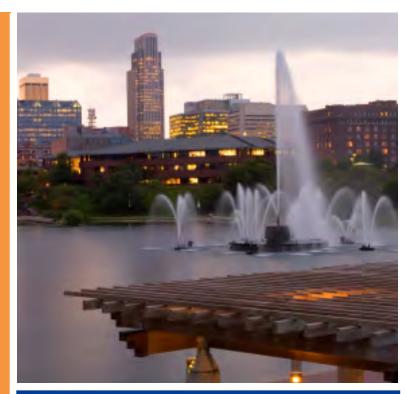
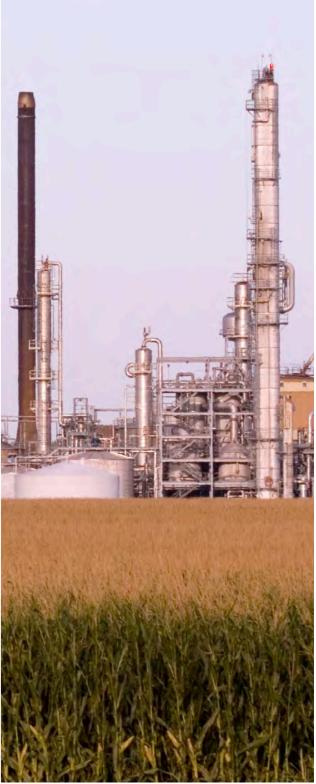
Regional Review

Nebraska Statewide Released 2011











Labor Market Regional Review

Nebraska Statewide

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Getting the Most From the New NEworks Site



for Data Users The Source for Nebraska **Labor Market Information** Online at

neworks.nebraska.gov/analyzer

The Nebraska Department of Labor has a new website. The new site allows for fast data access in a simple and understandable format, as well as the integration of Real Time Labor Market Information. This spread is designed to help people get accustumed to the new site as well as show some of the sites new features.



Integrated Help: (?)



Need assistance understanding a data set? NEworks has help options incorporated within the site. Look for the small circular question mark to get help.

Sort Data:

Set your preferences in the display options by selecting both the number of records you would like to view and the sort order. To resort data easily, click on the column header for the variable you wish to sort by.

To sort on any column, click a column title.

Rank	Area Name	Average Weekly Wage
2	Adams County	\$877
7	Buffalo County	\$734
3	Dakota County	\$876
8	Dodge County	\$701
1	Douglas County	\$992
4	Lancaster County	\$798
6	Platte County	\$763
9	Sarpy County	\$701
10	Thurston County	\$664
5	Washington County	\$789

Export Data:

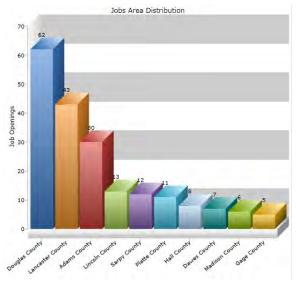
Generate your own data set and export it for further usage. Data that can be exported from NEWorks will have an option at the bottom of the section and can be exported in either Excel or text format.

Choose the Right Mode:

- **Summary mode** displays all available information for that area, industry, or occupation.
- Narrative mode provides an easy-toread text summary of the data.
- **Detail mode** focuses on one specific attribute (wages, projected employment, etc.).
- **Comparison mode** allows you to choose two areas, industries, or occupations to study the different characteristics of each.

Create Maps and Graphs:

In the display options, check the boxes for Graphs or Maps. To zoom in on maps, draw a box on it while holding down the shift key. Microsoft Silverlight must be installed in order to view these elements.





Data Sources:

Data on the NEworks site comes from a variety of sources, including BLS programs, the US Census, and online job postings. Be aware that data from online job postings is not gathered by the Dept. of Labor and is for informational use only. Such data should not be used for analysis or reporting.

New LMI Home Navigation Help

A Labor Market Facts

Access the most commonly asked labor market information questions. If you have a specific question and are unsure where to start, the answer may be here. Each question has a direct link to the data that will provide you with the correct answers.

Area Profile

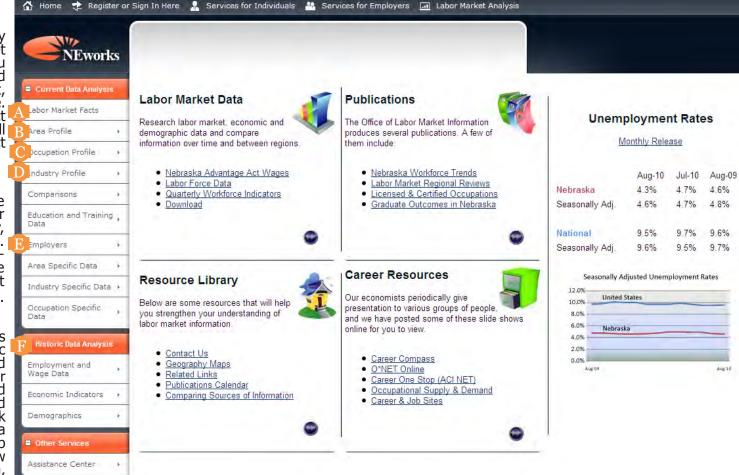
View information for the entire state of Nebraska or a specific region, county, metropolitan area. View demographic makeup, occupation and wage information, unemployment rates, businesses, and more.

Occupation Profile

View data on candidates looking for a job in a specific occupation and related occupations. View the labor supply and market demand for an occupation. Find education, training and work experience, information, a summary of the typical job duties of an occupation, view employment and wage data, employment forecasts, and more.

Industry Profile

Search browse different industries. employment data, industry and occupational projections, staffing patterns, numbers and regions for employers in the area.



Employers

for View site-specific information about View trends in Industry, Occupation, employers in a selected area. Find specific and Labor Force over time. Access local employer sites and their corporate Commuting Patterns, Population, headquarters, and view lists of employers Income, and Economic Indicators. based on the number of jobs they are postina.

Historic Data Analysis



ontents of this publication are divided into sections

shown to the right. All of the

information contained in this report was compiled by the Office of Labor Market Information, Nebraska Department of Labor

and is subject to change. Current information can be

obtained and printed by visiting neworks.nebraska.gov/analyzer or by other methods listed in the "Where to Find it" section on each

page. The source of each data element is also provided on the appropriate page. Reproductions

of the information contained in this report may be made as long as accurate citations are made.

Contact the Office of Labor Market Information with questions or for additional information.

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The Educational Dynamics section includes information on the educational background, educational migration and relative earnings for the state population.

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The Labor Supply section provides insight on current, historical and future trends of the labor force in the state. This includes employment, unemployment and commuting statistics.

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The Compensation section focuses on what workers receive in exchange for their labor. This includes wage data, income data, benefits information, as well as inflation data.

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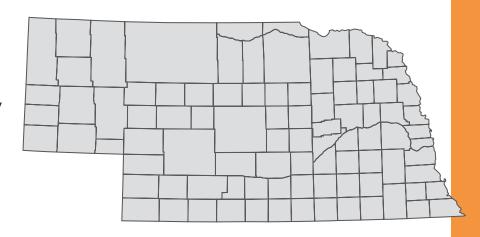
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OVERVIEW Nebraska Statewide

The state of Nebraska is made up of 93 counties, with more than half of the state population residing in three counties in the eastern part of the state. Nebraska has experienced overall population growth, although only 20 counties show population increases between 2000 and 2010. Trends indicate population migration from rural areas to more urban areas.

Nebraska's top industries are Education & Health Services first; followed closely by Trade, Transportation & Utilities. Together, these industries constitute one-third of the state's employment. Financial Activities, Manufacturing, Trade, Transportation & Utilities and Construction all have location quotients above 1.0, signifying the state's proportionally higher employment in these industries compared to the rest of the nation.



The state's labor force continues to grow, with a change of 2.8% between 2000 and 2010. Employment has increased during that time period, rising by 8,216 workers. Nebraska's unemployment rate was well below the national level, with a rate of 4.2% compared to 8.8% nationally in March of 2011. Nebraska also has a higher labor force participation rate, at 71%, compared to the national average of 65%.

As the nation faces one of the worst economic recessions since the Great Depression, the workforce in Nebraska will need to adapt with the new economic climate. The labor market is never going to look the same as it did prior to the downturn, new products and markets are likely to emerge out of the recovery. Demographically, the downturn coincided with a large shift in the makeup of the state's working population, which may change the landscape of Nebraska's professional world. Moving forward, technology must play a pivotal role in ensuring economic stability and growth. Increased interdepence among all industries, home and abroad, will force innovation on those who wish to stay competitive.

Data to support these patterns in Nebraska can be found on the following pages.

Quick Facts about the Nebraska Labor Market

	Nebraska	United States
2010 Population	1,811,072	309,050,816
2009 Population	1,794,852	306,656,290
Land Area (Square Miles)	76,872.4	3,537,438.4
2010 Persons Per Square Mile	23.6	87.4
Largest City	Omaha	New York
2009 Median Household Income	\$47,995	\$51,425
2010 Labor Force	973,872	238,889,000
2010 Largest Industry	Education & Health Services	Education & Health Services
2010 Largest Industry Employment	210,063	29,936,827

Source: Nebraska Department of Labor: Local Area Unemployment Statistics, Released 2011; Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages, Employment numbers is the 4 quarter average from the 4th quarter of 2009 through the 3rd quarter of 2010. Released 2010. Occupational Employment Statistics, Released 2010.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau: Population Estimates, Released 2011; Decennial Census, Released 2000; Small Area Income and Poverty

Population Growth

What is it?

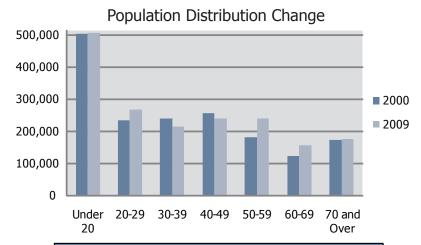
Population growth and decline are influenced by natural growth and migration. Overall, the state of Nebraska experienced 4.9% growth between 2000 and 2009.

While most age groups increased in population in Nebraska, a large increase occurred in the population age 50 to 59, with a 31.2% change between 2000 and 2009. The aging of Nebraska's population is also evident in the drop in population for those aged 30 to 49. Growth in the population aged 20 to 29 may be attributed to children of Baby Boomers reaching that age group.

Historical population trends are used to predict changes in the labor force. While the number of people in the labor force is expected to increase, the labor force will constitute a lower percentage of the population as Baby Boomers age and 20 to 59 year olds shrink proportionately.



Population Growth by Age Group Nebraska Statewide, 2000 and 2009



0.00	2000	2009	Change	Percent
Age	Population	Population	Change	Change
Under 20	504,189	507,731	3,542	0.7%
20-29	232,606	267,000	34,394	14.8%
30-39	240,702	215,290	-25,412	-10.6%
40-49	257,393	238,416	-18,977	-7.4%
50-59	181,944	238,729	56,785	31.2%
60-69	123,327	154,742	31,415	25.5%
70 and Over	173,161	174,711	1,550	0.9%
Total	1,713,322	1,796,619	83,297	4.9%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Population Estimates, Released 2010

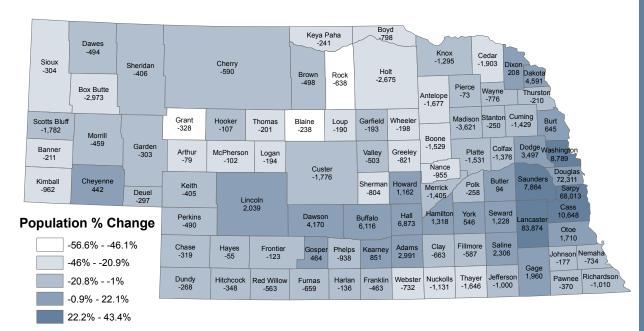
How to use it

According to the U.S. Census Bureau, a Baby Boomer turns 60 every seven seconds. As Nebraska's population ages, businesses will begin replacing retiring Baby Boomers. The chart above shows there are drops in the population following the Baby Boomers. This may make it challenging for businesses to replace their retiring workers, and even to replace their retiring workers, and even harder to find the replacements with the skills and experience needed.

Where to find it

Population estimates by age, race and sex can be found at census.gov. Choose Estimates under People & Households.

Projected Change in Population by County 2010 to 2030



Source: University of Nebraska-Lincoln, Bureau of Business Research Population Projections, Released 2008

How to use it

Projecting to 2030 gives a glimpse of what Nebraska may look like in the near future. Studies have shown that Nebraskans are migrating from non-metropolitan areas to metropolitan areas. This is reflected by the large difference in the projected percent change in population between 2010 and 2030 in the metro- and non-metropolitan areas. Rural communities may benefit from recruiting new businesses to their community to effectively attract or maintain workers and families in the community.

Where to find it

The University of Nebraska-Lincoln Bureau of Business Research's Population Projections can be found at bbr.unl.edu.

Population Projections

What is it?

Nebraska's population is projected to increase by 13.4% between 2010 and 2030. Total population is expected to be 2,065,798 in 2030. Twenty-six of Nebraska's 93 counties show a positive projected growth. Lancaster County is projected to have the largest increase with a change of 83,874 people (23.4%), while Madison County is projected to have the largest loss of 3,621 people (-10.4%). The largest positive percent change is projected to be in Sarpy County (43.4%) and the largest negative percent change will be in Grant County (-56.6%).

Metropolitan areas and the Interstate 80 corridor are projected to see the largest growth. Metropolitan areas are expected to see an increase of 24.3% (252,727 individuals) and non-metropolitan areas may see a change of -1.1% (a loss of 8,487 individuals) between 2010 and 2030.



Older Workers

What is it?

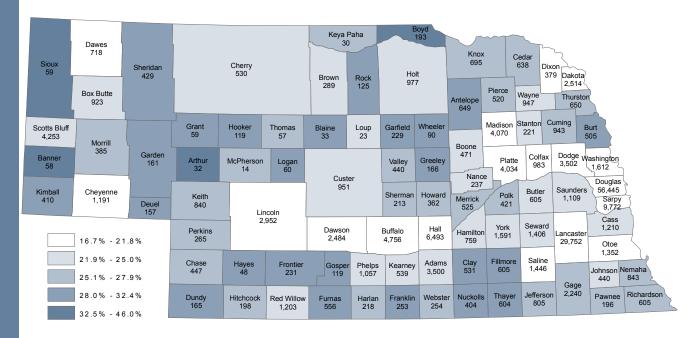
More than one hundred seventy five thousand workers (20.0%) are age 55 or older in Nebraska. Older workers claim a larger share of the non-metropolitan and non-micropolitan area workforce, representing 24.7%, compared to those in metropolitan areas that comprise 19.2% of the workforce.

Arthur County has the largest percentage of workers age 55 or older, at 46.0%. Buffalo County has only 16.7% of their working population age 55 or over, the lowest county percentage.

According to the Urban Institute, employers may need to rethink traditional workplace practices to attract older workers. The Current Strategies to Employ and Retain Older Workers report states, "The key issue for future employment prospects is how the business community will respond to the increased availability of older workers. Relatively few employers have actively begun to recruit older workers, primarily because they do not yet foresee worker shortages."



Workers Age 55 and Older by County 2009



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Local Employment Dynamics, Released 2010

How to use it

The magic '65th' birthday is no longer looked at as the end of a career. More and more frequently, new jobs and part-time or flexible opportunities are making it possible, and even desirable, to continue working into the retirement years. According to a recent AARP survey, 68 percent of older workers said they intend to work in retirement. Although fewer retirements will increase the supply of experienced workers available, Nebraska businesses will also be challenged to adapt to an older labor force.

Where to find it

Older worker by county and additional data from Local Employment Dynamics can be found at lehd.did.census.gov/led/. Choose QWI Online under Tools.

Older Workers by Industry Nebraska Statewide, Fourth Quarter 2009

Industry.	Employ	ment	0/ FF :
Industry	55+	Total	% 55+
Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing, and Hunting	2,493	11,135	22.4%
Mining, Quarrying, and Oil and Gas Extraction	248	934	26.6%
Utilities	2,278	9,363	24.3%
Construction	6,961	45,648	15.2%
Manufacturing	17,761	94,509	18.8%
Wholesale Trade	9,088	40,563	22.4%
Retail Trade	19,857	104,094	19.1%
Trasportation and Warehousing	9,287	38,757	24.0%
Information	2,882	17,369	16.6%
Finance and Insurance	10,281	54,119	19.0%
Real Estate and Rental and Leasing	2,286	9,232	24.8%
Professional and Technical Services	7,385	42,569	17.3%
Management of Companies and Enterprises	2,792	16,225	17.2%
Administrative and Waste Services	6,668	42,262	15.8%
Educational Services	26,358	88,447	29.8%
Healthcare and Social Assistance	25,547	125,076	20.4%
Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation	2,094	12,562	16.7%
Accommodation and Food Services	5,786	67,738	8.5%
Other Services	4,959	24,150	20.5%
Public Administration	12,539	41,949	29.9%
Total	177,549	886,700	20.0%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Local Employment Dynamics, Released 2009

How to use it

The February 2008 Report of the Taskforce on the Aging of the American Workforce states that, "Despite the advantages older workers offer and the labor and skill shortages caused by demographic changes, older workers continue to face challenges to full participation in the labor market." These barriers include difficulty keeping page with changing skill difficulty keeping pace with changing skill requirements and technology, lack of flexible work schedules offered, insufficient training opportunities and actual or perceived age discrimination by employers and coworkers.

Where to find it

Older worker by industry and additional data from Local Employment Dynamics can be found at lehd.did.census.gov/led/. Choose QWI Online under Tools.

Aging Workforce

What is it?

The 177,549 older workers within the state are distributed somewhat disproportionately through the industries within the state. Educational Services had the most older workers of any industry, 26,358 and the second highest percentage of older workers at 29.8%. The largest percentage of an industry that was 55 or over was in Public Administration with 29.9%. Due to its relatively small with 29.9%. Due to its relatively small employment, Mining, Quarrying, and Oil and Gas Extraction had the fewest older workers despite having the third highest percentage of workers 55 or over. The industry that is composed of the lowest percentage of older workers was Accommodation and Food Services at only 8.5%.



Population Demographics

What is it?

In Nebraska, minorities represented 17.9% of the total population in 2010. Hispanics are the largest minority group at 9.2% of the state population. Nebraska has a much less diverse population than the United States as a whole. In Nebraska, 82.1% of the population reported that they were white non-Hispanic; nationally, white non-Hispanics constituted only 63.7% of the population in 2010.

For most racial groups, the percentage of the population represented in Nebraska was less than half of the National percentage, with the exception of Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islanders, which is equally represented in Nebraska and in the United States, and American Indian and Alaska Native which is proportionally more common in Nebraska.

Population by Race and Ethnicity Nebraska Statewide, 2010

	Nebraska		United States	
	Total	%	Total	%
Total:	1,826,341	100.0%	308,745,538	100.0%
Hispanic or Latino (of any race)	167,405	9.2%	50,477,594	16.3%
Total Not Hispanic or Latino	1,658,936	90.8%	258,267,944	83.7%
White Alone	1,499,753	82.1%	196,817,552	63.7%
Black or African American Alone	80,959	4.4%	37,685,848	12.2%
American Indian and Alaska Native Alone	14,797	0.8%	2,247,098	0.7%
Asian Alone	31,919	1.7%	14,465,124	4.7%
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander Alone	966	0.1%	481,576	0.2%
Two or more Races	28,426	1.6%	604,265	0.2%
Total Minority (Population excluding non-Hispanic Whites)	326,588	17.9%	111,927,986	36.3%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2010

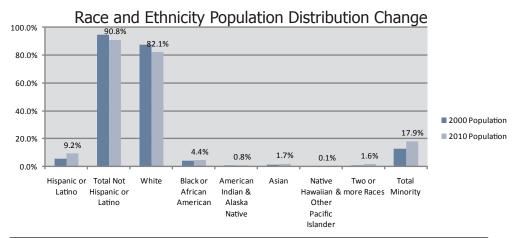


How to use it

Demographic comparisons on race and ethnicity are a valuable tool for establishing the need for economic adaptation. A growing Hispanic population means that Nebraska will need to adapt to accommodate foreign-language speakers in many different areas. This could mean a growing demand for certified interpreters and translators in healthcare and school systems, as well as within businesses to accommodate a changing labor force.

Where to find it Population estimates by age, race and sex can be found at census.gov. Choose Estimates under People & Households.

Population by Race and Ethnicity Nebraska Statewide, 2010



	2000 Population	2010 Population	Change	Percent Change
Total:	1,713,322	1,826,341	113,019	6.6%
Hispanic or Latino (of any race)	95,279	167,405	72,126	75.7%
Total Not Hispanic or Latino	1,618,043	1,658,936	40,893	2.5%
White Alone	1,497,772	1,499,753	1,981	0.1%
Black or African American Alone	68,476	80,959	12,483	18.2%
American Indian and Alaska Native Alone	13,600	14,797	1,197	8.8%
Asian Alone	22,297	31,919	9,622	43.2%
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander Alone	707	966	259	36.6%
Two or more Races	15,191	28,426	13,235	87.1%
Total Minority (Population excluding non-Hispanic Whites)	215,550	326,588	111,038	51.5%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2010

How to use it

The labor force is changing dramatically with the increase in the total minority population. The population over age 5 who spoke English less than "very well" increased by 22.1% between 2000 and 2009. A jump in the number of non-English speaking residents and workers means employers may need to spend a greater effort on recruiting and training workers. English deficiency may make it more difficult for workers to transfer knowledge and skills to a new occupation with job- or industry-specific terminology.

Where to find it

Population estimates by age, race and sex can be found at census.gov. Choose Estimates under People & Households.

Population Demographics

What is it?

The Hispanic or Latino population increased dramatically in the state of Nebraska between 2000 and 2010; the population increased by 72,126 individuals, or 75.7%. As that population increased in numbers, the proportion of the Hispanic or Latino population also increased, with a change of 3.8 percentage points. Hispanics and Latinos constituted 5.6% of the 2000 population and constituted 9.2% of the 2010 population.

Overall, the total minority population increased by 51.5% between 2000 and 2010, with a proportional change of 5.3 percentage points. The only population group to constitute less of the total population in 2010 than in 2000 was white non-Hispanics.



Population Change

What is it?

There are two components to population change: natural increase, consisting of births and deaths, and migration, which can be international (people coming and going from other countries), or internal (people coming and going from other counties or states).

A large number of those coming into the state between 2000 and 2009 were from another country (positive international migration), while those leaving were mostly migrating to other states outside of Nebraska (negative internal migration).

Nebraska's birth rate continued to outpace the death rate from 2000 to 2009. Over the nine year period, the total natural increase in population was 102,206 individuals. This growth was larger than the population's out-migration by 93,050 individuals.

Population Change: Natural Increase and Migration 2000 to 2009

Area	Population Change	Changes Due to Natural Increase			Net Migration		
Alea	Population Change	Total	Births	Deaths	Total	International	Domestic
Beatrice MC	-340	-27	2,556	2,583	-171	13	-184
Columbus MC	947	1,989	4,265	2,276	-954	495	-1,449
Fremont MC	-520	823	4,571	3,748	-1,134	262	-1,396
Grand Island MC	1,225	4,695	17,546	12,851	-4,659	1,784	-6,443
Hastings MC	1,339	1,121	4,609	3,488	-1,425	848	-2,273
Kearney MC	1,745	3,872	12,975	9,103	-3,525	1,522	-5,047
Lexington MC	412	1,900	4,159	2,259	-1,366	1,924	-3,290
Lincoln MSA	31,225	21,821	39,166	17,345	11,147	6,828	4,319
Norfolk MC	-1,538	2,286	6,733	4,447	-3,621	904	-4,525
North Platte MC	951	1,456	4,719	3,263	-305	163	-468
Omaha Consortium	79,839	61,472	105,859	44,387	22,592	13,876	8,716
Scottsbluff MC	-258	1,006	5,068	4,062	-1,052	581	-1,633
Nebraska	85,354	102,206	241,832	139,626	-9,156	31,988	-41,144
United States	25,581,948	15,875,579	38,358,804	22,483,225	8,944,170	8,944,170	N/A

Note: Population Change includes a residual. This residual represents the change in population that cannot be attributed to any specific demographic component.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Population Estimates, Released 2010



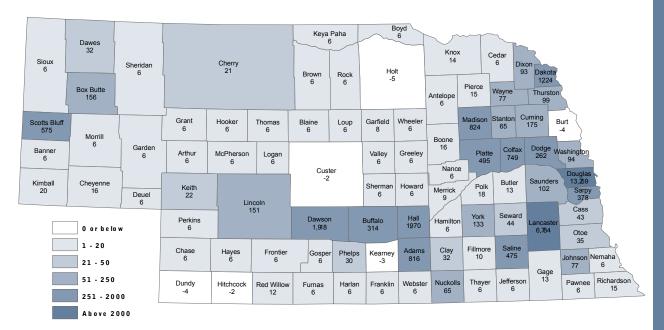
How to use it

Although there was a positive increase in Nebraska's population, most of the increase can be attributed to a high "natural growth". A total of 41,144 people moved from Nebraska to another state between 2000 and 2009. Migration patterns also show a counterbalancing trend of positive international migration, or people migrating into Nebraska from outside of the United States.

Where to find it

Population estimates by age, race and sex can be found at census.gov. Choose Estimates under People & Households.

Change in International Migrants by County 2000 to 2009



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Population Estimates, Released 2010

How to use it

It is important to study the state's population change over time; as the population continues to diversify and change, communities will have to address many issues that accompany change. Language and cultural barriers will need to be addressed in order for communities to continue to effectively provide education, healthcare and other services to fit the needs of the local population.

Where to find it Population estimates by age, race and sex

can be found at census.gov. Choose Estimates under People & Households.

International Migrants

What is it?

A map of Nebraska's change in international migrants is shown to the left. Five Nebraska counties (Douglas, Lancaster, Hall, Dawson and Dakota) have seen an increase of more than 1,000 international in-migrants since the year 2000. Only six of Nebraska's 93 counties did not have a net increase of international in-migrants. Overall, the state had a loss of 9,156 people from migration, with more people moving out than moving in.

Trends show that in-migrants, including international in-migrants, are choosing to locate in either the eastern one-third of the state or near Interstate 80.



Gender Distribution

What is it?

The state's workforce is relatively evenly distributed between men and women, 50.3% of all employees are female. Males and females tend to gravitate towards certain industries. Many industries show a wide gender distribution gap in Nebraska. Mining, Quarrying, and Oil and Gas Extraction is the industry with the highest difference, where males constituted 88.9% of employment in fourth quarter of 2009. Other industries with large gender distribution gaps include Construction, where men constitute 87.6% of the employment, and Transportation and Warehousing, where 83.7% of the employees are male.

Healthcare and Social Assistance also has a large gender distribution gap, where women constitute the largest percentage, at 82.5% of the employment. Other industries where women constitute more of the employment than men include Finance and Insurance, Educational Services and Accommodation and Food Services.



Gender Distribution by Industry Nebraska Statewide, Fourth Quarter 2009

Indicators	Fe	emale	Male		
Industry	Employees	% of Industry	Employees	% of Industry	
Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing, and Hunting	2,551	22.9%	8,584	77.1%	
Mining, Quarrying, and Oil and Gas Extraction	104	11.1%	830	88.9%	
Utilities	2,167	23.1%	7,195	76.9%	
Construction	5,648	12.4%	40,000	87.6%	
Manufacturing	27,984	29.6%	66,525	70.4%	
Wholesale Trade	10,458	25.8%	30,106	74.2%	
Retail Trade	54,538	52.4%	49,556	47.6%	
Transportation and Warehousing	6,329	16.3%	32,428	83.7%	
Information	7,797	44.9%	9,572	55.1%	
Finance and Insurance	34,783	64.3%	19,335	35.7%	
Real Estate and Rental and Leasing	4,461	48.3%	4,771	51.7%	
Professional and Technical Services	20,799	48.9%	21,770	51.1%	
Management of Companies and Enterprises	8,339	51.4%	7,885	48.6%	
Administrative and Waste Services	19,105	45.2%	23,157	54.8%	
Educational Services	60,927	68.9%	27,520	31.1%	
Health care and Social Assistance	103,206	82.5%	21,870	17.5%	
Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation	6,535	52.0%	6,028	48.0%	
Accommodation and Food Services	38,764	57.2%	28,974	42.8%	
Other Services	12,365	51.2%	11,785	48.8%	
Public Administration	18,868	45.0%	23,081	55.0%	
Total	445,728	50.3%	440,972	49.7%	

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Local Employment Dynamics, Released 2010

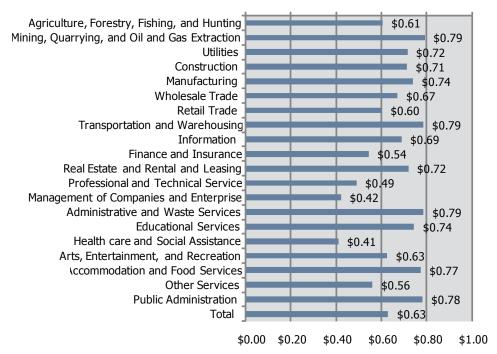
How to use it

The industry gender distribution data can be used by schools and training programs to encourage students to go into non-traditional industries and occupations. A labor force that is more evenly skilled by gender may be advantageous for businesses to overcome a potential labor shortage crisis. However, it is important to keep in mind the earnings gap between males and females in traditional male industries and occupations. Encouraging women to fill traditional male positions may also contribute to reducing the wage gap.

Where to find it

Gender by industry and additional data from Local Employment Dynamics can be found at lehd.did.census.gov/led/. Choose QWI Online under Tools.

Average Earnings by Industry, Female Wage Cents on the Dollar to Male Wage Nebraska Statewide, Fourth Quarter 2009



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Local Employment Dynamics, Released 2010

How to use it
The two out of the three industries with
the smallest average wage gap between
males and females, Mining, Quarrying, and
Oil and Gas Extraction; Transportation and
Warehousing; are also the two industries that
employ the very small percentage of females
(from page 16). The industry that had the
largest gap between the average wage also
had the highest concentration of women.

Where to find it Gender by industry and additional data from Local Employment Dynamics can be found at lehd.did.census.gov/led/. Choose QWI Online under Tools.

Earnings By Gender

What is it?

Female earnings per worker as a percentage of male earnings per worker for the fourth quarter of 2009 by industry is shown in the graph on the left, presented as cents on the dollar. Males earned a higher wage than females in every industry.

The smallest differences between average wage for males and females was in Mining, Quarrying, and Oil and Gas Extraction; Transportation and Warehousing; and Administrative and Waste Services. In all of these industries females earned \$0.79 for every dollar their male counterparts did. The largest difference between male and female earnings was in Health care and Social Assistance; where the average woman earned 41% of what males earned on average.

These wage gaps could be the result of differences in work hours, occupations, or uninterrupted years of experience with the different industries. It may also be a result of men not serving in entry wage jobs to the same degree as women in female dominated industries.



High School Graduates

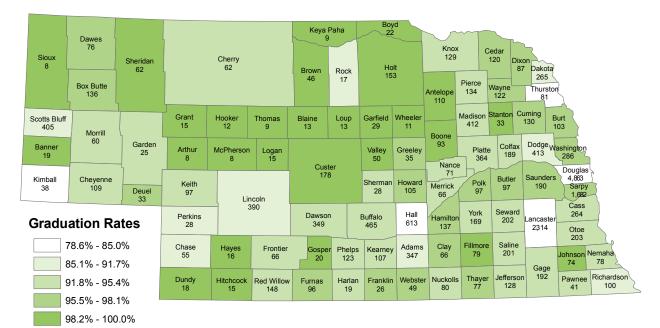
What is it?

The total number of public high school graduates in Nebraska for the 2008-2009 school year was 19,398 for a statewide graduation rate of 89.1%.

Columbus Micropolitan Statistical Area had the highest graduation rate of the 12 micropolitan and metropolitan statistical areas at 94.5%, while Lincoln Metropolitan Statistical Area had the lowest (84.9%). For 2008-2009 males had a graduation rate at 3.4 percentage points lower than females.

If these graduates are consistent with the fall 2008 college continuation data, 65.5% are likely to attend a college within 12 months.

Nebraska Public High School Graduates by County 2008-2009



Source: Nebraska Coordinating Commission for Postsecondary Education, Released 2010

Nebraska Public High School Graduation Rate 2008-2009

Area	Total Graduates	Graduation Rate
Nebraska Statewide	19,398	89.1%

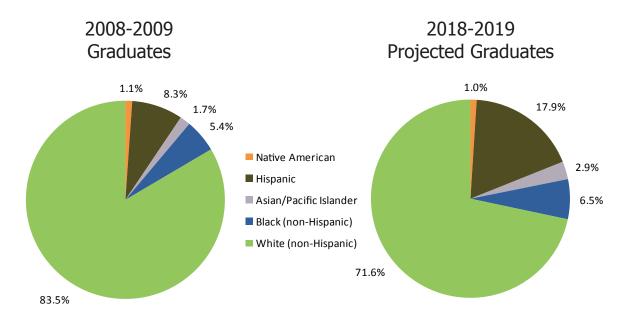
Source: Nebraska Coordinating Commission for Postsecondary Education, Released 2010

How to use it

In order for high school students to be included in the labor force count they need to be 16 years old and employed or actively seeking employment. Knowing the number of high school graduates, along with the percentage of those that will continue on to college or look for employment, can be beneficial in adjusting recruiting techniques and labor force estimates. Nebraska's non-metropolitan and non-micropolitan public graduation rate was high, at 93.1%.

Where to find it Graduate information from Nebraska's Coordinating Commission for Postsecondary Education can be found at ccpe.state.ne.us.

Public High School Graduates by Race and Ethnicity Nebraska Statewide, 2008-2009 and 2018-2019



Source: Nebraska Coordinating Commission for Postsecondary Education, Progress Report, Released 2010

How to use it

Nebraska's demographics are steadily changing, and this is reflected in the projected race and ethnicity breakdown of high school graduates. These forecasts give us a glimpse at what employers can expect their future workforce to look like. The education system is already seeing a rapid increase of Hispanic graduates; they have nearly doubled in the past five years. As they and their families join the labor force, businesses and agencies may need to accommodate a changing workforce.

Where to find it Graduate information from Nebraska's Coordinating Commission for Postsecondary Education can be found at ccpe.state.ne.us.

Graduate Projections

What is it?

According to Nebraska's Coordinating Commission for Postsecondary Education, sizable annual changes are projected to occur in the demographics of Nebraska's high school students. Minority students, especially Hispanics, are projected to account for a higher percentage of the graduates from the state's public schools in the 2018-2019 school year than they did in the 2008-2009. Specifically, minorities are expected to make up 11.9% more of the total public graduates in 2018-2019 than they did in 2008-2009, increasing from about 3,200 students to roughly 5,900 students.

The number of Nebraska public graduates is projected to change by 6.4% from the 2008-2009 school year to the 2018-2019, increasing from 19,398 to 20,649.



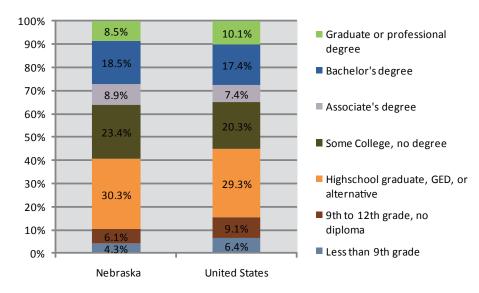
Educational Attainment

What is it?

Nebraska's residents are well-educated, a characteristic valued by businesses seeking to locate within the state. Nearly all Metropolitan and Micropolitan Statistical Areas within the state have 80% to 90% of persons age 25 and older with a high school diploma, GED or higher level of education. More than one-half (59.4%) of all Nebraskans have post secondary education, a slightly higher rate than the national trend. More than one-third of Nebraskans age 25 and older have completed a program of higher learning.

Overall in Nebraska, a higher percentage of females age 25 and over received a high school diploma, GED or higher level of education than males; 90.4% of females and 88.9% of males. However, a slightly higher percentage of males (27.3%) received a Bachelor's degree or higher than females (26.9%).

Educational Attainment: Population Age 25 and Older 2005 to 2009 Aggregate



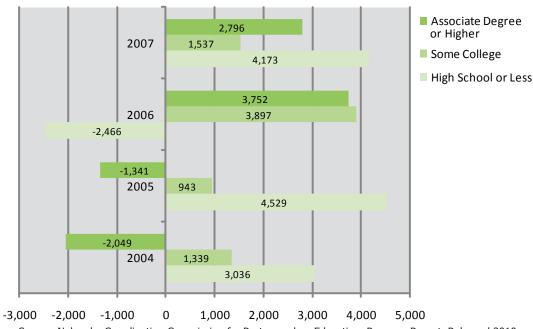
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, Released 2010

How to use it

When companies search for a place to establish a business, many factors come into play; a labor force with a potential for high educational attainment rates may be a determining factor. Nebraska, which has a higher-than-average rate of individuals age 25 and over with some education past a high school diploma compared to the United States, will impress potential site locators. Companies which require a large proportion of skilled employees will likely find the high rates of educational attainment appealing compared to other areas.

Where to find it Educational attainment data from the 2005-2009 American Community Survey can be found at census.gov. Choose American Fact Finder.

Net Educational Migration: Population Age 22 to 64 Nebraska Statewide, 2004 to 2007



Source: Nebraska Coordinating Commission for Postsecondary Education, Progress Report, Released 2010

How to use it

The availability of an educated labor force can be something of interest when a business is looking to select a location and this is highly affected by the net migration of workers. If a business has to exhaust too many resources to recruit candidates to fill its technical positions, this can drive the costs of locating in an area too high to be a viable option.

Where to find it Educational Migration trends from Nebraska's Coordinating Commission for Postsecondary Education can be found at ccpe.state.ne.us.

Educational Migration

What is it?

Estimated net migration of 22- to 64-yearolds reveals that there is a historical trend of net out-migration of Nebraska's educated population and an in-migration of adults with a high school diploma or less.

A reversal of the previous trend, starting in 2007, shows a change in the previous out-migration of Nebraska's educated population. However, Nebraska's Coordinating Commission for Postsecondary Education states that this data is based on a small sample size and could vary dramatically year to year. All American Community Survey data is based on a sample of the population and can be expected to fluctuate when describing very specific demographics. ACS data is used to compile this data.

In 2007, there was an in-migration of people with a Graduate or Professional Degree, as well as people with a Bachelor's Degree. However, there was a slight net migration out of the state by people with Associates Degrees.



Postsecondary Graduates

What is it?

There were a total of 8,167 graduates from the Community Colleges, State Colleges and the University of Nebraska – Kearney between July 1, 2007 and June 30, 2008. About five out of seven (71.1%) graduates, 5,804 in total, were working in Nebraska in the first quarter of 2009. This is nearly the same percentage as in the previous year. Community Colleges had the highest percentage of graduates working in the state as well as the highest range of counties with at least one graduate employed in the county.

Over a quarter (25.7%) of Community College graduates working in Nebraska were in the Health Care industry. The highest number of Bachelor's Degree State College graduates were in the Business Administration and Management. Of these Business Administration and Management graduates, 68% of the 362 were working in the state with estimated average annual earnings of \$27,477.

Postsecondary 2007 to 2008 Graduates Working in Nebraska, First Quarter 2009

	Associates Degrees-	Bachelors Degrees-	Bachelors Degrees- University of Nebraska-
Number of Graduates	Community Colleges 3,868	State Colleges 1,100	Kearney 913
Number of Graduates Working in Nebraska	2,885	645	
Percent of Graduates Working in Nebraska	75%	59%	63%
Estimated Average Annual Earnings	\$25,806	\$26,615	\$25,752
Estimated Median Annual Earnings	\$24,605	\$27,208	\$26,950

Source: Nebraska Department of Labor, Graduate Outcomes in Nebraska, Released 2010



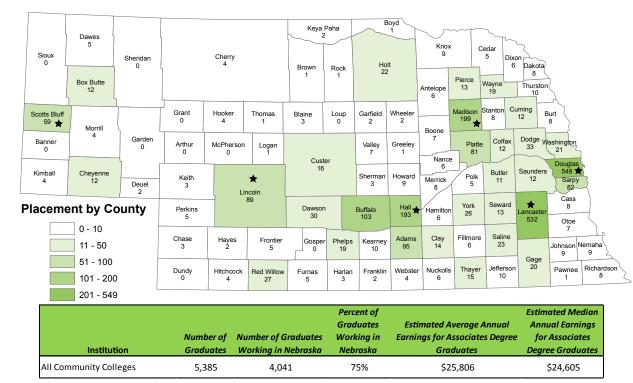
How to use it

The numbers suggest that those who attend community college in Nebraska are more likely to seek employment in Nebraska than they are to seek employment outside of the state. This may also mean that Nebraska Community Colleges are providing training more directly related to Nebraska jobs. The labor market for people with Bachelor's Degrees and higher tends to be a national market. For some occupations, employment opportunities in other states may also provide higher pay.

Where to find it

Online the Graduate Outcomes in Nebraska publication can be found at LMI Home. Under Publications > Get More. The Graduate Outcomes section contains a drop-down box with publications for each school.

All Community College 2007 to 2008 Graduates Working in Nebraska, First Quarter 2009



Stars indicate primary campus locations.

Source: Nebraska Department of Labor, Graduate Outcomes in Nebraska, Released 2010

How to use it

Community College graduates supply local businesses with skilled workers. Most graduates work in counties near the college from which they graduated. This information may help existing and potential businesses determine where to place recruitment efforts. Graduates are likely to work in Nebraska when there are employment opportunities with competitive wages. For example, 75% of all Community College graduates were working in the state, compared to 83% of Health Care graduates and 89% of Registered Nursing graduates.

Where to find it

Online the Graduate Outcomes in Nebraska publication can be found at LMI Home. Under Publications > Get More. The Graduate Outcomes section contains a drop-down box with publications for each school.

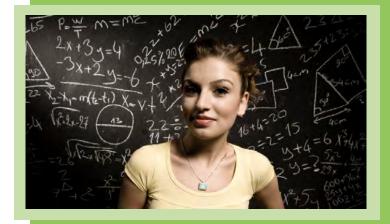
Graduate **Employment**

What is it?

Community College graduates across the state provide a skilled labor supply to Nebraska's employers. Seventyfive percent of 2007 to 2008 Nebraska Community College graduates were employed in the state during the first quarter of 2009. This is a one percent decrease from the previous year and the same percentage as the 2005 to 2006 graduates working in Nebraska in first quarter 2007.

There was at least one person from the 2007 to 2008 community college graduating class employed in 83 of Nebraska's 93 counties. Douglas County and Lancaster County each had more than 500 graduates employed in the county. There were 14 counties that had 25 or more Community College graduates working.

Associate Degree graduates in Registered Nursing had the highest estimated average annual earnings with \$49,512.



Graduate Employment

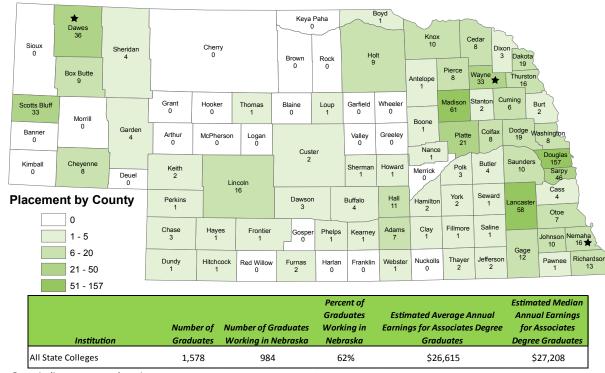
What is it?

Chadron State College, Peru State College and Wayne State College had a total of 1,578 graduates from July 1, 2007 through June 30, 2008. In the first quarter of 2009, there were 984 (62%) graduates who were working in the state. There was a slight increase in the number of graduates and a one percent decrease in the number of graduates working in the state over the previous year.

Sixty-eight counties had at least one graduate from this class employed in the county. Seven counties had more than 25 graduates employed in the county.

Forty percent of all State College Graduates earned Bachelor's Degrees in either Elementary Education or Business Management and Administration. Seventyone percent of these graduates were employed in Nebraska.

All State College 2007 to 2008 Graduates Working in Nebraska, First Quarter 2009



Stars indicate campus locations.

Source: Nebraska Department of Labor, Graduate Outcomes in Nebraska, Released 2010

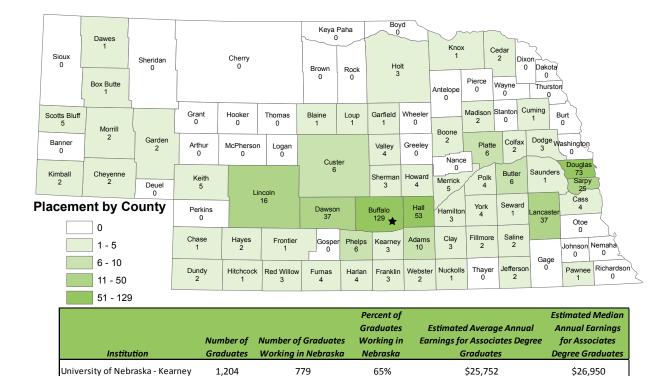
How to use it

State College graduates are less likely than Community College graduates to be employed in Nebraska, most likely because graduates with Bachelor's Degrees or higher tend to have a wider employment range than Community College graduates. Nebraska businesses need to remain regionally and nationally competitive to keep talented graduates in the state. All three State Colleges are located relatively near the border with other states. Graduates may be working near the college from which they graduated, but in another state. Information is not available for graduates working outside Nebraska.

Where to find it

Online the Graduate Outcomes in Nebraska publication can be found at LMI Home. Under Publications > Get More. The Graduate Outcomes section contains a drop-down box with publications for each school.

University of Nebraska - Kearney 2007 to 2008 Graduates Working in Nebraska, First Quarter 2009



Stars indicate UNK location.

Source: Nebraska Department of Labor, Graduate Outcomes in Nebraska, Released 2010

How to use it

University of Nebraska - Kearney graduates are less likely than Community College graduates to be employed near the college from which they graduated. Graduates with Bachelor's Degrees or higher tend to have a wider employment range than Community College graduates except for graduates with advanced degrees in education. Those individuals are very likely to be employed in the state. Nebráska businesses need to remain regionally and nationally competitive to keep talented graduates in the state.

Graduate **Employment**

What is it?

The University of Nebraska – Kearney (UNK) had a total of 1,204 graduates from July 1, 2007 through June 30, 2008. Of those graduates, 779 (65%) were working in Nebraska in the first quarter of 2009. There were 72 more total graduates from the University of Nebraska-Kearney and 52 more graduates working in the state than the previous year.

Fifty-eight counties had at least one UNK graduate employed in the county in the first quarter of 2009, and six counties had 25 or more graduates.

The Bachelor's Degree program in Business Administration and Management had the highest number of graduates with 160 graduates. Seventy-two percent of those graduates were employed in the state in the first quarter of 2009. Master's Degree graduates (68%) were more likely than Bachelor's Degree graduates (63%) to be working in the state.

Arts and a

Where to find it

Online the Graduate Outcomes in Nebraska publication can be found at LMI Home. Under Publications > Get More. The Graduate Outcomes section contains a drop-down box with publications for each school.

Labor Force

What is it?

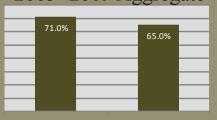
For the Labor Force Estimates and Labor Force and Unemployment Rate Monthly Trends, the graphs and tables are formatted as they would appear if pulled directly from the NEWorks page.

The labor force is the total of all civilians, employed or unemployed, excluding those who are under 16 years of age, people who are institutionalized, or members of the Armed Forces. The unemployment rate is calculated by taking the number of unemployed individuals divided by the total labor force.

Between 2000 and 2010, the Nebraska labor force increased by 27,097 individuals. This increase includes a decline of 16,427 individuals since 2008, due to the recession. Since 2000, employment has increased by 0.9% while unemployment rose by 74.8%.

Nebraska's 2010 unemployment rate, 4.7% is approximately half the national level of 9.6%. Nebraska also has a higher participation rate than the national average.

Labor Force Participation Rate 2005-2009 Aggregate



United States Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community

Survey, Released 2009

Labor Force Estimates Nebraska Statewide, 2010

Civilian Labor Force	Employment	Unemployment	Unemployment Rate (%)
976,859	931,414	45,444	4.7

Labor Force Estimates Metro and Nonmetro, 2010

Area Name	Civilian Labor Force	Employment	Unemployment	Unemployment Rate (%)
Metro Area	549,322	522,469	26,853	4.9
Non-Metro	427,537	408,946	18,591	4.3

Note: Data is not seasonally adjusted

Source: Nebraska Department of Labor, Local Area Unemployment Statistics, Released 2010

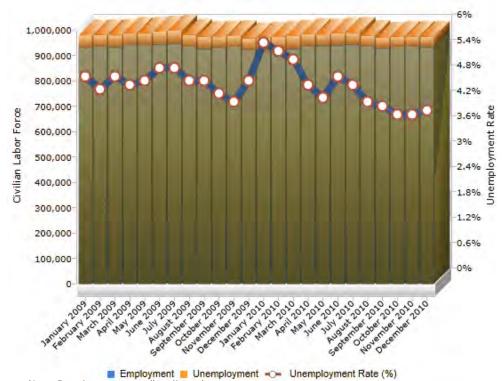
How to use it.

There are many different factors that can be used to determine the stability of the economy, including the unemployment rate. However, caution should be used when looking at month to month changes in the unemployment rate, and other labor force data. The sample size used in estimating data at this level is rather small and a small sample size can introduce higher sampling errors. A better way to look at those estimates is. better way to look at these estimates is to examine longer-term trends for patterns and changes.

Where to find it

Additional labor force data can be found at LMI Home. Under Historic Data Analysis > Employment and Wage Data > Labor Force Data > Labor Force Data > Labor Force Employment and Unemployment (LAUS). Preliminary LAUS data is released and the previous month's data is revised each month.

Labor Force and Unemployment Rate Monthly Trends Nebraska Statewide, 2009 to 2010



Note: Data is not seasonally adjusted

Source: Nebraska Department of Labor, Local Area Unemployment Statistics, Released 2010

How to use it

Trends show that the labor force is growing, as is expected with the overall population events, such as weather changes, harvests, patterns users can estimate current levels and

growth. It is important to remember that this data is not seasonally adjusted. Seasonal holidays and school openings and closings can cause the estimates to go through major fluctuations. By studying historical seasonal upcoming changes, helping to plan business processes, such as recruitment.



What is it?

Labor force trends show that the number of people in the labor force has decreased 0.6% from 977,721 individuals in January of 2009 to 972,325 individuals in December of 2010.

Seasonal fluctuations are visible in the labor force and unemployment rate monthly trends. The data presented is not seasonally adjusted, so trends appear that are a result of natural employment changes throughout the year. In both 2009 and 2010, the labor force was largest during the month of July, this is expected with the growth of construction jobs and other industries which expand over the summer months. Nebraska's highest unemployment rate occurred in November of 1982, with a rate of 10.8%. In recent history, the highest unemployment rate was 5.7%, during January of 2010.



Where to find it

Additional labor force data can be found at LMI Home. Under Historic Data Analysis > Employment and Wage Data > Labor Force Data > Labor Force Employment and Unemployment (LAUS). Preliminary LAUS data is released and the previous month's data is revised each month.

Neb<mark>raska</mark> Workers

What is it?

The map to the right shows where Nebraska's workers live. There were 826,655 employees working primary jobs in Nebraska in 2008, according to the U.S. Census Bureau. Of those workers, 771,867 (93.4%) lived in Nebraska.

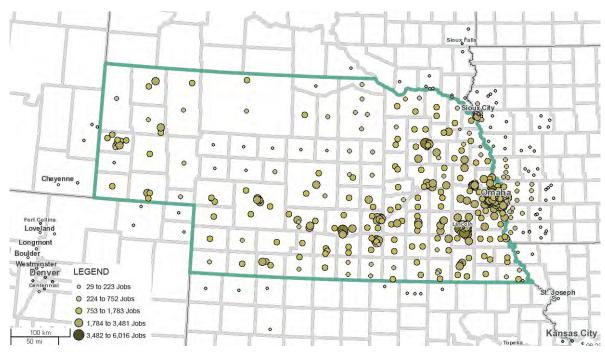
The largest portion (22.3%) of Nebraska's workers work in the city of Omaha. The cities of Lincoln and Grand Island are the next largest areas of Nebraska employment, respectively.

Nearly seven percent of Nebraska's workers were in-commuters in 2008; 54,788 individuals commuted into Nebraska from other states. The majority of in-commuters (65%) came from Iowa, with 23% of the total coming from Council Bluffs alone. Nearly four fifths of all in-commuters (38,404) came from contiguous states.

Overall, Nebraska has a net gain of 25,983 workers from other states.



Where Nebraska's Workers Live 2008



Note: Locations of less than 29 jobs are not shown.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Local Employment Dynamics, Released 2009

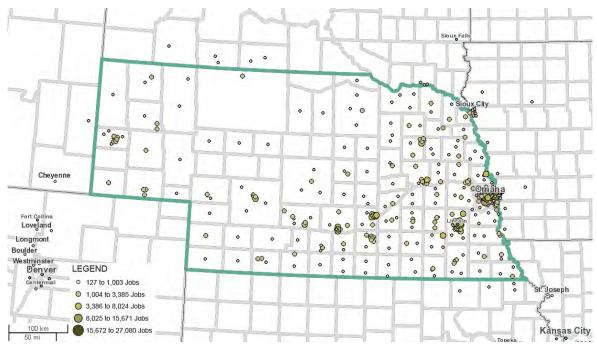
How to use it

Commuting Patterns are used by the U.S. Census Bureau to identify the boundaries of regional labor pools and to determine Labor Market Areas. Businesses depend on labor force information available by Labor Market Area to evaluate recruiting methods and identify the potential customer base. Economic Development boards can also benefit from knowing commuting patterns by estimating the number of workers who may choose to work within a region if suitable jobs were available.

Where to find it

Commuting statistics from Local Employment Dynamics can be found at lehd.did.census. gov/led/. Choose OnTheMap under Tools. New data is available in a different format.

Where Workers are Employed who Live in Nebraska 2008



Locations of less than 127 jobs are not shown.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Local Employment Dynamics, Released 2009

How to use it

Many of the workers commuting to and from bordering states are likely commuting across state lines for work. It is possible that many of the workers commuting to and from other states not bordering Nebraska are either (1) actually living in another state while keeping a permanent residence in Nebraska, (2) are working at an alternative work site for a company based in Nebraska, or (3) are telecommuting or only commuting occasionally.

Where to find it

Commuting statistics from Local Employment Dynamics can be found at lehd.did.census. gov/led/. Choose OnTheMap under Tools. New data is available in a different format.

Nebraska

Resident Workers

What is it?

The map to the left shows where workers live who are employed in Nebraska. There were 800,672 people who work living in Nebraska in 2008, according to the U.S. Census Bureau. Of those resident workers, 771,867 (96.4%) remained in Nebraska to work.

Approximately half of Nebraska's resident workers live in the three largest cities in the state; Omaha, Lincoln, and Grand Island.

There were 28,805 (3.6%) resident workers who commuted out of Nebraska, resulting in a net gain of 25,983 workers. More than one-half (59.6%) of outcommuters are going to Iowa for work, with 26.9% of Nebraskans commuting to Council Bluffs, Iowa to work. Most outcommuters are working in contiguous states, 24,757 workers, or 93.1%.



Nebraska Compensation

What is it?

Of the 23 major occupational groups, the Occupational Employment Statistics program reports that Management provides the highest hourly average wage at \$42.59 per hour. This occupational group also has a \$33.36 per hour difference between entry and experienced average wages. Food Preparation and Service Related Occupations pay the lowest average hourly wage at \$9.24 per hour and is one of the state's top five employing occupations.

Nebraska's average annual wage for all occupations is \$37,743 in 2010 and below the national average annual wage by \$5,717 which is \$43,460. Farming, Fishing and Forestry Occupations' and Transportation and Materials Moving Occupations' average annual wages are above the national average. Four Occupations pay significantly less, by more than \$10,000, on average, in Nebraska than they do nationally.



Wages by Occupation Nebraska Statewide, 3rd Quarter 2010

		Hourly	Hourly	Hourly	Annual Average	Annual Average
SOC Code	Occupational Title	Average	Entry	Experienced	Nebraska	National
11-0000	Management Occupations	\$42.59	\$20.35	\$53.71	\$88,591	\$102,900
13-0000	Business and Financial Operations Occupations	\$27.98	\$17.05	\$33.44	\$58,192	\$65,900
15-0000	Computer and Mathematical Occupations	\$32.02	\$19.41	\$38.33	\$66,599	\$76,290
17-0000	Architecture and Engineering Occupations	\$29.93	\$17.44	\$36.17	\$62,249	\$73,590
19-0000	Life, Physical, and Social Science Occupations	\$26.92	\$15.62	\$32.57	\$55,993	\$65,660
21-0000	Community and Social Services Occupations	\$16.92	\$10.47	\$20.14	\$35,191	\$42,750
23-0000	Legal Occupations	\$36.14	\$15.25	\$46.59	\$75,171	\$95,820
25-0000	Education, Training, and Library Occupations	\$20.28	\$10.81	\$25.01	\$42,185	\$49,530
27-0000	Arts, Design, Entertainment, Sports, and Media Occupations	\$18.70	\$9.64	\$23.24	\$38,901	\$51,720
29-0000	Healthcare Practitioners and Technical Occupations	\$29.54	\$15.41	\$36.60	\$61,445	\$69,690
31-0000	Healthcare Support Occupations	\$12.41	\$9.67	\$13.78	\$25,809	\$26,710
33-0000	Protective Service Occupations	\$17.98	\$9.80	\$22.08	\$37,411	\$41,740
35-0000	Food Preparation and Serving-Related Occupations	\$9.24	\$7.49	\$10.13	\$19,229	\$20,880
37-0000	Building and Grounds Cleaning and Maintenance Occupations	\$10.92	\$7.99	\$12.39	\$22,721	\$24,970
39-0000	Personal Care and Service Occupations	\$10.53	\$7.61	\$11.97	\$21,884	\$24,680
41-0000	Sales and Related Occupations	\$15.52	\$7.79	\$19.38	\$32,275	\$36,020
43-0000	Office and Administrative Support Occupations	\$14.26	\$9.32	\$16.72	\$29,656	\$32,990
45-0000	Farming, Fishing, and Forestry Occupations	\$13.03	\$8.28	\$15.42	\$27,112	\$23,990
47-0000	Construction and Extraction Occupations	\$18.44	\$11.77	\$21.77	\$38,342	\$43,350
49-0000	Installation, Maintenance, and Repair Occupations	\$18.59	\$11.59	\$22.08	\$38,650	\$42,210
51-0000	Production Occupations	\$15.13	\$10.14	\$17.64	\$31,485	\$33,290
53-0000	Transportation and Material Moving Occupations	\$16.16	\$9.30	\$19.59	\$33,603	\$32,180
00-0000	Total all occupations	\$18.14	\$8.94	\$22.75	\$37,743	\$43,460

Source: Nebraska Department of Labor, Occupational Employment Statistics, Released 2010 Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, Occupational Employment Statistics, Released 2010

Note: National figures are May 2009 Data

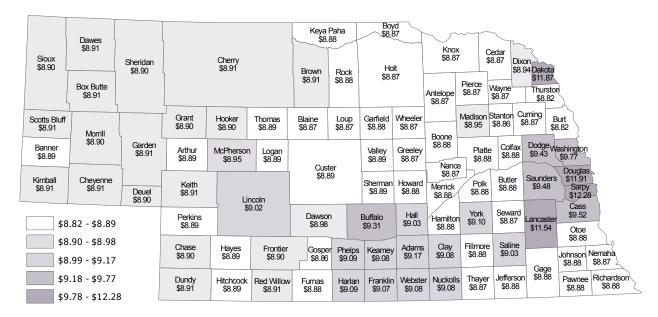
How to use it

Sometimes determining wages and wage adjustments for employees can be complicated for employers. However, using the Occupational Employment Statistics to see wage trends by area and industry will simplify the process. Many employers reevaluate salaries after minimum wage changes. Nebraska's minimum wage changed to \$6.55 in 2008 and was increased to \$7.25 per hour in 2009.

Where to find it

Occupational employment and wages can be found at LMI Home. Under Employment and Wage Data > Occupation Specific Data > Wages. Occupational Employment Statistics are updated quarterly.

Self-Sufficiency Standard by County Family of Two Working Adults, Infant and Preschooler, 2010



Source: Nebraska Appleseed Center for Law in the Public Interest and Wider Opportunities for Women, Self-Sufficiency Standard for Nebraska, Originally Released 2002, Updated 2010 (Prepared by Diana Pearce, Ph.D. with Jennifer Brooks)

How to use it

The Standard was intended initially as a performance measure for the goal of "selfsufficiency" in federal job training programs (now known as WIA, the Workforce Investment Act program). It is a measure that provides realistic and détailed data on what clients individually need to be self-sufficient.

Where to find it The Nebraska Self-Sufficiency Standard as well as additional information can be found online at neappleseed.org/lowincome.

Self-Sufficiency Standard

What is it?

The Self-Sufficiency Standard is the amount of income, shown here in hourly wage, a family would need to live, work and adequately meet its basic needs without public or private assistance. The Standard, which varies by family type and location, is the wage needed to be earned by each adult.

The map to the left shows the 2010 Self-Sufficiency Standard for a family of four including two working adults, an infant and a preschooler. Nearly 75% of Nebraska's counties (67 of 93 counties) have a Self-Sufficiency Standard for that family type of between \$8.86 and \$8.91 per hour for each adult. Sarpy County has the highest standard at \$12.28, while Thurston and Burt County had the lowest at \$8.82 per hour for each adult.



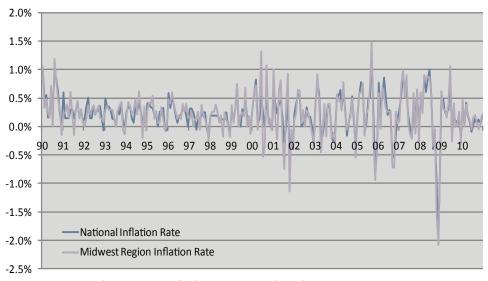
Consumer Price Index

What is it?

The Consumer Price Index, or CPI, is a measure of price levels for everyday goods purchased by consumers. Products are priced in all metropolitan areas around the country on a daily basis and compared to previous prices. These prices are then scaled to a base of 100 and released monthly.

If prices rise, the CPI will increase; if prices decrease, the CPI drops. The percent changes in the CPI should be directly related to the price changes consumers face over the time period for everything they buy. The CPI monthly release can be taken as a percentage to measure the inflation rate, in which any given data point is measured against the data of the previous month.

Monthly Inflation Rate Midwest Region and United States, 1990 to 2010



Source: CPI Data Used From Bureau of Labor Statistics, Released 2010



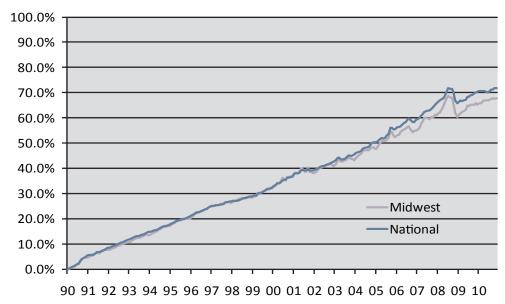
How to use it

The inflation rate gives insight into how much prices change in a given period. The rate can be used to identify trends in price changes, such as the lull in price changes during the mid-1990's. The inflation rate can also help identify specific time periods when changes in the economic cycle occurred. In general, recessions decrease price changes, causing inflation to decrease or even become negative.

Where to find it

On the BLS.gov website, go to the tab which reads "Subject Areas". This will yield a drop down menu, on which the first option is Consumer Price Index. CPI data is updated monthly.

Inflation Rate, Base Year 1990 Calculated Monthly Midwest Region and United States, 1990 to 2010



Source: CPI Data Used From Bureau of Labor Statistics, Released 2010

How to use it

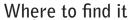
The inflation rate, when adjusted with a base year of 1990, gives insight into how prices have changed since 1990. This allows for a comparison of any specific item between the base year and current time. If a wage does not increase at the rate of inflation, the wage has effectively decreased in real value. To adjust a wage for inflation, multiply the wage from the original time period by 1 plus the percent of inflation (1+(%)). For example, a wage of \$5.00 in 1990 adjusted for national inflation to 2010 should be multiplied by 1 plus the percentage of inflation in numeric form (1.72). This would give a current wage of \$8.60.

Consumer Price Index

What is it?

The Consumer Price Index (CPI) is a representation of the goods and services purchased by consumers. These consumption items are grouped into one of 200 categories, which are then further categorized into eight major groups: food and beverages, housing, apparel, transportation, medical care, recreation, education and communication, and other goods and services.

The CPI also includes various government-charged user fees and taxes. Any tax that is associated with specific goods' and services' prices, such as sales tax, water and sewerage charges, and vehicle tolls, will be included in the CPI. However, any tax not directly related to a consumption purchase, such as an income or Social Security tax, will not be included in the CPI. Over the past two decades, the Midwest Region's CPI experienced a 68% inflation rate, while the National CPI experienced a 72% inflation rate based on 1990 rates.



On the BLS.gov website, go to the tab which reads "Subject Areas". This will yield a drop down menu, on which the first option is Consumer Price Index. CPI data is updated monthly.



Employee Benefits

What is it?

There are two factors that best predict whether or not an employer will offer whether or not an employer will offer benefits: type of employment (full- or part-time) and size of business. The results of the 2006 Benefits Survey show that larger businesses consistently offered more benefits than smaller ones, although the relationship was different by the type of benefit. The percentage of companies offering all types of insurance retirement offering all types of insurance, retirement plans and educational assistance increased as the size of the business increased; this did not necessarily apply to paid leave.

Rate of Benefits Offered by Employment Size Full-time Employees, Nebraska Statewide, 2006

	1-4 Employees	5-9 Employees	10-19 Employees	20-49 Employees	50-99 Employees	100-249 Employees	250+ Employees	All Sizes
Medical Insurance	30.3%	52.6%	67.3%	79.7%	92.6%	97.4%	98.6%	63.8%
Dental Insurance	13.0%	24.1%	36.9%	53.5%	72.6%	90.0%	94.4%	39.0%
Vision Insurance	6.0%	13.1%	19.0%	26.1%	39.2%	48.1%	64.1%	20.2%
Life Insurance	15.9%	33.5%	49.4%	64.4%	81.7%	93.8%	97.2%	48.1%
Paid Time Off	7.0%	10.7%	14.0%	18.4%	21.6%	36.0%	38.5%	14.8%
Paid Vacation	59.7%	79.5%	80.6%	82.7%	85.4%	77.6%	81.9%	77.7%
Paid Sick Leave	30.9%	41.7%	42.3%	42.8%	48.1%	39.7%	50.7%	40.8%
Paid Holidays	57.0%	74.6%	76.0%	76.5%	83.1%	80.3%	92.3%	73.6%
Retirement Plan	27.3%	46.5%	55.6%	62.5%	77.0%	85.1%	83.2%	53.3%
Educational Assistance	11.0%	20.2%	22.9%	28.8%	43.8%	61.1%	84.0%	25.6%

Source: Nebraska Department of Labor, Benefits Survey, Released 2007



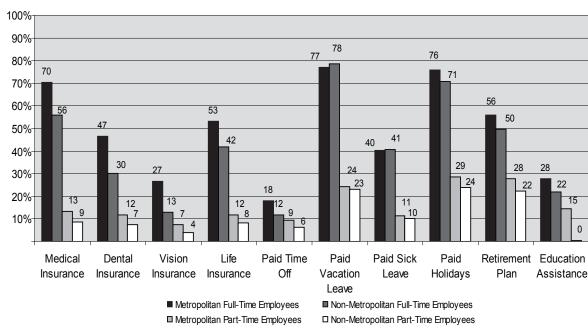
How to use it

Benefit information is important to both employers and employees, since benefits can account for a significant portion (about one-third) of an employee's total compensation package. Employers often use this information to gauge how well they might compete for workers with other businesses in the area.

Where to find it

To view this survey, go to LMI Home, select the Publications section. For updated Employee Benefits information visit the BLS website at bls.gov; under the Subject Areas tab select Benefits under Pay and Benefits.

Rate of Benefits Offered Nebraska Statewide, 2006



Source: Nebraska Department of Labor, Benefits Survey, Released 2007

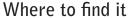
How to use it

Many factors go into choosing where to locate a new business; one of those factors may be choosing whether to locate in a metropolitan area versus a non-metropolitan area. Benefit trends showing what it would take to stay regionally competitive may influence that decision. Although most businesses do not offer as many benefits to their part-time employees, more than one-quarter of them offer some type of retirement plan. This may show how important it is to employees, even those working only part-time, to plan for retirement.

Employee Benefits

What is it?

Type of employment is one of the factors that can predict whether or not an employer will offer benefits. This survey shows that, on average, full-time employees were more likely to be offered benefits than part-time employees in 2006. Also, on average, businesses within a metropolitan area offered more benefits than businesses in a non-metropolitan area. The only exceptions were the percentage of businesses offering paid vacation leave, and paid sick leave. The benefits with the largest gap between the percentage offered to full-time and part-time employees were medical insurance and paid vacation leave.



To view this survey, go to LMI Home, select the Publications section. For updated Employee Benefits information visit the BLS website at bls.gov; under the Subject Areas tab select Benefits under Pay and Benefits.



Employee Benefits

What is it?

Medical insurance is commonly offered to full-time employees as a benefit. The percentage of businesses that offered medical insurance to employees in 2006 is shown in the table to the right. In all but a few cases, the percent of businesses offering medical insurance increases as the employment size increases. All businesses who responded to the 2006 Benefits Survey with more than 250 employees offered medical insurance except in Professional & Business Services.

The percent of businesses that offer medical insurance in the Information and Manufacturing industries are the largest among all industries. Leisure & Hospitality offered the lowest percentage of medical insurance to full-time workers in 2006.

Rate of Medical Insurance Offered by Employment Size Full-time Employees, Nebraska Statewide, 2006

	1-4 Employees	5-9 Employees	10-19 Employees	20-49 Employees	50-99 Employees	100-249 Employees	250+ Employees	All Sizes
Natual Resources and Mining	16.7%	63.6%	58.3%	66.7%	N/A	N/A	N/A	41.8%
Construction	20.3%	47.7%	71.6%	86.3%	95.8%	100.0%	100.0%	59.9%
Manufacturing	40.8%	59.8%	85.7%	91.2%	98.8%	98.5%	100.0%	81.0%
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	31.3%	57.9%	70.4%	86.2%	93.2%	100.0%	100.0%	67.2%
Information	56.5%	78.8%	86.0%	89.3%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	83.1%
Financial Activities	39.3%	75.3%	92.5%	98.5%	96.0%	100.0%	100.0%	76.8%
Professional Business Services	32.5%	47.9%	73.6%	84.0%	94.1%	96.9%	92.3%	63.1%
Education and Health Services	32.4%	44.2%	58.9%	77.3%	91.7%	97.4%	100.0%	63.6%
Leisure & Hospiality	11.7%	16.0%	27.7%	48.9%	80.3%	87.5%	100.0%	38.5%
Other Services	24.8%	48.0%	70.2%	72.4%	81.3%	100.0%	100.0%	52.6%

Source: Nebraska Department of Labor, Benefits Survey, Released 2007



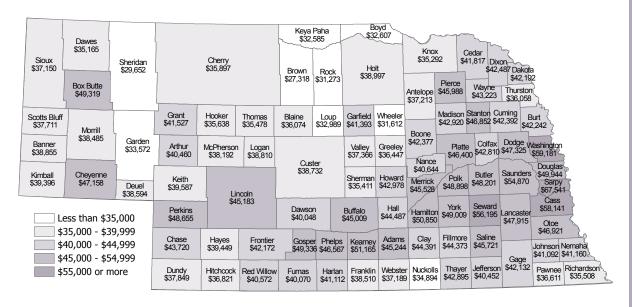
How to use it

It is important to remember that while the last few tables have shown benefit availability differences between industries, regions and employment size, these factors are all interrelated. Before conclusions can be made about the influence of an employer's size or location in offering benefits, the employer's industry and proportion of full- and part-time employees must also be considered.

Where to find it

To view this survey, go to LMI Home, select the Publications section. For updated Employee Benefits information visit the BLS website at bls.gov; under the Subject Areas tab select Benefits under Pay and Benefits.

Median Household Income by County 2009



Source: USDA, Economic Research Service, County Level Median Household Income, Released 2010

How to use it

Household income is the annual earnings of all household members. A household can be different than a family, which is a group of two or more people living together who are related by birth, marriage, or adoption. A household is more general, and includes all people who occupy a housing unit as their usual place of residence. Local area income estimates are widely used by both public and private sectors to méasure and track the levels and types of incomes received by the area population.

Household Income

What is it?

Nebraska's median household income in 2009 was \$47,470; Nebraska ranked 29th nationally. Fifteen counties had a higher median household income than the state: Sarpy, Washington, Cass, Seward, Saunders, Kearney, Hamilton, Douglas, Gosper, Box Butte, York, Polk, Perkins, Butler, and Lancaster. Sarpy County had the highest median household income with \$67,541. Brown County had the lowest with \$27,318.

Nebraska showed a 4.5% decrease in median household income from 2008 to 2009, and an increase of 17.4% between 2000 and 2009. Garfield County had the greatest 2008 to 2009 increase (26.3%), while Brown County showed the largest decrease in median household income down

The national median household income in 2009 was \$50,221, which decreased by 3.5% from 2008 to 2009, and increased by 19.6% between 2000 and 2009.

Where to find it Median Household Income data can found census.gov. Choose Income under People & Households.

Industry Employment

What is it?

Average employment in the table to the right represents the number of filled positions covered by unemployment insurance who worked during, or received pay for, the pay period including the 12th of the month. This allows a person holding multiple positions to be double or triple counted, once for each position they hold. Wages represent total compensation paid regardless of when services were performed. This data is a quarterly updated data set.

Some of the notable exceptions to these counts would include most self employed workers, many agriculture employees, railroad employees, as well as a number of non-profit and religious organizations.

In 2009, there were 59,685 total establishments in Nebraska, with 901,490 employment. Management of Companies barely passed Utilities for the highest weekly wage paid for the year.



Employment and Wages by Industry Nebraska Statewide, 2009

Industry	Establishments	Avg Employment	Avg Weekly Wage	Total Wages
Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing & Hunting	1,524	11,538	\$560	\$335,736,101
Mining	141	907	\$821	\$38,701,168
Utilities	295	9,621	\$1,447	\$724,024,438
Construction	6,365	46,332	\$787	\$1,896,763,400
Manufacturing	2,063	93,318	\$776	\$3,765,753,908
Wholesale Trade	4,913	41,220	\$933	\$2,000,244,198
Retail Trade	7,121	104,771	\$426	\$2,321,498,467
Transportation and Warehousing	2,906	44,026	\$710	\$1,626,201,879
Information	965	17,605	\$940	\$860,561,309
Finance and Insurance	4,230	53,935	\$974	\$2,732,035,546
Real Estate and Rental and Leasing	1,901	9,198	\$597	\$285,604,110
Professional and Technical Services	5,593	43,492	\$1,097	\$2,481,924,877
Management of Companies and Enterprises	561	17,165	\$1,462	\$1,304,864,962
Administrative and Waste Services	3,202	41,385	\$531	\$1,143,425,489
Educational Services	1,082	85,206	\$710	\$3,147,522,992
Health Care and Social Assistance	5,132	124,870	\$732	\$4,752,714,352
Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation	851	13,441	\$306	\$213,802,820
Accommodation and Food Services	4,198	68,966	\$232	\$831,932,709
Other Services, Ex. Public Admin	4,535	24,322	\$493	\$623,659,293
Public Administration	2,109	50,173	\$746	\$1,947,573,768
Total All Industries	59,685	901,490	\$705	\$33,034,545,786

Source: Nebraska Department of Labor, Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages, Released 2010

How to use it

Nebraska's largest industries are easy to deduce from the employment and wages table above. More than one-eighth (14.4%) of Nebraska's wages were paid to Health Care and Social Assistance employees in 2009, suggesting how important the industry is for the state. Although this was Nebraska's largest industry this year, the average wages were only slightly more than half of what the average Management of Companies and Enterprises employee received per week.

Where to find it

Industry data can be found at LMI Home. Under Employment and Wage Data > Industry Data > Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages(QCEW). QCEW data is updated quarterly.

Industry Employment Change Nebraska Statewide, 2001 to 2009

	2001 Employment	2009 Employment	Employment Change	Percent Change
Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing & Hunting	9,932	11,538	1,606	16.2%
Mining	1,259	907	-352	-28.0%
Utilities	8,975	9,621	646	7.2%
Construction	43,815	46,332	2,517	5.7%
Manufacturing	110,572	93,318	-17,254	-15.6%
Wholesale Trade	42,576	41,220	-1,356	-3.2%
Retail Trade	110,479	104,771	-5,708	-5.2%
Transportation and Warehousing	39,048	44,026	4,978	12.7%
Information	25,918	17,605	-8,313	-32.1%
Finance and Insurance	49,816	53,935	4,119	8.3%
Real Estate and Rental and Leasing	9,762	9,198	-564	-5.8%
Professional and Technical Services	35,134	43,492	8,358	23.8%
Management of Companies and Enterprises	11,430	17,165	5,735	50.2%
Administrative and Waste Services	51,956	41,385	-10,571	-20.3%
Educational Services	77,087	85,206	8,119	10.5%
Health Care and Social Assistance	103,290	124,870	21,580	20.9%
Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation	10,842	13,441	2,599	24.0%
Accommodation and Food Services	66,497	68,966	2,469	3.7%
Other Services, Ex. Public Admin	25,756	24,322	-1,434	-5.6%
Public Administration	49,800	50,173	373	0.7%
Total All Industries	883,943	901,490	17,547	2.0%

Source: Nebraska Department of Labor, Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages, Released 2010

How to use it

Historical trends in industry employment are crucial in developing industry and occupational projections. Studying Nebraska's industry employment history can also help to determine the critical industries in the state. A potential employer would benefit from determining whether a possible location already has a strong, growing employment base in that industry or whether employment in that area has recently declined.

Where to find it

Industry data can be found at LMI Home. Under Employment and Wage Data > Industry Data > Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages(QCEW). QCEW data is updated quarterly.

Industry Employment

What is it?

The total employment for those covered by unemployment insurance in Nebraska for 2009 was 901,490. All employment increased by 2.0% between 2001 and 2009. Health Care and Social Assistance had the most employment in 2009 with 124,870 as well as the largest numeric growth over the 2001 to 2009 period. It added 21,580 jobs, or 20.9%.

Employment in Information decreased by the greatest percentage between 2001 and 2009 with a change of -32.1%, or -8,313 jobs. The largest numeric decrease in employment for that time frame was in Manufacturing, with a change of -17,254.



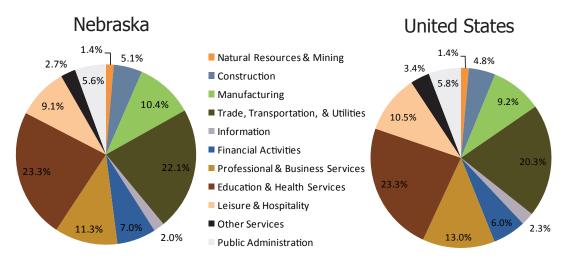
Industry Distribution

What is it?

These graphs represent the breakdown of Nebraska's industry employment compared to the United States'. Nebraska has a higher percent of employment in Construction, Manufacturing, Trade, Transportation and Utilities, and Financial Activities. The widest gap in percent employment between Nebraska and the U.S. is Professional and Business Services, a difference of 1.7 percentage points more in the United States than in Nebraska.

Overall, Education and Health Services has the highest percentage of employment for both Nebraska and the U.S. followed by Trade, Transportation and Utilities. Natural Resources & Mining has the lowest percentage of employment.

Percent of Employment by Industry Nebraska Statewide and United States, 2009



Source: Nebraska Department of Labor, Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages, Released 2009 Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages, Released 2009

How to use it

The proportion of industry employment can be used to study which industries are significant employers in the area. This can be of interest when planning for regional development and expectations for incoming populations of laborers. This can also be of interest to businesses when surveying potential areas to either relocate or expand. This is a small piece of information that can be used to decide whether the area they are previewing may have the proper infrastructure to support their expanding business.

Where to find it

Industry data can be found at LMI Home. Under Employment and Wage Data > Industry Data > Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages(QCEW). QCEW data is updated quarterly.

Industry Location Quotient Nebraska Statewide, 2001 to 2009

Industry	2001	2009	Change
Natural Resources and Mining	0.97	1.00	0.03
Construction	0.96	1.12	0.16
Manufacturing	1.00	1.14	0.14
Trade, Transportation, and Utilities	1.08	1.09	0.01
Information	1.07	0.90	-0.17
Financial Activities	1.15	1.19	0.04
Professional and Business Services	0.88	0.88	0.00
Education and Health Services	0.99	0.93	-0.06
Leisure and Hospitality	0.96	0.90	-0.06
Other Services	0.90	0.80	-0.10

Source: Nebraska Department of Labor, Quarterly Census of Employment

and Wages, Released 2010

Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, Quarterly Census of Employment and

Wages, Released 2010

Location quotients provide information on how many people the industry employs in relation to another area. Industries non-agricultural industries.

How to use it

with location quotients over 1.0 show a proportional rate of saturation of the labor market for that particular industry; this could be due to a number of reasons. A higher location quotient could indicate the industry receives a higher than average revenue when compared to costs within the area. When a location quotient is less than 1.0, this shows a lower level of saturation for the labor market. Location quotients are only calculated for

Location Quotient

What is it?

The location quotient indicates the concentration of employment in an industry at the statewide level relative to its concentration at the national level. The state location quotient is calculated by dividing each industry's employment by total employment and then by the corresponding national employment ratio.

In 2009, Financial Activities had the highest location quotient at 1.19 in Nebraska, with Manufacturing having the second highest at 1.14. This means that Nebraska has a proportionally higher saturation of the workforce for these types of employees. Other Services had the lowest location quotient for the year at 0.80.



quarterly.

Where to find it

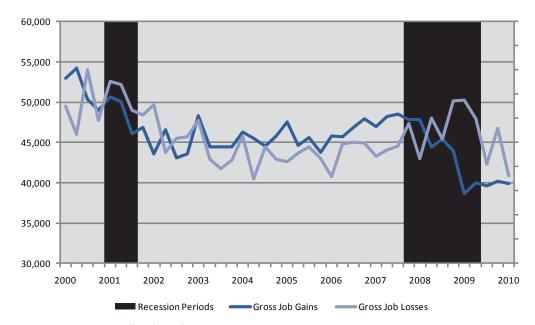
Employment Dynamics

What is it?

Business Employment Dynamics tracks gross job gains and losses at the establishment level. Government employees, private households and establishments with zero employment are not included in this information.

During the first quarter of 2010, there were 39,893 job gains from openings and expansions, and 40,899 job losses from closings and contractions. The net change was a 1,006 job loss for that quarter. First quarter of 2009 had similar but larger scale results, with many more losses and a net change of -11,590. The rates of gross job gains and losses provide a picture of the amount of "job churning" that occurs in the labor market.

Business Employment Dynamics: Job Gains & Losses Nebraska Statewide, 2000 to 2010



Note: Seasonally Adjusted Data

Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, Business Employment Dynamics, Released 2010

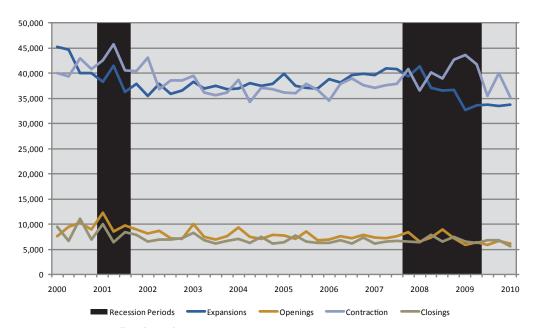
OUT OF WORK

How to use it

Business Employment Dynamics show the movements of aggregate employment numbers and can be used to analyze overthe-quarter employment change in a way that tells the story of how the employment numbers change. This data is used to analyze the underlying reasons for shifts in the demand-side of the labor market. Business cycle analysis for industries, areas and the economy as a whole can also be done using Business Employment Dynamics.

Where to find it
Business Employment Dynamics can be found
at bls.gov. Choose Business Employment
Dynamics from the Employment Subject Area.

Business Employment Dynamics, Expansions & Contractions Nebraska Statewide, 2000 to 2010



Note: Seasonally Adjusted Data

Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, Business Employment Dynamics, Released 2010

How to use it

It is important to understand that openings are not necessarily new businesses that have opened, and that closings are not always establishments that have gone out of businesses. For example, businesses that are seasonal and close down for either the summer or the winter will be treated as closings at the end of the season or as openings at the beginning.

Where to find it Business Employment Dynamics can be found at bls.gov. Choose Business Employment Dynamics from the Employment Subject Area.

Employment Dynamics

What is it?

Nebraska experienced 39,893 job gains and 40,899 job losses during the first quarter of 2010. Gross job gains include both openings and expansions; gross job losses include closings and contractions. A majority of the gross job gains and losses can be attributed to expansions and contractions.

Expansions constituted 85 percent of gross job gains, while contractions were 87 percent of gross job losses. There were 33,698 establishments that expanded during the first quarter of 2010, and 6,195 establishment openings. The state also experienced 35,221 establishment contractions and 5,678 closings during that quarter. Establishment closures and contractions were significantly lower than were reported the corresponding quarter, last year.



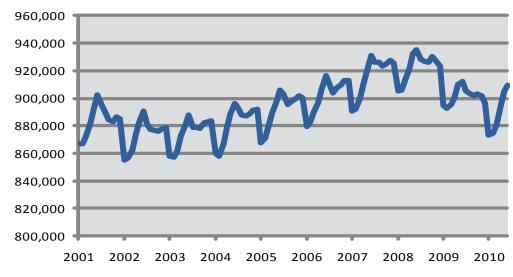
Employment Trends

What is it?

The chart shows that employment in Nebraska is at a similar level as last year, with the yearly peaks in June and significant drops between December and January. These seasonal trends are also apparent in labor force data.

The largest over the year change from January to January was from 2009 to 2010, with an employment loss of 2.4%, or 23,091 jobs. The second largest decrease was reported as a change of 1.4%, or 11,810 workers between January 2001 and January 2002. The largest positive over the year change for January of one year to the next January occurred between 2007 and 2008 with a gain of 14,259 jobs, or 1.6%.

Total Employment Trends Nebraska Statewide, 2001 to 2nd Quarter 2010



Source: Nebraska Department of Labor, Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages, Released 2010



How to use it

Knowing historical seasonal fluctuation trends can be beneficial for both workers seeking work and businesses recruiting workers. Higher employment is common during the summer and harvesting months (although agricultural employment is not included in this data) as Construction and Retail Trade are at their peaks. A drop in employment is expected during the winter months and after the holidays, as fewer construction and retail workers are needed.

Where to find it Industry data can be found at LMI Home. Under Employment and Wage Data > Industry Data > Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages(QCEW). QCEW data is updated quarterly.

Local Employment Dynamics: Quarterly Workforce Indicators Nebraska Statewide, 2009 Four Quarter Average

	Employment	Net Job Flows	Job Creation	New Hires	Separations	Turnover	Avg Monthly Earnings	Avg New Hire Earnings
Agriculture, Foresty, Fishing and Hunting	10,672	50	1,051	2,646	4,597	9.2%	\$2,629.25	\$2,010.25
Mining, Quarrying, and Oil and Gas Extraction	894	-2	62	100	134	7.7%	\$3,685.00	\$3,026.50
Utilities	9,385	30	132	213	239	1.8%	\$5,936.25	\$3,998.25
Construction	44,490	-501	4,092	8,275	10,740	11.2%	\$3,476.50	\$2,993.75
Manufacturing	97,208	-1,701	1,908	5,725	8,542	5.1%	\$3,480.75	\$2,537.75
Wholesale Trade	40,682	-214	1,404	2,793	3,775	5.4%	\$4,022.25	\$2,769.25
Retail Trade	104,108	-360	4,050	14,843	17,162	9.2%	\$1,970.00	\$1,186.25
Transportation and Warehousing	38,867	-556	1,137	6,927	8,158	10.4%	\$3,037.75	\$2,069.75
Information	17,771	-273	517	1,249	1,665	6.2%	\$4,029.50	\$2,581.50
Finance and Insurance	54,726	-283	1,249	2,780	3,442	4.4%	\$4,249.25	\$2,948.50
Real Estate and Rental and Leasing	9,227	-44	441	1,017	1,290	8.5%	\$2,663.00	\$1,778.25
Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services	43,349	-228	2,120	4,085	5,364	7.0%	\$4,885.25	\$3,373.00
Management of Companies and Enterprises	16,397	-220	343	1,177	1,567	5.8%	\$5,882.00	\$2,710.00
Administrative and Support and Waste								
Management and Remediation Services	41,217	-487	3,129	12,464	14,801	14.4%	\$2,506.50	\$1,700.52
Educational Services	83,314	552	2,580	5,112	7,748	5.1%	\$3,068.75	\$1,534.25
Health Care and Social Assistance	124,420	512	3,235	11,133	12,107	6.8%	\$3,271.50	\$2,091.75
Arts, Entertainment and Recreation	12,874	58	1,729	2,672	4,066	15.0%	\$1,333.25	\$783.75
Accommodation and Food Services	68,064	-101	4,093	17,428	19,281	15.6%	\$1,119.00	\$789.50
Other Services (except Public Administration)	24,141	32	1,415	3,216	3,840	9.0%	\$2,249.75	\$1,509.00
Public Administration	42,926	160	2,086	2,686	4,166	4.2%	\$3,013.50	\$1,849.00
Nebraska Statewide All Industry	884,740	-3,537	36,820	106,549	132,693	7.7%	\$3,140.50	\$1,863.50

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Local Employment Dynamics, Released 2010

How to use it

With this data, we can measure the number of stable jobs, assess how businesses and workers react to economic conditions, and determine if industries are growing or declining. The turnover rate reflects movement within businesses as well as growth and decline. The turnover rate is used to calculate costs of training and replacing human resources, and can be influential in a prospective business developer's decision of where to locate.

Where to find it Quarterly Workforce Indicators can be found at lehd.did.census.gov/led/. Choose QWI under the Tools section.

Workforce Indicators

What is it?

Local Employment Dynamics Quarterly Workforce Indicators reveal the movement of workers in and out of Nebraska businesses. For the 2009 four quarter average, Nebraska's overall employment was 884,740.

There were negative job flows for the state, showing Nebraska employment contracting between 2008 and 2009. Sizable separations played a part in the negative job flows.

Nebraska had an overall turnover rate of 7.7%. The highest turnover rate was in Accommodation and Food Services at 15.6%. Utilities had the lowest turnover rate, of 1.8%. This rate is derived by taking half of the hires and separations, then dividing by the stable jobs (total employment). This rate reflects movement within the industry as well as in and out of the industry.



Occupational Employment

What is it?

The Occupational Employment Statistics survey is another method of gathering employment and wage information. Although the employment and wages are estimates, the Nebraska survey generally has a 90 percent or higher business response rate.

There are 23 major occupation groups, and more than 750 detailed occupations. Occupational employment in Nebraska decreased between 2008 and 2009 by 12,130. Production Occupations declined by the greatest amount over the year, with a loss of 4,740 jobs. Office and Administrative Support constituted the largest number of positions in the state, by a wide margin.

Nebraska's Occupational Employment Statistics employment is tabulated once a year. However, the wages for each occupation are updated each quarter to give a more current reflection of wages paid to employees, statewide.



Employment by Occupation Nebraska Statewide, 2008 to 2009

Occ Code	Occupational Title	2008	2009	Employment
Occ code	Occupational fille	Employment	Employment	Change
00-0000	Total all occupations	916,570	904,440	-12,130
11-0000	Management Occupations	31,870	31,970	100
13-0000	Business and Financial Operations Occupations	39,660	40,520	860
15-0000	Computer and Mathematical Occupations	20,730	20,170	-560
17-0000	Architecture and Engineering Occupations	11,060	10,620	-440
19-0000	Life, Physical, and Social Science Occupations	7,060	7,660	600
21-0000	Community and Social Services Occupations	13,030	13,750	720
23-0000	Legal Occupations	4,450	4,210	-240
25-0000	Education, Training, and Library Occupations	55,180	57,350	2,170
27-0000	Arts, Design, Entertainment, Sports, and Media Occupations	10,720	10,910	190
29-0000	Healthcare Practitioners and Technical Occupations	51,290	52,410	1,120
31-0000	Healthcare Support Occupations	26,310	25,810	-500
33-0000	Protective Service Occupations	14,350	14,690	340
35-0000	Food Preparation and Serving-Related Occupations	76,070	75,390	-680
37-0000	Building and Grounds Cleaning and Maintenance Occupations	29,210	29,650	440
39-0000	Personal Care and Service Occupations	18,000	17,950	-50
41-0000	Sales and Related Occupations	102,150	100,440	-1,710
43-0000	Office and Administrative Support Occupations	161,360	158,320	-3,040
45-0000	Farming, Fishing, and Forestry Occupations	3,480	3,520	40
47-0000	Construction and Extraction Occupations	44,640	41,650	-2,990
49-0000	Installation, Maintenance, and Repair Occupations	36,920	36,210	-710
51-0000	Production Occupations	80,910	76,170	-4,740
53-0000	Transportation and Material Moving Occupations	78,100	75,080	-3,020

Source: Nebraska Department of Labor, Occupational Employment Statistics, Released 2010

How to use it

Employment by occupation provides a different measure of Nebraska's workforce than employment by industry. Occupations are defined by the type of work a person does. Occupational employment looks at each worker within the business and distinguishes their specific job title (i.e., it classifies a person based on the job description rather than the industry of the employer), while an industry is defined by the primary operation of the business or agency.

Where to find it

Occupational employment and wages can be found at LMI Home. Under Historic Data Analysis Employment and Wage Data > Occupational Data > and Occupation Wage Rates (OES). Occupational Employment Statistics data is updated quarterly.

Employment by Occupation Nebraska Statewide, Third Quarter 2010

Standard Occupational Code Title	Estimated Employment May 2009	Hourly Median Wages	Annual Median Wages
Retail Salespersons	29,710	\$9.22	\$19,171
Truck Drivers, Heavy and Tractor-Trailer	27,200	\$21.50	\$44,711
Cashiers	24,370	\$8.11	\$16,872
Combined Food Preparation and Serving Workers, Including Fast Food	19,500	\$7.91	\$16,446
Registered Nurses	18,930	\$25.83	\$53,718
Customer Service Representatives	17,070	\$13.89	\$28,881
Bookkeeping, Accounting, and Auditing Clerks	16,230	\$14.24	\$29,618
Laborers and Freight, Stock, and Material Movers, Hand	15,500	\$11.76	\$24,479
Janitors and Cleaners, Except Maids and Housekeeping Cleaners	15,270	\$9.89	\$20,582
Office Clerks, General	15,120	\$10.40	\$21,640
Waiters and Waitresses	15,090	\$7.73	\$16,085
Nursing Aides, Orderlies, and Attendants	13,610	\$11.36	\$23,636
Stock Clerks and Order Fillers	12,730	\$9.63	\$20,031
Secretaries, Except Legal, Medical, and Executive	12,240	\$12.74	\$26,485
Sales Reps., Wholesale and Manu., Ex. Tech. and Sci. Products	10,660	\$22.95	\$47,730
Teacher Assistants	9,940	N/A	\$20,704
Elementary School Teachers, Except Special Education	9,790	N/A	\$43,926
Meat, Poultry, and Fish Cutters and Trimmers	9,430	\$12.04	\$25,047
First-Line Supervisors/Managers of Retail Sales Workers	8,010	\$16.73	\$34,800
Maintenance and Repair Workers, General	7,830	\$15.88	\$33,023

Source: Nebraska Department of Labor, Occupational Employment Statistics, Released 2010

How to use it

Occupational employment wage figures are a resource used to give an estimation of common wages paid for most occupations. This could be useful for employers to check what a competitive wage is for posting a new job. It can also be useful for students planning a career path through their education to gain an idea of what they may expect to make, depending upon their choice.

Where to find it

Occupational employment and wages can be found at LMI Home. Under Historic Data Analysis Employment and Wage Data > Occupational Data > and Occupation Wage Rates (OES). Occupational Employment Statistics data is updated quarterly.

Occupational Employment

What is it?

Listed on the left are the top twenty specific occupations for the state, ranked by estimated employment. Along with that are the corresponding hourly and annual median wages for that occupation.

Of the top twenty occupations listed, the fifth highest estimated employment, Registered Nurses, reported the highest wages in 2010. With a median wage of \$53,718 per year, Registered Nurses were largely comparable with the national figures, as well. The top occupation by wages, which did not make the top twenty occupations by employment, was Family and General Practitioners making a median of \$168,612 per year. Of the corresponding national top ten occupations, Registered Nurses also offered the largest median wages for 2009.

Retail Salespersons were similarly representative of national patterns by ranking first in both the state and the nation as the highest estimated employment figure for 2009.



Nebraska Initial Claims

What is it?

Nebraska Initial Claims data tracks individuals who file for Unemployment Insurance benefits. Initial claims are often viewed as a leading indicator for the economy. Rarely are initial claims treated as an accurate data point, singularly, due to high volatility of the data caused by numerous outside variables. Rather, its trend is used to indicate the state of the labor market.

These applications are accepted both electronically and via telephone. Due to the different methods applications are received, demographic information is not always reported during an application for benefits. This is a reason that the figure for Unknown/Not Reported claims in the different demographic categories can vary drastically; specifically, in the table showing claims by race.

Statewide, Construction is the leading industry for number of claimants according to the Unemployment Insurance program with 19,474 initial claims in 2010.



Nebraska Initial Claims Nebraska Statewide, 2010

Race	Number of Claims
White	59,093
Black	6,252
Asian	873
American Indian or Alaska Native	1,131
Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander	157
Unknown/Not Reported	39,998
Ethnicity	
Not Hispanic or Latino	88,056
Hispanic or Latino	5,476
Unknown/Not Provided	13,972
Sex	
Male	63,887
Female	42,403
Unknown/Not Provided	1,214

Source: Nebraska Department of Labor, Unemployment Insurance Program, Released 2011

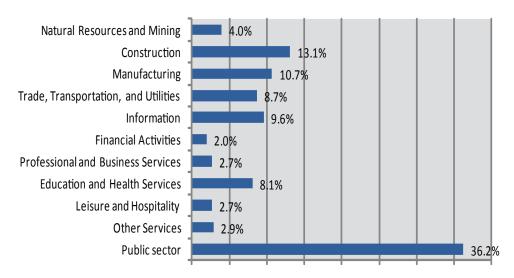
How to use it

The table above shows annual counts of initial claims by different characteristics. These counts give a picture of the workers affected by decreased demand for labor throughout the state. This could be due to both, seasonality or decreased business for employers. These demographic claims numbers are available through this publication and per request of the Nebraska Department of Labor.

Where to find it

Basic initial claims data can be viewed at the US Department of Labor's website, (http://ows.doleta.gov/unemploy/claims.asp) under the Employment and Training Administration program statistics.

National Unionization Rates by Industry 2009



10.0% 15.0% 20.0% 25.0% 30.0% 35.0% 40.0%

Note: Includes employed wage and salary workers age 16 and over. Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, Union Members in 2009, Released 2010

How to use it

Nationally, full-time workers participated in unions at nearly twice the rate of part-time workers. On average, members earned 27.9% more per week than non-members. The number of workers who were union members declined over 2009 by 4%; following a long term, downward trend. In 1983, the first year with comparable union data available, the national union membership rate was 20.1% with 17.7 million union workers. In 2010, union members accounted for 11.9% of employed and salary workers, with 14.7 million union members.

Where to find it

Union Membership data can be found at www. bls.gov, choose the Economic Releases tab and click on Union Members under Employment & Unemployment.

Unionization

Rates

What is it?

Unionization rates measure the level of participation of employees in unions throughout the labor force. National unionization rates differ dramatically between the private and public sector. The public sector, Government, has the highest industry unionization rate, with 36.2% of employees participating in a union. More public sector employees (7.6 million) belonged to a union than did private employees (7.1 million), despite there being almost five times more wage and salary workers in the private sector.

In the private sector, Financial activities has the lowest rate of unionization, with 2.0%, followed by Leisure and Hospitality and Professional and Business Services both having 2.7%.

Private sectors with sizable portions of their workforce participating in unions include: Construction (13.1%), Manufacturing (10.7%), and Information (9.6%). Nebraská's union membership rate rose from 9.2% in 2009 to 9.3% in 2010.

Nebraska Unionization Rates 2010

	2009	2010
Total Employed	823,000	813,000
Total Union Members	76,000	75,000
Percent Union Members	9.2%	9.3%
Total Representation by Unions	94,000	96,000
Percent Represented by Unions	11.4%	11.8%

Note: Includes employed wage and salary workers age 16 and over. Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, Union Members in 2010, Released 2011

Industry Projections

What is it?
Industry employment projections are based on historical, statistical and subjective analysis of industry trends. Long term industry projections are produced every two years and the results are then used as an input into occupational projections.

Several of Nebraska's industries are projected to experience large growth by 2018. The industries expected to see the largest growth rates are Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services (27.6%), Health Care & Social Assistance (21.1%) and Construction (20.1%). Information (0.7%) forecasts very little growth but only Agriculture, Forestry, and Fishing (-12.1%) is likely to decline.

Between 2008 and 2018 Nebraska industry growth is projected at a rate of 10.4% with 106,152 total jobs. The Compound Annual Growth Rate (CAGR) for Nebraska is 1.0%.

Long Term Industry Employment Projections Nebraska Statewide, 2008 to 2018

Industry	2008 Annual Employment	2018 Projected Employment	Change in Employment 2008-2018	Percent Change (%)	Compound Annual Growth Rate (%)
Agriculture, Forestry, and Fishing	59,541	52,332	-7,209	-12.1	-1.28
Mining	976	1,058	82	8.4	0.81
Utilities (including private + local)	9,142	9,700	558	6.1	0.59
Construction	49,107	58,968	9,861	20.1	1.85
Manufacturing	101,401	103,745	2,344	2.3	0.23
Wholesale Trade	42,016	43,380	1,364	3.2	0.32
Retail Trade	107,639	114,098	6,459	6.0	0.58
Transportation and Warehousing	53,668	62,392	8,724	16.3	1.52
Information	18,768	18,896	128	0.7	0.07
Finance and Insurance	59,954	67,505	7,551	12.6	1.19
Real Estate and Rental and Leasing	9,299	9,997	698	7.5	0.73
Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services	42,929	54,770	11,841	27.6	2.47
Management of Companies and Enterprises	16,929	20,271	3,342	19.7	1.82
Administrative & Waste Management Services	45,697	51,080	5,383	11.8	1.12
Educational Services (including state and local gov)	95,925	108,016	12,091	12.6	1.19
Health Care and Social Assistance	121,570	147,196	25,626	21.1	1.93
Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation	12,631	14,485	1,854	14.7	1.38
Accommodation and Food Services	69,978	77,118	7,140	10.2	0.98
Other Services (except Government)	36,064	39,048	2,984	8.3	0.80
Government	70,359	75,690	5,331	7.6	0.73
Total Statewide	1,023,593	1,129,745	106,152	10.4	0.99

Source: Nebraska Department of Labor, 2008-2018 Long Term Industry Projections, Released 2010



How to use it

The Compound Annual Growth Rate (CAGR) is the year-over-year rate of growth in a given time period. However, this should only be used to estimate the employment for each given year, as this does not account for fluctuating growth. Nebraska's industry employment CAGR between 2008 and 2018 is 1.0%; using the 2008 total employment of 1,023,593 to estimate the growth after five years would result in an estimated increase of 52,214 and a 2013 employment of 1,075,806.

Where to find it
Long-term industry projections can
be found at LMI Home. Under Historic
Data Analysis > Employment and
Wage Data > Industry Data > Industry
Employment and Projections (Long Term).

Long Term Occupational Employment Projections Nebraska Statewide, 2008 to 2018

							Percent
	2008 Est.	2018 Proj.	Growth	Replacement	Total	Numeric	Change
SOC Title	Employment	Employment	Openings	Openings	Openings	Change	(%)
Management Occupations	54,615	57,455	3,676	12,144	15,820	2,840	5.2
Business and Financial Operations Occupations	49,709	58,873	9,198	10,117	19,315	9,164	18.4
Computer and Mathematical Occupations	23,542	28,605	5,228	4,221	9,449	5,063	21.5
Architecture and Engineering Occupations	11,898	13,402	1,508	2,478	3,986	1,504	12.6
Life, Physical, and Social Science Occupations	9,145	10,927	1,787	2,743	4,530	1,782	19.5
Community and Social Services Occupations	15,539	17,921	2,384	3,418	5,802	2,382	15.3
Legal Occupations	5,316	6,034	718	883	1,601	718	13.5
Education, Training, and Library Occupations	63,524	72,817	9,298	13,855	23,153	9,293	14.6
Arts, Design, Entertainment, Sports, and Media Occupations	16,145	17,955	1,957	4,133	6,090	1,810	11.2
Healthcare Practitioners and Technical Occupations	57,919	70,359	12,440	11,863	24,303	12,440	21.5
Healthcare Support Occupations	28,682	34,817	6,150	3,171	9,321	6,135	21.4
Protective Service Occupations	15,867	17,521	1,654	4,863	6,517	1,654	10.4
Food Preparation and Serving Related Occupations	76,626	85,478	8,854	26,441	35,295	8,852	11.6
Building and Grounds Cleaning and Maintenance Occupations	36,046	37,887	1,964	5,959	7,923	1,841	5.1
Personal Care and Service Occupations	27,504	31,529	4,025	7,144	11,169	4,025	14.6
Sales and Related Occupations	112,639	120,276	8,364	33,065	41,429	7,637	6.8
Office and Administrative Support Occupations	176,037	190,625	17,621	37,080	54,701	14,588	8.3
Farming, Fishing, and Forestry Occupations	41,227	36,200	53	11,003	11,056	-5,027	-12.2
Construction and Extraction Occupations	53,466	61,267	7,816	9,947	17,763	7,801	14.6
Installation, Maintenance, and Repair Occupations	43,774	48,448	4,754	8,591	13,345	4,674	10.7
Production Occupations	82,996	86,570	4,754	18,459	23,213	3,574	4.3
Transportation and Material Moving Occupations	90,235	98,329	8,907	20,807	29,714	8,094	9.0
Total, All Occupations Statewide	1,092,451	1,203,295	123,110	252,385	375,495	110,844	10.1

Source: Nebraska Department of Labor, 2008-2018 Long Term Occupational Projections, Released 2010

How to use it

Job growth is a good indicator of the overall performance of the economy in an area. When jobs are being created in a region, it generally means the region is growing and is able to support additional use of resources.

Where to find it
Long-term occupation projections can
be found at LMI Home. Under Current
Data Analysis > Occupation Specific
Data > Employment and Wage Data >
Employment and Future Employment Outlook.

Occupational Projections

What is it?

Applying industry staffing patterns from the most recent Occupational Employment Statistics survey to industry projections provides forecasts for occupational demand by industry for as many as 750 different job titles.

All major group occupations are projected to see an increase in employment between 2008 and 2018 except for Farming, Fishing, and Forestry; healthcare related occupations are expected to see some of the largest growth. Healthcare Practitioners and Technical Occupations is anticipated to see the largest employment percent change, at 21.5% in the state; Healthcare Support comes in just behind it with a 21.4% change. Computer and Mathematical Occupations is also expected to see large growth with a forecasted 21.5% increase as well.

Truck Driver, Heavy and Tractor-Trailer is likely to add the most jobs (6,636) of any detailed occupation in the state. Nebraska's central location and major interstates and highways create an advantageous location for distribution centers.



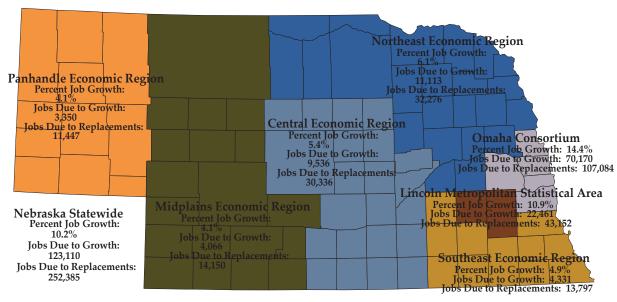
Employment Projections

What is it?
Employment projections provide current and forecasted economic trends. According to the current long term occupational projections, each region in Nebraska is expected to see an increase in employment over the next several years.

There are 375,495 total openings expected between 2008 and 2018 across the state, increasing total occupational employment by 110,844, or 10.1%.

National growth of 10.1% is expected as well between 2008 and 2018. The Omaha Consortium will see the largest growth (14.4%), with 70,170 projected openings from growth and 107,084 openings from replacements. In 2008, the Omaha Consortium constituted more than 40 percent of statewide employment.

Projected Employment Change by Economic Region 2008 to 2018



Source: Nebraska Department of Labor, 2008-2018 Long Term Occupational Projections, Released 2010

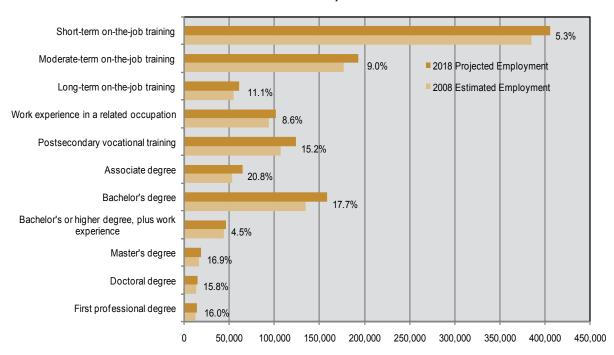


How to use it

Identifying which regions of the state are expected to have the largest growth is beneficial to educators, businesses and communities. Employment forecasting can be used in strategic planning for the future to better prepare organizations and communities for upcoming changes. By knowing the areas that are expected to experience rapid growth, areas where there will be increasing demand for a talented workforce can be identified. However, regions can only reach the projected growth if the labor force is there to meet employment needs.

Where to find it
Long-term occupation projections can be
found at LMI Home. Under Current Data
Analysis > Occupation Specific Data >
Employment and Wage Data > Employment
and Future Employment Outlook.

Projected Employment Change by Educational Level Nebraska Statewide, 2008 to 2018



Source: Nebraska Department of Labor, 2008-2018 Long Term Occupational Projections, Released 2010

How to use it

Information on occupational projections by education is valuable to training officials, education planners, vocational and employment counselors, students and job seekers. This information can be utilized to determine what levels of training will be required in the future and how to plan accordingly to meet these needs. The chart above shows 2008 estimates as well as 2018 projections of jobs per education level. At the end of each set of bars is the estimated percent change over the ten year period.

Employment Projections

What is it?

Occupational projections data can be examined by education and training. There are eleven educational and training categories that are determined by the level most often required for that occupation, sometimes an employer will require more or less.

The 2008 estimated employment levels showemployment concentrations in the two lowest levels of training. The next highest level of employment is in occupations that require a Bachelor's degree.

There are more annual openings for jobs that require lower levels of education and training than for jobs that require higher degrees. However, when the growth rate is considered, jobs requiring higher degrees are expected to grow more rapidly. This shows that employers are expected to require a higher skilled workforce in the future.



Where to find it

Projected Employment Change by Education Level can be found at LMI Home. Under Labor Market Data > Data Download Center > Occupational Employment Projections > Long Term files > the tab labeled "Education".

Demand Occupations

What is it?

The occupations listed in the table represent the top 20 high wage, skill and demand occupations. These occupations typically offer above average wages, require a higher than average level of education or skill and have a high level of demand. Demand is determined by the number of annual openings, the net change in employment and the growth rate.

Over half of the top occupations require a Bachelor's degree in Nebraska. Business and Financial Operations, Computer and Mathematical, Education, Training and Library and Sales and Related occupational categories all have three or more occupations falling into the top 20 High Wage, High Skill, and High Demand Occupations. This suggests a need for highly skilled labor in these occupations in the state.

High Wage, High Skill and High Demand Occupations Nebraska Statewide, 2010

Rank	SOC Title	Avg Annual Openings	Avg Hourly Wage	Education & Training
1	Registered Nurses	44	\$27.66	Associate degree
2	Elementary School Teachers, Except Special Education	19	NA	Bachelor's degree
3	Truck Drivers, Heavy and Tractor-Trailer	19	\$16.81	Postsecondary vocational training
4	First-Line Supervisors/Managers of Office and Administrative	13	\$18.48	Work experience in a related occupation
5	Loan Officers	8	\$29.93	Bachelor's degree
6	Accountants and Auditors	12	\$25.00	Bachelor's degree
7	Licensed Practical and Licensed Vocational Nurses	14	\$16.96	Postsecondary vocational training
8	First-Line Supervisors/Managers of Retail Sales Workers	17	\$17.07	Work experience in a related occupation
9	Secondary School Teachers, Except Special and Vocational Education	NA	NA	Bachelor's degree
10	Middle School Teachers, Except Special and Vocational Education	8	NA	Bachelor's degree
11	Teachers and Instructors, All Other	7	\$16.84	Bachelor's degree
12	Electricians	7	\$18.85	Postsecondary vocational training
13	Insurance Sales Agents	NA	NA	Postsecondary vocational training
14	Electrical Power-Line Installers and Repairers	11	\$26.03	Associate degree
15	Market Research Analysts	5	\$30.71	Bachelor's degree
16	Bus and Truck Mechanics and Diesel Engine Specialists	9	\$16.21	Postsecondary vocational training
17	Securities, Commodities, and Financial Services Sales Agents	NA	\$18.11	Bachelor's degree
18	Compliance Officers, Except Agriculture, Construction, Health and Safety, and Transportation	3	\$23.65	Bachelor's degree
19	Medical and Health Services Managers	4	\$30.89	Bachelor's or higher degree, plus work experience
20	Self-Enrichment Education Teachers	NA	\$25.21	Work experience in a related occupation

Source: Nebraska Department of Labor, 2008-2018 Long Term Occupational Projections, Released 2010 Source: Nebraska Department of Labor, Occupational Employment Statistics 3rd Quarter 2010, Released 2010



How to use it

Identifying which occupations offer high wages, requires skilled workers and are expected to be in demand is useful for students, counselors and people changing careers. This is especially important for people who have been laid off and are starting over in new careers. Educational institutions may use the information to ensure that they are providing the education people need to supply skilled workers for the state's businesses.

Where to find it Contact the Office of Labor Market Information for additional information about High Wage, High Skill and High Demand Occupations.

Occupations by Industry Nebraska Statewide, 2010

Industry	Largest Occupation	2008 Estimated Employment	2018 Projected Employment	Numeric Change	Percent Change (%)
Natural Resources and Mining	Farmworkers and Laborers, Crop, Nursery, and Greenhouse	60,517	53,390	-7,127	-11.8
Contruction	Carpenters	49,107	58,968	9,861	20.1
Manufacturing	Meat, Poultry, and Fish Cutters and Trimmers	101,401	103,745	2,344	2.3
Trade, Transportation, and Utilities	Retail Salespersons	212,465	229,570	17,105	8.1
Information	Customer Service Representatives	18,768	18,896	128	0.7
Financial Activities	Customer Service Representatives	69,253	77,502	8,249	11.9
Professional and Business Services	Janitors and Cleaners, Except Maids and Housekeeping Cleaners	105,555	126,121	20,566	19.5
Education and Health Services	Registered Nurses	217,495	255,212	37,717	17.3
Leisure and Hospitalitly	Combined Food Preparation and Serving Workers, Including Fast Food	82,609	91,603	8,994	10.9
Other Services	Hairdressers, Hairstylists, and Cosmetologists	36,064	39,048	2,984	8.3
Government	Police and Sheriff's Patrol Officers	70,359	75,690	5,331	8.0

Source: Nebraska Department of Labor, 2008-2018 Long Term Occupational Projections, Released 2010

How to use it

Knowing what occupations emerge across industries is useful for many groups of people. Examining the data in this way gives students more of an idea of what types of industries employ people in their chosen field as well as the occupational outlook for these occupations. It is also useful to people switching careers and for assisting dislocated workers. They can be helpful in identifying where skills could be transferred as well as the employment projection for these occupations within different industries.

Where to find it Occupations by Industry can be found at LMI Home. Under Publications > More Nebraska Occupational Publication. Industry Projections and

Industries and **Occupations**

What is it?

The chart shows the occupational projections for the largest occupation within the major industry groups based on 2008 estimated employment. Looking at projections from this perspective helps give more detail to the projections as occupations can vary widely from industry to industry.

Customer Service Representatives are the top occupation for both the Information and Financial Activities industries. Individuals employed in this occupation in either industry would perform the basic job duties of interacting with customers, answering questions about products and services and handling customer complaints. However, someone employed in the Information industry would be dealing with a different type of clientele than someone employed in the Professional and Business Servicés industry.

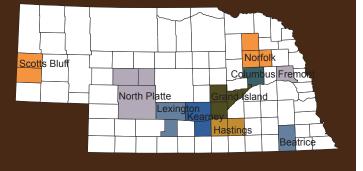


Area Definitions

Labor Market Regional Reviews are available for ten identified Micropolitan Statistical Areas, the Lincoln Metropolitan Statistical Area, and the Omaha Consortium. The publications are available in PDF format on the Nebraska Department of Labor Website at neworks.nebraska.gov./analyzer Printed copies can be ordered by calling 1-800-876-1377.

As much as possible, the most local data available is provided for each data element. In some cases data for a larger area must be presented to ensure confidentiality of individuals and businesses. Definitions for geographic areas used in this publication are shown below.

The federal Office of Management and Budget (OMB) defines metropolitan and micropolitan statistical areas to collect, tabulate, and publish federal data. Metropolitan and micropolitan statistical areas are defined by a core area with a specific population, along with adjacent communities with a high level of social or economic integration with the core area. Both metropolitan and micropolitan statistical areas may be a single county or may include multiple counties.



Micropolitan Statistical Areas

Micropolitan Statistical Areas are defined as a core population of between 10,000 and 50,000 residents, as well as areas with a high degree of social and economic integration. In Nebraska, there are ten micropolitan statistical areas which can be seen on the map to the left.



Metropolitan Statistical Areas

A Metropolitan Statistical Area is defined as an urban area with at least 50,000 residents. Adjacent counties with a high degree of social and economic ties to the core area are included in the metropolitan statistical area. Nebraska has two metropolitan statistical areas: Omaha and Lincoln. The Sioux City metropolitan statistical area includes counties in Nebraska; however, because the population core is in Iowa, it is considered an Iowa metropolitan statistical area.

Area Definitions

Omaha Consortium

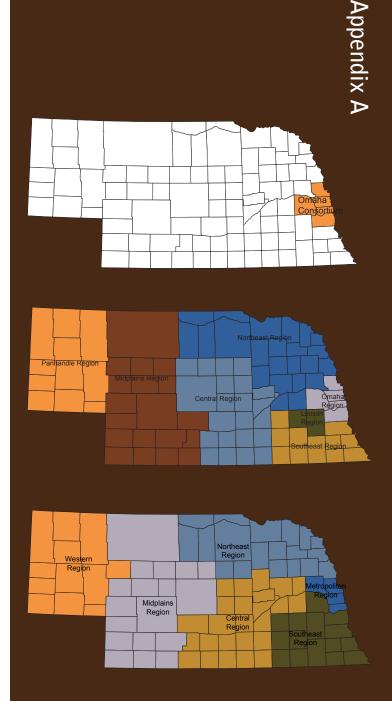
The Omaha Metropolitan Statistical Area includes eight counties: five in Nebraska and three in Iowa. The Omaha Consortium includes only those counties in the Omaha Metropolitan Statistical Area that are located in Nebraska. This need for the Omaha Consortium is due to the inability to compile some data for areas that cross state lines.

Economic Regions

Nebraska has seven Economic Regions: Panhandle, Midplains, Central, Northeast, Southeast, Lincoln and Omaha. The Lincoln Region is comprised of Lancaster and Seward counties, and the Omaha region is comprised of Cass, Douglas, Sarpy, Saunders and Washington counties. The other five regions are comprised of the remaining 86 counties in the state.

Community College Regions

There are six Community College service regions in Nebraska. Service regions follow county boundaries with two exceptions. Northeast Community College serves the northern edge of Boone County and Western Nebraska Community College serves the western edge of Cherry County.



Contact Information

For questions about any topics related to Nebraska's labor market, or to request a printed copy of a report mentioned in this publication, please contact the Office of Labor Market Information at any of the numbers listed below. You may also contact the Office of Labor Market Information at ndol.lmi_ne@nebraska.gov or visit us on the Web at neworks.nebraska.gov/analyzer.

Office of Labor Market Information: The home page can be found at neworks.nebraska.gov/analyzer, this page is referred to as LMI Home.

(402) 471-2600 or 1-800-876-1377

Affirmative Action Data: Data is available to assist employers in evaluating the percentage of women and minorities in the workforce and in establishing goals in order to improve participation rates among these groups.

(402) 471-2600 or 1-800-876-1377

Census Information: Assistance in obtaining decennial Census, American Community Survey, population estimates, and other U.S. Census Bureau information is available. (402) 471-2600 or 1-800-876-1377

Cost of Living and Inflation: Consumer Price Indexes (CPI) program produces monthly data on changes in the prices paid by urban consumers for a representative basket of goods and services.

(402) 471-2600 or 1-800-876-1377

Filing for Unemployment: Apply for unemployment insurance benefits at dol.nebraska.gov; under For Workers, click on Filing for Unemployment Insurance. (402) 458-2800

Labor Laws: Minimum wage, employee wage payment & collection, child labor, lunch periods, private employment agencies, contractor registration, non-English speaking employees, medical examinations, wage garnishments and other employment related laws are available at dol.nebraska.gov; click on Safety & Labor Standards.

(402) 471-2239

Licensed and Certified Occupations: Links to information and licensing authorities are available at neworks.nebraska.gov/analyzer; click on Publications. (402) 471-9629 or 1-800-876-1377

Nebraska Workforce Trends: To view the monthly e-newsletter's current and previous issues visit neworks.nebraska.gov/analyzer and click on Nebraska Workforce Trends. (402) 471-2600 or 1-800-876-1377

O*NET: Assistance with the national database of occupational information products including O*NET Online, onlineonetcenter. org; O*NET Code Connector, onetcodeconnector.org; and O*NET Resource Center; onetcenter.org, is available. (402) 471-2600 or 1-800-876-1377

UI Connect: To file and pay unemployment insurance taxes, employers can visit dol.nebraska.gov; under for employers, click on File Unemployment Taxes. (402) 471-9898

Work Opportunity Tax Credits and Welfare to Work Tax Credits: Information for employers to hire employees from 10 "targeted groups" who have historically had difficulty finding employment can be obtained from dol.nebraska.gov; click on Get Tax Credits under For Employers in the center of the page. (402) 471-2776 or (402) 471-9734

Worker Training Grants: Information for employers training incumbent workers is available at dol.nebraska.gov; click on For Employers and select Train Your Employees. (402) 471-9977