NORTHEAST IA BUSINESS NETWORK
REGIONAL LABORSHED AREA

A STUDY IN LABOR AVAILABILITY AND WORKFORCE CHARACTERISTICS
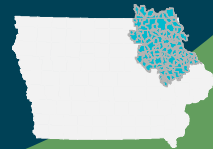EXECUTIVE SUMMARY
WORKFORCE.IOWA.GOV/LABORSHED

RELEASED
2024

ESTIMATED POPULATION
AGES 18-64
382,400

TOTAL ESTIMATED LABOR FORCE
AGES 18-64
320,045

AREA SHOWN

NORTHEAST IA BUSINESS NETWORK LABORSHED ANALYSIS

EMPLOYMENT STATUS (ESTIMATED TOTAL)*

(338,424) 88.5% Employed

5.9% (22,562) *Unemployed

1.9% (7,266) Homemakers

3.7% (14,149) Retired

*Employment status is self-identified by the survey respondent. The unemployment percentage above does not reflect the unemployment rate published by the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, which applies a stricter definition.

Totals may vary due to rounding.

Employed - Likely to Change Employment **28.8%**

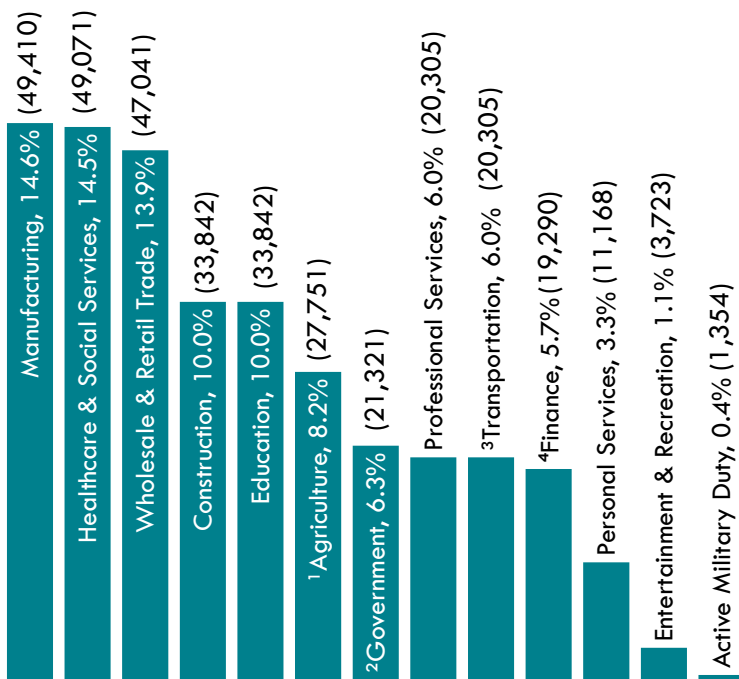**Unemployed -** Likely to Accept Employment **67.3%**

Homemakers - Likely to Accept Employment **43.8%**

Retired - Likely to Accept Employment **27.9%**

BREAKOUT OF THE EMPLOYED BY INDUSTRY (ESTIMATED TOTAL)

- Manufacturing, 14.6% (49,410)
- Healthcare & Social Services, 14.5% (49,071)
- Wholesale & Retail Trade, 13.9% (47,041)
- Construction, 10.0% (33,842)
- Education, 10.0% (33,842)
- [1]Agriculture, 8.2% (27,751)
- [2]Government, 6.3% (21,321)
- Professional Services, 6.0% (20,305)
- [3]Transportation, 6.0% (20,305)
- [4]Finance, 5.7% (19,290)
- Personal Services, 3.3% (11,168)
- Entertainment & Recreation, 1.1% (3,723)
- Active Military Duty, 0.4% (1,354)

[1]Agriculture, Forestry, & Mining
[2]Transportation, Communications, & Utilities
[3]Finance, Insurance, & Real Estate
[4]Public Administration, Government

Totals may vary due to rounding.

TOP CURRENT BENEFITS OF THE FULL-TIME EMPLOYED

Benefit	%
Paid Sick Leave/ PTO/ Vacation	92.5%
Health/Medical Insurance	92.2%
Pension/ Retirement/401K	90.6%
Dental Coverage	85.2%
Paid Holiday	84.6%
Life Insurance	80.3%
Disability Insurance	77.9%
Vision Coverage	77.1%
Flex Spending Account	66.1%
Prescription Drug Coverage	57.7%

A Laborshed area is defined by its commuting pattern and illustrates which communities contribute to an employment center's workforce and at what level. To determine the boundaries of a Laborshed area, local employers supply the residential ZIP codes of each of their employees. The data in this publication reflects characteristics specific to the workforce in the Northeast IA Business Network Laborshed area.

The employed are currently commuting an average of—

15 miles one-way for an employment opportunity

&

19 minutes

EMPLOYED: LIKELY TO CHANGE

- **28.8%** of employed individuals are likely to change their current employment situation for a new opportunity.
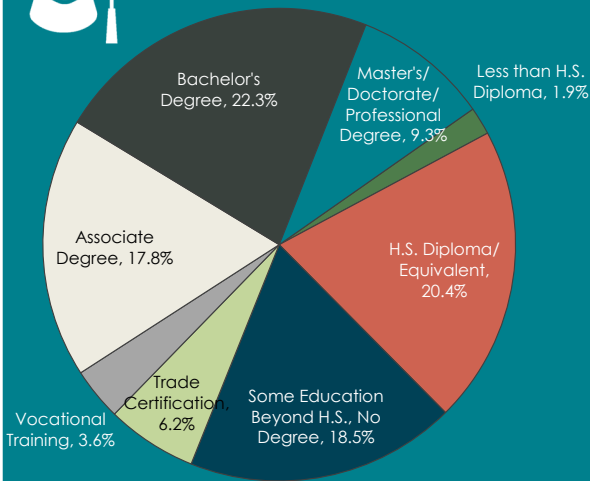
- Current occupational categories:

Production, Construction, Material Moving	31.0%
Professional, Paraprofessional, Technical	28.7%
Service	11.6%
Clerical	9.9%
Managerial	8.7%
Sales	6.7%
Agricultural	3.4%

- Current median wages: $
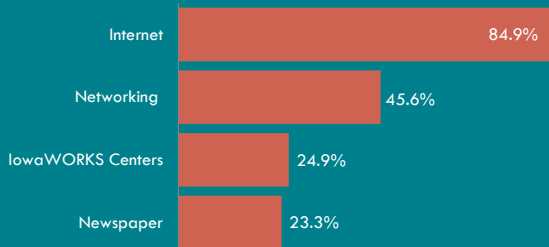 - $21.00/hour and $66,000/year
  - $25.00/hour - attracts 66%
  - $27.00/hour - attracts 75%

- 77.7% have an education beyond HS

Bachelor's Degree, 22.3% · Master's/Doctorate/Professional Degree, 9.3% · Less than H.S. Diploma, 1.9% · H.S. Diploma/Equivalent, 20.4% · Some Education Beyond H.S., No Degree, 18.5% · Trade Certification, 6.2% · Vocational Training, 3.6% · Associate Degree, 17.8%

- **24.7%** are actively seeking employment
- Most frequently identified job search resources:

Internet 84.9%
Networking 45.6%
IowaWORKS Centers 24.9%
Newspaper 23.3%

- Top sites:
  indeed.com
  linkedin.com

- Top newspapers:
  NEWS
  Driftless Journal—Decorah Waukon Standard

- Commute:
  - Currently commuting an average of **15** miles/**19** minutes (one-way) to work
  - Willing to commute an average of **30** miles/**37** minutes (one-way) to work

UNEMPLOYED: LIKELY TO ACCEPT

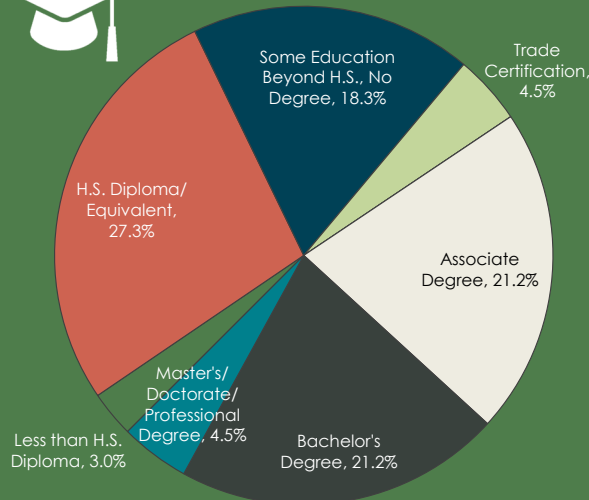- **67.3%** of unemployed individuals are likely to accept an employment opportunity.

- Former occupational categories:

Production, Construction, Material Moving	29.0%
Professional, Paraprofessional, Technical	25.8%
Service	17.7%
Managerial	11.3%
Clerical	8.1%
Sales	8.1%
Agricultural	0.0%

- Median wages: $
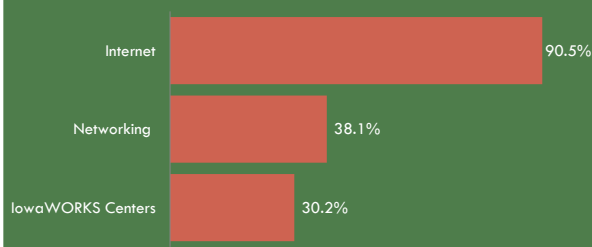 - $17.00/hour - lowest willing to accept
  - $20.00/hour - attracts 66%
  - $21.00/hour - attracts 75%

- 69.7% have an education beyond HS

Some Education Beyond H.S., No Degree, 18.3% · Trade Certification, 4.5% · H.S. Diploma/Equivalent, 27.3% · Associate Degree, 21.2% · Master's/Doctorate/Professional Degree, 4.5% · Less than H.S. Diploma, 3.0% · Bachelor's Degree, 21.2%

- **50.0%** are actively seeking employment
- Most frequently identified job search resources:

Internet 90.5%
Networking 38.1%
IowaWORKS Centers 30.2%

- Top sites:
  indeed.com
  linkedin.com

- Top newspapers:
  NEWS
  Dyersville Commercial

- Commute:
  - Willing to commute an average of **23** miles/**39** minutes (one-way) to work

This regional analysis is based on aggregated data from the Cresco, Decorah, Elkader, Manchester, Oelwein, and Waukon Laborshed studies.

These results are based upon a total of **1,654** completed surveys.

For more data visit: https://workforce.iowa.gov/laborshed

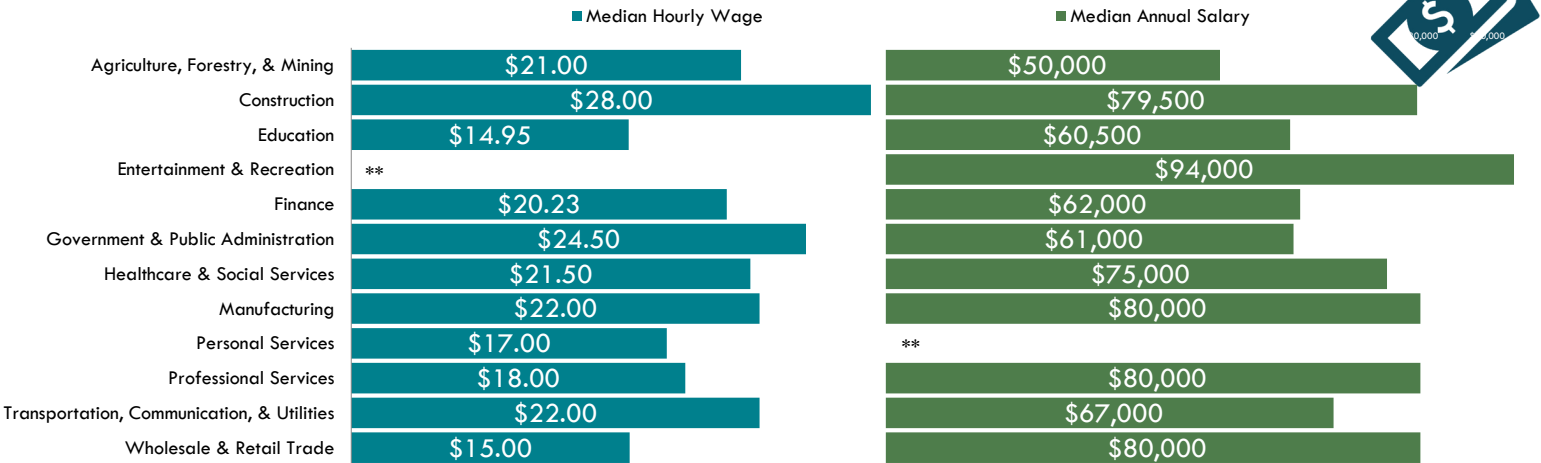# EDUCATION OF AVAILABLE LABOR BY INDUSTRY OF CURRENT OR FORMER EMPLOYMENT

Data on this page is specific to only those survey respondents that reported they are likely to change or accept employment.

Industry	Education Beyond HS	Some Education Beyond HS, No Degree Obtained	Trade Certification/ Vocational Training	Associate Degree	Bachelor's Degree or Above
Agriculture, Forestry, & Mining	61.5%	23.1%	11.5%	11.5%	15.4%
Construction	65.7%	25.7%	8.6%	11.4%	20.0%
Education	93.9%	6.1%	4.1%	10.2%	73.5%
Entertainment & Recreation	100%	0.0%	0.0%	50.0%	50.0%
Finance, Insurance, & Real Estate	89.5%	15.8%	15.8%	15.8%	42.1%
Government & Public Administration	93.0%	17.2%	10.3%	27.6%	37.9%
Healthcare & Social Services	84.7%	17.7%	6.3%	27.8%	32.9%
Manufacturing	62.9%	22.7%	9.3%	13.4%	17.5%
Personal Services	77.9%	27.8%	16.7%	16.7%	16.7%
Professional Services	77.4%	29.0%	3.2%	19.4%	25.8%
Transportation, Communication, & Utilities	61.3%	12.9%	9.7%	16.1%	22.6%
Wholesale & Retail Trade	72.6%	23.8%	10.7%	17.9%	20.2%

Top percentages among industries per education level are highlighted in the table.

WAGES OF AVAILABLE LABOR BY INDUSTRY OF CURRENT OR FORMER EMPLOYMENT

■ Median Hourly Wage   ■ Median Annual Salary

| Industry	Median Hourly Wage	Median Annual Salary
Agriculture, Forestry, & Mining	$21.00	$50,000
Construction	$28.00	$79,500
Education	$14.95	$60,500
Entertainment & Recreation	**	$94,000
Finance	$20.23	$62,000
Government & Public Administration	$24.50	$61,000
Healthcare & Social Services	$21.50	$75,000
Manufacturing	$22.00	$80,000
Personal Services	$17.00	**
Professional Services	$18.00	$80,000
Transportation, Communication, & Utilities	$22.00	$67,000
Wholesale & Retail Trade	$15.00	$80,000

**Insufficient survey data/refused. A lack of data for a particular industry is not necessarily indicative that there were no (or few) individuals surveyed within that industry. Rather, it may be that there simply were no respondents within that industry that also reported that they are likely to change or accept employment.

Note: A wide variety of occupations are included within these industry categories. Industry classification is based upon the respondent's reported current or former employer. Two respondents that work for a manufacturer will be classified within the manufacturing industry even if, for example, one respondent is a custodian and the other is an accountant.

UNDEREMPLOYMENT

The underemployed are working fewer than 35 hours per week but desire more hours (**inadequate hours**); in positions that do not meet their skill or education level, or have worked for higher wages at previous employment (**mismatch of skills**); or are earning wages equal to or less than the national poverty level and work 35 or more hours per week (**low income**).

	Percent Surveyed			Percent Surveyed
⏱ Inadequate Hours	1.1%		🔀 Mismatch of Skills	6.7%
💲 Low Income	0.2%		∑ †Total	7.4%
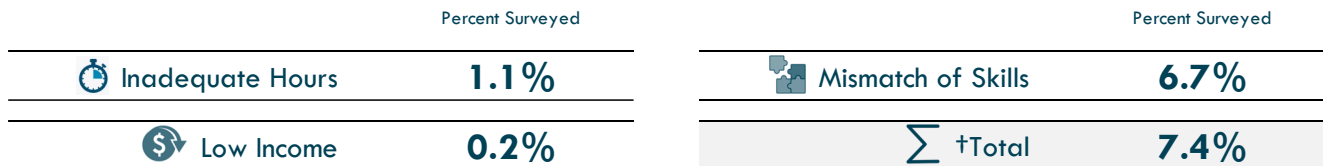
†Individuals may be underemployed for more than one reason but are counted only once for total estimated underemployment.
Note: To be counted as underemployed in any category an individual must be currently employed and likely to change their current employment situation.