**Ames**

The Ames Metro area posted a modest gain of 600 jobs in April. This monthly gain follows a smaller than expected seasonal loss last month. Both private services and goods-producing industries showed fair gains versus March, up a combined 700 jobs. Government regressed slightly (-100).

Annually, Ames Metro area establishments have advanced by 900 jobs. Private services are responsible for most of the growth (+600), although goods-producing industries are also up (+400). Government trails last year’s mark slightly (-100).

**Cedar Rapids**

The Cedar Rapids metropolitan statistical area added 2,400 jobs in April. Mining, logging and construction was responsible for 1,200 of those jobs with the largest March to April gain the sector has seen in recent history. Leisure and hospitality added 400 jobs and professional and business services and trade, transportation and warehousing each gained 300 jobs. No super-sector shed jobs, but information, financial activities and government were all unchanged.

Over the year, area employment is unchanged, with 144,800 jobs. Mining, logging and construction is up 400 jobs from last year. Manufacturing has added 300 jobs, although 500 jobs were added in durable goods manufacturing. Retail trade added 300 jobs this month but remains 500 jobs below the April 2018 level.

**Des Moines/West Des Moines**

# The Des Moines metro area advanced by 7,100 jobs in April. This monthly gain was large compared to the prior ten years, but follows weak hiring in February and March. Construction gains which typically occur in March were late this year and many projects were held off until this month. Mining, logging, and construction gained 2,500 jobs to lead all super sectors. Specialty trade contractors alone advanced by 1,400 jobs. Leisure and hospitality seasonally advanced by 1,700 jobs. This is the second consecutive large monthly gain for this super sector. Other large gains this month included trade, transportation, and utilities (+1,100) and professional and business services (+700). The only industry that lost jobs in April was insurance carriers and related activities (-100).

# Since last April, 7,500 jobs have been added in the Des Moines MSA. Construction tied with professional, scientific, and technical services for the most jobs added over the past twelve months (+1,600). Administrative support and waste management services have been a driving factor in these annual gains and is up 1,300 jobs. Trade, transportation, and utilities have added 1,200 jobs. The majority of these gains were in wholesale trade (+800). Retail trade has been sluggish throughout Iowa, but in Des Moines retail is up slightly (+200).

# Dubuque

Business establishments in the Dubuque Metro area seasonally added 800 jobs in April and lifted total nonfarm employment to 61,400 jobs. This month’s gain is moderate given the past few years and also follows an average gain last month. Goods-producing industries showed the most promise this month (+700) and were fueled by healthy seasonal gains in construction. Government gained 100 jobs and private services were unchanged.

Annually, total nonfarm employment is up 900 jobs (+1.5 percent). Goods-producing industries are driving most of the growth (+600), although private services have advanced also (+300) despite weakness in the retail trade sector (-200).

**Iowa City**

Employment in the Iowa City metropolitan statistical area increased 1,000 jobs from last month. Service-providing industries added 600 jobs, with no change in employment in any government industries. No super-sector lost jobs in April. Retail trade added jobs for the first time since November with a gain of 300 jobs. This month’s gain is the largest one month gain in the industry since September 2017.

The metro area has pared 1,100 jobs from one year ago, with losses in every industry except leisure and hospitality and professional and business services, which were unchanged. The loss was nearly entirely in private service-providing industries with one exception, a loss of 100 in government.

**Sioux City**

# Employment in the Sioux City MSA is up 1,300 jobs from March, with no employment loss in any industry. Professional and business services experienced the greatest gain with 300 additional jobs. Leisure and hospitality and trade, transportation and warehousing each added 200 jobs. Manufacturing added 100 jobs, all in the non-durable goods sector.

# Overall, area employment is 2,600 above one year ago. Manufacturing is responsible for the majority of the increase as employment continues to climb. The industry added 1,600 jobs in non-durable goods manufacturing, offset slightly by 100 jobs trimmed in other areas of the super sector. Trade, transportation, warehousing and utilities added 1,000 jobs. Leisure and hospitality and state government were both unchanged from one year ago.

# Waterloo/Cedar Falls

The Waterloo/Cedar Falls metropolitan statistical area’s total nonfarm employment gained 1,100 jobs from the previous month and stands at 92,500. Goods-producing industries added 700 jobs with the first monthly gain recorded since November 2018. This is an improvement over the ten year average gain of 500 jobs.

Over the year, the area has added 300 jobs. Manufacturing employment is down 100 jobs from one year ago although durable goods manufacturing has pared 300 jobs. Leisure and hospitality and trade, transportation and warehousing have each pared 200 jobs and educational and health services has added 200 jobs. All other industries have experienced minimal, if any, change in employment levels.