

COUNTY PROFILE

## Itasca Co.

Itasca Co. is a part of Economic Development Region 3, which is located in the Northeast Planning Region.



### POPULATION CHARACTERISTICS

2024 population:	<b>45,442 people</b>	Median Age:	<b>46.9 years</b>
Population change, 2020-2024	428 people 1.0% increase	state:	38.6 years

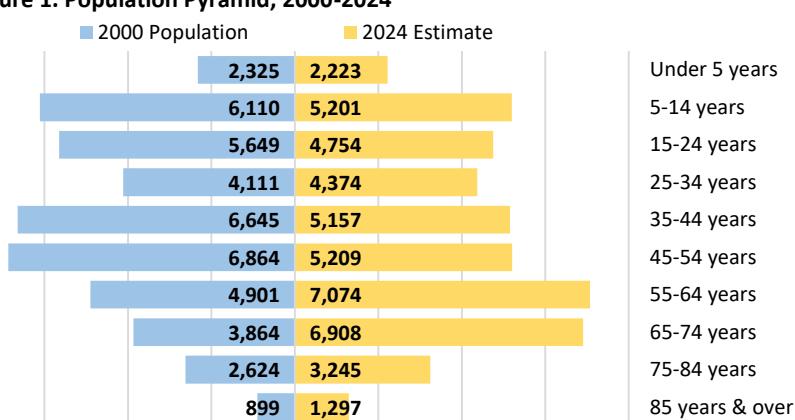
Itasca Co. is the 22nd largest of the 87 counties in the state. Its population increased so far this decade, ranking as the 40th fastest growing in the state from 2020 to 2024. Itasca Co.'s population has an older median age than the state and a larger percentage of people aged 65 years and older. The population is aging, especially as the Baby Boom generation moves through the population pyramid (see Figure 1).

Table 1. Population by Age Group, 2024

	Number	Percent
Under 5 years	2,223	4.9%
5-14 years	5,201	11.4%
15-24 years	4,754	10.5%
25-34 years	4,374	9.6%
35-44 years	5,157	11.3%
45-54 years	5,209	11.5%
55-64 years	7,074	15.6%
65-74 years	6,908	15.2%
75-84 years	3,245	7.1%
85 years & over	1,297	2.9%
<b>Total Population</b>	<b>45,442</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

Source: Census 2024 Population Estimates, 2019-2023 ACS

Figure 1. Population Pyramid, 2000-2024



Itasca Co. suffered a negative natural increase - more deaths than births from 2020 to 2024, but also experienced net in-migration - meaning more people moved in than moved out. In addition to domestic in-migration, Itasca Co. welcomed net international in-migration - gaining new Minnesotans from foreign countries (see Table 2).

Table 2. Cumulative Estimates of the Components of Population Change, 2020-2024

	Total Population Change	April 1, 2020 to July 1, 2024					
		Natural Increase	Vital Events		Net Migration		
			Births	Deaths	Total	International	
Itasca Co.	420	-889	1,695	2,584	1,293	25	1,268
State of Minnesota	86,459	51,570	268,689	217,119	33,161	81,091	-47,930

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Population Estimates Program

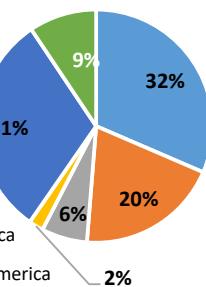
Compared to the state, Itasca Co. has a smaller percentage of foreign-born residents. From 2013 to 2023, Itasca Co. saw a decrease in the number of foreign-born residents, though it was slower than the statewide increase.

Table 3. Place of Birth for the Foreign Born Population, 2023

	Itasca Co.		Change 2013-2023		Minnesota	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Percent	Change
Foreign-born Population	394	0.9%	-26	-6.2%	8.6%	24.7%
Europe	124	31.5%	-25	-16.8%	8.8%	-3.4%
Asia	78	19.8%	-22	-22.0%	35.7%	18.1%
Africa	25	6.3%	19	316.7%	28.3%	78.8%
Oceania	8	2.0%	8	#DIV/0!	0.4%	5.4%
Americas:	159	40.4%	-6	-3.6%	26.7%	8.7%
Latin America	122	31.0%	21	20.8%	24.2%	9.7%
Northern America	37	9.4%	-27	-42.2%	2.5%	0.4%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2019-2023 American Community Survey

Figure 2. Place of Birth for the Foreign Born Population, 2023



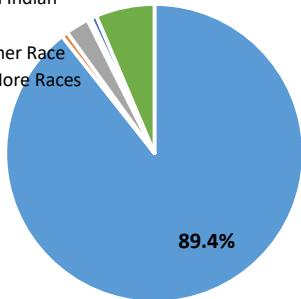
## COUNTY PROFILE

Itasca Co.

Itasca Co.'s population was becoming more racially diverse over time. Since 2013, the white population declined, but the number of people of other races increased (see Table 4).

**Figure 3. Population by Race, 2023**

- White
- Black or African American
- American Indian
- Asian
- Some Other Race
- Two or More Races



**Table 4. Race and Hispanic Origin, 2023**

	Number	Percent	Change from 2013-2023	Percent	Change from 2013-2023
Total	45,141	100.0%	-0.2%	100.0%	6.8%
White	40,338	89.4%	-4.5%	78.4%	-2.2%
Black or African American	305	0.7%	103.3%	6.8%	38.9%
American Indian or Alaska Native	1,154	2.6%	-16.4%	0.9%	-11.6%
Asian or Other Pac. Islanders	181	0.4%	-13.8%	5.1%	29.6%
Some Other Race	285	0.6%	96.6%	2.7%	96.1%
Two or More Races	2,878	6.4%	158.8%	6.2%	168.3%
Hispanic or Latino origin	656	1.5%	38.1%	6.2%	37.5%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2019-2023 American Community Survey

## POPULATION PROJECTIONS

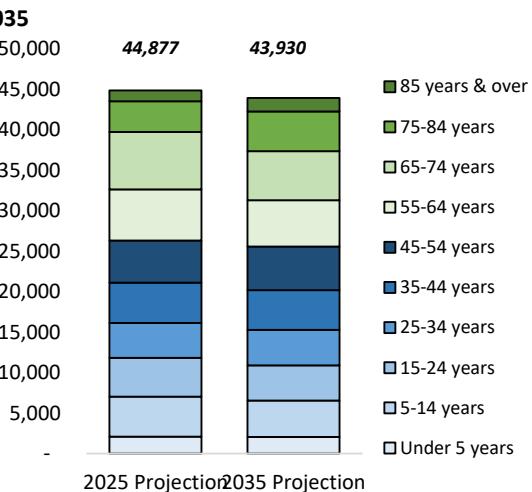
According to the Minnesota State Demographic Center, Itasca Co.'s population is expected to decline from 2025 to 2035, with a rate of change that is slower than the projected statewide growth rate (3.7%). Despite the decline, the number of people aged 65 years and older is expected to increase over the next decade (see Figure 4 and Table 5).

**Table 5. Population Projections by Age Group, 2025-2035**

Itasca Co.	2025 Projection	2035 Projection	Numeric Change	Percent Change
Under 5 years	2,104	2,036	-68	-3.2%
5-14 years	4,922	4,500	-422	-8.6%
15-24 years	4,784	4,351	-433	-9.1%
25-34 years	4,316	4,387	71	1.6%
35-44 years	5,013	4,906	-107	-2.1%
45-54 years	5,201	5,389	188	3.6%
55-64 years	6,313	5,720	-593	-9.4%
65-74 years	7,083	6,086	-997	-14.1%
75-84 years	3,813	4,885	1,072	28.1%
85 years & over	1,328	1,670	342	25.8%
<b>Total Population</b>	<b>44,877</b>	<b>43,930</b>	<b>-947</b>	<b>-2.1%</b>

Source: Minnesota State Demographic Center

**Figure 4. Projections by Age Group, 2025-2035**

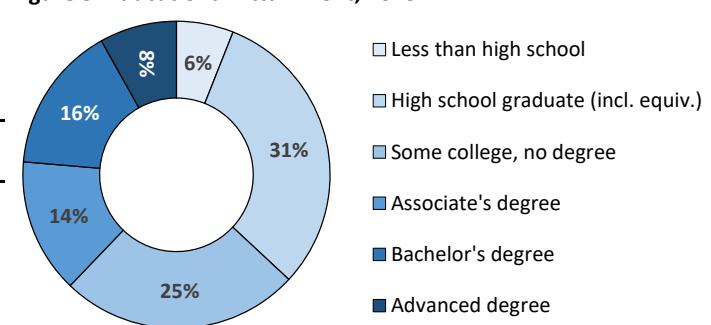


## EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT

Itasca Co. has a higher percentage of adults (18 years & over) with at least a high school diploma than the state (93.2%), and a lower percentage of people with at least some college experience. Itasca Co. also has a higher percentage of people with an Associate's degree and a lower percentage of people with a Bachelor's degree or higher.

<b>Percentage of the adult population (18 years &amp; over) with at least a high school diploma:</b>	<b>94.0%</b>
College-educated:	63.1%
state:	68.8%
Associate's Degree:	14.2%
Bachelor's Degree:	15.5%
Advanced Degree:	8.1%

**Figure 5. Educational Attainment, 2023**



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2019-2023 American Community Survey

## LABOR FORCE TRENDS

At 4.9%, Itasca Co. had a higher unemployment rate than the state in 2024. After the pandemic recession Itasca Co.'s unemployment rate declined compared to the 6.4% pre-pandemic rate posted in 2019. The number of unemployed workers actively seeking work in Itasca Co. increased over the past year, and is down compared to 2019.

**21,178** available workers

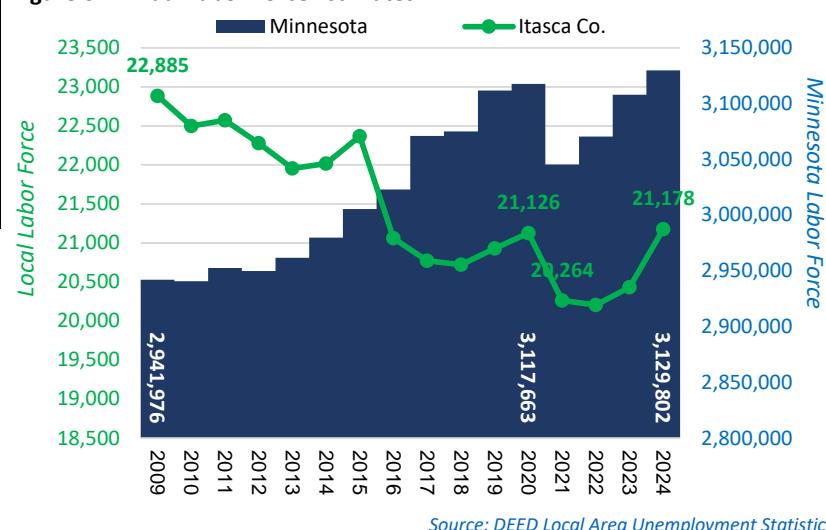
Labor Force change, 2009-2024  
-1,707 workers  
-7.5% decline

**4.9%** unemployment rate

2.8% state

**1,038** unemployed workers

Figure 6. Annual Labor Force Estimates



Labor force growth has slowed in recent years. After experiencing a net gain of workers each year from 1990 to 2000, Itasca Co. averaged an annual gain of new workers from 2000 to 2010, and most recently a loss of fewer workers since 2010 (see Figure 7). Moving forward, Itasca Co. is expected to see a labor force decline from 2025 to 2035 (see Table 6).

Figure 7. Annual Change in Labor Force, 1990-2024

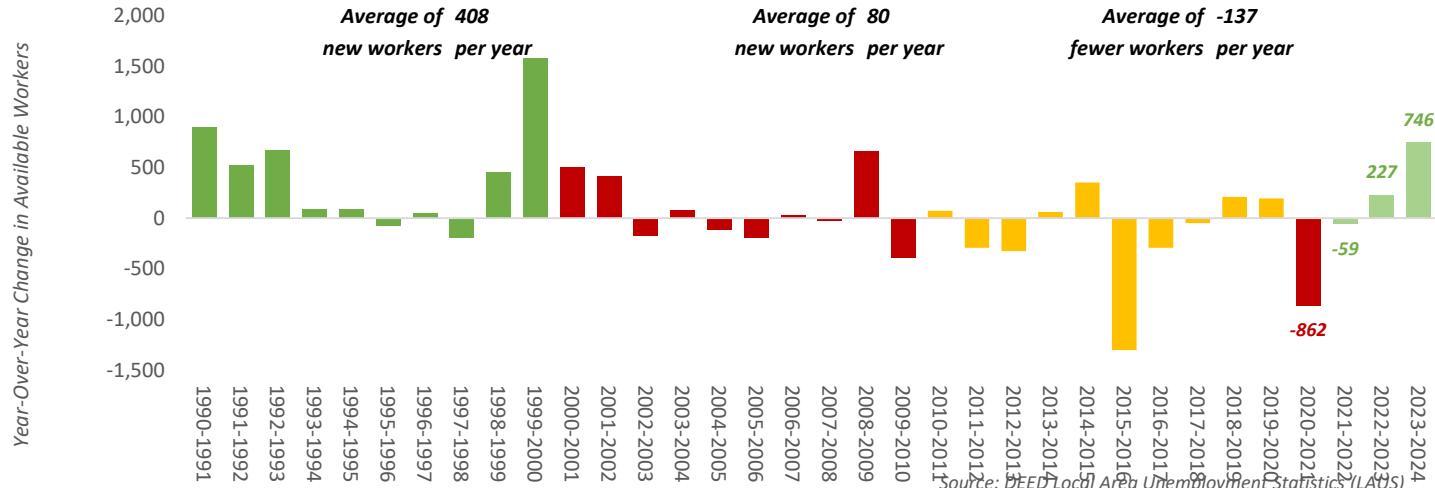
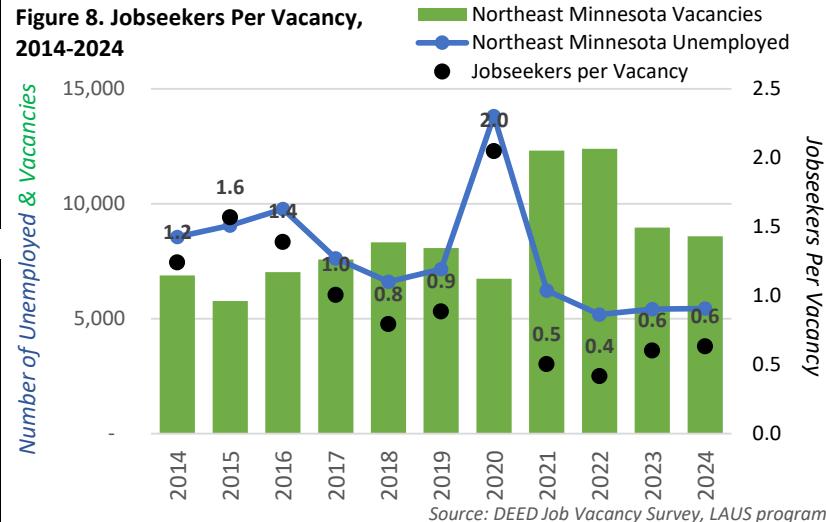


Table 6. Labor Force Projections, 2025-2035	Labor Force Projection	
	2025	2035
16 to 24 years	2,803	2,563
25 to 54 years	12,161	12,288
55 to 64 years	3,667	3,323
65 years & over	1,595	1,463
<b>Total Labor Force</b>	<b>20,226</b>	<b>19,637</b>

Source: Minnesota State Demographic Center, 2019-2023 ACS

The labor market had grown extremely tight in recent years, with less than 1 jobseeker per vacancy until the pandemic recession intervened in early 2020 and the number of unemployed workers spiked. In 2024, job vacancies in Northeast returned to pre-pandemic levels, but employers are still seeing challenges finding enough workers for open jobs (see Figure 8).

Figure 8. Jobseekers Per Vacancy, 2014-2024



## LABOR FORCE CHARACTERISTICS

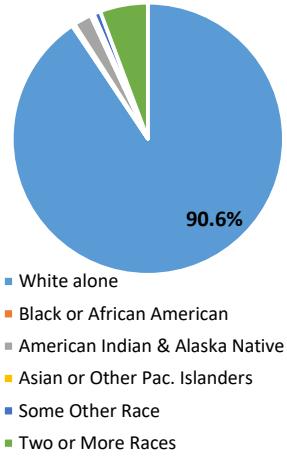
Itasca Co. had a lower labor force participation rate than the state. The labor force in Itasca Co. is less racially diverse than the state (where 80.0% of workers are white alone), but is becoming more diverse over time.

Table 7. Employment Characteristics, 2023

	Itasca Co.			Minnesota		Labor Force by Gender	
	In Labor Force (available workers)	Labor Force Partic. Rate	Unemp. Rate	Labor Force Partic. Rate	Unemp. Rate	Male	Female
<b>Total Labor Force</b>	<b>20,498</b>	<b>55.2%</b>	<b>5.8%</b>	<b>68.5%</b>	<b>3.9%</b>	<b>10,697</b>	<b>9,810</b>
16 to 19 years	1,081	51.7%	9.6%	52.7%	9.9%	487	594
20 to 24 years	1,568	78.4%	14.8%	83.4%	6.5%	822	746
25 to 44 years	7,919	83.6%	6.8%	88.7%	3.5%	4,190	3,727
45 to 54 years	4,336	83.8%	3.6%	87.8%	2.9%	2,351	1,984
55 to 64 years	4,082	58.1%	3.4%	72.8%	3.0%	2,075	2,008
65 to 74 years	1,331	19.4%	1.2%	27.8%	3.4%	636	695
75 years & over	194	4.3%	3.6%	6.6%	3.1%	136	56
<b>Employment Characteristics by Race &amp; Hispanic Origin</b>							
White alone	18,566	55.1%	5.5%	67.5%	3.4%		
Black or African American	70	28.9%	14.3%	71.0%	8.4%		
American Indian & Alaska Native	437	49.7%	18.5%	57.7%	11.4%		
Asian or Other Pac. Islanders	84	50.6%	0.0%	74.6%	3.5%		
Some Other Race	167	68.4%	4.2%	75.9%	5.6%		
Two or More Races	1,167	61.2%	5.7%	74.2%	6.1%		
Hispanic or Latino	267	65.9%	8.2%	77.1%	5.9%		
<b>Employment Characteristics by Disability, 20 to 64 years</b>							
With Any Disability, 20 to 64 years	1,625	46.1%	6.6%	55.3%	9.5%		
<b>Employment Characteristics by Educational Attainment, 25 to 64 years</b>							
Population, 25 to 64 years	16,338	75.4%	5.1%	84.4%	3.3%		
Less than H.S. Diploma	671	59.9%	5.5%	67.1%	4.7%		
H.S. Diploma or Equivalent	4,115	66.9%	3.0%	76.5%	2.6%		
Some College or Assoc. Degree	6,591	76.0%	5.0%	85.0%	3.6%		
Bachelor's Degree or Higher	4,958	86.6%	2.8%	90.5%	2.0%		

Source: 2019-2023 American Community Survey, 5-Year Estimates

Figure 9. Labor Force by Race, 2023

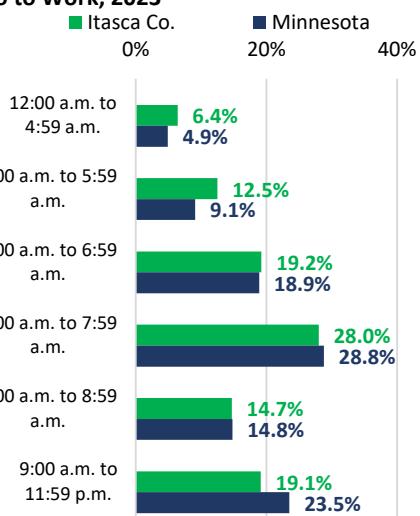


A larger percentage of workers in Itasca Co. worked in the same county in which they live compared to the state. Itasca Co. also had a longer average commute time than the state.

Table 8. Commuting Characteristics, 2022

	Itasca Co.		Minnesota	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Worked in state of residence	18,581	98.3%	2,870,678	97.8%
Worked in county of residence	15,575	82.4%	1,984,232	67.6%
Worked out of county of residence	3,005	15.9%	886,447	30.2%
Worked outside state of residence	321	1.7%	64,576	2.2%
<b>MEANS OF TRANSPORTATION TO WORK</b>				
Car, truck, or van	16,407	86.8%	2,286,563	77.9%
Public transportation (excl. taxicab)	246	1.3%	61,640	2.1%
Other method (walk, bike, taxi, etc.)	737	3.9%	120,345	4.1%
Worked at home	1,512	8.0%	463,770	15.8%
<b>TRAVEL TIME TO WORK</b>				
Less than 10 minutes	3,648	19.3%	478,446	16.3%
10 to 19 minutes	6,200	32.8%	924,605	31.5%
20 to 29 minutes	3,572	18.9%	651,626	22.2%
30 to 44 minutes	2,835	15.0%	551,828	18.8%
45 to 59 minutes	1,153	6.1%	176,115	6.0%
60 or more minutes	1,493	7.9%	149,698	5.1%
<b>Mean travel time to work (minutes)</b>	<b>24.1 minutes</b>		<b>23.1 minutes</b>	

Figure 10. Time Leaving Home to go to Work, 2023



Source: 2019-2023 American Community Survey, 5-Year Estimates

## COUNTY PROFILE

Itasca Co.

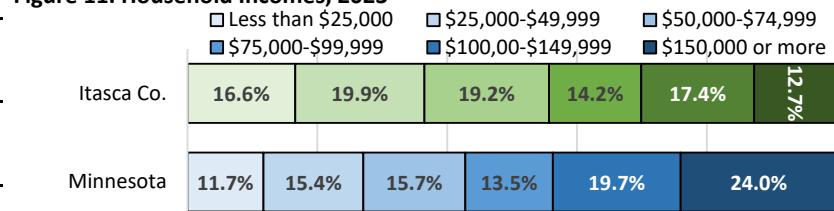
### INCOMES, COST OF LIVING, & HOUSING

Itasca Co. had a lower median household income than the state, and a higher percentage of households with incomes below \$50,000. Overall, Itasca Co. had the 74th highest median household income of the 87 counties in the state.

<b>Median Household Income</b>	<b>\$66,380</b>
state	\$87,556
<b>Median Family Income</b>	<b>\$83,917</b>
state	\$111,492
<b>Per Capita Income</b>	<b>\$36,315</b>
state	\$46,957

Source: 2019-2023 American Community Survey

Figure 11. Household Incomes, 2023



Source: 2019-2023 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates

The cost of living has increased over the past 2 years with costs up in many areas. Itasca Co. had a lower cost of living than the state, with a required hourly wage of \$15.47 for a single person living alone to meet a basic needs cost of living, and an hourly wage requirement of \$20.46 for a typical family with 2 adults and 1 child (see Table 9).

Table 9. Basic Needs Cost of Living Estimates, 2024

Single Adult, 0 children	Single Yearly Cost of Living	Hourly Wage Required	Monthly Costs						
			Child Care	Food	Health Care	Housing	Trans- portation	Other	Taxes
Itasca Co.	\$32,178	\$15.47	\$0	\$413	\$150	\$840	\$657	\$290	\$332
State of Minnesota	\$36,768	\$17.68	\$0	\$424	\$156	\$1,154	\$573	\$365	\$392
<b>Typical Family: 2 Adults (1 working full-time, 1 part-time), 1 child</b>									
Itasca Co.	\$63,838	\$20.46	\$401	\$940	\$530	\$1,090	\$1,242	\$469	\$648
State of Minnesota	\$70,308	\$22.53	\$545	\$964	\$556	\$1,446	\$1,028	\$557	\$763

Source: DEED Cost of Living tool

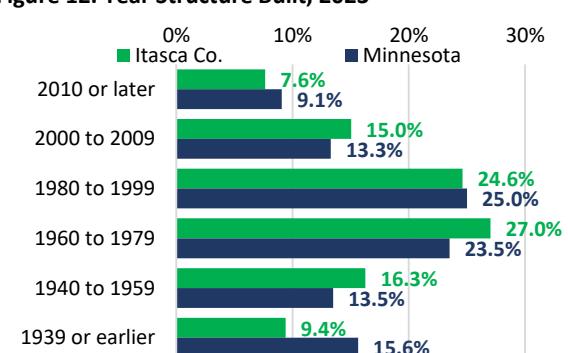
Itasca Co. had a lower median house value than the state, having the 48th highest value of the 87 counties in 2022. Itasca Co.'s housing stock was newer than the state's, with a higher percentage of units built since 2000 (see Figure 12).

Table 10. Estimated Value of Owner-occupied Housing Units, 2022

	Itasca Co.		Minnesota	
	Total	Percent	Percent	Percent
<b>Total</b>	<b>15,168</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	
Less than \$50,000	1,062	7.0%	4.0%	
\$50,000 to \$99,999	1,335	8.8%	4.0%	
\$100,000 to \$149,999	2,230	14.7%	6.2%	
\$150,000 to \$199,999	2,450	16.2%	8.9%	
\$200,000 to \$299,999	3,712	24.5%	25.7%	
\$300,000 to \$499,999	2,876	19.0%	33.6%	
\$500,000 or more	1,503	9.9%	17.5%	
<b>Median (dollars)</b>	<b>\$212,000</b>		<b>\$305,500</b>	

Source: 2019-2023 American Community Survey, 5-Year Estimates

Figure 12. Year Structure Built, 2023



<b>Median monthly owner costs, owner-occupied units with a mortgage</b>	<b>\$1,461</b>
state	\$1,890

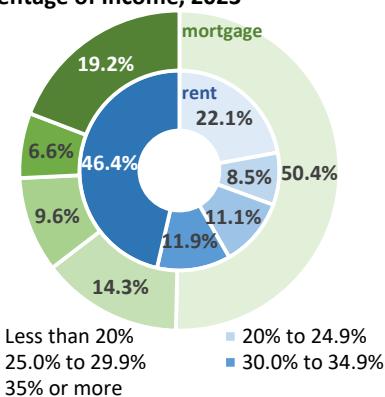
<b>Percentage of households with a mortgage spending 30% or more of their income on housing costs</b>	<b>25.7%</b>
state	22.5%

<b>Median monthly rent costs</b>	<b>\$944</b>
state	\$1,235

<b>Percentage of renters spending 30% or more of their household income on rent</b>	<b>58.3%</b>
state	47.2%

Source: 2019-2023 American Community Survey, 5-Year Estimates

Figure 13. Housing Costs as a Percentage of Income, 2023



## OCCUPATIONS

At \$23.47 in 2024, wages were lower in Region 3 than the state. Overall, Region 3 had the 7th highest median hourly wage level of the 13 economic development regions in the state. Wages were highest for management occupations (\$46.38) and lowest for food preparation and serving related jobs (\$14.56) (see Table 11).

**Table 11. Occupational Employment & Wage Statistics, 2025**

Occupational Group	Region 3				State of Minnesota		
	Median Hourly Wage	Estimated Regional Jobs	Share of Total Jobs	Regional Location Quotient	Median Hourly Wage	Estimated Statewide Jobs	Share of Total Jobs
<b>Total, All Occupations</b>	<b>\$23.47</b>	<b>139,940</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>1.0</b>	<b>\$26.22</b>	<b>2,920,470</b>	<b>100.0%</b>
Management	\$46.38	7,780	5.6%	0.8	\$59.38	200,060	6.9%
Business & Financial Operations	\$36.09	6,060	4.3%	0.6	\$39.95	208,210	7.1%
Computer & Mathematical	\$38.42	2,100	1.5%	0.4	\$50.02	97,460	3.3%
Architecture & Engineering	\$40.58	2,240	1.6%	0.8	\$45.03	57,950	2.0%
Life, Physical & Social Science	\$36.86	1,730	1.2%	1.1	\$38.33	32,150	1.1%
Community & Social Service	\$27.67	4,330	3.1%	1.5	\$29.82	59,290	2.0%
Legal	\$40.98	530	0.4%	0.5	\$49.52	20,750	0.7%
Education, Training & Library	\$25.07	8,410	6.0%	1.0	\$27.84	170,270	5.8%
Arts, Design, Entertainment & Media	\$23.54	1,280	0.9%	0.7	\$28.84	36,030	1.2%
Healthcare Practitioners & Technical	\$40.04	11,570	8.3%	1.3	\$46.51	187,480	6.4%
Healthcare Support	\$18.28	10,020	7.2%	1.2	\$18.67	176,750	6.1%
Protective Service	\$27.12	3,020	2.2%	1.3	\$29.37	46,960	1.6%
Food Preparation & Serving Related	\$14.56	14,420	10.3%	1.2	\$16.05	240,830	8.2%
Building, Grounds Cleaning & Maint.	\$17.77	4,660	3.3%	1.2	\$19.16	81,700	2.8%
Personal Care & Service	\$17.15	3,520	2.5%	1.2	\$17.54	63,300	2.2%
Sales & Related	\$16.71	11,750	8.4%	1.0	\$18.66	244,780	8.4%
Office & Administrative Support	\$22.70	16,400	11.7%	1.0	\$24.07	340,040	11.6%
Farming, Fishing & Forestry	\$24.08	230	0.2%	1.5	\$23.48	3,300	0.1%
Construction & Extraction	\$34.23	7,820	5.6%	1.4	\$34.20	114,050	3.9%
Installation, Maintenance & Repair	\$30.21	6,770	4.8%	1.3	\$30.40	105,650	3.6%
Production	\$25.14	6,360	4.5%	0.6	\$23.56	205,220	7.0%
Transportation & Material Moving	\$21.57	8,930	6.4%	0.8	\$19.80	228,260	7.8%

*Source: DEED Occupational Employment & Wage Statistics, Qtr. 1 2025*

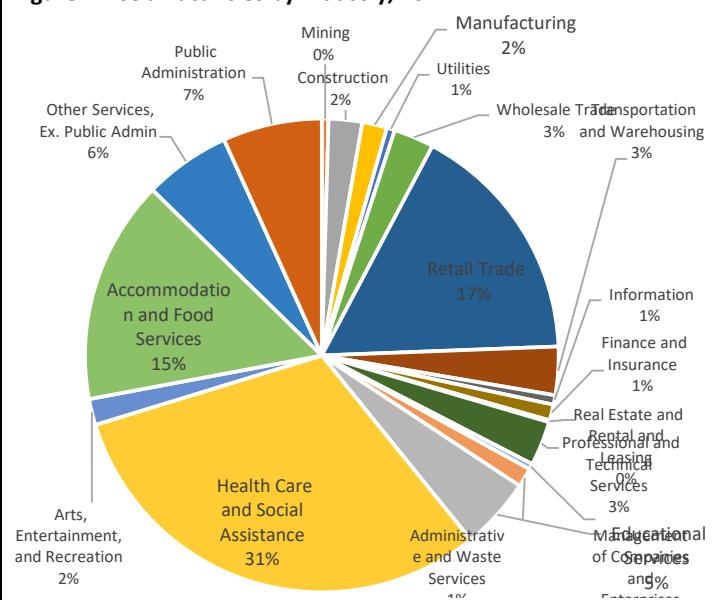
## JOB VACANCY SURVEY

Itasca Co. is a part of the Northeast planning region. There were 8587 job vacancies posted by employers in 2024, indicating extensive opportunity in the region, with openings across several occupations and industries (see Figure 14).

**Table 12. Northeast Job Vacancy Survey Results, 2024**

Occupational Group	Number of Vacancies	Wage Offer
<b>Total, All Occupations</b>	<b>8,587</b>	<b>\$18.66</b>
Management	185	\$50.94
Business & Financial Operations	276	\$26.51
Computer & Mathematical	30	\$29.91
Architecture & Engineering	305	\$31.47
Life, Physical & Social Sciences	77	\$28.87
Community & Social Service	229	\$20.86
Education, Training & Library	302	\$21.23
Healthcare Practitioners & Technical	1,091	\$39.45
Healthcare Support	976	\$17.84
Protective Service	79	\$20.78
Food Preparation & Serving Related	1,381	\$14.85
Building, Grounds Cleaning & Maint.	290	\$15.85
Personal Care & Service	453	\$16.99
Sales & Related	1,347	\$15.90
Office & Administrative Support	303	\$17.38
Construction & Extraction	61	\$24.60
Installation, Maintenance & Repair	331	\$22.85
Production	83	\$20.38
Transportation & Material Moving	435	\$19.58

**Figure 14. Job Vacancies by Industry, 2024**



*Source: DEED Job Vacancy Survey, 2024*

## OCCUPATIONS IN DEMAND

Table 13. Northeast Planning Region Occupations in Demand, 2024

Less than High School	High School or Equivalent	Some College or Assoc. Deg.	Bachelor's Degree or Higher
Home Health and Personal Care Aides \$34,948/yr	Nursing Assistants \$40,605/yr	Registered Nurses \$81,894/yr	General and Operations Managers \$76,245/yr
Retail Salespersons \$33,663/yr	Licensed Practical and Licensed Vocational Nurses \$54,185/yr	Police and Sheriff's Patrol Officers \$76,015/yr	Accountants and Auditors \$71,413/yr
Cashiers \$29,976/yr	Heavy and Tractor-Trailer Truck Drivers \$61,962/yr	Radiologic Technologists and Technicians \$71,154/yr	Human Resources Specialists \$65,973/yr
Cooks, Restaurant \$37,144/yr	Bookkeeping, Accounting, and Auditing Clerks \$47,607/yr	Human Resources Assistants, Except Payroll and Timekeeping \$48,119/yr	Elementary School Teachers, Except Special Education \$63,522/yr
Fast Food and Counter Workers \$30,037/yr	Automotive Service Technicians and Mechanics \$54,132/yr	Dental Hygienists \$84,405/yr	Physician Assistants \$120,821/yr
Teaching Assistants, Except Postsecondary \$38,927/yr	Heating, Air Conditioning, and Refrigeration Mechanics and Installers \$66,247/yr	Civil Engineering Technologists and Technicians \$73,049/yr	Secondary School Teachers, Except Special and Career/Technical \$65,592/yr
Waiters and Waitresses \$22,936/yr	Substance abuse, behavioral disorder, and mental health counselors \$49,373/yr	Community Health Workers \$43,268/yr	Child, Family, and School Social Workers \$69,154/yr
Janitors and Cleaners, Except Maids and \$36,904/yr	Machinists \$62,131/yr	Surgical Technologists \$65,008/yr	Medical and Health Services Managers \$100,366/yr
Maids and Housekeeping Cleaners \$33,611/yr	Emergency Medical Technicians \$39,523/yr	Forest and Conservation Technicians \$53,442/yr	Substitute Teachers, Short-Term \$41,313/yr
Maintenance and Repair Workers, General \$50,367/yr	Medical Assistants \$47,014/yr	Respiratory Therapists \$80,721/yr	Nurse Practitioners \$132,823/yr

*Source: DEED Occupations in Demand*

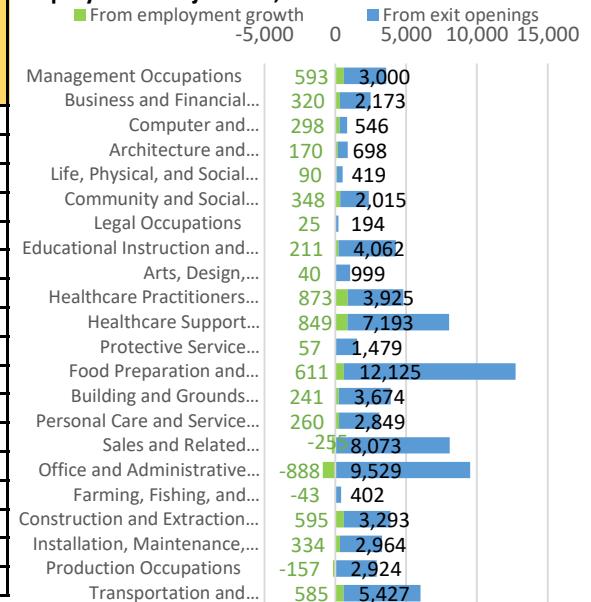
Itasca Co. is a part of the Northeast planning region, which is projected to see a 3.3% increase in employment levels over the next decade. In addition to new jobs created, there will be a much larger number of exit openings (see Figure 15).

Table 14. Regional Industry Employment Projections, 2022-2032

Northeast Planning Region	Estimated Employment 2022	Projected Employment 2032	Percent Change 2022-2032
Total, All Industries	153,945	159,102	3.3%
Natural Resources & Mining	5,228	5,268	0.8%
Utilities	1,352	1,342	-0.7%
Construction	7,006	7,544	7.7%
Manufacturing	8,777	9,016	2.7%
Wholesale Trade	3,202	3,359	4.9%
Retail Trade	16,565	16,360	-1.2%
Transportation & Warehousing	4,151	4,437	6.9%
Information	1,222	1,208	-1.1%
Finance & Insurance, Real Estate	5,827	5,846	0.3%
Professional Services & Mgmt. of Compani	5,808	6,264	7.9%
Admin. Support & Waste Mgmt.	3,097	3,231	4.3%
Educational Services	12,004	12,056	0.4%
Health Care & Social Assistance	31,799	33,864	6.5%
Leisure & Hospitality	17,159	18,243	6.3%
Other Services	5,953	6,118	2.8%
Public Administration	15,176	15,440	1.7%

*Source: DEED 2022-2032 Employment Outlook*

Figure 15. Regional Occupational Employment Projections, 2022-2032



**ECONOMIC CHARACTERISTICS**

Coming out of the pandemic recession, after gaining jobs over the past year, Itasca Co. had the 26th largest economy of the 87 counties in the state. Itasca Co. was the 3rd fastest growing in the past year and the 21st fastest growing since 2019. From 2019 to 2024, employment in Itasca Co. has grown since the pandemic recession.

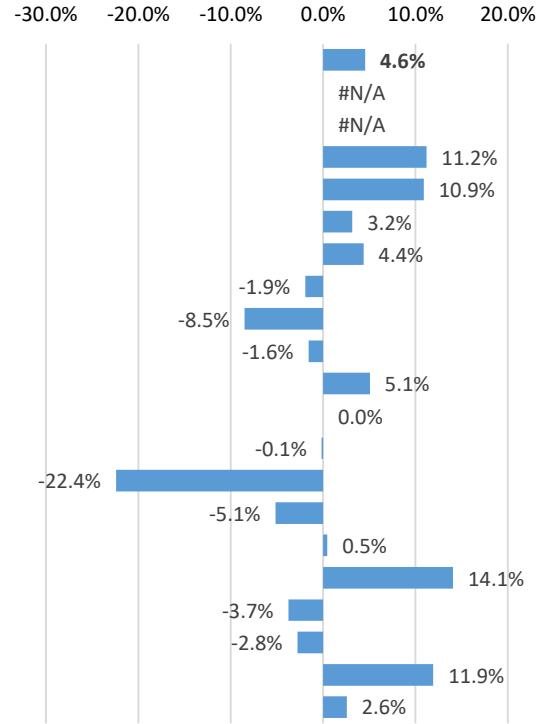
<b>1,350</b>	business establishments	<b>\$54,072</b>	annual average wage
<b>16,606</b>	jobs	<b>\$897,923,385</b>	total industry payroll
<i>Job change, 2019-2024</i>	<i>1,292 jobs 8.4% increase</i>		

**Figure 16. Industry Employment Statistics, 2005-2024**

Source: DEED QCEW program

**Table 15. Itasca Co. Industry Employment Statistics, 2024**

	Number of Jobs	Percent of Total Jobs	Average Annual Wage
<b>Total, All Industries</b>	<b>16,606</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>\$54,072</b>
Agriculture, Forestry, Fish & Hunt	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A
Mining	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A
Construction	1,023	6.2%	\$79,537
Manufacturing	906	5.5%	\$68,015
Utilities	359	2.2%	\$122,450
Wholesale Trade	333	2.0%	\$103,807
Retail Trade	2,291	13.8%	\$36,509
Transportation & Warehousing	323	1.9%	\$55,369
Information	125	0.8%	\$53,087
Finance & Insurance	456	2.7%	\$74,572
Real Estate & Rental & Leasing	58	0.3%	\$42,167
Professional & Technical Services	224	1.3%	\$42,828
Management of Companies	23	0.1%	\$64,292
Admin. Support & Waste Mgmt. Svcs.	700	4.2%	\$40,060
Educational Services	1,322	8.0%	\$50,388
Health Care & Social Assistance	4,279	25.8%	\$50,401
Arts, Entertainment, & Recreation	283	1.7%	\$31,086
Accommodation & Food Services	1,340	8.1%	\$21,125
Other Services	638	3.8%	\$29,775
Public Administration	1,284	7.7%	\$63,409

**Figure 17. Change in Jobs, 2023-2024**

Source: DEED Quarterly Census of Employment &amp; Wages (QCEW)

**For more information on Itasca Co.'s population, labor force, and economic trends, contact:****Carson Gorecki** | Regional Analyst, Northeast Minnesota

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Data updated: May 23, 2025