**Ames**

Total nonfarm employment in the Ames area added a slight 100 jobs in November and now rests at 56,300 jobs. What little movement there was in the Ames area this month occurred in private services which gained 100 jobs. November typically has the least movement of any month, so this month’s estimates are expected.

Over the past twelve months, Ames has trended up by 1,200 jobs. The largest gains have come from state government (+500) and have been education-related. Private services advanced by 400 jobs and goods-producing industries have grown by 300 jobs.

**Cedar Rapids**

The Cedar Rapids metropolitan statistical area added jobs for the fourth consecutive month, gaining 800 jobs and bringing total nonfarm employment to 147,000.

Following three consecutive months of stagnate employment in trade, transportation and warehousing, the sector added 800 jobs to lead all sectors in job gains. Educational and health services added 200 jobs. Natural resources and construction and leisure and hospitality each pared 100 jobs.

Over the year the area added 2,000 jobs with the largest gains in professional and business services (+500) and trade, transportation and warehousing (+500). Government added 300 jobs. Manufacturing, financial activities, and educational and health services each gained 200 jobs from one year ago. Employment in the information sector has trimmed 200 jobs from one year ago.

**Des Moines/West Des Moines**

# The Des Moines Metro area added 1,900 jobs in November lifting total nonfarm employment to 372,700 jobs. This month’s gain is large versus the prior three years and helps erase the losses incurred between July and September. Gains this month were concentrated in trade, transportation, and utilities and primarily fueled by hiring in retail trade (+2,700). This monthly gain was partially the result of seasonal holiday hiring and partially the result of several new brick and mortar retail establishments opening within the metro area. Smaller gains this month included other services (+600) and government (+400). Conversely, losses this month were limited to just two sectors: leisure and hospitality and construction. The decline in leisure and hospitality was large compared to the previous ten years and included seasonal parings in recreation along with some declines in accommodations. Construction took a large drop in November (-1,100) with 300 jobs lost within specialty trade contractors. The monthly drop puts construction in the Des Moines area nearly even with last year’s mark (-100).

# Annually, the Des Moines metro has added 9,300 jobs (+2.6 percent). This annual growth rate is double that of Iowa (+1.3 percent). No sector has added more jobs than professional and business services (+3,300). Due to recent expansion in retail trade, the trade, transportation, and utilities sector has grown by 2,100 jobs. Elsewhere, education and healthcare is up 1,500. The only losses in the metro area over the last twelve months have occurred in information (-300) and mining, logging, and construction (-100).

# Dubuque

The Dubuque Metropolitan area advanced by 200 jobs in November. The monthly gain lifts total nonfarm employment to 60,600 jobs. Generally there is little movement in the economy during November, so this month’s gain is pleasant news. All of the growth occurred in private services, and half of this gain was due to seasonal retail hiring.

Annually, total nonfarm has shed 200 jobs. Despite the monthly gain, trade and transportation trails last year’s mark by 300 jobs and is largely responsible for a 400 job decline in private services. On the other hand, goods-producing industries have added 200 jobs.

**Iowa City**

Nonfarm employment in the Iowa City metropolitan statistical area added 800 jobs from last month due entirely to gains in service providing industries. Government added 600 jobs, with a mix of gains in all three industries; local, state and federal government (300, 200 and 100, respectively). Trade, transportation and warehousing added 300 jobs. Leisure and hospitality pared 100 jobs.

The metro area has added 2,700 jobs from one year ago, boosted by gains of 1,100 in government and 1,500 in private service-providing sectors. Professional and business services added 200 jobs and leisure and hospitality added 100 jobs. Trade, transportation and warehousing is unchanged.

**Sioux City**

# Employment in the Sioux City MSA is up 300 jobs from October. The gain is attributed small increases in manufacturing (+100) and professional and business services (+100). Service-providing industries added a total of 200 jobs. Government pared 200 jobs and trade, transportation and warehousing shed 100 jobs.

# Overall, area employment is just 100 above one year ago. Goods producing industries have added 400 jobs, all in manufacturing. Trade, transportation and warehousing pared 200 jobs. Professional and business services shed 100 jobs. Government employment is unchanged from one year ago at every level.

# Waterloo/Cedar Falls

The Waterloo/Cedar Falls metropolitan statistical area’s total nonfarm employment increased 300 jobs from the previous month and stands at 92,300. Gains of 500 in trade, transportation and warehousing, and 100 in professional and business services and educational and health services were partially offset by losses of 200 in leisure and hospitality and goods producing.

Over the year, employment is down 100 jobs due to a mix of gains and losses, most notably a loss of 200 jobs in trade, transportation and warehousing. Retail trade alone has pared 800 jobs from one year ago. Manufacturing added 300 jobs. Educational and health services and professional and business services each gained 200 jobs.