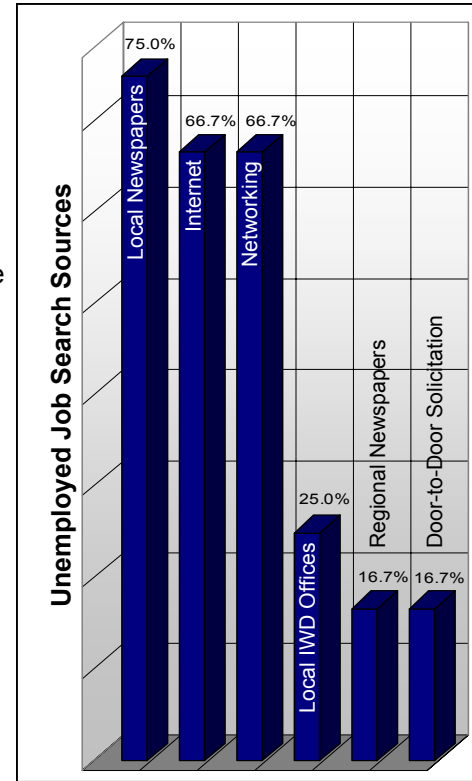


Unemployed - Those Willing to Enter/Re-enter Employment:

- An estimated 980 unemployed individuals are willing to accept employment;
- Average age is 38 years old;
- Education:
 - 66.7% have some post high school education
 - 8.3% are trade certified
 - 16.6% have an undergraduate degree
 - 8.3% have a postgraduate degree
- Estimated wage range to attract the upper 66-75% qualified hourly wage applicants is \$9.96 to \$10.00/hr. with a median of the lowest wage of \$9.00/hr.;
- Willing to commute an average of 21 miles one way for the right opportunity;
- 66.7% expressed interest in both seasonal and temporary employment opportunities;
- 58.3% are interested in working varied shifts (2nd, 3rd & split);
- Would prefer to enter employment that offers the following benefits:
 - Health/medical insurance
 - Paid sick leave
 - Paid vacation
 - Pension/retirement options
 - Paid holidays
 - Dental coverage
 - Vision coverage
 - Life insurance
 - Disability insurance
 - Prescription drug coverage
 - Tuition assistance/reimbursement
- 50.0% of the unemployed are seeking employment offers where the employer/employee share the cost of medical insurance premiums.



Benton County, Iowa Laborshed Study



Sponsored in Partnership with



For more information regarding the 2006 Benton County Laborshed Study, contact:

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A Study of Workforce Characteristics
 Released June 2006

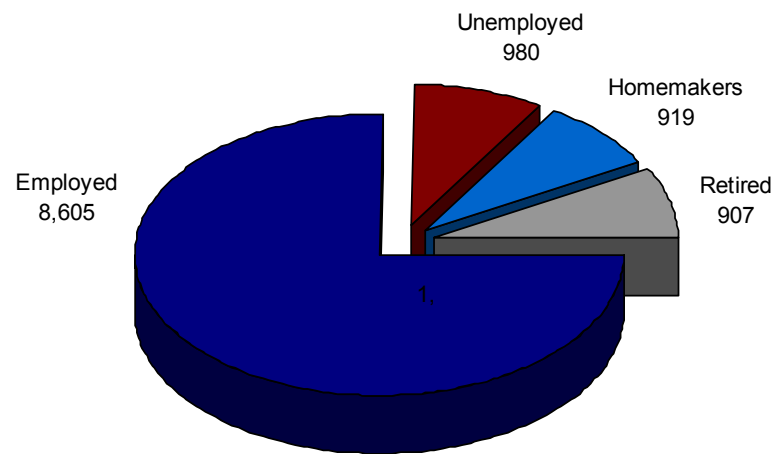
LABOR AVAILABILITY FACTS

What is a Laborshed?

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 Benton 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: 188,231 (entire Laborshed Area)

Estimated Number of Individuals Very Likely or Somewhat Likely to Change or Accept Employment (11,411)



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
- 0.7% Low income
- 4.2% Mismatch of skills
- 5.9% Total estimated underemployment

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
Manufacturing	16.1%	25,669
Health Care & Social Services	15.5%	24,712
Wholesale & Retail Trade	12.3%	19,610
Education	10.5%	16,740
Professional Services	8.5%	13,552
Finance, Insurance, & Real Estate	7.9%	12,595
Construction	7.6%	12,117
Government & Public Administration	6.4%	10,204
Transportation, Communication, & Public Utilities	6.4%	10,204
Entertainment, Recreation, & Personal Services	5.3%	8,450
Agriculture, Forestry, & Mining	3.5%	5,580

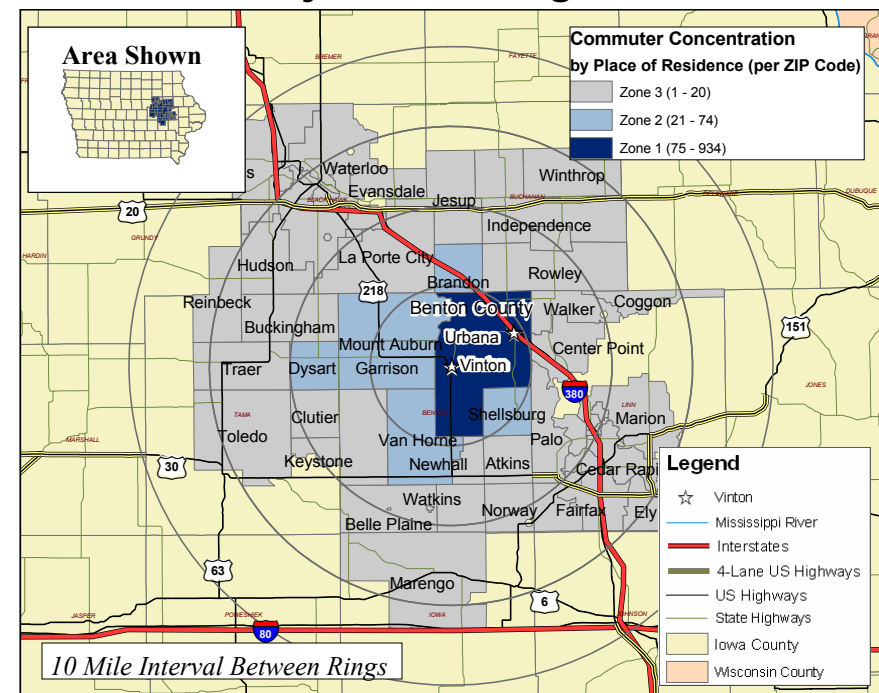
Survey respondents from the Benton County Laborshed area were asked to identify the industry in which they are currently working. The largest concentration of workers are employed in the manufacturing industry as shown in the table at left.

Quick Facts:

(Employed - willing to change employment)

- 12.5% are working multiple jobs;
- Currently working an average of 40 hours per week;
- Average age is 42 years old;
- 28.7% currently working in professional, paraprofessional, or technical occupations, followed by 21.8% in production, construction, or material handling occupations;
- Most frequently identified job search sources:
 - Local/Regional newspapers
 - Internet
 - www.monster.com
 - www.iowaworkforce.org
 - Networking through friends, family, or acquaintances
 - Local Iowa Workforce Development Centers

Benton County Commuting Area



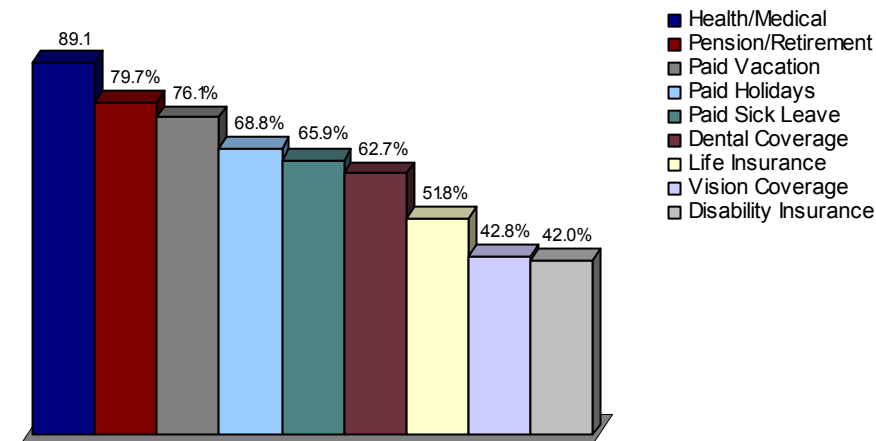
Commuting Statistics

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

Those who are willing to change employment in the Benton County Laborshed area are willing to commute an average of 28 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 (84.7%) of respondents are currently sharing the cost of premiums with the employer. However, 10.7 percent of the employers in the area pay the entire cost of insurance premiums as a benefit for their employees.

Education and Current 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	38.5%	7.7%	7.7%	*	*
Construction	41.4%	24.1%	6.9%	\$56,000	\$17.32
Manufacturing	49.2%	8.2%	16.4%	\$60,000	\$16.19
Transportation, Communication, & Utilities	66.7%	29.2%	20.8%	\$46,500	\$13.00
Wholesale & Retail Trade	57.9%	12.3%	21.0%	\$40,000	\$7.01
Finance, Insurance, & Real Estate	75.0%	21.9%	25.0%	\$55,000	\$12.25
Health Care & Social Services	70.5%	26.2%	14.7%	\$45,500	\$12.67
Personal Services	66.7%	11.1%	22.2%	*	\$8.33
Professional Services	76.5%	14.7%	32.4%	\$70,000	\$14.00
Public Administration & Government	53.9%	11.5%	34.6%	\$36,500	\$16.00
Education	69.8%	7.0%	46.6%	\$40,000	\$9.68

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

**Insufficient survey data/refused*