

April 2025 Employment Analysis

(Embargoed until 9:30 am Thursday, May 15, 2025)

Over-the-Month Job Change Overview

- Minnesota's unemployment rate ticked up one-tenth of a percentage point to 3.2% in April 2025. Nationally the unemployment rate remained at 4.2% over the month.
- Minnesota's labor force increased by 3,296 people over the month to 3,153,293 people. The number of employed increased by 490 workers, and the number of unemployed increased by 2,806 people. The labor force participation rate stayed at 68.2% over the month.
- Minnesota lost 1,300 jobs in the last month on a seasonally adjusted basis, a small dip that translated to 0.0%. The private sector lost 800 jobs, also 0.0%. The U.S. total nonfarm employment increased by 177,000 jobs, or 0.1%. The U.S. private sector gained 167,000 jobs, also 0.1% growth.
- Six supersectors in Minnesota gained jobs on a seasonally adjusted basis since the prior month:
 - Trade, Transportation and Utilities gained 1,600 jobs, up 0.3%
 - Leisure and Hospitality gained 1,600 jobs, up 0.6%
 - Construction gained 600 jobs, up 0.4%
 - Manufacturing gained 500 jobs, up 0.2%
 - Mining & Logging gained 100 jobs, up 1.5%
 - Other Services gained 100 jobs, up 0.1%
- Five supersectors lost jobs over the month:
 - Education and Health Services lost 2,400 jobs, down 0.4%
 - Professional & Business Services lost 2,000 jobs, down 0.5%
 - Financial Activities lost 800 jobs, down 0.4%
 - Government lost 500 jobs, down 0.1%
 - Information lost 100 jobs, down 0.2%
- Calculating seasonally adjusted 2-month job change:
 - Minnesota gained 4,600 jobs in December-February, up 0.2%; the U.S. grew 0.1%.
 - Minnesota gained 13,100 jobs in January-March, up 0.4%; the U.S. grew 0.2%.
 - Minnesota gained 11,000 jobs in February-April, up 0.4%; the U.S. grew 0.2%

Over-the-Year Job Change Overview

- Minnesota gained 35,480 payroll jobs, up 1.2%, over the year. The private sector gained 26,477 jobs, up 1.0% over the year.
- Seven supersectors posted positive annual growth in Minnesota:
 - Education and Health Services led with 23,936 jobs gained, up 4.1% for Minnesota, while this supersector grew 3.4% across the U.S. In Minnesota, growth was propelled by the Health Care & Social Assistance subsector (4.7%), while the Educational Services subsector saw slight decline (-0.1%).
 - Government gained 9,003 jobs, up 2.1%. Growth was strongest in the State Government subsector (3%). The Local Government subsector grew 2%, and the Federal Government was down 0.1%. Government supersector grew 1.3% across the U.S.
 - Other Services gained 3,222 jobs, up 2.8% in Minnesota. All subsectors saw growth: Repair and Maintenance grew 3.4%; Personal and Laundry Services grew 2.1%; Religious, Grantmaking, Civic, Professional, and Similar Organizations grew 2.8%. Nationally, this supersector grew 1.3%.
 - Manufacturing gained 2,724 jobs in Minnesota, up 0.9%. Non-Durable Goods Manufacturing subsector grew 3.0% while Durable Goods Manufacturing subsector declined 0.3%. The U.S. Manufacturing supersector declined 0.7%.
 - Professional & Business Services gained 1,735 jobs, up 0.5% in Minnesota. The subsector Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services grew 3.1% over the year while the subsector Management of Companies and Enterprises declined 1.4%, followed by decline in the Administrative and Support and Waste Management and Remediation Services subsector (-1.8%). In the U.S., this supersector declined 0.1%.
 - Construction gained 1,234 jobs, up 0.9%. Subsector growth ranged widely, led by Heavy and Civil Engineering Construction (7.3%), Construction of Buildings (2.5%), while Specialty Trade Contractors declined 0.9%. The U.S. Construction supersector grew 1.7%.
 - Mining and Logging gained 179 jobs, up 2.8% in Minnesota. This supersector declined 0.6% on the national level over-the-year.
- Four supersectors lost jobs over the year in Minnesota:
 - Financial Activities lost 3,478 jobs over the year, down 1.8%. The Finance and Insurance subsector declined 2.2% while Real Estate and Rental Leasing subsector declined 0.1%. Nationally, this supersector grew 1.2%.
 - Leisure and Hospitality lost 2,269 jobs, down 0.9%. The Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation subsector grew 4.4% while the bigger subsector Accommodation and Food Services declined 2.0%. This supersector grew at the rate of 1.3% across the U.S.
 - Information lost 657 jobs, down 1.5%. The Telecommunications subsector declined 4.6% and the Publishing subsector grew 0.2%. The U.S. Information supersector declined 0.4%.
 - Trade, Transportation, and Utilities lost 149 jobs, or 0.0%. The Transportation, Warehousing, and Utilities subsector grew 1.2%, the Retail Trade subsector grew 0.6%, and the Wholesale Trade subsector declined 2.3%. Nationally, this supersector grew 0.9%.
- Overall U.S. employment grew 1.2% over the year with the private sector up 1.2%. Seven supersectors gained jobs, four lost jobs.

April Over the Year (OTY) Employment Growth by Industry Sector Not Seasonally Adjusted			
Industry Supersector	MN OTY Job Change	MN OTY Growth Rate (%)	US OTY Growth Rate (%)
Total	35,480	1.2	1.2
Private	26,477	1.0	1.2
Mining & Logging	179	2.8	-0.6
Construction	1,234	0.9	1.7
Manufacturing	2,724	0.9	-0.7
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	-149	0.0	0.9
Information	-657	-1.5	-0.4
Financial Activities	-3,478	-1.8	1.2
Professional & Business Services	1,735	0.5	-0.1
Education & Health Services	23,936	4.1	3.4
Leisure & Hospitality	-2,269	-0.9	1.3
Other Services	3,222	2.8	1.3
Government	9,003	2.1	1.3

Wage and Hour Data

- Average hourly wages for all private sector workers increased 9 cents to \$39.04 in April 2025 over the month. Over the year average hourly earnings increased \$2.06, up 5.6%.
 - For the U.S., private sector wages decreased eight cents over the month and grew 3.7% over the year.
 - The CPI inflation index for all urban consumers rose 2.3% over the year in April.
- At 32.9 hours per week, Minnesota's April average work week decreased one-tenth of an hour over-the-month. Over-the-year it shortened by three-tenths of an hour.
 - Nationally, the average work week decreased three-tenths of an hour to 34.2 hours. Over-the-year, it increased one-tenth of an hour.

Unemployment Data

- Over the month, the unemployment rate ticked up one-tenth of a percentage point to 3.2% on a seasonally adjusted basis. The number of employed increased by 490 workers, and the number of unemployed increased 2,806. The employment to population ratio ticked down one-tenth of a percentage point to 66.0% since the prior month.
- The labor force increased 3,296 people over the month, totaling 3,153,293 people in April. The labor force participation rate stayed at 68.2%. Minnesota's labor force is now 29,424 people more than in February 2020 when the participation rate was at 70%.
- Nationally, over the month, the unemployment rate stayed at 4.2% and the employment to population ratio ticked up one-tenth of a percentage point to 60.0%. The labor force participation increased slightly to 62.6%.

Industry Details

Mining and Logging: Employment in Mining and Logging was up by 100, or 1.5%, over the month (OTM) on a seasonally adjusted basis in April. This was the highest proportional monthly growth of any supersector in the state. Mining and Logging employers have only lost jobs in one month of 2025 so far. On an annual basis, employment in the supersector was up by 179, or 2.8%. This was down from the 4.9% over the year (OTY) growth in March. Employment in the supersector has been positive annually since December of 2024.

Construction: Construction employment was up by 600 (0.4%) OTM in April. The supersector has added jobs in three of four months in 2025 and has added a seasonally adjusted 1,700 jobs so far this year. On an annual basis, Construction employers added 1,234 jobs, or 0.9%, down from March's 1.6% annual growth. The largest growth was in Heavy and Civil Engineering Construction, which was up by 1,220, or 7.3%. Construction of Buildings was up 753 (2.5%), and Specialty Trade Contractor employment was down by 739 (0.9%).

Manufacturing: Employment in Manufacturing was up by 500, or 0.2%, OTM in April, the fourth consecutive month of seasonally adjusted growth for the supersector. Durable Goods manufacturers added 800 jobs (0.4%) while their counterparts in Non-Durable Goods lost 300 jobs, or 0.3%. Over the year, employment in Manufacturing was up by 2,724 jobs, or 0.9%. Durable Goods Manufacturing was off by 608 (0.3%) but those losses were offset by the addition of 3,332 jobs, or 3%, in Non-Durable Goods Manufacturing. Food Manufacturing in particular was up 2,441 jobs, or 5.3%.

Trade, Transportation, and Utilities: Trade, Transportation and Utilities employers added 1,600 jobs, or 0.3%, OTM in April. All three published component sectors posted positive growth. Retail Trade was up 1,100 (0.4%), Wholesale Trade was up 200 (0.2%) and Transportation, Warehousing and Utilities was up 300 (0.3%). On an annual basis, employment in the supersector was mostly flat, down by 149 jobs, or 0.0%. The supersector has been holding fairly steady with flat or slightly positive OTY growth since November of 2024. Retail Trade added 1,596 jobs (0.6%) OTY in April, and Transportation, Warehousing and Utilities added 1,404 jobs (1.2%), but those gains were overshadowed by the loss of 3,149 jobs, or 2.3%, in Wholesale Trade.

Information: Employment in Information was down by 100 (0.2%) OTM in April. It was the second consecutive month of seasonally adjusted declines for the supersector, which is now down 300 jobs since the beginning of 2025. Over the year, Information employment was down by 657, or 1.5%. Publishing employment was up by 36 (0.2%) and Telecommunications lost 398 jobs (4.6%).

Financial Activities: Financial Activities employment was off by 800 (0.4%) OTM in April. Finance and Insurance lost 600 jobs (0.4%) and Real Estate and Rental and Leasing lost 200 jobs (0.6%). Over the year, Financial Activities employers lost 3,478 jobs, or 1.8%. Finance and Insurance lost 3,430 jobs (2.2%) due in large part to the loss of 2,601 jobs (5.5%) in Depository Credit Intermediation. Real Estate and Rental and Leasing employment was down by 48 jobs (0.1%) with Real Estate losing 302 jobs (1.1%).

Professional and Business Services: Employment in Professional and Business Services was down by 2,000 (0.5%) OTM in April. Administrative and Support and Waste Management and Remediation Services lost 1,300 jobs (1.1%) and Professional, Scientific and Technical Services lost 1,000 (0.6%) while Management of Companies and Enterprises added 300 jobs, or 0.4%. Over the year, the supersector added 1,735 jobs, or 0.5%. It was their second consecutive month of OTY growth, after posting annual declines consistently since the summer of 2023. Professional, Scientific and Technical Services drove the growth, adding 5,088 jobs, or 3.1%, while the other two component sectors posted declines on the year. Management of Companies was down 1,201 (1.4%) and Administrative and Support and Waste Management and Remediation was down 2,152 (1.8%).

Education and Health Services: Education and Health Services employment was off by 2,400 (0.4%) OTM in April. Both component sectors lost jobs on the month. Educational Services was down 1,300 (1.7%) and Health Care and Social Assistance lost 1,100 jobs (0.2%). On an annual basis, employment in Education and Health Services was up by 23,936, or 4.1%, the largest real and proportional growth of any supersector in the state. The growth came entirely from the Health Care and Social Assistance component sector, which added 24,038 jobs, or 4.7%, with growth in all published components. Educational Services lost 102 jobs, or 0.1%, on the year.

Leisure and Hospitality: Employment in Leisure and Hospitality was up by 1,600 (0.6%) on a seasonally adjusted basis in April. Arts, Entertainment and Recreation added 1,300 jobs (2.6%) and Accommodation and Food Services added 300 jobs (0.1%). Over the year, Leisure and Hospitality employment was down by 2,269 (0.9%). The decline was driven by Accommodation and Food Services, which lost 4,367 jobs (2%) due to the loss of 4,778 jobs (2.5%) in Food Services and Drinking Places. Arts, Entertainment and Recreation employment was up by 2,098 (4.4%) OTY in April.

Other Services: Employment in Other Services was up by 100 (0.1%) OTM in April. It was the fourth consecutive month of seasonally adjusted growth for the supersector, which has added a total of 2,100 jobs so far in 2025. On an annual basis, Other Services employment was up by 3,222, or 2.8%, with growth in all published component. Religious, Grantmaking, Civic and Professional Organizations added 1,823 jobs (2.8%), Repair and Maintenance added 822 jobs (3.4%) and Personal and Laundry Services added 577 jobs (2.1%).

Government: Government employers lost 500 jobs (0.1%) OTM in April. All three levels of government posted monthly declines, with Federal employment down 200 (0.6%), State down 100 (0.1%) and Local down 200 (0.1%). Annually, Government employers added 9,003 jobs, or 2.1%. Both State and Local level employment was up on the year, driven by non-educational services. State non-education employment was up 2,676 jobs (6.1%) and Local non-education employment was up 6,155 jobs (4.3%). Federal Government employment was down by 39, or 0.1%.

Over-the-Year Job Change by MSAs

April data released by DEED, not seasonally adjusted

Metropolitan Statistical Area	OTY Employment Change (#, NSA)	OTY Employment Change (% , NSA)
Minneapolis-St. Paul MN-WI MSA	15,989	0.8
Duluth-Superior MN-WI MSA	-258	-0.2
Rochester MSA	6,363	5.1
St. Cloud MSA	957	0.9
Mankato MSA	-554	-0.9
Fargo-Moorhead ND-MN MSA (March)	-700	-0.5
Grand Forks-East Grand Forks ND- MN MSA (March)	1,100	1.8
La Crosse-Onalaska WI-MN (March)	900	1.0

Labor Market Information Office

MN Department of Employment and Economic Development

May 15, 2025