

# 2015 Regional Profile Fairmont, Minnesota

## Demographic and Economic Profile

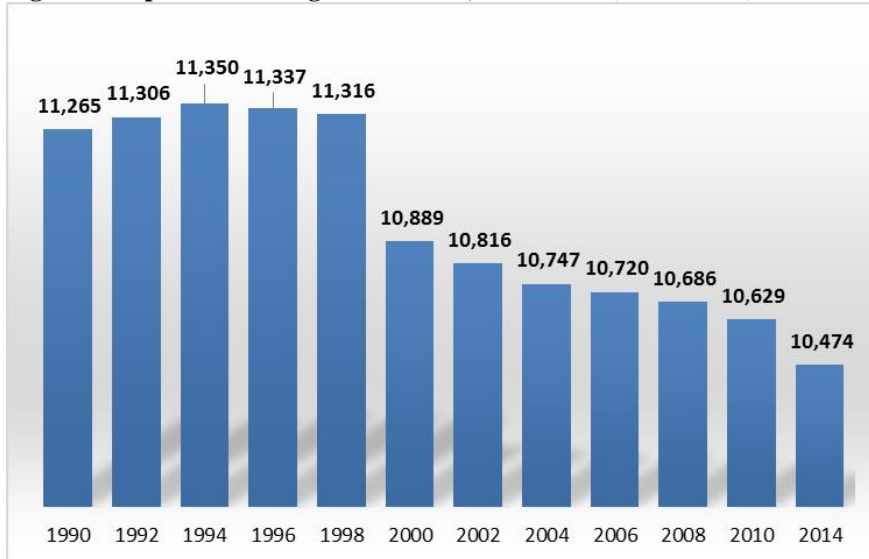


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## Population Trends

**Figure 1. Population Change – Fairmont, Minnesota (1990 - 2014)**

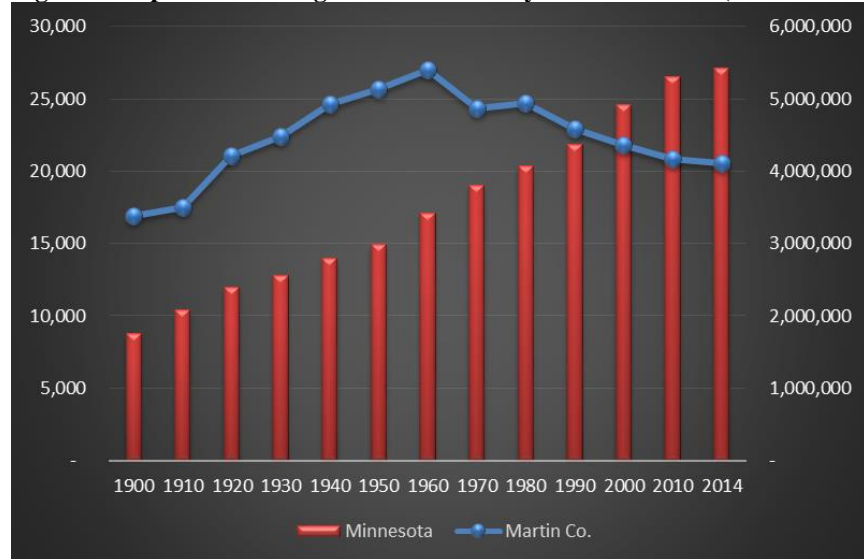


Source: U.S. Census Bureau and Minnesota Demographic Center

The population of the city of Fairmont saw minor increases from 1990 to 1994, at which time the population began seeing a decline. The largest drop came between the years of 1998 – 2000 in which the population dropped by 427 (3.8 percent). In the years to follow the population decline continued but with less severe drops. From 2000 to 2013 the population fell by 3.8 percent (415).

From 1900 to 2014, the population of Martin County has seen a similar trend to that of the city of Fairmont in recent decades. Within the county, there was a steady increase in the early decades, jumping from 16,936 in 1900 to a peak of 26,986 in 1960. The decades to follow saw consistent decreases with the exception of 1970 to 1980 in which there was an increase of 371. By 2014 the population had dropped to 20,515 – a drop of 24 percent from the 1960 peak population.

**Figure 2. Population Change – Martin County and Minnesota (1900 – 2013)**



Source: U.S. Census Bureau and Minnesota Demographic Center

## Population Projections



Department of Employment and Economic Development

According to the Minnesota State Demographic Center, the population of Martin County is projected to grow through 2045, including a projected growth of +743 from 2013 to 2015. As table 1 shows, increases ranging from 14 to 418 are projected every five-year period in the future, ending with a projected peak population of 22,760 in 2045, which is close to the population counts seen in the 1990 U.S. Census estimates. This projected rise shows promise given the decrease in population seen in years (and decades) prior.

**Table 1. Martin County Population Projections**

Year	Projected Population	Projected Change
2015	21,377	+743
2020	21,743	+366
2025	22,161	+418
2030	22,460	+299
2035	22,682	+222
2040	22,696	+14
2045	22,760	+64

Source: Minnesota State Demographic Center

## Population by Age and Gender

The population of the city of Fairmont is comprised of 49.2 percent males and 50.8 percent females. The distribution of gender among age cohorts is fairly variable with differences ranging from 0.0 percent to 4.0 percent. The largest gap is among 10 to 14 year olds in which males represent 8.5 percent of the male population in this age bracket while females only represent 4.5 percent of the female population. The smallest gap is among those ages 35 to 39 in which both groups make up 3.5 percent of their groups population. The highest population of males is in the 10 to 14 years group (8.5 percent) whereas the smallest group is those between 75 and 79 which represent 2.2 percent of the male population. The highest representations of women are the 5 to 9 and 55 to 59 years age groups which represents, both at 7.8 percent, while the smallest group in the female population is in the 20 to 24 years category, which is 3.2 percent of the female population. In regards to median age men are younger by 4.2 years with a median age of 44.2 years compared to the 48.4 years for females. Table 2 breaks down the population of the city of Fairmont by gender and age.

**Table 2. Population By Age and Gender – Fairmont, Minnesota**

Subject	Fairmont		
	Total	Male	Female
Total Population	10,474	5,152 (49.2%)	5,322 (50.8%)
Under 5 Years	5.5%	5.9%	5.1%
5 to 9 Years	6.3%	4.8%	7.8%
10 to 14 Years	6.5%	8.5%	4.5%
15 to 19 Years	5.3%	4.5%	6.0%
20 to 24 Years	4.3%	5.5%	3.2%
25 to 29 Years	4.9%	4.4%	5.4%
30 to 34 Years	7.3%	8.1%	6.6%
35 to 39 Years	3.5%	3.5%	3.5%
40 to 44 Years	6.0%	6.5%	5.5%
45 to 49 Years	7.2%	7.8%	6.6%
50 to 54 Years	6.5%	6.6%	6.4%
55 to 59 Years	7.6%	7.5%	7.8%
60 to 64 Years	6.7%	7.8%	5.7%
65 to 69 Years	5.1%	4.7%	5.4%

70 to 74 Years	5.1%	5.0%	5.1%
75 to 79 Years	3.4%	2.2%	4.5%
80 to 84 Years	3.9%	3.2%	4.6%
85 Years and Over	5.0%	3.6%	6.3%
<b>Median Age</b>	<b>45.5</b>	<b>44.2</b>	<b>48.4</b>

Source: U.S. Census American FactFinder

## Population by Race and Ethnicity

**Table 3. Population by Race and Ethnicity**

Subject	Fairmont		Martin County	
	Estimate	Percent	Estimate	Percent
Total	10,474	100.0%	20,515	100.0%
White	10,253	97.9%	20,038	97.7%
Black/African American	48	0.5%	75	0.4%
American Indian and Alaskan Native	2	0.0%	36	0.2%
Asian	73	0.7%	106	0.5%
Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Some Other Race	21	0.2%	36	0.2%
Two or More Races	77	0.7%	224	1.1%
Hispanic or Latino	611	5.8%	766	3.7%
Not Hispanic or Latino	9,863	94.2%	19,749	96.3%

Source: U.S. Census American Factfinder

As shown in table 3, the city of Fairmont and Martin County are rather homogenous areas with 97.9 percent of the population of the city of Fairmont being white and 97.7 percent in Martin County. Only 0.5 percent of the population of Fairmont and 0.4 percent of the county claim to be black or African American, 0.7 and 0.5 percent being Asian, respectively, and none of the population of Fairmont and Martin County being Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander. In regards to ethnicity, 5.8 percent of the population of Fairmont claims Hispanic or Latino ethnicity and 3.7 percent of the county's population affiliating with being Hispanic or Latino.

## Population by Veteran Status

Of the 846 Veterans in the civilian population 18 and over in the city of Fairmont, the largest percentage are in the Vietnam Era group (36.9 percent), leaving 19.9 percent Gulf War (8/1990 to 8/2001) Veterans, 19.9 percent World War II Veterans, 12.4 percent Veterans of the Korean War and 5.1 percent from the most recent Gulf War. Martin County sees its largest representation of the 1,648 Veterans as Vietnam Veterans (36.5 percent), followed by 15.1 percent from World War II, 14.2 percent from the first Gulf War, 13.1 percent Korean War Vets and 7.2 percent being Veterans from the second Gulf War. See tables 4 and 5.

**Table 4. Population by Veteran Status – Fairmont, Minnesota**

Subject	Veterans
Period of Service	
Civilian Population 18 Years and Over	8,194
Total Veterans	846
Gulf War (9/2001 Or Later)	5.1%
Gulf War (8/1990 to 8/2001)	19.9%
Vietnam Era	36.9%
Korean War	12.4%
World War II	19.9%

Source: U.S. Census American Factfinder

**Table 5. Population by Veteran Status – Martin County**

Subject	Veterans
Period of Service	
Civilian Population 18 Years and Over	16,048
Total Veterans	1,660
Gulf War (9/2001 Or Later)	7.2%
Gulf War (8/1990 to 8/2001)	14.2%
Vietnam Era	36.5%
Korean War	13.1%
World War II	15.1%

Source: U.S. Census American FactFinder

## Educational Attainment

The educational attainment breakdown of the populations in Fairmont and Martin County are outlined in table 6. Individuals with some college or an associate’s degree make up the highest numbers in both the city and county for the population aged 18 to 25, with 52.9 percent of the population in Fairmont having this level of education and 48.6 percent within the county. However, among the population ages 25 and over those who have graduated high school make up the highest percentage with 38 percent in the county and 37.4 percent in the city of Fairmont.

The least number of residents aged 18 to 24 are those with a Bachelor’s degree, with only 2.5 percent having this level of education in the city and 5.4 percent in the county. Of the population categorized by being 25 years of age and over, those with a graduate or professional degree make up only 3.9 percent and 4.0 percent in the city and county.

**Table 6. Educational Attainment in Fairmont and Martin County**



Department of Employment and Economic Development

Subject	Martin County, Minnesota			Fairmont city, Minnesota		
	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female
	Estimate	Estimate	Estimate	Estimate	Estimate	Estimate
Population 18 to 24 years	1,384	708	676	639	358	281
Less than high school	19.0%	18.1%	20.0%	14.4%	11.7%	17.8%
High school graduate	27.0%	32.9%	20.7%	30.2%	33.2%	26.3%
Some college or associate's	48.6%	45.2%	52.2%	52.9%	50.6%	55.9%
Bachelor's degree or higher	5.4%	3.8%	7.1%	2.5%	4.5%	0.0%
Population 25 years and over	14,666	7,166	7,500	7,555	3,648	3,907
Less than 9th grade	4.7%	4.6%	4.7%	6.6%	5.6%	7.4%
9th to 12th grade, no	7.0%	7.6%	6.5%	8.4%	10.0%	6.9%
High school graduate	38.0%	39.7%	36.3%	37.4%	38.2%	36.7%
Some college, no degree	21.6%	20.8%	22.4%	20.1%	18.8%	21.4%
Associate's degree	10.8%	10.4%	11.3%	8.9%	7.9%	9.9%
Bachelor's degree	14.0%	12.7%	15.1%	14.7%	14.9%	14.5%
Graduate or professional	4.0%	4.2%	3.7%	3.9%	4.6%	3.2%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau American FactFinder

Participation in the labor force and employment by educational attainment can be seen in table seven below. Within Martin County, 6.4 percent of the population aged 25 to 64 have less than a high school education while 8 percent are at this level in the city of Fairmont. Of those, two-thirds are in the labor force while just shy of 60 percent are employed. The highest percentages of the population are some college or associate's degree at the county level and high school graduates at the city level. A common trend for both geographies is that as educational attainment increases, participation in the labor force and employment rise. It should be noted that in the table below the highlighted percentages represent the percent of the total population aged 25 to 64 years of age in that educational category, while the percentages for the labor force and employment categories are for just that educational category.

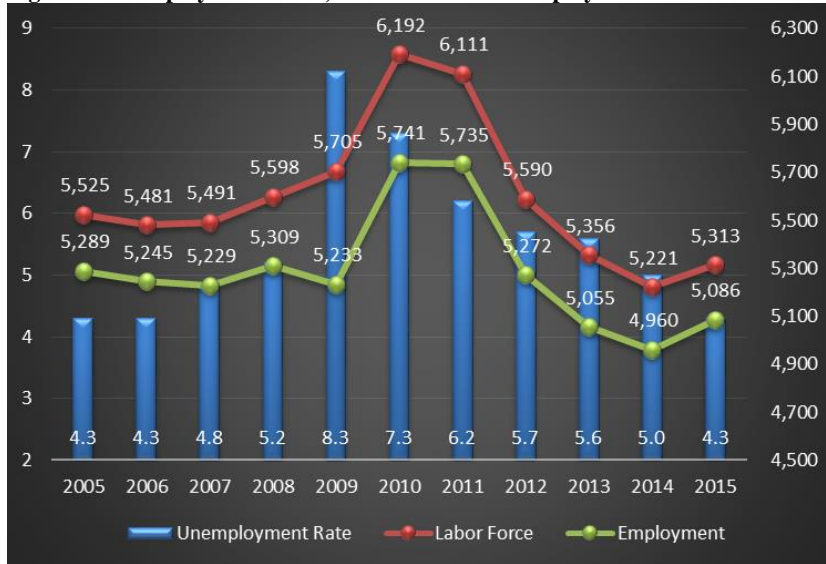
**Table 7. Educational Attainment**

Subject	Martin County		City of Fairmont	
	Estimate	Percent	Estimate	Percent
<b>Total Population 25 to 64 Years of Age</b>	<b>10,292</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>5,213</b>	<b>100.0%</b>
<b>Less than high school graduate</b>	<b>663</b>	<b>6.4%</b>	<b>416</b>	<b>8.0%</b>
In labor force	440	66.6%	271	65.1%
Employed	391	59.0%	247	59.4%
<b>High school graduate (includes equivalency)</b>	<b>3,616</b>	<b>35.1%</b>	<b>1,928</b>	<b>37.0%</b>
In labor force	2,990	82.7%	1,678	87.0%
Employed	2,823	78.1%	1,564	81.1%
<b>Some college or associate's degree</b>	<b>3,999</b>	<b>38.9%</b>	<b>1,843</b>	<b>35.4%</b>
In labor force	3,432	85.8%	1,544	83.8%
Employed	3,310	82.8%	1,474	80.0%
<b>Bachelor's degree or higher</b>	<b>2,014</b>	<b>19.6%</b>	<b>1,026</b>	<b>19.7%</b>
In labor force	1,804	89.6%	929	90.5%
Employed	1,789	88.8%	929	90.5%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau American FactFinder

## Labor Force and Unemployment

**Figure 3. Unemployment Rates, Labor Force and Employment 2004 - 2014**



Source: DEED’s Local Area Unemployment Statistics

The trends in the labor force and those employed are similar within Fairmont. As seen in figure 3, the biggest growth in the labor force and employment (including highest unemployment rates) occurred from 2009 to 2010, at the height of the recession. The years to follow saw consistent decreases in the labor force and number employed until 2015 when there was an increase, with the largest decrease in labor force and employment happening from 2011 to 2012. The unemployment rate, though, continued to decline from 2014 to 2015.

**Table 8. Unemployment Claim Trends – Martin County**

	2014	2015	2016	Change 14-15	Change 15-16
Initial	134	92	91	-31.3%	-1.1%
Regular Continuing	296	270	217	-8.8%	-19.6%
<b>All Initials:</b> Total new and re-activated applications for UI benefits					
<b>Regular Continuing:</b> Number of ongoing applications during the week due to permanent job loss					

Source: DEED Unemployment Insurance Statistics

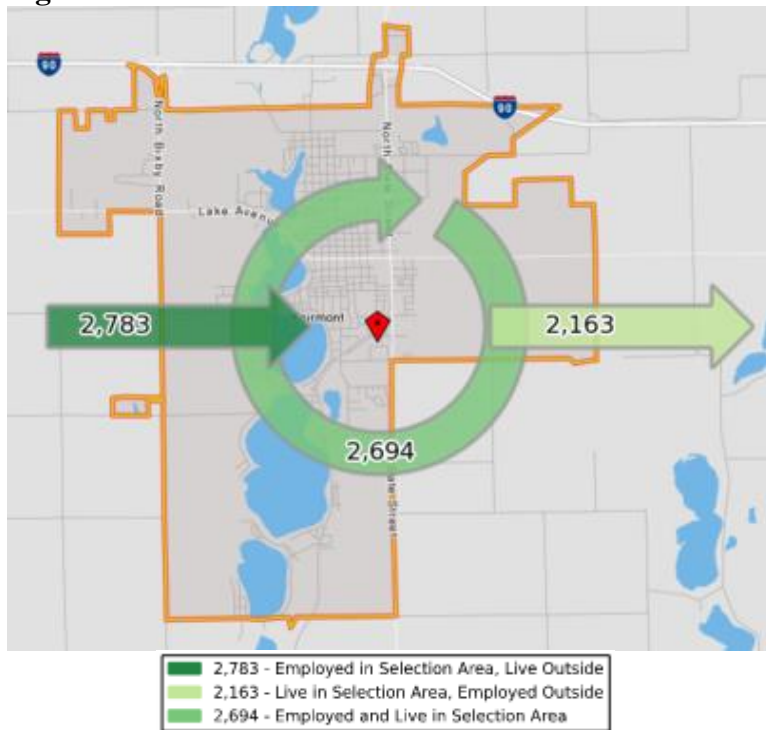
While annual unemployment rate claim data was not available for the city of Fairmont, data was available for Martin County. Unemployment claims, both initial and continuing, in Martin County have seen a decline since 2014. Initial claims dropped 31.3 percent from 2014 to 2015 with another 1.1 percent dropped the following year. Continuing applications for UI benefits has also seen drops over these time periods, including an 8.8 percent drop from 14-15 and 19.6 percent from 15-16.

## Commute and Labor Shed

Businesses and employers in the city of Fairmont provide jobs for residents within the city but also pull from other communities, cities and counties in the surrounding area. The benefit of commuting data is that it can help identify the city’s labor market area, including where new or expanding areas can expect to draw its workers from.

While there are 4,857 (2013 estimates are as recent as this data tool allow) people living in Fairmont, there are 5,477 people who work there creating a net inflow of 620. Of the 4,857 residents of Fairmont, 55.5 percent (2,694) also work within the city, leaving 44.5 percent (2,163) that commute outside for their jobs. Figure 3 illustrates the inflow/outflow of residents and workers for the city of Fairmont and table 9 gives the numerical data.

**Figure 3. Fairmont Shed**



Source: U.S. Census OnTheMap Tool

**Table 9. Labor Shed**

Labor Market Size	
Employed in Area	5,477 (100.0%)
Living in Area	4,857 (88.7%)
Inflow	+620
In-Area Labor Market Efficiency	
Living in Area	4,857 (100.0%)
Living and Employed in Area	2,694 (55.5%)
Living in Area but Employed Outside	2,163 (44.5%)
In-Area Employment Efficiency	
Employed in Area	5,477 (100.0%)
Employed and Living in Area	2,694 (49.2%)
Employed in Area but Living Outside	2,783 (50.8%)

Source: U.S. Census OnTheMap

Given there is a net inflow of workers into the city for employment as well as residents that leave the city for work, the questions become where do non-residents live who are employed in the city and where do residents of the city commute to for work? The largest number of people who work but do not live in Fairmont come from Sherburn (2.4 percent or 133 workers) followed by Truman (1.9 percent or 105 workers). Conversely, of the residents of Fairmont who go elsewhere for work the largest proportion (3.1 percent or 150 residents) commute to Mankato for their jobs, followed by 2.9 percent (139 residents) who work in Marshall. Granted that higher numbers/percentages live in or commute to the “all other locations” category, those mentioned above are the largest single locations. The other cities in which people who work in Fairmont live in and cities where residents commute to are outlined in table 10.

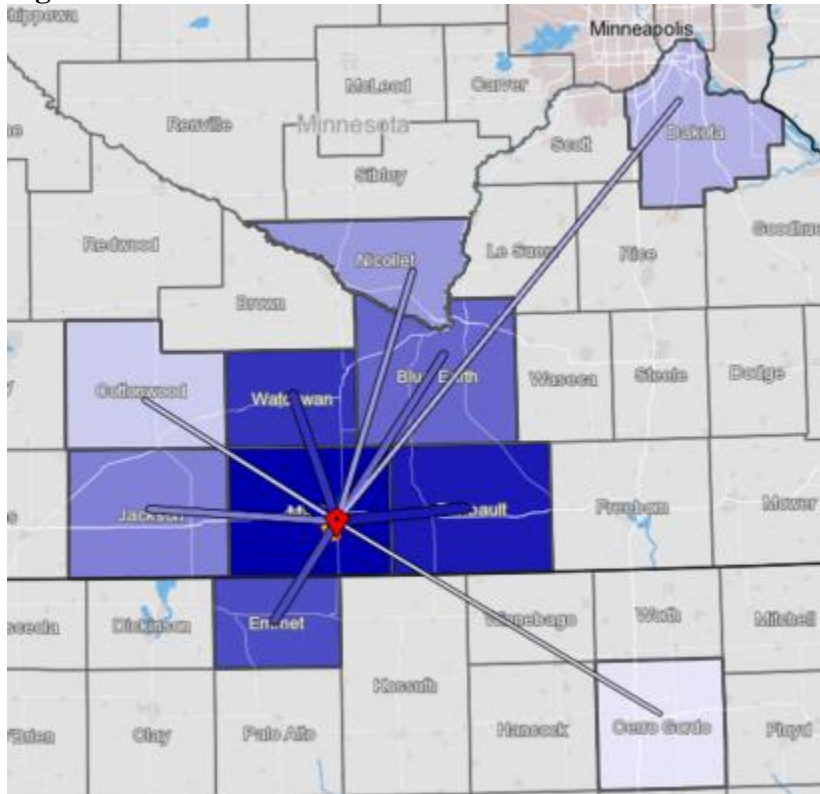
**Table 10. Home/Work Destination Report (Cities) – Fairmont, MN**



Where Workers Live Who are Employed in Fairmont			Where Workers are Employed Who Live in Fairmont		
City	Count	Share	City	Count	Share
Fairmont	2,694	49.2%	Fairmont	2,694	55.5%
Sherburn	133	2.4%	Mankato	150	3.1%
Truman	105	1.9%	Marshall	139	2.9%
Welcome	100	1.8%	Blue Earth	98	2.0%
Blue Earth	91	1.7%	Jackson	86	1.8%
Trimont	80	1.5%	Truman	84	1.7%
Ceylon	61	1.1%	Welcome	65	1.3%
Granada	58	1.1%	Wells	63	1.3%
St. James	41	0.7%	New Ulm	56	1.2%
Jackson	40	0.7%	Albert Lea	49	1.0%
All Other Locations	2,074	37.9%	All Other Locations	1,373	28.3%

Source: U.S. Census OnTheMap Tool

**Figure 4. Where Workers Live**



Source: U.S. Census OnTheMap Data Tool

Within Martin County, the city of Fairmont has the highest population with 10,474 (51.1 % of the county population). Of the 16,570 residents aged 16 and over in the labor force in Martin County, 8,448 are in Fairmont, making the city a major area to attract employees from other areas. As figure 4 shows people come to Fairmont for work from surrounding areas, even as far as Dakota County and Cerro Gordo County, IA. While the majority of those employed in Martin County also live there, 27.3 percent come from surrounding counties.

## Available Workers

Given that Southern Minnesota is currently, and will continue to be, facing a labor shortage, commuter shed information is invaluable. Table 10 shows labor force information, including the top counties from which people are commuting to the city of Fairmont, showing some of the places that are already supplying labor for current companies, as well as new and expanding

businesses. The most recent data on commuting patterns shows that 4.9 percent come from Faribault County, 2.5 percent from Watonwan, 1.9 percent from Emmett (IA), 1.8 percent from Blue Earth, 1.7 percent from Jackson, and less than one percent from Nicollet, Dakota Cottonwood and Cerro Gordo (IA) Counties.

**Table 11. Labor Force and Unemployment Statistics – 2013 Annual Average**

County	# Commuting to Fairmont	Labor Force	Employed	Unemployed	Unemployment Rate
Martin	3,984 (72.7%)	10,608	10,133	475	4.5%
Faribault	270 (4.9%)	7,680	7,364	316	4.1%
Watonwan	137 (2.5%)	6,633	6,321	312	4.7%
Emmett (IA)	104 (1.9%)	5,740	5,490	250	4.4%
Blue Earth	101 (1.8%)	39,392	38,392	1,000	2.5%
Jackson	95 (1.7%)	6,890	6,535	355	5.2%
Nicollet	52 (0.9%)	20,261	19,787	474	2.3%
Dakota	40 (0.7%)	234,664	227,591	7,073	3.0%
Cottonwood	39 (0.7%)	6,307	5,935	372	5.9%
Cerro Gordo (IA)	37 (0.7%)	22,710	21,880	840	3.7%
South Central MN	N/A	134,156	129,315	4,841	3.6%
Minnesota	N/A	3,033,597	2,924,911	108,686	3.6%

Source: DEED's and Iowa Workforce Development Local Area Unemployment Statistics

**Table 12. Jobs by Distance**

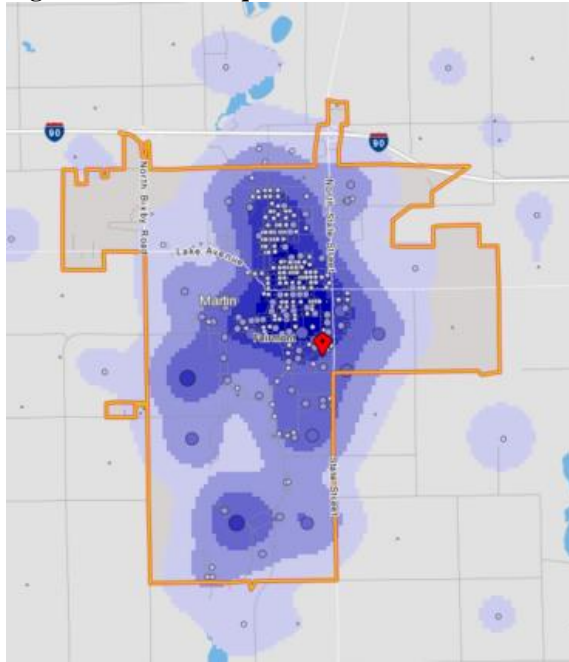
	Count	Share
Total All Jobs	5,107	100.0%
Less Than 5 Minutes	683	13.4%
5 to 9 Minutes	1,737	34.0%
10 to 14 Minutes	1,072	20.1%
15 to 19 Minutes	448	8.8%
20 to 24 Minutes	303	5.9%
25 to 29 Minutes	89	1.7%
30 to 34 Minutes	347	6.8%
35 to 39 Minutes	52	1.0%
40 to 44 Minutes	27	0.5%
45 to 59 Minutes	67	1.3%
60 to 89 Minutes	206	4.0%
90 Or More Minutes	73	1.4%
Mean Travel Time	14.8 Minutes	

Source: U.S. Census American FactFinder

Data on mean travel time to work for residents of the city of Fairmont shows that the average travel time for individuals to arrive at work is 14.8 minutes according the U.S. Census. This data also shows that some (1.9 percent) travel 90 minutes or more. Almost half (47.4 percent or 2,420) of workers travel less than 10 minutes for their jobs while an additional 20 percent (1,231 workers) travel 10 to 14 minutes. Over 75 percent (3,940 workers) travel less than 20 minutes to work, while a minimal number (279 or 5.4 percent) travel 60 or more minutes. As figure 6 below shows, most people travel north or northeast for work.

Jobs per square mile for those who commute into (figure 5) and out of (figure 6) the city of Fairmont are shown below (NOTE: The jobs per square mile image only encompasses the city of Fairmont and the immediate surroundings. As discussed above there are other areas further away that individuals commute from and to, but the images were too large to get a good look at the city).

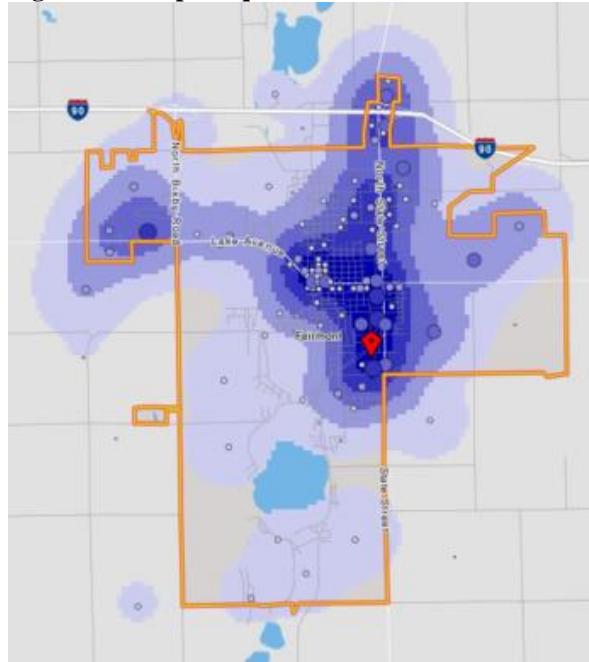
**Figure 5. Jobs Per Square Mile – Work to Home**



- 5 - 33 Jobs/Sq.Mile
- 34 - 120 Jobs/Sq.Mile
- 121 - 265 Jobs/Sq.Mile
- 266 - 467 Jobs/Sq.Mile
- 468 - 728 Jobs/Sq.Mile

Source: U.S. Census OnTheMap Tool

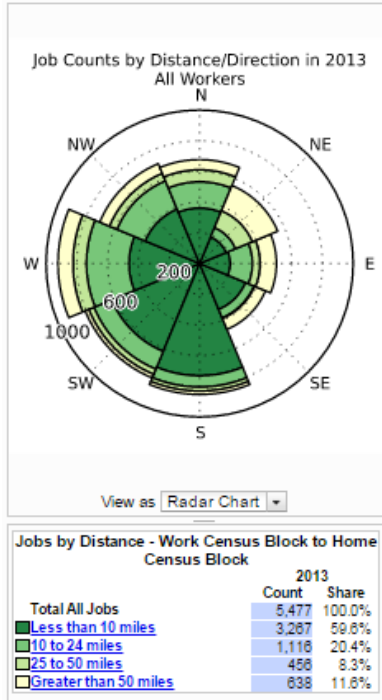
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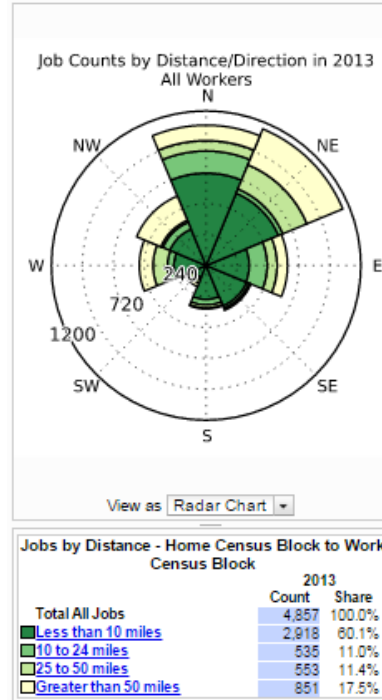
Source: U.S. Census OnTheMap Tool

Figure 7. Jobs by Distance and Direction – Work to Home



Source: U.S. Census OnTheMap Tool

Figure 8. Jobs by Distance and Direction – Home to Work



Source: U.S. Census OnTheMap Tool

As seen in the above figures, most individuals who live outside of Fairmont yet work within the city travel in from the south, west, and southwest (figure 7). Of those residents who travel outside of the town for work a vast majority travel north and northeast (figure 8).

Table 13. Inflow and Outflow Job Characteristics – Fairmont, Minnesota

Outflow Job Characteristics			Inflow Job Characteristics		
External Jobs Filled by Residents	2,163	100.0%	Internal Jobs Filled by Outside Workers	2,783	100.0%
Workers Age 29 or Younger	580	26.8%	Workers Age 29 or Younger	762	27.4%
Workers Age 30 to 54	1,064	49.2%	Workers Age 30 to 54	1,337	48.0%
Workers Age 55 or Older	519	24.0%	Workers Age 55 or Older	684	24.6%
Workers Earning \$1,250 or Less Per Month	738	34.1%	Workers Earning \$1,250 or Less Per Month	888	31.9%
Workers Earning \$1,251 to \$3,333 Per Month	822	38.0%	Workers Earning \$1,251 to \$3,333 Per Month	993	35.7%
Workers Earning More Than \$3,333 Per Month	603	27.9%	Workers Earning More Than \$3,333 Per Month	902	32.4%
Workers in the “Goods Producing” Industry Class	649	30.0%	Workers in the “Goods Producing” Industry Class	248	8.9%
Workers in the “Trade, Transportation and Utilities Industry Class	386	17.8%	Workers in the “Trade, Transportation and Utilities Industry Class	868	31.2%
Workers in the “All Other Services” Industry Class	1,128	52.1%	Workers in the “All Other Services” Industry Class	1,667	59.9%

Source: U.S. Census OnTheMap Data Tool

Analysis of the commute patterns of the city of Fairmont shows that of the 2,163 external jobs filled by residents, the highest defining brackets are those aged 30 to 54 at 49.2 percent, workers

earning \$1,251 to \$3,333 per month at 38.0 percent and 52.1 percent (1,128) that work in “all other services” industry class. In regards to the non-residents who commute into the city for work 48.0 percent (1,337) are aged 30 to 54, 35.7 percent (868) earn \$1,251 to \$3,333 per month and 59.9 percent work in the “all other services” industry. See Table 13.

## Industry Mix

As shown in table 14, the City of Fairmont has 14 main industries accounting for a total of total of 6,317 jobs in 401 establishments (2014 annual averages. This is down from the 6,424 jobs in 421 establishments the year prior. The largest industry for jobs and establishments in the city is retail trade, accounting for almost 17 percent of the total jobs and 15 percent of the establishments. Total wages paid in the city are \$240,603,170, a one percent increase from 2013, with the manufacturing industry paying the most total wages at 17 percent of the total. Although manufacturing pays the highest in total wages, the highest weekly wages are seen in the wholesale trade industry.

The lowest number of jobs are in the real estate, rental and leasing industry, only accounting for less than one percent of the total jobs. Agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting industry has the lowest number of establishments with 10. Lowest total wages are seen in the arts, entertainment and recreation industry while accommodation and food services industries have the lowest average weekly wages at \$215, followed by arts, entertainment and recreation at \$228. This is likely due to the seasonal and/or part-time nature of jobs within these industries.

**Table 14. Industries, Employment, Establishments and Wages – Fairmont, Minnesota**

Industry	Employment	Establishments	Total	Weekly
Total, All Industries	6,317	401	\$240,603,170	\$732
Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing and Hunting	34	10	\$1,067,943	\$616
Construction	190	27	\$8,967,954	\$908
Manufacturing	848	21	<b>\$41,163,518</b>	\$933
Wholesale Trade	267	22	\$25,384,260	<b>\$1,842</b>
Retail Trade	<b>1,061</b>	<b>62</b>	\$21,822,688	\$395
Information	98	8	\$3,755,901	\$717
Finance and Insurance	288	35	\$14,857,621	\$992
Real Estate, Rental and Leasing	39	13	\$1,060,576	\$519
Professional, Scientific and Technical Services	129	29	\$6,054,845	\$910
Administrative and Support and Waste Management and Remediation Services	179	14	\$4,390,814	\$472
Arts, Entertainment and Recreation	53*	10*	\$470,654**	\$228
Accommodation and Food Services	657	32	\$7,338,133	\$215
Other Services, Except Public Administration	148	42	\$2,604,300	\$340
Public Administration	437	14	\$18,454,723	\$815

Source: DEED’s Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages (QCEW)

**Note:** The values with a \* did not have values for all four quarters throughout the year and these values were derived using averages of the values that were available. Total payroll for arts, entertainment and recreation (\*\*) is for the last three quarters as data was not available for the first quarter.

## Access to Graduates

Martin County and the city of Fairmont have an advantage when it comes to available workers that just graduate from institutions of higher education. Graduates from a variety of different colleges and universities from the surrounding area, including the Mankato-North Mankato Metropolitan Statistical Area, offer a wide range of skills and abilities based on their specialized training from these institutions. Bachelor’s and graduate-level degrees can be obtained at Minnesota State University, Mankato, Gustavus Adolphus and Presentation College while the three community and technical colleges in the area, South Central, Minnesota West and Riverland have solid programs that train highly-qualified workers. Table 15 outlines the colleges and universities in the area and the degrees/awards offered.

**Table 15. Colleges and Universities Offering Classes in Fairmont**

<b>Institution</b>	<b>Degrees and Awards</b>
Presentation College	Associate’s, Bachelor’s, Certificates
South Central College	Associate’s, Diplomas, Certificates
Minnesota West Community and Technical College	Associate’s, Diplomas, Certificates
Riverland Community College	Associate’s, Diplomas, Certificates
Gustavus Adolphus College	Bachelor’s
Minnesota State University - Mankato	Associate’s, Bachelor’s, Master’s, Applied Doctorate, Specialist, Undergraduate and Graduate Certificates