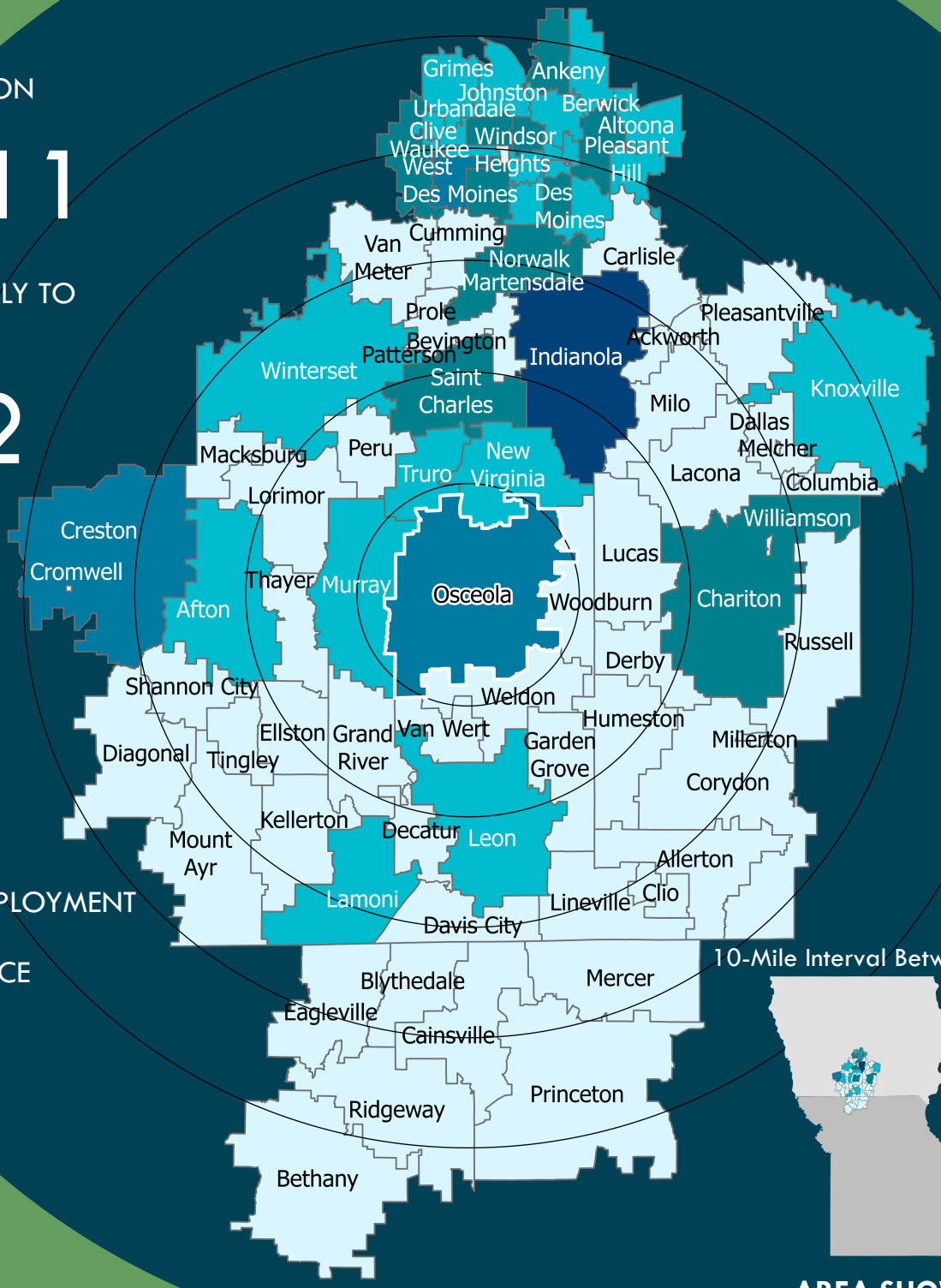
OSECOLA, IOWA
LABORSHED AREA

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

RELEASED
2026

ESTIMATED POPULATION
AGES 18-64
418,011

ESTIMATED TOTAL LIKELY TO
ACCEPT EMPLOYMENT
IN **OSECOLA, IA**
33,572



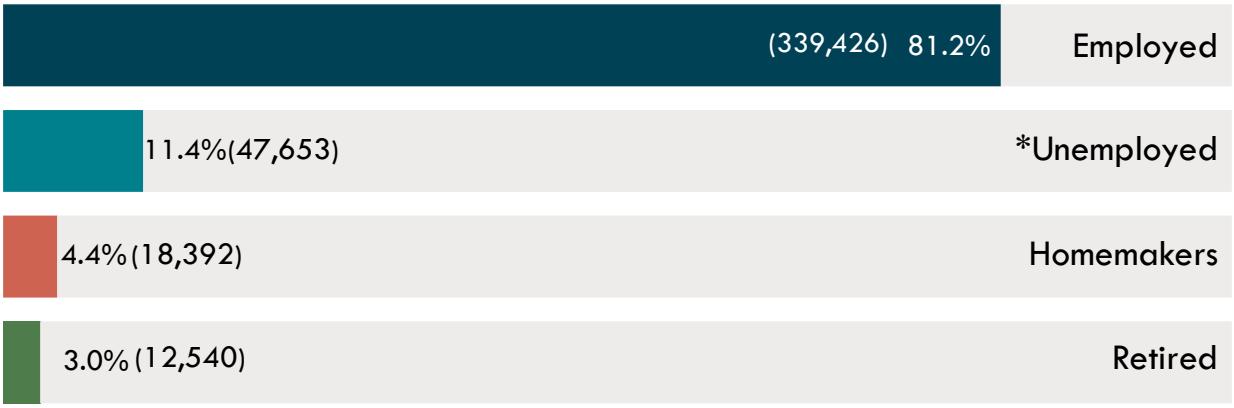
LIKELY TO
CHANGE/ACCEPT EMPLOYMENT
IN **OSECOLA, IA**
BY PLACE OF RESIDENCE
(PER ZIP CODE)

- 0 - 230
- 231 - 654
- 655 - 1,351
- 1,352 - 2,175
- 2,176 - 5,575

Osecola LABORSHED ANALYSIS

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 Osecola Laborshed area.

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.*

Employed -
Likely to Change Employment **31.0%**



Unemployed -
Likely to Accept Employment **71.7%**



Homemakers -
Likely to Accept Employment **44.4%**

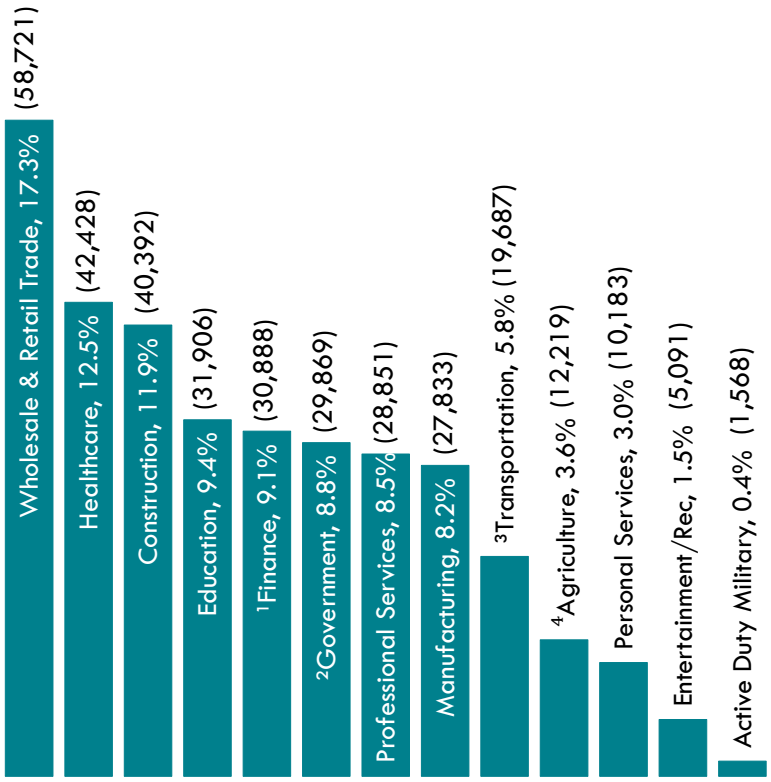


Retired -
Likely to Accept Employment **0.0%**



BREAKOUT OF THE EMPLOYED BY INDUSTRY (ESTIMATED TOTAL*)

**Totals may vary due to rounding.*



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

TOP CURRENT BENEFITS OF THE FULL-TIME EMPLOYED

Health/Medical Insurance	96.0%
Pension/ Retirement/401k	94.0%
Paid Vacation/ PTO/Sick Leave	93.5%
Dental Coverage	93.1%
Vision Coverage	88.3%
Life Insurance	87.5%
Disability Insurance	85.5%
Paid Holiday	85.1%
Flex Spending Account	69.4%
Prescription Drug Coverage	64.5%

The employed are currently commuting an average of—

16 miles one-way for an employment opportunity

&

20 minutes



EMPLOYED: LIKELY TO CHANGE

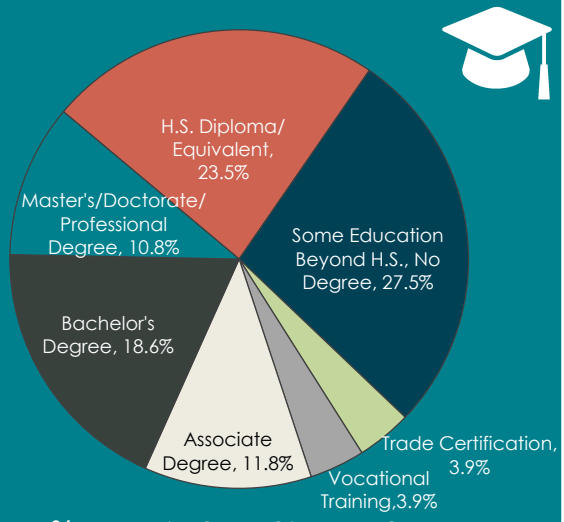
- **An estimated 24,503 employed individuals are likely to change their current employment situation for an opportunity in Osecola.**

- Current occupational categories:

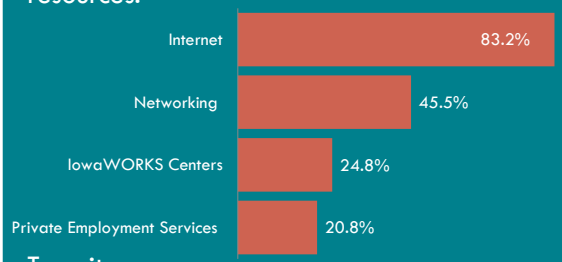
Production, Construction, Material Moving	**26.5%**
Professional, Paraprofessional, Technical	**23.5%**
Managerial	**16.3%**
Clerical	**15.3%**
Services	**12.2%**
Sales	**5.1%**
Agricultural	**1.1%**

- Current median wages: $
  - $21.50/hour and $65,000/year
  - $25.00/hour - attracts 66%
  - $30.00/hour - attracts 75%

- 76.5% have an education beyond HS



- **34.3% are actively seeking employment**
- Most frequently identified job search resources:



- Top sites:

www.indeed.com
www.linkedin.com

- Top newspapers:

NEWS
The Des Moines Register

- Commute:
  - Currently commuting an average of **16** miles/**20** minutes (one-way) to work
  - Willing to commute an average of **30** miles/**38** minutes (one-way) to work

UNEMPLOYED: LIKELY TO ACCEPT

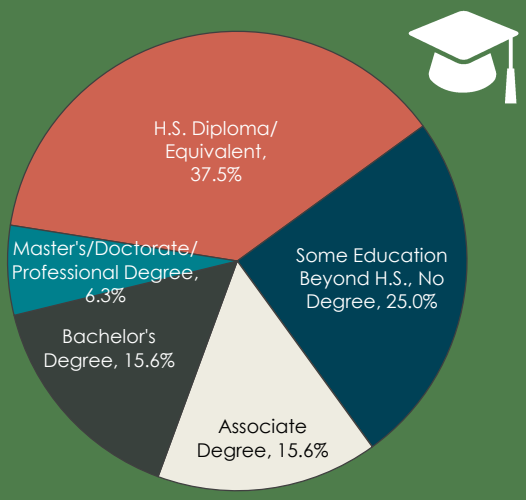
- **An estimated 1,735 unemployed individuals are likely to accept employment in Osecola.**

- Former occupational categories:

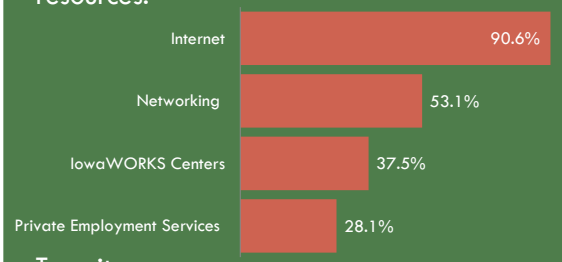
Production, Construction, Material Moving	**40.1%**
Sales	**23.3%**
Managerial	**10.0%**
Professional, Paraprofessional, Technical	**10.0%**
Services	**10.0%**
Agricultural	**3.3%**
Clerical	**3.3%**

- Median wages: $
  - $18.00/hour - lowest willing to accept
  - $19.84/hour - attracts 66%
  - $25.00/hour - attracts 75%

- 62.5% have an education beyond HS



- **72.7% are actively seeking employment**
- Most frequently identified job search resources:



- Top sites:

www.indeed.com
www.linkedin.com

- Top newspapers:

NEWS
**Insufficient survey data provided*

- Commute:
  - Willing to commute an average of **25** miles/**32** minutes (one-way) to work

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

The **out commute** for Osecola is estimated at 27 percent—approximately 937 people living in Osecola work in other communities.

Most of those who are out commuting are working in Des Moines, Indianola, and West Des Moines, IA.

Over one-fourth (40.0%) of out commuters are likely to change employment (approximately 375 people).

62.1% earn an hourly wage—median wage is **$28.00/hour.** 34.5% earn an annual salary—median salary is **$68,850/year.**

937 people live in Osecola and work elsewhere

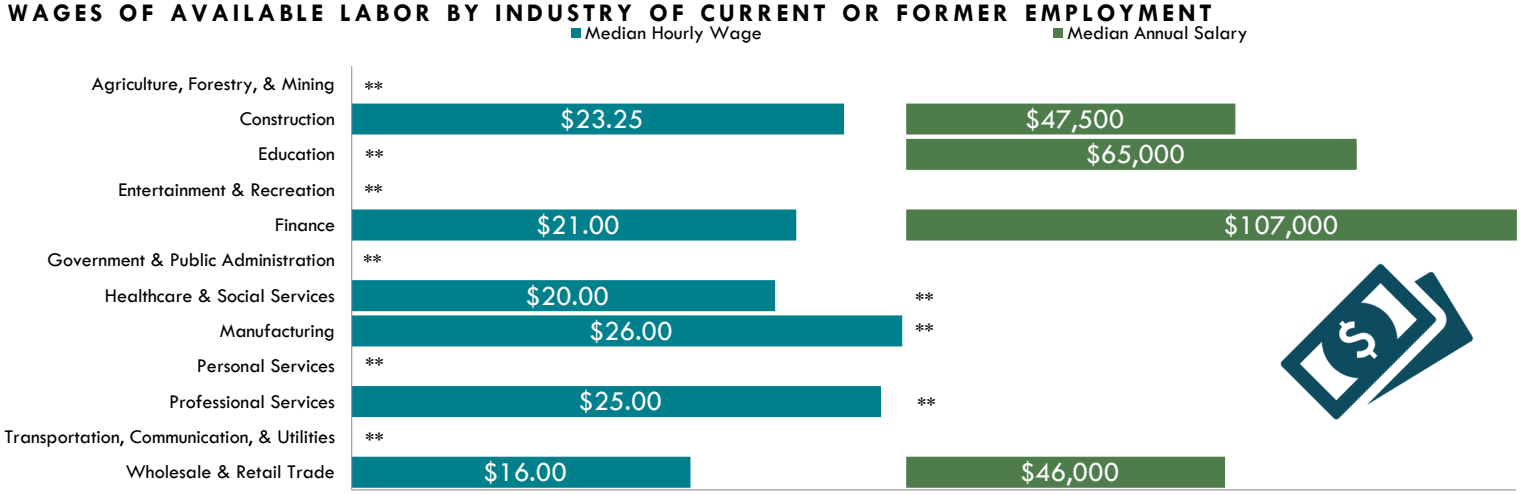
EDUCATION OF AVAILABLE LABOR BY INDUSTRY OF CURRENT OR FORMER EMPLOYMENT

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	68.8%	25.0%	25.0%	6.3%	12.5%
Education	100%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	100%
Entertainment & Recreation	**	**	**	**	**
Finance, Insurance, & Real Estate	90.0%	20.0%	0.0%	20.0%	50.0%
Government & Public Administration	100%	16.7%	0.0%	50.0%	33.3%
Healthcare & Social Services	72.3%	27.8%	11.1%	16.7%	16.7%
Manufacturing	66.6%	33.3%	0.0%	25.0%	8.3%
Personal Services	80.0%	60.0%	20.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Professional Services	83.4%	16.7%	0.0%	25.0%	41.7%
Transportation, Communication, & Utilities	62.5%	25.0%	12.5%	12.5%	12.5%
Wholesale & Retail Trade	57.1%	31.4%	11.4%	2.9%	11.4%

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
Inadequate Hours	2.2%	539
Low Income	0.5%	123

	Percent Surveyed	Estimated Total
Mismatch of Skills	7.9%	1,936
†Total	9.4%	2,303

†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.

Data compiled and analyzed by:
Iowa Workforce Development
Labor Market Information Division
1000 E. Grand Avenue, Des Moines, Iowa 50319
Phone: (515) 281-3035 | Email: laborshed.studies@iwd.iowa.gov
workforce.iowa.gov/laborshed

For more information regarding this Laborshed study contact:
Clarke County Development Corporation
115 E Washington St
Osceola, IA 50213
Phone: (641) 342-2944 | E-mail: info@clarkecountyiowa.com
www.osceolaclarkedev.com