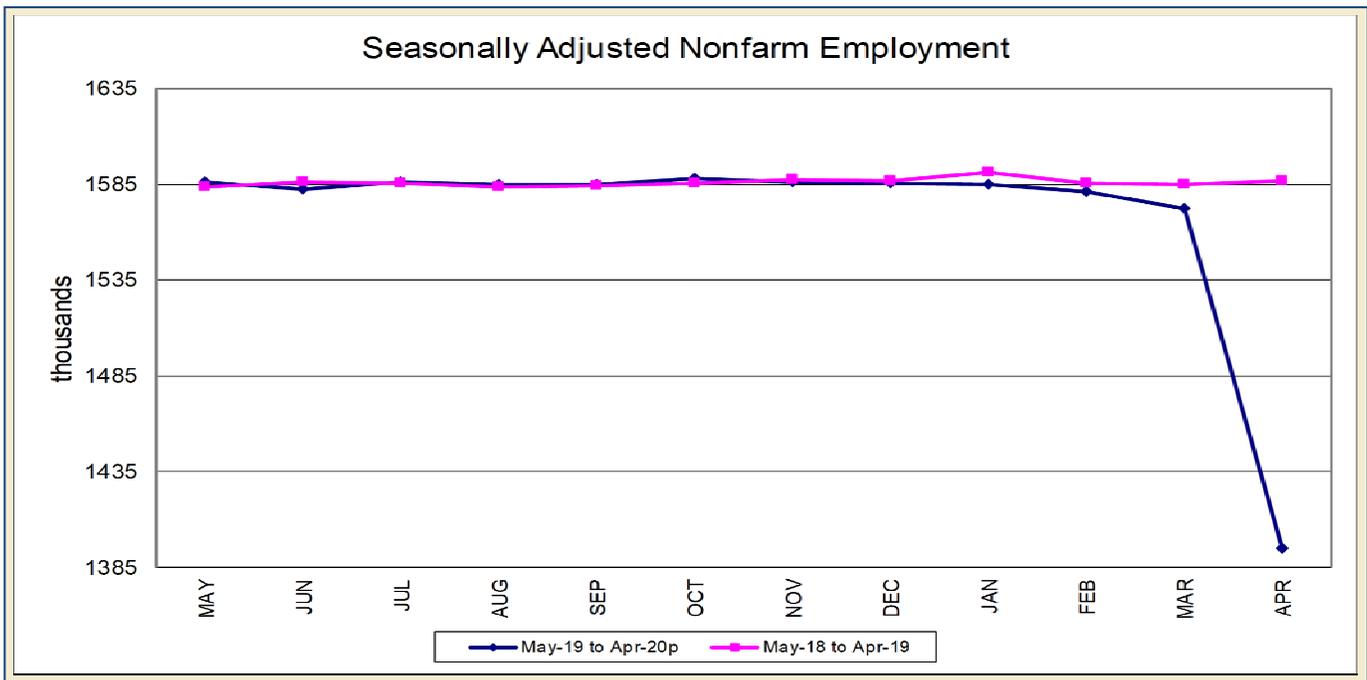


# IOWA NONFARM EMPLOYMENT

## Covid-19 Spurs Historical Employment Drop



Iowa total nonfarm employment fell by 177,100 jobs in April as social distancing efforts to curtail spread of the coronavirus took effect. Obviously, this decline dwarfs anything we've seen historically and follows a loss of 8,900 in March which would have also been considered extremely large prior to this month. Overall, the state's payrolls were trimmed by 11.3 percent versus last month, slightly lower than the U.S. drop of 13.5 percent in total nonfarm employment. Virtually every sector began working in a reduced capacity, although goods-producing sectors displayed a lower reduction of staff (-6.0 percent). Private service industries declined by 13.3 percent and were driven down by sizable layoffs and furloughs within hotels, restaurants, and entertainment industries. Government was also not spared, declining 9.4 percent or 24,500 jobs. Much of this reduction can be attributed to state universities and public schools dropping to summer levels. Most institutions ended in-person classes after spring

break.

Accommodations and food services led all sectors with 56,400 jobs shed in April. The layoff was nearly half (-46.5 percent) of all staff on payroll in this sector as restrictions went into place and halted in-person dining. In total, leisure and hospitality shed 68,500 jobs (-48.9 percent), easily the most of any sector. Retail trade lost 22,300 (-12.8 percent) as non-essential stores either temporarily closed or worked in a reduced capacity. Education and health care dropped by 17,700 jobs (-7.6 percent) with health care and social assistance laying off 11,400. Professional and business services lost 13,900 (10.2 percent) and manufacturing reduced staffing levels by 10,600 jobs (-4.8 percent). Those sectors which saw very few layoffs and furloughs as the result of the coronavirus were mining (-100) and information (-400).

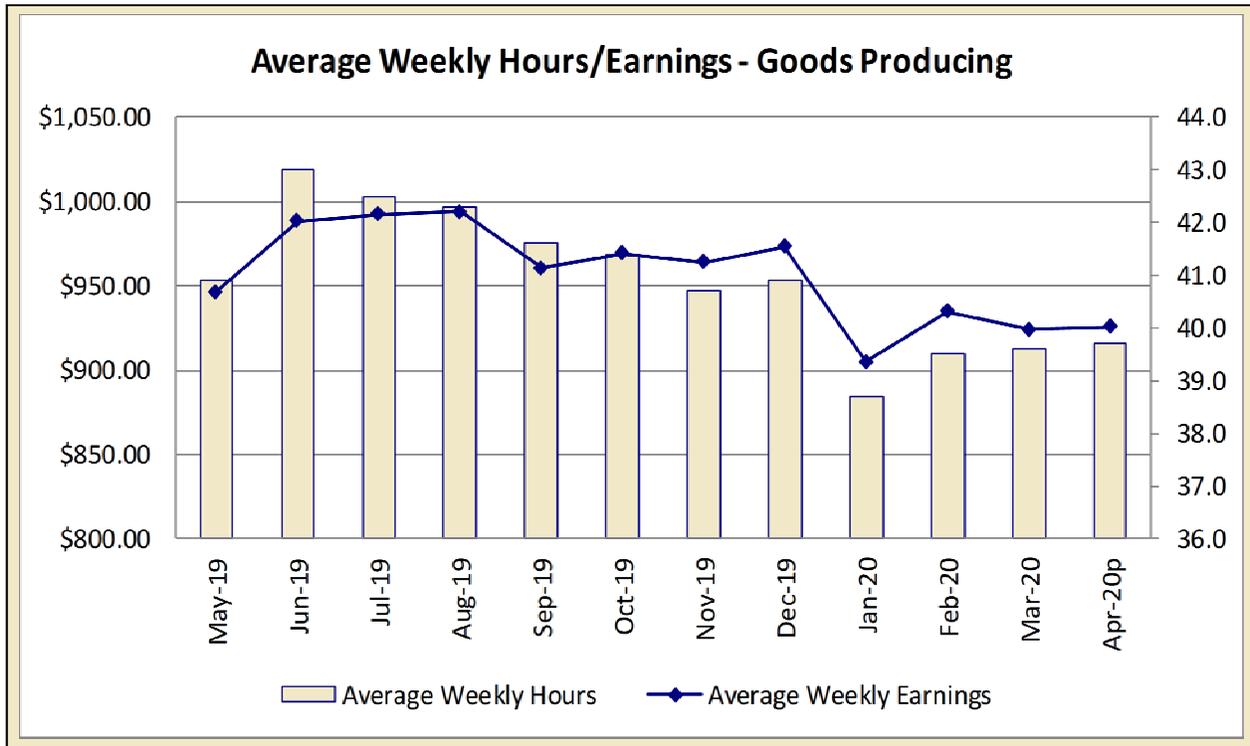
Following this month's drop, the state now trails last year's mark by 191,200 jobs (-12.1 percent). However, this annual loss should mitigate

substantially as the year progresses and firms try to resume normal operations. Accommodations and food services and retail trade shed about half of all payroll employment and have the largest over-the-year deficits to make up (-56,400 and -22,500, respectively), yet these industries may also have to deal with new regulations that reduce foot traffic or attendance. Additionally, they may also be facing a shift in consumer demands for these services. On the other hand, manufacturing is down 13,700 jobs (-6.1 percent), but this sector may be slower to recover since this could be a symptom of plants trimming payrolls to account for lowering demand and/or higher input prices.

Nationally, total nonfarm employment lost 20.5 million jobs in April. Just as in Iowa, this was the largest drop ever for total nonfarm employment and brought the payroll employment level down to a level not seen since 2011.

# IOWA NONFARM EMPLOYMENT

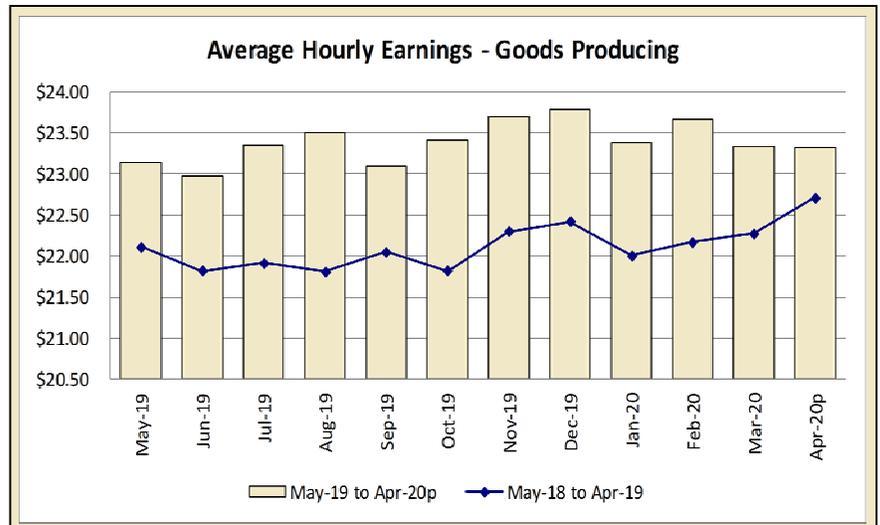
## IOWA'S HOURS & EARNINGS



Production workers in Iowa's goods producing sectors earned \$925.80 per week in April, down \$12.12 versus one year ago. Construction workers have seen a slight drop in weekly earnings versus last year (-\$3.50), even as schedules are essentially unchanged. Construction workers earned \$1,003.70 per week in April. Manufacturing production workers earned \$792.68 per week, down \$43.19 versus last year as weekly schedules have been trimmed by over two hours.

Production workers in finance have enjoyed a gain of \$121.28 over last year's weekly earnings. In total, finance workers averaged \$1,105.66 per week. Retail workers averaged \$415.45 per week in April, up \$8.47 versus last year.

Goods-producing Hours & Earnings	
Average Weekly Earnings	\$925.80
Average Hourly Earnings	\$23.32
Average Weekly Hours	39.7



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

# IOWA NONFARM EMPLOYMENT

## METROPOLITAN STATISTICAL AREAS

### SEASONALLY ADJUSTED NONFARM EMPLOYMENT (TOTAL NONFARM)

MSA	Apr-19	May-19	Jun-19	Jul-19	Aug-19	Sep-19	Oct-19	Nov-19	Dec-19	Jan-20	Feb-20	Mar-20	Apr-20p
AMES	53.4	54.4	53.4	53.2	51.0	53.2	53.1	53.3	52.9	53.5	52.7	52.8	44.4
CEDAR RAPIDS	146.2	146.1	145.4	145.7	145.9	146.0	146.1	146.4	145.8	145.8	145.7	145.7	130.6
DES MOINES/W. DES MOIN	372.8	372.4	372.0	372.6	374.5	374.2	375.1	374.5	375.0	375.9	376.2	375.9	336.1
DUBUQUE	60.8	60.8	60.3	60.8	60.8	60.8	60.7	60.7	60.5	60.9	61.0	60.2	51.6
IOWA CITY	101.1	100.9	101.1	101.4	101.5	101.0	100.8	100.7	100.2	100.2	99.7	99.4	88.9
SIOUX CITY	88.4	88.1	88.3	88.1	88.3	88.0	88.4	88.7	88.3	88.8	88.6	88.1	79.3
WATERLOO/CEDAR FALLS	90.8	90.8	90.9	90.5	90.3	90.4	90.1	89.8	89.7	89.8	89.7	89.4	81.7

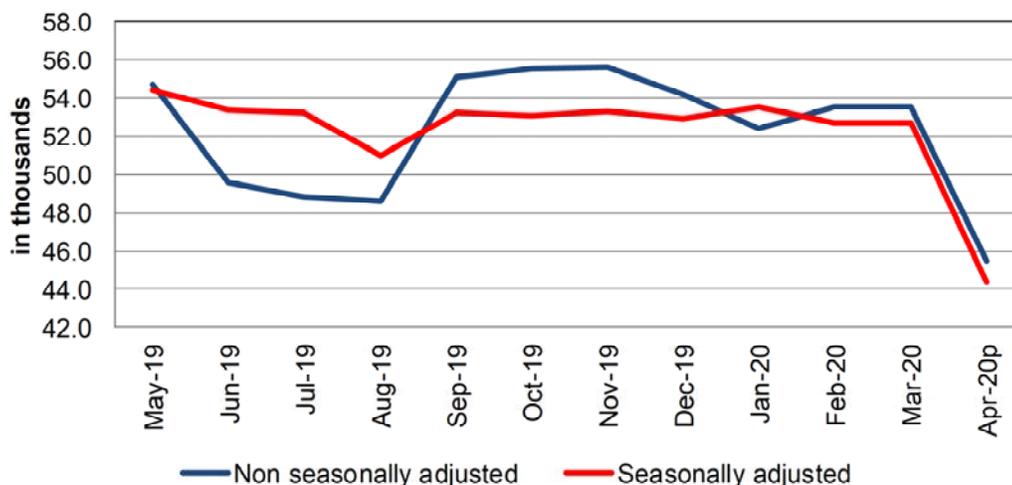
Ames Metropolitan Statistical Area			
Total Nonfarm 2020 (prelim)		Total Nonfarm 2019	
45,500		55,200	
% Change—1 Year			
-17.57%			
Noteworthy Expanding & Contracting Industries (1 year)			
Goods producing	-4.17%	State government	-32.54%

Employment in the Ames metropolitan statistical area fell by 8,000 jobs between March and April, or 15.0 percent. By percentage, this was the largest drop in employment owing to the COVID-19 pandemic among Iowa's metropolitan areas, a fact likely attributable to the area's economic reliance on its state university.

The decrease in employment was confined to the service-providing industry, as employment in the goods-producing industry remained steady. Private service-providing employers trimmed payrolls by 2,800 over-the-month. Meanwhile, government positions decreased by 5,200. State government was responsible for the bulk of this decline, posting a month-to-month drop of 4,900 jobs. Local government fell by 300 positions.

The metropolitan area pared 9,700 positions in the past year, a decline of 17.6 percent. As with above, this was the largest percentage decrease in year-over-year employment among Iowa's metropolitan areas. State government and the private service-producing industry shouldered much of the loss, trimming 5,500 and 3,600 positions, respectively.

Ames - Nonfarm Employment



For additional information, contact Daniel Edwards (515-281-7547)

<http://www.iowalmi.gov/>

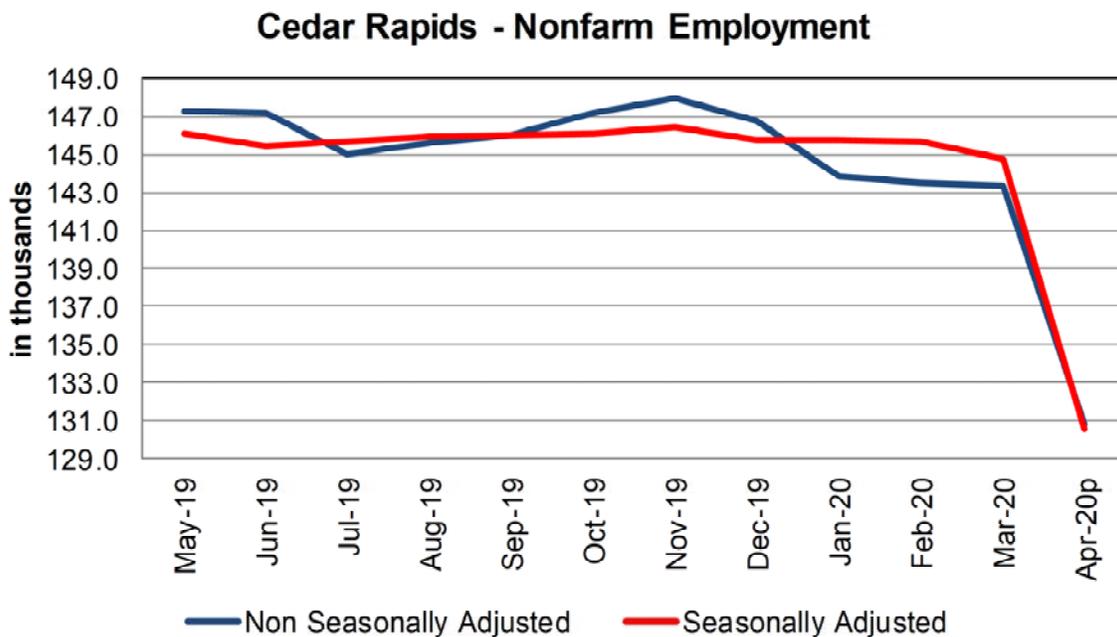
# IOWA NONFARM EMPLOYMENT

Cedar Rapids Metropolitan Statistical Area			
Total Nonfarm 2020 (prelim)		Total Nonfarm 2019	
<b>130,800</b>		<b>146,600</b>	
<b>% Change—1 Year</b>			
<b>-10.78%</b>			
Noteworthy Expanding & Contracting Industries (1 year)			
Manufacturing	-0.99%	Leisure & Hospitality	-56.91%

The Cedar Rapids metropolitan statistical area dropped an unprecedented 12,500 jobs from March as the nation struggled with the effects of Covid-19. Only information and federal government managed to elude the negative effects of the virus as they maintained the same level of jobs through the month.

As is the case with statewide employment, accommodation and food services suffered the greatest blow as social distancing rules were implemented, hampering normal operations. The industry is down 57.0% (-5,700 jobs) from the previous month. Goods-producing industries pared 800 jobs (-2.92%) although manufacturing represented a fairly small portion of that loss (-200 jobs).

Over the year, area employment has decreased by 15,800 and stands at 130,800 jobs. Leisure and hospitality cut 7,000 jobs (-56.91%) with more than 84% of those jobs in accommodation and food services. Professional and business services is down 2,800 jobs (-18.42%).



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

# IOWA NONFARM EMPLOYMENT

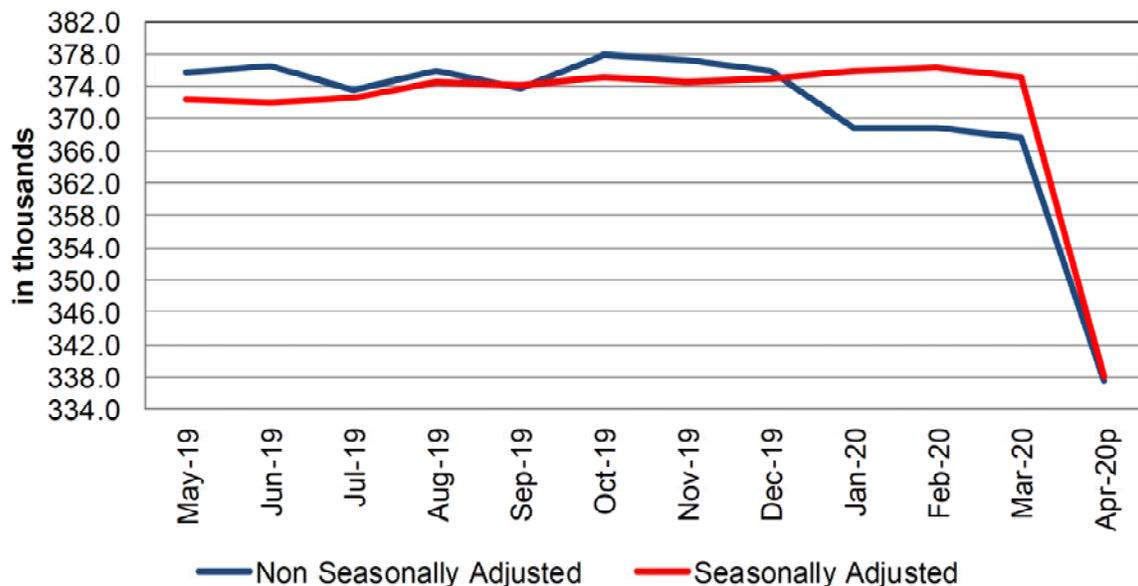
Des Moines/West Des Moines Metropolitan Statistical Area			
Total Nonfarm 2020 (prelim)	Total Nonfarm 2019	% Change—1 Year	
<b>337,500</b>	<b>373,000</b>	<b>-9.52%</b>	
Noteworthy Expanding & Contracting Industries (1 year)			
Financial activities	1.98%	Leisure & Hospitality	-44.69%

Firms in the Des Moines area trimmed payrolls by 30,200 in April (-8.2 percent). By percentage, this loss was less than other metro areas around the state. Normally in April, virtually all sectors add employment to deal with increased business, but social distancing efforts affected virtually all industries.

Almost half the loss stemmed from leisure and hospitality which pared 14,900 jobs—7,300 were in full-service restaurants. This industry may start to trend up some when restrictions end and patrons return. Early seasonal closings for schools affected both the education and health services (-3,500) and government (-3,400). Professional and business services was fell due to layoffs in temporary help services and shed 2,400 jobs. Small losses this month included other services (-2,000) and manufacturing (-1,400). The lone super sector to add jobs this month was mining, logging, and construction which seasonally added 2,200 jobs following an early payroll decline last month. Even with the monthly increase, this sector trails last year's mark by 800 jobs.

The Des Moines area is down 35,500 jobs versus last April (-9.5 percent). This over-the-year loss is slightly lower than the statewide decline of 12.2 percent. Both numerically and by percentage, leisure and hospitality has experienced the largest drop (16,400 or 44.7 percent). Restaurants have begun to reopen in mid-May, so this should start to climb as the summer months arrive. This is also the case with retail trade. This sector is down 4,700 jobs annually and fueling a loss of 5,100 in trade, transportation, and utilities. The only sector to remain positive versus last year's mark is financial activities, up 1,100 jobs over the last twelve months.

**Des Moines/West Des Moines - Nonfarm Employment**



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

<http://www.iowalmi.gov/>

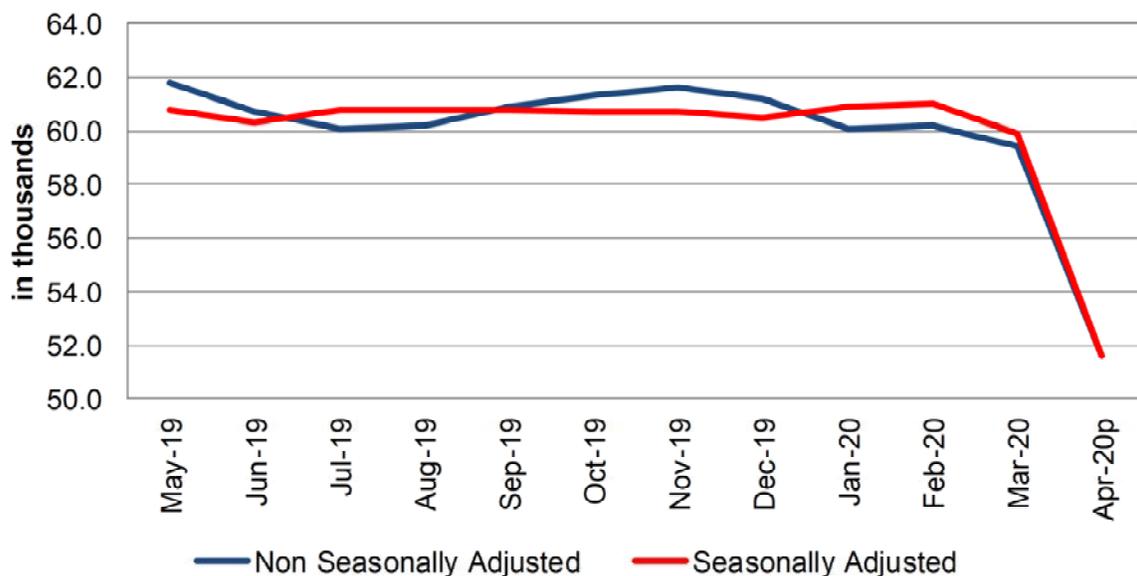
# IOWA NONFARM EMPLOYMENT

Dubuque Metropolitan Statistical Area			
Total Nonfarm 2020 (prelim)	Total Nonfarm 2019		% Change—1 Year
<b>51,600</b>	<b>61,000</b>		<b>-15.41%</b>
Noteworthy Expanding & Contracting Industries (1 year)			
State government	0.00%	Pvt service providing	-20.37%

The Dubuque Metropolitan Statistical Area lost 7,800 jobs in April as statewide coronavirus restrictions took effect. Virtually all of the loss stemmed from private services (-7,700). Retail trade shed 1,000 jobs and trade, transportation, and utilities combined pared 1,600. Government shed 300 jobs at the local level as schools lowered payrolls closer to summer break levels. Goods-producing industries actually did experience some seasonal hiring (+200), although this level was less than half of what would be seasonally expected for April.

The Dubuque area is now down 9,400 jobs since last April. Private services have understandably pared the most jobs (-8,900) with retail trade along shedding 1,200 jobs. Government is down 300 jobs at the local level and goods-producing industries are down a slight 200 jobs.

### Dubuque - Nonfarm Employment



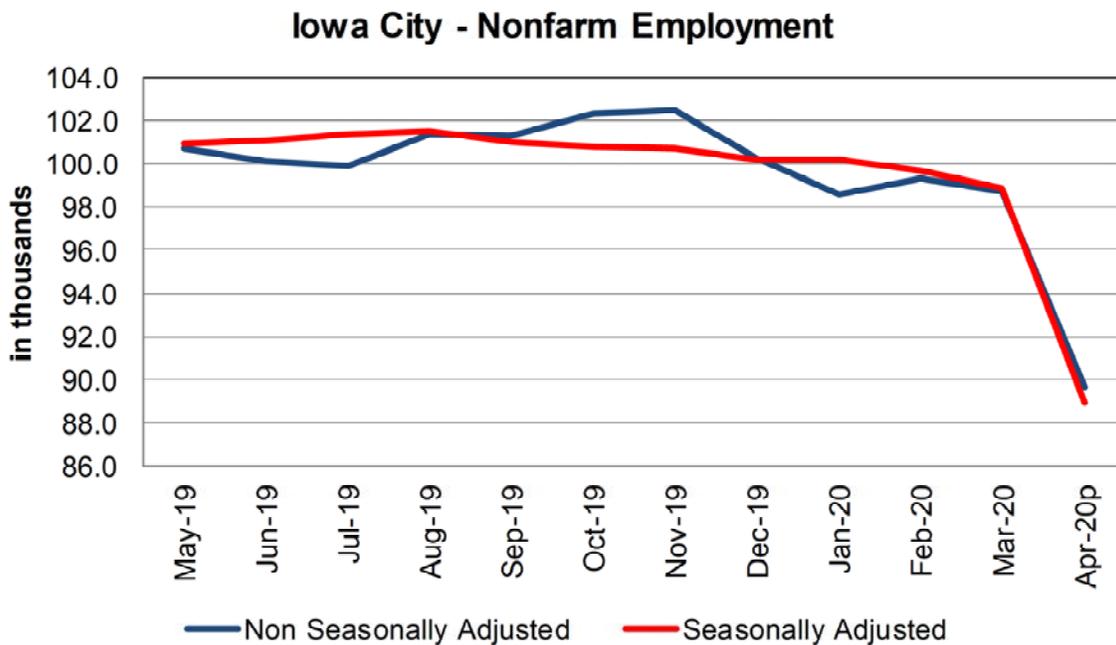
*For additional information, contact James Morris (515-281-8515)*

# IOWA NONFARM EMPLOYMENT

Iowa City Metropolitan Statistical Area			
Total Nonfarm 2020 (prelim)	Total Nonfarm 2019	% Change—1 Year	
<b>89,700</b>	<b>101,900</b>	<b>-11.97%</b>	
Noteworthy Expanding & Contracting Industries (1 year)			
Federal government	-4.55%	Leisure & Hospitality	-45.63%

Employment in the Iowa City metropolitan statistical area fell by 9,000 positions between March and April (-9.1 percent) as the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic took hold. Nearly all of the decline in employment occurred in the private service-producing industry and government, which trimmed payrolls by 6,600 and 1,900 jobs over-the-month, respectively. Among sectors in the private service-producing industry, the largest declines in employment were seen within accommodation and food services (-4,000) and retail trade (-900). State government (-1,400), local government (-500), and the goods-producing industry (-500) also shouldered losses.

The metropolitan area shed 12,200 jobs in the past year, or 12.0 percent. Most of this decrease is attributable to the service-producing industry, which cut 11,100 positions. Virtually every sector or industry experienced some level of year-over-year job loss, with the largest declines seen in accommodation and food services (-4,300); state government (-2,100); retail trade (-1,200); trade, transportation, and utilities (-1,100); and the goods-producing industry (-1,100).



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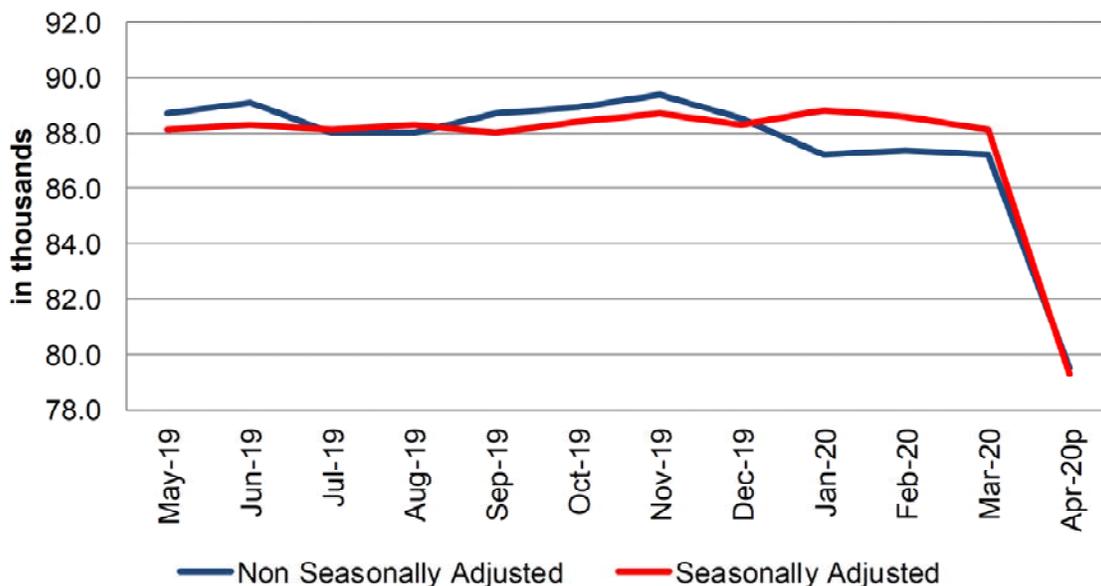
# IOWA NONFARM EMPLOYMENT

Sioux City Metropolitan Statistical Area			
Total Nonfarm 2020 (prelim)	Total Nonfarm 2019	% Change—1 Year	
<b>87,100</b>	<b>87,500</b>	<b>-0.46%</b>	
Noteworthy Expanding & Contracting Industries (1 year)			
State government	0.00%	Leisure & Hospitality	-47.56%

Employment in the Sioux City MSA is down 7,700 jobs from March, with leisure and hospitality (-3,500) absorbing the majority of the area's job losses triggered by the Covid-19 virus. The jobs cut represent 44.87% of total employment in the leisure and hospitality sector. Local government was also affected in a large way with 2,200 fewer jobs, likely the result of shutting down schools in the early stages of the Covid-19 event. Retail trade cut 1,500 jobs and manufacturing pared 700 jobs, although goods-producing as a whole was unchanged. The downturn is the result of the Covid-19 virus.

Overall, area employment is down 8,800 jobs from one year ago with leisure and hospitality (-3,900) representing 44.32% of all area job losses. Local government cut 2,200 jobs for a 25.0% share of total job losses in the area. Retail trade jobs were also greatly affected by the pandemic with 1,400 fewer jobs than one year ago. Manufacturing trimmed 700 jobs.

### Sioux City - Nonfarm Employment



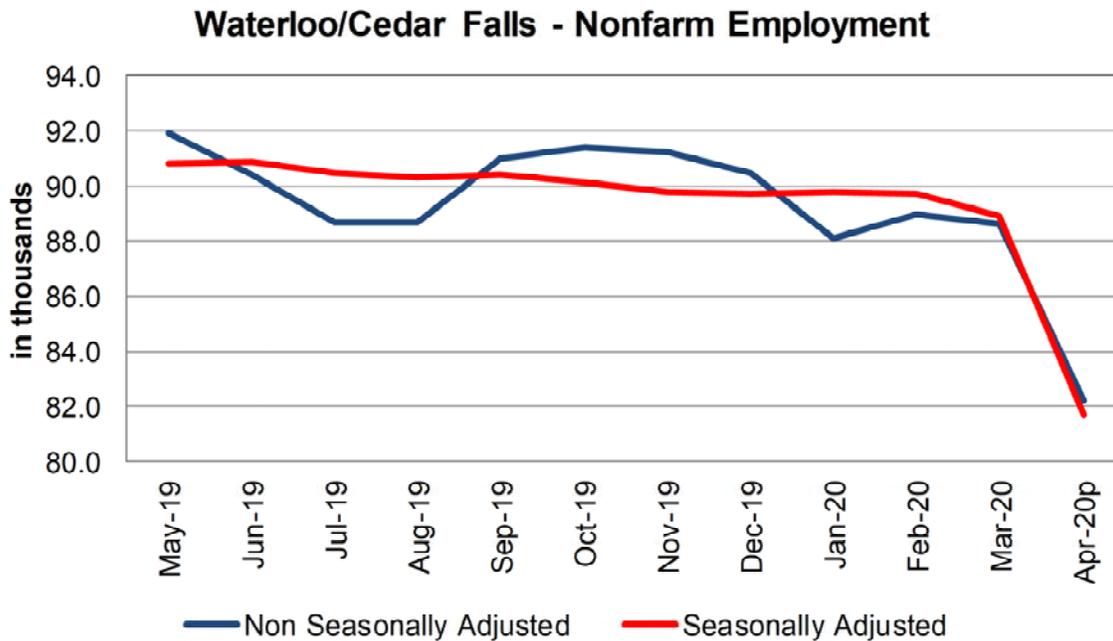
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# IOWA NONFARM EMPLOYMENT

Waterloo/Cedar Falls Metropolitan Statistical Area			
Total Nonfarm 2020 (prelim)	Total Nonfarm 2019	% Change—1 Year	
<b>89,000</b>	<b>90,900</b>	<b>-2.09%</b>	
Noteworthy Expanding & Contracting Industries (1 year)			
Financial activities	-2.00%	Leisure & Hospitality	-47.44%

The Waterloo/Cedar Falls metropolitan statistical area's total nonfarm employment is down 6,400 jobs from last month and stands at 82,200. As is the case in nearly every metropolitan area, leisure and hospitality represents the majority of the lost jobs with 3,300 fewer jobs, a 44.59% reduction from the previous month. State government dropped 1,500 jobs as universities closed to aid in the prevention of virus spread. Durable goods manufacturing cut 200 jobs and retail trade cut 800 jobs. The only industry in the area that was not affected by Covid-19 job losses is federal government which is unchanged from both last month and one year ago.

Over the year, the area pared 9,300 jobs. 3,700 jobs, or 39.78% of the area's total losses were attributable to the leisure and hospitality industry. Durable goods manufacturing has shed 1,000 jobs with just 100 of those jobs in non-durable goods manufacturing. State government pared 1,700 jobs.



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

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# IOWA NONFARM EMPLOYMENT

Click on a link below to visit web page

## [Links to Additional Information](#)

[Worker Adjustment & Retraining Notification Act](#)

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

[Unemployment Insurance Benefit Payments](#)

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

[Unemployment Insurance Benefit Paid by County](#)

[Employment Statistics for Canada](#)

## [Current Employment Statistics](#)

The Current Employment Statistics (CES) program produces detailed industry estimates of nonfarm employment, hours, and earnings of workers on payrolls. CES National Estimates produces data for the nation, and CES State and Metro Area produces estimates for all 50 States, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands, and about 450 metropolitan areas and divisions.

Each month, CES surveys approximately 145,000 businesses and government agencies, representing approximately 697,000 individual worksites.

*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*

## [Contact Information](#)

Iowa Workforce Development

Employment Statistics Bureau

1000 East Grand Avenue

Des Moines, IA 50319-0209

Tel: 515-281-8515

Tel: 800-532-9793

Fax: 515-281-8195

Email: [james.morris@iwd.iowa.gov](mailto:james.morris@iwd.iowa.gov)

[www.iowaworkforce.org](http://www.iowaworkforce.org)

<http://www.iowalmi.gov/>