

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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 Contact: Grace Johnson
 402-471-4189
 Grace.johnson@nebraska.gov

July's State Unemployment Rate Is 3.1 Percent

LINCOLN- The Nebraska Department of Labor (NDOL) announced today that Nebraska's preliminary unemployment rate for July was 3.1 percent, seasonally adjusted. The rate is up 0.1 percentage points over the month and over the year.

"While the unemployment rate was up slightly, total nonfarm employment for July was the highest July on record. A number of industries saw strong year-to-year growth, including leisure and hospitality and education and health services," said Commissioner of Labor John H. Albin. "July also saw employment levels reach new highs in mining and construction, financial activities, and professional and business services."

Nonfarm employment grew by 12,705 over the year. Private industries with the most growth year over year were leisure and hospitality (up 5,562), education and health services (up 4,288), and professional and business services (up 2,578). Month to month, the largest gains were seen in professional and business services (up 2,040), mining and construction (up 723) and other services (up 294).

The national seasonally adjusted unemployment rate for July was 4.9 percent, the same as the June rate and down 0.4 percentage points from the July 2015 rate of 5.3 percent.

August 2016 data will be published Tuesday, September 20.

LABOR FORCE ESTIMATES

NATIONAL

SEASONALLY ADJUSTED

	Prelim Jul-16	Revised Jun-16	Jul-15	Changes Since Jun-16	Jul-15
Unemployment Rate	4.9	4.9	5.3	0.0	-0.4

NEBRASKA

SEASONALLY ADJUSTED

	Prelim Jul-16	Revised Jun-16	Jul-15	Changes Since Jun-16	Jul-15
Unemployment Rate	3.1	3.0	3.0	0.1	0.1
Labor Force	1,019,050	1,019,792	1,012,994	-742	6,056
<i>Unemployment</i>	31,242	30,828	30,408	414	834
<i>Employment</i>	987,808	988,964	982,586	-1,156	5,222

OMAHA MSA

NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED

	Prelim Jul-16	Revised Jun-16	Jul-15	Changes Since Jun-16	Jul-15
Unemployment Rate	3.6	3.5	3.5	0.1	0.1
Labor Force	489,748	482,881	483,053	6,867	6,695
<i>Unemployment</i>	17,862	16,913	16,941	949	921
<i>Employment</i>	471,886	465,968	466,112	5,918	5,774

LINCOLN MSA

NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED

	Prelim Jul-16	Revised Jun-16	Jul-15	Changes Since Jun-16	Jul-15
Unemployment Rate	3.2	3.1	2.9	0.1	0.3
Labor Force	179,382	177,308	177,257	2,074	2,125
<i>Unemployment</i>	5,733	5,478	5,106	255	627
<i>Employment</i>	173,649	171,830	172,151	1,819	1,498

GRAND ISLAND MSA

NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED

	Prelim Jul-16	Revised Jun-16	Jul-15	Changes Since Jun-16	Jul-15
Unemployment Rate	3.5	3.4	5.8	0.1	-2.3
Labor Force	44,957	44,877	45,186	80	-229
<i>Unemployment</i>	1,588	1,544	2,600	44	-1,012
<i>Employment</i>	43,369	43,333	42,586	36	783

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

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