



news release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Highest February Job Number on Record

Mankato, MINN (March 22, 2012) – The Minnesota Department of Employment and Economic Development (DEED) today released job figures for our regional Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA) that includes Blue Earth and Nicollet counties.

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. According to the CES report released today, the region gained 2,096 jobs between February 2011 and February 2012, a 4% increase.

“According to online records going back to 1990, this is the highest job number for the month of February and the second highest February year over year job gain ever” said Greater Mankato Growth President & CEO Jonathan Zierdt. “These numbers are astounding; we are pleased to continue to be a top leader in the state when it comes to year over year job gains. Businesses in Greater Mankato are to be credited in helping build our region’s economic might.”

Greater Mankato once again stood out as having the highest year over year job gain for any MSA in the state in February.

February Year Over Year Job Increases for MN MSAs

Table with 3 columns: Area, Year Over Year Job Increase, Year over Year Job Increase %. Rows include Mankato-North Mankato MSA, St. Cloud MSA, Minneapolis-St. Paul-Bloomington MSA, Rochester MSA, and Duluth MSA.

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 a January 2012 regional unemployment rate of 5.1%, compared to 5.8% a year earlier.

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.

About the Regional Economic Development Alliance

In 2009, the Regional Economic Development Alliance (REDA) began with a progressive group of communities and counties joining together with Greater Mankato Growth in business attraction and development efforts. REDA participants include Eagle Lake, Lake Crystal, Le Sueur, Madison Lake, Mankato, Saint Peter and Blue Earth County. By working together, the group is able to efficiently provide regional and individual city and county information to businesses interested in the Greater Mankato marketplace. As a result of promoting the individual strengths of each community, along with the combined assets of the regional marketplace, all experience collective success.

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