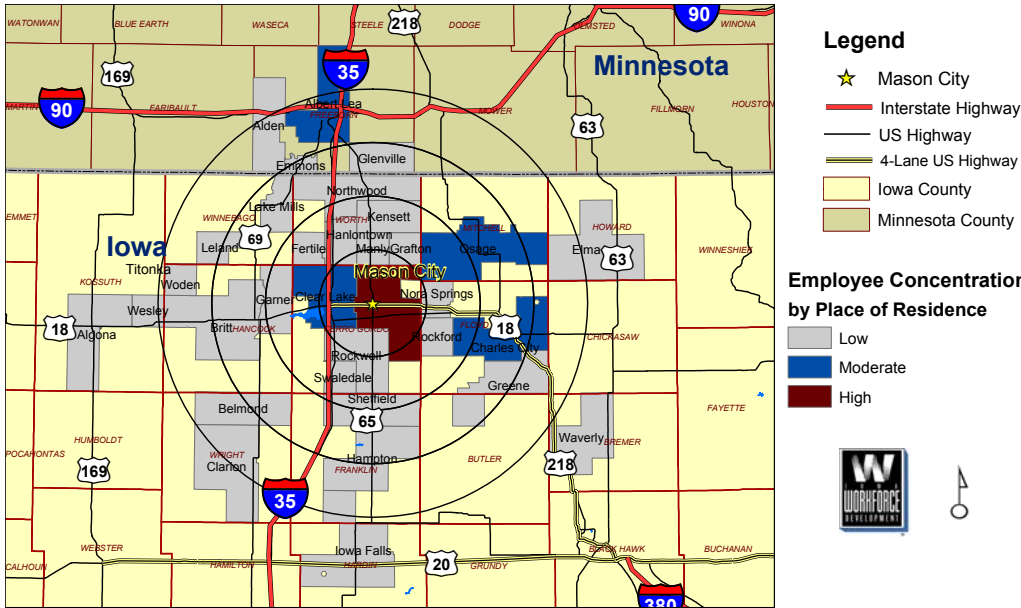


Labor Characteristics

Production Operations/Manufacturing

Mason City, Iowa

Concentration of those with experience in production operations/manufacturing within the Mason City Laborshed area by ZIP Code



This area has the potential to draw experienced labor from many of the surrounding communities as shown above. Workers who have transferable experiences/skills are currently commuting an average of 12 miles one way for work. Those who are willing to change/accept employment are willing to commute an average of 28 miles one way for the right employment opportunity.

Employment Status within the Laborshed area with transferable experiences/skills in production operations/manufacturing:

- **83.9% Employed**
 - 45.2% willing to change employment
 - 94.3% are employed full-time
 - 82.5 % paid an hourly wage
 - 13.7% working multiple jobs
- **8.0% Unemployed**
 - 42.9% unemployed within last year

Underemployment

The following data is reported based on those who have transferable experiences/skills in production operations/manufacturing within the Laborshed Area

Low Hours - 1.1%
Individuals working less than 35 hours per week and desiring more hours.

Mismatch of Skills - 9.2%
Workers are denoted as “mismatched” if their completed years of education are above the number needed for their current occupational group, they have significant technical skills beyond those currently being utilized, or if they have held previous jobs with a higher wage or salary.

Low Income - 1.1%
Individuals working full-time but at wages insufficient enough to keep them above the poverty level.

Total Underemployed - 11.5%
IWD filters the data to eliminate double counting of respondents within and between the three categories.

Education Levels:

- 45.3% Education beyond high school
- 10.5% Associate degree
- 4.7% Trade certified
- 5.8% Vocational training
- 12.8% Undergraduate degree

Benefits Desired:

- Health/medical insurance - 89.7%
- Pension/retirement - 59.0%
- Paid sick leave - 53.8%
- Paid holidays - 51.3%
- Paid vacation - 48.7%
- Prescription drug coverage - 10.3%

Potential Available Labor Per Occupational Category:

- Business Operations - 782
- Engineers - 253
- Office/Admin Support - 1,035
- Maintenance - 1,289
- Production Supervisors - 1,289
- Production Workers - 11,598
- Material Handling Supervisors - 258
- Transportation/Material Movers - 2,066

An estimated total of 18,570 people

The top advertising mediums for those looking for employment opportunities are local/regional newspapers, the Internet; local Iowa Workforce Development Centers; and networking through friends, family or acquaintances. Those utilizing newsprint search for employment opportunities in the Globe-Gazette (Mason City), Des Moines Register, and Waterloo-Cedar Falls Courier. The majority of those utilizing the Internet search for employment opportunities on www.iowaworkforce.org or www.monster.com.

A flexible and adaptable workplace environment is what employees are seeking. For example, 95.0 percent of the respondents expressed an interest in cross-training, 30.0 percent would consider working varied shifts (2nd, 3rd and split), 55.0 percent would consider seasonal work, and 37.5 percent would consider temporary work assignments.

The Mason City Laborshed area aggregated wage data was also extracted from the Iowa Wage Survey and is provided in the table on page 2 which reflects entry, experienced, and median wages.

Iowa Wage Survey

This Iowa Wage Survey for the Mason City Laborshed area was produced by the Labor Market Information Bureau to provide communities local information on wages by occupation. This publication was developed specifically for the Mason City Laborshed area, which includes Winnebago (IA), Worth (IA), Mitchell (IA), Kossuth (IA), Hancock (IA), Cerro Gordo (IA), Floyd (IA), Wright (IA), Butler (IA), Franklin (IA), Hardin (IA), Howard (IA), Chickasaw (IA), Bremer (IA), & Freeborn (MN) counties.

The source of the wage and employment data is the 2003 Occupational Employment Statistics (OES) Survey and is aged to the second quarter of 2004. This is a national survey operated cooperatively by the U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics and Iowa Workforce Development. As part of this annual national survey, approximately 6,000 Iowa employers are asked to respond to questions regarding occupational employment and wages.

While data were collected by the OES survey, this publication was done independently to provide information on entry-level wages and experienced level wages. The entry and experienced wage levels are computed by determining the mean average of the lower one-third and upper two-thirds respectively of the responses for each occupation. 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.

Occupation	Entry Wage	Experienced Wage	Median Wage
First-Line Supervisors/Managers of Transportation and Material-Moving Machine and Vehicle Operators	12.69	22.42	17.68
General and Operations Managers	23.46	47.93	36.33
Helpers--Production Workers	9.25	14.95	13.28
Industrial Machinery Mechanics	12.59	16.59	15.30
Industrial Production Managers	17.32	33.37	27.76
Industrial Truck and Tractor Operators	11.41	15.02	13.84
Inspectors, Testers, Sorters, Samplers, and Weighers	9.57	15.51	13.24
Laborers and Freight, Stock, and Material Movers, Hand	8.60	14.05	12.49
Machine Feeders and Offbearers	9.44	10.94	10.56
Maintenance and Repair Workers, General	12.24	17.77	15.96
Materials Engineers	21.11	27.65	25.48
Packaging and Filling Machine Operators and Tenders	9.79	13.98	12.42
Plating and Coating Machine Setters, Operators, and Tenders, Metal and Plastic	8.38	11.65	9.94
Production Workers, All Other	9.35	13.96	12.29
Production, Planning, and Expediting Clerks	11.73	18.38	15.28
Purchasing Agents, Except Wholesale, Retail, and Farm Products	15.06	22.54	19.17
Secretaries, Except Legal, Medical, and Executive	9.33	13.44	12.16
Shipping, Receiving, and Traffic Clerks	9.77	14.16	12.49
Team Assemblers	10.06	13.73	12.42
Tool and Die Makers	14.75	18.68	17.23
Truck Drivers, Heavy and Tractor-Trailer	10.31	14.83	12.83
Truck Drivers, Light or Delivery Services	8.46	12.92	11.80
Welders, Cutters, Solderers, and Brazers	12.29	15.29	14.09

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This Information was compiled by Iowa Workforce Development

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 Laborshed data used to determine information contained in this fact sheet