

April, 2011

Employment and Wage Trend Information of Iowa's Community College Completers For Academic Year 2008-2009

This *Quick Look* report is an Iowa Workforce Development (IWD) education outcomes research publication reporting an overview of employment and wages of Iowa community college students. This research is a cooperative effort between IWD and the Iowa Department of Education (IDE).

The student records were provided by IDE. IWD matched this information with Unemployment Insurance (UI) records to obtain the students' wages. The combined dataset was analyzed statistically to formulate this report.

This data sharing between departments is allowable based on an agreement between IWD and IDE for research purposes only. Security procedures must meet the guidelines specified in the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) and the Unemployment Insurance confidentiality law.

Number of Student Completers in 2008-2009 Academic Year by Awards

A total of 13,257 students completed one or multiple academic programs at Iowa community colleges. The degree program ranges from certificates to associate degrees. Non-credited programs were not included in these totals. The degree program consists of two categories: Arts & Sciences Degrees (ASD) and Applied Science & Tech Awards (ASTA). ASD students tend to transfer to four-year colleges to continue higher education; conversely, ASTA students tend to seek employment immediately or are currently employed. Of the 13,257 students, 5,816 (43.9%) were in the ASD category, and 7,387 (55.7%) were in the ASTA category. (See **Figure 1**)

**Figure 1: Number of Student Completers
From Academic Year 2008-2009**

Award Category	Award Code	Total	Percent of Total
Arts & Science Degree (College Parallel)	Associate of Arts	4802	
	Associate of Science	934	
	Associate of General Studies	80	
	Sub Total	5816	43.9%
Applied Science & Tech Awards (Career & Technology)	Associate of Applied Arts	65	
	Associate of Applied Science	4458	
	Diploma	2273	
	Certificate	591	
	Sub Total	7387	55.7%
Other	Other	38	
	Non-Graduate Program Completer	16	
	Sub Total	54	0.4%
Total		13,257	100.0%

Overall Status of Completers in Workforce in First Four Quarters by Award Categories

Using UI wage records, average wages were determined by quarter for the ASD and ASTA award categories. The wage records are from only Iowa. If any student earned multiple wages in the same quarter, they were combined. The average wages were analyzed for a two-year period. The difference in wages during training and post training are observed (not adjusted). (See **Figure 2**)

Both student groups show an approximate average wage of \$3,700 per quarter while they were in college. ASTA completers' average went up over \$5,000 in the first quarter, following their post training quarter and continued to increase. However, ASD completers' averages remained at approximately \$4,000 per quarter. Comparing the two average wages in 2010 (2nd qtr.), the difference was \$2,276.

Figure 2: Quarterly Average Wage Earnings Trends

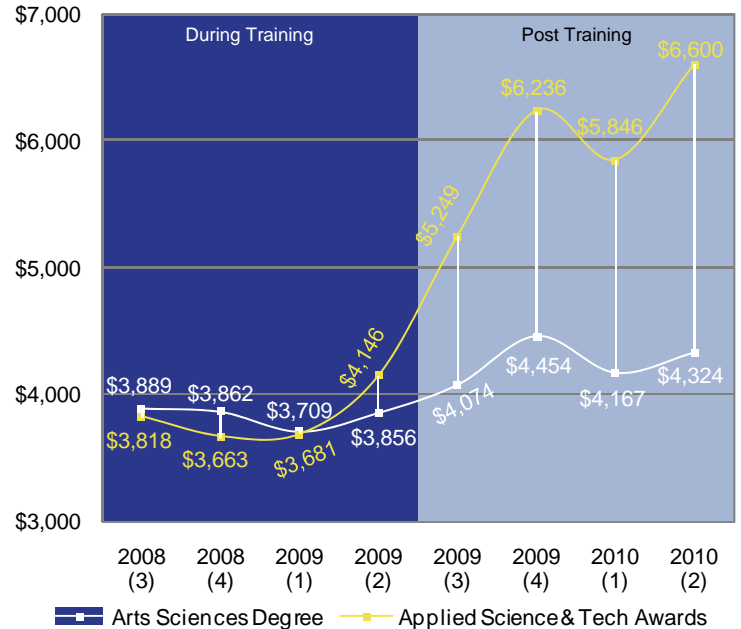
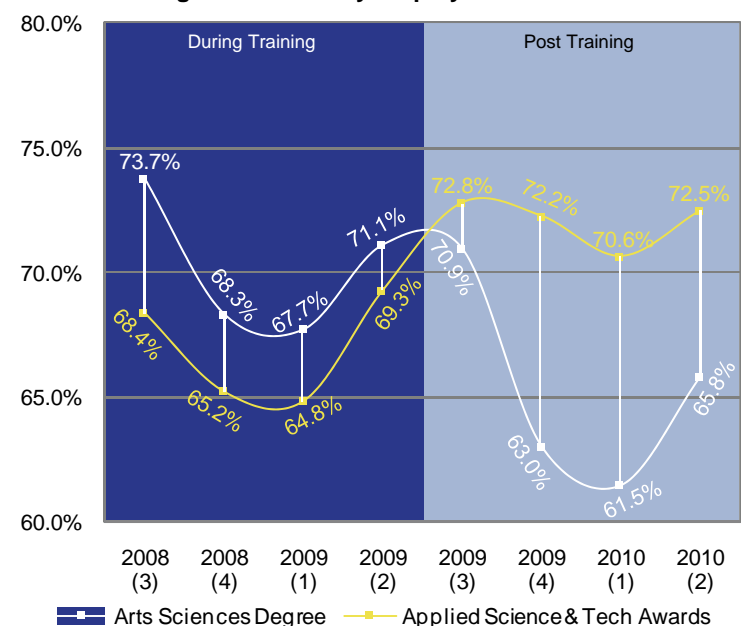


Figure 3 shows the employment rate trend between two groups in the same period. While in college, ASTA students' employment rates were higher than ASD students, but following training the ASD completers employment remained higher throughout the study period.

Figure 3: Quarterly Employment Trends



Tracking the Status of Industry Sector & Career Cluster Completers

The pie charts below indicate the career & technical track completers distribution using sixteen Career Clusters which link what students learn in school to the knowledge and skills they need for success in careers. The awards analyzed include AAA, AAS, diploma and certificate attainments. The information below depicts the distribution of the completers, and the mean primary wages in the top five industry sectors and the top five Career Clusters. The pie charts then further analyze the top five industry sectors with each of the four Career Clusters who were employed from third quarter of 2008 to second quarter of 2010. The dollar figures notated in [] are the industry specific, mean, primary wages for a total of four quarters.

Top 5 Industry Sectors

6,028 of 7,387 (81.6%) [\$18,703] were employed in Iowa during the study period. The industries were classified using North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) codes.

1. Health Care & Social Assistance: 2,664 (44.1%)[\$21,246]
2. Retail Trade: 710 (11.7%)[\$12,493]
3. Manufacturing: 378 (6.2%)[\$26,605]
4. Accommodation and Food Services: 361 (5.9%)[\$8,885]
5. Construction: 285 (4.7%)[\$19,723]

Top 5 Career Clusters

There were total 7,387 Applied Science & Technical track students

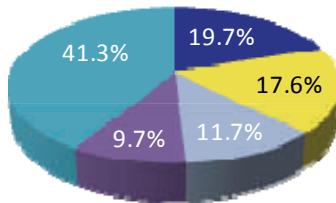
1. Health Science: 3,644 (49.3%)
2. Manufacturing: 567 (7.7%)
3. Business Management & Admin: 557 (7.5%)
4. Architecture & Construction: 540 (7.3%)
5. Transportation, Distribution & Logistics: 509 (6.9%)

Top 4 Career Clusters within the Industry Sector: Retail Trade (NAICS 44-45)

*Total within the industry sector: 710 (11.7%)[\$12,493]

1. Health Science Cluster: 140 (19.7%)[\$9,817]
2. Transportation, Dist. & Logistics Cluster: 125 (17.6%)[\$17,249]
3. Business Management & Admin. Cluster: 83 (11.7%)[\$10,532]
4. Information Technology Cluster: 69 (9.7%)[\$12,690]

- Health Science Cluster
- Transportation & Logistics Cluster
- Business & Management Cluster
- Information Technology Cluster
- Other Combined Clusters

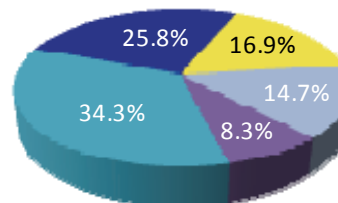


Top 4 Career Clusters within the Industry Sector: Accommodation and Food Services (NAICS 72)

*Total within the industry sector: 361 (5.9%)[\$8,885]

1. Health Science Cluster: 93 (25.8%)[\$7,438]
2. Hospitality Cluster: 61 (16.9%)[\$12,403]
3. Business, Management & Admin. Cluster: 53 (14.7%)[\$10,090]
4. Manufacturing Cluster: 30 (8.3%)[\$8,095]

- Health Science Cluster
- Hospitality & Tourism Cluster
- Business, Management & Administration Cluster
- Manufacturing Cluster
- Other Combined Clusters

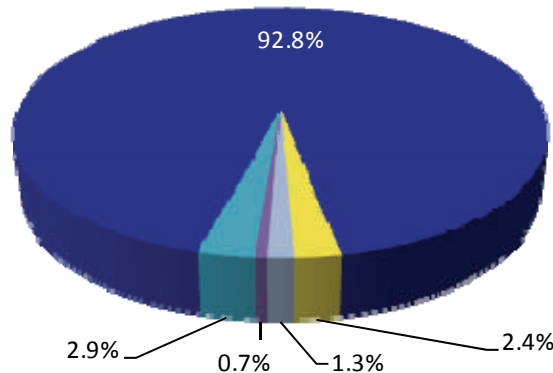


Top 4 Career Clusters within the Industry Sector: Health Care and Social Assistance (NAICS 62)

*Total within the industry sector: 2,664 (44.1%)[\$21,246]

1. Health Science Cluster: 2,472 (92.8%) [\$21,681]
2. Business, Management & Admin. Cluster: 63 (2.4%)[\$16,459]
3. Human Services Cluster: 35 (1.3%) [\$12,326]
4. Arts, Audio/Video Technology & Comm. Cluster: 18 (0.7%)[\$14,743]

- Health Science Cluster
- Business, Management & Administration Cluster
- Human Services Cluster
- Arts, Technology & Communications Cluster
- Other Combined Clusters

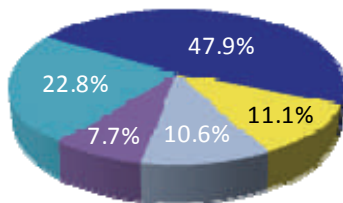


Top 4 Career Clusters within the Industry Sector: Manufacturing (NAICS 31-33)

*Total within the industry sector: 378 (6.2%)[\$26,605]

1. Manufacturing Cluster: 181 (47.9%)[\$30,206]
2. Architecture & Construction Cluster: 42 (11.1%)[\$23,954]
3. Health Science Cluster: 40 (10.6%)[\$23,635]
4. Business, Management & Admin. Cluster: 29 (7.7%)[\$25,985]

- Manufacturing Cluster
- Architecture & Construction Cluster
- Health Science Cluster
- Business, Management & Administration Cluster
- Other Combined Clusters

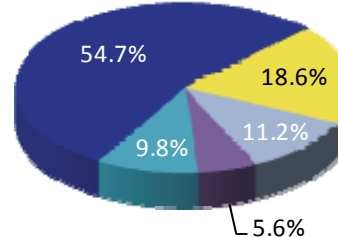


Top 4 Career Clusters within the Industry Sector: Construction (NAICS 23)

*Total within the industry sector: 285 (4.7%)[\$19,723]

1. Architecture & Construction Cluster: 156 (54.7%)[\$20,364]
2. Manufacturing Cluster: 53 (18.6%)[\$20,693]
3. Transportation Cluster: 32 (11.2%)[\$20,292]
4. Agriculture Cluster: 16 (5.6%)[\$18,422]

- Architecture & Construction Cluster
- Manufacturing Cluster
- Transportation Cluster
- Agriculture Cluster
- Other Combined Clusters



*The careers not covered under the "Career Cluster" demographics are referred to as "other" in the study.

*The pie charts below include a section called "Other Combined Clusters", this category includes all "Career Clusters" not in the top four by industry sector.

* Official Career Cluster names have been modified in order to fit report formatting.

References:

The 16 Career Clusters: <http://www.careerclusters.org>
 North America Industrial Classification System (NAICS):
<http://www.census.gov/eos/www/naics/>
 Iowa Unemployment Insurance: www.iowaworkforce.org



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