Executive Summary

In 2018, the Professional, Scientific and Technical Services sector comprised 3.57 percent of all public and private sector employment in Iowa with 53,114 jobs and an annual average wage of $71,032. Wages in this sector are 37.0 percent above the statewide average of $51,863 for all industries. Within the sector the greatest number of jobs are in computer systems design and related services, with 12,211 jobs (23.1% of sector total). Computer systems design and related services also has the highest annual average wage of $88,523.

Over the past ten years, employment in this sector has grown by 24.5 percent. Wages have also increased in recent years, rising 37.3 percent from $51,720 in 2010 to $71,032 in 2019.

Females hold the majority of positions in this industry in all but two age categories, 25-34 and 35-44.
What is Professional, Scientific and Technical Services?

The Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services sector comprises establishments that specialize in performing professional, scientific, and technical activities for others. Activities performed include: legal advice and representation; accounting, bookkeeping, and payroll services; architectural, engineering, and specialized design services; computer services; consulting services; research services; advertising services; photographic services; translation and interpretation services; veterinary services; and other professional, scientific, and technical services.

This sector excludes establishments primarily engaged in providing a range of day-to-day office administrative services, such as financial planning, billing and recordkeeping, personnel, and physical distribution and logistics.

Source: www.bls.gov/cew/bls_naics/bls_naics_app.htm

2010–2019 Employment in Professional, Scientific & Technical Services in Iowa

Source: Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages (QCEW), Iowa Workforce Development

https://www.iowalmi.gov/qcew
# Professional, Scientific & Technical Services

## Iowa Industry Profile

In 2019, employers in the Professional, Scientific and Technical Services sector averaged 9,800 locations across Iowa. The sector’s employment is distributed among six major categories with each representing between 12% and 23% of total sector employment.

Wages in All other Professional and Technical Services, the category with the lowest annual average wage in the sector, averaged $53,251 in 2019. Wages in this category are 2.7% above the state annual average wage of $51,863.

### Establishment Facts:

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### Top Occupations in Professional, Scientific & Technical Services Employment

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Occupation</th>
<th>Employment</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Accountants and Auditors</td>
<td>3,799</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Office Clerks, General</td>
<td>2,062</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lawyers</td>
<td>1,887</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Computer Systems Analysts</td>
<td>1,815</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bookkeeping, Accounting, and Auditing Clerks</td>
<td>1,691</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Computer Occupations, All Other</td>
<td>1,600</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Paralegals and Legal Assistants</td>
<td>1,495</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Legal Secretaries</td>
<td>1,427</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Executive Secretaries and Executive Administrative Assistants</td>
<td>1,327</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Software Developers, Systems Software</td>
<td>1,163</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Secretaries and Administrative Assistants, Except Legal, Medical, and Executive</td>
<td>1,016</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Computer Programmers</td>
<td>1,006</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Civil Engineers</td>
<td>987</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Veterinary Assistants and Laboratory Animal Caretakers</td>
<td>968</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Veterinarians</td>
<td>963</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Receptionists and Information Clerks</td>
<td>931</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Computer User Support Specialists</td>
<td>899</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sales Representatives, Services, All Other</td>
<td>892</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Order Clerks</td>
<td>762</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Management Analysts</td>
<td>685</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>


### 2019 Covered Employment in Professional, Scientific & Technical Services

#### Sector Statewide:

- Employment: 53,114
- Average Annual Wage: $71,032

#### Label Key:

First line is the county name followed by average employment and finally, average wage.

Source: Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages (QCEW), Iowa Workforce Development

https://www.iowalmi.gov/qcew
2019 Average Annual Wage for Covered Employment in Professional, Scientific & Technical Services

State Comparisons by Private Ownership

United States Average: $82,094

North Dakota $75,648
South Dakota $63,188
Nebraska $70,648
Kansas $72,060
Minnesota $97,791
Wisconsin $76,831
Iowa $70,987
Missouri $81,304
Illinois $102,519
Indiana $70,801
Michigan $89,203
Ohio $78,090

Source: Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages (QCEW), Bureau of Labor Statistics

Industry Distribution by Age and Gender, 2nd Quarter 2019

Source: Local Employment Dynamics, Iowa Workforce Development and U.S. Census Bureau
https://lehd.ces.census.gov/

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www.iowaworkforcedevelopment.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

https://www.iowalmi.gov/qcew