

NEBRASKA WORKFORCE TRENDS

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SEPT 2014

FEATURE

I-80 WESTERN REGION

GRADUATE OUTCOMES

SOUTHEAST COMMUNITY COLLEGE

MAP FACTS

PERSONAL CONSUMPTION EXPENDITURES

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CREDITS

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HELPFUL LINKS

UNEMPLOYMENT IN BRIEF
MONTHLY UNEMPLOYMENT RATE
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NETWORKS
GLOSSARY

JULY UNEMPLOYMENT DATA

Byron Lefler, Research Analyst

LINCOLN MSA (not seasonally adjusted)

July Unemployment Rate: 3.4%
 July Total Non-farm: 185,189
 Manufacturing: 13,875
 Largest OTM Increases:
 Professional & Business Services: 217 (1.1%)
 Leisure and Hospitality: 61 (0.3%)

OMAHA MSA (not seasonally adjusted)

July Unemployment Rate: 4.2%
 July Total Non-farm: 480,095
 Manufacturing: 32,856
 Largest OTM Increases:
 Financial Activities: 167 (0.4%)
 Manufacturing: 66 (0.2%)

NEBRASKA (not seasonally adjusted)

July Total Non-farm: 983,983
 Manufacturing: 97,549

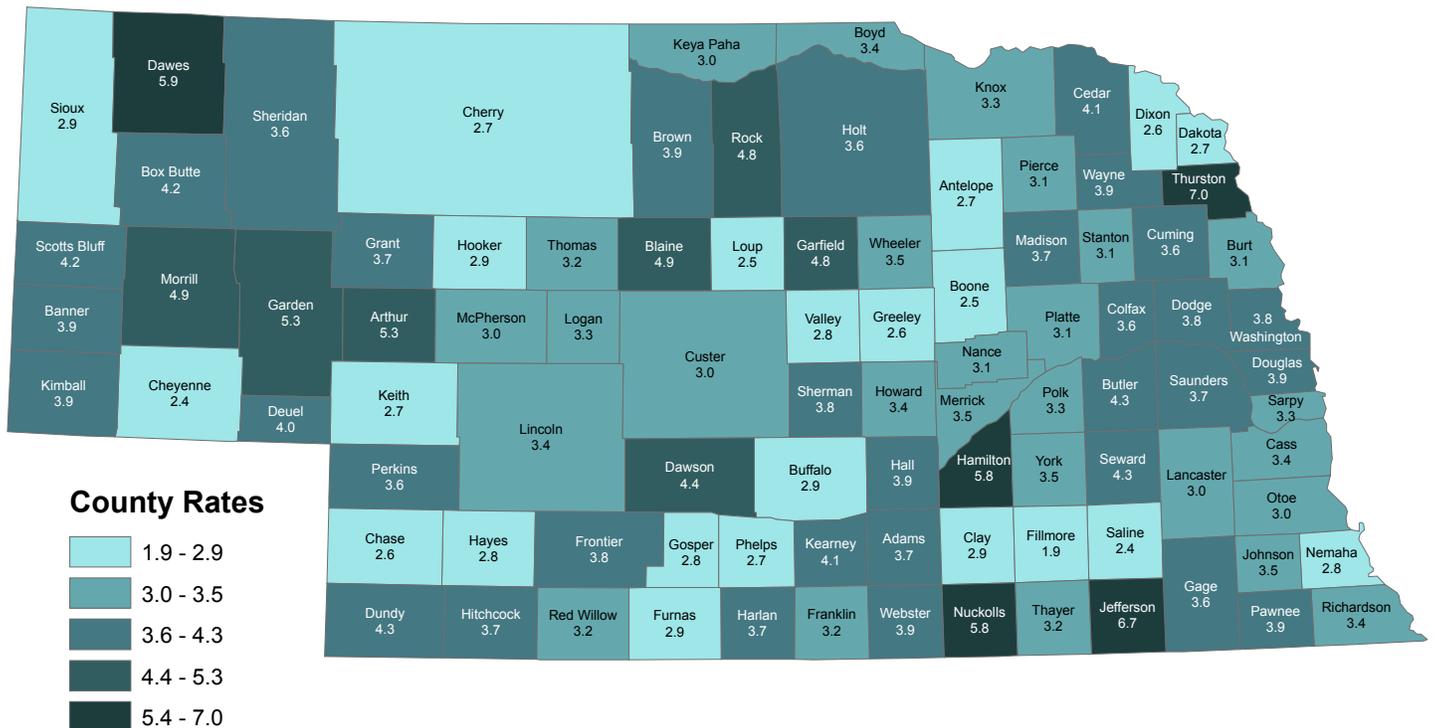
Nebraska (smoothed seasonally adjusted)

July Unemployment Rate: 3.6%
 Change (OTM): 0.1%
 Change (OTY): -0.5%

Economic Regions (not seasonally adjusted)

Central: 3.3%
 Grand Island: 5.6%
 Mid Plains: 3.4%
 Northeast: 3.7%
 Panhandle: 3.9%
 Sandhills: 2.9%
 Southeast: 4.1%

JULY COUNTY UNEMPLOYMENT RATES



Sources:

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

Nebraska Statewide Occupational Projections for Jobs Requiring an Associate's Degree

Betty Leishman, Research Analyst

Knowing the typical minimum education requirements can be very important when planning a career. Though a bachelor's degree or higher is key for many jobs, there are also a wide variety of occupations that typically require a minimum education of an associate's degree. According to Nebraska's long-term occupation projections, many occupations whose workers commonly have associate's degrees will have openings through 2022. The exact level of education required varies by employer and job description.

The largest number of total openings (growth openings plus replacement openings) is expected to be in registered nursing, with an estimated total of 6,673 job openings. The projected number of openings is 2,691 from growth and 3,982 from replacement openings.

General and operations managers are expected to have the next highest openings, with 111 jobs coming as growth openings and 1,485 as replacement openings, for a total of 1,596 openings. Usually this job requires 1-5 years of work experience.

Other occupations and their projected openings are shown in the following table:

Occupation	Growth Openings	Replacement Openings	Total Openings
Preschool Teachers, Except Special Education	265	649	914
Construction Managers (will need at least 5 years of experience)	521	559	1,080
Radiologic Technologists and Technicians	263	258	521
Dental Hygienists	366	314	680
Medical and Clinical Laboratory Technicians	245	350	595
Veterinary Technologists and Technicians	178	61	239
Respiratory Therapists	123	149	272
Civil Engineering Technicians	0	143	143
Physical Therapist Assistants	244	148	392
Paralegals and Legal Assistants	236	219	455
Eligibility Interviewers, Government Programs (also moderate on-the-job training)	148	157	305
Cardiovascular Technologists and Technicians	72	73	145

Employment projections data from the Bureau of Labor Statistics show that the median weekly earnings of persons 25 and older with an associate's degree were \$777 in 2013. The median for those with a high school diploma were \$651.

The May 2013 Occupational Employment Statistics Survey (OES) shows that registered nurses earn an entry wage of \$20.99 per hour, with an average hourly wage of \$27.70. Nurses are found in many industries in Nebraska. Hospitals are the biggest employers of nurses, but they can also be found in a variety of other industries such as nursing and

residential care facilities; ambulatory health care services; food manufacturing; insurance and related activities; professional, scientific and technical services; company management; administrative and support services; educational services; social assistance; and public administration. The estimated employment for registered nurses in the state is 19,520 according to the May 2013 OES survey.

Occupation	May 2013 Employment	Entry Wage	Average Wage
Registered Nurses	19,520	\$43,676	\$57,622
General and Operations Managers (will need 1-5 years of work experience)	9,670	\$62,260	\$109,527
Preschool Teachers, Except Special Education	1,760	\$17,448	\$31,404
Construction Managers (will need at least 5 years of work experience)	1,600	\$52,233	\$77,904
Radiologic Technologists and Technicians	1,630	\$38,883	\$50,028
Dental Hygienists	1,250	\$50,198	\$63,934
Medical and Clinical Laboratory Technicians	1,210	\$25,998	\$35,596
Veterinary Technologists and Technicians	620	\$21,202	\$38,470
Respiratory Therapists	900	\$43,078	\$52,369
Civil Engineering Technicians	660	\$30,343	\$44,319
Physical Therapist Assistants	650	\$37,773	\$50,408
Paralegals and Legal Assistants	1,320	\$31,321	\$42,227
Eligibility Interviewers, Government Programs (moderate on-the-job training)	660	\$30,219	\$36,791
Cardiovascular Technologists and Technicians	440	\$30,188	\$51,675

According to the same OES survey, estimated employment in the state for general and operations managers is 9,670. Individuals in this occupation can expect to make an entry wage of \$26.52 per hour, with an average wage of \$52.65. General and operations managers are in every industry; however, the industry that employs most of them is management of companies and enterprises, with an estimate of 820 employees. Educational services is second with an estimated 780 employees. Public administration (this industry sector is made up of federal, state and local government agencies) and administrative and support services each have an estimated 600 employees in general and operations management.

For more information on Nebraska’s Long-term Occupational Projections, please visit our website at: <https://networks.nebraska.gov/gsipub/index.asp?docid=440>

For more information on Nebraska wages, please visit: <http://neblswages.nwd.ne.gov/>

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Graduate Outcomes: Southeast Community College

Mary Findlay, Research Analyst

There were 1,773 Southeast Community College graduates between July 1, 2011 and June 30, 2012. Of these graduates, 1,370 (77 percent) were working in Nebraska in the first quarter of 2013. This figure is up 1 percent from the previous year. Slightly less than half (45 percent) of the graduates were female, but female graduates (80 percent) were slightly more likely to be working in the state than male graduates (75 percent).

There was at least one graduate employed in 61 of the state's 93 counties. Lancaster County had the highest graduate employment with 465, followed by Douglas County with 58 and Gage County with 30.

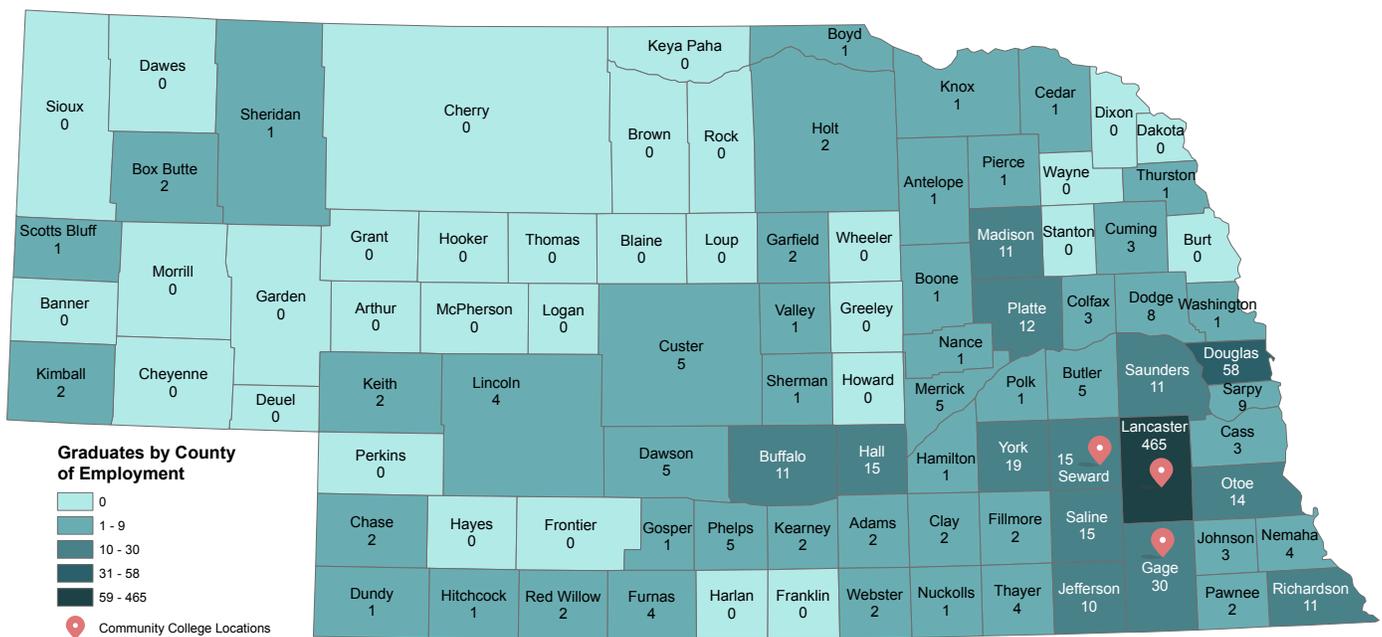




Photo Credit: SCC Public Information Office.

Industry Employment and Wages

The health care industry had the highest number (353) of graduates working in the state in the first quarter of 2013, followed by the retail trade industry with 189 and manufacturing with 140. These three industries comprised half of the graduates working in Nebraska and included graduates from all fields of study. The 15 graduates employed in the utilities industry had the highest estimated average annual wages of \$53,292, followed by the 140 graduates employed in manufacturing at \$35,131.

Fields of Study Employment and Wages

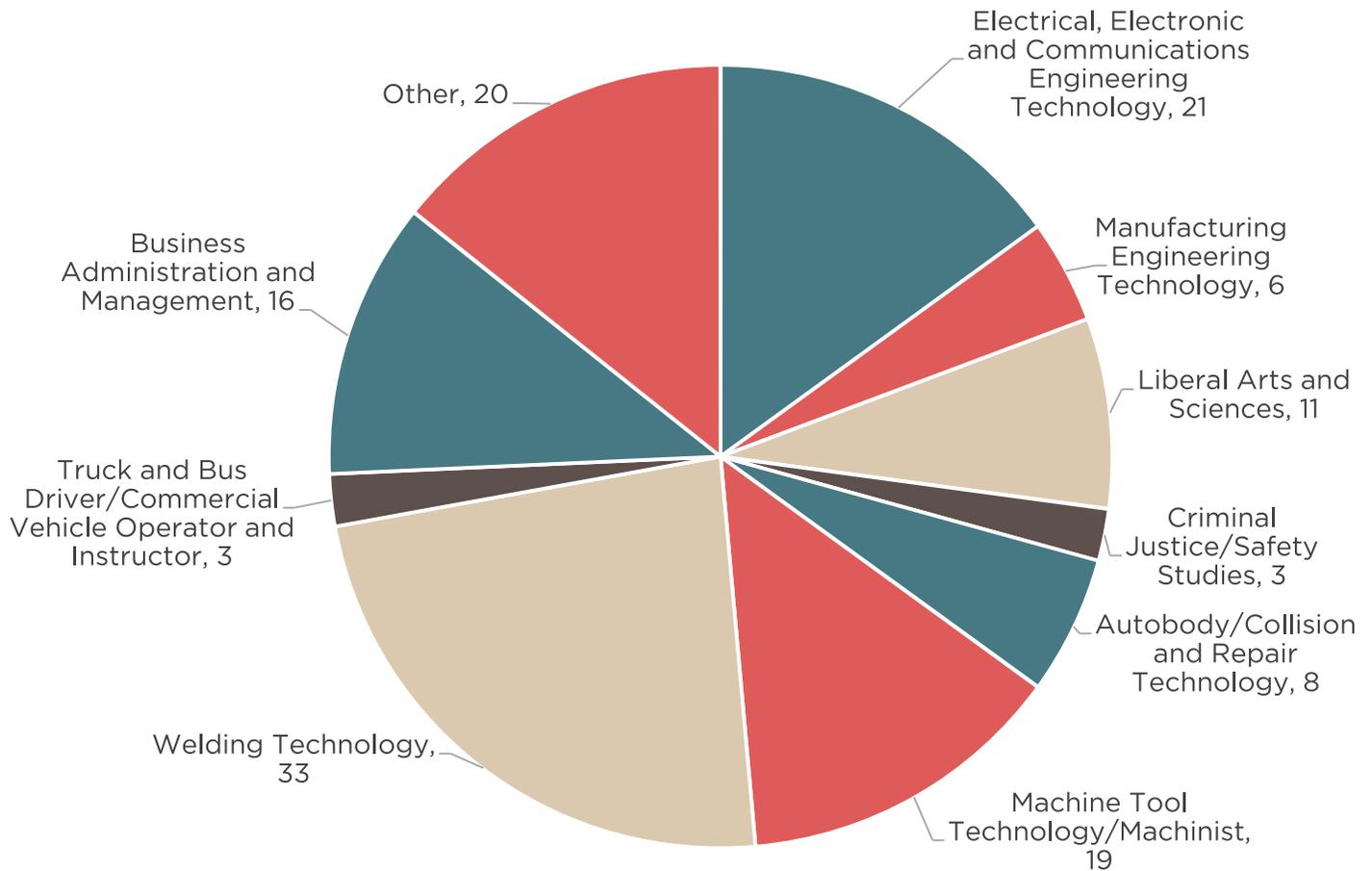
There were 17 degrees/fields of study that had over 85 percent of the graduates working in the state. A total of 444 students graduated from these programs, with 397 working in Nebraska in the first quarter of 2013.

Overall, the highest number (195) of graduates working in the state was in the associate degree liberal arts field of study. A large percentage of liberal arts graduates transfer to four-year colleges and universities, so it is not surprising that only 69 percent of these graduates were employed in the state within a few months of obtaining their degrees. The second highest number of graduates (163) working in Nebraska were in the associate degree business administration and management field of study. Eighty-two percent of these graduates were working in the state.

There were 23 fields of study and a total of 471 graduates working in the state. The estimated average annual wages of these graduates is above \$30,000 per year. Majors in technical and medical fields of study produced graduates with the highest wages.

The highest wages were earned by the 12 associate degree graduates in energy management and systems technology, who averaged \$50,828 per year. The four quality control technician associate degree graduates had the second highest wages with \$48,410, followed by the 63 registered nursing associate degree graduates with \$43,567.

Field of Study for Graduates Working in the Manufacturing Industry



There were 140 graduates from 29 different degrees/fields of study working in the manufacturing industry. Within the manufacturing industry, the field of study contributing the most graduates (33) was welding technology, with estimated annual average wages of \$33,503 for associate degree graduates. This was followed by electrical, electronic and communications engineering technology with 21 graduates and average wages of \$38,365 for associate degree graduates.

The other category on the pie chart includes the following fields of study: energy management and systems technology; quality control technician; computer and information sciences; fire science; automobile mechanics; surgical technology; medical assistant; agricultural business and management; clinical social work; pharmacy technician; small engine mechanics; commercial and advertising art; and restaurant, culinary and catering management.

For more graduate outcomes information, contact the Nebraska Department of Labor's Office of Labor Market Information 402-471-2600 or Imi_ne@nebraska.gov.

I-80 Corridor & the Nebraska Economy: Western Region

Byron Lefler, Research Analyst

After a nearly 500-mile journey, we have reached our final stop on our trek across Nebraska along the I-80 corridor, the western region. Thanks to all who have joined us on this fun and eventful journey.

The western region of the I-80 corridor in Nebraska includes the counties of Lincoln, Keith, Deuel, Cheyenne and Kimball. Major cities in the region include North Platte, Ogallala, Chappell, Sidney and Kimball.

DEMOGRAPHIC BREAKDOWN

According to 2012 population estimates from the United States Census Bureau's American Community Survey, the western region of Nebraska's I-80 corridor has a population of 60,142 people, the lowest population of the four regions within the I-80 corridor. This region's population is 50 percent male and 50 percent female. Thirty-three percent of this region's population has a high school diploma as their highest level of education, while 28 percent have some college but no diploma, 14 percent have a bachelor's degree and the other 25 percent fall into all the other education categories. Finally, when it comes to the racial breakdown of this region, we find 95 percent of the region's population to be white, while the other 5 percent of the region's population is in the rest of the racial categories.

BUSINESS AND INDUSTRY MIX

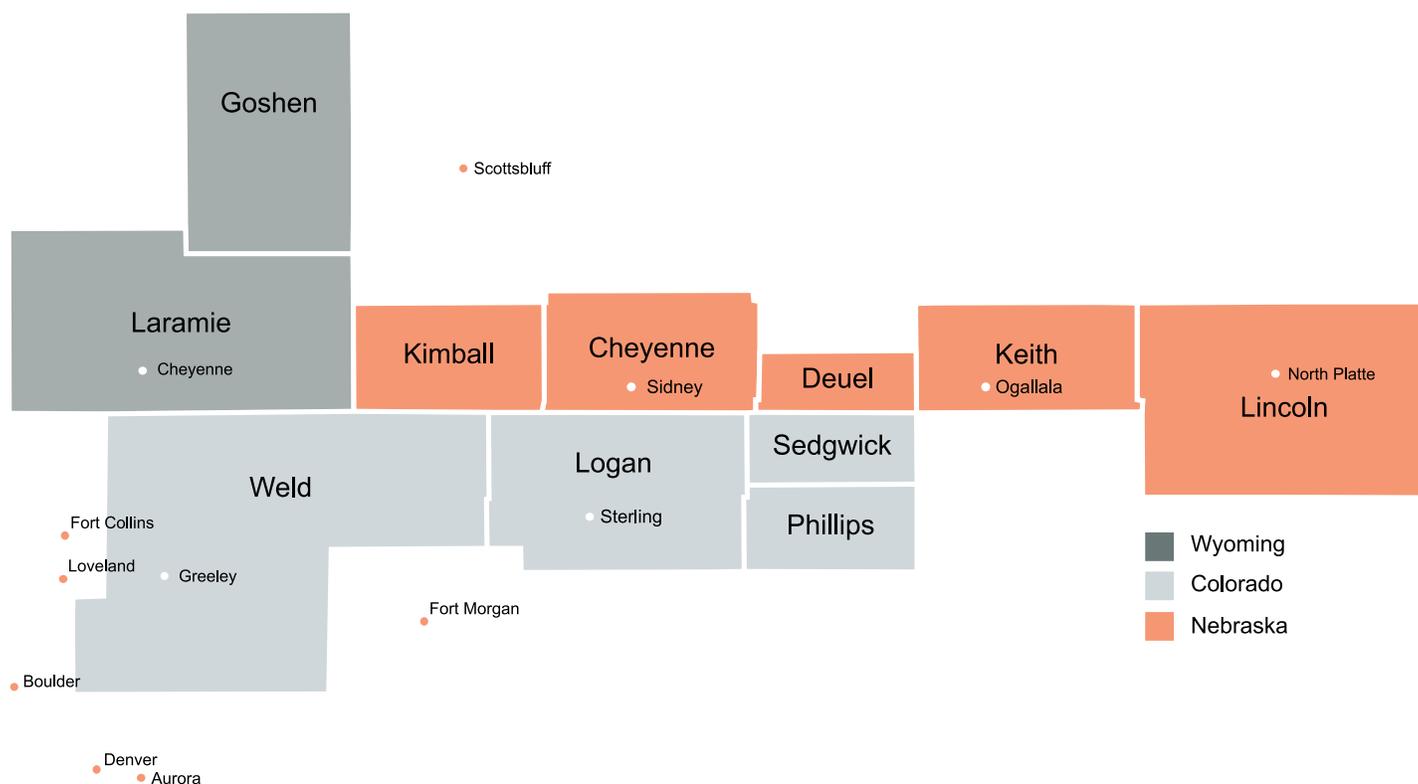
According to 2012 annual average industry employment data from the Nebraska Department of Labor's Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages Program (QCEW), there was on average 2,408 businesses within the western region of the state of Nebraska's I-80 corridor. These businesses combined to employ on average 25,741 individuals. The industries with the largest employment within the region included retail trade; health care and social assistance; accommodation and food services; educational services and public administration.

The largest employers in the Nebraska I-80 corridor western region, according to the Infogroup employer listing, are Walmart, Great Plains Regional Medical Center, TE Connectivity and Sidney Regional Medical Center. Information on employers of all sizes and for all areas of the state can be found on the Labor Market Information page of the Nebraska Department of Labor's NEworks website (<http://networks.nebraska.gov/analyzer>). From the site, navigate to the 'Employers' link, choose 'Employer Profile' and then enter your search criteria.

6,614
WORKERS COMMUTE IN

18,148
WORK & LIVE IN THE REGION

7,420
WORKERS COMMUTE OUT



WORKFORCE POPULATION

The United States Census Bureau's Longitudinal Employment Dynamics Program 2011 data showed the western region's workforce population of 25,741 people to be 44 percent male and 56 percent female. Individuals aged 25 to 64 account for 79 percent of the workforce population, while 15 percent are 24 years old and younger and 6 percent are age 65 and older. When it comes to educational attainment, we find that 27 percent have some college or an associate's degree as their highest level of education, while 25 percent have a high school degree diploma, 17 percent have a bachelor's degree or advanced degree, and the other 31 percent fall into all the other education categories.

COMMUTING PATTERNS

The counties of Deuel, Cheyenne and Kimball in the western region of the I-80 corridor border the states of Colorado and Wyoming, and as such have an influx of out of state commuters. Combined these counties have 6.4 percent of their workforce population commuting from the state of Colorado, while 1.3 percent commute from Wyoming. Looking at these three counties individually, we find that 10 percent of Deuel County's workforce population commutes from Colorado, while 6.6 percent of Cheyenne County's workforce population commutes from Colorado. Kimball County has 5 percent of its workforce population commuting from Colorado and 4.2 percent commuting from Wyoming.

EVENTS AND ATTRACTIONS

You can plan a trip to the western region of Nebraska's I-80 corridor by visiting www.visitnebraska.com, the official website of the Nebraska Tourism Commission. While on www.visitnebraska.com click on the 'Things to Do' tab to find a list of events, attractions and recreation spots within the western region, as well as sample road trip ideas and a list of businesses offering vacation packages within the region. Some places to visit while in the region include: Cody Go-Karts Family Fun Center in North Platte, Front Street and Cowboy Museum in Ogallala, Hazel's Pumpkin Patch in Lodgepole, Fort Sidney Museum and Post Commander's Home in Sidney and the High Point Welcome Center of Western Nebraska in Kimball. One of the biggest attractions in the western region is Lake McConaughy near Ogallala. With over 100 miles of shoreline, people from around the state of Nebraska and neighboring states flock to Lake McConaughy to enjoy such outdoor activities as fishing, boating, water skiing and wind surfing. Though it is not the most populous of the regions we have visited on our journey across Nebraska on Interstate 80, the western region still has plenty to offer for your next family vacation.

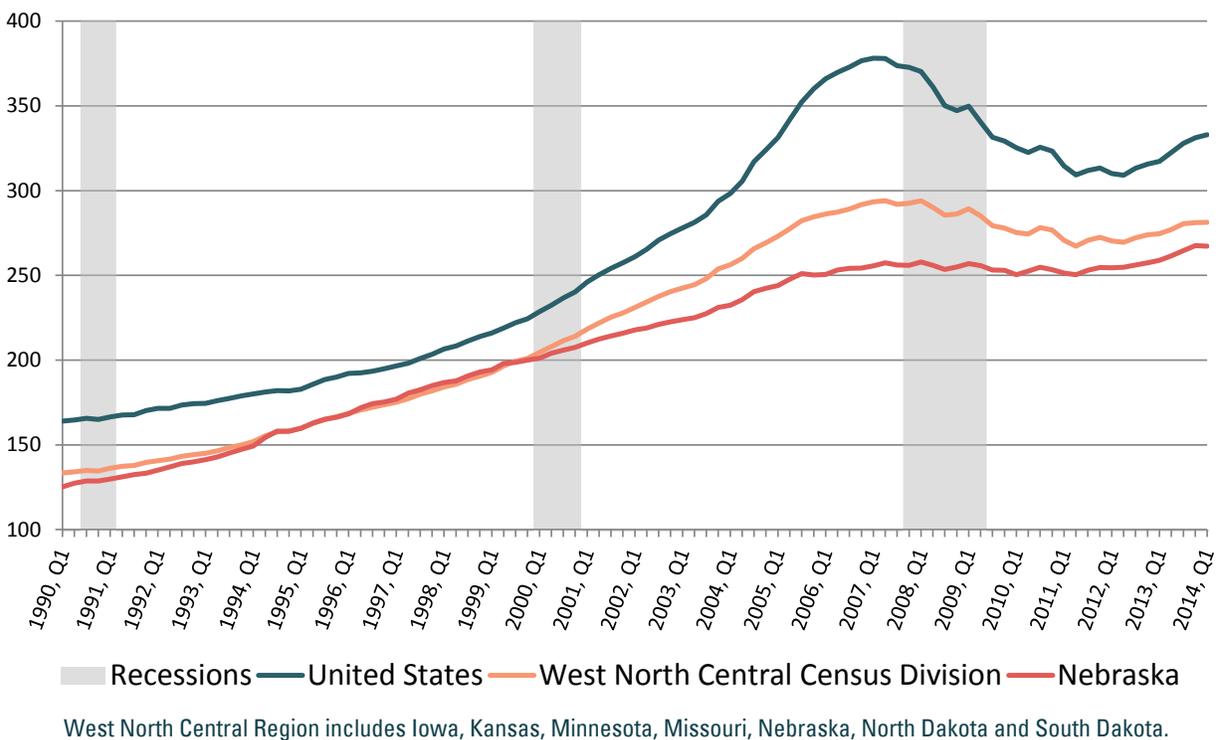
This brings us to the end of our four part series in which we have traveled across the state of Nebraska along its I-80 corridor. During our trip we visited the cities of Omaha, Lincoln, York, Grand Island, Kearney, North Platte and Sidney. If you'd like to revisit any of the regions along our journey you can view old issues of Nebraska Workforce Trends here <https://networks.nebraska.gov/gsipub/index.asp?docid=417>. The Omaha region article can be found in the December 2013 issue, the Lincoln region in the February 2014 issue and the central region in the March 2014 issue. Finally, we hope you have enjoyed your trip across the state of Nebraska along its I-80 corridor as much as we have enjoyed taking you on the journey.



Lake McConaughy, the largest lake in Nebraska just north of Ogallala, NE.
Photo by Doc Searls used under the Creative Commons attribution 2.0 generic license

ECONOMIC INDICATORS HOUSE PRICE INDEX

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 on the next page. This month, we'll be focusing on the House Price Index. (HPI)

The HPI is a broad measure of the movement of single-family house prices. The HPI is a weighted, repeat-sales index, meaning that it measures average price changes in repeat sales or refinancings on the same properties. The HPI serves as a timely, accurate indicator of house price trends at various geographic levels. Because of the breadth of the sample, it provides more information than is available in other house price indexes. It also provides housing economists with an improved analytical tool that is useful for estimating changes in the rates of mortgage defaults, prepayments and housing affordability in specific geographic areas.

To learn more, visit: <http://www.fhfa.gov/DataTools/Downloads/Pages/House-Price-Index.aspx>

ECONOMIC INDICATORS

Metric	Current Time	Change Over Last Quarter/Month		
		United States	Midwest Region	Nebraska
Real GDP, billions of chained 2009 dollars	2nd Quarter, 2014	+3.9%	-	-
Effective Federal Funds Rate	July, 2014	-0.01%	-	-
Balance on the US Current Account, in billions of dollars	1st Quarter, 2014	+27.3%	-	-
Barrel of Crude Oil, WTI-Cushing, Spot Price	July, 2014	-\$2.20	-	-
Employment Cost Index	2nd Quarter, 2014	+0.7%	-	-
Producer Price Index: All Commodities	July, 2014	-0.1%	-	-
Average Weekly Manufacturing Hours	July, 2014	-0.1	-	-1.2
House Price Index	1st Quarter, 2014	+0.6%	0.0%	-0.1%
Consumer Price Index, not seasonally adjusted	June, 2014	0.0%	-0.3%	-
Unemployment Rate, seasonally adjusted	July, 2014	-0.2%	0.0%	+0.1%
New Private Housing Units Authorized by Building Permits	July, 2014	+8.1%	-0.6%	+4.2%*
Net Taxable Sales	May, 2014	-	-	+6.3%
Money Stock, M2	July, 2014	+0.6%	-	-
University of Michigan, Consumer	July, 2014	-1.2%	-	-

* Data is lagged one month.

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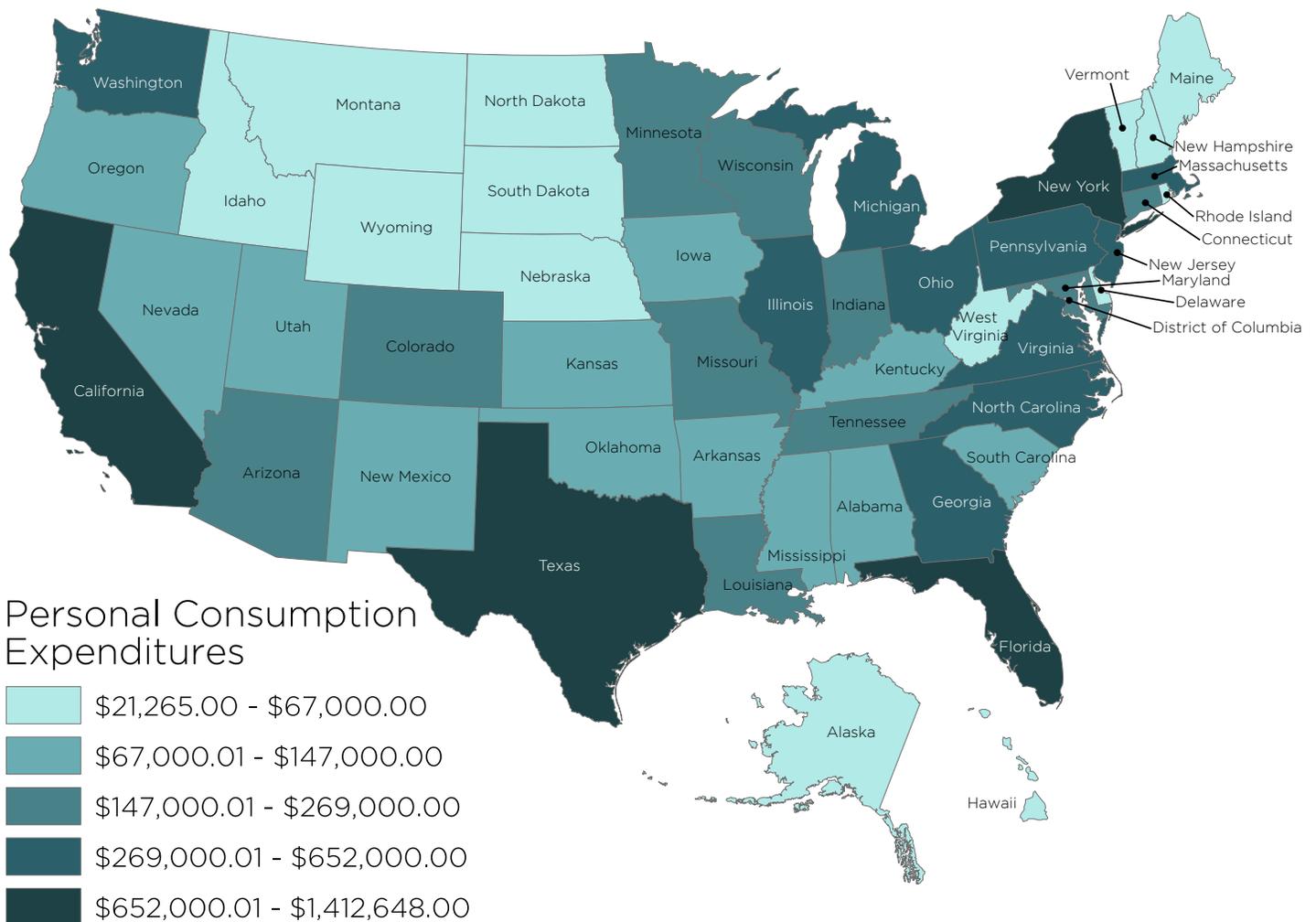
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MAP FACTS

Personal Consumption Expenditures

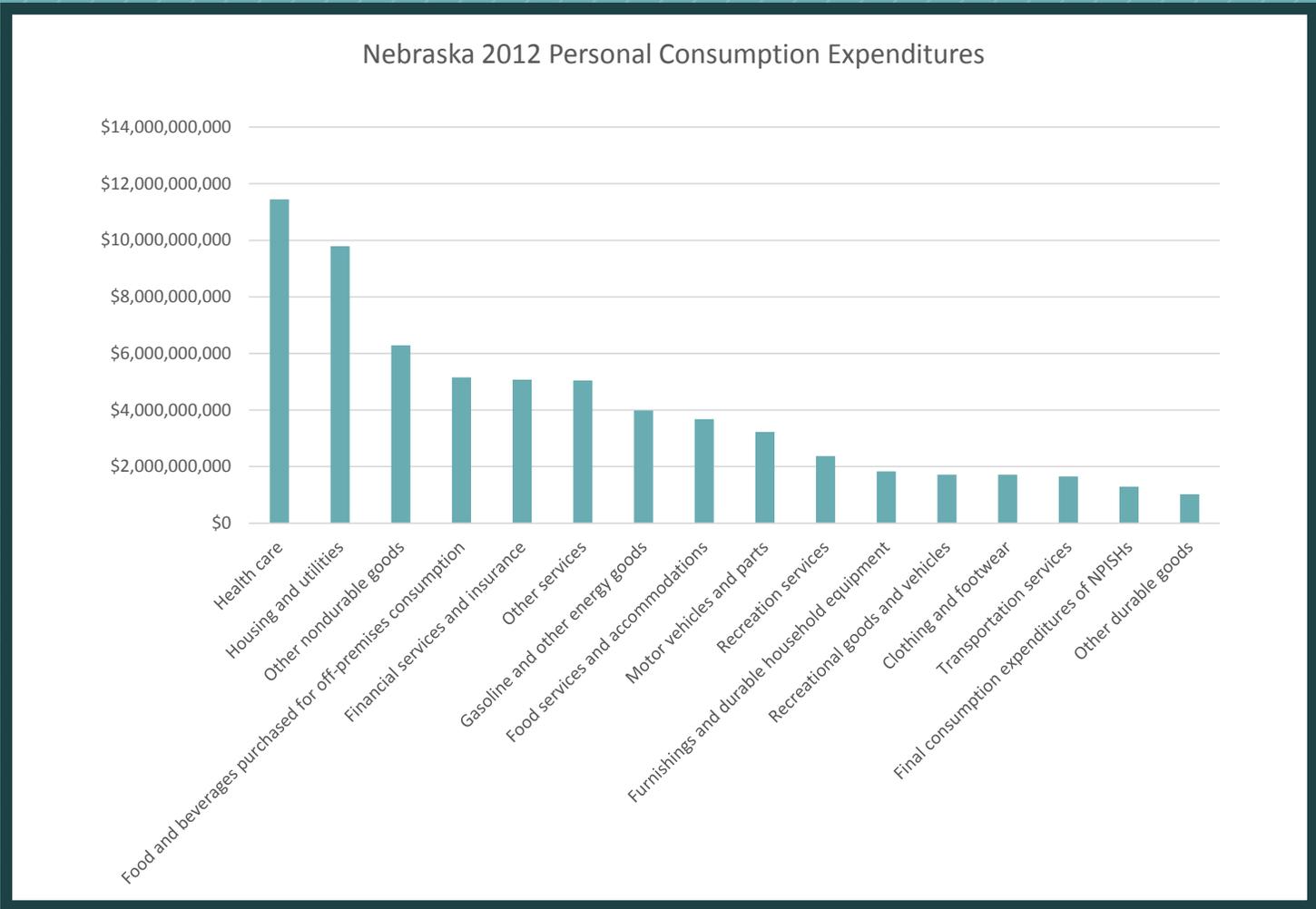
Kermit Spade, Research Analyst

The Bureau of Economic Analysis (BEA) has recently released a new set of experimental statistics that measure Personal Consumption Expenditures (PCE) at the state level. These data have only previously been available at the national level. These new statistics will be useful in many ways. "They can be used by state governments to analyze the potential revenue impact generated from various sales tax proposals. They can be used for cross-state comparison of the impact of fiscal policy choices on household spending. They can be used to improve the regional input-output models developed by regional economists in state governments and academia. They can be used to assess purchasing power potential for marketing. Finally, the new statistics can be used to provide an indication of the general well-being of households in a state economy." (1)



California had the largest PCE in 2012, at \$1.4 trillion. Texas and New York were second and third with over \$800 billion. Nebraska ranked 37th, with \$65 billion. Wyoming had the lowest PCE of \$21 billion. PCE is broken down into two main categories, goods and services. Goods are further broken down into durable and nondurable goods, and other subcategories. Services are broken down into household consumption and final consumption of nonprofit institutions, and other subcategories. (2)

Health care was the largest personal consumption expenditure in Nebraska. Nebraskan’s spent \$11.4 billion on health care in 2012. Housing and utilities (\$9.8 billion) and other nondurable goods (\$6.3 billion) round out the top three categories. Other categories of significant spending were food and beverages purchased for off-premises consumption, financial services and insurance and gasoline and other energy goods. (2)



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Kermit Spade
Research Analyst

The openings and expansions list is compiled from local media outlets, news reports, and local career center staff. If you know of a business opening or expanding in your area, please let us know by emailing lmi_ne@nebraska.gov.

OMAHA

OPENINGS	TYPE OF BUSINESS	JOB #	SOURCE OF INFO
Shoe Sensation-Fremont	Retail shoes	3	Fremont Tribune
Thirst-Tea Cafe-Midtown	Restaurant	10	KFAB Radio
Siberson & Strigenz	Law office	6	Omaha World Herald
Fairfield Inn & Suites	Hotel	20	OWH
Quartermaster Automotive Ctr. 1912	Car repair shop	3	OWH
The Union	Restaurant	10	OWH
Say Hey There Social	Co-op facility	2	OWH
Dunkin' Donuts	Media consultant	2	OWH
Interface Web School	Donut shop	5	OWH
Atomic Bombshells	Computer programmer school	4	OWH
Farnam House	Vintage clothing boutique	5	OWH
NuMale Medical Center	Brewpub	10	OWH
Noodles & Company	Men's health clinic	10	Strictly Business Magazine
Tanner's Bar & Grill	Restaurant	10	SBN
Alamo Drafthouse Cinema	Bar and restaurant	15	Omaha Chamber of Commerce
Play It Again Sports	Movie theater/bar food	30	OCC
Wooley Mammoth Yarn	Retail sports equipment	10	OCC
Northwoods Cheese Haus	Craft retail store	2	OCC
Hedegerow Herbals	Sausage & cheese shop	2	OCC
Omaha Sports Card	Herbal boutique	1	OCC
Spirit World	Sports card store	2	OCC
Premier Dentist	Wine and Spirits store	5	OCC
Mudbugs	Office	5	OCC
Mil-Tek Central Recycling	Cajun restaurant	5	OCC
Antiquity Outdoor Supply	Company	5	OCC
Color Store	Landscape supply store	5	OCC
Lozier Company School	Paint store	3	OCC
D.J's Dugout-Millard	Private school	10	OCC
Starbucks 96th & Q	Bar and grill	10	OCC
	Coffee shop	5	OWH

OMAHA

EXPANSIONS	TYPE OF BUSINESS	JOB #	SOURCE OF INFO
Flatiron Building	Renovated building	0	OCC
Old Market Farmer's Mrkt.	Indoor marketplace	0	OCC
Travelex Insurance	New expanded headquarters	0	OCC
Fall Experimental Football League	TD Ameritrade-football team	0	OCC
Mastercraft	Renovated office space	0	OCC
James Skinner Baking	Expansion	32	OCC
Eugene Mahoney State Park	Renovated cabins + 3 new	0	OCC
Faces Day Spa	New location	0	SBN
Unisource Worldwide	Merger	0	OWH
West Corp.	Customer service call center	150	OWH

397 Jobs in the Omaha area

Southeast

Fairbury

- D&A Vapor

Byron

- Wenske Auto

Beatrice

- 4one8 (restaurant)
- Blue River Teen Challenge
- Salon Nuvo

Nebraska City

- The Keeping Room
- La Mexicanita

Mid-Plains

North Platte

- Candy's Cupcakery - expansion

Panhandle

Alliance

- Crazy Lady Bakery
- Sturdevant's Auto Parts

Scottsbluff

- Blue Stem

Northeast

Norfolk

- Big Top Party Store
- Bella Barre
- Exterior Options
- The Brickyard

Fast Facts **National Grandparents Day**

Jodie Meyer, Research Analyst

September 7th is National Grandparent's Day.

Marian McQuade started a campaign in 1970 to establish a day to honor grandparents. Eight years later in 1979, a federal proclamation was signed by President Jimmy Carter declaring the first Sunday after Labor Day as National Grandparents Day.

UNITED STATES

NEBRASKA

7,100,000

Grandparents in 2012 who had grandchildren under 18 years old living with them

24,365

2,700,000

Grandparents in 2012 who were responsible for the basic needs of one or more grandchildren under age 18 living with them

11,439

37% Grandfathers

63% Grandmothers

Grandfathers 38%

Grandmothers 61%

8.5%

Grandparents in 2012 responsible for grandchildren under the age of 18 with an income below poverty level

9.9%

\$46,081

The median income in 2012 for families with grandparent householders responsible for grandchildren under age 18

\$46,328

23.2%

21.9%

of these were 60 or over

Grandparents in 2012 who were in the labor force and responsible for their own grandchildren under age 18

30%

27.8%

of these were 60 or over

5,600,000

47.5%

of these were under 6

Children under the age of 18 in 2012 who were living with a grandparent

18,319

52.2%

of these were under 6

1. United States Census Bureau. Profile America, Facts for Features, National Grandparents Day 2014: Sept. 7. United States Census Bureau. [Online] July 8, 2014. [Cited: August 25, 2014.] http://www.census.gov/newsroom/releases/pdf/cb14ff-19_grandparents.pdf.

2. United States Census Bureau. American Fact Finder. 2012 American Community Survey 1-Year Estimates. [Online] [Cited: August 28, 2014.] <http://factfinder2.census.gov/faces/tableservices/jsf/pages/productview.xhtml?src=bkmk>.

NEBRASKA WORKFORCE TRENDS

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