

NEBRASKA WORKFORCE

# TRENDS

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 NEBRASKA  
DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

JULY 2014

FEATURE STORY  
*RECESSION RECOVERY*  
ANALYST COLUMN  
*GAME & PARKS*  
GRADUATE OUTCOMES  
*MID-PLAINS COMMUNITY COLLEGE*

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# TABLE OF CONTENTS

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<b>3</b>	RECESSION RECOVERY
<b>10</b>	GAME & PARKS
<b>12</b>	FAST FACTS
<b>13</b>	MAP FACTS
<b>14</b>	GRADUATE OUTCOMES
<b>16</b>	ECONOMIC INDICATORS
<b>18</b>	OPENINGS & EXPANSIONS
<b>20</b>	OCCUPATIONAL PROFILE
<b>21</b>	MAY UNEMPLOYMENT DATA

## HELPFUL LINKS

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UNEMPLOYMENT IN BRIEF  
MONTHLY UNEMPLOYMENT RATE  
PREVIOUS ISSUES  
NETWORKS  
GLOSSARY

# 2008-2009 RECESSION: HAVE NEBRASKA'S METRO AREAS RECOVERED?

*by Lenora Castillo, Research Analyst*

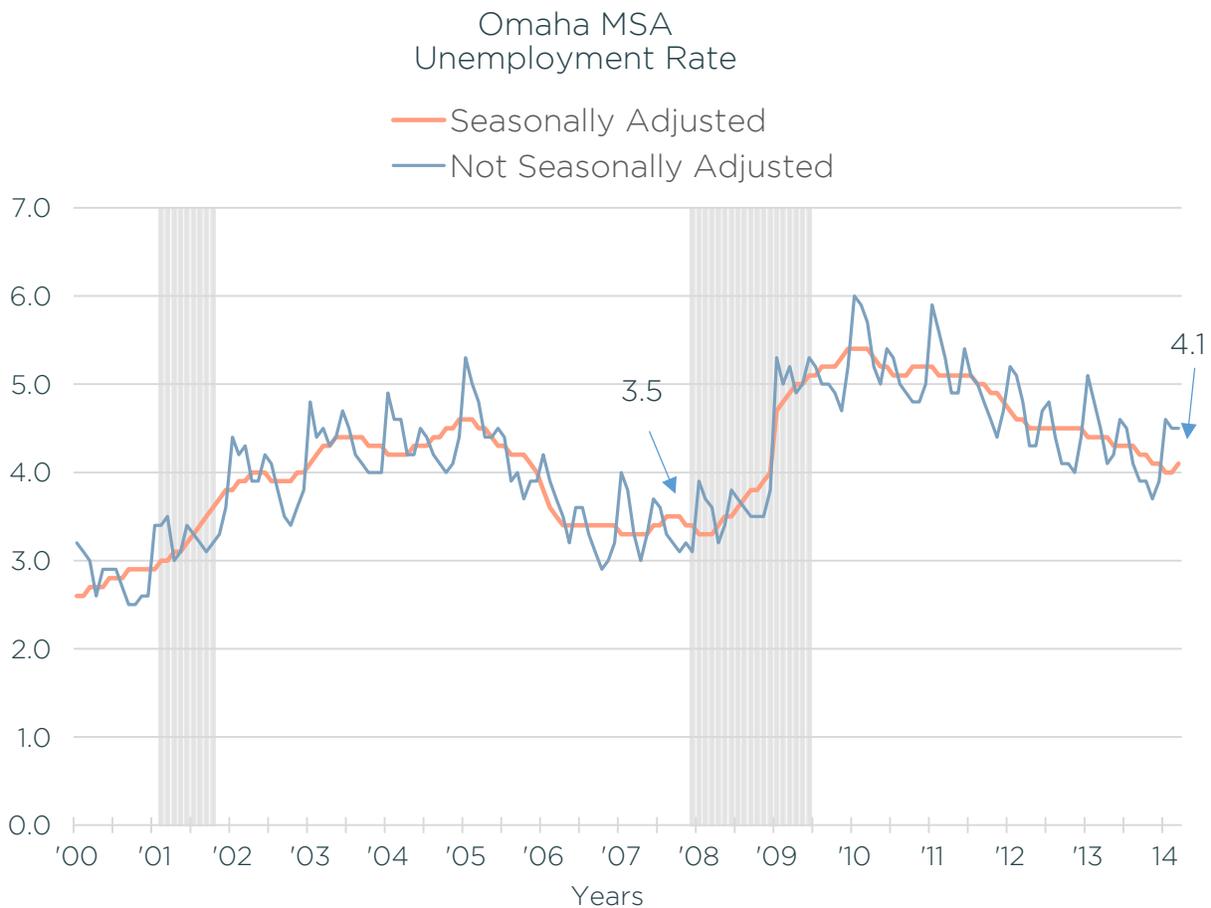
Smoothed, seasonally-adjusted unemployment and labor force data for all metro areas in the nation has been available since May of 2011, but just recently, the Bureau of Labor Statistics revised data for the metro areas back to 2009 as part of the yearly benchmark. Smoothed, seasonally-adjusted estimates are seasonally-adjusted estimates that have incorporated a long-term trend smoothing procedure. Smoothing reduces volatility.

Seasonally-adjusted data gives us a clearer picture of the underlying, long-term trends and other changes in unemployment and labor force estimates for the MSAs (Metropolitan Statistical Areas). We can now more fully see the effect of the most recent recession on the Lincoln and Omaha MSAs' labor force and, more importantly, we can see if these areas are recovering.

## UNEMPLOYMENT RATES ARE IN DECLINE ▾

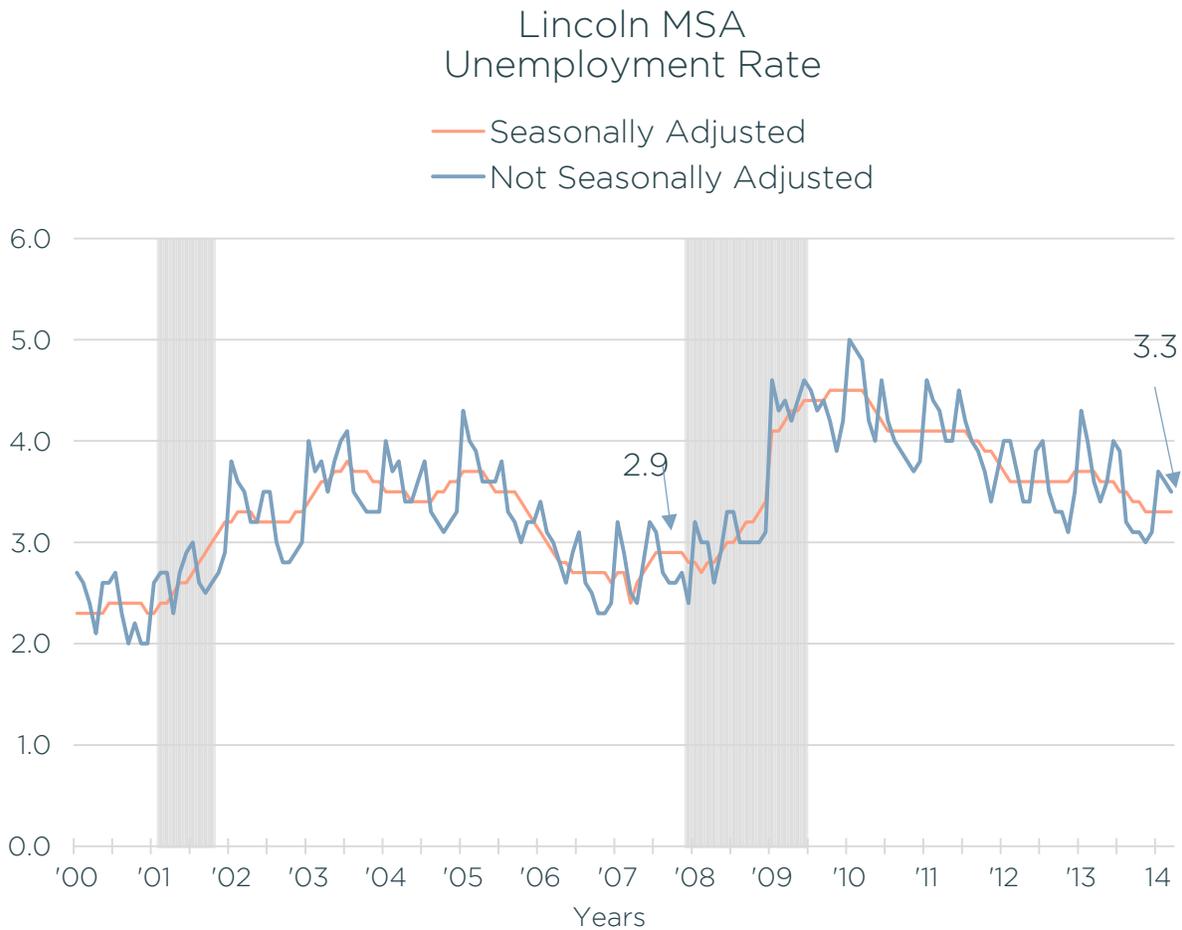
During the most recent recession, which ran from December 2007 through June 2009, seasonally-adjusted unemployment rates in the Omaha MSA climbed from 3.4 percent to 5.1 percent. In December 2009, six months after the end of the recession, rates reached a high of 5.4 percent and remained there until March of 2010.

Omaha MSA's rate has been in decline since then, reaching 4.1 percent in March 2014. Over the year, the unemployment rate in the Omaha MSA is down by 0.3 percentage points.



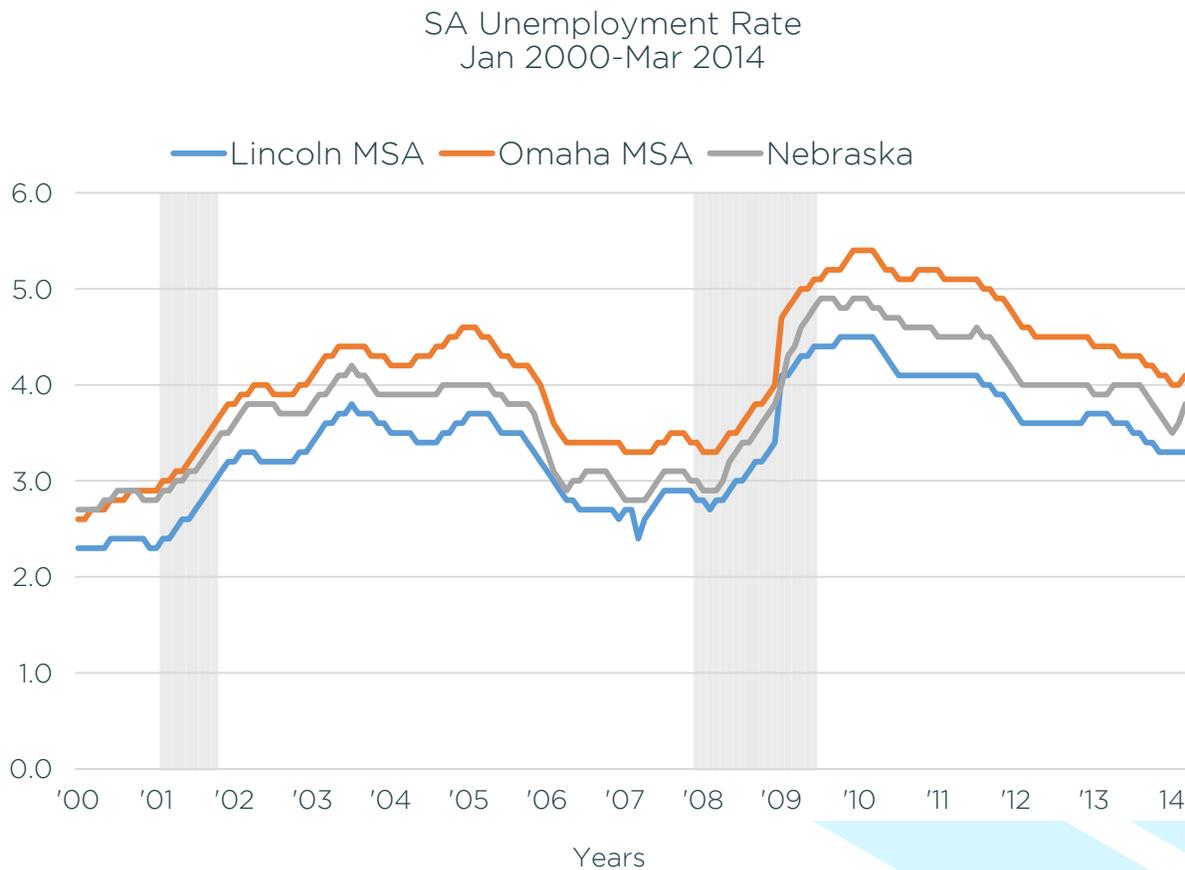
In the Lincoln MSA, seasonally-adjusted unemployment rates increased from 2.4 percent to 4.6 percent during the recession and then reached a high of 5.0 percent in January 2010, eight months after the recession ended.

Unemployment rates in the Lincoln MSA started dropping after that, reaching 3.3 percent on November 2013 and remaining at that level through March of this year.



During the recession, Nebraska's unemployment rate reached a high of 4.9 percent from July through September of 2009 and again from December of 2009 through February of 2010. Most current data for March 2014 shows that Nebraska's seasonally-adjusted unemployment rate was down to 3.8 percent.

A comparison of seasonally-adjusted unemployment rates for these three areas shows that rates in the Omaha MSA have been higher than the rates in Nebraska for all but the first 10 months of 2000. The Lincoln MSA had lower rates than the Omaha MSA or Nebraska for all months except one. On January 2009, the Lincoln MSA's rate of 4.1 percent was 0.1 percentage points higher than the Nebraska rate of 4.0 percent. That month, the Omaha MSA's rate was 4.7 percent.

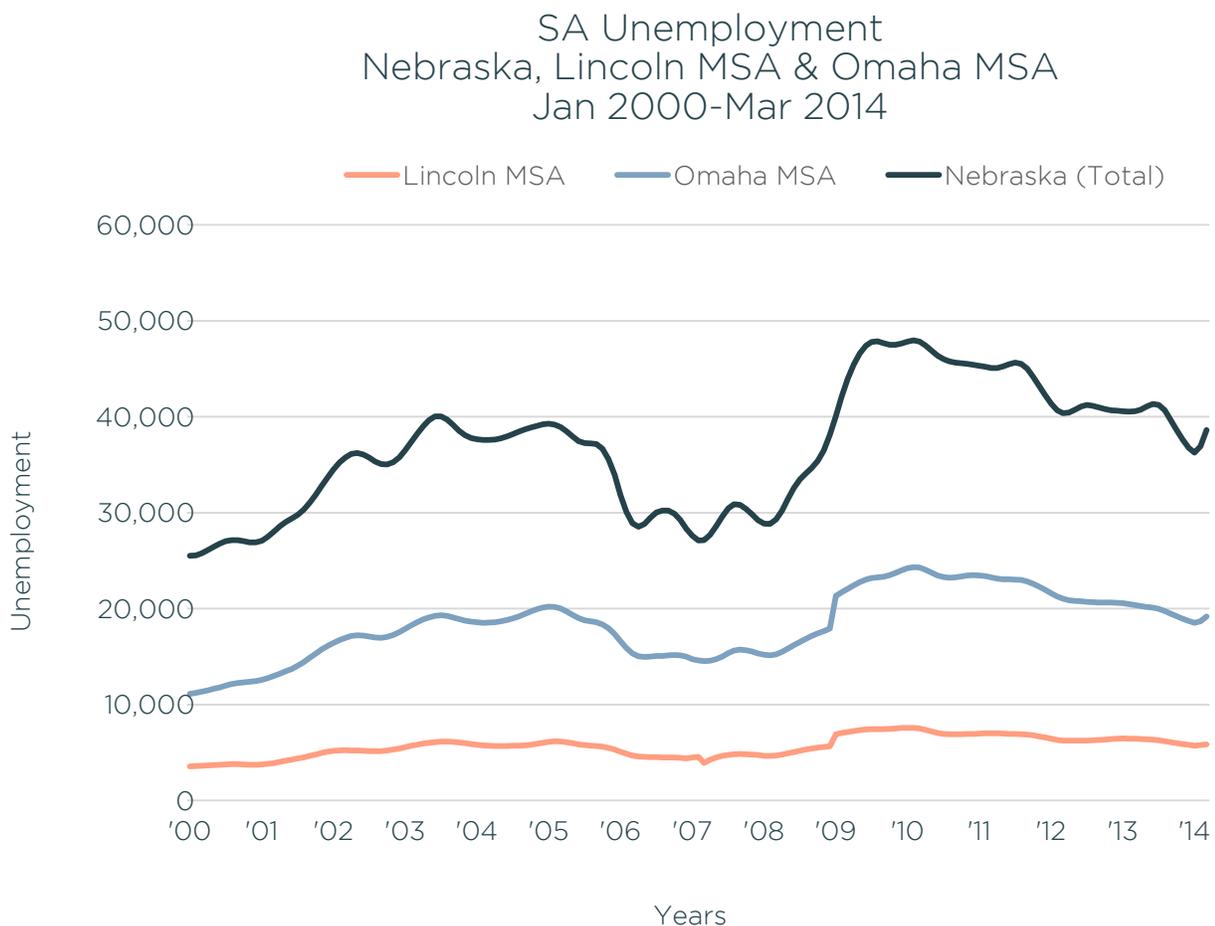


## Unemployment Decreasing ▼

Omaha MSA seasonally-adjusted unemployment was at 15,327 at the start of the recession and was near that or above for the previous five months. By recession's end, there were 23,032 unemployed, and that number continued to increase until reaching a high of 24,337 in February of 2010. The latest data for March 2014 shows that the number of unemployed in the Omaha MSA is down to 19,173; however, unemployment is still 3,648 higher than the pre-recession level of 15,525.

On December 2007, the Lincoln MSA's unemployment was at 4,755 and had been at that level or higher for the previous five months. Unemployment reached a high of 7,590 by January 2010, then slowly began to drop until reaching 5,859 by March of this year. Unemployment in the Lincoln MSA has a way to go before reaching the pre-recession level of 4,800.

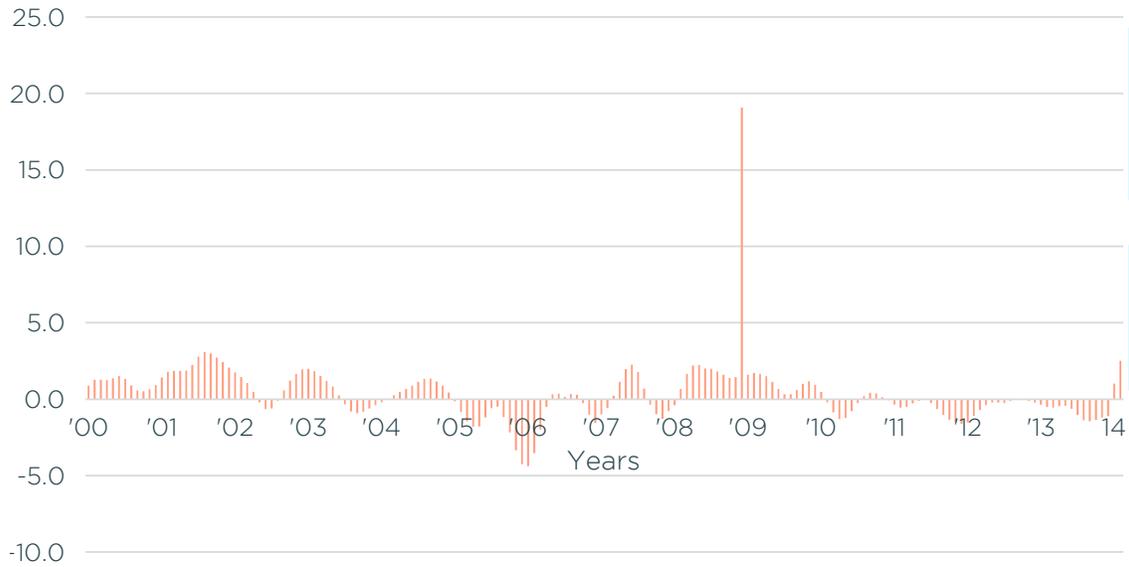
In Nebraska, there were 29,247 unemployed at the start of the recession. By recession's end, unemployment was up to 47,401. The latest March data shows that unemployment in Nebraska has fallen to 38,620.



The largest month-to-month unemployment increase in the Omaha MSA, Lincoln MSA and for in Nebraska occurred in January of 2009. Statewide, unemployment decreased 5.2 percent. In the Omaha MSA, unemployment grew from 5,655 to 6,917 when the TTU industry lost 5,952 jobs due in large part to layoffs.

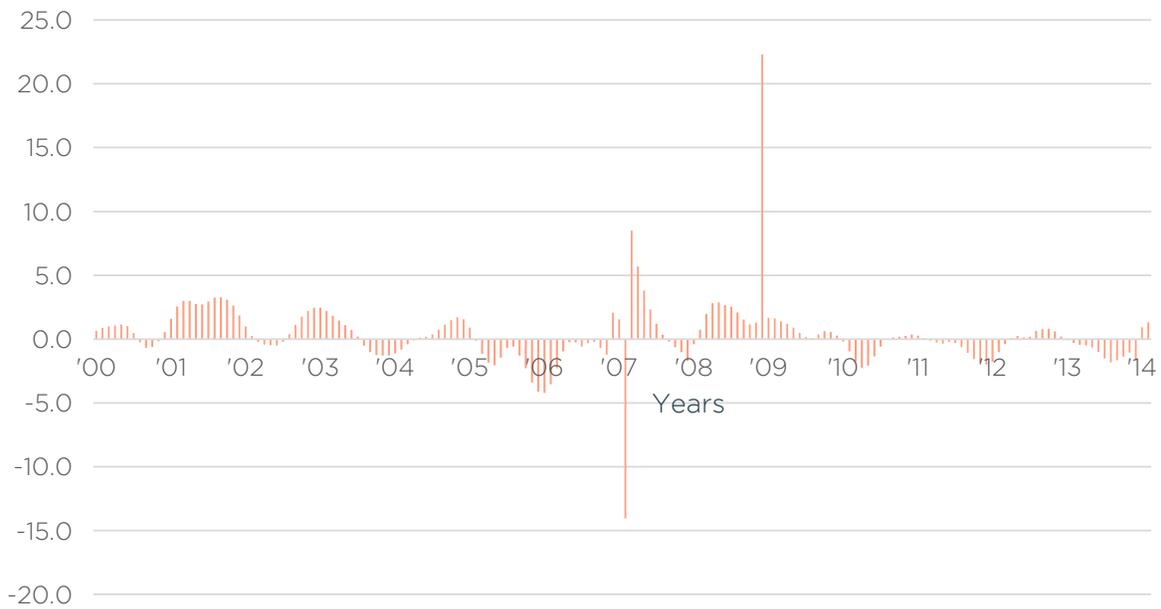
For statewide Nebraska, the largest decrease in unemployment was 6.2 percent, in January 2006. The largest decrease in the Omaha MSA, 4.4 percent, occurred in February 2006.

SA Unemployment  
Month-to-Month % Change  
Omaha MSA



Lincoln MSA’s unemployment increased by 22.3 percent when TTU lost a little over 1,500 jobs. The largest decrease occurred in March of 2007 (-14.0 percent) when unemployment dropped from 4,556 to 3,916.

SA Unemployment  
Month-to-Month % Change  
Lincoln MSA



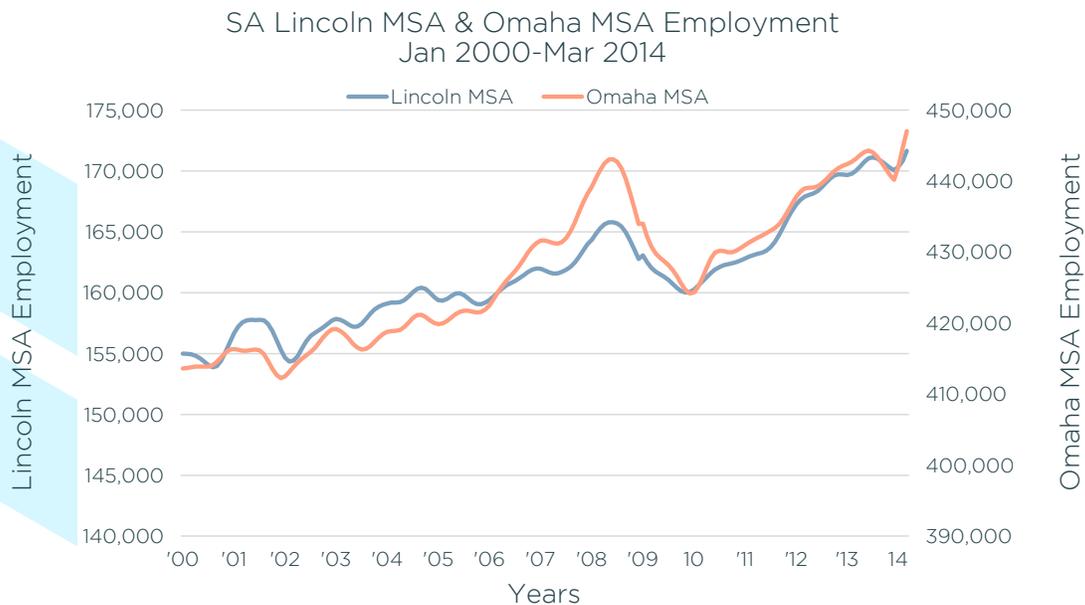
## Employment Growing ▼

Omaha MSA employment started the recession with employment at 438,226, then dropped by 9,495 to 428,731 by recession's end. The latest data shows that Omaha MSA employment is up, having grown to 447,034 by March of this year.

In the Lincoln MSA, seasonally-adjusted employment was at 163,990 at the start of the recession and decreased to 161,322 by the end. Employment in the Lincoln MSA is recovering. Current data for March 2014 employment shows that employment has increased to 171,641.

Employment in Nebraska of 988,870 in March 2014 is up by 30,636 from the pre-recession level of 958,234.

Employment in the Lincoln MSA, Omaha MSA and Nebraska has seen some fluctuation since the end of the recession, but is trending upward.



## The Good News ▼

The latest data from the Local Area Unemployment Statistics program shows that unemployment is down, employment is up and the labor force is above the pre-recession level for Nebraska, Lincoln MSA and Omaha MSA. In other words, Nebraska's metro areas are recovering.

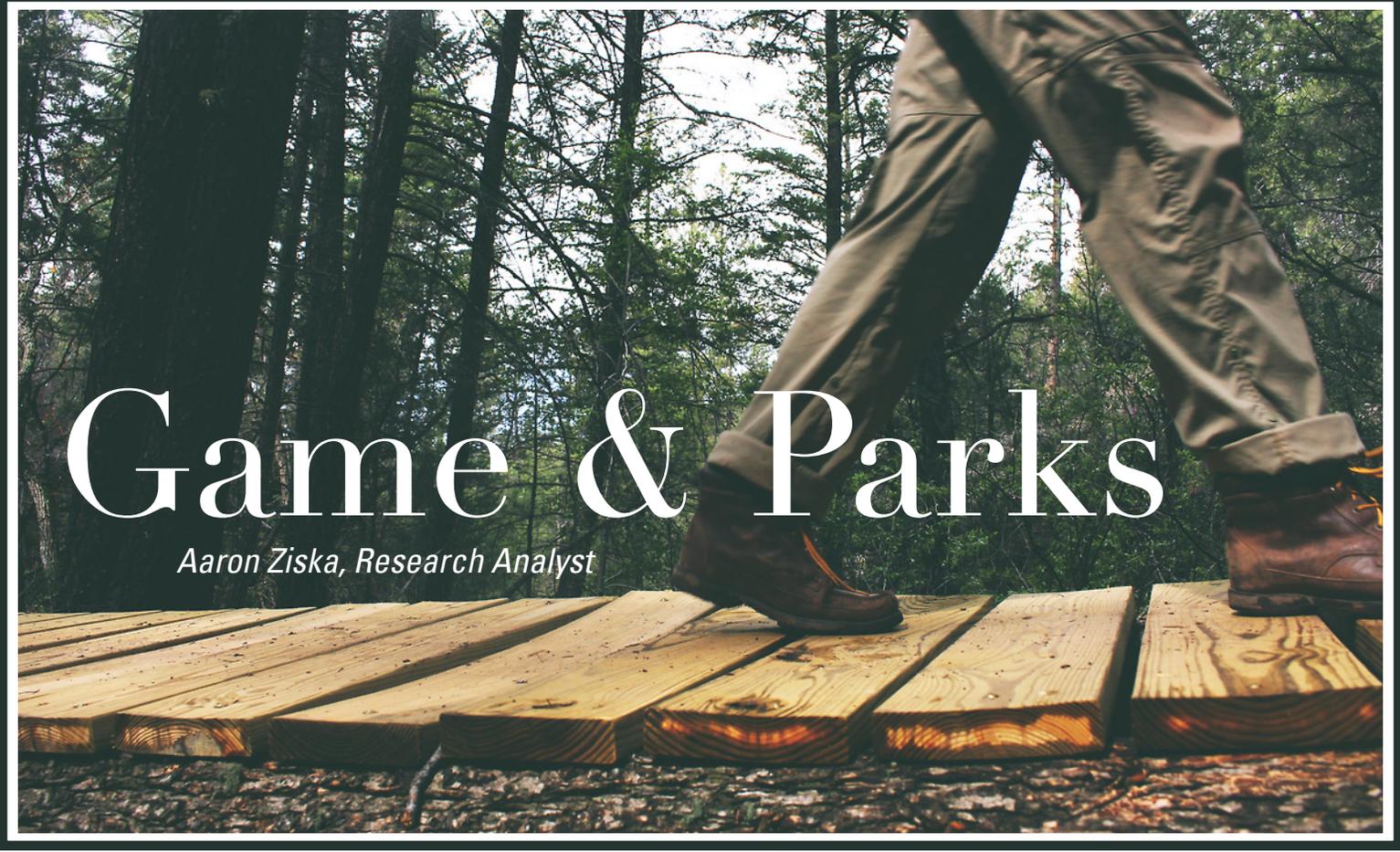
## Where to Get the Data ▼

The seasonally-adjusted MSA data is available as a text or zip file from the Bureau of Labor Statistics, Local Area Unemployment Statistics home page, under the 'For Your Information' section at <http://www.bls.gov/lau/>.

Publication dates for the new MSA data can be found at [http://www.bls.gov/schedule/news\\_release/metro.htm](http://www.bls.gov/schedule/news_release/metro.htm).

### Sources:

1. Local Area Unemployment Statistics: unemployment and labor force data from January 2000-March 2014. (Online) <http://www.bls.gov/lau/>
2. Current Employment Statistics: industry data for Lincoln and Omaha MSAs (Online) <https://networks.nebraska.gov/analyzer/default.asp>



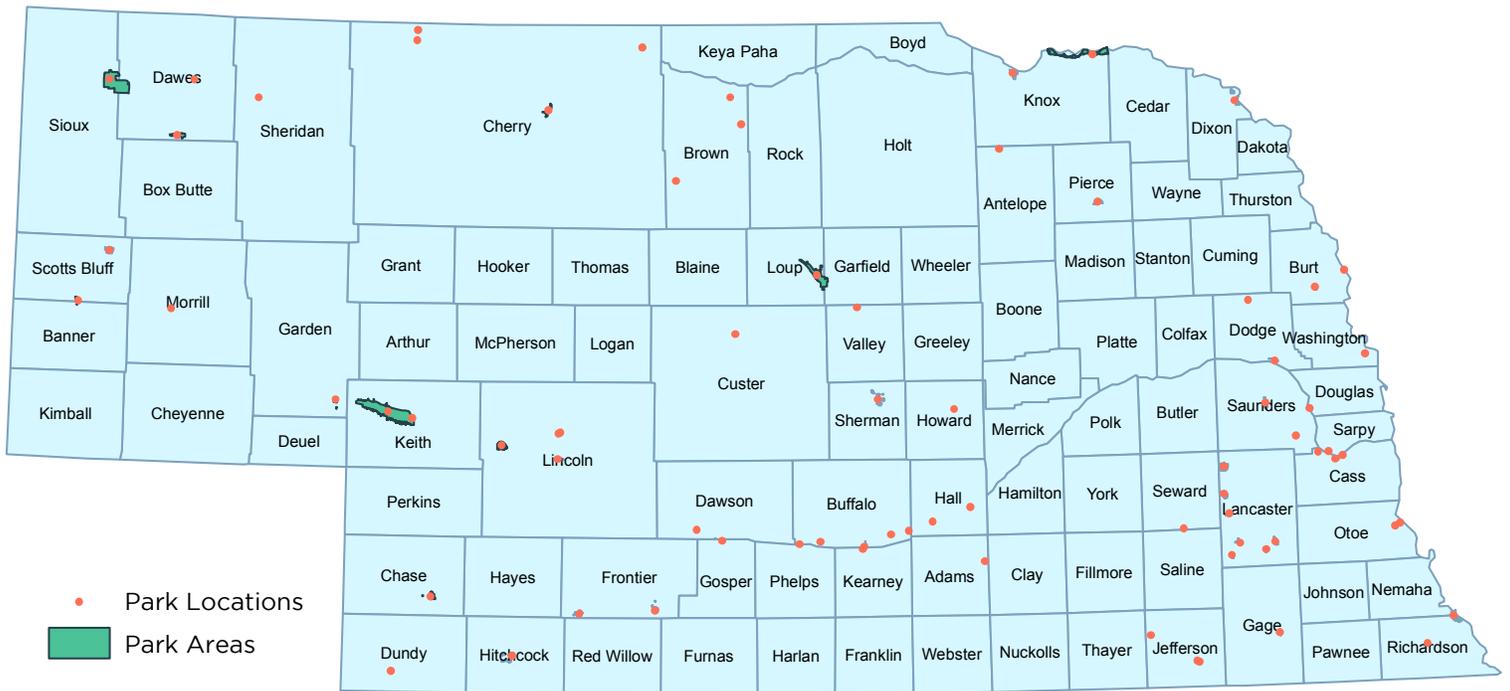
# Game & Parks

*Aaron Ziska, Research Analyst*

With spring winding down and the heat of summer rolling in, it is time to head to the outdoors. Nebraska State Parks offer many options for getting out and getting active. With biking trails, water skiing, fishing, and camping, each park offers different ways to enjoy some fresh air with family and friends. Have a camp fire and roast marshmallows at Olive Creek State Recreation Area (SRA) southwest of Lincoln, try out your sea legs while learning to ski at Lake McConaughy SRA by Ogallala, or learn about the fossils at the AshFall Fossil Bed near Royal. Over 80 park areas available; Nebraska offers a wide range of amenities for visitors ranging from cabin lodging to natural camping areas to pitch a tent. Whether you are a family with young kids looking to make s'mores, or an athlete looking to best your own current trick on the water, there is something for everyone.

An inexpensive get-a-way, a state park permit currently costs \$26 for a full year, or \$5 if you only have time to use a day permit. Both of these permits will gain you entry to each park throughout the state, with a few exceptions requiring additional entry fees over and above the state park permit. These funds help contribute to the maintenance of the parks and educational programs for conservation and stewardship of Nebraska's natural resources.

The Nebraska Game and Parks commission employs over a thousand people during their peak season, in the summer, each providing a service to the visitors, whether it be mowing the grass where you walk, making sure you have running water out of the best hydrants in the nation, or just providing directions to make sure you know where your campsite is; these folks want to make sure you have a great experience. Since the beginning of the Great Recession, the Game and Parks Commission has not fully recovered the losses of employment, even throughout the peak seasons. If you would like to see what areas are served by these employees, on the following page you can see a map of each State park available to the public.



Personally, I enjoy camping at Wagon Train SRA, and Branched Oak Lake, both near Lincoln. Pitch a tent, start a fire, and enjoy a wonderful evening of crickets chirping, wind rustling the cottonwood trees, and let the elements sweep you away to a calmer place. My family and I have spent numerous weekends exploring and enjoying the outdoors of Nebraska, to find new flora and fauna each time, while relaxing and basking in the sun, reading a book, or just whittling a stick.

Are you new to the area, or new to the idea of exploring the state recreational areas? You can talk with your local park ranger, and they will do their best to make sure your questions are answered in a timely manner to ensure that you have as enjoyable experience as possible while observing the parks regulations. Or you can contact the State Game and Parks office in Lincoln.

Perhaps someone you know is interested in serving our fellow Nebraskans with the state Game and Parks. If you are interested in becoming a park ranger or filling any of the other positions within the Commission, you can submit an application at <http://outdoornebraska.ne.gov/admin/jobs/> for any of the current openings. Ranging from accountants to grounds keeping jobs, there are scores of opportunities besides just being a ranger. Most park ranger positions will require a bachelor's degree, as well as on the job training. You will also very likely be subject to an extensive background check. To give you an idea of what one can expect to make as a parks ranger, the median wage for a person employed as a park ranger was \$48,755.20 per year per the Occupational Employment Statistics of the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics. There are approximately 6,640 employed throughout the nation. These figures are not currently available for Nebraska employees due to confidentiality standards, however, according to the Department of Administrative Services of Nebraska, the starting wages for a Game and Parks Conservation Officer is \$20.70 with a maximum hourly rate of \$29.49.

If you would like to find out more about the state parks of Nebraska, visit their website at <http://outdoornebraska.ne.gov/default.asp>. To learn more about game wardens, or any other occupation, contact the Nebraska Department of Labor at [LMI\\_NE@nebraska.gov](mailto:LMI_NE@nebraska.gov) or visit our website at <http://networks.nebraska.gov/analyzer/default.asp>

# world cup

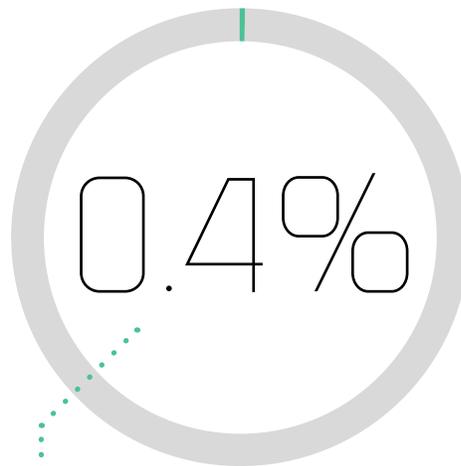
## FAST FACTS

*Ed Jaros, Research Analyst*

The FIFA Men's World Cup tournament began last month in Brazil and will end this month. This event takes place once every four years and features competitors representing dozens of countries playing a game called football. This game, known as soccer throughout the US, features 22 players chasing each other and a 28-inch leather or synthetic ball around a 'pitch' with area of about 2 and 2/3 acres. These matches take about 90 minutes and between 20 and 40 percent of games end in a tie (1). The World Cup takes place in a different country each time it is held.

In this month's Fast Facts, we'll take a look at the World Cup and the way it touches local labor markets where it's hosted.

**71,000** – Combined number of temporary and permanent jobs created by the tournament this year in Brazil, according to Brazilian government estimates.

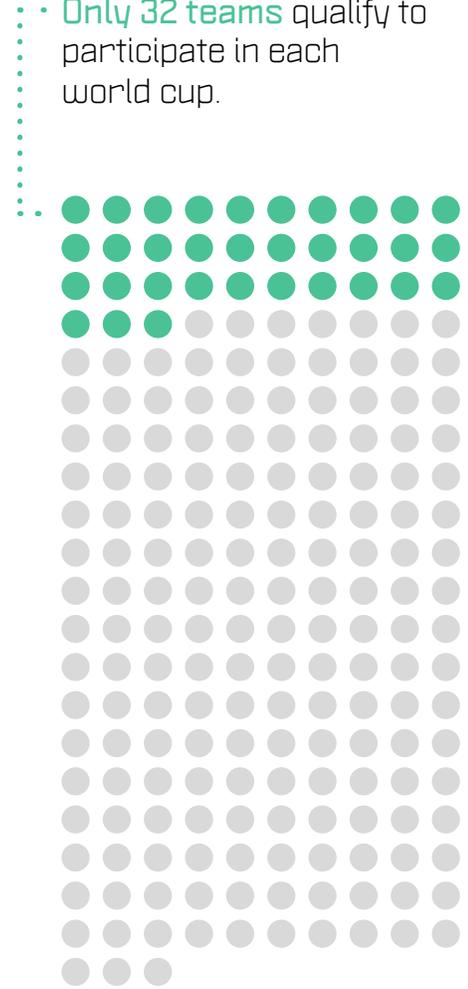


USA's chance of winning the World Cup this year [prior to the tournament beginning] according to ESPN's Nate Silver.

# 203

Number of national teams which attempted to qualify for the 2014 tournament.

• **Only 32 teams** qualify to participate in each world cup.



**\$13,000,000,000+** Expected fan spending during the tournament.

**\$4,500,000,000** Estimated total spending on stadium projects by Brazilian government.

**\$2,000,000,000** Projected profit for FIFA, the tournament's governing body, from this World Cup.

**\$35,000,000** Prize purse awarded to the winning team.

## FIFA

stands for Fédération Internationale de Football Association.

## 3,700,000

Total numbers of tourists expected to visit Brazil for the event.

**Fast Facts Sources:**

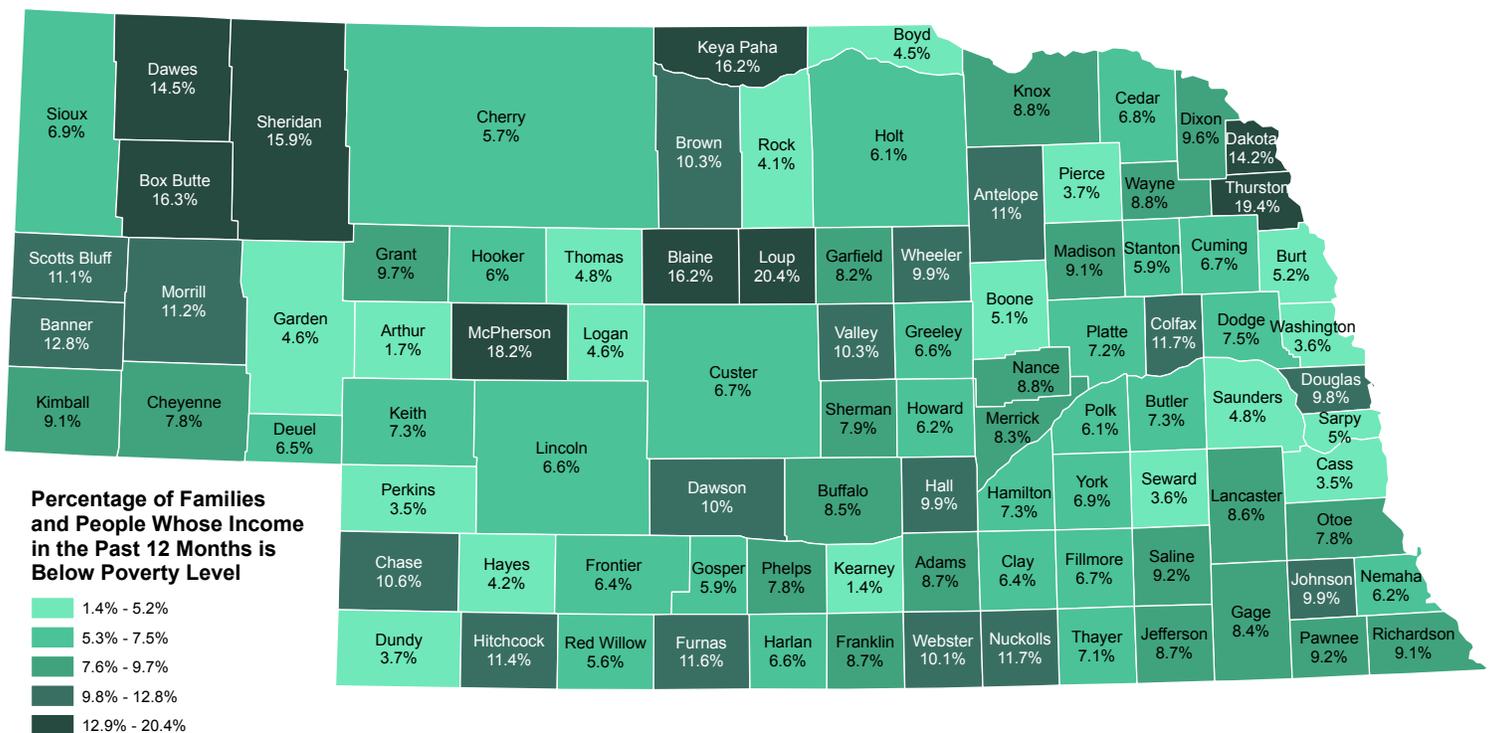
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# MAP FACTS

Kermit Spade, Research Analyst

This map shows the poverty rate by county for the state of Nebraska. Loup, Thurston and McPherson counties have the highest poverty rates in the state. Kearney, Arthur, Cass and Perkins counties have the lowest poverty rates in the state. This data comes from the U.S. Census Bureau, Selected Economic Characteristics.

There are several other interesting indicators in the Selected Economic Characteristics file. Thurston, Scotts Bluff, and Dakota counties had the highest percentage of families receiving Food Stamp/SNAP benefits. Thomas, Boyd, and Keya Paha counties had the lowest. McPherson and Rock counties had the lowest percentages of population in the labor force. Sarpy and Lancaster counties had the highest percentages of population in the labor force.



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, Selected Economic Characteristics 2012 5-year estimates.

# Graduate Outcomes: Mid-Plains Community College

..... *Mary Findlay, Research Analyst* .....

There were 365 Mid-Plains Community College graduates between July 1, 2011 and June 30, 2012. Of these graduates, 241 (66 percent) were working in Nebraska in the first quarter of 2013. This percentage is the same as the previous year. Slightly more than half (53 percent) of the graduates were female. Female graduates (73 percent) were more likely to be working in the state than male graduates (58 percent).

There was at least one graduate employed in 26 of the state's 93 counties. More than half (64 percent) of the graduates worked in Lincoln, Buffalo or Dawson counties, with half of the graduates being employed in Lincoln County.

## Industry Employment and Wages

The health care industry had the highest number (64) of graduates working in the state in the first quarter of 2013, followed by the retail trade industry with 47. These two industries comprised 46 percent of the graduates working in Nebraska and included graduates from all fields of study.

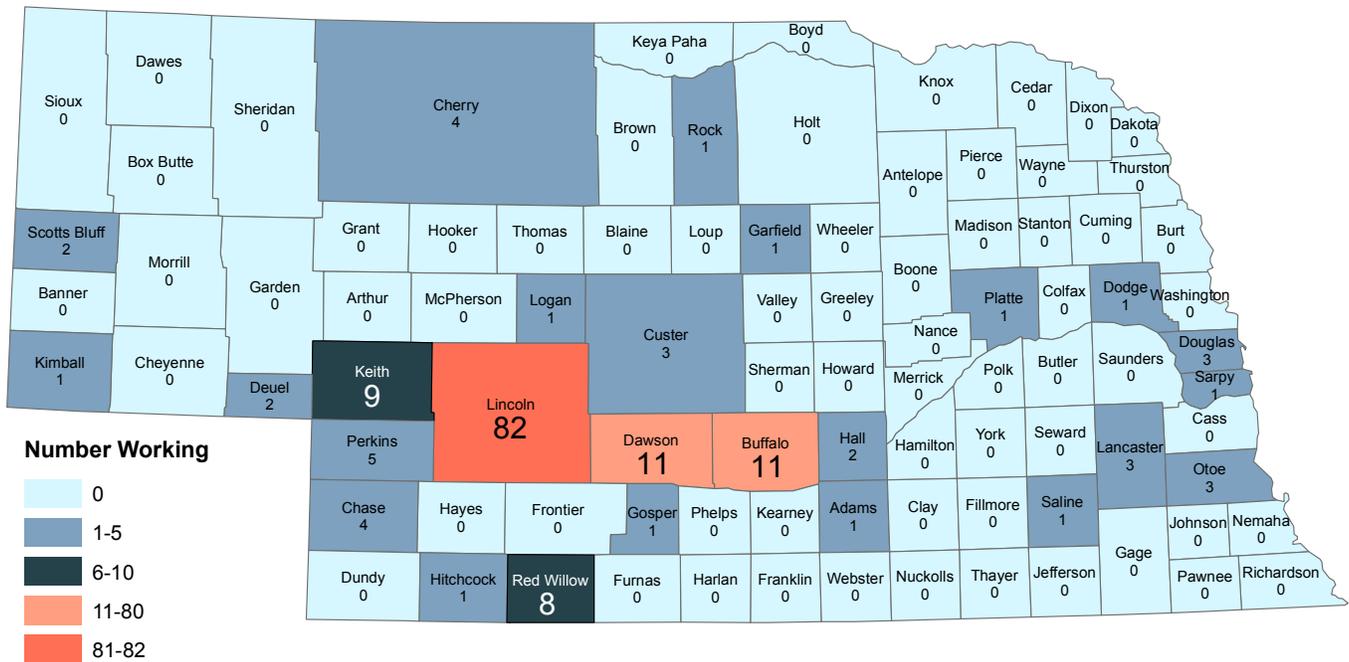
The five graduates employed in the manufacturing industry had the highest estimated average annual wage of \$39,341, followed by the eight graduates employed in public administration with \$33,799.

## Fields of Study, Employment and Wages

There were 19 degrees/fields of study that had 80 percent or more of the graduates working in the state. A total of 102 students graduated from these programs, with 93 working in Nebraska in the first quarter of 2013.

Overall, the highest number (98) 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 62 percent of these graduates were employed in the state within a few months of obtaining their degrees. The second highest number of graduates (23) working in Nebraska were in the associate degree registered nursing field of study. Ninety-six percent of these graduates were working in the state.

## Mid-Plains Community College 2011-2012 Graduates Working in Nebraska in First Quarter 2013

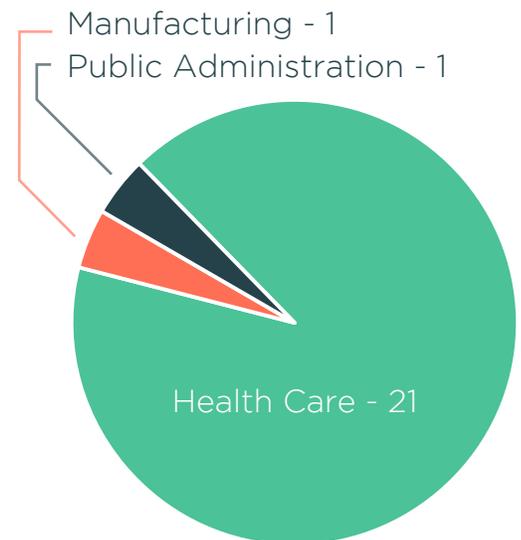


There were five fields of study with a total of 33 graduates working in the state. Their estimated annual average wage was above \$30,000 per year. Three of the five fields of study producing the highest wages were medical fields. Associate degree registered nursing graduates had the highest discloseable average annual wage of \$43,949. This was followed by the four medical laboratory technician associate degree graduates with \$39,899.

### Registered Nursing Graduates

Ninety-one percent of Mid-Plains associate degree nursing graduates were employed in the health care industry, while 4 percent were employed in manufacturing and in public administration. While we do not know the occupations of graduates, we do have information on how nursing occupations are distributed among Nebraska's industries. Statewide, 87 percent of registered nurses are employed in the health care and social assistance industry. About 6 percent of registered nurses are employed in public administration, and 0.2 percent are employed in the manufacturing industry. Therefore, the two graduates not working in the health care industry may still be working in a field related to their education.

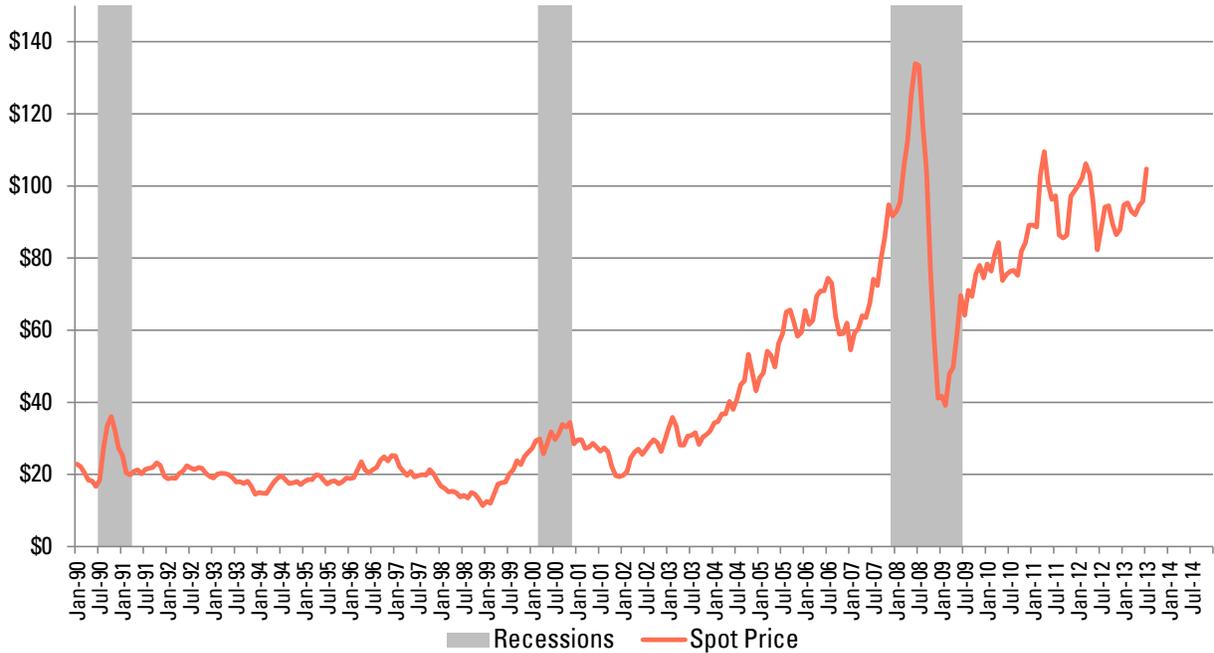
### Employing Industries for Registered Nursing Graduates



For more graduate outcomes information, contact the Nebraska Department of Labor's Office of Labor Market Information 402-471-2600 or [Imi\\_ne@dol.nebraska.gov](mailto:Imi_ne@dol.nebraska.gov).

# 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 Spot Price.

The spot price for a barrel of crude oil is the price paid for immediate delivery 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 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.

To learn more, visit: [http://www.eia.gov/dnav/pet/TblDefs/pet\\_pri\\_spt\\_tbldef2.asp](http://www.eia.gov/dnav/pet/TblDefs/pet_pri_spt_tbldef2.asp)

Change Over Last Quarter/Month				
Metric	Current Time	United States	Midwest Region	Nebraska
Real GDP, billions of chained 2009 dollars	1st Quarter, 2014	-2.9%	-	-
Effective Federal Funds Rate	May, 2014	0.00%	-	-
Balance on the US Current Account, in billions of dollars	1st Quarter, 2014	+27.3%	-	-
Barrel of Crude Oil, WTI-Cushing, Spot Price	April, 2014	+\$1.90	-	-
Employment Cost Index	1st Quarter, 2014	+0.3%	-	-
Producer Price Index: All Commodities	May, 2014	-0.2%	-	-
Average Weekly Manufacturing Hours	May, 2014	+0.2	-	+0.9
House Price Index	1st Quarter, 2014	+0.6%	0.0%	-0.1%
Consumer Price Index, not seasonally	May, 2014	+0.3%	+0.2%	-
Unemployment Rate, seasonally adjusted	May, 2014	0.0%	-0.1%	-0.1%
New Private Housing Units Authorized by Building Permits	May, 2014	-6.4%	+3.8%	-7.7%*
Net Taxable Sales	March, 2014	-	-	+13.9%
Money Stock, M2	May, 2014	+0.7%	-	-
University of Michigan, Consumer Sentiment Index	May, 2014	-2.6%	-	-

\* Data is lagged one month.

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Kermit Spade  
Research Analyst

## Panhandle

### Scottsbluff

- Main Moon Chinese Café
- Daylight Donuts
- Integrated Life Choices
- Putter's Restaurant and Lounge

## Southeast

### Beatrice

- End Zone (bar) now serving food.
- Flint Hill Resources
- J's Pub and Grill

### Hebron

- Palatable Creations

### Tecumseh

- 57 Fitness

### Blue Springs

- G.E. McClure Farms

### Nebraska City

- VF Golden Coffee

### Auburn

- Southeast Design

### Falls City

- Ames True Temper

## OMAHA

### OPENINGS

Northstar  
Michaels –Shadow Lake  
Nebraska Paralegal Services  
PivotDesk  
Noodles & Co.  
Ensemble:A Men's Collection  
Beauty Brands-Papillion  
Mattress Firm  
Girls Inc.  
Premier Family Medicine  
Preasha Logistics –Bellevue  
Togs

### TYPE OF BUSINESS

After-school youth center  
Home décor retail store  
paralegal services  
On-line business space finder  
Restaurant  
Men's clothing store  
Beauty supply store  
Retail mattress store  
Health clinic  
Healthcare  
Logistics & consulting  
Clothing boutique

### JOB #

54  
15  
2  
2  
5  
5  
10  
3  
10  
3  
5  
5

### SOURCE OF INFO

Omaha World Herald  
Omaha.com  
OWH  
OWH  
OWH  
OWH  
OWH  
OWH  
Omaha Chamber of Commerce  
OCC  
OCC

# OMAHA

OPENINGS	TYPE OF BUSINESS	JOB #	SOURCE OF INFO
18/8 Fine Men’s Salon	Barber shop	5	OCC
Emspace Group	Communications consulting	3	OCC
Old Market Signature	Restaurant	5	OCC
Abelardo’s Mexican Food	Restaurant	10	OCC
Combs Communication	Marketing consulting	5	OCC
Brushi	Restaurant	10	OCC
Legacy Eyeware	Healthcare	4	OCC
Arbor Bank	Finance	5	OCC
Canth Award	Trophies and engraving	4	OCC
Curbside Clothing	Custom apparel	3	OCC
Dragon’s Lair	Comic book store	2	OCC
Pinot’s Palette	Painting & wine classes	5	OCC
iRepair Smartphones	Electronics repair	3	OCC
SeekingSitters	Babysitting services	5	OCC
Speciality Finishing	Manufacturer	20	OCC
Home Depot	Home repair store	180	OCC
By The Garden Gate-Papillion	Home décor items	3	OWH
Archetype Coffee	Shop	4	OWH
The Cottages	Rental cottages	2	OWH
Chick-fil-A – 175th	Restaurant	10	OWH
<b>EXPANSIONS</b>			
Kidz Cook with Joy	Cooking classes	0	OCC
OPS – 3 High Schools	Renovation to softball fields	0	OCC
Job Corps	Career assistance	0	OCC
Bellevue Fire Dept.	Full- time fire fighters	21	OCC
Sergeant’s Pet Care Prd.	Distribution center	60	OCC
Offwire	Purchased Brightstar Corp.	45	OWH
CBS Home- Sarpy Co	Real estate	0	OWH
Zurlo’s Bistro Italiano	Restaurant	0	OWH
Harper Center- Creighton Univ.	New Heider College of Business	0	OWH

**523** Jobs in the Omaha area

# OCCUPATIONAL PROFILE: BARTENDERS

*Ed Jaros, Research Analyst*

The Nebraska Department of Labor Office of Labor Market Information Occupational Employment Statistics Unit estimated that in the first quarter of 2014 there were 4,820 people employed as bartenders in the state of Nebraska. These people earned a median hourly wage of \$8.65. However, bartenders often have their wage supplemented by tips from patrons, and tips often evade detection in the Occupational Employment Statistics Survey.

The US Bureau of Labor Statistics identifies the following as important qualities for bartenders:

- **Communication skills.** Bartenders must listen carefully to their customers' orders, explain drink and food items, and make menu recommendations. They also should be able to converse with customers on a variety of subjects, to create a friendly and welcoming environment at a bar.
- **Customer-service skills.** Because establishments that serve alcohol rely on retaining current customers and attracting new ones, bartenders should have good customer-service skills to ensure repeat business.
- **Decision-making skills.** Because of the legal issues that come with serving alcohol, bartenders must be able to make good decisions. For example, they should be able to detect intoxicated customers and deny further service to those individuals.
- **Interpersonal skills.** Bartenders should be friendly, tactful, and attentive when dealing with customers.
- **Physical stamina.** Bartenders spend hours on their feet preparing drinks, serving customers, and sometimes lifting and carrying heavy cases of liquor, beer, and other bar supplies.

In 2010, the Nebraska Department of Labor Office of Labor Market information identified the top 5 industries employing bartenders:

Industry Title	Number Employed	Percentage of Total Bartenders
Food Services & Drinking Places	3,640	66.30%
Religious, Grantmaking, Civic & Professional Organizations	1,144	20.90%
Amusement, Gambling, and Recreation Industries	381	6.90%
Accommodation	150	2.70%
Performing Arts, Spectator Sports, and Related Industries	59	1.10%



Bartending can be a challenging occupation in multiple ways. During busy hours, bartenders must work quickly and efficiently to fill drink orders. Additionally, bartenders are legally forbidden from over-serving inebriated customers. This means that they must tactfully refuse intoxicated customers and possibly take further action, like summoning law enforcement or a taxi, to ensure the safety of all patrons.

A plurality (35.59 percent) of survey respondents in a study of employers indicated that they require a high school diploma or equivalent level of education of the bartenders they hire. Another large group (32.08 percent) indicated that they required some college courses. About one in five (20.92 percent) said that they did not require a high school diploma. Most bartenders have their education supplemented by about one month of on-the-job training.

**Sources:**

1. Nebraska Department of Labor Office of Labor Market Information. Occupational Details: Bartenders. NEworks. [Online] Geographic Solutions, Inc. . [Cited: June 27, 2014.] <https://networks.nebraska.gov/analyzer>.
2. Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor. Occupational Outlook Handbook, 2014-15 Edition, Bartenders,. bls.gov. [Online] January 8, 2014. [Cited: June 27, 2014.] <http://www.bls.gov/ooh/food-preparation-and-serving/bartenders.htm>. Photo by Ann Larie Valentine used under the Creative Commons Attribution-Share Alike 2.0 Generic license. Photo by Bart Everson used under the Creative Commons Attribution 2.0 Generic license.

# MAY UNEMPLOYMENT DATA

Byron Lefler, Research Analyst

## LINCOLN MSA (not seasonally adjusted)

May Unemployment rate: 3.1%

May Total Non-farm: 188,033

Manufacturing: 13,832

Largest OTM Increases:

Leisure and Hospitality: 1,292 (8.0%)

Government: 1,251 (3.1%)

## OMAHA MSA (not seasonally adjusted)

May Unemployment rate: 3.8%

May Total Non-farm: 486,152

Manufacturing: 32,516

Largest OTM Increases:

Leisure and Hospitality: 2,426 (5.3%)

Trade, Transportation, & Utilities: 1,172 (1.2%)

## NEBRASKA

May Total Non-farm: 996,419

Manufacturing: 96,706

Nebraska (smoothed seasonally adjusted)

May Unemployment rate: 3.6%

Change (OTM): -0.1%

Change (OTY): -0.4%

Economic Regions (not seasonally adjusted)

Central: 2.9%

Grand Island: 3.1%

Mid Plains: 3.1%

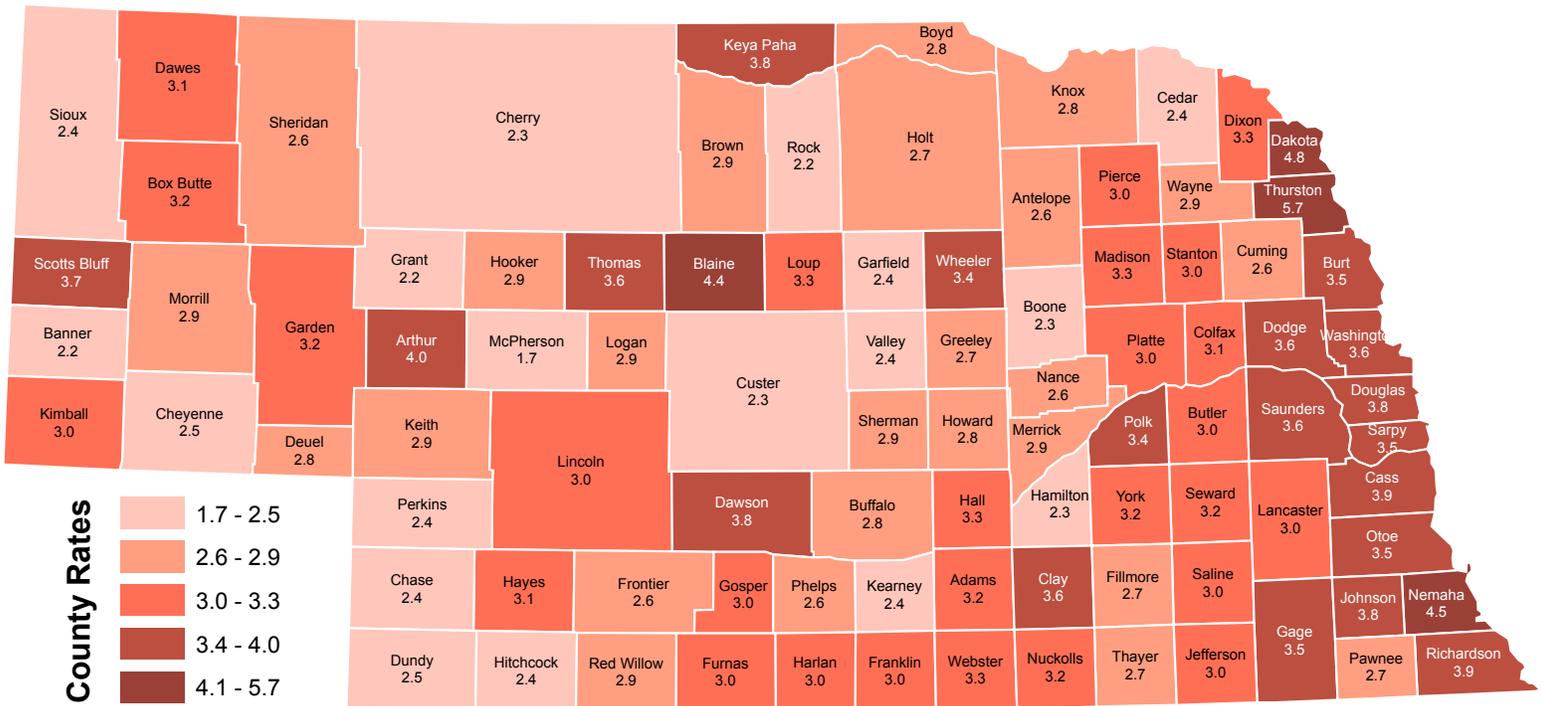
Northeast: 3.3%

Panhandle: 3.2%

Sand Hills: 2.6%

Southeast: 3.3%

## May 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 WORKFORCE TRENDS

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Office of Labor Market Information  
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