

Australia's relationship with

MINNESOTA



KEY FACTS

- **Population:** 5,639,632 (2019)
- **Major Cities:** Saint Paul (capital), Minneapolis (largest), Rochester
- **Gross Domestic Product:** \$383,094 Million
- **Key Industries:** Precision instruments, industrial machinery, electrical machinery, motor vehicles and parts, plastics, animal feeds, aircraft, pharmaceuticals, meat, cereal.
- **Known for:** Mayo Clinic, Bob Dylan, Prince; Mall of America, F Scott Fitzgerald, Judy Garland, Jesse Ventura, Sinclair Lewis, Garrison Keillor, Josh Hartnett, Charles Schulz, Peanuts comics creator.

ECONOMIC RELATIONSHIP

- Two-Way Trade ([2019](#)): US\$ 585,628 Million
- Australia's Exports to Minnesota: US\$ 55,883 Million (2019)
- Minnesota Exports to Australia: US\$ 529,745 Million (2019)
- **Priority Sectors for the Australia-Kansas economic relationship:** ATVs, motorcycles

PEOPLE TO PEOPLE LINKS

- **Sister Cities:** None
- **Local Aussie-Inspired Shops:**
Bub's Aussie Gourmet Pies: Lake Elmo
- **Representation:** Australia's relationship with Minnesota is managed by the **Consulate General in Chicago**
- **Consul General:** David Bushby

AUSTRALIAN COMMUNITY

- **University of Minnesota's** star offensive tackle for the Golden Gophers is Daniel Faalele, an Australian Samoan
- **Australian National Softball team** is based in Mankato over the summer and plays in the US professional league as the Peppers

- **Australian Lewis Thorpe** made debut with the Minnesota Twins in 2019
- **Social networks:**
[ANZAC.com](#)
[internations.org/minneapolis-expats/australians](#)
- **Australian Sporting Club:**
North Star Blue Ox, (men & women teams)
Minneapolis ([USAFL](#))

POLITICAL ENVIRONMENT

- **Governor:** Tim Waltz (Democratic/Farmer/Labor)
- **2020 Presidential Outcome:** Biden 52.4%
- **Senators:** Tina Smith (D), Amy Klobuchar (D)
- **House:** 4 Democrats, 4 Republican

AUSTRALIAN BUSINESS

- **Ellex** designs and manufactures ophthalmic laser systems and other therapies for treating blindness, has its US HQ in Minneapolis.
- **ImpediMed** is a medical device company from Queensland and has a sales, marketing and support hub in Bloomington, MN
- **Sezzle** is a buy now, pay later financial technology company, headquartered in Minneapolis, chose to go public on ASX because it was a more developed economy

GLOBAL BUSINESS

There are [19 Fortune 500 companies](#) headquartered in Minnesota including;

- UnitedHealth Group (6): Minnetonka
- Target (38): Minneapolis
- Best Buy (72): Richfield
- CHS (93): Inver Grove Heights
- 3M (94): Maplewood
- US Bancorp (125): Minneapolis



UNIVERSITY PARTNERSHIPS

- The **University of Minnesota** has exchanges with the University of Melbourne and the University of Sydney.

MAJOR EVENTS

- **Saint Paul Winter Carnival**: Long known as the nation's oldest winter festival, since 1886
 - **Grand Celebration Powwow**: Hinckley, the largest Pow Wow in the Midwest with over 1,200 dancers, drummers and singers from nearly every tribe in the USA and Canada
 - **Dragon Festival**: promoting Asian-Pacific artistic, educational, and athletic activities through cultural performances, martial arts, the healing arts, and outdoor/indoor Asian games at Lake Phalen Park in Saint Paul
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