Florence County

2025 WORKFORCE PROFILE

STATE OF WISCONSIN DWD
Department of Workforce Development

WisConomy

State Narrative for County Profiles

Wisconsin's labor market experienced a strong year in 2024. Employment reached record levels, inflation appeared on the wane, and interest rates are accommodating a largely reconstrued supply chain. In addition, real wages turned positive, and consumer spending was robust.

The primary challenge still facing the future economic construct is the labor quantity challenge and its broader economic impacts.

Wisconsin Jobs

The 2024 employment picture was favorable for Wisconsin, reaching new records in December at 3,076,500. The state's low unemployment rates were also noteworthy registering 3.0% or below the entire year. Although setting new records is always a good sign, new highs in employment would be expected through new expansionary economic periods.

Total non-farm employment also reached new highs, climbing through the year to peak in August at a seasonally adjusted basis of 3,048,000 and consolidating high levels through the remainder of the year, ending in December at 3,042,100. That marks a 1.6% increase over the pre-pandemic highs set in December 2019.
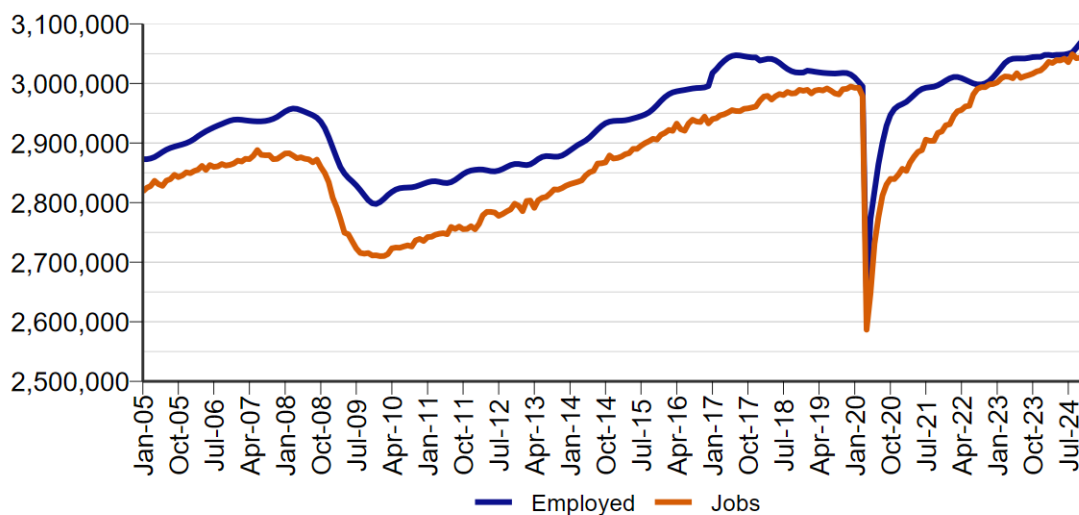

Figure 1: Wisconsin employment and jobs.

Economy

Wisconsin Gross Domestic Product (WGDP) reached new highs in nominal and real dollar terms in 2024[1], at $456 billion or $357 billion in real 2017 dollars. After a slower recovery coming out of the COVID-19 recession, Wisconsin's GDP growth rate has mimicked that of the country.
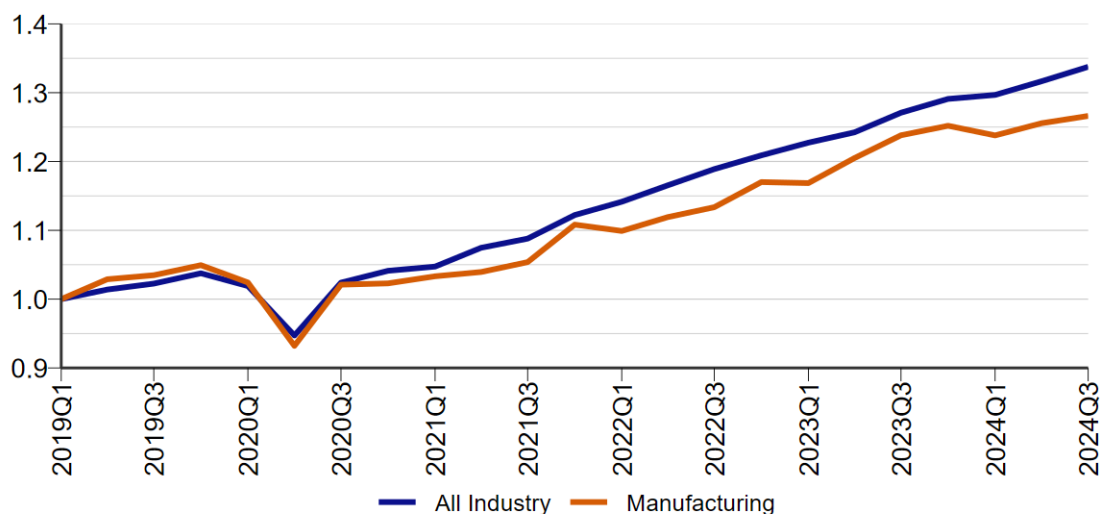

Figure 2: GDP growth index (2019Q1 = 100).

Many industry sectors were vibrant. Construction industry jobs hit new records, surpassing 140,000. Healthcare jobs also set new highs at 324,200. The leisure and hospitality sector recovered almost all the nearly 50% loss of jobs experienced during the COVID-19 recession, finishing with 285,200 jobs. Manufacturing jobs rose above 2023 levels to 481,200, but have not yet returned to pre-Covid19 levels.

Wisconsin ranks first in the number of manufacturing jobs per government job and second in manufacturing jobs share of total jobs. However, state-level manufacturing output was relatively weak against overall economic output. Two of the state's primary manufacturing industries, fabricated metal and machinery manufacturing, lost jobs through 2024. Fabricated metal manufacturing jobs peaked in July 2019, before the COVID-19 recession at 79,400 jobs, and ended 2024 with 74,300. Machinery manufacturing peaked in early 2023 with 68,800 jobs and finished 2024 with 67,200.

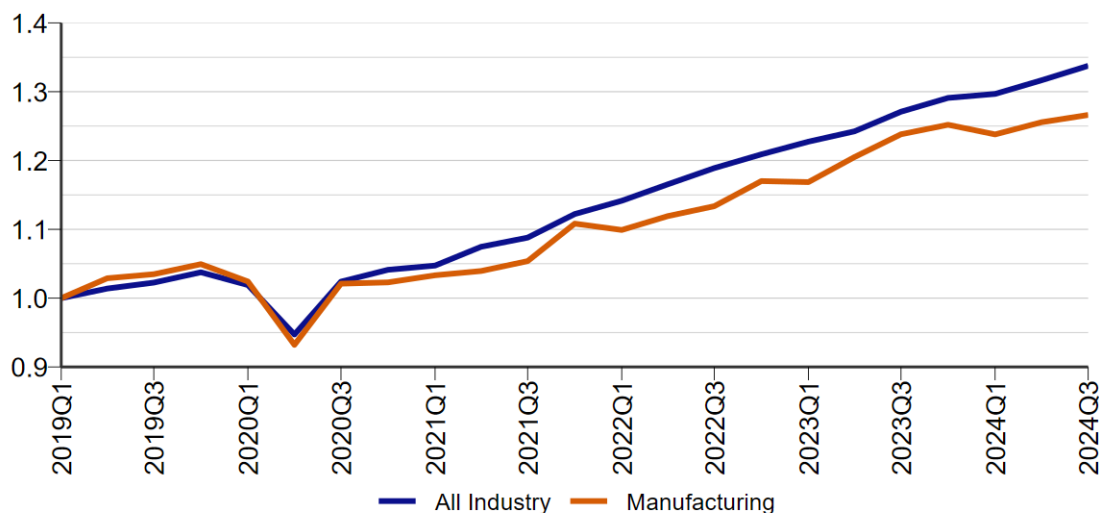[1]Third quarter 2024 is latest data available.

Figure 3: Wisconsin all industry v manufacturing growth (2019Q1 = 100).

While the durable goods manufacturing sector saw declines, non-durable goods manufacturing in Wisconsin has made headway. Jobs in the non-durables industries have increased since the pre-Covid high of 198,600 in July of 2019, to 201,000 in December 2024. Most of that has occurred in the food processing industry.

Labor Quantity Challenges

Employers continue to express challenges finding workers. This situation is being felt in all industries and most occupations – locally, regionally, and globally. Even China is experiencing population and workforce declines. Industries that are showing steady job growth, such as construction and healthcare, are limited by the number of workers available for positions.

As noted in studies dating back to 2000, there are not sufficient numbers of young workers to fill the jobs being vacated by the generation of baby boomers and the increased demand for workers associated with economic growth. The number of workers entering the labor market is essentially the same as the boomers exiting. A growing economy necessitates an increasing labor force or at least a more productive one. Wisconsin's labor force growth has remained close to zero.

The new high in Wisconsin's labor force reached in December 2024 of 3,170,300 is only 0.63% above the previous high in July 2017 and only 0.83% above the peak before that in June of 2009. That amounts to an annual average labor force growth rate of 0.08% per year, or about zero over 15 years.
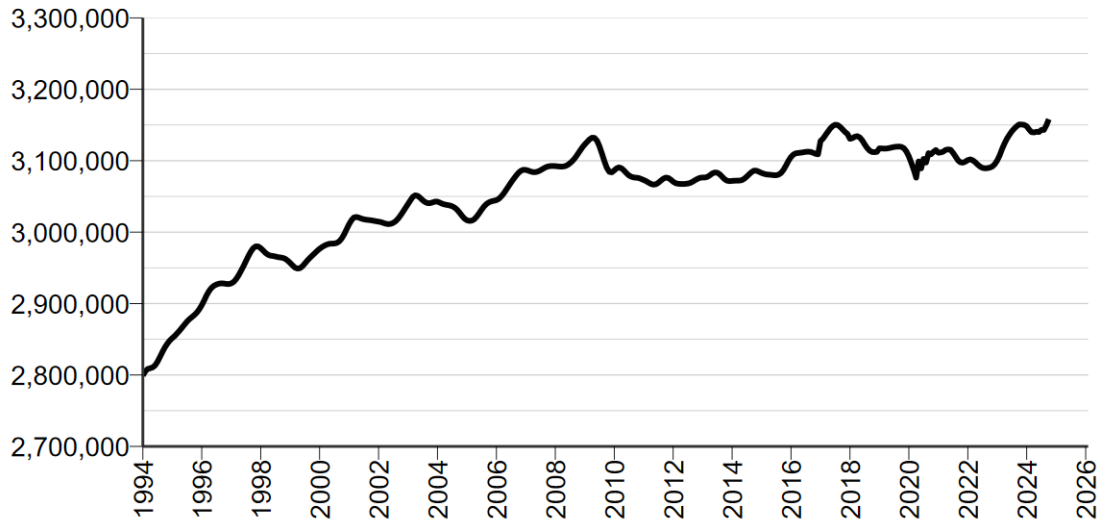
Figure 4: Wisconsin labor force.

This shift has long been anticipated and is well documented. The front edge of the baby boomers turned 63 years old in 2009. By 2024, the back edge of the boomers (those born in 1964) were 60 years old. And while the labor force participation rates of workers 65 and older has increased since the 1990s, the remaining tenure of the boomers is short.
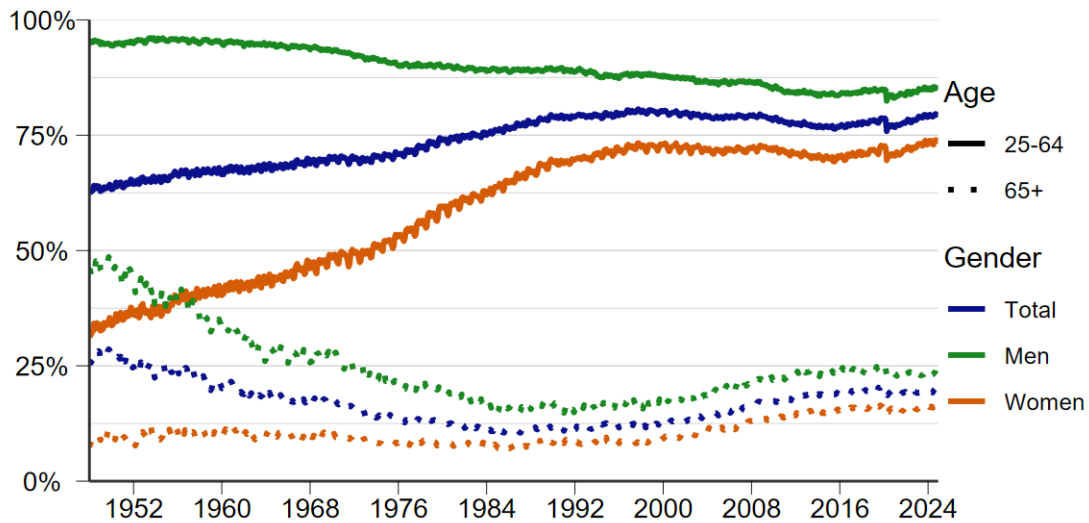

Figure 5: US labor force participation rate.

Below is a graph of Wisconsin's population and labor force projected out to 2040 based on the latest information from the Wisconsin Department of Administration Demographic Services. On a decennial basis, Wisconsin's population has already peaked. This suggests that the workforce will not experience substantial growth moving forward.
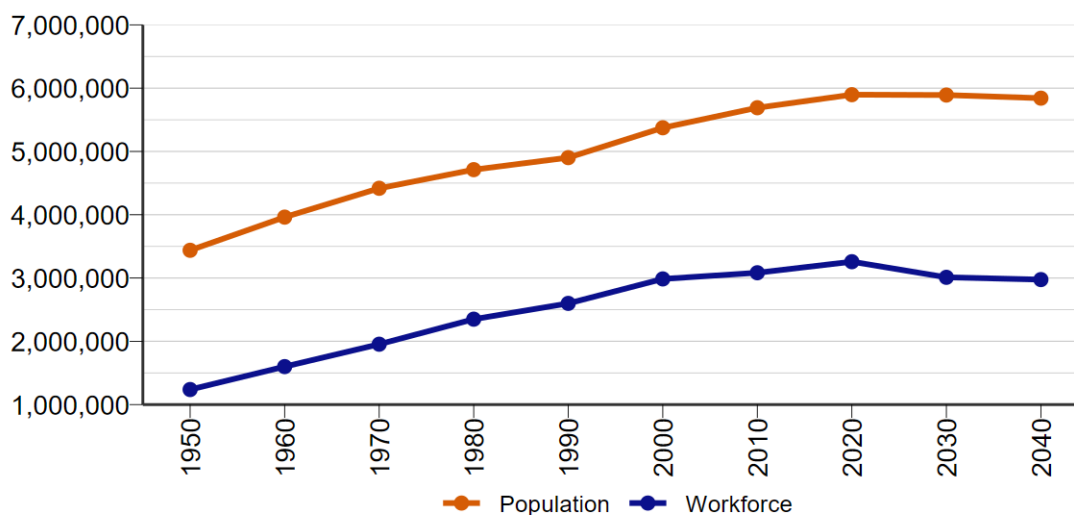
Figure 6: Wisconsin population and workforce projections.

While the overall situation has been realized for some time, the actual quantity of the shortfall has been undetermined until now. Staff at the Wisconsin Department of Workforce Development's Office of Economic Advisors estimate that by 2031, the state could face a labor shortage exceeding 241,000 workers. (See Labor Supply Projections for Wisconsin 2020 – 2040, Winters, Kaur, and Otis, Labor Supply Projections for Wisconsin).

New Construct

Human resource constraints affect the entire economic construct. As one of the three primary components of economic inputs – along with natural resources and capital – a compromise in the abundance of labor permeates the economy. Having never encountered a labor constraint before, it needs to be noted – old models and old policies do not apply.

Moreover, the labor quantity challenge is a macroeconomic phenomenon. It cannot be remedied with microeconomic solutions. Microeconomic attraction and retention incentives of higher wages, better benefits, early exposure, and more are, at best, short-term and limited symptom remedies.

Jobs will go unfilled. Macroeconomic solutions to the challenge include:

1. A workable immigration policy
2. Reducing barriers to employment (see 2023 Wisconsin County Profiles)
3. Expanding trade
4. Technology infusion

Altering a fundamental input of the macroeconomic construct will impact all sectors. The limited and shifting human resource segment will alter income streams, change demand for goods and services, and affect the provision of public goods and services.

Wisconsin's economic health and vigor has been illustrated in the employment and jobs data. However, record low unemployment rates signify two usually unassociated yet coupled performance indicators. On the one hand, low unemployment rates indicate an engaged labor force – a relatively large numerator. On the other hand, in today's environment, low unemployment rates indicate a scarce labor force – a relatively small denominator.

This is an unprecedented situation – and it is not likely to resolve itself quickly.

Yet to be explored are how the limited labor pool and aging population effects other critical economic drivers, such as personal income, as a significant portion of the population (Baby Boomers) shifts to transfer payments that are fixed in real dollar terms, housing stock, dependency ratios, and fiscal balances.

One major unknown on the horizon are the effects that Artificial Intelligence (AI) will have on the future of economic and workforce development. The Governor's Task Force on Workforce and Artificial Intelligence Advisory Action Plan (dwd.wisconsin.gov/ai-taskforce/pdf/ai-advisory-action-plan.pdf) outlines some of the expected effects of AI. For example, the chart below sheds some light on the extent that occupations may be affected by AI.
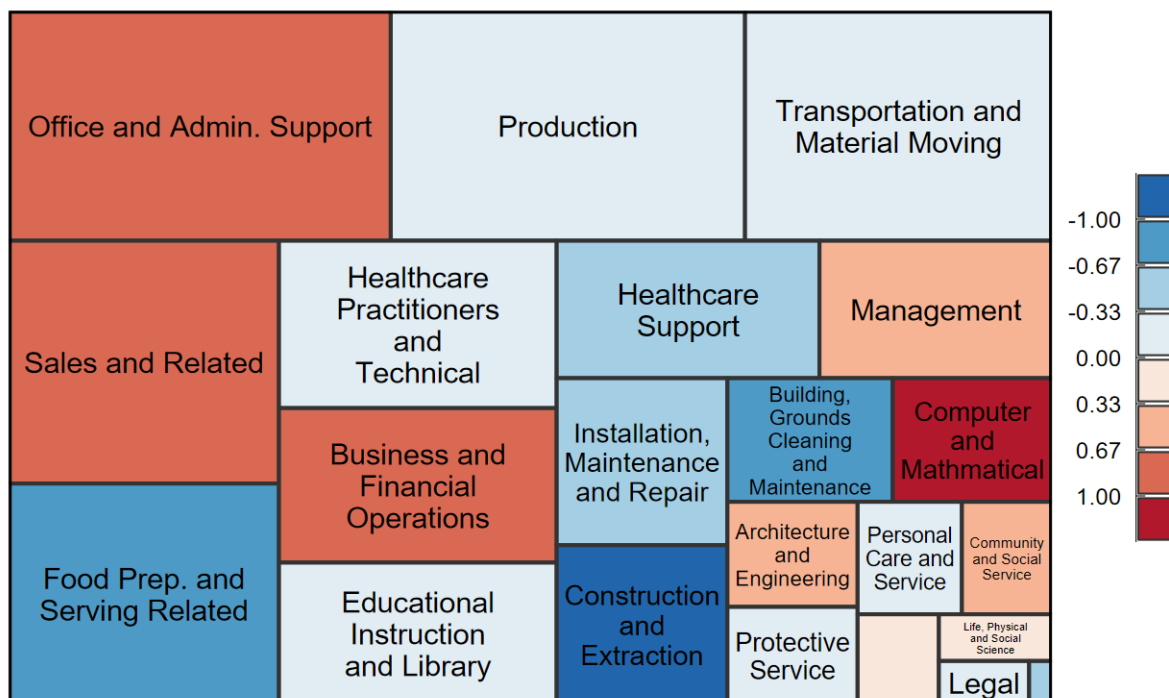

Figure 7: AI exposure per occupation group by number employed.

Fundamental changes are in store for Wisconsin's economy due primarily to two new influencers: workforce constraints and artificial intelligence technology. The degree to how each will affect the other and the whole is yet to be determined.

Population and Demographics

	2020 Census	2023 Final Estimate	Numeric Change	Percent Change
Florence, Town	2,096	2,092	-4	-0.2%
Aurora, Town	987	980	-7	-0.7%
Commonwealth, Town	390	398	8	2.0%
Homestead, Town	383	382	-1	-0.3%
Fern, Town	181	188	7	3.9%
Fence, Town	183	183	0	0.0%
Long Lake, Town	178	177	-1	-0.6%
Tipler, Town	160	159	-1	-0.6%
Florence, County	4,558	4,559	1	0.0%
Wisconsin, State	5,893,718	5,951,400	57,682	1.0%

With 4,559 residents, Florence County is the second least populous county in Wisconsin. It is also the 42nd fastest-growing county in the state since 30 counties experienced population declines. The county's population has remained virtually unchanged since the 2020 Census, increasing by only one resident in total. In contrast, the state's population increased by 1.0% from 2020 to 2023. Among the eight towns in the County, Commonwealth added the most people at 8.

> **i** Components of Population Change
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> Population change is driven by natural increase and migration. Natural population increase occurs when there are more births than deaths, while migration increases when more people move into the county than leave. Natural increase is primarily influenced by the population's age structure, while migration has a more immediate and actionable impact on the county labor force.
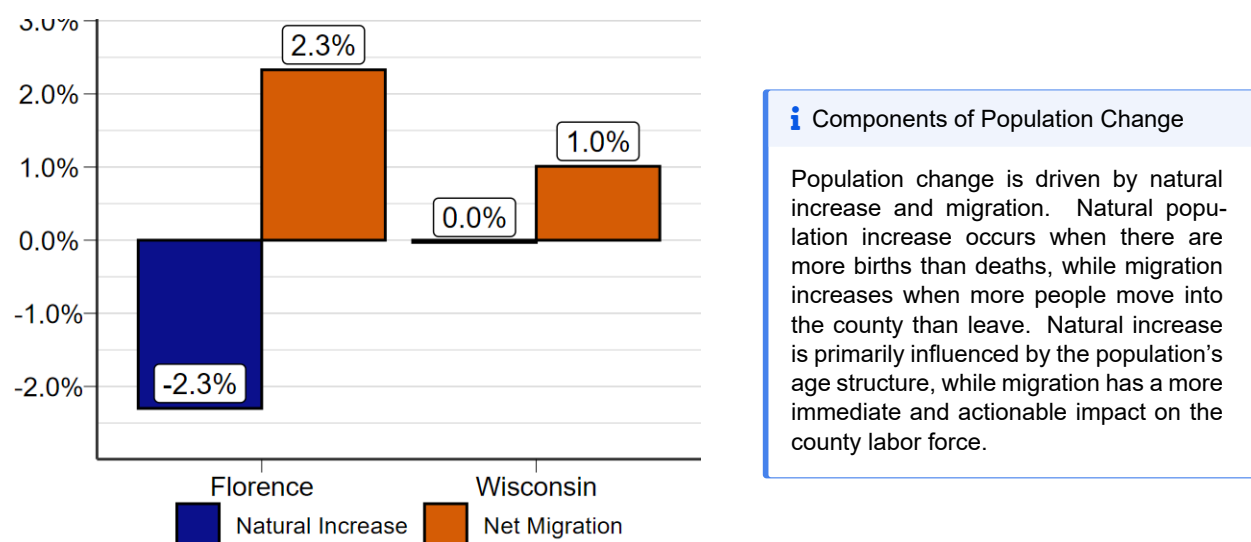
Figure 8: Source: WI Department of Administration.

Net migration has been the primary driver of population growth in both the state and Florence County in recent years. At the statewide level, domestic net migration (21,519) was positive from 2022-2024, which is a reversal from the previous trend, but international net migration (60,086) accounted for much more of this recent increase. Data for 2024 are currently not available at the county level, but from 2020-2023 Florence County had 244 domestic net migrants. In contrast, the county did not have any international net migrants (Source: U.S. Census Bureau). As seen in the chart above, the county's net migration rate is 2.3%, compared to the statewide rate of 1.0%. The fact that the county has a high rate of net migration relative to the state is not a new phenomenon.

Even though the state as a whole experienced a shift in its sources of population growth (away from natural increase and towards net migration), in Florence County the patterns remain mostly intact compared to the 2010s. Partly due to the fact it has the fifth highest median age in the state (54.1 years), the county's population growth in terms of natural increase was -2.3%, which is lower than the statewide rate. Because the county's two sources of population change are of equal magnitude but in opposite directions, the result is a 0.0% rate of population change.

Population Projections

	2020	2030	2040	2050	2020-2050 Population Change
Florence	4,558	4,260	3,725	3,135	-31.2%
Wisconsin	5,893,718	5,890,915	5,841,620	5,710,120	-3.1%

Source: Demographic Services Center, Wisconsin Department of Administration.

Florence County's population declined by 530 residents from 2000 to 2020; according to recently released population projections from the Department of Administration, this pattern is expected to continue. Florence County is among the 59 counties in Wisconsin that are projected to experience a population decline between 2020 and 2050. The county's anticipated population change of -31.2% is the lowest in the state. Projected population changes in each decade since 2020 are as follows: -298, -535, and -590.

Employment by Industry

	2023 Avg Monthly Employment	5-year Change	5-year % Change	% of Total Employment
Total, All Industries	981	-79	-7.5%	100.0%
Trade, Transportation, and Utilities	203	60	42.0%	20.7%
Public Administration	191	-4	-2.1%	19.5%
Leisure and Hospitality	182	-16	-8.1%	18.6%
Education and Health Services	153	-11	-6.7%	15.6%
Manufacturing	129	-78	-37.7%	13.1%
Professional and Business Services	43	NA	NA	4.4%
Financial Activities	30	NA	NA	3.1%
Construction	27	NA	NA	2.8%
Natural Resources and Mining	5	NA	NA	0.5%
Information	NA	NA	NA	NA
Other Services	NA	NA	NA	NA

Source: Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages, Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Florence County lost 79 net jobs from 2018 to 2023. Average employment levels were at 981 jobs in 2023. The largest industry was trade, transportation, and utilities, accounting for 20.7% of the county's employment in 2023. It was also the fastest-growing industry from 2018 to 2023, adding 60 jobs for a 42.0% growth rate.

The notion of the location quotient (LQ) is useful for comparing employment concentrations across different geographies. The LQ is defined as the employment share in one area divided by the same share in the other area. For example, 19.5% of Florence County's employment is accounted for by public administration, whereas the statewide share is 4.6%. Taking the ratio of the two yields an LQ of 4.3 (19.5% / 4.6% = 4.3). Public administration has the highest LQ in the county; leisure and hospitality (1.9) and trade, transportation, and utilities (1.1) are the two other industries with an LQ greater than 1. At a more granular level, the two largest subsectors in the county are executive, legislative, and other general government support (161) and food and beverage stores (76).

In contrast, the industries with the three lowest LQs in the county are financial activities (0.6), natural resources and mining (0.5), and professional and business services (0.4).

Unemployment

Florence County's monthly average unemployment rate mostly held steady over the past two years. In 2023 was the rate was 3.4%, compared to the 2022 rate of 3.6%. This pattern held throughout much of 2024 as well; the county's unemployment rate in September 2024 was 2.9%, which is 0.1 percentage points higher than two years prior.

There is a general tendency for Florence County's unemployment rate to be higher than the statewide rate, but as unemployment continues to stay low that gap has narrowed. The state's annual rate in 2023 was 0.4 percentage points lower than the county's rate. As of the time of this writing, Florence County has the 40th lowest unemployment rate in the state.

Despite other developments that point to a softening labor market in the state, such as the downward trends in both hiring and quits, a major reason why unemployment is still low is because layoffs remain stable and are around pre-2020 levels. Except for the COVID-19 and post-COVID periods, monthly layoffs in the state usually hover around 30,000.

> **i** Unemployment Rate
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> The unemployment rate is the percentage of people who are not working but actively looking for work compared to the total number of people in the labor force.
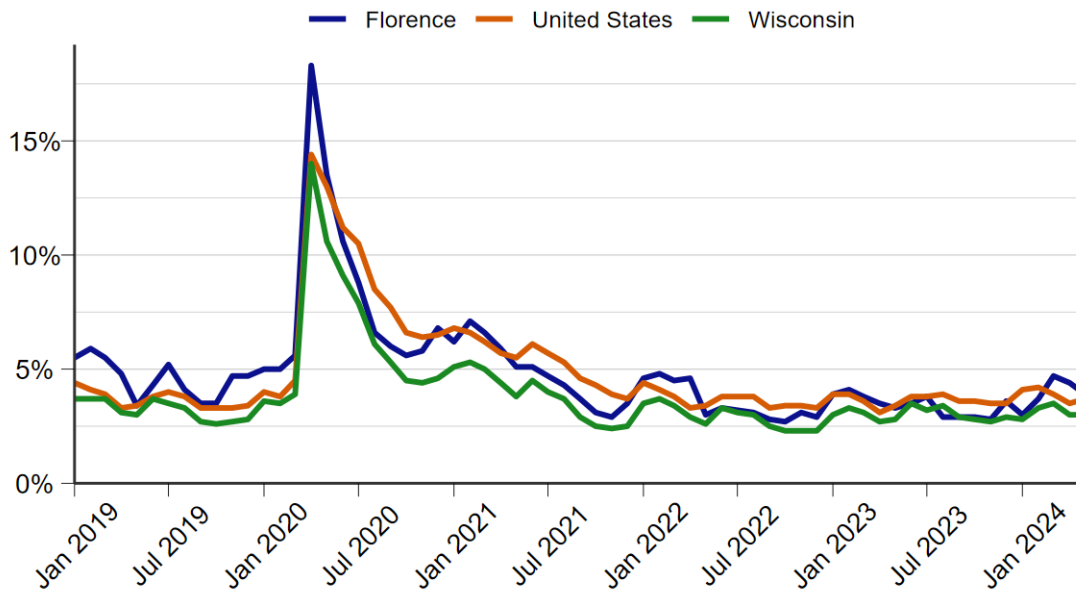

Figure 9: Source: Local Area Unemployment Statistics (LAUS), Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Labor Force Participation

Like most counties in the state, Florence County has experienced a notable decline in its labor force participation rate (LFPR) since 2000. Since the civilian noninstitutional population includes individuals of all ages 16 years old and over, the declining LFPR is largely a reflection of the county's changing age composition and retiring baby boomers. Florence County's LFPR in 2023 was 55.4%, down 10.1 percentage points compared to 2000. The county's LFPR ranks 60th in the state. Among other variables, this measure illustrates the longer-run workforce quantity challenges that lay ahead.

> **i** Labor Force Participation Rate
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> The labor force participation rate (LFPR) looks at the relative labor resources available and is expressed as the percentage of the civilian noninstitutional population 16 years and older that is working or actively looking for work.
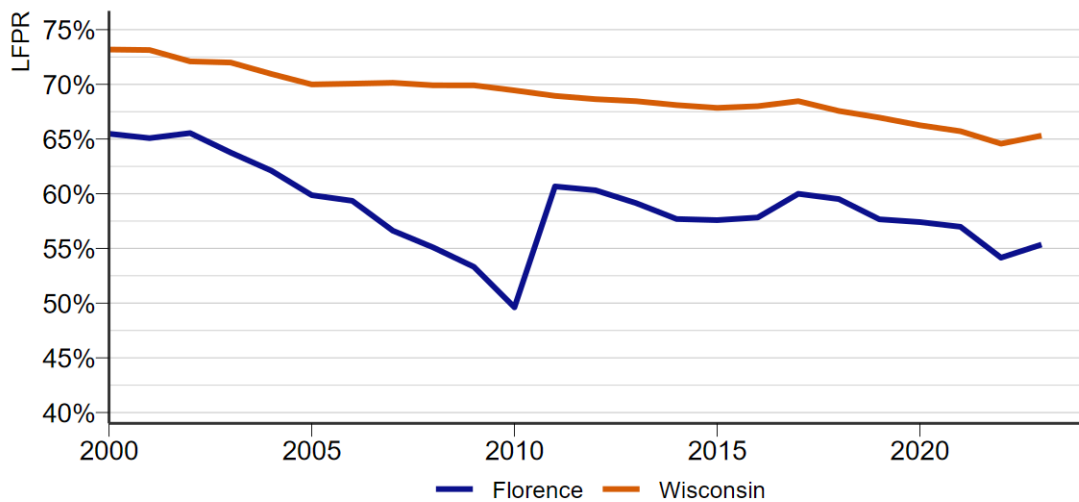

Figure 10: Source: WI Department of Workforce Development Office of Economic Advisors.

AI Impact

Occupation	Employment	% of Total Employment	AI Exposure Index
Cashiers	10,350	2.5%	0.89
Laborers and Freight, Stock, and Material Movers, Hand	10,200	2.4%	-0.78
Retail Salespersons	10,050	2.4%	0.40
Fast Food and Counter Workers	9,600	2.3%	-1.00
Customer Service Representatives	8,420	2.0%	0.75
Heavy and Tractor-Trailer Truck Drivers	8,370	2.0%	-0.09
Registered Nurses	8,340	2.0%	0.04
Office Clerks, General	6,890	1.7%	1.00
Stockers and Order Fillers	6,560	1.6%	-0.05
Janitors and Cleaners, Except Maids and Housekeeping Cleaners	5,470	1.3%	-1.27

Source: Governor's Task Force on Workforce and Artificial Intelligence.

> **ⓘ AI Exposure**
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> AI exposure, as computed by the Governor's Task Force on Workforce and Artificial Intelligence, is the median value across four different research paper's measures of exposure after normalizing each paper's measure to the same mean and variance. A positive value of AI exposure indicates placement in the top 50% of occupations for AI exposure, with higher values indicating greater exposure to AI. Conversely, negative numbers indicate exposure in the bottom 50%. For more information about AI exposure, refer to The Governor's Task Force on Workforce and Artificial Intelligence Advisory Action Plan (dwd.wisconsin.gov/ai-taskforce/pdf/ai-advisory-action-plan.pdf)

The AI exposure measures featured in the 2024 Governor's Taskforce on Workforce and Artificial Intelligence Advisory Action Plan are available at the local level, specifically regarding Workforce Development Areas (WDAs). Florence County is part of the Bay Area WDA, which also includes Brown, Door, Kewaunee, Manitowoc, Marinette, Menominee, Oconto, Outagamie, Shawano, and Sheboygan counties.

The largest occupation in the Bay Area workforce development area is cashiers, accounting for 2.5% of the area's employment. This occupation has an AI exposure index of 0.89. For context, the occupation with the highest potential AI exposure is bookkeeping, accounting, and auditing clerks, with an AI exposure index of 1.89. Within the WDAs ten largest occupations, janitors and cleaners, except maids and housekeeping cleaners has the lowest AI Exposure Index (-1.27).

Given the nature of these AI exposure measures, the findings are mostly comparative in nature. In other words, conclusions can be made about which occupations have more, or less, AI exposure compared to other occupations. Using the fact that the occupational makeups of the state's 11 WDAs differ from each other, geographical comparisons can be made as well. This type of analysis shows that 48.9% of the Bay Area's employment is concentrated in occupations with a positive AI exposure value, which is the sixth highest share in the state. For additional context, the South Central and Milwaukee County WDAs have the two highest shares in the state (54.5% and 54.1% respectively). These differences reflect a tendency for computer-based occupations to cluster in urban centers, and such occupations tend to have relatively high AI exposures.

Industry Employment Projections

	Industry	2022 Employment	2032 Projected Employment	Employment Change 2022-2032	% Change 2022-2032
Highest Number Employed	Manufacturing	93,011	96,873	3,862	4.15%
Highest Percent Growth	Financial Activities	24,280	27,218	2,938	12.10%
Most Jobs Added	Education and Health Services	88,640	94,511	5,871	6.62%
Total	Total All Industries	463,024	497,026	34,002	7.34%

Source: WI Department of Workforce Development Office of Economic Advisors.

DWD also produces projections of industry and occupation employment into the future. Projection methodology takes into account various ways the local workforce continuously evolves including retirements, career changes, and changing demand.

Regional employment is expected to grow by 7.3% or 34,002 jobs from 2022 to 2032. Statewide employment is projected to grow at a slower rate during the same timeframe (7.1%). Education and health services is projected to add the most jobs. However, because it is one of the largest industries in the WDA, its projected proportional change is 0.7 percentage points lower than the overall growth rate across all industries. Note that these projections only forecast levels of filled positions rather than potential demand, which can further illustrate the issues associated with an aging population. Job growth is expected to continue, despite declines in labor force growth.

For more information and detailed projections results for both occupations and industries, view the WisConomy projections page (jobcenterofwisconsin.com/wisconomy/pub/projections).

Occupation Employment Projections

	Occupation	2022 Employment	2032 Projected Employment	Employment Change 2022-2032	% Change 2022-2032
Highest Percent Growth	Computer and Mathematical	9,209	10,846	1,637	17.8%
Lowest Percent Growth	Office and Administrative Support	54,447	54,620	173	0.3%
Highest Number Employed	Production	62,381	64,442	2,061	3.3%
Most Jobs Added	Transportation and Material Moving	43,226	47,160	3,934	9.1%
Total	Total, All	463,024	497,026	34,002	7.3%

Source: WI Department of Workforce Development Office of Economic Advisors.

While industry projections have their uses and provide more of a broad view of employment expectations, occupational projections are typically a more functional tool for career planning purposes.

Transportation and material moving is the occupational group that is anticipated to add the most jobs between 2022 and 2032, accounting for 11.6% of the Bay Area WDA's total employment growth. Within this group, projected growth is most apparent for stockers and order fillers (1,064), laborers and freight, stock, and material movers, hand (854), and heavy and tractor-trailer truck drivers (607).

In proportional terms, computer and mathematical occupations has the highest projected growth rate (17.8%); projected gains are led by software developers (513), computer systems analysts (182), and computer user support specialists (151). Other occupational groups with relatively high projected growth rates include personal care and service (15.9%), healthcare practitioners and technical (12.9%), and construction and extraction (12.7%).
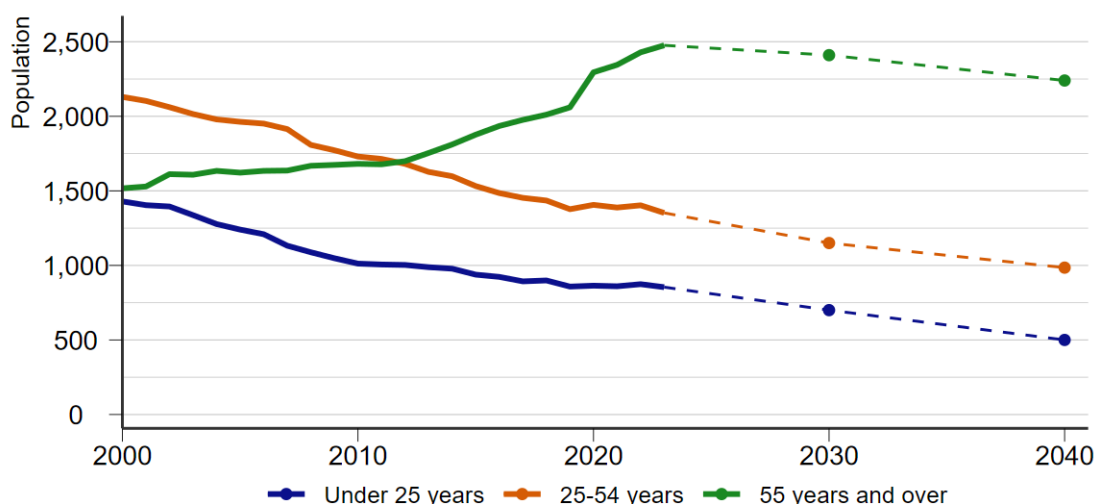
Aging Population

Figure 11: US Census Bureau, Population Estimates Program and
WI Department of Administration, Demographic Services Center.

The changing age of the local population has several implications in the county including the declining contribution of natural increase to overall population growth and a long-run workforce quantity challenge. The most visible of these changes is the growth in the number of residents in Florence County who are at least 55 years old. The size of this age group increased from 1,517 in 2000 to 2,476 in 2023. In percentage terms, its share of the overall population increased from 29.9% in 2000 to 52.9% in 2023. Because labor force participation starts to drop precipitously at 55 years old, this age group represents the tail end of the workforce participation as these residents can be expected to be nearing retirement if they have not already exited the workforce.

From a workforce perspective, the size of the population in the 25-54 age range is significant because this group tends to participate in the labor force at higher rates than their counterparts under 25 or over 54. The number of individuals in this group declined from 2,130 in 2000 to 1,352 in 2023. This group's share of Florence County's total population went from 42.0% to 28.9% during that time. The changes experienced by the under 25 age group followed a similar pattern: the population decreased from 1,429 to 854, and the share of the overall population declined from 28.2% to 18.2%.

While the projected population changes are a continuation of long-running trends for the two younger age groups, the expected decline in the 55 and over group is a newer development. From 2023 to 2040, the decreases in the under 25 and 25-54 age groups are 354 and 367 respectively. The projected decline of the 55 and over group (236) is more moderate by comparison.
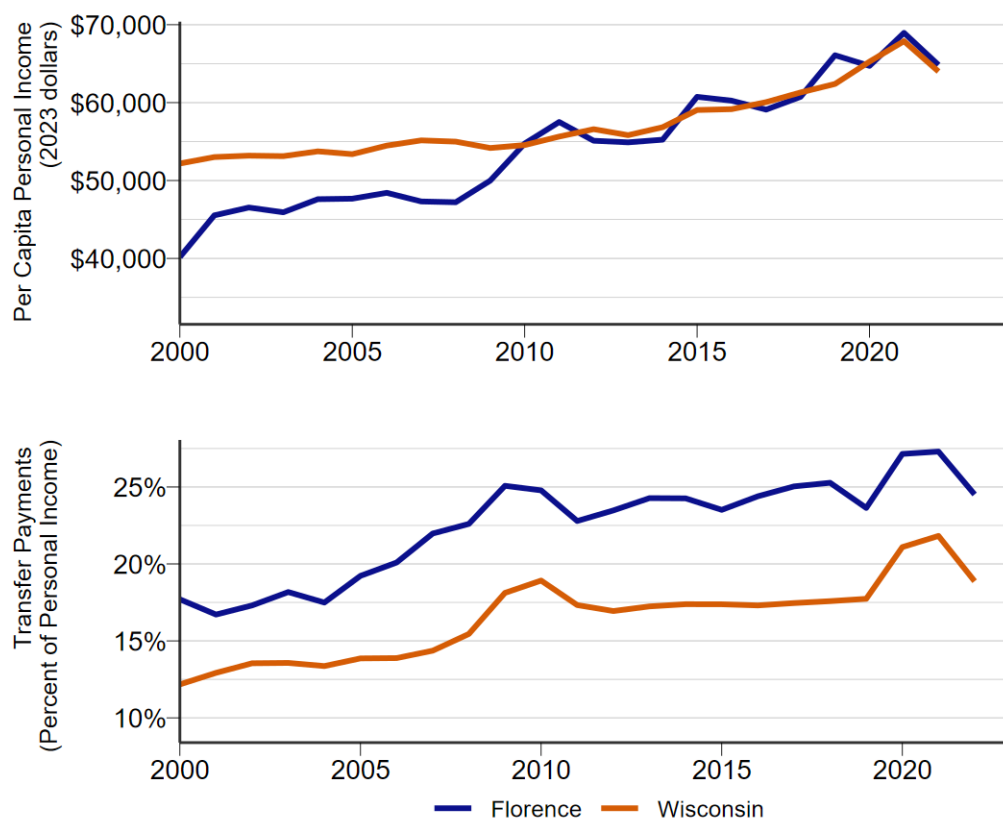
Personal Income

Figure 12: Source: United States Bureau of Economic Analysis.

> **i** Personal Income
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> Personal income includes income from all sources, such as wages, business income, rental income, investments, and government transfer payments. It excludes capital gains or losses, whether realized or unrealized. All dollar amounts are adjusted for inflation using 2023 dollars.

The per capita personal income (PCPI) in Florence County was $64,839 in 2022, compared to the statewide average of $63,996. The gap between the statewide and local PCPIs used to be much larger. Back in 2000 Wisconsin's PCPI of $52,186 was $12,012 greater than the county's. 2010 marked the first time in recent years that the county's PCPI exceeded the state's. Since then, the two have closely tracked each other.

As seen in the first chart above, there has been a mostly consistent increase in the county's PCPI over time. The local PCPI in 2022 was $24,664 higher than it was in 2000. However, it declined by $4,114 from 2021 to 2022, which illustrates how the post-COVID inflationary pressures had a net negative impact on purchasing power.

The second chart featured here provides the share of total personal income that was accounted for by transfer payments. The most notable pattern is the long-term rise at both the state and local levels. In Florence County, this share increased from 17.7% in 2000 to 24.5% in 2022. This is consistent with the previously mentioned aging of the population as an increasingly higher share of the population becomes eligible for payments from government programs such as Social Security.

Also of note are the temporary increases that occur during recessions. During the most two recent business cycles, this share in Florence County peaked at 25.1% in 2009 and 27.3% in 2021. Economic downturns usually put downward pressure on earned income sources such as wages and business income. At the same time, they trigger automatic stabilizers such as the Unemployment Insurance program.
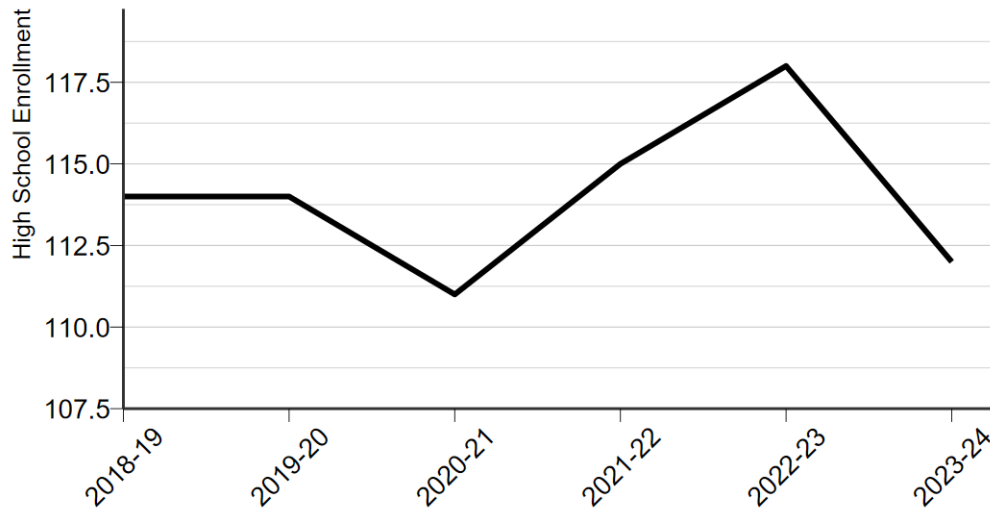
Workforce Pipeline

Figure 13: Source: Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction.

One way to view the county's preparedness to respond to any workforce quantity challenges is by examining the education system that prepares the next generation of the labor force. As of the 2023-24 school year, 112 students were enrolled in grades 9-12. This includes public, private, and home-based schools. Note that school district borders can extend into multiple counties, meaning that county-level counts may not necessarily represent the precise enrollment within county borders. Counts are determined by the reported enrollment of school district whose main office is located in that county. As school district borders do not necessarily align with county borders, the numbers may not match the total number of students residing in the county.

Numbers on the total population of Florence County ages 14 to 17 provide another way to put this in its proper context because the size of this group can be used as a proxy for the high school aged population. In addition, this measure is not dependent on school district borders. The overall size of this cohort was 211 in 2010, 166 in 2015, and 164 in 2023 (Source: U.S. Census Bureau, County Population by Characteristics).
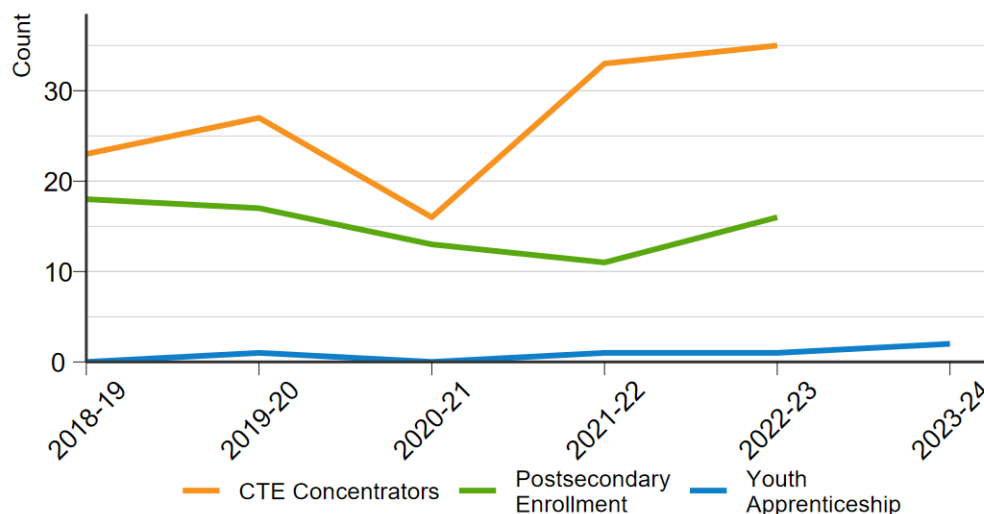
Figure 14: Source: Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction and Department of Workforce Development.

Career and Technical Education

Of those in grades 11 and 12, 53.8% were concentrators in career and technical education (CTE), compared to 44.3% for the state during the 2022-23 school year. CTE participation is evidence of efforts to improve career readiness among high school students.

The distribution of career clusters among local CTE concentrators is provided in the chart below. It is important to acknowledge that given the size of this group in Florence County (35 students), small changes are enough to cause large shifts in the percentages accounted for by different pathways.

With that caveat in mind, there are some notable differences in the distribution of career clusters at the local and state levels. For example, the manufacturing pathway accounted for 48.6% of concentrators in the county, which is 37.3 percentage points greater than the statewide rate. Hospitality and tourism accounted for 31.4% of concentrators in the county, 18.0 percentage points greater than the state.

> **i** Career and Technical Education
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> Career and technical education (CTE) equips students for both the workforce and postsecondary education through work-based learning opportunities. CTE concentrators are 11th and 12th graders who have passed at least two CTE courses within a specific career pathway. Home-based students are not included in this data.

	CTE Concentrator	Percent of Grade 11 and 12
Florence	35	53.8%
Wisconsin	64,124	44.3%

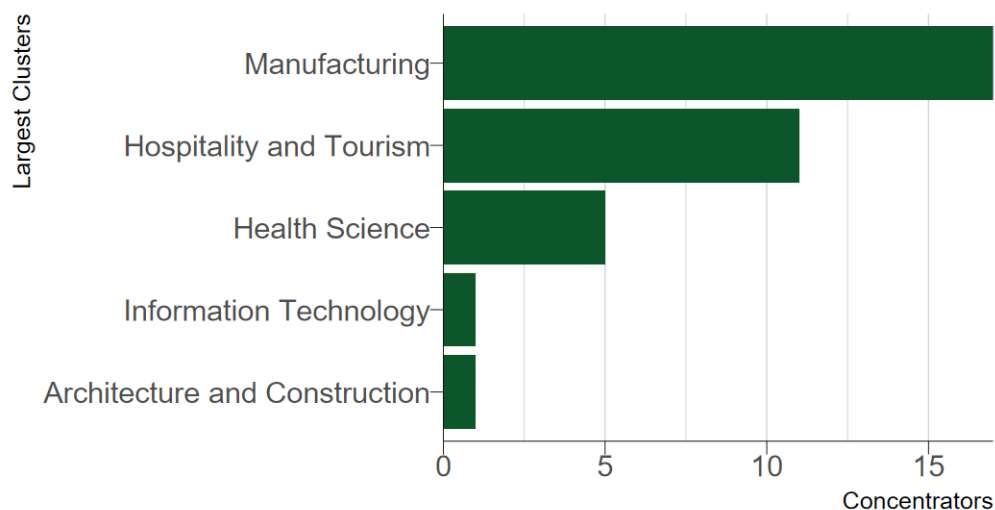School year 2022-23. Source: Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction.

Figure 15: School year 2022-23. Source: Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction.

Postsecondary Enrollment

The percentage of high school completers who went on to enroll in a postsecondary institution as a percentage of all 12th grade students in 2022-23 was 51.6%. In Wisconsin, it was 43.6%.

> **i** Postsecondary Enrollment
>
> Postsecondary enrollment tracks the percentage of high school graduates who attend a postsecondary school (public or private colleges, two- or four-year universities, technical colleges, or training programs) in the fall immediately following graduation. It is important to note that this data may slightly underrepresent actual enrollment due to limitations in how information is matched within the National Student Clearinghouse.

	Postsecondary Enrollment	Percent of Grade 12
Florence	16	51.6%
Wisconsin	31,893	43.6%

School year 2022-23. Source: Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction.

Youth Apprenticeship

Youth apprenticeship prepares participants for the workforce through direct, hands-on work experience. There was 1 youth apprentice in Florence County in the 2022-23 school year.

> **i** Youth Apprenticeship
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> Youth Apprenticeship (YA) Program is a school-supervised program that combines work and classroom learning to help high school students prepare for a career. Participants receive on-the-job training directly from the employer. The program helps students explore career paths and helps employers develop a qualified workforce.

	Youth Apprenticeship Participants	Percent of Grade 11 and 12
Florence	1	1.5%
Wisconsin	8,222	5.7%

School year 2022-23. Source: Wisconsin Department of Workforce Development.