

CHEROKEE, IOWA LABORSHED AREA



A STUDY IN LABOR AVAILABILITY AND WORKFORCE CHARACTERISTICS
EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

WORKFORCE.IOWA.GOV/LABORSHED

RELEASED
2025

ESTIMATED POPULATION
AGES 18-64

95,853

ESTIMATED TOTAL LIKELY TO
ACCEPT EMPLOYMENT
IN **CHEROKEE, IA**

17,170

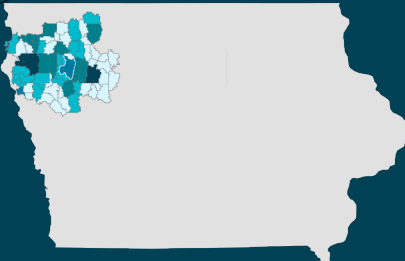


LIKELY TO
CHANGE/ACCEPT EMPLOYMENT
IN **CHEROKEE, IA**
BY PLACE OF RESIDENCE
(PER ZIP CODE)

- 1 - 82
- 83 - 227
- 228 - 736
- 737 - 1,657
- 1,658 - 3,172



10-Mile Interval Between Rings



AREA SHOWN

Cherokee LABORSHED ANALYSIS

EMPLOYMENT STATUS (ESTIMATED TOTAL)*

(84,255) 87.9% Employed

7.4% (7,093)

*Unemployed

2.0% (1,917)

Homemakers

2.7% (2,588)

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.*

Employed -
Likely to Change Employment **30.1%**



Unemployed -
Likely to Accept Employment **63.3%**



Homemakers -
Likely to Accept Employment **50.0%**

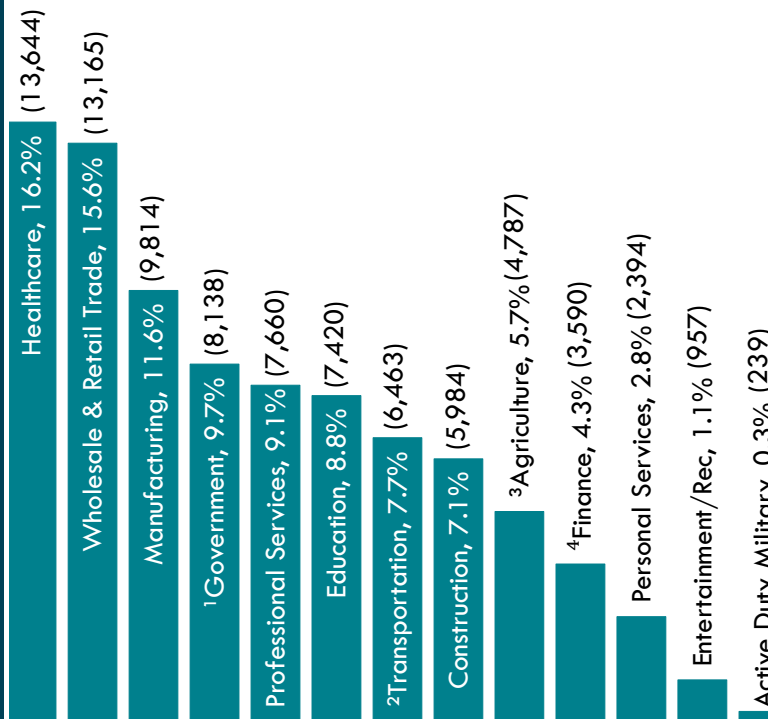


Retired -
Likely to Accept Employment **9.1%**



BREAKOUT OF THE EMPLOYED BY INDUSTRY (ESTIMATED TOTAL*)

**Totals may vary due to rounding.*



¹Public Administration, Government
³Agriculture, Forestry, & Mining

²Transportation, Communications, & Utilities
⁴Finance, Insurance, & Real Estate

TOP CURRENT BENEFITS OF THE FULL-TIME EMPLOYED

	Paid Vacation/ PTO/Sick Leave	97.7%
	Health/Medical Insurance	91.2%
	Pension/Retirement/ 401k	90.8%
	Paid Holiday	89.3%
	Dental Coverage	83.1%
	Life Insurance	78.5%
	Vision Coverage	78.2%
	Disability Insurance	74.3%
	Flex Spending Account	62.8%
	Prescription Drug Coverage	56.3%

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 Cherokee Laborshed area.

The employed are currently commuting an average of—

13

miles one-way for an employment opportunity

&

17
minutes

EMPLOYED: LIKELY TO CHANGE

- An estimated **14,403** employed individuals are likely to change their current employment situation for an opportunity in Cherokee.

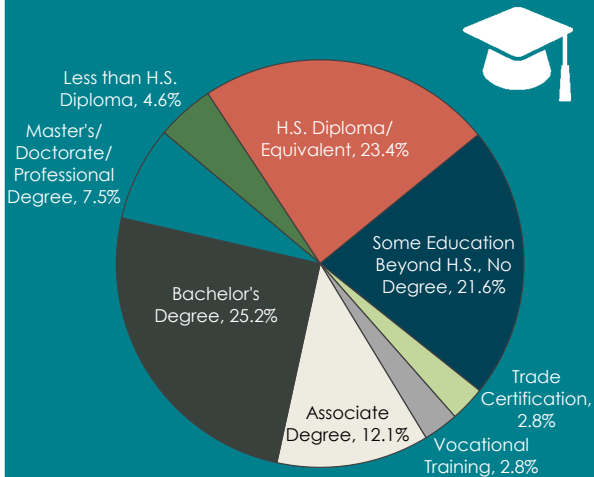
- Current occupational categories:

Production, Construction, Material Moving	31.1%
Professional, Paraprofessional, Technical	26.4%
Services	17.9%
Managerial	12.3%
Sales	8.5%
Agricultural	1.9%
Clerical	1.9%

- Current median wages: \$

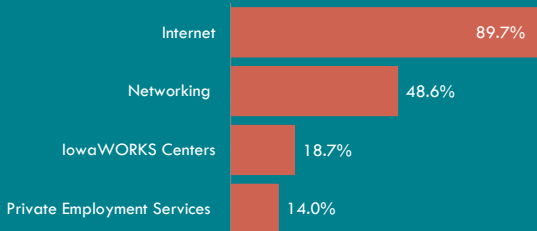
- \$19.25/hour and \$75,000/year
- \$25.00/hour - attracts 66%
- \$28.00/hour - attracts 75%

- 72.0% have an education beyond HS



- 18.7% are actively seeking employment

- Most frequently identified job search resources:



- Top sites:



- Top newspapers:



- Commute:

- Currently commuting an average of **13 miles/18 minutes** (one-way) to work
- Willing to commute an average of **28 miles/35 minutes** (one-way) to work

UNEMPLOYED: LIKELY TO ACCEPT

- An estimated **657** unemployed individuals are likely to accept employment in Cherokee.

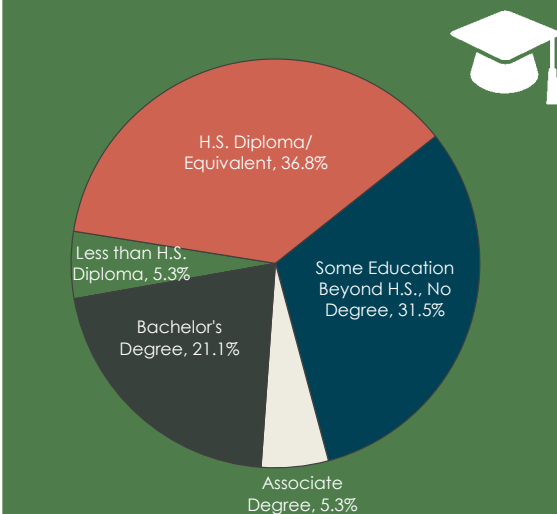
- Former occupational categories:

Production, Construction, Material Moving	27.8%
Services	27.8%
Professional, Paraprofessional, Technical	16.7%
Sales	16.7%
Managerial	11.1%
Agricultural	0.0%
Clerical	0.0%

- Median wages: \$

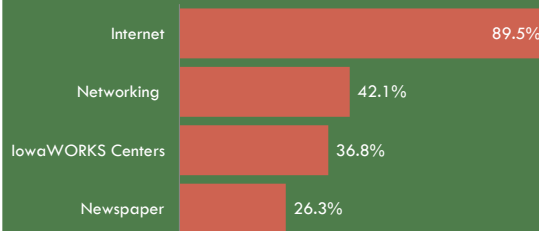
- \$16.00/hour - lowest willing to accept
- \$20.00/hour - attracts 66%
- \$28.00/hour - attracts 75%

- 57.9% have an education beyond HS



- 68.4% are actively seeking employment

- Most frequently identified job search resources:



- Top sites:



- Top newspapers:



- Commute:

- Willing to commute an average of **26 miles/32 minutes** (one-way) to work



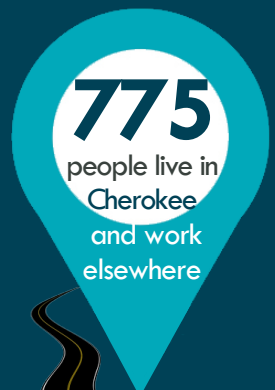
The Laborshed survey collects information regarding the **out commute** for an employment center.

The **out commute** for Cherokee is estimated at 27.3 percent—approximately 775 people living in Cherokee work in other communities.

Most of those who are out commuting are working in Storm Lake, Le Mars, Marcus, and Paullina, IA.


Over one-third (36.7%) of out commuters are likely to change employment (approximately 285 people).

56.7% earn an hourly wage—median wage is **\$23.63/hour**
43.3% earn an annual salary—median salary is **\$91,250/year**.



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.



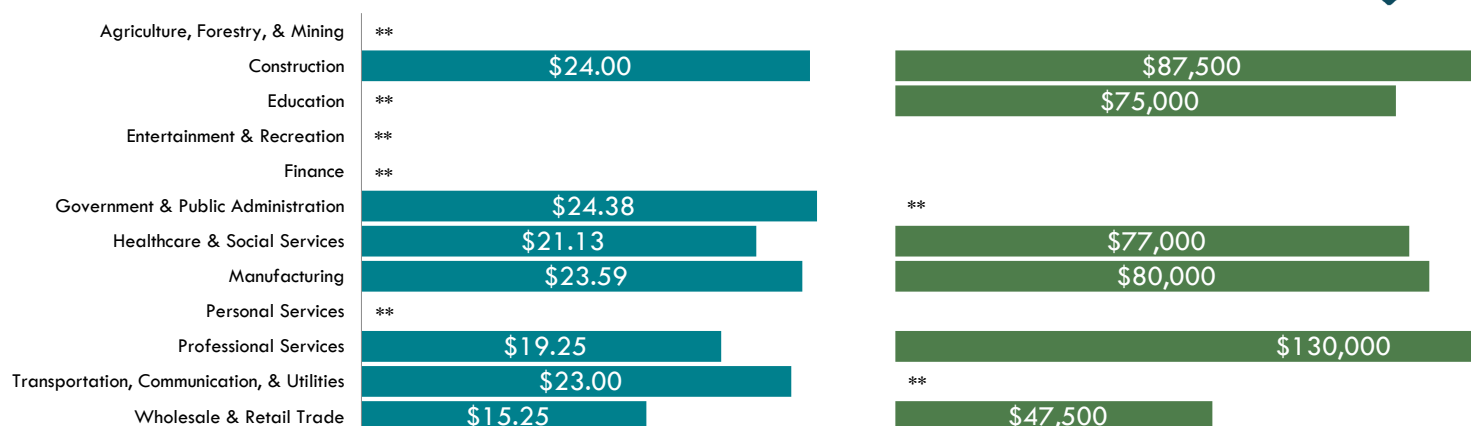
Industry	Education Beyond HS	Some Education Beyond HS, No Degree Obtained	Trade Certification/Vocational Training	Associate Degree	Bachelor's Degree or Above
Agriculture, Forestry, & Mining	**	**	**	**	**
Construction	36.4%	9.1%	0.0%	18.2%	9.1%
Education	77.8%	11.1%	0.0%	0.0%	66.7%
Entertainment & Recreation	**	**	**	**	**
Finance, Insurance, & Real Estate	**	**	**	**	**
Government & Public Administration	91.0%	18.2%	9.1%	18.2%	45.5%
Healthcare & Social Services	84.2%	10.5%	0.0%	21.1%	52.6%
Manufacturing	55.6%	11.1%	11.1%	5.6%	27.8%
Personal Services	**	**	**	**	**
Professional Services	72.7%	0.0%	0.0%	18.2%	54.5%
Transportation, Communication, & Utilities	50.0%	30.0%	0.0%	10.0%	10.0%
Wholesale & Retail Trade	66.7%	50.0%	6.7%	3.3%	6.7%

Top percentages among industries per education level are highlighted in the table. **Insufficient survey data/refused

WAGES OF AVAILABLE LABOR BY INDUSTRY OF CURRENT OR FORMER EMPLOYMENT

■ Median Hourly Wage

■ Median Annual Salary






**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	Estimated Total		Percent Surveyed	Estimated Total
 Inadequate Hours	1.5%	216	 Mismatch of Skills	10.4%	1,498
 Low Income	0.2%	29	Σ Total	11.4%	1,642

*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.



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