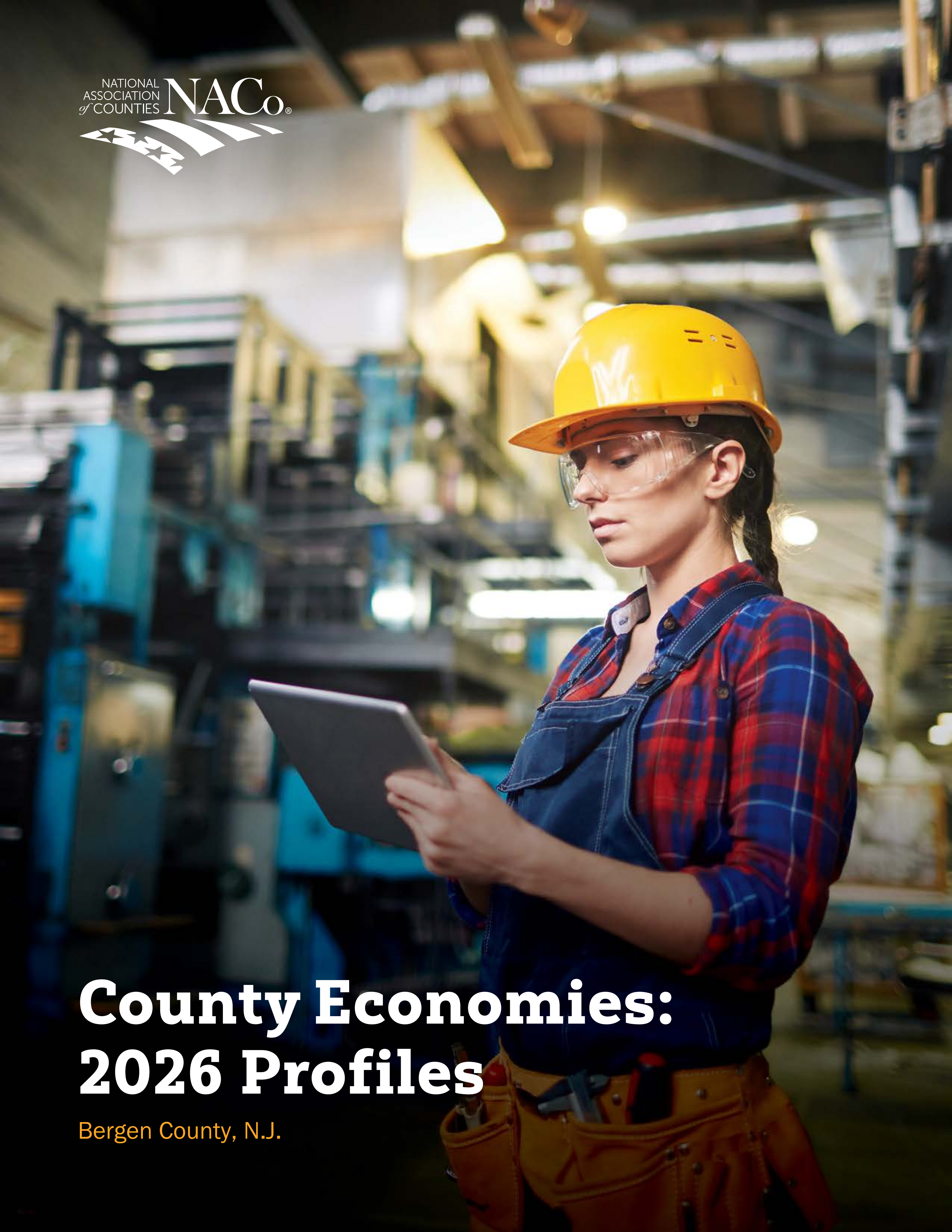


County Economies: 2026 Profiles

Bergen County, N.J.

GROSS DOMESTIC PRODUCT

Gross Domestic Product (GDP), also known as economic output, is a key measure of economic health, reflecting the total value of goods and services produced within an economy over a given period. **Between 2023 and 2024, real GDP increased in 2,243 counties, decreased in 802 counties and remained unchanged in 24 counties.**

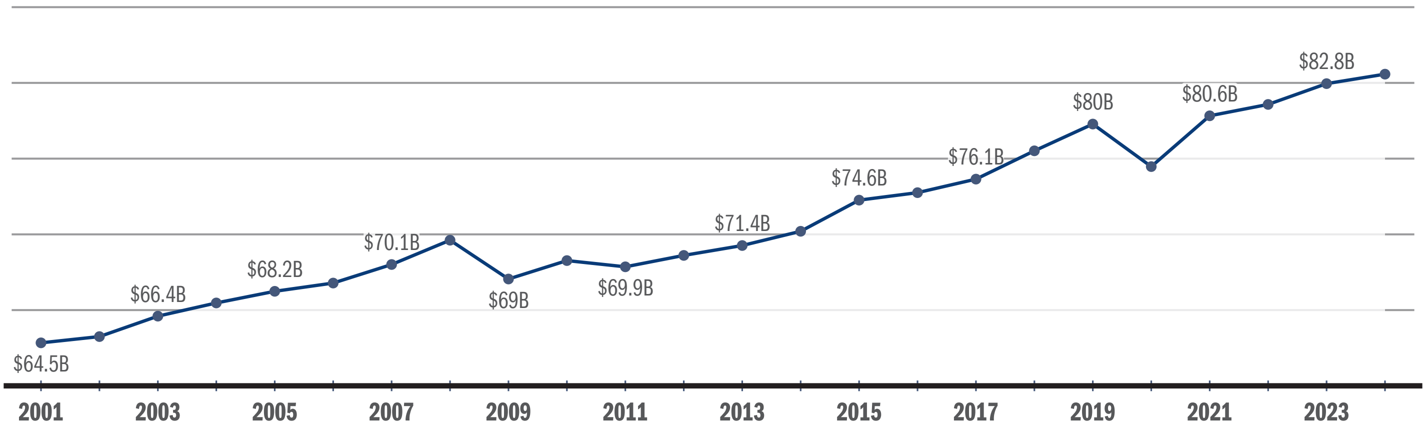
Trends in GDP for Bergen County

Between 2023 and 2024, GDP	2023 Economic Output	2024 Economic Output
INCREASED BY 0.8 PERCENT	***$82.8 BILLION***	***$83.5 BILLION***

Source: *U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis - Local Area Gross Domestic Product, 2024 vintage.*

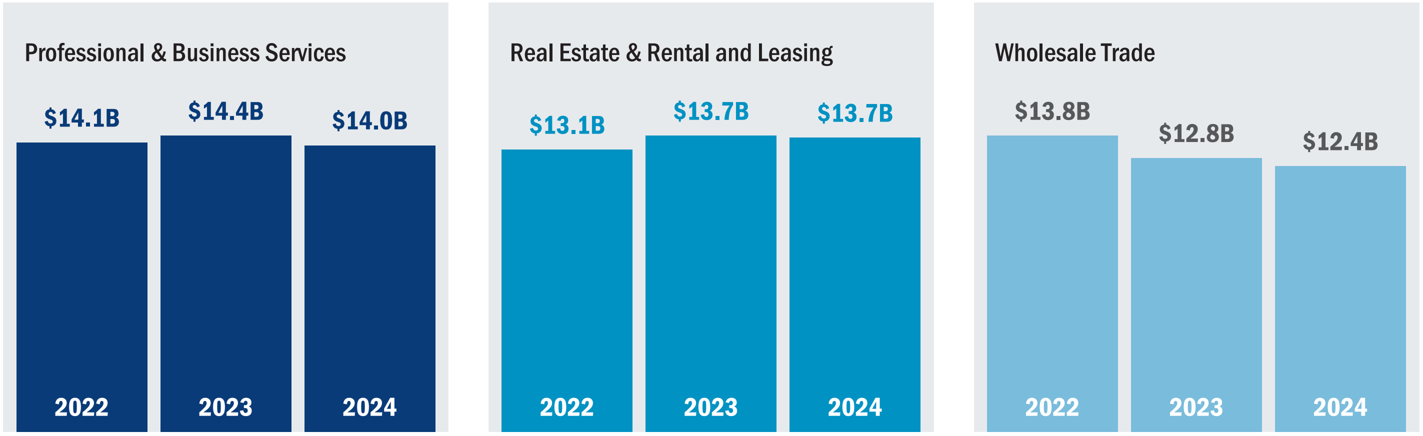
From 2020 to 2024, GDP in Bergen County increased by 8.5 percent. In the three years prior (2017-2019), GDP within the county increased by 5.1 percent.

GDP by year for the county - 2001 to 2024



Source: *U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis - Local Area Gross Domestic Product, 2024 vintage.*

Output for the three industries by GDP in the county - 2023 to 2024



Source: *U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis - Local Area Gross Domestic Product, 2024 vintage.*

DEMOGRAPHIC OVERVIEW

Demographic data aids with understanding a community's structure as it reveals information about age, gender, ethnicity, education and other primary factors of the population. Between 2024 and 2025, the U.S. population grew by about half a percent. **Nationwide, one-third of counties had population increases of more than 0.5 percent, while one-fifth experienced a decline of more than 0.5 percent.** Bergen County, home to 977,026 residents, kept a steady population level, with a 0.4 percent increase in population between 2024 and 2025.

County population components of change - 2025

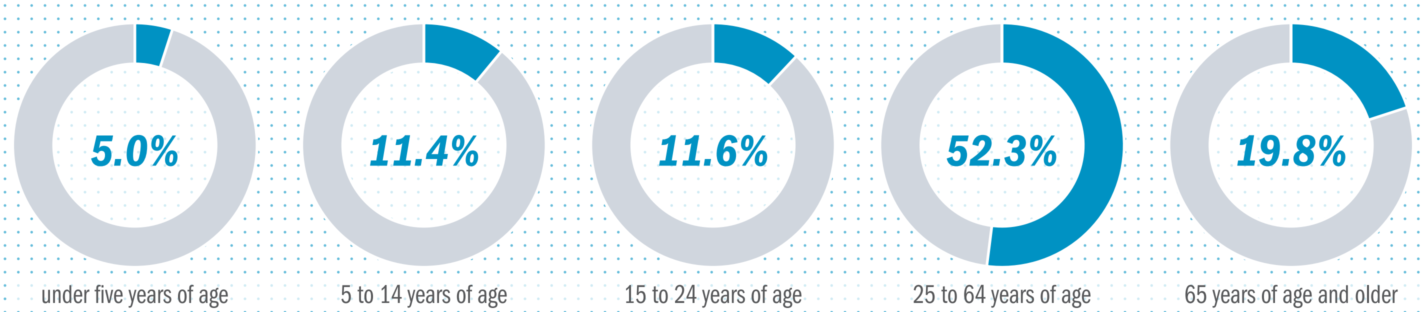
2.07 PER 1,000 RESIDENTS
natural population change

1.5 PER 1,000 RESIDENTS
net migration

Source: *U.S. Census Bureau - Population Estimates Program (PEP) - 2025.*

The positive natural population rate of change for Bergen County indicates births outnumbering deaths and can lead to population growth in the community. The county's net migration rate is positive which indicates an inflow of people, or that more people are moving into the county than leaving.

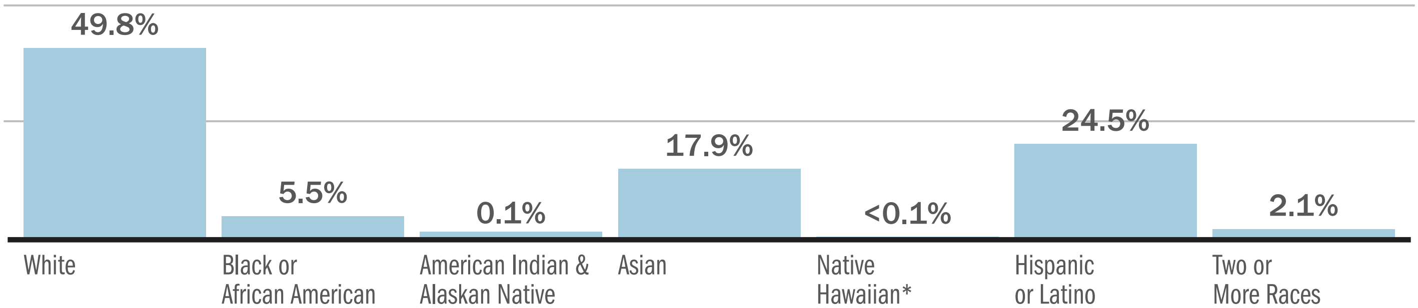
County population breakdown by age - 2025



Source: *U.S. Census Bureau - Population Estimates Program (PEP) - 2025.*

Age distribution data helps plan for the economy, healthcare resources, education, labor force, social services and housing demands. Community leaders may use the data to formulate policies and programs that address various age groups' needs and challenges.

County population breakdown by race and ethnicity - 2025



Source: *U.S. Census Bureau - Population Estimates Program (PEP) - 2025.* ***Notes:*** ** Native Hawaiian includes other Pacific Islanders*

LABOR FORCE TRENDS

The labor market is a key determinant of economic growth and residents live in places where they can find work. Labor force indicators, such as the unemployment rate and labor force size, assess local economic dynamics and employment trends. Through analysis of these metrics, decision-makers can gain insights into workforce health, anticipate future labor needs and identify areas for intervention. **The nation's unemployment rate was at 4.3 percent in 2025 and three-fifths (60 percent) of counties had rates below this national figure.**

Labor force trends in Bergen County - 2025 annual estimates

538,487	4.3 PERCENT	515,300	23,187
civilians	unemployment	employed individuals	unemployed individuals

Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics - Local Area Unemployment Statistics (LAUS), 2024 annual averages.

In Bergen County, labor market statistics show that there are 538,487 individuals either employed or actively seeking employment. Out of these, 515,300 people are currently employed. **The unemployment rate in the county stands at 4.3 percent, which matches the national average of 4.3 percent.**

Unemployment rate change within the county Jan. 2019 to May 2026 data

Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics - Local Area Unemployment Statistics (LAUS), 2026 data.
Note: unemployment rate for May 2026 is preliminary.

Sources

1- University of Wisconsin-Madison - Local & Regional Economic Analysis.

HOUSEHOLD INCOME

Statistics on household income help with understanding the financial state of families and individuals living in local communities. The data can be used by decision-makers to inform planning and policy formulation, allocate resources and target areas based on needs. **From 2020 to 2024, the median household income in the U.S. stood at $80,734, with four out of five counties having a household income below this national median.**

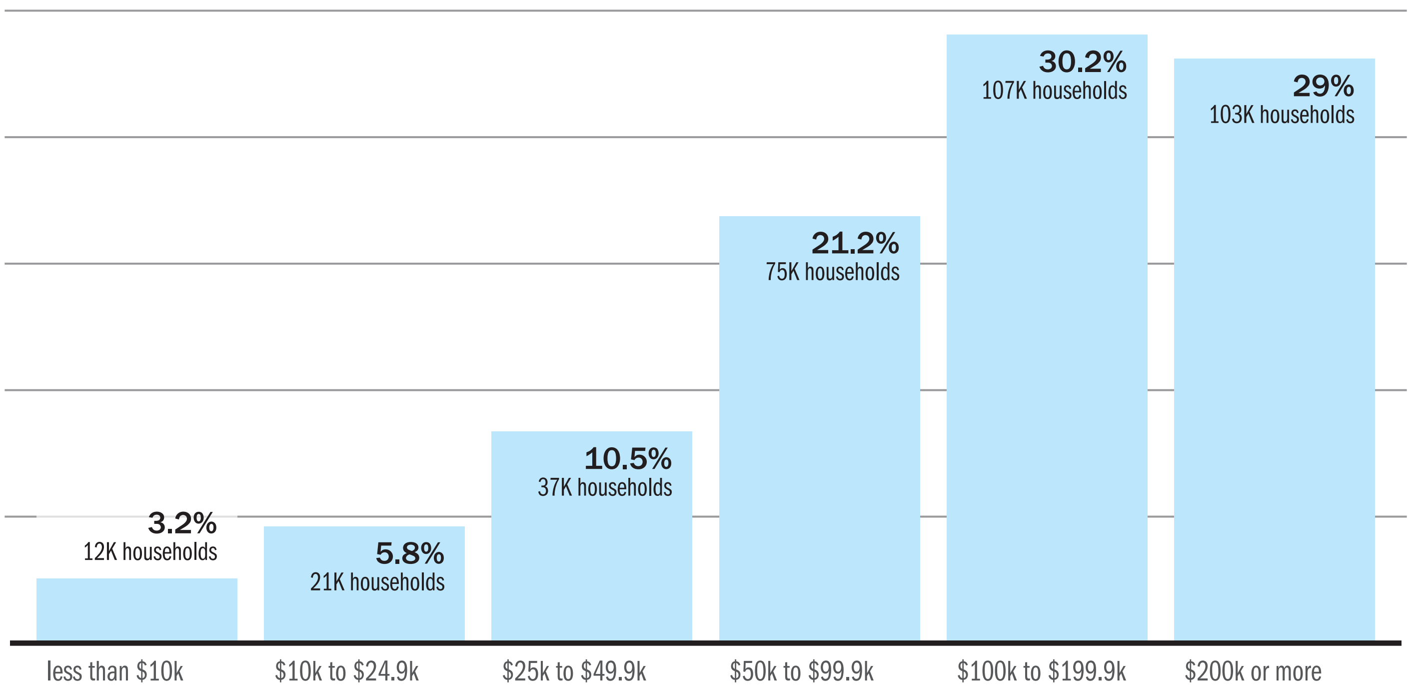
Household income statistics for Bergen County: 2020 - 2024 data

355,127	$124,884	$171,262
Households	Median Household Income	Average Household Income

Source: U.S. Census Bureau - American Community Survey (ACS) 5 year estimates, 2020-2024: B19001, B19025 and B19049 tables.

The median household income for Bergen County stands at $124,884, which surpasses the national median by 54.7 percent. The county has an average household income of $171,262 among its 355,127 households.

Distribution households within the county by income levels: 2020 - 2024 data



Source: U.S. Census Bureau - American Community Survey (ACS) 5 year estimates, 2020-2024: B19001 table.

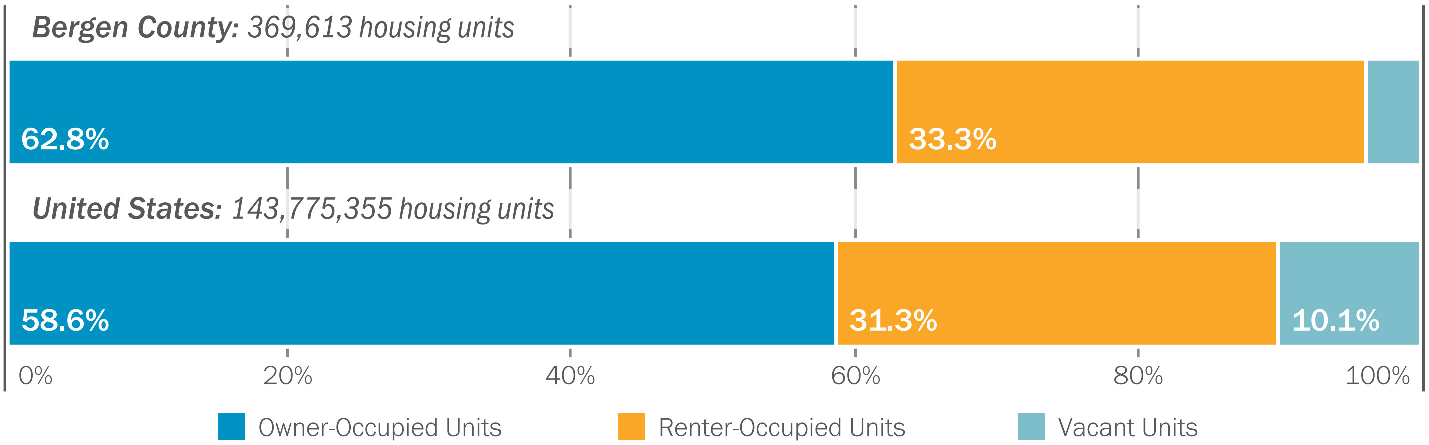
Notes
Household income includes the pretax cash income of the householder and all other people 15 years old and older in the household.

Sources
1- United States Census Bureau - American Community Survey Briefs. Link: Household Income: 2021.
2- United States Census Bureau - American Community Survey Briefs. Link: Income in the United States: 2022.

HOUSING UNITS

Housing statistics provide insights into a community's economic status, social structure and overall condition. **These figures cover various factors**, including occupancy and vacancy rates, housing affordability and other demographics factors. Combining housing data with indicators such as homeownership rates, access to education and infrastructure can inform aspects of planning and development.

Housing units statistics for Bergen County: 2020 - 2024 data



Source: *U.S. Census Bureau - American Community Survey (ACS) 5 year estimates, 2020-2024: DP04 and B07013 tables.*

Housing Affordability

Households that pay more than 30 percent of their income on housing are considered cost burdened and, **in most counties, renters are more likely to be cost-burdened than homeowners.**

Housing affordability statistics for Bergen County: 2020 - 2024 data

Owner-Occupied Housing Units	
Percent **Moderately-Burdened** Owners	17.3%
Percent **Severely-Burdened** Owners +	13.3%
Total Percent **Cost-Burdened** Owners =	**30.6%**

Renter-Occupied Housing Units	
Percent **Moderately-Burdened** Renters	23.4%
Percent **Severely-Burdened** Renters +	27.3%
Total Percent **Cost-Burdened** Renters =	**50.8%**

Source: *U.S. Census Bureau - American Community Survey (ACS) 5 year estimates, 2020-2024: B25070 and B25091 tables.*

Nationwide, 51.1 percent of all renters are burdened by the cost of rent. **For Bergen County, the figure is 0.3 percentage points below the national average.** Out of all homeowners in the U.S., 22.7 percent of households are cost-burdened **and in Bergen County, the percentage is 7.9 percentage points above the national average.**

POVERTY AND COMMUNITY HEALTH

In 2024, **the U.S. poverty rate fell 0.4 percentage points to 10.6 percent, down from 11.1 percent in 2023**. There were 35.9 million people in poverty in 2024. Poverty tends to be concentrated in specific geographical areas and often persists over extended periods. Vulnerable groups, including individuals with disabilities, those residing in rural areas and specific racial and ethnic minorities, face higher risk of poverty.

Poverty statistics for the Bergen County - 2024

6.7 PERCENT	7.3 PERCENT	8,795 CHILDREN
Poverty Rate	Child Poverty Rate	Living in High Poverty Areas

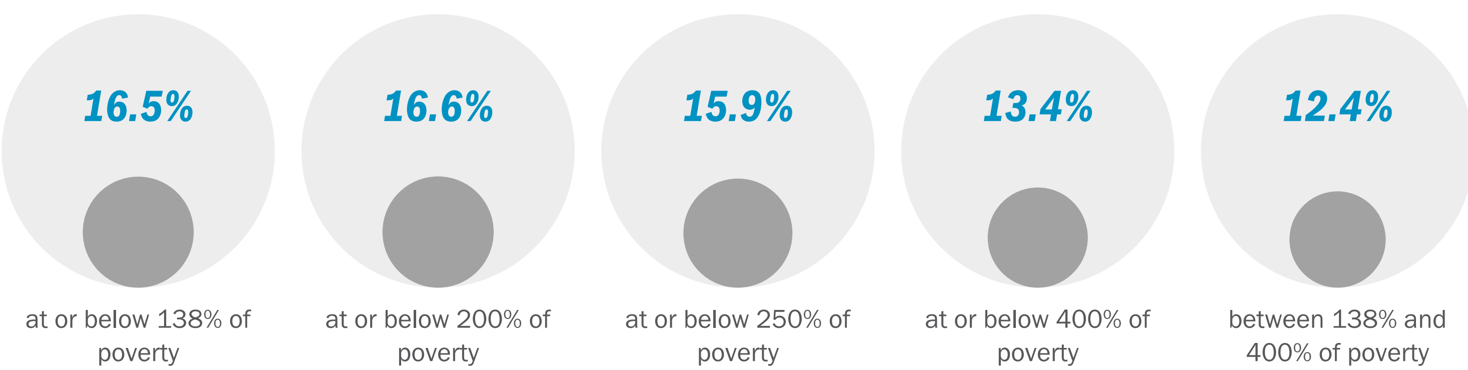
Health Insurance

A healthy population contributes to a more productive workforce, and the health consequences of poverty are severe. **People living in poverty, especially children, are at a higher risk for mental illness, chronic disease, higher mortality and a lower life expectancy**.

Health insurance statistics in Bergen County - 2023 share

Health insurance plays an important role in ensuring access to health services. In 2023, 9.3 percent of all U.S. residents do not have health insurance. **The share of residents in Bergen County with no health insurance is 6.9 percent, 2.4 percentage points below the national level**.

Uninsured population within the county by poverty level - 2023



Sources

1- *United States Census Bureau - Poverty in the United States: 2024.*
2- *Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) - National Center for Health Statistics - Health Insurance Coverage: 2024.*
3- *United States Department of Health and Human Services - Office of Disease Prevention and Health Promotion, Social Determinants of Health Literature Summaries. Link: Healthy People 2030.*

EDUCATIONAL STATISTICS

A county needs working-age residents to support current and prospective companies, and counties with sufficient working-age residents tend to have training and educational opportunities for young workers to develop their skills. Educational statistics can help community leaders to recognize areas of need, distribute resources, formulate policies and initiatives and involve the community in discussions about educational requirements, including vocational training and skill development. **There are over 95,000 public schools, more than 8,600 public libraries and over 5,700 public postsecondary institutions across the United States, serving communities and contributing to the nation's educational landscape.**

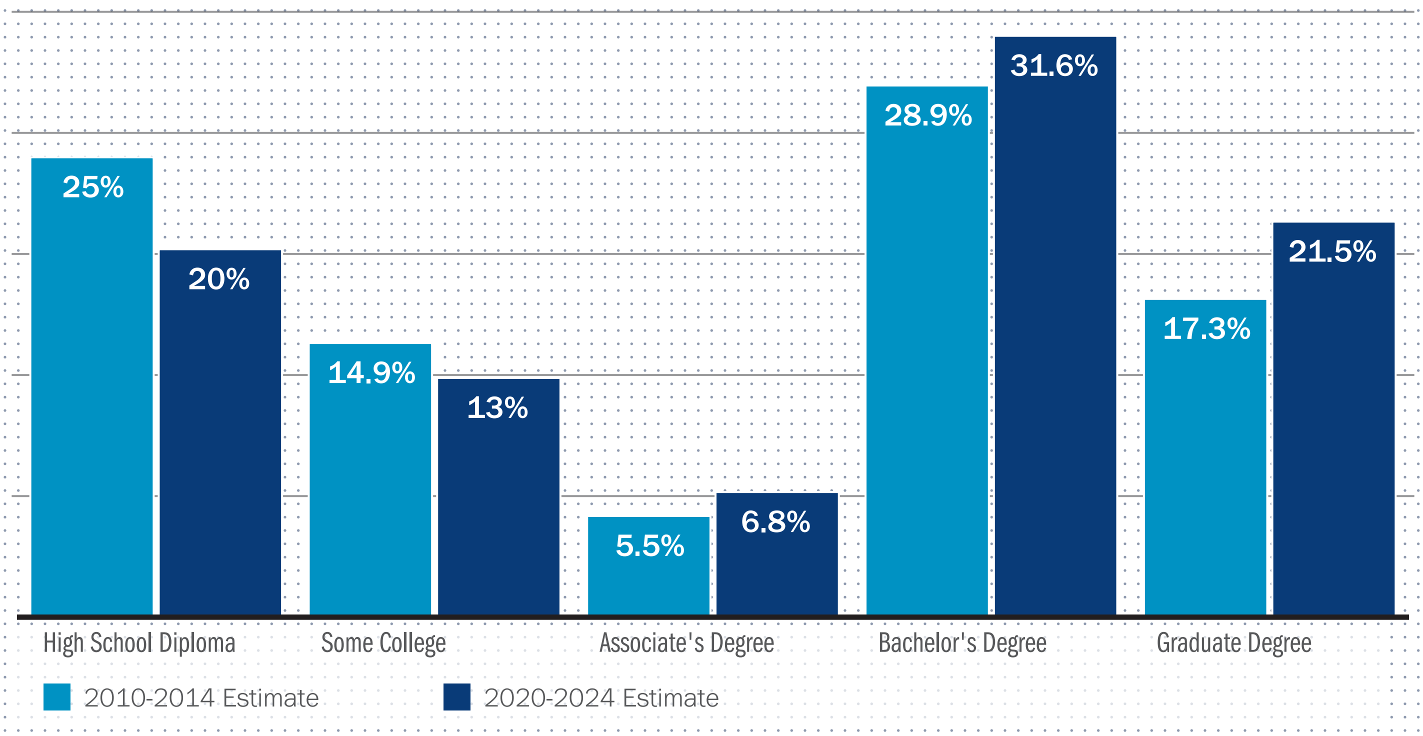
Educational resources in Bergen County

Public Libraries 2023 data	**Operational Schools** 2023-2024 data	**Colleges and Universities** 2023 data
62 libraries	**288 schools**	**14 institutions**

Educational Attainment

Educational attainment refers to the highest level of education that an individual has completed.

Educational attainment in the county: 2010-2014 vs. 2020-2024 estimates



Sources

1- The Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) - Economic & Social Outcomes.

2- Brookings Institution - What colleges do for local economies: A Direct Measure Based on Consumption.

NATURAL DISASTERS

Natural disasters can have a devastating impact on both the environment and local economies **causing an increase in people leaving the affected areas, a drop in home prices and higher rates of poverty**. Many residents are also facing increased insurance costs. In 2024, **the U.S. was impacted by 27 separate billion-dollar disasters, which resulted in approximately $182.7 billion in damages.** Additionally, 680 counties experienced at least one federally declared major disaster or emergency in 2025.

Federally declared disasters for the county - 2000 to 2025

Major Disaster Declarations		Emergency Declarations		Total Disasters Declarations
11 EVENTS	+	***8 EVENTS***	=	***19 EVENTS***

Like every other county in the nation, **Bergen County faced the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic, which was declared a major disaster by the federal government.** Additionally, between 2000 and 2024, the county was affected by fires, snowstorms, severe storms and hurricanes which were also federally declared disasters.

The National Risk Index

The National Risk Index is a tool developed by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) in the U.S. to assess the risk of natural hazards and their potential impact on communities. It considers factors such as the probability of hazards occurring in specific areas, along with demographics, infrastructure, socioeconomic factors and the built environment. With a comprehensive assessment of risk levels at the county level, the index enables community leaders to prioritize resources and develop strategies for disaster mitigation, preparedness, response and recovery.

Risk Index breakdown for Bergen County

Avalanche ***Not Applicable***	Coastal Flooding ***Very High***	Cold Wave ***Very Low***
Drought ***Very Low***	Earthquake ***Relatively Low***	Hail ***Relatively Low***
Heat Wave ***Relatively High***	Hurricane ***Relatively Moderate***	Ice Storm ***Relatively High***
Landslide ***Relatively Moderate***	Lightning ***Relatively High***	Riverine Flooding ***Relatively High***
Strong Wind ***Very High***	Tornado ***Relatively Moderate***	Tsunami ***Not Available***
Volcanic Activity ***Not Applicable***	Wildfire ***Very Low***	Winter Weather ***Relatively High***

Sources

1- Leah Platt Boustan, Matthew E. Kahn, Paul W. Rhode and Maria Lucia Yanguas, "The Effect of Natural Disasters on Economic Activity in US Counties: A Century of Data." Journal of Urban Economics Volume 118, 2020, 103257.

2- See First Street, "The Insurance Issue" (Sep. 2023) and Shannon Martin, "The impact of natural disasters on insurance rates in 2024," Bankrate (Jun. 2023).