

# 2021 ANNUAL PROFILE

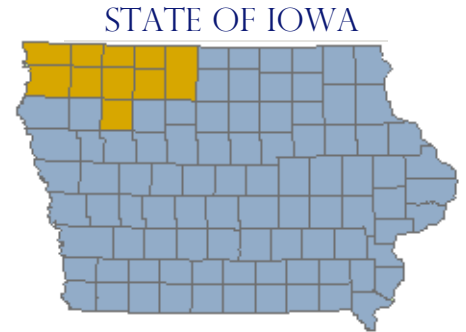
# NORTHWEST IOWA LWDA

## IOWA WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

### Executive Summary

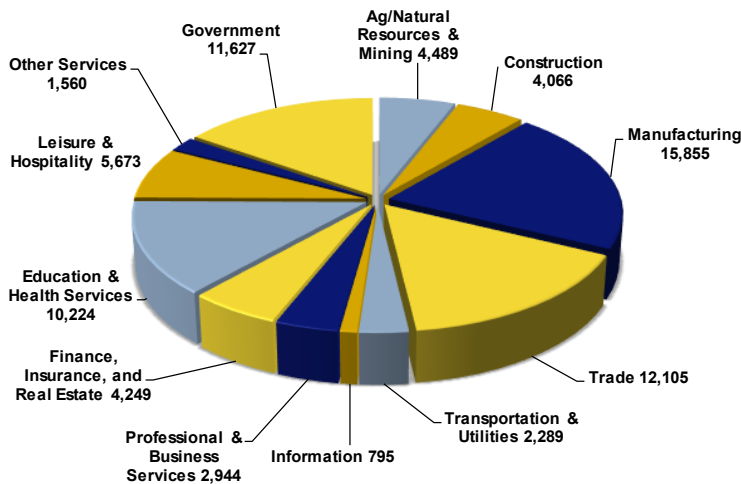
As of 2020, the Northwest Iowa LWDA's largest private industry was Manufacturing, representing 19.0 percent (15,855) of the region's total covered employment of 75,877. The region's total employment decreased by 3.2 percent since 2019, while the average annual wage increased by 6.3 percent to \$43,893 for all industries. While the majority of industries in the region recorded losses in employment, Construction was the only to increase by 6.6 percent in 2020. The largest loss in employment was posted in the Leisure & Hospitality industry with 13.2 percent, during 2020.

The Northwest Iowa LWDA average weekly wage for all industries was \$844 for 2020. This was an increase of 6.3 percent since 2019. The highest average weekly wage for a private sector industry was in Finance, Insurance, Real Estate averaging \$1,236. Between 2019 and 2020, the Construction sector reported the largest percentage increase in average weekly wage of 10.3 percent.



Northwest Iowa LWDA

### 2020 Industry Breakout by Employment



*Source: Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages*

### Top Ten Occupations in the Northwest Iowa LWDA

Occupational Title	Estimated Employment
Heavy and Tractor-Trailer Truck Drivers	2,240
Laborers and Freight, Stock, and Material Movers, Hand	2,170
Cashiers	1,970
Retail Salespersons	1,680
Fast Food and Counter Workers	1,660
Registered Nurses	1,470
Office Clerks, General	1,340
Janitors and Cleaners, Except Maids and Housekeeping Cleaners	1,320
Nursing Assistants	1,290
General and Operations Managers	1,240

*Source: Occupational Employment and Wage Statistics (OEWS)*

### QUICK FACTS

#### Counties Included in Iowa Workforce Development's Northwest Iowa LWDA

- |             |         |
|-------------|---------|
| Buena Vista | Clay    |
| Dickinson   | Emmet   |
| Kossuth     | Lyon    |
| O'Brien     | Osceola |
| Palo        | Sioux   |

#### 2020 Covered Employment (QCEW)

		%
Total Employment	75,877	5.1 <sup>1</sup>
Average Weekly Wage	\$844	83.9 <sup>2</sup>
Largest Private Sector: Manufacturing	15,855	7.3 <sup>3</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Percent is based on statewide covered employment of 1,475,942

<sup>2</sup> Percent is based on statewide average weekly wage of \$1,006

<sup>3</sup> Percent is based on statewide covered employment in specified sector

#### Census Statistics

Northwest Iowa LWDA Population (2020)	156,302
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# 2021 QUARTERLY CENSUS OF EMPLOYMENT AND WAGES PROFILE

## 2019 - 2020 Covered Employment and Reporting Units by Industry

Reporting Units				Employment		
2019	2020	% Change		2019	2020	% Change
6,496	6,501	0.08%	Total All Industries	78,413	75,877	-3.23%
6,005	6,008	0.05%	Private Business	66,423	64,250	-3.27%
479	476	-0.63%	Ag/Natural Resources & Mining	4,622	4,489	-2.88%
743	732	-1.48%	Construction	3,813	4,066	6.64%
327	327	0.00%	Manufacturing	16,168	15,855	-1.94%
1,242	1,225	-1.37%	Trade	12,252	12,105	-1.20%
457	453	-0.88%	<i>Wholesale Trade</i>	4,064	3,997	-1.65%
785	772	-1.66%	<i>Retail Trade</i>	8,188	8,108	-0.98%
415	427	2.89%	Transportation & Utilities	2,302	2,289	-0.56%
100	100	0.00%	Information	881	795	-9.76%
548	569	3.83%	Finance, Insurance, and Real Estate	3,041	2,944	-3.19%
660	665	0.76%	Professional & Business Services	4,491	4,249	-5.39%
550	586	6.55%	Education & Health Services	10,646	10,224	-3.96%
490	484	-1.22%	Leisure & Hospitality	6,539	5,673	-13.24%
451	418	-7.32%	Other Services	1,668	1,560	-6.47%
490	493	0.61%	Government	11,991	11,627	-3.04%
107	107	0.00%	<i>State</i>	493	482	-2.23%
274	270	-1.46%	<i>Local</i>	10,943	10,584	-3.28%
110	115	4.55%	<i>Federal</i>	555	562	1.26%

Source: Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages

### QUICK FACTS

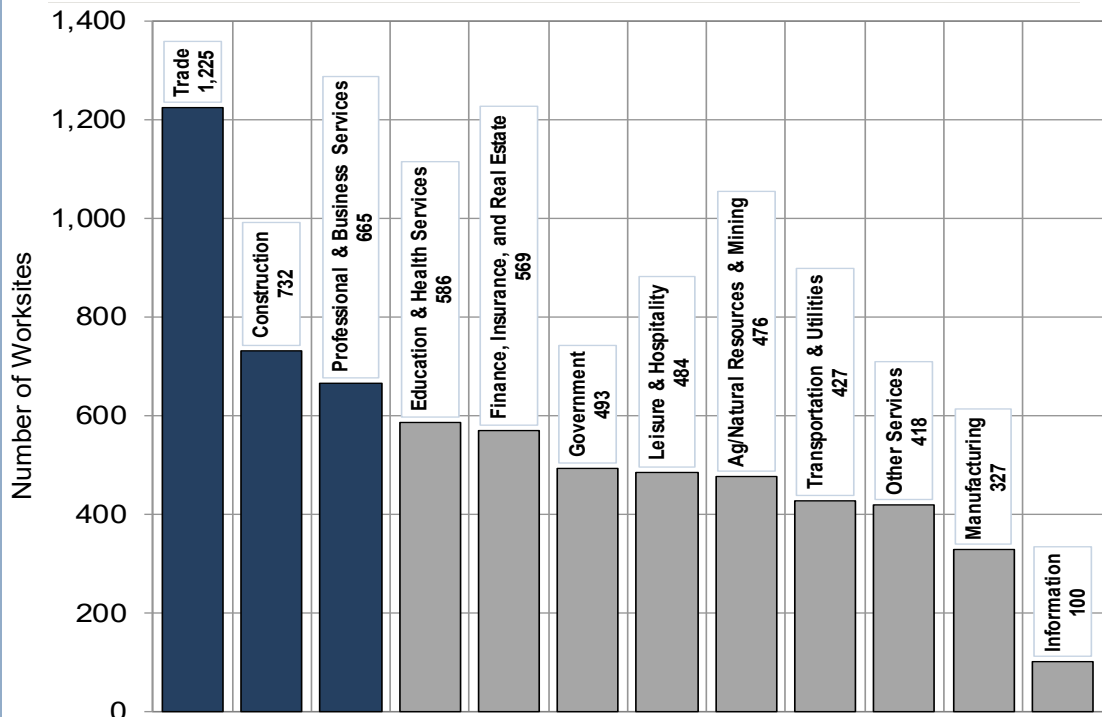
**Northwest Iowa  
LWDA Greatest  
Number of  
Worksites**

\*Trade  
1,225

Construction  
732

Professional &  
Business Services  
665

### Reporting Units by Industry in 2020



\*Trade includes Wholesale & Retail Trade

Source: Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages

# 2021 QUARTERLY CENSUS OF EMPLOYMENT AND WAGES PROFILE

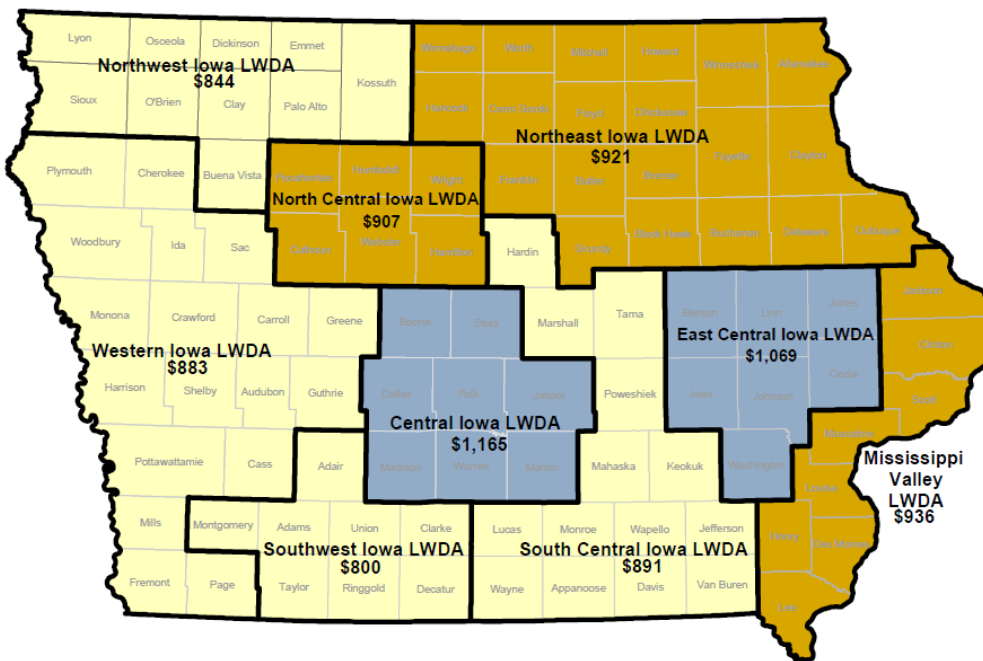
## 2019 - 2020 Average Annual and Weekly Wage by Industry

Average Annual Wage				Average Weekly Wage		
2019	2020	% Change		2019	2020	% Change
\$ 41,304	\$ 43,893	6.27%	Total All Industries	\$ 794	\$ 844	6.30%
\$ 41,444	\$ 44,020	6.22%	Private Business	\$ 797	\$ 847	6.27%
\$ 45,502	\$ 47,291	3.93%	Ag/Natural Resources & Mining	\$ 875	\$ 909	3.89%
\$ 48,621	\$ 53,613	10.27%	Construction	\$ 935	\$ 1,031	10.27%
\$ 51,009	\$ 52,960	3.82%	Manufacturing	\$ 981	\$ 1,018	3.77%
\$ 36,239	\$ 38,117	5.18%	Trade	\$ 697	\$ 733	5.16%
\$ 56,006	\$ 57,910	3.40%	Wholesale Trade	\$ 1,077	\$ 1,114	3.44%
\$ 26,429	\$ 28,361	7.31%	Retail Trade	\$ 508	\$ 545	7.28%
\$ 50,596	\$ 52,030	2.83%	Transportation & Utilities	\$ 973	\$ 1,001	2.88%
\$ 36,675	\$ 39,899	8.79%	Information	\$ 705	\$ 767	8.79%
\$ 58,358	\$ 64,252	10.10%	Finance, Insurance, Real Estate	\$ 1,122	\$ 1,236	10.16%
\$ 49,629	\$ 50,148	1.05%	Professional & Business Services	\$ 954	\$ 964	1.05%
\$ 35,665	\$ 38,532	8.04%	Education & Health Services	\$ 686	\$ 741	8.02%
\$ 16,223	\$ 16,991	4.73%	Leisure & Hospitality	\$ 312	\$ 327	4.81%
\$ 32,087	\$ 34,304	6.91%	Other Services	\$ 617	\$ 660	6.97%
\$ 40,527	\$ 43,190	6.57%	Government	\$ 779	\$ 831	6.68%
\$ 52,421	\$ 54,555	4.07%	State	\$ 1,008	\$ 1,049	4.07%
\$ 39,197	\$ 41,937	6.99%	Local	\$ 754	\$ 806	6.90%
\$ 56,178	\$ 57,056	1.56%	Federal	\$ 1,080	\$ 1,097	1.57%

Source: Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages

## Average Weekly Wage for All Industries by Region

Annual 2020



Source: Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages

## QUICK FACTS

### Average Weekly Wage Comparisons

Northwest Iowa  
LWDA  
\$844

Rank  
Among All 9  
IWD Regions  
8

Statewide  
\$1,006

# 2021 QUARTERLY CENSUS OF EMPLOYMENT AND WAGES PROFILE

## QUICK FACTS

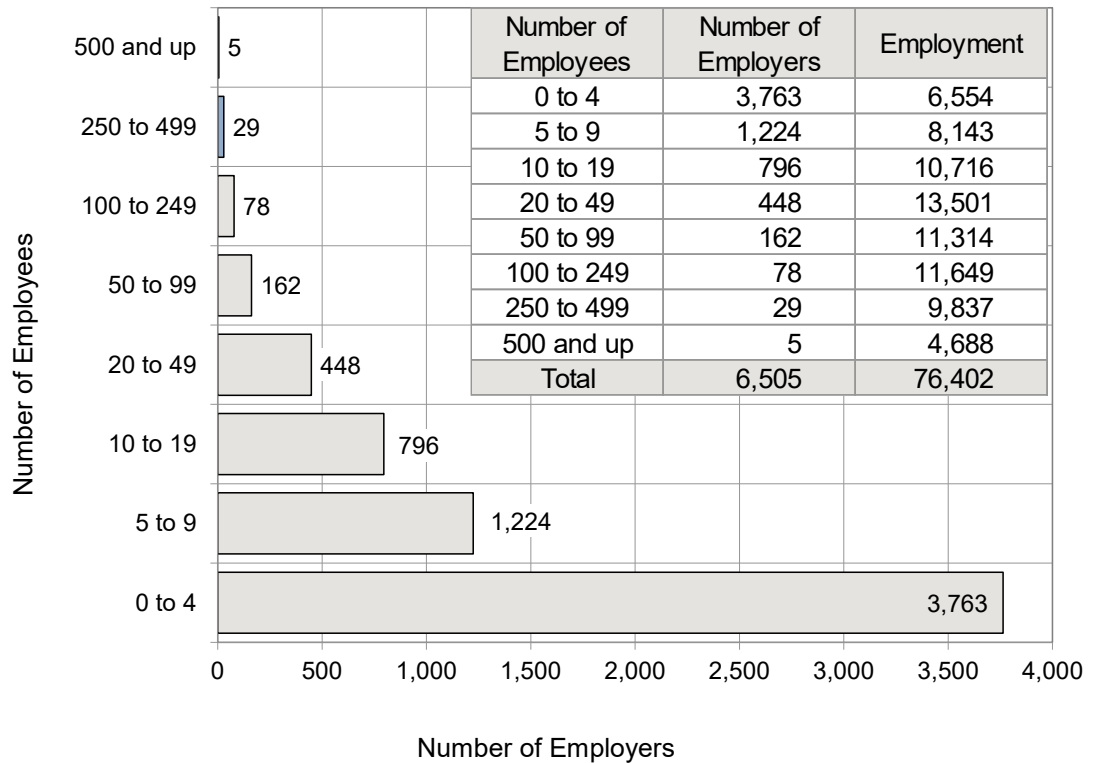
### Size of Firm

Five firms in the Northwest Iowa LWDA employ 500 or more workers, totaling 4,688 workers, which accounts for 6.1 percent of total employment in the region.

Firms that employ less than 50 workers represent 95.8 percent of all establishments region-wide.

## Size of Firm Based on Employment

December 2020



Source: Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages

## QUICK FACTS

### Quarterly Workforce Indicators Definitions

#### Total Employment

Number of workers who are employed by the same employer in both the current and previous quarter

#### New Hires

Total number of workers that were also not employed by that employer during the previous four quarters

For additional definitions see source information below the LED tables

## 2020 Local Employment Dynamics (LED) - Quarterly Workforce Indicators

Comparison of 1st Qtr 2019 to 1st Qtr 2020

Quarterly Workforce Indicator	Northwest Iowa (2019)	Northwest Iowa (2020)
Total Employment	75,342	75,165
New Hires	8,480	8,070
Separations	8,435	10,561
Turnover	8.4%	7.6%
Firm Jobs Gained	2,292	1,822
Firm Jobs Lost	2,246	4,314

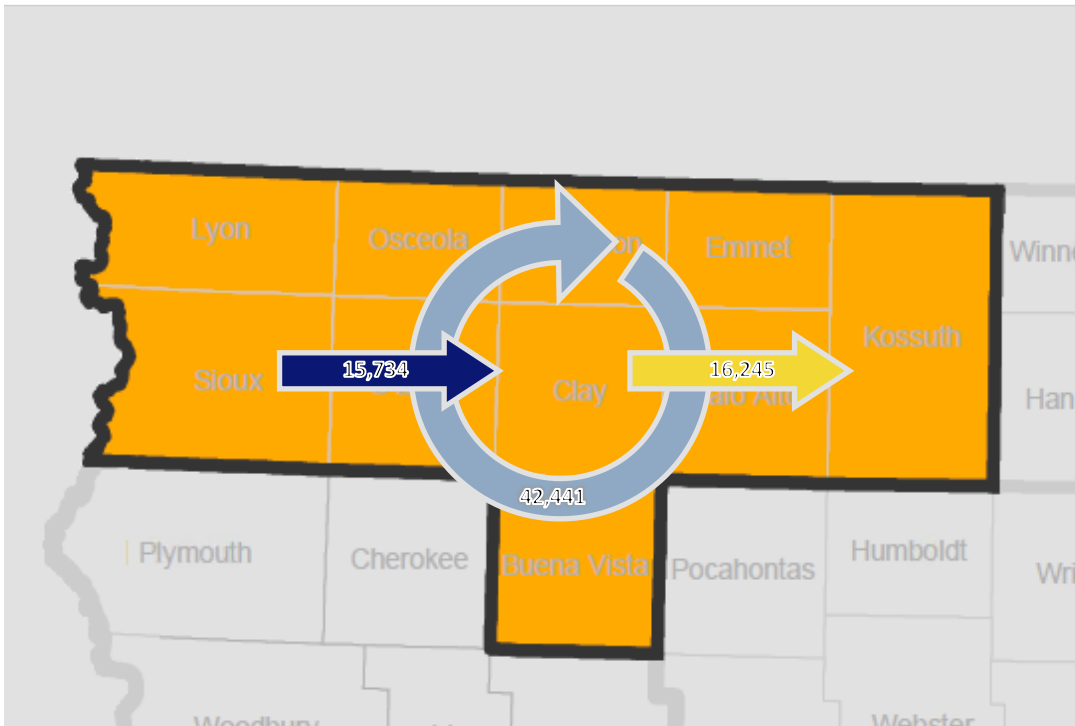
Quarterly Workforce Indicator	Iowa (2019)	Iowa (2020)
Total Employment	1,530,465	1,534,701
New Hires	188,454	188,317
Separations	190,893	256,376
Turnover	8.5%	7.9%
Firm Jobs Gained	45,400	34,362
Firm Jobs Lost	47,838	102,421

Source: Local Employment Dynamics, <http://lehd.census.gov>.

# 2021 QUARTERLY CENSUS OF EMPLOYMENT AND WAGES PROFILE

## Inflow/Outflow Job Analysis of Northwest Iowa LWDA 2019

Characteristics of workers who commute in, out, and within Northwest Iowa LWDA



Source: Local Employment Dynamics, On the Map: <http://onthemap.ces.census.gov/>.

### QUICK FACTS

#### 'On the Map' Interactive Mapping Application

As of 2019, there were 58,175 primary jobs in this region.

16,245 workers live in the Northwest Iowa LWDA but leave the region for their primary jobs

73.0 percent (42,441) of the region's workers live and work in the Northwest Iowa LWDA.

## ON THE MAP Statistics — Northwest Iowa LWDA

Distribution of Worker's Age, Monthly Earnings, and Race—Primary Jobs

Total Private Primary Jobs						
	2018		2016		2014	
	Count	Share	Count	Share	Count	Share
	58,175	100.0%	58,998	100.0%	58,903	100.0%
Jobs by Worker Age						
	2018		2016		2014	
	Count	Share	Count	Share	Count	Share
Age 29 or younger	14,505	24.9%	15,005	25.4%	15,123	25.7%
Age 30 to 54	27,834	47.8%	28,587	48.5%	28,986	49.2%
Age 55 or older	15,836	27.2%	15,406	26.1%	14,794	25.1%
Jobs by Earnings						
	2018		2016		2014	
	Count	Share	Count	Share	Count	Share
\$1,250 per month or less	12,133	20.9%	13,089	22.2%	13,988	23.7%
\$1,251 to \$3,333 per month	21,096	36.3%	23,548	39.9%	25,317	43.0%
More than \$3,333 per month	24,946	42.9%	22,361	37.9%	19,598	33.3%
Jobs by Worker Race						
	2018		2016		2014	
	Count	Share	Count	Share	Count	Share
White Alone	55,004	94.5%	56,032	95.0%	56,657	96.2%
Black or African American Alone	1,036	1.8%	910	1.5%	764	1.3%
American Indian or Alaska Native Alone	250	0.4%	236	0.4%	243	0.4%
Asian Alone	1,344	2.3%	1,297	2.2%	862	1.5%
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander Alone	82	0.1%	95	0.2%	40	0.1%
Two or More Race Groups	459	0.8%	428	0.7%	337	0.6%

Source: Local Employment Dynamics, On the Map: <http://onthemap.ces.census.gov/>.

### QUICK FACTS

#### 'On the Map' Reports

One of the reports generated from 'On the Map' displays 58,175 total primary jobs in the Northwest Iowa LWDA and the distribution of age, monthly earnings and race of the workers.

36.3 percent of Northwest Iowa LWDA workers earn from \$1,251 to \$3,333 per month.

27.2 percent of the region's workers are age 55 and older.

## 2021 QUARTERLY CENSUS OF EMPLOYMENT AND WAGES PROFILE

### QUICK FACTS

#### 'On the Map' Reports

One of the reports generated from 'On the Map' displays 58,175 total primary jobs in the Northwest Iowa LWDA and the distribution of educational attainment and sex of the workers

15.7 percent of Northwest Iowa LWDA jobs were filled by workers who held bachelor's degrees or advanced degrees.

54.5 percent of the region's workers are male.

### ON THE MAP Statistics — Northwest Iowa LWDA

*Distribution of Worker's Educational Attainment and Sex—Primary Jobs*

Total Private Primary Jobs						
	2018		2016		2014	
	Count	Share	Count	Share	Count	Share
	58,175	100.0%	58,998	100.0%	58,903	100.0%
Jobs by Worker Educational Attainment						
	2018		2016		2014	
	Count	Share	Count	Share	Count	Share
Less than high school	4,850	8.3%	4,705	8.0%	4,670	7.9%
High school or equivalent, no college	13,766	23.7%	14,249	24.2%	14,598	24.8%
Some college or Associate degree	15,909	27.3%	15,975	27.1%	15,569	26.4%
Bachelor's degree or advanced degree	9,145	15.7%	9,064	15.4%	8,943	15.2%
Educational attainment not available (workers aged 29 or younger)	14,505	24.9%	15,005	25.4%	15,123	25.7%
Jobs by Worker Sex						
	2018		2016		2014	
	Count	Share	Count	Share	Count	Share
Male	31,694	54.5%	32,434	55.0%	32,229	54.7%
Female	26,481	45.5%	26,564	45.0%	26,674	45.3%

Source: Local Employment Dynamics, On the Map: <http://onthemap.ces.census.gov/>.

### QUICK FACTS

#### Hourly Wage by Occupation

The occupation with the highest hourly mean wage in the Northwest Iowa LWDA is Family Medicine Physicians with a mean hourly wage of \$133.12.

The lowest hourly mean wage by occupation in the Northwest Iowa LWDA is for Dishwashers with \$8.89 an hour

### 2020 Hourly Wages for the Ten Largest Occupations\* in the Northwest Iowa LWDA

*\*Based on employment numbers*

Occupational Title	Wage	Entry Wage	Experienced Wage
Heavy and Tractor-Trailer Truck Drivers	\$20.28	\$13.70	\$23.57
Laborers and Freight, Stock, and Material Movers, Hand	\$16.93	\$12.95	\$18.92
Cashiers	\$10.59	\$8.57	\$11.60
Retail Salespersons	\$16.06	\$10.31	\$18.93
Fast Food and Counter Workers	\$11.15	\$8.72	\$12.36
Registered Nurses	\$29.39	\$23.93	\$32.12
Office Clerks, General	\$16.32	\$11.04	\$18.96
Janitors and Cleaners, Except Maids and Housekeeping Cleaners	\$15.18	\$10.19	\$17.68
Nursing Assistants	\$15.90	\$13.37	\$17.17
General and Operations Managers	\$41.45	\$19.41	\$52.47

Source: Occupational Employment and Wage Statistics (OEWS)



# 2021 QUARTERLY CENSUS OF EMPLOYMENT AND WAGES PROFILE

## Employment and Unemployment Statistics

Annual 2020

County	Labor Force	Number Unemployed	Unemployment Rate	Number Employed
Buena Vista	11,640	430	3.7	11,220
Clayton	9,700	550	5.7	9,150
Dickinson	9,750	500	5.1	9,260
Emmet	5,050	250	5	4,800
Kossuth	8,090	310	3.8	7,780
Lyon	6,820	170	2.5	6,650
O'Brien	8,060	270	3.4	7,790
Osceola	3,500	100	2.9	3,400
Palo Alto	4,540	210	4.6	4,330
Sioux	20,760	560	2.7	20,200
<b>Northwest Iowa LWDA</b>	<b>86,500</b>	<b>3,200</b>	<b>3.7</b>	<b>83,400</b>

Note: The unemployment rate is widely recognized as an important economic indicator that is used to gauge the vitality of the labor market. The release of the monthly unemployment rate causes markets to react and analysts to speculate on the health of the economy.

Source: Local Area Unemployment Statistics (LAUS)

Note: Total employed and unemployed may not reflect total labor force, due to rounding.

### QUICK FACTS

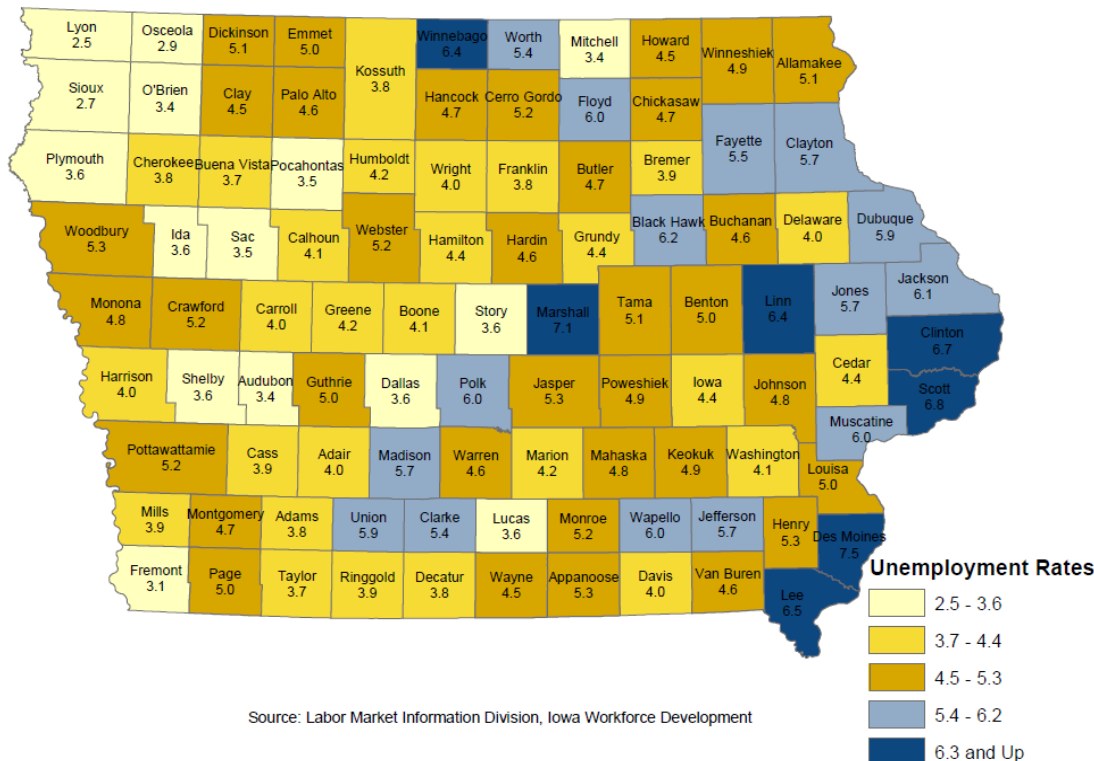
#### Labor Force 2020

Unemployment averaged 3.7 percent in Northwest Iowa LWDA for 2020. The region's jobless rate translated into 3,200 unemployed persons.

The 2020 unemployment rate for Northwest Iowa LWDA was lower than the statewide average of 5.3 percent.

## Unemployment Rates per Iowa Counties

2020 Annual Average



Source: Labor Market Information Division, Iowa Workforce Development

Source: Local Area Unemployment Statistics (LAUS)

### QUICK FACTS

#### County Unemployment Rates

Des Moines County reported the highest jobless rate in the state in 2020 at 7.5 percent.

Lyon County reported the lowest jobless rate in the state in 2020 at 2.5 percent.

# 2021 QUARTERLY CENSUS OF EMPLOYMENT AND WAGES PROFILE

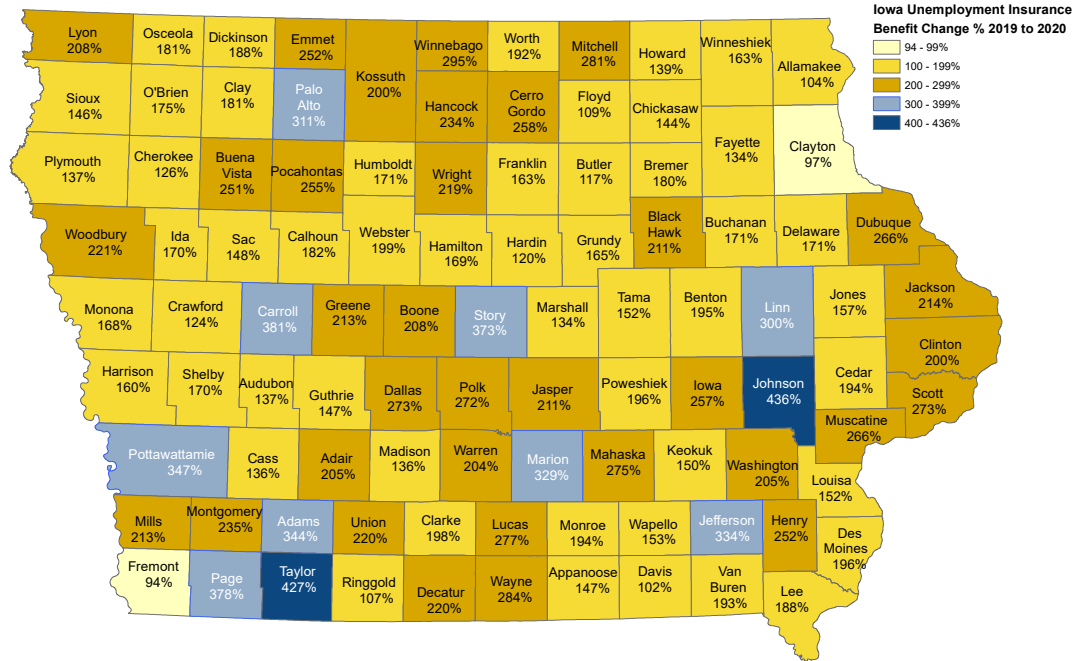
## QUICK FACTS

### Annual 2020 UI Benefits

UI Benefits for Iowa increased from \$345.2 million in 2019 to \$1.2 billion in 2020, an increase of 234.7 percent.

UI Benefits in All of Iowa's 99 counties increased compared to 2019. The large increase was due mostly to the economic impact of COVID-19

## Percentage Change in Total Unemployment Insurance (UI) Benefit\* From Annual 2019 to Annual 2020



\* Data represents Regular State Unemployment Insurance. It does not include the special pandemic programs (FPUC, PUA, etc.)

\* Data is based on the claimants place of residence.

Source: Unemployment Insurance Statistical Data

<https://www.iowaworkforcedevelopment.gov/unemployment-insurance-statistics>

## CONTACT INFO

### Iowa Workforce Development Labor Market Information

1000 E Grand Ave  
Des Moines, IA 50319  
515-281-8515  
800-532-1249;  
Fax: 515-281-8195  
iwd.lmi@iwd.iowa.gov  
[www.iowalmi.gov](http://www.iowalmi.gov)

Equal opportunity employer/  
program. Auxiliary aids and  
services are available upon  
request to individuals with  
disabilities.

TTY 515-281-4748;  
1-800-831-1399



## For Additional Information about Northwest Iowa LWDA — Visit our Website! <http://www.iowalmi.gov>

**IOWA'S LABOR MARKET INFORMATION DIVISION**  
Current Unemployment Rate: August 2021  
**4.1 %**

**CURRENT EMPLOYMENT STATISTICS**  
-6,500 OVER THE MONTH CHANGE  
TOTAL NON-FARM EMPLOYMENT (AUGUST 2021)

**2020 STATEWIDE LABORSHED STUDY**  
26.2% OF THE EMPLOYED ARE LIKELY TO CHANGE EMPLOYMENT FOR A NEW OPPORTUNITY  
FEATURED OCCUPATIONAL WAGE: TRANSPORTATION, STORAGE, & DISTRIBUTION MANAGERS  
MEDIAN HOURLY WAGE: \$39.54  
TOTAL ANNUAL OPENINGS: 110

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:  
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QUESTIONS/COMMENTS: You can also contact us through our [www.iowadep.gov](http://www.iowadep.gov)

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BOARDS AND COMMITTEES: Iowa Workforce Development Board, Minority Unemployment and Subsidized Training Committee, Disability Access Committee, Economic Recovery Working Committee, Workforce Transition Opportunity 2021, State of Iowa Policies

RESOURCES: About Us, Questions in Other Languages, Forms & Publications, Training Help Request Form, Record Request - IOWA, Search, Public Comment

CONTACT US: Iowa Workforce Development, Division of Labor, Division of Workforce Compensation, Media Inquiries, Online Help, Website Feedback

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<http://www.iowalmi.gov>