

NEBRASKA WORKFORCE TRENDS

DECEMBER 2021 ISSUE | NEBRASKA DEPARTMENT OF LABOR



Inside this issue

Industry Profile:
Transportation & Warehousing

Fast Facts:
Commuting Patterns

Map Facts:
Commuting Patterns by County

Contents

7

Industry Profile:
Transportation & Warehousing

3

Openings & Expansions

4

Fast Facts: Commuting Patterns

5

Map Facts: Commuting Patterns by County

13

Economic Indicators

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Openings & Expansions **October**

Kermit Spade, Research Analyst

Business Category	Business Name	Location
Education	Rising Phoenix Martial Arts (Opening)	Scottsbluff
Food Services	Beatrice Bakery (Opening) Beautifully Baked Bakery (Opening) Loco's Restaurant (Opening) Mama Chenchu Tienda & Panadera (Opening) The Boat House (Opening)	Beatrice Columbus Scottsbluff Fremont Norfolk
Manufacturing	Falls City Foods (Expansion)	Falls City
Other Services, Except Public Administration	LaLa's Salon (Opening) Pure Revival Salon and Spa (Opening)	Norfolk Plainview
Information	Cricket Wireless (Expansion)	Columbus
Wholesale & Retail Trade	Beyoutiful Boutique and Gifts (Opening) Dollar Fresh (Opening) Family Treasures Market (Opening) Flyover Archery (Opening) Gypsy Nature Studios (Opening) Southwest Décor (Opening)	Columbus York Scottsbluff Scottsbluff Scottsbluff Scottsbluff

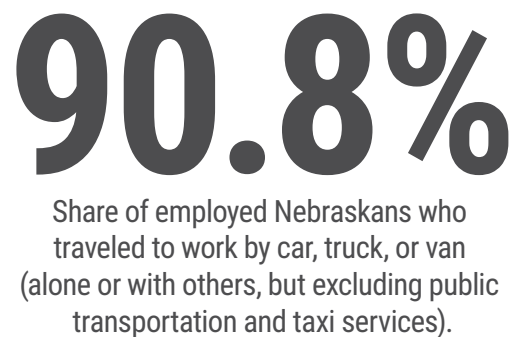
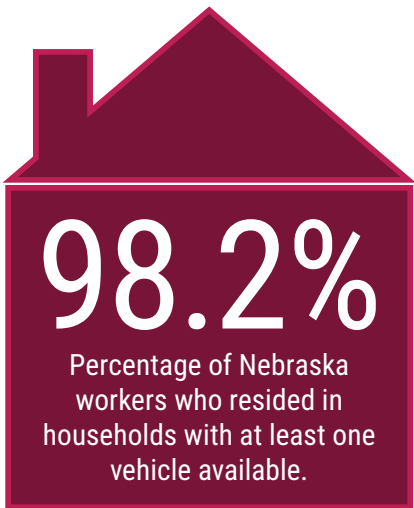
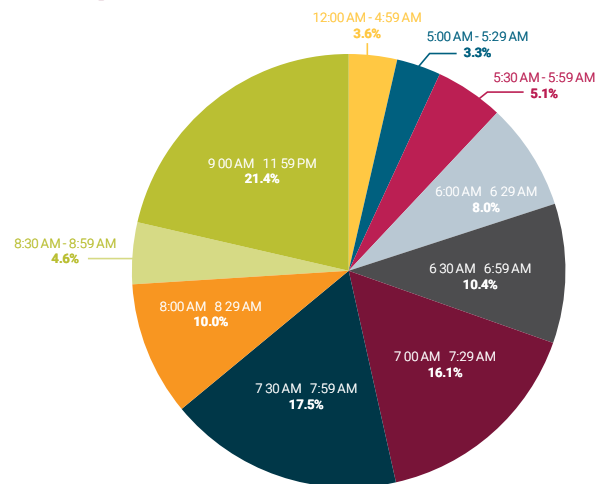
Source: Nebraska Department of Labor

Openings and expansions listed are a sampling of activity reported for that month. Some activity may have occurred outside the month. If you have an opening or expansion to report, contact us at LMI_NE@nebraska.gov.

Fast Facts: Commuting Patterns

Rachel Eckloff, Research Analyst

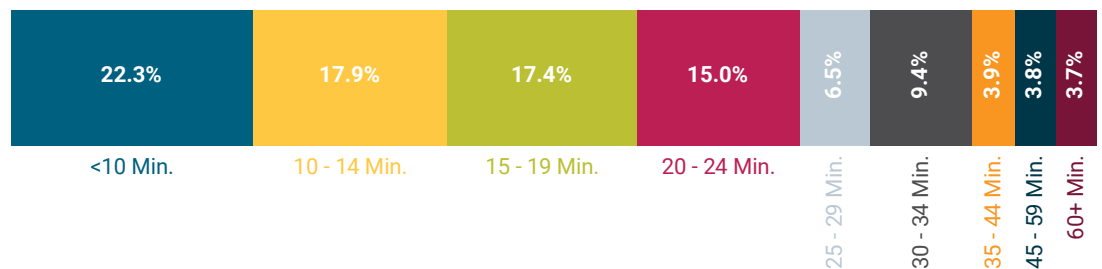
Working Nebraskans' Typical Time of Departure to Travel to Work, 2019



19.5

Average travel time to work (in minutes) for employed Nebraskans.

Travel Time to Work, in Minutes, for Employed Nebraskans, 2019



Sources:

1. All data from: U.S. Census Bureau. American Community Survey, 2019 1-Year Estimates. Table S0801: Commuting Characteristics by Sex & S2401: Occupation by Sex for the Civilian Employed Population 16 Years and Over. [Online] data.census.gov.

"Employed Nebraskans" refers to Nebraska residents, ages 16 and older, who had at least one job.

Map Facts

Jodie Meyer,
Research Analyst

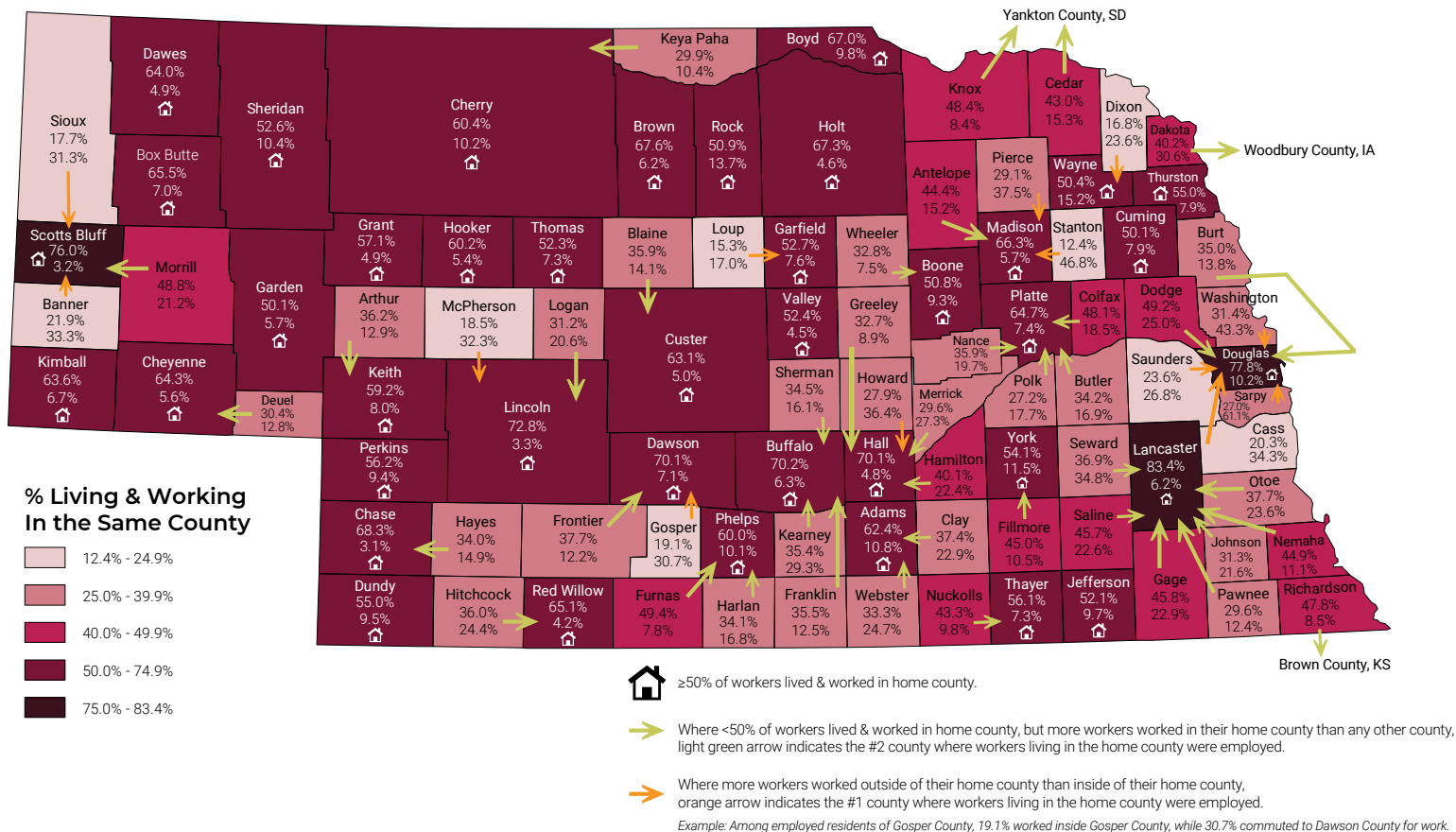
Commuting Patterns by County

This month's map examines commuting patterns between counties in Nebraska. This data comes from the U.S. Census Bureau's Local Employment Dynamics (LED) program. Using the data from the Destination Analysis reports from the OnTheMap application, we can tell where people who lived in a specific area worked in 2019. The base map is color-coded

based on the percentage of workers living and working in the same county. The percentages written within each county show, respectively, the share of residents who worked inside their home county, and the share who worked in the external county that accounted for the largest portion of the home county's employment. The symbols and arrows were then added based on three main patterns that emerged in the data.

In 40 out of Nebraska's 93 counties, the majority (50% or more) of workers both lived and worked in the same county. These are marked on the map with a house symbol, indicating that most employed residents worked in the same county in which they lived. The top three places where the largest shares of workers lived and worked in the same county were Lancaster (83.4%), Douglas (77.8%), and Scotts Bluff (76.0%) Counties.

Nebraska Commuting Patterns by County, 2019



In another 40 of Nebraska's counties, less than 50% of working residents stayed in that county for work, but the home county nevertheless employed more of its residents than any other county. For counties falling into this category, the map's light green arrows point to the external county where the greatest percentage of workers employed outside their home county traveled for work. The second percentage listed in the county indicates the percent of workers commuting to this neighboring county.

Finally, there were 13 Nebraska counties where more residents traveled to another county for work than were employed locally. These are identified on the map by an orange arrow pointing to the county that employed the largest share of the home county's residents. This phenomenon was most pronounced in Stanton County, with just 12.4% of workers living and working in Stanton County, and 46.8% of workers traveling to Madison County for work.



For those interested in exploring this data in additional detail, an interactive **Tableau dashboard** is available. You can also visit the dashboard by using the camera on your smartphone to capture the QR code provided.

Sources:

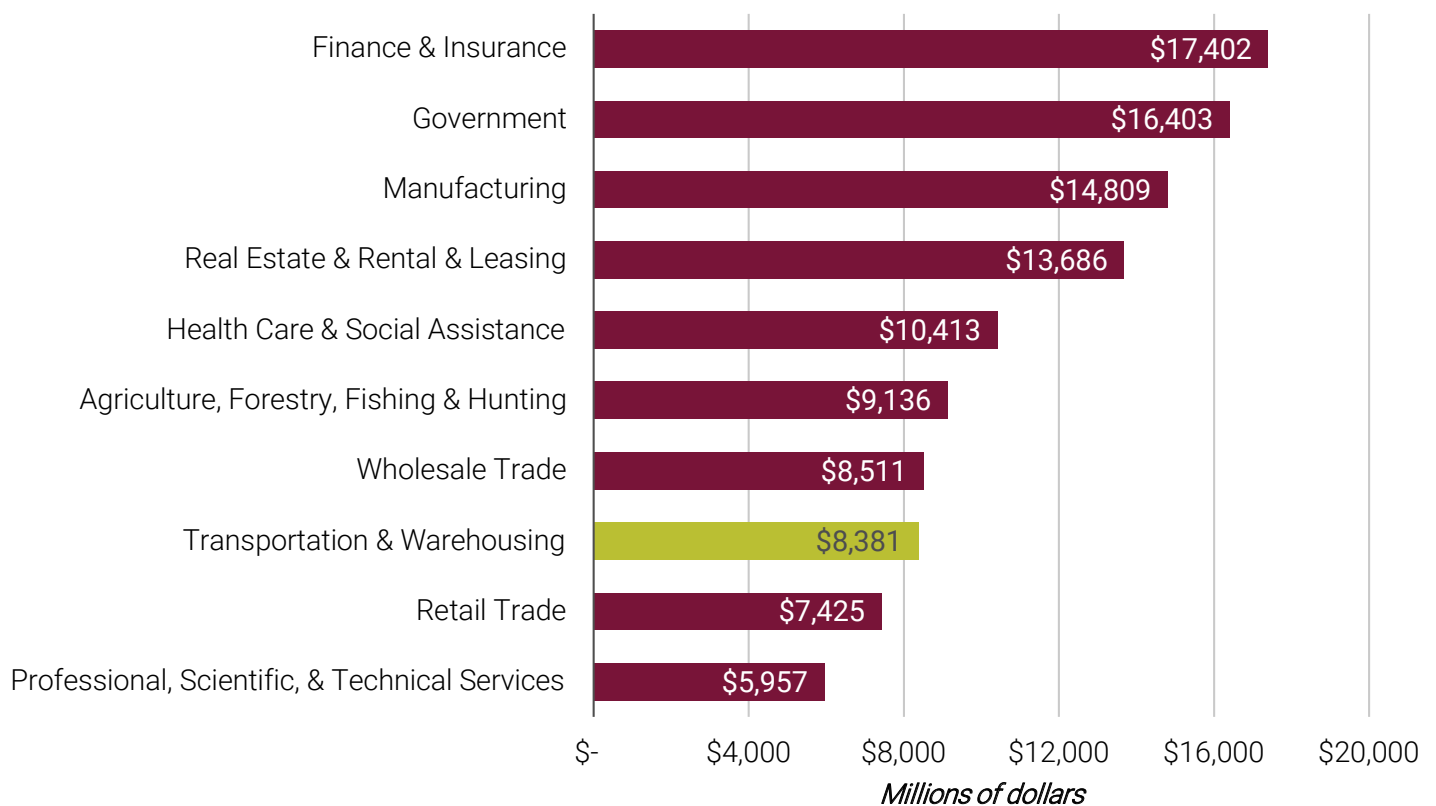
1. U. S. Census Bureau. OnTheMap Application. Longitudinal-Employer Household Dynamics Program. [Online] 2019. <https://onthemap.ces.census.gov/>.

Industry Profile: Transportation & Warehousing

Kermit Spade, Research Analyst

In the first quarter of 2021, transportation and warehousing was ranked the eighth-largest industry sector in Nebraska in terms of gross domestic product (GDP), according to the United States Bureau of Economic Analysis. The manufacturing sector generated \$8.3 billion in economic activity in first-quarter 2021 alone. Nebraska's top three industry sectors by GDP were finance and insurance (\$17.4 billion), government (\$16.4 billion), and manufacturing (\$14.8 billion). (1)

Total Nebraska GDP by Industry Sector, Q1 2021



Source: U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis. GDP and Personal Income by State. July 2021. [bea.gov](https://www.bea.gov/).

There were more than 2,400 transportation establishments in Nebraska as of the first quarter of 2021, employing over 30,000 workers across the state. The largest specific industry within the transportation sector was truck transportation, which accounted for 80.1% of all transportation establishments in Nebraska and 78.4% of transportation employment statewide. The second-largest industry was support activities for transportation, which made up 12.5% of transportation establishments and 13.2% of transportation employment. (2)

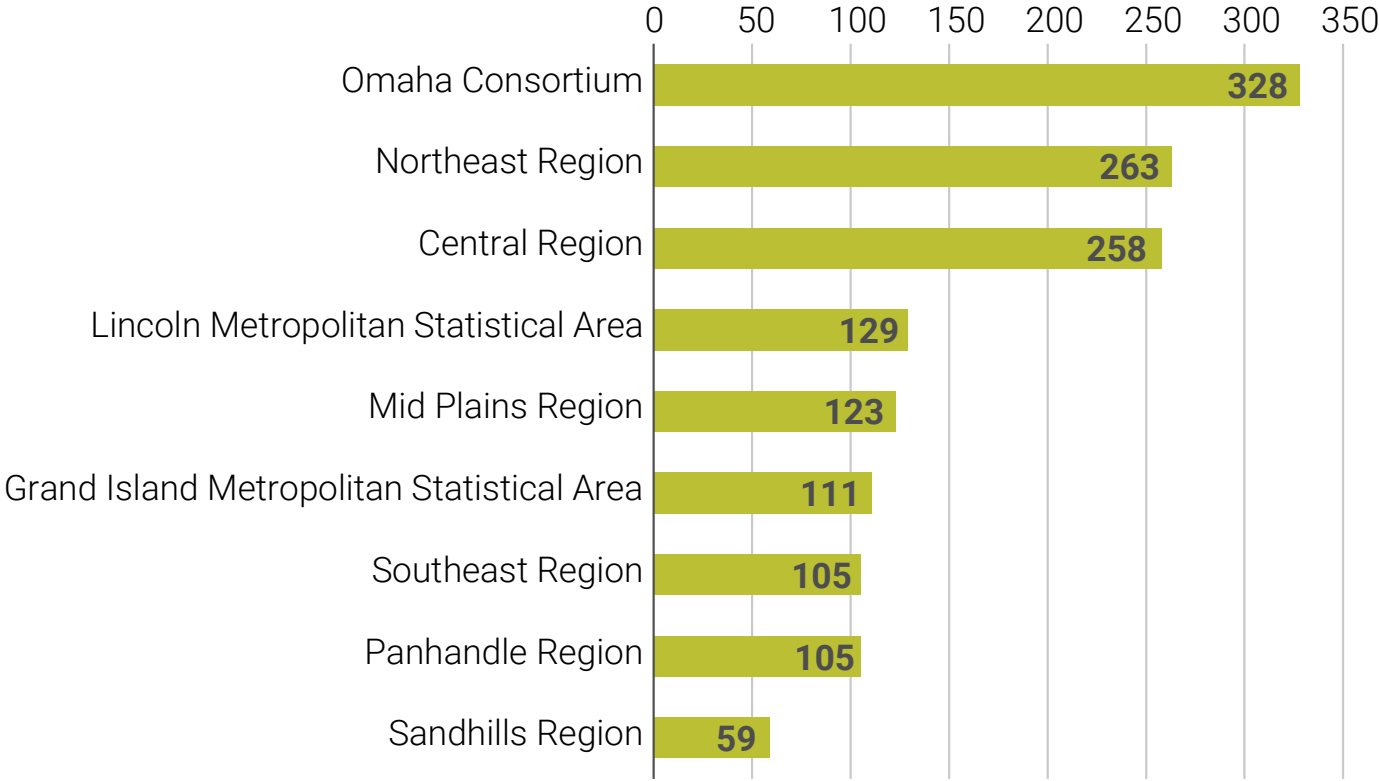
30,421 Number of employees in the Nebraska Transportation and Warehousing industry

2,431 Number of Nebraska Transportation and Warehousing Establishments

Source: Nebraska Department of Labor. Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages. 2021. networks.nebraska.gov

The geographic distribution of employers in the transportation and warehousing sector as of August 2021 is shown in the chart below. The Omaha Consortium (composed of all areas of the Omaha metropolitan statistical area located within Nebraska, but excluding those located in Iowa) had the highest percentage of employers in transportation and warehousing, while the Sandhills region had the least. (3)

Regional Distribution of Nebraska Transportation and Warehousing Establishments, August 2021



Source: Nebraska Department of Labor. Employer information is provided by Data Axle®, Omaha, NE, 800/555-5211. 2021. networks.nebraska.gov

The average hourly wage for workers in Nebraska's transportation and warehousing sector was \$26.87 in the first quarter of 2021. The average hourly wage for workers employed in pipeline transportation—the specific industry with the sector's highest average hourly wage— was almost 125% higher (\$60.33 per hour) during the same time period. Assuming a 40-hour work week, this translates into about \$56,000 per year for all transportation workers, and over \$125,000 per year for those employed in pipeline transportation. The table below shows the average earnings for the specific manufacturing industries with the top five highest average wages. (2)

Nebraska Manufacturing Industries by Highest Average Hourly Wages, Q1 2021

Industry	Average Hourly Wage	Average Weekly Wage	Average Annual Wage
Pipeline Transportation	\$60.33	\$2,413	\$125,476
Air Transportation	\$27.93	\$1,117	\$58,084
Support Activities for Transportation	\$27.03	\$1,081	\$56,212
Truck Transportation	\$24.65	\$986	\$51,272
Transit and Ground Passenger Transport	\$11.98	\$479	\$24,908
Scenic and Sightseeing Transportation	\$9.28	\$371	\$19,292

† Assumes a 40-hour week worked the year round.

Source: Nebraska Department of Labor. Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages. 2021. networks.nebraska.gov



In October 2021, there were 2,480 job openings listed on NEworks for positions in Nebraska's transportation and warehousing sector. For people considering employment in these industries, NEworks also lists the most common job skills, tools and technology, and professional certifications that employers advertise in their job postings on the website. The following tables list the top ten skills, tools and technology, and certifications employers sought in applicants for advertised transportation and warehousing jobs. (4)

Top 10 Job Skills Most Frequently Sought in Transportation and Warehousing Job Postings Listed on NEworks, October 2021

Rank	Advertised Detailed Job Skill	Advertised Skill Group	Job Opening Match Count
1	Customer service	Customer Service Skills	1,142
2	Must be flexible	Basic Skills	474
3	Honesty	Basic Skills	368
4	Delivers mail	Mail Clerk Skills	269
5	Verbal communication skills	Interpersonal Skills	255
6	Maintains records	Technical Writer Skills	184
7	Work independently	Basic Skills	145
8	Typing	Office Clerk Skills	135
9	Problem solving	Basic Skills	122
10	Attention to detail	Basic Skills	108

Source: Nebraska Department of Labor. Online Advertised Jobs Data. October 2021. Neworks.nebraska.gov.

Top 10 Tool and Technology Proficiencies Most Frequently Sought in Transportation and Warehousing Job Postings Listed on NEworks, October 2021

Rank	Advertised Detailed Tool or Technology	Advertised Tool and Technology Group	Job Opening Match Count
1	Refrigerators	General Purpose Refrigerators or Refrigerator Freezers	204
2	Hypertext markup language (HTML)	Web Platform Development Software	193
3	Microsoft (MS) Office	Office Suite Software	174
4	Handgun	Handguns	162
5	Shotguns	Police or Security Shotguns	158
6	Forklift	Forklifts	133
7	Pallet Jack	Pallet Trucks	110
8	Cell Phone	Mobile Phones	108
9	Flatbed Truck	Cargo Trucks	100
10	Motor vehicles	Automobiles or Cars	99

Source: Nebraska Department of Labor. Online Advertised Jobs Data. October 2021. Neworks.nebraska.gov.

Top 10 Professional Certifications Most Frequently Sought in Transportation and Warehousing Job Postings Listed on NEworks, October 2021

Rank	Advertised Certification Group	Advertised Certification Sub-Category	Job Opening Match Count
1	Commercial Drivers License (CDL)	Ground Transportation	1,861
2	American Heart Association (AHA) CPR & First Aid Certifications	Nursing	26
3	International Board of Specialty Certifications (IBSC)	Fire Rescue	8
4	National Board for Respiratory Care (NBRC)	Medical Treatment and Therapy	7
5	Refrigerating Engineers & Technicians Association (RETA)	Appliances	6
6	American Association of Critical-Care Nurses (AACN) Certifications	Nursing	4
7	National Registry of Emergency Medical Technicians (NREMT)	Fire Rescue	4
8	Information Systems Audit and Control Association (ISACA)	Information and Cyber Security	4
9	American Welding Society (AWS) Certifications	Welding	4
10	Board of Certification for Emergency Nursing (BCEN) Certifications	Nursing	4

Source: Nebraska Department of Labor. Online Advertised Jobs Data. October 2021. networks.nebraska.gov.

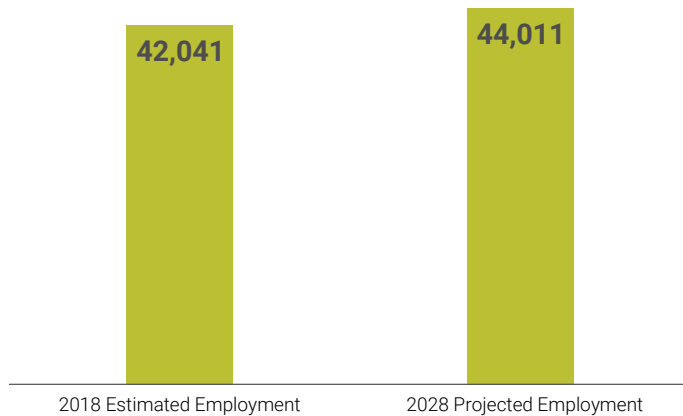
The following table details the top 10 most common occupations in Nebraska's transportation sector as of 2018. According to the Nebraska Department of Labor's long-term occupational projections, the most common occupations in transportation were laborers and freight, stock, and material movers, hand; commercial pilots; and reservation and transportation ticket agents and travel clerks. (5)

Occupational Employment Distribution in NE Transportation Sector, 2018

Rank	Occupation	Total
1	Laborers & Freight, Stock, & Material Movers, Hand	677
2	Commercial Pilots	376
3	Reservation & Transportation Ticket Agents & Travel Clerks	372
4	First-Line Supervisors of Mechanics, Installers, & Repairers	363
5	First-Line Supervisors of Office & Administrative Support Workers	340
6	Cargo & Freight Agents	336
7	Airline Pilots, Copilots, & Flight Engineers	297
8	Aircraft Mechanics & Service Technicians	270
9	Transportation Workers, All Other	256
10	Helpers--Installation, Maintenance, & Repair Workers	95

Source: Nebraska Department of Labor. Long-Term Industry Employment Projections. July 2020. networks.nebraska.gov/gsipub/index.asp?docid=439.

Projected Employment Growth in Nebraska's Transportation and Warehousing Sector, 2018 - 2028

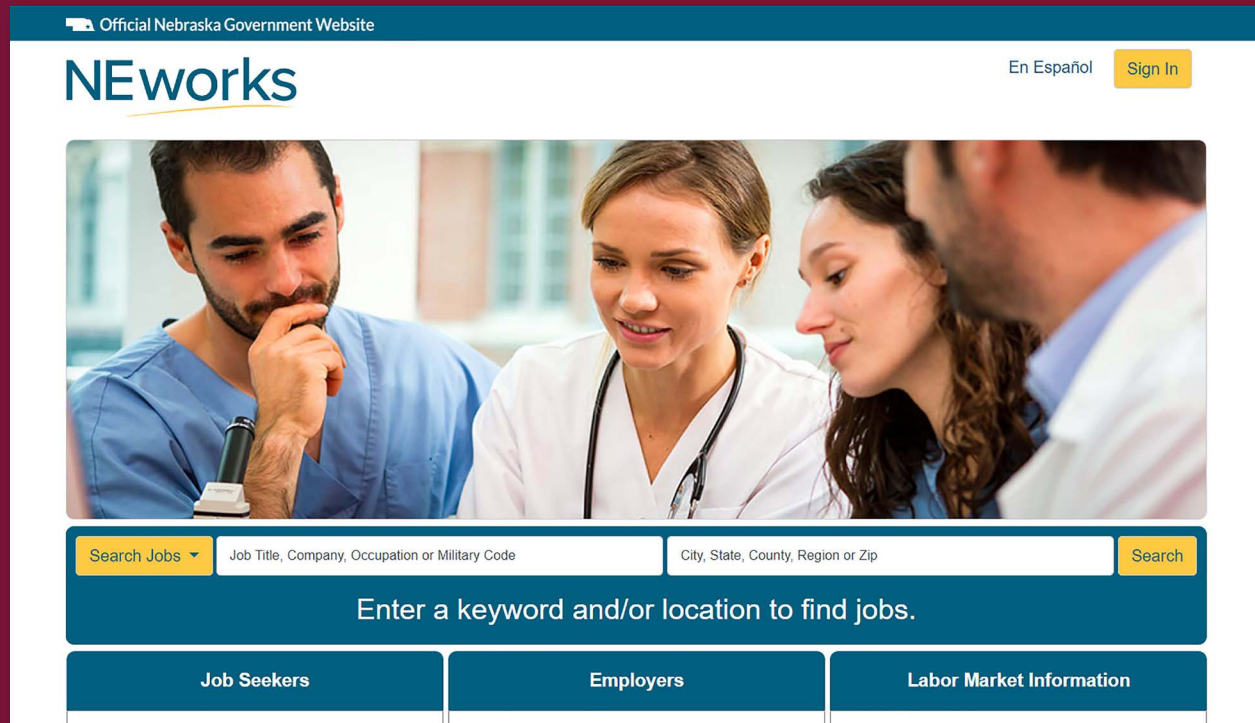


4.7%

Between 2018 and 2028, the Nebraska Department of Labor projects that employment in the state's transportation and warehousing sector will grow by 4.7%, or 0.4% annually. (5)

Source: Nebraska Department of Labor. Long-Term Industry Employment Projections. July 2020. neworks.nebraska.gov/gsipub/index.asp?docid=439

To find more data, the Industry Profile pages on **NEworks** provide prospective job-seekers a wealth of information. Knowing the most common occupations within a field; the advertised skills, tools and technology, and certifications needed to qualify for a certain position; and the employment growth projected within an industry can help job-seekers obtain gainful employment. The wage information as well as other data provided can also help individual employers offer competitive wages to attract top talent, and help policy-makers, economic developers, researchers, and educators make informed decisions.



Sources:

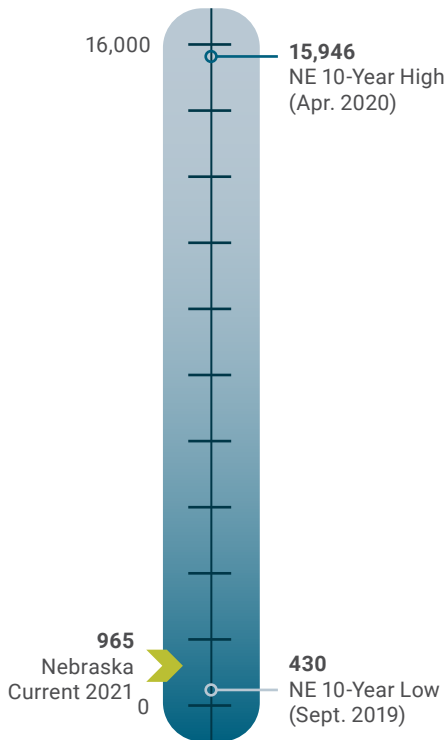
1. Bureau of Economic Analysis. Regional Data, GDP and Personal Income. [bea.gov](https://apps.bea.gov/itable/iTable.cfm?ReqID=70&step=1). [Online] May 2020.
2. Nebraska Department of Labor. Industry Profile, Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages. neworks.nebraska.gov. [Online] May 2020.
3. Industry Profile, Employer information provided by Data Axle. neworks.nebraska.gov. [Online] May 2020.
4. Industry Profile, Online Advertised Jobs Data. NEworks. [Online] January 2021.
5. Long-Term Industry Employment Projections. [Online] July 2020. neworks.nebraska.gov/gsipub/index.asp?docid=439.

Economic Indicators: November

Kermit Spade, Research Analyst

Initial Unemployment Claims

Monthly Avg. Number of Claims per Week (Regular State Benefits)



DOWN
-66.3%

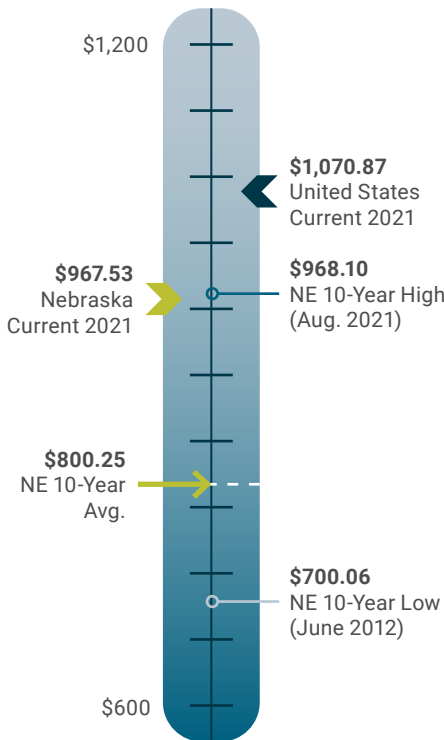
NE Vs. Last Year

DOWN
-20.1%

NE Vs. Last Month

Avg. Weekly Earnings

All Private Employees Not Seasonally Adjusted



UP
7.2%

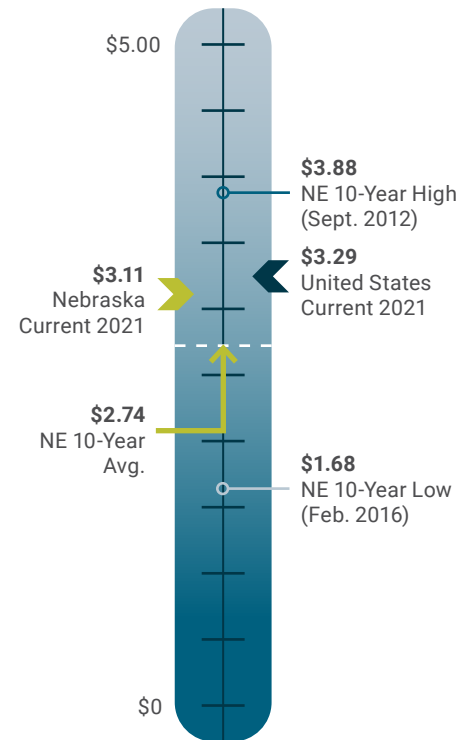
NE Vs. Last Year

UP
1.6%

NE Vs. Last Month

Gas Prices

Avg. Retail Price per Gallon (Regular-Grade Unleaded Gasoline)



UP
46.7%

NE Vs. Last Year

UP
3.0%

NE Vs. Last Month

257,695 - United States Current 2021

An initial claim is a request for determination of UI program eligibility filed by an unemployed individual following a separation from an employer. It can serve as an indicator of emerging labor market conditions in the area.¹

Data Sources: [Retrieved: November 2021.]
NE- U.S. Employment & Training Administration. *Initial Claims in Nebraska (NEICLAIMS)*. Retrieved from Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis. <https://fred.stlouisfed.org/series/NEICLAIMS>.
U.S.- U.S. Employment & Training Administration. *Initial Claims (ICNSA)*. Retrieved from Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis. <https://fred.stlouisfed.org/series/ICNSA>.

Average weekly earnings represents the mean pay received by workers for services performed over the course of one week.²

Data Sources: [Retrieved: November 2021.]
NE- U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics. *State and Area Employment, Hours, & Earnings. Average Weekly Earnings of All Employees, In Dollars. Nebraska (Statewide): Total Private, Not Seasonally Adjusted*. Series ID SMU31000000500000011. <https://data.bls.gov/PDQWeb/sm>.
U.S.- U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics. *Employment, Hours, & Earnings from the Current Employment Statistics Survey (National). Average Weekly Earnings of All Employees: Total Private, Not Seasonally Adjusted*. Series ID CES0500000011. <https://data.bls.gov/PDQWeb/ce>.

This figure represents the average price consumers paid at the pump for a gallon of regular-grade, unleaded gasoline during the specified time-frame. The main components affecting the retail price of gasoline are crude oil prices; costs and profits associated with refining, distribution, and marketing; fluctuations in supply and demand; and federal, state, and local taxes.³

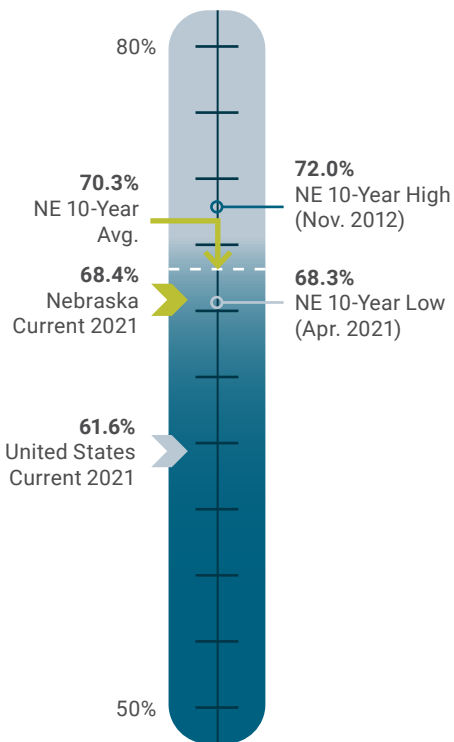
Data Sources: [Retrieved: November 2021.]
NE- Nebraska Energy Office. *Average Monthly Retail Motor Gasoline Prices in Nebraska. Regular Unleaded*. http://www.neo.ne.gov/statshtml/97.htm#regular_unleaded.
U.S.- U.S. Energy Information Administration. *U.S. Regular All Formulations Retail Gasoline Prices*. https://www.eia.gov/dnav/pet/PET_PRI_GND_A_EPMR_PTE_DPGAL_M.htm.

Economic Indicators: November

Kermit Spade, Research Analyst

Labor Force Participation Rate

Seasonally Adjusted

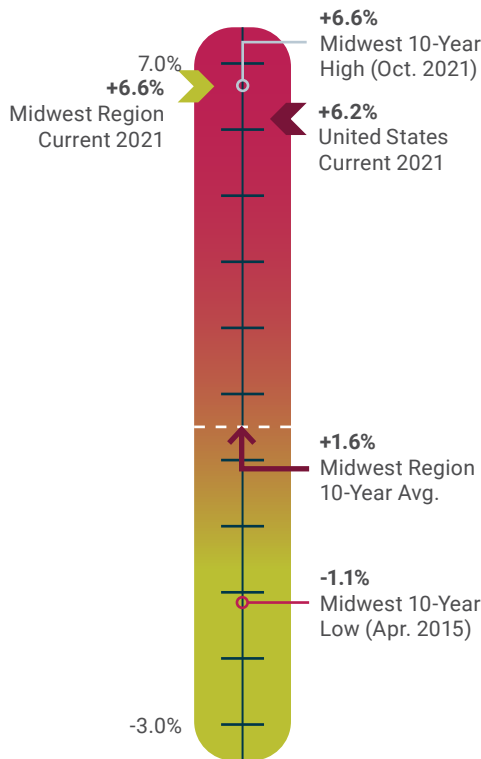


DOWN
-0.9%
NE Vs. Last Year

FLAT
0.0%
NE Vs. Last Month

Consumer Price Index

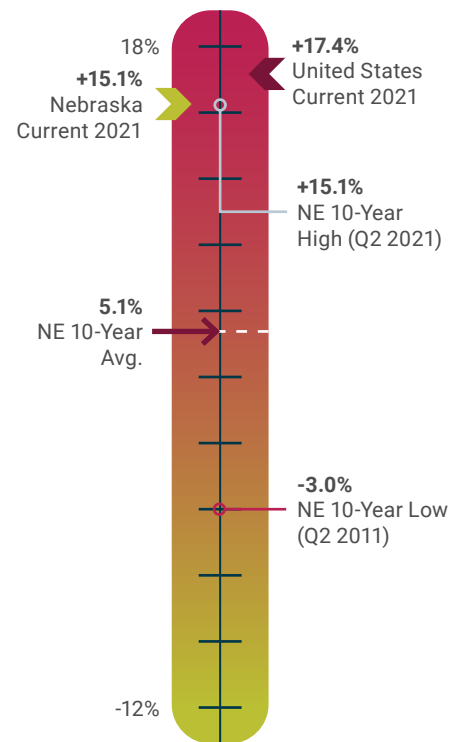
12-Month % Change
Not Seasonally Adjusted



All Urban Consumers:
All Items Index 1982 = 100

Housing Prices

4-Quarter % Change
Seasonally Adjusted



FHFA Purchase Only
Housing Price Index

The labor force is comprised of all persons age 16 and over in the civilian, noninstitutional population who are either employed or unemployed but available for work and actively seeking employment. It excludes people doing unpaid homemaking or volunteer work, retired people, and people who are not employed and not actively seeking work. The labor force participation rate measures the labor force as a percentage of the total civilian, noninstitutional population, age 16 and over.¹

Data Sources: [Retrieved: November 2021.]
NE- U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics. *Labor Force Participation Rate for Nebraska (LBSSA31)*. Retrieved from Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis. <https://fred.stlouisfed.org/series/LBSSA3>.
U.S.- U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics. *Civilian Labor Force Participation Rate (CIVPART)*. Retrieved from Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis. <https://fred.stlouisfed.org/series/CIVPART>.

The consumer price index (CPI) is a measure of the average change over time in the prices paid by consumers for goods and services. It is used to determine the real purchasing power of consumers' dollars, and as a measure of inflation.⁶

Data Sources: [Retrieved: November 2021.]
NE- U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics. *Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers: All Items in Midwest (CUUR0200SA0#0)*. Retrieved from Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis. <https://fred.stlouisfed.org/series/CUUR0200SA0#0>.
U.S.- U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics. *Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers: All Items (CPIAUCNS)*. Retrieved from Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis. <https://fred.stlouisfed.org/series/CPIAUCNS>.

The housing price index (HPI) measures the movement of single-family house prices, based on purchases involving conventional mortgages purchased or securitized by Fannie Mae or Freddie Mac. "Four-quarter" change is relative to the same quarter one year earlier. HPI data are often considered useful for estimating housing affordability and projecting future changes in mortgage default rates.⁵

Data Source: [Retrieved: November 2021.]
 Federal Housing Finance Agency. *Housing Price Index Datasets. Quarterly Data: Purchase-Only Indexes*. <https://www.fhfa.gov/DataTools/Downloads/Pages/House-Price-Index-Datasets.aspx#qpo>

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Labor market information is updated continuously. For the latest data, contact us at 800-876-1377 or email lmi_ne@nebraska.gov.

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

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