

**MINNESOTA
CHAMBER OF
COMMERCE**

GROWING MINNESOTA

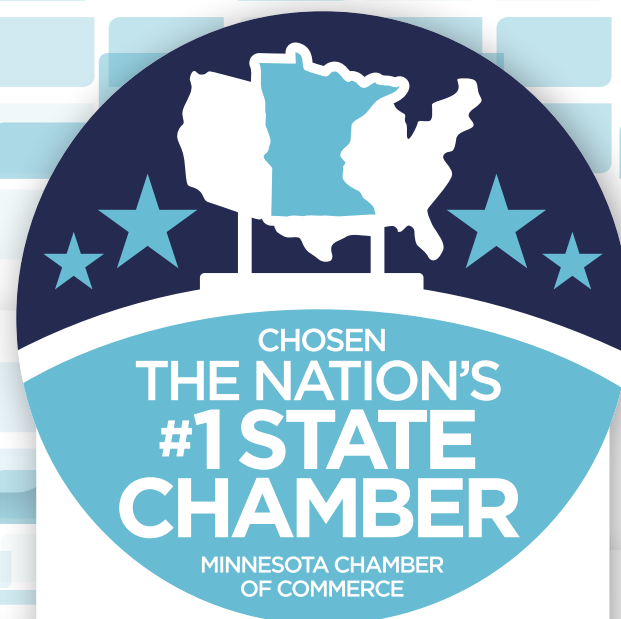
SEVENTH ANNUAL

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BUSINESS BENCHMARKS

RESILIENCY AND RECOVERY





The Minnesota Chamber of Commerce was selected as 2021's State Chamber of the Year by the national Council of State Chambers of Commerce. This award recognizes the Minnesota Chamber for its innovative initiatives and best practices that advance the state's economy and provide exceptional services and results for members.



Executive Summary

Minnesota's economy – much like its people – is resilient. For more than a year and a half, businesses across the state have weathered the unpredictability of a worldwide pandemic, and the subsequent changes in demand, supply chains and government imposed shutdowns. Yet here we are: a recovering economy offering more jobs than people to fill them, with businesses continuing to pivot and innovate, ushering in a new phase of prosperity for the future.



Each year, the Minnesota Chamber produces the Business Benchmarks report to make sense of the success of our economy relative to other states. This also benchmarks our progress toward recovery and our competitiveness. Is Minnesota a good place to do business? Do we have the tools in place to attract and retain business growth and skilled talent to all areas of our state, and continue to contribute to the quality of life that our citizens enjoy? Let's dig into the details and find out.

Among this year's findings:

- Minnesota's economy is resilient but underperforming. Our GDP growth continues to lag the national average – although it isn't among the worst in the nation, but considering our diverse economy we are outpaced by those we should surpass.
- Despite incremental progress on lowering taxes, such as providing relief on business property taxes and to those who accepted Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) loans, Minnesota remains among the highest taxed states in the nation, hindering economic growth.
- Many businesses illustrated the state's legacy of innovation throughout the COVID-19 pandemic, but more can be done to foster entrepreneurship, especially among immigrants and people of color.
- Each element of Minnesota's infrastructure – air, water, roads and digital connectivity – remains strong and helps move commerce through to every corner of the state, and beyond.
- The cost of doing business continues to vacillate, but specific costs continue to rise, such as electricity.
- Minnesota employers face new heights of the historic worker shortage. This is the result of a complicated set of factors, including eroding labor participation, lags in migration and the worst achievement gap in the nation.

The Business Benchmarks is a great snapshot in time of the state of Minnesota's economy. At the Minnesota Chamber, we are dedicated to bringing our members, the broader business community and the public at large, up-to-date data on the economy.

The Chamber Foundation continues to build on its reputation as a leader on Minnesota's economy, following the release of the Minnesota: 2030 report. This critical report and its ongoing applications outline the strengths of Minnesota's business legacy, as well as challenges in growing the economy to one that makes Minnesota attractive to lucrative industries, keeps strong employers in the state and leverages workforce opportunities to build a workforce pipeline for the future.

We hope the data contained in this report and the work of the Chamber Foundation and Grow Minnesota! program helps you make business decisions. We reaffirm our commitment to working with you – being an advocacy champion for Minnesota's statewide business community, providing thought-leadership on the economy and promoting economic opportunity for all Minnesotans.

Doug Loon
President and CEO, Minnesota Chamber of Commerce



SEVENTH ANNUAL

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BUSINESS BENCHMARKS

RESILIENCY AND RECOVERY

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Economy

The success of Minnesota's economy depends on a diverse and sophisticated network of dynamics. But sometimes success is simple to identify, when you see it.

Thermo King's COVID-19 story is one of success. This long-standing climate control company entered the pandemic a global leader in their industry, with a large footprint in Minnesota and broad set of products. They are leaving the pandemic as the one company that made the safe transport of COVID-19 vaccines into Minnesota possible.

If you ask Stephanie Mocanda, Communications Leader for Thermo King, they have innovated since the beginning. "We put the cold in cold chain," she says. Historically, ice blocks were used to safely move fresh food and temperature-sensitive products. In 1938, a founder of Thermo King and a self-taught engineer invented transport refrigeration. Now the company offers products in every section of the supply chain: trucks, ships, rail lines and air.

At the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic, their customers were impacted by shutdowns and decreased demand. Food service slowed to a crawl or shifted to home delivery. On top of the need to pivot operations, they saw a new opportunity: the newly-released COVID-19 vaccines required refrigeration for transport. They



Stephanie Mocanda
Communications Leader
Thermo King

didn't just need to be cold – their safety required transport at negative 70 degrees Celsius; or the temperature on Mars. Thermo King innovated yet again, and added a "super freezer" to their portfolio. When life-saving vaccines arrived in Minnesota, it was Thermo King that brought them there.

Since then, the challenge has been keeping up with growth and demand. Thermo King is experiencing the widespread supply chain and workforce issues seen elsewhere. They have taken great steps to reduce their reliance on foreign supply chains, instead focusing on local companies. And while Mocanda cites Minnesota and North America as one of the "easiest places to get good people

to come and work," she also cites the need for skilled work in the competitive areas of data science, electrification and other specialized engineering fields. Thermo King is working with the University of Minnesota to shape curricula and produce these skilled workers to stay in Minnesota.

Minnesota's economy overall has weathered the COVID-19 storm because of companies like Thermo King. Leaning into new opportunities through innovation and working to create a talent pipeline to keep these strong businesses in Minnesota for generations to come. ■

Economy: Resilient but underperforming

There is no one way to define economic recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic. But it's clear that Minnesota has come a long way since the beginning days of shutdowns and widespread layoffs. The state's GDP didn't plummet as far as other states', but it's not exceeding them either, keeping Minnesota in the middle of the pack. Minnesota is seeing a turnaround in exports after experiencing a 10% decline in 2020. This is still better than the national export decline of 13%. Minnesota's unemployment rate continues to drop with job vacancies now greatly exceeding the number of unemployed workers. ■

MINNESOTA RANKING: 1ST IS BEST

GROWTH IN STATE GDP

2020
Ranked 35th
(4%)
National Average: (3.4%)

BETTER
1
SPOT
FROM 2019

ANNUAL EXPORTS

2020
Ranked 20th
(9.5%)
National Average: (12.9%)

BETTER
6
SPOTS
FROM 2019

ANNUAL JOB GROWTH

SEPTEMBER 2021
Ranked 13th
3.87%
National Average: 4.04%

BETTER
22
SPOTS
FROM 2020

PERSONAL INCOME PER CAPITA

2020
Ranked 16th
\$61,540
National Average: \$59,729

WORSE
2
SPOTS
FROM 2019

OUTPUT PER WORKING ADULT

2020
Ranked 13th
\$92,389
National Average: \$88,013

SAME
RANKING
AS 2019

UNEMPLOYMENT RATE

SEPTEMBER 2021
Ranked 12th
3.7%
U.S. Rate: 4.8%

BETTER
2
SPOTS
FROM 2020



Taxes: Incremental progress, barriers remain

In 2021, the Legislature took meaningful steps toward tax relief for businesses by conforming to the federal tax treatment for Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) loans, as well as continuing progress on business property tax relief. But Minnesota remains a top-taxed state in many categories, and the Minnesota Chamber successfully defeated over \$1 billion in new, permanent tax increases proposed last session. In a recent survey of business leaders, nearly half of respondents said that reducing taxes was the most important issue that lawmakers could tackle. In the same survey, high taxes were cited as the biggest barrier to business. ■

MINNESOTA RANKING: 1ST IS HIGHEST COST

STATE BUSINESS TAX CLIMATE INDEX

2021
Ranked 5th

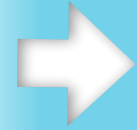
SAME
RANKING
AS 2020



PASS-THROUGH AND INDIVIDUAL INCOME TOP TAX RATES

2021
Ranked 5th
9.85%

SAME
RANKING
AS 2020



STATE AND LOCAL SALES TAX RATES

2021
Ranked 17th
7.46%

WORSE
1
SPOT
FROM 2020



CORPORATE INCOME TAX RATE

2021
Ranked 3rd
9.8%

WORSE
1
SPOT
FROM 2020



OVERALL STATE AND LOCAL TAXES PER CAPITA

2018
Ranked 10th
\$6,418
National Average: \$5,392

BETTER
1
SPOT
FROM 2017



STATE GAS TAX

2021
Ranked 26th
30.6¢/gallon
National Average: 36.35¢/gallon

WORSE
4
SPOTS
FROM 2020



Taxes

If you ask business leaders in Minnesota, high taxes are a perennial challenge to growth. In a recent statewide survey of leaders from throughout the state, most said that they will try to grow here, but the number of those who will look to grow elsewhere or move has gone up year-over-year and now stands at nearly 40%.

This makes it especially important to keep businesses like Jasper Engineering and Equipment Co. in Minnesota. Jasper has a strong employee presence and customers across 10 states, but strong roots in Minnesota. “I’m an iron range guy,” says Jason Janisch, Vice President at Jasper. Jasper has engineered instrumentation, process equipment and controls since 1958, to industries such as mining, oil and gas, grain and biofuels, pharmaceutical and medical technology, power and municipal water treatment, food and dairy, and chemical and oilseed processing.

Like many other businesses, their customers were hit differently throughout the COVID-19 pandemic, causing them to shift their operations to meet changing needs. When the taconite mines shut down in northern Minnesota, Jasper shifted to weather the storm. Among other things, they started selling inferred temperature displays and monitors that businesses could use to improve employee and customer safety and continue the fight against COVID-19.

And a federal Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) loan helped



Jason Janisch
Vice President
Jasper Engineering
and Equipment Co.

them keep staff employed as the company – and economy – began to recover. “PPP really allowed us to keep everybody working,” says Janisch. “We were able to reinvest their time into projects in our shop and warehouse and take advantage of that time to improve operations.”

The Minnesota Chamber led the statewide effort to offer tax relief on these forgivable loans in the 2021 Legislative Session, which resulted in \$409 million in relief for nearly 190,000 Minnesota businesses that accepted these loans.

Despite the challenges of a pandemic economy over the last year and a half, Jasper has nearly completely recovered to pre-COVID levels of production. But other

challenges remain. Taxes, high energy costs and inflation don’t just impact a business’s bottom line, but create a ripple effect of other challenges too. Finding workers in greater Minnesota and supply chain dynamics hinder growth.

But Jasper hopes to meet these challenges head-on. Janisch looks toward reshoring opportunities as well as the resurgence of manufacturing and upward momentum of the industrial sector in the upper Midwest as good signs for their future. “We are well positioned to help our customers reach their goals,” he says. “That’s pretty exciting for us.” ■



Innovation

Innovation helps define Minnesota's business legacy. In the last few years – and throughout the COVID-19 pandemic – businesses operating in Minnesota have fueled that legacy in many areas, including health care.

During COVID, Philips invested over \$100 million in the production ramp-up of acute care solutions to diagnose, treat, manage and monitor COVID-19 patients. During shutdowns, there were fewer planes, ships and trucks available to transport critical supplies to where they were needed. Philips partnered with KLM Airlines to start an air bridge to ensure that parts for these lifesaving devices could get where they needed to go.

According to Chris Landon, Senior Vice President and General Manager at Philips, dispatching 90% of their workforce to remote work allowed them to “deliver at a much better scale, safely and conveniently at a much lower cost to our customers, and I think fundamentally shifts how we deliver clinical training in the future.”

Philips is a trusted, world-leading health technology company that has expanded its product offerings and workforce in Minnesota by acquiring several companies over the last few years. They now employ 400 people and have offices in Maple Grove, Plymouth, Eagan and Minneapolis. Their Minnesota operations focus on providing airway clearance solutions for patients with chronic respiratory conditions, manufacturing of medical devices for minimally-invasive cardiovascular procedures and developing cloud-based population health management software solutions.

“Philips is proud to be part of Minnesota's world-class health



Chris Landon
Senior Vice President
Philips

care ecosystem,” says Landon. When considering what benefits there are to doing business in Minnesota, he says, “Being part of this community helps with innovation, talent attraction and collaboration with academic medical centers and universities.” In 2020, Philips opened an “innovation lab” across the street from the Mayo Clinic in Rochester.

They also cite the strong pool of talent produced by Minnesota's universities, when faced by similar workforce challenges as most companies are experiencing at this point in COVID-19 recovery. “We are fortunate that there is such a strong pool of talent in this state,” says Landon. Innovating is an approach

to finding workers, as well. “With a large pool of industries and a strong university system, we can attract excellent employees. Because the state has a strong concentration of medical technology companies, innovators and academia, it fits well into our ecosystem approach Minnesota is a good location for Philips.”

As for the future, the folks at Philips plan to keep providing new and innovative technologies that help Minnesota be an attractive place to do business and live a healthy life. They are working on new maternal health solutions to improve outcomes, increase engagement and member experience, while lowering costs. One of these solutions, an app called Pregnancy+, is already the world's number one downloaded pregnancy app. It helps expecting mothers track their pregnancy progress. And Philips Lumify, a mobile ultrasound tool, helps high-risk moms connect with providers quickly and bring care into a home or rural clinic. ■

Innovation: A perennial bright spot

Minnesota's legacy of business innovation was on display throughout the COVID-19 pandemic. Businesses pivoted to meet shifting demand, changing supply chains and government-imposed shut downs. Minnesota ranks first for the five-year business survival rate, and even though entrepreneurship activity is slightly better than previous years, startup challenges remain. This is especially true for immigrants and entrepreneurs of color. According to the Minnesota Chamber's report, “The Economic Contributions of Immigrants to Minnesota,” there are 18,000 entrepreneurial immigrants in the state, and they play an increasingly important role in the economy through job creation, innovation and GDP growth. Challenges can be both needs-based and opportunity-based and include access to capital and time to acquire business knowledge to start a company. ■

MINNESOTA RANKING: 1ST IS BEST

WORKFORCE TECHNOLOGY AND SCIENCE MILKEN INDEX

2020
Ranked 6th
71.33

BETTER
1
SPOT
FROM 2018

VENTURE CAPITAL PER CAPITA

2020
Ranked 9th
\$230 per capita
National Average: \$394

SAME
RANKING
AS 2019

BUSINESS 5-YEAR SURVIVAL

2015-2020
Ranked 1st
55.3%
National Average: 50%

BETTER
3
SPOTS
FROM 2014-2019

ENTREPRENEURSHIP STARTUP ACTIVITY (% POPULATION STARTING BUSINESS)

2020
Ranked 48th
0.18%
National Average: 0.38%

BETTER
1
SPOT
FROM 2019

PATENTS PER CAPITA

2020
Ranked 6th
889 per million
people
National Average: 574

SAME
RANKING
AS 2019



Infrastructure

A strong statewide network of infrastructure is necessary to move goods and services throughout the state. Minnesota is a connection point for the upper Midwest, and there is a vast network of businesses that rely on a sound system of connections in the air, the water, the roads and digital stratosphere.

“I’ve been in this business 50 years,” said Bob Nuss, President of Nuss Truck and Equipment. Nuss is a third-generation family-owned business experiencing vast growth. They’ve come a long way since their humble roots in a repair shop in 1959. In addition to their Rochester headquarters, they operate in eight locations in Minnesota and Wisconsin, soon to add a ninth. Their business is the epitome of infrastructure: from the smallest gasket to the biggest rigs on the road, Nuss sells each to companies of all types.

It’s about moving that product and outfitting the trucks that move on those roads. But it’s also about connectivity. “We have remote technicians who are working with either customers’ trucks or construction equipment in areas where there’s no internet,”



Bob Nuss
President
Nuss Truck and Equipment

says Nuss. “People live in these cities and it’s important to maximize uptime everywhere.”

Like many other businesses, Nuss was deemed essential in the COVID-19 pandemic with strong safety measures in place to serve their customers. They responded to the shifting needs of the COVID economy for the last year and a half, pivoting the types of products to specific clients.

Meeting client needs has meant facing challenges head-on, from supply chain to border closures and inflation. There is an evolving landscape of part shortages that have caused longer lead times and production delays. A hold-up on one single product can render a truck unusable for unknown amounts of time. And used truck pricing in the heavy-duty business has skyrocketed. But growth is good for business, and Nuss seeks to continually improve to meet demand. As the economy – in Minnesota, across the region and the nation – moves out of the COVID-19 pandemic, businesses need to move supplies and products across roadways and other elements of infrastructure. ■

Infrastructure: Ongoing improvements

Even when some businesses were ordered to shutter early in the pandemic citing health and safety, Minnesota’s infrastructure was moving the economy along. Now, as the state – and nation – recover from COVID-related impacts, each element of the state’s infrastructure; air, water, roads and digital connectivity, plays a critical role. Improved highway performance has made those who rely on Minnesota roads to do business more resilient. But widespread reliance on broadband has called attention to the inadequacies in Minnesota’s network. States with less landmass have an easier time reaching rural businesses and citizens, and have seen their rankings improve faster than Minnesota, even though Minnesota private and public sectors have dedicated significant resources to improving access in the state. ■

MINNESOTA RANKING: 1ST IS BEST

TOTAL SCHEDULED FLIGHTS

2021
Ranked 11th
of 786 airports
108,414 flights

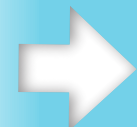
BETTER
1
SPOT
FROM 2020



TOTAL FREIGHT RAIL MILES

2020
Ranked 8th
4,233 freight
rail miles

SAME
RANKING
AS 2017



COMMUTE TIMES

2019
Ranked 18th
23.7 minutes
National Average: 26.9 minutes

SAME
RANKING
AS 2018



OVERALL HIGHWAY PERFORMANCE

2018
Ranked 15th

BETTER
7
SPOTS
FROM 2016



BROADBAND COVERAGE

2021
Ranked 28th
93.1%
National Average: 92.2%

WORSE
14
SPOTS
FROM 2020





Cost of doing business: Vacillating performance

The cost of doing business in Minnesota encompasses several economic factors. Year-after-year, the state's ranking on individual costs change, usually placing Minnesota in the middle of the national pack. Minnesota has seen some erosion in a previous key competitive advantage. The cost of electricity is one of the costs that has crept up incrementally over the last few decades and Minnesota now has the 11th highest costs in the nation for industrial customers. Cost of living remains in the middle of the pack, which will increase in importance to attracting and retaining talent during a historic worker shortage. ■

Cost of doing business

The cost of doing business encompasses several factors and can vary by industry and location in the state. For Resoundant Inc., a medical technology company in Rochester, costs can often impact their business operations, but never their capacity for innovation.

Resoundant produces MR Elastography, an advanced MRI technique that can be added to MRI scanners. Originally a part of the Mayo Clinic, MR Elastography helps identify liver fibrosis and cirrhosis noninvasively. Aside from diagnosing these conditions noninvasively, Resoundant's technology also helps advance research into new liver-treating medications. With thousands of locations now offering MR Elastography, Resoundant's flagship innovation is now the standard of care in hospitals and clinics throughout the world.

At the onset of COVID-19, it was clear to Kathy Anderson, Resoundant's Chief Operating Officer, they would have to pivot their employee-based practices to continue to operate effectively. She knew they "couldn't navigate these unprecedented times without locking arms with others." Like many, Anderson turned to the Minnesota Chamber, where she could leverage the Chamber's COVID-19 employer resources. She also joined a policy committee to work with other Chamber member organizations on health care policies.

And despite COVID-19, Resoundant persevered, diversified and grew. Challenges from the pandemic-related economy



Kathy Anderson
COO
Resoundant

continued beyond the health and safety of their employees. Three out of four of their clients are outside the United States, and moving products became difficult. "It touched everything from freight management and carriers picking up product on time to trying to deliver on time, based on a standard OEM deadline," Anderson says.

Early on, elective surgeries slowed to a halt, and Resoundant predicted that they would have plenty of product on-hand. Then when business picked up again, they struggled to keep up with demand. Now they have customers asking for delivery confirmations up to 18 months in advance.

Like most other businesses, Resoundant worries about their workforce. "We don't talk about the human side of this enough," says Anderson. "Rather than think you're going to entice someone to come back with a signing bonus, many companies have found that they need to think differently." Acknowledging cost of living challenges and offering enhanced benefits, including behavioral and mental health coverage, can often help companies support and retain employees. Additionally, notes Anderson, companies can work with higher ed in their region to help build the talent pipeline for the future.

What's next for Resoundant? They plan to grow out of the COVID-19 pandemic into a new era of radiology products and clinical trials that help their clients and the health of those who benefit from the medical insight that their products provide. ■

MINNESOTA RANKING: 1ST IS HIGHEST COST

ELECTRICITY
(AVERAGE PRICE FOR
INDUSTRIAL CUSTOMERS)

2021
Ranked 11th
8.22¢/kWh
National Average: 7.10¢/kWh

WORSE
2
SPOTS
FROM 2020

**INDIVIDUAL HEALTH
INSURANCE PREMIUM**
(EMPLOYER SPONSORED)

2020
Ranked 38th
\$6,910
National Average: \$7,149

BETTER
15
SPOTS
FROM 2019

**WORKERS'
COMPENSATION
PREMIUMS**

2020
Ranked 17th
112%
National Average 100%

WORSE
11
SPOTS
FROM 2018

**UNEMPLOYMENT
TAX RANKING**

2020
Ranked 19th

BETTER
2
SPOTS
FROM 2019

COST OF LIVING

2019
Ranked 20th
98
National Average: 100

WORSE
3
SPOTS
FROM 2018



Workforce: Historic challenges continue

As businesses work to rebound from a COVID-19 economy, the workforce challenges they faced in prior years seem dwarfed by the historic challenges that they face today. The worker shortage has reached more than 300,000 in Minnesota. And while the state still boasts a highly educated workforce, labor participation has eroded, with nearly 111,000 citizens currently unemployed. Migration continues to challenge the pipeline, with Minnesota losing talent to other states. And Minnesota's achievement gap remains the worst in the nation, widening the gap of opportunities between white students and students of color. ■

Workforce

It's nearly impossible to have a conversation with a business leader without talking about workforce. Challenges have evolved but persisted over a decade, with employers in search of skilled workers to fill positions. While the long-term and systemic answers to these challenges will vary by industry and area of the state, there is one organization that proudly boasts, "We have the labor force you need," and means it.

In 1964, MDI (Minnesota Diversified Industries) started as an Occupational Training Center, but quickly transformed into a social enterprise manufacturer. MDI manufactures plastics, offers production services such as packaging and assembly with a controlled environment medical white room. They employ hundreds of people with and without disabilities, providing inclusive jobs that provide purpose, independence and empowerment.

Minnesota's employment rate for people with disabilities is 48.4% – that's almost half the employment rate for people without a disability. According to Eric Black, President of MDI, employers need to reexamine how they look at potential employees with disabilities. "You don't have to create a job for a person with a disability," he says. "They are fully capable of taking on the challenge that employers have today and successfully achieving those jobs, including manufacturing... People with disabilities aren't limiting themselves, right? It's the people around them."

He offers simple steps to help employees with disabilities



Eric Black
President and CEO
MDI

succeed. "Addressing soft skills; getting people comfortable with working and expressing themselves, so they can communicate their needs... and having the right onboarding programs."

As the economy emerges from the COVID-19 pandemic, more employers are looking for workers than ever before. There is currently a shortage of 300,000 workers in Minnesota. Yet a high number of people with disabilities are unemployed but looking for work – 11.3%. And more people with a disability have a two-year degree than those without a disability – 35.7% and 34.3% respectively.

What is it going to take for employers to include workers with disabilities in their workforce strategy? "Everyone has a diversity and inclusion strategy," says Black. "Many employers can meet – if not exceed – their goals by hiring people with disabilities, because they are multifactorial." He also suggests that employers examine how diversifying their workforce can "help them achieve higher levels of profitability and capability to meet stakeholder needs."

Employers can also lean on companies like MDI and a coalition they lead called Unified Work, which advances employment opportunities through a model that helps businesses successfully attract, hire, train and support employees with disabilities. "At MDI, our goal is to employ 2,500 people by 2026. And we need other employers to step up and take part in this." ■

MINNESOTA RANKING: 1ST IS BEST

8TH-GRADE READING SCORES

2019
Ranked 20th
264 average
National Average: 262

WORSE
8
SPOTS
FROM 2017

ON-TIME HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION RATE

2019
Ranked 36th
84%
National Average: 86%

WORSE
2
SPOTS
FROM 2018

LABOR PARTICIPATION RATE

SEPTEMBER 2021
Ranked 6th
67.9%
National Average: 61.6%

WORSE
3
SPOTS
FROM 2020

NET DOMESTIC MIGRATION

2010-2020
Ranked 29th
(37,326) net loss

WORSE
1
SPOT
FROM 2010-2019

NET INTERNATIONAL IMMIGRATION

2010-2020
Ranked 18th
125,999 gain

SAME
RANKING
AS 2010-2019



Minnesota Chamber: Let's grow together

The Minnesota Chamber of Commerce has provided a voice – the collective voice – for businesses for more than 110 years. They have fostered their vision of a future for business that improves the lives of all Minnesotans by successfully shaping Minnesota's economy and helping businesses thrive and grow within the state.

The average Chamber member stays for more than 30 years. What's your why?

Bret Weiss, President and CEO, WSB

"My why is leadership development. They have a fundamental commitment to developing relationships and delivering content through specific programs that drive business excellence... My membership in the Minnesota Chamber is one of the most important investments I make every year."



Brooke Lee, CEO, Anchor Paper Co.

"My why is empowerment. Being ahead of the information curve [during the COVID-19 pandemic] enabled me to lead my business from the front and make key decisions in a timely manner. Thank you, Minnesota Chamber of Commerce, for empowering us to raise our voices and be heard."



Kelly Larson, CFO, Summit Brewing Company

"My why is reliability. The Minnesota Chamber was there for Summit as a growing company in so many ways during the COVID-19 pandemic. But it's not just during times of a pandemic when we value our membership. I understand the importance of the work the Minnesota Chamber does, which makes our membership an investment we will make every year."



We are Minnesota's largest broad-based business organization representing more than 6,300 companies – and more than half a million employees – throughout Minnesota. The Chamber builds on its legacy as a voice for business by advancing public policy that grows jobs and the economy, and providing valuable services to members so they stay and grow in Minnesota. A business climate that allows for innovation and forward-thinking leadership will help grow the strength of Minnesota's economy for future generations. ■

FOR MORE
INFORMATION
ABOUT
MEMBERSHIP



FEDERATION MINNESOTA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Thank you, Chamber Federation

Minnesota Chamber advocacy is further bolstered by the 40-plus partners who are unified as the Minnesota Chamber Federation – local chambers of commerce that adopt and advocate for your top legislative priorities.

Albert Lea-Freeborn County Chamber of Commerce
Alexandria Lakes Area Chamber of Commerce
Apple Valley Chamber of Commerce
Austin Area Chamber of Commerce
Bemidji Area Chamber of Commerce
Brainerd Lakes Chamber of Commerce
Burnsville Chamber of Commerce
Cloquet Area Chamber of Commerce
Cuyuna Lakes Chamber of Commerce
Dakota County Regional Chamber of Commerce
Duluth Area Chamber of Commerce
Eden Prairie Chamber of Commerce
Elk River Area Chamber of Commerce
 Fargo Moorhead West Fargo Chamber of Commerce
Faribault Area Chamber of Commerce and Tourism
Fergus Falls Area Chamber of Commerce
Glenwood Lakes Area Chamber of Commerce
Grand Forks/East Grand Forks Chamber of Commerce
Grand Rapids Area Chamber of Commerce
Greater Mankato Growth
Greater Stillwater Chamber of Commerce
Hastings Area Chamber of Commerce & Tourism Bureau
Hibbing Area Chamber of Commerce
Hutchinson Area Chamber of Commerce and Tourism
International Falls Area Chamber of Commerce
Lakeville Area Chamber of Commerce
Laurentian Chamber of Commerce
Litchfield Area Chamber of Commerce
Marshall Area Chamber of Commerce
MetroNorth Chamber of Commerce
New Ulm Area Chamber of Commerce
Northfield Area Chamber of Commerce & Tourism
Owatonna Area Chamber of Commerce & Tourism
Pipestone Area Chamber of Commerce and Visitor's Bureau
Redwood Area Chamber of Commerce & Tourism
River Heights Chamber of Commerce
Rochester Area Chamber of Commerce
St. Cloud Area Chamber of Commerce
Shakopee Chamber of Commerce
Southwest Metro Chamber of Commerce
Twin Cities North Chamber of Commerce
Waconia Chamber of Commerce
Waseca Area Chamber of Commerce
White Bear Area Chamber of Commerce
Willmar Lakes Area Chamber of Commerce
Winona Area Chamber of Commerce
Woodbury Area Chamber of Commerce
Worthington Area Chamber of Commerce

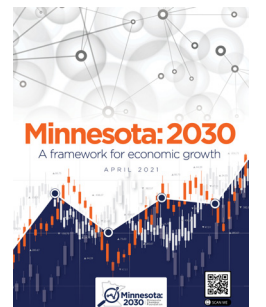


Economic data from the Minnesota Chamber: Empowering Minnesota's economic future

Understanding Minnesota's economic future is key to its long-term success. The Minnesota Chamber Foundation and Grow Minnesota! program play a critical role in strengthening the business environment to improve the lives of all Minnesotans through economic research.

Minnesota: 2030

A forward-thinking report providing a framework for economic growth in Minnesota.



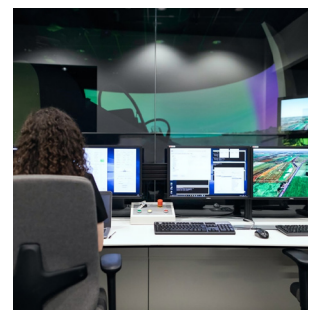
Contributions of immigrants in Minnesota

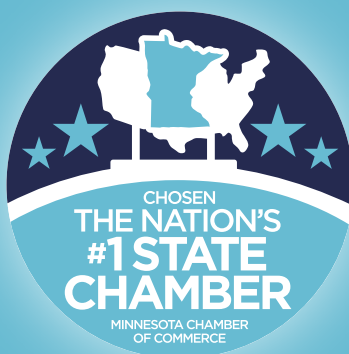
A study on how immigrant entrepreneurs, workers drive Minnesota's economy.



Grow Minnesota! data

Real-time private-sector data from the state's premier business assistance program.





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