

Economy Overview



Merced County, CA

Lightcast Q4 2022 Data Set | www.economicmodeling.com

Economy Overview

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Report Parameters

1 County

6047 Merced County, CA

Class of Worker

QCEW Employees, Non-QCEW Employees, and Self-Employed

The information in this report pertains to the chosen geographical area.



Economy Overview

Economy Overview

286,461

Population (2021)

Population grew by 19,091 over the last 5 years and is projected to grow by 15,015 over the next 5 years. 85,350

Total Regional Employment

Jobs grew by 2,805 over the last 5 years and are projected to grow by 5,475 over the next 5 years. \$56.3K

Median Household Income (2020)

Median household income is **\$8.7K below** the national median household income of \$65.0K.

Takeaways

- As of 2021 the region's population increased by 7.1% since 2016, growing by 19,091. Population is expected to increase by 5.2% between 2021 and 2026, adding 15,015.
- From 2016 to 2021, jobs increased by 3.4% in Merced County, CA from 82,545 to 85,350. This change outpaced the national growth rate of 1.9% by 1.5%. As the number of jobs increased, the labor force participation rate decreased from 58.9% to 54.5% between 2016 and 2021.
- Concerning educational attainment, **9.5% of Merced County, CA residents possess a Bachelor's Degree** (11.0% below the national average), and **7.9% hold an Associate's Degree** (0.9% below the national average).
- The top three industries in 2021 are Education and Hospitals (Local Government), Support Activities for Crop Production, and Crop Production.

	Population (2022)	Labor Force (Aug 2022)	Jobs (2021)	Cost of Living	GRP	Imports	Exports
Region	290,263	117,106	85,350	121.0	\$9.54B	\$15.74B	\$11.22B
State	39,298,274	19,288,260	19,672,305	135.2	\$3.30T	\$1.81T	\$2.42T



Aug 2022 Labor Force Breakdown



Educational Attainment

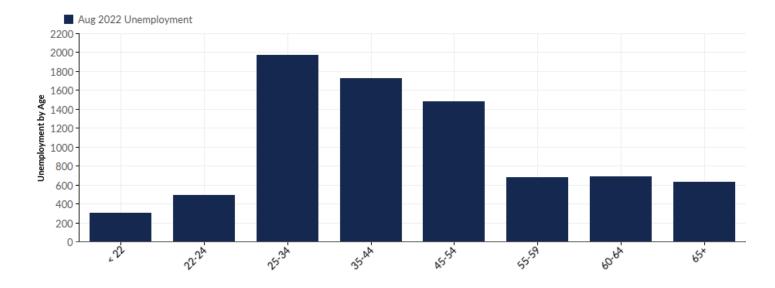
Concerning educational attainment, **9.5% of Merced County, CA residents possess a Bachelor's Degree** (11.0% below the national average), and **7.9% hold an Associate's Degree** (0.9% below the national average).

	% of Population	Population
Less Than 9th Grade	18.0%	30,808
• 9th Grade to 12th Grade	12.8%	21,863
 High School Diploma 	25.4%	43,598
Some College	22.2%	38,001
Associate's Degree	7.9%	13,526
Bachelor's Degree	9.5%	16,200
• Graduate Degree and Higher	4.3%	7,379



Unemployment by Demographics

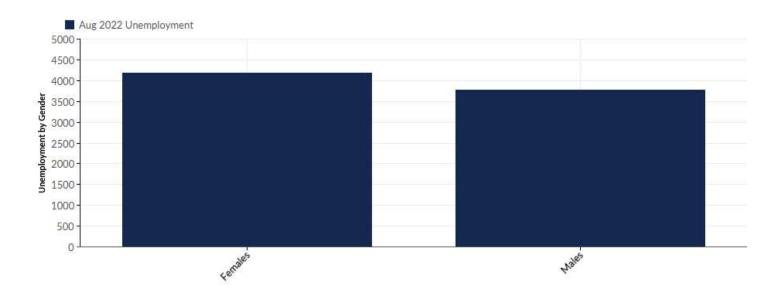
Unemployment by Age



Age	Unemployment (Aug 2022)	% of Unemployed
< 22	302	3.80%
22-24	490	6.16%
25-34	1,973	24.80%
35-44	1,722	21.64%
45-54	1,479	18.59%
55-59	680	8.55%
60-64	683	8.58%
65+	627	7.88%
	Total 7,956	100.00%



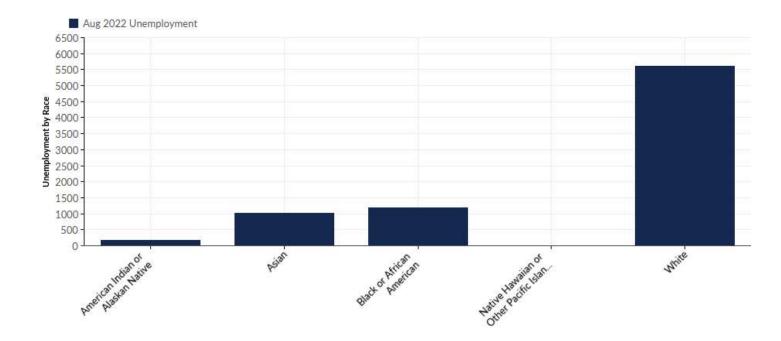
Unemployment by Gender



Gender	Un	employment (Aug 2022)	% of Unemployed
Females		4,179	52.53%
Males		3,777	47.47%
	Total	7,956	100.00%



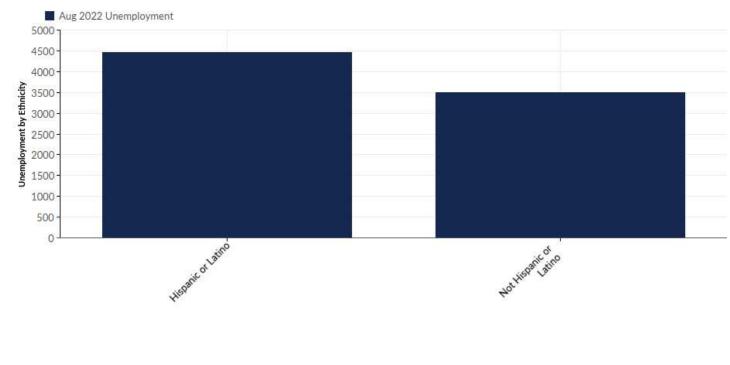
Unemployment by Race



Race	Unemployment (Aug 2022)	% of Unemployed
American Indian or Alaskan Native	167	2.10%
Asian	1,020	12.82%
Black or African American	1,174	14.76%
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	0	0.00%
White	5,596	70.34%
Tot	al 7,956	100.00%



Unemployment by Ethnicity

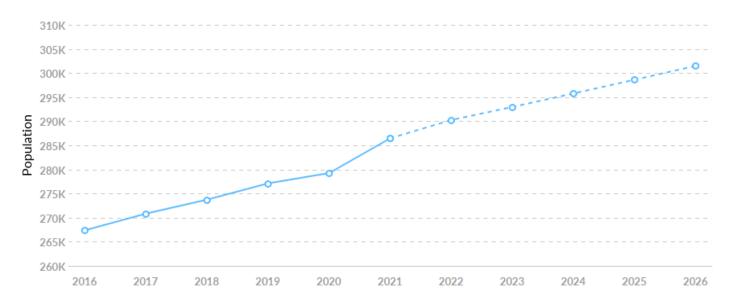


Ethnicity	Unemployment (Aug 2022)	% of Unemployed
Hispanic or Latino	4,456	56.01%
Not Hispanic or Latino	3,500	43.99%
Tot	al 7,956	100.00%

Historic & Projected Trends

Population Trends

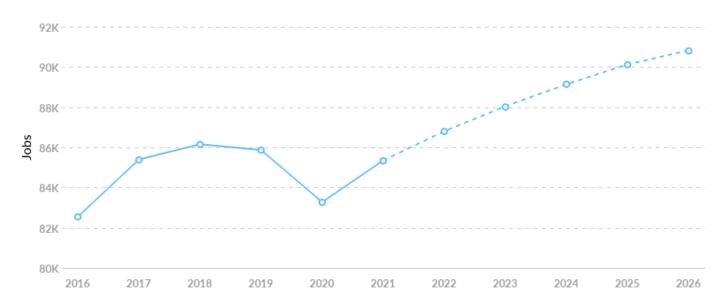
As of 2021 the region's population **increased by 7.1%** since 2016, growing by 19,091. Population is expected to **increase by 5.2%** between 2021 and 2026, adding 15,015.



Timeframe	Population
2016	267,370
2017	270,837
2018	273,733
2019	277,114
2020	279,252
2021	286,461
2022	290,263
2023	292,967
2024	295,764
2025	298,615
2026	301,476

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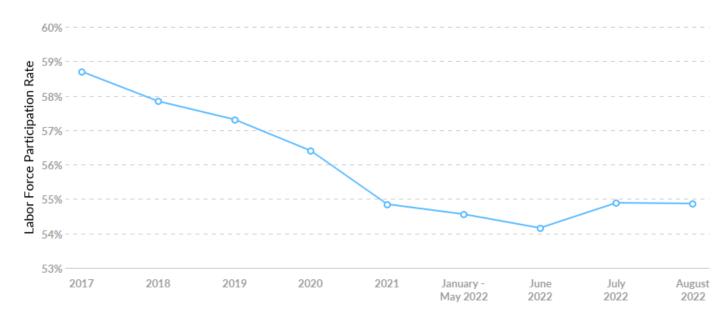
Job Trends



From 2016 to 2021, jobs **increased by 3.4%** in Merced County, CA from 82,545 to **85,350**. This change **outpaced the national growth rate of 1.9% by 1.5%**.

Timeframe	Jobs
2016	82,545
2017	85,395
2018	86,154
2019	85,867
2020	83,274
2021	85,350
2022	86,803
2023	88,047
2024	89,142
2025	90,128
2026	90,825

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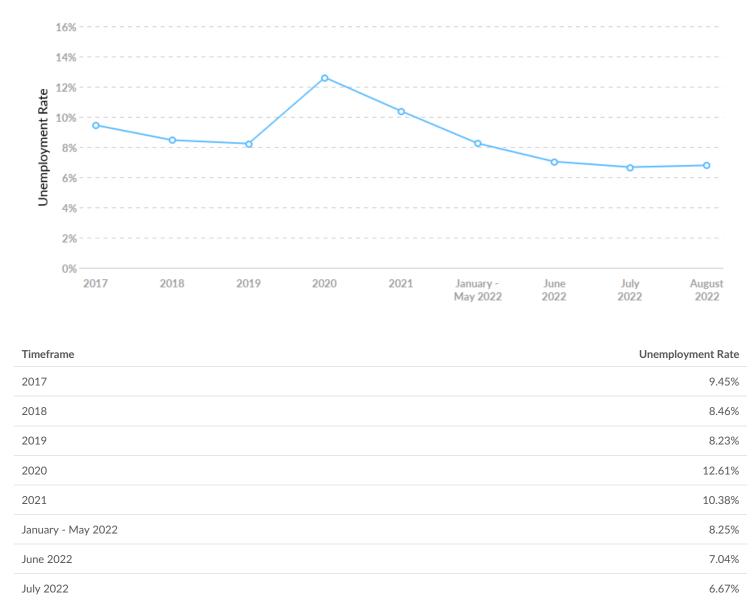
Labor Force Participation Rate Trends

Timeframe	Labor Force Participation Rate
2017	58.70%
2018	57.84%
2019	57.31%
2020	56.40%
2021	54.85%
January - May 2022	54.56%
June 2022	54.16%
July 2022	54.89%
August 2022	54.87%



Unemployment Rate Trends

Merced County, CA had an August 2022 unemployment rate of 6.79%, decreasing from 9.45% 5 years before.

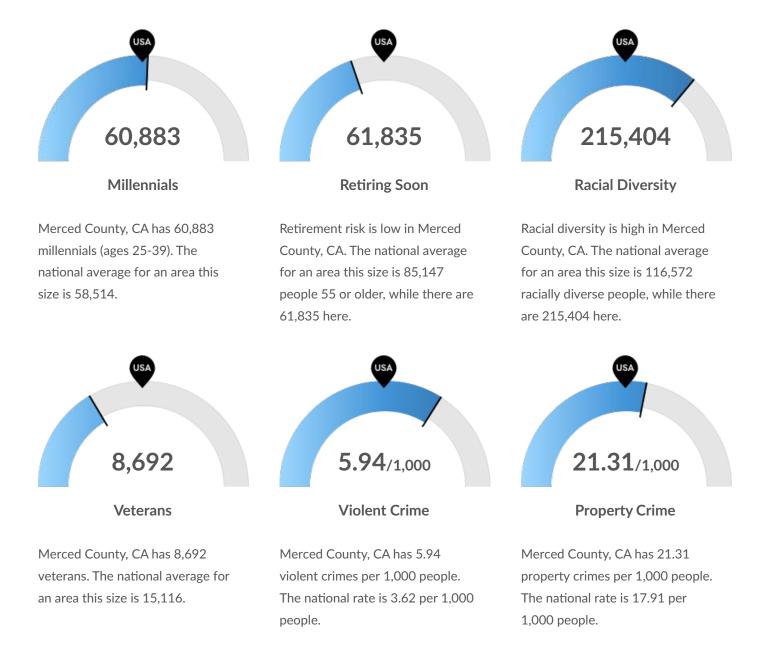


August 2022

6.79%

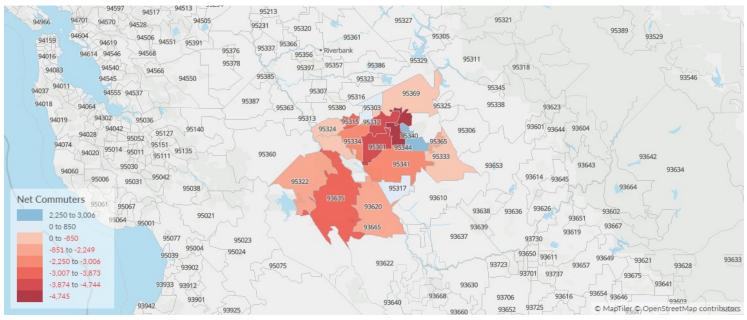


Population Characteristics



Place of Work vs Place of Residence

Understanding where talent in Merced County, CA currently works compared to where talent lives can help you optimize site decisions. For example, the #1 ranked ZIP for employment ranks #3 for resident workers. The top ZIP for resident workers is 95301.



Where Talent Works

ZIP	Name	2021 Employment	ZIP	Name	2021 Workers
95340	Merced, CA, CA (in Mer	16,670	95301	Atwater, CA, CA (in Mer	17,144
95301	Atwater, CA, CA (in Mer	13,269	93635	Los Banos, CA, CA (in M	15,710
93635	Los Banos, CA, CA (in M	12,703	95340	Merced, CA, CA (in Mer	14,403
95341	Merced, CA, CA (in Mer	10,973	95348	Merced, CA, CA (in Mer	13,345
95348	Merced, CA, CA (in Mer	8,600	95341	Merced, CA, CA (in Mer	13,247

Where Talent Lives

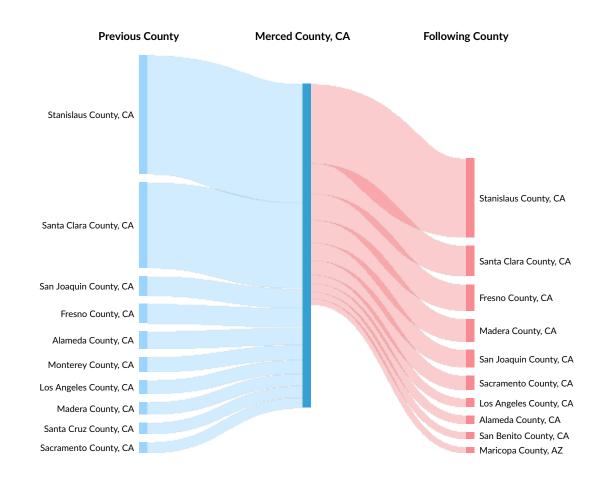
Lightcast Overview

Economy

Inbound and Outbound Migration

The table below analyzes past and current residents of Merced County, CA. The left column shows residents of other counties migrating to Merced County, CA. The right column shows residents migrating from Merced County, CA to other counties.

As of 2020, 2,717 people have migrated from Stanislaus County, CA to Merced County, CA. In the same year, 1,808 people left Merced County, CA migrating to Stanislaus County, CA. The total Net Migration for Merced County, CA in 2020 was 1,645.



Top Previous Counties

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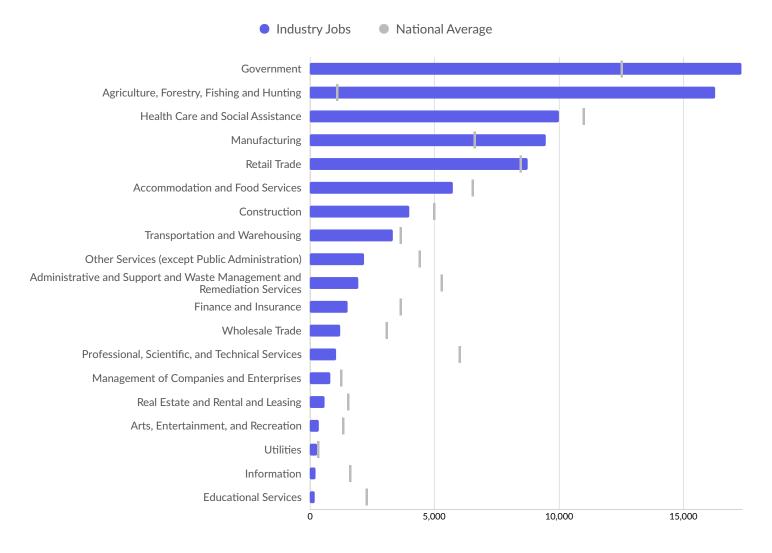
Stanislaus County, CA	2,717
Santa Clara County, CA	1,956
San Joaquin County, CA	446
Fresno County, CA	440
Alameda County, CA	400
Monterey County, CA	342

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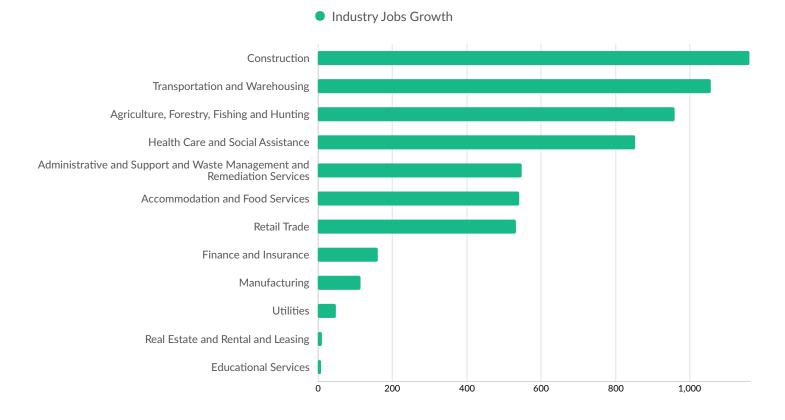
Top Previous Counties	Migrations
Los Angeles County, CA	312
Madera County, CA	280
Santa Cruz County, CA	260
Sacramento County, CA	244
San Benito County, CA	219
San Mateo County, CA	188
San Diego County, CA	160
Contra Costa County, CA	154
Kern County, CA	92
Top Following Counties	Migrations
Stanislaus County, CA	1,808
Santa Clara County, CA	695
Fresno County, CA	602
Madera County, CA	518
San Joaquin County, CA	403
Sacramento County, CA	330
Los Angeles County, CA	198
Alameda County, CA	194
San Benito County, CA	155
Maricopa County, AZ	134
San Diego County, CA	131
Mariposa County, CA	131
Contra Costa County, CA	124
Kern County, CA	121
Clark County, NV	113

Industry Characteristics

Largest Industries

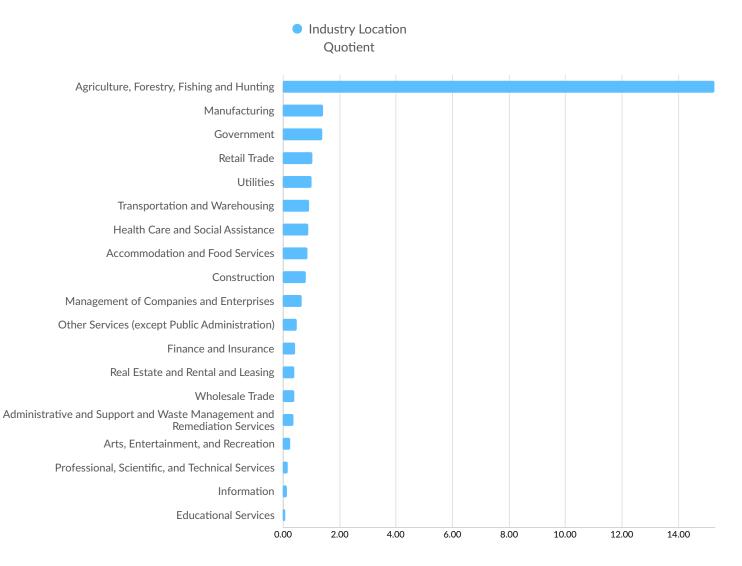


Top Growing Industries

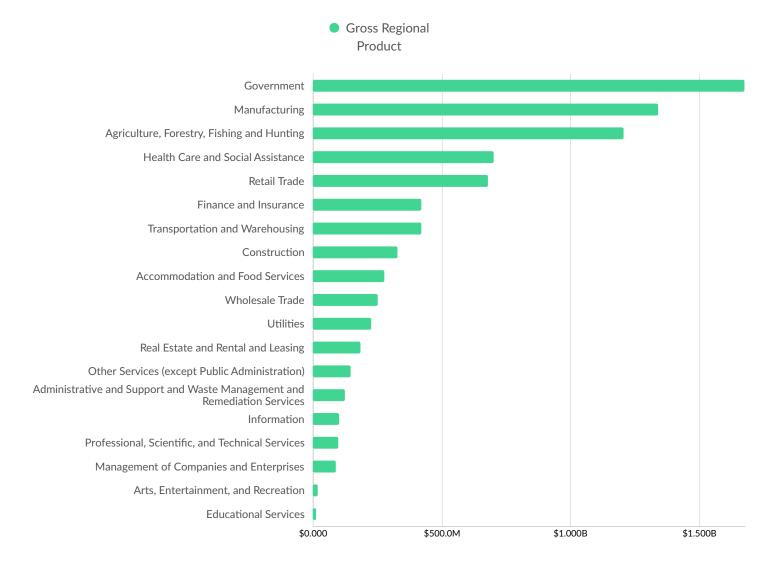


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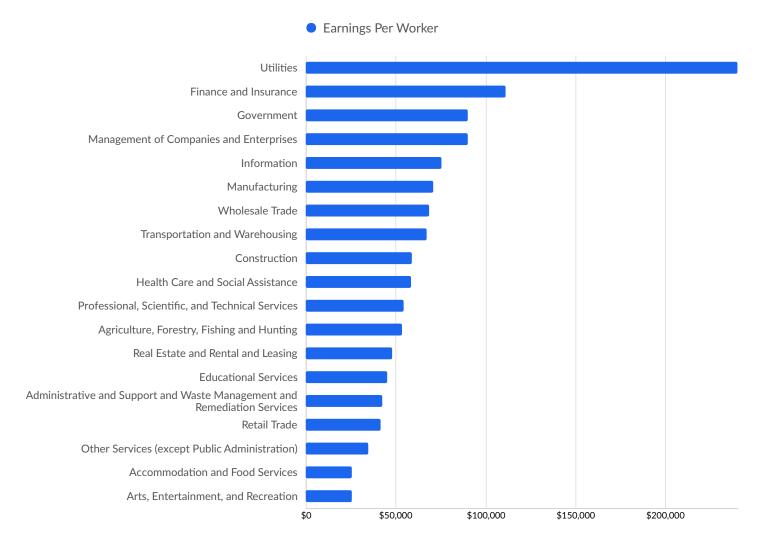
Top Industry Location Quotient



Top Industry GRP



Top Industry Earnings



Business Characteristics

15,456 Companies Employ Your Workers

Online profiles for your workers mention 15,456 companies as employers, with the top 10 appearing below. In the last 12 months, 2,155 companies in Merced County, CA posted job postings, with the top 10 appearing below.

Top Companies	Profiles	Top Companies Posting	Unique Postings
University of California Merced	1,176	Foster Farms	582
Foster Farms	644	University of California	416
University of California - Merced	583	University of California Merced	416
Merced County	554	Dignity Health	381
Merced County Office Of Educa	504	Hilmar Cheese Company	340
Merced City School District	330	Merced County	241
Walmart	311	Sutter Health	197
Radprof Media Productions	264	Merced College	133
Dignity Health	255	Healthcare Employment Network	129
Amazon	246	Robert Half	128

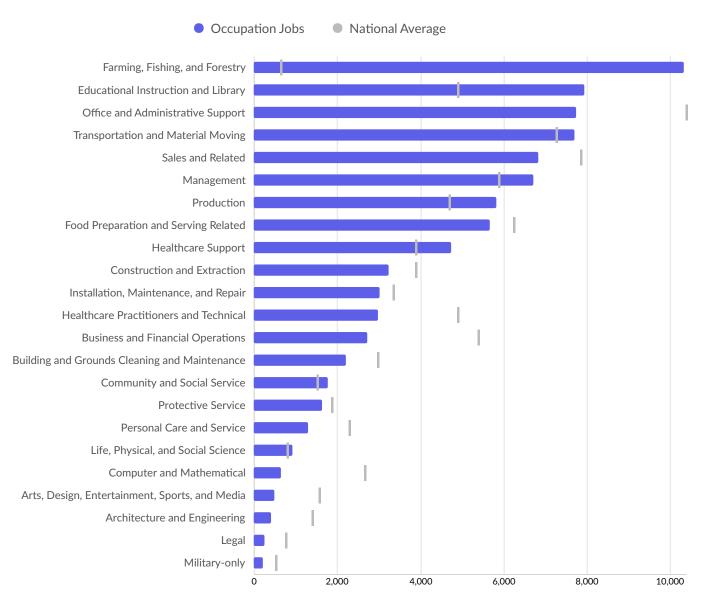
Business Size

		Percentage	Business Count
	• 1 to 4 employees	38.4%	2,554
	• 5 to 9 employees	29.5%	1,963
	• 10 to 19 employees	19.0%	1,262
	• 20 to 49 employees	10.2%	677
	• 50 to 99 employees	2.0%	136
	 100 to 249 employees 	0.7%	45
	• 250 to 499 employees	0.2%	11
	• 500+ employees	0.1%	5

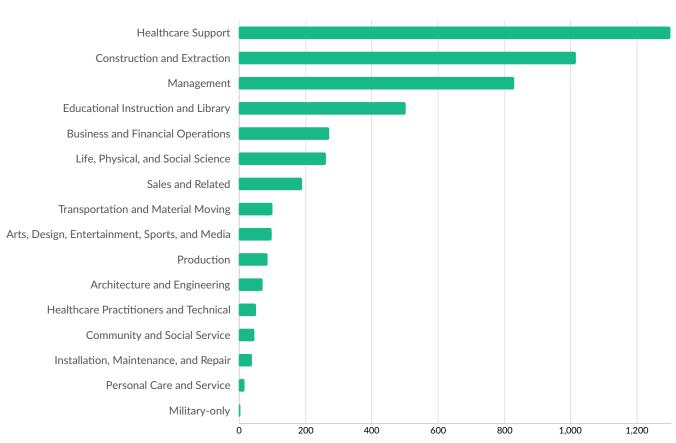
*Business Data by DatabaseUSA.com is third-party data provided by Lightcast to its customers as a convenience, and Lightcast does not endorse or warrant its accuracy or consistency with other published Lightcast data. In most cases, the Business Count will not match total companies with profiles on the summary tab.

Workforce Characteristics

Largest Occupations

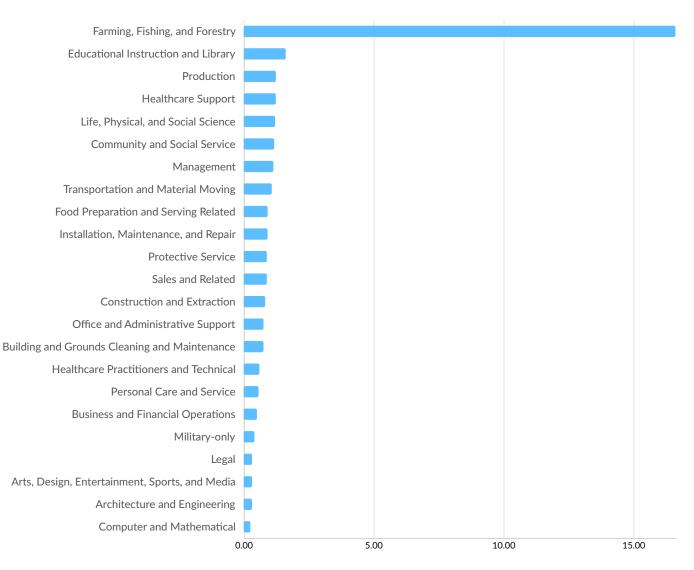


Top Growing Occupations



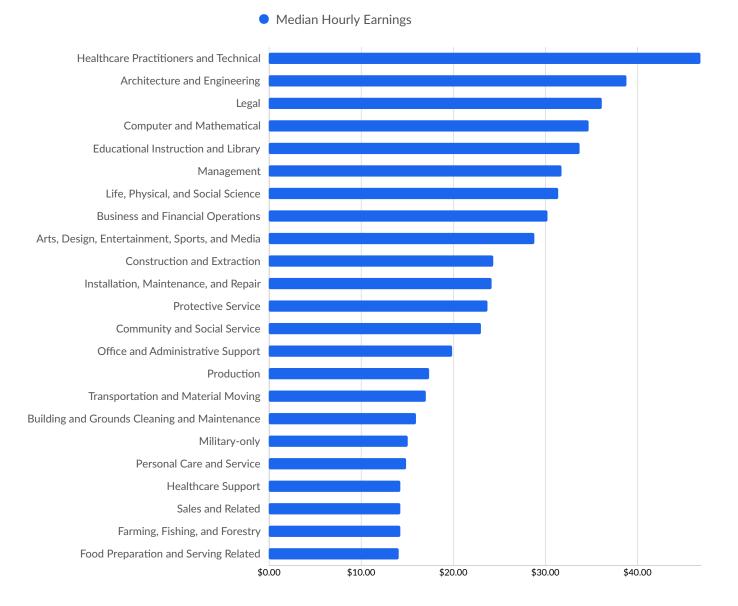
Occupation Jobs Growth

Top Occupation Location Quotient



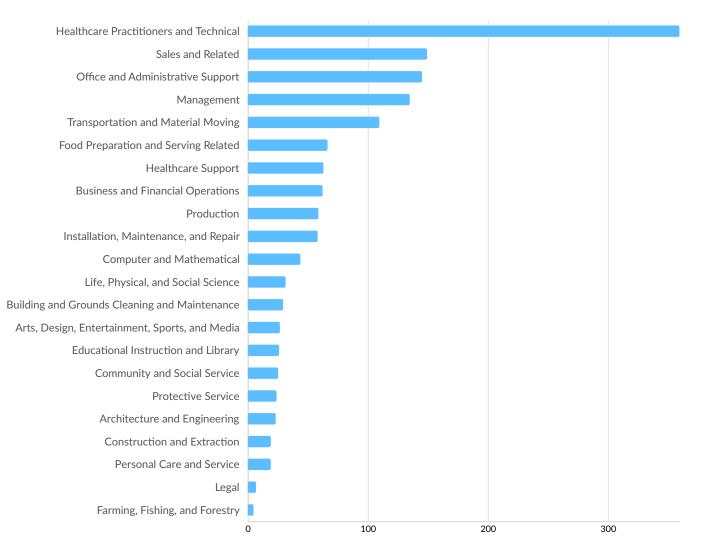
Occupation Location Quotient

Top Occupation Earnings



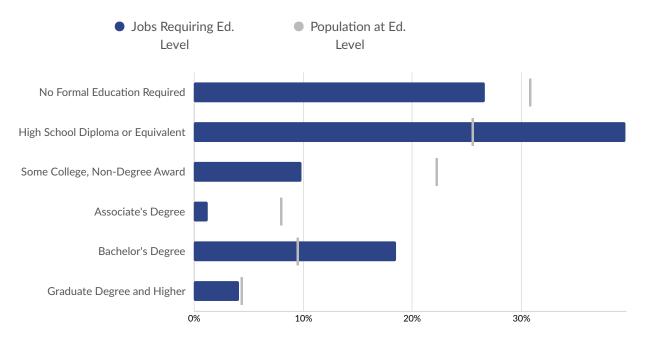
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Top Posted Occupations



Unique Average Monthly Postings

Underemployment



Educational Pipeline

In 2021, there were 5,244 graduates in Merced County, CA. This pipeline has grown by 63% over the last 5 years. The highest share of these graduates come from Liberal Arts and Sciences/Liberal Studies, "Biology/Biological Sciences, General", and "Psychology, General".

School	Total Graduates (2021)	Graduate Trend (2017 - 2021)
Merced College	2,930	
University of California-Merced	2,074	
Milan Institute-Merced	168	
Sierra College of Beauty	72	

• Certificate

Associate's

 Master's or Higher

• Bachelor's

In-Demand Skills

