

Minnesota Employment Report

Joint Economic Committee

Senator Mike Lee, Chairman

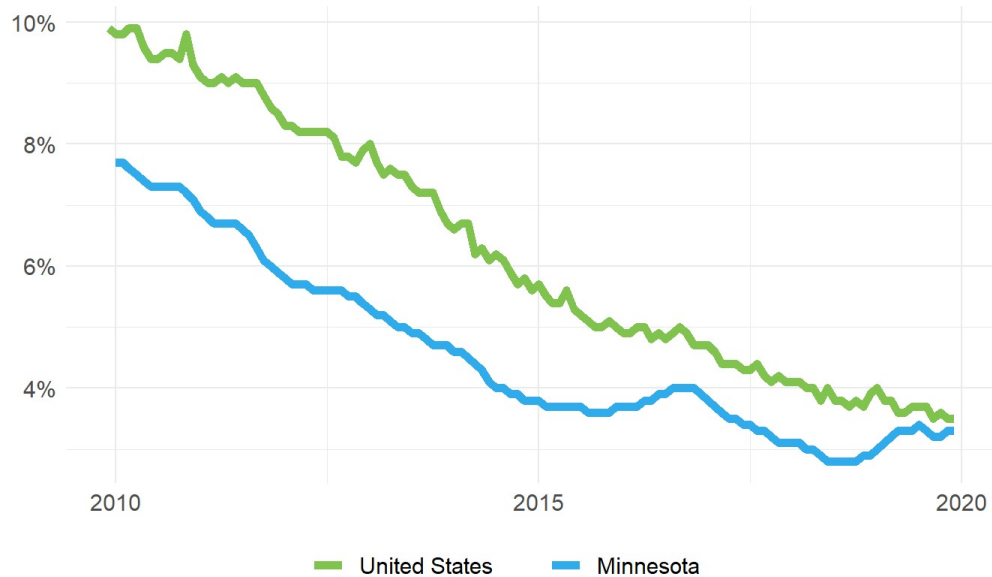
January 24, 2020

Summary

- **Minnesota added 200 net payroll jobs and the unemployment rate remained unchanged at 3.3 percent in December**, according to Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) data released at 10:00am on January 24, 2020.
- **Over the past twelve months, Minnesota added 6,300 payroll jobs** and the unemployment rate rose by 0.4 percentage point from 2.9 percent.
- **In December, Minnesota's private sector lost 100 net private payroll jobs** and over the past twelve months it added 4,000 private payroll jobs in the establishment survey.
- In the household survey, the number of **unemployed rose by 537 on net in December**, and over the past year employment rose by 40,789.
- Minnesota's **labor force participation rate remained steady at 70.3 percent** in December. Since last year, the labor force participation rate rose by 0.6 percentage point.
- The national unemployment rate **remained unchanged in December**. State employment and unemployment data for January is scheduled for release March 16, 2020. The national employment situation report for January will be released February 07, 2020.

Minnesota and U.S. Unemployment Rates

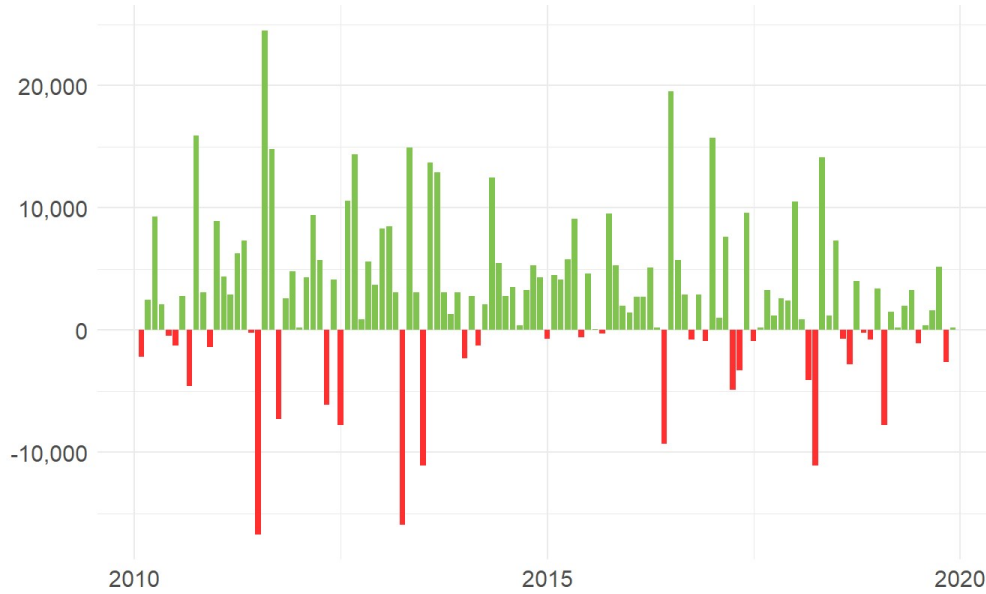
(Percent, Seasonally Adjusted)



Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics

Minnesota Payroll Employment

Minnesota Nonfarm Payroll Jobs Monthly Change (Seasonally Adjusted)



Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics

Minnesota added 200 net payroll jobs, or 0 percent, on a seasonally adjusted basis during December. In the prior month, Minnesota lost 2,600 jobs. Over the past twelve months, Minnesota added 6,300 payroll jobs, or 0.2 percent. Minnesota nonfarm payroll employment had increased in 9 of the past 12 months.

Nationally, nonfarm payrolls rose by 145,000 in December, or rose by 0.1 percent. Over the 12-month period ending with December, nonfarm payrolls rose by 2,108,000 jobs, or 1.4 percent. Minnesota is tied for 42nd among the 50 states and the District of Columbia for percentage gain in nonfarm payroll employment over the past 12 months.

During December, Minnesota's private-sector lost 100 jobs, or approximately 0 percent. The private-sector in Minnesota lost 2,900 jobs in the prior month. Over the past twelve months, private-sector payrolls in Minnesota added 4,000, or 0.2 percent. Minnesota private-sector payroll employment has increased in 7 of the past 12 months.

Nationally, private-sector payroll jobs rose by 139,000 jobs in December, or 0.1 percent. Over the past 12 months, the national payroll rose by 1,947,000 jobs in the private sector, or rose by 1.5 percent. Minnesota is tied for 44th among the 50 states and the District of Columbia for a percentage gain in private-sector payroll employment over the past 12 months.

Change in Minnesota Payroll Employment by Sector over Past 12 Months



Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, seasonally adjusted

The best performing sectors on a seasonally adjusted basis during December were Trade, Transportation, and Utilities (1,500) and Other Services (1,300). The poorest performing sectors during the month were Manufacturing (-1,200) and Education and Health Services (-1,600).

The best performing sectors during the last twelve months were Leisure and Hospitality (14,800) and Other Services (2,900). The poorest performing sectors during the last twelve months were Information (-4,700) and Education and Health Services (-4,900).

Minnesota Labor Force Statistics

Labor Force Participation

The labor force participation rate in Minnesota remained unchanged at 70.3 percent in December. At a labor force participation rate of 70.3 percent, Minnesota ranks 3rd in the nation. The labor force participation rate in Minnesota rose by 0.6 percentage point from a year earlier. The labor force participation rate is the percentage of the civilian noninstitutionalized population age 16 and older who are employed or actively looking for work.

The 10-year high for the labor force participation rate in Minnesota was 71.5 percent last occurring in May 2010. The series high for the labor force participation rate in Minnesota occurred in February 2001 when the labor force participation rate hit 75.6 percent. The 10-year low for the labor force participation rate was 69.7 percent in December 2018. The series low for the labor force participation rate in Minnesota last occurred in April 1976 when the labor force participation rate hit 65.5 percent.

The national labor force participation rate remained steady at 63.2 percent in December. That rate rose by 0.2 percentage point from a year earlier. The all-time high for the national labor force participation rate was 67.3 percent in April 2000. The 10-year high for the national labor force participation rate was 65.2 percent in April 2010. The recent 10-year low occurred in September 2015 at a level of 62.4 percent. The series low for the national labor force participation rate was 58.1 percent in December 1954.

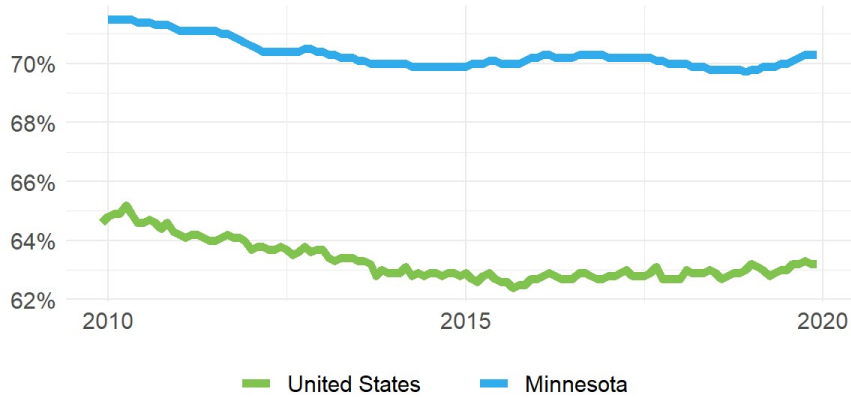
Employment-to-Population Ratio

The employment-to-population ratio, or the percentage of the Minnesota civilian noninstitutionalized population 16 years and older counted as employed, in December fell to 68 from 68.1 percent in the prior month. At 68 percent, Minnesota is tied for 2nd among state employment-to-population ratios in the nation. The employment-to-population ratio in Minnesota rose by 0.3 percentage point from a year earlier.

The 10-year high for the employment-to-population ratio in Minnesota was 68.1 percent in November 2019. The series high for the employment-to-population ratio in Minnesota last occurred in June 2000 when the employment-to-population ratio hit 73.1 percent. The 10-year low for the employment-to-population ratio was 65.9 percent in December 2009. The series low for the employment-to-population ratio in Minnesota last occurred in March 1976 when the employment-to-population ratio hit 61.6 percent.

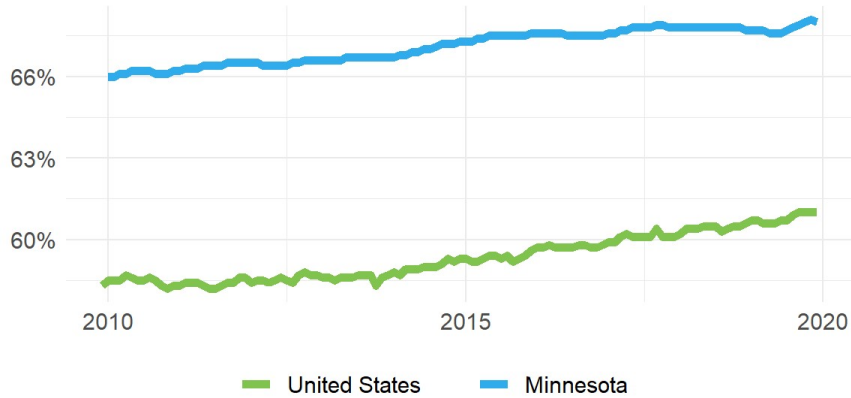
The national employment-to-population ratio remained steady at 61 percent in December. That rate rose by 0.4 percentage point from a year earlier. The all-time high for the national employment-to-population ratio was 64.7 percent in April 2000. The 10-year high for the national employment-to-population ratio was 61 percent in December 2019. The recent 10-year low occurred in July 2011 at a level of 58.2 percent. The series low for the employment-to-population ratio was 54.9 percent in October 1949.

Minnesota and U.S. Labor Force Participation Rates (Percent, Seasonally Adjusted)



Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics

Minnesota and U.S. Employment-to-Population Ratios (Percent, Seasonally Adjusted)



Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics