

HOUSEHOLD EMPLOYMENT SURVEY (SEASONALLY-ADJUSTED)

Overview. The household employment survey provides information on the labor force, employment, and unemployment. It is a sample survey of about 60,000 eligible households conducted by the U.S. Census Bureau for the U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics. The sample is selected to reflect the entire civilian noninstitutionalized population. Based on responses to a series of questions on work and job search activities, each person 16 years and older in a sample household is classified as employed, unemployed, or not in the labor force.

Historical Trend. At the low point of the last U.S. recession, Iowa's unemployment rate peaked at 6.6% (May through August 2009). The unemployment rate has generally declined since that time, and Iowa's October 2018 unemployment rate was 2.4%.

Current Status. Employed Iowans (the number of Iowans reporting that they currently have a job) increased by 2,727 in October. At 1,647,093, the number of employed Iowans is at the all-time high. At 1,688,263, the number of Iowans in the labor force (includes those employed plus those unemployed and looking for work) increased by 2,133 compared to last month. The size of the Iowa labor force has declined by 18,099 since the October 2014 peak (1,706,362). The number of unemployed Iowans totaled 41,170 for October, a level that is 8,076 below the level one year ago.

More Data. Additional information can be found on the Legislative Services Agency's [Economic Trends webpage](#), which includes links to source sites and the underlying data for each Economic Trends indicator.

