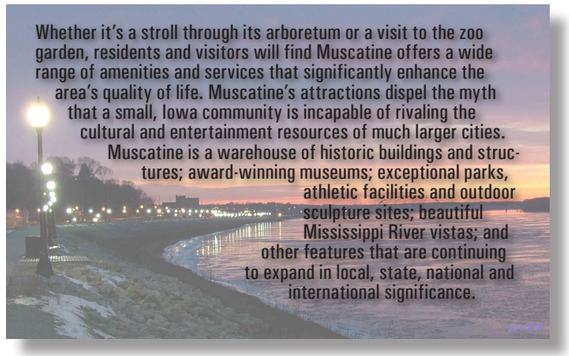
# QUALITY OF LIFE




## Attractions

**Mississippi River:** Enjoy magnificent views of the nation's preeminent waterway from the Mark Twain Overlook and our beautiful downtown riverfront or take advantage of the many recreational opportunities the Mississippi offers.

**Norbert F. Beckey Bridge:** A 1500-foot span connecting Iowa and Illinois, which becomes illuminated every night in an ever-changing rainbow of colors created by 43 LED fixtures.

**Historic Districts/Buildings:** Muscatine has two national historic districts listed on the National Register of Historic Places (Downtown Commercial and West Hill) and two cultural and entertainment districts. In addition, there are several individual listings on the National Register.

***Arts/Culture/Museums***

**Muscatine Art Center:** Accredited by the American Association of Museums and a Cultural Leadership Partner with the Iowa Arts Council, the Muscatine Art Center houses works by notable American artists Grant Wood, Georgia O'Keefe, and Allan Houser, as well as a collection of European masters. The Center's Great River Collection provides an especially interesting look at the "Father of Waters" from its source in Lake Itasca in Minnesota to New Orleans. The museum is located in the 1908 Musser Mansion and contemporary Stanley Gallery.

**Muscatine History and Industry Center:** Traces the economic history of Muscatine, from its beginnings as a trading post for Native Americans to becoming the home to a wide variety of national and international companies. The center includes an exhibit on the pearl button industry, which provided Muscatine's unofficial nickname, "Pearl of the Mississippi."

**Outdoor Sculptures/Fountains:** Enjoy the unique and beautiful Folded Circle Arc, Mississippi Harvest, Prayer of Peace, and Mississippi Mist.

**Performing Arts:** Muscatine offers an array of cultural facilities that rival those of larger metro areas, including the Muscatine Center for the Performing Arts, Muscatine Symphony Orchestra, Pearl City Players Theatrical Society, and Masquers Community Theatre.

## Recreation

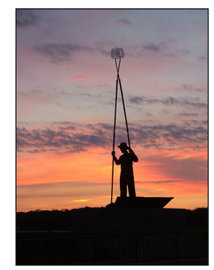
**Parks:** With nearly 20 parks scattered throughout the city, there's no lack for recreational opportunities in Muscatine.

**Weed Park:** This 64-acre multi-use park includes picnic areas, trails, shelters, sand volleyball, tennis courts, playground equipment, restrooms and open areas. This gem also features a restored log cabin, Weed Park Zoo Garden, Weed Park Rose Garden, and the Muscatine Aquatic Center (see below) and is the site of several Native American burial mounds.

**Kent Stein Park:** A 66-acre facility adjoining an 11-acre slough with 2 concession stands, 8 lighted baseball diamonds, 9 lighted softball diamonds, 9 lighted horseshoe courts, picnic areas, fishing, and restrooms.

**Muscatine Soccer Complex:** The Muscatine Soccer Complex is a 41-acre, $3.8 million soccer facility featuring 8 full-sized, state-of-the-art soccer fields. Two fields are internationally sized, lighted, and contain amended soils. The complex is fully equipped with concessions, media center, restrooms, and parking; and has been recognized by the National Turf Grass Managers Association as the "Best Soccer Facility."

**Muscatine Aquatic Center:** Located in Weed Park, the community's premier water activity center features 5 slides (2 drop slides, 1 family slide and 2 long slides), a zero-depth entry area and an interactive play structure with a kids' slide and spray area.



**Riverside Park:** Adjacent to downtown Muscatine on the Mississippi Riverfront, Riverside Park features Riverview Center, Pearl City Station (both available for event rental); Muscatine Boat Harbor & Marina; Mississippi (recreation) Trail; Mississippi Mist, an interactive splash fountain; and Eric Blome's "Mississippi Harvest," a monumental outdoor sculpture of a "clammer."

**Muscatine Municipal Golf Course:** Located one mile north of the City, this 18-hole facility offers a complete pro shop, concessions, cart rental, driving range, and private or group lessons.

**Wildcat Den State Park:** This 423-acre state park, located 10 miles east of Muscatine, features campgrounds, trails, 75-foot cliffs and rock formations. The 1848 Pine Creek Gristmill and Pine Mill Bridge are also located in the park.

**Trails:** A network of nearly 25 miles of paved and unimproved trails crisscross the community, including the 3.7-mile Mississippi Trail, which extends from Musser Park to Weed Park. Nearly half of this major trail includes the String of Pearls, a lighted section of trail that snakes along the Mississippi riverbank and recalls the city's heyday as the Pearl Button Capital of the World.

**For more information contact:**

City of Muscatine, Iowa
Community Development Department
215 Sycamore Street
Muscatine, IA 52761
Phone: 563.262.4141
www.muscatineiowa.gov/

Greater Muscatine Chamber of Commerce and Industry
102 Walnut Street
Muscatine, IA 52761
Phone: 563.263.8895
www.muscatine.com/

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12/2011



Muscatine, Iowa

# Community Profile

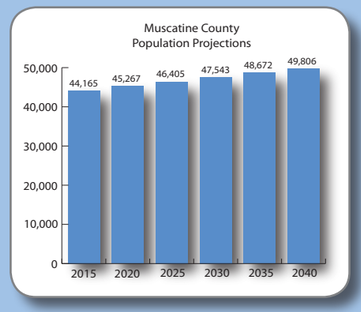
Muscatine was once a world leader in the pearl button manufacturing industry and earned the name, Pearl of the Mississippi. Today, our diverse business community members have forged strong and lasting relationships with the City of Muscatine to become a City of Business. Join the national corporations and homegrown entrepreneurs who choose to make Muscatine their hometown. Former Muscatine resident Samuel Clemens (Mark Twain) once recalled, "And I remember Muscatine—still more pleasantly—for its summer sunsets. I have never seen any, on either side of the ocean, that equaled them." His fond recollection provides some insight into why Muscatine is a great place to live, work, play, and visit.

***Muscatine–City of Business***

SSAB
Stanley Consultants
HNI
musco
HOFFMANN, INC.
MONSANTO
imagine
BRIDGESTONE
MUSCATINE FOODS CORPORATION
Heinz
BRIDGESTONE BANDAG Tire Solutions
Carver Pump Creating Value.
Potters

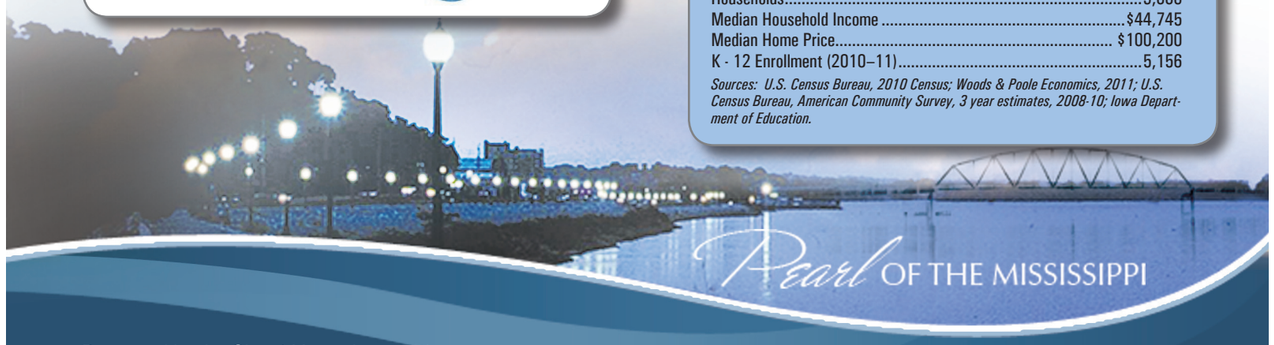
## Fast Facts

City of Muscatine Population.....22,886
Muscatine County Population.....42,745




Median Age.....36.1
Households.....9,008
Median Household Income.....$44,745
Median Home Price.....$100,200
K - 12 Enrollment (2010–11).....5,156

*Sources: U.S. Census Bureau, 2010 Census; Woods & Poole Economics, 2011; U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 3 year estimates, 2008-10; Iowa Department of Education.*




Presented by the City of Muscatine and the
Greater Muscatine Chamber of Commerce and Industry

# TRANSPORTATION

## Air Service

*Muscatine Municipal Airport (MUT)*

A full-service, general aviation facility, offering convenient travel options for many of our local companies in the Muscatine area.

**Website:** www.carveraero.com • **Phone:** 563-263-8672 • **Hours:** 7 am – 6 pm

**Runways:** 06/24 – 5,500 ft. (1,676 m) x 100 ft. (30 m.); MIRL lighting; grooved concrete • 12/30 – 4,000 ft. (1,219 m) x 75 ft. (23 m.); MIRL lighting; grooved concrete

**Additional Amenities:** AWOS; ILS, GPS, RNAV; Unicom frequency 122.70; Pilot area; Wireless Internet; Overnight storage for itinerant aircraft; Elevation–547 ft.; Jet A & 100LL Fuel

**Fixed Base Operator (FBO):** Carver Aero provides fuel, flight training, charter service, and aircraft rental.

*Quad Cities International Airport (MLI)*

Located 45 minutes (33 miles) from Muscatine, serves travelers with over 60 daily arrivals and departures.

Major airlines: AirTran Airways, American Eagle, Delta Connection, and United Express.

**Non-Stop Cities:** Atlanta, Chicago (O'Hare), Dallas-Ft. Worth, Denver, Detroit, Memphis, Minneapolis-St. Paul, and Orlando.

**Runways:** 10,000 ft. (3,048 m.) length x 150 ft. (46 m.) • 7,000 ft. (2134 m.) length x 150 ft. (46 m.) • 5,000 ft. (1524 m.) length x 150 ft. (46 m.)

**Additional Amenities:** Two gift shops & restaurants, ATM, free Wi-Fi, business center and more. Adjacent U.S. Customs Port of Entry for GA clearance.

**Fixed Base Operator (FBO):** Elliott Aviation

## Regional Commuting

Interstate 80 • U.S. Highways 61, 6 • State Highways Iowa 22 & 38; Illinois 92

## Railroad Service

Canadian Pacific Railroad
(Formerly Iowa, Chicago & Eastern)

## Waterways

Mississippi River – Lock and Dam No. 16
9-foot channel
10-month navigation season

# UTILITIES

Muscatine Power and Water (MP&W) is the State of Iowa's largest municipal utility (generation capacity) and offers some of the lowest residential utility rates in the state.

## Competitive Rates

*Residential Utility Bill Comparison*

| Community | Population | Average Residential Utility Bill* |
|---|---|---|
| Muscatine | 22,420 | $2,951.99 |
| Des Moines | 196,998 | $3,168.17 |
| Cedar Rapids | 126,396 | $3,743.04 |
| Marshalltown | 25,815 | $3,780.65 |
| Fort Dodge | 25,230 | $3,235.14 |

*Source: Cedar Falls Utilities Residential Report Card, 2010; Population: U.S. Census Bureau 2007 Population Estimates Program.*

** Note: Annualized costs, September 2009 to August 2010, including residential service for electric, gas, water, cable TV, and high speed Internet.*

*Water Rate Comparison*

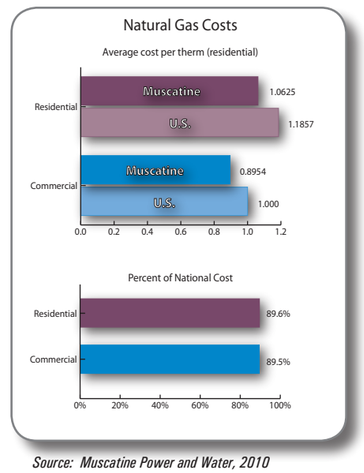
| | Average Residential Rate at 8 CCF* | Avg. Commercial Rate at 25 CCF* |
|---|---|---|
| Muscatine | $1.886 | $1.004 |
| Des Moines | $2.395 | $2.140 |
| Cedar Rapids | N/A | N/A |
| Marshalltown | $2.198 | $1.580 |
| Fort Dodge | N/A | N/A |

*Source: Muscatine Power and Water, 2010*

Alliant Energy provides natural gas services to the Muscatine area and offers very competitive costs.

### Green Energy

- MP&W meets or exceeds all emission standards
- Installed and operated first FDG Plant (SO2) Scrubber in the state of Iowa (1983)
- NOx emission reduction investment of $5.5 million
- Converts coal combustion residue into useable product for concrete and wallboard, thus reducing landfill input




*Source: Muscatine Power and Water, 2010*

### Local Control

- MP&W is publically owned
- Rates and policy decisions are made by a board of local community leaders representing customers and owners



# ECONOMY & EMPLOYMENT

## Major Employers

| Employer Name | Employment |
|---|---|
| HNI Corporation/The HON Company, Allsteel | 3,200 |
| Grain Processing/Kent Feeds | 1,010 |
| West Liberty Foods | 880 |
| Muscatine Community School District | 820 |
| Trinity Muscatine (formerly Unity Health Care) | 480 |
| SSAB | 470 |
| Musco Sports Lighting | 400 |
| Monsanto Company | 380 |
| Wal-Mart Superstore | 350 |
| Muscatine Power & Water | 300 |
| Heinz, U.S.A. | 305 |
| Stanley Consultants | 280 |
| Hy-Vee Food Store | 260 |
| Raymond - Muscatine, Inc. (formerly BT Prime Mover) | 220 |
| Bridgestone Bandag LLC | 180 |

*Source: Compiled by Greater Muscatine Chamber of Commerce & Industry, 2011 from individual employers.*

## Labor Force and Employment

| | |
|---|---|
| Labor Force, Laborshed Area[1] | 326,101 |
| Labor Force, Muscatine County[2] | 22,700 |
| Employed, Muscatine County[2] | 21,360 |
| Unemployed, Muscatine County[2] | 1,350 |
| Unemployment Rate, Muscatine County[2] | 5.9% |

*Sources: [1] Labor force is compiled for the Muscatine Laborshed Area, which includes 93 zip codes within a 50-mile radius of Muscatine; Iowa Workforce Development,* ***Laborshed Analysis****, August 20 11; [2] Iowa Workforce Development, September 2011*

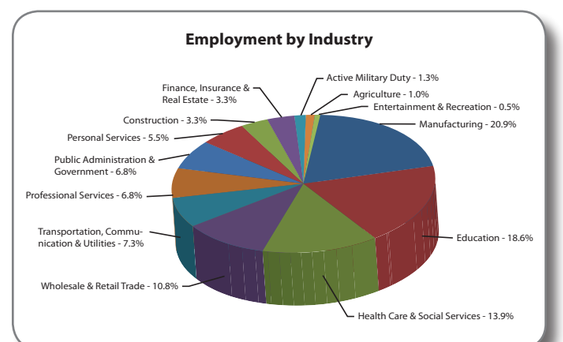
## Taxes

**State Corporate Income Tax:** Based solely on in-state sales.

**Federal Taxes Deductible:** Corporate = 50% • Individual = 100%

**State/Local Sales Tax:**
Current state sales tax is 5%, with two additional local option sales taxes of 1% each, bringing the total to 7%. All sales taxes exclude food, prescription drugs and medical devices.

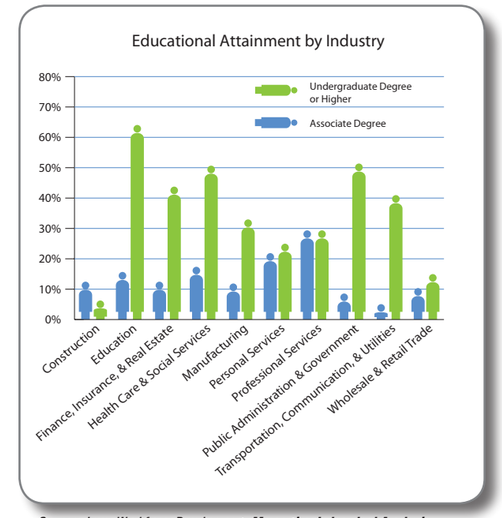
**Property Tax:** Manufacturing machinery, equipment, and computers are exempt from property tax.




*Source: Iowa Workforce Development,* ***Muscatine Laborshed Analysis****, August 2011.*
*Note: Sectors total to the number employed in the Muscatine Laborshed.*

## Educated Workforce

Muscatine has an educated workforce with nearly all major industries having ***25%*** or more of their employees with undergraduate degrees or higher. (Source: Iowa Workforce Development, **Laborshed Analysis**, August 2011). Out of the overall population aged 25 and over, ***82.1%*** are high school graduates and ***20.1%*** have a Bachelor's degree or higher. *(Source: U.S. Census, American Community Survey, 2006 - 2010 Estimates.)*




*Source: Iowa Workforce Development,* ***Muscatine Laborshed Analysis****, August 2011*

## Education

*School Enrollment*

### Muscatine Community School District

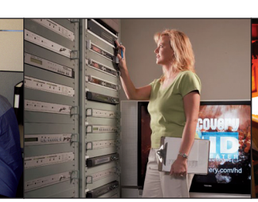
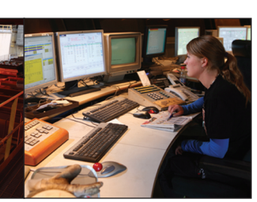
| | |
|---|---|
| Total District Enrollment (2010-11) | 5,156 |
| Graduating Class Size | 328 |
| High School Graduation Rate | 79% |

***66%*** of high school graduates were enrolled in college within one year of graduation.

*Higher Education*

According to the Quad Cities Chamber of Commerce Study, *2010 Graduate Inventory*, there are nearly ***50,000*** students who received a degree within a 90-mile radius of the area.

Muscatine is home to ***Muscatine Community College***. MCC provides a more affordable education, with easy transfer to most four-year colleges and universities, 100+ program options/majors, and one of the lowest tuitions in Iowa, MCC provides a quality education with smaller class sizes, highly qualified instructors and flexible course scheduling.

The ***University of Iowa*** is located in Iowa City, less than one hour away.

The Quad Cities ***offers*** two community colleges, a technical/trade college, one four-year college, two universities, a college of chiropractic, and a graduate center.