

HIGH DEMAND and HIGH SALARY OCCUPATIONS

Occupational Title	2008 Estimated Employment	2018 Projected Employment	Annual Growth Rate (%)	2011 Mean Hourly Wage*	2011 Mean Annual Salary	Educational/Training Level**	Top Skills***
Lawyers	240	270	1.3	\$40.00	\$83,209	1	B2, B9, B3, B7, C1, SY1, B10
Medical and Health Services Managers	320	375	1.7	33.00	68,646	4	B7, B9, B2, B3, SY1
Graphic Designers	205	240	1.7	30.65	63,752	5	B2, T6, B9, B10, B3, B7
Accountants and Auditors	575	700	2.2	28.96	60,236	5	B2, B5, B7, B10, B9
Industrial Engineers	240	290	1.9	28.81	59,919	5	B7, B2, C1, B3, B10
Loan Officers	340	385	1.3	25.77	53,601	10	B9, B2, SY1, B7, B3
First-Line Supervisors/Managers of Construction Trades and Extraction Workers	365	410	1.2	25.44	52,916	8	B2, SO1, B3, B9, R4
Registered Nurses	1,770	2,225	2.5	24.32	50,583	6	SO6, B2, SO1, B9, B3, B7, SO5
Elementary School Teachers, Except Special Education	925	1,070	1.6	N.A.	48,078	5	SO2, B9, B4, B2, B1, B6, SO6
Insurance Sales Agents	240	280	1.7	22.37	46,513	7	B2, B7, B9, B10, B3, SO4, R4
First-Line Supervisors/Managers of Office and Administrative Support Workers	595	660	1.2	21.99	45,742	8	B2, B9, SO1, SO6, B3, R3
Middle School Teachers, Except Special and Vocational Education	560	645	1.5	N.A.	43,628	5	SO2, B2, B7, B4, SO6, B10
Computer Support Specialists	305	350	1.6	20.50	42,637	6	B2, B9, B7, B3, B10
Plumbers, Pipefitters, and Steamfitters	355	405	1.4	19.29	40,128	9	SO1, R4, B3, T5, B2, SY1, B6, B9
Dental Assistants	205	275	3.4	18.53	38,558	10	B9, B2, B7, SO5, B3
Child, Family, and School Social Workers	465	520	1.2	18.08	37,608	5	B2, B9, B7, SO6, B3, B6, SO5
Licensed Practical and Licensed Vocational Nurses	750	915	2.2	17.74	36,886	7	B2, B9, B3, B7, SO1, SO5
Computer-Controlled Machine Tool Operators, Metal and Plastic	320	375	1.7	17.00	35,355	10	B6, T5, B3, T8, T4
Carpenters	980	1,095	1.2	16.10	33,499	9	B3, T2, T5, B2, SO1, SY1, B5, B6, T8, R4
Billing and Posting Clerks and Machine Operators	275	320	1.6	15.05	31,299	11	B2, B7, R4, B3, B9
Construction Laborers	725	870	2.0	14.70	30,588	10	B9, SO1, B2, B3, T4, T5, SO6

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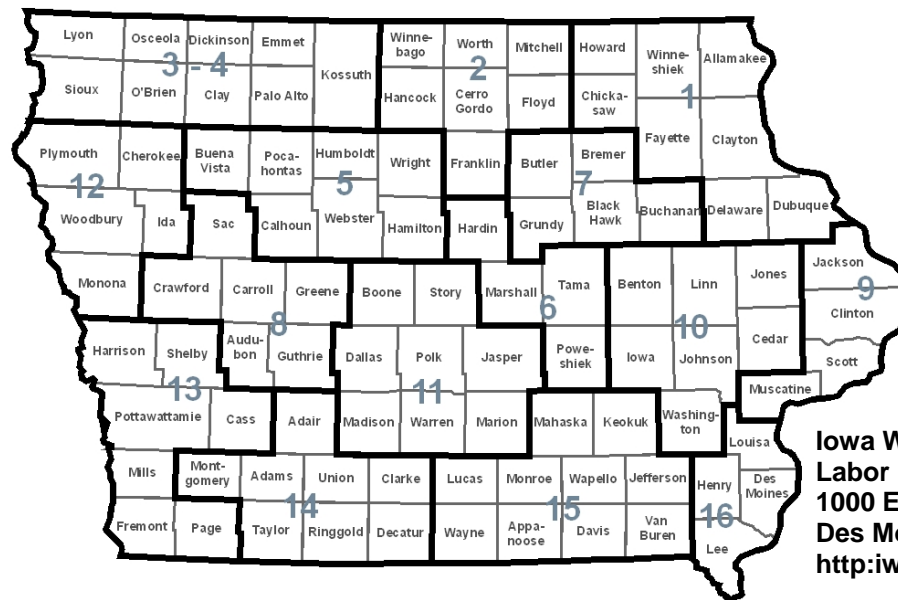
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Legend/Methodology/Selection Criteria:

Occupations were selected based on the annual growth rate from Region 7's 2008-2018 occupational projections and the mean annual salary from the 2011 Iowa Wage Survey (residual or undefined occupations were not included). To be considered a high wage, high demand occupation required that occupations achieve a higher annual growth rate than Region 7's 1.0% average **and** also have a higher salary than the regional mean midpoint of \$30,075. From this process, the top occupations became the **Hot Jobs**.

***Mean Wage**, also known as the average wage, is computed by dividing the estimated total wage for a reported occupation by its weighted employment; N.A. = Not Available; Compensation data based on 2011 Iowa Wage Survey unless otherwise noted; Missing compensation data may be derived from calculation or proration of reported wage/salary data if available; Occupations with limited or no compensation data (which inhibits either wage or salary calculated derivations) are subsequently omitted from any methodological calculations.

****Education/Training Level** provides categorically the most significant education or training pathway to employment for each occupation according to the U.S. Department of Labor's Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS). There may be alternative pathways into an occupation, however, as well as additional educational, training, or licensing requirements. Iowa Workforce Development (IWD) will use Iowa requirements when available. The levels are as follows: 1 = First Professional degree; 2 = Doctoral degree; 3 = Master's degree; 4 = Bachelor's or higher degree, plus work experience; 5 = Bachelor's degree; 6 = Associate degree; 7 = Postsecondary vocational training; 8 = Work experience in a related occupation; 9 = Long-term on-the-job training; 10 = Moderate-term on-the-job training; 11 = Short-term on-the-job training.

*****Top Skills** refers to those skills identified through questionnaire responses by sampled workers and occupation experts by the U.S. Department of Labor's Occupational Information Network (O*NET) as being the top five (or more if tied) most important for a particular occupation. These include: **Basic Skills**: B1 = Active Learning; B2 = Active Listening; B3 = Critical Thinking; B4 = Learning Strategies; B5 = Mathematics; B6 = Monitoring; B7 = Reading Comprehension; B8 = Science; B9 = Speaking; B10 = Writing; **Complex Problem Solving Skills**: C1 = Complex Problem Solving; **Resource Management Skills**: R1 = Management of Financial Resources; R2 = Management of Material Resources; R3 = Management of Personnel Resources; R4 = Time Management; **Social Skills**: SO1 = Coordination; SO2 = Instructing; SO3 = Negotiation; SO4 = Persuasion; SO5 = Service Orientation; SO6 = Social Perceptiveness; **Systems Skills**: SY1 = Judgment and Decision Making; SY2 = Systems Analysis; SY3 = Systems Evaluation; and **Technical Skills**: T1 = Equipment Maintenance; T2 = Equipment Selection; T3 = Installation; T4 = Operation and Control; T5 = Operation Monitoring; T6 = Operations Analysis; T7 = Programming; T8 = Quality Control Analysis; T9 = Repairing; T10 = Technology Design; T11 = Troubleshooting.

Sources:

Education/Training Level: Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor; **Employment**: 2008-2018 Occupational Projections (based on 2008 annual employment data), Labor Market and Workforce Information Division, Iowa Workforce Development; **Skills**: Occupational Information Network (O*NET), Employment and Training Administration, U.S. Department of Labor; **Wages**: 2011 Iowa Wage Survey estimates, Labor Market and Workforce Information Division, Iowa Workforce Development. Estimates developed from the May 2010 Occupational Employment Statistics (OES) Wage Survey updated to the second quarter of 2011 using the Employment Cost Index;

This publication was produced by the Labor Market and Workforce Information Division of Iowa Workforce Development. Inquiries may be directed to Brent Paulson at 515.281.3439 or Brent.Paulson@iwd.iowa.gov. Visit <http://iwin.iowaworkforce.org> to obtain the latest workforce data and trends including this document under the **Publications** tab. Published 12/2011.