employers in Twin Cities Metro Area reported 66,411 job vacancies during 2024, which accounted for over half (56.3%) of the state's total 120,448 job vacancies. While that's nearly 60,000 fewer than reported in the tight labor market in 2021, it's still a historically high number. The 66,411 job vacancies in 2024 is in line with the numbers posted back in 2017, when the region switched to having more available jobs than unemployed workers. The median hourly wage offer was \$22.30 across all occupations, which is the highest ever recorded, but ranged from a low of \$15.83 per hour for Food Preparation & Serving workers, to more than \$40 per hour for Management, Architecture & Engineering, and Computer & Mathematical workers, who had a median wage offer of \$52.17.

The largest number of vacancies were in Food Preparation & Serving occupations, with nearly 10,500 openings in 2024. That was followed by Healthcare Practitioners & Technical and Sales & Related occupations, which both had around 7,500 vacancies. Other large groups included Healthcare Support and Management occupations; in sum, more than half (52.5%) of the vacancies in the region were in these five occupational groups.

Overall, 27% of the openings were for part-time work, 41% required postsecondary education, and 52% required a year or more of experience (Table 11). It should be noted that the share of total job vacancies being for part-time work has dropped from 41% of total vacancies in 2017. This reveals that more and more employers are taking advantage of their current workforce and setting them up with full-time work. Likewise, the percent that require postsecondary education has been dropping, while the percentage that require related work experience has been increasing, as employers look to cast a wider net looking for new potential workers.

Table 11. Twin Cities Metro Area Job Vacancy Survey Results, 2024

Occupational Group	Number of Total Vacancies	Median Hourly Wage Offer	Percent Part-Time	Percent Temporary or Seasonal	Requiring Post-Secondary Education	Requiring 1 or More Years of Experience	Requiring Certificate or License
Total, All Occupations	66,411	\$22.30	27%	7%	41%	52%	48%
Management	4,460	\$42.50	2%	0%	81%	94%	53%
Business & Financial Operations	3,525	\$33.68	12%	6%	72%	91%	40%
Computer & Mathematical	2,465	\$52.17	2%	20%	91%	96%	34%
Architecture & Engineering	1,449	\$42.92	0%	1%	90%	90%	76%
Life, Physical & Social Sciences	586	\$31.86	13%	6%	81%	87%	51%
Community & Social Service	2,687	\$23.98	29%	1%	54%	70%	68%
Legal	294	\$31.19	1%	2%	95%	70%	87%
Education, Training & Library	3,109	\$23.24	40%	21%	76%	36%	86%
Arts, Design, Entertainment & Media	1,214	\$18.83	40%	59%	31%	65%	33%
Healthcare Practitioners & Technical	7,696	\$35.69	30%	1%	90%	63%	97%
Healthcare Support	4,904	\$18.91	37%	0%	22%	20%	72%
Protective Service	769	\$17.16	45%	10%	11%	30%	49%
Food Preparation & Serving Related	10,433	\$15.83	36%	2%	1%	28%	7%
Building, Grounds Cleaning & Maint.	1,016	\$17.91	41%	18%	2%	18%	28%
Personal Care & Service	2,189	\$17.36	51%	12%	28%	38%	62%
Sales & Related	7,399	\$18.30	37%	3%	9%	47%	21%
Office & Administrative Support	2,971	\$19.96	26%	3%	15%	58%	15%
Construction & Extraction	779	\$25.58	2%	5%	10%	47%	82%
Installation, Maintenance & Repair	2,284	\$24.75	4%	4%	47%	57%	69%
Production	2,014	\$23.61	4%	1%	10%	62%	19%
Transportation & Material Moving	3,175	\$19.91	30%	8%	4%	18%	59%

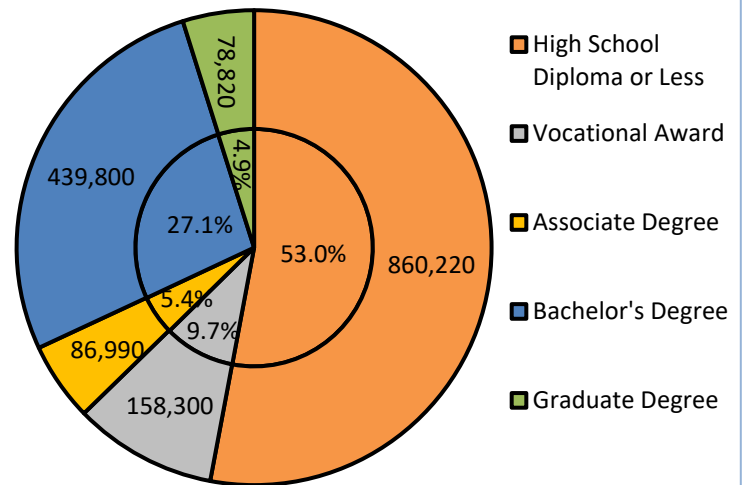
Source: DEED Job Vacancy Survey, 2024

EDUCATIONAL REQUIREMENTS

Typically, DEED's Job Vacancy Survey shows that about 40% of job vacancies in the Twin Cities Metro Area require some level of post-secondary education. This is similar to the share of jobs requiring post-secondary education as highlighted by DEED's Occupational Employment Statistics program. As of 2023, this program showed that 47% of all jobs in the region required post-secondary education (Figure 14). In other words, the majority of jobs in the Metro Area, 53%, required a high school diploma or less.

Certain careers – such as Dentists, Lawyers, and Teachers – require a college education, while other jobs – including Cost Estimators, Sales Representatives, and Correctional Officers – do not. College is an excellent way to move up career ladders and open windows of opportunity to fields that would otherwise be closed, such as nursing or engineering. Many of these occupations offer high wages and are in high demand in the marketplace. While education is typically a worthwhile investment, college can be expensive. According to the Minnesota Office of Higher Education, average annual expenses for a full-time resident undergrad can range from \$20,570 at state colleges to \$53,670 at private non-profit colleges. For those who go onto to higher education and college, choice of major matters – different programs lead to different jobs that earn different amounts of money.

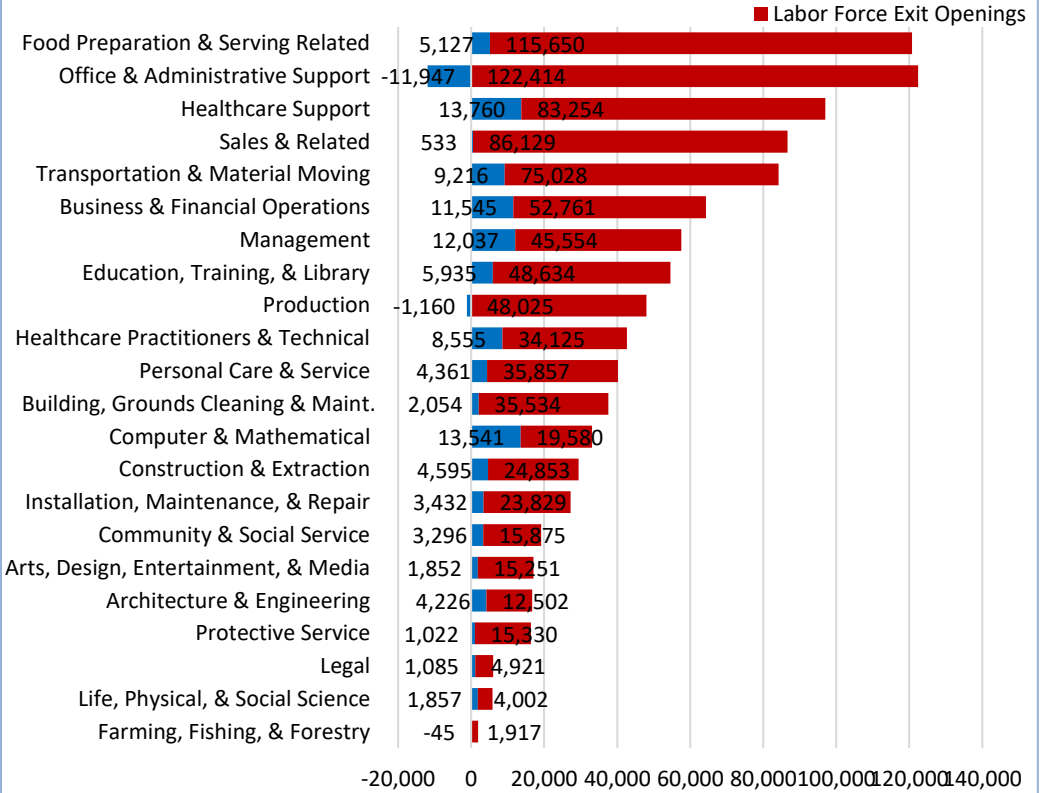
Figure 14. Metro Area Share of Jobs by Educational Attainment, 2024



EMPLOYMENT PROJECTIONS

Overall, the Metro Area is projected to grow 4.9% from 2022 to 2032, a gain of nearly 94,900 net new jobs. In addition, the region is also expected to need approximately 921,000 replacement openings to fill jobs left vacant by retirements and other career changers. Healthcare Support, Computer & Mathematical, Management, Business & Financial Operations, Transportation & Material Moving, and Healthcare Practitioners occupations are expected to see the most net new growth, but every occupational group will show some future demand either through new jobs or replacement openings (Figure 15).

Figure 15. Metro Area Employment Projections, 2022-2032



Source: DEED Employment Outlook

OCCUPATIONS IN DEMAND

According to DEED's [Occupations in Demand](#) tool, there are about 300 distinct occupations showing relatively high demand in the region, with training and education requirements ranging from short-term on-the-job training to postsecondary education to advanced degrees. These occupations are spread across different sectors but are also concentrated in the region's major industries. For example, Retail Salespersons, Personal Care Aides, Registered Nurses, Software Developers, Accountants, and Heavy and Tractor-Trailer Truck Drivers are among the top occupations in demand based on the consistent need for workers in these fields. Those occupational groups with the most occupations in the top 100 in-demand occupations include Food Preparation & Serving, Management, Office & Administrative Support, Sales & Related, and Transportation & Material Moving (Table 12).

Table 12. Twin Cities Metro Area Occupations in Demand, 2024

High School or Less	Vocational Training	Associate Degree	Bachelor's Degree or Higher
Home Health & Personal Care Aides \$36,582/yr	Nursing Assistants \$47,793/yr	Registered Nurses \$103,822/yr	Software Developers \$131,485/yr
Retail Salespersons \$35,954/yr	Heavy and Tractor-Trailer Truck Drivers \$64,167/yr	Radiologic Technologists and Technicians \$84,258/yr	Accountants and Auditors \$84,154/yr
Fast Food and Counter Workers \$35,247/yr	Licensed Practical and Licensed Vocational Nurses \$63,105/yr	Dental Hygienists \$101,993/yr	General and Operations Managers \$103,708/yr
First-Line Supervisors of Food Prep & Serving Workers \$47,416/yr	Automotive Service Technicians and Mechanics \$63,327/yr	Veterinary Technologists and Technicians \$55,999/yr	Financial Managers \$165,752/yr
Cashiers \$34,713/yr	Substance abuse, behavioral disorder & mental health counselors \$61,060/yr	Paralegals and Legal Assistants \$76,190/yr	Project Management Specialists \$100,639/yr
Waiters and Waitresses \$26,043/yr	Bookkeeping, Accounting, and Auditing Clerks \$56,981/yr	Surgical Technologists \$82,186/yr	Market Research Analysts and Marketing Specialists \$88,321/yr
Customer Service Representatives \$48,692/yr	Computer User Support Specialists \$66,045/yr	Industrial Engineering Technologists & Technicians \$70,352/yr	Management Analysts \$98,434/yr
First-Line Supervisors of Retail Sales Workers \$49,741/yr	Machinists \$61,474/yr	Police and Sheriff's Patrol Officers \$97,755/yr	Elementary School Teachers, Except Special Education \$77,347/yr
Sales Representatives, Wholesale and Manufacturing, \$78,785/yr	Medical Assistants \$51,095/yr	Magnetic Resonance Imaging Technologists \$101,075/yr	Industrial Engineers \$104,053/yr
Stockers and Order Fillers \$38,547/yr	Psychiatric Technicians \$51,669/yr	Veterinary Assistants & Lab Animal Caretakers \$44,774/yr	Marketing Managers \$171,914/yr

Source: DEED Occupations in Demand

ECONOMY

INDUSTRY EMPLOYMENT

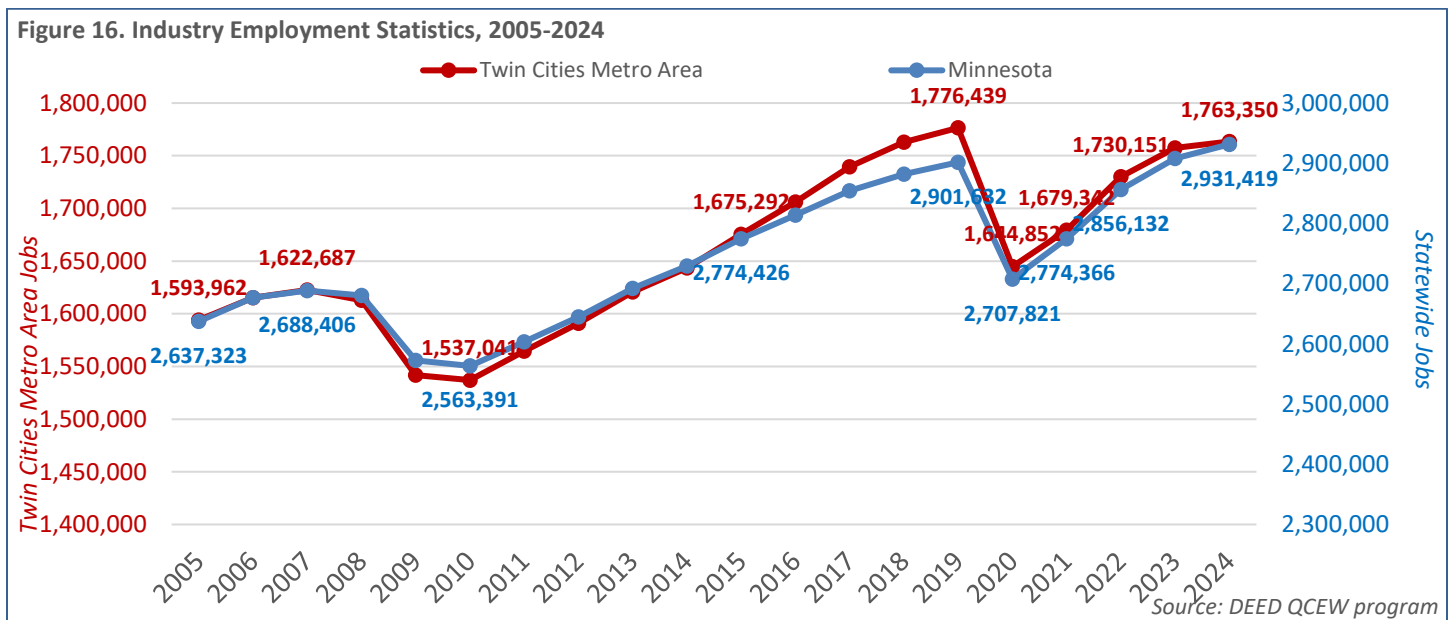
According to DEED's [Quarterly Census of Employment & Wages \(QCEW\) program](#), the Twin Cities Metro Area was home to about 94,800 employer establishments providing an average of just over 1.76 million covered jobs through 2024 (Table 13). At that level, the Twin Cities accounts for 60.2% of total employment in the state. The average annual wage across all industries was \$81,047 in the Twin Cities Metro Area, which was about 9.2% higher than the state's average annual wage across all industries. With 916,429 jobs at 44,751 firms, Hennepin County is easily the largest economy in the state, and also has above average wages of \$90,182. Ramsey County is second largest, with 325,203 jobs at 15,433 establishments, followed by Dakota County with 189,051 jobs and Anoka County with 133,140 jobs. With 40,840 jobs, Carver is the smallest county in the region, but still the 12th largest in the state.

Geography	Number of Establishments	Number of Jobs	Total Payroll	Average Annual Wage	2023-2024		2020-2024	
					Change in Jobs	Percent Change	Change in Jobs	Percent Change
Minnesota	212,756	2,931,419	\$217,596,492,078	\$74,229	+23,696	+0.8%	+223,598	+8.3%
Twin Cities Metro Area	94,804	1,763,350	\$142,913,858,733	\$81,047	+6,017	+0.3%	+118,498	+7.2%
Hennepin County	44,751	916,429	\$82,645,492,141	\$90,182	+968	+0.1%	+53,502	+6.2%
Ramsey County	15,433	325,203	\$25,340,141,375	\$77,921	+286	+0.1%	+15,807	+5.1%
Dakota County	11,921	189,051	\$13,765,949,057	\$72,816	+737	+0.4%	+11,023	+6.2%
Anoka County	8,841	133,140	\$8,683,704,990	\$65,222	+665	+0.5%	+12,370	+10.2%
Washington County	7,000	95,582	\$5,802,699,031	\$60,709	+1,706	+1.8%	+11,577	+13.8%
Scott County	3,990	63,103	\$3,921,204,012	\$62,140	+2,200	+3.6%	+10,962	+21.0%
Carver County	2,869	40,840	\$2,754,668,127	\$67,450	-546	-1.3%	+3,256	+8.7%

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

All seven counties have regained jobs since 2020, led by a 21.0% increase in Scott County, followed by a 13.8% jump in Washington County and a 10.2% gain in Anoka County. Carver County is the only county in the metro that saw a job decline in the past year, losing 546 jobs over the year, but still up 8.7% since 2020. Hennepin, Ramsey and Dakota were hit hard by job losses during the Pandemic Recession, and all grew between 5.1% and 6.2% since 2020.

Coming out of the Great Recession in 2010, the Twin Cities Metro Area led the state's job growth from 2010 to 2019. With the onset of COVID-19 in 2020, the Metro Area experienced significant industry employment loss. Between annual 2019 and 2020 the Metro Area's total employment plummeted by nearly 131,600 jobs. This 7.4% drop was slightly more severe than the state's respective 6.7% drop during that period. For the region, that employment loss was much more significant than losses experienced during the Great Recession. However, employment in the Metro Area began its recovery after the second quarter of 2020, and employers in the region regained about 120,000 jobs from the low point in 2020 to 2024, ending the year just below the pre-recession peak of 1,776,439 jobs in 2019 (Figure 16).



Just four industries still have fewer jobs in 2024 than in 2020, with Finance & Insurance seeing the biggest deficit – still down -15,220 jobs. Information, Management of Companies, and Administrative Support & Waste Services also down a couple thousand jobs compared to 2020. In contrast, the other 16 industries all regained jobs from 2020 to 2024, led Health Care & Social Assistance, which is the largest employing industry in the region after adding 34,027 jobs, for a new total of 304,298 jobs, accounting for 17.3% of total employment in the region. After suffering during the Pandemic Recession, Accommodation & Food Services recovered 33,005 jobs from 2020 to 2024, a 32.4% increase. Arts, Entertainment & Recreation and Transportation & Warehousing both also added more than 10,000 jobs.

More recently, between 2023 and 2024, industry growth in the Metro Area was more varied, with 11 of the 20 sectors seeing short-term declines. This included bigger job losses in Administrative Support & Waste Management Services, which includes temporary staffing agencies, as well as further losses in Finance & Insurance, Management of Companies, and Information. After a strong recovery since 2020, the Manufacturing industry cut more than 3,000 jobs in 2024. Likewise, Professional & Technical Services and Wholesale Trade suffered losses despite seeing growth since 2020. On the flip side, nine industries saw job growth over the past year, again led by Health Care & Social Assistance, which added nearly 12,400 jobs in 2024, a strong 4.2% growth rate. Public Administration also saw rapid growth over the year, adding nearly 5,200 jobs, a 6.9% expansion. Other industries that saw growth include Educational Services, Accommodation & Food Services, Arts, Entertainment & Recreation, and Transportation & Warehousing (Table 14).

Table 14. Metro Area Industry Employment Statistics, 2024

NAICS Industry Title	2024 Annual Data				Avg. Annual Wage	2023-2024		2020-2024	
	Number of Firms	Number of Jobs	Percent of Jobs	Total Payroll (\$1,000s)		Change in Jobs	Percent Change	Change in Jobs	Percent Change
Total, All Industries	94,804	1,763,350	100.0%	\$142,913,859	\$81,047	+6,017	+0.3%	+118,498	+7.2%
Agriculture, Forestry, Fish & Hunt	303	3,577	0.2%	\$161,154	\$45,053	-38	-1.1%	+437	+13.9%
Mining	40	532	0.0%	\$79,700	\$149,812	-39	-6.8%	+4	+0.8%
Construction	7,190	79,927	4.5%	\$7,773,007	\$97,251	-257	-0.3%	+6,799	+9.3%
Manufacturing	3,989	172,772	9.8%	\$16,164,650	\$93,561	-3,080	-1.8%	+6,600	+4.0%
Utilities	119	7,034	0.4%	\$966,216	\$137,364	+101	+1.5%	+819	+13.2%
Wholesale Trade	5,305	77,811	4.4%	\$8,501,256	\$109,255	-1,132	-1.4%	+2,838	+3.8%
Retail Trade	8,398	155,422	8.8%	\$6,540,209	\$42,080	+394	+0.3%	+3,196	+2.1%
Transportation & Warehousing	2,162	79,076	4.5%	\$5,817,200	\$73,565	+1,223	+1.6%	+10,482	+15.3%
Information	2,070	28,725	1.6%	\$3,456,131	\$120,318	-1,393	-4.6%	-3,655	-11.3%
Finance & Insurance	5,119	99,531	5.6%	\$14,955,325	\$150,258	-4,368	-4.2%	-15,220	-13.3%
Real Estate & Rental & Leasing	4,428	27,077	1.5%	\$2,016,935	\$74,489	-245	-0.9%	+888	+3.4%
Professional & Technical Services	12,323	124,189	7.0%	\$15,738,983	\$126,734	-2,226	-1.8%	+2,601	+2.1%
Management of Companies	1,069	74,213	4.2%	\$11,079,313	\$149,291	-3,424	-4.4%	-2,392	-3.1%
Admin. Support & Waste Mgmt. Svcs.	4,631	84,291	4.8%	\$4,655,268	\$55,229	-4,389	-4.9%	-1,205	-1.4%
Educational Services	2,438	137,859	7.8%	\$9,263,240	\$67,194	+3,290	+2.4%	+9,644	+7.5%
Health Care & Social Assistance	14,721	304,298	17.3%	\$20,157,325	\$66,242	+12,362	+4.2%	+34,027	+12.6%
Arts, Entertainment, & Recreation	1,889	35,900	2.0%	\$1,986,449	\$55,333	+1,385	+4.0%	+12,464	+53.2%
Accommodation & Food Services	6,575	134,980	7.7%	\$4,074,409	\$30,185	+2,002	+1.5%	+33,005	+32.4%
Other Services	11,207	56,426	3.2%	\$2,881,617	\$51,069	+671	+1.2%	+8,256	+17.1%
Public Administration	829	79,706	4.5%	\$6,645,472	\$83,375	+5,179	+6.9%	+8,740	+12.3%

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

According to DEED's Quarterly Employment Demographics (QED) program, the workforce in the Twin Cities Metro Area has aged over the past 10 years. For example, in 2014, 18.4% of the region's workforce was 55 years of age and older. By 2024, 22% of the workforce was 55 years of age and older. With rising demand and tight labor market conditions, wages have been climbing across the board for all workers, but wages were still lowest for the youngest and oldest workers who tend to fill lower-skilled, less-than-fulltime jobs (Table 15).

Table 15. Metro Area Workforce Demographics by Age Group and Gender, Total of All Industries, 2014-2024

Metro Area	Percentage of Workers		Minnesota		Median Hourly Wage		Median Hours Worked (Per Qtr.)	
	2024	2014	2024	2014	2024	2014	2024	2014
Total, all ages	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	\$27.72	\$18.80	431	440
19 years & under	5.2%	5.4%	6.0%	6.4%	\$16.57	\$8.48	114	113
20 to 24 years	8.8%	10.8%	9.0%	11.1%	\$20.90	\$11.83	280	256
25 to 44 years	45.0%	44.3%	43.6%	42.4%	\$31.37	\$20.46	467	473
45 to 54 years	19.0%	21.1%	18.7%	20.8%	\$36.82	\$25.24	480	480
55 to 64 years	16.4%	14.9%	16.5%	15.4%	\$33.70	\$24.50	480	480
65 years & over	5.6%	3.5%	6.1%	3.9%	\$23.75	\$16.28	284	276
Male	48.8%	49.8%	48.9%	49.3%	\$32.22	\$21.00	478	480
Female	51.2%	50.2%	51.1%	50.7%	\$26.88	\$17.83	403	397

Source: DEED Quarterly Employment Demographics

EMPLOYMENT DIVERSITY

According to the U.S. Census Bureau's American Community Survey and the Quarterly Workforce Indicators program, where those reporting as a race other than white make up 24.9% of the overall labor force in the Metro Area, they held 21.0% of total jobs in the region. Through annual 2023, that equaled 375,918 workers of color, compared to 1,792,052 white alone workers. Workers of color held just 10.9% of total jobs in the region in 2000 (Figure 17). Further, there were over 111,700 workers with Hispanic and Latino origins in the Metro Area in 2023, accounting for 6.2% of the region's total jobs. This was up from 2.9% in 2000.

In sum, workers of color filled an additional 199,360 jobs in the Metro Area between 2000 and 2023, accounting for a growth rate of 112.9%. With 174,342 jobs, Black or African Americans are the largest population of color in the regional economy, gaining 89,833 jobs between 2000 and 2023 (+106.3%). Asian or Other Pacific Islanders in the workforce more than doubled (+81,442 jobs; +130.4%) between 2000 and 2023, accounting for 143,884 jobs in 2023. Workers reporting Two or More Races held 44,291 jobs in 2023, also more than doubling (+25,332 jobs; +133.6%) since 2000. With 13,401 jobs in 2023, American Indian or Alaska Natives added 2,753 jobs (+25.9%) between 2000 and 2023. The white workforce in the region declined by 2.3% (-32,724 jobs) between 2000 and 2023 (Figure 17 and 18).

The Quarterly Workforce Indicators data can reveal more recent employment trends by race and ethnicity. Between annual 2019 and 2020, the region's total employment dropped by 6.0%, or 108,154 jobs. By race, jobs held by American Indian or Alaska Natives declined by 6.9% (-875 jobs), jobs held by Black or African Americans dropped by 6.4% (-10,426 jobs), and jobs held by those reporting Two or More Races dropped by 6.0% (-2,366 jobs). Jobs held by Asian or Other Pacific Islanders dropped by a less severe 3.5% (-4,749 jobs) during that period, while jobs held by White workers dropped by 6.2% (-89,738 jobs). Jobs held by Hispanic or Latino workers decreased by 5.3% (-18,416 jobs).

More recently, between annual 2020 and 2023, total employment in the Metro Area increased by 5.4% (+91,300 jobs). Growth rates by race and origin were as follows: Two or More Races at +19.6% (+7,257 jobs), Black or African Americans at +14.0% (+21,394 jobs), American Indian or Alaska Natives at +13.9% (+1,634 jobs), Asian or Other Pacific Islanders at +10.2% (+13,326 jobs), and white at +3.5% (+47,689 jobs). Jobs held by Hispanic or Latino workers increased by 21.8% (+20,017 jobs) during this period.

Figure 17. Metro Area Employment Share Trends by Race

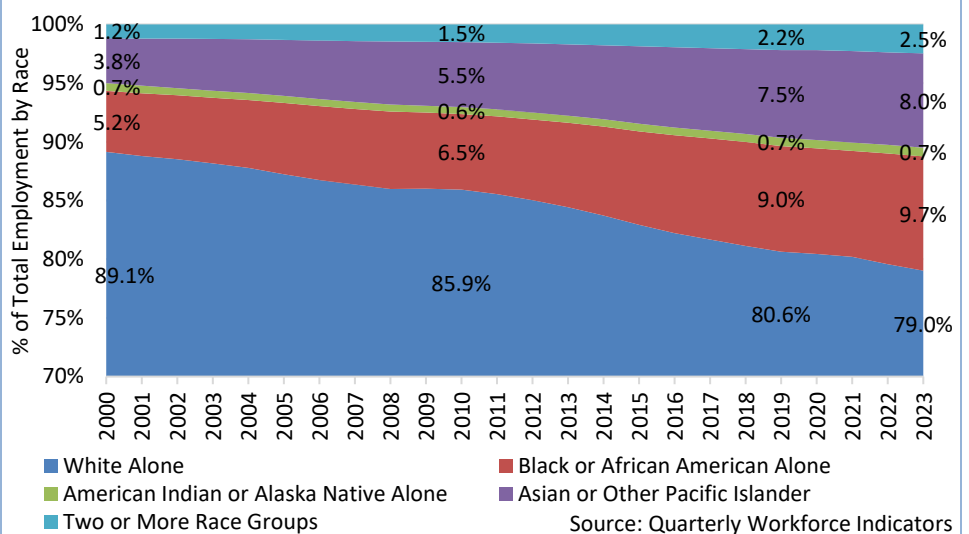
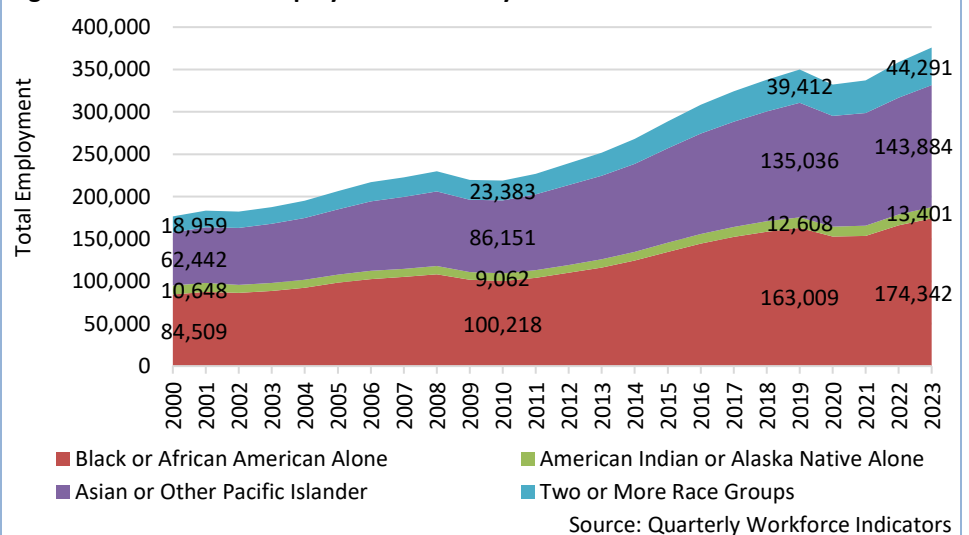


Figure 18. Metro Area Employment Trends by Race



INDUSTRY PROJECTIONS

Total employment in the Twin Cities Metro Area is anticipated to grow by 4.9% between 2022 and 2032. This is equivalent to approximately 94,900 net new jobs. The most extensive growth is expected to be in Health Care and Social Assistance, where its total employment is projected to increase by over 25,300 net new jobs. The region is also expected to see significant employment growth in Professional and Technical Services (+14,600 jobs), Wholesale Trade (+6,900 jobs), Accommodation & Food Services (+5,700 jobs), and Educational Services (+5,500 jobs). It should be noted that in addition to net new job growth, the Twin Cities region is anticipated to have over 921,000 labor market exit openings between 2022 and 2032. These are job openings largely due to workers leaving an occupation and exiting the labor market entirely (retirements making up the most of these exits). Even industries that are projected to lose total net employment, such as Retail Trade, will still have labor market exit openings (Table 16).

Table 16. Twin Cities Metro Area Industry Projections, 2022-2032

Industry	Estimated Employment 2022	Projected Employment 2032	Percent Change 2022-2032	Numeric Change 2022-2032
Total, All Industries	1,927,280	2,022,157	+4.9%	+94,877
Health Care & Social Assistance	274,229	299,555	+9.2%	+25,326
Professional & Technical Services	141,207	155,760	+10.3%	+14,553
Wholesale Trade	88,950	95,889	+7.8%	+6,939
Accommodation & Food Services	125,007	130,738	+4.6%	+5,731
Educational Services	140,511	146,053	+3.9%	+5,542
Management of Companies	78,011	83,498	+7.0%	+5,487
Transportation & Warehousing	69,046	74,385	+7.7%	+5,339
Finance & Insurance	125,105	130,193	+4.1%	+5,088
Construction	76,624	81,639	+6.5%	+5,015
Arts, Entertain. & Recreation	34,578	38,525	+11.4%	+3,947
Manufacturing	175,365	178,983	+2.1%	+3,618
Information	33,947	36,573	+7.7%	+2,626
Other Services	70,450	72,988	+3.6%	+2,538
Admin. Support & Waste Mgmt.	103,764	106,039	+2.2%	+2,275
Public Administration	107,703	109,441	+1.6%	+1,738
Real Estate & Rental & Leasing	27,845	28,574	+2.6%	+729
Agriculture, Forestry, Fish & Hunt	3,646	3,746	+2.7%	+100
Mining	653	571	+15.0%	+98
Utilities	5,966	5,918	-0.8%	-48
Retail Trade	155,453	153,000	-1.6%	-2,453

Source: DEED 2022-2032 Employment Outlook

NONEMPLOYER ESTABLISHMENTS

The Metro Area was home to 269,370 self-employed businesses or “nonemployers” in 2023, which are defined by the U.S. Census Bureau as “businesses without paid employees that are subject to federal income tax, originating from tax return information of the Internal Revenue Service (IRS).” The region did witness healthy growth in the number of nonemployers over the past decade, with the number of such firms increasing by 22.4% between 2013 and 2023. The most growth was in Hennepin County, with more rapid growth in Anoka, Scott, Dakota, Washington, and Carver County, which all easily outpaced the state (+16.5%). These non-employers generated sales receipts of nearly \$15.4 billion in 2023 (Table 17).

Table 17. Nonemployer Statistics, 2023

	2023		2013-2023	
	Number of Firms	Receipts (\$1,000s)	Change in Firms	Percent Change
Twin Cities Metro	269,370	\$15,413,151	+49,209	+22.4%
Anoka Co.	27,890	\$1,438,253	+5,958	+27.2%
Carver Co.	9,229	\$573,088	+1,725	+23.0%
Dakota Co.	34,730	\$1,958,226	+6,825	+24.5%
Hennepin Co.	119,298	\$7,348,632	+20,064	+20.2%
Ramsey Co.	43,412	\$2,130,391	+7,434	+20.7%
Scott Co.	12,809	\$777,797	+2,673	+26.4%
Washington Co.	22,002	\$1,186,764	+4,530	+25.9%
Minnesota	453,181	\$25,619,689	+64,281	+16.5%

Source: U.S. Census, Nonemployer Statistics program

CENSUS OF AGRICULTURE

Unlike other regions of Minnesota, agriculture is not a key industry in the Metro Area. In fact, of the Metro Area’s seven counties, only Dakota County makes it into the top half of the state’s 87 counties for the market value of products sold. Despite this, there were over 3,500 farms producing just over \$823 million in the market value of products sold in 2022, according to the U.S. Department of Agriculture. Nearly two-thirds of the market value of agricultural products sold in the Metro Area are out of Dakota County and Carver County (Table 18).

Table 18. Census of Agriculture, 2022

	Number of Farms	Market Value of Products Sold	State Rank
Metro Area	3,509	\$823,270,000	5
Anoka Co.	355	\$72,811,000	67
Carver Co.	606	\$172,878,000	58
Dakota Co.	841	\$364,822,000	38
Hennepin Co.	511	\$56,766,000	71
Ramsey Co.	47	\$3,449,000	85
Scott Co.	624	\$91,834,000	65
Washington Co.	525	\$60,710,000	69
Minnesota	65,531	\$28,482,097,000	

Source: 2022 Census of Agriculture