

Ramsey County Labor Market Update – February 2009

Economic Performance

Between 2Q, 2007 and 2Q, 2008, private sector employment in Ramsey County contracted by 2,190 jobs—a decrease of 0.8%. Despite an overall decline in employment, some sectors added jobs between the second quarters of 2007 and 2008. Job growth was led by the health care and social assistance (1,442 jobs), manufacturing (886 jobs) and management of companies (823 jobs) industries.

By contrast, employment in the Twin Cities seven-county region declined 0.9%, or 12,694 jobs, during the same time period.

Table 1: Private Sector Industry Employment and Average Weekly Wages, Second Quarter 2008

	Number of Establishments	Avg. Number of Employees	Avg. Weekly Wage	Numeric Change, 2Q 2007 to 2Q 2008
Total, All Industries	14,204	278,237	\$908	-2,191
Health Care and Social Assistance	1,654	51,862	\$789	1,442
Manufacturing	768	30,953	\$1,282	886
Retail Trade	1,787	28,429	\$485	-1,481
Accommodation and Food Services	1,135	22,415	\$292	115
Finance and Insurance	916	19,214	\$1,195	-394
Administrative and Waste Services	669	18,943	\$529	-1,739
Management of Companies and Enterprises	139	17,593	\$1,902	823
Wholesale Trade	861	14,769	\$1,241	-295
Professional and Technical Services	1,773	13,046	\$1,247	-494
Other Services, Ex. Public Admin	1,557	12,307	\$574	375
Educational Services	254	10,841	\$755	325
Information	276	8,494	\$1,178	84
Transportation and Warehousing	313	5,917	\$768	-969
Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation	238	5,329	\$466	196
Real Estate and Rental and Leasing	832	4,695	\$738	-297
Utilities	16	867	\$1,377	25

Source: DEED, Labor Market Information Office, Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages (QCEW).

Future labor force growth depends on the growth in the working-age population and rates of participation. Labor force projections for Ramsey County show an 11% decline in the size of the labor force between 2005 and 2035. Positive labor force growth will be seen only for people 65 years of age and over.

Unemployment Rate

The county's average unemployment rate was 5.3% in 2008—slightly lower than the state's overall unemployment rate.

In 2008, an average of 14,500 Ramsey County residents were unemployed and, therefore, available to work and actively seeking work.

Table 2: Unemployment Statistics - 2008 Annual Average

Area	Labor Force	Employment	Unemployed	Unemp. Rate
St. Paul	144,579	136,508	8,071	5.6%
Ramsey County	273,362	258,860	14,502	5.3%
Twin Cities Region	1,614,319	1,531,812	82,507	5.1%
Minnesota	2,941,090	2,778,525	162,315	5.5%

Source: DEED, Labor Market Information Office, Local Area Unemployment Statistics (LAUS). Annual averages may be subject to revision.

Population and the Labor Force

The population in Ramsey County increased 1.2% between 2000 and 2007. Overall population in Ramsey County is expected to decline by 4.3% between 2005 and 2035. By 2035, 48% of Ramsey County's population will be nonwhite, Hispanic or Latino.

Because workers are less mobile than other factors of production, availability of workers is important. Ramsey County businesses draw significant amounts of workers from surrounding counties.

An average of 273,360 Ramsey County residents were engaged in the labor force in 2008 either working or actively seeking work.

Current Demand for Workers

During fourth quarter 2008, there were 18,087 job vacancies in the Twin Cities seven-county region, or 1.1 openings for every 100 existing jobs in the region. This is a 41% decline in openings compared to fourth quarter 2007.

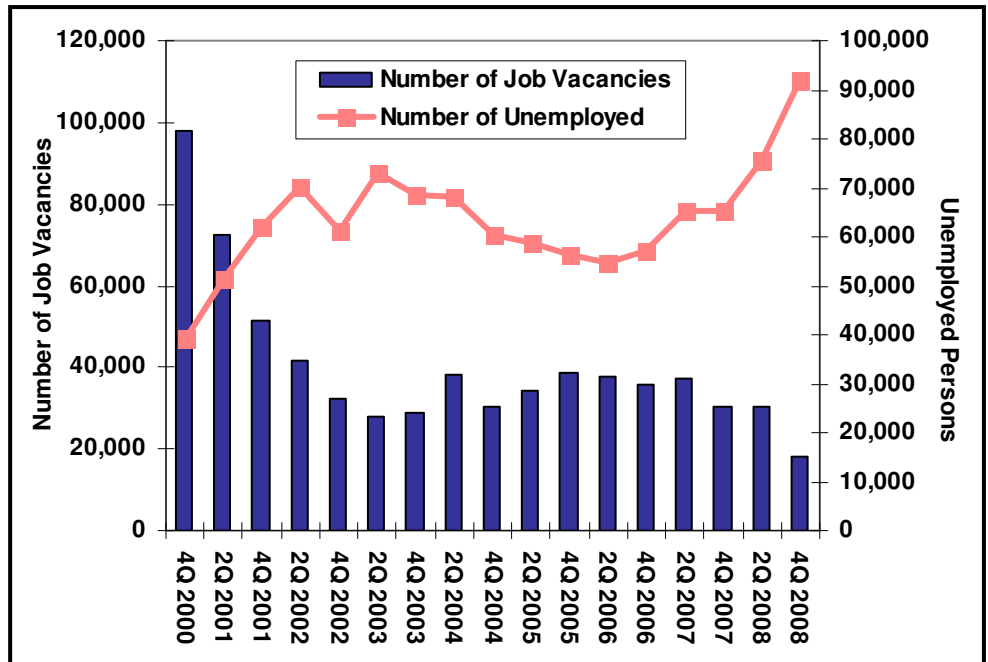
The health care and social assistance industry accounted for the most openings (4,097) followed by retail trade (2,491), manufacturing (1,765), and accommodation and food services (1,673).

Half of all job vacancies require some form of post-secondary education or training. Over 40% of job openings required related work experience; 27% required a certificate or license.

The largest numbers of job openings by occupation in the Twin Cities were for

- retail salespersons (1,084)
- fast food workers (799)
- home health aides (673)
- registered nurses (670)
- nursing aides, orderlies and attendants (612)

Figure 1: Job Vacancies in the Twin Cities Region

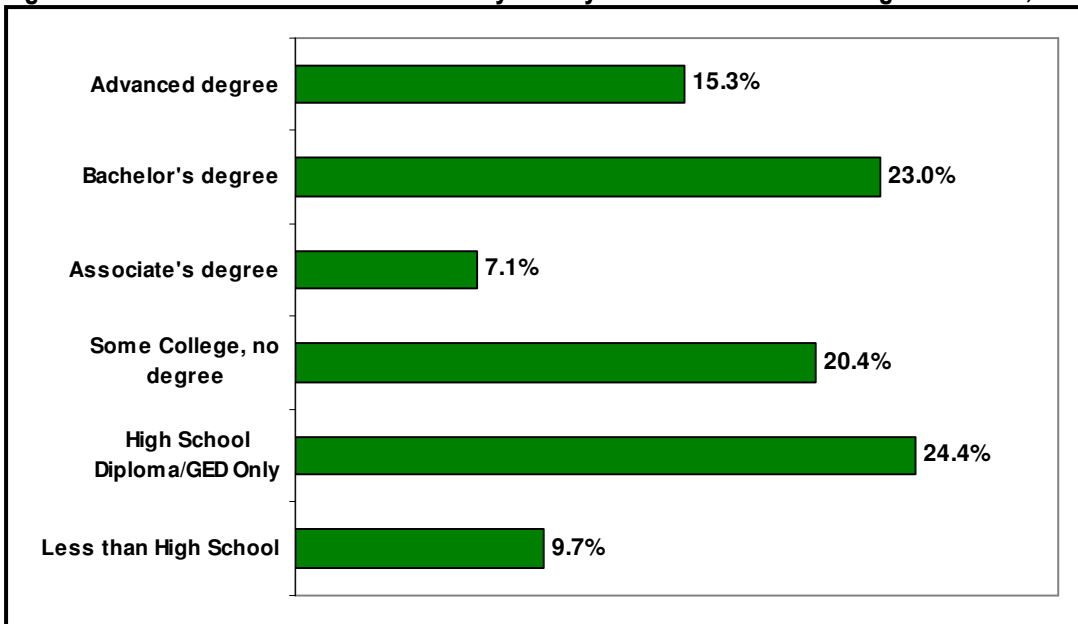


Source: DEED, Labor Market Information Office, Job Vacancy Survey.

Educational Attainment of Ramsey County Residents

In 2007, 90% of Ramsey County's adult residents had a high school diploma or higher. Over 38% of Ramsey County residents 25 years of age and over had a Bachelor's or advanced degree in 2007.

Figure 2: Educational Attainment of Ramsey County Residents 25 Years of Age and Older, 2007



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2007.

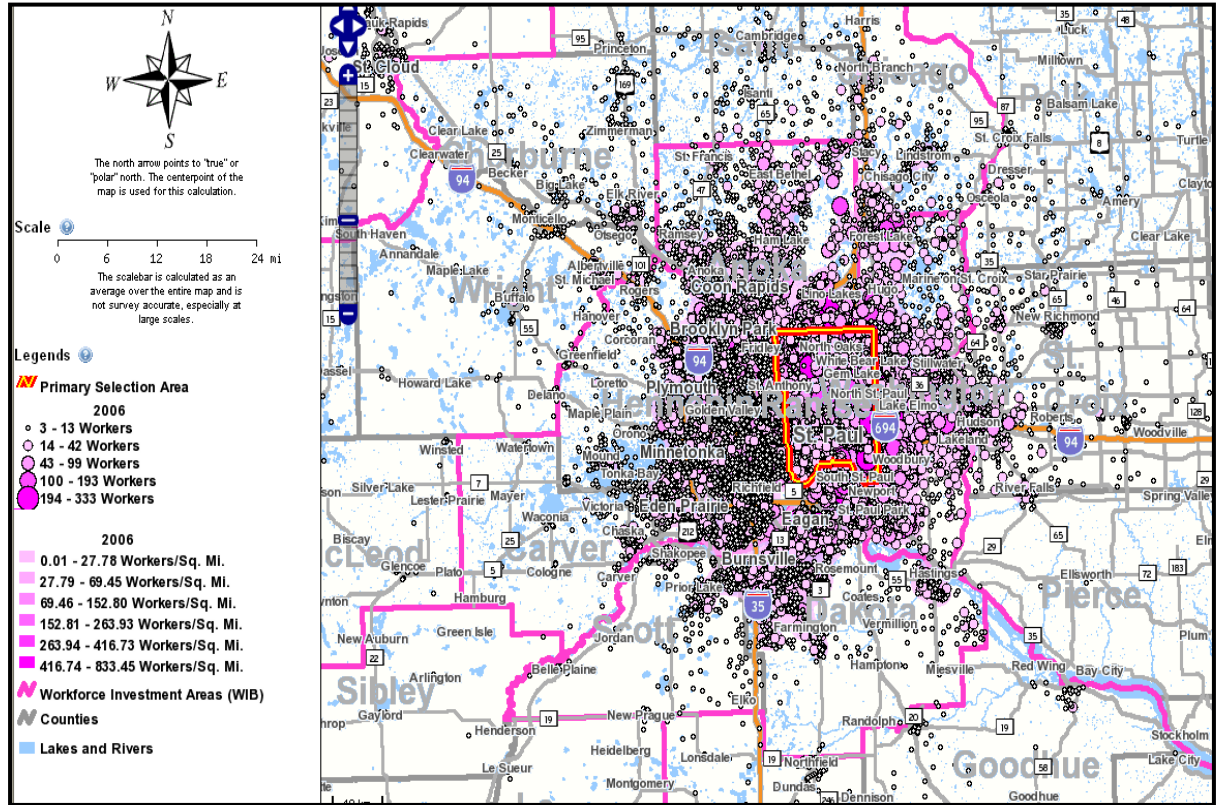
Ramsey County Labor Shed Profile

Ramsey County is a net importer of labor as employers draw workers from all over the Minneapolis-St. Paul metropolitan area. Approximately 37% of Ramsey County workers live in Ramsey County. Therefore, 63% of Ramsey County workers commute from surrounding areas. Individuals who live in Hennepin County (18%), Washington County (13%), Dakota County (10%), Anoka County (10%) and St. Croix County in Wisconsin (2%) make up the majority of Ramsey County's workforce.

Many Ramsey County employed residents, likewise, work in the surrounding counties. The largest numbers of Ramsey County residents are employed in Hennepin (68,800), Dakota (14,200), Washington (14,500), and Anoka (9,100) counties. Approximately 55% of Ramsey County residents work in Ramsey County.

In 2007, an estimated 10,300 Ramsey County residents, or 3% of employed residents, worked at home. Residents who worked at home most often worked in management, profession and related occupations (5,480), service occupation (2,260) or sales and office occupations (1,870).

Figure 3: Ramsey County Labor Shed Profile Map (Home of Ramsey County's Workers)



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, LED OnTheMap. Data presented are for primary jobholders in 2006. Map prepared February 20, 2009.

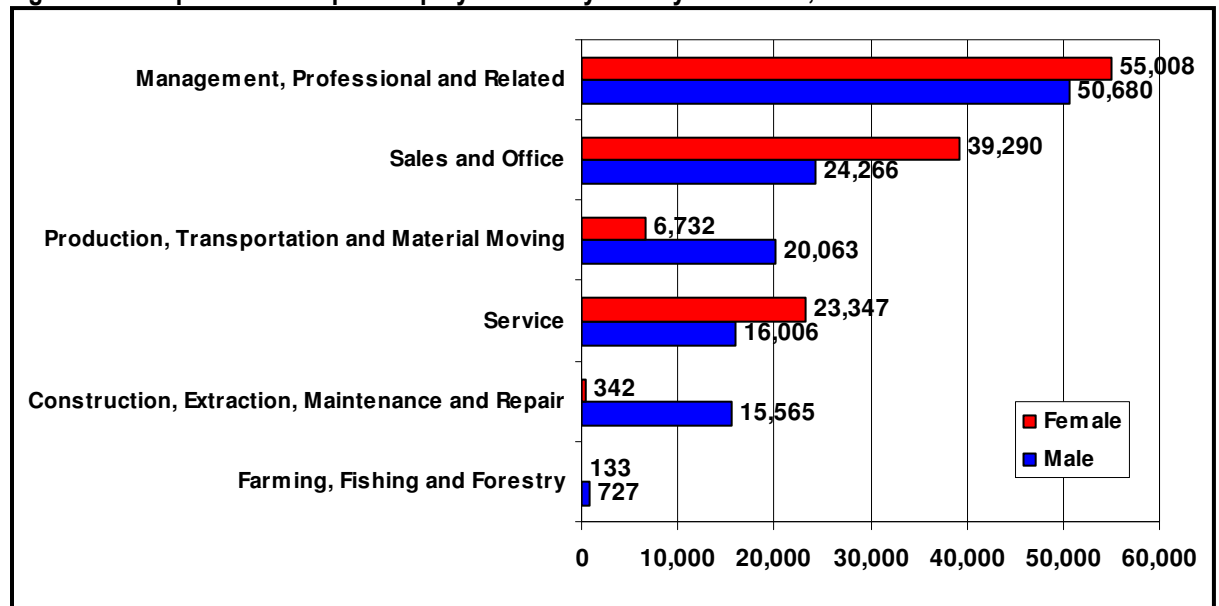
Labor Force Characteristics of Ramsey County Residents

Ramsey County residents are employment in all occupations, regardless of where they work.

Almost 70% of employed Ramsey County residents work in management, professional, sales or office occupations.

Male residents of Ramsey County are more likely than female residents to be employed in production, transportation, construction and maintenance occupations.

Figure 4: Occupational Group of Employed Ramsey County Residents, 2007

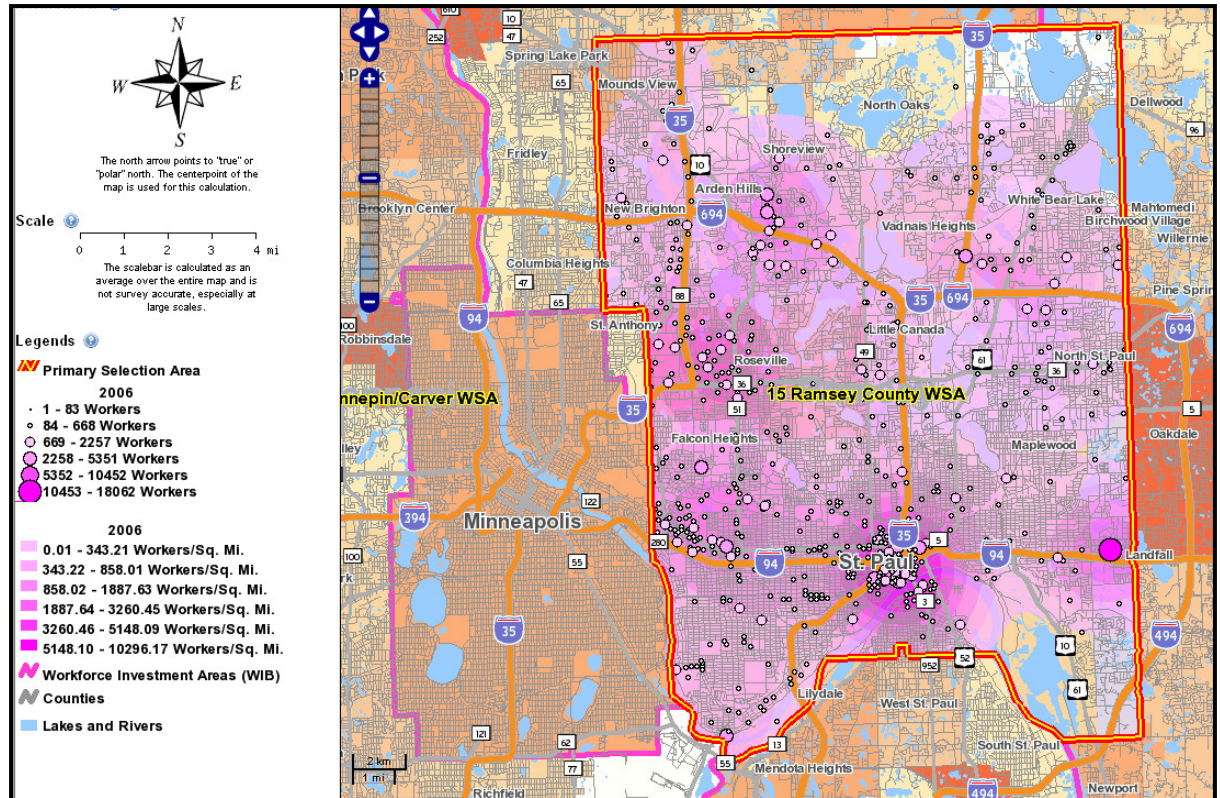


Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2007.

Ramsey County Work Area Profile

There are approximately 278,200 private sector workers and 54,600 local, state and federal employees in businesses located in Ramsey County. Businesses are located in cities and townships throughout the county, especially along transportation corridors, like Interstate 94, 694 and 35.

Figure 5: Ramsey County Work Area Profile Map (Concentrations of Workers in Ramsey County)



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, LED OnTheMap. Data presented are for primary jobholders in 2006. Map prepared February 20, 2009.

Businesses located in the city of St. Paul employ 52% of private sector workers and 70% of local, state and federal workers in Ramsey County. Table 4 lists businesses and employment in Ramsey County's major population centers.

Table 4: Private Sector Employment Statistics for Major Ramsey County Cities, Second Quarter 2008

	Number of Establishments	Avg. Number of Employees	Avg. Weekly Wage	Numeric Change, 2Q 2007 to 2Q 2008
St. Paul	7,116	145,247	\$854	787
Roseville	1,670	33,646	\$777	-2,150
Maplewood	1,068	25,728	\$1,199	-318
Arden Hills	363	13,690	\$1,174	-491
Shoreview	594	10,527	\$1,069	-1,256
White Bear Lake	921	10,381	\$676	312
Vadnais Heights	410	7,933	\$828	-166
Mounds View	196	5,717	\$1,591	2,346
Little Canada	383	5,440	\$1,038	-817
North St. Paul	217	2,110	\$645	-330

Source: DEED, Labor Market Information Office, Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages (QCEW).