

# STATE OF IOWA NONFARM EMPLOYMENT WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

OCTOBER 2009  
LMR MONTHLY

## SEASONALLY ADJUSTED NONFARM EMPLOYMENT SEES SMALL GAIN

Total nonfarm employment in Iowa increased by 2,300 this month, bringing the total to 1,479,200. Several super sectors showed signs of improvement this month; seven in-total increased this month. Service sectors in particular increased more than was expected, adding 2,300. Goods-producing sectors were unchanged, as losses in construction exactly offset the gains in durable goods manufacturing. Public sectors increased by 700 this month. Compared to last year Iowa is still down 43,200.

Education and health care added the most jobs this month, increasing by 2,000. Health care composed the majority of this gain, up 1,300 versus 700 for education. Both sectors represent industries that have weathered the recession relatively well, as demand for education and health care typically does not decline as wealth contracts. Professional and business services, on the other hand, added 900 this month, and is a positive sign that some firms are

ready to increase manpower this month to meet an increase in orders. The majority of these increases were in the temporary, blue-collar fields. Other increases this month were in financial services (+700) and other services (+600). Elsewhere, both manufacturing and leisure and hospitality added 500 this month.

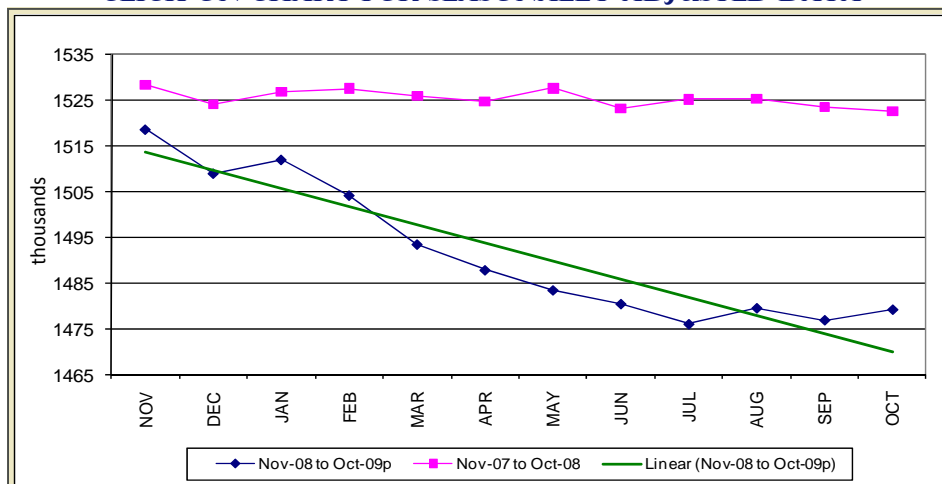
Trade and transportation, conversely, pared 3,000 this month to lead all super sectors. Retail trade was responsible for the most of the losses, and reflects persistent caution among the typical Iowa consumer to spend. Alternatively, wholesale trade boosted employment this month, as business-to-business sales helped offset some of the losses from retail trade. Other small losses were in construction (-500) and information (-100).

Compared to last year Iowa has shed 43,200 jobs, or 2.8%. Total nonfarm employment has shown some preliminary signs of recovery. Education and health care still leads all other sectors, up 4,300 compared

to last year. Financial services is up 700, while leisure and hospitality is up a slight 100. Manufacturing has shed 22,800 to lead all sectors, but has shown some signs of recovery since the July low of 196,000. Construction has shed 9,700 jobs, or 13.0%—the highest percentage of any sector. Other losses are in professional and business services, down 7,900; and trade and transportation, down 4,900 since last October.

Nationally, nonfarm employment pared 190,000. Construction employment declined by 62,000 this month, followed closely by manufacturing, down 61,000. Service sectors shed a slight 61,000. As was the case in Iowa, retail trade composed the majority of the losses among service sectors, contracting by 40,000. Leisure and hospitality pared 37,000. Gains this month were in education and health services and professional and business services, up 45,000 and 18,000, respectively.

***CLICK ON CHART FOR SEASONALLY ADJUSTED DATA***



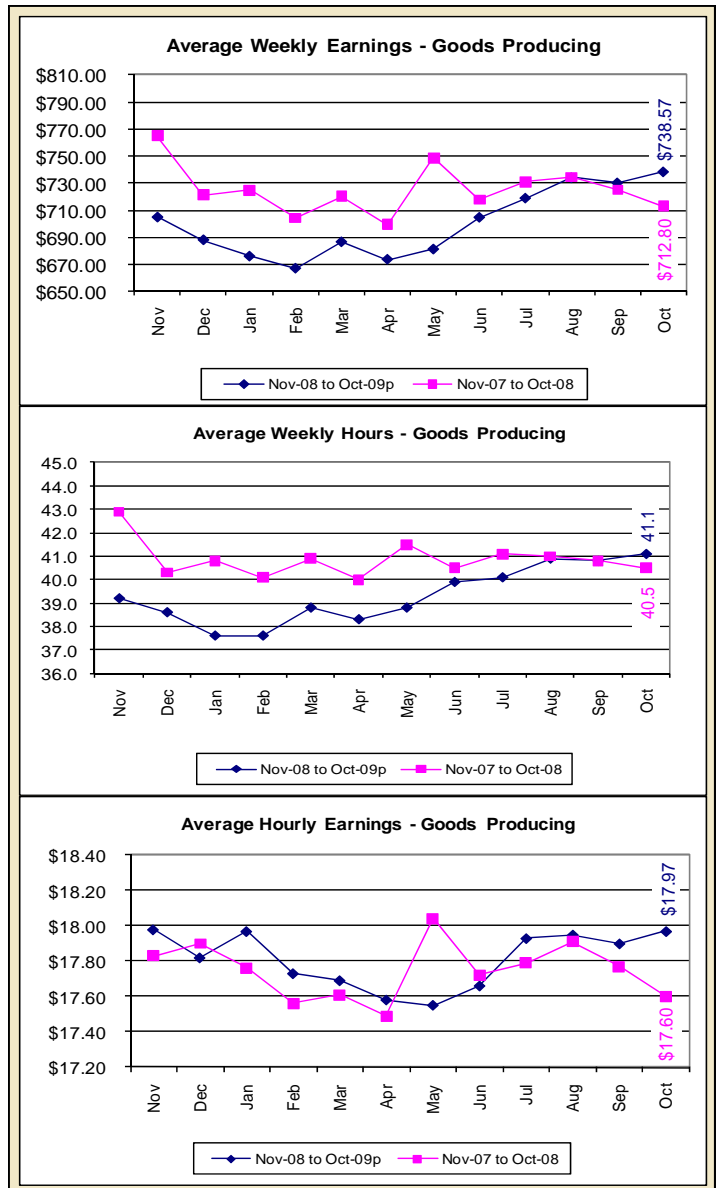
*For additional information, contact James Morris (515-281-8515)*

For additional information, contact James Morris (515-281-8515)

Production workers in Iowa's goods-producing sectors took home \$738.57 this month—\$8.25 more than last month and \$25.77 more than this time last year. Most of the gains have stemmed from manufacturing workers increasing in hours, as construction workers averaged \$41.65 less than last year.

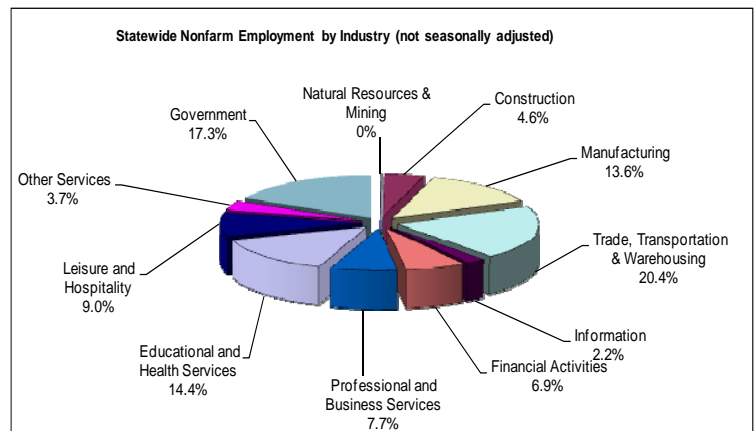
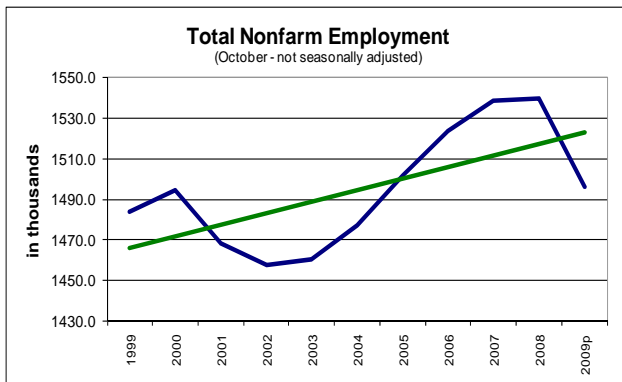
Compared to last month, construction workers averaged 42 minutes less per workweek, and 2 hours less compared to last year. These hourly losses translated to average weekly earnings decreasing by \$1.22 over-the-month, and \$41.65 less than last year. Alternatively, workers in Iowa factories increased their average workweek by an hour this month. Compared to last October, workers have seen an increase in the average workweek—up almost 2 hours. The increase in the average workweek translated to an increase in \$41.18 in average take-home pay compared to last year.

Among the service sectors, workers in financial activities took home \$840.70 this week, \$1.51 more than last month, and \$97.58 more than this time last year. The average workweek increased by 36 minutes over-the-month, and 1 hour compared to last October. Workers in retail trade took home \$351.77 this month, \$6.92 more than last month, and \$24.73 more than this time last year.



NONFARM EMPLOYMENT (NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED)

CLICK CHARTS FOR UNADJUSTED DATA

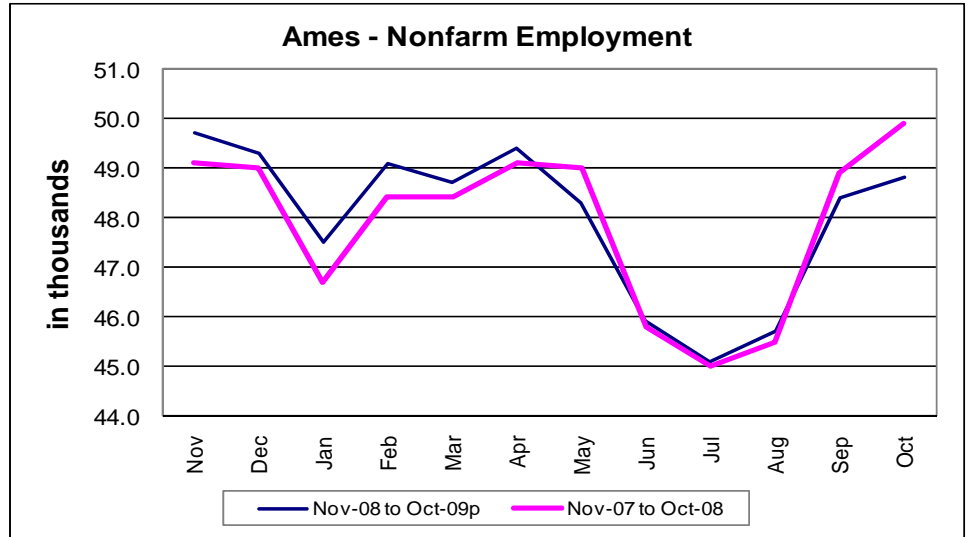


METROPOLITAN STATISTICAL AREAS

[CLICK TABLE FOR DATA](#)

Ames MSA October Employment	
Total Nonfarm 09p	48,800
Total Nonfarm 08	49,900
% Change 1 Yr	-2.20%
Noteworthy Expanding and Contracting Industries (1 yr)	
State Government	-0.48%
Goods-producing	-4.35%

p - preliminary data



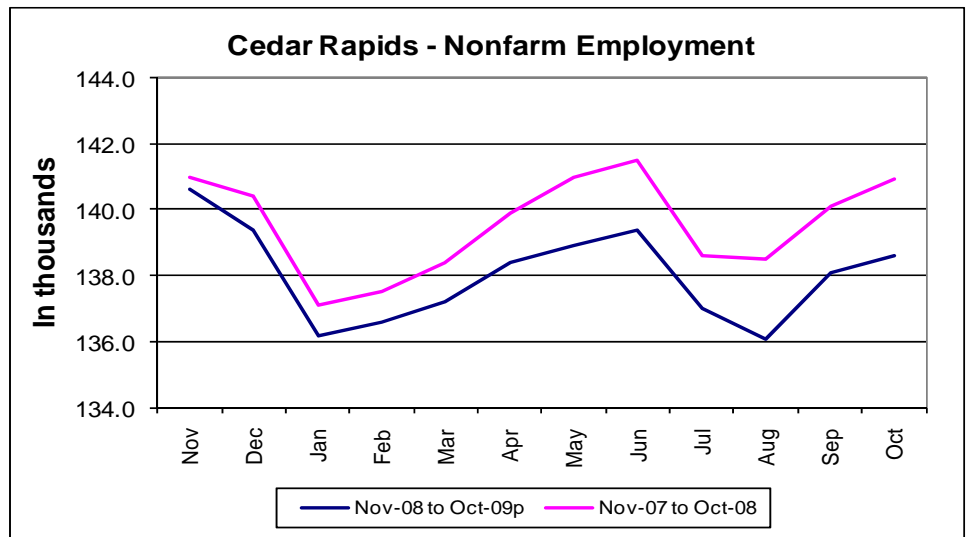
The Ames MSA gained 400 this month, bringing the new total nonfarm employment up to 48,800. Most of the gains were the result of schools and universities continuing employment increases. Nonfarm employment remains 1,100 below last year's level.

Government added 500 jobs this month to lead all sectors, with the majority of these gains in state government and related to the university continuing to add employment for the fall semester. Goods-producing sectors shed 100 jobs from last month and 300 jobs from one year ago.

[CLICK TABLE FOR DATA](#)

Cedar Rapids MSA October Employment	
Total Nonfarm 09p	138,600
Total Nonfarm 08	140,900
% Change 1 Yr	-1.63%
Noteworthy Expanding and Contracting Industries (1 yr)	
Education & Health	1.71%
Nat Res & Const	-8.51%

p - preliminary data



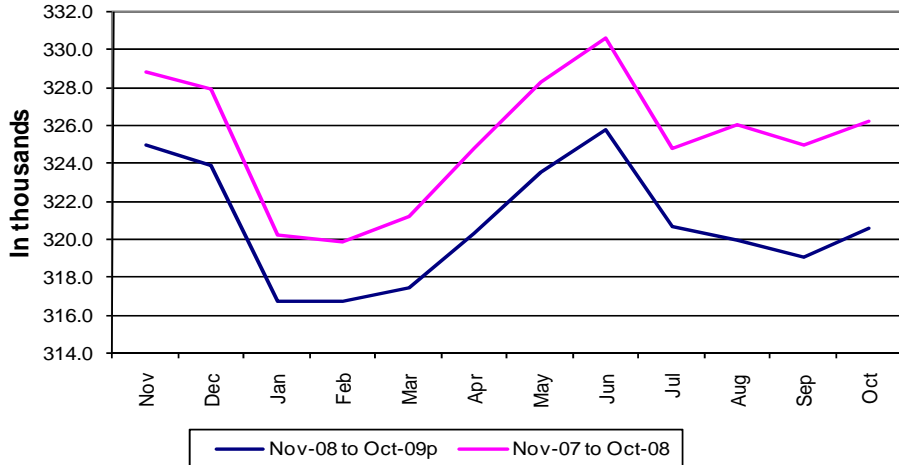
Total nonfarm employment in the Cedar Rapids metropolitan statistical area increased 500 from September and stands at 138,600. The increase is attributable to expected seasonal gains in local government (education) which added 700 jobs. Area employment remains 1.63% lower than one year ago.

Manufacturing dropped 100 jobs last month and is currently 1,000 jobs short of last year's employment level. Natural resources and construction demonstrates similar characteristics with employment levels at 100 below last month and 800 below one year ago. Retail trade dropped 100 jobs from last month and is on par with one year ago, when November and December employment in the sector was the lowest it had been since 2005.

On the other hand, educational and health services added 400 jobs from last month and maintains 300 more jobs than one year ago.

For additional information, contact Dennis Schwartz (515-281-5754)

**Des Moines/W. Des Moines - Nonfarm Employment**



[CLICK TABLE FOR DATA](#)

<b>Des Moines MSA October Employment</b>	
Total Nonfarm 09p	320,600
Total Nonfarm 08	326,200
% Change 1 Yr	-1.72%
Noteworthy Expanding and Contracting Industries (1 yr)	
Health Care & Soc	2.41%
Employment Services	-14.08%

p - preliminary data

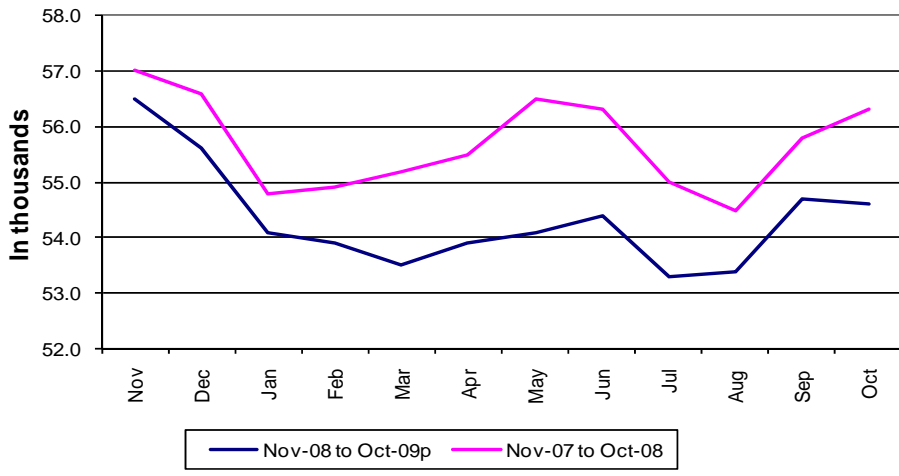
The Des Moines Metropolitan Area added 1,500 this month, bringing the new total nonfarm employment to 320,600. The monthly increase halts three consecutive months of declines. Service sectors were responsible for all of the gains this month, as goods-producing sectors shed 300. Compared to last year the MSA has shed 5,600 jobs.

October is typically a month when the MSA would see increases due to both public and private sectors bolstering employment for education-related services. This year education and government combined for an increase of 1,200. Financial activities added a surprising 700 this month, trade and transportation added 200, and professional and business services added 100. On the other hand, leisure and hospitality pared a seasonal 400, as firms prepared for decreased demand for services due to the dropping temperatures. Construction shed a seasonal 300, also related to the weather.

Compared to last year, construction has fared the worst, losing 1,400 jobs, or 8.3%. Trade and transportation is close behind, down 1,300 for the year. Other major losses were in manufacturing and professional and business services, down 1,000 and 900, respectively. Financial activities is the only super sector to add jobs compared to last year and is up 600.

For additional information, contact James Morris (515-281-8515)

**Dubuque - Nonfarm Employment**



[CLICK TABLE FOR DATA](#)

<b>Dubuque MSA October Employment</b>	
Total Nonfarm 09p	54,600
Total Nonfarm 08	56,300
% Change 1 Yr	-0.18%
Noteworthy Expanding and Contracting Industries (1 yr)	
Local Government	2.44%
Goods producing	-9.65%

p - preliminary data

Total nonfarm employment in the Dubuque MSA contracted by 100 this month, bringing the new total to 54,600. Compared to last year, Dubuque has pared 3.0% of total nonfarm employment.

Service sectors posted a small decline this month, shedding 200. Much of these losses were attributable to restaurants and temporary help paring employment. Goods-producing sectors lost 100 this month. Government added 200 as staffing levels were boosted to prepare for a new school year.

Compared to last year 1,700 jobs have been lost. Both goods-producing and service sectors have shed employment, down 1,100 and 700, respectively. Government is up a slight 100.

For additional information, contact James Morris (515-281-8515)

METROPOLITAN STATISTICAL AREAS

[CLICK TABLE FOR DATA](#)

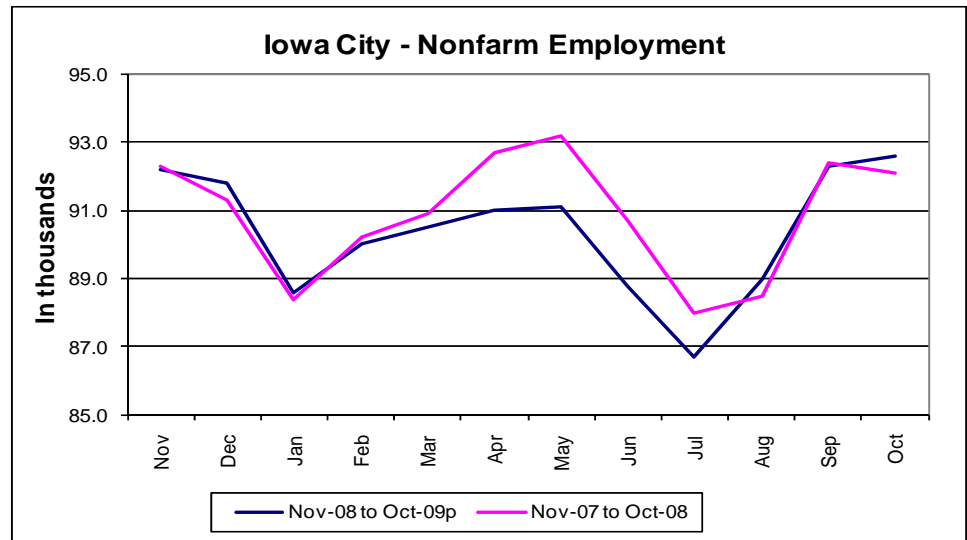
Iowa City MSA October Employment	
Total Nonfarm 09p	92,600
Total Nonfarm 08	92,100
% Change 1 Yr	0.54%
Noteworthy Expanding and Contracting Industries	
Fed Government	6.25%
Prof & Bus Services	-5.88%

p - preliminary data

Nonfarm employment in the Iowa City metropolitan statistical area increased 300 from September as a result of continued seasonal gains in state and local government. A gain of 100 in leisure and hospitality contributed to the increase. Goods-producing shed 100 jobs from September, and remains 500 below the October 2008 level. Retail trade shed 100 jobs, but gains in wholesale trade resulted in a gain of 100 in trade, transportation and warehousing.

The area's total nonfarm employment is 500 above the October 2008 level. The increase is largely due to employment gains in the trade, transportation and warehousing and government.

For additional information, contact Dennis Schwartz (515-281-5754)



[CLICK TABLE FOR DATA](#)

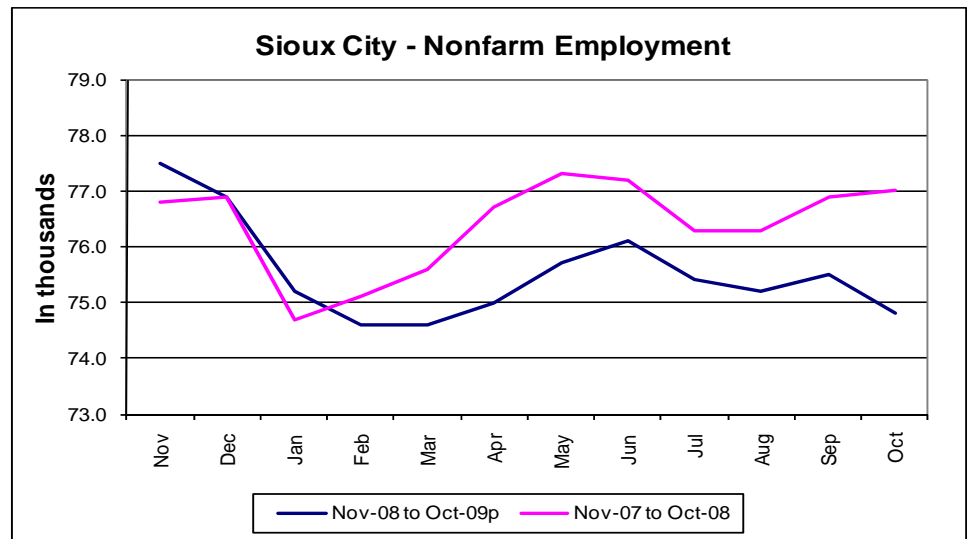
Sioux City MSA October Employment	
Total Nonfarm 09p	74,800
Total Nonfarm 08	77,000
% Change 1 Yr	-2.86%
Noteworthy Expanding and Contracting Industries	
Trade, Transportation	0.64%
Manufacturing	-8.15%

p - preliminary data

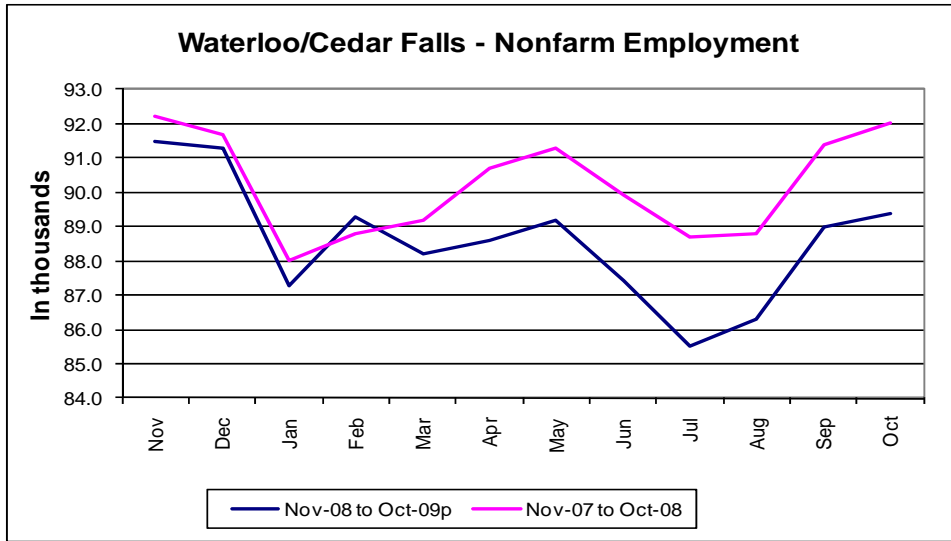
Total nonfarm employment in the Sioux City metropolitan statistical area dropped 700 from September and is now 74,800. This is 2,200 fewer jobs from a year ago. Private service-providing sectors shed the most jobs (-600) due to losses in leisure and hospitality and trade and transportation.

Goods-producing industries contracted 100 jobs. This can be largely attributed to the seasonal paring of construction. Manufacturing held steady at 12,400 jobs, but is 1,100 below October 2008 levels. Government employment remained neutral, at 9,400.

For additional information, contact Michael Msuya (515-242-6289)



[CLICK TABLE FOR DATA](#)



Waterloo/Cedar Falls MSA October Employment	
Total Nonfarm 09p	89,400
Total Nonfarm 08	92,000
% Change 1 Yr	-2.83%
Noteworthy Expanding and Contracting Industries	
Local Gov Education	3.77%
Durable Goods Mfg	-9.84%

p - preliminary data

The Waterloo/Cedar Falls metropolitan statistical area's total nonfarm employment gained 400 from the previous month and stands at 89,400. The expected seasonal increase in government accounts for nearly the entire gain. Trade, transportation and warehousing rounded out the increase with a gain of 100.

Over the year, the area has lost 2,600 jobs, with 1,500 of those jobs coming from the manufacturing sector, largely durable goods manufacturing. Leisure and hospitality and professional and business services also lost 400 and 300 jobs, respectively. Health care and social assistance is the only sector with an employment gain from one year ago.

For additional information, contact Dennis Schwartz (515-281-5754)

**LINKS TO ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

Click on a link below to visit web page

[Worker Adjustment & Retraining Notification Act \(WARN\)](#)

[Mass Layoff Statistics \(MLS\)](#)

[Unemployment Insurance Benefit Payments](#)

[Consumer Price Index \(CPI\)](#)

[Unemployment Insurance Benefit Paid by County](#)

[Employment Statistics for Canada](#)

[U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics](#)

**Current Employment Statistics**

Each month the **Current Employment Statistics (CES)** program surveys about 150,000 businesses and government agencies, representing approximately 390,000 individual worksites, in order to provide detailed industry data on employment, hours, and earnings of workers on nonfarm payrolls for all 50 States, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands, and over 300 metropolitan areas and divisions.

**Contact Information**

Iowa Workforce Development  
Workforce Data & Business  
Development Bureau  
1000 East Grand Avenue  
Des Moines, IA 50319-0209  
Tel: 515-281-8515  
Tel: 800-532-9793  
Fax: 515-281-8195  
Email: trends@iowa.gov  
www.iowaworkforce.org

Equal opportunity employer/program. Auxiliary aids and services are available upon request to individuals with disabilities. For deaf and hard of hearing, use Relay 711