

# **COUNTY PROFILE**

# Dakota Co.

Dakota Co. is a part of Economic Development Region 11, which is located in the Twin Cities Planning Region.

# **POPULATION CHARACTERISTICS**



Dakota Co. is the 3rd largest of the 87 counties in the state. Its population increased so far this decade, ranking as the 18th fastest growing in the state from 2020 to 2023. Dakota Co.'s population has an older median age than the state and a smaller 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).

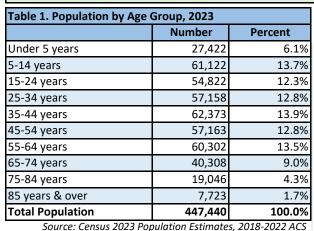
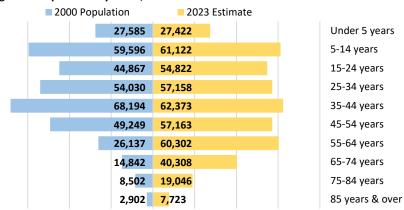


Figure 1. Population Pyramid, 2000-2023



Dakota Co. enjoyed a natural increase - more births than deaths from 2020 to 2023, but also experienced net in-migration - meaning more people moved in than moved out. Despite suffering domestic out-migration, Dakota 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, 2020-2023 |            |          |                                    |         |         |               |          |  |
|---|------------|----------|------------------------------------|---------|---------|---------------|----------|--|
|   | Total      |          | April 1, 2020 to July 1, 2023      |         |         |               |          |  |
|   | Population | Natural  | Natural Vital Events Net Migration |         |         |               |          |  |
|   | Change     | Increase | Births                             | Deaths  | Total   | International | Domestic |  |
| Dakota Co.  | 7,562      | 5,686    | 16,186                             | 10,500  | 1,502   | 2,430         | -928     |  |
| State of Minnesota  | 31,111     | 40,368   | 207,857                            | 167,489 | -11,352 | 34,624        | -45,976  |  |

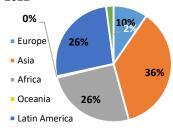
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Population Estimates Program

Compared to the state, Dakota Co. has a larger percentage of foreign-born residents. From 2010 to 2022, Dakota Co. saw an increase in the number of foreign-born residents, which was faster than the statewide increase.

| number of foreign both residents, which was laster than the statewide increase. |                            |         |          |             |         |        |  |  |
|---|----------------------------|---------|----------|-------------|---------|--------|--|--|
| Table 3. Place of Birth for the Foreign Born                                    | Dakota Co. Change 2010-202 |         | 010-2022 | 2 Minnesota |         |        |  |  |
| Population, 2022  | Number                     | Percent | Number   | Percent     | Percent | Change |  |  |
| Foreign-born Population   | 42,325                     | 9.6%    | 11,367   | 36.7%       | 8.5%    | 31.3%  |  |  |
| Europe  | 4,050                      | 9.6%    | -99      | -2.4%       | 9.3%    | -0.6%  |  |  |
| Asia  | 15,307                     | 36.2%   | 3,526    | 29.9%       | 36.7%   | 30.2%  |  |  |
| Africa  | 10,775                     | 25.5%   | 5,345    | 98.4%       | 28.1%   | 93.1%  |  |  |
| Oceania   | 164                        | 0.4%    | 97       | 144.8%      | 0.4%    | 20.4%  |  |  |
| Americas:   | 12,029                     | 28.4%   | 2,498    | 26.2%       | 25.4%   | 7.5%   |  |  |
| Latin America   | 11,154                     | 26.4%   | 3,030    | 37.3%       | 22.9%   | 9.0%   |  |  |
| Northern America  | 875                        | 2.1%    | -532     | -37.8%      | 2.5%    | -4.6%  |  |  |

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2018-2022 American Community Survey

Figure 2. Place of Birth for the Foreign Born Population, 2022



Northern America

Dakota Co.'s population was becoming more racially diverse over time. Since 2011, the county's white population increased and the number of people of other races increased (see Table 4).

Figure 3. Population by Race,
2022

White
Black or African American
American Indian
Asian
Some Other Race
Two or More Races

|  |         | Dakota Co | Minnesota                   |         |                             |
|--|---------|-----------|-----------------------------|---------|-----------------------------|
| Table 4. Race and Hispanic Origin,<br>2022 | Number  | Percent   | Change<br>from<br>2011-2022 | Percent | Change<br>from<br>2011-2022 |
| Total                                      | 439,179 | 100.0%    | 10.8%                       | 100.0%  | 7.9%                        |
| White                                      | 342,633 | 78.0%     | 0.6%                        | 79.7%   | -0.4%                       |
| Black or African American                  | 31,094  | 7.1%      | 72.0%                       | 6.7%    | 44.3%                       |
| American Indian or Alaska Native           | 1,241   | 0.3%      | -28.3%                      | 0.9%    | -10.2%                      |
| Asian or Other Pac. Islanders              | 22,836  | 5.2%      | 30.2%                       | 5.1%    | 37.1%                       |
| Some Other Race                            | 14,569  | 3.3%      | 67.2%                       | 2.3%    | 84.7%                       |
| Two or More Races                          | 26,806  | 6.1%      | 169.5%                      | 5.3%    | 159.6%                      |
| Hispanic or Latino origin                  | 33,779  | 7.7%      | 47.7%                       | 5.7%    | 34.6%                       |

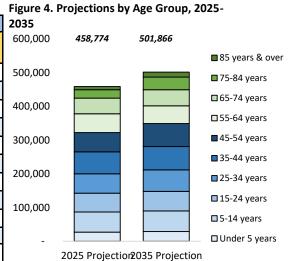
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2018-2022 American Community Survey

## **POPULATION PROJECTIONS**

78.0%

According to the Minnesota State Demographic Center, Dakota Co.'s population is expected to grow from 2025 to 2035, with a rate of change that is slower than the projected statewide growth rate (4.5%). In addition to the overall growth, 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 2025 2035 Numeric Percent Dakota Co. Projection Projection Change Change 1,911 Under 5 years 27,043 28,954 7.1% 5-14 years 59,937 61,075 1,138 1.9% 55,558 57,949 2,391 4.3% 15-24 years 25-34 years 57,693 63,618 5,925 10.3% 4,298 35-44 years 65,229 69,527 6.6% 56,793 11,391 45-54 years 68,184 20.1% 55-64 years 55,873 52,414 -3,459 -6.2% 65-74 years 46,266 47,603 1,337 2.9% 75-84 years 25,330 37,611 12,281 48.5% 85 years & over 9,052 14,931 5,879 64.9% **Total Population** 458,774 501,866 43,092 9.4%



Source: Minnesota State Demographic Center

#### **EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT**

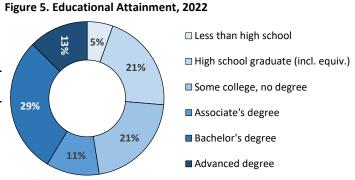
Dakota Co. has a higher percentage of adults (18 years & over) with at least a high school diploma than the state (93.0%), and a higher percentage of people with at least some college experience. Dakota Co. also has a higher percentage of people with an Associate's degree and a higher percentage of people with a Bachelor's degree or higher.

Percentage of the adult population (18 years & over) with at least a high school diploma:

94.6%

College-educated:73.7%state:68.5%

Associate's Degree: 11.2%
Bachelor's Degree: 28.7%
Advanced Degree: 12.6%

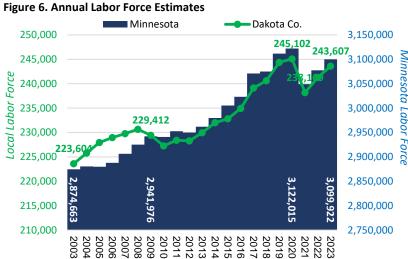


Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2018-2022 American Community Survey

#### LABOR FORCE TRENDS

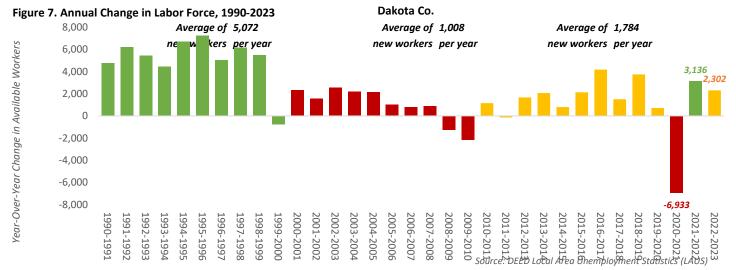
At 2.6%, Dakota Co. had a lower unemployment rate than the state in 2023. After the pandemic recession Dakota Co.'s unemployment rate declined compared to the 2.9% pre-pandemic rate posted in 2019. The number of unemployed workers actively seeking work in Dakota Co. increased over the past year, and is down compared to 2019.





Source: DEED Local Area Unemployment Statistics

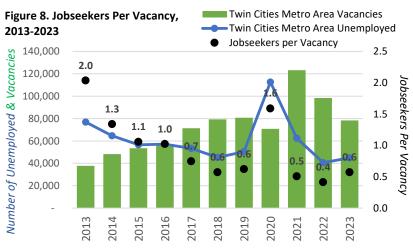
Labor force growth has slowed in recent years. After experiencing a net gain of workers each year from 1990 to 2000, Dakota Co. averaged an annual gain of new workers from 2000 to 2010, and most recently a gain of new workers since 2010 (see Figure 7). Moving forward, Dakota Co. is expected to add workers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



| Table 6. Labor Force   | Labor Force Projection |         |  |  |
|------------------------|------------------------|---------|--|--|
| Projections, 2025-2035 | 2025 2035              |         |  |  |
| 16 to 24 years         | 34,825                 | 36,612  |  |  |
| 25 to 54 years         | 163,203                | 182,864 |  |  |
| 55 to 64 years         | 43,295                 | 40,615  |  |  |
| 65 years & over        | 15,053                 | 16,467  |  |  |
| Total Labor Force      | 256,377                | 276,558 |  |  |

Source: Minnesota State Demographic Center, 2018-2022 ACS

The labor market had grown extremely tight in recent years, with less than 1 jobseeker per vacancy until the pandemic recession intervened in early 2020 and the number of unemployed workers spiked. In 2023, job vacancies in Twin Cities returned to pre-pandemic levels, but employers are still seeing challenges finding enough workers for open jobs (see Figure 8).



Source: DEED Job Vacancy Survey, LAUS program

# LABOR FORCE CHARACTERISTICS

Dakota Co. had a higher labor force participation rate than the state. The labor force in Dakota Co. is more racially diverse than the state (where 81.3% of workers are white alone), but is becoming more diverse over time.

|   | D  | akota Co.                         |                | Minne                             | esota          |   |
|---|--|-----------------------------------|----------------|-----------------------------------|----------------|---|
|   | In Labor Force<br>(available<br>workers) | Labor<br>Force<br>Partic.<br>Rate | Unemp.<br>Rate | Labor<br>Force<br>Partic.<br>Rate | Unemp.<br>Rate |   |
| Total Labor Force                             | 249,078                                  | 72.1%                             | 3.7%           | 68.7%                             | 4.0%           | Γ |
| 16 to 19 years                                | 12,017                                   | 55.3%                             | 9.6%           | 53.0%                             | 9.8%           | Γ |
| 20 to 24 years                                | 20,926                                   | 82.8%                             | 6.3%           | 83.1%                             | 6.7%           | Ī |
| 25 to 44 years                                | 106,280                                  | 90.6%                             | 3.3%           | 88.8%                             | 3.5%           | Ī |
| 45 to 54 years                                | 51,227                                   | 91.3%                             | 2.0%           | 87.8%                             | 2.9%           |   |
| 55 to 64 years                                | 45,865                                   | 77.5%                             | 3.8%           | 72.8%                             | 3.1%           | Γ |
| 65 to 74 years                                | 11,197                                   | 28.3%                             | 3.7%           | 27.6%                             | 3.3%           |   |
| 75 years & over                               | 1,498                                    | 5.7%                              | 1.7%           | 6.6%                              | 3.2%           |   |
| Employment Characteristics by Race &          | Hispanic Origin                          |                                   |                |                                   |                | I |
| White alone                                   | 196,561                                  | 70.4%                             | 3.1%           | 67.8%                             | 3.4%           | I |
| Black or African American                     | 17,646                                   | 81.1%                             | 6.7%           | 71.5%                             | 8.7%           | I |
| American Indian & Alaska Native               | 794                                      | 75.5%                             | 3.7%           | 57.6%                             | 11.9%          | ŀ |
| Asian or Other Pac. Islanders                 | 13,549                                   | 76.8%                             | 4.3%           | 73.9%                             | 3.6%           | I |
| Some Other Race                               | 8,669                                    | 82.7%                             | 5.4%           | 76.1%                             | 6.1%           | Ī |
| Two or More Races                             | 11,789                                   | 76.9%                             | 6.7%           | 74.3%                             | 6.6%           | ľ |
| Hispanic or Latino                            | 17,925                                   | 78.5%                             | 6.8%           | 77.0%                             | 6.3%           | Ĭ |
| <b>Employment Characteristics by Disabili</b> | ty, 20 to 64 years                       |                                   |                |                                   |                | l |
| With Any Disability, 20 to 64 years           | 12,596                                   | 58.7%                             | 11.5%          | 54.4%                             | 10.2%          | Ī |
| <b>Employment Characteristics by Educati</b>  | onal Attainment, 25                      | to 64 years                       |                |                                   |                | ĺ |
| Population, 25 to 64 years                    | 203,311                                  | 87.4%                             | 3.1%           | 84.4%                             | 3.3%           | Ī |
| Less than H.S. Diploma                        | 7,758                                    | 77.7%                             | 4.1%           | 67.2%                             | 4.6%           | ĺ |
| H.S. Diploma or Equivalent                    | 32,745                                   | 80.5%                             | 2.3%           | 76.8%                             | 2.5%           | Ĭ |
| Some College or Assoc. Degree                 | 64,793                                   | 87.8%                             | 3.6%           | 85.1%                             | 3.6%           |   |
| Bachelor's Degree or Higher                   | 98,104                                   | 90.7%                             | 1.8%           | 90.3%                             | 2.0%           | ĺ |

Figure 9. Labor Force by Race, 2022

Labor Force by Gender

Male 130,150

6,015

10,797

56,067

26,772 23,740

5,908

851

Female

118,855

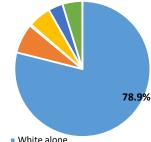
6,001

10,135

50,204 24,436

22,129

5,293 657



- White alone
- Black or African American
- American Indian & Alaska Native
- Asian or Other Pac. Islanders
- Some Other Race
- Two or More Races

Source: 2018-2022 American Community Survey, 5-Year Estimates

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

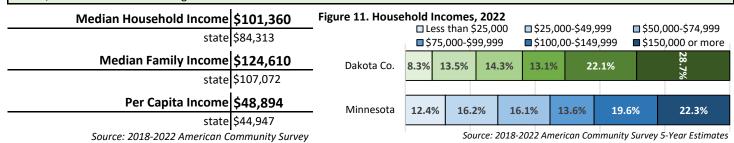
|  | Dakota  | Co.     | Minn      | esota   | ĺ  |
|--|---------|---------|-----------|---------|----|
| Table 8. Commuting Characteristics, 2022 | Number  | Percent | Number    | Percent | ĺ  |
| Worked in state of residence             | 233,595 | 99.0%   | 2,867,086 | 97.7%   | ĺ  |
| Worked in county of residence            | 130,483 | 55.3%   | 1,957,366 | 66.7%   | ĺ  |
| Worked out of county of residence        | 103,112 | 43.7%   | 909,720   | 31.0%   | ĺ  |
| Worked outside state of residence        | 2,360   | 1.0%    | 67,495    | 2.3%    | ĺ  |
| MEANS OF TRANSPORTATION TO WORK          |         |         |           |         | ĺ. |
| Car, truck, or van                       | 187,820 | 79.6%   | 2,338,861 | 79.7%   |    |
| Public transportation (excl. taxicab)    | 5,191   | 2.2%    | 73,365    | 2.5%    | ĺ  |
| Other method (walk, bike, taxi, etc.)    | 5,663   | 2.4%    | 120,318   | 4.1%    | 1  |
| Worked at home                           | 37,281  | 15.8%   | 399,103   | 13.6%   | ĺ  |
| TRAVEL TIME TO WORK                      |         |         |           |         | ĺ  |
| Less than 10 minutes                     | 29,022  | 12.3%   | 475,402   | 16.2%   | ĺ  |
| 10 to 19 minutes                         | 65,595  | 27.8%   | 906,786   | 30.9%   | ĺ  |
| 20 to 29 minutes                         | 58,045  | 24.6%   | 651,477   | 22.2%   | Ī  |
| 30 to 44 minutes                         | 57,101  | 24.2%   | 563,440   | 19.2%   | ĺ  |
| 45 to 59 minutes                         | 16,753  | 7.1%    | 181,944   | 6.2%    | ĺ  |
| 60 or more minutes                       | 9,438   | 4.0%    | 155,533   | 5.3%    | ĺ  |
| Mean travel time to work (minutes)       | 24.5    | minutes | 23.3      | minutes | ĺ  |

Figure 10. Time Leaving Home to go to Work, 2022 ■ Dakota Co. ■ Minnesota 0% 20% 40% 12:00 a.m. to 4.0% 4:59 a.m. 5:00 a.m. to 5:59 a.m. 9.2% 6:00 a.m. to 6:59 19.9% 19.2% 7:00 a.m. to 7:59 28.2% a.m. 28.7% 8:00 a.m. to 8:59 a.m. 9:00 a.m. to 24.1% 11:59 p.m. 23.5%

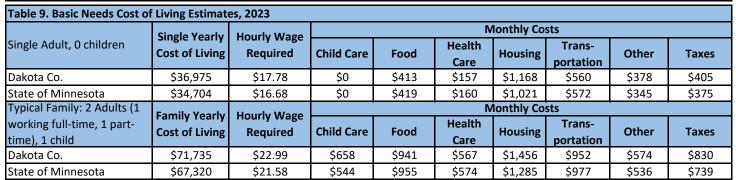
Source: 2018-2022 American Community Survey, 5-Year Estimates

#### INCOMES, COST OF LIVING, & HOUSING

Dakota Co. had a higher median household income than the state, and a lower percentage of households with incomes below \$50,000. Overall, Dakota Co. had the 5th highest median household income of the 87 counties in the state.



The cost of living has increased over the past 2 years with costs up in many areas. Dakota Co. had a higher cost of living than the state, with a required hourly wage of \$17.78 for a single person living alone to meet a basic needs cost of living, and an hourly wage requirement of \$22.99 for a typical family with 2 adults and 1 child (see Table 9).



Source: DEED Cost of Living tool

Dakota Co. had a higher median house value than the state, having the 5th highest value of the 87 counties in 2022. Dakota Co.'s housing stock was newer than the state's, with a higher percentage of units built since 2000 (see Figure 12).

| Table 10. Estimated Value of Owner- | Dakota Co. |           | Minnesota |
|-------------------------------------|------------|-----------|-----------|
| occupied Housing Units, 2022        | Total      | Percent   | Percent   |
| Total                               | 128,582    | 100.0%    | 100.0%    |
| Less than \$50,000                  | 3,458      | 2.7%      | 4.1%      |
| \$50,000 to \$99,999                | 2,127      | 1.7%      | 4.6%      |
| \$100,000 to \$149,999              | 2,858      | 2.2%      | 7.1%      |
| \$150,000 to \$199,999              | 7,488      | 5.8%      | 10.7%     |
| \$200,000 to \$299,999              | 34,247     | 26.6%     | 27.1%     |
| \$300,000 to \$499,999              | 57,302     | 44.6%     | 31.7%     |
| \$500,000 or more                   | 21,102     | 16.4%     | 14.7%     |
| Median (dollars)                    | \$341,2    | \$286,800 |           |

Source: 2018-2022 American Community Survey, 5-Year Estimates

0% 20% 40% 60% Dakota Co. Minnesota 2010 or later 15.3% 2000 to 2009 13.3% 40.6% 1980 to 1999 25.5% 24.8% 1960 to 1979 23.8% 7.0% 1940 to 1959 13.8% 3.9% 1939 or earlier

Figure 13. Housing Costs as a

Median monthly owner costs, owner-occupied units with a mortgage

Percentage of households with a mortgage spending 30% or more of their income on housing costs

Figure 12. Year Structure Built, 2022

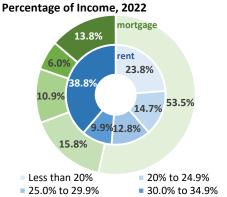
19.7%

Median monthly rent costs \$1,410

Percentage of renters spending 30% or more of their household income on rent

state 46.7%

Source: 2018-2022 American Community Survey, 5-Year Estimates



35% or more

state 48.7%

# **OCCUPATIONS**

At \$27.78 in 2024, wages were higher in Region 11 than the state. Overall, Region 11 had the highest median hourly wage level of the 13 economic development regions in the state. Wages were highest for management occupations (\$63.5) and lowest for food preparation and serving related jobs (\$15.6) (see Table 11).

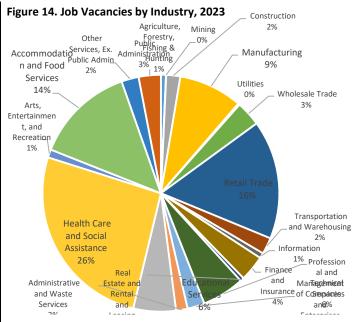
| Table 11. Occupational Employment & Wage Statistics, 2024 |                          |                               |                        |                                  |                       |                                |                        |
|---|--------------------------|-------------------------------|------------------------|----------------------------------|-----------------------|--------------------------------|------------------------|
|   | Region 11                |                               |                        |                                  | State of Minnesota    |                                |                        |
| Occupational Group  | Median<br>Hourly<br>Wage | Estimated<br>Regional<br>Jobs | Share of<br>Total Jobs | Regional<br>Location<br>Quotient | Median<br>Hourly Wage | Estimated<br>Statewide<br>Jobs | Share of<br>Total Jobs |
| Total, All Occupations                                    | \$27.78                  | 1,743,500                     | 100.0%                 | 1.0                              | \$25.22               | 2,881,100                      | 100.0%                 |
| Management  | \$63.50                  | 132,050                       | 7.6%                   | 1.1                              | \$57.75               | 201,710                        | 7.0%                   |
| Business & Financial Operations                           | \$40.39                  | 148,630                       | 8.5%                   | 1.2                              | \$39.26               | 202,700                        | 7.0%                   |
| Computer & Mathematical                                   | \$52.09                  | 76,680                        | 4.4%                   | 1.3                              | \$50.83               | 98,240                         | 3.4%                   |
| Architecture & Engineering                                | \$46.98                  | 41,270                        | 2.4%                   | 1.2                              | \$42.97               | 58,320                         | 2.0%                   |
| Life, Physical & Social Science                           | \$42.20                  | 19,390                        | 1.1%                   | 1.1                              | \$39.93               | 29,220                         | 1.0%                   |
| Community & Social Service                                | \$27.89                  | 33,430                        | 1.9%                   | 1.0                              | \$27.92               | 57,930                         | 2.0%                   |
| Legal   | \$55.72                  | 15,120                        | 0.9%                   | 1.3                              | \$51.15               | 19,040                         | 0.7%                   |
| Education, Training & Library                             | \$29.07                  | 93,160                        | 5.3%                   | 0.9                              | \$28.22               | 163,340                        | 5.7%                   |
| Arts, Design, Entertainment & Media                       | \$30.84                  | 24,370                        | 1.4%                   | 1.1                              | \$29.01               | 36,160                         | 1.3%                   |
| Healthcare Practitioners & Technical                      | \$46.47                  | 100,690                       | 5.8%                   | 0.9                              | \$43.01               | 184,410                        | 6.4%                   |
| Healthcare Support  | \$17.87                  | 104,830                       | 6.0%                   | 1.0                              | \$18.07               | 169,580                        | 5.9%                   |
| Protective Service  | \$29.48                  | 26,960                        | 1.5%                   | 1.0                              | \$28.87               | 45,860                         | 1.6%                   |
| Food Preparation & Serving Related                        | \$15.60                  | 136,270                       | 7.8%                   | 1.0                              | \$15.07               | 232,190                        | 8.1%                   |
| Building, Grounds Cleaning & Maint.                       | \$19.14                  | 45,450                        | 2.6%                   | 0.9                              | \$18.83               | 79,660                         | 2.8%                   |
| Personal Care & Service                                   | \$17.78                  | 37,880                        | 2.2%                   | 1.1                              | \$17.60               | 59,420                         | 2.1%                   |
| Sales & Related   | \$21.35                  | 141,920                       | 8.1%                   | 1.0                              | \$18.82               | 242,440                        | 8.4%                   |
| Office & Administrative Support                           | \$24.47                  | 215,890                       | 12.4%                  | 1.0                              | \$23.86               | 352,250                        | 12.2%                  |
| Farming, Fishing & Forestry                               | \$21.98                  | 1,050                         | 0.1%                   | 0.5                              | \$22.13               | 3,520                          | 0.1%                   |
| Construction & Extraction                                 | \$37.81                  | 58,530                        | 3.4%                   | 0.9                              | \$32.44               | 110,960                        | 3.9%                   |
| Installation, Maintenance & Repair                        | \$30.28                  | 55,220                        | 3.2%                   | 0.9                              | \$29.54               | 104,530                        | 3.6%                   |
| Production  | \$23.44                  | 104,740                       | 6.0%                   | 0.8                              | \$23.05               | 203,810                        | 7.1%                   |
| Transportation & Material Moving                          | \$23.46                  | 129,950                       | 7.5%                   | 1.0                              | \$19.80               | 225,820                        | 7.8%                   |

Source: DEED Occupational Employment & Wage Statistics, Qtr. 1 2024

## **JOB VACANCY SURVEY**

Dakota Co. is a part of the Twin Cities planning region. There were 78325 job vacancies posted by employers in 2023, indicating extensive opportunity in the region, with openings across several occupations and industries (see Figure 14).

| Table 12. Twin Cities Job Vacancy Survey Results, 2023 |           |         |  |  |  |  |
|--|-----------|---------|--|--|--|--|
|  | Number of | Wage    |  |  |  |  |
| Occupational Group                                     | Vacancies | Offer   |  |  |  |  |
| Total, All Occupations                                 | 78,325    | \$20.47 |  |  |  |  |
| Management   | 2,679     |         |  |  |  |  |
| Business & Financial Operations                        | 4,811     |         |  |  |  |  |
| Computer & Mathematical                                | 2,240     |         |  |  |  |  |
| Architecture & Engineering                             | 1,868     |         |  |  |  |  |
| Life, Physical & Social Sciences                       | 702       |         |  |  |  |  |
| Community & Social Service                             | 2,921     | •       |  |  |  |  |
| Education, Training & Library                          | 3,316     |         |  |  |  |  |
| Healthcare Practitioners & Technical                   | 8,747     | \$34.12 |  |  |  |  |
| Healthcare Support                                     | 6,088     | \$17.84 |  |  |  |  |
| Protective Service                                     | 903       |         |  |  |  |  |
| Food Preparation & Serving Related                     | 11,217    | \$15.82 |  |  |  |  |
| Building, Grounds Cleaning & Maint.                    | 1,458     |         |  |  |  |  |
| Personal Care & Service                                | 1,554     | \$16.62 |  |  |  |  |
| Sales & Related  | 10,128    | \$16.42 |  |  |  |  |
| Office & Administrative Support                        | 5,147     | \$19.56 |  |  |  |  |
| Construction & Extraction                              | 1,016     |         |  |  |  |  |
| Installation, Maintenance & Repair                     | 2,642     | \$23.56 |  |  |  |  |
| Production   | 3,134     |         |  |  |  |  |
| Transportation & Material Moving                       | 4,595     | \$19.23 |  |  |  |  |



Source: DEED Job Vacancy Survey, 2023

# **OCCUPATIONS IN DEMAND**

| Table 13. Twin Cities Planni                           | Table 13. Twin Cities Planning Region Occupations in Demand, 2023              |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| Less than High School                                  | High School or Equivalent  | Some College or Assoc. Deg.  | Bachelor's Degree or Higher  |  |  |  |  |
| Home Health and Personal<br>Care Aides                 | Nursing Assistants   | Registered Nurses  | Software Developers  |  |  |  |  |
| \$35,514/yr  | \$46,080/yr  | \$103,847/yr   | \$131,741/yr   |  |  |  |  |
| Retail Salespersons                                    | Heavy and Tractor-Trailer Truck Drivers  | Dental Hygienists  | Accountants and Auditors   |  |  |  |  |
| \$36,304/yr  | \$64,047/yr  | \$97,477/yr  | \$81,809/yr  |  |  |  |  |
| Customer Service<br>Representatives<br>\$49,374/yr     | Substance abuse, behavioral disorder, and mental health counselors \$53,952/yr | Industrial Engineering<br>Technologists and Technicians<br>\$69,564/yr | Market Research Analysts and<br>Marketing Specialists<br>\$83,647/yr |  |  |  |  |
| First-Line Supervisors of<br>Food Preparation and      | Medical Assistants   | Radiologic Technologists and<br>Technicians                            | Project Management Specialists                                       |  |  |  |  |
| \$45,909/yr  | \$52,350/yr  | \$83,266/yr  | \$101,522/yr   |  |  |  |  |
| Cashiers   | Licensed Practical and Licensed Vocational Nurses                              | Paralegals and Legal Assistants  | General and Operations Managers                                      |  |  |  |  |
| \$34,855/yr  | \$61,708/yr  | \$66,277/yr  | \$106,095/yr   |  |  |  |  |
| Stockers and Order Fillers                             | Bookkeeping, Accounting, and Auditing Clerks                                   | Veterinary Technologists and<br>Technicians                            | Management Analysts  |  |  |  |  |
| \$39,688/yr  | \$54,327/yr  | \$48,503/yr  | \$100,289/yr   |  |  |  |  |
| Laborers and Freight, Stock, and Material Movers, Hand | Automotive Service Technicians and Mechanics                                   | Electrical and Electronic<br>Engineering Technologists and             | Financial Managers   |  |  |  |  |
| \$47,597/yr  | \$58,858/yr  | \$74,713/yr  | \$165,961/yr   |  |  |  |  |
| First-Line Supervisors of<br>Retail Sales Workers      | Computer User Support Specialists  | Surgical Technologists   | Industrial Engineers   |  |  |  |  |
| \$49,788/yr  | \$66,022/yr  | \$80,249/yr  | \$103,880/yr   |  |  |  |  |
| Janitors and Cleaners,                                 | Machinists   | Police and Sheriff's Patrol  | Elementary School Teachers,  |  |  |  |  |
| Except Maids and<br>\$39,304/yr                        | \$63,126/yr  | Officers<br>\$95,455/yr  | Except Special Education<br>\$65,327/yr                              |  |  |  |  |
| Office Clerks, General                                 | Pharmacy Technicians   | Veterinary Assistants and<br>Laboratory Animal Caretakers              | Human Resources Specialists  |  |  |  |  |
| \$48,707/yr  | \$49,721/yr  | \$42,360/yr  | \$79,466/yr  |  |  |  |  |

Source: DEED Occupations in Demand

Dakota Co. is a part of the Twin Cities planning region, which is projected to see a 4.9% 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 |                                 |                                   |                                |  |  |
|---|---------------------------------|-----------------------------------|--------------------------------|--|--|
| Twin Cities Planning Region                                   | Estimated<br>Employment<br>2022 | Projected<br>Employ-<br>ment 2032 | Percent<br>Change<br>2022-2032 |  |  |
| Total, All Industries   | 1,927,280                       | 2,022,157                         | 4.9%                           |  |  |
| Natural Resources & Mining                                    | 4,299                           | 4,497                             | 4.6%                           |  |  |
| Utilities   | 5,966                           | 5,918                             | -0.8%                          |  |  |
| Construction  | 76,624                          | 81,639                            | 6.5%                           |  |  |
| Manufacturing   | 175,365                         | 178,983                           | 2.1%                           |  |  |
| Wholesale Trade   | 88,950                          | 95,889                            | 7.8%                           |  |  |
| Retail Trade  | 155,453                         | 153,000                           | -1.6%                          |  |  |
| Transportation & Warehousing                                  | 69,046                          | 74,385                            | 7.7%                           |  |  |
| Information   | 33,947                          | 36,573                            | 7.7%                           |  |  |
| Finance & Insurance, Real Estate                              | 152,950                         | 158,767                           | 3.8%                           |  |  |
| Professional Services & Mgmt. of Compani                      | 219,218                         | 239,258                           | 9.1%                           |  |  |
| Admin. Support & Waste Mgmt.                                  | 103,764                         | 106,039                           | 2.2%                           |  |  |
| Educational Services  | 140,511                         | 146,053                           | 3.9%                           |  |  |
| Health Care & Social Assistance                               | 274,229                         | 299,555                           | 9.2%                           |  |  |
| Leisure & Hospitality   | 159,585                         | 169,263                           | 6.1%                           |  |  |
| Other Services  | 70,450                          | 72,988                            | 3.6%                           |  |  |
| Public Administration   | 107,703                         | 109,441                           | 1.6%                           |  |  |

Source: DEED 2022-2032 Employment Outlook

Figure 15. Regional Occupational

| Employment Projections, 2022-2032             |        |                |             |  |  |  |  |
|---|--------|----------------|-------------|--|--|--|--|
| ■ From employment growth ■ From exit openings |        |                |             |  |  |  |  |
| -50,  | 000    | 50,000 100     | ,000150,000 |  |  |  |  |
| Management Occupations                        | 12.037 | 45.554         |             |  |  |  |  |
| Business and Financial                        | ,      | 52,761         |             |  |  |  |  |
| Computer and                                  |        | '              |             |  |  |  |  |
| Architecture and                              | - / -  | 12,502         |             |  |  |  |  |
| Life, Physical, and Social                    |        | 4,002          |             |  |  |  |  |
| Community and Social                          | ,      | <b>1</b> 5,875 |             |  |  |  |  |
| Legal Occupations                             | 1.085  | 4,921          |             |  |  |  |  |
| Educational Instruction                       | ,      | 48.634         |             |  |  |  |  |
| Arts, Design,                                 | - /    | <b>1</b> 5,251 |             |  |  |  |  |
| Healthcare Practitioners                      | 8,555  | ,              |             |  |  |  |  |
| Healthcare Support                            | 13,760 | 83,254         |             |  |  |  |  |
| Protective Service                            | 1,022  | 15,330         |             |  |  |  |  |
| Food Preparation and                          | 5,127  | 115,650        |             |  |  |  |  |
| Building and Grounds                          | 2,054  | <b>35,5</b> 34 |             |  |  |  |  |
| Personal Care and Service                     | 4,361  | <b>35,8</b> 57 |             |  |  |  |  |
| Sales and Related                             | 53     | 3 86,129       |             |  |  |  |  |
| Office and Administrative1                    | 1,947  | 122,414        |             |  |  |  |  |
| Farming, Fishing, and                         | -45    | 1,917          |             |  |  |  |  |
| Construction and                              | 4,595  | <b>24</b> ,853 |             |  |  |  |  |
| Installation, Maintenance,                    | 3,432  | <b>23</b> ,829 |             |  |  |  |  |
| Production Occupations                        | -1,160 | 48,025         |             |  |  |  |  |
| Transportation and                            | 9,216  | 75,028         |             |  |  |  |  |
| _   |        |                |             |  |  |  |  |

#### **ECONOMIC CHARACTERISTICS**

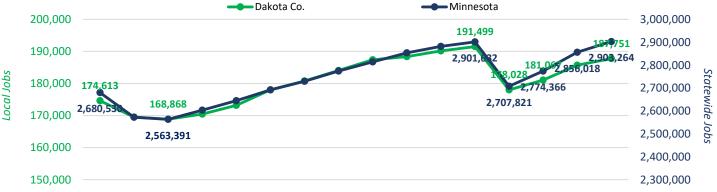
Coming out of the pandemic recession, after gaining jobs over the past year, Dakota Co. had the 3rd largest economy of the 87 counties in the state. Dakota Co. was the 46th fastest growing in the past year and the 47th fastest growing since 2019. From 2019 to 2023, employment in Dakota Co. is still down from the pandemic recession.

 11,709 business establishments
 \$69,736 annual average wage

 187,751 jobs
 \$13,092,944,272 total industry payroll

 Job change, 2019-2023 -2.0% decline
 -3,748 jobs -2.0% decline

Figure 16. Industry Employment Statistics, 2008-2023

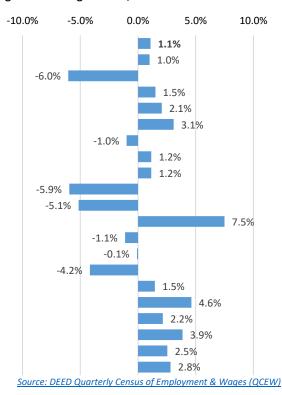


2008 2009 2010 2011 2012 2013 2014 2015 2016 2017 2018 2019 2020 2021 2022 2023

Source: DEED QCEW program

|                                    |           |            | Average   |
|------------------------------------|-----------|------------|-----------|
| Table 15. Dakota Co. Industry      | Number of | Percent of | Annual    |
| Employment Statistics, 2023        | Jobs      | Total Jobs | Wage      |
| Total, All Industries              | 187,751   | 100.0%     | \$69,736  |
| Agriculture, Forestry, Fish & Hunt | 1,100     | 0.6%       | \$41,636  |
| Mining                             | 109       | 0.1%       | \$110,020 |
| Construction                       | 10,717    | 5.7%       | \$94,239  |
| Manufacturing                      | 19,774    | 10.5%      | \$83,559  |
| Utilities                          | 533       | 0.3%       | \$143,208 |
| Wholesale Trade                    | 8,911     | 4.7%       | \$91,981  |
| Retail Trade                       | 23,750    | 12.6%      | \$38,969  |
| Transportation & Warehousing       | 14,660    | 7.8%       | \$72,008  |
| Information                        | 5,271     | 2.8%       | \$112,760 |
| Finance & Insurance                | 9,581     | 5.1%       | \$111,455 |
| Real Estate & Rental & Leasing     | 2,253     | 1.2%       | \$67,599  |
| Professional & Technical Services  | 8,095     | 4.3%       | \$99,980  |
| Management of Companies            | 4,443     | 2.4%       | \$156,774 |
| Admin. Support & Waste Mgmt. Svcs. | 8,417     | 4.5%       | \$49,849  |
| Educational Services               | 13,834    | 7.4%       | \$58,924  |
| Health Care & Social Assistance    | 24,168    | 12.9%      | \$55,704  |
| Arts, Entertainment, & Recreation  | 3,837     | 2.0%       | \$118,135 |
| Accommodation & Food Services      | 15,311    | 8.2%       | \$25,562  |
| Other Services                     | 7,088     | 3.8%       | \$46,702  |
| Public Administration              | 5,894     | 3.1%       | \$71,041  |

Figure 17. Change in Jobs, 2022-2023



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

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