

Workforce Service Area (WSA) 14 Industry Employment

Dakota County

According to the [Department of Employment and Economic Development's](#) (DEED) [Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages](#) (QCEW), Dakota County had 11,597 establishments supplying 188,914 covered jobs in Q2 2023. This equaled approximately 6.5% of Minnesota's total employment. Total quarterly payroll for Dakota County employment equaled \$3.1 billion with an average annual wage equal to \$66,300 (Table 1).

Table 1. Dakota County Industry Statistics, Q2 2023

Industry	Number of Jobs	Share of Total Jobs	Number of Firms	Total Quarterly Payroll	Avg. Annual Wage
Total, All Industries	188,914	100.0%	11,597	\$3,132,189,145	\$66,300
Health Care and Social Assistance	23,808	12.6%	1,843	\$335,830,518	\$56,420
Retail Trade	23,580	12.5%	1,125	\$223,107,059	\$37,804
Manufacturing	19,718	10.4%	463	\$390,996,454	\$79,300
Accommodation and Food Services	15,484	8.2%	764	\$98,174,928	\$25,324
Transportation and Warehousing	14,829	7.8%	455	\$258,790,430	\$69,784
Educational Services	14,687	7.8%	309	\$225,663,839	\$61,412
Construction	10,893	5.8%	1,064	\$241,356,020	\$88,608
Finance and Insurance	9,716	5.1%	620	\$266,068,682	\$109,512
Wholesale Trade	8,951	4.7%	714	\$200,738,454	\$89,700
Administrative and Support Services	8,427	4.5%	591	\$106,230,871	\$50,388
Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services	7,950	4.2%	1,273	\$186,045,975	\$93,600
Other Services	7,058	3.7%	1,182	\$81,872,797	\$46,384
Public Administration	5,983	3.2%	78	\$100,762,260	\$67,340
Information	5,272	2.8%	215	\$122,833,369	\$93,184
Management of Companies	4,441	2.4%	90	\$130,688,724	\$117,676
Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation	3,826	2.0%	211	\$88,052,872	\$92,040
Real Estate and Rental and Leasing	2,287	1.2%	519	\$36,680,057	\$64,116
Agriculture	1,352	0.7%	59	\$13,512,398	\$39,936
Utilities	528	0.3%	13	\$21,445,026	\$162,448
Mining	120	0.1%	9	\$3,338,412	\$111,280

Source: DEED Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages (QCEW)

Health Care & Social Assistance, with 23,808 jobs at 1,843 establishments, was Dakota County's largest-employing industry in Q2 2023. Total quarterly payroll for this industry equaled \$335.8 million, with the average annual wage equal to \$56,420. This industry is comprised of Ambulatory Health Care Services; Hospitals; Nursing & Residential Care Facilities; and Social Assistance. Social Assistance, itself, is comprised of Individual & Family Services; Community Food & Housing, & Emergency & Other Relief Services; Vocational Rehabilitation Services; and Child Day Care Services.

Retail Trade, with 23,580 jobs at 1,125 establishments, was Dakota County's second largest-employing industry in Q2 2023. Total quarterly payroll for this industry equaled \$223.1 million, with the average annual wage equal to \$37,804. Zooming in, over one-quarter (26.2%) of the county's Retail Trade employment was in General Merchandise Retailers. This in-depth industry had 77 establishments supplying 6,174 jobs in Q2 2023. Other large-employing Retail Trade sectors included Food & Beverage Stores (136 establishments supplying 3,816 jobs); Motor Vehicles & Parts Dealers (105 establishments supplying 3,651 jobs); Building Material & Garden Equipment & Supplies Dealers (69 establishments supplying 2,233 jobs); and Sporting Goods, Hobby, Musical Instrument, Book, & Miscellaneous Retailers (134 establishments supplying 2,211 jobs). Other in-depth sectors in Retail Trade include Gasoline Stations & Fuel Dealers; Clothing, Clothing Accessories, Shoe, & Jewelry Retailers; Health & Personal Care Stores; and Furniture, Home Furnishings, Electronics, & Appliance Retailers.

Manufacturing rounds out as Dakota County's third largest-employing industry, with 19,718 jobs at 463 establishments. Total quarterly payroll for this industry equaled \$391.0 million in Q2 2023, with the average annual wage equal to \$79,300. Manufacturing is comprised of 21 distinct in-depth industries. In Dakota County, those in-depth Manufacturing sectors with the most jobs include Food Manufacturing (44 establishments supplying 3,205 jobs); Computer & Electronic Product Manufacturing (26 establishments supplying 3,118 jobs); Fabricated Metal Product Manufacturing (95 establishments supplying 3,107 jobs); Plastics & Rubber Products Manufacturing (18 establishments supplying 1,388 jobs); and Miscellaneous Manufacturing (61 establishments supplying 1,258 jobs). Altogether, these five Manufacturing subsectors account for about three-fifths (61.2%) of Dakota County's total Manufacturing employment.

Dakota County also has significant employment, with over 10,000 jobs, in the following industries: Accommodation and Food Services (15,484 jobs); Transportation & Warehousing (14,829 jobs); Educational Services (14,687 jobs); and Construction (10,893 jobs) (Table 1).

Table 2. Dakota County Industry Trends, Q2 2018 – Q2 2023
Sorted by Numeric Job Change, Q2 2022 – Q2 2023

Industry	Q2 2023 Number of Jobs	Job Change, Q2 2022 – Q2 2023		Job Change, Q2 2018 – Q2 2023	
		Numeric	Percent	Numeric	Percent
Total, All Industries	188,914	1,187	0.6%	-2,449	-1.3%
Health Care and Social Assistance	23,808	811	3.5%	-555	-2.3%
Accommodation and Food Services	15,484	649	4.4%	-196	-1.3%
Manufacturing	19,718	420	2.2%	836	4.4%
Transportation and Warehousing	14,829	377	2.6%	-142	-0.9%
Public Administration	5,983	291	5.1%	381	6.8%
Real Estate and Rental and Leasing	2,287	202	9.7%	-140	-5.8%
Other Services	7,058	143	2.1%	62	0.9%
Educational Services	14,687	52	0.4%	520	3.7%
Retail Trade	23,580	35	0.1%	-802	-3.3%
Utilities	528	18	3.5%	-28	-5.0%
Agriculture	1,352	14	1.0%	374	38.2%
Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation	3,826	10	0.3%	159	4.3%
Management of Companies	4,441	-7	-0.2%	718	19.3%
Mining	120	-12	-9.1%	-77	-39.1%
Wholesale Trade	8,951	-61	-0.7%	-1,332	-13.0%
Construction	10,893	-103	-0.9%	1,049	10.7%
Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services	7,950	-211	-2.6%	84	1.1%
Information	5,272	-368	-6.5%	-1,141	-17.8%
Administrative and Support Services	8,427	-401	-4.5%	890	11.8%
Finance and Insurance	9,716	-668	-6.4%	-3,109	-24.2%

Source: DEED Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages (QCEW)

Over the past year of available data, between the second quarters of 2022 and 2023, Dakota County's total employment expanded by 0.6% (+1,187 jobs). For reference, Minnesota's total employment expanded by 1.8%. Those industries adding the most jobs in Dakota County during that period included Health Care & Social Assistance, Accommodation & Food Services, Manufacturing, Transportation & Warehousing, Public Administration, and Real Estate & Rental & Leasing. Job losses were largest in Finance & Insurance, Administrative & Support Services, Information; and Professional, Scientific, & Technical Services (Table 2).

Scott County

According to the [Department of Employment and Economic Development's](#) (DEED) [Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages](#) (QCEW), Scott County had 3,890 establishments supplying 60,918 covered jobs in Q2 2023. This equaled approximately 2.1% of Minnesota's total employment. Total quarterly payroll for Scott County employment equaled \$909.0 million with an average annual wage equal to \$59,644 (Table 1).

Table 1. Scott County Industry Statistics, Q2 2023

Industry	Number of Jobs	Share of Total Jobs	Number of Firms	Total Quarterly Payroll	Avg. Annual Wage
Total, All Industries	60,918	100.0%	3,890	\$909,029,109	\$59,644
Transportation and Warehousing	8,837	14.5%	145	\$101,459,396	\$45,916
Accommodation and Food Services	7,401	12.1%	259	\$62,227,537	\$33,592
Manufacturing	6,291	10.3%	177	\$148,891,854	\$94,640
Construction	6,211	10.2%	558	\$132,064,588	\$85,020
Retail Trade	5,977	9.8%	307	\$51,895,571	\$34,684
Health Care and Social Assistance	5,606	9.2%	613	\$77,553,710	\$55,328
Educational Services	4,530	7.4%	81	\$74,701,527	\$65,936
Wholesale Trade	3,053	5.0%	204	\$62,666,206	\$82,056
Public Administration	2,689	4.4%	31	\$45,850,980	\$68,172
Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation	2,601	4.3%	93	\$18,718,178	\$28,756
Administrative and Support Services	2,221	3.6%	252	\$30,649,844	\$55,172
Other Services	2,064	3.4%	359	\$22,577,813	\$43,732
Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services	1,482	2.4%	375	\$38,025,817	\$102,596
Finance and Insurance	685	1.1%	160	\$14,430,344	\$84,240
Real Estate and Rental and Leasing	440	0.7%	145	\$9,208,260	\$83,668
Information	276	0.5%	62	\$5,325,051	\$77,168
Utilities	211	0.3%	10	\$5,557,906	\$105,352
Management of Companies	146	0.2%	24	\$4,393,866	\$120,328
Agriculture	119	0.2%	28	\$1,329,933	\$44,668
Mining	69	0.1%	7	\$1,500,728	\$86,996

Source: DEED Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages (QCEW)

Transportation & Warehousing, with 8,837 jobs at 145 establishments, was Scott County's largest-employing industry in Q2 2023. Total quarterly payroll for this industry equaled \$101.5 million, with the average annual wage equal to \$45,916.

Accommodation & Food Services, with 7,401 jobs at 259 establishments, was Scott County's second largest-employing industry in Q2 2023. Total quarterly payroll for this industry equaled \$62.2 million, with the average annual wage equal to \$33,592.

Manufacturing, with 6,291 jobs at 177 establishments, and Construction, with 6,211 jobs at 558 establishments, both account for just over ten percent of Scott County's total employment. Both had higher average annual wages, with Manufacturing at \$94,640 and Construction at \$85,020. For Manufacturing, those largest-employing subsectors in Scott County in Q2 2023 were Computer & Electronic Product Manufacturing (15 establishments supplying 1,254 jobs); Printing & Related Support Activities (10 establishments supplying 1,112 jobs); Machinery Manufacturing (17 establishments supplying 576 jobs); Nonmetallic Mineral Product Manufacturing (10 establishments supplying 560 jobs); and Fabricated Metal Product Manufacturing (28 establishments supplying 447 jobs). Altogether, these five Manufacturing subsectors account for about three-fifths (62.8%) of Scott County's total Manufacturing employment.

For Construction, Scott County had the most jobs in Specialty Trade Contractors (393 establishments supplying 3,632 jobs). The remaining Construction jobs were in Heavy & Civil Engineering Construction (26 establishments supplying 1,379 jobs) and Construction of Buildings (139 establishments supplying 1,200 jobs). Zooming in on Construction of

Buildings, 722 jobs were in Nonresidential Building Construction with the remaining 478 jobs in Residential Building Construction

Scott County also has significant employment, with over 3,000 jobs, in the following industries: Retail Trade (5,977 jobs); Health Care & Social Assistance (5,606 jobs); Educational Services (4,530 jobs); and Wholesale Trade (3,053 jobs) (Table 1).

Table 2. Scott County Industry Trends, Q2 2018 – Q2 2023
Sorted by Numeric Job Change, Q2 2022 – Q2 2023

Industry	Q2 2023 Number of Jobs	Job Change, Q2 2022 – Q2 2023		Job Change, Q2 2018 – Q2 2023	
		Numeric	Percent	Numeric	Percent
Total, All Industries	60,918	1,432	2.4%	6,149	11.2%
Educational Services	4,530	487	12.0%	498	12.4%
Accommodation and Food Services	7,401	327	4.6%	253	3.5%
Other Services	2,064	223	12.1%	94	4.8%
Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation	2,601	203	8.5%	129	5.2%
Retail Trade	5,977	170	2.9%	264	4.6%
Public Administration	2,689	158	6.2%	38	1.4%
Health Care and Social Assistance	5,606	151	2.8%	596	11.9%
Wholesale Trade	3,053	104	3.5%	279	10.1%
Administrative and Support Services	2,221	102	4.8%	-12	-0.5%
Information	276	20	7.8%	-142	-34.0%
Agriculture	119	16	15.5%	10	9.2%
Real Estate and Rental and Leasing	440	9	2.1%	171	63.6%
Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services	1,482	6	0.4%	-51	-3.3%
Utilities	211	3	1.4%	7	3.4%
Mining	69	-1	-1.4%	-16	-18.8%
Manufacturing	6,291	-15	-0.2%	-570	-8.3%
Management of Companies	146	-20	-12.0%	-2	-1.4%
Finance and Insurance	685	-60	-8.1%	-38	-5.3%
Construction	6,211	-92	-1.5%	979	18.7%
Transportation and Warehousing	8,837	-360	-3.9%	3,660	70.7%

Source: DEED Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages (QCEW)

Over the past year of available data, between the second quarters of 2022 and 2023, Scott County's total employment expanded by 2.4% (+1,432 jobs). For reference, Minnesota's total employment expanded by 1.8%. Those industries adding the most jobs in Scott County during that period included Educational Services; Accommodation & Food Services; Other Services; Arts, Entertainment, & Recreation; and Retail Trade. Job losses were largest in Transportation & Warehousing; Construction; and Finance & Insurance (Table 2).