

FOREST CITY, IOWA LABORSHED AREA

A STUDY IN LABOR AVAILABILITY AND WORKFORCE CHARACTERISTICS
EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

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RELEASED
2022

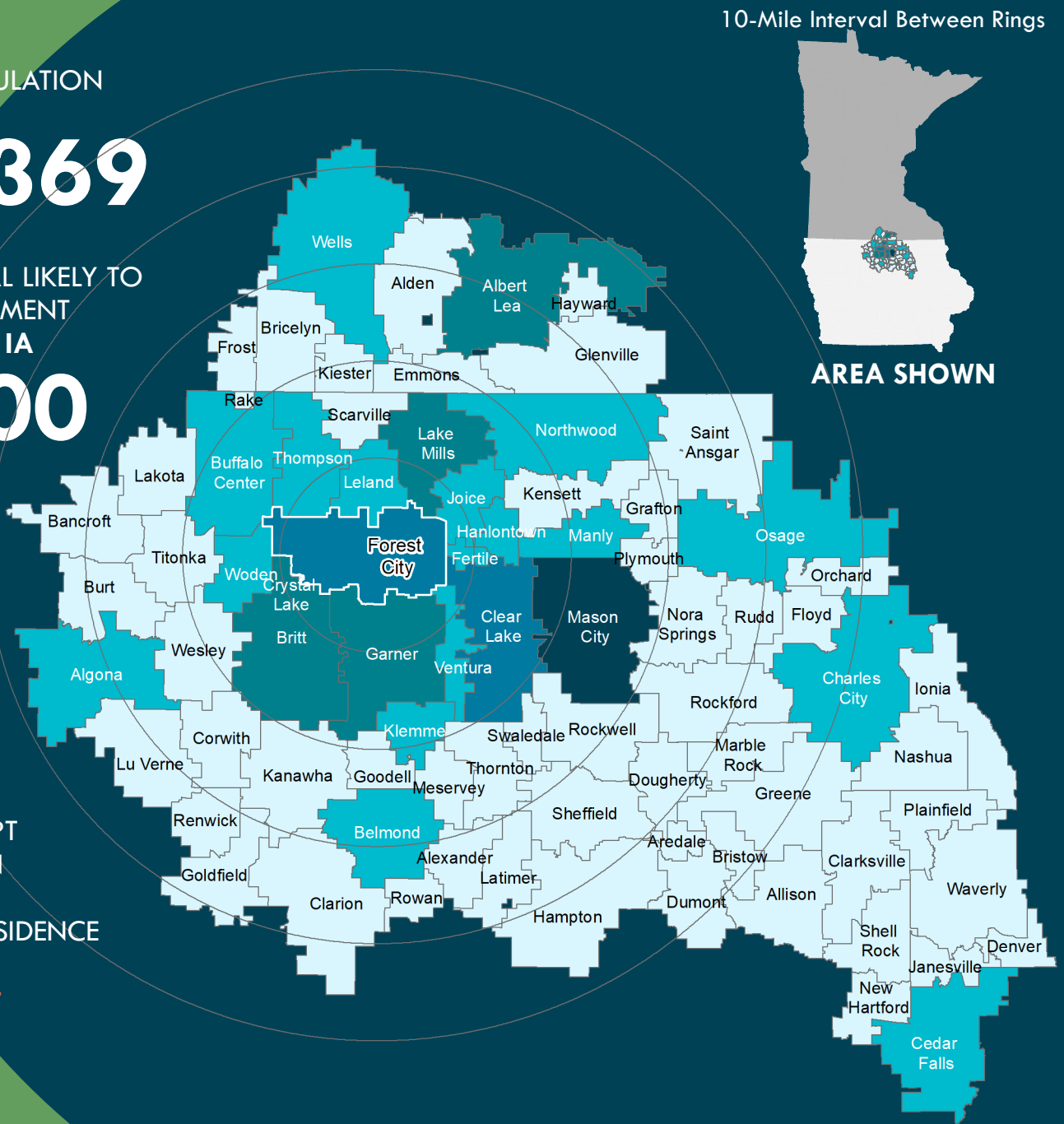
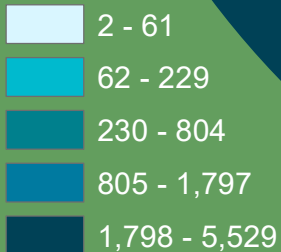
ESTIMATED POPULATION
AGES 18-64

134,369

ESTIMATED TOTAL LIKELY TO
ACCEPT EMPLOYMENT
IN FOREST CITY, IA

13,800

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



FOREST CITY LABORSHED ANALYSIS

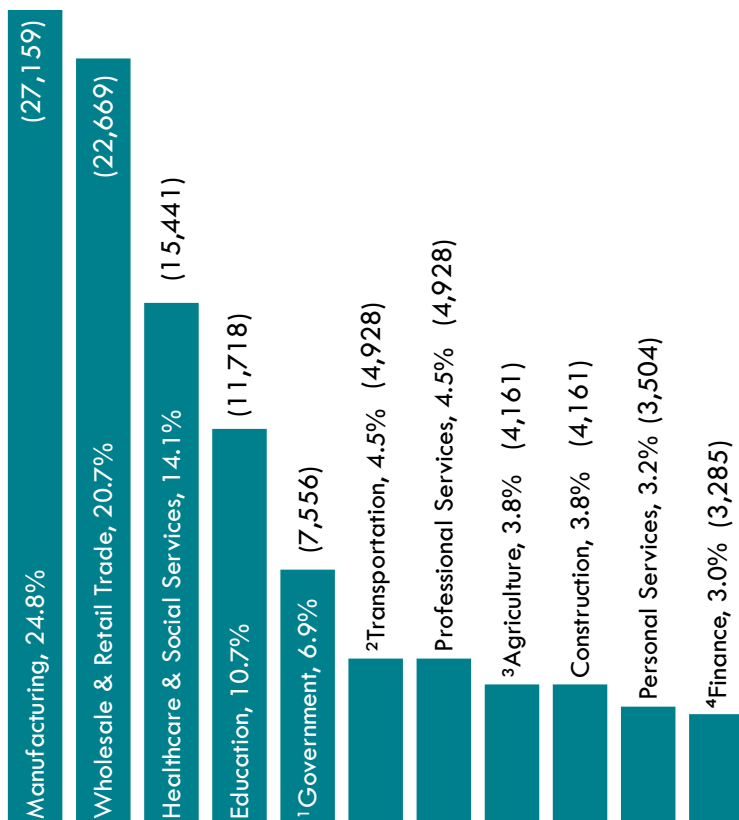
EMPLOYMENT STATUS (ESTIMATED TOTAL)*



*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.



BREAKOUT OF THE EMPLOYED BY INDUSTRY (ESTIMATED TOTAL)



¹Public Administration, Government
³Agriculture, Forestry, & Mining
Totals may vary due to rounding.

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

TOP CURRENT BENEFITS OF THE FULL-TIME EMPLOYED

	Paid Vacation 97.1%
	Health/Medical Insurance 95.4%
	Pension/Retirement/401K 90.3%
	Dental Coverage 89.1%
	Paid Holiday 87.4%
	Life Insurance 81.9%
	Disability Insurance 79.0%
	Vision Coverage 76.1%
	Flex Spending Account 65.1%
	Prescription Drug Coverage 62.2%

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 Forest City Laborshed area.

The employed are currently commuting an average of—



EMPLOYED: LIKELY TO CHANGE

• An estimated **11,197** employed individuals are likely to change their current employment situation for an opportunity in Forest City

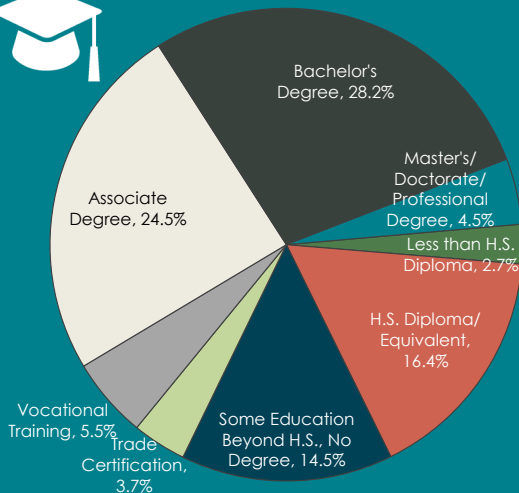
• Current occupational categories:

Professional, Paraprofessional, Technical	30.7%
Production, Construction, Material Moving	29.8%
Clerical	11.5%
Service	10.6%
Managerial	8.7%
Sales	8.7%
Agricultural	0.0%

• Current median wages: \$

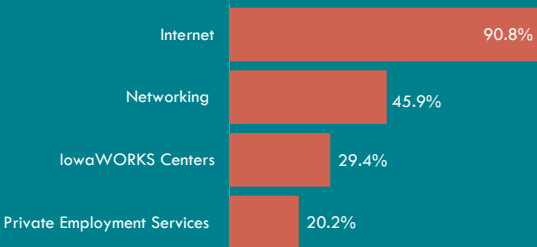
- \$18.00/hour and \$55,000/year
- \$21.86/hour - attracts 66%
- \$26.00/hour - attracts 75%

• 80.9% have an education beyond HS



• **30.9% are actively seeking employment**

• Most frequently identified job search resources:



• Top sites:



• Top newspapers:



• Commute:

- Currently commuting an average of **12 miles/16 minutes** (one-way) to work
- Willing to commute an average of **28 miles/34 minutes** (one-way) to work

UNEMPLOYED: LIKELY TO ACCEPT

• An estimated **569** unemployed individuals are likely to accept employment in Forest City

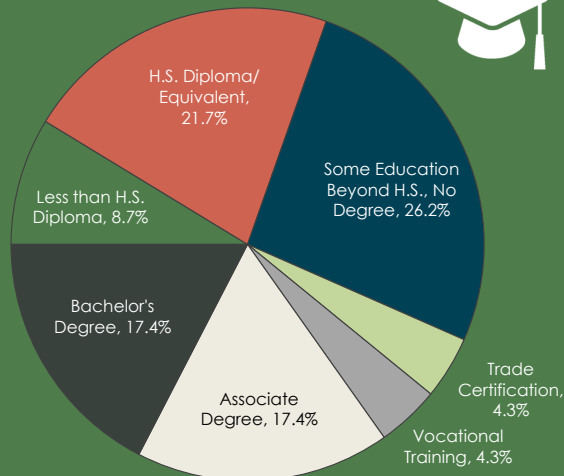
• Former occupational categories:

Production, Construction, Material Moving	27.3%
Sales	22.7%
Managerial	18.2%
Service	18.2%
Clerical	9.1%
Professional, Paraprofessional, Technical	4.5%
Agricultural	0.0%

• Median wages: \$

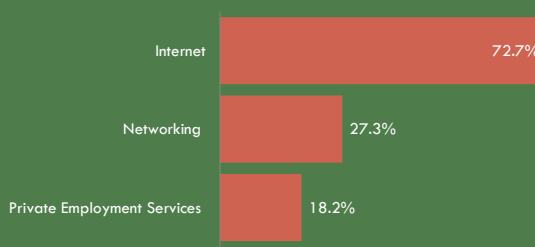
- \$13.00/hour - lowest willing to accept
- \$14.00/hour - attracts 66%
- \$15.00/hour - attracts 75%

• 69.6% have an education beyond HS



• **56.5% are actively seeking employment**

• Most frequently identified job search resources:



• Top sites:



• Top newspapers:



• Commute:

- Willing to commute an average of **19 miles/28 minutes** (one-way) to work



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

The **out commute** for Forest City is estimated at **26.4 percent**—approximately **723** people living in Forest City work in other communities.

Most of those who are out commuting are working in **Mason City, Garner, and Lake Mills.**

Over two-fifths (**44.8%**) of out commuters are likely to change employment (approximately **324** people).

65.5% earn an hourly wage—median wage is **\$19.42/hour**
34.5% earn an annual salary—median salary is **\$75,000/year**



EDUCATION OF AVAILABLE LABOR BY INDUSTRY OF CURRENT OR FORMER EMPLOYMENT

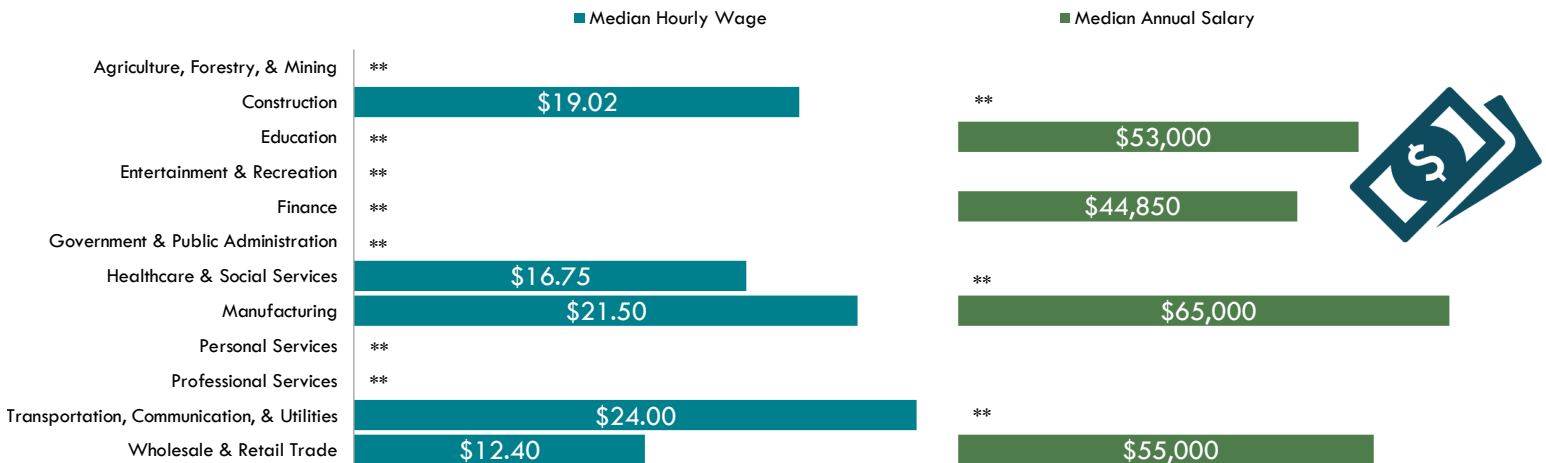
Data on this page is specific to only those survey respondents that reported they are likely to change or accept employment.



Industry	Education Beyond HS	Some Education Beyond HS, No	Trade Certification/ Vocational Training	Associate Degree	Bachelor's Degree or Above
Agriculture, Forestry, & Mining	**	**	**	**	**
Construction	49.9%	8.3%	8.3%	25.0%	8.3%
Education	90.0%	0.0%	0.0%	10.0%	80.0%
Entertainment & Recreation	**	**	**	**	**
Finance, Insurance, & Real Estate	100%	20.0%	20.0%	20.0%	40.0%
Government & Public Administration	100%	33.3%	16.7%	0.0%	50.0%
Healthcare & Social Services	83.4%	16.7%	16.7%	29.2%	20.8%
Manufacturing	85.1%	11.1%	7.4%	18.5%	48.1%
Personal Services	60.0%	20.0%	0.0%	0.0%	40.0%
Professional Services	83.3%	33.3%	0.0%	16.7%	33.3%
Transportation, Communication, & Utilities	100%	55.6%	0.0%	33.3%	11.1%
Wholesale & Retail Trade	75.0%	21.9%	9.4%	28.1%	15.6%

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



**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	2.5%	280	Mismatch of Skills	7.9%	885
Low Income	0.2%	22	Σ †Total	9.6%	1,075

†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.

