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Iowa Unemployment Rate Increases

Iowa Workforce and Unemployment: The mid-May unemployment rate of 3.5 per cent is the highest rate recorded for Iowa since February 1964. For the first time since records were begun in 1950, the unemployment rate also rose between April and May. During the first four months of 1970, the unemployment rate stood at 3.4 per cent. The May 1969 rate was 2.5 per cent.

Unemployed Iowans reached 44,700 in mid-May, a 3,000 increase from mid-April. May was the seventh consecutive month that the number of jobless persons has risen. Since May, 1969, unemployed workers have increased 13,200.

Iowa's civilian workforce continued its seasonal expansion which began in March. The total workforce reached 1,271,400 in mid-May, a gain of 38,400 workers from April.

Total employment rose 35,400 between mid-April and mid-May. Agriculture accounted for most of this gain by adding 30,400 workers.

Nonfarm Wage and Salary Employment: Iowa had 886,600 nonfarm wage and salary workers in mid-May, 1,000 more than in mid-April and 7,000 more than in mid-May, 1969.

Manufacturing employees declined 1,400 from mid-April to a mid-May total of 212,500. More than half of the 2,600 lost in durable goods workers resulted from layoffs. Stone, clay and glass products employees were the

only group with an employment gain. Non-durable goods workers increased 1,200 primarily because of a seasonal upswing in food and kindred products.

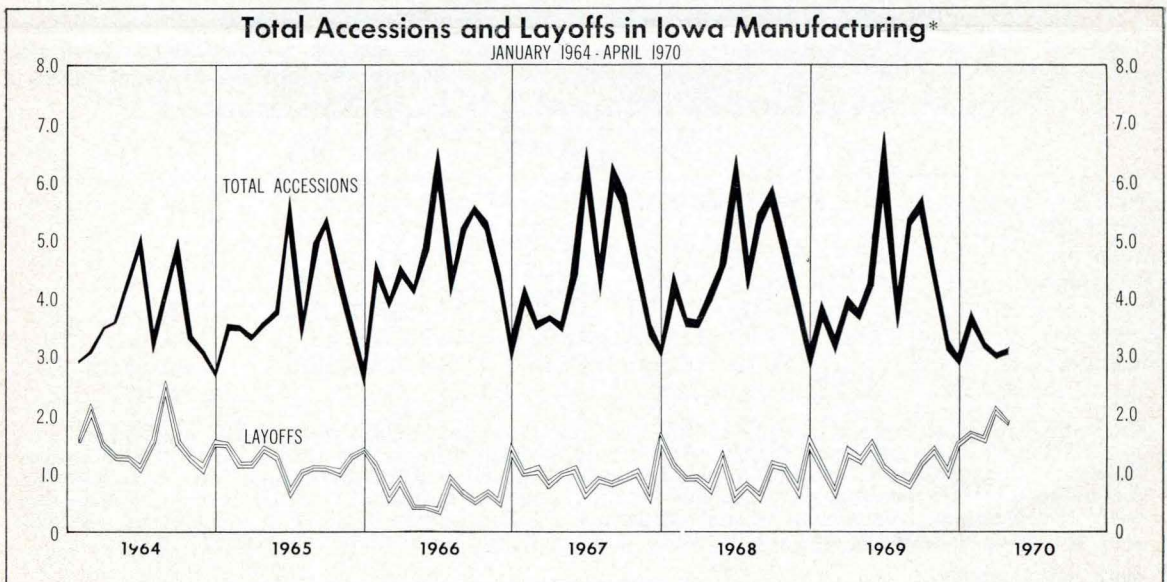
Nonmanufacturing employment stood at 674,100 in mid-May, an increase of 2,400 from April and a rise of 15,500 from May, 1969. Although strikes held back larger employment gains, contract construction added 1,300 workers over the month. A seasonal increase in service and retail trade resulted in the addition of 1,100 more workers in each of these areas.

Federal government employment declined with the closing of census activities.

The close of the Iowa General Assembly session accounted for 50 per cent of the State government employment drop.

Labor Turnover Concepts: Labor turnover is the gross movement of manufacturing wage and salary workers in and out of employment with individual companies. This movement is divided into two broad areas: accessions which include new hires and rehires, and separations which include terminations of employment initiated by either the employer or employee.

Each of these actions is cumulated for a calendar month and expressed at a rate per 100 employees. All full-time, part-time, permanent and temporary manufacturing employees including executive, office, sales, other sal-



*EXPRESSED AS A RATE PER 100 EMPLOYEES.

Hours and Earnings of Production Workers By Industry in Iowa, May, 1970¹

(Prepared in cooperation with the U. S. Department of Labor)

INDUSTRY	Average Weekly Earnings			Average Weekly Hours			Average Hourly Earnings		
	May 1970	Apr. 1970	May 1969	May 1970	Apr. 1970	May 1969	May 1970	Apr. 1970	May 1969
	MANUFACTURING	\$142.72	\$144.11	\$134.58	39.1	39.7	39.7	\$3.65	\$3.63
Durable Goods	139.94	142.76	133.46	39.2	40.1	40.2	3.57	3.56	3.32
Lumber & furniture	115.33	115.71	101.39	38.7	38.7	38.7	2.98	2.99	2.62
Stone, clay & glass products	147.13	145.73	138.08	42.4	43.5	44.4	3.47	3.35	3.11
Primary metal industries	156.15	157.59	161.25	41.2	41.8	43.7	3.79	3.77	3.69
Fabricated metal products	132.66	132.28	118.70	40.2	40.7	39.7	3.30	3.25	2.99
Machinery except electrical	158.40	163.61	154.31	39.7	40.7	40.5	3.99	4.02	3.81
Farm machinery	165.29	170.31	160.70	38.8	39.7	39.1	4.26	4.29	4.11
Const. & related machinery	164.67	169.03	156.96	41.9	42.9	43.6	3.93	3.94	3.60
Electrical equip. & supplies	119.46	125.65	117.30	37.1	38.9	39.1	3.22	3.23	3.00
Transportation equipment	120.82	119.73	123.49	39.1	39.0	41.3	3.09	3.07	2.99
Other durable goods	119.56	121.45	111.22	36.9	37.6	37.7	3.24	3.23	2.95
Nondurable Goods	146.28	146.22	136.46	38.8	39.2	39.1	3.77	3.73	3.49
Food & kindred products	155.22	156.02	144.97	39.0	39.6	39.5	3.98	3.94	3.67
Meat products	169.95	172.87	157.80	37.6	38.5	38.3	4.52	4.49	4.12
Grain-mill products	161.14	156.28	145.81	43.2	42.7	41.9	3.73	3.66	3.48
Apparel & other textile prod.	81.17	80.68	78.02	35.6	35.7	36.8	2.28	2.26	2.12
Paper & allied products	121.27	117.46	117.48	42.7	42.1	44.0	2.84	2.79	2.67
Printing & publishing	145.16	143.26	130.64	38.2	38.0	36.8	3.80	3.77	3.55
Newspapers	140.70	140.35	136.89	34.4	34.4	35.1	4.09	4.08	3.90
Chemicals & allied products	146.61	147.85	141.32	40.5	41.3	41.2	3.62	3.58	3.43
Rubber & plastics products, nec.	151.90	156.62	147.34	37.6	38.2	37.3	4.04	4.10	3.95
Other nondurable goods	81.96	79.49	73.97	38.3	36.8	36.8	2.14	2.16	2.01
SELECTED NONMANUFACTURING									
Nonmetallic mining	153.58	160.82	158.25	47.4	50.1	52.4	3.24	3.21	3.02
Comm., elec., gas & sanitary svcs. ...	139.44	139.44	131.66	39.5	39.5	39.3	3.53	3.53	3.35
Department stores	58.42	59.98	60.48	*	*	*	*	*	*
Banking	85.61	86.18	80.84	*	*	*	*	*	*
Insurance carriers & agents	100.80	101.69	101.23	*	*	*	*	*	*
Laundries & dry clean. plants	62.23	66.73	66.01	*	*	*	*	*	*

Hours and Earnings For Total Manufacturing in Selected Iowa Areas, May, 1970¹

(Prepared in cooperation with the U. S. Department of Labor)

AREA	Average Weekly Earnings			Average Weekly Hours			Average Hourly Earnings		
	May 1970	Apr. 1970	May 1969	May 1970	Apr. 1970	May 1969	May 1970	Apr. 1970	May 1969
	Cedar Rapids	\$148.71	\$148.88	\$136.86	40.3	40.9	41.1	\$3.69	\$3.64
Council Bluffs	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Davenport	163.21	165.22	157.77	40.7	41.1	41.3	4.01	4.02	3.82
Des Moines	149.35	150.11	138.57	39.2	39.4	38.6	3.81	3.81	3.59
Dubuque	156.04	163.20	142.49	37.6	38.4	37.4	4.15	4.25	3.81
Sioux City	138.69	126.49	137.07	40.2	38.8	42.7	3.45	3.26	3.21
Waterloo	154.75	162.00	145.16	38.4	40.0	38.0	4.03	4.05	3.82

¹ Estimates are based upon a sample of full and part-time production and related employees, who worked during or received pay for the payroll period which includes the 12th of the month. Average hourly earnings reflect, in addition to changes in basic hourly and incentive wage rates, such variable factors as overtime premium pay, late shift work, changes in output of workers paid on an incentive basis, and changing employment of workers between relatively high-paid and low-paid work, and full-time and part-time status. Revised to most current information available at date of publication.

* Data not available.

Labor Turnover Rates For Selected Iowa Manufacturing Industries, May, 1970¹

(Prepared in cooperation with the U. S. Department of Labor)

INDUSTRY	ACCESSION RATES				SEPARATION RATES					
	Total		New Hires		Total		Quits		Layoffs	
	May 1970 ²	Apr. 1970	May 1970 ²	Apr. 1970	May 1970 ²	Apr. 1970	May 1970 ²	Apr. 1970	May 1970 ²	Apr. 1970
MANUFACTURING	3.8	3.1	2.5	2.2	4.5	4.5	1.8	2.0	2.2	1.8
Durable Goods	2.8	2.4	1.8	1.7	4.2	4.6	1.4	1.7	2.2	2.2
Stone, Clay & Glass Products.....	3.9	5.4	3.1	3.4	3.0	2.8	1.8	2.0	.6	.2
Primary Metal Industries.....	3.1	3.2	2.6	2.6	3.2	4.0	2.3	2.8	.2	.5
Fabricated Metal Products.....	4.2	3.8	3.7	3.1	4.3	5.9	2.2	3.1	.8	1.4
Machinery Except Electrical.....	2.1	1.8	1.0	1.2	3.5	3.9	.7	1.1	2.3	2.3
Electrical Equipment & Supplies.....	1.9	1.8	1.0	1.0	4.6	4.1	1.2	1.3	3.0	2.3
Other Durable Goods.....	3.4	2.5	2.2	1.8	5.4	6.3	1.8	2.2	3.0	3.4
Nondurable Goods	5.1	4.1	3.4	2.9	4.9	4.4	2.2	2.5	2.1	1.3
Food & Kindred Products.....	6.3	4.7	4.1	3.0	4.1	4.6	1.9	2.4	1.7	1.6
Meat Products.....	8.3	6.3	5.3	3.4	5.2	5.7	2.1	2.4	2.4	2.7
Printing & Publishing.....	2.1	1.9	1.4	1.3	3.5	4.0	1.2	2.0	1.8	1.4
Rubber, Plastics & Leather Prod.....	5.0	2.7	2.0	1.8	3.0	3.4	1.6	1.3	.6	.7
Other Nondurable Goods.....	4.1	4.6	3.8	4.4	9.6	4.8	4.2	3.8	4.6	.5

¹ Figures presented are expressed as a rate per 100 employees.

² Preliminary figures.

* Less than .05

Average Weekly Overtime Hours of Production Workers In Iowa Manufacturing May, 1970¹

(Prepared in cooperation with the
U. S. Department of Labor)

INDUSTRY	May 1970	Apr. 1970	May 1969
MANUFACTURING	2.4	2.5	2.9
Durable Goods	1.7	2.0	2.5
Lumber & furniture.....	1.3	1.5	2.0
Stone, clay & glass products..	5.1	5.6	6.2
Primary metal industries.....	4.0	4.1	6.1
Fabricated metal products.....	1.5	1.6	2.6
Machinery except electrical....	1.6	2.0	2.2
Farm machinery.....	.9	1.0	.9
Electrical equip. & supplies....	1.1	1.5	1.6
Transportation equipment.....	1.1	.9	2.7
Other durable goods.....	.5	.4	.6
Nondurable Goods	3.4	3.2	3.5
Food & kindred products.....	4.1	3.8	4.1
Meat products.....	4.0	3.8	3.9
Apparel & other textile prod...	1.4	.5	.7
Paper & allied products.....	4.1	3.4	5.6
Printing & publishing	1.8	1.7	2.2
Chemicals & allied products....	2.8	3.1	3.5
Rubber & plastics products....	3.3	3.7	3.5
Other nondurable goods.....	1.5	1.6	1.3

¹Estimates are based upon a sample of full and part-time production and related employees who worked in the above industry groups during the week containing the 12th of the month. Revised to most current information available at date of publication.

aried personnel and production workers are counted.

Labor turnover rates reflect the month-to-month total employment changes in the manufacturing industries. However, labor turnover rates cannot be compared to the employment changes shown in the entire employment series because they are computed for the complete calendar month while the employment reports are computed for the pay period containing the 12th of the month. Employees on strike are not counted when determining turnover rates but they are subtracted from the nonfarm employment estimates if the work stoppage extends through the pay period including the 12th of the month.

Iowa Manufacturing Hours and Earnings: Production workers in manufacturing industries earned an average weekly wage of \$142.72 during May, \$1.39 a week less than in April. This decrease directly resulted from a 36 minute drop in the average workweek due to numerous layoffs in the durable goods sector.

Significant layoffs took place in farm machinery, electrical machinery and transportation equipment, resulting in a combined loss of over 1,900 workers. The total drop in durable goods manufacturing came to 2,800 production employees, 550 more than the decline reported in April. The decline in workers brought about an hourly wage increase of from one to five cents in these industries. Stone, clay and glass products workers had a 12 cent rise in hourly wages because of several pay increases.

In the nondurable goods sector, wage rate increases were paid to employees in chemicals and allied products, grain mill products and meat products. A gain of 1,000 production

Nonagricultural Employment By Industry In Iowa May, 1970¹

(Prepared in cooperation with the U. S. Department of Labor)

INDUSTRY	(Thousands)			Change From:	
	May 1970	Apr. 1970	May 1969	Apr. 1970 to May 1970	May 1969 to May 1970
TOTAL NONAGRICULTURAL.....	886.6	885.6	879.6	1,000	7,000
MANUFACTURING.....	212.5	213.9	221.0	—1,400	—8,500
Durable Goods	121.0	123.6	129.3	—2,600	—8,300
Lumber & furniture.....	8.0	8.0	8.7	0	— 700
Stone, clay & glass products.....	6.4	6.2	6.7	200	— 300
Primary metal industries.....	8.3	8.5	8.8	— 200	— 500
Fabricated metal products.....	13.1	13.1*	12.7*	0	400
Machinery (except electrical).....	45.4*	46.3*	45.5*	— 900	— 100
Farm machinery.....	24.8	25.4	25.2	— 600	— 400
Const. & related machinery.....	8.7	8.7	9.0	0	— 300
Electrical equip. & supplies.....	22.9	23.8	26.4*	— 900	—3,500
Transportation equipment.....	5.0	5.4	6.1	— 400	—1,100
Other durable goods ²	11.9	12.3	14.4*	— 400	—2,500
Nondurable Goods	91.5	90.3	91.7	1,200	— 200
Food & kindred products.....	52.4	50.9	52.7	1,500	— 300
Meat products.....	26.6	25.3*	26.4	1,300	200
Grain-mill products.....	10.5	10.4	10.9	100	— 400
Bakery products.....	3.6	3.5	3.5	100	100
Apparel & other textile prod.....	4.0	4.2	4.2	— 200	— 200
Paper & allied products.....	3.7	3.9	4.0	— 200	— 300
Printing & publishing.....	13.7	13.6	13.3	100	400
Newspapers.....	6.7	6.6	6.5	100	200
Chemicals & allied products.....	8.2	8.2	7.8	0	400
Rubber & plastics products, nec.....	7.6	7.5	7.8	100	— 200
Other nondurable goods ³	2.0	2.0	1.9	0	100
NONMANUFACTURING.....	674.1	671.7	658.6	2,400	15,500
Nonmetallic mining.....	3.3	3.2	3.2	100	100
Contract construction.....	39.3*	38.0	40.5*	1,300	—1,200
Transportation & public utilities.....	50.7	50.2	51.1	500	— 400
Railroad transportation.....	10.1	10.0	11.2	100	—1,100
Communication.....	12.6	12.6	11.8	0	800
Elec., gas & sanitary services.....	9.5	9.5	9.4	0	100
Wholesale & retail trade.....	210.2	208.9	207.1	1,300	3,100
Wholesale trade.....	43.7	43.5	44.2	200	— 500
Retail trade.....	166.5	165.4	162.9	1,100	3,600
Retail general merchandise.....	24.7	24.7	24.4	0	300
Finance, insurance & real estate.....	42.3	42.0	40.4	300	1,900
Banking.....	13.1	13.1	12.5	0	600
Insurance carriers & agents.....	17.9	17.8	16.8	100	1,100
Services.....	146.7	145.6	143.5	1,100	3,200
Medical & other health services.....	44.0	43.9	42.0	100	2,000
Government.....	181.7	183.8	173.0	—2,100	8,700
Federal govt.....	24.5	26.3	21.9	—1,800	2,600
State govt.....	41.5	42.3	40.8	— 800	700
Local govt.....	115.6	115.3	110.2	300	5,400

¹ Revised to most current information available at date of publication. Data include all full and part-time wage and salary workers employed during the week containing the 12th of the month. Proprietors, self-employed, domestic workers, and the armed forces are excluded. Detail may not add up to total due to rounding.

² Includes ordnance & accessories, instruments, related products & misc. mfg.

³ Includes textile mill products, petroleum & coal products and leather and leather products.

* Strike

workers in meat products marked the beginning of a seasonal upswing.

Labor Turnover in Iowa Manufacturing: Accession rates in May showed some increase in hiring activity. Total May additions increased from 31 per 1,000 workers in April to 38 per 1,000. During May, 25 per 1,000 were new hires compared to 22 per 1,000 in April.

Total separations remained unchanged between April and May. However, the factory quit rate which indicates the availability of job opportunities dropped slightly from 20 per 1,000 in April to 18 per 1,000 in May. Layoffs increased from the April rate of 18 per 1,000 to a May rate of 22 per 1,000 employees.

Workforce and Unemployment For State and Selected Areas

AREA	Workforce (000)	Number Unemployed (000)	Percent of Workforce Unemployed	Nonagricultural Wage & Salary Employment ¹ (000)	Manu- facturing Employment (000)
May 1970²					
IOWA	1,271.4	44.7	3.5	886.6	212.5
Cedar Rapids.....	76.1	2.9	3.8	64.7	25.2
Council Bluffs	*	*	*	*	*
Davenport	58.4	2.2	3.7	49.0	15.6
Des Moines.....	148.9	4.2	2.8	129.6	26.4
Dubuque.....	42.6	1.4	3.2	34.6	14.3
Sioux City.....	51.5	2.2	4.3	41.2	9.5
Waterloo.....	60.3	3.7	6.1	49.4	17.9
April 1970					
IOWA	1,233.0	41.7	3.4	885.6	213.9
Cedar Rapids.....	75.6	2.5	3.3	65.1	25.6
Council Bluffs	*	*	*	*	*
Davenport	58.3	1.9	3.3	49.6	16.0
Des Moines.....	148.4	3.5	2.3	131.7	26.9
Dubuque.....	41.8	1.2	2.9	34.5	14.2
Sioux City.....	51.3	2.2	4.3	41.7	9.6
Waterloo.....	59.5	3.2	5.3	49.7	18.4
May 1969					
IOWA	1,248.3	31.5	2.5	879.6	221.0
Cedar Rapids.....	77.3	1.5	2.0	66.8	27.8
Council Bluffs	*	*	*	*	*
Davenport	*	*	*	49.9	16.9
Des Moines.....	145.2	3.2	2.2	128.2	26.1
Dubuque.....	41.4	1.2	2.9	33.6	13.9
Sioux City.....	50.5	1.3	2.6	40.7	8.6
Waterloo.....	59.6	2.5	4.1	49.1	18.5

¹ Excludes self-employed, domestics, unpaid family workers and members of the armed forces.

² Preliminary data.

* Data not available at time of publication.

Council Bluffs and Davenport areas include Iowa portions only.

Employment Security Activities

Characteristics of Iowa's Insured Unemployed: Iowans claimed 13,433 weeks of unemployment benefits during the survey week in May. This marked an 11 per cent decrease from April, 1970 but a 75 per cent increase from the May, 1969 total.

Claims by men were responsible for the over-the-month decrease with a 21 per cent decline in the number of weeks. Women's

claims increased 4 per cent.

The machine trades occupations accounted for the largest increase of 21 per cent in the number of weeks claimed. Benchwork occupations moved up 9 per cent. Large percentage decreases were made in the miscellaneous category with a 30 per cent decrease and structural work with a 28 per cent drop.

All major industry groups participated in

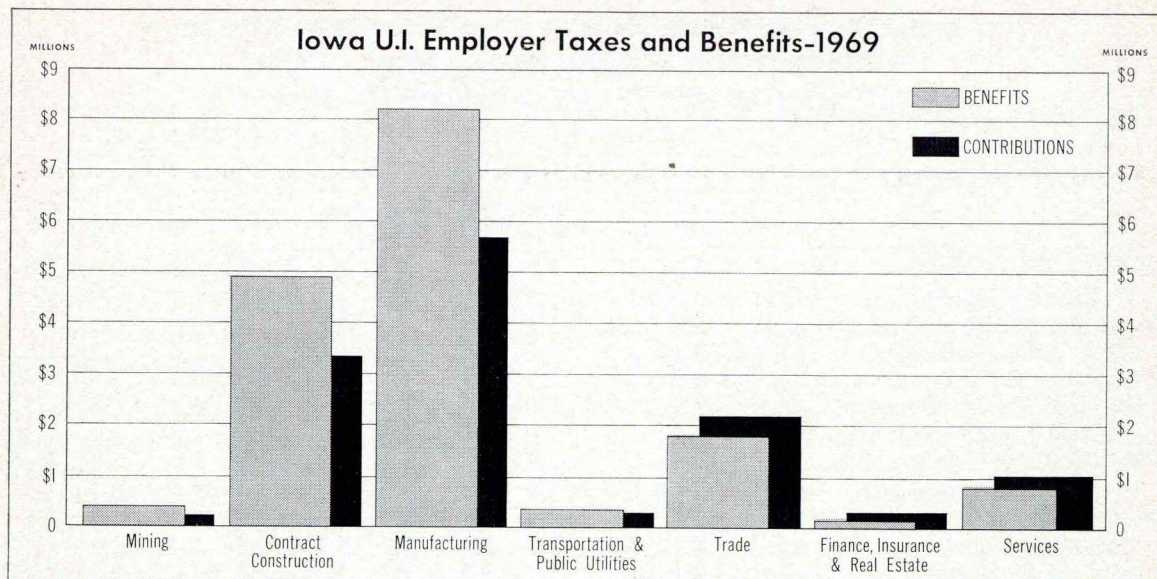
Characteristics of the Insured Unemployed¹ in Iowa May, 1970

INDUSTRY	Total Insured Unemployed			Number of Women in Total Insured Unemployed			Number of Insured People Unemployed 5 Weeks or More		
	May 1970	Apr. 1970	May 1969	May 1970	Apr. 1970	May 1969	May 1970	Apr. 1970	May 1969
Total.....	13,433	15,048	7,666	6,277	6,036	3,388	8,487	9,164	4,169
Contract const.....	2,121	3,235	976	*	*	*	1,287	2,639	596
Manufacturing.....	8,095	8,130	4,931	4,558	4,403	2,229	5,242	4,485	2,435
Durable Goods.....	6,219	6,009	3,702	3,254	3,023	1,263	3,948	3,259	1,596
Nondurable Goods..	1,876	2,121	1,229	1,304	1,380	966	1,294	1,226	839
Trade.....	1,593	1,862	993	922	943	666	1,007	1,158	653
All other.....	1,624	1,821	766	722	*	460	951	882	484

¹ The insured unemployed are for the week including the 12th and are based on a survey of claims filed during the week including the 19th.

* Less than 5 per cent of total insured unemployed.

Iowa U.I. Employer Taxes and Benefits-1969



the reduction of the number of weeks claimed during the survey week in May. Contract construction reported the largest decline from April with a 34 per cent decline. However, compared with May, 1969 a 117 per cent rise was recorded. Manufacturing industry workers decreased their weeks of unemployment benefits by less than one per cent from April but increased their total weeks by 64 per cent from May, 1969.

Placements Down From April and May 1969: "The trucking industry strike in Chicago and the slowing of the economy have combined to produce a marked reduction in new hiring with local industries. Three major plants had small layoffs and two other plants have reduced their workweek." In general, this comment by one local employment service office is typical of the comments made by many others and explains the reasons for the decline in their activities. May placements declined 6 per cent below April's and 19 per cent under last May's.

On the brighter side, construction employment is increasing throughout Iowa.

Benefits Exceed Contributions in 1969: Unemployed workers in Iowa received nearly \$4 million more in unemployment insurance benefits than their employers paid in unemployment insurance contributions. Total benefits reached \$16,896,200 while contributions totaled \$13,104,100.

The Iowa unemployment insurance trust fund earned more than \$5½ million in interest during 1969, resulting in a net gain of \$1½ million over the year. The balance of the trust fund was over \$132 million at the end of 1969.

Benefits exceeded contributions in all industry groups except trade, finance, insurance, and real estate and services.

Manufacturing firms paid the largest amount in contributions and manufacturing workers collected more benefits than any other industry group.

An average of more than 580,000 Iowans are protected from total wage loss by the unemployment insurance program. Contributions to the fund were made by more than 26,500 employers.

Summary of Employment Security Activities

ACTIVITY	May 1970		April 1970		May 1969	
	Total	Female	Total	Female	Total	Female
New applicants.....	6,753	*	7,103	3,108	7,033	3,471
Total placements.....	4,330	*	4,582	*	5,345	*
Nonagricultural.....	4,058	*	4,306	1,172	4,965	1,239
Agricultural.....	272	*	276	*	380	*
Job openings received ¹	5,861	*	6,419	*	7,375	*
Active applications.....	*	*	29,847	12,468	22,424	10,349
Initial claims.....	7,393	2,687	9,104	3,461	4,459	1,507
Continued claims.....	54,817	25,253	61,899	22,959	31,172	13,155
No. of first payments issued..	3,488	1,643	4,325	1,949	2,652	932
Total weeks compensated.....	47,407	22,274	57,677	20,973	28,841	12,539
Amount of benefits paid.....	\$2,320,526	\$987,089	\$2,852,274	\$912,256	\$1,289,215	\$478,021
Average weekly benefit payment.....	\$48.95	\$44.32	\$49.45	\$43.50	\$44.70	\$38.12
Average weekly payment for total unemployment.....	\$51.07	\$47.08	\$51.26	\$46.10	\$47.01	\$41.02

¹ Limited to nonagricultural activities.

* Data not available.