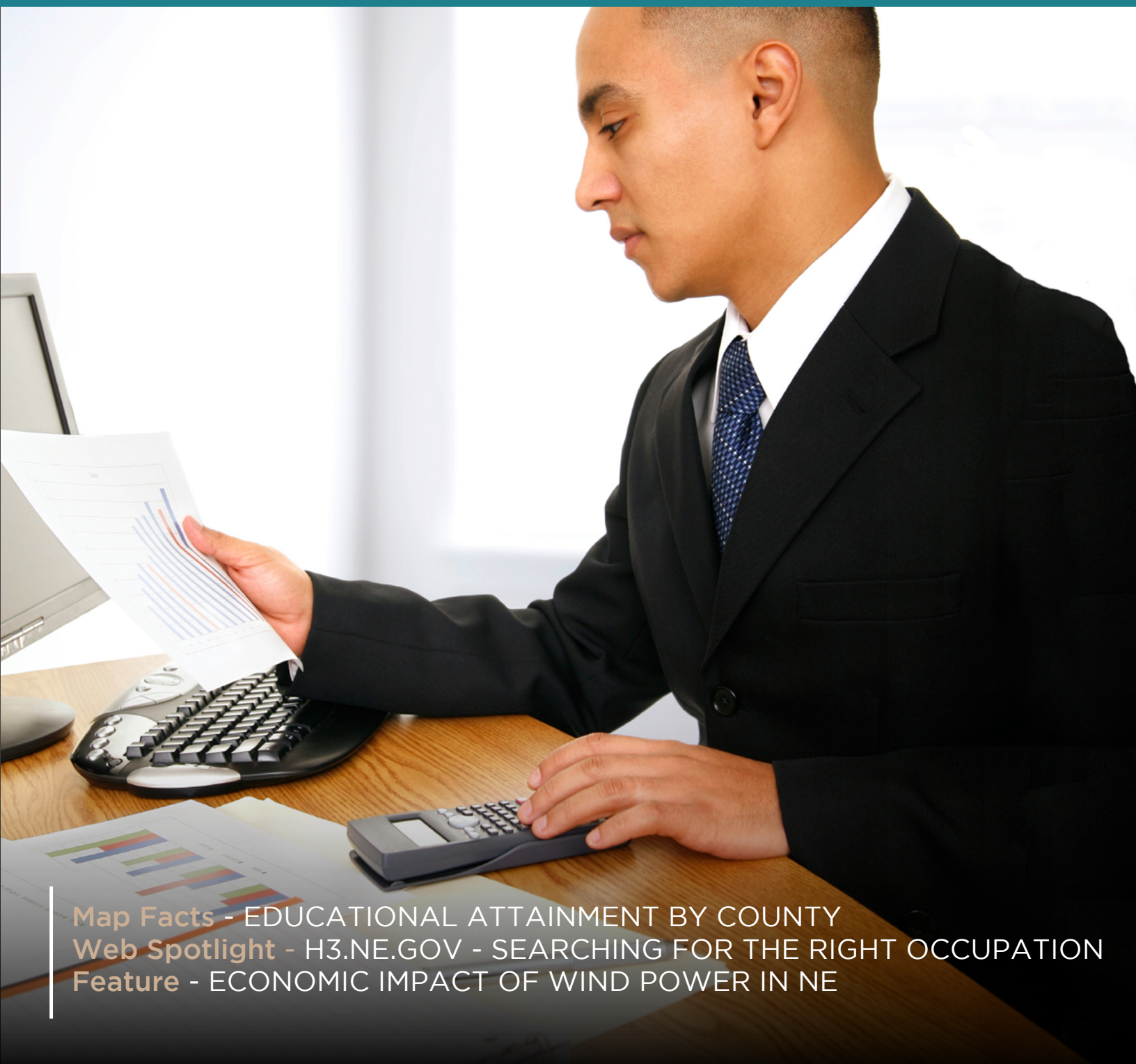
NEBRASKA WORKFORCE

TRENDS

NEBRASKA
DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

MAR 2016



Map Facts - EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT BY COUNTY
Web Spotlight - H3.NE.GOV - SEARCHING FOR THE RIGHT OCCUPATION
Feature - ECONOMIC IMPACT OF WIND POWER IN NE

CREDITS

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NEBRASKA
DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

HELPFUL LINKS

Unemployment in Brief

Monthly Unemployment Rate

Previous Issues

NEworks

FAST FACTS: **OSHA AND WORKPLACE SAFETY**

Dillon Cornett, Research Analyst

Since its founding in 1970, the mission of OSHA is to ensure a safe work environment and non-dangerous work conditions. OSHA attempts to achieve workplace safety through training, education and assistance. In addition, OSHA protects whistleblowers and enforces standards by penalizing violations.[1] This month's fast facts is about OSHA at the state and federal level.

OSHA INSPECTIONS DURING FISCAL YEAR 2015

35,820
Total Federal Inspections

43,471
Total State Plan Inspections

TOP 10 MOST FREQUENTLY CITED OSHA STANDARDS, VIOLATED (NATIONWIDE) IN FISCAL YEAR 2015

1.  Fall Protection
2.  Hazard Communication Standard
3.  Scaffolding
4.  Respiratory Protection
5.  Control of Hazardous Energy (Lockout/Tagout)
6.  Powered Industrial Trucks
7.  Ladders
8.  Electrical, Wiring Methods, Components & Equipment
9.  Machinery & Machine Guarding
10.  Electrical Systems Design

NATIONAL COVERAGE

10	Regional Offices
90	Local Area Offices
2,200	Inspectors (with state partners)
8 MILLION	Worksites
130 MILLION	Workers
1	Compliance Office for every 59,000 Workers

Nebraska does not have an OSHA-approved state plan and thus is covered by federal OSHA. However, this means state and local government workers are not covered by federal OSHA, but states are permitted to develop plans to cover these employees.

WORKER INJURIES AND ILLNESSES IN NEBRASKA IN 2013

24,700
Total work-related injuries and illnesses among private sector employees in NE

18,000
Resulted in less than one day away from work

3,870
Resulted in 1 - 10 days away from work

2,830
Resulted in more than 10 days away from work

7,327
Emergency room visits due to work related injury and illness

694
Work-related inpatient hospitalizations

70.2
Hospitalizations per 100,000 employees

SOURCES:

1. U.S. Department of Labor. Occupational Safety & Health Administration. Commonly Used Statistics. [Online] https://www.osha.gov/oshstats/commonstats.html.
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5. U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics. U.S. Department of Labor. Survey of Occupational Injuries and Illnesses in cooperation with participating state agencies. [Online] http://www.bls.gov/news.release/pdf/osh.pdf.
6. Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services. Occupational Safety and Health Surveillance Program. Nebraska Occupational Health Indicator Report 2014. [Online] http://dhhs.ne.gov/publichealth/OccHealth/Documents/NebraskaOHIReport2014.pdf.

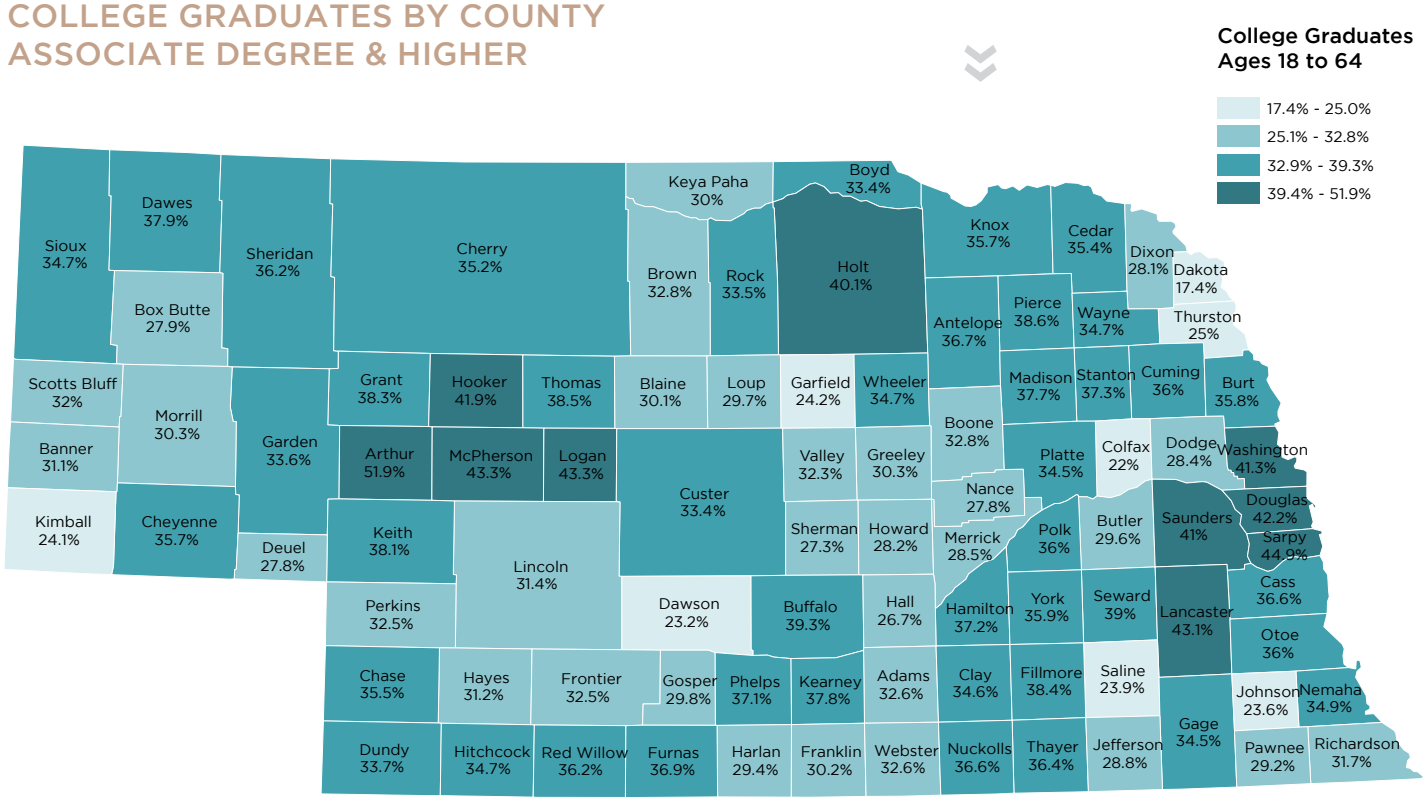
MAP FACTS: **EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT BY COUNTY**

Kermit Spade, Research Analyst

According to the U.S. Census Bureau, among the population 18 to 64, the counties in Nebraska with the highest percentage of college graduates were Arthur (51.9 percent), Sarpy (44.9 percent), McPherson (43.3 percent), Logan (43.3 percent), and Lancaster (43.1 percent). The counties with the highest percentage of population with less than a high school education were Colfax (29.7 percent), Dakota (27.4 percent), and Dawson (25.3 percent).

Across the state, women generally had a higher educational attainment level than men. Among women 25 and older, 30.0 percent had at least a bachelor's degree, while only 26.2 percent of men 25 and older had at least a bachelor's degree. Among different age groups defined by the Census, generally the younger the age group, the higher the educational attainment, with the exception of 18 to 24 year olds. About 34.4 percent of Nebraskans age 25 to 34 had bachelor's degrees or higher, followed by 35 to 44 (34.3 percent), 45 to 64 (28.8 percent) and 65 and over (19.2 percent).

COLLEGE GRADUATES BY COUNTY ASSOCIATE DEGREE & HIGHER



Source: US Census Bureau, American Community Survey

WORKS CITED

1. U.S. Census Bureau. American Community Survey 2014 5-year estimates, table S1501. Census.gov. [Online] 12 03, 2015. [Cited: 12 09, 2015.] http://factfinder.census.gov/faces/tableservices/jsf/pages/productview.xhtml?pid=ACS_14_5YR_S1501&prodType=table.

WEB SPOTLIGHT: H3.NE.GOV SEARCHING FOR THE RIGHT OCCUPATION

Brandon Jones, Research Analyst

Finding the right job or looking for a new profession can seem like a daunting task. Students ready to graduate from high school or college and workers looking for a change can benefit from a little research. With the price of college and the changing economy, thoroughly considering all options before choosing to pursue a career can save a lot of time and money.

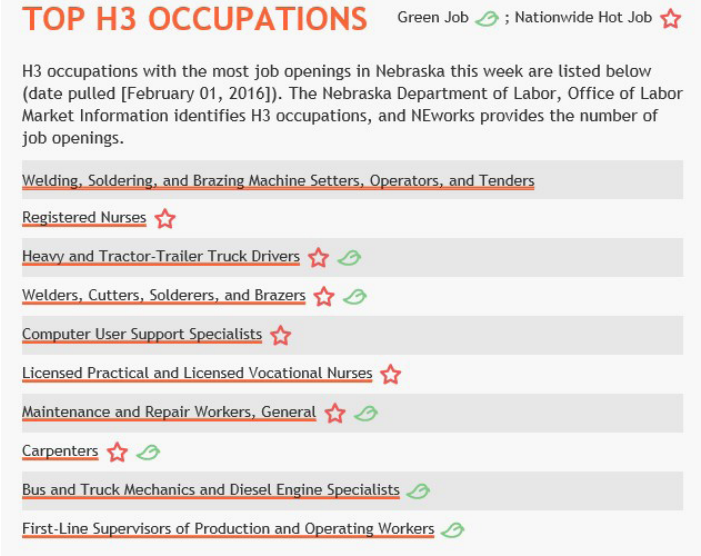
A person might already know exactly what profession they want to pursue, but after some research might have second thoughts. Some people have a general idea of the field they want to go into, but not a specific occupation. Others may begin with no particular career path in mind. In any of these situations, having the right tools to research occupations is extremely useful.

There are many online sources that are dedicated to breaking down college degrees and job outlooks in Nebraska.

THE H3 WEBSITE

A great place to start researching is the website h3.ne.gov. This website breaks down the occupations in Nebraska that are classified as high wage, high demand, and high skill. There are several search tools available on this website, such as the ability to search by career cluster, job title, or region, and the ability to compare H3 jobs across regions. Additionally, the H3 occupations with the most current job openings statewide are posted weekly. The list of H3 occupations with the most job openings statewide for the week of February 1 is displayed in the next column.

From this list, a jobseeker can see what H3 occupations have the most current openings in Nebraska. The list is continually updated,



Source: H3.ne.gov

allowing the user to see which occupations tend to fall in this category consistently.

Let's say that a person was considering going into the health professions and could see that Registered Nurses (RNs) and Licensed Practical Nurses (LPNs) are both on this list. Clicking on the occupations in this list provides more specific information on each occupation.

A description of the occupation is listed below the occupational title. The entry, median, and experienced wages for those working in this occupation statewide is also provided. By clicking on the tabs, one can see the number of current job openings statewide as well. In this example a person can clearly see that an RN typically has more job responsibilities, as LPNs may work under the supervision of an RN. The typical wages for these careers reflect this difference in job responsibilities as RNs make anywhere from $40,000 at entry level to around $60,000 for those with more experience. On the other hand, LPNs

REGISTERED NURSES

Assess patient health problems and needs, develop and implement nursing care plans, and maintain medical records. Administer nursing care to ill, injured, convalescent, or disabled patients. May advise patients on health maintenance and disease preventi

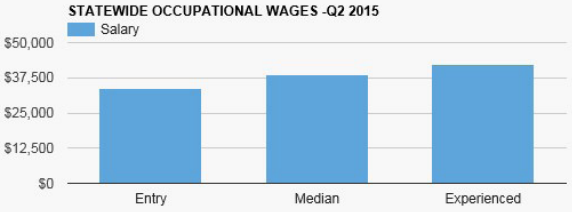
Source: Nebraska Department of Labor, Office of Labor Market Information, Occupational Employment Statistics (OES) program

JOB OPENINGS | RELATED OCCUPATIONS | PROGRAM COMPLETERS

There are 83 job openings in this occupation statewide. This list of job openings was generated on [February 01, 2016]. To view the current job openings, click on NEworks and type in the occupation title in the keyword search bar located in the upper right hand corner.

LICENSED PRACTICAL AND LICENSED VOCATIONAL NURSES

Care for ill, injured, or convalescing patients or persons with disabilities in hospitals, nursing homes, clinics, private homes, group homes, and similar institutions. May work under the supervision of a registered nurse. Licensing required.



Source: Nebraska Department of Labor, Office of Labor Market Information, Occupational Employment Statistics (OES) program

JOB OPENINGS | RELATED OCCUPATIONS | PROGRAM COMPLETERS

There are 32 job openings in this occupation statewide. This list of job openings was generated on [February 01, 2016]. To view the current job openings, click on NEworks and type in the occupation title in the keyword search bar located in the upper right hand corner.

Source: H3.ne.gov

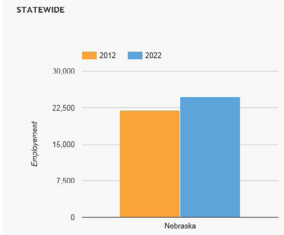
typically earn around $30,000 at entry level up to $40,000 with more experience. Over a 30-year career as an RN, one could expect to make between 1.5 and 1.8 million dollars. As an LPN, one could expect to make 1-1.2 million dollars. Also, during this sample week there were over double the number of job openings for RNs than LPNs.

There is also an occupational projections segment where a job seeker can see how many openings are projected for an occupation long term. The number of job openings projected for an occupation can be a useful statistic when one is considering career options. Knowing the educational requirements allows for planning the time it may take to pursue the required education, as well as the monetary cost of attending classes.

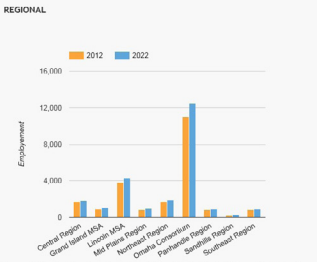
In our example, there are very different educational requirements and institutions one could attend to fulfill the requirements to be an RN or LPN. Clicking on the Program Completers tab brings up the level of education required

REGISTERED NURSES

OCCUPATIONAL PROJECTIONS



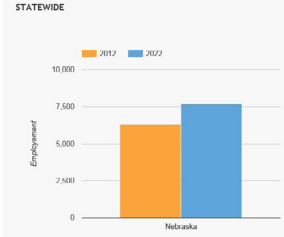
Source: Nebraska Department of Labor, Office of Labor Market Information, Long-term Occupational Projections



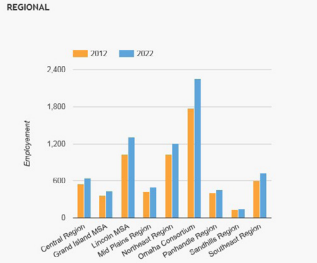
Source: Nebraska Department of Labor, Office of Labor Market Information, Long-term Occupational Projections

LICENSED PRACTICAL & VOCATIONAL NURSES

OCCUPATIONAL PROJECTIONS



Source: Nebraska Department of Labor, Office of Labor Market Information, Long-term Occupational Projections



Source: Nebraska Department of Labor, Office of Labor Market Information, Long-term Occupational Projections

Source: H3.ne.gov

for this career, as well as a list of Nebraska's postsecondary intuitions that provide training for this occupation, and the number of people who completed each related program during the previous academic year.

Once a person clicks on the training provider's name they will be directed to that institution's website and can look up the classes they need to take and how much they cost. For example, if a person wanted to get a Bachelor of Science in Nursing from the University of Nebraska Medical Center, it would take 120 total credits, including 58 prerequisite credits and 62 credits at UNMC, or about four years total. This would cost a Nebraska resident with tuition, fees and books around $15,732 per year, plus the cost of the prerequisites, according to the UNMC website.[4]

Becoming an LPN requires a smaller investment of both time and money. According to Southeast Community College's website, a person can become qualified to take the LPN licensing exam in four quarters, costing about $5,356.[5]

While not the only factors to consider, knowing what education is needed and how much it may cost can help guide a person to the right occupation for them. RNs tend to make more annually, but typically require more years of education than are required to become an LPN and the cost of education is around $25,000 higher, depending on what school is attended, the type of program completed, and financial assistance available.[5]

Another feature of the H3 website is the ability to run reports by economic development regions and get the average wage, annual openings and projections for occupations by region. H3 has a page dedicated to career clusters, which includes groups of occupations that require similar knowledge and skills. H3 also has a great resources page where a jobseeker can find related sites.

Anyone looking to research high wage, high demand, and high skill jobs can benefit from H3.ne.gov.

OTHER HELPFUL LINKS

Here is a list of other websites that can help a person find the right occupation.

1. NEworks.nebraska.gov - A comprehensive site that allows users to research information about specific occupations and other labor market information as well as search for job openings in Nebraska.
2. Careeronestop.org - Provides self-assessments, information about careers, career planning, job training and other resources.
3. MyNextMove.org - Search careers by key words, browse careers by industry, and match interests and training to careers.
4. NebraskaCareerConnections.org - Provides education and career planning resources to bring together students, parents, educators, adults, and employers.
5. ONETcenter.org - This website can break down any occupation one might want to go into. It is the most comprehensive occupation database available, it's easy to use and has lots of links and tools to get information to make a good decision.

SOURCES:

1. H3 website. February 01 2016, http://h3.ne.gov/H3/welcome.xhtml.
2. H3 website. February 01-2016, Registered Nurses. http://h3.ne.gov/H3/searchResultsDetail.xhtml?soccode=291141
3. H3 website. February 01-2016, Licensed Practical and Licensed Vocational Nurses. http://h3.ne.gov/H3/searchResultsDetail.xhtml?soccode=292061.
4. University of Nebraska Medical Center. Traditional BSN Program Summary, Cited February 01-2016, http://www.unmc.edu/nursing/programs/bachelors-bsn/traditional-bsn1/index.html
5. Southeast Community College. Practical Nursing. Cited February 01-2016 https://www.southeast.edu/practicalnursing/
6. Nebraska Department of Labor, Office of Labor Market Information. Occupational Employment Statistics Program. 2016. 4th Qtr. 2015. https://neworks.nebraska.gov/

UPCOMING CHANGES TO NEBRASKA'S LAUS PUBLICATIONS

Lenora Castillo, Research Analyst

Due to improvements in creating workforce industry level estimates, Nebraska's Local Area Unemployment Statistics (LAUS) program will be making changes to the publication of industry data.

Starting this year, industry data will be published at the lower, sector level where possible rather than just the supersector level.

Six industries will remain at the supersector level:

1. Construction
2. Education and Health Services
3. Financial Activities
4. Information
5. Manufacturing
6. Other Services (Except Public Administration)

The five industries listed below will be disaggregated and published at the sector level:

1. **Leisure and Hospitality:**
   - Accommodation and Food
   - Arts, Entertainment and Recreation
2. **Natural Resources and Mining:**
   - Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing and Hunting
   - Mining, Quarrying, and Oil and Gas Extraction
3. **Professional and Business Services:**
   - Professional, Scientific and Technical Services
   - Management of Companies and Enterprises
   - Administrative and Support and Waste Management and Remediation Services
4. **Trade, Transportation and Utilities:**
   - Wholesale Trade
   - Retail Trade
   - Transportation and Warehousing
   - Utilities
5. **Public Administration:**
   - Local Government
   - State Government
   - Federal Government

Since Nebraska cannot model industry data for other states, separate LAUS workforce data will no longer be published for the Iowa part of the Omaha MSA or the Nebraska part of the Sioux City MSA. Data for the Omaha MSA as a whole will remain available, as well as the Omaha-Council Bluffs-Fremont combined statistical area and all other areas currently published by NELAUS. Sioux City MSA data in its entirety will remain available from Iowa.

LAUS industry employment estimates are not comparable to data published by the Bureau of Labor Statistics Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages (QCEW) or Current Employment Statistics (CES) due to differences in the universe of coverage and estimation procedures. See CES and QCEW frequently asked questions for information on these programs at http://www.bls.gov/web/empsit/cesfaq.htm and http://www.bls.gov/cew/cewfaq.htm.

LAUS workforce and labor force data can be downloaded from NEworks.nebraska.gov. Click on Labor Market Analysis, select Data Download Center, then Local Area Unemployment Statistics Data Files. Upcoming publication dates are as follows:

- January 2016 data on March 14
- February 2016 data on March 25
- Benchmarked data on April 15.

For more information on industries and NAICS (North American Industry Classification System) coding, go to the following Bureau of Labor Statistics website: http://www.bls.gov/iag/tgs/iag_index_naics.htm.

Contact Lenora Castillo at lenora.castillo@nebraska.gov or call 402-471-9841 if you have any questions.

DECEMBER

Kermit Spade
Research Analyst

TOTAL OMAHA JOBS ADDED*

318

OMAHA, LINCOLN, & BEATRICE AREA OPENINGS & EXPANSIONS

TYPE OF BUSINESS	NAME, JOBS ADDED (OMAHA)	
FOOD & ENTERTAINMENT	**Omaha**	
	Chick-Fil-A	100
	Leadbelly's	
	Local Ice Creamery	8
	Lincoln	
	Krispy Kreme	
	Piedmont Bistro	
	Scooters	
RETAIL/SALES	**Omaha**	
	Home Depot	180
	Love's Travel Stop	30
	Lincoln	
	US Cellular	
HEALTH & EDUCATION	**Omaha**	
	Methodist Women's Hospital	
	Rosewood Academy	
	Lincoln	
	Lincoln Family Dentistry	
	Madonna Proactive	
OTHER	**Omaha**	
	Sleep Inn & Main Stay Suites	
	Hampton Inn - Airport	
	Beatrice	
	Spilker Electric	

108

210

SOURCES:

Lincoln Chamber of Commerce
Omaha Chamber of Commerce
Omaha World Herald
NDOL Staff
WOWT-TV

*Number of jobs is an estimate as the total number of jobs added was not available for all openings listed.

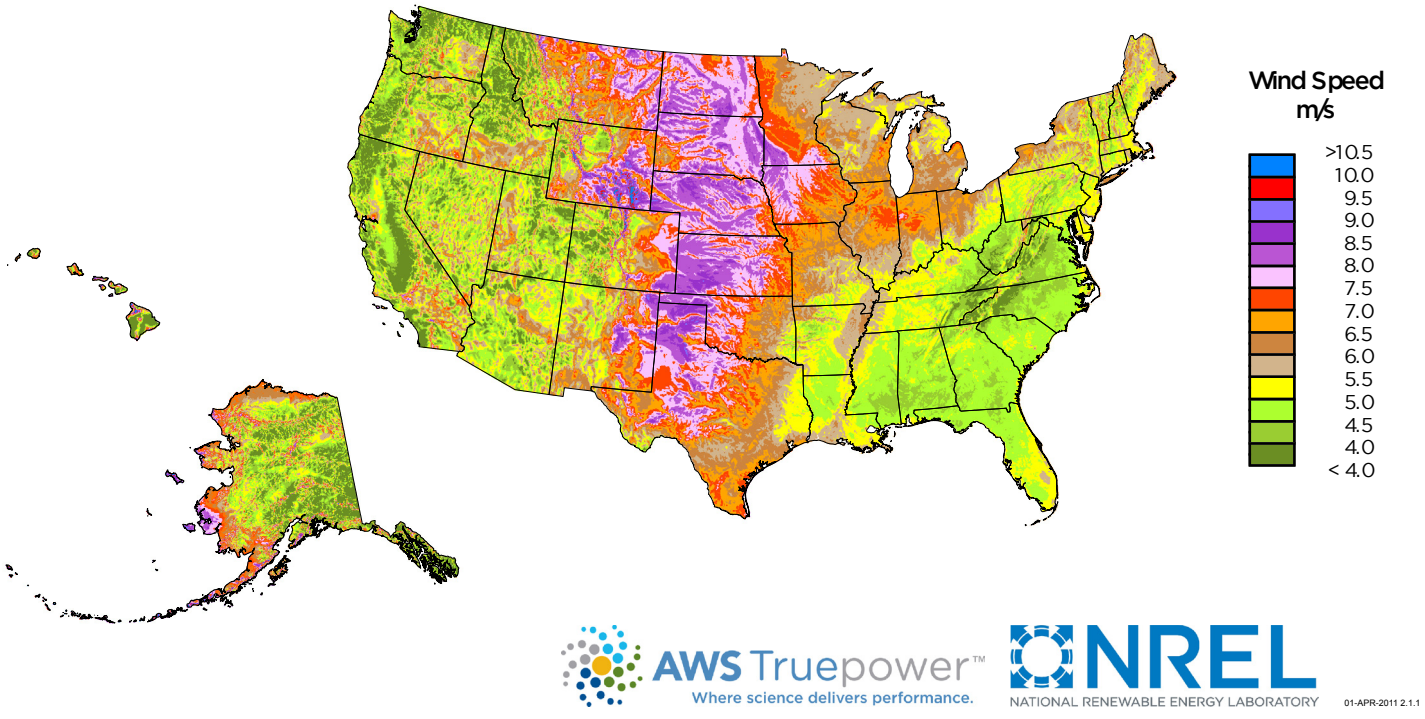
ECONOMIC IMPACT OF WIND POWER IN NEBRASKA

Dillon Cornett, Research Analyst

According to the U.S. Energy Information Administration, last year in Nebraska nearly three-fourths of electricity generated from renewable resources came from wind power and this share has been increasing in recent years.[1] In October 2015, coal-fired electricity generation in Nebraska accounted for 60.1 percent of total electricity generation compared to the U.S. average of 31.1 percent.[1] Other renewables, including wind farm energy production, accounted for 8.3 percent of electricity generation in Nebraska in October, similar to the U.S. average (8.0 percent).[1] Current trends reveal that in Nebraska, the proportion of electricity generated from renewable energy sources may increase in the future.

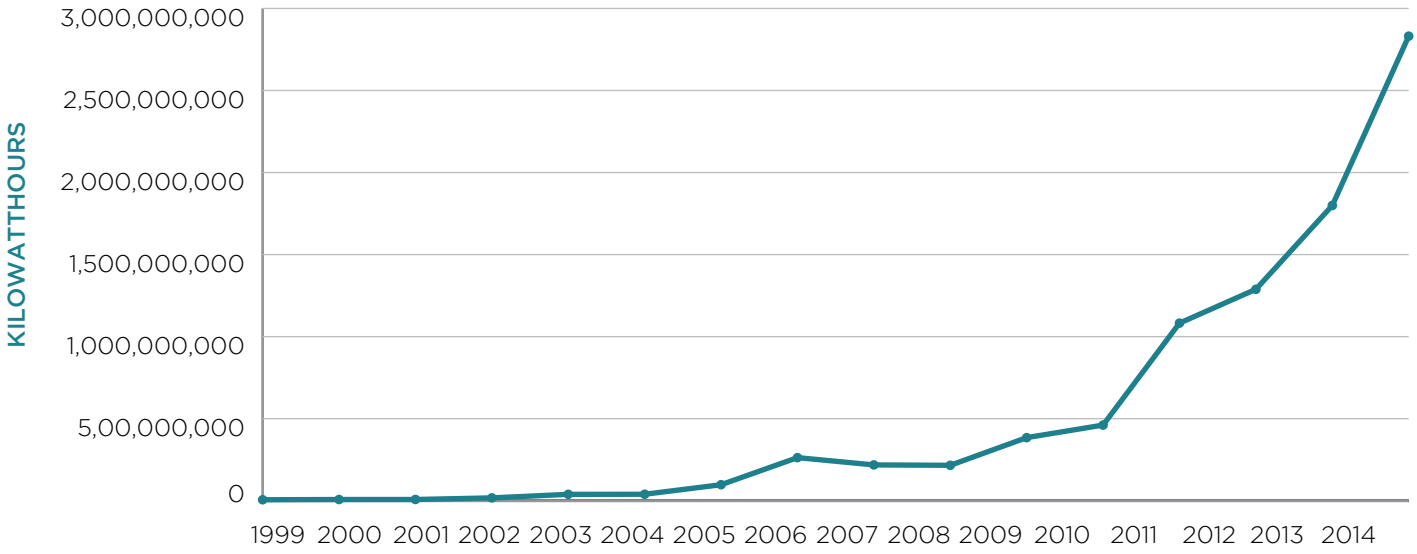
In the developing renewable energy industry, wind power is an important component, especially in the northern Great Plains region where climate conditions are ideal for generating electricity from wind. A utility-scale wind map is used to display wind resources as seen below. The U.S. Department of Energy reports that regions with suitable conditions for wind-powered electricity generation have annual average wind speeds of approximately 6.5 meters per second and greater (at 80 meters height).[2] According to the U.S. Energy Information Administration, 92 percent of Nebraska has conditions suitable for wind-powered electricity generation and Nebraska ranks fourth among U.S. states in available land area with wind energy generation potential.[1]

UNITED STATES - ANNUAL AVERAGE WIND SPEED AT 80 M



Source: U.S. Department of Energy

NEBRASKA'S WIND ENERGY GENERATION (1999 - 2014)



Source: Nebraska Energy Office

NUMBER, LOCATION, AND CAPACITY OF WIND FARMS

The Nebraska Energy Office reports that Nebraska's total wind turbine electrical capacity (the full-load continuous rating of electric equipment) as of 2015, was over 925 megawatts (MW) (or 925,000 kilowatts (kW)). Nebraska's total wind power capacity has historically been approximately a 7 percent share of the total electrical capacity in the state.[3] A megawatt is an amount of power available at a given second and a unit of energy equivalent to 1,000 kilowatts or 1,000,000 watts. According to the Nebraska Energy Office, over 2.8 billion kilowatt hours (kWh) were generated by utility scale wind energy in 2014 (a 100-watt light bulb operating for ten hours would use one kWh).[3] As seen in the graph above, Nebraska's wind energy generation increased by 135 percent from 2010 to 2011 (461 million kWh to 1 billion kWh), 40 percent from 2012 to 2013 (1.3 billion kWh to 1.8 billion kWh), and 57 percent from 2013 to 2014 (1.8 billion kWh to 2.8 billion kWh).

By the end of 2015, 539 wind turbines had been constructed in the state of Nebraska.[3] The largest existing wind farm in Nebraska is the Prairie Breeze Wind Farm located in Antelope, Boone, and Madison counties. The Prairie Breeze Wind Farm holds 118 turbines and has a capacity of over 200 MW. The smallest Nebraska wind farm in operation is Valley Station in Douglas County with one turbine and a capacity of 0.66 MW.[3]

In Holt County, Nebraska, construction began on the Grande Prairie wind farm in July 2015. The project is estimated to produce 400 MW of electrical power using between 173 and 266 turbines and is scheduled to be completed by the end of 2016. The Grande Prairie wind farm will be the largest wind farm, in terms of number of turbines and electrical capacity, in the state of Nebraska. The Omaha Public Power District has agreed to purchase 100 percent of the energy generated from the Grande Prairie wind farm, which could power 118,000 homes annually.[3]

Globally, cumulative wind power capacity reached 372,112 MW at the end of 2014. China had the largest share of cumulative wind power capacity, globally, at 31 percent (114,760 MW) followed by the United States with 18 percent (65,877 MW).[4] Over 51,000 MW of wind power capacity was installed worldwide in 2014 with the U.S. coming in third with 4,854 MW (9.5%) behind Germany with 5,119 MW (10%) and China with 23,300 MW (45.5%).[4]

WIND FARMS ESTABLISHED IN NEBRASKA (2011 - 2015)

Name of Wind Farm	Year Built	Megawatt	Number of Turbines	Counties
Laredo Ridge Wind Farm	2011	80	54	Boone
Springview II/Bluestern, LLC	2011	3	2	Keya Paha
TPW Petersburg, LLC	2011	40.5	27	Boone
Crofton Bluffs Wind Farm	2012	42	22	Knox
Broken Bow Wind, LLC	2012	80	50	Custer
Steele Flats Wind	2013	74.8	44	Jefferson, Gage
Broken Bow II	2014	75	43	Broken Bow
Prairie Breeze	2014	200.6	118	Antelope, Boone, Madison
Valentine Wind, LLC	2014	1.85	1	Cherry
Prairie Breeze II	2015	73.4	41	Antelope, Boone
Prairie Breeze III	2015	35.8	20	Antelope
Creston Ridge, LLC	2015	6.8	4	Platte

Source: Nebraska Energy Office, Wind Energy Generation in Nebraska

In the U.S., new utility-scale (defined as larger than 100 kW) wind turbines were installed in 19 states in 2014. Texas installed the most new wind capacity of any state in 2014 with 1,811 MW (37.3 percent), followed by Oklahoma (648 MW, 13.4 percent), Iowa (511 MW, 10.5 percent), Michigan (368 MW, 7.6 percent), and Nebraska (277 MW, 5.7 percent).[4] By the end of 2014, cumulative installed wind power capacity in the U.S. reached over 65,870 MW. States with the highest cumulative installed capacity are Texas (14,098 MW, 21.4 percent), California (5,917 MW, 9 percent), and Iowa (5,688 MW, 8.6 percent). Nebraska was 19th in the U.S., by the end of 2014, in cumulative installed capacity with 812 MW (1.2 percent).[4]

Wind energy penetration is defined as wind electricity generation divided by total electricity generation.[4] Comparing U.S. states in wind energy penetration in 2014, Iowa (28.5 percent), South Dakota (25.3 percent), and Kansas (21.7 percent) lead the nation in percentage of wind power generated out of total electricity generated. Nebraska was 15th in wind energy penetration in 2014 at 6.9 percent of total electricity generated being wind energy.[4]

ECONOMIC IMPACT

In December of 2014, the University of Nebraska-Lincoln Bureau of Business Research (BBR) produced a report on the economic impact of wind power in Nebraska for the Nebraska Power Association.[5] The BBR wind power report analyzed the 10 largest wind farms in Nebraska where each farm had at least 10 wind turbines. The report prepared by the BBR analyzed the jobs, earnings, tax revenue and industry output for both the construction period and the annual operation of the selected existing wind farms. The table on the next page shows a summary of the economic impact of the analyzed wind farms in Nebraska. Local impact is defined as the influence a wind farm has on the economy in the county where the wind farm is located.

Construction period jobs are described in terms of job-years defined as one job for one year. Thus, when considering a hypothetical two-year construction project consisting of 200 full-time jobs, the project would produce the equivalent of 400 job-years. Nearly 950 job-years were created during construction of the 10 wind farms analyzed by the BBR report with 40.4 percent of those jobs having a local impact (383 jobs). Over $54 million in wage and salary income, in 2014 dollars, was generated statewide during the construction period of the existing 10 wind farms with 34.6 percent of that being generated locally ($18.7 million). The construction period of existing wind farms generated $72.3 million in tax

ECONOMIC IMPACT FROM EXISTING WIND FARMS IN NEBRASKA (MILLIONS OF 2014 DOLLARS)

		Jobs	Wage & Salary Earnings	Output	Tax Revenue
Annual Operations	Statewide Impact	137	$8.0	$21.2	$6.0
	Local Impact	91	$4.7	$8.7	$5.1
Construction Period	Statewide Impact	949	$54.1	$131.8	$72.3
	Local Impact	383	$18.7	$42.7	$0.3

Source: University of Nebraska-Lincoln, Bureau of Business Research

revenue statewide with $0.3 million of that being generated locally (0.4 percent).

The industry output during the construction period of existing wind farms was $131.8 million statewide and $42.7 million locally (32.4 percent).[5]

Annual operation of wind farms analyzed supported 137 jobs statewide with 91 of those being local jobs (66.4 percent). Wage and salary earnings of wind farms reached $8 million statewide with 58.8 percent being generated locally ($4.7 million). Annual operation of existing wind farms generated $6.0 million in tax revenues statewide and $5.1 million locally (85 percent). Industry output for annual operations of existing wind farms was $21.2 million statewide and $8.7 million locally.[5]

Economic impacts are generally larger during the construction period of a project compared to the annual operation of a wind farm.[5] The considerable investment and action taken during the construction period and the relative efficiency of operating a wind farm are seen as the main reasons for the difference in economic impact between the two periods. In addition, statewide impacts are often larger than local impacts, especially during the construction period, because some businesses that provide goods and services to a project are located outside the county were the wind farm is located.[5]

Wind power generation in Nebraska has been increasing since 2008 and has more than doubled since 2012. Recent large increases in wind energy generation from previous years occurred in 2010 to 2011 (135 percent increase) and 2013 to 2014 (57 percent increase). Based on past trends and the potential for expansion, wind power may have an even greater economic impact in Nebraska in the years to come.

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ECONOMIC INDICATORS **VALUE OF MANUFACTURERS' NEW ORDERS FOR CONSUMER GOODS**

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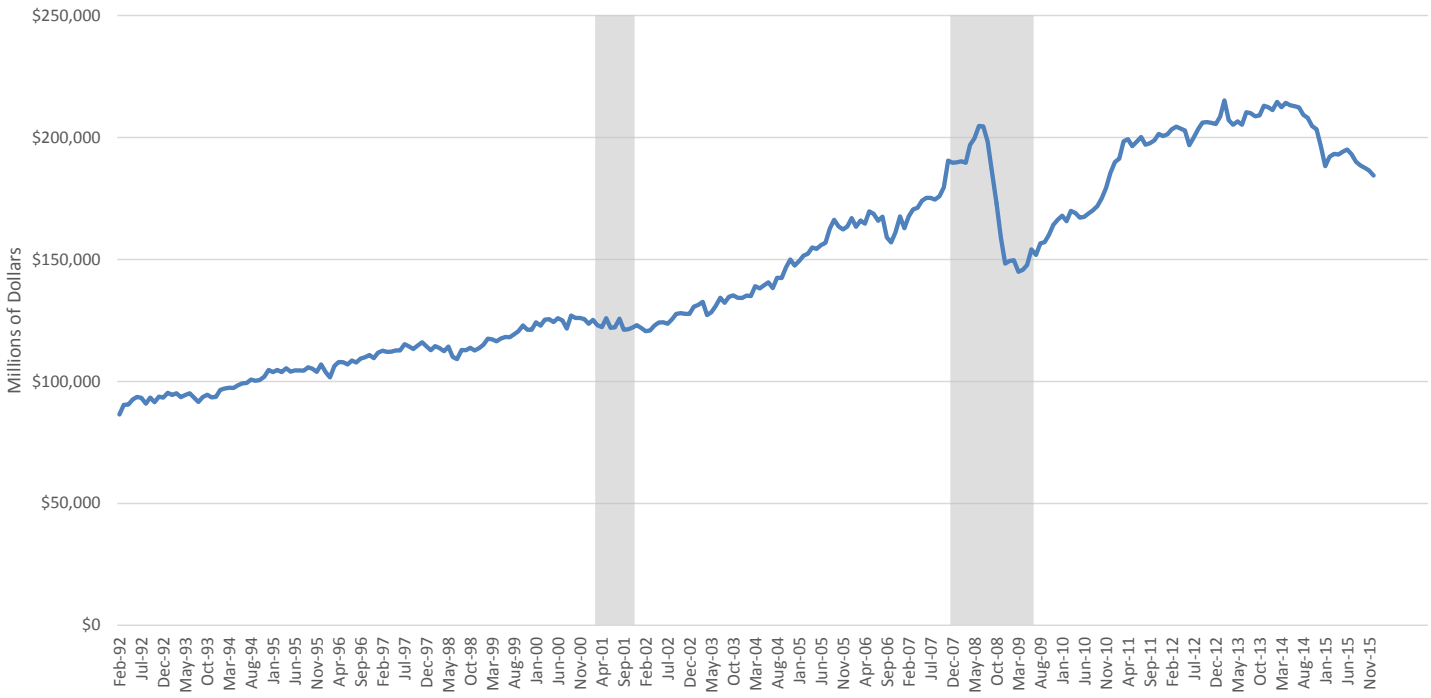
In each new issue of Trends, the economic indicators section will feature a chart or graph focused on one of the economic indicators listed above. This month, we'll be focusing on the Value of Manufacturers' New Orders for Consumer Goods.

According to the Conference Board, "These goods are primarily used by consumers. The inflation-adjusted value of new orders leads actual production because new orders directly affect the level of both unfilled orders and inventories that firms monitor when making production decisions. The Conference Board deflates the current dollar orders data using price indexes constructed from various sources at the industry level and a chain-weighted aggregate price index formula."[1] The data presented below is not indexed.

VALUE OF MANUFACTURERS' NEW ORDERS FOR CONSUMER GOODS



Source: US Census Bureau

		Change Over Last Quarter/Month		
METRIC	CURRENT TIME PERIOD	UNITED STATES	MIDWEST REGION	NEBRASKA
Average Weekly Manufacturing Hours	January, 2016	+0.1	-	+0.5*
Initial Unemployment Claims	January, 2016	+3.2%	-	-10.4%
Value of Manufacturers' New Orders for Consumer Goods	December, 2015	-1.1%	-	-
ISM Manufacturing: New Orders Index©	January, 2016	+5.5%	-	-
Value of Manufacturers' New Orders: Nondefense Capital Goods Excluding Aircraft	December, 2015	-4.3%	-	-
S&P 500©	January, 2016	+6.6%	-	-
Leading Economic Index	December, 2015	+1.7%	-	+1.2%
10-Year Treasury Constant Maturity Minus Federal Funds Rate	January, 2016	+1.7%	-	-
University of Michigan, Consumer Sentiment Index	January, 2016	-0.6%	-	-
Consumer Price Index, not seasonally adjusted	December, 2015	-0.3%	-0.6%	-
Employment Cost Index	4th Quarter, 2015	+0.6%	-	-
Producer Price Index: All Commodities	December, 2015	-1.1%	-	-
Unemployment Rate, seasonally adjusted	January, 2016	-0.1%	0.1%*	0.0%*
Real GDP, billions of chained 2009 dollars	4th Quarter, 2015	+0.7%	-	-
Net Taxable Sales	November, 2015	-5.0%	-	-
Barrel of Crude Oil, WTI-Cushing, Spot Price	January, 2015	-$5.53	-	-
Current Account Balance (millions of dollars)	2nd Quarter, 2015	$7,204		

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