**Ames**

The Ames Metropolitan experienced little change in total nonfarm employment in November, with a slight 100 jobs being added in private services. This month’s change is average when compared to the prior ten years for the Ames area, although it does follow three months of unusually large hiring within the MSA.

Annually, the metro area remains up 1,000 jobs versus last November. Government has added the most jobs (+400), due primarily to increased staffing at the local level. Both goods-producing and private service sectors have added 300 jobs.

**Cedar Rapids**

The Cedar Rapids metropolitan statistical area added 600 jobs in November, boosted by a gain of 800 in trade, transportation and warehousing. Half of that gain occurred in retail trade which added 400 jobs as the holiday season kicked off. The employment gain is slightly better than the ten year average October-to-November change. Financial activities and government each contributed an additional 100 jobs to the total.

Mining and construction shed 300 jobs in a seasonal paring. Leisure and hospitality trimmed 200 jobs. Employment levels in manufacturing have remained constant for four consecutive months, although there has been minimal movement in durable goods versus non-durable goods employment.

Over the year the area added 1,300 jobs with the largest gains in local government (+500), educational and health services (+400), and manufacturing (+300 jobs). Professional and business services pared 200 jobs and information trimmed 100 jobs. Employment in retail trade is down 600 jobs from one year ago.

**Des Moines/West Des Moines**

# The Des Moines Metro area lost 500 jobs in November, lowering nonfarm employment down to 378,600 jobs. Private services were responsible for the entirety of the drop this month and shed 1,200 jobs. Typically, jobs are added in November, but this month’s paring of 1,200 jobs is unusual. This month’s loss was partially offset by a slight gain in goods-producing sectors and a moderate gain of 500 jobs in government. Compared to last year, government is now up 1,600 jobs due to hiring at the local level.

# Leisure and hospitality lost the most jobs in November (-2,500) due to unusually large losses in both recreational industries and accommodations and food services. These industries had hired, and even retained, atypically large staffing levels throughout the summer months, so some level of layoffs was likely. Generally, all other losses were light and included professional and business services (-400) and information (-100). Job gains this month were led by transportation, warehousing, and utilities (+1,200) which was fueled by a modest holiday boost from retail trade (+700). This month’s holiday hiring surge was the smallest in over 10 years. Other sectors advancing in November included education and health care (+400) and financial activities (+300).

# Construction has gaining the most jobs since last November (+3,800) with many of those jobs being within specialty trade contractor services (+1,800). Health care and social assistance has also fared well over the past twelve months (+1,200), as has trade, transportation, and utilities (+1,000). Super sector losses have been limited to just information (-200) and leisure and hospitality (-100).

# Dubuque

Businesses in the Dubuque Metropolitan Statistical area added 200 jobs in November, lifting total nonfarm employment to 60,800 jobs. This month’s gain is average given this time of year for the Dubuque area, yet follows a slightly larger than expected gain in October. Retail showed a slight seasonal increase in November, helping lift private services up 300 jobs. Goods-producing industries shed 100 jobs. Government has shown little monthly or annual movement.

Annually, 100 jobs have been added in Dubuque. The job gains have been concentrated within goods producing sectors (+300). Private services have contracted by 200 and government is unmoved.

**Iowa City**

Employment in the Iowa City metropolitan statistical area was unchanged from last month with minimal or no change in every sector. Government added 200 jobs, evenly split between state and local government. Retail trade gained 200 jobs, but losses in other areas resulted in a net decrease of 100 in trade, transportation and warehousing. Goods producing industries pared 100 jobs as did leisure and hospitality.

The metro area has added 700 jobs from one year ago, with gains of 400 jobs in private service-providing industries including professional and business services (+200) and leisure and hospitality (+200). Goods-producing industries added 300 jobs. Trade, transportation and warehousing pared 800 jobs with a loss of 700 in retail trade.

**Sioux City**

Employment in the Sioux City MSA is up 400 jobs from October, due to gains in nearly every industry. Leisure and hospitality is the only industry to shed jobs in November, paring 100 jobs. Trade, transportation and warehousing added 500 jobs with 300 of those jobs in retail trade. Government and professional and business services were unchanged and manufacturing added 100 jobs.

Overall, area employment is 1,600 above one year ago. Manufacturing added 600 jobs, all in non-durable goods manufacturing. Trade, transportation and warehousing gained 700 jobs with a gain of just 100 in retail trade. Professional and business services also added 100 jobs and employment in leisure and hospitality was unchanged.

# Waterloo/Cedar Falls

The Waterloo/Cedar Falls metropolitan statistical area’s total nonfarm gained 500 jobs from the previous month and stands at 92,000. No particular industry stood apart from others this month with trade, transportation and warehousing adding 200 jobs and manufacturing and government each adding 100 jobs. Leisure and hospitality trimmed 300 jobs, a change last seen in 2015 and more than 46% above the 10-year October-to-November average change for the industry.

Over the year, the area has added 400 jobs. Durable goods manufacturing added 500 jobs, combined with 100 additional jobs in non-durable goods manufacturing. These gains aided in pushing goods-producing sectors to a total gain of 800 jobs. Professional and business services added 200 jobs and financial activities gained 100 jobs. Employment in trade, transportation and warehousing was whittled down by 300 jobs although retail trade pruned 700 jobs.