**Ames**

Employment in the Ames metropolitan statistical area (MSA) grew by 1,700 between July and August, an increase of 3.5 percent over the month. This expansion in employment is typical for this time of year, as activity begins anew at the MSA’s state university. Consequently, virtually all of the area’s month-to-month increase in employment occurred in the state government sector, which added 1,800 positions. Employment at federal and local government employers was unchanged. In the private sector, service-providing establishments shed 100 positions, whereas goods-producing employment was steady.

Employment within the MSA rose by 800 over-the-year, an increase of 1.6 percent. In contrast to the monthly gains in employment, much of this expansion occurred in the private sector. While goods-producing businesses pared 100 positions annually, the number of jobs at

service-providing establishments grew by 800. Within the public sector, local and municipal establishments added 200 positions, while state government employers trimmed 100. Federal government employment was unchanged.

**Cedar Rapids**

The Cedar Rapids metropolitan statistical area trimmed 400 jobs from July in its second consecutive monthly employment loss. Total nonfarm employment stands at 139,500 jobs. Service providing industries (-300) are responsible for the majority of the jobs loss.

Job gains were scarce this month with an increase of 100 jobs in manufacturing, courtesy of the durable goods sub-sector and another increase of 100 in the administrative and support and waste management sub-sector, although professional and business services overall trimmed 100 jobs. Financial activities and trade, transportation and warehousing each pared 100 jobs as well. Natural resources and construction fared slightly worse than others, shedding 200 jobs in the first employment loss in the sector since January.

Over the year, area businesses have added 1,200 jobs. Government added the bulk of the jobs with a gain of 600. An increase of 700 in local government was partially offset by a small loss (-100) in federal government. Educational and health services, leisure and hospitality and manufacturing each added 300 jobs. The gains in manufacturing employment were entirely in the durable goods sub-sector which added 400 jobs but a loss of 100 jobs in non-durable goods manufacturing partially offset the gains in durable goods employment.

**Des Moines/West Des Moines**

# Businesses in the Des Moines Area added 400 jobs in August, lifting total nonfarm employment to 379,000 jobs. This month’s increase is small relative to the past 10 years, partially due to a lack of seasonal movement in education industries as schools are late in reporting this year. Government, which usually experiences some seasonal gain due to schools resuming in the fall was flat this month. Additionally, seasonal losses in leisure and hospitality came one month early for the Des Moines Metro this year.

# Professional and business services added the most jobs in August (+900). Most of the increase was within administrative support and waste management. Mining, logging, and construction added 400 jobs and was driven by an increase from specialty trade contractors. Financial activities added 300 jobs despite some layoffs related to insurance carriers. Conversely, job losses were led by leisure and hospitality in August (-1,100). Typically, much of the seasonal layoffs occur in September, so this month’s decline is surprising. All other losses this month were small and occurred in manufacturing, retail trade, and transportation and warehousing.

# Annually, total nonfarm employment in the Des Moines Metro stands 5,500 jobs higher than one year ago. Education and health services had added the most jobs during that span despite little movement this month (+2,500). Trade, transportation, and utilities has gained 1,400 thanks to a large boost from transportation and warehousing, and leisure and hospitality is up 1,100 jobs with 900 being added in full-service restaurants. Losses have been limited to financial activities which is down 1,000 jobs despite a slight gain this month.

# Dubuque

Total nonfarm employment decreased slightly in August (-300), lowering total nonfarm employment to 58,700. This loss is small and unexpected given the prior ten-year history and largely the result of declines in private service industries (-400). Goods producing sectors also trended down this month (-100). Government countered with a seasonal increase of 200 jobs.

Compared to last August, the Dubuque Metro has added 500 jobs. Gains have been seen in both goods producing industries (+300) and private services (+300). Government is down a slight 100 jobs.

**Iowa City**

Employment in the Iowa City metropolitan statistical area (MSA) grew by 1,300 between July and August, an increase of 1.3 over-the-month. This increase is typical for this time of year, as activity resumes at the MSA’s state university. As such, nearly all of the area’s month-to-month increase in employment occurred in state government, which grew by 1,300 positions. Employment at local government establishments rose by 300, while federal government employment was unchanged. In the private sector, goods-producing establishments trimmed 200 positions, while service-providing businesses pared 100. Within the private service-providing sector, the trade, transportation, and utilities super-sector shrank by 300 positions.

Employment within the MSA expanded by 3,400 over-the-year, an increase of 3.5 percent. A significant portion of this increase occurred among private service-providing establishments. Employment in trade, transportation, and utilities grew by 600, while leisure and hospitality employment rose by 500. Goods-producing establishments added 300 positions to payrolls. Municipal governments added 600 positions annually, while state government employers added 300. Federal government employment was unchanged.

**Sioux City**

Employment in the Sioux City MSA gained just 100 (0.11%) jobs from July and is currently 87,300. Goods producing industries trimmed 100 jobs in spite of a gain of 200 jobs in non-durable goods manufacturing which resulted in no employment change in the manufacturing sector overall.

Leisure and hospitality added 100 jobs following three consecutive months with no change to the sector’s employment level. Conversely, government trimmed 100 jobs, all in local government. In addition, retail trade pared 100 jobs, although trade, transportation and warehousing as a whole was unaffected.

Overall, area employment is up 1,400 jobs (+1.63%) from one year ago, boosted by gains in professional and business services and leisure and hospitality (+300 each). Manufacturing added 100 jobs with help from the non-durable goods manufacturing sub-sector which, after four consecutive months of gains, has added 800 jobs from one year ago. Trade, transportation and warehousing has dropped 400 jobs over the year.

# Waterloo/Cedar Falls

The Waterloo/Cedar Falls metropolitan statistical area total nonfarm employment added 200 jobs from July, boosted by a seasonal gain of 400 in state government as well as an increase of 200 in local government education. Manufacturing trimmed 100 jobs as a result of fewer jobs in durable goods manufacturing. Trade, transportation and warehousing also trimmed 100 jobs.

Over the year, the area added 1,800 jobs, boosted by a gain of 800 in trade, transportation and warehousing, although retail trade pared 100 jobs. Manufacturing contributed 600 additional jobs with 400 of those jobs in durable goods manufacturing, government added 300 jobs and educational and health services added 200 jobs. Financial activities is the only sector with an employment loss from last year, shedding just 100 jobs.