DES MOINES & EASTERN POLK COUNTY IOWA

2016

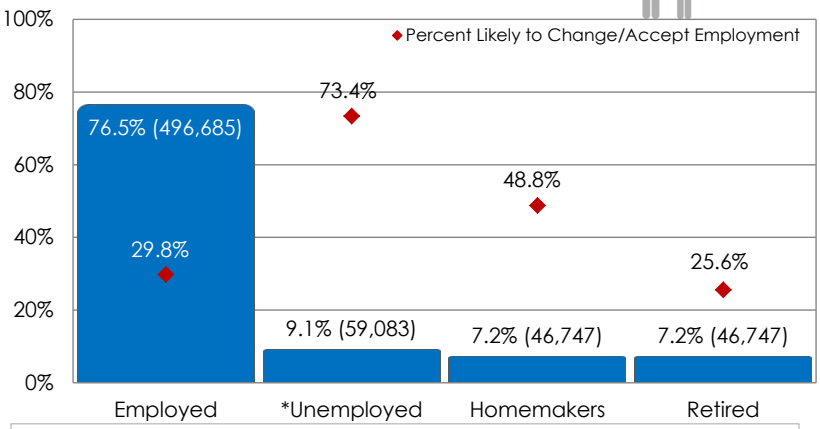
LABORSHED ANALYSIS

A STUDY IN WORKFORCE CHARACTERISTICS

Des Moines & Eastern Polk County Laborshed Analysis

A Laborshed is the area or region from which an employment center draws its commuting workers. To determine the approximate boundaries of a Laborshed area, local employers supply the residential ZIP codes of each of their employees. This Laborshed analysis addresses the workforce characteristics of the Des Moines & Eastern Polk County Laborshed area.

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.*

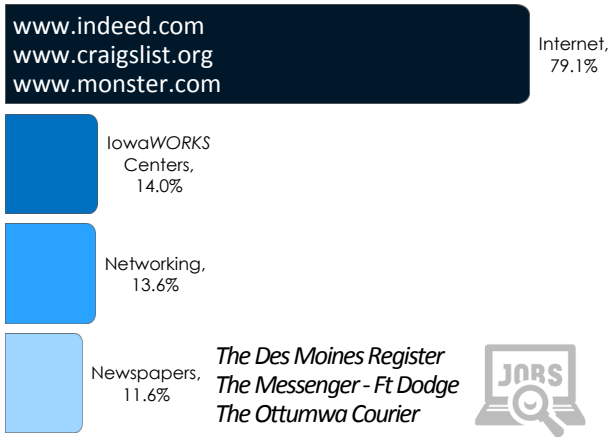
Estimated Population 18-64: 649,262 (entire Laborshed area)

Estimated Number of Individuals Very Likely or Somewhat Likely to Change or Accept Employment in Des Moines, Altoona & Pleasant Hill (196,057):

- 176,645 Employed
- 6,209 Unemployed
- 6,991 Homemakers
- 6,212 Retired

Employed - likely to change employment

- Median wages: $14.00/hr & $62,000/yr
- 26.2% are actively seeking new employment
- 11.8% are working multiple jobs
- Currently working an average of 42 hrs/week
- 25.6% currently working within the professional, paraprofessional & technical occupational category followed by 19.8% within the clerical occupational category
- Most frequently identified job search resources:



Underemployment

	Underemployment	
	% Underemployed	Estimated Underemployed
Inadequate Hours	2.8%	4,946
Mismatch of Skills	4.9%	8,656
Low Income	0.5%	883
†Total Underemployment	6.9%	12,189

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

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

Employment Levels and Status by Industry

	Industry % of Employed	Estimated # of Employed	% Employed within the Industry	% Likely to Change Employment	% Unemployed* within the Industry
Finance, Insurance & Real Estate	16.6%	82,450	82.2%	28.4%	3.9%
Wholesale & Retail Trade	14.6%	72,516	68.8%	41.5%	16.9%
Education	12.6%	62,582	80.1%	26.8%	3.5%
Healthcare & Social Services	11.6%	57,616	76.5%	23.1%	8.8%
Manufacturing	9.2%	45,695	77.4%	31.7%	8.5%
Professional Services	9.1%	45,198	75.0%	29.6%	11.1%
Public Administration & Government	8.7%	43,212	84.8%	24.4%	3.3%
Transportation, Communication & Utilities	6.6%	32,781	70.2%	34.5%	9.5%
Personal Services	4.4%	21,854	79.6%	35.1%	14.3%
Construction	4.1%	20,364	68.5%	21.6%	14.8%
Agriculture, Forestry & Mining	2.0%	9,934	100%	16.7%	0.0%
Entertainment & Recreation	0.4%	1,987	**	**	**
Other	0.1%	496	**	**	**

*** Insufficient survey data/refused*

Survey respondents from the Des Moines & Eastern Polk County Laborshed area were asked to identify the industry in which they are currently working. The largest concentration of workers are employed in the finance, insurance & real estate industry.

Commuting Statistics

The map at the right represents the concentration of those who are likely to commute into Des Moines, Altoona & Pleasant Hill from their home ZIP for an employment opportunity.

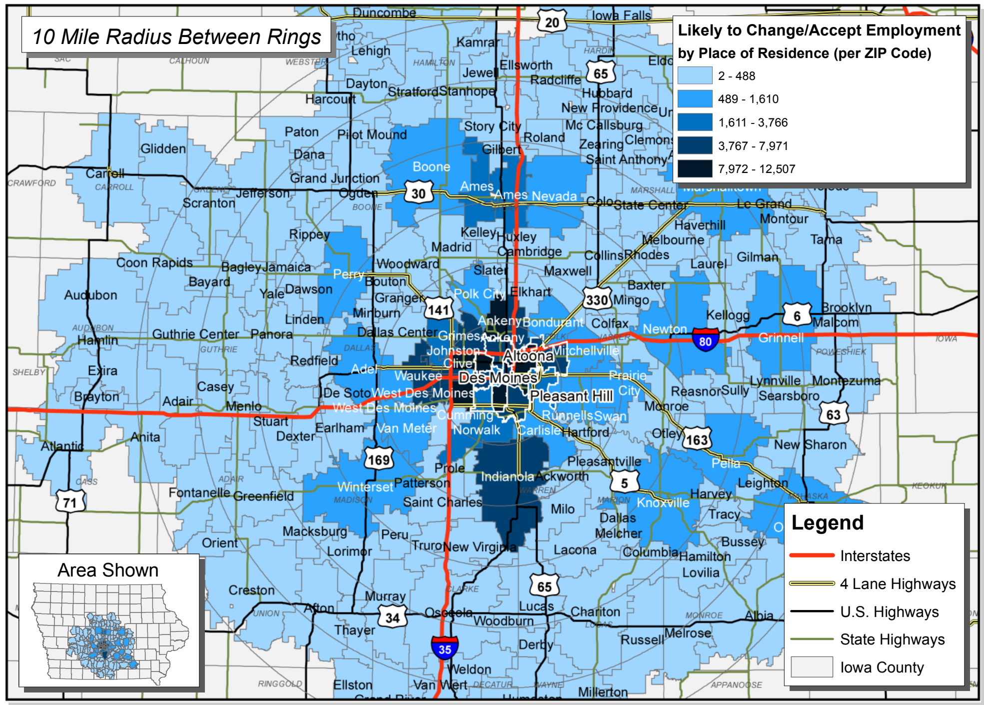
Those who are likely to change/accept employment in the Des Moines & Eastern Polk County Laborshed area are willing to commute an average of 23 miles one-way for employment opportunities.

The out commute for Des Moines, Altoona & Pleasant Hill is estimated at 35.0 percent—approximately 36,106 people living in Des Moines, Altoona & Pleasant Hill work in other communities.

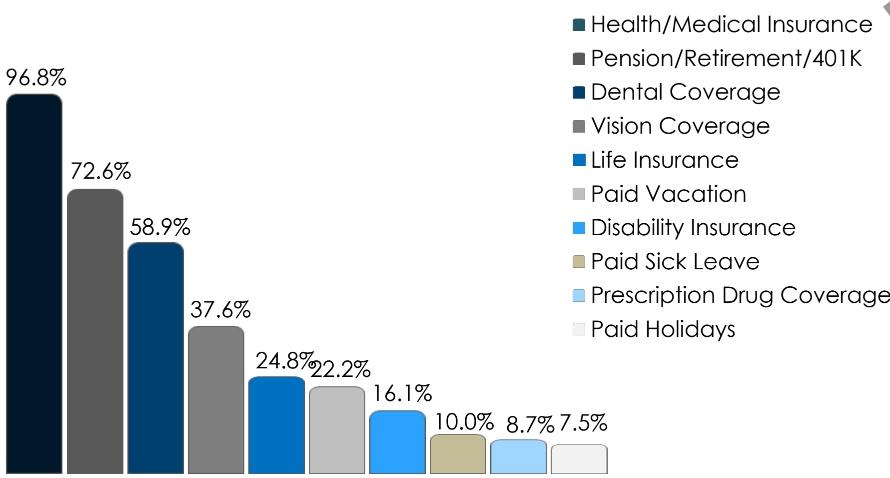
Most of those who are out commuting are working in West Des Moines, Ankeny, Johnston and Urbandale.

Nearly one-third (30.3%) of out commuters are likely to change employment (approximately 10,940 people).

Concentration of Those Likely to Change/Accept Employment in Des Moines, Altoona & Pleasant Hill



Top Current Benefits of the Full-Time Employed



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 full-time.

The majority (80.3%) of these respondents state they are currently sharing the cost of health/medical insurance premiums with their employer. However, 13.5 percent indicate their employer pays the entire cost of insurance premiums.

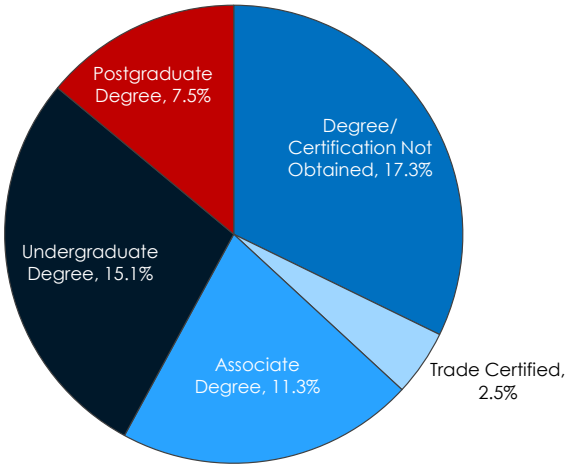
Education Levels and Median Wages by Industry

	Education			Median Wages	
	Some Level Beyond High School	Associate Degree	Undergraduate Degree or Higher	Annual Salary	Hourly Wage
All Employed	**81.6%**	**15.0%**	**45.1%**	**$65,000**	**$15.00**
Agriculture, Forestry & Mining	83.3%	22.2%	44.4%	**	**
Construction	64.8%	18.5%	20.5%	$62,500	$18.25
Education	90.6%	10.1%	71.2%	$52,000	$13.90
Entertainment & Recreation	**	**	**	**	**
Finance, Insurance & Real Estate	88.3%	14.0%	56.4%	$63,500	$15.00
Healthcare & Social Services	79.3%	24.4%	29.6%	$60,000	$15.00
Manufacturing	64.2%	15.1%	24.5%	$76,000	$17.50
Personal Services	75.5%	14.3%	40.7%	$49,000	$12.55
Professional Services	80.4%	16.8%	49.4%	$72,000	$15.00
Public Administration & Government	90.2%	7.6%	67.4%	$75,000	$24.77
Transportation, Communication & Utilities	73.8%	11.9%	33.4%	$70,000	$15.00
Wholesale & Retail Trade	66.0%	11.2%	18.6%	$56,000	$10.10

The education and wage data by industry within the above table includes all respondents without consideration of employment status or willingness to change/enter employment.
***Insufficient survey data/refused*

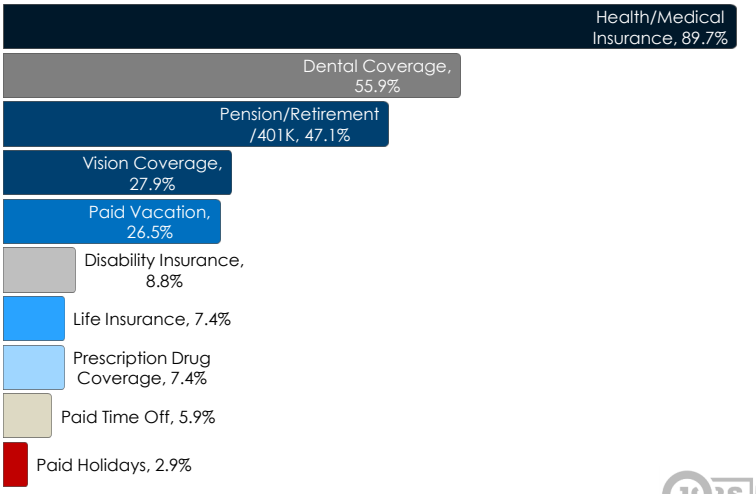
Unemployed - likely to accept employment

- 66.3% are actively seeking employment
- An estimated 6,209 unemployed individuals are likely to accept employment in Des Moines, Altoona & Pleasant Hill.
- Average age is 39 years old
- 52.5% are male; 47.5% are female
- **Education:**
  - 53.7% are educated beyond high school

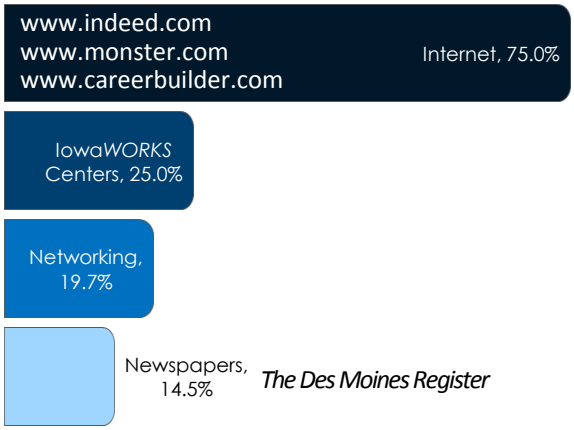


- **Wages:**
  - $12.22/hr - to attract 66% of applicants
  - $14.25/hr - to attract 75% of applicants
  - $10.83/hr - lowest median wage willing to accept
- Willing to commute an average of 23 miles one way for the right opportunity
- 72.4% expressed interest in seasonal and 72.4% in temporary employment opportunities
- 44.3% expressed interest in working varied shifts

Desired Benefits



Top Job Search Resources



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