

# THE Nebraska ECONOMIC DATABOOK

*A summary of regional economic indicators  
for the state of Nebraska*



FEBRUARY 8, 2021

FEDERAL RESERVE BANK of KANSAS CITY

## SUMMARY OF CURRENT NEBRASKA ECONOMIC CONDITIONS

Nebraska ended the fourth quarter of 2020 with an unemployment rate of 3 percent, the lowest in the nation. Payroll employment is nearing pre-pandemic levels, though roughly 24,000 jobs have yet to be recovered. Despite the recent gains, employment in some industries was still less than in January of 2020. In particular, job losses in the leisure and hospitality industry have persisted. Conversely, healthcare and social assistance, financial activities, construction, wholesale trade and retail have experienced some employment growth relative to the previous year. As federal stimulus waned toward the end of the year, contributions to personal income from transfer payments declined, but this decrease was partially offset by increased earnings from work.

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; oil, gas and coal production; and exports. These indicators can be found on the following pages.



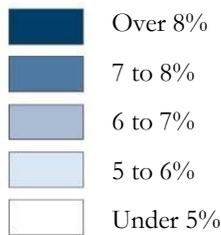
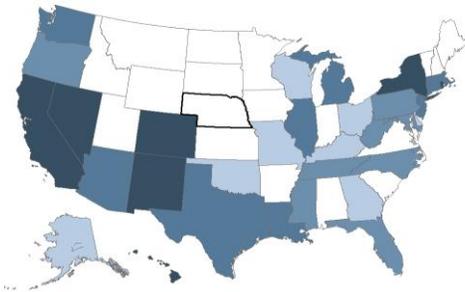
Nathan Kauffman is Vice President and Omaha Branch Executive. In this role, Kauffman is the Federal Reserve Bank of Kansas City's regional economist and lead officer in Nebraska. He is responsible for briefing the Kansas City Fed's President on the economy in Nebraska and the Tenth District.

### Unemployment Rates

*Seasonally Adjusted*

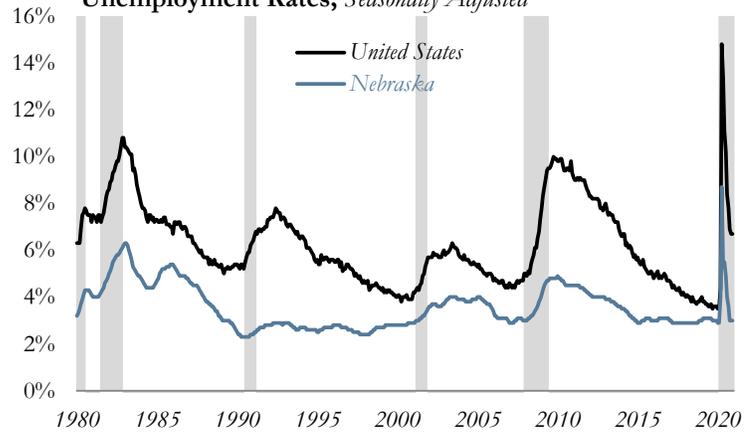
#### December 2020 Unemployment Rates

*Seasonally Adjusted*



December 2020		
	United States	Nebraska
Unemployment Rate	6.7%	3.0%
Unemployment Rate, Last Year	3.6%	3.0%

#### Unemployment Rates, Seasonally Adjusted



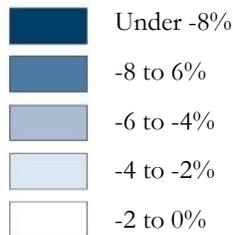
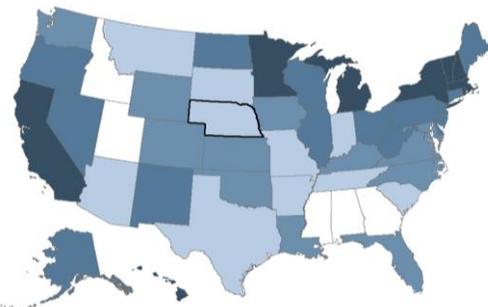
Note: Gray bars indicate recession.

### Payroll Employment

*Seasonally Adjusted*

#### December 2020 Payroll Employment

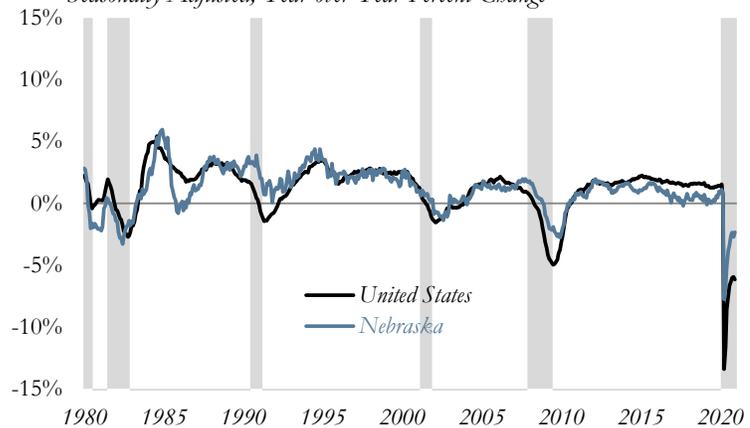
*Seasonally Adjusted, Year-over-Year Percent Change*



December 2020		
	United States	Nebraska
Jobs (Thousands)	142,624.0	1,009.8
Change from Last Year	-6.2%	-2.3%

#### Payroll Employment

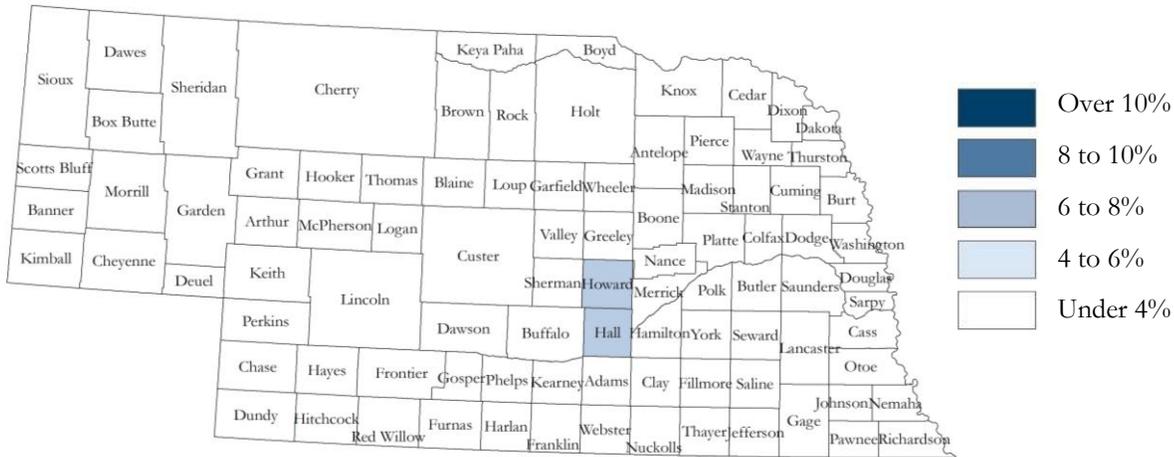
*Seasonally Adjusted, Year-over-Year Percent Change*



Note: Gray bars indicate recession.

Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics/Haver Analytics

**December 2020 Unemployment Rates & Civilian Labor Force**  
*Seasonally Adjusted*



	<i>Percent Unemployed</i>	<i>Labor Force (Thousands)</i>			<i>Percent Unemployed</i>	<i>Labor Force (Thousands)</i>	
<b>United States</b>	<b>6.7%</b>	<b>160,567.0</b>	23	Adams	2.9	16.2	
<b>Nebraska</b>	<b>3.0</b>	<b>1,036.8</b>	24	Saunders	2.9	11.2	
1	Howard	5.6	3.4	25	Gage	2.9	10.7
2	Hall	5.2	32.0	26	Dodge	2.9	20.2
3	Box Butte	3.9	5.3	27	Butler	2.8	4.5
4	Pierce	3.8	4.1	28	Webster	2.8	1.6
5	Douglas	3.8	301.7	29	Saline	2.8	7.2
6	Seward	3.7	9.1	30	Red Willow	2.7	5.8
7	Merrick	3.7	4.0	31	Hitchcock	2.7	1.3
8	Madison	3.7	19.3	32	Lincoln	2.7	18.1
9	Stanton	3.7	3.5	33	Dawes	2.7	4.8
10	Cheyenne	3.6	4.2	34	Keith	2.6	4.5
11	Thurston	3.5	2.9	35	Washington	2.6	11.3
12	Johnson	3.4	2.1	36	Nemaha	2.6	3.5
13	Lancaster	3.4	180.5	37	Banner	2.6	0.4
14	Franklin	3.3	1.5	38	Kimball	2.6	1.9
15	Cass	3.2	13.6	39	Arthur	2.6	0.2
16	Dakota	3.2	10.6	40	Morrill	2.6	2.6
17	Scotts Bluff	3.1	17.8	41	Dixon	2.5	3.0
18	Hamilton	3.1	4.7	42	Richardson	2.5	4.2
19	Burt	3.1	3.5	43	Buffalo	2.5	27.2
20	Garden	3.0	1.1	44	Deuel	2.5	1.0
21	Otoe	2.9	8.4	45	Nance	2.4	2.0
22	Sarpy	2.9	96.8	46	Platte	2.4	17.4

Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics/Haver Analytics

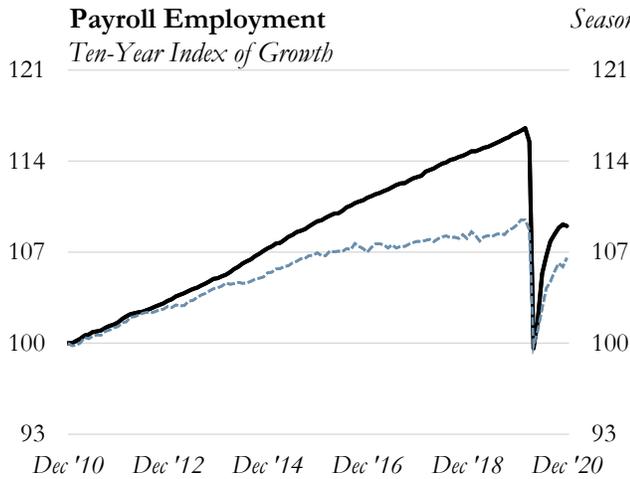
**December 2020 Unemployment Rates & Civilian Labor Force**

		<i>Percent Unemployed</i>	<i>Labor Force (Thousands)</i>			<i>Percent Unemployed</i>	<i>Labor Force (Thousands)</i>
47	Blaine	2.4	0.3	71	Valley	1.9	2.1
48	Sherman	2.4	1.6	72	Boone	1.9	2.9
49	Brown	2.4	1.4	73	Holt	1.8	5.8
50	York	2.4	7.1	74	Frontier	1.8	1.5
51	Wayne	2.3	5.5	75	Gosper	1.8	1.1
52	Thomas	2.3	0.4	76	Cuming	1.8	4.9
53	Dawson	2.3	13.1	77	McPherson	1.8	0.4
54	Colfax	2.3	5.5	78	Antelope	1.8	4.0
55	Knox	2.2	4.6	79	Nuckolls	1.8	2.5
56	Jefferson	2.2	4.1	80	Clay	1.8	3.2
57	Fillmore	2.2	3.1	81	Hayes	1.8	0.6
58	Cedar	2.2	4.5	82	Harlan	1.7	1.7
59	Furnas	2.1	2.6	83	Boyd	1.7	1.1
60	Kearney	2.1	3.7	84	Loup	1.6	0.4
61	Greeley	2.1	1.2	85	Logan	1.6	0.5
62	Pawnee	2.1	1.5	86	Sioux	1.6	0.8
63	Sheridan	2.0	2.6	87	Garfield	1.6	1.1
64	Hooker	2.0	0.4	88	Grant	1.5	0.4
65	Custer	2.0	6.3	89	Chase	1.4	2.3
66	Phelps	2.0	4.9	90	Wheeler	1.4	0.6
67	Polk	2.0	2.9	91	Rock	1.3	0.9
68	Dundy	1.9	1.2	92	Perkins	1.2	1.8
69	Cherry	1.9	3.3	93	Keya Paha	1.0	0.6
70	Thayer	1.9	2.8				

Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics/Haver Analytics

**Payroll Employment**

*Seasonally Adjusted*

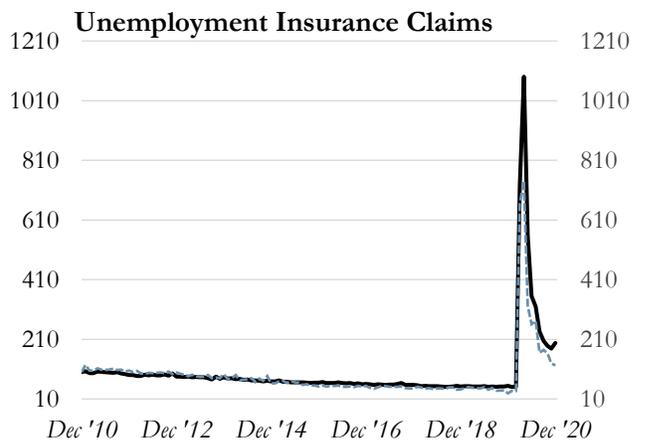
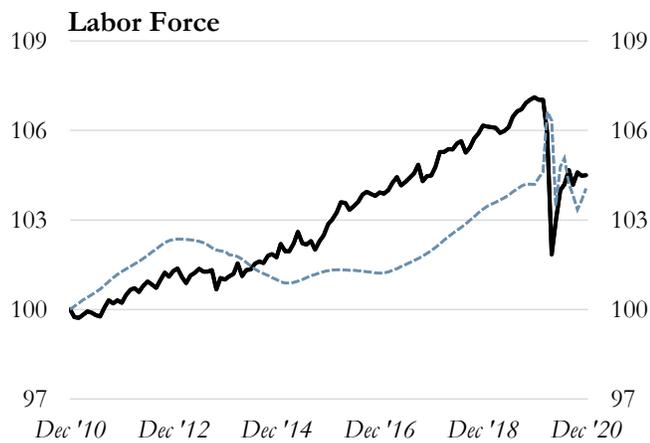
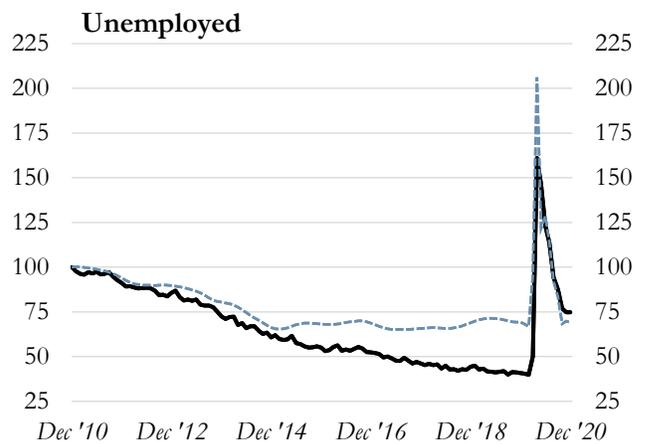
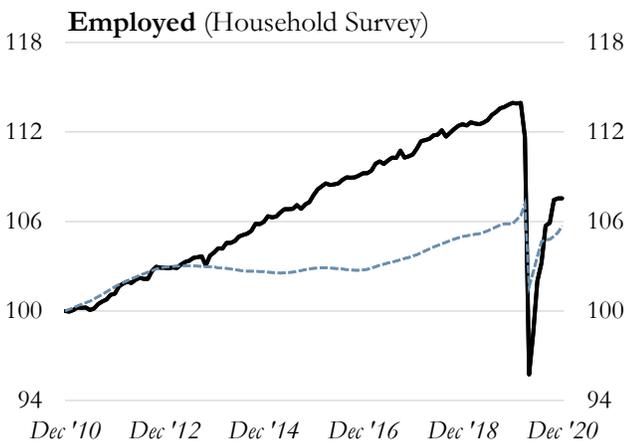


— United States  
- - - Nebraska

December 2020		
	United States	Nebraska
Jobs (Thousands)	142,624.0	1,009.8
Change from Last Year (Thousands)	(9,374.0)	-24.1
Share of U.S. Employment		0.7%

**Labor Force Dynamics**

*Ten-Year Index of Growth, Seasonally Adjusted*

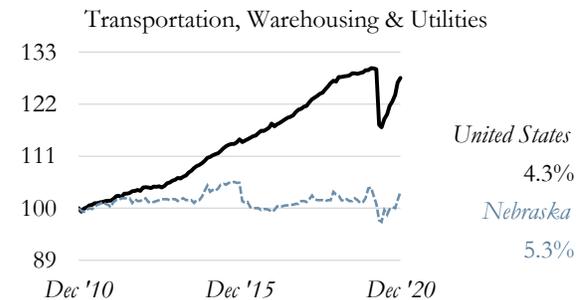
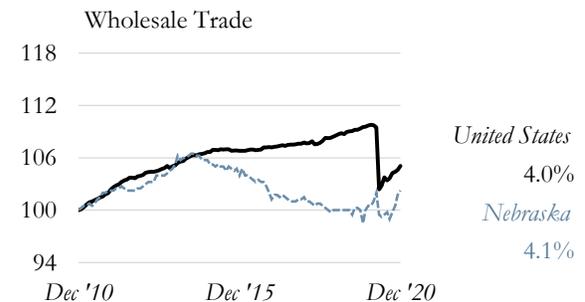
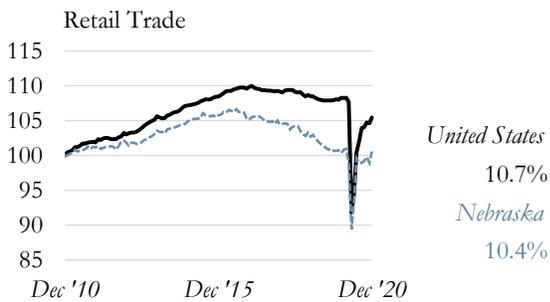
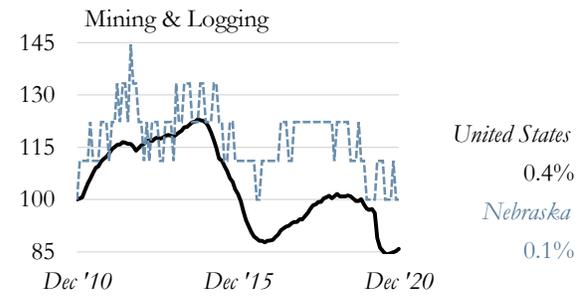
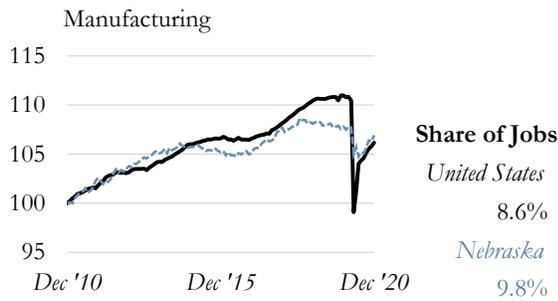
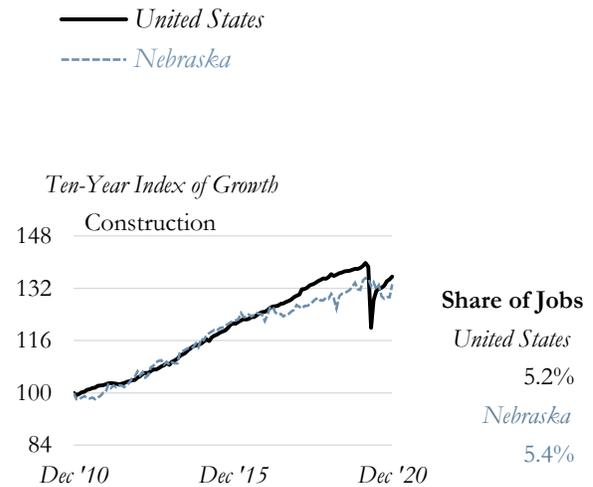
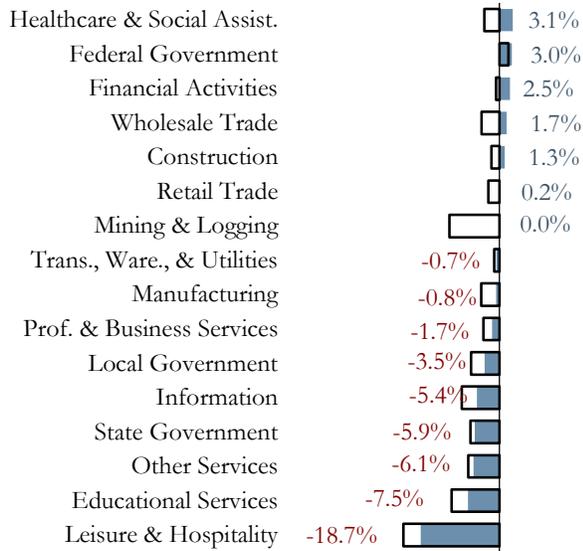


Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics & Department of Labor/Haver Analytics

### Payroll Employment by Industry

*Seasonally Adjusted*

**December 2020** *Percent Change Year-over-Year*

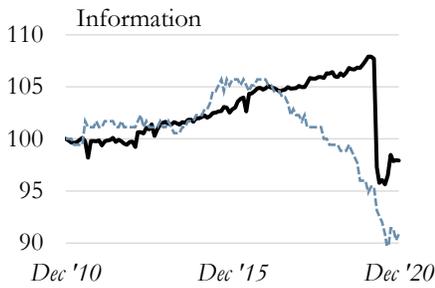


Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics/Haver Analytics

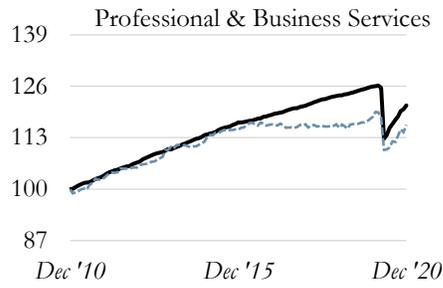
**Payroll Employment by Industry**

Ten-Year Index of Growth, Seasonally Adjusted

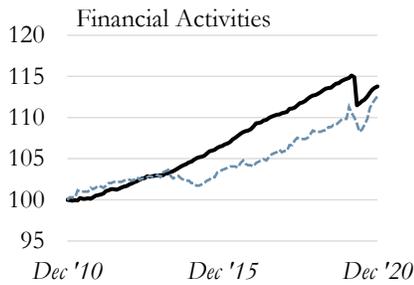
— United States  
 - - - Nebraska



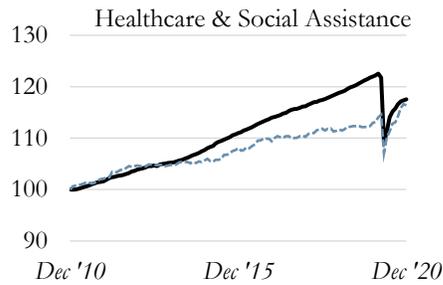
**Share of Jobs**  
 United States  
 1.8%  
 Nebraska  
 1.6%



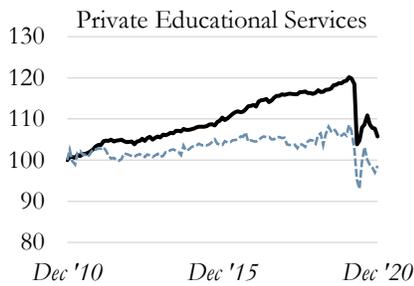
**Share of Jobs**  
 United States  
 14.5%  
 Nebraska  
 11.8%



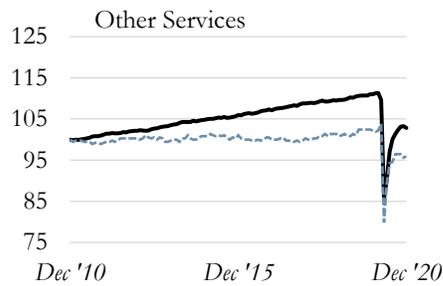
United States  
 6.1%  
 Nebraska  
 7.7%



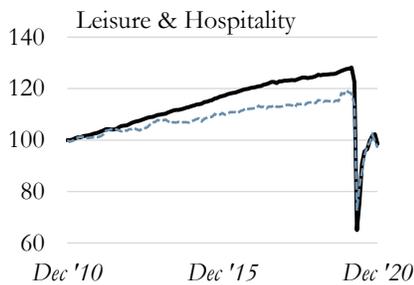
United States  
 14.0%  
 Nebraska  
 14.3%



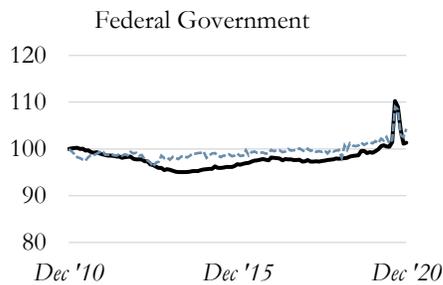
United States  
 2.4%  
 Nebraska  
 1.7%



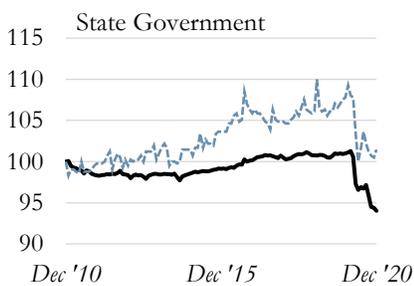
United States  
 3.8%  
 Nebraska  
 3.5%



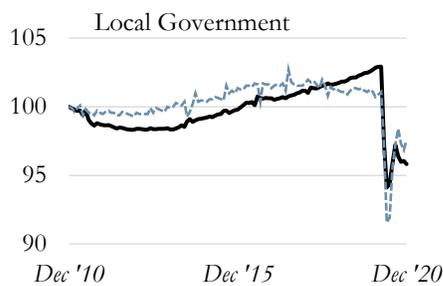
United States  
 9.1%  
 Nebraska  
 7.8%



United States  
 2.0%  
 Nebraska  
 1.7%



United States  
 3.4%  
 Nebraska  
 4.1%

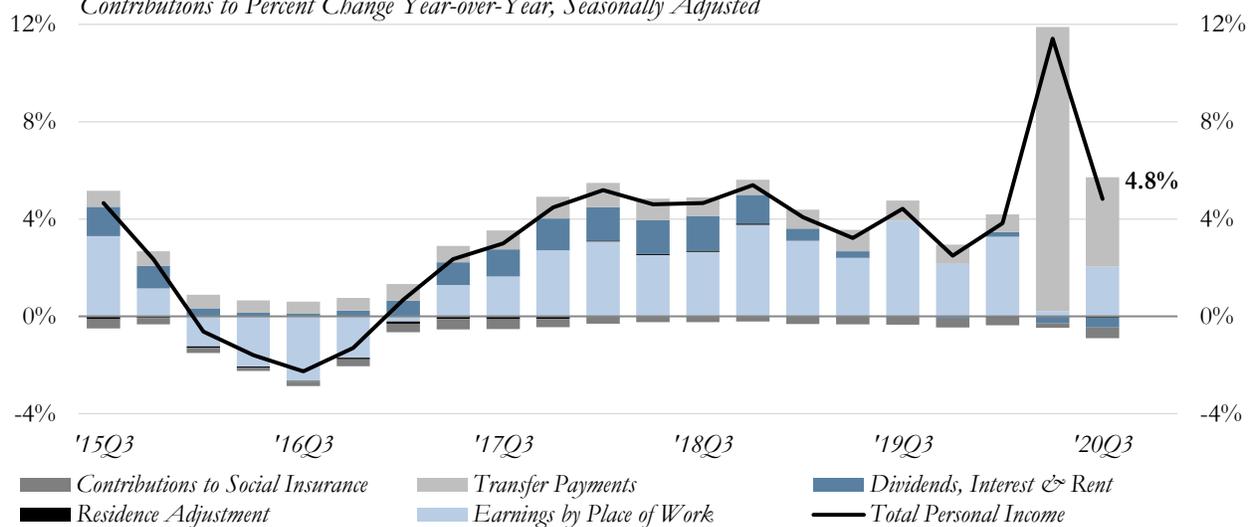


United States  
 9.6%  
 Nebraska  
 10.8%

Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics/Haver Analytics

### Nebraska Nominal Personal Income Growth

*Contributions to Percent Change Year-over-Year, Seasonally Adjusted*

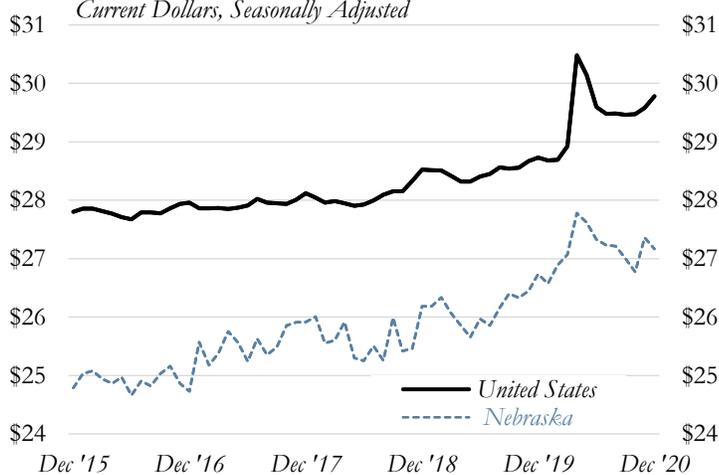


2020Q3	Percent Change Year-over-Year		Share of Personal Income	
	United States	Nebraska	United States	Nebraska
<b>Total Personal Income</b>	<b>7.1%</b>	<b>4.8%</b>		
Earnings by Place of Work	1.7%	2.8%	67.0%	72.2%
Social Insurance Contributions*	-2.2%	-5.4%	-7.3%	-8.1%
Residence Adjustment		5.0%		-1.1%
Dividends, Interest & Rent	-2.7%	-2.0%	18.4%	18.7%
Transfer Payments	39.1%	23.9%	21.9%	18.3%

\*Subtracted from personal income.

### Real Average Hourly Wage

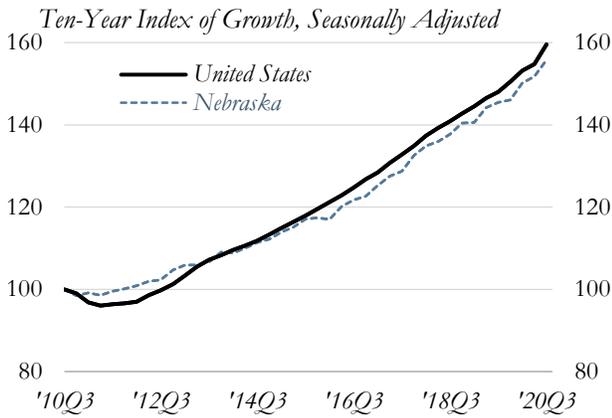
*Current Dollars, Seasonally Adjusted*



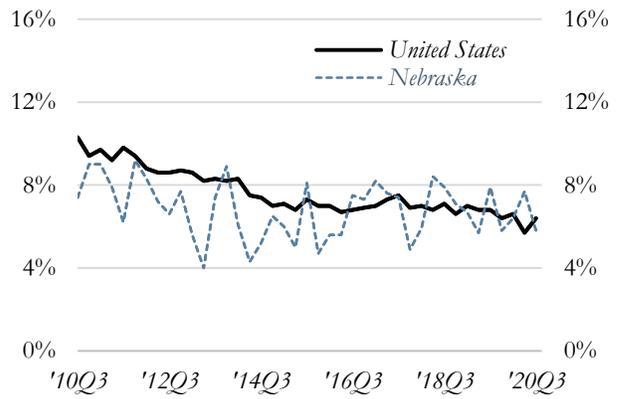
December 2020		
Average Hourly Wage	United States	Nebraska
	\$29.78	\$27.16
<i>Real Change from</i>		
Last Month	0.7%	-0.7%
Last Year	3.7%	1.6%

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

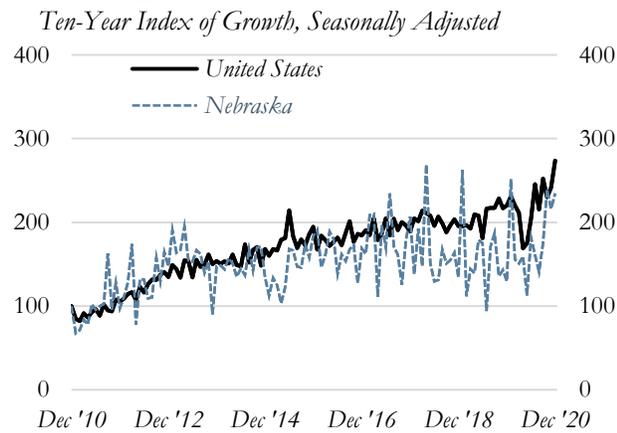
### FHFA Purchase-Only Home Price Index



### Rental Vacancy Rates



### Housing Permits

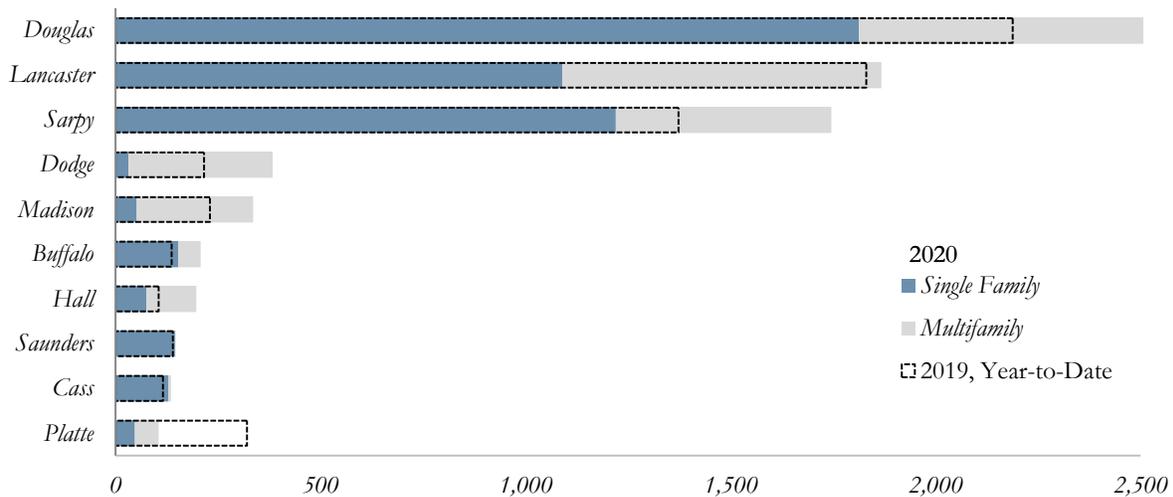


Summary Statistics		
	United States	Nebraska
Prices (2020Q3)*	7.8%	7.1%
Vacancy Rates (2020Q3)	6.4%	5.8%
Permits (Year-to-Date)*		
<i>Single Family</i>	14.5%	23.6%
<i>Multifamily</i>	-8.2%	16.4%

\*Percent change year-over-year.

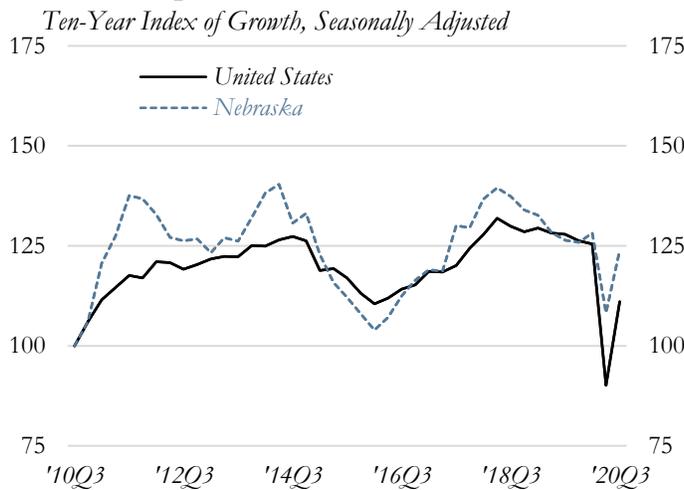
### Top 10 Nebraska Counties for Permit Activity

*Year-to-Date through December*



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

**Global Exports**

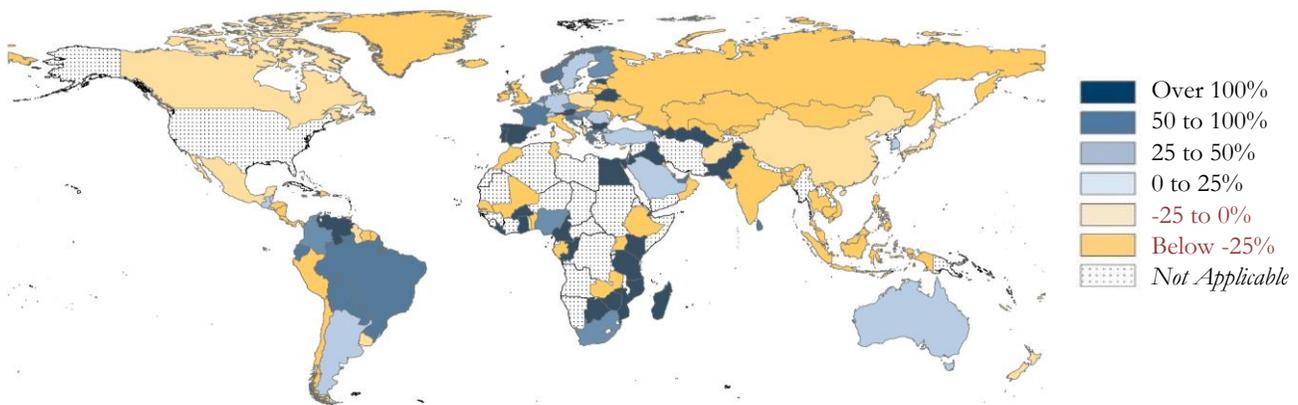


2020Q3		
	United States	Nebraska
Exports (Millions)	\$356,630.5	\$1,798.6
<i>Change from</i>		
Last Quarter	23.3%	14.4%
Last Year (year-to-date)	-15.3%	-7.0%
Share of U.S. Activity		0.5%

2019		
	United States	Nebraska
Exports as a Percent of GDP	7.7%	5.7%

**Nebraska Exports Year-to-Date through 2020Q3**

*Percent Change Year-over-Year*



Top Markets	Share
1 Mexico	22.6%
2 Canada	19.9
3 Japan	10.8
4 China*	9.8
5 South Korea	5.8
6 Brazil	3.1
7 Australia	2.9
8 France	2.2
9 Netherlands	2.1
10 Germany	2.0

Top Exports	Share
1 Food	37.9%
2 Chemicals & Rare Earth Metals	14.6
3 Agriculture & Livestock	14.0
4 Machinery (Except Electrical)	11.4
5 Misc. Manufactures	4.0
6 Transportation Equip.	3.7
7 Computers & Electronics	3.0
8 Oil & Gas	2.6
9 Fabricated Metal Products	1.8
10 Electronic Equip. & Appliances	1.5

\*China includes Hong Kong, Taiwan, and Macao.

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

*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\\_eps\\_trends.pdf](http://www.bls.gov/web/empsit/ces_eps_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*

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