

Western Iowa Advantage is a collaborative group of economic development officials in Audubon, Calhoun, Carroll, Crawford, Greene, Ida, and Sac Counties.



KEYS
**FOR SMALL
BIZ
SUCCESS**

western
IOWA
advantage™
It's easier here!

Save the Date

**Western Iowa Advantage
2023 Small Business Summit**

Wednesday, October 11, 2023
10 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.

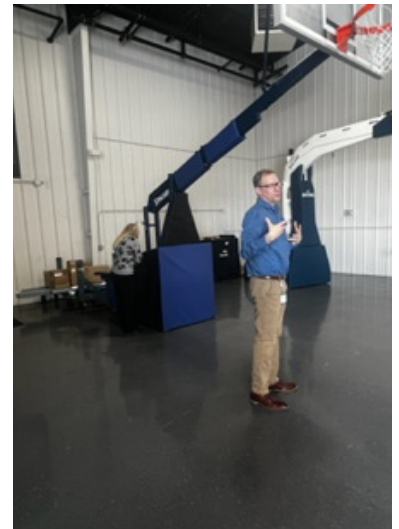
Swan Lake Conservation Education Center
22676 Swan Lake Trail, Carroll, IA 51401
Keynote Speaker: Brenda Clark Hamilton

Topics and Presentations to include:
Financing, Success Stories, Business
Transitions, Proofing the Idea of
Developing Your Small Business, and
more!

Western Iowa Advantage Members Tour AAI Jefferson



Throughout the year, WIAD partners travel to, and tour numerous businesses within the region. In March 2023, partners visited and toured American Athletic, Inc. (AAI). AAI was founded in 1954 in Jefferson where it has been located ever since.



Western Iowa Advantage Region Sees Slight Increase in Unemployment Rate in May 2023

The Western Iowa Advantage Region's monthly unemployment rate (not seasonally adjusted) was 2.5 percent in May 2023 up from 2.1 percent in March 2022, according to figures released from Iowa Workforce Development. Iowa's unemployment rate was 2.6 percent in May 2023 up from 2.3 percent in May 2022. The U.S. unemployment rate was 2.7 percent in May 2023. Total employment in the region rose to 40,460 in May 2023 from 40,310 in May 2022.

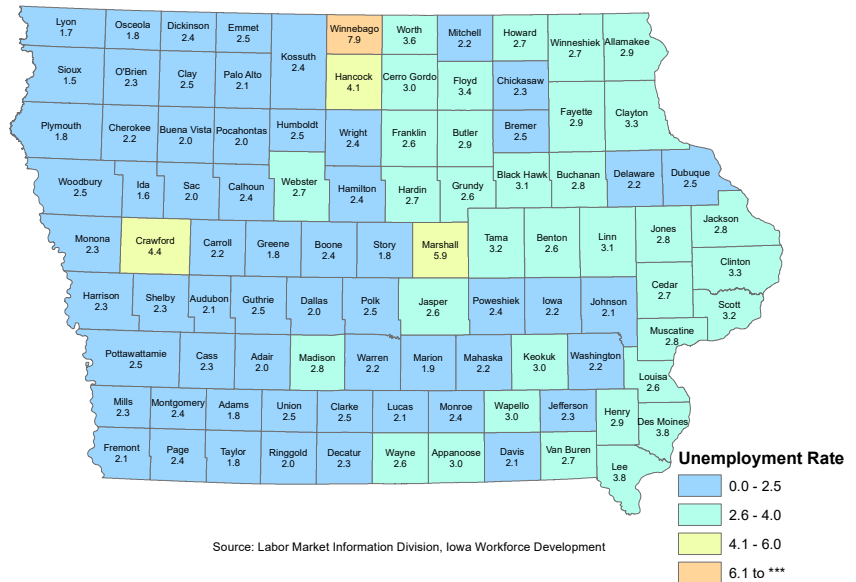
Iowa Unemployment Rates by County

May 2023

Western Iowa Advantage tracks various economic indicators in Audubon, Calhoun, Carroll, Crawford, Greene, Ida, and Sac Counties in Iowa, including employment trends.

County unemployment rates in the region for May 2023:

Audubon 2.1%
Calhoun 2.4%
Carroll 2.2%
Crawford 4.4%
Greene 1.8%
Ida 1.6%
Sac 2.0%



WIAD PARTNERS:

Riley Bleam, Executive Director, Calhoun County Economic Development Corporation
cccdc@calhouncountyiowa.com ■ (712) 297-5601 ■ www.calhouncountyiowa.com

Rita Frahm, Executive Director, Ida County Economic Development
rmfracm@gmail.com ■ (712) 364-3181 ■ www.idacounty.org

Rick Hunsaker, Executive Director, Region XII Council of Governments/Region XII Development Corp.
rhunsaker@region12cog.org ■ (712) 775-7800 ■ www.region12cog.org

Mariah Nutt, Office Manager, Chamber & Development Council of Crawford County
mnutt@cdcia.org ■ (712) 263-4789 ■ www.cdcia.org

Ken Paxton, Executive Director, Greene County Development Corporation
ken@greencountyiowa.com ■ (515) 386-8255 ■ www.greencountyiowa.org

Sara Slater, Business & Tourism Coordinator, Audubon County Economic Development Corporation
aced@windstream.net ■ (712) 563-2742 ■ www.auduboncounty.com

Kimberly Tiefenthaler, Executive Director, Carroll County Growth Partnership
kimberly.t@carrolliowa.com ■ (712) 792-4383 ■ www.carrollareadev.com

Chris Whitaker, Local Assistance Director, Region XII Council of Governments/Region XII Development Corp.
cwhitaker@region12cog.org ■ (712) 775-7811 ■ www.region12cog.org

Brandy Wilson, Executive Director, Sac Economic & Tourism Development
bwilson@sacountyiowa.com ■ (712) 664-2940 ■ www.sacountyiowa.com