



West Bend, IA

Counties: Kossuth, Palo Alto

Location:

General location is a line located at northwest and north central Iowa. Along state highway 15 just nine miles south of state highway 18, 11 miles west of state highway 169 and 12 miles west of state Highway 4. We sit on a hub serving the four counties of Palo Alto, Humboldt, Kossuth and Pocahontas.



Business Climate:

The community of West Bend supports business expansion and creation through low interest loans, enterprise zone, property tax incentives and utility grants.

Contact

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Demographic Information

Population

	2005	2009
Population:	817	763
Labor Market Population:	25,302	58,344

Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau; Iowa Workforce Development Kossuth County Laborshed Analysis, 2005 & 2008.

Households

	2000
Total Number of Households:	352
Average Household Size:	2.21
Median Household Income:	\$31,711.00

Educational Attainment: Population - Age 25 Plus

	2000
Associate Degree:	9 %
Bachelor's Degree:	8 %
Graduate or Professional Degree:	3 %

Metro Area Distances

City	Driving Distance (miles)	Flight Time	Days by Truck	Days by Rail
Chicago, IL	443	3 hours	1	2
Des Moines, IA	138	1 hour	1	1
Mason City, IA	72	30 minutes	1	1
Minneapolis/St. Paul, MN	195	2 hours	1	2
St Louis, MO	541	4 hours	1	3

Labor Force Characteristics

For additional information, please see the Kossuth County Laborshed Analysis at: www.kossuth-edc.com/resources/labor.htm

For additional information on the Palo Alto Laborshed Analysis, visit:
www.paloaltoiowa.com/documents/Laborshed%202007.pdf

Mid Iowa Growth Partnership Labor Report can be viewed at:
http://www.midiowagrowth.com/business/labor_reports.htm

The purpose of the Laborshed Analysis is to measure the availability and characteristics of workers within the region. The laborshed data will aid local development officials in their facilitation of industry expansion and recruitment and their service to existing industry in the area.

Leading Employers

	Product or Service	Employees
1. MaxYield Cooperative	Grain storage & merchandising and agronomy inputs	72 (w/ conv. store)
2. West Bend Mallard School	Education	60
3. Country Maid, Inc.	Frozen fruit-filled pastry for fundraising purposes	40
4. West Bend International	Farm equipment sales & service	34
5. J.B. Mertz & Son, Inc.	Farm implement dealer	22
6. West Bend Care Center	Nursing home and assisted living center	20
7. West Iowa Bank	Financial services	16
8. Protein Resources	Animal feed additive	10
9. West Bend Community Lumber	Lumber yard	7
Skoglund Meat and Locker	Meat processing	6-10

General Comments

NOTE: Employment count is for full-time employees.

Local Government

Type of Government:	Mayor/Council
Comprehensive City Plan:	Yes
Year Plan Completed:	2008
Strategic City Plan:	Yes
Year Plan Completed:	2005
City Zoning Ordinance in Effect:	Yes
County Zoning Ordinance in Effect:	Yes
Percent of Streets Paved:	99.0

Local Government Services

West Bend Fire Department	Fire Protection Services
West Bend Police Department	Police Protection

Utilities

Water

Provider Name:	West Bend Municipal Utilities
Rated Capacity (mgd):	0.288
Average Capacity (mgd):	0.088
Peak Demand (mgd):	0.13
Storage Capacity (gallons):	180,000

Sewer

Provider Name:	West Bend Municipal Utilities
Rated Capacity (mgd):	0.25
Average Daily Demand (mgd):	0.08
Peak Demand (mgd):	1.584

Electric

Provider Name:	West Bend Municipal Electric
Peak Demand (kW):	3,130
Generation Capacity (MW):	4,100
Customers Served (state):	671
Customers Served (system):	671

Natural Gas

Provider Name:	West Bend Municipal Gas
Pipeline Source:	Municipal
Customers Served (state):	420
Customers Served (system):	420

Telecommunications

Provider Name:	Northwest Telephone Cooperative Association
Service Type:	Telephone, Cable/Digital Television, Internet and Local Long Distance
DSL:	Yes
Fiber Optics:	Unknown
Switch Services:	yes
Customers Served (state):	7,000
Customers Served (system):	7,000

Transportation

Interstates and Highways

West Bend is located along Highway 15, and 9 miles from US Hwy 18. US Hwy 20 is approximately 40 miles south of West Bend. Interstate I-35 is 62 miles; Interstate I-90 is 55 miles.

Motor Freight

Motor Carriers:	0
Local Terminals:	0

Railroads

West Bend is served by the Union Pacific (UP).

Piggyback Ramp/Service: Union Pacific does not have Piggyback service or intermodal service in Kossuth County, however the nearest service is Omaha/Council Bluffs at 205 miles away.

Piggyback Ramp Available:	No
Distance to Nearest Piggyback:	185
Intermodal Services Available:	No

Airport

West Bend is located 18 miles from the Algona Municipal Airport, and 24 miles from the Emmetsburg Municipal Airport. Commercial air service is available at the Fort Dodge Regional Airport, and Mason City Regional Airport, both are within 1 hour drive. International service is provided by the Des Moines International Airport, which is 2 hours south of West Bend.

Waterway

There are no waterways in West Bend.

Public Transportation Network

No public transportation network is available.

Taxation Structure

Actual Valuation (2009):	\$41,062,888.00
Bond Indebtedness (2010)	
General Obligation:	\$ 465,000.00
Revenue:	\$ 1,583,000.00
County:	\$ 0.00
School:	\$ 0.00

General Comments:

Palo Alto County currently has no debt service.
West Bend/Mallard School District currently has no debt service.
Kossuth County has no bond indebtedness.

Quality of Life

Commercial Services

Number of Hotels and Motels:	1
Number of Rooms Available:	36
Number of Conference Centers:	2
Capacity of Largest Conference Center:	200

Religious Institutions

West Bend offers 4 Christian denominations locally. Other denominations are available within a 30 mile radius.

Housing Market

Avg. Monthly Rent for 3-Bedroom House:	\$385.00
Avg. Monthly Rent for 2-Bedroom Apartment:	\$250.00
Avg. Cost of Houses Sold in Last 2 Years:	\$63,000.00

Education

Elementary and Secondary Education Overview

The West Bend-Mallard Community School District operates a Pre K-12th grade program. The school community places great emphasis on academic excellence and extracurricular achievement.

*Strong Academic Program with 97% of students going on to post

secondary education settings (figures from 2002-2003).

*Committed staff

*Reading, math and science proficiency.

*Atmosphere that encourages student achievement and activity

with 90% of students taking part in co-curricular activities.

Higher Education Overview

West Bend is within a 30 minute drive to Iowa Lakes Community College's campus in Emmetsburg. Iowa Lakes Community College, Buena Vista University and Briar Cliff University along with several other universities offer distance learning opportunities at the Iowa Lakes Community College Campus in Emmetsburg.

Health Facilities and Personnel

Number of Hospitals:	0
Total Number of Beds:	0
Number of Outpatient Clinics:	1
Number of Medical Doctors:	1
Number of Dentists:	0
Number of Registered Nurses:	0
Number of Practical Nurses:	0