

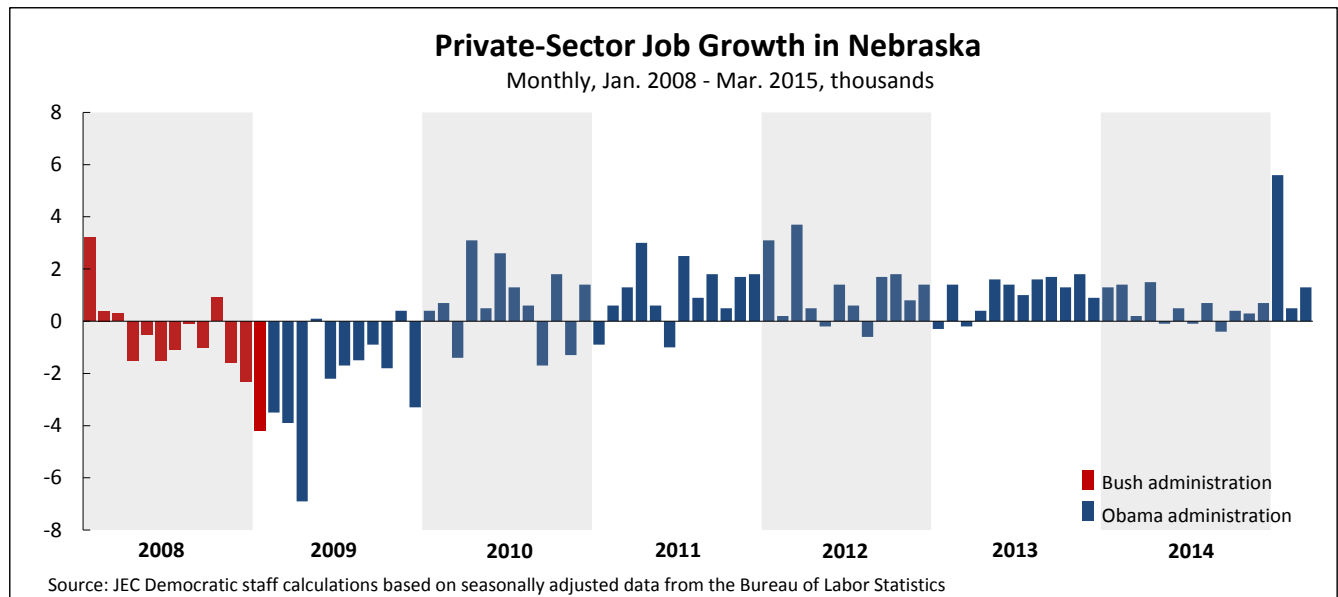


ECONOMIC SNAPSHOT: NEBRASKA

Includes Bureau of Labor Statistics jobs and unemployment data through March 2015

JOBS

- In March, private-sector employment in Nebraska grew by 1,300 jobs. Over the past year, Nebraska businesses have added 10,900 jobs. This compares with an increase of 14,600 jobs over the 12 months through March 2014.
- Since February 2010, the national low point for private-sector employment, Nebraska businesses have added 60,500 jobs (an increase of 7.8 percent). Nationally, private payrolls have increased by 11.3 percent over this time.
- The state sectors with the greatest job gains in percentage terms since February 2010 are: professional and business services at 16.2 percent (16,100 jobs), leisure and hospitality at 12.5 percent (10,000 jobs) and education and health services at 8.1 percent (11,300 jobs).



UNEMPLOYMENT

- The unemployment rate in Nebraska was 2.6 percent in March 2015, down 0.1 percentage point from February. The rate was 2.9 percentage points below the national rate of 5.5 percent.
- Unemployment is down 0.8 percentage point from one year earlier and is 2.2 percentage points below its recent peak of 4.8 percent in March 2010.
- There were 26,200 Nebraska residents unemployed in March 2015.

EARNINGS

- In March 2015, average weekly earnings of private-sector workers in Nebraska were \$755.14. Average hourly earnings were \$22.08, and the average workweek was 34.2 hours.
- Adjusting for inflation, state average weekly earnings have risen by 3.8 percent over the past year. Real hourly earnings have increased by 3.5 percent, and the length of the average workweek has gone up 0.1 hour. Nationally, real average weekly earnings have increased by 2.3 percent over the past year.

STATE QUICK FACTS

		Nebraska	United States
Private-Sector Jobs Added	Past 12 Months	10,900	3.1 million
	Since Feb. 2010	60,500	12.1 million
Unemployment Rate	March 2015	2.6%	5.5%
	March 2014	3.4%	6.6%
	Recession-Era Peak	4.8%	10.0%
Median Household Income (2013 \$)	2013	\$53,800	\$51,900
	2007 (Pre-Recession)	\$55,200	\$56,400
Poverty Rate	2013	11.0%	14.5%
	2007 (Pre-Recession)	9.9%	12.5%
All Veterans' Unemployment Rate	2014	4.1%	5.3%
Post-9/11 Veterans' Unemployment Rate	2014	5.2%	7.2%
Percentage Without Health Insurance	2013	11.3%	14.5%

STATE GROSS DOMESTIC PRODUCT

- Real gross domestic product (GDP) in Nebraska grew by 3.0 percent in 2013 (the most recent year for which data are available), above the national average growth rate of 1.8 percent.*
- Since 2009, annual Nebraska GDP growth has averaged 3.1 percent, compared with a national average annual growth rate of 2.0 percent.

HOUSING

- Home prices in Nebraska increased by 3.7 percent from the fourth quarter of 2013 to the fourth quarter of 2014. They are up 15.7 percent since their recent low in the fourth quarter of 2010.
- In February 2015, builders in Nebraska broke ground on 5,180 new housing units (seasonally adjusted annual rate), bringing the average over the past 12 months to 7,707 units. That marks an increase of 5.3 percent from the average over the prior 12 months.

EXPORTS

- In Nebraska, goods exports totaled \$547 million in February and \$7.4 billion over the past year, up 5.4 percent from the 12 months ending in February 2014 (inflation-adjusted).
- Exports over the past 12 months are up 42.6 percent from their level in 2009 (inflation-adjusted).

* Note: Because of methodological differences, total U.S. real GDP by state differs slightly from headline national GDP figures

** A list of sources used to compile the Nebraska economic snapshot is available at: <http://bit.ly/JEC-state-by-state-sources>

*** For additional Nebraska-specific labor sector statistics, please refer to the Nebraska office: <http://www.dol.nebraska.gov/>