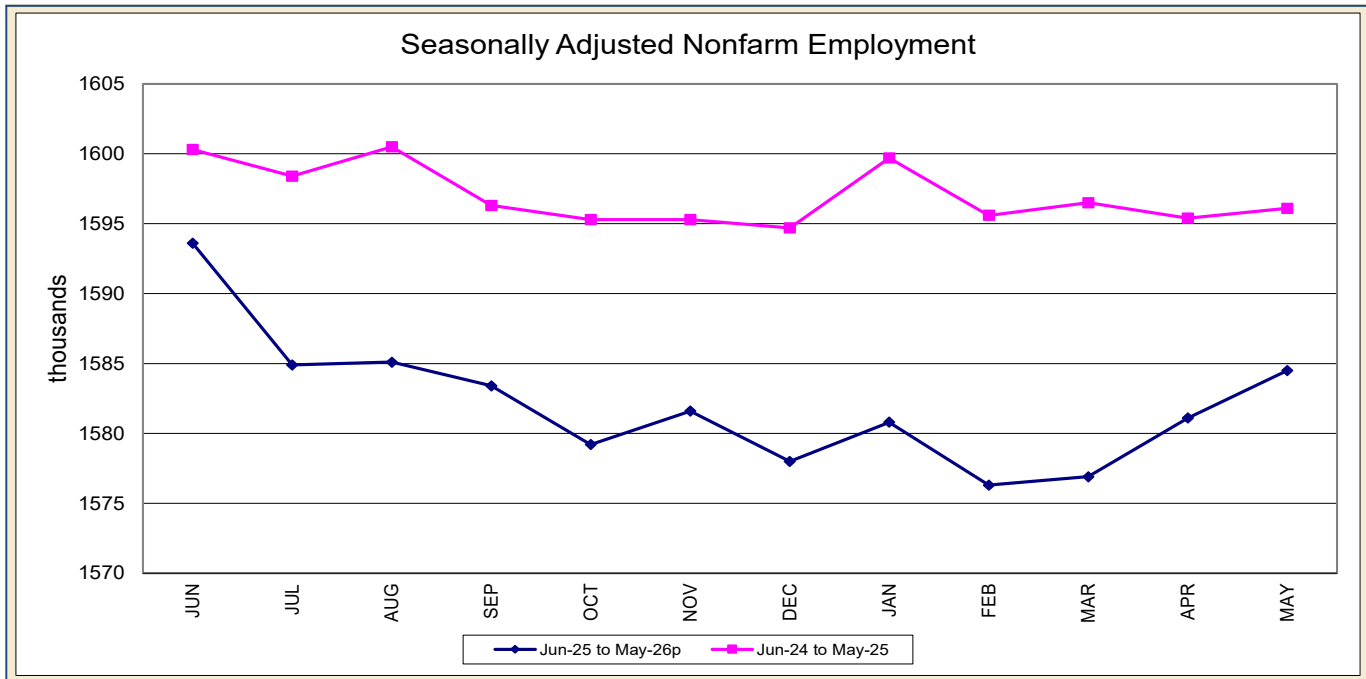


# IOWA NONFARM EMPLOYMENT

## IOWA WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

### Employment at Highest Level Since August 2025 After Three Months of Gain



Businesses in Iowa added 3,400 jobs in May, lifting total nonfarm employment to 1,584,500 jobs. This is the third-consecutive gain as the state has added 8,200 jobs since February. The primary driver of these job gains is private service industries. Goods-producing firms, primarily construction and manufacturing, have decreased by 400 jobs during that same time frame. Government has gained 800 jobs at the local level yet is down 1,600 jobs compared to last year, while private industries trail by 10,000 jobs.

Retail trade added the most jobs in May (+1,700). This gain is the first sizable gain of the year for this sector and the result of hiring in several industries including outdoor power equipment dealers, supermarkets, hardware stores, and car dealers among others. Professional, scientific, and technical firms gained 900 jobs. This is the first increase since June

of last year for this sector. Durable goods manufacturing increased by 600 jobs. Foundries and metal product production helped fuel this growth. This gain, however, was offset partially by a loss of 400 jobs in nondurable goods factories. Firms involved in food production drove this loss. Nondurable goods shops have pared 1,500 jobs since January. Other services shed 500 jobs. This sector has not shown any marked trend over the past twelve months. Health care and social assistance decreased by 500 since April. Losses for this sector are unusual given the steady demand for services within health care industries. The only other losses were small in magnitude and were construction (-400) and administrative support and waste management (-400).

Annually, the state has shed 11,600 jobs since last May. Trade and transportation industries are down 6,100 jobs. Trade industries are

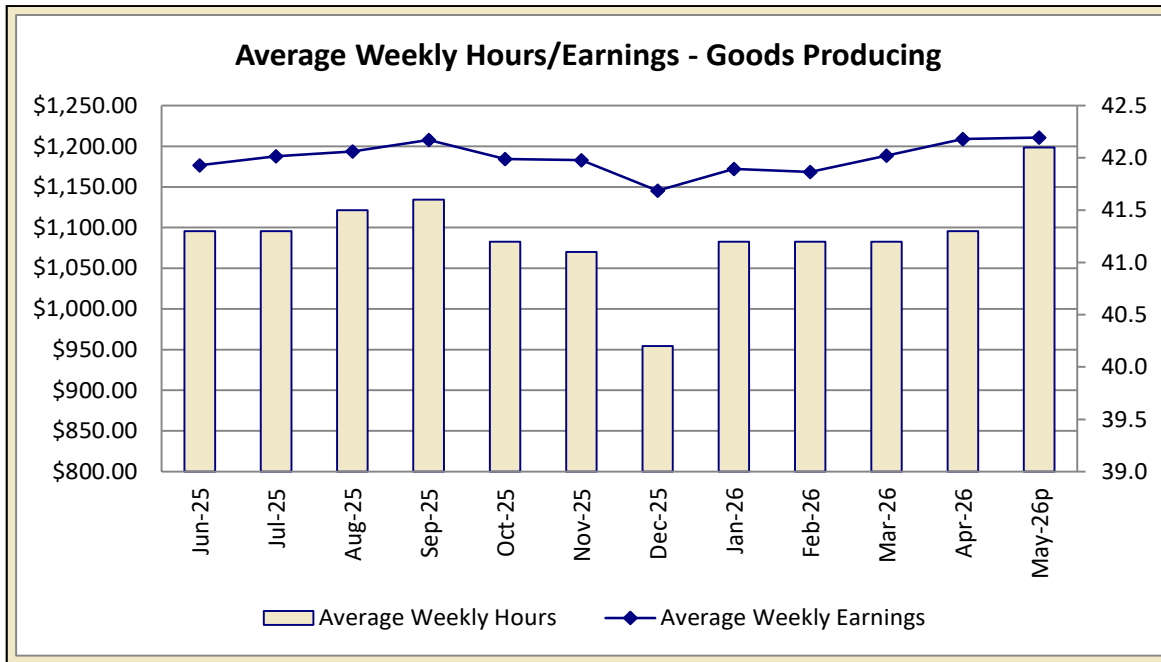
responsible for 4,000 jobs shed, and transportation, warehousing, and utilities have lost 2,100 jobs. Manufacturing is down 3,800 jobs over the past twelve months. Factories involved with nondurable goods production have shed most of the jobs lost (-2,200). Conversely, health care and social assistance has added the most jobs annually despite minor losses over the past couple months (+3,200). Construction also had a small loss in May yet remains up 1,700 jobs. This sector had previously shown an upward trend since October of last year.

Nationally, the U.S. added 172,000 jobs in May and is up for three consecutive months stretching back to February. The largest gains were in leisure and hospitality (+70,000), local government (+55,000), and health care services (+35,000).

# IOWA NONFARM EMPLOYMENT

## IOWA WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

### IOWA'S HOURS & EARNINGS

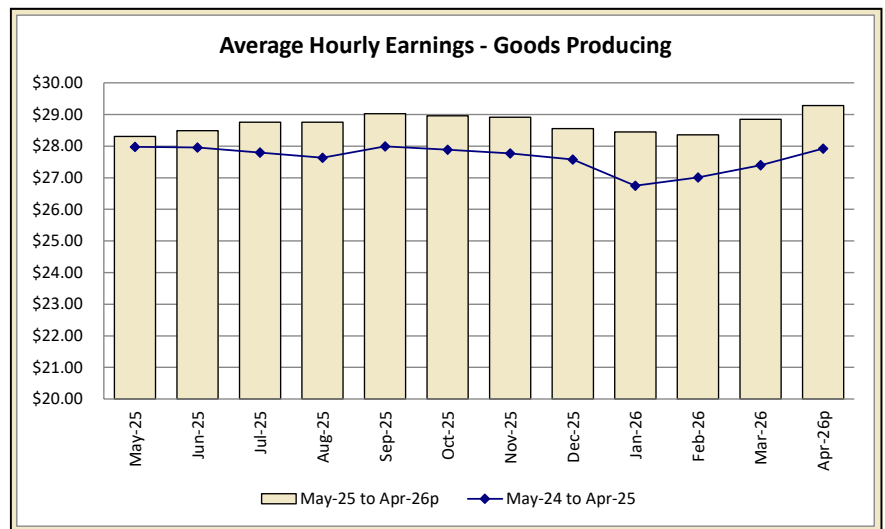


Production and non-supervisory workers in Iowa's construction sector earned \$1,437.08 in May. This is up \$63.66 versus April, and \$3.70 compared to last year's mark. While wages have improved by \$1.20 annually, this has been nearly offset by a decrease of over an hour in weekly schedules. Workers in the manufacturing sector gained an average of \$102.39 from last year's weekly earnings and averaged \$1,130.07 in average weekly earnings.

Within service industries, hourly and non-supervisory workers in retail earned \$558.41 per week on average in May, \$34.67 more than last year's wages. Finance workers have gained over 10 percent in weekly earnings due to \$2.66 being added to hourly earnings. These workers averaged \$1,295.41 per week in wages.

Goods-producing Hours & Earnings	
Average Weekly Earnings	\$1,210.80
Average Hourly Earnings	\$28.76
Average Weekly Hours	42.1

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	May-25	Jun-25	Jul-25	Aug-25	Sep-25	Oct-25	Nov-25	Dec-25	Jan-26	Feb-26	Mar-26	Apr-26	May-26p
AMES	62.9	63.0	62.1	62.2	62.3	62.7	62.3	62.1	62.7	61.8	61.8	61.3	60.6
CEDAR RAPIDS	140.1	139.7	139.4	138.9	138.6	138.1	137.7	137.0	137.6	136.8	137.1	137.3	137.3
DAVENPORT-MOLINE-ROCK ISLA	185.3	184.6	183.6	183.4	184.2	183.0	183.3	183.1	184.9	183.2	184.0	184.0	183.6
DES MOINES/W. DES MOINES	411.9	411.6	410.3	411.6	411.0	409.3	409.5	408.4	409.1	409.3	409.9	411.3	412.5
DUBUQUE	59.5	59.3	59.3	59.2	59.7	59.1	59.2	59.1	58.9	58.7	58.9	59.0	58.7
IOWA CITY	104.1	103.3	103.2	103.2	103.5	103.5	103.9	103.4	103.7	103.5	103.2	103.4	104.0
SIOUX CITY	75.9	75.8	75.6	75.2	75.1	75.1	75.3	75.3	75.4	75.1	75.3	75.0	74.8
WATERLOO/CEDAR FALLS	86.9	86.6	86.2	85.9	85.9	85.2	85.5	85.0	84.7	84.9	84.8	84.5	84.6

Ames Metropolitan Statistical Area		
Total Nonfarm 2026 (prelim)	Total Nonfarm 2025	% Change—1 Year
<b>62,000</b>	<b>64,600</b>	<b>-4.02%</b>
Noteworthy Expanding & Contracting Industries (1 year)		
Construction	3.70%	Information -12.50%

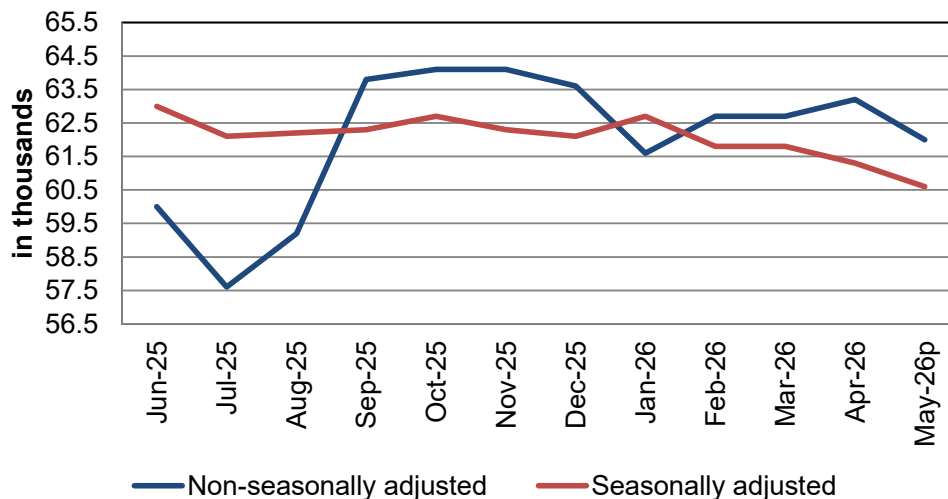
The Ames metropolitan statistical area (MSA) pared 1,200 jobs from April with just three sectors responsible for the entire change.

Manufacturing trimmed 100 jobs and federal government employment is down 100 jobs from last month, but the majority of the change is due to cuts totaling 1,300 jobs in state government. Typically, state government employment would see a sharp decline in June, however it is not uncommon to see seasonal changes beginning in May, on a smaller scale, and continuing into June, dependent upon the scholastic calendar.

There were two industries with employment gains this month, local government (+200) and construction (+100).

Over the year, employment is down 2,600 jobs. The only positive over-the-year changes occurred in construction (+100) and private education and health services (+100). Nearly every other sector posted job losses. The only exceptions to that are mining and logging, and financial activities, which were both unchanged from May 2025. Government, overall, has pared 1,700 jobs, spread among federal (-200) and state (-1,500) governments. Trade, transportation and warehousing and leisure and hospitality each pared 300 jobs.

#### 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

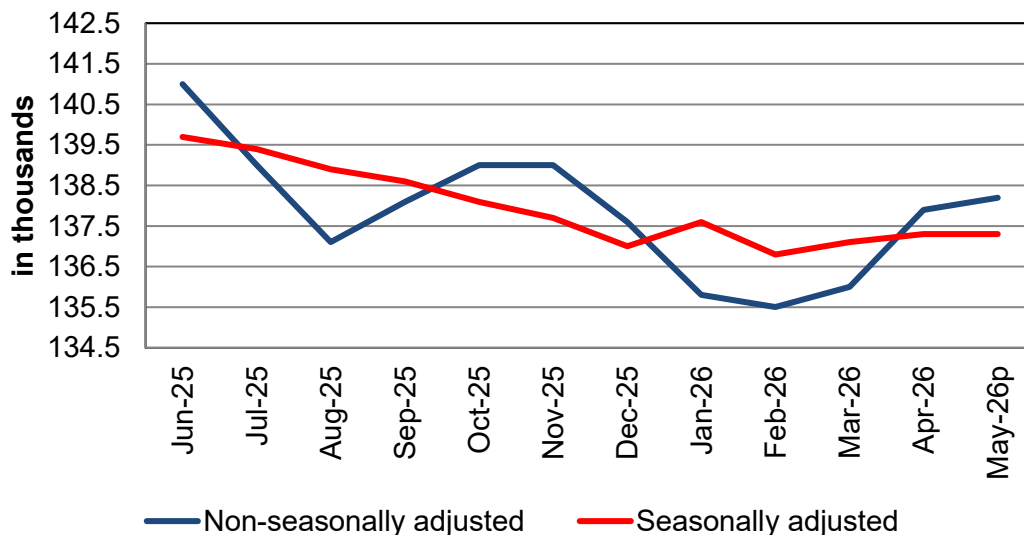
Cedar Rapids Metropolitan Statistical Area			
Total Nonfarm 2026 (prelim)	Total Nonfarm 2025		% Change—1 Year
<b>138,200</b>	<b>141,300</b>		<b>-2.19%</b>
Noteworthy Expanding & Contracting Industries (1 year)			
State government	0.00%	Information	-4.00%

Employment in the Cedar Rapids metropolitan statistical area increased by 300 jobs from last month, with two-thirds of the gains occurring in service-providing industries.

Manufacturing employers and other services employers each trimmed 100 jobs from April. Private education and health services is the only other sector with a jobs loss, with 300 fewer jobs. Conversely, three industries added jobs with leisure and hospitality experiencing the greatest gain, adding 400 jobs, mostly in accommodation and food services (+300). Financial activities gained 100 jobs as did government with gains in local government.

Over the year, the metro area has pared 3,100 jobs with combined losses in service-providing (-2,700) and goods-producing (-400) sectors. Trade, transportation and warehousing shed 900 jobs over the year. Just over half of those jobs were in the transportation, warehousing and utilities sub-sector (-500). Government also pared 900 jobs, all in local government. Durable goods manufacturing employment is down 200 jobs and manufacturing overall has trimmed 300 jobs from one year ago.

### Cedar Rapids - Nonfarm Employment



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

# IOWA NONFARM EMPLOYMENT

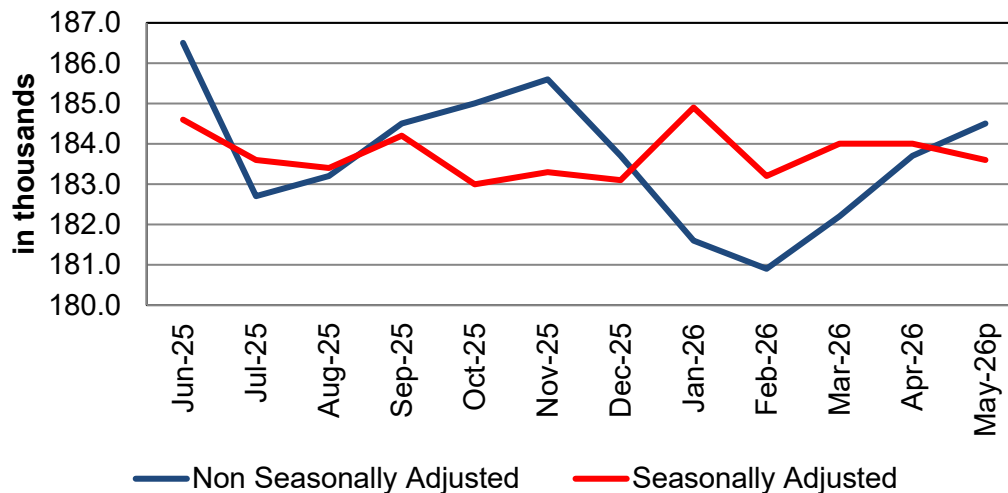
## IOWA WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

Davenport-Moline-Rock Island Metropolitan Statistical Area			
Total Nonfarm 2026 (prelim)	Total Nonfarm 2025		% Change—1 Year
<b>184,500</b>	<b>187,000</b>		<b>-1.34%</b>
Noteworthy Expanding & Contracting Industries (1 year)			
Mining, logging & construction	13.08%	Information	-6.25%

Firms in the Davenport Metro Area added 800 jobs in May. This monthly increase is seasonal and relatively small compared to the prior ten-year history and lifts total nonfarm employment to 184,500. The biggest driver of the increase was leisure and hospitality, up 500 jobs since April. This increase is seasonal and follows a similar increase in April (+600). Government added 400 jobs. Local government was the main driver of this increase and was related to temporary summer employment. Mining, logging, and construction added 300 jobs. This increase was fueled by summer hiring in construction. As far as losses go, only two sectors shed jobs: professional and business services and other services each shed 100 jobs compared to April.

Annually, the Davenport MSA is down 2,500 jobs. Manufacturing has shed 900 jobs to lead all sectors. Durable goods factories are responsible for most of those jobs lost (-700). Government is down 700 jobs. Federal government cutbacks are responsible for all the jobs shed. Leisure and hospitality industries are also down 700 jobs since April despite moderate seasonal gains over the past two months. Conversely, natural resources, mining, and construction has added the most jobs (+1,400). This gain was fueled by construction which has been expanding statewide. The only other notable increase was a gain of 400 jobs in health care and social assistance.

**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

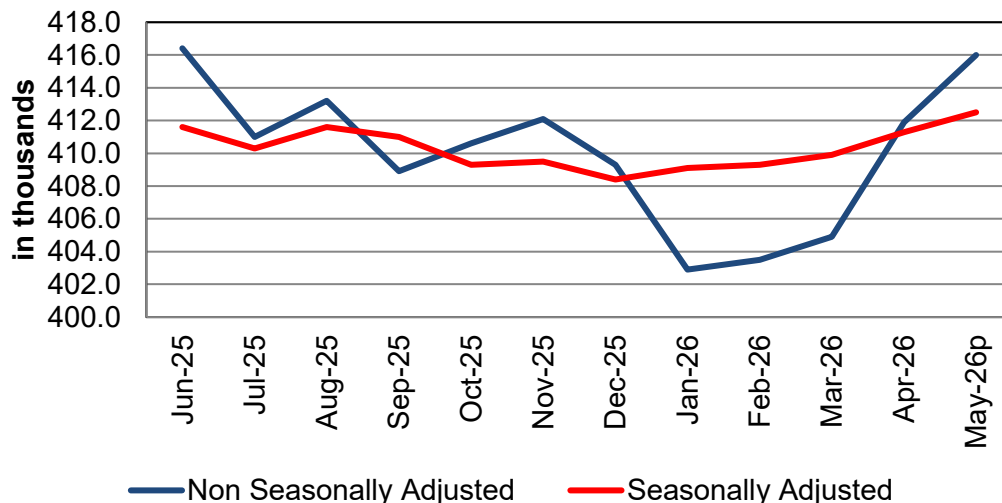
## IOWA WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

Des Moines/West Des Moines Metropolitan Statistical Area			
Total Nonfarm 2026 (prelim)	Total Nonfarm 2025		% Change—1 Year
<b>416,000</b>	<b>415,700</b>		<b>0.07%</b>
Noteworthy Expanding & Contracting Industries (1 year)			
Education & health services	5.49%	Non-durable goods mfg	-6.73%

In May, establishments in the Des Moines Metro gained 4,100 jobs. This increase is larger than expected for this time of year and due to hiring in seasonal industries preparing for the summer. Leisure and hospitality added 1,800 jobs. This is a seasonal increase as eating and drinking establishments and firms related to outdoor activities bolster staffing levels in preparation for increased business. Full-service restaurants alone added 400 jobs. Government added 1,200 jobs at the local level. These hires are typically temporary summer employment related to parks and recreation along with other outdoor activities including landscaping and grounds maintenance. Construction also seasonally increased this month (+800). Specialty trade contractors were responsible for half of those jobs gained. Other sectors gaining jobs in May included professional and business services (+300) and financial activities (+200). Losses were slight and limited to manufacturing (-200), wholesale trade (-100), and private education and health care services (-100).

Annually, total nonfarm employment is up a slight 300 jobs. Health care and social assistance has gained the most jobs (+2,500). This sector continues to rise despite current economic pressures. Private education has gained 900 jobs annually despite showing little movement from April. Government posted the only other gain over the past twelve months (+1,500). This increase is mostly due to private government entities expanding payrolls. This gain was partially tempered by a loss of 400 in federal government. As far as losses go, private industries are down 1,200 jobs with losses being heaviest in retail trade (-1,000) and wholesale trade (-900). These industries have shown weakness statewide as well. Leisure and hospitality industries continue to trail last year's level despite a large seasonal gain in May (-800). Manufacturing has pared 700 jobs over the last twelve months. These losses were limited to non-durable goods factories and generally related to food production.

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



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# IOWA NONFARM EMPLOYMENT

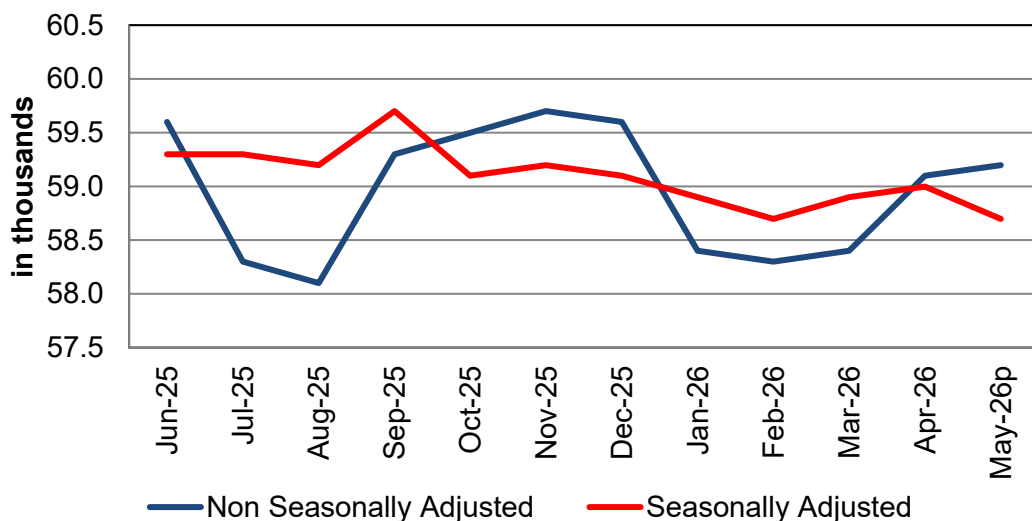
## IOWA WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

Dubuque Metropolitan Statistical Area			
Total Nonfarm 2026 (prelim)	Total Nonfarm 2025		% Change—1 Year
<b>59,200</b>	<b>60,000</b>		<b>-1.33%</b>
Noteworthy Expanding & Contracting Industries (1 year)			
Trade, transportation & warehousing	0.00%	Goods producing	-3.88%

The Dubuque Metro added 100 jobs since April, raising total nonfarm payroll employment to 59,200 jobs. This month's gain is typical for May and follows an average seasonal increase in April, too. Goods-producing industries shed 200 jobs. Private service industries countered with 300 jobs gained. Retail trade helped fuel this increase (+100). Government was unchanged versus April.

Over the past twelve months, the Dubuque Metro area has shed 800 jobs. Firms involved in goods-production, primarily manufacturing and construction, have shed 500 jobs. Private service industries are also down annually (-200). Government has pared 100 jobs at the local level.

### Dubuque - Nonfarm Employment



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

# IOWA NONFARM EMPLOYMENT

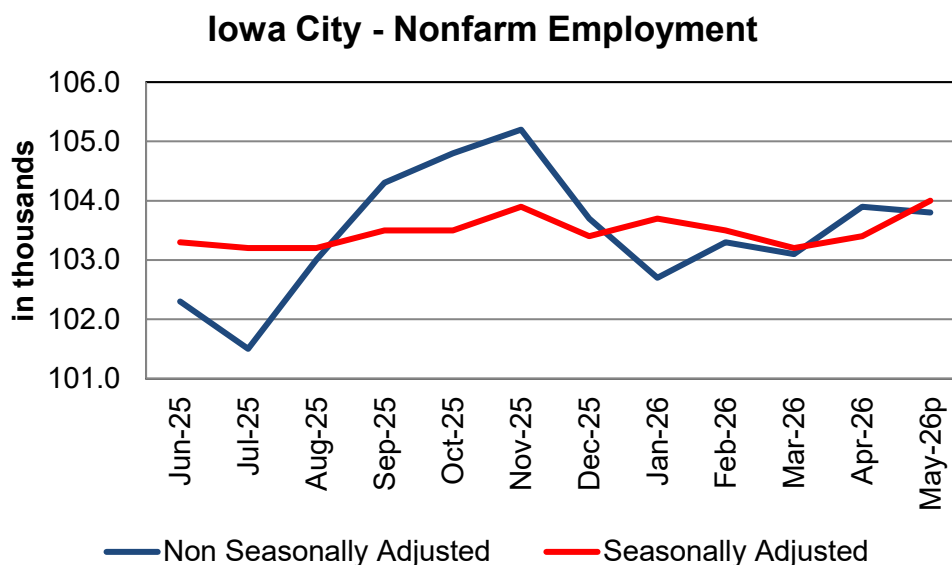
## IOWA WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

Iowa City Metropolitan Statistical Area			
Total Nonfarm 2026 (prelim)	Total Nonfarm 2024	% Change—1 Year	
<b>103,800</b>	<b>104,100</b>	<b>-0.29%</b>	
Noteworthy Expanding & Contracting Industries (1 year)			
State government	4.15%	Information	-14.29%

Employers in the Iowa City metropolitan statistical area (MSA) trimmed 100 jobs between April and May. All losses were in government which pared 400 jobs after a gain of 100 in local government partially offset the loss of 500 in state government.

Within the service-providing sectors, leisure and hospitality had the greatest gain, adding 200 jobs, all in accommodations and food services. The only other sector with a change in employment levels was mining, logging and construction which added 100 jobs.

Employment in the MSA declined by 300 positions over the year. The only bright spot was government, adding 1,000 jobs over the year, all in state government which added 1,400 jobs. Smaller losses in federal and local governments (-200 each) partially offset the gains in state government. Trade, transportation and warehousing and leisure and hospitality each pared 400 jobs. Mining, logging and construction, manufacturing, and financial activities were all unchanged from last year.



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# IOWA NONFARM EMPLOYMENT

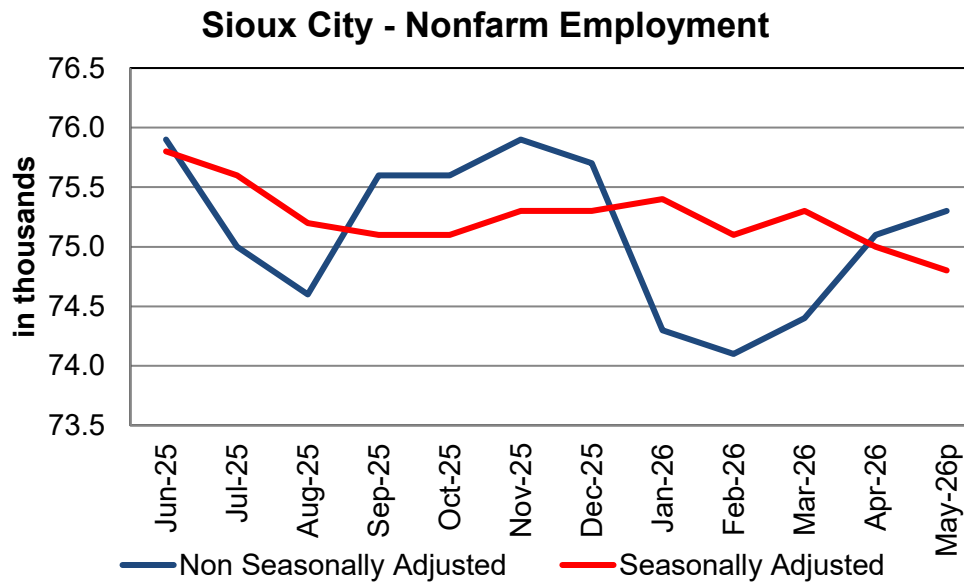
## IOWA WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

Sioux City Metropolitan Statistical Area			
Total Nonfarm 2026 (prelim)	Total Nonfarm 2025	% Change—1 Year	
<b>75,300</b>	<b>76,200</b>	<b>-1.18%</b>	
Noteworthy Expanding & Contracting Industries (1 year)			
Manufacturing	1.28%	Leisure & hospitality	-5.00%

Employers in the Sioux City MSA added 200 jobs from last month with contributions from multiple industries.

Leisure and hospitality led all other sectors with 300 additional jobs. Government was close behind, adding 200 jobs. A smaller increase was seen in trade, transportation and warehousing (+100). Professional and business services employment was unchanged.

Employment is down 900 jobs from one year ago with losses in both goods-producing (-400) and service-providing (-500) sectors. Manufacturing, the only non-government sector to make over-the-year gains, has added 200 jobs, in spite of a loss of 100 jobs in non-durable goods manufacturing. Employment in professional and business services was unchanged.



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

# IOWA NONFARM EMPLOYMENT

## IOWA WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

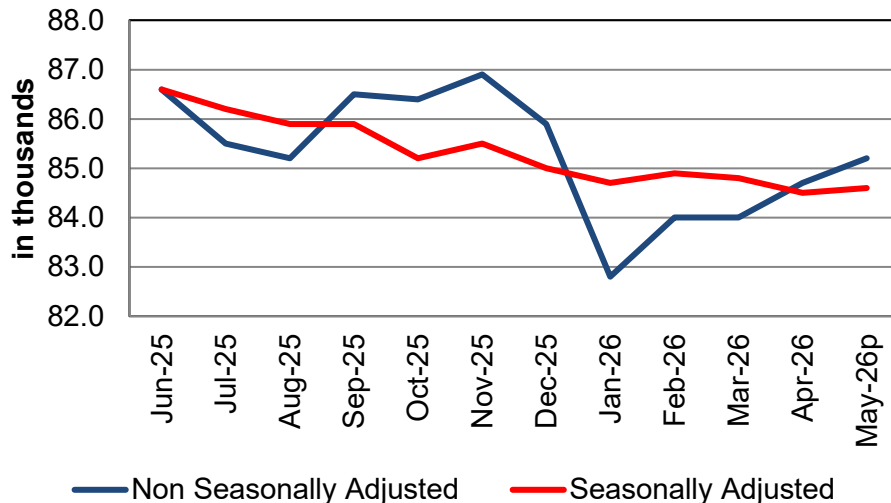
Waterloo/Cedar Falls Metropolitan Statistical Area			
Total Nonfarm 2026 (prelim)	Total Nonfarm 2025		% Change—1 Year
<b>85,200</b>	<b>88,100</b>		<b>-3.29%</b>
Noteworthy Expanding & Contracting Industries (1 year)			
Health care & soc assistance	3.05%	Leisure & hospitality	-4.88%

The Waterloo/Cedar Falls metropolitan statistical area added 500 jobs since April. Total nonfarm employment now stands at 85,200.

Service-providing sectors were responsible for the bulk of the gains with minimal contribution from private service-providing industries (+100). Government added jobs in both state (+100) and local government (+300). Leisure and hospitality added 300 jobs, largely offset by losses of 100 each in trade, transportation and warehousing and educational and health services. Goods-producing sectors were unchanged.

The metro area has 2,900 fewer jobs from one year ago. The singular over-the-year gain occurred in the health care and social assistance sub-sector which contributed 400 jobs to employment in the educational and health services sector (+400). Trade, transportation and warehousing shed 800 jobs from one year ago. A loss of 500 jobs in manufacturing was the result of both durable goods manufacturing (-200) and non-durable goods manufacturing (-300) making jobs cuts. Leisure and hospitality dropped 400 jobs, professional and business services shed 300 jobs, and financial activities trimmed 100 jobs.

**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

Click on a link below to visit web page

### [Links to Additional Information](#)

[Worker Adjustment & Retraining Notification Act](#)

[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](#)

The Current Employment Statistics (CES) program produces detailed industry estimates of employment, hours, and earnings of workers on payrolls. CES State and Metro Area produces data for all 50 States, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands, and about 450 metropolitan areas and divisions. CES National Estimates produces data for the nation.

Each month, CES surveys approximately 119,000 businesses and government agencies, representing approximately 629,000 individual worksites.

*Equal opportunity employer/program. Auxiliary aids and services are available upon request to individuals with disabilities. For deaf and hard of hearing, use Relay 711*

### [Contact Information](#)

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