

Polk County Economy at a Glance

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The unemployment rate in Polk County remains healthy at 4.0%, slightly above the rate of 3.5% from August 2022. The labor market is still considered fairly tight as the Federal Reserve continues to fight inflation. In comparison with where we stood at this point in 2019 (pre-pandemic), our Labor Force grew by 16.1%, Employment grew by 16.3% while Unemployment is up by 12.0%. Over the past 12 months, we saw job expansion in most industries, with the largest growth coming from Education and Health Services (7.3% growth). We did see contraction in a couple of industries with Mining, Logging, and Construction and Professional and Business Services each shrinking by 3.9%.

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

	August 2022	July 2022	June 2022	May 2022	April 2022
Labor Force Data					
Civilian Labor Force	352.0	348.1	347.5	346.1	346
Employment	338.0	334.4	334.4	334.6	336.3
Unemployment	14.0	13.7	13.1	11.4	9.7
Unemployment Rate	4.0	3.9	3.8	3.3	2.8
Nonfarm Wage and Salary Employment					
Total Nonfarm	269.3	265.6	266.2	271.1	271.9
12-month % change	1.4	1.7	2.3	2.6	2.6
Mining, Logging, and Construction	14.7	14.7	14.8	14.9	15
12-month % change	-3.9	-3.9	-2	-2	-0.7
Manufacturing	20.0	19.8	19.9	19.7	19.7
12-month % change	1.0	1	1	1	0.5
Trade, Transportation, and Utilities	75.5	75.2	75.1	75.2	75.3
12-month % change	2.2	1.8	1.9	1.6	1.6
Information	2.5	2.5	2.5	2.5	2.5
12-month % change	0.0	0	8.7	4.2	4.2
Financial Activities	16.7	16.7	16.7	16.7	16.7
12-month % change	0.6	0.6	0	0	0.6
Professional and Business Services	36.7	36.6	37.5	38	38.7
12-month % change	-3.9	-3.4	0.3	0.8	2.9
Education and Health Services	39.9	39.3	38.4	39.4	39.6
12-month % change	7.3	7.7	5.8	7.7	8.2
Leisure and Hospitality	27.7	28.1	28.6	29	28.3
12-month % change	4.1	6	7.5	9	5.2
Other Services	7.2	7.2	7.2	7.2	7.1
12-month % change	2.9	2.9	2.9	1.4	1.4
Government	28.4	25.5	25.5	28.5	29
12-month % change	0.0	0.4	0.4	0	0
Footnotes					
(p) Preliminary					

10 Year Employment Trends, by Industry



