

# November 2023 Employment Analysis

## Over-the-Month Overview

- The unemployment rate ticked down one-tenth of a percentage point to 3.1% in November 2023 from the prior month. The labor force decreased by 7,433 people over the month to 3,106,874 people. The number of employed decreased by 3,479 workers, and the number of unemployed decreased by 3,954 people. The labor force participation rate ticked down two-tenth of a percentage point to 68.3%.
- Minnesota gained 9,500 jobs in the last month on a seasonally adjusted basis, up 0.3%. The private sector gained 8,400 jobs, up 0.3%. The U.S. total nonfarm employment increased by 199,000 jobs, or 0.1%. The U.S. private sector gained 150,000 jobs, also 0.1%.
- The majority of supersectors in Minnesota gained jobs on a seasonally adjusted basis since last month, including:
  - Trade, Transportation and Utilities gained 3,300 jobs, up 0.6%
  - Education and Health Services gained 2,700 jobs, up 0.5%
  - Government gained 1,100 jobs, up 0.3%
  - Manufacturing gained 1,000 jobs, up 0.3%
  - Leisure and Hospitality gained 700 jobs, up 0.3%
  - Professional & Business Services gained 500 jobs, up 0.1%
  - Other Services gained 500 jobs, up 0.5%
  - Construction gained 300 jobs, up 0.2%
- Two supersectors saw no change over the month:
  - Mining and Logging
  - Information
- One supersector lost jobs:
  - Financial Activities lost 600 jobs, down 0.3%
- Minnesota lost 416,000 jobs from February through April 2020 and has since recovered 434,500 jobs as of November 2023, which brings Minnesota to 100.6% of the number of jobs prior to the Pandemic Recession on a seasonally adjusted basis. The private sector lost 385,900 jobs from February through April 2020 and has regained 407,000 jobs as of November, or 100.8% recovered.
- Translating seasonally adjusted job change into a 3-month moving average series, Minnesota gained 11,700 jobs in July-September, up 0.4%; gained 15,300 jobs in August-October, up 0.5%; and gained 17,300 jobs in September-November, up 0.6%. Nationally, growth in each of the three periods was comparatively slower: 0.3% in July-September and August-October, and 0.2% in September-November.

## Over-the-Year Job Growth

- Minnesota gained 47,829 payroll jobs, up 1.6%, over the year. The private sector gained 37,100 jobs, up 1.4% over the year.
- All but four supersectors posted positive annual growth. Notable big growth continued to be the following:
  - Construction continued its growth streak and gained 7,094 jobs, up 5.3% compared to 2.6% nationally. The strongest growth continued to be in Heavy and Civil Engineering Construction (13.3%), Building Equipment Contractors (5.5%), and Specialty Trade Contractors (5.1%).
  - Trade, Transportation, and Utilities gained 15,040 jobs, up 2.8% compared to 0.3% nationally. All subsectors grew.
  - Education & Health Services gained 26,939 jobs, up 4.8%, compared to the national rate of 4.2%. This is driven by growth in Health Care and Social Assistance sector (5.6%) despite a slight decrease in Educational Services (-0.3%).
- Four supersectors lost jobs over the year:
  - Professional & Business Services lost 7,913 jobs, down 2.0%, while the US grew 0.9%. All sectors declined over the year except Accounting, Tax Preparation, Bookkeeping, and Payroll Services (3.8%) and Architectural, Engineering, and Related Services (1.8%).
  - Financial Activities lost 7,682 jobs over the year, down 4.0%, while the U.S. rate grew 0.6%. Losses were consistent in every sector.
  - Manufacturing lost 5,137 jobs, down 1.6%, while the U.S. grew 0.2%. All subsectors experienced over-the-year decline.
  - Information lost 1,678 jobs, down 3.6%. The U.S. also experienced decline in this supersector, down 3.1%.
- Overall U.S. employment grew 1.8% over the year with the private sector up 1.6%. All supersectors grew except Information, down 3.1%.

<b>November 2023 Over the Year (OTY) Employment Growth by Industry Sector Not Seasonally Adjusted</b>			
<b>Industry Supersector</b>	<b>MN OTY Job Change</b>	<b>MN OTY Growth Rate (%)</b>	<b>US OTY Growth Rate (%)</b>
Total	47,829	1.6	1.8
Private	37,100	1.4	1.6
Mining & Logging	186	2.9	2.9
Construction	7,094	5.3	2.6
Manufacturing	-5,137	-1.6	0.2
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	15,040	2.8	0.3
Information	-1,678	-3.6	-3.1
Financial Activities	-7,682	-4.0	0.6

Professional & Business Services	-7,913	-2.0	0.9
Education & Health Services	26,939	4.8	4.2
Leisure & Hospitality	8,133	3.2	3.2
Other Services	2,118	2.0	1.9
Government	10,729	2.5	2.9

## Wage and Hour Data

- Average hourly wages for all private sector workers decreased 17 cents to \$36.29 in November 2023 over the month. Over the year average hourly earnings increased \$1.20, up 3.4%, and since November 2020 they are up 13.2%.
  - Nationally private sector wages also decreased 17 cents over the month and rose 4.0% over the year and 14.2% over three years.
  - The CPI inflation index for all urban consumers rose 3.1% over the year in November and 18.0% over 3 years.
- At 33.3 hours per week, Minnesota’s November 2023 average work week shortened four-tenth of an hour over-the-month. Over-the-year it decreased by four-tenth of an hour.
  - Nationally, the average work week decreased by three-tenth of an hour over the month to 34.4 hours and has the same length compared to a year prior.

## Unemployment Data

- The unemployment rate decreased one-tenth of a percentage point to 3.1% in November on a seasonally adjusted basis. The number of employed decreased by 3,479 workers, and the number of unemployed decreased 3,954. The employment to population ratio ticked down one-tenth of a percentage point to 66.2%.
- The labor force decreased 7,433 people over the month, totaling 3,106,874 people in November. The labor force participation rate remained ticked down two-tenth of a percentage point to 68.3%. Minnesota’s labor force is 21,729 people smaller than in February 2020 when the participation rate was at 69.9%.
- Nationally, over the month, the unemployment rate ticked down two-tenth of a percentage point to 3.7% and the employment to population ratio ticket up three-tenth of a percentage point to 60.5%. The labor force participation rate increased one-tenth of a percentage point to 62.8%.

## Industry Details

**Mining and Logging:** Employment in Mining and Logging was flat over the month (OTM) on a seasonally adjusted basis in November, holding at 6,500 jobs. Employment has remained between 6,400 and 6,500 in the supersector in every month since May. On an annual basis, employment in Mining and Logging was up by 186, or 2.9%. This was slightly lower than October's 3.4% annual growth. Annual growth in the supersector has hovered between 2.3% and 3.6% since June.

**Construction:** Construction employment was up by 300 (0.2%) OTM in November on a seasonally adjusted basis. The supersector has posted positive growth in seven of the past eight months. Over the year, employment in Construction was up 7,094, or 5.3%. This was the highest proportional growth of any supersector in the state. Heavy and Civil Engineering was up 2,499 (13.3%) and Specialty Trade Contractors added 4,341 jobs (5.1%). Building Construction, the third major component sector, added 254 jobs, or 0.8%.

**Manufacturing:** Employment in Manufacturing was up by 1,000 (0.3%) OTM in November. The growth came entirely from Non-Durable Goods Manufacturing, which was up 1,000, or 0.9%. Durable Goods employment was flat at 206,500. On an annual basis, Manufacturing employment was down 5,137 jobs, or 1.6%. Durable Goods was off by 3,653 jobs (1.7%), with declines across most published components. Non-Durable Goods employment was down 1,484 (1.3%) due primarily to the loss of 1,427 jobs (7.9%) in Animal Slaughtering and Processing.

**Trade, Transportation, and Utilities:** Trade, Transportation and Utilities employment was up by 3,300 (0.6%) OTM in November, the largest real and proportional growth of any supersector in the state. All three component sectors added jobs, with Transportation, Warehousing and Utilities leading the way, up 1,900 or 1.6%. Over the year, employers in the supersector added 15,040 jobs (2.8%). This was the second largest real job growth of any supersector, trailing only Education and Health Services. Retail Trade employment was up 8,201 (2.9%) and Transportation, Warehousing and Utilities was up 6,509 (5.5%). Wholesale Trade added 300 jobs, or 0.3%.

**Information:** Employment in Information was flat OTM in November, holding at 45,300 jobs. The supersector has not posted positive monthly growth since adding 200 jobs in June. Over the year, Information employers lost 1,678 jobs, or 3.6%. This was the second largest proportional loss of any supersector, trailing only Financial Activities' 4% decline. Telecommunications employment was down 5.8% (552 jobs) and Publishing Industries employment was down 2.8% (553 jobs).

**Financial Activities:** Financial Activities employers lost 600 jobs (0.3%) OTM in November. It was the fifth consecutive month of monthly losses for the supersector, which has not posted positive growth in any month of 2023. Finance and Insurance lost 500 jobs, and Real Estate and Rental and Leasing lost 100 (both were down 0.3%). On an annual basis, employment in Financial Activities was down 7,682, or 4%. It was the largest proportional decline of any supersector. Real Estate and Rental and Leasing was down 4.6% (1,631 jobs) and Finance and Insurance was down 3.8% (6,051 jobs), with component Credit Intermediation and Related Activities down 5.1% (3,104 jobs).

**Professional and Business Services:** Employment in Professional and Business Services was up 500 (0.1%) over the month. Professional, Scientific and Technical Services added 400 jobs (0.2%) and Management of Companies and Enterprises added 300 (0.3%). Administrative and Support and Waste Management and Remediation Services lost 200 jobs (0.2%). Over the year, employment in Professional and Business Services was down 7,913, or 2%. All three major component sectors posted annual declines. The largest losses came in Administrative and Support and Waste Management and Remediation Services, which lost 5,616 jobs (4%), due in large part to the loss of 5,587 jobs (8.5%) from Employment Services.

**Education and Health Services:** Education and Health Services employers added 2,700 jobs (0.5%) OTM in November. It was the ninth consecutive month of positive seasonally adjusted growth for the supersector. The November growth came entirely in Health Care and Social Assistance, which added 3,100 jobs (0.6%) while Educational Services lost 400 jobs (0.6%). On an annual basis, Education and Health Services employers added 26,939 jobs (4.8%). It was the largest real job growth of any supersector, and an improvement over October's 4.5% annual growth. Health Care and Social Assistance added 27,189 jobs (5.6%) with positive growth in every published component sector. Educational Services lost 250 jobs (0.3%) on the year.

**Leisure and Hospitality:** Employment in Leisure and Hospitality was up 700 (0.3%) OTM in November. The supersector added jobs in each of the last four months. Arts, Entertainment and Recreation was up 200 (0.4%) in November, and Accommodation and Food Services was up 500 (0.2%). Over the year, Leisure and Hospitality employers added 8,133 jobs, or 3.2%. Arts, Entertainment and Recreation was up 2,890 (6.4%) and Accommodation and Food Services was up 5,243 (2.5%), with Accommodation up 7.5% (1,818 jobs) and Food Services and Drinking Places up 1.8% (3,425 jobs).

**Other Services:** Other Services employers added 500 jobs (0.5%) in November. This was the second-highest proportional growth rate among supersectors in Minnesota. Over the year, employers in Other Services added 2,118 jobs (2%). Growth was driven by Religious, Grantmaking, Civic and Professional Organizations, which added 1,538 jobs, or 2.6%. Repair and Maintenance was up 287 (1.3%) and Personal and Laundry Services was up 293 (1.1%).

**Government:** Government employers added 1,100 jobs (0.3%) OTM in November. The growth was entirely at the Local Government level (up 1,100 jobs, or 0.4%) as employment at the State and Federal levels was flat on the month. Over the year, Government employers added 10,729 jobs (2.5%). All three levels of Government posted positive growth, with Federal up 1,172 (3.7%), State up 1,347 (1.3%) and Local up 8,210 (2.8%). State Educational Services was the only component to post negative growth, off by 129 jobs, or 0.2%.

## Over-the-Year Job Growth by MSAs

November data released by DEED, not seasonally adjusted

<b>Metropolitan Statistical Area</b>	<b>OTY Employment Change (#, NSA)</b>	<b>OTY Employment Change (% , NSA)</b>
Minneapolis-St. Paul MN-WI MSA	29,793	1.5
Duluth-Superior MN-WI MSA	724	0.5
Rochester MSA	4,288	3.5
St. Cloud MSA	194	0.2
Mankato MSA	3,084	5.3
<i>Fargo-Moorhead ND-MN MSA (September)</i>	<i>0.1</i>	<i>0.1</i>
<i>Grand Forks-East Grand Forks ND-MN MSA (September)</i>	<i>1,100</i>	<i>2.0</i>
<i>La Crosse-Onalaska WI-MN (September)</i>	<i>1,300</i>	<i>1.6</i>

**Labor Market Information Office**  
**MN Department of Employment and Economic Development**  
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