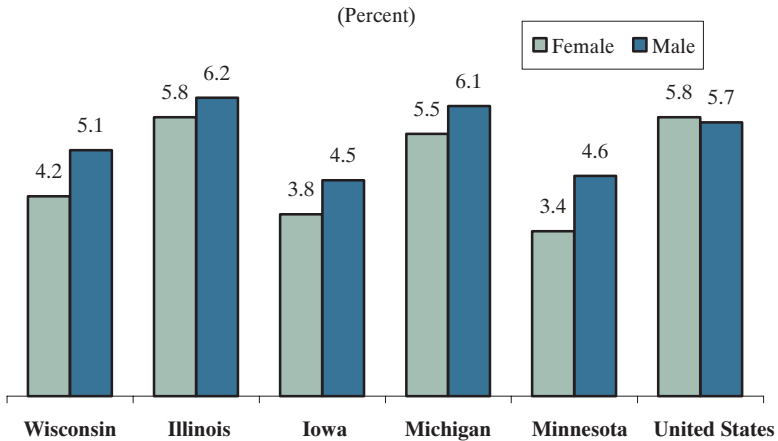


Figure 47
Unemployment by Sex,
Wisconsin, Neighboring States and U.S.: 2000



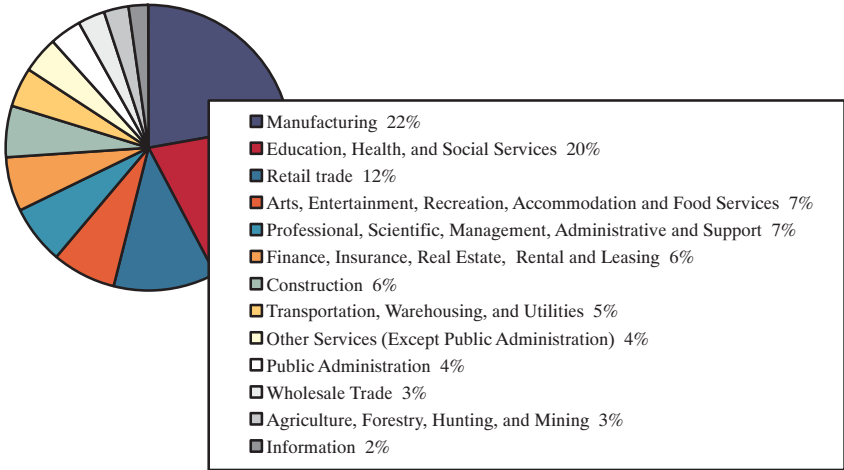
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Decennial Census of Population 2000

Industry

The 2000 Census confirms something that has long been understood in Wisconsin. Two principal industry groups for employment in the state stand out: manufacturing (22%) and education, health and social services (20%). These two industries, when also combined with retail trade (12%), employed over 50% Wisconsin's labor force at the beginning of the 21st century (Fig. 48).

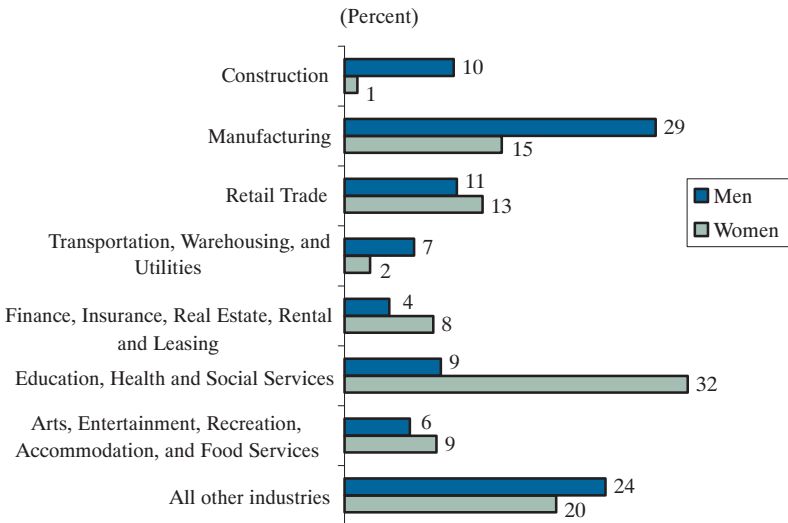
There are substantial sex differences among the workers in some industries (Fig. 49). Manufacturing accounts for a greater percentage of the male labor force (29%) than the female labor force (15%). Education, health and social services are strongly tilted toward female workers (32% of women in the labor force), while only 9% of men are employed in these industries. Other industries that notably employ more men than women are construction (10% vs. 1%), and transportation, warehousing, and utilities (6% vs. 2%). Women are significantly more likely than men to be employed in finance, insurance, real estate, rental and leasing (8% vs. 4%).

Figure 48
Employed Persons by Industry, Wisconsin: 2000



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Decennial Census of Population, 2000

Figure 49
Employment Distribution by Industry and Sex, Wisconsin: 2000

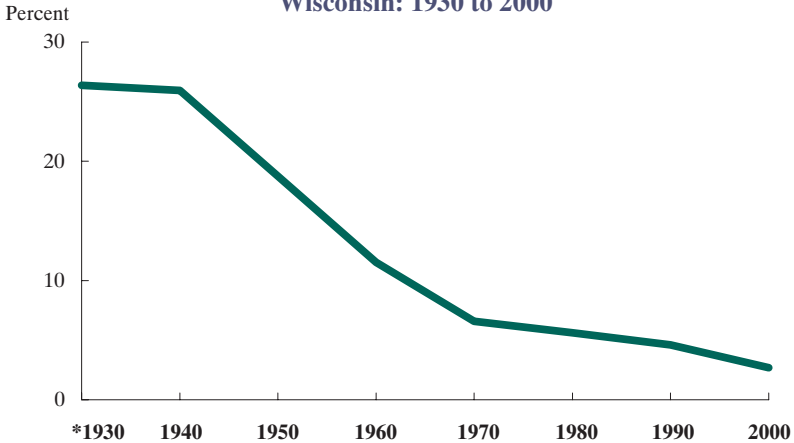


Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Decennial Census of Population, 2000

The decline in farm numbers is a familiar trend and was shown in Figure 10. The number of workers involved in agriculture-related industries (including agriculture, forestry, and fishing) has also contracted for much of the 20th century. In the 1930s and 1940s, over one quarter of Wisconsin’s labor force was employed in

Figure 50

**Persons Employed in Agriculture-Related Industries,
Wisconsin: 1930 to 2000**



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Decennial Census of Population, 1930–2000

* 1930 includes persons 10 years and over; 1940 through 1960 include persons 14 years and over, 1970 through 2000 include persons 16 years and over.

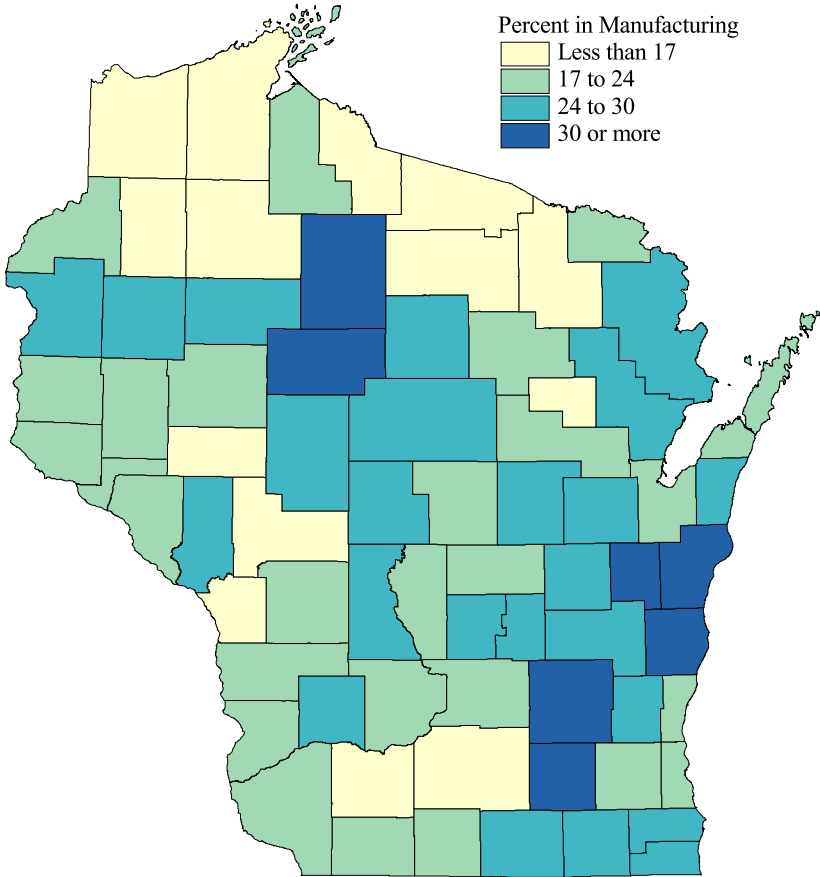
agriculture-related industries. By 2000, this percentage had shrunk to less than 3% (Fig. 50).

The counties in Wisconsin with the highest percentage of workers employed in manufacturing in 2000 were Sheboygan (38%) and Manitowoc (35%). Figure 51 shows how the percentage of workers employed in manufacturing is distributed across Wisconsin by county. In four counties, 25% or more of the labor force was employed in education, health, and social services – Dane (26%), Ashland (26%), Eau Claire (28%), and La Crosse (25%). Retail trades employed over 15% of the labor force in four counties – Iowa (24%), Eau Claire (17%), Oneida (16%), and Vilas (16%).

Other than Michigan, Wisconsin has a larger manufacturing base of employment than its adjacent states (Fig. 52). It also has a higher percentage of employment in manufacturing than the U.S. as a whole. In terms of employment in most other segments of industry, Wisconsin is rather similar to other states and the U.S. as a whole. Wisconsin and Iowa, however, both rank somewhat lower in the percentage of the workforce employed by professional, scientific, management, administrative, and support industries.

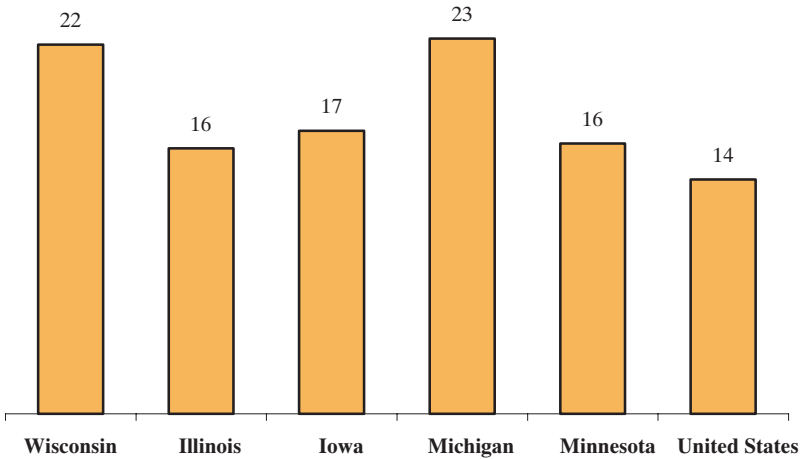
Figure 51

Manufacturing Employment, Wisconsin Counties: 2000



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Decennial Census of Population, 2000

Figure 52
**Percent of the Labor Force in Manufacturing, Wisconsin,
 Neighboring States, and the U.S.: 2000**



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Decennial Census of Population, 2000

How Wisconsinites Get to Work

The decennial census is the only activity of the federal government that provides uniformly consistent data for all counties, cities, villages and towns (and for sub-county “neighborhood” geography known as census tracts and block groups) in the U.S. As a consequence, the data have immense utility for local planning efforts. One such application of census data is in the specific area of transportation planning, because the census traditionally has included several questions relating to the “journey to work.”

In Wisconsin, as elsewhere, most people travel to work by themselves in cars, trucks, or vans. In 2000, this mode of transportation was used by nearly 80% of commuters (Fig. 53). Waukesha County had the highest percentage at 87%. Clark County had the lowest percentage (69%), due partly to the fact that it had the highest percentage of people who worked at home (14%).

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