**Ames**

The Ames Metro area shed a slight 100 jobs in July, lowering nonfarm employment to 49,000 jobs. Seasonal losses occurred this month in government (-400) and were related to education. Private services added 200 jobs and goods producing sectors added 100 jobs.

Since last July, the Ames area has added 1,400 jobs (+2.9 percent). Private services have been responsible for almost the entire increase (+1,300). Government has added 200 jobs due to expansion at the state level and goods producing sectors are down a slight 100 jobs.

**Cedar Rapids**

The Cedar Rapids metropolitan statistical area shed 2,500 nonfarm jobs from June, bringing employment in the area to 140,800. The metro area has pared 100 jobs from one year ago, and added 700 from the July 2013 level.

Natural resources and construction and information are the only industries with job gains this month, each adding 100 jobs. Local government experienced a seasonal drop of 2,100 jobs as schools began their summer break. Educational and health services also had a seasonal decline of 300 jobs. Trade, transportation and warehousing, professional and business services and leisure and hospitality each pared 100 jobs. Manufacturing was unchanged, although durable goods manufacturing also pared 100 jobs.

Over the year, employment in professional and business services has declined 3.55% (500), manufacturing is down 2.44% (also 500 jobs), and information has pared 200 jobs. Trade, transportation and warehousing added 500 jobs from July 2014 and leads all sectors in over-the-year gains.

**Des Moines MSA**

# The Des Moines Metropolitan seasonally pared 3,000 jobs in July, lowering nonfarm employment to 353,300. This month’s drop is slightly less than average for the Des Moines metro, and largely the result of education (both public and private) breaking for the summer. Even with the monthly decline, the Des Moines area is up 10,000 jobs annually (+2.9 percent).

# Leisure and hospitality advanced the most this month (+1,000) as firms prepared for increased business. All other gains were small in magnitude and included construction, manufacturing, and professional and business services. Government shed 3,600 jobs due to summer break. Most of these losses were in local government education. Education and health care also seasonally decreased due to seasonal losses in private educational services.

# Annually, professional and business services has added the most jobs (+3,600) and has steadily trended up over the past few years with the majority of these gains being in professional, scientific and technical services. Leisure and hospitality is up 1,600 jobs, and financial activities gained 1,500 jobs. The only sectors to drop employment since last July are education and health services (-700) and information services (-300). On the public side, government is up 1,700 jobs due to expansion at the local level.

# Dubuque

The Dubuque Metro area pared 200 jobs in July, lowering nonfarm employment to 59,100 jobs. This month’s decline follows are earlier-than-expected seasonal paring in June for local government education. Overall, the annual employment trend has been positive and the Dubuque area is up 1,000 jobs compared to last year.

Government pared 300 jobs this month but remain up 100 jobs compared to last year. The annual increase stems from jobs added at the local level. Private services also pared jobs this month and remain up versus one year ago (+500). Goods producing sectors were the only segment to add jobs this month (+200) and have added 400 jobs since last July.

**Iowa City**

Nonfarm employment in the Iowa City metropolitan statistical area pared 300 jobs from last month as a result of seasonal losses in government, which shed 600 jobs. Trade, transportation and warehousing added 300 jobs, bringing the employment level to 400 above one year ago. Goods producing industries are down 100 jobs.

Gains from one year ago totaled 2,300 jobs and were fueled by employment increases in nearly every industry, but led by a gain of 600 in leisure and hospitality. Government is the only industry that did not gain jobs, however the employment level did hold steady.

**Sioux City**

*The Sioux City MSA has been redefined. It now includes: Dixon and Dakota Counties in Nebraska, Union County in South Dakota, and Woodbury and Plymouth Counties in Iowa.*

# Employment in the Sioux City MSA shed 1,100 jobs from June, somewhat less than the average June-to-July change (-1,350 over ten years). The employment loss this month was almost entirely in government and seasonal in nature. Trade, transportation and warehousing and leisure and hospitality each added 100 jobs.

# Overall, the area has added 2,400 jobs from one year ago. Leisure and hospitality has enjoyed the greatest employment gain, adding 1,000 jobs. Trade, transportation and warehousing added 800 jobs. Government employment is down 500 jobs and manufacturing is unchanged.

# Waterloo/Cedar Falls

The Waterloo/Cedar Falls metropolitan statistical area’s total nonfarm employment pared 900 jobs from the previous month, about half of which resulted from a seasonal decline in government employment. Educational and health services pared 300 jobs, also seasonal, and professional and business services and trade, transportation and warehousing each shed 100 jobs. Manufacturing added 100 jobs in the non-durable goods segment and financial activities gained 100 jobs as well.

The over-the-year employment change is -400 with a mixture of gains and losses in various industries. Most notably, leisure and hospitality has added 400 jobs and manufacturing has pared 400 jobs. Financial activities also realized a positive change of +200 jobs.