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 so far this decade, ranking as the 42nd fastest growing in the state from 2020 to 2023. 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).

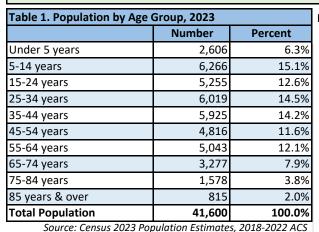
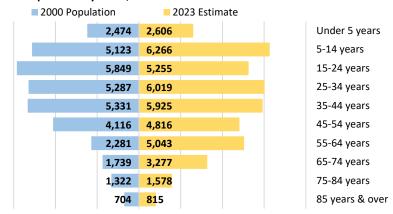


Figure 1. Population Pyramid, 2000-2023



Benton Co. enjoyed a natural increase - more births than deaths from 2020 to 2023, 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, 2020-2023								
	Total		April 1, 2020 to July 1, 2023					
	Population	Natural	Vital Events		Net Migration			
	Change	Increase	Births	Deaths	Total	International	Domestic	
Benton Co.	224	213	1,565	1,352	-14	280	-294	
State of Minnesota	31,111	40,368	207,857	167,489	-11,352	34,624	-45,976	

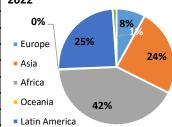
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Population Estimates Program

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.

number of foreign both residents, which was laster than the statewide increase.								
Table 3. Place of Birth for the Foreign Born	Benton Co.		Change 2	010-2022	Minnesota			
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



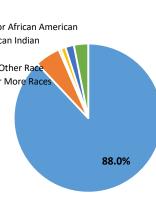
Northern America

COUNTY PROFILE Benton Co

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
- Some Other Race
- Two or More Races



	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

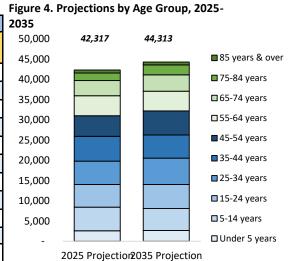
According to the Minnesota State Demographic Center, Benton Co.'s population is expected to grow from 2025 to 2035, with a rate of change that is slower than the projected statewide growth rate (4.5%). In addition to the overall growth, the number of people aged 65 years and older is expected to increase 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 2,581 2,681 100 3.9% 5-14 years 5,844 5,407 -437 -7.5% 5,633 5,935 5.4% 15-24 years 302 25-34 years 5,738 6,507 769 13.4% -6.3% 35-44 years 6,149 5,759 -390 5,925 16.4% 45-54 years 5,089 836 55-64 years 4,935 4,873 -62 -1.3% 65-74 years 3,765 4,043 278 7.4%

1,855

42,317

728



Source: Minnesota State Demographic Center

597

1,996

EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT

75-84 years

85 years & over

Total Population

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%

2.452

44,313

731

16% 62.0% 68.5% 15%

6%

25%

9%

29%

32.2%

0.4%

4.7%

Figure 5. Educational Attainment, 2022

■ High school graduate (incl. equiv.)

■ Some college, no degree

■ Less than high school

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:

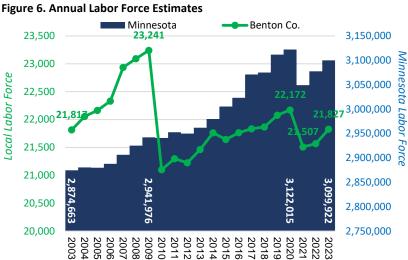
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2018-2022 American Community Survey

COUNTY PROFILE Benton Co.

LABOR FORCE TRENDS

At 3.6%, 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 3.9% 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

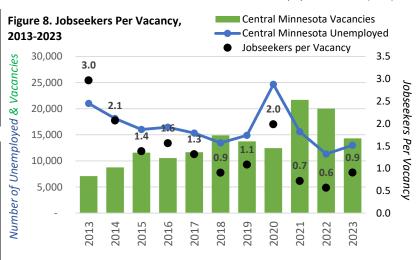
Labor force growth has slowed in recent years. After experiencing a net gain of workers each year from 1990 to 2000, Benton Co. averaged an annual gain of new workers from 2000 to 2010, and most recently a gain of new workers since 2010 (see Figure 7). Moving forward, Benton Co. is expected to add workers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

Benton Co. Figure 7. Annual Change in Labor Force, 1990-2023 1,500 Average of 368 Average of 49 Average of 107 new workers per year new workers per year new workers per year Year-Over-Year Change in Available Workers 1,000 500 60 -500 -1,000 -665 -1,500 -2,000 -2,500 2017-2018 2016-2017 2015-2016 2014-2018 2014-2018 2012-2011 2011-2012 2013-20145 2019-2020stics 2018-2019-statistics 2018-2019-statistics 2010-2011 2001-2002 2000-200: 2002-2003 2005-2006 2006-2007 2003-2004 2004-2005 2007-2008 2008-2009 2009-2010 2020-202 1991-1992 1992-1993 .990-199: .993-1994 .994-1995 .995-1996 996-1997 .997-1998 .998-1999 .999-200C

Table 6. Labor Force	Labor Force Projection				
Projections, 2025-2035	2025 2035				
16 to 24 years	3,965	4,259			
25 to 54 years	15,288	16,389			
55 to 64 years	3,729	3,682			
65 years & over	1,090	1,217			
Total Labor Force	24,072	25,547			

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. In 2023, job vacancies in Central returned to pre-pandemic levels, but employers are still seeing challenges finding enough workers for open jobs (see Figure 8).



Source: DEED Job Vacancy Survey, LAUS program

COUNTY PROFILE Benton Co.

LABOR FORCE CHARACTERISTICS

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.

	В	enton Co.		Minne	esota	
	In Labor Force (available workers)	Labor Force Partic. Rate	Unemp. Rate	Labor Force Partic. Rate	Unemp. Rate	
Total Labor Force	23,334	73.3%	3.7%	68.7%	4.0%	Γ
16 to 19 years	1,278	64.3%	7.1%	53.0%	9.8%	Γ
20 to 24 years	2,322	90.3%	4.1%	83.1%	6.7%	Γ
25 to 44 years	10,626	89.6%	3.5%	88.8%	3.5%	
45 to 54 years	4,355	91.1%	1.6%	87.8%	2.9%	
55 to 64 years	3,783	75.6%	5.4%	72.8%	3.1%	Γ
65 to 74 years	690	21.2%	3.8%	27.6%	3.3%	
75 years & over	268	11.3%	0.7%	6.6%	3.2%	
Employment Characteristics by Race &	Hispanic Origin					I
White alone	20,739	72.2%	3.5%	67.8%	3.4%	I
Black or African American	1,307	92.5%	1.5%	71.5%	8.7%	I
American Indian & Alaska Native	106	74.6%	29.2%	57.6%	11.9%	ŀ
Asian or Other Pac. Islanders	288	78.1%	15.7%	73.9%	3.6%	ļ
Some Other Race	434	74.7%	1.8%	76.1%	6.1%	Ī
Two or More Races	439	72.6%	7.7%	74.3%	6.6%	ľ
Hispanic or Latino	616	68.1%	8.9%	77.0%	6.3%	Ĭ
Employment Characteristics by Disabili	ty, 20 to 64 years					
With Any Disability, 20 to 64 years	1,345	55.2%	14.0%	54.4%	10.2%	Ī
Employment Characteristics by Educati	onal Attainment, 25	to 64 years				ĺ
Population, 25 to 64 years	18,767	86.7%	3.5%	84.4%	3.3%	Ĭ
Less than H.S. Diploma	1,254	75.2%	6.4%	67.2%	4.6%	ĺ
H.S. Diploma or Equivalent	4,233	80.9%	3.1%	76.8%	2.5%	I
Some College or Assoc. Degree	8,138	88.4%	3.2%	85.1%	3.6%	ĺ
Bachelor's Degree or Higher	5,141	92.8%	1.1%	90.3%	2.0%	Ĭ

Figure 9. Labor Force by Race, 2022

Labor Force by Gender

Female

11,247

808

1,190

5,070 1,981

1,754

328

116

Male

12,076

471

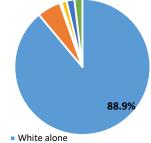
1,132

5,554

2,374 2,030

363

152



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

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

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 shorter average commute time than the state.

					_
	Benton	Co.	Minn	esota	
Table 8. Commuting Characteristics, 2022	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	
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%	2,338,861	79.7%	5
Public transportation (excl. taxicab)	154	0.7%	73,365	2.5%	ı
Other method (walk, bike, taxi, etc.)	881	4.0%	120,318	4.1%	Е
Worked at home	1,431	6.5%	399,103	13.6%	ı
TRAVEL TIME TO WORK					. 7
Less than 10 minutes	3,390	15.4%	475,402	16.2%	,
10 to 19 minutes	8,212	37.3%	906,786	30.9%	ı
20 to 29 minutes	4,844	22.0%	651,477	22.2%	8
30 to 44 minutes	3,192	14.5%	563,440	19.2%	ı
45 to 59 minutes	1,079	4.9%	181,944	6.2%	ı
60 or more minutes	1,321	6.0%	155,533	5.3%	ı
Mean travel time to work (minutes)	22.6	minutes	23.3	minutes	i

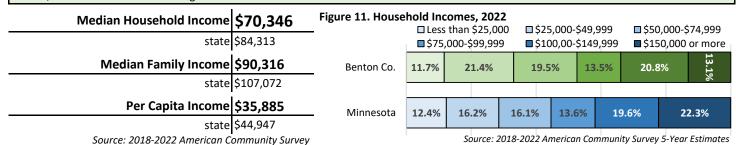
Figure 10. Time Leaving Home to go to Work, 2022 ■ Benton Co. ■ Minnesota 0% 20% 40% 12:00 a.m. to 5.5% 4:59 a.m. 5:00 a.m. to 5:59 a.m. 9.2% 6:00 a.m. to 6:59 21.0% 19.2% 7:00 a.m. to 7:59 27.8% a.m. 28.7% 8:00 a.m. to 8:59 9.6% a.m. 14.7% 9:00 a.m. to 23.8% 11:59 p.m. 23.5%

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

COUNTY PROFILE Benton Co

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 \$14.64 for a single person living alone to meet a basic needs cost of living, and an hourly wage requirement of \$19.06 for a typical family with 2 adults and 1 child (see Table 9).

Table 9. Basic Needs Cost of Living Estimates, 2023 **Monthly Costs Single Yearly Hourly Wage** Single Adult, 0 children Health Trans-**Cost of Living** Required **Child Care** Housing **Food** Other **Taxes** Care portation \$30,457 \$14.64 \$0 \$401 \$802 \$288 \$319 Benton Co. \$161 \$567 \$572 \$375 State of Minnesota \$34,704 \$16.68 \$0 \$160 \$1,021 \$419 \$345 Typical Family: 2 Adults (1 **Monthly Costs** Family Yearly **Hourly Wage** working full-time, 1 part-Health Trans-**Child Care Cost of Living** Required Food Housing Other Taxes time), 1 child Care portation \$59,468 \$19.06 \$445 \$914 \$1,004 \$459 \$590 Benton Co. \$576 \$968 \$544 \$1,285 State of Minnesota \$67,320 \$21.58 \$955 \$574 \$977 \$536 \$739

Benton Co. had a lower median house value than the state, having the 29th highest value of the 87 counties in 2022. 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.	Minnesota	Figure 12. Year St	ructure	Built,	2022
occupied Housing Units, 2022	Total	Percent	Percent	0	% :	10%	20%
Total	10,842	100.0%	100.0%	■ Bent	on Co.	7 00/	■ 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%			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			.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

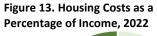
24.0%

Median monthly rent costs \$907

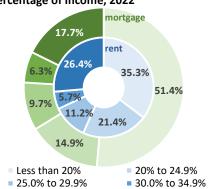
Percentage of renters spending 30% or more of their household income on rent

state 46.7%

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



35% or more



COUNTY PROFILE Benton Co.

OCCUPATIONS

At \$23.85 in 2024, 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 (\$49.28) and lowest for food preparation and serving related jobs (\$14.86) (see Table 11).

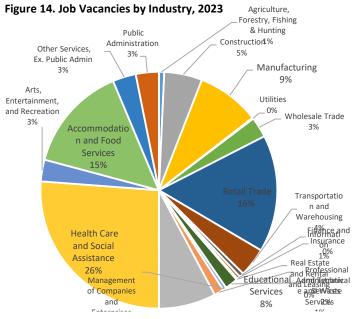
Table 11. Occupational Employment & Wage Statistics, 2024								
		Region 7W				State of Minnesota		
Occupational Group	Median Hourly Wage	Estimated Regional Jobs	Share of Total Jobs	Regional Location Quotient	Median Hourly Wage	Estimated Statewide Jobs	Share of Total Jobs	
Total, All Occupations	\$23.85	175,560	100.0%	1.0	\$25.22	2,881,100	100.0%	
Management	\$49.28	10,050	5.7%	0.8	\$57.75	201,710	7.0%	
Business & Financial Operations	\$36.54	7,440	4.2%	0.6	\$39.26	202,700	7.0%	
Computer & Mathematical	\$39.21	2,020	1.2%	0.3	\$50.83	98,240	3.4%	
Architecture & Engineering	\$40.46	2,180	1.2%	0.6	\$42.97	58,320	2.0%	
Life, Physical & Social Science	\$38.17	970	0.6%	0.5	\$39.93	29,220	1.0%	
Community & Social Service	\$29.06	3,000	1.7%	0.8	\$27.92	57,930	2.0%	
Legal	\$42.84	610	0.3%	0.5	\$51.15	19,040	0.7%	
Education, Training & Library	\$29.80	11,820	6.7%	1.2	\$28.22	163,340	5.7%	
Arts, Design, Entertainment & Media	\$24.61	1,410	0.8%	0.6	\$29.01	36,160	1.3%	
Healthcare Practitioners & Technical	\$41.29	11,000	6.3%	1.0	\$43.01	184,410	6.4%	
Healthcare Support	\$17.97	9,000	5.1%	0.9	\$18.07	169,580	5.9%	
Protective Service	\$30.48	2,750	1.6%	1.0	\$28.87	45,860	1.6%	
Food Preparation & Serving Related	\$14.86	15,280	8.7%	1.1	\$15.07	232,190	8.1%	
Building, Grounds Cleaning & Maint.	\$18.49	5,480	3.1%	1.1	\$18.83	79,660	2.8%	
Personal Care & Service	\$17.27	3,330	1.9%	0.9	\$17.60	59,420	2.1%	
Sales & Related	\$18.13	16,610	9.5%	1.1	\$18.82	242,440	8.4%	
Office & Administrative Support	\$23.15	20,100	11.4%	0.9	\$23.86	352,250	12.2%	
Farming, Fishing & Forestry	\$19.15	190	0.1%	0.9	\$22.13	3,520	0.1%	
Construction & Extraction	\$31.65	10,400	5.9%	1.5	\$32.44	110,960	3.9%	
Installation, Maintenance & Repair	\$29.23	7,460	4.2%	1.2	\$29.54	104,530	3.6%	
Production	\$23.06	18,010	10.3%	1.5	\$23.05	203,810	7.1%	
Transportation & Material Moving	\$22.19	16,470	9.4%	1.2	\$19.80	225,820	7.8%	

Source: DEED Occupational Employment & Wage Statistics, Qtr. 1 2024

JOB VACANCY SURVEY

Benton Co. is a part of the Central planning region. There were 14320 job vacancies posted by employers in 2023, indicating extensive opportunity in the region, with openings across several occupations and industries (see Figure 14).

Table 12. Central Job Vacancy Survey Results, 2023						
	Number of Wag					
Occupational Group	Vacancies	Offer				
Total, All Occupations	14,320	\$19.13				
Management	281	\$28.24				
Business & Financial Operations	220	\$26.20				
Computer & Mathematical	132	\$32.07				
Architecture & Engineering	230	\$30.57				
Life, Physical & Social Sciences	60	\$31.02				
Community & Social Service	417	\$25.91				
Education, Training & Library	597	\$19.04				
Healthcare Practitioners & Technical	1,967	\$28.25				
Healthcare Support	1,097	\$17.11				
Protective Service	272	\$24.39				
Food Preparation & Serving Related	2,319	\$14.84				
Building, Grounds Cleaning & Maint.	318	\$16.27				
Personal Care & Service	433	\$14.55				
Sales & Related	1,632	\$17.55				
Office & Administrative Support	747	\$17.98				
Construction & Extraction	297	\$23.74				
Installation, Maintenance & Repair	589	\$24.92				
Production	993	\$20.14				
Transportation & Material Moving	1,275	\$19.17				



Source: DEED Job Vacancy Survey, 2023

COUNTY PROFILE Benton Co

OCCUPATIONS IN DEMAND

Table 13. Central Planning Region Occupations in Demand, 2023						
Less than High School	High School or Equivalent	Some College or Assoc. Deg.	Bachelor's Degree or Higher			
Retail Salespersons	Heavy and Tractor-Trailer Truck Drivers	Registered Nurses	General and Operations Managers			
\$35,817/yr	\$60,953/yr	\$97,279/yr	\$82,833/yr			
Home Health and Personal Care Aides	Nursing Assistants	Radiologic Technologists and Technicians	Elementary School Teachers, Except Special Education			
\$35,952/yr	\$40,289/yr Licensed Practical and Licensed Vocational	\$79,926/yr Police and Sheriff's Patrol	\$65,116/yr			
Fast Food and Counter Workers \$30,548/yr	Nurses \$58,035/yr	Officers \$78,056/yr	Secondary School Teachers, Except Special and Career/Technical \$66,539/yr			
Cashiers \$31,985/yr	Automotive Service Technicians and Mechanics \$49,872/yr	Industrial Engineering Technologists and Technicians \$64,316/yr	Medical and Health Services Managers \$108,690/yr			
Stockers and Order Fillers	Machinists	Calibration Technologists and Technicians	Preschool Teachers, Except Special Education			
\$38,723/yr	\$61,397/yr	\$51,876/yr	\$38,309/yr			
Janitors and Cleaners, Except Maids and	Emergency Medical Technicians	Dental Hygienists	Accountants and Auditors			
\$37,511/yr	\$43,830/yr	\$95,926/yr	\$73,436/yr			
Waiters and Waitresses	Bookkeeping, Accounting, and Auditing Clerks	Detectives and Criminal Investigators	Child, Family, and School Social Workers			
\$24,272/yr	\$49,071/yr	\$77,932/yr	\$65,914/yr			
Childcare Workers	Electricians	Surgical Technologists	Industrial Engineers			
\$32,303/yr	\$79,223/yr	\$66,288/yr	\$97,918/yr			
First-Line Supervisors of Retail Sales Workers	Substance abuse, behavioral disorder, and mental health counselors	Human Resources Assistants, Except Payroll and Timekeeping	Project Management Specialists			
\$47,389/yr	\$54,808/yr	\$49,531/yr	\$85,453/yr			
Customer Service Representatives	Medical Assistants	Veterinary Technologists and Technicians	Special Education Teachers, Secondary School			
\$44,527/yr	\$48,462/yr	\$46,438/yr	\$69,045/yr			

Source: DEED Occupations in Demand

Benton Co. is a part of the Central planning region, which is projected to see a 5.2% 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, 2022-2032					
Estimated Employment	Projected Employ-	Percent Change			
315,929	332,231	5.2%			
5,649	5,809	2.8%			
1,986	1,998	0.6%			
20,532	22,780	10.9%			
41,539	44,543	7.2%			
11,219	12,105	7.9%			
35,711	35,808	0.3%			
9,287	10,143	9.2%			
3,002	3,214	7.1%			
10,142	10,528	3.8%			
9,040	9,979	10.4%			
10,369	11,004	6.1%			
24,622	24,913	1.2%			
45,668	49,836	9.1%			
26,046	27,642	6.1%			
10,880	11,311	4.0%			
20,424	21,077	3.2%			
	Estimated Employment 2022 315,929 5,649 1,986 20,532 41,539 11,219 35,711 9,287 3,002 10,142 9,040 10,369 24,622 45,668 26,046 10,880 20,424	Estimated Employment 2022 ment 2032 315,929 332,231 5,649 5,809 1,986 1,998 20,532 22,780 41,539 44,543 11,219 12,105 35,711 35,808 9,287 10,143 3,002 3,214 10,142 10,528 9,040 9,979 10,369 11,004 24,622 24,913 45,668 49,836 26,046 27,642 10,880 11,311			

Figure 15. Regional Occupational

Employment Projections, 20	22-2032		
From employment growth		m exit oper	
-5,000	5,000	15,000	25,000
Management Occupations 1.450	7,406		
Business and Financial 856	4,284		
Computer and 413	822		
Architecture and 484	1,290		
Life, Physical, and Social 157	461		
Community and Social 590	2 ,724		
Legal Occupations 63	374		
Educational Instruction and 678	8,450		
Arts, Design, 168	2,404		
Healthcare Practitioners 1,676	· /		
Healthcare Support 1,880	1		
Protective Service 172	2,405		
Food Preparation and1,029	20,705		
Building and Grounds 577	6,626		
Personal Care and Service 651	6,031		
Sales and Related1	2 18,082		
Office and Administrative 1, 105	17,777		
Farming, Fishing, and 15	1,773		
Construction and Extraction 1,780	· '		
Installation, Maintenance,1,085	1		
Production Occupations 1,384	5,176		
Transportation and 2,311			
114115001141101141114 2,31.	14,900		

COUNTY PROFILE Benton Co.

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 68th fastest growing in the past year and the 30th fastest growing since 2019. From 2019 to 2023, employment in Benton Co. grew despite the pandemic recession.

1,057 business establishments \$53,876 annual average wage
17,664 jobs \$951,674,404 total industry payroll

Job change, 247 jobs 1.4% increase

Figure 16. Industry Employment Statistics, 2008-2023

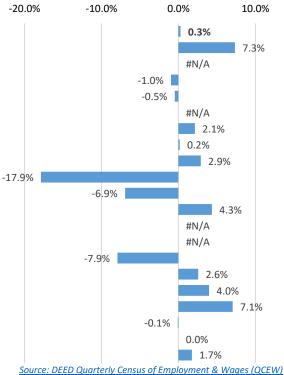


2008 2009 2010 2011 2012 2013 2014 2015 2016 2017 2018 2019 2020 2021 2022 2023

Source: DEED QCEW program

			Average
Table 15. Benton Co. Industry	Number of	Percent of	Annual
Employment Statistics, 2023	Jobs	Total Jobs	Wage
Total, All Industries	17,664	100.0%	\$53,876
Agriculture, Forestry, Fish & Hunt	336	1.9%	\$53,437
Mining	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A
Construction	2,466	14.0%	\$80,317
Manufacturing	3,546	20.1%	\$58,769
Utilities	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A
Wholesale Trade	1,240	7.0%	\$70,955
Retail Trade	1,809	10.2%	\$35,472
Transportation & Warehousing	711	4.0%	\$52,313
Information	92	0.5%	\$69,522
Finance & Insurance	376	2.1%	\$62,718
Real Estate & Rental & Leasing	120	0.7%	\$44,578
Professional & Technical Services	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A
Management of Companies	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A
Admin. Support & Waste Mgmt. Svcs.	871	4.9%	\$45,060
Educational Services	1,161	6.6%	\$50,124
Health Care & Social Assistance	2,270	12.9%	\$35,411
Arts, Entertainment, & Recreation	167	0.9%	\$28,699
Accommodation & Food Services	1,053	6.0%	\$20,483
Other Services	389	2.2%	\$30,823
Public Administration	467	2.6%	\$61,882

Figure 17. Change in Jobs, 2022-2023
-20.0% -10.0% 0.0%



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

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