Area includes: Arts Council Regions 6/8 and 9


Key Cities: Fairmont, Hutchinson, Litchfield, Mankato, Marshall, St. Peter, Waseca, Willmar, Worthington.

Southwest Minnesota stood out in several ways. The artists in this area had the highest percentage (89 percent) of their artistic expenditures inside the state of Minnesota as opposed to spending outside of the state. This area also had the lowest percentage (6 percent) working full-time on their art, and the highest percentage (69 percent) of its artists indicating that they work part-time as artists. Perhaps as a result, this area’s artists also had the lowest percentage of their income coming from their art (10 percent), and the lowest average income from their art ($3,062). Unfortunately, this area’s artists were also least likely of all the artists in Minnesota to be covered by health care (17 percent without health insurance). A high level (33 percent) also had no retirement plan. Southwest Minnesota had the second highest level of volunteering by its artists over 20 hours per week.

Southwest Minnesota is home to 1,073 individual artists. Artistic spending by these artists totaled $8.1 million during 2005. $7.2 million of those expenditures (89 percent) were made to merchants and businesses located within the state of Minnesota, and therefore have an impact on Minnesota’s economy. The table below details the total economic impacts of the $7.2 million in artistic expenditures that were made to Minnesota’s merchants and businesses. Average artistic expenditures of Southwest Minnesota’s individual artists (full-time, part-time and hobbyist) during 2005 was $7,535 per artist, compared to the state average of $13,572. Median artist income for full-time artists in this area was $11,953 compared to the state median of $21,841.

Total Economic Impact of Artistic Spending by Individual Artists Who Reside in Southwest Minnesota During 2005
(Expenditures Made to Merchants and Businesses Located Within Minnesota Only)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Total Artistic Expenditures Made In Minnesota</th>
<th>$7,162,933</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Full-Time Equivalent Jobs Supported</td>
<td>252</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Resident Household Income Generated</td>
<td>$4,849,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Local Government Revenue Generated</td>
<td>$223,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>State Government Revenue Generated</td>
<td>$608,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Artistic expenses by Southwest Minnesota’s individual artists totaled $8.1 million during 2005
Artistic employment status in Southwest Minnesota

- Part-Time (i.e., work outside of their art to support themselves): 69%
- Full-Time (i.e., support themselves entirely through their artwork): 6%
- 25% Other (e.g., retired, art is my hobby)

Income and revenue to Southwest Minnesota’s individual artists totaled $31.9 million during 2005

- 90% Income from artistic work only
- 10% Income not related to artistic work $28.6 million

Southwest Minnesota’s individual artists averaged $29,739 in income during 2005

Source of health insurance for Southwest Minnesota’s individual artists

- Individual Plan: 25%
- Through an Employer: 29%
- Through Spouse, Partner, or Family: 31%
- No Health Insurance: 17%

Source of retirement plan for Southwest Minnesota’s individual artists

- Individual Plan: 29%
- Through an Employer: 31%
- Through Spouse, Partner, or Family: 25%
- No Retirement Plan: 33%

Monthly volunteerism of Southwest Minnesota’s individual artists

- 0 Hours: 13%
- 1-5 Hours: 47%
- 6-10 Hours: 13%
- 11-20 Hours: 10%
- More than 20 Hours: 17%

Southwest Minnesota’s individual artists likelihood to vote

- Always: 86%
- Sometimes: 12%
- Never: 2%