# Nebraska Economic Databook

A summary of regional economic indicators for the state of Nebraska



APRIL 22, 2019

FEDERAL RESERVE BANK of KANSAS CITY

#### SUMMARY OF CURRENT NEBRASKA ECONOMIC CONDITIONS

In Nebraska, the unemployment rate was 2.8 percent in March, and total payroll employment was flat compared to the previous year. Employment growth was mixed across industries, with the strongest gains in the financial activities and transportation, warehousing and utilities sectors. Nebraska nominal personal income grew 4.1 percent in the fourth quarter of 2018 compared to the previous year, with workplace earnings up 4.1 percent. Home prices increased 5.4 percent in the fourth quarter of 2018 compared to a year ago, while single-family and multifamily permits recorded a -17.1 and 43.7 percent change, respectively, year-to-date through February 2019. Nebraska exports were 10.1 percent higher in the fourth quarter of 2018 compared to the same period in 2017.

This databook provides current economic indicators to help monitor trends and allow comparison of past information. These indicators include: employment; employment by industry; county and state unemployment; personal income; home prices; housing indicators; manufacturing activity; and exports. These indicators can be found on the following pages.



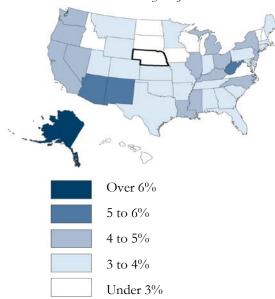
Nathan Kauffman is Vice President and Omaha Branch Executive. In this role, Kauffman is the Federal Reserve Bank of Kansas City's regional economist and lead officer in Nebraska. He is responsible for briefing the Kansas City Fed's President on the economy in Nebraska and the Tenth District.

## **Unemployment Rates**

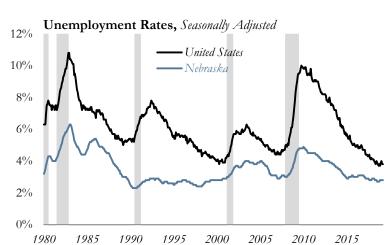
Seasonally Adjusted

## March 2019 Unemployment Rates

Seasonally Adjusted



March 2	2019	
	United States	Nebraska
Unemployment Rate	3.8%	2.8%
Unemployment Rate, Last Year	4.0%	2.9%



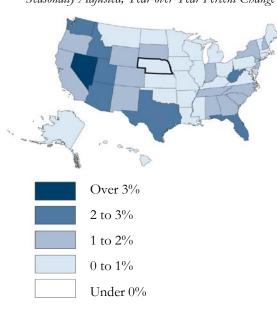
Note: Gray bars indicate recession.

## Payroll Employment

Seasonally Adjusted

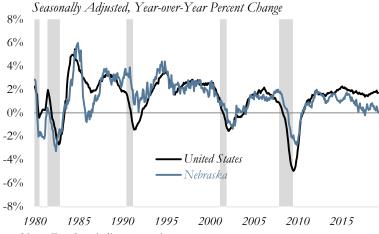
## March 2019 Payroll Employment

Seasonally Adjusted, Year-over-Year Percent Change



March 2019		
	United States	Nebraska
Jobs (Thousands)	150,816.0	1,022.8
Change from Last Year	1.7%	0.0%

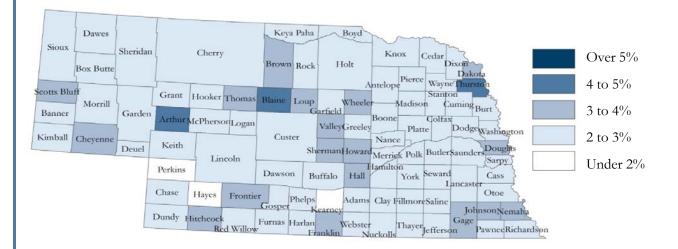
#### Payroll Employment



Note: Gray bars indicate recession.

## February 2019 Unemployment Rates & Civilian Labor Force

Seasonally Adjusted

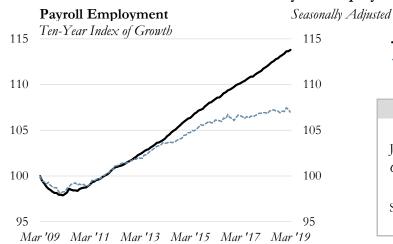


		Percent Unemployed	Labor Force (Thousands)			Percent Unemployed	Labor Force (Thousands)
	United States	3.8%	163,184.0	23	Clay	3.0	3.3
	Nebraska	2.8	1,027.2	24	Merrick	3.0	4.1
1	Blaine	4.8	0.3	25	Richardson	3.0	4.2
2	Thurston	4.7	3.1	26	Lincoln	2.9	18.5
3	Arthur	4.5	0.2	27	Cass	2.9	13.5
4	Scotts Bluff	3.7	18.6	28	Banner	2.9	0.4
5	Dakota	3.7	11.0	29	Kimball	2.9	2.1
6	Frontier	3.6	1.5	30	Adams	2.9	16.8
7	Nemaha	3.6	3.6	31	Boone	2.9	2.9
8	Cheyenne	3.5	4.6	32	Wayne	2.8	5.7
9	Thomas	3.4	0.5	33	Morrill	2.8	2.6
10	Wheeler	3.4	0.6	34	Otoe	2.8	8.2
11	Hitchcock	3.4	1.3	35	Saline	2.8	7.5
12	Brown	3.3	1.4	36	Dawson	2.8	13.1
13	Gage	3.2	11.0	37	Washington	2.7	11.4
14	Valley	3.2	2.1	38	Rock	2.7	0.9
15	Sherman	3.2	1.7	39	Sarpy	2.7	95.2
16	Franklin	3.1	1.5	40	Pawnee	2.7	1.5
17	Howard	3.1	3.4	41	Webster	2.7	1.7
18	Douglas	3.1	297.8	42	Dixon	2.7	3.1
19	Hall	3.1	31.9	43	Greeley	2.7	1.2
20	Johnson	3.1	2.1	44	Dawes	2.7	5.0
21	Loup	3.0	0.4	45	Stanton	2.6	3.5
22	Burt	3.0	3.5	46	Seward	2.6	8.8

# February 2019 Unemployment Rates & Civilian Labor Force

		Percent Unemployed	Labor Force (Thousands)			Percent Unemployed	Labor Force (Thousands)
47	Platte	2.6	17.6	71	York	2.4	7.4
48	Dodge	2.6	19.5	72	Nuckolls	2.4	2.4
49	Hamilton	2.6	4.7	73	McPherson	2.3	0.4
50	Boyd	2.6	1.1	74	Cuming	2.3	4.8
51	Grant	2.6	0.4	75	Cherry	2.3	3.4
52	Pierce	2.6	4.2	76	Box Butte	2.3	5.5
53	Nance	2.6	2.1	77	Antelope	2.3	3.7
54	Garden	2.6	1.2	78	Hooker	2.3	0.4
55	Lancaster	2.6	174.9	79	Dundy	2.2	1.2
56	Madison	2.6	19.6	80	Saunders	2.2	11.1
57	Fillmore	2.5	3.2	81	Gosper	2.2	1.1
58	Buffalo	2.5	28.1	82	Thayer	2.2	2.9
59	Jefferson	2.5	4.3	83	Sheridan	2.2	2.7
60	Polk	2.5	3.0	84	Cedar	2.2	4.5
61	Keith	2.5	4.5	85	Custer	2.2	6.6
62	Sioux	2.5	0.7	86	Deuel	2.1	1.0
63	Colfax	2.5	5.6	87	Keya Paha	2.1	0.6
64	Holt	2.5	5.8	88	Chase	2.1	2.3
65	Butler	2.5	4.6	89	Logan	2.1	0.5
66	Red Willow	2.5	5.9	90	Garfield	2.0	1.2
67	Phelps	2.5	5.0	91	Perkins	1.9	1.8
68	Furnas	2.5	2.6	92	Kearney	1.9	3.8
69	Harlan	2.4	1.8	93	Hayes	1.8	0.6
70	Knox	2.4	4.6				

## Payroll Employment

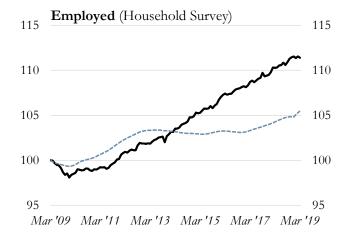


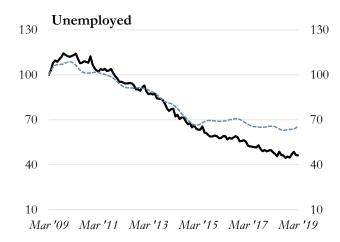


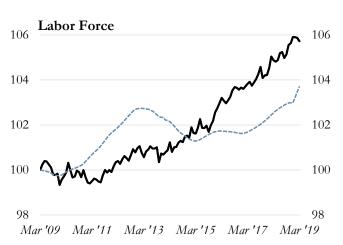
March 2019			
	United States	Nebraska	
Jobs (Thousands)	150,816.0	1,022.8	
Change from Last Year	2,537.0	0.2	
(Thousands)			
Share of U.S. Employme	ent	0.7%	

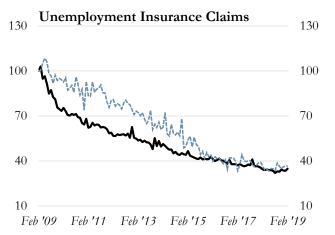
## **Labor Force Dynamics**

Ten-Year Index of Growth, Seasonally Adjusted







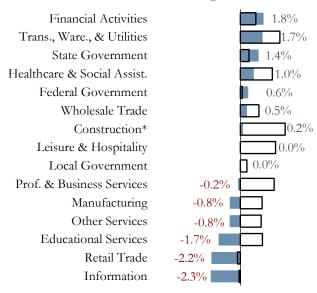


Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics & Department of Labor/Haver Analytics

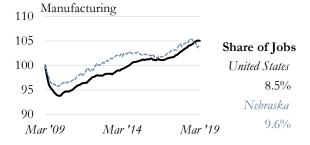
## Payroll Employment by Industry

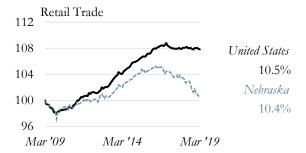
Seasonally Adjusted

#### March 2019 Percent Change Year-over-Year

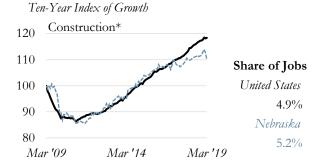


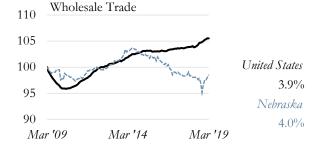
\*Construction includes natural resources and mining employment in Nebraska.

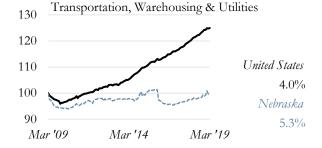






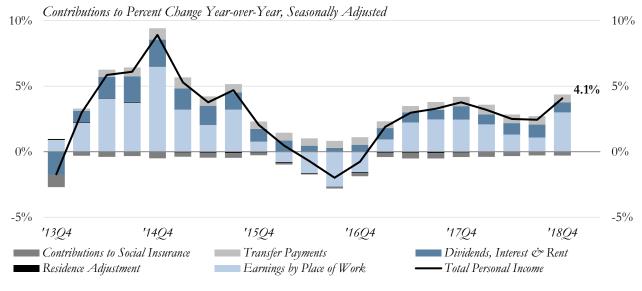








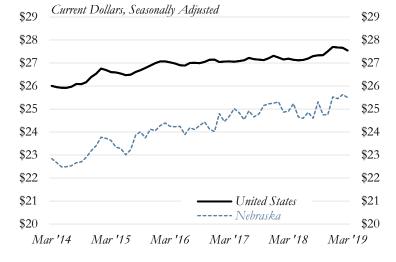
## Nebraska Nominal Personal Income Growth



2018Q4	Percent Change	Year-over-Year	Share of Pers	onal Income
	United States	Nebraska	United States	Nebraska
<b>Total Personal Income</b>	4.6%	4.1%		
Earnings by Place of Work	4.5%	4.1%	70.7%	73.8%
Social Insurance Contributions*	-4.9%	-3.3%	-7.7%	-8.0%
Residence Adjustment		1.9%		-1.1%
Dividends, Interest & Rent	4.8%	3.7%	20.1%	20.4%
Transfer Payments	4.8%	4.1%	16.9%	15.0%

<sup>\*</sup>Subtracted from personal income.

## Real Average Hourly Wage



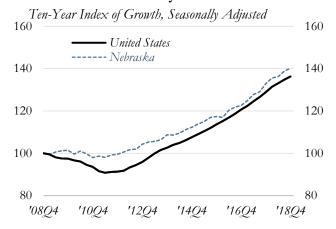
March 2019			
Average	United States	Nebraska	
Hourly Wage	\$27.54	\$25.50	
Real Change from	1		
Last Month	-0.4%	-0.5%	
Last Year	1.3%	2.4%	

Source: Bureau of Economic Analysis & Bureau of Labor Statistics/Haver Analytics

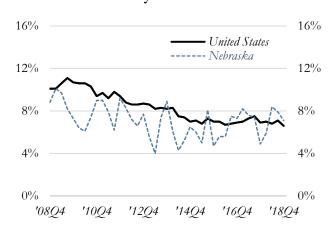
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## SELECTED HOUSING INDICATORS

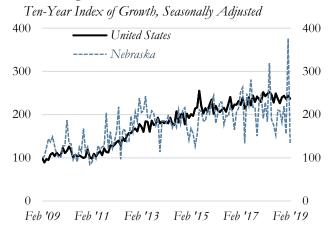
#### FHFA Purchase-Only Home Price Index



## **Rental Vacancy Rates**



## **Housing Permits**

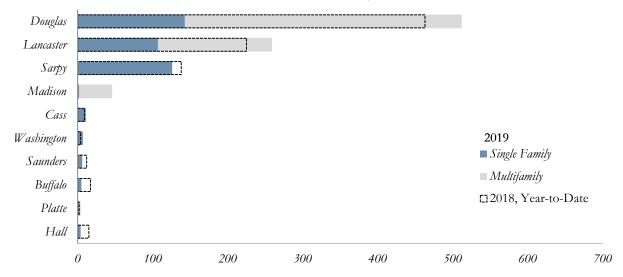


Summary Statistics			
	United States	Nebraska	
Prices (2018Q4)*	5.7%	5.4%	
Vacancy Rates (2018Q4)	6.6%	7.1%	
Permits (Year-to-Date)*			
Single Family	-6.2%	-17.1%	
Multifamily	6.8%	43.7%	

<sup>\*</sup>Percent change year-over-year.

## Top 10 Nebraska Counties for Permit Activity

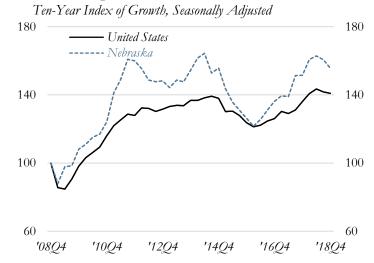
Year-to-Date through February



Source: Federal Housing Finance Agency (FHFA) & Census Bureau/Haver Analytics

## SELECTED TRADE INDICATORS

## **Global Exports**

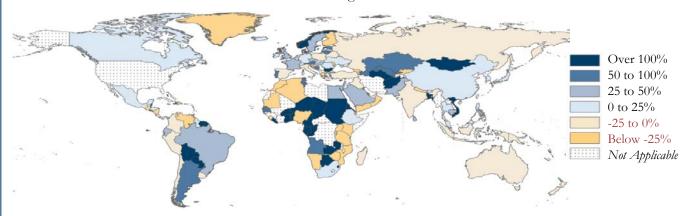


2018	8Q4	
	United States	Nebraska
Exports (Millions)	\$413,630.0	\$1,932.3
Change from		
Last Quarter	-0.6%	-3.1%
Last Year (year-to-date)	7.6%	10.1%
Share of U.S. Activity		0.5%

	2017	
Exports as a	United States	Nebraska
Percent of GDP	7.9%	6.0%

## Nebraska Exports Year-to-Date through 2018Q4

Percent Change Year-over-Year



Top Exports

Top	Markets	Share
1	Mexico	22.3%
2	Canada	21.6
3	Japan	10.4
4	China*	10.2
5	South Korea	6.1
6	Australia	2.9
7	Netherlands	2.1
8	Vietnam	2.0
9	Germany	1.9
10	Belgium	1.8

Source: Census Bureau, WISERTrade & Bureau of Economic Analysis/Haver Analytics

Share

Food 39.4% Agriculture & Livestock 13.3 3 Machinery (Except Electrical) 11.9 Chemicals & Rare Earth Metals 10.9 Transportation Equip. 4.1 Computers & Electronics 3.1 Oil & Gas 3.1 Misc. Manufactures 3.0 Electronic Equip. & Appliances 2.7 Fabricated Metal Products 2.2

<sup>\*</sup>China includes Hong Kong, Taiwan, and Macao.

Pages 2 - 4: County unemployment rates typically lag state data releases by one month. Gray bars show recessionary periods as designated by the National Bureau of Economic Research. The "official" and most commonly reported unemployment rate is calculated as the number of unemployed workers divided by the total civilian labor force. These data are reported from the Bureau of Labor Statistics Current Population Survey, or commonly called the "Household" survey.

Page 5: Nonfarm employment data from the Bureau of Labor Statistics Current Employment Survey are commonly called "Payroll" employment data. Estimates from this survey are revised throughout the year and a major revision or "benchmark" of the data occurs in March of each year. "Payroll" and "Household" surveys are released monthly, providing the most current estimates of employment published by the Bureau of Labor Statistics. Because methodologies differ between surveys, employment estimates also differ. For more information, visit:

http://www.bls.gov/web/empsit/ces\_cps\_trends.pdf
Initial claims show monthly applications for initial claims for state
unemployment insurance benefits.

Pages 6 and 7: Payroll employment by industry is shown for each of the major two-digit North American Industrial Classification System industries.

Page 8: Personal income provides a measure of all income received by residents of a given geographic area. Data shown are in nominal terms (not adjusted for inflation). Transfer payments include social benefits such as unemployment insurance, Social Security, and Medicaid. Contributions to social insurance are subtracted from personal income. These contributions include taxes paid by businesses and employees that support social insurance programs such as unemployment insurance, Social Security, and Medicaid. The residence adjustment adds income received outside of a recipient's state of residence and makes a corresponding subtraction from the area where this income was earned or received. Real average hourly wages are calculated as total earnings divided by total employment for a given geographic area. Data are adjusted for inflation using the consumer price index for all urban areas (CPI-U) and are indexed to the most current month of data.

Page 9: Home price indices estimate regional growth in home values based on repeat sales data for detached single family residential properties. Monthly single and multifamily housing permits data are not revised and therefore may not sum to published year-end totals.

Page 10: Exports measure the total physical movement of a given product from the United States to a foreign country.

#### **Data Revisions**

Most data are revised periodically to correct for errors and incorporate additional information as it becomes available. Data shown in this report are subject to change.

#### Seasonal Adjustments

Most data are seasonally adjusted to remove variance caused by seasonal fluctuations in economic activity. Data in this report show the seasonal adjustments of data publishers where available. In other cases, Census X-12 adjustments were applied.

## Regional Economic Analysis

Sign up to receive *The Nebraska Economic Databook* and other publications each month via email using the link below:

http://www.kansascityfed.org/ealert/

For regional economic analysis on the state of Nebraska, read the latest issues of *The Nebraska Economist*.

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