

**COUNTY PROFILE**

**Freeborn Co.**

Freeborn Co. is a part of Economic Development Region 10, which is located in the Southeast Planning Region.



**POPULATION CHARACTERISTICS**

2025 population:	<b>30,440 people</b>	Median Age:	<b>44.3 years</b>
Population change, 2020-2025	-456 people -1.5% decline	state:	38.8 years

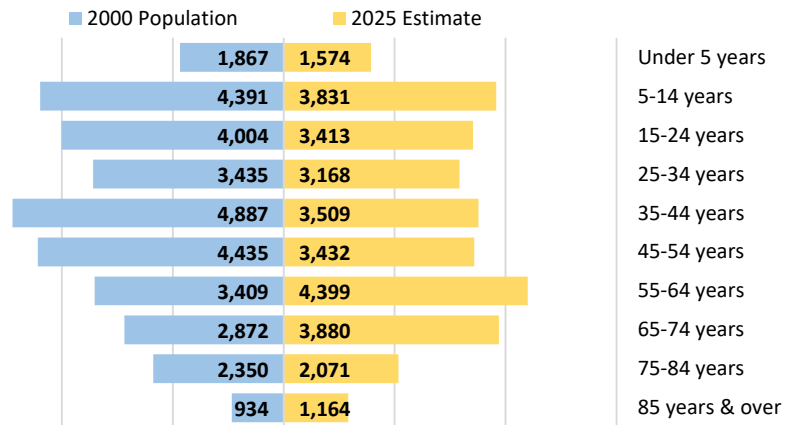
Freeborn Co. is the 37th largest of the 87 counties in the state. Its population decreased so far this decade, ranking as the 66th fastest growing in the state from 2020 to 2025. Freeborn Co.'s population has an older median age than the state and a larger percentage of people aged 65 years and older. The population is aging, especially as the Baby Boom generation moves through the population pyramid (see Figure 1).

**Table 1. Population by Age Group, 2025**

	Number	Percent
Under 5 years	1,574	5.2%
5-14 years	3,831	12.6%
15-24 years	3,413	11.2%
25-34 years	3,168	10.4%
35-44 years	3,509	11.5%
45-54 years	3,432	11.3%
55-64 years	4,399	14.4%
65-74 years	3,880	12.7%
75-84 years	2,071	6.8%
85 years & over	1,164	3.8%
<b>Total Population</b>	<b>30,440</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

Source: Census 2025 Population Estimates, 2020-2024 ACS

**Figure 1. Population Pyramid, 2000-2025**



Freeborn Co. suffered a negative natural increase - more deaths than births from 2020 to 2025, but also experienced net in-migration - meaning more people moved in than moved out. Despite suffering domestic out-migration, Freeborn Co. welcomed net international in-migration - gaining new Minnesotans from foreign countries (see Table 2).

**Table 2. Cumulative Estimates of the Components of Population Change, 2020-2025**

	Total Population Change	April 1, 2020 to July 1, 2025					
		Natural Increase	Vital Events		Net Migration		
			Births	Deaths	Total	International	Domestic
Freeborn Co.	-454	-535	1,561	2,096	81	130	-49
State of Minnesota	122,685	63,075	330,813	267,738	59,610	96,812	-37,202

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Population Estimates Program

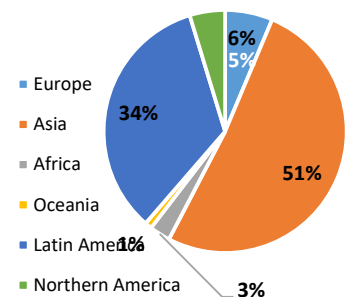
Compared to the state, Freeborn Co. has a smaller percentage of foreign-born residents. From 2014 to 2024, Freeborn Co. saw an increase in the number of foreign-born residents, which was faster than the statewide increase.

**Table 3. Place of Birth for the Foreign Born Population, 2024**

	Freeborn Co.		Change 2014-2024		Minnesota	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Percent	Change
<b>Foreign-born Population</b>	<b>1,294</b>	<b>4.2%</b>	<b>297</b>	<b>29.8%</b>	<b>8.7%</b>	<b>23.3%</b>
Europe	82	6.3%	-28	-25.5%	8.7%	-3.6%
Asia	664	51.3%	437	192.5%	34.8%	12.8%
Africa	36	2.8%	-80	-69.0%	28.6%	73.9%
Oceania	12	0.9%	10	500.0%	0.4%	5.4%
Americas:	500	38.6%	-42	-7.7%	27.4%	12.8%
Latin America	439	33.9%	-75	-14.6%	25.0%	14.5%
Northern America	61	4.7%	33	117.9%	2.4%	-2.8%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2020-2024 American Community Survey

**Figure 2. Place of Birth for the Foreign Born Population, 2024**



## COUNTY PROFILE

Freeborn Co.

Freeborn Co.'s population was becoming more racially diverse over time. Since 2014, the white population declined, but the number of people of other races increased (see Table 4).

**Figure 3. Population by Race, 2024**

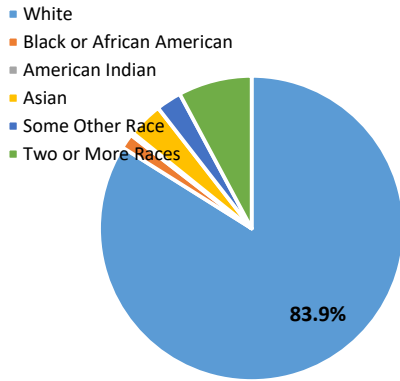


Table 4. Race and Hispanic Origin, 2024	Freeborn Co.			Minnesota	
	Number	Percent	Change from 2014-2024	Percent	Change from 2014-2024
<b>Total</b>	<b>30,623</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>-1.3%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>6.6%</b>
White	25,699	83.9%	-12.9%	77.1%	-3.5%
Black or African American	479	1.6%	61.3%	7.0%	38.6%
American Indian or Alaska Native	91	0.3%	-13.3%	0.9%	-8.6%
Asian or Other Pac. Islanders	1,136	3.7%	262.9%	5.2%	27.1%
Some Other Race	824	2.7%	85.2%	2.9%	107.8%
Two or More Races	2,394	7.8%	533.3%	7.0%	188.0%
Hispanic or Latino origin	3,302	10.8%	16.4%	6.4%	38.4%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2020-2024 American Community Survey

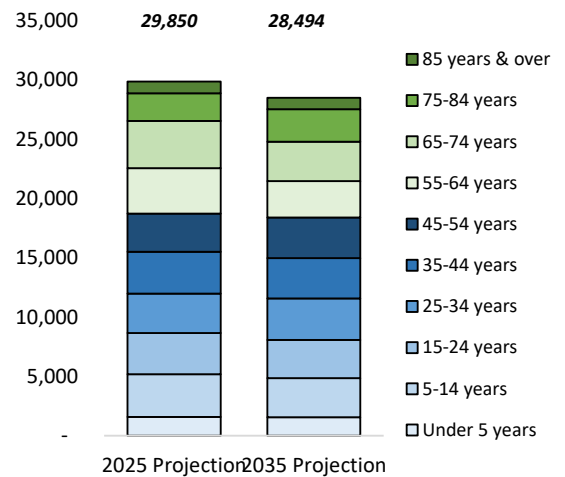
## POPULATION PROJECTIONS

According to the Minnesota State Demographic Center, Freeborn Co.'s population is expected to decline from 2025 to 2035, with a rate of change that is slower than the projected statewide growth rate (3.7%). Despite the decline, the number of people aged 65 years and older is expected to decrease over the next decade (see Figure 4 and Table 5).

Table 5. Population Projections by Age Group, 2025-2035				
Freeborn Co.	2025 Projection	2035 Projection	Numeric Change	Percent Change
Under 5 years	1,585	1,559	-26	-1.6%
5-14 years	3,603	3,282	-321	-8.9%
15-24 years	3,466	3,225	-241	-7.0%
25-34 years	3,327	3,505	178	5.4%
35-44 years	3,515	3,409	-106	-3.0%
45-54 years	3,237	3,409	172	5.3%
55-64 years	3,819	3,066	-753	-19.7%
65-74 years	3,992	3,333	-659	-16.5%
75-84 years	2,324	2,735	411	17.7%
85 years & over	982	971	-11	-1.1%
<b>Total Population</b>	<b>29,850</b>	<b>28,494</b>	<b>-1,356</b>	<b>-4.5%</b>

Source: Minnesota State Demographic Center

**Figure 4. Projections by Age Group, 2025-2035**

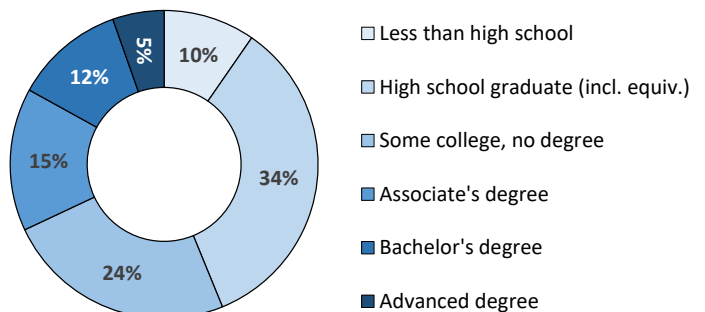


## EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT

Freeborn Co. has a lower percentage of adults (18 years & over) with at least a high school diploma than the state (93.3%), and a lower percentage of people with at least some college experience. Freeborn Co. also has a higher percentage of people with an Associate's degree and a lower percentage of people with a Bachelor's degree or higher.

<b>Percentage of the adult population (18 years &amp; over) with at least a high school diploma:</b>	<b>90.4%</b>
<b>College-educated:</b>	<b>56.2%</b>
state:	68.9%
<b>Associate's Degree:</b>	<b>15.0%</b>
<b>Bachelor's Degree:</b>	<b>11.6%</b>
<b>Advanced Degree:</b>	<b>5.4%</b>

**Figure 5. Educational Attainment, 2024**



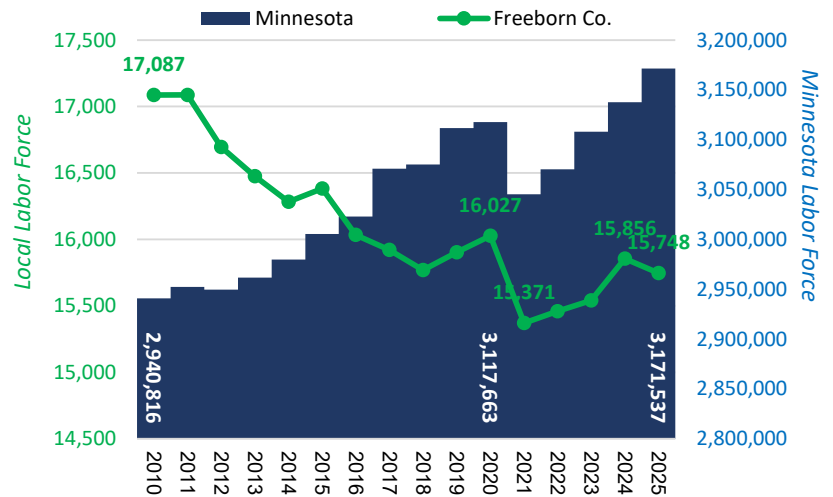
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2020-2024 American Community Survey

LABOR FORCE TRENDS

At 3.9%, Freeborn Co. had a lower unemployment rate than the state in 2025. Freeborn Co.'s unemployment rate declined compared to the 5.7% pandemic rate posted in 2020. The number of unemployed workers actively seeking work in Freeborn Co. increased over the past year, and is down compared to 2020.

<b>15,748</b>	available workers
Labor Force change, 2010-2025	-1,339 workers -7.8% decline
<b>3.9%</b>	unemployment rate
3.9%	state
<b>614</b>	unemployed workers

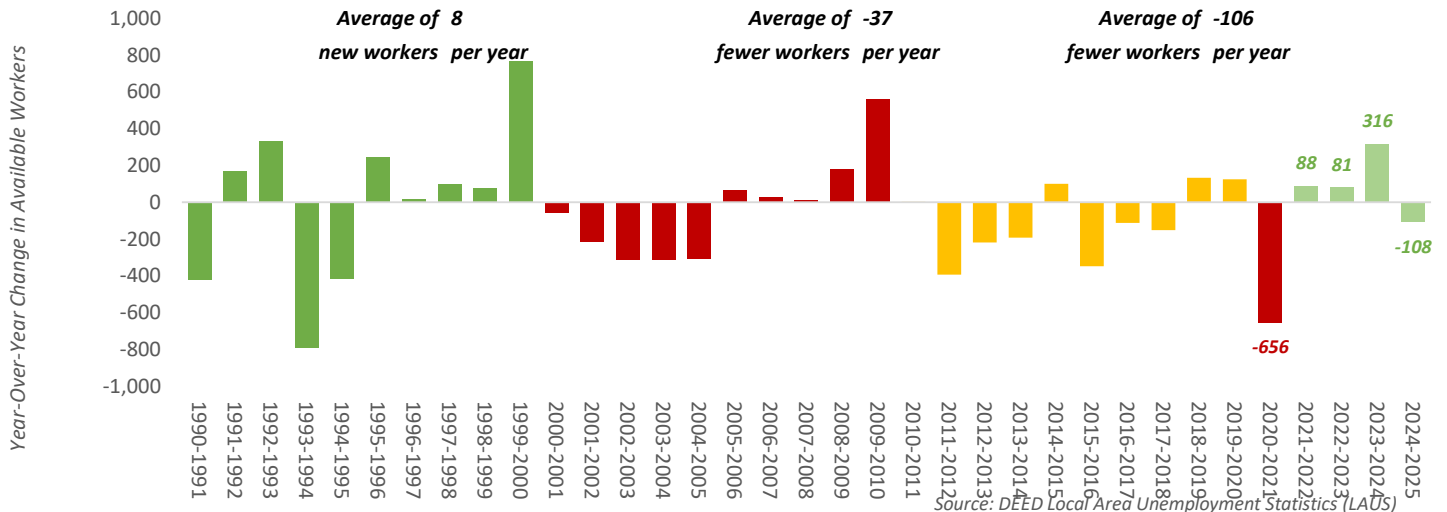
Figure 6. Annual Labor Force Estimates



Source: DEED Local Area Unemployment Statistics

Labor force growth has slowed in recent years. After experiencing a net gain of workers each year from 1990 to 2000, Freeborn Co. averaged an annual loss of fewer workers from 2000 to 2010, and most recently a loss of fewer workers since 2010 (see Figure 7). Moving forward, Freeborn Co. is expected to see a labor force decline from 2025 to 2035 (see Table 6).

Figure 7. Annual Change in Labor Force, 1990-2025



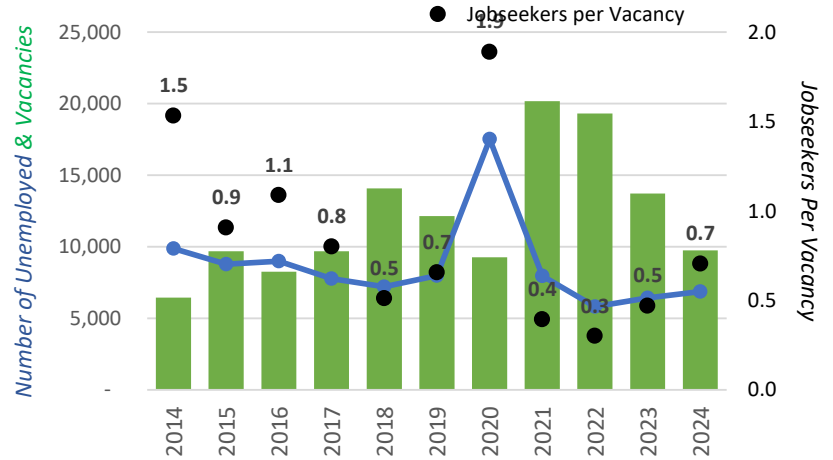
Source: DEED Local Area Unemployment Statistics (LAUS)

Table 6. Labor Force Projections, 2025-2035	Labor Force Projection	
	2025	2035
16 to 24 years	2,119	2,004
25 to 54 years	8,668	8,874
55 to 64 years	2,717	2,181
65 years & over	1,269	1,120
<b>Total Labor Force</b>	<b>14,773</b>	<b>14,180</b>

Source: Minnesota State Demographic Center, 2020-2024 ACS

The labor market had grown extremely tight in recent years, with less than 1 jobseeker per vacancy until the pandemic recession. In 2024, job vacancies in Southeast returned to pre-pandemic levels and the number of unemployed workers was trending upward, but employers were still seeing challenges finding enough workers for open jobs (see Figure 8).

Figure 8. Jobseekers Per Vacancy, 2014-2024

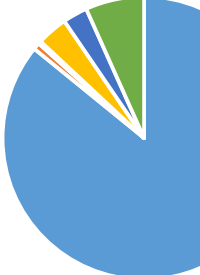


Source: DEED Job Vacancy Survey, LAUS program

**LABOR FORCE CHARACTERISTICS**

Freeborn Co. had a lower labor force participation rate than the state. The labor force in Freeborn Co. is less racially diverse than the state (where 78.7% of workers are white alone), but is becoming more diverse over time.

**Table 7. Employment Characteristics, 2024**

	Freeborn Co.			Minnesota		Labor Force by Gender	
	In Labor Force (available workers)	Labor Force Partic. Rate	Unemp. Rate	Labor Force Partic. Rate	Unemp. Rate	Male	Female
<b>Total Labor Force</b>	<b>15,189</b>	<b>61.4%</b>	<b>4.6%</b>	<b>68.1%</b>	<b>4.1%</b>	<b>7,995</b>	<b>7,188</b>
16 to 19 years	662	49.3%	7.7%	52.6%	10.3%	271	391
20 to 24 years	1,393	84.8%	14.4%	83.3%	6.6%	671	723
25 to 44 years	5,863	87.3%	3.9%	88.7%	3.7%	3,101	2,762
45 to 54 years	2,876	83.3%	3.3%	87.8%	3.0%	1,488	1,387
55 to 64 years	3,148	71.1%	2.7%	72.7%	3.2%	1,672	1,475
65 to 74 years	1,034	26.5%	2.6%	27.7%	3.6%	673	360
75 years & over	208	6.4%	3.8%	6.7%	3.2%	119	90
<b>Employment Characteristics by Race &amp; Hispanic Origin</b>						<b>Figure 9. Labor Force by Race, 2024</b>  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ White alone</li> <li>■ Black or African American</li> <li>■ American Indian &amp; Alaska Native</li> <li>■ Asian or Other Pac. Islanders</li> <li>■ Some Other Race</li> <li>■ Two or More Races</li> </ul>	
White alone	13,044	60.8%	3.4%	67.0%	3.5%		
Black or African American	117	35.9%	36.8%	70.8%	8.7%		
American Indian & Alaska Native	48	70.6%	0.0%	58.0%	10.8%		
Asian or Other Pac. Islanders	535	66.6%	17.2%	75.2%	3.5%		
Some Other Race	429	76.3%	2.3%	75.4%	5.8%		
Two or More Races	1,018	66.8%	11.0%	74.0%	5.7%		
Hispanic or Latino	1,565	71.3%	9.0%	76.6%	5.8%		
<b>Employment Characteristics by Disability, 20 to 64 years</b>							
With Any Disability, 20 to 64 years	992	52.4%	7.5%	56.1%	9.4%		
<b>Employment Characteristics by Educational Attainment, 25 to 64 years</b>							
Population, 25 to 64 years	11,880	81.4%	3.5%	84.5%	3.4%		
Less than H.S. Diploma	838	65.7%	2.8%	66.2%	4.9%		
H.S. Diploma or Equivalent	3,274	75.6%	4.9%	76.6%	2.5%		
Some College or Assoc. Degree	5,306	84.2%	3.7%	85.0%	3.7%		
Bachelor's Degree or Higher	2,467	91.8%	2.1%	90.5%	2.2%		

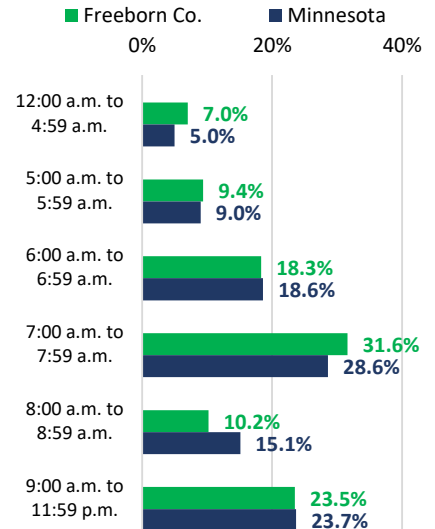
Source: 2020-2024 American Community Survey, 5-Year Estimates

A larger percentage of workers in Freeborn Co. worked in the same county in which they live compared to the state. Freeborn Co. also had a shorter average commute time than the state.

**Table 8. Commuting Characteristics, 2024**

	Freeborn Co.		Minnesota	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Worked in state of residence	13,662	96.0%	2,875,211	97.8%
Worked in county of residence	10,858	76.3%	2,013,824	68.5%
Worked out of county of residence	2,804	19.7%	864,327	29.4%
Worked outside state of residence	569	4.0%	64,678	2.2%
<b>MEANS OF TRANSPORTATION TO WORK</b>				
Car, truck, or van	12,424	87.3%	2,246,075	76.4%
Public transportation (excl. taxicab)	14	0.1%	52,918	1.8%
Other method (walk, bike, taxi, etc.)	712	5.0%	123,475	4.2%
Worked at home	1,082	7.6%	517,420	17.6%
<b>TRAVEL TIME TO WORK</b>				
Less than 10 minutes	3,871	27.2%	490,961	16.7%
10 to 19 minutes	5,152	36.2%	943,704	32.1%
20 to 29 minutes	2,377	16.7%	658,535	22.4%
30 to 44 minutes	1,622	11.4%	538,000	18.3%
45 to 59 minutes	441	3.1%	164,634	5.6%
60 or more minutes	783	5.5%	144,055	4.9%
<b>Mean travel time to work (minutes)</b>	<b>19.7 minutes</b>		<b>22.7 minutes</b>	

**Figure 10. Time Leaving Home to go to Work, 2024**



Source: 2020-2024 American Community Survey, 5-Year Estimates

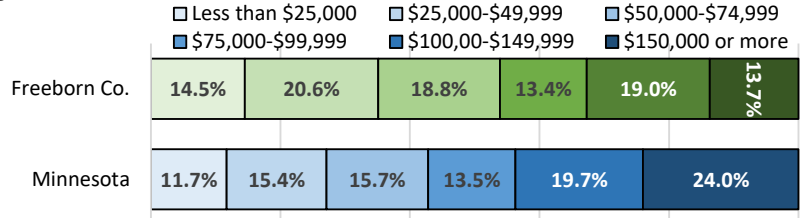
**INCOMES, COST OF LIVING, & HOUSING**

Freeborn Co. had a lower median household income than the state, and a higher percentage of households with incomes below \$50,000. Overall, Freeborn Co. had the 64th highest median household income of the 87 counties in the state.

<b>Median Household Income</b>	<b>\$71,023</b>
state	\$89,062
<b>Median Family Income</b>	<b>\$86,853</b>
state	\$113,993
<b>Per Capita Income</b>	<b>\$39,886</b>
state	\$48,237

Source: 2020-2024 American Community Survey

**Figure 11. Household Incomes, 2024**



Source: 2020-2024 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates

The cost of living has increased in recent years with expenses up in many areas. Freeborn Co. had a lower cost of living than the state, with a required hourly wage of \$14.2 for a single person living alone to meet a basic needs cost of living, and an hourly wage requirement of \$19.9 for a typical family with 2 adults and 1 child (see Table 9).

**Table 9. Basic Needs Cost of Living Estimates, 2024**

Single Adult, 0 children	Single Yearly Cost of Living	Hourly Wage Required	Monthly Costs						
			Child Care	Food	Health Care	Housing	Transportation	Other	Taxes
Freeborn Co.	\$29,529	\$14.20	\$0	\$423	\$183	\$725	\$581	\$254	\$295
State of Minnesota	\$38,376	\$18.45	\$0	\$452	\$202	\$1,199	\$561	\$365	\$419

Typical Family: 2 Adults (1 working full-time, 1 part-time), 1 child	Family Yearly Cost of Living	Hourly Wage Required	Monthly Costs						
			Child Care	Food	Health Care	Housing	Transportation	Other	Taxes
Freeborn Co.	\$62,087	\$19.90	\$490	\$960	\$639	\$964	\$1,080	\$425	\$616
State of Minnesota	\$74,616	\$23.92	\$558	\$1,028	\$697	\$1,498	\$1,026	\$558	\$853

Source: DEED Cost of Living tool

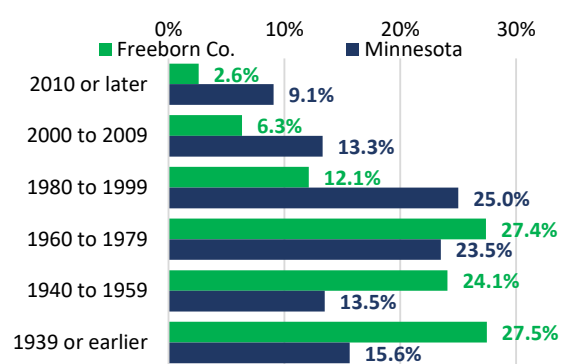
Freeborn Co. had a lower median house value than the state, having the 66th highest value of the 87 counties in 2024. Freeborn Co.'s housing stock was older than the state's, with a lower percentage of units built since 2000 (see Figure 12).

**Table 10. Estimated Value of Owner-occupied Housing Units, 2024**

Total	Freeborn Co.		Minnesota
	Total	Percent	Percent
Total	10,213	100.0%	100.0%
Less than \$50,000	774	7.6%	4.0%
\$50,000 to \$99,999	1,536	15.0%	3.7%
\$100,000 to \$149,999	1,814	17.8%	5.2%
\$150,000 to \$199,999	1,912	18.7%	8.1%
\$200,000 to \$299,999	2,004	19.6%	22.6%
\$300,000 to \$499,999	1,681	16.5%	36.9%
\$500,000 or more	492	4.8%	19.6%
<b>Median (dollars)</b>	<b>\$171,100</b>		<b>\$329,300</b>

Source: 2020-2024 American Community Survey, 5-Year Estimates

**Figure 12. Year Structure Built, 2024**



<b>Median monthly owner costs, owner-occupied units with a mortgage</b>	<b>\$1,316</b>
state	\$1,947

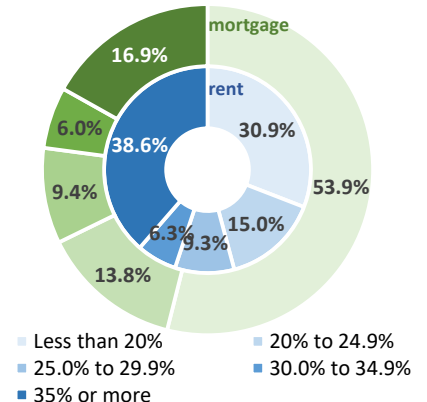
<b>Percentage of households with a mortgage spending 30% or more of their income on housing costs</b>	<b>22.9%</b>
state	23.2%

<b>Median monthly rent costs</b>	<b>\$849</b>
state	\$1,280

<b>Percentage of renters spending 30% or more of their household income on rent</b>	<b>44.9%</b>
state	48.1%

Source: 2020-2024 American Community Survey, 5-Year Estimates

**Figure 13. Housing Costs as a Percentage of Income, 2024**



OCCUPATIONS

At \$24.82 in 2025, wages were lower in Region 10 than the state. Overall, Region 10 had the 2nd highest median hourly wage level of the 13 economic development regions in the state. Wages were highest for management occupations (\$53.29) and lowest for food preparation and serving related jobs (\$14.99) (see Table 11).

Table 11. Occupational Employment & Wage Statistics, 2025

Occupational Group	Region 10				State of Minnesota		
	Median Hourly Wage	Estimated Regional Jobs	Share of Total Jobs	Regional Location Quotient	Median Hourly Wage	Estimated Statewide Jobs	Share of Total Jobs
<b>Total, All Occupations</b>	<b>\$24.82</b>	<b>244,290</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>1.0</b>	<b>\$26.22</b>	<b>2,920,470</b>	<b>100.0%</b>
Management	\$53.29	13,010	5.3%	0.8	\$59.38	200,060	6.9%
Business & Financial Operations	\$38.96	10,780	4.4%	0.6	\$39.95	208,210	7.1%
Computer & Mathematical	\$51.70	5,900	2.4%	0.7	\$50.02	97,460	3.3%
Architecture & Engineering	\$43.11	3,400	1.4%	0.7	\$45.03	57,950	2.0%
Life, Physical & Social Science	\$38.18	5,540	2.3%	2.1	\$38.33	32,150	1.1%
Community & Social Service	\$30.99	4,740	1.9%	1.0	\$29.82	59,290	2.0%
Legal	\$39.41	770	0.3%	0.4	\$49.52	20,750	0.7%
Education, Training & Library	\$27.94	14,850	6.1%	1.0	\$27.84	170,270	5.8%
Arts, Design, Entertainment & Media	\$26.54	2,200	0.9%	0.7	\$28.84	36,030	1.2%
Healthcare Practitioners & Technical	\$47.57	26,980	11.0%	1.7	\$46.51	187,480	6.4%
Healthcare Support	\$18.96	12,930	5.3%	0.9	\$18.67	176,750	6.1%
Protective Service	\$29.97	4,130	1.7%	1.1	\$29.37	46,960	1.6%
Food Preparation & Serving Related	\$14.99	21,890	9.0%	1.1	\$16.05	240,830	8.2%
Building, Grounds Cleaning & Maint.	\$18.41	7,160	2.9%	1.0	\$19.16	81,700	2.8%
Personal Care & Service	\$17.18	5,210	2.1%	1.0	\$17.54	63,300	2.2%
Sales & Related	\$17.30	18,530	7.6%	0.9	\$18.66	244,780	8.4%
Office & Administrative Support	\$23.47	27,940	11.4%	1.0	\$24.07	340,040	11.6%
Farming, Fishing & Forestry	\$24.04	240	0.1%	0.9	\$23.48	3,300	0.1%
Construction & Extraction	\$32.20	8,560	3.5%	0.9	\$34.20	114,050	3.9%
Installation, Maintenance & Repair	\$29.51	9,110	3.7%	1.0	\$30.40	105,650	3.6%
Production	\$23.22	21,360	8.7%	1.2	\$23.56	205,220	7.0%
Transportation & Material Moving	\$21.98	19,050	7.8%	1.0	\$19.80	228,260	7.8%

Source: DEED Occupational Employment & Wage Statistics, Qtr. 1 2025

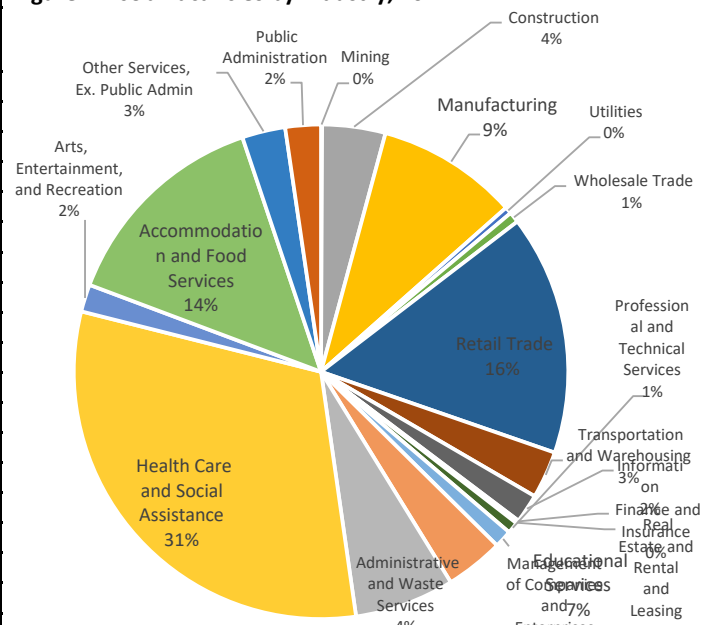
JOB VACANCY SURVEY

Freeborn Co. is a part of the Southeast planning region. There were 9737 job vacancies posted by employers in 2024, indicating extensive opportunity in the region, with openings across several occupations and industries (see Figure 14).

Table 12. Southeast Job Vacancy Survey Results, 2024

Occupational Group	Number of Vacancies	Wage Offer
<b>Total, All Occupations</b>	<b>9,737</b>	<b>\$20.20</b>
Management	389	\$36.87
Business & Financial Operations	272	\$27.57
Computer & Mathematical	135	\$39.56
Architecture & Engineering	143	\$36.14
Life, Physical & Social Sciences	174	\$31.85
Community & Social Service	187	\$25.98
Education, Training & Library	398	\$21.05
Healthcare Practitioners & Technical	1,716	\$37.89
Healthcare Support	640	\$19.33
Protective Service	107	\$19.30
Food Preparation & Serving Related	1,556	\$16.15
Building, Grounds Cleaning & Maint.	102	\$16.25
Personal Care & Service	329	\$12.98
Sales & Related	993	\$16.02
Office & Administrative Support	562	\$19.49
Construction & Extraction	73	\$31.11
Installation, Maintenance & Repair	431	\$20.38
Production	654	\$21.65
Transportation & Material Moving	624	\$18.33

Figure 14. Job Vacancies by Industry, 2024



Source: DEED Job Vacancy Survey, 2024

OCCUPATIONS IN DEMAND

Table 13. Southeast Planning Region Occupations in Demand, 2025

High School or Less	Vocational Training	Associate Degree	Bachelor's Degree or Higher
Fast Food and Counter Workers \$30,764/yr	Nursing Assistants \$45,256/yr	Registered Nurses \$104,037/yr	General and Operations Managers \$83,159/yr
Cashiers \$32,432/yr	Heavy and Tractor-Trailer Truck Drivers \$59,333/yr	Radiologic Technologists and Technicians \$78,940/yr	Physical Therapists \$97,502/yr
Home Health and Personal Care Aides \$37,070/yr	Licensed Practical and Licensed Vocational Nurses \$62,330/yr	Police and Sheriff's Patrol Officers \$78,311/yr	Clinical Laboratory Technologists and Technicians \$75,903/yr
Retail Salespersons \$34,818/yr	Bookkeeping, Accounting, and Auditing Clerks \$51,098/yr	Biological Technicians \$46,075/yr	Software Developers \$132,339/yr
First-Line Supervisors of Food Preparation and \$44,719/yr	Heating, Air Conditioning, and Refrigeration Mechanics and Installers \$66,151/yr	Dental Hygienists \$96,675/yr	Elementary School Teachers, Except Special Education \$63,226/yr
Medical Secretaries and Administrative Assistants \$48,642/yr	Substance abuse, behavioral disorder, and mental health counselors \$58,516/yr	Veterinary Technologists and Technicians \$49,140/yr	Secondary School Teachers, Except Special and Career/Technical \$65,875/yr
Stockers and Order Fillers \$36,836/yr	Automotive Service Technicians and Mechanics \$50,022/yr	Medical Equipment Repairers \$70,530/yr	Nurse Practitioners \$124,565/yr
Waiters and Waitresses \$23,887/yr	Hairdressers, Hairstylists, and Cosmetologists \$42,305/yr	Cardiovascular Technologists and Technicians \$47,876/yr	Accountants and Auditors \$79,738/yr
First-Line Supervisors of Retail Sales Workers \$46,722/yr	Electricians \$81,994/yr	Mechanical Drafters \$66,044/yr	Physician Assistants \$134,893/yr
Teaching Assistants, Except Postsecondary \$38,361/yr	Machinists \$59,033/yr	Physical Therapist Assistants \$65,886/yr	Medical and Health Services Managers \$127,365/yr

Source: DEED Occupations in Demand

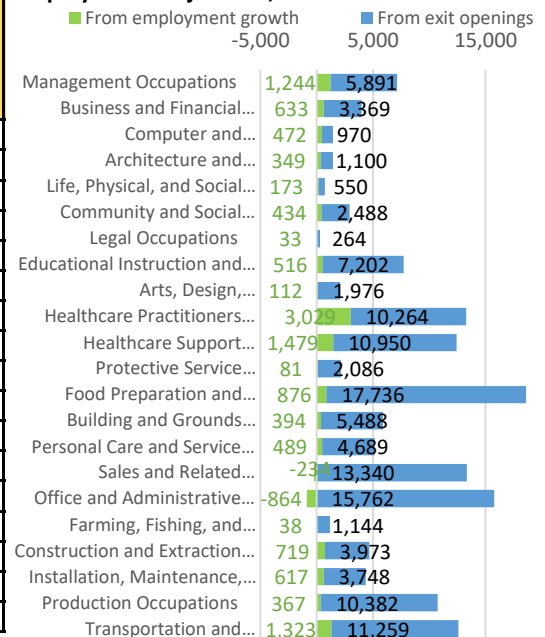
Freeborn Co. is a part of the Southeast planning region, which is projected to see a 4.5% increase in employment levels over the next decade. In addition to new jobs created, there will be a much larger number of exit openings (see Figure 15).

Table 14. Regional Industry Employment Projections, 2022-2032

Southeast Planning Region	Estimated Employment 2022	Projected Employment 2032	Percent Change 2022-2032
<b>Total, All Industries</b>	<b>270,975</b>	<b>283,255</b>	<b>4.5%</b>
Natural Resources & Mining	3,474	3,657	5.3%
Utilities	1,211	1,212	0.1%
Construction	9,574	10,360	8.2%
Manufacturing	36,161	37,414	3.5%
Wholesale Trade	7,317	7,736	5.7%
Retail Trade	26,514	26,404	-0.4%
Transportation & Warehousing	7,187	7,827	8.9%
Information	2,802	2,782	-0.7%
Finance & Insurance, Real Estate	6,243	6,457	3.4%
Professional Services & Mgmt. of Companies	8,457	9,278	9.7%
Admin. Support & Waste Mgmt.	7,883	8,597	9.1%
Educational Services	20,296	20,531	1.2%
Health Care & Social Assistance	65,729	71,175	8.3%
Leisure & Hospitality	22,983	24,366	6.0%
Other Services	8,780	9,078	3.4%
Public Administration	15,203	15,540	2.2%

Source: DEED 2022-2032 Employment Outlook

Figure 15. Regional Occupational Employment Projections, 2022-2032



ECONOMIC CHARACTERISTICS

After losing jobs over the past year, Freeborn Co. had the 35th largest economy of the 87 counties in the state. Freeborn Co. was the 71st fastest growing in the past year and the 60th fastest growing since 2020. From 2020 to 2025, employment in Freeborn Co. has grown since the pandemic recession.

**827** | business establishments  
**11,710** | jobs

**\$55,796** | annual average wage  
**\$653,473,735** | total industry payroll

Job change,  
2020-2025  
**308 jobs**  
2.7% increase

Figure 16. Industry Employment Statistics, 2005-2025

Source: DEED QCEW program

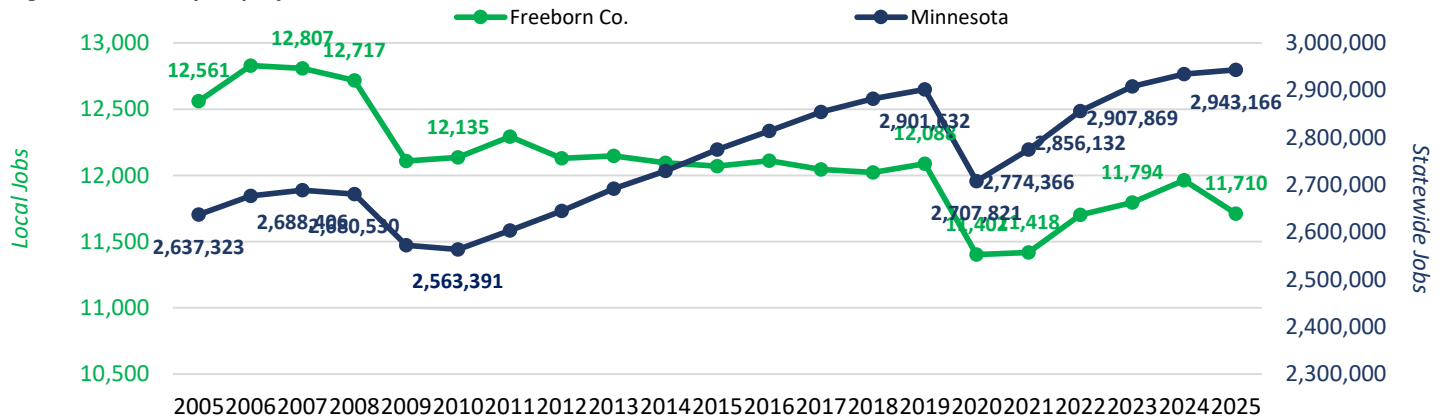
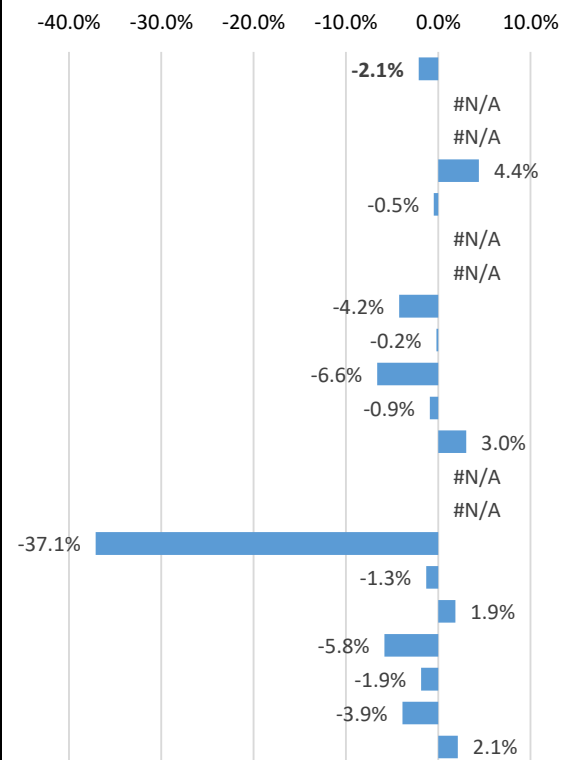


Table 15. Freeborn Co. Industry Employment Statistics, 2025	Number of Jobs	Percent of Total Jobs	Average Annual Wage
<b>Total, All Industries</b>	<b>11,710</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>\$55,796</b>
Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing & Hunting	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A
Mining	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A
Construction	568	4.9%	\$76,960
Manufacturing	2,583	22.1%	\$66,820
Utilities	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A
Wholesale Trade	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A
Retail Trade	1,833	15.7%	\$38,740
Transportation & Warehousing	551	4.7%	\$56,264
Information	99	0.8%	\$55,276
Finance & Insurance	327	2.8%	\$93,080
Real Estate & Rental & Leasing	68	0.6%	\$30,576
Professional & Technical Services	214	1.8%	\$50,700
Management of Companies	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A
Admin. Support & Waste Mgmt. Services	250	2.1%	\$50,301
Educational Services	761	6.5%	\$55,744
Health Care & Social Assistance	1,646	14.1%	\$60,684
Arts, Entertainment, & Recreation	97	0.8%	\$21,268
Accommodation & Food Services	1,058	9.0%	\$19,708
Other Services	398	3.4%	\$35,256
Public Administration	623	5.3%	\$69,264

Figure 17. Change in Jobs, 2024-2025



Source: DEED Quarterly Census of Employment & Wages (QCEW)

For more information on Freeborn Co.'s population, labor force, and economic trends, contact:

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Data updated: May 15, 2026