



Buffalo County, WI

Mississippi River Regional Planning Commission



811 Monitor St. Suite 201
La Crosse, Wisconsin 54603

Contents

Report Parameters	1
Economy Overview	2
Unemployment by Demographics	4
Historic & Projected Trends	8
Population Characteristics	12
Inbound and Outbound Migration	14
Industry Characteristics	16
Business Characteristics	21
Layoff Activity	23
Workforce Characteristics	24
Educational Pipeline	29
In-Demand Skills	30

Report Parameters

1 County

55011 Buffalo County, WI

Class of Worker

QCEW Employees, Non-QCEW Employees, and Self-Employed

The information in this report pertains to the chosen geographical area.

Economy Overview

13,318

Population (2025)

Population **decreased by 15** over the last 5 years but is projected to **grow by 197** over the next 5 years.

4,294

Total Regional Employment

Jobs **decreased by 254** over the last 5 years and are projected to **decrease by 94** over the next 5 years.

\$70.5K

Median Household Income (2024)

Median household income is **\$10.3K below** the national median household income of \$80.7K.

Takeaways

- As of 2025 the region's population **declined by 0.1%** since 2020, falling by 15. Population is expected to **increase by 1.5%** between 2025 and 2030, adding 197.
- From 2020 to 2025, jobs **declined by 5.6%** in Buffalo County, WI from 4,548 to **4,294**. This change **fell short of the national growth rate of 10.7% by 16.3%**. As the number of jobs declined, the **labor force participation rate decreased from 67.6% to 62.2% between 2020 and 2025**.
- Concerning educational attainment, **16.2% of Buffalo County, WI residents possess a Bachelor's Degree** (5.6% below the national average), and **14.9% hold an Associate's Degree** (6.1% above the national average).
- The top three industries in 2025 are Animal Production, Education and Hospitals (Local Government), and General Freight Trucking.

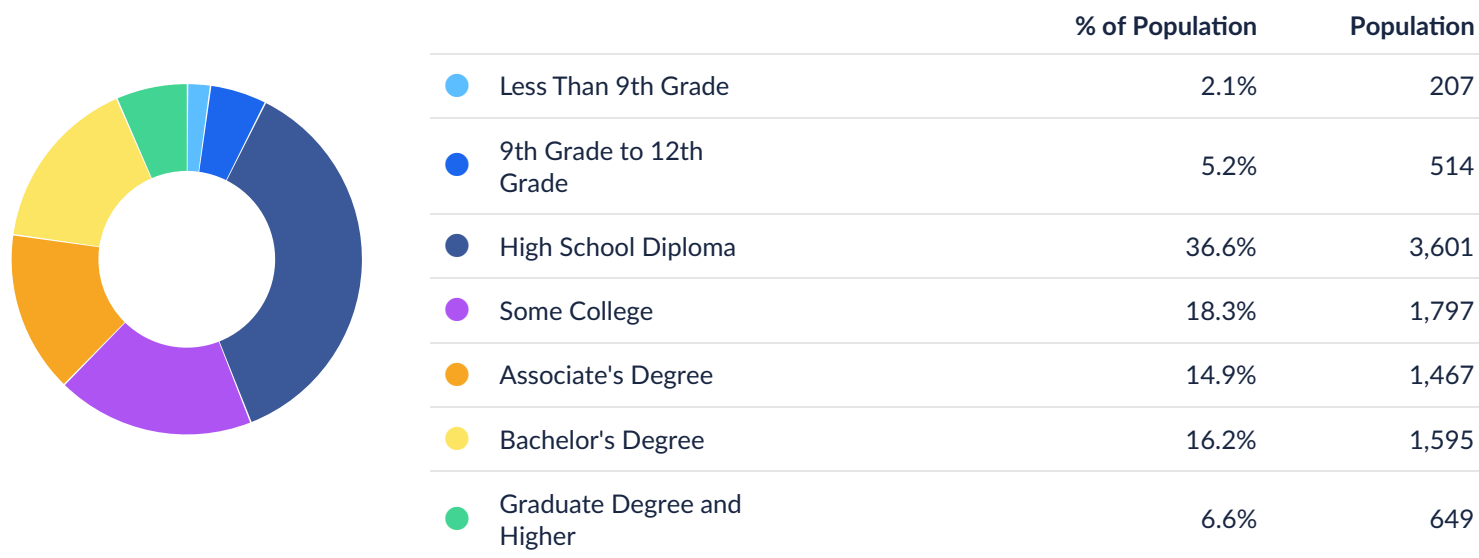
	Population (2026)	Labor Force (Jul 2026)	Jobs (2025)	Cost of Living	GRP	Imports	Exports
Region	13,417	7,328	4,294	101.3	\$655.55M	\$1.41B	\$1.04B
State	5,995,935	3,191,892	3,272,992	100.3	\$465.83B	\$405.24B	\$440.26B

Jul 2026 Labor Force Breakdown



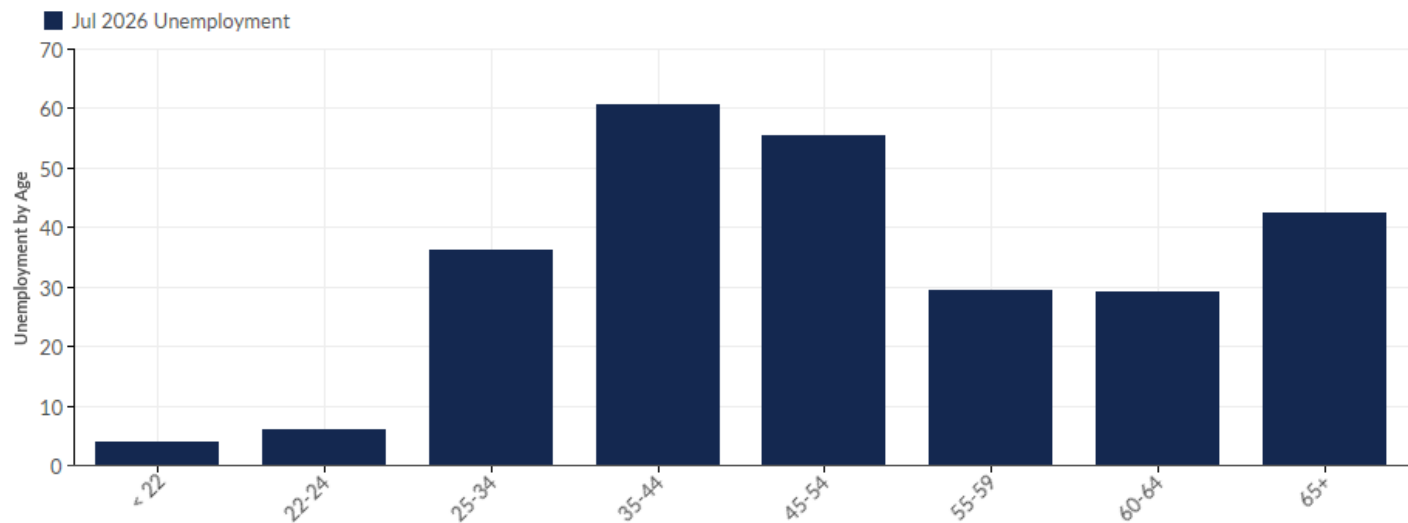
Educational Attainment

Concerning educational attainment, **16.2% of Buffalo County, WI residents possess a Bachelor's Degree** (5.6% below the national average), and **14.9% hold an Associate's Degree** (6.1% above the national average).



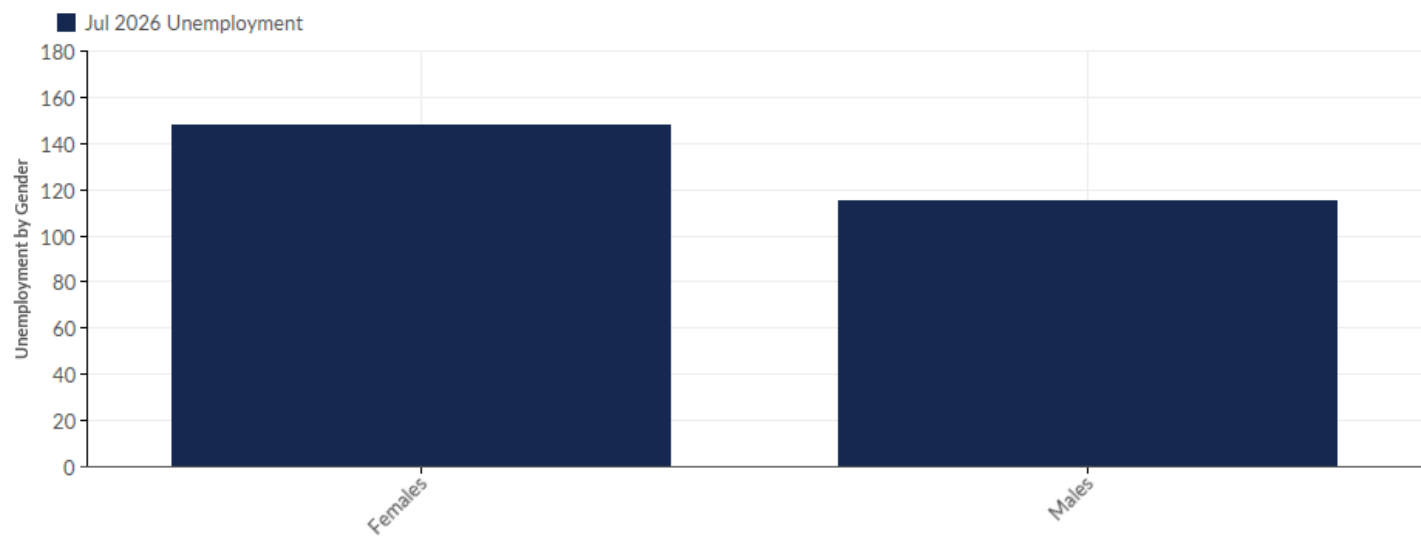
Unemployment by Demographics

Unemployment by Age



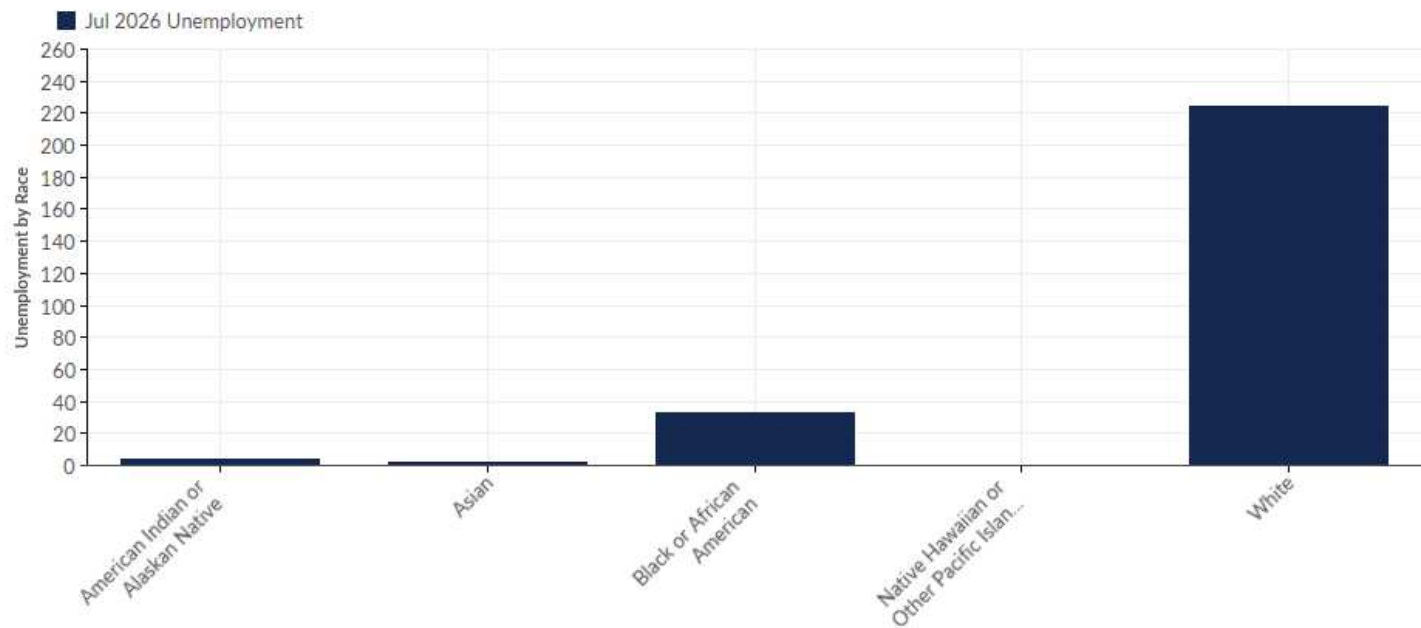
Age	Unemployment (Jul 2026)	% of Unemployed
< 22	4	1.52%
22-24	6	2.28%
25-34	36	13.69%
35-44	61	23.19%
45-54	55	20.91%
55-59	29	11.03%
60-64	29	11.03%
65+	42	15.97%
Total	263	100.00%

Unemployment by Gender



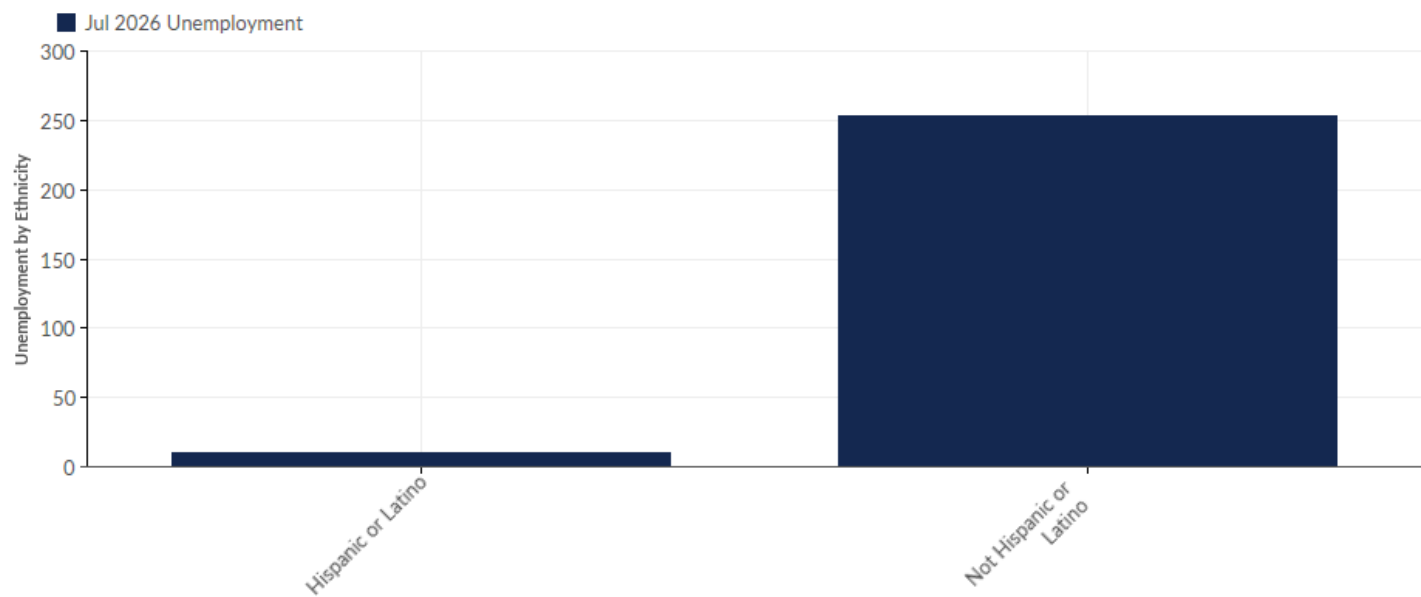
Gender	Unemployment (Jul 2026)	% of Unemployed
Females	148	56.27%
Males	115	43.73%
Total	263	100.00%

Unemployment by Race



Race	Unemployment (Jul 2026)	% of Unemployed
American Indian or Alaskan Native	4	1.52%
Asian	2	0.76%
Black or African American	33	12.55%
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	0	0.00%
White	224	85.17%
Total	263	100.00%

Unemployment by Ethnicity

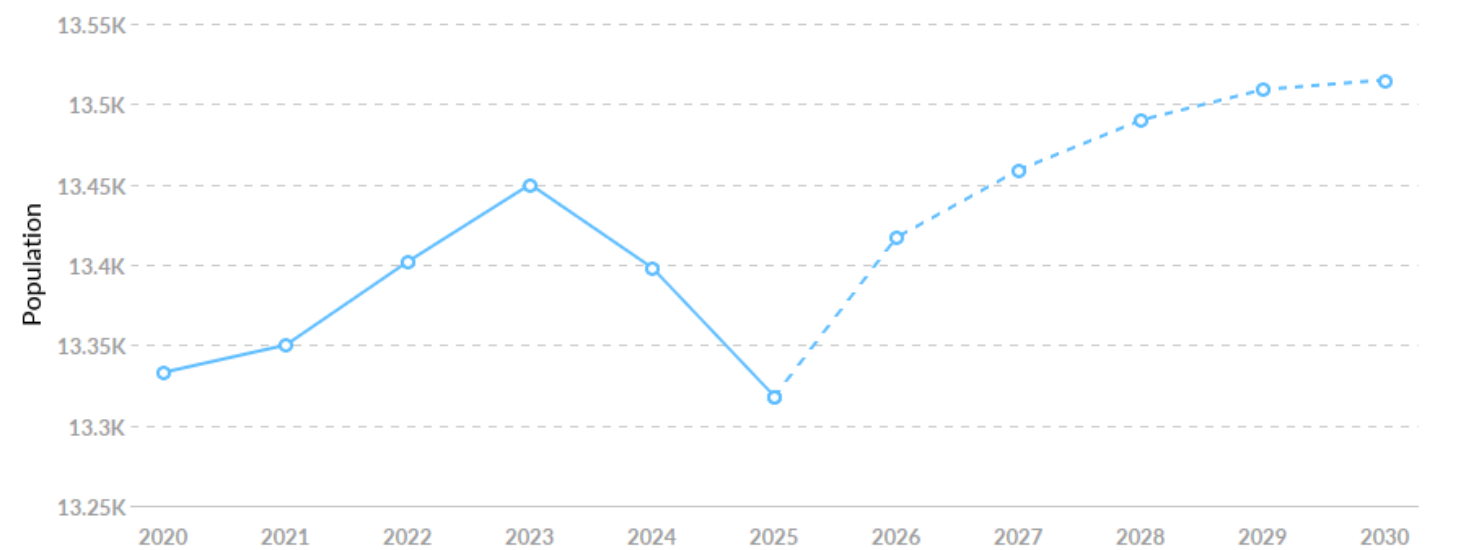


Ethnicity	Unemployment (Jul 2026)	% of Unemployed
Hispanic or Latino	10	3.80%
Not Hispanic or Latino	253	96.20%
Total	263	100.00%

Historic & Projected Trends

Population Trends

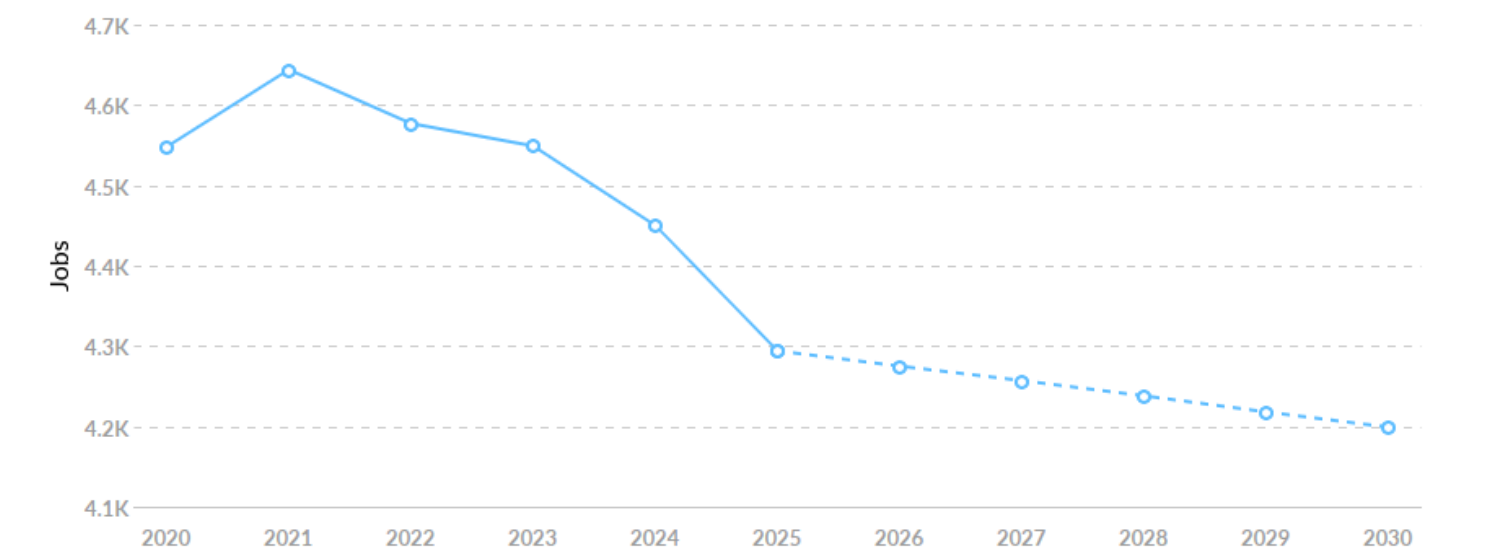
As of 2025 the region's population **declined by 0.1%** since 2020, falling by 15. Population is expected to **increase by 1.5%** between 2025 and 2030, adding 197.



Timeframe	Population
2020	13,333
2021	13,350
2022	13,402
2023	13,450
2024	13,398
2025	13,318
2026	13,417
2027	13,459
2028	13,490
2029	13,509
2030	13,515

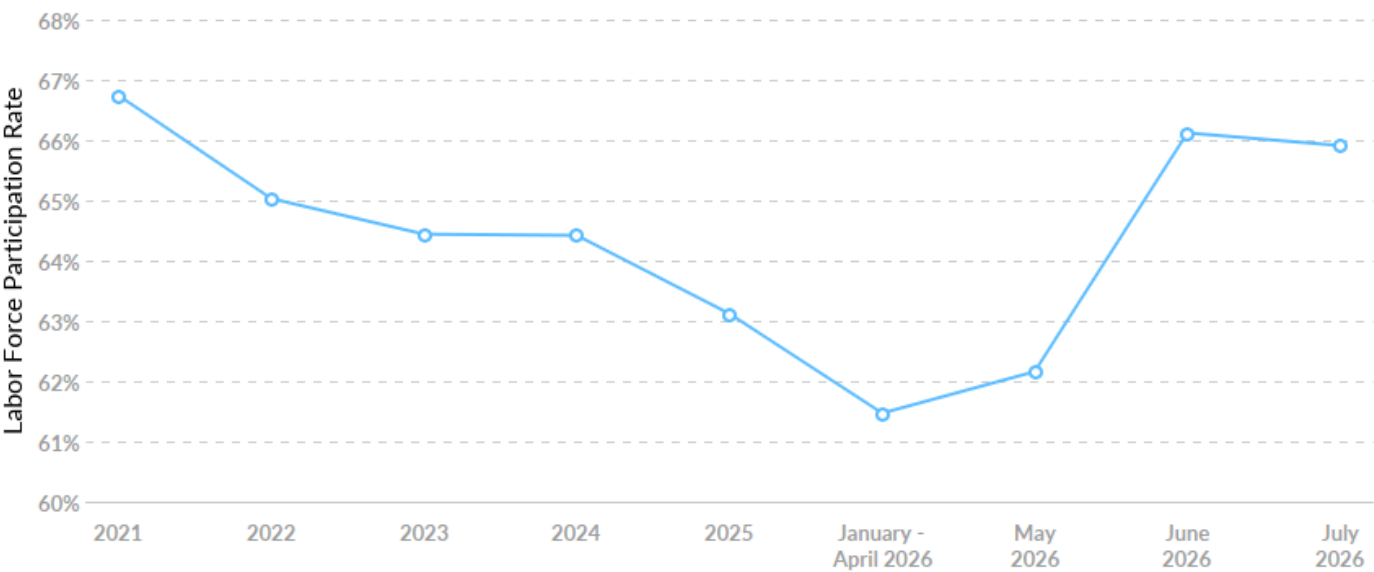
Job Trends

From 2020 to 2025, jobs **declined by 5.6%** in Buffalo County, WI from 4,548 to **4,294**. This change **fell short of the national growth rate of 10.7% by 16.3%**.



Timeframe	Jobs
2020	4,548
2021	4,644
2022	4,577
2023	4,549
2024	4,450
2025	4,294
2026	4,275
2027	4,257
2028	4,238
2029	4,218
2030	4,199

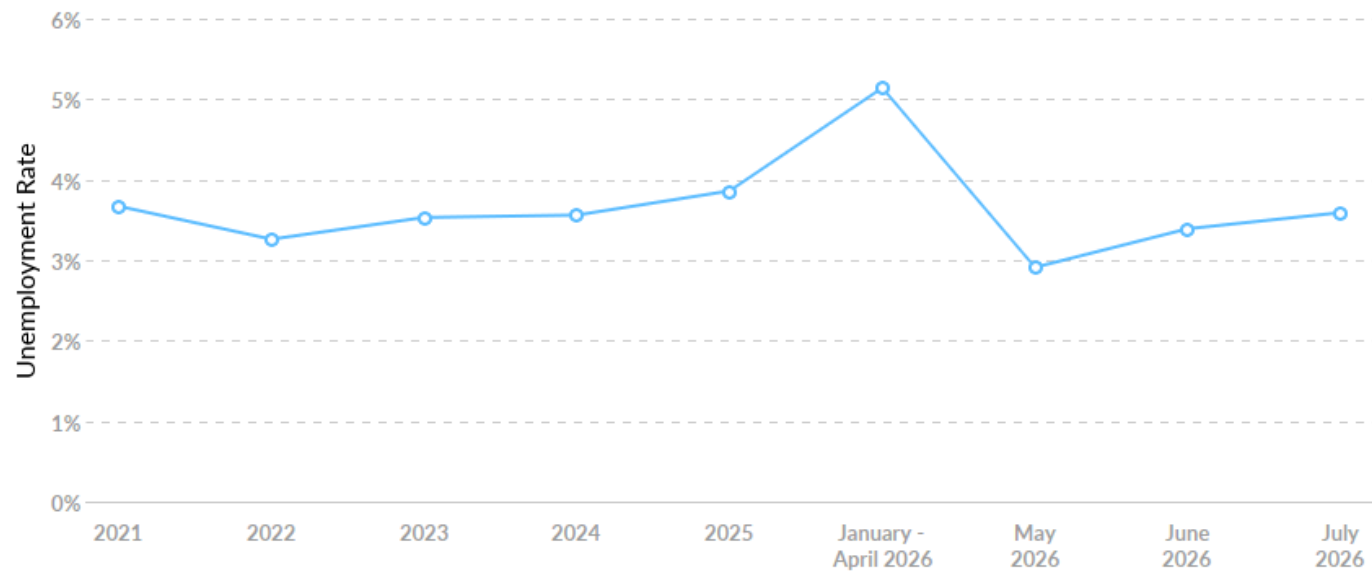
Labor Force Participation Rate Trends



Timeframe	Labor Force Participation Rate
2021	66.74%
2022	65.03%
2023	64.44%
2024	64.42%
2025	63.12%
January - April 2026	61.47%
May 2026	62.16%
June 2026	66.12%
July 2026	65.91%

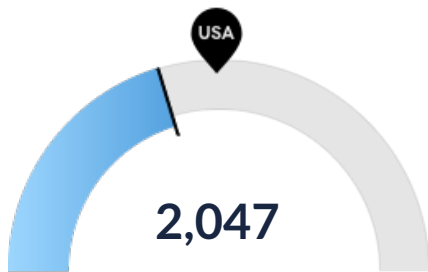
Unemployment Rate Trends

Buffalo County, WI had a July 2026 unemployment rate of 3.59%, **decreasing from 3.67%** 5 years before.



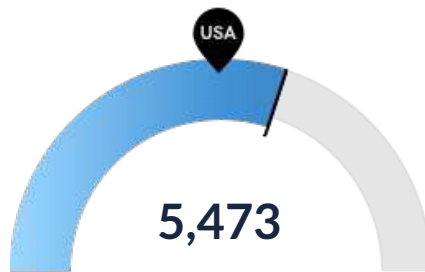
Timeframe	Unemployment Rate
2021	3.67%
2022	3.26%
2023	3.53%
2024	3.56%
2025	3.86%
January - April 2026	5.14%
May 2026	2.91%
June 2026	3.39%
July 2026	3.59%

Population Characteristics



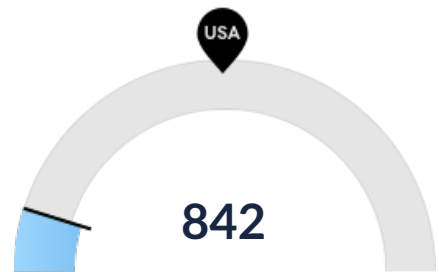
Millennials

Buffalo County, WI has 2,047 millennials (ages 25-39). The national average for an area this size is 2,717.



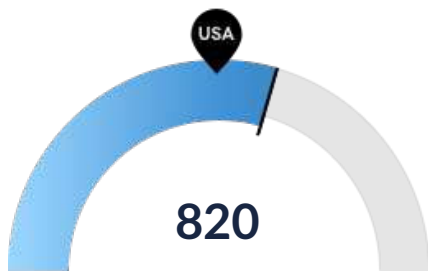
Retiring Soon

Retirement risk is high in Buffalo County, WI. The national average for an area this size is 4,123 people 55 or older, while there are 5,473 here.



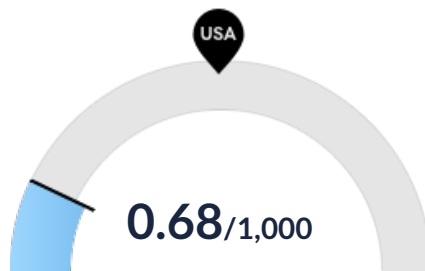
Racial Diversity

Racial diversity is low in Buffalo County, WI. The national average for an area this size is 5,846 racially diverse people, while there are 842 here.



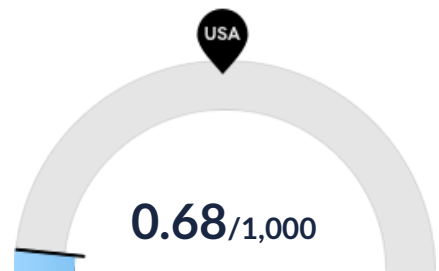
Veterans

Buffalo County, WI has 820 veterans. The national average for an area this size is 638.



Violent Crime

Buffalo County, WI has 0.68 violent crimes per 1,000 people. The national rate is 3.1 per 1,000 people.

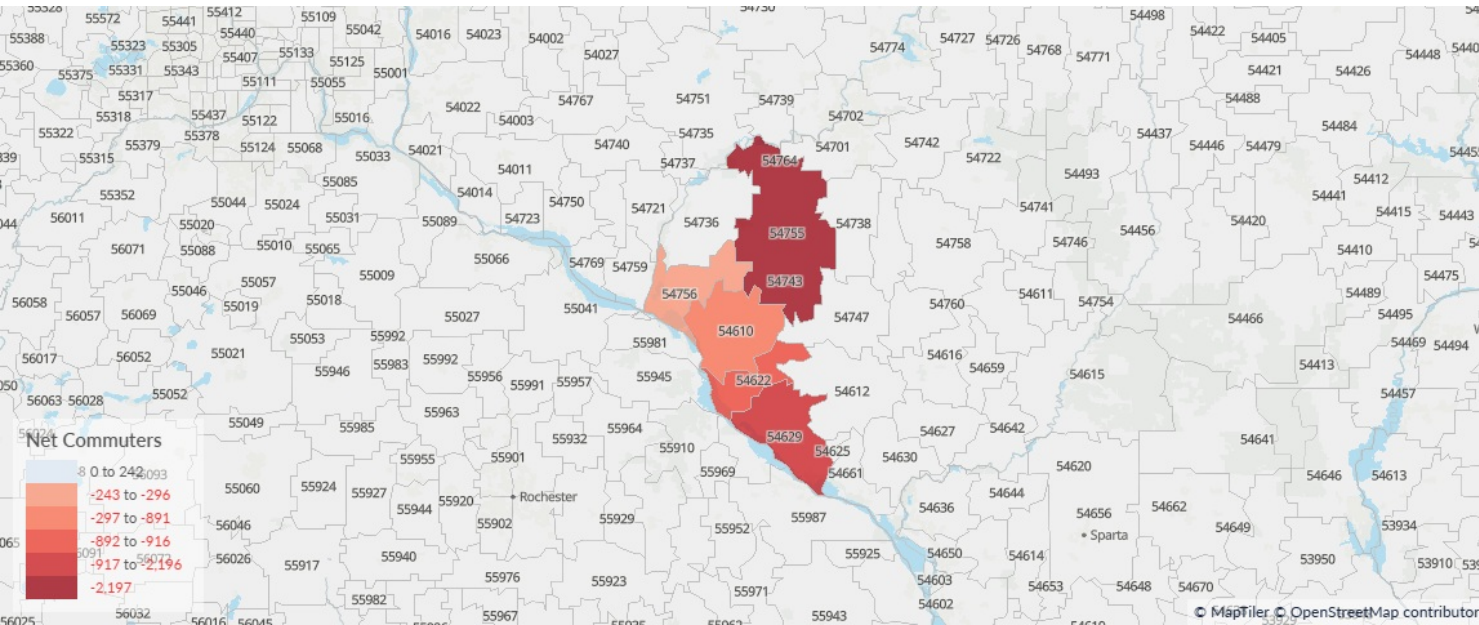


Property Crime

Buffalo County, WI has 0.68 property crimes per 1,000 people. The national rate is 14.58 per 1,000 people.

Place of Work vs Place of Residence

Understanding where talent in Buffalo County, WI currently works compared to where talent lives can help you optimize site decisions.

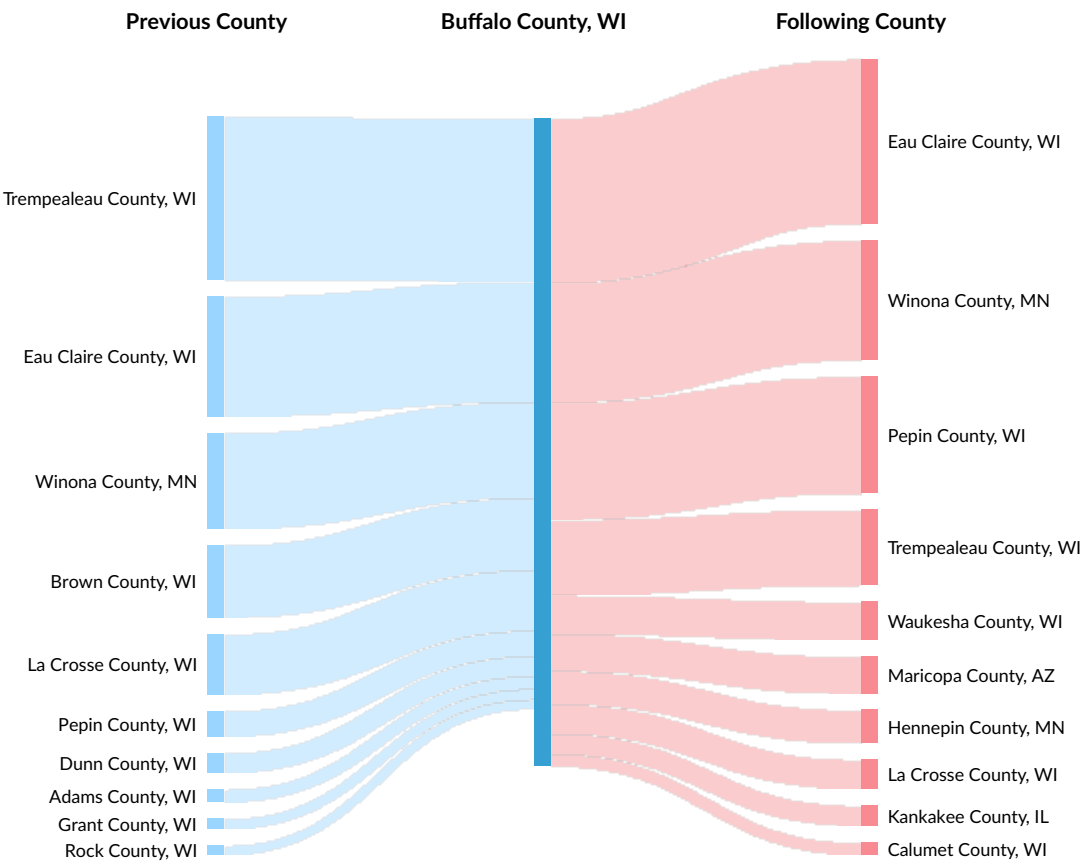


Where Talent Works			Where Talent Lives		
ZIP	Name	2025 Employment	ZIP	Name	2025 Workers
54755	Mondovi, WI (in Buffalo...	2,082	54755	Mondovi, WI (in Buffalo...	4,279
54629	Fountain City, WI (in Bu...	748	54629	Fountain City, WI (in Bu...	1,665
54610	Alma, WI (in Buffalo cou...	693	54622	Cochrane, WI (in Buffal...	1,338
54622	Cochrane, WI (in Buffal...	446	54610	Alma, WI (in Buffalo cou...	990
54756	Nelson, WI (in Buffalo c...	279	54756	Nelson, WI (in Buffalo c...	522

Inbound and Outbound Migration

The table below analyzes past and current residents of Buffalo County, WI. The left column shows residents of other counties migrating to Buffalo County, WI. The right column shows residents migrating from Buffalo County, WI to other counties.

As of 2023, 79 people have migrated from Trempealeau County, WI to Buffalo County, WI. In the same year, 80 people left Buffalo County, WI migrating to Eau Claire County, WI. The total Net Migration for Buffalo County, WI in 2023 was 23.

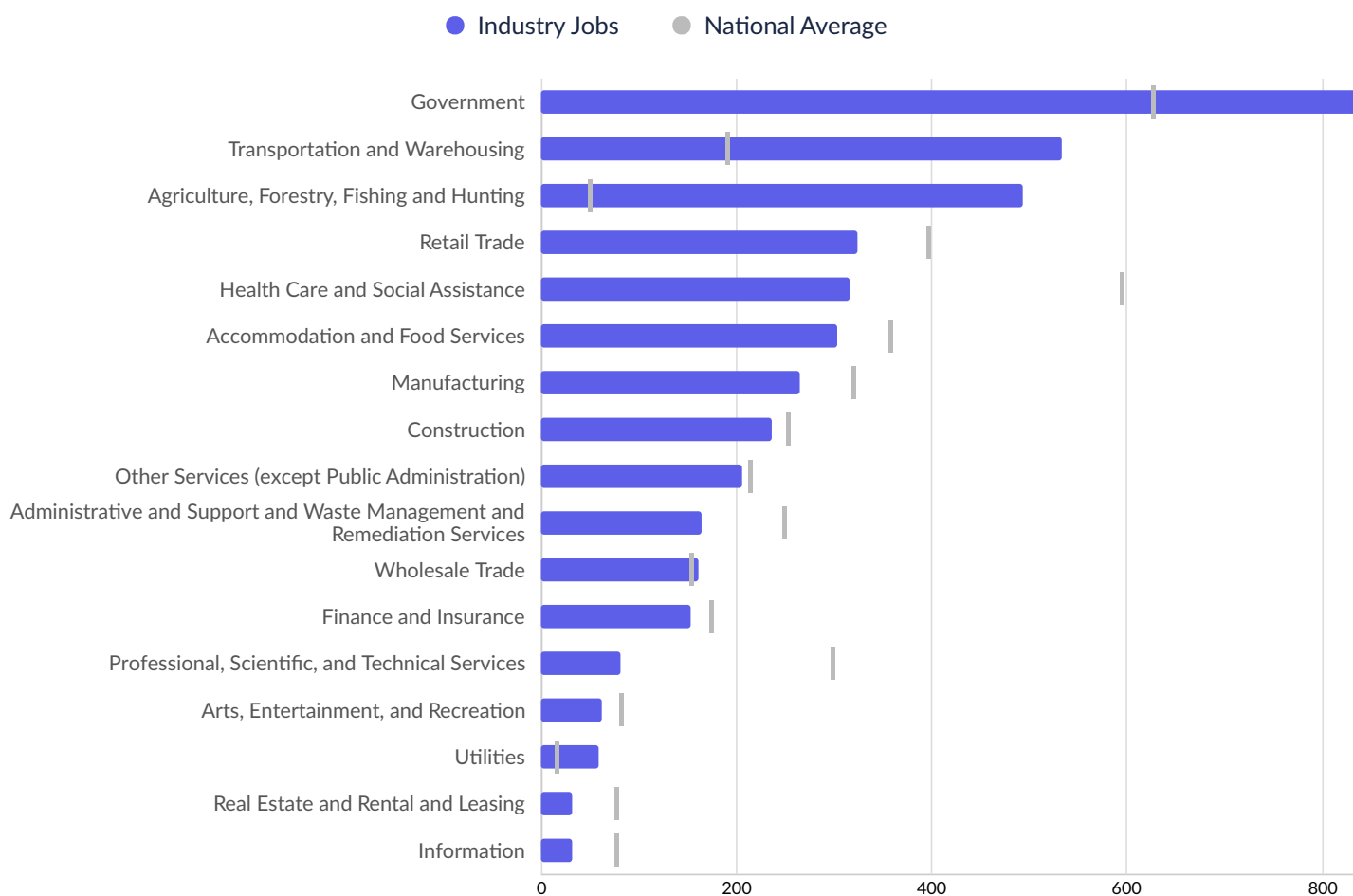


Top Previous Counties	Migrations
Trempealeau County, WI	79
Eau Claire County, WI	58
Winona County, MN	46
Brown County, WI	35
La Crosse County, WI	29
Pepin County, WI	12

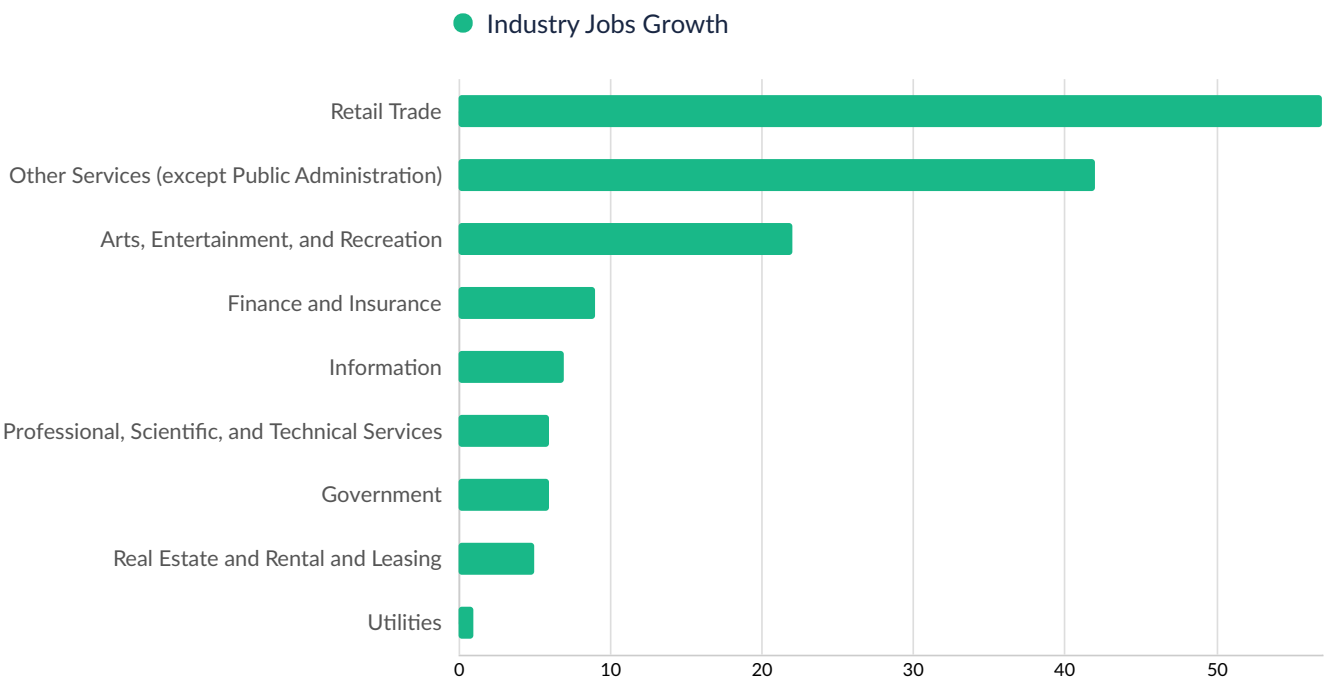
Top Previous Counties	Migrations
Dunn County, WI	10
Adams County, WI	6
Grant County, WI	5
Rock County, WI	5
Portage County, WI	5
Outagamie County, WI	4
Oneida County, WI	4
Wood County, WI	4
Marathon County, WI	4
Top Following Counties	Migrations
Eau Claire County, WI	80
Winona County, MN	58
Pepin County, WI	56
Trempealeau County, WI	36
Waukesha County, WI	19
Maricopa County, AZ	18
Hennepin County, MN	16
La Crosse County, WI	14
Kankakee County, IL	10
Calumet County, WI	6
Kitsap County, WA	6
Columbia County, WI	6
Polk County, IA	5
Dodge County, WI	5
Fond du Lac County, WI	5

Industry Characteristics

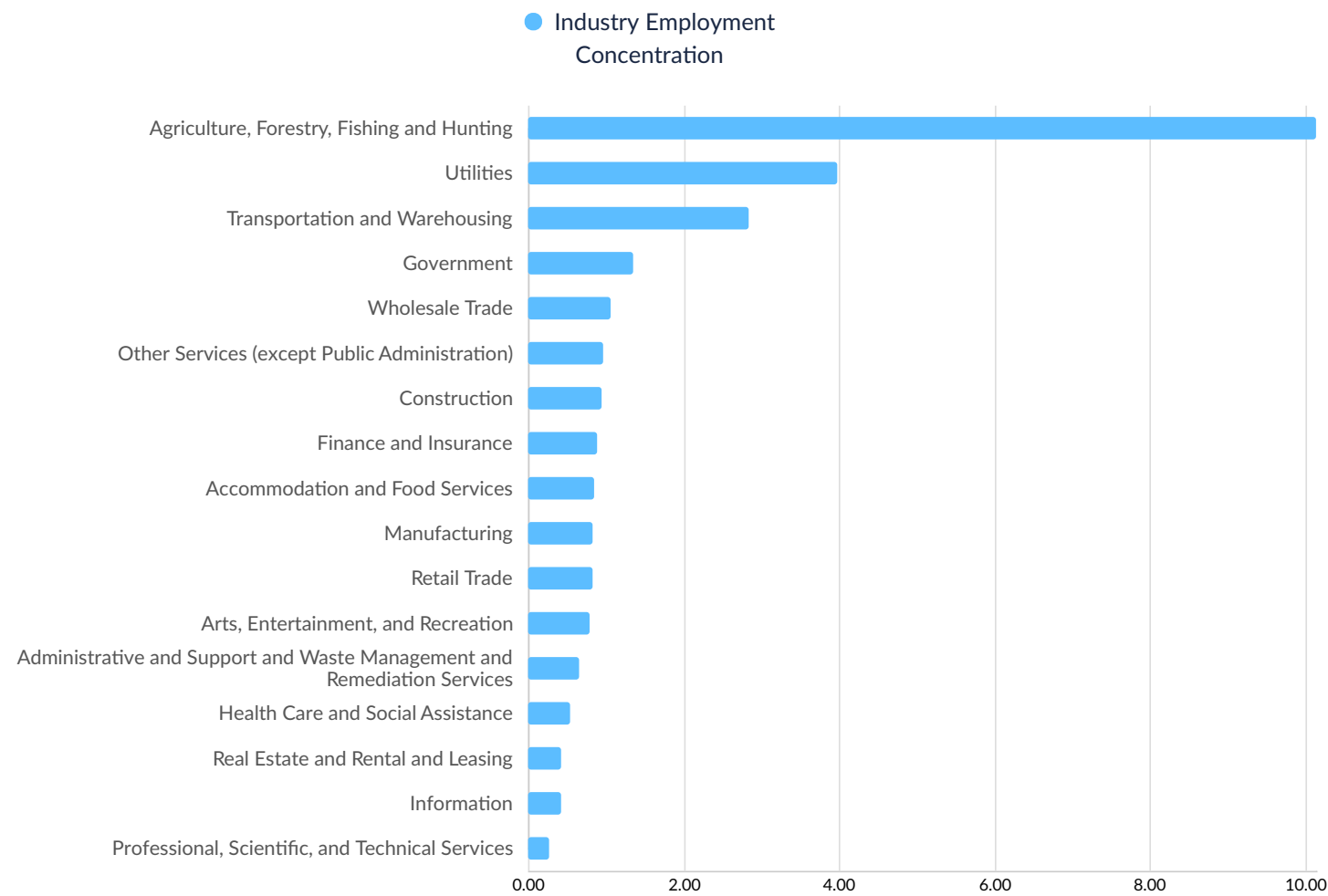
Largest Industries



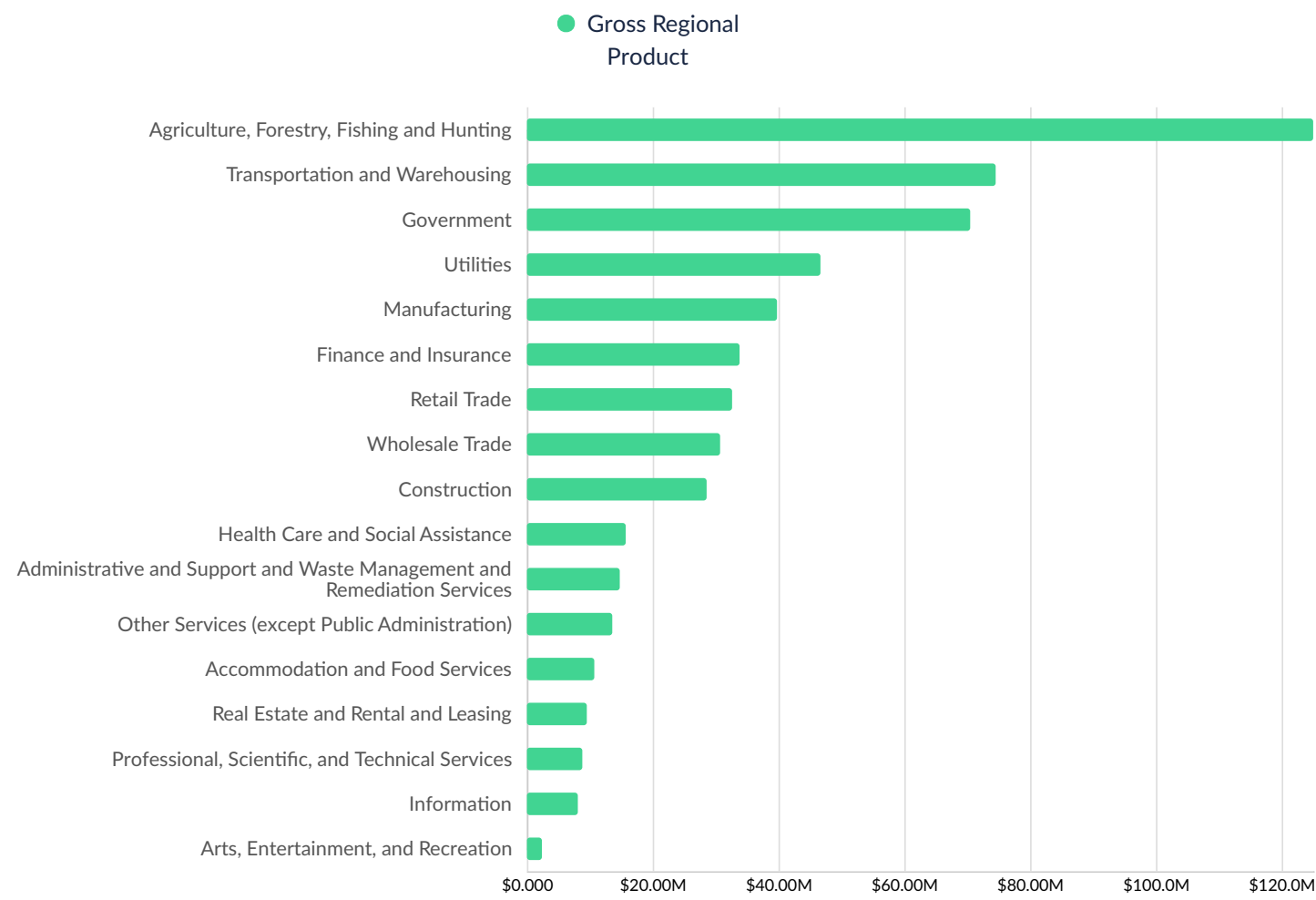
Top Growing Industries



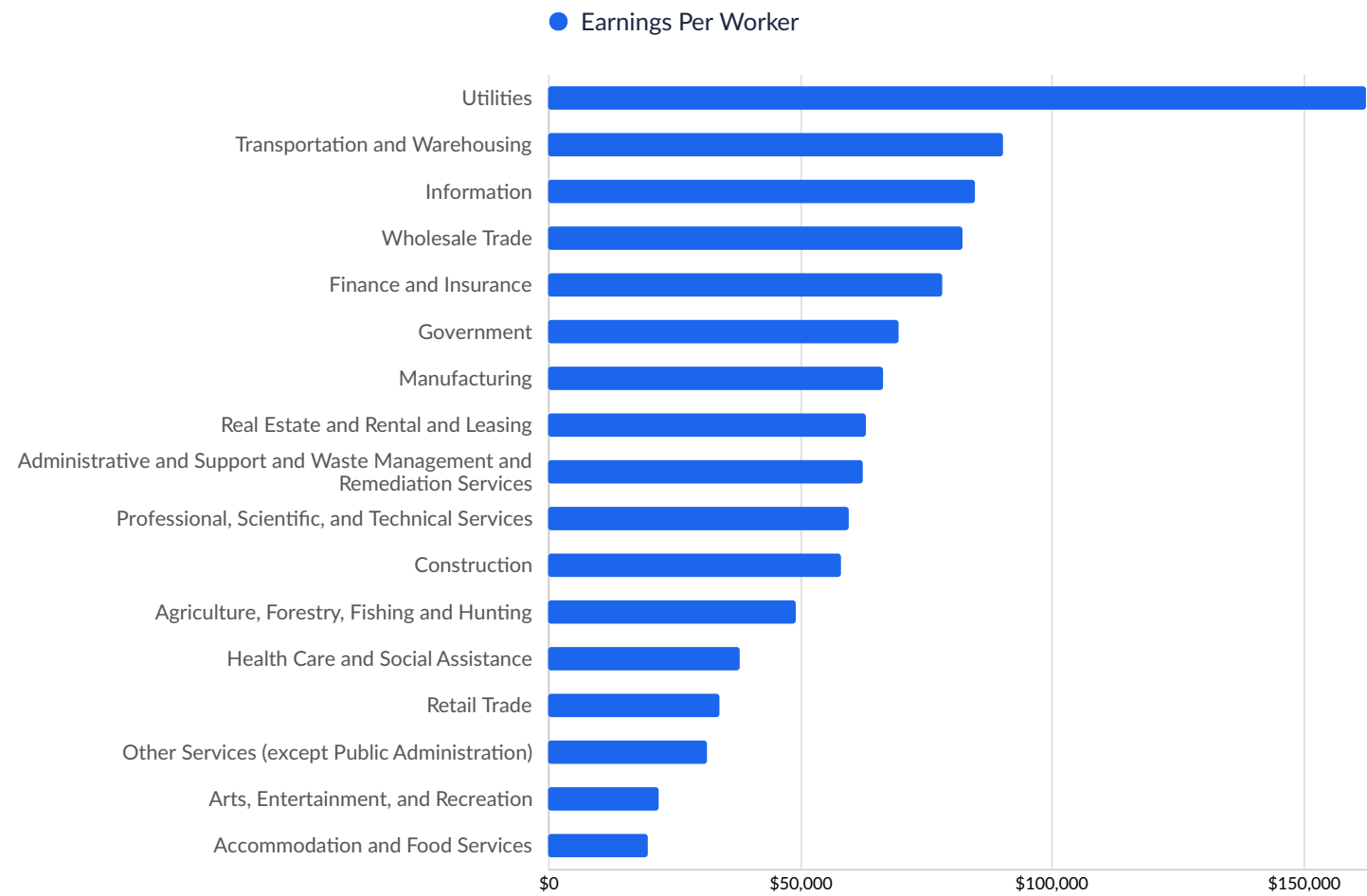
Top Industry Employment Concentration



Top Industry GRP



Top Industry Earnings



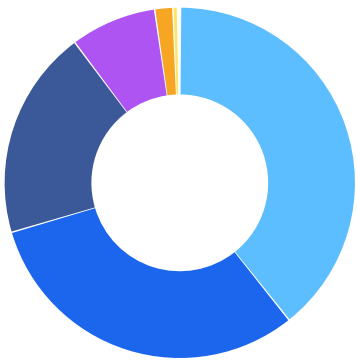
Business Characteristics

1,019 Companies Employ Your Workers

Online profiles for your workers mention 1,019 companies as employers, with the top 10 appearing below. In the last 12 months, 129 companies in Buffalo County, WI posted job postings, with the top 10 appearing below.

Top Companies	Profiles	Top Companies Posting	Unique Postings
Marten Transport	128	Marten Transport	47
Ashley Furniture	50	Ashley Furniture	26
Mayo Clinic	47	American Lutheran Homes	17
Fastenal	28	Walmart	17
Dairyland Power Cooperative	26	Kwik Trip	16
School District Of Mondovi	25	Sevita	12
Midwest Dental	20	Erie Co Home	11
Buffalo County Wisconsin	19	Mcc	10
Winona Health	19	Dairyland Power Cooperative	9
Menards	15	GPAC	9

Business Size



	Percentage	Business Count
1 to 4 employees	39.2%	282
5 to 9 employees	31.2%	224
10 to 19 employees	19.3%	139
20 to 49 employees	7.9%	57
50 to 99 employees	1.7%	12
100 to 249 employees	0.4%	3
250 to 499 employees	0.1%	1
500+ employees	0.1%	1

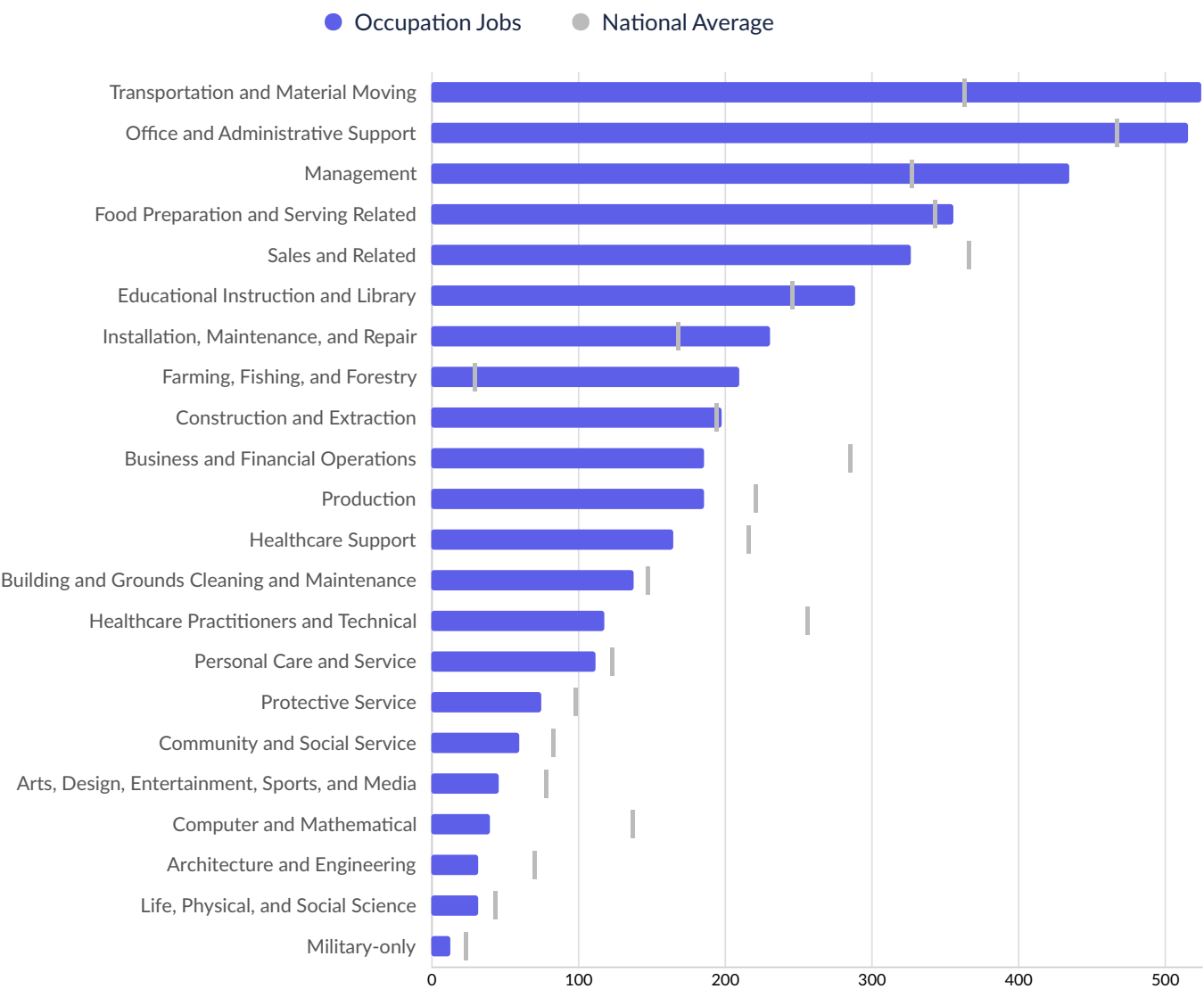
**Business Data by DatabaseUSA.com is third-party data provided by Lightcast to its customers as a convenience, and Lightcast does not endorse or warrant its accuracy or consistency with other published Lightcast data. In most cases, the Business Count will not match total companies with profiles on the summary tab.*

Layoff Activity (Reported WARN Notices)

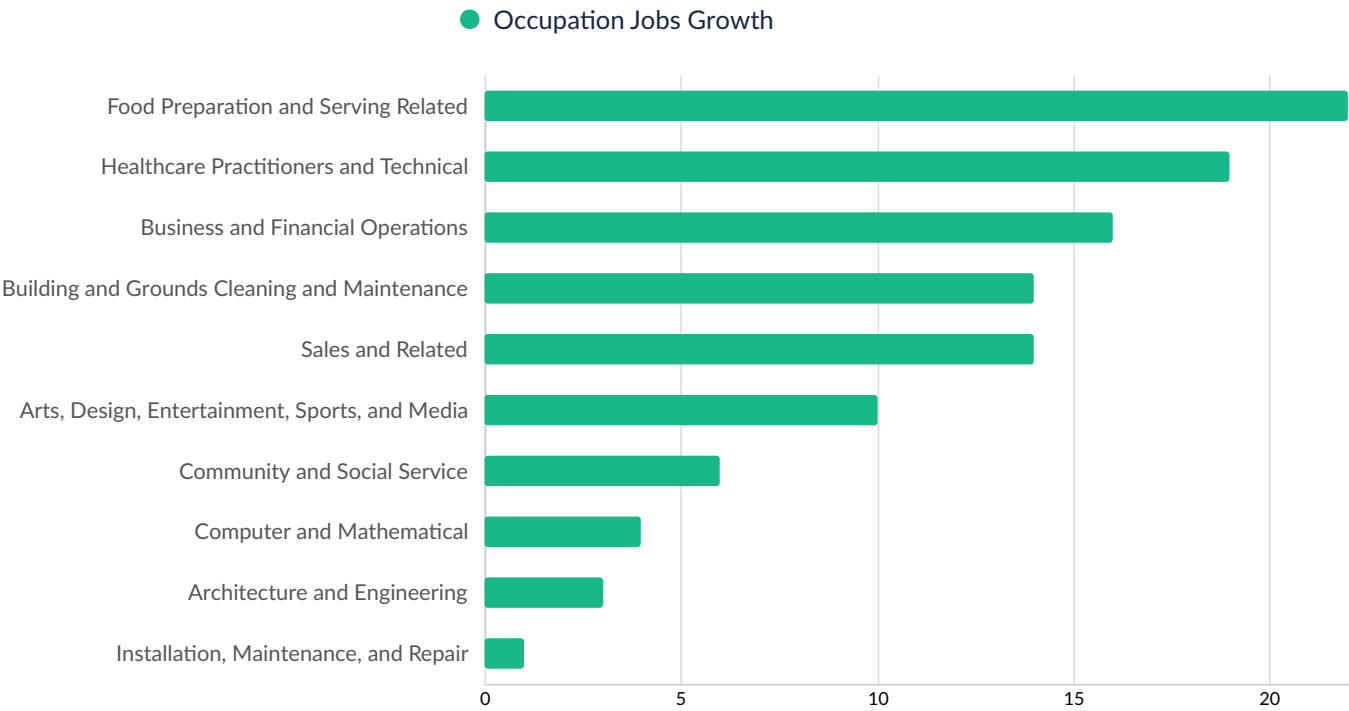
No WARN layoff events were found for the selected region and time period.

Workforce Characteristics

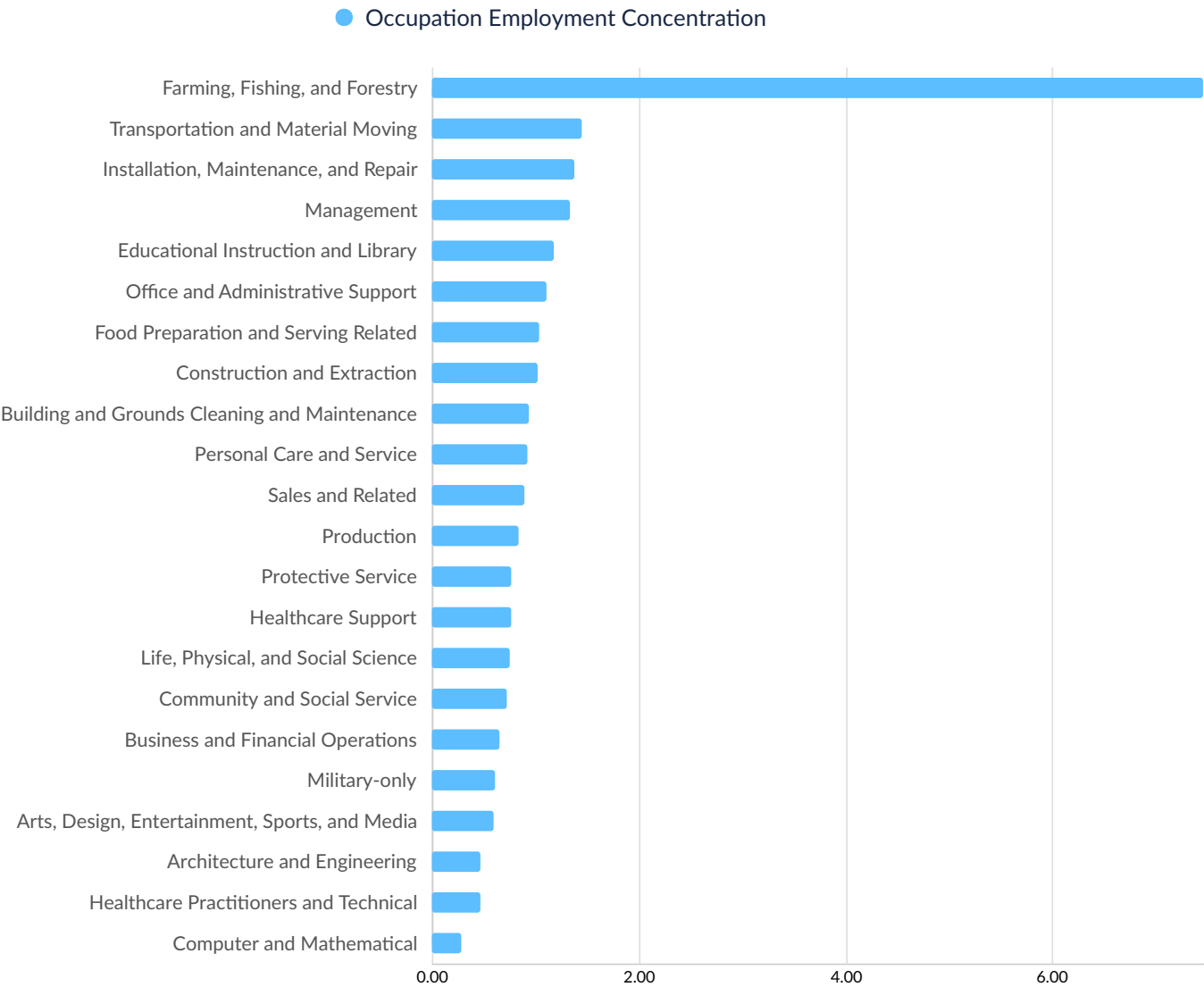
Largest Occupations



Top Growing Occupations



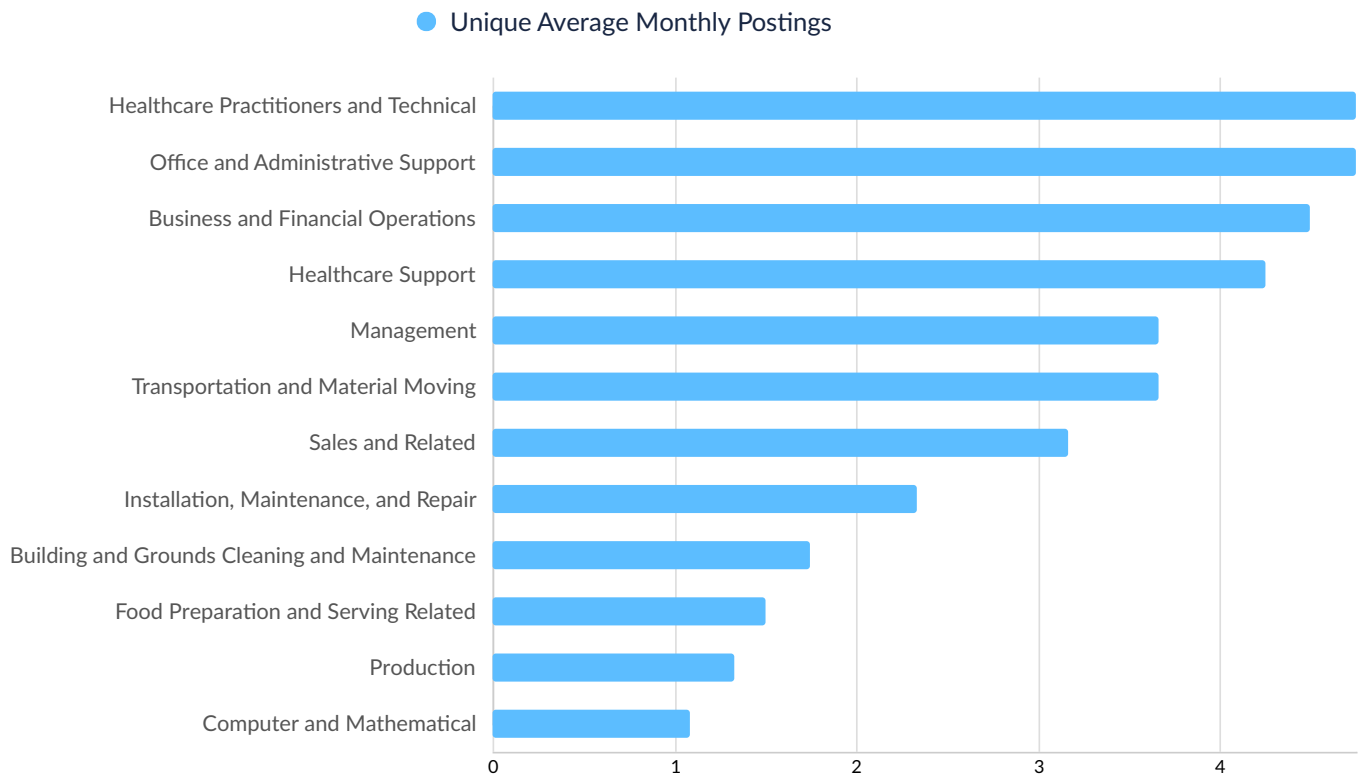
Top Occupation Employment Concentration



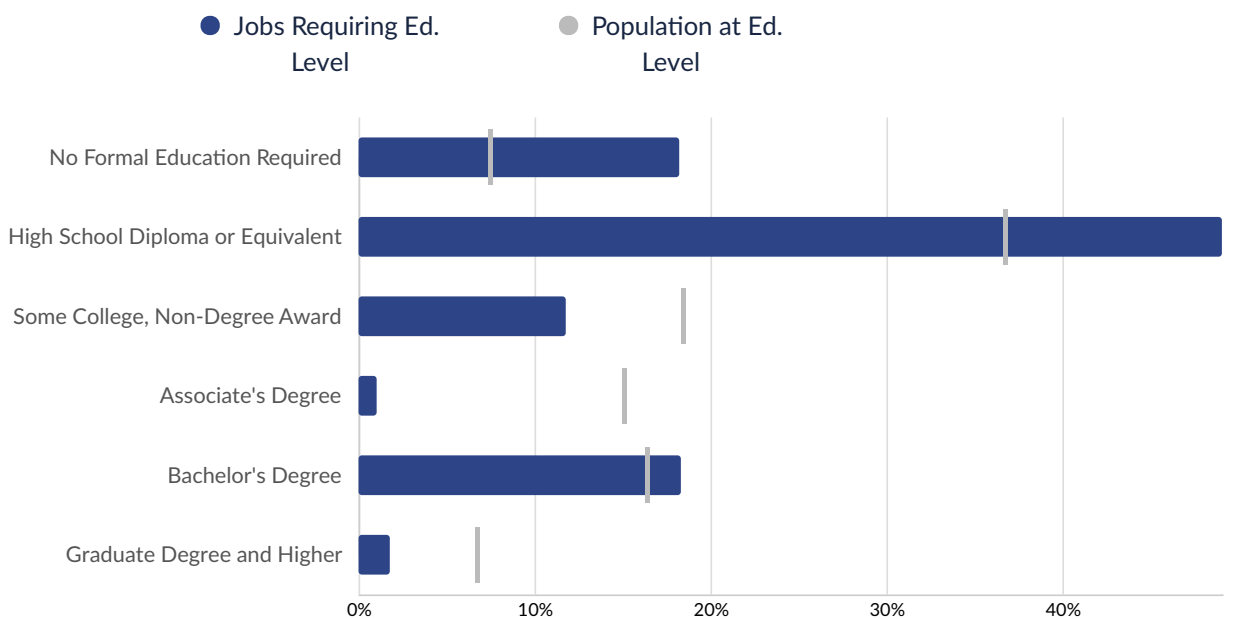
Top Occupation Earnings



Top Posted Occupations



Underemployment



Educational Pipeline

Over the last 5 years, no schools in Buffalo County, WI produced graduates.

In-Demand Skills

