

Jobs

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The recession began creeping into the Yankton County economy in 2008 and really hit in 2009, resulting in wide-spread layoffs. In December 2008, unemployment was at 3.3 percent with 395 people unemployed. By January 2009, the unemployment rate had almost doubled to 6.3 percent with 750 people unemployed. The unemployment rate never got below 4.9 percent that year, which was 575 people.

It was 2007 when Yankton County reached its peak employment and labor force numbers in the decade spanning from 2003-2013. The average size of the labor force in 2007 was 12,215, with 320 of those people — 2.6 percent — unemployed. In addition, the average number of nonfarm wage and salaried workers for the year was 13,290.

For the state of South Dakota, the labor force has grown every year in the last decade except for a slight dip in 2010. In 2013, there were 448,360 people in the labor force with 17,100 people, or 3.8 percent, unemployed.

Employment also grew each of the last 10 years except for declines in 2009 and 2010. In 2008, employment had reached 429,395 before the drops to 420,670 and 420,610 in 2009 and 2010. By 2013, it was at 431,260 people.

The average number of nonfarm wage and salaried workers for the year reached

an all-time high of 417,100 people in 2013. In 2008, that figure had reached 411,400 before falling to 403,700 in 2009 and 403,200 in 2010. The climb resumed in 2011.

Kramer said he is conducting a survey of the approximately 30 primary-sector employers in Yankton regarding their future employment projections. The results he has seen so far are promising. "The next five years look really good if we can supply the labor force," Kramer stated. "Workforce development has to be strong."

He said that is a good situation.

"I'd rather have a growth problem — having trouble finding people to fill those positions — than be worried about a thousand people being laid off," Kramer stated. "Are there a lot of challenges ahead of us as far as workforce development? You bet. Are there ways of fixing it and getting ahead of the companies? Yes."

In the surrounding area, Clay County has exhibited a similar struggle as Yankton County.

The average size of the labor force in Clay County during 2013 was 7,215 people with 265, or 3.7 percent, unemployed. During the decade spanning 2003-2013, the size of the labor force peaked in 2008 with 7,630 people. The number of people employed also reached a high that year at 7,425. The number of unemployed peaked in 2009 and 2010 with 320 people. The average number of nonfarm wage and salaried workers reached a high of 7,175 in

2008. In 2013, the number was at 6,710, which was down considerably from 2011 and 2012, when that figure was 7,070.

Other surrounding counties seem to be suffering more from long-term population declines than they ever did from the recession.

• In Bon Homme County, the average size of the labor force during 2013 was 2,985 people with 120, or 4 percent, unemployed. During the decade spanning 2003-2013, the size of the labor force peaked in 2003 at 3,425 people. The more recent high was 2009 with 3,120. Unemployment peaked at 175 people in 2009 and 2011, which was 5.6 percent and 5.7 percent, respectively. The average number of nonfarm wage and salaried workers peaked in 2003 with 2,175 people and has more or less been on a downward slide since, reaching a low of 1,805 in 2013.

• In Charles Mix County, the average size of the labor force during 2013 was 4,100 people with 175, or 4.3 percent, unemployed. The average number of nonfarm wage and salaried workers for the year was 3,480. As late as 2010, Charles Mix County was seeing employment steadily climb. That year, it peaked at 3,990 for the decade from 2003-2013. Unemployment was at 4.9 percent in 2010, a decline from the high of 5.2 percent in 2009. The average number of nonfarm wage and

salaried workers peaked in 2010 and 2011 with 3,590 people.

• In Hutchinson County, the average size of the labor force during 2013 was 3,805 people with 125, or 3.3 percent, unemployed. During the decade spanning 2003-2013, the size of the labor force peaked in 2003 with 3,920 people. The more recent high was in 2011, when the labor force reached 3,850. The number of people employed peaked at 3,775 in 2003 and, more recently, at 3,700 in 2011. The number of unemployed peaked in 2009 with 165 people. The average number of nonfarm wage and salaried workers reached a high of 2,765 in 2011. In 2013, the number was at 2,700.

• In Turner County, the average size of the labor force during 2013 was 4,275 people with 145, or 3.4 percent, unemployed. The labor force figure is the highest it has been since 2007, when it was also 4,275. During the decade spanning 2003-2013, the number of people employed peaked at 4,470 in 2003 and, more recently at 4,145 in 2007. The number of unemployed peaked in 2009 with 220 people. The average number of nonfarm wage and salaried workers in Turner County cannot be determined because those figures are incorporated with the Sioux Falls metropolitan area by the DLR.

You can follow Nathan Johnson on Twitter at twitter.com/AnInlandVoyage. Discuss this story at www.yankton.net/.

Nebraska

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any candidates in the primary election, the party could still step in and place a candidate for the general election."

In neighboring Cedar County, the lack of local races — there's only the Republican primary for county treasurer — may hold down voter interest, said County Clerk Dave Dowling.

"As far as early voting, I'm really surprised," he said Friday afternoon. "We're still in the low 30s for ballots that have been turned in. We're looking at a really low number, unless a bunch come in Saturday, Monday and Tuesday."

Even without local races, the top of the ticket contains a number of high-profile races at the federal and state level, Dowling said.

"You would think we would have interest in the U.S. Senate, U.S. House, state offices and our race for the state Legislature, but I just haven't heard a lot of talk about it," he said.

The large number of candidates has proven confusing for voters, which may explain the quietness surrounding Tuesday's primary, Dowling said.

"When you look down the ballot, there are a lot of state races going on," he said. "But there's so many candidates that a lot of people say they don't know how they're going to vote."

Dowling has seen some registration activity just ahead of Tuesday's election.

"We did have some changes in party registration. We had 50, 60, 70 changes, and I think that's because of the county treasurer's race," he said. "We also picked up about 30 new registrations, and that was young people who just turned voting age."

Dowling said he's particularly surprised by the low rate of early voting, considering eight of the county's 13 precincts use all-mail balloting. About 2,200 voters — or about one-third of the county's 6,075 registered voters — are covered by all-mail balloting.

Still, he believes voters will turn out for Tuesday's primary election.

"We usually have a 40 percent voter turnout in our primary elections, and I think we'll still be in that range," he said.

Cedar County has 6,075 registered voters, broken down by 3,330 Republicans, 1,811 Democrats, 921 non-partisan and 13 Libertarians.

In Nebraska, polls are open from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. Voters can cast an early ballot in person at the clerk's office until 4:30 p.m. Monday. An agent may pick up an early voting

ballot for another person until 7 p.m. election night. All early voting ballots must be in the county clerk's possession by 8 p.m. election night, when the polls close.

The Press & Dakotan will provide election coverage online, with social media and in its print edition.

The following is a rundown of races decided Tuesday by area voters.

• At the state level, Republicans will decide a number of primary races.

They will choose from a five-candidate field for U.S. senator. The field includes Clifton Johnson, Shane Osborn (a Norfolk native), Sid Dinsdale, Ben Sasse and Bart McLeay. The incumbent, Mike Johanns, isn't running for re-election.

In the House race, GOP voters will choose in the Third District race between incumbent Adrian Smith and challenger Tom Brewer.

The governor's race features Tom Carlson, Beau McCoy, Jon Bruning, Mike Foley, Pete Ricketts and Bryan Stone. The incumbent, Dave Heineman, is term limited and cannot run for re-election.

For state treasurer, voters will choose between Don Stenberg and Christopher Costello.

For attorney general, the field includes Doug Peterson, Pete Pirsch, Brian Buescher and Mike Hilgers.

For auditor of public accounts, the candidates are Charlie Janssen and Larry Anderson.

On the Democratic side, voters will choose from among Larry Marvin and Dave Domina — a Co-leridge native — for U.S. senator. The only other contested race is for attorney general, where Janet Stewart faces Allan Eurek.

• The District 40 legislative primary took a turn when a third candidate, Bruce Boettcher, was removed from the ballot before the primary. As a result, incumbent Tyson Larson of O'Neill, Neb., and challenger Keith Kube of Crofton, Neb., both advance to the November general election.

District 40 is comprised of Rock, Holt, Boyd, Knox, Cedar and Dixon counties.

• In Cedar County, the lone primary race for Cedar County office comes in the Republican primary for treasurer. The field includes Sheila Ulrich, Jean Wiebelhaus and Tom Grube. No Democrats are running for the office.

A new treasurer is guaranteed, as long-time incumbent Carol Wortmann is not running for re-election.

• In Knox County, the Republican primary for sheriff finds incumbent Don Henery of Center facing a challenge from Niobrara police chief Doug Salmen.

Tuesday's election represents a rematch, as Henery defeated Salmen and Matt Gartner in a three-way Republican primary in May 2010. Henery finished ahead of Salmen in that primary by 32 votes.

Henery, deputy sheriff at the time, was appointed sheriff July 1, 2010, when then-Sheriff Jim Janecek retired. Henery went on to defeat Democrat Mark Krepel of Crofton in the November general election.

Tuesday's primary features a number of other county races.

For clerk of the district court, the GOP primary features incumbent Karen Riesberg and challenger Jody Fuchtmann. The winner faces Democrat Matt Fischer.

For District 1 county supervisor, the Republican field includes incumbent Marty O'Connor and challengers Allan Arens and Steve Wieseler. The Democratic field includes Kelly Marshall and Kerry Kollerman.

For District 2 county supervisor, the GOP candidates are incumbent Virgil Miller and challenger Ward Adema.

For District 5 county supervisor, the GOP field includes Kevin Mack-

prang, Ernie Ibach and Cindy S. Barney. The incumbent, Norman Mackepuang, isn't running for re-election.

For District 7 county supervisor, the Republican field includes Robert Ganz, Carol Triplett and Jim Borgmann. The incumbent, Jim Fuchtmann, isn't running for re-election.

Two elections are being held at the local level.

For Wausa school board, the top six candidates will advance from the field of Michael Kumm, Chad Vanness, Derek Cunningham, Brian Wakeley, Dawn Baue, Mark Dawson and Kristal Thorell.

For Creighton City Council, the top four candidates will advance from among Leonard Clarkson, MaryAnne Block, Curtis Keck, Mike Nutting and Vicki Lynn Belgum.

In addition, Dolphin, Eastern, Hill, Morton and Verdigre townships will hold special elections on their levy.

Both of the Knox County sheriff candidates provided the Press & Dakotan with their background, personal qualifications and other information. The following are excerpts from their profiles, and they are listed alphabetically.

• Don Henery, 54, lives in rural Center, Neb. He graduated from Creighton Community High and the Nebraska Law Enforcement Training Center. He has completed more than 600 hours of continuing education during his law enforcement career, with additional training from state and federal agencies, including homeland security.

Henery has served 32 years in law enforcement, nearly his entire career in Knox County. He has served 14 years as chief deputy under then-sheriffs Wes Eisenbeiss and Jim Janacek, and almost four years as sheriff.

The prisoner head count has increased from an average of 4.2 prisoners per day in jail when I took over as sheriff in 2010 to an average of 6.8 prisoners per day in jail for 2013, an increase of more than 50 percent again because of arrests made while solving crimes.

He said that he has run his office under budget and offset his office's expenses by bring money into Knox County by housing prisoners, providing dispatcher services, and applying for and receiving state and federal grants, along with several other services.

Henery said his office has brought more than \$423,000 since he became sheriff. He counts all money turned over to the Knox County treasurer for housing prisoners, title inspections, dispatching for the Santee Sioux Nation, grants, serving civil process pa-

pers, firearm purchase permits and other revenue.

Henery said he has sent his deputies and jailers/dispatches to continuing education training.

During the past four years, a number of drug cases and search warrants came as a spin-off of theft cases that were solved, he said. Some drug cases resulted from citizens stepping forward with information, he said, adding that prescription drug abuse has become an increasing problem.

The Knox County Sheriff's Office is a member of the Snare Drug Task Force along with a number of cities, other counties, and the Nebraska State Patrol. The arrangements allows his office to work with drug enforcement not only in Knox County but also address outside sources bringing drugs into Knox County.

• Doug Salmen, 49, lives on a farm near Verdigre and has served more than nine years as the Niobrara police chief.

He graduated with honors from Madison High School in Madison, Neb. He entered the U.S. Army as a Military Police Officer and was honorably discharged. While in the military, he graduated from Baltimore County S.W.A.T. School. He was also trained and graduated from Counterterrorism Response and British Small Unit Tactics International.


He has served in law enforcement for more than 20 years, seven years as a full-time investigator. He spent nine years as a Special Weapons and Tactics member.

He is certified from the Nebraska Law Enforcement Training Academy. He has attended training across the nation and has received certification in homicide investigation, drug enforcement, highway drug interdiction, domestic violence investigation and child death/abuse investigation including shaken baby syndrome. He has also received certification in interview and interrogation techniques.

In addition, he is certified in the recognition of explosive devices, forensic science and crime scene reconstruction. In addition, he has graduated from polygraph science training and is a Nebraska licensed polygraphist.

He remains a standing member of NeLEIN (Nebraska Law Enforcement Intelligence Network).

You can follow Randy Dockendorf on Twitter at twitter.com/RDockendorf. Discuss this story at www.yankton.net/.



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Downstream/Upstream Speeds	Download Speed: Up to 10Meg Upload Speed: Up to 2Meg	Download Speed: 0.5Meg to 1.5Meg Upload Speed: 0.5Meg	Download Speed: 0.5Meg up to 2Meg Upload Speed: 0.3Meg up to 0.7Meg
Coverage Area	Line of sight or near line of sight to access points	Highly dependent on coverage area and tower location	Affected by weather, low availability, overloaded network
Service Type/Technology	WiMAX 3.65Gbitz Radio Network	3G (4G where available) Cellular Network	Earth Station Satellite
Download Limits?	NO DATA LIMITS	YES (2G/3G/4G Plans)	YES (6G/10G/20G Plans)
Service Area Coverage	Yankton SD and NE Areas	Yankton SD and NE Areas	Yankton SD and NE Areas
Price	Plans starting at \$59.95/mo.	Plans start at \$50.00/mo. for data plans with limits as part of voice/data bundles	Plans start at \$60.00/mo.
Email Accounts	YES	YES	YES

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