Nebraska Workforce

TRENDS

August 2013

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Table of Contents

4 Feature Story - Arcades

6 Fast Facts

8 Flash Forward

11 Map Facts

12 Occupational Profile

14 Real Wages

18 College Placement

20 Business Openings and Expansions

23 Economic Indicators

24 Industry Developments

27 Resources

28 Credits

ARCADES

Labor Force Perspective by Occupation and Industry

Aaron Ziska, Research Analyst

According to the NPD Group, consumers in the U.S. spent 14.8 billion dollars on video game content; games, PC software and digital download content in 2012 (1). The multi-billion dollar industry today can find its roots in something older, simpler, and until very recently, more social – the Arcade. Gaming was not always something that involved your television or your computer monitor. These rooms full of game systems that towered over the majority of their patrons are now just a page in history. But at one time, arcades were the place. An immersion of bright, flashing lights, alluring sounds, and enthusiasm, arcades were the birth places of friendships and rivalries.

Many who grew up in more rural areas of Nebraska may not have been located near arcades, but would often find a Pac-Man machine sitting in the local diner or ice cream shop. Young kids today may never set foot into an arcade, as they have numerous options for entertainment at their fingertips via smart phones, tablet devices, and home consoles. These are exciting technologies, but these youth will miss out on experiencing the rush of being surrounded by other kids their age rooting for them while they chase Inky, Blinky, Pinky, and Clyde around the maze awaiting their turn to convert quarters into high scores.

There are 17,999 private employees working in arcades nationwide and just over 100 of these employees are located in Nebraska. (2) Several distinct occupations support the industry of arcades and video gaming. The essential maintenance of the arcade machines is carried out by those employed as coin, vending, and amusement machine servicers and repairers Un-jamming quarter slots, fixing frayed cords, and replacing broken screens, these people make sure that the game carries on. There are estimated to be 240 of them employed in Nebraska earning an average of $30,502 per year, as of the first quarter of 2013, according to the Nebraska Department of Labor (NDOL) Occupational Employment Statistics (OES) unit. Programmers are involved in bringing arcades to life and coupled with multimedia artists and animators, these two occupations are the main components of what built games up from a concept sketched on paper to the familiar machine that sits in an arcade.

Programmers on average made $72,560 annually in Nebraska with an estimated 2,880 of them working in the state according to the March OES estimates. However, most of these would not be specifically designing video games, but would have similar root skill sets and educational backgrounds. The occupation that would design and draw what we see on the screen while we play, multimedia artists and animators, includes an estimated 150 people in the state with the average annual income of $37,754.

Programmers are involved in bringing arcades to life and coupled with multimedia artists and animators, these two occupations are the main components of what built games up from a concept sketched on paper to the familiar machine that sits in an arcade.

Other types of recreation workers, who are less specialized but undeniably important to the business's success, are also found tending to the arcade and its patrons. Examples include food service workers running concession stands, cashiers changing money for quarters and renting out game equipment, and facilities maintenance personnel keeping up the building. More occupations and information on the Standard Occupational Classification (SOC) system can be found at the Bureau of Labor Statistics' website, http://bls.gov/oes.

While these arcades are the store fronts that we engage with when we want to delve into the virtual reality world, it is not only arcades involved in the process of bringing games to the public. There is a supply chain behind each location that has multiple layers of participants starting with those who put together the arcade machines in the manufacturing sector. This is all other miscellaneous manufacturing under the North American Industry Classification System (NAICS), which is used to classify establishments into consistent categories for comparison among the United States, Mexico, and Canada. This category includes many other types of manufacturing, making it unfortunately difficult to use public data to isolate those entirely devoted to building arcade machines.

After the terminals are built and boxed up, they ship out to businesses that then have to move them into different arcades around the country. The businesses that sell these machines are classified as other durable goods merchant wholesalers - again a classification that catches a broad span of items, rendering it impossible to separate out those which are exclusively business-to-business dealers of arcade machines using only public data. More information on the North American Industry Classification System can be found at the Census's website - http://www.census.gov/eos/www/naics/.

Now smaller portions of the entertainment industry than they once were, arcades often operate as parts of fun-plexes, Chuck E. Cheese restaurants or other similar businesses. They are rarely solo destination points for the avid video game player, but rather a secondary entertainment option accompanying pizza parties. However, there are still some out there who enjoy dropping in a coin, hitting a start button, and mashing the key pad as fast as they can. As a result, there will continue to be a small piece of the labor market devoted to keeping the remnant of the first social gaming experience alive.

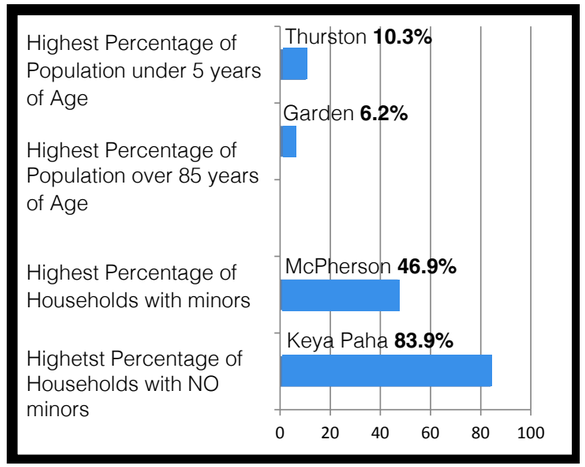
Sources listed on the Resources Page.

Fast Facts

Nebraska's Communities

Ed Jaros, Research Analyst

It can be easy to think of Nebraska as a homogeneous whole, or simply divide its relatively urbanized eastern third from the relatively rural remainder. However, Nebraska's communities are all unique; they each have their own challenges, resources and qualities. What follows are a collection of figures representing some of this uniqueness. The percentages below are each the highest for a given demographic, social or economic statistic among Nebraska counties. Data are estimates taken from the Census Bureau's American Community Survey 2011 5-year summaries tables DP02, DP03 and DP05.

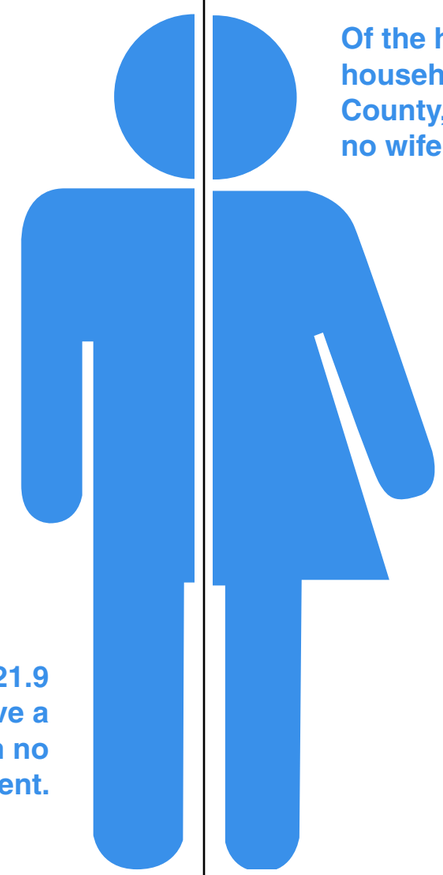


Sarpy County has the highest active Armed Forces population while Deuel County has the highest Civilian Veterans population.

86.6%

Of Wheeler County's 16 and over population, 86.6 percent are in the labor force.

In Thurston County, 21.9 percent of households have a female householder* with no husband present.



Of the households with male householders* in Dakota County, 8.5 percent have no wife present.

*See glossary for definitions.

Highest Male and Female Population in Nebraska

57.9%
Johnson County

Thomas County
44.9%

37.2%

In Dawes County, 37.2 percent of the Adults 25 and older population have a bachelor's degree or higher.

Colfax County has the highest population of residents born outside of the United States at

32.4%

The entire population of McPherson, Keya Paha and Logan counties were born in the United States.

In Dawes County, households comprised of only one person make up 39.2 percent of the population.

Adams County residents are very entrepreneurial, as 39.6 percent of the residents are employed in their own non-incorporated businesses.

Flash Forward:

Mid Plains Future Industry and Occupation Employment Trends

Jodie Meyer, Research Analyst

This month continues the series of articles in Flash Forward highlighting Nebraska's economic regions. Next up is the Mid Plains Economic Region. This region consists of the Nebraska counties of Arthur, Chase, Cherry, Dawson, Dundy, Frontier, Furnas, Gosper, Grant, Hayes, Hitchcock, Hooker, Keith, Lincoln, Logan, McPherson, Perkins, Red Willow, and Thomas. Two micropolitan areas, Lexington and North Platte, are included in this region.

Industry Projections

Projected growth of 3,791 jobs is expected in the Mid Plains region by 2020 according to Industry Employment Projections, an increase of 6.9 percent. Most industry employment in 2010 was in the trade, transportation, and utilities super-sector, which employed 13,821, a quarter of the region's employment. The trade, transportation, and utilities super-sector is also expected to experience the highest projected net change in employment by 2020, adding 1,332 jobs, a change of 9.6 percent. A little over a third of this growth is anticipated to come from the rail transportation industry. Rail transportation is also the top growth industry in the Mid Plains region (by numeric change in jobs) and is projected to add 479 jobs by 2020, an increase of 17 percent.

The information industry super-sector employed the least number of workers in 2010, only accounting for 1.1 percent (627 jobs) of the employment in this region and is expected to decrease slightly by 1.3 percent (-8 jobs). The fastest growing industry super-sector by percent change is projected to be professional and business services at 14.3%, adding 330 jobs. In addition to the slight decline in the information industry, the natural resources and mining super-sector is expected to decline by 3.7 percent and lose 272 jobs.

Even though an education and health care-related industry is not the top growth industry in this region, this sector is still strong. Three of the top five growth industries from 2010-2020 (by numeric change in jobs) are found in the education and health services super-sector: educational services (private, state, and local), ambulatory health care services, and nursing and residential care facilities. Much of the growth in healthcare can be attributed to the aging population of Nebraska. As the population ages they require a greater need for healthcare, which in turn creates a demand for workers in this industry. In addition, the education and healthcare industry has many workers who are nearing retirement age, also creating a greater demand for workers to fill these vacancies in the workforce.

When examining the five industries expected to experience the greatest amount of decline (by numeric change in jobs), the agricultural-related industries of livestock and crop production are expected to lose a combined 347 jobs in the 10-year time frame. Only a total of 13 industries are expected to decline by 2020 and most are only expected to experience slight declines.

Industries with the Greatest Numeric Changes in Employment 2010-2020

	Industry Title	2010 Estimated Employment	2020 Projected Employment	Numeric Change	% Change
Growing	Rail Transportation	2,815	3,294	479	17.0%
	Educational Services (including state and local gov)	5,176	5,556	380	7.3%
	Ambulatory Health Care Services	1,397	1,641	244	17.5%
	Nursing and Residential Care Facilities	1,460	1,673	213	14.6%
	Administrative and Support Services	818	992	174	21.3%
Declining	Livestock Production	3,902	3,708	-194	-5.0%
	Crop Production	3,066	2,913	-153	-5.0%
	Plastics and Rubber Products Manufacturing	313	256	-57	-18.2%
	Postal Service	338	301	-37	-11.0%
	Food and Beverage Stores	945	915	-30	-3.2%

Occupations with the Greatest Numeric Changes in Employment 2010-2020

SOC Title	2010 Estimated Employment	2020 Projected Employment	Growth Openings	Replacement Openings	Total Openings	Numeric Change	% Change
Heavy and Tractor-Trailer Truck Drivers	1,090	1,235	145	217	362	145	13.3%
Combined Food Preparation and Serving Workers, Including Fast Food	1,357	1,501	144	379	523	144	10.6%
Railroad Conductors and Yardmasters	480	592	112	146	258	112	23.3%
Laborers and Freight, Stock, and Material Movers, Hand	815	911	96	261	357	96	11.8%
Janitors and Cleaners, Except Maids and Housekeeping Cleaners	1,153	1,244	91	217	308	91	7.9%
Stock Clerks and Order Fillers	571	538	0	142	142	-33	-5.8%
Postal Service Mail Sorters, Processors, and Processing Machine Operators	75	47	0	4	4	-28	-37.3%
Cooks, Fast Food	450	423	0	96	96	-27	-6.0%
Switchboard Operators, Including Answering Service	57	44	0	11	11	-13	-22.8%

Occupational Projections

There is expected to be occupational growth in the Mid Plains region according to the 2010-2020 projections. The total projected numeric employment change over the 10-year period is 3,783, a 6.4 percent increase. A total of 18,784 job openings are expected in the Mid Plains region from 2010-2020, with 4,348 jobs expected from growth and 14,438 from replacements. Replacement openings account for 76.9 percent of all job openings. This mirrors the statewide trend and can in part be attributed to the high number of Nebraska workers reaching retirement age within the next 10 years.

In 2010, office and administrative support occupations employed 7,969, making it the largest occupational category in the Mid Plains region, accounting for 13.6 percent of the region's occupational employment. The largest net change in employment is expected to occur in transportation and material moving occupations, with an expected increase of 770 jobs. Transportation and material moving occupations is also the fastest-growing occupational category by percent change, projected to increase by 12.7 percent. Computer and mathematical occupations employed the least amount of workers in 2010, only

A view of the Dismal River In Hooker County, Nebraska

employing 270 or 0.5 percent of the region's occupational employment. Legal occupations are expected to add the least number of jobs, only three in the ten-year period, a 0.8 percent increase. Two occupational categories are expected to decline, farming, fishing and forestry occupations by 190 jobs, a decrease of 4.2 percent, and management occupations by 48, a decrease of 1.4 percent.

The highest number of total job openings is expected in transportation and material moving occupations with 2,335 total openings; 771 from job growth and 1,564 from replacements. The lowest number of openings is projected for legal occupations, with only 69 openings expected; five from growth and 64 from replacements.

The occupational group with the largest percentage of openings coming from replacements is farming, fishing, and forestry occupations with 99.2 percent (1,360) of the 1,371 total openings expected to be due to replacements. The largest percentage of total openings attributed to growth is projected in healthcare support occupations where 45.9 percent (161) of the 351 total openings projected are to be from growth.

Three occupations from the transportation and material moving occupations category make the top five when ranking occupations by numeric change from 2010 to 2020. Heavy and tractor-trailer truck drivers top the list with an expected 145 jobs added. Railroad conductors and yardmasters come in third adding 112 jobs. Laborers and freight, stock, and material movers, hand comes in at fourth place adding 96 jobs. This is not too surprising given that this occupational category as a whole is forecast to add the most jobs to this region.

Stock clerks and order fillers are expected to lose the most jobs from 2010-2020 with a projected loss of 33 positions, a 5.8 percent decrease. Postal service mail sorters, processors, and processing machine operators are expected to lose 28 jobs in the ten-year time frame, which is a 37.3% decrease, the second fastest decline. The fastest declining occupation is the related occupation of Postal Service clerks by 37.9 percent, a loss of 11 jobs causing it to just miss the top five list of declining occupations.

A publication with more detail on both occupational and industry projections is published online at www.dol.nebraska.gov. Look for additional articles spotlighting projections in upcoming issues of Nebraska Workforce Trends.

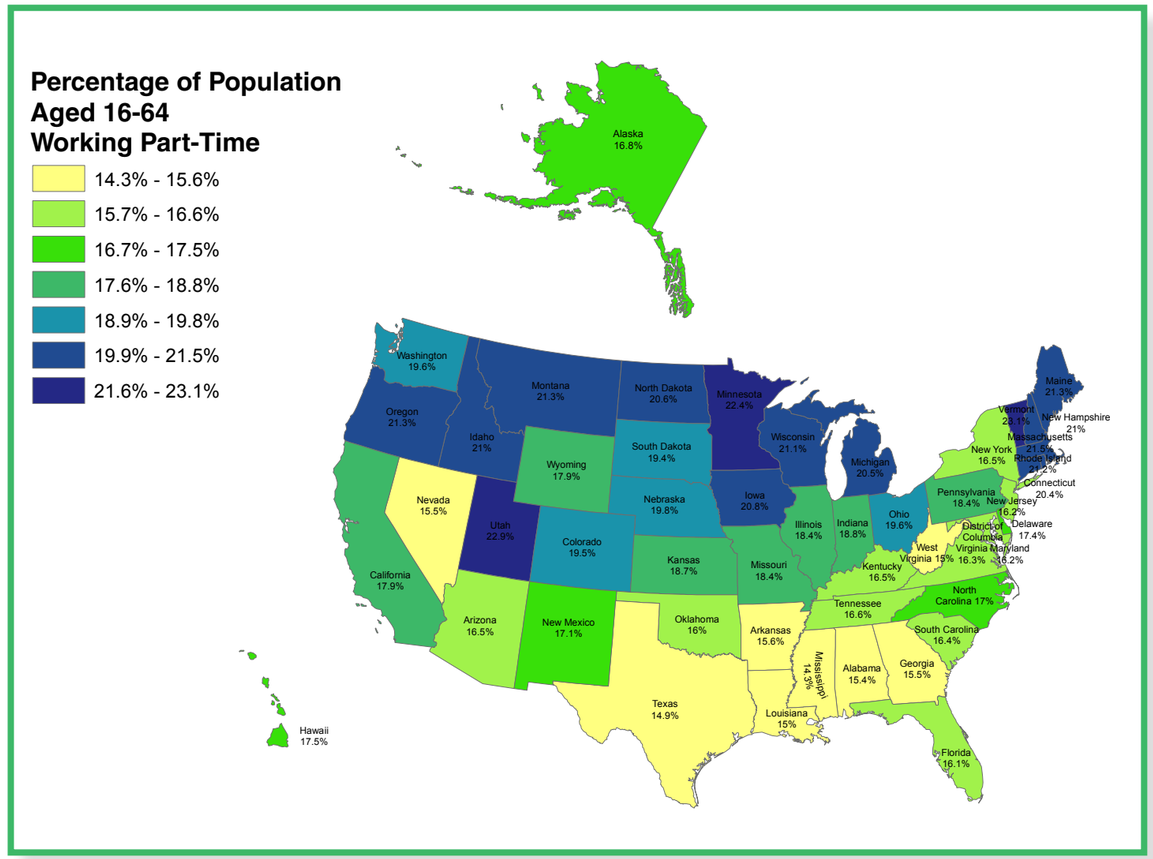
Map Facts

Part Time Employment

Ed Jaros, Research analyst

Millions of Americans work part-time (defined here as generally working 1-34 hours per week). Some may choose part-time positions to accommodate educational or family needs; others may simply be unable to find full time work. While part-time workers' situations may vary, their concentration shows a clear pattern geographically.

The map displays the 50 United States colored and labeled by the estimated percentage of their residents aged 16-64 who usually worked 1-34 hours per week during a five-year study period from 2007-2011. The variance is low, with Vermont showing the highest percentage of its 16-64 year olds working part time at 23.1 percent and Mississippi showing the lowest at 14.3 percent. However, within this tight variance, a clear north-south division emerges. A person traveling from Dallas, Texas to Minneapolis, Minnesota on Interstate 35 would travel through states in each of the color-categories employed here, in ascending order from lowest to highest percentage of the population aged 16-64 which is part-time employed.



Data presented here is from The US Census Bureau American Community Survey 2011 5-Year estimates table S2303: Work Status in the Past 12 Months, accessible online at http://factfinder2.census.gov/.

Occupational Profile:

Slaughterers and Meat Packers

Ed Jaros, Research Analyst

Modern distribution systems and supermarkets insulate consumers from some of the less than appetizing steps in the process which renders animals into shelf-ready cuts of meat. While consumers are comfortably distant from the more visceral portions of meat production, producers simply can't be. To meet American consumers' meat demands, animals must be slaughtered, cleaned and carved en masse. The men and women who perform these tasks are slaughterers and meat packers as classified by the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS).

The NeWorks.Nebraska.gov website provides the following overview of slaughterers and meat packers: "The nature of their jobs varies significantly depending on the stage of the process in which they are involved. In animal slaughtering and processing plants, slaughterers and meat packers slaughter cattle, hogs, and sheep, and cut carcasses into large wholesale cuts, such as rounds, loins, ribs, tenders, and chucks, to facilitate the handling, distribution, marketing, and sale of meat. In most plants, some slaughterers and meat packers further process the large parts into case-ready cuts that are ready for retail stores. Retailers and grocers increasingly prefer such prepackaged meat products because a butcher isn't needed to further portion the cuts for sale. Slaughterers and meat packers also produce hamburger meat and meat trimmings, and prepare sausages, luncheon meats, and other fabricated meat products." (1) The following list of important tasks for slaughterers and meat packers gives some insight into their daily experience (1):

cut, trim, or clean meat, or carcasses
grind meats, such as beef, pork, poultry or fish
identify cut or grade of meat
inspect meat or meat products
measure, weigh, or count products or materials
operate food processing production equipment/machinery
slaughter animals, including beef, fish, and poultry
use hand or power tools
wrap products

To perform these tasks, slaughterers and meat packers must have physical stamina, coordination, and good vision. People working in this profession often lift or move heavy sections of carcasses and are in constant contact with machines designed specifically to cut through flesh and bone. To keep from injuring themselves, slaughterers and meat packers must be skillful and alert. People who possess these attributes and sufficient communication ability will generally qualify for work in this occupation; it generally has little or no educational requirement. Occupation-specific proficiencies are acquired through on-the-job training. Work conditions for slaughterers and meat packers are not always comfortable and quite often dangerous. The BLS explains "The slaughtering floors of most processing facilities are rarely climate controlled and may become very hot during the summer and very cold during the winter. Slaughterers and meat packers have to stand for the majority, if not all, of their shifts." Further, "Injury rates have improved greatly over the past decades, but injury and illness rates for slaughterers and meat packers are still significantly higher than those of most other manufacturing occupations. … They work near dangerous equipment, such as knives and saws, perform strenuous activities, walk on slippery floors, and are exposed to animal waste." (2)

In general, this occupation pays low wages. The BLS Occupational Employment Statistics Program (OES) estimated that as of May 2012 3,220 people were working in this occupation in Nebraska and those people earned a median annual wage of $24,430. The 90th percentile wage for slaughterers and meat packers in Nebraska was $33,340, still significantly lower than the median experienced wage for all occupations in Nebraska ($49,379).

Nationally, BLS OES estimates that 79,370 people worked in this occupation, earning a median annual wage of $24,330 (90th percentile $32,670). More recent data from the Nebraska Department of Labor OES division shows that as of March 2013, median wages for Nebraska slaughterers and meat packers have remained virtually unchanged at $24,434.

Turnover and growth will produce an estimated 119 openings in this occupation every year from 2010 to 2020, according to Nebraska Department of Labor projections. Nebraska Office of Labor Market Information forecast analysts predict that this occupation will see about 10.9 percent growth during that period. The BLS anticipates about 8 percent growth for this occupation at the national level between 2010 and 2020, which is slower than the predicted 14 percent growth average for all occupations nationally during that decade.

Those seeking more information about slaughterers and meat packers or related occupations should visit the BLS Occupational Handbook at http://www.bls.gov/ooh/ or see the relevant Occupation Narrative page https://neworks.nebraska.gov. Data on employment and wages for this occupation can be found at www.bls.gov/oes and in the Historical Data Analysis: Employment and Wage Data portion of NEWorks.

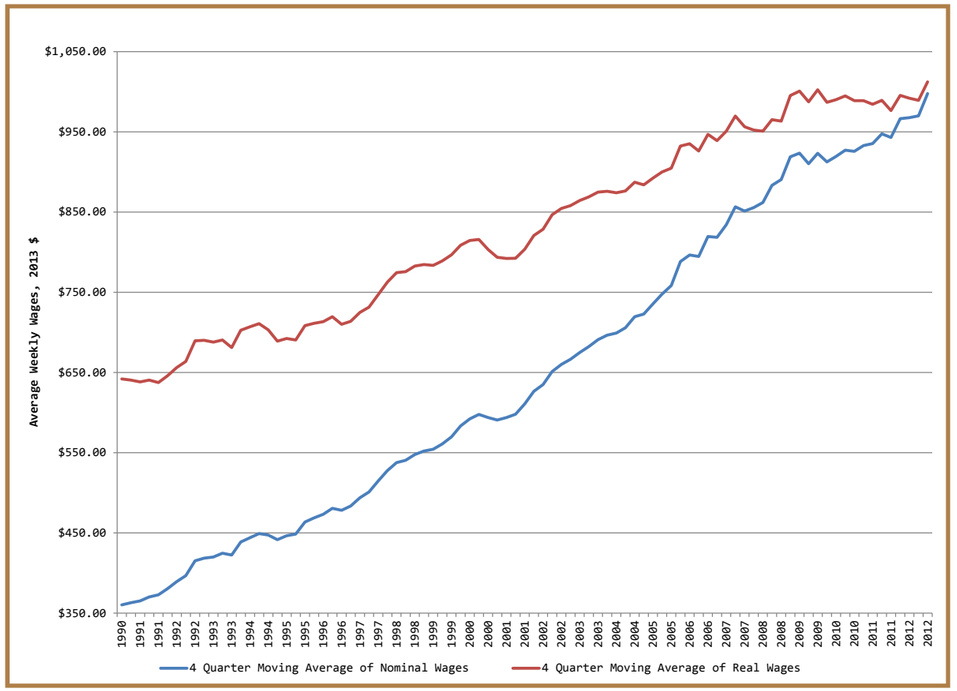
Real Wages In Nebraska

Ed Jaros, Research Analyst

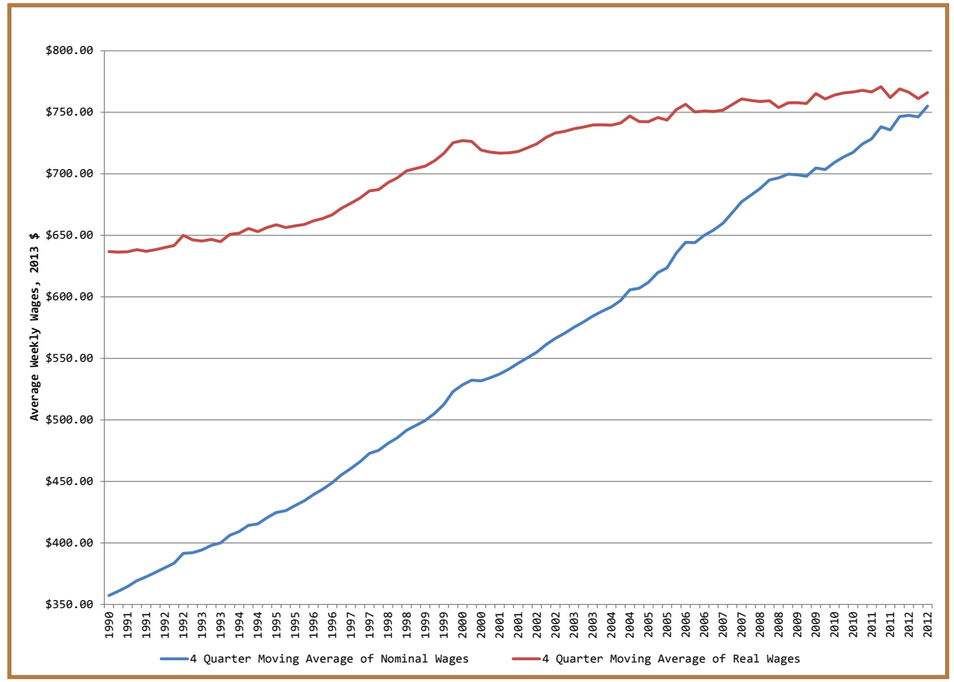
Real wages (wages adjusted for inflation) in Nebraska have seen growth on average across all industries in Nebraska over the last 20 years. Workers in every single major industrial classification saw their real wages increase between 1992 and 2012.

Real wages (wages adjusted for inflation) in Nebraska have seen growth on average across all industries in Nebraska over the last 20 years. Workers in every single major industrial classification saw their real wages increase between 1992 and 2012. The increase in Nebraska's real wages has generally come at a steady pace according to the BLS QCEW (Bureau of Labor Statistics Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages). The graphics below depict selected industry groupings' nominal and real wages over the last 23 years. A four-quarter moving average has been employed to smooth out quarterly wage fluctuation caused by end-of-year bonuses, seasonal businesses and other factors.

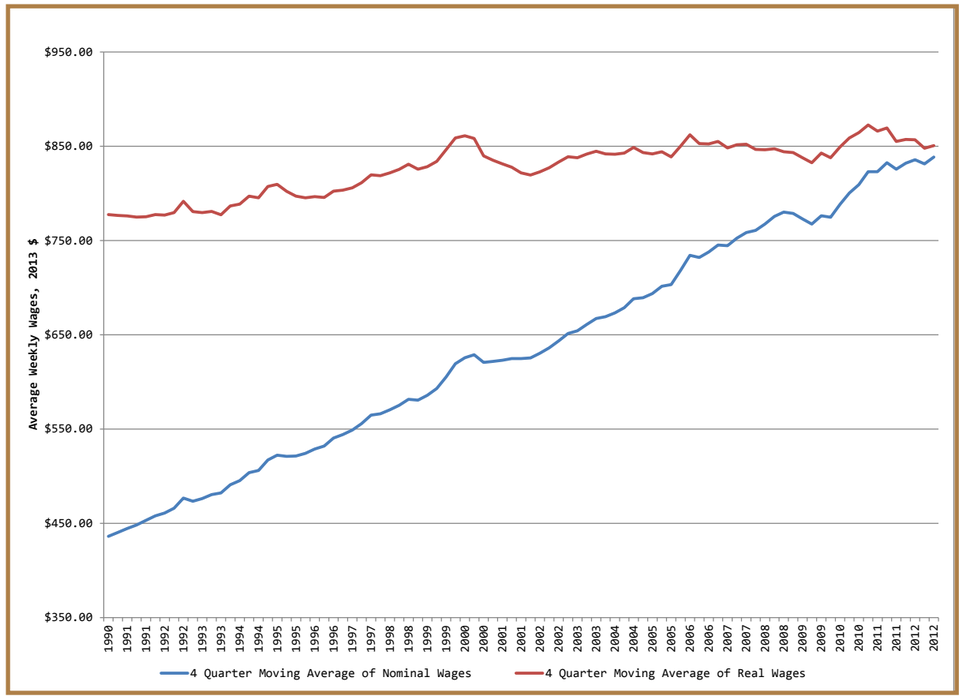
Private Employees in Professional and Business Services



All Covered Employees / All Industries / Nebraska Statewide



Private Manufacturing Employees / Nebraska Statewide



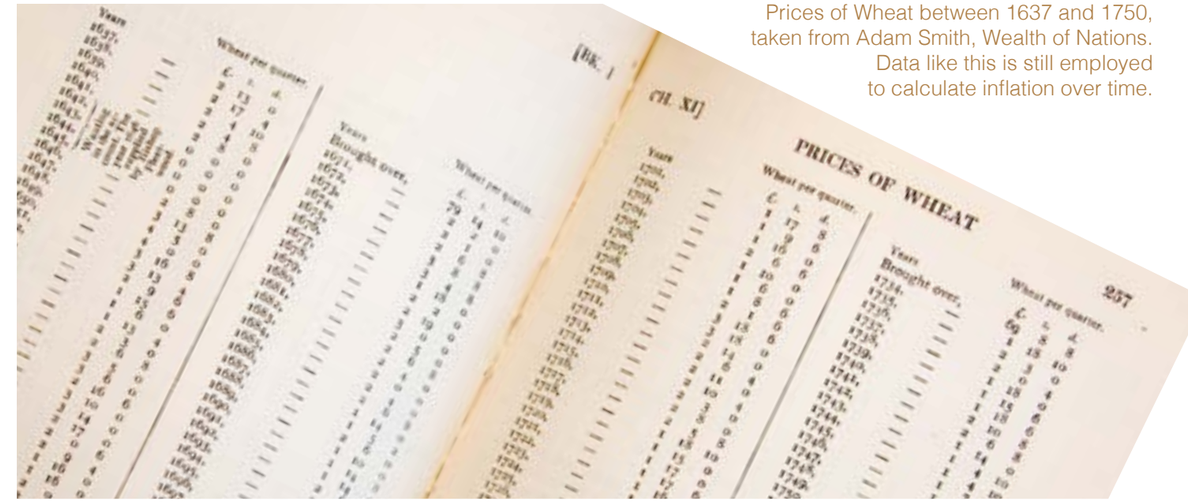
Real wages are always indexed to a dollar value for a particular year. For example, a worker who earned $18,000 in 1980 earned the equivalent of $51,008.16 in 2013 dollars (1). Nominal wages (wages not indexed for inflation) are often described downwardly rigid; they generally do not decrease very simply because workers are resistant to pay reductions (2). However, real wages can fall if inflation outpaces nominal wage growth. A variety of sources (3) (4) (5) have recently produced reports which conclude that at the national level real wages for American workers, particularly those workers outside of the highest earning categories, have stagnated or even shrunk in the latter half of the 20th century.

Manufacturing, one of the industries which experienced relatively low wage growth in the period studied, saw some small amounts of real wage loss during recession periods, but otherwise was quite similar to other industries. Both nominal and real wages in the majority of Nebraska's industries have grown at nearly linear rates.

Analyzing this data produces some encouraging results. Few industries saw shrinkage in real wages at any point since 1990, and all wages saw net positive change in real wages during that period as a whole. Even the traditionally low-paying Leisure and Hospitality sector saw a double digit increase in real wages over the past 23 years. It's likely that

Government Employees			
Government	Four Quarter Average Ending Q3 1992 Average Weekly Wage (2013 Dollars)	Four Quarter Average Ending Q3 2012 Average Weekly Wage (2013 Dollars)	Percentage Growth in Real Wages
Federal	$972.56	$1,216.78	25.11%
State	$804.58	$903.27	12.27%
Local	$649.64	$739.66	13.86%

Private Employees			
Industry	Four Quarter Average Ending Q3 1992 Average Weekly Wage (2013 Dollars)	Four Quarter Average Ending Q3 2012 Average Weekly Wage (2013 Dollars)	Percentage Growth in Real Wages
Total, all industries	$622.46	$754.62	21.23%
Goods-Producing	$752.99	$830.47	10.29%
Natural Resources and Mining	$614.55	$698.82	13.71%
Construction	$703.35	$830.21	18.04%
Manufacturing	$779.67	$850.76	9.12%
Service-Providing	$582.71	$735.35	26.19%
Trade, Transportation, and Utilities	$578.08	$662.55	14.61%
Information	$828.43	$1,036.69	25.14%
Financial Activities	$780.91	$1,049.12	34.35%
Professional and Business Services	$663.87	$1,012.34	52.49%
Education and Health Services	$671.58	$795.97	18.52%
Leisure and Hospitality	$238.37	$266.08	11.63%
Other Services	$428.35	$463.43	8.19%



Prices of Wheat between 1637 and 1750, taken from Adam Smith, Wealth of Nations. Data like this is still employed to calculate inflation over time.

Nebraska's consistently low unemployment insulates wages from some of the downward pressures seen in other states' labor markets during recessions (4).

While the universal real wage growth at the industry level is encouraging, this data does nothing to demonstrate that this growth has been experienced by a majority of workers. In general, the industries with the highest rates of growth were those which paid the highest wages both in 1990 and in 2012. This leads to the conclusion that wage growth has benefited high-wage earners more than it has low-wage earners, a trend that can also be seen nationally.

In the world of wages, a rising tide does not necessarily lift all ships. One executive's bonus or an outlier salesman's commission can significantly increase average wages without benefiting any other workers. The difference between mean (average) and median (numeric value separating the upper and lower halves) wages represents a significant impediment to localizing real wage calculations. It is important to be cognizant of this limitation when evaluating real wage data from QCEW. However, absent further data collection or innovation, measuring this disparity accurately for earners (rather than industries) at the state level is not possible.

Measuring changes in real wages requires historical wage and inflation data. The consumer price index is the commonly- accepted measure of inflation in the US, and is available at considerable detail for each year since 1913 (6). Wage data suitable to real wage analysis is harder to come by.

Because QCEW collects data on business establishments, and not their individual employees, only average wages can be calculated. This is problematic because it does not reflect a core conclusion of many reports, which is that real wage stagnation or shrinkage is a phenomenon which primarily affects the poorest three quarters or so of wage earners.

Still, the BLS QCEW is the best tool for analyzing changes in real wages over time. QCEW data has a number of strengths for this analysis. It measures nearly all workforce participants; it provides astounding geographical and industrial detail; and it has historical data available at this detail all the way back to 1990 (7).

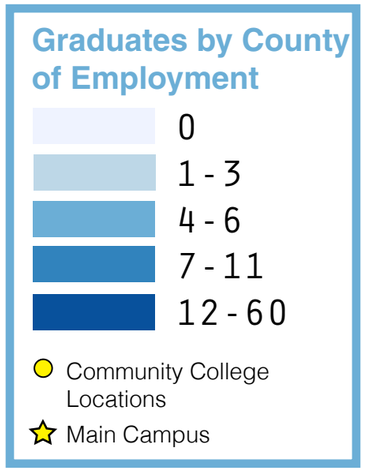
College Placement Graduate Outcomes

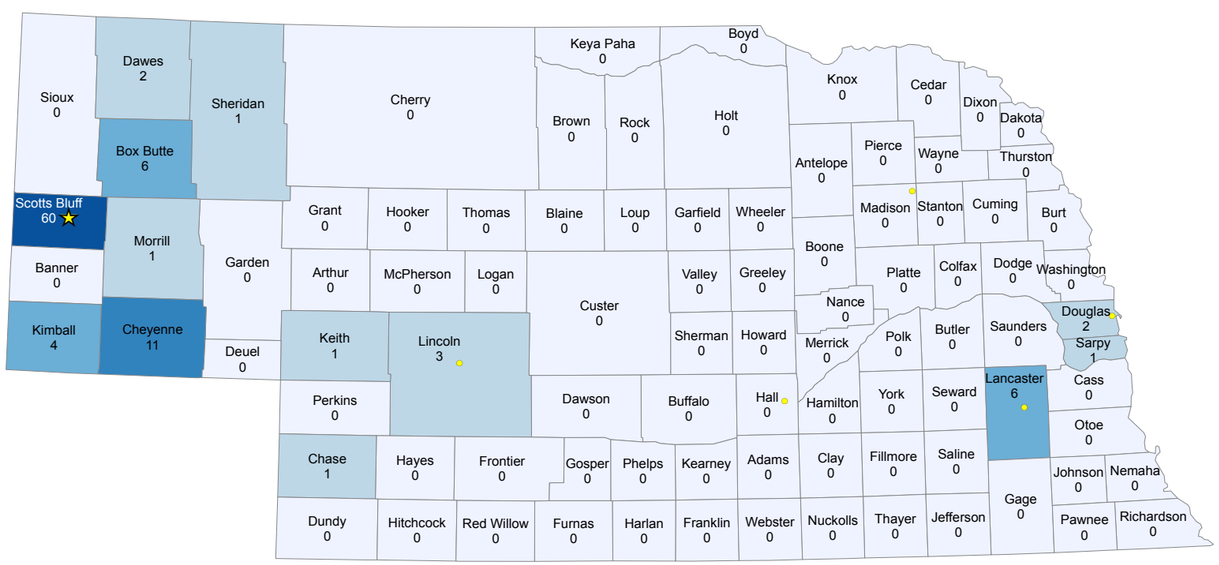
Western Nebraska Community College

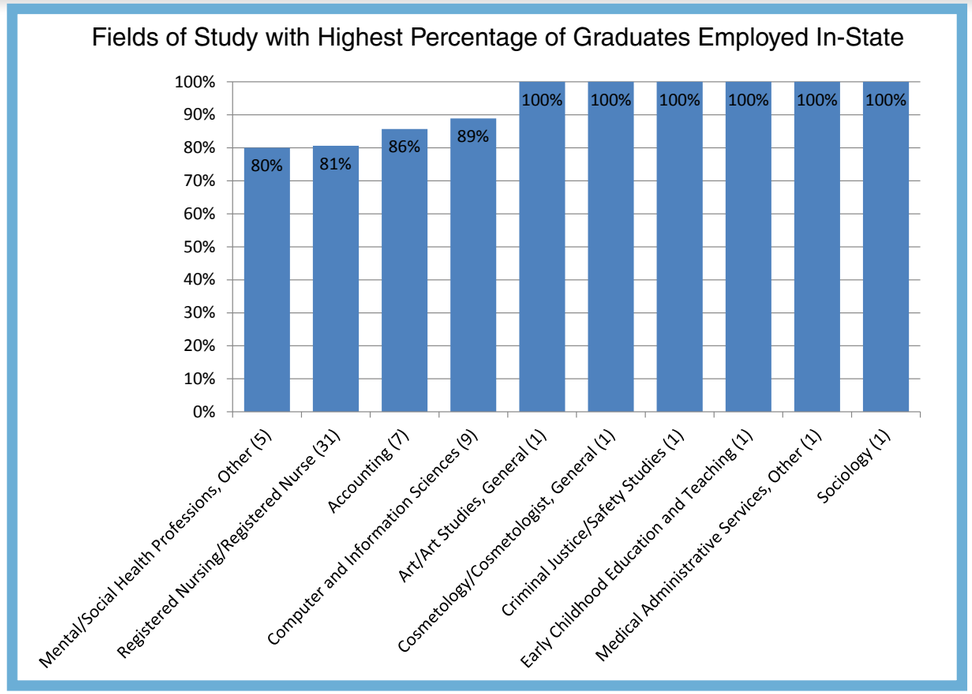
Mary Findlay, Research Analyst

Western Nebraska Community College had 270 graduates between July 1, 2010 and June 30, 2011. Of these graduates, 157 (58 percent) were employed in Nebraska in first quarter 2012. The percentage of graduates working in the state was one percent lower than in the previous year. Females comprised 64 percent of the graduates and were more likely (65 percent) to be working in the state than males (46 percent).

Graduates in some fields of study were more likely to be employed in Nebraska than others. Graduates from 10 fields of study had over 80 percent of the graduates working in the state. The Registered Nursing field of study accounted for 51 percent of the graduates in this category.







Western Nebraska Community College graduates were employed in 13 of Nebraska's 93 counties. About six out of 10 (61%) graduates were employed in Scotts Bluff County. When considering industry employment, the Health Care industry employed 53, or 34 percent of all Western Nebraska Community College graduates working in Nebraska. Retail Trade employed 26 graduates, the second highest employing industry.

One to two year award graduates had average annual wages of $23,797 while associates graduate's averaged $23,082. The four graduates employed in the management of companies and enterprises industry had the highest discloseable average annual wages with $34,680. This was followed by the 53 graduates employed in the health care industry with $33,279.

When looking at salary and fields of study, the 25 Registered Nursing associates degree graduates working in the state had the highest discloseable wages of all the fields of study with $42,936. Second highest discloseable were the five associates degree graduates in the health information/medical records technology field of study with $24,411. When ranked by wages, only one of the top six fields of study had enough graduates working in the state to display wages.

For more outcome information on Western Nebraska Community College, Chadron State College, Peru State College, Wayne State College, University of Nebraska – Kearney, Central Community College, Metropolitan Community College, Mid-Plains Community College, Northeast Community College, and Southeast Community College, and contact the Nebraska Dept of Labor, Office of Labor Market Information.

Business Openings and Expansions by Region

Kermit Spade, Research Analyst

Lincoln

Hospice Community Care – new office and expansion (5550 S 59th St., Lincoln) (Strictly Business and Lincoln Chamber of Commerce)

XOTIC PC – new business location and expanded business (4000 Lowell Circle and strong online presence) (Strictly Business and Lincoln Chamber of Commerce)

The Groutsmith – new to Lincoln grout and tile cleaning, repair and restoration business (Lincoln and Omaha) (Strictly Business and Lincoln Chamber of Commerce)

Fit Club of Lincoln – fitness facility, personal training (4747 Pioneers Blvd) (Strictly Business and Lincoln Chamber of Commerce)

High Plains Alzheimer's Special Care Center – care for patients with Alzheimer's, dementia (5601 S 84th Street) (Strictly Business and Lincoln Chamber of Commerce)

DNR Video Creation – rents audio/video equipment, event production, speakers, etc. (4921 North 57th Street, Suite 5) (Strictly Business and Lincoln Chamber of Commerce)

Grand Lodge of Nebraska – new office (301 N Cotner Blvd) (Strictly Business and Lincoln Chamber of Commerce)

Sirkdot Innovations – new location, provide website development and management for start-ups, small businesses (2900 S 70th Street, Suite 160 – moved from the SCC Entrepreneurship Center) (Strictly Business and Lincoln Chamber of Commerce)

JMSK Corporation – new real estate education and development company (285 S 68th Street Place, Suite 325) (Strictly Business and Lincoln Chamber of Commerce)

Inner City Automotive – small repair shop for automobiles (2521 W L Street, Suite 3)

Lincoln Sign Craft – new location, specialize in custom signs and metal fabrication, maintenance and repair, etc. (4223 Progressive Ave #1) (Strictly Business and Lincoln Chamber of Commerce)

Pearls and Pebbles and Finer Things Consignment – new location (2545 Randolph Street) (Strictly Business and Lincoln Chamber of Commerce)

Balanced Life – new location offering individual coaching, small group coaching, public speaking, etc. (4830 Wilshire Blvd) (Strictly Business and Lincoln Chamber of Commerce)

Sterling acquires Wide River TEC – health information technology consulting division of CIMRO -technology solutions provider (Lincoln) (Strictly Business and Lincoln Chamber of Commerce)

Forever 21 – new store in Gateway Mall – specialty retailer of women's and men's clothing, etc. (Strictly Business and Lincoln Chamber of Commerce)

Neemann and Sons Roofing , Seamless Gutters and Siding – new location (1121 High Street) (Strictly Business and Lincoln Chamber of Commerce)

Dickey's Barbecue coming to south Lincoln – 3rd location and will be at 62nd and NE 2 (Lincoln Journal Star)

Omaha

Company	Type of Business	# of Jobs	Source of Information
B & B Dogs	restaurant/arcade	5	Omaha Chamber of Commerce
CenturyLink	telecommunications	50	Omaha Chamber of Commerce
The Egg & I	restaurant	10	Omaha Chamber of Commerce
Beauty First	beauty retail store/salon	10	Omaha Chamber of Commerce
Liberty Tax Service	tax preparation	5	Omaha Chamber of Commerce
New Dawn Nutrition	nutritional supplements	3	Omaha Chamber of Commerce
Urgent Pet Care	urgent pet care services	5	Omaha Chamber of Commerce
Jimmy John's	restaurant	10	Omaha Chamber of Commerce
Hapkido	martial arts studio	4	Omaha Chamber of Commerce
Antiques at Revival	antique store	2	Omaha Chamber of Commerce
Spielbound	non-profit café	4	Omaha Chamber of Commerce
NEI Global Relocation	global relocation mgmt. sol	50	Omaha Chamber of Commerce
Take Aim	indoor shooting range	5	Omaha Chamber of Commerce
Schweser's	women's apparel	5	Omaha Chamber of Commerce
Tammy Muecke Photography	photography	1	Omaha Chamber of Commerce
Allure Photographic Studio	photography	1	Omaha Chamber of Commerce
Pickleman's Gourmet Café	restaurant	10	Omaha Chamber of Commerce
Dunkin' Donuts	donut restaurant	10	Omaha Chamber of Commerce
Tide Dry Cleaners	dry cleaners	12	Omaha Chamber of Commerce
PizzaWest	restaurant	15	Omaha Chamber of Commerce
Railcar Modern American Kitchen	restaurant	10	Omaha Chamber of Commerce
Scooter's Coffeehouse	specialty coffee	5	Omaha Chamber of Commerce
Panda Express	restaurant	8	Omaha Chamber of Commerce
The Trap Room	bar	10	Omaha Chamber of Commerce
Salween Thai	restaurant	10	Omaha Chamber of Commerce
Examination Management Services	info services	10	Omaha Chamber of Commerce
Borgata	craft brewery & distillery	10	Omaha Chamber of Commerce
Hampton Inn	106 room hotel	20	Omaha Chamber of Commerce
Apricot Lane Boutique	women's clothing	3	Omaha Chamber of Commerce
Designer Beads and Charms	jewelry, beads	4	Omaha Chamber of Commerce
Wag	grooming, doggie day care	3	Omaha Chamber of Commerce
GNC	health and wellness store	5	Omaha Chamber of Commerce
Oliverde	specialty olive oils/vinegars	3	Omaha Chamber of Commerce
Gunderson's Jewelers	jewelry store	3	Omaha Chamber of Commerce
Kitchen Table	restaurant	4	Omaha World Herald
Salt 88	restaurant	45	Omaha World Herald
V Entertainment Center	bowling, arcade	10	Omaha World Herald
Yahoo	internet info provider	100	Midlands Business Journal
Chef 2(Squared)	specialty olive oils/vinegars	3	Omaha World Herald
BMO Harris Bank	commercial banking	2	Omaha World Herald
All Vacuums by Scott	vacuum sales	2	Strictly Business
Abra Auto Body & Glass (new name)	autobody	3	Omaha World Herald

BUSINESS EXPANSIONS

Company	Type of Business	# of Jobs	Source of Information
UNO – Caniglia Field	rebuild field for soccer	0	Omaha Chamber of Commerce
NP Dodge	real estate sales offices	0	Omaha Chamber of Commerce
Millard Refrigerated Services	HQ building	0	Omaha Chamber of Commerce
1501 Jackson	mixed use development	0	Omaha Chamber of Commerce
Marian High School	new STEM labs & equip	0	Omaha Chamber of Commerce
Playland Park	mixed use development	0	Omaha Chamber of Commerce
Holiday Inn Express	87 room hotel	20	Omaha Chamber of Commerce
Marcus Majestic Cinema	remodeling theatre	0	Omaha Chamber of Commerce
KETV	new studio (Burlington)	0	OWH

Southeast

Beatrice
Dewitt Grocery

Fairbury
Crystals Café

Holmesville
Rewound Power Motors

Falls City
Just 1 More Bar & Grill

Mid-Plains

North Platte
Inland Trucking

Northeast

Beemer
Village Express

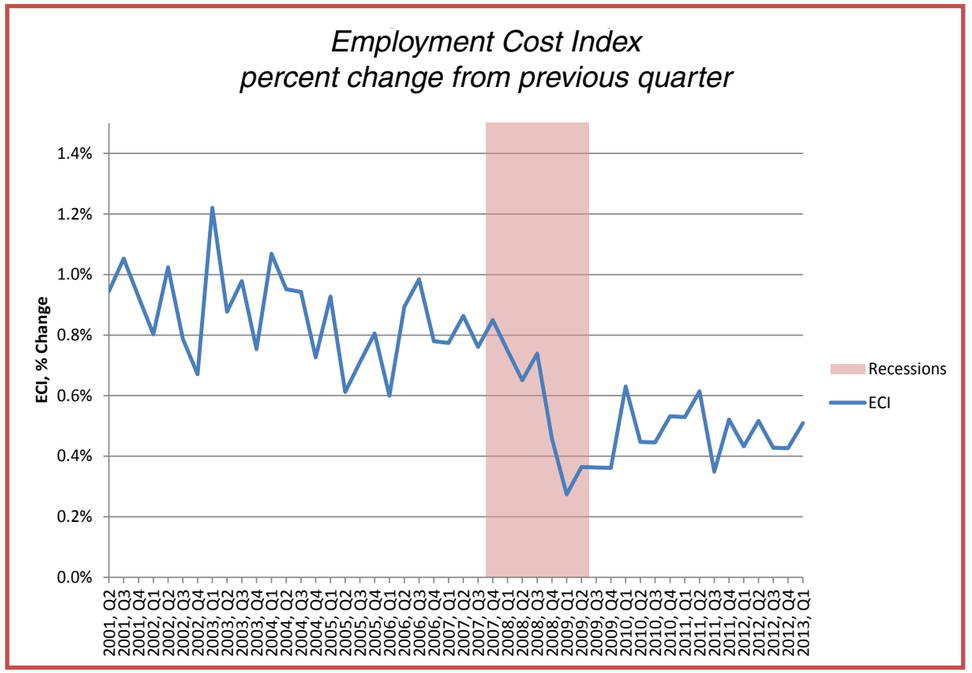
West Point
Massage by Tiffany

Wayne
Acquaintances

Note: This information is obtained through a monthly survey of Nebraska's Career Centers. Openings and expansions that were not publicly reported or reported to Career Center Managers in confidence are not listed. If you own or know of a business which is opening or expanding, please email Kermit.Spade@nebraska.gov with you information.

ECONOMIC INDICATORS ECI

Kermit Spade, Research Analyst



		Change Over Last Quarter/Month		
Metric	Current Time	United States	Midwest Region	Nebraska
Real GDP, billions of chained 2005 dollars	1st Quarter, 2013	+1.8%	-	-
Effective Federal Funds Rate	June, 2013	-0.02%	-	-
Balance on the US Current Account, in	1st Quarter, 2013	+3.7%	-	-
Barrel of Crude Oil, WTI-Cushing, Spot Price	June, 2013	-$1.26	-	-
Employment Cost Index	1st Quarter, 2013	+0.5%	-	-
Producer Price Index: All Commodities	June, 2013	+0.3%	-	-
Average Weekly Manufacturing Hours	Juhe, 2013	0.0	-	+0.6
House Price Index	1st Quarter, 2013	+0.2%	+0.1%	+0.6%
Consumer Price Index, not seasonally	June, 2013	+0.2%	+0.3%	-
Unemployment Rate, seasonally adjusted	May, 2013	0.0%	+0.1%	+0.2%
New Private Housing Units Authorized by	June, 2013	-7.5%	-9.6%	-23.8%**
Net Taxable Sales	April, 2013	-	-	-4.7%
Money Supply, M2	June, 2013	+0.4%	-	-
University of Michigan, Consumer Sentiment	June, 2013	-0.5%%	-	-

**Indicates data lagged by one month.

In each new issue of Trends, the economic indicators section will feature a chart or graph focused on one of the economic indicators listed above. This month, we'll be focusing on Employment Cost Index (ECI).

The BLS Handbook of Methods defines ECI as "a measure of the change in the cost of labor, independent of the influence of employment shifts among occupations and industry categories. The total compensation series includes changes in wages and salaries and in employer costs for employee benefits. The ECI has been designated a Principal Federal Economic Indicator by the Office of Management and Budget. The ECI is particularly important in studies of the relationships among prices, productivity, labor costs, and employment. The index also is used to determine increases in Medicare payments to hospitals and doctors and as a labor cost escalator in long-term contracts."

Industry Developments

Highlights from June 2013 Current Employment Statistics Preliminary Estimates

Janet Oenbring, Research Analyst

Statewide

Statewide total nonfarm employment passed the May 2008 high of 975,298 last month at 977,825 and has moved up another 2,912 jobs to be at 980,737 jobs in June. It is normal to have employment peak in May or June every year. Six of the industries increased (+10,741); however, four of the industries decreased (-7,829). Over the year, total nonfarm employment has grown by 11,912 (+1.2 percent) with two industries making up over half of the increase: leisure and hospitality (+3,583 jobs) and trade, transportation, and utilities (+3,001). Since June 2003, total nonfarm employment progressed by 56,741 jobs, with the gains in service-providing jobs (+66,080) offsetting the losses in goods-producing jobs (-9,339). The leading contributors to the decade growth were education and health services (+20,274 jobs), followed by professional and business services (+15,689 jobs).

Over the month, employment in mining and construction improved by 2,274 to 46,089 jobs (+5.2 percent) which is the largest boost in June in the past decade. Growth above 5 percent usually occurs in April, but this year it was only 3.3 percent.

Since May 2013, trade, transportation, and utilities jumped up by 3,021 to 203,295 (+1.5 percent), setting a record monthly growth for June (past decade ranged from -711 to +946). Gains above 3,000 have only occurred three times in November in the past decade. Since last month, wholesale trade rose by 950 to 42,795 jobs (+2.3 percent), which is just slightly above the previous peak of 42,761 in June 2008. From May to June, retail trade usually remains flat, but went up by 929 or +0.9 percent this month. Transportation, warehousing, and utilities over-the-month growth of 1,142 (+2.1percent) is uncommon compared to past declines.

Statewide monthly employment in information declined by 235 to 16,643 jobs (-1.4 percent), setting a new low in the past decade. Information has grown from +41 to +239 during the month of June in the past decade.

After posting four months of sizeable gains, statewide financial activities edged up slightly to a new high of 72,389 jobs (+83 or +0.1 percent).

Statewide monthly employment in professional and business services advanced by only 1,335 jobs (+1.3 percent), following the largest May increase in the past decade of 2,278 jobs. This puts it 340 jobs above the previous high in July 2012 (108,089 jobs). The majority of the gains occurred in the professional, scientific and technical services sector (+1,144 jobs or +2.6 percent).

Over-the-month employment in statewide education and health services set a record increase in May (+1,118) to peak at 142,721 jobs; however, it posted a record decrease in June (-2,633). Monthly drops occurred in both sectors.

Statewide leisure and hospitality has published the largest monthly gains in the past decade for April, May and June. This month it has gone above the past peak of 88,174 jobs in August 2012 to reach 90,962 jobs, with both sectors contributing to the growth. In arts, entertainment, and recreation employment has grown from 9,802 jobs in January 2013 to 17,957 jobs (+8,155) in June 2013 which is way above (+2,692) the previous highpoint of 15,265 jobs in July 2012. The over-the-month gain in June (+2,168 jobs or +13.7 percent) was the highest of the past decade. The previous greatest growth occurring in June happened in 2010 (+1,153 jobs or +8.7 percent). About 40 percent of the industry's growth in June came from accommodation and food services sector (+1,415 or +2.0 percent) which is also a decade high for the month. During the past six months, accommodation and food services has made up 80 to 88 percent of the employment in leisure and hospitality, with 80 percent of the employment coming from restaurants (+1,188 jobs or +2.1 percent).

After reaching its peak in April at 37,624 jobs, statewide other service employment declined in May (-323) and in June (-121). This is the first year it has dropped in June in the past decade.

Over-the-month employment in statewide government went down by 4,840 jobs (-2.8 percent) in June. The majority of the losses were due to educational services summer recess.

— 90,962 —

Statewide leisure and hospitality has posted the largest monthly gains in the past decade for April, May and June.

	Number of Workers			Over the Month		Over the Year	
	Jun-13	May-13	Jun-12	Numeric Chang	Percent Change	Numeric Chang	Percent Change
Total Nonfarm	980,737	977,825	968,825	2,912	0.3%	11,912	1.2%
Mining & Construction	46,089	43,815	45,774	2,274	5.2%	315	0.7%
Construction of Buildings	8,193	7,611	8,775	582	7.7%	-582	-6.6%
Heavy and Civil Engineering Construction	7,125	6,748	7,419	377	5.6%	-294	-4.0%
Specialty Trade Contractors	29,862	28,551	28,384	1,311	4.6%	1,478	5.2%
Manufacturing	97,373	96,928	95,564	445	0.5%	1,809	1.9%
Durable Goods	45,687	45,260	44,405	427	0.9%	1,282	2.9%
Non-Durable Goods	51,686	51,668	51,159	18	0.0%	527	1.0%
Trade, Transportation, & Utilities	203,295	200,274	200,294	3,021	1.5%	3,001	1.5%
Wholesale Trade	42,795	41,845	42,160	950	2.3%	635	1.5%
Retail Trade	105,757	104,828	105,333	929	0.9%	424	0.4%
Transportation, Warehousing, and Utilities	54,743	53,601	52,801	1,142	2.1%	1,942	3.7%
Information	16,643	16,878	17,118	-235	-1.4%	-475	-2.8%
Financial Activities	72,389	72,306	71,392	83	0.1%	997	1.4%
Finance and Insurance	63,378	63,407	62,317	-29	-0.1%	1,061	1.7%
Real Estate and Rental and Leasing	9,011	8,899	9,075	112	1.3%	-64	-0.7%
Professional & Business Services	108,462	107,127	107,953	1,335	1.3%	509	0.5%
Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services	45,306	44,162	44,582	1,144	2.6%	724	1.6%
Management of Companies and Enterprises	17,133	16,973	16,777	160	0.9%	356	2.1%
Admin & Support & Waste Mngmt & Remdtn Srvcs	46,023	45,992	46,594	31	0.1%	-571	-1.2%
Education & Health Services	140,088	142,721	139,173	-2,633	-1.8%	915	0.7%
Educational Services	16,905	18,248	16,419	-1,343	-7.4%	486	3.0%
Health Care and Social Assistance	123,183	124,473	122,754	-1,290	-1.0%	429	0.4%
Leisure and Hospitality	90,962	87,379	87,609	3,583	4.1%	3,353	3.8%
Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation	17,957	15,789	15,171	2,168	13.7%	2,786	18.4%
Accommodation and Food Services	73,005	71,590	72,438	1,415	2.0%	567	0.8%
Other Services	37,180	37,301	37,151	-121	-0.3%	29	0.1%
Repair and Maintenance	10,260	10,470	10,079	-210	-2.0%	181	1.8%
Personal and Laundry Services	7,724	7,740	7,815	-16	-0.2%	-91	-1.2%
Religious, Grantmaking, Civic, Profssnl, & Sim Orgs	19,196	19,091	19,257	105	0.6%	-61	-0.3%
Government	168,256	173,096	166,797	-4,840	-2.8%	1,459	0.9%
Federal Government	16,416	16,300	16,852	116	0.7%	-436	-2.6%
State Government	38,762	43,038	38,459	-4,276	-9.9%	303	0.8%
Local Government	113,078	113,758	111,486	-680	-0.6%	1,592	1.4%

Lincoln MSA

In the Lincoln MSA, total nonfarm reached its new high point of 180,928 jobs in May, but fell by 2,166 jobs in June (-1.2 percent). The government decrease of 2,871 jobs was offset slightly by the leisure and hospitality increase of 519 jobs.

Leisure and hospitality employment in the Lincoln MSA has been posting record over-the-month increases since April 2013. The past two months have surpassed the August 2012 peak of 16,822 jobs. June's growth of 519 to 17,914 jobs was most likely caused by an increase in the arts, entertainment, and recreation sector, since the food services and drinking places sub-sector went down by 80 jobs.

Government employment in Lincoln fell by 2,871 to 37,349 jobs (-7.1 percent) with the state government declining by 2,823 (-12.9 percent). The majority of the June decline came from educational services going on summer break.

— 3,021 —

Since May 2013, trade, transportation, and utilities jumped up by 3,021 to 203,295 (+1.5 percent) setting a record monthly growth for June.

Omaha MSA

In the Omaha MSA, during the past decade total nonfarm employment reached a peak at 474,626 in June 2008; then declined to a low of 446,112 in February 2010. This year it has added jobs monthly since February. From May 2013 to June 2013, it increased from 475,723 to 477,763 a new high (+2,040 jobs or +0.4 percent). Over-the-month growth in leisure and hospitality (+2,147) and trade, transportation and utilities (+1,394) were offset by the decline in government (-1,674) and education and health services (-932).

Omaha trade, transportation and utilities bottomed out in March 2013 at 91,309 jobs. For the past three months, it has grown by more than 1,000 jobs a month. June's increase of 1,394 jobs (+1.5 percent) is the largest in the past decade for the month. Over-the-year decreases have occurred since November 2012 (-183 to -1,097 jobs); however, this month an increase of 895 jobs took place.

Education and health services descent of 932 to 73,934 jobs was primarily caused by education dropping by 1,171 (-10.0 percent). Losses greater than 1,000 have only happened in two other months in the past decade. The decade's lowest point in the education sector occurred in June 2007 at 8,854 jobs and the highest point was set back in April 2003 at 12,971 jobs. The most recent peak happened a few months ago in April at 11,718. Health services sector had a record setting gain in May of 752 jobs, but just a normal gain in June of 239 jobs.

In the Omaha MSA, leisure and hospitality set a new high this month surpassing the previous decade highs set in May 2013 (48,689 jobs), June 2012 (48,332 jobs), and July 2008 (48,099 jobs). Leisure and hospitality contributed the most jobs (+2,147) for June in the past decade, following two prior months of largest gains. Around 80 percent of the monthly growth came from the arts, entertainment, and recreation sector during April and May. In June, the growth was closer to an even split between the two sectors.

The government employment went down by 1,674 to 64,793 jobs (-2.5 percent). The majority of the losses were due to summer vacation for employees in state and local educational services.

County Unemployment Rates

Office of Labor Market Information

Statewide

June Total Non-farm: 980,737

Manufacturing: 97,373

Omaha MSA

June Unemployment Rate: 4.6%

June Total Non-Farm: 477,763

Manufacturing: 31,754

Largest OTY Increase: Leisure and Hospitality (2,504)

Largest OTM Increase: Leisure and Hospitality (2,147)

Lincoln MSA

June Unemployment Rate: 4.0%

June Total Non-Farm: 178,762

Manufacturing: 13,401

Largest OTY Increase: Leisure and Hospitality (1,709)

Largest OTM Increase: Leisure and Hospitality (519)

Labor Force Employment by Place of Residence

Nebraska (smoothed Seasonally Adjusted):

June Unemployment Rate: 4.0%

Change (OTM): 0.2%

Change (OTY): Unchanged

Economic Regions (not Seasonally adjusted)

Central: 3.8%

Mid Plains: 4.0%

Northeast: 4.2%

Panhandle: 4.5%

Southeast: 4.5%

Revisions to May Data:

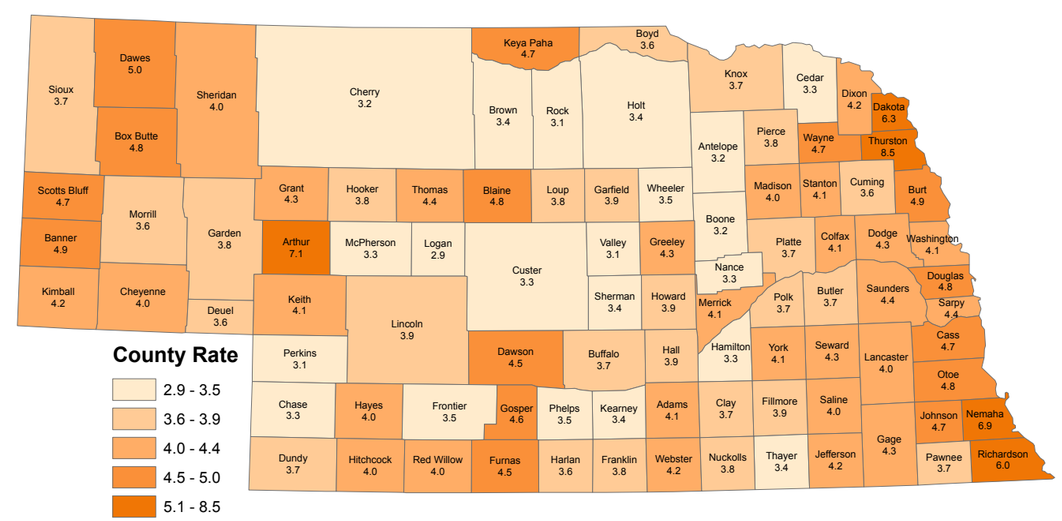
Unemployment rate: Unchanged at 3.8%

Labor Force: 9

Unemployment: 1.596

Employment: -1,587

June 2013 County Rates



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Nebraska Workforce Trends is published by the Nebraska Department of Labor - Labor Market Information Center in cooperation with the U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics.

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