

Population and Demographics

Region Five Population Statistics, 2000-2013

2000 Population	2010 Population	2013 Population	2000-2013		2010-2013	
			Numeric Change	% Change	Numeric Change	% Change
152,100	163,003	162,892	10,903	7.2%	-111	0%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey

Northwest Minnesota* Population Projections by Age, 2011-2030

Age Group	2011 Data		2011-2030	
	Population	Pop. %	Change	% Growth
0-14	106,195	19.1%	-3,046	-2.7%
15-24	74,565	13.4%	7,847	10.6%
25-34	61,834	11.1%	-7,852	-12.7%
35-44	59,772	10.7%	1,155	1.9%
45-54	80,705	14.5%	-3,585	-4.4%
55-64	75,235	13.5%	-8,690	-11.6%
65+	97,781	17.6%	68,657	70.2%
Total Population	556,087	100.0%	54,486	9.8%
Median Age	42.6			

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey; [MN State Demographic Center](http://mn.gov/deed/data/data-tools/qcew/)

The future population changes in Northwest Minnesota's will result in many challenges to the regional workforce. By 2030, the population 65 and older will increase by over seventy percent. As this group leaves the workforce, nearly 60,000 replacement workers will be needed in the Northwest planning area. An older population will also require more healthcare and the economy will need to adjust to meet this demand. The Median Age in NW Minnesota is 42.6 years, which is high compared to the state median age, 37.6 years.

Industry & Occupation Snapshots

Currently, the *Healthcare and Social Assistance* industry employs the most jobs in the Region Five workforce. Construction employment in Region Five has grown the fastest since 2010, at 3.3%. The highest average annual wages are also in Healthcare – specifically *Healthcare Practitioners & Technical Occupations*.

Top Region Five Industries by Number of Jobs, 2013

Industry	Number of Jobs	Growth % 2010-2013	Ave Weekly Wage
Total, All Industries	59,970	0.5%	\$619
Health Care & Social Assistance	10,670	1.0%	\$723
Retail & Wholesale Trade	10,049	1.6%	\$503
Leisure & Hospitality	8,417	-0.6%	\$280
Manufacturing	6,055	0.4%	\$778
Education	5,675	0.7%	\$650
Construction	2,899	3.3%	\$842
Finance & Insurance	1,951	-2.8%	\$889
Professional, Scientific & Technical Services	1,700	0.8%	\$922
Transportation & Warehousing	1,506	-5.9%	\$613
Information	1,338	3.0%	\$721

Source: DEED QCEW; American Community Survey
<http://mn.gov/deed/data/data-tools/qcew/>

Top Region Five Occupations by Number of Jobs, 2014

Occupation	Number of Jobs	Annual Income
Office & Admin Support Occupations	9,450	\$29,779
Sales & Related Occupations	6,030	\$20,920
Production Occupations	5,710	\$29,892
Education, Training, & Library Occupations	4,340	\$44,387
Healthcare Practitioners & Technical Occupations	3,740	\$56,064
Transportation & Material Moving Occupations	3,680	\$27,072
Food Preparation & Serving Related Occupations	3,350	\$18,781
Healthcare Support Occupations	2,980	\$24,787
Building, Grounds keeping & Maintenance Occupations	2,570	\$22,197
Personal Care & Service Occupations	2,570	\$19,975

Current Vacancies and Employment Outlook

Job Vacancies in Region Five can be found in nearly every major industry. Retail Sales and Food Service occupations are readily available. Thousands of construction jobs were lost during the recession, but continue to return. Jobs in production occupations are also trending up. Finally, the healthcare and education industries, two of the three largest industry sectors in the region, have over 500 openings between them. Nursing Assistants and Teachers (secondary and below) have the most openings in these industries, respectively.

Top Vacancies in Economic Development Region 5: North Central, 2014 Q2

Occupation	# of Job Vacancies	Median Wage Offer	% Part-Time	% Requiring Post-Secondary Education
Total, All Occupations	2,641	\$9.71	49%	23%
Food and Beverage Serving Workers	320	\$7.19	96%	0%
Cooks and Food Preparation Workers	221	\$7.90	93%	1%
Production Occupations	183	\$8.94	0%	5%
Retail Salespersons	150	\$8.75	58%	0%
Transportation and Material Moving Occupations	130	\$12.95	16%	3%
Preschool, Primary, Secondary, and Special Ed Teachers	128	\$21.40	39%	99%
Construction and Extraction Occupations	119	\$12.72	0%	6%
Nursing Assistants	99	\$10.30	57%	14%
Information and Record Clerks	96	\$12.97	33%	15%
Material Recording, Scheduling and Dispatching	94	\$8.93	51%	25%
Building Cleaning and Pest Control Workers	89	\$8.03	66%	2%
Counselors, Social Workers, and Other Community	83	\$9.99	63%	43%
Installation, Maintenance, and Repair Occupations	77	\$13.12	0%	5%

Source: DEED Job Vacancy Survey, 2014 Q2. <http://mn.gov/deed/data/data-tools/job-vacancy/>

In addition, information and technology -related occupations look likely to resume growth through 2022. These occupations are found in several industries, including healthcare, education and manufacturing.

Northwest Minnesota* High Growth/High Pay Occupation Projections, 2012-2022

Occupation	2012 Estimated Employment	2012-2022		2013 Median Salary
		Total Openings	Percent Change	
Computer-Controlled Machine Tool Operators	499	240	48.1%	\$38,716
Computer Systems Analysts	243	100	41.2%	\$69,781
Computer User Support Specialists	418	90	21.5%	\$43,120
Software Developers, Applications	280	80	28.6%	\$62,247
Computer Controlled Machine Tool Programmers	134	80	59.7%	\$45,703
Software Developers, Systems Software	220	70	31.8%	\$72,574

Source: DEED Employment Projections, 2012. <http://mn.gov/deed/data/data-tools/employment-outlook/>

*Note: Northwest Minnesota includes the 26 counties within Workforce Service Areas 1 and 2

Educational Attainment & Applicability

2013 Educational Attainment, Region Five EDR

Population 18 to 24 Years	EDR 5 – Region Five		Minnesota
Educational Attainment	Population	Population Percent	Population Percent
Total Population	11,934	100%	100%
Less than High School Graduate	2,041	17.1%	13.0%
High School Graduate/Equivalency	4,138	34.7%	26.0%
Some College or Associates Degree	5,131	43.0%	49.6%
Bachelor's Degree or Higher	625	5.2%	11.4%
Population 25 Years and Over	EDR 5 – Region Five		Minnesota
Educational Attainment	Population	Population Percent	Population Percent
Total Population	113,107	100.0%	100.0%
Less than High School Graduate	11,332	10.0%	7.9%
High School Graduate/Equivalency	39,588	35.0%	26.9%
Some College, No Degree	28,554	25.2%	22.3%
Associate's Degree	12,761	11.3%	10.3%
Bachelor's Degree	14,611	12.9%	21.9%
Graduate or Professional Degree	6,242	5.5%	10.7%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey 2009-2013 5-year estimates

Graduate Employment Outcomes (GEO) demonstrate how graduates of various instructional programs fare in the workforce 1-4 years after graduation. Over time, specific instructional programs and degree types can be examined for solvency with the labor market. Currently, the GEO tool only compiles data for the Twin Cities seven-county metro area, greater Minnesota and the state altogether. In these areas, the tool indicates the top industry of employment for graduates of various instructional programs. For example, more graduates of *Engineering Technology* programs currently work more in Manufacturing than any other industry, and their median hourly wage is approximately \$17.93 one-year after graduation.

Graduate Employment Outcomes, 2011-2013. Greater Minnesota, All Institutions & All Degree Types

Instructional Program	2011 Graduates	% of Graduates reporting wages within one year	Median Hourly Wage 12-Months After Graduation	Median Hourly Wage 24-Months After Graduation	Top Industry Of Employment
Education	2,959	70.2%	\$19.75	\$21.87	<i>Educational Services</i>
Health Professions	6,336	72.0%	\$17.29	\$19.30	<i>Health Care and Social Assistance</i>
Engineering Technologies	734	71.3%	\$17.93	\$19.87	<i>Manufacturing</i>
Precision Production	291	75.3%	\$16.92	\$18.17	<i>Manufacturing</i>
Communications technology & support services	83	51.8%	\$9.80	\$10.68	<i>Accommodation and Food Services</i>
Computer information sciences & support services	719	62.3%	\$18.34	\$20.27	<i>Professional and Technical Services</i>

Source: DEED OES / Graduate Employment Outcomes 2014, <http://mn.gov/deed/data/data-tools/graduate-employment-outcomes/>