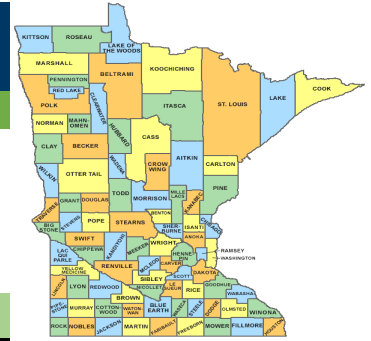


**COUNTY PROFILE**

# Watonwan Co.

Watonwan Co. is a part of Economic Development Region 9, which is located in the Southwest Planning Region.



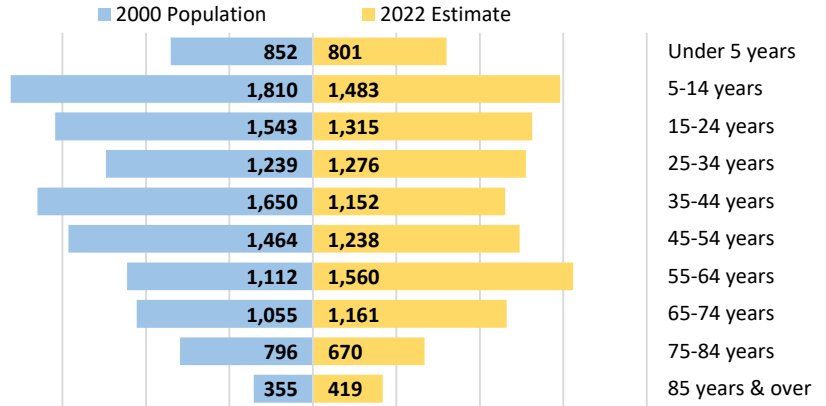
## POPULATION CHARACTERISTICS

2022 population:	<b>11,075 people</b>	Median Age:	<b>41.0 years</b>
Population change, 2010-2022	-136 people -1.2% decline	state:	38.5 years

Watonwan Co. is the 65th largest of the 87 counties in the state. Its population decreased over the past decade, ranking as the 57th fastest growing in the state from 2010 to 2022. Watonwan Co.'s population has an older median age than the state and a larger 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).

	Number	Percent
Under 5 years	801	7.2%
5-14 years	1,483	13.4%
15-24 years	1,315	11.9%
25-34 years	1,276	11.5%
35-44 years	1,152	10.4%
45-54 years	1,238	11.2%
55-64 years	1,560	14.1%
65-74 years	1,161	10.5%
75-84 years	670	6.1%
85 years & over	419	3.8%
<b>Total Population</b>	<b>11,075</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

Figure 1. Population Pyramid, 2000-2022



Source: Census Population Estimates, 2018-2022 ACS

Watonwan 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, Watonwan 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 Population Change	April 1, 2020 to July 1, 2022					
		Natural Increase	Vital Events		Net Migration		
			Births	Deaths	Total	International	Domestic
Watonwan Co.	-176	58	388	330	-233	35	-268
State of Minnesota	10,680	26,917	144,350	117,433	-17,365	20,012	-37,377

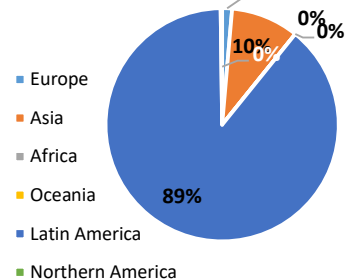
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Population Estimates Program

Compared to the state, Watonwan Co. has a larger percentage of foreign-born residents. From 2010 to 2022, Watonwan Co. saw an increase in the number of foreign-born residents, though it was slower than the statewide increase.

Population, 2022	Watonwan Co.		Change 2010-2022		Minnesota	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Percent	Change
<b>Foreign-born Population</b>	<b>1,454</b>	<b>13.0%</b>	<b>114</b>	<b>8.5%</b>	<b>8.5%</b>	<b>31.3%</b>
Europe	20	1.4%	14	233.3%	9.3%	-0.6%
Asia	137	9.4%	-1	-0.7%	36.7%	30.2%
Africa	0	0.0%	0	#DIV/0!	28.1%	93.1%
Oceania	0	0.0%	0	#DIV/0!	0.4%	20.4%
Americas:	1,297	89.2%	101	8.4%	25.4%	7.5%
Latin America	1,294	89.0%	104	8.7%	22.9%	9.0%
Northern America	3	0.2%	-3	-50.0%	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



## COUNTY PROFILE

Watonwan Co.

Watonwan 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**

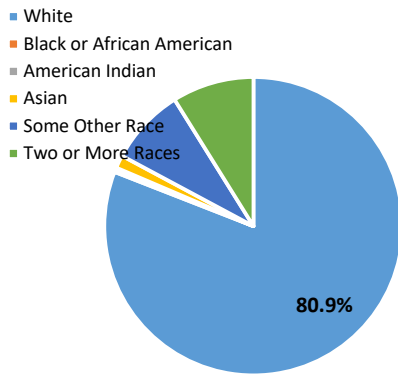


Table 4. Race and Hispanic Origin, 2022	Watonwan Co.			Minnesota	
	Number	Percent	Change from 2011-2022	Percent	Change from 2011-2022
<b>Total</b>	<b>11,205</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>0.1%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>7.9%</b>
White	9,068	80.9%	-9.9%	79.7%	-0.4%
Black or African American	45	0.4%	-68.3%	6.7%	44.3%
American Indian or Alaska Native	10	0.1%	-70.6%	0.9%	-10.2%
Asian or Other Pac. Islanders	157	1.4%	25.6%	5.1%	37.1%
Some Other Race	931	8.3%	83.6%	2.3%	84.7%
Two or More Races	994	8.9%	215.6%	5.3%	159.6%
Hispanic or Latino origin	3,044	27.2%	35.2%	5.7%	34.6%

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

## POPULATION PROJECTIONS

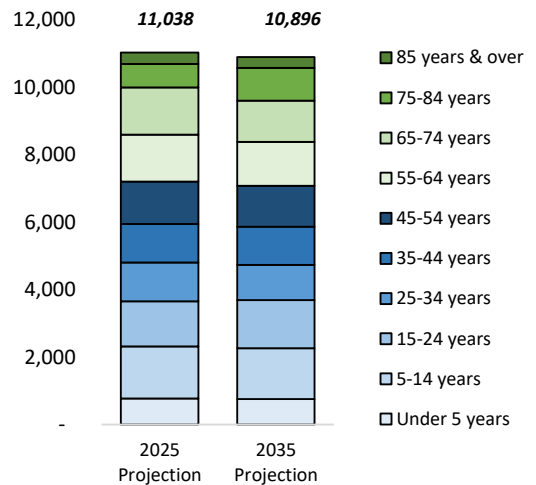
According to the Minnesota State Demographic Center, Watonwan Co.'s population is expected to decline from 2025 to 2035, with a rate of change that is slower than the projected statewide growth rate (4.5%). Despite the decline, the number of people aged 65 years and older is expected to increase over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

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

Watonwan Co.	2025 Projection	2035 Projection	Numeric Change	Percent Change
Under 5 years	770	760	-10	-1.3%
5-14 years	1,545	1,505	-40	-2.6%
15-24 years	1,339	1,423	84	6.3%
25-34 years	1,155	1,051	-104	-9.0%
35-44 years	1,142	1,132	-10	-0.9%
45-54 years	1,255	1,206	-49	-3.9%
55-64 years	1,393	1,305	-88	-6.3%
65-74 years	1,396	1,221	-175	-12.5%
75-84 years	699	976	277	39.6%
85 years & over	344	317	-27	-7.8%
<b>Total Population</b>	<b>11,038</b>	<b>10,896</b>	<b>-142</b>	<b>-1.3%</b>

Source: Minnesota State Demographic Center

**Figure 4. Projections by Age Group, 2025-2035**

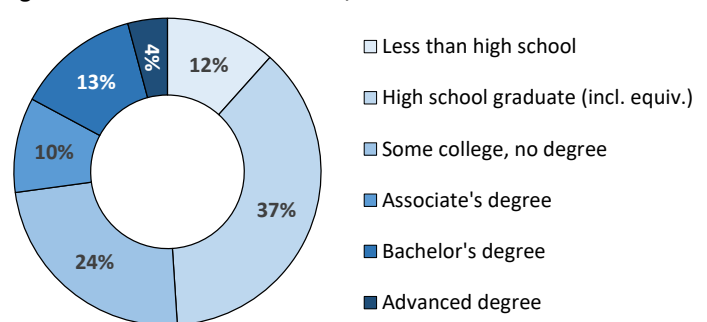


## EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT

Watonwan 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. Watonwan Co. also has a lower percentage of people with an Associate's degree and a lower percentage of people with a Bachelor's degree or higher.

<b>Percentage of the adult population (18 years &amp; over) with at least a high school diploma:</b>	<b>88.4%</b>
<b>College-educated:</b>	<b>51.0%</b>
state:	68.5%
<b>Associate's Degree:</b>	<b>10.0%</b>
<b>Bachelor's Degree:</b>	<b>13.0%</b>
<b>Advanced Degree:</b>	<b>4.2%</b>

**Figure 5. Educational Attainment, 2022**



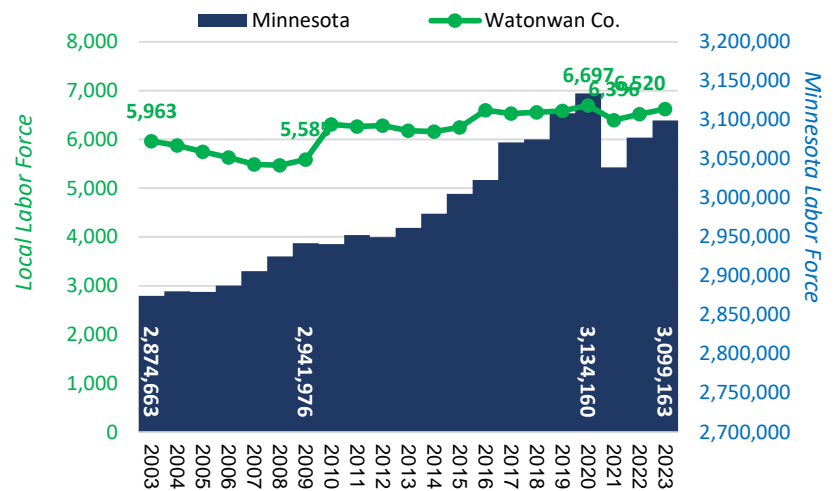
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2018-2022 American Community Survey

LABOR FORCE TRENDS

At 2.5%, Watonwan Co. had an identical unemployment rate than the state in 2023. After the pandemic recession Watonwan Co.'s unemployment rate declined compared to the 4.3% pre-pandemic rate posted in 2019. The number of unemployed workers actively seeking work in Watonwan Co. increased over the past year, and is down compared to 2019.

<b>6,520</b> available workers	
Labor Force change, 2008-2023	1,151 workers 21.0% increase
<b>2.5%</b> unemployment rate	2.7% state
<b>163</b> unemployed workers	

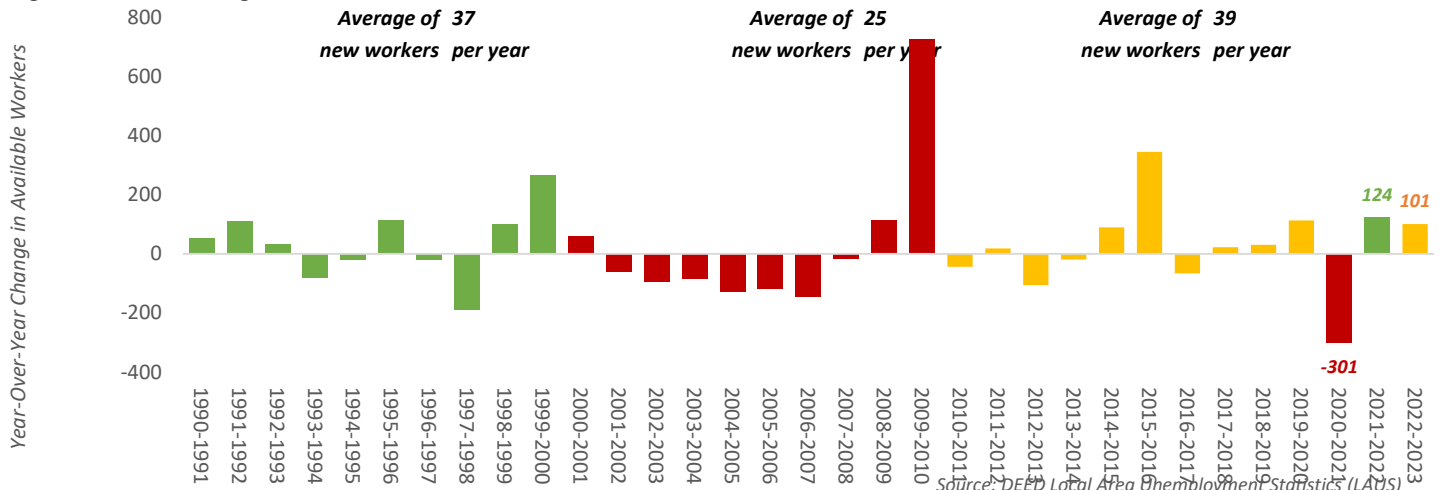
Figure 6. Annual Labor Force Estimates



Source: DEED Local Area Unemployment Statistics

Labor force growth has slowed in recent years. After experiencing a net gain of workers each year from 1990 to 2000, Watonwan 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, Watonwan Co. is expected to see a labor force decline from 2025 to 2035 (see Table 6).

Figure 7. Annual Change in Labor Force, 1990-2023



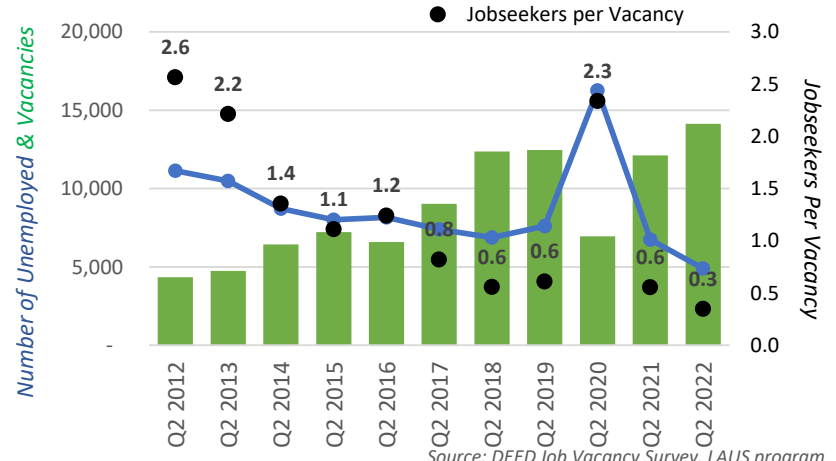
Source: DEED Local Area Unemployment Statistics (LAUS)

	Labor Force Projection	
	2025	2035
16 to 24 years	728	778
25 to 54 years	3,182	3,036
55 to 64 years	939	879
65 years & over	619	566
<b>Total Labor Force</b>	<b>5,467</b>	<b>5,260</b>

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 Southwest 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).

Figure 8. Jobseekers Per Vacancy, 2012-2022



Source: DEED Job Vacancy Survey, LAUS program

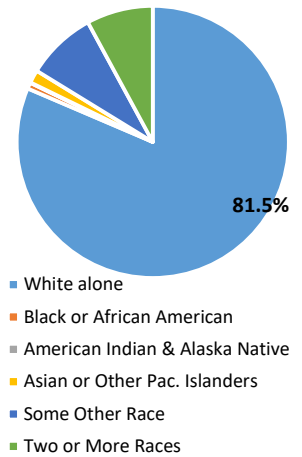
**LABOR FORCE CHARACTERISTICS**

Watonwan Co. had a lower labor force participation rate than the state. The labor force in Watonwan 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**

	Watonwan Co.			Minnesota		Labor Force by Gender	
	In Labor Force (available workers)	Labor Force Partic. Rate	Unemp. Rate	Labor Force Partic. Rate	Unemp. Rate	Male	Female
<b>Total Labor Force</b>	<b>5,619</b>	<b>64.7%</b>	<b>6.1%</b>	<b>68.7%</b>	<b>4.0%</b>	<b>3,051</b>	<b>2,570</b>
16 to 19 years	244	51.4%	17.2%	53.0%	9.8%	158	86
20 to 24 years	457	70.9%	12.5%	83.1%	6.7%	271	186
25 to 44 years	2,176	88.6%	3.1%	88.8%	3.5%	1,170	1,006
45 to 54 years	1,145	91.4%	3.9%	87.8%	2.9%	608	537
55 to 64 years	1,063	67.4%	10.5%	72.8%	3.1%	614	449
65 to 74 years	462	39.3%	2.8%	27.6%	3.3%	200	262
75 years & over	74	6.7%	6.8%	6.6%	3.2%	30	44
<b>Employment Characteristics by Race &amp; Hispanic Origin</b>							
White alone	4,579	63.4%	3.7%	67.8%	3.4%		
Black or African American	41	91.1%	0.0%	71.5%	8.7%		
American Indian & Alaska Native	3	30.0%	0.0%	57.6%	11.9%		
Asian or Other Pac. Islanders	87	65.9%	27.6%	73.9%	3.6%		
Some Other Race	469	73.7%	2.8%	76.1%	6.1%		
Two or More Races	445	69.6%	30.3%	74.3%	6.6%		
Hispanic or Latino	1,366	70.4%	12.7%	77.0%	6.3%		
<b>Employment Characteristics by Disability, 20 to 64 years</b>							
With Any Disability, 20 to 64 years	215	40.0%	15.3%	54.4%	10.2%		
<b>Employment Characteristics by Educational Attainment, 25 to 64 years</b>							
Population, 25 to 64 years	4,384	82.9%	5.1%	84.4%	3.3%		
Less than H.S. Diploma	471	69.4%	5.5%	67.2%	4.6%		
H.S. Diploma or Equivalent	1,280	82.4%	3.6%	76.8%	2.5%		
Some College or Assoc. Degree	1,733	85.0%	5.8%	85.1%	3.6%		
Bachelor's Degree or Higher	901	88.6%	5.7%	90.3%	2.0%		

**Figure 9. Labor Force by Race, 2022**



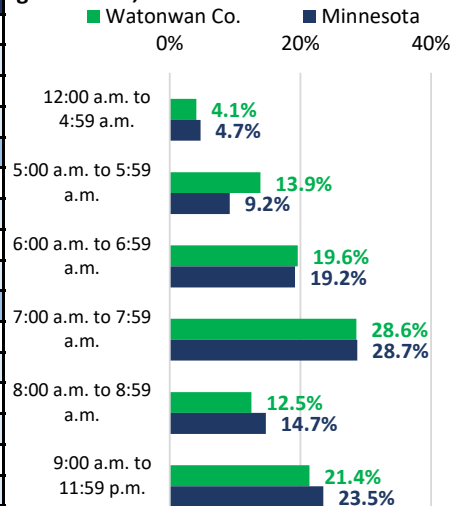
Source: 2018-2022 American Community Survey, 5-Year Estimates

A smaller percentage of workers in Watonwan Co. worked in the same county in which they live compared to the state. Watonwan Co. also had a shorter average commute time than the state.

**Table 8. Commuting Characteristics, 2022**

	Watonwan Co.		Minnesota	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Worked in state of residence	5,186	99.8%	2,867,086	97.7%
Worked in county of residence	3,357	64.6%	1,957,366	66.7%
Worked out of county of residence	1,829	35.2%	909,720	31.0%
Worked outside state of residence	10	0.2%	67,495	2.3%
<b>MEANS OF TRANSPORTATION TO WORK</b>				
Car, truck, or van	4,531	87.2%	2,387,561	81.6%
Public transportation (excl. taxicab)	78	1.5%	81,926	2.8%
Other method (walk, bike, taxi, etc.)	369	7.1%	122,889	4.2%
Worked at home	218	4.2%	333,556	11.4%
<b>TRAVEL TIME TO WORK</b>				
Less than 10 minutes	1,819	35.0%	465,223	15.9%
10 to 19 minutes	1,143	22.0%	895,335	30.6%
20 to 29 minutes	873	16.8%	649,557	22.2%
30 to 44 minutes	785	15.1%	567,631	19.4%
45 to 59 minutes	286	5.5%	190,186	6.5%
60 or more minutes	296	5.7%	158,000	5.4%
<b>Mean travel time to work (minutes)</b>	<b>21.5 minutes</b>		<b>23.3 minutes</b>	

**Figure 10. Time Leaving Home to go to Work, 2022**



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

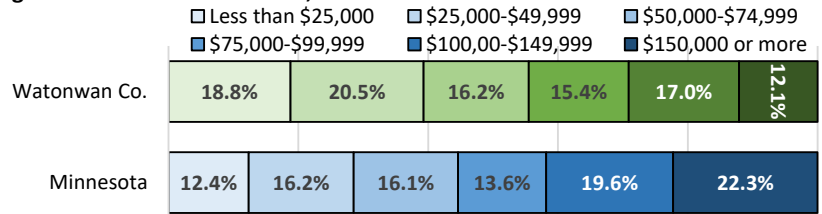
**INCOMES, COST OF LIVING, & HOUSING**

Watonwan Co. had a lower median household income than the state, and a higher percentage of households with incomes below \$50,000. Overall, Watonwan Co. had the 67th highest median household income of the 87 counties in the state.

<b>Median Household Income</b>	<b>\$65,197</b>
state	\$84,313
<b>Median Family Income</b>	<b>\$83,933</b>
state	\$107,072
<b>Per Capita Income</b>	<b>\$34,363</b>
state	\$44,947

Source: 2018-2022 American Community Survey

Figure 11. Household Incomes, 2022



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

The cost of living has increased over the past 2 years with costs up in many areas. Watonwan Co. had a lower cost of living than the state, with a required hourly wage of \$14.77 for a single person living alone to meet a basic needs cost of living, and an hourly wage requirement of \$15.26 for a typical family with 2 adults and 1 child (see Table 9).

Table 9. Basic Needs Cost of Living Estimates, 2022

Category	Single Yearly Cost of Living	Hourly Wage Required	Monthly Costs						
			Child Care	Food	Health Care	Housing	Transportation	Other	Taxes
Single Adult, 0 children									
Watonwan Co.	\$30,723	\$14.77	\$0	\$393	\$163	\$675	\$826	\$258	\$245
State of Minnesota	\$34,992	\$16.82	\$0	\$403	\$159	\$961	\$760	\$330	\$303
Typical Family: 2 Adults (1 working full-time, 1 part-time), 1 child									
Watonwan Co.	\$47,613	\$15.26	\$241	\$898	\$528	\$794	\$970	\$410	\$127
State of Minnesota	\$60,720	\$19.46	\$574	\$921	\$555	\$1,216	\$886	\$517	\$391

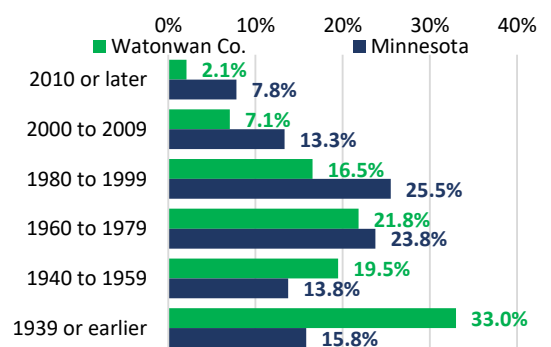
Source: DEED Cost of Living tool

Watonwan Co. had a lower median house value than the state, having the 84th highest value of the 87 counties in 2021. Watonwan Co.'s housing stock was older than the state's, with a lower percentage of units built since 2000 (see Figure 12).

Table 10. Estimated Value of Owner-occupied Housing Units, 2022	Watonwan Co.		Minnesota
	Total	Percent	Percent
<b>Total</b>	<b>3,439</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>
Less than \$50,000	556	16.2%	4.1%
\$50,000 to \$99,999	869	25.3%	4.6%
\$100,000 to \$149,999	575	16.7%	7.1%
\$150,000 to \$199,999	479	13.9%	10.7%
\$200,000 to \$299,999	539	15.7%	27.1%
\$300,000 to \$499,999	335	9.7%	31.7%
\$500,000 or more	86	2.5%	14.7%
<b>Median (dollars)</b>	<b>\$119,200</b>		<b>\$286,800</b>

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

Figure 12. Year Structure Built, 2022



**Median monthly owner costs, owner-occupied units with a mortgage** **\$1,226**

state \$1,818

**Percentage of households with a mortgage spending 30% or more of their income on housing costs** **21.8%**

state 22.0%

**Median monthly rent costs** **\$736**

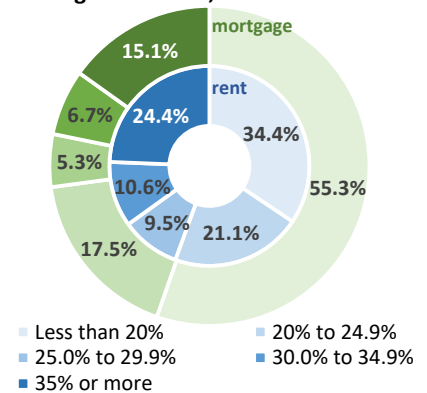
state \$1,178

**Percentage of renters spending 30% or more of their household income on rent** **34.9%**

state 46.7%

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

Figure 13. Housing Costs as a Percentage of Income, 2022





OCCUPATIONS

At \$22.61 in 2023, wages were lower in Region 9 than the state. Overall, Region 9 had the 5th highest median hourly wage level of the 13 economic development regions in the state. Wages were highest for management occupations (\$45.43) and lowest for food preparation and serving related jobs (\$14.54) (see Table 11).

Table 11. Occupational Employment & Wage Statistics, 2023

Occupational Group	Region 9				State of Minnesota		
	Median Hourly Wage	Estimated Regional Jobs	Share of Total Jobs	Regional Location Quotient	Median Hourly Wage	Estimated Statewide Jobs	Share of Total Jobs
<b>Total, All Occupations</b>	<b>\$22.61</b>	<b>99,520</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>1.0</b>	<b>\$24.25</b>	<b>2,827,310</b>	<b>100.0%</b>
Management	\$45.43	5,560	5.6%	0.8	\$51.58	193,760	6.9%
Business & Financial Operations	\$31.55	4,010	4.0%	0.6	\$38.19	201,940	7.1%
Computer & Mathematical	\$37.11	1,170	1.2%	0.3	\$49.73	99,250	3.5%
Architecture & Engineering	\$37.38	1,530	1.5%	0.8	\$40.60	53,100	1.9%
Life, Physical & Social Science	\$31.23	820	0.8%	0.8	\$39.37	29,070	1.0%
Community & Social Service	\$25.09	2,520	2.5%	1.3	\$25.82	54,820	1.9%
Legal	\$33.36	380	0.4%	0.6	\$47.87	18,730	0.7%
Education, Training & Library	\$28.27	6,560	6.6%	1.2	\$24.82	158,830	5.6%
Arts, Design, Entertainment & Media	\$23.49	1,110	1.1%	0.8	\$28.80	37,630	1.3%
Healthcare Practitioners & Technical	\$37.27	5,550	5.6%	0.8	\$41.07	186,700	6.6%
Healthcare Support	\$15.81	5,840	5.9%	1.0	\$17.40	162,400	5.7%
Protective Service	\$26.80	1,270	1.3%	0.9	\$25.83	40,620	1.4%
Food Preparation & Serving Related	\$14.54	8,730	8.8%	1.1	\$14.89	216,970	7.7%
Building, Grounds Cleaning & Maint.	\$17.87	2,760	2.8%	1.0	\$18.26	76,210	2.7%
Personal Care & Service	\$15.07	2,030	2.0%	1.0	\$16.96	58,120	2.1%
Sales & Related	\$15.30	8,840	8.9%	1.0	\$18.14	239,500	8.5%
Office & Administrative Support	\$20.41	11,430	11.5%	0.9	\$23.06	345,830	12.2%
Farming, Fishing & Forestry	\$18.84	290	0.3%	2.0	\$19.84	4,060	0.1%
Construction & Extraction	\$27.63	4,130	4.1%	1.0	\$31.00	113,930	4.0%
Installation, Maintenance & Repair	\$24.77	4,590	4.6%	1.3	\$27.95	98,670	3.5%
Production	\$19.91	11,040	11.1%	1.5	\$22.07	209,380	7.4%
Transportation & Material Moving	\$19.57	9,370	9.4%	1.2	\$19.80	227,780	8.1%

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

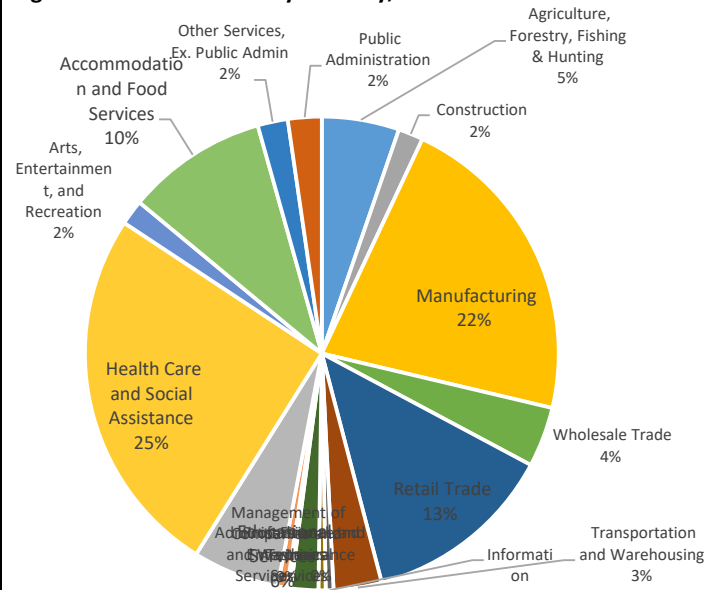
JOB VACANCY SURVEY

Watonwan Co. is a part of the Southwest planning region. There were 14128 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. Southwest Job Vacancy Survey Results, 2022

Occupational Group	Number of Vacancies	Wage Offer
<b>Total, All Occupations</b>	<b>14,128</b>	<b>\$16.55</b>
Management	430	\$27.04
Business & Financial Operations	151	\$24.64
Computer & Mathematical	99	\$31.77
Architecture & Engineering	130	\$27.09
Life, Physical & Social Sciences	69	\$20.91
Community & Social Service	159	\$25.21
Education, Training & Library	731	\$17.88
Healthcare Practitioners & Technical	1,252	\$25.17
Healthcare Support	1,290	\$14.92
Protective Service	142	\$19.76
Food Preparation & Serving Related	2,626	\$13.56
Building, Grounds Cleaning & Maint.	379	\$15.50
Personal Care & Service	135	\$12.78
Sales & Related	1,467	\$14.33
Office & Administrative Support	766	\$14.07
Construction & Extraction	165	\$17.90
Installation, Maintenance & Repair	554	\$22.90
Production	1,782	\$18.26
Transportation & Material Moving	786	\$17.46

Figure 14. Job Vacancies by Industry, 2022



Source: DEED Job Vacancy Survey, 2022

OCCUPATIONS IN DEMAND

Table 13. Southwest Planning Region Occupations in Demand, 2022

Less than High School	High School or Equivalent	Some College or Assoc. Deg.	Bachelor's Degree or Higher
Home Health & Personal Care Aides \$32,800/yr	Nursing Assistants \$38,146/yr	Registered Nurses \$80,694/yr	Substitute Teachers, Short-Term \$46,668/yr
Retail Salespersons \$30,660/yr	Licensed Practical & Licensed Vocational Nurses \$52,242/yr	Police & Sheriff's Patrol Officers \$66,050/yr	General & Operations Managers \$78,383/yr
Heavy & Tractor-Trailer Truck Drivers \$51,299/yr	Automotive Service Technicians & Mechanics \$49,362/yr	Dental Hygienists \$82,983/yr	Elementary School Teachers \$63,391/yr
Cashiers \$29,092/yr	Dental Assistants \$54,422/yr	Clinical Laboratory Technologists & Technicians \$61,801/yr	Secondary School Teachers \$64,067/yr
Fast Food & Counter Workers \$29,393/yr	Machinists \$49,288/yr	Industrial Engineering Technologists & Technicians \$49,646/yr	Accountants & Auditors \$66,142/yr
Waiters & Waitresses \$24,271/yr	Electricians \$63,396/yr	Radiologic Technologists & Technicians \$66,703/yr	Preschool Teachers \$35,451/yr
Laborers & Freight, Stock, & Material Movers, Hand \$39,654/yr	Computer User Support Specialists \$57,870/yr	Computer Network Support Specialists \$72,682/yr	Medical & Health Services Managers \$95,320/yr
Office Clerks, General \$41,160/yr	Medical Assistants \$46,233/yr	Electrical & Electronic Engineering Technologists & Technicians \$66,192/yr	Industrial Production Managers \$99,559/yr
Maintenance & Repair Workers, General \$49,219/yr	Industrial Machinery Mechanics \$59,803/yr	Civil Engineering Technologists & Technicians \$71,840/yr	Lawyers \$103,321/yr
Teaching Assistants, exc. Postsecondary \$36,756/yr	Farm Equipment Mechanics & Service Technicians \$51,684/yr	Environmental Science & Protection Technicians, Including \$39,218/yr	Personal Financial Advisors \$78,180/yr

Source: DEED Occupations in Demand

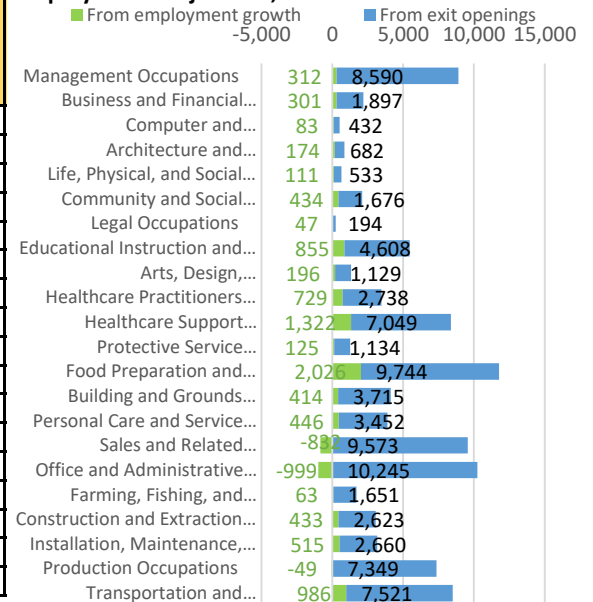
Watonwan Co. is a part of the Southwest planning region, which is projected to see a 3.9% increase in employment levels over the next decade. In addition to new jobs created, there will be a much larger number of exit openings (see Figure 15).

Table 14. Regional Industry Employment Projections, 2020-2030

Southwest Planning Region	Estimated Employment 2020	Projected Employment 2030	Percent Change 2020-2030
<b>Total, All Industries</b>	<b>195,812</b>	<b>203,504</b>	<b>3.9%</b>
Natural Resources & Mining	5,931	6,026	1.6%
Utilities	713	735	3.1%
Construction	7,573	8,082	6.7%
Manufacturing	30,107	30,719	2.0%
Wholesale Trade	8,045	8,118	0.9%
Retail Trade	18,569	17,653	-4.9%
Transportation & Warehousing	7,385	7,817	5.8%
Information	2,152	2,001	-7.0%
Finance & Insurance, Real Estate	8,098	8,232	1.7%
Professional Services & Mgmt. of Companies	5,283	5,512	4.3%
Admin. Support & Waste Mgmt.	3,421	3,636	6.3%
Educational Services	15,564	16,274	4.6%
Health Care & Social Assistance	29,352	32,081	9.3%
Leisure & Hospitality	11,744	14,382	22.5%
Other Services	6,756	7,462	10.4%
Public Administration	13,193	13,517	2.5%

Source: DEED 2020-2030 Employment Outlook

Figure 15. Regional Occupational Employment Projections, 2020-2030



**ECONOMIC CHARACTERISTICS**

Coming out of the pandemic recession, after gaining jobs over the past year, Watonwan Co. had the 62nd largest economy of the 87 counties in the state. Watonwan Co. was the 60th fastest growing in the past year and the 16th fastest growing since 2019. From 2019 to 2022, employment in Watonwan Co. grew despite the pandemic recession.

**337** business establishments

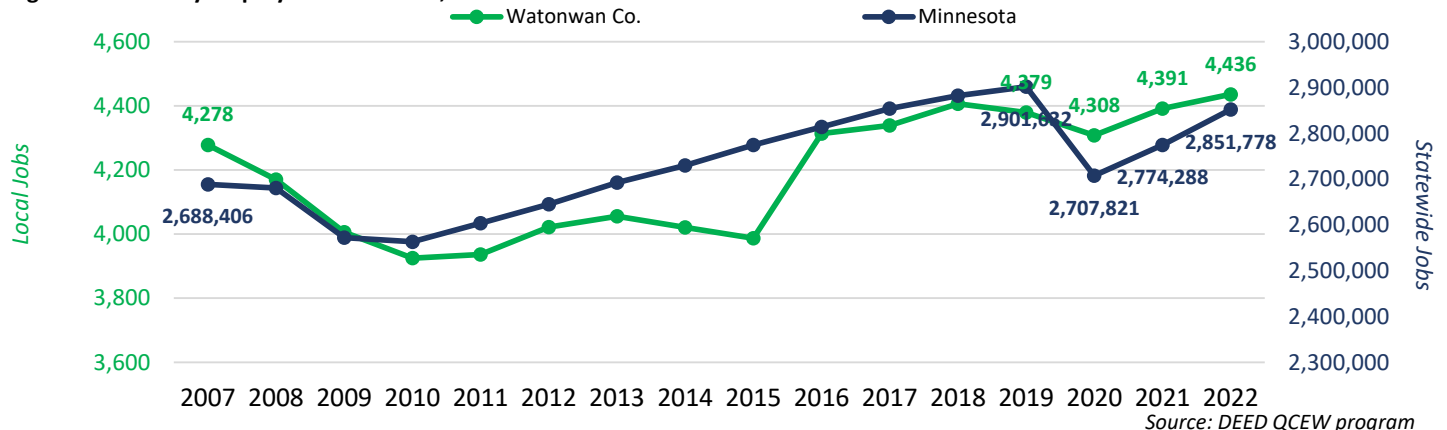
**\$45,370** annual average wage

**4,436** jobs

**\$201,261,964** total industry payroll

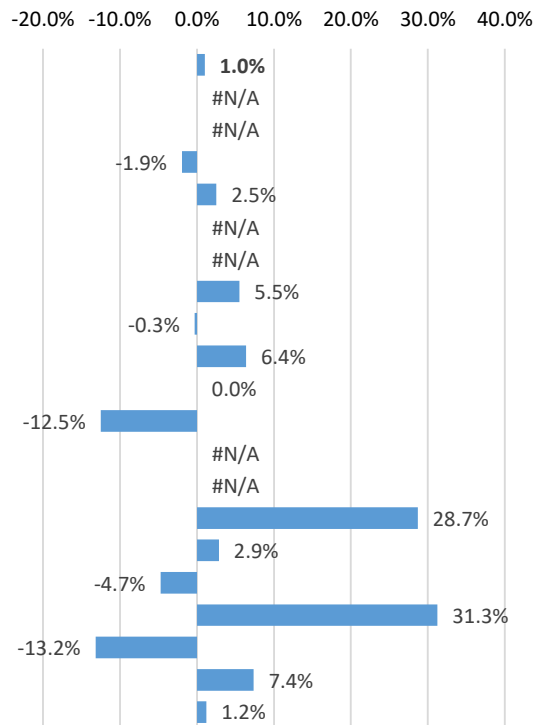
Job change, 2019-2022: **57 jobs**, 1.3% increase

Figure 16. Industry Employment Statistics, 2007-2022



Industry	Number of Jobs	Percent of Total Jobs	Average Annual Wage
<b>Total, All Industries</b>	<b>4,436</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>\$45,370</b>
Agriculture, Forestry, Fish & Hunt	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A
Mining	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A
Construction	302	6.8%	\$56,699
Manufacturing	1,380	31.1%	\$50,875
Utilities	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A
Wholesale Trade	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A
Retail Trade	286	6.4%	\$23,728
Transportation & Warehousing	341	7.7%	\$37,925
Information	50	1.1%	\$36,346
Finance & Insurance	154	3.5%	\$59,851
Real Estate & Rental & Leasing	14	0.3%	\$31,106
Professional & Technical Services	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A
Management of Companies	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A
Admin. Support & Waste Mgmt. Svcs.	157	3.5%	\$42,426
Educational Services	360	8.1%	\$43,332
Health Care & Social Assistance	423	9.5%	\$50,244
Arts, Entertainment, & Recreation	49	1.1%	\$11,893
Accommodation & Food Services	178	4.0%	\$16,646
Other Services	102	2.3%	\$29,235
Public Administration	330	7.4%	\$41,270

Figure 17. Change in Jobs, 2021-2022



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

**Amanda O'Connell** | Regional Analyst, Southeast & South Central  
 CareerForce Rochester | 2070 College View Rd. E | Rochester MN 55904  
 Office: 320-441-6571 | E-mail: amanda.oconnell@state.mn.us  
 web: [www.mn.gov/deed/data/regional-lmi/](http://www.mn.gov/deed/data/regional-lmi/)

Data updated: February 13, 2024