JOBS and WAGES

A look at the employment outcomes of Minnesota college graduates and their wages a few years into their career.

Minnesota graduates get jobs at high rates

76% of 2015 graduates were employed in Minnesota in their second year after graduation.*

Over 68% of jobs paying family-sustaining wages* require education and training beyond high school

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Education Level</th>
<th>Employed Full-Time</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bachelor’s degree</td>
<td>41%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vocational training**</td>
<td>28%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Associate degree</td>
<td>53%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Graduate degree</td>
<td>3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>High school diploma</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Graduates with higher degrees earn more and have higher rates of full-time employment

Racial disparities in income and full-time employment rates tend to decrease among graduates with higher degrees

Wages grow significantly from the 2nd to 8th year after graduation, including across all degree levels

*Based on Minnesota unemployment insurance records. Does not include federal employees, self-employed, military, or individuals who moved out of state for a job.

*Occupations having a median annual wage - as of first quarter 2019 - at or above a sustainable living wage for a family of three in Minnesota, as defined by the Minnesota Department of Employment and Economic Development ($55,548 for two adults and one child, with one adult working full-time and the other part-time).

**Vocational training includes on-the-job training, apprenticeships and certificates.

Median full-time annual wages in 2nd year for the graduating classes of 2011, 2012, and 2013. Age range at time of graduation: 19-30

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Certificate (no Bachelor’s Degree)</th>
<th>Associate Degree</th>
<th>Bachelor’s Degree</th>
<th>Graduate Degree</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>$30,326</td>
<td>$31,451</td>
<td>$38,209</td>
<td>$48,551</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$41,559</td>
<td>$44,629</td>
<td>$48,551</td>
<td>$71,392</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Median hourly wages for the graduating class of 2010. Age range at time of graduation: 19-30

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Education Level</th>
<th>2nd Year</th>
<th>8th Year</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bachelor’s degree</td>
<td>$15.09</td>
<td>$17.96</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vocational training**</td>
<td>$15.73</td>
<td>$20.05</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Associate degree</td>
<td>$17.78</td>
<td>$24.03</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Graduate degree</td>
<td>$17.78</td>
<td>$24.03</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Reported hourly wages for graduating class of 2010.
Beyond degree level and program, wages also vary by regions across Minnesota.

**Top 5 Programs for High Wages by Type of Award**

- **Certificate**
  1. Construction trades
  2. Health professions
  3. Engineering
  4. Computer and information sciences
  5. Engineering technologies

- **Associate degree**
  1. Engineering technologies
  2. Homeland security, law enforcement
  3. Computer and information sciences
  4. Construction and materials moving
  5. Construction trades

- **Bachelor’s degree**
  1. Construction trades
  2. Health professions
  3. Engineering
  4. Computer and information sciences
  5. Engineering technologies

- **Graduate degree**
  1. Engineering technologies
  2. Business and marketing
  3. Homeland security, law enforcement
  4. Computer and information sciences
  5. Mathematics and statistics

**Median Hourly Wages* Two Years After Graduation by Region and Award Level**

- **Northeast**
  - Certificate: $16.49
  - Associate degree: $16.71
  - Bachelor’s degree: $19.95
  - Graduate degree: $33.06

- **Central**
  - Certificate: $17.27
  - Associate degree: $17.23
  - Bachelor’s degree: $21.22
  - Graduate degree: $34.24

- **Twin Cities**
  - Certificate: $18.13
  - Associate degree: $19.33
  - Bachelor’s degree: $21.84
  - Graduate degree: $34.44

- **Southeast**
  - Certificate: $17.74
  - Associate degree: $18.43
  - Bachelor’s degree: $19.66
  - Graduate degree: $31.47

*Wage statistics combine data on employed graduates from school years 2013-2016.

About the Data

This infographic displays statistics from the Graduate Employment Outcomes tool available online at https://mn.gov/deed/geo (Minnesota Department of Employment and Economic Development - DEED).

Data for the Graduate Employment Outcomes tool come from the Minnesota Office of Higher Education (postsecondary graduation records) and from wage records from all employers subject to Unemployment Insurance taxes in Minnesota. Graduation records and wage records are linked in the Statewide Longitudinal Education Data System (SLEDS).