

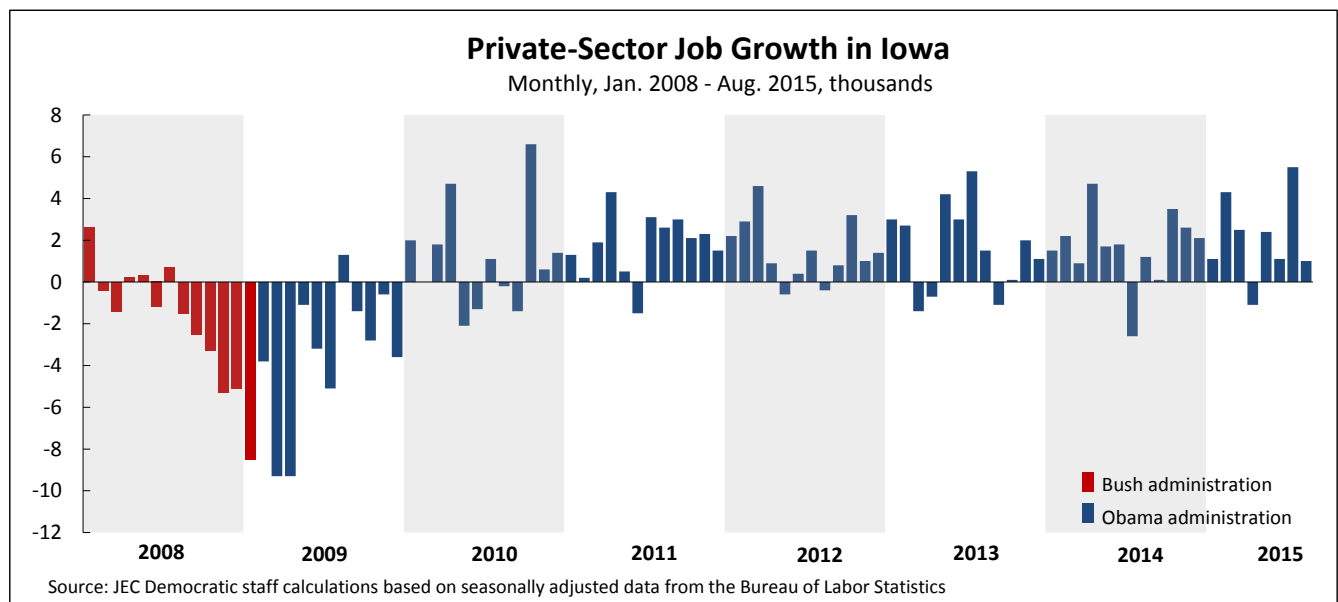


ECONOMIC SNAPSHOT: IOWA

***Includes Bureau of Labor Statistics jobs, unemployment and earnings data through August 2015**
Last updated on September 18th; Data update next on October 20th*

JOBS

- In August, private-sector employment in Iowa grew by 1,000 jobs. Over the past year, Iowa businesses have added 25,100 jobs. This compares with an increase of 13,500 jobs over the 12 months through August 2014.
- Since February 2010, the national low point for private-sector employment, Iowa businesses have added 106,600 jobs (an increase of 8.8 percent). Nationally, private payrolls have increased by 12.2 percent over this time.
- The state sectors with the greatest job gains in percentage terms since February 2010 are: construction at 33.3 percent (20,500 jobs), professional and business services at 16.3 percent (19,500 jobs) and manufacturing at 9.1 percent (18,100 jobs).



UNEMPLOYMENT

- The unemployment rate in Iowa was 3.7 percent in August 2015, down 0.1 percentage point from July. The rate was 1.4 percentage points below the national rate of 5.1 percent.
- Unemployment is down 0.6 percentage point from one year earlier and is 2.9 percentage points below its recent peak of 6.6 percent in August 2009.
- There were 62,400 Iowa residents unemployed in August 2015.

EARNINGS

- In August 2015, average hourly earnings of private-sector workers in Iowa were \$23.08. The average workweek was 35.3 hours, and average weekly earnings were \$814.72.
- Adjusting for inflation, state average hourly earnings have risen by 5.7 percent over the past year. Nationally, real average hourly earnings have increased by 2.7 percent (not seasonally adjusted).

STATE QUICK FACTS

		Iowa	United States
Private-Sector Jobs Added	Past 12 Months	25,100	2.8 million
	Since Feb. 2010	106,600	13.1 million
Unemployment Rate	August 2015	3.7%	5.1%
	August 2014	4.3%	6.1%
	Recession-Era Peak	6.6%	10.0%
Median Household Income (2014 \$)	2014	\$57,800	\$53,700
	2007 (Pre-Recession)	\$55,800	\$57,400
Poverty Rate	2014	10.3%	14.8%
	2007 (Pre-Recession)	8.9%	12.5%
All Veterans' Unemployment Rate	2014	4.2%	5.3%
Post-9/11 Veterans' Unemployment Rate	2014	4.2%	7.2%
Percentage Without Health Insurance	2014	6.2%	11.7%
	2013	8.1%	14.5%

STATE GROSS DOMESTIC PRODUCT

- Real gross domestic product (GDP) in Iowa grew by 0.4 percent in 2014, below the national average growth rate of 2.2 percent.*
- Since 2009, annual Iowa GDP growth has averaged 2.1 percent, compared with a national average annual growth rate of 1.9 percent.

HOUSING

- Home prices in Iowa increased by 3.6 percent from the second quarter of 2014 to the second quarter of 2015. They are up 14.1 percent since their recent low in the first quarter of 2011.
- In July 2015, builders in Iowa broke ground on 8,790 new housing units (seasonally adjusted annual rate), bringing the average over the past 12 months to 9,836 units. That marks a decrease of 8.0 percent from the average over the prior 12 months.

EXPORTS

- In Iowa, goods exports totaled \$1.2 billion in July and \$13.6 billion over the past year, down 3.0 percent from the 12 months ending in July 2014 (inflation-adjusted).
- Exports over the past 12 months are up 41.2 percent from their level in 2009 (inflation-adjusted).

* Note: Because of methodological differences, total U.S. real GDP by state differs slightly from headline national GDP figures

** A list of sources used to compile the Iowa economic snapshot is available at: <http://bit.ly/JEC-state-by-state-sources>

*** For additional Iowa-specific labor sector statistics, please refer to the Iowa office: <http://www.iowaworkforce.org/>