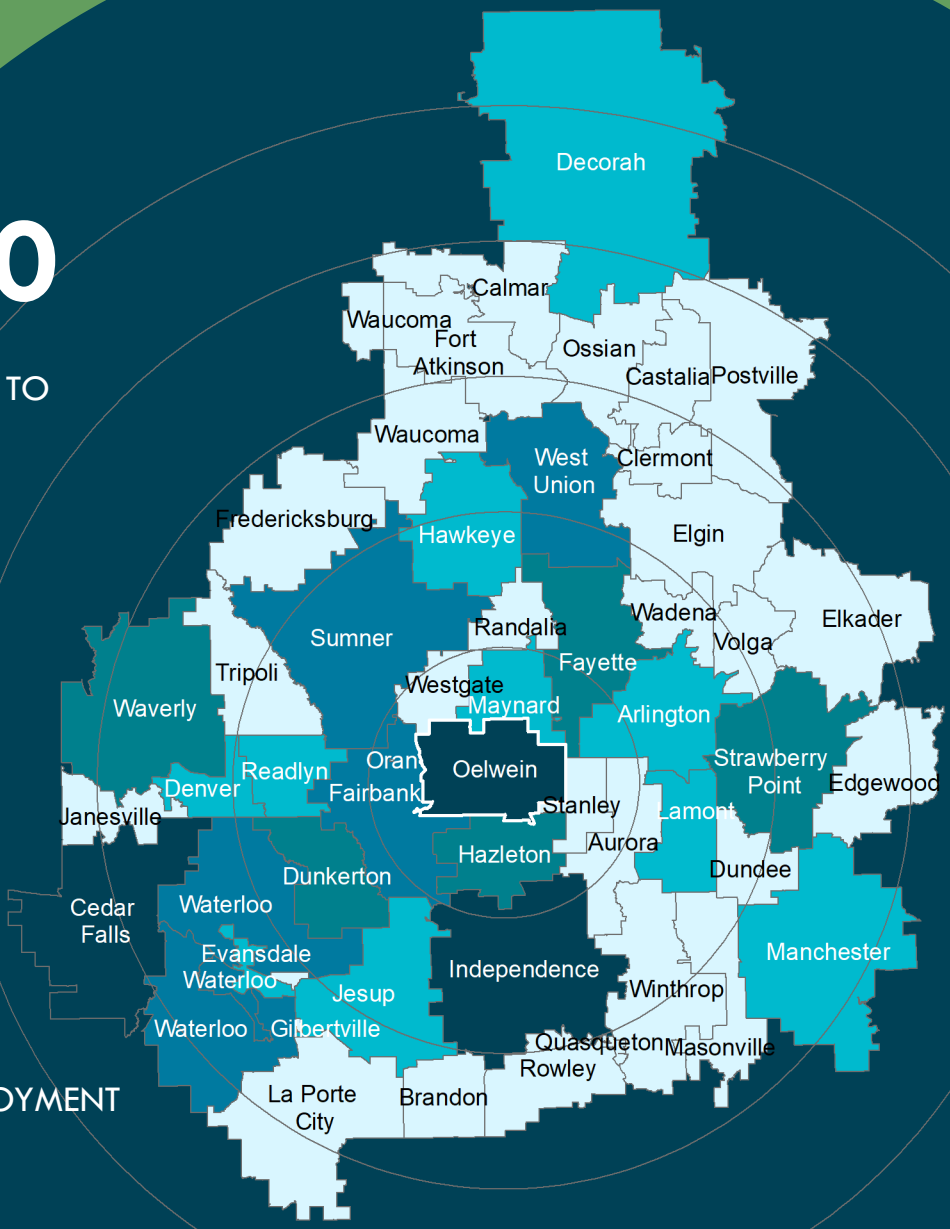
OELWEIN, IOWA
LABORSHED AREA

A STUDY IN LABOR AVAILABILITY AND WORKFORCE CHARACTERISTICS
EXECUTIVE SUMMARY
WORKFORCE.IOWA.GOV/LABORSHED

RELEASED
2024

ESTIMATED POPULATION
AGES 18-64
138,310

ESTIMATED TOTAL LIKELY TO
ACCEPT EMPLOYMENT
IN **OELWEIN, IA**
17,185



LIKELY TO
CHANGE/ACCEPT EMPLOYMENT
IN **OELWEIN, IA**
BY PLACE OF RESIDENCE
(PER ZIP CODE)

- 6 - 138
- 139 - 342
- 343 - 615
- 616 - 974
- 975 - 2,118

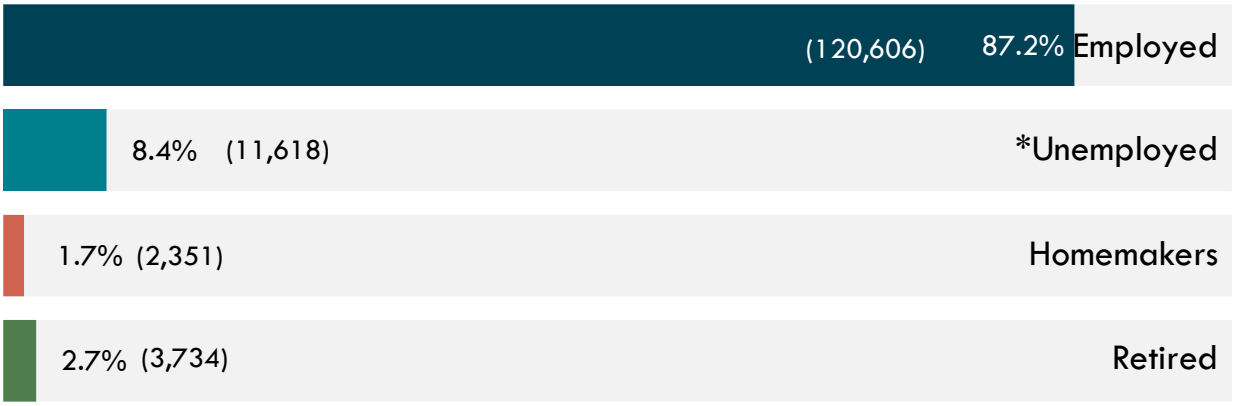
10-Mile Interval Between Rings

AREA SHOWN

OELWEIN LABORSHED ANALYSIS

A Laborshed area is defined by its commuting pattern and illustrates which communities contribute to an employment center's workforce and at what level. To determine the boundaries of a Laborshed area, local employers supply the residential ZIP codes of each of their employees. The data in this publication reflects characteristics specific to the workforce in the Oelwein 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.

Totals may vary due to rounding.

Employed - Likely to Change Employment 29.5%

Unemployed - Likely to Accept Employment 64.7%

Homemakers - Likely to Accept Employment 57.1%

Retired - Likely to Accept Employment 45.5%

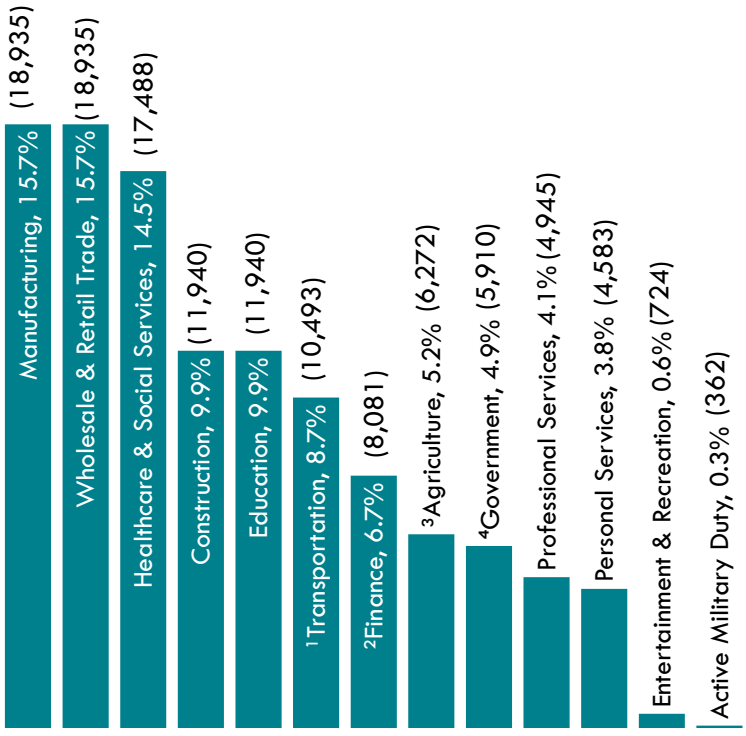
The employed are currently commuting an average of—

17 miles one-way for an employment opportunity

&

21 minutes

BREAKOUT OF THE EMPLOYED BY INDUSTRY (ESTIMATED TOTAL)



[1]Transportation, Communications, & Utilities
[2]Finance, Insurance, & Real Estate
[3]Agriculture, Forestry, & Mining
[4]Public Administration, Government

Totals may vary due to rounding.

TOP CURRENT BENEFITS OF THE FULL-TIME EMPLOYED

Health/Medical Insurance	94.0%
Paid Sick Leave/ PTO/ Vacation	92.3%
Pension/ Retirement/401K	90.3%
Dental Coverage	89.5%
Life Insurance	84.3%
Paid Holiday	82.7%
Vision Coverage	82.7%
Disability Insurance	82.3%
Prescription Drug Coverage	67.3%
Flex Spending Account	62.1%

EMPLOYED: LIKELY TO CHANGE

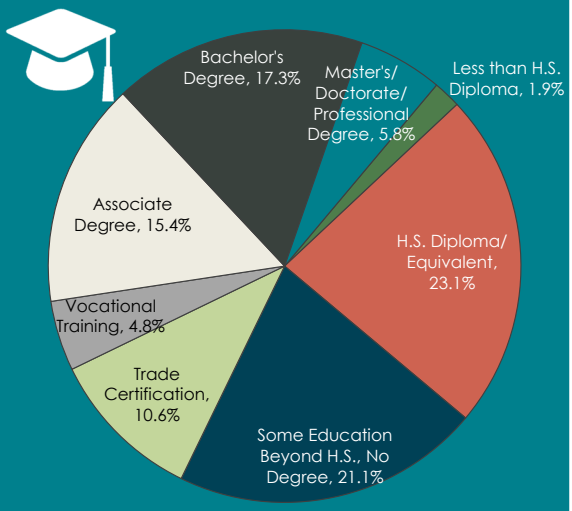
- **An estimated 28,059 employed individuals are likely to change their current employment situation for an opportunity in Oelwein**

- Current occupational categories:

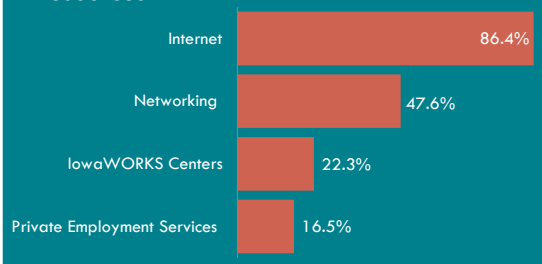
Production, Construction, Material Moving	32.0%
Professional, Paraprofessional, Technical	25.2%
Service	15.5%
Clerical	12.6%
Managerial	8.7%
Sales	3.9%
Agricultural	2.1%

- Current median wages: $
  - $20.00/hour and $63,500/year
  - $24.10/hour - attracts 66%
  - $26.50/hour - attracts 75%

- 75.0% have an education beyond HS



- **26.0% are actively seeking employment**
- Most frequently identified job search resources:



- Top sites:

- Top newspapers:

- Commute:
  - Currently commuting an average of **15** miles/**19** minutes (one-way) to work
  - Willing to commute an average of **31** miles/**38** minutes (one-way) to work

UNEMPLOYED: LIKELY TO ACCEPT

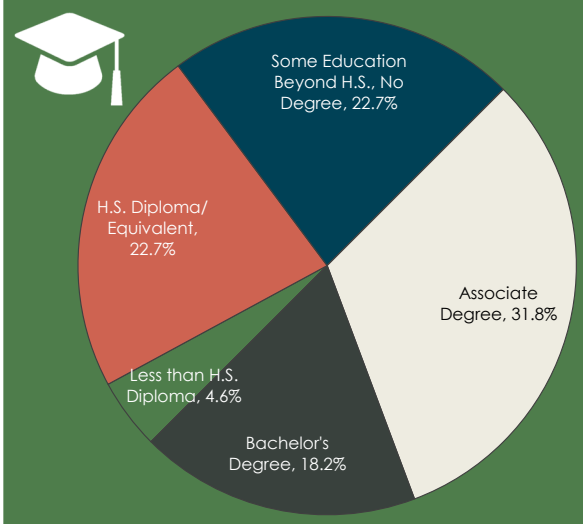
- **An estimated 2,401 unemployed individuals are likely to accept employment in Oelwein**

- Former occupational categories:

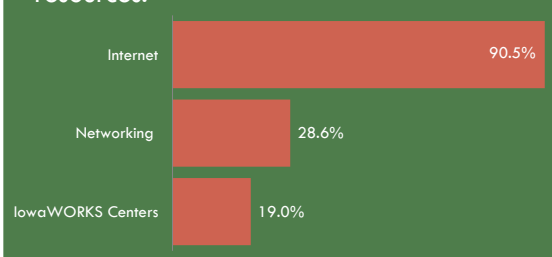
Production, Construction, Material Moving	23.8%
Professional, Paraprofessional, Technical	19.0%
Sales	19.0%
Clerical	14.3%
Service	14.3%
Managerial	9.6%
Agricultural	0.0%

- Median wages: $
  - $16.00/hour - lowest willing to accept
  - $19.52/hour - attracts 66%
  - $20.00/hour - attracts 75%

- 72.7% have an education beyond HS



- **68.2% are actively seeking employment**
- Most frequently identified job search resources:



- Top sites:

- Top newspapers:

- Commute:
  - Willing to commute an average of **22** miles/**26** minutes (one-way) to work

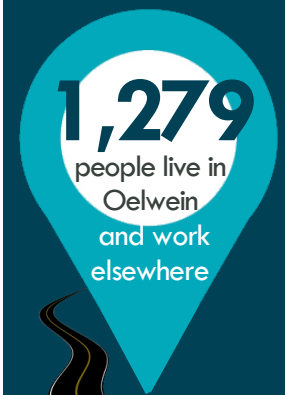
The Laborshed survey collects information regarding the **out commute** for an employment center.

The **out commute** for Oelwein is estimated at 44.4 percent—approximately 1,279 people living in Oelwein work in other communities.

Most of those who are out commuting are working in Waterloo, Independence, & Cedar Rapids.

Over one-third (35.4%) of out commuters are likely to change employment (approximately 453 people).

54.2% earn an hourly wage—median wage is **$25.00/hour**
37.5% earn an annual salary—median salary is **$62,000/year**



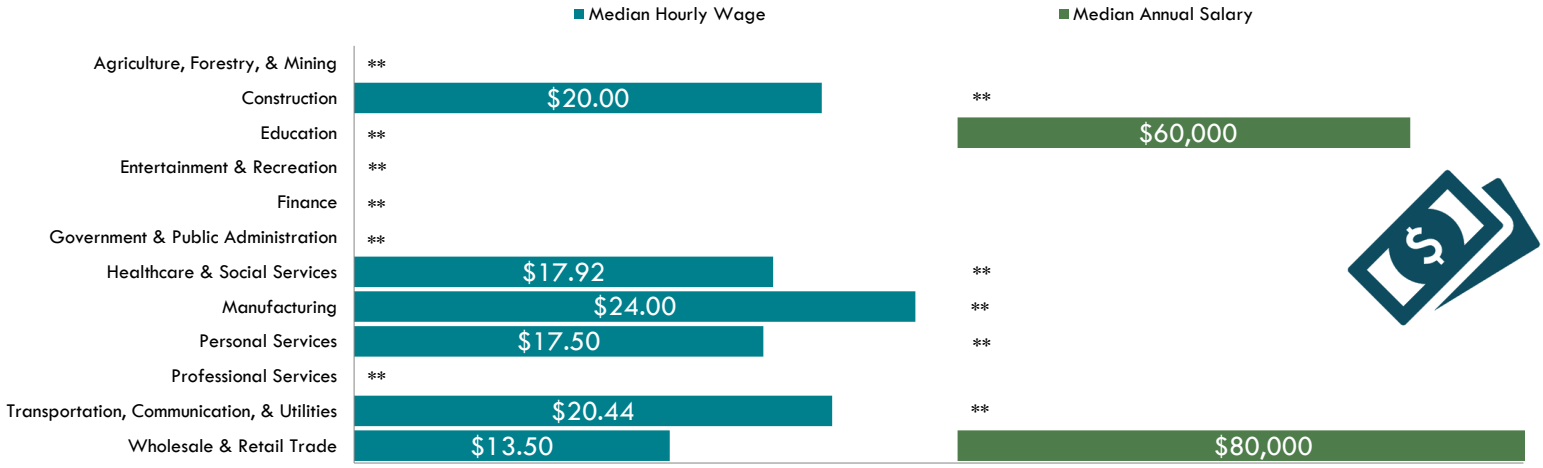
EDUCATION OF AVAILABLE LABOR BY INDUSTRY OF CURRENT OR FORMER EMPLOYMENT

Data on this page is specific to only those survey respondents that reported they are likely to change or accept employment.

Industry	Education Beyond HS	Some Education Beyond HS, No Degree Obtained	Trade Certification/ Vocational Training	Associate Degree	Bachelor's Degree or Above
Agriculture, Forestry, & Mining	**	**	**	**	**
Construction	50.1%	0.0%	16.7%	16.7%	16.7%
Education	99.9%	7.1%	7.1%	14.3%	71.4%
Entertainment & Recreation	**	**	**	**	**
Finance, Insurance, & Real Estate	**	**	**	**	**
Government & Public Administration	**	**	**	**	**
Healthcare & Social Services	79.0%	31.6%	5.3%	31.6%	10.5%
Manufacturing	52.0%	20.0%	12.0%	4.0%	16.0%
Personal Services	87.5%	37.5%	25.0%	25.0%	0.0%
Professional Services	83.4%	16.7%	16.7%	33.3%	16.7%
Transportation, Communication, & Utilities	57.2%	14.3%	14.3%	14.3%	14.3%
Wholesale & Retail Trade	71.4%	25.0%	14.3%	21.4%	10.7%

Top percentages among industries per education level are highlighted in the table. ***Insufficient survey data/refused*

WAGES OF AVAILABLE LABOR BY INDUSTRY OF CURRENT OR FORMER EMPLOYMENT



***Insufficient survey data/refused. A lack of data for a particular industry is not necessarily indicative that there were no (or few) individuals surveyed within that industry. Rather, it may be that there simply were no respondents within that industry that also reported that they are likely to change or accept employment.*

Note: A wide variety of occupations are included within these industry categories. Industry classification is based upon the respondent's reported current or former employer. Two respondents that work for a manufacturer will be classified within the manufacturing industry even if, for example, one respondent is a custodian and the other is an accountant.

UNDEREMPLOYMENT

The underemployed are working fewer than 35 hours per week but desire more hours (**inadequate hours**); in positions that do not meet their skill or education level, or have worked for higher wages at previous employment (**mismatch of skills**); or are earning wages equal to or less than the national poverty level and work 35 or more hours per week (**low income**).

	Percent Surveyed	Estimated Total
Inadequate Hours	2.0%	263
Low Income	0.5%	66

	Percent Surveyed	Estimated Total
Mismatch of Skills	7.7%	1,014
†Total	8.6%	1,133

†Individuals may be underemployed for more than one reason but are counted only once for total estimated underemployment.
Note: To be counted as underemployed in any category an individual must be currently employed and likely to change their current employment situation.

Data compiled and analyzed by:
Iowa Workforce Development
Labor Market Information Division
1000 E. Grand Avenue, Des Moines, Iowa 50319
Phone: (515) 281-3035 | Email: laborshed.studies@iwd.iowa.gov
workforce.iowa.gov/laborshed

For more information regarding this Laborshed study contact:
Oelwein Chamber and Area Development
6 South Frederick
Oelwein, IA 50662
Phone: (319) 283-1105 | E-mail: dhoward@oelwein.com
www.oelwein.com