

# Laborshed Analysis

## Greene County, Iowa



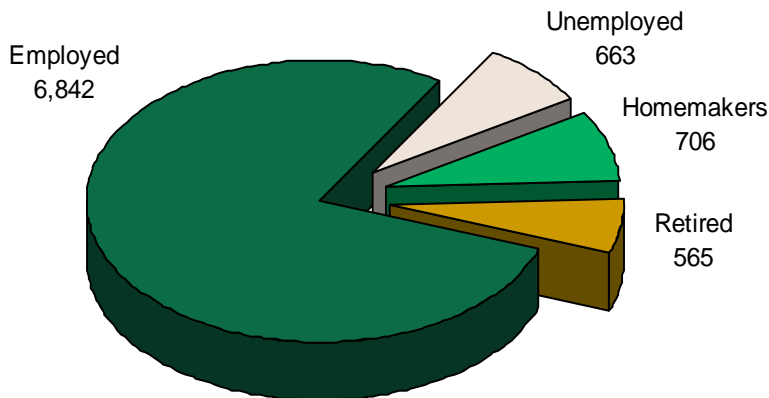
A Study of Workforce Characteristics  
Released October 2008

# Laborshed Studies

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 Greene County Laborshed area, local employers supplied the ZIP code listings of where each of their employees reside. This Laborshed analysis addresses underemployment, the availability and willingness of current and prospective employees to change employment within the workforce, current and desired occupations, wages, hours worked, and distance willing to commute to work. *See contact information on back.*

**Total Potential Labor Force: 57,575 (entire Laborshed Area)**

**Estimated Number of Individuals Very Likely or Somewhat Likely to Change or Accept Employment (8,776)**



## Quick Facts:

*(Employed - willing to change employment)*

- 14.6% are working multiple jobs;
- Currently working an average of 40 hours per week;
- Average age is 43 years old;
- 27.3% currently working within each the professional, paraprofessional, & technical and production, construction, & material handling occupational categories;
- Most frequently identified job search sources:
  - Internet
    - [www.iowaworkforce.org](http://www.iowaworkforce.org)
    - [www.monster.com](http://www.monster.com)
    - [www.careerbuilder.com](http://www.careerbuilder.com)
  - Local/Regional newspapers
    - The Des Moines Register
    - The Jefferson Herald
    - The Bee - Jefferson
  - Networking through friends, family, or acquaintances
  - Local Iowa Workforce Development Centers

## 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.

- 2.0% Inadequate hours (137 people)
- 1.0% Low income (68 people)
- 1.2% Mismatch of skills (82 people)
- 4.0% Total estimated underemployment (274 people)

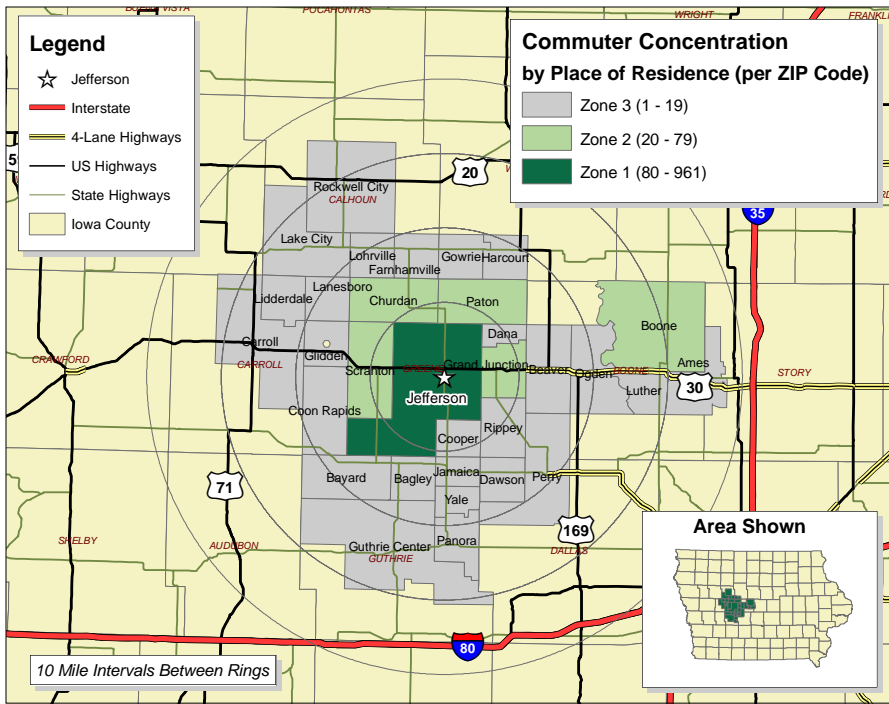
*Individuals may be underemployed for more than one reason; but are only counted once for total estimated underemployment.*

## Industrial Classification of the Employed

Industry	% of Laborshed	# of Employed
Education	17.1%	7,926
Manufacturing	14.3%	6,628
Health Care & Social Services	13.7%	6,350
Public Administration & Government	13.4%	6,211
Wholesale & Retail Trade	7.8%	3,615
Agriculture	5.9%	2,735
Construction	5.6%	2,595
Transportation, Communication, & Utilities	5.6%	2,595
Finance, Insurance, & Real Estate	5.3%	2,456
Professional Services	5.3%	2,456
Personal Services	4.1%	1,900
Other (Military, Nonprofit, etc.)	1.3%	603
Entertainment & Recreation	0.6%	278

Survey respondents from the Greene County Laborshed area were asked to identify the industry in which they are currently working. The largest concentration of workers are employed in the education industry as shown in the table at left.

# Greene County Commuting Area



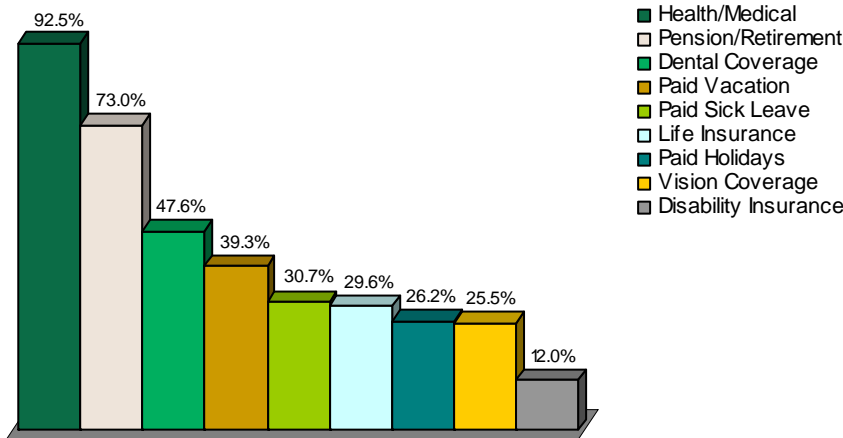
## Commuting Statistics

The map at the left represents commuting patterns into Greene County with the concentration per ZIP code represented in the legend.

Those who are willing to change employment in the Greene County Laborshed area are willing to commute an average of 24 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 top nine benefits are shown.

The majority (66.8%) of respondents are currently sharing the cost of premiums with the employer. However, 26.7 percent of the employers in the area pay the entire cost of insurance premiums as a benefit for their employees.

## Education and Median Wage Characteristics by Industry

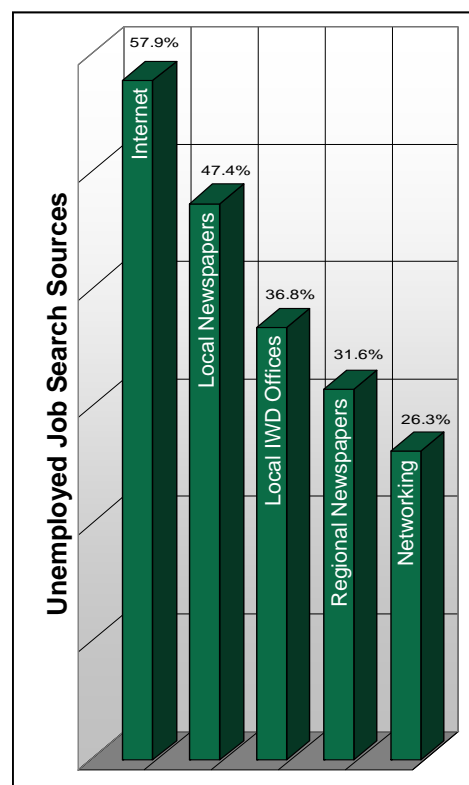
Industry	Education			Median Wages	
	Some Level Beyond High School	Associate Degree	Undergraduate Degree or Higher	Salary Wages (per year)	Non-Salary Wages (per hour)
Agriculture	61.9%	4.8%	38.1%	\$50,000	\$11.00
Construction	60.9%	21.7%	13.0%	*	\$19.01
Manufacturing	47.4%	8.8%	15.8%	\$55,000	\$15.00
Transportation, Communication, & Utilities	52.2%	4.3%	17.4%	*	\$21.00
Wholesale & Retail Trade	64.3%	9.5%	26.2%	\$70,000	\$8.00
Finance, Insurance, & Real Estate	68.2%	18.2%	40.9%	\$38,000	\$19.00
Health Care & Social Services	72.2%	13.0%	24.1%	\$41,500	\$14.69
Personal Services	72.2%	22.2%	5.6%	\$33,000	\$9.10
Entertainment & Recreation	*	*	*	*	*
Professional Services	68.2%	4.5%	45.4%	\$48,000	\$14.45
Public Administration & Government	81.2%	27.1%	27.1%	\$49,000	\$20.09
Education	91.9%	11.3%	67.7%	\$40,000	\$13.71

This table includes all respondents without consideration of employment status or willingness to change/enter employment.

\*Insufficient survey data/refused

## Unemployed - Those Willing to Enter/Re-enter Employment:

- An estimated 663 unemployed individuals are willing to accept employment;
- Average age is 44 years old;
- Education:
  - 75.0% have an education beyond high school
  - 10.0% completed vocational training
  - 5.0% have an associate degree
  - 15.0% have an undergraduate degree
- Estimated wage range to attract the upper 66-75% qualified hourly wage applicants is \$10.60 to \$15.00/hr. with a median of the lowest wage of \$9.50/hr.;
- Willing to commute an average of 26 miles one way for the right opportunity;
- 50.0% expressed interest in seasonal and 70.0% in temporary employment opportunities;
- 40.0% are interested in working varied shifts (2nd, 3rd & split);
- Would prefer to enter employment that offers the following benefits:
  - Health/medical insurance
  - Dental coverage
  - Paid vacation
  - Vision coverage
  - Pension/retirement options
  - Paid sick leave
  - Disability insurance
  - Prescription drug coverage
  - Life insurance
- 88.2% of the unemployed are seeking employment offers where the employer/employee share the cost of medical insurance premiums.



## Sponsored in Partnership with



## For more information regarding the Greene County Laborshed Study, contact:

**Rick Morain, Executive Director**  
**Greene County Development Corporation**

220 N Chestnut St.  
Jefferson, Iowa 50129  
Phone: 515-386-8255  
Fax: 515-386-2156

Email: [information@greencountyiowadevelopment.org](mailto:information@greencountyiowadevelopment.org)  
[www.greencountyiowadevelopment.org](http://www.greencountyiowadevelopment.org)

**Jason E. White, Executive Director**  
**Adair, Greene, & Guthrie Counties**  
**Midwest Partnership Corporation**

P.O. Box 537; 615 S Division St.  
Stuart, Iowa 50250  
Phone: 515-523-1262  
Fax: 515-523-1397

Email: [info@midwestpartnership.com](mailto:info@midwestpartnership.com)  
[www.iowadevelopment.com](http://www.iowadevelopment.com)



This information is analyzed and compiled by the  
Iowa Workforce Development  
Research & Performance Planning Bureau  
1000 E. Grand Avenue, Des Moines, Iowa 50319  
(515) 281-7505  
[www.iowaworkforce.org](http://www.iowaworkforce.org)