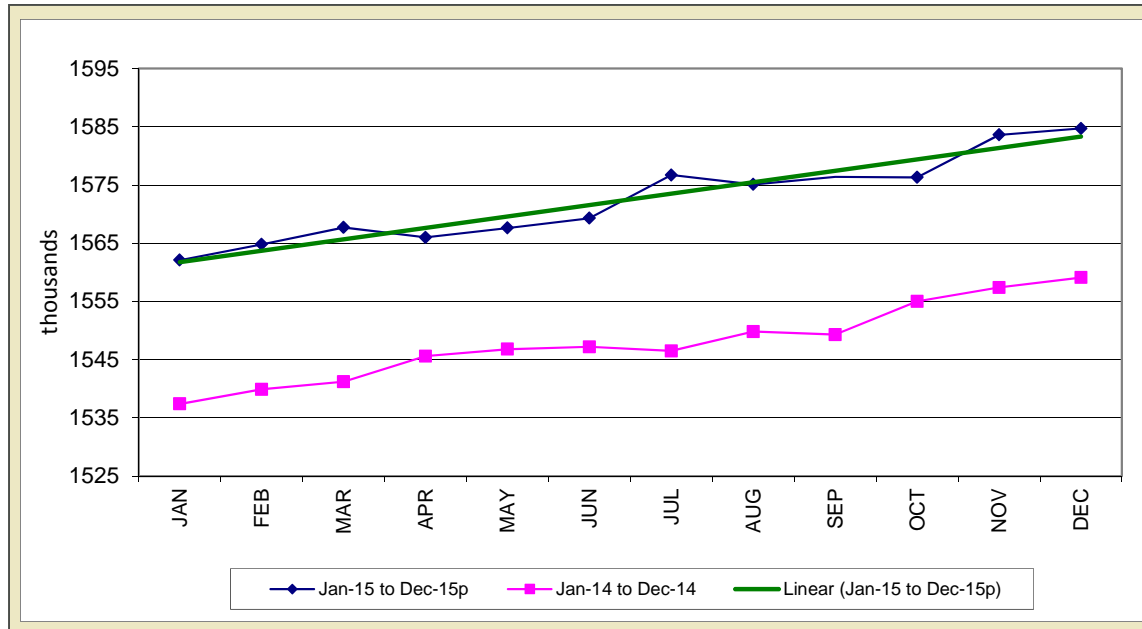


STATE OF IOWA NONFARM EMPLOYMENT WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

DECEMBER 2015
LMR MONTHLY

NONFARM EMPLOYMENT LEVEL ENDS YEAR WITH SMALL GAIN



Iowa's nonfarm employment added 1,100 jobs in December, expanding Iowa's total nonfarm employment to 1,584,700 jobs. The monthly gain was the second-consecutive and helped cement a year that was generally positive for nonfarm employment. Overall, the state averaged 2,100 jobs added per month during the year. Private sectors fueled the job growth this month with government paring jobs (-1,100) due to early release of local government workers. With this loss, government is down slightly compared to last year (-1,400). Since last year, the state is now up 25,600 jobs—a gain of 1.6 percent versus last December.

Job gains in December were led by gains in construction (+2,400), and may be partially attributed to fair weather to end the year allowing firms to continue working late into the year. Other services also had a large gain (+1,400). The growth was an

expansion on an already prosperous year that saw 4,500 jobs added. The education and health services sector increased in December (+1,100) due primarily to hiring in private education (+900). Smaller gains this month included manufacturing (+300), financial activities (+200), and mining (+100). Alternatively, trade and transportation led all sectors in jobs lost this month (-2,500). Much of this loss stemmed from a disappointing retail season (-2,000). Professional and business services shed jobs (-800) with losses being fueled by administrative support and waste management occupations.

Annually, construction has added 10,000 jobs since last December—the most of any sector in terms of jobs gained and percentage (+12.9 percent). However, some of these gains may wane some in 2016 as large-scale projects come to an end. Education and health services are

markedly up (+6,700), followed by other services (+4,500) then financial activities (+3,200). Annual losses were slight in those industries that are down annually with the exception of manufacturing (-1,700) and information services (-700).

Nationally, nonfarm employment surged ahead 292,000 jobs in December. The largest gains were in professional and business services, education and health services, and construction.

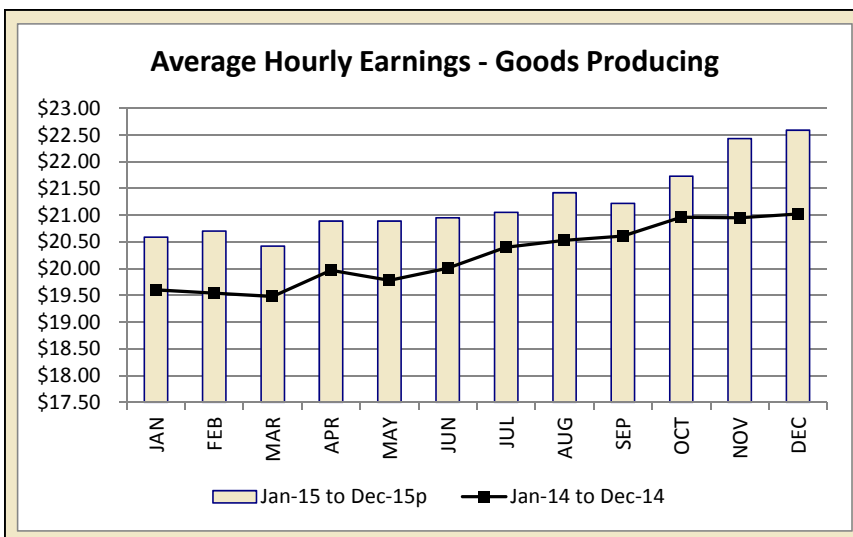
For additional information, contact James Morris (515-281-8515)

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**METROPOLITAN STATISTICAL AREA
SEASONALLY ADJUSTED NONFARM EMPLOYMENT (TOTAL NONFARM)**

MSA	Dec-14	Jan-15	Feb-15	Mar-15	Apr-15	May-15	Jun-15	Jul-15	Aug-15	Sep-15	Oct-15	Nov-15	Dec-15p
AMES	52.8	52.7	53.0	53.4	52.8	52.9	51.9	52.4	52.2	53.0	53.1	53.2	53.0
CEDAR RAPIDS	140.5	141.1	141.3	140.7	141.2	141.7	141.3	141.1	142.2	141.4	142.1	142.6	142.5
DES MOINES/W. DES MOINES	347.1	348.0	348.2	348.5	348.5	350.4	351.5	352.4	354.5	357.6	355.5	356.6	357.0
DUBUQUE	59.8	60.1	59.9	60.3	60.2	60.2	59.1	60.2	60.2	59.7	59.5	59.3	59.5
IOWA CITY	98.0	99.3	98.9	98.3	98.6	96.5	99.6	101.7	101.4	99.1	99.1	99.0	99.5
SIOUX CITY *													
WATERLOO/CEDAR FALLS	92.2	93.9	93.1	92.6	92.3	92.2	91.5	92.4	91.6	91.9	91.9	92.3	91.7

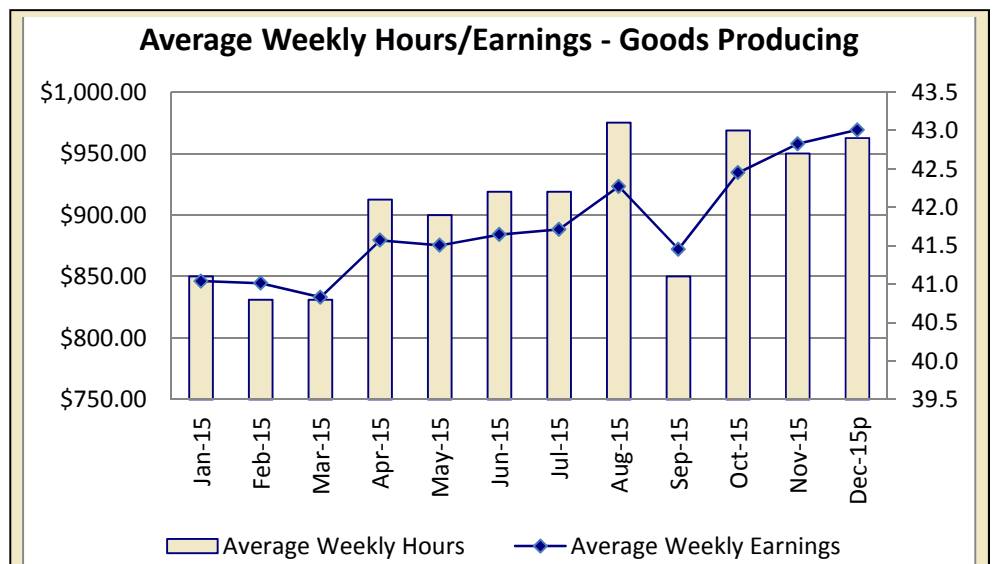
IOWA'S HOURS & EARNINGS



Goods-producing Hours & Earnings	
Average Weekly Earnings	\$969.11
Average Hourly Earnings	\$22.59
Average Weekly Hours	42.9

Production workers in Iowa's goods-producing sectors averaged \$969.11 in December—\$11.35 more than last month and \$79.96 more than one year ago. The monthly gain was due primarily to an increase in hours worked in Iowa's factories, particularly durable goods factories. In total, production workers in manufacturing averaged \$794.08 in December. Construction workers averaged \$1,215.52 this month, almost \$200 more than one year ago due primarily to increased overtime.

Among service industries, retail trade production workers earned \$357.07 in December, \$1.35 more than one year ago. Finance workers shed hours from their schedules and their average weekly earnings fell to \$848.88.



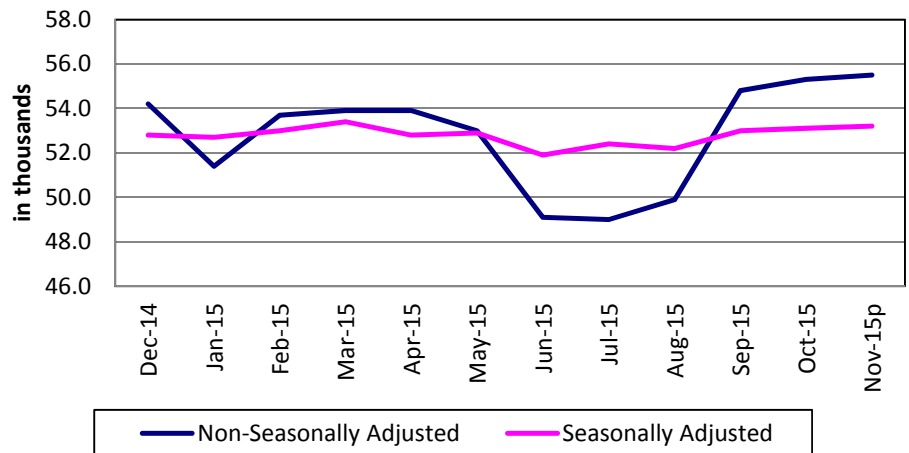
METROPOLITAN STATISTICAL AREAS

[CLICK TABLE FOR DATA](#)

Ames MSA Employment	
Total Nonfarm 15p	54,400
Total Nonfarm 14	54,200
% Change 1 Yr	0.37%
Noteworthy Expanding and Contracting Industries (1 yr)	
Pvt Service Provide	2.47%
Goods Producing	-9.59%

p - preliminary data

Ames - Nonfarm Employment



The Ames Metro pared 1,100 jobs in December and now rests at 54,400 jobs. Losses were experienced in both public sectors (-400) and private industries (-700). Goods-producing industries shed 300 jobs due mainly to seasonal drops in construction. Private services were down 400 this month. Losses are expected in December, although this month's decline is large, historically.

Compared to last year, Ames remains slightly positive (+200). Growth in private services (+600) and government (+300) have helped offset a slumping goods-producing sector (-700).

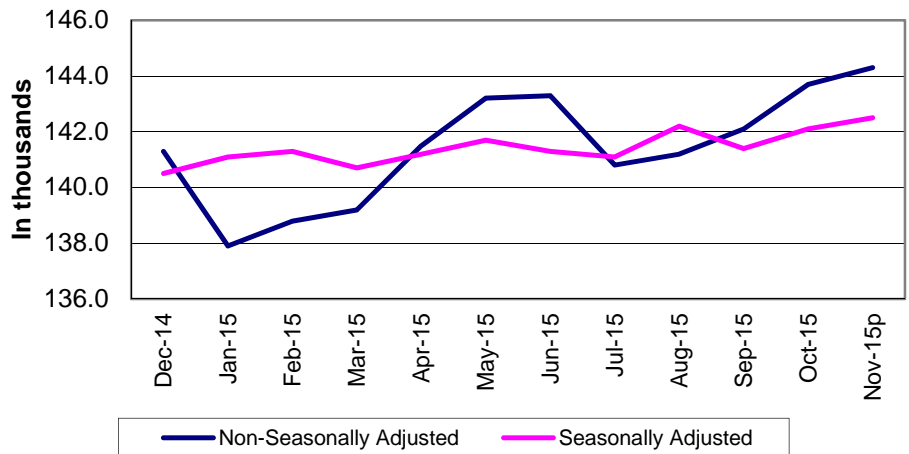
For additional information, contact James Morris (515-281-8515)

[CLICK TABLE FOR DATA](#)

Cedar Rapids MSA Employment	
Total Nonfarm 15p	143,300
Total Nonfarm 14	141,300
% Change 1 Yr	1.42%
Noteworthy Expanding and Contracting Industries (1 yr)	
Prof & Business	8.66%
Information	-4.26%

p - preliminary data

Cedar Rapids - Nonfarm Employment



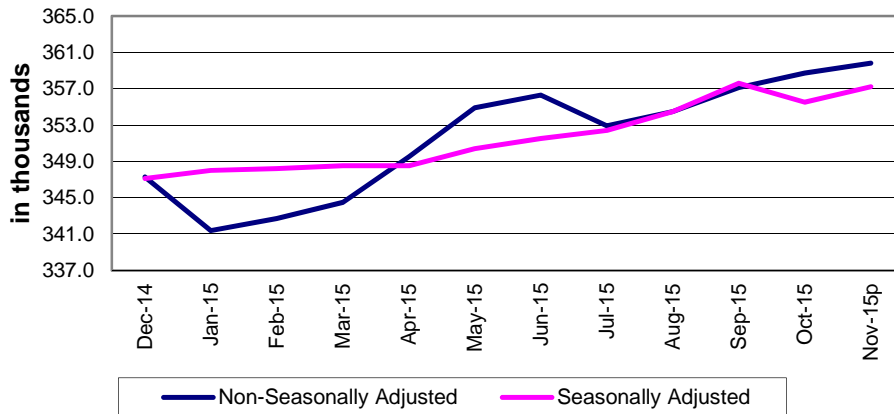
The Cedar Rapids metropolitan statistical area shed 1,100 nonfarm jobs from November, bringing employment to 143,300. Total nonfarm employment in the metro area has added 2,000 jobs from one year ago.

Financial activities and educational and health services were the only two sectors with employment gains over the month, adding 100 jobs each. Professional and business services shed 400 jobs. Natural resources and construction and government experienced seasonal parings of 300 jobs each and leisure and hospitality dropped 200 jobs, also an expected seasonal decline.

Over the year, manufacturing, information and government are the only industries to pare jobs, shedding 300, 200 and 300, respectively. Professional and business services has added more jobs than any other industry with a gain of 1,100 (8.66%).

For additional information, contact Dennis Schwartz (515-281-5754)

**Des Moines/West Des Moines -
Nonfarm Employment**



[CLICK TABLE FOR DATA](#)

Des Moines MSA Employment	
Total Nonfarm 15p	357,300
Total Nonfarm 14	347,300
% Change 1 Yr	2.88%
Noteworthy Expanding and Contracting Industries (1 yr)	
Prof & Business	7.89%
Information	-4.55%

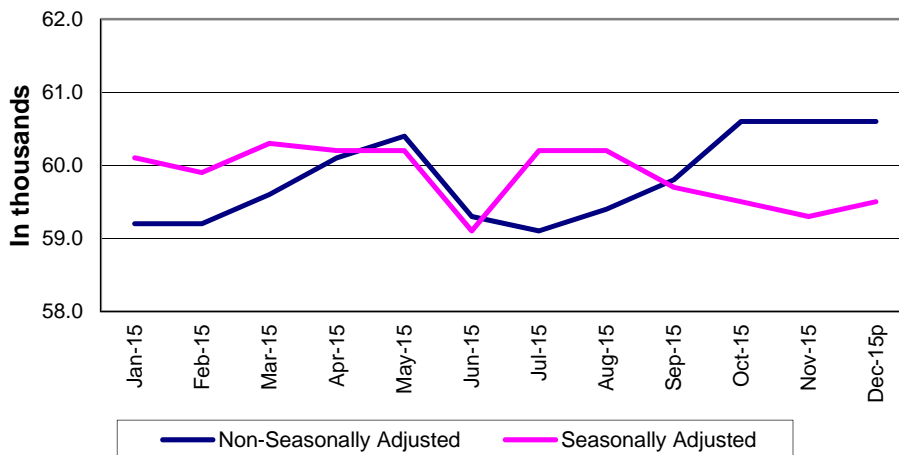
p - preliminary data

The Des Moines Metropolitan pared 1,900 jobs in December, lowering employment down to 357,300 jobs. This month's drop is moderate for the metro area which typically sees reductions in construction, leisure and recreation, and professional and business industries this time of year. Education also pared employment as the winter break ensued. Government pared 100 jobs due to seasonal losses in state and local governments, and a non-seasonal decreased occurred in manufacturing (-100). Finance experienced an unexpected increase this month (+800), while retail trade fueled a gain of 400 jobs in trade and transportation.

Annually, the metro area is up 10,000 jobs, or 1.6 percent. Professional and business services had added the most jobs during that span (+3,600), followed by financial activities (+2,700), and leisure and hospitality (+2,500). Only two sectors are down since last year: information and education and health services, down 300 and 100 jobs, respectively.

For additional information, contact James Morris (515-281-8515)

Dubuque - Nonfarm Employment



[CLICK TABLE FOR DATA](#)

Dubuque MSA Employment	
Total Nonfarm 15p	60,600
Total Nonfarm 14	60,800
% Change 1 Yr	0.00%
Noteworthy Expanding and Contracting Industries (1 yr)	
Trade & Transport	4.07%
Pvt Service Provide	-2.04%

p - preliminary data

Total nonfarm employment unchanged for the second straight month in December for the Dubuque Metro, which remained at 60,600 jobs. Slight declines in goods-producing industries were matched by small gains in private service industries. Government was unchanged compared to last month. November and December aren't typically seasonal months, so little movement in nonfarm employment to end the year isn't too surprising.

Annually, the Dubuque area is down a slight 200 jobs. While 900 jobs have been shed in private services, combined gains of 700 in goods-producing sectors and government have mitigated these losses.

For additional information, contact James Morris (515-281-8515)

METROPOLITAN STATISTICAL AREAS

[CLICK TABLE FOR DATA](#)

Iowa City MSA Employment	
Total Nonfarm 15p	100,600
Total Nonfarm 14	99,000
% Change 1 Yr	1.62%
Noteworthy Expanding and Contracting Industries	
Goods Producing	5.94%
Trade & Transport	0.00%

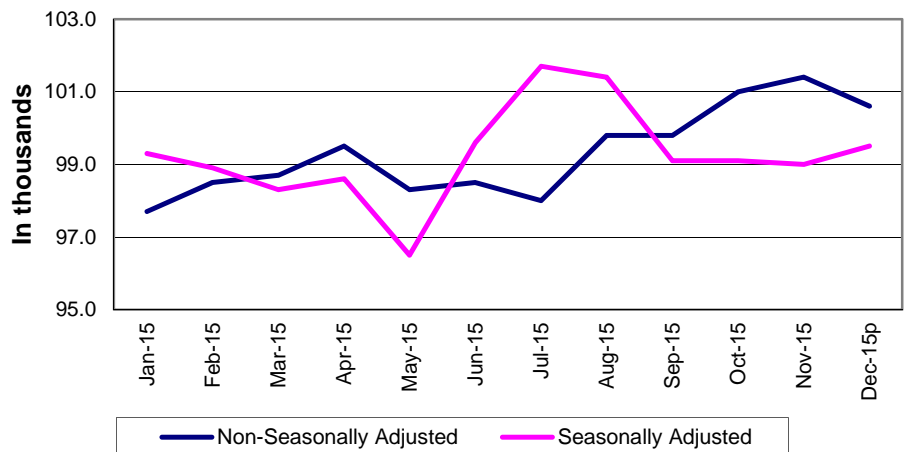
p - preliminary data

Nonfarm employment in the Iowa City metropolitan statistical area is down 800 jobs from last month as a result of seasonal reductions in government (-600) and leisure and hospitality (-200) sector employment. Trade, transportation and warehousing is unchanged from one month ago and one year ago.

Gains from one year ago totaled 1,600 jobs and were largely fueled by employment increases in service-providing industries (+1,000). Goods producing industries also enjoyed employment gains, adding 600 jobs from one year ago.

For additional information, contact Dennis Schwartz (515-281-5754)

Iowa City - Nonfarm Employment



[CLICK TABLE FOR DATA](#)

Sioux City MSA Employment	
Total Nonfarm 15p	89,300
Total Nonfarm 14	88,800
% Change 1 Yr	0.56%
Noteworthy Expanding and Contracting Industries	
Leisure & Hospitality	9.76%
Manufacturing	-0.66%

p - preliminary data

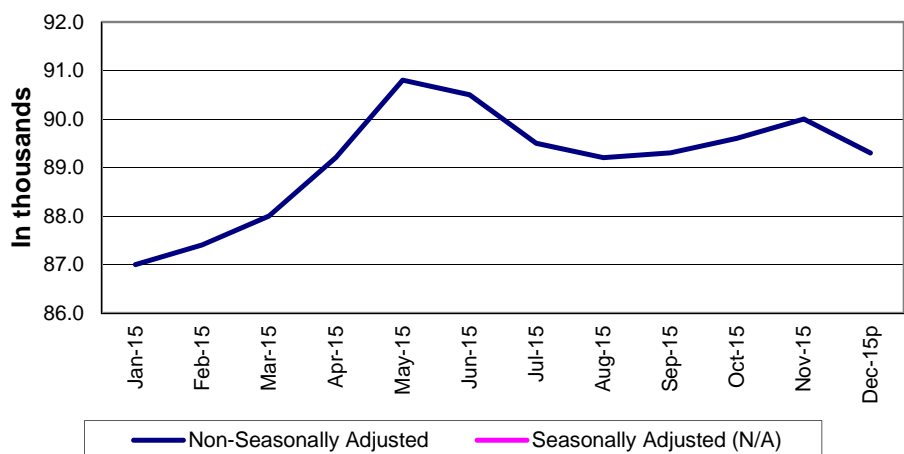
The Sioux City MSA has been redefined. It now includes: Dixon and Dakota Counties in Nebraska, Union County in South Dakota, and Woodbury and Plymouth Counties in Iowa.

Employment in the Sioux City MSA shed 700 jobs from November. The bulk of the job losses were seasonal in nature and came from goods producing industries (-800), however manufacturing was unchanged. Professional and business services also pared 300 jobs. Gains in trade, transportation and warehousing (+600) partially offset the losses.

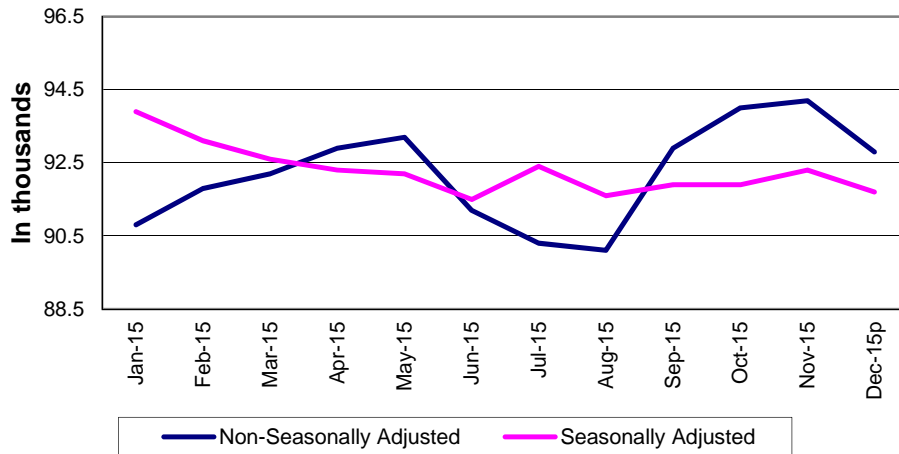
Overall, the area has added 500 jobs from one year ago. Trade, transportation and warehousing added 1,300 jobs, only 100 of which were in retail trade. Manufacturing remains 100 below the December 2014 level.

For additional information, contact Dennis Schwartz (515-281-5754)

Sioux City - Nonfarm Employment



Waterloo/Cedar Falls - Nonfarm Employment



[CLICK TABLE FOR DATA](#)

Waterloo/Cedar Falls MSA Employment	
Total Nonfarm 15p	92,800
Total Nonfarm 14	93,300
% Change 1 Yr	-0.54%
Noteworthy Expanding and Contracting Industries	
Retail Trade	2.68%
Goods Producing	-3.57%

p - preliminary data

The Waterloo/Cedar Falls metropolitan statistical area's total nonfarm employment pared 1,400 jobs from the previous month and stands at 92,800. Job losses were distributed among nearly all sectors including, trade, transportation and warehousing (-200), and manufacturing, professional and business services, educational and health services, leisure and hospitality and government which each shed 100 jobs.

Over the year, employment is down 500 jobs with 400 fewer jobs in manufacturing, 300 fewer in trade, transportation and warehousing and 100 fewer in government. There were a couple of positives with financial activities and professional and business services each adding 100 jobs.

For additional information, contact Dennis Schwartz (515-281-5754)

LINKS TO ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Click on a link below to visit web page

Worker Adjustment & Retraining Notification Act (WARN)

U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics

Unemployment Insurance Benefit Payments

Consumer Price Index (CPI)

Unemployment Insurance Benefit Paid by County

Employment Statistics for Canada

Current Employment Statistics

Each month the **Current Employment Statistics** program surveys about 143,000 businesses and government agencies, representing approximately 588,000 individual worksites, in order to provide detailed industry data on employment, hours, and earnings of workers on nonfarm payrolls for all 50 States, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands, and about 450 metropolitan areas and divisions.

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