



NEWS RELEASE

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February Jobless Claims Inch Lower

DES MOINES, IOWA – Iowa unemployment insurance benefit payments for February 2005 totaled \$37.2 million for 42,049 claimants, analysts at the Iowa Workforce Development (IWD) said today.

The current month total represents a small decrease from the January 2005 value of \$38.8 million for 52,148 jobless Iowans. A gain in claims in the construction arena was countered by a decline in claimants from the manufacturing sector.

Current February benefit payments were below the February 2004 total of \$41.0 million for 47,641 unemployed workers. The decline was spread almost evenly across all sectors.

Iowa Workforce Development, in cooperation with its many partner organizations, operates 71 offices serving all 99 Iowa counties. Sixteen regional workforce centers offer a one-stop experience for accessing many programs, products and services for job seekers, employers, students, economic developers and other community stakeholders.

IWD's core services include job placement services for individuals; worker recruitment assistance to employers; training services to low-income and disadvantaged Iowans; worker protection and safety programs (inspections, consultation and education services); unemployment insurance programs and services; information regarding choices about careers, industries, labor availability and more; workers' compensation benefits/entitlement; and technical assistance for employers.

Services, in most instances, are provided at no charge or for a nominal charge to the customer.

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IOWA JOBLESS BENEFITS FEBRUARY 2005

WEEKS COMPENSATED, TOTAL PAYOUT, BY COUNTY
(STATE AND FEDERAL PROGRAMS)

NAME OF COUNTY	*WEEKS*		*RECIPIENTS*		*BENEFITS PAID*	
	UI	TOTAL	UI	TOTAL	UI	TOTAL
OUT OF STATE	5,284	5,383	1,652	1,671	1,446,066	1,476,323
ADAIR	421	421	131	131	112,423	112,423
ADAMS	213	219	62	64	50,389	52,249
ALLAMAKEE	1,001	1,029	270	275	271,301	278,567
APPANOOSE	618	621	203	204	154,503	154,956
AUDUBON	337	341	100	101	82,498	83,738
BENTON	1,434	1,450	424	426	402,813	406,669
BLACK HAWK	5,916	5,983	1,757	1,769	1,519,551	1,537,993
BOONE	945	973	286	292	250,779	259,563
BREMER	1,046	1,058	316	319	280,481	284,886
BUCHANAN	1,196	1,215	365	369	327,540	332,632
BUENA VISTA	592	599	177	179	148,937	151,023
BUTLER	1,042	1,053	313	315	276,229	279,078
CALHOUN	329	329	93	93	81,497	81,497
CARROLL	529	537	141	143	135,011	138,937
CASS	824	826	248	249	219,424	220,044
CEDAR	711	728	218	222	189,523	194,283
CERRO GORDO	2,196	2,216	682	684	551,884	557,737
CHEROKEE	724	724	232	232	199,274	199,274
CHICKASAW	909	913	260	262	245,898	247,273
CLARKE	620	625	183	183	168,109	168,830
CLAY	844	857	230	231	219,702	222,027
CLAYTON	1,926	1,983	568	578	523,465	539,456
CLINTON	2,418	2,453	726	736	576,757	588,311
CRAWFORD	784	797	252	253	208,577	211,983
DALLAS	1,463	1,485	441	446	417,199	424,112
DAVIS	390	390	125	125	103,207	103,207
DECATUR	354	358	104	104	95,512	95,608
DELAWARE	1,138	1,161	337	341	310,679	317,808
DES MOINES	3,006	3,013	984	986	786,107	787,769
DICKINSON	1,193	1,199	344	344	290,463	291,099
DUBUQUE	5,495	5,541	1,821	1,828	1,469,993	1,482,628
EMMET	482	486	135	135	125,383	126,583
FAYETTE	1,360	1,380	395	401	352,621	359,398
FLOYD	1,019	1,034	309	312	252,198	255,983
FRANKLIN	534	534	155	155	148,904	148,904
FREMONT	218	218	54	54	57,230	57,230
GREENE	441	443	126	126	125,533	125,891
GRUNDY	439	447	135	136	117,726	119,446
GUTHRIE	463	463	140	140	133,575	133,575
HAMILTON	555	571	163	167	136,892	141,195
HANCOCK	442	446	139	140	117,435	118,839
HARDIN	816	820	245	246	204,237	205,573
HARRISON	582	585	157	159	144,755	145,709
HENRY	897	905	301	303	240,112	241,780
HOWARD	432	437	120	122	117,931	119,471
HUMBOLDT	357	359	98	99	95,390	96,010
IDA	310	313	89	90	84,514	84,811
IOWA	1,061	1,061	300	300	282,672	282,672
JACKSON	1,473	1,489	476	478	379,217	381,959
JASPER	1,885	1,891	535	537	493,194	494,837
JEFFERSON	612	618	194	194	139,007	140,293
JOHNSON	2,850	2,952	852	879	738,316	766,743

NAME OF COUNTY	*WEEKS*		*RECIPIENTS*		*BENEFITS PAID*	
	UI	TOTAL	UI	TOTAL	UI	TOTAL
JONES	1,179	1,202	346	350	317,527	321,782
KEOKUK	710	714	209	210	192,102	192,378
KOSSUTH	722	736	198	202	187,388	191,957
LEE	2,099	2,107	650	653	524,972	527,275
LINN	9,519	9,656	2,845	2,868	2,522,448	2,560,508
LOUISA	589	602	173	175	157,842	160,866
LUCAS	596	600	187	188	152,928	154,168
LYON	228	228	66	66	65,239	65,239
MADISON	949	955	274	276	280,300	281,254
MAHASKA	838	844	261	262	216,752	218,292
MARION	1,193	1,224	350	356	322,788	331,843
MARSHALL	2,093	2,105	584	586	577,952	581,397
MILLS	265	265	81	81	70,259	70,259
MITCHELL	375	381	114	116	96,815	98,532
MONONA	559	567	160	162	149,089	151,300
MONROE	404	412	126	127	104,042	106,062
MONTGOMERY	440	444	166	166	103,042	103,506
MUSCATINE	1,745	1,789	549	558	429,415	441,509
O BRIEN	626	639	177	178	165,098	168,317
OSCEOLA	259	259	80	80	72,623	72,623
PAGE	405	405	115	115	91,403	91,403
PALO ALTO	320	320	85	85	83,774	83,774
PLYMOUTH	813	825	247	249	208,414	211,818
POCAHONTAS	171	175	51	52	42,645	43,885
POLK	16,237	16,410	4,852	4,883	4,413,568	4,457,547
POTTAWATTAMIE	2,310	2,332	635	640	589,658	595,390
POWESHIEK	1,243	1,258	359	365	342,210	346,826
RINGGOLD	216	219	64	65	57,752	58,610
SAC	463	465	129	130	121,328	121,948
SCOTT	5,941	6,035	1,726	1,742	1,464,466	1,491,347
SHELBY	527	535	149	149	140,673	143,020
SIOUX	1,077	1,077	292	292	306,059	306,059
STORY	1,567	1,624	472	486	412,436	428,455
TAMA	1,190	1,199	326	328	343,629	346,645
TAYLOR	172	175	48	48	46,193	46,481
UNION	735	743	213	215	198,441	200,808
VAN BUREN	406	406	171	172	113,121	113,161
WAPELLO	1,871	1,891	561	566	459,524	466,336
WARREN	1,582	1,588	487	488	449,513	450,692
WASHINGTON	976	1,001	284	285	270,135	274,198
WAYNE	227	230	68	68	58,267	59,377
WEBSTER	1,454	1,477	421	427	372,108	379,232
WINNEBAGO	225	233	65	66	58,839	61,339
WINNESHIEK	1,378	1,382	409	409	374,999	375,955
WOODBURY	4,681	4,741	1,347	1,358	1,202,265	1,219,354
WORTH	370	374	112	113	105,052	106,292
WRIGHT	578	585	179	180	139,689	139,989
INTERSTATE	3,645	3,687	1,075	1,085	980,053	993,237
GRAND TOTAL	139,294	141,053	41,701	42,049	36,757,465	37,241,128

UI BENEFITS ARE PAID UNDER THE IOWA UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE PROGRAM. FEDERAL BENEFITS ARE PAID UNDER THE PROGRAM OF UNEMPLOYMENT COMPENSATION FOR FEDERAL EMPLOYEES AND SERVICE PERSONNEL. THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN THE UI VALUE AND THE TOTAL VALUE IS THE FEDERAL VALUE. OUT OF STATE BENEFITS ARE THOSE PAYMENTS MADE TO NON-RESIDENTS WHO WORKED IN IOWA AND FILE CLAIMS IN IOWA. INTERSTATE BENEFITS ARE THOSE PAYMENTS MADE TO NON-RESIDENTS WHO WORKED IN IOWA AND FILE CLAIMS IN OTHER STATES.