

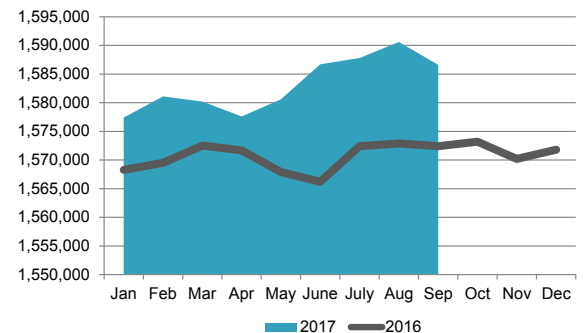
# Status of the Iowa Workforce and Economy

## Upcoming 2017 News Release Schedule

Reference Month	Statewide News Release	Local Area News Release
Jan	Mar 13	Mar 13
Feb	Mar 24	Mar 28
Mar	Apr 21	Apr 25
Apr	May 19	May 23
May	Jun 16	Jun 20
Jun	Jul 21	Jul 25
Jul	Aug 18	Aug 22
Aug	Sep 15	Sep 19
Sep	Oct 20	Oct 24
Oct	Nov 17	Nov 21
Nov	Dec 22	Dec 27
Dec	Jan 23	Jan 23

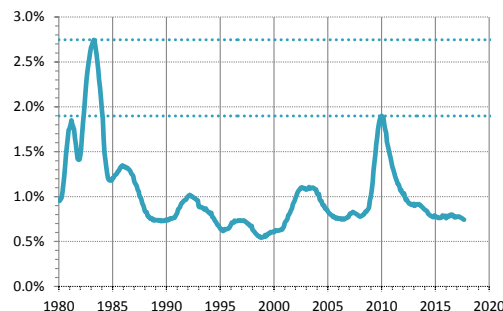
- Iowa's unemployment rate decreased to 3.2 percent in September. The state's jobless rate was 3.6 percent one year ago.
- The number of employed Iowans increased to 1,632,300 in September from 1,627,800 in August.
- The U.S. unemployment rate dropped to 4.2 percent in September from 4.4 percent in August.

## Total Nonfarm Employment - Iowa Jan 2016 - September 2017



- Total nonfarm employment shed jobs for the first time since April (-4,000). Private services were responsible for much of the decline (-3,300).
- Education and health care and social assistance lost a combined 4,500 jobs. Losses were nearly split between both sectors.
- Professional and business services shed 1,500 jobs with losses being concentrated in professional, scientific, and technical services (-1,200).
- Finance rebounded this month by adding 1,200 jobs and is up 4,200 jobs annually.
- Total nonfarm employment remains up 14,200 jobs versus one year ago.

## UI Benefit Cost Rate Benefits Paid / Covered Wages



- The UI benefit cost rate is defined as UI benefits paid divided by UI covered wages. The benefit cost rate reached 1.90 percent during the recession in 2010. It has since declined to 0.74 percent in 2017, the lowest benefit cost rate since 2001.
- New vehicle registrations are up 1.7 percent through September. U.S. carmakers are up 0.8 percent while foreign carmakers are up 3.3 percent. This year's mark still trails those levels established in the prior three years.
- U.S. total nonfarm payroll contracted by 33,000 jobs in September. The loss was primarily due to the effects of Hurricanes Harvey and Irma.

## Iowa Nonfarm Employment

		Average Employment	Percent Change from Prior Qtr
2015	Qtr 4	1,564,200	0.2%
	Qtr 1	1,570,100	0.4%
2016	Qtr 2	1,568,600	-0.1%
	Qtr 3	1,572,600	0.3%
	Qtr 4	1,571,700	-0.1%
	Qtr 1	1,579,600	0.5%
2017	Qtr 2	1,581,600	0.1%
	Qtr 3	1,588,300	0.4%

## Iowa Workforce Development

Information Prepared by the Labor Market Information Division

1000 East Grand Avenue  
Des Moines, Iowa 50319-0209

Phone: 515-242-5862  
Fax: 515-281-8203

Donna Burkett, Bureau Chief  
Iowa Workforce Development

## Iowa and U.S. Unemployment Rates—2017

