

Ron Wirtz is a Regional Outreach Director for the Federal Reserve Bank of Minneapolis. Ron's primary responsibilities involve tracking current business conditions across the six-state Ninth Federal Reserve District, which includes Michigan's Upper Peninsula, northwest Wisconsin, Minnesota, the Dakotas and Montana. Ron tracks activity in employment and wages – which are central to the Federal Reserve's dual mandate of promoting stable prices and maximum employment – along with construction and real estate sectors. Part of Ron's work includes extensive outreach to business and community leaders, and he gives frequent speeches on Ninth District regional economies. Ron is a contributor to the [Beige Book](#), which is a report of current business conditions published by the Federal Reserve System every six weeks. Previous to this position, Ron was the editor of the [fedgazette](#), a regional business and economics journal published by the Minneapolis Fed. Here, he conducted in-depth research on such topics as labor markets and job growth, health care consolidation, the Bakken oil boom, income mobility, disability, public pensions, and many others.