**Ames**

The Ames Metro shed 800 jobs in July. This monthly loss is slightly larger than what was averaged over the past few years and lowers the total number of jobs in the metro to 49,900 jobs. Government decreases were primarily seasonal and totaled 700 jobs shed. Goods producing industries lost 200 jobs. Private services posted a small gain (+100).

Annually, the Ames area remains markedly higher than last year (+1,000). Private services have added the most jobs (+700) followed by goods producing industries (+200). Government is down slightly (-100).

**Cedar Rapids**

The Cedar Rapids metropolitan statistical area pared 2,400 jobs in July, entirely the result of an education-related seasonal decline. Total nonfarm now stands at 145,000 jobs.

The month’s employment decrease is attributable to reduced employment levels in educational and health services and local government. Both are seasonal in nature. The losses were partially offset by gains in natural resources and construction (+100), manufacturing (+200) and professional and business services (+200). This is the third consecutive month of gains in manufacturing. Prior to this upward shift, the industry’s employment level had been flat for six months. Professional and business services employment has fluctuated with small month-to-month changes over the past several months.

Over the year the area added 1,300 jobs with the largest gains in leisure and hospitality (+400) and manufacturing (+300). Job losses were restricted to information and other services (-100 each).

**Des Moines/West Des Moines**

# The Des Moines Metro area shed 5,200 jobs in July, lowering total nonfarm employment down to 377,800 jobs. Much of the loss was seasonal and due to the remainder of education staff temporarily breaking for the summer. Compared to last year, the Des Moines metro is up 11,400 jobs and continues to add jobs at a much faster pace than the rest of the state.

# Job movements this month were dominated by seasonal parings in local government (-3,400). Some of these losses will begin to offset beginning next month and as the school year progresses. Retail showed some signs of weakness this month and lost 1,000 jobs. Following this month’s decline, this industry is now down 300 jobs annually. Education and health services lost 900 jobs, but as was the case with government, the majority of the movement was seasonal. On the bright side, job gains were seen in construction (+300), financial activities (+300), manufacturing (+200), and leisure and hospitality (+200).

# Since last July, leisure and hospitality has added 3,500 jobs to lead all sectors. Much of the over the year gains were accrued during a span of rapid hiring from April to June. Construction has also rebounded following a lull last year and is up 2,600 jobs. Other sectors enjoying prosperity annually include education and health services (+2,400) and professional and business services (+2,300). Yearly losses in the Des Moines Metro have been limited to just government (-500) and other services (-100).

# Dubuque

Total nonfarm employment in the Dubuque Metropolitan Statistical area shed 1,200 jobs in July, lowering the total number of jobs to 58,900. A seasonal decline is expected in this month due to schools reaching their annual summer lull, although this month’s government decrease is slightly more than average over the past ten years (-1,300). Goods producing sectors added 100 jobs and private services were unchanged since June.

Annually, the Dubuque MSA is down 200 jobs. Private services are down 400 jobs due in part to cutbacks in retail (-100) and government is down 300 jobs. Goods producing industries have advanced by 500 jobs.

**Iowa City**

Employers in the Iowa City metropolitan statistical area pared 1,700 jobs from last month, with a loss of 1,000 in local government being partially offset by a gain of 600 in state government. Trade, transportation and warehousing shed 500 jobs, 200 of which were in retail trade. Goods producing industry’s employment levels were unchanged.

The metro area has added 500 jobs from one year ago, with additional jobs in several industries, including; leisure and hospitality (+800), goods producing (+300), professional and business services (+100) and government (+100). Trade, transportation and warehousing trimmed 600 jobs, partially offsetting the gains in other industries.

**Sioux City**

Employment in the Sioux City MSA is down 1,200 jobs from June. Local government, while not the only industry trimming jobs, was responsible for the bulk of the reduction with 1,200 fewer jobs. Leisure and hospitality, professional and business services, and trade, transportation and warehousing each trimmed 100 jobs. Private service providing industries added 200 jobs and manufacturing gained 100 jobs.

Overall, area employment is 1,600 above one year ago. Manufacturing added 1,400 jobs (1,200 in non-durable goods) but losses in other goods producing industries cut the overall sector gain down to 1,000 jobs. Professional and business services added 400 jobs. Leisure and hospitality has gained 300 jobs. Government pared 100 jobs from last year.

# Waterloo/Cedar Falls

The Waterloo/Cedar Falls metropolitan statistical area’s total nonfarm employment decreased 1,000 jobs from the previous month and stands at 89,100. The dominant factor in the area’s jobs decline is a seasonal paring of 600 jobs in local government education. Educational and health services trimmed 300 jobs, also the result of a seasonal change. Trade, transportation and warehousing shed 200 jobs, half of that in retail trade. Manufacturing, financial activities and leisure and hospitality were all unchanged.

Over the year, the area has gained 200 jobs with a gain of 400 in goods-producing industries and 200 fewer jobs in service-providing industries. Manufacturing added 500 jobs from one year ago. Professional and business services increased 200 jobs. Leisure and hospitality and financial activities each added 100 jobs. A jobs loss in retail trade resulted in 300 fewer jobs in trade, transportation and warehousing.