

NEBRASKA WORKFORCE

# TRENDS



NEBRASKA  
DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

.....  
DEC 2015



**Fast Facts** - EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS  
**Map Facts** - AMERICA INVENTS: UTILITY PATENTS BY STATE  
**Feature** - VOLUNTEERING IN THE UNITED STATES

# CREDITS

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[Monthly Unemployment Rate](#)

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# OCTOBER UNEMPLOYMENT DATA

Byron Lefler, Research Analyst

## LINCOLN MSA (not seasonally adjusted)

October Unemployment Rate: 2.3%  
 October Total Non-farm: 191,872  
 Manufacturing: 14,282  
 Largest OTM Increases:  
 Trade, Transportation, & Utilities: 439 (1.3%)  
 Leisure & Hospitality: 363 (1.9%)

## OMAHA MSA (not seasonally adjusted)

October Unemployment Rate: 2.9%  
 October Total Non-farm: 497,691  
 Manufacturing: 31,840  
 Largest OTM Increases:  
 Trade, Transportation, & Utilities: 1,735 (1.8%)  
 Education & Health Services: 1,292 (1.6%)

## GRAND ISLAND MSA

(not seasonally adjusted)  
 October Unemployment Rate: 2.9%  
 October Total Non-farm: 42,201  
 Change (OTM): -739 (-1.7%)  
 Change (OTY): -1,058 (-2.5%)

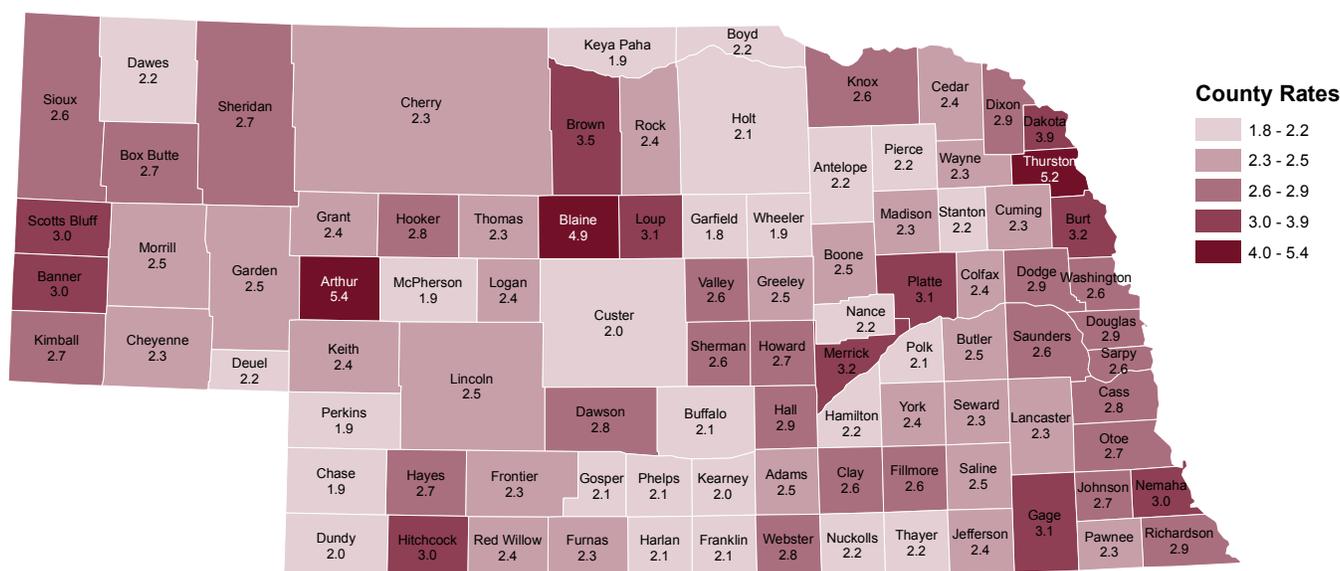
## NEBRASKA (not seasonally adjusted)

October Total Non-farm: 1,017,301  
 Manufacturing: 94,807  
 Nebraska (smoothed seasonally adjusted)  
 October Unemployment Rate: 2.9%  
 Change (OTM): Unchanged at 2.9%  
 Change (OTY): -0.2%

## Economic Regions (not seasonally adjusted)

Central: 2.3%  
 Mid Plains: 2.5%  
 Northeast: 2.8%  
 Panhandle: 2.7%  
 Sandhills: 2.4%  
 Southeast: 2.7%

## OCTOBER UNEMPLOYMENT RATES BY COUNTY\*



Sources:

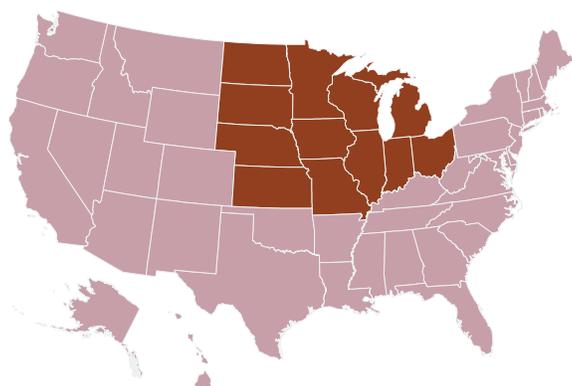
1. Bureau of Labor Statistics Current Employment Statistics Program (CES)
2. Bureau of Labor Statistics Local Area Unemployment Statistics (LAUS)

\*Not seasonally adjusted

# FAST FACTS: EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS

Jodie Meyer, Research Analyst

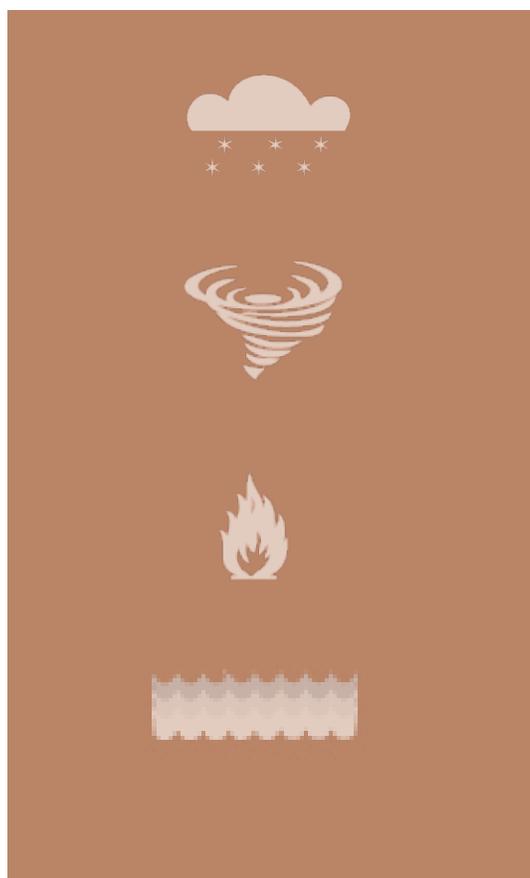
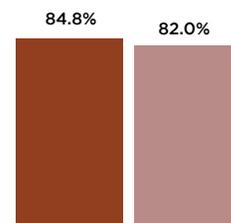
Winter is almost officially here and it marks a good time to start thinking about how prepared one is for an emergency. The following data examines how prepared residents of the Midwest region, highlighted in the map below, are prepared for an emergency compared to those throughout the nation. This data comes from the 2013 American Housing Survey, a joint project of United States Census Bureau and United States Department of Housing and Urban Development.



■ MIDWEST      ■ UNITED STATES



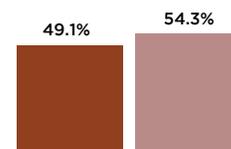
**THREE DAY SUPPLY OF  
NON-PERISHABLE FOOD**



**EMERGENCY WATER SUPPLY  
(PER PERSON)**



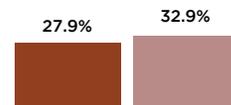
OR



**COMMUNICATION PLAN IN PLACE**



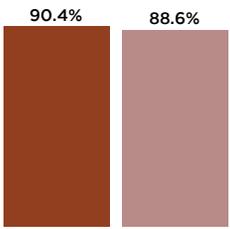
**(HAVING A  
CONTINGENCY  
PLAN IN CASE  
CELL PHONE  
SERVICE IS  
DISRUPTED)**



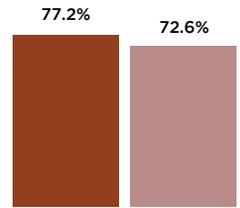
# EMERGENCY EVACUATION

An emergency evacuation is defined as having to evacuate your home to a safe place at least 50 miles away.

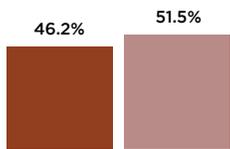
## RELIABLE EVACUATION VEHICLE



## DID NOT NEED ASSISTANCE EVACUATING OR SHELTERING PETS



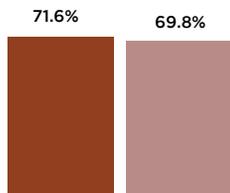
## PREPARED EVACUATION KIT



## LIKELIHOOD OF USING A PUBLIC SHELTER DURING A TWO-WEEK EVACUATION



## EMERGENCY EVACUATION FUNDS

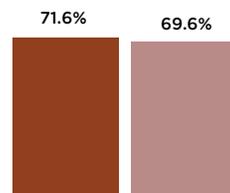


\$2,000 OR MORE

## LIKELIHOOD OF USING A TRAVEL TRAILER OR RECREATIONAL VEHICLE DURING A TWO-WEEK EVACUATION



## FRIENDS/RELATIVES TO STAY WITH DURING A TWO-WEEK EVACUATION



MIDWEST

UNITED STATES

## SOURCE:

1. United States Census Bureau and United States Department of Housing and Urban Development, 2013 American Housing Survey; Table S-06-AO Emergency and Disaster Preparedness-All Occupied Units; <http://www.census.gov/programs-surveys/ahs/data/2013/national-summary-report-and-tables---ahs-2013.html>

# MAP FACTS: AMERICA INVENTS - UTILITY PATENTS BY STATE

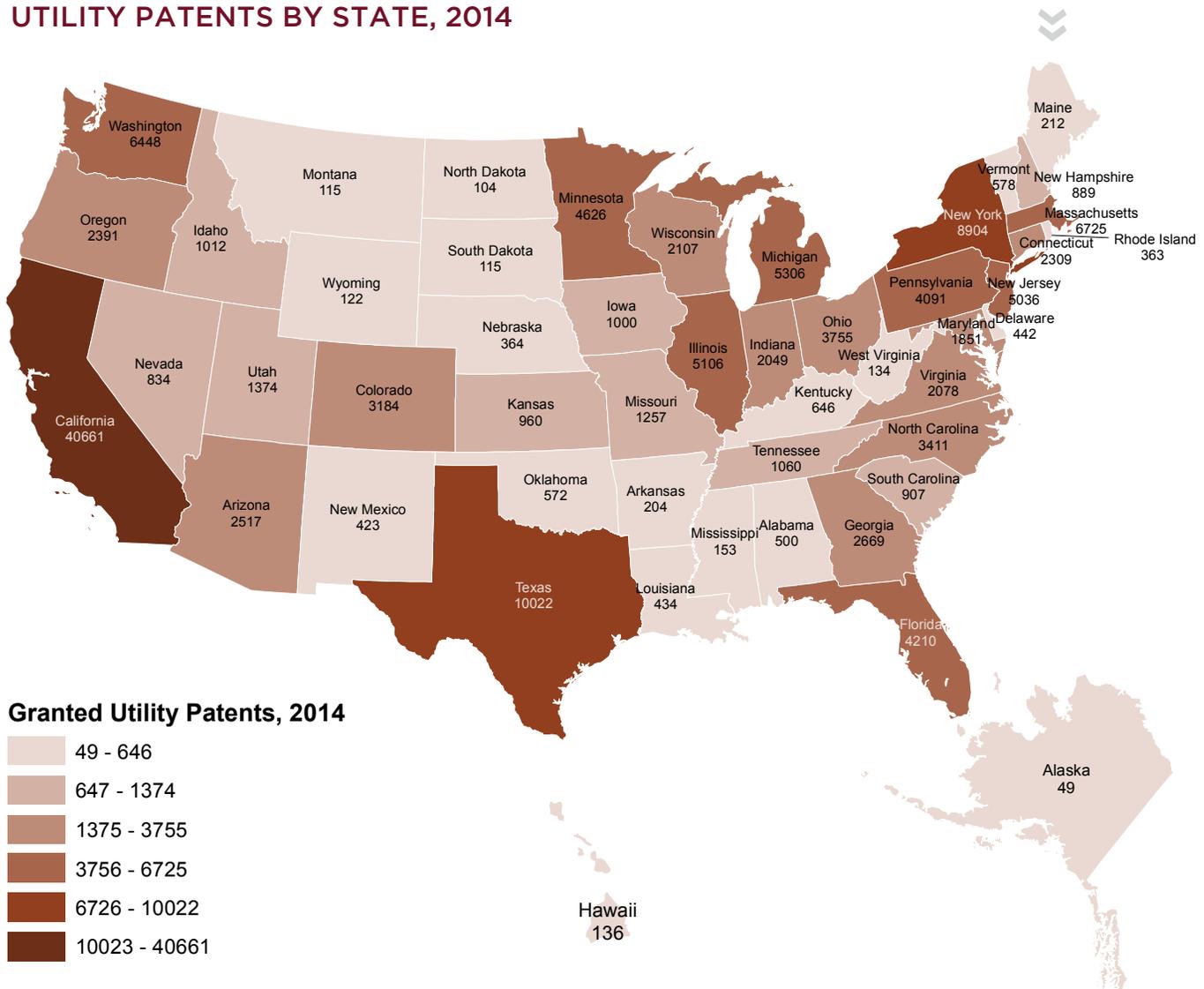
Jennifer Gildersleeve, Research Analyst

The creation of new products and processes, and a system to protect these inventions, is vital to a strong, dynamic economy. Patents are used to safeguard new inventions and designs and help businesses, as well as individual inventors, protect their intellectual property. Patents granted may be an indicator of innovation and technological progress throughout an area. This month's Map Facts will focus on utility patents granted throughout the United States in 2014.

The US Patent and Trademark Office describes utility patents as “issued for the invention of a new and useful process, machine, manufacture, or composition of matter, or a new and useful improvement thereof.”<sup>1</sup>

Unlike a design patent, which is issued for the appearance of something that is manufactured, a utility patent protects the way an object is used and works, and is typically known as an invention patent.

## UTILITY PATENTS BY STATE, 2014



Approximately 90 percent of all patent documents issued in the last several years by the US PTO have been utility patents.<sup>1</sup>

A map displaying the number of utility patents granted in 2014 is presented on the previous page. Patent origin is determined by the residence of the first-named inventor listed on the patent grant, even if the individual is working for a company headquartered out of the state.

According to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, there were 300,678 utility patents, 23,657 design, 1072 plant, 626 reissue patents and six statutory invention registrations, for a total of 326,039 patent documents granted in 2014, an increase of 7.6 percent from 2013.<sup>2</sup> The number of utility patents granted varied widely by state. The states from which the most utility patents originated in 2014 were California (40,661), Texas (10,022) and New York (8,904).

The states with the fewest patents granted were Alaska (49) and North Dakota (104). Nebraska ranked 39th in the number of patents granted for the year.<sup>3</sup>

There were 364 utility patents granted in Nebraska in 2014, as defined by the residence of the first-named inventor. This represents a 20 percent increase in patents granted to Nebraska residents over 2013.<sup>3</sup> More utility patents were granted to individuals (62) or had unassigned ownership at the time of approval, than any specific organization or company in Nebraska in 2014.<sup>4,5</sup> Most utility patents granted in Nebraska in 2012 (the most recent detailed data available) were related to manufacturing machinery; computer and peripheral equipment; fabricated metal products; navigational, measuring, electromedical, and control instruments; and plastics and rubber products.<sup>6</sup>

## SOURCES:

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2. —. Patenting Trends, 2014. February 9, 2015. [http://www.uspto.gov/web/offices/ac/ido/oeip/taf/pat\\_tr14.htm](http://www.uspto.gov/web/offices/ac/ido/oeip/taf/pat_tr14.htm)
3. —. Patent Counts by Country, State, and Year-Utility Patents. Table A1-1a. Updated December 2014. [http://www.uspto.gov/web/offices/ac/ido/oeip/taf/cst\\_utl.htm](http://www.uspto.gov/web/offices/ac/ido/oeip/taf/cst_utl.htm)
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6. —. Patenting by Geographic Region Breakout by NAICS Industry Classification (Whole Counts), 2008-2012. [http://www.uspto.gov/web/offices/ac/ido/oeip/taf/naics/stc\\_naics\\_wg5/ne\\_stc\\_naics\\_wg.htm](http://www.uspto.gov/web/offices/ac/ido/oeip/taf/naics/stc_naics_wg5/ne_stc_naics_wg.htm)



## OCTOBER

Kermit Spade  
Research Analyst

**TOTAL OMAHA  
JOBS ADDED\***

**47**

### OMAHA AREA OPENINGS

#### TYPE OF BUSINESS

#### NAME, JOBS ADDED



#### FOOD & ENTERTAINMENT

Burrito Envy	
Ika	
Local Ice Creamery "L.I.C"	
Paulie's Bar	
St. Bernard Lounge - Millard	<b>10</b>
Wicked Rabbit	<b>5</b>

**15**



#### RETAIL/SALES

Big Bear Bicycle - Fremont	<b>2</b>
Boutique Mesh - Beverly Hills Plaza	<b>6</b>
Muscle Max	
Viva Fashion	<b>9</b>

**17**



#### HEALTH & EDUCATION

Forest Lawn Funeral Home - 7909 Mormon Bridge Rd	<b>5</b>
Richmont Terrace - Bellevue	

**5**



#### TECHNOLOGY

Do Space	<b>10</b>
----------	-----------

**10**

\* Number of jobs is an estimate as the total number of jobs added was not available for all openings listed.

# OMAHA EXPANSIONS

 New Location

-  KHUB Radio Station - Fremont
-  Jazzercise - Fremont
-  Moostash Joe's Travel - Fremont

-  She.la Boutique
-  Beyond the Vine
-  Yahoo

- Jams
- Brookstone Meadows
- All Metals Market - Fremont

## LINCOLN OPENINGS & EXPANSIONS

TYPE OF BUSINESS	NAME
 <b>FOOD &amp; ENTERTAINMENT</b>	Best Western Plus Chick-Fil-A
 <b>RETAIL/SALES</b>	Batteries Plus Bulbs Blown
 <b>HEALTH &amp; EDUCATION</b>	Back In-Line Good Life Fitness Holistic Harmony MedSpa Home Instead Senior Care Well Being Initiative
 <b>OTHER</b>	Big Red Tire Pros Red Thread Signs of Vinyl Zelle HR Solutions

### SOURCES:

- |                                |                                |
|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Fremont Chamber of Commerce    | NDOL Staff                     |
| Fremont Tribune                | Omaha World Herald             |
| KHUB Radio                     | Strictly Business              |
| Lincoln Chamber of Commerce    | Western Douglas County Chamber |
| Metropolitan Community College | WOWTV                          |

## STATEWIDE OPENINGS & EXPANSIONS

### PANHANDLE

#### GERING

Pro Choice Automotive

#### SCOTTSBLUFF

The Shed - Restaurant

### CENTRAL

#### GRAND ISLAND/HASTINGS

Raising Canes - New Restaurant

### MID-PLAINS

#### NORTH PLATTE

Mr. Appliance  
 Tender Hearts Vet Center  
 Community 1st Bank

### NORTHEAST

#### NORFOLK

Blissful Images - Owner & 5 Part-time employees

#### PENDER

Uptown Pix - 7 Part-time employees

### SOUTHEAST

#### TECUMSEH

Tecumseh Farms - Expansion

#### YORK

Derksen Buildings

# ECONOMIC INDICATORS

## WEST TEXAS INTERMEDIATE SPOT PRICE

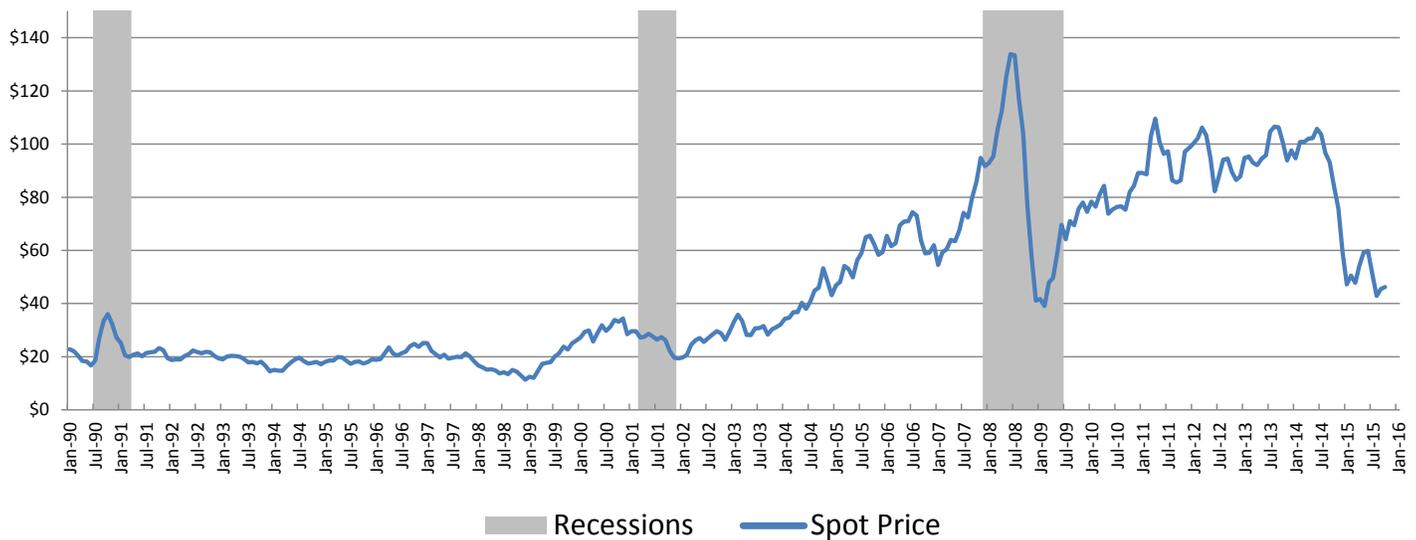
*Kermit Spade, Research Analyst*

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 the West Texas Intermediate (WTI) Spot Price.

The spot price for a barrel of crude oil is the price paid “for immediate delivery”<sup>1</sup> at a specific location at current market prices. The spot price for West Texas Intermediate (WTI) crude oil is measured in the domestic spot market at Cushing, Oklahoma. The WTI spot price from Cushing is used “as a reference for pricing other types of crude”<sup>1</sup> oil, and thus serves as a good indicator of overall crude oil prices in the U.S. The WTI spot price peaked in June, 2008, at \$133.88 per barrel.<sup>2</sup>

To learn more, visit: <https://research.stlouisfed.org/fred2/series/MCOILWTICO/>

### WEST TEXAS INTERMEDIATE SPOT PRICE



Graph Source: U.S. Energy Information Administration

### TEXT SOURCES:

1. U.S. Energy Information Administration. Petroleum & Other Liquids. eia.gov. [Online] 11 18, 2015. [Cited: 11 18, 2015.] [http://www.eia.gov/dnav/pet/TblDefs/pet\\_pri\\_spt\\_tbldef2.asp](http://www.eia.gov/dnav/pet/TblDefs/pet_pri_spt_tbldef2.asp).
2. US. Energy Information Administration, Crude Oil Prices: West Texas Intermediate (WTI) - Cushing, Oklahoma [MCOILWTICO], retrieved from FRED, Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis <https://research.stlouisfed.org/fred2/series/MCOILWTICO/>, November 17, 2015.

METRIC	CURRENT TIME PERIOD	UNITED STATES	MIDWEST REGION	NEBRASKA
Average Weekly Manufacturing Hours	October, 2015	+0.1	-	+2.1
Initial Unemployment Claims	October, 2015	-3.3%	-	+17.0%
Value of Manufacturers' New Orders for Consumer Goods	September, 2015	-0.6%	-	-
ISM Manufacturing: New Orders Index©	October, 2015	+5.6%	-	-
Value of Manufacturers' New Orders: Nondefense Capital Goods Excluding Aircraft	September, 2015	-0.1%	-	-
S&P 500©	October, 2015	-4.1%	-	-
Leading Economic Index	September, 2015	+1.3%	-	+0.3%
10-Year Treasury Constant Maturity Minus Federal Funds Rate	October, 2015	+2.0%	-	-
University of Michigan, Consumer Sentiment Index	October, 2015	+3.2%	-	-
Consumer Price Index, not seasonally adjusted	October, 2015	0.0%	-0.1%	-
Employment Cost Index	3rd Quarter, 2015	+0.6%	-	-
Producer Price Index: All Commodities	October, 2015	-0.7%	-	-
Unemployment Rate, seasonally adjusted	October, 2015	-0.1%	-0.1%*	0.0%
Real GDP, billions of chained 2009 dollars	3rd Quarter, 2015	+1.5%	-	-
Net Taxable Sales	August, 2015	-1.6%	-	-
Barrel of Crude Oil, WTI-Cushing, Spot Price	September, 2015	+\$0.74	-	-
Current Account Balance (millions of dollars)	2nd Quarter, 2015	\$8,619		

**SOURCES:**

1. Bureau of Labor Statistics. Customized Tables; State and Area Employment, Hours and Earnings. Bureau of Labor Statistics. [Online] <http://data.bls.gov/cgi-bin/dsrv?sm>.
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11. Survey Research Center, University of Michigan. Survey of Consumers. University of Michigan. [Online] [http://www.press.sca.isr.umich.edu/press/press\\_release](http://www.press.sca.isr.umich.edu/press/press_release).
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20. Nebraska Department of Revenue. Non-Motor Vehicle Sales Tax Collections. Nebraska Department of Revenue. [Online] [http://www.revenue.nebraska.gov/research/net\\_taxable\\_sales/sales\\_14/2014\\_non-mv.html](http://www.revenue.nebraska.gov/research/net_taxable_sales/sales_14/2014_non-mv.html).
21. U.S. Energy Information Administration. Crude Oil Prices: West Texas Intermediate (WTI) - Cushing, Oklahoma. Federal Reserve Economic Data. [Online] <http://research.stlouisfed.org/fred2/series/MCOILWTICO>.
22. Bureau of Economic Analysis. Balance of Payments on the Current Account. <http://research.stlouisfed.org/fred2/series/IEABC>

# VOLUNTEERING IN THE UNITED STATES

Jodie Meyer, Research Analyst

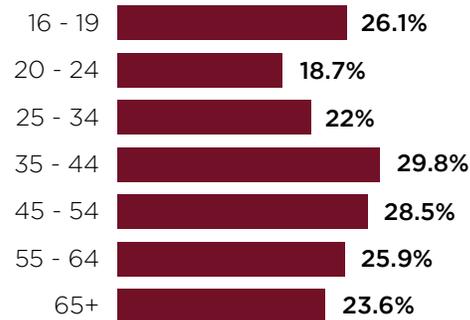
The holiday season is a time when people often volunteer. The Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) produces data on volunteering through a supplement to the monthly Current Population Survey (CPS).<sup>1</sup> The CPS is conducted by the U.S. Census Bureau for the BLS and collects information on employment and unemployment among the nation's civilian non-institutional population ages 16 and over.

The September version of the survey contains the supplemental questionnaire used to obtain information on the incidence of volunteering and the characteristics of volunteers in the United States. Respondents are asked if they did any volunteer work in the past year. This supplement is sponsored by the Corporation for National and Community Service. Data on volunteering has been collected on the September survey since 2002.

In 2014, the volunteer rate was 25.3 percent. About 62.8 million people volunteered at least once during the year. Volunteers are defined as persons who did unpaid work through or for an organization.

Women volunteered at a higher rate than men regardless of age, education level, and all other major demographic characteristics. The volunteer rate for women was 28.3 percent in 2014 and 22.0 percent for men. The highest volunteer rate was reported for women with a bachelor's degree or higher at 42.9 percent. The greatest difference in volunteering between genders occurred for unemployed persons where 29.8 percent of females reported volunteering compared to 18.5 percent of males, an 11.3 percentage point difference.

## VOLUNTEER RATE BY AGE, 2014



Source: U.S. Census Bureau

Persons ages 35-44 were the most likely to volunteer among all age groups at a rate of 29.8 percent. The lowest rate was found for 20-24 year olds with a rate of 18.7 percent. After age 45 the volunteer rate tapered off as age increased. Teenagers (16-19) had a volunteer rate of 26.1 percent.

Married persons had a volunteer rate of 30.0 percent, which was higher than the rate for people who had never been married (20.2 percent) and those with other marital statuses (21.1 percent). Parents with children under 18 had a higher rate of volunteering (31.6 percent) than those without children (23.0 percent).

## VOLUNTEER RATE BY MARITAL STATUS, 2014



Source: U.S. Census Bureau

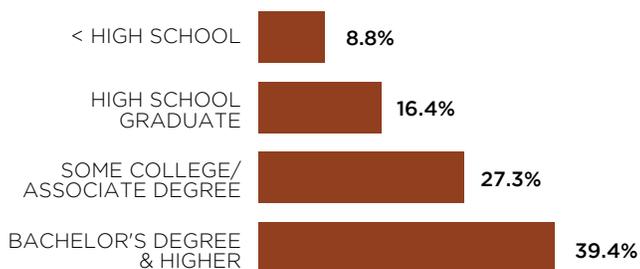
## VOLUNTEER RATE BY PARENTS WITH CHILDREN UNDER AGE 18, 2014



Source: U.S. Census Bureau

Educational attainment appeared to have a large impact on volunteer rates compared to other demographic factors. Individuals with higher levels of education took part in volunteer activities at higher rates than those with less education. Among persons age 25 and over, 39.4 percent of individuals with a bachelor's degree or higher reported volunteering. This was 30.6 percentage points higher than the rate of 8.8 percent reported for individuals with less than a high school diploma. High school graduates had a rate of 16.4 percent and those with some college or an associate degree had a rate of 27.3 percent. Employed persons were more likely to volunteer in comparison to those who are unemployed at 27.5 percent and 24.0 percent respectively. People not in the labor force reported a volunteer rate of 21.8 percent. Of employed persons, part-time workers reported a higher rate of volunteerism at 31.7 percent compared to 26.5 percent for full time workers.

## VOLUNTEER RATE BY EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT, 2014



Source: U.S. Census Bureau

Volunteers spent a median of 50 hours volunteering in 2014. Men and women spent about the same amount of time volunteering, with men volunteering slightly more hours with a median of 52 hours compared to 50 for women. Median hours varied some within the different demographic categories, but the most variation was within the age category. People age 25 to 34 years old volunteered the least amount of hours at 32 compared to 96 hours worked by volunteers age 65 and over. Most volunteers focused their time on either one (71.4 percent) or two (18.6 percent) organizations. Individuals with higher educational attainment were more likely to volunteer for multiple organizations than those with less education.

Religious organizations were indicated most frequently as the main organization in which volunteer work was performed and were reported by 33.3 percent of volunteers. Education or youth service-related organizations also had a large share of volunteers, with 25.1 percent reporting that they volunteered for one of these organizations.

Volunteers with children under the age of 18 were more likely to volunteer with an educational or youth service organization, with 46.0 percent of mothers and 38.6 percent of fathers reporting this as the main type of organization for their volunteer work. Volunteers without children were more likely to volunteer for social or community service organizations, hospitals or other health organizations, and religious organizations.

Volunteers reported collecting, preparing, distributing, or serving food as their main volunteer activity performed for their main organization, at a rate of 10.8 percent. Fundraising was a close second reported by 10.3 percent of volunteers. Men and women tended to engage in different main activities with females more likely to collect, prepare, distribute, or serve food (12.1 percent), fundraise (11.6 percent), or tutor or teach (11.1 percent). Men were more likely to engage in general labor (11.5 percent) or coach, referee, or supervise sports teams (9.4 percent).

Main volunteer activities also varied by educational attainment, where persons with a bachelor's degree or higher were more likely to provide management assistance or to tutor or teach. Volunteers were more likely to collect, prepare, distribute, or serve food if they had less than a high school diploma.

The BLS does not provide data from the CPS on volunteering by state but the Corporation for National and Community Service, a federal agency focusing on community service and volunteering, compiles and releases this data at this geographic level.<sup>2</sup> However, data by state is only currently available for 2013, whereas the most current national data is for 2014. According to this agency, Nebraska ranks sixth in the nation on percentage of residents who volunteer, with 34.8 percent of residents. Nebraska residents volunteered a collective 58.5 million hours of service in 2013, calculating out to 37.4 hours per capita.<sup>2</sup>

Information on where to volunteer in Nebraska can be found online at the Serve Nebraska website, <http://www.serve.nebraska.gov>.

## **SOURCES:**

1. United States Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics. Volunteering in the United States - 2014. [Online] February 25, 2015. [Cited: November 3, 2015.] <http://www.bls.gov/news.release/pdf/volun.pdf>.
2. Corporation for National & Community Service. Volunteering and Civic Engagement in Nebraska. [Online] [Cited: November 23, 2015.] <http://www.volunteeringinamerica.gov/NE>.

# NEBRASKA WORKFORCE TRENDS

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Office of Labor Market Information  
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Equal Opportunity Employer/Program.  
Auxiliary aids and services are available  
upon request to individuals with disabilities.  
TDD: 1.800.833.7352

