

COUNTY PROFILE

Watonwan Co.

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

POPULATION CHARACTERISTICS



Watonwan Co. is the 65th largest of the 87 counties in the state. Its population decreased so far this decade, ranking as the 67th fastest growing in the state from 2020 to 2023. 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).

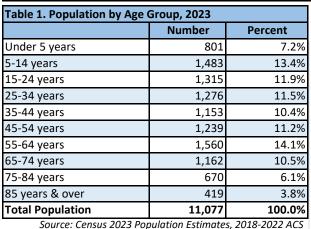
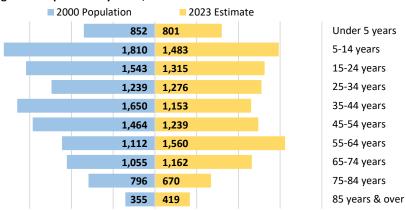


Figure 1. Population Pyramid, 2000-2023



Watonwan 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, 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, 2020-2023								
	Total		April 1, 2020 to July 1, 2023					
	Population	Natural	Vital Events		Net Migration			
	Change	Increase	Births	Deaths	Total	International	Domestic	
Watonwan Co.	-185	115	555	440	-298	151	-449	
State of Minnesota	31,111	40,368	207,857	167,489	-11,352	34,624	-45,976	

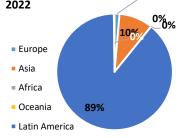
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Population Estimates Program

Compared to the state, 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.

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Table 3. Place of Birth for the Foreign Born	Watonwan Co. Change 2010-2022		Watonwan Co. Change 2010-2022 Minnesota			esota		
Population, 2022	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Percent	Change		
Foreign-born Population	1,454	13.0%	114	8.5%	8.5%	31.3%		
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%		

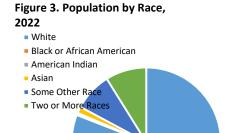
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2018-2022 American Community Survey

Figure 2. Place of Birth for the Foreign Born Population, 1% 2022



Northern America

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).



	W	atonwan (Minnesota		
Table 4. Race and Hispanic Origin, 2022	Number	Percent	Change from 2011-2022	Percent	Change from 2011-2022
Total	11,205	100.0%	0.1%	100.0%	7.9%
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%

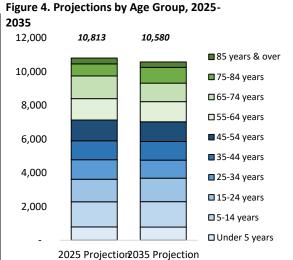
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2018-2022 American Community Survey

POPULATION PROJECTIONS

80.9%

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 decrease over the next decade (see Figure 4 and Table 5).

Table 5. Population Projections by Age Group, 2025-2035 2025 2035 Numeric Percent Watonwan Co. Projection Projection Change Change Under 5 years 794 780 -14 -1.8% 5-14 years 1,487 1,513 26 1.7% 1,336 1,386 3.7% 15-24 years 50 25-34 years 1,163 1,074 -89 -7.7% -24 35-44 years 1,126 1,102 -2.1% 1,232 1,170 -62 -5.0% 45-54 years 55-64 years 1,266 1,199 -67 -5.3% 65-74 years 1,341 1,098 -243 -18.1% 75-84 years 716 940 224 31.3% -34 -9.7% 85 years & over 352 318 **Total Population** 10,813 10,580 -233 -2.2%



Source: Minnesota State Demographic Center

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.

> 51.0% 68.5%

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

88.4%

12% 13% 10% 37% ■ Bachelor's degree 24%

Figure 5. Educational Attainment, 2022

■ Less than high school

■ High school graduate (incl. equiv.)

■ Some college, no degree

Associate's degree

■ Advanced degree

Associate's Degree: 10.0% Bachelor's Degree: 13.0% Advanced Degree: 4.2%

state:

College-educated:

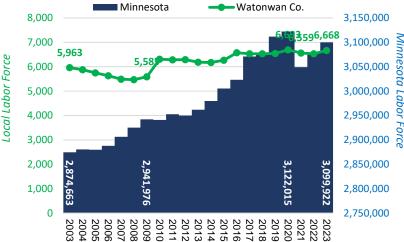
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2018-2022 American Community Survey

LABOR FORCE TRENDS

At 2.9%, Watonwan Co. had a higher unemployment rate than the state in 2023. After the pandemic recession Watonwan 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 Watonwan Co. increased over the past year, and is down compared to 2019.



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

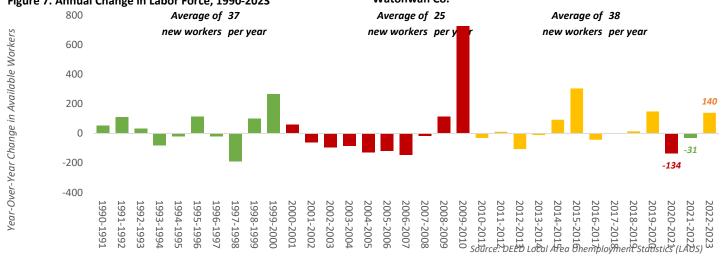
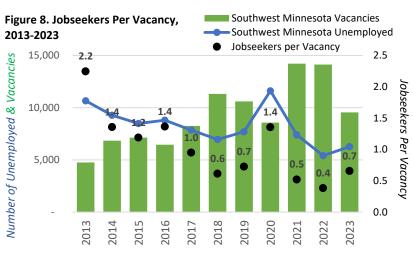


Table 6. Labor Force	Labor Force Projection				
Projections, 2025-2035	2025	2035			
16 to 24 years	728	756			
25 to 54 years	3,154	2,997			
55 to 64 years	853	808			
65 years & over	599	516			
Total Labor Force	5,333	5,077			

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 Southwest 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

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.

	Wa	tonwan Co.		Minne	esota	
	In Labor Force (available workers)	Labor Force Partic. Rate	Unemp. Rate	Labor Force Partic. Rate	Unemp. Rate	
Total Labor Force	5,619	64.7%	6.1%	68.7%	4.0%	
16 to 19 years	244	51.4%	17.2%	53.0%	9.8%	
20 to 24 years	457	70.9%	12.5%	83.1%	6.7%	
25 to 44 years	2,176	88.6%	3.1%	88.8%	3.5%	
45 to 54 years	1,145	91.4%	3.9%	87.8%	2.9%	
55 to 64 years	1,063	67.4%	10.5%	72.8%	3.1%	
65 to 74 years	462	39.3%	2.8%	27.6%	3.3%	
75 years & over	74	6.7%	6.8%	6.6%	3.2%	
Employment Characteristics by Race &	Hispanic Origin					
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%	ĺ.
Asian or Other Pac. Islanders	87	65.9%	27.6%	73.9%	3.6%	Ĺ
Some Other Race	469	73.7%	2.8%	76.1%	6.1%	ĺ
Two or More Races	445	69.6%	30.3%	74.3%	6.6%	ľ
Hispanic or Latino	1,366	70.4%	12.7%	77.0%	6.3%	ĺ
Employment Characteristics by Disabili	ty, 20 to 64 years					ĺ
With Any Disability, 20 to 64 years	215	40.0%	15.3%	54.4%	10.2%	ĺ
Employment Characteristics by Educati	onal Attainment, 25	to 64 years				ĺ
Population, 25 to 64 years	4,384	82.9%	5.1%	84.4%	3.3%	ĺ
Less than H.S. Diploma	471	69.4%	5.5%	67.2%	4.6%	ĺ
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%	ĺ
Bachelor's Degree or Higher	901	88.6%	5.7%	90.3%	2.0%	ĺ

Figure 9. Labor Force by Race, 2022

Labor Force by Gender

Female

2,570

86

186

1,006

537

449

262

44

Male

3,051

158

271

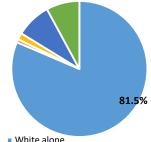
1,170

608

614

200

30



- White alone
- 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 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.

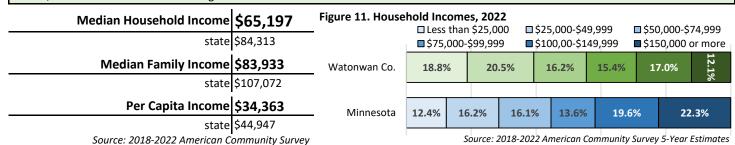
	Watonwa	n Co.	Minne	esota	F
Table 8. Commuting Characteristics, 2022	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	g
Worked in state of residence	5,186	99.8%	2,867,086	97.7%	ì
Worked in county of residence	3,357	64.6%	1,957,366	66.7%	ì
Worked out of county of residence	1,829	35.2%	909,720	31.0%	ì
Worked outside state of residence	10	0.2%	67,495	2.3%	ì
MEANS OF TRANSPORTATION TO WORK					١ _
Car, truck, or van	4,531	87.2%	2,338,861	79.7%	5:
Public transportation (excl. taxicab)	78	1.5%	73,365	2.5%	ì
Other method (walk, bike, taxi, etc.)	369	7.1%	120,318	4.1%	6
Worked at home	218	4.2%	399,103	13.6%	ì
TRAVEL TIME TO WORK					7:
Less than 10 minutes	1,819	35.0%	475,402	16.2%	١,
10 to 19 minutes	1,143	22.0%	906,786	30.9%	ì
20 to 29 minutes	873	16.8%	651,477	22.2%	8
30 to 44 minutes	785	15.1%	563,440	19.2%	ì
45 to 59 minutes	286	5.5%	181,944	6.2%	ì
60 or more minutes	296	5.7%	155,533	5.3%	ì
Mean travel time to work (minutes)	21.5	minutes	23.3	minutes	i

Figure 10. Time Leaving Home to go to Work, 2022 ■ Watonwan Co. ■ Minnesota 0% 20% 40% 12:00 a.m. to 4:59 a.m. 5:00 a.m. to 5:59 13.9% a.m. 9.2% 6:00 a.m. to 6:59 19.6% 19.2% 7:00 a.m. to 7:59 28.6% a.m. 28.7% 8:00 a.m. to 8:59 a.m. 14.7% 9:00 a.m. to 21.4% 11:59 p.m. 23.5%

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.



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 \$14.4 for a single person living alone to meet a basic needs cost of living, and an hourly wage requirement of \$18.37 for a typical family with 2 adults and 1 child (see Table 9).

Table 9. Basic Needs Cost of Living Estimates, 2023									
	Single Yearly	Hourly Wage		Monthly Costs					
Single Adult, 0 children	Cost of Living	, ,	Child Care	Food	Health	Housing	Trans-	Other	Taxes
			Cilia care	1000	Care	Housing	portation	Other	Tuxes
Watonwan Co.	\$29,947	\$14.40	\$0	\$409	\$161	\$731	\$609	\$273	\$313
State of Minnesota	\$34,704	\$16.68	\$0	\$419	\$160	\$1,021	\$572	\$345	\$375
Typical Family: 2 Adults (1	Family Yearly	Hourly Wage	Monthly Costs						
working full-time, 1 part-	Cost of Living	, ,	Child Care	Food	Health	Housing	Trans-	Other	Taxes
time), 1 child	Cost of Living	Required	Cilia Care	1000	Care	Housing	portation	Other	Taxes
Watonwan Co.	\$57,306	\$18.37	\$360	\$932	\$576	\$853	\$1,076	\$427	\$552
State of Minnesota	\$67,320	\$21.58	\$544	\$955	\$574	\$1,285	\$977	\$536	\$739

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 2022. 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-	Watonwan Co.		Minnesota
occupied Housing Units, 2022	Total	Percent	Percent
Total	3,439	100.0%	100.0%
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%
Median (dollars)	\$119,2	200	\$286,800

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



Median monthly owner costs, owner-occupied units with a mortgage \$1,22

ate \$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

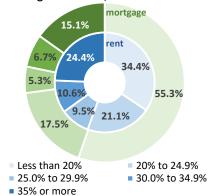
Percentage of renters spending 30% or more of their household income on rent

4.9%

state 46.7%

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

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



OCCUPATIONS

At \$23.24 in 2024, wages were lower in Region 9 than the state. Overall, Region 9 had the 6th highest median hourly wage level of the 13 economic development regions in the state. Wages were highest for management occupations (\$47.87) and lowest for food preparation and serving related jobs (\$14.69) (see Table 11).

Table 11. Occupational Employment & Wage Statistics, 20	Table 11. Occupational Employment & Wage Statistics, 2024								
	Region 9				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	\$23.24	100,990	100.0%	1.0	\$25.22	2,881,100	100.0%		
Management	\$47.87	5,590	5.5%	0.8	\$57.75	201,710	7.0%		
Business & Financial Operations	\$34.68	4,130	4.1%	0.6	\$39.26	202,700	7.0%		
Computer & Mathematical	\$38.68	1,130	1.1%	0.3	\$50.83	98,240	3.4%		
Architecture & Engineering	\$37.82	1,690	1.7%	0.8	\$42.97	58,320	2.0%		
Life, Physical & Social Science	\$33.51	810	0.8%	0.8	\$39.93	29,220	1.0%		
Community & Social Service	\$27.25	2,620	2.6%	1.3	\$27.92	57,930	2.0%		
Legal	\$38.07	380	0.4%	0.6	\$51.15	19,040	0.7%		
Education, Training & Library	\$30.13	6,690	6.6%	1.2	\$28.22	163,340	5.7%		
Arts, Design, Entertainment & Media	\$23.48	1,050	1.0%	0.8	\$29.01	36,160	1.3%		
Healthcare Practitioners & Technical	\$40.45	5,790	5.7%	0.9	\$43.01	184,410	6.4%		
Healthcare Support	\$18.45	6,120	6.1%	1.0	\$18.07	169,580	5.9%		
Protective Service	\$29.43	1,430	1.4%	0.9	\$28.87	45,860	1.6%		
Food Preparation & Serving Related	\$14.69	9,050	9.0%	1.1	\$15.07	232,190	8.1%		
Building, Grounds Cleaning & Maint.	\$18.19	2,980	3.0%	1.1	\$18.83	79,660	2.8%		
Personal Care & Service	\$16.51	2,150	2.1%	1.0	\$17.60	59,420	2.1%		
Sales & Related	\$17.55	8,630	8.5%	1.0	\$18.82	242,440	8.4%		
Office & Administrative Support	\$22.79	11,510	11.4%	0.9	\$23.86	352,250	12.2%		
Farming, Fishing & Forestry	\$22.13	240	0.2%	1.9	\$22.13	3,520	0.1%		
Construction & Extraction	\$29.78	4,050	4.0%	1.0	\$32.44	110,960	3.9%		
Installation, Maintenance & Repair	\$28.11	4,660	4.6%	1.3	\$29.54	104,530	3.6%		
Production	\$22.68	10,680	10.6%	1.5	\$23.05	203,810	7.1%		
Transportation & Material Moving	\$21.90	9,640	9.5%	1.2	\$19.80	225,820	7.8%		

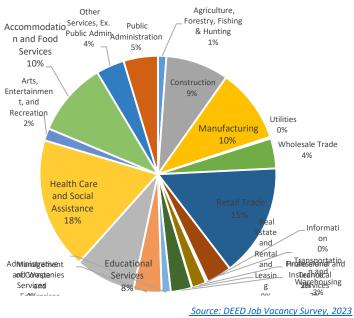
Source: DEED Occupational Employment & Wage Statistics, Qtr. 1 2024

JOB VACANCY SURVEY

Watonwan Co. is a part of the Southwest planning region. There were 9546 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. Southwest Job Vacancy Survey Results, 2023						
	Number of	Wage				
Occupational Group	Vacancies	Offer				
Total, All Occupations	9,546	\$19.74				
Management	202					
Business & Financial Operations	520					
Computer & Mathematical	100					
Architecture & Engineering	96	7-0-0				
Life, Physical & Social Sciences	69					
Community & Social Service	258					
Education, Training & Library	453					
Healthcare Practitioners & Technical	738					
Healthcare Support	508	•				
Protective Service	177					
Food Preparation & Serving Related	1,180	•				
Building, Grounds Cleaning & Maint.	432	7 - 0 - 0 - 0				
Personal Care & Service	188					
Sales & Related	1,164					
Office & Administrative Support	563					
Construction & Extraction	431					
Installation, Maintenance & Repair	653					
Production	540					
Transportation & Material Moving	773	\$21.15				

Figure 14. Job Vacancies by Industry, 2023



OCCUPATIONS IN DEMAND

Table 13. Southwest Plannir	Table 13. Southwest 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	Accountants and Auditors					
\$34,798/yr	\$54,491/yr	\$85,138/yr	\$69,245/yr					
Home Health and Personal Care Aides	Nursing Assistants	Police and Sheriff's Patrol Officers	General and Operations Managers					
\$36,495/yr	\$39,764/yr	\$74,684/yr	\$82,482/yr					
Fast Food and Counter Workers	Licensed Practical and Licensed Vocational Nurses	Dental Hygienists	Elementary School Teachers, Except Special Education					
\$30,228/yr	\$58,499/yr	\$84,870/yr	\$65,364/yr					
Cashiers	Heating, Air Conditioning, and Refrigeration Mechanics and Installers	Industrial Engineering Technologists and Technicians	Secondary School Teachers, Except Special and Career/Technical					
\$30,595/yr	\$64,265/yr	\$60,049/yr	\$66,349/yr					
Teaching Assistants, Except Postsecondary	Bus and Truck Mechanics and Diesel Engine Specialists	Radiologic Technologists and Technicians	Substitute Teachers, Short-Term					
\$38,031/yr	\$59,444/yr	\$78,236/yr	\$52,112/yr					
First-Line Supervisors of Retail Sales Workers	Bookkeeping, Accounting, and Auditing Clerks	Agricultural Technicians	Financial Managers					
\$45,427/yr	\$47,963/yr	\$50,274/yr	\$119,560/yr					
Janitors and Cleaners, Except Maids and	Plumbers, Pipefitters, and Steamfitters	Human Resources Assistants, Except Payroll and Timekeeping	Industrial Engineers					
\$37,379/yr	\$61,794/yr	\$49,828/yr	\$90,455/yr					
Construction Laborers	Substance abuse, behavioral disorder, and mental health counselors	Civil Engineering Technologists and Technicians	Computer Systems Analysts					
\$49,744/yr	\$49,947/yr	\$71,227/yr	\$96,291/yr					
Bus Drivers, School	Automotive Service Technicians and Mechanics	Physical Therapist Assistants	Middle School Teachers, Except Special and Career/Technical					
\$49,228/yr	\$50,024/yr	\$62,988/yr	\$66,534/yr					
Laborers and Freight, Stock, and Material Movers, Hand	Industrial Machinery Mechanics	Veterinary Technologists and Technicians	Preschool Teachers, Except Special Education					
\$43,003/yr	\$60,689/yr	\$40,453/yr	\$37,747/yr					

Source: DEED Occupations in Demand

Watonwan Co. is a part of the Southwest planning region, which is projected to see a 2.8% 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						
Southwest Planning Region	Estimated Employment 2022	Projected Employ- ment 2032	Percent Change			
Total, All Industries	202,214	207,878	2.8%			
Natural Resources & Mining	5,523	5,777	4.6%			
Utilities	690	690	0.0%			
Construction	7,679	8,252	7.5%			
Manufacturing	32,192	33,537	4.2%			
Wholesale Trade	8,001	8,116	1.4%			
Retail Trade	19,409	19,084	-1.7%			
Transportation & Warehousing	6,297	6,810	8.1%			
Information	2,093	2,046	-2.2%			
Finance & Insurance, Real Estate	8,227	8,375	1.8%			
Professional Services & Mgmt. of Compani	5,544	5,985	8.0%			
Admin. Support & Waste Mgmt.	4,127	4,331	4.9%			
Educational Services	16,065	16,116	0.3%			
Health Care & Social Assistance	28,786	30,498	5.9%			
Leisure & Hospitality	13,625	14,377	5.5%			
Other Services	7,097	7,281	2.6%			
Public Administration	14,117	14,370	1.8%			

Source: DEED 2022-2032 Employment Outlook

Figure 15. Regional Occupational

Employment Projections, 2022-2032					
■ From employment gr		From exit o			
-5,0	000	5,000 10,	,000 15,000		
Management Occupations	579	5,196			
Business and Financial	304	2,6 85			
Computer and	154	479			
Architecture and	243	852			
Life, Physical, and Social	96	365			
Community and Social	334	1 ,841			
Legal Occupations	33	224			
Educational Instruction and	292	5,689			
Arts, Design,	47	1 ,841			
Healthcare Practitioners	638	3,403			
Healthcare Support	807	8,057			
Protective Service	60	1 ,233			
Food Preparation and	451	12,217			
Building and Grounds	219	4,473			
Personal Care and Service	296	3,602			
Sales and Related	-41	9 10,465			
Office and Administrative	-1,115	11,316			
Farming, Fishing, and	84	1 ,771			
Construction and Extraction	529	3,584			
Installation, Maintenance,	592	3,584			
Production Occupations	438	9,377			
Transportation and	1,002	10,018			

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 20th fastest growing in the past year and the 13th fastest growing since 2019. From 2019 to 2023, employment in Watonwan Co. grew despite the pandemic recession.

333 business establishments \$46,838 annual average wage
4,537 jobs \$212,505,048 total industry payroll

Job change, 2019-2023 3.6% 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

			A.,
			Average
Table 15. Watonwan Co. Industry	Number of	Percent of	Annual
Employment Statistics, 2023	Jobs	Total Jobs	Wage
Total, All Industries	4,537	100.0%	\$46,838
Agriculture, Forestry, Fish & Hunt	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A
Mining	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A
Construction	274	6.0%	\$60,791
Manufacturing	1,470	32.4%	\$50,508
Utilities	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A
Wholesale Trade	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A
Retail Trade	275	6.1%	\$25,285
Transportation & Warehousing	338	7.4%	\$38,832
Information	55	1.2%	\$37,761
Finance & Insurance	160	3.5%	\$61,127
Real Estate & Rental & Leasing	9	0.2%	\$24,507
Professional & Technical Services	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A
Management of Companies	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A
Admin. Support & Waste Mgmt. Svcs.	163	3.6%	\$46,055
Educational Services	357	7.9%	\$45,006
Health Care & Social Assistance	424	9.3%	\$57,640
Arts, Entertainment, & Recreation	60	1.3%	\$12,204
Accommodation & Food Services	181	4.0%	\$19,249
Other Services	99	2.2%	\$26,414
Public Administration	338	7.4%	\$43,405

-40.0% -20.0% 0.0% 20.0% 40.0% 2.3% #N/A #N/A -9.3% 6.5% #N/A #N/A -3.8% -0.9% 10.0% 3.9% -35.7% #N/A #N/A 3.8% -0.8% 0.2% 22.4% 1.7% -2.9%

2.4%

Source: DEED Quarterly Census of Employment & Wages (QCEW)

Figure 17. Change in Jobs, 2022-2023

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

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