

Trends



Globalization Realities: Shipping Containers



Nebraska Hires Veterans

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**University of Nebraska -
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Physician Assistant



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Feature Story



Globalization Realities: Shipping Containers

ED JAROS, RESEARCH ANALYST

The word Globalization has been a dominant feature of the lexical landscape of macro-economic discourse for some time. It anchors the titles of media and academic articles and talks and task forces across a broad swath of dialogues. Its causes and consequences are myriad and multifarious, forming a swirling nexus at the center of which lies technology. While the technologies of globalization are often as mind-numbingly complex as the disparate inter-related economic phenomena of which they are the engine, one piece at least is almost shockingly mundane. The ubiquitous and exceedingly plain intermodal container makes the modern global economy possible. Often overlooked in favor of its contents, this technological innovation makes the transit of goods across the globe feasible at hitherto unconceivable levels.

The most common and familiar intermodal container is eight feet wide and high and forty-eight feet long. With outward swinging doors at one end, this reusable box of corrugated steel can be mounted and stacked with others of its kind on a variety of vehicles. Exploring the origins of this device will expose more about its form and function. Understanding the shape and use of these shipping containers will reveal two of its primary benefits, standardization and inter-modality, and how these benefits have shaped the skeleton, if not the face of global commerce.

The now internationally pervasive intermodal shipping container has its roots in the United States military after the Second World War. The material moving needs of a burgeoning military industrial complex were vast. The system implemented to meet these needs named Container Express gave birth to our subject, known to this day by man as ConEx boxes. As the use of these units spread, the International Organization for Standardization developed rules governing the coding, identification and marking of these containers, now codified by the standard called ISO 6346. This standard of ten digit places plus one check-digit provides by means of multiple steps of computation a variety of information about each individual container including ownership, nationality, size and type. This standard has been managed since the late 1960s by the Paris-based International Container Bureau and has seen revision and enforcement updates through the present day.

The five most common standardized container lengths are twenty, forty, forty-five, forty-eight and fifty-three feet. Each is eight feet wide and heights vary. Eight-foot tall containers are common, but nine foot six inch tall or four foot three inch tall containers are not hard to find. Containers feature twist lock interfaces at their corners, which enable them to be secured in stacks with other containers. The doors and sides, bearing the aforementioned ISO 6346 codes, are made of corrugated sheets of a steel alloy designed to weather outdoor exposure for many years in stable and operable condition. While the standards include some variety, they paint a simple-enough picture of a device designed for a simple-enough task. However, the impacts of this simple device are staggeringly far-reaching.

The nature of these shipping containers as a standard lubricated and accelerated international commerce. Their prevalence has become such that many producers, and certainly many shippers, now design their products, tools and practices specifically around ISO containers. The near-universality and broad usefulness of these containers is reflected in the fact that today approximately 90% of all packaged cargo is shipped in containers. The dominance of ISO containers has created effective pressure for convergent standards internationally in other production and shipping technology.

These convergent standards are perhaps nowhere more fully realized than in intermodal transport. Intermodal transport refers to the conveyance of goods using multiple types of vehicles. In the case of ISO containers, the common carriers are enormous container ships, railroad trains and over-the-road tractor-trailers. The cost benefits of transporting cargo using intermodal means are difficult to overstate. Labor cost is reduced because the cargo need not be unloaded and reloaded at each transitional juncture. Cargo shrinkage and loss is reduced and cargo security is improved for the same reason. Systemic fuel usage and therefore cost is reduced because less fuel efficient semi-trucks are relegated to the last and shortest legs of shipping routes.

The improvements in costs and in speed brought about unforeseen growth in international trade. Just as telecommunications technology's advance exponentially amplified the flow of information across seas, skies and borders between states, the advent of ISO containers augmented the flow of goods and materials across the same lanes. Containers are the blood cells of the global economic corpus, circulating life from the chambers at its heart to the capillaries at its most distant extremities.



Nebraska Hires Veterans

MARY FINDLAY, RESEARCH ANALYST

Worker shortages? Yes, some employers in Nebraska are having a difficult time recruiting talent for open positions. In order to help address the needs of the state's employers, Governor Dave Heineman announced a new recruitment video, Nebraska Hires Veterans. This video features veterans in different occupations who have found employment and a place to call home in Nebraska. In the press release announcing the video, Catherine D. Lang, Director of Economic Development and Commissioner of Labor stated, "We want to bring the talent to Nebraska that employers are seeking." To access the video visit www.dol.nebraska.gov or click below picture.

on February 5, 2013 and Grand Island in March of 2013. If your business is interested in participating in Hiring Our Heroes, please contact Kristine Hulse at kristine.hulse@nebraska.gov or **402-471-9746** for additional information.

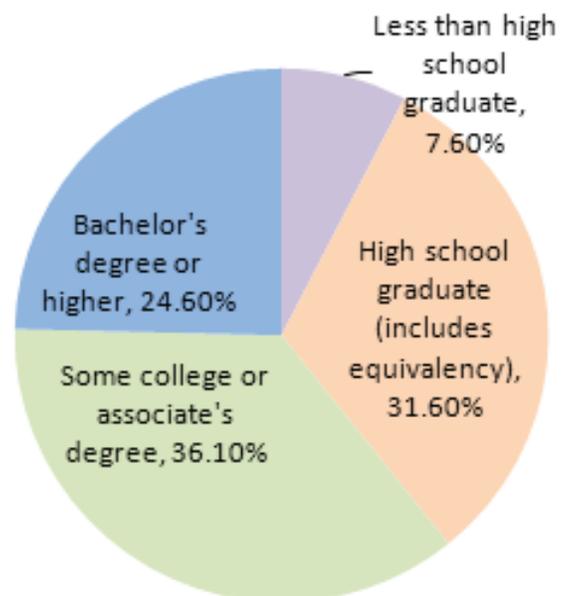
Why hire veterans? Nebraska's veterans come from the military with an abundance of training and occupation-specific skills. Additionally, they bring a strong work ethic, leadership and sense of teamwork to the workplace. According to the 2010 American Community Survey one-year estimates, more veterans than non-veterans graduate from high school and complete some college or earn an associate's degree, the veteran unemployment rate is lower than the nonveteran rate, and a little over one third of veterans are in prime working years of ages 18-54.



Photo courtesy of Jen Rae Hein, Governor's Office

The Nebraska Department of Labor is partnering with the U.S. Chamber of Commerce and other sponsors to offer a series of Hiring Our Heroes Fairs for current and former military service members and spouses. Hiring events are being coordinated through Nebraska Department of Labor Career Centers across the state and have been held in Lincoln, Omaha and Norfolk so far this year. Attendance totaled over 600 veterans and 200 plus employers for these Hiring Our Heroes fairs. Events are planned for Alliance on December 4, 2012, Papillion on January 16, 2013, Beatrice

Educational Attainment of Veterans Age 25 and Older



Approximately 600-650 individuals participate each year in the Transition Assistance Program (TAP) at Offutt Air Force Base. This three-day job search and career-planning workshop for individuals retiring or separating from the military serves many who will choose to remain in Nebraska. Participants come from every occupation in the military, including IT specialties, and many have certifications and skills that readily transfer to civilian employment.

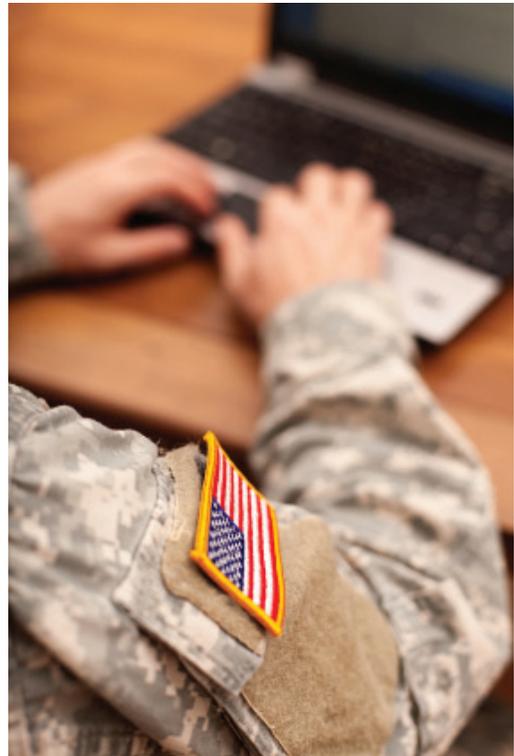
Barry Wilkinson supervises the Airman and Family Readiness Center portion of the TAP program. He said 40% of separating military service members land in one of the following categories once they enter the civilian workforce.

- Electronics specific to aircraft and SATCOMM equipment i.e., Intelligence
- Computer programming and repair
- Intelligence
- Linguistics – several languages
- Mechanical engineering and technical specialties relating to technological equipment:
 - o Aircraft
 - o Electrical
 - o Hydraulic
 - o Structural
 - o Systems Components
 - o Ground & Equipment Support
- Security of all kinds from ground police force to computer software security and investigation



The State Guard and Reserve provide a vast resource of veterans representing the following careers: Transportation, Medical, Aviation, Infantry, Maintenance – vehicle and equipment, Human Resources, Food Service, Legal, Communication and Intelligence, and Military Police /Security.

The Work Opportunity Tax Credit (WOTC) Program is designed to help qualified veterans and others overcome barriers to employment. Employers can receive tax credits when they hire job seekers from one of the target groups. Contact Steve Porr steve.porr@nebraska.gov or 402-471-2776 for more information on tax credits.



Election Day



JODIE MEYER, RESEARCH ANALYST



November 6th is Election Day. Nebraska's Primary Election was held May 15th.

2012 Primary Election

In the Nebraska 2012 primary election **26.2%** of registered voters voted.

Boon County had the highest voter turnout for the primary with 59.8% of registered voters voting. Thurston County had the lowest with 14.8% of registered voters casting votes.

79.3% of voters in the primary did so at the polls and 20.3% utilized early voting.

Nuckolls County voters favored voting at the polls more so than other counties with **96.7%** of voters using this method. Early voting was favored the most in **Gage County** with 47.4% of voters utilizing this option.

2008 General Election

70.2% of registered voters in Nebraska voted in the 2008 general election. This was up slightly from the 2004 election when 68.3% of registered voters voted.

Blaine County had the highest voter turnout among registered voters for the 2008 general election at 82.6%. **Thurston County** had the lowest with 49.5%.

In the 2008 general election **most Nebraskan's voted at the polls** with 78.2% of those who voted doing so in person. 21.5% voted via absentee ballot.

In **Cherry County** absentee ballots were used by a greater percentage of people than any other county with 56.2% of voters using this option.

Thurston county voters preferred to vote at the polls compared to other Nebraska counties with **91.3%** of voters choosing this method.

The Census and Voting

Decennial Census data is used to ensure equal representation for all Americans and to ensure that one person's vote is worth as much as another's through Apportionment and Redistricting.

The number of seats each state gets in the U.S. House of Representatives is also determined by Decennial Census data.

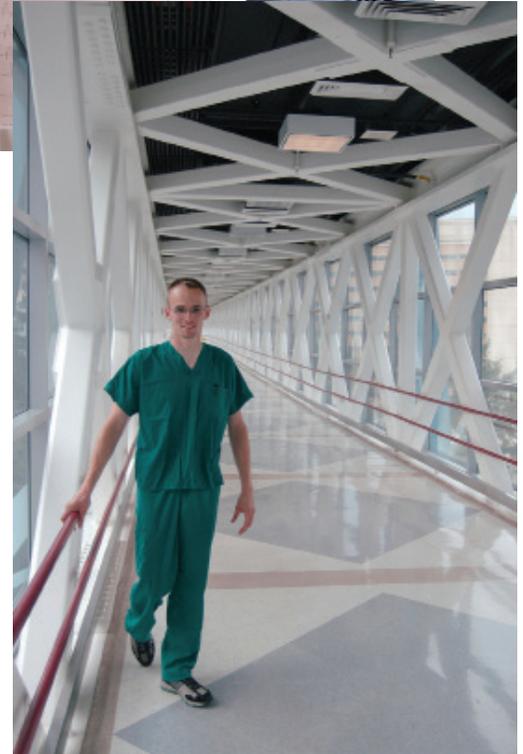
Nebraska retained the three seats it has held since the 1960 Census.

Redistricting is the process of revising geographic boundaries for voting districts from which people elect representatives to the U.S. House of Representatives, state legislature, county or city councils, school boards and other elections.



Sources: Nebraska Secretary of State Election Results, www.sos.ne.gov, United States Census Bureau, www.census.gov

Physician Assistant



ED JAROS, RESEARCH ANALYST

Changing legislation, an aging baby boomer generation and advances in medical technology all push our healthcare system to the forefront of the national mindset, where it grabs headlines and dominates discussion every day. The interacting parts and participants in this system are myriad and their interactions are complex. The people providing care in this system fill a similarly broad array of roles, from registered nurses to specialist surgeons. Somewhere along this spectrum fall Physician Assistants. Physician Assistants fill an intermediate role in providing healthcare, performing many services typically provided by a physician; conducting physicals, providing treatment and in some cases even prescribing medication.

Occupational Characteristics

Physician Assistants perform a variety of medical care tasks, either independently or under the supervision of a Physician. Example tasks include examining patients, administering tests and injections, obtaining and interpreting medical data both from past records and recent tests and making tentative decisions about diagnoses and treatment. Duties may also include more administrative tasks like supervising and coordinating activities of technicians and ordering supplies and equipment. Physician Assistants are cost-effective to employers because they can relieve physicians of many routine duties and procedures.

Distribution

The Ambulatory Health Care Services industry, which typically provides outpatient care and includes many clinics and private medical practices, employs the largest portion of Physician Assistants in Nebraska, with 73.7% of Physician Assistants being employed in this industry. Other significant industries employing Physician Assistants include the Hospital Employment, Educational Employment, Nursing and Residential Care Facilities and Social Assistance Industries.

Education

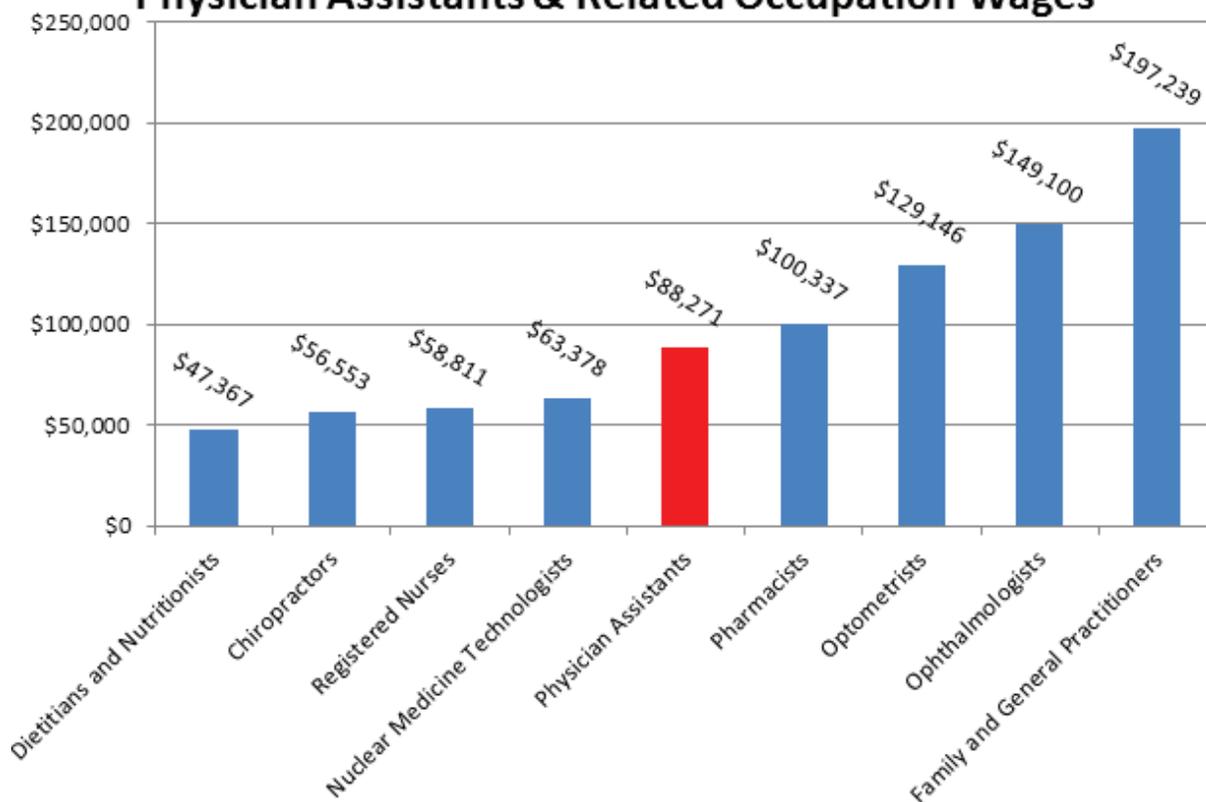
The minimum education requirement for Physician Assistance is generally a Bachelor's Degree and 29% of employers who answered a national survey indicated that this was their requirement. A majority of employers responded that they require more than a Bachelor's Degree with 21% requiring a Post-Baccalaureate Certificate, 29% requiring a Master's Degree and 21% requiring a First Professional Degree. In Nebraska, Physician Assistants must obtain a license from the Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services, which requires a proficiency examination.

Wages

Estimated 1st Quarter 2012 Employment Wage Statistics indicate that the mean wage for Physician Assistants in Nebraska is \$88,271 annually (\$42.44/hour). This compares favorably with estimated mean wages for a Registered Nurse (\$58,811 annually), but is less than the estimated mean wages for Family and General Practitioners (\$197,239 annually). Entry level wage for Physician Assistants is estimated at \$68,616 annually (\$32.98/hour) and experienced wage at \$98,098 (\$47.17/hour).



Physician Assistants & Related Occupation Wages



Outlook

The projected annual average change in employment between 2008 and 2018 for Physician Assistants in Nebraska is 3.3%, more than triple the same figure for All Occupations Statewide. This Occupation is listed as having a BRIGHT OUTLOOK statewide. Nationally, employment of Physician Assistants is expected to grow by 39% between 2008 and 2018. The biggest growth in employment for this occupation is expected in rural and inner-city communities in those states which allow Physician Assistants a wide scope of practice.

If you or someone you know has an interest in learning more about this occupation, please visit Career Resources on the Nebraska Department of Labor's website.



Openings

and

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

Cornhusker Bank; SecurID - identity theft and restoration of identity business; HBE Certified Public Accountants - accounting, tax planning and prep, consulting; Trespali Arte Interiors - specialty faux wall finishes, custom art and furniture; Lablinc - pathology, laboratory, and medical services; AgilX - software company assisting small businesses with utilizing cloud-based technologies; Staybridge Suites; Gateway Senior Living; Keller Williams Realty; Fuzzy Tacos; QuickTEQ; Waterford at Wilderness Hills Memory Care; Smoking Gun Jerky; Sports Express.

Omaha

Calvert's Auto Express, tire & auto services; Brakes Plus, Auto repair; Calvert's Auto Express #2, tire & auto services; Maud Boutique, clothing store; Qinqiang Int'l Development, meat export office; Pharmacy Express, pharmacy; The Harvest Café, restaurant; Mattress People, mattress store; Kirkland's, home décor store; Marriott Resident Inn, hotel; Aqua-Tots Swim School, swim school; Ideal Image, laser hair removal; US Cold Storage, cold storage facility; Goodwill Industries, retail store and training; Chick-fil-A, restaurant; Bank of Nebraska, mortgage dept.; Pro-Cuts, hair salon; NJ & Co, home décor boutique; Divine Truth Bookstore, bookstore; Freddy's Steakburgers, Restaurant; Off The Bench SportsGear, used sporting goods; Deb'stique, home décor boutique; Baxter, restaurant; Cooper Law, law office; Mathias Law, law office; Doubletree Hotel, hotel; Elliott Equipment, equipment manufacturing; Fat Brain Toys, toy distribution center; Kaneko, art complex; Caring for People Services, Home care services; Gordmans, Headquarters location; Springs at Legacy Cmn, luxury apartments; Lifegate Church Papio PT, church; U.S. Strategic Command, new headquarters-phase 1; Creighton University, basketball practice facility.

Southeast

Beatrice

Paw Spa- Pet Grooming and Spa; Independent Living Concepts.

Nebraska City

Smart Chicken in Tecumseh; Shopko in Auburn.

York

Rowse Auto Detailing - expansion

Northeast

Norfolk

Natural Littles, diapers made from natural materials; Granola House and Bakery, healthy snacks and baked items; Norfolk Warehouse Storage; Backroad Steakhouse, Plainview, restaurant; R Xtreme, Pierce, graphics and screen printing; Holy Family childcare, Lindsay, daycare.



Economic Indicators

Facts Sheet

Note: Retail Sales figures are in billions of dollars. Median Employment Wages are OES 50th percentile Annual Wage for All Occupations. ECI is Employment Cost Index. PPI is Producer Price Index. CPI is Consumer Price Index.

National Indicators	Date	Value
GDP Growth	Q3-12	2.0%
Unemployment Rate	Sep-12	7.8%
Federal Funds Target Range - Upper Limit	Sep-12	0.25%
Current Account Balance	Q2-12	-\$117.4 Billion

Nebraska Indicators	Date	Value
Unemployment Rate	Sep-12	3.9%
House Value Appreciation	Q1-12 - Q2-12	0.75%
Average Weekly Manufacturing Hours	Sep-12	41.1
Net Taxable Retail Sales	Jul-12	\$2.195 Billion
Median Employment Wages	Q2-12	\$31,123

Pricing Indicators	Date	Value
Barrel of Crude Oil-WTI	Sep-12	\$94.51
ECI Change	Q2-12	0.50%
PPI Change	Sep-12	1.10%

	Indexes			% Change From	
	Sep-12	Aug-12	Sep-11	Aug-12	Aug-11
CPI: U.S. All Items	231.407	230.379	226.889	0.4%	2.0%
CPI: Midwest Urban All Items	221.125	220.462	216.968	0.3%	1.9%
CPI: Northeast Urban All Items	247.409	246.252	243.323	0.5%	1.7%
CPI: South Urban All Items	225.052	223.919	220.371	0.5%	2.1%
CPI: West Urban All Items	234.083	233.001	229.147	0.5%	2.2%
University of Michigan: Consumer Sentiment	78.3	74.3	59.5	5.4%	31.6%

Sources: DOL: Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Energy Information Administration, Federal Housing Finance Agency, Nebraska Department of Revenue, DOL: Bureau of Economic Analysis, Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System



INDUSTRY DEVELOPMENTS

Responsibilities for the Current Employment Statistics (CES) estimates of monthly industry employment for the state and metropolitan areas (Lincoln & Omaha) changed from the Nebraska Department of Labor to the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) in April 2011. This transition happened in all states. Concurrent with this transition, BLS implemented several methodological changes to the estimation approach across states. The new estimation process reduces local economic knowledge in the process and may result in more month to month variability of the estimates, particularly in the smaller states. More detailed information on the changes to procedures for producing CES estimates is available on the BLS Web site at <http://www.bls.gov/sae/cesprocs.htm>

JANET DERBRING, RESEARCH ANALYST

Total Nonfarm

In the last month, Nebraska non-seasonally adjusted employment gained 3,078 to 959,607 jobs (0.3%). In September, over-the-month change has ranged from 588 to 7,982 jobs in the past ten years. The majority of the increase came from outside the MSAs. From August to September, four industries decreased, four increased, and two were unchanged. Over the year, total nonfarm employment rose by 13,068 jobs (1.4%). Seven of the industries have increased by 0.8% to 9.8%. Over-the-year employment improved the most in Mining and Construction (4,213 jobs or 9.8%); followed by Education and Health Services (3,261 jobs or 2.4%); and Trade, Transportation, and Utilities (2,084 jobs or 1.1%). Growth has come from the MSAs.

Since last month, the Lincoln MSA employment advanced by 1,238 to 177,622 jobs (0.7%). This is 455 jobs higher than the previous highpoint set in October 2011. Over the month, four super sector industries increased, three decreased and three were stable. Since September 2011, Total Nonfarm employment improved by 3,402 jobs (2.0%). Yearly growth has happened in eight of the 10 industries. The largest additions came from Government (949 jobs);

www.dol.nebraska.gov

Trade, Transportation, and Utilities (552 workers); and Education and Health Services (550 jobs). In the Omaha MSA, over-the-month employment remained flat at 471,353 jobs (-0.1%). Over the month, the Omaha MSA had three super sector industries incline, three remained stable, and four declined. The largest super sector monthly gains were in Education and Health Services (1,110 jobs or 1.5%) and Government (1,222 jobs or 1.9%). Since last year, there has been an increase of 10,338 jobs (2.2%). Over half of last year's additions came from two industries - Education and Health Services (4,211 jobs or 5.8%) and Trade, Transportation, and Utilities (2,234 jobs or 2.4%).

MINING AND CONSTRUCTION

Over the month, statewide employment in Mining and Construction cutback by 825 jobs to 47,137 (-1.7%) which is common in September. Over the year, employment went up by 4,213 jobs (9.8%), the highest September in the past decade, beating 6.4% set in 2007. The bulk of the growth came from Heavy and Civil Engineering Construction (1,668 or 25.4%) and Construction of Buildings (1,053 jobs or 12.0%).

Since last month, employment in the Lincoln MSA fell by 127 to 7,400 jobs (-1.7%), a normal seasonal drop. Over-the-year employment increased 489 workers (7.1%) with the last positive Septembers occurring from 2002 to 2004. In the Omaha MSA, from August to September employment dropped 305 to 22,608 jobs (-1.3%). Since September 2011, employment rose by 1,833 jobs (8.8%). Yearly growth ranged from 5.9% to 10.3% since April 2012.

MANUFACTURING

From August to September this year, statewide employment held steady at 94,340 (-0.2%). September's over-the-year employment added 1,213 jobs with the growth from Durable Goods (1,685 jobs) offsetting the cuts from Nondurable

Goods (-472 jobs). This is the largest percentage growth in September (1.3%) in the past decade with a wide range from -9.0% in 2009 to 1.1% in 2011.

Since June 2012, the Lincoln MSA employment has remained fairly steady at 12,657 (0.2%). Since last year, Manufacturing employment is up 3.0%, which is unusually high, since it has only been higher in January 2012 (3.8%). Over the month, employment in the Omaha MSA was unchanged at 31,902 workers (-0.03%). Since September 2011, employment rose by 357 jobs (1.1%).

TRADE, TRANSPORTATION, AND UTILITIES

Since last month, statewide employment reduced by 2,352 to 194,769 jobs (-1.2%) which is the largest loss in September in the past decade (-1.0% to 0.2%). Since September 2011, employment gained 2,084 jobs (1.1%), with most of the year's increase due to Transportation, Warehousing, and Utilities going up by 1,187 jobs (2.4%). This is the first time Transportation, Warehousing, and Utilities increased in September since 2007 (2,594 jobs or 4.8%).

Employment in the Lincoln MSA dropped by 398 to 32,796 jobs (-1.2%) since last month, with Retail Trade being accountable (-385 jobs). Since September 2011, employment gained 552 jobs (1.7%) with Retail Trade making up the majority of the increase (343 jobs). In the Omaha MSA, over-the-month employment dropped by 757 to 94,060 jobs (-0.8%). From September 2011 to September 2012, employment expanded by 2,234 jobs (2.4%), a high for September during the past decade (-5.1% to 1.2%).

INFORMATION

Statewide over-the-month employment gained 198 to 16,403 jobs (1.2%), the only increase in September in the past decade. Advances of 1.0% to 1.4% have only occurred during seven other months in the past ten years. Since September 2011, employment contracted by 527 jobs (-3.1%). The last September it was lower occurred in 2009 (-5.0%).

Employment in the Lincoln MSA increased 27 to 2,125 workers. Since September 2011, it went down by 62 jobs



(-2.8%) which marks thirteen months without any yearly growth. In the Omaha MSA, over-the-month employment decreased by 100 to 10,574 jobs (-0.9%). It has declined every month this year setting record lows each month. Over-the-year employment is down by 372 jobs (-3.4%). Yearly growth has only been seen in two months (October and November of 2007) in the past decade.

FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

After an unusually large reduction in July (-709 or -1.0%), statewide employment held steady for the past two months at 68,694 jobs. During the past decade, September has normally decreased (-1.6% to -0.5%). Over the year, employment balanced out to be even after dropping the past twelve months.

From August 2012 to September 2012, Lincoln MSA employment decreased to 13,686 jobs (-0.4%). Since September 2011, employment increased by 219 workers (1.6%). In the Omaha MSA, over-the-month employment usually declines in September by -76 to -582 jobs; however, it abnormally increased by 363 jobs (0.9%) in September to 40,507. Over-the-year employment remained stable (-0.2%).

PROFESSIONAL AND BUSINESS SERVICES

Statewide, over-the-month employment unusually lost 1,166 jobs in August, but rebounded with a gain of 1,818 jobs in September to be 107,509 jobs (1.7%). About half of the increase came from Employment Services adding 968 jobs (8.2%). Since September 2011, statewide employment remained stable (-0.1%). Over the past decade, the yearly change has varied from -6.9% to 4.9%.

In Lincoln, over-the-month employment increased by 166 to 19,076 jobs (0.9%). Over the year, employment remained steady (0.1%). Employment in the Omaha MSA set a record high in July 2012 at 68,398 and has dropped the past two months. Since September 2011, it has rose by 1,029 (1.6%). The majority of the increase came from Professional, Scientific and Technical Services (1,770 jobs or 6.6%).

EDUCATION AND HEALTH SERVICES

Over the month, statewide employment grew by 1,518 to reach a high of 140,183 jobs (1.1%) with both sectors contributing. Over-the-year employment was up by 3,261



	Number of Workers			Over the Month		Over the Year	
	Sept-12	Aug-12	Sept-11	Numeric Change	Percent Change	Numeric Change	Percent Change
Total Nonfarm	959,607	956,529	946,539	3,078	0.3%	13,068	1.4%
Mining, Logging & Construction	47,137	47,962	42,924	-825	-1.7%	4,213	9.8%
Construction	9,850	9,827	8,797	23	0.2%	1,053	12.0%
Heavy and Civil Engineering Construction	8,232	8,577	6,564	-345	-4.0%	1,668	25.4%
Specialty Trade Contractors	27,258	27,782	26,703	-524	-1.9%	555	2.1%
Manufacturing	94,340	94,491	93,127	-151	-0.2%	1,213	1.3%
Durable Goods	44,279	44,333	42,594	-54	-0.1%	1,685	4.0%
Non-Durable Goods	50,061	50,158	50,533	-97	-0.2%	-472	-0.9%
Trade, Transportation, & Utilities	194,769	197,121	192,685	-2,352	-1.2%	2,084	1.1%
Wholesale Trade	40,006	40,985	39,853	-979	-2.4%	153	0.4%
Retail Trade	103,300	105,596	102,556	-2,296	-2.2%	744	0.7%
Transportation, Warehousing, and Utilities	51,463	50,540	50,276	923	1.8%	1,187	2.4%
Information	16,403	16,205	16,930	198	1.2%	-527	-3.1%
Financial Activities	68,694	68,782	68,772	-88	-0.1%	-78	-0.1%
Finance and Insurance	59,737	59,740	59,850	-3	0.0%	-113	-0.2%
Real Estate and Rental and Leasing	8,957	9,042	8,922	-85	-0.9%	35	0.4%
Professional & Business Services	107,509	105,691	107,620	1,818	1.7%	-111	-0.1%
Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services	44,374	44,319	42,838	55	0.1%	1,536	3.6%
Management of Companies and Enterprises	17,209	17,158	17,223	51	0.3%	-14	-0.1%
Admin & Support & Waste Mngmt & Remdtn Svcs	45,926	44,214	47,559	1,712	3.9%	-1,633	-3.4%
Education & Health Services	140,183	138,665	136,922	1,518	1.1%	3,261	2.4%
Educational Services	17,312	16,503	17,805	809	4.9%	-493	-2.8%
Health Care and Social Assistance	122,871	122,162	119,117	709	0.6%	3,754	3.2%
Leisure and Hospitality	85,591	88,641	84,929	-3,050	-3.4%	662	0.8%
Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation	13,610	15,303	13,098	-1,693	-11.1%	512	3.9%
Accommodation and Food Services	71,981	73,338	71,831	-1,357	-1.9%	150	0.2%
Other Services	36,436	37,001	36,087	-565	-1.5%	349	1.0%
Repair and Maintenance	9,914	9,963	9,639	-49	-0.5%	275	2.9%
Personal and Laundry Services	7,826	8,034	7,740	-208	-2.6%	86	1.1%
Religious, Grantmaking, Civic, Profssnl, & Sim Orgs	18,696	19,004	18,708	-308	-1.6%	-12	-0.1%
Government	168,545	161,970	166,543	6,575	4.1%	2,002	1.2%
Federal Government	16,607	16,734	16,528	-127	-0.8%	79	0.5%
State Government	42,790	40,059	41,366	2,731	6.8%	1,424	3.4%
Local Government	109,148	105,177	108,649	3,971	3.8%	499	0.5%

jobs (2.4%), with the majority of gains due mostly to the growth in the Ambulatory Health Care Services subsector (1,822 jobs or 5.2%) and Social Assistance subsector (1,591 jobs or 10.7%).

Over the month, employment in the Lincoln MSA increased by 353 to 26,629 jobs (1.3%). Over-the-year employment grew by 550 jobs (2.1%). From August to September, the Omaha MSA increased 1,110 to 76,470 jobs (1.5%), a new high. This is only the eighth month in the past decade that has grown by more than 1,000 jobs. Since September 2011, the Omaha MSA rose by 4,211 (5.8%), with the majority of the yearly expansion attributable to Health Care and Social Assistance (4,640 workers or 7.6%).

LEISURE AND HOSPITALITY

Statewide employment fell by 3,050 to 85,591 (-3.4) in September, which is the largest numerical drop in the past decade with all areas contributing to the decrease. Over-the-year employment expanded 662 jobs (0.8%), with the majority of growth coming from Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation (512 or 3.9%).

From August to September, the Lincoln MSA employment

contracted by 424 to 16,766 jobs (-2.5%). Drops of 400 or more usually only occur in January. Over-the-year employment gained 252 jobs (1.5%). Over the month, the Omaha MSA took a seasonal drop of 1,584 to 45,656 jobs (-3.4%). Since last year, employment held steady (-69 jobs or -0.2%).

OTHER SERVICES

Since last month, statewide employment fell by 565 to 36,436 jobs (-1.5%). Over-the-year employment has grown by 349 jobs (1.0%) with Repair and Maintenance adding the majority (275 jobs or 2.9%).

The Lincoln MSA inclined by 25 jobs in September to 7,026 jobs (0.4%). Since September 2011, employment expanded by 61 jobs (0.9%). Over-the-month employment in the Omaha MSA was unchanged at 17,586 jobs (-0.1%). Since September 2011, employment rose by 652 jobs (3.9%). The only year it increased more was in 2003 (8.2%).



County Rates

UNEMPLOYMENT RATE INFORMATION FOR SEPTEMBER 2012

OFFICE OF LABOR MARKET INFORMATION

Statewide

- September Total Non-farm: 959,607
- Manufacturing: 94,340
- Average Weekly Hours: 41.1 hours
- Average Weekly Earnings: \$682.67

Omaha MSA

- September unemployment rate: 3.8%
- September Total Non-farm: 471,353
- Manufacturing: 31,902

Lincoln MSA

- September unemployment rate: 3.0%
- September Total Non-farm: 177,622
- Manufacturing: 12,657



Labor Force Employment by Place of Residence:

Nebraska (smoothed seasonally adjusted):

- September unemployment rate: 3.9 %
- Change (OTM): -0.1%
- Change (OTY): -0.5%

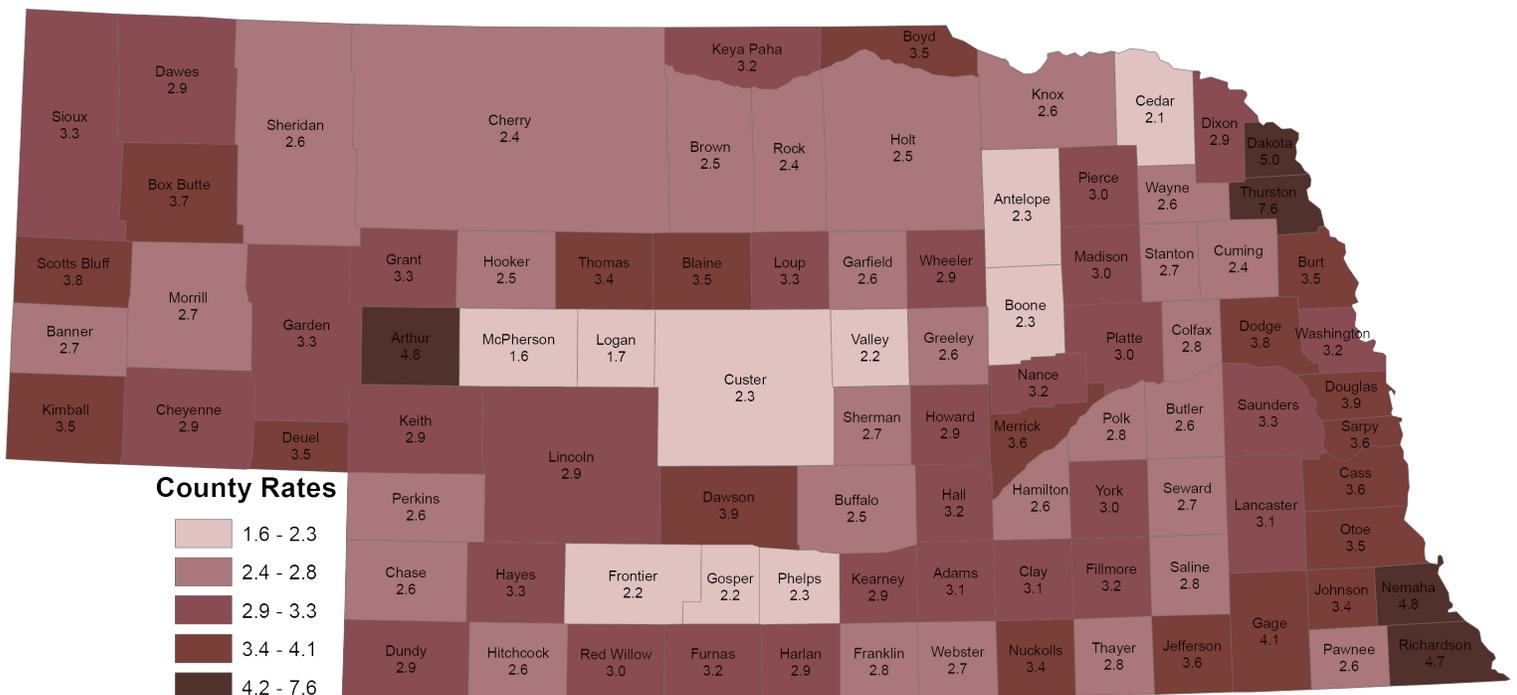
Economic Regions (not seasonally adjusted):

- Central: 2.9%
- Panhandle: 3.4%
- Mid Plains: 3.0%
- Southeast: 3.5%
- Northeast: 3.2%

Revisions to August Data:

- Unemployment rate: unchanged at 4.0%
- Labor Force: -142
- Unemployment: -106
- Employment: -36

September 2012 County Rates



2012 Regional Review Release

Ed Jaros, Research Analyst

Metropolitan and Micropolitan Statistical (MSA and MC respectively) areas are creatures of the federal Office of Management and Budget (OMB). OMB summarizes these creations as follows. “The general concept of a metropolitan statistical area is that of an area containing a large population nucleus and adjacent communities that have a high degree of integration with that nucleus. The concept of a micropolitan statistical area closely parallels that of the metropolitan statistical area, but a micropolitan statistical area features a smaller nucleus. ... The classification provides a nationally consistent set of delineations for collecting, tabulating, and publishing Federal statistics for geographic areas.” (Office of Management and Budget, 2010) Twelve such areas exist in Nebraska; Beatrice, Columbus, Fremont, Grand Island, Hastings, Kearney, Lexington, Norfolk, North Platte and Scottsbluff MCs and the Lincoln and Omaha MSAs. Each year the Nebraska Department of Labor Office of Labor Market Information (NDOL LMI) releases Regional Reviews for each MC and MSA in the state.

The Regional Reviews are documents intended to provide a broad perspective on the economic labor situation in each MC and MSA. Each regional review begins with detailed demographic data from the US Census Bureau and its programs. This data reflects the patterns and conditions in population count, aging, and diversity. Next, information on Educational Dynamics for the state and each region, as well as for state colleges and community colleges are detailed. This section employs data from the NDOL and the Nebraska Coordinating Commission for Postsecondary Education. Labor Supply data follows, examining the commuting patterns and workforce and unemployment trends in each area. Information from the Census Local Employment Dynamics and NDOL Local Area Unemployment Statistics populate these pages. The next segment of the publication covers compensation issues, with pay rates and benefits for a variety of industries and occupations, as well as an examination of self-sufficiency and poverty income levels throughout the state. Census, Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS), NDOL and non-profit organization sources are cited. The largest and most dense section is Employment Trends, utilizing many of the aforementioned sources of data, this section dives into detail on the industries and careers that are most central to the economy of each region. Each regional review is completed by several projections into the future of Nebraska's 7 Economic Development Regions. An NDOL LMI economist manipulates a variety of trends and current data from the other sections to attempt predictions for each area's economic outlook.



In writing the Regional Reviews each year, the Research Analysts of the NDOL LMI strive to uphold several ideals. For each topic, the data used is the most complete, current, and geographically specific available. Issues in data collection scope and the necessity of suppressing data that could be used to identify individual people or businesses both make these goals challenging to achieve. Research Analysts also endeavor to leave enough 'cookie crumbs' for the more curious Regional Review reader to find her own way to the data sources used to construct the publication. Ample citation and a brief guide to using NDOL NEWorks, Census Bureau, and BLS websites have been included to this end. Lastly, NDOL LMI Research Analysts have worked hard to make the publication both intelligible and interesting. The topics covered in each section are selected very carefully based on their importance. Each page includes both a clear origin of the information and observational insight into what the data has to say.

The 2012 regional reviews for each MC and MSA were published online on October 3, 2012 to the LMI homepage on NEWorks. <http://networks.nebraska.gov/analyzer> Look for them under Publications!



Credits

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

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