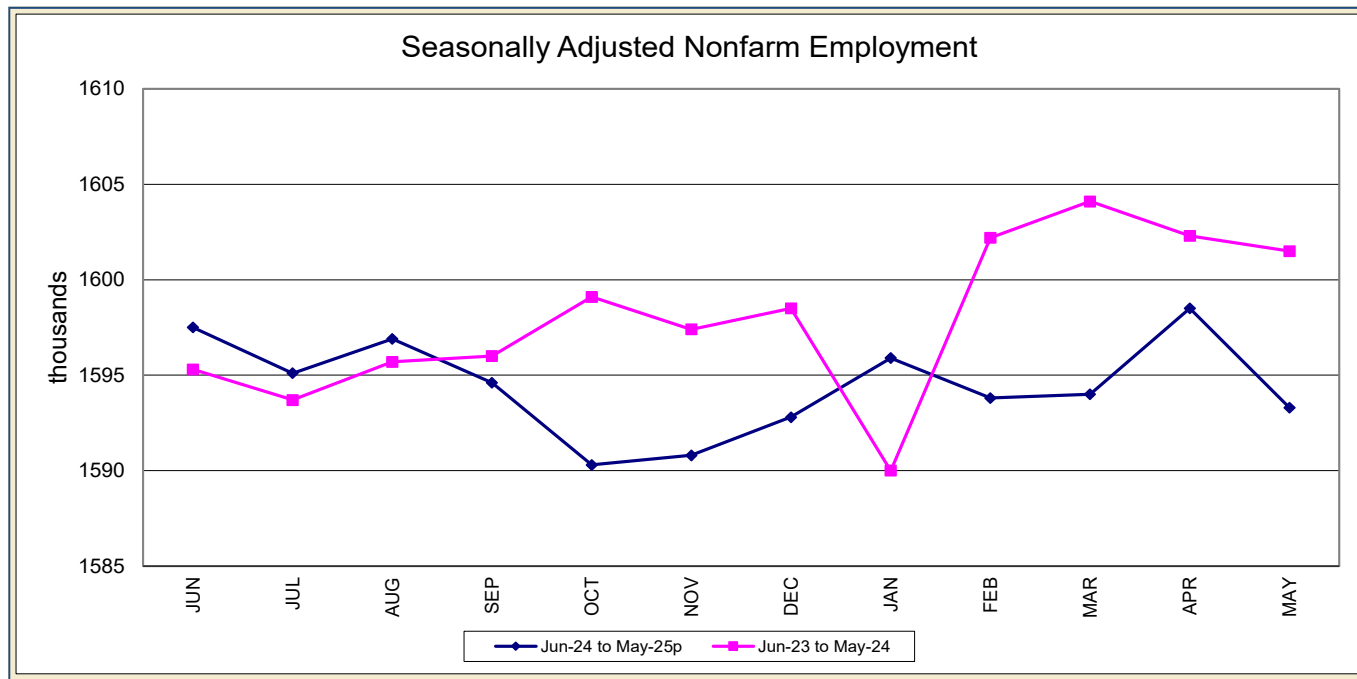


# IOWA NONFARM EMPLOYMENT

IOWA WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

May 2025

## Employment Change Erases Previous Gains



In May, businesses in Iowa lost 5,200 jobs, lowering total nonfarm employment to 1,593,300. Private service industries were responsible for most of the decline, although goods-producing firms decreased slightly as well. Public education offset some of this loss, fueling a gain of 1,000 jobs added, mostly at the local level. This month's loss follows and erases two-consecutive months of job gains in March and April. After this month's decline, Iowa businesses are now down 8,200 jobs annually.

Professional and business service industries decreased by 1,200 jobs since April.

This drop was fueled by losses in administrative support and waste management industries; this sector led all others in terms of jobs lost. Financial activities also decreased by 1,200 jobs, lowering

this sector to a level not seen since February 2015. This sector produced minor gains over the last two months totaling 800 jobs. Private education services decreased by 1,000 jobs in May, which was the same for the combined trade and transportation super sector.

Iowa's manufacturing sector continues to lead in annual jobs lost (-8,400). Durable goods-producing factories have been responsible for most of this decline (-5,900). The professional and business services sector is down 4,600 jobs over the past twelve months. Administrative support and waste management is responsible for a majority of the drop (-2,800). Conversely, health care and social assistance continues to trend up despite a slight decline this month. This sector has gained 4,600 jobs over the past twelve months. Other

services are up 2,100 jobs. Industries in this sector include repair and maintenance, civic and social organizations, and other personal services.

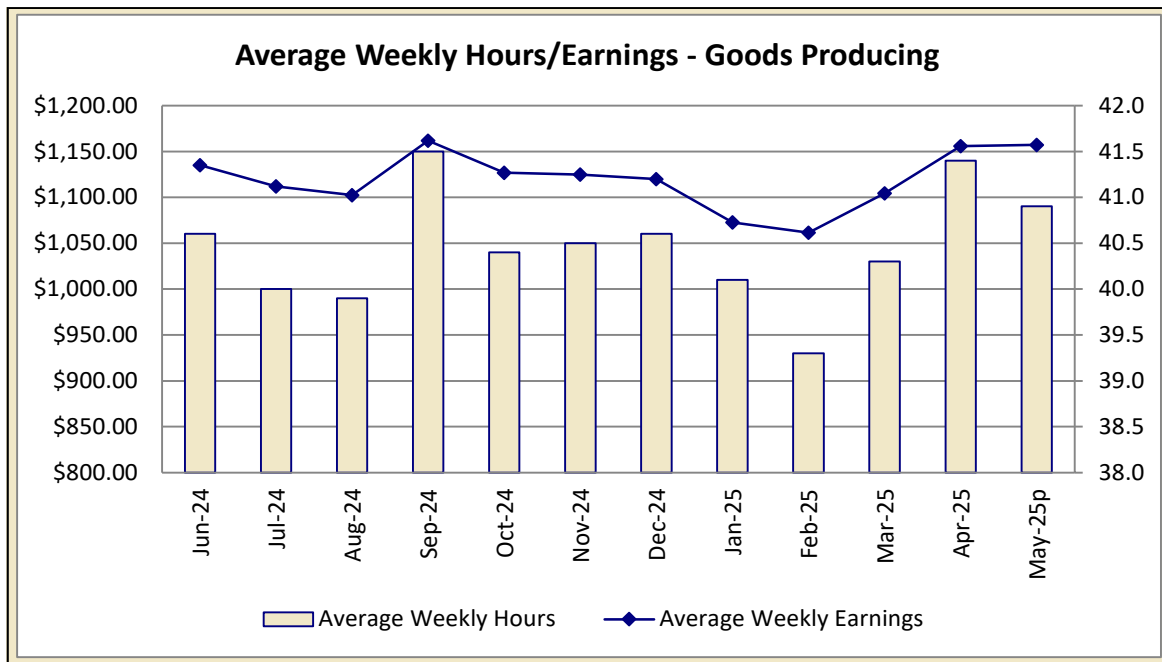
Nationally, the U.S. gained 139,000 jobs in May, slightly less than the twelve-month average. Health care added the most jobs (+62,000) with hiring being strong in both hospitals (+30,000) and ambulatory services (+29,000). Leisure and hospitality industries gained 48,000 jobs compared to April. Bars and restaurants comprised over half this gain (+30,000).

# IOWA NONFARM EMPLOYMENT

## IOWA WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

May 2025

### IOWA'S HOURS & EARNINGS

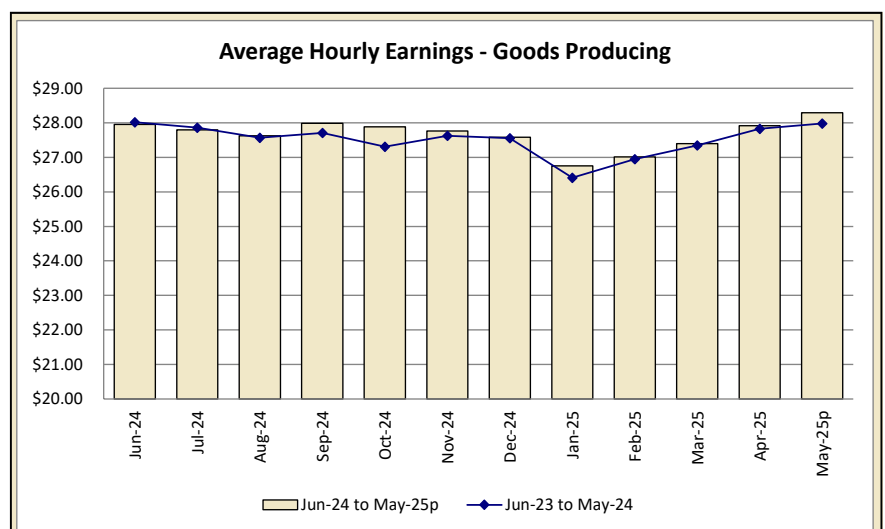


Production workers in Iowa's goods-producing industries averaged \$1,157.06 in May, a gain of \$26.67 compared to this time last year. Whereas both construction and manufacturing have seen some gain in wages weekly wages annually, construction workers are experiencing a large gain in weekly schedules while manufacturing workers have seen a slight drop in their average weekly hours worked. Construction workers averaged \$1,433.38, a gain of \$93.99 in average weekly wages earned. The gain can be attributed mostly to an addition of over two hours to weekly schedules. Manufacturing production workers have seen their average weekly wages shrink slightly over the past twelve months (-\$2.57), This loss can mostly be attributed to a reduction of over an hour within nondurable goods factories. These workers averaged \$1,030.68 in May.

Within service industries, production workers averaged \$504.64 in May, a drop of \$22.40 versus last month. Within the finance industry, production and hourly workers gained \$21.52 per week on average, lifting average weekly earnings to \$1,172.73.

Goods-producing Hours & Earnings	
Average Weekly Earnings	\$1,157.06
Average Hourly Earnings	\$28.29
Average Weekly Hours	40.9

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



# IOWA NONFARM EMPLOYMENT

IOWA WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

May 2025

## METROPOLITAN STATISTICAL AREAS

### SEASONALLY ADJUSTED NONFARM EMPLOYMENT (TOTAL NONFARM)

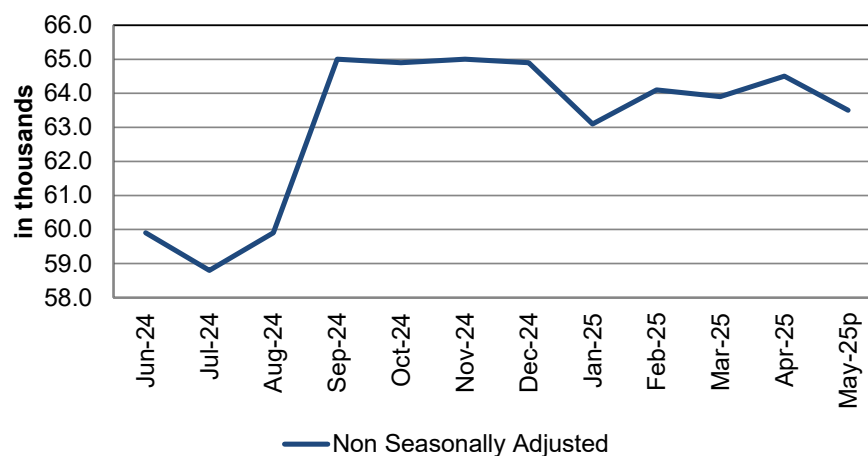
MSA	May-24	Jun-24	Jul-24	Aug-24	Sep-24	Oct-24	Nov-24	Dec-24	Jan-25	Feb-25	Mar-25	Apr-25	May-25p
CEDAR RAPIDS	140.4	140.2	140.3	139.7	140.0	139.7	139.4	139.2	139.3	139.3	139.6	139.6	139.6
DAVENPORT-MOLINE-ROCK ISLAND	182.0	181.0	180.9	181.8	181.3	180.3	180.7	180.6	181.3	181.5	181.7	181.6	181.5
DES MOINES/W. DES MOINES	415.0	413.7	413.2	413.5	412.1	411.5	411.7	410.5	410.9	409.6	410.5	410.4	410.3
DUBUQUE	60.2	60.2	60.5	60.5	60.5	60.3	60.2	60.1	60.3	60.4	60.2	60.2	60.3
IOWA CITY	102.1	101.5	101.6	102.3	102.4	102.6	103.3	102.8	103.0	103.2	103.4	103.6	104.5
SIOUX CITY	76.3	75.9	75.7	76.1	75.9	75.4	75.4	75.1	75.2	74.9	74.6	74.6	74.7
WATERLOO/CEDAR FALLS	87.6	87.3	87.3	87.8	87.2	87.3	87.3	87.3	87.5	86.8	86.9	87.0	87.1

Ames Metropolitan Statistical Area			
Total Nonfarm 2024 (prelim)		Total Nonfarm 2023	% Change—1 Year
<b>63,500</b>		<b>64,500</b>	<b>-2.31%</b>
Noteworthy Expanding & Contracting Industries (1 year)			
Other services	6.25%	Wholesale trade	-4.76%

Employment in the Ames metropolitan statistical area (MSA) declined by 1,000 positions between April and May, a decrease of 1.6 percent over-the-month. The contraction in employment was concentrated within the state government sector, which pared 1,100 positions. This sector typically trims employment during the summer months as activity at the MSA's state university ebbs. Elsewhere in the public sector, local government employers added 100 positions, while federal government employment fell by 100 positions. In the private sector, goods-producing employment rose by 100 positions month-over-month.

Employment in the MSA declined by 1,500 positions annually, a decrease of 2.3 percent. This decline in employment is likely not indicative of the health of the MSA's labor market, as much of the area's summertime job losses are usually reported in June rather than May. Private service-providing and goods-producing employment fell by 300 and 200 positions, respectively. Notably, employment in professional and business services decreased by 200 positions year-over-year. State government employment shrank by 1,300 positions, primarily due to earlier reporting of summer layoffs. Local government employment rose by 100 positions over-the-year.

**Ames - Nonfarm Employment**



Effective January 2025 seasonally adjusted data is no longer available for the Ames MSA

For additional information, contact Daniel Edwards (515-281-7547)

<http://www.iowalmi.gov/>

# IOWA NONFARM EMPLOYMENT

## IOWA WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

May 2025

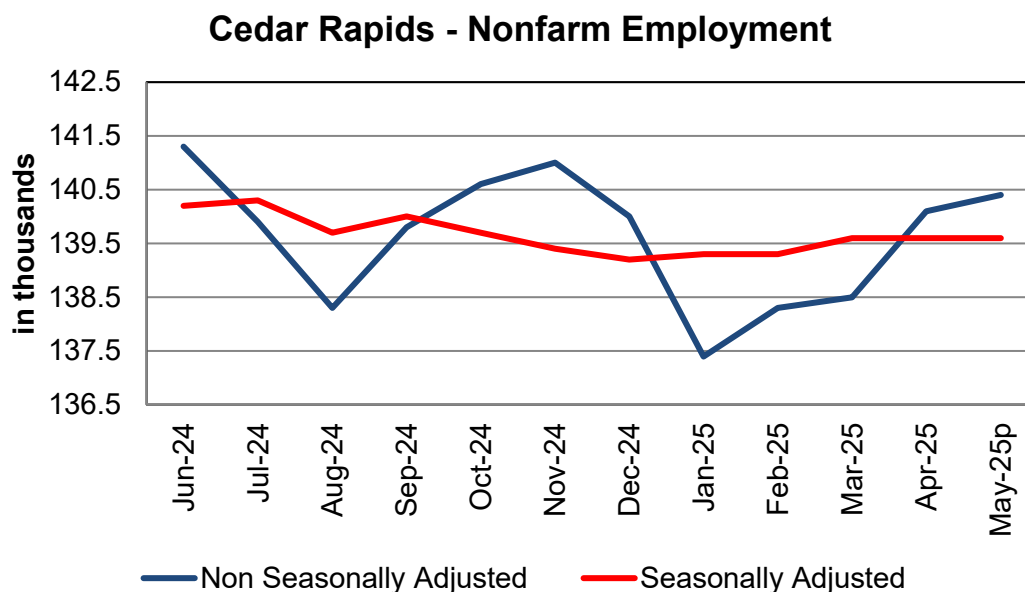
Cedar Rapids Metropolitan Statistical Area			
Total Nonfarm 2024 (prelim)		Total Nonfarm 2023	% Change—1 Year
140,400		141,800	-0.99%
Noteworthy Expanding & Contracting Industries (1 year)			
Other services	2.00%	Trade, transport & warehousing	-2.58%

The Cedar Rapids metropolitan statistical area added 300 jobs from last month. The increase is below the April-to-May change in 2024 (+500) as well as the ten-year average month-to-month change (also +500).

This month's increase is entirely attributable to gains in goods-producing industries. Employment in manufacturing was unchanged. Natural resources and construction was responsible for the employment increase.

There were employment changes within multiple service-providing industries, with small gains in government (+100) and leisure and hospitality (+500) contradicted by employment losses in educational and health services (-300), and multiple industries with a loss of 100, including: trade, transportation and warehousing, financial activities, and professional and business services.

Over the year, metro area employment has decreased by 1,400 jobs with service-providing sectors responsible for all over-the-year job losses (-1,500), with goods-producing industries offsetting just a small portion of those losses, adding 100 jobs. Trade, transportation and warehousing pared 700 jobs. Professional and business services trimmed 400 jobs and several industries experienced smaller losses. The only over-the-year increases occurred in educational and health services (+200) and other services (+100).



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

# IOWA NONFARM EMPLOYMENT

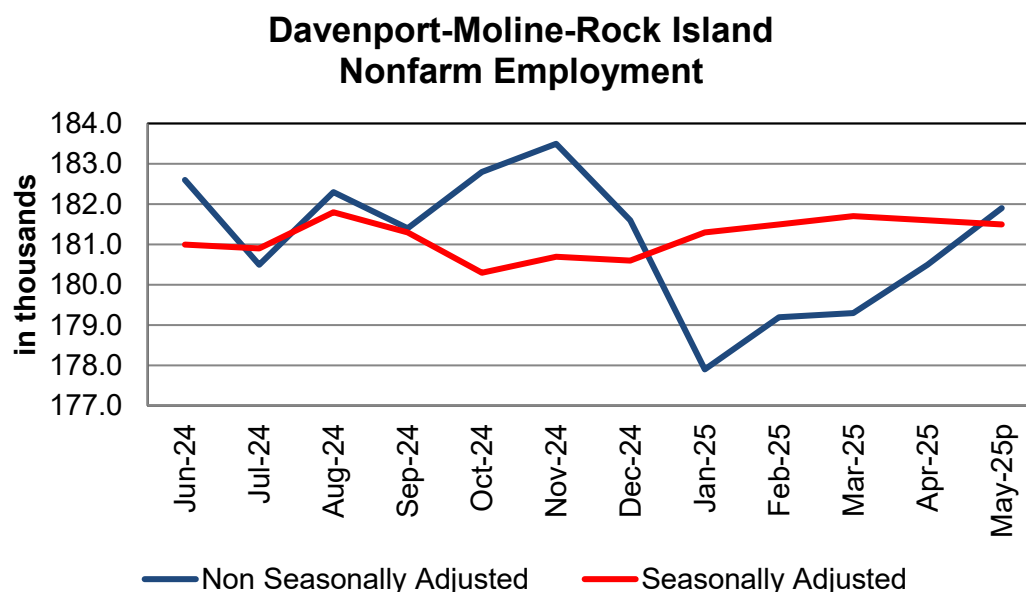
## IOWA WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

May 2025

Davenport-Moline-Rock Island Metropolitan Statistical Area					
Total Nonfarm 2024 (prelim)		Total Nonfarm 2023		% Change—1 Year	
181,900		183,700		-0.98%	
Noteworthy Expanding & Contracting Industries (1 year)					
Other services		4.48%	Durable goods mfg		-4.17%

Employment in the Davenport–Moline–Rock Island metropolitan statistical area (MSA) rose by 1,400 positions between April and May, an increase of 0.8 percent month-over-month. Private service-providing employment grew by 600 positions, almost entirely due to a gain of 600 positions among establishments within leisure and hospitality. Goods-producing employment also increased, rising by 300 positions monthly. In the public sector, municipal government employers added 600 positions to payrolls, whereas federal government establishments trimmed 100 positions. State government employment did not change.

Employment in the MSA declined by 1,800 positions annually, a decrease of 1.0 percent. Private service-providing and goods-producing employment fell by 1,300 and 1,200 positions, respectively. Manufacturing employment shrank by 800 positions, primarily due to job losses in durable goods manufacturing. Trade, transportation, and utilities suffered a corresponding decrease, losing 1,000 positions over-the-year. On the flip side, employment in healthcare and social assistance rose by 300 positions. In the public sector, local government employment increased by 700 positions, while both state and federal government employment were unchanged.



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

# IOWA NONFARM EMPLOYMENT

## IOWA WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

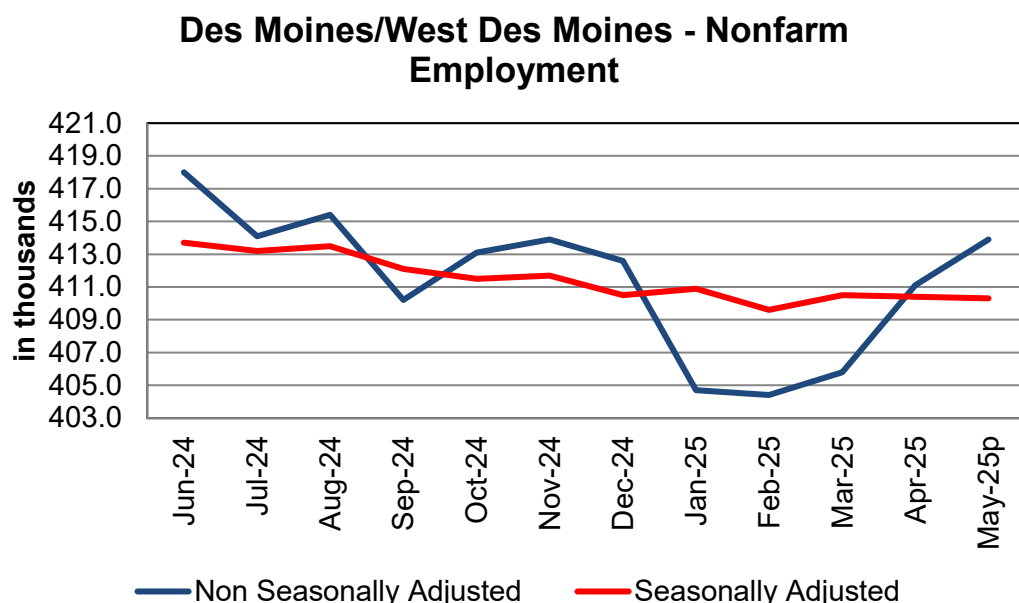
May 2025

Des Moines/West Des Moines Metropolitan Statistical Area				
Total Nonfarm 2024 (prelim)		Total Nonfarm 2023		% Change—1 Year
413,900		418,200		-1.03%
Noteworthy Expanding & Contracting Industries (1 year)				
Local government	4.95%	Non-durable goods mfg		-17.60%

Firms in the Des Moines Metropolitan area added 2,800 jobs since April, lifting total nonfarm employment to 413,900 jobs. Seasonal increases are common in May, although this month's gain is on the small size relative to the prior ten-year history. Weak seasonal gains were evident in May for private service industries; government and goods-producing industries experienced monthly gains slightly higher than historically expected.

Leisure and hospitality seasonally gained 1,600 jobs to lead all sectors in May. This sector got a boost from full-service restaurants which gained 400. Gains this month are common in this sector as firms ramp-up staffing levels in preparation for increased business in the summer months. The mining, logging, and construction sector added 1,100. This movement is fueled by seasonal hiring in construction. This monthly gain, same as the prior two months, was more than average. Government added 1,100 jobs. Generally, these hires are typically seasonally related to summer programs and help offset seasonal losses in education. On the other hand, private education, health care, and social assistance shed 800 jobs to lead all sectors. Whereas private education experience relatively light seasonal decreases, while health care and social assistance experienced an unusual loss of 700. Other sectors showing losses in May were retail trade (-300) and financial activities (-200).

Over the past months, firms in the Des Moines area have shed 4,300 jobs. Manufacturing leads all sectors in jobs lost (-2,600). Food production has been responsible for most of the drop since last May. Financial activities continue trend down and is 1,700 jobs lower, annually, and professional and business services have each lost 1,600 jobs. Alternatively, government has added 2,100 jobs mostly at the local level, followed by education and healthcare services (+1,900), then other services (+400).



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

# IOWA NONFARM EMPLOYMENT

## IOWA WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

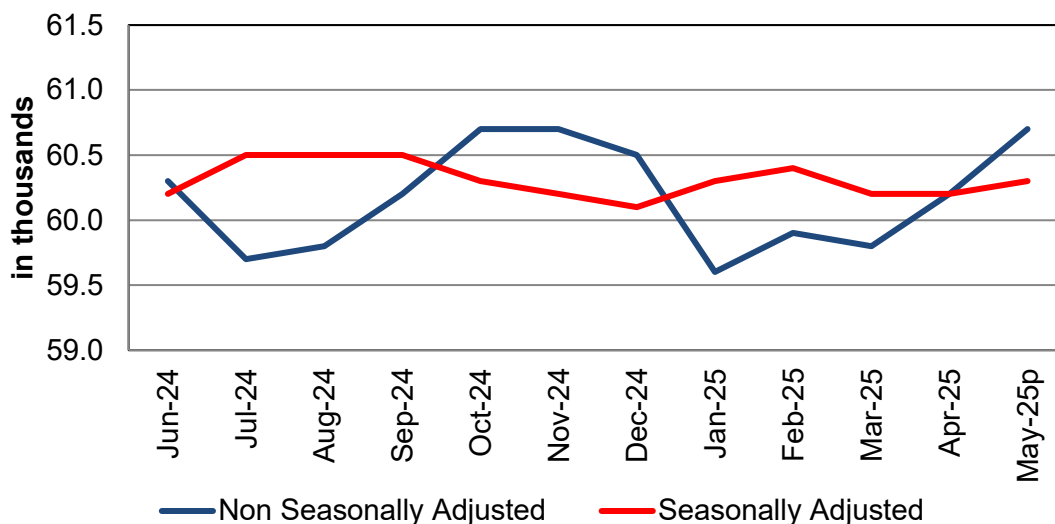
May 2025

Dubuque Metropolitan Statistical Area			
Total Nonfarm 2024 (prelim)	Total Nonfarm 2023		% Change—1 Year
60,700	60,700		0.00%
Noteworthy Expanding & Contracting Industries (1 year)			
Local government	4.55%	Goods-producing	-2.96%

The Dubuque Metro increased by 500 jobs in May, raising total nonfarm employment to 60,700 jobs. This month's gain is average relative to the prior ten years. Government added the most jobs (+300). These hires were related to local education. Private services added 100 jobs, many related to seasonal leisure and hospitality firms. Goods-producing industries also gained 100 jobs. This increase was mostly due to construction.

Annually, the Dubuque Metro has seen little overall change in total nonfarm employment. Goods-producing industries are down 400 jobs, but this loss is offset by the combined losses in private services (+200) and government (+200).

**Dubuque - Nonfarm Employment**



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

# IOWA NONFARM EMPLOYMENT

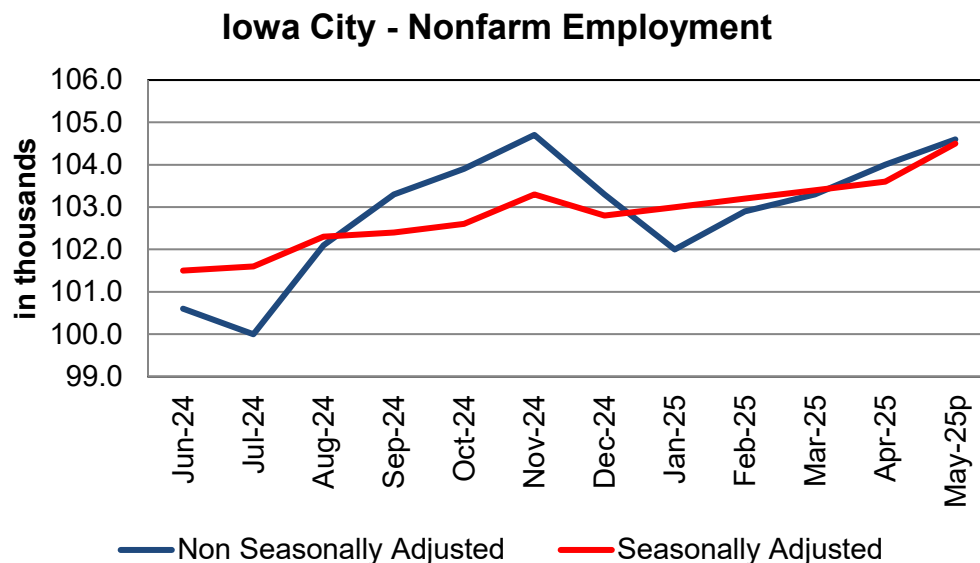
## IOWA WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

May 2025

Iowa City Metropolitan Statistical Area			
Total Nonfarm 2024 (prelim)		Total Nonfarm 2023	% Change—1 Year
104,600		101,800	2.75%
Noteworthy Expanding & Contracting Industries (1 year)			
Wholesale trade	4.76%	Information	-14.29%

Employment in the Iowa City metropolitan statistical area (MSA) rose by 600 positions between April and May, an increase of 0.6 percent over-the-month. Private service-providing and goods-producing employment both grew by 200 positions. Accommodation and food services was a strong driver of growth, with employment rising by 300 positions monthly. Among public sector employers, local government establishments added 200 positions to payrolls month-over-month. Employment among federal and state employers was unchanged.

Employment in the MSA expanded by 2,800 positions annually, an increase of 2.8 percent. A significant portion of this increase occurred in the state government sector, which added 2,400 positions year-over-year. However, this may be due to the fact that summertime job losses in the sector, which typically occur in May, have not yet been reflected in the data. Elsewhere in the public sector, local government employment rose by 100 positions. Private sector growth was modest, with service-providing and goods-producing establishments adding 200 and 100 positions, respectively. Notably, private education and health services employment grew by 400 positions over-the-year.



For additional information, contact Daniel Edwards (515-281-7547)



# IOWA NONFARM EMPLOYMENT

## IOWA WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

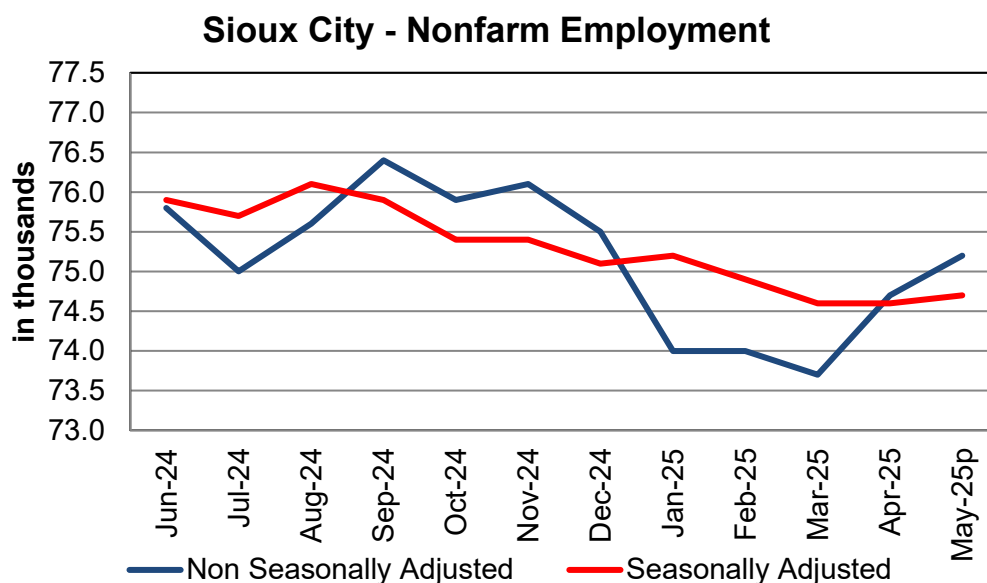
May 2025

Sioux City Metropolitan Statistical Area			
Total Nonfarm 2024 (prelim)	Total Nonfarm 2023		% Change—1 Year
75,200	76,700		-1.96%
Noteworthy Expanding & Contracting Industries (1 year)			
Local government	3.95%	Prof & business svcs	-4.62%

Businesses in the Sioux City MSA added 500 jobs from April making total nonfarm employment 75,200.

Service-providing sectors added the most jobs (+400). In spite of an additional 300 jobs in leisure and hospitality, private service-providing industries added just 100 jobs. Government contributed to the gains with 300 jobs added, 200 jobs in local government and 100 jobs in state government.

Area employment is down 1,500 jobs from one year ago with losses split among goods-producing (-800) and service-providing (-700) industries. Professional and business services pared 300 jobs, manufacturing and leisure and hospitality each trimmed 200 jobs. Government added 400 jobs, with local government adding 300 and state government adding 100 jobs.



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# IOWA NONFARM EMPLOYMENT

## IOWA WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

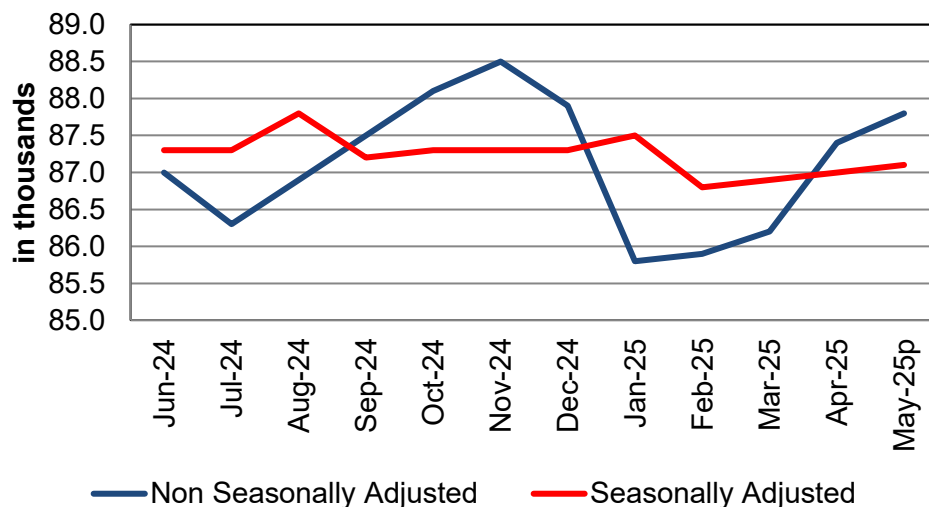
May 2025

Waterloo/Cedar Falls Metropolitan Statistical Area			
Total Nonfarm 2024 (prelim)	Total Nonfarm 2023		% Change—1 Year
87,800	88,500		-0.79%
Noteworthy Expanding & Contracting Industries (1 year)			
State government	2.56%	Durable goods mfg	-5.05%

Employment in the Waterloo/Cedar Falls metropolitan statistical area increased by 400 jobs this month with service-providing sectors adding the bulk of the additional jobs (+300). Leisure and hospitality (+200) and professional and business services (+100) each contributed to the gain. Goods-producing sectors added 100 jobs, although none of the added jobs were in manufacturing.

Over the year, the area has shed 700 jobs from its rolls. The manufacturing sector is responsible for the majority of the job losses, shedding 400 jobs from last year, with durable goods shedding 500 jobs and non-durable goods partially offsetting that loss with 100 added jobs. Leisure and hospitality pared 400 jobs and professional and business services trimmed 200 jobs. Conversely, educational and health services added 300 jobs and government added 200 jobs.

**Waterloo/Cedar Falls - Nonfarm Employment**



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<http://www.iowalmi.gov/>

# IOWA NONFARM EMPLOYMENT

IOWA WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

May 2025

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.

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