

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT REGION 10: Southeast

Covering the following counties:

Dodge, Fillmore, Freeborn, Goodhue,
Houston, Mower, Olmsted, Rice, Steele,
Wabasha and Winona Counties

2020 REGIONAL PROFILE

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DEMOGRAPHICS

POPULATION CHANGE

Economic Development Region 10 - Southeast is an 11-county region located in the Southeast corner of the state, bordering Iowa and Wisconsin. EDR 10-Southeast was the second largest of 13 economic development regions (EDRs) in the state, accounting for 9.1% of the state’s total population. The regional population increased by 16,625 residents from 2010 to 2019, a 3.4% increase, slower than the 6.3% statewide rise.

Seven of the 11 counties in EDR 10 added population so far this decade, with Freeborn, Houston, Wabasha and Winona being the exceptions. Olmsted was the largest county in the region, accounting for 29.2% of the regional population in 2019, and also saw the largest increase since 2010, making it the 7th fastest growing county (of 87) in the state. Two other counties in the region, Rice and Dodge, saw population increases of over 4.0%, making them the 23rd and 26th fastest growing counties in the state. In contrast, Winona and Freeborn County both lost about 1,000 people (see Table 1).

Table 1. Population Change 2010-2019

	2010 Population	2019 Estimates	2010-2019 Change	
			Number	Percent
Dodge Co.	20,087	20,934	+847	+4.2%
Fillmore Co.	20,866	21,067	+201	+1.0%
Freeborn Co.	31,255	30,281	-974	-3.1%
Goodhue Co.	46,183	46,340	+157	+0.3%
Houston Co.	19,027	18,600	-427	-2.2%
Mower Co.	39,163	40,062	+899	+2.3%
Olmsted Co.	144,248	158,293	+14,045	+9.7%
Rice Co.	64,142	66,972	+2,830	+4.4%
Steele Co.	36,576	36,649	+73	+0.2%
Wabasha Co.	21,676	21,627	-49	-0.2%
Winona Co.	51,461	50,484	-977	-1.9%
Region 10 - Southeast	494,684	511,309	+16,625	+3.4%
State of Minnesota	5,303,925	5,611,179	+335,707	+6.3%

Source: [U.S. Census Bureau, Population Estimates](#)

COMPONENTS OF POPULATION CHANGE

The recent population growth in EDR 10 was fueled primarily by a natural increase – more births than deaths – of 17,749 people from 2010 to 2019. These additions were offset by out-migration during that time, when 962 more people left the region than moved in. However, this would have been a net loss if not for a gain of 9,107 new foreign-born immigrants since 2010 (see Table 2).

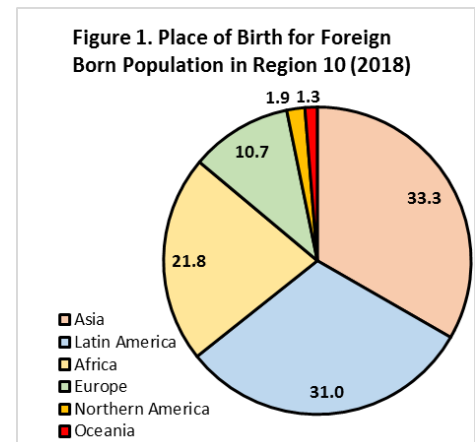
Table 2. Estimates of the Components of Population Change, 2010-2019

	Total Change	Natural Increase	Vital Events		Net Migration		
			Births	Deaths	Total	Inter- national	Domestic
Region 10	+16,611	+17,749	56,358	38,609	-962	+9,107	-10,069
Minnesota	+335,705	+250,488	637,356	386,868	+88,161	+114,414	-26,253

Source: [U.S. Census Bureau, Population Estimates Program](#)

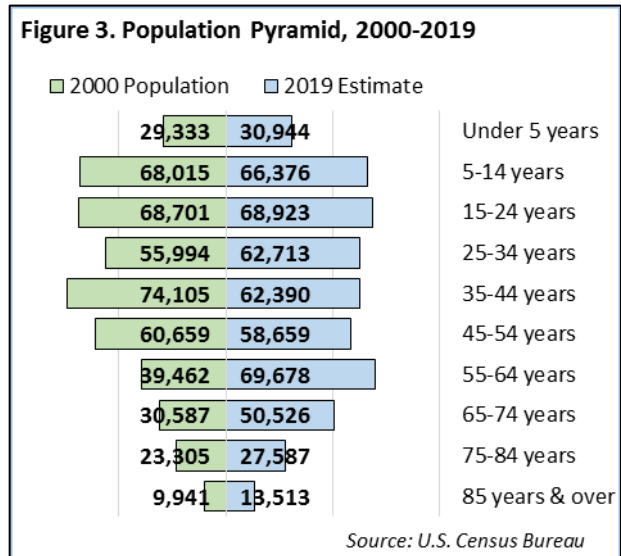
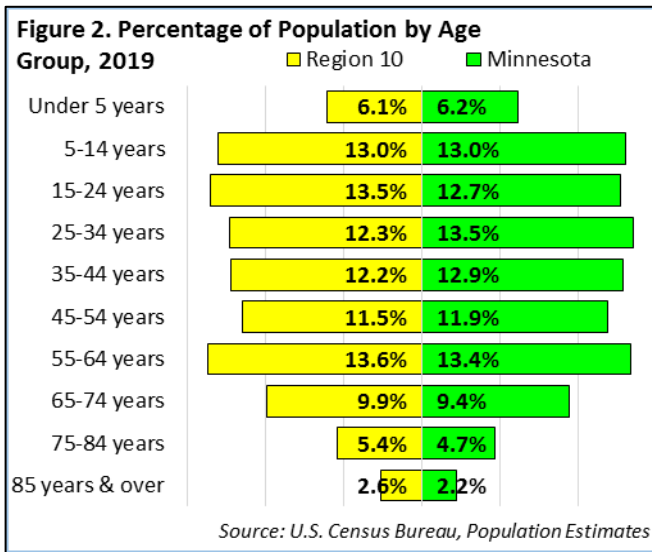
With the in-migration, EDR 10 was now home to 33,317 foreign born residents, or 6.6% of the total population. The largest number of immigrants came from Asia, Latin America, Africa and Europe (see Figure 1). However the fastest increase in immigrants came from Africa, which saw an 88.9% increase since 2010. In sum, the number of immigrants in the region increased by 28.1% from 2010 to 2018, which was higher than the statewide growth rate of 25.8%.

Based on year of entry, EDR 10’s foreign born population was “newer” than the rest of the state. 29.2% of the region’s immigrants entered the U.S. since 2010 and another 31.5% entered between 2000 and 2009, compared to 21.5% and 33.4% statewide. Foreign-born residents have a younger age profile than the native born population, with 61.1% being between 25 and 54 years of age, compared to 37.2% of the total population. While a higher percentage of foreign-born residents aged 25 and over had an advanced degree (higher than Bachelor’s) than native born residents, immigrants were also much more likely to have less than a high school diploma.



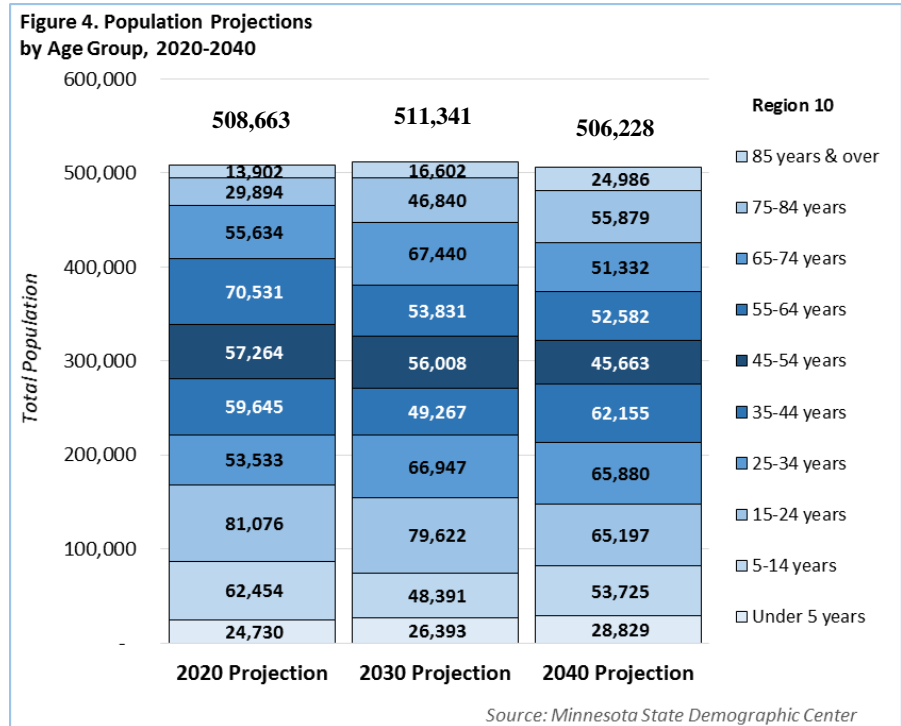
POPULATION BY AGE GROUP

EDR 10 has both a younger *and* older population than the state – nearly one-third (31.5%) of the region’s population was 55 or older, compared to 29.7% statewide, and another one-third (32.6%) of the population was also under 25 years, compared to 31.9% in the state. This leaves EDR 10 with a smaller percentage of people in the 25 to 54 year age group - typically considered the “prime working years.” A large portion of the area’s population is a part of the Baby Boom generation, which is creating a significant shift in regional demographics over time. Between 2000 and 2018, over 58,000 more residents were in the 55 years or older groups (see Figures 2 and 3).



POPULATION PROJECTIONS BY AGE GROUP

EDR 10 is projected to continue its population increase over the next decade (2020 to 2030), but experience a decline in the following decade (2030 to 2040). Population projections from the [Minnesota State Demographic Center](#) show that the area is expected to add almost 2,680 new residents from 2020 to 2030, a 0.5% increase. However, the region is predicted to see a decline of over 5,100 from 2030 to 2040, equaling a loss of 1.0%. Overall, the region expected to see a net loss of 2,435 from 2020 to 2040 (see Figure 4). In comparison, the state of Minnesota is projected to grow 8.8% from 2020 to 2040, closing in on 6.2 million residents.



Like the recent shift, projections for growth vary widely by age. The region is expected to add residents between the ages of 25 and 44 in the next 20 years, and see a corresponding increase in the youngest population aged under 5 years. Conversely, the major losses are expected to occur in the age groups from 5 to 24 and 45 to 74, as the Baby Boom generation moves into the oldest age groups. However, this will also lead to over 37,000 more residents aged 75 years and over, an 84.6% expansion (see Figure 4).

POPULATION BY RACE

The population in EDR 10 has had some significant changes since the turn of the century, however it remains less racially diverse than the state as a whole. In 2018, just under 90% of the region’s residents reported White alone as their race, compared to 83.3% of residents statewide. In addition, every minority race increased faster in the region from 2000 to 2018 than the White population. In fact, the number of residents who were Black or African American more than tripled, and the number of people of Two or More Races and those of Hispanic or Latino origin more than doubled since 2000, while Asian and Pacific Islanders also saw a notable increase (see Table 3).

Table 3. Race and Hispanic Origin, 2018	EDR 10				Minnesota	
	Number	Percent	Change from 2000-2018	Percent Change 2000-2018	Percent	Percent Change 2000-2018
Total	504,331	100.0%	+44,229	+9.6%	100.0%	+12.4%
White	452,889	89.8%	+18,836	+4.3%	83.3%	+4.7%
Black or African American	17,192	3.4%	+11,618	+208.4%	6.2%	+99.3%
American Indian & Alaska Native	1,877	0.4%	+472	+33.6%	1.1%	+7.3%
Asian & Other Pacific Islander	15,295	3.0%	+6,563	+75.2%	4.8%	+83.8%
Some Other Race	7,368	1.5%	+1,776	+31.8%	1.8%	+48.7%
Two or More Races	9,710	1.9%	+4,964	+104.6%	2.9%	+90.7%
Hispanic or Latino	28,009	5.6%	+14,685	+110.2%	5.3%	+104.2%

Source: 2014-2018 American Community Survey, 5-year estimates

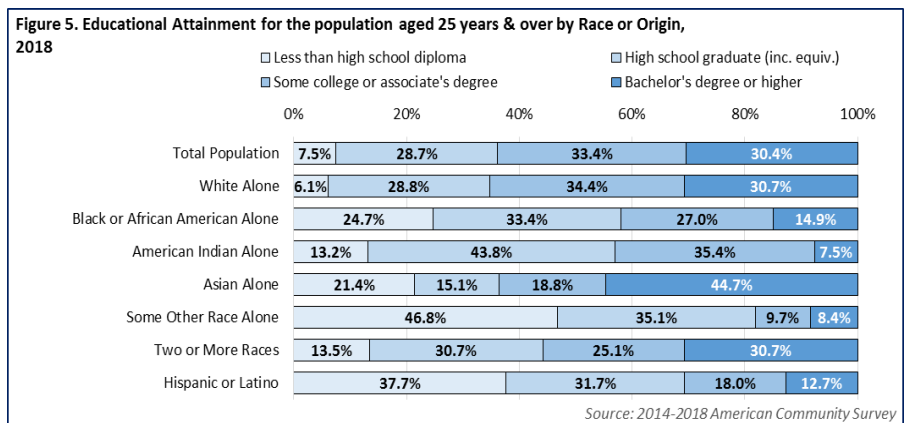
EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT

With 39.3% of adults aged 18 years and over holding a college degree, EDR 10 had lower educational attainment than the state in 2018, where 43.6% of adults have an associate, bachelor’s, or advanced degree. However, EDR 10 had a higher percentage of people with some college but no degree and a high school diploma or less (see Table 4).

Table 4. Educational Attainment for the Population Aged 18 years & Over	Region 10		Minnesota
	Number	Percent	Percent
Total, 18 years & over	387,178	100.0%	100.0%
Less than high school	31,025	8.0%	7.6%
High school graduate (incl. equiv.)	110,298	28.5%	25.3%
Some college, no degree	93,202	24.1%	23.4%
Associate's degree	45,050	11.6%	10.8%
Bachelor's degree	69,108	17.8%	22.1%
Advanced degree	38,495	9.9%	10.7%

U.S. Census American Community Survey

Like the rest of the state, educational attainment varies significantly by race and ethnicity in EDR 10. Over 58% of Black or African American residents have a high school diploma or less, as does 69.4% of Hispanics or Latinos and almost 82% of those of Some Other Race, compared to 34.9% of whites. At just 7.5%, American Indians had the lowest percent of adults with a bachelor’s degree or higher. Comparatively, 30.7% of Whites had this level of education (see Figure 5).



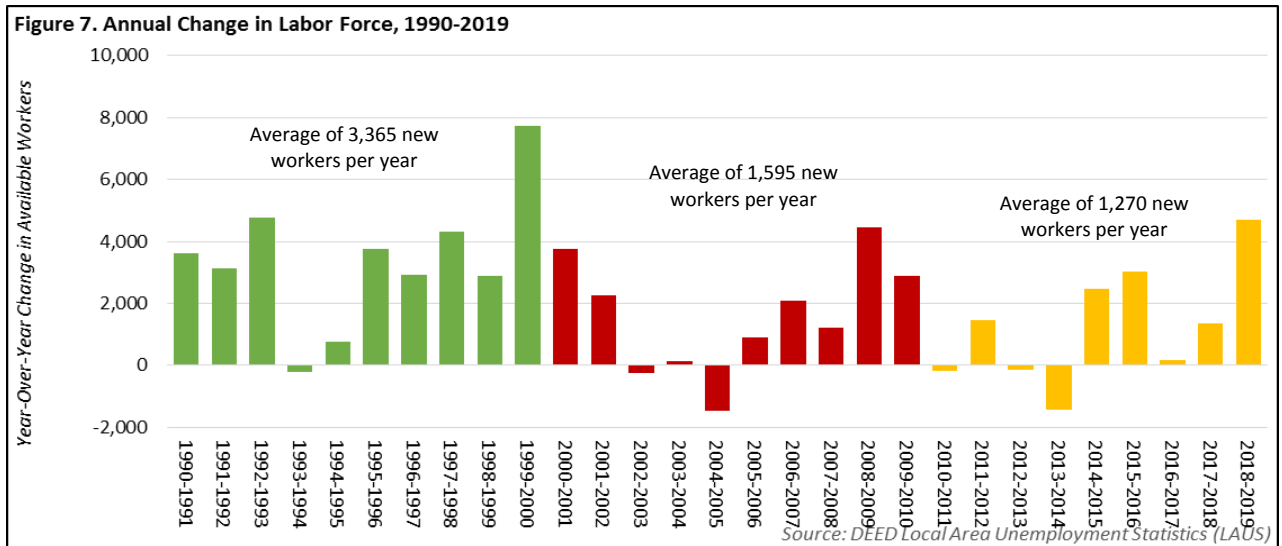
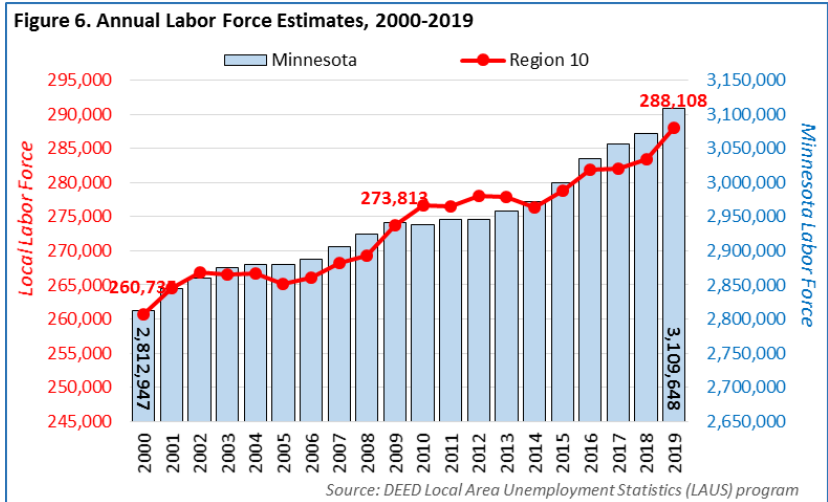
LABOR FORCE

LABOR FORCE CHANGE

According to data from DEED’s [Local Area Unemployment Statistics](#) program, EDR 10 had an annual average labor force count of just over 288,108 workers in 2019. Despite some ups and downs, the regional labor force has increased since 2000, adding 27,373 new workers over the past 19 years. As such, the labor force in EDR 10 actually reached a new peak in 2019, above the previous high a year earlier (see Figure 6).

Over time, the size of the region’s labor force has fluctuated, with a low of 260,735 in 2000, then adding just over 13,000 workers as the recession took hold in 2009. Since then, the region’s labor force has seen a rather steady increase with the exception of a couple of dips in 2011 and 2014. Despite these gains, the labor market in EDR 10 continues to tighten, with fewer unemployed workers available. There were just over 8,675 unemployed workers in 2019, down from a high of 20,034 in 2009. These labor force constraints will have a substantial impact on the regional economy.

Averaging a net gain of 3,365 additional labor force participants per year between 1990 and 2000, employers in EDR 10 were able to tap into a large and growing pool of talented workers. Although the regional labor force and economy continue to grow, the rate of labor force growth is slowing down considerably, demonstrated by EDR 10 adding an average of only 1,270 workers per year from 2010 to 2019 (see Figure 7). Increasingly tight labor markets and a growing scarcity of workers is now recognized as one of the most significant barriers to future economic growth in EDR 10. In the face of these constraints, it has become evident that a more diverse workforce in terms of age, gender, race, ethnicity, disability status, and immigration has been and will continue to be a vital source of the workers that employers need to succeed. As the white, native-born workforce continues to age, younger workers of different races or from different countries will comprise the fastest growing segment of the labor force.



LABOR FORCE PROJECTIONS

Despite the projected population increase in EDR 10 from 2020 to 2030 (shown in Figure 4), the regional labor force is expected to contract during this time frame. Applying current labor force participation rates to future population projections by age group creates labor force projections for the region, which show a 2.3% drop in workforce numbers, a loss of 6,192 workers, as the Baby Boom generation ages and drops out of the labor force. The projected decline includes a huge loss in the number of workers aged 55 to 64 supplemented by notable losses in those between the ages 16 to 19 and 45 to 54 years by 2030. Most importantly, the number of workers aged 20 to 44 years is expected to swell by 4,650 workers. Still, the anticipated contraction may lead employers to adapt their management and hiring practices in order to compete for workers (see Table 5).

	2020 Labor Force Projection	2030 Labor Force Projection	2020-2030 Change	
			Numeric	Percent
16 to 19 years	16,993	15,298	-1,696	-10.0%
20 to 24 years	36,536	38,506	+1,970	+5.4%
25 to 44 years	99,909	102,589	+2,680	+2.7%
45 to 54 years	50,710	49,597	-1,112	-2.2%
55 to 64 years	52,943	40,407	-12,535	-23.7%
65 to 74 years	15,233	18,465	+3,233	+21.2%
75 years & over	2,829	4,098	+1,269	+44.9%
Total Labor Force	275,153	268,961	-6,192	-2.3%

Source: calculated from Minnesota State Demographic Center population projections and 2014-2018 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates.

EMPLOYMENT CHARACTERISTICS

With just 68.7% of the population over 16 years of age in the labor force, EDR 10 had a lower labor force participation rate than the state. In addition, two age groups (25-44 and 65-74) had lower labor force participation rates than those statewide.

Participation rates varied by race in EDR 10, but also lagged behind state averages, with American Indians having significantly lower participation in the region than the state. In addition, the unemployment rates in the region were higher for Black or African American, Some Other Race, Two or More Races and Hispanic or Latino populations, with the largest

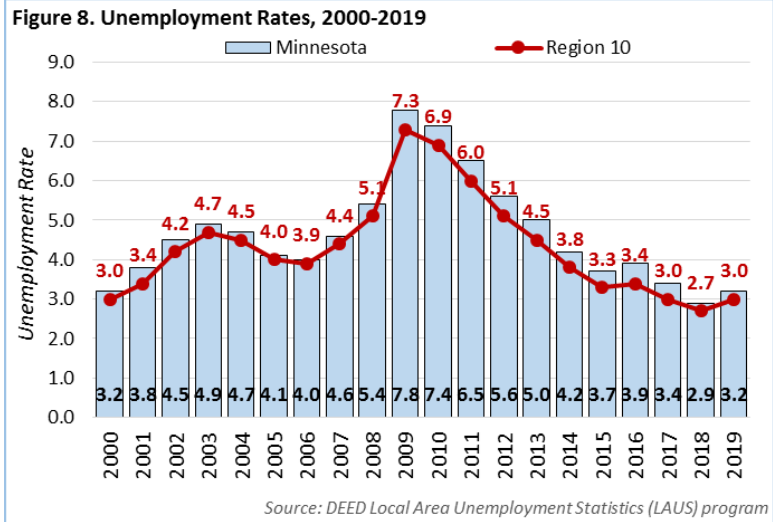
discrepancy being for Black or African Americans at 15.8% compared to 9.9% statewide. In addition, those with a disability and with less than a high school diploma also saw low participation rates and high unemployment rates (see Table 6).

	Region 10			Minnesota	
	In Labor Force	Labor Force Partic. Rate	Unemp. Rate	Labor Force Partic. Rate	Unemp. Rate
Total Labor Force	274,986	68.7%	3.7%	69.7%	3.9%
16 to 19 years	15,380	56.0%	12.9%	52.9%	11.7%
20 to 24 years	29,493	84.6%	5.1%	84.4%	6.4%
25 to 44 years	106,985	88.3%	3.4%	88.6%	3.5%
45 to 54 years	56,713	88.6%	2.6%	87.3%	2.8%
55 to 64 years	51,524	75.1%	2.4%	72.6%	3.0%
65 to 74 years	12,394	27.4%	2.5%	27.6%	2.4%
75 years & over	2,510	6.5%	2.0%	6.3%	2.6%
Employment Characteristics by Race & Hispanic Origin					
White alone	250,983	68.6%	3.2%	69.5%	3.3%
Black or African American	7,661	66.9%	15.8%	70.7%	9.9%
American Indian & Alaska Native	751	50.7%	9.8%	58.5%	12.8%
Asian or Other Pac. Islanders	8,333	70.9%	4.2%	71.3%	4.7%
Some Other Race	3,811	74.8%	6.3%	77.2%	6.2%
Two or More Races	3,491	71.4%	8.5%	73.1%	7.6%
Hispanic or Latino	13,342	74.4%	8.2%	76.3%	6.5%
Employment Characteristics by Veteran Status					
Veterans, 18 to 64 years	10,890	82.6%	3.6%	79.2%	4.2%
Employment Characteristics by Disability					
With Any Disability	13,184	56.1%	7.3%	52.5%	9.0%
Employment Characteristics by Educational Attainment					
Population, 25 to 64 years	215,239	84.8%	2.7%	84.2%	3.2%
Less than H.S. Diploma	11,018	67.0%	3.9%	65.4%	4.5%
H.S. Diploma or Equivalent	52,623	81.2%	2.7%	78.6%	2.6%
Some College or Assoc. Degree	78,723	86.2%	2.5%	85.2%	3.2%
Bachelor's Degree or Higher	72,856	89.6%	1.1%	89.8%	1.9%

Source: 2014-2018 American Community Survey, 5-Year Estimates

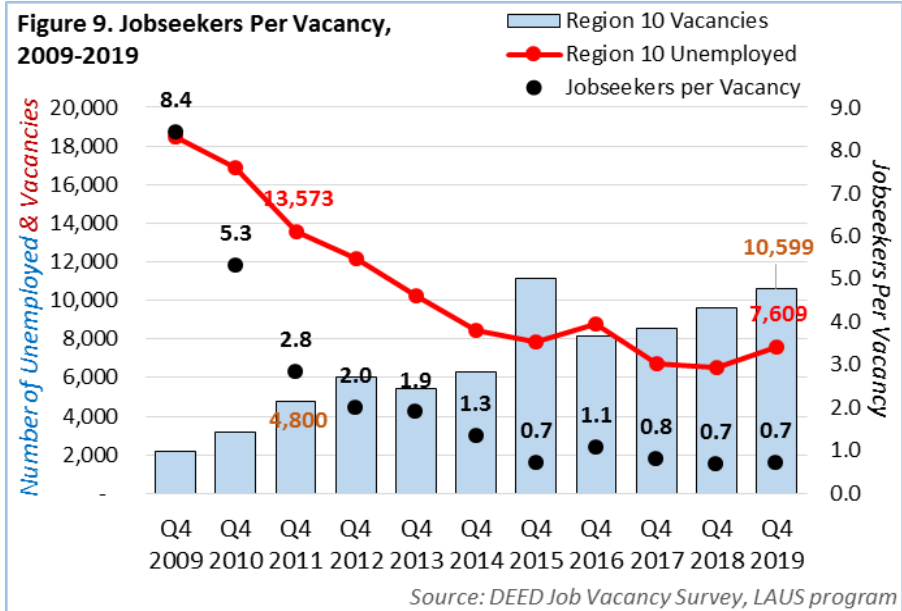
UNEMPLOYMENT RATES

Regardless of the state of the economy, EDR 10 has consistently reported lower unemployment rates than Minnesota overall since 2000. According to the [Local Area Unemployment Statistics](#) program, the unemployment rate in EDR 10 consistently hovers about 0.1 to 0.5 points below the statewide rate, shifting in sync to economic fluctuation. During the recession, it rose as high as 7.3% in 2009, but fell back to prerecession rates by 2014. Since then, the regional rate increased slightly in 2016 before dropping to 2.7% in 2018, the lowest rate on record since 1999 (see Figure 8).



JOBSEEKERS PER VACANCY

As the economy continues to recover and the number of available workers declines, the regional labor market has been tightening. A clear demonstration of this is the ratio of unemployed jobseekers per vacancy, which now stands at 0.7-to-1 in EDR 10. According to recent Job Vacancy Survey results, there were 10,599 openings reported by employers compared to 7,609 unemployed jobseekers in the region. Due to high unemployment rates, the ratio climbed as high as 8.4 jobseekers per vacancy in the fourth quarter of 2009 (see Figure 9).



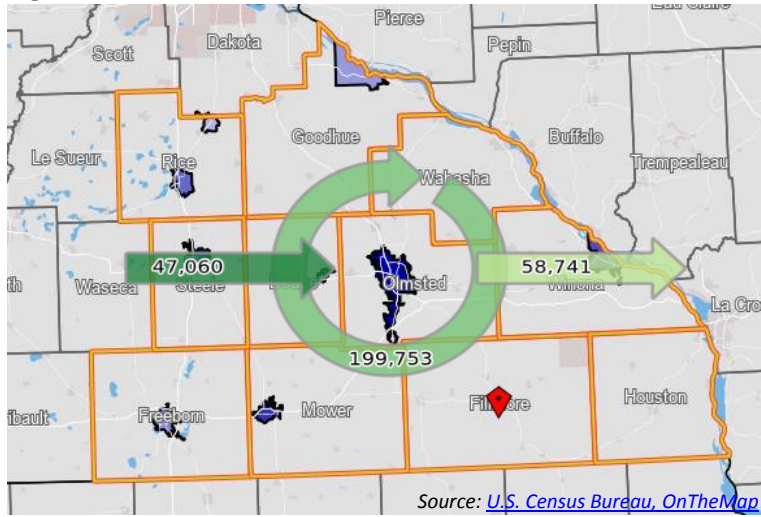
COMMUTE SHED AND LABOR SHED

Over three quarters of residents in EDR 10 also work in the region. However, EDR 10 is a net exporter of labor, having fewer jobs than available workers. In 2017, 199,713 workers both lived and worked in EDR 10, while another 47,060 workers drove into the region for work. This is compared to 58,741 workers who lived in the region but drove to outside areas for work (Table 7 and Figure 10).

	2017	
	Count	Share
Employed in the Selection Area	246,813	100.0%
Employed in the Selection Area but Living Outside	47,060	19.1%
Employed and Living in the Selection Area	199,753	80.9%
Living in the Selection Area	258,494	100.0%
Living in the Selection Area but Employed Outside	58,741	22.7%
Living and Employed in the Selection Area	199,753	77.3%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, OnTheMap

Figure 10. EDR 10 - Southeast Minnesota Labor and Commute Shed, 2017



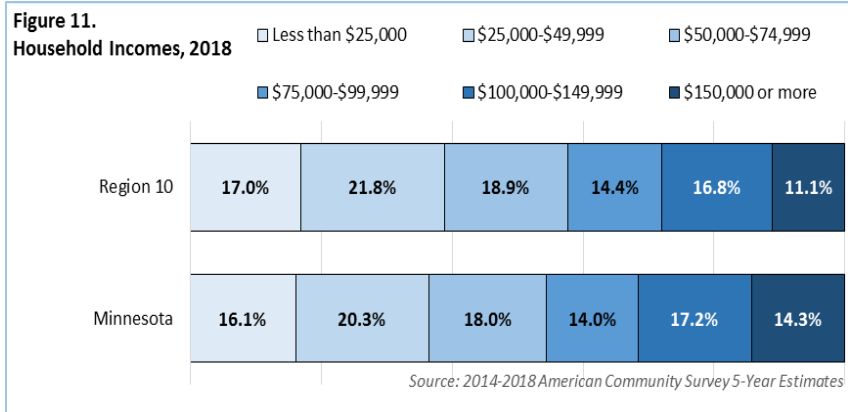
Home to Rochester, Olmsted County is the largest employment center in the region and the biggest draw for workers, followed by Winona and Rice counties. Employers in the region draw workers from surrounding counties like Dakota, Hennepin and Ramsey Counties as well as Wisconsin Counties like Pierce, Buffalo and La Crosse. Workers also travel to these same counties for work, as well as surrounding western counties like Blue Earth and Waseca County (Figure 10). The average commute time for workers in EDR 10 was 21.4 minutes, compared to 23.5 minutes for workers statewide. Just over 60% of workers commuted less than 20 minutes

each way, compared to 46.5% statewide. About 5.9% of workers worked at home, and 3.5% were able to walk to work. Just over half (50.1%) of workers left home between 6:00 a.m. and 8:00 a.m.

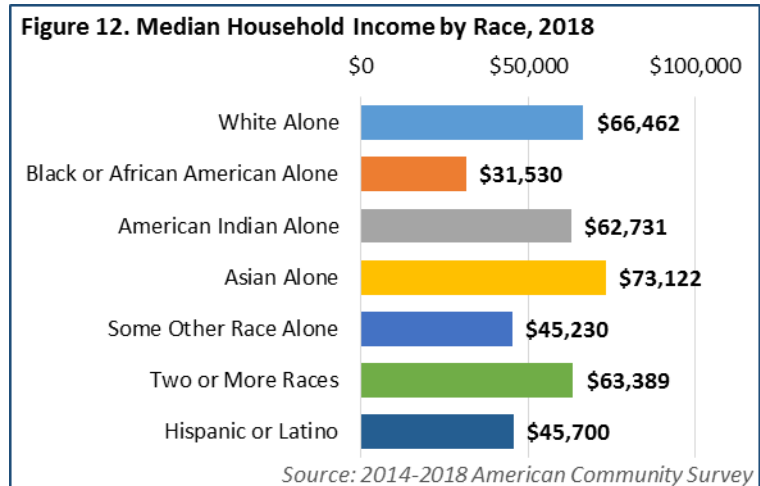
INCOMES, WAGES AND OCCUPATIONS

HOUSEHOLD INCOMES

Household incomes were lower in EDR 10 than in the state overall. At \$65,054 EDR 10 had the fourth highest median household income of the 13 economic development regions in the state. 38.8% of the households in the region had incomes below \$50,000 in 2018, compared to just 36.4% statewide. Another one-third (33.3%) of households earned between \$50,000 and \$100,000 in EDR 10, while 27.9% of households earned over \$100,000 per year compared to 31.5% of households statewide (see Figure 11).



Incomes varied widely by race in EDR 10, with the highest incomes reported by Asian households followed by those of Whites. The lowest household incomes reported were among Black or African American, Some Other Race, and Hispanic or Latino households. The household income for Whites is over double that of Black or African American households, and is also almost \$20,800 higher than the median household income among Hispanic or Latino origin households (see Figure 12).



COST OF LIVING

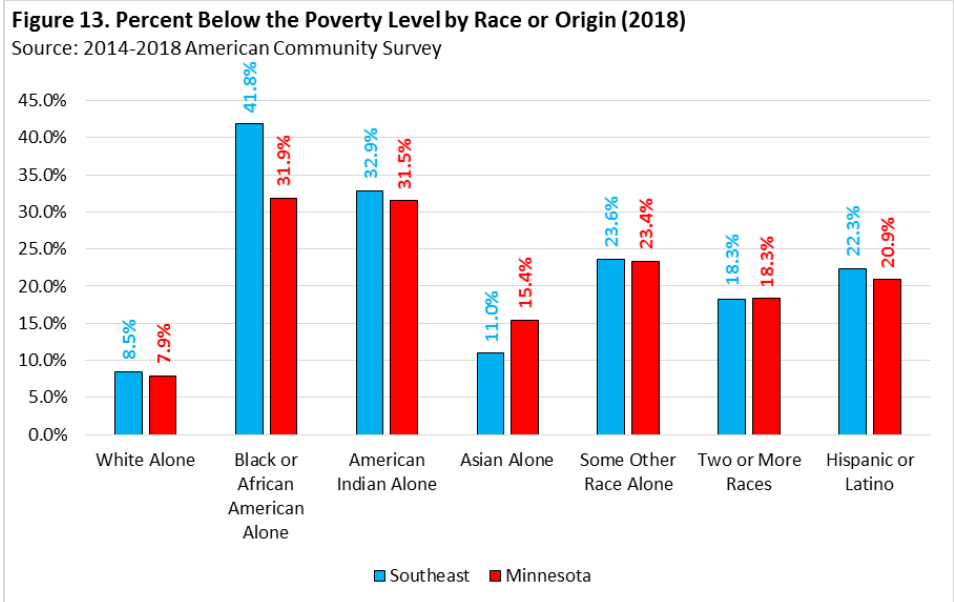
According to DEED’s [Cost of Living tool](#), the basic needs budget for an average Minnesota family (which consists of 2 adults and 1 child, with 1 full-time and 1 part-time worker) was \$56,772 in 2019. The cost of living for a similar family in EDR 10 was \$51,648 – which was the fourth highest of the 13 economic development regions in the state. The highest monthly costs were for housing, food and transportation; though the region’s housing, child care, and taxes were significantly lower than the rest of the state. In order to meet the basic needs cost of living for the region, the two workers in the family scenario described would need to earn \$16.55 per hour working a combined 60 hours per week.

DEED’s Cost of Living tool provides different estimates for household compositions including single people, partnered couples, and up to 4 children. For a single person living alone and working full-time, the estimated yearly cost in EDR 10 would be \$28,716, which would require an hourly wage of \$13.81 to meet the basic needs standard of living. See Table 8.

Table 8. Family Yearly Cost, Worker Hourly Wage, and Family Monthly Costs, 2019										
Family Composition	Number of Workers	Yearly Cost of Living	Hourly Wage Required	Monthly Costs						
				Child Care	Food	Health Care	Housing	Transportation	Other	Taxes
EDR 10-Southeast										
Single, 0 children	1 FT	\$28,716	\$13.81	\$0	\$331	\$166	\$647	\$657	\$274	\$318
Single, 1 child	1 FT	\$45,768	\$22.00	\$715	\$490	\$385	\$862	\$661	\$379	\$322
2 parents, 1 child	1 FT, 1 PT	\$51,648	\$16.55	\$358	\$757	\$659	\$862	\$760	\$454	\$454
2 parents, 2 children	2 FT	\$73,236	\$17.60	\$1,176	\$990	\$668	\$1,159	\$799	\$602	\$709
Minnesota										
Single, 0 children	1 FT	\$31,392	\$15.09	\$0	\$336	\$157	\$798	\$653	\$318	\$354
2 parents, 1 child	1 FT, 1 PT	\$56,772	\$18.20	\$516	\$769	\$593	\$1,033	\$755	\$505	\$560

Source: [DEED Cost of Living tool](#)

Overall, EDR 10’s poverty rate was 10.1%, which was just below the statewide rate of 10.5%. Like incomes, poverty levels varied widely by race and origin. It was estimated that 41.8% of the region’s Black or African American population was below the poverty level in 2018, compared to just 8.5% of the white population. Likewise, poverty levels were also higher among American Indian (32.9%), Some Other Race (23.6%), and Hispanic or Latino (22.3%) populations, while the poverty rate for those of Two or More Races was on par with the state. Asians, on the other hand, saw a lower poverty rate in the region compared to the state’s rate (see Figure 13).



WAGES AND OCCUPATIONS

The median hourly wage for all occupations in EDR 10 was \$19.89 in the first quarter of 2020 (see Table 9). As such, the region has the second highest median wage level of the 13 economic development regions in the state. Also, the median wage in EDR 10 was \$1.60 less than the statewide median, and \$3.41 less than the median wage in the Twin Cities metro area. Compared to the other two economic development regions in Southern Minnesota, the Southeast region's median wage was \$1.14 more than the South Central region and \$1.98 higher than that in the Southwest region.

Not surprisingly, the lowest-paying jobs are in Food Preparation and Serving, Personal Care occupations, and Sales, which tend to have lower educational and training requirements. For the most part, the pay gap between EDR 10 and the state is much lower in the lower-paying jobs. Regional wages are competitive in Health Care, Educational Instruction and Library, Community and Social Service, and Protective Service occupations. Compared to the state as a whole, EDR 10 has stronger concentrations of employment in Health Care (both practitioners and support occupations), Production, Building and Grounds Cleaning and Maintenance, and Farming, Fishing and Forestry occupations (see Table 10).

	Median Hourly Wage	Estimated Regional Employment
EDR 1 - Northwest	\$19.11	38,810
EDR 2 - Headwaters	\$18.57	32,750
EDR 3 - Arrowhead	\$19.03	144,320
EDR 4 - West Central	\$18.66	90,000
EDR 5 - North Central	\$17.50	61,880
EDR 6E - Southwest Central	\$18.41	49,370
EDR 6W - Upper MN Valley	\$18.02	32,970
EDR 7E - East Central	\$19.81	46,480
EDR 7W - Central	\$19.46	182,890
EDR 8 - Southwest	\$17.91	53,190
EDR 9 - South Central	\$18.75	99,570
EDR 10 - Southeast	\$19.89	242,490
EDR 11 - 7-County Twin Cities	\$23.30	1,805,980
State of Minnesota	\$21.49	2,880,650

Source: DEED Occupational Employment Statistics

Occupational Group	Region 10				State of Minnesota		
	Median Hourly Wage	Estimated Regional Employment	Share of Total Employment	Location Quotient	Median Hourly Wage	Estimated Statewide Employment	Share of Total Employment
Total, All Occupations	\$19.89	242,490	100.0%	1	\$21.49	2,880,650	100.0%
Healthcare Practitioners & Technical	\$37.34	31,990	13.2%	2.0	\$36.07	190,800	6.6%
Office & Administrative Support	\$18.22	27,260	11.2%	0.9	\$20.03	363,800	12.6%
Production	\$18.54	23,950	9.9%	1.3	\$19.03	212,650	7.4%
Sales & Related	\$13.97	21,870	9.0%	0.9	\$15.37	277,000	9.6%
Food Preparation & Serving Related	\$12.10	20,950	8.6%	1.0	\$12.43	244,300	8.5%
Transportation & Material Moving	\$17.54	17,870	7.4%	1.0	\$18.06	216,890	7.5%
Healthcare Support	\$15.42	14,560	6.0%	1.1	\$14.81	163,160	5.7%
Educational Instruction and Library	\$24.51	13,930	5.7%	1.0	\$24.38	165,310	5.7%
Management	\$43.33	10,720	4.4%	0.7	\$52.70	170,650	5.9%
Installation, Maintenance, & Repair	\$22.58	8,830	3.6%	1.0	\$24.31	100,060	3.5%
Construction & Extraction	\$26.58	8,530	3.5%	1.0	\$28.97	104,900	3.6%
Business & Financial Operations	\$29.61	8,180	3.4%	0.6	\$33.87	171,550	6.0%
Building & Grounds Cleaning & Maintenance	\$14.19	8,060	3.3%	1.1	\$15.23	83,860	2.9%
Personal Care & Service	\$13.51	5,960	2.5%	1.0	\$13.65	70,290	2.4%
Community & Social Service	\$24.15	4,590	1.9%	1.0	\$23.34	57,200	2.0%
Computer & Mathematical	\$40.34	4,170	1.7%	0.5	\$42.71	97,960	3.4%
Protective Service	\$24.90	3,160	1.3%	0.8	\$22.45	45,030	1.6%
Architecture & Engineering	\$35.23	2,940	1.2%	0.6	\$38.00	55,520	1.9%
Arts, Design, Entertainment, Sports, & Media	\$21.00	2,350	1.0%	0.7	\$24.52	38,540	1.3%
Life, Physical, & Social Science	\$33.94	1,390	0.6%	0.6	\$34.35	27,070	0.9%
Legal	\$33.15	850	0.4%	0.5	\$37.35	20,050	0.7%
Farming, Fishing, & Forestry	\$16.65	370	0.2%	1.1	\$17.72	4,060	0.1%

Source: DEED Occupational Employment Statistics

The highest paying jobs in the region are found in Management, Computer and Mathematical, Healthcare Practitioners and Technical, Life, Physical and Social Science, and Legal occupations, all of which have median wages over \$30 per hour. These occupations generally require higher levels of education and experience, including many that require bachelor's degrees or higher. However, some have significant gaps in pay between the region and the state. For example, the median wage for Legal occupations is \$4.20 lower in the region than in the state while Management occupations see a difference of \$9.37 per hour.

JOB VACANCY SURVEY

Employers in EDR 10 reported 10,599 job vacancies in the fourth quarter of 2019, the fifth highest number ever posted but a 42.7% decrease compared to the fourth quarter of last year. Demand for workers was high across most occupational groups, with the largest number of openings Food Preparation and Serving Related (1,617), Sales and Related (1,148), Personal Care and Service (880), Healthcare Practitioners and Technical (869), Office and Administrative Support (814) and Construction and Extraction (760). These six occupational groups make up 57.4% of the total vacancies in the region.

Rising demand has led to rising wages, with the median hourly wage offer from the current survey jumping to \$15.00 per hour, which was the highest on record, up \$0.25 cents per hour from the fourth quarter of last year. Wage offers ranged from \$11.37 per hour for Personal Care and Service occupations to almost \$35 per hour for Computer and Mathematical occupations (see Table 11).

Occupational Group	Number of Total Vacancies	Percent Part-Time	Percent Temporary or Seasonal	Requiring Post-Secondary Education	Requiring 1 or More Years Work Experience	Requiring Certificate or License	Median Hourly Wage Offer
Total, All Occupations	10,599	32%	11%	31%	38%	34%	\$15.00
Food Preparation & Serving Related	1,617	40%	6%	0%	23%	7%	\$12.10
Sales & Related	1,148	39%	10%	9%	38%	12%	\$12.92
Personal Care & Service	880	56%	8%	17%	11%	29%	\$11.37
Healthcare Practitioners & Technical	869	28%	2%	97%	47%	96%	\$27.65
Office & Administrative Support	814	35%	27%	30%	40%	23%	\$15.25
Construction & Extraction	760	2%	4%	6%	8%	8%	\$14.23
Transportation & Material Moving	628	26%	29%	7%	48%	62%	\$16.67
Production	598	2%	2%	16%	55%	9%	\$15.96
Healthcare Support	595	52%	0%	47%	22%	85%	\$16.27
Education, Training, & Library	443	31%	39%	88%	80%	81%	\$15.23
Installation, Maintenance, & Repair	424	20%	9%	8%	34%	22%	\$14.99
Building & Grounds Cleaning and Maint.	421	48%	14%	1%	16%	15%	\$12.90
Community & Social Service	399	42%	1%	87%	64%	47%	\$14.51
Management	300	19%	5%	84%	97%	26%	\$32.18
Protective Service	118	53%	7%	12%	51%	36%	\$14.58
Business & Financial Operations	117	12%	4%	63%	65%	26%	\$24.61
Arts, Design, Entertainment, Sports, & Media	98	34%	16%	52%	63%	26%	\$15.20
Computer & Mathematical	97	0%	6%	84%	89%	9%	\$34.76
Architecture & Engineering	82	1%	0%	87%	87%	42%	\$28.29
Life, Physical, & Social Science	76	0%	44%	88%	68%	48%	\$26.66
Legal	7	14%	0%	100%	72%	43%	\$18.98

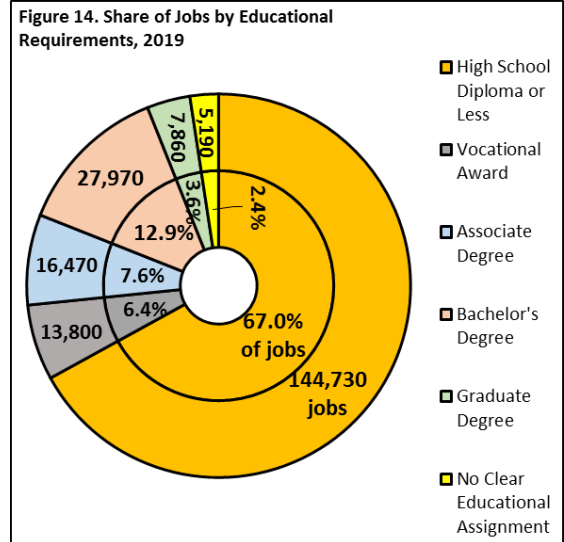
Source: DEED Job Vacancy Survey

Overall, 32% of the openings were part-time. Because of the high concentration of jobs in Food Preparation and Serving, Building and Grounds Cleaning and Maintenance, Construction and Extraction, Transportation and Material Moving, Installation, Maintenance and Repair, and Sales and Related, only about one-third (31%) of postings required postsecondary education. Having one or more years of experience was also critical for some

of these job openings, including high percentages in Management, Computer and Mathematical, Architecture and Engineering, and Education, Training and Library. Typically those occupations that required post-secondary education also required at least one year of experience. This also helped lead to the high wage offers, especially in those fields that required additional training (see Table 11).

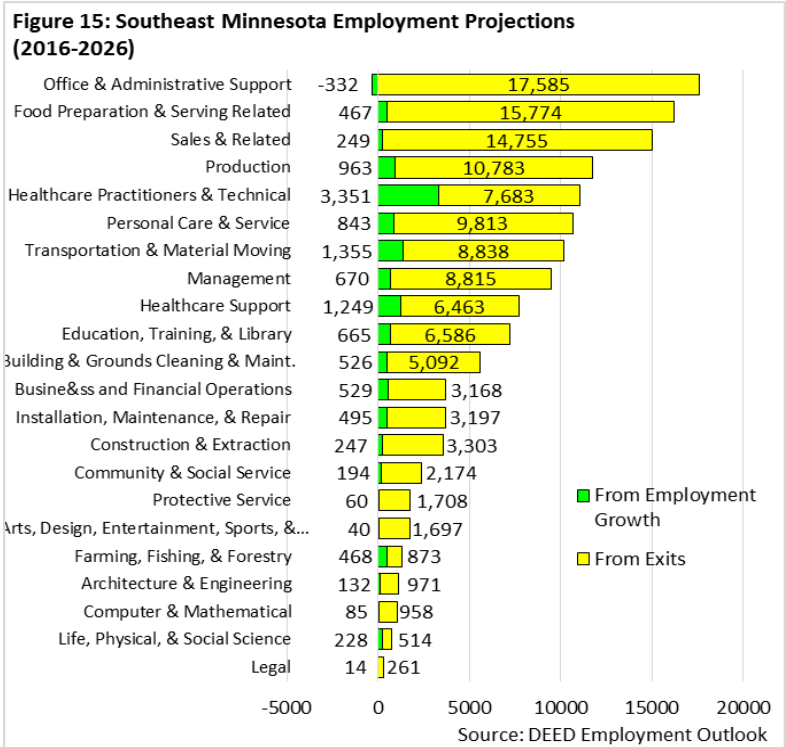
EDUCATIONAL REQUIREMENTS

DEED’s Occupational Employment Statistics program shows that only one-third of current jobs held in the region require post-secondary education to enter. The other two-thirds require no more than a high school diploma, and sometimes less. However, some on-the-job training is often needed (see Figure 14). Certain careers – such as dentists, lawyers, and teachers – require a college education, while other jobs – including cost estimators, sales representatives, and correctional officers – do not. College is an excellent way to move up career ladders and open opportunities to fields that would otherwise be closed, such as nursing or engineering. Many of these occupations offer high wages and are in high demand in the marketplace. While education is typically a worthwhile investment, college can be expensive – with average annual expenses ranging between \$14,500 and almost \$50,000 per year in Minnesota. For those who go to college, choice of major matters – different programs lead to different jobs and different earnings.



EMPLOYMENT PROJECTIONS

Overall, the Southeast region is projected to grow 4.6% from 2016 to 2026, a gain of 12,498 new jobs. In addition, the region is also expected to need 131,011 replacement openings to fill jobs left vacant by retirements and other career changers. Healthcare Practitioners, Transportation and Material Moving, Management, Healthcare Support, Production, and Personal Care and Service occupations are expected to see the most new growth, but every occupational group will show some future demand either through new jobs or replacement openings (see Figure 15).



OCCUPATIONS IN DEMAND

DEED’s [Occupations in Demand](#) tool, shows that there are nearly 500 occupations in demand (OID) in EDR 10. Training and education requirements of these

occupations range from short-term on-the-job training to postsecondary education and advanced degrees. Just under 57% of the OID require a high school diploma or less while just under 30% require a bachelor’s degree or higher. While OID exist in every sector, the region’s major industries are well represented. For example, nine of the top 50 jobs are health care-related and five are related to sales (see Table 12).

Less than High School	High School or Equivalent	Some College or Assoc. Degree	Bachelor's Degree or Higher
Personal Care Aides (\$25,816)	Heavy & Tractor Trailer Truck Drivers (\$44,529)	Registered Nurses (\$74,920)	Elementary School Teachers (\$54,586)
Combined Food Prep. & Serving Workers (\$24,073)	Supervisors of Retail Sales Workers (\$38,777)	Nursing Assistants (\$33,876)	Secondary School Teachers (\$62,197)
Retail Salespersons (\$25,367)	Welders, Cutters, Solderers & Brazers (\$42,174)	Machinists (\$45,646)	Software Developers, Systems Software (\$95,225)
Cashiers (\$24,867)	Teacher Assistants (\$32,094)	Licensed Practical & Licensed Vocational Nurses (\$47,339)	Industrial Engineers (\$80,829)
Stock Clerks & Order Fillers (\$28,256)	Supervisors of Food Prep. & Serving Workers (\$34,983)	EMT's & Paramedics (\$38,092)	Middle School Teachers (\$56,991)
Janitors & Cleaners (\$30,040)	Office Clerks, General (\$34,502)	Clinical Laboratory Technologists & Technicians (\$58,139)	Software Developers, Applications (\$92,109)
Home Health Aides (\$28,662)	Secretaries & Administrative Assistants (\$35,758)	Industrial Machinery Mechanics (\$51,462)	Nurse Practitioners (\$122,072)
Waiters & Waitresses (\$21,679)	Shipping, Receiving & Traffic Clerks (\$35,520)	Surgical Technologists (\$59,000)	Computer & Information Systems Managers (\$110,267)
Laborers & Freight, Stock & Material Movers (\$32,829)	Maintenance & Repair Workers, General (\$42,644)	Hairdressers, Hairstylists & Cosmetologists (\$25,344)	Accountants & Auditors (\$61,932)
Cooks, Restaurant (\$27,438)	Sales Representatives, Wholesale & Manufacturing (\$64,468)	Radiologic Technologists (\$73,642)	Human Resources Specialists (\$56,162)

Source: [DEED Occupations in Demand](#)

ECONOMY

INDUSTRY EMPLOYMENT

According to DEED's [Quarterly Census of Employment & Wages \(QCEW\) program](#), EDR 10 was home to 12,660 business establishments providing 246,760 covered jobs through 2019, with a total payroll that exceeded \$13.1 billion. That was about 8.5% of total employment in the state of Minnesota, and the 2nd largest of the 13 EDRs. Average annual wages were \$53,196 in the region, which was the 2nd highest in the state, but was \$6,448 lower than the average annual wage statewide. However, recent job growth has been rapid, with EDR 10 ranking as the 2nd fastest growing in the past year and 4th fastest growing since 2014 (see Table 13).

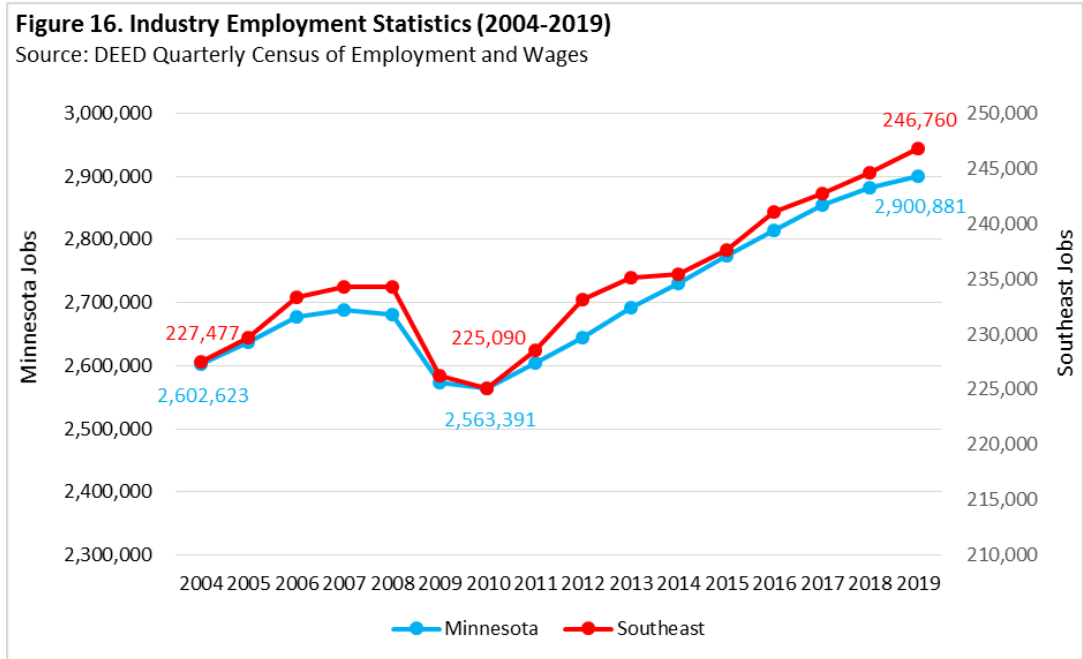
Geography	Number of Firms	Number of Jobs	Total Payroll	Average Annual Wage	2014-2019		2018-2019	
					Change in Jobs	Percent Change	Change in Jobs	Percent Change
EDR 10 – Southeast	12,660	246,760	\$13,132,325,886	\$53,196	+11,378	+4.8%	+2,155	+0.9%
Dodge Co.	461	6,047	\$290,333,343	\$47,996	+428	+7.6%	-62	-1.0%
Fillmore Co.	693	6,111	\$213,572,796	\$34,944	+102	+1.7%	+44	+0.7%
Freeborn Co.	816	12,088	\$510,235,712	\$42,172	-6	0.0%	+65	+0.5%
Goodhue Co.	1,336	21,653	\$1,055,975,790	\$48,776	+24	+0.1%	+106	+0.5%
Houston Co.	434	5,192	\$186,010,047	\$35,776	+258	+5.2%	+26	+0.5%
Mower Co.	851	16,319	\$809,025,392	\$49,504	+64	+0.4%	-73	-0.4%
Olmsted Co.	3,713	100,706	\$6,508,768,183	\$64,584	+8,408	+9.1%	+990	+1.0%
Rice Co.	1,602	25,570	\$1,211,768,060	\$47,372	+2,257	+9.7%	+313	+1.2%
Steele Co.	1,017	21,781	\$1,022,067,073	\$46,956	+251	+1.2%	+800	+3.8%
Wabasha Co.	567	6,787	\$260,747,902	\$38,428	-131	-1.9%	+51	+0.8%
Winona Co.	1,172	24,505	\$1,063,821,588	\$43,420	-276	-1.1%	-103	-0.4%
State of Minnesota	178,094	2,900,881	\$172,989,740,202	\$59,644	+171,268	+6.3%	+18,877	+0.7%

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

In terms of employment, Olmsted County is the largest economic center in EDR 10 with 100,706 jobs at 3,713 firms, and was the largest growing in recent years. Houston County has the smallest economy with 5,192 jobs, but had the 4th highest growth rate since 2014. Dodge, Fillmore, Goodhue, Mower, Rice and Steele Counties

also saw job growth, while Freeborn, Wabasha, and Winona Counties lost jobs from 2014 to 2019. Olmsted also had the highest average annual wages, which were almost \$5,950 higher than the statewide average.

EDR 10 gained jobs over the past 15 years overall, but experienced some ups and downs in employment during the Great Recession. Overall, the region’s job trends mirrored that of the state, however the losses during the recession were less severe and the recovery after was slower than the state. The region fully recovered all of the jobs lost during the recession by 2013. Overall, the region gained just over 19,280 jobs from 2004 to 2019, and increase of 8.5%, compared to the 11.5% growth seen statewide (see Figure 16).



With 66,259 jobs at 1,530 establishments, the Health Care and Social Assistance industry employs the most people in EDR 10. After adding 6,478 jobs the last five years, the industry accounted for 26.9% of total jobs in the region in 2019. Over 1,000 of those job gains occurred from 2018 to 2019, which was 47% of the total jobs added across all industries in the past year. Ambulatory Health Care Services is the largest subsector, with 33,181 jobs at 491 establishments, followed by Hospitals (14,792 jobs at 17 establishments), Nursing and Residential Care Facilities (11,599 jobs at 260 institutions), and Social Assistance (6,686 jobs at 762 firms).

The next largest industry in EDR 10 is Manufacturing, with 38,733 jobs at 675 establishments. This industry sector gained 1,551 jobs from 2014 to 2019 and 234 jobs in just the last year. Food Manufacturing is the most dominant sub-sector, making up 27.1% of the total manufacturing jobs in the region (10,479 jobs in 108 firms), followed by Computer and Electronic Product Manufacturing (4,931 jobs in 27 establishments), Machinery Manufacturing (4,489 jobs in 64 firms), and Fabricated Metal Product Manufacturing (4,239 jobs in 124 institutions). In all, these four manufacturing sub-sectors equal 62.3% of all manufacturing jobs in the region.

Other important industries in EDR 10 include retail trade, accommodation and food services, and educational services, which all had over 19,500 jobs, despite retail trade seeing a loss of 521 jobs from 2014 to 2019. The next largest industries include Public Administration, Construction, Administrative Support and Waste Management, Transportation and Warehousing, Wholesale trade, and Other Services (except Public Administration). The region has a diverse mix of employment by industry, and experienced growth in 12 of the 20 main industries since 2014 (see Table 14).

NAICS Industry Sector	2019 Annual Data				2014-2019		2018-2019	
	Number of Firms	Number of Jobs	Total Payroll	Average Annual Wage	Change in Jobs	Percent Change	Change in Jobs	Percent Change
Total, All Industries	12,660	246,760	\$13,132,325,886	\$53,196	+11,378	+4.8%	+2,155	+0.9%
Health Care & Social Assistance	1,530	66,259	\$4,734,760,055	\$71,396	+6,748	+11.3%	+1,012	+1.6%
Manufacturing	675	38,733	\$2,380,846,930	\$61,464	+1,551	+4.2%	+234	+0.6%
Retail Trade	1,671	26,155	\$738,134,894	\$28,184	-521	-2.0%	-433	-1.6%
Accommodation & Food Services	1,116	20,056	\$370,825,862	\$18,460	+1,662	+9.0%	+399	+2.0%
Educational Services	250	19,694	\$917,422,968	\$46,644	+529	+2.8%	+36	+0.2%
Public Administration	359	11,190	\$618,137,509	\$55,328	+835	+8.1%	+335	+3.1%
Construction	1,458	9,990	\$595,897,137	\$59,436	+1,464	+17.2%	+459	+4.8%
Admin. & Support & Waste Mgmt.	493	8,264	\$291,042,592	\$35,152	-1,066	-11.4%	+210	+2.6%
Transportation & Warehousing	598	7,741	\$361,068,894	\$46,592	+379	+5.1%	+120	+1.6%
Wholesale Trade	507	6,689	\$439,874,590	\$65,780	+35	+0.5%	-33	-0.5%
Other Services	1,271	6,548	\$181,961,527	\$27,768	+80	+1.2%	+126	+2.0%
Finance & Insurance	645	5,801	\$433,217,128	\$74,672	-42	-0.7%	+16	+0.3%
Arts, Entertainment, & Recreation	245	4,099	\$101,889,031	\$24,908	+583	+16.6%	+116	+2.9%
Professional, Scientific, & Technical Services	767	3,373	\$188,451,953	\$55,900	-340	-9.2%	-226	-6.3%
Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing & Hunting	392	3,183	\$112,789,649	\$35,360	+255	+8.7%	+105	+3.4%
Information	190	3,127	\$163,483,823	\$52,260	-508	-14.0%	-261	-7.7%
Management of Companies & Enterprises	51	2,916	\$279,202,467	\$95,628	-19	-0.6%	-46	-1.6%
Real Estate & Rental & Leasing	377	1,454	\$53,098,414	\$36,556	-93	-6.0%	-9	-0.6%
Utilities	46	1,325	\$161,027,504	\$121,524	-180	-12.0%	-22	-1.6%
Mining	21	161	\$9,192,959	\$55,640	+27	+20.1%	+19	+13.4%

Source: DEED Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages

WORKFORCE DEMOGRAPHICS

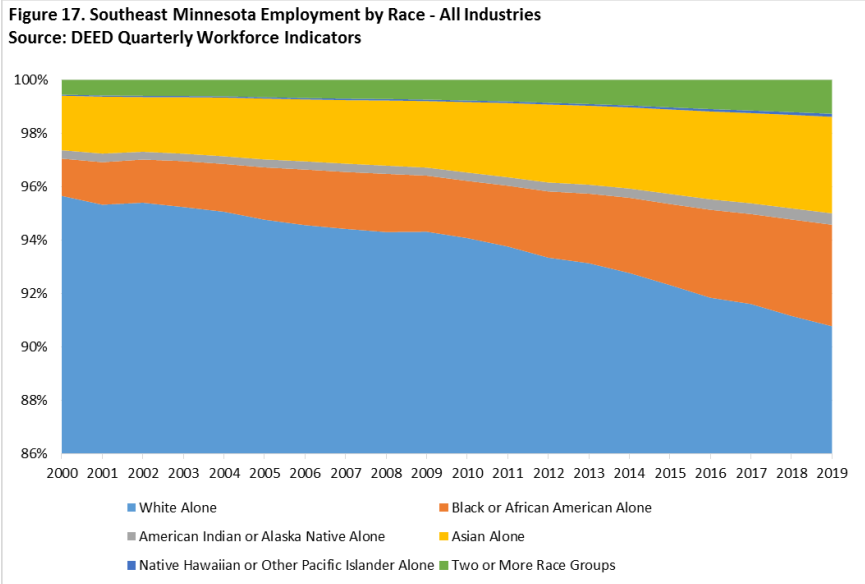
According to DEED's Quarterly Employment Demographics (QED) program, the workforce in the region was aging over the past 10 years. Nearly one-quarter (23.5 percent) of workers in the region were 55 years or older, compared to 21.5% statewide and just 17.6% in the region one decade earlier. In contrast, the percentage of teenaged workers was falling. However wages were going up for younger workers and the number of hours worked was going down (see Table 15).

As noted above, wages were climbing across the board for all workers due to rising demand and a tight labor market. While wages were still lowest for the youngest and oldest workers who tend to fill lower-skilled, less-than-full-time jobs in industries like retail trade and accommodation and food services, these two age groups enjoyed the fastest percentage increase in wages from 2008 to 2018. Wages were highest for workers between 45 and 64 years of age, and males worked more hours than females, though the gap was narrowing.

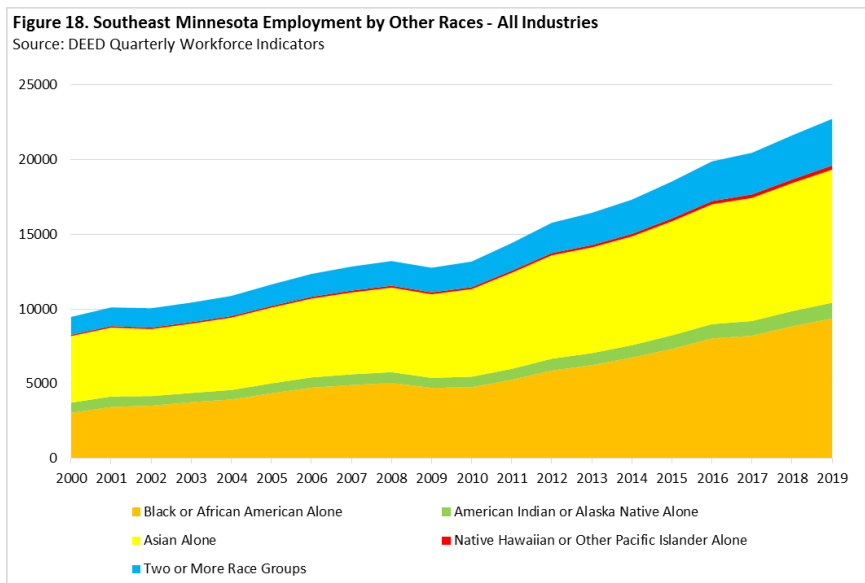
Region 10	Percentage of Workers		Percent of Workers, Minnesota		Median Hourly Wage		Median Hours Worked (Per Qtr.)	
	2018	2008	2018	2008	2018	2008	2018	2008
Total, all ages	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	\$19.62	\$14.82	448	444
19 years & under	6.7%	8.5%	6.1%	7.5%	\$10.49	\$7.34	111	120
20 to 24 years	9.7%	11.6%	10.3%	11.6%	\$14.19	\$10.47	272	293
25 to 44 years	41.1%	39.8%	42.9%	42.7%	\$21.55	\$16.88	480	480
45 to 54 years	19.0%	22.5%	19.1%	22.5%	\$24.53	\$18.71	482	480
55 to 64 years	18.0%	13.4%	16.7%	12.6%	\$23.32	\$17.43	480	480
65 years & over	5.5%	4.2%	4.8%	3.1%	\$16.00	\$10.94	223	207
Male	47.7%	46.9%	49.1%	49.0%	\$21.18	\$16.52	480	480
Female	52.3%	53.1%	50.9%	51.0%	\$19.04	\$13.70	417	391

Source: DEED Quarterly Employment Demographics

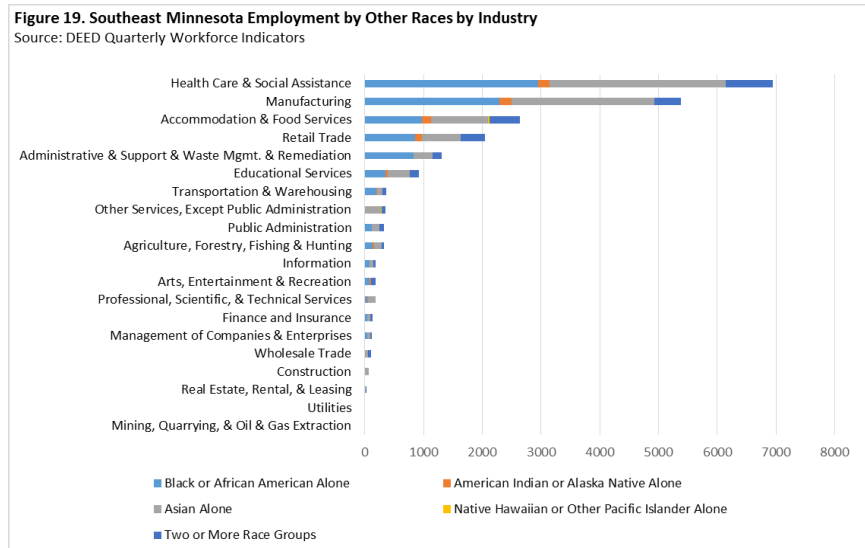
While people of different races make up just over 10% of the overall population, they held just 9.2% of total jobs in Southeast Minnesota, according to data from the Quarterly Workforce Indicators program. Based on annual averages for 2019, that equaled 22,731 jobs held by people of other races, compared to 223,599 White workers. While still a small portion, workers of other races held just 4.3% of the total jobs in 2000, meaning their employment presence more than doubled from 2000 to 2019 (see Figure 17).



In sum, workers of other races have filled an additional 13,259 jobs in the region since 2000, accounting for 47% of the 28,218 new jobs added. With 9,370 jobs, Black or African Americans were the largest race group in the regional economy, after gaining 6,324 jobs since 2000, a 208% increase. The next largest group was Asians, who held 4,454 jobs in 2019 after rising 99.9% from 2000 (see Figure 18). Workers of Hispanic or Latino origin filled 12,721 jobs in the region, up by 6,920 jobs since 2000.



Most industry sectors in Southeast Minnesota are non-diverse, but there are a couple that rely more heavily on workers of other races. The largest number of minority workers were employed in Health Care and Social Assistance, though 89% of the jobs in the industry were held by White workers. Workers of other races were also employed in larger numbers in Manufacturing, Accommodation and Food Services, and Retail Trade (see Figure 19). The most diverse industry in the region was Administrative Support, where 15.4% were non-white.



INDUSTRY PROJECTIONS

Region 10 is projected to grow 4.6% from 2016 to 2026, a gain of 12,498 new jobs. The largest growing industry is expected to be health care and social assistance, which may account for over half (58.3%) of total projected growth in the region by 2026. However, the fastest growing industry is projected to be agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting, which is expected to grow by 28.1% (917 new jobs). The region is also expected to see significant growth in administrative support, transportation, and manufacturing. In contrast, information is expected to cut nearly 900 jobs in the next decade, while five other industries (Mining, Arts, Entertainment and Recreation, Real Estate, Retail Trade, and Other Services) are also expected to lose jobs (see Table 16).

Southeast	Estimated Employment 2016	Projected Employment 2026	Percent Change 2016-2026	Numeric Change 2016-2026
Total, All Industries	273,731	286,229	+4.6%	+12,498
Health Care & Social Assistance	62,043	69,331	+11.7%	+7,288
Manufacturing	37,965	38,669	+1.9%	+704
Retail Trade	27,371	27,305	-0.2%	-66
Educational Services	21,177	21,722	+2.6%	+545
Accommodation & Food Services	18,836	19,235	+2.1%	+399
Public Administration	13,654	14,138	+3.5%	+484
Other Services, Ex. Public Admin	9,631	9,621	-0.1%	-10
Administrative & Waste Services	9,346	10,989	+17.6%	+1,643
Construction	8,684	8,734	+0.6%	+50
Transportation & Warehousing	7,784	8,715	+12.0%	+931
Wholesale Trade	7,206	7,357	+2.1%	+151
Finance & Insurance	6,152	6,158	+0.1%	+6
Arts, Entertainment, & Recreation	3,817	3,673	-3.8%	-144
Professional & Technical Services	3,759	3,839	+2.1%	+80
Information	3,747	2,854	-23.8%	-893
Agriculture, Forestry, Fish & Hunt	3,269	4,186	+28.1%	+917
Management of Companies	2,957	3,100	+4.8%	+143
Real Estate & Rental & Leasing	1,473	1,464	-0.6%	-9
Utilities	1,274	1,407	+10.4%	+133
Mining	149	106	-28.9%	-43

Source: DEED 2016-2026 Employment Outlook

NONEMPLOYER ESTABLISHMENTS

Region 10 was home to 32,598 self-employed businesses or “nonemployers” in 2018. Like covered employment, Region 10 saw an increase in nonemployers over the past decade, largely fueled by a gain of 1,268 in Olmsted County. These nonemployers generated sales receipts of over \$1.55 billion in 2018 (see Table 17).

	Number of Farms	Market Value of Products Sold	State Rank
Region 10	11,478	\$2,857,846,000	3
Dodge Co.	611	\$238,403,000	36
Fillmore Co.	1,401	\$291,747,000	25
Freeborn Co.	1,076	\$363,999,000	15
Goodhue Co.	1,461	\$348,588,000	17
Houston Co.	891	\$116,174,000	57
Mower Co.	1,068	\$413,225,000	10
Olmsted Co.	1,139	\$214,415,000	40
Rice Co.	1,242	\$204,982,000	43
Steele Co.	746	\$251,839,000	34
Wabasha Co.	809	\$186,309,000	47
Winona Co.	1,034	\$228,165,000	38
Minnesota	68,822	\$18,395,390,000	

Source: [2017 Census of Agriculture](#)

Table 17. Nonemployer Statistics, 2018

	2018		2007-2018	
	Number of Firms	Receipts (\$1,000s)	Change in Firms	Percent Change
Region 10	32,598	\$1,553,876	+84	+0.3%
Dodge Co.	1,381	\$70,240	-20	-1.4%
Fillmore Co.	1,709	\$74,883	-83	-4.6%
Freeborn Co.	1,861	\$90,360	-239	-11.4%
Goodhue Co.	3,097	\$154,310	-175	-5.3%
Houston Co.	1,384	\$64,179	-167	-10.8%
Mower Co.	1,758	\$115,693	-391	-18.2%
Olmsted Co.	10,219	\$486,591	+1,268	+14.2%
Rice Co.	4,272	\$191,643	+43	+1.0%
Steele Co.	2,437	\$103,414	-33	-1.3%
Wabasha Co.	1,550	\$77,670	-183	-10.6%
Winona Co.	2,930	\$124,893	+64	+2.2%
Minnesota	416,487	\$19,994,802	+29,503	+7.6%

Source: [U.S. Census, Nonemployer Statistics program](#)

CENSUS OF AGRICULTURE

There are 11,478 farms producing over \$2.8 billion in the market value of products sold in 2017 according to the U.S. Department of Agriculture. The state rank of each of the counties lie in the top half, with the exception of Houston and Wabasha Counties, and range from 10th (Mower County), to 57th (Houston County) in regards to the market value of products sold (Table 18).