**Ames**

Employment in the Ames metropolitan statistical area rose by 1,800 between January and February, almost entirely due to an expected seasonal increase in service-providing positions. State government added 1,400 jobs over-the-month, as university employees returned from their winter holiday. Local government added 100 jobs, which is also typical for this time of year. Further, the private service-providing industry seasonally gained 300 jobs. Goods-producing jobs were unchanged.

Total nonfarm employment in the metropolitan area is nearly unchanged year-over-year, down by 100 since February 2019. Government added 200 jobs annually, with the entirety of those gains occurring in state government. Local government and federal government were stable from a year ago. Meanwhile, the private sector pared 300 positions, with the private service-providing and goods-producing industries cutting 200 and 100 jobs, respectively.

**Cedar Rapids**

The Cedar Rapids metropolitan statistical area pared 200 jobs from January, driven by losses in professional and business services and trade, transportation and warehousing (-700 and -500, respectively). Manufacturing and mining, logging and construction each trimmed 100 jobs. Local government added 700 jobs and educational and health services gained 400 jobs, largely offsetting the losses in the area.

Over the year, area employment has decreased by 200, and stands at 143,600 jobs. Mining, logging and construction, information, and educational and health services each shed 400 jobs from one year ago. Government has added 600 jobs, with 500 of those jobs in local government. Manufacturing has added 200 jobs.

**Des Moines/West Des Moines**

Business establishments in the Des Moines Metro gained 500 jobs in February. This month can show very little trend compared to the prior ten years, but the monthly movement isn’t too surprising. The largest monthly movement this month was in education and health care and related to schools resuming following the break (+500). Curiously, this increase was partially offset by a drop in health care and social assistance. Financial activities bolstered their payrolls in February (+400) with insurance carriers and related activities fueling much of the growth.

Job losses in February were concentrated in trade, transportation, and utilities (-500). Virtually all segments of this super sector experienced some decline, however small. Construction had the only other noted decrease this month (-100) due to a slight drop for specialty trade contractors.

Annually, the Des Moines Metro has added 3,000 jobs. Government gained the most jobs during that span (+1,300) with virtually all of that hiring being at the local level. Among private industry, financial services fueled much of the new hiring (+1,800). Insurance carriers alone are up 900 jobs over last year’s mark. Other services have gained 800 jobs and trade, transportation, and utilities 700 jobs. The only sectors down versus last February are education and health care (-1,100) and information (-500).

# Dubuque

The Dubuque metro advanced by 200 jobs in February and now stands 500 jobs above last year. February is not always a big month for job movements, so the gain is slightly more than expected. Both government and private services added 100 jobs. Goods producing industries were unchanged since January.

Over the past twelve months, total nonfarm employment is up 500 jobs. Government is up 200 jobs thanks to local government hiring. Private services have been fueled by trade, transportation, and utilities. Goods producing industries are up 100 jobs.

**Iowa City**

Employment in the Iowa City metropolitan statistical area rose by 700 between January and February, largely due to increases in the private servicing-providing industry and government. Leisure and hospitality and accommodation and food services grew by 300 and 200 jobs, respectively, as university students returned from their winter hiatus. Trade, transportation, and utilities pared 100 jobs. State government added 300 jobs, which is typical for this time of year, whereas local government and federal government were flat.

The metropolitan area pared 1,200 jobs in the past year, which is the largest year-over-year loss in February since 2010. Most of this decrease is attributable to the service-producing industry, which cut 1,000 positions. Government trimmed 400 jobs over-the-year; state government carried the bulk of those losses, paring 500 jobs. Federal government and local government nearly offset each other, with the former losing 100 and the latter gaining 200 positions.

**Sioux City**

# Employment in the Sioux City MSA is up 300 jobs from January, with only trade, transportation and warehousing paring jobs (-300). Goods producing industries gained 100 jobs, all in manufacturing. Local government also added 100 jobs.

# Overall, area employment has added 300 jobs from one year ago with all gains occurring in goods producing sectors. Overall, manufacturing has added 300 jobs from last year, although non-durable goods manufacturing has gained 500 jobs. Trade, transportation and warehousing trimmed 200 jobs and government shed 100 jobs.

# Waterloo/Cedar Falls

The Waterloo/Cedar Falls metropolitan statistical area’s total nonfarm employment added 900 jobs from the previous month and stands at 89,000. Gains were almost entirely in state government (+1,000) as classes resumed following the winter break. Educational and health services added an additional 100 jobs. Trade, transportation and warehousing pared 400 jobs, 100 of those jobs were in retail trade. Goods-producing sectors trimmed 200 jobs.

Over the year, the area pared 1,600 jobs. Durable goods manufacturing has shed 800 jobs. Professional and business services, which held steady from last month, is down 500 jobs from one year ago. Trade, transportation and warehousing trimmed 200 jobs.