**Ames**

Employment in the Ames metropolitan statistical area (MSA) grew by 400 in March, an increase of 0.7 percent from the previous month. Most of this increase occurred in the government sector, with state and municipal establishments adding 200 and 100 positions over-the-month, respectively. Federal government employment was unchanged. In the private sector, a loss of 100 positions within service-providing organizations tempered a gain of 200 positions among goods-producing businesses.

Employment within the MSA grew by 1,900 positions year-over-year, which translates to an increase of 3.6 percent. This growth was represented broadly in the local economy, with 1,300 and 600 positions added to the private and public sectors, respectively. Employment within private service-providing establishments grew by 1,100 over-the-year, while payrolls at goods-producing businesses grew by 200. State government employers added 400 positions annually, and local governments added 200. Federal government employment was unchanged.

**Cedar Rapids**

The Cedar Rapids metropolitan statistical area trimmed 300 jobs from February, bringing total nonfarm employment to 138,000 jobs. Employment gains were scarce in March with only small increases in a few industries, including state government (+100), leisure and hospitality (+100), and wholesale trade (+100).

Overall, trade, transportation and warehousing pared 100 jobs as did educational and health services. Professional and business services dropped 300 jobs from last month, in spite of a gain of 100 jobs in administrative and waste services. Manufacturing employment has trended upward over the past twelve months but was unchanged from February.

Over the year, area businesses have added 400 jobs with the largest gain in leisure and hospitality (+1,100). Mining, logging and construction added 700 jobs, manufacturing gained 300 jobs, with a gain of 200 in durable goods manufacturing, and trade, transportation and warehousing and government each added 200 jobs. Professional and business services pared 900 jobs.

**Des Moines/West Des Moines**

# Total nonfarm employment in the Des Moines area changed little compared to February (-200) and now rests at 372,700 jobs. This month’s loss is unexpected and due to a lack of seasonal hiring in leisure and hospitality (-600) coupled with declines in health care and social assistance (-400). This month’s decline may be due to early gains to begin the year for the Des Moines Metropolitan area. The February increase in jobs was more than twice the ten-year average. There were some bright spots in the March estimates: mining, logging, and construction added 700 jobs with over half of the increase stemming from specialty trade construction. Government added 200 jobs at the local level and manufacturing increased by 100 jobs.

# Annually, total nonfarm employment is up 10,400 jobs (2.9 percent). By percentage, the Des Moines area trails only the large college towns, Iowa City and Ames, for total nonfarm growth since March 2021. Leisure and hospitality firms have added the most jobs (+4,400) and has been added by increased staffing within full-service restaurants (+1,300). Government is up 2,700 jobs due mostly to hiring at the local government level. Mining, logging, and construction has gained 1,000 jobs and was fueled by hiring in specialty trade construction. Private education leads all sectors in terms of jobs lost (-1,400) followed by finance and insurance (-800).

# Dubuque

Establishments in the Dubuque area gained 400 jobs in March, lifting total nonfarm employment to 58,500 jobs. This month’s gain is on the large side compared to the prior ten-year history and chiefly the result of hiring in goods-producing sectors (+400). Private service industries were unchanged despite some gains in retail (+100). Government increased by 100 jobs at the local level and is now up 100 jobs over the past twelve months.

Annually, total nonfarm is now up 600 jobs versus last year’s mark. Goods-producing industries are up 700 jobs with the majority of the growth stemming from manufacturing firms. Private service industries are down 200 jobs despite some hiring in retail trade (+100).

**Iowa City**

Employment in the Iowa City metropolitan statistical area (MSA) expanded by 500 in March, an increase of 0.5 percent over-the-month. This increase in monthly employment occurred exclusively within the private sector. Private service-providing establishments added 200 positions to payrolls, owing primarily to an increase of 700 positions in trade, transportation, and utilities. Meanwhile, goods-producing establishments added 300 positions month-to-month. Employment totals within all three government sectors were unchanged.

Employment within the MSA increased by 3,700 positions annually, which translates to a growth rate of 3.9 percent. Gains in employment occurred across the local economy, with private and government establishments respectively adding 2,800 and 900 positions over-the-year. Among private businesses, service-providing entities added 2,500 positions. Trade, transportation, and utilities (+1,000 positions) and leisure and hospitality (+1,200 positions) were significant drivers of employment growth. Employment within goods-producing businesses grew by 300 year-over-year. Among public sector establishments, municipal entities added 600 positions, while state entities added 400. Federal government employment decreased by 100.

**Sioux City**

Employment in the Sioux City MSA increased 400 (+0.46%) jobs from February and is currently 86,600. The change is slightly lower than the 10-year average February-to-March change of 530.

The month’s gains were almost entirely in trade, transportation and warehousing which added 500 jobs, although retail trade pared 100 jobs. Manufacturing, professional and business services, leisure and hospitality and government were all unchanged.

Overall, area employment is up 1,400 jobs (+1.64%) from one year ago, boosted by gains in leisure and hospitality (+600), trade, transportation and warehousing (+400) and professional and business services (+200). A loss of 100 jobs in manufacturing contributed to an overall drop of 200 in goods-producing industries.

# Waterloo/Cedar Falls

The Waterloo/Cedar Falls metropolitan statistical area total nonfarm employment gained 500 jobs from February, driven by gains in goods-producing industries (+500) as well as a small gain in state government (+200). Manufacturing added 100 jobs, all in durable goods manufacturing. Retail trade trimmed 200 jobs, leading to a loss of 300 jobs in trade, transportation and warehousing.

Over the year, the area added 1,800 jobs, boosted by a gain of 1,800 in trade, transportation and warehousing. Manufacturing contributed 700 additional jobs with the bulk of those jobs (+600) in durable goods manufacturing. Leisure and hospitality added 400 jobs and professional and business services gained 200 jobs. Over-the-year gains were partially offset by losses in educational and health services (-600), financial activities (-400) and government (-100).