



May 2012

Iowa's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate continued to drop to 5.2 percent in March from 5.3 percent in February. The comparable rate for March 2011 was 5.9 percent. Meanwhile, the U.S. unemployment rate also dropped to 8.2 percent down from a year ago at 8.8 percent. Mahaska County's unemployment rate decreased to 6.2 percent in March from 6.7 percent in February and greatly lower than a year ago in March 2011 at 7.3 percent.

Soybean, corn and cattle prices continue to increase, with hog prices being slightly lower from the previous month. Soybean prices are at \$13.48, higher from a month ago at \$12.41. Corn prices have increased to \$6.44 from previous month price of \$6.33. Cattle prices continue to increase to \$126.58 from \$123.25 in February. Hog prices decreased slightly to \$84.76 from \$85.97 in February.

Housing market continues to increase slightly. There were 14 houses sold in the month of March with an average day on the market being 119, up from a month ago at 103. The average price of a home being sold was \$76,636, a decrease from February when the average price was \$102,250.

Don't forget Mother's Day on May 13th and Memorial Day on the 28th.

If you would like to receive this publication on a monthly basis, please email Miranda Johnson at mcard@mahaskacounty.org.

This publication is brought to you by the Mahaska Community Development Group. The Mahaska Community Development Group was created to lead economic development efforts to ensure the continued health and prosperity of business and industry in the Mahaska community.

Item	March 2012	February 2012	January 2012	March 2011
Total Labor Force- Mahaska Co.	11,730	11,760	11,820	11,760
Total Labor Force- Marion Co.	16,890	16,830	16,810	16,810
Total Labor Force- Poweshiek Co.	10,610	10,450	9,840	10,350
Total Labor Force- Wapello Co.	18,150	18,130	18,170	18,360
Total Labor Force- Iowa	1,662,800	1,664,000	1,666,500	1,667,300
Number unemployed- Mahaska Co.	730	780	780	850
Number unemployed- Marion Co.	990	1,110	1,020	1,250
Number of unemployed- Poweshiek Co.	580	610	620	740
Number of unemployed- Wapello Co.	1,320	1,370	1,410	1,440
Number of unemployed- Iowa	87,000	88,200	90,100	99,200
Unemployment Percent- Mahaska Co.	6.2	6.7	6.6	7.3
Unemployment Percent- Marion Co.	5.9	6.6	6.1	7.4
Unemployment Percent- Poweshiek Co.	5.5	5.8	6.3	7.1
Unemployment Percent- Wapello Co.	7.2	7.6	7.8	7.8
Unemployment Percent- Iowa	5.2	5.3	5.4	5.9
Unemployment Percent- Federal	8.2	8.3	8.3	8.8
Average Weekly Wage: Mahaska Co.- \$611.00 Iowa- \$709.00 United States- \$865.00				
Source: Iowa Workforce Development www.iowaworkforce.com				

Item	March 2012	February 2012	January 2012	March 2011
Housing Starts-Oskaloosa	1	0	0	1
Homes Sold/Average Days on Market	14/119	12/103	10/117	16/166
Average Price Homes Sold	\$76,636	\$102,250	\$86,140	\$111,081
Total Homes Sold year-to-date	46	22	10	38
Homes for Sale 3-31-2012*	Single Family	Av. Price	Single Family with acreage	Av. Price
	127	\$112,442	1	\$179,900
Source: Iowa Association of Realtors				
Value Construction Permits- Res.	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$261,595
Source: www.censtats.census.gov				
Corn Prices-#2 Yellow Corn	\$6.44	\$6.33	\$6.15	\$6.57
Source: Cargill				
Soybean Prices- #1 Grade Soybean	\$13.48	\$12.41	\$11.34	\$13.60
Source: DFS Oskaloosa, LLC.				
Hog Prices/Per 100 lb. carcass weight	\$84.76	\$85.97	\$86.58	\$82.47
Live Cattle Prices	\$126.58	\$123.25	\$123.00	\$114.26
Source: www.dailylivestockreport.com				

Item	2011	2010	2009	2008
Hotel/Motel Tax Collected- Mah. Co.	\$87,213.85	\$90,554.95	\$88,180.65	\$90,388.10
Hotel/Motel Tax Collected- Iowa	\$40,083,867.68	\$36,772,397.76	\$39,118,875.42	\$38,018,961.89
“Regular” Local option sales tax-Mah. Co.	\$2,095,894.44	\$2,007,383.02	\$2,025,623.66	\$2,112,235.85
“Regular” Local option sales tax-Osky	\$953,609.53	\$913,338.02	\$921,637.10	\$961,044.94
“Regular” Local option sales tax- Iowa	\$293,597,178.10	\$278,168,703.34	\$249,854,912.83	\$237,233,353.65
SAVE local option sales tax- Mah.Co.	\$2,373,834.96	\$2,181,433.01	\$1,999,208.00	\$2,108,811.04
SAVE local option sales tax- Osky	\$1,712,745.66	\$1,507,646.20	\$1,373,585.83	\$1,466,867.87
SAVE local option sales tax- Iowa	\$382,816,275.91	\$377,097,168.54	\$373,690,205.81	\$376,028,059.21
Total Taxable Sales- Mah. Co.	\$175,442,228	\$168,949,446	\$172,302,505	\$176,306,471
Total Taxable Sales- Oskaloosa	\$160,038,653	\$153,768,708	\$155,954,676	\$160,600,973
Total Taxable Sales- Iowa	\$32,904,016,683	\$31,943,592,540	\$33,559,887,618	\$33,089,024,825
Source: Iowa Department of Revenue: www.iowa.gov/tax/educate/statreports.htm1#SalesUse				

Average Household Size (2011)	Oskaloosa- 2.5 people	Iowa- 2 people	United States- 2.63 people	
Estimated Median House or Condominium Value in Oskaloosa			\$97,136 (2011)	\$69,100 (2000)
Crime Rate in Oskaloosa	2010	2009	2008	2007
Iowa Average is 404.5	235.5	208.3	241.5	225.8
Source: www.city-data.com/city/Oskaloosa-Iowa.html				

Item	March 2012	February 2012	January 2012	March 2011
Births-Mahaska Health Partnership Source: Mahaska Health Partnership	14	17	10	19
Oskaloosa Public School Enrollment Source: Oskaloosa Community Schools	2011-2012 2,344	2010-2011 2,327	2009-2010 2,392	2008-2009 2,396
Local Per Capita Income Source: Bureau of Economic Analysis	2011 \$42,240	2010 \$34,490	2008 \$33,942	2007 \$34,851
Cost of Living Index in Oskaloosa Source: www.city-data.com/city/Oskaloosa-Iowa.html	January 2011 79.8 (United States Average is 100)			