



**“The Georgetown Center report gives us a strong baseline for setting an ambitious goal of 70 percent of Iowans in the workforce having two- and four-year college degrees, certificates, and other valuable credentials and experience by 2025.”** — Gov. Terry Branstad

announcing results from the report “Iowa: Education and Workforce Trends Through 2025.”

**Iowa Economic Development**

200 E. Grand Ave.  
Des Moines, IA 50309  
Debi Durham, Exec. Dir.  
515-725-3022

**Gov. Terry Branstad (R)**

[iowaeconomicdevelopment.gov](http://iowaeconomicdevelopment.gov)

**Iowa**

**Pop. (2014):** 3,128,649

**Median household income:** \$57,810

**Credit Rating:** AAA/Stable

**Pop. growth 2013–2018:** 3%

**Median age:** 38.2

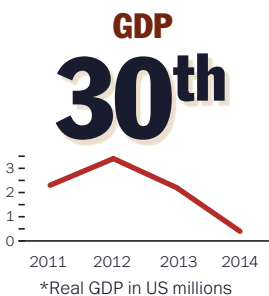
**Right-to-work state:** Yes

**Legislative Update**

- The state increased the fuel tax by 10 cents per gallon. It was the first gas tax hike in 26 years. The \$200 million raised annually through the tax increase will go toward critically needed improvements on Iowa’s roads.
- The Iowa Legislature also approved a base increase of 1.25 percent for K-12 school funding, plus an additional \$55.7 million in one-time spending.
- Though the Iowa Senate approved a bill raising Iowa’s minimum wage to \$8.75 an hour – up from \$7.25 an hour – the legislation didn’t make it out of the House of Representatives. The issue will likely be taken up in the next session.

**Rankings that Matter**

<b>Business Tax Climate</b> . . . . .	<b>40</b>
<b>Legal Climate</b> . . . . .	<b>4</b>
<b>Higher Ed. R&amp;D Expenditure</b> . . . . .	<b>25 (774,726)</b>
<b>ACT Career Readiness Certificates</b> . . . . .	<b>9 (72,626)</b>
<b>Lowest Electric Power Cost</b> . . . . .	<b>24 (9.91)</b>
<b>Fiscal Solvency</b> . . . . .	<b>18</b>
<b>College Attainment</b> . . . . .	<b>18 (41.8%)</b>



**Selected Corporate Facility Projects 2015**

Company	City	County	Type	New/Expansion	Product	Investment (\$ millions)	Employment
Google Inc.	Council Bluffs	Pottawattamie	DT	N	Data Center	1,000	70
Triumph Foods, LLC	Sioux City	Woodbury	MF	E	Food Products	269	1,110
Kraft Heinz Co.	Davenport	Scott	MF	E	Food Products	203	475
Silgan Containers	Burlington	Des Moines	MF	N	Cans	125	120
Kemin Foods	Des Moines	Polk	MF	E	Pharmaceuticals	125	102
Rembrandt Enterprises, Inc.	Thompson	Winnebago	MF	E	Food Products	86	197
HY-VEE, Inc.	West Des Moines	Polk	DW	E	Grocery Distribution	70	102
Cambrex	Charles City	Floyd	MF	E	Pharmaceuticals	66	32
McKesson	Clear Lake	Cerro Gordo	DW	N	Pharmaceuticals	65	164
East Penn Manufacturing Co.	Oelwein	Fayette	MF	E	Batteries	64	350

DT = Data Center MF = Manufacturing OF = Office HQ = Headquarters RD = Research & Development DW = Distribution/Warehouse

**Did You Know?**

Iowa is a corporate headquarters mecca. The state is home to 140 insurance company headquarters alone, in addition to such companies as Hirschbach Motor Lines, Pella Windows and DuPont Pioneer.

According to the USDA, Iowa leads the nation in production of corn, pork and eggs. The state is home to close to 90,000 farms, 97.5 percent of which are family-owned.

CNBC reports that Iowa has the seventh lowest cost of doing business in the US. The state’s insurance premium tax is one of the lowest in the nation – just 1 percent – and workers’ compensation premiums rank 11 percent lower than the national average.





# WHEN WE SEE A DISCOVERY, WE SHARE IT.

Sure, we're investing in the jobs of tomorrow. We just want them today. That's why we've been working so closely with dynamic technology companies to bring them to Iowa. Our research institutions share discoveries with local businesses, filling their pipeline with breakthrough products. Iowa brings together business leaders to boost innovation and position us for success in the global economy. Visit [iowaeconomicdevelopment.com](http://iowaeconomicdevelopment.com). And find out why innovation sees Iowa as the land of opportunity.



[iowaeconomicdevelopment.com](http://iowaeconomicdevelopment.com)



[blog.iowaeconomicdevelopment.com](http://blog.iowaeconomicdevelopment.com)



[iowaeconomicdevelopment](https://www.facebook.com/iowaeconomicdevelopment)



[businessiowa](https://twitter.com/businessiowa)