

Ameriprise is No. 297 in Fortune 500 debut

Ameriprise Financial joined the Fortune 500 at No. 297, the magazine reported Monday, which brings the total number of Minnesota-based companies on Fortune's list to 20.

Wal-Mart Stores returns to the top spot on the year's list, edging out ExxonMobil — last year's No. 1.

Among Minnesota-based companies, UnitedHealth Group jumped to No. 21, up from No. 37 last year, taking the top spot in Minnesota from Target Corp. (No. 33 this year, down from No. 29 last year).

With 20 Fortune 500 companies, Minnesota once again claims the title as the state with the most public companies per capita, eclipsing the District of Columbia and last year's per-capita leader Connecticut.

New York, with 57 Fortune 500 companies, is home to the most companies overall, taking the top spot back from Texas, with 56.

PATRICK KENNEDY

MINNESOTA'S FORTUNE 500 FIRMS

Company, 2007 rank (year-ago rank)

1. **UnitedHealth Group**, No. 21 (37)
2. **Target**, No. 33 (29)
3. **Best Buy**, No. 72 (76)
4. **Travelers Companies**, No. 89 (85)
5. **3M**, No. 97 (101)
6. **Supervalu**, No. 117 (113)
7. **U.S. Bancorp**, No. 123 (131)
8. **CHS**, No. 166 (188)
9. **Northwest Airlines**, No. 195 (182)
10. **General Mills**, No. 213 (206)
11. **Medtronic**, No. 222 (235)
12. **Xcel Energy**, No. 251 (247)
13. **Ameriprise Financial**, No. 297 (NR)
14. **Land O'Lakes**, No. 329 (301)
15. **C.H. Robinson Worldwide**, No. 349 (379)
16. **Thrivent Financial for Lutherans**, No. 370 (352)
17. **Hormel Foods**, No. 403 (401)
18. **Mosaic**, No. 427 (470)
19. **Ecolab**, No. 457 (459)
20. **Nash-Finch**, No. 476 (457)