West Central Minnesota: An Economic Development Snapshot 2019

**BECKER COUNTY GROWTH**

- **2010**: 32,504
- **2018**: 34,420
- **2025**: 35,107

**2000-2018 change in population**: 4,420

**BECKER COUNTY**

- **REGION**: 28% 28%

**UNEMPLOYMENT**

- **1999-2019 PERCENT UNEMPLOYMENT**
  - **Becker County**: 2.47% - 2.35%
  - **Minnesota**: 2.47% - 2.35%

**RACIAL DIVERSITY**

- 60% of the net increase in population is from a minority group (births, in-migration).
- In 2018, 9.6% of total population identifies as a person of color.

**PERCENT OF POPULATION 65+ BY COUNTY**

- **2015**: 7%
- **2020**: 8%
- **2025**: 9%

**TRENDING NEEDS**

- Larger workforce
- Housing affordability and availability
- Increased wages
- Expand broadband access & coverage
- More child care openings and providers
- Stabilize cost of energy

**WAGES**

- **2019 Average Weekly Wage by Economic Development Region**
  - **BECKER COUNTY**:
    - EDR 9 (Marquette): $849
    - EDR 1 (Cokato): $846
    - EDR 4E (Willmar): $822
    - WCI: $811
    - EDR 2 (Bemidji): $806
    - EDR 5 (Mora): $779
    - EDR 7E (Appleton): $761
    - EDR 5 (Brainerd): $748
  - **State**: $739
  - **US**: $697

**4 INDUSTRIES WITH THE MOST NEED IN 2019**

- **Accommodation and Food Services**
  - Vacancy rate: 8.2%
  - Median starting wage: $12.42 per hour

- **Educational and Health Services**
  - Vacancy rate: 7.1%
  - Median starting wage: $13.19 per hour

- **Retail Trade**
  - Vacancy rate: 7.1%
  - Urban part-time, 17% seasonal
  - Median starting wage: $12.42 per hour

- **Public Administration**
  - Vacancy rate: 1.1%
  - Median starting wage: $14.02 per hour

**2019 BECKER COUNTY TOP EMPLOYMENT INDUSTRIES & AVERAGE WEEKLY WAGES**

- **Employment #**
  - Education & Health Services: 3,451
  - Trade, Transportation & Utilities: 2,619
  - Manufacturing: 2,375
  - Public Administration: 1,789
  - Leisure & Hospitality: 1,806

- **Average weekly wages**
  - Education & Health Services: $766
  - Trade, Transportation & Utilities: $663
  - Manufacturing: $994
  - Public Administration: $974
  - Leisure & Hospitality: $306

**UNEMPLOYMENT**

- **Unemployment Rate US, MN and West Central 1999-2019**

**POVERTY**

- **Poverty Rate as Percent**
  - 2010: 12.0%
  - 2015: 10.0%
  - 2020: 10.0%
  - 2025: 9.0%

**LEARN MORE AT**

- ceds.wcif.org

**FOR INFO:** Jill Amundson, Associate Planner // jill@wcif.org // 800.735.2239