

NEWS RELEASE

For Statewide Distribution



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Iowa Adds 11,200 Jobs in June

DES MOINES, IOWA – Iowa’s seasonally adjusted unemployment rate increased slightly to 3.2 percent for June. The state’s jobless rate was 3.8 percent one year ago. The U.S. unemployment rate rose to 4.4 percent in June.

“Iowa businesses experienced unusually high job growth in June,” said Beth Townsend, Iowa Workforce Development Director. “Annual growth in the state has been weak since the beginning of the year; however, this month’s expansion in total nonfarm employment helped solidify improvements in Iowa’s job market including growth in the service industry, manufacturing and financial services.”

The number of unemployed Iowans increased to 53,600 in June. The current estimate is 10,500 lower than the year ago level of 64,100.

The total number of working Iowans decreased to 1,633,100 in June. This figure was 2,900 lower than May and 3,200 lower than one year ago.

Seasonally Adjusted Nonfarm Employment

Iowa establishments displayed strong hiring in June and added 11,200 jobs. This month’s increase is historically large and due to both gains in private and public sectors. Industries that are seasonal in nature all grew this month with the largest increases being in recreation and eating and drinking establishments. Government also added jobs this month (+4,000) with gains being largely attributable to local governments. Compared to last year, government is now up 600 jobs, whereas private sectors have now advanced by 25,000 jobs following this month’s surge.

Leisure and hospitality added the most jobs this month (+3,100). This was the largest increase among private sectors and breaks a string of seasonal losses stretching back to January. Restaurants and drinking establishments helped boost employment in accommodations and food services this month (+2,000). Manufacturing followed with its second-consecutive gain in June (+1,600). Once again, gains were evident in both durable and non-durable goods factories. The monthly increase pulls manufacturing back into the green versus this time last year. Other gains this month included education and healthcare services (+1,500) which experienced its first gain since March. Finance, insurance, and real estate added jobs again this month (+1,100) and hasn’t pared payrolls since last August. Alternatively, losses this month were light and limited to just two sectors: trade, transportation, and utilities (-700) and other services (-400).

Annually, total nonfarm employment rebounded from lackluster annual growth this month and now rests up 25,600 jobs versus last year. Education and healthcare services have added the most jobs over the last twelve months and have been fueled by the expanding healthcare industry (+8,700). Growth in private education services has been stagnant since last June. Trade and transportation continues to trend above last year’s mark despite this month’s drop and has advanced 5,100 jobs. Finance has steadily climbed over the past several months and is now up 4,700 jobs annually. The only sector still trending below last June is information services (-1,200).

Employment and Unemployment in Iowa, Seasonally Adjusted Data

	June 2017	May 2017	June 2016	Change from May 2017	June 2016
Civilian labor force	1,686,700	1,689,100	1,700,400	-2,400	-13,700
Unemployment	53,600	53,100	64,100	500	-10,500
Unemployment rate	3.2%	3.1%	3.8%	0.1	-0.6
Employment	1,633,100	1,636,000	1,636,300	-2,900	-3,200
U.S. unemployment rate	4.4%	4.3%	4.9%	0.1	-0.5

Nonfarm Employment in Iowa, Seasonally Adjusted Data

Total Nonfarm Employment	1,591,800	1,580,600	1,566,200	11,200	25,600
Mining	2,500	2,500	2,200	0	300
Construction	79,500	78,800	79,500	700	0
Manufacturing	214,500	212,900	213,800	1,600	700
Trade, transportation and utilities	319,300	320,000	314,200	-700	5,100
Information	21,400	21,400	22,600	0	-1,200
Financial activities	113,000	111,900	108,300	1,100	4,700
Professional and business services	142,500	142,200	137,900	300	4,600
Education and health services	235,800	234,300	228,400	1,500	7,400
Leisure and hospitality	144,400	141,300	142,300	3,100	2,100
Other services	60,200	60,600	58,900	-400	1,300
Government	258,700	254,700	258,100	4,000	600

Unemployment Insurance Claims for Iowa

	June 2017	May 2017	June 2016	% Change from May 2017	June 2016
Initial claims	10,201	9,272	11,020	10.0%	-7.4%
Continued claims					
Number of claimants	21,970	22,504	25,698	-2.4%	-14.5%
Weeks paid	80,825	68,070	89,598	18.7%	-9.8%
Amount paid	\$29,333,356	\$25,555,092	\$31,808,005	14.8%	-7.8%

Visit www.iowalmi.gov for more information about current and historical data, labor force data, nonfarm employment, hours and earnings, and jobless benefits by county.

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MEDIA ALERT: An audio cut of comments about Iowa's labor market situation is available by calling (515) 281-6057. Statewide data for July 2017 will be released on Friday, August 18, 2017. Local data for July will be posted to the IWD website on Tuesday, August 22, 2017.