

# Status of the Iowa Workforce and Economy

## 2014 Statewide News Release Schedule

Reference Month	Statewide News Release	Local Area News Release
Dec	Jan 28	Jan 28
Jan	Mar 17	Mar 17
Feb	Mar 28	Mar 28
Mar	Apr 18	Apr 22
Apr	May 16	May 20
May	June 20	June 24
June	July 18	July 22
July	Aug 18	Aug 19
Aug	Sept 19	Sept 23
Sept	Oct 21	Oct 21
Oct	Nov 21	Nov 25
Nov	Dec 19	Dec 23
Dec	Jan 27	Jan 27

## Iowa Nonfarm Employment by Quarter

	Average Employment	Percent Change from Prior Qtr
2013 - Qtr 1	1,519,900	0.4%
Qtr 2	1,523,800	0.3%
Qtr 3	1,534,400	0.7%
Qtr 4	1,542,900	0.6%
2014 - Qtr 1	1,538,700	-0.3%
Qtr 2	1,546,400	0.5%
Qtr 3	1,554,800	0.5%

## IOWA WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

Information Prepared by  
Labor Force and Occupational  
Analysis Bureau

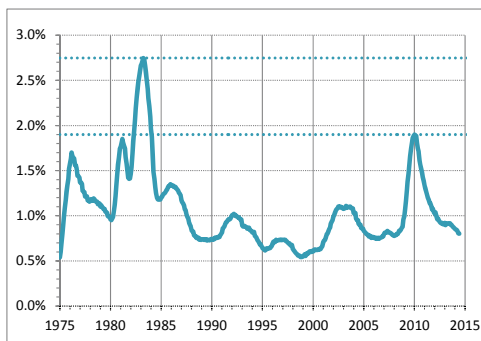
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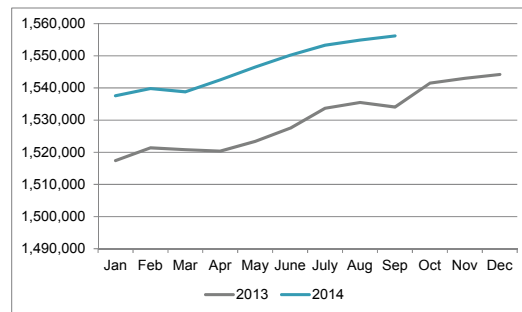
- Iowa's unemployment rate rose to 4.6 percent in September, its highest level for the year. The previous month's rate and the year ago rate stood at 4.5 percent.
- The statewide estimate of jobless individuals has gone from a low of 71,600 in January to a high of 77,900 in September.
- The U.S. unemployment rate dipped to 5.9 percent in September from 6.1 percent in August, marking a six-year low.

## Iowa Unemployment Insurance (UI) Benefit Cost Rate Moving Twelve-Month Average



- The UI benefit cost rate is defined as UI benefits paid divided by UI covered wages. The benefit cost rate reached 1.9 percent at the peak of the recession, but has since declined to 0.8 percent. The highest benefit cost rate occurred in 1983 when benefits paid climbed to 2.7 percent of covered wages.
- The Census Bureau's annual report on income, poverty and health insurance coverage is a reminder that the recovery from the recession has not substantially raised the living standards for lower- and middle-income households. The recovery's benefits are still not being universally shared.

## Total Nonfarm Employment - Iowa



- Iowa's nonfarm employment advanced to 1,556,200 in September. The level was 1,300 higher than August and 22,100 above the year ago figure.
- Construction added the most jobs in September, up 1,600. Education and health followed with a gain of 1,300 jobs. Leisure and hospitality lost the most jobs of any sector (-1,600).
- Education and health added the most jobs of any private sector from one year ago (+4,600).
- Tyson closed its Cherokee, Iowa plant on September 27, 2014. The plant had about 450 employees, and had been owned by Tyson since 2001, when it acquired IBP Inc.

## Iowa and U.S. Unemployment Rates - 2014

