

# AVAILABLE WORKFORCE

## Building a Productive, Dependable Workforce

Building a productive, dependable, stable workforce is a challenge for most companies in today's labor market. Owatonna helps employers overcome this hurdle to two ways:

- By providing ready access to workers with diverse skill sets.
- By offering exceptional resources for employee development at all levels.

Location matters in the recruitment and retention of employees. Owatonna is well placed to attract employees from a 60-mile radius that includes five population centers. Its pivotal location provides abundant opportunities for spouse employment as well. Beyond location, its ranking as one of the most livable small towns in America strengthens its appeal as a place to work and raise a family.

\*American City Business Journals, 2005 and Demographics Daily, 2000

## Workforce Statistics

Population	2005	Projected Growth (2000-2010)
Owatonna	24,000	16.8%
Steele County	35,120	8%
Minnesota	5,033,660	8%

### Demographics

Median Age\* ..... 35 years  
 Median Household Income ..... \$ 45,660 annually

### Education

High School or Higher ..... 87%  
 Bachelor's or Higher ..... 20%

### Industries Providing Employment

Manufacturing ..... 29%  
 Education, health and social services ..... 17%  
 Retail trade ..... 12%  
 Finance, insurance, real estate, rental and leasing ..... 11%

### Specialty Support Businesses

Machining, painting, raw material suppliers, health care support.

### Commuting

Mean Travel Time to Work ..... 16 minutes  
 Daytime Population Commuting ..... 18.7%



## Unemployment (March 2006)

Owatonna .....	4.9%
Steele County .....	4.8%
Minnesota .....	4.8%

Owatonna and Steele County are consistent with the State of Minnesota. Monthly updates can be accessed at [www.deed.state.mn](http://www.deed.state.mn)

## Labor Force

Steele County ..... 967 non-farm businesses (2001)  
 Labor Force Participation ..... 73%

Sources: [www.city-data.com/city/Owatonna-Minnesota.html](http://www.city-data.com/city/Owatonna-Minnesota.html); [www.census.gov](http://www.census.gov);  
 Minnesota State Demographer's Office; Maxfield Research,  
 Housing Market Analysis for Owatonna, January 2003

## Wage Rates

Below is a select listing of the diverse employment base in Steele County. To access a broader listing, go to [www.deed.state.mn](http://www.deed.state.mn).

(Click on Labor Market Information > Wages and Salaries > Minnesota Salary Survey Rate > OES Date Tool > Area Definitions > Southeastern.)

Job Title	Wage/Hr.
Accountants & Auditors .....	\$19.30
Assemblers & Fabricators .....	\$10.61
Bookkeeping, Accounting & Auditing Clerks .....	\$10.87
Computer Operators .....	\$11.10
Crushing & Mixing Machine Operators .....	\$13.12
General Managers .....	\$24.98
General Office Clerks .....	\$ 9.56
Hand Packers & Packagers .....	\$ 8.19
Machine Feeders & Offbearers .....	\$11.02
Maintenance Repairers — General Utility .....	\$13.30
Sales Representatives .....	\$17.42
Secretaries (except legal & medical) .....	\$12.20
Stock Clerks — Stockroom or Warehouse .....	\$ 8.48
Systems Analysts, Electronic Data Processing .....	\$24.01
Truck Drivers — Heavy or Tractor Trailer .....	\$14.74
Welders & Cutters .....	\$12.93

