

Polk County Economy at a Glance

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Following historically low unemployment numbers, the economic fallout from COVID-19 and its related shutdown drove the Unemployment Rate in Polk County to 17.6% by May. Since then, employment conditions in Polk County have improved with the Unemployment Rate at 9.4% as of August. There is still much uncertainty around where this is going next. While many industries have found a way to weather the storm, several continue to struggle to regain their footing. As of the writing of this, there remains uncertainty around the possibility of additional stimulus funds from the Federal government, the allocation, or lack thereof, of those funds would have a meaningful impact on vulnerable households' ability to pay basic expenses at a point where foreclosure and eviction moratoriums are expiring.

Polk County Employment (Employment in Thousands, Not Seasonally Adjusted)

	August 2020	July 2020	June 2020	May 2020	April 2020
Labor Force Data					
Civilian Labor Force	(P)309.8	305.2	303.1	308.5	288.6
Employment	(P)280.8	264.8	261.8	254.1	248.2
Unemployment	(P)29.0	40.4	41.3	54.4	40.4
Unemployment Rate	(P)9.4	13.2	13.6	17.6	14
Nonfarm Wage and Salary Employment					
Total Nonfarm	220.9	222.3	222.5	215.1	220.9
12-month % change	-4.2	-3.8	-4.7	-7.9	-4.2
Mining, Logging, and Construction	15.4	15.4	15.5	15	15.4
12-month % change	8.5	7.7	9.2	6.4	8.5
Manufacturing	17.5	17.3	17.1	17.1	17.5
12-month % change	-2.8	-3.9	-5	-4.5	-2.8
Trade, Transportation, and Utilities	57.7	57.7	57.7	57.2	57.7
12-month % change	-4.3	-4	-3.5	-4	-4.3
Information	1.8	1.8	1.8	1.8	1.8
12-month % change	-10	-10	-5.3	-5.3	-10
Financial Activities	13.4	13.4	13.4	13.4	13.4
12-month % change	0.8	0	1.5	2.3	0.8
Professional and Business Services	32.1	32.9	32.9	32.3	32.1
12-month % change	0.6	3.1	2.5	0	0.6
Education and Health Services	30.8	31	30.8	30.2	30.8
12-month % change	-8.6	-9.6	-9.4	-11.7	-8.6
Leisure and Hospitality	20	20.6	18.7	14.4	20
12-month % change	-18.4	-15.9	-24	-41.9	-18.4
Other Services	5.9	6	5.7	5	5.9
12-month % change	-11.9	-9.1	-14.9	-25.4	-11.9
Government	26.3	26.2	28.9	28.7	26.3
12-month % change	0.8	0.8	-0.3	-0.7	0.8
Footnotes					
(p) Preliminary					

10 Year Employment Trends, by Industry



