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Keith K. Turner

*University of Nebraska at Omaha*

Edward D. Coleman

*University of Nebraska at Omaha*

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## **An Evaluation of Performance and Structural Change in Employment—U. S., Nebraska, and Omaha Area Economies, 1988 to 1995**

*Keith K. Turner, Ph.D. and Edward D. Coleman, M.S., University of Nebraska at Omaha*

### **Introduction**

A periodic comparative evaluation of employment and its composition is worthwhile since employment is one of the most basic determinants of the health of the economy and quality of life. Changes in employment over time reflect restructuring of an economy and, ultimately, have social impacts. Moreover, the underlying trends of employment give an indication of an economy's future growth and well being. A future article will evaluate personal income as a measure of economic performance.

This article examines employment data developed by the U. S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of Economic Analysis (BEA) and compiled by the Bureau of Business Research (BBR). To provide a consistent and comparable analysis, the initial and terminal years of the study, 1988 and 1995, both represent periods of healthy economic growth. The data tables summarize the economies of the U. S. (Table 1), Nebraska (Table 2) and the Omaha Area (Tables 3 and 4). The Omaha area includes the Nebraska counties of Douglas, Sarpy, and Washington in Table 3. Pottawattamie County, Iowa is added to the Omaha area in Table 4. Pottawattamie County is also presented separately in Table 5 to show its growth relative to the rest of the Omaha Area.

Average annual employment (number of full- and part-time persons employed) by primary sectors and major industries for each economy, annual data for the first and last years of the study period, and the proportionate share of the annual totals for each line item are shown in Table 1. In addition, absolute change in employment from 1988 to 1995 and the absolute growth percentage over the period, as well as the change in share of each line item over the same period, are shown. This approach demonstrates the changing structure, trend of compositional changes, and relative significance of each category over time.

*Employment*

**Table I**  
**United States—Average Annual Employment, 1988-1995**  
*(thousands)*

Industry Sector	1988	% of Total	1995	% of Total	Absolute Change	% Change Employment	% Change Share
<b>Private Sector</b>							
Agricultural Services/Forestry/Fisheries	1,356.2	1.01	1,821.9	1.22	465.7	34.34	21.12
Mining	1,089.3	0.81	922.0	0.62	(167.3)	(15.36)	(23.69)
Construction	7,172.4	5.33	7,649.6	5.12	477.2	6.65	(3.84)
Manufacturing	19,886.0	14.77	19,225.9	12.88	(660.1)	(3.32)	(12.83)
Transportation/Communication/Utilities	6,225.7	4.63	7,079.7	4.74	854.0	13.72	2.53
Wholesale Trade	6,480.8	4.81	6,953.5	4.66	472.7	7.29	(3.27)
Retail Trade	22,124.5	16.44	25,181.3	16.87	3,056.8	13.82	2.61
Finance/Insurance/Real Estate	11,056.7	8.21	11,088.6	7.43	31.9	0.29	(9.58)
Services	35,538.6	26.40	44,773.6	29.99	9,235.0	25.99	13.59
<b>Total Private Sector</b>	<b>110,930.2</b>	<b>82.42</b>	<b>124,696.1</b>	<b>83.53</b>	<b>13,765.9</b>	<b>12.41</b>	<b>1.35</b>
<b>Public Sector</b>							
Federal, Civilian	3,140.0	2.33	2,976.0	1.99	(164.0)	(5.22)	(14.55)
Military	2,814.0	2.09	2,234.0	1.50	(580.0)	(20.61)	(28.42)
State and Local	14,436.0	10.73	16,400.0	10.99	1,964.0	13.60	2.42
<b>Total Public Sector</b>	<b>20,390.0</b>	<b>15.15</b>	<b>21,610.0</b>	<b>14.48</b>	<b>1,220.0</b>	<b>5.98</b>	<b>(4.45)</b>
<b>Total Nonfarm Sector</b>	<b>131,320.2</b>	<b>97.57</b>	<b>146,306.1</b>	<b>98.00</b>	<b>14,985.9</b>	<b>11.41</b>	<b>0.45</b>
Farm	3,277.0	2.43	2,984.0	2.00	(293.0)	(8.94)	(17.90)
<b>Total Employment</b>	<b>134,597.2</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>149,290.1</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>14,692.9</b>	<b>10.92</b>	<b>0.00</b>

Source: Bureau of Economic Analysis, U.S. Department of Commerce

## Employment Changes

### U. S.

Total employment in the United States has grown from 135 million workers in 1988 to 149 million workers in 1995, a 10.9 percent increase. The total nonfarm sector has grown from 131 million to 146 million, an 11.4 percent increase. Farm sector employment declined 8.9 percent from 3.3 million workers to 3.0 million. The nonfarm sector gained nearly a half a percentage point in share of total employment, growing from 97.6 percent in 1988 to 98.0 percent in 1995.

Private sector industries accounted for the majority of the nonfarm sector's growth. Private employment grew from 111 million in 1988 to 125 million in 1995, a 12.4 percent growth. The greatest impact of the private sector came from the growth in services. Service industry employment grew 26 percent, from approximately 36 million workers to 45 million workers. To give a better perspective of the growth in services, 26.4 percent of the work force was employed in this sector in 1988, but by 1995 the share had increased to 30.0 percent. Other industries in the private sector that had significant change included retail trade and transportation, communications, and utilities (TCU). Retail trade employment grew from 22 million in 1988 to 25 million in 1995, a 13.8 percent increase. TCU employment grew 13.7 percent, from

6 million to 7 million workers, a share gain of only 0.1 percentage point.

Manufacturing exhibited substantial employment declines in both absolute and relative terms over the study period. Manufacturing employment fell from 19.9 million in 1988 to 19.2 million in 1995, a 3.3 percent reduction. Moreover, the share of manufacturing employment declined from 14.8 percent to 12.9 percent. The retail trade share expanded from 16.4 percent to 16.9 percent. Construction employment grew from 7.2 million to 7.6 million, a 6.7 percent growth. The construction share of employment, however, decreased from 5.3 percent to 5.1 percent.

The public sector displayed 6 percent employment growth, as the average number of workers grew from 20.4 million to 21.6 million. However, the public sector's share of employment declined slightly, from 15.2 percent in 1988 to 14.5 percent in 1995.

The industry that showed the greatest overall growth rate was the agricultural services, forestry, and fisheries sector, with a 34.3 percent expansion of employment. While the agricultural services, forestry, and fisheries sector showed the largest percentage growth, it is the next to smallest sector in the economy, in absolute terms, with a 1.2 percent total share.

**Table 2**  
**Nebraska—Average Annual Employment, 1988-1995**  
*(thousands)*

Industry Sector	1988	% of Total	1995	% of Total	Absolute Change	% Change Employment	% Change Share
<b>Private Sector</b>							
Agricultural Services/Forestry/Fisheries	10.42	1.09	13.34	1.23	2.92	28.05	12.73
Mining	2.89	0.30	2.50	0.23	(0.39)	(13.40)	(23.75)
Construction	38.59	4.05	51.97	4.80	13.39	34.69	18.58
Manufacturing	98.49	10.34	115.22	10.65	16.72	16.98	2.99
Transportation/Communication/Utilities	51.71	5.43	57.43	5.31	5.72	11.07	(2.22)
Wholesale Trade	52.85	5.55	56.62	5.23	3.77	7.13	(5.68)
Retail Trade	154.90	16.26	185.06	17.10	30.16	19.47	5.18
Finance/Insurance/Real Estate	75.17	7.89	80.63	7.45	5.45	7.26	(5.57)
Services	232.06	24.35	290.84	26.87	58.78	25.33	10.34
<b>Total Private Sector</b>	<b>717.08</b>	<b>75.26</b>	<b>853.61</b>	<b>78.87</b>	<b>136.53</b>	<b>19.04</b>	<b>4.80</b>
<b>Public Sector</b>							
Federal, Civilian	17.62	1.85	16.20	1.50	(1.41)	(8.03)	(19.03)
Military	23.48	2.46	16.62	1.54	(6.86)	(29.21)	(37.67)
State and Local	117.89	12.37	128.95	11.91	11.06	9.38	(3.70)
<b>Total Public Sector</b>	<b>158.99</b>	<b>16.68</b>	<b>161.77</b>	<b>14.95</b>	<b>2.79</b>	<b>1.75</b>	<b>(10.42)</b>
<b>Total Nonfarm Sector</b>	<b>876.07</b>	<b>91.94</b>	<b>1,015.38</b>	<b>93.81</b>	<b>139.32</b>	<b>15.90</b>	<b>2.04</b>
Farm	76.80	8.06	66.95	6.19	(9.85)	(12.83)	(23.26)
<b>Total Employment</b>	<b>952.87</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>1,082.33</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>129.46</b>	<b>13.59</b>	<b>0.00</b>

Source: Bureau of Economic Analysis, U.S. Department of Commerce

## Nebraska

Total employment in Nebraska grew 13.6 percent from 953,000 workers in 1988 to just over 1 million workers in 1995 (Table 2). The nonfarm sector showed a total employment share gain to 93.8 percent in 1995, up from 91.9 percent in 1988. As a direct result, the farm sector's employment share declined from 8.1 percent to 6.2 percent.

The private sector accounted for the majority of the state's employment and growth. The sector grew from 717,000 workers to 854,000 workers over the study period, a 19 percent change. Moreover, the private sector's share of employment increased from 75.3 percent to 78.9 percent. All industries within the private sector exhibited growth except mining, which is relatively insignificant with less than 3,000 employed in that sector. Services displayed the greatest absolute employment growth, advancing from 232,000 workers to 291,000. This 25.3 percent growth resulted in an expansion of services' share from 24.3 percent in 1988 to 26.9 percent in 1995.

Retail trade, transportation, communication, and utilities (TCU), and manufacturing showed healthy advances in terms of workers employed. The retail trade work force increased from 155,000 to 185,000 workers—19.5 percent. TCU had an 11 percent increase in employment from 52,000 workers in 1988 to 57,000 in 1995. However, TCU's share of total state employment declined slightly over the period, from 5.4 percent

to 5.3 percent. Manufacturing had a 17 percent increase in employment, from 98,000 to 115,000 workers.

Construction and agricultural services, forestry, and fisheries had very healthy increases in employment during the period. Construction employment increased from almost 39,000 workers in 1988 to 52,000 in 1995. This is a 34.7 percent increase in employment with the share of total employment increasing from 4 percent to 4.8 percent. Agricultural services, forestry, and fisheries had a 28.1 percent increase in employment from 10,000 to 13,000 workers.

Wholesale trade and finance, insurance, and real estate (FIRE) both had modest gains in employment but both declined in their share of total state employment. Wholesale trade employment increased 7.1 percent, from 53,000 to 57,000 workers. FIRE grew from 75,000 to 81,000 workers, a 7.3 percent increase in employment.

The public sector showed a modest increase of 1.8 percent, as employment grew from 159,000 to 162,000. The sector's employment share decreased to 15.0 percent in 1995 from 16.7 in 1988.

The farm sector decreased substantially. Farm employment declined from 77,000 to 67,000, a 12.8 percent reduction. As in the national data, the greatest percentage change took place in the agricultural services, forestry, and fisheries component of the private sector.



**Omaha Area (Douglas, Sarpy, and Washington Counties, Excluding Pottawattamie County, Iowa)**

Table 3 summarizes changes in employment for the Omaha area. Total employment grew 16.5 percent, from 357,400 in 1988 to 416,500 in 1995. The nonfarm sector accounted for 99.6 percent of the Omaha area employment in 1995, up from 99.4 percent in 1988. Nonfarm employment grew in absolute terms from 355,000 workers to 415,000 or 16.7 percent. Farm employment decreased from 2,200 workers to 1,800, a share loss from 0.6 percent in 1988 to 0.4 percent in 1995.

Similar to the state and nation, Omaha's private sector experienced tremendous growth over the study period. The sector's absolute employment grew 21.1 percent, from 296,600 to 359,200 workers. Services exhibited the largest employment growth. Service workers increased from 103,800 to 137,500, a share gain from 29 percent to 33 percent. Retail trade and FIRE exhibited notable absolute growth, but FIRE declined slightly in share terms. Retail trade grew from 55,700 workers to 69,100, and FIRE employment increased from 38,800 to 42,200. These figures correspond to 24.1 percent and 8.7 percent growth rates, respectively.

The changes in manufacturing and construction were noteworthy. In 1988 the Omaha manufacturing sector employed 32,200 workers or 9 percent of total employment. By 1995 the number of persons employed in manufacturing increased by almost 1,800. However, the sector's share fell to 8.2 percent. Construction grew in both absolute and relative terms. Construction employment grew from 15,900 workers, a 4.4 percent share, to 20,900, a 5 percent share.

Public sector employment decreased from 58,600 workers in 1988 to 55,500 workers in 1995. This drop was caused primarily by a decrease in the number of both military and civilian personnel at Offutt Air Force Base. The public sector share of total employment decreased from 16.4 percent in 1988 to 13.3 percent in 1995.

**Omaha Area (including Pottawattamie County, Iowa)**

Table 4 summarizes changes in employment for the Omaha area including Pottawattamie County while Table 5 covers Pottawattamie County only. The most notable difference between Pottawattamie and the rest of the Omaha area is the relatively large increase (in Pottawattamie) in manufacturing and the decrease in FIRE. Manufacturing increased from 3,800 workers in 1988 to 4,900 in 1995, an increase of 29 percent. FIRE decreased from 2,200 to 2,100 workers, a decrease of 7 percent.

**Table 3  
Omaha Area—Average Annual Employment, 1988-1995  
(thousands)**

Industry Sector	1988	% of Total	1995	% of Total	Absolute Change	% Change Employment	% Change Share
<b>Private Sector</b>							
Agricultural Services/Forestry/Fisheries	2.003	0.56	2.871	0.69	0.87	43.33	23.00
Mining	0.428	0.12	0.331	0.08	(0.10)	(22.66)	(33.63)
Construction	15.883	4.44	20.909	5.02	5.03	31.64	12.97
Manufacturing	32.199	9.01	33.972	8.16	1.77	5.51	(9.46)
Transportation/Communication/Utilities	23.562	6.59	26.227	6.30	2.67	11.31	(4.48)
Wholesale Trade	24.224	6.78	26.052	6.25	1.83	7.55	(7.71)
Retail Trade	55.688	15.58	69.086	16.59	13.40	24.06	6.46
Finance/Insurance/Real Estate	38.813	10.86	42.190	10.13	3.38	8.70	(6.72)
Services	103.795	29.04	137.525	33.02	33.73	32.50	13.70
<b>Total Private Sector</b>	<b>296.595</b>	<b>82.98</b>	<b>359.163</b>	<b>86.23</b>	<b>62.57</b>	<b>21.10</b>	<b>3.92</b>
<b>Public Sector</b>							
Federal, Civilian	9.098	2.55	8.230	1.98	(0.87)	(9.54)	(22.37)
Military	16.574	4.64	11.619	2.79	(4.96)	(29.90)	(39.84)
State and Local	32.965	9.22	35.663	8.56	2.70	8.18	(7.16)
<b>Total Public Sector</b>	<b>58.637</b>	<b>16.41</b>	<b>55.512</b>	<b>13.33</b>	<b>(3.13)</b>	<b>(5.33)</b>	<b>(18.76)</b>
<b>Total Nonfarm Sector</b>	<b>355.24</b>	<b>99.39</b>	<b>414.670</b>	<b>99.56</b>	<b>59.43</b>	<b>16.73</b>	<b>0.17</b>
Farm	2.185	0.61	1.836	0.44	(0.35)	(15.97)	(27.89)
<b>Total Employment</b>	<b>357.425</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>416.506</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>59.08</b>	<b>16.53</b>	<b>0.00</b>

Note: The Omaha Area includes Douglas, Sarpy, and Washington Counties.  
Source: Bureau of Economic Analysis, U.S. Department of Commerce

**Table 4**  
**Omaha Area (Plus Pottawattamie County, Iowa)—Average Annual Employment, 1988-1995**  
*(thousands)*

<i>Industry Sector</i>	<i>1988</i>	<i>% of Total</i>	<i>1995</i>	<i>% of Total</i>	<i>Absolute Change</i>	<i>% Change Employment</i>	<i>% Change Share</i>
<b>Private Sector</b>							
Agricultural Services/Forestry/Fisheries	2.38	0.60	3.25	0.71	0.87	36.52	17.41
Mining	0.48	0.12	0.36	0.08	(0.12)	(24.11)	(34.73)
Construction	17.41	4.41	22.87	4.98	5.46	31.36	12.97
Manufacturing	36.02	9.12	38.90	8.47	2.88	8.00	(7.12)
Transportation/Communication/Utilities	26.04	6.60	28.40	6.19	2.37	9.09	(6.18)
Wholesale Trade	25.74	6.52	27.97	6.09	2.23	8.68	(6.54)
Retail Trade	63.77	16.15	78.22	17.04	14.46	22.67	5.50
Finance/Insurance/Real Estate	41.02	10.39	44.24	9.64	3.22	7.86	(7.24)
Services	113.62	28.78	150.03	32.68	36.41	32.05	13.56
<b>Total Private Sector</b>	<b>326.47</b>	<b>82.70</b>	<b>394.25</b>	<b>85.89</b>	<b>67.78</b>	<b>20.76</b>	<b>3.86</b>
<b>Public Sector</b>							
Federal, Civilian	9.39	2.38	8.49	1.85	(0.90)	(9.53)	(22.20)
Military	17.05	4.32	12.02	2.62	(5.03)	(29.52)	(39.39)
State and Local	37.44	9.49	40.39	8.80	2.95	7.87	(7.23)
<b>Total Public Sector</b>	<b>63.89</b>	<b>16.18</b>	<b>60.90</b>	<b>13.27</b>	<b>(2.98)</b>	<b>(4.67)</b>	<b>(18.01)</b>
<b>Total Nonfarm Sector</b>	<b>390.49</b>	<b>98.92</b>	<b>455.36</b>	<b>99.20</b>	<b>64.86</b>	<b>16.61</b>	<b>0.29</b>
Farm	4.28	1.08	3.67	0.80	(0.61)	(14.22)	(26.23)
<b>Total Employment</b>	<b>394.77</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>459.02</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>64.25</b>	<b>16.28</b>	<b>0.00</b>

Note: The Omaha Area includes Douglas, Sarpy, and Washington Counties in Nebraska, plus Pottawattamie County, Iowa.  
Source: Bureau of Economic Analysis, U.S. Department of Commerce

## Summary of Employment Changes in the Economies

The private sectors dominated both the growth of the work force and the share of employment in all economies. The services sector was the major contributor to growth. To a lesser extent, retail trade augmented the expansion of the private sector. The top three private sector employers, from the national level down through the local level, were services, retail trade, and manufacturing.

In both absolute and relative terms, manufacturing employment decreased nationally while increasing in Nebraska (Table 6). Interestingly, although manufacturing employment increased in absolute terms in the Omaha area, it decreased in relative terms. The Pottawattamie County manufacturing sector increased in absolute and relative terms, indicating a small but healthy sector.

The Omaha Area, excluding Pottawattamie County, showed an increase of 1,773 workers in manufacturing for a healthy 5.5 percent gain, but also showed a -9.5 percent change in share. When Pottawattamie County is included, the Omaha Area gained 2,883 workers—a gain of 8.0 percent and a smaller drop in share of 7.1 percent. Pottawattamie

County, alone, as shown in Table 6, gained 1,110 workers for a 29.1 percent gain in absolute numbers and 13.5 percent change in share. Manufacturing in Pottawattamie County contributed significantly to the regional position of the sector.

Retail trade, while increasing in both absolute and relative terms in all levels, showed relatively small increases compared to other sectors. Changes in the rest of the private sector were heavily dependent on regional influences and seldom showed any consistencies from the national to local levels. Construction employment increased in absolute terms nationally, but decreased relative to overall employment. In Nebraska and the Omaha Area, construction increased in both absolute and relative terms.

The farm sector in all economies decreased in both absolute and relative terms. However, the farm sector is a significant portion of employment only in the Nebraska economy. Employment gains in the nonfarm private sector's agricultural services, forestry, and fisheries component either partially or fully offset the farm reductions, except in Pottawattamie County, where it remained constant.

### Conclusion

The structural shift, at the national level, toward services from manufacturing, raises some concerns about the future health and potential growth of the national economy. Manufacturing typically provides full-time employment at higher wages with more fringe benefits, whereas services generally employs more part-time workers at lower wages with fewer benefits. As more citizens work for relatively lower wages and benefits, the greater the strain on the economy's overall quality of life. A portion of these lower wages must eventually supplement the lack of benefits (including health insurance) as well as fund daily living. Thus, there is less residual income available to advance the quality of life and bolster economic growth. The service sector will need to grow in terms of income and workers.

A second important impact of this structural change is that manufacturing is an export sector. The manufacturing industry ships products to other parts of the country and world, hence, manufacturing returns and circulates income from outside economies into the local venue. Therefore, the growth and health of the economy is accelerated by the influx of new resources. The service sector, with some exceptions, provides tertiary activity that recycles income generated locally. Thus, the dissipation of manufacturing effectively lessens the economy's ability to expand by placing greater dependence on local incomes as opposed to injections from outside or export sources.

One of the major factors in the national decrease in manufacturing employment is increased foreign competition. Starting with low-cost Japanese products in the 1960s and 1970s, there has been increasing import pressure from countries with low labor costs. The typical response of U.S. manufacturers to this increase in foreign competition has been to decrease manufacturing costs by exporting high labor cost manufacturing abroad. Downwardly inflexible labor costs in the U.S. make this a fiscal necessity for some companies.

There have been a number of adjustments to this decrease in national manufacturing employment in the U.S. labor market. Some of the most noticeable changes are:

- relatively lower per hour wages for fewer workers;
- greater use of low labor cost part-time employees;
- decreasing health care costs by using health maintenance organizations (HMOs); and
- employees accepting partial ownership of their companies in lieu of wage increases.

Manufacturing maintains certain levels of importance during times of national crises. A strong and flexible manufacturing sector is vitally important in terms of defense production and transportation vehicles. Moreover, a large portion of research and development expenditures resides in the manufacturing sector. Thus, the sector's reduced significance could be detrimental to advancing new technologies and products. This would have long-term implications for growth.

**Table 5**  
**Pottawattamie County, Iowa—Average Annual Employment, 1988-1995**  
(thousands)

Industry Sector	1988	% of Total	1995	% of Total	Absolute Change	% Change Employment	% Change Share
<b>Private Sector</b>							
Agricultural Services/Forestry/Fisheries	0.38	1.02	0.38	0.90	0.00	0.53	(11.58)
Mining	0.05	0.13	0.03	0.07	(0.02)	(36.73)	(44.36)
Construction	1.52	4.10	1.96	4.62	0.43	28.35	12.88
Manufacturing	3.82	10.27	4.93	11.65	1.11	29.00	13.46
Transportation/Communication/Utilities	2.48	6.65	2.18	5.15	(0.30)	(12.04)	(22.64)
Wholesale Trade	1.51	4.06	1.92	4.53	0.41	26.79	11.51
Retail Trade	8.08	21.71	9.14	21.59	1.06	13.08	(0.54)
Finance/Insurance/Real Estate	2.21	5.93	2.05	4.85	(0.15)	(6.98)	(18.19)
Services	9.83	26.41	12.51	29.56	2.68	27.27	11.94
<b>Total Private Sector</b>	<b>29.87</b>	<b>80.27</b>	<b>35.08</b>	<b>82.93</b>	<b>5.21</b>	<b>17.46</b>	<b>3.30</b>
<b>Public Sector</b>							
Federal, Civilian	0.29	0.78	0.26	0.62	(0.03)	(9.28)	(20.21)
Military	0.48	1.29	0.40	0.95	(0.08)	(16.49)	(26.55)
State and Local	4.48	12.04	4.73	11.17	0.25	5.54	(7.18)
<b>Total Public Sector</b>	<b>5.25</b>	<b>14.11</b>	<b>5.39</b>	<b>12.74</b>	<b>0.14</b>	<b>2.71</b>	<b>(9.67)</b>
<b>Total Nonfarm Sector</b>	<b>35.12</b>	<b>94.38</b>	<b>40.48</b>	<b>95.67</b>	<b>5.36</b>	<b>15.25</b>	<b>1.37</b>
Farm	2.09	5.62	1.83	4.33	(0.26)	(12.39)	(22.94)
<b>Total Employment</b>	<b>37.21</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>42.31</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>5.10</b>	<b>13.70</b>	<b>0.00</b>

Source: Bureau of Economic Analysis, U.S. Department of Commerce

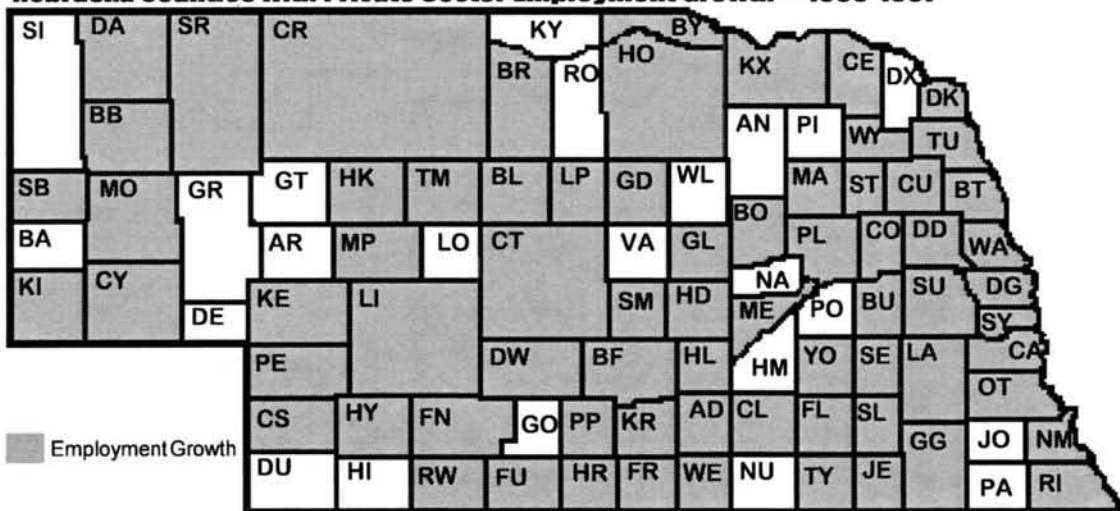
**Table 6**  
**Comparative Employment Summary—Manufacturing Sector**  
**Number of Workers**

	1988	% Share of Total	1995	% Share of Total	Absolute Change	% Change	% Change of Share
U.S.	19,886,000	14.77	19,225,900	12.88	(660,100)	(3.30)	(12.83)
Nebraska	98,490	10.34	115,220	10.65	16,720	16.98	2.99
Omaha Area	32,199	9.01	33,972	8.16	1,773	5.51	(9.46)
Omaha Area plus Pottawattamie County	36,020	9.12	38,900	8.47	2,883	8.00	(7.12)
Pottawattamie County	3,820	10.27	4,930	11.65	1,110	29.06	13.46

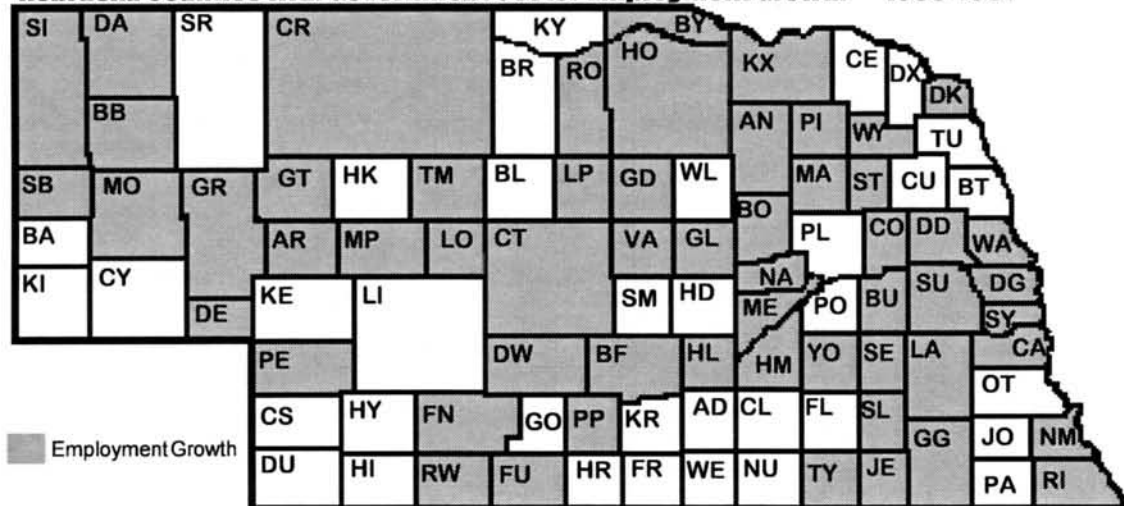
# Nebraska Employment Growth 1990-1997

Employment data for Figure 1-3 (pgs.7 and 9) and Table 1 (pg. 8) for the period 1990-1997 are provided by the Nebraska Department of Labor and are available on **NU ONRAMP** via BBR's web site ([www.bbr.unl.edu](http://www.bbr.unl.edu)). View these data and much more on **NU ONRAMP**. (See pg. 16).

**Figure 1**  
**Nebraska Counties with Private Sector Employment Growth—1990-1997**



**Figure 2**  
**Nebraska Counties with Government Sector Employment Growth—1990-1997**



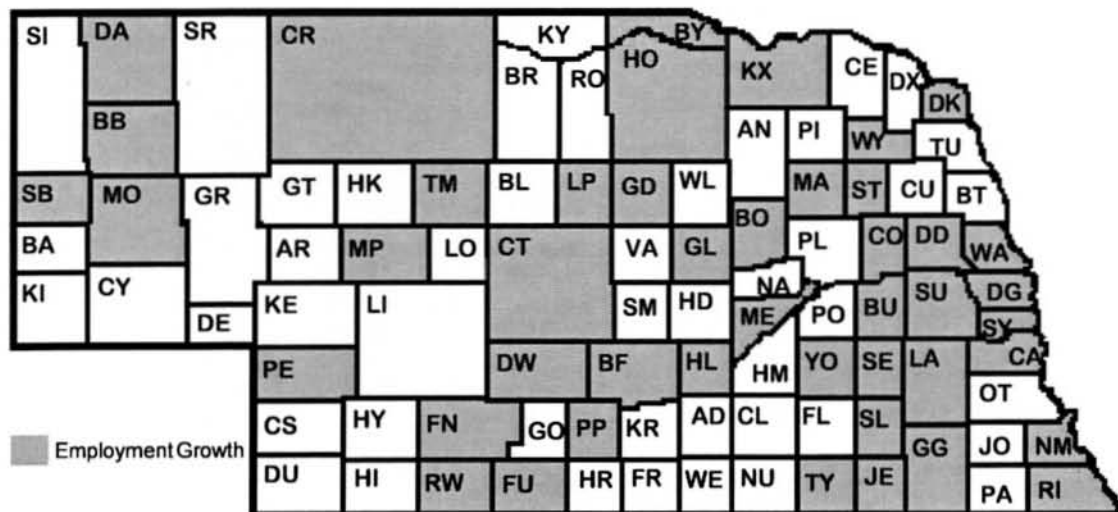


**Table 1**  
**Employment Changes in Private and Government Sector Employment by County—1990-1997**

	Private Sector <sup>1</sup>				Government Sector <sup>2</sup>				Private Sector <sup>1</sup>				Government Sector <sup>2</sup>				
	1990 Actual	1997 <sup>p</sup> Actual	1990-1997 Change	% Change	1990 Actual	1997 <sup>p</sup> Actual	1990-1997 Change	% Change	1990 Actual	1997 Actual	1990-1997 Change	% Change	1990 Actual	1997 Actual	1990-1997 Change	% Change	
Adams	11,367	12,972	1,605	14.1	2,770	2,640	-130	-4.7	Jefferson	2,323	2,520	197	8.5	641	655	14	2.2
Antelope	1,460	1,364	-96	-6.6	551	565	14	2.5	Johnson	1,016	991	-25	-2.5	456	450	-6	-1.3
Arthur	38	33	-5	-13.2	40	42	2	5.0	Kearney	1,278	1,398	120	9.4	550	546	-4	-0.7
Banner	30	23	-7	-23.3	83	72	-11	-13.3	Keith	2,576	2,700	124	4.8	627	612	-15	-2.4
Blaine	48	50	2	4.2	80	68	-12	-15.0	Keya Paha	46	33	-13	-28.3	68	61	-7	-10.3
Boone	1,183	1,213	30	2.5	573	587	14	2.4	Kimball	1,068	1,193	125	11.7	415	377	-38	-9.2
Box Butte	4,641	4,768	127	2.7	933	1,010	77	8.3	Knox	1,288	1,649	361	28.0	875	1,022	147	16.8
Boyd	304	357	53	17.4	295	316	21	7.1	Lancaster	89,128	109,520	20,392	22.9	32,570	35,787	3,217	9.9
Brown	609	695	86	14.1	395	389	-6	-1.5	Lincoln	9,982	12,258	2,276	22.8	2,651	2,610	-41	-1.5
Buffalo	13,712	17,187	3,475	25.3	3,270	3,912	642	19.6	Logan	78	44	-34	-43.6	87	91	4	4.6
Burt	1,138	1,202	64	5.6	647	623	-24	-3.7	Loup	22	60	38	172.7	62	67	5	8.1
Butler	1,280	1,559	279	21.8	575	582	7.0	1.2	Madison	13,778	17,801	4,023	29.2	2,951	3,449	498	16.9
Cass	2,424	3,080	656	27.1	919	1,085	166	18.1	McPherson	25	31	6	24.0	33	41	8	24.2
Cedar	1,533	1,896	363	23.7	788	720	-68	-8.6	Merrick	1,172	1,328	156	13.3	592	612	20	3.4
Chase	797	1,021	224	28.1	540	514	-26	-4.8	Morrill	726	769	43	5.9	456	482	26	5.7
Cherry	1,021	1,269	248	24.3	488	527	39	8.0	Nance	637	492	-145	-22.8	320	413	93	29.1
Cheyenne	3,431	3,835	404	11.8	835	801	-34	-4.1	Nemaha	1,605	1,883	278	17.3	1,275	1,429	154	12.1
Clay	1,265	1,681	416	32.9	866	836	-30	-3.5	Nuckolls	1,351	1,275	-76	-5.6	409	398	-11	-2.7
Colfax	2,984	3,521	537	18.0	562	611	49	8.7	Otoe	3,784	4,436	652	17.2	1,116	1,111	-5	-0.4
Cuming	2,530	2,946	416	16.4	683	682	-1.0	-0.1	Pawnee	366	325	-41	-11.2	279	278	-1	-0.4
Custer	2,432	2,447	15	0.6	973	1,012	39	4.0	Perkins	468	532	64	13.7	371	388	17	4.6
Dakota	10,678	10,892	214	2.0	802	858	56	7.0	Phelps	3,323	3,946	623	18.7	786	817	31	3.9
Dawes	1,834	2,276	442	24.1	1,279	1,403	124	9.7	Pierce	1,250	1,175	-75	-6.0	452	479	27	6.0
Dawson	5,991	8,958	2,967	49.5	1,585	1,851	266	16.8	Platte	11,975	15,341	3,366	28.1	2,588	2,578	-10	-0.4
Deuel	478	419	-59	-12.3	200	218	18	9.0	Polk	925	882	-43	-4.6	535	514	-21	-3.9
Dixon	1,299	1,238	-61	-4.7	577	461	-116	-20.1	Red Willow	3,701	4,183	482	13.0	985	1,033	48	4.9
Dodge	10,894	12,655	1,761	16.2	2,458	2,635	177	7.2	Richardson	2,099	2,203	104	5.0	652	869	217	33.3
Douglas	238,218	284,031	45,813	19.2	34,818	36,815	1,997	5.7	Rock	385	290	-95	-24.7	187	218	31	16.6
Dundy	429	383	-46	-10.7	246	241	-5	-2.0	Saline	4,074	4,979	905	22.2	1,090	1,133	43	3.9
Fillmore	1,446	1,642	196	13.6	793	792	-1	-0.1	Sarpy	14,841	22,743	7,902	53.2	5,856	6,128	272	4.6
Franklin	429	488	59	13.8	341	329	-12	-3.5	Saunders	2,432	3,000	568	23.4	1,118	1,298	180	16.1
Frontier	388	431	43	11.1	372	388	16	4.3	Scotts Bluff	11,892	12,670	778	6.5	2,646	2,888	242	9.1
Furnas	1,029	1,188	159	15.5	563	637	74	13.1	Seward	4,156	4,906	750	18.0	962	1,029	67	7.0
Gage	6,565	7,600	1,035	15.8	1,981	2,366	385	19.4	Sheridan	1,130	1,134	4	0.4	670	640	-30	-4.5
Garden	363	271	-94	-25.8	307	335	28	9.1	Sherman	415	430	15	3.6	355	319	-36	-10.1
Garfield	507	519	12	2.4	155	176	21	13.5	Sioux	91	83	-8	-8.8	99	113	14	14.1
Gosper	215	160	-55	-25.6	192	175	-17	-8.9	Stanton	816	941	125	15.3	306	335	29	9.5
Grant	81	77	-4	-4.9	91	98	7	7.7	Thayer	1,396	1,556	160	11.5	631	659	28	4.4
Greeley	388	437	49	12.6	297	300	3	1.0	Thomas	105	161	56	53.3	123	142	19	15.4
Hall	20,678	26,025	5,347	25.9	3,824	4,255	431	11.3	Thurston	1,414	1,738	324	22.9	639	638	-1	-0.2
Hamilton	2,137	2,019	-118	-5.5	573	587	14	2.4	Valley	1,015	989	-26	-2.6	589	643	54	9.2
Harlan	557	644	87	15.6	345	303	-42	-12.2	Washington	3,352	4,993	1,641	49.0	1,300	1,470	170	13.1
Hayes	73	87	14	19.2	103	95	-8	-7.8	Wayne	1,811	2,535	724	40.0	1,133	1,397	264	23.3
Hitchcock	320	280	-40	-12.5	397	365	-32	-8.1	Webster	573	687	114	19.9	363	327	-36	-9.9
Holt	2,369	2,772	403	17.0	774	873	99	12.8	Wheeler	76	35	-41	-53.9	108	73	-35	-32.4
Hooker	136	169	33	24.3	100	95	-5	-5.0	York	5,297	6,452	1,155	21.8	1,051	1,055	4	0.4
Howard	594	703	109	18.4	428	416	-12	-2.8									

<sup>p</sup> Preliminary  
<sup>1</sup> Includes nonfarm, private sector wage and salary employment. Farm workers, farm and nonfarm proprietors, self-employed individuals, and government workers are not included.  
<sup>2</sup> Includes all government employees in Nebraska, including employees in public education, and government-based utilities.

**Figure 3**  
**Nebraska Counties with Private Sector and Government Sector Employment Growth —1990-1997**

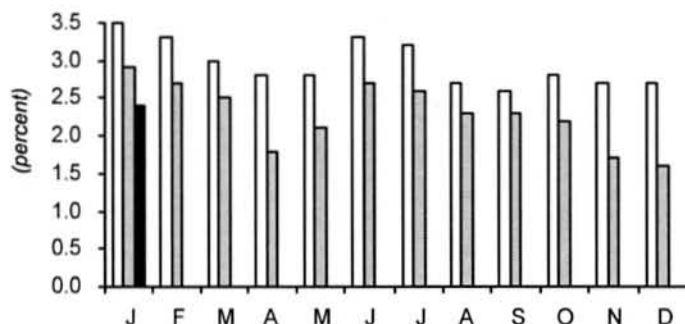
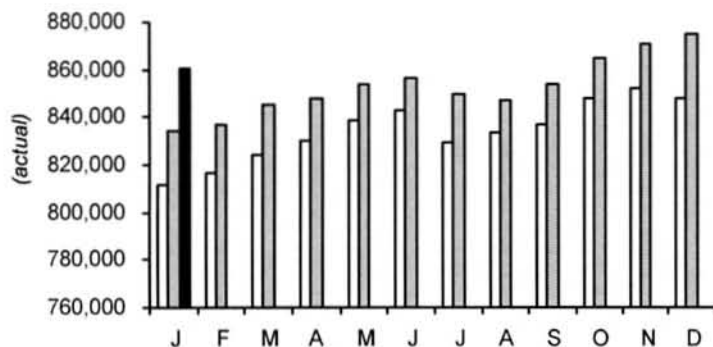


# Nebraska Stats

□ 1996    ■ 1997    ■ 1998

**Total Nonfarm Employment**

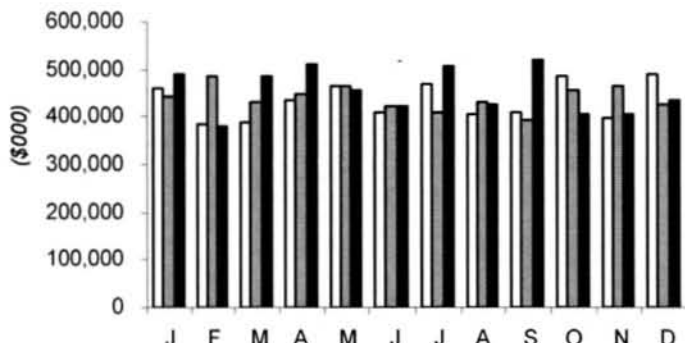
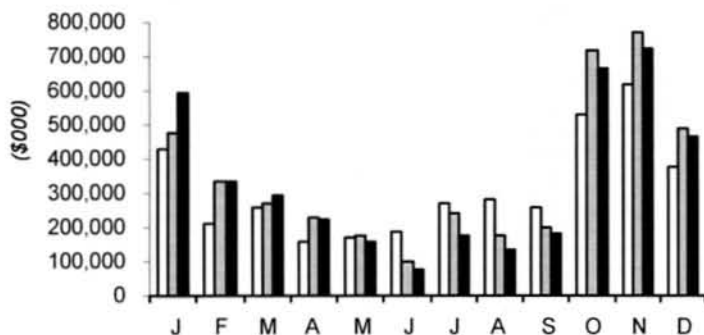
**Unemployment Rate**



**Cash Receipts—Crops**

**Cash Receipts—Livestock**

□ 1995    ■ 1996    ■ 1997



# Net Taxable Retail Sales\* for Nebraska Cities (\$000)

	December 1997 (\$000)	YTD (\$000)	YTD % Change vs Yr. Ago		December 1997 (\$000)	YTD (\$000)	YTD % Change vs Yr. Ago
Ainsworth, Brown	2,345	21,947	8.2	Kenesaw, Adams	159	1,396	7.8
Albion, Boone	2,364	22,053	-6.6	Kimball, Kimball	2,554	20,198	14.9
Alliance, Box Butte	8,077	74,317	4.6	La Vista, Sarpy	11,462	95,265	6.0
Alma, Harlan	850	8,166	1.4	Laurel, Cedar	437	4,587	0.9
Arapahoe, Furnas	802	8,682	11.9	Lexington, Dawson	8,471	84,127	-3.8
Arlington, Washington	423	2,488	8.9	Lincoln, Lancaster	241,303	2,256,029	5.7
Arnold, Custer	388	3,215	-0.3	Louisville, Cass	578	6,738	32.3
Ashland, Saunders	1,456	14,260	23.7	Loup City, Sherman	879	7,083	0.0
Atkinson, Holt	1,518	11,487	15.0	Lyons, Burt	640	5,990	8.1
Auburn, Nemaha	3,082	29,676	1.2	Madison, Madison	1,318	9,537	3.1
Aurora, Hamilton	3,435	31,829	1.4	McCook, Red Willow	13,874	131,509	3.5
Axtell, Kearney	141	972	-10.3	Milford, Seward	1,127	10,885	9.5
Bassett, Rock	666	5,531	2.5	Minatare, Scotts Bluff	197	2,313	-3.7
Battle Creek, Madison	853	7,847	5.7	Minden, Kearney	2,120	21,242	12.9
Bayard, Morrill	576	5,057	3.4	Mitchell, Scotts Bluff	1,465	10,496	21.4
Beatrice, Gage	14,612	129,184	9.5	Morrill, Scotts Bluff	591	5,378	14.1
Beaver City, Furnas	233	1,585	5.4	Nebraska City, Otoe	7,811	74,765	11.1
Bellevue, Sarpy	23,411	214,811	0.7	Neligh, Antelope	1,871	17,846	20.1
Benkelman, Dundy	745	6,556	4.0	Newman Grove, Madison	391	4,029	2.0
Bennington, Douglas	456	4,690	7.2	Norfolk, Madison	39,855	350,832	5.2
Blair, Washington	8,096	76,676	8.0	North Bend, Dodge	662	5,963	3.9
Bloomfield, Knox	981	8,091	7.0	North Platte, Lincoln	28,053	255,957	2.1
Blue Hill, Webster	584	5,512	7.3	O'Neill, Holt	5,525	51,238	-1.1
Bridgeport, Morrill	1,117	12,955	12.6	Oakland, Burt	885	7,965	6.0
Broken Bow, Custer	4,743	46,404	-7.5	Ogallala, Keith	6,025	64,751	-0.3
Burwell, Garfield	1,059	9,242	7.8	Omaha, Douglas	596,812	5,354,105	5.2
Cairo, Hall	419	2,936	13.5	Ord, Valley	2,517	22,894	7.9
Cambridge, Furnas	1,205	9,791	-28.1	Osceola, Polk	972	9,328	10.1
Central City, Merrick	2,155	20,533	5.0	Oshkosh, Garden	622	5,172	-0.1
Chadron, Dawes	4,418	42,864	9.6	Osmond, Pierce	614	5,214	-0.8
Chappell, Deuel	597	5,076	11.1	Oxford, Furnas	859	6,608	63.5
Clarkson, Colfax	505	5,417	0.6	Papillion, Sarpy	10,597	75,933	19.0
Clay Center, Clay	422	3,835	11.4	Pawnee City, Pawnee	434	3,723	5.9
Columbus, Platte	24,597	240,397	3.4	Pender, Thurston	895	9,036	9.7
Cozad, Dawson	3,592	36,223	12.2	Pierce, Pierce	1,043	8,361	9.5
Crawford, Dawes	657	6,571	10.9	Plainview, Pierce	1,019	8,519	11.7
Creighton, Knox	1,264	12,246	2.4	Plattsmouth, Cass	4,405	39,865	9.1
Crete, Saline	3,873	38,974	-4.3	Ponca, Dixon	609	6,058	3.0
Crofton, Knox	510	4,846	1.0	Ralston, Douglas	3,274	37,753	10.0
Curtis, Frontier	394	3,905	9.3	Randolph, Cedar	606	4,792	5.7
Dakota City, Dakota	479	4,911	-22.8	Ravenna, Buffalo	986	9,514	24.4
David City, Butler	1,663	16,552	-5.5	Red Cloud, Webster	998	9,247	15.0
Deshler, Thayer	420	2,820	-1.6	Rushville, Sheridan	901	6,618	-0.3
Dodge, Dodge	474	3,099	5.2	Sargent, Custer	377	2,487	-2.8
Doniphan, Hall	919	8,673	22.8	Schuyler, Colfax	2,820	23,347	2.5
Eagle, Cass	337	4,363	19.1	Scottsbluff, Scotts Bluff	29,286	255,988	7.1
Elgin, Antelope	765	5,360	3.6	Scribner, Dodge	746	6,248	6.7
Elkhorn, Douglas	2,506	25,482	16.8	Seward, Seward	5,884	58,924	3.8
Elm Creek, Buffalo	550	3,974	17.5	Shelby, Polk	377	3,986	-0.9
Elwood, Gosper	385	4,919	5.8	Shelton, Buffalo	618	6,703	-4.9
Fairbury, Jefferson	4,723	37,112	0.7	Sidney, Cheyenne	8,465	90,187	7.8
Fairmont, Fillmore	205	1,909	14.4	South Sioux City, Dakota	9,345	95,948	0.5
Falls City, Richardson	3,408	31,034	2.4	Springfield, Sarpy	439	3,807	13.8
Franklin, Franklin	831	5,816	3.2	St. Paul, Howard	1,528	15,285	10.0
Fremont, Dodge	25,231	241,531	-1.2	Stanton, Stanton	810	7,158	5.9
Friend, Saline	669	5,510	-4.1	Stromsburg, Polk	994	12,716	7.1
Fullerton, Nance	813	6,729	13.4	Superior, Nuckolls	2,209	19,567	4.2
Geneva, Fillmore	1,987	20,960	4.8	Sutherland, Lincoln	481	3,640	1.8
Genoa, Nance	352	2,950	-7.0	Sutton, Clay	1,362	12,069	-19.7
Gering, Scotts Bluff	4,167	39,856	-1.1	Syracuse, Otoe	1,279	12,896	6.9
Gibbon, Buffalo	1,040	9,811	16.2	Tecumseh, Johnson	1,194	11,210	-9.4
Gordon, Sheridan	2,486	22,036	7.7	Tekamah, Burt	1,417	13,346	5.2
Gothenburg, Dawson	2,791	26,634	9.2	Tilden, Madison	607	5,364	1.6
Grand Island, Hall	64,020	580,247	5.8	Ulta, Seward	289	2,811	-8.9
Grant, Perkins	1,110	11,836	10.2	Valentine, Cherry	5,050	46,991	5.1
Gretna, Sarpy	4,009	39,894	-1.7	Valley, Douglas	1,135	14,357	8.4
Hartington, Cedar	2,346	20,032	7.8	Wahoo, Saunders	2,793	30,669	6.2
Hastings, Adams	25,987	241,906	2.4	Wakefield, Dixon	541	4,477	2.4
Hay Springs, Sheridan	508	4,089	6.0	Wauneta, Chase	499	3,780	-3.3
Hebron, Thayer	2,398	23,356	21.9	Waverly, Lancaster	1,167	9,185	20.0
Henderson, York	1,027	7,560	-5.7	Wayne, Wayne	4,140	37,826	2.9
Hickman, Lancaster	399	2,937	7.0	Weeping Water, Cass	678	7,706	8.7
Holdrege, Phelps	5,770	54,763	-2.5	West Point, Cuming	4,790	46,615	4.2
Hooper, Dodge	495	4,243	9.6	Wilber, Saline	653	5,676	5.9
Humboldt, Richardson	648	6,104	4.5	Wisner, Cuming	996	8,196	22.7
Humphrey, Platte	932	8,973	2.4	Wood River, Hall	453	5,200	1.1
Imperial, Chase	2,431	23,065	15.9	Wymore, Gage	549	5,022	1.2
Juniata, Adams	323	2,674	3.5	York, York	11,902	111,350	9.9
Kearney, Buffalo	40,776	358,294	4.5				

\*Does not include motor vehicle sales. Motor vehicle net taxable retail sales are reported by county only.

Source: Nebraska Department of Revenue

# Net Taxable Retail Sales for Nebraska Counties (\$000)

	Motor Vehicle Sales			Other Sales			Motor Vehicle Sales			Other Sales			
	December		YTD	December		YTD	December		YTD	December		YTD	
	1997	YTD	% Chg. vs	1997	YTD	% Chg. vs	1997	YTD	% Chg. vs	1997	YTD	% Chg. vs	
	(\$000)	(\$000)	Yr. Ago	(\$000)	(\$000)	Yr. Ago	(\$000)	(\$000)	Yr. Ago	(\$000)	(\$000)	Yr. Ago	
Nebraska*	172,596	2,205,118	6.7	1,772,451	15,568,994	5.5	Howard	689	9,656	18.4	2,153	19,748	7.6
Adams	2,838	37,995	4.3	27,047	249,592	2.7	Jefferson	691	11,696	8.7	5,845	48,175	1.8
Antelope	1,064	12,652	10.6	3,473	28,213	12.7	Johnson	399	5,672	5.2	2,051	15,583	-7.5
Arthur	76	620	9.9	276	(D)	(D)	Kearney	728	11,419	7.1	2,636	24,176	9.9
Banner	129	1,690	-5.5	39	(D)	(D)	Keith	957	12,624	10.3	6,739	71,184	0.5
Blaine	65	1,073	38.1	234	1,111	(D)	Keya Paha	134	1,514	28.6	254	1,189	4.0
Boone	708	10,374	3.3	3,399	29,156	-3.6	Kimball	411	6,110	5.6	2,675	20,792	15.2
Box Butte	1,450	17,542	-3.7	8,445	77,855	4.7	Knox	903	11,732	2.0	3,963	33,235	3.2
Boyd	259	2,853	19.8	1,137	7,378	0.5	Lancaster	21,246	272,883	8.7	245,136	2,284,174	5.9
Brown	365	4,466	15.4	2,538	23,139	9.3	Lincoln	3,287	41,239	1.7	29,421	266,896	1.9
Buffalo	4,051	54,275	8.6	44,549	392,829	5.2	Logan	159	1,216	3.3	175	(D)	(D)
Burt	986	11,939	3.8	3,277	29,736	5.3	Loup	86	1,089	43.3	61	(D)	(D)
Butler	1,095	11,251	-1.0	2,777	22,876	-2.9	McPherson	70	799	10.5	72	(D)	(D)
Cass	2,928	36,550	3.3	7,784	74,622	10.1	Madison	3,498	45,858	9.7	43,140	378,993	5.2
Cedar	1,512	15,187	14.2	3,972	33,953	6.8	Merrick	851	10,862	-4.2	2,901	27,424	3.6
Chase	609	7,802	24.7	2,995	27,380	12.7	Morrill	725	8,167	18.6	1,742	18,368	9.2
Cherry	969	9,598	34.4	5,497	49,545	4.7	Nance	507	6,037	9.3	1,285	10,224	6.8
Cheyenne	1,098	13,729	-4.0	9,058	93,755	7.4	Nemaha	771	10,091	11.1	3,598	32,991	1.7
Clay	927	11,063	4.3	3,144	26,406	-8.2	Nuckolls	541	7,385	13.5	3,012	26,492	4.4
Colfax	901	12,735	10.3	4,436	34,239	1.4	Otoe	1,344	21,149	7.0	9,631	92,740	10.2
Cuming	1,361	16,955	17.6	6,853	62,473	7.0	Pawnee	339	4,230	5.9	954	6,480	0.7
Custer	1,192	16,503	19.0	6,631	58,363	-5.4	Perkins	624	5,992	9.2	1,497	14,451	8.1
Dakota	1,570	23,543	2.5	11,023	110,972	0.7	Phelps	1,088	16,684	-3.8	6,431	58,296	-2.0
Dawes	733	8,941	8.2	5,119	49,495	9.7	Pierce	1,226	11,948	13.6	2,816	23,181	7.6
Dawson	2,255	32,405	13.6	15,407	152,343	2.3	Platte	3,146	44,817	7.9	26,597	257,463	3.6
Deuel	190	3,198	-3.2	1,142	10,565	15.3	Polk	678	9,650	14.1	2,545	27,585	7.2
Dixon	615	8,472	14.3	1,523	12,268	3.5	Red Willow	1,091	15,051	8.0	14,493	135,642	3.6
Dodge	3,342	46,009	4.4	28,178	265,036	-0.5	Richardson	994	11,763	6.9	4,611	40,792	2.1
Douglas	45,500	555,114	5.1	606,224	5,460,693	5.3	Rock	262	2,801	20.1	770	5,771	2.6
Dundy	436	4,054	-6.5	807	6,931	2.8	Saline	1,406	16,543	-1.3	5,928	55,105	-2.3
Fillmore	843	10,888	8.1	3,293	31,176	1.8	Sarpy	11,640	156,130	7.4	51,178	438,904	5.3
Franklin	358	5,154	20.8	1,330	8,964	0.5	Saunders	2,153	29,607	5.5	7,602	71,396	8.0
Frontier	220	4,763	20.9	1,085	8,110	7.0	Scotts Bluff	3,719	46,074	2.4	35,904	315,116	6.4
Furnas	684	8,180	9.2	3,390	28,581	-0.4	Seward	1,780	21,982	12.6	7,915	76,066	4.5
Gage	2,382	28,675	7.8	16,525	143,579	9.0	Sheridan	629	8,922	12.8	4,249	36,063	5.3
Garden	329	3,573	6.3	920	7,098	-2.4	Sherman	345	4,787	14.3	1,239	9,084	-3.5
Garfield	159	2,406	12.5	1,059	9,242	7.8	Sioux	291	2,819	16.1	193	1,835	4.0
Gosper	384	3,487	1.3	480	5,651	5.6	Stanton	812	9,066	11.3	1,080	9,195	4.8
Grant	109	1,538	47.2	331	2,409	18.9	Thayer	702	9,665	15.0	3,776	33,748	14.2
Greeley	266	3,573	4.2	1,206	8,444	6.5	Thomas	176	1,587	42.8	408	4,973	19.3
Hall	5,622	68,484	0.4	66,166	601,097	5.9	Thurston	459	6,530	10.5	1,181	10,881	9.4
Hamilton	1,198	14,580	5.0	4,289	37,252	0.5	Valley	407	6,135	14.3	3,000	25,480	8.7
Harlan	462	5,206	-9.9	1,152	10,598	-1.1	Washington	2,270	30,408	2.4	9,726	85,259	8.1
Hayes	104	1,672	7.4	135	(D)	(D)	Wayne	946	12,353	17.8	4,424	39,973	2.9
Hitchcock	464	4,407	-4.7	972	7,670	2.6	Webster	368	5,473	6.0	1,806	16,248	12.0
Holt	1,838	18,275	27.1	8,296	71,235	1.7	Wheeler	98	1,753	9.8	240	1,477	(D)
Hooker	98	973	-9.7	447	3,806	-1.0	York	1,579	21,916	13.6	13,785	125,187	8.6

\*Totals may not add due to rounding  
(D) Denotes disclosure suppression

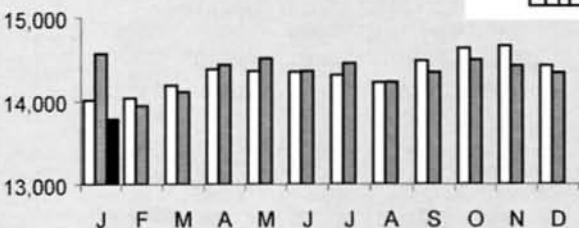
Source: Nebraska Department of Revenue



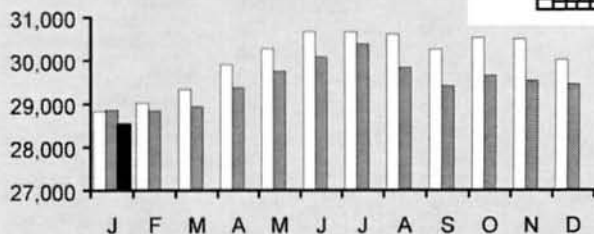
# Regional Employment—1996 to January 1998

1996 1997 1998

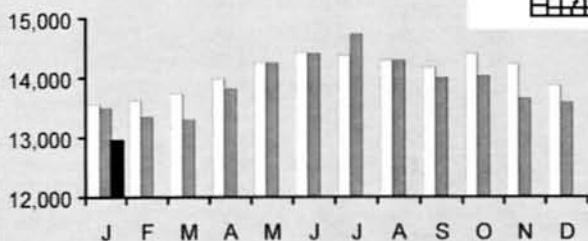
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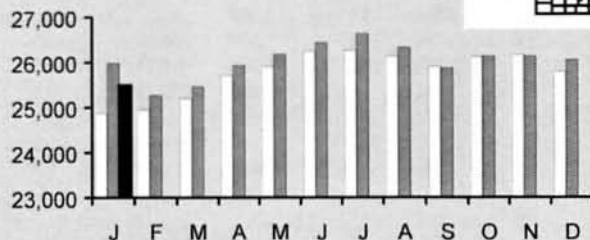
## Southwest Panhandle



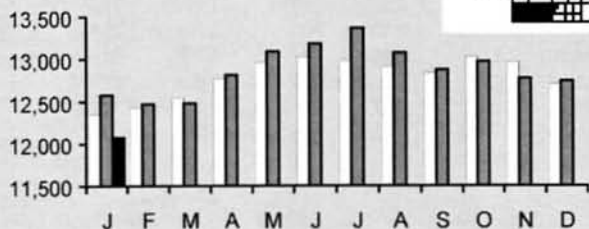
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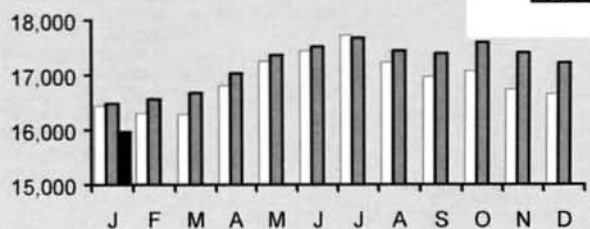
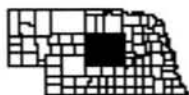
## West Central



## Southwest Central



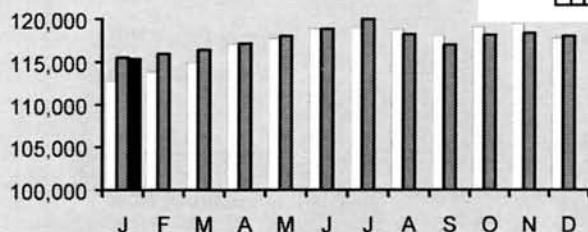
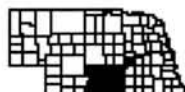
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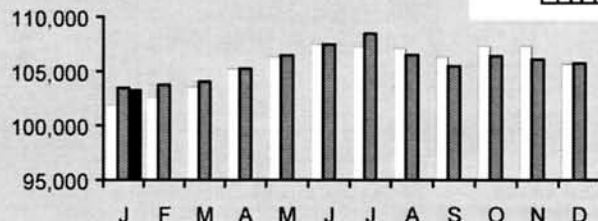
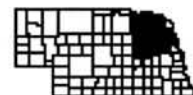
# Regional Employment—1996 to January 1998

1996 1997 1998

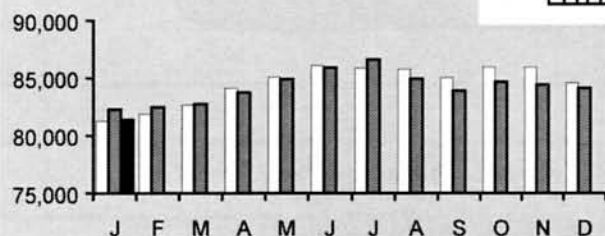
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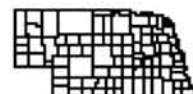
## Northeast



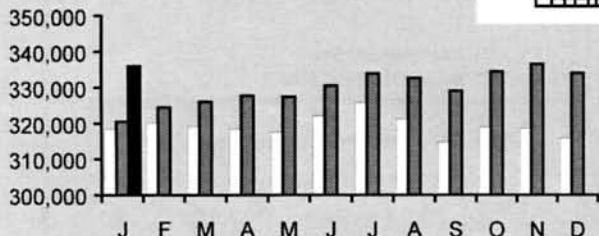
## Southeast



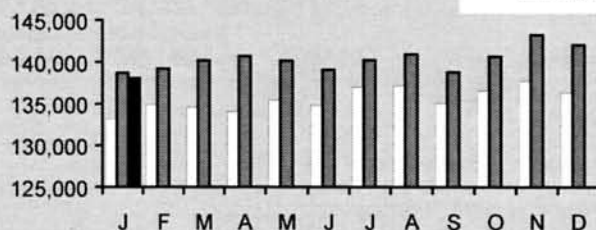
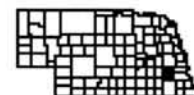
## Sioux City MSA



## Omaha MSA

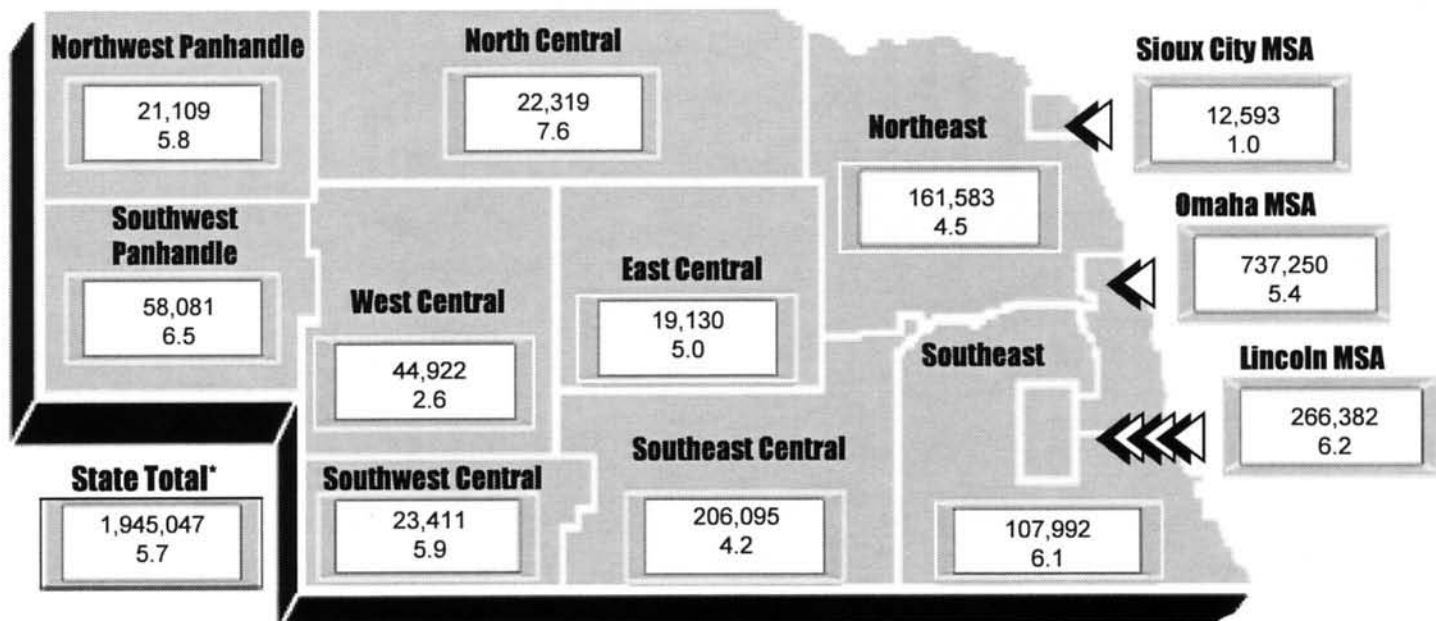


## Lincoln MSA



# December 1997 Regional Retail Sales (\$000)

## Percent Change from Year Ago



\*Regional values may not add to state total due to unallocated sales

## Employment by Industry

	Revised December 1997	Preliminary January 1998	% Change vs Yr. Ago
Nonfarm Emp (W&S)	874,881	860,393	3.1
Construction & Mining	40,715	38,954	2.8
Manufacturing	117,645	117,537	3.4
Druables	57,561	57,316	5.0
Nondurables	60,084	60,221	1.9
TCU*	54,939	54,434	8.3
Trade	216,568	212,675	2.5
Retail	159,539	155,817	1.0
Wholesale	57,029	56,858	6.8
FIRE**	55,968	55,891	5.2
Services	232,967	229,713	4.3
Government	156,079	151,189	-0.2
Labor Force	921,026	914,633	0.2
Unemployment Rate	1.6	2.4	

\* Transportation, Communication, and Utilities

\*\* Finance, Insurance, and Real Estate

Source: Nebraska Department of Labor

## Price Indices

Consumer Price Index - U\*  
(1982-84 = 100)

	February 1998	% Change vs Yr. Ago	YTD % Change vs Yr. Ago
All items	161.9	1.4	1.5
Commodities	141.5	-0.2	-0.1
Services	182.4	2.6	2.7

\*U = All urban consumers

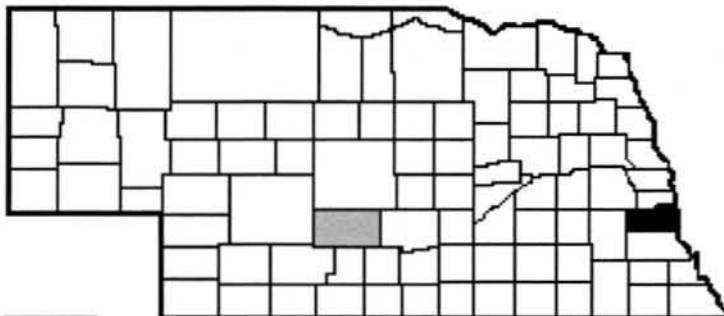
Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics

Inflation Rate

County of the Month

# Cass

## Plattsmouth-County Seat



License plate prefix number: 20

Size of county: 557 square miles, ranks 67th in the state

Population: 23,478 in 1996, a change of 10.1 percent from 1990

Per capita personal income: \$20,219 in 1995, ranks 15th in the state

Net taxable retail sales (\$000): \$111,963 in 1997, a change of 7.8 percent from 1996.

Number of covered business and service worksites<sup>1</sup>: 439 in 1997

Unemployment rate: 2.9 percent in Cass County, 2.4 percent in Nebraska for 1995

	State	Cass County
Covered nonfarm employment (1997) <sup>1</sup> :	798,618	3,970
	<i>(percent of total)</i>	
Construction and Mining	4.3	6.9
Manufacturing	14.4	8.7
TCU	5.1	6.1
Wholesale Trade	6.5	7.0
Retail Trade	19.1	21.3
FIRE	6.5	4.7
Services	26.1	17.6
Government	18.0	27.7

### Agriculture:

Number of farms: 721 in 1992, 913 in 1987

Average farm size: 411 acres in 1992

Market value of farm products sold: \$64.1 million in 1992 (\$88,946 average per farm)

<sup>1</sup> Covered worksites and employment refer to business activity covered under the Nebraska Employment Security Law. Information presented has been extracted from the Employer's Quarterly Contribution Report, Nebraska Form UI-11. For further details about covered worksites and employment see the Nebraska Employers' Guide to Unemployment Insurance.

Sources: U.S. Bureau of the Census, U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis, Nebraska Department of Labor, Nebraska Department of Revenue



# bulletin board

## CPI Update

See March 1998  
CPI table.

[www.bbr.unl.edu](http://www.bbr.unl.edu)  
National Business Conditions  
Consumer Price Index



## Reminder!

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To view the data from **NU ONRAMP**  
used for the employment growth table  
and maps on pages 7-9...

Go to  
[www.bbr.unl.edu](http://www.bbr.unl.edu)  
Click **NU ONRAMP**  
Select Expert Search  
Enter EMP-(*county name abbreviation*)

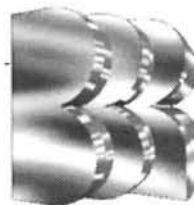
(For instance, to locate the information for Adams  
County, perform an expert search for EMP-AD)

**Reminder:** First-time users of **NU ONRAMP** must download the  
*WinFrame* client server software to gain access. The **NU ONRAMP**  
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