

**Published Monthly IOWA EMPLOYMENT SECURITY COMMISSION**  
 1000 EAST GRAND AVENUE DES MOINES, IOWA 50319  
 Research & Statistics Division

## Unemployment Rises For Sixth Consecutive Month

**Iowa Workforce and Unemployment:** Unemployment in Iowa continued the rise it started in November. The number of unemployed Iowans, which normally drops significantly in April, increased 1,200 from mid-March to 41,700 in mid-April. Since April 1969, unemployment has increased 10,900.

The April unemployment rate of 3.4 per cent was the same rate recorded for every month so far in 1970.

Iowa's civilian workforce showed a seasonal gain in April with the workforce expanding by 32,000 workers from mid-March to 1,233,900 in mid-April. Total employment was also up largely because of the normal agricultural job expansion.

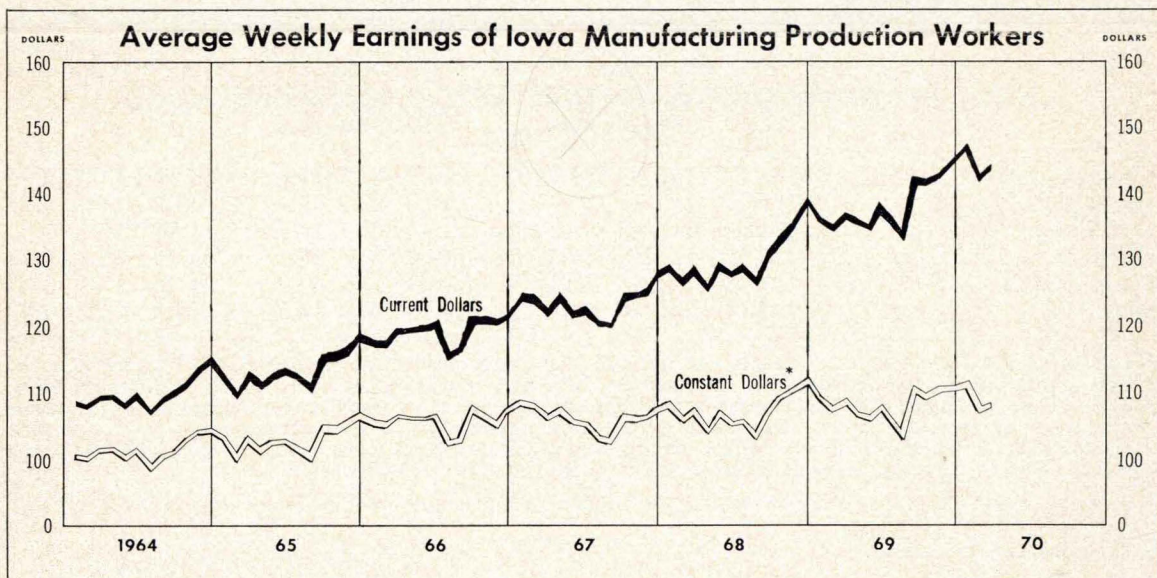
**Nonfarm Wage and Salary Employment:** Employees on nonfarm payrolls increased 10,600 between mid-March and mid-April. As a result, total nonagricultural wage and salary employment reached 886,500 in mid-April, 12,000 above the April 1969 level. Nonmanufacturing employment registered an increase but manufacturing employment continued to decrease.

The nonmanufacturing level of 672,500 in mid-April was 14,200 higher than in mid-

March and 21,800 higher than in April 1969. Construction had a seasonal gain of 4,900 workers. Retail trade added 3,500 workers with two-thirds of this total employed in eating and drinking firms. Service employment was boosted by 1,200 additional workers who were employed mainly in outdoor amusement and recreation services. A federal employment gain of 3,200 chiefly stemmed from the hiring of temporary Census workers.

Manufacturing employment stood at 214,000 in mid-April, 3,600 below the mid-March figure and 9,800 below the April 1969 total. Durable goods dropped 2,200 workers from March as firms continued to lay off workers. Non-electrical machinery manufacturing had the largest drop of 1,000 workers. Most of this loss was centered in farm machinery. Non-durable goods had a small loss of 1,300 workers which was spread throughout the industries making up this segment.

**Average Weekly Earnings:** In January 1964, Iowa's manufacturing production workers earned an average of \$108.61 a week. By January 1970, this average weekly wage had increased \$38.81 a week to \$147.42. However, after adjustments are made for price increases,



\* REAL DOLLARS (ADJUSTED FOR PRICE CHANGES, 1957-59 BASE).



# Hours and Earnings of Production Workers By Industry In Iowa, April, 1970<sup>1</sup>

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

INDUSTRY	Average Weekly Earnings			Average Weekly Hours			Average Hourly Earnings		
	Apr. 1970	Mar. 1970	Apr. 1969	Apr. 1970	Mar. 1970	Apr. 1969	Apr. 1970	Mar. 1970	Apr. 1969
MANUFACTURING .....	\$144.87	\$144.08	\$135.20	39.8	39.8	40.0	\$3.64	\$3.62	\$3.38
<b>Durable Goods</b> .....	143.87	143.07	134.06	40.3	40.3	40.5	3.57	3.55	3.31
Lumber & furniture.....	116.52	115.35	104.66	39.1	39.1	40.1	2.98	2.95	2.61
Stone, clay & glass products.....	150.86	147.50	137.23	44.5	43.9	44.7	3.39	3.36	3.07
Primary metal industries.....	161.54	159.05	160.31	42.4	42.3	43.8	3.81	3.76	3.66
Fabricated metal products.....	131.30	132.11	127.91	40.4	40.4	41.8	3.25	3.27	3.06
Machinery except electrical.....	164.02	164.83	154.69	40.7	40.9	40.6	4.03	4.03	3.81
Farm machinery.....	170.74	173.29	161.54	39.8	40.3	39.4	4.29	4.30	4.10
Const. & related machinery.....	169.52	164.25	159.12	42.7	41.9	44.2	3.97	3.92	3.60
Electrical equip. & supplies.....	125.44	124.66	118.90	39.2	39.2	39.9	3.20	3.18	2.98
Transportation equipment.....	119.34	121.39	120.36	39.0	39.8	40.8	3.06	3.05	2.95
Other durable goods.....	121.82	120.05	105.61	37.6	37.4	35.8	3.24	3.21	2.95
<b>Nondurable Goods</b> .....	146.63	145.06	137.11	39.1	39.1	39.4	3.75	3.71	3.48
Food & kindred products.....	157.21	152.87	146.07	39.8	39.4	39.8	3.95	3.88	3.67
Meat products.....	174.09	169.16	159.03	38.6	38.1	38.6	4.51	4.44	4.12
Grain-mill products.....	160.31	155.36	151.71	43.8	42.8	43.1	3.66	3.63	3.52
Apparel & other textile prod.....	78.72	79.52	77.76	35.3	35.5	36.0	2.23	2.24	2.16
Paper & allied products.....	124.27	125.71	118.82	43.0	43.8	44.5	2.89	2.87	2.67
Printing & publishing.....	141.75	146.30	135.20	37.6	38.4	38.3	3.77	3.81	3.53
Newspapers.....	140.76	141.11	133.28	34.5	34.5	34.8	4.08	4.09	3.83
Chemicals & allied products.....	151.11	151.06	138.24	41.4	41.5	40.9	3.65	3.64	3.38
Rubber & plastics products, nec.....	152.94	149.29	144.34	36.5	35.8	37.2	4.19	4.17	3.88
Other nondurable goods.....	79.66	82.26	76.02	37.4	38.8	38.2	2.13	2.12	1.99
SELECTED NONMANUFACTURING									
Nonmetallic mining.....	160.32	155.50	151.93	50.1	50.0	51.5	3.20	3.11	2.95
Comm., elec., gas & sanitary svcs...	135.24	134.50	130.15	39.2	39.1	39.8	3.45	3.44	3.27
Department stores.....	60.59	59.61	57.05	*	*	*	*	*	*
Banking.....	86.31	87.86	81.96	*	*	*	*	*	*
Insurance carriers & agents.....	101.72	101.34	101.07	*	*	*	*	*	*
Laundries & dry clean. plants.....	66.18	64.69	60.63	*	*	*	*	*	*

## Hours and Earnings For Total Manufacturing in Selected Iowa Areas, April, 1970<sup>1</sup>

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

AREA	Average Weekly Earnings <sup>2</sup>			Average Weekly Hours			Average Hourly Earnings		
	Apr. 1970	Mar. 1970	Apr. 1969	Apr. 1970	Mar. 1970	Apr. 1969	Apr. 1970	Mar. 1970	Apr. 1969
Cedar Rapids.....	\$148.88	\$146.88	\$138.53	40.9	40.8	41.6	\$3.64	\$3.60	\$3.33
Davenport.....	165.22	162.39	159.85	41.1	40.7	42.4	4.02	3.99	3.77
Des Moines.....	150.11	148.95	140.13	39.4	39.3	39.2	3.81	3.79	3.57
Dubuque.....	163.20	155.66	140.99	38.4	37.6	37.2	4.25	4.14	3.79
Sioux City.....	126.49	124.34	127.87	38.8	39.6	42.2	3.26	3.14	3.03
Waterloo.....	162.00	160.39	148.22	40.0	39.8	38.7	4.05	4.03	3.83

<sup>1</sup> Estimates are based upon a sample of full and part-time production and related employees, who were employed during the week containing 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.

<sup>2</sup> Average weekly earnings may not equal the product of average weekly hours and average hourly earnings due to rounding.

<sup>3</sup> Excludes transportation.

\* Data not available.



# Labor Turnover Rates For Selected Iowa Manufacturing Industries, April, 1970<sup>1</sup>

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

INDUSTRY	ACCESSION RATES				SEPARATION RATES					
	Total		New Hires		Total		Quits		Layoffs	
	Apr. 1970 <sup>2</sup>	Mar. 1970	Apr. 1970 <sup>2</sup>	Mar. 1970	Apr. 1970 <sup>2</sup>	Mar. 1970	Apr. 1970 <sup>2</sup>	Mar. 1970	Apr. 1970 <sup>2</sup>	Mar. 1970
MANUFACTURING.....	2.7	3.0	1.8	1.9	4.1	4.3	1.9	1.6	1.6	2.1
<b>Durable Goods</b> .....	2.1	2.8	1.4	1.8	4.3	4.4	1.6	1.4	2.0	2.4
Stone, Clay & Glass Products.....	4.7	5.0	2.3	1.5	2.1	2.4	1.1	1.3	.3	.6
Primary Metal Industries.....	3.0	3.6	2.3	2.6	3.8	2.5	2.5	1.6	.6	.1
Fabricated Metal Products.....	3.8	8.6	3.1	8.2	6.0	7.9	3.2	4.9	1.4	1.4
Machinery Except Electrical.....	1.1	2.4	.6	1.2	3.0	2.7	1.0	.8	1.5	1.4
Electrical Equipment & Supplies.....	1.8	1.5	1.0	.6	4.1	6.0	1.3	1.3	2.3	4.1
Other Durable Goods.....	2.4	2.7	1.7	2.1	6.4	7.2	2.1	1.8	3.7	4.6
<b>Nondurable Goods</b> .....	3.6	3.3	2.3	2.2	4.0	4.1	2.2	1.9	1.2	1.7
Food & Kindred Products.....	3.9	3.3	2.0	1.9	3.8	4.3	1.9	1.6	1.4	2.2
Meat Products.....	4.7	4.0	1.7	1.8	4.4	4.4	2.0	1.3	2.0	2.9
Printing & Publishing.....	1.7	1.7	1.1	1.1	4.1	2.2	2.1	1.5	1.4	.4
Rubber, Plastics & Leather Prod.....	2.2	3.3	.9	1.6	3.9	2.9	1.2	1.5	1.0	.4
Other Nondurable Goods.....	4.8	4.6	4.6	4.1	4.6	5.9	3.5	3.3	.6	1.9

<sup>1</sup> Figures presented are expressed as a rate per 100 employees.

<sup>2</sup> Preliminary figures.

\* Less than .05

## Average Weekly Overtime Hours of Production Workers In Iowa Manufacturing April, 1970<sup>1</sup>

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

INDUSTRY	Apr. 1970	Mar. 1970	Apr. 1969
MANUFACTURING .....	2.6	2.6	3.0
<b>Durable Goods</b> .....	2.1	2.2	2.6
Lumber & furniture.....	1.5	1.9	2.4
Stone, clay & glass products..	6.4	5.8	6.4
Primary metal industries.....	4.7	4.8	7.1
Fabricated metal products.....	1.6	1.6	2.3
Machinery except electrical....	2.0	2.3	2.1
Farm machinery.....	1.0	1.5	.8
Electrical equip. & supplies....	1.5	1.3	2.2
Transportation equipment.....	.9	1.0	2.7
Other durable goods.....	.4	.5	.7
<b>Nondurable Goods</b> .....	3.3	3.3	3.6
Food & kindred products.....	3.8	3.6	4.2
Meat products.....	3.9	3.4	3.7
Apparel & other textile prod....	.5	.6	.9
Paper & allied products.....	4.4	4.7	6.2
Printing & publishing .....	1.8	2.5	2.5
Chemicals & allied products....	3.8	3.7	3.1
Rubber & plastics products....	3.6	3.2	3.0
Other nondurable goods.....	1.8	1.9	1.0

<sup>1</sup> Estimates 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.

the gross weekly earnings in January 1970 were \$111.89, only \$10.99 more than the price adjusted January 1964 figure of \$100.90.

In current dollars, the increase in average weekly earnings over this six year period has been 36 per cent. However, the continued rise in consumer prices has eroded this gain to only 11 per cent when it is expressed in constant 1957-59 dollars.

### Iowa Manufacturing Hours and Earnings:

Average weekly earnings rose only slightly from March as they increased from \$144.08 a week to \$144.87 in April. Hourly earnings were up 2 cents even though the average work-week and overtime hours remained unchanged.

The number of production workers have dropped sharply compared to last April. Most nondurable goods industries have reported much greater employment declines than in previous years even though the expected seasonal loss in food and kindred products has resulted in about the same number of workers being laid off as in April 1969.

This trend was even more pronounced in the durable goods section. A decline of 2,100 production workers was recorded this April compared to a slight gain last April. Although significant layoffs took place in lumber and furniture, most of the employees laid off were from the farm machinery and electrical equipment industries. Since these losses pushed hourly earnings up only slightly, the assumption can be made that experienced as well as inexperienced workers are being affected.

### Labor Turnover in Iowa Manufacturing:

The demand for factory labor continued the downward drift of the past several months. Total accessions to manufacturing payrolls were



# Nonagricultural Employment By Industry In Iowa April, 1970<sup>1</sup>

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

INDUSTRY	(Thousands)			Change From:	
	Apr. 1970	Mar. 1970	Apr. 1969	Mar. 1970 to Apr. 1970	Apr. 1969 to Apr. 1970
<b>TOTAL NONAGRICULTURAL</b> .....	886.5	875.9	874.5	10,600	12,000
<b>MANUFACTURING</b> .....	214.0	217.6	223.8	—3,600	—9,800
<b>Durable Goods</b> .....	123.9	126.1	132.8	—2,200	—8,900
Lumber & furniture.....	8.0	8.2	8.7	— 200	— 700
Stone, clay & glass products.....	6.2	5.9	6.3	300	— 100
Primary metal industries.....	8.6	8.6	8.8	0	— 200
Fabricated metal products.....	13.1*	13.4	12.8	— 300	300
Machinery (except electrical).....	46.2*	47.2	47.4*	—1,000	—1,200
Farm machinery.....	25.4	26.2	27.1	— 800	—1,700
Const. & related machinery.....	8.7	8.8	9.0	— 100	— 300
Electrical equip. & supplies.....	24.1	24.9	27.5*	— 800	—3,400
Transportation equipment.....	5.4	5.3	6.0	100	— 600
Other durable goods <sup>2</sup> .....	12.3	12.7	15.4	— 400	—3,100
<b>Nondurable Goods</b> .....	90.2	91.5	91.0	—1,300	— 800
Food & kindred products.....	50.9	51.7	52.2	— 800	—1,300
Meat products.....	25.2*	25.5*	26.0	— 300	— 800
Grain-mill products.....	10.4	10.7	10.8	— 300	— 400
Bakery products.....	3.5	3.5	3.5	0	0
Apparel & other textile prod.....	4.2	4.3	4.2	— 100	0
Paper & allied products.....	3.9	3.9	4.0	0	— 100
Printing & publishing.....	13.6	14.0	13.3	— 400	300
Newspapers.....	6.6	6.7	6.5	— 100	100
Chemicals & allied products.....	8.2	8.0	7.6	200	600
Rubber & plastics products, nec.....	7.4	7.6	7.8	— 200	— 400
Other nondurable goods <sup>3</sup> .....	2.0	2.0	1.9	0	100
<b>NONMANUFACTURING</b> .....	672.5	658.3	650.7	14,200	21,800
Nonmetallic mining.....	3.2	2.9	2.9	300	300
Contract construction.....	38.5	33.6	38.4	4,900	100
Transportation & public utilities.....	50.5	50.4	50.5	100	0
Railroad transportation.....	10.4	10.1	11.1	300	— 700
Communication.....	12.6	12.5	11.7	100	900
Elec., gas & sanitary services.....	9.5	9.5	9.4	0	100
Wholesale & retail trade.....	208.8	205.1	203.8	3,700	5,000
Wholesale trade.....	43.7	43.5	43.8	200	— 100
Retail trade.....	165.1	161.6	160.0	3,500	5,100
Retail general merchandise.....	24.5	24.4	24.1	100	400
Finance, insurance & real estate.....	42.2	41.7	40.3	500	1,900
Banking.....	13.1	13.1	12.5	0	600
Insurance carriers & agents.....	17.9	17.8	16.8	100	1,100
Services.....	145.6	144.4	141.9	1,200	3,700
Medical & other health services.....	43.8	43.8	41.9	0	1,900
Government.....	183.8	180.2	172.9	3,600	10,900
Federal govt.....	26.2	23.0	22.0	3,200	4,200
State govt.....	42.3	41.9	40.8	400	1,500
Local govt.....	115.4	115.2	110.0	200	5,400

<sup>1</sup> 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.

<sup>2</sup> Includes ordnance & accessories, instruments, related products & misc. mfg.

<sup>3</sup> Includes textile mill products, petroleum & coal products and leather and leather products.

\* Strike

27 per 1,000 workers in April, a drop from the March rate of 30 per 1,000 workers. New hires, a part of total accessions, inched slightly downward from a rate of 19 per 1,000 workers in March to 18 per 1,000 workers in April.

The situation appears to be easing somewhat

because factory quits increased in April. Quits normally indicate a willingness of workers to voluntarily leave their jobs. Layoffs also decreased from 21 per 1,000 workers in March to 16 per 1,000 workers in April. However, the April rate was 4 per 1,000 above April 1969.



## Workforce and Unemployment For State and Selected Areas

AREA	Workforce (000)	Number Unemployed (000)	Percent of Workforce Unemployed	Nonagricultural Wage & Salary Employment <sup>1</sup> (000)	Manu- facturing Employment (000)
<b>April 1970<sup>2</sup></b>					
IOWA .....	1,233.9	41.7	3.4	886.5	214.0
Cedar Rapids .....	75.6	2.5	3.3	65.1	25.6
Council Bluffs .....	*	*	*	*	*
Davenport .....	*	*	*	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 .....	51.6	2.2	4.3	42.0	9.9
Waterloo .....	59.5	3.2	5.3	49.7	18.4
<b>March 1970</b>					
IOWA .....	1,201.9	40.5	3.4	875.9	217.6
Cedar Rapids .....	75.2	2.2	2.9	65.2	26.3
Council Bluffs .....	*	*	*	*	*
Davenport .....	57.5	1.9	3.3	49.1	16.0
Des Moines .....	146.6	3.7	2.5	130.0	26.9
Dubuque .....	41.2	1.2	2.8	34.1	14.2
Sioux City .....	50.2	1.8	3.6	40.3	8.7
Waterloo .....	59.0	2.9	4.9	49.8	18.9
<b>April 1969</b>					
IOWA .....	1,219.0	30.8	2.5	874.5	223.8
Cedar Rapids .....	77.1	1.4	1.8	67.1	27.9
Council Bluffs .....	*	*	*	*	*
Davenport .....	*	*	*	49.5	16.8
Des Moines .....	143.9	2.8	2.0	127.6	26.4
Dubuque .....	40.3	1.1	2.6	33.1	13.7
Sioux City .....	50.2	1.5	2.9	41.0	9.2
Waterloo .....	59.5	2.0	3.4	50.7	19.9

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

<sup>2</sup> 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:** A total of 15,048 weeks of unemployment was claimed in April, an increase of 35 per cent from last April but a reduction of over 5 per cent from March.

Of these 15,000 weeks of unemployment claimed, slightly more than 9,000 were claimed by men. The percentage of weeks claimed by these men decreased 23 per cent from March

while the number claimed by women increased 20 per cent.

The increase in the number of weeks claimed by women may be the result of rises in unemployment in two occupational categories. These two occupations—clerical and sales and benchwork—had the greatest increase in number of weeks claimed by unemployed workers in April compared to the previous month. Clerical and

## Characteristics of the Insured Unemployed<sup>1</sup> in Iowa April, 1970

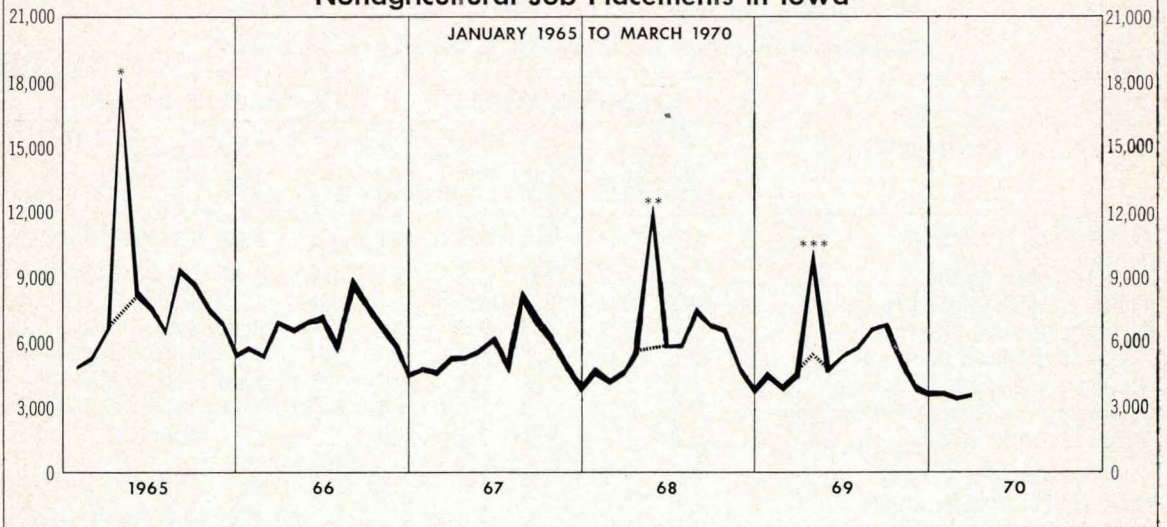
INDUSTRY	Total Insured Unemployed		Number of Women in Total Insured Unemployed			Number of Insured People Unemployed 5 Weeks or More			
	Apr. 1970	Mar. 1970	Apr. 1969	Apr. 1970	Mar. 1970	Apr. 1969	Apr. 1970	Mar. 1970	Apr. 1969
Total .....	15,048	15,868	9,716	6,036	4,804	3,126	9,164	10,357	6,759
Contract const. ....	3,235	5,374	3,314	*	*	*	2,639	4,311	2,791
Manufacturing .....	8,130	6,561	4,084	4,403	3,218	1,906	4,485	3,641	2,487
<b>Durable Goods</b> .....	6,009	4,459	2,383	3,023	1,988	753	3,259	2,448	1,610
<b>Nondurable Goods</b> ..	2,121	2,102	1,701	1,380	1,230	1,153	1,226	1,193	877
Trade .....	1,862	2,290	1,224	943	966	708	1,158	1,298	692
All other .....	1,821	1,643	1,094	*	*	*	882	1,107	789

<sup>1</sup> 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.



## Nonagricultural Job Placements in Iowa



sales rose 11 per cent and benchwork jumped 23 per cent. On the other hand structural work which predominantly employs men had a 47 per cent decline in the number of weeks claimed.

The number of weeks claimed by contract construction workers continued to show a seasonal decline and dropped 66 per cent from March. Between March and April 1970, manufacturing had an increase of 19 per cent while trade had a decrease of 23 per cent.

**Trucking Dispute and Sluggish Economy Affect Employment:** The trucking industry dispute and the sluggish economy are adversely affecting the employment situation according to comments from throughout Iowa. Yet, the number of job seekers registered with the local employment offices dropped 17 per cent between March and April. As a result, a smaller total of active job seekers was recorded.

However, new job seekers rose 7 per cent between April 1969 and April 1970. Active job seekers have increased 31 per cent over the year.

Initial claims for unemployment insurance increased 19 per cent from March. Weeks of unemployment insurance claimed and total continued claims both decreased 15 per cent.

Initial claims jumped 98 per cent from April 1969 while weeks of unemployment insurance claimed and total continued claims both rose 33 per cent.

**Nonagricultural Job Placements:** The Iowa State Employment Service assisted 65,324 Iowans to find jobs in a wide variety of non-farm industries and occupations during calendar year 1969. Total nonfarm placements by month during the last several years are shown on our graph.

Approximately 74 per cent of these job seekers placed were men, 26 per cent were veterans and 9 per cent were handicapped. More than twice as many young workers than older workers were placed on jobs during 1969. Placement of workers under age 22 amounted to 35 per cent of the total while placement of workers age 45 and older totaled 16 per cent.

## Summary of Employment Security Activities

ACTIVITY	April 1970		March 1970		April 1969	
	Total	Female	Total	Female	Total	Female
New applicants.....	7,103	3,108	8,541	3,661	6,664	3,159
Total placements.....	4,582	*	3,606	*	10,430	*
Nonagricultural.....	4,306	1,172	3,460	1,109	10,090	1,673
Agricultural.....	276	*	146	*	340	*
Job openings received <sup>1</sup> .....	6,419	*	5,151	*	12,551	*
Active applications.....	29,847	12,468	32,149	12,353	22,747	9,927
Initial claims.....	9,104	3,461	7,656	2,519	4,706	2,262
Continued claims.....	61,899	22,959	73,127	21,730	46,700	14,823
Number of first payments issued.....	4,325	1,949	4,330	1,514	2,547	1,150
Amount of benefits paid.....	\$2,852,274	\$912,256	\$3,021,095	\$716,763	\$1,831,884	\$420,875
Average weekly benefit payment.....	\$49.45	\$43.50	\$49.72	\$41.49	\$45.78	\$35.58
Average weekly payment for total unemployment.....	\$51.26	\$46.10	\$51.36	\$44.25	\$47.92	\$38.81

<sup>1</sup> Limited to nonagricultural activities.

\* Data not available.