

October 2025 Employment Analysis

(Embargoed until 9:30 am Thursday, January 8, 2026)

NOTE: Due to a lapse in federal appropriations through October and half of November 2025, some data elements were not collected for the October reference month. Therefore, this October report does not have data on unemployment estimates, labor force estimates, and inflation rate.

Over-the-Month Job Change Overview

- Minnesota gained 4,800 jobs in the last month on a seasonally adjusted basis, a 0.2% increase. The private sector gained 6,000 jobs, also 0.2%.
- Five supersectors in Minnesota gained jobs on a seasonally adjusted basis since the prior month:
 - Construction gained 3,100 jobs, up 2.2%
 - Educational and Health Services gained 2,900 jobs, up 0.5%
 - Trade, Transportation and Utilities gained 2,100 jobs, up 0.4%
 - Financial Activities gained 600 jobs, up 0.3%
 - Other Services gained 100 jobs, up 0.1%
- Mining & Logging sector saw no change over-the-month.
- Five supersectors lost jobs over the month:
 - Leisure and Hospitality lost 1,300 jobs, down 0.5%
 - Government lost 1,200 jobs, down 0.3%
 - Professional & Business Services lost 1,100 jobs, down 0.3%
 - Information lost 200 jobs, down 0.5%
 - Manufacturing lost 200 jobs, down 0.1%

Over-the-Year Job Change Overview

- Minnesota gained 38,072 payroll jobs, up 1.2%, over the year. The private sector gained 39,010 jobs, up 1.5% over the year. Five supersectors gained jobs, six lost jobs.
- U.S. employment grew 0.7% over the year with the private sector up 0.9%. Seven supersectors gained jobs, three lost jobs.
- Five supersectors posted positive annual growth in Minnesota:
 - Education and Health Services led with 28,549 jobs gained, up 4.8% for Minnesota, while this supersector grew 2.9% across the U.S. In Minnesota, growth was propelled by the Health Care & Social Assistance subsector (6.3%). The Educational Services subsector declined 5.2%.

- Construction gained 10,585 jobs, up 7.2%. All subsectors grew, led by Heavy and Civil Engineering Construction (14.7%), followed by Construction of Buildings (8.4%), and Specialty Trade Contractors (4.9%). The U.S. Construction supersector grew 0.5%.
- Trade, Transportation, and Utilities gained 3,901 jobs, or 0.7%. The Transportation, Warehousing, and Utilities subsector led with 2.6% growth, the Retail Trade subsector saw more moderate growth (1.2%), and the Wholesale Trade subsector declined 1.9%. Nationally, this supersector also grew 0.3%.
- Manufacturing gained 1,326 jobs in Minnesota, up 0.4%. Non-Durable Goods Manufacturing subsector grew 1.4% while Durable Goods Manufacturing subsector declined by 0.1%. The U.S. Manufacturing supersector declined 0.3%.
- Professional & Business Services gained 1,140 jobs, up 0.3% in Minnesota. The subsector Management of Companies and Enterprises grew 1.3% over the year. The Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services subsector grew 0.6%. While the subsector Administrative and Support and Waste Management and Remediation Services declined 0.7%. In the U.S., this supersector did not change much over the year (0.0%).
- Six supersectors lost jobs over the year in Minnesota:
 - Financial Activities lost 2,467 jobs over the year, down 1.3%. The Finance and Insurance subsector declined 1.6%. Real Estate and Rental Leasing subsector declined 0.3%. Nationally, this supersector grew 0.5%.
 - Information lost 2,415 jobs, down 5.5%. The Telecommunications subsector declined 4.8% and the Publishing subsector declined 2.2%. The U.S. Information supersector grew 0.1% over the year.
 - The Government supersector lost 938 jobs over the year, down 0.2%. Decline was in the Federal Government subsector, down 5.7%. The State Government subsector grew 0.8%. The Local Government subsector did not see significant change (0.0%). The Government supersector declined 0.6% across the U.S.
 - Other Services lost 908 jobs, down 0.8% in Minnesota. The Repair and Maintenance subsector decreased 0.7%, the Personal and Laundry Services subsector declined 0.9%, and the Religious, Grantmaking, Civic, Professional, and Similar Organizations subsector declined 0.7%. Nationally, this supersector grew 1.2%.
 - Leisure and Hospitality lost 646 jobs, down 0.2%. The Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation subsector grew 0.7% while the bigger subsector Accommodation and Food Services declined 0.5%. This supersector grew 1.5% across the U.S.
 - Mining and Logging lost 55 jobs, down 0.8% in Minnesota. This supersector declined 2.1% on the national level over-the-year.

October 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	38,072	1.2	0.7
Private	39,010	1.5	0.9
Mining & Logging	-55	-0.8	-2.1
Construction	10,585	7.2	0.5

Manufacturing	1,326	0.4	-0.3
Trade, Transport. & Utilities	3,901	0.7	0.3
Information	-2,415	-5.5	0.1
Financial Activities	-2,467	-1.3	0.5
Prof. & Business Services	1,140	0.3	0.0
Ed. & Health Services	28,549	4.8	2.9
Leisure & Hospitality	-646	-0.2	1.5
Other Services	-908	-0.8	1.2
Government	-938	-0.2	-0.6

Wage and Hour Data

- Over the month, average hourly wages for all private sector workers decreased 13 cents to \$39.65 in October 2025. Over the year average hourly earnings increased \$1.55, up 4.1%.
- At 33.0 hours per week, Minnesota's October average work week increased two-tenths of an hour over-the-month. Likewise, over-the-year it increased two-tenths of an hour.

Industry Details

Mining and Logging: Employment in Mining and Logging was flat in October, holding at 6,500 jobs on a seasonally adjusted basis. The supersector added 100 jobs in September, and was unchanged for the three preceding months. Over the year (OTY), employment in Mining and Logging was off slightly, shedding 55 jobs, or 0.8%. This was similar to September's 0.8% annual decline, which was better than August's 1.6% loss.

Construction: Construction employers added 3,100 jobs (2.1%) over the month (OTM) in October. This was an improvement over September's 700 jobs loss. The supersector added 7,700 seasonally-adjusted jobs to this point in 2025. On an annual basis, Construction employers added 10,585 jobs, or 7.2%. This was the highest proportional growth of any supersector in Minnesota. All published component sectors added jobs over the year, with the highest proportional growth coming in Heavy and Civil Engineering Construction, which was up by 14.7%, or 3,410 jobs. Construction of Buildings was up by 2,724 (8.4%) and Specialty Trade Contractors added 4,451 jobs (4.9%).

Manufacturing: Employment in Manufacturing was down by 200 (0.1%) OTM in October, after adding 2,000 jobs (0.6%) in September. Durable Goods Manufacturers added 100 jobs (0.0%) while Non-Durable Goods Manufacturing was down by 300 (0.3%). Over the year, employment in the Manufacturing supersector was up by 1,326 jobs, or 0.4%. Durable Goods Manufacturers lost 271 jobs (0.1%), due in large part to the loss of 599 jobs (1.4%) in Computer and Electronic Product Manufacturing. Non-Durable Goods Manufacturing was up 1,597 jobs (1.4%) OTY, with Food Manufacturing up 705 jobs (1.4%).

Trade, Transportation, and Utilities: Employment in Trade, Transportation and Utilities was up by 2,100 jobs (0.4%) OTM in October. All three component sectors added jobs. Retail Trade was up

1,100 jobs (0.4%), Wholesale Trade was up 200 jobs (0.2%) and Transportation, Warehousing and Utilities was up 800 (0.7%). On an annual basis, employment in the supersector was up by 3,901 jobs, or 0.7%. That was an improvement over September's 0.6% annual growth. October losses of 2,595 jobs (1.9%) in Wholesale Trade, were offset by the addition of 3,331 jobs (1.2%) in Retail Trade and 3,165 (2.6%) in Transportation, Warehousing and Utilities.

Information: Information employers lost 200 jobs (0.5%) OTM in October, on a seasonally adjusted basis. The supersector has lost jobs in four consecutive months, and seven of ten months of 2025. Over the year, employment in the Information supersector lost 2,467 jobs, or 5.5%, the lowest proportional OTY growth of any supersector in the state, and the lowest for the supersector so far in 2025.

Financial Activities: Employment in Financial Activities was up by 600 (0.3%) OTM in October, on a seasonally adjusted basis. Real Estate and Rental and Leasing added 400 jobs (1.15) while Finance and Insurance employment was up by 200 (0.1%). Over the year, the supersector lost 2,467 jobs, or 1.3%. Both major component sectors posted negative growth, with Finance and Insurance off by 2,373 (1.6%) and Real Estate and Rental and Leasing off by 94 jobs (0.3%).

Professional and Business Services: The Professional and Business Services supersector lost 1,100 jobs (0.3%) OTM in October. The declines were primarily in Administrative and Support and Waste Management and Remediation Services, which was down by 1,000, or 0.8%. Professional, Scientific and Technical Services lost 400 jobs (0.2%), while Management of Companies and Enterprises was up by 300 (0.3%). On an annual basis, the supersector added 1,140 jobs, or 0.3%. Two of three published components added jobs, with the declines coming in Administrative and Support and Waste Management and Remediation Services, which was down 924 jobs, or 0.7%, due primarily to the loss of 4,009 jobs (8.1%) in Employment Services. Management of Companies and Enterprises added 1,084 jobs, or 1.3%.

Education and Health Services: Education and Health Services employment was up by 2,900 jobs, or 0.5%, in October. It was the fourth consecutive month of seasonally adjusted growth for the supersector. The growth was primarily in Health Care and Social Assistance, which added 3,100 jobs (0.6%), while Educational Services lost 200 jobs (0.3%). Over the year, Education and Health Services employment was up by 28,549 jobs, or 4.8%. Educational Services lost 3,937 jobs (5.2%) and Health Care and Social Assistance added 32,486 jobs, or 6.3%. Every published Health Care and Social Assistance component sector added jobs on the year.

Leisure and Hospitality: Leisure and Hospitality employment was up by 1,300 jobs, or 0.5%, OTM in October. The decline was entirely in Arts, Entertainment and Recreation, which was down by 1,600 jobs (3%). Accommodation and Food Services employment was up by 300 jobs, or 0.1%. Over the year, Leisure and Hospitality employment was down by 646 jobs, or 0.2%. Arts, Entertainment and Recreation added 371 jobs, or 0.7%, while Accommodation and Food Services lost 1,017 jobs, or 0.5%. Food Services and Drinking Places lost 964 jobs, or 0.5%.

Other Services: Employment in Other Services was up by 100 jobs (0.1%) OTM in October. It was the third consecutive month of seasonally adjusted growth for the supersector. On an annual basis, Other Services employment was down by 908 jobs, or 0.8%. All three published component sectors

lost jobs on the year. Repair and Maintenance was down 178 jobs (0.7%), Personal and Laundry Services was down 241 jobs (0.9%) and Religious, Grantmaking, Civic and Professional Organizations lost 489 jobs (0.7%).

Government: Government employment was down by 1,200, or 0.3%, OTM in October. Federal employers shed 800 jobs (2.4%) and Local employers lost 700 jobs (0.2%), while State Government employment was up by 300 jobs (0.3%). Over the year, Government employers lost 938 jobs, or 0.2%. The annual decline came entirely at the Federal Government level, as employers shed 1,927 jobs, or 5.7%. State Government employment was up 905 jobs (0.8%) and Local Government was up 84 (0.0%), with the addition of 1,279 (0.8%) in Non-Education employment mostly offset by the loss of 1,195 jobs (0.8%) in Local Government Educational Services.

Over-the-Year Job Change by MSAs

October 2025 data released by DEED, not seasonally adjusted

Metropolitan Statistical Area	OTY Employment Change (#, NSA)	OTY Employment Change (% , NSA)
Minneapolis-St. Paul MN-WI MSA	12,448	0.6
Duluth-Superior MN-WI MSA	119	0.1
Rochester MSA	8,379	6.5
St. Cloud MSA	-615	-0.6
Mankato MSA	533	0.9
Fargo-Moorhead ND-MN MSA (Sept)	1,300	0.8
Grand Forks-East Grand Forks ND-MN MSA (Sept)	400	0.7
La Crosse-Onalaska WI-MN (Sept)	0	0.0

Labor Market Information Office
MN Department of Employment and Economic Development
January 8, 2026