

## Status of the

# Iowa Workforce and Economy

### Upcoming 2018 News Release Schedule

Reference Month	Statewide News Release	Local Area News Release
Jan	Mar 12	Mar 12
Feb	Mar 23	Mar 27
<b>Mar</b>	<b>Apr 20</b>	<b>Apr 24</b>
Apr	May 18	May 22
May	Jun 15	Jun 19
Jun	Jul 20	Jul 24
Jul	Aug 17	Aug 21
Aug	Sep 21	Sep 25
Sep	Oct 19	Oct 23
Oct	Nov 16	Nov 20
Nov	Dec 21	Dec 27
Dec	Jan 18	Jan 23

### Iowa Nonfarm Employment Seasonally Adjusted

Year	Month	Total Nonfarm Employment	Manufacturing Employment
2017	Aug	1,572,200	215,700
	Sep	1,572,500	217,000
	Oct	1,573,500	218,800
	Nov	1,577,100	220,400
	Dec	1,582,600	223,000
2018	Jan	1,580,200	223,400
	Feb	1,582,700	224,000
	Mar	1,582,100	224,200

### Iowa Workforce Development

Information Prepared by the Labor Market Information Division

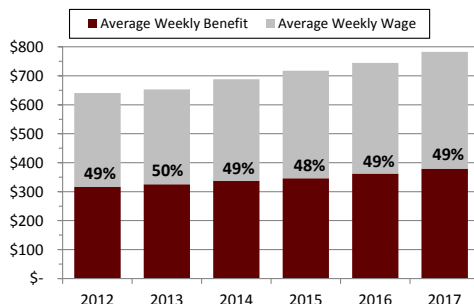
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Donna Burkett, Bureau Chief  
Iowa Workforce Development

- Iowa's unemployment rate fell to 2.8 percent in March. The state's jobless rate was 3.3 percent one year ago.
- The state's unemployment level dropped to 47,300 in March from 47,900 in February.
- The U.S. unemployment rate held at 4.1 percent in March and has remained at this rate since October 2017.

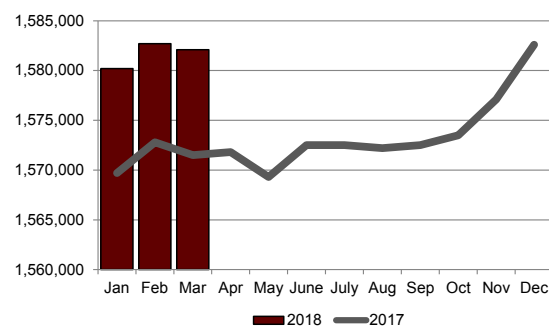
### Iowa Unemployment Insurance Replacement Rate



Source: U.S. Department of Labor UI Benefit Accuracy Measurement (BAM)

- The UI replacement rate is the ratio of the claimants' weekly benefit amount to the claimants' average weekly wage. The Iowa weekly benefit amount covered about half of the claimants' weekly wage.
- Within Iowa's metro areas, the largest annual job gains have been in Des Moines (+2,100) and Ames (+1,100). Small losses occurred in Dubuque (-200) and Waterloo (-100).
- Production workers in Iowa's manufacturing sector averaged \$816.61 in March, up \$18.89 compared to last year's mark.
- U.S. total nonfarm payroll added 103,000 jobs in March following a large gain of 326,000 in February.

### Iowa Total Nonfarm Employment January 2017 - March 2018



- Total nonfarm employment pared jobs for the second time in 2018, shedding a slight 600 jobs.
- Following a gain of 800 in February, construction added 1,300 jobs in March. This sector faced losses through most of last year.
- Professional, scientific, and technical services added 1,200 jobs over the past two months. Part of this gain was due to larger than expected hiring within tax preparation firms.
- Retail trade continues to post weak numbers in Iowa and shed 1,800 jobs in March. A total of 4,600 jobs have been lost compared to last March.
- Total nonfarm employment remains up 10,600 jobs annually. Manufacturing has fueled most of the gains.

### Iowa and U.S. Unemployment Rates for 2018

