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Northeast Iowa Regional Workforce Analysis



For more detailed information regarding the
Northeast Iowa Regional Workforce contact:



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Photos courtesy of Allamakee County Economic Development, Northeast Iowa Community College, Upper Explorerland Regional Planning Commission, and the Natural Heritage Foundation

Labor Availability Facts

What is a Laborshed?

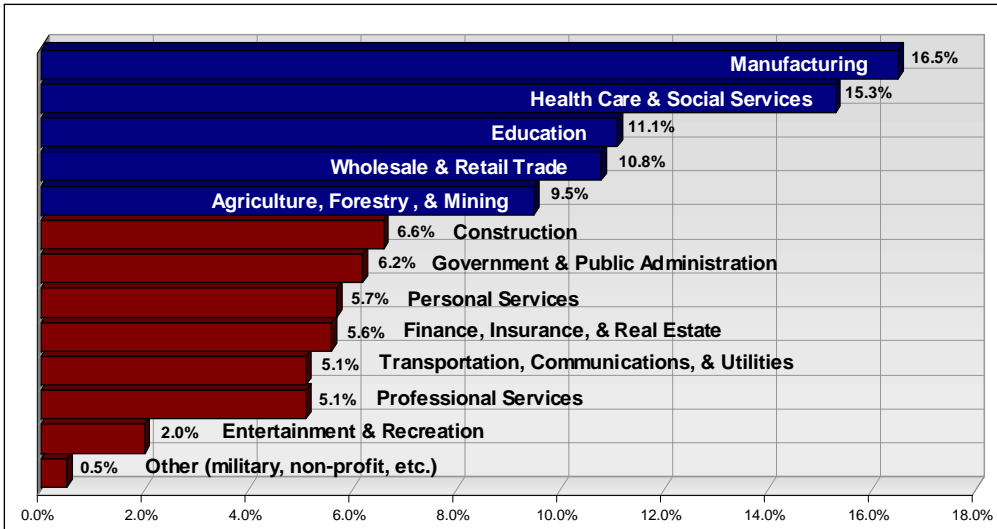
A Laborshed is defined as the area or region from which an employment center draws its commuting workers. To determine the approximate boundaries of the Northeast Iowa Regional Analysis, information from local and state sources were plotted for geographic analysis. The information contained within this summary is based on aggregate data from Cresco, Decorah, Elkader, Manchester, New Hampton, Oelwein, Waukon, and West Union Laborshed studies. Customized industry specific and community specific information is available upon request. See *contact information on back*.

Potential Labor Force by Laborshed Area

	Total Potential Laborforce in Laborshed Area	Total Willing to Change/Accept Employment*		Total Potential Laborforce in Laborshed Area	Total Willing to Change/Accept Employment*
Cresco	53,651	7,361	New Hampton	55,641	6,497
Decorah	49,956	10,484	Oelwein	80,616	9,325
Elkader	32,552	4,293	Waukon	35,286	7,171
Manchester	99,233	7,749	West Union	55,221	6,025

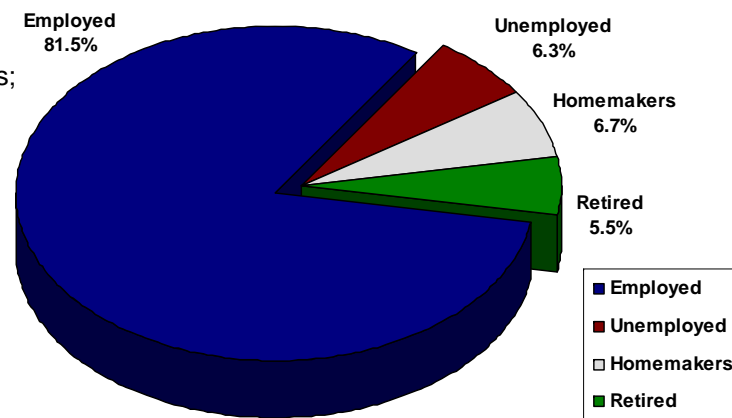
* Total Willing to Change/Accept Employment references the number of people who would be willing to commute into the listed employment center (Zone 1) from their home ZIP Code for an employment opportunity. Labor availability is based on commuting patterns into individual employment centers. Therefore, an aggregate potential laborforce is not available due to overlapping commuting areas.

Industry and Employment Status in the Northeast Iowa Region



Survey respondents from the Northeast Iowa Region were asked to identify the industry in which they are currently working. The largest concentration of workers is employed in the manufacturing industry as shown in the chart at left.

The chart below shows the percentage of respondents by employment status within the Northeast Iowa Region.



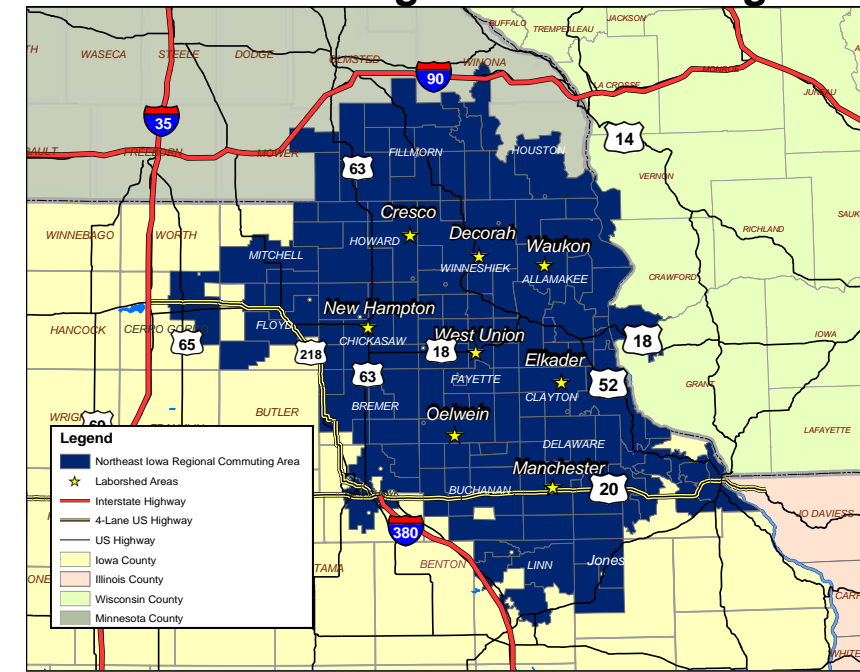
Underemployment:

The underemployed are composed of individuals who are working fewer than 35 hours per week but desire more hours; working at wages equal to or less than the national poverty level; and/or who are working in positions that do not meet their skill or education levels or worked for higher wages at previous employment.

- ▶ 1.7% Inadequate hours
- ▶ 1.2% Low income
- ▶ 4.2% Mismatch of skills
- ▶ 6.3% Total estimated regional underemployment

Individuals may be underemployed for more than one reason; but are only counted once for total estimated underemployment.

Northeast Iowa Regional Commuting Area

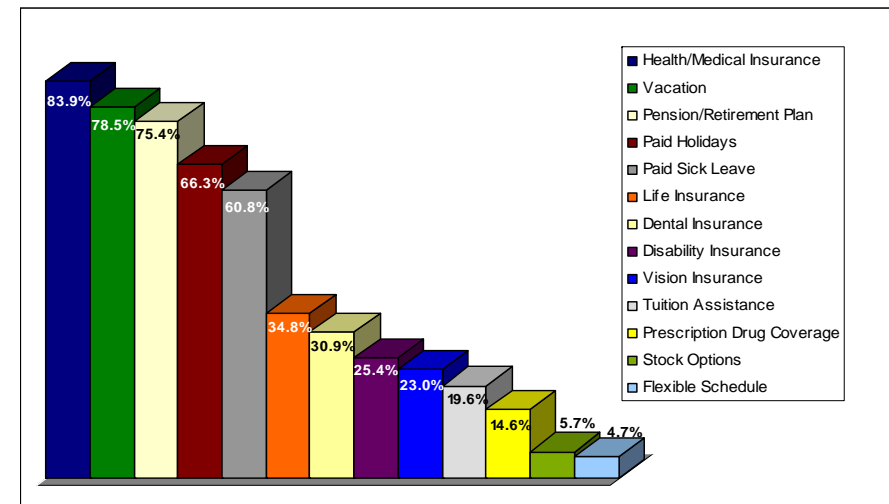


Commuting Statistics

Those who are willing to change or accept employment in the Northeast Iowa Region are willing to commute an average of 28 miles one way for employment opportunities.



Benefits Currently Offered



The survey provides the respondents an opportunity to identify employment benefits they currently are offered. The chart at left provides the percentage of responses from those that are currently employed.

The majority (75.5%) of respondents are currently sharing the cost of health insurance premiums with the employer. However, one-fifth (20.0%) of the employers in the area that pay the entire cost of health insurance premiums as a benefit for their employees.

Education and Current Median Wage Characteristics by Industry

Industry	Education			Median Wages (Overall)	
	Some Level Beyond High School	Undergraduate Degree	Postgraduate Degree	Salary Wages	Non-Salary Wages
Agriculture, Forestry, & Mining	38.8%	12.6%	1.1%	\$40,000/yr	\$10.00/hr
Construction	32.9%	10.7%	2.3%	\$35,000/yr	\$12.00/hr
Manufacturing	39.5%	7.8%	0.8%	\$50,000/yr	\$11.90/hr
Transportation, Communication, & Utilities	48.6%	13.1%	1.9%	\$48,000/yr	\$11.50/hr
Wholesale & Retail Trade	43.4%	12.4%	1.2%	\$36,500/yr	\$8.00/hr
Finance, Insurance, & Real Estate	68.8%	27.6%	4.6%	\$40,000/yr	\$10.00/hr
Health Care & Social Services	71.7%	23.4%	8.1%	\$38,000/yr	\$11.25/hr
Personal Services	63.6%	15.3%	5.1%	\$20,000/yr	\$7.29/hr
Entertainment & Recreation	54.3%	15.2%	*	\$25,000/yr	\$7.31/hr
Professional Services	66.6%	22.2%	6.5%	\$59,000/yr	\$10.00/hr
Public Administration & Government	71.1%	26.5%	5.0%	\$38,500/yr	\$14.50/hr
Education	80.5%	61.3%	30.0%	\$35,000/yr	\$9.17/hr

*Insufficient Survey Data