

KANDIYOHI COUNTY AND CITY OF WILLMAR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION (EDC)  
BUSINESS RETENTION & EXPANSION/RECRUITMENT (BRE) COMMITTEE  
**MINUTES**  
January 3, 2020  
EDC Board Room, Willmar

Present: Sam Bowen, Eric Day, Jim Ellingson, Roger Imdieke, Les Nelson, Dean Steinwand and Kelly TerWisscha

Excused: Samantha Crow, Les Heitke and Ranae Rahn

Absent: Dan Tempel

Guest: Jennifer Mendoza, CLUES Navigator

Staff: Aaron Backman, Executive Director

Secretarial: Diane Beck, Legal & Administrative Assistants, Inc. (LAA)

Chairperson Sam Bowen called the meeting to order at approximately 9:02 a.m.

**AGENDA**—Chair Sam Bowen presented the agenda. Eric Day asked to add under New Business, Pathways to Prosperity and Aaron Backman asked to add Lyft Pathways.

IT WAS MOVED BY Roger Imdieke, SECONDED BY Les Nelson, to approve the Agenda as modified. MOTION CARRIED.

**MINUTES**—Chair Bowen presented the November 1 and December 6, 2019 meeting minutes. Connie Schmoll noted a change on the December 6<sup>th</sup> minutes, under Banker/Accountant Meeting on November 7<sup>th</sup>, third sentence, strike “EDC Industrial Hemp Subcommittee.” Corrected sentence should read: Connie Schmoll and Les Nelson presented PowerPoints on EDC and Mid-Minnesota Development Commission’s financial loan programs.

IT WAS MOVED BY Les Nelson, SECONDED BY Dean Steinwand, to approve the November 1 and December 6, 2019 meeting minutes as revised. MOTION CARRIED.

## REPORTS

**CLUES Update.** Backman reported the CLUES website has been updated and noted CLUES locations: Headquarters: Minneapolis/St. Paul; outstate offices in Willmar and Austin. He provided highlights of the CLUES programs in the Willmar area and other services in addition to workforce training opportunities. The fifth CNA cohort was recently completed with the majority of students passing the exam. Chair

Bowen shared he will be meeting with Jennifer Mendoza today regarding training opportunities, i.e., Women-on-the Move.

[Jennifer Mendoza joined the meeting.]

Jennifer Mendoza reported the CLUES new location on Third Street is working well and feels an open house is needed to announce the new location. Backman stated the EDC will be happy to spread the word via Open Mic, social media, etc. Discussion was held regarding the open house timeframe. Mendoza suggested early afternoon; Schmoll suggested beginning the open house over the noon hour and continue until after work hours. Mendoza is hearing from the community regarding different training needs, i.e., teller/customer service representatives, License Bureau. Mendoza shared her counterpart in Austin will be out of the office for a while, which may be an opportunity for Willmar CLUES to access some of Austin's grant monies. Mendoza will visit with the corporate office. Mendoza reiterated that most of the recent CNA students passed the exam; two students will retest sometime in January.

Mendoza shared two diverse welding cohorts have been held. Mendoza is hoping another diverse welding class will be scheduled that will include other training opportunities. Mendoza is interested in scheduling seminars for the ABC's of business start-ups, etc.

## **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

### **EDC PLANNING SESSION GOALS**

### **WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT OBJECTIVES**

**Kandiyohi County/Community Video.** Schmoll reported Torry Norling will have video updates ready the first part of February.

**Bring Them Back Home (BTBH) Initiative.** Kelly TerWisscha reported the committee is working on organizing a task force and will develop a plan to move forward with the initiative.

**BUSINESS SUPPORT OBJECTIVES.** Backman reported the Willmar Opportunity Zones marketing team is close to finalizing the Opportunity Zone Prospectus. Quotes from various local businesses have been added to the prospectus. Backman plans to present the draft prospectus to the EDC Joint Operations Board meeting on January 9<sup>th</sup>. Backman announced he will share the draft with a developer, who will be visiting Willmar on January 8<sup>th</sup>.

**Ridgewater College CDL Program Update.** Chair Bowen reported a statewide CDL Program meeting will be held next week and announced Ridgewater College raised enough funds to purchase one CDL simulator, which is expected to be delivered by mid-April. Ridgewater College also has a trailer to transport the simulator. Chair Bowen is working on two grant applications, one with Southwest Initiative Foundation (SWIF) and one with Bernick's Family Foundation for \$30,000. Chair Bowen shared \$37,500 was raised from private donations, which allowed Ridgewater College to leverage equipment funds for an additional \$30,000. Some entities have offered equipment in lieu of cash. Ridgewater College will continue its fundraising campaign to fund a second CDL simulator. Jason Duininck will meet with Jennie-O and another company regarding additional donations. Chair Bowen welcomed additional trucking company contacts from committee members. A suggestion was made to invite donors and prospective donors to an event at

Ridgewater College to try out the simulator. Chair Bowen has received feedback regarding the cost of the training and reported his goal is to have a sustainable CDL training program.

Jim Ellingson inquired about possible changes to federal regulations that may affect the CDL program. Chair Bowen explained the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration established a rule in 2016 that all CDL candidates must go through a training program. Chair Bowen reported to date, the rule has not been enforced.

**Women On-The-Move Program.** Eric Day gave an overview of the free training opportunity that will begin in early 2020 at Ridgewater College for women of color (ages 16+), low-income women (ages 18+) and women over age 50 (see attached). The free training will include instruction on the basics of manufacturing concepts/skills and workplace safety, forklift training and certification and an opportunity for participants to meet with industry employers. Participants will have the opportunity to work with placement representatives. The training opportunity is for entry-level employment with a chance for students to advance to higher career levels. Ten students are needed for the class to commence. Backman offered to assist with marketing the program. Mendoza will reach out to potential candidates.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

**January 10<sup>th</sup> Conversation with SMSC President Kumara Jayasuriya.** Backman reported community leaders will have the opportunity to visit with Southwest Minnesota State University's (SMSCU) President Dr. Kumara Jayasuriya at 9:30 a.m., Friday, January 10<sup>th</sup> at Midtown Plaza (lower level). Contact [conniek@swifoundation.org](mailto:conniek@swifoundation.org) to register.

**Pathways to Prosperity—a career in Transportation.** Day shared a flyer regarding a program by Central Minnesota Jobs & Training Service (CMJTS) and Ridgewater College for participants to earn a CDL through the CMJTS Pathways to Prosperity program (see attached). The training is open to residents with lower income to aide them in moving into a CDL career. Basic eligibility requirements include 18 years of age, valid driver's license, income verification, drug testing, clean driving record, ability to pass a physical exam, basic math and reading skills. Chair Bowen inquired of Day if participants pass the program, is there funding for them to move into the Ridgewater College CDL program. Day stated there may be funding to assist in that capacity.

**Launch Your Future Today (LYFT) Career Pathways.** Backman distributed information on the LYFT Career Pathways program established by the Minnesota Legislature in 2013, a rural Career and Technical Education (CTE) initiative with the purpose of rebuilding CTE in southwest and west central Minnesota. The goal of LYFT Career Pathways is for every secondary student (grades 7-12) in the region to gain marketable skills through meaningful CTE courses and opportunities, which leads to further education and careers that match our region's labor market needs. All projects must include at least two high schools (one within the 18-county service area of southwest and west central Minnesota) and one business partner (see attached). Projects include job shadowing programs, internships, apprenticeships, summer camps, weekend career experiences, industry tours, comprehensive career guidance programs or new CTE courses.

**Other.** Backman reported the Willmar Lakes Area Chamber of Commerce will host a Tax Reform Workshop (Minnesota and federal tax changes) at 7:30 a.m., January 9<sup>th</sup> at The Oaks.

Backman, along with Scott Marquardt of SWIF and Zack Mahboub, will participate on a panel and present Investing in Diverse Entrepreneurs at the Economic Development Association of Minnesota Winter Conference on January 24<sup>th</sup> at the Sheraton Bloomington Hotel.

Les Nelson distributed a document from Luke Greiner of the Minnesota Employment and Economic Development regarding Kandiyohi County's population characteristics from 2010 to 2018 (see attached). Nelson shared the Mid-Minnesota Development Commission (MMDC) is accepting resumes for its Executive Director position until January 17<sup>th</sup>. After the resumes are scored, an interview panel will be selected with interviews to be held in February. Sue Gimse is currently serving as interim executive director.

Day inquired about affordable housing in the Willmar area. Backman shared he will be meeting next week with representatives of the Southwest Minnesota Housing Partnership and a local construction company on Opportunity Zones.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

IT WAS MOVED BY Roger Imdieke, SECONDED BY Kelly TerWisscha, to adjourn the meeting.  
MOTION CARRIED.

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 10:11 a.m.

**NEXT MEETING**—The next committee meeting is **9:00 a.m., Friday, February 7, 2020**, at the EDC Office, Willmar.





Central Minnesota

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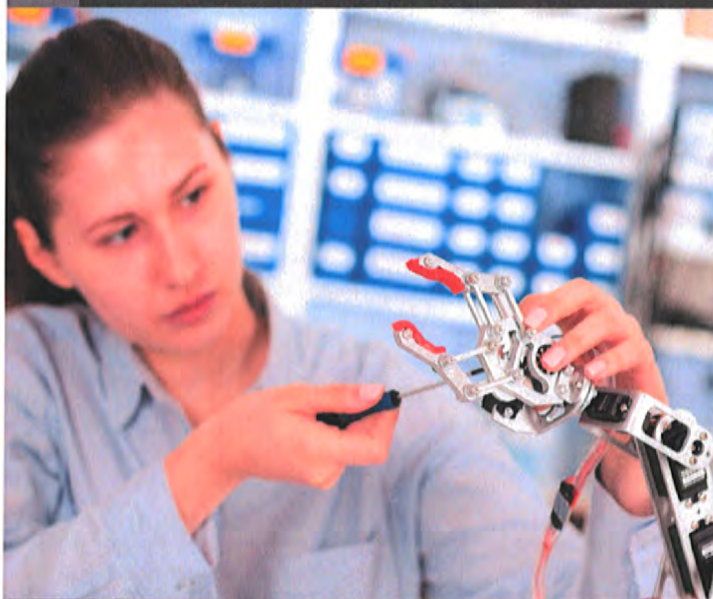
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## Ready for a Career in Manufacturing?

### Free to Attend! Register Today!

#### COURSE DATES

Tuesdays and Wednesdays  
January 14–29, 2020  
10:00 am–3:00 pm

#### LOCATION

Ridgewater College  
2101 15th Ave. NW  
Willmar, MN 56201

#### To register, contact:

Vanessa Gerhardson, Eric Day, or  
Delina Woltjer



### Women-on-the-Move Training Opportunity

If you want to earn good wages in an exciting, rewarding, and modern manufacturing industry where women have proven to be successful, then this is the program for you!

- Instruction on the basics of manufacturing concepts/skills and workplace safety
- Forklift training and certification  
(Monday, January 20, 2020, 10:00 am–4:00 pm)
- Meet with industry employers

#### Basic Eligibility Requirements

Women of color (ages 16+)  
Low-income women (ages 18+)  
Women over age 50

### Preparing Women for Careers in Manufacturing

This training opportunity is brought to you by CMJTS with funding from the Minnesota Department of Employment and Economic Development.

#### For more information, contact:

**Vanessa Gerhardson**  
CareerForce Willmar  
vgerhardson@cmjts.org  
320.249.7650

**Eric Day**  
CareerForce Litchfield  
eday@cmjts.org  
320-241-1747

**Delina Woltjer**  
CareerForce Willmar  
dwoltjer@cmjts.org  
320.292.4798





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## Pathways to Prosperity — a career in **TRANSPORTATION**

A collaboration of partners:



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**JOBS & TRAINING  
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Engage, Equip, Empower  
Glacial Lakes Consortium  
Adult Basic Education



**RIDGEWATER**  
COLLEGE  
Willmar Campus

All classes will be held in Willmar.

### Start your path to a great paying career!

Earn your CDL through participation in the  
**CMJTS Pathways to Prosperity program**

- Commercial Driver's License (CDL) training and exam
- Customer Service Certification
- Support from Adult Basic Education and CMJTS
- Meet with industry employers
- Soft skills training

#### Basic Eligibility Requirements

18 years of age or older

Valid driver's license

Criminal background check

Income verification

Drug testing

Clean driving record

Ability to pass a physical exam

Basic math and reading skills

**Central Minnesota Jobs and Training Services, Inc. (CMJTS)**

For more information, contact:

Vanessa Gerhardson

[vgerhardson@cmjts.org](mailto:vgerhardson@cmjts.org) ■ 320.249.7650

12-19

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## Kandiyohi Co.

Kandiyohi Co. is a part of Economic Development Region 6E, which is located in the Central Planning Region.



### POPULATION CHARACTERISTICS

Kandiyohi Co.'s population has increased so far this decade, ranking as the 33rd fastest growing of the 87 counties in the state from 2010 to 2018. It is now the 23rd largest in the state. Kandiyohi 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).

Current population: **42,855 people**

Population change,  
2010-2018 **616 people**  
**1.5% increase**

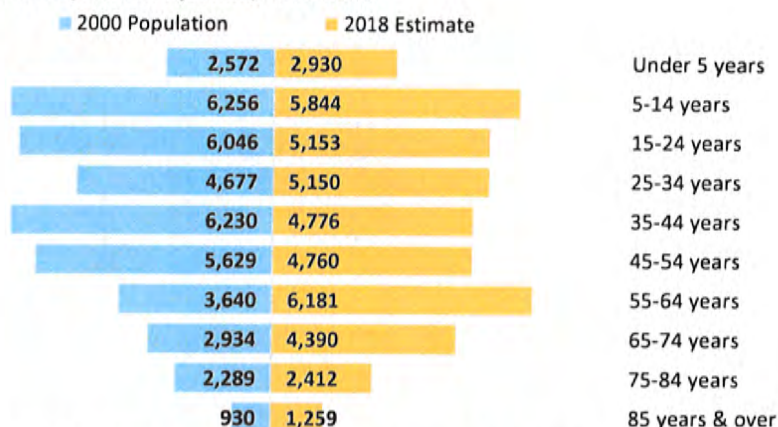
Median Age: **39.4 years**

state: **38.1 years**

	Number	Percent
Under 5 years	2,930	6.8%
5-14 years	5,844	13.6%
15-24 years	5,153	12.0%
25-34 years	5,150	12.0%
35-44 years	4,776	11.1%
45-54 years	4,760	11.1%
55-64 years	6,181	14.4%
65-74 years	4,390	10.2%
75-84 years	2,412	5.6%
85 years & over	1,259	2.9%
<b>Total Population</b>	<b>42,855</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Population Estimates

Figure 1. Population Pyramid, 2000-2018



Kandiyohi Co. enjoyed a natural increase - more births than deaths from 2010 to 2018, but also experienced net out-migration - meaning more people moved out than moved in. Despite suffering domestic out-migration, Kandiyohi Co. welcomed net international in-migration - gaining new Minnesotans from foreign countries (see Table 2).

Table 2. Components of Population Change, 2010-2018

	Total Population Change	April 1, 2010 to July 1, 2018					
		Natural Increase	Vital Events		Net Migration		
			Births	Deaths	Total	International	Domestic
Kandiyohi Co.	616	1,654	4,788	3,134	-1,037	1,399	-2,436
State of Minnesota	307,254	228,289	570,171	341,882	81,671	107,830	-26,159

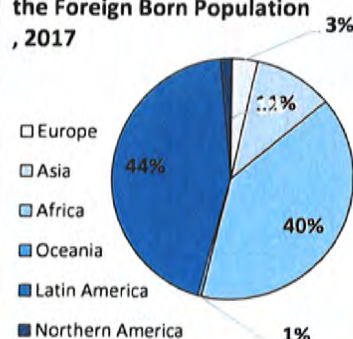
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Population Estimates Program

Compared to the state, Kandiyohi Co. has a smaller percentage of foreign-born residents. From 2010 to 2017, Kandiyohi Co. saw an increase in the number of foreign-born residents, which was faster than the 22.2% statewide increase.

Table 3. Place of Birth for the Foreign Born Population, 2017	Kandiyohi Co.		Change 2010-2017		Minnesota	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Percent	Change
<b>Foreign-born Population</b>	<b>3,508</b>	<b>8.2%</b>	<b>1,547</b>	<b>78.9%</b>	<b>8.3%</b>	<b>22.2%</b>
Europe	120	3.4%	-54	-31.0%	10.4%	3.3%
Asia	369	10.5%	210	132.1%	37.8%	24.6%
Africa	1,396	39.8%	966	224.7%	23.4%	49.3%
Oceania	17	0.5%	14	466.7%	0.5%	40.6%
Americas:	1,606	45.8%	411	34.4%	27.9%	9.8%
Latin America	1,554	44.3%	412	36.1%	25.2%	11.5%
Northern America	52	1.5%	-1	-1.9%	2.7%	-3.5%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2013-2017 American Community Survey

Figure 2. Place of Birth for  
the Foreign Born Population  
, 2017





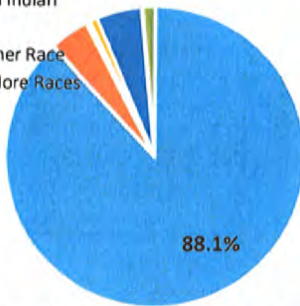
## COUNTY PROFILE

Kandiyohi Co.

Kandiyohi Co.'s population was becoming more racially diverse over time. Since 2000, the county's white population declined, but the number of people of other races increased (see Table 4).

**Figure 3. Population by Race, 2017**

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



**Table 4. Race and Hispanic Origin, 2017**

	Kandiyohi Co.			Minnesota	
	Number	Percent	Change from 2000-2017	Percent	Change from 2000-2017
<b>Total</b>	<b>42,577</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>3.3%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>11.6%</b>
White	37,521	88.1%	-2.7%	83.7%	4.5%
Black or African American	1,846	4.3%	783.3%	6.0%	90.4%
American Indian or Alaska Native	168	0.4%	21.7%	1.0%	4.7%
Asian or Other Pac. Islanders	347	0.8%	87.6%	4.7%	79.2%
Some Other Race	2,089	4.9%	21.5%	1.7%	45.3%
Two or More Races	606	1.4%	61.2%	2.8%	86.7%
Hispanic or Latino origin	5,061	11.9%	53.6%	5.2%	98.5%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2013-2017 American Community Survey

## POPULATION PROJECTIONS

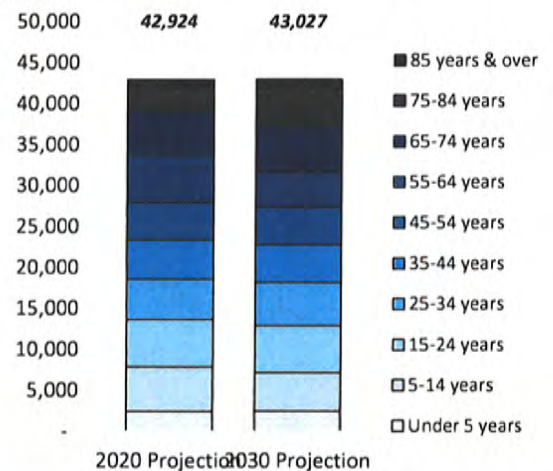
According to the Minnesota State Demographic Center, Kandiyohi Co.'s population is expected to grow from 2020 to 2030, with a rate of change that is slower than the projected statewide growth rate (5.0%). In addition to the overall growth, the number of people aged 65 years and older is expected to increase over the next decade (see Figure 4 and Table 5).

**Table 5. Population Projections by Age Group, 2020-2030**

Kandiyohi Co.	2020 Projection	2030 Projection	Numeric Change	Percent Change
Under 5 years	2,405	2,445	40	1.7%
5-14 years	5,452	4,671	-781	-14.3%
15-24 years	5,772	5,826	54	0.9%
25-34 years	4,927	5,198	271	5.5%
35-44 years	4,837	4,644	-193	-4.0%
45-54 years	4,523	4,584	61	1.3%
55-64 years	5,992	4,284	-1,708	-28.5%
65-74 years	5,100	5,663	563	11.0%
75-84 years	2,857	4,479	1,622	56.8%
85 years & over	1,059	1,233	174	16.4%
<b>Total Population</b>	<b>42,924</b>	<b>43,027</b>	<b>103</b>	<b>0.2%</b>

Source: Minnesota State Demographic Center

**Figure 4. Projections by Age Group, 2020-2030**



## EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT

Kandiyohi Co. has a lower percentage of adults (18 years & over) with at least a high school diploma than the state (92.2%), and a lower percentage of people with at least some college experience. Kandiyohi 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.

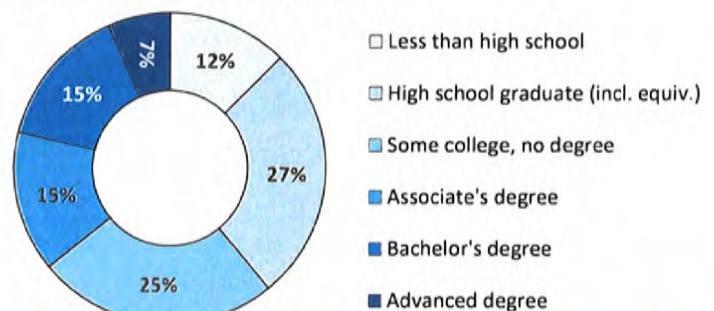
Percentage of the adult population (18 years & over) with at least a high school diploma:

**87.5%**

College-educated: **61.0%**  
state: 66.6%

Associate's Degree: **14.7%**  
Bachelor's Degree: **14.7%**  
Advanced Degree: **6.6%**

**Figure 5. Educational Attainment, 2017**



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2013-2017 American Community Survey

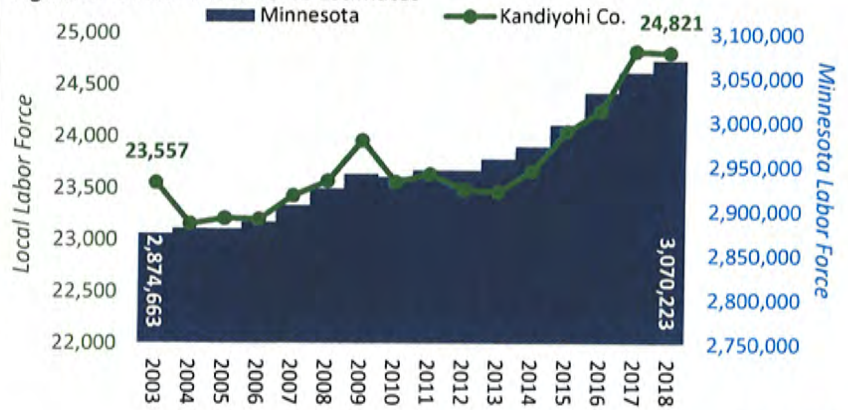


## LABOR FORCE TRENDS

The number of workers in Kandiyohi Co. dropped over the past year. Long term, Kandiyohi Co.'s labor force expanded more slowly from 2003 to 2018, compared to a statewide growth rate of 7.8% (see Figure 6).

<b>24,821</b>	available workers
Labor Force change, 2003-2018	1,264 workers 5.4% increase
<b>2.9%</b>	unemployment rate
2.9%	state
<b>720</b>	unemployed workers

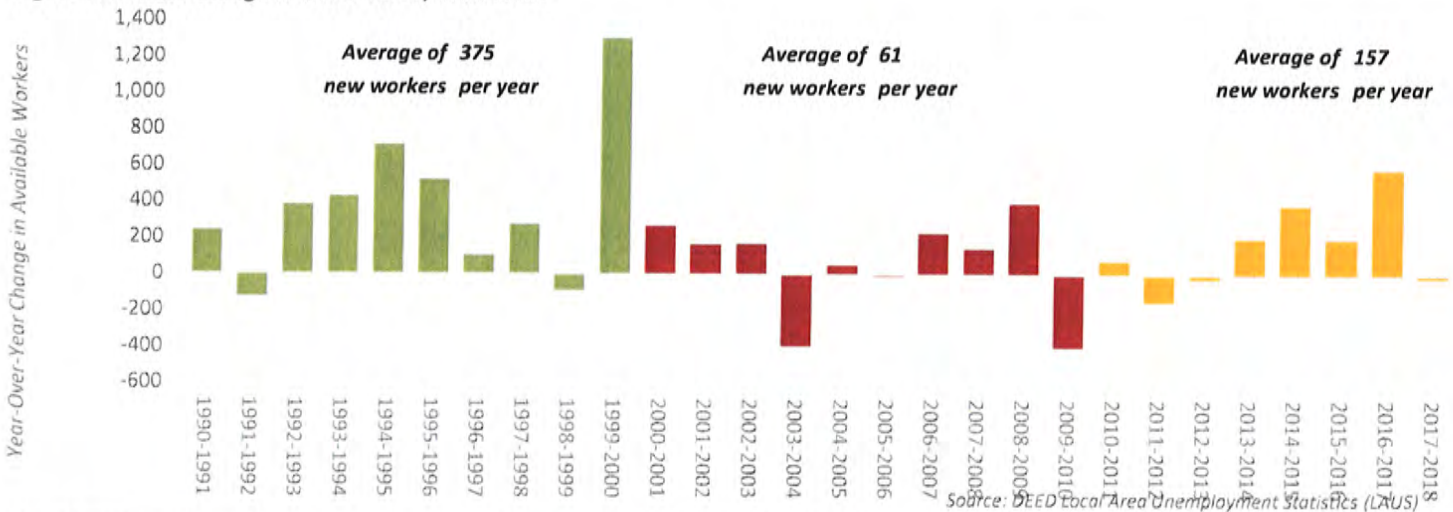
Figure 6. Annual Labor Force Estimates



Source: DEED Local Area Unemployment Statistics

At 2.9%, Kandiyohi Co. had a higher unemployment rate than the state (2.9%) in 2018. Kandiyohi Co.'s unemployment rate declined compared to 3.2% in 2017, and was lower than the 6.7% rate posted in 2009. The number of unemployed workers actively seeking work in Kandiyohi Co. declined over the past year, and is down compared to 2009.

Figure 7. Annual Change in Labor Force, 1990-2018



Source: DEED Local Area Unemployment Statistics (LAUS)

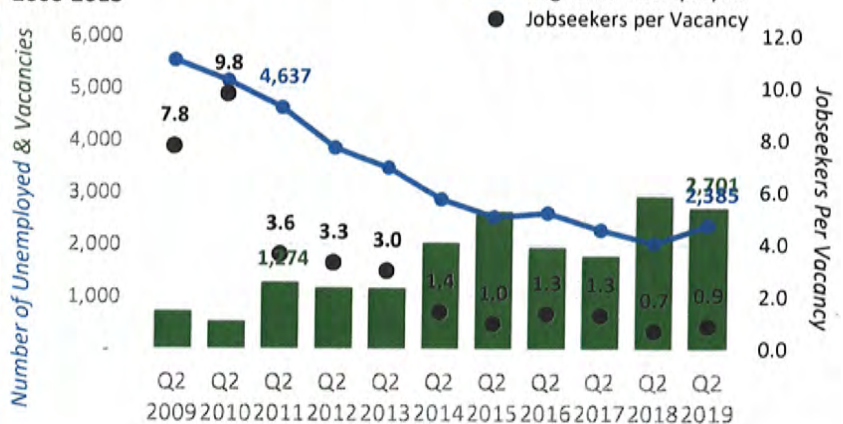
Labor force growth has slowed in recent years. After experiencing a net gain of workers from 1990 to 2000, Kandiyohi Co. averaged an annual gain of new workers from 2000 to 2010, and most recently a gain of new workers since 2010 (see Figure 7). Moving forward, Kandiyohi Co. is expected to see a labor force decline from 2020 to 2030 (see Table 6).

Table 6. Labor Force Projections, 2020-2030	Labor Force Projection	
	2020	2030
16 to 24 years	3,553	3,703
25 to 54 years	12,358	12,478
55 to 64 years	4,611	3,297
65 years & over	1,833	2,127
<b>Total Labor Force</b>	<b>22,355</b>	<b>21,604</b>

Source: Minnesota State Demographic Center

Kandiyohi Co. is a part of Region 6E, which includes Kandiyohi, McLeod, Meeker, and Renville County. The labor market has grown extremely tight in recent years, dropping to a ratio of 0.9 jobseekers per vacancy during the 4th quarter of 2018 (see Figure 8).

Figure 8. Jobseekers Per Vacancy, 2008-2018



Source: DEED Job Vacancy Survey, LAUS program



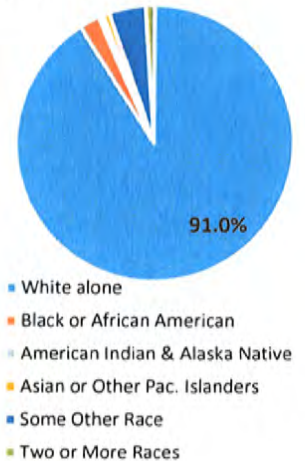
## LABOR FORCE CHARACTERISTICS

Kandiyohi Co. had a lower labor force participation rate than the state. The labor force in Kandiyohi Co. is less racially diverse than the state (85.9% or workers are white alone), but is becoming more diverse over time.

Table 7. Employment Characteristics, 2017

	Kandiyohi Co.			Minnesota		Kandiyohi Co.	
	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>22,539</b>	<b>67.5%</b>	<b>3.0%</b>	<b>69.9%</b>	<b>4.3%</b>	<b>11,997</b>	<b>10,545</b>
16 to 19 years	951	50.2%	7.2%	52.6%	12.8%	498	453
20 to 24 years	2,362	83.6%	5.3%	84.2%	7.1%	1,251	1,110
25 to 44 years	8,516	86.3%	3.2%	88.4%	3.9%	4,709	3,807
45 to 54 years	4,501	87.0%	1.2%	87.2%	3.0%	2,276	2,227
55 to 64 years	4,754	77.0%	2.3%	72.5%	3.2%	2,417	2,338
65 to 74 years	1,222	30.8%	3.0%	27.4%	2.7%	682	542
75 years & over	233	6.7%	0.9%	6.1%	2.8%	164	68
<b>Employment Characteristics by Race &amp; Hispanic Origin</b>							
White alone	20,505	67.9%	2.5%	69.7%	3.6%		
Black or African American	531	50.7%	12.6%	69.8%	11.0%		
American Indian & Alaska Native	125	84.5%	0.0%	58.6%	13.3%		
Asian or Other Pac. Islanders	162	63.3%	0.0%	71.1%	5.2%		
Some Other Race	967	69.0%	8.9%	77.2%	7.5%		
Two or More Races	247	72.9%	0.4%	72.5%	9.1%		
Hispanic or Latino	2,228	71.4%	9.1%	76.2%	7.2%		
<b>Employment Characteristics by Disability</b>							
With Any Disability	1,327	55.9%	6.0%	52.3%	9.5%		
<b>Employment Characteristics by Educational Attainment</b>							
Population, 25 to 64 years	17,764	83.7%	2.4%	84.1%	3.5%		
Less than H.S. Diploma	1,448	64.5%	2.7%	65.4%	4.9%		
H.S. Diploma or Equivalent	4,074	82.8%	3.0%	78.7%	2.9%		
Some College or Assoc. Degree	7,841	85.9%	1.6%	85.2%	3.5%		
Bachelor's Degree or Higher	4,408	89.4%	1.2%	89.6%	2.1%		

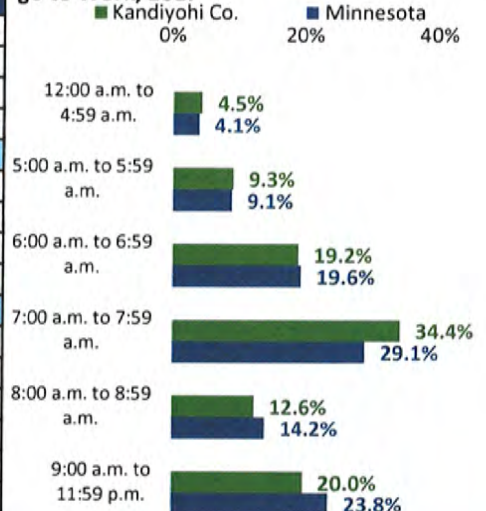
Figure 9. Labor Force by Race, 2017



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

Table 8. Commuting Characteristics, 2017	Kandiyohi Co.		Minnesota	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Worked in state of residence	21,356	98.9%	2,780,256	97.5%
Worked in county of residence	18,484	85.6%	1,810,731	63.5%
Worked out of county of residence	2,850	13.2%	969,525	34.0%
Worked outside state of residence	238	1.1%	71,289	2.5%
<b>MEANS OF TRANSPORTATION TO WORK</b>				
Car, truck, or van	19,780	91.6%	2,466,586	86.5%
Public transportation (excl. taxicab)	173	0.8%	102,656	3.6%
Other method (walk, bike, taxi, etc.)	734	3.4%	128,320	4.5%
Worked at home	907	4.2%	156,835	5.5%
<b>TRAVEL TIME TO WORK</b>				
Less than 10 minutes	6,737	31.2%	459,099	16.1%
10 to 19 minutes	7,731	35.8%	866,870	30.4%
20 to 29 minutes	3,520	16.3%	630,191	22.1%
30 to 44 minutes	2,008	9.3%	550,348	19.3%
45 to 59 minutes	626	2.9%	191,054	6.7%
60 or more minutes	972	4.5%	153,983	5.4%
<b>Mean travel time to work (minutes)</b>	<b>17.9 minutes</b>		<b>23.4 minutes</b>	

Figure 10. Time Leaving Home to go to Work, 2017



Source: 2013-2017 American Community Survey, 5-Year Estimates



## INCOMES, COST OF LIVING, &amp; HOUSING

Kandiyohi Co. had a lower median household income than the state, and a higher percentage of households with incomes below \$50,000. Overall, Kandiyohi Co. had the 35th highest median household income of the 87 counties in the state.

**Median Household Income** **\$56,604**

state \$65,699

**Median Family Income** **\$69,086**

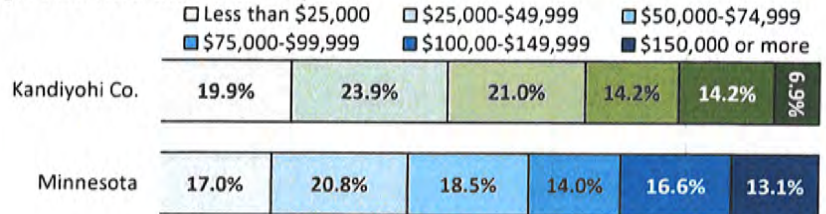
state \$82,785

**Per Capita Income** **\$29,375**

state \$34,712

Source: 2013-2017 American Community Survey

Figure 11. Household Incomes, 2017



Source: 2013-2017 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates

Kandiyohi Co. also had a lower cost of living than the state, with a required hourly wage of \$12.9 for a single person living alone to meet a basic needs cost of living, and an hourly wage requirement of \$14.57 for a typical family with 2 adults and 1 child (see Table 9).

Table 9. Basic Needs Cost of Living Estimates, 2018

Single Adult, 0 children	Single Yearly Cost of Living	Hourly Wage Required	Monthly Costs						
			Child Care	Food	Health Care	Housing	Transportation	Other	Taxes
Kandiyohi Co.	\$26,832	\$12.90	\$0	\$332	\$138	\$569	\$607	\$277	\$313
State of Minnesota	\$30,900	\$14.86	\$0	\$335	\$137	\$759	\$629	\$336	\$379
Typical Family: 2 Adults (1 working full-time, 1 part-time), 1 child	Family Yearly Cost of Living	Hourly Wage Required	Monthly Costs						
			Child Care	Food	Health Care	Housing	Transportation	Other	Taxes
Kandiyohi Co.	\$45,468	\$14.57	\$250	\$758	\$496	\$747	\$701	\$462	\$375
State of Minnesota	\$55,548	\$17.80	\$511	\$764	\$484	\$986	\$729	\$537	\$618

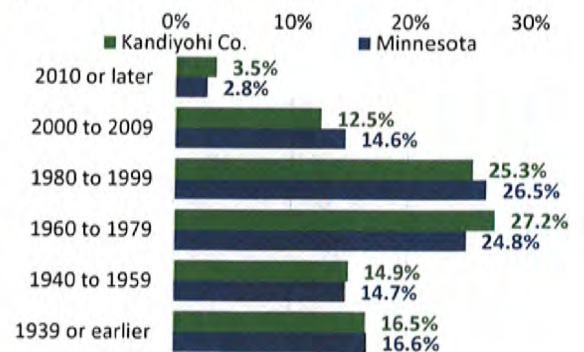
Source: DEED Cost of Living tool

Kandiyohi Co. had a lower median house value than the state, having the 30th highest value of the 87 counties in 2017. Kandiyohi Co.'s housing stock was older than the state's, with a lower percentage of units built since 2000 (see Figure 12).

Table 10. Estimated Value of Owner-occupied Housing Units, 2017	Kandiyohi Co.		Minnesota
	Total	Percent	Percent
<b>Total</b>	<b>12,381</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>
Less than \$50,000	690	5.6%	5.7%
\$50,000 to \$99,999	2,027	16.4%	9.4%
\$100,000 to \$149,999	2,490	20.1%	15.2%
\$150,000 to \$199,999	2,244	18.1%	19.8%
\$200,000 to \$299,999	2,540	20.5%	25.7%
\$300,000 to \$499,999	1,766	14.3%	17.6%
\$500,000 or more	624	5.0%	6.6%
<b>Median (dollars)</b>	<b>\$167,000</b>		<b>\$199,700</b>

Source: 2013-2017 American Community Survey, 5-Year Estimates

Figure 12. Year Structure Built, 2017



**Median monthly owner costs, owner-occupied units with a mortgage** **\$1,275**

state \$1,506

**Percentage of households with a mortgage spending 30% or more of their income on housing costs** **24.5%**

state 23.5%

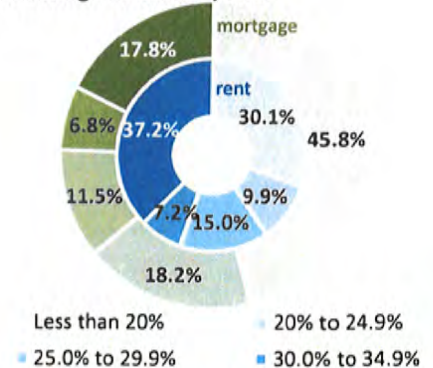
**Median monthly rent costs** **\$709**

state \$906

**Percentage of renters spending 30% or more of their household income on rent** **44.4%**

state 46.4%

Figure 13. Housing Costs as a Percentage of Income, 2017



Source: 2013-2017 American Community Survey, 5-Year Estimates



## OCCUPATIONS

At \$18.15 in 2019, wages were lower in Region 6E than the state. Overall, Region 6E had the 9th highest median hourly wage level of the 13 economic development regions in the state. Wages were highest for management occupations (\$40.83) and lowest for food preparation and serving related jobs (\$11) (see Table 11).

Table 11. Occupational Employment Statistics, 2019

Occupational Group	Region 6E				State of Minnesota		
	Median Hourly Wage	Estimated Regional Jobs	Share of Total Jobs	Regional Location Quotient	Median Hourly Wage	State-wide Jobs	Share of Total Jobs
<b>Total, All Occupations</b>	<b>\$18.15</b>	<b>52,370</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>1.0</b>	<b>\$20.95</b>	<b>2,867,700</b>	<b>100.0%</b>
Management	\$40.83	2,190	4.2%	0.7	\$51.26	171,250	6.0%
Business & Financial Operations	\$29.46	1,490	2.8%	0.5	\$33.03	164,510	5.7%
Computer & Mathematical	\$30.44	670	1.3%	0.4	\$40.96	96,020	3.3%
Architecture & Engineering	\$32.85	1,230	2.3%	1.2	\$37.53	56,070	2.0%
Life, Physical & Social Science	\$29.00	290	0.6%	0.6	\$33.54	26,210	0.9%
Community & Social Service	\$22.85	1,060	2.0%	1.0	\$22.73	57,870	2.0%
Legal	\$26.41	140	0.3%	0.4	\$36.50	19,870	0.7%
Education, Training & Library	\$20.18	4,940	9.4%	1.6	\$24.22	166,300	5.8%
Arts, Design, Entertainment & Media	\$18.34	300	0.6%	0.4	\$24.35	39,670	1.4%
Healthcare Practitioners & Technical	\$28.74	3,150	6.0%	0.9	\$35.79	190,720	6.7%
Healthcare Support	\$14.92	2,210	4.2%	1.5	\$16.82	83,380	2.9%
Protective Service	\$17.50	700	1.3%	0.9	\$21.52	44,390	1.5%
Food Preparation & Serving Related	\$11.00	2,840	5.4%	0.6	\$11.90	242,170	8.4%
Building, Grounds Cleaning & Maint.	\$14.52	1,300	2.5%	0.8	\$14.97	85,820	3.0%
Personal Care & Service	\$12.69	3,250	6.2%	1.2	\$12.90	144,070	5.0%
Sales & Related	\$13.16	4,740	9.1%	0.9	\$14.97	277,070	9.7%
Office & Administrative Support	\$17.63	6,400	12.2%	0.9	\$19.10	405,970	14.2%
Farming, Fishing & Forestry	\$15.95	220	0.4%	3.0	\$16.51	3,980	0.1%
Construction & Extraction	\$24.17	1,640	3.1%	0.9	\$28.07	100,510	3.5%
Installation, Maintenance & Repair	\$21.15	1,860	3.6%	1.0	\$23.13	100,030	3.5%
Production	\$19.32	7,810	14.9%	2.0	\$18.68	214,230	7.5%
Transportation & Material Moving	\$18.32	3,930	7.5%	1.2	\$18.48	177,580	6.2%

Source: DEED Occupational Employment Statistics, Qtr. 1 2019

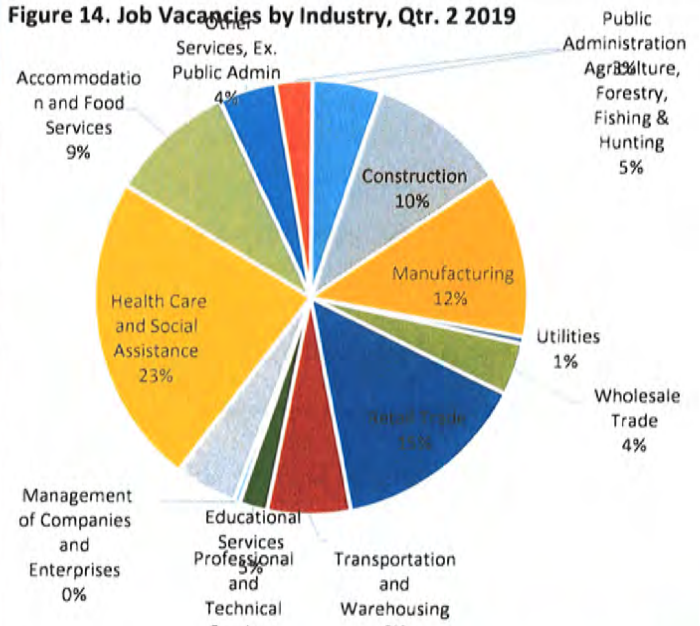
## JOB VACANCY SURVEY

Kandiyohi Co. is a part of Region 6E, which includes Kandiyohi, McLeod, Meeker, and Renville County. There were 2701 job vacancies posted by employers in the 2nd Quarter of 2019, indicating extensive opportunity in the region, with openings across several occupations and industries (see Figure 14).

Table 12. Region 6E Job Vacancy Survey Results, Q2 2019

Occupational Group	Number of Vacancies	Wage Offer
<b>Total, All Occupations</b>	<b>2,701</b>	<b>\$14.51</b>
Management	49	\$32.41
Business & Financial Operations	77	\$21.27
Computer & Mathematical	62	\$21.67
Architecture & Engineering	52	\$22.80
Life, Physical & Social Sciences	22	\$27.41
Community & Social Service	48	\$17.77
Education, Training & Library	#N/A	#N/A
Healthcare Practitioners & Technical	93	\$19.58
Healthcare Support	14	\$14.54
Protective Service	205	\$25.73
Food Preparation & Serving Related	106	\$13.89
Building, Grounds Cleaning & Maint.	21	\$12.72
Personal Care & Service	285	\$11.23
Sales & Related	63	\$10.96
Office & Administrative Support	210	\$11.03
Construction & Extraction	348	\$11.57
Installation, Maintenance & Repair	216	\$13.90
Production	190	\$24.90
Transportation & Material Moving	116	\$26.22

Figure 14. Job Vacancies by Industry, Qtr. 2 2019



Source: DEED Job Vacancy Survey, Qtr. 2 2019



## OCCUPATIONS IN DEMAND

Table 13. Central Occupations in Demand, 2019

Less than High School	High School or Equivalent	Some College or Assoc. Deg.	Bachelor's Degree or Higher
Retail Salespersons \$25,362	Heavy & Tractor-Trailer Truck Drivers \$48,425	Registered Nurses \$77,526	Elementary School Teachers \$57,806
Personal Care Aides \$26,819	First-Line Supervisors of Retail Sales Workers \$41,149	Nursing Assistants \$35,265	Secondary School Teachers \$58,086
Combined Food Preparation & Serving \$23,801	Teacher Assistants \$30,937	Licensed Practical & Licensed Vocational Nurses \$46,876	Software Developers, Applications \$85,496
Cashiers \$24,482	Carpenters \$50,024	Automotive Service Technicians & Mechanics \$39,870	Preschool Teachers, Except Special Education \$32,388
Stock Clerks & Order Fillers \$25,685	First-Line Supervisors of Food Prep & Serving Workers \$36,181	Heating, Air Cond. (HVAC) & Refrig. Mechanics \$51,059	Human Resources Specialists \$56,611
Janitors & Cleaners \$29,692	Welders, Cutters, Solderers, & Brazers \$46,676	Machinists \$49,847	Middle School Teachers \$60,055
Laborers & Freight, Stock & Material Movers, Hand \$34,830	Secretaries & Administrative Assistants \$41,947	Hairdressers, Hairstylists, & Cosmetologists \$30,265	Industrial Engineers \$82,415
Home Health Aides \$28,942	Office Clerks, General \$36,597	Police & Sheriff's Patrol Officers \$63,297	Market Research Analysts & Marketing Specialists \$52,743
Cooks, Restaurant \$27,711	Maintenance & Repair Workers, General \$43,720	Electricians \$68,811	Nurse Practitioners \$105,231
Maids & Housekeeping Cleaners \$26,215	Customer Service Representatives \$34,038	Radiologic Technologists \$62,286	Financial Managers \$93,620

Source: DEED Occupations in Demand

Kandiyohi Co. is a part of the Central planning region, which is projected to see a 8.6% 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, 2016-2026

	Estimated Employment 2016	Projected Employment 2026	Percent Change 2016-2026
<b>Central Planning Region</b>			
<b>Total, All Industries</b>	<b>310,433</b>	<b>337,062</b>	<b>8.6%</b>
Natural Resources & Mining	4,811	4,456	-7.4%
Utilities	2,234	2,342	4.8%
Construction	16,522	20,503	24.1%
Manufacturing	41,361	43,677	5.6%
Wholesale Trade	10,237	11,189	9.3%
Retail Trade	35,825	37,842	5.6%
Transportation & Warehousing	10,210	11,568	13.3%
Information	2,855	2,673	-6.4%
Finance & Insurance, Real Estate	9,306	9,502	2.1%
Professional Services & Mgmt. of Companies	8,642	10,135	17.3%
Administrative & Waste Services	9,834	10,892	10.8%
Educational Services	25,717	26,325	2.4%
Health Care & Social Assistance	47,461	56,807	19.7%
Leisure & Hospitality	27,130	28,141	3.7%
Other Services, Ex. Public Admin	11,569	12,024	3.9%
Public Administration	18,239	20,261	11.1%

Source: DEED 2016-2026 Employment Outlook

Figure 15. Regional Occupational Employment Projections, 2016-2026





## ECONOMIC CHARACTERISTICS

After gaining jobs over the past year, Kandiyohi Co. had the 17th largest economy of the 87 counties in the state. Kandiyohi Co. was the 49th fastest growing in the past year and the 16th fastest growing since 2013. From 2013 to 2018, employers in Kandiyohi Co. added jobs, outpacing the state's 7.0% growth rate.

**1,400** business establishments

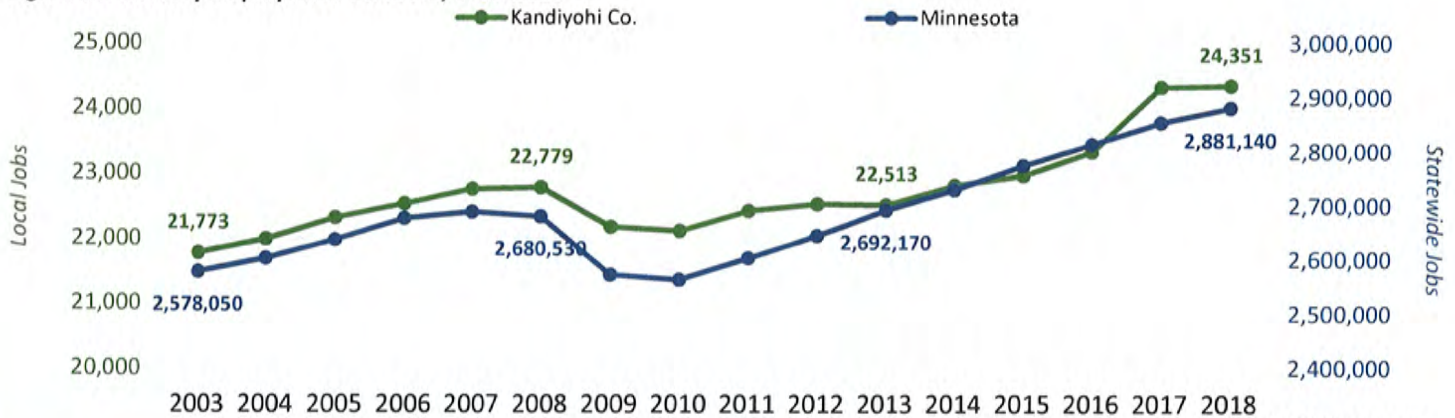
**\$40,472** annual average wage

**24,351** jobs

**\$985,528,530** total industry payroll

Job change,  
2013-2018  
1,838 jobs  
8.2% increase

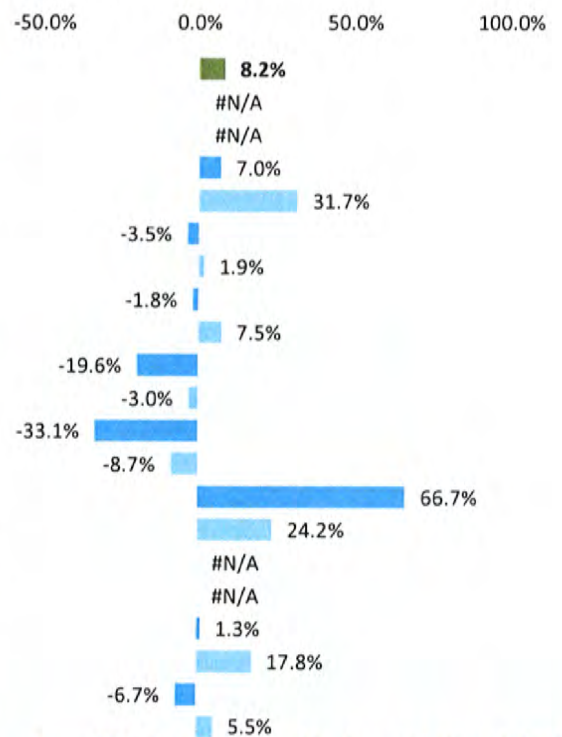
Figure 15. Industry Employment Statistics, 2003-2018



Source: DEED QCEW program

Table 15. Kandiyohi Co. Industry Employment Statistics, 2018	Number of Jobs	Percent of Total Jobs	Average Annual Wage
<b>Total, All Industries</b>	<b>24,351</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>\$40,472</b>
Agriculture, Forestry, Fish & Hunt	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A
Mining	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A
Construction	1,277	5.2%	\$56,213
Manufacturing	4,306	17.7%	\$49,707
Utilities	109	0.4%	\$82,336
Wholesale Trade	765	3.1%	\$67,505
Retail Trade	2,873	11.8%	\$26,870
Transportation & Warehousing	571	2.3%	\$41,766
Information	316	1.3%	\$28,721
Finance & Insurance	521	2.1%	\$64,156
Real Estate & Rental & Leasing	115	0.5%	\$34,115
Professional & Technical Services	559	2.3%	\$54,849
Management of Companies	185	0.8%	\$53,433
Admin. Support & Waste Mgmt. Svcs.	765	3.1%	\$29,564
Educational Services	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A
Health Care & Social Assistance	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A
Arts, Entertainment, & Recreation	242	1.0%	\$14,516
Accommodation & Food Services	1,611	6.6%	\$17,125
Other Services	696	2.9%	\$26,225
Public Administration	991	4.1%	\$49,166

Figure 16. Change in Jobs, 2013-2018



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

For more information on Kandiyohi Co.'s population, labor force, and economic trends, contact:

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CAREER PATHWAYS

Launch Your Future Today

## Project Overview

[www.LYFTpathways.org](http://www.LYFTpathways.org)

Launch Your Future Today (LYFT) is a rural career and technical education (CTE) pathway initiative with the purpose of rebuilding CTE in southwest and west central Minnesota. The goal of LYFT Pathways is for every secondary student in the region to gain marketable skills through meaningful CTE courses and opportunities, which lead to further education and careers that match our region's labor market needs.



**Service Area:** 18 Counties of Southwest and West Central Minnesota (Regions 8, 6E and 6W). All members of the Southwest West Central Service Cooperative (SWWC), the Minnesota West Carl Perkins Consortium and the Mid-Minnesota Carl Perkins Consortium.



**Funding:** \$3 million dollar grant from the 2017 Minnesota Legislative session that will run through June 30, 2022. Grants up to \$50,000 are available to school, business, and college partners on a rolling application cycle.



**Types of Projects:** LYFT funds can be used to develop job shadowing programs, internships, apprenticeships, summer camps, weekend career experiences, industry tours, comprehensive career guidance programs, or new CTE courses.



**Grant Criteria:** All projects must include at least two high schools (one within the service area) and one business partner. They must help address local and regional labor market needs. Students must have hands-on learning opportunities and the project must be sustainable after the first year of LYFT Career Pathways funding.



**Application Assistance:** Technical assistance and grant review services are available from LYFT Career Pathways staff and from the three Regional Economic Development Commissions that serve the region.



**Funded Project Examples:** Pharmacy Technician, Aquaculture, Automotive Technology, Nursing Assistant, Engineering, Manufacturing, Information Technology, Culinary, Aviation, Medical Careers, Entrepreneurship, and more. Go to [www.LYFTpathways.org](http://www.LYFTpathways.org)



**Partnership:** The LYFT Career Pathways initiative is supported by a broad partnership of organizations, colleges, schools, and businesses: Central Minnesota Jobs and Training, DEED, Glacial Lakes Adult Basic Education, Mid-Minnesota Development Commission, Minnesota West Community and Technical College, Ridgewater College, Southwest Adult Basic Education, SW MN Private Industry Council, Southwest Initiative Foundation, Southwest Minnesota State University, Southwest Regional Development Commission, SWWC, Upper Minnesota Valley Regional Development Commission, Mid-Minnesota Carl Perkins Consortium, Minnesota West Carl Perkins Consortium, Regional School Districts and Businesses, Minnesota Legislature, Minnesota Department of Education.

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