

September 2025 Employment Analysis

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Over-the-Month Job Change Overview

- Minnesota's unemployment rate increased one-tenth of a percentage point to 3.7% in September 2025. Nationally the unemployment rate ticked up one-tenth of a percentage point to 4.4% over the month.
- Minnesota's labor force increased by 2,609 people over the month to 3,159,480 people. The number of employed decreased by 1,231 workers, and the number of unemployed increased by 3,840 people. The labor force participation rate stayed at 68.1% over the month.
- Minnesota gained 6,100 jobs in the last month on a seasonally adjusted basis, a 0.2% increase. The private sector gained 5,500 jobs, or 0.2%. The U.S. total nonfarm employment increased by 119,000 jobs, or 0.1%. The U.S. private sector gained 97,000 jobs, also 0.1% growth.
- Seven supersectors in Minnesota gained jobs on a seasonally adjusted basis since the prior month:
 - Leisure and Hospitality gained 4,200 jobs, up 1.5%
 - Manufacturing gained 2,100 jobs, up 0.7%
 - Other Services gained 600 jobs, up 0.5%
 - Government gained 600 jobs, up 0.1%
 - Educational and Health Services gained 500 jobs, up 0.1%
 - Mining and Logging gained 100 jobs, up 1.6%
 - Financial Activities gained 100 jobs, up 0.1%
- Four supersectors lost jobs over the month:
 - Construction lost 1,000 jobs, down 0.7%
 - Professional & Business Services lost 600 jobs, down 0.2%
 - Information lost 400 jobs, down 1.0%
 - Trade, Transportation and Utilities lost 100 jobs, down 0.7%
- Calculating seasonally adjusted 2-month job change:
 - Minnesota lost 8,500 jobs in May-July, down 0.28%; the U.S. grew 0.04%.
 - Minnesota gained 6,200 jobs in June-August, up 0.20%; the U.S. grew 0.04%.
 - Minnesota gained 12,800 jobs in July-September, up 0.42%; the U.S. grew 0.07%

Over-the-Year Job Change Overview

- Minnesota gained 41,327 payroll jobs, up 1.4%, over the year. The private sector gained 39,643 jobs, up 1.5% over the year. Seven supersectors gained jobs, four lost jobs.

- U.S. employment grew 0.8% over the year with the private sector up 0.8%. Seven supersectors gained jobs, four lost jobs.
- Seven supersectors posted positive annual growth in Minnesota:
 - Education and Health Services led with 26,634 jobs gained, up 4.5% for Minnesota, while this supersector grew 3.0% across the U.S. In Minnesota, growth was propelled by the Health Care & Social Assistance subsector (6.0%). The Educational Services subsector declined 5.7%.
 - Construction gained 6,572 jobs, up 4.4%. All subsectors grew, led by Heavy and Civil Engineering Construction (13.2%), followed by Construction of Buildings (6.5%), and Specialty Trade Contractors (1.5%). The U.S. Construction supersector grew 0.4%.
 - Manufacturing gained 3,865 jobs in Minnesota, up 1.2%. Both Non-Durable Goods Manufacturing subsector and Durable Goods Manufacturing subsector grew, at 2.2% and 0.7% respectively. The U.S. Manufacturing supersector declined 0.7%.
 - Leisure and Hospitality gained 3,499 jobs, up 1.3%. The Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation subsector grew 5.9% while the bigger subsector Accommodation and Food Services grew 0.2%. This supersector grew 1.3% across the U.S.
 - Trade, Transportation, and Utilities gained 3,111 jobs, or 0.6%. 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 2.4%. Nationally, this supersector also grew 0.3%.
 - Government gained 1,684 jobs, up 0.4%. Growth was strongest in the State Government subsector (1.1%). The Local Government subsector grew slightly at 0.5%, and the Federal Government declined 2.7%. The Government supersector grew 0.5% across the U.S.
 - Professional & Business Services gained 1,250 jobs, up 0.3% in Minnesota. The subsector Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services grew 0.6% over the year, as did the subsector Management of Companies and Enterprises (0.6%), while the subsector Administrative and Support and Waste Management and Remediation Services declined 0.3%. In the U.S., this supersector declined 0.4%.
- Four supersectors lost jobs over the year in Minnesota:
 - Financial Activities lost 3,178 jobs over the year, down 1.7%. The Finance and Insurance subsector declined 2.0%. Real Estate and Rental Leasing subsector declined 0.5%. Nationally, this supersector grew 0.6%.
 - Information lost 1,853 jobs, down 4.3%. The Telecommunications subsector declined 4.5% and the Publishing subsector declined 1.4%. The U.S. Information supersector declined 0.2% over the year.
 - Other Services lost 205 jobs, down 0.2% in Minnesota. The Repair and Maintenance subsector grew 0.6% while Personal and Laundry Services subsector declined 0.8% and Religious, Grantmaking, Civic, Professional, and Similar Organizations subsector declined 0.2%. Nationally, this supersector grew 1.2%.
 - Mining and Logging lost 52 jobs, down 0.8% in Minnesota. This supersector declined 2.2% on the national level over-the-year.

September 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	41,327	1.4	0.8
Private	39,643	1.5	0.8
Mining & Logging	-52	-0.8	-2.2
Construction	6,572	4.4	0.4
Manufacturing	3,865	1.2	-0.7
Trade, Transport. & Utilities	3,111	0.6	0.3
Information	-1,853	-4.3	-0.2
Financial Activities	-3,178	-1.7	0.6
Prof. & Business Services	1,250	0.3	-0.4
Ed. & Health Services	26,634	4.5	3.0
Leisure & Hospitality	3,499	1.3	1.3
Other Services	-205	-0.2	1.2
Government	1,684	0.4	0.5

Wage and Hour Data

- Over the month, average hourly wages for all private sector workers increased 25 cents to \$39.78 in September 2025. Over the year average hourly earnings increased \$1.67, up 4.4%.
 - For the U.S., private sector wages increased 23 cents over the month and grew 3.2% over the year.
 - The CPI inflation index for all urban consumers rose 3.0% over the year in September.
- At 32.8 hours per week, Minnesota's September average work week decreased two-tenths of an hour over-the-month. Over-the-year it shortened by four-tenths of an hour.
 - Nationally, the average work week decreased one-tenth of an hour to 34.2 hours over-the-month. Over-the-year, it shortened by four-tenths of an hour.

Unemployment Data

- Over the month, the unemployment rate increased one-tenth of a percentage point to 3.7% on a seasonally adjusted basis. The number of employed decreased by 1,231 workers, and the number of unemployed increased 3,840. The employment to population ratio remained at 65.6% since the prior month.
- The labor force increased 2,609 people over the month, totaling 3,159,480 people in September. The labor force participation rate remained at 68.1%. Minnesota's labor force is now 35,611 people more than in February 2020 when the participation rate was at 70%.

- Nationally, the unemployment rate ticked up one-tenth of a percentage point to 4.4% over the month. The employment to population ratio also ticked up one-tenth of a percentage point to 59.7%. The labor force participation rate increased one-tenth of a percentage point to 62.4%.

Industry Details

Mining and Logging: Employment in Mining and Logging was up by 100 (1.6%) over the month (OTM) on a seasonally adjusted basis in September, the largest proportional monthly growth of any supersector in the state. The growth came after four consecutive months of flat employment for Mining and Logging employers. It was the first positive monthly growth in the supersector since March. On an annual basis, employers in Mining and Logging lost 52 jobs (0.8%). This was the fifth consecutive month of annual job losses in the supersector, though it was an improvement over August's -1.6% growth.

Construction: Construction employers lost 1,000 jobs (0.7%) OTM in September. This followed three months of positive growth in the supersector, which has added 4,300 seasonally adjusted jobs to this point in 2025. Over the year, Construction employers added 6,572 jobs (4.4%) in September. The supersector has posted positive annual growth in every month of 2025. All published component sectors posted positive growth. Heavy and Civil Engineering Construction drove the growth, adding 3,074 jobs, or 13.2%. Building Construction was up 2,110 jobs (6.5%) and Specialty Trade Contractors added 1,388 jobs (1.5%).

Manufacturing: Employment in Manufacturing was up by 2,100 (0.7%) OTM on a seasonally adjusted basis in September. It was the first positive monthly growth in the supersector since May. Non-Durable Goods Manufacturers added 1,900 jobs (1.7%) and Durable Goods Manufacturers added 200 jobs (0.1%). On an annual basis, employment in Manufacturing was up by 3,865 (1.2%). Non-Durable Goods Manufacturing drove the growth, adding 2,523 jobs, or 2.2%. Component Food Manufacturing added 1,137 jobs, or 2.3%. The Durable Goods sector added 1,342 jobs, or 0.7%, with limited growth across most published components, save for Computer and Electronic Product Manufacturing, which lost 260 jobs, or 0.6%.

Trade, Transportation, and Utilities: Seasonally adjusted Trade, Transportation and Utilities employment growth was mostly flat in September as the supersector shed 100 jobs, or 0.0%. Trade, Transportation and Utilities employers lost 400 jobs (0.3%) while Retail Trade employers added 300 jobs (0.1%). Employment in Wholesale Trade was flat, holding at 131,100 jobs. Over the year, employment in Trade, Transportation and Utilities was up by 3,111 jobs, or 0.6%. The growth came despite the loss of 3,263 jobs (2.4%) in Wholesale Trade, which shed jobs in all published component sectors. Retail Trade employment was up by 3,310 (1.2%). Transportation, Warehousing and Utilities added 3,064 jobs (2.8%) with growth in all published components save Couriers and Messengers (down 569 jobs, or 3.9%). Transportation and Warehousing added 2,772 jobs, or 2.6%.

Information: Information employers lost 400 jobs (1%) OTM in September. The supersector has not posted positive monthly growth since February and has lost 1,600 seasonally adjusted jobs so far in 2025. Over the year, the supersector lost 1,853 jobs (4.3%), which was worse than August's 3.3% decline, and was the largest proportional decline of any supersector in the state. Telecommunications was down 382 (4.5%) and Publishing Industries was down 248 jobs (1.4%).

Financial Activities: Financial Activities employment was up by 100 (0.1%) OTM in September. Finance and Insurance added 200 jobs (0.1%) while Real Estate and Rental and Leasing was down by 100 (0.3%). On an annual basis, employment in the supersector was down by 3,178 (1.7%). Finance and Insurance was down 2,993 (2%) with declines in all published component sectors, and Real Estate and Rental and Leasing was down by 185 (0.5%) due to the loss of 264 jobs (0.9%) in the Real Estate component.

Professional and Business Services: Employment in Professional and Business Services was down by 600 (0.2%) OTM in September. All three component sectors shed jobs on the month. Administrative and Support and Waste Management and Remediation was down 300 (0.2%), Management of Companies and Enterprises was down 100 (0.1%) and Professional, Scientific and Technical Services was down 200 (0.1%). Over the year, employers in the supersector added 1,250 jobs, or 0.3%. The growth came in spite of the loss of 335 jobs (0.3%) in Administrative and Support and Waste Management and Remediation Services, due to the decline of 3,433 jobs (7.1%) in component Employment Services.

Education and Health Services: Education and Health Services employers added 500 jobs (0.1%) OTM in September, on a seasonally adjusted basis. Health Care and Social Assistance added 1,200 jobs (0.2%) while their counterparts in Educational Services lost 700 jobs (1.0%). On an annual basis, employers in Education and Health Services added 26,634 jobs, or 4.5%, the largest proportional annual growth of any supersector in the state. Health Care and Social Assistance employment was up by 30,819 (6%) with growth in all published component sectors. Educational Services employment was down by 4,185 (5.7%), with declines at all levels of private Educational Services.

Leisure and Hospitality: September employment in Leisure and Hospitality was up by 4,200 jobs (1.5%), the third consecutive month of seasonally adjusted growth in the supersector. Accommodation and Food Services drove the growth, adding 4,600 jobs (2.1%), while Arts, Entertainment and Recreation shed 400 jobs (0.7%). Over the year, Leisure and Hospitality added 3,499 jobs (1.3%). Arts, Entertainment and Recreation drove the annual growth, adding 3,107 jobs, or 5.9%. Accommodation and Food Services employers added 482 jobs, or 0.2%. Full-Service Restaurants added 583 jobs (0.7%) while Limited-Service Restaurants and Other Eating Places lost 167 jobs (0.2%).

Other Services: Employment in Other Services was up by 600 jobs (0.5%), following the addition of 800 jobs (0.7%) in August, though the supersector still lost 1,000 seasonally adjusted jobs since January of 2025. Over the year, Other Services employers lost 205 jobs, or 0.2%. Repair and Maintenance added 142 jobs (0.6%), but those gains were countered by the loss of 220 jobs (0.8%) in Personal and Laundry Services, and 127 jobs (0.2%) in Religious, Grantmaking, Civic, Professional and Similar Organizations.

Government: Government employers added 600 seasonally adjusted jobs (0.1%) OTM in September. All three levels of Government posted positive growth, with Federal up 100 (0.3%), State up 100 (0.1%) and Local up 400 (0.1%). Over the year, Government employers added 1,684 jobs, or 0.4%. Local Government was up 1,377 jobs (0.5%), with declines in Local Government

Educational Services more than offset by gains in Non-Educational Services. State Government was up 1,211 jobs (1.1%) with positive growth in both Educational and Non-Educational Services. Federal Government employers lost 904 jobs, or 2.7%.

Over-the-Year Job Change by MSAs

September 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	15,633	0.8
Duluth-Superior MN-WI MSA	516	0.4
Rochester MSA	7,568	5.9
St. Cloud MSA	-645	-0.6
Mankato MSA	2,354	4.2
Fargo-Moorhead ND-MN MSA	1,300	0.8
Grand Forks-East Grand Forks ND- MN MSA	400	0.7
La Crosse-Onalaska WI-MN	0	0.0

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