# Colusa County Economic Forecast

Forecast Summary

- Approximately 200 jobs are expected to be created in Colusa County in 2019. Through 2024, an average of 50 jobs are expected to be created each year.

- The largest gains are expected in agriculture, manufacturing, and government. Together, these sectors will account for 80 percent of net job creation in the county between 2018 and 2024.

- The unemployment rate averaged 12.9 percent in 2018 and will improve to 12.5 percent by 2020.

- The Colusa County population is growing much more quickly than the average for Northern California and will continue to do so during the forecast period.

- Housing production remains very low in Colusa County and is not expected to increase meaningfully from current levels.

Job Growth

- Agriculture is the largest employment sector in Colusa County, accounting for 32 percent of all wage-and-salary jobs.

- Aside from agriculture, the largest industries are government and manufacturing.

- During the 2018–2024 forecast period, the manufacturing industry will generate approximately 100 jobs, while the agriculture and government sectors will each create approximately 150 jobs. Most other industries will expand by fewer than 20 jobs.
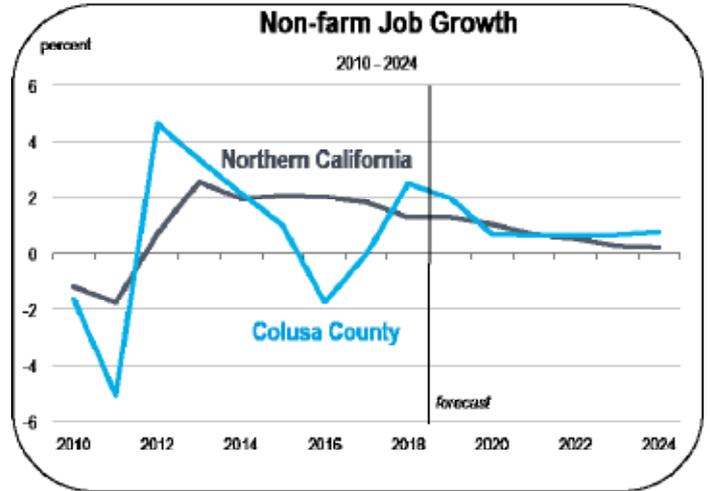
Agriculture

- The Colusa County agriculture industry employed 3,000 workers in 2018.

- Between 2012 and 2018, approximately 700 farm jobs were created.

- Colusa County's two most prominent crops are almonds and rice.

- Colusa County is the leading producing of rice in California and is among the leading producers of almonds.

- Besides rice, other high value crops in the county include tomatoes, walnuts, and sunflowers.
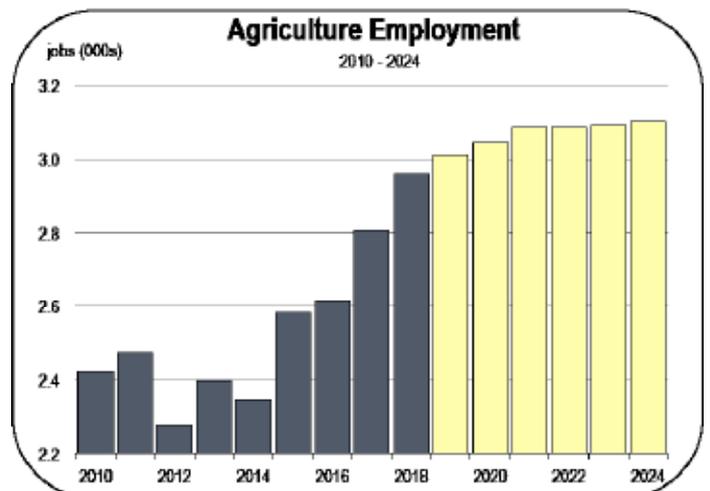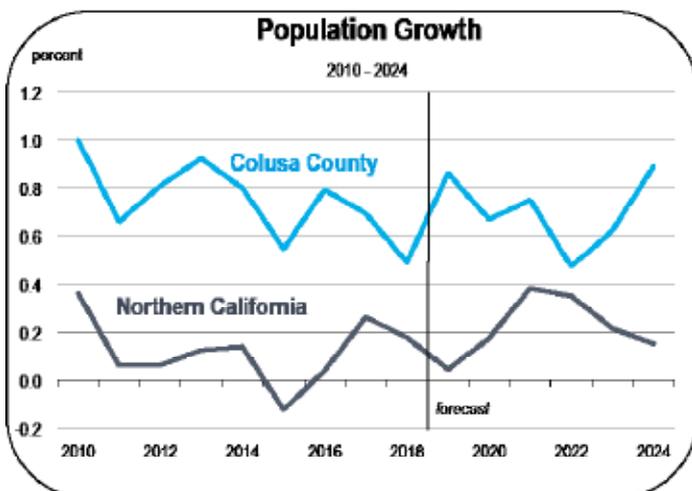
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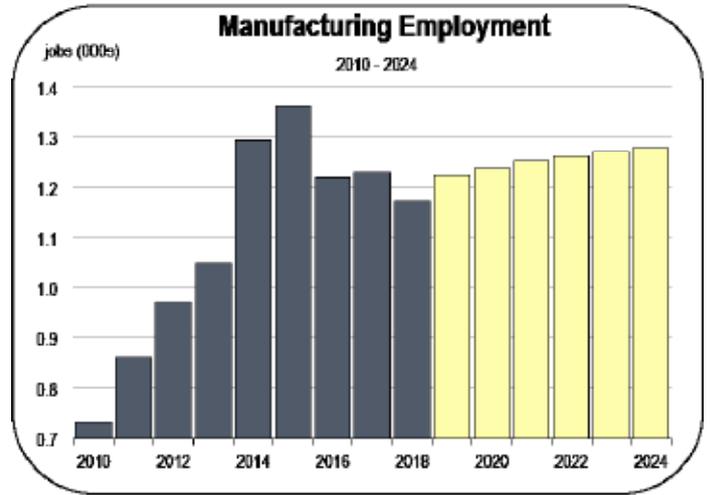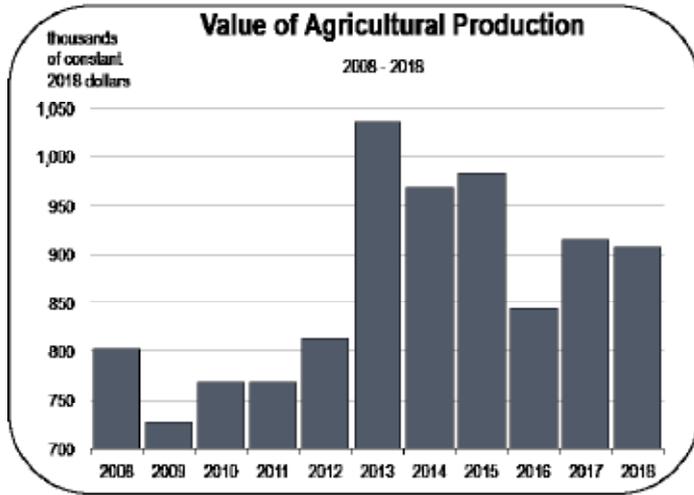
Government Employment

- Government agencies in Colusa County gained a substantial number of jobs between 2011 and 2018, and government agencies now employ more than 2,200 workers.

- Public schools and local municipal agencies account for virtually all of these jobs. State and federal agencies employ fewer than 150 workers in the county.

- The sheriff's department is among the largest agencies in the county, employing between 50 and 100 workers.

- Several schools employ at least 50 workers, including Arbuckle Elementary, Engling Middle School, and Pierce High School.

- Future employment gains will be determined by population growth and by the condition of state and local government budgets.

Manufacturing Employment

- Colusa County manufacturers accounted for 1,200 jobs in 2018. More than 1,000 of these jobs were in food manufacturing.

- Food manufacturers in Colusa County turn agricultural commodities into finished food products.

- Some of the largest food manufacturing operations in the county include rice mills and flower mills, which can employ up to 250 workers during busy seasons.

Population Growth

- The Colusa County population is growing much more quickly than the average for Northern California.

- Compared to most counties in Northern California, Colusa County has a younger population with a higher birth rate and lower mortality rate.
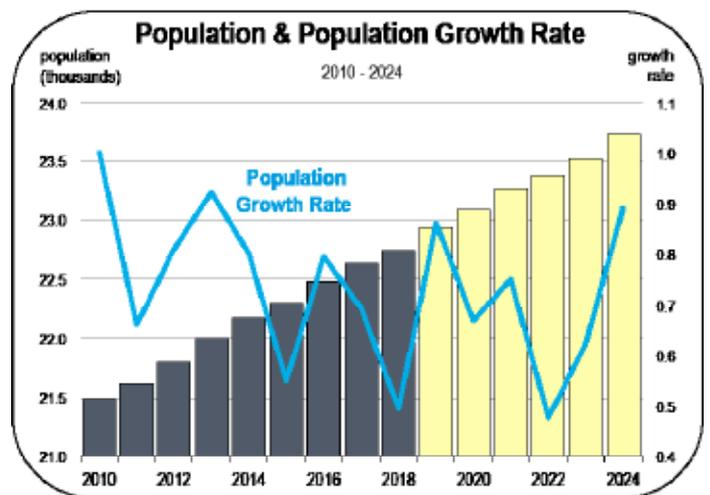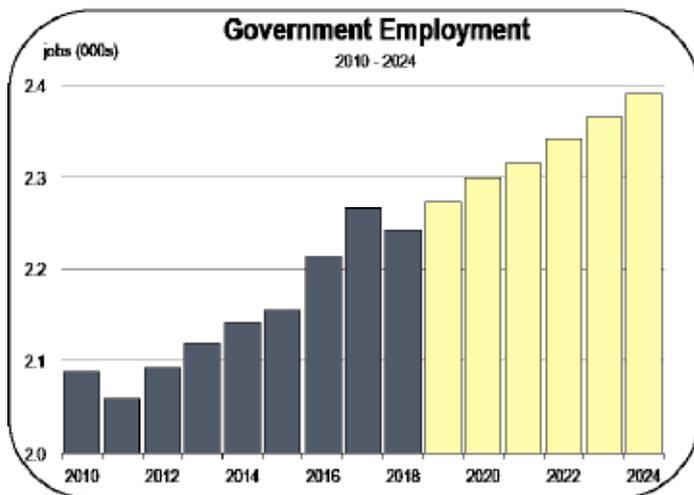
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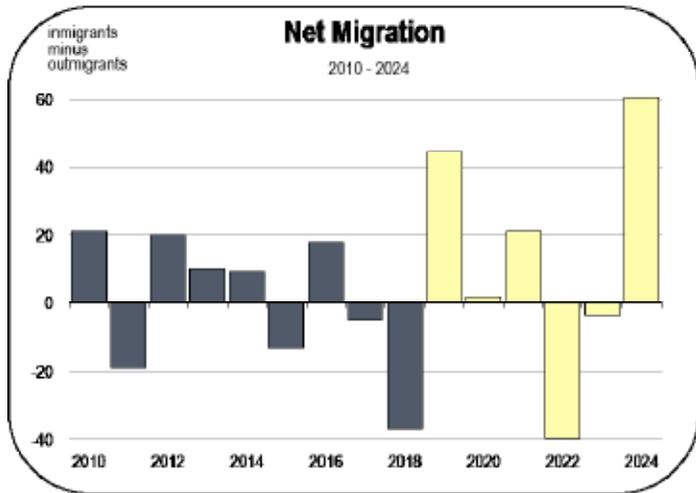
- Between 2012 and 2018, the natural increase (new births) was responsible for all population growth, since net migration was negative.

- Over the 2018–2024 forecast period, births will continue to be the leading source of population growth, but net migration could add a small number of new residents to the population.

- Between 2018 and 2024, the Colusa County population is expected to expand by an average of 0.7 percent per year.

Unemployment and Inflation Rates

- The unemployment rate in Colusa County was 12.9 percent in 2018, which is much higher than the average for Northern California.

- Colusa County has a high unemployment rate because of its prominent agriculture sector. Because farm workers are often unemployed during the winter months, the annual average unemployment rate tends to be high in heavily agricultural regions.
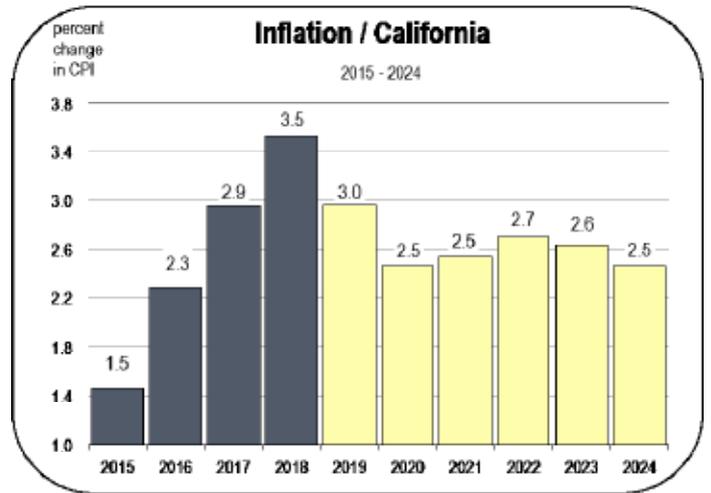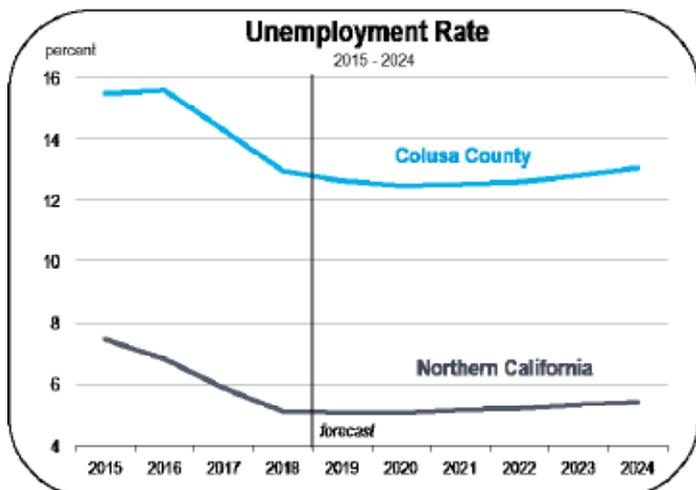
- Inflation accelerated in 2018 as home prices and energy costs increased across California.

- In 2019 and 2020, inflation is expected to be within a range of 2.0 percent and 3.5 percent.

New Housing Production

- From 2013 to 2018, an average of 60 new units were built in Colusa County each year. Most were single-family homes.

- Between 2019 and 2024, an average of approximately 55 homes are expected to be built each year, the majority of which will be single-family.

Income per Capita

- Income per capita was $48,100 in 2018, which was above the Northern California average of $46,200.
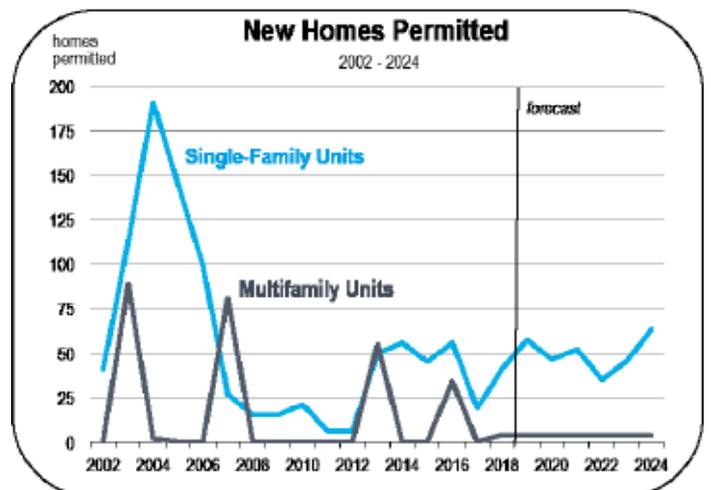
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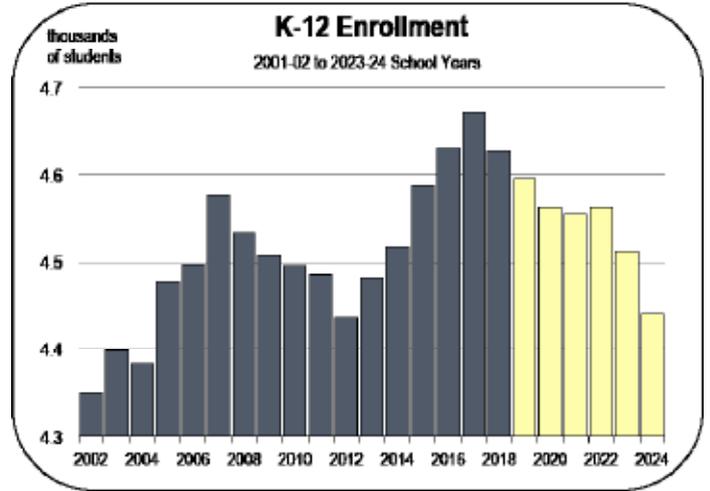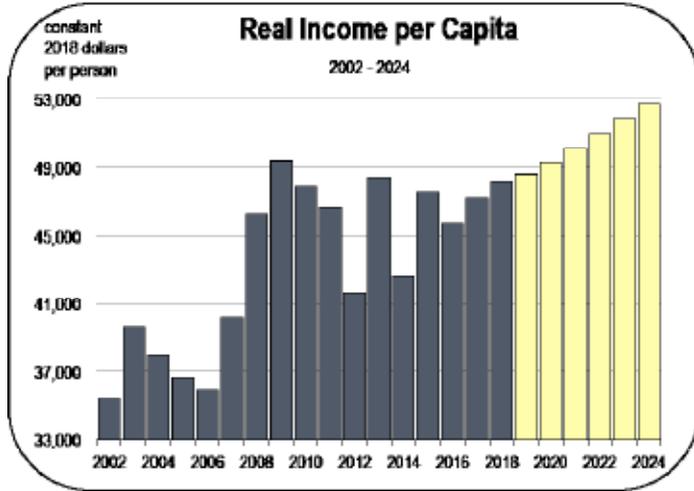
- Over the last six years, real income per capita increased at a rate of 2.4 percent per year.

- Over the next six years, real income per capita is expected to increase by an average of 1.5 percent per year.

Registered Vehicles

- There were approximately 29,900 registered vehicles in Colusa County in 2018.

- By 2024, it is expected that the county will have 31,400 registered vehicles.

Public School Enrollment

- In Colusa County, approximately 4,600 students were enrolled in K-12 public schools in 2018.

- By 2024, the county is expected to have 4,400 public K-12 students. Enrollment will decline because the population aged 5 to 17 will decline.
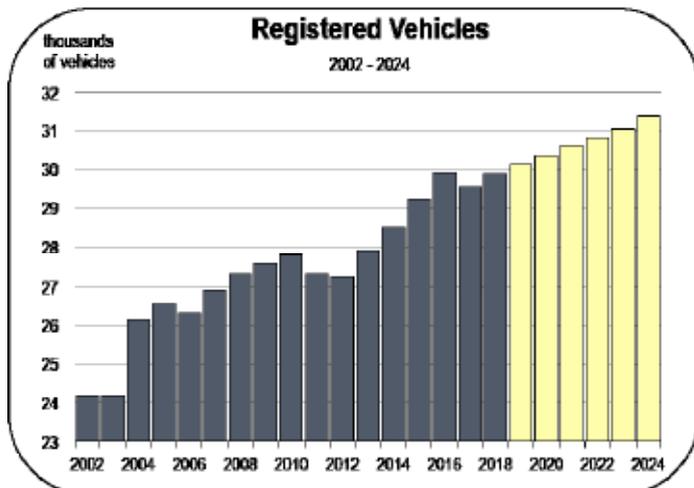
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Economic Indicators — 2015-2018 History, 2019-2050 Forecast

	Population (people)	House-holds (thousands)	Average Household Income (dollars)	New Homes Permitted (homes)	Registered Vehicles (thousands)	Personal Income (billions)	Taxable Retail Sales (millions)	Local Sales Tax (millions)	Real Industrial Production (millions)	Real per Capita Income (dollars)	School Enrollment (thousands)	Births (people)	Deaths (people)
2015	22,299	7.2	$134,977	45	29.2	$1.0	$172.6	$2	$117.0	$47,590	4.6	276	166
2016	22,476	7.3	$132,310	90	29.9	$1.0	$182.1	$2	$112.8	$45,681	4.6	306	161
2017	22,632	7.3	$141,176	19	29.5	$1.0	$201.7	$3	$117.3	$47,250	4.7	315	130
2018	22,744	7.3	$149,774	45	29.9	$1.1	$210.4	$3	$109.6	$48,145	4.6	308	155
2019	22,940	7.3	$155,859	62	30.1	$1.1	$216.7	$3	$114.5	$48,599	4.6	310	158
2020	23,093	7.4	$162,216	50	30.4	$1.2	$222.8	$3	$117.3	$49,293	4.6	311	159
2021	23,267	7.5	$169,551	56	30.6	$1.3	$230.7	$3	$120.6	$50,058	4.6	313	161
2022	23,378	7.5	$176,968	39	30.8	$1.3	$237.4	$3	$123.6	$50,937	4.6	314	163
2023	23,524	7.5	$185,139	49	31.0	$1.4	$244.6	$3	$127.0	$51,814	4.5	315	165
2024	23,733	7.6	$193,695	67	31.4	$1.5	$251.6	$3	$130.6	$52,704	4.4	316	167
2025	23,936	7.6	$201,308	66	31.7	$1.5	$258.6	$3	$133.6	$53,444	4.4	316	170
2026	24,123	7.7	$208,873	62	32.0	$1.6	$265.4	$3	$136.6	$54,180	4.3	317	172
2027	24,283	7.8	$216,209	55	32.3	$1.7	$272.2	$3	$139.2	$54,888	4.2	317	174
2028	24,415	7.8	$224,060	47	32.5	$1.8	$279.6	$3	$141.9	$55,663	4.2	317	176
2029	24,459	7.9	$230,708	23	32.5	$1.8	$286.4	$4	$143.1	$56,189	4.2	318	178
2030	24,551	7.9	$238,196	37	32.7	$1.9	$293.5	$4	$144.9	$56,668	4.2	319	181
2031	24,679	7.9	$245,585	47	32.9	$1.9	$300.5	$4	$146.9	$57,106	4.1	320	182
2032	24,858	8.0	$252,541	62	33.2	$2.0	$308.1	$4	$148.3	$57,237	4.1	322	185
2033	24,990	8.0	$259,402	48	33.4	$2.1	$314.5	$4	$150.1	$57,727	4.2	325	187
2034	25,169	8.1	$267,173	62	33.7	$2.2	$321.8	$4	$152.0	$58,092	4.2	326	189
2035	25,364	8.1	$274,991	66	34.0	$2.2	$329.5	$4	$153.9	$58,400	4.2	328	191
2036	25,566	8.2	$283,025	68	34.3	$2.3	$338.7	$4	$155.2	$58,502	4.2	330	193
2037	25,748	8.2	$291,312	63	34.6	$2.4	$348.4	$4	$156.2	$58,615	4.3	330	195
2038	25,921	8.3	$300,070	60	34.9	$2.5	$357.8	$4	$157.6	$58,869	4.3	331	195
2039	26,101	8.4	$309,139	62	35.2	$2.6	$368.0	$5	$159.0	$58,989	4.4	332	197
2040	26,226	8.4	$318,282	47	35.4	$2.7	$378.3	$5	$160.0	$59,259	4.4	333	199
2041	26,427	8.5	$327,999	69	35.7	$2.8	$388.2	$5	$161.9	$59,440	4.5	333	200
2042	26,610	8.5	$337,230	63	36.0	$2.9	$398.0	$5	$163.3	$59,701	4.5	334	201
2043	26,701	8.6	$346,117	37	36.1	$3.0	$407.1	$5	$164.3	$60,105	4.5	334	202
2044	26,754	8.6	$356,206	27	36.2	$3.1	$416.3	$5	$166.1	$60,728	4.5	335	203
2045	26,808	8.6	$367,092	27	36.3	$3.2	$426.3	$5	$167.6	$61,239	4.6	335	204
2046	26,871	8.7	$377,789	30	36.4	$3.3	$435.9	$5	$169.3	$61,700	4.5	335	205
2047	26,967	8.7	$389,099	39	36.6	$3.4	$446.4	$6	$170.9	$62,153	4.5	335	204
2048	27,065	8.7	$399,817	40	36.7	$3.5	$456.2	$6	$172.5	$62,517	4.5	335	205
2049	27,110	8.8	$410,863	25	36.8	$3.6	$466.7	$6	$173.8	$63,020	4.5	335	205
2050	27,217	8.8	$423,241	43	37.0	$3.7	$477.7	$6	$175.8	$63,447	4.5	335	205

Employment Sectors — 2015-2018 History, 2019-2050 Forecast

employment (jobs)

	Total Wage & Salary	Farm	Construction	Manufac-turing	Transportation & Utilities	Wholesale & Retail Trade	Financial Activities	Professional Services	Information	Health & Education	Leisure	Government
2015	8,780	2,583	89	1,363	179	1,116	143	0	0	568	583	2,155
2016	8,710	2,616	105	1,220	190	1,178	134	0	0	459	591	2,213
2017	8,890	2,805	114	1,230	198	1,188	129	0	0	378	585	2,267
2018	9,200	2,961	116	1,174	171	1,249	138	0	0	547	604	2,242
2019	9,380	3,014	124	1,225	184	1,258	138	0	0	550	609	2,274
2020	9,450	3,045	122	1,239	183	1,263	138	0	0	554	609	2,299
2021	9,540	3,086	124	1,252	185	1,266	138	0	0	559	612	2,314
2022	9,580	3,087	119	1,263	184	1,268	138	0	0	565	613	2,342
2023	9,630	3,092	121	1,271	187	1,270	138	0	0	568	616	2,365
2024	9,690	3,104	127	1,278	191	1,275	138	0	0	567	620	2,390
2025	9,730	3,110	127	1,284	191	1,280	138	0	0	567	621	2,415
2026	9,780	3,122	126	1,289	192	1,282	138	0	0	568	622	2,437
2027	9,820	3,134	124	1,294	190	1,283	139	0	0	570	624	2,462
2028	9,860	3,146	122	1,299	190	1,286	139	0	0	572	624	2,485
2029	9,890	3,145	115	1,303	185	1,289	139	0	0	579	624	2,508
2030	9,920	3,138	117	1,305	186	1,293	139	0	0	585	623	2,531
2031	9,960	3,138	120	1,307	190	1,297	139	0	0	588	626	2,554
2032	10,000	3,144	125	1,309	193	1,300	139	0	0	590	627	2,577
2033	10,040	3,150	122	1,311	192	1,304	139	0	0	597	628	2,600
2034	10,090	3,156	125	1,313	194	1,307	139	0	0	600	630	2,623
2035	10,130	3,163	127	1,316	196	1,311	139	0	0	605	631	2,646
2036	10,180	3,169	128	1,318	198	1,314	139	0	0	613	631	2,669
2037	10,220	3,175	127	1,320	197	1,318	139	0	0	623	631	2,693
2038	10,270	3,181	126	1,322	197	1,321	139	0	0	634	632	2,716
2039	10,300	3,174	126	1,324	199	1,325	139	0	0	644	632	2,739
2040	10,340	3,180	122	1,325	197	1,328	139	0	0	654	632	2,762
2041	10,380	3,174	127	1,326	202	1,332	139	0	0	662	634	2,785
2042	10,430	3,186	127	1,328	202	1,336	139	0	0	670	635	2,808
2043	10,450	3,193	119	1,330	196	1,339	139	0	0	676	633	2,831
2044	10,490	3,199	115	1,332	196	1,343	139	0	0	684	634	2,854
2045	10,540	3,205	115	1,334	197	1,346	139	0	0	690	634	2,877
2046	10,570	3,198	115	1,335	198	1,350	139	0	0	697	635	2,900
2047	10,630	3,217	118	1,338	201	1,354	139	0	0	700	637	2,923
2048	10,660	3,217	119	1,340	202	1,357	139	0	0	704	637	2,946
2049	10,700	3,223	115	1,342	200	1,361	139	0	0	710	637	2,969
2050	10,750	3,229	119	1,344	205	1,364	139	0	0	716	638	2,992

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Socioeconomic Indicators