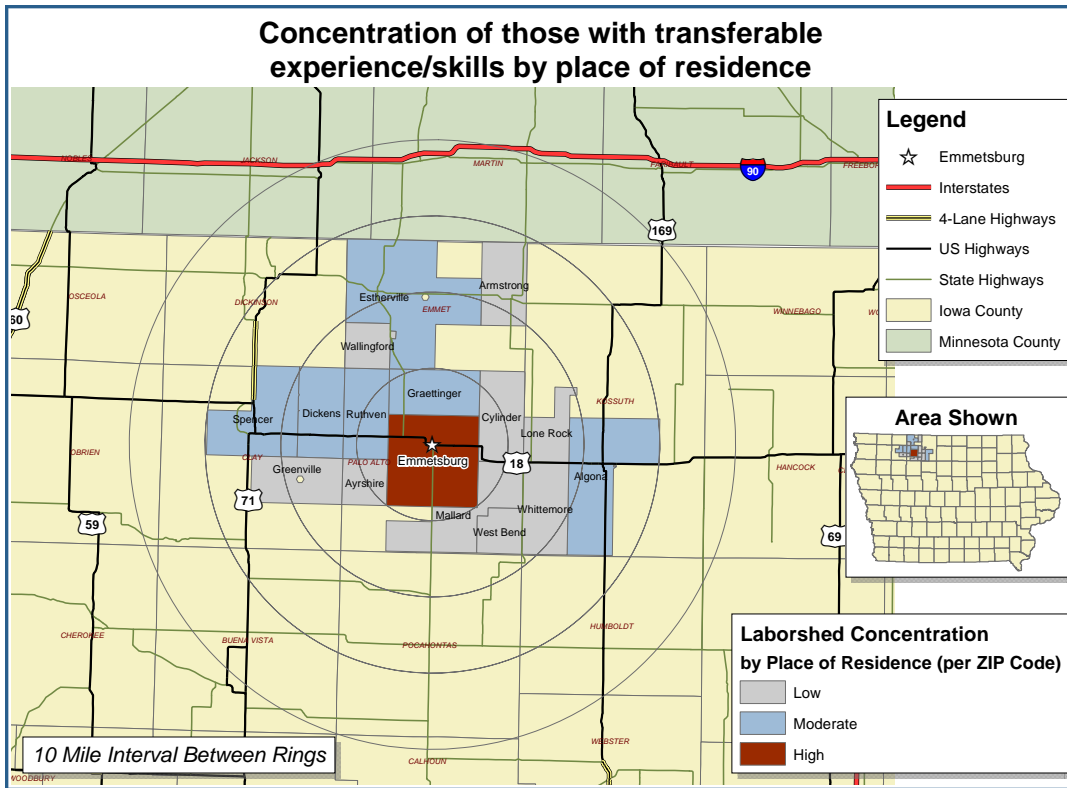


# Labor Characteristics

## Biotechnology

### Palo Alto County, Iowa Laborshed



Workers who have transferable experience/skills in the area are currently commuting an average of 15 miles one way for work. Those who are willing to change/accept employment are willing to commute an average of 21 miles one way for the right employment opportunity.

#### Employment Status:

##### 77.8% Employed

- 40.0% of the employed are willing to change employment

##### 11.1% Unemployed

- 80.0% of the unemployed are willing to accept employment

##### 2.2% Homemakers, Not Employed

##### 8.9% Retired

#### Education Levels:

- 71.1% Education beyond high school
- 6.7% Trade certified
- 13.3% Vocational training
- 17.8% Associate degree
- 20.0% Undergraduate degree

#### Flexibility in the Workplace:

(by percent of interest)

- Cross-training - 66.7%
- Varied shifts (2nd, 3rd, & split) - 38.1%
- Job sharing - 38.1%
- Job teams - 81.0%
- Seasonal work - 28.6%
- Temporary work - 23.8%

#### Other Facts:

- 75.0% paid an hourly wage
- 80.0% are/were employed full-time
- 15.6% are/were employed part-time
- 4.4% are/were seasonally employed
- 11.4% hold two or more jobs
- Currently working an average of 45 hrs/week

#### Current Benefits:

- Health/medical insurance - 94.7%
- Pension/retirement/401K - 65.8%
- Dental coverage - 39.5%
- Paid vacation - 39.5%
- Vision coverage - 31.6%
- Disability insurance - 18.4%
- Life insurance - 18.4%
- Paid sick leave - 15.8%
- Paid holidays - 13.2%

#### Desired Benefits:

(by percent of interest)

- Health/medical insurance - 84.2%
- Pension/retirement/401K - 42.1%
- Dental coverage - 26.3%
- Paid vacation - 26.3%
- Vision coverage - 10.5%
- Prescription drug coverage - 5.3%
- Paid sick leave - 5.3%
- Paid holidays - 5.3%
- Flextime - 5.3%
- Paid Time Off (PTO) - 5.3%

#### Top Advertising Media:

(for those seeking employment opportunities)

- Local/Regional Newspapers
  - Emmetsburg Reporter/Democrat
  - The Des Moines Register
  - The Messenger - Fort Dodge
- Iowa Workforce Development Centers
- The Internet
  - [www.iowaworkforce.org](http://www.iowaworkforce.org)
  - [www.monster.com](http://www.monster.com)

#### Estimated Potential Available Labor Per Occupational Category:

##### Business Operations:

- Compliance Officers - 62
- Market Research Analysts - 120

##### Production:

- Engineering Managers - 55
- Farm, Ranch, & Other Agricultural Managers - 60
- Supervisors - 535
- Agricultural Workers - 64
- Bakers - 53
- Engineering Technicians - 178
- Environmental Scientists & Specialists - 58
- Dietetic Techs - 63
- Dietitians & Nutritionists - 56
- Farmworkers & Laborers, Crop, Nursery, & Greenhouse - 59
- Healthcare Support Workers - 119
- Inspectors - 118
- Installation, Maintenance, & Repair Workers - 357
- Laborers & Freight, Stock, & Material Movers - 65
- Medical & Clinical Lab Techs - 57
- Pharmacy Techs - 54
- Production Workers - 475
- Water & Liquid Waste Treatment Plant & System Operators - 61

An estimated total of **2,669** people in the Laborshed area

#### Underemployment:

Total Underemployment - 2.2%

- Low hours - 0.0%
- Mismatch of skills - 2.2%
- Low income - 0.0%

IWD only counts individuals once when estimating Total Underemployment.

The Iowa Workforce Development Region 3/4 service area aggregated wage data was also extracted from the Iowa Wage Survey and is provided in the table on page 2 which reflects mean, entry, experienced, and median wages.

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Occupation	Occupational Code	Mean Wage	Entry Wage	Experienced Wage	Median Wage
Agricultural and Food Science Technicians	19-4011	\$ 14.24	\$ 10.16	\$ 16.30	\$ 13.50
Agricultural Inspectors	45-2011	\$ 23.97	\$ 19.53	\$ 26.20	\$ 24.36
Agricultural Workers, All Other	45-2099	\$ 9.30	\$ 7.56	\$ 10.17	\$ 8.93
Billing and Posting Clerks and Machine Operators	43-3021	\$ 13.77	\$ 11.15	\$ 15.08	\$ 13.73
Engineering Managers	11-9041	\$ 47.24	\$ 30.89	\$ 55.40	\$ 44.57
Environmental Science and Protection Technicians, Including Health	19-4091	\$ 22.59	\$ 14.14	\$ 26.82	\$ 22.08
Executive Secretaries and Administrative Assistants	43-6011	\$ 15.30	\$ 11.12	\$ 17.39	\$ 14.69
First-Line Supervisors/Managers of Farming, Fishing, and Forestry Workers	45-1011	\$ 26.02	\$ 21.16	\$ 28.45	\$ 27.01
First-Line Supervisors/Managers of Mechanics, Installers, and Repairers	49-1011	\$ 23.56	\$ 17.29	\$ 26.69	\$ 21.56
First-Line Supervisors/Managers of Office and Administrative Support Workers	43-1011	\$ 19.69	\$ 13.53	\$ 22.77	\$ 19.56
First-Line Supervisors/Managers of Production and Operating Workers	51-1011	\$ 23.92	\$ 16.12	\$ 27.82	\$ 22.20
First-Line Supervisors/Managers of Transportation and Material-Moving Machine and Vehicle Operators	53-1031	\$ 23.57	\$ 15.15	\$ 27.78	\$ 23.61
General and Operations Managers	11-1021	\$ 42.20	\$ 20.57	\$ 53.00	\$ 35.79
Industrial Production Managers	11-3051	\$ 31.48	\$ 18.37	\$ 38.04	\$ 28.60
Industrial Truck and Tractor Operators	53-7051	\$ 12.83	\$ 10.92	\$ 13.78	\$ 12.31
Maintenance and Repair Workers, General	49-9042	\$ 16.73	\$ 11.79	\$ 19.21	\$ 16.50
Market Research Analysts	19-3021	\$ 27.02	\$ 15.15	\$ 32.94	\$ 22.35
Office Clerks, General	43-9061	\$ 12.29	\$ 8.99	\$ 13.94	\$ 11.44
Production Workers, All Other	51-9199	\$ 12.95	\$ 10.40	\$ 14.23	\$ 12.54
Purchasing Agents and Buyers, Farm Products	13-1021	\$ 21.21	\$ 17.47	\$ 23.08	\$ 21.93
Purchasing Managers	11-3061	\$ 35.02	\$ 23.48	\$ 40.79	\$ 35.02
Sales Managers	11-2022	\$ 36.80	\$ 16.45	\$ 46.97	\$ 31.16
Sales Representatives, Wholesale and Manufacturing, Except Technical and Scientific Products	41-4012	\$ 22.81	\$ 12.87	\$ 27.77	\$ 21.50
Secretaries, Except Legal, Medical, and Executive	43-6014	\$ 12.16	\$ 9.25	\$ 13.62	\$ 12.12
Securities, Commodities, and Financial Services Sales Agents	41-3031	\$ 27.93	\$ 17.34	\$ 33.24	\$ 23.49
Stock Clerks and Order Fillers	43-5081	\$ 9.64	\$ 7.64	\$ 10.63	\$ 8.41
Truck Drivers, Heavy and Tractor-Trailer	53-3032	\$ 15.44	\$ 9.91	\$ 18.20	\$ 14.28
Water and Liquid Waste Treatment Plant and System Operators	51-8031	\$ 16.86	\$ 12.08	\$ 19.25	\$ 17.24
Weighers, Measurers, Checkers, and Samplers, Recordkeeping	43-5111	\$ 13.42	\$ 11.91	\$ 14.19	\$ 13.76

This Iowa Wage Survey for Iowa Workforce Development (IWD) Regions 3 and 4 service area was produced by the Labor Force & Occupational Analysis Bureau to provide communities local information on wages by occupation. This publication was developed specifically for the IWD Region 3 and 4 service area. The source of the wage and employment data is the 2009 Iowa Wage Survey. Additional data from the Iowa Wage Survey for individual counties, Iowa Workforce Development regions, and by industry statewide are available on the Iowa Workforce Development web site located at [www.iowaworkforce.org](http://www.iowaworkforce.org).