**Ames**

Total nonfarm employment in the Ames metro seasonally increased by 2,100 jobs in August. This gain was large given the recent history for the MSA. All of the movement this month was the result of state government education returning for the fall session. Both good producing industries and government showed little movement versus July.

Over the past twelve months, most segments of the Ames economy grown. Private services are up 600 jobs and goods producing industries have expanded by 300 jobs. Government has added 500 jobs, 400 of which were at the state level.

**Cedar Rapids**

The Cedar Rapids metropolitan statistical area pared 100 jobs in August. The over-the-month change is on par with the July-to-August ten year average (-100) and the result of a mix of small changes in several industries.

Local government added jobs (+300) and, combined with small increases in professional and business services (+100) and mining and construction (+100), helped offset losses in manufacturing (-200), trade, transportation and warehousing (-200), leisure and hospitality (-100) and other services (-100).

The jobs loss in manufacturing follows 10 consecutive months of steady or increasing employment, however July-to-August employment reductions are not unusual in the industry. The last July-to-August gain was in 2010, with the addition of 200 jobs.

Over the year the area added 1,100 jobs with the largest gains in leisure and hospitality, professional and business services, manufacturing and mining and construction, each adding 300 jobs. Trade, transportation and warehousing pared 300 jobs.

**Des Moines/West Des Moines**

The Des Moines Metro area pared 800 jobs in August, lowering total nonfarm down to 377,900 jobs. This month’s decline is unusually large when compared to the prior ten years and is at least partially the result of seasonal shifting within service industries. Despite the drop, Des Moines continues to expand at a faster pace than the rest of the state and is up 11,800 jobs annually.

Leisure and hospitality experienced an unusually large drop in August (-1,500) to lead all other sectors. The majority of this sector’s drop was due to parings in leisure and recreational industries. Finance also fell by a larger-than-expected amount this month (-1,000) and now trails last year’s mark by 600 jobs. These losses were partially offset by gains in education and health services (+1,000). Growth was evenly split between both education and healthcare this month. Government was responsible for the only other substantial monthly gain (+600). The increase was due to education resuming in local and state government following the summer reprieve.

Annually, Des Moines establishments have expanded payrolls at a substantial rate. The largest yearly gain has occurred in education and health services (+3,500). Gains are fairly even between education and healthcare. Construction has also fared well over the past twelve months (+3,000). This sector benefitted from a large surge in hiring over the summer months and has yet to seasonally trend downward. Other large gains include leisure and hospitality (+2,300) and professional and business services (+2,200). Losses are slight and limited to finance, government, and information.

# Dubuque

The Dubuque metro area experienced an increase of 400 jobs in August, lifting total nonfarm employment to 59,300 jobs. This month’s gain beats the ten-year average given that August is typically a month when jobs can be added or shed. Part of the reason for this month’s gain is an early seasonal increase in public education. Government added 700 jobs this month at the local level. This increase was offset by a loss of 300 in private services.

Annually, the Dubuque MSA has added 200 jobs. Both government and goods producing industries have expanded by 400 jobs. Private services are down 600 jobs. Some of the decline can be attributed to a struggling retail sector (-300).

**Iowa City**

Employers in the Iowa City metropolitan statistical area added 1,200 jobs from last month, with nearly all the additional jobs in state government. Leisure and hospitality is the only other industry with a jobs gain, adding 100 jobs. Trade, transportation and warehousing pared 100 jobs, all in retail trade. Employment in goods producing industries has held steady for three consecutive months.

The metro area has added 200 jobs from one year ago, with gains in leisure and hospitality (+400) and professional and business services (+100) partially offset by a loss of jobs in trade, transportation and warehousing. Government was unchanged.

**Sioux City**

Employment in the Sioux City MSA is down 700 jobs from July. Trade, transportation and warehousing shed 300 jobs, with 200 of the jobs in retail trade. Manufacturing pared 100 jobs in its first employment loss of the year and local government pared 100 jobs.

Overall, area employment is 800 above one year ago. Manufacturing added 1,200 jobs (1,100 in non-durable goods) but losses in other goods producing industries cut the overall sector gain down to 800 jobs. Professional and business services and leisure and hospitality each added 200 jobs. Government is unchanged from last year.

# Waterloo/Cedar Falls

The Waterloo/Cedar Falls metropolitan statistical area’s total nonfarm was unchanged from the previous month and stands at 89,000. Government added 300 jobs with a gain of 600 in state government partially offset by local government paring 300 jobs. Educational and health services added 100 jobs. In other movement, trade, transportation and warehousing shed 200 jobs and leisure and hospitality trimmed 100 jobs.

Over the year, the area has gained 300 jobs with a gain of 500 in goods-producing industries and 200 fewer jobs in service-providing industries. Manufacturing added 800 jobs from one year ago, with 600 in durable goods manufacturing. Professional and business services increased 200 jobs. Leisure and hospitality and financial activities each added 100 jobs. A jobs loss in retail trade resulted in 500 fewer jobs in trade, transportation and warehousing.