NONFARM EMPLOYMENT EXPERIENCES FIRST DECLINE SINCE MARCH

Total nonfarm employment decreased slightly in September (-400), the first monthly decline since March. Although there were some signs of hiring in the private sector, seasonal gains in government education were less than expected and more than matched the private sector growth. Government shed a combined 1,200 jobs in September, but still hovers 2,100 jobs higher than last year’s mark.

Private industries gained 800 jobs in September and have risen by 10,600 jobs annually.

Within private sectors, the largest monthly movement in September was in financial activities (+900). This sector has been showing signs of cutbacks throughout 2019, although there were job gains in each of the last two months. Whereas insurance carriers and related activities have expanded versus one year ago, credit intermediation has been generally flat since last September. Construction fared well in September and gained 800 jobs as projects continued later into the season. This sector has now added jobs in every month since April.

Private sector losses were generally light in September. Leisure and hospitality had a drop of 700 jobs due to losses in accommodations and food services. Eating and drinking establishments were responsible for most of this monthly loss. Professional and business services pared 400 jobs with losses being concentrated in administrative support and waste management services.

Manufacturing again posted a monthly loss (-200) as nondurable goods factories reduced staff. This is now the third-consecutive decrease for manufacturing.

Annually, Iowa establishments have gained 12,700 jobs over last year’s mark. Although manufacturing has shown some recent weakness in nondurable goods manufacturing it still leads all super sectors in annual job gains (+4,800). Construction has reemerged recently as a job creator following a dismal first quarter and now rests 3,300 jobs above last year. The only super sectors losing jobs annually are information (-1,300) and mining (-100).

Nationally, total nonfarm employment gained 136,000 jobs in September. Growth this month was spurred by health care (+39,000) and professional and business services (+34,000). Over the past twelve months, 2.1 million jobs have been added at a rate of 1.4 percent.

http://www.iowalmi.gov/
Production workers in Iowa’s goods-producing sector averaged $977.60 in September, up $10.75 versus one year ago. The annual increase in wages stems from 91 cents being added in average hourly earnings, although this gain has been partially offset by a shrinking in overtime hours for construction workers. Overall, construction workers earned $1,094 in September, down $77.10 due to the reduced schedules. Manufacturing workers gained $59.47 annually due mostly to hourly wage growth.

Retail trade workers earned $429 a week in September, up $13.78 versus last year due to an hourly wage increase of 61 cents. Finance workers are experiencing a healthy gain in hourly wages and weekly schedules and are up $64.18 over last year’s weekly wages. Their weekly earnings for September were $1,031.
Business establishments in the Ames Metro area bolstered payrolls by 5,000 jobs in September, leaving total nonfarm employment up 1,400 jobs. This month’s increase is somewhat higher than what is expected historically and mostly the result of seasonal gains in state government education (+3,800). Overall, government added 4,400 jobs in September. Private services increased by 600 jobs, more than historically expected, and goods producing industries were unchanged since August.

Following this month’s large increase, private service industries are now up 700 jobs above last September’s mark. Goods producing industries are up 400 jobs despite little movement this month and government has advanced by 300 jobs at the local level.

For additional information, contact James Morris (515-281-8515)

The Cedar Rapids metropolitan statistical area added 1,300 jobs in September with a seasonal boost in local government (+2,200) and educational and health services (+300). All other industries were unchanged or pared employment.

Gains were partially offset by losses in professional and business services and leisure and hospitality (-400 each), mining and construction (-200), manufacturing (-100) and other services (-100).

Over the year, area employment has increased by 100 jobs, and stands at 145,100 jobs. Local government has added 400 jobs from one year ago. Mining and construction has added 300 jobs, educational and health services has added 200 jobs and manufacturing added 100 jobs.

For additional information, contact Dennis Schwartz (515-281-5754)
The Des Moines Metro area shed 3,600 jobs in September, lowering total nonfarm employment to 378,300 jobs. This month’s decline is unusually large and heavily influenced by leisure and hospitality paring down summer employment this month. In total, this sector shed 3,700 jobs mostly due to seasonal layoffs in recreational industries and temporary concessions and was generally expected given the unusually high surge in summer employment over the past few months. Trade, transportation, and utilities shed 800 jobs due partially to a loss of 500 jobs in retail trade. Smaller monthly declines this month included financial activities (-300) and professional and business services (-200). Alternatively, government experienced the largest monthly gain this month (+1,500). This increase was entirely due to local schools resuming following the summer break. The only other major increase this month was in mining, logging, and construction (+300) which was the result of local building projects continuing late into the season this year; typically construction pares jobs in September.

Annually, Des Moines is up 7,500 jobs. Almost every sector has added jobs since last year with the largest gains being in professional and business services (+2,000), leisure and hospitality (+1,900), and trade, transportation, and utilities (+1,900). Construction continues to hold onto employment late into the season and is up 1,800 jobs. Education and health care is the only super sector down annually (-500).

Business establishments in the Dubuque area added 300 jobs in September. This monthly increase is on the smaller side compared to the prior ten years. Government gained 500 jobs due to schools resuming locally. Goods producing industries shed 200 jobs as construction projects starting to wrapped up for the season. Private industries were flat in September which is unusual for the MSA. Since last year, the Dubuque Metro has added 500 jobs. Goods producing industries are leading all segments with 300 jobs added annually. Both government and private service industries are up 100 jobs.

For additional information, contact James Morris (515-281-8515)
Employment in the Iowa City metropolitan statistical area declined 100 jobs from last month, a result of 300 fewer jobs in goods-producing industries and 200 fewer in private service-providing industries. Government added 400 jobs, largely due to a gain of 300 in state government. Other over-the-month changes were minimal, with a gain of 100 in each, leisure and hospitality and trade, transportation and warehousing.

The metro area has pared 1,100 jobs from one year ago, with minimal gains in some industries, including; professional and business services (+100), and leisure and hospitality (+100). Government trimmed 200 jobs with an even split between state and local government (-100 each).

Employment in the Sioux City MSA is up 500 jobs from August, with only one sector, government, experiencing a seasonal employment gain over the month (+900). Trade, transportation and warehousing pared 400 jobs, leisure and hospitality trimmed 300 jobs, professional and business services employment is down 200 jobs and manufacturing has shed 100 jobs.

Overall, area employment is 300 above one year ago. Trade, transportation and warehousing gets credit for the majority of the increase (+600) as employment continues to climb in the sector. Manufacturing added 500 jobs, mostly in non-durable goods manufacturing. Government added 200 jobs with an even split between federal and local government.
The Waterloo/Cedar Falls metropolitan statistical area’s total nonfarm employment gained 1,100 jobs from the previous month and stands at 91,800. State government is responsible for the bulk of the increase with an expected seasonal change (+1,300). Educational and health services also enjoyed a gain of 300 jobs. On the negative side, manufacturing trimmed 700 jobs with a loss of 100 in non-durable goods manufacturing and 600 in durable goods manufacturing. This is the largest one month employment decline in manufacturing since October 2009.

Over the year, the area pared 800 jobs. Manufacturing pared 600 jobs as durable goods manufacturing shed 800 jobs and non-durable goods manufacturing added 200 jobs. Trade, transportation and warehousing trimmed 400 jobs. Financial activities and professional and business services are unchanged from one year ago. Leisure and hospitality trimmed 100 jobs.

For additional information, contact Dennis Schwartz (515-281-5754)

Links to Additional Information
Click on a link below to visit web page

Worker Adjustment & Retraining Notification Act
U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics

Unemployment Insurance Benefit Payments
Consumer Price Index (CPI)

Unemployment Insurance Benefit Paid by County
Employment Statistics for Canada

Contact Information
Iowa Workforce Development Employment Statistics Bureau
1000 East Grand Avenue
Des Moines, IA 50319-0209
Tel: 515-281-8515
Tel: 800-532-9793
Fax: 515-281-8195
Email: james.morris@iwd.iowa.gov
www.iowaworkforce.org

http://www.iowalmi.gov/