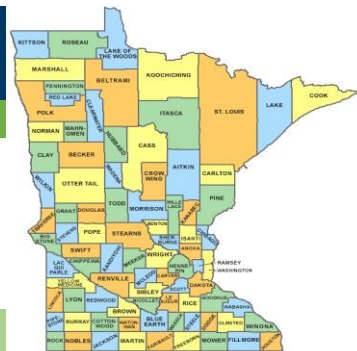


**COUNTY PROFILE**

# Houston Co.

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



## POPULATION CHARACTERISTICS

2025 population:	<b>18,400 people</b>	Median Age:	<b>45.1 years</b>
Population change, 2020-2025	-438 people -2.3% decline	state:	38.8 years

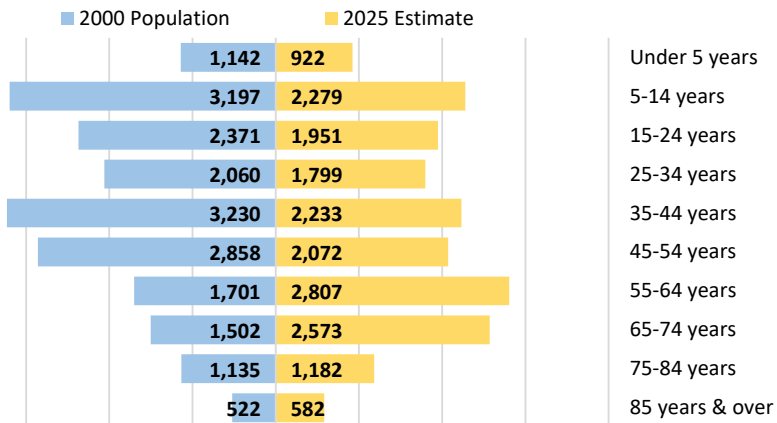
Houston Co. is the 51st largest of the 87 counties in the state. Its population decreased so far this decade, ranking as the 78th fastest growing in the state from 2020 to 2025. Houston Co.'s population has an older median age than the state and a larger percentage of people aged 65 years and older. 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	922	5.0%
5-14 years	2,279	12.4%
15-24 years	1,951	10.6%
25-34 years	1,799	9.8%
35-44 years	2,233	12.1%
45-54 years	2,072	11.3%
55-64 years	2,807	15.3%
65-74 years	2,573	14.0%
75-84 years	1,182	6.4%
85 years & over	582	3.2%
<b>Total Population</b>	<b>18,400</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

Source: Census 2025 Population Estimates, 2020-2024 ACS

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



Houston Co. suffered a negative natural increase - more deaths than births from 2020 to 2025, but also experienced net out-migration - meaning more people moved out than moved in. Despite suffering domestic out-migration, Houston Co. welcomed net international immigration - 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
Houston Co.	-434	-396	797	1,193	-38	35	-73
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

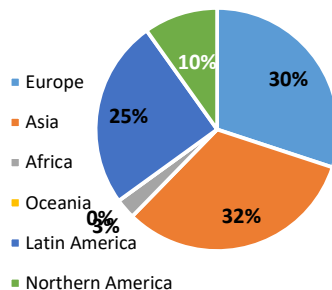
Compared to the state, Houston Co. has a smaller percentage of foreign-born residents. From 2014 to 2024, Houston Co. saw an increase in the number of foreign-born residents, which was faster than the statewide increase.

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

	Houston Co.		Change 2014-2024		Minnesota	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Percent	Change
<b>Foreign-born Population</b>	<b>406</b>	<b>2.2%</b>	<b>203</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>8.7%</b>	<b>23.3%</b>
Europe	122	30.0%	35	40.2%	8.7%	-3.6%
Asia	131	32.3%	94	254.1%	34.8%	12.8%
Africa	11	2.7%	11	#DIV/0!	28.6%	73.9%
Oceania	0	0.0%	-18	-100.0%	0.4%	5.4%
Americas:	142	35.0%	81	132.8%	27.4%	12.8%
Latin America	102	25.1%	58	131.8%	25.0%	14.5%
Northern America	40	9.9%	23	135.3%	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

Houston Co.

Houston 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**

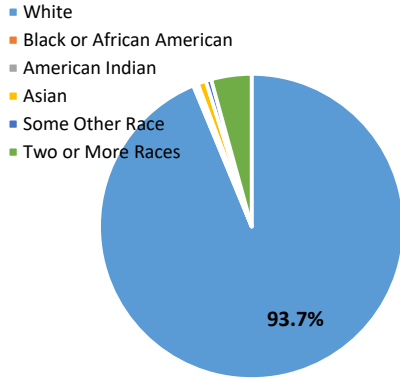


Table 4. Race and Hispanic Origin, 2024	Houston Co.			Minnesota	
	Number	Percent	Change from 2014-2024	Percent	Change from 2014-2024
<b>Total</b>	<b>18,653</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>-1.1%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>6.6%</b>
White	17,487	93.7%	-4.7%	77.1%	-3.5%
Black or African American	50	0.3%	8.7%	7.0%	38.6%
American Indian or Alaska Native	45	0.2%	-8.2%	0.9%	-8.6%
Asian or Other Pac. Islanders	166	0.9%	453.3%	5.2%	27.1%
Some Other Race	107	0.6%	189.2%	2.9%	107.8%
Two or More Races	798	4.3%	136.1%	7.0%	188.0%
Hispanic or Latino origin	289	1.5%	107.9%	6.4%	38.4%

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

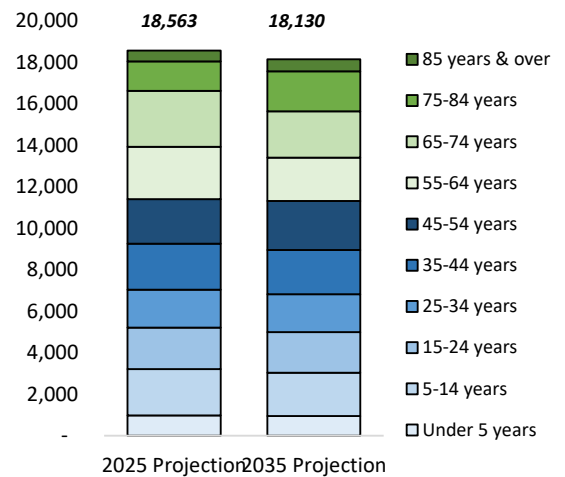
## POPULATION PROJECTIONS

According to the Minnesota State Demographic Center, Houston 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 increase over the next decade (see Figure 4 and Table 5).

Table 5. Population Projections by Age Group, 2025-2035				
Houston Co.	2025 Projection	2035 Projection	Numeric Change	Percent Change
Under 5 years	970	948	-22	-2.3%
5-14 years	2,231	2,089	-142	-6.4%
15-24 years	2,004	1,947	-57	-2.8%
25-34 years	1,832	1,826	-6	-0.3%
35-44 years	2,210	2,139	-71	-3.2%
45-54 years	2,152	2,365	213	9.9%
55-64 years	2,520	2,088	-432	-17.1%
65-74 years	2,699	2,227	-472	-17.5%
75-84 years	1,418	1,921	503	35.5%
85 years & over	527	580	53	10.1%
<b>Total Population</b>	<b>18,563</b>	<b>18,130</b>	<b>-433</b>	<b>-2.3%</b>

Source: Minnesota State Demographic Center

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

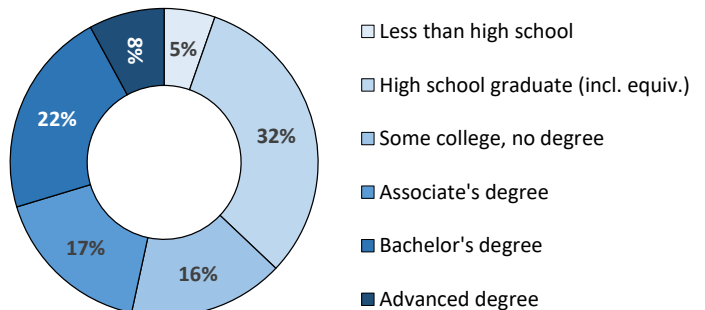


## EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT

Houston Co. has a higher 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. Houston 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>94.6%</b>
<b>College-educated:</b>	<b>62.9%</b>
state:	68.9%
<b>Associate's Degree:</b>	<b>16.9%</b>
<b>Bachelor's Degree:</b>	<b>21.7%</b>
<b>Advanced Degree:</b>	<b>7.9%</b>

**Figure 5. Educational Attainment, 2024**



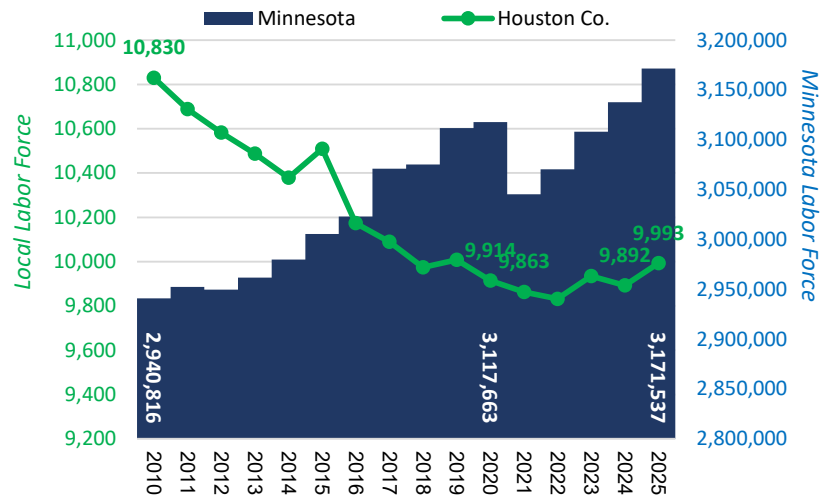
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2020-2024 American Community Survey

LABOR FORCE TRENDS

At 3.3%, Houston Co. had a lower unemployment rate than the state in 2025. Houston Co.'s unemployment rate declined compared to the 4.5% pandemic rate posted in 2020. The number of unemployed workers actively seeking work in Houston Co. increased over the past year, and is down compared to 2020.

<b>9,993</b>	available workers
<i>Labor Force change, 2010-2025</i>	<i>-837 workers -7.7% decline</i>
<b>3.3%</b>	unemployment rate
<i>3.9%</i>	<i>state</i>
<b>330</b>	unemployed workers

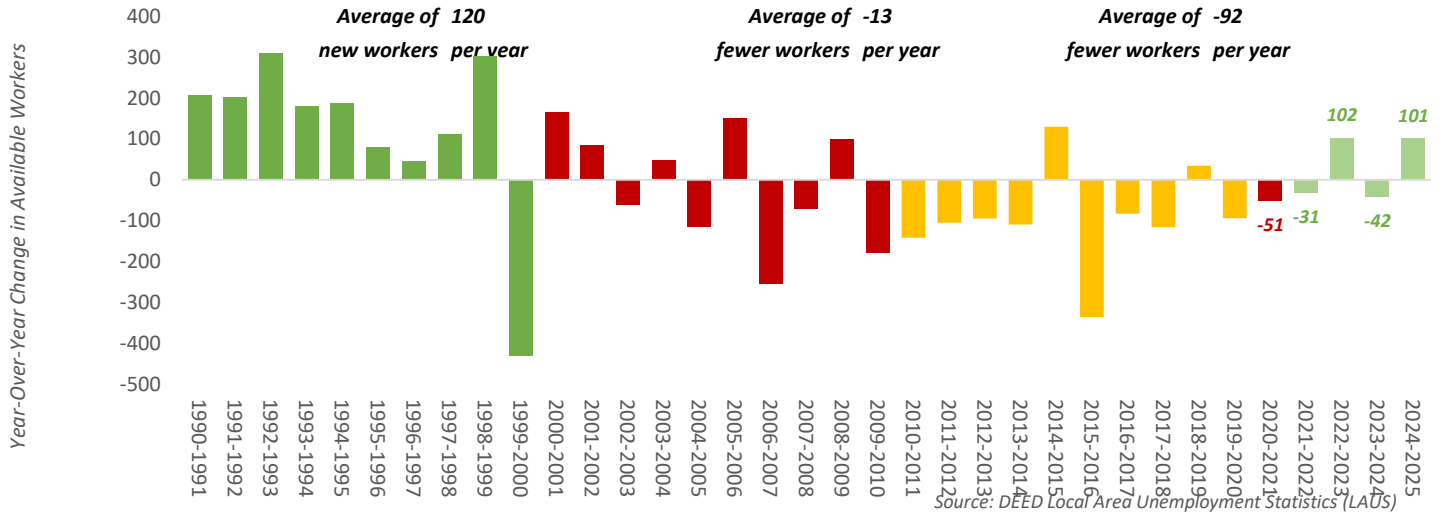
Figure 6. Annual Labor Force Estimates



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, Houston 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, Houston 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



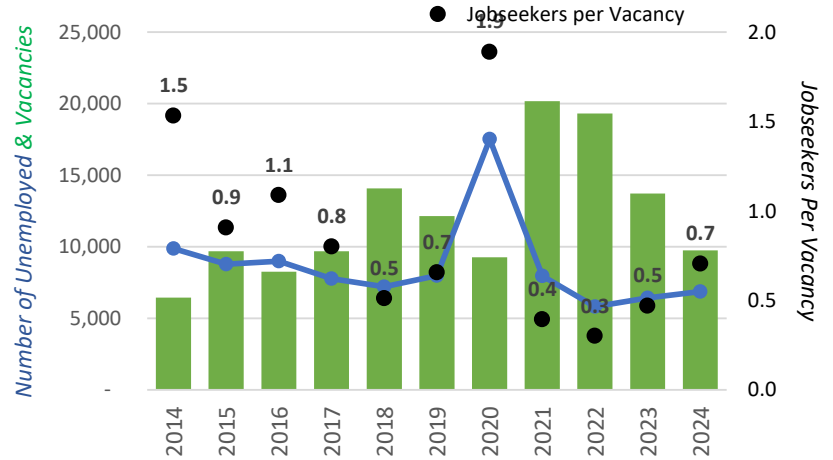
Source: DEED Local Area Unemployment Statistics (LAUS)

Table 6. Labor Force Projections, 2025-2035	Labor Force Projection	
	2025	2035
16 to 24 years	1,256	1,223
25 to 54 years	5,601	5,715
55 to 64 years	1,938	1,606
65 years & over	864	767
<b>Total Labor Force</b>	<b>9,660</b>	<b>9,311</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

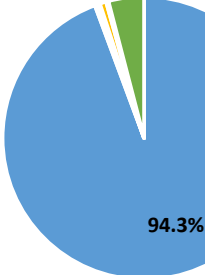


Source: DEED Job Vacancy Survey, LAUS program

**LABOR FORCE CHARACTERISTICS**

Houston Co. had a lower labor force participation rate than the state. The labor force in Houston 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**

	Houston 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>9,789</b>	<b>64.8%</b>	<b>1.6%</b>	<b>68.1%</b>	<b>4.1%</b>	<b>5,237</b>	<b>4,555</b>
16 to 19 years	487	58.5%	7.6%	52.6%	10.3%	230	257
20 to 24 years	688	81.5%	0.9%	83.3%	6.6%	383	305
25 to 44 years	3,771	92.2%	0.5%	88.7%	3.7%	2,002	1,770
45 to 54 years	1,827	87.0%	1.8%	87.8%	3.0%	934	893
55 to 64 years	2,189	76.9%	1.2%	72.7%	3.2%	1,188	1,000
65 to 74 years	722	27.7%	4.1%	27.7%	3.6%	446	277
75 years & over	107	6.0%	0.9%	6.7%	3.2%	54	53
<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	9,234	64.5%	1.5%	67.0%	3.5%		
Black or African American	28	87.5%	39.3%	70.8%	8.7%		
American Indian & Alaska Native	30	68.2%	0.0%	58.0%	10.8%		
Asian or Other Pac. Islanders	72	51.8%	0.0%	75.2%	3.5%		
Some Other Race	26	59.1%	7.7%	75.4%	5.8%		
Two or More Races	397	74.8%	0.8%	74.0%	5.7%		
Hispanic or Latino	128	74.0%	1.6%	76.6%	5.8%		
<b>Employment Characteristics by Disability, 20 to 64 years</b>							
With Any Disability, 20 to 64 years	483	58.7%	7.0%	56.1%	9.4%		
<b>Employment Characteristics by Educational Attainment, 25 to 64 years</b>							
Population, 25 to 64 years	7,787	86.2%	1.0%	84.5%	3.4%		
Less than H.S. Diploma	241	79.8%	1.7%	66.2%	4.9%		
H.S. Diploma or Equivalent	1,901	79.5%	0.0%	76.6%	2.5%		
Some College or Assoc. Degree	3,064	89.7%	0.9%	85.0%	3.7%		
Bachelor's Degree or Higher	2,583	88.3%	0.5%	90.5%	2.2%		

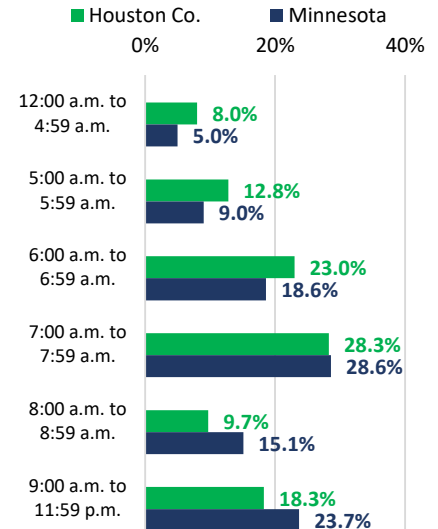
Source: 2020-2024 American Community Survey, 5-Year Estimates

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

**Table 8. Commuting Characteristics, 2024**

	Houston Co.		Minnesota	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Worked in state of residence	5,119	54.1%	2,875,211	97.8%
Worked in county of residence	4,097	43.3%	2,013,824	68.5%
Worked out of county of residence	1,031	10.9%	864,327	29.4%
Worked outside state of residence	4,344	45.9%	64,678	2.2%
<b>MEANS OF TRANSPORTATION TO WORK</b>				
Car, truck, or van	7,826	82.7%	2,246,075	76.4%
Public transportation (excl. taxicab)	28	0.3%	52,918	1.8%
Other method (walk, bike, taxi, etc.)	322	3.4%	123,475	4.2%
Worked at home	1,287	13.6%	517,420	17.6%
<b>TRAVEL TIME TO WORK</b>				
Less than 10 minutes	1,542	16.3%	490,961	16.7%
10 to 19 minutes	3,047	32.2%	943,704	32.1%
20 to 29 minutes	1,770	18.7%	658,535	22.4%
30 to 44 minutes	2,158	22.8%	538,000	18.3%
45 to 59 minutes	502	5.3%	164,634	5.6%
60 or more minutes	454	4.8%	144,055	4.9%
<b>Mean travel time to work (minutes)</b>	<b>23.8 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

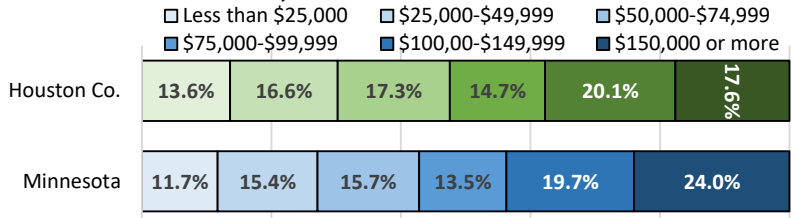
**INCOMES, COST OF LIVING, & HOUSING**

Houston Co. had a lower median household income than the state, and a higher percentage of households with incomes below \$50,000. Overall, Houston Co. had the 22nd highest median household income of the 87 counties in the state.

<b>Median Household Income</b>	<b>\$79,825</b>
state	\$89,062
<b>Median Family Income</b>	<b>\$101,404</b>
state	\$113,993
<b>Per Capita Income</b>	<b>\$44,963</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. Houston Co. had a lower cost of living than the state, with a required hourly wage of \$16.08 for a single person living alone to meet a basic needs cost of living, and an hourly wage requirement of \$21.83 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
Houston Co.	\$33,441	\$16.08	\$0	\$444	\$183	\$930	\$577	\$303	\$350
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
Houston Co.	\$68,111	\$21.83	\$497	\$1,010	\$639	\$1,237	\$1,071	\$496	\$726
State of Minnesota	\$74,616	\$23.92	\$558	\$1,028	\$697	\$1,498	\$1,026	\$558	\$853

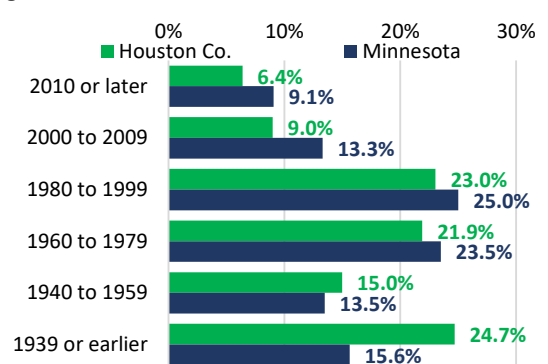
Source: DEED Cost of Living tool

Houston Co. had a lower median house value than the state, having the 41st highest value of the 87 counties in 2024. Houston 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	Houston Co.		Minnesota
	Total	Percent	Percent
<b>Total</b>	<b>6,782</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>
Less than \$50,000	219	3.2%	4.0%
\$50,000 to \$99,999	494	7.3%	3.7%
\$100,000 to \$149,999	797	11.8%	5.2%
\$150,000 to \$199,999	962	14.2%	8.1%
\$200,000 to \$299,999	1,817	26.8%	22.6%
\$300,000 to \$499,999	1,592	23.5%	36.9%
\$500,000 or more	901	13.3%	19.6%
<b>Median (dollars)</b>	<b>\$239,000</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>\$1,697</b>
state	\$1,947

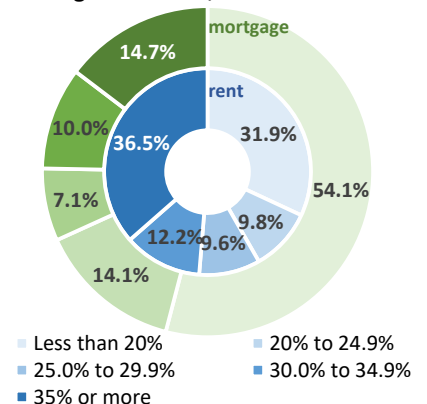
<b>Percentage of households with a mortgage spending 30% or more of their income on housing costs</b>	<b>24.7%</b>
state	23.2%

<b>Median monthly rent costs</b>	<b>\$879</b>
state	\$1,280

<b>Percentage of renters spending 30% or more of their household income on rent</b>	<b>48.7%</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

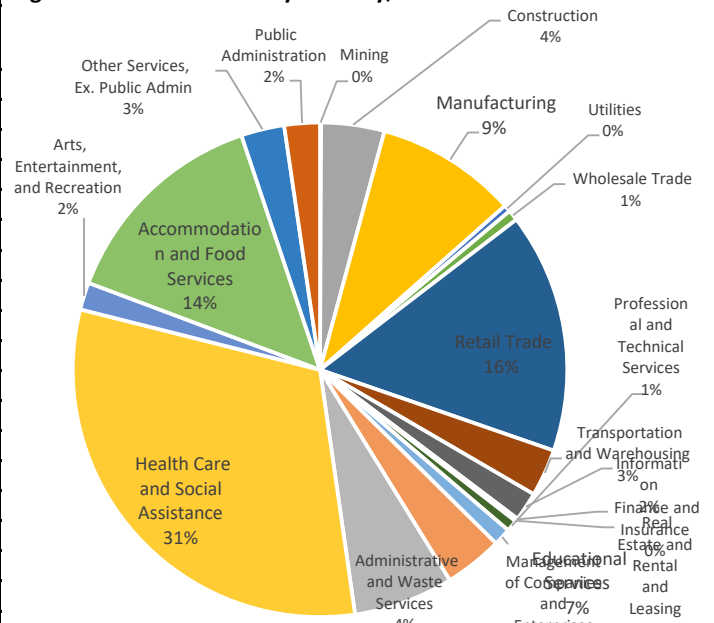
JOB VACANCY SURVEY

Houston 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

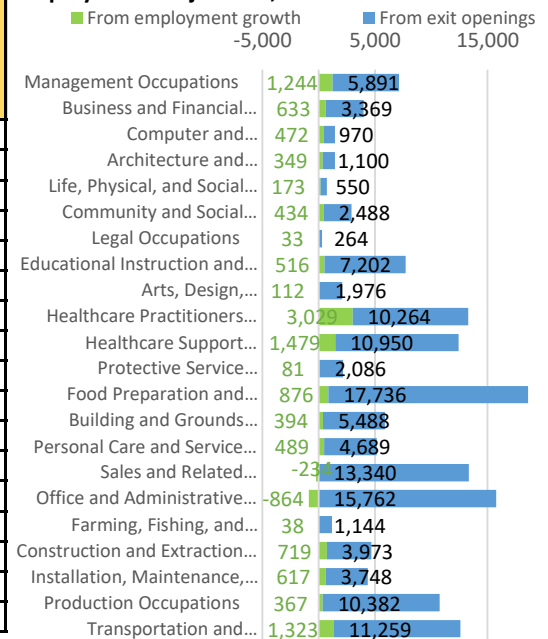
Houston Co. is a part of the Southeast planning region, which is projected to see a 4.5% increase in employment levels over the next decade. In addition to new jobs created, there will be a much larger number of exit openings (see Figure 15).

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 gaining jobs over the past year, Houston Co. had the 58th largest economy of the 87 counties in the state. Houston Co. was the 9th fastest growing in the past year and the 61st fastest growing since 2020. From 2020 to 2025, employment in Houston Co. has grown since the pandemic recession.

480 business establishments

\$49,088 annual average wage

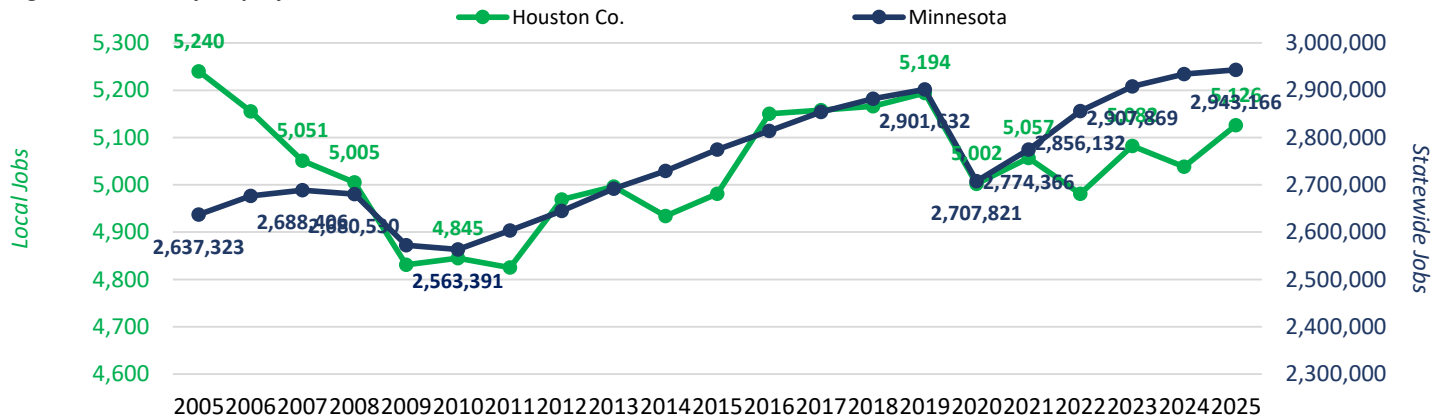
5,126 jobs

\$251,865,865 total industry payroll

Job change, 2020-2025	124 jobs 2.5% increase
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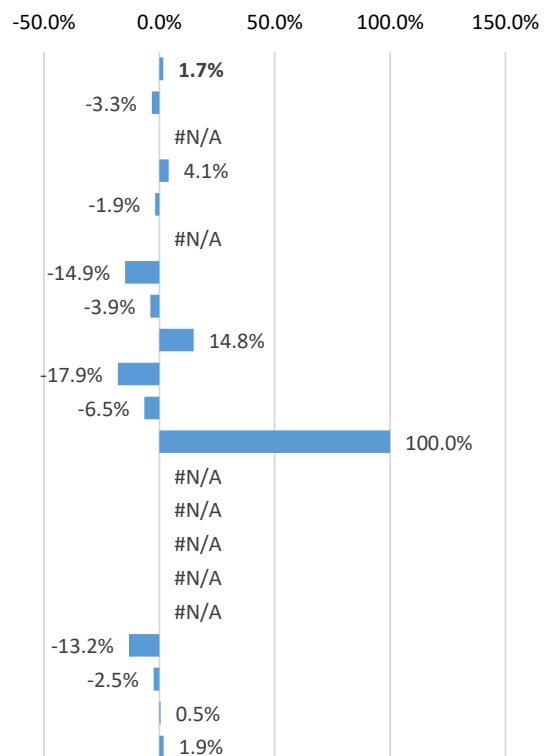
Figure 16. Industry Employment Statistics, 2005-2025

Source: DEED QCEW program



	Number of Jobs	Percent of Total Jobs	Average Annual Wage
<b>Total, All Industries</b>	<b>5,126</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>\$49,088</b>
Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing & Hunting	148	2.9%	\$33,176
Mining	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A
Construction	385	7.5%	\$72,436
Manufacturing	368	7.2%	\$56,420
Utilities	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A
Wholesale Trade	40	0.8%	\$63,700
Retail Trade	465	9.1%	\$28,132
Transportation & Warehousing	557	10.9%	\$67,600
Information	119	2.3%	\$74,308
Finance & Insurance	101	2.0%	\$69,264
Real Estate & Rental & Leasing	58	1.1%	\$21,788
Professional & Technical Services	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A
Management of Companies	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A
Admin. Support & Waste Mgmt. Services	147	2.9%	\$58,292
Educational Services	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A
Health Care & Social Assistance	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A
Arts, Entertainment, & Recreation	79	1.5%	\$18,304
Accommodation & Food Services	316	6.2%	\$14,820
Other Services	192	3.7%	\$28,860
Public Administration	438	8.5%	\$45,344

Figure 17. Change in Jobs, 2024-2025



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

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

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