

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## August State Unemployment Rate Is 3.2 Percent

**LINCOLN-** The Nebraska Department of Labor (NDOL) announced today that Nebraska’s preliminary unemployment rate for August was 3.2 percent, seasonally adjusted. The rate is up 0.1 percentage points over the month and 0.2 percentage points over the year.

“The unemployment rate saw a slight increase in August, but the total number of persons employed in August was up 3,160 over the year before.” said Commissioner of Labor John H. Albin. “The data suggests that the main cause for the increase in the unemployment rate is individuals who had dropped out of the labor force and therefore were not included in prior months’ counts of individuals looking for work. The total number of jobs remained over the million mark in August, the sixth straight month Nebraska’s nonfarm employment has been above 1 million.”

Nonfarm employment for August totaled 1,017,899, an increase of 10,077 over the year. Private industries with the most growth year over year were education and health services (up 4,712), leisure and hospitality (3,616) and professional and business services (2,299). Month to month, the largest gains were seen in education and health services (973) and trade, transportation and utilities (up 709).

The national seasonally adjusted unemployment rate for August was 4.9 percent, the same as the July rate and down 0.2 percentage points from the August 2015 rate of 5.1 percent.

September 2016 data will be published Friday, October 21.

### LABOR FORCE ESTIMATES

**NATIONAL**

SEASONALLY ADJUSTED

	Prelim Aug-16	Revised Jul-16	Aug-15	Changes Since Jul-16	Aug-15
<b>Unemployment Rate</b>	4.9	4.9	5.1	0.0	-0.2

**NEBRASKA**

SEASONALLY ADJUSTED

	Prelim Aug-16	Revised Jul-16	Aug-15	Changes Since Jul-16	Aug-15
<b>Unemployment Rate</b>	3.2	3.1	3.0	0.1	0.2

<b>Labor Force</b>	1,018,845	1,018,920	1,014,122	-75	4,723
<i>Unemployment</i>	32,286	31,202	30,723	1,084	1,563
<i>Employment</i>	986,559	987,718	983,399	-1,159	3,160

## OMAHA MSA

NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED

	<b>Prelim Aug-16</b>	<b>Revised Jul-16</b>	<b>Aug-15</b>	<b>Changes Since Jul-16</b>	<b>Aug-15</b>
<b>Unemployment Rate</b>	3.5	3.6	3.2	-0.1	0.3
<b>Labor Force</b>	481,816	489,058	480,082	-7,242	1,734
<i>Unemployment</i>	16,686	17,807	15,240	-1,121	1,446
<i>Employment</i>	465,130	471,251	464,842	-6,121	288

## LINCOLN MSA

NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED

	<b>Prelim Aug-16</b>	<b>Revised Jul-16</b>	<b>Aug-15</b>	<b>Changes Since Jul-16</b>	<b>Aug-15</b>
<b>Unemployment Rate</b>	3.0	3.2	2.6	-0.2	0.4
<b>Labor Force</b>	176,532	179,176	176,687	-2,644	-155
<i>Unemployment</i>	5,324	5,716	4,513	-392	811
<i>Employment</i>	171,208	173,460	172,174	-2,252	-966

## GRAND ISLAND MSA

NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED

	<b>Prelim Aug-16</b>	<b>Revised Jul-16</b>	<b>Aug-15</b>	<b>Changes Since Jul-16</b>	<b>Aug-15</b>
<b>Unemployment Rate</b>	3.3	3.5	5.1	-0.2	-1.8
<b>Labor Force</b>	44,131	44,957	44,617	-826	-486
<i>Unemployment</i>	1,471	1,583	2,271	-112	-800
<i>Employment</i>	42,660	43,374	42,346	-714	314

**NOTE:** Data is revised on a monthly basis. Data for previous years is benchmarked annually and is subject to change. MSAs represent Metropolitan Statistical Areas. Seasonally adjusted data for the Omaha MSA and the Lincoln MSA is available about two weeks following this release. The seasonally adjusted data can be obtained at <http://www.bls.gov/lau/metrossa.htm> or <http://networks.nebraska.gov/analyzer>.

## MICROPOLITAN STATISTICAL AREAS (MC)

NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED

	<b>Counties included</b>	<b>Aug-16 (Preliminary)</b>	<b>Jul-16 (Revised)</b>
Beatrice MC	Gage	3.5	3.8
Columbus MC	Platte	3.6	4.0
Fremont MC	Dodge	3.3	3.6
Hastings MC	Adams, Clay	3.4	3.5
Kearney MC	Buffalo, Kearney	2.8	3.0
Lexington MC	Dawson, Gosper	3.0	3.1
Norfolk MC	Madison, Pierce, Stanton	2.9	3.1
North Platte MC	Lincoln, Logan, McPherson	3.2	3.5
Red Willow-Hitchcock LMA (Small Labor Market Area)	Red Willow, Hitchcock	3.8	3.9
Scottsbluff MC	Scotts Bluff, Banner	3.4	3.6

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