**Ames**

Employment in the Ames metropolitan statistical area (MSA) grew by 400 between March and April, an increase of 0.7 percent over-the-month. Excluding 2020, this is the MSA’s smallest monthly increase in employment for the March–April period in at least a decade. Modest increases were seen in the private sector, with service-providing establishments and goods-producing businesses expanding payrolls by 200 and 100 positions, respectively. In the public sector, state government employers added 100 positions, whereas employment in the federal and local government sectors was unchanged.

Employment in the MSA rose by 1,100 over-the-year, an increase of 2.0 percent. All the yearly gains in employment occurred in the area’s private sector, which added 1,200 positions. Within the private sector, employment at service-providing establishments and goods-producing employers grew by 900 and 200 positions, respectively. In the government sector, state-run establishments pared 100 positions annually. Federal and municipal government employment was unchanged.

**Cedar Rapids**

The Cedar Rapids metropolitan statistical area added 1,300 jobs from March with gains in a mix of both goods-producing and service-providing industries. Mining, logging and construction experienced the largest gain of any sector, adding 600 jobs in a largely seasonally-inspired increase. This equals the March-to-April 2022 gain, however total employment in the sector remains 100 jobs lower than the April 2022 level. Professional and business services added 300 jobs in its’ third consecutive monthly gain. The sector has added 1,300 jobs over that period. Other sectors with gains include manufacturing (+200), leisure and hospitality (+200) and government (+200).

The only sector with a loss of jobs this month is trade, transportation and warehousing which trimmed 200 jobs, split between retail trade and transportation, warehousing and utilities.

Over the year, area businesses have added 1,600 jobs, led by a gains of 900 each in professional and business services and educational and health services. Trade, transportation and warehousing shed 700 jobs, all in transportation, warehousing and utilities. Information and financial activities each trimmed 200 jobs.

**Des Moines/West Des Moines**

Firms in the Des Moines Metro gained 4,600 jobs in April, lifting total nonfarm employment to 390,500. This month’s gain is average given this time of year and was bolstered by hiring in goods producing sectors thanks to seasonal gains in construction, although service sectors also advanced thanks to hiring in leisure and hospitality. While most of the increase was related to private industries, government added 400, fueled mostly to local entities adding staff this month.

Construction industries contributed heavily to a gain of 2,700 in the mining, logging, and construction sector in April. This month’s advancement is higher than expected for this month and follows weak hiring in March. Almost half the increase stemmed from specialty trade contractors (+1,100). Leisure and hospitality added 1,700 jobs. This increase is average for this time of year. Smaller gains included manufacturing (+300), information (+100), and other services (+100). Retail shed 300 jobs in April. Losses are unusual for this month for this sector and follows another loss in March. Education and health care shed 300 with losses in education slightly outpacing those in health care and social assistance. This loss follows an unusually large gain of 1,000 jobs in March.

Annually, the Des Moines Metro is up 8,300 jobs. The largest gains stemmed from education and health services (+3,500) with hiring in health care slightly outpacing those in education over the past twelve months. Government has added 2,400 jobs in local government and now rests up 2,400 jobs and leisure and hospitality has gained 1,700. Losses have been greatest in professional and business services, down 1,900. Professional, scientific, and technical services have driven much of this loss.

# Dubuque

Establishments in the Dubuque Metro added 700 in April, raising total nonfarm employment to 60,600. The monthly gain is modest given the prior ten years and follows a slight loss of 100 jobs in March. Goods producing industries advanced by 400 this month and private services gained 200 jobs. Government increased by 100 jobs at the local level.

Annually, The Dubuque MSA is up 100 jobs compared to last April. Gains have been evident in construction and manufacturing leading to an increase of 500 in goods production. Private services are down 600 despite an increase of 300 in trade, transportation, and utilities. Government is up 200 jobs at the local level.

**Iowa City**

Employment in the Iowa City metropolitan statistical area (MSA) rose by 500 between March and April, an increase of 0.5 percent over-the-month. Excluding 2020, this is the MSA’s smallest monthly increase in employment for the March–April period in at least a decade. Modest increases occurred in the private sector, with service-providing establishments growing payrolls by 300 positions. Goods-producing employers, meanwhile, added 200 positions. Within the private service-providing sector, employment at businesses within the trade, transportation, and utilities super-sector rose by 300. Employment within all three government sectors was unchanged month-to-month.

Employment in the MSA expanded by 1,900 over-the-year, an increase of 1.9 percent. This expansion in employment occurred broadly across the MSA’s economy. Employment gains were stronger, however, the public sector. State government establishments grew payrolls by 1,200 positions year-over-year, while local government employers added 100 positions. In the private sector, employment at both service-providing and goods-producing establishments rose by 300. Much of the employment increase at private service-providing establishments occurred in accommodation and food services, which added 300 positions.

**Sioux City**

# The Sioux City MSA added 1,400 jobs from March, with gains in both service-providing and goods-producing sectors. Government was largely responsible for the gain in the service-providing sectors, with 600 additional jobs. Professional and business services contributed an additional 100 jobs. In the goods-producing arena, manufacturing added 200 of the 800 jobs added in all goods-producing sectors.

# Overall, area employment is up 2,300 jobs (+2.61%) from one year ago, led by a gain of 1,200 in non-durable goods manufacturing which resulted in a gain of 1,100 jobs in the manufacturing sector. Government added 1,000 jobs, all in local government, and professional and business services added 200 jobs. Trade, transportation and warehousing pared 500 jobs, and leisure and hospitality is down 120 jobs from one year ago.

# Waterloo/Cedar Falls

Total nonfarm employment in the Waterloo/Cedar Falls metropolitan statistical area increased by 1,300 jobs from March. Service-providing sectors added 600 jobs and goods-producing sectors added 700 jobs, with a gain of just 100 jobs in manufacturing. Leisure and hospitality added 200 jobs to lead all sectors. A number of sectors added 100 jobs each, including: trade, transportation and warehousing, financial activities, professional and business services, and government. There were no sectors with an employment loss.

Over the year the area added 1,400 jobs (+1.57%), aided by jobs increases in several sectors. The employment increase was led by a gain of 400 in manufacturing, with educational and health services (+200) and leisure and hospitality (+100) contributing to the increase. Trade, transportation and warehousing trimmed 200 jobs.