In order for a wind turbine to work efficiently, wind speeds usually must be above 12 to 14 miles per hour. Wind has to be this speed to turn the turbines fast enough to generate electricity.

**DETERMINE THE MEANING OF VOCABULARY IN CONTEXT**
- “Average” wind speed means that sometimes the wind is stronger, and sometimes it is weaker.
- “Well-exposed” means an open area with few trees and buildings where the wind is not blocked.

**RELEVANCE**
This map would be relevant to anyone in Iowa considering installing a wind turbine.

**INTERPRET A MAP**
- Indianola is located in south central Iowa in the light blue region. By using the color-coded map key, it would appear that Indianola would receive on average wind speed of 13.4 - 14.5 miles per hour.
- These results were measured at 50 meters above ground. This could mean that a wind turbine in this area would have to be at least that tall to achieve the same wind speeds.

**DOCUMENT DESCRIPTION**
This is a map of Iowa showing the yearly average wind speed.

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