

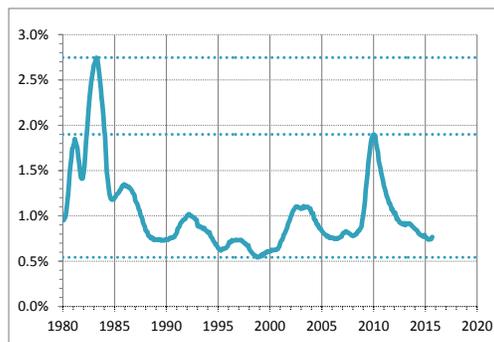
# Status of the Iowa Workforce and Economy

## 2015 Statewide News Release Schedule

Reference Month	Statewide News Release	Local Area News Release
Jan	Mar 17	Mar 20
Feb	Mar 27	Mar 27
Mar	Apr 21	Apr 21
Apr	May 27	May 27
May	June 19	June 23
June	July 21	July 21
July	Aug 21	Aug 25
Aug	Sept 18	Sept 22
Sept	Oct 20	Oct 20
Oct	Nov 20	Nov 24
Nov	Dec 18	Dec 22
Dec	Jan 26	Jan 26

- Iowa's seasonally adjusted jobless rate dropped to 3.6 percent in September. The current rate compares with 4.3 percent for September 2014.
- The number of unemployed Iowans decreased to 61,300 in September.
- The U.S. unemployment rate remained at 5.1 percent in September.

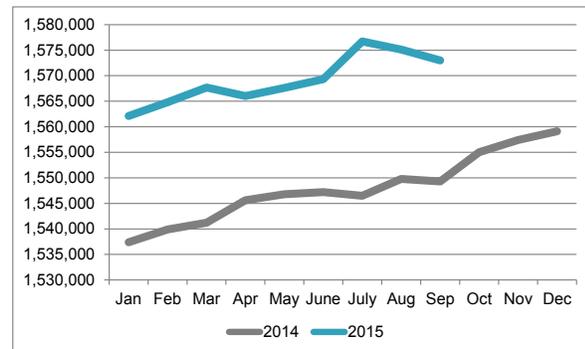
## Iowa Unemployment Insurance Benefits Cost Rate Moving Twelve Month Average



Source: Iowa Workforce Development Labor Market Information Division

- The UI benefit cost rate is defined as UI benefits paid divided by UI covered wages. The benefit cost rate reached 1.90 percent at the peak of the recession, but has since declined to 0.74 percent. The highest benefit cost rate occurred in 1983 when benefits paid climbed to 2.75 percent of covered wages.
- The U.S. nonfarm employment added 142,000 jobs in September and follows a smaller gain of 136,000 in August. Prior to that, the nation averaged 245,000 jobs added per month. The largest gains were in leisure and hospitality, professional and business services, and education and health care.

## Total Nonfarm Employment - Iowa September 2014 - September 2015



- Iowa's nonfarm employment shed 2,100 jobs in September, the second consecutive loss for the state and the third loss in 2015.
- Manufacturing pared 2,000 jobs with losses nearly identical in both durable and nondurable goods manufacturing. Durable goods factories are down 3,100 jobs annually while nondurable goods are up 1,800 jobs since last September.
- Leisure and hospitality added the most jobs this month (+1,500). Much of the gain was in accommodations and food services.
- Despite recent losses, nonfarm employment remains up 23,700 jobs annually.

## Iowa Nonfarm Employment by Quarter

Year	Quarter	Average Employment	Percent Change from Prior Qtr
2013	Qtr 4	1,534,800	0.8%
2014	Qtr 1	1,539,500	0.3%
	Qtr 2	1,546,500	0.5%
	Qtr 3	1,548,500	0.1%
	Qtr 4	1,557,200	0.6%
2015	Qtr 1	1,564,900	0.5%
	Qtr 2	1,567,600	0.2%
	Qtr 3	1,574,900	0.5%

## Iowa Workforce Development

Information Prepared by the Labor Force and Occupational Analysis Bureau

1000 East Grand Avenue  
Des Moines, Iowa 50319-0209

Phone: 515-281-5082  
Fax: 515-281-8203

Ed Wallace, Deputy Director  
Iowa Workforce Development

## Iowa and U.S. Unemployment Rates—2015

