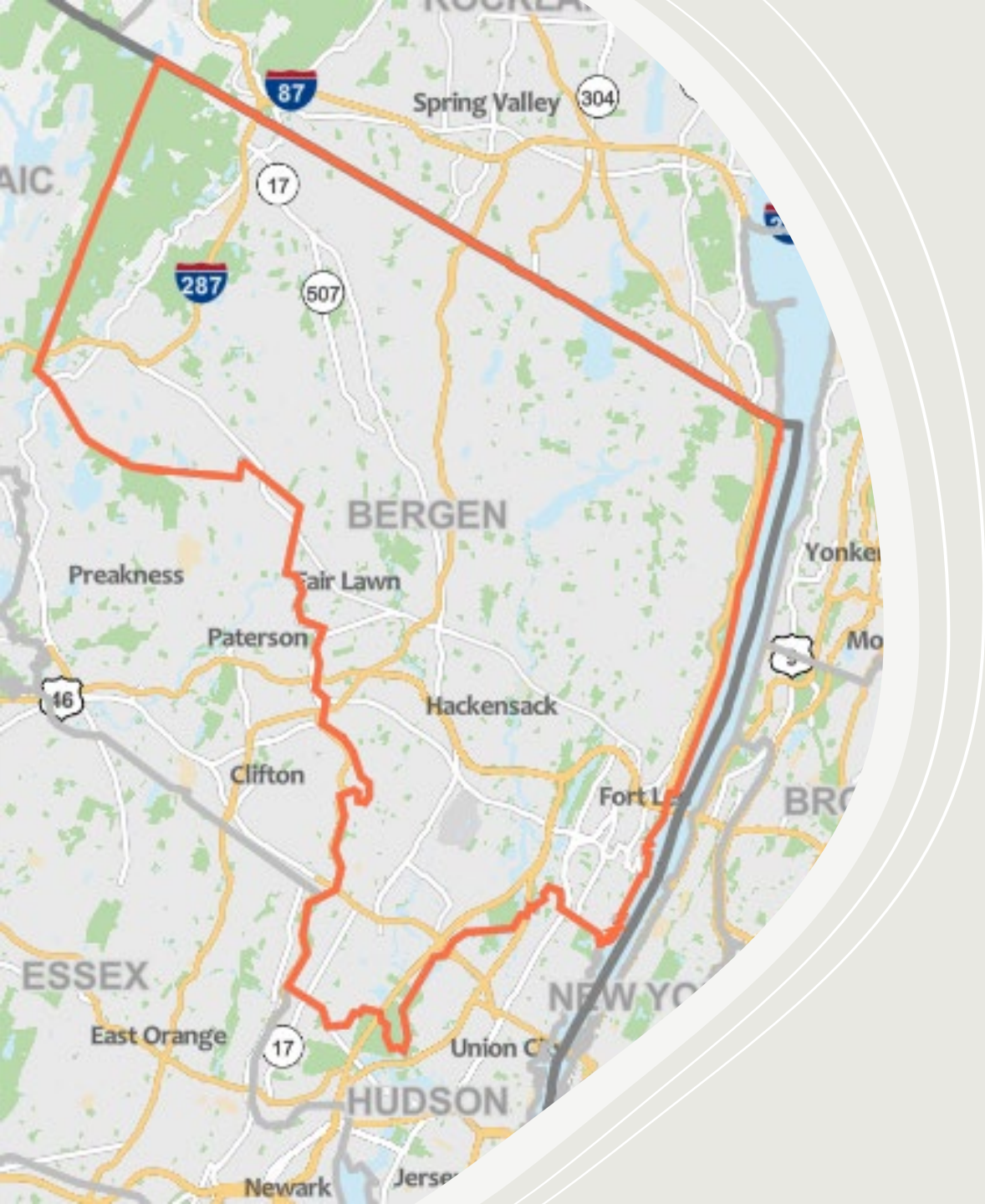




Bergen County

Division of Economic and Demographic Research

Office of Research & Information

New Jersey Department of Labor and Workforce Development

February 2026

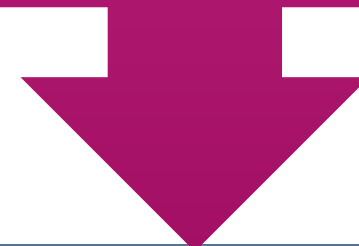


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**WHO ARE
WE?**

New Jersey Department of Labor
Office of Research and Information



Division of Economic and Demographic
Research

SDC

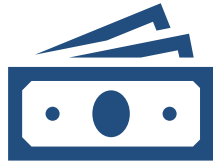
BLS

LMI

The purpose of this report is to highlight the key demographic and economic trends in the county



Bergen County has a **higher median age and a greater share of foreign-born residents** than New Jersey.



Bergen County's real GDP ranks 1st among all New Jersey counties.

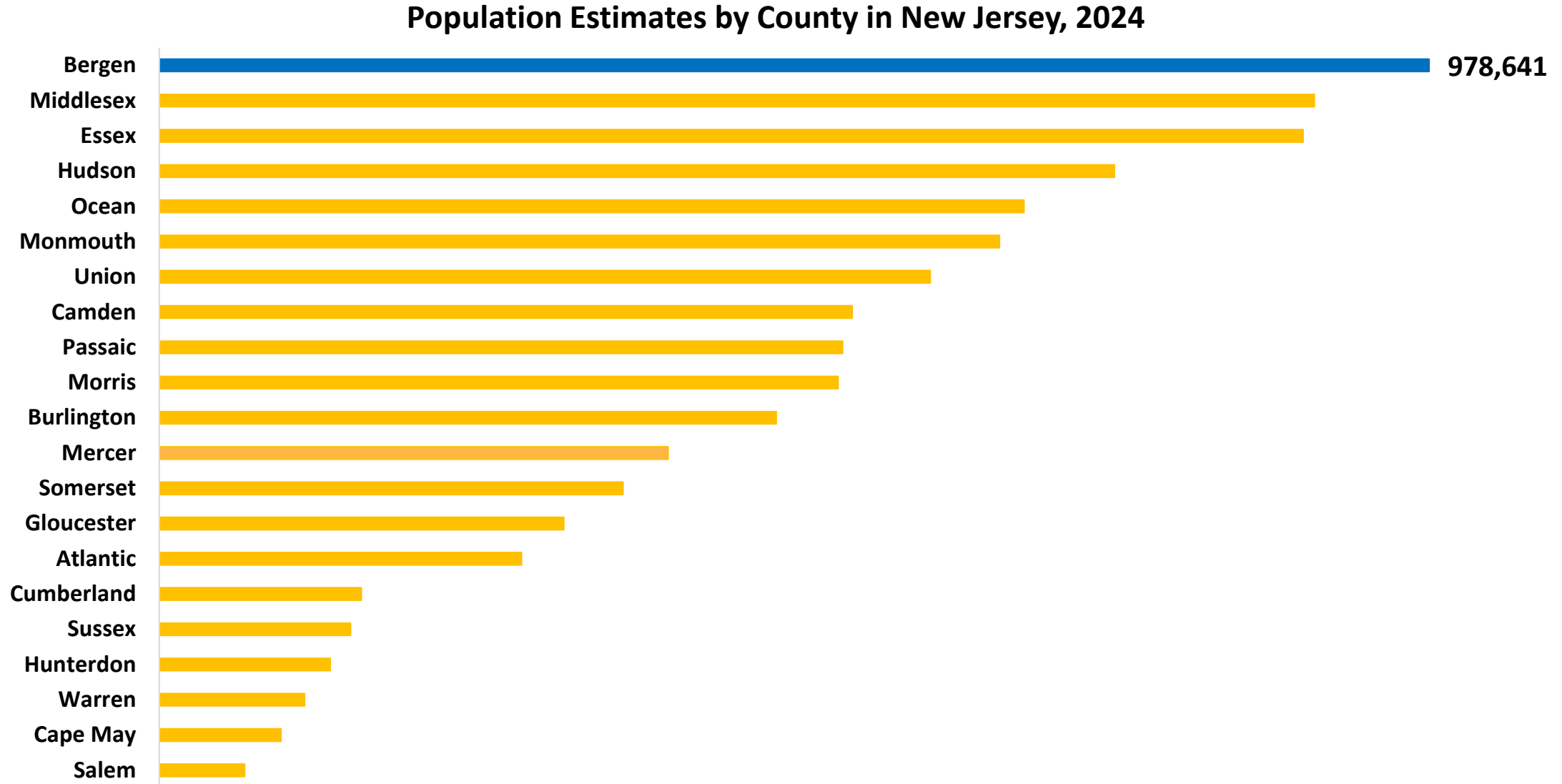


The **top** occupations in demand include Registered Nurses, Retail Salespeople, and First-Line Supervisors of Retail Salespeople.



DEMOGRAPHIC AND HOUSING CHARACTERISTICS

Bergen County's population was 978,641 in 2024.



Bergen County has a higher median age and a greater share of foreign-born residents than New Jersey.

Demographic Characteristics

Indicator	Bergen County	New Jersey
Median Age	42.0	40.1
% of Older Population (65+)	18.9%	18.0%
% of Language Other Than English Spoken at Home	44.4%	34.3%
% of Foreign-Born Population	33.2%	25.0%
% of Hispanic or Latino (of Any Race)	23.9%	23.5%

The share of Bergen County residents with a bachelor's degree or higher is 8.9 percentage points above the state.

Educational Attainment (Population 25 Years and Older)

Indicator	Bergen County	New Jersey
High School or Equivalent Degree	20.7%	24.7%
Some College, No Degree	12.2%	14.5%
Associate's Degree	6.4%	6.6%
Bachelor's Degree or Higher	53.4%	44.5%
High School Degree or Higher	92.8%	90.3%

Bergen County has a higher median household income and a lower poverty rate compared to New Jersey.

Income & Poverty

Indicator	Bergen County	New Jersey
Median Household Income	\$122,232	\$104,294
% of Poverty	6.7%	9.2%

Note: Median Household Income in the Past 12 Months (in 2024 Inflation-Adjusted Dollars)

Bergen County residents pay higher rent and have a slightly lower homeownership rate compared to the state average.

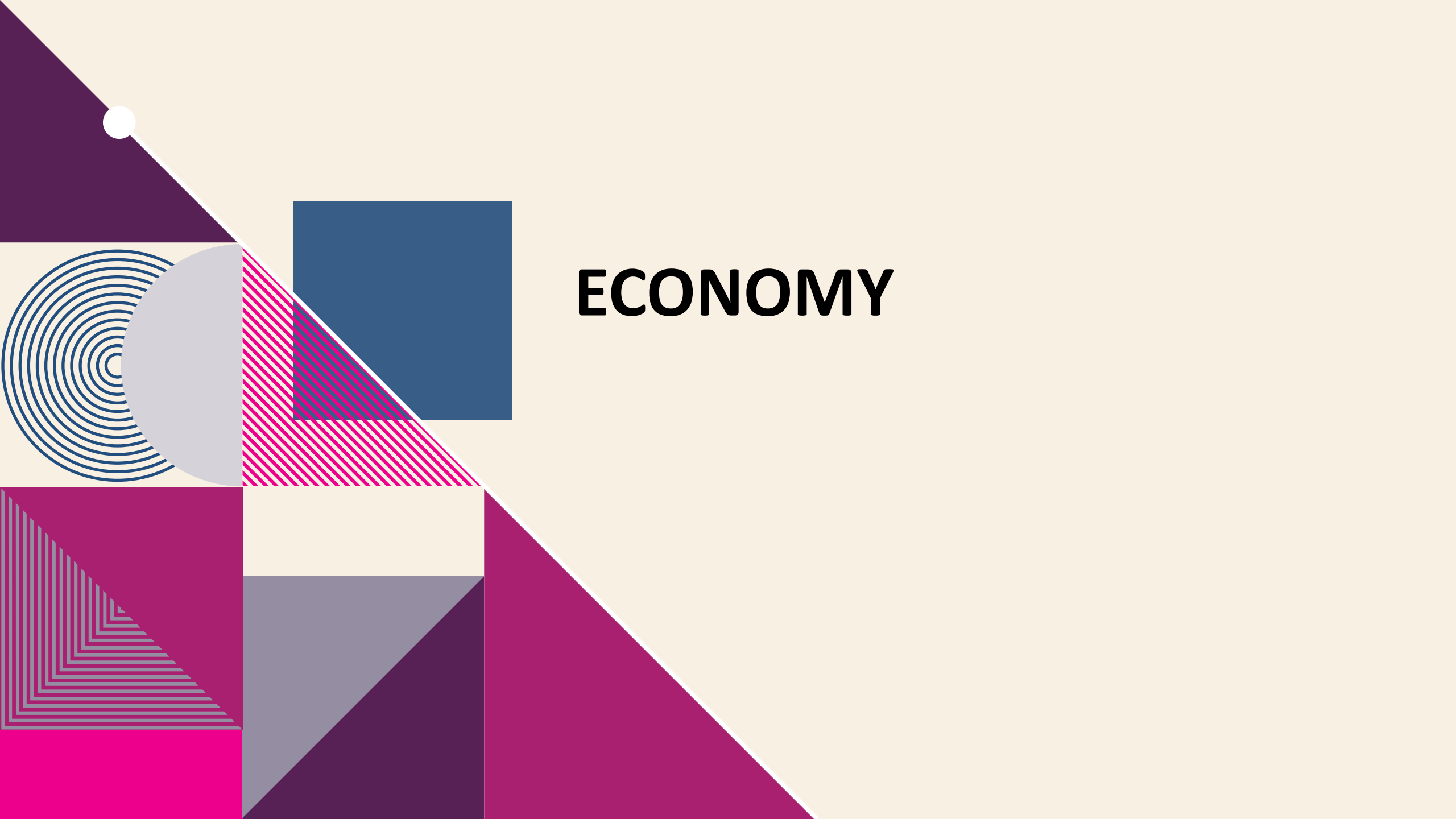
Housing Characteristics

Indicator	Bergen County	New Jersey
Total Households	358,164	3,543,944
Median Gross Rent	\$1,992	\$1,800
Homeownership Rate	63.7%	63.9%
% of Housing Value of Owner Occupied (≥\$300,000)	91.8%	80.7%

Bergen County residents are more likely to use public transportation and work from home more than the state average.

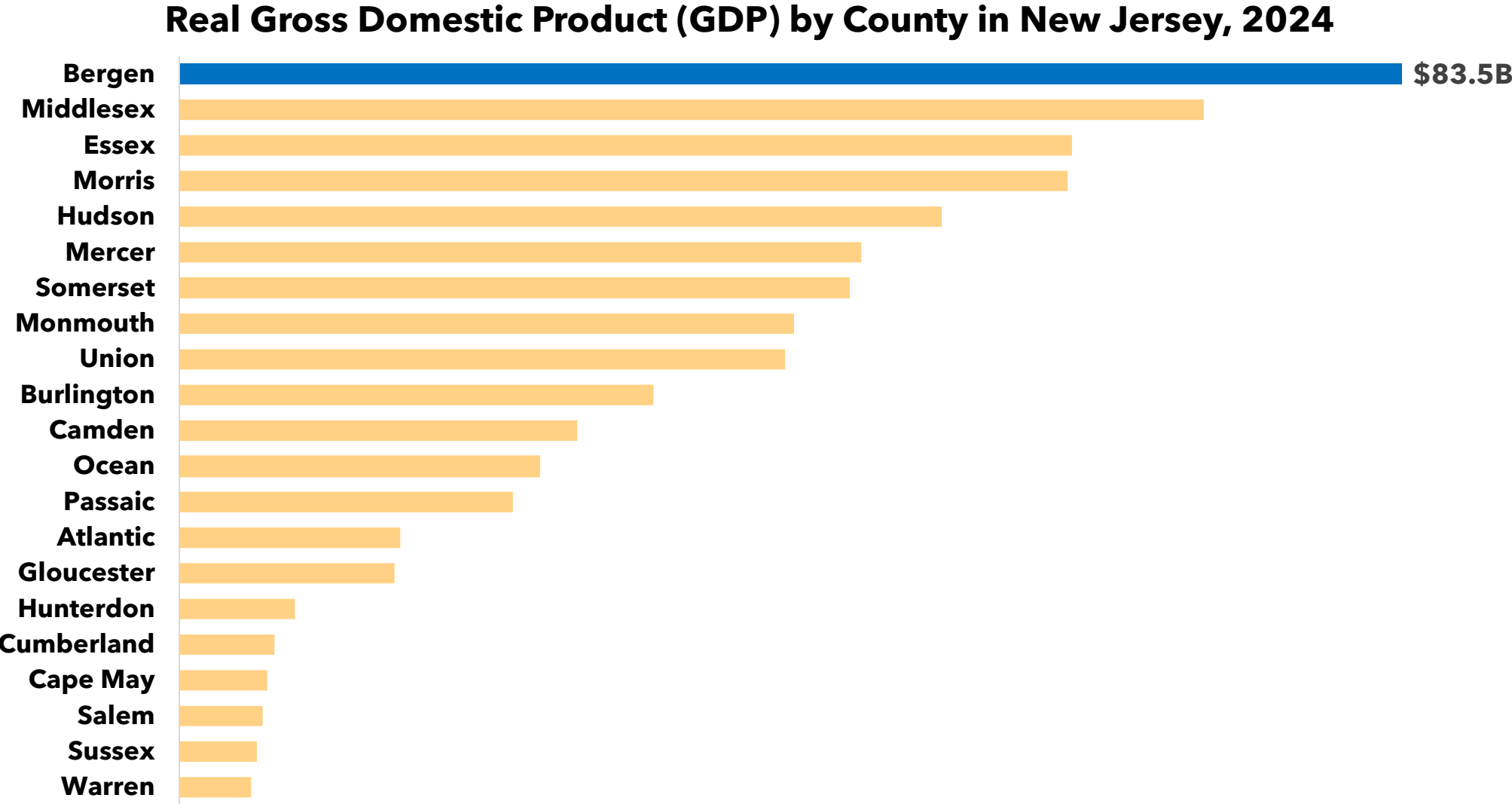
Commuting Characteristics

Indicator	Bergen County	New Jersey
Average Travel Time to Work (in Minutes)	34.0	31.9
% of Public Transportation	13.1%	9.7%
% of Working From Home	15.2%	13.5%

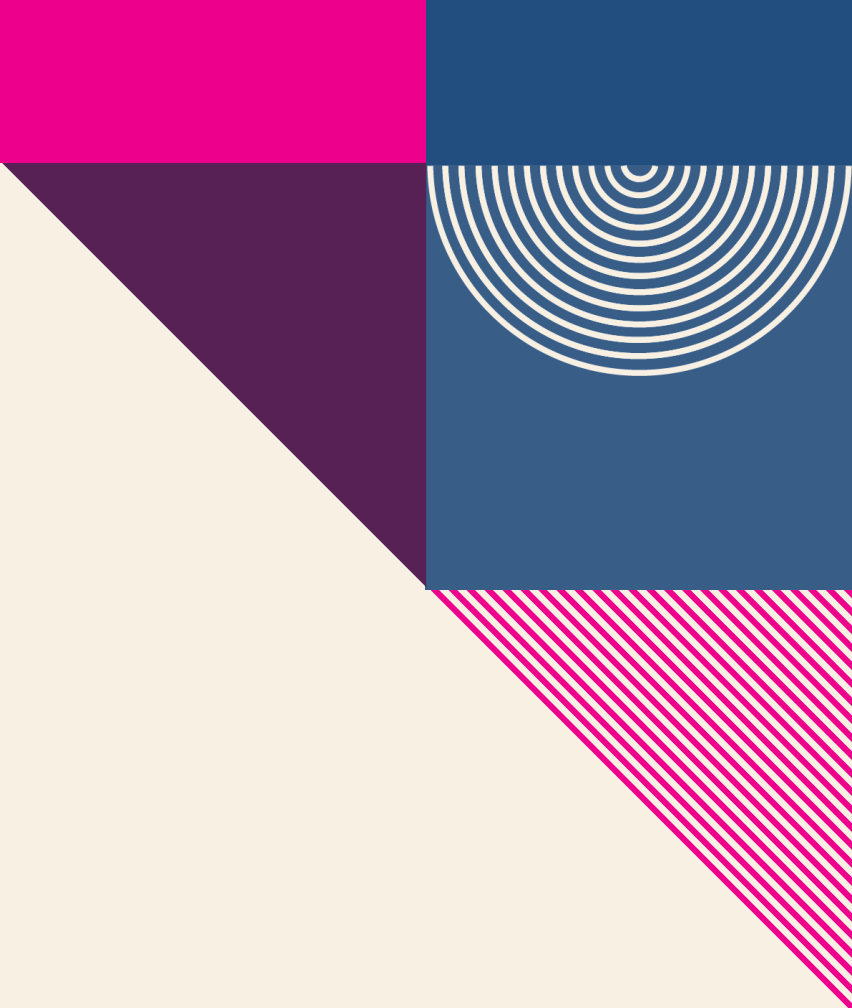


ECONOMY

In 2024, Bergen County’s real GDP was \$83.5 billion, ranking 1st among all New Jersey counties.



Source: U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis, "[CAGDP1 County and MSA gross domestic product \(GDP\) summary](#)" (accessed Wednesday, November 28, 2025).



Establishments and Employment

Bergen County

Source: Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages (QCEW) program, 2018 and 2024
Annual Averages

The QCEW program produces quarterly and annual data on the number of establishments, total employment, and wages for workers covered by New Jersey unemployment insurance (UI) laws, as well as federal employees under the Unemployment Compensation for Federal Employees (UCFE) program. This data is published at various geographical and industry levels

19.1% of Bergen County establishments are in health care and social assistance.

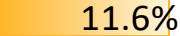
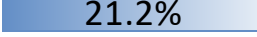
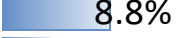
**Bergen County Establishments, Ranked by Percent of the Total Establishments
Private Ownerships**

Industry	Total Number of Establishments	Total Number of Employees	% of Total Establishments
Health care and social assistance	6,765	83,489	19.1%
Professional and technical services	4,071	28,768	11.5%
Other services, except public administration	3,318	15,999	9.3%
Retail trade	3,293	47,697	9.3%
Accommodation and food services	2,648	34,625	7.5%
Wholesale trade	2,546	32,175	7.2%
Construction	2,517	15,796	7.1%
Administrative and waste services	2,013	23,389	5.7%
Finance and insurance	1,467	13,539	4.1%
Real estate and rental and leasing	1,323	9,041	3.7%
Manufacturing	1,217	29,613	3.4%
Transportation and warehousing	998	17,693	2.8%
Information	565	8,131	1.6%
Educational services	552	10,621	1.6%
Management of companies and enterprises	180	9,770	0.5%

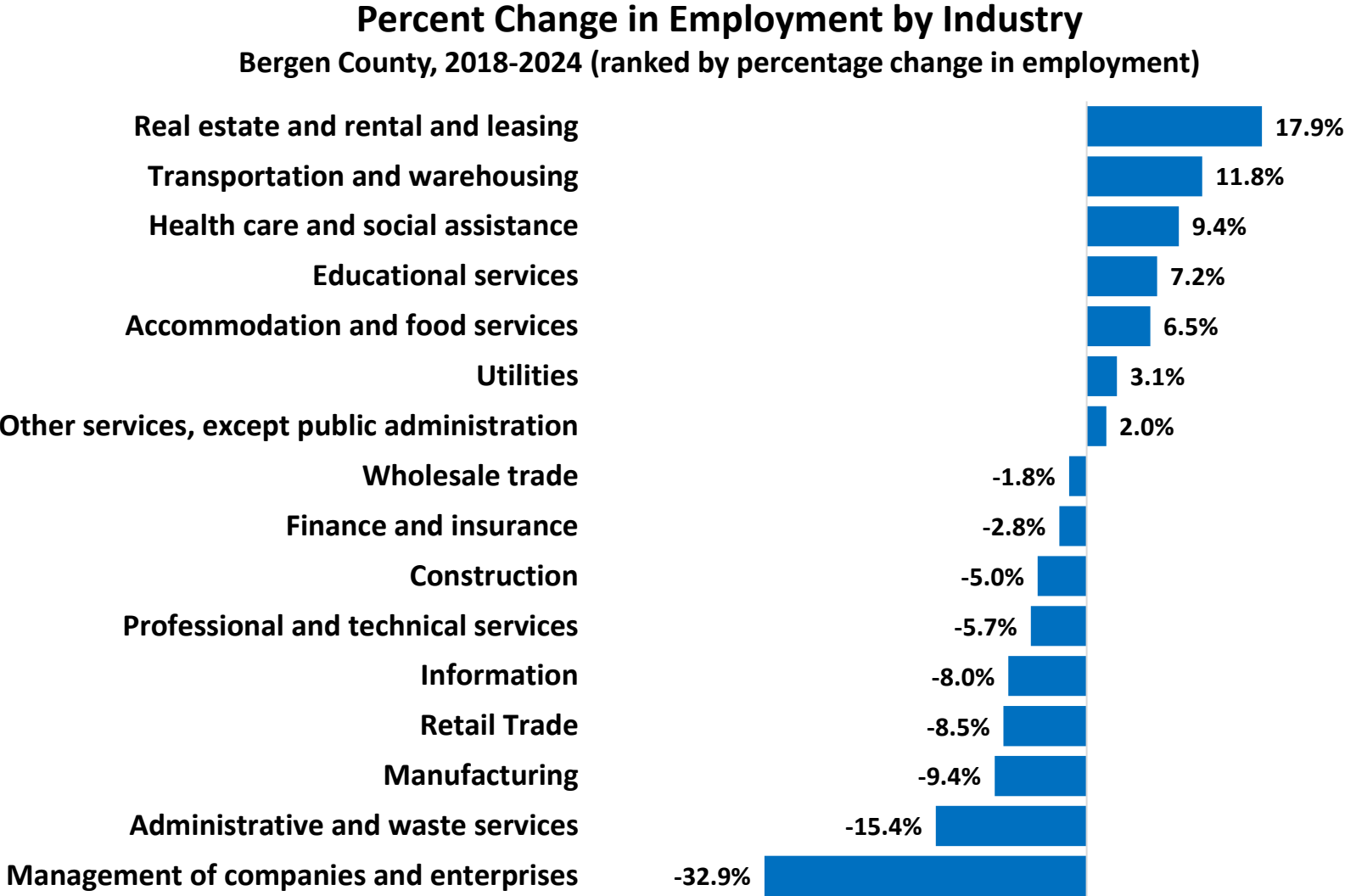
Note: Full list of establishments in Somerset County is available in [Appendix](#).

In Bergen County, health care and social assistance has a higher employment share compared to state averages.

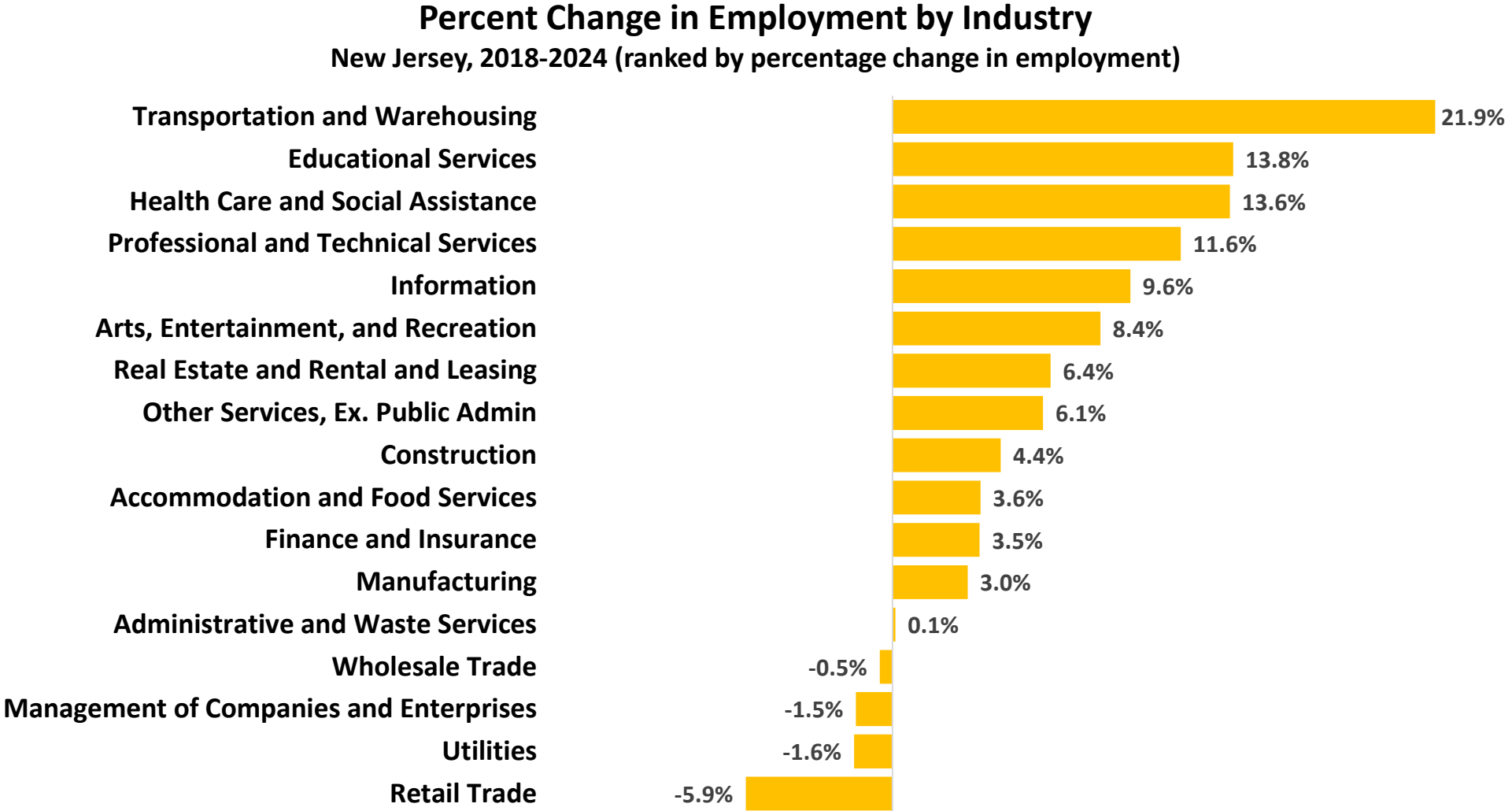
**Private Employment
Bergen County vs. New Jersey, 2024
Private Sector**

Industry	Bergen County		New Jersey		Difference between
	Employment	% of Total	Employment	% of Total	
Construction	15,796	 4.0%	164,014	 4.5%	-0.4%
Manufacturing	29,613	 7.5%	253,054	 6.9%	0.7%
Wholesale trade	32,175	 8.2%	213,549	 5.8%	2.4%
Retail trade	47,697	 12.1%	427,521	 11.6%	0.5%
Transportation and warehousing	17,693	 4.5%	233,943	 6.4%	-1.9%
Information	8,131	 2.1%	76,199	 2.1%	0.0%
Finance and insurance	13,539	 3.4%	189,987	 5.2%	-1.7%
Real estate and rental and leasing	9,041	 2.3%	63,263	 1.7%	0.6%
Professional and technical services	28,768	 7.3%	336,105	 9.1%	-1.8%
Management of companies and enterprises	9,770	 2.5%	82,588	 2.2%	0.2%
Administrative and waste services	23,389	 6.0%	286,750	 7.8%	-1.8%
Educational services	10,621	 2.7%	90,018	 2.4%	0.3%
Health care and social assistance	83,489	 21.2%	656,356	 17.8%	3.4%
Accommodation and food services	34,625	 8.8%	328,905	 8.9%	-0.1%
Other services, except public administration	15,999	 4.1%	144,086	 3.9%	0.2%

Between 2018 and 2024, real estate and rental and leasing saw the largest employment growth in Bergen County, increasing by 17.9%.



Transportation and warehousing saw strong growth in New Jersey, expanding by 21.9% from 2018 to 2024.





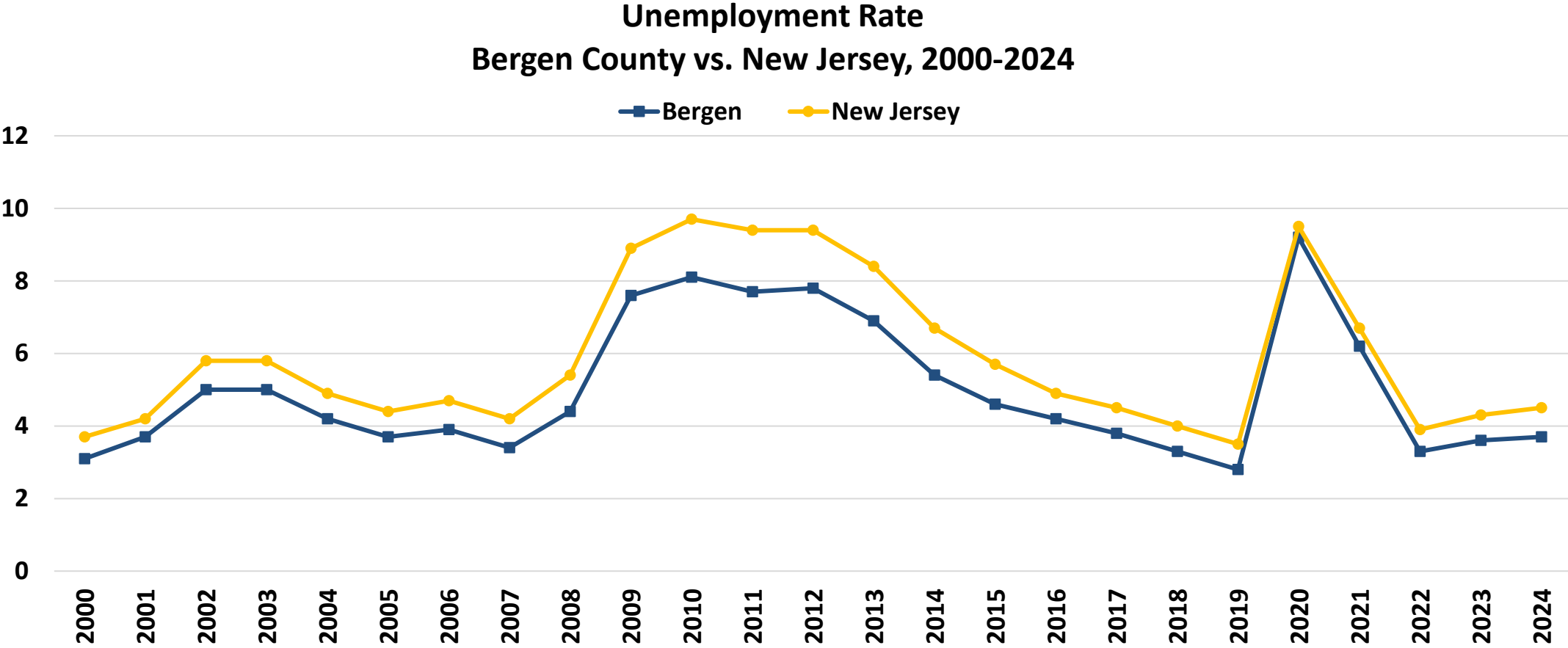
Unemployment Trend

Bergen County vs. New Jersey

Source: Local Area Unemployment Statistics (LAUS), 2024

The Local Area Unemployment Statistics (LAUS) program produces monthly and annual employment, unemployment, and labor force data for Census regions and divisions, States, counties, metropolitan areas, and many cities, by place of residence.

The unemployment rate in Bergen County follows state trends but was slightly lower than the New Jersey average.





Occupational Employment and Wages

Bergen County vs. New Jersey

Source: 2024 National Occupational Employment and Wage Estimates (OEWS)

The Occupational Employment and Wage Statistics (OEWS) program produces employment, and wage estimates annually for approximately 830 occupations. These estimates are available for the nation, for individual states, and for metropolitan and nonmetropolitan areas; national occupational estimates for specific industries are also available.

20.8% of Bergen County's total employment is concentrated in the top 10 occupations.

**Top 10 Occupations, Ranked by Employment
Bergen County, 2024**

Occupation	Employment	% of Total Employment	Median Hourly Wage
Home Health and Personal Care Aides	12,240	2.8%	\$17.64
Cashiers	10,810	2.4%	\$16.46
Registered Nurses	10,420	2.4%	\$49.39
Retail Salespersons	10,360	2.3%	\$17.28
Fast Food and Counter Workers	9,420	2.1%	\$16.21
Laborers and Freight, Stock, and Material Movers, Hand	8,280	1.9%	\$19.05
Janitors and Cleaners, Except Maids and Housekeeping Cleaners	8,090	1.8%	\$17.82
Stockers and Order Fillers	7,960	1.8%	\$17.80
Office Clerks, General	7,670	1.7%	\$23.36
General and Operations Managers	7,020	1.6%	\$72.44
Top 10 Occupations, Total	92,270	20.8%	
All Occupations, Total	442,920	100.0%	\$26.90

Note: OEWS collects the data for 2024.

In New Jersey, the top 10 occupations account for 20.1% of total employment.

**Top 10 Occupations, Ranked by Employment
New Jersey, 2024**

Occupation	Employment	% of Total Employment	Median Hourly Wage
Home Health and Personal Care Aides	105,460	2.5%	\$17.83
Laborers and Freight, Stock, and Material Movers	101,720	2.4%	\$18.78
Registered Nurses	95,150	2.2%	\$49.39
Cashiers	93,270	2.2%	\$15.96
Retail Salespersons	87,760	2.1%	\$17.13
Fast Food and Counter Workers	86,980	2.0%	\$16.01
Packers and Packagers, Hand	76,060	1.8%	\$20.56
Office Clerks, General	71,140	1.7%	\$23.07
Stockers and Order Fillers	70,780	1.7%	\$17.69
Janitors and Cleaners	67,590	1.6%	\$17.94
Top 10 Occupations, Total	855,910	20.1%	
All Occupations, Total	4,250,430	100.0%	\$27.51

Note: OEWS collects the data for 2024.

Between 2022 and 2032 in Bergen County, the healthcare support occupational group is projected to see the largest growth (+3,700).

Actual and Projected Employment by Occupation Group, Bergen County
Top 10 Occupation groups ranked by 2032 Employment Projections

Occupational Group	2022 Actual	2032 Projected	Net Change	Percent Change
Office and Administrative Support	66,850	62,400	-4,450	-6.7%
Transportation and Material Moving	50,500	53,000	2,500	5.0%
Sales and Related	47,300	45,450	-1,850	-3.9%
Management	36,350	38,300	1,950	5.4%
Healthcare Practitioners and Technical	32,400	35,700	3,300	10.2%
Educational Instruction and Library	30,550	32,100	1,550	5.1%
Food Preparation and Serving Related	30,100	30,950	850	2.8%
Business and Financial Operations	29,600	30,200	600	2.0%
Healthcare Support	24,000	27,700	3,700	15.4%
Production	21,300	20,800	-500	-2.2%

Note: Employment data for Top 15 occupational groups is available in the [Appendix](#).

An abstract geometric design on the left side of the slide. It features a dark purple triangle in the top-left corner with a small white circle. Below it is a light grey semi-circle next to a series of concentric blue circles. To the right of these is a blue square. Further down is a pink square with diagonal lines, and below that is a solid pink square. At the bottom are several triangles in shades of purple and pink, some with concentric line patterns. The background is a solid light beige color.

JOB POSTINGS



Job Postings

Bergen County vs. New Jersey

Source: Lightcast

Lightcast collect raw data on postings from more than 160,000 online sources, then synthesize and interpret those findings to provide meaningful insight in near real time. Job posting analytics can identify supply and demand for workers, skills, and jobs all over the world, as well as important contextual details like compensation trends.

Limitations: One job posting does not necessarily equal one actual job opening. Some companies may post jobs to signal growth to investors or advertise positions in multiple states. Additionally, a decline in job postings doesn't always indicate reduced demand; it could simply mean that companies have already filled their positions and are no longer actively recruiting. We treat this data as directional, offering insights into employer demand rather than exact measurements.



Top 5 Hiring Companies Bergen County, 2024

- **Hackensack Meridian Health**
- **Swing Education**
- **Englewood Health PLLC**
- **Valley Health System**
- **Jag Physical Therapy**

Top 5 Occupations Bergen County, 2024

- Registered Nurses
- Retail Salespersons
- First-Line Supervisors of Retail Sales
- Home Health and Personal Care Aides
- Substitute Teachers, Short-Term





Top 5 Specialized Skills Bergen County, 2024

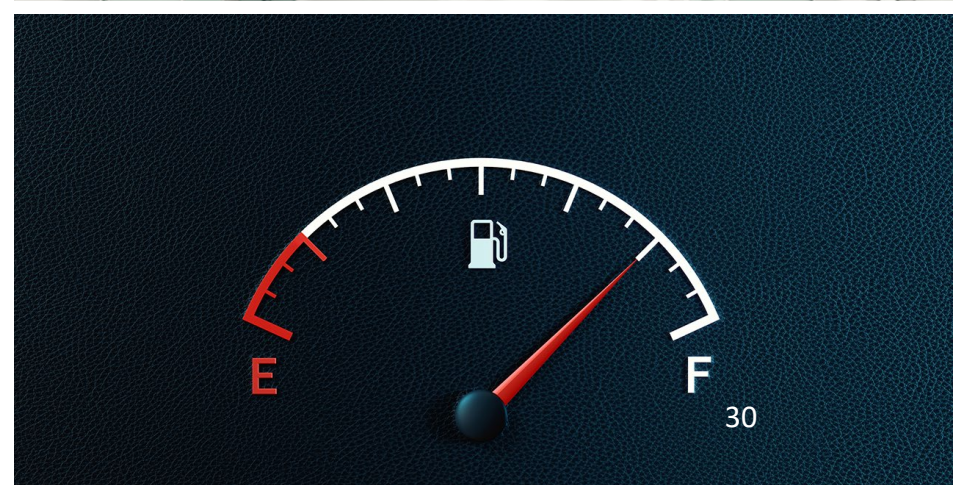
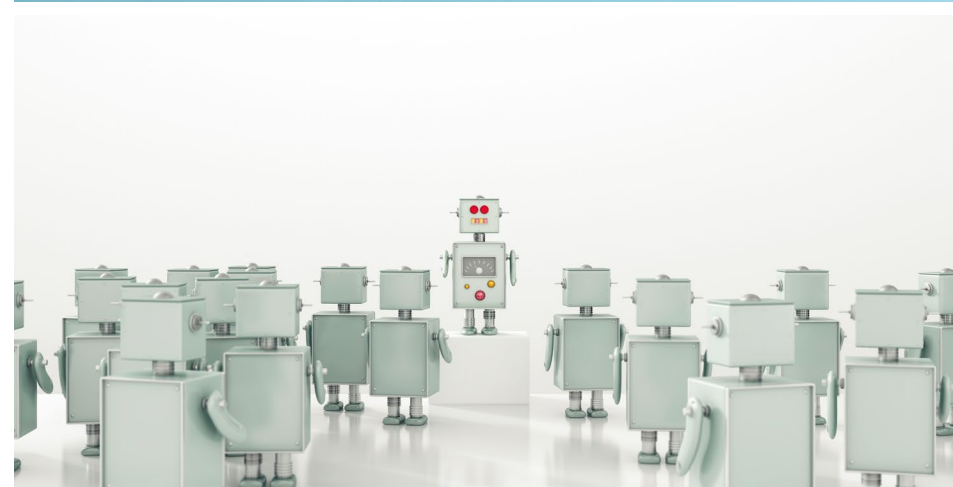
- **Marketing**
- **Nursing**
- **Project Management**
- **Merchandising**
- **Auditing**



Top 5 Software Skills

Bergen County, 2024

- Microsoft Office (e.g., Excel, and PowerPoint)
- Programming Language (e.g., SQL, Python, and JavaScript)
- Google Workspace
- Epic EMR
- Dashboard





Top 5 Soft Skills Bergen County, 2024

- **Communication**
- **Customer Service**
- **Management**
- **Sales**
- **Detail Oriented**





Top 5 Certificates Bergen County, 2024

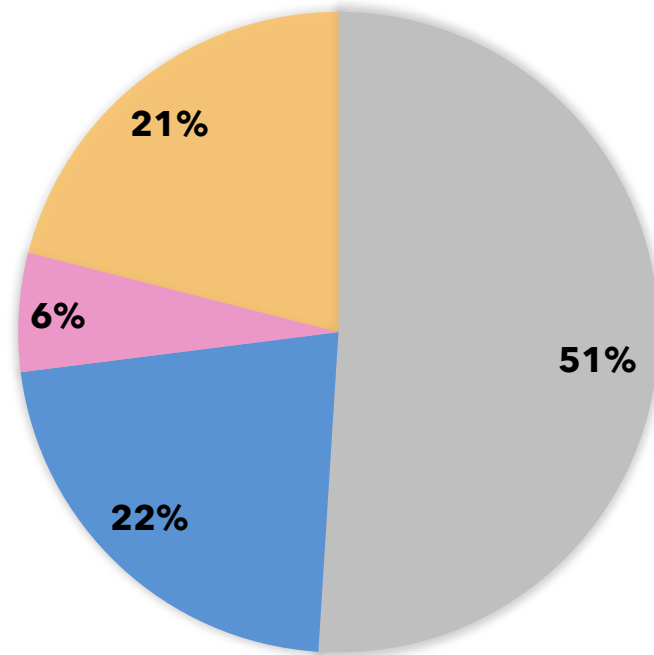
- **Valid Driver's License**
- **Registered Nurse (RN)**
- **Basic Life Support (BLS) Certification**
- **Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (CPR) Certification**
- **Advanced Cardiovascular Life Support (ACLS) Certification**



21 percent of job postings in Bergen County require a bachelor's degree or higher.

**Job Postings by Educational Attainment
Bergen County, 2024**

■ No education listed ■ High school or GED ■ Associate's degree ■ Bachelor's degree or higher



Note: Bachelor's degree or higher includes Bachelor's Degree, Master, Ph.D. or Professional Degree. While 51% of job postings did not specify educational attainment, this does not necessarily mean there are no requirements for it.



AI-related Job Postings

Bergen County vs. New Jersey

Source: Lightcast

To identify AI-related job postings, ORI-EDR compiled a curated list of 130 specific terms. A job listing is deemed AI-related if any of these terms appear in the skills section. A job listing is classified as AI-related if any of these terms are present in the skills section. This includes, but is not limited to, terms such as "AI/ML Inference," "Conversational AI," "Machine Learning Algorithms," "Supervised Learning," and "Deep Learning."

Limitations: One job posting does not necessarily equal one actual job opening. Some companies may post jobs to signal growth to investors or advertise positions in multiple states. Additionally, a decline in job postings doesn't always indicate reduced demand; it could simply mean that companies have already filled their positions and are no longer actively recruiting. We treat this data as directional, offering insights into employer demand rather than exact measurements.

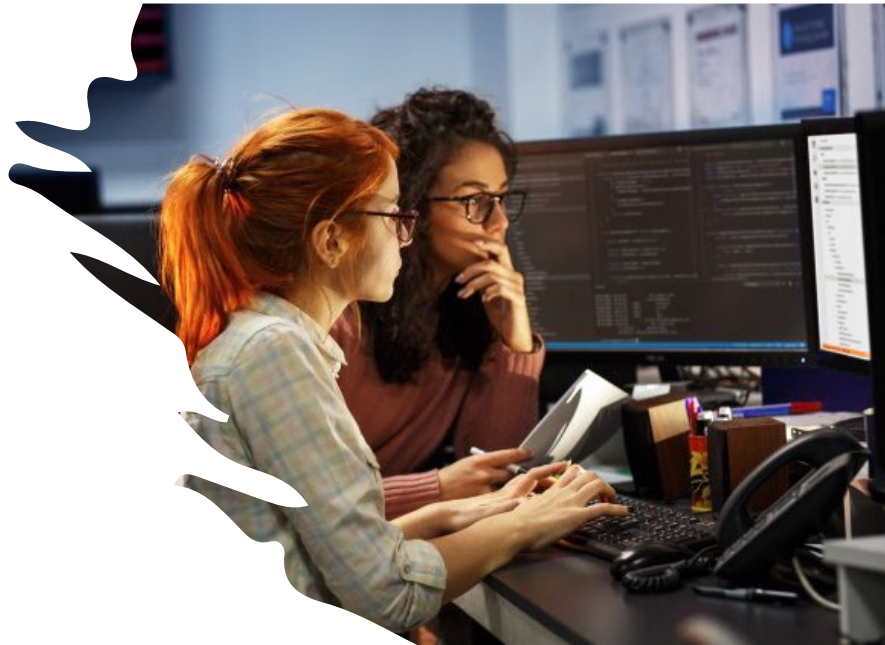
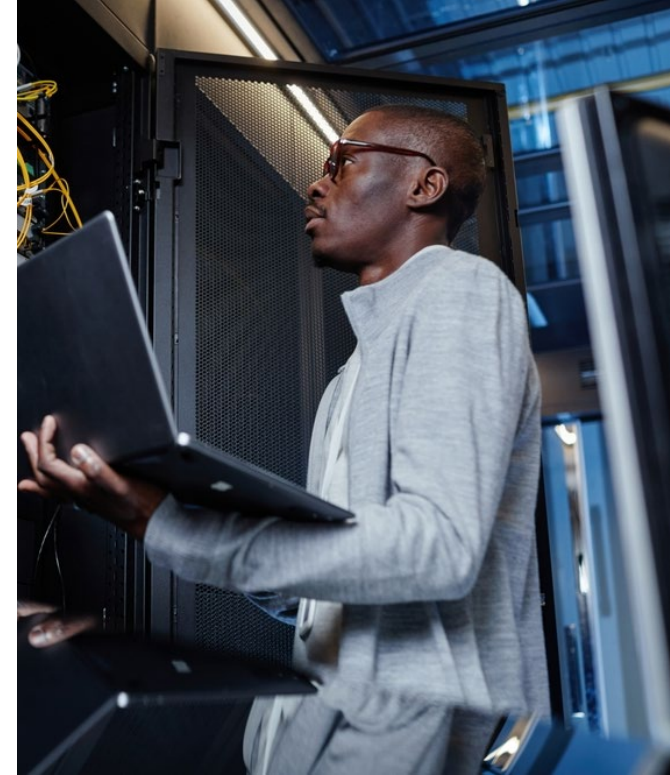


Top 5 AI-related Hiring Companies Bergen County, 2024

- NBC
- BD
- Hackensack Meridian Health
- Transdev
- Unilever

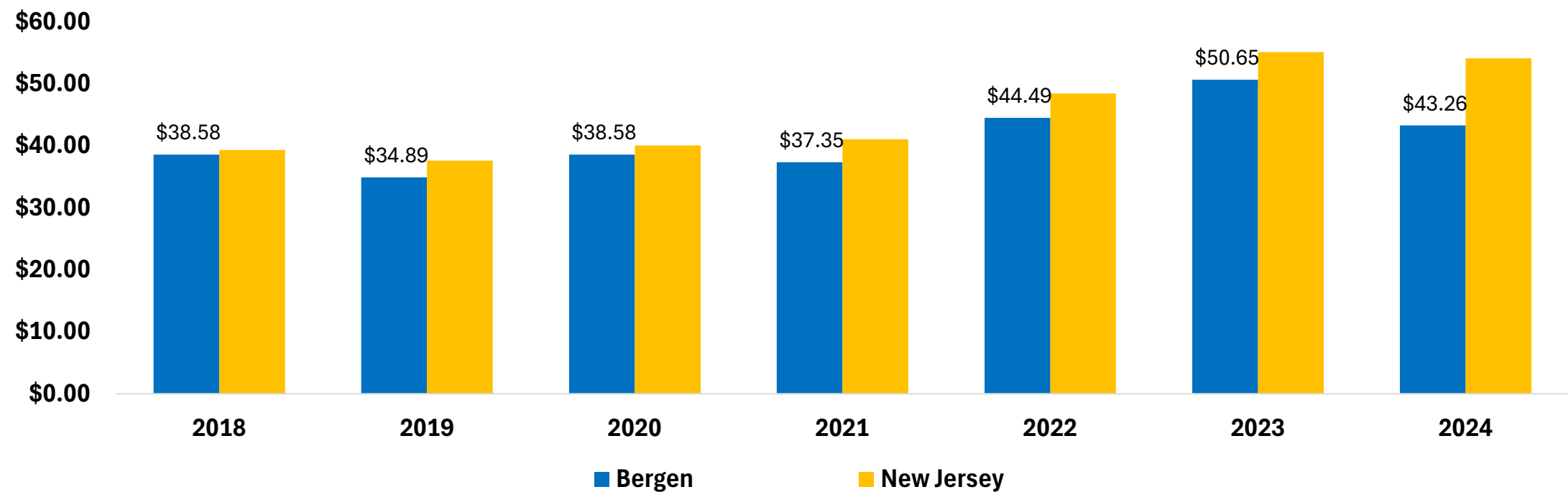
Top 5 AI-related Occupations Bergen County, 2024

- Software Developers
- Project Management Specialists
- Computer Occupations, All Other
- Data Scientists
- Marketing Managers



In Bergen County, the median hourly wage for AI-related job postings is lower than the state average.

Median Hourly Wage in AI-related Job Postings,
Bergen County vs. New Jersey, 2018-2024





TAKEAWAYS

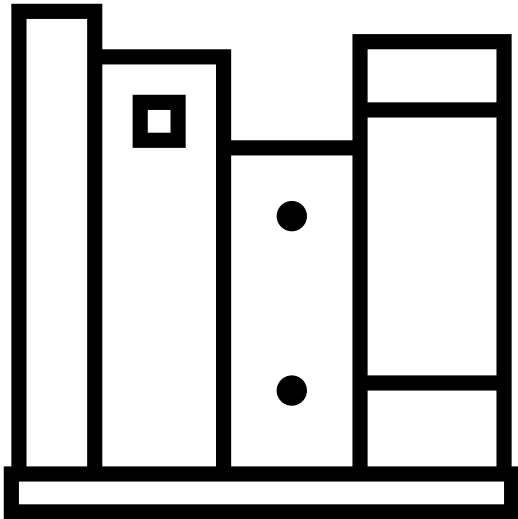


- **Key Economic and Workforce Insights: Bergen County**
 - **Demographics**
 - Bergen County's population is older and more diverse than the state.
 - The proportion of Bergen County residents with a bachelor's degree or higher is 8.9 percentage points higher than the state.



- **Key Economic and Workforce Insights: Bergen County (Continued)**
 - **Industry Composition**
 - Health Care and Social Assistance sector accounts for 19.1% of all business establishments.
 - Bergen County has a higher employment share in Health Care and Social Assistance sector compared to the state.

2025 Report Overview and Subscription Information



This report was prepared by the Office of Research and Information, Division of Economic & Demographic Research. This division collects and disseminates vital data on employers, employees, and population demographics.

2025-2026 NJDOL PUBLICATIONS

- [Real-Time Insights: Analysis of Job Posting Data in New Jersey for 2025](#) (January 2026)
- [Identifying and Tracking Emerging Occupations in New Jersey's Key Sectors](#) (January 2026)
- [New Jersey's Manufacturing Sector](#) (Winter 2025)
- [County Brief: Labor Market Facts](#) (December 2025)
- [Labor Market Spotlight - Celebrating New Jersey's Veterans](#) (Issue No. 28, Volume 3: November 2025)
- [Labor Market Spotlight - New Jersey's Waterways Help Keep the Economy Flowing](#) (Issue No. 27, Volume 3: October 2025)
- [New Jersey Employment Situation](#) (September 2025)
- [Job Openings and Labor Turnover Survey \(JOLTS\)](#) (August 2025)
- [New Jersey Building Permits](#) (August 2025)
- [New Jersey's Life Sciences Sector](#) (Fall 2025)
- [Labor Market Spotlight - The Industries Powering New Jersey's Special Moments](#) (Issue No. 26, Volume 3: August 2025)
- [New Jersey's Health Care Sector](#) (June 2025)
- [New Jersey Business Employment Dynamics](#) (May 2025)
- [Survey of Occupational Injuries and Illnesses \(SOII\)](#) (April 2025)
- [Labor Market Spotlight - Fortune 500 Companies](#) (Issue No. 25, Volume 3: March 2025)
- [Labor Market Spotlight - Young Adult Workforce](#) (Issue No. 24, Volume 3: January 2025)

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THANK YOU!



APPENDIX

Bergen County Establishments, Ranked by Percent of the Total Establishments Private Sector

Industry	Total Number of Establishments	Total Number of Employees	% of Total Establishments
Health care and social assistance	6,765	83,489	19.0%
Professional and technical services	4,071	28,768	11.5%
Other services, except public administration	3,318	15,999	9.3%
Retail trade	3,293	47,697	9.3%
Accommodation and food services	2,648	34,625	7.5%
Wholesale trade	2,546	32,175	7.2%
Construction	2,517	15,796	7.1%
Administrative and waste services	2,013	23,389	5.7%
Unclassified	1,512	1,637	4.3%
Finance and insurance	1,467	13,539	4.1%
Real estate and rental and leasing	1,323	9,041	3.7%
Manufacturing	1,217	29,613	3.4%
Transportation and warehousing	998	17,693	2.8%
Information	565	8,131	1.6%
Educational services	552	10,621	1.6%
Management of companies and enterprises	180	9,770	0.5%
Utilities	38	1,416	0.1%
Agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting	29	316	0.1%
Total	35,512	392,949	100.0%

*Source: ORI-EDR, QCEW, 2024

Note: An establishment is considered unknown when there is insufficient detail to accurately determine its primary industry at that location. It will be assigned an industry code once the program can verify its main business activity.

Actual and Projected Employment by Occupation Group, Bergen County
Top 15 Occupations ranked by 2032 Employment Projections

Occupational Group	2022 Actual	2032 Projected	Net Change	Percent Change
Office and Administrative Support Occupations	66,850	62,400	-4,450	-6.6%
Transportation and Material Moving Occupations	50,500	53,000	2,500	5.0%
Sales and Related Occupations	47,300	45,450	-1,850	-3.9%
Management Occupations	36,350	38,300	1,950	5.2%
Healthcare Practitioners and Technical Occupations	32,400	35,700	3,300	10.3%
Educational Instruction and Library Occupations	30,550	32,100	1,550	5.0%
Food Preparation and Serving Related Occupations	30,100	30,950	850	2.8%
Business and Financial Operations Occupations	29,600	30,200	600	2.0%
Healthcare Support Occupations	24,000	27,700	3,700	15.4%
Production Occupations	21,300	20,800	-500	-2.2%
Computer and Mathematical Occupations	18,000	19,750	1,750	9.8%
Personal Care and Service Occupations	17,300	19,150	1,850	10.6%
Installation, Maintenance, and Repair Occupations	17,500	18,000	500	2.8%
Building and Grounds Cleaning and Maintenance Occupations	15,850	16,100	250	1.7%
Construction and Extraction Occupations	15,000	15,700	700	4.8%