Staff at the Omaha Branch focus on economic research, public outreach, community development, bank supervision, information technology and financial services. The Branch serves a link to our region through relationships with businesses and communities across the state who have insights into local economic conditions and concerns.

**Branch Focus Areas:**

- Provide insight and analysis on Nebraska’s economy.
- Lead agricultural research for the Federal Reserve Bank of Kansas City and the Federal Reserve System.
- Build relationships, coordinate public outreach, and promote economic and financial education and greater knowledge of the Federal Reserve.
- Support community economic development through research, resources and relationships with economic developers and small business owners.
- Promote a safe, stable and competitive banking system through the supervision and regulation of financial institutions while also providing proactive outreach to state member banks and bank holding companies.
- Provide high-quality operational and support services to the U.S. Treasury.

**Nebraska Engagement:**

- Offer the Student Board of Directors program for high school students in Omaha Public Schools to help increase their understanding of economic, financial and career topics.
- Host Economic Forums and speak to groups across the state to provide updates on the regional and national economy.
- Meet with business and community leaders to learn about local economic conditions and gather diverse perspectives on the economy.
- Assist communities throughout the state and region explore the benefits of entrepreneurship-based economic development.
- Work with all financial institutions to provide a comprehensive suite of financial services to meet their operational needs.

**Branch Contacts:**

- Public Affairs, Government and Media Relations: Erin Redemske, Director of Public Affairs | erin.redemske@kc.frb.org
- Economic and Financial Education: Nicole Connelly, Public Affairs Specialist | nicole.connelly@kc.frb.org
- Community Development: Dell Gines, Senior Community Development Advisor | dell.gines@kc.frb.org
- Bank Supervision: Nicholas Hatz, Assistant Vice President | nicholas.hatz@kc.frb.org
- Speech Requests: www.kansascityfed.org/research/speakerrequestform

Nathan Kauffman is vice president and Omaha Branch Executive. In his role as the Bank’s lead economist and representative in the state of Nebraska, Nathan provides strategic direction and oversight for the Omaha Branch, regional research, and economic outreach throughout the state.

In addition, Nathan is the Kansas City Fed’s principal expert in agricultural economics. He is a leading voice on the agricultural economic throughout the seven states of the Tenth Federal Reserve District and the broader Federal Reserve System.
About the Federal Reserve Bank of Kansas City

The Federal Reserve Act in 1913 established a framework for a decentralized central bank, one that included a regional structure of 12 Reserve Banks around the country. The Act also extended that regional presence by providing for Branch offices. The Federal Reserve Bank of Kansas City serves seven states: Kansas, western Missouri, Nebraska, Oklahoma, Wyoming, Colorado and northern New Mexico. There are three Branches in the Tenth District in Denver, Oklahoma City and Omaha.

Esther George is president of the Federal Reserve Bank of Kansas City. She serves on the Federal Open Market Committee, which has authority over U.S. monetary policy.

Omaha Branch Board of Directors

Serving on the Branch Board
Each Branch of the Federal Reserve Bank of Kansas City has its own seven-member Board of Directors. Four of these directors are appointed by the Federal Reserve Bank of Kansas City while three are appointed by the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System in Washington, D.C. Branch directors serve three-year terms and provide their respective Branch executives with insight on regional economic conditions as well as offer advice and counsel.

Kimberly A. Russel, Chair of the Branch Board
Chief Executive Officer
Russel Advisors
Lincoln, Nebraska

Thomas J. Henning
President and CEO
Cash-Wa Distributing Co.
Kearney, Nebraska

Eric Butler
Retired Executive Vice President
Union Pacific Railroad
Omaha, Nebraska

Zac Karpf
Chief Operating Officer
Platte Valley Bank
Scottsbluff, Nebraska

L. Javier Fernandez
Chief Financial Officer
Omaha Public Power District
Omaha, Nebraska

Dwayne W. Sieck
President, Middle Market Banking
CIT
Omaha, Nebraska

Annette Hamilton
Chief Operating Officer
Ho-Chunk, Inc.
Winnebago, Nebraska