



Forest County, WI

North Central Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission



210 McClellan Street, Suite 210
Wausau, Wisconsin 54403

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Report Parameters

1 County

55041 Forest 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

9,626

Population (2025)

Population **grew by 458** over the last 5 years and is projected to **grow by 411** over the next 5 years.

3,799

Total Regional Employment

Jobs **grew by 585** over the last 5 years and are projected to **grow by 204** over the next 5 years.

\$59.7K

Median Household Income (2023)

Median household income is **\$18.8K below** the national median household income of \$78.5K.

Takeaways

- As of 2025 the region's population **increased by 5.0%** since 2020, growing by 458. Population is expected to **increase by 4.3%** between 2025 and 2030, adding 411.
- From 2020 to 2025, jobs **increased by 18.2%** in Forest County, WI from 3,214 to **3,799**. This change **outpaced the national growth rate of 10.6% by 7.6%**. As the number of jobs increased, the **labor force participation rate decreased from 54.7% to 53.1% between 2020 and 2025**.
- Concerning educational attainment, **12.6% of Forest County, WI residents possess a Bachelor's Degree** (9.2% below the national average), and **12.9% hold an Associate's Degree** (4.0% above the national average).
- The top three industries in 2025 are Local Government, Excluding Education and Hospitals, Education and Hospitals (Local Government), and Restaurants and Other Eating Places.

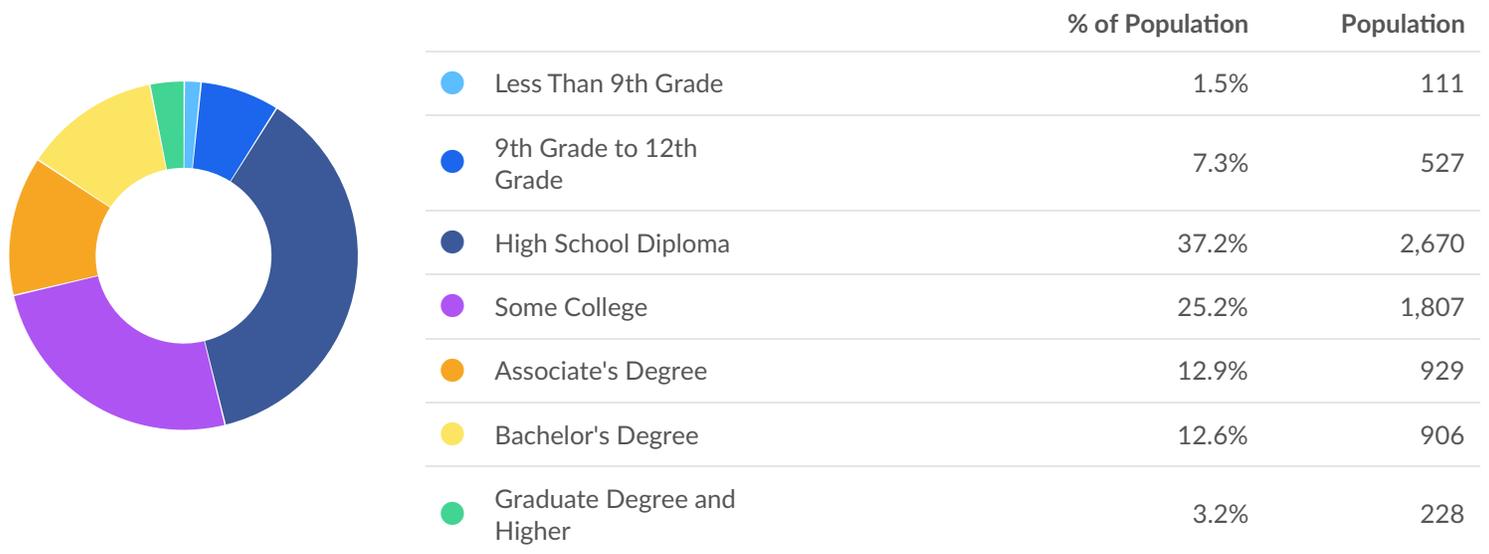
	Population (2025)	Labor Force (Nov 2025)	Jobs (2025)	Cost of Living	GRP	Imports	Exports
Region	9,626	4,144	3,799	98.6	\$422.85M	\$943.17M	\$828.27M
State	5,980,718	3,113,826	3,272,214	100.3	\$457.86B	\$400.36B	\$432.85B

Nov 2025 Labor Force Breakdown



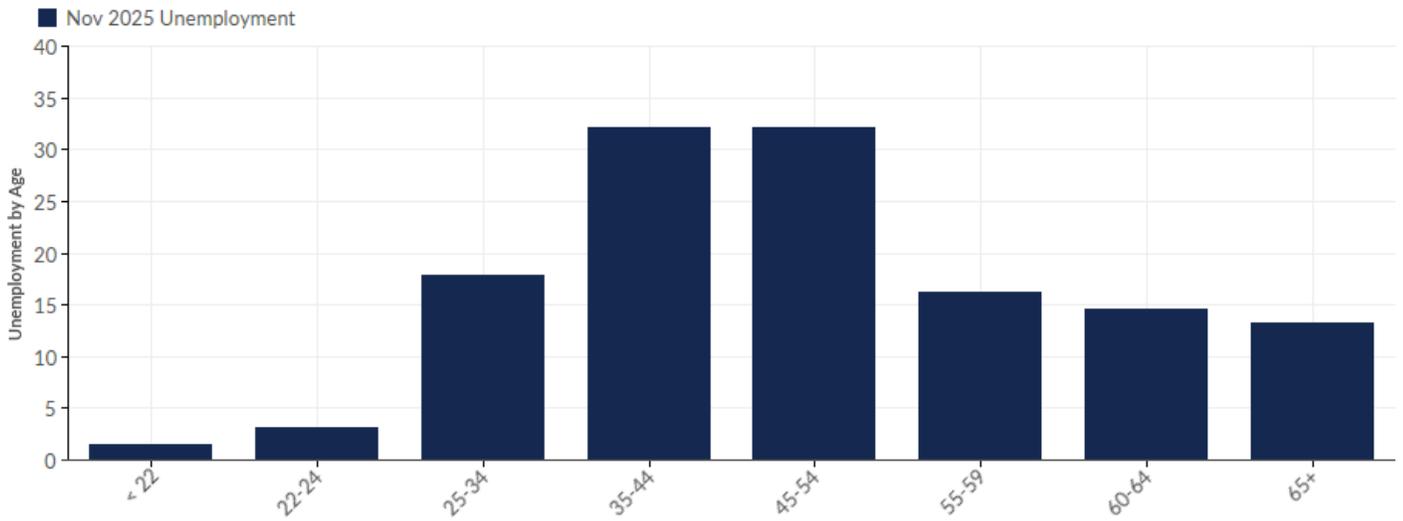
Educational Attainment

Concerning educational attainment, **12.6% of Forest County, WI residents possess a Bachelor's Degree** (9.2% below the national average), and **12.9% hold an Associate's Degree** (4.0% above the national average).



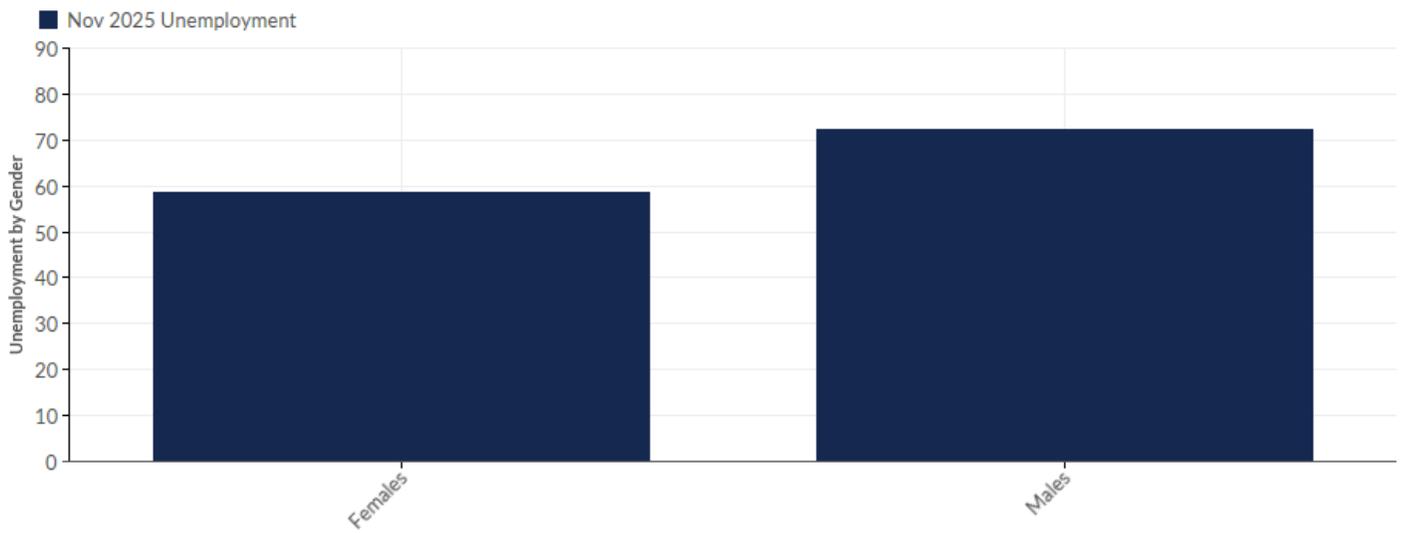
Unemployment by Demographics

Unemployment by Age



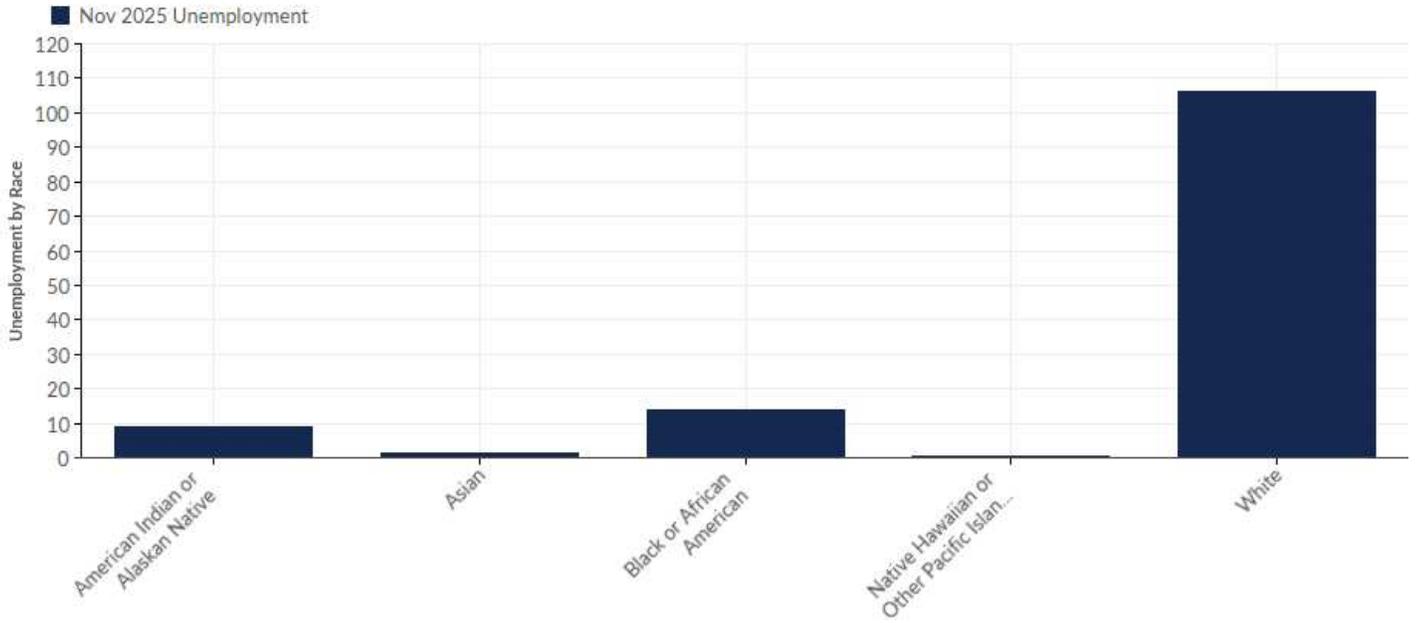
Age	Unemployment (Nov 2025)	% of Unemployed
< 22	2	1.53%
22-24	3	2.29%
25-34	18	13.74%
35-44	32	24.43%
45-54	32	24.43%
55-59	16	12.21%
60-64	15	11.45%
65+	13	9.92%
Total	131	100.00%

Unemployment by Gender



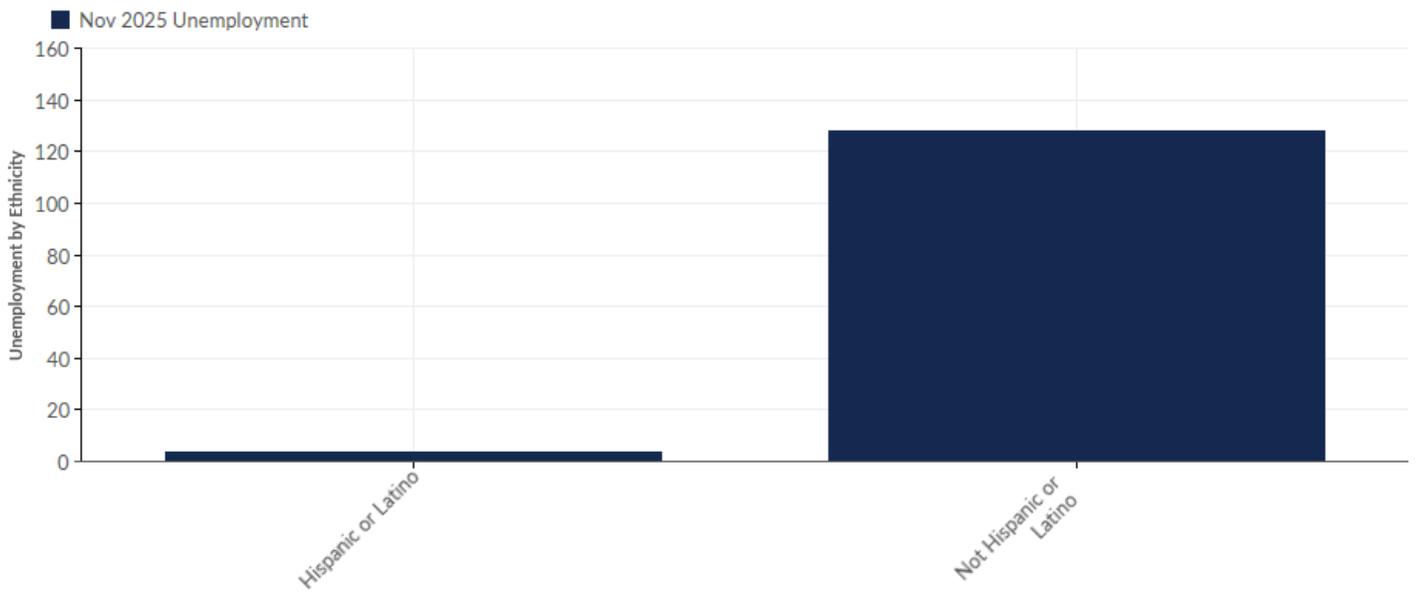
Gender	Unemployment (Nov 2025)	% of Unemployed
Females	59	45.04%
Males	72	54.96%
Total	131	100.00%

Unemployment by Race



Race	Unemployment (Nov 2025)	% of Unemployed
American Indian or Alaskan Native	9	6.87%
Asian	1	0.76%
Black or African American	14	10.69%
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	1	0.76%
White	106	80.92%
Total	131	100.00%

Unemployment by Ethnicity

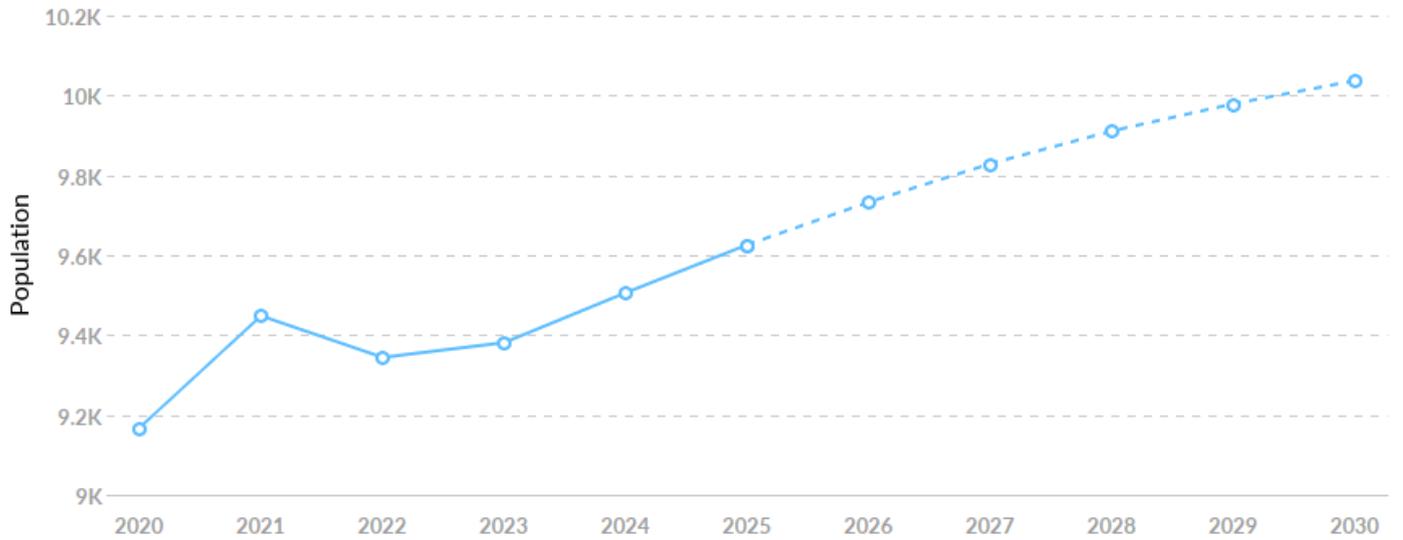


Ethnicity	Unemployment (Nov 2025)	% of Unemployed
Hispanic or Latino	3	2.29%
Not Hispanic or Latino	128	97.71%
Total	131	100.00%

Historic & Projected Trends

Population Trends

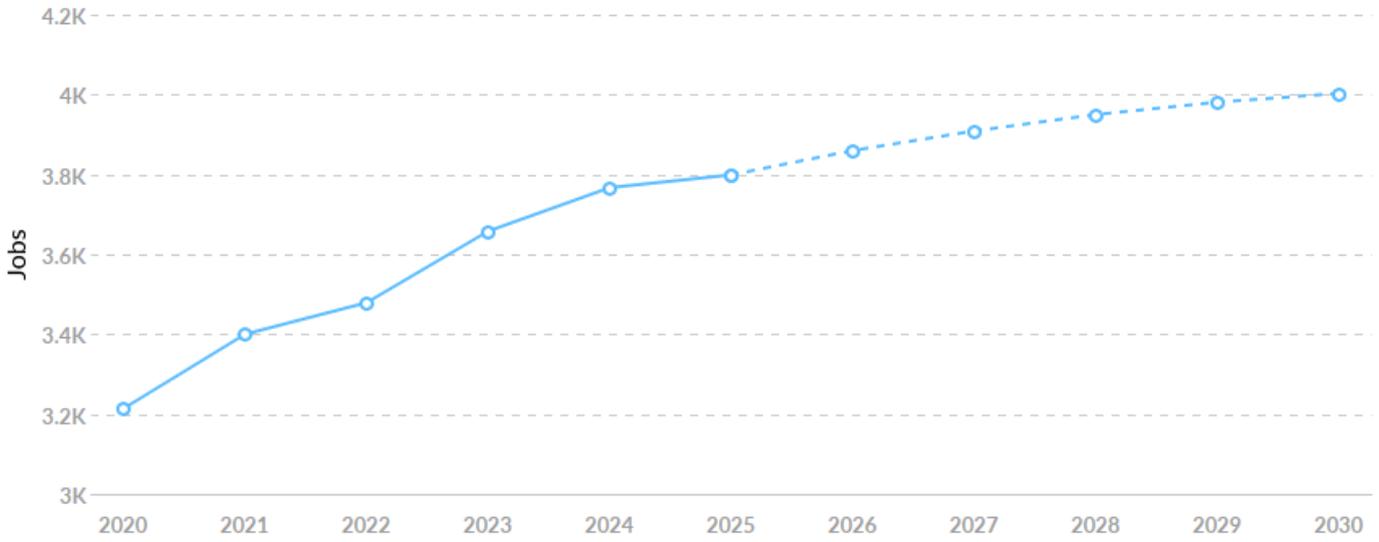
As of 2025 the region's population increased by 5.0% since 2020, growing by 458. Population is expected to increase by 4.3% between 2025 and 2030, adding 411.



Timeframe	Population
2020	9,168
2021	9,448
2022	9,344
2023	9,381
2024	9,506
2025	9,626
2026	9,733
2027	9,829
2028	9,911
2029	9,979
2030	10,037

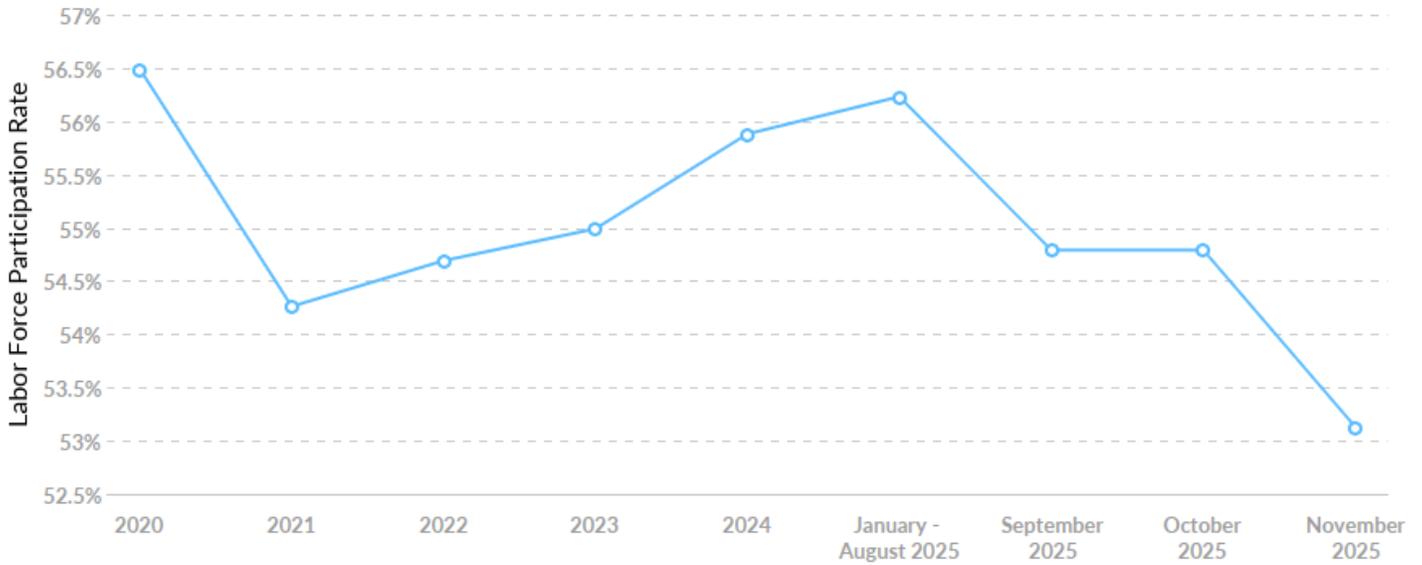
Job Trends

From 2020 to 2025, jobs increased by 18.2% in Forest County, WI from 3,214 to 3,799. This change outpaced the national growth rate of 10.6% by 7.6%.



Timeframe	Jobs
2020	3,214
2021	3,400
2022	3,479
2023	3,658
2024	3,767
2025	3,799
2026	3,860
2027	3,909
2028	3,950
2029	3,981
2030	4,003

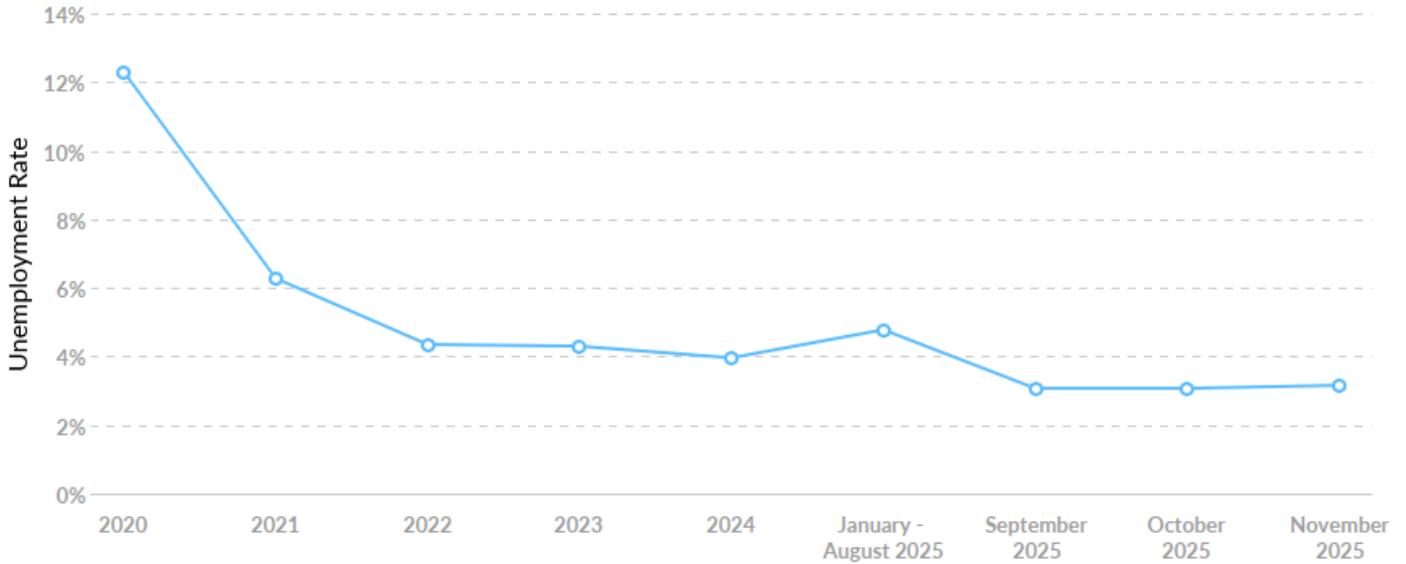
Labor Force Participation Rate Trends



Timeframe	Labor Force Participation Rate
2020	56.49%
2021	54.26%
2022	54.69%
2023	54.99%
2024	55.88%
January - August 2025	56.23%
September 2025	54.79%
October 2025	54.79%
November 2025	53.13%

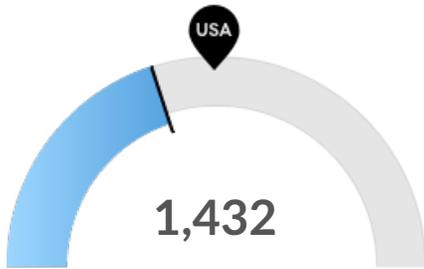
Unemployment Rate Trends

Forest County, WI had a November 2025 unemployment rate of 3.16%, **decreasing from 12.30%** 5 years before.



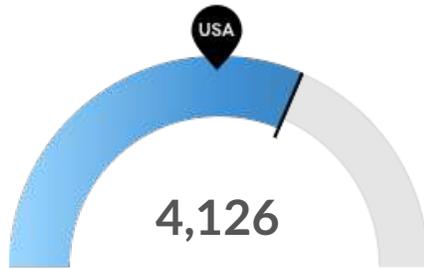
Timeframe	Unemployment Rate
2020	12.30%
2021	6.28%
2022	4.35%
2023	4.30%
2024	3.96%
January - August 2025	4.78%
September 2025	3.07%
October 2025	3.07%
November 2025	3.16%

Population Characteristics



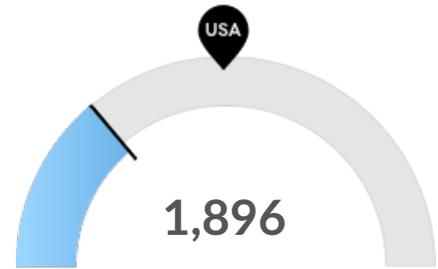
Millennials

Forest County, WI has 1,432 millennials (ages 25-39). The national average for an area this size is 1,946.



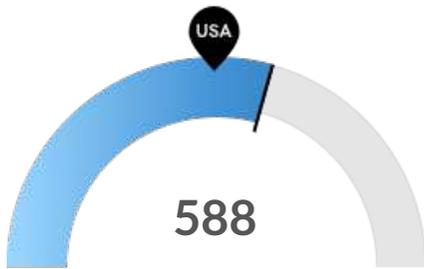
Retiring Soon

Retirement risk is high in Forest County, WI. The national average for an area this size is 2,874 people 55 or older, while there are 4,126 here.



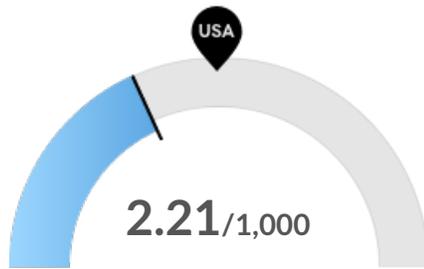
Racial Diversity

Racial diversity is low in Forest County, WI. The national average for an area this size is 4,044 racially diverse people, while there are 1,896 here.



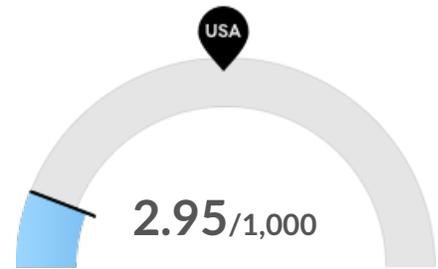
Veterans

Forest County, WI has 588 veterans. The national average for an area this size is 461.



Violent Crime

Forest County, WI has 2.21 violent crimes per 1,000 people. The national rate is 3.38 per 1,000 people.

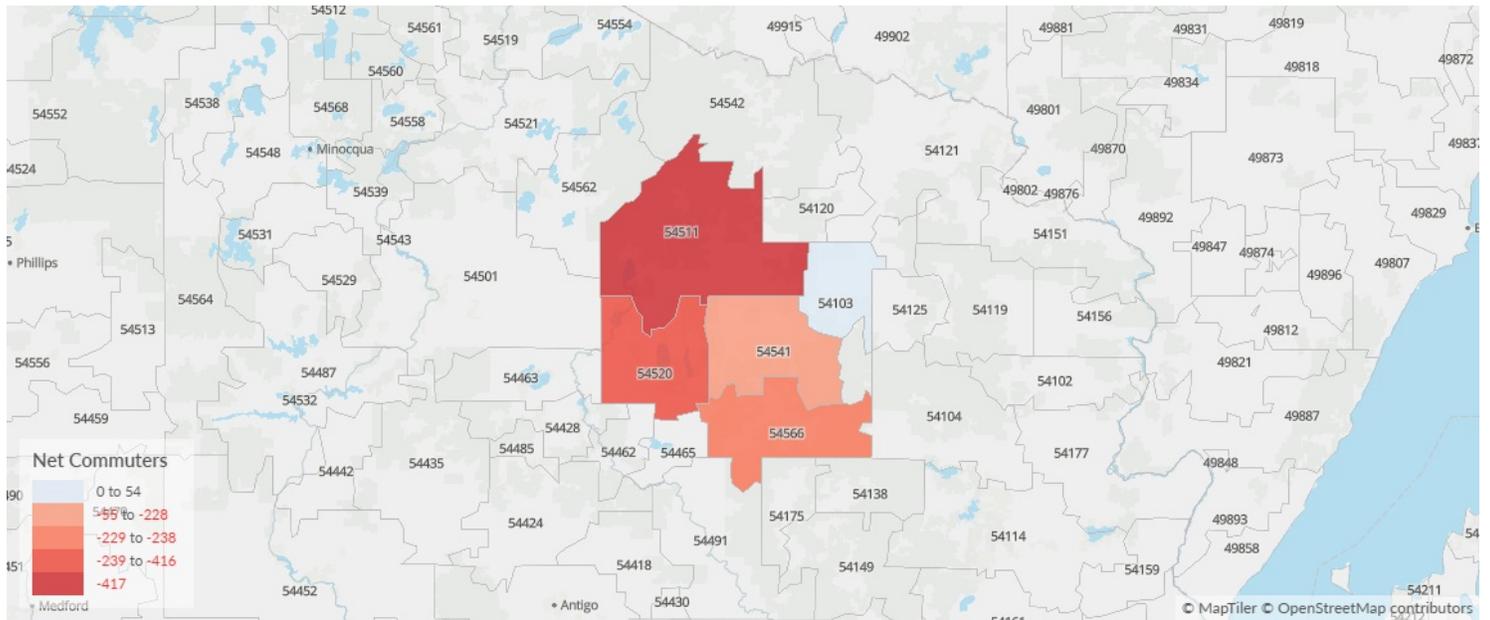


Property Crime

Forest County, WI has 2.95 property crimes per 1,000 people. The national rate is 16.44 per 1,000 people.

Place of Work vs Place of Residence

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



Where Talent Works

ZIP	Name	2025 Employment
54520	Crandon, WI (in Forest c...	1,946
54541	Laona, WI (in Forest cou...	628
54566	Wabeno, WI (in Forest c...	484
54511	Argonne, WI (in Forest c...	440
54103	Armstrong Creek, WI (in...	301

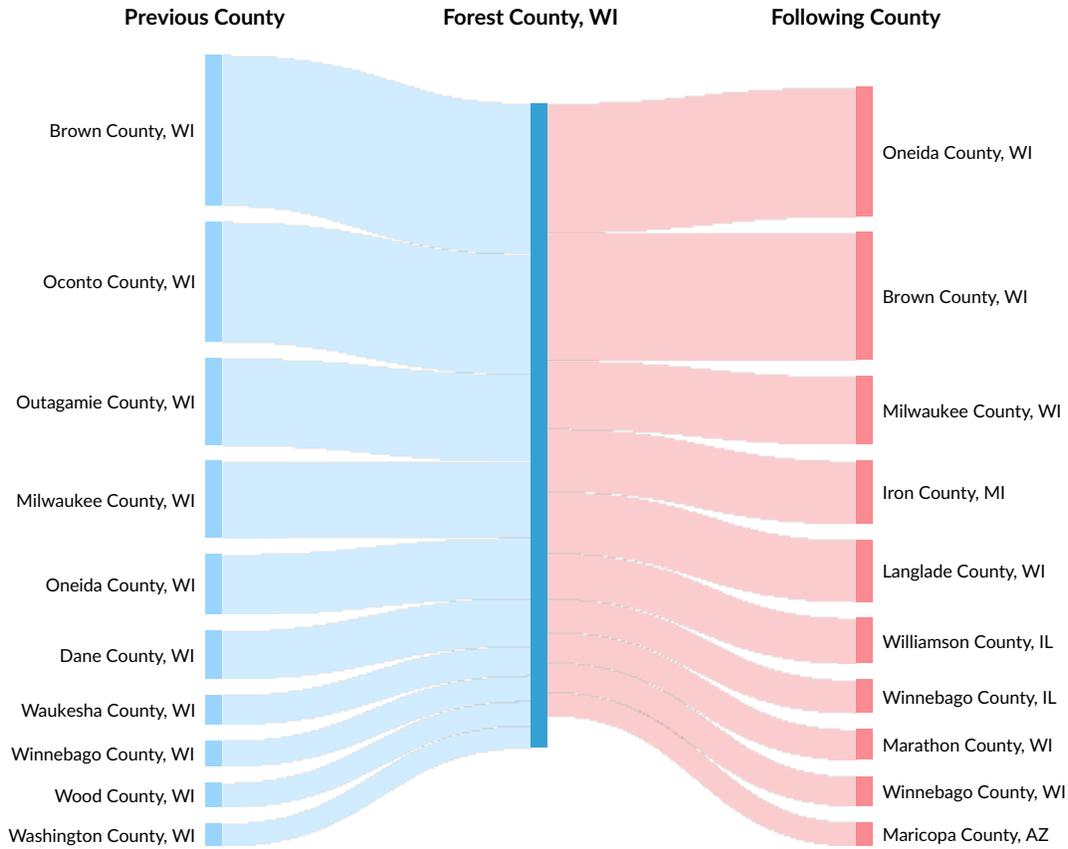
Where Talent Lives

ZIP	Name	2025 Workers
54520	Crandon, WI (in Forest c...	2,184
54511	Argonne, WI (in Forest c...	857
54566	Wabeno, WI (in Forest c...	712
54541	Laona, WI (in Forest cou...	683
54103	Armstrong Creek, WI (in...	249

Inbound and Outbound Migration

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

As of 2022, **36** people have migrated from Brown County, WI to Forest County, WI. In the same year, **31** people left Forest County, WI migrating to Oneida County, WI. The total Net Migration for Forest County, WI in 2022 was **73**.

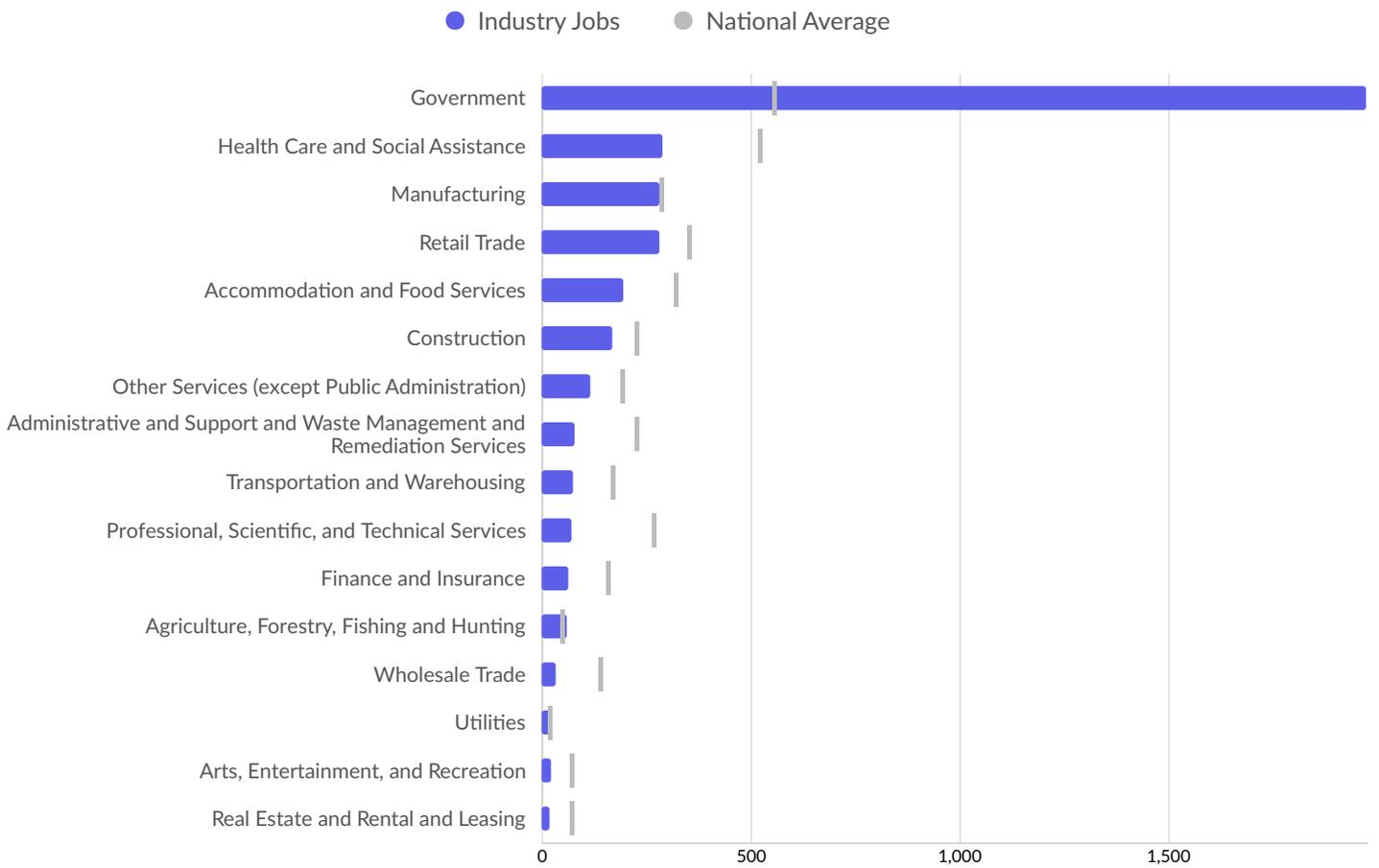


Top Previous Counties	Migrations
Brown County, WI	36
Oconto County, WI	28
Outagamie County, WI	21
Milwaukee County, WI	18
Oneida County, WI	14
Dane County, WI	11

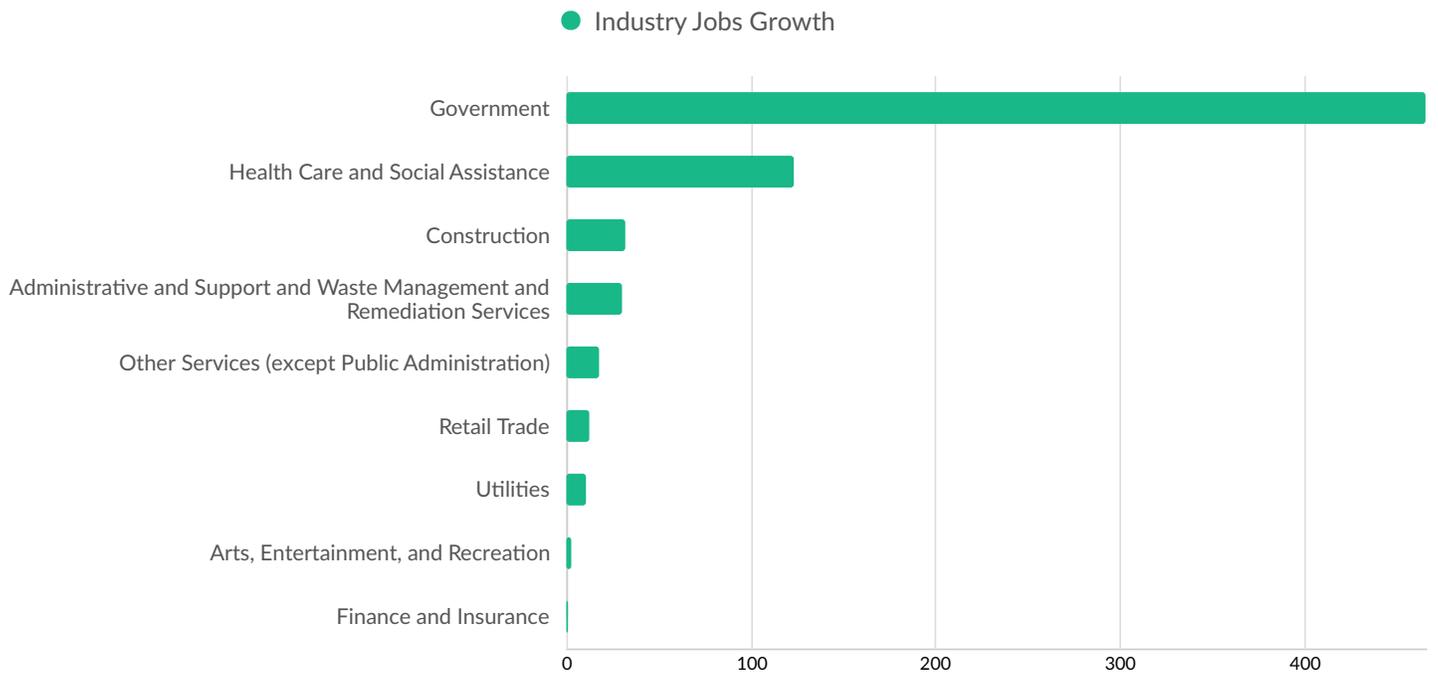
Top Previous Counties	Migrations
Waukesha County, WI	7
Winnebago County, WI	6
Wood County, WI	6
Washington County, WI	5
Marathon County, WI	5
Eau Claire County, WI	5
Ozaukee County, WI	5
La Crosse County, WI	5
Dodge County, WI	5
Top Following Counties	Migrations
Oneida County, WI	31
Brown County, WI	30
Milwaukee County, WI	16
Iron County, MI	15
Langlade County, WI	15
Williamson County, IL	11
Winnebago County, IL	8
Marathon County, WI	7
Winnebago County, WI	7
Maricopa County, AZ	6
Harris County, TX	5
Ozaukee County, WI	4
Lee County, FL	4
Waukesha County, WI	4
Vilas County, WI	4

Industry Characteristics

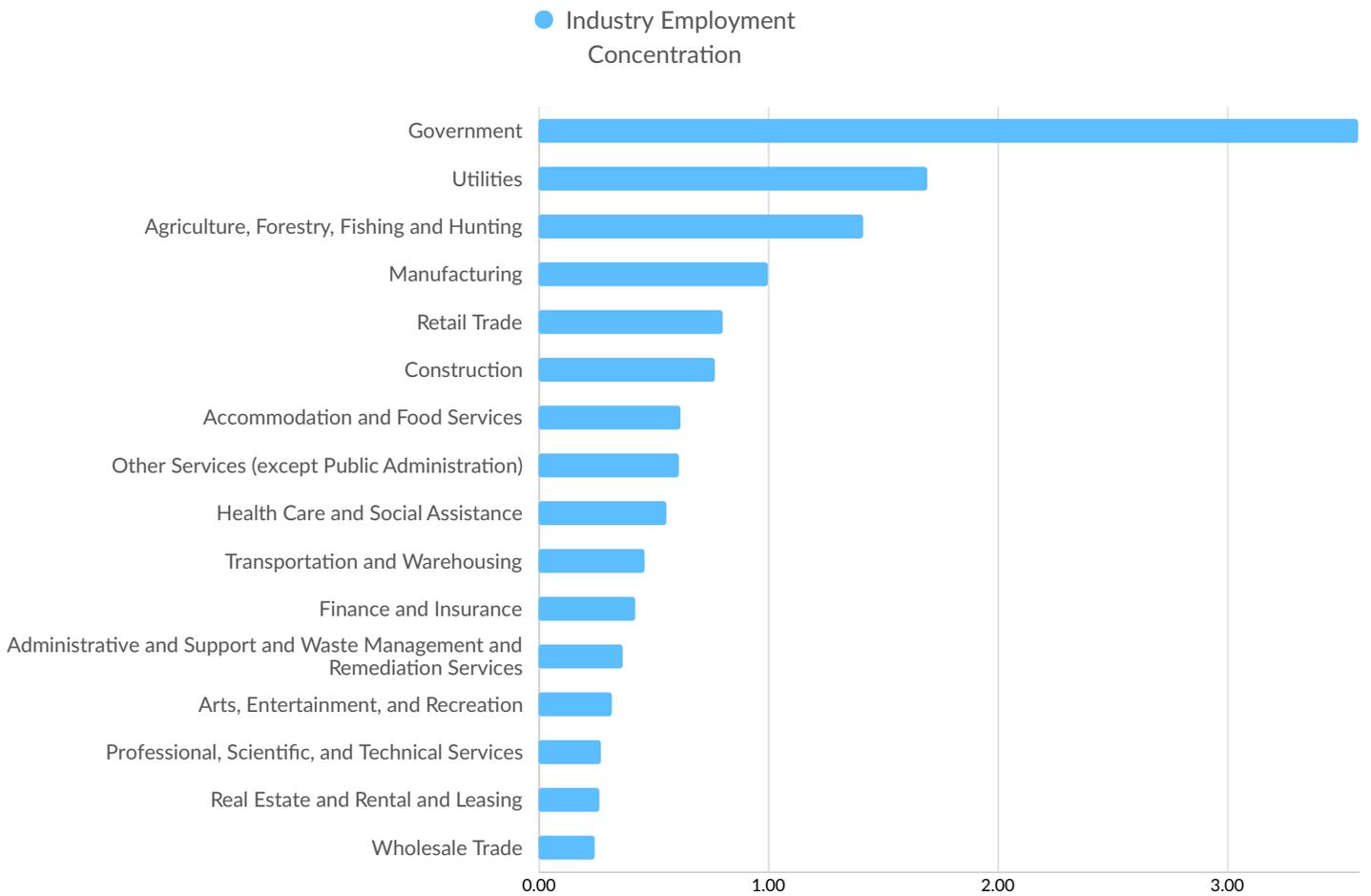
Largest Industries



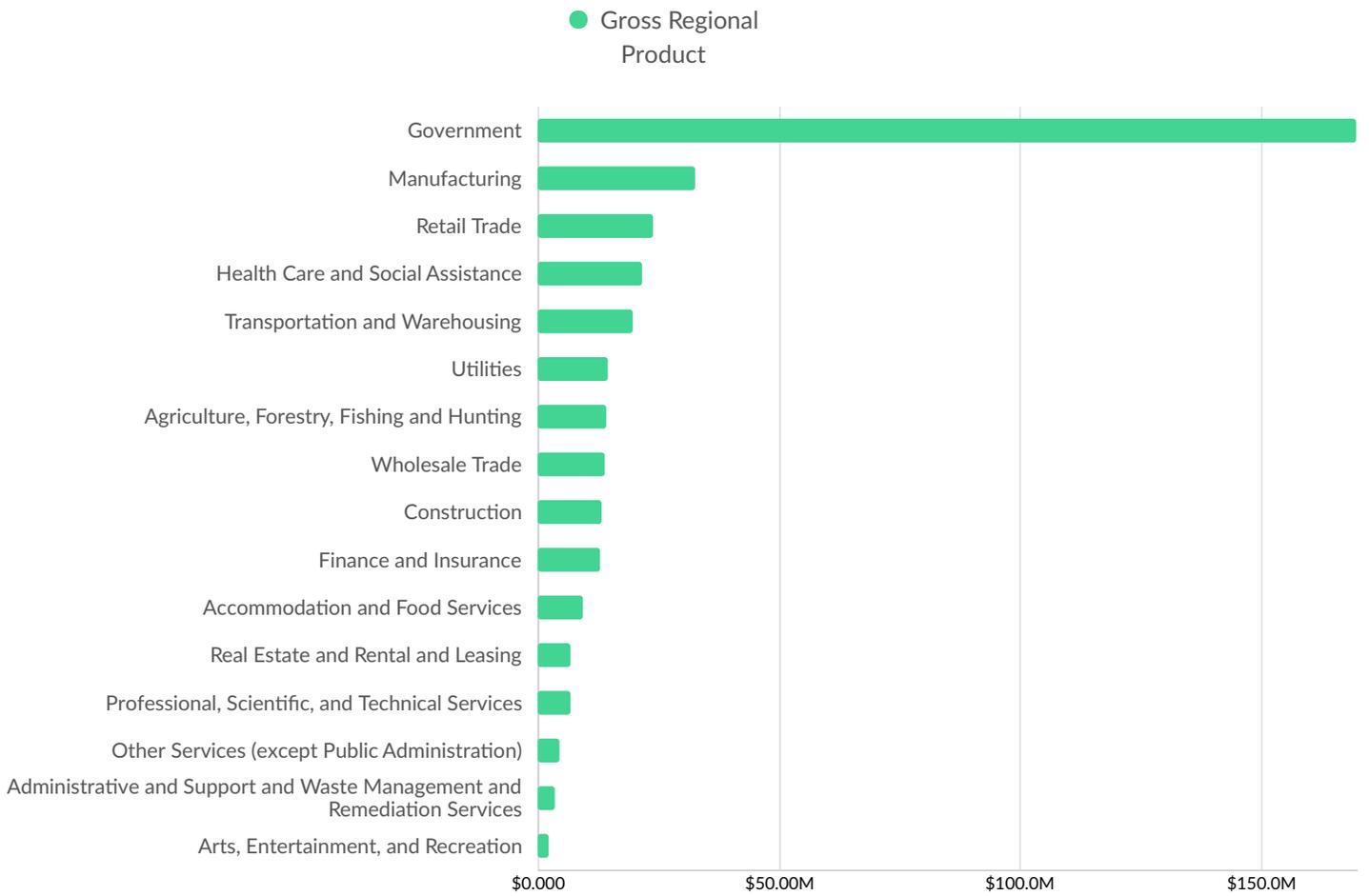
Top Growing Industries



Top Industry Employment Concentration



Top Industry GRP



Top Industry Earnings



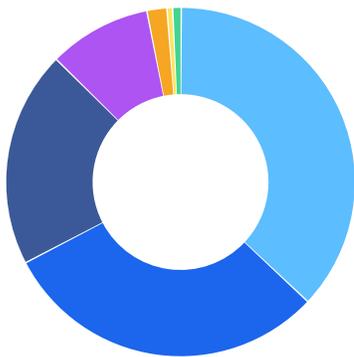
Business Characteristics

558 Companies Employ Your Workers

Online profiles for your workers mention 558 companies as employers, with the top 10 appearing below. In the last 12 months, 92 companies in Forest County, WI posted job postings, with the top 10 appearing below.

Top Companies	Profiles	Top Companies Posting	Unique Postings
Potawatomi Bingo Casino	126 	Potawatomi Bingo Casino	85 
Crandon School District	28 	Good Samaritan	64 
School District Of Crandon	27 	Bay At Nu Roc Health And Reha...	27 
Sokaogon Chippewa Community	27 	Healthcare Services Group	25 
U.S.D.A Forest Service	15 	Dollar General	19 
Aspirus	12 	Cci Systems	17 
Forest County Potawatomi Heal...	12 	Sokaogon Chippewa Community	13 
One Prospect Technologies	11 	Truenorth	13 
Ministry Health Care	10 	Driveline	12 
Northern Lake Service	9 	Family Dollar	11 

Business Size

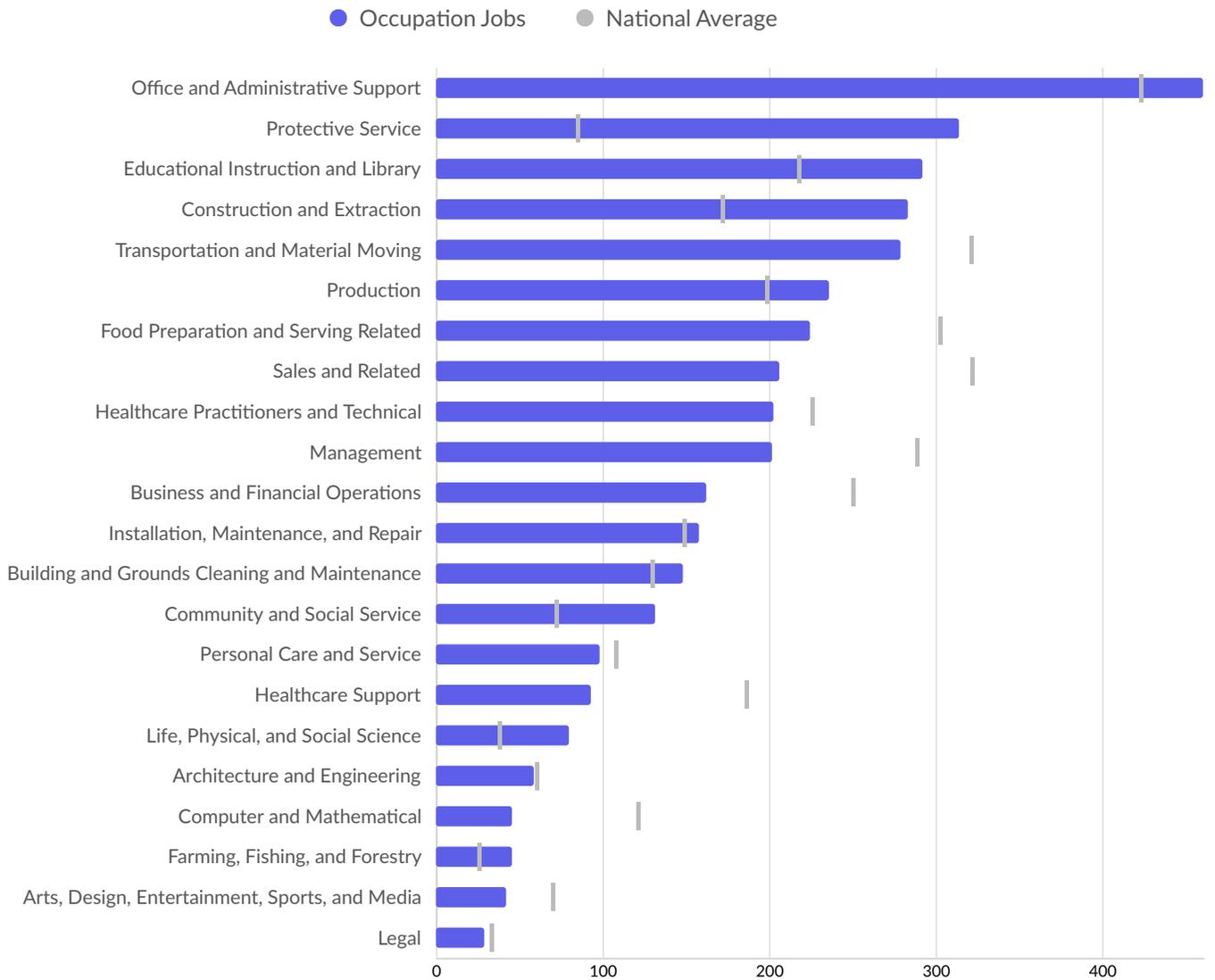


	Percentage	Business Count
1 to 4 employees	36.9%	140
5 to 9 employees	30.3%	115
10 to 19 employees	20.1%	76
20 to 49 employees	9.5%	36
50 to 99 employees	1.8%	7
100 to 249 employees	0.5%	2
250 to 499 employees	0.8%	3

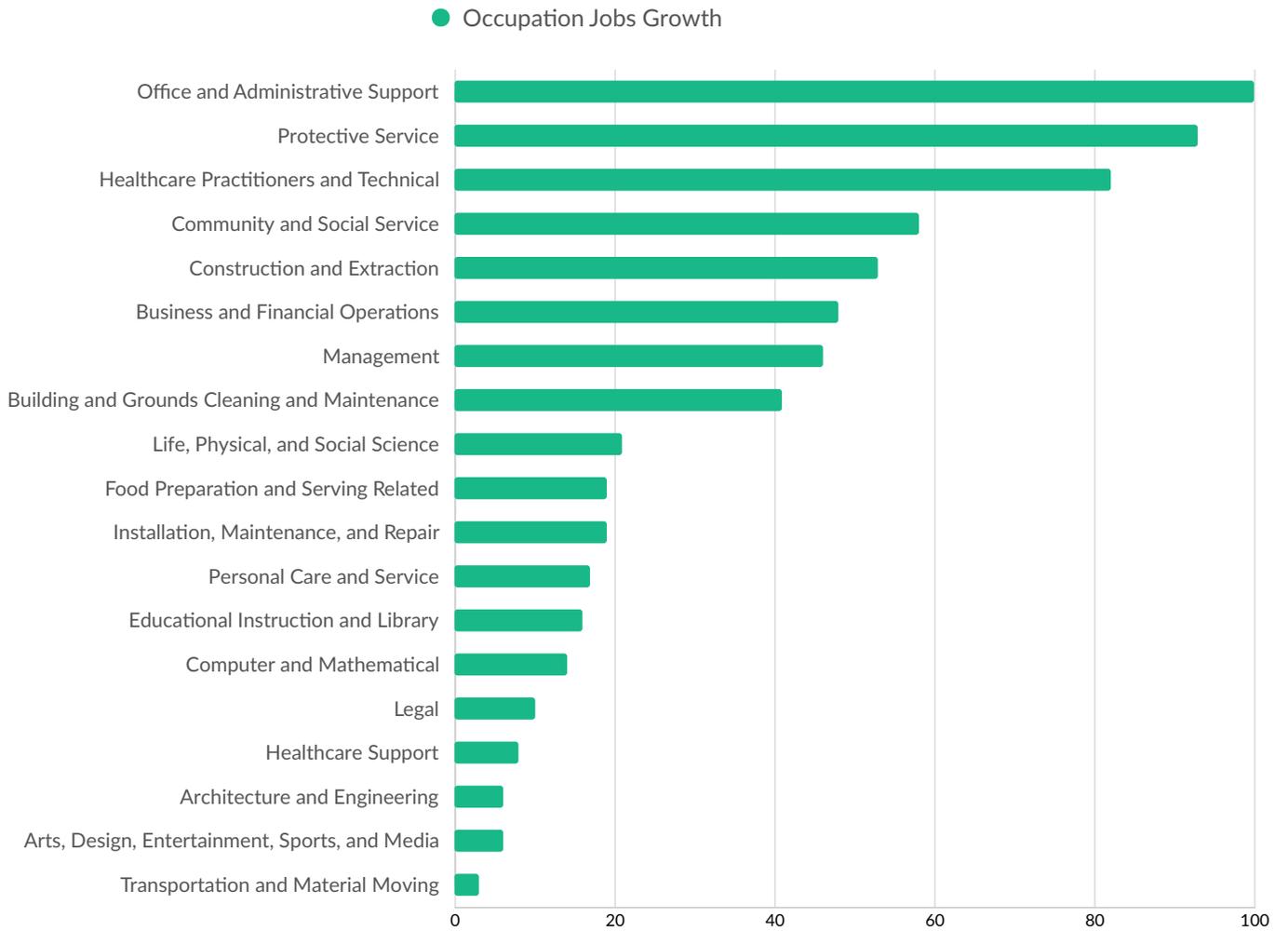
**Business Data by DatabaseUSA.com is third-party data provided by Lightcast to its customers as a convenience, and Lightcast does not endorse or warrant its accuracy or consistency with other published Lightcast data. In most cases, the Business Count will not match total companies with profiles on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

Workforce Characteristics

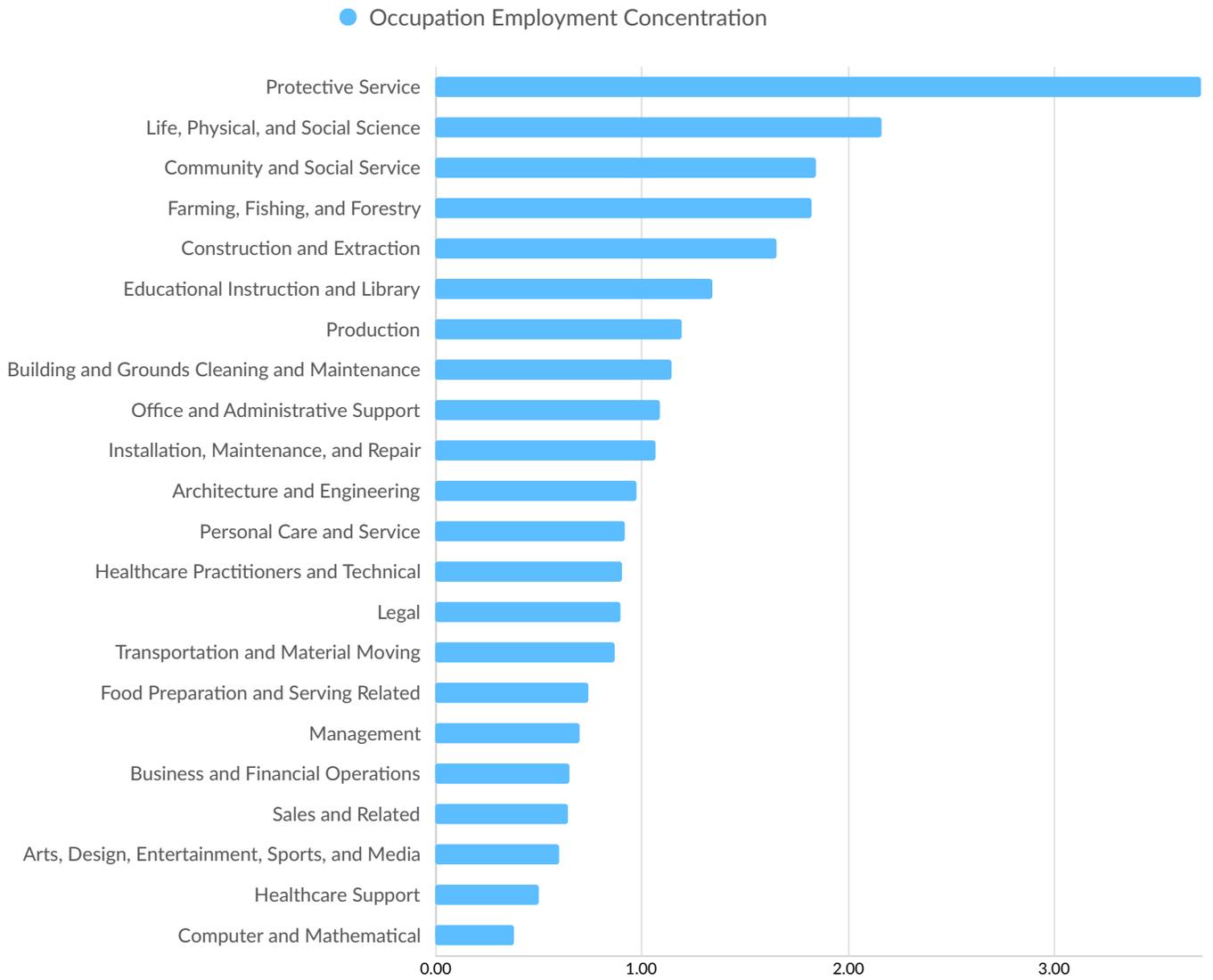
Largest Occupations



Top Growing Occupations



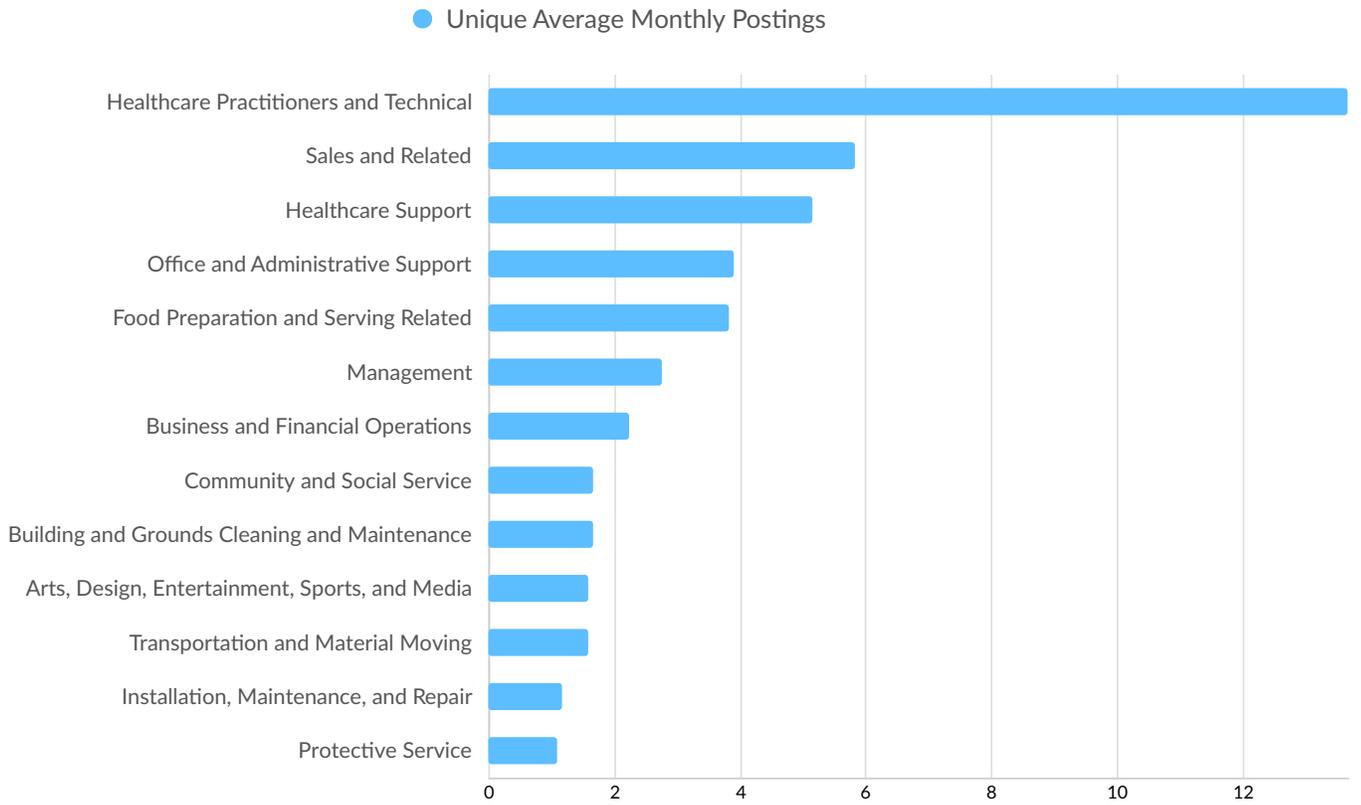
Top Occupation Employment Concentration



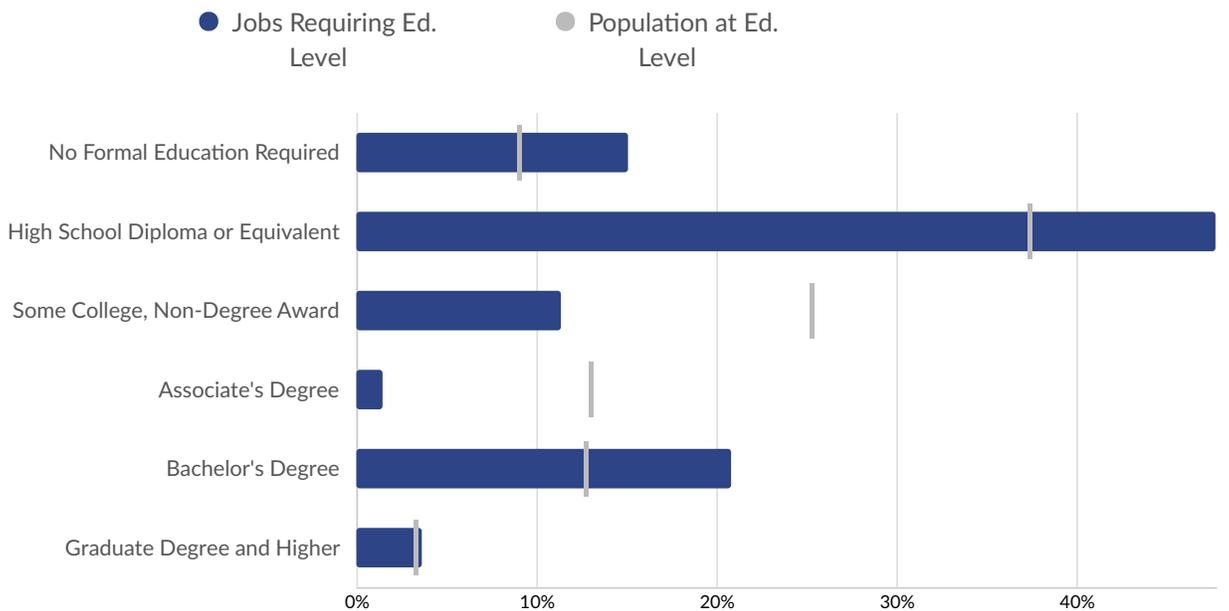
Top Occupation Earnings



Top Posted Occupations



Underemployment



Educational Pipeline

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

In-Demand Skills

