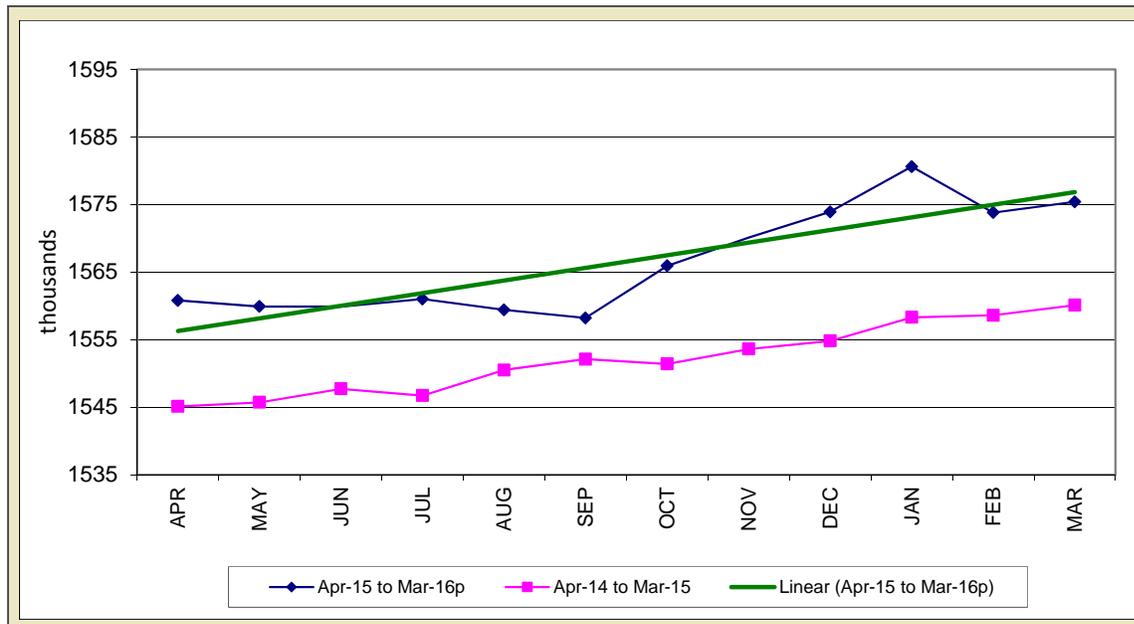


# STATE OF IOWA NONFARM EMPLOYMENT WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

MARCH 2016  
LMR MONTHLY

**NONFARM EMPLOYMENT LEVEL ENDS YEAR WITH SMALL GAIN**



Following a drop last month, Iowa nonfarm employment resumed adding jobs in March. The increase of 1,600 was modest, and generally the result of private industry bolstering employment. Government changed little versus February and hasn't moved much compared to last March (-100) with state government declines being offset by hiring in local and federal government. With this month's gain, Iowa nonfarm employment increased to 1,575,400 jobs total—15,300 jobs more than one year ago.

Construction posted the largest single gain this month (+3,600). The gain may partially be the result of firms starting work early this year coupled with the undertaking of new commercial and infrastructure projects. Employment in construction is expected to rise through 2016. Other sectors that added employment this month included trade and transportation, professional and

business services, and leisure and hospitality.

Alternatively, the manufacturing sector felt the effects of waning demand this month (-3,000). Job loss was particularly heavy in durable goods factories (-2,400) and partially due to cutbacks within transportation equipment manufacturers. Education and health care shed jobs this month (-800). The loss was mostly centered within health care (-700). Iowa's finance sector lost jobs for the first time in several months in March; however, the loss (-500) wasn't severe and this sector remains markedly up compared to one year ago.

Compared to last year, Iowa nonfarm employment continues to trend up, although the pace has started to show signs of slowing down. Construction has been responsible for almost half of the jobs added (+7,500) and is

expected to remain strong through the summer. Education and health care has also fared well versus one year ago (+4,600), as is true with trade and transportation (+4,400). The sectors not performing well over the past twelve months include manufacturing (-6,100), information (-1,600), and professional and business services (-1,500).

Nationally, nonfarm employment increased by 215,000 jobs in March. The largest gains occurred in retail trade, construction, and health care. The annual growth rate of 2.0 percent for the nation is now double that of Iowa (1.0 percent).

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

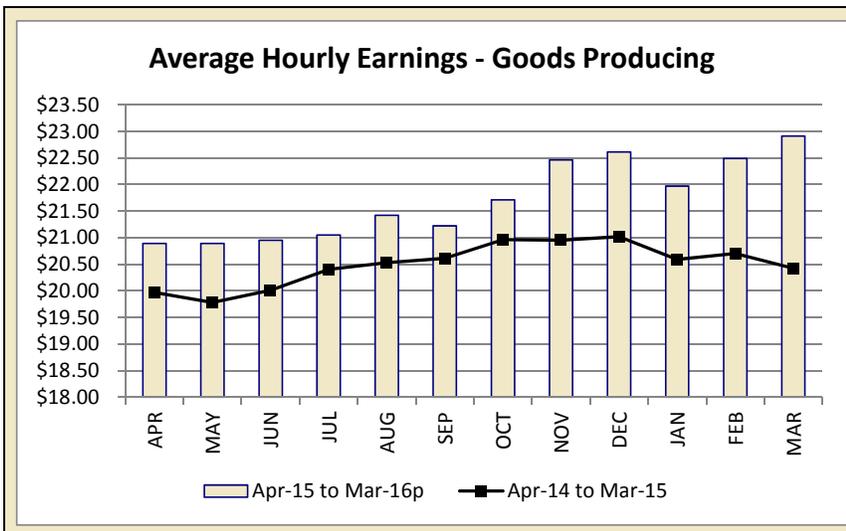
For additional information, contact James Morris (515-281-8515)

**METROPOLITAN STATISTICAL AREA  
SEASONALLY ADJUSTED NONFARM EMPLOYMENT (TOTAL NONFARM)**

MSA	Mar-15	Apr-15	May-15	Jun-15	Jul-15	Aug-15	Sep-15	Oct-15	Nov-15	Dec-15	Jan-16	Feb-16	Mar-16p
AMES	52.5	52.7	52.7	52.1	52.1	52.6	52.8	52.8	52.8	52.8	53.1	53.2	52.7
CEDAR RAPIDS	143.4	142.8	143.1	143.2	143.5	144.0	143.1	142.7	143.0	143.1	144.9	144.0	144.6
DES MOINES/W. DES MOINES	347.5	347.2	348.5	349.3	350.6	350.1	349.2	349.2	349.8	350.0	352.0	349.6	348.4
DUBUQUE	59.8	59.7	59.8	59.5	59.8	59.8	60.1	60.2	60.1	60.3	60.5	60.3	60.7
IOWA CITY	98.5	98.6	98.2	98.4	98.6	98.6	98.4	98.9	98.9	99.2	99.1	99.4	99.4
SIOUX CITY *													
WATERLOO/CEDAR FALLS	91.8	91.3	91.1	91.1	91.1	91.1	90.7	90.5	90.6	90.7	91.4	90.7	91.0

\* Seasonally adjusted data for the Sioux City MSA is not available due to redefinition of the metropolitan area to now include Plymouth County

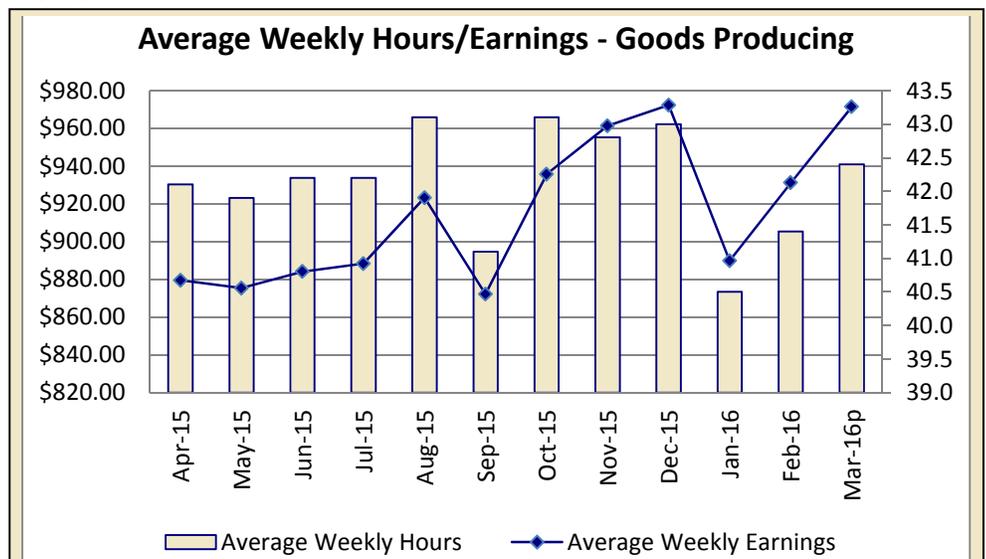
**IOWA'S HOURS & EARNINGS**



Goods-producing Hours & Earnings	
Average Weekly Earnings	\$971.38
Average Hourly Earnings	\$22.91
Average Weekly Hours	42.4

Production workers in Iowa's goods-producing sectors averaged \$971.38 in March, up \$40.29 versus last month. The gain is largely due to a seasonal increase in overtime hours worked in construction, although employment gains show there has been a recent surge in projects undertaken as of late. Construction workers are averaging over \$300 more than this time last year due to a spike in overtime hours. Conversely, manufacturing workers have seen their wages dip slightly due to cutbacks.

Among private services, retail workers averaged \$364.80 in March, up \$36.24 versus one year ago. Finance workers saw relatively little change versus last month and averaged \$915.05 in March.



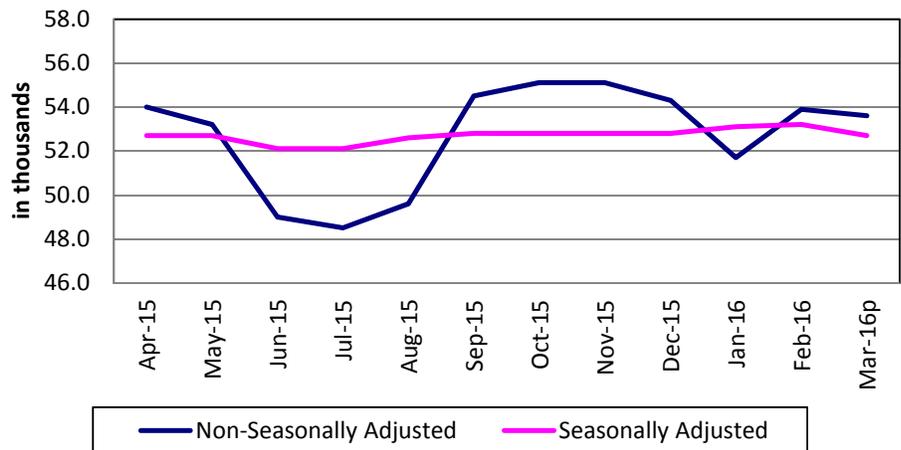
METROPOLITAN STATISTICAL AREAS

[CLICK TABLE FOR DATA](#)

Ames MSA Employment	
Total Nonfarm 15 <sup>p</sup>	53,600
Total Nonfarm 14	53,200
% Change 1 Yr	0.75%
Noteworthy Expanding and Contracting Industries (1 yr)	
Pvt Service Provide	3.36%
Goods Producing	-5.80%

*p - preliminary data*

Ames - Nonfarm Employment



The Ames Metro area decreased to 53,600 in March, a loss of 300 jobs. The decline this month was due to an unexpected loss in government (-400), or more specifically, state government (-300). Goods-producing industries added 100 jobs this month, while private services were unchanged.

Annually, 400 jobs have been added to the metro area's total. Private services were responsible for all of the gain (+800). Goods-producing sectors are down 400 jobs and government is unchanged.

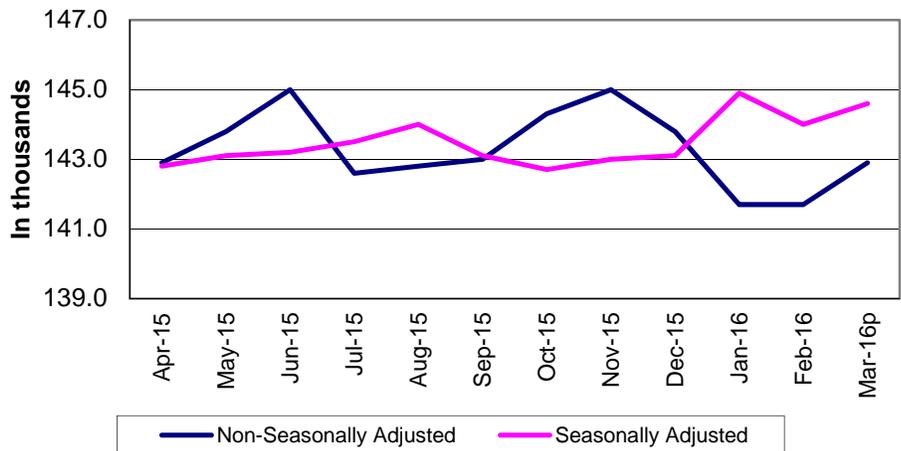
*For additional information, contact James Morris (515-281-8515)*

[CLICK TABLE FOR DATA](#)

Cedar Rapids MSA Employment	
Total Nonfarm 15 <sup>p</sup>	142,900
Total Nonfarm 14	142,100
% Change 1 Yr	0.56%
Noteworthy Expanding and Contracting Industries (1 yr)	
Other Services	3.77%
Information	-6.67%

*p - preliminary data*

Cedar Rapids - Nonfarm Employment



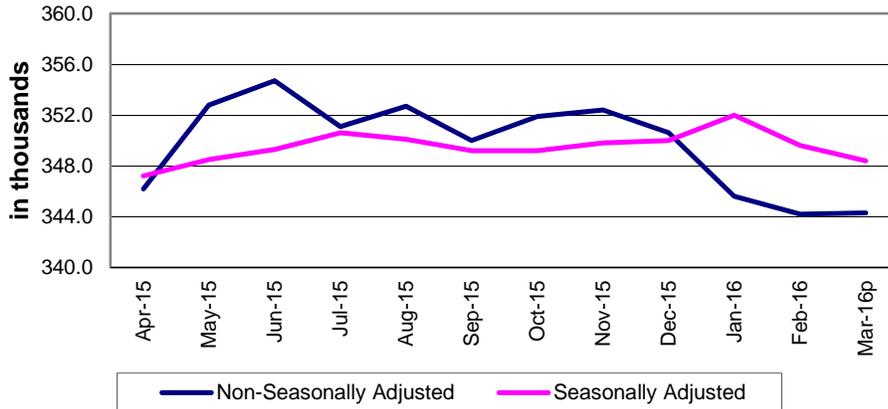
The Cedar Rapids metropolitan statistical area added 1,200 nonfarm jobs from February, bringing employment to 142,900. Total nonfarm employment in the metro area is 800 above one year ago.

Retail trade ended three consecutive months of decline, adding 200 jobs this month and contributing to a gain of 400 in trade, transportation and warehousing. Mining and construction realized a gain of 200, matching the February-to-March 2015 movement. Manufacturing added 100 jobs following three months with no change in the employment level. Financial activities also added 100 jobs. Employment in the industry has not fluctuated more than 100 jobs in the past year.

There are only a couple of significant over-the-year changes. Trade, transportation and warehousing has added 500 jobs (1.56%) from one year ago and educational and health services has added 300 jobs (1.50%). Manufacturing has also added 300 jobs (1.49%).

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

**Des Moines/West Des Moines -  
Nonfarm Employment**



[CLICK TABLE FOR DATA](#)

Des Moines MSA Employment	
Total Nonfarm 15p	344,300
Total Nonfarm 14	342,400
% Change 1 Yr	0.55%
Noteworthy Expanding and Contracting Industries (1 yr)	
Financial Activities	4.32%
State Government	-6.33%

p - preliminary data

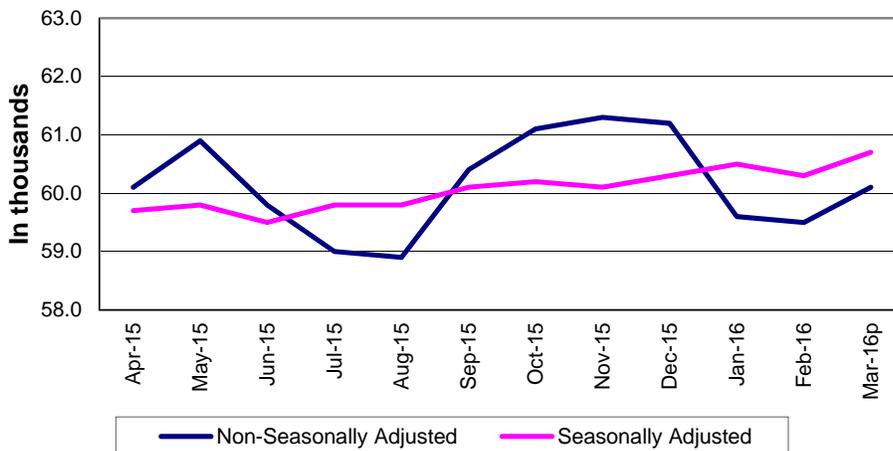
The Des Moines metro area nonfarm employment saw little movement in March and now rests at 344,300 jobs. Minor private sector gains (+500) were nearly matched by public sector drops (-400). March is typically a month when seasonal gains are expected, so this month's stagnant report is somewhat surprising.

Education and health care typically adds jobs in March; however, this month saw a paring of 600 jobs. These losses were concentrated in health care services (-500). Despite the loss, this sector is expected to recover as the year progresses. Manufacturing also shed jobs this month (-100), but remains up slightly versus last year (+100). Alternately, those sectors adding jobs in March included construction (+700), professional and business services (+200), leisure and hospitality (+200), and trade and transportation (+100).

Annually, the Des Moines area is up 1,900 jobs (+0.6 percent). Finance has fueled most of the gain (+2,300), while leisure and hospitality has shouldered much of the drop (-1,100).

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

**Dubuque - Nonfarm Employment**



[CLICK TABLE FOR DATA](#)

Dubuque MSA Employment	
Total Nonfarm 15p	60,100
Total Nonfarm 14	59,000
% Change 1 Yr	1.01%
Noteworthy Expanding and Contracting Industries (1 yr)	
Pvt Service Provide	1.86%
Government	2.08%

p - preliminary data

The Dubuque Metro added 600 jobs in March and now stands at 60,100 jobs. This month's gain is slightly more than expected and puts the metro area up 1,100 jobs compared to one year ago (+1.9 percent).

Goods-producing sectors added 300 jobs, mainly within construction, and are now up 200 jobs annually. Despite a loss in trade and transportation, private services gained 200 jobs in March and are now up 800 jobs compared to last year. Government has added 100 jobs both monthly and annually and now rests at 4,900 jobs.

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

[CLICK TABLE FOR DATA](#)

Iowa City MSA Employment	
Total Nonfarm 15p	99,400
Total Nonfarm 14	98,300
% Change 1 Yr	1.12%
Noteworthy Expanding and Contracting Industries	
Retail Trade	6.06%
Goods-producing	-3.09%

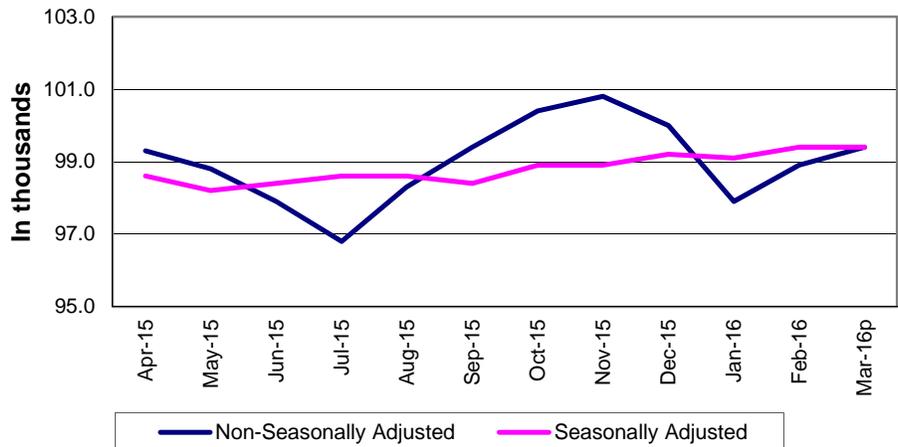
p - preliminary data

Nonfarm employment in the Iowa City metropolitan statistical area is up 500 jobs from last month, boosted by a gain of 200 jobs in trade, transportation and warehousing, half of which were in retail trade, and an additional 200 jobs in leisure and hospitality.

In spite of goods-producing sectors shedding 300 jobs, professional and business services paring 200 jobs and leisure and hospitality being down 100 jobs, the metro area has added 1,100 jobs from one year ago. Trade, transportation and warehousing is responsible for 900 of the additional jobs and government added to the gains with 300 additional jobs.

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

### Iowa City - Nonfarm Employment



[CLICK TABLE FOR DATA](#)

Sioux City MSA Employment	
Total Nonfarm 15p	87,500
Total Nonfarm 14	86,500
% Change 1 Yr	1.16%
Noteworthy Expanding and Contracting Industries	
Retail Trade	1.92%
Manufacturing	-1.95%

p - preliminary data

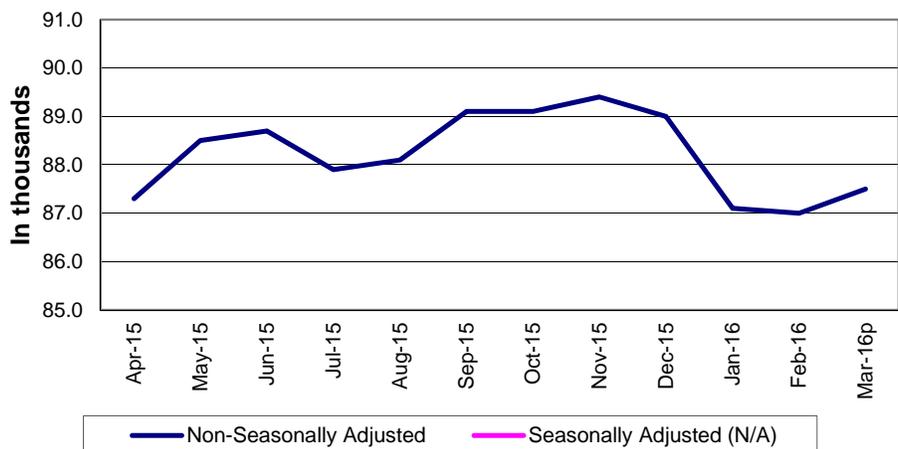
The Sioux City MSA has been redefined. It now includes: Dixon and Dakota Counties in Nebraska, Union County in South Dakota, and Woodbury and Plymouth Counties in Iowa.

Employment in the Sioux City MSA gained 500 jobs from February, driven by 200-job additions in both the goods producing and leisure and hospitality sectors. Trade, transportation and warehousing shed jobs for the third consecutive month, however the industry remains 400 jobs above one year ago.

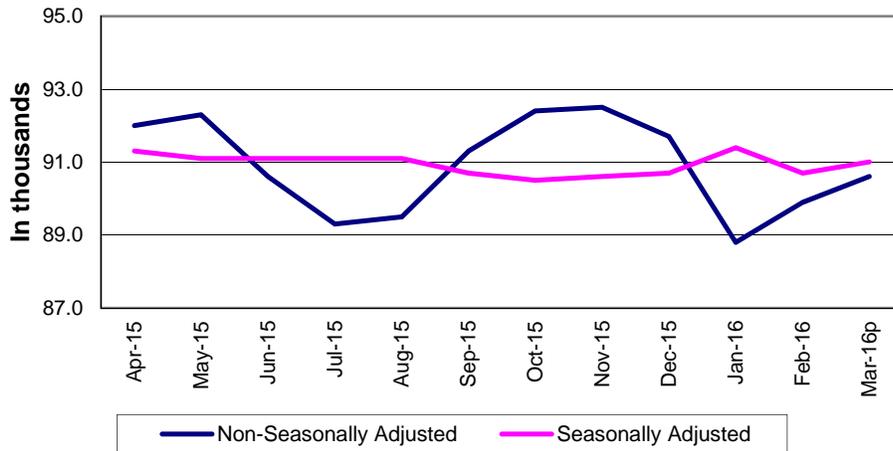
Overall, the area has added 1,000 jobs from one year ago. Professional and business services and government each shed 100 jobs and manufacturing employment is down 300 jobs from one year ago. Goods-producing industries have added 600 jobs.

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

### Sioux City - Nonfarm Employment



**Waterloo/Cedar Falls - Nonfarm Employment**



[CLICK TABLE FOR DATA](#)

<b>Waterloo/Cedar Falls MSA Employment</b>	
Total Nonfarm 15p	90,600
Total Nonfarm 14	91,500
% Change 1 Yr	-0.98%
Noteworthy Expanding and Contracting Industries	
Health Care & Soc	1.68%
Financial activities	-4.08%

*p - preliminary data*

The Waterloo/Cedar Falls metropolitan statistical area's total nonfarm employment added 700 jobs from the previous month and stands at 90,600. Job gains were distributed across many sectors with no large gains in any specific sector. Manufacturing, professional and business services, leisure and hospitality and government each added 100 jobs. Goods-producing industries, overall, added 500 jobs.

Over the year, employment is down 900 jobs, with manufacturing experiencing the greatest loss, shedding 600 jobs, all in durable goods manufacturing. There are no sectors with employment gains from one year ago.

*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 \(WARN\)](#)

[U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics](#)

[Unemployment Insurance Benefit Payments](#)

[Consumer Price Index \(CPI\)](#)

[Unemployment Insurance Benefit Paid by County](#)

[Employment Statistics for Canada](#)

**Current Employment Statistics**

Each month the **Current Employment Statistics** program surveys about 143,000 businesses and government agencies, representing approximately 588,000 individual worksites, in order to provide detailed industry data on employment, hours, and earnings of workers on nonfarm payrolls for all 50 States, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands, and about 450 metropolitan areas and divisions.

**Contact Information**

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