

# Those Amazing Satellites

A declaratory judgment was handed down by the U. S. District Court in the nation's capital on May 31, 1973. This judgment called for all state employment security agencies to provide a full range of manpower services to migrant workers, rural residents and employers. The court contended that rural areas nationwide were not receiving manpower services equal to those available to the nation's urban areas.

This was discriminatory.

The court directed that rural America be given better access to manpower services.

Among the requirements necessary to the establishment of an adequate rural manpower program was the operation of employment service offices in rural communities convenient to the majority of residents. These offices were to be satellites of larger State Employment Service offices located in adjacent urban areas.

At the time of the court directive, the Iowa Employment Security Commission had already set in motion a satellite office program that was destined to serve rural sections throughout the state.

## Started Early

On February 1, 1973, almost four months before the above court decision, the Iowa Employment Security Commission opened a satellite office in Mount Pleasant. This initial opening was quickly followed by satellite openings in Harlan on February 5 . . . Red Oak and Washington, March 1 . . . Denison, June 4 . . . and during the remainder of 1973 satellites appeared in Grinnell, LeMars, Waukon, Maquoketa, Clarinda, Chariton, Osceola and Cherokee. At the close of the year, a total of 13 satellites were delivering needed manpower services to rural Iowa.

The satellites from the beginning were popular. They reached out to rural workers and employers alike who generally had been denied the services due to distance. More than often, the nearest State Employment Service office was over 100 miles away. Too far. After the court decision, it was determined that satellites should be located within 50 miles of every resident. This determination called for more and more openings of the rural manpower services offices.

Satellite employment service offices spread rapidly across the state. By the end of June 1974, their number had grown to 20. Openings had occurred in Indianola, Knoxville, Emmetsburg, Iowa Falls, Monticello, Independence and Sheldon.

During fiscal year 1974, from July 1, 1973 to June 30, 1974, these 20 offices—each one, in the majority of cases, manned by one person—provided a growing number of rural workers and employers with employment services. They referred workers to training programs and provided job development and placement services, each office aided by the computerized job bank. Recruitment and selection of workers were carried out for employers and labor market information was made available as needed. And in that period, Iowa's amazing satellites placed rural workers in 7,650 jobs.

## The Pace Quickens

Going into the 1975 fiscal term, the Iowa Employment Security Commission continued to concentrate on expanding its manpower services to rural areas. Additional satellite offices became active in Manchester, Waverly, New Hampton and Estherville. Due to their rural locales, employment service offices in Oelwein, Decorah and Perry were reclassified as satellites. And Operation Hitchhike offices in Algona, Humboldt, Pocahontas and Clarion—operated on a cooperative basis by the Iowa State University Extension Service and the Iowa Employment Security Commission—became satellite offices April 1.

With 31 satellite offices, Iowa has nearly doubled her service commitment. Instead of the state agency's manpower services being within 50 miles of every Hawkeye resident, they're almost within 25 miles of any point in Iowa. When the anticipated openings of two more satellites are completed, placement services **will** be within 25 miles of all Iowans!

With the increase in their number, the satellites' service delivery pace has quickened. In the interval from July 1, 1974 through February 1975, the rural satellites in Iowa filled 10,348 job openings . . . 2,698 more employers' openings filled than during all of the preceding fiscal year. And four months' placement service remains to be counted this year!

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employment and unemployment  
hours and earnings  
labor turnover  
unemployment insurance  
employment security activities

March 1975

## IOWA EMPLOYMENT SECURITY COMMISSION

Research & Statistics Department

1000 East Grand Avenue  
Des Moines, Iowa 50319

Commissioners

Abe D. Clayman

George A. Lundberg

Colleen P. Shearer

**Table I - Iowa Nonagricultural Employment 1/**

	Thousands			Change From:	
	Feb.	Jan.	Feb.	Jan.	Feb.
	1975	1975	1974	Feb. 1975	Feb. 1975
<b>TOTAL NONAGRICULTURAL.....</b>	<b>987.1</b>	<b>990.3</b>	<b>960.2</b>	<b>-3,200</b>	<b>26,900</b>
<b>MANUFACTURING.....</b>	<b>240.2</b>	<b>242.6</b>	<b>241.8</b>	<b>-2,400</b>	<b>-1,600</b>
Durable Goods.....	150.5	152.8	150.2	-2,300	300
Lumber & furniture.....	8.6	9.0	9.6	-400	-1,000
Stone, clay & glass products.....	6.1	6.2	5.9	-100	200
Primary metal industries.....	8.9	9.0	9.0	-100	-100
Fabricated metal products.....	17.3	17.6	17.2	-300	100
Machinery (except electrical).....	65.3	65.2	61.9	100	3,400
Farm machinery.....	31.7*	31.9*	30.2	-200	1,500
Construction & related machinery.....	19.8	19.7*	17.6	100	2,200
Electrical equipment & supplies.....	25.4	26.4	26.8	-1,000	-1,400
Transportation equipment.....	8.8	9.0	7.3	-200	1,500
Other durable goods 2/.....	10.2*	10.4*	12.4	-200	-2,200
Nondurable Goods.....	89.6	89.8	91.6	-200	-2,000
Food & kindred products.....	49.9	49.3	50.3	600	-400
Meat products.....	25.3	24.7	25.6*	600	-300
Grain mill products.....	11.0	11.1	11.1	-100	-100
Bakery products.....	3.0	2.9	3.1	100	-100
Apparel & other textile products.....	3.7	3.9	4.0	-200	-300
Paper & allied products.....	3.7	3.6	4.1	100	-400
Printing & publishing.....	14.6	14.5	14.6	100	0
Newspapers.....	6.6	6.6	6.4	0	200
Chemicals & allied products.....	6.8	6.8	6.6	0	200
Rubber & plastics products, nec.....	8.7	9.3	9.7*	-600	-1,000
Other nondurable goods 3/.....	2.2	2.2	2.3	0	-100
<b>NONMANUFACTURING.....</b>	<b>747.0</b>	<b>747.8</b>	<b>718.4</b>	<b>-800</b>	<b>28,600</b>
Nonmetallic mining.....	2.5	2.5	2.6	0	-100
Contract construction.....	41.2	43.0	36.8	-1,800	4,400
Transportation & public utilities.....	54.8	54.7	54.0	100	800
Railroad transportation.....	9.1	9.1	9.2	0	-100
Communication.....	13.2	13.2	13.1	0	100
Electric, gas & sanitary services.....	10.4	10.4	10.3	0	100
Wholesale & retail trade.....	240.6	241.8	228.6	-1,200	12,000
Wholesale trade.....	49.8	50.0	47.2	200	2,600
Retail trade.....	190.8	191.7	181.3	-900	9,500
Retail general merchandise.....	28.5	29.7	27.3	-1,200	1,200
Finance, insurance & real estate.....	46.5	46.5	45.5	0	1,000
Banking.....	15.4	15.5	15.0	-100	400
Insurance carriers & agents.....	18.5	18.4	18.2	100	300
Services.....	170.3	169.8	164.3	500	0
Medical & other health services.....	54.3	54.3	51.4	0	2,900
Government.....	191.0	189.5	186.7	1,500	4,300
Federal government.....	20.1	20.3	19.4	-200	700
State government.....	46.4	45.8	44.6	600	1,800
Local government.....	124.5	123.4	122.8	1,100	1,700
Persons Involved in Labor- Management Disputes.....	1,400	1,600	200	-200	1,200

1/ Revised to most current information available at 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. (March, 1974 benchmark levels)

2/ Includes ordnance & accessories, instruments & related products and miscellaneous manufacturing.

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

\* Strike

Total **EMPLOYMENT** for February, computed on a place of residence basis, was 1,211,200 . . . up 1,900 workers over the month ago count of 1,209,300 . . . and 26,300 more than last February's level of 1,184,900. However, nonag wage and salary employment—counted on the job—showed a loss of 3,200 workers over the month. The manufacturing decline was larger than normal . . . resulting from seasonal factors and the current state of the economy. Electrical equipment and supplies and rubber and plastics' loss of workers stemmed from the economic downturn . . . lumber and furniture combined seasonal and economic factors to drop 400 . . . while a strictly seasonal loss occurred in apparel and fabricated metals. Other durables continued to be hampered by labor-management disputes.

Over the month **UNEMPLOYMENT** gains slowed in February . . . increasing by 6,200 workers . . . compared to the 18,800 upswing reported in January. February unemployment registered at 76,500 . . . a substantial hike of 27,800 workers over the year ago level of 48,700. Iowa's **UNEMPLOYMENT RATE** was estimated at 5.9% of the labor force . . . in contrast to 5.5% in January . . . and 3.9% in February 1974.

The civilian **LABOR FORCE**—all workers, employed and unemployed—numbered 1,287,800 in February . . . 1,279,600 in January . . . 1,233,600 in February 1974.

**UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE (UI)** payments jumped to \$8,666,770 . . . a 26% gain over last month's all-time high of \$6,875,879. Manufacturing workers received 40% of the payments . . . and 30% went to construction workers. The average weekly payment was \$69.17 in February for 125,290 weeks of insured unemployment . . . \$67.78 in January for 101,439 weeks. February 1974 had \$4,777,069 in UI payments . . . for 74,773 weeks . . . and a weekly average payment of \$63.89. In the survey week, a count of 35,903 jobless workers filed UI claims . . . 4,485 above the January survey week when 31,418 filed . . . and 14,328 more than during the February 1974 survey tabulation of 21,575 claimants.

Total private **HOURS and EARNINGS** showed little change from January . . . with weekly hours remaining constant . . . and average earnings up 3¢. Manufacturing increases stemmed partly from extended overtime. In the durables sector, farm machinery and electrical equipment gained over an hour during the workweek . . . but large rises in hourly earnings didn't appear. Nondurables had the greatest upswing in printing and publishing . . . up 36 minutes with 13¢ in additional earnings. Nonmanufacturing gained in all published industries except mining and construction.

**TURNOVER** rates continued to reflect economic conditions. Accessions—additions to employment rolls—**down** from the month and a year ago. New hires—a large part of accessions—**down** from the same periods. Separations—including quits and layoffs—were down from January but above last year . . . largely due to more layoffs than during last February. And quits—which show workers' willingness to leave their jobs—were lower than the month ago and year ago levels.

**WHAT'S UP AHEAD?** . . . Manufacturing, in a majority of instances, experiencing layoffs . . . and hiring virtually at a standstill. The meat packing industry still depressed . . . rumors of further layoffs . . . in some cases predicting plant closings. Retail trade activity at low ebb . . . more than seasonal expectations. The service industries showing the only significant hiring. Feelings around the state are mixed . . . some believing the downturn's leveling off . . . others expecting worsening conditions . . . would advise continued caution.



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