

November 12, 2019

IOWA WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT FIELD INFORMATION MEMO

NO: 19-07

TYPE: General

TOPIC: Average Unemployment Rates by Region

1. Purpose: Identifying potential Areas of Substantial Unemployment (ASUs) for PY 2020 allocations to states.
2. Background: This is a continuation of the Areas of Substantial Unemployment program. It is provided by the Labor Market Information Division of Iowa Workforce Development as part of the Local Area Unemployment Statistics (LAUS) program. It covers the time period from July 2018 through June 2019 and is similar to the report provided in November 2018.
3. Substance: Enclosed is a table of the average unemployment rates for Iowa's regions for the time period stated above. These data were developed as part of our process to identify potential Areas of Substantial Unemployment for PY2020 allocations to states. In order to be designated as an ASU, an area must have a current population of at least 10,000 and an average unemployment rate of at least 6.5 percent for the reference period.

The average unemployment rate for the state of Iowa for the reference period is 2.4 percent. Since the statewide rate does not qualify the state as a whole as an ASU, our department has submitted the necessary paperwork to designate four areas within Iowa, all created with the addition method. These areas are: Cedar Rapids city containing 3 census tracts, Des Moines city containing 14 census tracts, Marshall County containing 5 census tracts, and Waterloo City containing 10 census tracts. Maps of these ASUs are enclosed.

4. Action: The data are for your information and may be provided to your Regional Workforce Investment Board.

5. Contact: Kris Henze at (515) 281-3890.



Beth Townsend, Director
Iowa Workforce Development

UNEMPLOYMENT RATES for WIOA REGIONS 1-16
July 2018-June 2019

REGION	RATE	REGION	RATE
1	2.5%	10	2.3%
2	2.4%	11	2.2%
3/4	2.0%	12	2.2%
5	2.6%	13	2.2%
6	3.3%	14	2.4%
7	2.5%	15	2.6%
8	2.3%	16	3.1%
9	2.8%		