**Ames**

Businesses in the Ames area seasonally shed 2,100 jobs in January, dropping total nonfarm employment to 53,400 jobs. Although large, the monthly decline was less than seasonally expected, and nonfarm employment remains up 1,400 jobs versus last year. State government fueled a loss of 1,300 jobs in government. Private services and goods producing industries shed 500 and 300 jobs, respectively.

Compared to last year, private services are up 700 jobs. Goods producing industries have gained 300 jobs. Government expanded by 400 jobs due to hiring in state government education.

**Cedar Rapids**

The Cedar Rapids metropolitan statistical area started the year with 2,600 fewer jobs after experiencing mostly seasonal reductions in multiple sectors. Total nonfarm now stands at 142,600 jobs.

Trade, transportation and warehousing shed 800 jobs following three consecutive months of unchanged employment levels. Leisure and hospitality pared 300 jobs and has trimmed jobs for three consecutive months. Employment in financial activities has not changed in three months. Manufacturing added 100 jobs.

Over the year the area added 1,600 jobs with the largest gains in professional and business services (+1,000) and manufacturing (+400). The gain in manufacturing employment is entirely in the durable goods industries. The only sectors with over-the-year losses were natural resources and construction and information, each trimming 200 jobs.

**Des Moines/West Des Moines**

Des Moines total nonfarm employment shed 7,300 jobs in January, lowering employment down to 360,600 jobs. The monthly loss was average given the past ten years. The largest losses this month occurred in trade, transportation, and warehousing (-2,600) and were fueled by expected, seasonal parings in retail trade in the wake of the holiday shopping season (-1,800). The financial sector shed 1,300 jobs, many of which were concentrated in insurance processing and not seasonal. Other sectors losing jobs this month included leisure and hospitality (-1,000), construction (-700), and education and health services (-400). The private sector was responsible for all of the monthly movement in January as government was unchanged versus December and has added just 200 jobs annually.

Since last January, healthcare and social assistance has added the most jobs (+1,800). Trade and transportation has also fared well over the past twelve months and has been helped out by a growing retail sector (+1,200). Transportation has also added jobs over that span (+400) helping add to the total for the trade, transportation, and warehousing super sector. Other sectors advancing in the Des Moines Metro area include manufacturing (+700), professional and business services (+600), and leisure and hospitality (+500). The only sector to lose jobs annually is information services (-100).

# Dubuque

Total nonfarm employment in the Dubuque area seasonally lost 1,800 jobs in January. The decline is very average given the past ten years and lowered the total number of jobs to 58,800. Private service industries were responsible for the majority of the drop (-1,500) and included losses in retail trade, private education, and leisure and hospitality industries. Construction also seasonally declined (-300), although this loss was less than expected. Government was unchanged versus last month.

Compared to last January, Dubuque businesses are up 100 jobs. Private service employers have trailed last year’s mark by 600 jobs, while goods producing industries countered with 600 jobs added. Government has advanced by 100 jobs.

**Iowa City**

Nonfarm employment in the Iowa City metropolitan statistical area shed 1,700 jobs from last month, nearly all of which is attributable to the service providing sectors. Trade, transportation and warehousing shed 1,200 jobs, with half of those jobs coming from the retail trade industry. Leisure and hospitality pared 300 jobs.

The metro area has added 800 jobs from one year ago, boosted by gains of 600 in government and 400 in private service-providing sectors. Leisure and hospitality added 400 jobs. Goods-producing sectors trimmed 200 jobs and trade, transportation and warehousing shed 700 jobs.

**Sioux City**

Employment in the Sioux City MSA is down 1,700 jobs from December. Manufacturing is the only sector that did not pare jobs. The bulk of the jobs loss was in private service-providing sectors (-1,200). Trade, transportation and warehousing cropped 400 jobs. Leisure and hospitality and professional and business services each shed 200 jobs.

Overall, area employment is 500 above one year ago. Goods producing industries have added 1,500 jobs, all in manufacturing. Trade, transportation and warehousing pared 600 jobs. Leisure and hospitality shed 200 jobs. Government and professional and business services employment is unchanged.

# Waterloo/Cedar Falls

The Waterloo/Cedar Falls metropolitan statistical area’s total nonfarm employment decreased 2,600 jobs from the previous month and stands at 88,400. There were no industries with employment gains and only one, financial activities, that remains unchanged from last month. Government shed 1,200 jobs, almost entirely in state government and likely due to a seasonal change at the state university. Trade, transportation and warehousing pared 700 jobs. A smaller loss of 200 occurred in leisure and hospitality, and educational and health services, professional and business services and manufacturing each trimmed 100 jobs.

Over the year, employment is down 1,500 jobs with only two industries adding jobs, manufacturing (+200) and financial activities (+100). Retail trade alone pared 700 jobs from one year ago. Educational and health services shed 300 jobs and government pared 1,200 jobs, all in state government.