**Ames**

The Ames Metro area showed little movement in November as total nonfarm employment remained at 57,300 jobs. Typically, jobs are seasonally shed in November, especially in government education, so this month’s lack of monthly movement is unusual. Private services combined shed 100 jobs but was exactly offset by a slight gain in goods-producing sectors (+100). Government was unchanged.

Annually, the Ames area has shown improvement and has gained 1,200 jobs. Goods-producing industries have provided most of the push (+500). Private services have expanded by 400 jobs and government by 300.

**Cedar Rapids**

The Cedar Rapids metropolitan statistical area added 1,300 jobs in November, largely driven by a seasonal gain of 700 in trade, transportation and warehousing, however only 200 of those additional jobs are in retail trade. Professional and business services added 500 jobs and manufacturing gained 300 jobs. Gains in other industries were minimal (100 or less). Mining, logging and construction trimmed 300 jobs in an expected seasonal decline. Financial activities and leisure and hospitality each added 100 jobs.

Over the year, area employment has increased by 1,700 jobs, and stands at 147,500 jobs. Professional and business services added the greatest number of jobs (+700). Information pared 300 jobs and trade, transportation and warehousing has shed 200 jobs, although retail trade is down 600 jobs.

**Des Moines/West Des Moines**

# The Des Moines Metro shed 800 jobs in November, lowering total nonfarm employment to 383,800 jobs. It is not uncommon for jobs to be shed as the Des Moines area enters the holiday season as several sectors start to reduce payrolls. Notable seasonal declines this month were seen in leisure and hospitality (-1,600) and construction (-500). Specialty trade contractors alone pared 300 jobs in November. Financial activities were unusually weak this month and shed 600 jobs with much of the losses being focused in credit intermediation and related activities. Professional and business services lost 600 jobs with much of the loss being in administrative support and waste management positions (-500). Conversely, jobs were added in retail this month (+1,200). This seasonal gain was modest, and overall the retail sector in Des Moines has weathered the storm better than the rest of the state by adding 600 jobs annually. Other sectors adding jobs this month included government (+600) and education and health care services (+200).

# Annually, total nonfarm employment is 8,100 jobs higher than last year’s level for the MSA. The largest gains have been in leisure and hospitality (+2,600), professional and business services (+1,800), and trade, transportation, and utilities (+1,600). Government remains up 900 jobs due to hiring at the local government level. Construction has trended up steadily and now hovers 700 jobs higher than last November. The only sector to shed jobs annually is information services, down a slight 100 jobs.

# Dubuque

Business establishments in the Dubuque area gained 400 jobs in November raising total nonfarm employment to 62,300 jobs. Job growth this month was greater than expected and partially the result of strong hiring in trade and transportation sectors (+600). Overall, private service industries added 500 jobs in November. Goods-producing industries shed 100 jobs and government stayed at the October level.

Annually, 500 jobs have been added since last November. Private services have been responsible for much of the gain (+300), although both goods-producing sectors and government have increased slightly (+100).

**Iowa City**

Employment in the Iowa City metropolitan statistical area increased by 100 jobs from last month with an equal split between private service providing industry gains and government gains. Local government added 200 jobs over the month while federal government trimmed 100 jobs for a net gain of 100 jobs in government. Trade, transportation and warehousing added 400 jobs but small losses in professional and business services and leisure and hospitality offset much of that gain. Goods producing is down 100 jobs.

The metro area has pared 1,000 jobs from one year ago, with a minimal gain in just one industry, leisure and hospitality (+300). Trade, transportation and warehousing is unchanged. Government trimmed 500 jobs with a split between state government (-100), local government (-300) and federal government (-100).

**Sioux City**

Employment in the Sioux City MSA is up 700 jobs from October, with only government (-200), professional and business services (-100) and leisure and hospitality (-100) experiencing employment losses over the month. Trade, transportation and warehousing added 1,000 jobs with 500 of those jobs in retail trade, a largely seasonal but encouraging change. Manufacturing is unchanged although non-durable goods manufacturing added 400 jobs.

Overall, area employment is up 300 jobs from one year ago with only government paring jobs (-100). Trade, transportation and warehousing has added the greatest number of jobs (+1,100). Manufacturing added 200 jobs, inspired by a gain of 500 in non-durable goods manufacturing.

# Waterloo/Cedar Falls

The Waterloo/Cedar Falls metropolitan statistical area’s total nonfarm employment pared 300 jobs from the previous month and stands at 92,400. Manufacturing is responsible for the bulk of the loss with 300 fewer jobs in the industry. Leisure and hospitality trimmed 200 jobs and financial activities pared 100 jobs. Trade, transportation and warehousing and government helped to limit the losses by adding 100 jobs each.

Over the year, the area pared 900 jobs. Non-durable goods manufacturing served as the only bright spot, adding just 100 jobs, however durable goods manufacturing has pared 1,600 jobs, over-shadowing the gain. Trade, transportation and warehousing trimmed 500 jobs. Financial activities and professional and business services each trimmed 100 jobs.