**Ames**

The Ames metropolitan statistical area seasonally added 2,400 jobs. This gain is slightly above what would be seasonally expected for February, but also follows an equally large drop in January. State government was responsible for virtually all of the increase this month (+2,200), although private services did advance by 100 jobs.

Annually, Ames establishments are up 400 jobs. Goods-producing industries have accounted for most of the gain (+300), although private services are also up slightly (+100). Government is unmoved compared to last year.

**Cedar Rapids**

The Cedar Rapids metropolitan statistical area pared 400 jobs in February. Trade, transportation and warehousing shed 400 jobs. Mining and construction trimmed 300 jobs as the cold, snowy weather held on longer than hoped. Professional and business services pared 200 jobs and information is down 100 jobs.

Educational and health services fared best, adding 300 jobs. Other industries with jobs gains this month include manufacturing, leisure and hospitality and government (+100 each).

Over the year, area employment is down 900 jobs, and now sits at 142,200 jobs. Manufacturing remains the shining star in the area with 300 jobs added from one year ago. Trade, transportation and warehousing, financial activities and government each added 100 jobs. Mining and construction and information each pared 400 jobs. Educational and health services trimmed 300 jobs.

**Des Moines/West Des Moines**

The Des Moines Metropolitan area shed 500 jobs in February and now rests at 369,200 jobs. Typically jobs are added in February in the wake of the seasonal drop in January, so this month’s drop is unexpected; however, it does follow an unusually small seasonal drop in January. Retail shed the remainder of any seasonal employment in February and was responsible for a seasonal decline of 1,100 jobs in trade, transportation, and utilities. Construction pared 500 jobs and may have been influenced by harsh winter weather. All other losses were small and included financial activities, professional and business services, and leisure and hospitality. Education posted the only substantial gain this month as schools resumed following the holiday break and fueled a gain of 1,400 in education and health services.

Since last February, 5,400 jobs have been added in the Des Moines metro area. Trade, transportation, and utilities added the most jobs (+1,600) due to growth in all sectors contained in this grouping. Despite this month’s loss, construction remains up 1,300 jobs annually. Education and health services are also up 1,300 jobs and have been primarily driven by advancement in health care and social assistance. Job losses are limited to just two sectors: financial activities (-500) and leisure and hospitality (-100).

# Dubuque

The Dubuque Metro area experienced little movement in February, with total nonfarm employment holding steady at 60,300 jobs. Private service industries gained 100 jobs, despite unexpected declines in trade, transportation, and utilities. This monthly gain was offset by government shedding 100 jobs at the local level.

Annually, business establishments in the Dubuque area have added 800 jobs to their payrolls. Both goods-producing and private service industries advanced by 400 jobs. Government is unchanged versus last February.

**Iowa City**

Employment in the Iowa City metropolitan statistical area increased 200 jobs from last month. Private service-providing industries added 400 jobs, with 200 of those jobs in leisure and hospitality. The only other industry with an employment gain was state government, although the government sector dropped 100 jobs overall. Trade, transportation and warehousing pared 200 jobs, half in retail trade.

The metro area has pared 1,700 jobs from one year ago, with losses in every industry, most notably trade, transportation and warehousing (-700). Goods producing industries were responsible for 200 of the trimmed jobs, with the remainder being in service providing industries.

**Sioux City**

Employment in the Sioux City MSA is up 400 jobs from January, with only trade, transportation and warehousing experiencing an employment loss (-200). Professional and business services and leisure and hospitality were both unchanged. Government added 100 jobs. Manufacturing employment in the area held steady although non-durable goods manufacturing added 100 jobs.

Overall, area employment is 2,300 above one year ago. Manufacturing employment continues to climb with a gain of 1,400 jobs in manufacturing entirely the result of an equal number of jobs added in non-durable goods manufacturing. Trade, transportation and warehousing added 1,100 jobs. Leisure and hospitality (-200) is the only industry that has pared jobs from one year ago.

# Waterloo/Cedar Falls

The Waterloo/Cedar Falls metropolitan statistical area’s total nonfarm added 1,200 jobs from the previous month and stands at 91,300. The additional jobs this month are largely attributable to 1,000 additional jobs in state government with educational institution jobs returning following the winter break. Educational and health services and leisure and hospitality each added 100 jobs. Manufacturing (-300) pared jobs for the third consecutive month and is down 700 jobs from November.

Over the year, the area has added 200 jobs. In spite of the recent losses, manufacturing remains 100 jobs above one year ago and stands at 16,400. Trade, transportation and warehousing and government have each shed 300 jobs. Educational and health services added 100 jobs.