Minnesota Labor Market Overview

- Job Growth
- Unemployment Rate
- Labor Force Size & Participation Rate
- Employment by Supersector
- Unemployed Worker Per Job Opening
- Wage Growth
Steady job growth post-pandemic
Minnesota, Seasonally Adjusted

Payroll Employment, Number of Jobs

Total Nonfarm Payroll Jobs
Private Sector Jobs

Unemployment rate below national average

- Minnesota ranked 19th among states in unemployment rate
- Minnesota has long had an unemployment rate below the national average

Source: Local Area Unemployment Statistics, Bureau of Labor Statistics
Labor force slowly recovering
Minnesota, Seasonally Adjusted

Source: Local Area Unemployment Statistics, Bureau of Labor Statistics
Strong labor force participation, ranking 6th

- Minnesota ranked 6th among states in labor force participation rate
- Minnesota has long been a leader in participation, but we still have not returned to pre-pandemic levels due to retirements

Source: Local Area Unemployment Statistics, Bureau of Labor Statistics
Strong growth in Construction, Edu & Health Svc, Trade Transp & Utilities

Over the Year Percent Change in Jobs

-6 -4 -2 0 2 4 6

Total
Private
Mining & Logging
Construction
Manufacturing
Trade, Transport. & Utilities
Information
Financial Activities
Prof. & Business Services
Ed. & Health Services
Leisure & Hospitality
Other Services
Government

Minnesota
U.S.

Over-the-Year job growth ranks 24th in nation

- Minnesota ranked 24th among states in over the year job growth
- Supersectors that outperformed national average:
  - Construction up 5.3% compared to 2.6% nationally
  - Trade, Transportation, and Utilities 2.8% compared to 0.3% nationally
  - Education & Health Services up 4.8%, compared to 4.2% nationally
- Supersectors that underperformed the national average:
  - Professional & Business Services down 2.0%, while the U.S. grew 0.9%
  - Financial Activities down 4.0%, while the U.S. grew 0.6%
  - Manufacturing down 1.6%, while the U.S. grew 0.2%

Fewer Workers Per Job Vacancy Than National Average

- Minnesota ranked 19th among states in unemployed workers per job vacancy
- This ratio is a good indicator of labor market tightness

Source: Job Opening and Labor Turnover Survey, Bureau of Labor Statistics
Wage Growth and Inflation
Over-the-Year Change, Minnesota and U.S.
Minnesota’s Average Earnings Higher

Earning/Hour Comparison: MN & US

Border State Comparison, November 2023

Takeaways

- Average job growth over the past year
- Low unemployment rate, 3.1%
- Minnesota’s labor force has been slow to bounce back after the pandemic
- High labor force participation, 68.3%
- Some supersectors thrive, others experience job loss
- 2 job vacancies per job seeker
- Slow wage growth, high earning/hour
Thank You

Angelina Nguyễn
angelina.nguyen@state.mn.us
Director, Labor Market Information Office
Minnesota Department of Employment & Economic Development