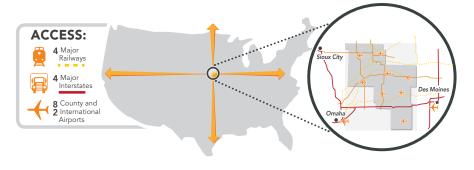


### STRONG EXISTING AGRICULTURE INDUSTRY



# **ACCESS TO MARKETS**

With its centralized location and convenient Interstate access, companies in Western lowa have access to an abundance of raw materials and a market of over 25 million people within a day's drive (500 miles). (source: census.gov)



### **EMPLOYERS**

EMPLOYER	Primary Service	Employees
AMVC	Livestock Production Support	500+
Ag Processing	Soybean Processing	50-75
Flint Hills Resources	Ethanol	50-75
Louis Dreyfus Commodities	Ethanol	50-75
The Andersons	Ethanol	25-50
Iowa Corn Processors	Value-Added Corn Products	25-50
POET	Ethanol	25-50
Quad-County Corn Processors	Ethanol	25-50
SoyPlus	Soy Value-Added Products	25-50
Western Iowa Energy	Biodiesel	25-50
American Natural Soy	Soy Extraction & Refinement	1-25
Renewable Energy Group	Biodiesel	1-25
Struve Labs	Swine Rearing Laboratory	1-25

# **WAGE COMPARISON**

The lowa workforce provides excellent value to the bio-services industry.

OCCUPATION	IOWA	USA
Animal Scientists	\$33.26	\$34.90
Agriculture & Food Scientists	\$30.58	\$31.85
Soil & Plant Scientists	\$33.86	\$31.10
Biochemists & Biophysicists	\$35.04	\$44.21
Environmental Scientists & Specialists, Including Health	\$31.14	\$34.64
Veterinarians	\$45.08	\$47.23

(Source: bls.gov)







# **EDUCATION**

The four community colleges that serve the region offer a variety of programs in agriculture, agribusiness, agricultural technology, biotechnology, livestock and crop production, and veterinary technology.

Des Moines Area Community College (www.dmacc.edu)

**lowa Central Community College** (www.iowacentral.edu)

Southwestern Community College (www.swcciowa.edu)

Western Iowa Tech Community College (www.witcc.edu)



DMACC





The state's 2 large research universities, Iowa State University and the University of Iowa, provide a specialized, knowledgeable workforce and opportunities for innovation in this sector.

### **QUALITY OF LIFE**

Employers and residents are consistently positive when talking about Western Iowa's high quality of life. The low cost of living, high air and water quality and recreational opportunities are just a few of the advantages of living in the region.

FACTOR	8 County Region	lowa	Illinois	Minnesota	Missouri	Nebraska	South Dakota	Wisconsin	United States
Cost of Living	81.9	89	96	103	91	89	98	98	100
(Lower is better)									
Air Quality	96.9	92.7	59.5	87	84.2	90.1	94.6	91.1	93.9
Water Quality	75.3	62	36	42	73	40	41	46	55
(Higher is better)									
(Source: www.bestplaces.net)									





# **SAFETY**

With crime ratings well below the US average, surrounding states and even lowa as a whole, Western lowa offers a safer environment for you, your family and your assets.

CRIME RATINGS	8 County Region	lowa	Illinois	Minnesota	Missouri	Nebraska	South Dakota	Wisconsin	United States
Violent Crime	26	39.8	46	36.5	47.1	40.3	38.6	37.4	41.4
<b>Property Crime</b>	28.1	37.1	41.5	40.5	45.3	41.5	32.2	39	43.5
1=low, 100=high									

(Source: www.bestplaces.net)

Contact us today and see how easy it can be!

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