

A Closer Look at Employment in the Minneapolis Promise Zone

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One of the goals for the Minneapolis Promise Zone (MPZ) initiative is to enable North Minneapolis residents to thrive in their own communities without having to go elsewhere for employment and amenities. An analysis of the inflow and outflow of MPZ employment data shows the work has only just begun: There are only 813 MPZ residents both live and work in their community.

The inflow (10,130) represents employees that work within the MPZ, but are not residents of the community. The outflow, (13,216) represents the residents of the MPZ that leave their communities and work outside of the MPZ. Overall, there are almost 11,000 existing jobs in the MPZ; however, 10,000 of those jobs are filled by non-residents.

Racial equity is another primary focus of the MPZ due to the disproportionate amount of People of Color (POC) that reside in the area compared to the overall population in Minneapolis. Despite having a population that is 77% POC, the disproportion in employment is evident:

- The African American population in the MPZ is 46%, but only 23% of workers in the MPZ are African American.
- Although Caucasian residents only comprise 23% of the MPZ population, 68% of workers in the MPZ are Caucasian.
- Overall, only 5% of jobs in the MPZ are occupied by Asian employees and 5% Latino.

Another finding from the analysis is that Healthcare and Social Assistance is the industry sector with the highest percentage of employees within the MPZ and for residents of the MPZ. Therefore, residents from the MPZ are leaving their community to work in the same industry sector that non-residents travel to the MPZ for. Additionally, although the Caucasian population is only 23% in the MPZ, Caucasians comprise 45% of employed residents. This means that, despite having a large concentration of African American residents in the MPZ, Caucasians are employed at a higher rate in both the inflow and outflow populations.

Overall, the MPZ has a high population of African American residents, yet the highest population employed in the MPZ is Caucasian non-residents. Meanwhile, residents of the MPZ are battling unemployment, and those that do have work are leaving their community to work jobs similar to the ones already available in their community.

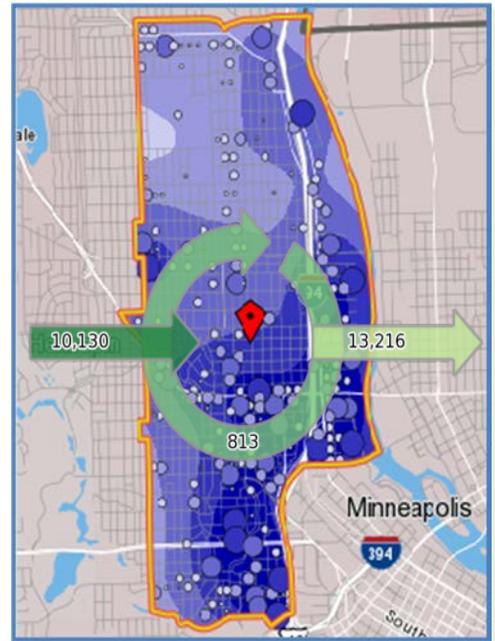


Figure 1 Inflow: 10,130 people from outside the MPZ. Outflow: 13,216 MPZ residents work outside of the MPZ. Of the 11,000 jobs in the MPZ, only 813 are occupied by residents that both live and work in the MPZ. In the MPZ, jobs are primarily concentrated in the southern part and along the river and less North where the area is residential.

Sources: U.S. Census Bureau, OnTheMap Application and LEHD Origin-Destination Employment Statistics (Beginning of Quarter Employment, 2nd Quarter of 2002-2014)

http://www.mncompass.org/profiles/custom/custom-profile?report_id=1715ef6ae0ad873b9822ffdd4277c214