

## Monthly State Unemployment Rate Steady at 3 Percent

**LINCOLN-** The Nebraska Department of Labor (NDOL) announced today that Nebraska’s preliminary unemployment rate for April was 3.0 percent, seasonally adjusted. The jobless rate is the same as the March rate and is up 0.1 percentage points from the April 2015 rate of 2.9 percent.

“Total unemployment claims declined by 28 percent compared to April 2015,” said Commissioner of Labor John H. Albin. “The employment levels for education and health services, and leisure and hospitality reached new highs this month.”

Nonfarm employment is up by 14,673 compared to last April. Private industries with the most growth year over year were education and health services (up 6,068), leisure and hospitality (up 5,026), and professional and business services (up 2,561). Month to month, the largest gains were seen in leisure and hospitality ( up 3,397); trade, transportation and utilities (up 2,030); and professional and business services (up 1,490).

The seasonally-adjusted national unemployment rate in April was 5.0 percent, unchanged from March and down 0.4 percentage points from the April 2015 rate of 5.4 percent.

May 2016 data will be published Friday, June 17.

## LABOR FORCE ESTIMATES

### NATIONAL

SEASONALLY ADJUSTED

	Prelim Apr-16	Revised Mar-16	Apr-15	Changes Since	
				Mar-16	Apr-15
<b>Unemployment Rate</b>	5.0	5.0	5.4	0.0	-0.4

### NEBRASKA

SEASONALLY ADJUSTED

	Prelim Apr-16	Revised Mar-16	Apr-15	Changes Since	
				Mar-16	Apr-15
<b>Unemployment Rate</b>	3.0	3.0	2.9	0.0	0.1
<b>Labor Force</b>	1,019,949	1,019,088	1,010,137	861	9,812
<i>Unemployment</i>	30,888	30,483	28,887	405	2,001
<i>Employment</i>	989,061	988,605	981,250	456	7,811

## OMAHA MSA

NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED

	<b>Prelim Apr-16</b>	<b>Revised Mar-16</b>	<b>Apr-15</b>	<b>Changes Since</b>	
				<b>Mar-16</b>	<b>Apr-15</b>
<b>Unemployment Rate</b>	3.2	3.5	3.1	-0.3	0.1
<b>Labor Force</b>	481,896	480,954	477,530	942	4,366
<i>Unemployment</i>	15,397	16,689	14,692	-1,292	705
<i>Employment</i>	466,499	464,265	462,838	2,234	3,661

## LINCOLN MSA

NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED

	<b>Prelim Apr-16</b>	<b>Revised Mar-16</b>	<b>Apr-15</b>	<b>Changes Since</b>	
				<b>Mar-16</b>	<b>Apr-15</b>
<b>Unemployment Rate</b>	2.7	2.8	2.5	-0.1	0.2
<b>Labor Force</b>	179,719	179,808	177,669	-89	2,050
<i>Unemployment</i>	4,901	5,057	4,461	-156	440
<i>Employment</i>	174,818	174,751	173,208	67	1,610

## GRAND ISLAND MSA

NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED

	<b>Prelim Apr-16</b>	<b>Revised Mar-16</b>	<b>Apr-15</b>	<b>Changes Since</b>	
				<b>Mar-16</b>	<b>Apr-15</b>
<b>Unemployment Rate</b>	3.3	4.9	3.1	-1.6	0.2
<b>Labor Force</b>	44,120	44,751	43,401	-631	719
<i>Unemployment</i>	1,476	2,192	1,353	-716	123
<i>Employment</i>	42,644	42,559	42,048	85	596

**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>.

<b>MICROPOLITAN STATISTICAL AREAS (MC)</b>	<b>Counties included</b>	<b>Apr-16 (Preliminary)</b>	<b>Mar-16 (Revised)</b>
Beatrice MC	Gage	3.1	3.5
Columbus MC	Platte	3.6	3.7
Fremont MC	Dodge	3.0	3.3
Hastings MC	Adams, Clay	3.0	3.5
Kearney MC	Buffalo, Kearney	2.3	2.5
Lexington MC	Dawson, Gosper	3.0	3.1
Norfolk MC	Madison, Pierce, Stanton	2.6	2.8
North Platte MC	Lincoln, Logan, McPherson	3.1	3.3
Red Willow SA (Small Labor Market Area)	Red Willow, Hitchcock	3.6	3.4
Scottsbluff MC	Scotts Bluff, Banner	3.0	3.1

Prepared and distributed by Nebraska Department of Labor (NDOL)  
The next scheduled release is May 2016 data on Friday, June 17, 2016.  
NDOL press releases are accessible on the Internet at: [dol.nebraska.gov](http://dol.nebraska.gov).