#### **COUNTY PROFILE**

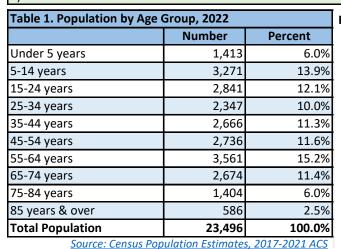
## Meeker Co.

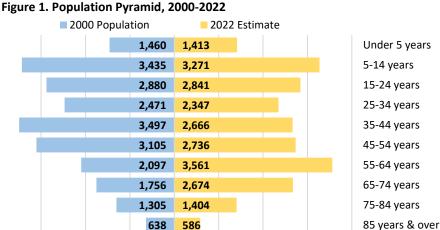
Meeker Co. is a part of Economic Development Region 6E, which is located in the Central Planning Region.

## **POPULATION CHARACTERISTICS**



Meeker Co. is the 43rd largest of the 87 counties in the state. Its population increased over the past decade, ranking as the 43rd fastest growing in the state from 2010 to 2022. Meeker 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).





Meeker Co. suffered a negative natural increase - more deaths than births from 2020 to 2022, but also experienced net in-migration - meaning more people moved in than moved out. In addition to domestic in-migration, Meeker 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, 2020-2022								
	Total		April 1, 2020 to July 1, 2022					
	Population	Natural	Vital Events		Net Migration			
	Change	Increase	Births	Deaths	Total	International	Domestic	
Meeker Co.	96	-47	538	585	143	11	132	
State of Minnesota	10,680	26,917	144,350	117,433	-17,365	20,012	-37,377	

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

2021

Compared to the state, Meeker Co. has a smaller percentage of foreign-born residents. From 2010 to 2021, Meeker 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		er Co.	Change 2	010-2021	Minnesota		
Population, 2021	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Percent	Change	
Foreign-born Population	303	1.3%	-53	-14.9%	8.5%	30.6%	
Europe	38	12.5%	15	65.2%	9.4%	0.3%	
Asia	35	11.6%	-56	-61.5%	37.0%	30.2%	
Africa	1	0.3%	1	#DIV/0!	27.8%	89.8%	
Oceania	3	1.0%	3	#DIV/0!	0.4%	17.8%	
Americas:	226	74.6%	-16	-6.6%	25.4%	6.8%	
Latin America	208	68.6%	-16	-7.1%	23.0%	8.5%	
Northern America	18	5.9%	0	0.0%	2.5%	-6.7%	

□ Europe
□ Asia
□ Africa
□ Oceania

12%

12%

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

■ Northern America

■ Latin America

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2017-2021 American Community Survey

Meeker Co.'s population was becoming more racially diverse over time. Since 2011, the county's white population declined, but the number of people of other races increased (see Table 4).

Figure 3. Population by Race, 2021





		Meeker Co.			Minnesota		
Table 4. Race and Hispanic Origin, 2021	Number	Percent	Change from 2011-2021	Percent	Change from 2011-2021		
Total	23,268	100.0%	-0.3%	100.0%	7.4%		
White	22,243	95.6%	-2.4%	80.7%	0.4%		
Black or African American	87	0.4%	74.0%	6.6%	42.2%		
American Indian or Alaska Native	25	0.1%	-63.8%	0.9%	-8.0%		
Asian or Other Pac. Islanders	49	0.2%	-47.3%	5.0%	35.8%		
Some Other Race	412	1.8%	122.7%	2.1%	66.5%		
Two or More Races	452	1.9%	173.9%	4.6%	121.8%		
Hispanic or Latino origin	979	4.2%	36.4%	5.6%	31.6%		

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2017-2021 American Community Survey

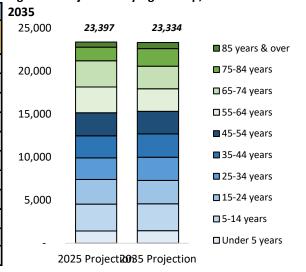
#### POPULATION PROJECTIONS

According to the Minnesota State Demographic Center, Meeker 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 (4.5%). 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).

95.6%

Table 5. Population Projections by Age Group, 2025-2035 2035 Numeric 2025 Percent Meeker Co. **Projection Projection** Change Change Under 5 years 1,428 1,462 34 2.4% 5-14 years 3,120 3,128 8 0.3% 15-24 years 2,861 2,708 -153 -5.3% 2,523 177 25-34 years 2,700 7.0% 35-44 years 2.555 2,715 160 6.3% 45-54 years 2,674 2,631 -43 -1.6% 55-64 years 2.999 2.614 -385 -12.8% 65-74 years 3,048 2,613 -435 -14.3% 75-84 years 1,576 2,063 487 30.9% 85 years & over 613 700 87 14.2% **Total Population** 23,397 -63 23,334 -0.3%

Figure 4. Projections by Age Group, 2025-



Source: Minnesota State Demographic Center

#### **EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT**

Meeker Co. has a higher percentage of adults (18 years & over) with at least a high school diploma than the state (92.8%), and a lower percentage of people with at least some college experience. Meeker 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:

93.0%

☐ Less than high school 7% 13% ☐ High school graduate (incl. equiv.) ■ Some college, no degree 14% 37% Associate's degree ■ Bachelor's degree 24% ■ Advanced degree

Figure 5. Educational Attainment, 2021

College-educated: 56.2% state: 68.0%

Associate's Degree: 14.4% Bachelor's Dearee: 12.7% Advanced Degree: 5.4%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2017-2021 American Community Survey

#### LABOR FORCE TRENDS

At 2.9%, Meeker Co. had a higher unemployment rate than the state in 2022. After the pandemic recession Meeker Co.'s unemployment rate decreased compared to 5.5% in 2020, and declined compared to the 4.1% pre-pandemic rate posted in 2019. The number of unemployed workers actively seeking work in Meeker Co. declined over the past year, and is down compared to 2019.

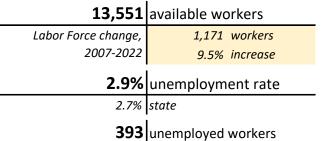


Figure 6. Annual Labor Force Estimates Minnesota Meeker Co. **13,551** 3,200,000 13,800 13,600 3,150,000 13,400 3,100,000 ocal Labor Force 13,200 3,050,000 13,000 3,000,000 12,800 12,622 2,950,000 12,600 2,900,000 12,400 2,850,000

Source: DEED Local Area Unemployment Statistics

3,077,500

2,800,000

2,750,000

2,700,000

Labor force growth has slowed in recent years. After experiencing a net gain of 215.1 workers each year from 1990 to 2000, Meeker Co. averaged an annual gain of 46.8 new workers from 2000 to 2010, and most recently a gain of 56.1 new workers since 2010 (see Figure 7).

12,200

12.000

11,800

11,600

Moving forward, Meeker Co. is expected to see a labor force decline from 2025 to 2035 (see Table 6). Figure 7. Annual Change in Labor Force, 1990-2022 3,500 Average of 215 Average of 47 Average of 56

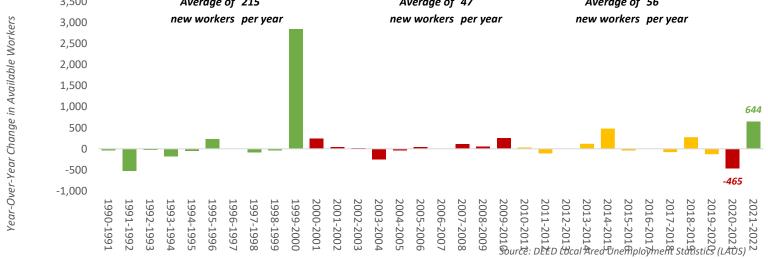
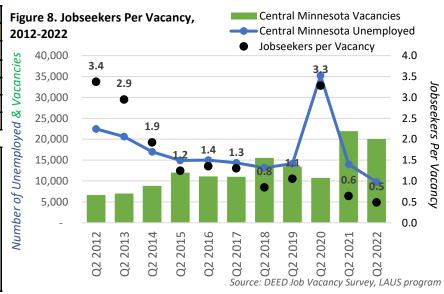


Table 6. Labor Force	Labor Force Projection			
Projections, 2025-2035	2025	2035		
16 to 24 years	1,841	1,758		
25 to 54 years	6,721	6,984		
55 to 64 years	2,153	1,877		
65 years & over	930	850		
Total Labor Force	11,646	11,469		

Source: Minnesota State Demographic Center, 2017-2021 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. Job vacancies in Central reached new highs in the 4th quarter of 2021, quickly bringing back challenges in finding new workers and 2022 showed the lowest jobseeker-per-vacancy ratio on record (see Figure 8).

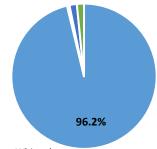


## LABOR FORCE CHARACTERISTICS

Meeker Co. had a lower labor force participation rate than the state. The labor force in Meeker Co. is less racially diverse than the state (where 82.6% of workers are white alone), but is becoming more diverse over time.

	IV	leeker Co.		Minne	esota	Labor Force	by Gender
	In Labor Force (available workers)	Labor Force Partic. Rate	Unemp. Rate	Labor Force Partic. Rate	Unemp. Rate	Male	Female
Total Labor Force	11,813	64.5%	2.4%	69.2%	4.0%	6,490	5,318
16 to 19 years	701	57.0%	5.0%	52.3%	10.7%	377	324
20 to 24 years	1,112	87.7%	4.7%	83.3%	6.7%	579	533
25 to 44 years	4,393	88.5%	2.7%	88.8%	3.6%	2,413	1,980
45 to 54 years	2,257	83.3%	2.1%	87.6%	3.0%	1,245	1,012
55 to 64 years	2,532	71.8%	0.8%	73.1%	3.2%	1,352	1,180
65 to 74 years	694	26.2%	1.2%	28.0%	3.2%	425	270
75 years & over	118	6.0%	0.0%	6.6%	2.9%	99	19
Employment Characteristics by Race &	Hispanic Origin					Figure 9. La	abor Force by
White alone	11,361	64.4%	2.5%	68.5%	3.4%	Race, 2021	-
Black or African American	36	42.9%	0.0%	71.9%	8.6%		
American Indian & Alaska Native	17	81.0%	0.0%	57.4%	12.9%		
Asian or Other Pac. Islanders	13	27.7%	15.4%	72.7%	4.1%		
Some Other Race	192	69.6%	0.0%	75.8%	6.2%		\\
Two or More Races	187	76.6%	0.0%	74.1%	7.3%	•	. V
Hispanic or Latino	412	64.5%	0.0%	77.0%	6.6%		
Employment Characteristics by Disabili	ty						
With Any Disability	646	49.3%	10.5%	53.6%	9.9%		96.2%
<b>Employment Characteristics by Educati</b>	onal Attainment						
Population, 25 to 64 years	9,183	82.0%	2.0%	84.4%	3.4%	White a	
Less than H.S. Diploma	384	62.5%	1.5%	66.6%	4.6%		African American
H.S. Diploma or Equivalent	2,806	78.3%	0.8%	77.3%	2.5%		n Indian & Alaska Na
Some College or Assoc. Degree	3,945	83.9%	1.6%	85.1%	3.6%		Other Pac. Islanders
Bachelor's Degree or Higher	2,046	89.0%	2.1%	90.3%	2.1%	■ Some O	ther Race

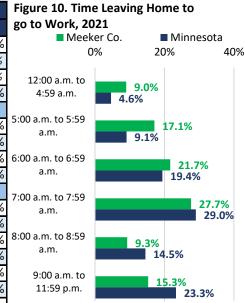
Source: 2017-2021 American Community Survey, 5-Year Estimates



- ve
- Two or More Races

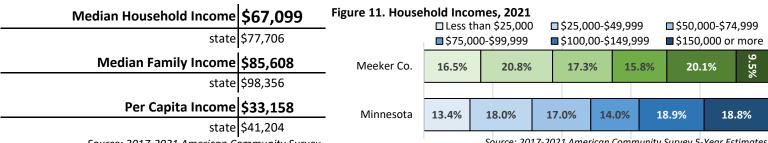
A smaller percentage of workers in Meeker Co. worked in the same county in which they live compared to the state. Meeker Co. also had a longer average commute time than the state.

	Meeker	Co.	Minne	esota	ı
Table 8. Commuting Characteristics, 2021	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	٤
Worked in state of residence	11,285	99.3%	2,858,636	97.7%	
Worked in county of residence	6,046	53.2%	1,922,337	65.7%	ĺ
Worked out of county of residence	5,251	46.2%	933,372	31.9%	
Worked outside state of residence	80	0.7%	67,296	2.3%	ĺ
MEANS OF TRANSPORTATION TO WORK					_
Car, truck, or van	10,229	90.0%	2,387,561	81.6%	5
Public transportation (excl. taxicab)	23	0.2%	81,926	2.8%	ĺ
Other method (walk, bike, taxi, etc.)	375	3.3%	122,889	4.2%	6
Worked at home	739	6.5%	333,556	11.4%	ĺ
TRAVEL TIME TO WORK					7
Less than 10 minutes	2,978	26.2%	465,223	15.9%	
10 to 19 minutes	2,944	25.9%	895,335	30.6%	ĺ
20 to 29 minutes	1,830	16.1%	649,557	22.2%	8
30 to 44 minutes	1,750	15.4%	567,631	19.4%	ĺ
45 to 59 minutes	739	6.5%	190,186	6.5%	ĺ
60 or more minutes	1,125	9.9%	158,000	5.4%	ĺ
Mean travel time to work (minutes)	24.1	minutes	23.5	minutes	ĺ



## **INCOMES, COST OF LIVING, & HOUSING**

Meeker Co. had a lower median household income than the state, and a higher percentage of households with incomes below \$50,000. Overall, Meeker Co. had the 29th highest median household income of the 87 counties in the state.



Source: 2017-2021 American Community Survey

Source: 2017-2021 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates

The cost of living has increased over the past 2 years with costs up in many areas. Meeker Co. had a lower cost of living than the state, with a required hourly wage of \$13.99 for a single person living alone to meet a basic needs cost of living, and an hourly wage requirement of \$15.97 for a typical family with 2 adults and 1 child (see Table 9).

Table 9. Basic Needs Cost of	able 9. Basic Needs Cost of Living Estimates, 2022									
	Single Yearly	Hourly Wage			N	Ionthly Co	sts			
Single Adult, 0 children	Cost of Living		Child Care	Food	Health Care	Housing	Trans- portation	Other	Taxes	
Meeker Co.	\$29,103	\$13.99	\$0	\$351	\$152	\$580	\$764	\$255	\$323	
State of Minnesota	\$33,708	\$16.21	\$0	\$359	\$157	\$903	\$663	\$345	\$382	
Typical Family: 2 Adults (1	Family Yearly	Hourly Wage	Monthly Costs							
working full-time, 1 part-	Cost of Living	, ,	Child Care	Food	Health	Housing	Trans-	Other	Taxes	
time), 1 child	Cost of Living	Required	Child Care	roou	Care	Housing	portation	Other	raxes	
Meeker Co.	\$49,838	\$15.97	\$304	\$803	\$538	\$778	\$898	\$433	\$399	
State of Minnesota	\$60,540	\$19.40	\$579	\$822	\$561	\$1,151	\$772	\$540	\$620	

Source: DEED Cost of Living tool

Meeker Co. had a lower median house value than the state, having the 35th highest value of the 87 counties in 2021. Meeker 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-	Meeker	Minnesota	
occupied Housing Units, 2021	Total	Percent	Percent
Total	7,319	100.0%	100.0%
Less than \$50,000	355	4.9%	4.3%
\$50,000 to \$99,999	904	12.4%	6.1%
\$100,000 to \$149,999	1,209	16.5%	9.5%
\$150,000 to \$199,999	1,494	20.4%	14.8%
\$200,000 to \$299,999	1,747	23.9%	28.7%
\$300,000 to \$499,999	1,203	16.4%	26.4%
\$500,000 or more	407	5.6%	10.2%
Median (dollars)	\$186,4	100	\$250,200

Source: 2017-2021 American Community Survey, 5-Year Estimates

Figure 12. Year Structure Built, 2021 0% 20% 30% 10% Meeker Co. ■ Minnesota 2010 or later 13.1% 2000 to 2009 13.4% 1980 to 1999 25.7% 25.3% 1960 to 1979 24.1% 14.6% 1940 to 1959 14.1% 20.0% 1939 or earlier

> Figure 13. Housing Costs as a Percentage of Income, 2021

> > 32.49

7.6%

15.1%

Median monthly owner costs, owner-occupied units with a mortgage

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

Median monthly rent costs \$750

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

state 45.4%

Less than 20% 20% to 24.9% 25.0% to 29.9% 30.0% to 34.9%

mortgage

29.6%

50.9%

rent

■ 35% or more

Source: 2017-2021 American Community Survey, 5-Year Estimates

### **OCCUPATIONS**

At \$19.47 in 2022, wages were lower in Region 6E than the state. Overall, Region 6E had the 2nd lowest median hourly wage level of the 13 economic development regions in the state. Wages were highest for management occupations (\$40.4) and lowest for food preparation and serving related jobs (\$14.22) (see Table 11).

Table 11. Occupational Employment & Wage Statistics, 2022									
		Region 6E			Stat	te of Minnes	sota		
Occupational Group	Median Hourly Wage	Estimated Regional Jobs	Share of Total Jobs	Regional Location Quotient	Median Hourly Wage	State-wide Jobs	Share of Total Jobs		
Total, All Occupations	\$19.47	48,860	100.0%	1.0	\$24.45	2,735,060	100.0%		
Management	\$40.40	2,390	4.9%	0.7	\$51.60	181,090	6.6%		
Business & Financial Operations	\$31.14	1,640	3.4%	0.5	\$38.90	192,700	7.0%		
Computer & Mathematical	\$37.38	450	0.9%	0.2	\$49.39	101,560	3.7%		
Architecture & Engineering	\$39.23	950	1.9%	1.0	\$40.25	51,970	1.9%		
Life, Physical & Social Science	\$31.58	300	0.6%	0.6	\$38.11	26,140	1.0%		
Community & Social Service	\$24.79	1,080	2.2%	1.1	\$25.22	53,670	2.0%		
Legal	\$29.59	160	0.3%	0.5	\$40.96	19,860	0.7%		
Education, Training & Library	\$24.18	2,610	5.3%	1.0	\$25.01	149,990	5.5%		
Arts, Design, Entertainment & Media	\$19.45	370	0.8%	0.6	\$26.64	36,710	1.3%		
Healthcare Practitioners & Technical	\$37.87	2,790	5.7%	0.8	\$39.57	190,180	7.0%		
Healthcare Support	\$15.43	4,430	9.1%	1.5	\$15.18	162,530	5.9%		
Protective Service	\$26.46	590	1.2%	0.8	\$25.98	40,580	1.5%		
Food Preparation & Serving Related	\$14.22	3,710	7.6%	1.0	\$15.18	198,800	7.3%		
Building, Grounds Cleaning & Maint.	\$15.93	1,360	2.8%	1.0	\$18.64	75,850	2.8%		
Personal Care & Service	\$15.47	830	1.7%	0.8	\$15.80	56,580	2.1%		
Sales & Related	\$15.11	4,460	9.1%	1.0	\$17.89	245,390	9.0%		
Office & Administrative Support	\$19.41	5,660	11.6%	0.9	\$23.79	334,550	12.2%		
Farming, Fishing & Forestry	\$18.44	330	0.7%	4.2	\$18.96	4,350	0.2%		
Construction & Extraction	\$24.35	2,040	4.2%	1.1	\$30.75	107,180	3.9%		
Installation, Maintenance & Repair	\$24.11	2,090	4.3%	1.2	\$25.98	96,660	3.5%		
Production	\$19.78	6,140	12.6%	1.7	\$20.18	198,940	7.3%		
Transportation & Material Moving	\$19.47	4,470	9.1%	1.2	\$19.80	209,780	7.7%		

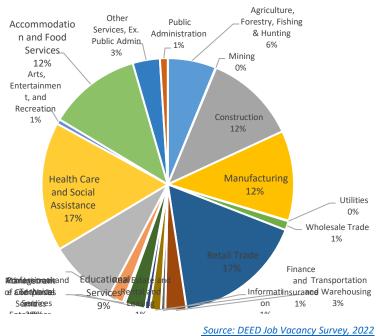
Source: DEED Occupational Employment & Wage Statistics, Qtr. 1 2022

## **JOB VACANCY SURVEY**

Meeker Co. is a part of the Central planning region. There were 20029 job vacancies posted by employers in 2022, indicating extensive opportunity in the region, with openings across several occupations and industries (see Figure 14).

Table 12. Central Job Vacancy Survey Resu	Table 12. Central Job Vacancy Survey Results, 2022						
	Number of						
Occupational Group	Vacancies	Wage Offer					
Total, All Occupations	20,029	\$18.05					
Management	320	\$39.17					
Business & Financial Operations	202	\$27.62					
Computer & Mathematical	171	\$23.54					
Architecture & Engineering	158	'					
Life, Physical & Social Sciences	621						
Community & Social Service	254	\$23.73					
Education, Training & Library	1,003	\$22.10					
Healthcare Practitioners & Technical	1,788	\$32.69					
Healthcare Support	1,330	\$15.48					
Protective Service	133						
Food Preparation & Serving Related	2,629	\$13.43					
Building, Grounds Cleaning & Maint.	669	\$15.07					
Personal Care & Service	650	\$14.19					
Sales & Related	2,437	\$15.93					
Office & Administrative Support	1,264						
Construction & Extraction	1,479						
Installation, Maintenance & Repair	620	\$22.53					
Production	1,690	\$17.91					
Transportation & Material Moving	1,845	\$20.33					

Figure 14. Job Vacancies by Industry, 2022



# **OCCUPATIONS IN DEMAND**

<b>Table 13. Central Occupatio</b>	ns in Demand, 2022		
Less than High School	High School or Equivalent	Some College or Assoc. Deg.	Bachelor's Degree or Higher
Retail Salespersons	Nursing Assistants	Registered Nurses	Elementary School Teachers, Except Special Education
\$28,817/yr	\$36,077/yr	\$84,325/yr	\$58,958/yr
Fast Food and Counter	Licensed Practical and Licensed Vocational	Police and Sheriff?s Patrol	Secondary School Teachers, Except
Workers	Nurses	Officers	Special and Career/Technical
\$25,851/yr	\$48,600/yr	\$67,134/yr	\$64,053/yr
Home Health and Personal Care Aides	Machinists	Clinical Laboratory Technologists and Technicians	General and Operations Managers
\$29,471/yr	\$53,178/yr	\$55,350/yr	\$88,723/yr
Heavy and Tractor-Trailer	Automotive Service Technicians and	Dental Hygienists	Accountants and Auditors
Truck Drivers	Mechanics	Dental Hygiemsts	Accountants and Additors
\$50,278/yr	\$44,146/yr	\$74,817/yr	\$65,308/yr
Cashiers	Hairdressers, Hairstylists, and	Radiologic Technologists and	Construction Managers
	Cosmetologists	Technicians	
\$27,062/yr	\$34,024/yr	\$69,032/yr	\$92,471/yr
First-Line Supervisors of	Medical Assistants	Computer Network Support	Project Management Specialists
Retail Sales Workers		Specialists	and Business Operations
\$46,230/yr	\$40,779/yr	\$61,398/yr	\$61,390/yr
Stockers and Order Fillers	Computer User Support Specialists	Industrial Engineering	Substance abuse, behavioral
		Technologists and Technicians	disorder, and mental health
\$29,612/yr	\$53,048/yr	\$51,275/yr	\$52,515/yr
Janitors and Cleaners,	Electricians	Respiratory Therapists	Middle School Teachers, Except
Except Maids and	4	, , ,	Special and Career/Technical
\$35,947/yr	\$64,458/yr	\$73,109/yr	\$62,214/yr
Customer Service	Heating, Air Conditioning, and	Veterinary Technologists and	Substitute Teachers, Short-Term
Representatives	Refrigeration Mechanics and Installers	Technicians	·
\$35,525/yr	\$53,036/yr	\$36,602/yr	\$34,900/yr
Teaching Assistants, Except	Industrial Machinery Mechanics	Library Technicians	Preschool Teachers, Except Special
Postsecondary	,	·	Education
\$33,541/yr	\$61,862/yr	\$40,330/yr	\$38,097/yr

Source: DEED Occupations in Demand

Meeker Co. is a part of the Central planning region, which is projected to see a 5% 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 Pr	rojections, 2020	-2030	
	Estimated Employment	Projected Employ-	Percent Change
Central Planning Region	2020	ment 2030	2020-2030
Total, All Industries	301,170	316,216	5.0%
Natural Resources & Mining	5,416	4,879	-9.9%
Utilities	1,952	1,686	-13.6%
Construction	18,984	19,792	4.3%
Manufacturing	39,543	40,646	2.8%
Wholesale Trade	10,123	10,516	3.9%
Retail Trade	35,588	33,781	-5.1%
Transportation & Warehousing	10,098	10,685	5.8%
Information	2,639	2,842	7.7%
Finance & Insurance, Real Estate	9,550	9,649	1.0%
Professional Services & Mgmt. of Compani	8,562	9,119	6.5%
Admin. Support & Waste Mgmt.	9,545	10,066	5.5%
Educational Services	23,734	24,976	5.2%
Health Care & Social Assistance	46,672	52,213	11.9%
Leisure & Hospitality	21,963	26,961	22.8%
Other Services	10,108	11,290	11.7%
Public Administration	19,239	20,198	5.0%

<u> Source: DEED 2020-2030 Employment Outlook</u>

Figure 15. Regional Occupational Employment Projections, 2020-2030

■ From employment gr -5,(	From employment growth -5,000		From exit openings 5,000 15,000 25	
Management Occupations	900	8,070		
Business and Financial	650	<b>3</b> ,130		
Computer and	299	920		
Architecture and	231	1,099		
Life, Physical, and Social	137	469		
Community and Social	692	2,049		
Legal Occupations	91	370		
Educational Instruction and;	1,446	7,688		
Arts, Design,	335	<b>1,635</b>		
Healthcare Practitioners	1,375	4,902		
Healthcare Support	2,83	3 11,00	7	
Protective Service	430	<b>2</b> ,283		
Food Preparation and	3,6	18,0	01	
Building and Grounds	537	<b>5,3</b> 45		
Personal Care and Service1		6,109		
Sales and Related	-1,0	15,120		
Office and Administrative1,	428	15,379		
Farming, Fishing, and	312 l	<b>1</b> ,305		
Construction and Extraction	700	<b>5,129</b>		
Installation, Maintenance,	578	<b>4,0</b> 57		
Production Occupations	75	9,870	I	
Transportation and	1,723	13,023		
ı				

### **ECONOMIC CHARACTERISTICS**

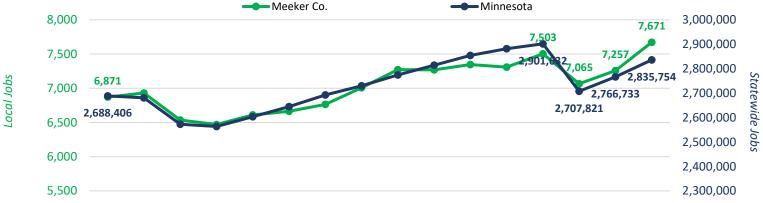
Coming out of the pandemic recession, after gaining jobs over the past year, Meeker Co. had the 45th largest economy of the 87 counties in the state. Meeker Co. was the 1st fastest growing in the past year and the 6th fastest growing since 2019, prior to the pandemic. From 2019 to 2022, employment in Meeker Co. grew despite the pandemic recession.

653 business establishments \$49,100 annual average wage

7,671 jobs \$376,643,528 total industry payroll

Job change, 2019-2022 2.2% increase

Figure 16. Industry Employment Statistics, 2007-2022

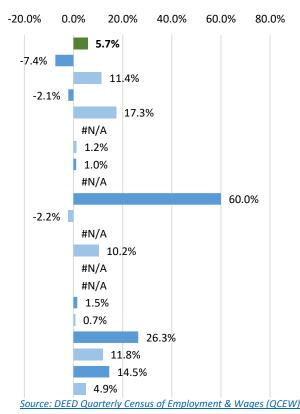


2007 2008 2009 2010 2011 2012 2013 2014 2015 2016 2017 2018 2019 2020 2021 2022

Source: DEED QCEW program

			Average
Table 15. Meeker Co. Industry	Number of	Percent of	Annual
Employment Statistics, 2022	Jobs	Total Jobs	Wage
Total, All Industries	7,671	100.0%	\$49,100
Agriculture, Forestry, Fish & Hunt	245	3.2%	\$34,426
Mining	16	0.2%	\$41,987
Construction	515	6.7%	\$60,145
Manufacturing	2,010	26.2%	\$60,457
Utilities	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A
Wholesale Trade	439	5.7%	\$59,857
Retail Trade	774	10.1%	\$33,140
Transportation & Warehousing	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A
Information	40	0.5%	\$32,049
Finance & Insurance	181	2.4%	\$68,695
Real Estate & Rental & Leasing	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A
Professional & Technical Services	238	3.1%	\$58,759
Management of Companies	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A
Admin. Support & Waste Mgmt. Svcs.	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A
Educational Services	534	7.0%	\$33,799
Health Care & Social Assistance	1,090	14.2%	\$34,470
Arts, Entertainment, & Recreation	24	0.3%	\$13,179
Accommodation & Food Services	454	5.9%	\$15,758
Other Services	189	2.5%	\$26,317
Public Administration	447	5.8%	\$47,905

Figure 2. Change in Jobs, 2021-2022



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

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