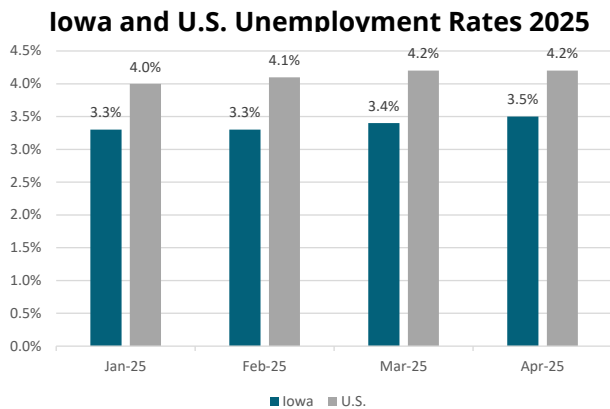
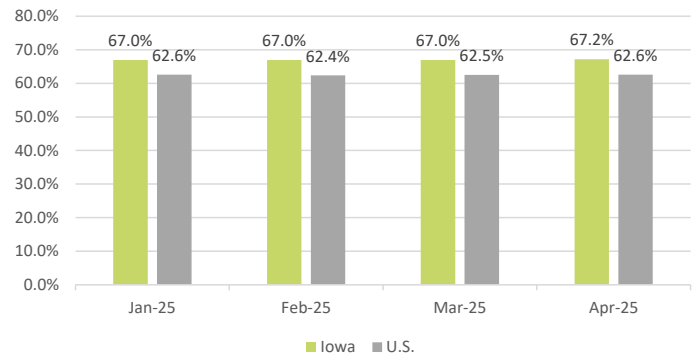


## Labor Force & Unemployment



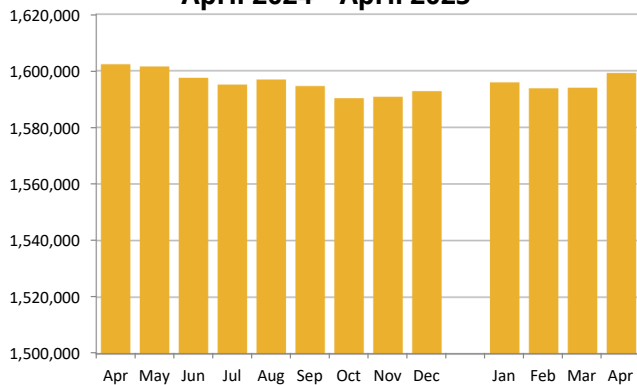
## Iowa and U.S. Labor Force Participation Rates



- Iowa's unemployment rate increased to 3.5 percent in April. The state's jobless rate was 2.8 percent one year ago.
- The state's total employment level increased to 1,667,100 in April from 1,664,100 in March.
- Iowa's labor force participation rate rose to 67.2 percent in April. The increase was due to 25 year olds and older.
- The U.S. unemployment rate remained at 4.2 percent in April.

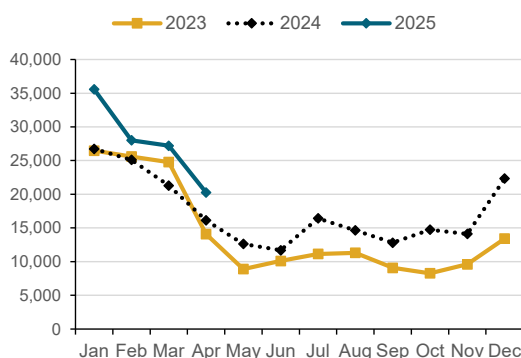
## Nonfarm Employment

### Total Nonfarm Employment April 2024—April 2025



- Firms in Iowa gained 5,200 jobs in April. A majority of the increase stemmed from private service industries.
- Professional and business services added 1,400 jobs since March. Professional, scientific, and technical services was responsible for most of the jobs gained.
- Construction gained 1,300 jobs in April and has now added 2,800 jobs since January.
- Leisure and hospitality increased by 900 jobs. All of the increase was related to hiring in recreation and entertainment as accommodations and food services shed jobs.
- Monthly losses were limited to trade (-800) and manufacturing (-500).
- Total nonfarm employment trails last year's level by 3,100 jobs. Manufacturing has shed the most jobs of all sectors (-7,400); health care and social assistance has added the most (+5,200).
- Nationally, the U.S. gained 177,000 jobs in April.

## Unemployment Insurance (UI) Recipients



- The number of persons who received at least one UI payment fell by 6,961 from 27,209 in March 2025 to 20,248 in April 2025. The drop was primarily caused by a decrease in construction unemployment.
- The number of benefit recipients rose by 25 percent from April 2024. The primary reason for this increase was manufacturing layoffs. The greatest number of manufacturing benefit recipients worked in the manufacturing of electrical equipment and appliance, machinery, transportation, food, and plastics and rubber products.

### Upcoming Monthly News Release Schedule

Reference Month	Statewide News Release	Local Area News Release
April	May 15, 2025	May 20, 2025
May	June 19, 2025	June 24, 2025
June	July 17, 2025	July 22, 2025

## Labor Market Information Division

IowaLMI.gov

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Donna Burkett, Bureau Chief

Source: Labor Market Information (LMI) Division, Iowa Workforce Development—Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) unless noted. (Reference: April 2025)