

Lincoln County, WI

North Central Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission



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Contents

Report Parameters	1
Economy Overview	2
Unemployment by Demographics	4
Historic & Projected Trends	3
Population Characteristics	2
Inbound and Outbound Migration	1
Industry Characteristics	
Business Characteristics	1
Workforce Characteristics 23	
Educational Pipeline	7
In-Demand Skills)



Report Parameters

1 County

55069 Lincoln 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

28,622

Population (2024)

Population grew by 1,026 over the last 5 years and is projected to grow by 683 over the next 5 years. 11,523

Total Regional Employment

Jobs decreased by 611 over the last 5 years and are projected to decrease by 56 over the next 5 years.

\$64.3K

Median Household Income (2022)

Median household income is **\$10.8K below** the national median household income of \$75.1K.

Takeaways

- As of 2024 the region's population increased by 3.7% since 2019, growing by 1,026. Population is expected to increase by 2.4% between 2024 and 2029, adding 683.
- From 2019 to 2024, jobs declined by 5.0% in Lincoln County, WI from 12,134 to 11,523. This change fell short of the national growth rate of 3.9% by 8.9%. As the number of jobs declined, the labor force participation rate decreased from 66.1% to 60.2% between 2019 and 2024.
- Concerning educational attainment, **13.1% of Lincoln County**, **WI residents possess a Bachelor's Degree** (8.4% below the national average), and **11.1% hold an Associate's Degree** (2.2% above the national average).
- The top three industries in 2024 are Education and Hospitals (Local Government), Insurance Carriers, and Restaurants and Other Eating Places.

	Population (2024)	Labor Force (Oct 2024)	Jobs (2024)	Cost of Living	GRP	Imports	Exports
Region	28,622	14,328	11,523	100.2	\$1.38B	\$2.47B	\$2.03B
State	5,932,800	3,179,316	3,252,259	100.2	\$422.54B	\$383.58B	\$412.93B

Oct 2024 Labor Force Breakdown



Educational Attainment

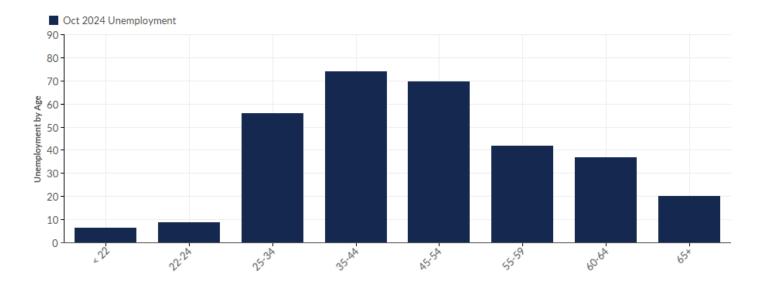
Concerning educational attainment, **13.1% of Lincoln County, WI residents possess a Bachelor's Degree** (8.4% below the national average), and **11.1% hold an Associate's Degree** (2.2% above the national average).

	% of Population	Population
Less Than 9th Grade	2.7%	594
 9th Grade to 12th Grade 	4.7%	1,029
High School Diploma	43.8%	9,588
Some College	18.4%	4,023
Associate's Degree	11.1%	2,435
Bachelor's Degree	13.1%	2,858
Graduate Degree and Higher	6.3%	1,370
	 9th Grade to 12th Grade High School Diploma Some College Associate's Degree Bachelor's Degree Graduate Degree and 	 Less Than 9th Grade 9th Grade to 12th Grade High School Diploma Some College Associate's Degree Bachelor's Degree Graduate Degree and 6 3%



Unemployment by Demographics

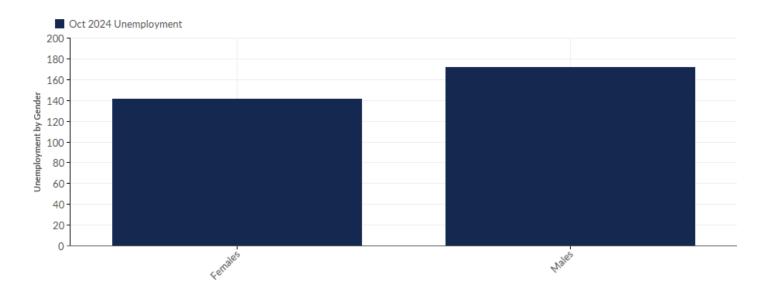
Unemployment by Age



Age	Unem (ployment Oct 2024)	% of Unemployed
< 22		6	1.92%
22-24		9	2.88%
25-34		56	17.89%
35-44		74	23.64%
45-54		69	22.04%
55-59		42	13.42%
60-64		37	11.82%
65+		20	6.39%
	Total	313	100.00%

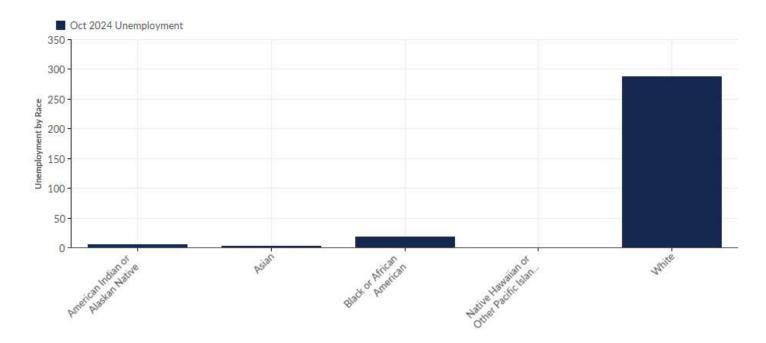
Lightcast Q1 2025 Data Set | lightcast.io

Unemployment by Gender



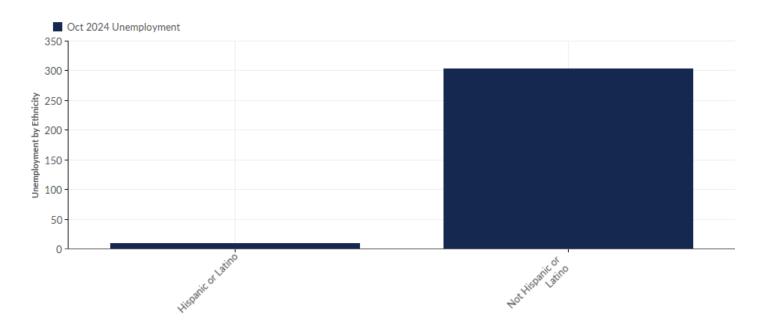
Gender	Un	employment (Oct 2024)	% of Unemployed
Females		141	45.05%
Males		172	54.95%
	Total	313	100.00%

Unemployment by Race



Race	Unemployment (Oct 2024)	% of Unemployed
American Indian or Alaskan Native	5	1.60%
Asian	3	0.96%
Black or African American	18	5.75%
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	0	0.00%
White	287	91.69%
То	tal 313	100.00%

Unemployment by Ethnicity



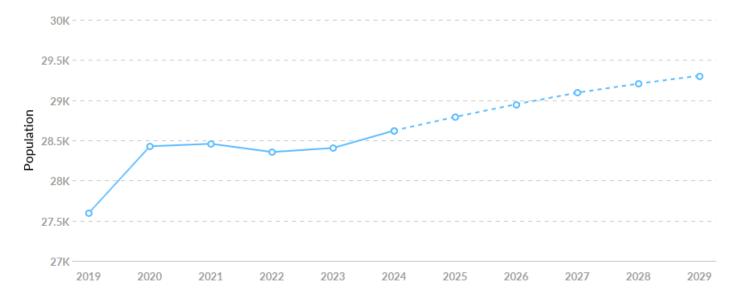
Ethnicity	Unemployment (Oct 2024)	% of Unemployed
Hispanic or Latino	9	2.88%
Not Hispanic or Latino	304	97.12%
Tot	al 313	100.00%



Historic & Projected Trends

Population Trends

As of 2024 the region's population **increased by 3.7%** since 2019, growing by 1,026. Population is expected to **increase by 2.4%** between 2024 and 2029, adding 683.



Timeframe	Population
2019	27,596
2020	28,426
2021	28,457
2022	28,355
2023	28,405
2024	28,622
2025	28,792
2026	28,950
2027	29,094
2028	29,206
2029	29,305

Job Trends

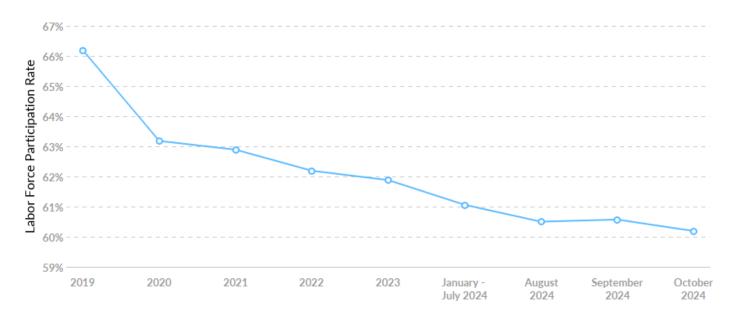
11.6K

11.4K

11.2K



From 2019 to 2024, jobs declined by 5.0% in Lincoln County, WI from 12,134 to 11,523. This change fell short of the national growth rate of 3.9% by 8.9%.



Labor Force Participation Rate Trends

Timeframe Labor Force Participation Rate 2019 66.19% 2020 63.18% 2021 62.89% 2022 62.19% 2023 61.88% January - July 2024 61.06% August 2024 60.50% September 2024 60.57% October 2024 60.19%



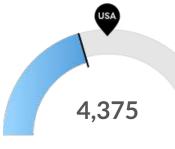
Unemployment Rate Trends

Lincoln County, WI had an October 2024 unemployment rate of 2.18%, decreasing from 3.56% 5 years before.



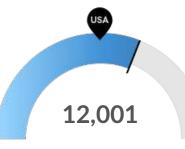


Population Characteristics



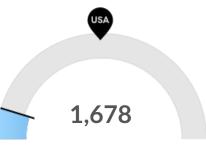
Millennials

Lincoln County, WI has 4,375 millennials (ages 25-39). The national average for an area this size is 5,771.



Retiring Soon

Retirement risk is high in Lincoln County, WI. The national average for an area this size is 8,575 people 55 or older, while there are 12,001 here.

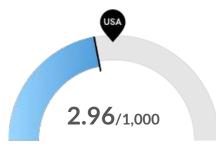


Racial Diversity

Racial diversity is low in Lincoln County, WI. The national average for an area this size is 11,830 racially diverse people, while there are 1,678 here.



Lincoln County, WI has 1,571 veterans. The national average for an area this size is 1,450.



Violent Crime

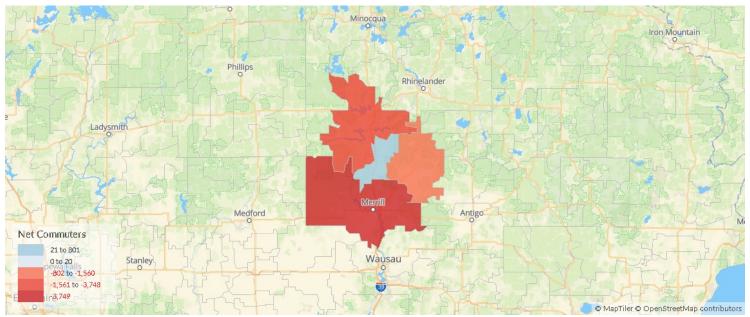
Lincoln County, WI has 2.96 violent crimes per 1,000 people. The national rate is 3.54 per 1,000 people.



Lincoln County, WI has 13.45 property crimes per 1,000 people. The national rate is 18.02 per 1,000 people.

Place of Work vs Place of Residence

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



Where Talent Works

ZIP	Name	2024 Employment
54452	Merrill, WI (in Lincoln c	6,613
54487	Tomahawk, WI (in Linco	3,911
54442	Irma, WI (in Lincoln cou	640
54435	Gleason, WI (in Lincoln	336
54532	Heafford Junction, WI (i	23

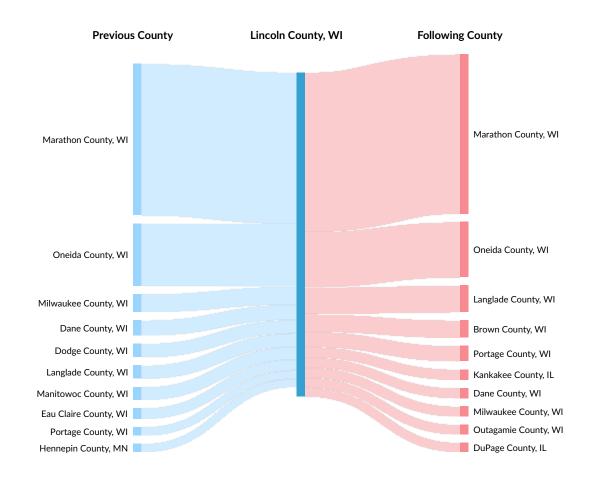
Where Talent Lives

ZIP	Name	2024 Workers
54452	Merrill, WI (in Lincoln c	10,362
54487	Tomahawk, WI (in Linco	5,472
54435	Gleason, WI (in Lincoln	1,139
54442	Irma, WI (in Lincoln cou	619
54532	Heafford Junction, WI (i	23

Inbound and Outbound Migration

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

As of 2022, 282 people have migrated from Marathon County, WI to Lincoln County, WI. In the same year, 297 people left Lincoln County, WI migrating to Marathon County, WI. The total Net Migration for Lincoln County, WI in 2022 was 171.



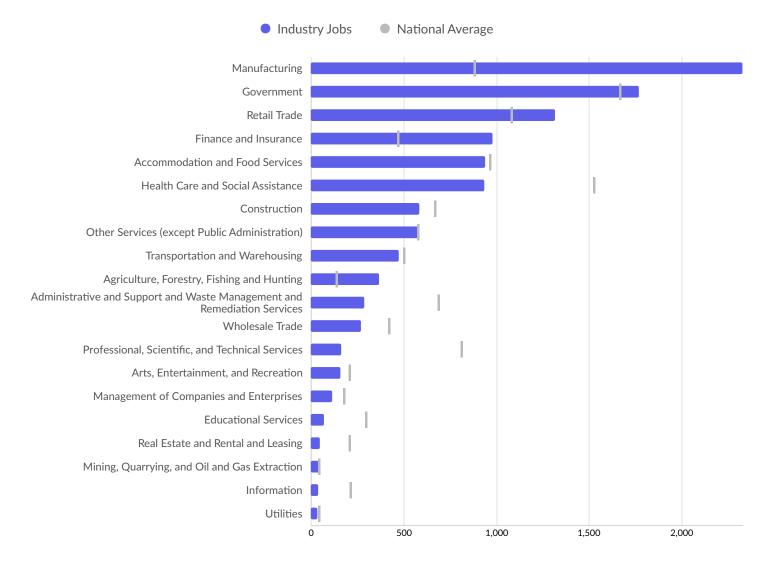
Top Previous Counties	Migrations
Marathon County, WI	282
Oneida County, WI	116
Milwaukee County, WI	33
Dane County, WI	28
Dodge County, WI	25
Langlade County, WI	25

Lightcast Q1 2025 Data Set | lightcast.io

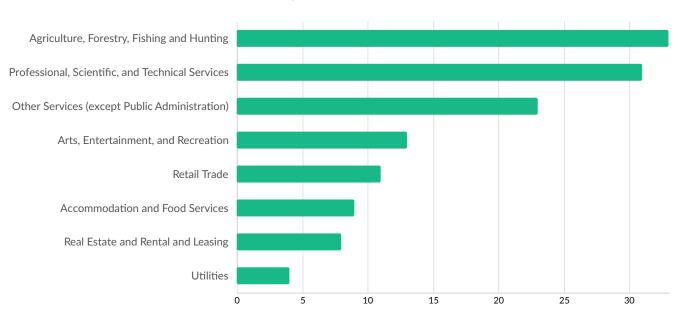
Top Previous Counties	Migrations
Manitowoc County, WI	24
Eau Claire County, WI	20
Portage County, WI	16
Hennepin County, MN	15
Pine County, MN	15
Jefferson County, WI	14
Taylor County, WI	14
Onslow County, NC	14
Montgomery County, MO	13
Top Following Counties	Migrations
Marathon County, WI	297
Oneida County, WI	103
Langlade County, WI	50
Brown County, WI	33
Portage County, WI	28
Kankakee County, IL	20
Dane County, WI	19
Milwaukee County, WI	19
Outagamie County, WI	18
DuPage County, IL	17
Polk County, FL	16
Tazewell County, IL	15
Columbia County, WI	13
Monroe County, WI	12
Waukesha County, WI	12

Industry Characteristics

Largest Industries

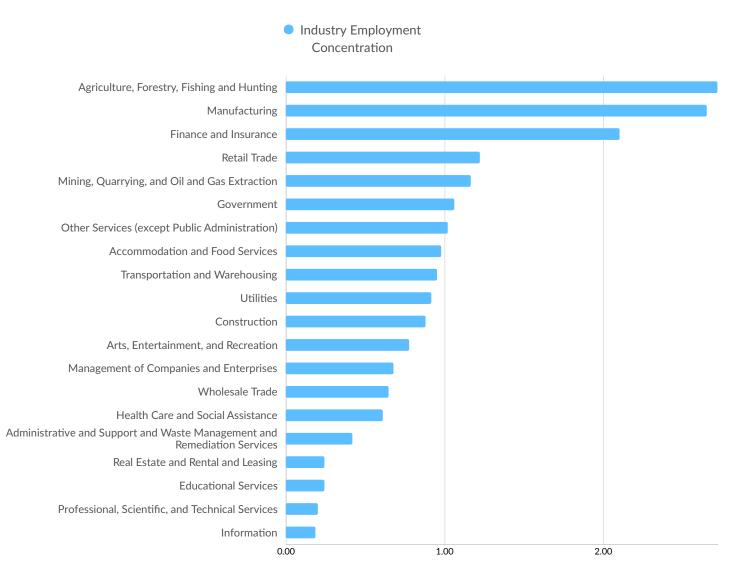


Top Growing Industries

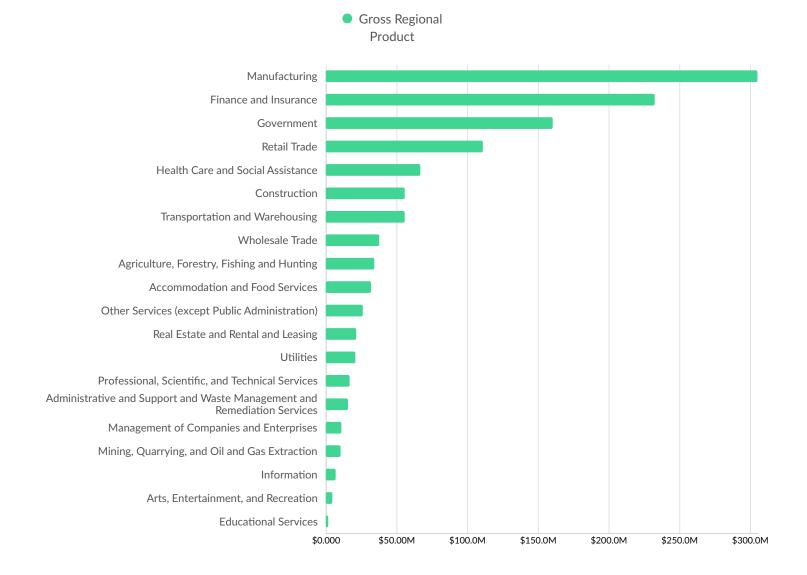


Industry Jobs Growth

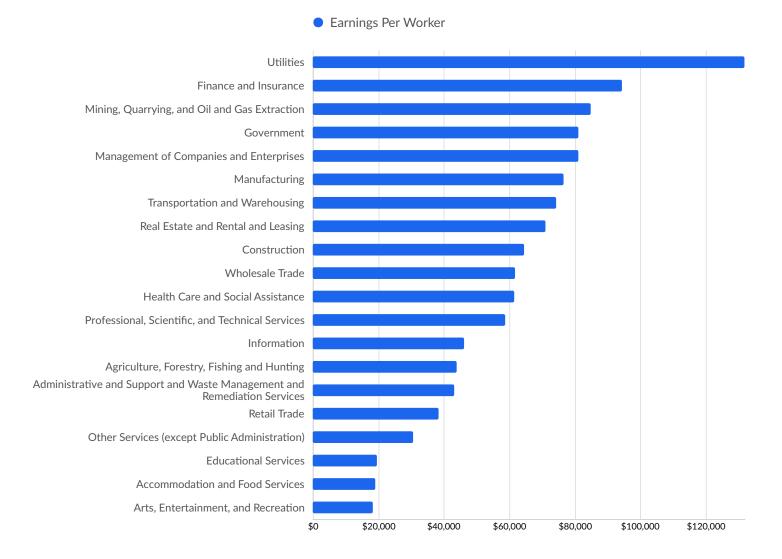
Top Industry Employment Concentration



Top Industry GRP



Top Industry Earnings



Business Characteristics

2,724 Companies Employ Your Workers

Online profiles for your workers mention 2,724 companies as employers, with the top 10 appearing below. In the last 12 months, 229 companies in Lincoln County, WI posted job postings, with the top 10 appearing below.

Top Companies	Profiles	Top Companies Posting	Unique Postings
Church Mutual Insurance Comp	314	Aspirus	99
Merrill Area Public Schools	125	Church Mutual Insurance Comp	98
Aspirus	105	Packaging Corporation of Ameri	75
Packaging Corporation of Ameri	71	Walmart	55
State of Wisconsin	63 🗖	Harley-Davidson	38
Harley-Davidson	57	Vohra Wound Physicians	36
Ministry Health Care	50	Kwik Trip	25
Marshfield Clinic	44	Walgreens Boots Alliance	25
Agra Industries	41	Samuel, Son & Co., Limited	24
Northcentral Technical College	34	GPM Investments	22

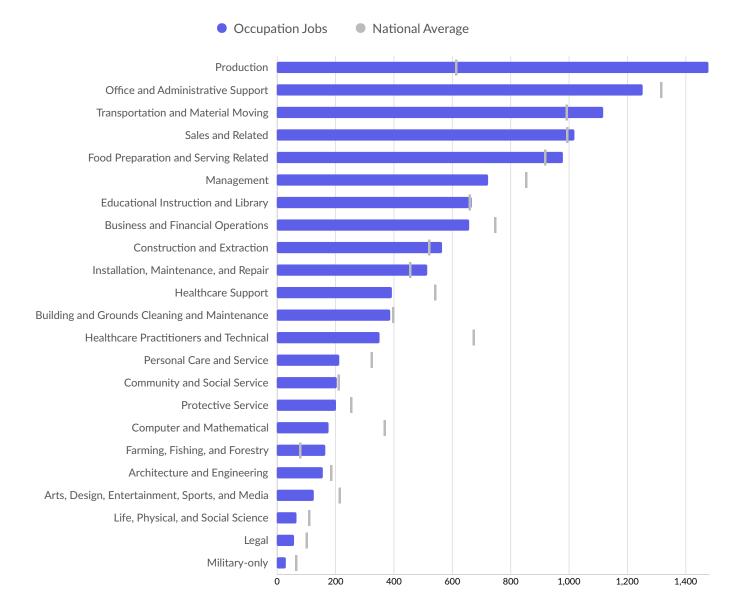
Business Size

	Percentage	Business Count
1 to 4 employees	34.7%	448
5 to 9 employees	28.7%	371
10 to 19 employees	20.8%	269
20 to 49 employees	10.6%	137
50 to 99 employees	3.4%	44
100 to 249 employees	1.2%	16
250 to 499 employees	0.3%	4
500+ employees	0.2%	2

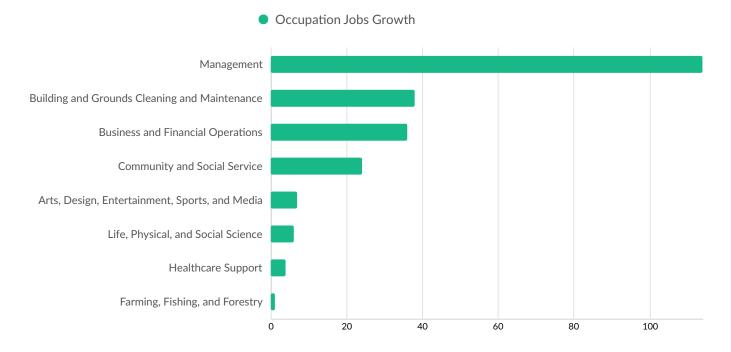
*Business Data by DatabaseUSA.com is third-party data provided by Lightcast to its customers as a convenience, and Lightcast does not endorse or warrant its accuracy or consistency with other published Lightcast data. In most cases, the Business Count will not match total companies with profiles on the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

Workforce Characteristics

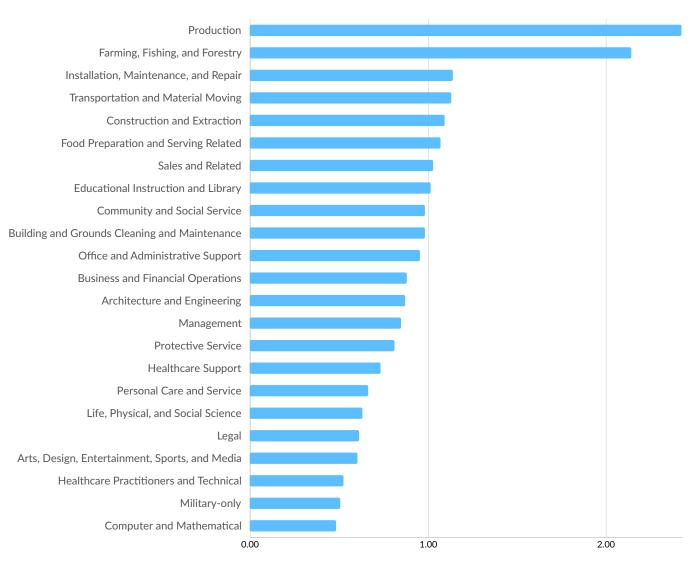
Largest Occupations



Top Growing Occupations

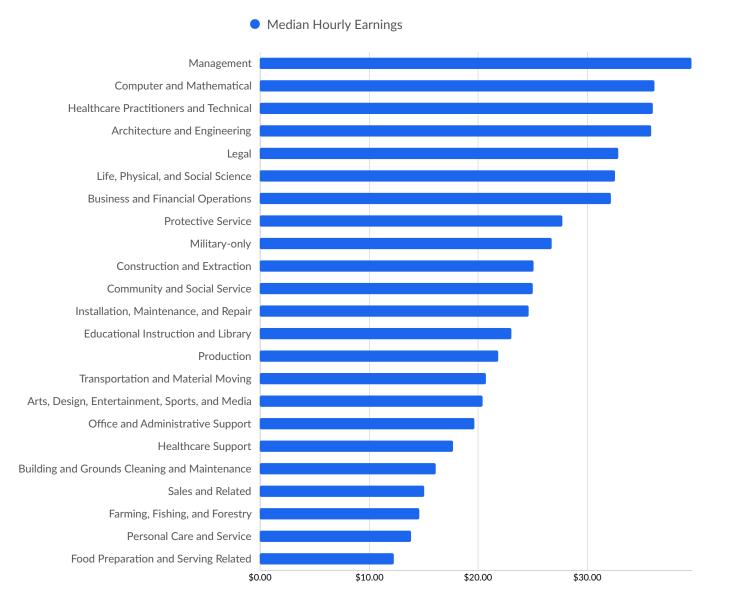


Top Occupation Employment Concentration

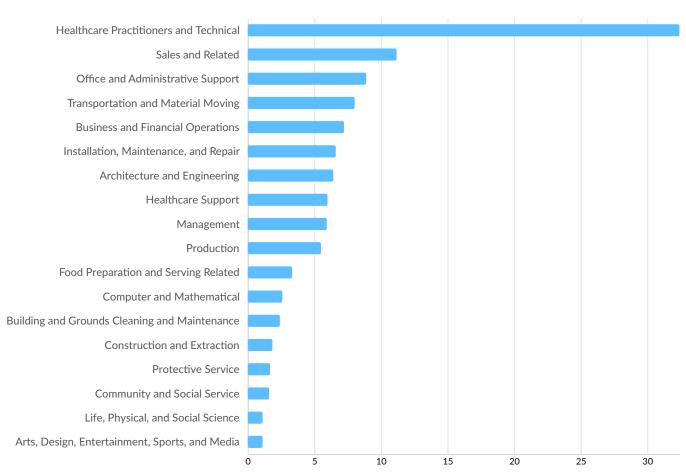


Occupation Employment Concentration

Top Occupation Earnings

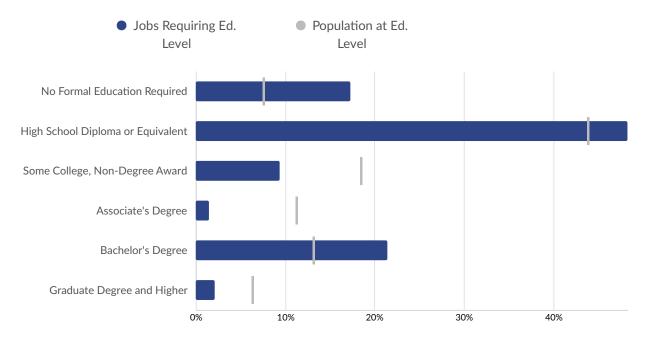


Top Posted Occupations



Unique Average Monthly Postings

Underemployment





Educational Pipeline

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

In-Demand Skills

