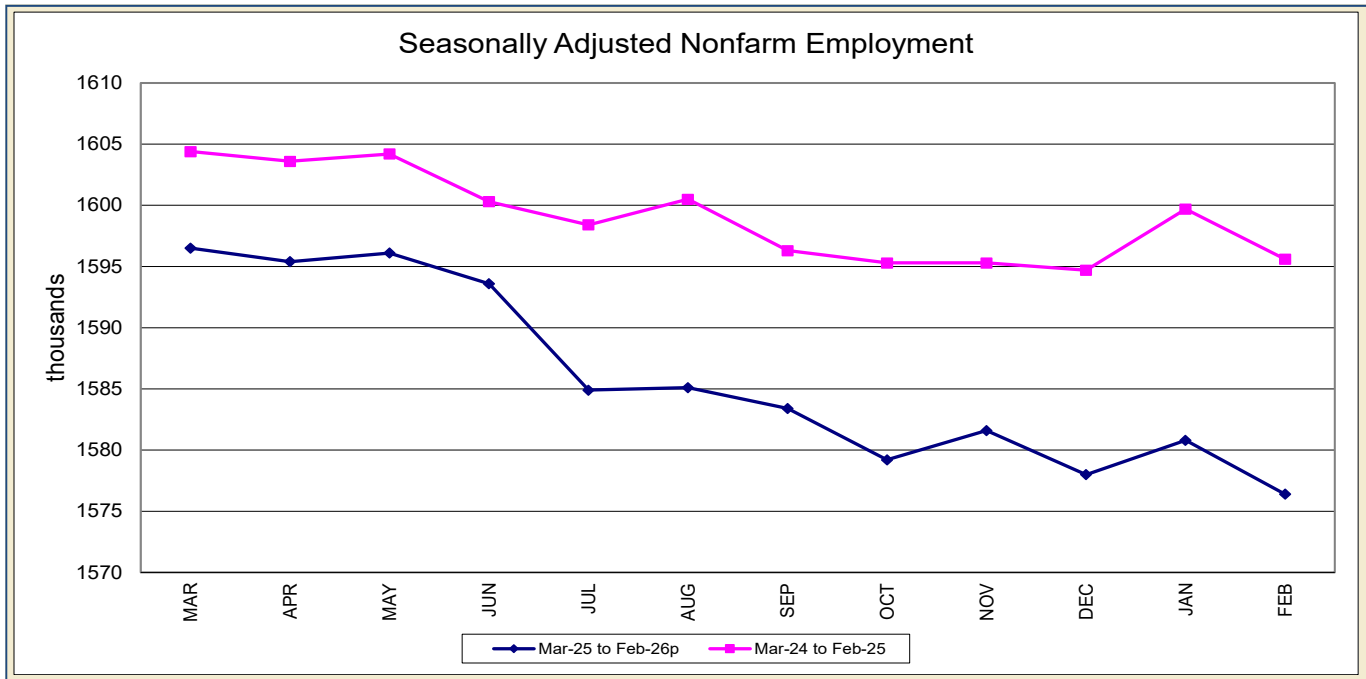


IOWA NONFARM EMPLOYMENT

IOWA WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

Employment Sheds Jobs for Second Time in Three Months



In February, Iowa's business establishments pared 4,400 jobs from payrolls, lowering total nonfarm employment to 1,576,400 jobs. This loss is the second in the last three months and translated to 5,200 jobs shed since November. Private service industries continue to fuel job losses, particularly private education and trade industries. Goods-producing firms, conversely, gained 1,300 jobs during that span with construction industries driving that increase. Government also lost jobs in February, shedding 1,100 jobs from January, and 1,500 jobs lower than last year's mark. Private industry trails by 17,700 jobs annually.

Private education services shed the most jobs in February (-1,400). This loss follows a similar loss in January (-1,500). Professional and business services also pared jobs (-1,400). All three segments of this supersector lost jobs since January. Administrative support and waste management firms were responsible for half of those jobs shed.

Professional, scientific, and technical establishments lost 500 jobs. This industry has steadily trended down since June of 2025. Consulting and accounting firms were responsible for this monthly decline. Trade, transportation, and utilities shed a combined 1,000 jobs with slightly over half stemming from transportation and warehousing. This sector has not added jobs monthly since January 2025. Job gains, on the other hand, were sporadic in February, yet highest in accommodations and food services (+1,000). Full-service restaurant hiring was responsible for the jobs gained. Construction added jobs in February (+700). This sector has been a bright spot in the state's economy and has added 2,900 jobs since October.

On an annual level, the state has shed 19,200 jobs. The trade and transportation industries are down 8,400 jobs. Wholesale and retail firms are down a combined 5,400 jobs. Retail alone account for 3,000 jobs shed. Transportation and

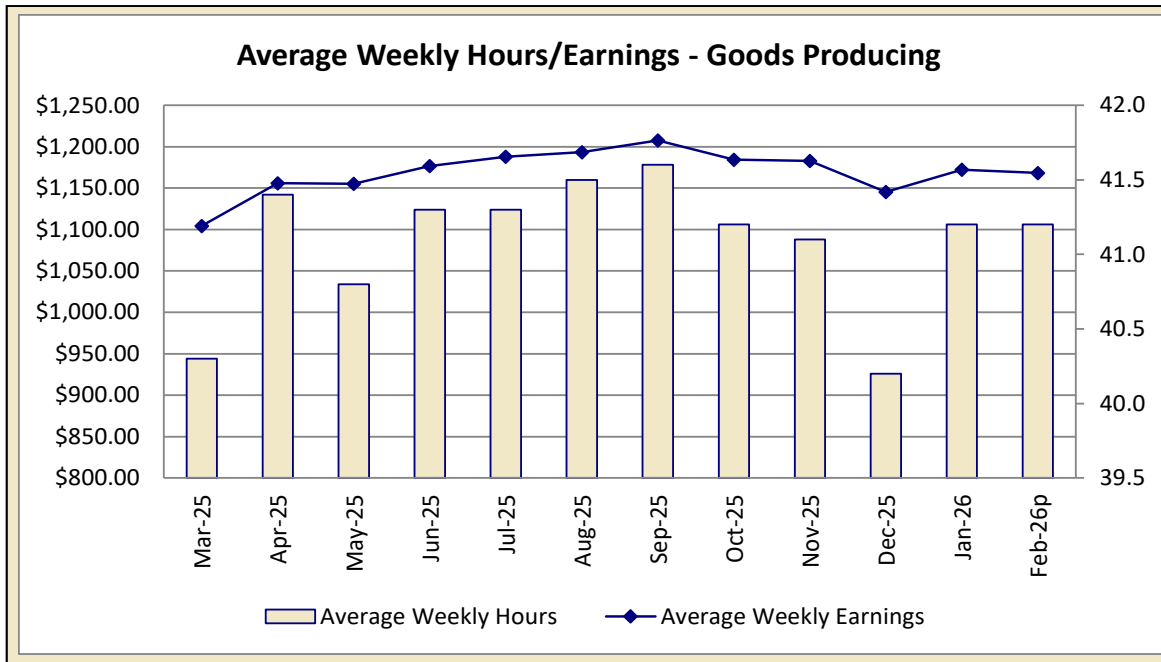
warehousing industries are also down 3,000 jobs. This sector has started to shed jobs in the second half of last year. Leisure and hospitality trails last year's level by 4,800 jobs. Losses are split between accommodations and food services and arts, entertainment, and recreation industries. Manufacturing trails last February by 3,800 jobs. Durable goods factories were responsible for most of the jobs lost (-3,200). Conversely, health care and social assistance continues to expand and is up 3,200 jobs over the past twelve months. Construction has gained 2,100 jobs, and administrative support and waste management added 1,100 jobs.

On a national level, the U.S. lost 133,000 jobs in February. This loss was fueled by transportation and warehousing (-49,000), health care and social assistance (-28,000), and information services (-21,000). The country is up 149,000 jobs since last February.

IOWA NONFARM EMPLOYMENT

IOWA WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

IOWA'S HOURS & EARNINGS

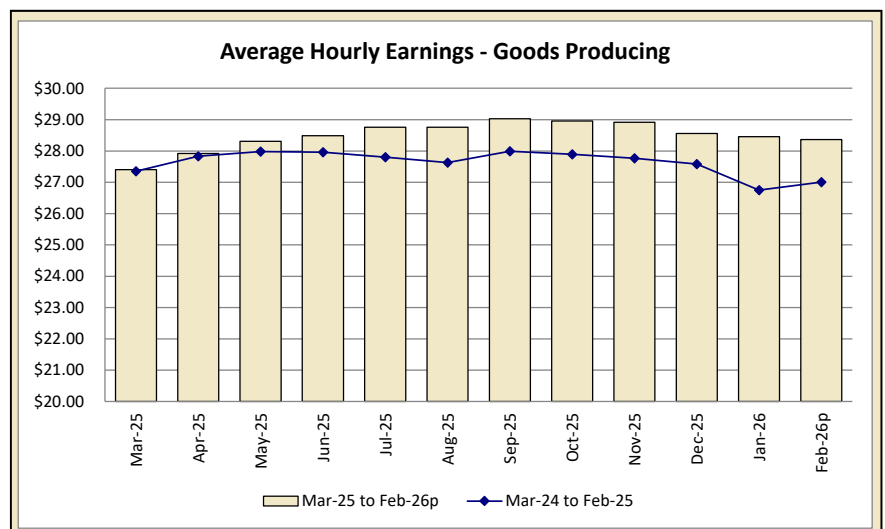


Production and non-supervisory workers in Iowa's construction sector earned \$1,367.43 in February. This is little changed compared to January, yet up \$241.35 versus last year's mark. Much of the increase stems from a sizable gain in weekly hours worked, as last February's weekly hours worked were unusually low. Manufacturing production workers added \$88.75 per week over last February. Most of the increase was due to an increase in average hourly earnings (\$1.70).

Among service industries, retail trade averaged \$544.36 per week in earnings. This is \$11.70 more than last year. This increase is entirely due to 85 cents being added to average hourly wages. Finance workers averaged \$1,347.84 per week in February. This is an increase of \$194.18 over the past twelve months. Works have seen a gain of \$4 per hour in wages coupled with an increase of two hours in their average work weeks.

Goods-producing Hours & Earnings	
Average Weekly Earnings	\$1,168.43
Average Hourly Earnings	\$28.36
Average Weekly Hours	41.2

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



IOWA NONFARM EMPLOYMENT

IOWA WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

METROPOLITAN STATISTICAL AREAS

SEASONALLY ADJUSTED NONFARM EMPLOYMENT (TOTAL NONFARM)

MSA	Feb-25	Mar-25	Apr-25	May-25	Jun-25	Jul-25	Aug-25	Sep-25	Oct-25	Nov-25	Dec-25	Jan-26	Feb-26p
AMES	63.3	63.2	63.0	62.9	63.0	62.1	62.2	62.3	62.7	62.3	62.1	62.7	61.8
CEDAR RAPIDS	140.9	140.7	140.1	140.1	139.7	139.4	138.9	138.6	138.1	137.7	137.0	137.6	136.7
DAVENPORT-MOLINE-ROCK ISLA	185.2	185.0	185.2	185.3	184.6	183.6	183.4	184.2	183.0	183.3	183.1	184.9	183.2
DES MOINES/W. DES MOINES	410.9	411.2	411.8	411.9	411.6	410.3	411.6	411.0	409.3	409.5	408.4	409.1	409.2
DUBUQUE	59.8	59.8	59.8	59.5	59.3	59.3	59.2	59.7	59.1	59.2	59.1	58.9	58.7
IOWA CITY	103.8	104.4	104.0	104.1	103.3	103.2	103.2	103.5	103.5	103.9	103.4	103.7	103.6
SIOUX CITY	75.7	75.8	75.9	75.9	75.8	75.6	75.2	75.1	75.1	75.3	75.3	75.4	75.1
WATERLOO/CEDAR FALLS	86.8	87.0	86.8	86.9	86.6	86.2	85.9	85.9	85.2	85.5	85.0	84.7	84.9

Ames Metropolitan Statistical Area			
Total Nonfarm 2026 (prelim)	Total Nonfarm 2025		% Change—1 Year
62,700	64,000		-2.03%
Noteworthy Expanding & Contracting Industries (1 year)			
Financial activities	5.00%	Leisure & hospitality	-12.50%

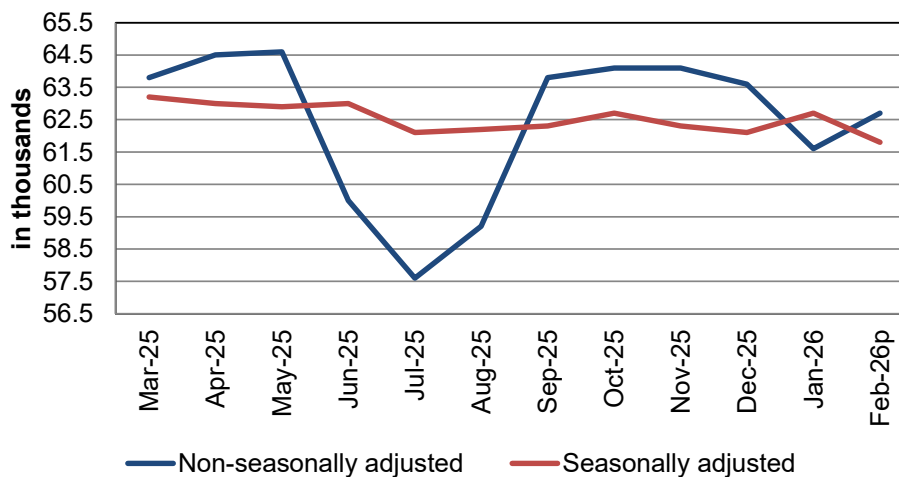
The Ames metropolitan statistical area (MSA) added 1,100 jobs from January with all gains in service-providing sectors. State government (+800) enjoyed a seasonal gain as students return to educational institutions following winter break. Conversely, employment in goods-producing sectors was reduced by 100 jobs.

Construction was responsible for the entire change in goods-producing sectors as manufacturing and mining and logging employment was unchanged from last month. Employment in the manufacturing sector has been steady since July 2025.

Trade, transportation and warehousing, leisure and hospitality, federal government, and local government each added 100 jobs.

Employment is down 1,300 jobs over the year. Only two sectors added jobs, construction and financial activities, each with 100 additional jobs. Mining and logging and private education and health services were both unchanged. Losses were distributed among all other sectors with the majority of jobs losses in government (-500) and leisure and hospitality (-400).

Ames - Nonfarm Employment



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

<https://workforce.iowa.gov/labor-market-information>

IOWA NONFARM EMPLOYMENT

IOWA WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

Cedar Rapids Metropolitan Statistical Area			
Total Nonfarm 2026 (prelim)	Total Nonfarm 2025		% Change—1 Year
135,500	139,500		-2.87%
Noteworthy Expanding & Contracting Industries (1 year)			
Mining, logging & construct	0.00%	Information	-7.69%

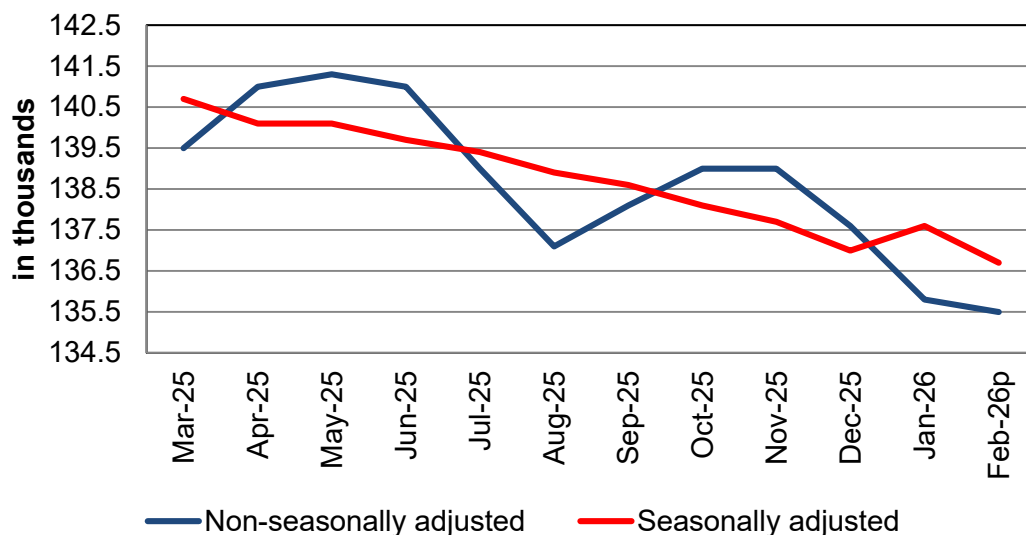
Employment in the Cedar Rapids metropolitan statistical area is down 300 jobs from last month, the result of several small losses in multiple sectors and a larger loss in trade, transportation and warehousing (-600).

The majority of the loss in trade, transportation and warehousing was in transportation, warehousing and utilities which pared 300 jobs. Retail trade and wholesale trade contributed to the sectors' losses, trimming 200 and 100 jobs, respectively. Other industries trimming jobs include: financial activities (-100), other services (-100), and durable goods manufacturing, although the manufacturing sector as a whole was unchanged.

A handful of industries added jobs, partially offsetting the losses. They include: leisure and hospitality (+200), professional and business services (+100), educational and health services (+100), and government (+100).

Over the year, the metro area has pared 4,000 jobs with combined losses in service-providing sectors (-3,700) and goods-producing sectors (-300). Educational and health services has pared 1,100 jobs over the year, exceeding the over-the-year change seen last month. Trade, transportation and warehousing and professional and business services each shed 900 jobs. Mining, logging and construction, leisure and hospitality, federal government and state government are the only sectors with no change from February 2025.

Cedar Rapids - Nonfarm Employment



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

IOWA NONFARM EMPLOYMENT

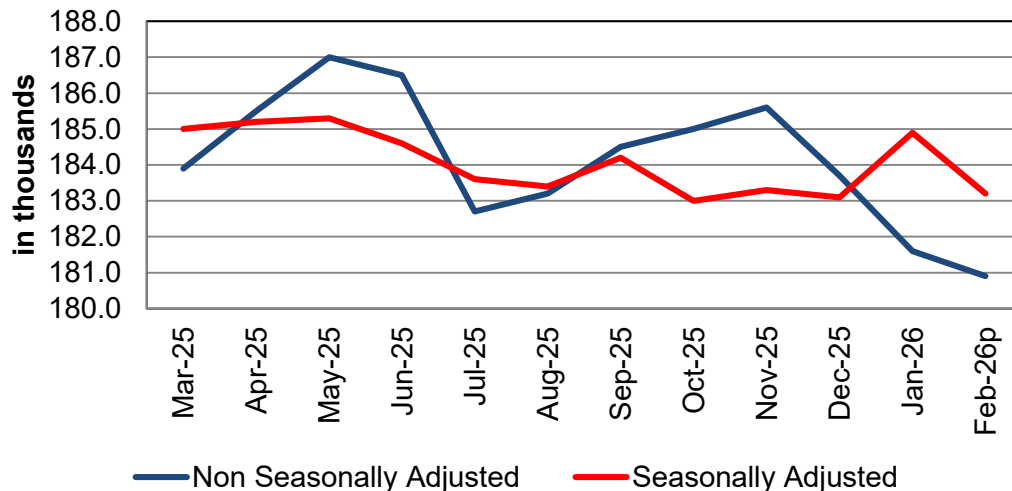
IOWA WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

Davenport-Moline-Rock Island Metropolitan Statistical Area			
Total Nonfarm 2026 (prelim)	Total Nonfarm 2025		% Change—1 Year
180,900	182,500		-0.88%
Noteworthy Expanding & Contracting Industries (1 year)			
Mining, logging & construct	4.17%	Information	-12.50%

Firms in the Davenport, Moline, Rock Island metropolitan statistical area lost 700 jobs in February, lowering the total number of jobs to 180,900. Private industry fueled this loss (-1,100) while government countered with 400 jobs added. Local governments provided the entirety of the gain; 300 jobs added were related to K-12 public schools hiring for the spring semester. Leisure and hospitality added 200 jobs. This increase is seasonal and slightly less than expected for February. Transportation, warehousing, and utilities, on the other hand, shed 400 jobs. This loss is partially the result of late shedding of temporary help during the holiday season. Retail and wholesale trade lost a combined 300 jobs and professional and business services lost 200 jobs.

On an annual level, the metro is down 1,600 jobs. Manufacturing has partially fueled this loss (-1,000). Durable goods shops have shed the most jobs (-800), although non-durable goods producers are also down over the past twelve months (-200). Leisure and hospitality also trails last year's mark (-500). Trade is down a combined 500 jobs. Retail lost a slight majority of this decline (-300). Alternatively, some sectors are still up annually. Health care and social assistance has gained 400 jobs over the past twelve months; Mining, logging, and construction industries have added the same number of jobs during that span. Slight increases have occurred in transportation and warehousing (+100) and professional and business services (+100).

**Davenport-Moline-Rock Island
Nonfarm Employment**



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

<https://workforce.iowa.gov/labor-market-information>

IOWA NONFARM EMPLOYMENT

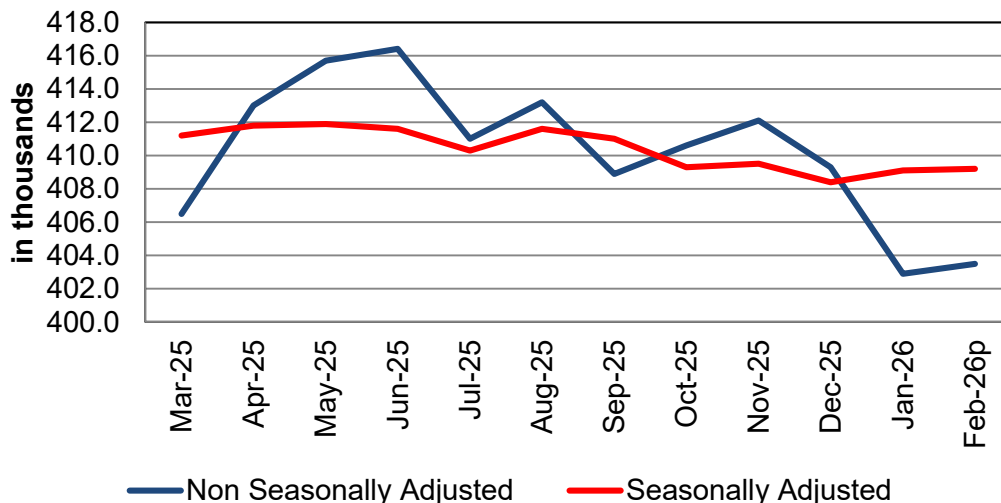
IOWA WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

Des Moines/West Des Moines Metropolitan Statistical Area			
Total Nonfarm 2026 (prelim)	Total Nonfarm 2025		% Change—1 Year
403,500	405,600		-0.52%
Noteworthy Expanding & Contracting Industries (1 year)			
Health care & soc assistance	4.47%	Non-durable goods mfg	-6.60%

Firms in the Des Moines Metro gained 600 jobs in February. This increase is relatively small given the prior ten-year history and leaves the MSA at 403,500 jobs. Financial activities added 500 jobs. This increase was largely the result of hiring in real estate, rental, and leasing firms. Despite this gain, the finance sector has been flat versus last year. Private education and health care industries were up 500 jobs. Slightly more than half were due to hiring in health care and social assistance industries. Leisure and hospitality gained 400 jobs since January and was partially the result in full-service restaurants gaining 100 jobs. Eating and drinking establishments have shown recent weakness. Full-service restaurants are down 500 jobs annually. On the other hand, job losses were heaviest in transportation and warehousing (-400). This loss was largely seasonal and due to the final layoff of temporary holiday help. Trade, wholesale and retail, shed 500 jobs combined since January. Retail trade lost 200 jobs, but this loss is seasonal and small given the history of this industry.

Annually, the metro trails last year's level by 2,100 jobs. Trade and transportation firms are down a combined 2,700 jobs. All three segments: retail trade, wholesale trade, and transportation each are down 900 jobs. Nondurable goods factories have pared 700 jobs compared to last year while durable goods shops are up slightly. Alternatively, health care and social assistance gained 2,300 jobs. This sector continues to add jobs despite uncertainty within the economy. Administrative support and waste management firms have gained 1,300 jobs and have shown some signs of hiring to begin the year. Finally, government is up 800 jobs with hiring being strong in local government (+1,100); however, this gain was muted partially by federal government cutbacks (-400).

Des Moines/West Des Moines - Nonfarm Employment



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IOWA NONFARM EMPLOYMENT

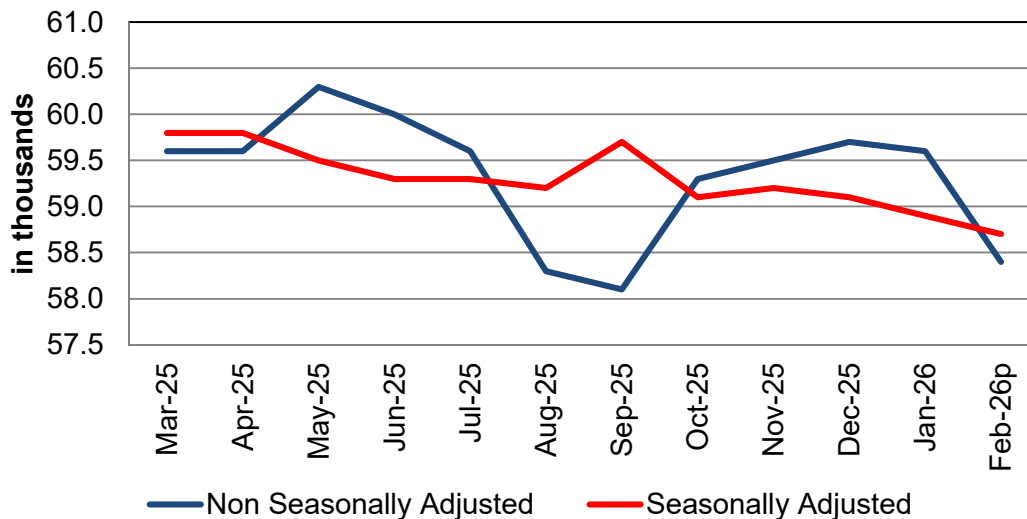
IOWA WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

Dubuque Metropolitan Statistical Area			
Total Nonfarm 2026 (prelim)	Total Nonfarm 2025	% Change—1 Year	
58,300	59,600	-2.18%	
Noteworthy Expanding & Contracting Industries (1 year)			
Trade & transportation	0.82%	Service-providing	-2.74%

Total nonfarm employment showed little movement since January (-100) and rests at 58,300 jobs. This sector has averaged a monthly gain of 300 jobs over the past ten years. The monthly loss occurred in private service industries (-100). This loss was the result of layoffs in trade and transportation and is not usual as the final holiday help for package delivery and sales is shed. Goods-producing industries and government were unchanged since January.

Over the past twelve months, the Dubuque Metro has lost 1,300 jobs. Private service industries have accounted for the entirety of this drop. Goods-producing industries are unchanged while government is up a slight 100 jobs.

Dubuque - Nonfarm Employment



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IOWA NONFARM EMPLOYMENT

IOWA WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

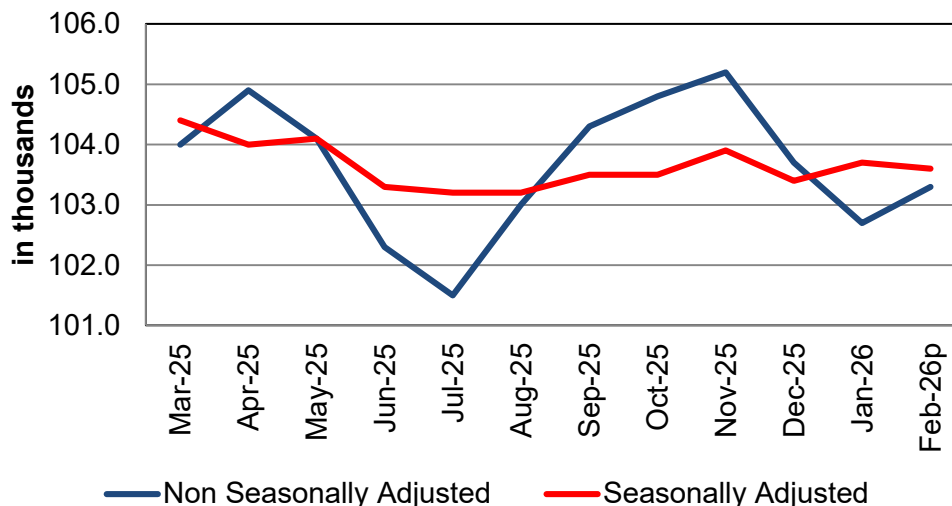
Iowa City Metropolitan Statistical Area			
Total Nonfarm 2026 (prelim)	Total Nonfarm 2024	% Change—1 Year	
103,300	103,400	-0.10%	
Noteworthy Expanding & Contracting Industries (1 year)			
Financial activities	3.57%	Information	-14.29%

Employers in the Iowa City metropolitan statistical area (MSA) added 600 positions between January and February, a gain of 0.58 percent over the month. Employment in goods-producing sectors was unchanged. Service-providing industries were responsible for the entire gain.

Government led all sectors with 400 jobs added, split evenly among state and local governments. Leisure and hospitality added 200 jobs with half of those jobs in accommodations and food services. Private education and health services added 100 jobs. Trade, transportation and warehousing is the only sector to experience an over-the-month loss, trimming 100 jobs.

Employment in the MSA declined by just 100 positions annually in spite of employment adjustments in nearly every sector. Trade transportation and warehousing has shed 500 jobs from last February, followed closely by leisure and hospitality which pared 400 jobs. Gains in government (+600) offset much of the loss incurred in other sectors, accompanied by small gains in private education and health services (+100) and financial activities (+100).

Iowa City - Nonfarm Employment



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IOWA NONFARM EMPLOYMENT

IOWA WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

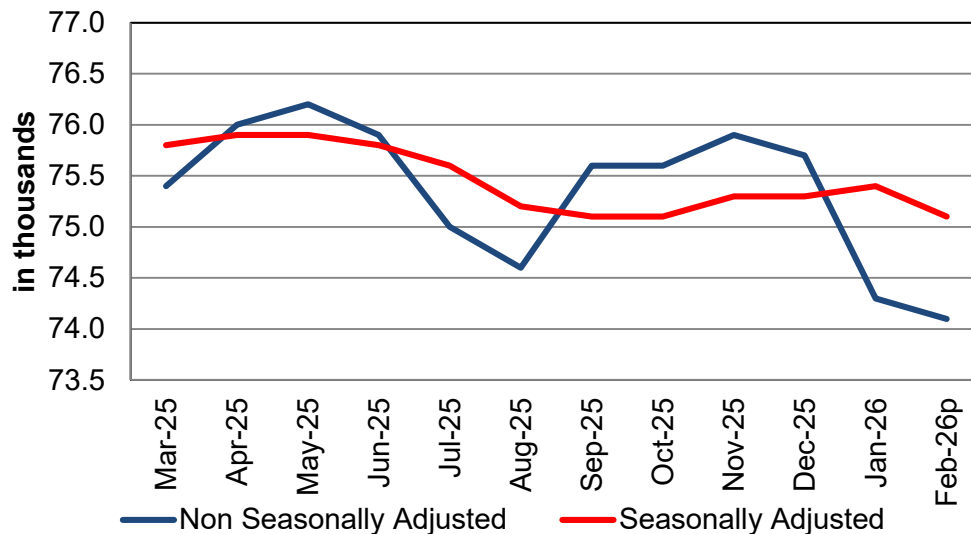
Sioux City Metropolitan Statistical Area			
Total Nonfarm 2026 (prelim)	Total Nonfarm 2025	% Change—1 Year	
74,100	75,000	-1.20%	
Noteworthy Expanding & Contracting Industries (1 year)			
Manufacturing	1.92%	Leisure & hospitality	-4.11%

Employers in the Sioux City MSA shed 200 jobs from January, split equally among goods-producing and service-providing sectors. This marks the second time in ten years the January-to-February change was negative, last occurring in 2021 (-100).

Trade, transportation and warehousing shed 300 jobs with its' third consecutive over-the-month employment loss. This months' change equals that of January. An additional 100 jobs were trimmed from the ranks of professional and business services. Leisure and hospitality added 100 jobs as did non-durable goods manufacturing, however the manufacturing sector overall saw no change in employment.

Employment is down 900 jobs from one year ago with losses in both goods-producing (-400) and service-providing (-500) sectors. Trade, transportation and warehousing Losses in goods-producing were somewhat restricted by an over-the-year gain of 300 jobs in manufacturing, with 100 of those jobs in non-durable goods manufacturing. Government added 300 jobs from last year, mostly in local government entities (+200).

Sioux City - Nonfarm Employment



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IOWA NONFARM EMPLOYMENT

IOWA WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

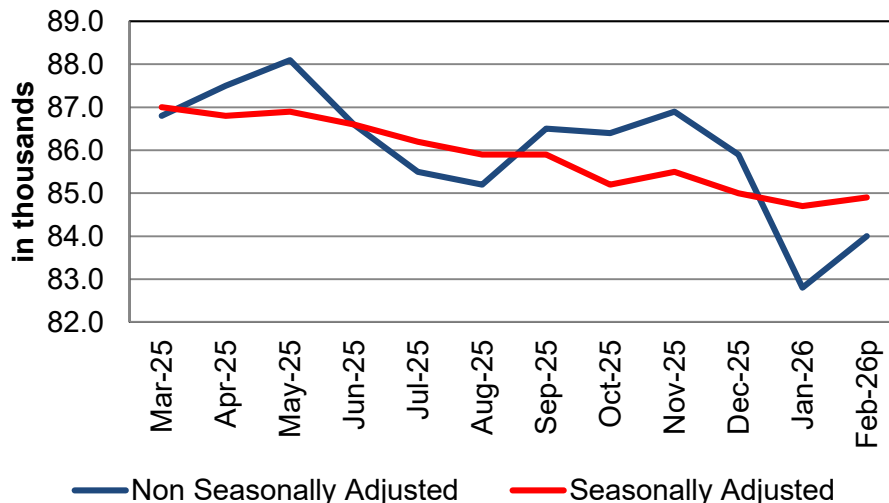
Waterloo/Cedar Falls Metropolitan Statistical Area			
Total Nonfarm 2026 (prelim)	Total Nonfarm 2025		% Change—1 Year
84,000	86,500		-2.89%
Noteworthy Expanding & Contracting Industries (1 year)			
Health care & soc assistance	2.29%	Financial activities	-4.88%

The Waterloo/Cedar Falls metropolitan statistical area added 1,200 jobs from January. Total nonfarm employment now stands at 84,000.

Government reclaimed the 1,200 jobs trimmed in a January seasonal adjustment. All but 100 of the reclaimed jobs were in state government. Leisure and hospitality contributed to the months' gain, adding 100 jobs. Conversely, trade, transportation and warehousing shed 200 jobs with no change in retail trade. Manufacturing employment was unchanged, in spite of a loss of 100 jobs in durable goods manufacturing.

Over the year, area employment is down 2,500 jobs with no sector experiencing employment gains. Trade, transportation and warehousing shed 600 jobs from one year ago. A loss of 400 jobs in durable goods manufacturing represented the majority of the overall loss of 500 jobs in the manufacturing sector. Professional and business services employment is down 400 jobs from one year ago.

Waterloo/Cedar Falls - Nonfarm Employment



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

<https://workforce.iowa.gov/labor-market-information>

IOWA NONFARM EMPLOYMENT

IOWA WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

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