

Nebraska Workforce

Trends

June 2013

The Foreign-born Population of Nebraska

Historical Unemployment

Areas of Substantial Unemployment (ASU) for 2013

**Grand Island
MSA**



DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

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Feature Story

Areas of Substantial Unemployment (ASU) for 2013

Lenora Castillo, Research Analyst II

For the 2013 program year, 38 states, the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico qualified as Areas of Substantial Unemployment (ASU). The remaining 12 states that did not qualify had to conduct an ASU search for the program year that ran from July of 2011 through June of 2012. Nebraska was one of those states.

At the end of the 2013 search, Nebraska was able to qualify eight ASUs:

1. Omaha/Douglas ASU
2. Lincoln/Lancaster/Beatrice MC (Micropolitan Statistical Area) ASU
3. Northeast Nebraska ASU
4. East Nebraska ASU
5. Scottsbluff County ASU
6. Southeast Nebraska ASU
7. Dawson County ASU
8. Grand Island/Hall County ASU

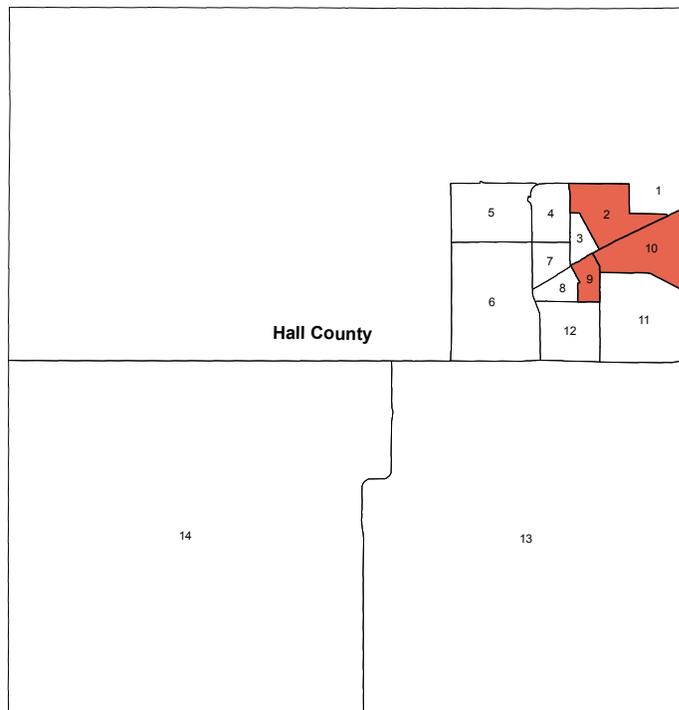
Since Nebraska's cities, counties and other areas did not qualify in their entirety, census tracts were used to create the ASUs listed above. The Northeast ASU includes tracts in Dakota, Thurston, Burt, Washington, and Dodge Counties. East Nebraska ASU includes tracts in Sarpy and Cass and Southeast Nebraska ASU includes tracts in Nemaha and Richardson counties.

Requirements for Designating ASUs

To qualify as a whole ASU, the area or combination of areas must meet three requirements for the reference period:

1. A 12-month average unemployment rate of at least 6.5 percent or higher
2. Population of at least 10,000 persons according to Census Bureau figures
3. Must be a contiguous geographic area, which means that two areas must touch at least at one point, be separated by a body of water such as a river or lake, or be directly across a body of water from one another (see examples). An ASU can include a combination of cities, counties, balance of counties, census tracts or other areas within a state.

Grand Island - Hall County ASU



Above are contiguous census tracts for Grand Island, Hall County. ASUs are shaded in red.

The 6.5 percent average unemployment rate is a requirement for the whole ASU, not for the individual areas. This means that not all of Nebraska's census tracts that make up an ASU have a 6.5 percent average unemployment rate. Some low unemployment census tracts may be selected to boost total population or to connect a high unemployment tract to the ASU. Tracts are omitted when they cause the whole ASU to fail one of the requirements listed above.

ASU Unemployment

During the recession that ended in the first quarter of 2009, total unemployment for all of Nebraska's ASUs was well below 6,000. It wasn't until 2011 when the recession finally had an impact on ASUs. In 2011, total average unemployment for

Nebraska's ASUs reached a high of 24,845. Unemployment dropped to 20,968 in 2012 and for 2013, unemployment is down to 17,996.

ASU Approval and Funding

Once the ASU search is complete, states submit the data and maps for BLS approval. The decision to qualify areas as ASUs is then made by the Employment and Training Administration (ETA) and ETA establishes funding levels. Once awarded, these funds are distributed to states for Adult and Youth Program activities of the Workforce Investment Act.

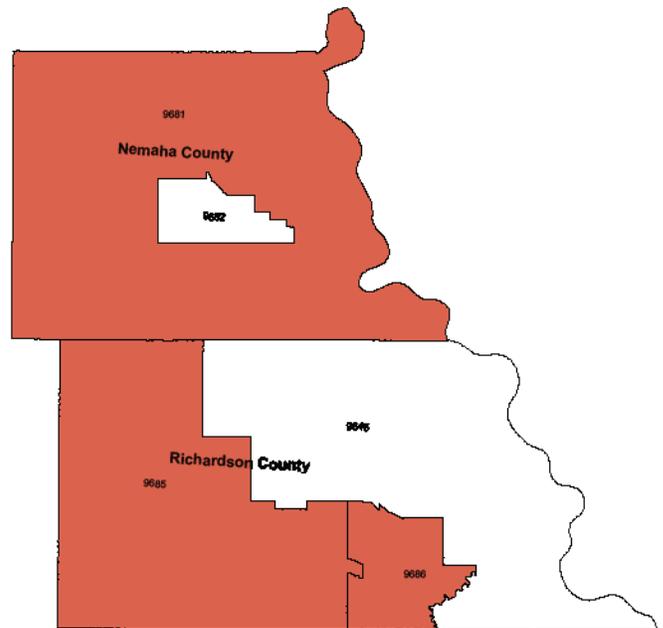
While the areas that qualify as ASUs indicate whether one or more of the Workforce Investment Areas (Lincoln, Omaha or Greater Nebraska) will get a share of the funds awarded, funding is based on the ASU's total unemployment. The next ASU search for the 2014 program year has not been announced but should start around October 2013.

Want more information on ASUs?

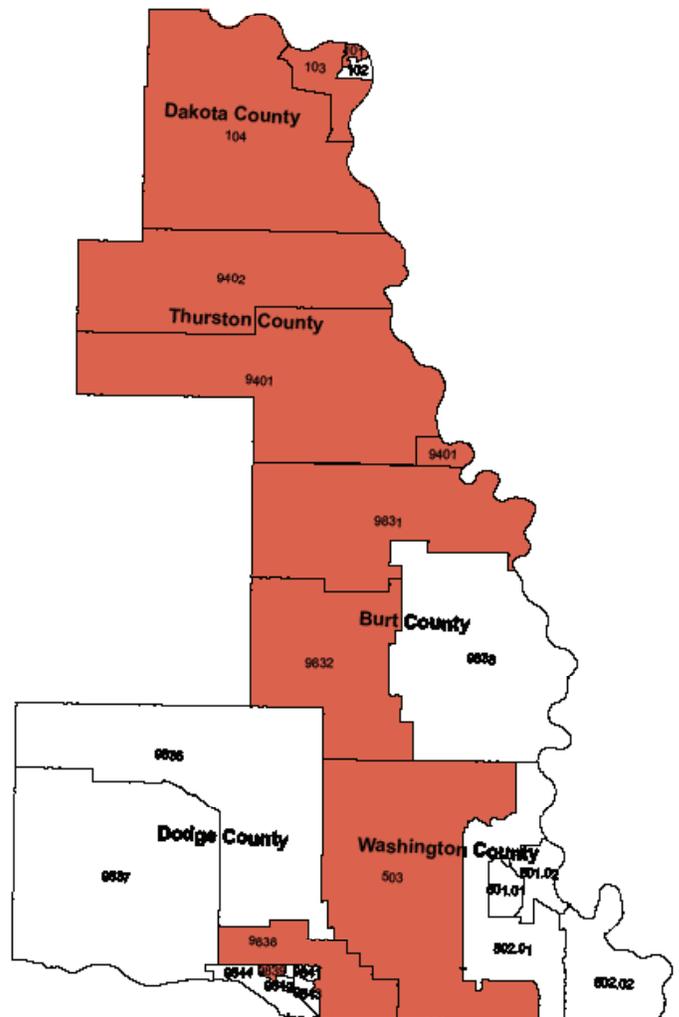
If you have questions, need maps (available as a pdf) and/or a list of census tracts for any of the eight ASUs for 2013, contact Lenora Castillo, Research Analyst II at 402-471-9841 or email your request to lenora.castillo@nebraska.gov.

The following maps are contiguous census tracts for Northeast, Southeast and East Nebraska. ASUs are again shaded in red.

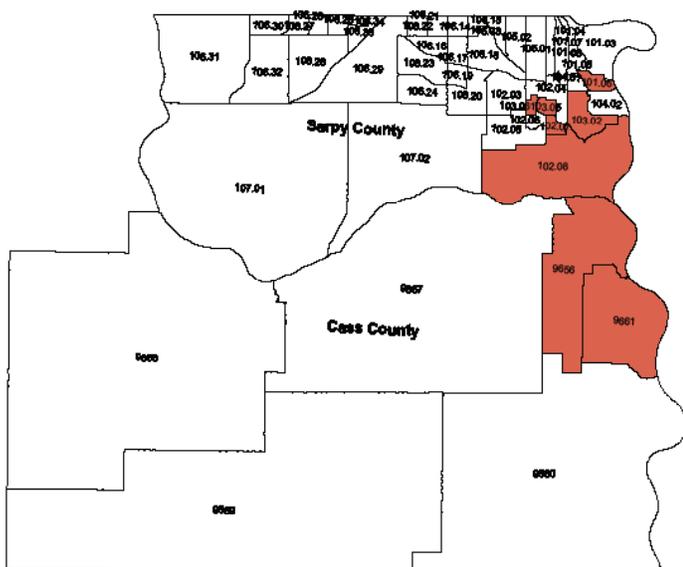
Southeast Nebraska ASU



Northeast Nebraska ASU



East Nebraska ASU



Feature Story

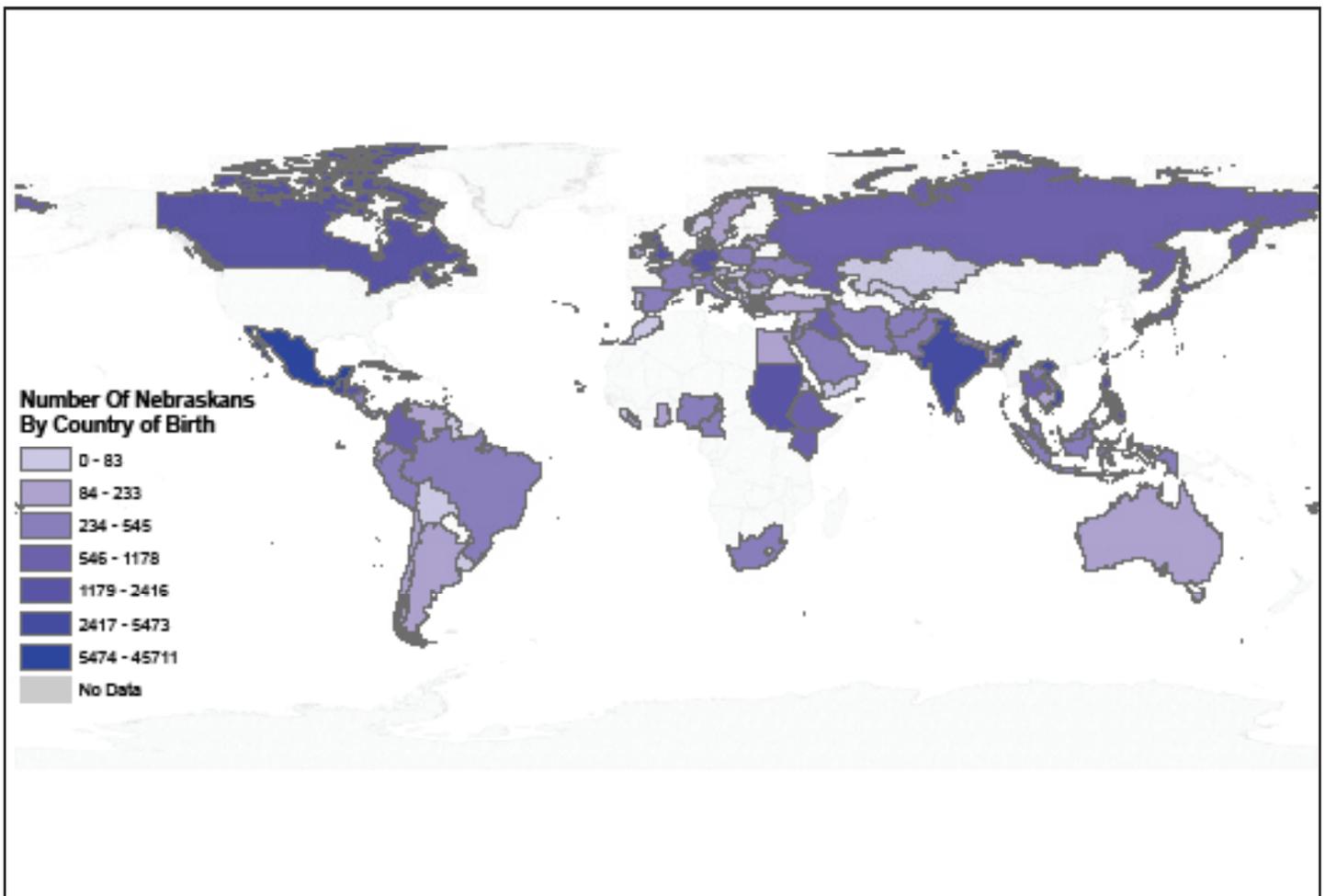
The Foreign-born Population of Nebraska

Nisha Avey, Research Analyst

Nebraska, like the rest of the United States, is a melting pot of citizens and non-citizens from all over the world. The foreign-born population of Nebraska consists of approximately 109,472 residents according to the 2007-2011 American Community Survey 5-year estimates. These estimates describe the 5-year time period as a whole, and while they're not particular to any one year, they are made very accurate by the inclusion of several years' worth of survey responses. This 5-year period is the most current data available with such accuracy. With 1,826,341 total

residents, the 109,472 foreign-born population comprises approximately six percent of Nebraska.

Almost 53 percent (57,765) of Nebraska's foreign-born residents come from Central America, with 79 percent of those, or 45,711 resident immigrants, from Mexico. That means over 41 percent of Nebraska's total foreign-born population comes from Mexico. Guatemala and El Salvador contribute the third and fourth-highest number of foreign-born residents, 5,428 and 4,542, respectively.



Asia also contributes a large number of residents to Nebraska with 27,090. The country contributing the second highest number of foreign-born residents to Nebraska is Vietnam, with 5,473. India comes in with 4,135 immigrants and China with 3,214. Other countries of interest are the Philippines with 2,416, Thailand with 1,148, and Japan with 1,028.

Immigrants from Europe total 9,431, with Germany the number one contributor at 2,229. There are approximately 1,643 people from the United Kingdom living in Nebraska. The rest of Europe does not contribute large numbers of Nebraska residents.

Approximately 8,837 Nebraska foreign-born residents were born in Africa. The largest number of foreign-born residents from Africa come from Sudan, 2,038.

Migration occurs for a variety of reasons, but one case of particular interest is refugee migration. The US State Department's Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration characterizes a refugee as "someone who has fled from his or her home country and cannot return because he or she has a well-founded fear of persecution based on religion, race, nationality, political opinion or membership in a particular social group." This Bureau, in conjunction with a variety of Federal and State/Local agencies, the United Nations and even private citizens, work to admit some of these persecuted and uprooted peoples into the United States (1). Since October of 2012, 432 refugees have been welcomed to Nebraska through this channel, which was 1.23 percent of the national total for that time period. The most common countries of origin for these refugees were Thailand (212 refugees into Nebraska, 50.1 percent of US total Thai refugees) and Nepal (110 refugees into Nebraska, 26.0 percent of US total Nepalese refugees) (2).

Sources:

1. Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration, US Department of State. Refugee Admissions. <http://www.state.gov/j/prm/ra/index.htm>.
2. —. Arrivals By State and Country Location. 2013. Vol. April 15.
3. United States Census Bureau. 2007-2011 American Community Survey. <http://factfinder2.census.gov>.

Top 20 Places of Birth for Foreign Born Nebraskans	
Country	Estimate
Mexico	45711
Vietnam	5473
Guatemala	5428
El Salvador	4542
India	4135
China	3872
Korea	2424
Philippines	2416
Germany	2229
Sudan	2038
United Kingdom	1643
Other Eastern Africa	1583
Canada	1570
Honduras	1420
Iraq	1178
Thailand	1148
Japan	1028
Colombia	903
Ethiopia	845
Cuba	837

Map Facts

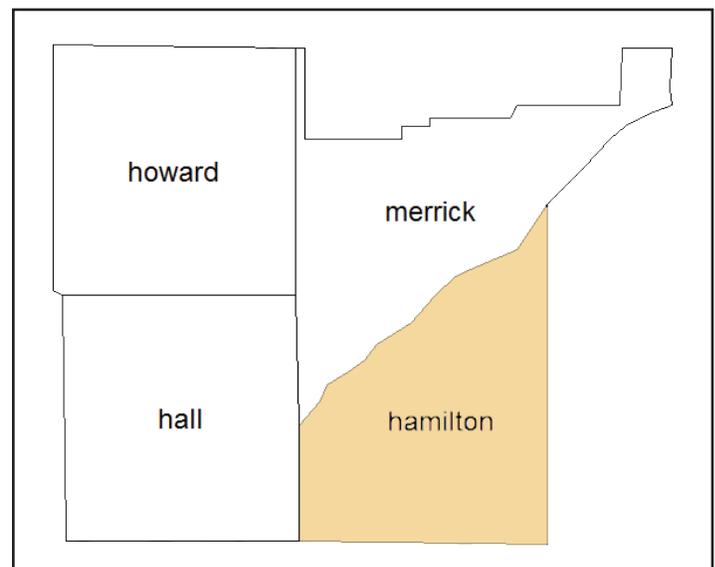
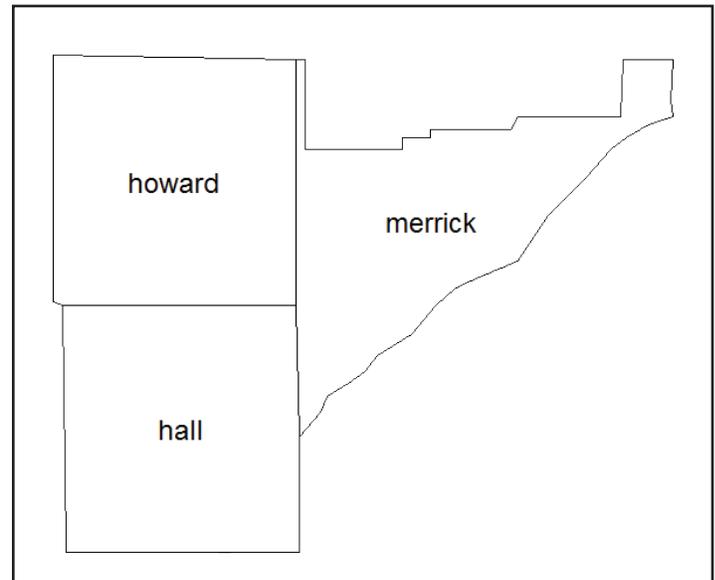
Grand Island MSA

Ed Jaros, Research Analyst

Physical geography is not static. Erosion, tectonic activity and many other types of change reform the earth constantly, if often quietly. Analogously, the political geography we employ to describe America is not static. Migration, birth rates, annexation and other types of change make constant refinement of our geographic definitions necessary. One recent refinement was the reclassification of the Grand Island *Micropolitan* statistical area into the Grand Island *Metropolitan* statistical area.

On February 28, 2013, the Office of Management and Budget announced this reclassification. The previous Micropolitan area, comprising Hall, Howard and Merrick Counties, was combined with Hamilton County to the east to form the new Metropolitan area.

In some ways, this change is a subtle one. Metro and Micro areas are distinguished by degree, not kind. From a labor market perspective the resultant shifts are marginal. Hamilton county has a slightly older population with slightly higher labor force participation and lower unemployment than the Grand Island Micropolitan statistical community. All of these differences are common of a general comparison of more rural counties in Nebraska to more urban ones. In this way, the geologic analogy holds. The change from Micropolitan to Metropolitan classification is gradual and slight, but representative of much larger trends. America is aging, engaging in an increasingly service-based economy, and urbanizing, even in central Nebraska.



	Micropolitan Statistical Area	Metropolitan Statistical Area
Population	71,814	80,949
Median Age	36.8 years	37.4 Years
Labor Force	39,745	44,764
Employment	37,625	42,470
Unemployment Rate	3.90%	3.70%
Per Capita Income	\$23,372	\$23,622
Mean Commute Time	15.9 minutes	16.1 minutes

Source:

1. United States Census Bureau. 2011 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates. <http://factfinder2.census.gov>.

Fast Facts

Historical Unemployment

Ed Jaros, Research Analyst

Since the financial meltdown of 2008, unemployment has been discussed constantly in a variety of forums. This month's Fast Facts article attempts to provide some historical context for that ongoing discussion.

Displayed below is a chart with employment, unemployment and the unemployment rate for each year from 1947 to 2012. A cursory examination of this chart will reveal generally consistent growth in employment and civilian labor force and high variation in the unemployment rate.

While the highest recorded annual average unemployment rate occurred in 1983 (9.69 percent) 2009, 2010, and 2011 ranked as the second, fourth, and fifth highest averages respectively (1982 ranks third).

The years 2008, 2009, and 2010 account for 3 of the 11 years in the period studied in which the civilian labor force shrank relative to the previous year. These years represent the only portion of the period studied in which this sort of shrinkage happened in consecutive years.

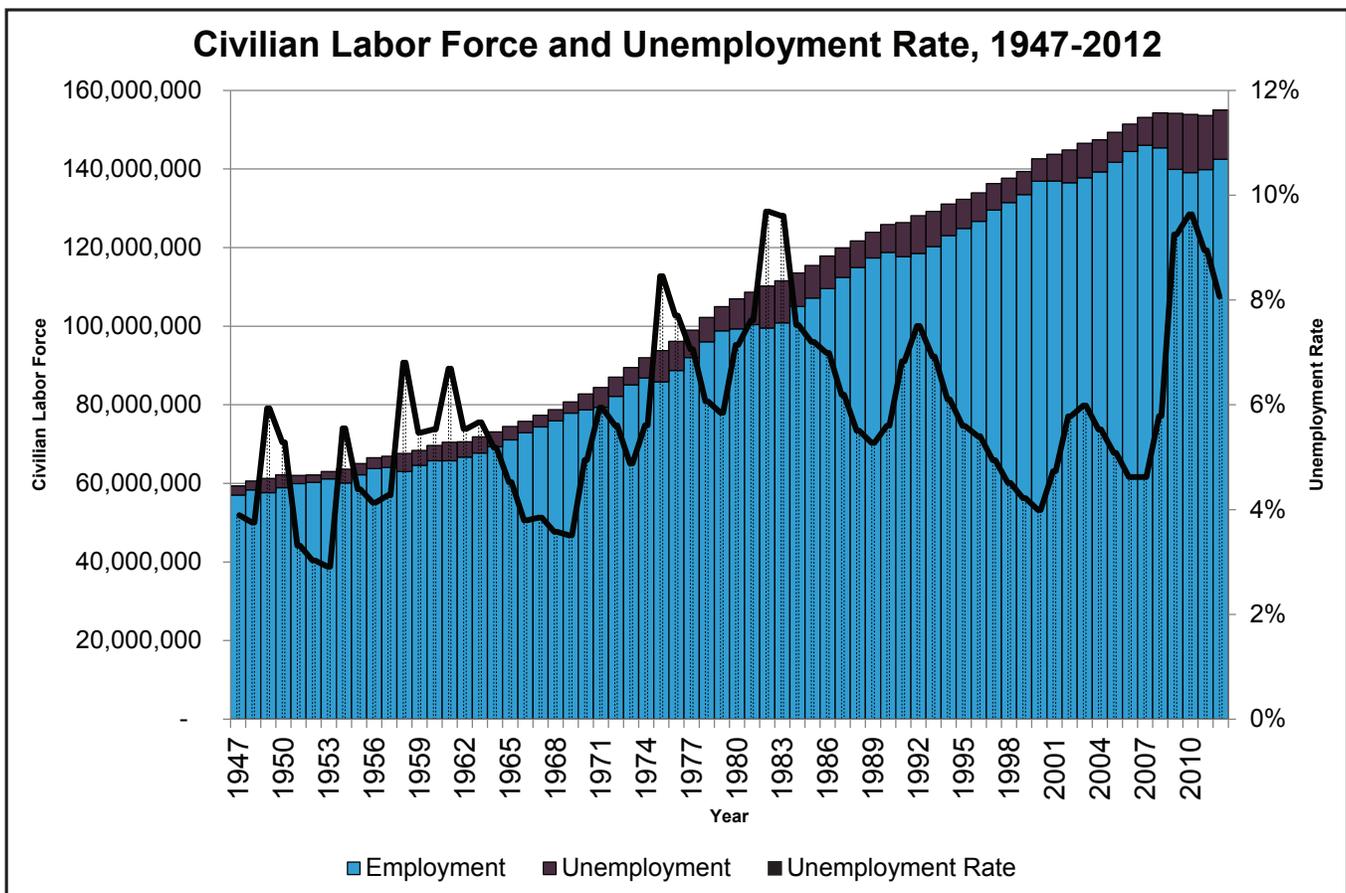
The largest percentage growth in civilian labor force in a

given year occurred in 1978, when the labor force grew to 104.38 percent of the 1977 level. The largest percentage shrinkage in civilian labor force occurred in 2009, when the civilian labor force shrank to 96.23 percent of 2008 levels.

The largest jumps in the unemployment rate occurred in 1984 and 2009. In 1984, the unemployment rate fell from a 9.61 percent average in the previous year to a 7.52 percent annual average. In 2009, the unemployment rate ballooned from a 5.78 percent average in the previous year to a 9.25 percent annual average.

This quick look illustrates the severity of the great recession's impact on the labor market. The past 5 years have been historically bad for the American worker. More data on unemployment can be found at the Bureau of Labor Statistics website's Current Population Survey Page www.bls.gov/cps.

Data is available by month since 1948, and can be broken down into a variety of demographic and other categories. Data for this report come from series LNU01000000, LNU02000000 and LNU03000000, retrieved from the aforementioned website on February 20, 2013.



Flash Forward

Lincoln MSA: Future Industry & Occupational Employment Trends

Jodie Meyer, Research Analyst

This month marks the second in a series of articles in *Flash Forward* highlighting Nebraska's economic regions. Next up is the Lincoln Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA). This region consists of the Nebraska counties of Lancaster and Seward.

Industry Projections

Projected industry growth of 19,806 jobs is expected in the Lincoln MSA by 2020 according to Industry Employment Projections, an increase of 11.4 percent over the 10-year period. Most industry employment in 2010 was in the Education and Health Services super-sector, which employed a quarter of the region's workers, a total of 44,036. This industry is also expected to experience the highest net change in employment by 2020, adding 6,503 jobs, a change of 14.8 percent.

The Information industry super-sector employed the least number of workers in 2010, only accounting for 1.3 percent (2,229 jobs) of the employment in this region, and is expected to increase slightly by 1.4 percent (32 jobs). At 22.7 percent, Construction is expected to be the fastest-growing industry super-sector by percent change, adding 1,622 jobs. The only projected decline is in the Natural Resources and Mining super-sector, expected to decline marginally by 1.6 percent and lose 48 jobs.

Three of the top five growth industries from 2010-2020 (by numeric change in jobs) are projected to be in the Education and Health Services super-sector: Educational Services (Private, State, and Local), Ambulatory Health Care Services, and Nursing and Residential Care Facilities. Much of the growth in healthcare can be attributed to the aging population of Nebraska. As the population ages it creates a

greater need for healthcare, which in turn creates a demand for workers in this industry. In addition, the Education and Healthcare industry has many workers that are nearing retirement age, also creating a greater demand for workers to fill these vacancies in the workforce.

Industries with the Greatest Numeric Changes in Employment 2010-2020					
	Industry Title	2010 Estimated Employment	2020 Projected Employment	Numeric Change	% Change
Growing	Educational Services (including state and local gov)	20,652	22,637	1,985	9.6%
	Ambulatory Health Care Services	7,025	8,933	1,908	27.2%
	Nursing and Residential Care Facilities	5,268	6,380	1,112	21.1%
	Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services	8,356	9,302	946	11.3%
	Administrative and Support Services	6,687	7,506	819	12.3%
Declining	Postal Service	625	452	-173	-27.7%
	Printing and Related Support Activities	531	397	-134	-25.2%
	Livestock Production	1,445	1,385	-60	-4.2%
	Crop Production	1,134	1,088	-46	-4.1%
	Telecommunications	762	734	-28	-3.7%

When examining the five industries expected to experience the greatest amount of decline (by numeric change in jobs) the Postal Service is expected to lose the most jobs (173, 27.7 percent) by 2020. The agricultural-related industries of Livestock and Crop Production are expected to lose a combined 106 jobs in the 10-year time frame. Only a total of 12 industries are expected to decline by 2020 and most are only expected to experience slight declines. In addition to the projected Postal Service decline, the other significant decrease is expected in Printing and Related Support Activities, with a decrease of 25.2 percent, a decline of 134 jobs.

Occupational Projections

There is expected to be occupational growth in the Lincoln MSA according to the 2010-2020 Occupational Projections. The total projected numeric employment change over the 10-year period is 20,417, an 11 percent increase. A total of 64,585 job openings are expected in the Lincoln MSA from 2010-2020, with 21,096 jobs expected from growth and 43,489 from replacements. Replacement openings account for 67.3

percent of all job openings. This mirrors the statewide trend and can in part be attributed to the high number of Nebraska workers reaching retirement age within the next 10 years.

In 2010, Office and Administrative Support occupations employed 32,618, making it the largest occupational category in the Lincoln MSA, and accounting for 17.5 percent of the region's occupational employment.

The largest net change in employment is also expected to occur in Office and Administrative occupations, where 2,295 jobs are projected to be added by 2020, an increase of seven percent. Transportation and Material Moving Occupations are also expected to add several jobs to the region, with an expected increase of 2,263 jobs, a 15.1 percent increase. Healthcare Support Occupations is the fastest growing occupational category by percent change, projected to increase by 20.5 percent and add 930 jobs.

Legal occupations employed the fewest workers in 2010, only employing 1,180 or 0.6 percent of the region's occupational employment. Legal occupations are also expected to add the smallest number of jobs, only 37 in the 10-year period, a 3.1 percent increase. Only one occupational category is expecting a decline, Farming, Fishing and Forestry occupations by 26 jobs, a decrease of 1.3 percent.

The highest number of total job openings is expected in Office and Administrative Support occupations, with 9,556 total openings; 2,619 from job growth and 6,937 from replacements. The lowest number of openings is projected for Legal occupations, with only 249 openings expected; 41 from growth and 208 from replacements.

The occupational group with the largest percentage of openings coming from replacements is Farming, Fishing, and Forestry occupations with 95.9 percent (607) of the 633 total openings expected to be due to replacements. The largest percentage of total openings attributed to growth

is projected in Healthcare Support occupations, where 59 percent (932) of the 1,581 total openings are projected to be from growth.

Ranking occupations by numeric change from 2010 to 2020, Registered Nurses top the list with an expected 590 jobs added. Office Clerks, General, and Customer Service Representatives are also on the list of top occupations in the region. Combined, these two occupations are projected to add 906 jobs to the Lincoln MSA. The projected increase is not too surprising given that the Office and Administrative Support occupational category as a whole is forecast to add the most jobs to the region.

Postal Service Mail Sorters, Processors, and Processing Machine Operators are expected to lose the most jobs from 2010-2020, with a projected loss of 76 positions, a 48.4 percent decrease. A second occupation related to the Post Office is on the list of declining occupations. Postal Service Mail Carriers are expected to lose 34 jobs in the 10-year time frame, an 11.6 percent decrease.

Combined Food Preparation and Serving Workers, Including Fast Food, is one of the occupations adding the most jobs to the Lincoln MSA by 2020. Interestingly, the similar occupation of Fast Food Cooks is one of the occupations expecting the most decline, with a projected loss of 59 jobs, a decrease of 5.8 percent. One reason for this is a shifting of job responsibilities of Fast Food Cooks to include serving-related activities. This results in the increase of one occupation and the decrease in another as the workers are reclassified into a new occupational category.

A publication with more detail on both occupational and industry projections is published online at dol.nebraska.gov. Look for additional articles spotlighting projections in upcoming issues of Nebraska Workforce Trends.

Occupations with the Greatest Numeric Changes in Employment 2010-2020								
SOC Title	2010	2020	Growth Openings	Replacement Openings	Total Openings	Numeric Change	% Change	
	Estimated Employment	Projected Employment						
Growing	Registered Nurses	3,996	4,586	590	723	1,313	590	14.8%
	Retail Salespersons	5,504	6,031	527	1,617	2,144	527	9.6%
	Office Clerks, General	4,963	5,487	524	878	1,402	524	10.6%
	Customer Service Representatives	3,073	3,455	382	873	1,255	382	12.4%
	Combined Food Preparation and Serving Workers, Including Fast Food	3,266	3,639	373	912	1,285	373	11.4%
Declining	Postal Service Mail Sorters, Processors, and Processing Machine Operators	157	81	0	8	8	-76	-48.4%
	Cooks, Fast Food	1,012	953	0	216	216	-59	-5.8%
	Computer Operators	430	384	0	41	41	-46	-10.7%
	Farmworkers and Laborers, Crop, Nursery, and Greenhouse	1,227	1,187	0	374	374	-40	-3.3%
	Postal Service Mail Carriers	292	258	0	95	95	-34	-11.6%

Occupational Profile

Tile and Marble Setters

Ed Jaros, Research Analyst

Underfoot, behind the sink, or along the wall, tile can be overlooked in indoor environments because it's so very common. However, to be a successful tile and marble setter requires several uncommon talents. Those who have attempted applying tile to surfaces in their own home have an idea how far from simple the task is. The Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) elaborates on the steps typical of the tile setting process (1):

Tile and marble setters typically do the following:

- Clean and level the surface to be tiled
- Measure and cut tile and marble
- Arrange tiles according to the design plans
- Prepare and apply mortar or other adhesives
- Install tile and marble in the planned area
- Apply grout with a rubber trowel
- Wipe off excess grout and apply necessary finishes, such as sealants

Few surfaces in this world, manmade or natural, are level. Few rooms measure exactly some even number of tiles in any dimension. Mortar and grout are inherently messy substances which must be applied with surgical cleanliness. Tile and marble setters must have strong backs, steady hands, a certain orderly neatness, and impeccable spatial reasoning. Again, the BLS elaborates, here on the qualities which a Tile and Marble setter needs (1):

- Color vision. Setting tile patterns involves determining small color variations. Because tile patterns often include many different colors, tile setters must be able to distinguish between colors and patterns for the best looking finish.
- Customer-service skills. Working in customers' homes is common. Therefore, tile and marble setters must be courteous and considerate of a customers' property while completing tasks.
- Attention to detail. Some tile arrangements can be highly detailed and artistic, so workers must ensure that the patterns are properly and accurately arranged.
- Math skills. Basic math skills are used on every job. Besides measuring the area to be tiled, installers must calculate the number of tiles needed to cover an area.
- Physical strength. Some marble setters need to be strong enough to carry and lift heavy marble countertops into position.
- Stamina. Tile and marble setters must have the endurance to spend many hours on their feet. When setting tile or marble, installers also may be on their knees for hours at a time.

The tile and marble setter occupation is hardly an alien one; it



fits the familiar mold of many construction and other skilled-trade occupations. However, several of its attributes combine to make it uncommonly difficult to measure and describe using the Department of Labor's normal instruments.

The training tile and marble setters undergo to gain or enhance these qualities does not typically occur in a formal context. While some workers in this field participate in structured apprenticeships (sometimes as part of obtaining an associates degree), most are simply trained on the job. After learning the trade, many tile and marble setters go into business on their own; about half of the Americans who choose this profession are self-employed.

The Occupational Employment Statistics Program (OES), BLS's primary apparatus for studying careers, is not designed to capture earnings and employment of self-employed persons well (2). This makes an accurate general assessment of marble and tile setters' incomes difficult. For those tile and marble setters who are wage earners, the Nebraska Department of Labor Fourth Quarter OES program estimates indicate a median annual wage of \$35,500. The 33rd and 66th percentile wage figures were \$21,336 and \$42,350 respectively (3). The most recent published employment count estimate for this occupation in Nebraska was 110. The estimate comes from second quarter 2012 (4). The Nebraska Department of Labor Office of Labor market Information Long Term Occupational Projections anticipate that the number of tile and marble setters employed in Nebraska will grow by 12.97 percent between 2010 and 2020 (5). Again, these figures must be interpreted with an understanding that the OES survey instrument samples businesses and many tile and marble setters are self-employed.

If you wish to know more about this profession, the BLS Occupational Outlook Handbook is a tremendous resource and can be found at <http://www.bls.gov/ooh>. Tile and marble setters are Standard Occupation Classification code 47-2043.

Openings & Expansions

Kermit Spade, Research Analyst

Note: The following information is obtained through a monthly survey of Nebraska's Career Centers. Openings and expansions that were not publicly reported or reported to Career Center Managers in confidence are not listed. If you know of a business that is opening or expanding, please email Kermit.Spade@Nebraska.gov with your information.

Lincoln

- Kidswear – Gateway Mall
- Far East Treasures – Gateway Mall
- Top Dollar Detail LLC – auto detailing; 4701 Pierce Drive #3c
- FUSE Co working – facility providing space/services to entrepreneurs; 800 P Street
- Blue Blood Brewing - micro brewery; 500 W South Street
- Care Consultants for the Aging – new location; 1530 S. 70th Street Suite 202
- EyeCare Specialties – eye wear, exams, etc.; 7930 O Street
- Safeguard – business products and solutions; 420 W Godfrey Circle
- NE Nursery and Color Gardens retail location – green house/landscaping, etc.; 76th and Pioneers
- P&L Technology - business technology; 4001 S. 8th Street Suite 101
- Fletcher Chiropractic - new location; 4300 S. 48th Street Suite 7

Omaha

- Transamerica Agency - financial
- Noodle Koodle - restaurant
- Land ho! Seafood - restaurant
- Pinnacle Heating & Cooling - HVAC
- Infinity Wellness - wellness/fitness center
- ACI Worldwide - data center
- Fitness Kings Personal Trainer - personal training
- Wilson & Washburn - restaurant
- Kitchen Table Deli - restaurant
- AAA Bank Nebraska - bank branch
- Wes & Willy - production warehouse
- Go! Calendars - calendars, games, books
- Hampton Inn - 100 room hotel
- Mockingbird Cupcakes - cupcakes bakery
- Valentino's - Bellevue - restaurant
- Chef² - culinary store
- Godfather's Pizza - Bellevue - restaurant
- Flywheel - word press hosting company
- Absolute Healthcare - health care

- Edible Arrangements - fresh fruit bouquets
- Budget Blinds - window coverings
- Natural Grocers - organic grocery store
- Compliance Consultants - financial consultants
- Raising Cane's - restaurant
- Game Repair Shop - game repair shop
- Lee Douglas Interiors - furniture sales
- Walmart Neighborhood Market - grocery store
- Scout Dry Goods & Trade - online store
- CharterWest National Bank - bank branch
- Akin's Natural Foods - organic grocery store
- Intertwine Interactive - Internet marketing
- Tiburen Family Eye Care - optometry
- Bounce U - indoor recreation facility
- Stereo West Autotoys - auto video and audio equipment
- Gene Leahy Mall (City of Omaha) - tourist attraction
- HDR/Salva - technology advice to mining companies
- TD Ameritrade - trade company headquarters
- Stinson, Morrison & Hecker - law office
- Take Aim Gun Range - indoor shooting range
- White Castle Roofing - roofing company
- Ricklemans Gourmet Café - bistro

Northeast

Norfolk

- CherryBerry yogurt shop to open at the mall.
- Norfolk Computer Solutions - 2 employees

Fremont

- BoysTown Audiology - 6 employees
- Siemer Auto Center - 10 employees

Southeast

Nebraska City

- Sew Enchanted
- Clog Busters
- Lofty Ideas

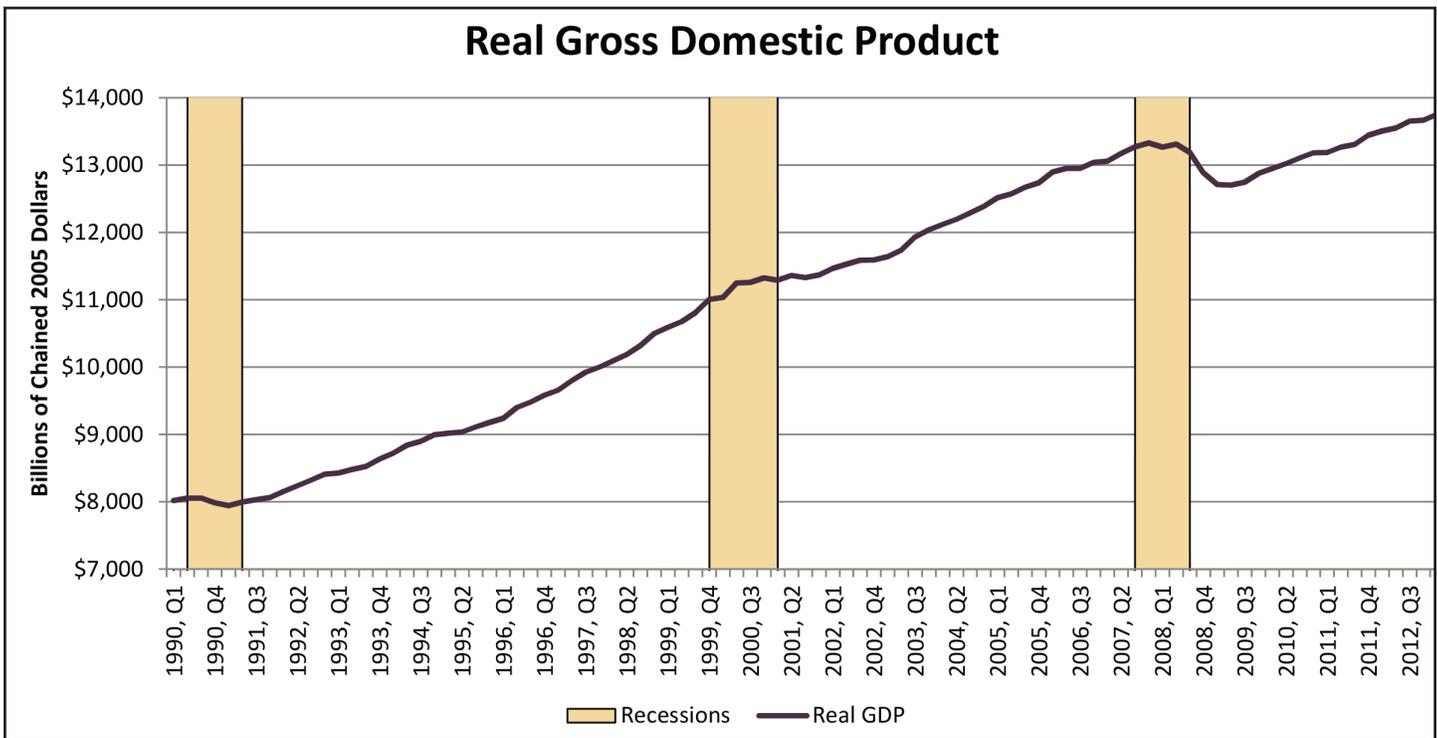
Nehawka

- Plantman Nursery

Economic Indicators

Kermit Spade and Ed Jaros, Research Analysts

Metric	Current Time	Change Over Last Quarter/Month		
		United States	Midwest Region	Nebraska
Real GDP, billions of chained 2005 dollars	1st Quarter, 2013	+2.5%	-	-
Effective Federal Funds Rate	April, 2013	+0.01%	-	-
Balance on the US Current Account, in billions of dollars	4th Quarter, 2012	-1.8%	-	-
Barrel of Crude Oil, WTI-Cushing, Spot Price	April, 2013	-\$0.92	-	-
Employment Cost Index	4th Quarter, 2012	+0.3%	-	-
Producer Price Index: All Commodities	April, 2013	-0.2%	-	-
Average Weekly Manufacturing Hours	April, 2013	-0.1	-	-0.2
House Price Index	4th Quarter, 2012	+0.6%	+0.6%	+0.3%
Consumer Price Index, not seasonally adjusted	April, 2013	-0.1%	-0.1%	-
Unemployment Rate, seasonally adjusted	April, 2013	-0.1%	-0.2%	-0.1%
New Private Housing Units Authorized by Building Permits*	March, 2013	-3.4%	-3.4%	-0.9%
Net Taxable Sales	February, 2013	-	-	-3.8%
Money Supply, M2	March, 2013	+0.8%	-	-
University of Michigan, Consumer Sentiment Index	March, 2013	-2.8%	-	-



In each new issue of Trends, the economic indicators section will now feature a chart or graph focused on one of the economic indicators listed above. This month, we'll be focusing on Real GDP.

It serves as a measure of overall output or productivity of the economy. As such, it is a useful indicator to measure the overall strength of the economy.

Real GDP is the inflation adjusted market value of goods and services produced by labor and property in the U.S.

Labor Market Information
Online Glossary

Industry Developments

Janet Oenbring, Research Analyst

Highlights from April 2013 Current Employment Statistics Preliminary Estimates

Statewide

Statewide Leisure and Hospitality posted the highest over-the-month gain in April (+3,859 jobs or +4.8 percent) of the past decade and of any other month in the past decade. The past greatest growth occurred in April 2011 (+3,438 jobs or +4.4 percent). March 2013 experienced a smaller increase than usual because of the colder weather. About two-thirds of April's growth came from Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation, increasing by 2,574 jobs (+24 percent), the most ever of any month in the past decade. Much of the boost came from seasonal openings such as golf courses and other outdoor recreation activities. The past over-the-month high occurred in April 2003 (+16.8 percent). Accommodation and Food Services makes up over 80 percent of the employment in Leisure and Hospitality and has its own seasonal fluctuations also.

Statewide Manufacturing employment increased by 934 jobs (+0.97 percent) from March to April 2013, which is very close to the past greatest monthly increase of the past decade, occurring in November 2011 (+947 jobs or +1.01 percent). Over the year, Manufacturing produced its largest increase ever of any month in the past 10 years by adding 3,027 jobs (+3.2 percent), with the previous high being set in December 2011 (+2,471 jobs or +2.7 percent). Both sectors contributed to the growth. In the Non-Durable Goods sector upswing (+1,221), the Food Manufacturing subsector made up the majority of the increase (+988). The Durable Goods sector gained 1,806 with only 635 accountable in the Fabricated Metal Product Manufacturing subsector and the majority within the non-published subsectors (+1,129 jobs).

Statewide Mining and Construction posted its lowest monthly percentage increase (+3.4 percent) of the past decade in April (+5.2 percent to +8.8 percent), which is unusual since the over-the-month change for April has always been the highest of all of the months of the year for the past decade. Over the year, Statewide Mining and Construction fell by 505 jobs (-1.2 percent) after it had been consistently showing progress since December 2011. The metro areas saw yearly increases while the non-metro areas saw a major decline.



Manufacturing employment posted a 0.97 percent increase in April, which is very close to the past greatest monthly increase in November of 2011 (1.01 percent).

Since April 2012, Trade, Transportation, and Utilities in Nebraska declined by 1,366 jobs (-0.7 percent), which is unusual since the last time it dropped by a higher percentage was in June 2010 (-1,721 or -0.9 percent).

Over-the-month employment in Statewide Information improved by 69 jobs (+0.4 percent) in April with the only other monthly April gain occurring in 2007 (+1.4 percent) during the past decade.

Statewide monthly employment in Financial Activities expanded by 695 jobs (plus one percent), which is the largest April increase in the past decade.

Lincoln MSA

In the Lincoln MSA, Leisure and Hospitality posted the highest over-the-month gain in April in the past decade and of any other month (+895 jobs or +5.7 percent). The past greatest growth occurred in April 2011 (+601 jobs or +3.8 percent). March 2013 experienced a smaller over-the-month increase than usual because of the colder weather.

Omaha MSA

In the Omaha MSA, Total Nonfarm over-the-month growth in April of 7,686 (+1.66 percent) came very close to the past decade record high of 7,912 (+1.74 percent) set in April 2011. From April 2012 to April 2013, Mining and Construction

in the Omaha MSA went up 1,412 (+6.9 percent), which is greater than the previous decade's high growth set in April 2004 at 6.6 percent.

Manufacturing employment in the Omaha MSA rose by 1.4 percent (+425 jobs) from March to April 2013, the highest April growth of the last decade. An increase of one percent to 1.6 percent has only occurred in three other months in the past 10 years. Over the year, Manufacturing went up by 734 jobs (+2.4 percent), with the past decade's record highs being set in the first quarter of 2008 at 2.9 percent. The Non-Durable Goods sector was accountable for the growth over the year (+782 jobs or plus four percent).

Over the month, Trade, Transportation, and Utilities in the Omaha MSA went up by 1,244 jobs (+1.4 percent), which is

a record high for April mostly due to Retail Trade increasing by 916 jobs (+1.9 percent).

Leisure and Hospitality posted the highest over-the-month gain in April of the past decade and of any other month (+3,211 jobs or +7.4 percent). The past greatest growth occurred in April 2011 (+2,199 jobs or +5.2 percent). March's 2013 experienced a smaller over-the-month increase than usual because of the colder weather. The majority of the growth was in the Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation sector with sports activities like golf being the driver.

Over the year, Government in the Omaha MSA fell by 1,037 (-1.6 percent), which is the greatest and only decline in April during the past decade. The majority of the drop occurred in Local Government (-891 jobs or -1.9 percent).

	Number of Workers			Over the Month		Over the Year	
	Apr-13	Mar-13	Apr-12	Numeric Change	Percent Change	Numeric Change	Percent Change
Total Nonfarm	962,973	953,350	960,570	9,623	1.0%	2,403	0.3%
Mining & Construction	41,998	40,633	42,503	1,365	3.4%	-505	-1.2%
Construction of Buildings	7,270	7,360	8,141	-90	-1.2%	-871	-10.7%
Heavy and Civil Engineering Construction	6,102	5,108	6,536	994	19.5%	-434	-6.6%
Specialty Trade Contractors	27,636	27,118	26,691	518	1.9%	945	3.5%
Manufacturing	97,073	96,139	94,046	934	1.0%	3,027	3.2%
Durable Goods	45,356	44,780	43,550	576	1.3%	1,806	4.2%
Non-Durable Goods	51,717	51,359	50,496	358	0.7%	1,221	2.4%
Trade, Transportation, & Utilities	197,045	196,266	198,411	779	0.4%	-1,366	-0.7%
Wholesale Trade	40,842	40,502	41,518	340	0.8%	-676	-1.6%
Retail Trade	103,433	102,906	104,209	527	0.5%	-776	-0.7%
Transportation, Warehousing, and Utilities	52,770	52,858	52,684	-88	-0.2%	86	0.2%
Information	17,024	16,955	17,167	69	0.4%	-143	-0.8%
Financial Activities	71,909	71,214	70,666	695	1.0%	1,243	1.8%
Finance and Insurance	63,151	62,682	61,916	469	0.8%	1,235	2.0%
Real Estate and Rental and Leasing	8,758	8,532	8,750	226	2.7%	8	0.1%
Professional & Business Services	104,958	104,113	105,483	845	0.8%	-525	-0.5%
Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services	44,530	44,908	44,658	-378	-0.8%	-128	-0.3%
Management of Companies and Enterprises	16,904	16,813	16,481	91	0.5%	423	2.6%
Admin & Support & Waste Mngmt & Remdtn Srvc	43,524	42,392	44,344	1,132	2.7%	-820	-1.9%
Education & Health Services	141,597	141,618	140,283	-21	0.0%	1,314	0.9%
Educational Services	18,361	18,196	18,233	165	0.9%	128	0.7%
Health Care and Social Assistance	123,236	123,422	122,050	-186	-0.2%	1,186	1.0%
Leisure and Hospitality	83,526	79,667	83,976	3,859	4.8%	-450	-0.5%
Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation	13,284	10,710	13,138	2,574	24.0%	146	1.1%
Accommodation and Food Services	70,242	68,957	70,838	1,285	1.9%	-596	-0.8%
Other Services	37,838	37,541	36,624	297	0.8%	1,214	3.3%
Repair and Maintenance	10,647	10,500	9,881	147	1.4%	766	7.8%
Personal and Laundry Services	7,855	7,789	7,725	66	0.9%	130	1.7%
Religious, Grantmaking, Civic, Profssnl, & Sim Orgs	19,336	19,252	19,018	84	0.4%	318	1.7%
Government	170,005	169,204	171,411	801	0.5%	-1,406	-0.8%
Federal Government	16,391	16,512	16,684	-121	-0.7%	-293	-1.8%
State Government	41,799	41,746	41,674	53	0.1%	125	0.3%
Local Government	111,815	110,946	113,053	869	0.8%	-1,238	-1.1%

County Rates

UNEMPLOYMENT RATE INFORMATION

Office of Labor Market Information

Statewide

- April Total Non-farm: 962,973
- Manufacturing: 97,073

Omaha MSA

- April Unemployment rate: 4.0% (-0.3% since March)
- April Total Non-farm: 470,443
- Manufacturing: 31,713
- Largest OTY Increase: Education and Health Services (1,413)
- Largest OTM Increase: Leisure and Hospitality (3,211)

Lincoln MSA

- April Unemployment rate: 3.4% (unchanged since March)
- April Total Non-farm: 178,268
- Manufacturing: 13,434
- Largest OTY Increase: Financial Activities (299)
- Largest OTM Increase: Leisure and Hospitality (895)

Labor Force Employment by Place of Residence:

Nebraska (smoothed seasonally adjusted):

- April Unemployment rate: 3.7%
- Change (OTM): -0.1%
- Change (OTY): -0.3%

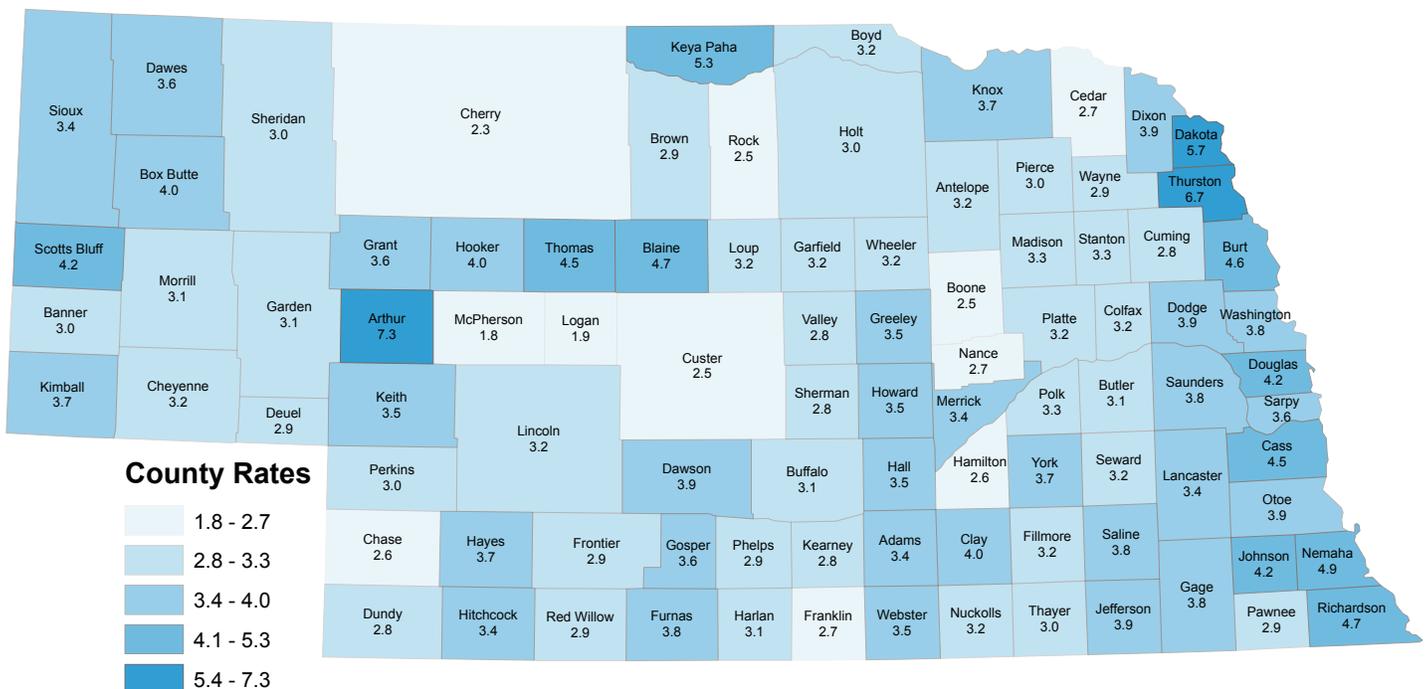
Economic Regions (not seasonally adjusted):

- Central: 3.2%
- Mid Plains: 3.3%
- Northeast: 3.6%
- Panhandle: 3.8%
- Southeast: 3.9%

Revisions to March Data:

- Unemployment rate: unchanged at 3.8%
- Labor Force: 168
- Unemployment: 112
- Employment: 53

April 2013 County Unemployment Rates



Resources

Feature 2 - The Foreign Born Population in Nebraska

1. Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration, US Department of State. Refugee Admissions. www.state.gov. [Online] [Cited: May 13, 2013.] <http://www.state.gov/j/prm/ra/index.htm>.
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Map Facts - Grand Island MSA

1. United States Census Bureau. 2011 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates. <http://factfinder2.census.gov>.

Occupational Profile - Marble and Tile Setters

1. Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor. Occupational Outlook Handbook, 2012-13 Edition, Tile and Marble Setters. www.bls.gov. [Online] March 29, 2012. [Cited: April 11, 2013.] <http://www.bls.gov/ooh/construction-and-extraction/tile-and-marble-setters.htm>.
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Credits

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