**Ames**

Employment in the Ames metropolitan statistical area (MSA) grew by 1,000 in October, a gain of 1.9 percent over the previous month. Much of the expansion was attributable to hiring in the state government sector, which added 900 positions over-the-month. This increase is typical for this time of year, as hiring continues at the MSA’s state university. Municipal government payrolls also increased modestly, growing by 100 individuals. Employment in the private sector was steady, with service-providing employers adding 100 positions and goods-producing employers trimming 100 positions.

Employment in the MSA increased by 1,300 jobs over-the-year, an increase of 2.5 percent. The gains were particularly strong in the private service-providing sector, which hired an additional 900 employees, and state government, which brought on 600 further positions over the previous year. Employment in federal government and the goods-producing sector shrank by 100 individuals, respectively. Local and municipal governments were unchanged.

**Cedar Rapids**

The Cedar Rapids metropolitan statistical area added 1,200 jobs in October, with the bulk of the employment gains in professional and business services (+400) and educational and health services (+400).

Other industries contributing to the increased employment level include government (+300), mining, logging and construction (+200), trade, transportation and warehousing (+100) and manufacturing (+100). Durable goods manufacturing was unchanged over the month.

Leisure and hospitality (-200) experienced a seasonal adjustment as colder weather sets in. Information (-100) is the only other sector with an employment loss in October.

Over the year, area businesses have added 600 jobs with larger gains in government and leisure and hospitality (+600 each), and manufacturing which added 400 jobs. Professional and business services pared 600 jobs and information trimmed 300 jobs.

**Des Moines/West Des Moines**

# The Des Moines Metro area gained 3,900 jobs in October, raising total nonfarm employment to 375,400 jobs. The monthly gain is slightly more than average given this time of year as some seasonal jobs are hired for both education and retail, more than offsetting summer layoffs. Government added 1,500 jobs as schools bolstered staff for the fall session and now rests up 900 jobs annually while the metro area combined is up 12,400 jobs versus last October.

# Professional and business services added the most private sector jobs in October (+1,700). Job gains were led by administrative support and waste management services, although both professional, scientific, and technical services along with management of companies added more staff. Retail trade experienced a large seasonal increase this month, fueling a gain of 1,000 in trade, transportation, and utilities. Education and health care also gained 1,000 jobs with hiring being equal in both health care and social assistance and private education. Mining, logging, and construction added 200 jobs thanks entirely to hiring within specialty trade contractors. Losses were limited to just a few sectors and led by leisure and hospitality which seasonally shed 1,800 jobs, and finance and insurance, down a slight 100 jobs.

# Despite the seasonal decline, leisure and hospitality still leads all sectors in jobs gained versus last year (+7,100). This sector has increased by 24.1 percent compared to last year and now rests at pre-pandemic levels in the Des Moines Metro. Trade, transportation, and utilities has increased by 1,700 jobs and has been fueled by hiring in the wholesale sector. Education and health care has increased by 1,100 jobs with a majority of the gains being in education services.

# Dubuque

Businesses in the Dubuque MSA added 200 jobs in October, slightly less than would have been expected for this month. The gain lifts the total number of jobs to 59,300. Goods-producing industries lost 200 jobs with much of the decrease stemming from construction. This loss was offset by private service industries which added 400 jobs with part of this increase being fueled by seasonal retail gains. Government has seen little change compared to both last month and one year ago.

Compared to last October, private industries have gained 1,600 jobs. Trade, transportation, and utilities are up 1,000 jobs (+8.2 percent) and goods-producing industries have advanced by 600 jobs (+5.0 percent).

**Iowa City**

Employment in the Iowa City metropolitan statistical area (MSA) expanded by 1,700 positions in October, an increase of 1.8 percent over-the-month. This was the area’s strongest month of job growth since June 2020. Employment gains were strongest in state government, which added 1,300 employees to payrolls. Private service-providing employers also contributed to the increase, bringing on an additional 500 employees. Employment in local government entities grew by 200 individuals. Despite a strong month for the MSA as a whole, the goods-producing sector lost 200 jobs from the previous month. Federal government employment was unchanged.

Employment in the MSA grew by 500 jobs over-the-year, an increase of 0.5 percent. The private service-providing and goods-producing sectors were both in the red, losing 600 and 100 positions, respectively. Notable changes among private service-providing sector include retail trade, which shrank by 400 employees annually, and accommodation and food services, which expanded by 600 positions. In the public sector, state government employers hired an additional 1,100 employees over the previous year. Municipal government employers added 200 positions, whereas federal government employers trimmed 100 positions.

**Sioux City**

# Employment in the Sioux City MSA is up 500 jobs from September, bringing total nonfarm employment to 85,500. The jobs gain for the month is slightly above the mean September-to-October change over the past ten years.

# Private service-providing industries are responsible for the gains, adding 400 jobs with 100 of the additional jobs in trade, transportation and warehousing. Government contributed another 100 jobs to the area, all in local government. Goods-producing industries were unchanged overall, including manufacturing which held steady at 17,700 jobs.

# Overall, area employment is down 200 jobs (-0.23%) from one year ago. Goods-producing industries are down 800 jobs although manufacturing has added 300 jobs from one year ago. Professional and business services gained 400 jobs and leisure and hospitality has added 300 jobs. Government added just 100 jobs with a gain of 200 in local government being partially offset by a loss of 100 in federal government.

# Waterloo/Cedar Falls

The Waterloo/Cedar Falls metropolitan statistical area total nonfarm employment added 1,000 jobs from September, aided by a boost of 800 jobs in trade, transportation and warehousing. The additional jobs bring industry employment to an all-time high of 19,100 jobs. In addition, there were smaller gains in government (+400), and educational and health services (+100). Employment currently stands at 87,900. The value remains 1,800 jobs short of the March 2020, pre-Covid-19 curtailment effort level, but 800 jobs above one year ago.

Manufacturing and leisure and hospitality each trimmed 100 jobs from their rosters. The reduction in manufacturing jobs occurred in durable goods manufacturing. The change in leisure and hospitality employment is a typical seasonal reduction.

Over the year, there were no industries experiencing an employment loss, although goods-producing industries overall trimmed 100 jobs, in spite of a gain of 200 jobs in manufacturing. Government employment was unchanged overall.