

# Ninth District employment services sector: Not a temporary blip

The most comprehensive and updated government data on contingent jobs come from the employment services sector (NAICS code 5613), tracked by the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS). Within this code, there are three distinct job classifications: professional employer organizations (56131), temporary help services (56132) and employment placement and executive search (56133). Of the three, temporary help services is by far the largest and has seen the strongest growth since 2009, as the Minnesota example illustrates (see Chart 1).

The size and growth of temporary help services varies across Ninth District states. As a percentage of total employment, it is lowest in Montana and

South Dakota, highest in Minnesota and Wisconsin, and growing quickly in North Dakota, according to data provided to the *fedgazette* by Economic Modeling Specialists Intl. EMSI estimates use a composite employment data set of more than 90 sources, including an enhanced, unsuppressed version of quarterly BLS surveys.

But all district states have seen the same general pattern of significant job loss preceding and during recessions, followed by strong growth coming out of recessions (see Chart 2). In 2013, temp jobs in district states rose above prerecession levels, with the exception of Montana. The Dakotas have seen the biggest gains in percentage terms, not only

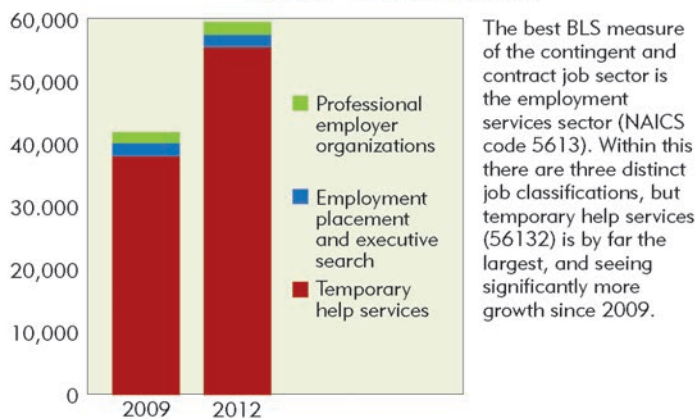
since the end of the recession, but over the past dozen years. In fact, since 2009, North Dakota and South Dakota have seen the biggest increase in temporary help workers in the country, with both states doubling their headcount in this sector.

Temp workers now permeate virtually all industry sectors, though some much more than others. Production jobs in manufacturing are still the most common, followed by office administration. But other industries like health care, finance and information technology are gaining a greater foothold, and growth is widespread among standard occupational classes (see Charts 3 and 4).

—Ronald A. Wirtz

Chart 1

**Breakdown of employment services sector in Minnesota**

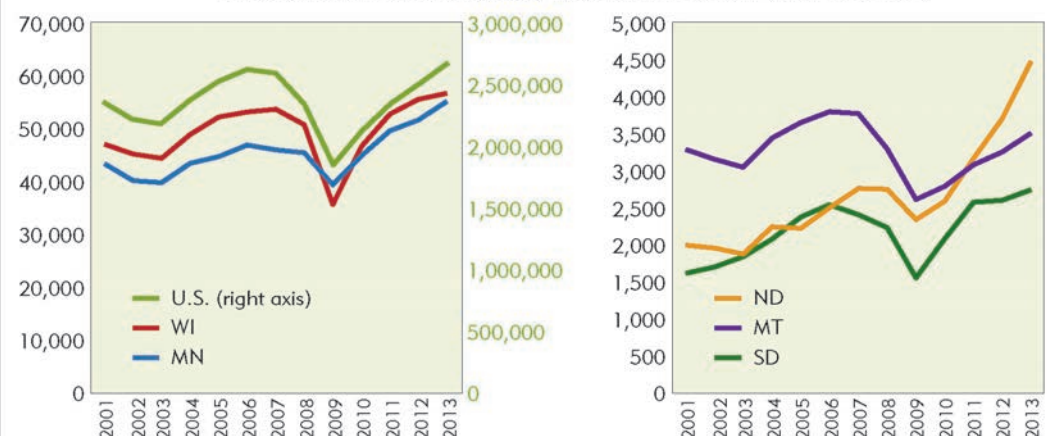


The best BLS measure of the contingent and contract job sector is the employment services sector (NAICS code 5613). Within this there are three distinct job classifications, but temporary help services (56132) is by far the largest, and seeing significantly more growth since 2009.

Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics

Chart 2

**A rising temp-jobs roller coaster across Ninth District**  
Employment in the temporary help services sector (NAICS 56132)

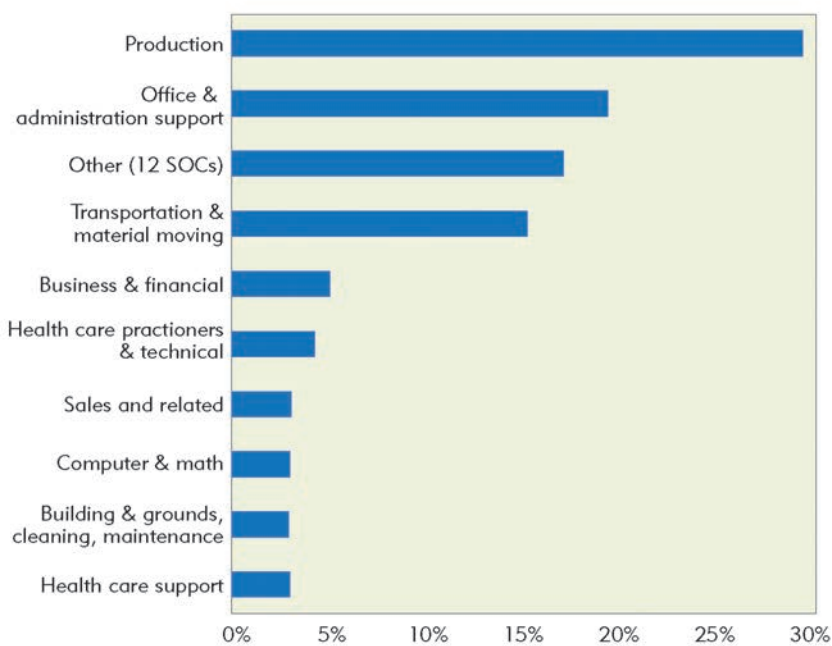


Source: Economic Modeling Specialists Intl

Chart 3

**Where do they temporarily work?**

Share of Minnesota jobs in temporary help services, by standard occupational classification (SOC), 2013

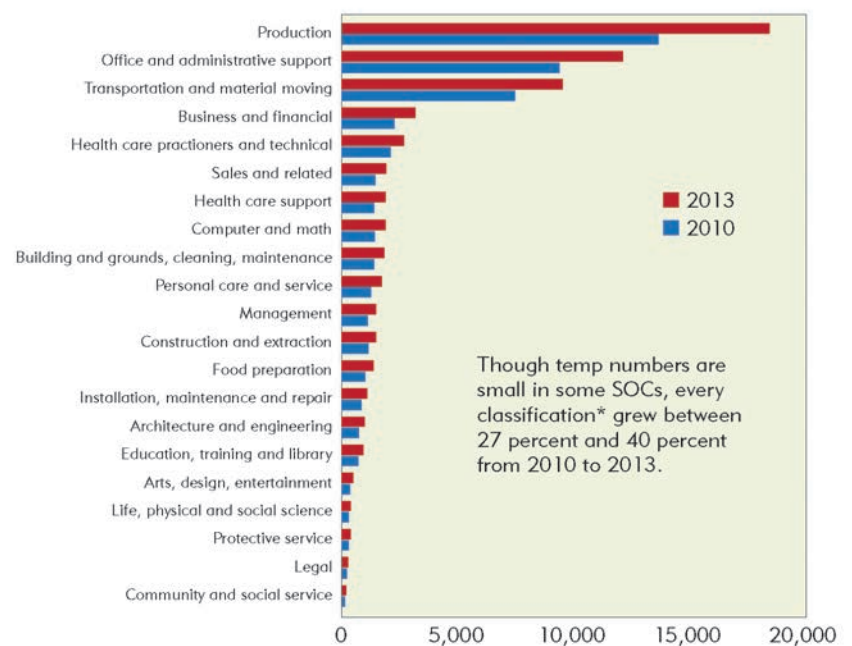


Source: Economic Modeling Specialists Intl

Chart 4

**Strong growth, big numbers for some temp occupations**

Minnesota temp jobs, 2010 vs. 2013 by standard occupational class (SOC)



Though temp numbers are small in some SOCs, every classification\* grew between 27 percent and 40 percent from 2010 to 2013.

SOC 45 (farming, fishing and forestry) was the only SOC not included in chart because it listed just 17 temp jobs.  
Source: Economic Modeling Specialists Intl