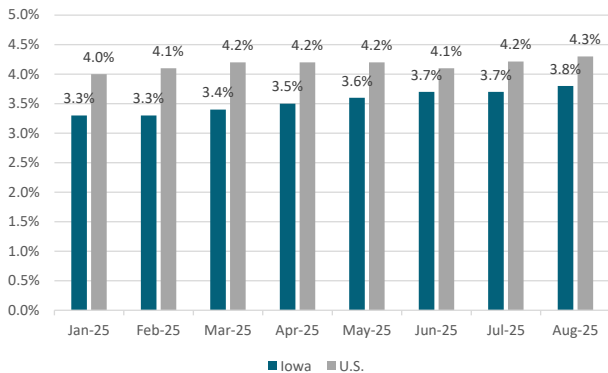
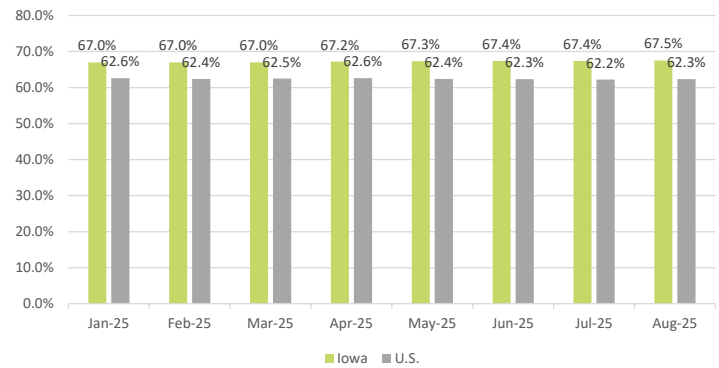


## Labor Force & Unemployment

**Iowa and U.S. Unemployment Rates 2025**



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

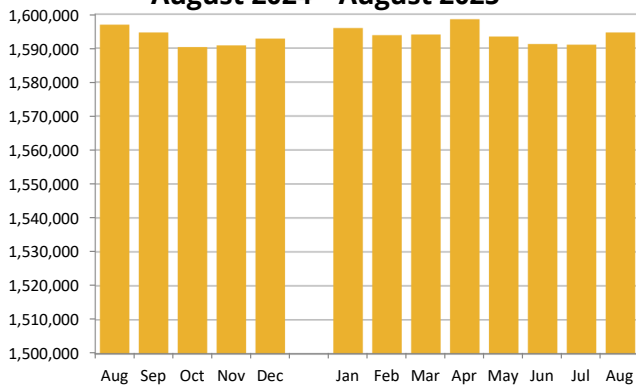


- Iowa's unemployment rate increased to 3.8 percent in August. The state's jobless rate was 3.2 percent one year ago.
- The U.S. unemployment rate rose to 4.3 percent in August.

- The state's total employment level increased to 1,673,500 in August from 1,672,400 in July.
- Iowa's labor force participation rate increased to 67.5 percent in August. The increase in the labor force participation was due to 20 to 24 year olds.

## Nonfarm Employment

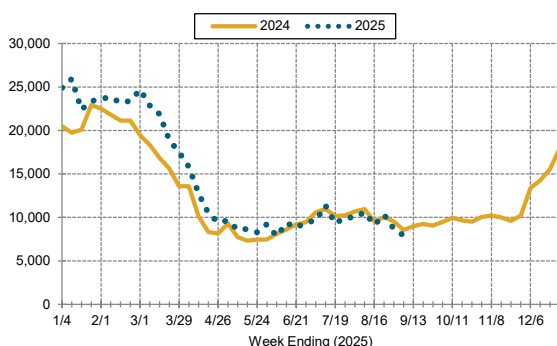
**Total Nonfarm Employment  
August 2024—August 2025**



- Iowa establishments added 3,600 jobs in August. This gain follows losses over the prior three months. Service industries fueled this gain as goods-producing industries were down slightly.

- Professional and business services added 1,800 jobs since July. Scientific and technical fields fueled most of this gain.
- Leisure and hospitality added 1,200 jobs following a similar gain last month. Bars and restaurants were responsible for much of the increase.
- Construction lost 700 jobs in August following a loss of 400 jobs in July. This sector prospered over the prior five months, adding 6,500 jobs.
- Health care and social assistance lost 800 jobs and has shed 2,000 jobs since June. A majority of these losses are related to social assistance industries.
- Total nonfarm employment trails last August by 2,300 jobs. Manufacturing has shed the most jobs (-5,300) while health care and social assistance has added the most jobs annually (+4,600).

## Iowa Unemployment Insurance (UI) Continued Weeks Claimed



- Unemployment insurance continued claims decreased by 3.7 percent from an average of 10,044 per week during July 2025 to 9,673 per week during August 2025. This also represents a decrease of 3.4 percent from 10,013 in August 2024.
- Continued weeks claims started 2025 higher than 2024. The average through May 2025 was 16.6 percent higher than the same period of 2024. Continued claims for June 2025 through August 2025 were similar to 2024 levels.
- A continued claim is a certification filed for one week of UI benefits. This is different from the more widely published initial claim figure which represents a new spell of unemployment.

### Upcoming Monthly News Release Schedule

Reference Month	Statewide News Release	Local Area News Release
August	September 18, 2025	September 23, 2025
September	October 16, 2025	October 21, 2025
October	November 20, 2025	November 25, 2025

## Labor Market Information Division

IowaLMI.gov

Phone: 515-242-5862

Donna Burkett, Bureau Chief

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