

D. Employment Trends and Forecasts

The Village's labor force is the portion of the population employed or available for work and includes people who are in the armed forces, employed, unemployed, or actively seeking employment. According to 2000 Census data, 2,250 residents, or 81.7 percent, of Village residents age 16 or older were in the labor force. Of this total, 32 residents (or 1.2 percent of the labor force) were unemployed.

The percentage of Cottage Grove's labor force employed by sector is shown in Figure 1.6. Nearly 20 percent of the Village's labor force is employed in the educational, health, and social services sector. Another 16 percent is employed in the finance, insurance, real estate, and rental and leasing sector. The third largest employment sector is retail trade, followed closely by manufacturing. This distribution is fairly typical for the Madison metro area.

Figure 1.6: Occupational Trends (2000)

Occupational Group	Percentage of Labor Force
Agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting, and mining	1.3
Construction	4.5
Manufacturing	13.0
Wholesale trade	5.0
Retail trade	13.1
Transportation and warehousing, and utilities	5.0
Information	1.5
Finance, insurance, real estate, and rental and leasing	15.9
Professional, scientific, management, administrative, and waste management services	9.0
Educational, health and social services	19.5
Arts, entertainment, recreation, accommodation and food services	3.1
Other services (except public administration)	4.6
Public administration	4.6

Source: U.S. Census of Population and Housing, 2000

Forecasting employment growth for establishments in the Village of Cottage Grove alone can be difficult given the complex interrelationship with the larger Madison metropolitan area. Given the Village's economic ties to the broader region, this *Plan* reports employment projections for Dane County. Employment forecasts were calculated in 2006 by Woods and Poole Economics, Inc.—a regional economic and demographic analysis firm. These projections show that total employment in Dane County is expected to grow by 1.38 percent annually from 2000 to 2030. Total employment is expected to increase by 40 percent from its 2005 levels. By the year 2030, jobs in the service sector are projected to comprise the highest percentage of employment opportunities (36 percent), followed by government (19 percent) and manufacturing (8 percent).