



news release

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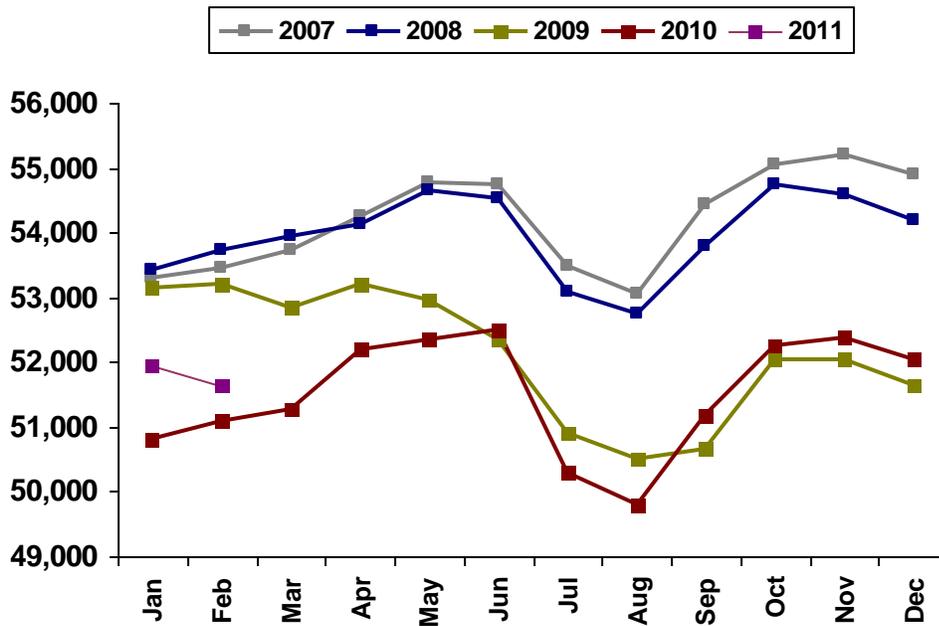
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Six Consecutive Months of Year over Year Job Increases for Greater Mankato

Mankato, MINN (March 18, 2011) – According to the job numbers this week by the Minnesota Department of Employment and Economic Development (DEED), Greater Mankato has had year over year job increases for six straight months.

When it comes to judging the economic strength of a region relative to jobs, one of the best sources is Current Employment Statistics (CES) data, which measures the number of paid employees in a particular region, excluding self-employment and farm jobs. "This latest CES data confirms what we have been seeing anecdotally; the number of jobs in the marketplace continue to show an increase over the previous year," said Jonathan Zierdt, President & CEO of Greater Mankato Growth.

Greater Mankato Jobs Four Year History
(Mankato-North Mankato MSA, which includes all of Blue Earth and Nicollet Counties)



Source: CES, Minnesota Department of Employment & Economic Development (DEED)
Compiled by: Greater Mankato Growth, Inc. | greatermankato.com | 507.385.6640 | info@greatermankato.com

Another measure of area employment is the **Local Area Unemployment Statistics (LAUS)**. LAUS is not as much an indicator of the strength of the business climate, because it measures the total number of people who live in a particular region who are employed, rather than the businesses in the region employing them. Still, LAUS employment numbers continue to look good, with the January 2011 unemployed rate in the region at 5.8%, compared to 6.5% in January 2010. Also, when compared to other areas of the state and country, Greater Mankato fares well in terms of unemployment

<http://www.positivelyminnesota.com/apps/lmi/laus/Graph.aspx?geog=2721031860&adjust=0>).

About Greater Mankato Growth

Greater Mankato Growth (GMG) is committed to advancing business for a stronger community. As the Chamber of Commerce and Economic Development organization serving the regional marketplace, GMG advances business through: existing business support, new business growth, business promotion, talent development, public affairs, community marketing, visitor attraction and servicing and civic engagement.

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