

JOBS NOW Coalition

Job Vacancy FACT SHEET—September 2011

Metro Job Seekers Outnumber Full-time Job Openings 5-1

The latest Job Vacancy Survey from the Minnesota Department of Employment and Economic Development shows that in the Twin Cities Metro Region there are 104,000 job seekers competing for 29,500 unfilled jobs.* Job seekers outnumber job openings three and a half to one.**

Of the 29,500 job openings in the Metro Region, about 20,000 are full-time. This means job seekers outnumber full-time openings 5-to-1.

Compared with ten years ago, the Metro Region has 43,000 fewer job openings—a drop of 59 percent. Job openings declined even more sharply during this period in some of the largest occupational groups:

- Construction and extraction openings fell 90 percent.
- Transportation and material moving openings fell 72 percent; food preparation and serving openings also fell 72 percent.
- Office and administrative support openings fell 69 percent.
- Health care practitioners and technical openings fell 65 percent.
- Education, training, and library openings fell 63 percent; sales and related openings also fell 63 percent.

The median wage for all job openings is \$11.53 per hour.*** JOBS NOW's *Cost of Living in Minnesota* research shows that in a Metro family of four with both parents working, each worker must earn \$14.78 per hour to meet basic needs. To see the *Cost of Living* research 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 Twin Cities Metro Region consists of the following counties: Anoka, Carver, Dakota, Hennepin, Ramsey, Scott and Washington.

** 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