

COUNTY PROFILE

Benton Co.

Benton Co. is a part of Economic Development Region 7W, which is located in the Central Planning Region.

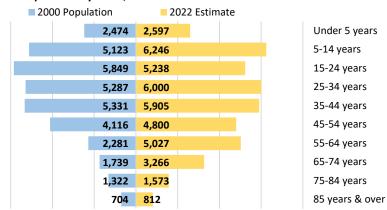
POPULATION CHARACTERISTICS



Benton Co. is the 24th largest of the 87 counties in the state. Its population increased over the past decade, ranking as the 18th fastest growing in the state from 2010 to 2022. Benton Co.'s population has a younger median age than the state and a smaller percentage of people aged 65 years and older. The population is aging, especially as the Baby Boom generation moves through the population pyramid (see Figure 1).

Table 1. Population by Age Group, 2022 Number Percent Under 5 years 2,597 6.3% 6,246 15.1% 5-14 years 15-24 years 5,238 12.6% 25-34 years 6,000 14.5% 35-44 years 5,905 14.2% 45-54 years 4,800 11.6% 55-64 years 5,027 12.1% 65-74 years 3,266 7.9% 75-84 years 1,573 3.8% 2.0% 85 years & over 812 **Total Population** 41,463 100.0% Source: Census Population Estimates, 2018-2022 ACS

Figure 1. Population Pyramid, 2000-2022



Benton Co. enjoyed a natural increase - more births than deaths from 2020 to 2022, but also experienced net out-migration - meaning more people moved out than moved in. Despite suffering domestic out-migration, Benton Co. welcomed net international in-migration - gaining new Minnesotans from foreign countries (see Table 2).

Table 2. Cumulative Estimates of the Components of Population Change, 2020-2022								
	Total		April 1, 2020 to July 1, 2022					
	Population	Natural	Vital Events Net Migration			on		
	Change	Increase	Births	Deaths	Total	International	Domestic	
Benton Co.	82	70	1,087	1,017	-9	169	-178	
State of Minnesota	10,680	26,917	144,350	117,433	-17,365	20,012	-37,377	

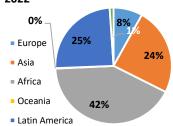
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Population Estimates Program

Compared to the state, Benton Co. has a smaller percentage of foreign-born residents. From 2010 to 2022, Benton Co. saw an increase in the number of foreign-born residents, which was faster than the statewide increase.

Hamber of foreign both residence, which was faster than the statewide increase.								
Table 3. Place of Birth for the Foreign Born	Bento	Benton Co. Change 2010-2022 Minnesota			esota			
Population, 2022	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Percent	Change		
Foreign-born Population	1,760	4.3%	1,164	195.3%	8.5%	31.3%		
Europe	142	8.1%	98	222.7%	9.3%	-0.6%		
Asia	428	24.3%	82	23.7%	36.7%	30.2%		
Africa	737	41.9%	675	1088.7%	28.1%	93.1%		
Oceania	2	0.1%	2	#DIV/0!	0.4%	20.4%		
Americas:	451	25.6%	307	213.2%	25.4%	7.5%		
Latin America	432	24.5%	301	229.8%	22.9%	9.0%		
Northern America	19	1.1%	6	46.2%	2.5%	-4.6%		

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2018-2022 American Community Survey

Figure 2. Place of Birth for the Foreign Born Population, 2022

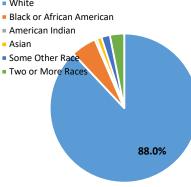


Northern America

Benton Co.'s population was becoming more racially diverse over time. Since 2011, the county's white population declined, but the number of people of other races increased (see Table 4).

Figure 3. Population by Race, 2022

- White
- Black or African American
- American Indian
- Asian



		Benton Co	Minnesota		
Table 4. Race and Hispanic Origin, 2022	Number	Percent	Change from 2011-2022	Percent	Change from 2011-2022
Total	41,300	100.0%	7.7%	100.0%	7.9%
White	36,349	88.0%	-0.1%	79.7%	-0.4%
Black or African American	2,274	5.5%	198.4%	6.7%	44.3%
American Indian or Alaska Native	198	0.5%	-1.0%	0.9%	-10.2%
Asian or Other Pac. Islanders	430	1.0%	-7.3%	5.1%	37.1%
Some Other Race	768	1.9%	3390.9%	2.3%	84.7%
Two or More Races	1,281	3.1%	151.7%	5.3%	159.6%
Hispanic or Latino origin	1,268	3.1%	86.2%	5.7%	34.6%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2018-2022 American Community Survey

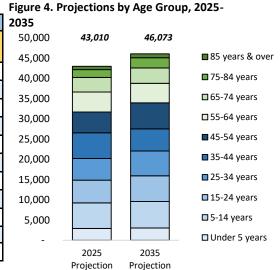
POPULATION PROJECTIONS

According to the Minnesota State Demographic Center, Benton Co.'s population is expected to grow from 2025 to 2035, with a rate of change that is slower than the projected statewide growth rate (4.5%). In addition to the overall growth, the number of people aged 65 years and older is expected to increase over the next decade (see Figure 4 and Table 5).

Table 5. Population Projections by Age Group, 2025-2035 2025 2035

Numeric Percent Benton Co. Projection Projection Change Change Under 5 years 2,922 3,026 104 3.6% 5-14 years 6,306 6,542 236 3.7% 5,614 756 13.5% 15-24 years 6,370 25-34 years 5,355 6,124 769 14.4% 35-44 years 6,379 5,481 -898 -14.1% 5,119 6,426 1,307 25.5% 45-54 years 55-64 years 4,932 4,830 -102 -2.1% 65-74 years 3,630 3,798 168 4.6% 75-84 years 1,940 2,533 593 30.6% 85 years & over 813 943 130 16.0% **Total Population** 43,010 46,073 3,063 7.1%

Source: Minnesota State Demographic Center



EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT

Benton Co. has a lower percentage of adults (18 years & over) with at least a high school diploma than the state (93.0%), and a lower percentage of people with at least some college experience. Benton Co. also has a higher percentage of people with an Associate's degree and a lower percentage of people with a Bachelor's degree or higher.

Percentage of the adult population (18 years & over) with at least a high school diploma:

90.8%

6% 9% 16% 62.0% 68.5% 15%

25%

Figure 5. Educational Attainment, 2022

29%

■ Less than high school

☐ High school graduate (incl. equiv.)

■ Some college, no degree

Associate's degree

■ Bachelor's degree ■ Advanced degree

Associate's Degree: 14.7% Bachelor's Degree: 16.2% Advanced Degree: 6.4%

state:

College-educated:

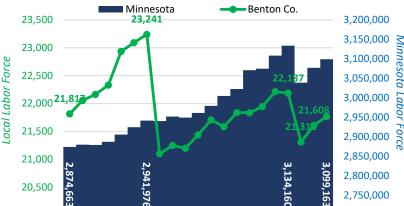
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2018-2022 American Community Survey

Figure 6. Annual Labor Force Estimates

LABOR FORCE TRENDS

At 3.4%, Benton Co. had a higher unemployment rate than the state in 2023. After the pandemic recession Benton Co.'s unemployment rate declined compared to the 4.1% pre-pandemic rate posted in 2019. The number of unemployed workers actively seeking work in Benton Co. increased over the past year, and is down compared to 2019.





Source: DEED Local Area Unemployment Statistics

2,700,000

Labor force growth has slowed in recent years. After experiencing a net gain of workers each year from 1990 to 2000, Benton Co. averaged an annual gain of new workers from 2000 to 2010, and most recently a gain of new workers since 2010 (see Figure 7). Moving forward, Benton Co. is expected to add workers from 2025 to 2035 (see Table 6).

20,000

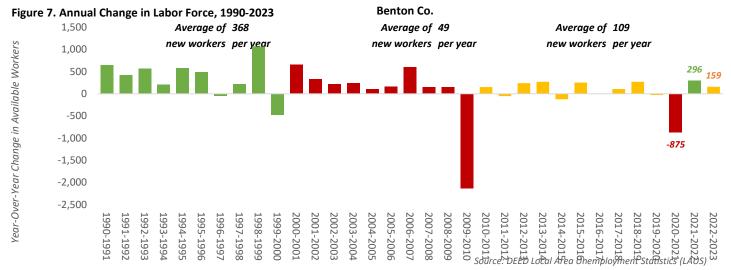
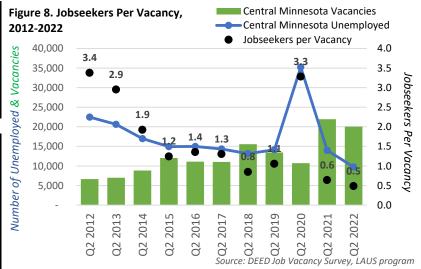


Table 6. Labor Force	Labor Force Projection			
Projections, 2025-2035	2025	2035		
16 to 24 years	3,917	4,510		
25 to 54 years	15,178	16,253		
55 to 64 years	3,727	3,649		
65 years & over	1,081	1,198		
Total Labor Force	23,903	25,611		

Source: Minnesota State Demographic Center, 2018-2022 ACS

The labor market had grown extremely tight in recent years, with less than 1 jobseeker per vacancy until the pandemic recession intervened in early 2020 and the number of unemployed workers spiked. Job vacancies in Central reached new highs in the 4th quarter of 2021, quickly bringing back challenges in finding new workers and 2022 showed the lowest jobseeker-per-vacancy ratio on record (see Figure 8).



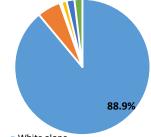
LABOR FORCE CHARACTERISTICS

shorter average commute time than the state.

Benton Co. had a higher labor force participation rate than the state. The labor force in Benton Co. is less racially diverse than the state (where 81.3% of workers are white alone), but is becoming more diverse over time.

Table 7. Employment Characteristics, 2022								
	В	enton Co.		Minne	esota	Labor Force	by Gender	
	In Labor Force (available workers)	Labor Force Partic. Rate	Unemp. Rate	Labor Force Partic. Rate	Unemp. Rate	Male	Female	
Total Labor Force	23,334	73.3%	3.7%	68.7%	4.0%	12,076	11,247	
16 to 19 years	1,278	64.3%	7.1%	53.0%	9.8%	471	808	
20 to 24 years	2,322	90.3%	4.1%	83.1%	6.7%	1,132	1,190	
25 to 44 years	10,626	89.6%	3.5%	88.8%	3.5%	5,554	5,070	
45 to 54 years	4,355	91.1%	1.6%	87.8%	2.9%	2,374	1,981	
55 to 64 years	3,783	75.6%	5.4%	72.8%	3.1%	2,030	1,754	
65 to 74 years	690	21.2%	3.8%	27.6%	3.3%	363	328	
75 years & over	268	11.3%	0.7%	6.6%	3.2%	152	116	
Employment Characteristics by Race & His	panic Origin					Figure 9. La	abor Force	
White alone	20,739	72.2%	3.5%	67.8%	3.4%	Race, 2022		
Black or African American	1,307	92.5%	1.5%	71.5%	8.7%		.11	
American Indian & Alaska Native	106	74.6%	29.2%	57.6%	11.9%			
Asian or Other Pac. Islanders	288	78.1%	15.7%	73.9%	3.6%			
Some Other Race	434	74.7%	1.8%	76.1%	6.1%			
Two or More Races	439	72.6%	7.7%	74.3%	6.6%			
Hispanic or Latino	616	68.1%	8.9%	77.0%	6.3%			
Employment Characteristics by Disability,	20 to 64 years							
With Any Disability, 20 to 64 years	1,345	55.2%	14.0%	54.4%	10.2%		1	
Employment Characteristics by Educationa	l Attainment, 25	to 64 years						
Population, 25 to 64 years	18,767	86.7%	3.5%	84.4%	3.3%	White al		
Less than H.S. Diploma	1,254	75.2%	6.4%	67.2%	4.6%		African Ameri	
H.S. Diploma or Equivalent	4,233	80.9%	3.1%	76.8%	2.5%		n Indian & Ala	
Some College or Assoc. Degree	8,138	88.4%	3.2%	85.1%	3.6%		Other Pac. Isla	
Bachelor's Degree or Higher	5,141	92.8%	1.1%	90.3%	2.0%	Some Ot	ther Race	
						- T 1	4 D	

Figure 9. Labor Force by Race, 2022



- White alone
- Black or African American
- American Indian & Alaska Native
- Asian or Other Pac. Islanders
- Some Other Race
- Two or More Races

A smaller percentage of workers in Benton Co. worked in the same county in which they live compared to the state. Benton Co. also had a

Source: 2018-2022 American Community Survey, 5-Year Estimates

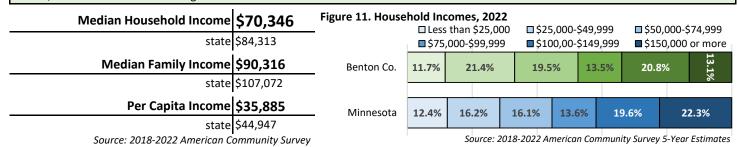
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	Benton	Co.	Minn	esota	
Table 8. Commuting Characteristics, 2022	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	1
Worked in state of residence	21,950	99.7%	2,867,086	97.7%	1
Worked in county of residence	7,662	34.8%	1,957,366	66.7%	ı
Worked out of county of residence	14,288	64.9%	909,720	31.0%	ı
Worked outside state of residence	66	0.3%	67,495	2.3%	ı
MEANS OF TRANSPORTATION TO WORK					
Car, truck, or van	19,550	88.8%	2,387,561	81.6%	5
Public transportation (excl. taxicab)	154	0.7%	81,926	2.8%	ı
Other method (walk, bike, taxi, etc.)	881	4.0%	122,889	4.2%	Е
Worked at home	1,431	6.5%	333,556	11.4%	ı
TRAVEL TIME TO WORK					. 7
Less than 10 minutes	3,390	15.4%	465,223	15.9%	,
10 to 19 minutes	8,212	37.3%	895,335	30.6%	ı
20 to 29 minutes	4,844	22.0%	649,557	22.2%	8
30 to 44 minutes	3,192	14.5%	567,631	19.4%	ı
45 to 59 minutes	1,079	4.9%	190,186	6.5%	ı
60 or more minutes	1,321	6.0%	158,000	5.4%	ı
Mean travel time to work (minutes)	22.6	minutes	23.3	minutes	i

Figure 10. Time Leaving Home to go to Work, 2022 ■ Benton Co. ■ Minnesota 0% 20% 40% 12:00 a.m. to 5.5% 4:59 a.m. 5:00 a.m. to 5:59 a.m. 9.2% 6:00 a.m. to 6:59 21.0% 19.2% 7:00 a.m. to 7:59 27.8% a.m. 28.7% 8:00 a.m. to 8:59 9.6% a.m. 14.7% 9:00 a.m. to 23.8% 11:59 p.m. 23.5%

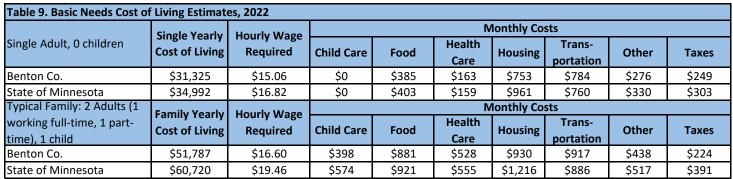
Source: 2018-2022 American Community Survey, 5-Year Estimates

INCOMES, COST OF LIVING, & HOUSING

Benton Co. had a lower median household income than the state, and a higher percentage of households with incomes below \$50,000. Overall, Benton Co. had the 40th highest median household income of the 87 counties in the state.



The cost of living has increased over the past 2 years with costs up in many areas. Benton Co. had a lower cost of living than the state, with a required hourly wage of \$15.06 for a single person living alone to meet a basic needs cost of living, and an hourly wage requirement of \$16.6 for a typical family with 2 adults and 1 child (see Table 9).



Source: DEED Cost of Living tool

Benton Co. had a lower median house value than the state, having the 29th highest value of the 87 counties in 2021. Benton Co.'s housing stock was newer than the state's, with a higher percentage of units built since 2000 (see Figure 12).

Table 10. Estimated Value of Owner-	Benton Co. Minnes		Minnesota	Figure 12. Year St	ructure	e Built,	2022
occupied Housing Units, 2022	Total	Percent	Percent	0	%	10%	20%
Total	10,842	100.0%	100.0%	■ Bent	on Co.	- 000	■ N
Less than \$50,000	664	6.1%	4.1%	2010 or later		7.0% 7.8%	
\$50,000 to \$99,999	476	4.4%	4.6%	2000 to 2009			19
\$100,000 to \$149,999	1,302	12.0%	7.1%				13.3%
\$150,000 to \$199,999	1,761	16.2%	10.7%	1980 to 1999			
\$200,000 to \$299,999	3,668	33.8%	27.1%	1960 to 1979			
\$300,000 to \$499,999	2,250	20.8%	31.7%			1	
\$500,000 or more	721	6.7%	14.7%	1940 to 1959		7.5%	13.8%
Median (dollars)	\$229,3	300	\$286,800	1939 or earlier		11.	.2%

Source: 2018-2022 American Community Survey, 5-Year Estimates

0% 10% 20% 30% 40% Benton Co ■ Minnesota 2010 or later 19.2% 2000 to 2009 30.1% 1980 to 1999 24.9% 1960 to 1979 23.8% 7.5% 1940 to 1959 13.8% 1939 or earlier

Median monthly owner costs, owner-occupied units with a mortgage

state \$1,818

Percentage of households with a mortgage spending 30% or more of their income on housing costs

24.0%

Median monthly rent costs \$907

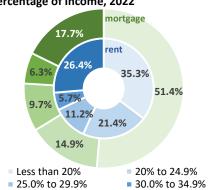
Percentage of renters spending 30% or more of their household income on rent

state 46.7%

Source: 2018-2022 American Community Survey, 5-Year Estimates



35% or more



OCCUPATIONS

At \$23.1 in 2023, wages were lower in Region 7W than the state. Overall, Region 7W had the 3rd highest median hourly wage level of the 13 economic development regions in the state. Wages were highest for management occupations (\$47.37) and lowest for food preparation and serving related jobs (\$14.83) (see Table 11).

Table 11. Occupational Employment & Wage Statistics, 2023							
	Region 7W State of Minneso					ota	
Occupational Group	Median Hourly Wage	Estimated Regional Jobs	Share of Total Jobs	Regional Location Quotient	Median Hourly Wage	Estimated Statewide Jobs	Share of Total Jobs
Total, All Occupations	\$23.10	172,540	100.0%	1.0	\$24.25	2,827,310	100.0%
Management	\$47.37	9,400	5.4%	0.8	\$51.58	193,760	6.9%
Business & Financial Operations	\$34.12	7,400	4.3%	0.6	\$38.19	201,940	7.1%
Computer & Mathematical	\$38.55	2,180	1.3%	0.4	\$49.73	99,250	3.5%
Architecture & Engineering	\$38.84	2,020	1.2%	0.6	\$40.60	53,100	1.9%
Life, Physical & Social Science	\$35.92	1,060	0.6%	0.6	\$39.37	29,070	1.0%
Community & Social Service	\$28.56	2,720	1.6%	0.8	\$25.82	54,820	1.9%
Legal	\$38.02	610	0.4%	0.5	\$47.87	18,730	0.7%
Education, Training & Library	\$25.15	11,490	6.7%	1.2	\$24.82	158,830	5.6%
Arts, Design, Entertainment & Media	\$25.03	1,690	1.0%	0.7	\$28.80	37,630	1.3%
Healthcare Practitioners & Technical	\$41.37	11,000	6.4%	1.0	\$41.07	186,700	6.6%
Healthcare Support	\$17.60	8,540	4.9%	0.9	\$17.40	162,400	5.7%
Protective Service	\$29.24	2,330	1.4%	0.9	\$25.83	40,620	1.4%
Food Preparation & Serving Related	\$14.83	14,560	8.4%	1.1	\$14.89	216,970	7.7%
Building, Grounds Cleaning & Maint.	\$18.10	5,330	3.1%	1.1	\$18.26	76,210	2.7%
Personal Care & Service	\$16.34	3,220	1.9%	0.9	\$16.96	58,120	2.1%
Sales & Related	\$17.48	15,960	9.3%	1.1	\$18.14	239,500	8.5%
Office & Administrative Support	\$22.21	19,860	11.5%	0.9	\$23.06	345,830	12.2%
Farming, Fishing & Forestry	\$17.58	260	0.2%	1.0	\$19.84	4,060	0.1%
Construction & Extraction	\$30.45	11,080	6.4%	1.6	\$31.00	113,930	4.0%
Installation, Maintenance & Repair	\$27.45	7,270	4.2%	1.2	\$27.95	98,670	3.5%
Production	\$21.81	17,830	10.3%	1.4	\$22.07	209,380	7.4%
Transportation & Material Moving	\$19.78	16,720	9.7%	1.2	\$19.80	227,780	8.1%

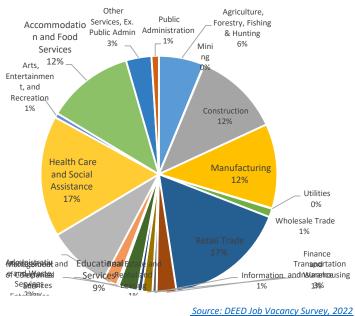
Source: DEED Occupational Employment & Wage Statistics, Qtr. 1 2023

JOB VACANCY SURVEY

Benton Co. is a part of the Central planning region. There were 20029 job vacancies posted by employers in 2022, indicating extensive opportunity in the region, with openings across several occupations and industries (see Figure 14).

Table 12. Central Job Vacancy Survey Results, 2022						
	Number of	Wage				
Occupational Group	Vacancies	Offer				
Total, All Occupations	20,029	\$18.05				
Management	320					
Business & Financial Operations	202					
Computer & Mathematical	171	T				
Architecture & Engineering	158	•				
Life, Physical & Social Sciences	621					
Community & Social Service	254					
Education, Training & Library	1,003					
Healthcare Practitioners & Technical	1,788					
Healthcare Support	1,330					
Protective Service	133					
Food Preparation & Serving Related	2,629					
Building, Grounds Cleaning & Maint.	669					
Personal Care & Service	650	\$14.19				
Sales & Related	2,437					
Office & Administrative Support	1,264					
Construction & Extraction	1,479					
Installation, Maintenance & Repair	620					
Production	1,690					
Transportation & Material Moving	1,845	\$20.33				

Figure 14. Job Vacancies by Industry, 2022



OCCUPATIONS IN DEMAND

Table 13. Central Planning R	Table 13. Central Planning Region Occupations in Demand, 2022						
Less than High School	High School or Equivalent	Some College or Assoc. Deg.	Bachelor's Degree or Higher				
Fast Food & Counter	Nursing Assistants	Registered Nurses	General & Operations Managers				
Workers	G	-					
\$30,214/yr	\$39,353/yr	\$86,694/yr	\$79,121/yr				
Home Health & Personal	Agricultural Technicians	Veterinary Technologists &	Elementary School Teachers				
Care Aides	ĆEO 724/	Technicians	¢64.300 <i>k</i>				
\$32,476/yr	\$50,734/yr	\$40,013/yr	\$64,300/yr				
Cashiers	Licensed Practical & Licensed Vocational Nurses	Police & Sheriff's Patrol Officers	Secondary School Teachers				
\$29,935/yr	\$52,954/yr	\$74,178/yr	\$64,602/yr				
Retail Salespersons	Automotive Service Technicians &	Architectural & Civil Drafters	Accountants & Auditors				
·	Mechanics						
\$31,947/yr	\$50,038/yr	\$60,894/yr	\$69,793/yr				
First-Line Supervisors of	Machinists	Electro-Mechanical &	Middle School Teachers				
Retail Sales Workers		Mechatronics Technologists &					
\$45,819/yr	\$57,338/yr	\$52,181/yr	\$65,007/yr				
Laborers & Freight, Stock, &			Preschool Teachers				
Material Movers, Hand	Mechanics & Installers	& Technicians					
\$39,815/yr	\$64,161/yr	\$62,998/yr	\$36,959/yr				
Janitors & Cleaners, exc.	Industrial Machinery Mechanics	Radiologic Technologists &	Substance abuse, behavioral &				
Maids & Housekeeping	industrial Machinery Mechanics	Technicians	mental health counselors				
\$36,758/yr	\$63,521/yr	\$76,318/yr	\$51,463/yr				
First-Line Supervisors of	Hairdressers, Hairstylists, &	Dental Hygienists	Substitute Teachers, Short-Term				
Food Preparation & Serving	Cosmetologists	Dental Hygienists	Substitute reactiers, Short-reitif				
\$39,562/yr	\$35,910/yr	\$84,542/yr	\$43,575/yr				
Heavy & Tractor-Trailer	Electricians	Surgical Technologists	Financial Managers				
Truck Drivers	Electricians	Surgical reclinologists	Filialiciai Mallagers				
\$57,479/yr	\$63,794/yr	\$64,849/yr	\$120,404/yr				
Teaching Assistants, exc.	Medical Assistants	Computer Network Support	Medical & Health Services				
Postsecondary	WEULCH ASSISTANTS	Specialists	Managers				
\$38,154/yr	\$46,901/yr	\$72,592/yr	\$100,201/yr				

Source: DEED Occupations in Demand

Benton Co. is a part of the Central planning region, which is projected to see a 5% increase in employment levels over the next decade. In addition to new jobs created, there will be a much larger number of exit openings (see Figure 15).

Table 14. Regional Industry Employment Projections, 2020-2030						
Estimated Employment	Projected Employ-	Percent Change				
2020	ment 2030	2020-2030				
301,170	316,216	5.0%				
5,416	4,879	-9.9%				
1,952	1,686	-13.6%				
18,984	19,792	4.3%				
39,543	40,646	2.8%				
10,123	10,516	3.9%				
35,588	33,781	-5.1%				
10,098	10,685	5.8%				
2,639	2,842	7.7%				
9,550	9,649	1.0%				
8,562	9,119	6.5%				
9,545	10,066	5.5%				
23,734	24,976	5.2%				
46,672	52,213	11.9%				
21,963	26,961	22.8%				
10,108	11,290	11.7%				
19,239	20,198	5.0%				
	Estimated Employment 2020 301,170 5,416 1,952 18,984 39,543 10,123 35,588 10,098 2,639 9,550 8,562 9,545 23,734 46,672 21,963 10,108 19,239	Estimated Employment Projected Employment 2030 301,170 316,216 5,416 4,879 1,952 1,686 18,984 19,792 39,543 40,646 10,123 10,516 35,588 33,781 10,098 10,685 2,639 2,842 9,550 9,649 8,562 9,119 9,545 10,066 23,734 24,976 46,672 52,213 21,963 26,961 10,108 11,290				

Figure 15. Regional Occupational

Employment Projections				
■ From employment gro -5,0		5,000	om exit opei 15,000	25,000
Management Occupations	900	8,070		
Business and Financial	000	3.130		
Computer and	000	920		
Architecture and		1,099		
Life, Physical, and Social		469		
Community and Social				
		2,049		
Legal Occupations	91	370		
Educational Instruction and1	′	7,688		
Arts, Design,		1,635		
Healthcare Practitioners1	′	4,902		
Healthcare Support	· '		17	
Protective Service		2,283		
Food Preparation and	- 1	,	01	
Building and Grounds	537	5,345		
Personal Care and Service1	,111	6,109		
Sales and Related	-1,0	¹ 15,120		
Office and Administrative1,4	128	15,379		
Farming, Fishing, and	312	1,305		
Construction and Extraction	700	5,129		
Installation, Maintenance,	578	4,057		
Production Occupations	75	9,870		
Transportation and 1	L.723	13,023		
	-,. 20			

ECONOMIC CHARACTERISTICS

Coming out of the pandemic recession, after gaining jobs over the past year, Benton Co. had the 24th largest economy of the 87 counties in the state. Benton Co. was the 37th fastest growing in the past year and the 21st fastest growing since 2019. From 2019 to 2022, employment in Benton Co. grew despite the pandemic recession.

1,045 business establishments \$52,045 annual average wage
17,607 jobs \$916,357,179 total industry payroll

Job change, 2019-2022 1.1% increase

Figure 16. Industry Employment Statistics, 2007-2022

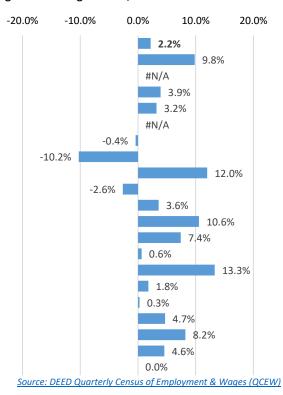


2007 2008 2009 2010 2011 2012 2013 2014 2015 2016 2017 2018 2019 2020 2021 2022

Source: DEED QCEW program

			Average
Table 15. Benton Co. Industry	Number of	Percent of	Annual
Employment Statistics, 2022	Jobs	Total Jobs	Wage
Total, All Industries	17,607	100.0%	\$52,045
Agriculture, Forestry, Fish & Hunt	313	1.8%	\$51,848
Mining	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A
Construction	2,486	14.1%	\$76,015
Manufacturing	3,563	20.2%	\$57,724
Utilities	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A
Wholesale Trade	1,214	6.9%	\$68,326
Retail Trade	1,805	10.3%	\$36,752
Transportation & Warehousing	691	3.9%	\$52,190
Information	112	0.6%	\$65,767
Finance & Insurance	404	2.3%	\$58,633
Real Estate & Rental & Leasing	115	0.7%	\$42,004
Professional & Technical Services	269	1.5%	\$27,025
Management of Companies	316	1.8%	\$47,252
Admin. Support & Waste Mgmt. Svcs.	946	5.4%	\$43,128
Educational Services	1,132	6.4%	\$50,450
Health Care & Social Assistance	2,181	12.4%	\$34,656
Arts, Entertainment, & Recreation	156	0.9%	\$28,481
Accommodation & Food Services	1,054	6.0%	\$21,308
Other Services	388	2.2%	\$28,283
Public Administration	459	2.6%	\$58,803

Figure 17. Change in Jobs, 2021-2022



For more information on Benton Co.'s population, labor force, and economic trends, contact:

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