

# SOUTH CENTRAL IOWA REGIONAL LABORSHED AREA



A STUDY IN LABOR AVAILABILITY AND WORKFORCE CHARACTERISTICS  
EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

[WWW.IOWALMI.GOV/LABORSHED](http://WWW.IOWALMI.GOV/LABORSHED)

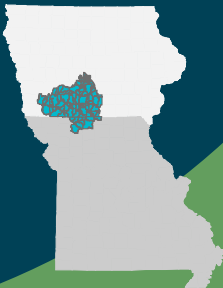
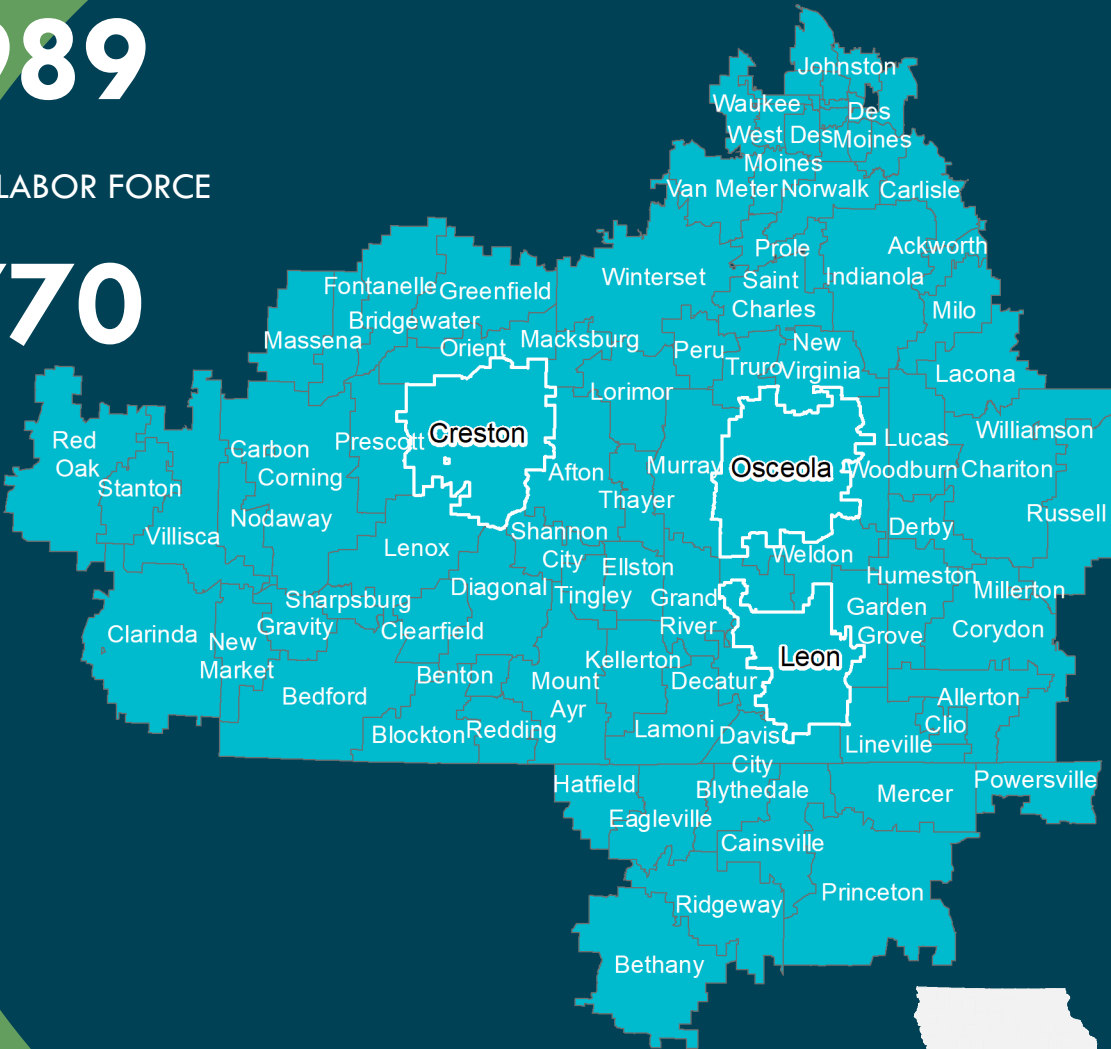
RELEASED  
2023

ESTIMATED POPULATION  
AGES 18-64

318,989

TOTAL ESTIMATED LABOR FORCE  
AGES 18-64

284,770



AREA SHOWN

# SOUTH CENTRAL IOWA LABORSHED ANALYSIS

## EMPLOYMENT STATUS (ESTIMATED TOTAL)\*

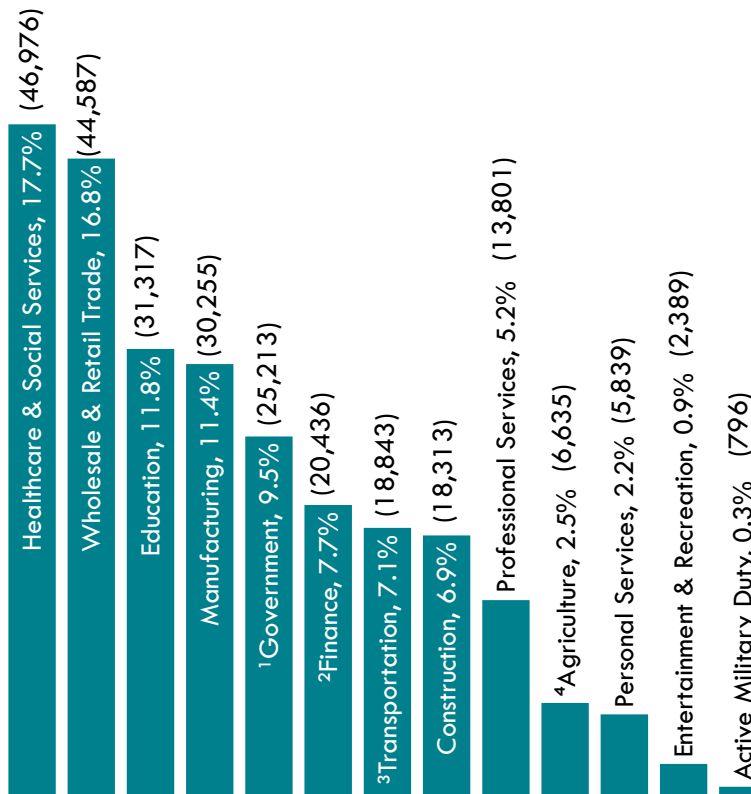


\*Employment status is self-identified by the survey respondent. The unemployment percentage above does not reflect the unemployment rate published by the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, which applies a stricter definition.

Totals may vary due to rounding.



## BREAKOUT OF THE EMPLOYED BY INDUSTRY (ESTIMATED TOTAL)



<sup>1</sup>Public Administration, Government

<sup>3</sup>Transportation, Communications, & Utilities

<sup>2</sup>Finance, Insurance, & Real Estate

<sup>4</sup>Agriculture, Forestry, & Mining

Totals may vary due to rounding.

## TOP CURRENT BENEFITS OF THE FULL-TIME EMPLOYED

	Paid Sick Leave/PTO/ Vacation	94.2%
	Health/Medical Insurance	91.7%
	Pension/Retirement/401K	88.0%
	Dental Coverage	87.3%
	Paid Holiday	84.2%
	Life Insurance	84.0%
	Vision Coverage	82.8%
	Disability Insurance	79.0%
	Prescription Drug Coverage	58.7%
	Flex Spending Account	58.6%

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 South Central Iowa Laborshed area.

The employed are currently commuting an average of—

**16**

miles one-way for an employment opportunity

**20**  
minutes

## EMPLOYED: LIKELY TO CHANGE

- **33.2%** of employed individuals are likely to change their current employment situation for a new opportunity.

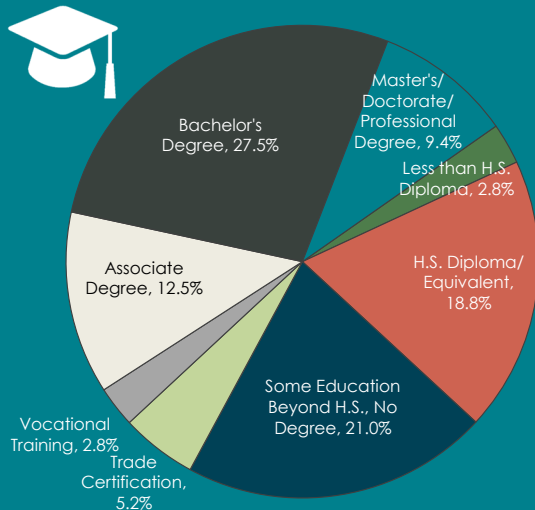
- Current occupational categories:

Professional, Paraprofessional, Technical	34.4%
Production, Construction, Material Moving	23.4%
Clerical	11.9%
Service	11.5%
Managerial	9.0%
Sales	7.6%
Agricultural	2.2%

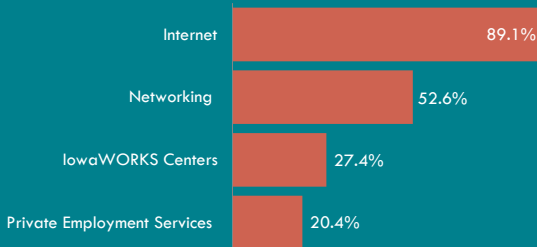
- Current median wages: \$

- \$19.14/hour and \$61,000/year
- \$25.00/hour - attracts 66%
- \$25.75/hour - attracts 75%

- 78.4% have an education beyond HS



- **28.6%** are actively seeking employment
- Most frequently identified job search resources:



- Top sites:



- Top newspapers:



- Commute:

- Currently commuting an average of 15 miles/19 minutes (one-way) to work
- Willing to commute an average of 29 miles/37 minutes (one-way) to work

## UNEMPLOYED: LIKELY TO ACCEPT

- **76.9%** of unemployed individuals are likely to accept an employment opportunity.

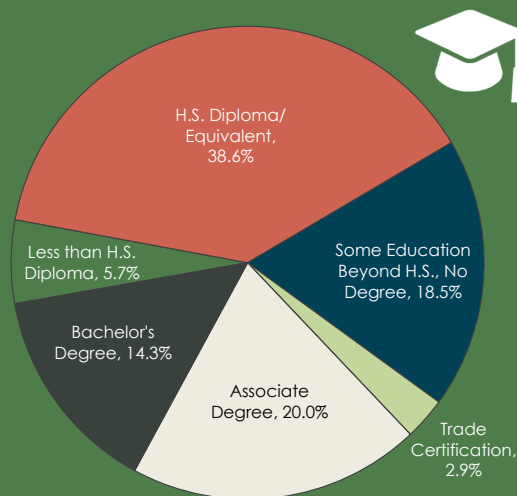
- Former occupational categories:

Production, Construction, Material Moving	28.6%
Service	22.2%
Professional, Paraprofessional, Technical	14.3%
Sales	14.3%
Clerical	12.7%
Managerial	7.9%
Agricultural	0.0%

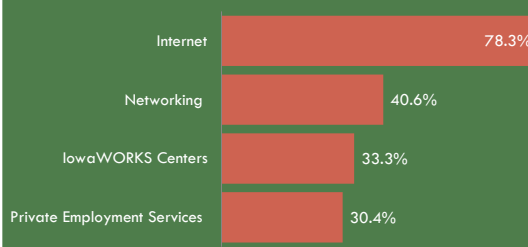
- Median wages: \$

- \$15.00/hour - lowest willing to accept
- \$18.90/hour - attracts 66%
- \$20.00/hour - attracts 75%

- 55.7% have an education beyond HS



- **51.4%** are actively seeking employment
- Most frequently identified job search resources:



- Top sites:



- Top newspapers:



- Commute:

- Willing to commute an average of 26 miles/34 minutes (one-way) to work



This regional analysis is based on aggregated data from the Creston, Leon, and Osceola Laborshed studies.

These results are based upon a total of  
**1,040**  
completed surveys.

For more data visit:  
[www.iowalmi.gov/laborshed](http://www.iowalmi.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.

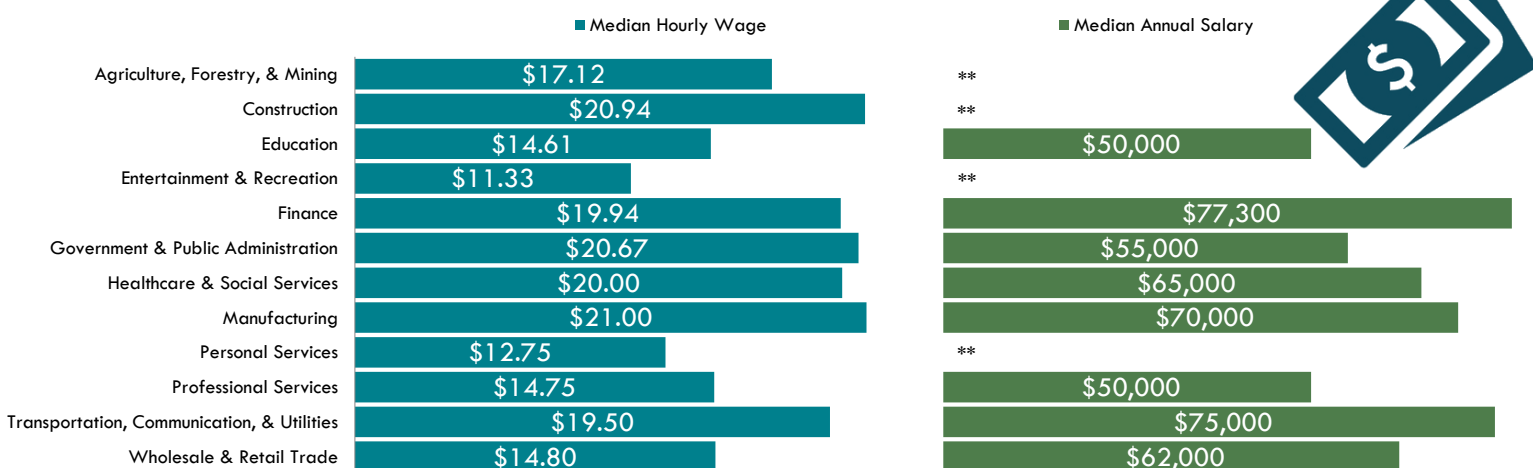


Industry	Education Beyond HS	Some Education Beyond HS, No Degree Obtained	Trade Certification/Vocational Training	Associate Degree	Bachelor's Degree or Above
Agriculture, Forestry, & Mining	60.0%	40.0%	0.0%	0.0%	20.0%
Construction	64.7%	23.5%	17.6%	11.8%	11.8%
Education	91.7%	13.9%	8.3%	2.8%	66.7%
Entertainment & Recreation	**	**	**	**	**
Finance, Insurance, & Real Estate	76.6%	3.3%	0.0%	23.3%	50.0%
Government & Public Administration	70.9%	16.1%	3.2%	3.2%	48.4%
Healthcare & Social Services	88.2%	13.6%	13.6%	25.4%	35.6%
Manufacturing	75.4%	24.4%	4.4%	22.2%	24.4%
Personal Services	77.7%	44.4%	0.0%	11.1%	22.2%
Professional Services	75.1%	31.3%	0.0%	12.5%	31.3%
Transportation, Communication, & Utilities	57.7%	30.8%	7.7%	3.8%	15.4%
Wholesale & Retail Trade	63.8%	26.3%	7.5%	15.0%	15.0%

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		Percent Surveyed	
Inadequate Hours	1.3%	Mismatch of Skills	8.8%
Low Income	0.4%	$\Sigma$ †Total	10.2%

†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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DEVELOPMENT

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economic development

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