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Nebraska Monthly Unemployment Rate for August is 2.8 Percent

LINCOLN- The Nebraska Department of Labor (NDOL) announced today that Nebraska’s preliminary unemployment rate for August is 2.8 percent, seasonally adjusted. The jobless rate is up 0.1 percentage points from the July rate, but down 0.4 percentage points from the August 2014 rate of 3.2 percent.

“Nonfarm employment has again reached over 1 million,” said Commissioner of Labor John H. Albin. “The Lincoln, Omaha and Grand Island metropolitan areas all saw declines in their unemployment rates from July to August.”

Nonfarm employment in August was 1,004,067, up by 9,953 compared to last August. Private industries with the most growth year over year were education and health services (up 4,475), other services (up 2,121) and leisure and hospitality (up 1,546). Month to month, the largest gains were seen in trade, transportation and utilities (up 1,969) and education and health services (up 1,386) and manufacturing (up 746).

The seasonally-adjusted national unemployment rate for August is 5.1 percent, down 0.2 percentage points from the July rate and down 1.0 percentage points from the August 2014 rate of 6.1 percent.

September 2015 data will be published Tuesday, October 20.

Labor Force Estimates - National, State, Omaha MSA, Lincoln MSA, Grand Island MSA

Labor Force Estimates - National (Seasonally Adjusted)					
	Prelim	Revised		Changes Since	
	Aug-15	Jul-15	Aug-14	Jul-15	Aug-14
Unemployment Rate	5.1	5.3	6.1	-0.2	-1.0

Labor Force Estimates - Nebraska (Seasonally Adjusted)					
	Prelim	Revised		Changes Since	
	Aug-15	Jul-15	Aug-14	Jul-15	Aug-14
Unemployment Rate	2.8	2.7	3.2	0.1	-0.4
Labor Force	1,006,856	1,006,976	1,021,950	-120	-15,094
<i>Unemployment</i>	28,679	27,620	32,859	1,059	-4,180
<i>Employment</i>	978,177	979,356	989,091	-1,179	-10,914

Labor Force Estimates - Omaha MSA (Not Seasonally Adjusted)					
	Prelim	Revised		Changes Since	
	Aug-15	Jul-15	Aug-14	Jul-15	Aug-14
Unemployment Rate	3.0	3.2	3.5	-0.2	-0.5
Labor Force	475,909	482,403	482,758	-6,494	-6,849
<i>Unemployment</i>	14,395	15,526	16,809	-1,131	-2,414
<i>Employment</i>	461,514	466,877	465,949	-5,363	-4,435

Labor Force Estimates - Lincoln MSA (Not Seasonally Adjusted)					
	Prelim	Revised		Changes Since	
	Aug-15	Jul-15	Aug-14	Jul-15	Aug-14
Unemployment Rate	2.3	2.5	2.8	-0.2	-0.5
Labor Force	176,772	178,547	178,501	-1,775	-1,729
<i>Unemployment</i>	4,071	4,441	4,976	-370	-905
<i>Employment</i>	172,701	174,106	173,525	-1,405	-824

Labor Force Estimates - Grand Island MSA (Not Seasonally Adjusted)					
	Prelim	Revised		Changes Since	
	Aug-15	Jul-15	Aug-14	Jul-15	Aug-14
Unemployment Rate	4.6	4.9	3.1	-0.3	1.5
Labor Force	44,785	45,589	45,139	-804	-354
<i>Unemployment</i>	2,042	2,239	1,384	-197	658
<i>Employment</i>	42,743	43,350	43,755	-607	-1,012

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)	Counties included	Aug-15	Jul-15
		(Preliminary)	(Revised)
Beatrice MC	Gage	3.2	3.5
Columbus MC	Platte	2.5	2.7
Fremont MC	Dodge	3.2	3.3
Hastings MC*	Adams	2.9	3.2
Kearney MC	Buffalo, Kearney	2.2	2.5
Lexington MC	Dawson, Gosper	2.7	3.0
Norfolk MC	Madison, Pierce, Stanton	2.4	2.7
North Platte MC	Lincoln, Logan, McPherson	2.5	2.8
Scottsbluff MC	Scotts Bluff, Banner, Sioux	3.1	3.3
Red Willow SA (Small Labor Market Area)	Red Willow, Hitchcock	2.7	3.0

*Hastings MC is a single county MC in 2015 (Clay County was dropped).