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CENTRAL
REGION



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Minnesota's
Workforce
Development

Plan emphasizes preparing workers for fields with the greatest need for workers. The question is: where is the greatest need—and what fields are most affected by shortage conditions?

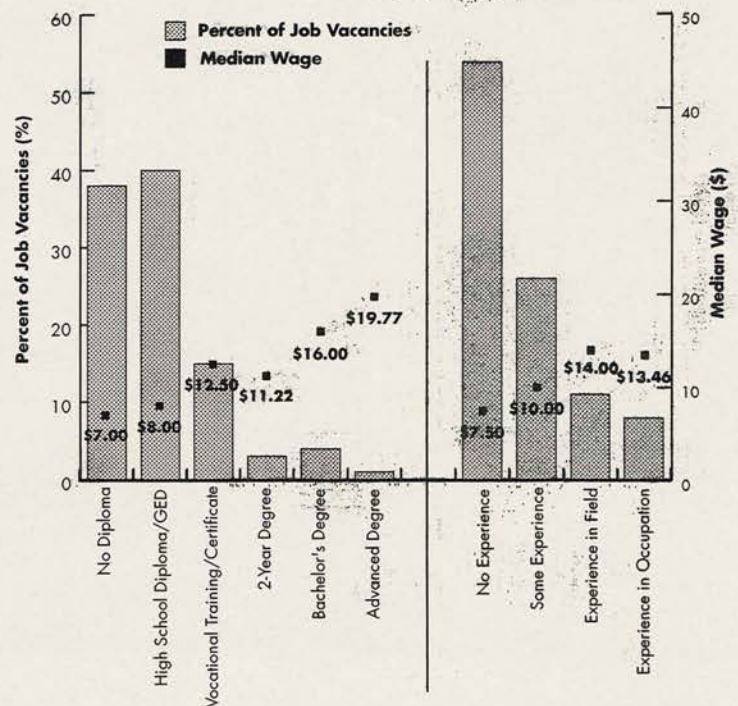
The *Minnesota Job Vacancy Survey* is a tool to assess current job market demand. During 2nd Quarter 2001, the Minnesota Department of Economic Security (MDES) surveyed a representative sample of employers from all major industries and regions of the state. From their information, MDES estimates that there are 97,000 job vacancies statewide.

The Central region has a job vacancy level of 5,900— or 4 vacancies for every 100 filled jobs. That is less than the local area unemployment rate during the same quarter. This means that some jobseekers will have difficulty finding appropriate work.

Minnesota Job Vacancy Survey Regional Spotlight



Education and Experience Job Requirements and Median Wage Offers in the Central Region



Research and Statistics Office

Minnesota
Department of
Economic Security

November 2001

Education and experience are important factors in almost all hiring decisions. They are quick, convenient indicators of skill level and job readiness requirements. The *Minnesota Job Vacancy Survey* finds that in the Central and other regions, opportunities exist across the spectrum of job preparation.

The median starting wage for all Central region openings is \$8.00 per hour, but premium wages are offered for education and experience. The median wage offer for jobs requiring post-secondary vocational training is \$12.50 per hour; a two-year degree, \$11.22 per hour; a bachelor's degree, \$16.00 per hour.

Major Occupational Group	Minnesota		Stearns - Benton		CENTRAL		Duluth		East Metro	
	Number of Job Vacancies	Job Vacancy Rate (%)	Number of Job Vacancies	Job Vacancy Rate (%)	Number of Job Vacancies	Job Vacancy Rate (%)	Number of Job Vacancies	Job Vacancy Rate (%)	Number of Job Vacancies	Job Vacancy Rate (%)
Food Preparation and Serving Related	13,998	8%	571	6%	1,742	12%	494	NA	3,195	7%
Sales and Related	13,435	5	359	3	344	3	122	NA	4,185	6
Office and Administrative Support	11,817	3	560	4	387	2	221	NA	4,281	4
Transportation and Material Moving	7,008	4	194	4	417	4	89	NA	2,392	4
Healthcare Practitioners and Technical	6,662	5	145	5	235	3	263	NA	1,829	5
Personal Care and Service	6,563	12	174	12	597	11	149	NA	1,200	11
Healthcare Support	5,851	8	54	3	476	8	123	NA	1,172	6
Construction and Extraction	5,548	6	244	7	188	2	37	NA	1,083	4
Production	4,956	2	121	1	731	4	61	NA	1,075	2
Education, Training and Library	3,792	3	114	2	174	1	10	NA	1,521	4
Building, Grounds Cleaning and Maintenance	3,464	4	50	2	133	2	122	NA	1,071	7
Management	3,108	2	42	1	34	2	8	NA	831	2
Installation, Maintenance and Repair	2,287	2	36	1	113	2	9	NA	778	4
Business and Financial Operations	1,843	2	26	1	15	0	10	NA	374	1
Architecture and Engineering	1,132	2	2	0	25	NA	3	NA	246	2
Art, Design, Entertainment and Media	1,108	3	12	1	8	1	11	NA	163	2
Computer and Mathematical	1,094	2	7	1	4	0	1	NA	461	3
Community and Social Service	1,053	3	12	1	56	2	55	NA	294	3
Protective Service	889	2	2	0	86	NA	21	NA	285	4
Life, Physical and Social Science	727	3	1	1	14	NA	1	NA	263	4
Farming, Fishing and Forestry	592	14	16	NA	115	40	0	NA	22	1
Legal	244	2	14	16	12	NA	0	NA	73	6
Total	97,171	4%	2,756	3%	5,906	4%	1,810	NA	26,794	4%

NA=Not Applicable

Job Vacancies by Region: What Workers are in Demand?



In the Central region, the largest numbers of vacancies are found in these sectors:

- Food preparation and serving, 1,742 openings
- Production, 731 openings
- Personal care and service, 597 openings
- Healthcare support, 476 openings

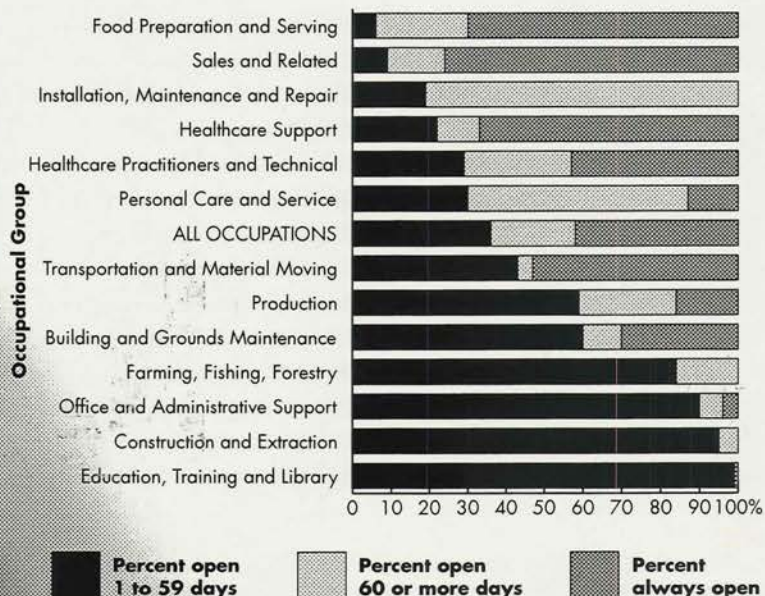
	Northeast		Northwest		South Central		Southeast		Southwest		West Central		West Metro	
	Number of Job Vacancies	Job Vacancy Rate (%)	Number of Job Vacancies	Job Vacancy Rate (%)	Number of Job Vacancies	Job Vacancy Rate (%)	Number of Job Vacancies	Job Vacancy Rate (%)	Number of Job Vacancies	Job Vacancy Rate (%)	Number of Job Vacancies	Job Vacancy Rate (%)	Number of Job Vacancies	Job Vacancy Rate (%)
	1,447	12%	170	5%	192	2%	948	8%	932	15%	526	7%	3,781	6%
	478	4	133	3	181	2	763	4	30	0	1,670	12	5,170	5
	139	1	67	1	190	1	446	1	85	1	193	1	5,248	3
	210	2	296	7	416	6	277	2	145	2	226	2	2,346	4
	170	2	81	4	113	2	879	6	180	6	229	3	2,538	6
	113	2	88	15	35	1	422	13	99	4	114	4	3,572	18
	204	4	32	2	58	2	1,164	17	63	2	324	6	2,181	11
	38	0	76	4	463	11	898	13	1	0	484	9	2,036	7
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	30	0	87	5	12	0	226	2	138	4	189	3	669	2
	35	1	2	0	5	0	61	1	10	1	18	1	1,287	2
	16	1	33	6	62	5	124	3	3	1	68	6	550	2
	0	NA	0	NA	37	3	78	5	35	19	27	2	737	4
	4	0	4	NA	10	1	93	1	12	2	2	0	496	1
	12	0	56	15	14	1	71	3	10	1	30	1	443	3
	0	NA	2	NA	18	1	31	2	1	NA	45	2	398	3
	8	1	18	4	9	2	65	7	0	NA	15	3	333	3
	30	7	4	NA	238	298	36	11	3	0	41	5	87	8
	0	NA	0	NA	0	NA	3	1	0	NA	0	NA	142	2
	3,505	3%	1,667	4%	2,388	2%	7,792	4%	2,168	3%	4,848	4%	37,537	4%

Some of the fields with a need for workers are high-turnover fields; that is, positions are regularly refilled. As a result, large numbers of vacancies may or may not reflect a shortage of qualified, interested workers.

A better indicator of hiring difficulty is the length of time that vacant positions remain open.

- In the Central region, food preparation and serving, sales, and installation, maintenance and repair have the greatest backlog of long-open and "always open" positions, indicating hiring difficulty in these occupations.
- Most vacancies in education, construction, and office and administrative support are filled quickly. This suggests that a sufficient number of interested workers are currently available in these occupations.
- Across all fields, 36 percent of vacancies in the Central region have been open less than 60 days; 22 percent have been open 60 days or longer; and 42 percent are "always open," according to employers.

Duration of Vacancies in Occupations with over 100 Vacancies in the Central Region



This brochure is a summary of the Job Vacancy Survey information for Central Minnesota. Similar brochures are available for 10 other regions of Minnesota.

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For more information about the Job Vacancy Survey, contact the LMI Helpline at 651.282.2714 or lmi@ngwmail.des.state.mn.us

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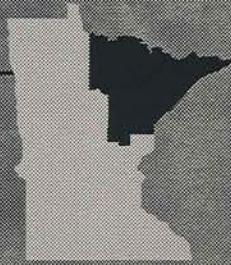
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Minnesota Department of Economic Security, Research and Statistics Office, 390 N. Robert Street, St. Paul, MN 55101

or send e-mail to: pubs@ngwmail.des.state.mn.us

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NORTHEAST REGION



Minnesota Job Vacancy Survey Regional Spotlight



Research and Statistics Office

Minnesota
Department of
Economic Security

November 2001

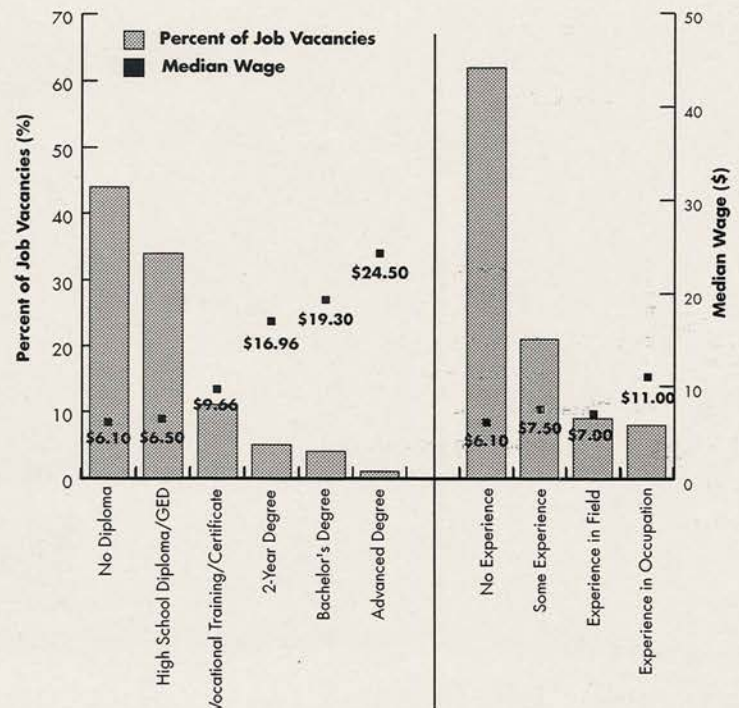
M innesota's Workforce Development

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The Northeast region has a job vacancy level of 5,300—or 4 vacancies for every 100 filled jobs. That is less than the local area unemployment rate during the same quarter. This means that some jobseekers will have difficulty finding appropriate work.

Education and Experience Job Requirements and Median Wage Offers in the Northeast Region



Education and experience are important factors in almost all hiring decisions. They are quick, convenient indicators of skill level and job readiness requirements. The *Minnesota Job Vacancy Survey* finds that in the Northeast and other regions, opportunities exist across the spectrum of job preparation.

The median starting wage for all Northeast openings is \$6.50 per hour, but premium wages are offered for education and experience. The median wage offer for jobs requiring post-secondary vocational training is \$9.66 per hour; a two-year degree, \$16.96 per hour; a bachelor's degree, \$19.30 per hour.

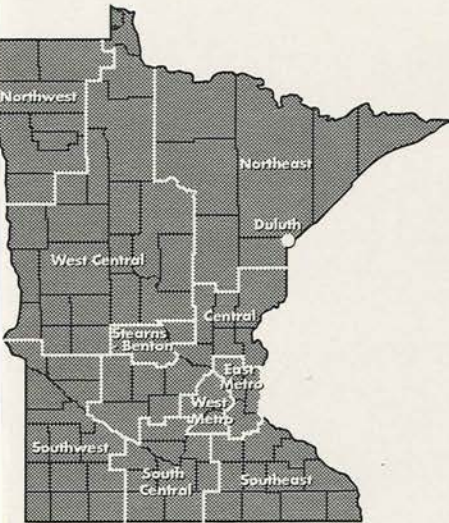
Major Occupational Group	Minnesota		Stearns - Benton		Central		Duluth		East Metro	
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Life, Physical and Social Science	727	3	1	1	14	NA	1	NA	263	4
Farming, Fishing and Forestry	592	14	16	NA	115	40	0	NA	22	NA
Legal	244	2	14	16	12	NA	0	NA	73	6
Total	97,171	4%	2,756	3%	5,906	4%	1,810	NA	26,794	4%

NA=Not Applicable

Job Vacancies by Region: What Workers are in Demand?

In the Northeast region, the largest numbers of vacancies are found in these sectors:

- Food preparation and serving, 1,941 openings
- Sales and related, 600 openings
- Healthcare practitioners and technical, 433 openings
- Building, grounds cleaning and maintenance, 405 openings



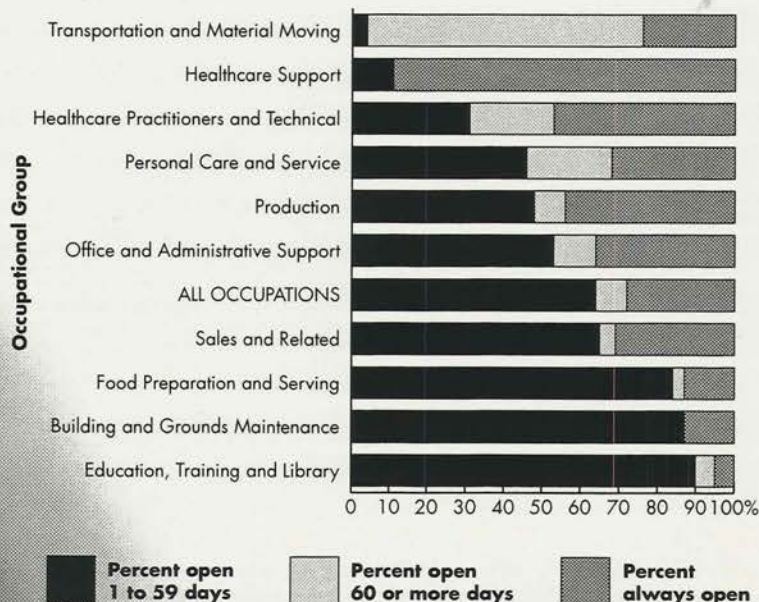
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3,505	3%	1,667	4%	2,388	2%	7,792	4%	2,168	3%	4,848	4%	37,537	4%

Some of the fields with a need for workers are high-turnover fields; that is, positions are regularly refilled. As a result, large numbers of vacancies may or may not reflect a shortage of qualified, interested workers.

A better indicator of hiring difficulty is the length of time that vacant positions remain open.

- In the Northeast region, transportation and material moving, healthcare support, and healthcare practitioners and technical occupations have the greatest backlog of long-open and "always open" positions, indicating hiring difficulty in these occupations.
- Most vacancies in education, building and grounds maintenance, and food preparation and serving are filled quickly. This suggests that a sufficient number of interested workers are currently available in these occupations.
- Across all fields, 63 percent of vacancies in the Northeast region have been open less than 60 days; 8 percent have been open 60 days or longer; and 28 percent are "always open," according to employers.

Duration of Vacancies in Occupations with over 100 Vacancies in the Northeast Region



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NORTHWEST REGION



Minnesota Job Vacancy Survey Regional Spotlight



Research and Statistics Office

Minnesota
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Economic Security

November 2001

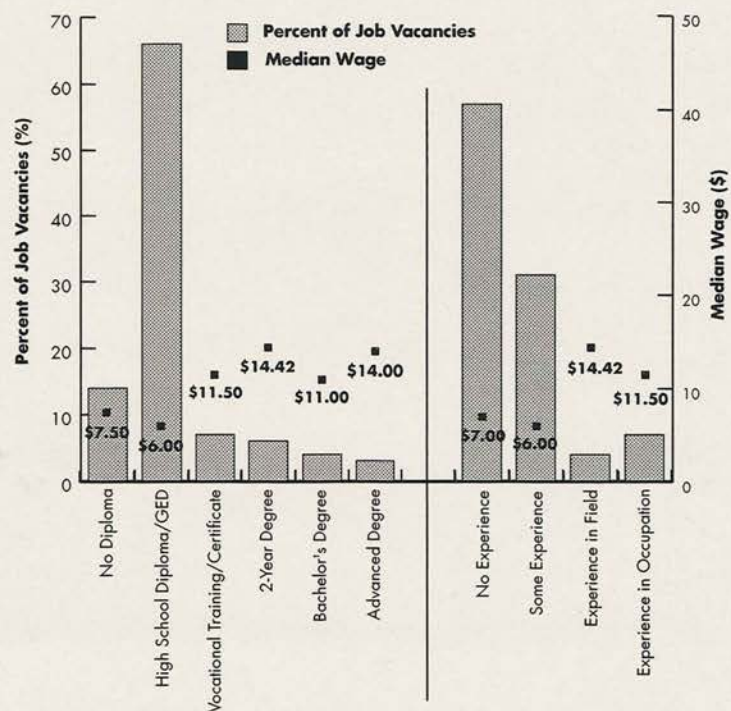
Minnesota's Workforce Development

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The Northwest region has a job vacancy level of 1,700— or 4 vacancies for every 100 filled jobs. That is less than the local area unemployment rate during the same quarter. This means that some jobseekers will have difficulty finding appropriate work.

Education and Experience Job Requirements and Median Wage Offers in the Northwest Region



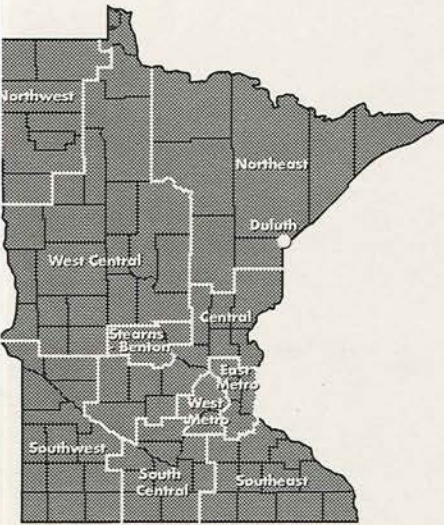
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The median starting wage for all Northwest openings is \$7.34 per hour, but premium wages are offered for education and experience. The median wage offer for jobs requiring post-secondary vocational training is \$11.50 per hour; a two-year degree, \$14.42 per hour; a bachelor's degree, \$11.00 per hour.

Major Occupational Group	Minnesota		Stearns - Benton		Central		Duluth		East Metro	
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Total	97,171	4%	2,756	3%	5,906	4%	1,810	NA	26,794	4%

NA=Not Applicable

Job Vacancies by Region: What Workers are in Demand?



In the Northwest region, the largest numbers of vacancies are found in these sectors:

- Production, 413 openings
- Transportation and material moving, 296 openings
- Food preparation and serving, 170 openings
- Sales and related, 133 openings

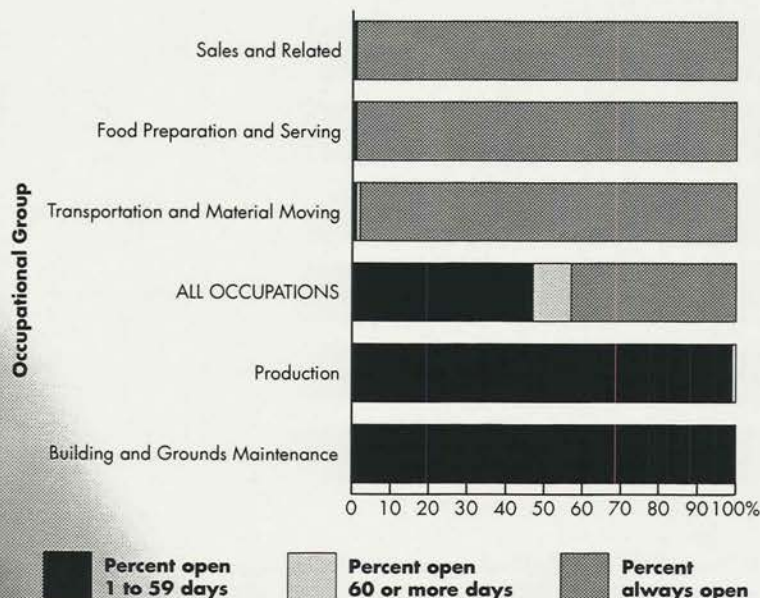
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	35	1	2	0	5	0	61	1	10	1	18	1	1,287	2
	16	1	33	6	62	5	124	3	3	1	68	6	550	2
	0	NA	0	NA	37	3	78	5	35	19	27	2	737	4
	4	0	4	NA	10	1	93	1	12	2	2	0	496	1
	12	0	56	15	14	1	71	3	10	1	30	1	443	3
	0	NA	2	NA	18	1	31	2	1	NA	45	2	398	3
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Some of the fields with a need for workers are high-turnover fields; that is, positions are regularly refilled. As a result, large numbers of vacancies may or may not reflect a shortage of qualified, interested workers.

A better indicator of hiring difficulty is the length of time that vacant positions remain open.

- In the Northwest region, sales, food preparation and serving, and transportation and material moving have the greatest backlog of "always open" positions, indicating high turnover or hiring difficulty in these occupations.
- Most vacancies in production, and building and grounds maintenance are open for only a short period of time. This suggests that a sufficient number of interested workers are currently available in these occupations.
- Across all fields, 47 percent of vacancies in the Northwest region have been open less than 60 days; 10 percent have been open 60 days or longer; and 43 percent are "always open," according to employers.

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SOUTH CENTRAL REGION



Minnesota Job Vacancy Survey Regional Spotlight



Research and Statistics Office

Minnesota
Department of
Economic Security

November 2001

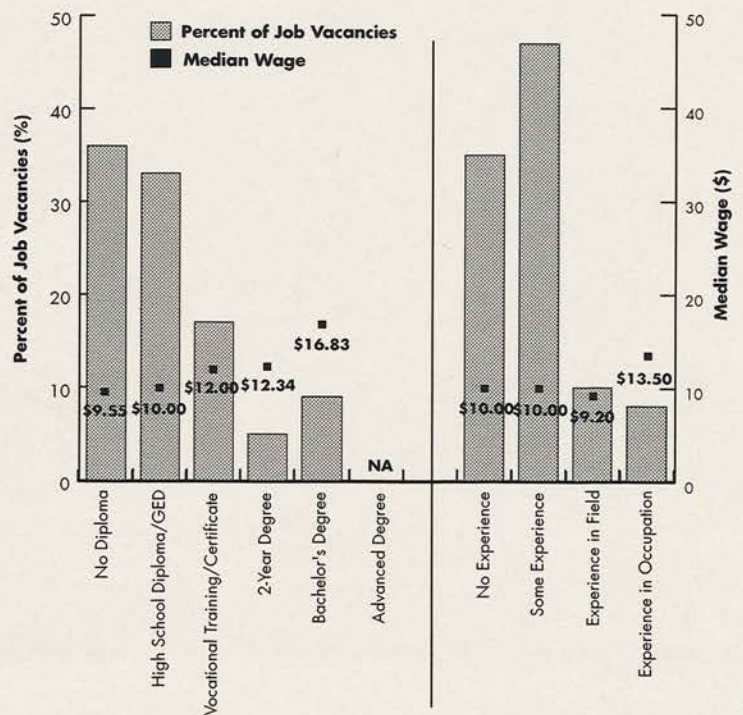
M innesota's Workforce Development

Plan emphasizes preparing workers for fields with the greatest need for workers. The question is: where is the greatest need—and what fields are most affected by shortage conditions?

The *Minnesota Job Vacancy Survey* is a tool to assess current job market demand. During 2nd Quarter 2001, the Minnesota Department of Economic Security (MDES) surveyed a representative sample of employers from all major industries and regions of the state. From their information, MDES estimates that there are 97,000 job vacancies statewide.

The South Central region has a job vacancy level of 2,400— or 2 vacancies for every 100 filled jobs. That is less than the local area unemployment rate during the same quarter. This means that some jobseekers will have difficulty finding appropriate work.

Education and Experience Job Requirements and Median Wage Offers in the South Central Region



Education and experience are important factors in almost all hiring decisions. They are quick, convenient indicators of skill level and job readiness requirements. The *Minnesota Job Vacancy Survey* finds that in the South Central and other regions, opportunities exist across the spectrum of job preparation.

The median starting wage for all South Central openings is \$10.00 per hour, but premium wages are offered for education and experience. The median wage offer for jobs requiring post-secondary vocational training is \$12.00 per hour; a two-year degree, \$12.34 per hour; a bachelor's degree, \$16.83 per hour.

Major Occupational Group	Minnesota		Stearns - Benton		Central		Duluth		East Metro	
	Number of Job Vacancies	Job Vacancy Rate (%)	Number of Job Vacancies	Job Vacancy Rate (%)	Number of Job Vacancies	Job Vacancy Rate (%)	Number of Job Vacancies	Job Vacancy Rate (%)	Number of Job Vacancies	Job Vacancy Rate (%)
Food Preparation and Serving Related	13,998	8%	571	6%	1,742	12%	494	NA	3,195	7%
Sales and Related	13,435	5	359	3	344	3	122	NA	4,185	6
Office and Administrative Support	11,817	3	560	4	387	2	221	NA	4,281	4
Transportation and Material Moving	7,008	4	194	4	417	4	89	NA	2,392	4
Healthcare Practitioners and Technical	6,662	5	145	5	235	3	263	NA	1,829	5
Personal Care and Service	6,563	12	174	12	597	11	149	NA	1,200	11
Healthcare Support	5,851	8	54	3	476	8	123	NA	1,172	6
Construction and Extraction	5,548	6	244	7	188	2	37	NA	1,083	4
Production	4,956	2	121	1	731	4	61	NA	1,075	2
Education, Training and Library	3,792	3	114	2	174	1	10	NA	1,521	4
Building, Grounds Cleaning and Maintenance	3,464	4	50	2	133	2	122	NA	1,071	7
Management	3,108	2	42	1	34	2	8	NA	831	2
Installation, Maintenance and Repair	2,287	2	36	1	113	2	9	NA	778	4
Business and Financial Operations	1,843	2	26	1	15	0	10	NA	374	1
Architecture and Engineering	1,132	2	2	0	25	NA	3	NA	246	2
Art, Design, Entertainment and Media	1,108	3	12	1	8	1	11	NA	163	2
Computer and Mathematical	1,094	2	7	1	4	0	1	NA	461	3
Community and Social Service	1,053	3	12	1	56	2	55	NA	294	3
Protective Service	889	2	2	0	86	NA	21	NA	285	4
Life, Physical and Social Science	727	3	1	1	14	NA	1	NA	263	4
Farming, Fishing and Forestry	592	14	16	NA	115	40	0	NA	22	NA
Legal	244	2	14	16	12	NA	0	NA	73	6
Total	97,171	4%	2,756	3%	5,906	4%	1,810	NA	26,794	4%

NA=Not Applicable

Job Vacancies by Region: What Workers are in Demand?



In the South Central region, the largest numbers of vacancies are found in these sectors:

- Construction and extraction, 463 openings
- Transportation and material moving, 416 openings
- Farming, fishing and forestry, 238 openings

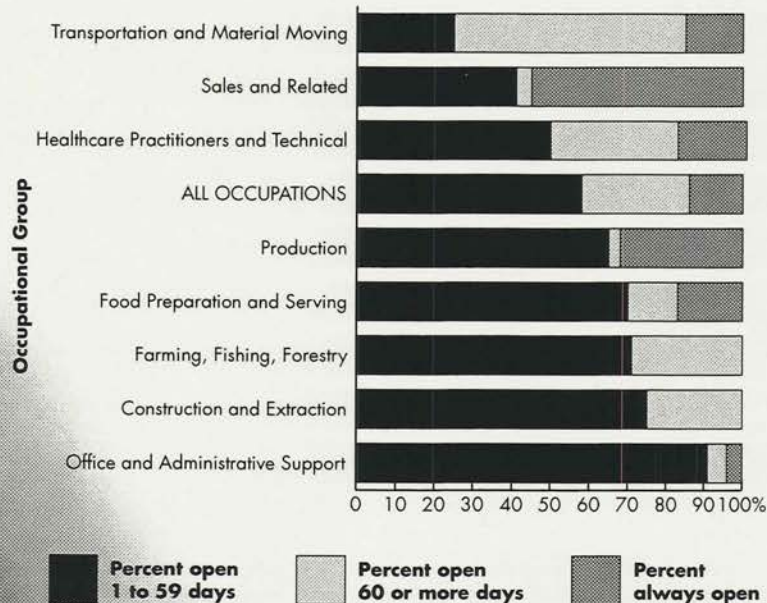
	Northeast		Northwest		SOUTH CENTRAL		Southeast		Southwest		West Central		West Metro	
	Number of Job Vacancies	Job Vacancy Rate (%)	Number of Job Vacancies	Job Vacancy Rate (%)	Number of Job Vacancies	Job Vacancy Rate (%)	Number of Job Vacancies	Job Vacancy Rate (%)	Number of Job Vacancies	Job Vacancy Rate (%)	Number of Job Vacancies	Job Vacancy Rate (%)	Number of Job Vacancies	Job Vacancy Rate (%)
	1,447	12%	170	5%	192	2%	948	8%	932	15%	526	7%	3,781	6%
	478	4	133	3	181	2	763	4	30	0	1,670	12	5,170	5
	139	1	67	1	190	1	446	1	85	1	193	1	5,248	3
	210	2	296	7	416	6	277	2	145	2	226	2	2,346	4
	170	2	81	4	113	2	879	6	180	6	229	3	2,538	6
	113	2	88	15	35	1	422	13	99	4	114	4	3,572	18
	204	4	32	2	58	2	1,164	17	63	2	324	6	2,181	11
	38	0	76	4	463	11	898	13	1	0	484	9	2,036	7
	159	2	413	10	186	1	365	1	89	1	181	1	1,575	2
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	10	0	1	0	52	1	237	2	90	3	113	2	1,690	2
	30	0	87	5	12	0	226	2	138	4	189	3	669	2
	35	1	2	0	5	0	61	1	10	1	18	1	1,287	2
	16	1	33	6	62	5	124	3	3	1	68	6	550	2
	0	NA	0	NA	37	3	78	5	35	19	27	2	737	4
	4	0	4	NA	10	1	93	1	12	2	2	0	496	1
	12	0	56	15	14	1	71	3	10	1	30	1	443	3
	0	NA	2	NA	18	1	31	2	1	NA	45	2	398	3
	8	1	18	4	9	2	65	7	0	NA	15	3	333	3
	30	7	4	NA	238	298	36	11	3	0	41	5	87	8
	0	NA	0	NA	0	NA	3	1	0	NA	0	NA	142	2
	3,505	3%	1,667	4%	2,388	2%	7,792	4%	2,168	3%	4,848	4%	37,537	4%

Some of the fields with a need for workers are high-turnover fields; that is, positions are regularly refilled. As a result, large numbers of vacancies may or may not reflect a shortage of qualified, interested workers.

A better indicator of hiring difficulty is the length of time that vacant positions remain open.

- In the South Central region, transportation and material moving and sales occupations have the greatest backlog of long-open and "always open" positions, indicating hiring difficulty in these occupations.
- Most vacancies in office and administrative support are filled quickly. This suggests that a sufficient number of interested workers are currently available in these occupations.
- Across all fields, 58 percent of vacancies in the South Central region have been open less than 60 days; 28 percent have been open 60 days or longer; and 14 percent are "always open," according to employers.

Duration of Vacancies in Occupations with over 100 Vacancies in the South Central Region



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SOUTHEAST REGION



Minnesota Job Vacancy Survey Regional Spotlight



Research and Statistics Office

Minnesota
Department of
Economic Security

November 2001

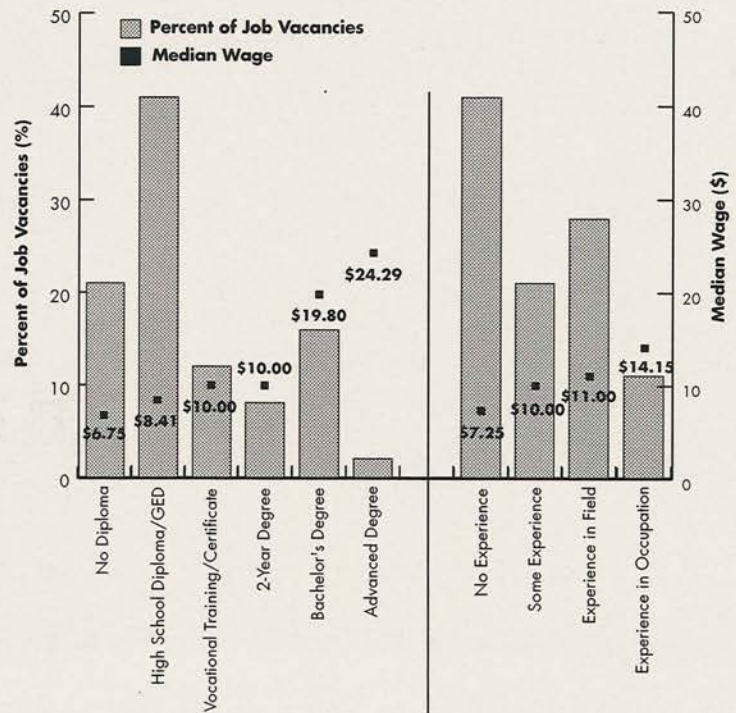
Minnesota's Workforce Development

Plan emphasizes preparing workers for fields with the greatest need for workers. The question is: where is the greatest need—and what fields are most affected by shortage conditions?

The *Minnesota Job Vacancy Survey* is a tool to assess current job market demand. During 2nd Quarter 2001, the Minnesota Department of Economic Security (MDES) surveyed a representative sample of employers from all major industries and regions of the state. From their information, MDES estimates that there are 97,000 job vacancies statewide.

The Southeast region has a job vacancy level of 7,800—or 4 vacancies for every 100 filled jobs. That is close to the local area unemployment rate during the same quarter. Jobseekers will find more opportunities here than in most other regions of the state.

Education and Experience Job Requirements and Median Wage Offers in the Southeast Region



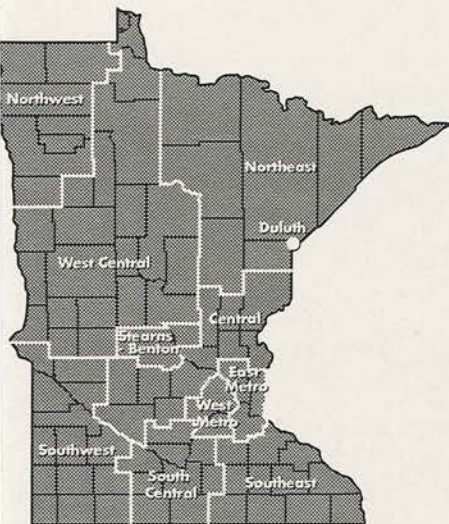
Education and experience are important factors in almost all hiring decisions. They are quick, convenient indicators of skill level and job readiness requirements. The *Minnesota Job Vacancy Survey* finds that in the Southeast and other regions, opportunities exist across the spectrum of job preparation.

The median starting wage for all Southeast openings is \$8.57 per hour, but premium wages are offered for education and experience. The median wage offer for jobs requiring post-secondary vocational training is \$10.00 per hour; a two-year degree, \$10.00 per hour; a bachelor's degree, \$19.80 per hour.

Major Occupational Group	Minnesota		Stearns - Benton		Central		Duluth		East Metro	
	Number of Job Vacancies	Job Vacancy Rate (%)	Number of Job Vacancies	Job Vacancy Rate (%)	Number of Job Vacancies	Job Vacancy Rate (%)	Number of Job Vacancies	Job Vacancy Rate (%)	Number of Job Vacancies	Job Vacancy Rate (%)
Food Preparation and Serving Related	13,998	8%	571	6%	1,742	12%	494	NA	3,195	7%
Sales and Related	13,435	5	359	3	344	3	122	NA	4,185	6
Office and Administrative Support	11,817	3	560	4	387	2	221	NA	4,281	4
Transportation and Material Moving	7,008	4	194	4	417	4	89	NA	2,392	4
Healthcare Practitioners and Technical	6,662	5	145	5	235	3	263	NA	1,829	5
Personal Care and Service	6,563	12	174	12	597	11	149	NA	1,200	11
Healthcare Support	5,851	8	54	3	476	8	123	NA	1,172	6
Construction and Extraction	5,548	6	244	7	188	2	37	NA	1,083	4
Production	4,956	2	121	1	731	4	61	NA	1,075	2
Education, Training and Library	3,792	3	114	2	174	1	10	NA	1,521	4
Building, Grounds Cleaning and Maintenance	3,464	4	50	2	133	2	122	NA	1,071	7
Management	3,108	2	42	1	34	2	8	NA	831	2
Installation, Maintenance and Repair	2,287	2	36	1	113	2	9	NA	778	4
Business and Financial Operations	1,843	2	26	1	15	0	10	NA	374	1
Architecture and Engineering	1,132	2	2	0	25	NA	3	NA	246	2
Art, Design, Entertainment and Media	1,108	3	12	1	8	1	11	NA	163	2
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Protective Service	889	2	2	0	86	NA	21	NA	285	4
Life, Physical and Social Science	727	3	1	1	14	NA	1	NA	263	4
Farming, Fishing and Forestry	592	14	16	NA	115	40	0	NA	22	NA
Legal	244	2	14	16	12	NA	0	NA	73	6
Total	97,171	4%	2,756	3%	5,906	4%	1,810	NA	26,794	4%

NA=Not Applicable

Job Vacancies by Region: What Workers are in Demand?



In the Southeast region, the largest numbers of vacancies are found in these sectors:

- Healthcare support, 1,164 openings
- Food preparation and serving, 948 openings
- Construction and extraction, 898 openings
- Healthcare practitioners and technical, 879 openings

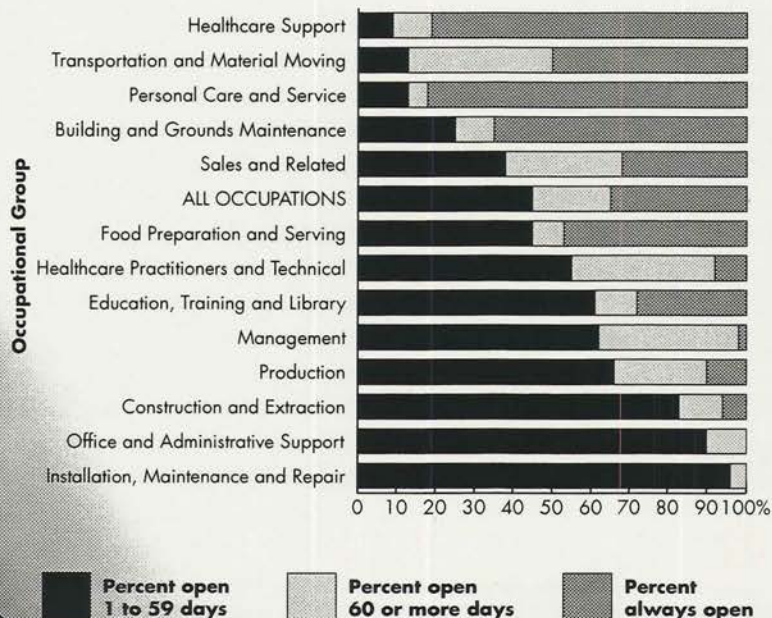
	Northeast		Northwest		South Central		SOUTHEAST		Southwest		West Central		West Metro	
	Number of Job Vacancies	Job Vacancy Rate (%)	Number of Job Vacancies	Job Vacancy Rate (%)	Number of Job Vacancies	Job Vacancy Rate (%)	Number of Job Vacancies	Job Vacancy Rate (%)	Number of Job Vacancies	Job Vacancy Rate (%)	Number of Job Vacancies	Job Vacancy Rate (%)	Number of Job Vacancies	Job Vacancy Rate (%)
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	113	2	88	15	35	1	422	13	99	4	114	4	3,572	18
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Some of the fields with a need for workers are high-turnover fields; that is, positions are regularly refilled. As a result, large numbers of vacancies may or may not reflect a shortage of qualified, interested workers.

A better indicator of hiring difficulty is the length of time that vacant positions remain open.

- In the Southeast region, healthcare support, transportation and material moving, and personal care and service occupations have the greatest backlog of long-open and "always open" positions, indicating hiring difficulty in these occupations.
- Most vacancies in installation, maintenance and repair, office and administrative support, and construction are filled quickly. This suggests that a sufficient number of interested workers are currently available in these occupations.
- Across all fields, 44 percent of vacancies in the Southeast region have been open less than 60 days; 20 percent have been open 60 days or longer; and 35 percent are "always open," according to employers.

Duration of Vacancies in Occupations with over 100 Vacancies in the Southeast Region



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SOUTHWEST REGION



Minnesota Job Vacancy Survey Regional Spotlight



Research and Statistics Office

Minnesota
Department of
Economic Security

November 2001

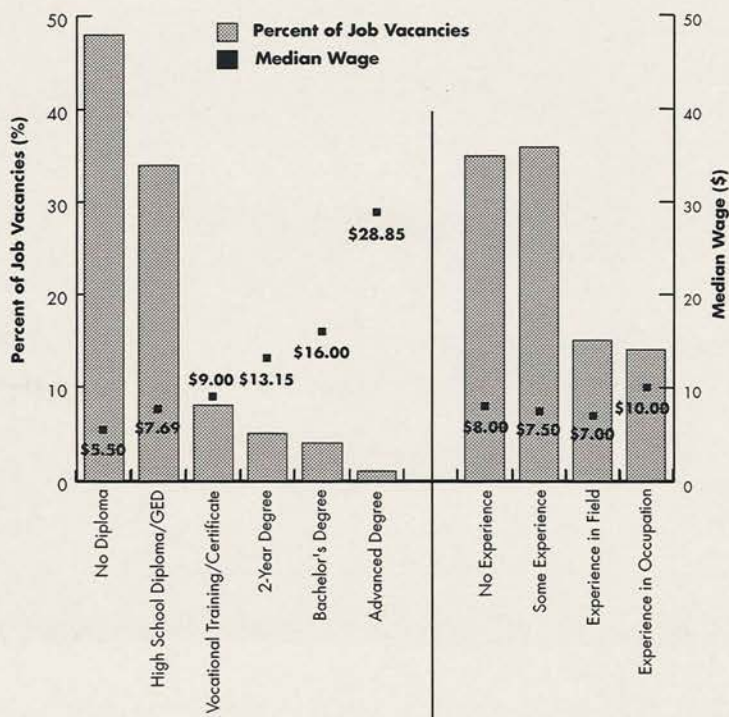
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The Southwest region has a job vacancy level of 2,200—or 3 vacancies for every 100 filled jobs. That is less than the local area unemployment rate during the same quarter. This means that some jobseekers will have difficulty finding appropriate work.

Education and Experience Job Requirements and Median Wage Offers in the Southwest Region



Education and experience are important factors in almost all hiring decisions. They are quick, convenient indicators of skill level and job readiness requirements. The *Minnesota Job Vacancy Survey* finds that in the Southwest and other regions, opportunities exist across the spectrum of job preparation.

The median starting wage for all Southwest openings is \$7.50 per hour, but premium wages are offered for education and experience. The median wage offer for jobs requiring post-secondary vocational training is \$9.00 per hour; a two-year degree, \$13.15 per hour; a bachelor's degree, \$16.00 per hour.

Major Occupational Group	Minnesota		Stearns - Benton		Central		Duluth		East Metro	
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Farming, Fishing and Forestry	592	14	16	NA	115	40	0	NA	22	NA
Legal	244	2	14	16	12	NA	0	NA	73	6
Total	97,171	4%	2,756	3%	5,906	4%	1,810	NA	26,794	4%

NA=Not Applicable

Job Vacancies by Region: What Workers are in Demand?



In the Southwest region, the largest numbers of vacancies are found in these sectors:

- Food preparation and serving, 932 openings
- Building, grounds cleaning and maintenance, 216 openings
- Healthcare practitioners and technical, 180 openings
- Transportation and material moving, 145 openings
- Installation, maintenance and repair, 138 openings

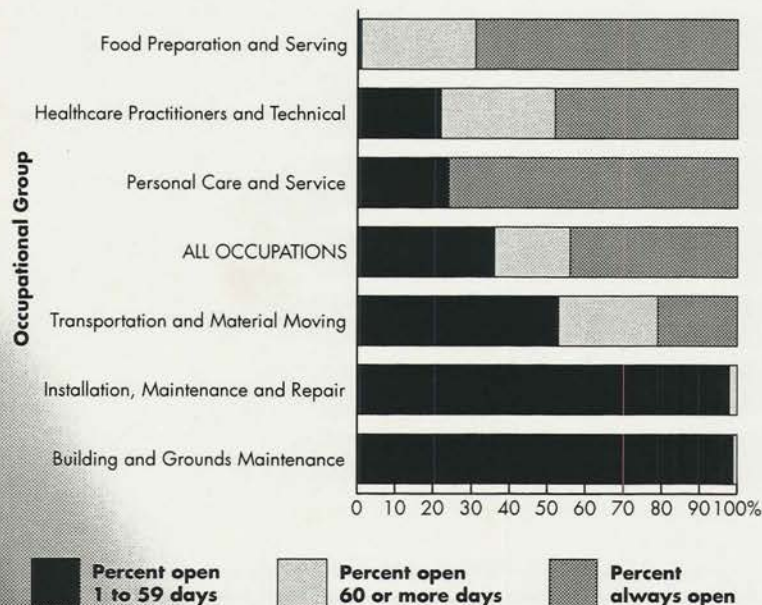
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119	1	6	0	11	0	431	5	26	0	59	1	1,321	3
283	5	98	6	86	2	174	3	216	12	294	3	937	4
10	0	1	0	52	1	237	2	90	3	113	2	1,690	2
30	0	87	5	12	0	226	2	138	4	189	3	669	2
35	1	2	0	5	0	61	1	10	1	18	1	1,287	2
16	1	33	6	62	5	124	3	3	1	68	6	550	2
0	NA	0	NA	37	3	78	5	35	19	27	2	737	4
4	0	4	NA	10	1	93	1	12	2	2	0	496	1
12	0	56	15	14	1	71	3	10	1	30	1	443	3
0	NA	2	NA	18	1	31	2	1	NA	45	2	398	3
8	1	18	4	9	2	65	7	0	NA	15	3	333	3
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Some of the fields with a need for workers are high-turnover fields; that is, positions are regularly refilled. As a result, large numbers of vacancies may or may not reflect a shortage of qualified, interested workers.

A better indicator of hiring difficulty is the length of time that vacant positions remain open.

- In the Southwest region, food preparation and serving, healthcare practitioners and technical, and personal care and service occupations have the greatest backlog of long-open and "always open" positions, indicating hiring difficulty in these occupations.
- Most vacancies in building and grounds maintenance and installation, maintenance and repair are filled quickly. This suggests that a sufficient number of interested workers are currently available in these occupations.
- Across all fields, 36 percent of vacancies in the Southwest region have been open less than 60 days; 20 percent have been open 60 days or longer; and 44 percent are "always open," according to employers.

Duration of Vacancies in Occupations with over 100 Vacancies in the Southwest Region



This brochure is a summary of the Job Vacancy Survey information for Southwest Minnesota. Similar brochures are available for 10 other regions of Minnesota.

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www.mnwfc.org/lmi/public

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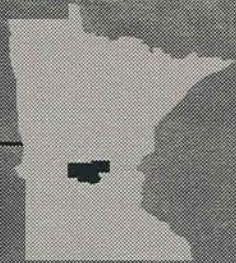
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Minnesota Department of Economic Security, Research and Statistics Office, 390 N. Robert Street, St. Paul, MN 55101

or send e-mail to: pubs@ngwmail.des.state.mn.us

Stock Room # ES-03317-01

STEARNS AND BENTON COUNTIES



Minnesota Job Vacancy Survey Regional Spotlight



Research and Statistics Office

Minnesota
Department of
Economic Security

November 2001

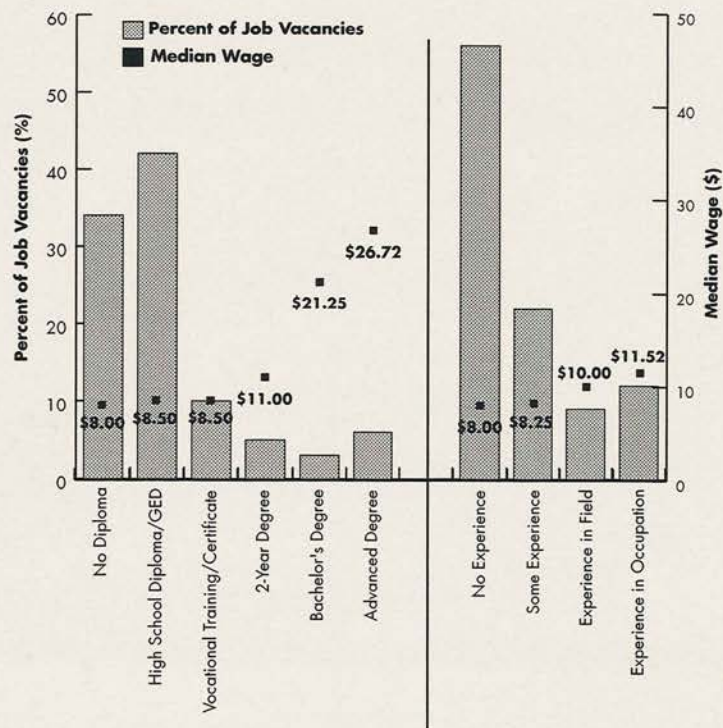
Minnesota's Workforce Development

Plan emphasizes preparing workers for fields with the greatest need for workers. The question is: where is the greatest need—and what fields are most affected by shortage conditions?

The *Minnesota Job Vacancy Survey* is a tool to assess current job market demand. During 2nd Quarter 2001, the Minnesota Department of Economic Security (MDES) surveyed a representative sample of employers from all major industries and regions of the state. From their information, MDES estimates that there are 97,000 job vacancies statewide.

The Stearns - Benton area has a job vacancy level of 2,800— or 3 vacancies for every 100 filled jobs. That is less than the local area unemployment rate during the same quarter. This means that some jobseekers will have difficulty finding appropriate work.

Education and Experience Job Requirements and Median Wage Offers in Stearns and Benton Counties



Education and experience are important factors in almost all hiring decisions. They are quick, convenient indicators of skill level and job readiness requirements. The *Minnesota Job Vacancy Survey* finds that in Stearns and Benton counties and other regions, opportunities exist across the spectrum of job preparation.

The median starting wage for all Stearns-Benton openings is \$8.25 per hour, but premium wages are offered for education and experience. The median wage offer for jobs requiring post-secondary vocational training is \$8.50 per hour; a two-year degree, \$11.00 per hour; a bachelor's degree, \$21.25 per hour.

Major Occupational Group	Minnesota		STEARNS - BENTON		CENTRAL		Duluth		East Metro	
	Number of Job Vacancies	Job Vacancy Rate (%)	Number of Job Vacancies	Job Vacancy Rate (%)	Number of Job Vacancies	Job Vacancy Rate (%)	Number of Job Vacancies	Job Vacancy Rate (%)	Number of Job Vacancies	Job Vacancy Rate (%)
Food Preparation and Serving Related	13,998	8%	571	6%	1,742	12%	494	NA	3,195	7%
Sales and Related	13,435	5	359	3	344	3	122	NA	4,185	6
Office and Administrative Support	11,817	3	560	4	387	2	221	NA	4,281	4
Transportation and Material Moving	7,008	4	194	4	417	4	89	NA	2,392	4
Healthcare Practitioners and Technical	6,662	5	145	5	235	3	263	NA	1,829	5
Personal Care and Service	6,563	12	174	12	597	11	149	NA	1,200	11
Healthcare Support	5,851	8	54	3	476	8	123	NA	1,172	6
Construction and Extraction	5,548	6	244	7	188	2	37	NA	1,083	4
Production	4,956	2	121	1	731	4	61	NA	1,075	2
Education, Training and Library	3,792	3	114	2	174	1	10	NA	1,521	4
Building, Grounds Cleaning and Maintenance	3,464	4	50	2	133	2	122	NA	1,071	7
Management	3,108	2	42	1	34	2	8	NA	831	2
Installation, Maintenance and Repair	2,287	2	36	1	113	2	9	NA	778	4
Business and Financial Operations	1,843	2	26	1	15	0	10	NA	374	1
Architecture and Engineering	1,132	2	2	0	25	NA	3	NA	246	2
Art, Design, Entertainment and Media	1,108	3	12	1	8	1	11	NA	163	2
Computer and Mathematical	1,094	2	7	1	4	0	1	NA	461	3
Community and Social Service	1,053	3	12	1	56	2	55	NA	294	3
Protective Service	889	2	2	0	86	NA	21	NA	285	4
Life, Physical and Social Science	727	3	1	1	14	NA	1	NA	263	4
Farming, Fishing and Forestry	592	14	16	NA	115	40	0	NA	22	NA
Legal	244	2	14	16	12	NA	0	NA	73	6
Total	97,171	4%	2,756	3%	5,906	4%	1,810	NA	26,794	4%

NA=Not Applicable

Job Vacancies by Region: What Workers are in Demand?



In Stearns and Benton counties, the largest numbers of vacancies are found in these sectors:

- Food preparation and serving, 571 openings
- Office and administrative support, 560 openings
- Sales and related, 359 openings
- Construction and extraction, 244 openings

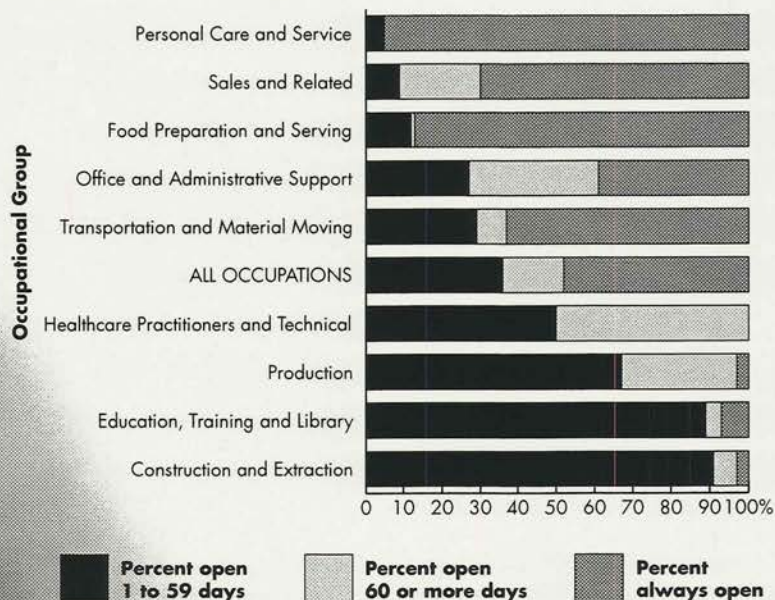
Northeast		Northwest		South Central		Southeast		Southwest		West Central		West Metro	
Number of Job Vacancies	Job Vacancy Rate (%)	Number of Job Vacancies	Job Vacancy Rate (%)	Number of Job Vacancies	Job Vacancy Rate (%)	Number of Job Vacancies	Job Vacancy Rate (%)	Number of Job Vacancies	Job Vacancy Rate (%)	Number of Job Vacancies	Job Vacancy Rate (%)	Number of Job Vacancies	Job Vacancy Rate (%)
1,447	12%	170	5%	192	2%	948	8%	932	15%	526	7%	3,781	6%
478	4	133	3	181	2	763	4	30	0	1,670	12	5,170	5
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210	2	296	7	416	6	277	2	145	2	226	2	2,346	4
170	2	81	4	113	2	879	6	180	6	229	3	2,538	6
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38	0	76	4	463	11	898	13	1	0	484	9	2,036	7
159	2	413	10	186	1	365	1	89	1	181	1	1,575	2
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283	5	98	6	86	2	174	3	216	12	294	3	937	4
10	0	1	0	52	1	237	2	90	3	113	2	1,690	2
30	0	87	5	12	0	226	2	138	4	189	3	669	2
35	1	2	0	5	0	61	1	10	1	18	1	1,287	2
16	1	33	6	62	5	124	3	3	1	68	6	550	2
0	NA	0	NA	37	3	78	5	35	19	27	2	737	4
4	0	4	NA	10	1	93	1	12	2	2	0	496	1
12	0	56	15	14	1	71	3	10	1	30	1	443	3
0	NA	2	NA	18	1	31	2	1	NA	45	2	398	3
8	1	18	4	9	2	65	7	0	NA	15	3	333	3
30	7	4	NA	238	298	36	11	3	0	41	5	87	8
0	NA	0	NA	0	NA	3	1	0	NA	0	NA	142	2
3,505	3%	1,667	4%	2,388	2%	7,792	4%	2,168	3%	4,848	4%	37,537	4%

Some of the fields with a need for workers are high-turnover fields; that is, positions are regularly refilled. As a result, large numbers of vacancies may or may not reflect a shortage of qualified, interested workers.

A better indicator of hiring difficulty is the length of time that vacant positions remain open.

- In the Stearns-Benton area, personal care and service, sales, and food preparation and serving have the greatest backlog of "always open" positions, indicating high turnover or hiring difficulty in these occupations.
- Most vacancies in construction, education, and production are filled quickly. This suggests that a sufficient number of interested workers are currently available in these occupations.
- Across all fields, 36 percent of vacancies in the Stearns-Benton area have been open less than 60 days; 16 percent have been open 60 days or longer; and 48 percent are "always open," according to employers.

Duration of Vacancies in Occupations with over 100 Vacancies in Stearns and Benton Counties



This brochure is a summary of the Job Vacancy Survey information for Stearns and Benton counties in Minnesota. Similar brochures are available for 10 other regions of Minnesota.

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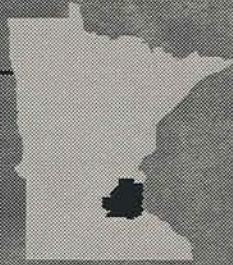
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TWIN CITIES REGION



Minnesota Job Vacancy Survey Regional Spotlight



Research and Statistics Office

Minnesota
Department of
Economic Security

November 2001

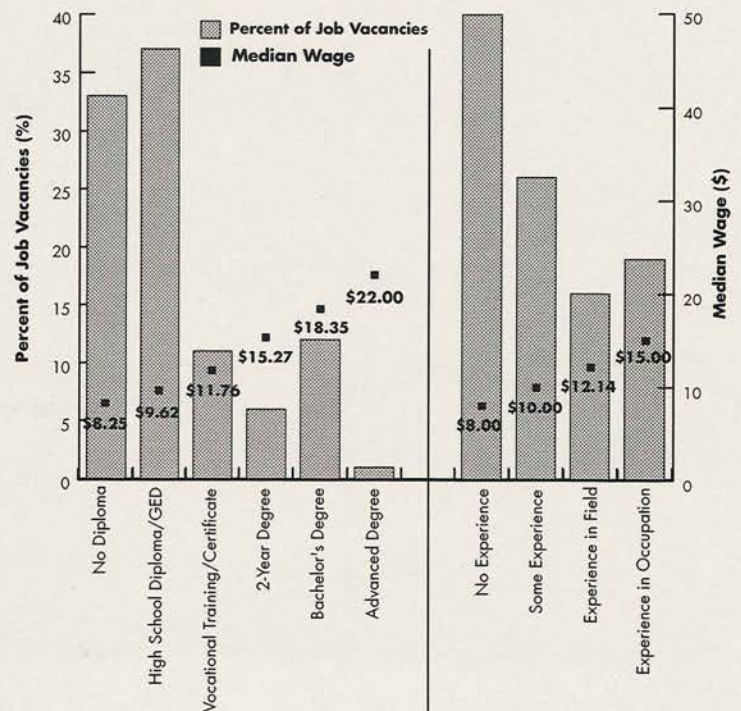
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Plan emphasizes preparing workers for fields with the greatest need for workers. The question is: where is the greatest need—and what fields are most affected by shortage conditions?

The *Minnesota Job Vacancy Survey* is a tool to assess current job market demand. During 2nd Quarter 2001, the Minnesota Department of Economic Security (MDES) surveyed a representative sample of employers from all major industries and regions of the state. From their information, MDES estimates that there are 97,000 job vacancies statewide.

The Twin Cities region has a job vacancy level of 64,300— or 4 vacancies for every 100 filled jobs. That is higher than the local area unemployment rate during the same quarter. This means that market conditions are favorable for many workers seeking employment or job change.

Education and Experience Job Requirements and Median Wage Offers in the Twin Cities Region



Education and experience are important factors in almost all hiring decisions. They are quick, convenient indicators of skill level and job readiness requirements. The *Minnesota Job Vacancy Survey* finds that in the Twin Cities and other regions, opportunities exist across the spectrum of job preparation.

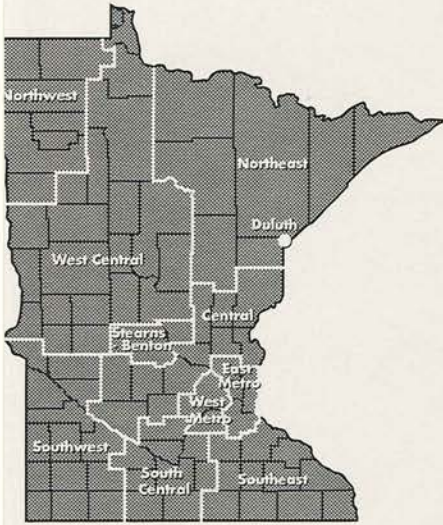
The median starting wage for all Twin Cities openings is \$10.00 per hour, but premium wages are offered for education and experience. The median wage offer for jobs requiring post-secondary vocational training is \$11.76 per hour; a two-year degree, \$15.27 per hour; a bachelor's degree, \$18.35 per hour.

Note: Twin Cities includes both East Metro and West Metro.

Major Occupational Group	Minnesota		Stearns - Benton		CENTRAL		Duluth		EAST METRO	
	Number of Job Vacancies	Job Vacancy Rate (%)	Number of Job Vacancies	Job Vacancy Rate (%)	Number of Job Vacancies	Job Vacancy Rate (%)	Number of Job Vacancies	Job Vacancy Rate (%)	Number of Job Vacancies	Job Vacancy Rate (%)
Food Preparation and Serving Related	13,998	8%	571	6%	1,742	12%	494	NA	3,195	7%
Sales and Related	13,435	5	359	3	344	3	122	NA	4,185	6
Office and Administrative Support	11,817	3	560	4	387	2	221	NA	4,281	4
Transportation and Material Moving	7,008	4	194	4	417	4	89	NA	2,392	4
Healthcare Practitioners and Technical	6,662	5	145	5	235	3	263	NA	1,829	5
Personal Care and Service	6,563	12	174	12	597	11	149	NA	1,200	11
Healthcare Support	5,851	8	54	3	476	8	123	NA	1,172	6
Construction and Extraction	5,548	6	244	7	188	2	37	NA	1,083	4
Production	4,956	2	121	1	731	4	61	NA	1,075	2
Education, Training and Library	3,792	3	114	2	174	1	10	NA	1,521	4
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Management	3,108	2	42	1	34	2	8	NA	831	2
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Business and Financial Operations	1,843	2	26	1	15	0	10	NA	374	1
Architecture and Engineering	1,132	2	2	0	25	NA	3	NA	246	2
Art, Design, Entertainment and Media	1,108	3	12	1	8	1	11	NA	163	2
Computer and Mathematical	1,094	2	7	1	4	0	1	NA	461	3
Community and Social Service	1,053	3	12	1	56	2	55	NA	294	3
Protective Service	889	2	2	0	86	NA	21	NA	285	4
Life, Physical and Social Science	727	3	1	1	14	NA	1	NA	263	4
Farming, Fishing and Forestry	592	14	16	NA	115	40	0	NA	22	NA
Legal	244	2	14	16	12	NA	0	NA	73	6
Total	97,171	4%	2,756	3%	5,906	4%	1,810	NA	26,794	4%

NA=Not Applicable

Job Vacancies by Region: What Workers are in Demand?



In the Twin Cities region, the largest numbers of vacancies are found in these sectors:

- Office and administrative support, 9,529 openings
- Sales and related, 9,355 openings
- Food preparation and serving, 6,976 openings
- Personal care and service, 4,772 openings
- Transportation and material moving, 4,738 openings

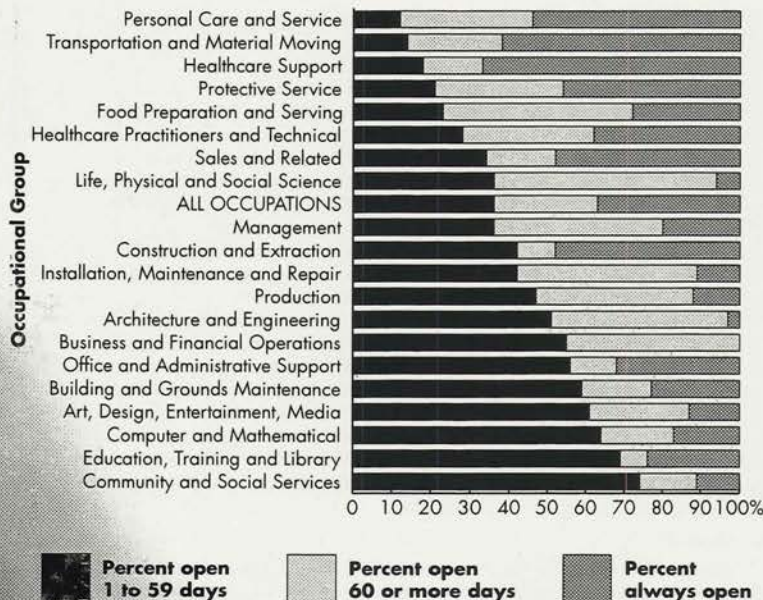
	Northeast		Northwest		South Central		Southeast		Southwest		West Central		WEST METRO	
	Number of Job Vacancies	Job Vacancy Rate (%)	Number of Job Vacancies	Job Vacancy Rate (%)	Number of Job Vacancies	Job Vacancy Rate (%)	Number of Job Vacancies	Job Vacancy Rate (%)	Number of Job Vacancies	Job Vacancy Rate (%)	Number of Job Vacancies	Job Vacancy Rate (%)	Number of Job Vacancies	Job Vacancy Rate (%)
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Some of the fields with a need for workers are high-turnover fields; that is, positions are regularly refilled. As a result, large numbers of vacancies may or may not reflect a shortage of qualified, interested workers.

A better indicator of hiring difficulty is the length of time that vacant positions remain open.

- In the Twin Cities region, personal care and service, transportation and material moving, healthcare support, and science and social science occupations have the greatest backlog of long-open and "always open" positions, indicating hiring difficulty in these occupations.
- Most vacancies in community and social services, education, and computer occupations are filled quickly. This suggests that a sufficient number of interested workers are currently available in these occupations.
- Across all fields, 36 percent of vacancies in the Twin Cities region have been open less than 60 days; 27 percent have been open 60 days or longer; and 37 percent are "always open," according to employers.

Duration of Vacancies in Occupations with over 100 Vacancies in the Twin Cities Region



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WEST CENTRAL REGION



Minnesota Job Vacancy Survey Regional Spotlight



Research and Statistics Office

Minnesota
Department of
Economic Security

November 2001

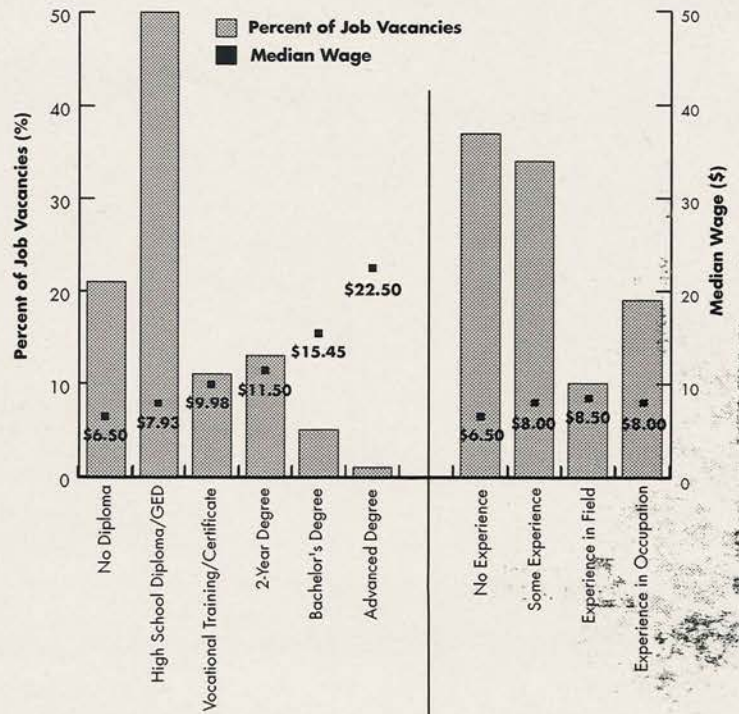
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Education and Experience Job Requirements and Median Wage Offers in the West Central Region



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The median starting wage for all West Central openings is \$8.00 per hour, but premium wages are offered for education and experience. The median wage offer for jobs requiring post-secondary vocational training is \$9.98 per hour; a two-year degree, \$11.50 per hour; a bachelor's degree, \$15.45 per hour.

Major Occupational Group	Minnesota		Stearns - Benton		Central		Duluth		East Metro	
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Farming, Fishing and Forestry	592	14	16	NA	115	40	0	NA	22	NA
Legal	244	2	14	16	12	NA	0	NA	73	6
Total	97,171	4%	2,756	3%	5,906	4%	1,810	NA	26,794	4%

NA=Not Applicable

Job Vacancies by Region: What Workers are in Demand?



In the West Central region, the largest numbers of vacancies are found in these sectors:

- Sales and related, 1,670 openings
- Food preparation and serving, 526 openings
- Construction and extraction, 484 openings
- Healthcare support, 324 openings

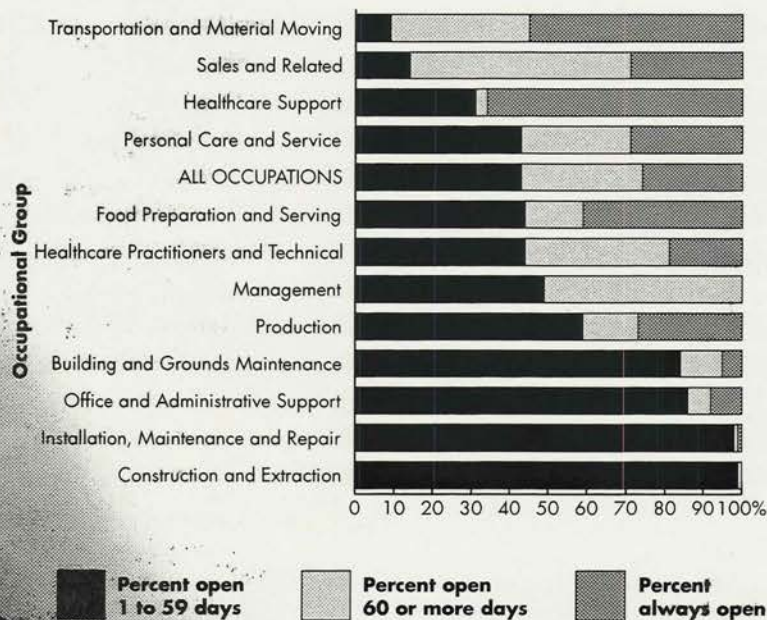
	Northeast		Northwest		South Central		Southeast		Southwest		WEST CENTRAL		West Metro	
	Number of Job Vacancies	Job Vacancy Rate (%)	Number of Job Vacancies	Job Vacancy Rate (%)	Number of Job Vacancies	Job Vacancy Rate (%)	Number of Job Vacancies	Job Vacancy Rate (%)	Number of Job Vacancies	Job Vacancy Rate (%)	Number of Job Vacancies	Job Vacancy Rate (%)	Number of Job Vacancies	Job Vacancy Rate (%)
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	283	5	98	6	86	2	174	3	216	12	294	3	937	4
	10	0	1	0	52	1	237	2	90	3	113	2	1,690	2
	30	0	87	5	12	0	226	2	138	4	189	3	669	2
	35	1	2	0	5	0	61	1	10	1	18	1	1,287	2
	16	1	33	6	62	5	124	3	3	1	68	6	550	2
	0	NA	0	NA	37	3	78	5	35	19	27	2	737	4
	4	0	4	NA	10	1	93	1	12	2	2	0	496	1
	12	0	56	15	14	1	71	3	10	1	30	1	443	3
	0	NA	2	NA	18	1	31	2	1	NA	45	2	398	3
	8	1	18	4	9	2	65	7	0	NA	15	3	333	3
	30	7	4	NA	238	298	36	11	3	0	41	5	87	8
	0	NA	0	NA	0	NA	3	1	0	NA	0	NA	142	2
	3,505	3%	1,667	4%	2,388	2%	7,792	4%	2,168	3%	4,848	4%	37,537	4%

Some of the fields with a need for workers are high-turnover fields; that is, positions are regularly refilled. As a result, large numbers of vacancies may or may not reflect a shortage of qualified, interested workers.

A better indicator of hiring difficulty is the length of time that vacant positions remain open.

- In the West Central region, sales, transportation and material moving, and healthcare support appear to have the greatest backlog of long-open and "always open" positions, indicating hiring difficulty in these occupations.
- Most vacancies in construction, installation, maintenance and repair, office and administrative support, and building and grounds maintenance are filled quickly. This suggests that a sufficient number of interested workers are currently available in these occupations.
- Across all fields, 43 percent of vacancies in the West Central region have been open less than 60 days; 31 percent have been open 60 days or longer; and 26 percent are "always open," according to employers.

Duration of Vacancies in Occupations with over 100 Vacancies in the West Central Region



This brochure is a summary of the Job Vacancy Survey information for West Central Minnesota. Similar brochures are available for 10 other regions of Minnesota.

These regional brochures, the full report and a complete discussion of the *Minnesota Job Vacancy Survey* methodology is available on the Internet at www.mnwfc.org/lmi/public

For more information about the Job Vacancy Survey, contact the LMI Helpline at 651.282.2714 or lmi@ngwmail.des.state.mn.us

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