

How the Pandemic has Impacted our Workforce

Cameron Macht

DEED Labor Market Information Office

Regional Analysis & Outreach

www.mn.gov/deed/data/

September 14, 2020

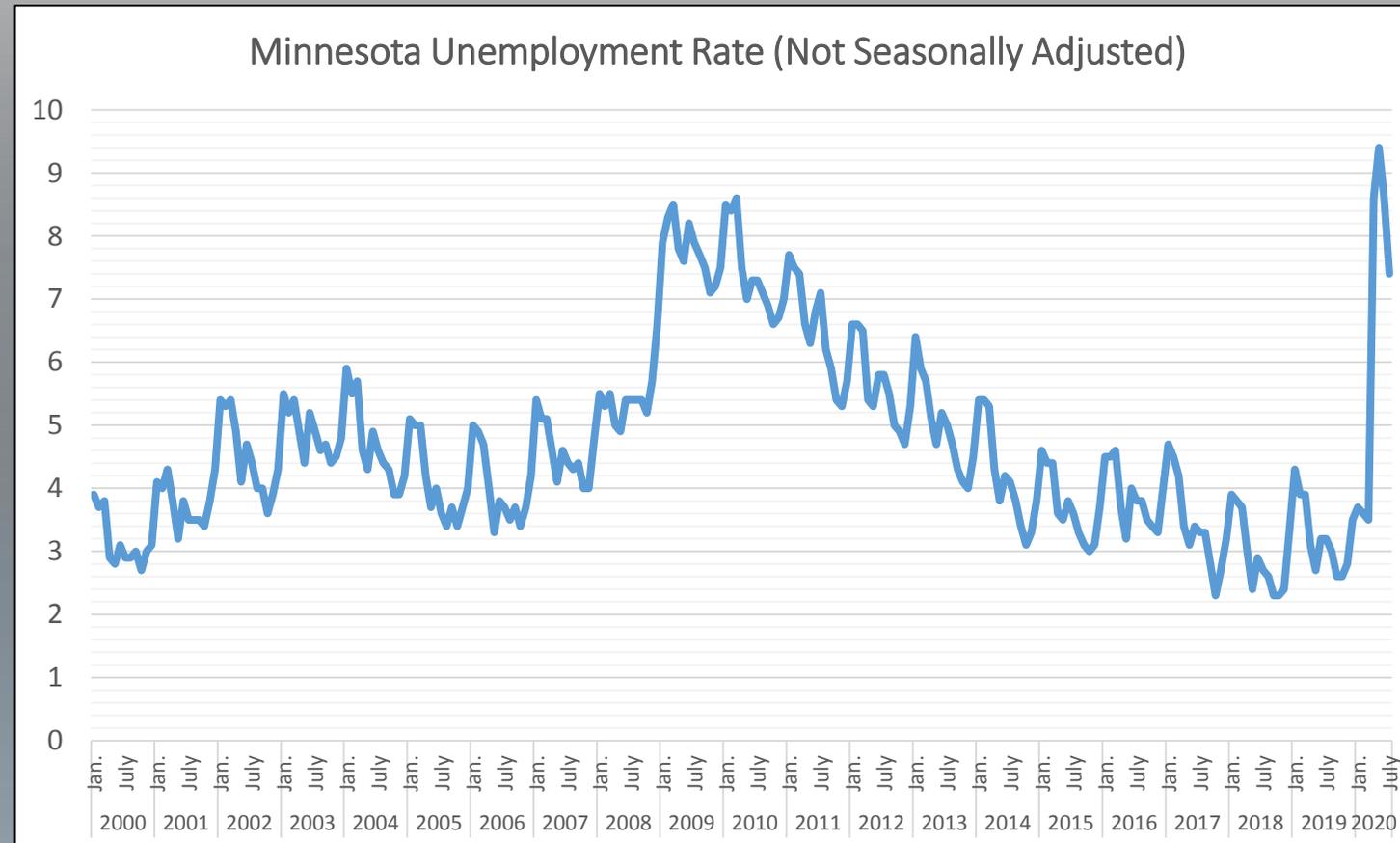
Minnesota Dept. of Employment & Economic Development

- DEED has been busy during the COVID-19 pandemic
 - Unemployment Insurance, Business & Community Development, LMI
- Each state produces employment and economic statistics in cooperation with U.S. Department of Labor's Bureau of Labor Statistics
- LMI includes employment statistics, unemployment rates, wages and salaries, job projections and more
 - We provide data to a wide variety of stakeholders and customers
- LMI is the foundation for informed, market-responsive planning
 - Focused on trends
- mn.gov/deed/data/

The screenshot shows the DEED website's Data Center page. The header features the DEED logo and a search bar. Below the header is a navigation menu with links for 'For Job Seekers', 'For Business', 'For Government', 'About Us', 'Data', and 'A-Z Index'. The main content area is titled 'Data Center' and includes a sidebar with a 'Data' menu containing links to 'Data Tools', 'Monthly Highlights', 'Regional Labor Markets', 'Reports & Publications', 'Economic Analysis', 'Export & Trade Statistics', 'Data for Job Seekers', 'Data for Businesses', 'Data for Government', 'Data for News Media', and 'LMI Help'. The main content area features a large image of a woman talking on a phone next to a bar chart, with a section titled 'Unemployment Insurance Statistics' and a video player below it. The video player has a play button and a progress bar with numbers 1 through 6. Below the video player is a section titled 'We've Got Your Number' with a sub-heading 'Nothing tells a story like numbers. And here is where we let them do the talking.' and a paragraph of text. At the bottom of the page are three columns of links: 'Data Tools', 'Monthly Highlights', and 'Regional Labor Markets', each with a brief description of the content.

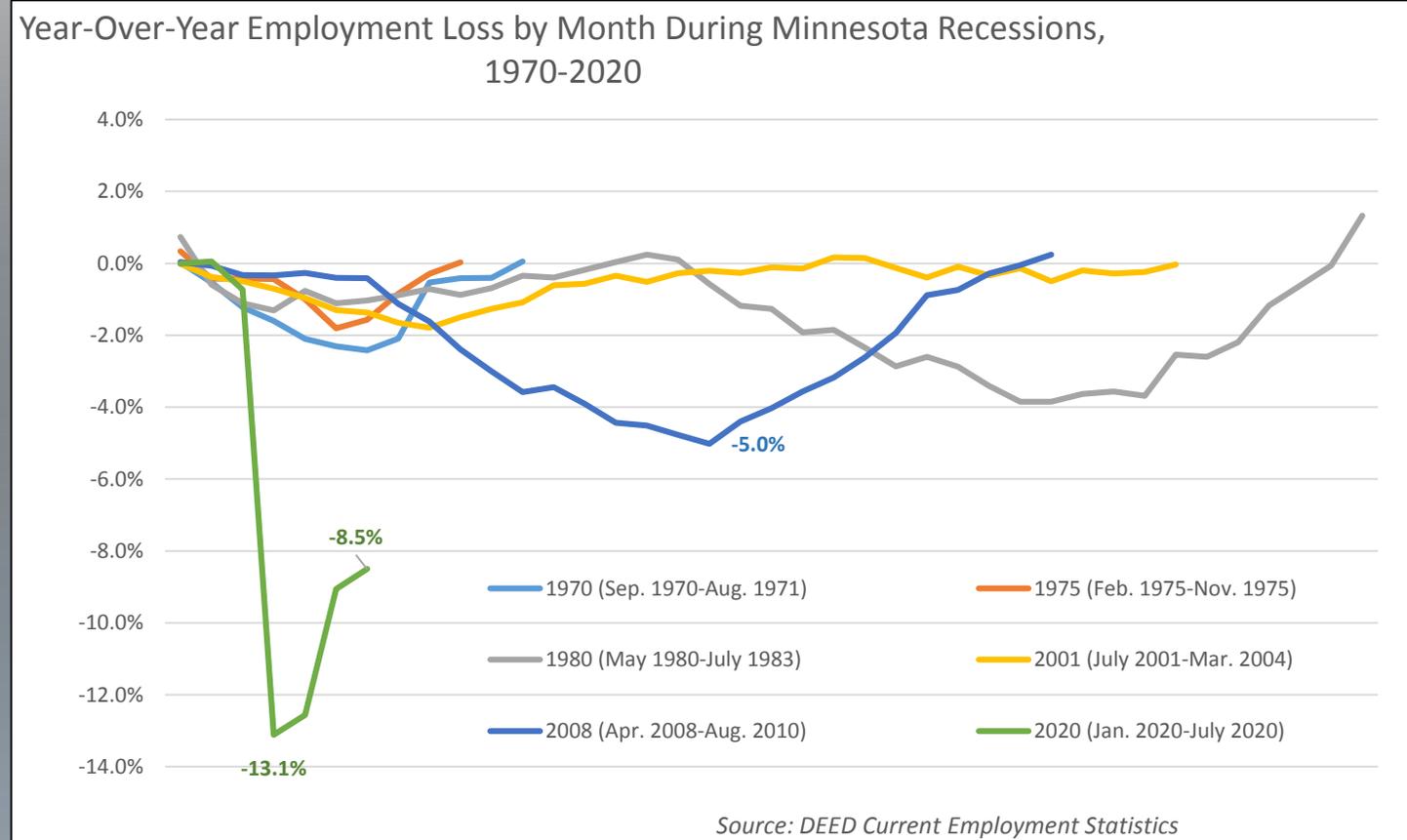
Unemployment Rates

- Minnesota's unemployment rate dropped to **7.7%** in July 2020
 - 9.9% in May was the highest rate on record – *previous highs in 1983, 2010*
- Since March, the number employed has dropped by **-89,081**; the number unemployed has risen by **+124,803**; and the unemp. rate has risen from **3.1% to 7.7%**
 - This includes a drop of **-35,722** from the labor force this month with a drop in participation rate from **70.2% to 69.3%**
- Minnesota has the **18th** lowest unemp. rate in U.S.
 - U.S. rate dropped to **10.2%** in July 2020
 - As high as **14.7%** in April



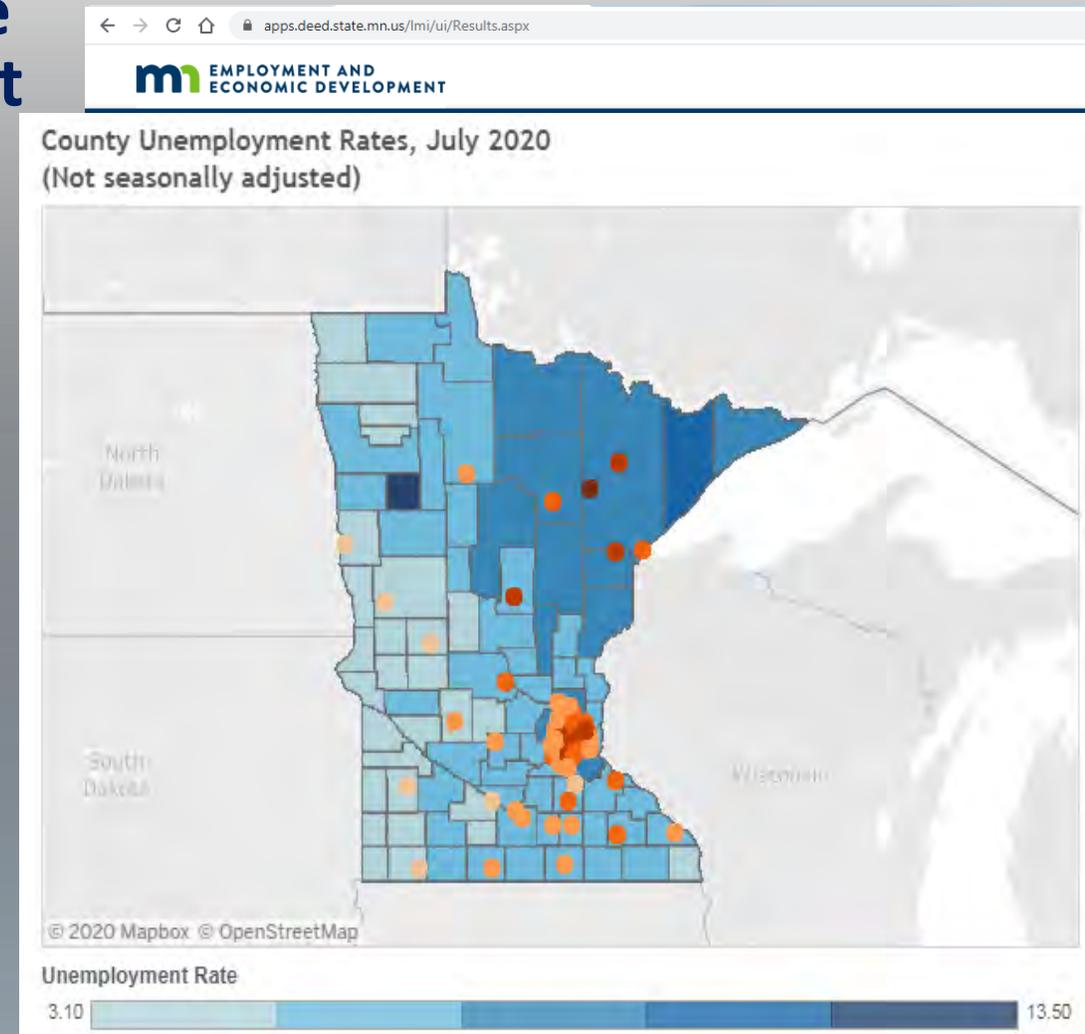
Current Employment Statistics

- Minnesota is down -256,062 payroll jobs over the year in July, a decline of -8.5% compared to 2019
 - U.S. employment fell -7.7% from July 2019 to July 2020
- These job losses, largely the result of pandemic containment measures, are unprecedented in the history of the data series going back nearly a century both at the state and national level
- *How bad is it?*
 - *It depends...*
 - *Industries*
 - *Regions*
 - *Counties*
 - *Occupations*
 - *Person*



Unemployment Insurance Claims Statistics

- Stakeholders (leaders, businesses, workforce development boards, the media) needed help, and our traditional tools did not offer enough
- Typically overlooked, Unemp. Insurance statistics were suddenly a useful dataset
- The existing tool was updated once per month, in a table format
- The new tool was built to provide daily updates, and in visual form
 - Count of UI applications by day
 - Cumulative UI applications by county
 - As a share of 2019 labor force (impact)
- Unemp. rates at the county level are much more indicative of COVID-19 employment changes
 - Highest rate in [redacted] (13.5%)
 - Lowest rate in [redacted] (3.1%)



Unemployment Insurance Applications Statistics

- Demographic details looking at:
 - Age
 - Education
 - Gender
 - Veteran Status
 - Race & Ethnicity
- Geographic details for:
 - Planning Regions
- Occupational details at the 3-digit SOC Code level
 - Food & Beverage Serving Workers
 - Construction Trades Workers
 - Retail Sales Workers
 - Other Production Occupations
 - Other Healthcare Support Occs
 - Cooks & Food Prep Workers
- County Details
 - 87 counties in Minnesota
 - Occupational details

County Map | Demographics | Occupations | County Details

Select a County:

Select a Category:

Demographics: Cumulative UI Application Counts from March 16

	All	16-19	20-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65+
Aitkin	2,034	57	197	371	340	392	483	194
Anoka	64,335	2,216	7,877	15,090	13,755	11,525	10,686	3,186
Becker	4,908	151	569	1,079	1,059	819	863	368
Beltrami	6,042	194	1,040	1,532	1,205	874	836	361
Benton	6,418	224	899	1,596	1,504	1,031	902	262
Big Stone	396		37	87	75	70	86	35
Blue Earth	12,120	382	2,735	3,021	2,222	1,632	1,581	547
Brown	3,040	80	333	661	620	526	609	211
Carlton	5,351	159	627	1,218	1,136	1,001	920	290

Occupations: Cumulative UI Application Counts from March 16

Aitkin	353000 - Food and Beverage Serving Workers	224
	412000 - Retail Sales Workers	93
	472000 - Construction Trades Workers	194
	519000 - Other Production Occupations	43
	319000 - Other Healthcare Support Occupations	70
	352000 - Cooks and Food Preparation Workers	112
	434000 - Information and Record Clerks	52
	291000 - Health Diagnosing and Treating Practitioners	46
	533000 - Motor Vehicle Operators	47
	395000 - Personal Appearance Workers	33

Unemployment Insurance Applications Statistics

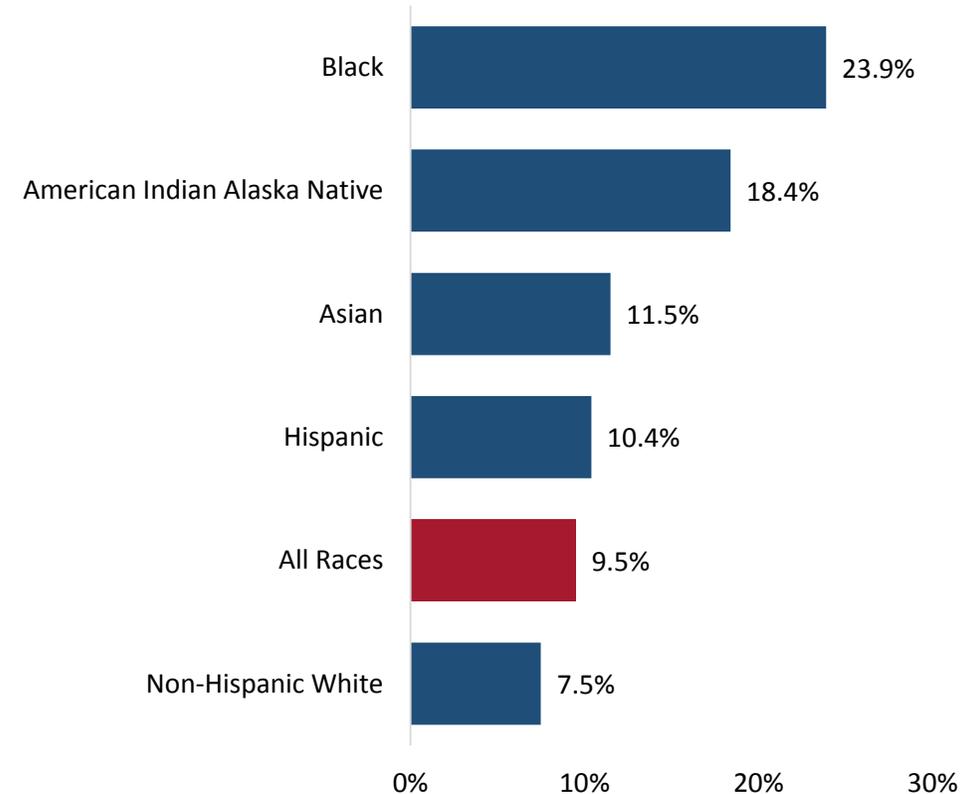
- There were 324,223 benefits requests last week (ending 9/5/20)
 - That was up from 76,527 the week ending 3/21/2020
 - Down from a peak of 559,023 on 5/16/2020
 - Up slightly from 323,452 on 8/29/2020
 - Down from 337,416 on 8/22/2020
- 108,869 on PUA (self-employed)
 - PUA is staying consistently high
- Layoff activity has affected females more than males
 - Females = 54.5%; prior to COVID = 22.7%
- Younger workers (under 22, 22 to 29) have been more affected than normal



Unemployment Insurance Applications Statistics

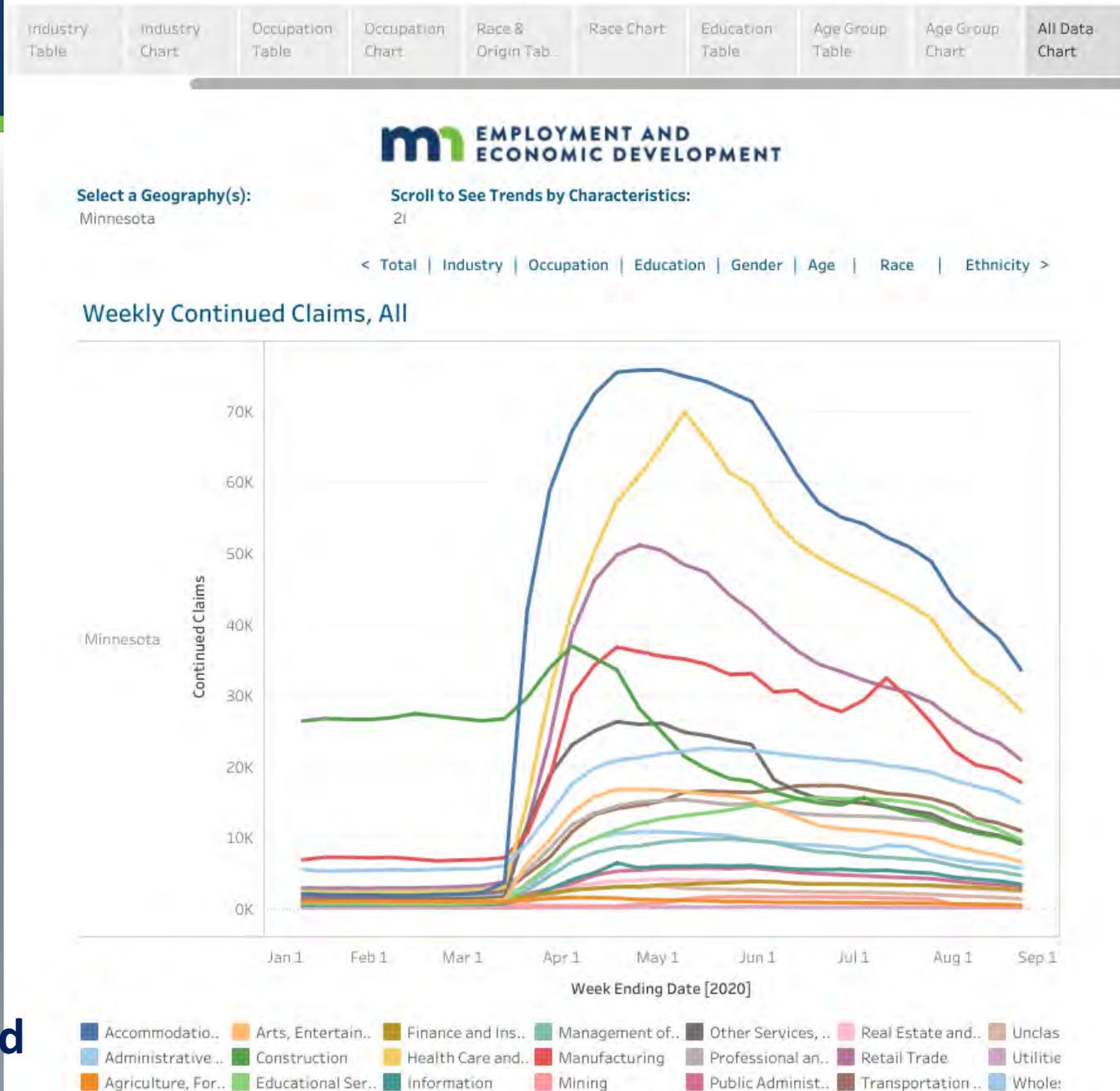
- **Layoff activity has also impacted different races in different ways**
 - Whites accounted for 66.6% of continued claims in Aug. (but 81.5% of labor force)
 - Just over half (53.8%) of Black or African American workers have filed a UI Application
 - NonHispanic White = 26.5%
 - American Indian = 44.0%
 - Asian = 35.0%
 - Hispanic or Latino = 31.5%
- **Continuing claims are lingering more for workers of other races as well**
 - Much of this is due to the industries and occupations people of color hold
- **Unemp. rates are diverging again!**

Continued Claims as a share of total labor force
By racial/ethnic group, July 2020



Stress Index

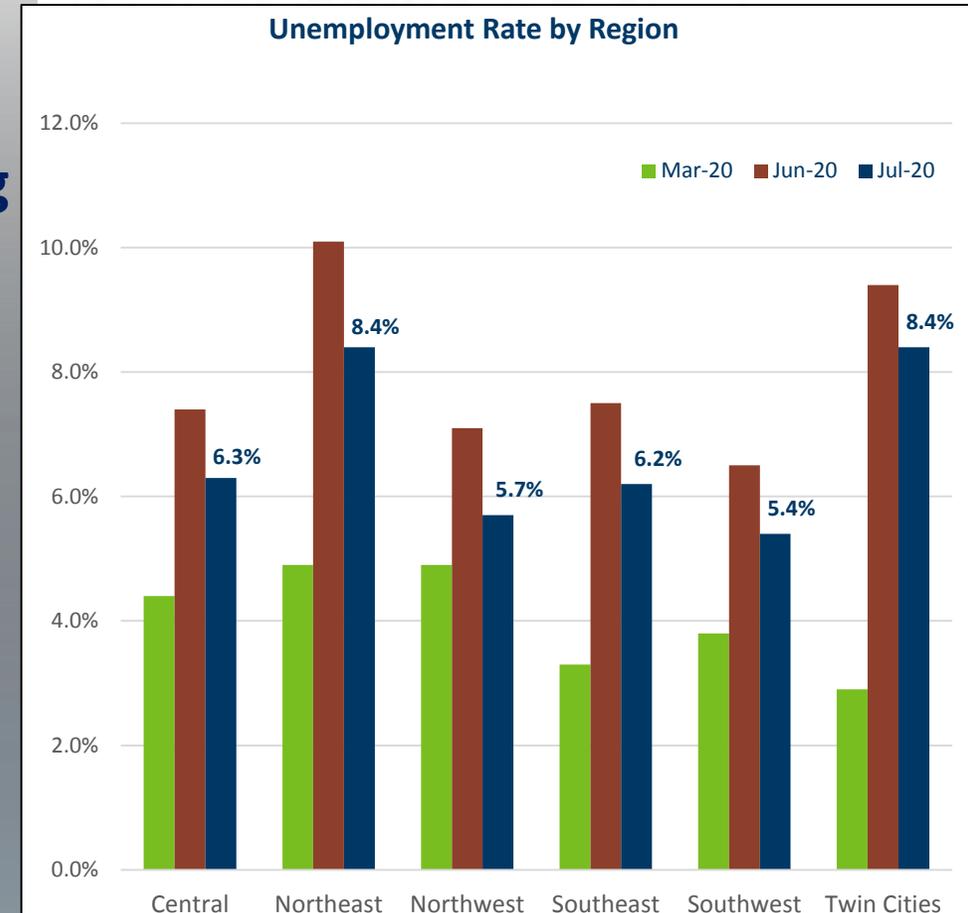
- Certain industries have been hit much harder
 - Accommodation & Food Svcs. still has the most claims
 - Health Care & Social Assistance saw a later peak, slower decline
 - Retail Trade was hit initially, but has recovered and sales are actually up from 2019
 - Construction is also up since the pandemic started
 - Admin Support & Waste Mgmt. Svcs. is showing recent growth
 - Temp help is a short-term solution*
- Other Services has self-employed



Regional Updates

- **Every region is seeing declines in continued claims over the past month**
 - Northeast and Northwest were most impacted right away (Leisure & Hospitality)
 - Southeast has been more impacted due to Health Care & Social Assistance, Manufacturing
 - Southwest has been the least impacted due to Manufacturing & Agriculture
 - Claims activity is lingering in the Twin Cities
 - Northwest is closest to being back to Pre-COVID claim levels; the Twin Cities is still 5 times higher!
 - Hennepin, Ramsey, Dakota, Olmsted, Scott, Mahnomen, Anoka, Washington, Carver, Nicollet, Nobles, and Blue Earth are all still up at least +300%
 - There are also 13 counties with fewer claims now than Pre-COVID; mostly in Northwest or Southwest
 - **Regions are responding differently**
 - Claims are lingering in the Twin Cities

Average Weekly Decline in Continuing Claims, Last 4 Weeks



Source: DEED Local Area Unemployment Statistics

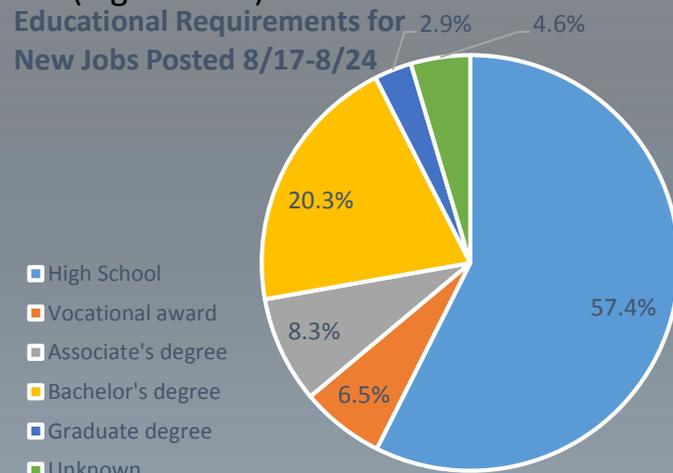
Hiring Activity

According to data from National Labor Exchange, we surpassed 150,000 new jobs posted in Minnesota since we started tracking

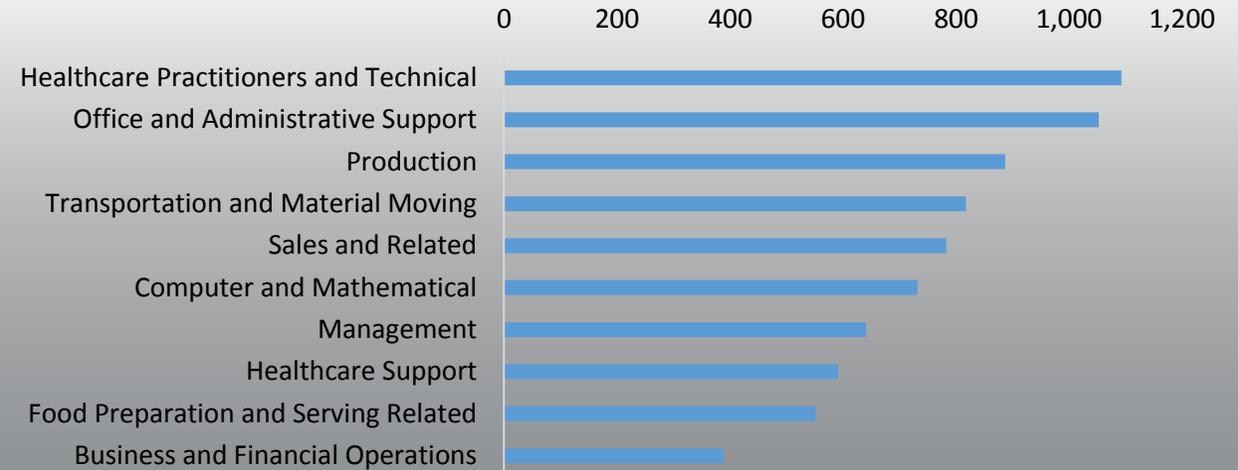
- From March 24 through August 24, we have now had **154,950 new jobs posted**, and we are now averaging about **1,400 new jobs posted per week** over the past month

According to National Labor Exchange, the occupations in highest demand (most new job postings over the past week) include:

- Registered Nurses (associate's degree)
- Heavy & Tractor Trailer Truck Drivers (high school, CDL)
- Nursing Assistants (vocational training)
- Software Developers (bachelor's degree)
- Customer Service Representatives (high school)
- Personal Care Aides (high school)
- Retail Salespersons (high school)
- First-Line Supervisors of Retail Sales Workers (high school)
- Helpers – Production Workers (high school)



Top 10 job families with new job postings, August 17-24



New MN job postings, March 24 - August 24

7-day rolling average



CareerForceMN.com Blogs & Occupations in Demand

- We've been using CareerForceMN.com to communicate about occupations in demand during the pandemic – to help jobseekers who may switch from temporary layoff to permanent layoff to know where to go and what is available...
 - Healthcare
 - PCAs
 - CNAs
 - HHAs
 - RNs & LPNs
 - Software Developers
 - Transportation, Repair, Production, Office & Admin.



Summary

- **The speed and scope of this job loss is unprecedented**
- **There are still more than 230,000 unemployed workers in Minnesota**
 - We are starting to see people dropping out of the labor force
- **Job losses have hit women, young people, and workers of color harder**
 - Over half of the state's Black or African American workers have filed a UI application; almost 25% are still filing continued claims
 - Unemp. rate gaps that had shrunk are widening again
- **Job losses have hit certain industries harder than others**
 - Leisure & Hospitality; Other Services; Health Care & Social Assistance
- **Job losses have hit certain regions of the state harder than others**
 - Layoffs are lingering in the Twin Cities
- **But jobs are coming back, and there are jobs available for job seekers**
 - Many without higher educational requirements



THANK YOU!

- Cameron Macht
- Regional Analysis & Outreach Manager
- Acting Assistant LMI Director
- 320-441-6596
- cameron.macht@state.mn.us
- Labor Market Information Office
- <http://mn.gov/deed/data/>

DEED's Regional Analysts

We've got you covered...

Erik White
Northwest
Area 1 & 2
CareerForce Bemidji
erik.white@state.mn.us
218-333-8253

Carson Gorecki
Northeast
Area 3 & 4
CareerForce Duluth
carson.gorecki@state.mn.us
218-302-8413

Luke Greiner
Central & Southwest
Area 5, 6 & 17
CareerForce St. Cloud
luke.greiner@state.mn.us
320-308-5378

Tim O'Neill
Twin Cities
Area 9, 10, 12, 14, 15 & 16
DEED Headquarters – St. Paul
timothy.oneill@state.mn.us
651-259-7401

Cameron Macht
Regional Analysis &
Outreach Unit Manager
CareerForce Willmar
cameron.macht@state.mn.us
320-441-6596

Mark Schultz
Southeast & South Central
Area 7, 8 & 18
CareerForce Winona
mark.schultz@state.mn.us
507-205-6068