


IOWA EMPLOYMENT SECURITY COMM.

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# IOWA *Employment and Earnings*

EMPLOYMENT SERVICE    UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE    LABOR MARKET INFORMATION

EMPLOYMENT SECURITY ACTIVITIES

## MARCH, 1970

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Research & Statistics Division

## Unemployment Rate Remains Unchanged At 3.4 Per Cent

**Iowa Workforce and Unemployment:** Iowa's mid-February unemployment rate stood at 3.4 per cent of the workforce, the same as in January. This was the highest unemployment rate recorded in Iowa since February 1964.

Unemployed workers increased only 400 between mid-January and mid-February. The 40,400 unemployed Iowa workers in mid-February was 6,600 more than the number recorded last February.

Iowa's total workforce declined 4,900 between mid-January and mid-February. However, the February total of 1,182,400 was 20,300 above the February 1969 level.

**Nonfarm Wage and Salary Employment:** Iowa had 872,200 nonfarm wage and salary workers in mid-February, 900 more than in mid-January and 17,400 more than in mid-February 1969.

Manufacturing employment had a loss of 1,500 workers, putting the mid-February total at 218,700. Nearly all the manufacturing decline stemmed from the durable goods segment.

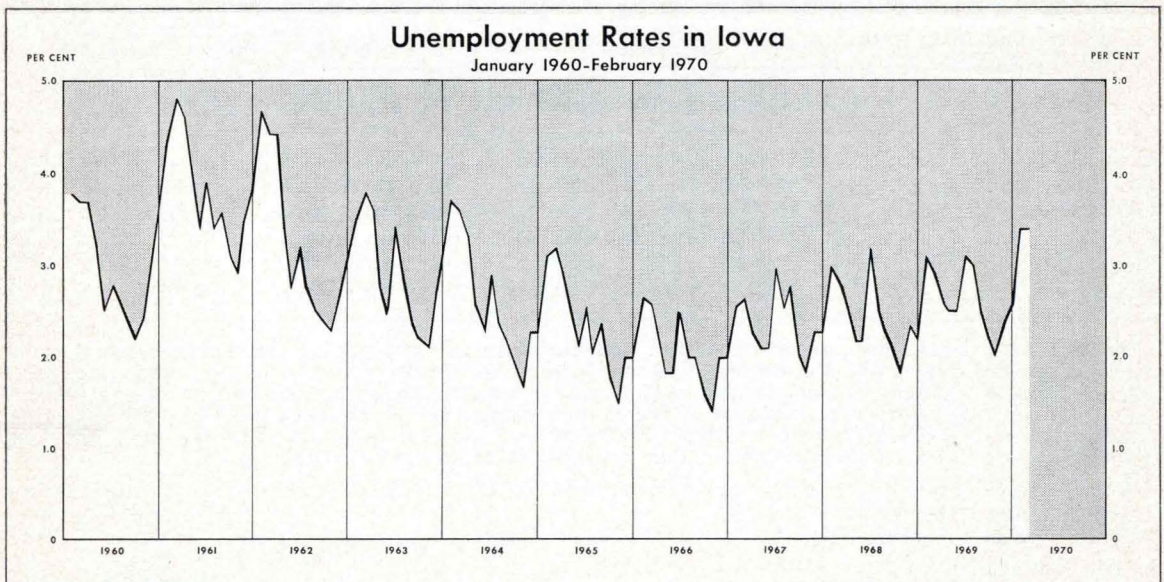
Nonmanufacturing employees increased 2,300 from mid-January to 653,500 in mid-February. Retail trade workers continued their seasonal employment decline with a loss of 1,100 workers over the month. Most of this drop took place in general merchandise stores. Employment has risen by 800 in the service segment since January with half of the gain

found in medical and other health services. Government employment rose 2,400 between January and February. Local government units, particularly schools, accounted for 1,900 of these additional government workers.

**New Benchmark Levels:** Iowa employment data in this issue has been adjusted to a March 1969 benchmark level and, as a result, is not always comparable with earlier published data. Revised historical data will be available upon request March 30.

To determine an accurate level of employment the number of persons employed at some specific time period in each industry is necessary. This complete count of employment is called a benchmark. To develop current data, a sample of firms is used to project the benchmark. The resulting estimates reflect employment levels as well as month-to-month trends. However, over an extended period of time, these estimates may depart from the true level of employment. To correct this deviation, an annual adjustment of the series to a new benchmark is necessary.

Employer tax reports under the Iowa Employment Security Law and the unemployment insurance program for federal employees provide the primary source of benchmark data. This data, supplemented by estimates of employment in firms not covered by state law because of their small size, constitutes complete





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

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

INDUSTRY	Average Weekly Earnings <sup>2</sup>			Average Weekly Hours			Average Hourly Earnings		
	Feb. 1970	Jan. 1970	Feb. 1969	Feb. 1970	Jan. 1970	Feb. 1969	Feb. 1970	Jan. 1970	Feb. 1969
	ALL MANUFACTURING.....	\$144.44	\$147.42	\$135.41	39.9	40.5	40.2	\$3.62	\$3.64
<b>Durable Goods</b> .....	140.45	142.26	132.50	39.9	40.3	40.3	3.52	3.53	3.29
Lumber, wood prod., furn. & fix.....	109.52	107.34	98.12	38.7	38.2	37.7	2.83	2.81	2.60
Stone, clay & glass products.....	147.06	151.70	135.28	43.0	44.1	44.1	3.42	3.44	3.07
Primary metal industries.....	154.66	155.50	148.58	41.8	41.8	41.8	3.70	3.72	3.55
Fabricated metal products.....	133.25	135.30	125.73	40.5	41.0	41.3	3.29	3.30	3.05
Machinery except electrical.....	159.99	161.59	154.71	40.3	40.6	40.7	3.97	3.98	3.80
Farm machinery.....	172.00	172.83	163.58	40.0	40.1	40.2	4.30	4.31	4.07
Const. & related machinery.....	153.90	155.32	151.27	40.5	41.2	42.1	3.80	3.77	3.59
Electrical equip. & supplies.....	124.29	131.70	118.89	38.6	40.4	40.1	3.22	3.26	2.96
Transportation equipment.....	116.61	119.56	117.72	39.0	39.2	40.3	2.99	3.05	2.92
Other durable goods.....	121.09	120.38	110.31	38.2	37.5	37.4	3.17	3.21	2.95
<b>Nondurable Goods</b> .....	150.00	153.47	139.62	40.0	40.6	40.2	3.75	3.78	3.47
Food & kindred products.....	158.77	166.38	147.49	40.4	41.7	40.9	3.93	3.99	3.61
Meat products.....	176.01	187.13	162.25	39.2	41.4	40.2	4.49	4.52	4.04
Grain-mill products.....	157.44	158.84	147.28	42.9	43.4	42.8	3.67	3.66	3.44
Apparel & other textile prod.....	83.81	83.36	75.46	36.6	36.4	34.7	2.29	2.29	2.17
Printing & publishing.....	146.30	146.30	135.51	38.4	38.5	38.0	3.81	3.80	3.57
Newspapers.....	137.70	140.42	130.98	34.0	34.5	34.9	4.05	4.07	3.75
Chemicals & allied products.....	148.37	148.37	137.81	41.1	41.1	41.4	3.61	3.61	3.33
Other nondurable goods.....	144.63	141.25	137.65	40.4	39.9	40.7	3.58	3.54	3.38
SELECTED NONMANUFACTURING									
Non-metallic minerals exc. fuels.....	145.55	145.07	126.58	46.5	46.2	45.2	3.13	3.14	2.80
Com., elec., gas & sanitary serv.....	132.44	134.85	127.01	38.5	39.2	39.5	3.44	3.44	3.22
Department stores.....	62.26	61.61	54.12	*	*	*	*	*	*
Banking.....	87.18	85.23	82.47	*	*	*	*	*	*
Insurance carriers.....	103.50	100.29	102.18	*	*	*	*	*	*
Laundries, cleaning & dyeing.....	65.50	64.54	56.47	*	*	*	*	*	*

## Hours and Earnings For Total Manufacturing in Selected Iowa Areas, February, 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		
	Feb. 1970	Jan. 1970	Feb. 1969	Feb. 1970	Jan. 1970	Feb. 1969	Feb. 1970	Jan. 1970	Feb. 1969
Cedar Rapids.....	\$139.79	\$146.32	\$136.80	39.6	41.1	41.5	\$3.53	\$3.56	\$3.30
Davenport.....	161.60	163.21	157.90	40.5	40.6	41.6	3.99	4.02	3.79
Des Moines.....	152.05	155.88	145.22	39.7	40.7	40.4	3.83	3.83	3.59
Dubuque.....	154.46	165.33	141.30	37.4	38.9	37.7	4.13	4.25	3.75
Sioux City.....	128.86	131.77	130.02	41.3	41.7	42.2	3.12	3.16	3.08
Waterloo.....	160.00	160.80	154.60	39.8	40.1	40.8	4.02	4.01	3.79

<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, February, 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	
	Feb. 1970 <sub>2</sub>	Jan. 1970	Feb. 1970 <sub>2</sub>	Jan. 1970	Feb. 1970 <sub>2</sub>	Jan. 1970	Feb. 1970 <sub>2</sub>	Jan. 1970	Feb. 1970 <sub>2</sub>	Jan. 1970
MANUFACTURING.....	2.9	3.7	1.8	2.5	3.7	4.4	1.6	1.8	1.6	1.7
<b>Durable Goods</b> .....	2.6	3.0	1.4	1.8	3.0	4.2	1.2	1.6	1.2	2.0
Stone, Clay & Glass Products.....	3.7	1.4	2.0	1.0	3.3	7.2	1.6	1.4	1.0	5.1
Primary Metal Industries.....	2.9	2.6	2.1	2.3	2.6	3.1	1.9	2.2	.1	.2
Fabricated Metal Products.....	4.7	4.3	4.4	3.7	3.6	4.7	2.5	2.8	.2	.7
Machinery Except Electrical.....	2.9	4.0	1.2	1.7	2.6	3.0	.7	.8	1.4	1.5
Electrical Equipment & Supplies.....	1.8	2.0	.4	1.1	3.2	4.1	1.0	1.6	1.7	2.0
Other Durable Goods.....	1.5	2.3	1.1	1.7	3.3	6.0	1.4	2.2	1.4	3.2
<b>Nondurable Goods</b> .....	3.4	4.7	2.3	3.6	4.6	4.7	2.1	2.2	2.0	1.4
Food & Kindred Products.....	3.3	5.2	1.7	3.5	5.0	5.4	1.7	1.9	2.9	2.0
Meat Products.....	4.1	7.0	1.5	4.1	6.9	7.3	1.6	1.7	5.0	3.5
Printing & Publishing.....	2.7	4.0	2.1	3.5	3.4	3.5	2.2	2.5	.5	.3
Rubber, Plastics & Leather Prod.....	2.1	1.9	1.4	1.2	4.5	3.3	1.1	1.2	2.4	1.2
Other Nondurable Goods.....	4.8	5.3	4.5	4.8	4.6	4.5	3.4	3.3	.4	.5

<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, February, 1970<sup>1</sup>

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

INDUSTRY	1970	1970	1969	1969	1969	1968
	Feb.	Jan.	Dec.	Feb.	Jan.	Dec.
MANUFACTURING.....	3.0	3.3	3.4	3.0	3.4	3.4
<b>Durable Goods</b> .....	1.9	2.3	2.7	2.5	2.7	2.7
Lumber, wood prod., furn. & fix.....	1.8	1.7	1.7	1.8	2.2	3.3
Stone, clay & glass products.....	5.2	6.5	7.0	4.8	5.9	5.6
Primary metal industries.....	3.7	4.1	5.4	6.1	4.7	4.2
Fabricated metal products.....	1.8	2.4	2.9	2.2	2.9	2.9
Machinery (except electrical).....	2.0	2.1	2.3	2.1	2.4	2.2
Electrical equip. & supplies.....	1.2	2.6	2.5	2.5	2.8	2.3
Other durable goods.....	1.0	.7	1.2	1.6	1.6	2.0
<b>Nondurable Goods</b> .....	4.5	4.6	4.3	3.8	4.3	4.5
Food & kindred products.....	5.0	5.5	4.7	4.3	4.8	4.9
Meat products.....	5.5	6.3	4.9	3.8	4.2	4.8
Apparel & other textile prod.....	1.2	1.4	2.1	1.2	.5	1.3
Printing & publishing.....	3.3	3.5	3.3	2.7	3.6	3.7
Chemicals & allied products.....	3.6	3.6	3.2	2.6	2.7	2.3
Other nondurable goods.....	5.1	3.9	5.2	4.3	4.8	5.7

<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 the date of publication.

benchmarks for the great majority of industries. Benchmarks of employment in railroads, state and local government and non-covered industries are provided by the Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor.

**Iowa Manufacturing Hours and Earnings:** After January's all-time high of \$147.42 a week, average weekly earnings for manufacturing production workers in February dropped to \$144.44 because of less overtime and other

seasonal factors. The workweek decreased 36 minutes while the hourly wage slipped by 2 cents.

Meat products workers most sharply felt the decline in weekly hours. Their average workweek was down 2 hours and 12 minutes. Less overtime was responsible for only 48 minutes of this drop while shortening of the workweek to avoid temporary layoffs was responsible for the rest of the loss.



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

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

INDUSTRY	Change From:				
	Feb. 1970	Jan. 1970	Feb. 1969	Jan. 70 to Feb. 70	Feb. 69 to Feb. 70
<b>TOTAL NONAGRICULTURAL</b> .....	872,200	871,300	854,800	900	17,400
<b>MANUFACTURING</b> .....	218,700	220,200	224,800	— 1,500	— 6,100
<b>Durable Goods</b> .....	126,800	128,100	132,300	— 1,300	— 5,500
Lumber, wood prod., furn. & fix.....	8,200	8,400	8,400	— 200	— 200
Stone, clay & glass products.....	5,700	5,700	5,600	0	100
Primary metal industries.....	8,600	8,600	8,600	0	0
Fabricated metal products.....	13,300	13,200	12,200	100	1,100
Machinery (except electrical).....	47,200	47,100	48,000	100	— 800
Farm machinery.....	26,200	26,100	27,900	100	— 1,700
Const. & related machinery.....	8,900	8,800	8,800	100	100
Electrical equip. & supplies.....	25,300	25,800	28,100	— 500	— 2,800
Transportation equipment.....	5,400	5,600	5,300	— 200	100
Other durable goods <sup>2</sup> .....	13,200	13,600	16,100	— 400	— 2,900
<b>Nondurable Goods</b> .....	91,800	92,100	92,500	— 300	— 700
Food & kindred products.....	52,300	52,300	53,800	0	— 1,500
Meat products.....	25,900*	25,900*	27,200	0	— 1,300
Grain-mill products.....	10,900	10,900	11,000	0	— 100
Bakery products.....	3,500	3,500	3,500	0	0
Apparel & other textile prod.....	4,300	4,400	4,100	— 100	200
Paper & allied products.....	3,900	3,900	4,000	0	— 100
Printing & publishing.....	14,100	14,100	13,400	0	700
Newspapers.....	6,700	6,700	6,500	0	200
Chemicals & allied products.....	7,900	7,700	7,200	200	700
Rubber & plastic products, NEC.....	7,500	7,700	7,900	— 200	— 400
Other nondurable goods <sup>3</sup> .....	2,000	2,000	2,000	0	0
<b>NONMANUFACTURING</b> .....	653,500	651,200	630,100	2,300	23,400
Nonmetallic mining.....	2,800	2,700	2,500	100	300
Contract construction.....	32,400	32,700	32,500	— 300	— 100
Transportation & public utilities.....	50,600	50,600	49,900*	0	700
Railroad transportation.....	10,500	10,500	11,100	0	— 600
Communications.....	12,400	12,300	11,600	100	800
Electric, gas & sanitary service.....	9,400	9,400	9,200	0	200
Wholesale & retail trade.....	201,400	202,500	196,100	— 1,100	5,300
Wholesale trade.....	43,200	43,100	43,500	100	— 300
Retail trade.....	158,300	159,400	152,600	— 1,100	5,700
General merchandise.....	23,900	24,900	23,300	— 1,000	600
Finance, insurance & real estate.....	41,700	41,500	39,600	200	2,100
Banking.....	13,200	13,100	12,300	100	900
Insurance carriers & agents.....	17,700	17,400	16,600	300	1,100
Service & miscellaneous.....	143,800	143,000	139,200	800	4,600
Medical & other health services.....	43,700	43,300	41,600	400	2,100
Government.....	180,700	178,300	170,200	2,400	10,500

<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

## Labor Turnover in Iowa Manufacturing:

Hiring activity decreased between January and February. A reduced demand for factory employees was indicated by the decline in accessions and voluntary quits.

Total accessions which include new hires, recalls and transfers within the same company dropped from 37 to 29 per 1,000 workers between January and February. New hires decreased from 25 per 1,000 workers in January

to 18 per 1,000 workers in February.

Factory quits, usually indicating the availability of job opportunities, declined slightly from 18 per 1,000 employees in January to 16 per 1,000 employees in February. The number of layoffs inched downward from 17 per 1,000 in January to 16 per 1,000 manufacturing workers in February. The February layoff rate remained more than double the February 1969 rate.



## 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>February 1970<sup>2</sup></b>					
Statewide.....	1,182.4	40.4	3.4	872.2	218.7
Cedar Rapids.....	75.3	1.9	2.5	65.9	27.0
Des Moines.....	145.2	3.6	2.5	129.1	26.9
Dubuque.....	41.0	1.1	2.7	34.3	14.4
Sioux City.....	49.3	1.7	3.4	39.9	8.5
Waterloo.....	58.8	2.4	4.2	50.2	19.3
<b>January 1970</b>					
Statewide.....	1,187.3	40.0	3.4	871.3	220.2
Cedar Rapids.....	76.0	1.8	2.4	66.4	27.3
Des Moines.....	145.8	3.9	2.7	129.1	26.9
Dubuque.....	41.1	1.2	2.8	34.2	14.4
Sioux City.....	49.3	1.7	3.4	39.7	8.5
Waterloo.....	58.9	2.4	4.2	50.2	19.3
<b>February 1969</b>					
Statewide.....	1,162.1	33.8	2.9	854.8	224.8
Cedar Rapids.....	75.1	1.6	2.1	65.7	27.8
Des Moines.....	141.5	3.3	2.3	125.5	26.8
Dubuque.....	39.2	1.2	3.0	32.4	13.7
Sioux City.....	48.8	1.5	3.1	40.6	10.0
Waterloo.....	57.8	1.8	3.1	49.8	20.2

<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.

## Employment Security Activities

**Characteristics of Iowa's Insured Unemployed:** A small increase of 4.7 per cent took place in Iowa's insured unemployed between the January and February survey weeks. This is the smallest increase since October 1969 when a small decrease was recorded.

Insured unemployment was still 23.5 per cent higher than in February 1969. For the last 14 months, the current month has consistently had higher insured unemployment than in the same month the previous year.

The under-25 age group with a rise of 79 per cent had the greatest gain in insured unemployment from February 1969. Compared to January, the largest increases took place in

the 65-and-over age group which rose 9.7 per cent and the 25-34 age group which rose 7 per cent.

Contract construction and manufacturing workers accounted for 76 per cent of this February's total insured unemployment. The largest over-the-month rise was a 14 per cent increase in trade workers. Workers in durable goods manufacturing had a 70 per cent jump in insured unemployment over February 1969.

**Brighter Job Picture Beginning To Emerge:** Several offices report industries in their areas are either in a slack period with some layoffs or on a reduced work week. One area said its two largest manufacturers still had people laid

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

INDUSTRY	Total Insured Unemployed			Number of Women in Total Insured Unemployed			Number of Insured People Unemployed 5 Weeks or More		
	Feb. 1970	Jan. 1970	Feb. 1969	Feb. 1970	Jan. 1970	Feb. 1969	Feb. 1970	Jan. 1970	Feb. 1969
Total.....	15,865	15,150	12,843	4,292	3,679	3,090	10,084	6,348	8,536
Contract const.....	6,017	5,767	5,704	*	*	*	4,245	1,896	4,155
Manufacturing.....	6,021	5,764	4,121	2,642	2,195	1,869	3,383	2,803	2,550
<b>Durable Goods</b> .....	4,119	3,965	2,425	1,424	1,168	716	2,287	2,058	1,492
<b>Nondurable Goods</b> ..	1,902	1,799	1,696	1,218	1,027	1,153	1,096	*	1,058
Trade.....	2,038	1,793	1,435	946	836	675	1,268	860	814
All other.....	1,789	1,826	1,583	594	*	*	1,188	789	1,017

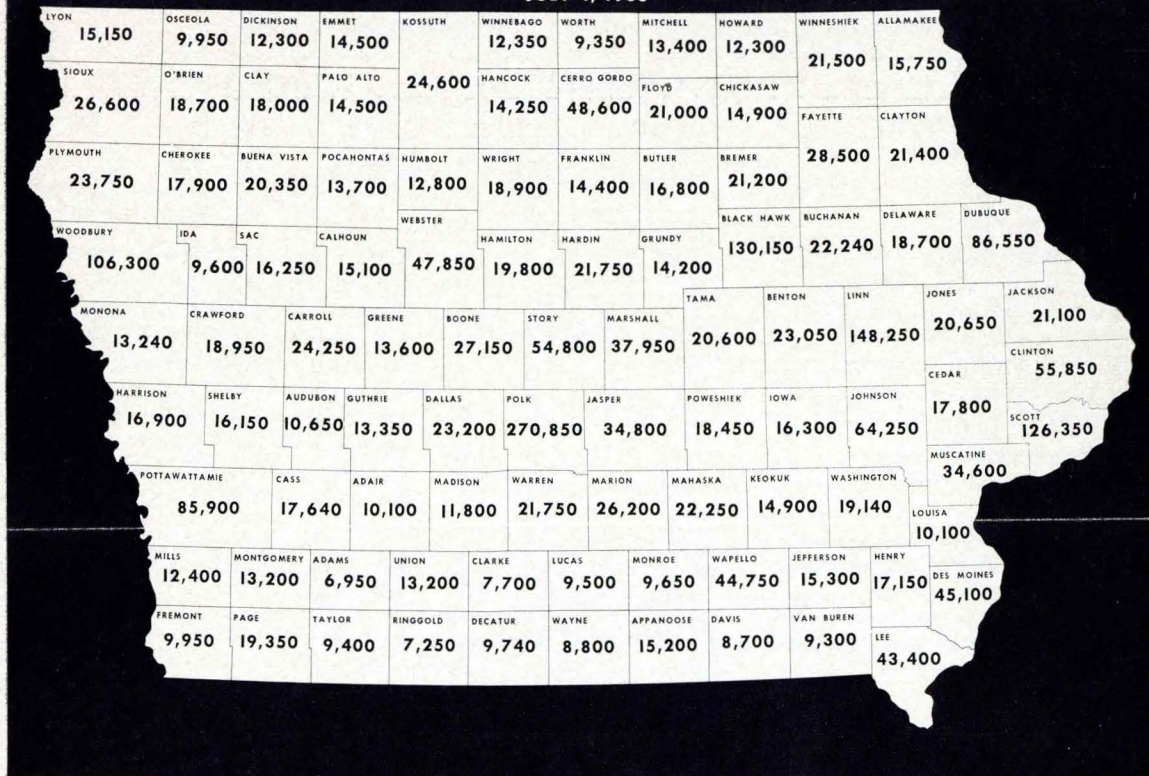
<sup>1</sup> The insured unemployed are for the week including the 12th and are based on a survey of claims filed during the week including the 19th.

\* Less than 5 per cent of total insured unemployed.



# Iowa Population Estimates

JULY 1, 1968



off and nonagricultural placements were down as a result. Many areas throughout Iowa show similar conditions.

However, a brighter picture has started to emerge. For example, one office stated that although previously laid-off workers were recalled this month, they returned to work too late to materially affect the month's overall economic picture.

New applicants registered with the Iowa State Employment Service dropped 12.5 per cent between January and February. Compared to last February, new applicants were 15.4 per cent greater. Agricultural referrals and placements were higher than in January but all non-

farm placement activities declined over the month. Both farm and nonfarm referrals and placements were below the February 1969 figure.

Total initial claims for unemployment insurance dropped 31 per cent below the January total but were 70 per cent above the February 1969 total.

**Iowa Population Estimates:** This issue features July 1, 1968 population estimates for Iowa's 99 counties compiled by the Records and Statistics Division of the Iowa Department of Health. Iowa's estimated total population during this same period was 2,775,000 compared to 2,758,000 during the 1960 census.

## Summary of Employment Security Activities

ACTIVITY	February 1970		January 1970		February 1969	
	Total	Female	Total	Female	Total	Female
New applicants.....	8,003	3,192	9,151	3,482	6,936	2,909
Total placements.....	3,497	*	3,679	*	4,059	*
Nonagricultural.....	3,392	1,168	3,613	1,174	3,912	1,135
Agricultural.....	105	*	66	*	147	*
Job openings received <sup>1</sup> .....	4,663	*	5,428	*	5,508	*
Active applications.....	32,608	12,321	29,385	10,682	26,213	9,636
Initial claims.....	8,660	2,396	12,563	2,859	5,103	1,633
Continued claims.....	63,981	16,585	59,616	15,407	50,918	12,159
Number of first payments issued.....	5,625	1,421	6,981	1,496	3,724	892
Amount of benefits paid.....	\$2,887,306	\$580,554	\$2,467,002	\$494,106	\$2,257,089	\$350,963
Average weekly benefit payment.....	\$49.58	\$39.58	\$49.09	\$38.95	\$46.88	\$34.04
Average weekly payment for total unemployment.....	\$51.23	\$42.36	\$50.82	\$41.62	\$48.87	\$37.68

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

<sup>2</sup> Change in reporting requirements January 1, 1969 excludes Volunteer Farm Representative placements.

\* Data not available.