**Ames**

Employment in the Ames metropolitan statistical area (MSA) rose by 400 between September and October, an increase of 0.7 percent month-to-month. State government was responsible for half of the increase, with employers in the sector adding 200 positions to payrolls. Elsewhere in the public sector, local government employment rose by 100 positions, while federal government employment was unchanged. In the private sector, service-providing establishments added 100 positions month-over-month; goods-producing employment was unchanged.

Employment in the MSA declined by 1,400 positions in the past year, a decrease of 2.5 percent. State government employers accounted for much of the contraction in employment, trimming payrolls by 800 positions over-the-year. Municipal and federal government employment were static. Private service-providing employment ebbed by 500 positions year-over-year, while goods-producing employment declined by 100 positions. Overall, the MSA’s annual decline in employment is its largest since March 2021.

**Cedar Rapids**

The Cedar Rapids metropolitan statistical area added 900 jobs from September, bringing total nonfarm employment to 144,700. The employment increase was due to multiple smaller increases in multiple industries and led by a gain of 400 jobs in educational and health services.

Other industries adding jobs include local government (+300), trade, transportation and warehousing (+200) and mining, logging and construction, financial activities, and federal government, all with gains of 100 jobs. Information, professional and business services and leisure and hospitality each trimmed 100 jobs.

Over the year the metro area has gained 1,100 jobs, boosted by gains of 900 in professional and business services, and 800 jobs in both manufacturing and educational and health services. The jobs gain in manufacturing was largely attributed to gains in durable goods manufacturing which added 600 jobs. Government added 100 jobs over the year.

**Des Moines/West Des Moines**

# Establishments in the Des Moines Metropolitan added 3,900 jobs in October, raising total nonfarm employment up to 391,900 jobs. This monthly gain is slightly less than average given the prior ten years. Government gained 2,000 jobs at the local level as schools returned to full staffing levels. Schools also fueled a gain of 700 jobs in education and health services as health care and social assistance shed jobs since last month (-700). Professional and business services experienced a boon from both professional, scientific, and technical services (+600) along with administrative and support positions (+800) and added 1,500 jobs. Smaller gains included trade, transportation, and utilities (+600) and financial activities (+500). Conversely, job losses were sharpest in leisure and hospitality in October (-1,000). This loss was more than anticipated and likely due to smaller seasonal losses in September. The only other major loss in October was within mining, logging, and construction (-400).

# Over the past twelve months, total nonfarm employment has decreased slightly (-300). Education and health care has gained the most jobs (+2,900). Much of this gain was within health care and social assistance. Elsewhere, local government fueled most of the gain in government which has advanced by 1,800 jobs. Smaller gains included trade, transportation, and utilities which has added 800 jobs thanks to hiring in wholesale and retail trade. Alternatively, job losses have been led by financial activities (-2,300). Much of these losses have been related to credit intermediation and related activities. Professional and business services have also trended down annually and have pared 2,100 jobs primarily within professional, scientific, and technical services.

# Dubuque

The Dubuque Metropolitan area added 500 in October, raising the total number of jobs to 60,800 jobs. This month’s increase is slightly below the ten-year average and the result of private service hiring related to education. To this end, private service industries added 500 jobs and government gained 100 at the local level. Goods-producing sectors shed 100 jobs related in construction.

Annually, 300 jobs have been gained over the past twelve months. Private sectors, both goods producing and private services, have both shed positions since last year, dropping a combined 400 jobs. Government has advanced slightly since last October (+100).

**Iowa City**

Employment in the Iowa City metropolitan statistical area (MSA) rose by 1,000 between September and October, an increase of 1.0 percent month-over-month. Employment in the private service-providing sector increased by 400 positions, with gains in retail trade (+300 positions) responsible for much of the increase. Employers in the accommodation and food services also had a strong month, adding 200 positions. Employment in the goods-producing sector fell slightly, declining by 100 positions. In the public sector, state and local government establishments added 400 and 300 positions month-to-month, respectively.

Employment in the MSA rose by 400 positions annually, an increase of 0.4 percent. State government employment was responsible for much of the increase, growing by 800 positions. Both local and federal government employment rose by 100 positions. In the private sector, service-providing employment fell by 300 positions year-over-year; however, retail trade (+400 positions) and accommodation and food services (+200 positions) had strong years. Employment in the goods-producing sector shrank by 300 positions year-to-year.

**Sioux City**

# Employment in the Sioux City MSA was unchanged from September, remaining at 90,100 jobs. As the lack of change in the employment level from one month ago would suggest, there was little movement in most industries. One notable exception was trade, transportation and warehousing which shed 600 jobs in spite of a gain of 100 in retail trade.

# Only one other industry experienced any movement at all in employment. Professional and business services added 100 jobs.

# Overall, area employment is up just 300 jobs (+0.33%) from one year ago. Gains were led by manufacturing which added 700 jobs, largely due to an additional 600 jobs in non-durable goods manufacturing. Government added 600 jobs, all in local government. Trade, transportation and warehousing dropped 1,000 jobs, with 300 of those jobs in retail trade. Leisure and hospitality and professional and business services each pared 100 jobs.

# Waterloo/Cedar Falls

Total nonfarm employment in the Waterloo/Cedar Falls metropolitan statistical area increased by 400 jobs from September as a result of gains in multiple industries, including: trade, transportation and warehousing (+300), government (+300), and educational and health services (+200). Leisure and hospitality is the only industry with a jobs lost from last month, trimming 100 jobs. Manufacturing employment was unchanged.

Over the year the area added 800 jobs (+0.89%), aided by jobs increases in several sectors. The employment increase was led by a gain of 700 in educational and health services. Manufacturing has added 500 jobs from one year ago, with 400 of those jobs in durable goods manufacturing. Trade, transportation and warehousing shed 400 jobs and financial activities, leisure and hospitality and government each trimmed 100 jobs.