

Data Request Follow up

Department of Human Services (Oct. 25, 2021)

What is the role of the safety net system, physical and mental health, childcare, housing, transportation, education, safety and security, inclusion and belonging, etc. in our discussions and recommendations?

Approximately 1/3 of Minnesota's population interacts with the State's public assistance programs at any given time throughout the year. Health care is the largest reason individuals seek public assistance, followed by economic supports that provide food, housing, and other financial stability. Data below provides approximate counts of the services and programs utilized by children, adults, and families during 2020.

Minnesota's public assistance programs have a wide reach and provide critical services to many vulnerable Minnesotans who are living in poverty. It is important for council members to consider that people of color and indigenous populations in Minnesota are more likely to experience or be living in poverty. Therefore, people of color and indigenous populations in Minnesota are disproportionately more likely to access these critical services and programs. When framing conversations on how to ensure that economic prosperity and gains in the labor market are equitably shared across different groups in Minnesota, opportunities to improve and support Minnesota's safety net should be considered.

[Human Services Budget Narratives and Program Descriptions](#)

Physical and Mental Health

- 1.47 million people sought services and programs that address physical or mental health needs. This includes, but is not limited to:
 - Medical Assistance (MA – Medicaid)
 - MinnesotaCare
 - Medicaid Waiver Programs for children and adults with disabilities and/or injuries
 - Adult mental health services
 - Children's mental health services

Links:

- [Medicaid Matters data dashboard](#)
- [Family Self-Sufficiency and Health Care Program Statistics](#)
- [Medical Assistance and MinnesotaCare Eligible Persons Report](#)

- [Minnesota DHS Reports and Forecasts](#)
- [Employment First Dashboards - Employment among people with disabilities](#)
- [Individual Placement and Support \(IPS\)](#)

Child Care

- Minnesota counties provide child care assistance services for 29,203 children and 14,669 families in an average month.
- Child care assistance may be accessed by Minnesota Family Investment Program/ Divisionary Work Program (MFIP/DWP) recipients. Families who are not part of MFIP or DWP may access child care assistance on a sliding fee scale.

Links:

- [Child Care Assistance Program](#)
- [Child Care Assistance Fact Sheet](#)
- [Minnesota Child Care Assistance Program Report](#)
- [Minnesota Child Care Assistance: Facts and Figures](#)

Housing

- Over 20,000 seniors and adults with disabilities receive housing support assistance each month to help pay for rent.
- Other assistance programs including, but not limited to MFIP/DWP, General Assistance (GA), and Minnesota Supplemental Aid (MSA) provide cash payments to recipients and may be used to help secure basic needs, including housing.

Links:

- [Housing Support](#)
- [Homelessness in Minnesota: helping to connect people to the services they need](#)
- [Minnesota Supplemental Aid](#)
- [Safety-net supports: Basic questions and answers](#)
- [Wilder Research Foundation: Minnesota Homeless Study](#)

Education

- Support Services Grants provide employment services to approximately 26,500 people per month. These grants help people with basic education, proficiency training, and skill building and education programs to prepare participants for the labor market.
- Refugee Services Grants provide health, educational, employment, and training services for about 1,549 refugees each month.

Links

- [Refugee Resettlement Program](#)
- [Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program - Employment and Training Program](#)

Economic Security

- General Assistance (GA) program helps over 20,000 adults without children pay for basic needs every month. It provides money to people who can't work enough to support themselves, and whose income and resources are very low.
- Minnesota Supplemental Aid (MSA) provides cash assistance to over 30,000 adults each month who get Supplemental Security Income (SSI) pay for their basic needs. Some people who are blind, have a disability or are older than 65 but do not get SSI because their other income is too high may also be eligible for MSA if they meet the income limit.
- SNAP, formerly known as Food Stamps, helps Minnesotans with low incomes get the food they need for nutritious and well-balanced meals. The program provides support to help stretch your household food budget. It is not intended to meet all of your household's food needs. It is a supplement. About 386,000 Minnesotans relied on SNAP each month.
- The Minnesota Family Investment Program (MFIP) helps families with children meet their basic needs, while helping parents move to financial stability through work. Parents are expected to work, and are supported in working with both cash and food assistance. Most families have a lifetime limit of 60 months on MFIP. About 80,000 children and their parents representing 29,000 households relied on MFIP monthly.

Links:

- [SNAP Fact Sheet](#)
- [Electronic Benefit Transfer Fact Sheet](#)
- [Economic Assistance Program Reports](#)
- [County Reports on public assistance and social services programs](#)

Safety and Inclusion

- Responded to over 50,000 reports of maltreatment to vulnerable adults.
- Approximately 34,000 children were the subject of screened in child maltreatment reports by county and tribal agencies in Minnesota.

Links

- [Vulnerable Adult Protection Dashboard](#)
- [Child Protection in Minnesota: Keeping children safe](#)
- [Child Protection Resources](#)
- [Adult Protection Resources](#)

A sample of links and references around poverty and public assistance program usage. This is by no means exhaustive or all-inclusive.

Links

- [Improving the Health of People Living in Deep Poverty](#)
- [People of Color Face Systemic Disparities in Minnesota's Labor Market](#)
- [People in Poverty in Minnesota](#)
- [The Changing Composition of Minnesota's Social Safety Net](#)
- [Minnesotans Face Barriers in the Labor Market](#)

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Minnesota Budget Project. (2018, December). *Minnesotans Face Barriers in the Labor Market, Despite Top Line Unemployment Numbers*. https://www.mnbudgetproject.org/docs/default-source/default-document-library/minnesotans_face_barriers_in_labor_market_despite_top_line_unemployment_numbers.pdf?sfvrsn=dac1b681_2

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State Demographer’s Office – DEED (Oct. 8, 2021)

What are the skills and competencies for our talent pipeline? Is there a match between job requirement, competencies and skills? What competencies and skills need to be develop to meet the demands of our future economy?

- DEED’s [occupation projections for Minnesota](#) and a [PowerPoint summarizing the projections](#) are available online.

Key insights:

- Personal care aids, registered nurses and food preparation & serving are the occupations with the most projected new jobs in Minnesota in 2018-2028.
- Health care and social assistance, professional/scientific/technical services and construction sectors will have the largest growth in employment in Minnesota from 2018-2028.



- [McKinsey has this short article](#) that lays out some foundational skills that will be needed in the future.

Key insight:

- McKinsey identified 56 distinct elements of talent that tomorrow’s workers will require across 13 skill groups. The research evaluated the level of proficiency of 18,000 people. The results showed respondents’ proficiency was lowest in software use and development, understanding digital systems, communication and planning and ways of working.

Data on employment patterns for women and the impact of life events on entering and exiting the labor force.

1. [Minneapolis Federal Reserve bank article on the Impact of COVID-19 on women’s labor force participation \(through Nov 2020\).](#)

Key insights:

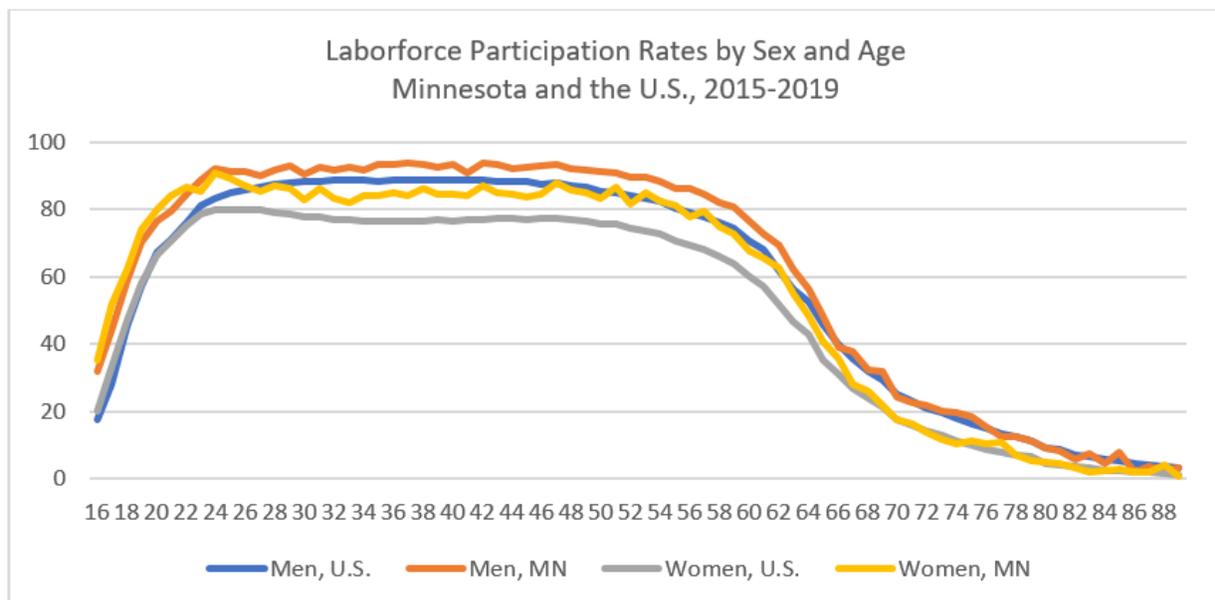
- The pandemic caused fathers and mothers of young children to leave the labor force at relatively high rates, but fathers were more likely to return.

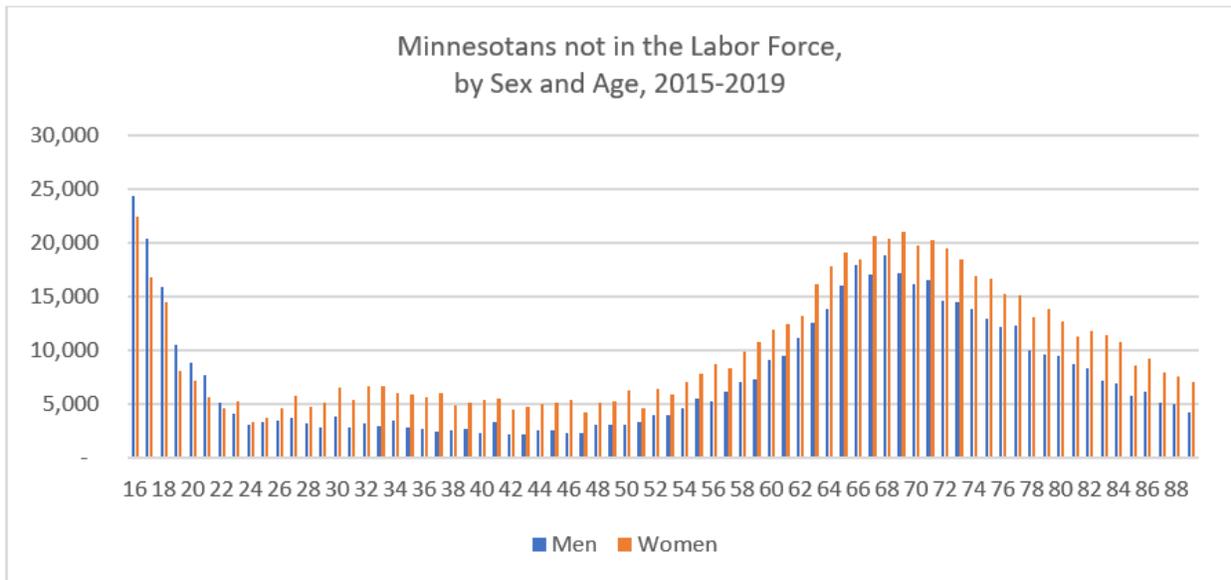


- Disruptions in the child care sector likely affected care availability and therefore the ability of parents to remain in the labor force.
 - Parent of young children without a four-year college degree have recovered more slowly.
2. Overview of [women’s labor force participation over time and the life course from the Bureau of Labor Statistics.](#)
 3. Minnesota specific numbers for 2015-2019, a period of “full employment”.

Key insights:

- Labor force participation drops for women beginning child-bearing and rearing ages (late 20s and beyond).





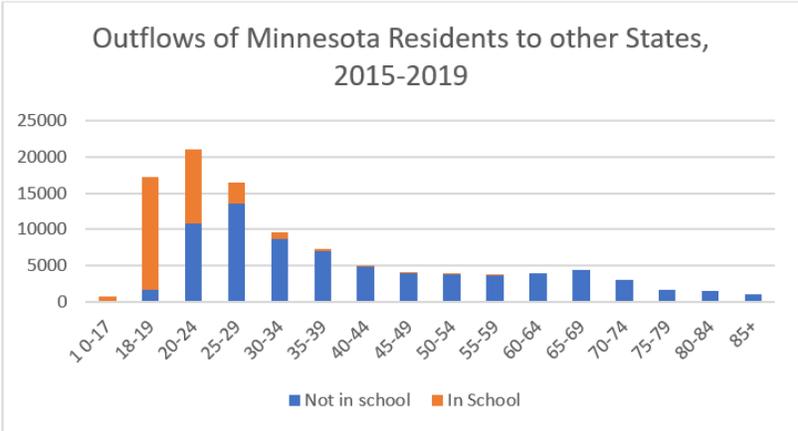
Data and demographics on underemployment in Minnesota, how can we re-skill that population to meet the job demands.

To be provided soon.

Do we assess livability of MN? ("Resident satisfaction") particularly for BIPOC population. Data on reasons for people to move out of the state.

Key insights:

- Additional research is needed to answer this question.
- From the migration data, the State Demographics Office has not seen large outflows of BIPOC populations from Minnesota through 2019. The flows of BIPOC people leaving Minnesota are on par with people coming to Minnesota.
- The age profile of people moving into Minnesota and out of Minnesota is primarily people in their late teens to late 20s. Many move for school or move back to a home state after their post-secondary education is complete (Those who moved back after their schooling was complete would be included in the blue portion of the bars, as we only have information on current status as student).

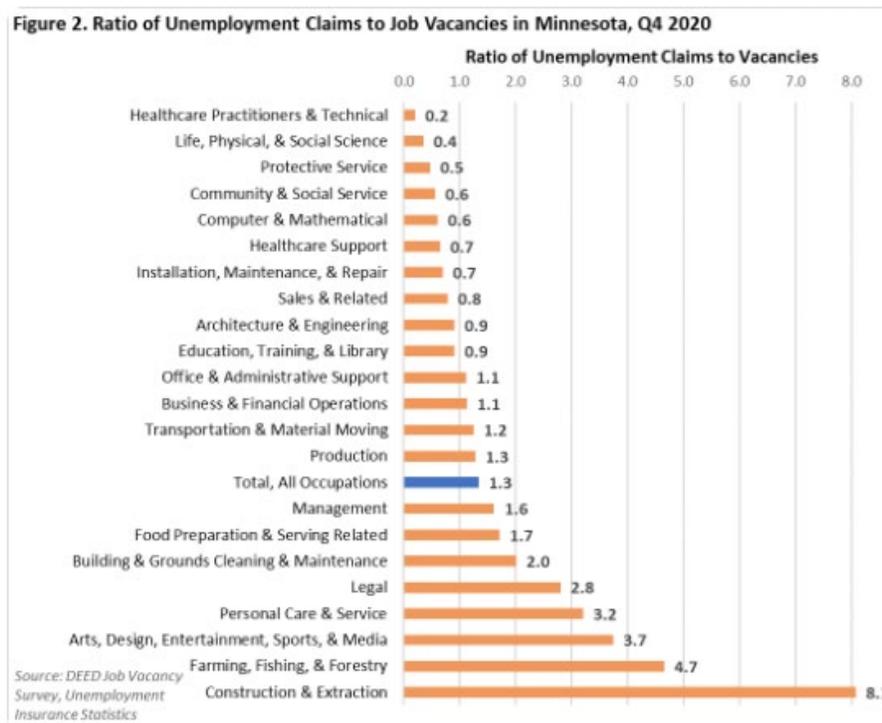


What is driving the current unemployment numbers and the mismatch between jobs available and job seekers? Is it child care? Need for better quality of life?

1. DEED’s article on employers' inability to find workers, [“More than Simple Supply and Demand”](#)

Key insights:

- Labor force participation rate is down, reasons include: fear of contracting COVID, increase difficulty finding child care due to loss of staff and closing of small family providers and workers waiting to return to their previous job.
- “There is a mismatch between the opportunities that are available and the workers most likely to have lost employment during the pandemic. The largest numbers of Minnesotans who were laid off early in the pandemic worked in hospitality, retail, or food preparation. Many of the opportunities available during the first year of the pandemic required skills or formal certification – such as in health care or production – that these individuals may not possess.”
- “One way to measure this mismatch across occupations is to compare UI claims to demand for workers as measured by job vacancies during fourth quarter 2020 (most recent data). some of the highest ratios were in more seasonally-sensitive occupational groups such as Construction & Extraction and Farming, Fishing, & Forestry, but also in some of the areas that were hit hardest during the pandemic including Arts, Design, Entertainment, Sports & Media and Personal Care & Service.”
- “Pursuit of higher education does not seem to be a major factor in Minnesotans not looking for work now. Contrary to past recessionary trends, fewer workers are pursuing postsecondary education while laid off.”



What are the number of “better paying / better benefits” jobs in Minnesota that are presently unfilled? What is the skill levels needed to be a candidate for those jobs? Ethnicity data on which Minnesotans do and don’t presently qualify for consideration for such jobs.

Key insights:

- **Number of jobs:** DEED did some analysis of current job openings from the [Job Vacancy Survey](#), using \$18.85 as the minimum cutoff for “better paying” based on data from the [Cost of Living](#) program. There were approximately **45,000 job openings** that were “better pay” (having an hourly wage of \$18.85 or more), and of those, approximately **30,000** offered healthcare benefits.
- **Skill level:** Each occupation would have different requirements (i.e. Registered Nurses require an associate's degree and skills in medical terminology). Using the Job Vacancy Survey, about **25,000** of the better pay / better benefit job openings also require postsecondary education. This covers every level from vocational training to associate’s degrees to bachelor’s degrees to advanced degrees; with higher levels of vocational and technical degrees needed in areas like healthcare, production, and installation, maintenance and repair occupations, and bachelor’s degrees or higher more likely to be needed in areas like management, computer and mathematical, and business and financial operations occupations.
- **Qualifications and education level by race:** It is challenging to provide data on the number of people by race who have associate's degrees or bachelor's degrees and in those specific programs. DEED currently also does not have data on skills possessed by race. DEED has data on [employment outcomes for postsecondary graduates by race](#). The data is not summarized and does not specifically apply to the job openings mentioned above.

Regional data:

Demographic changes (including age, diversity)

1. [Regional projections by age and race groups](#) report summarizes the projected changes for regions.

Key insights:

- “Nearly all of the growth in Minnesota in coming decades will occur in the seven counties that make up the Twin Cities metropolitan area. Greater Minnesota is projected to experience a net population loss during this time. There are pockets of Greater Minnesota that will see some increase, particularly in areas with high-infrastructure (e.g., along the Interstate 94 corridor and near Rochester’s Medical Destination Center) and in some areas known for outdoor recreation, such as the Brainerd Lakes region and along the north shore of Lake Superior.”
- “Populations of Color are projected to grow in absolute and relative terms across the State while non-Hispanic White populations will decrease.”
- “Minnesota regularly ranks among the very best in overall measures of quality of life—low poverty rate, highly educated, high labor force participation—however our populations of Color (African American, Asian, and Hispanic or Latin(x)) and American Indian residents continue to experience poorer health and disproportionately higher rates of illness and death (Minnesota Department of Health, 2015).”

Latest numbers from the 2020 Census show how racial diversity has changed between 2010 and 2020. [Detailed county-level data is available for download \(CSV\)](#). For most regions of the state,

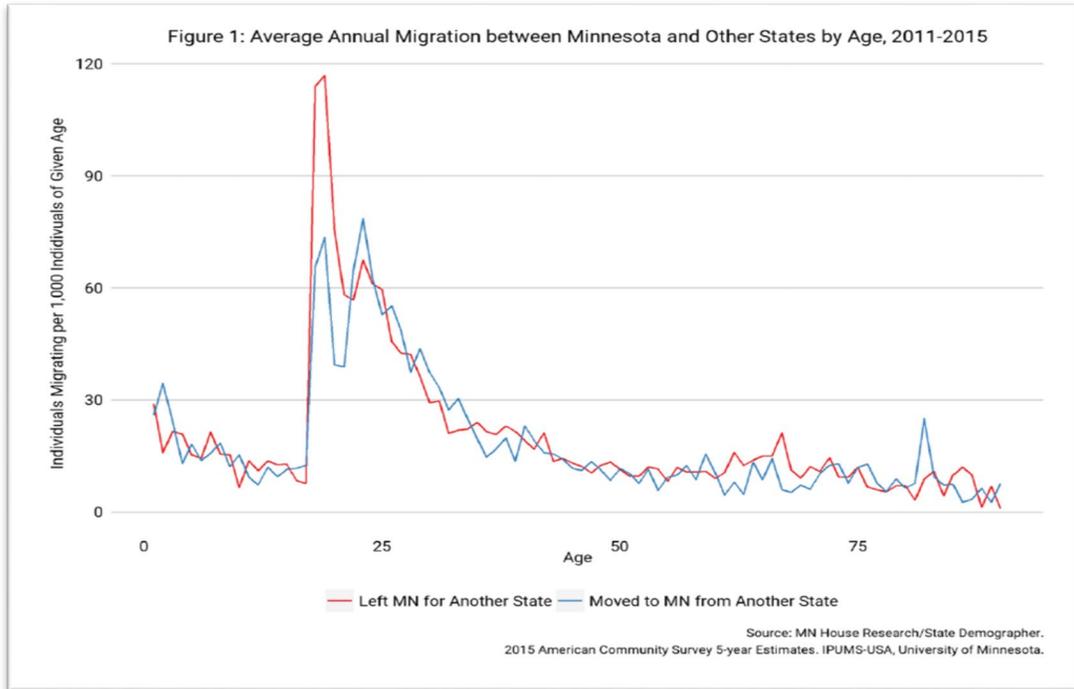
the statewide patterns holds, showing a declining white population an increase in BIPOC populations.

Migration patterns (focus on young adults)

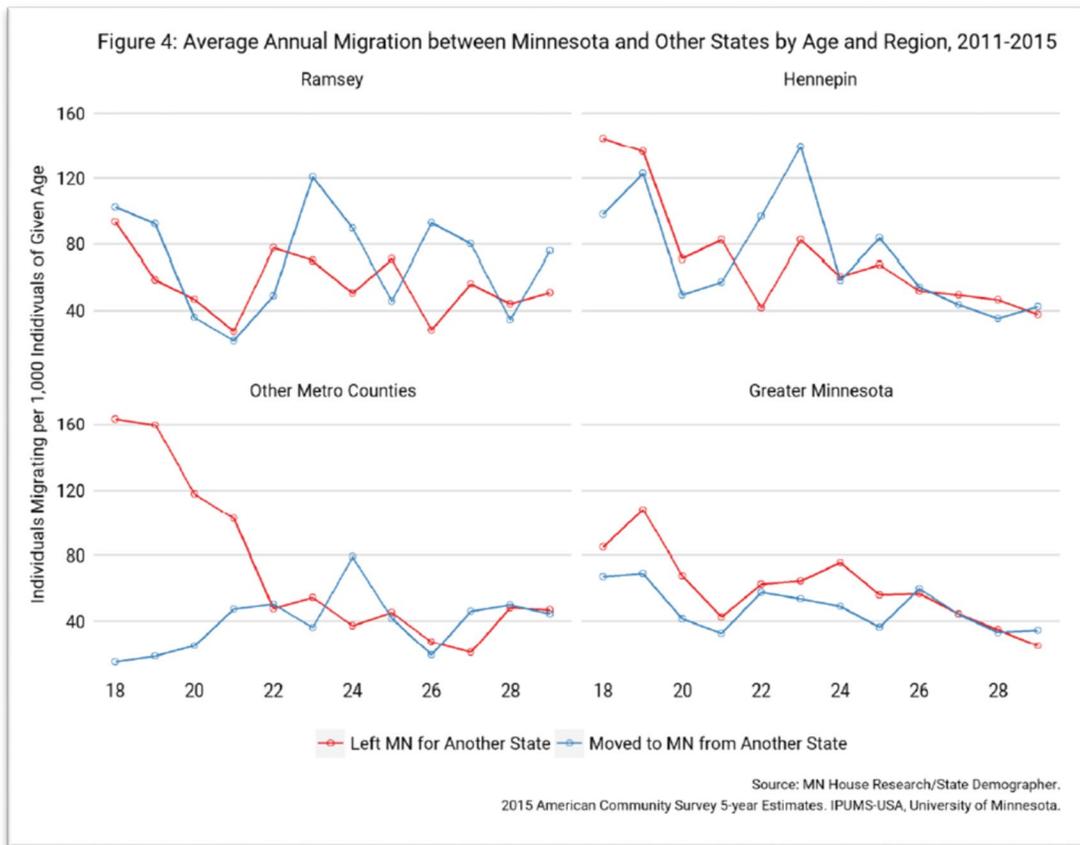
1. Attached is a migration report the State Demographic Center produced with House Research a few years ago.

Key insight:

- Minnesotans of all ages migrate between states, but Minnesotans in their late teens and twenties migrate with the greatest frequency.



- Greater Minnesota generally had lower rates of migration than the other four regions, with out-migration outpacing in-migration among almost all ages measured cohorts.



Job opportunities, broken down by skill/education /training requirements

1. [Job vacancy survey reports on basic educational requirements](#). Click on job categories to get more detailed occupations. You can also change from a statewide to a regional view.

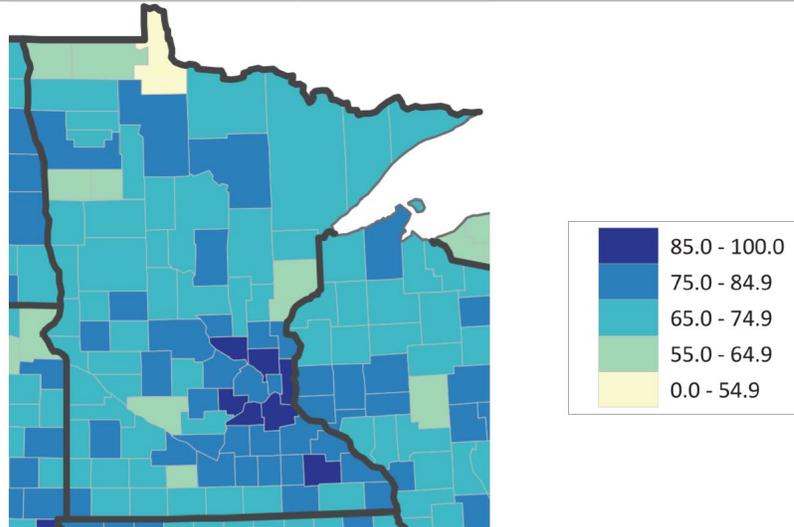
Broadband availability

1. Attached is a presentation to the Governor’s Task Force on Broadband which includes county-level data on broadband. These data come from the American Community Survey and so they are self-reports of internet access.

Key insight:

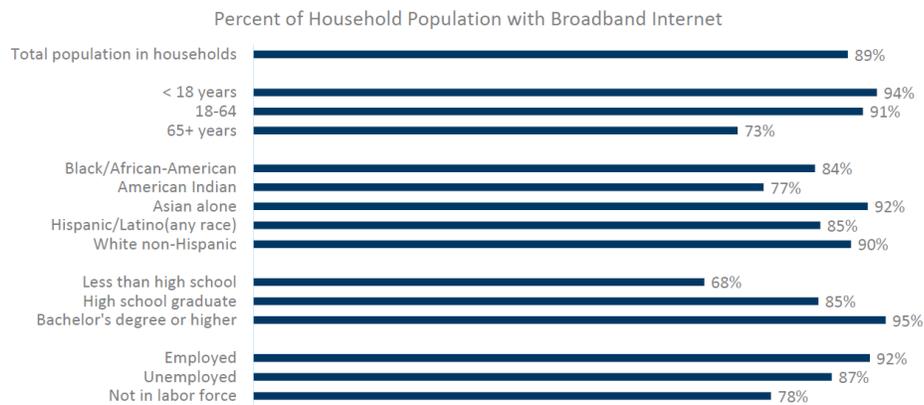
- Percent of households with subscription to any broadband service from 2013-2017 is highest in the Urban geographies in MN

Percent of households with subscription to any broadband service from 2013-2017



- Black/African American, American Indian, and Hispanic households tend to have lower access to broadband.
- Less educated households tend to have lower access to broadband

Disparate access to broadband by age, race, and education



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2015-2019 American Community Survey

2. Data from the Office of Broadband Development can be found here: <https://mn.gov/deed/programs-services/broadband/maps/>