

JOBS NOW Coalition

Job Vacancy FACT SHEET—September 2011

Central Minnesota Job Seekers Outnumber Full-time Openings 8-to-1

Job openings in Central Minnesota are up 52 percent compared with a year ago, according to the most recent Job Vacancy Survey from the Minnesota Department of Employment and Economic Development.* With 28,000 unemployed workers competing for 5,800 unfilled jobs, job seekers still outnumber job openings 5-to-1.**

Of the 5,800 job openings in Central Minnesota, 3,500 are full-time. Job seekers outnumber full-time openings 8-to-1.

Other major findings for Central Minnesota include:

- Thirty-five percent of openings are temporary or seasonal.
- Forty percent of openings are part-time; the median wage for these openings is \$8.00 per hour.***
- Less than half (46 percent) of all openings offer health care.
- Only 39 percent of openings require education or training beyond high school; and just 19 percent require a four-year college degree.
- The median wage for all openings is \$9.25 per hour.

JOBS NOW's *Cost of Living in Minnesota* research shows that in a Central Minnesota family of four with both parents working full-time, each worker must earn \$13.62 per hour to meet basic needs. To see the Cost of Living by county, use the online Family Wage & Budget Calculator at www.jobsnowcoalition.org/calculator/calculator.html

Questions? Contact Kevin Ristau at 651-290-0240 or kristau@jobsnowcoalition.org

* The Central Minnesota Planning Region consists of the following 13 counties: Benton, Chisago, Isanti, Kanabec, Kandiyohi, McLeod, Meeker, Mille Lacs, Pine, Renville, Sherburne, Stearns, and Wright.

** See www.positivelyminnesota.com/Data_Publications/Data/Current_Economic_Highlights/Job_Vacancies.aspx Figures for job seekers and job openings are from second quarter 2011.

*** A median is a midway point; half of the jobs are above it, half below.