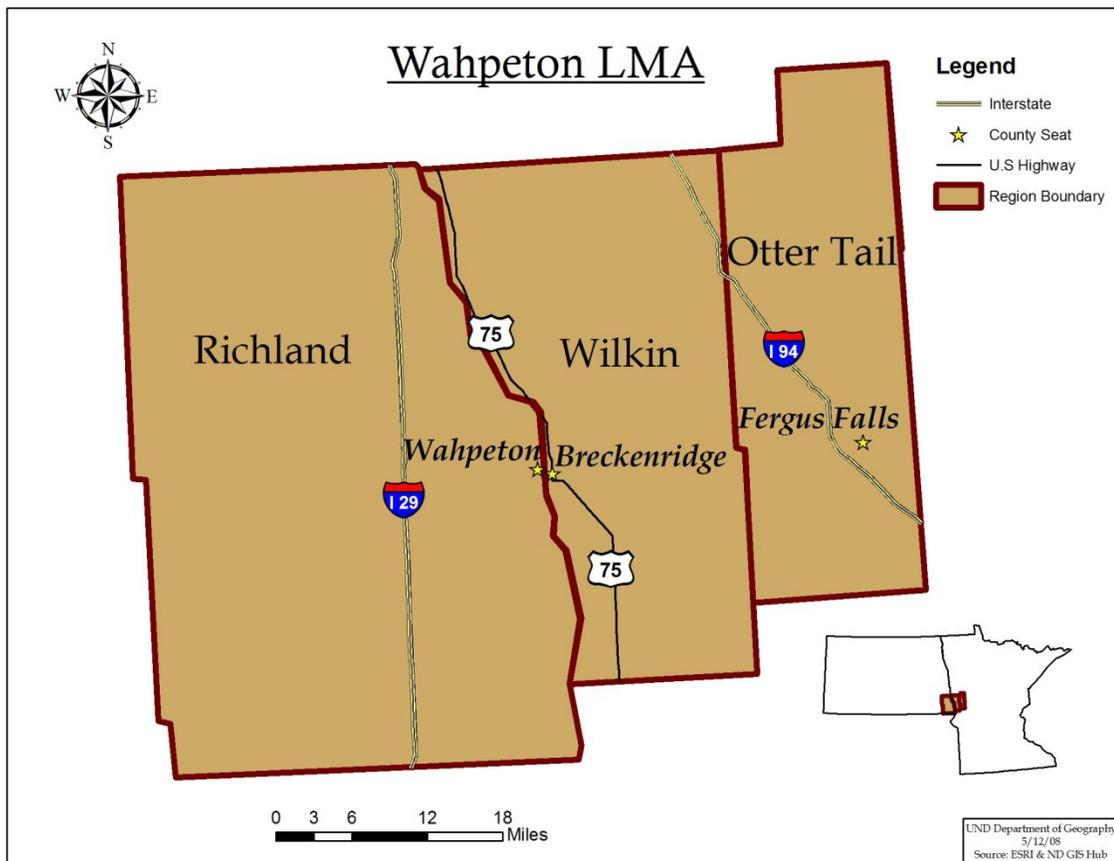


Wahpeton Regional Labor Availability 2010

Executive Summary



A collaboration of the ND Department of Commerce, Division of Workforce Development, Job Service North Dakota and the Social Science Research Institute, University of North Dakota

Labor Availability Characteristics

In the area including and surrounding the Wahpeton Labor Market Area (LMA), there exists a potential labor force of 25,055 individuals, or approximately 61 percent of the adult population. The labor force (those employed, which includes the self-employed as well as those actively seeking work) is estimated to be 59 percent of the adult population, or 23,906 individuals. The majority of these individuals are currently working but would be willing to consider alternative jobs.

Potential Job Seekers

	Num	% 18+
Potential Job Seekers	9,910	24%
Actively Seeking Work	1,495	3%
Planning to Look Within the Year	1,121	3%
Interested in Changing Jobs	5,022	12%
Interested in Additional Jobs	2,244	5%
Those Discouraged From Looking	28	<1%

Potential Job Seekers Quick Facts . . .

Education

- 98% have education/training beyond high school;
- 22% have obtained an undergraduate degree;
- 7% have a post-graduate/professional degree;

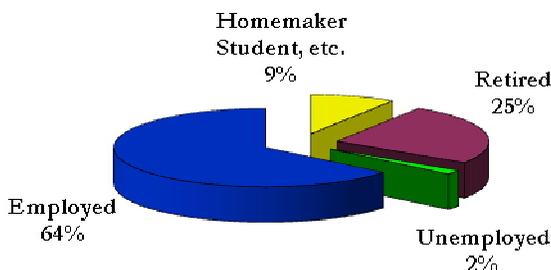
Demographics and Employment Experience

- Median age is 45 years old;
- Population of 40,811 age 18 or older
- Average 10 years of management experience;
- Above average computer skills: word processing (67%), data information entry (60%), spreadsheets (48%) and database management (41%)
- 53% willing to commute 31 miles one way or further

Workforce Adaptability

- 5,022 people in the workforce are willing to change employment for the right opportunity;
- 30% currently work shifts
- An additional 50% would consider shift work
- 45% have received jobs skills training in the past 3 years
- On-the-job-training preferred by 45% of PJSs

Wahpeton Regional Employment Status



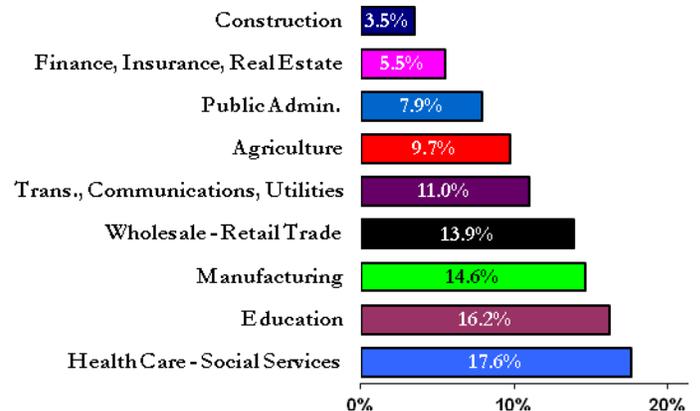
Occupational Groups that Exist in the Wahpeton Development Region

Occupation Group	Within Region
Education, Training, and Library	13%
Healthcare Support	13%
Office and Administrative Support	13%
Production	11%
Business and Financial Operations	10%
Construction and Extraction	7%
Sales and Related	6%
Transportation and Material Moving	5%
Food Preparation and Serving Related	4%
Building and Grounds Cleaning, Maintenance	3%
Personal Care and Service	3%
Farming, Fishing, and Forestry	3%
Computer and Mathematical Science	2%
Installation, Maintenance, and Repair	2%
Management	1%
Architecture and Engineering	1%
Community and Social Services	1%
Legal Occupations	1%

Potential Job Seekers Educational Attainment

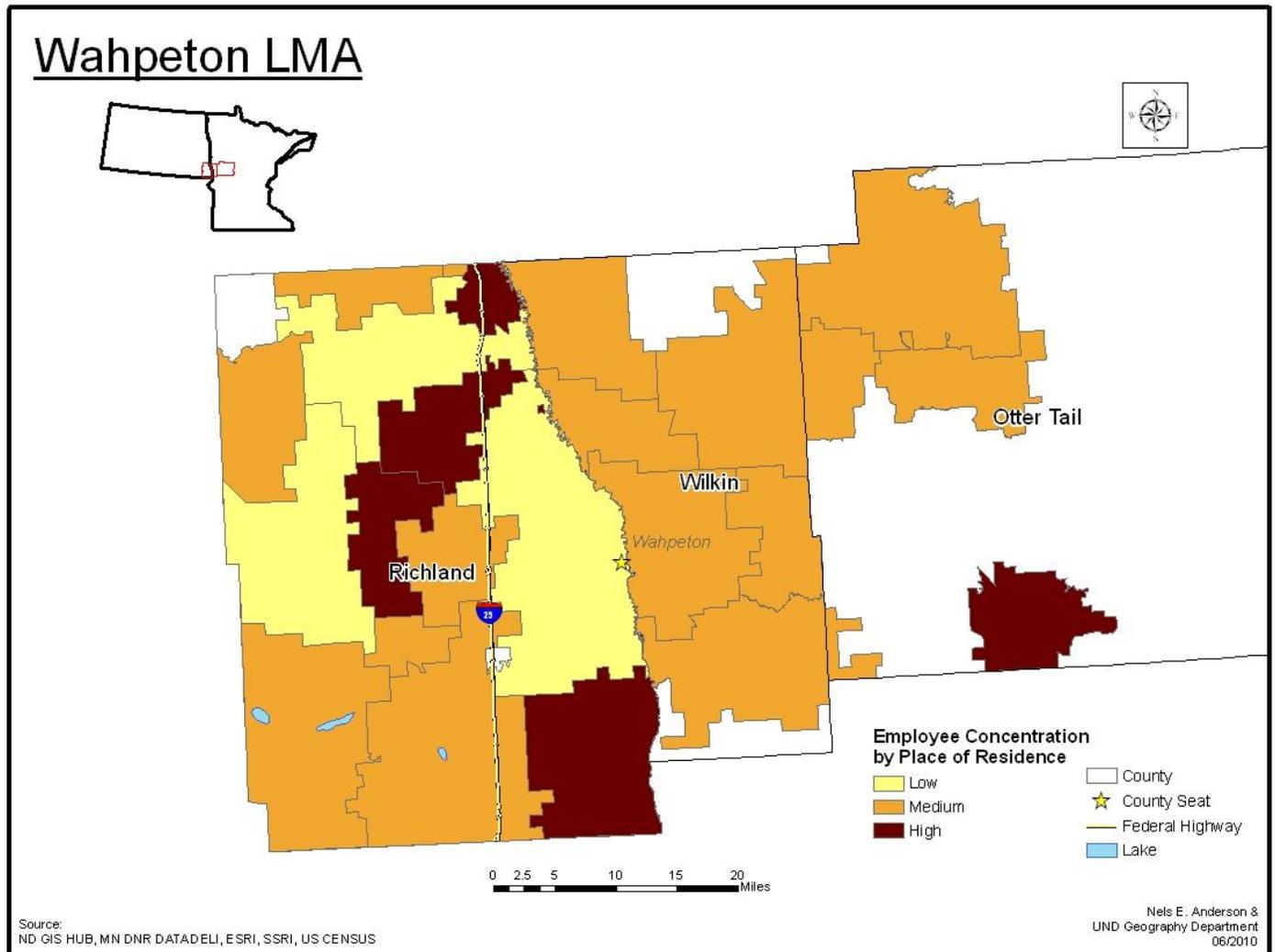
- 29% or 2,874 PJSs have a college or advanced degree.
- 17% or 1,685 PJSs have at least one technical college degree

Industry Status in the Wahpeton Region



Wahpeton Regional Labor Availability

Employee Concentration by Place of Residence



Education and Median Wage¹ Characteristics by Industry

Industry	Education			Median Wages	
	Some Level Beyond High School	Undergraduate Degree	Postgraduate Degree	Annual Salary Wages	Hourly Wages
Agriculture	100.0%	20.0%	0%	\$32,864	\$15.80
Construction	100.0%	23.1%	0%	\$30,160	\$14.50
Education	91.2%	54.4%	24.6%	\$34,320	\$16.50
Manufacturing	100.0%	31.3%	2.1%	\$45,760	\$22.00
Public Admin., & Govt.	100.0%	27.6%	6.9%	\$39,520	\$19.00
Finance, Insurance, Real Estate	100.0%	26.7%	0%	\$32,032	\$15.40
Transport., Comm.& Utilities	100.0%	11.1%	0%	\$38,480	\$18.50
Health Care and Social Services	93.7%	34.9%	7.8%	\$39,520	\$19.00
Wholesale/Retail Trade	93.9%	24.0%	6.1%	\$29,952	\$14.40

¹ Self reported hourly wages – small sample sizes will distort the median wages within industries.

Wahpeton Regional Labor Availability

Potential Job Seekers

Potential Job Seekers (PJSs) may either be employed or unemployed and are interested in either taking an additional job or changing jobs if the circumstances are right. In the Wahpeton LMA, 24 percent or approximately 9,910 people age 18 or over fall into this category. The five types of potential job seekers are:

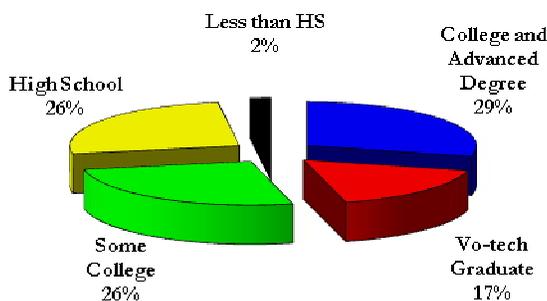
- The unemployed: Those who are 18 and older, unemployed, and actively seeking work.
- Individuals who plan to seek a job within the next year.
- People who are working, but would be willing to change jobs.
- People who are currently working and are willing to take an additional job:
- Individuals who are discouraged and do not look for work: The discouraged worker is defined as someone who is not working, is not actively seeking work nor planning to find a job within the next year, but would accept a job, if it met their minimum acceptable wage requirements.

Reasons Why PJSs Would Consider Alternative Employment

Reason	Percent
Increase in pay	36%
Something else	23%
Increase in benefits	14%
More career advancement opportunities	11%
Improvement in working conditions	7%
Gain more job status/prestige	5%
Underutilized Skills	3%

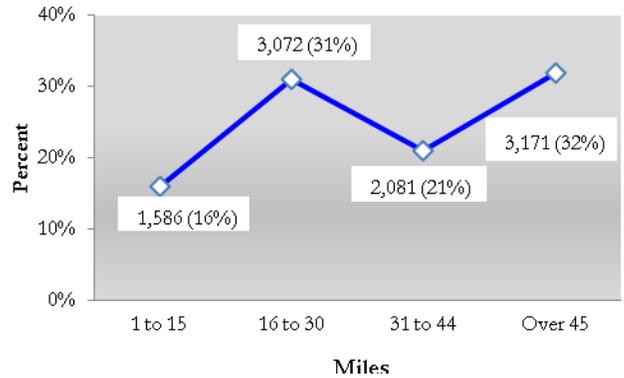
Education

Approximately 94 percent of PJS's in the area have at least a high school education, and 30 percent have at least a college degree.



Available Labor by Commute Miles

PJSs in the Wahpeton Labor Market Area are receptive to commuting with over half (53% or 5,252 people) of the available force willing to commute 31 miles one way or further for an employment opportunity.



Acceptable Wages

Most currently employed PJSs would generally accept a lower wage when considering changing jobs or working at an additional job.

Current Occupation	Current Hourly Wage	Minimum Pay to Accept New Job
Business & Financial Operations	**	\$14.70
Computer & Mathematical Science	**	\$23.80
Education, Training and Library	\$20.40	\$12.10
Healthcare Support	\$14.90	\$19.00
Food Preparation and Serving	**	\$8.40
Personal Care	**	\$9.30
Sales	**	\$17.60
Office and Administrative Support	\$18.60	\$13.80
Farming and Related Occupations	**	\$13.90
Construction and Extraction	\$15.30	\$14.40
Installation and Repair	\$17.70	\$18.70
Production	**	\$15.50
Transportation & Material Moving	\$16.30	\$14.60
Average:	\$17.20	\$15.06

Occupation Skills Experience

PJSs report being "skilled" to "very skilled" in Retail Sales (46%) Executive/Professional (40%), Machine Operation with Computer (40%) and Mechanical (36%).

Job Skills Training Interests

The majority of PJSs are interested in training and 45% favor On-the-Job as the preferred delivery method. PJSs with higher levels of education tended to be more likely to seek training. Twenty-one percent indicated that they intend to further their education by going back to or attending college.

For Additional Available Labor Information Please Contact:

Job Service ND-Wahpeton

Merlin Beto, Manager

524 2nd Avenue North

Wahpeton, ND 58075

Phone: (701) 671-1550

Email: mbeto@nd.gov

www.jobsnd.com

Wahpeton Economic Development

Jane Priebe, CEcD, Director

1900 4th Street North

Wahpeton, ND 58075

Phone: (701) 642-8559

Cell: (701)899-4048

Email: janep@wahpeton.com

www.wahpeton.com

**Richland County JDA
Tracey Anderson, Director**

417 Main Street

Fargo, ND 58102

Phone: (701) 235-1197

Email: tracey@lakeagassiz.com

www.jcdc.com

Small Business Development Center-Wahpeton

Dan Reilly, Business Consultant

NDSCS 800 6th St N Horton Hall #228

Wahpeton, ND 58076

Phone: (701) 671-2682

Cell: (701)640-5605

Email: dan@ndsbdc.org

www.ndsbdc.org