



Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics and Iowa Medicaid Enterprise

Direct care professionals (DCPs) are individuals who provide supportive services and care to people with health conditions, illnesses, or disabilities. DCPs are commonly called direct support professionals, direct care workers, supported community living workers, home health aides, certified nurse aides, and many other job titles.

The three categories below represent job classifications used by the U.S. Department of Labor's Bureau of Labor Statistics – the vast majority of DCP's fall into one of these groups. These numbers were used by the Iowa Direct Care Worker Advisory Council to estimate the size of the direct care workforce.

At about 78,000 individuals, DCPs are Iowa's largest workforce.

33,462 ● Personal and Home Care Aides

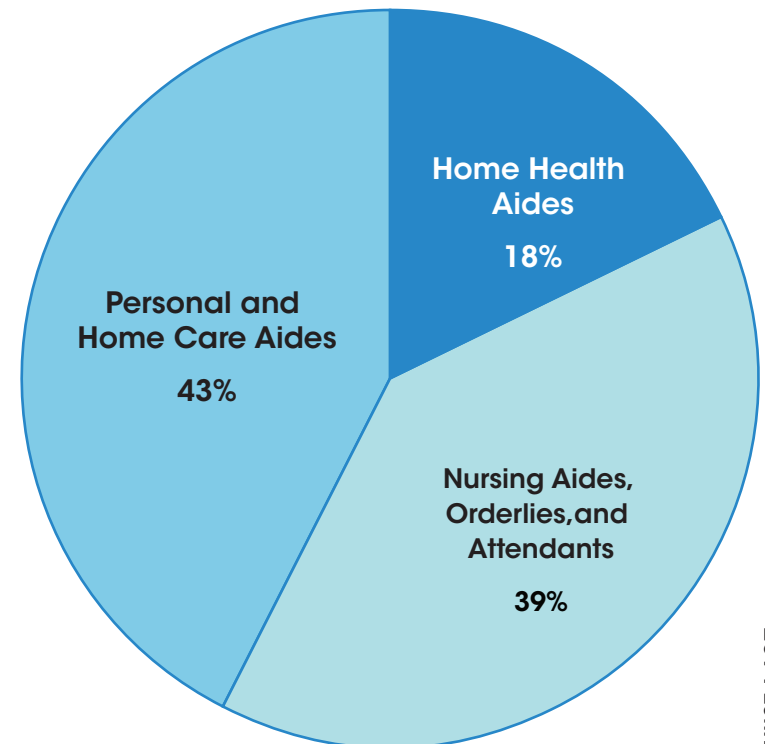
Often called direct support professionals, these workers provide support services such as implementing a behavior plan, teaching self-care skills and providing employment support, as well as providing a range of other personal assistance services.

30,287 ● Nursing Aides, Orderlies, and Attendants

Most Nursing Aides have received specific training for the job and some have received their certification as a Certified Nursing Assistant (CNA) in Iowa. According to the Department of Labor, Nursing Aides provide hands-on care under the supervision of nursing and medical staff in hospitals and nursing care facilities, although they do work in home and community based settings as well.

14,260 ● Home Health Aides

Home health aides typically work for home health or hospice agencies and work under the direct supervision of a medical professional. These aides provide support to people in their homes, residential facilities, or in day programs.



2014 Estimates