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Regionally Significant Occupations in Southeast Minnesota

Southeast Minnesota has the second-highest median wage of any economic development region statewide according to Occupational Employment Statistics (OES) estimates. With an abundance of high-paying health care occupations, the region had a median hourly wage of $16.94 per hour ranking behind only the Twin Cities Metro region at $19.82. This article will address a two-part question: What are the regions' distinguishing occupations and is the workforce compensated well for these occupations?

Location quotients, generally used to analyze industry concentration, can help identify highly concentrated occupations in Southeast Minnesota. An analysis of median hourly wages paid to Southeast Minnesota occupations will determine whether the workforce is well compensated. Finally, we'll look at how these regionally significant occupations in Southeast Minnesota compare to the state.

Feature:

Labor Market Information Office Service Summary

In this issue:

Calculating Occupational Concentration

Location quotients (LQ) are calculated to determine the concentration of each occupation in Southeast Minnesota compared to the concentration of each occupation statewide and nationally. An example:

- *There are an estimated 380 occupational therapists in Southeast Minnesota and 237,490 total estimated jobs in the region.*
- *At the national level, there are an estimated 105,540 occupational therapists and 130,287,700 total jobs.*
- *The region's LQ would be:*

$$\frac{380 \div 237{,}490}{105{,}540 \div 130{,}287{,}700} = 0.99$$

A one-to-one relationship, or an LQ of 1.0, means that the occupation is equally concentrated in the region and the state or nation. In the example above, the concentration of occupational therapists in Southeast Minnesota is just about equal to the national concentration of jobs for this occupation. A

Table 1

Southeast Minnesota Occupations with Highest Location Quotients

Occupation	Southeast MN (EDR 10)		SE/U.S.
	Estimated Employment	Median Hourly Wage	Location Quotient
Total, All Occupations	**237,490**	**$16.94**	**1.00**
Fiberglass Laminators and Fabricators	1,730	$14.33	**53.99**
Fabric and Apparel Patternmakers	400	$10.84	**33.76**
Slaughterers and Meat Packers	4,640	$12.92	**32.07**
Life Scientists, All Other	290	$28.23	**17.80**
Gaming Change Persons and Booth Cashiers	440	$9.39	**10.99**
Medical Equipment Preparers	660	$18.02	**7.21**
Agricultural Workers, All Other	70	$11.07	**6.85**
Religious Workers, All Other	100	$11.05	**6.76**
Model Makers, Metal and Plastic	70	$23.75	**6.74**
Healthcare Support Workers, All Other	1,150	$18.37	**6.07**
Biomedical Engineers	160	$46.54	**4.67**
Industrial Engineering Technicians	570	$20.45	**4.64**
Farm Equipment Mechanics	280	$17.67	**4.50**
Medical Transcriptionists	590	$19.90	**4.33**
Medical Equipment Repairers	270	$24.26	**4.14**
Athletic Trainers	140	n/a	**3.70**
Medical and Clinical Laboratory Technologists	1,080	$30.09	**3.69**
Nurse Practitioners	700	$46.63	**3.63**
Stationary Engineers and Boiler Operators	230	$25.82	**3.47**
Cleaning, Washing, and Metal Pickling Equipment Operators and Tenders	100	$13.92	**3.42**

Source: DEED, Labor Market Information Office, Occupational Employment Statistics.

ratio of one to two, or an LQ of 0.5, means that the occupation is only half as concentrated in the region as in the state or nation. A ratio of two to one, or an LQ of 2, means that the occupation is twice as concentrated in the region as in the state or nation.

Typically, a location quotient of 1.2 or higher is considered distinguishing and more than meeting local demand. Future growth in that occupation or industry could indicate a significant export of goods or services from the region. Anything less than 1:1 may be an opportunity for growth. Of course, some occupations with high LQs may not present an opportunity for growth. Blacksmiths would be an example; the occupation may be highly concentrated in Southeast Minnesota, but it is extremely small and not likely to grow in any significant way.

Table 1 lists the top 20 occupations with the highest location quotients. First place goes to fiberglass laminators and fabricators, an occupation that is 54 times more concentrated in Southeast Minnesota than in the nation. Other highly concentrated occupations — particularly related to food manufacturing and health care — show the significance of these industries on the region as well.

Table 2

Minnesota Significance

		Southeast EDR 10		Location Quotients		
SOC	SOC Title	Estimated Employment	Median Hourly Wage	SE/MN	SE/ U.S.	LQ Difference
515113	Metal-Refining Furnace Operators and Tenders	50	$17.37	4.28	1.34	2.94
512023	Biological Technicians	320	$33.87	3.33	2.41	0.92
537064	Police, Fire, and Ambulance Dispatchers	320	$20.67	2.66	1.84	0.82
291128	Medical Secretaries	1,830	$19.47	2.70	1.97	0.73
299091	Nuclear Medicine Technologists	80	$40.62	2.87	2.14	0.73
519111	Psychologists, All Other	50	$25.00	3.27	2.65	0.62
519022	Respiratory Therapists	270	$31.99	1.87	1.27	0.60
272041	Health Technologists and Technicians, All Other	500	$29.45	3.76	3.25	0.51
452091	Cardiovascular Technologists and Technicians	210	$25.11	2.57	2.28	0.29
514012	Separating, Filtering, Clarifying, Precipitating, and Still Machine Setters, Operators, and Tenders	130	$18.52	1.98	1.72	0.26
514023	Surgical Technologists	290	$26.62	1.82	1.64	0.18
514032	Library Technicians	300	$19.16	1.79	1.64	0.15
519032	Medical Records and Health Information Technicians	430	$21.65	1.41	1.29	0.12
516092	Physician Assistants	300	$52.17	2.06	1.97	0.09
393012	Recreational Therapists	50	$22.07	1.50	1.43	0.07
514122	Radiologic Technologists and Technicians	570	$32.91	1.68	1.61	0.07
412012	Medical and Health Services Managers	650	$48.09	1.23	1.22	0.01
131131	Medical and Clinical Laboratory Technicians	380	$22.05	1.32	1.32	0.00

Source: DEED, Labor Market Information Office, Occupational Employment Statistics.

Do Regionally Significant Occupations have High Pay?

Southeast Minnesota has a number of occupations that are highly concentrated in the region. These jobs also tend to pay well; 12 out of the 20 occupations listed in Table 1 pay above the regional median wage of $16.94 per hour. However, the 13,670 estimated jobs in these 20 occupations represent only 5.8 percent of all estimated employment in Southeast Minnesota.

Expanding the analysis to all 560 jobs with disclosable employment and wages in Southeast Minnesota presents a more complete picture of regionally significant occupations. About 30 percent of jobs in Southeast Minnesota had a location quotient exceeding 1.2, considered a regionally significant occupation in this analysis. Those occupations accounted for a combined 107,540 jobs, or 45.2 percent of total employment in Southeast Minnesota.

Among these regionally significant occupations, more than half (57.3 percent) paid a median hourly wage above the region's average of $16.94 and the nation's average of $17.03. Fewer than half (48.8 percent) of the regionally significant occupations had a wage that exceeded the statewide median hourly wage ($18.08), and four out of 10 paid an median wage higher than $19.82, the median hourly wage for all jobs in the Twin Cities region.

Calculating Statewide Significance

To this point we've calculated the regionally significant occupations against the nation. To see how these regionally significant occupations compare to the state, we can compute new LQs using Minnesota as the comparison point for only those occupations with an LQ above 1.2 and a median hourly wage rate higher than the region's average.

Table 2 lists 18 regionally significant occupations in Southeast Minnesota that also have a statewide significance, or occupation whose statewide employment concentration exceeded the national employment concentration. In other words, these 18 occupations contributed significantly more to Southeast Minnesota much closer to home (statewide) than nationally. Not surprisingly, nearly all of these occupations were in health care.

All these indicators — a high concentration of regionally significant occupations with higher than average wages and large percentages of employment compared to the state and nation — suggest that Southeast Minnesota benefits from its concentration of jobs in manufacturing and health care, both high wage sectors of the economy.

by Rachel Vilsack
Labor Market Information Office
Minnesota Department of Employment and Economic Development

[1]Of 560 occupations in Southeast Minnesota, 166 had a LQ of 1.2 or above.
[2]Specifically 95 out of 166 regionally significant occupations had a median hourly wage above the region's average.

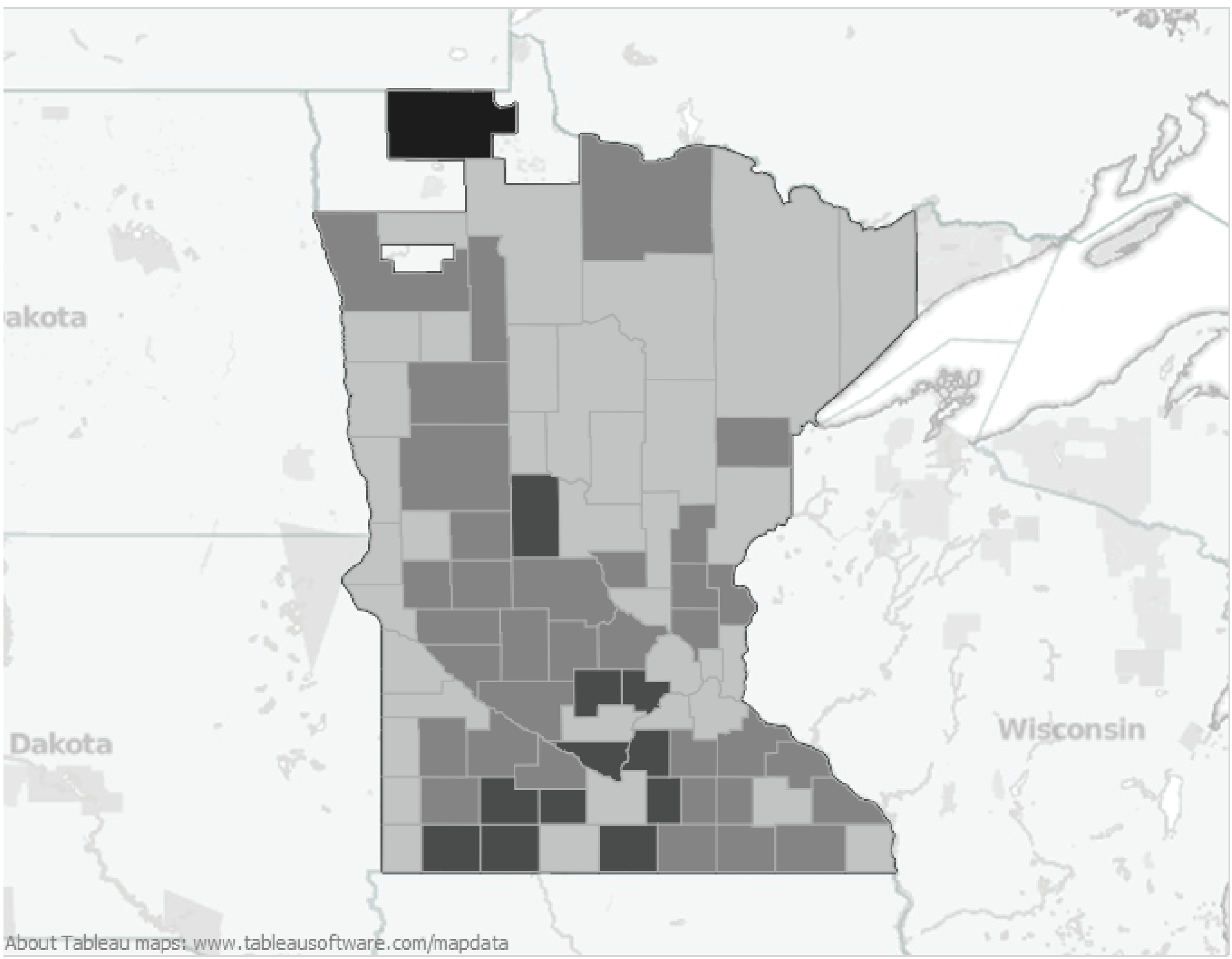
Manufacturing Employment by Minnesota County, Second Quarter 2013

Manufacturing accounted for 307,015 jobs in Minnesota during the second quarter of 2013, or 11.3 percent of total jobs statewide.

Over half of all private jobs in Roseau County (58.8 percent) were in the manufacturing industry.

So were one in every three private jobs in:

- Watonwan County (36.3 percent)
- Waseca County (35.7 percent)
- Nicollet County (35.5 percent)
- Jackson County (34.5 percent)
- Le Sueur County (34.4 percent)
- Todd County (33.1 percent)



Manufacturing as a Percent of Total Employment, 2Q 2013

1.2% — 58.8%

by Rachel Vilsack

Labor Force Estimates

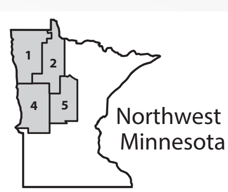
Numbers are unadjusted unless otherwise labeled.
Source: Department of Employment and Economic Development, Local Area Unemployment Statistics, and North Dakota Job Service, 2014.

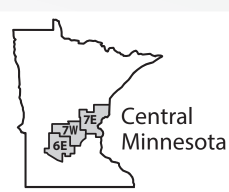
County/ Area	Labor Force			Employment			Unemployment			Rate of Unemployment		
	Jan 2014	Dec 2013	Jan 2013	Jan 2014	Dec 2013	Jan 2013	Jan 2014	Dec 2013	Jan 2013	Jan 2014	Dec 2013	Jan 2013
United States ('000s)												
(Seasonally adjusted)	155,460	154,937	155,654	145,224	144,586	143,322	10,236	10,351	12,332	6.6%	6.7%	7.9%
(Unadjusted)	154,381	154,408	154,794	143,526	144,423	141,614	10,855	9,984	13,181	7.0	6.5	8.5
Minnesota												
(Seasonally adjusted)	2,985,354	2,975,170	2,984,421	2,843,982	2,835,183	2,819,298	141,372	139,987	165,123	4.7	4.7	5.5
(Unadjusted)	2,967,165	2,965,891	2,963,630	2,799,650	2,828,014	2,768,028	167,515	137,877	195,602	5.6	4.6	6.6
Metropolitan Statistical Areas (MSA)*												
Mpls.-St. Paul MSA	1,865,598	1,870,263	1,861,907	1,770,810	1,790,025	1,749,650	94,788	80,238	112,257	5.1	4.3	6.0
Duluth-Superior MSA	146,306	144,340	143,277	136,303	135,795	131,783	10,003	8,545	11,494	6.8	5.9	8.0
Rochester MSA	105,493	103,879	104,936	100,390	99,909	99,200	5,103	3,970	5,736	4.8	3.8	5.5
St. Cloud MSA	109,422	108,181	108,403	102,794	102,976	100,601	6,628	5,205	7,802	6.1	4.8	7.2
Mankato-N Mankato MSA	59,215	57,578	58,414	56,622	55,523	55,188	2,593	2,055	3,226	4.4	3.6	5.5
Fargo-Moorhead MSA	121,304	120,108	120,453	116,918	115,802	115,625	4,386	4,306	4,828	3.6	3.6	4.0
Grand Forks MSA	54,372	54,118	54,374	52,067	51,805	51,893	2,305	2,313	2,481	4.2	4.3	4.6
Region One	**51,325**	**51,098**	**51,434**	**47,752**	**48,540**	**47,262**	**3,573**	**2,558**	**4,172**	**7.0**	**5.0**	**8.1**
Kittson	2,640	2,680	2,772	2,478	2,567	2,531	162	113	241	6.1	4.2	8.7
Marshall	5,662	5,458	5,567	5,077	5,033	4,893	585	425	674	10.3	7.8	12.1
Norman	3,511	3,660	3,640	3,285	3,474	3,385	226	186	255	6.4	5.1	7.0
Pennington	9,647	9,394	9,508	8,857	8,885	8,585	790	509	923	8.2	5.4	9.7
Polk	18,265	18,681	18,379	17,201	17,819	17,219	1,064	862	1,160	5.8	4.6	6.3
Red Lake	2,345	2,362	2,453	2,109	2,242	2,183	236	120	270	10.1	5.1	11.0
Roseau	9,255	8,863	9,115	8,745	8,520	8,466	510	343	649	5.5	3.9	7.1
Region Two	**40,794**	**39,546**	**40,407**	**37,091**	**36,611**	**36,326**	**3,703**	**2,935**	**4,081**	**9.1**	**7.4**	**10.1**
Beltrami	22,381	21,772	22,148	20,616	20,338	20,181	1,765	1,434	1,967	7.9	6.6	8.9
Clearwater	4,518	4,142	4,366	3,790	3,634	3,605	728	508	761	16.1	12.3	17.4
Hubbard	8,993	8,897	8,998	8,084	8,176	7,986	909	721	1,012	10.1	8.1	11.2
Lake of the Woods	2,461	2,308	2,416	2,335	2,173	2,265	126	135	151	5.1	5.8	6.3
Mahnomen	2,441	2,427	2,479	2,266	2,290	2,289	175	137	190	7.2	5.6	7.7
Region Three	**168,253**	**166,993**	**166,897**	**155,760**	**156,418**	**152,795**	**12,493**	**10,575**	**14,102**	**7.4**	**6.3**	**8.4**
Aitkin	7,106	7,170	7,135	6,427	6,626	6,413	679	544	722	9.6	7.6	10.1
Carlton	18,004	17,722	17,716	16,680	16,637	16,184	1,324	1,085	1,532	7.4	6.1	8.6
Cook	3,057	2,958	2,990	2,808	2,767	2,735	249	191	255	8.1	6.5	8.5
Itasca	22,449	23,059	23,498	20,474	21,431	21,323	1,975	1,628	2,175	8.8	7.1	9.3
Koochiching	6,467	6,554	6,497	5,791	5,936	5,828	676	618	669	10.5	9.4	10.3
Lake	6,027	6,000	6,099	5,646	5,670	5,616	381	330	483	6.3	5.5	7.9
St. Louis	105,143	103,530	102,962	97,934	97,351	94,696	7,209	6,179	8,266	6.9	6.0	8.0
City of Duluth	45,928	45,285	45,081	43,230	43,018	41,845	2,698	2,267	3,236	5.9	5.0	7.2
Balance of St. Louis County	59,215	58,245	57,881	54,704	54,333	52,851	4,511	3,912	5,030	7.6	6.7	8.7
Region Four	**124,783**	**125,478**	**125,510**	**117,588**	**119,735**	**117,126**	**7,195**	**5,743**	**8,384**	**5.8**	**4.6**	**6.7**
Becker	17,676	17,507	17,675	16,407	16,487	16,224	1,269	1,020	1,451	7.2	5.8	8.2
Clay	34,848	35,479	35,115	33,206	34,169	33,165	1,642	1,310	1,950	4.7	3.7	5.6
Douglas	20,593	20,512	20,679	19,542	19,655	19,421	1,051	857	1,258	5.1	4.2	6.1
Grant	3,185	3,260	3,300	2,920	3,076	2,987	265	184	313	8.3	5.6	9.5
Otter Tail	30,256	30,130	30,179	28,156	28,465	27,749	2,100	1,665	2,430	6.9	5.5	8.1
Pope	6,476	6,520	6,571	6,135	6,237	6,227	341	283	344	5.3	4.3	5.2
Stevens	6,199	6,559	6,533	5,932	6,356	6,228	267	203	305	4.3	3.1	4.7
Traverse	1,712	1,657	1,685	1,616	1,580	1,573	96	77	112	5.6	4.6	6.6
Wilkin	3,838	3,854	3,773	3,674	3,710	3,552	164	144	221	4.3	3.7	5.9
Region Five	**81,568**	**80,514**	**81,257**	**74,224**	**74,441**	**72,985**	**7,344**	**6,073**	**8,272**	**9.0**	**7.5**	**10.2**
Cass	13,550	13,255	13,354	12,119	12,041	11,755	1,431	1,214	1,599	10.6	9.2	12.0
Crow Wing	31,973	31,309	31,407	29,206	28,929	28,244	2,767	2,380	3,163	8.7	7.6	10.1
Morrison	17,417	17,306	17,666	15,761	15,994	15,794	1,656	1,312	1,872	9.5	7.6	10.6
Todd	12,458	12,410	12,482	11,555	11,676	11,480	903	734	1,002	7.2	5.9	8.0
Wadena	6,170	6,234	6,348	5,583	5,801	5,712	587	433	636	9.5	6.9	10.0
Region Six East	**65,803**	**63,124**	**63,803**	**61,473**	**59,779**	**58,785**	**4,330**	**3,345**	**5,018**	**6.6**	**5.3**	**7.9**
Kandiyohi	24,660	23,823	23,971	23,143	22,681	22,357	1,517	1,142	1,614	6.2	4.8	6.7
McLeod	19,506	18,802	19,196	18,212	17,799	17,581	1,294	1,003	1,615	6.6	5.3	8.4
Meeker	12,554	12,322	12,468	11,671	11,620	11,405	883	702	1,063	7.0	5.7	8.5
Renville	9,083	8,177	8,168	8,447	7,679	7,442	636	498	726	7.0	6.1	8.9

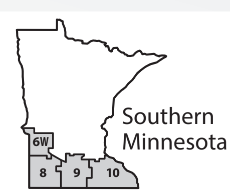
*Minneapolis-St. Paul Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA) now includes Sherburne County in Minnesota and Pierce County in Wisconsin. St. Cloud MSA is now comprised of Benton and Stearns counties.

Numbers are unadjusted unless otherwise labeled.
Source: Department of Employment and Economic Development, Local Area Unemployment Statistics, and North Dakota Job Service, 2014.

County/ Area	Labor Force			Employment			Unemployment			Rate of Unemployment		
	Jan 2014	Dec 2013	Jan 2013	Jan 2014	Dec 2013	Jan 2013	Jan 2014	Dec 2013	Jan 2013	Jan 2014	Dec 2013	Jan 2013
Region Six West	**24,494**	**24,984**	**25,551**	**22,824**	**23,799**	**23,667**	**1,670**	**1,185**	**1,884**	**6.8%**	**4.7%**	**7.4%**
Big Stone	2,615	2,797	2,883	2,432	2,664	2,669	183	133	214	7.0	4.8	7.4
Chippewa	7,194	7,337	7,562	6,683	7,007	6,964	511	330	598	7.1	4.5	7.9
Lac Qui Parle	4,056	4,130	4,202	3,770	3,933	3,937	286	197	265	7.1	4.8	6.3
Swift	5,089	5,077	5,193	4,732	4,810	4,772	357	267	421	7.0	5.3	8.1
Yellow Medicine	5,540	5,643	5,711	5,207	5,385	5,325	333	258	386	6.0	4.6	6.8
Region Seven East	**84,580**	**84,932**	**86,093**	**77,200**	**79,031**	**77,511**	**7,380**	**5,901**	**8,582**	**8.7**	**6.9**	**10.0**
Chisago	28,663	29,074	29,146	26,534	27,339	26,737	2,129	1,735	2,409	7.4	6.0	8.3
Isanti	20,933	21,003	21,293	19,365	19,799	19,363	1,568	1,204	1,930	7.5	5.7	9.1
Kanabec	8,164	8,016	8,322	7,172	7,223	7,180	992	793	1,142	12.2	9.9	13.7
Mille Lacs	12,391	12,512	12,758	11,062	11,434	11,300	1,329	1,078	1,458	10.7	8.6	11.4
Pine	14,429	14,327	14,574	13,067	13,236	12,931	1,362	1,091	1,643	9.4	7.6	11.3
Region Seven West	**229,671**	**228,591**	**229,532**	**214,957**	**216,999**	**212,116**	**14,714**	**11,592**	**17,416**	**6.4**	**5.1**	**7.6**
Benton	22,861	22,451	22,577	21,214	21,197	20,708	1,647	1,254	1,869	7.2	5.6	8.3
Sherburne	49,893	50,055	50,369	46,373	47,296	46,256	3,520	2,759	4,113	7.1	5.5	8.2
Stearns	86,561	85,730	85,826	81,580	81,779	79,893	4,981	3,951	5,933	5.8	4.6	6.9
Wright	70,356	70,355	70,760	65,790	66,727	65,259	4,566	3,628	5,501	6.5	5.2	7.8
Region Eight	**68,038**	**68,749**	**68,878**	**64,507**	**66,086**	**64,857**	**3,531**	**2,663**	**4,021**	**5.2**	**3.9**	**5.8**
Cottonwood	6,382	6,499	6,391	6,072	6,250	6,014	310	249	377	4.9	3.8	5.9
Jackson	7,486	7,221	7,405	7,195	6,995	7,084	291	226	321	3.9	3.1	4.3
Lincoln	3,393	3,541	3,557	3,189	3,405	3,333	204	136	224	6.0	3.8	6.3
Lyon	14,809	14,871	14,830	14,013	14,253	13,943	796	618	887	5.4	4.2	6.0
Murray	5,756	5,969	5,871	5,384	5,713	5,464	372	256	407	6.5	4.3	6.9
Nobles	11,325	11,333	11,481	10,793	10,933	10,887	532	400	594	4.7	3.5	5.2
Pipestone	5,460	5,613	5,595	5,161	5,399	5,263	299	214	332	5.5	3.8	5.9
Redwood	7,882	8,335	8,400	7,359	7,926	7,768	523	409	632	6.6	4.9	7.5
Rock	5,545	5,367	5,348	5,341	5,212	5,101	204	155	247	3.7	2.9	4.6
Region Nine	**131,619**	**131,358**	**132,649**	**123,984**	**125,496**	**123,735**	**7,635**	**5,862**	**8,914**	**5.8**	**4.5**	**6.7**
Blue Earth	39,354	38,158	38,726	37,592	36,769	36,547	1,762	1,389	2,179	4.5	3.6	5.6
Brown	15,324	14,986	15,090	14,354	14,297	13,931	970	689	1,159	6.3	4.6	7.7
Faribault	7,259	7,468	7,578	6,706	7,073	7,034	553	395	544	7.6	5.3	7.2
Le Sueur	15,061	14,461	14,579	13,767	13,440	13,160	1,294	1,021	1,419	8.6	7.1	9.7
Martin	10,444	10,982	10,966	9,813	10,504	10,252	631	478	714	6.0	4.4	6.5
Nicollet	19,861	19,420	19,688	19,030	18,754	18,641	831	666	1,047	4.2	3.4	5.3
Sibley	9,180	10,296	10,284	8,614	9,865	9,621	566	431	663	6.2	4.2	6.4
Waseca	9,573	10,028	10,179	8,942	9,525	9,424	631	503	755	6.6	5.0	7.4
Watonwan	5,563	5,559	5,559	5,166	5,269	5,125	397	290	434	7.1	5.2	7.8
Region Ten	**272,489**	**271,020**	**273,006**	**257,812**	**259,452**	**256,142**	**14,677**	**11,568**	**16,864**	**5.4**	**4.3**	**6.2**
Dodge	11,332	11,159	11,314	10,603	10,624	10,548	729	535	766	6.4	4.8	6.8
Fillmore	11,137	11,160	11,302	10,424	10,639	10,521	713	521	781	6.4	4.7	6.9
Freeborn	16,130	15,988	16,111	15,168	15,211	15,029	962	777	1,082	6.0	4.9	6.7
Goodhue	25,596	25,742	25,906	24,134	24,563	24,213	1,462	1,179	1,693	5.7	4.6	6.5
Houston	10,735	10,763	10,626	9,905	10,151	9,745	830	612	881	7.7	5.7	8.3
Mower	21,155	21,060	21,168	20,129	20,243	19,966	1,026	817	1,202	4.8	3.9	5.7
Olmsted	82,327	80,993	81,719	78,613	78,031	77,477	3,714	2,962	4,242	4.5	3.7	5.2
City of Rochester	60,139	59,094	59,558	57,384	56,881	56,478	2,755	2,213	3,080	4.6	3.7	5.2
Rice	32,175	32,138	32,248	30,176	30,521	29,824	1,999	1,617	2,424	6.2	5.0	7.5
Steele	21,152	21,077	21,324	20,074	20,204	19,973	1,078	873	1,351	5.1	4.1	6.3
Wabasha	11,834	11,727	11,903	11,174	11,254	11,175	660	473	728	5.6	4.0	6.1
Winona	28,916	29,213	29,385	27,412	28,011	27,671	1,504	1,202	1,714	5.2	4.1	5.8
Region Eleven	**1,623,749**	**1,626,970**	**1,618,611**	**1,544,479**	**1,559,019**	**1,524,722**	**79,270**	**67,951**	**93,889**	**4.9**	**4.2**	**5.8**
Anoka	190,763	191,042	190,796	180,309	182,387	178,375	10,454	8,655	12,421	5.5	4.5	6.5
Carver	51,458	51,544	51,309	48,818	49,297	48,212	2,640	2,247	3,097	5.1	4.4	6.0
Dakota	232,460	233,584	232,323	220,955	223,981	219,054	11,505	9,603	13,269	4.9	4.1	5.7
Hennepin	663,975	665,056	660,340	633,354	638,132	624,093	30,621	26,924	36,247	4.6	4.0	5.5
City of Bloomington	48,972	48,581	48,267	46,690	46,604	45,578	2,282	1,977	2,689	4.7	4.1	5.6
City of Minneapolis	216,895	217,300	215,802	206,335	208,040	203,463	10,560	9,260	12,339	4.9	4.3	5.7
Ramsey	274,595	275,612	274,482	260,925	263,731	257,929	13,670	11,881	16,553	5.0	4.3	6.0
City of St. Paul	146,642	147,385	146,997	138,832	140,696	137,600	7,810	6,689	9,397	5.3	4.5	6.4
Scott	134,262	134,473	133,926	127,797	129,037	126,199	6,465	5,436	7,727	4.8	4.0	5.8
Washington	76,236	75,659	75,435	72,321	72,454	70,860	3,915	3,205	4,575	5.1	4.2	6.1







Industrial Analysis

Monthly analysis is based on ***seasonally adjusted*** employment data; yearly analysis is based on ***unadjusted*** employment data.*

Overview

Employment growth was relatively flat in January, adding just 800 jobs, an increase of less than 1 percent. The December 2013 change was revised upward from an increase of 9,500 to an increase of 11,900 over November levels (0.4 percent). Private employment increased by 2,600 for the month, while Government employers shed 1,800 jobs (0.4 percent). Goods-Producing industries saw a gain of 1,400 jobs (0.3 percent), led by a 2,300 job increase in Manufacturing (0.7 percent). Those gains more than counterbalanced the effects of the loss of 600 jobs from Service Providers, their first such decline since July. The biggest losses of the month came in Trade, Transportation, and Utilities, which dropped 2,100 jobs in January (0.4 percent). Over the year, overall employment grew 51,881 before the seasonal adjustment, a 1.9 percent increase. Goods-Producers led the way with 14,579 jobs added (3.7 percent).

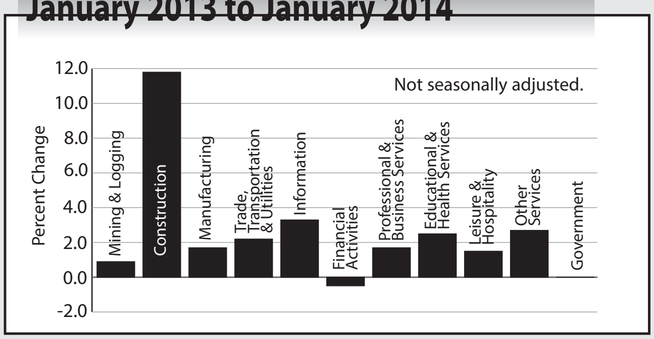
Mining and Logging

Employment in Mining and Logging was unchanged in January, remaining at 7,000 jobs. Employment has remainied flat for some time, as the most recent instance of employment varying by more than 200 from the current level was in September 2011, when employment dropped to 6,700 jobs. Mining and Logging gained 57 jobs (0.9 percent) in the past 12 months.

Construction

Construction employment was off by 900 (0.8 percent) in January, bringing the total employment to 105,300. This was the industry's first loss since November 2012. Over the year, Constructionj employment has grown by 9,458 (11.8 percent).

MN Employment Growth
January 2013 to January 2014



Source: Department of Employment and Economic Development, Current Employment Statistics, 2014.

Manufacturing

Employment in Manufacturing increased 2,300 (0.7 percent) over the month. This marks the sixth month in a row that employment has held steady or increased. Strong months from both Durable and Non-Durable goods Manufacturing contributed to the improvement. Durable Goods Manufacturing grew by 1,300 (0.7 percent) and Non-Durable added 1,000 jobs (0.9 percent). Manufacturing employment is now up 5,064 (1.7 percent) over the past 12 months.

Trade, Transportation , and Utilities

Employment in Trade, Transportation, and Utilities continued its recent history of fluctuation, dropping by 2,100 (0.4 percent) in January, after seeing gains of 4,200 in December. The industry's recent pattern has been to follow its monthly gains by giving a portion of those jobs back in alternating months, starting in August 2013. January's losses come entirely from the Retail Trade subsector, which lost 3,200 jobs (1.1 percent), overcoming smaller gains in Wholesale Trade (900, 0.7 percent) and Transportation, Warehousing and Utilities (200, 0.2 percent). The industry is up 11,283 jobs (2.2 percent) since January 2013, with gains of at least 1.9 percent in all three major subsectors.

Information

Employment in Information saw a sharp decline in January, falling by 800 (1.4 percent) to settle at a seasonally adjusted 54,400 jobs. December's loss of 100 (0.2) percent has been adjusted up to a gain of 300. Over the year, employment in the Information supersector has increased by 1,739 (3.3 percent).

Financial Activities

Financial Activities employment decreased by 1,500 (0.8 percent) in January, bringing the total employment level in the supersector to 180,200. The drop originated in declines in both major industries, as Finance and Insurance shed 800 jobs (0.6 percent) and Real Estate and Rental and Leasing lost 700 jobs (1.7 percent). Over the year, Financial Activities has lost 114 jobs, a 0.1 percent decrease, which represents the first month of losses for the industry since December 2011. Finance and Insurance has lost 731 jobs (0.5 percent) since January 2013.

*Over-the-year data are not seasonally adjusted because of small changes in seasonal adjustment factors from year to year. Also, there is no seasonality in over-the-year changes.

Professional and Business Services

Employment in Professional and Business Services grew by 300 (0.1 percent) in January, for a seasonally adjusted total of 347,000 jobs, following small gains in two of the three component industries. Management of Companies and Enterprises added 500 jobs (0.6 percent), and Administrative and Support and Waste Management and Remediation Services added 200 jobs (0.1 percent). Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services lost 400 jobs (0.3 percent), marking the fourth consecutive month of job losses. Over the year, the supersector has gained 5,676 jobs, a 1.7 percent increase.

Educational and Health Services

Employment in Educational and Health Services increased 2,000 (0.4 percent) in January, marking the sixth straight month of job growth in the supersector. The monthly gains come from a boost in Education Services employment, up 2,300 (3.4 percent) for the month, which more than made up for the loss of 300 (0.1 percent) in the other major component industry, Health Care and Social Assistance, which has been one of our strongest industries recently. The decline marks the first monthly job loss in the subsector since July 2011, following an upward revision of December's level from a loss of 0.2 percent to essentially flat. Since January 2013, Educational and Health Services has added more than 12,101 jobs, a 2.5 percent increase on the year.

Leisure and Hospitality

Leisure and Hospitality started out the year strong with a jump of 2,800 jobs (1.1 percent) in January. There was strong growth in both major component industries, as Accommodation and Food Services added 1,500 (0.7 percent) and Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation added a seasonally adjusted 1,300 jobs (3.2 percent), the fastest growth of any major subsector. Over the past year, Leisure and Hospitality employment has added 3,413 jobs (1.5 percent).

Other Services

Other Services continued slowly adding jobs in January, increasing its total by 500 (0.4 percent) to 119,300. This is the third straight month of growth for the supersector. Since last year, Other Services has added 3,077 jobs, or 2.7 percent.

Government

Government employment dropped in January, losing 1,800 jobs (0.1 percent), the most job losses in this supersector in six months and settled in at 414,800, seasonally adjusted jobs. A gain of 1,000 (0.4 percent) in Local Government was not enough to overcome the declines of 300 jobs (1.0 percent) in Federal Government and 2,500 (2.5 percent) in State Government. Despite these losses, Government is still holding on to some minor yearly gains, up only 127 (less than one percent) over the last 12 months.

by Nick Dobbins

Seasonally Adjusted Nonfarm Employment

In 1,000's

Industry	January 2014	December 2013	November 2013
Total Nonagricultural	**2,812.5**	**2,811.7**	**2,799.8**
Goods-Producing	**425.7**	**424.3**	**422.3**
Mining and Logging	7.0	7.0	7.1
Construction	105.3	106.2	105.1
Manufacturing	313.4	311.1	310.1
Service-Providing	**2,386.8**	**2,387.4**	**2,377.5**
Trade, Transportation, and Utilities	516.1	518.2	514.0
Information	54.4	55.2	54.9
Financial Activities	180.2	181.7	181.3
Professional and Business Services	347.0	346.7	344.9
Educational and Health Services	499.9	497.9	497.5
Leisure and Hospitality	255.1	252.3	251.8
Other Services	119.3	118.8	118.5
Government	414.8	416.6	414.6

Source: Department of Employment and Economic Development Current Employment Statistics, 2014.

Regional Analysis

Monthly analysis is based on ***unadjusted*** employment data.

Minneapolis-St. Paul-Bloomington Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA)

Employment in the Minneapolis-St. Paul-Bloomington MSA fell by 39,201 (2.2 percent) in January and was up by 26,532 (1.5 percent) over the past year. Private employment was off 33,845 (1.6 percent) for the month, and Government employment was down 5,356 (2.2 percent), although both were still up for the year, by 24,580 (1.6 percent) and 1,952 (0.8 percent) respectively. Losses were shared across the board, as both Goods Producing and Service-Providing employment was down by more than two percent, and every supersector showed declines for the month. Among the biggest January job losers were Mining, Logging, and Construction, off 5,148 (8.6 percent) and Professional and Business Services, down 7,902 (2.9 percent). Trade, Transportation, and Utilities fell the farthest, down 10,310 (3.1 percent), with the lion's share of the decline coming from a post-holiday loss of 8,462 jobs in Retail Trade. Over the year, every major industry group was either up or basically flat, save minor declines in Information (off 112, or 0.3 percent) and Financial Activities (558, 0.4 percent). Education and Health Services has been among the strongest industry groups since 2013, up 10,440 (3.6 percent) in the last 12 months.

Duluth -Superior MSA

Employment dropped 4,823 (3.6 percent) over the month but remains up over the year, adding 1,274 (1.0 percent) since January 2013. As was the case with statewide employment, losses were spread across the economy, with every major industry group either down or flat. Private sector employment was down 3,111 (2.9 percent) with large losses in Trade, Transportation, and Utilities (1,282, 5.1 percent) and Mining, Logging, and Construction (805, 9.6 percent). Government employment shrank at all three levels (Federal, State, and Local) with a total decline of 1,712, or 6.3 percent. Government employment was also slightly down over the year, losing 92 jobs (0.4 percent), but total Private employment was up 1,366 (1.3 percent) led by increases in Leisure and Hospitality (926 jobs or 7.4 percent) and Education and Health Services (542, 1.8 percent).

Rochester MSA

Employment was down in January as the metro area lost 1,221 jobs (1.1 percent). Losses were spread fairly evenly, as Information employment, which was basically flat (up 6 or 0.3 percent) was the only major industry group not to lose jobs. Among the biggest job-shedders were Trade, Transportation, and Utilities (down 492 jobs or 2.9 percent); Mining, Logging, and Construction (344 or 10.2 percent), and Professional and Business Services (246 or 4.4 percent). On the year, Rochester employment was up only slightly (364 jobs, 0.3 percent) from January 2013. This small growth was stifled by a slight decline in Manufacturing (down 590 or 5.7 percent) and Education and Health Services (788 or 1.8 percent).

St. Cloud MSA

Employment maintained a similar pattern to the rest of the state and declined sharply, 3,012 (2.9 percent) for the month of January. Private Sector employment was off 2,303 (2.6 percent) with declines on both the Goods-Producing and Service-Providing sides contributing to the decline, with large losses coming from Trade, Transportation, and Utilities following the holiday season. Government employment also declined sharply, losing 709 (4.4 percent) in January. In the last 12 months, employment in the St. Cloud metro has increased 1,744 (1.7 percent), with Private Sector gains of 2,200 (2.6 percent) outweighing a decline in Government employment of 456 (2.9 percent).

Mankato-North Mankato MSA

Employment fell 1,104 (2.0 percent) in January, settling in at 54,977. Private Sector losses were split between Goods-Producing and Service-Providing industries, with the former losing 221 (2.2 percent) and the latter down 883 (1.9 percent). Government employment was also off slightly, down 57 (0.6 percent) for the month. Since January 2013, employment is up 1,350 (2.5 percent) in the area, with the private sector (up 1,537 jobs, or 3.5 percent) overcoming a loss of 187 Government jobs (2.1 percent) for the year.

Fargo-Moorhead MSA

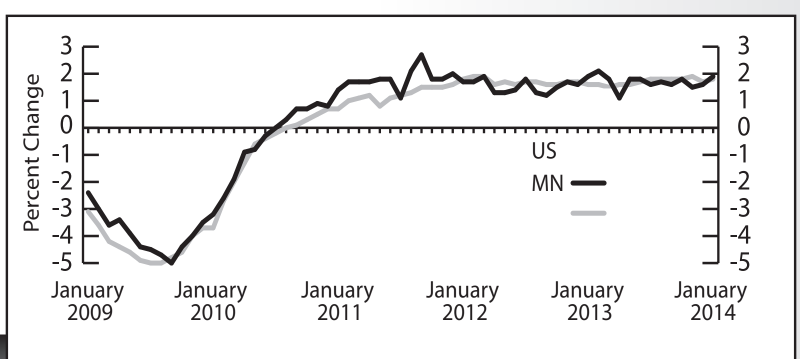
Employment fell 3,649 (2.7 percent), largely behind January losses in Trade, Transportation, and Utilities, down 1,165 (3.88 percent) thanks primarily to a loss of 964 jobs in Retail Trade. Other industry groups among the biggest job losers were Education and Health Services, down 646 (3 percent) and Leisure and Hospitality, down 577 (4.4 percent). For the year, employment in the Fargo-Moorhead metro is up 3,278 (2.6 percent), with gains in every supersector save Leisure and Hospitality, which is down 345 (3 percent) since January 2013.

Grand Forks-East Grand Forks MSA

Employment dipped 1,352 (2.4 percent) to a January total of 56,097. Losses were led by a drop in Trade, Transportation, and Utilities employment, down 601 (4.7 percent). Smaller losses were spread throughout the major industry groups, with no supersectors showing monthly gains. In the last 12 months, employment in the metro is up 541 (1 percent) with the only losses in Professional and Business Services (down 198, or 6.8 percent) and Government (down 107, 0.7 percent).

by Nick Dobbins

Source: Department of Employment and Economic Development, Current Employment Statistics, 2014; Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor, Current Employment Statistics, 2014.



Total Nonfarm Jobs
U.S. and MN over-the-year percent change

Employer Survey of Minnesota Nonfarm Payroll Jobs, Hours and Earnings

Numbers are unadjusted.

Note: State, regional and local estimates from past months (for all tables pages 11-13) may be revised from figures previously published.

Industry	Jobs* (Thousands) Jan 2014	Dec 2013	Jan 2013	Percent Change From** Dec 2013	Jan 2013	Production Workers Hours and Earnings: Average Weekly Earnings Jan 2014	Jan 2013	Average Weekly Hours Jan 2014	Jan 2013	Average Hourly Earnings Jan 2014	Jan 2013
TOTAL NONFARM WAGE AND SALARY	**2,755.0**	**2,809.2**	**2,702.9**	**-1.9%**	**1.9%**	—	—	—	—	—	—
GOODS-PRODUCING	**404.6**	**415.6**	**390.0**	**-2.6**	**3.7**	—	—	—	—	—	—
Mining and Logging	**6.7**	**6.7**	**6.6**	**-0.1**	**0.9**	—	—	—	—	—	—
Construction	**89.9**	**99.0**	**80.5**	**-9.2**	**11.8**	—	—	—	—	—	—
Specialty Trade Contractors	59.5	63.4	51.9	-6.1	14.6	$ 1,186.19	$1,178.85	38.5	39.4	$ 30.81	$ 29.92
Manufacturing	**307.9**	**309.8**	**302.9**	**-0.6**	**1.7**	**817.33**	**790.69**	**41.3**	**40.3**	**19.79**	**19.62**
Durable Goods	195.9	196.7	192.3	-0.4	1.9	809.41	796.38	40.9	39.7	19.79	20.06
Wood Product Manufacturing	10.2	10.6	10.0	-3.8	2.0	—	—	—	—	—	—
Fabricated Metal Production	42.3	42.4	41.1	-0.2	2.8	—	—	—	—	—	—
Machinery Manufacturing	32.0	32.1	32.2	-0.4	-0.7	—	—	—	—	—	—
Computer and Electronic Product	44.5	44.8	44.9	-0.7	-0.7	—	—	—	—	—	—
Navigational, Measuring, Electromedical and Control	24.5	24.6	24.7	-0.2	-0.5	—	—	—	—	—	—
Transportation Equipment	11.2	11.3	10.7	-1.5	4.1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Medical Equipment and Supplies Manufacturing	15.2	15.3	15.4	-0.3	-1.3	—	—	—	—	—	—
Nondurable Goods	112.0	113.1	110.6	-0.9	1.3	829.20	780.08	41.9	41.1	19.79	18.98
Food Manufacturing	45.6	46.3	44.1	-1.6	3.4	—	—	—	—	—	—
Paper Manufacturing	32.5	32.9	33.6	-1.3	-3.2	—	—	—	—	—	—
Printing and Related	23.3	23.6	23.6	-1.5	-1.4	—	—	—	—	—	—
SERVICE-PROVIDING	**2,350.1**	**2,393.6**	**2,312.8**	**-1.8**	**1.6**	—	—	—	—	—	—
Trade, Transportation, and Utilities	**513.5**	**527.8**	**502.2**	**-2.7**	**2.2**	—	—	—	—	—	—
Wholesale Trade	131.2	131.6	127.9	-0.3	2.6	981.08	967.22	38.1	38.2	25.75	25.32
Retail Trade	288.2	300.6	282.0	-4.1	2.2	371.81	356.98	27.1	26.8	13.72	13.32
Motor Vehicle and Parts	31.9	32.2	30.7	-1.1	3.9	—	—	—	—	—	—
Building Material and Garden Equipment	23.9	24.9	23.0	-4.1	4.0	—	—	—	—	—	—
Food and Beverage Stores	51.3	52.4	50.2	-2.1	2.1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Gasoline Stations	23.2	23.6	22.9	-1.7	1.4	—	—	—	—	—	—
General Merchandise Stores	62.6	66.9	63.5	-6.4	-1.4	290.99	308.26	27.4	28.1	10.62	10.97
Transportation,Warehouse, Utilities	94.1	95.6	92.4	-1.6	1.9	—	—	—	—	—	—
Transportation and Warehousing	81.1	82.6	79.7	-1.8	1.7	625.61	684.82	36.1	38.8	17.33	17.65
Information	**54.9**	**55.6**	**53.1**	**-1.3**	**3.3**	**825.26**	**748.89**	**34.4**	**32.1**	**23.99**	**23.33**
Publishing Industries	21.1	21.2	21.1	-0.7	-0.4	—	—	—	—	—	—
Telecommunications	13.3	13.4	13.5	-0.5	-1.1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Financial Activities	**179.3**	**181.0**	**179.5**	**-0.9**	**-0.1**	—	—	—	—	—	—
Finance and Insurance	140.1	141.2	140.9	-0.7	-0.5	954.59	909.33	36.2	35.3	26.37	25.76
Credit Intermediation	54.5	55.3	54.7	-1.4	-0.3	758.03	702.08	36.2	34.5	20.94	20.35
Securities, Commodity Contracts, and Other	18.5	18.5	18.4	0.1	0.7	—	—	—	—	—	—
Insurance Carriers and Related	66.7	67.2	66.3	-0.8	0.5	—	—	—	—	—	—
Real Estate and Rental and Leasing	39.2	39.8	38.6	-1.5	1.6	—	—	—	—	—	—
Professional and Business Services	**338.9**	**347.6**	**333.2**	**-2.5**	**1.7**	—	—	—	—	—	—
Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services	135.2	135.4	133.3	-0.2	1.4	—	—	—	—	—	—
Legal Services	18.6	18.9	18.8	-1.5	-1.0	—	—	—	—	—	—
Accounting, Tax Preparation	16.6	14.7	16.0	12.9	3.6	—	—	—	—	—	—
Computer Systems Design	32.2	32.5	31.9	-1.0	0.8	—	—	—	—	—	—
Management of Companies and Enterprises	77.4	77.8	76.0	-0.4	1.9	—	—	—	—	—	—
Administrative and Support Services	126.3	134.4	123.9	-6.0	1.9	—	—	—	—	—	—
Educational and Health Services	**495.1**	**499.8**	**483.0**	**-0.9**	**2.5**	—	—	—	—	—	—
Educational Services	65.9	68.8	63.4	-4.2	3.8	—	—	—	—	—	—
Health Care and Social Assistance	429.2	431.0	419.6	-0.4	2.3	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ambulatory Health Care	139.6	139.6	134.7	0.0	3.6	1,189.90	1,091.88	34.4	34.1	34.59	32.02
Offices of Physicians	66.3	66.6	66.2	-0.3	0.2	—	—	—	—	—	—
Hospitals	104.9	105.3	103.7	-0.4	1.1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Nursing and Residential Care Facilities	105.2	106.3	104.3	-1.0	1.0	414.48	425.33	29.5	28.7	14.05	14.82
Social Assistance	79.4	79.8	76.8	-0.4	3.4	—	—	—	—	—	—
Leisure and Hospitality	**236.7**	**239.9**	**233.3**	**-1.3**	**1.5**	—	—	—	—	—	—
Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation	35.1	35.0	34.0	0.1	3.1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Accommodation and Food Services	201.7	204.9	199.3	-1.6	1.2	—	—	—	—	—	—
Food Services and Drinking Places	178.7	181.2	175.7	-1.4	1.7	232.16	209.72	20.1	19.6	11.55	10.7
Other Services	**118.0**	**119.4**	**115.0**	**-1.1**	**2.7**	—	—	—	—	—	—
Religious, Grantmaking, Civic, Professional Organizations	69.5	69.7	67.9	-0.4	2.3	—	—	—	—	—	—
Government	**413.6**	**422.6**	**413.5**	**-2.1**	**0.0**	—	—	—	—	—	—
Federal Government	31.1	31.3	31.3	-0.6	-0.7	—	—	—	—	—	—
State Government	96.5	102.5	98.0	-5.9	-1.5	—	—	—	—	—	—
State Government Education	58.9	64.9	61.3	-9.2	-3.9	—	—	—	—	—	—
Local Government	286.1	288.8	284.2	-0.9	0.6	—	—	—	—	—	—
Local Government Education	141.3	143.9	142.1	-1.8	-0.6	—	—	—	—	—	—

Note: Not all industry subgroups are shown for every major industry category.

* Totals may not add because of rounding.

** Percent change based on unrounded numbers.

Source: Department of Employment and Economic Development, Current Employment Statistics, 2014.

Employer Survey of Twin Cities Nonfarm Payroll Jobs, Hours and Earnings

Numbers are unadjusted.

Note: State, regional and local estimates from past months (for all tables pages 11-13) may be revised from figures previously published.

Industry	Jobs* (Thousands) Jan 2014	Dec 2013	Jan 2013	Percent Change From** Dec 2013	Jan 2013	Production Workers Hours and Earnings: Average Weekly Earnings Jan 2014	Jan 2013	Average Weekly Hours Jan 2014	Jan 2013	Average Hourly Earnings Jan 2014	Jan 2013
TOTAL NONFARM WAGE AND SALARY	**1,780.4**	**1,819.6**	**1,753.9**	**-2.2%**	**1.5%**	—	—	—	—	—	—
						—	—	—	—	—	—
GOODS-PRODUCING	**238.0**	**244.8**	**231.9**	**-2.8**	**2.6**	—	—	—	—	—	—
Mining, Logging, and Construction	**54.8**	**59.9**	**51.1**	**-8.6**	**7.1**	—	—	—	—	—	—
Construction of Buildings	13.7	14.6	12.4	-6.2	10.1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Specialty Trade Contractors	39.3	41.6	34.6	-5.6	13.6	$1,236.06	$1,322.72	37.8	41.7	$32.7	$31.72
Manufacturing	**183.2**	**184.8**	**180.8**	**-0.9**	**1.3**	**834.77**	**825.71**	**40.8**	**40.2**	**20.46**	**20.54**
Durable Goods	125.9	127.0	124.3	-0.9	1.3	855.74	842.17	41.3	39.8	20.72	21.16
Fabricated Metal Production	28.1	28.2	28.0	-0.4	0.4	—	—	—	—	—	—
Machinery Manufacturing	19.4	19.5	19.6	-0.6	-1.1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Computer and Electronic Product	35.1	35.5	35.3	-1.0	-0.5	—	—	—	—	—	—
Navigational, Measuring, Electromedical and Control	23.0	23.0	23.1	-0.3	-0.7	—	—	—	—	—	—
Medical Equipment and Supplies Manufacturing	14.1	14.1	14.2	-0.6	-1.0	—	—	—	—	—	—
Nondurable Goods	57.4	57.9	56.5	-0.9	1.5	794.41	793.87	39.8	40.9	19.96	19.41
Food Manufacturing	13.2	13.4	13.0	-1.2	1.8	—	—	—	—	—	—
Printing and Related	14.9	15.1	14.9	-1.3	-0.1	—	—	—	—	—	—
SERVICE-PROVIDING	**1,542.4**	**1,574.9**	**1,522.0**	**-2.1**	**1.3**	—	—	—	—	—	—
Trade, Transportation, and Utilities	**320.2**	**330.5**	**315.6**	**-3.1**	**1.4**	—	—	—	—	—	—
Wholesale Trade	81.7	82.2	80.6	-0.7	1.3	980.83	979.26	38.6	38	25.41	25.77
Merchant Wholesalers - Durable Goods	44.2	43.8	42.7	0.9	3.5	—	—	—	—	—	—
Merchant Wholesalers - Nondurable Goods	24.2	24.5	24.3	-1.0	-0.1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Retail Trade	176.2	184.6	173.3	-4.6	1.6	375.36	334.70	27.6	26.5	13.6	12.63
Food and Beverage Stores	29.4	30.1	28.7	-2.2	2.3	—	—	—	—	—	—
General Merchandise Stores	39.2	41.9	39.0	-6.4	0.5	301.61	318.99	28.4	29.4	10.62	10.85
Transportation, Warehouse, Utilities	62.4	63.7	61.7	-2.1	1.1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Utilities	7.6	7.6	7.5	-0.2	1.2	—	—	—	—	—	—
Transportation and Warehousing	54.8	56.1	54.2	-2.3	1.1	793.97	756.79	41.7	41.4	19.04	18.28
Information	**38.5**	**38.9**	**38.6**	**-1.1**	**-0.3**						
Publishing Industries	16.7	16.7	16.5	-0.3	1.2	—	—	—	—	—	—
Telecommunications	9.5	9.5	9.5	-0.2	0.1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Financial Activities	**140.5**	**141.7**	**141.0**	**-0.9**	**-0.4**	—	—	—	—	—	—
Finance and Insurance	108.5	109.3	109.4	-0.8	-0.8	1,099.99	1,040.35	36.9	35.8	29.81	29.06
Credit Intermediation	38.1	38.1	38.0	0.1	0.2	—	—	—	—	—	—
Securities, Commodity Contracts, and Other	16.4	16.4	16.4	-0.2	0.0	—	—	—	—	—	—
Insurance Carriers and Related	52.9	53.5	53.5	-1.2	-1.2	—	—	—	—	—	—
Real Estate and Rental and Leasing	32.0	32.4	31.6	-1.3	1.2	—	—	—	—	—	—
Professional and Business Services	**267.9**	**275.8**	**268.7**	**-2.9**	**-0.3**	—	—	—	—	—	—
Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services	106.4	107.6	106.0	-1.1	0.4	—	—	—	—	—	—
Legal Services	15.6	15.8	15.8	-1.3	-1.2	—	—	—	—	—	—
Architectural, Engineering, and Related	15.4	15.6	15.0	-1.6	2.6	—	—	—	—	—	—
Computer Systems Design	26.2	26.6	26.1	-1.5	0.3	—	—	—	—	—	—
Management of Companies and Enterprises	69.3	69.5	68.2	-0.3	1.6	—	—	—	—	—	—
Administrative and Support Services	92.2	98.7	94.5	-6.6	-2.4	—	—	—	—	—	—
Employment Services	45.2	49.4	46.3	-8.5	-2.4	—	—	—	—	—	—
Educational and Health Services	**299.9**	**304.5**	**289.4**	**-1.5**	**3.6**	—	—	—	—	—	—
Educational Services	41.0	45.5	41.2	-8.9	0.5	—	—	—	—	—	—
Health Care and Social Assistance	258.4	259.0	248.2	-0.2	4.1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ambulatory Health Care	84.5	85.2	80.1	-0.9	5.5	—	—	—	—	—	—
Hospitals	61.1	61.3	60.1	-0.3	1.8	—	—	—	—	—	—
Nursing and Residential Care Facilities	56.6	56.7	54.9	-0.1	3.1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Social Assistance	56.2	55.8	53.1	0.8	5.9	—	—	—	—	—	—
Leisure and Hospitality	**161.4**	**163.0**	**157.8**	**-1.0**	**2.3**	—	—	—	—	—	—
Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation	26.6	26.9	26.1	-1.3	2.0	—	—	—	—	—	—
Accommodation and Food Services	134.8	136.1	131.8	-0.9	2.3	267.13	242.52	21.7	21.5	12.31	11.28
Food Services and Drinking Places	122.2	123.0	119.4	-0.6	2.4	258.53	238.08	20.9	21.2	12.37	11.23
Other Services	**77.2**	**78.1**	**75.8**	**-1.2**	**1.8**	—	—	—	—	—	—
Repair and Maintenance	13.3	13.4	12.9	-0.9	3.3	—	—	—	—	—	—
Religious, Grantmaking, Civic, Professional Organizations	42.9	43.3	42.3	-0.8	1.5	—	—	—	—	—	—
Government	**236.9**	**242.3**	**235.0**	**-2.2**	**0.8**	—	—	—	—	—	—
Federal Government	20.0	20.2	20.1	-0.9	-0.7	—	—	—	—	—	—
State Government	64.8	68.8	64.1	-5.8	1.0						
State Government Education	39.5	43.5	39.5	-9.1	-0.1						
Local Government	152.1	153.3	150.7	-0.8	1.0						
Local Government Education	86.9	88.2	86.8	-1.5	0.1						

Note: Not all industry subgroups are shown for every major industry category.

* Totals may not add because of rounding.

** Percent change based on unrounded numbers.

Source: Department of Employment and Economic Development, Current Employment Statistics, 2010.

Employer Survey

Industry	Duluth-Superior MSA Jobs Jan 2014	Jobs Dec 2013	Jobs Jan 2013	% Chg. From Dec 2013	% Chg. From Jan 2013	Rochester MSA Jobs Jan 2014	Jobs Dec 2013	Jobs Jan 2013	% Chg. From Dec 2013	% Chg. From Jan 2013
TOTAL NONFARM WAGE AND SALARY	**129,426**	**134,249**	**128,152**	**-3.6%**	**1.0%**	**106,754**	**107,975**	**106,390**	**-1.1%**	**0.3%**
GOODS-PRODUCING	**14,722**	**15,642**	**14,846**	**-5.9**	**-0.8**	**12,690**	**13,072**	**13,132**	**-2.9**	**-3.4**
Mining, Logging, and Construction	7,561	8,366	7,663	-9.6	-1.3	3,014	3,358	2,866	-10.2	5.2
Manufacturing	7,161	7,276	7,183	-1.6	-0.3	9,676	9,714	10,266	-0.4	-5.7
SERVICE-PROVIDING	**114,704**	**118,607**	**113,306**	**-3.3**	**1.2**	**94,064**	**94,903**	**93,258**	**-0.9**	**0.9**
Trade, Transportation, and Utilities	24,020	25,302	24,051	-5.1	-0.1	16,736	17,228	16,138	-2.9	3.7
Wholesale Trade	3,047	3,071	3,190	-0.8	-4.5	2,255	2,278	2,232	-1.0	1.0
Retail Trade	15,268	16,140	15,024	-5.4	1.6	12,066	12,422	11,481	-2.9	5.1
Transportation, Warehouse, Utilities	5,705	6,091	5,837	-6.3	-2.3	2,415	2,528	2,425	-4.5	-0.4
Information	1,462	1,462	1,507	0.0	-3.0	1,743	1,737	1,628	0.3	7.1
Financial Activities	5,455	5,533	5,384	-1.4	1.3	2,583	2,616	2,488	-1.3	3.8
Professional and Business Services	7,336	7,597	7,503	-3.4	-2.2	5,299	5,545	5,156	-4.4	2.8
Educational and Health Services	31,163	31,370	30,621	-0.7	1.8	43,619	43,768	44,407	-0.3	-1.8
Leisure and Hospitality	13,368	13,637	12,442	-2.0	7.4	9,009	9,191	9,007	-2.0	0.0
Other Services	6,319	6,413	6,125	-1.5	3.2	3,775	3,798	3,596	-0.6	5.0
Government	25,581	27,293	25,673	-6.3	-0.4	11,300	11,020	10,838	2.5	4.3

Employer Survey

Industry	St. Cloud MSA Jobs Jan 2014	Jobs Dec 2013	Jobs Jan 2013	% Chg. From Dec 2013	% Chg. From Jan 2013	Mankato MSA Jobs Jan 2014	Jobs Dec 2013	Jobs Jan 2013	% Chg. From Dec 2013	% Chg. From Jan 2013
TOTAL NONFARM WAGE AND SALARY	**101,807**	**104,819**	**100,063**	**-2.9%**	**1.7%**	**54,477**	**55,581**	**53,127**	**-2.0**	**2.5%**
GOODS-PRODUCING	**18,766**	**19,447**	**18,677**	**-3.5**	**0.5**	**9,637**	**9,858**	**9,312**	**-2.2**	**3.5**
Mining, Logging, and Construction	4,208	4,705	4,092	-10.6	2.8	--	--	--	--	--
Manufacturing	14,558	14,742	14,585	-1.2	-0.2	--	--	--	--	--
						--	--	--	--	--
SERVICE-PROVIDING	**83,041**	**85,372**	**81,386**	**-2.7**	**2.0**	**44,840**	**45,723**	**43,815**	**-1.9**	**2.3**
Trade, Transportation, and Utilities	20,731	21,658	20,302	-4.3	2.1	--	--	--	--	--
Wholesale Trade	4,110	4,262	3,970	-3.6	3.5	--	--	--	--	--
Retail Trade	13,218	13,851	12,943	-4.6	2.1	--	--	--	--	--
Transportation, Warehouse, Utilities	3,403	3,545	3,389	-4.0	0.4	--	--	--	--	--
Information	1,675	1,701	1,679	-1.5	-0.2	--	--	--	--	--
Financial Activities	4,480	4,509	4,410	-0.6	1.6	--	--	--	--	--
Professional and Business Services	8,495	8,939	8,030	-5.0	5.8	--	--	--	--	--
Educational and Health Services	19,786	19,828	19,147	-0.2	3.3	--	--	--	--	--
Leisure and Hospitality	8,949	9,074	8,492	-1.4	5.4	--	--	--	--	--
Other Services	3,470	3,499	3,415	-0.8	1.6	--	--	--	--	--
Government	15,455	16,164	15,911	-4.4	-2.9	8,741	8,798	8,928	-0.6	-2.1

Employer Survey

Industry	Fargo-Moorhead MSA Jobs Jan 2014	Jobs Dec 2013	Jobs Jan 2013	% Chg. From Dec 2013	% Chg. From Jan 2013	Grand Forks-East Grand Forks MSA Jobs Jan 2014	Jobs Dec 2013	Jobs Jan 2013	% Chg. From Dec 2013	% Chg. From Jan 2013
TOTAL NONFARM WAGE AND SALARY	**131,237**	**134,886**	**127,959**	**-2.7%**	**2.6%**	**56,097**	**57,449**	**55,556**	**-2.4%**	**1.0%**
GOODS-PRODUCING	**17,298**	**17,992**	**16,293**	**-3.9**	**6.2**	**6,286**	**6,510**	**5,939**	**-3.4**	**5.8**
Mining, Logging, and Construction	7,375	7,807	6,492	-5.5	13.6	2,751	2,966	2,579	-7.3	6.7
Manufacturing	9,923	10,185	9,801	-2.6	1.2	3,535	3,544	3,360	-0.3	5.2
SERVICE-PROVIDING	**113,939**	**116,894**	**111,666**	**-2.5**	**2.0**	**49,811**	**50,939**	**49,617**	**-2.2**	**0.4**
Trade, Transportation, and Utilities	28,893	30,058	28,706	-3.9	0.7	12,258	12,859	12,076	-4.7	1.5
Wholesale Trade	8,973	9,064	8,589	-1.0	4.5	1,957	1,991	1,958	-1.7	-0.1
Retail Trade	15,110	16,074	15,406	-6.0	-1.9	8,296	8,751	8,102	-5.2	2.4
Transportation, Warehouse, Utilities	4,810	4,920	4,711	-2.2	2.1	2,005	2,117	2,016	-5.3	-0.6
Information	3,273	3,263	3,222	0.3	1.6	602	607	597	-0.8	0.8
Financial Activities	9,754	9,875	9,161	-1.2	6.5	1,725	1,743	1,678	-1.0	2.8
Professional and Business Services	15,311	15,345	15,013	-0.2	2.0	2,698	2,774	2,896	-2.7	-6.8
Educational and Health Services	21,134	21,780	20,145	-3.0	4.9	9,766	9,713	9,598	0.6	1.8
Leisure and Hospitality	12,468	13,045	12,813	-4.4	-2.7	6,153	6,361	6,093	-3.3	1.0
Other Services	5,121	5,214	4,996	-1.8	2.5	2,033	2,057	1,996	-1.2	1.9
Government	17,985	18,314	17,610	-1.8	2.1	14,576	14,825	14,683	-1.7	-0.7

Source: Department of Employment and Economic Development, Current Employment Statistics, and North Dakota Job Service, 2014.

Minnesota Economic Indicators

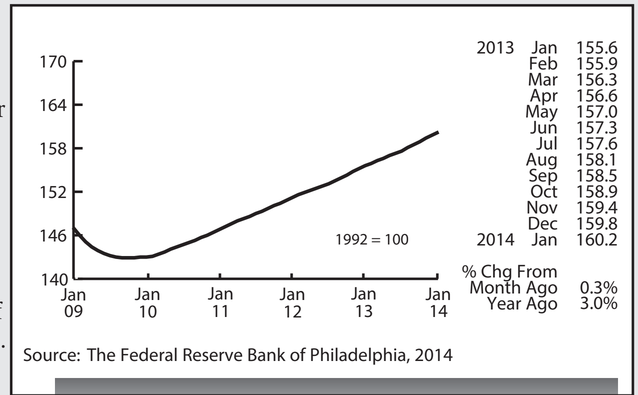
Highlights

The **Minnesota Index** advanced 0.3 percent for the sixth month in a row in January. The index, revised this month to incorporate the annual bench-marked employment data, was up 3.0 percent over the year. The slowdown the index was showing at the end of 2013 was erased by the revisions, as an-ticipated. The U.S. index increased 0.2 percent for the second straight month in January and was up 3.1 percent from a year ago.

Both of the indices bottomed out in October 2009 and have been gradually advancing since. The Minnesota index has increased 12.1 percent while the U.S. index has advanced 11.8 percent. That averages out to an annual gain of roughly 2.8 percent for both Minnesota and the U.S. Minnesota's index has averaged a 3.3 percent annual gain over the 35-year history of the index when recession months are excluded. The national index has averaged 2.9 percent annually over the same period when recession months are excluded.

Minnesota's adjusted **Wage and Salary Employment** barely changed in January, inching up 600 jobs. Private Sector employment increased 900 jobs while Public Sector employment dropped 300. Trade, Transportation, and Utilities cut the most jobs, laying off 3,200 workers. Financial Activities and Information also decreased their payroll by more than 1,000 jobs. Hiring was robust in Leisure and Hospitality, Manufacturing, and Educational and Health Services.

Revised job data shows that job growth, on an annual average basis, was 1.7 percent in 2013, up slightly from 1.6 percent in 2012. Employment growth in the state last year matched the U.S. rate. The state added 47,300 jobs in 2011, 42,100 in 2012, and 46,400 in 2013 when measured on an annual average basis. This is the strongest three-year span of job growth since 1998-2000. Jobs added between 1998-2000 averaged 61,600 per year compared to 45,400 over the last three years.



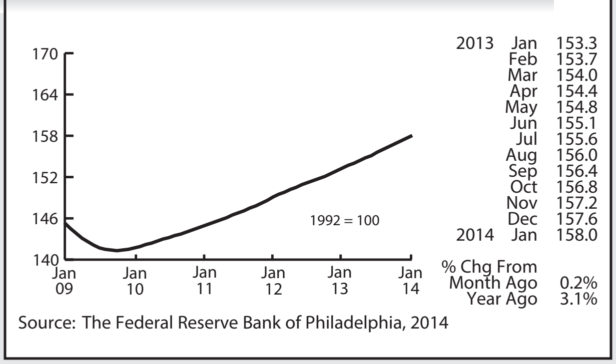
Minnesota Index

Minnesota's adjusted online **Help-Wanted Ads** plunged 11.6 percent in January but the decrease was from a revision in how the series is calculated rather than an actual fall off in ad levels. There is no reason to believe that the hiring pace has slowed. Soon-to-be-released Job Vacancy Survey numbers for the 4th quarter of 2013 show that labor demand continues to remain steady in Minnesota.

Minnesota's **Purchasing Managers' Index (PMI)** slipped slightly last month, dipping to 57.7. The reading suggests that Minnesota manufacturing activity will continue to expand at a moderate pace during the first half of 2014. Factories should continue to add workers as the employment component of the PMI continues to come in above 50.

Adjusted **Manufacturing Hours** climbed strongly for the second straight month in January jumping to 42.0 hours. The factory workweek hasn't been this long since March 2007. The robust workweek is another indicator that Minnesota's manufacturers are enjoying solid growth. **Manufacturing Earnings** dipped in January falling off to $828.18. Factory paychecks, however, continue to run ahead of last year's paychecks in real terms.

United States Index



The **Minnesota Leading Index**, which was recalibrated with revised employment data for 2013, stumbled in January tailing off to 1.43. This reading predicts that Minnesota's economy will grow by 1.4 percent over the next six months, which is a 2.8 percent annual pace. The index readings during the last half of 2013 were pointing toward a noticeable slowdown in early 2014. January's reading is now more nearly consistent with other indicators, pointing toward steady economic expansion during the first half of 2014.

Adjusted **Residential Building Permits** headed up for the third consecutive month starting the year with 1,417 permits in January. Minnesota's home-building recovery is headed into its fourth year after hitting bottom in 2009-10. The recovery, which has been bumpy, is expected to pick up some momentum in 2014 but will remain moderate compared to historical norms. Residential construction employment, which increased 8.7 percent last year, should have another strong year of job growth.

Adjusted **Initial Claims for Unemployment Benefits (UB)**, after surging in December, plunged in January to 19,229, the lowest monthly total since December 2000. January's level may be revised slightly upward when February numbers are released, but January's low level is a strong indicator that Minnesota's job growth will remain solid during the first half of 2014.

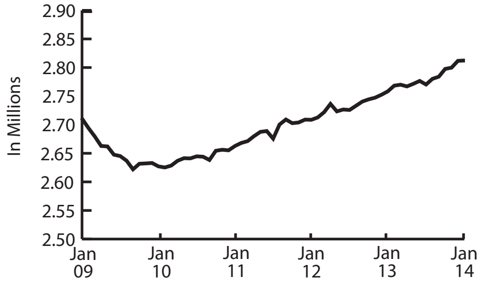
Job growth is likely to stay solid throughout the year, gradually pushing Minnesota's unemployment rate down. The improving job market is likely to encourage some of the state's discouraged workers back into the labor force, which will slow the decline in the unemployment rate.

by Dave Senf

Note: All data except for Minnesota's PMI have been seasonally adjusted. See the feature article in the Minnesota Employment Review, May 2010, for more information on the Minnesota Index.

Minnesota Economic Indicators

Wage and Salary Employment



seasonally adjusted

2013 Aug	2.7802
Sep	2.7840
Oct	2.7976
Nov	2.7998
Dec	2.8117
2014 Jan	2.8123

% Chg From Month Ago 0.0%

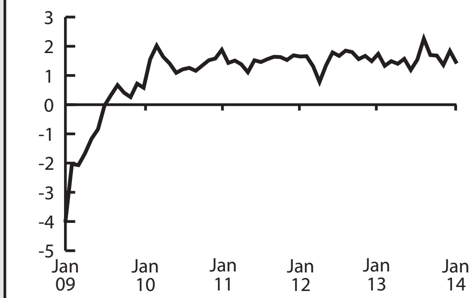
unadjusted

2013 Jan	2,702.9
2014 Jan	2,755.0

% Chg From Year Ago 1.9%

Source: Department of Employment and Economic Development, Current Employment Statistics Program, 2014

Minnesota Leading Index

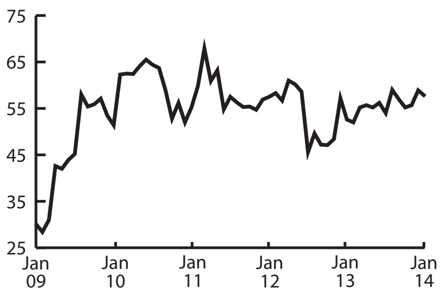


2013 Jan	1.74
Feb	1.33
Mar	1.49
Apr	1.40
May	1.57
Jun	1.19
Jul	1.54
Aug	2.26
Sep	1.70
Oct	1.68
Nov	1.36
Dec	1.84
2014 Jan	1.43

% Chg From Month Ago -22.3%
Year Ago -17.7%

Source: The Federal Reserve Bank of Philadelphia, 2014

Purchasing Managers' Index

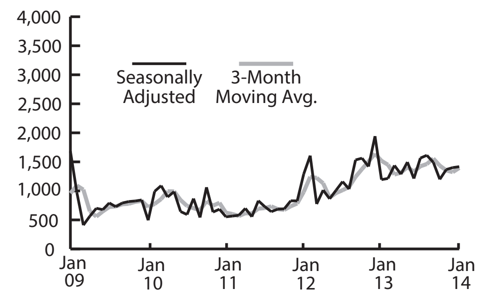


2013 Jan	52.6
Feb	52.0
Mar	55.2
Apr	55.7
May	55.2
Jun	56.2
Jul	54.0
Aug	59.0
Sep	57.0
Oct	55.2
Nov	55.7
Dec	58.9
2014 Jan	57.7

% Chg From Month Ago -2.0%
Year Ago 9.7%

Source: Creighton University, Mid-America Survey of Business Conditions, 2014

Residential Building Permits



seasonally adjusted

2013 Aug	1,613
Sep	1,492
Oct	1,199
Nov	1,368
Dec	1,401
2014 Jan	1,417

% Chg From Month Ago 1.1%

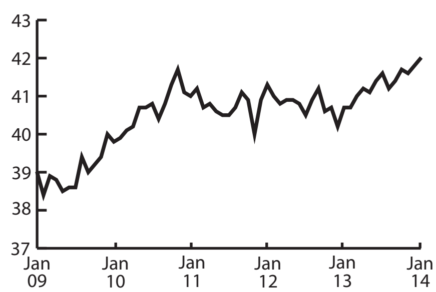
unadjusted

2013 Jan	554
2014 Jan	638

% Chg From Year Ago 15.2%

Source: Residential Building Permits, Census Bureau, U.S. Department of Commerce, 2014

Average Weekly Manufacturing Hours



seasonally adjusted

2013 Aug	41.2
Sep	41.4
Oct	41.7
Nov	41.6
Dec	41.8
2014 Jan	42.0

% Chg From Month Ago 0.4%

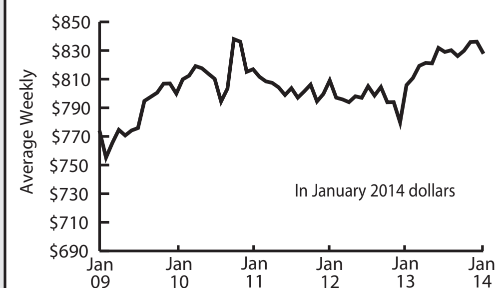
unadjusted

2013 Jan	40.3
2014 Jan	41.6

% Chg From Year Ago 3.2%

Source: Department of Employment and Economic Development, Current Employment Statistics Program, 2014

Manufacturing Earnings



seasonally adjusted

2013 Aug	830.20
Sep	826.12
Oct	829.86
Nov	835.94
Dec	836.17
2014 Jan	828.18

% Chg From Month Ago -1.0%

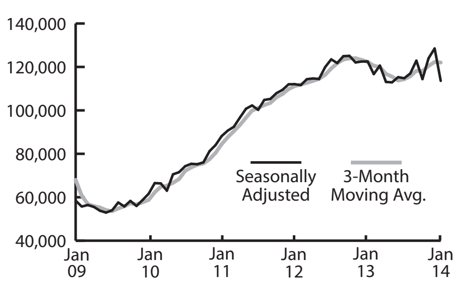
unadjusted

2013 Jan	800.02
2014 Jan	822.02

% Chg From Year Ago 2.7%

Source: Department of Employment and Economic Development, Current Employment Statistics Program, 2014

Online Help-Wanted Advertising

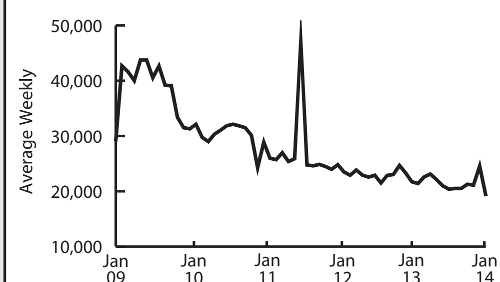


2013 Jan	122,500
Feb	116,700
Mar	120,633
Apr	113,100
May	112,900
Jun	115,300
Jul	114,800
Aug	117,000
Sep	122,900
Oct	114,400
Nov	124,000
Dec	128,500
2014 Jan	113,600

% Chg From Month Ago -11.6%
Year Ago -7.3%

Source: The Conference Board Inc., 2014

Initial UB Claimants



seasonally adjusted

2013 Aug	20,512
Sep	20,507
Oct	21,265
Nov	21,123
Dec	24,554
2014 Jan	19,229

% Chg From Month Ago -21.7%

unadjusted

2013 Jan	30,609
2014 Jan	26,515

% Chg From Year Ago -13.4%

Source: Department of Employment and Economic Development, Unemployment Insurance Program, 2014

Minnesota Employment Review

DEED
Labor Market Information Office
1st National Bank Building
332 Minnesota Street, Suite E200
St. Paul, MN 55101-1351
651.259.7400 (voice)
1.888.234.1114 (toll free)
651.296.3900 (TTY)
1.800.657.3973 (TTY toll free)
e-mail :
DEED.lmi@state.mn.us
Internet :
http://mn.gov/deed/lmi

Labor Market Information Help Line:
651.259.7384

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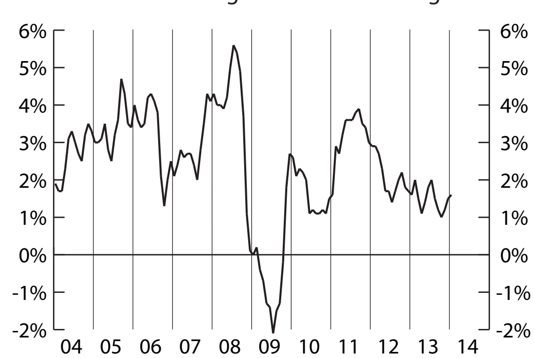
U.S. Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U)

Percent Change From One Year Ago



On a seasonally adjusted basis the February CPI-U for all items increased 0.1 percent over the month. The index increased 1.6 percent from January 2013, not seasonally adjusted. The index for Food increased 0.1 percent over the month; the index for Energy increased 0.6 percent. Within Energy, a typically volatile grouping, monthly change ranged from a decline of 1.0 percent in Gasoline to an increase of 3.7 percent in Fuel Oil. Energy services increased 2.2 percent. All Items less Food and Energy increased 0.1 percent over the month. The most significant changes were in medical care commodities (up 0.5 percent) and used cars and trucks (down 0.5 percent).

For more information on the U.S. CPI or the semi-annual Minneapolis-St. Paul CPI, call: 651.259.7384 or toll free 1.888.234.1114.

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Editor:
Carol Walsh

Technical Editors:
M. B. Hummel
Brent Pearson

Statistics:
Nick Dobbins
Amanda Rohrer

Writers:
Oriane Casale
Nick Dobbins
Dave Senf
Rachel Vilsack

Graphics/Layout:
Mary Moe

Webpage Preparation:
Mary Moe

Commissioner:
Katie Clark Sieben

LMI Office Director:
Steve Hine

Assistant Director and Technical Supervisor:
Oriane Casale

What's Going On?

Northland Job Fair set for May 7

Mark your calendar for Wednesday, May 7 for the 5th Annual Northland Job Fair at the Duluth Entertainment Convention Center. The job fair will be open exclusively to veterans, students and interns from 10 a.m. to 11 a.m. and to all job seekers from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.

More than 70 employers from Minnesota and Wisconsin will have information about job opportunities. Job seekers can visit one-on-one with resume and job search experts, learn about education opportunities, and network with employers.

For more information, contact Rhonda Rutford at 218-302-8406 or **rhonda.rutford@state.mn.us**

For more information, go to: **http://mn.gov/deed/events/NJF14/index.jsp**

Minnesota
Department of Employment and Economic Development

Labor Market Information Office Service Summary

The mission of the Labor Market Information (LMI) Office of the Minnesota Department of Employment and Economic Development (DEED) is to collect and deliver high quality data about the state's economy. Our work supports Minnesota's businesses, its workforce and economic development system, and the workers of today and tomorrow. We gather, analyze, and disseminate economic data on Minnesota's business community, workforce, and job market. We also provide key economic indicators, employment projections, and regional and statewide industry and workforce analysis along with information aimed at helping individuals make informed career decisions. We believe that access to high quality, up-to-date labor market information has been instrumental in making Minnesota one of the strongest job markets in America and that it will continue to play an important role in our economic future.

So that we may continually improve the information and services we provide, we regularly summarize related information including customer type, information requested, and satisfaction level. We share this information with you in the hopes that it may be as helpful for you to see how others are using our data or would like to use our data as it is for us in guiding how we can best supply it.

The information contained in the summary comes from several sources, including:

- Records of incoming telephone and email requests
- Web statistics from our Google Analytics web tracking tool
- Information from our mailing and email subscription lists
- DEED's customer satisfaction survey

Information from our 2013 summary is included in this article as well as updates on projects we have undertaken and services we have improved during the past year.

LMI Customers and Information Delivery Methods

The LMI Office offers a number of delivery methods for the data and information we provide. These methods include, but are not limited to:

- ***LMI Website:*** The majority of our customers access information directly from our website at **mn.gov/deed/data/**. We keep our website as up-to-date and complete as possible, so customers know that they are getting the most current labor market information available for Minnesota. Almost all of the releasable data and information that we produce are made available on our website. In November 2013 the DEED website was redesigned and moved to a new platform. This means that web customer traffic data are no longer available prior to December 2013. Therefore, this article reports web traffic data for December 2013 only.

• ***Analyst Services:*** Our telephone and email Helpline service assists customers in finding and understanding LMI data and information by providing direct access to our analysts. Analysts also provide presentations and training sessions, many geared toward workforce and economic development professionals, to a wide range of audiences. Consultation services and data extraction and analysis are also available on a fee-for-service basis. The Helpline can be reached by telephone during normal business hours at 888-234-1114 or 651-259-7384 or via email at deed.lmi@state.mn.us

• ***Electronic Notifications***: Customers who want to know when publications and data are updated can subscribe to RSS feeds, which are available at the bottom of every page on the DEED website - **http://mn.gov/deed/** . These provide notification to subscribers whenever LMI data and publications are updated.

• **Direct Mailing List**: This list is for customers who want to receive one or more copies of Minnesota Economic Trends in the mail every quarter or Minnesota Employment Review each month.

Table 1 provides a snapshot of customer contacts we made over the past year. The majority of LMI customers accessed information from our website, but a significant minority received LMI services through other means.

In addition to counting the number of contacts we have with customers throughout the year, we also keep an eye on the type of organizations the users of our data represent. This allows us to shape our information production better for our customers. In 2013 our top customer groups were WorkForce Center staff, the media, and private businesses. Other groups included non-profits, schools, colleges and universities, Workforce Service Area staff, and council members and economic developers.

Table 1

LMI Customers by Information Delivery Method, 2013

Type of Contact	Contacts	Number of Customers
Website – December 2013 only	20,847 page views	16,152 unique page views
Telephone, email, mail requests	2,078 contacts	2,078 contacts
Presentations and trainings	169 presentations/trainings	4,561 audience members
Publications subscribers	4,280 publications sent	1,070 subscribers

Source: DEED LMI Office, various sources

LMI Customer Satisfaction

The customer satisfaction findings in the tables are from the survey period from April 2012 to March 2013. They represent two user groups: employers who posted job orders and employers who were visited by DEED business service representatives.

The customer satisfaction results presented in Table 2 are good overall but certainly leave room for improvement.

Based on these findings and our overall impressions from talking with customers, the biggest area of concern is website navigation: Of the group that was most likely to use the internet to access LMI, employers who were surveyed because they placed a job order in the MNWorks job bank, 22 percent had difficulty finding what they were looking for. This group was by far most likely to attempt to access LMI on the internet. There are two things to know about this: first these findings reflect only on the old DEED website, which was replaced in November 2013. Second, as discussed in the next section, improving our section of the new DEED website is at the top of our list for 2014.

There is also room to improve the way we present our information in terms of understandability and clarity. This is an ongoing effort, and we will add usability testing to our toolkit in 2014. We hope that this will further improve the overall understandability and clarity of our presentation.

Table 2

Customer Satisfaction

Results from the DEED Wide Customer Satisfaction Survey: April 2012 - March 2013 Survey Period	Employers that posted job orders	Employers visited by Business Services
Minnesota Customer Satisfaction Index, 0 to 100 scale	76.5%	79.7%
Question	**Response***	**Response***
Did you get this information by telephone or email, through the internet, through a publication, or by another method?	3% Phone 3% Email *81% Internet* 5% Publication 8% Other	0% Phone 16% E-mail *68% Internet* 2% Publication 14% Other
How satisfied are you with the time it took us to respond to your telephone call or email? Are you: very satisfied, satisfied, dissatisfied, or very dissatisfied?	*100% Very Satisfied* 0% Satisfied	*86% Very Satisfied* 14% Satisfied 0% Dissatisfied 0% Very Dissatisfied
How easy was it to find the labor market information you needed? Was it: very easy, somewhat easy, somewhat difficult, or very difficult?	38% Very Easy *41% Somewhat Easy* 16% Somewhat Difficult 5% Very Difficult	44% Very Easy *50% Somewhat Easy* 6% Somewhat Difficult 0% Very Difficult
How satisfied are you that the information was presented in a clear and understandable manner? Are you: very satisfied, satisfied, dissatisfied, or very dissatisfied?	42% Very Satisfied *53% Satisfied* 3% Dissatisfied 3% Very Dissatisfied	43% Very Satisfied *55% Satisfied* 3% Dissatisfied 0% Very Dissatisfied
How well did the information meet your needs? Very well, well, not very well, or not at all?	37% Very Well *58% Well* 5% Not Very Well 0% Not At All	33% Very Well *60% Well* 8% Not Very Well 0% Not at all

* The most frequent response (mode) is in italic.

As we know from previous years, wages and salaries are the most heavily demanded information that we produce (Table 3). The greatest share of employer customers uses our information for wage and salary decision and business planning (Table 4).

Table 3

Types of labor market information received

Category	Employers - Business Services	Employers - Job Orders*
Wages, Salary, Earnings, Pay	49%	77%
Employee Benefits	7%	0%
Unemployment Rate Information	14%	21%
Occupational Staffing Patterns	4%	0%
Affirmative Action	4%	3%
Job Vacancy Statistics/Market Conditions	9%	0%
Employment Projections/Future Outlook	7%	0%
Other	6%	0%

Table 4

How do customers use the information?

Category	Employers - Business Services	Employers - Job Orders
Worker Availability	13%	7%
Wage and Salary Decisions	42%	48%
Business Planning	17%	19%
Research/Report Preparation	16%	17%
Other	13%	9%

Accomplishments in 2013

We have several noteworthy accomplishments to report for 2013.

Skills Gap Survey: In 2013 we conducted the second and third rounds of our Skills Gap survey, which gathers information on current vacancies within occupations that have been identified as potentially facing a shortage of skilled workers. The study aims to discover how common hiring difficulties are in the state, the reasons for these hiring difficulties, and what problems they might pose for our labor market. The second and third rounds focused on information technology and skilled production occupations. The multi-industry report can be found at mn.gov/deed/images/SecondRoundReportSkillsGap.pdf

Minimum Wage: The Minnesota legislature debated a minimum wage increase in 2012 and will again take up the issue during the 2013 legislative session. We have published two articles, one each in Trends and Minnesota Employment Review, provided presentations, and filled numerous requests on this topic to help inform the discussion in Minnesota.

Website: As you have probably noticed, DEED's website was overhauled and moved to a new platform in November 2013.
We are still catching up with the resulting workload but plan to spend a good deal of effort in 2014 redesigning and improving the LMI portion of the website in terms of organization, navigation, usability, and functionality.

We always welcome comments and feedback on our products and services. You can contact us at **DEED.lmi@state.mn.us** or telephone us at our helpline: 651-259-7384.

by Oriane Casale
Labor Market Information Office
Minnesota Department of Employment and Economic Develpment

Minnesota
Department of Employment and Economic Development