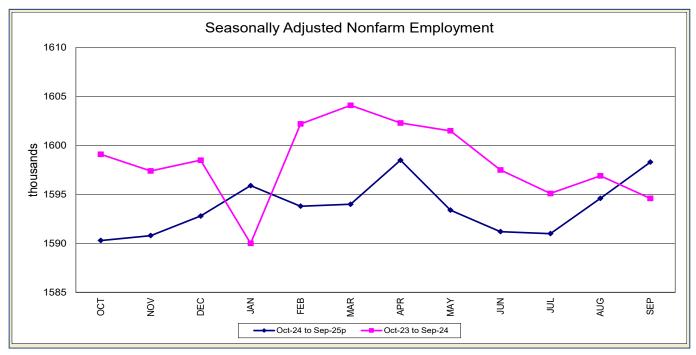
IOWA WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

September 2025

## **September Employment Boosted by Education**



lowa establishments added 3.700 jobs in September, raising total nonfarm employment up to 1,598,300. This increase follows a similar gain in August of 3,600 jobs. While last month's gains were fueled by trade, this month's gain was largely the result by both public and private schools hiring more staff than expected as classes resume. goods-producing Additionally, industries also fared well in September, gaining 1,900 jobs combined. This increase puts total employment back up nonfarm slightly relative to last year (+3,700).

Within private industries, construction added the most jobs in September (+1,300). This gain follows small losses in July and August. Specialty trade contractors were responsible for much of the gain. Retail trade continued to add jobs this month (+1,200). This sector has increased by 2,700 jobs since May. Manufacturing gained 600 jobs. Durable goods producers

were responsible for most of the increase this month. Job losses were limited to just a few sectors. Health care and social assistance continued to lower staffing levels in September (-1,500). This sector has pared 3,900 jobs over the past three months. These losses have been evident in virtually all industries related to health care and social assistance.

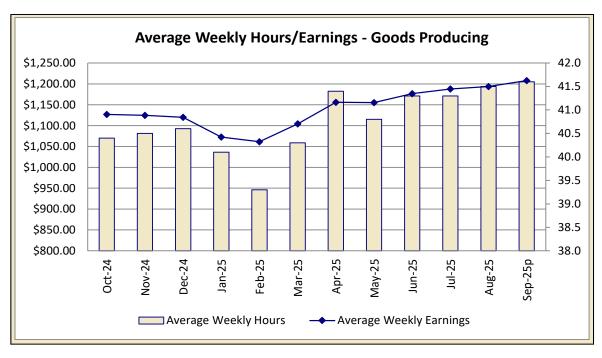
Over the past twelve months, total nonfarm employment is up 3,700 jobs. Private industry is down slightly since last September (-600). Local government increased by 3,900 jobs. This hiring was primarily at K-12 schools (+3,900). Among private industry, construction has added the most jobs annually (+5,500). Despite recent losses, health care and social assistance is up 3,000 jobs followed by other services, up 1,600 jobs versus last year. Conversely, manufacturing still leads all sectors in terms of jobs lost (-4,100). This loss is due to cutbacks at durable goods factories. Non-durable goods production, including food production, are up slightly versus last year. Administrative support and waste management industries are down 3,700 jobs. Leisure and hospitality combined trails last year's mark by 2,500 jobs.

On the national level, the U.S. gained 119,000 jobs. Hiring was evident in health care and social assistance (+43,000) followed by eating and drinking establishments (+37,000). These gains were offset by losses in transportation and warehousing (-25,000) and federal government (-3,000). Compared to last year, the nation is up 1.3 million jobs.

IOWA WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

September 2025





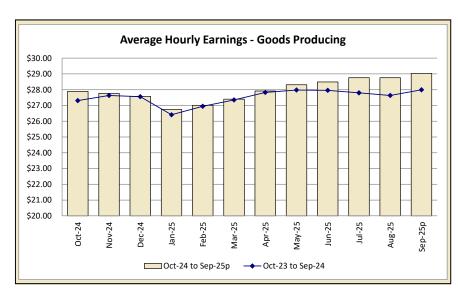
Production workers in Iowa's construction sector earned \$1,416.70 in September, up \$126.33 versus last year's mark. Most of this annual increase stems from gains in overtime hours worked. Manufacturing workers have added \$25.43 annually. An increase of 45 cents per hour on average was responsible for most of the gain.

Within service sectors, workers in retail trade averaged \$535.57 in September. These earnings are basically the same as one year ago as a gain of 56 cents per hour on average has been offset by almost an hour shed from average weekly schedules. Workers in financial activities gained \$85.19 per week in average weekly earnings. Both average hourly earnings and average weekly hours have advanced since last year, raising average weekly pay to \$1,233.45.

Goods-producing Hours & Earnings						
Average Weekly Earnings	\$1,207.65					
Average Hourly Earnings	\$29.03					
Average Weekly Hours	41.6					

For additional information,

contact James Morris (515-281-8515)



IOWA WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

September 2025

## **METROPOLITAN STATISTICAL AREAS**

SEASONALLY ADJUSTED NONFARM EMPLOYMENT (TOTAL NONFARM)

MSA	Sep-24		Nov-24	Dec-24	Jan-25	Feb-25	Mar-25	Apr-25	May-25	Jun-25	Jul-25	Aug-25	Sep-25p
CEDAR RAPIDS	140.0	139.7	139.4	139.2	139.3	139.3	139.6	139.6	139.7	139.5	139.3	139.4	139.8
DAVENPORT-MOLINE-ROCK ISLA	181.3	180.3	180.7	180.6	181.3	181.5	181.7	181.6	180.9	179.6	179.4	179.0	178.9
DES MOINES/W. DES MOINES	412.1	411.5	411.7	410.5	410.9	409.6	410.5	410.4	410.6	410.0	410.4	412.5	414.4
DUBUQUE	60.5	60.3	60.2	60.1	60.3	60.4	60.2	60.2	60.3	59.8	59.8	59.8	60.2
IOWA CITY	102.4	102.6	103.3	102.8	103.0	103.2	103.4	103.6	103.8	103.3	103.3	103.5	103.9
SIOUX CITY	75.9	75.4	75.4	75.1	75.2	74.9	74.6	74.6	74.7	74.5	74.1	74.2	74.3
WATERLOO/CEDAR FALLS	87.2	87.3	87.3	87.3	87.5	86.8	86.9	87.0	87.1	86.9	86.7	86.7	87.7

Ames Metropolitan Statistical Area							
Total Nonfarm 2025 (prelim) Total Nonfarm 2024 % Change—1 Yea							
64,400			65,000	-0.92%			
Noteworthy Expanding & Contracting Industries (1 year)							
Educ & health services	1.69%		Financial activities	3	-4.76%		

Employment in the Ames metropolitan statistical area (MSA) grew by 2,900 positions between August and September, an increase of 4.7 percent month-over-month. This employment gain was typical for this time of year, as jobs return to the area with the beginning of fall activity at the MSA's state university. Consequently, employment in state government grew by 2,400 positions over the month. Employment among local government establishments increased by 500 positions. In the private sector, employment figures in service-providing and goods-producing businesses were unchanged. Among specific sectors, employment and leisure and hospitality each rose by 100 positions

Employment in the MSA fell by 600 positions over-the-year, a decline of 0.9 percent. Job losses in the private service-providing sector were responsible for much of the contraction, with employment in the sector ebbing by 400 positions from September 2024. Employment in leisure and hospitality decreased by 200 positions year-over-year. As a percentage, the largest decline occurred in the information sector, which lost 12.5 percent of its employment. In the public sector, state government employment declined by 200 positions, whereas employment in the federal and local government sectors was unchanged.

## **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 WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

September 2025

Cedar Rapids Metropolitan Statistical Area							
Total Nonfarm 2025 (prelim) Total Nonfarm 2024 % Change—1 Year							
139,900	139,800			0.07%			
Noteworthy Expand	Noteworthy Expanding & Contracting Industries (1 year)						
Mining, logging & construction	4.30%	Informa	tion	-7.14%			

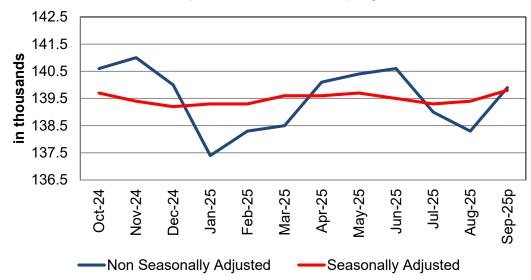
The Cedar Rapids metropolitan statistical area gained 1,600 jobs in September, largely attributed to local government adding 2,600 jobs as the new school year begins. The gain partially reclaims jobs trimmed over the previous two months

Aside from the gain in local government, employment increases were limited to trade, transportation and warehousing which gained 300 jobs as a result of seasonal boosts in retail employment (+400). Wholesale trade trimmed 100 jobs.

Several industries trimmed employment this month, including: leisure and hospitality (-400), professional and business services (-400), educational and health services (-300), and information and other services (-100 each).

Over the year, metro area employment added just 100 jobs. Losses in information (-200), financial activities (-200), leisure and hospitality (-200), professional and business services (-100), and manufacturing (-100) offset the majority of gains in other industries. Gains were realized in mining, logging and construction (+400), educational and health services (+300), other services (+100) and government (+100).

## **Cedar Rapids - Nonfarm Employment**



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

IOWA WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

September 2025

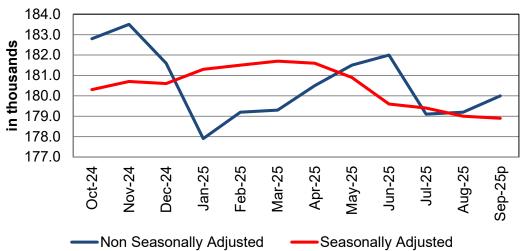
Davenport-Moline-Rock Island Metropolitan Statistical Area							
Total Nonfarm 2025 (prelim) Total Nonfarm 2024 % Change—1 Year							
180,000	18	31,400	-0.77%				
Noteworthy Expanding & Contracting Industries (1 year)							
Health care & social assist	2.29% Leisure & hospitality -3.24						

Employment in the Davenport–Moline–Rock Island metropolitan statistical area (MSA) grew by 800 positions between August and September, an increase of 0.5 percent over-the-month. Employment among local government employers increased by 2,400 positions; accounting for educational services, that figure rises to 2,800 positions. State and federal government employment was unchanged. In the private sector, service-providing establishments trimmed 1,500 positions. Leisure and hospitality was the hardest hit sector, with month-over-month employment falling by 800 positions. Employment in the goods-producing sector declined by 100 positions.

Employment in the MSA contracted by 1,400 positions over-the-year, a decrease of 0.8 percent.

Large reductions in private sector employment were responsible for the decline, with private service-providing and goods-producing employers paring 1,200 and 400 positions, respectively. Manufacturing employment decreased by 500 positions year-over-year, while employment in trade, transportation, and utilities declined by 400 positions. By percentage, the largest decline occurred in finance and insurance, which trimmed 3.5 percent of its jobs from September 2024. In the public sector, local government employment grew by 200 positions.

# Davenport-Moline-Rock Island Nonfarm Employment



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

#### IOWA WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

September 2025

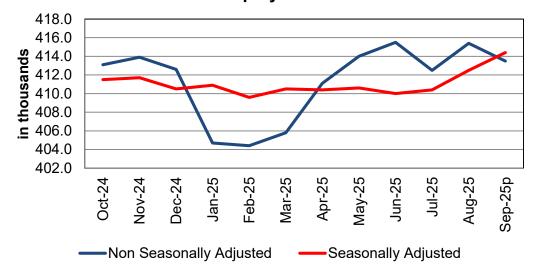
Des Moines/West Des Moines Metropolitan Statistical Area							
Total Nonfarm 2025 (prelim)	Total Nonfarm 2024 % Change—1 Year						
413,500	410,2	200	0.80%				
Noteworthy Expand	ing & Contra	cting Indus	tries (1 year	·)			
Mining, logging & construction	8.37% Financial a		activities	-4.80%			

Establishments in the Des Moines Metropolitan Area seasonally shed 1,900 jobs in September. This loss is slightly more than average; however, it follows an unusually large gain in August. This month's seasonal loss lowers total nonfarm employment to 413,500 jobs. Private industry is down 1,200 jobs over the past twelve months. Government is up 4,500 jobs and has been fueled by hiring in local governments.

Leisure and hospitality shed 1,900 jobs in September. This loss is slightly less than expected for this time of year. Full-service restaurants contributed to this loss with 400 jobs lost. Professional and business services pared 1,300 jobs. Professional, scientific, and technical services alone shed 700 jobs. Health care and social assistance shed jobs in September (-500). This loss matched the loss in health care and social assistance (-500). Alternatively, retail trade added 500 jobs since August. This gain is unusually high for this time of year and may be due to early holiday hiring. Mining, logging, and construction increased by 400 jobs. Half of this increase were related to specialty trade contractors.

Annually, the Des Moines Area has gained 3,300 jobs. Mining, logging, and construction is up 2,200 jobs, specialty trade contractors contributed 700 jobs to this gain. Private education is up 1,100 jobs since last year. Alternatively, financial activities are down 2,700 jobs over the past twelve months. Most of these losses stem from credit intermediation and related services. Manufacturing has shed 1,000 jobs. Non-durable goods factories are responsible for most of this loss (-800).

## Des Moines/West Des Moines - Nonfarm Employment



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

#### IOWA WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

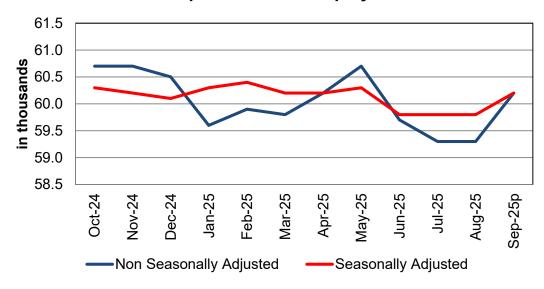
September 2025

Dubuque Metropolitan Statistical Area							
Total Nonfarm 2025 (prelim)	elim) Total Nonfarm 2024 % Change—1 Year						
60,200	60,2	00	0.00%				
Noteworthy Expanding & Contracting Industries (1 year)							
Retail trade	3.13%	% Goods-producing -(					

In September, the Dubuque Metropolitan Area added 900 jobs. This increase is higher than seasonally expected for this time of year. This monthly increase was entirely the result of government hiring on the local level and related to schools hiring more than usual this year (+1,100). Private service industries shed 200 jobs despite an increase of 100 in retail trade. Goods-producing industries are unchanged since August.

Compared to last September, the Dubuque Metro has seen little movement in total nonfarm employment. Private service gains of 100 jobs have been matched by losses of 100 jobs within goods-producing sectors. Government is unchanged compared to last year.

## **Dubuque - Nonfarm Employment**



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

#### IOWA WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

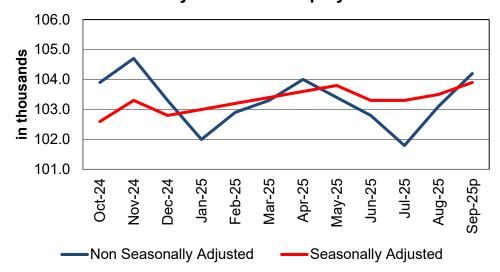
September 2025

Iowa City Metropolitan Statistical Area							
Total Nonfarm 2025 (prelim) Total Nonfarm 2024 % Change—1 Year							
104,200		103,30	0	0.87%			
Noteworthy Expand	Noteworthy Expanding & Contracting Industries (1 year)						
Educational & health services	2.91%	Financia	al activities	-3.45%			

Employment in the Iowa City metropolitan statistical area (MSA) grew by 1,100 positions between August and September, an increase of 1.1 percent month-over-month. Job gains in the public sector were responsible for the expansion, with local and state government employers adding 800 and 500 positions to their payrolls, respectively. Federal government employment was unchanged. In the private sector, service-providing employment fell by 200 positions. Notably, employment in other services declined by 100 positions, a decrease of 3.7 percent over-themonth.

Employment in the MSA rose by 900 positions over-the-year, an increase of 0.9 percent. Government employment increased by 700 positions; state government employment grew by 900 positions, whereas federal and municipal government employment each fell by 100 positions. In the private sector, employment in service-providing and goods-producing establishments both increased by 100 positions. Private education and health services had a particularly strong year of hiring; employers in the sector brought in an additional 300 positions from September 2024, an increase of 2.9 percent.

## **lowa City - Nonfarm Employment**



#### IOWA WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

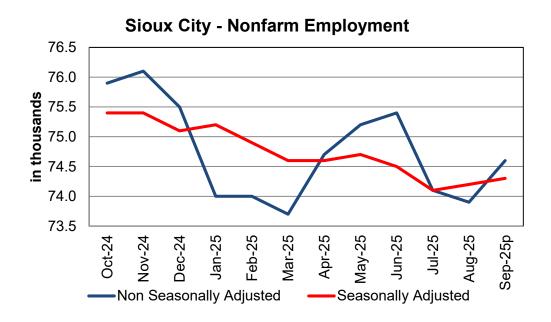
September 2025

Sioux City Metropolitan Statistical Area							
Total Nonfarm 2025 (prelim) Total Nonfarm 2024 % Change—1 Year							
74,600	76,400		-2.36%				
Noteworthy Expanding & Contracting Industries (1 year)							
Retail trade	1.20%	1.20% Goods-producing					

Businesses in the Sioux City MSA added 700 jobs from August, boosted by gains in service-providing industries. The goods-producing super-sector trimmed 100 jobs, in spite of 100 additional jobs in non-durable goods manufacturing.

Government gained more jobs than any other sector, adding 800 jobs over the month influenced by the start of a new school year. The gain is seasonally inspired and matches the August-to-September change from one year ago.

Area employment is down 1,800 jobs from one year ago with losses split between service-providing (-1,000) and goods-producing (-800) industries. Manufacturing employment is down 300 jobs, with no change in non-durable goods manufacturing employment. Leisure and hospitality trimmed 200 jobs, and professional and business services pared 100 jobs. Government is the only sector experiencing a jobs gain, with 200 additional jobs, all in local government.



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

#### IOWA WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

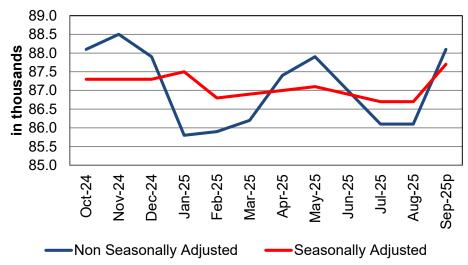
September 2025

Waterloo/Cedar Falls Metropolitan Statistical Area							
Total Nonfarm 2025 (prelim)	) Total Nonfarm 2024 % Change—1 Year						
88,100	87,500 0.69%			69%			
Noteworthy Expanding & Contracting Industries (1 year)							
Educational & health services	2.72%	-2.44%					

Employers in the Waterloo/Cedar Falls metropolitan statistical area increased employment from August (+2,000) Total nonfarm employment now stands at 88,100. Government entities are responsible for nearly the entire gain, adding 1,200 jobs in state government and 800 jobs in local government. The gains are largely seasonal in nature. Retail trade is the only other industry with a gain (+100), although trade, transportation and warehousing as a whole was unchanged.

Over the year, area employment is up 600 jobs as a result of a mixture of gains and losses. Manufacturing pared 200 jobs, all in durable goods manufacturing. Trade, transportation and warehousing employment is down 300 jobs, in spite of 100 additional jobs in retail trade. Government employment is up 600 jobs with 400 more jobs in state government and an additional 200 jobs in local government. Educational and health services has added 400 jobs over the year.

## Waterloo/Cedar Falls - Nonfarm Employment



IOWA WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

September 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.

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

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