

12-2012

Nebraska Legislative Planning Database 2012-2013

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**Nebraska Legislative
Planning Database
2012-2013**

**Center for Public Affairs Research
University of Nebraska at Omaha**

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Nebraska Legislative Planning Database at a Glance—Agriculture

	United States	Nebraska	National Rank	Trend
FARM INCOME				
Rural Per Capita Income, 2009	\$25,202	\$24,803	28	↓
Rural Poverty Rate, 2009	11.7	9.1	32	↑
Farm Employment, 2010	2,659,000	51,446	23	↑
FARM RECEIPTS				
Cash Receipts from Livestock and Products, 2010 (Millions)	\$162,207.5	\$9,638.5	4	↑
Cash Receipts from Crops, 2010 (Millions)	\$172,995.6	\$8,823.6	5	↓
Government Farm Payments, 2010 (Millions)	\$12,397.7	\$509.7	7	↑
Realized Net Farm Income, 2010 (Millions)	\$66,991.6	\$4,366.6	3	↑
			Regional Rank	
FARM OPERATIONS				
Total Farmland, 2007 (Millions of Acres)	922.1	45.5	2	↓
Number of Farms, 2009	2,200,210	47,200	5	↓
Average Farm Size, 2007 (Acres)	418	953	4	↑
Percentage of Farms with Full Owners, 2007	69.0%	50.3%	8	↑
Percentage of Farms with One Operator	57.7%	58.7%	6	↓

Nebraska Legislative Planning Database at a Glance—Economy

	United States	Nebraska	National Rank	Trend
POVERTY				
Poverty rate for persons, 2011	15.0%	10.2%	6	↔
Gini Index, 2011	0.4750	0.4467	19	↑
PERSONAL INCOME				
Per Capita Personal Income, 2011	\$41,560	\$42,450	20	↑
Percentage Change in Total Person Income, 2010-2011	5.2%	8.4%	4	↑
Net Farm Income as a Percentage of Total Personal Income, 2011	0.8%	7.6%	3	↑
Transfer Receipts as a Percentage of Total Personal Income, 2011	17.9%	15.2%	40	↓
MEDIAN HOUSEHOLD INCOME				
Median Household Income, 2011	\$50,502	\$50,296	23	↑
EMPLOYMENT				
Change in Employment, 2010-2011	1.3%	0.7%	42	↑
Proprietors as a Percentage of Total Employment, 2011	21.7%	20.6%	35	↑
UNEMPLOYMENT				
Annual Unemployment Rate, 2011	8.9%	4.4%	2	↓
Annual Alternative Unemployment Rate, 2011	15.9%	8.9%	2	↑
MEDIAN HOUSING VALUE				
Median Housing Value, 2011	\$173,600	\$127,400	42	↓
COMPARATIVE COSTS				
Average Annual Wage and Salary Disbursements per Job, 2011	\$48,301	\$39,869	40	↑
Ratio of Median Housing Value to Median Household Income, 2011	3.44	2.53	49	↓
BUSINESS CLIMATE				
Forbes Magazine Best States for Business, 2011	n.a.	n.a.	8	↑
America's Top States for Business, 2011	n.a.	n.a.	17	↓

Nebraska Legislative Planning Database at a Glance—Economy (continued)

	United States	Nebraska	National Rank	Trend
BUSINESS STARTUPS				
Percentage Change in New Establishments, 2010	10.1%	9.1%	35	↑
WORKFORCE QUALITY				
Individuals in Science and Engineering Occupations as a Share of the Workforce, 2010	4.00%	3.32%	30	↑
Worker's Productivity (Gross State Product per Worker), 2011	\$85,199	\$76,463	29	↑
Percentage of Persons 25 Years of Over Who Have Completed High School, 2011	85.9%	91.0%	7	↑
Percentage of Persons 25 Years of Over Who Have Completed an Associate Degree, 2011	7.8%	9.6%	8	↑
Percentage of Persons 25 Years of Over Who Have Completed a Bachelor's Degree, 2011	28.5%	27.9%	23	↓
Percentage of Persons 25 Years of Over Who Have Completed an Advanced Degree, 2011	10.6%	9.1%	32	↑
TECHNOLOGY AND INNOVATION				
America's Top States for Business, Technology and Innovation, 2011	n.a.	n.a.	35	↑
State New Economy Index, 2012	n.a.	n.a.	35	↓
Academic Science and Engineering Research and Development per \$1,000 of State GDP, 2009	\$3.91	\$4.56	15	↑
Business-performed Research and Development as a Percentage of Private-industry Output, 2008	2.14%	0.76%	34	n.a.

Nebraska Legislative Planning Database at a Glance—Education

	United States	Nebraska	National Rank	Trend
P-16 INITIATIVE GOALS				
Estimated Rate High School Graduates Attending Degree-Granting Institutions, 2007-2008	63.8%	65.5%	18	↑
Estimated Rate of High School Graduates Going to College in Home State, 2007-2008	51.8%	53.5%	18	↑
Six-Year Graduation Rates of Bachelor's Degree Students, 2009	55.5%	55.1%	25	n.a.
Public High School Graduation Rates, 2008-2009	75.5%	82.9%	10	↓
Public High School Dropout Rate, 2008-2009	4.1%	2.4%	39	↓
ACCESS				
Early Childhood Education Programs, Total Children Served, 2009-2010	n.a.	17,473	n.a.	↑
Public and Private School Fall Enrollment for Children 3 to 4 Years of Age as a Percentage of Total, 2011	47.4%	47.7%	23	↔
Public and Private School Fall Enrollment for Children 5 to 17 Years of Age, 2011 (Thousands)	52,193.3	320.6	n.a.	↑
Enrollment of Children 5 to 17 Years of Age in Public School as a Percentage of Total, 2011	89.4%	86.8%	40	n.a.
Percentage of Own Children under 6 Years Old with All Parents in the Labor Force	64.6%	73.6%	4	↓
Average Costs Per Full-time-equivalent Student in Public 4-year Institutions, 2010-2011	\$15,918	\$14,081	31	↑
Average Costs Per Full-time-equivalent Student in Public 2-year Institutions, 2010-2011	\$2,439	\$2,391	39	↑
			Regional Rank	
Enrollment in Institutions of Higher Education, 2010 (Thousands)	21,016	145	6	↑
Total Degrees Conferred by Degree-granting Institutions, 2009-2010	3,351,049	23,212	6	↑
Bachelor Degrees Conferred by Degree-granting Institutions, 2008-2009	1,650,014	12,596	6	↑

Nebraska Legislative Planning Database at a Glance—Education (continued)

	United States	Nebraska	National Rank	Trend
ASSESSMENT				
Average Reading Scale Score of 4th Graders in Public Schools Attaining Reading Achievement Levels, 2011	220	223	18	↔
Average Reading Scale Score of 8th Graders in Public Schools Attaining Reading Achievement Levels, 2011	264	268	18	↑
Average Mathematics Scale Score of 4th Graders in Public Schools Attaining Mathematics Achievement Levels, 2011	240	240	31	↑
Average Mathematics Scale Score of 8th Graders in Public Schools Attaining Mathematics Achievement Levels, 2011	283	283	28	↓
FUNDING SUSTAINABILITY				
Total Expenditures Per Pupil in Fall Enrollment in Public Elementary and Secondary Education, 2008-2009	\$12,274	\$12,703	18	↑
Estimated Net Migration of 22 to 64 Year-olds, 2010	n.a.	9,125	n.a.	↓

Nebraska Legislative Planning Database at a Glance—Health and Human Services

	United States	Nebraska	National Rank	Trend
HEALTH ACCESS				
Overall State Ranking on Health System Performance, 2009	n.a.	n.a.	2	n.a.
Percentage of the Civilian Noninstitutional Population That Is Uninsured, 2011	15.1%	11.4%	36	↓
Percentage of the Civilian Noninstitutional Population Under 18 Years That Is Uninsured, 2011	7.5%	5.9%	28	↑
Percentage of the Civilian Noninstitutional Population 18 to 64 Years That Is Uninsured, 2011	21.0%	16.1%	35	↓
HEALTH STATUS				
Percentage of Adult Tobacco Use, 2010	19.3%	17.2%	n.a.	↑
Percentage of Substance Abuse-Alcohol (Heavy Drinking), 2011	n.a.	7.5%	n.a.	↑
Adult Obesity, 2011	27.8%	28.4%	n.a.	↑
Child Obesity, 2009	12.0%	11.6%	n.a.	↓
Resident Births , 2010	n.a.	25,916	n.a.	↓
Percentage of Women Receiving Prenatal Care in First Trimester, 2010	n.a.	73.2%	n.a.	↑
Infant Mortality Rate Per 1,000 Births, 2011	n.a.	6.1%	n.a.	↑
FAMILY WELFARE				
Percentage of Children Living in Poverty, 2011	22.5%	18.1%	35	↓
Percentage of Female Head of Families Living in Poverty, 2011	40.8%	40.6%	27	↑
Number of State Wards, 2011	n.a.	6,051	n.a.	↓
Average Monthly Number of TANF Enrollees, 2010	n.a.	9,010	n.a.	↑
Number of TANF Enrollees Sanctioned or Dropped, 2010	n.a.	4,792	n.a.	↑
Percentage of IV-D Cases With a Collection in Arrears, 2010	68.0%	68.1%	11	↑
HEALTH COSTS				
Per Capita State Public Welfare Expenditures, 2009-2010	\$1,307.00	\$1,225.00	35	↑
Per Capita Local Public Welfare Expenditures, 2009-2010	\$169.00	\$40.00	25	↔
Per Capita Developmental Disabilities Expenditures, 2009	n.a.	\$103.00	n.a.	↑
Per Capita Behavioral Health Related Expenditures, 2009	n.a.	\$111.00	n.a.	↑
Medicaid and CHIP Vendor Payments, 2012 (Millions)	n.a.	\$1,602.30	n.a.	↑
Percentage Change from Previous Year of Community-Based Behavioral Health Services, 2010	n.a.	12%	n.a.	↑

Nebraska Legislative Planning Database at a Glance—Natural Resources

	United States	Nebraska	National Rank	Trend
AIR QUALITY				
Air Pollution Emissions, 2011 (Micrograms of Fine Particles Per Cubic Meter)	10.9	8.2	40	↑
Toxic Releases: Total Air Emissions, 2009 (Thousand Pounds)	908,216	5,489	31	n.a.
CO ₂ Emissions from Fossil Fuel Combustion, 2010 (Million Metric Tons CO ₂)	n.a.	47.85	15	↑
LAND QUALITY AND WASTE				
Number of Hazardous Waste Sites on the National Priority List, 2008	1,301	13	20	↑
Toxic Chemical Releases: Total on- and Off-site Releases, 2009 (Pounds)	3,379.1	29.6	31	↓
			Regional Rank	
Toxic Releases: Total Surface Water Discharges, 2011 (Thousand Pounds)	215,805	11,268	1	↓
ENERGY				
Average Price Per Kilowatt Hour, 2011 (Cents Per Kilowatt Hour)	9.9	7.88	40	↑
Energy Consumption Per Person, 2010 (Million BTUs)	n.a.	461.1	8	↑
Energy Expenditures, 2010 (Millions Nominal)	\$51,205	\$8,091	36	↑
Energy Expenditures Per Capita, 2010	\$3,894	\$4,421	13	n.a.
			Regional Rank	
Percentage of Electricity Generated Through Renewable Sources, 2010	12.8%	4.9%	8	↑

Nebraska Legislative Planning Database at a Glance—Public Safety

	United States	Nebraska	National Rank	Trend
CRIME				
Murder Rate Per 100,000 Population, 2011	4.7	3.6	32	↑
Violent Crime Rate Per 100,000 Population, 2011	386.3	253.2	38	↓
Property Crime Rate Per 100,000 Population, 2011	2,908.7	2,752.9	25	↓
			Regional Rank	
Arrests for Drug Abuse Violation, 2011	1,531,251	15,562	4	↑
RECIDIVISM				
Recidivism Rates, Youth Rehabilitation and Treatment Center, Kearney, Nebraska, 2011-2012	n.a.	25.3%	n.a.	↓
Recidivism Rates, Youth Rehabilitation and Treatment Center, Geneva, Nebraska, 2011-2012	n.a.	15.1%	n.a.	↓
JUVENILE INTAKES				
Juvenile Arrest Rate Per 100,000 Juvenile Population, Violent Crime Index, 2009	274	159	34	n.a.
Juvenile Arrest Rate Per 100,000 Juvenile Population, Property Crime Index, 2009	1,336	2,153	3	n.a.
PUBLIC SECTOR FUNDING				
Per Capita State Public Safety Expenditures, 2009-2010	\$218.20	\$203.00	28	↑
Per Capita Local Public Safety Expenditures, 2008-2009	\$510.30	\$343.90	38	↑

Nebraska Legislative Planning Database at a Glance—State and Local Government

	United States	Nebraska	National Rank	Trend
UNITS OF GOVERNMENT				
Local Governments Units Per 100,000 Population, 2012	28.6	140.0	3	↓
EMPLOYMENT AND PAYROLL				
State Government Employment Per 10,000 Population, 2011	139.91	174.02	20	↓
State Government Monthly Payroll Per FTE, 2011	\$4,581.35	\$3,803.99	44	↑
Local Government Employment Per 10,000 Population, 2011	385.09	482.51	4	↓
Local Government Monthly Payroll Per FTE, 2011	\$4,200.81	\$3,846.82	25	↑
EXPENDITURES, REVENUE AND DEBT				
State Direct Government Expenditure Per Capita, 2009-2010	\$3,581.88	\$3,619.03	33	↑
Local Direct Government Expenditure Per Capita, 2009-2010	\$4,623.31	\$4,370.02	18	↑
State General Revenue Per Capita, 2009-2010	\$3,189.72	\$2,990.59	33	↓
Local General Revenue Per Capita, 2009-2010	\$2,882.51	\$3,145.18	9	↑
State Debt Outstanding Per Capita, 2009-2010	\$3,605.82	\$1,273.28	49	↓
Local Debt Outstanding Per Capita, 2009-2010	\$5,547.04	\$6,306.59	11	↓
			Regional Rank	
FEDERAL GOVERNMENT EXPENDITURES				
Federal Government Expenditure Per Capita, 2010	\$10,601.56	\$9,128.30	8	↓

Nebraska Legislative Planning Database at a Glance—Telecommunications

	United States	Nebraska	National Rank	Trend
TELEPHONE/CELL PHONE PENETRATION				
Telephone Penetration, Percent of Households with Telephone Service, 2011	97.4%	97.8%	13	↑
Cell Phone Penetration, Percentage Change in Subscribers, 2010-2011	1.8%	1.3%	28	↓
INTERNET ACCESS				
Percentage of Residential End User Premises with Access to High-Speed Services, 2011	n.a.	83.6%	n.a.	n.a.
Speed of High-Speed Download Services for Internet Access (kbps), 2010	3,002	4,734	16	n.a.
SUSTAINABILITY				
Nebraska Universal Service Fund Expenditures, 2010 (thousands)	n.a.	\$42,500	n.a.	↑

Nebraska Legislative Planning Database at a Glance—Transportation

	United States	Nebraska	National Rank	Trend
TRANSPORTATION INFRASTRUCTURE				
Road Smoothness, Percent of Miles Meeting or Exceeding Acceptable Ride Quality, 2011	n.a.	90%	n.a.	↓
Cost-Effectiveness Ranking of State Highway System, 2008	n.a.	n.a.	5	↑
Percent of Deficient Bridges, 2011	23.8%	24.2%	26	↓
ACCIDENTS				
Railroad Accidents and Incidents, 2010	11,539	252	12	↑
Traffic Fatality Rate Per 100 Million Vehicle Miles Traveled, 2009	1.25	1.09	20	↔
TRANSPORATION ACCESS				
Percentage of Commuters Traveled to Work by Public Transportation, 2011	5.03%	0.71%	42	↑
Travel Time to Work, 2011 (Minutes)	25.3	18.4	n.a.	↑
TRANSPORATION FUNDING				
Local Highway Spending Per Capita, 2009-2010	\$202.93	\$320.40	8	↑
State Highway Spending Per Capita, 2009-2010	\$300.96	\$356.43	21	↓

Nebraska Legislative Planning Database – Overview of Key Indicators

Introduction

The Nebraska Legislature's Planning Committee was created in 2009 with the passage of LB 653, in order to help establish a process of long-term state planning with the Nebraska Legislature. The committee was created to assist state government in identifying emerging trends, assets, and challenges of the state and the long-term implications of the decisions made by the Nebraska Legislature.

The goals and benchmarks in the database were developed and approved by the Legislature's Planning Committee to present a common-sense and data-driven assessment of key areas important to Nebraskans' quality of life. This database is a joint initiative with the Nebraska Legislature's Planning Committee and the University of Nebraska at Omaha College of Public Affairs and Community Service.

Following is an overview highlighting some of the key indicators from the nine primary benchmarks contained in the Nebraska Legislative Planning Database.

Agriculture

Depending upon the measure, rural Nebraskans generally fared better economically than the typical rural resident nationally. Per capita incomes were higher, and poverty and unemployment rates were considerably lower. Nebraska's rural per capita income for 2011 was \$27,486, which was 6.2% above the national average and has been growing faster than the nation's. The number of persons working on farms (including farm proprietors) totaled more than 51,000 in 2011. However, since 1990, the number of people working on farms fell 28.5%. Nebraska farms are getting larger and fewer in numbers.

In 2011, farm marketings brought \$23.4 billion into the state. With the exception of 2009 and 2011, over the past 30 years, cash receipts from livestock and livestock products have exceeded those from crops. Net farm income resulting from these marketings rose substantially to \$7.2 billion in 2011. Even though their impact was smaller, government farm payments continued to be an important source of income for Nebraska farmers, as the estimated farm payments to Nebraska farmers amounted to \$470 million, representing about 6.5% of the total net farm income.

Economy

An analysis of Nebraska's economy shows that the state historically has lagged the nation in per capita and average income, average wages and salaries, and in employment growth (with the exception of the past few years). On the other hand, comparative costs generally have been lower in Nebraska than the nation. The business climate in Nebraska is good, but entrepreneurship and technology and innovation rank below most states.

Most measures of Nebraska's income have improved when compared to the nation. The state also fared better than the nation in terms of poverty. In 2011, Nebraska had the 6th lowest poverty rate in the nation (10.2%). In addition, Nebraska had less income inequality than the nation. In 2011, the median household income was \$50,296 in Nebraska compared to \$50,502 for the nation.

Nebraska's per capita personal income in 2011 was 2.1% above the national average. Beginning in 1990, Nebraska's per capita personal income began to increase in relation to the national value. As a result of this growth, Nebraska's 2011 per capita personal income was above the national average for the first time since 1975 and only the 5th time since the data series began in 1929.

Nebraska's employment grew slightly in 2011 but rose less than the national average. Historically, Nebraska has had one of the lowest unemployment rates in the nation, and 2011 was no exception. In 2011, Nebraska's unemployment rate was 4.4% and ranked as the second lowest nationally. Even accounting for underemployment and workers who left the labor force, Nebraska's adjusted unemployment rate in 2011 rose to 8.9%.

A quality workforce is one that can adapt and thrive in a rapidly changing economy. Nebraska needs skilled workers to enhance its economic vitality and to compete in the global marketplace. Using the workforce quality measures in the database, Nebraska generally ranked in the middle one-third of the states. Nebraska ranked high on high school graduates but low on persons with advanced degrees and science and engineering occupations.

Education

Higher education is important to be successful in today's economy not only for the individual but also for the state. Nebraska has a comparatively high percentage of its high school graduates attending a degree granting institution, most of whom attended a college in Nebraska, and over one-half of the bachelor's students graduated within six years. Nebraska also ranked favorably for public high school graduation and dropout rates.

Early childhood education can have an important role in the long-term development of a child. Just under one-half (47.7%) of Nebraska children aged 3 and 4 were enrolled in an education program. This was slightly below the national percentage. However, nearly all of the Nebraska's children aged 5 to 17 were enrolled in an education program. Private schools were more important in Nebraska than in the nation, as Nebraska recorded a smaller percentage of children aged 5 to 17 who attended public schools.

Nebraska compared favorably in the cost of higher education. In 2010-11 the average cost for a full-time equivalent student in a public 4-year institution in Nebraska was \$14,081 ranking 31st nationally. This was below the national average of \$15,918. For 2-year public institutions, Nebraska's costs of \$2,391 were slightly lower than the nation's of \$2,439. One of the reasons that tuition is relatively low in Nebraska is that state and local appropriations for higher education per FTE student in Nebraska were above the national average. Even though tuition may be relatively low in Nebraska, tuition costs are not the only indicator of college affordability.

Looking at reading and mathematics scores for Nebraska's fourth and eighth graders, it appears that Nebraska generally ranked in the middle one-third of the states but ranked toward the bottom of its peer states in 2010. In reading, Nebraska ranked at or above the national median, and the relative rank increased from fourth to eighth grade. For mathematics, Nebraska ranked below the national median in most categories, although the relative ranking increased from fourth to eighth grade.

Health and Human Services

Health access is an issue facing many Nebraskans. Even though the state's rate of uninsurance is lower than the nation's; still, 11.4% of all Nebraskans, 5.9% of children under 18 years, and 16.1% of those aged 18 to 64 years were uninsured in 2011. In addition, there are many areas of the state (particularly more rural areas) that have shortages of health care professionals. The Nebraska Office of Rural Health looks at professional shortage areas. In 2012, it showed that many of the counties in the western one-third of the state experienced shortages in primary care.

There are several measures of health status reviewed in the database. Compared to the nation, Nebraska had a lower percent of adult tobacco users, and this percentage has been decreasing since 2000. On the other hand, heavy drinking, adult obesity, and child obesity have been increasing recently. The health of mothers and children is a key component in an overall healthy population. In 2010, 73.2% of Nebraska mothers received prenatal care in the first trimester. The infant mortality rate of 6.1 per 1,000 live births in 2010 was the highest since 2007.

Poverty imposes far-reaching hardships on poor children. Similar to the overall poverty rate discussed in the Economy section, the poverty rate for Nebraska's children remained little changed in 2011, with a rate of 18.1%. However, this was among the lowest in the nation, ranking 35th. 2010 represented the second consecutive yearly increase in TANF enrollees since 2004.

On a per capita basis, Nebraska's expenditures on public welfare ranked low nationally and were toward the middle of the states in the region. Looking at Medicaid and CHIP expenditures per eligible person in FY 2012, the highest expenditures were for the blind and disabled at \$1,658 per eligible person but were nearly equaled by the expenditures for the aged at \$1,602 per eligible person. Expenditures for children were the lowest on an eligible person basis (\$207). With the exception of ADC adult, the other categories of expenditures per eligible person were lower in FY 2012 than in at least one of the previous seven years. Expenditures for the aged population should be viewed with caution because the impact of the aging baby boom will not be felt for a few more years.

Natural Resources

Nebraska's air quality was high, as indicated by relatively low total air pollution emissions (40th in the nation), toxic air emissions (31st) and carbon dioxide (CO₂) emissions from fossil fuel combustion (35th).

Nebraska had 13 hazardous waste sites on the national priority list in 2008, the 20th fewest sites in the United States. For toxic chemical releases Nebraska ranked 31st, but for toxic surface water discharges Nebraska ranked first in the region. Almost all of the toxic surface water discharges were from nitrate compounds. Nebraska's community water systems were smaller and more likely to have reported health-based violations than its neighboring states.

The density of irrigation wells is highest in the Platte River Valley, and low in the Panhandle, southwestern Nebraska and parts of eastern Nebraska. Groundwater level changes show the largest decreases in Box Butte, Perkins, Chase and Dundy counties.

Electricity in Nebraska costs less than the national average, although the price is rising faster. Nebraska is a relatively high consumer of energy. Nebraska ranks low in the percentage of electricity generated through renewable resources, but that is increasing. Nebraska's percentage of electricity generated by renewable resources increased from 2.6% to 4.9%, but is still below the U.S. average of 12.8%.

Public Safety

In public safety, Nebraska has lower crime rates and spends less than the national average; however there are some troubling trends. Crime rates fell across the board in 2009, but the most recent trends for Nebraska show a large increase in the murder rate in 2011, though it is still below the national average. Violent crime fell by 10% in 2011, tracking with the national trend, and property crime fell slightly (-0.3%), though the national rate fell faster (-4.2%). In all these areas, Nebraska was below the national average. Nebraska reported a 60% increase in arrests for drug abuse violations from 2009 to 2011.

Nebraska's crime trends for juveniles are problematic in some areas. In 2009, the juvenile arrest rate for property crime was second highest in the nation. Within the property crime category, the arrest rates for vandalism and larceny-theft were particularly high. Nebraska ranked low in juvenile arrests for violent crime, but this rate is increasing.

Nebraska's state and local expenditures for public safety are 25% below national levels. In FY 2010, the most expensive facility maintained by the Nebraska Department of Correctional Services was the Nebraska Correctional Youth Facility at \$67,247 per inmate per year.

Recent trends in recidivism at both the Kearney and Geneva youth rehabilitation and treatment centers are down. Similarly, the recidivism rate in Nebraska adult correctional facilities has been dropping overall, however there is a recent uptick in recidivism for parolees.

Since 1960, the state has experienced 54 federally declared disasters, 15 of these since 2008. Flooding in the summer of 2011 cost an estimated \$107 million in public damages; the largest loss since 2007.

As of August 2012, the entire state is covered by phase II wireless 911 status which provides the geographic location of the call to the answering point.

State and Local Government

Nebraska's low population density, strong support for public education, and the presence of public power are three important factors that affect government. The low density is part of the reason why Nebraska is high in the number of local governments and in local government employees per capita. Nebraska employs 24% more elementary and secondary school teachers than the national average and spends more on this function. Public electric utilities are another distinctive feature of Nebraska that causes local government employment to be high. However, state and local government employee pay is lower than the national average in all categories except for local utilities. State government employment decreased in 2011, although Nebraska remains above average in this measure.

State and local government general spending in Nebraska is below the national average. Two functions that have been consistently above average over time in Nebraska are education and transportation, reflecting in part the high number of teachers and the low population density, respectively. Nebraska was lower than the national average in local spending for all functions with the exception of education, transportation, and utilities. The support for these three functions of government reflects the state's preferences, demographics and history.

State and local general revenue per capita in Nebraska was slightly above the national average, but taxes are below average. State general revenue per capita is below the national average, a drop in the state's relative position over the past three years, while local general revenue is 9% above the national average. All state revenues are below the national average except for the individual income tax and the miscellaneous category. At the local level, the general sales tax is lower than average and there are no local income taxes, but all other revenue sources are above the average. The property tax has been above the national average for many years. Nebraska is particularly low in state debt outstanding per capita and high in local debt outstanding.

Telecommunications

Almost all Nebraska households have telephone service (land line or cell phone), and the vast majority of Nebraskans have a cell phone. As of June 2011, there were 1.54 million cell phone subscribers in Nebraska.

The ability to receive and transmit digital content or services at high speeds is a fundamental component of the telecommunications industry. However, the issue in Nebraska is not access to internet service but rather the average download speed. In 2011, 83.6% of Nebraska households had access to high speed internet service. The average download speed ranked 16th nationally in 2010.

One way to make sure advanced telecommunication services such as broadband are available to all Nebraskans is through the Universal Service Fund. There was a total of \$42.5 million spent from the Nebraska Universal Service Fund in 2010.

Transportation

Nebraska's transportation is generally good, in part because of strong financial support. Nebraska is 34% above the national average in highway spending. As a result, interstate highways were rated 99% smooth, and other state roads were 90% smooth. The cost-effectiveness of the state highway system was ranked 5th in the nation. However, almost one-quarter of the state's bridges were rated as deficient.

Transportation safety shows a mixed profile. Traffic fatalities are 13% below the national average. The number of railroad accidents in Nebraska is high (15th nationally) but decreased by 26% from 2008 to 2010.

The most notable difference in commuting patterns is that only 0.7% of Nebraskans used public transit, compared to 4.9% nationally. Nebraska was higher in the percentage that drove to work alone, and this increased from 2009 to 2011. Average commuting time in Nebraska is 18 minutes, the 4th lowest in the nation.

Airline passenger boardings decreased by 1.4% in 2011. The vast majority (89.8%) was from Eppley Airfield. Boardings increased significantly at both Grand Island and Aurora.

Nebraska Legislative Planning Database - Agriculture

Introduction

This benchmark examines Nebraska's economy by reviewing four broad areas: farm income; farm receipts; agricultural diversity; and farm operations. When available, data are presented for the period 1980 to 2011. At other times, the period is 2002 to 2007. The most current available data at the time the data files were put together are used. For most indicators this is 2011, but the Census of Agriculture is conducted every five years, with 2007 being the most recent year. The U.S. Department of Agriculture currently is seeking responses from farmers and ranchers for the 2012 Census of Agriculture. Mailing started in mid-December with forms due by February 4, 2013.

Farm Income

Historically, measures of Nebraska's rural income were slightly below the national average. However, 2011 was a good year for rural Nebraska. The U.S. Census Bureau reported that Nebraska's rural per capita income for 2011 was \$27,486, which was 6.2% above the national average of \$25,875. Rural Nebraska's income ranked 20th nationally and was in the middle of the region. Although there have been year-to-year fluctuations, since 2005, Nebraska's per capita income has been growing faster than the nation's. Between 2005 and 2011, Nebraska's growth was 23.4% compared to 11.5% for the United States.

The U.S. Census Bureau measured the poverty rate for persons living in rural Nebraska in 2011. Using this measure, rural Nebraskans also fared better than the nation with a poverty rate of 9.0% compared to 12.8% for the nation. Regionally, Nebraska had the 3rd lowest rural poverty rate. Since 2005, rural Nebraska's poverty rate has fluctuated from year-to-year, but the 2011 rate was higher than the 2005 rate of 8.1%.

Nebraska ranked 23rd nationally and 5th regionally in the number of persons working on farms (this includes farm proprietors). Since 1990, the number of people working on farms fell 28.5%. However, farm employment has increased by nearly 2,800 persons between 2008 and 2011 and was the highest since 2005. Nationally, the decline since 1990 was 16.4%. Even though rural employment has been declining, Nebraska's rural unemployment rate was 4.1% in 2011 and was the 2nd lowest in the region, behind North Dakota.

Farm Receipts

The U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis reported cash receipts from livestock and livestock products in 2011 at \$11.5 billion. This ranked 4th nationally and only behind Iowa in the region. Cash receipts from crops totaled \$11.8 billion in 2011. Nebraska ranked 4th nationally but was lower than Iowa in the region. Historically, cash receipts from livestock and livestock products have exceeded those from crops, but in 2011 and 2009 crop receipts actually exceeded those from livestock and livestock products. These were the only 2 years in over 30 years where crop receipts exceeded those from livestock.

Although still an important source of income for Nebraska farmers, government farm payments were a smaller share of farm income than any time in the past 30 years. In 2011, the U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis estimated farm payments to Nebraska farmers were \$470 million. This was the 6th highest nationally and 4th in the region.

Net farm income for Nebraska rose substantially to \$7.2 billion in 2011. This was 3rd nationally but was less than Iowa in the region. Since 2006 Nebraska's net farm income has more than tripled.

Agricultural Diversity

Agricultural diversity looks at the commodities produced in Nebraska and exported from Nebraska. In 2011, the top five agricultural commodities produced in Nebraska were cattle and calves; corn; soybeans; hogs; and wheat. The five most important agricultural exports were soybeans and products; feed grains and products; live animals and meat; hides and skins; and feeds and fodders.

Farm Operations

Every five years, in years ending in 2 and 7, the U.S. Department of Agriculture conducts a Census of Agriculture. Since the next Census currently is being conducted, most of the information for farm operations is unchanged from previous reports. However, there are more recent estimates for the number of farms. In 2011, Nebraska had 46,800 farms and ranches. This number ranked 5th in the region. Since 2007, the number of Nebraska farms fell about 2.0%.

According to the 2007 Census of Agriculture, Nebraska had 45.5 million acres in farmland (including ranches). This was a decrease of 0.9% since 2002. Between 2002 and 2007, the average Nebraska farm size increased from 930 acres to 953 acres (2.5%). Regionally, Nebraska and South Dakota were the only states experiencing an increase in the average farm size. Nationally, the average farm size dropped 5.2% from 441 acres to 418 acres. Approximately 41% of Nebraska farms and ranches had sales of \$100 thousand or more, and only 5% had sales of \$1 million or more.

Nebraska farm operators were less likely to be full owners than farm operators nationally and in the region. Overall, in 2007, 50.3% of Nebraska farm operators were full owners (compared to part owners and renters). For the nation the comparable figure was 69.0%.

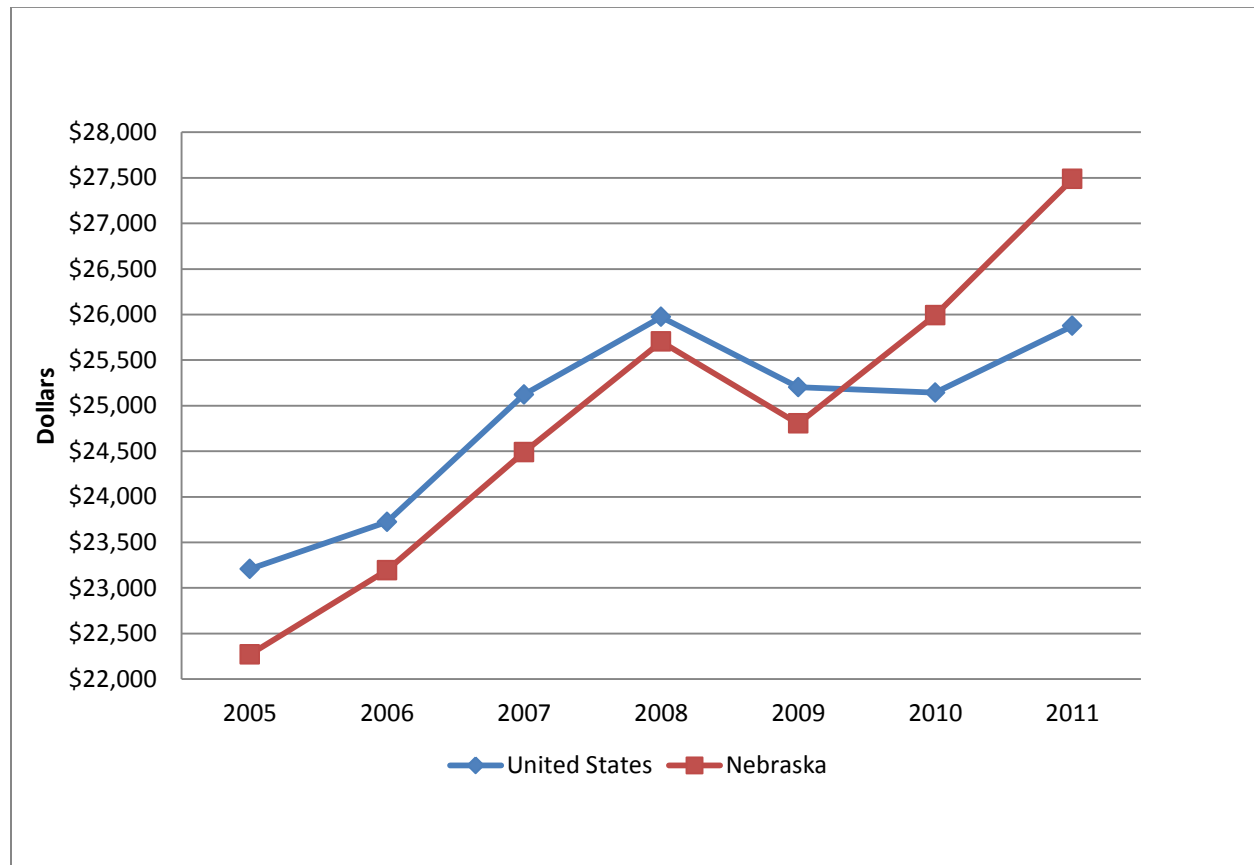
Farm Income

Rural Per Capita Income, Regional Comparison: 2011

	Per Capita Income	National Rank
United States	\$25,875	
Colorado	\$32,930	7
Wyoming	\$30,545	9
North Dakota	\$29,459	13
Minnesota	\$28,127	18
Nebraska	\$27,486	20
Iowa	\$27,336	22
Kansas	\$27,017	24
South Dakota	\$26,137	26
Missouri	\$22,727	38

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2011 American Community Survey 1-Year Estimates; prepared by UNO Center for Public Affairs Research, December 2012

Rural Per Capita Income (Inflation-adjusted dollars), Nebraska and the United States: 2005-2011



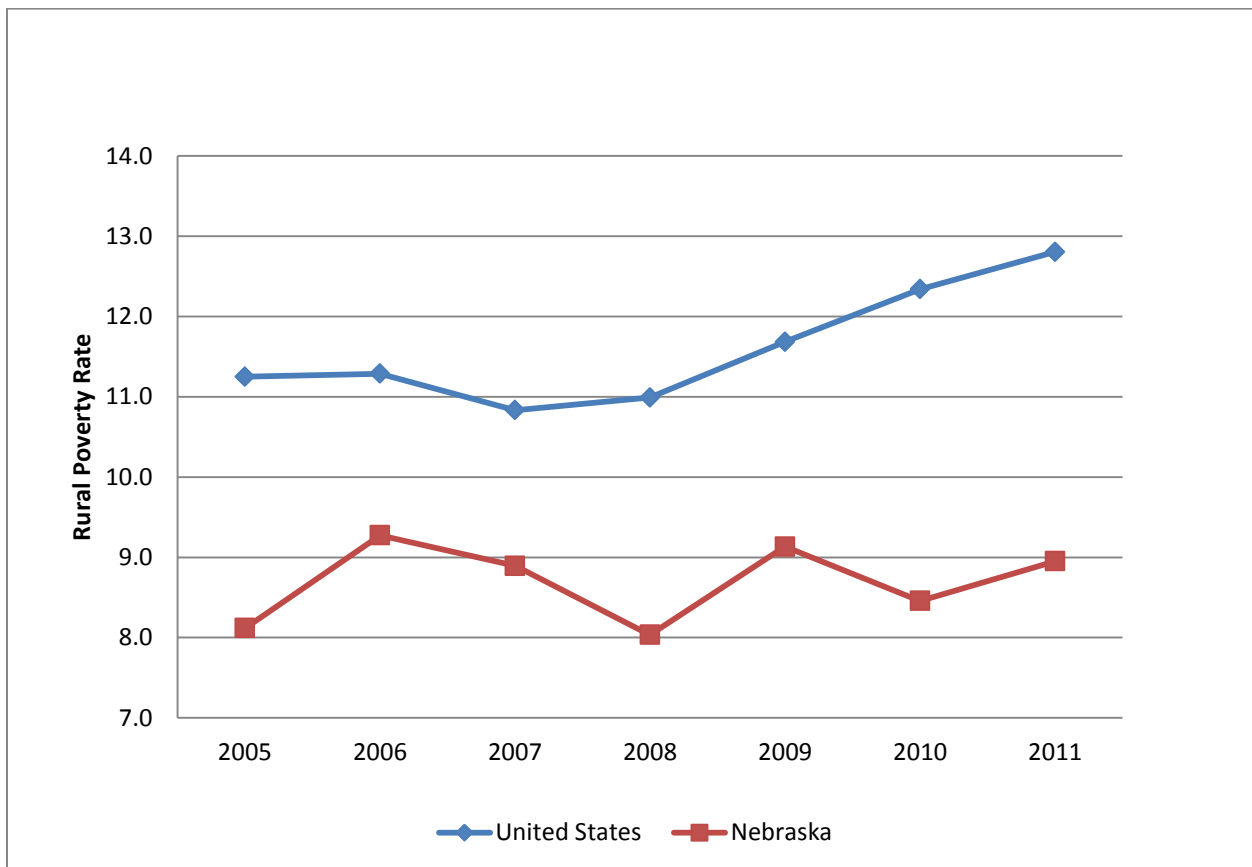
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2005-2011; prepared by UNO Center for Public Affairs Research, December 2012

Rural Poverty Rate, Regional Comparison: 2011

	Rural Poverty Rate	National Rank
United States	12.8%	
Missouri	14.1%	15
South Dakota	13.1%	19
North Dakota	11.2%	28
Wyoming	10.6%	30
Kansas	9.4%	35
Minnesota	9.0%	39
Nebraska	9.0%	40
Iowa	8.8%	42
Colorado	8.5%	43

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2011 American Community Survey 1-Year Estimates; prepared by UNO Center for Public Affairs Research, December 2012

Rural Poverty Rate, Nebraska and the United States: 2005-2011



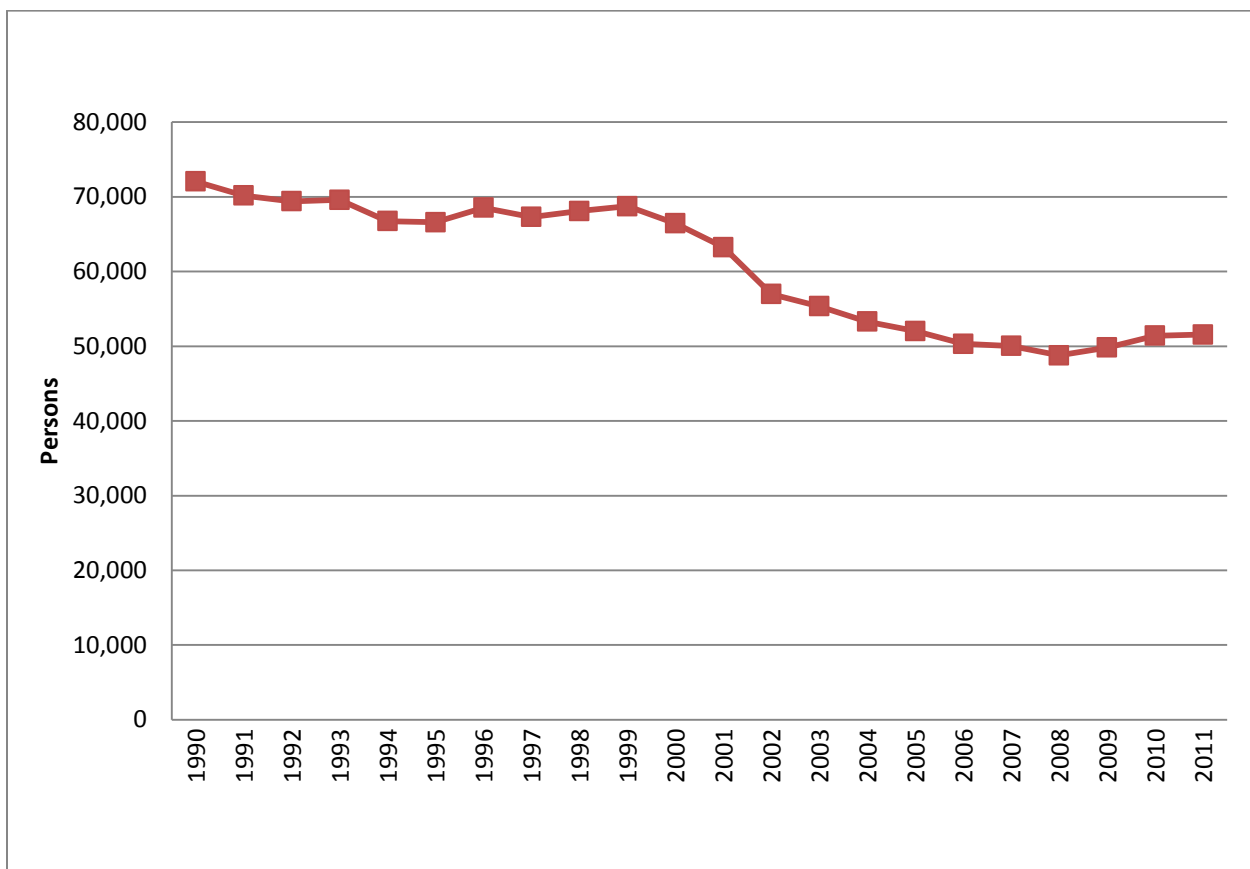
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2005-2011; prepared by UNO Center for Public Affairs Research, December 2012

Farm Employment, Regional Comparison: 2011

	Persons Employed	National Rank
United States	2,635,000	
Missouri	103,306	3
Iowa	91,562	5
Minnesota	83,653	8
Kansas	66,600	17
Nebraska	51,551	23
Colorado	44,489	27
North Dakota	32,027	29
South Dakota	31,934	30
Wyoming	12,895	40

Source: U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis, Regional Economic Information System; prepared by UNO Center for Public Affairs Research, December 2012

Farm Employment, Nebraska: 1990-2011



Source: U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis, Regional Economic Accounts; prepared by UNO Center for Public Affairs Research, December 2012

Rural Unemployment Rate, Regional Comparison: 2011

	Unemployment Rate	Regional Rank
Missouri	8.9	1
Colorado	8.0	2
Minnesota	6.7	3
Iowa	6.1	4
Wyoming	5.8	5
Kansas	5.7	6
South Dakota	4.8	7
Nebraska	4.1	8
North Dakota	3.5	9

Source: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Economic Research Service, State Fact Sheets; prepared by UNO Center for Public Affairs Research, December 2012

Farm Receipts

Cash Receipts from Livestock and Products, Regional Comparison: 2011

	Cash Receipts (\$000)	National Rank
United States	\$191,375,096	
Iowa	\$14,217,520	2
Nebraska	\$11,530,466	4
Kansas	\$11,167,635	5
Minnesota	\$8,008,651	7
Missouri	\$4,733,398	13
Colorado	\$4,547,015	14
South Dakota	\$4,001,879	17
North Dakota	\$1,257,833	34
Wyoming	\$1,100,713	37

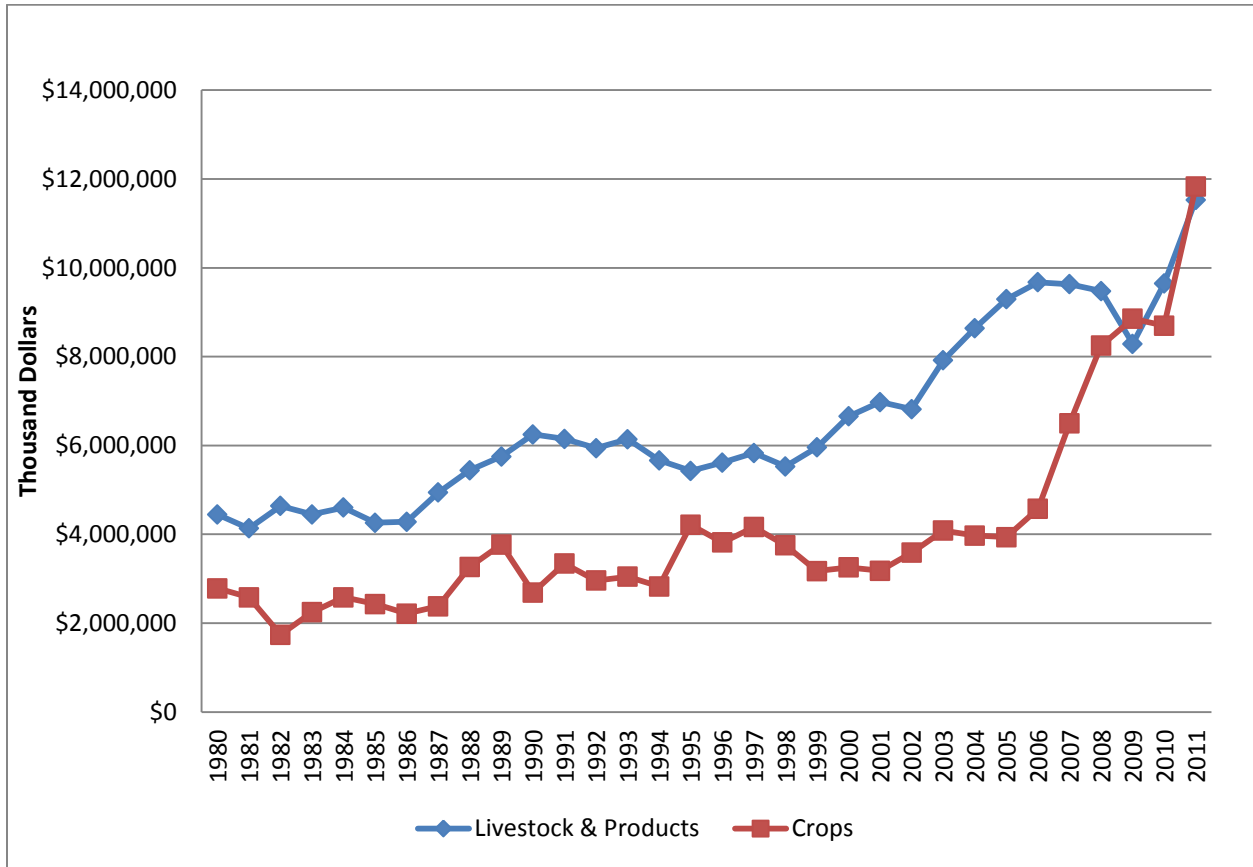
Source: U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis, Regional Economic Accounts; prepared by UNO Center for Public Affairs Research, December 2012

Cash Receipts from Crops, Regional Comparison: 2011

	Cash Receipts (\$000)	National Rank
United States	\$209,553,278	
Iowa	\$17,543,012	2
Nebraska	\$11,827,008	4
Minnesota	\$11,600,363	5
Kansas	\$7,506,278	7
North Dakota	\$7,102,405	8
South Dakota	\$6,206,573	13
Missouri	\$5,539,554	14
Colorado	\$2,995,535	22
Wyoming	\$365,108	42

Source: U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis, Regional Economic Accounts; prepared by UNO Center for Public Affairs Research, December 2012

Cash Receipts from Livestock and Products and Crops, Nebraska: 1980-2011



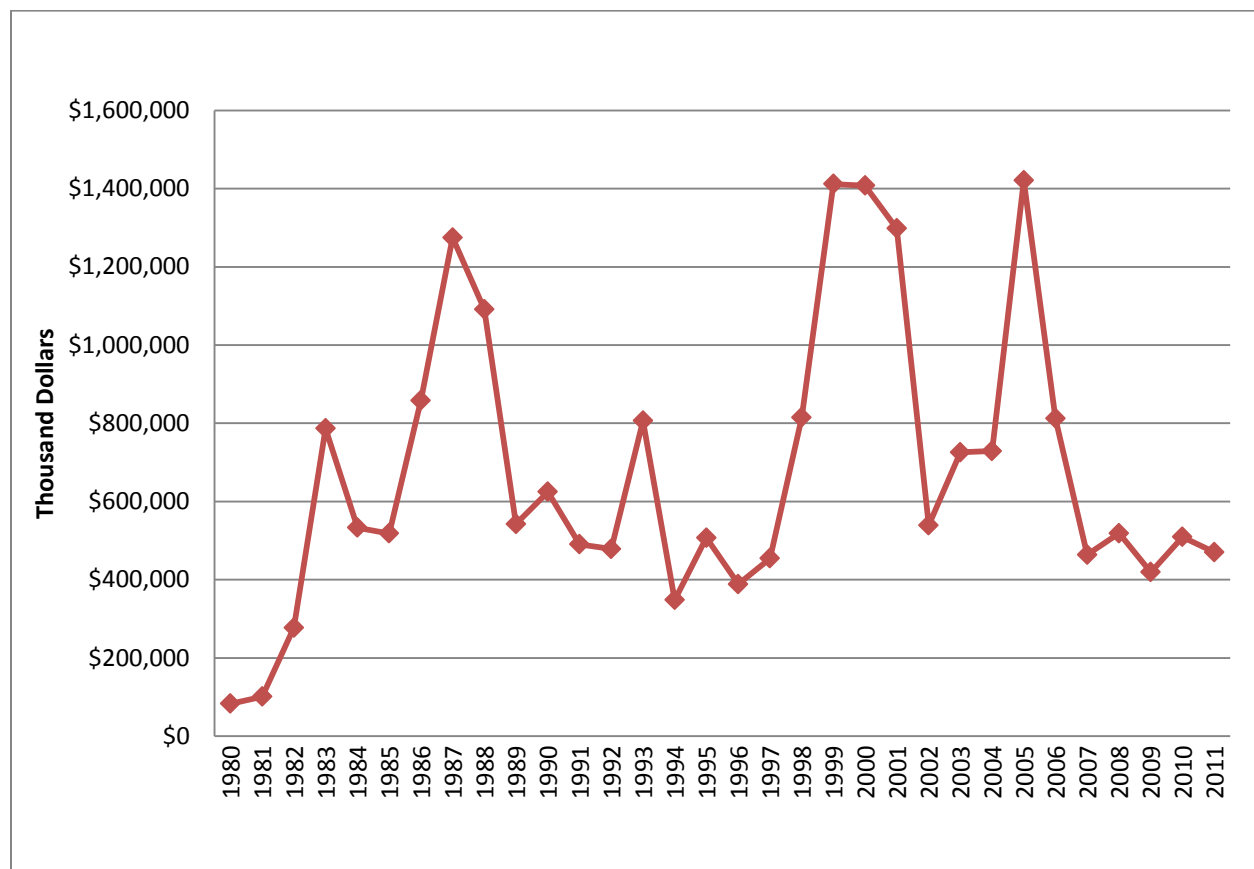
Source: U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis, Regional Economic Accounts; prepared by UNO Center for Public Affairs Research, December 2012

Government Farm Payments, Regional Comparison: 2011

	Payments (\$000)	National Rank
United States	\$10,421,399	
Iowa	\$811,851	2
Kansas	\$542,807	4
Minnesota	\$487,904	5
Nebraska	\$470,349	6
North Dakota	\$460,807	7
Missouri	\$367,173	9
South Dakota	\$303,439	12
Colorado	\$235,386	19
Wyoming	\$41,290	36

Source: U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis, Regional Economic Accounts; prepared by UNO Center for Public Affairs Research, December 2012

Government Farm Payments, Nebraska: 1980-2011



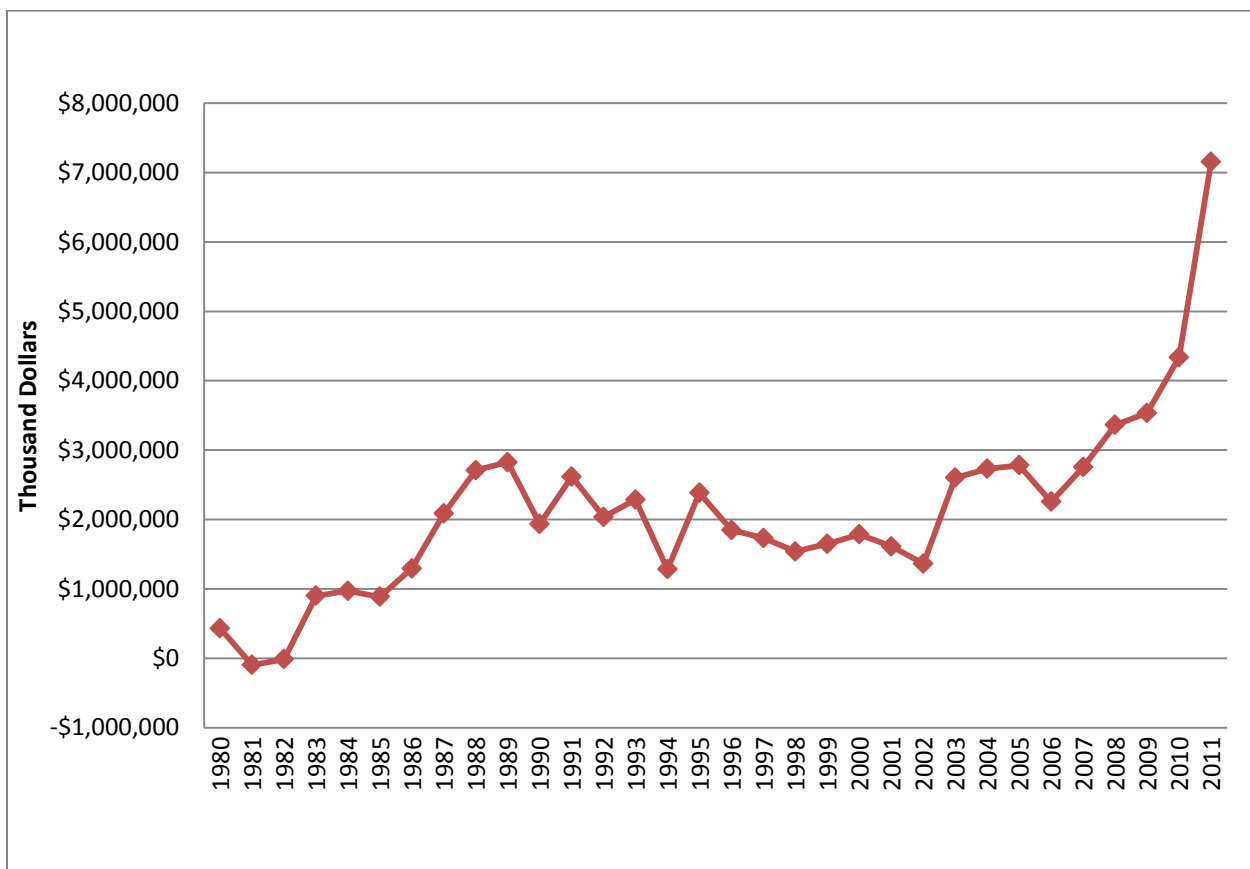
Source: U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis, Regional Economic Accounts; prepared by UNO Center for Public Affairs Research, December 2012

Realized Net Farm Income, Regional Comparison: 2011

	Income (\$000)	National Rank
United States	\$110,314,261	
Iowa	\$10,651,692	2
Nebraska	\$7,153,596	3
Minnesota	\$6,463,241	5
Kansas	\$5,841,818	6
South Dakota	\$5,210,124	8
North Dakota	\$3,708,748	10
Missouri	\$2,888,275	13
Colorado	\$1,276,360	25
Wyoming	\$113,029	43

Source: U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis, Regional Economic Accounts; prepared by UNO Center for Public Affairs Research, December 2012

Realized Net Farm Income, Nebraska: 1980-2011



Source: U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis, Regional Economic Accounts; prepared by UNO Center for Public Affairs Research, December 2012

Agricultural Diversity

Top 5 Agriculture Commodities, Nebraska: 2011

Commodities	Value of receipts (\$000)	Percent of Nebraska total farm receipts	Percent of United States total farm receipts	Regional Rank
1. Cattle and calves	\$8,614,978	39.5%	13.7%	1
2. Corn	\$7,659,189	35.1%	12.0%	2
3. Soybeans	\$3,069,832	14.1%	8.2%	3
4. Hogs	\$918,228	4.2%	4.2%	4
5. Wheat	\$437,301	2.0%	3.0%	5
All commodities	\$21,814,978		5.8%	

Source: State Fact Sheets, Economic Research Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture; prepared by UNO Center for Public Affairs Research, December 2012

Top 5 Agriculture Exports, Estimates, Nebraska: FY 2011

	Value (\$ million)	Regional Rank
1. Soybeans and products	\$1,776.2	3
2. Feed grains and products	\$1,322.4	2
3. Live animals and meat	\$1,056.6	2
4. Hides and skins	\$383.8	1
5. Feeds and fodders	\$248.8	3
Overall rank	\$5,317.3	

Source: State Fact Sheets, Economic Research Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture; prepared by UNO Center for Public Affairs Research, December 2012

Farm Operations

Total Farmland and Percentage Change in Total Farmland, Regional Comparison: 2002-2007

	Millions of Acres		2007 Regional Rank	Percentage Change
	2002	2007		
United States	938.3	922.1		-1.70%
Kansas	47.2	46.3	1	-1.90%
Nebraska	45.9	45.5	2	-0.90%
South Dakota	43.8	43.7	3	-0.30%
North Dakota	39.3	39.7	4	1.00%
Colorado	31.1	31.6	5	1.60%
Iowa	31.7	30.7	6	-3.10%
Wyoming	34.4	30.2	7	-12.30%
Missouri	29.9	29.0	8	-3.10%
Minnesota	27.5	26.9	9	-2.20%

Source: National Agricultural Statistics Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture; prepared by UNO Center for Public Affairs Research, November 2011

Number of Farms, Regional Comparison: 2010-2011

	Number of Farms		2011 Regional Rank
	2010	2011	
Missouri	107,300	106,500	1
Iowa	92,400	92,300	2
Minnesota	80,500	79,800	3
Kansas	65,500	65,500	4
Nebraska	47,200	46,800	5
Colorado	36,400	36,700	6
North Dakota	31,900	31,900	7
South Dakota	31,500	31,300	8
Wyoming	11,000	11,000	9

Source: State Fact Sheets, Economic Research Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture; prepared by UNO Center for Public Affairs Research, December 2012

Percentage Change in Number of Farms, Regional Comparison: 2002-2011

	Percentage Change	Regional Rank
Colorado	17.0%	1
Wyoming	16.7%	2
North Dakota	4.2%	3
Iowa	1.8%	4
Kansas	1.7%	5
Missouri	-0.3%	6
Minnesota	-1.3%	7
South Dakota	-1.4%	8
Nebraska	-5.2%	9

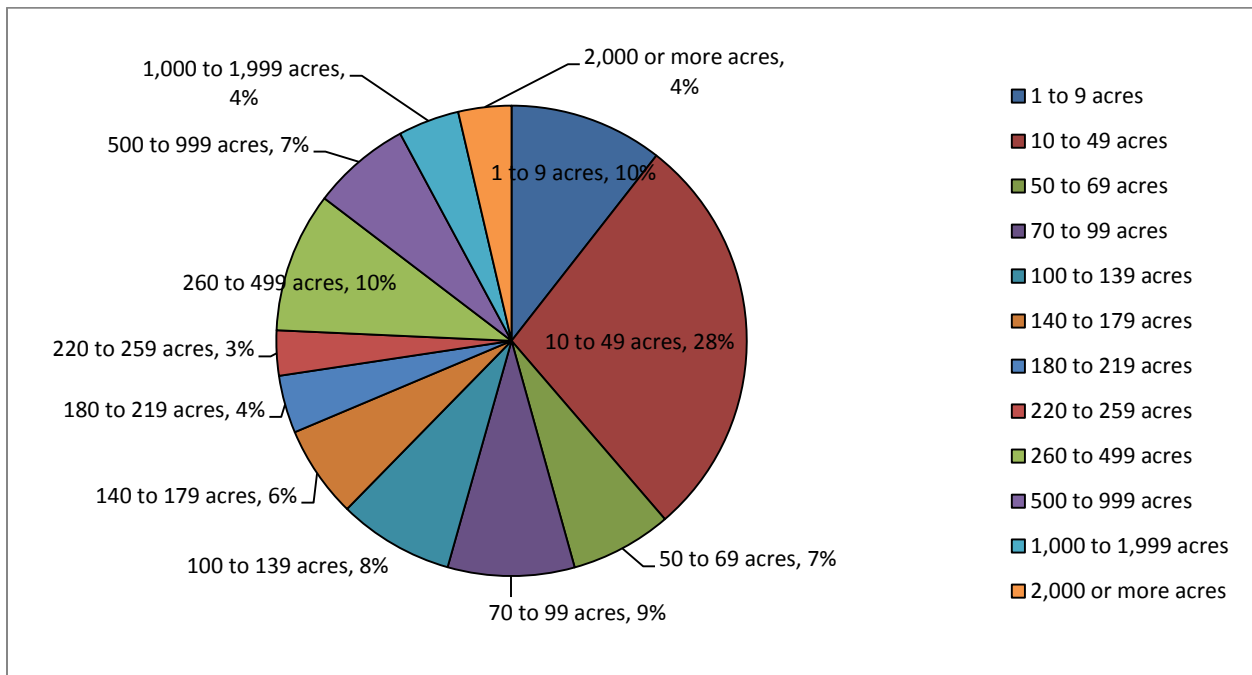
Sources: 2002 Census of Agriculture and State Fact Sheets, National Agricultural Statistics, U.S. Department of Agriculture; prepared by UNO Center for Public Affairs Research, December 2012

Average Farm Size and Percentage Change in Average Farm Size, Regional Comparison: 2002-2007

	Average Size of Farm (Acres)		2007 Regional Rank	Percentage Change
	2002	2007		
United States	441	418		-5.2%
Wyoming	3,651	2,726	1	-25.3%
South Dakota	1,380	1,410	2	1.5%
North Dakota	1,283	1,241	3	-3.3%
Nebraska	930	953	4	2.5%
Colorado	991	853	5	-13.9%
Kansas	733	707	6	-3.5%
Minnesota	340	332	7	-2.4%
Iowa	350	331	8	-5.4%
Missouri	280	269	9	-3.9%

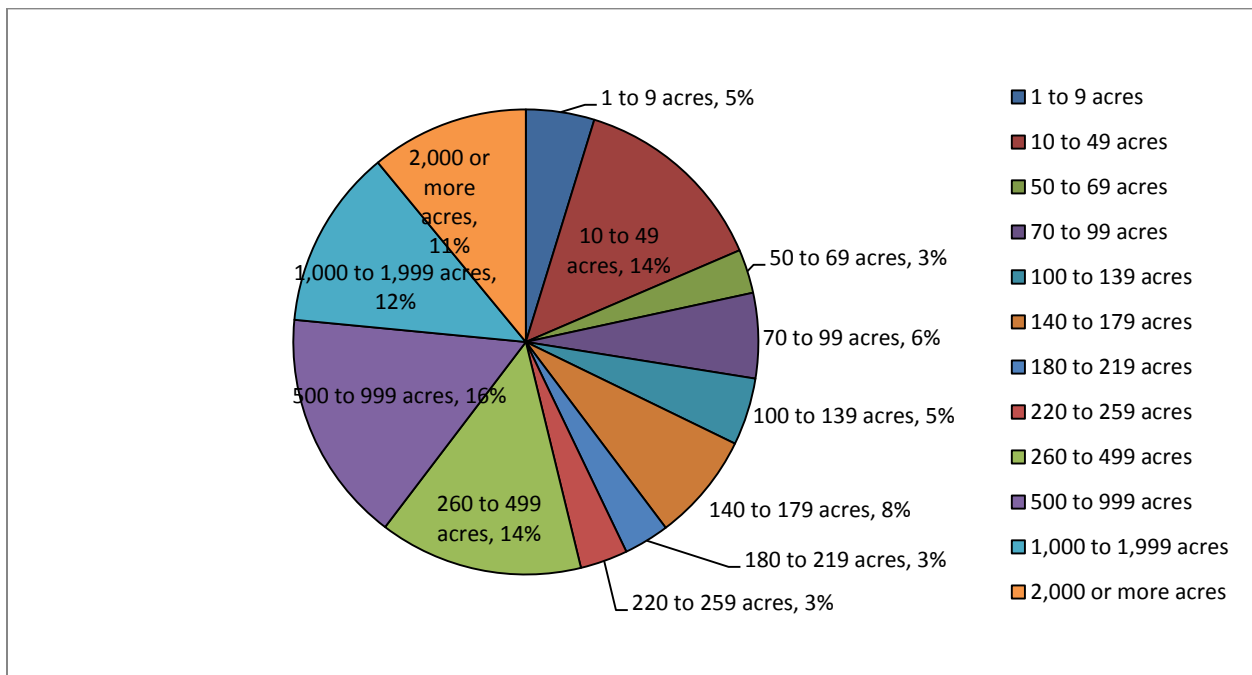
Source: National Agricultural Statistics Service, United States Department of Agriculture; prepared by UNO Center for Public Affairs Research, November 2011

Farms by Size, United States: 2007



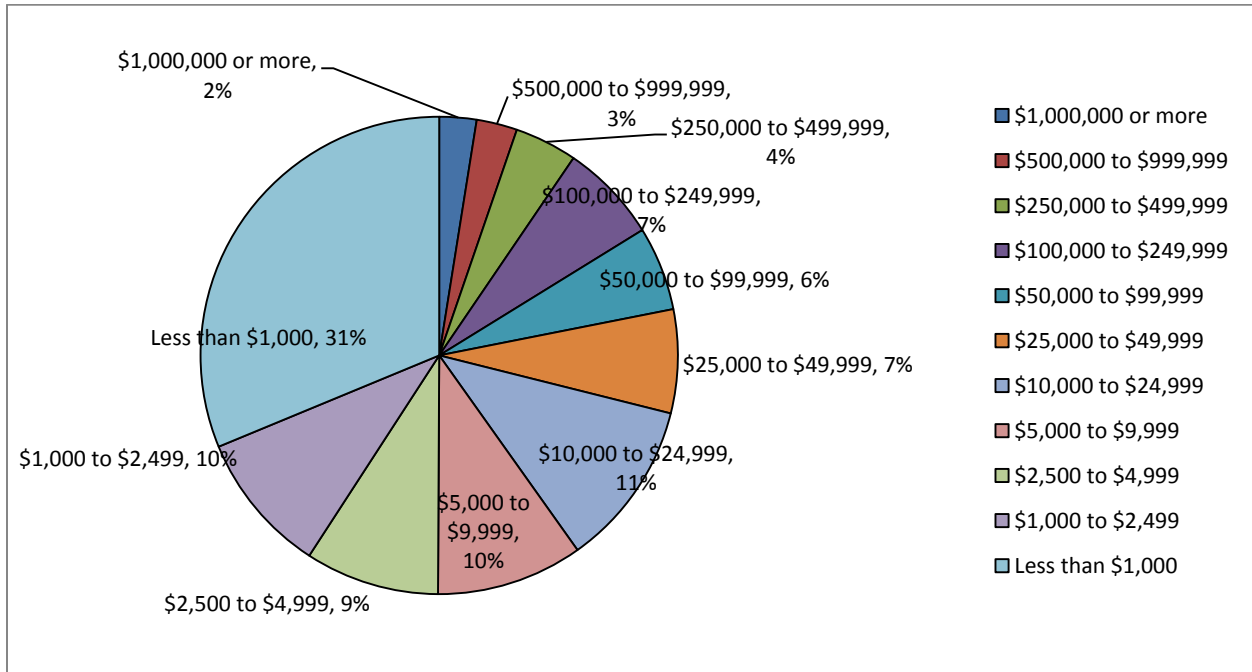
Source: National Agricultural Statistics Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, 2007; prepared by UNO Center for Public Affairs Research, July 2010

Farms by Size, Nebraska: 2007



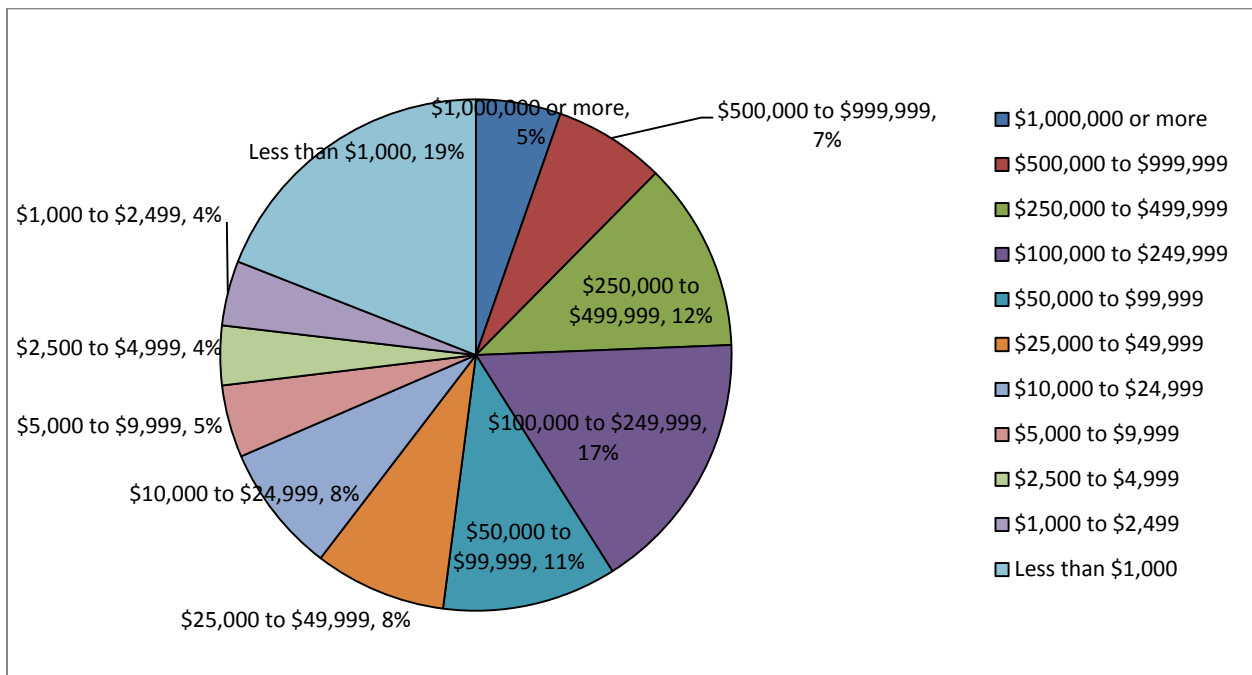
Source: National Agricultural Statistics Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, 2007; prepared by UNO Center for Public Affairs Research, July 2011

Farms by Value of Sales, United States: 2007



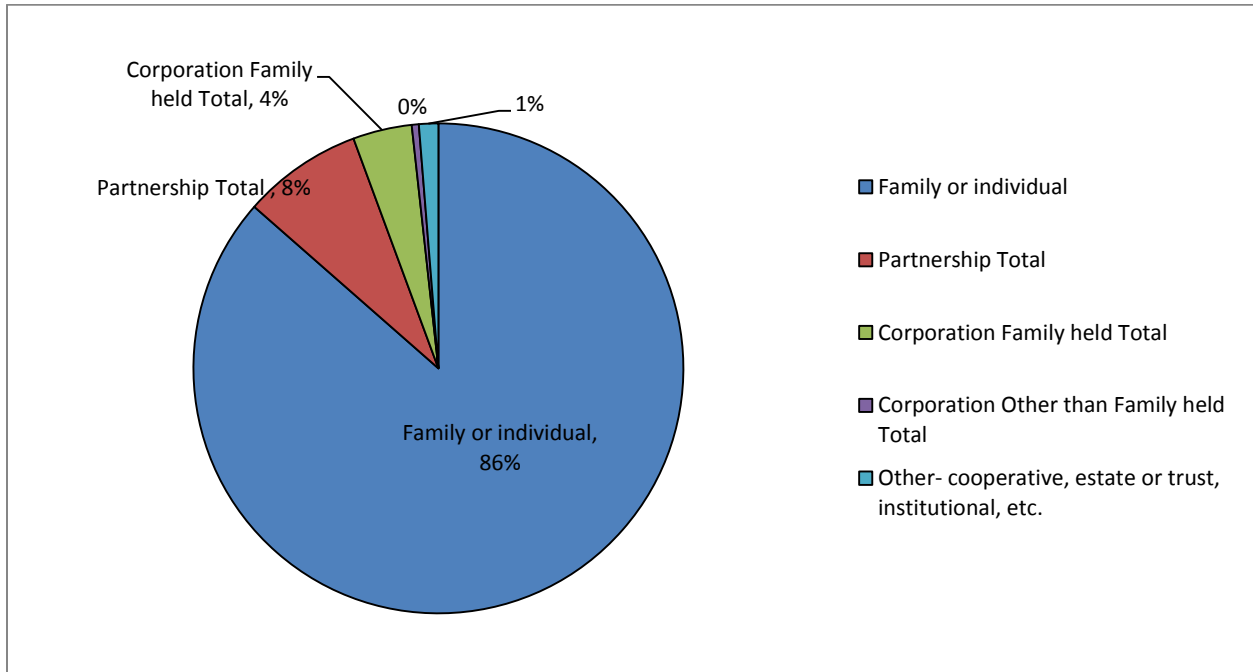
Source: National Agricultural Statistics Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, 2007; prepared by UNO Center for Public Affairs Research, July 2010

Farms by Value of Sales, Nebraska: 2007



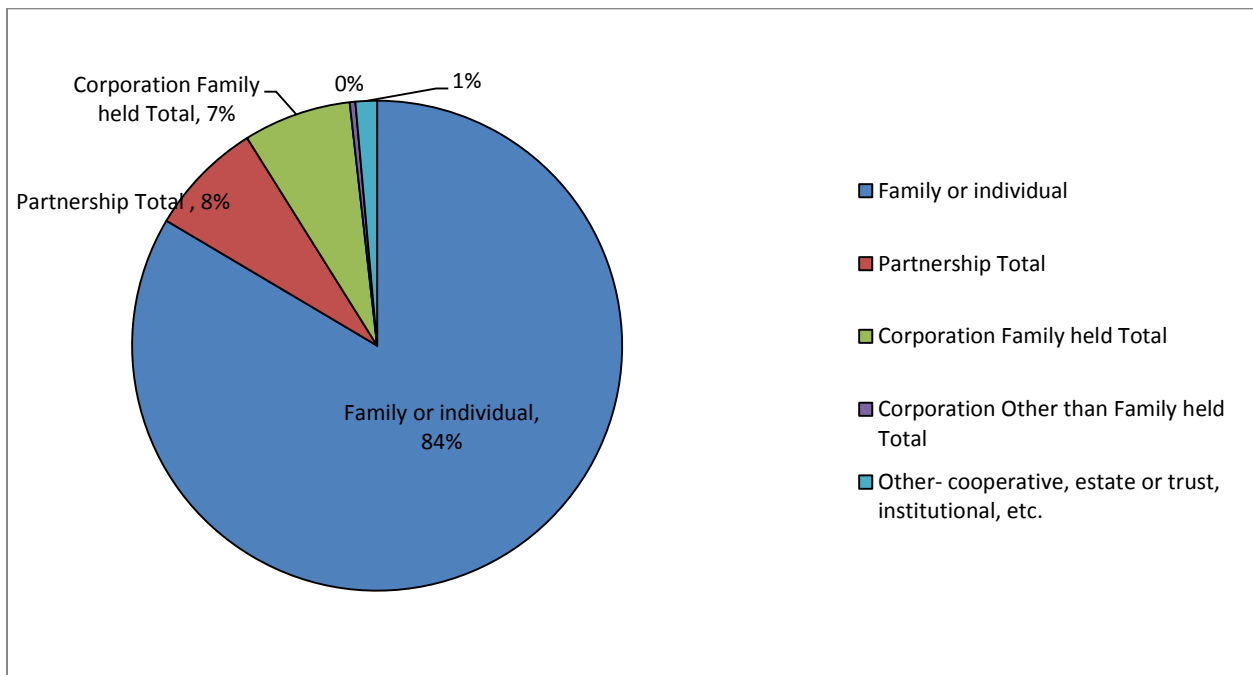
Source: National Agricultural Statistics Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture; prepared by UNO Center for Public Affairs Research, July 2011

Farm Organization (Percentage of Total), United States: 2007



Source: National Agricultural Statistics Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, 2007; prepared by UNO Center for Public Affairs Research, July 2010

Farm Organization (Percentage of Total), Nebraska: 2007



Source: National Agricultural Statistics Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, 2007; prepared by UNO Center for Public Affairs Research, July 2011

Tenure of Farmers and Number of Farm Operators, Regional Comparison: 2007

	Percent of Farms with Full Owners	Percent of Farms with One Operator
United States	69.0%	57.7%
Colorado	71.5%	47.1%
Iowa	57.6%	62.0%
Kansas	58.7%	59.9%
Minnesota	63.5%	61.0%
Missouri	71.8%	56.6%
Nebraska	50.3%	58.7%
North Dakota	51.0%	65.9%
South Dakota	50.1%	60.1%
Wyoming	64.4%	46.1%

Source: National Agricultural Statistics Service, United States Department of Agriculture, 2007; prepared by UNO Center for Public Affairs Research, November 2011

Nebraska Legislative Planning Database – Economy

Introduction

This benchmark examines Nebraska's economy by reviewing four broad areas: income, poverty, and comparative costs; employment; business climate and business start-ups; and workforce quality, technology, and innovation. When available, data are presented for the period 1980 to 2011. At other times, the period is 2000 to 2011. The most currently available data at the time the data files were put together are used. For most indicators this is 2011.

Income, Poverty and Comparative Costs

Generally, measures of Nebraska's income are slightly below the national average, while the state fares better than the nation in terms of poverty. In 2011, Nebraska had the 6th lowest poverty rate in the nation. During 2011, 10.2% of Nebraskans fell below the federal poverty level. Among Nebraska's peers in 2011, North Dakota had the lowest rate of 9.9%. The national average was 15.0%.

Since 1980, Nebraska consistently has had a poverty rate significantly below the national rate. During the 1990s the United States' rate increased, while Nebraska's rate declined. Since 2000, Nebraska has experienced a slight increase in the poverty rate compared to a much larger increase nationally, and the gap between the United States and Nebraska has been increasing.

The Gini Index is a summary measure of income inequality. The Gini Index varies from 0 to 1, with 0 indicating perfect equality where there is a proportional distribution of income. A 1 indicates perfect inequality where one household has all the income and others do not have any. In 2011, using this measure, Nebraska had less income inequality than the nation and ranked 19th. However, Colorado and Missouri were the only states in the area with more income inequality than Nebraska.

Personal income and its components are used to measure and track economic well-being over time and to make comparisons across states. Personal income is prepared by the U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis and is defined as the income earned by, or on behalf of, all the residents of an area (nation, state, or county) from all sources.

In 2011, Nebraska had the 20th highest per capita personal income in the nation. During 2011, Nebraska's per capita personal income was \$42,450 and was 2.1% above the national value. Among Nebraska's peers in 2011, Wyoming had the highest value at \$47,898, followed by North Dakota at \$47,236. Iowa, Kansas, and Missouri all had per capita incomes below that of Nebraska. The national average was \$41,560.

Nebraska's per capita income in 2011 was above the national average for the first time since 1975 and only the 5th time since the data series began in 1929. This improvement in Nebraska's per capita personal income began in 1990.

The percentage change in Nebraska's total personal income (8.4%) between 2010 and 2011 ranked 4th nationally. Among Nebraska's peers during this period, South Dakota and North Dakota had the highest growth rates in the nation, with increases in per capita personal income of 12.8%. Iowa ranked 3rd nationally, with Kansas, Wyoming, and Colorado also in the top 10. This demonstrates the strength in the agricultural and energy sectors in this region.

In 2011, Nebraska's net farm income was 7.6% of Nebraska's total personal income and ranked as the 3rd highest percentage nationally. South Dakota (13.2%) and North Dakota (9.8%) recorded the highest

percentages of farm income. Iowa, Kansas, Minnesota, Missouri, and Wyoming recorded percentages higher than the national average, while Colorado was below the national average. Nationally, 0.8% of total personal income came from net farm income.

Generally, states in the region are among the lowest in the proportion of personal income received from transfer payments. Only Missouri (20.2%) exceeded the national value of 17.9% of personal income received from transfers. In 2011, Nebraska received 15.2% of its personal income from transfers. This ranked 40th among the 50 states and District of Columbia. Colorado recorded the smallest percentage (13.1%) of income from transfer receipts in the region.

In 2011, the median household income was \$50,296 in Nebraska. This value ranked 23rd nationally. Among Nebraska's peers, Minnesota (\$56,954), Wyoming (\$56,322), Colorado (\$55,387), and North Dakota (\$51,704) exceeded the national average.

Since 2000, Nebraska's median household income has exhibited a growth rate about the same rate as the national value, although there have been year-to-year fluctuations. In 2000, Nebraska's median household income of \$39,250 was 93.5% of the national value of \$41,994. By 2011, the comparable percentage rose to 99.6% of the national average.

Comparative costs generally are lower in Nebraska than the nation. In this section we look at two measures of costs: annual wage and salary disbursements per job and ratio of median housing value to median household income. In 2011, the average wage and salary disbursements per job were \$39,869 in Nebraska and \$48,301 for the United States. Nationally, Nebraska ranked 40th and above Iowa and South Dakota in the region. Lower wages and salaries may mean lower costs of business, but they also may explain the somewhat lower incomes for Nebraskans.

The relative cost of housing is the other indicator in this section. The states in Nebraska's region are among the most affordable when looking at the value of housing compared to income. In 2011 Nebraska recorded 49th lowest ratio of median housing cost to median household income (2.53). Iowa and North Dakota enjoyed the lowest ratios in the country. With the exception of Colorado, Nebraska's peers had ratios below the national average of 3.44.

Since 2000, Nebraska's ratio of median housing value to median household income has increased slightly, but has remained relatively stable since 2004. The gap between the nation and Nebraska has narrowed since 2008.

Employment

Employment is used to measure and track economic well-being over time and to make comparisons across states. Employment in this section is prepared by the U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis and measures the number of jobs, both full and part-time, in an area.

The percentage change in Nebraska's employment (0.7%) between 2010 and 2011 ranked 42nd nationally. Among Nebraska's peers during this period, North Dakota led the nation with a growth rate of 4.5%. Colorado, Wyoming, and Minnesota all exceed the national employment growth rate of 1.3%. Regionally, only Missouri recorded a lower employment growth rate than Nebraska.

With the exception of six years (including 2009 and 2010), employment in Nebraska has increased every year since 1980. Between 2008 and 2009 employment in Nebraska fell 1.6% but was much less than the 3.2% drop nationally.

In 2010, Nebraska had a total of 20.6% of its employment as nonfarm and farm proprietors, which ranked 35th nationally and next to last among the peer states. Colorado (25.2%), Wyoming (24.4%), and South Dakota (23.8%) were among the top ten states in the US. Nationally, proprietors accounted for 21.7% of all jobs.

Despite the fact that Nebraska ranked relatively low in the percentage of proprietors, this percentage has been steadily increasing since 2003 when it was below 20.0%.

Unemployment is another important indicator of an area's economic well-being. In 2011, Nebraska's unemployment rate was 4.4% and ranked as the 2nd lowest nationally. Nebraska and its peer states recorded the lowest unemployment rates in the nation. North Dakota, Nebraska, and South Dakota had the three lowest unemployment rates, with rates of 3.5%, 4.4%, and 4.7%, respectively. None of Nebraska's peer states had a rate higher than the national value of 8.9%.

Since 1980, Nebraska's unemployment rate has shown a pattern similar to the national rate, but consistently has fallen below it. The exception to this trend occurred in the 1990s when the national rate rose between 1989 and 1992 and then fell steadily until 2000. In contrast, Nebraska's rate was relatively steady until 2000 and then began to increase. Notice that between 2009 and 2010 Nebraska's unemployment rate remained relatively flat while the unemployment rate for the United States increased.

Historically, Nebraska has had one of the lowest unemployment rates in the nation even accounting for underemployment and workers who left the labor force. Nebraska's adjusted unemployment rate in 2011 rose to 8.9% but still ranked 2nd lowest in the US behind North Dakota. The comparable national rate was 15.9%.

Business Climate and Business Start-ups

The term business climate means different things to different people, and the results of business climate studies may vary widely. It is important to remember measures of business climate are subjective and reflect the bias of the organization preparing the measure.

In 2011, Nebraska ranked 8th in overall business climate as measured by Forbes. Only two of Nebraska's peer states ranked higher: North Dakota (4th) and Colorado (5th). Nebraska ranked above North Dakota in 2010. Generally, the business climate (as measured by Forbes) of Nebraska's peer states ranks in the upper one-half of all states.

According to CNBC's rankings, Nebraska ranked as the 17th top state for business in 2011. Nebraska ranked toward the bottom of its peer states. Only Wyoming ranked lower. According to CNBC, Nebraska and its peer states comprise one-half of the top 17 states for business climate.

On the other hand, Nebraska ranked relatively low in business start-ups. New businesses are one indicator of economic growth and reflect the overall strength of an area's economy. In 2010, Nebraska ranked 35th in the percentage change in new establishments (business startups) as 9.1% of the change in Nebraska establishments was due to business births. For the most part, Nebraska and its peers ranked relatively low regarding business startups. The weakest states were Minnesota, Nebraska, Kansas, and Iowa. The strongest state was Colorado with a ranking of 4th. For the United States, 10.1% of the change in establishments was due to business births.

Workforce Quality, Technology, and Innovation

A quality workforce is one that can adapt and thrive in a rapidly changing economy. Nebraska needs skilled workers to enhance its economic vitality and to compete in the global marketplace. Using the workforce quality measures in this section Nebraska generally ranks in the middle one-third of the states.

In 2010, Nebraska's share of the workforce in science and engineering occupations was 3.32%. This was below the national average of 4.00%. Colorado led the region with a percentage of 5.85% and ranked 5th nationally. Minnesota, Missouri, and Kansas also ranked higher than Nebraska, while North Dakota, Wyoming, Iowa, and South Dakota ranked below Nebraska.

Most of Nebraska's peer states had productivity levels below the nation's output per worker of \$85,199. Nebraska ranked 29th nationally, with an output per worker of \$76,463. Wyoming was the highest state in the area with output per worker of \$96,088 and a ranking of 8th. Other neighboring states ranking ahead of Nebraska were Colorado, Minnesota, and North Dakota. Iowa, Kansas, Missouri, and South Dakota had lower output per worker than Nebraska.

In 2011, Nebraska and all of its peers exceeded the national high school graduation rate of 85.9%. Wyoming and Minnesota were tied for 2nd in the nation with a rate of 92.0%. They were followed by Nebraska which ranked 7th nationally, as 91.0% of its population 25 years or over completed high school. Since 2000, Nebraska's percentage of high school graduates has been slowly increasing.

With the exception of Kansas and Missouri, Nebraska and its peers exceeded the national percentage of persons whose highest level of education was an associate degree in 2011. Some of the people with a bachelor's degree or advanced degrees also may have had an associate degree, but they are not included in this table. Nationally, 7.8% of the persons 25 or over reported having an associate degree as their highest level of education. North Dakota lead the nation with a rate of 13.1%. It was followed by Iowa, Minnesota, Wyoming, and South Dakota. These states accounted for 5 of the top 6 states in the nation. Nebraska's rate of 9.6% ranked 8th in 2011. Since 2000, Nebraska's rate of persons with an associate degree has been consistently larger than the national rate.

In 2011, 27.9% of the persons 25 years or over in Nebraska had completed a bachelor's degree. This ranked 23rd nationally but was below the national average of 28.5%. Of Nebraska's peer states, Colorado had the highest rate of bachelor's degrees (36.7%). Minnesota and Kansas also exceeded Nebraska's rate. North Dakota, South Dakota, Missouri, Iowa, and Wyoming ranked below Nebraska.

Since 2000, the percentage of persons with a bachelor's degree has increased steadily for both Nebraska and the United States. Although not statistically significant, 2010 was the second year where Nebraska's rate exceeded that of the nation.

Nebraska's ranking slipped even further when looking at advanced degrees. In 2011, 9.1% of Nebraskans 25 years and over had an advanced degree. This compares to 10.6% for the nation and ranks 32nd. Nebraska was still ahead of Wyoming, Iowa, South Dakota, and North Dakota.

Since 2000, however, Nebraska has steadily narrowed the gap with the United States with the percentage of Nebraskans 25 years and over who have an advanced degree increasing from 7.3% to 9.1%.

Succeeding in the new economy—or any economy—takes innovation. Top states for business prize innovation, nurture new ideas, and have the infrastructure to support them. It is important to

remember measures of innovation are subjective and reflect the bias of the organization preparing the measure.

According to CNBC's rankings, Nebraska ranked as the 35th state for technology and innovation in 2011. Nebraska ranked below most of its peer states. Colorado, Minnesota, Missouri, Iowa, and Kansas ranked higher, while North Dakota, South Dakota, and Wyoming ranked lower. Nebraska and its peer states generally fell in the bottom portion of the states for technology and innovation. Wyoming had the lowest ranking nationally.

In 2012, Nebraska ranked 35th on the State New Economy Index. Even with its relatively low ranking, Nebraska still ranked higher than Iowa, Wyoming, and South Dakota. Most of Nebraska's peer states ranked in the bottom one-third of all states.

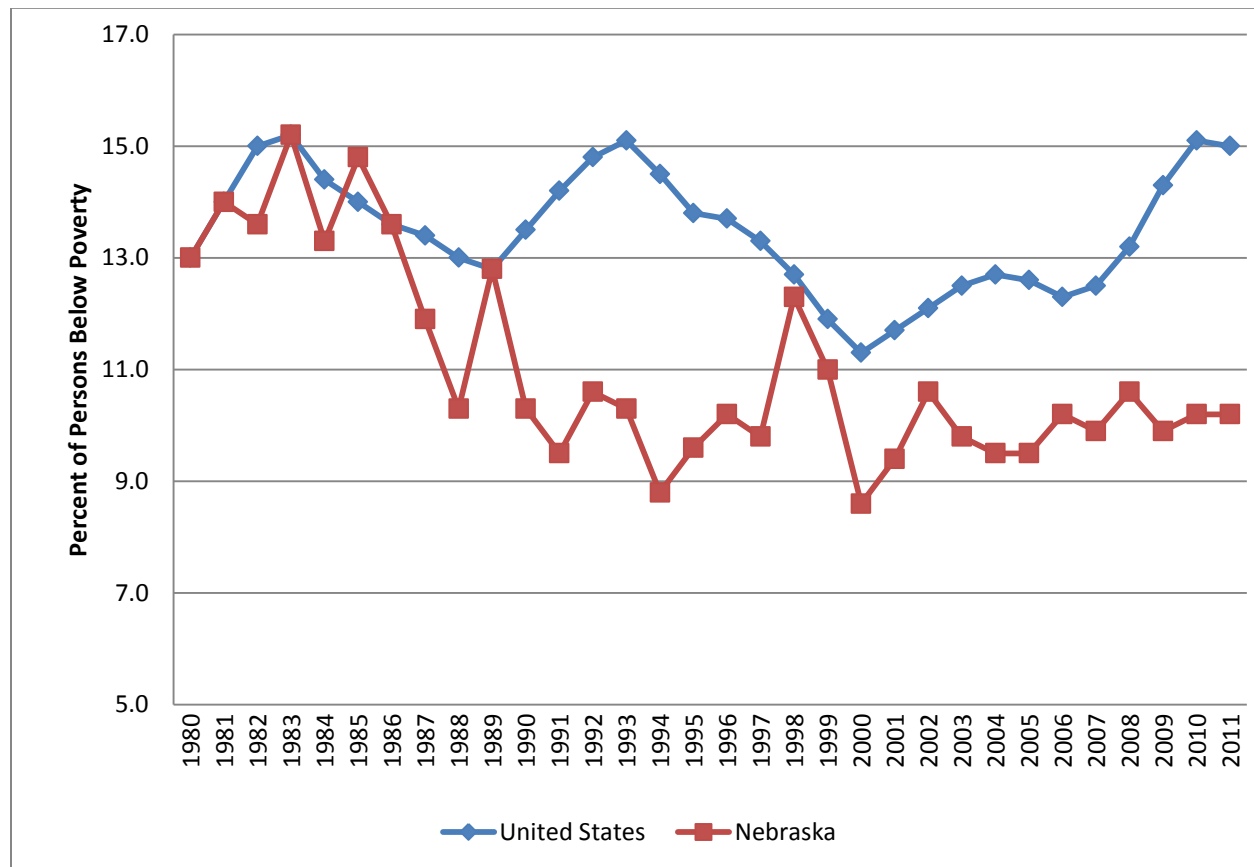
Poverty

Poverty Rate for Persons, Regional Comparison: 2011

	Poverty Rate	National Rank
United States	15.0%	
North Dakota	9.9%	3
Minnesota	10.0%	4
Nebraska	10.2%	6
Iowa	10.4%	7
Wyoming	10.7%	9
Colorado	13.2%	19
Kansas	14.3%	25
South Dakota	14.5%	27
Missouri	15.4%	32

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Current Population Survey, Annual Social and Economic Supplements; prepared by the UNO Center for Public Affairs Research, October 2012

Poverty Rate for Persons, Nebraska and the United States: 1980-2011



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Current Population Survey, Annual Social and Economic Supplements; prepared by the UNO Center for Public Affairs Research, October 2012

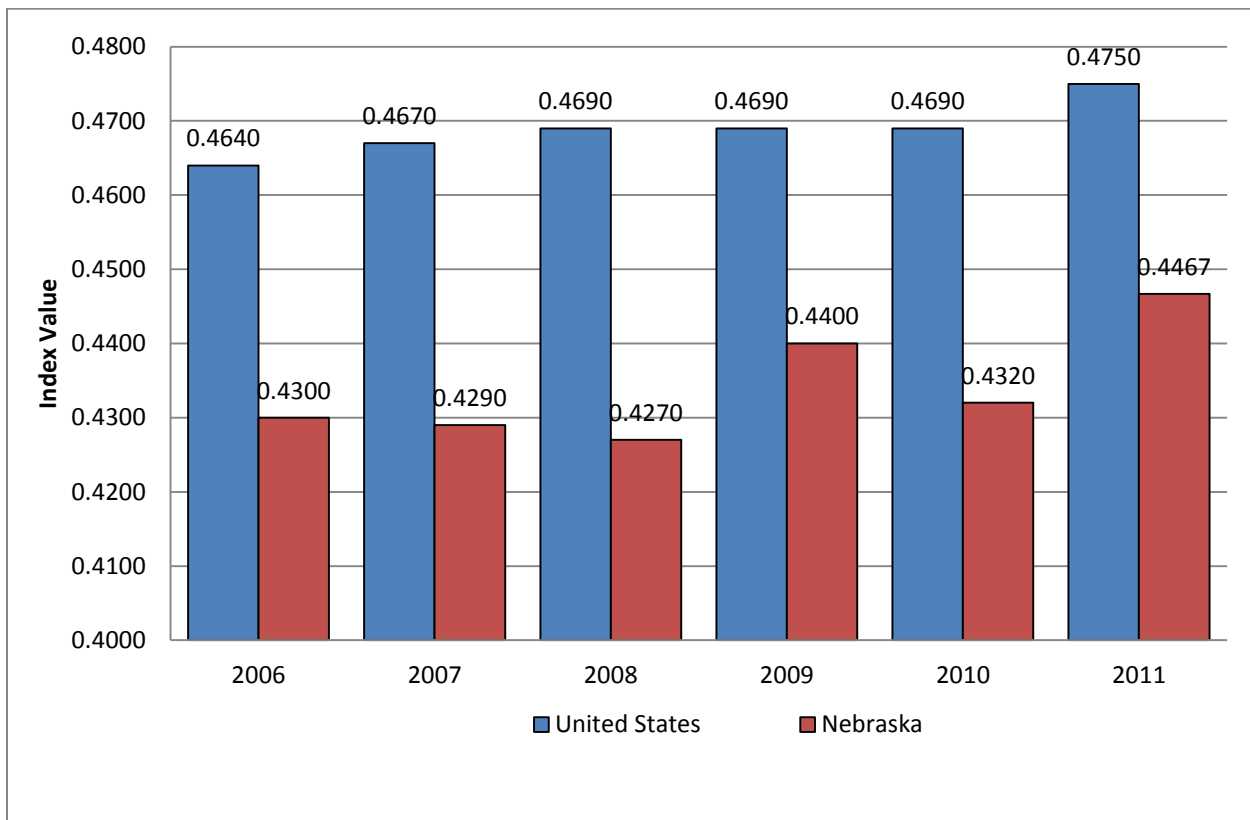
Gini Index of Income Inequality, Regional Comparison: 2011

	Index Value	National Rank
United States	0.4750	
Wyoming	0.4081	1
South Dakota	0.4324	7
Iowa	0.4340	8
Minnesota	0.4436	13
Kansas	0.4442	14
North Dakota	0.4448	15
Nebraska	0.4467	19
Colorado	0.4588	23
Missouri	0.4611	26

*Note: The Gini Index is a summary measure of income inequality. The Gini Index varies from 0 to 1, 0 indicating perfect equality where there is a proportional distribution of income. A 1 indicates perfect inequality where one household has all the income and others do not have any.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2011; prepared by the UNO Center for Public Affairs Research, October 2012

Gini Index of Income Inequality, Nebraska and the United States: 2006-2011



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2006-2011; prepared by the UNO Center for Public Affairs Research, October 2012

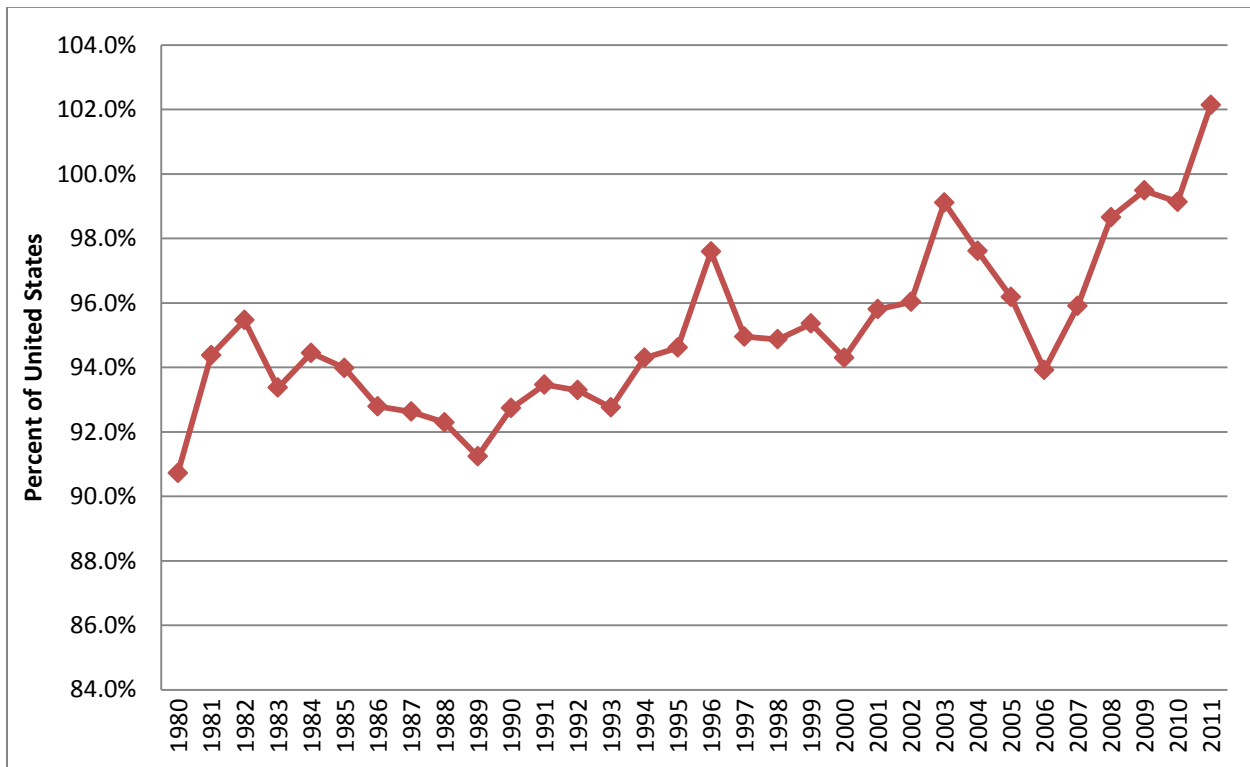
Personal Income

Per Capita Personal Income, Regional Comparison: 2011

	Per Capita Personal Income	National Rank
United States	\$41,560	
Wyoming	\$47,898	7
North Dakota	\$47,236	8
Minnesota	\$44,560	12
South Dakota	\$44,217	13
Colorado	\$44,053	14
Nebraska	\$42,450	20
Iowa	\$41,156	24
Kansas	\$40,883	25
Missouri	\$37,969	31

Source: U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis, Regional Economic Accounts; prepared by UNO Center for Public Affairs Research, December 2012

Nebraska Per Capita Personal Income as a Percentage of United States Per Capita Personal Income: 1980-2011



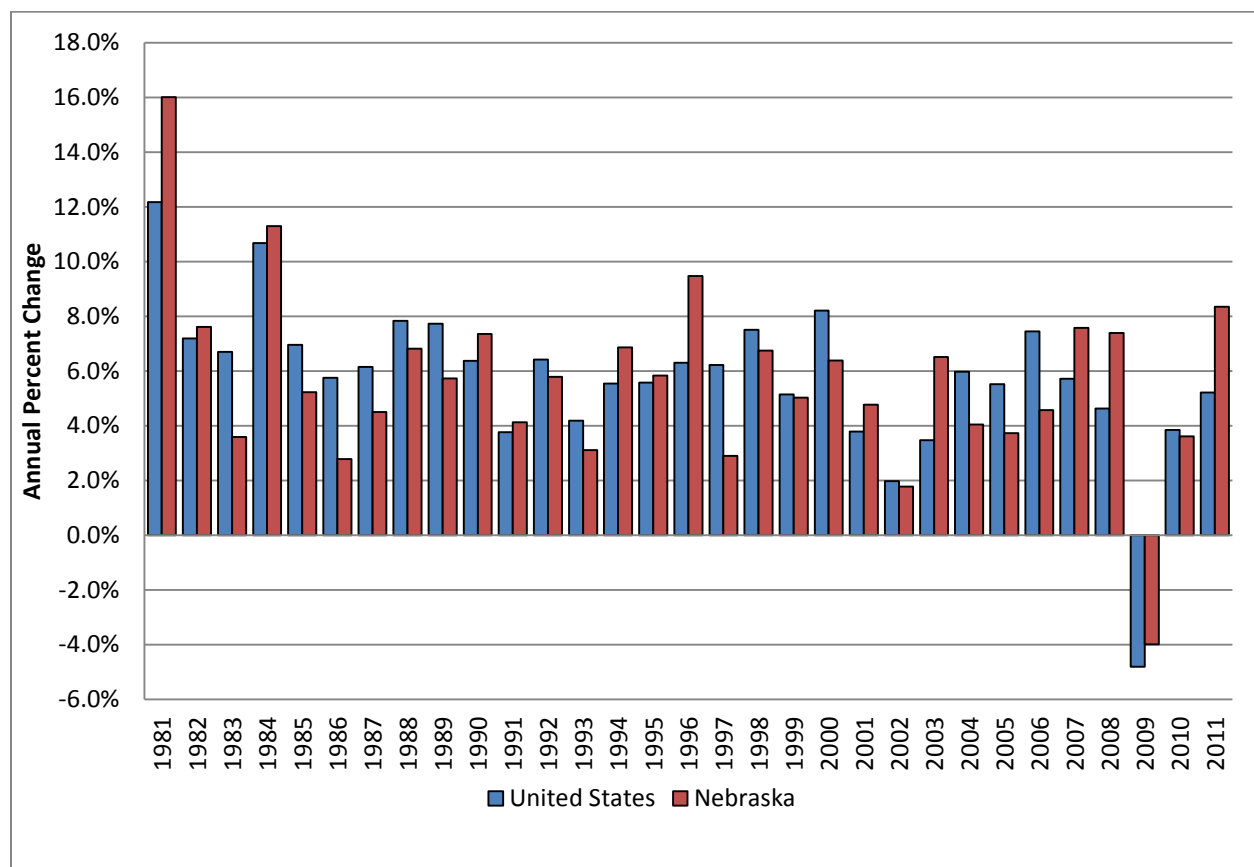
Source: U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis, Regional Economic Accounts; prepared by UNO Center for Public Affairs Research, December 2012

Percentage Change in Total Personal Income, Regional Comparison: 2010-2011

	Percentage Change	National Rank
United States	5.2%	
South Dakota	12.8%	1
North Dakota	12.8%	2
Iowa	9.1%	3
Nebraska	8.4%	4
Kansas	6.5%	7
Wyoming	6.3%	8
Colorado	6.1%	9
Minnesota	5.5%	17
Missouri	4.6%	40

Source: U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis, Regional Economic Accounts; prepared by UNO Center for Public Affairs Research, December 2012

Annual Percentage Change in Total Personal Income, Nebraska and the United States: 1981-2011



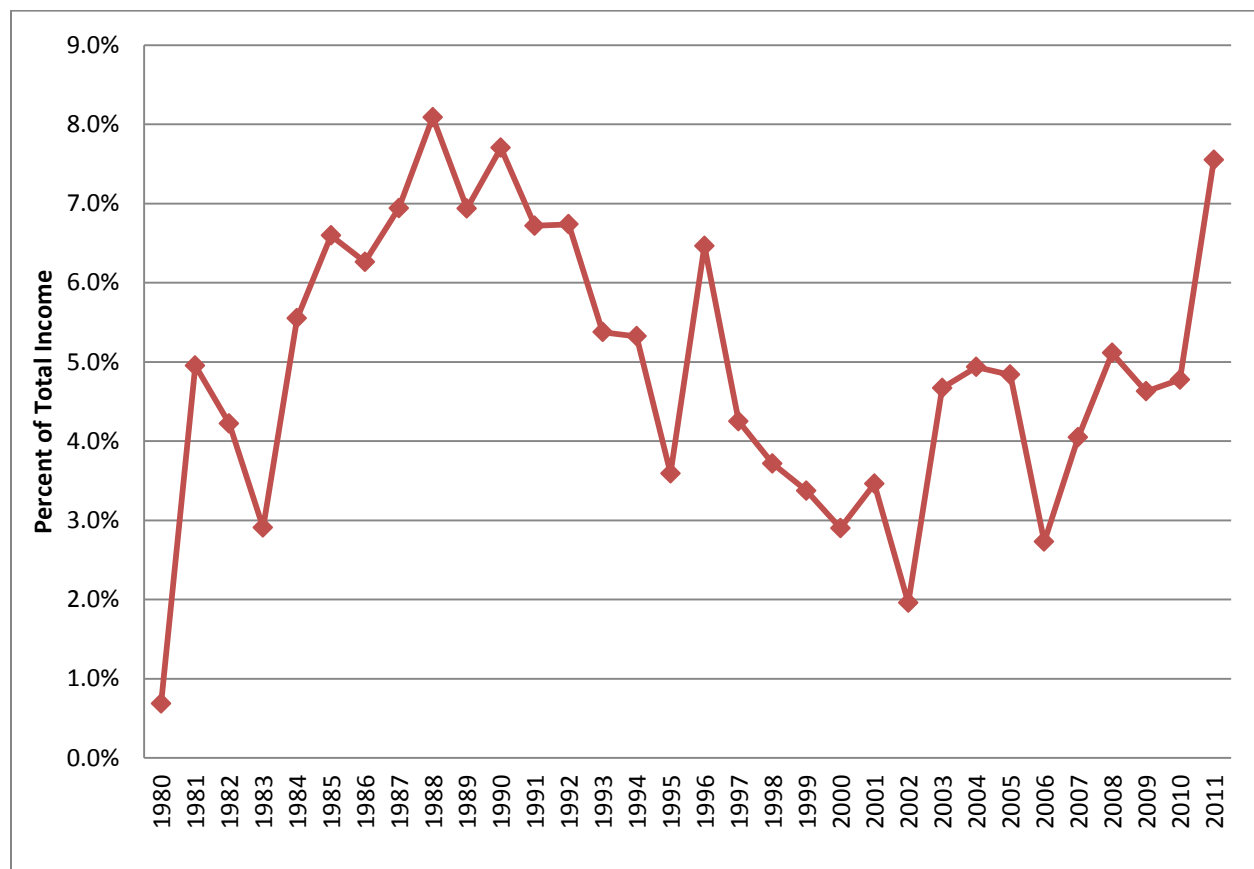
Source: U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis, Regional Economic Accounts; prepared by UNO Center for Public Affairs Research, December 2012

Net Farm Income as a Percentage of Total Personal Income, Regional Comparison: 2011

	Percent Net Farm Income	National Rank
United States	0.8%	
South Dakota	13.2%	1
North Dakota	9.8%	2
Nebraska	7.6%	3
Iowa	7.4%	4
Kansas	3.1%	6
Minnesota	2.2%	7
Missouri	1.0%	15
Wyoming	0.9%	19
Colorado	0.5%	27

Source: U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis, Regional Economic Accounts; prepared by UNO Center for Public Affairs Research, December 2012

Farm Income as a Percentage of Total Personal Income, Nebraska: 1980-2011



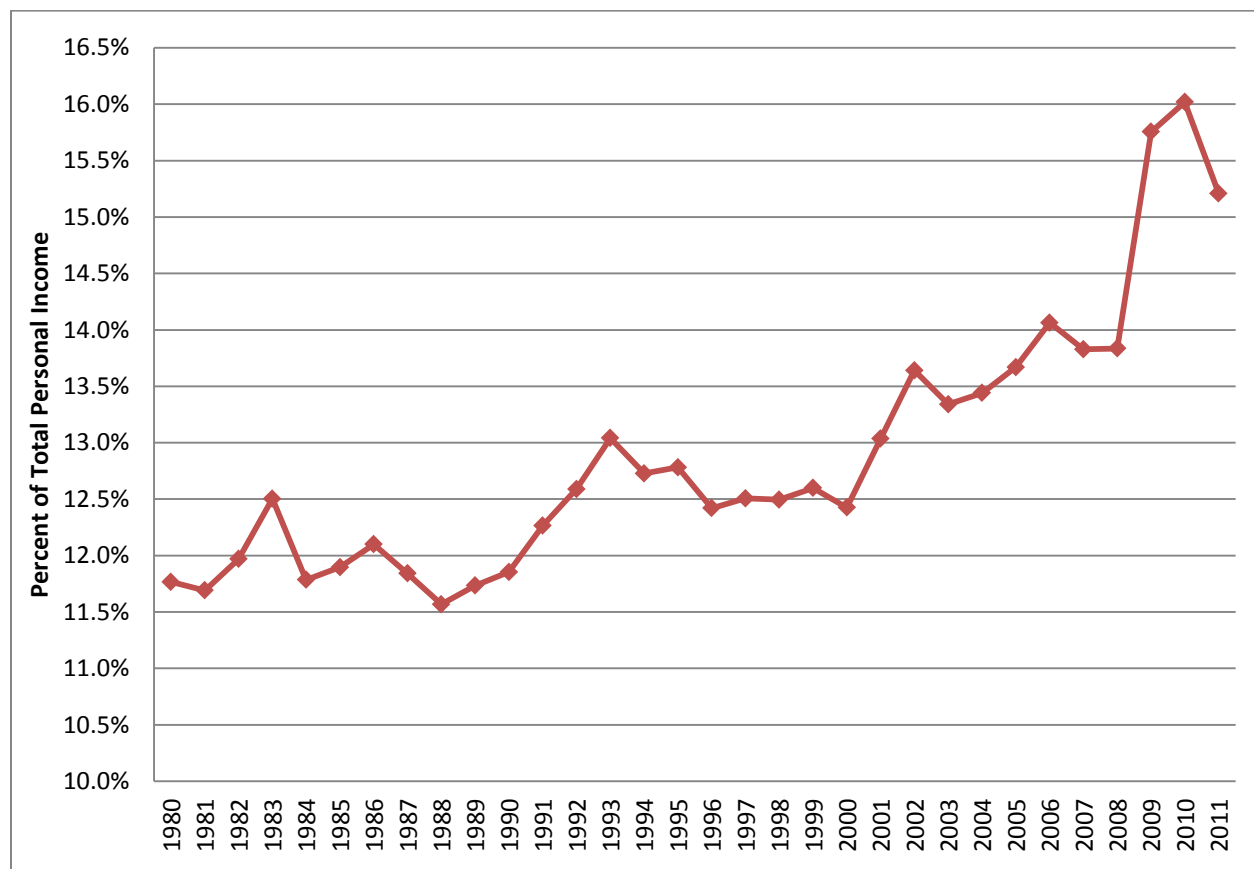
Source: U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis, Regional Economic Accounts; prepared by UNO Center for Public Affairs Research, December 2012

Transfer Receipts as a Percentage of Total Personal Income, Regional Comparison: 2011

	Percent Transfer Receipts	National Rank
United States	17.9%	
Missouri	20.2%	19
Iowa	17.6%	29
Kansas	16.4%	30
Minnesota	16.2%	33
Nebraska	15.2%	40
South Dakota	14.7%	43
North Dakota	14.0%	46
Wyoming	13.2%	49
Colorado	13.1%	50

Source: U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis, Regional Economic Accounts; prepared by UNO Center for Public Affairs Research, December 2012

Transfer Receipts as a Percentage of Total Personal Income, Nebraska: 1980-2011



Source: U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis, Regional Economic Accounts; prepared by UNO Center for Public Affairs Research, December 2012

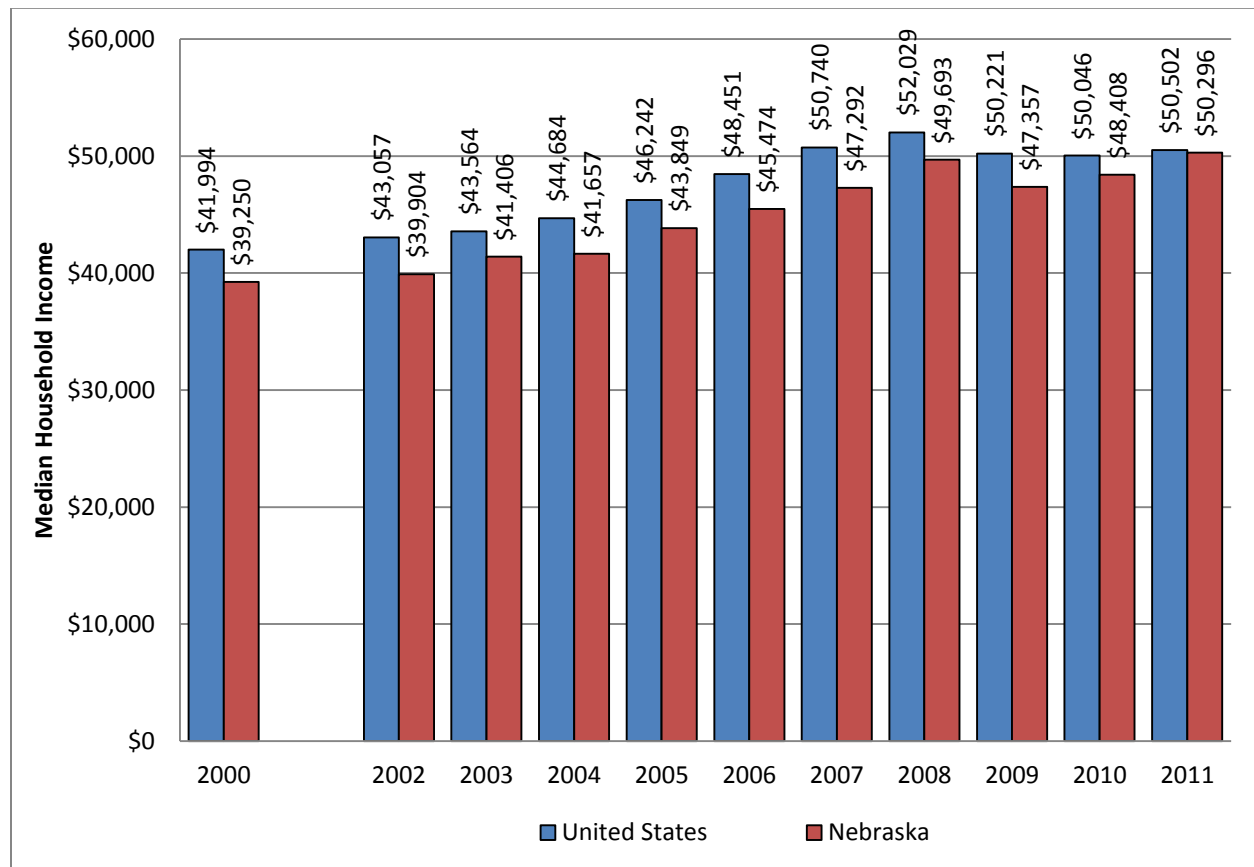
Median Household Income

Median Household Income, Regional Comparison: 2011 (Inflation-adjusted dollars)

	Median Household Income	National Rank
United States	\$50,502	
Minnesota	\$56,954	12
Wyoming	\$56,322	14
Colorado	\$55,387	16
North Dakota	\$51,704	21
Nebraska	\$50,296	23
Iowa	\$49,427	25
Kansas	\$48,964	27
South Dakota	\$48,321	29
Missouri	\$45,247	37

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2011 American Community Survey 1-Year Estimates (Table R1901); prepared by UNO Center for Public Affairs Research, October 2012

Median Household Income, Nebraska and the United States: 2000-2011



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2002-2011 and 2000 Census of Population and Housing; prepared by UNO Center for Public Affairs Research, October 2012

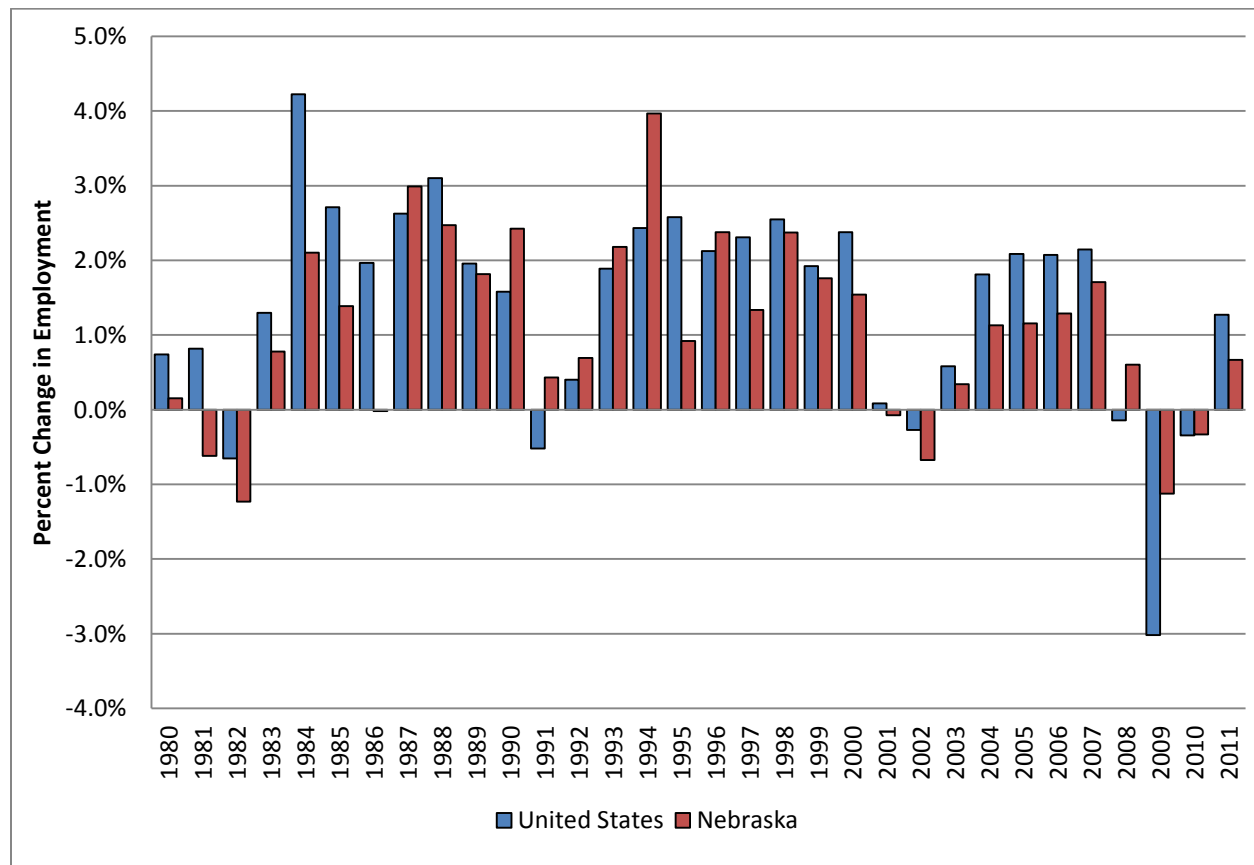
Employment

Percentage Change in Employment, Regional Comparison: 2010-2011

	Percentage Change in Employment	National Rank
United States	1.3%	
North Dakota	4.5%	1
Colorado	1.7%	6
Wyoming	1.5%	9
Minnesota	1.5%	11
South Dakota	1.2%	29
Kansas	1.0%	35
Iowa	1.0%	39
Nebraska	0.7%	42
Missouri	0.5%	45

Source: U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis, Regional Economic Accounts; prepared by UNO Center for Public Affairs Research, December 2012

Percentage Change in Employment, Nebraska and the United States: 1980-2011



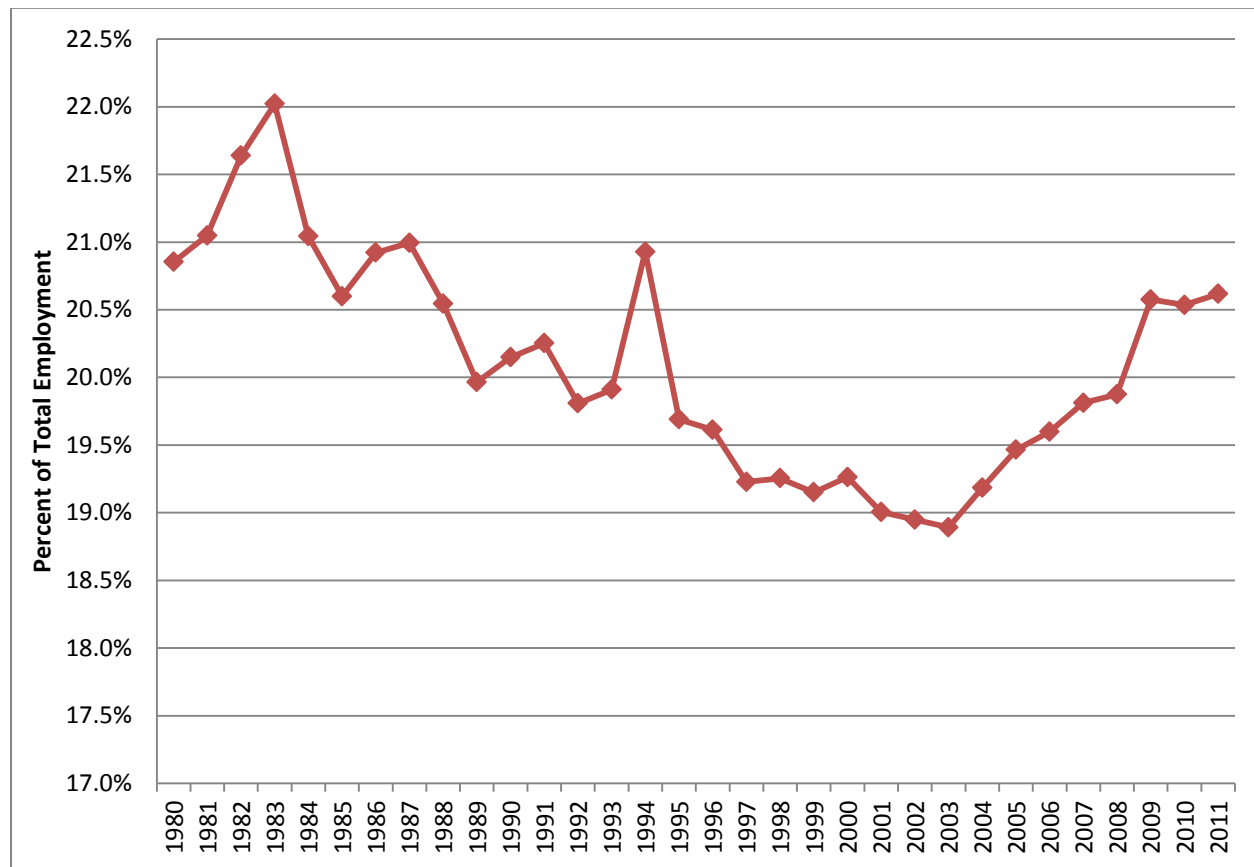
Source: U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis, Regional Economic Accounts; prepared by UNO Center for Public Affairs Research, December 2012

Proprietors as a Percentage of Total Employment, Regional Comparison: 2011

	Percent of Total	National Rank
United States	21.7%	
Colorado	25.2%	4
Wyoming	24.4%	6
South Dakota	23.8%	9
Kansas	21.9%	22
North Dakota	21.2%	28
Missouri	21.0%	30
Iowa	21.0%	31
Nebraska	20.6%	35
Minnesota	20.3%	38

Source: U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis, Regional Economic Accounts; prepared by UNO Center for Public Affairs Research, December 2012

Proprietors as a Percentage of Total Employment, Nebraska: 1980-2011



Source: U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis, Regional Economic Accounts; prepared by UNO Center for Public Affairs Research, December 2012

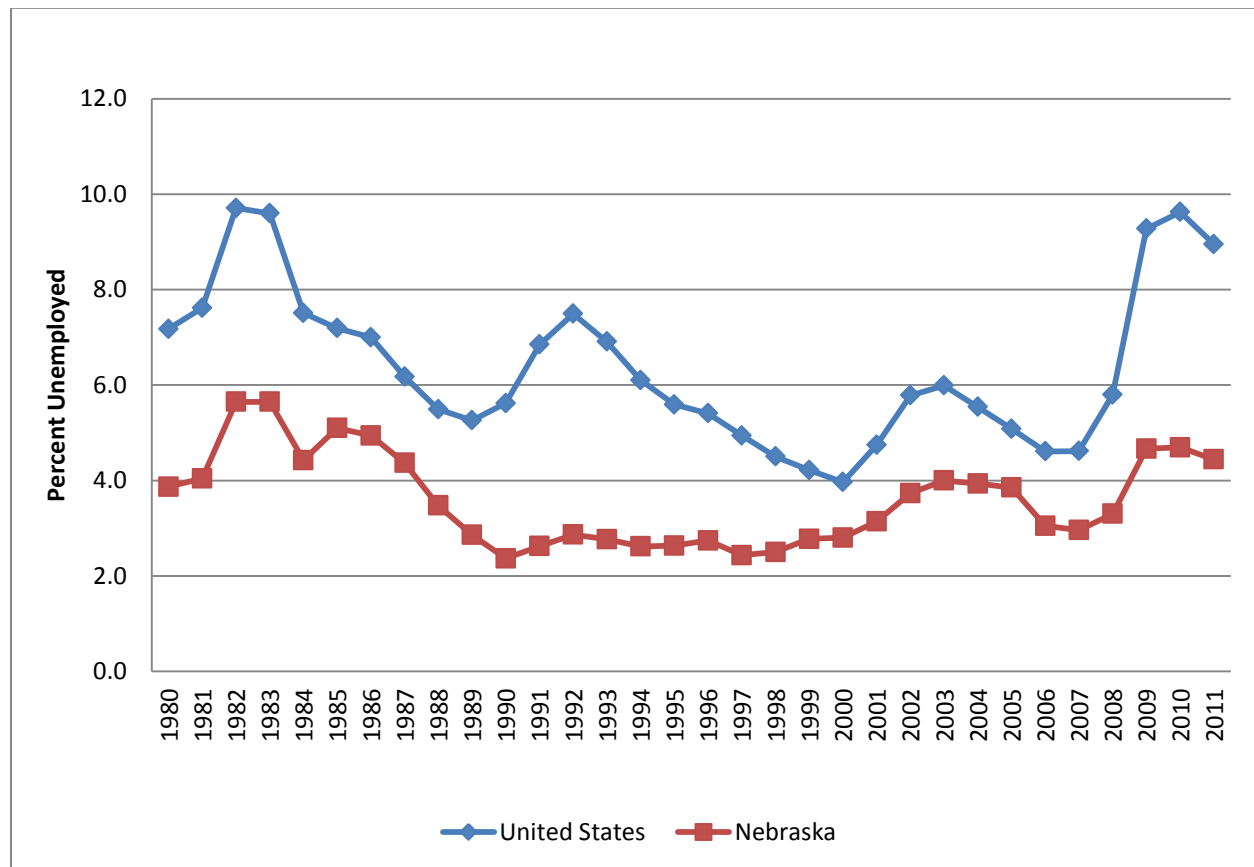
Unemployment

Annual Unemployment Rate, Regional Comparison: 2011

	Unemployment Rate	National Rank
United States	8.9%	
North Dakota	3.5%	1
Nebraska	4.4%	2
South Dakota	4.7%	3
Iowa	5.9%	6
Wyoming	6.0%	7
Minnesota	6.4%	10
Kansas	6.7%	11
Colorado	8.3%	28
Missouri	8.6%	29

Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, Local Area Unemployment Statistics; prepared by UNO Center for Public Affairs Research, December 2012

Annual Unemployment Rate, Nebraska and the United States: 1980-2011



Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, Local Area Unemployment Statistics; prepared by UNO Center for Public Affairs Research, August 2012

Alternative Annual Unemployment Rate, Regional Comparison: 2011

	Unemployment Rate	National Rank
United States	15.9	
North Dakota	6.6	1
Nebraska	8.9	2
South Dakota	9.3	3
Wyoming	10.6	4
Iowa	11.3	6
Kansas	12.1	10
Minnesota	12.8	12
Missouri	14.4	24
Colorado	15.1	27

Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, Local Area Unemployment Statistics; prepared by UNO Center for Public Affairs Research, December 2012

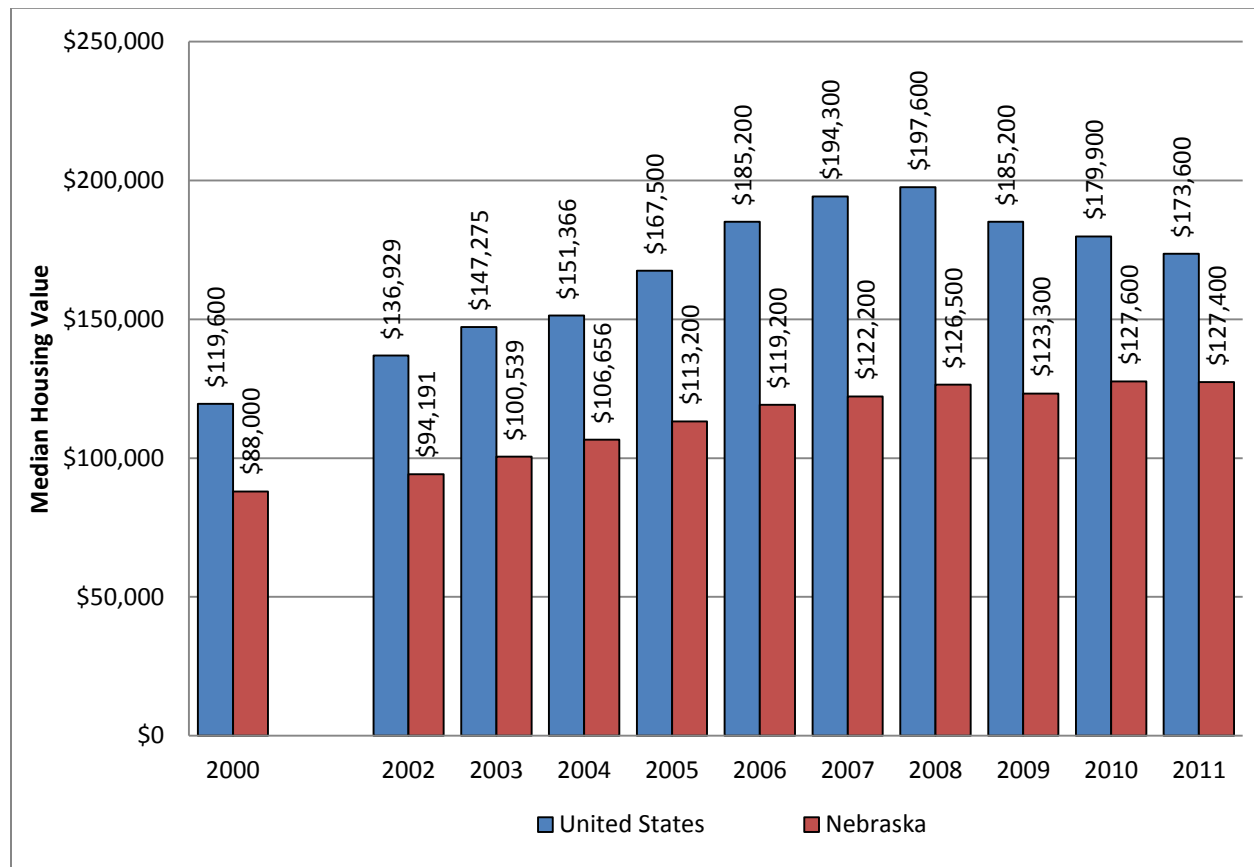
Median Housing Value

Median Housing Value, Regional Comparison: 2011

	Median Housing Value	National Rank
United States	\$173,600	
Colorado	\$233,700	15
Minnesota	\$183,500	20
Wyoming	\$179,900	21
Missouri	\$136,900	35
South Dakota	\$131,400	37
North Dakota	\$128,600	39
Kansas	\$128,300	40
Nebraska	\$127,400	42
Iowa	\$123,400	43

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2011 American Community Survey 1-Year Estimates (Table R2510); prepared by UNO Center for Public Affairs Research, October 2012

Median Housing Value, Nebraska and the United States: 2000-2011



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2002-2011 and 2000 Census of Population and Housing; prepared by UNO Center for Public Affairs Research, October 2012

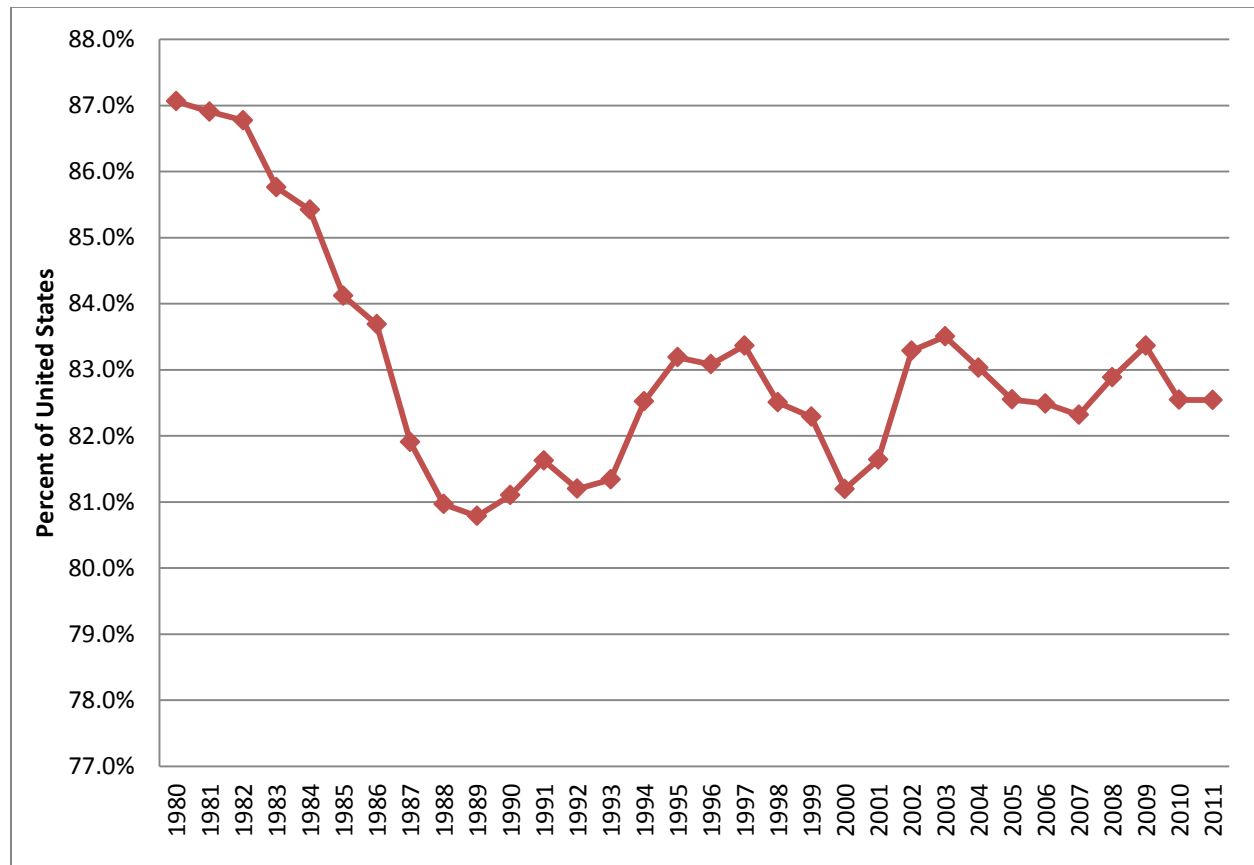
Comparative Costs

Average Annual Wage and Salary Disbursements per Job, Regional Comparison: 2011

	Average Annual Wage	National Rank
United States	\$48,301	
Colorado	\$49,788	12
Minnesota	\$46,990	15
Wyoming	\$44,033	24
Missouri	\$42,579	30
North Dakota	\$41,122	33
Kansas	\$40,958	36
Nebraska	\$39,869	40
Iowa	\$38,386	46
South Dakota	\$34,997	51

Source: U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis, Regional Economic Accounts; prepared by UNO Center for Public Affairs Research, December 2012

Nebraska Wages and Salaries per Job as a Percentage of United States Wages and Salaries per Job: 1980-2011



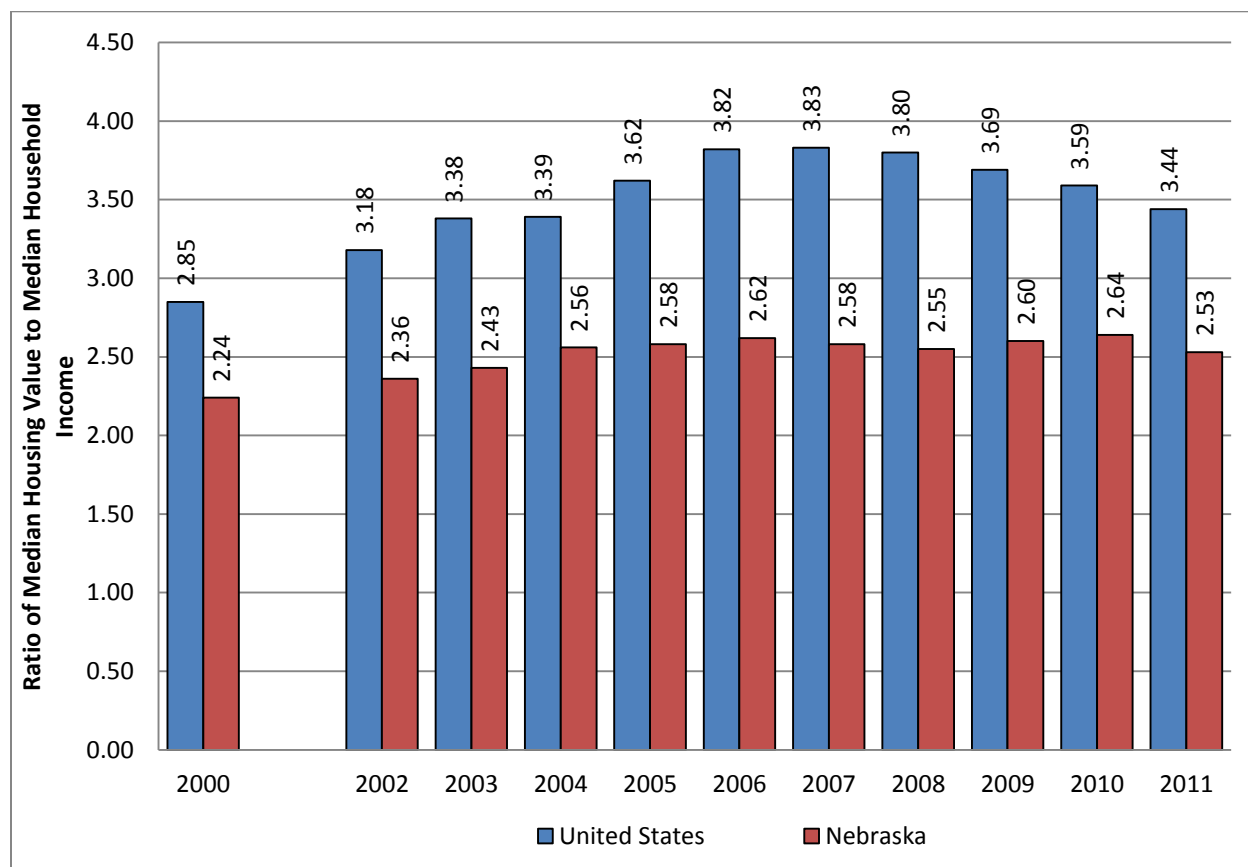
Source: U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis, Regional Economic Accounts; prepared by UNO Center for Public Affairs Research, December 2012

Ratio of Median Housing Value to Median Household Income, Regional Comparison: 2011

	Median Housing Value	Median Household Income	Ratio	National Rank
United States	\$173,600	\$50,502	3.44	
Colorado	\$233,700	\$55,387	4.22	11
Minnesota	\$183,500	\$56,954	3.22	32
Wyoming	\$179,900	\$56,322	3.19	35
Missouri	\$136,900	\$45,247	3.03	36
South Dakota	\$131,400	\$48,321	2.72	41
Kansas	\$128,300	\$48,964	2.62	44
Nebraska	\$127,400	\$50,296	2.53	49
Iowa	\$123,400	\$49,427	2.50	50
North Dakota	\$128,600	\$51,704	2.49	51

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2011 American Community Survey 1-Year Estimates; prepared by UNO Center for Public Affairs Research, October 2012

Ratio of Median Housing Value to Median Household Income, Nebraska and the United States: 2000-2011



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2002-2011 and 2000 Census of Population and Housing; prepared by UNO Center for Public Affairs Research, October 2012

Business Climate

Forbes Magazine Best States for Business, Regional Comparison: 2011

	2011 Rank	2010 Rank
North Dakota	4	11
Colorado	5	4
Nebraska	8	9
Iowa	10	13
Kansas	12	10
Wyoming	14	27
Minnesota	15	15
South Dakota	17	17
Missouri	31	18

Source: Forbes.com (http://www.forbes.com/special-report/2011/best-states-11_rank.html); prepared by UNO Center for Public Affairs Research, December 2012

America's Top States for Business, Regional Comparison: 2011 Overall Rankings

	2011 Rank	2010 Rank
Colorado	5	3
Minnesota	7	8 (tie)
Iowa	9	6
Kansas	11	11
South Dakota	13	7
North Dakota	13	12
Missouri	16	17
Nebraska	17	13
Wyoming	21	14

Source: CNBC.com (<http://www.cnbc.com/id/41666602/>); prepared by UNO Center for Public Affairs Research, December 2012

Business Startups

Business Startups, Regional Comparison: 2010

	2010 Establishment Rate	National Rank
United States	10.1	
Colorado	11.7	4
Missouri	10.6	13
North Dakota	10.2	17
South Dakota	9.9	20
Wyoming	9.4	28
Minnesota	9.3	30
Nebraska	9.1	35
Kansas	8.7	40
Iowa	8.2	47

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Center for Economic Studies; Business Dynamics Statistics; prepared by UNO Center for Public Affairs Research, December 2012

Workforce Quality

Individuals in Science and Engineering Occupations as a Share of the Workforce, Regional Comparison: 2010

	Share of Workforce	National Rank*
United States	4.00%	
Colorado	5.85%	5
Minnesota	4.55%	10
Missouri	3.75%	19
Kansas	3.51%	27
Nebraska	3.32%	30
North Dakota	3.11%	34
Wyoming	3.02%	35
Iowa	2.82%	38
South Dakota	2.64%	41

*Data were unavailable for 3 states, and they were not included in the rankings.

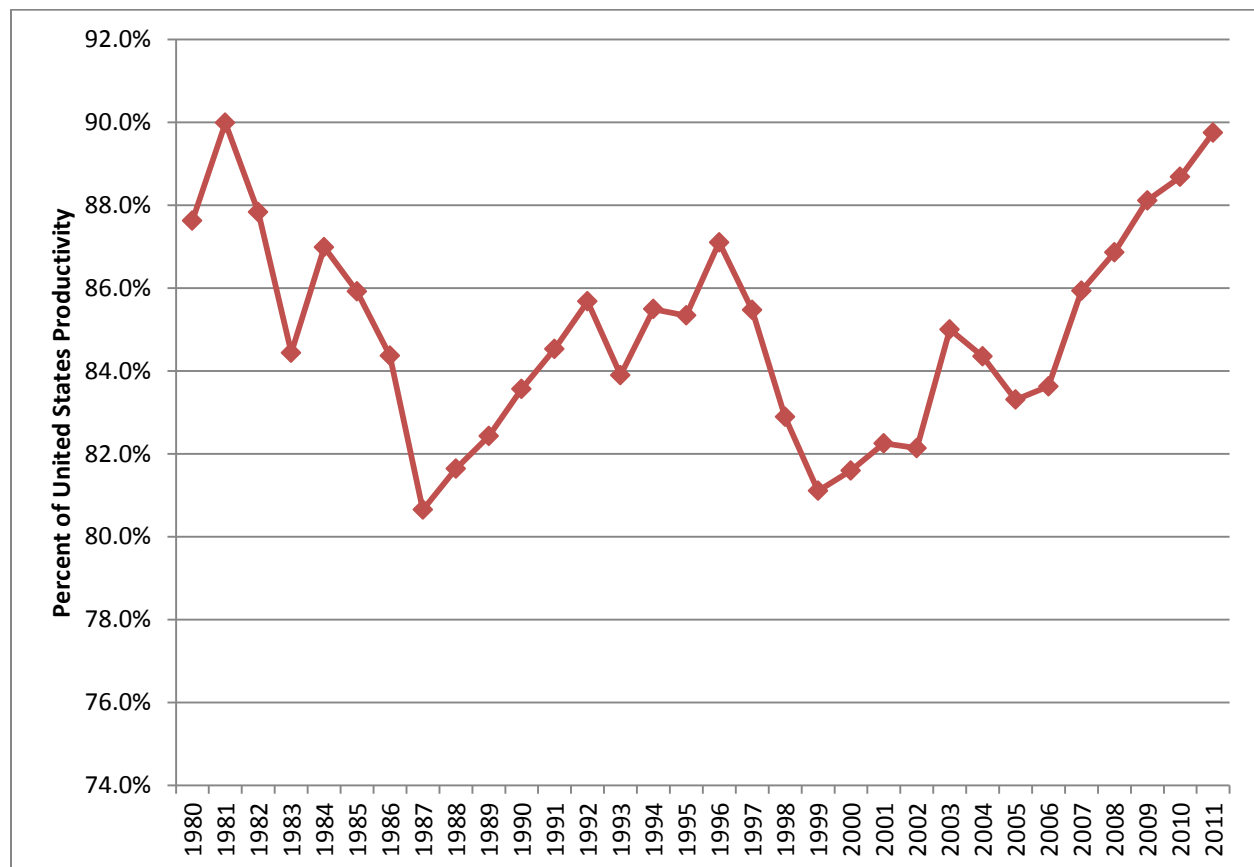
Source: Science and Engineering Indicators, published by the National Science Board; prepared by UNO Center for Public Affairs Research, December 2012

Worker Productivity (Gross State Product per Full-time Job), Regional Comparison: 2011

	Output per Worker	National Rank
United States	\$85,199	
Wyoming	\$96,088	8
Colorado	\$82,596	20
Minnesota	\$81,386	21
North Dakota	\$76,523	28
Nebraska	\$76,463	29
Iowa	\$75,608	30
Kansas	\$71,725	39
Missouri	\$71,382	41
South Dakota	\$71,077	42

Source: U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis, Regional Economic Accounts; prepared by UNO Center for Public Affairs Research, December 2012

Nebraska Worker Productivity (Gross State Product per Full-time Job) as a Percentage of United State Productivity: 1980-2011



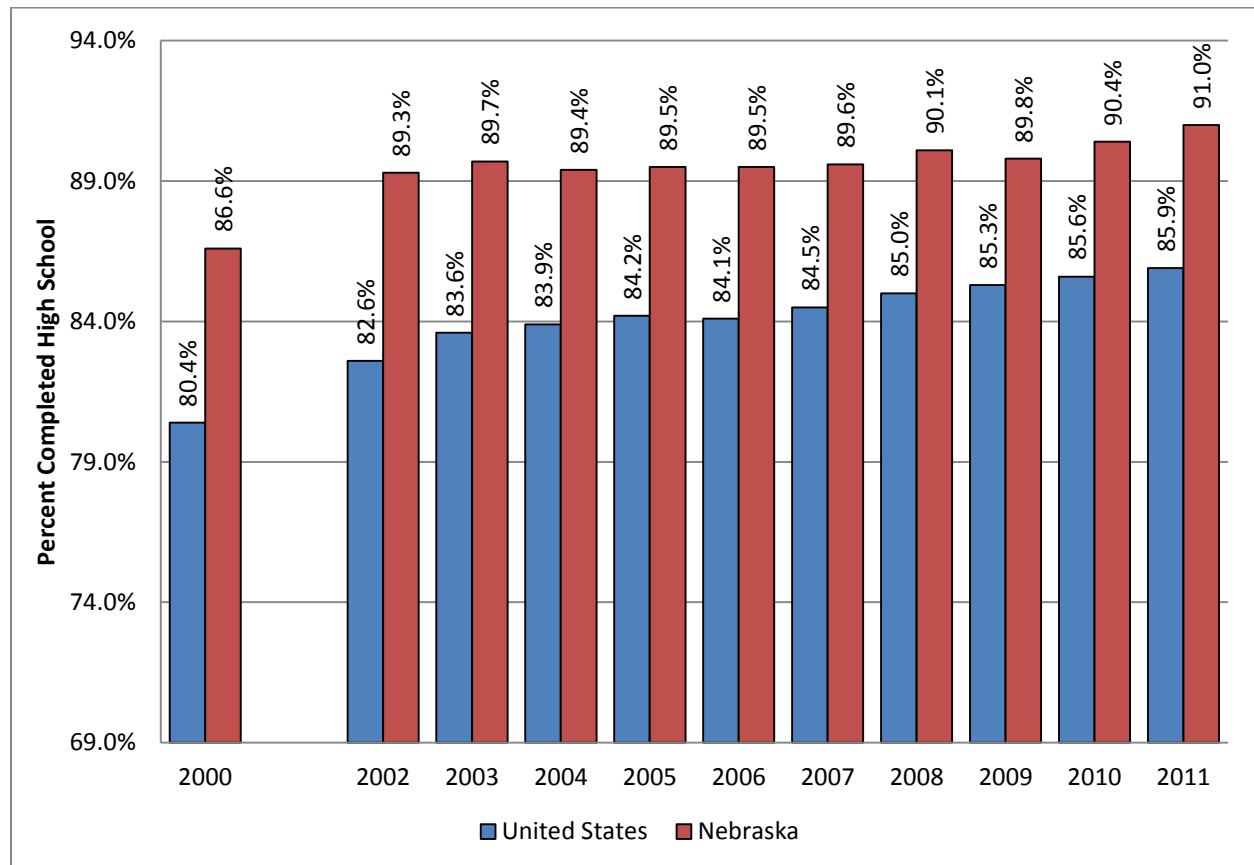
Source: U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis, Regional Economic Accounts; prepared by UNO Center for Public Affairs Research, December 2012

Percentage of Persons 25 Years and Over Who Have Completed High School (Includes Equivalency), Regional Comparison: 2011

	Percent Completing High School	National Rank
United States	85.9%	
Minnesota	92.0%	2
Wyoming	92.0%	2
Nebraska	91.0%	7
North Dakota	90.7%	9
Iowa	90.6%	10
South Dakota	90.6%	10
Colorado	90.2%	15
Kansas	90.0%	17
Missouri	87.6%	28

Source: US Census Bureau, 2011 American Community Survey; prepared by UNO Center for Public Affairs Research, October 2012

Percentage of Persons 25 Years and Over Who Have Completed High School (Includes Equivalency), Nebraska and the United States: 2000-2011



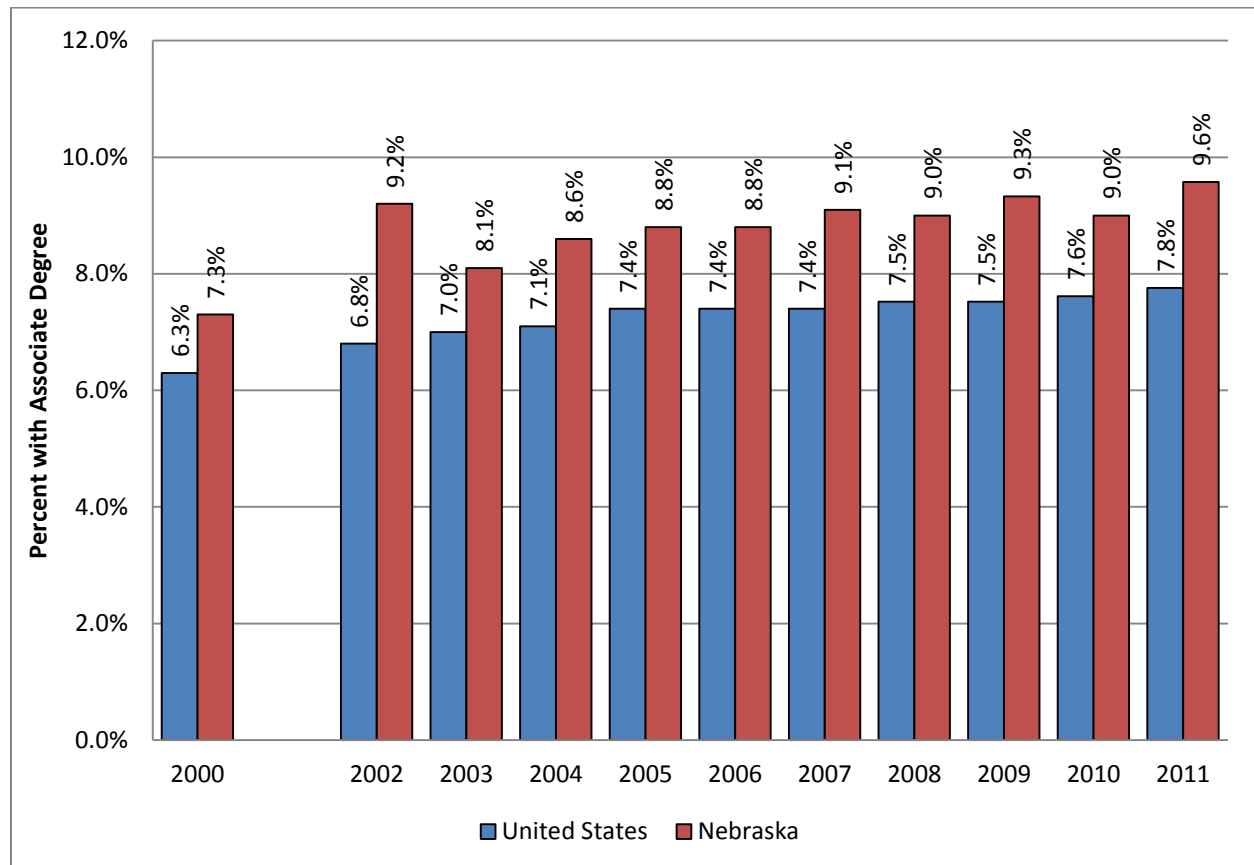
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2000-2011 and 2000 Census of Population and Housing; prepared by UNO Center for Public Affairs Research, October 2012

Percentage of Persons 25 Years and Over Whose Highest Level of Education is an Associate Degree, Regional Comparison: 2011

	Percent with an Associate Degree	National Rank
United States	7.8%	
North Dakota	13.1%	1
Iowa	10.5%	2
Minnesota	10.3%	3
Wyoming	9.9%	5
South Dakota	9.7%	6
Nebraska	9.6%	8
Colorado	8.3%	22
Kansas	7.4%	33
Missouri	7.1%	38

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2011 American Community Survey; prepared by UNO Center for Public Affairs Research, October 2012

Percentage of Persons 25 Years and Over Whose Highest Level of Education is an Associate Degree, Nebraska and the United States: 2000-2011



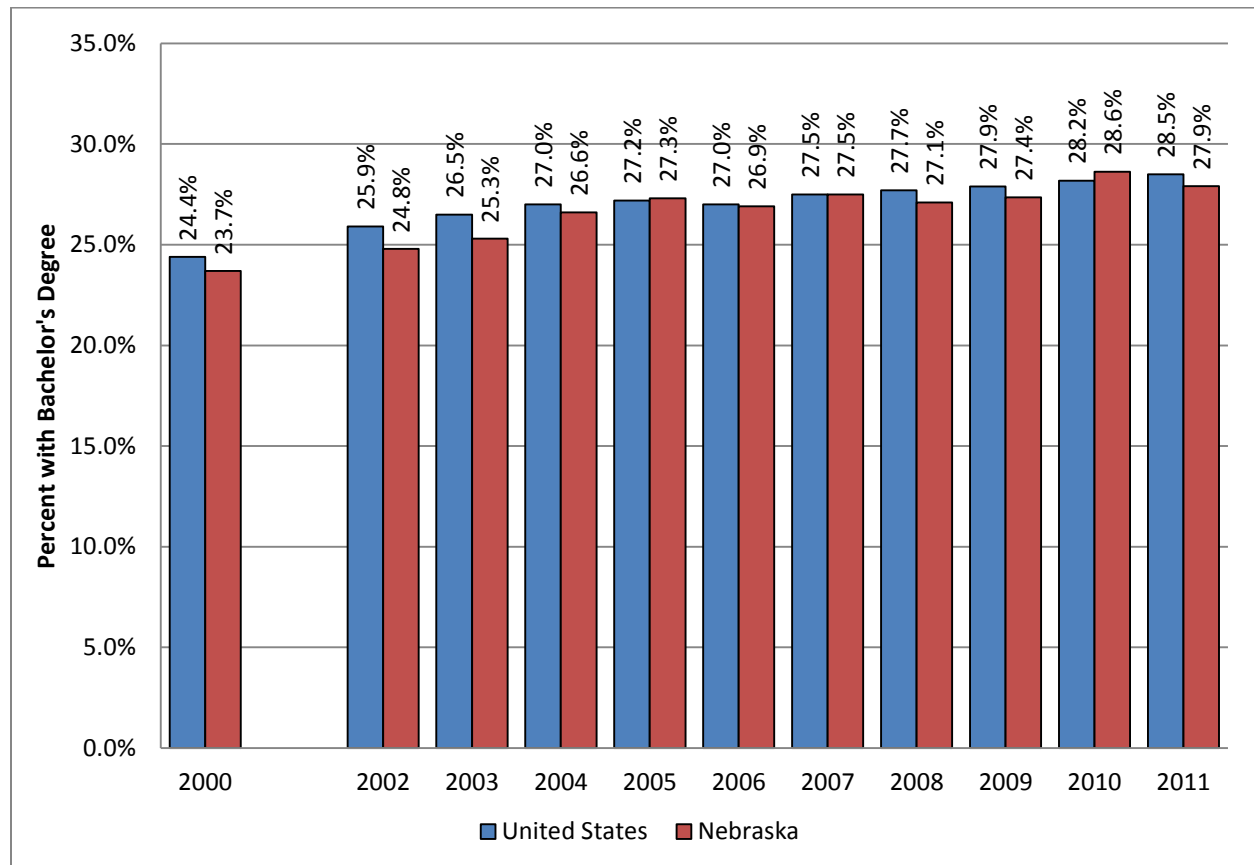
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2002-2011 and 2000 Census of Population and Housing; prepared by UNO Center for Public Affairs Research, October 2012

Percentage of Persons 25 Years and Over Who Have Completed a Bachelor's Degree, Regional Comparison: 2011

	Percent with a Bachelor's Degree	National Rank
United States	28.5%	
Colorado	36.7%	4
Minnesota	32.4%	11
Kansas	30.1%	16
Nebraska	27.9%	23
North Dakota	26.3%	31
South Dakota	26.3%	31
Missouri	26.1%	33
Iowa	25.8%	34
Wyoming	24.7%	39

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2011 American Community Survey; prepared by UNO Center for Public Affairs Research, October 2012

Percentage of Persons 25 Years and Over Who Have Completed a Bachelor's Degree, Nebraska and the United States: 2000-2011



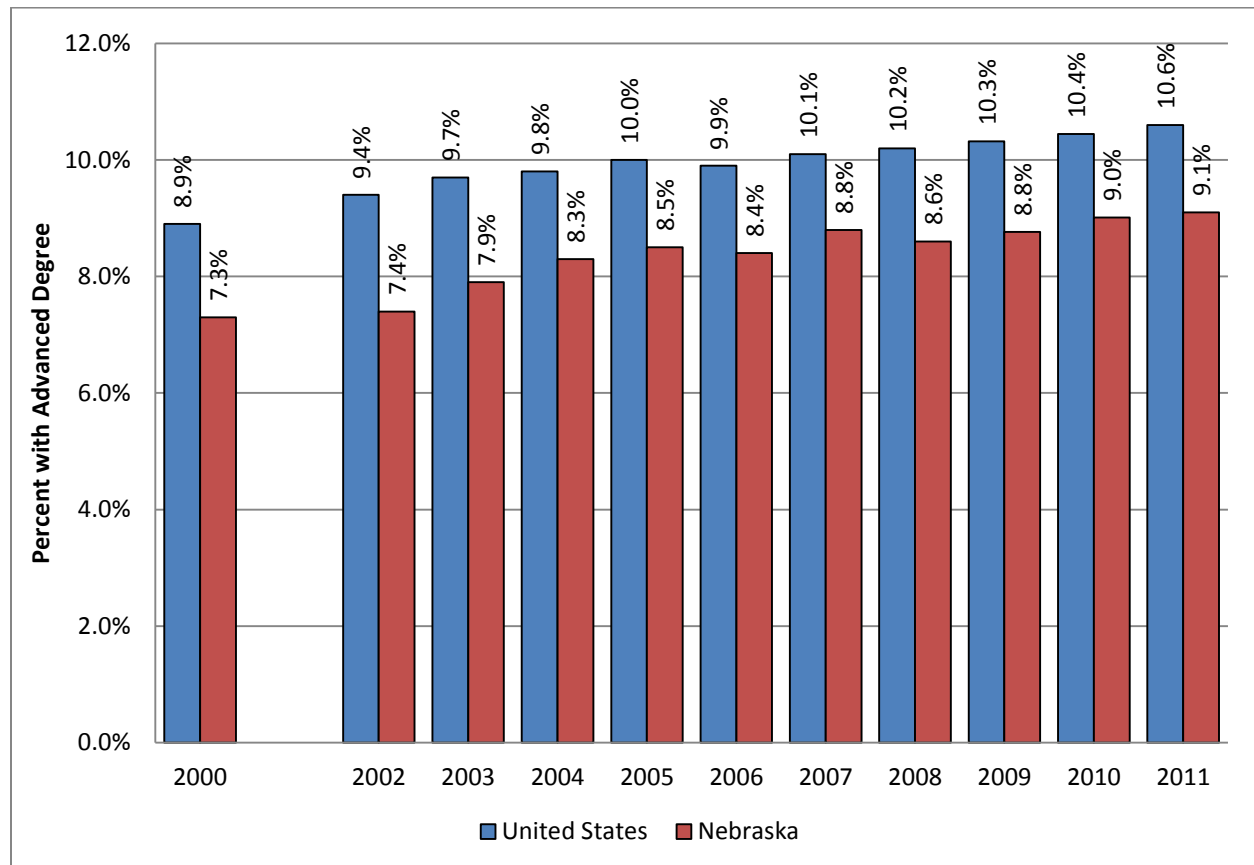
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2002-2011 and 2000 Census of Population and Housing; prepared by UNO Center for Public Affairs Research, October 2012

Percentage of Persons 25 Years and Over Who Have Completed an Advanced Degree, Regional Comparison: 2011

	Percent with an Advanced Degree	National Rank
United States	10.6%	
Colorado	13.4%	8
Minnesota	10.5%	18
Kansas	10.4%	20
Missouri	9.7%	25
Nebraska	9.1%	32
Wyoming	8.3%	39
Iowa	8.1%	42
South Dakota	8.1%	42
North Dakota	7.0%	50

Source: US Census Bureau, 2011 American Community Survey ; prepared by UNO Center for Public Affairs Research, October 2012

Percentage of Persons 25 Years and Over Who Have Completed an Advanced Degree, Nebraska and the United States: 2000-2011



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2002-2011 and 2000 Census of Population and Housing; prepared by UNO Center for Public Affairs Research, October 2012

Technology and Innovation

America’s Top States for Business, Technology and Innovation, Regional Comparison: 2011

	2011 National Rank
Colorado	14
Minnesota	16
Missouri	23
Iowa	28
Kansas	30
Nebraska	35
North Dakota	48
South Dakota	49
Wyoming	50

Source: CNBC.com (<http://www.cnbc.com/id/41666599/>); prepared by UNO Center for Public Affairs Research, December 2012

State New Economy Index, Regional Comparison: 2012

	2012 National Rank
Colorado	7
Minnesota	13
Kansas	29
Missouri	33
North Dakota	34
Nebraska	35
Iowa	38
Wyoming	41
South Dakota	43

Source: The Information Technology and Innovation Foundation; prepared by UNO Center for Public Affairs Research, December 2012

Academic Science and Engineering Research and Development per \$1,000 of State GDP, Regional Comparison: 2009

	Academic Research and Development (\$)/\$1,000 GDP	National Rank
United States	\$3.91	
North Dakota	\$5.87	3
Nebraska	\$4.56	15
Missouri	\$4.24	18
Colorado	\$4.22	19
Iowa	\$4.13	20
Kansas	\$3.60	28
Minnesota	\$2.93	38
South Dakota	\$2.67	41
Wyoming	\$2.11	49

Source: Science and Engineering Indicators, published by the National Science Foundation Board; prepared by UNO Center for Public Affairs Research, December 2012

Business-performed Research and Development as a Percentage of Private-industry Output, Regional Comparison: 2008

	Business-performed Research and Development/Private-industry Output	National Rank*
United States	2.14%	
Minnesota	2.43%	9
Colorado	1.80%	19
Kansas	1.49%	25
Iowa	1.26%	27
North Dakota	1.10%	30
Nebraska	0.76%	34
South Dakota	0.39%	45
Wyoming	0.18%	48
Missouri	n.a.	n.a.

*Data were unavailable for 2 states, and they were not included in the rankings.

Source: Science and Engineering Indicators, published by the National Science Foundation Board; prepared by UNO Center for Public Affairs Research, December 2012

Nebraska's Legislative Planning Database - Education

Introduction

This benchmark examines Nebraska's education by reviewing four broad areas: P-16 initiative goals; access; assessment; and funding stability. The most currently available data at the time the data files were put together are used.

P-16 Initiative Goals

Nebraska has a comparatively large percentage of its high school graduates attending a degree granting institution and most of them attend a college in Nebraska. In the 2007-2008 school year, 65.5% of Nebraska's high school graduates attended college, and 53.5% attended a college in Nebraska. The comparable numbers for the nation were below Nebraska's at 63.8% and 51.8%, respectively. Regionally, Nebraska ranked toward the middle in both categories but was 18th nationally in the percentage of college attendees and 18th nationally in the percentage attending college in their home state.

In 2009, 55.1% of Nebraska's bachelor's students graduated within six years. This was similar to the national rate of 55.5% and ranked 25th. Nebraska also ranked in the middle of its peer states. Iowa had the highest six-year graduation rate at 62.9% (10th nationally) and was followed closely by Minnesota at 60.2%. South Dakota reported the lowest six-year rate (44.8%).

Nebraska ranked favorably for public high school graduation and dropout rates. In 2008-2009, Nebraska recorded a high school graduation rate of 82.9%, ranking 10th nationally and in the middle of the region. With the exception of Wyoming, the remaining states in Nebraska's region reported high school graduation rates exceeding the national average of 75.5%. Nebraska's dropout rate of 2.4% was the 39th lowest in the nation and, in the region, Kansas, Minnesota, South Dakota, and Wyoming had lower dropout rates.

Access

In 2010-2011, 10,250 children attended an early childhood education program conducted by a school district or ESU. This is a slight decrease from 2009-2010 (10,259) but an increase from 2009-2008 (9,641) and 2007-2008 (8,692). In addition, over 3,000 children were served by non-school district Head Start programs in 2009-2010.

Compared to the nation, Nebraska lags in the percentage of children aged 3 and 4 who are enrolled in an education program. According to the 2011 American Community Survey, 47.7% of Nebraska's children aged 3 and 4 were enrolled. This was slightly above the national level of 47.4% and ranked 23rd. Regionally, only Colorado and Iowa had a higher percentage of children enrolled in school. Of those children enrolled, 62.9% were enrolled in a public school. This ranked 16th nationally.

Compared to the nation in 2011, Nebraska recorded a smaller percentage of children aged 5 to 17 who attended public schools (86.8%). For the United States, the value was 89.4%. Nebraska ranked 40th in the percentage of children aged 5 to 17 attending public school, and only Missouri in the region had a lower percentage.

Historically, Nebraska has had one of the highest labor force participation rates in the nation. As a result, a large portion of Nebraska's children have working parents. In 2011, 73.6% of Nebraska's children

under 6 years old had all their parents in the labor force. This ranked 4th in the nation and compared to the national average of 64.6%. Moreover, the percentage of children with all their parents in the labor force has been increasing during the past decade. In 2000, the comparable value was 69.8%.

Nearly three-fourths (74.6%) of Nebraska's students in higher education attended public institution in 2010. This was slightly higher than the national percentage of 74.6%. Nebraska ranked 28th. Interestingly the 2nd highest percentage nationally was in Wyoming where 94.8% of the students attended a public institution; Colorado, Minnesota, Missouri, and Iowa had lower percentages than Nebraska.

In 2010, state and local appropriations for higher education in Nebraska totaled \$1.8 billion.

Assessment

Looking at reading and mathematics scores for Nebraska's fourth and eighth graders, it appears that Nebraska generally ranked in the middle one-third of the states but ranked toward the bottom of its peer states in 2010.

In reading, Nebraska ranked at or above the national median, and the relative rank increased from fourth to eighth grade. For both fourth graders and eighth graders, Nebraska's average reading score ranked 18th.

For mathematics, Nebraska ranked below the national median in most categories, although the relative ranking improved from fourth to eighth grade. Nebraska's average mathematics score ranked 31st for fourth graders and 28th for eighth graders.

Funding Stability

Nebraska's per pupil spending for public elementary and secondary education, in 2008-2009, totaled \$12,703 and ranked 18th nationally. This was the 3rd highest in the region, below Wyoming and Minnesota, but was higher than the national per pupil expenditure of \$12,274.

Based on information from the 2008-2010 American Community Surveys, it appears that Nebraska has been attracting 22 to 64 year olds. In 2010, Nebraska gained people in all of the education categories except for persons with advanced degrees. This was in contrast to 2009 when only people with some college but no degree were more likely to move to Nebraska.

P-16 Initiative Goals

Estimated Rate of High School Graduates Attending Degree-granting Institutions, Regional Comparison: 2007-2008

	Percent of Graduates	National Rank
United States	63.8%	
South Dakota	72.1%	4
Minnesota	69.2%	8
North Dakota	67.6%	12
Nebraska	65.5%	18
Kansas	65.4%	19
Iowa	64.3%	22
Colorado	62.6%	27
Missouri	60.0%	32
Wyoming	59.4%	34

Source: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics; prepared by UNO Center for Public Affairs Research, November 2011

Estimated Rate of High School Graduates Going to College in Home State, Regional Comparison: 2007-2008

	Percent of Graduates	National Rank
United States	51.8%	
Kansas	55.7%	12
Iowa	55.0%	14
South Dakota	54.9%	15
Nebraska	53.5%	18
Minnesota	50.0%	26
Missouri	49.9%	27
North Dakota	48.5%	30
Colorado	47.7%	32
Wyoming	45.1%	34

Source: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics; prepared by UNO Center for Public Affairs Research, November 2011

Six-Year Graduation Rates of Bachelor’s Degree Students, Regional Comparison: 2009

	Graduation Rate	National Rank
United States	55.5%	
Iowa	62.9%	10
Minnesota	60.2%	13
Missouri	55.8%	23
Wyoming	55.4%	24
Nebraska	55.1%	25
Colorado	53.3%	29
Kansas	53.2%	30
North Dakota	46.9%	39
South Dakota	44.8%	41

Source: The National Center for Higher Education Management Systems Information Center for Higher Education Policymaking and Analysis; prepared by UNO Center for Public Affairs Research, November 2011

Public High School Graduation Rates, Nebraska and the United States: 1995-2009

	Public High School Graduation Rate	
	United States	Nebraska
1995-1996	71.0%	85.6%
1996-1997	71.3%	84.8%
1997-1998	71.3%	85.6%
1998-1999	71.1%	87.3%
1999-2000	71.7%	85.7%
2000-2001	71.7%	83.8%
2001-2002	72.6%	83.9%
2002-2003	73.9	85.2%
2003-2004	74.3%	87.6%
2004-2005	74.7%	87.8%
2005-2006	73.4%	87.0%
2006-2007	73.9%	86.3%
2007-2008	74.7%	83.8%
2008-2009	75.5	82.9%

Source: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics (Table 1113); prepared by UNO Center for Public Affairs Research, October 2012

Public High School Graduation Rates, Regional Comparison: 2008-2009

	Graduation Rate	National Rank
United States	75.5%	
North Dakota	87.4%	3
Minnesota	87.4%	4
Iowa	85.7%	5
Missouri	83.1%	9
Nebraska	82.9%	10
South Dakota	81.7%	12
Kansas	80.2%	15
Colorado	77.6%	23
Wyoming	75.2%	34

Source: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics (Table 113); prepared by UNO Center for Public Affairs Research, October 2012

Public High School Dropout Rates, Regional Comparison: 2008-2009

	Dropout Rate	National Rank
United States	4.1%	
Colorado	6.1%	5
Missouri	4.3%	15
Iowa	3.1%	30
North Dakota	2.5%	36
Nebraska	2.4%	39
Kansas	2.1%	42
Minnesota	1.9%	43
South Dakota	1.8%	44
Wyoming	1.1%	50

Source: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics (Table 114); prepared by UNO Center for Public Affairs Research, October 2012

Access

Early Childhood Education Programs, Nebraska: 2007-2011

Age/Years	Children served by school districts/ESUs		Children served by non-school district operated Head Start programs	Total children served	Total number of "At-Risk" children served
	Total number of children	Number of children "At-risk"			
2007-2008					
Age 3	2,328	920	1,242	3,570	2,162
Age 4	6,084	3,256	1,735	7,819	4,991
Age 5	280	89	75	355	164
Total	8,692	4,265	3,052	11,744	7,317
2008-2009					
Age 3	2,669	1,283	1,321	3,990	2,604
Age 4	6,670	3,708	1,742	8,412	5,450
Age 5	302	84	84	386	168
Total	9,641	5,075	3,147	12,788	8,222
2009-2010					
Age 3	2,814	1,341	1,247	4,061	2,588
Age 4	7,147	3,944	1,907	9,054	5,851
Age 5	298	108	54	352	162
Total	10,259	5,393	3,071	17,473	7,214
2010-2011					
Age 3	2,518	199	Data not yet available.		
Age 4	6,980	642			
Age 5	0				
Total	10,250				

Notes:

The definition of "high quality program" that is being used is as follows: Children who are enrolled in programs provided by Nebraska public schools or Educational Service Units, and programs provided by Nebraska Head Start grantees. Anecdotally, we know that there are private preschools, child care centers and family child care homes that are high quality and prepare children well for school. However, we have no way to document their quality, and we have no way to access information about their enrollment.

Children "At-Risk" and served by schools/ESUs are children whose families are eligible for free or reduced lunch and/or children for whom spoken English is not the primary language spoken in the home. Nebraska Department of Education also includes prematurity/low birth weight, and children of teen parents/parents who have not completed high school as risk factors. Currently, we do not have a way to collect data on those two risk factors.

Legislation allowed some school districts to serve 5-year-olds during the first few years of this report. Head Start is a program for children who are "At-risk", therefore all children attending Head Start are considered in that category.

In order to arrive at an unduplicated count of children enrolled in high quality programs we began by obtaining data from the NDE data center regarding the children served in preschool classrooms. We then obtained the Head Start Program Information Report data about statewide actual enrollment by age. To get the final Head Start numbers, we subtracted the number of children served by Head Start grantees or Head Start Delegates that are school districts (those children are already counted in the school data). There are many Head Start programs that partner with individual schools across the state and serve children in blended classrooms. However, we have no reliable way of determining exactly how many children that includes. Therefore, some children in many of the Head Start programs have been counted twice.

The 2010-2011 school year is the third year of grants to serve children who are birth to age three through the Early Childhood Education Endowment (Sixpence) fund. Due to the rocky investment climate, no new grants have been awarded. During the 2009-2010 school year, 360 children from birth-3 were served in Endowment programs.

Source: Nebraska Department of Education; prepared by UNO Center for Public Affairs Research, November 2011

Public and Private School Fall Enrollment for Children 3 to 4 Years of Age and 5 to 17 Years of Age, Regional Comparison: 2011

Children 3 to 4 years of age

	Total Enrollment (000)	Percent Enrolled*	National Rank of Total Enrollment	Percent Enrolled in Public School**	National Rank of Public School Enrollment
United States	3,998.6	47.4%		56.4%	
Colorado	71.0	49.7%	15	55.8%	29
Iowa	39.3	47.8%	22	66.9%	11
Nebraska	25.9	47.7%	23	62.9%	16
Missouri	75.7	47.3%	24	56.8%	28
Minnesota	67.3	46.3%	26	59.5%	23
Kansas	36.9	43.5%	29	67.5%	7
Wyoming	7.1	43.0%	33	61.5%	19
North Dakota	7.0	39.0%	43	67.5%	8
South Dakota	9.8	38.5%	45	70.3%	4

Children 5 to 17 years of age

	Total Enrollment (000)	Percent Enrolled in Public School**	National Rank of Public School Enrollment
United States	52,193.3	89.4%	
Wyoming	93.6	93.4%	1
Colorado	856.8	92.1%	12
North Dakota	98.7	91.9%	13
South Dakota	139.2	91.8%	14
Iowa	510.1	90.3%	20
Minnesota	899.0	89.2%	28
Kansas	506.0	88.7%	31
Nebraska	320.6	86.8%	40
Missouri	990.2	85.6%	45

* As a percentage of all 3 to 4 year olds, includes those not enrolled

** As a percentage of those enrolled

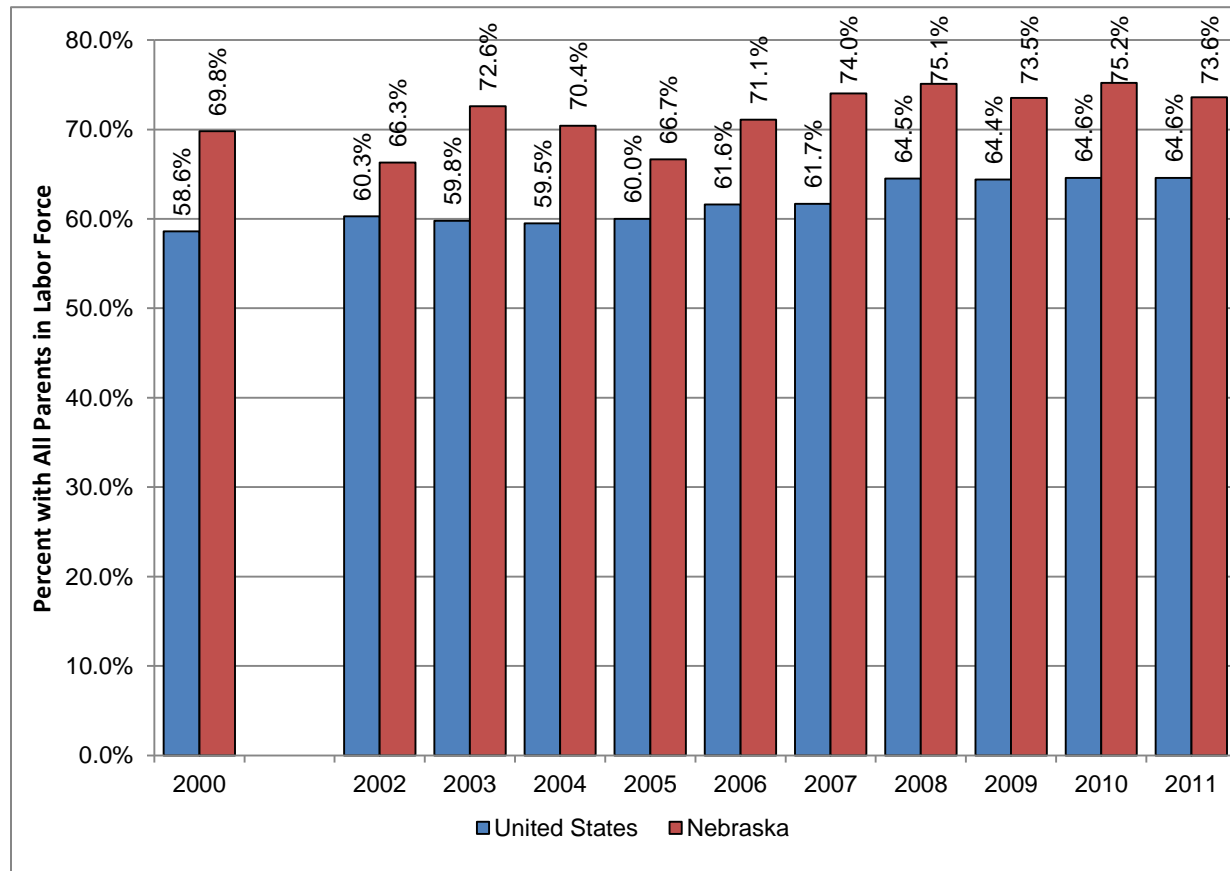
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2011 American Community Survey (Table C14003); prepared by UNO Center for Public Affairs Research, October 2012

Percentage of Own Children under 6 Years of Age with All Parents in the Labor Force, Regional Comparison: 2011

	Percent of Children under 6 Years of Age	National Rank
United States	64.6%	
South Dakota	76.6%	1
Iowa	74.3%	2
North Dakota	73.8%	3
Nebraska	73.6%	4
Minnesota	73.2%	6
Missouri	69.1%	14
Kansas	68.4%	19
Colorado	63.0%	39
Wyoming	62.5%	41

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2011 American Community Survey; prepared by UNO Center for Public Affairs Research, December 2012

Percentage of Own Children under 6 Years of Age with All Parents in the Labor Force, Nebraska and the United States: 2000-2011



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2011 American Community Survey; prepared by UNO Center for Public Affairs Research, December 2012

Average Costs per Full-time-equivalent Student in Public Colleges and Universities, Regional Comparison: 2009-2010 and 2010-2011

Public 4-year Institutions

	2010-2011	2009-2010	National Rank 2010-2011
United States	\$15,918	\$15,014	
Minnesota	\$16,385	\$15,730	21
Colorado	\$16,208	\$15,056	23
Missouri	\$15,110	\$14,368	25
Iowa	\$14,855	\$14,174	27
Nebraska	\$14,081	\$13,265	31
Kansas	\$13,229	\$12,578	36
South Dakota	\$12,603	\$12,022	41
North Dakota	\$12,503	\$11,891	44
Wyoming	\$11,467	\$10,952	49

Public 2-year Institutions

	2010-2011	2009-2010	National Rank 2010-2011
United States	\$2,439	\$2,285	
Minnesota	\$4,965	\$4,791	3
South Dakota	\$4,700	\$4,357	4
North Dakota	\$3,929	\$3,873	5
Iowa	\$3,769	\$3,549	8
Colorado	\$2,727	\$2,446	31
Kansas	\$2,463	\$2,212	37
Missouri	\$2,440	\$2,406	38
Nebraska	\$2,391	\$2,248	39
Wyoming	\$2,164	\$2,120	43

Source: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics; prepared by UNO Center for Public Affairs Research, October 2012

Enrollment in Institutions of Higher Education, Regional Comparison: 2005, 2008, 2010

	Fall Enrollment					
	Total Fall Enrollment (000)			Percent in Public Institutions		
	2005	2008	2010	2010	National Rank	2005
United States	17,487	19,103	21,016	74.5%		72.1%
Wyoming	35	36	38	94.8%	2	92.3%
Kansas	192	199	215	86.4%	9	88.8%
North Dakota	49	51	57	85.9%	10	86.7%
South Dakota	49	50	58	76.4%	26	77.0%
Nebraska	121	130	145	74.6%	28	76.9%
Colorado	303	325	372	72.4%	32	77.5%
Minnesota	362	411	465	59.3%	42	66.6%
Missouri	374	396	445	57.6%	44	58.1%
Iowa	228	287	382	46.6%	48	65.4%

Source: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics; prepared by UNO Center for Public Affairs Research, October 2012

Educational Appropriations for Institutions of Higher Education, Regional Comparisons: 2010

	Total Appropriations (\$ millions)	Percent of National Total	National Rank
United States	\$242,729,554		
Minnesota	\$4,374,761	1.8%	19
Colorado	\$4,326,215	1.8%	20
Missouri	\$3,691,225	1.5%	25
Iowa	\$3,241,982	1.3%	27
Kansas	\$2,720,613	1.1%	31
Nebraska	\$1,847,452	0.8%	36
North Dakota	\$867,210	0.4%	42
South Dakota	\$681,071	0.3%	48
Wyoming	\$668,749	0.3%	49

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Governments Division, 2010 State and Local Government Finances; prepared by UNO Center for Public Affairs Research, October 2012

Degrees Conferred by Degree-granting Institutions, Regional Comparison: 2009-2010

	Degrees Conferred	Bachelor's Degrees Conferred
United States	3,351,049	1,650,014
Colorado	58,357	28,546
Iowa	56,353	30,323
Kansas	34,369	17,835
Minnesota	75,593	31,952
Missouri	79,526	39,670
Nebraska	23,212	12,596
North Dakota	9,977	5,727
South Dakota	8,544	4,976
Wyoming	5,220	1,791

Source: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics; prepared by UNO Center for Public Affairs Research, October 2012

Assessment

Average Reading Scale Score and Percentage of 4th and 8th Graders in Public Schools Attaining Reading Achievement Levels, Regional Comparison: 2011

4th Graders

	Average Scale Score*		Percentage Attaining Reading Achievement Levels**					
	Score	National Rank	At or Above Basic	National Rank	At or Above Proficient	National Rank	At Advanced	National Rank
United States	220		66.2%		32.4%		7.5%	
Colorado	223	17	70.7%	16	38.5%	9	9.3%	9
Iowa	221	28	68.7%	23	33.2%	28	6.4%	33
Kansas	224	16	70.6%	17	36.1%	12	8.3%	13
Minnesota	222	21	70.1%	19	35.3%	16	8.1%	16
Missouri	220	31	66.6%	32	34.0%	22	8.4%	12
Nebraska	223	18	70.1%	20	36.3%	10	8.2%	15
North Dakota	226	9	73.8%	5	35.8%	13	6.3%	35
South Dakota	220	33	68.7%	24	31.3%	34	5.4%	42
Wyoming	224	14	71.3%	14	34.4%	21	6.8%	26

8th Graders

	Average Scale Score*		Percentage Attaining Reading Achievement Levels**					
	Score	National Rank	At or Above Basic	National Rank	At or Above Proficient	National Rank	At Advanced	National Rank
United States	264		74.7%		31.6%		3.0%	
Colorado	271	8	81.1%	11	40.3%	6	4.2%	9
Iowa	265	31	76.8%	29	32.7%	29	2.0%	40
Kansas	267	20	78.8%	19	35.5%	17	2.8%	25
Minnesota	270	9	81.3%	10	39.3%	9	3.9%	10
Missouri	267	24	78.7%	20	35.2%	20	2.6%	30
Nebraska	268	18	80.8%	13	34.8%	23	2.5%	31
North Dakota	269	14	82.9%	6	34.1%	24	1.7%	42
South Dakota	269	12	82.7%	7	35.3%	19	2.1%	38
Wyoming	270	11	81.6%	9	37.7%	12	2.7%	26

Notes: *Scale ranges from 0 to 500.

**Basic Level denotes partial mastery of the knowledge and skills that are fundamental for proficient work at the grade level. Proficient Level represents solid academic performance for grader level. Students reaching this level have demonstrated competency over challenging subject matter. Advanced Level signifies superior performance.

Source: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics (Tables 130 and 132); prepared by UNO Center for Public Affairs Research, October 2012

Average Mathematics Scale Score and Percentage of 4th and 8th Graders in Public Schools Attaining Mathematics Achievement Levels, Regional Comparison: 2011

4th Graders

	Average Scale Score*		Percent Attaining Mathematics Achievement Levels**					
	Score	National Rank	At or Above Basic	National Rank	At or Above Proficient	National Rank	At Advanced	National Rank
United States	240		81.9%		39.7%		6.5%	
Colorado	244	13	84.3%	23	46.8%	10	9.7%	6
Iowa	243	20	85.7%	18	43.1%	21	5.7%	25
Kansas	246	7	89.9%	3	47.7%	7	6.8%	19
Minnesota	249	3	88.0%	8	52.9%	3	11.8%	3
Missouri	240	27	82.7%	30	41.4%	24	5.6%	27
Nebraska	240	31	82.5%	31	39.4%	28	5.1%	36
North Dakota	245	10	89.7%	4	46.4%	11	5.4%	29
South Dakota	241	25	85.6%	19	40.0%	25	4.3%	43
Wyoming	244	16	87.9%	9	43.9%	20	5.4%	28

8th Graders

	Average Scale Score*		Percent Attaining Mathematics Achievement Levels**					
	Score	National Rank	At or Above Basic	National Rank	At or Above Proficient	National Rank	At Advanced	National Rank
United States	283		72.3%		33.5%		7.8%	
Colorado	292	8	80.2%	11	43.5%	7	12.3%	5
Iowa	285	24	76.5%	20	33.6%	27	7.6%	23
Kansas	290	11	80.0%	12	40.8%	11	8.5%	18
Minnesota	295	2	83.2%	3	47.6%	2	13.3%	3
Missouri	282	32	72.6%	31	31.5%	33	6.7%	32
Nebraska	283	28	74.5%	23	32.8%	29	6.7%	35
North Dakota	292	7	84.5%	2	42.6%	8	8.3%	21
South Dakota	291	9	82.0%	6	41.7%	9	8.3%	19
Wyoming	288	18	80.3%	10	37.4%	20	7.1%	29

Notes: *Scale ranges from 0 to 500.

**Basic Level denotes partial mastery of the knowledge and skills that are fundamental for proficient work at the grade level. Proficient Level represents solid academic performance for grader level. Students reaching this level have demonstrated competency over challenging subject matter. Advanced Level signifies superior performance.

Source: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics (Tables 146 and 147); prepared by UNO Center for Public Affairs Research, October 2012

Funding Sustainability

Total Expenditures per Pupil in Fall Enrollment in Public Elementary and Secondary Education, Regional Comparison: 2007-2008 and 2008-2009

	Expenditures per Pupil		National Rank
	2007-2008	2008-2009	2008-2009
United States	\$11,965	\$12,274	
Wyoming	\$17,478	\$18,922	3
Minnesota	\$11,956	\$13,046	17
Nebraska	\$12,287	\$12,703	18
Iowa	\$11,126	\$11,667	26
Missouri	\$11,070	\$11,507	28
Kansas	\$11,024	\$11,427	32
North Dakota	\$10,378	\$10,947	36
Colorado	\$11,061	\$10,600	38
South Dakota	\$9,684	\$10,045	44

Source: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics (Tables 192 and 193); prepared by UNO Center for Public Affairs Research, October 2012

Estimated Net Migration of Persons 22-64 Years of Age, Nebraska: 2008-2010

Level of Education	Estimated Net-Migration		
	2008	2009	2010
Less than high school diploma	2,797	6,210	2,442
High school graduate	1,376	3,473	1,555
Subtotal	4,173	9,683	3,997
Some college but no degree	1,537	2,729	380
Associate degree	-346	-67	1,562
Bachelor's degree	2,266	-258	3,651
Graduate or Professional Degree	876	-782	-465
Subtotal	2,796	-1,107	4,748
Total	8,506	11,305	9,125

Source: Estimates based on the 2008-2010 American Community Survey, conducted by the U.S. Census Bureau, obtained from 2012 Nebraska Higher Education Progress Report; prepared by UNO Center for Public Affairs Research, October 2012

Nebraska's Legislative Planning Database – Health and Human Services

Introduction

This benchmark examines health and human services in Nebraska by reviewing five broad areas: health access; health status; family welfare; and health costs. The most currently available data at the time the data files were put together are used

Health Access

The Commonwealth Fund's Commission on a High Performance Health System ranked the overall performance of the states' health systems. The latest year for this ranking was 2009. Nebraska ranked 13th nationally. Iowa and Minnesota both ranked among the best states, while Missouri and North Dakota were in the bottom one-third nationally.

The Nebraska Office of Rural Health looks at professional shortage areas. In 2012, many of the counties in the western one-third of the state experienced shortages in primary care. The map included in this section is just one of many prepared by this office.

In 2011, Nebraska ranked better than the United States in the rate of uninsurance, as 11.4% of the total population, 5.9% of children under 18 years, and 16.1% of those aged 18 to 64 years were uninsured. The respective national rankings were: 36th, 28th, and 35th. (A lower ranking indicates a lower uninsurance rate.) In general, Nebraska ranked better than its peer states, even though North Dakota, Iowa, and Minnesota had lower rates. For children under 18 years, only Iowa had a lower rate than Nebraska. For the 18 to 64 year-old population, North Dakota, Iowa, and Minnesota had lower rates.

Health Status

In 2010, 17.2% of adult Nebraskans were tobacco users. This compares to 19.3% for the United States. Although there have been year-to-year fluctuations, there has been a general decreasing trend in tobacco use since 2000. Heavy drinking (defined as two drinks per day for men and 1 drink per day for women) has increased since 2006. The value for 2011, at 7.5%, was higher than any of the previous 10 years.

Nebraska's adult obesity rate has been increasing, and is consistently higher than the national rate between 2005 and 2011. 2011's value was 28.4%, which was higher than the national value of 27.8%. Child obesity, on the other hand, has been lower in Nebraska than in the nation (11.6% compared to 12.0% in 2009), although Nebraska's trend is up while the United States average is down.

In 2010, 73.2% of Nebraska mothers received prenatal care in the first trimester. The infant mortality rate in 2011 was 6.1 per 1,000 live births. This was the highest since 2007. In 2009, there were 2,249 teen pregnancies, which was about average for the 2005-2009 period.

Family Welfare

The poverty rate for Nebraska's children in 2011 was 18.1% and was among the lowest in the nation, ranking 35th. However, in the region, only Missouri, Kansas, and South Dakota recorded higher child poverty rates. The percentage of children in poverty for Nebraska has been on an upward trend since 2004.

Looking at the poverty rate for families with a female householder with no spouse present, Nebraska was close to the national rate in 2011, 40.6% in Nebraska compared to 40.8% for the United States. During this period, Nebraska ranked 27th, with North Dakota, Missouri, and Kansas recording higher poverty rates than Nebraska. Since 2004, the poverty rate families with a female householder with no spouse present has fluctuated from year to year with 2011 being at the high end.

In 2010, the number of TANF enrollees averaged 9,010 monthly, a decline from 2004 which had a monthly average of 12,302 enrollees. However 2010 represents the second yearly increase in TANF enrollees since 2004. During 2010, an average of 436 TANF enrollees were sanctioned or dropped. Also in 2009, 68.05% of the IV-D Child Support Enforcement cases had a collection in arrears, ranking 11th lowest in the nation.

Health Costs

In 2009-2010, Nebraska spent \$1,225 per capita at the state level and \$40 per capita at the local level on public welfare. Both of these expenditures were toward the middle of the states in the region. Per capita state expenditures ranked 35th and per capita local expenditures ranked 25th.

Nebraska recorded \$175.8 million in developmental disability expenditures in FY 2009. This amounted to \$103 in per capita expenditures. Per capita expenditures for developmental disabilities have been increasing steadily over the past five years and are about 30% higher than those in FY 2005. Behavioral health expenditures on the other hand, were somewhat lower than they were in FY 2005. In FY 2009, total expenditures were \$189.6 million and amounted to \$111 per capita.

In FY 2012, Medicaid and CHIP expenditures totaled more than \$1.6 billion, the majority of which (44.4%) was for the blind and disabled. The next highest category was for children (23.6%); followed by aged (21.3%) and ADC adult (10.7%). Since FY 2005, the largest increases by category were for the blind and disabled and for ADC adult. Expenditures for the aged were down, while they were up slightly for children. The decline in expenditures for the aged population should be viewed with caution because the impact of the aging baby boom will not be felt for a few more years.

Looking at expenditures per eligible person in FY 2012, a different pattern emerges. The highest expenditures were still for the blind and disabled at \$1,658 per eligible person, but now this was nearly equaled by the expenditures for the aged at \$1,602 per eligible person. Although total expenditures for children were relatively high, they were the lowest on an eligible person basis (\$207). With the exception of ADC adult, the other categories of expenditures per eligible person were lower in FY 2012 than in at least one of the previous seven years.

In FY 2010 \$84.3 million was spent on community-based behavioral health services. This was a 11.6% increase from FY 2009.

Health Access

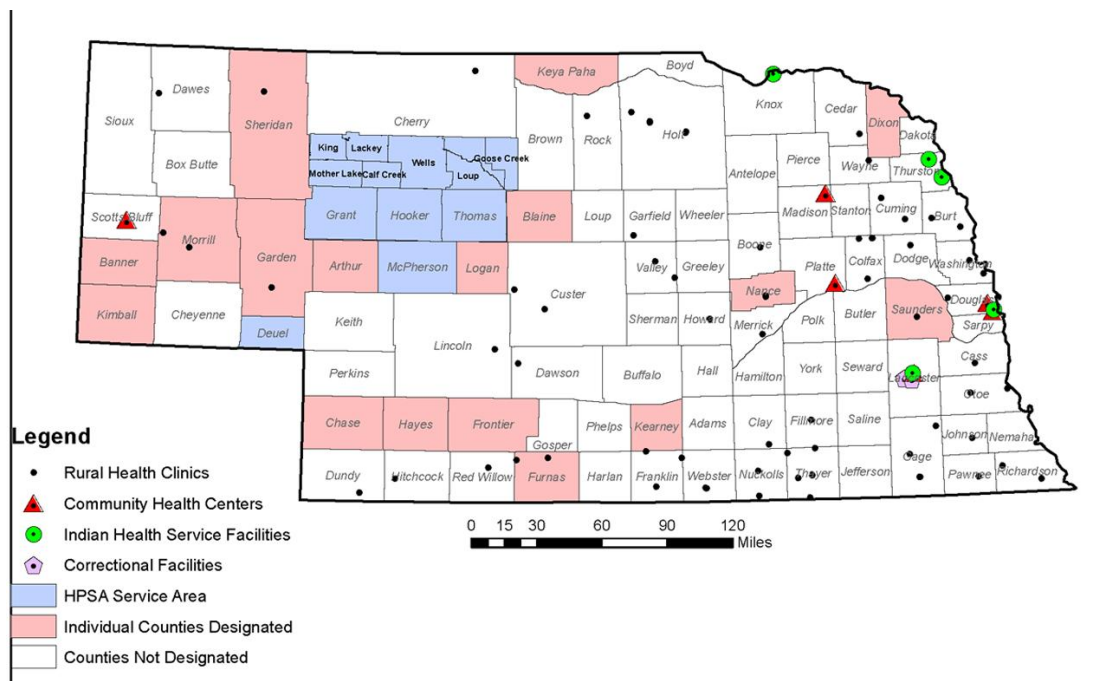
Overall State Ranking on Health System Performance, Regional Comparison: 2009

	National Rank
Iowa	2
Minnesota	4
South Dakota	12
Nebraska	13
Kansas	23
Colorado	24
Wyoming	25
Missouri	36
North Dakota	41

Note: This measure is updated every 2 years, 2009 is the latest year available.

Source: The Commonwealth Fund, Commission on a High Performance Health System, Aiming Higher: Results from a State Scorecard on Health System Performance, 2009; prepared by UNO Center for Public Affairs Research, November 2011

Health Professional Shortage Areas Primary Care, Nebraska: 2012



Note: The Nebraska Office of Rural Health has several maps illustrating several health professional shortage areas. See <http://www.raconline.org/states/nebraska.php#maps>.

Source: Nebraska Office of Rural Health; prepared by UNO Center for Public Affairs Research, December 2012

Percentage of the Civilian Noninstitutionalized Population that is Uninsured, Regional Comparison: 2011

Total Population

	Percent Uninsured	National Rank
United States	15.1%	
Wyoming	15.4%	18
Colorado	15.1%	20
Missouri	13.7%	27
Kansas	12.6%	30
South Dakota	11.9%	33
Nebraska	11.4%	36
North Dakota	9.8%	42
Iowa	8.9%	45
Minnesota	8.8%	46

Under 18 years

	Percent Uninsured	National Rank
United States	7.5%	
Colorado	9.4%	10
Wyoming	8.6%	13
Missouri	6.7%	20
Kansas	6.4%	21
North Dakota	6.4%	22
Minnesota	6.3%	23
South Dakota	6.0%	26
Nebraska	5.9%	28
Iowa	4.4%	41

18 to 64 years

	Percent Uninsured	National Rank
United States	21.0%	
Wyoming	20.8%	20
Colorado	19.8%	24
Missouri	19.3%	27
Kansas	17.6%	30
South Dakota	17.0%	33
Nebraska	16.1%	35
North Dakota	13.1%	43
Iowa	12.7%	44
Minnesota	11.5%	47

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2011 American Community Survey; prepared by UNO Center for Public Affairs Research, December 2012

Rural Response Hotline Summary, Nebraska: 1999-2009

	Calls	Vouchers
1999	2,983	737
2000	3,319	1,053
2001	3,567	2,014
2002	4,366	3,878
2003	4,052	1,573
2004	5,522	1,743
2005	4,405	1,542
2006	6,102	3,524
2007	4,943	2,394
2008	4,245	2,719
2009	4,703	3,089
2010	4,715	2,582
2011	4,331	2,617
2012	4,530	2,625

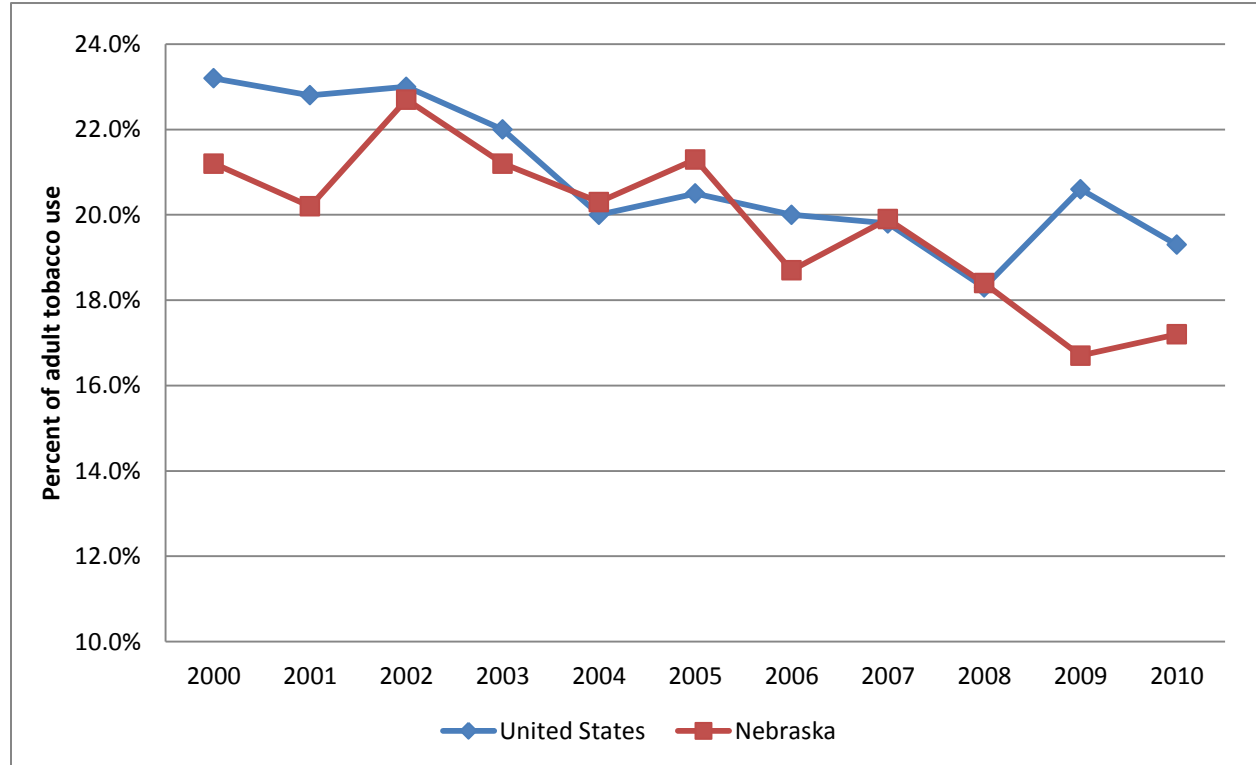
Health Status

Percentage of Adult Tobacco Use, Nebraska and the United States: 2000-2010

	Nebraska	United States
2000	21.2%	23.2%
2001	20.2%	22.8%
2002	22.7%	23.0%
2003	21.2%	22.0%
2004	20.3%	20.0%
2005	21.3%	20.5%
2006	18.7%	20.0%
2007	19.9%	19.8%
2008	18.4%	18.3%
2009	16.7%	20.6%
2010	17.2%	19.3%

Source: State Tobacco Activities Tracking and Evaluation (STATE) System: Detailed report (<http://apps.nccd.cdc.gov/statesystem/Default/Default.aspx>); prepared by UNO Center for Public Affairs Research, November 2012

Percentage of Adult Tobacco Use, Nebraska and the United States: 2000-2010



Source: Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services and National Center for Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion; prepared by UNO Center for Public Affairs Research, November 2012

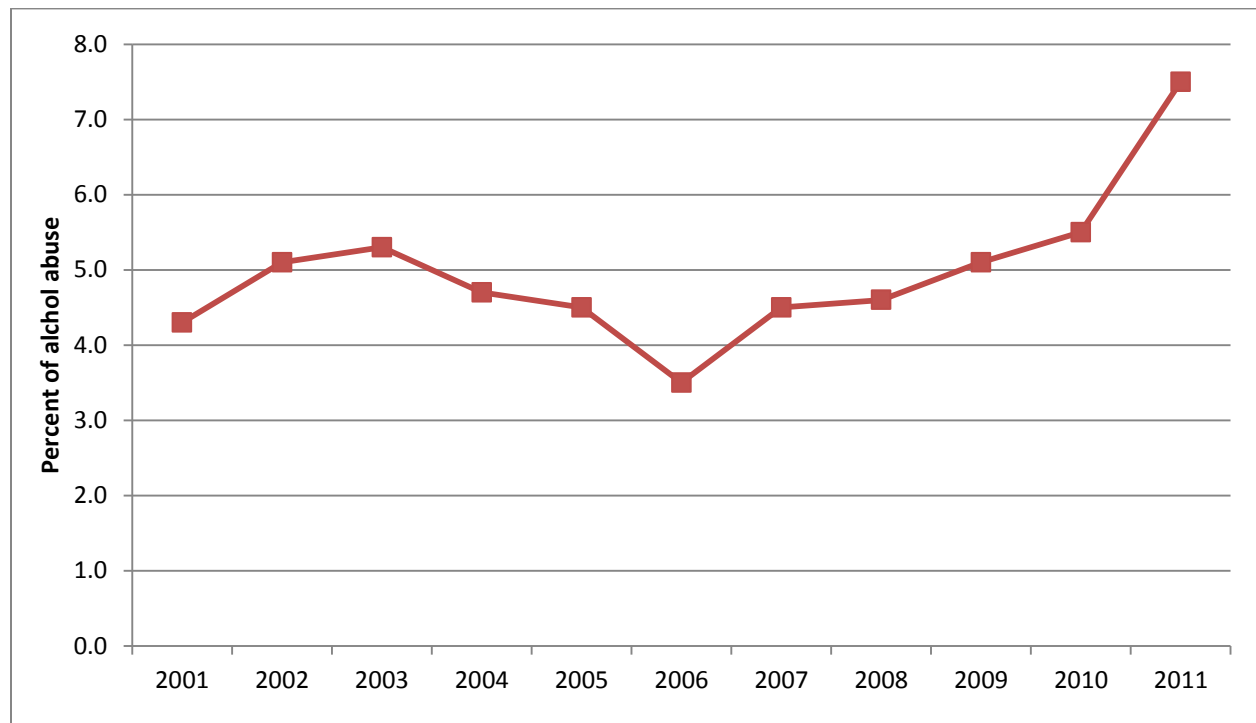
Percentage of Substance Abuse-Alcohol (Heavy Drinking), Nebraska: 2001-2011

	Percent (Weighted)
2001	4.3%
2002	5.1%
2003	5.3%
2004	4.7%
2005	4.5%
2006	3.5%
2007	4.5%
2008	4.6%
2009	5.1%
2010	5.5%
2011	7.5%

Note: Heavy drinking is defined as 2 drinks per day for men and 1 drink per day for women.

Source: Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services; prepared by UNO Center for Public Affairs Research, November 2012

Percentage of Substance Abuse-Alcohol (Heavy Drinking), Nebraska: 2001-2011



Source: Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services; prepared by UNO Center for Public Affairs Research, November 2012

Adult Obesity, Nebraska and the United States : 2005-2011

	Nebraska	United States
2005	26.0%	24.4%
2006	26.9%	25.1%
2007	26.5%	26.3%
2008	27.2%	26.7%
2009	28.0%	26.9%
2010	27.5%	27.5%
2011	28.4%	27.8%

Source: Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (<http://apps.nccd.cdc.gov/brfss/index.asp>); prepared by UNO Center for Public Affairs Research, December 2012

Child Obesity, Nebraska and the United States: 2005, 2007, 2009

	Nebraska	United States
2005	11.0%	13.1%
2007	11.8%	13.0%
2009	11.6%	12.0%

Note: This measure is updated every 2 years, 2009 is the latest year available.

Source: Youth Risk Factor Survey; prepared by UNO Center for Public Affairs Research, November 2011

Resident Births and Percentage of Women Receiving Prenatal Care in First Trimester, Nebraska: 2005-2010

	Total Resident Births	Women Receiving Prenatal Care in First Trimester	
		Number	Percent
2005	26,142	18,627	71.3%
2006	26,723	19,096	71.5%
2007	26,935	19,721	73.2%
2008	26,992	19,464	72.1%
2009	26,931	19,382	72.0%
2010	25,916	18,979	73.2%

Source: Vital Statistics Reports (2005-2010), Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services; prepared by UNO Center for Public Affairs Research, December 2012

Number of Resident Teen Pregnancies* by Race and Hispanic Origin, Nebraska: 2005-2009

Race	2005			
	Hispanic	Non-Hispanic	Unknown	Total
White	164	1,218	0	1,382
Black	4	284	0	288
Native American	14	76	0	90
Asian/Pacific Islander	7	21	0	28
Other	381	12	0	393
Unknown	4	0	1	5
Total	574	1,611	1	2,186
	2006			
	Hispanic	Non-Hispanic	Unknown	Total
White	206	1,143	0	1,349
Black	8	316	0	324
Native American	10	87	1	98
Asian/Pacific Islander	8	14	0	22
Other	357	4	0	361
Unknown	7	0	1	8
Total	596	1,564	2	2,162
	2007			
	Hispanic	Non-Hispanic	Unknown	Total
White	136	1,243	0	1,379
Black	15	353	0	368
Native American	12	106	0	118
Asian/Pacific Islander	7	17	0	24
Other	427	6	1	434
Unknown	1	0	1	2
Total	598	1,725	2	2,325
	2008			
	Hispanic	Non-Hispanic	Unknown	Total
White	153	1242	0	1,395
Black	7	292	1	300
Native American	9	84	0	93
Asian/Pacific Islander	5	16	0	21
Other	498	10	0	508
Unknown	4	0	0	4
Total	676	1,644	1	2,321

	2009			
Race	Hispanic	Non-Hispanic	Unknown	Total
White	105	1,237	0	1,342
Black	13	289	0	302
Native American	8	73	0	81
Asian/Pacific Islander	5	23	0	28
Other	486	4	0	490
Unknown	5	0	1	6
Total	622	1,626	1	2,249

*Includes Live Births and Fetal Deaths

Source: Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services; prepared by UNO Center for Public Affairs Research, November 2011

Infant Mortality Rate, Nebraska: 2005-2011

	Mortality Rate (per 1,000 births)
2005	5.6
2006	5.5
2007	6.8
2008	5.4
2009	5.4
2010	5.2
2011	6.1

Source: Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services; American’s Health Rankings (2011), United Health Foundation; prepared by UNO Center for Public Affairs Research, December 2012

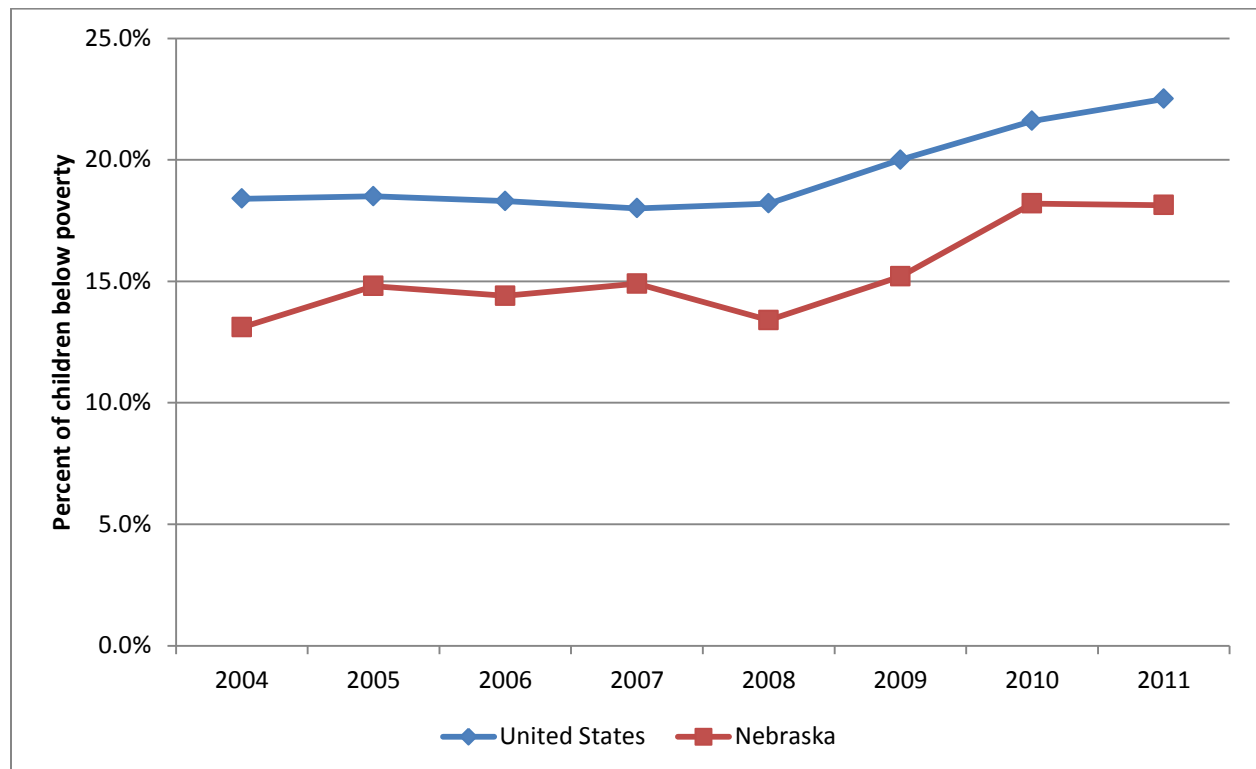
Family Welfare

Percentage of Children Living in Poverty, Regional Comparison: 2011

	Percent Below Poverty Level	National Rank
United States	22.5%	
Missouri	22.1%	24
Kansas	18.8%	31
South Dakota	18.2%	34
Nebraska	18.1%	35
Colorado	17.9%	36
Iowa	17.3%	38
Wyoming	15.6%	41
Minnesota	15.4%	42
North Dakota	14.6%	48

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2011 American Community Survey; prepared by UNO Center for Public Affairs Research, December 2012

Percentage of Children Living in Poverty, Nebraska and the United States: 2004-2011



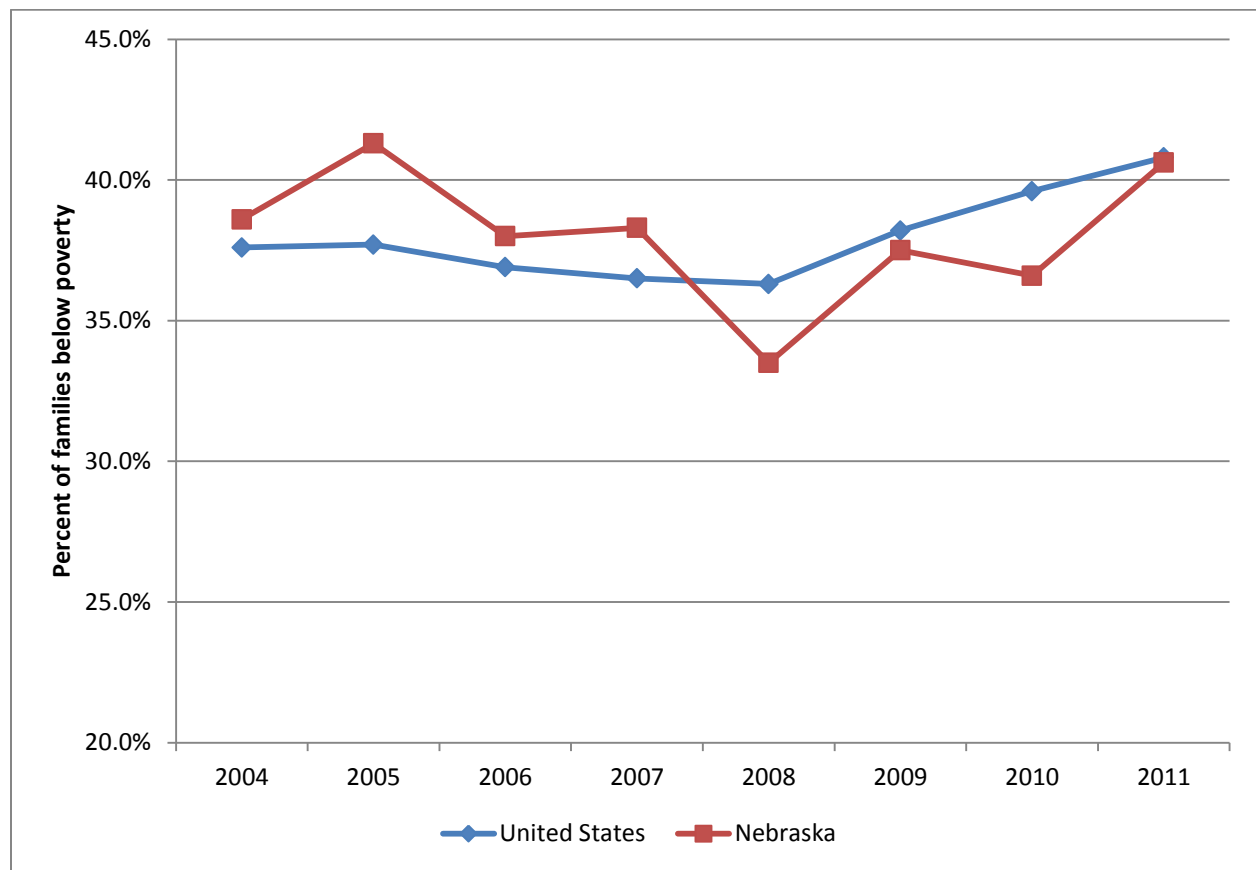
Source: 2011 American Community Survey; prepared by UNO Center for Public Affairs Research, December 2012

Percentage of Female Head of Families Living in Poverty, Regional Comparison: 2011

	Percent Below Poverty Level	National Rank
United States	40.8%	
North Dakota	43.9%	16
Missouri	42.5%	19
Kansas	40.9%	26
Nebraska	40.6%	27
South Dakota	38.9%	31
Iowa	38.4%	33
Wyoming	37.5%	36
Colorado	36.5%	39
Minnesota	35.4%	40

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2011 American Community Survey; prepared by UNO Center for Public Affairs Research, December 2012

Percentage of Female Head of Families Living in Poverty, Nebraska and the United States, 2004-2011



Source: 2011 American Community Survey; prepared by UNO Center for Public Affairs Research, December 2012

Number of State Wards, Nebraska: 2001-2012

	Total Wards
July 2001	7,078
July 2002	6,980
July 2003	6,660
July 2004	6,936
July 2005	7,502
July 2006	7,603
July 2007	7,084
July 2008	6,704
July 2009	6,419
July 2010	6,361
July 2011	6,237
July 2012	6,051

Source: Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services; prepared by UNO Center for Public Affairs Research, November 2011

Number of TANF Enrollees, Nebraska: 2004-2010

	TANF Enrollees	Monthly Average
2004	147,625	12,302
2005	139,033	11,586
2006	136,072	11,339
2007	111,533	9,294
2008	105,748	8,812
2009	106,422	8,869
2010	108,123	9,010

Note: In regards to requests for historical data, the sanction totals are only available for the most recent 15 months because it is a special report that is only ran when requested.

Number of TANF Enrollees Sanctioned or Dropped, Nebraska: July 2008 – October 2009

	Enrollees Sanctioned or Dropped	
Time Period	Total Number for Time Period	Monthly Average
July-December 2008	1,894	315
January-October 2009	4,048	404
January-November 2010	4,792	436

Note: In regards to requests for historical data, the sanction totals are only available for the most recent 15 months because it is a special report that is only ran when requested.

Percentage of Cases with a Collection in Arrears, Nebraska and the United States: 2010

	Cases in Arrears	National Rank
United States	61.98%	
Nebraska	68.05%	11

Note: IV-D cases refer to cases being work by the Child Support Enforcement Program in a state/territory only, not all the court orders in a state/territory.

Health Costs

Per Capita State Public Welfare Expenditures, Regional Comparison: 2009-2010

	State Expenditures Per Capita	National Rank
United States	\$1,307	
Minnesota	\$1,921	8
Iowa	\$1,472	16
Wyoming	\$1,300	28
Nebraska	\$1,225	35
Missouri	\$1,208	36
North Dakota	\$1,207	37
South Dakota	\$1,189	39
Kansas	\$1,169	40
Colorado	\$687	49

Source: The figures are calculated based on the data from 2010 Census of Government Finance and 2010 Population Estimates, U.S. Census Bureau; prepared by UNO Center for Public Affairs Research, December 2012

Per Capita Local Public Welfare Expenditures, Regional Comparison: 2009-2010

	Local Expenditures Per Capita	National Rank
United States	\$169	
Minnesota	\$294	5
Colorado	\$155	10
North Dakota	\$88	15
Wyoming	\$41	24
Nebraska	\$40	25
Iowa	\$37	26
Missouri	\$27	32
South Dakota	\$16	38
Kansas	\$12	41

Source: The figures are calculated based on the data from 2010 Census of Government Finance and 2010 Population Estimates, U.S. Census Bureau; prepared by UNO Center for Public Affairs Research, December 2012

Developmental Disabilities Expenditures, Nebraska: FYs 2005-2009

	DD Waiver - Medicaid	DD Aid (state only)	Total DD-related	Per Capita Expenditures
FY 2005	\$115,289,852	\$19,432,406	\$134,722,258	\$79
FY 2006	\$126,300,187	\$18,455,546	\$144,755,733	\$85
FY 2007	\$136,171,380	\$20,905,267	\$157,076,647	\$92
FY 2008	\$145,703,363	\$13,543,761	\$159,247,124	\$93
FY 2009	\$163,897,051	\$11,902,829	\$175,799,880	\$103

Source: Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services; prepared by UNO Center for Public Affairs Research, November 2011

Behavioral Health Related Expenditures - Medicaid*, Nebraska: FYs 2005-2009

	Total Expenditures	Per Capita Expenditures
FY 2005	\$208,418,779	\$122
FY 2006	\$204,319,802	\$119
FY 2007	\$183,540,675	\$107
FY 2008	\$188,127,541	\$110
FY 2009	\$189,645,601	\$111

*Includes prescribed drugs and services such as Inpatient Acute Psych, Adult Substance Abuse, 24 Hour Residential, Medicaid Rehab Option, Injectable Drugs, Outpatient, Wraparound, and Transportation.

Source: Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services; prepared by UNO Center for Public Affairs Research, November 2011

Medicaid and CHIP Vendor Expenditures*, Nebraska: FYs 2005-2012

	Aged	Blind and Disabled	ADC Adult	Children (includes CHIP)	Total
FY 2005	\$364,993,807	\$566,581,397	\$104,133,140	\$360,859,893	\$1,396,568,237
FY 2006	\$356,223,258	\$580,589,583	\$102,043,747	\$392,051,029	\$1,430,907,617
FY 2007	\$333,402,607	\$586,017,234	\$105,182,619	\$414,180,616	\$1,438,783,076
FY 2008	\$341,121,451	\$610,630,371	\$105,546,463	\$439,466,463	\$1,496,764,748
FY 2009	\$345,556,480	\$639,773,363	\$108,670,527	\$444,376,668	\$1,538,377,038
FY 2010	\$347,270,826	\$655,301,099	\$129,735,093	\$439,689,268	\$1,571,996,287
FY 2011	\$337,748,437	\$664,473,101	\$175,196,070	\$398,429,576	\$1,575,847,184
FY 2012	\$341,670,694	\$711,031,873	\$170,704,198	\$378,940,580	\$1,602,347,345

*Medicaid & CHIP expenditures include expenditures for DD waiver services and behavioral health services.

Source: Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services; prepared by UNO Center for Public Affairs Research, November 2011

Medicaid and CHIP Average Monthly Cost per Eligible*, Nebraska: FYs 2005-2012

	Aged	Blind and Disabled	ADC Adult	Children (includes CHIP)
FY 2005	\$1,663	\$1,644	\$367	\$235
FY 2006	\$1,616	\$1,630	\$361	\$253
FY 2007	\$1,526	\$1,621	\$387	\$265
FY 2008	\$1,588	\$1,664	\$423	\$276
FY 2009	\$1,628	\$1,695	\$419	\$272
FY 2010	\$1,633	\$1,655	\$413	\$248
FY 2011	\$1,583	\$1,595	\$460	\$220
FY 2012	\$1,602	\$1,658	\$448	\$207

*Medicaid & CHIP expenditures include expenditures for DD waiver services and behavioral health services.

Source: Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services, Nebraska Medicaid Annual Report; prepared by UNO Center for Public Affairs Research, November 2011

Community-based Behavioral Health Services, Nebraska: FYs 2005-2010

	Mental Health	Substance Abuse	Combined Mental Health and Substance Abuse	Percentage Change from Previous Year
FY 2005	\$36,970,889	\$9,182,386	\$46,153,275	n.a.
FY 2006	\$45,342,329	\$13,089,224	\$58,431,553	26.6%
FY 2007	\$48,888,467	\$16,953,287	\$65,841,754	12.7%
FY2008	\$47,482,195	\$24,023,859	\$71,506,054	8.6%
FY2009	\$54,560,767	\$20,959,179	\$75,519,946	5.6%
FY2010	\$60,728,294	\$23,539,822	\$84,268,116	11.6%

Notes:

Does not include funds for Gambling Assistance Program

LB959 One time payments to the Regions are not reflected in FY08 amounts.

Source: Maintenance of Effort (MOE) Report as reported to SAMHSA; Nebraska Information System, Fiscal Year XX Summary of Expenditures, Behavioral Health Aid Program; prepared by UNO Center for Public Affairs Research, November 2011

Nebraska's Legislative Planning Database – Natural Resources

Introduction

This benchmark examines Nebraska's natural resources by reviewing four broad areas: air quality; land quality and waste; water quality; and energy. The most currently available data at the time the data files were put together are used. Additional information can be found from the Department of Natural Resources (<http://www.dnr.state.ne.us/>), the Department of Environmental Quality (<http://www.deq.state.ne.us/>) and the Nebraska Energy Office (<http://www.neo.ne.gov/>).

Air Quality

As measured by total air pollution emissions, Nebraska's air quality was high. In 2011, Nebraska recorded 8.2 micrograms of fine particles per cubic meter, up from 8.0 in 2009. This was the 40th in the nation and in the middle for the region. Toxic air emissions in Nebraska in 2009 were also at the median of the region, 31st in the nation. Colorado, South Dakota, North Dakota, and Wyoming had lower levels of both air pollution emissions and toxic air emissions. Iowa, Missouri, Kansas and Minnesota were all higher for both measures.

Another form of air pollution and greenhouse gases is the emission of carbon dioxide (CO₂) from fossil fuel combustion. In 2010, Nebraska was 2nd lowest in the region behind South Dakota. Total emissions in Nebraska have increased by 12.5% since 2001. Almost one-half of these emissions are produced through the generation of electricity; more than one-fourth are produced by transportation.

Land Quality and Waste

Nebraska recorded 13 hazardous waste sites on the national priority list in 2008. This was the 20th fewest sites in the United States. For toxic chemical releases in 2009, Nebraska was 3rd in the region and ranked 31st nationally. The number of on-site and off-site releases in Nebraska decreased by 12.2% and 12.3% nationally.

For toxic surface water discharges Nebraska ranked first regionally in 2011. Compared to 2005, the amount of toxic releases is down from 21.0 to 11.3 million pounds, a drop of 46.6%. Nebraska is substantially higher than other states in the region; toxic releases are almost twice that of Iowa, the 2nd placed state in the region. Nitrate compounds constitute 99.6% of the total toxic releases in Nebraska. The principle sources of nitrate discharge are Tyson Fresh in Dakota City (38.5% of total nitrate discharges), Cargill Meat in Schuyler (36.2%), Tyson Fresh in Lexington (13.7%), and Farmland Foods in Crete (7.7%).

Water Quality

Nebraska's community water systems were more likely to have reported health-based violations than its neighboring states in 2009. In fact, at 23.0% of its community water systems with reported health-based violations, Nebraska was more than 10 percentage points higher than any of its neighboring states. These community water systems were mostly likely to be smaller, as 23.0% of the systems represented 11.1% of the population served. Of the total number of people served by water systems in Nebraska, only 6.7% are not served by community water systems. The majority (53.0%) are served by surface water sources, while 47.0% are served by ground water sources.

Two maps are included. The first shows the density of irrigation wells as of December 2011. Generally, it indicates that this density is highest in the Platte River Valley, and low in the Panhandle, southwestern Nebraska and parts of eastern Nebraska. The second map shows changes in groundwater levels from the development of irrigation to Spring 2011. The largest historical decreases are in Box Butte, Perkins, Chase and Dundy counties. The largest increases are in Phelps and Gosper counties. From Spring 2009 to Spring 2011, decreases in Holt, Dawson, Custer and Butler counties were reversed.

Energy

Electricity in Nebraska costs less than the United States, although the price is rising faster in Nebraska than in the United States. In 2011, the average price per kilowatt hour was 7.88 cents in Nebraska, a 4.8% increase from 2010 compared to 9.90 cents nationally, and a 0.7% increase. Nebraska's cost was 79.6% of the national cost, up from 67.6% of the national cost in 2008. Nebraska's electricity cost ranked 40th nationally. In the region, Iowa, Wyoming and North Dakota had lower electricity costs.

Nebraska is a relatively high user of energy. In 2010, Nebraska's energy consumption was 461.1 million BTUs per person. This ranked 8th in the nation and 5th in the region. The other states outside of the region that are particularly high are coal and oil producing states of Alaska, Louisiana and Texas. In 2010, Nebraska spent \$4,421 per person on energy. This ranked 13th nationally and 5th in the region.

Nebraska ranked low in the percentage of electricity generated through renewable resources. Nationally, 12.8% of the electricity generated in 2010 came from renewable resources, up from 10.6% in 2009. For Nebraska, the portion of electricity generated from renewable sources rose substantially, from 2.6% to 4.9%. Nebraska ranked 43rd in the generation of electricity using renewable resources and 8th in the region. South Dakota ranked highest in the region, generating 65.8% of its electricity from renewable sources (largely hydro).

The principle source of renewable energy in Nebraska is hydro, producing 278 megawatts, constituting 62.8% of total renewable sources. Wind power has increased from 25 megawatts in 2008 to 154 in 2010, rising from 8.0% of the renewables total to 34.8% in 2010.

Air Quality

Air Pollution Emissions, Regional Comparison: 2011

	Micrograms of Fine Particles per Cubic Meter	National Rank
United States	10.8	
Missouri	10.9	16
Iowa	10.2	22
Kansas	9.3	32
Minnesota	8.6	38
Nebraska	8.2	40
South Dakota	7.1	45
Colorado	7.0	47
North Dakota	5.7	50
Wyoming	5.2	51

Note: The average exposure of the general public to particulate matter of 2.5 microns or less in size (PM2.5). Health studies have shown a significant association from heart or lung disease. Fine particles can aggravate heart and lung diseases and have been linked to effects such as: cardiovascular symptoms; cardiac arrhythmias; heart attacks; respiratory symptoms; asthma attacks; and bronchitis.

Source: America’s Health Rankings (2011), United Health Foundation; prepared by UNO Center for Public Affairs Research, October 2012

Toxic Releases: Total Air Emissions, Regional Comparison: 2009

	Toxic Releases (Pounds)	Percent of National Total	National Rank
United States	908,216,183		
Iowa	18,121,768	2.0%	18
Missouri	15,101,172	1.7%	20
Minnesota	8,466,169	0.9%	26
Kansas	8,011,645	0.9%	27
Nebraska	5,489,038	0.6%	31
North Dakota	3,594,546	0.4%	34
Colorado	2,230,182	0.2%	41
Wyoming	2,072,352	0.2%	43
South Dakota	1,403,506	0.2%	46

Source: U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Office of Pollution Prevention and Toxics Information Management, 2009 Toxics Release Inventory; prepared by UNO Center for Public Affairs Research, November 2011

CO₂ Emissions from Fossil Fuel Combustion, Regional Comparison: 2010

	CO₂ Emissions (Million Metric Tons CO₂)	National Rank
South Dakota	15.14	5
Nebraska	47.85	15
North Dakota	48.75	16
Wyoming	64.81	19
Kansas	73.20	24
Iowa	90.25	27
Minnesota	93.20	28
Colorado	95.50	29
Missouri	135.47	38

Source: State and Local Climate and Energy Program, United States Environmental Protection Agency (http://www.epga.gov/statelocalclimate/resources/states_energyco2inv.html); prepared by UNO Center for Public Affairs Research, October 2012

CO₂ Emissions from Fossil Fuel Combustion by Type, Nebraska: 2000-2009

Type	CO₂ Emissions (Million Metric Tons CO₂)									
	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
Commercial	1.76	1.73	1.64	1.71	1.81	1.62	1.68	1.79	2.08	1.87
Industrial	5.65	5.95	5.85	5.73	6.02	5.91	6.58	7.35	7.38	7.27
Residential	2.74	2.95	2.86	2.73	2.49	2.49	2.32	2.51	2.84	2.65
Transportation	12.17	11.47	11.78	11.98	12.27	12.29	12.47	12.62	12.49	11.87
Electric Power	18.90	20.48	19.88	20.78	20.39	21.08	20.91	20.12	21.61	22.84
Total	41.23	42.58	42.00	42.94	42.98	43.38	43.96	44.39	46.39	46.48

Source: State and Local Climate and Energy Program, United States Environmental Protection Agency (http://www.epga.gov/statelocalclimate/resources/states_energyco2inv.html); prepared by UNO Center for Public Affairs Research, November 2011

Land Quality and Waste

Number of Hazardous Waste Sites on the National Priority List, Regional Comparison: 2004 and 2008

	Total Sites		2008 National Rank
	2004	2008	
United States	1,286	1,301	
North Dakota	0	0	1
South Dakota	2	2	4
Wyoming	2	2	4
Iowa	13	12	15
Kansas	12	12	15
Nebraska	12	13	20
Colorado	18	20	32
Minnesota	24	25	34
Missouri	26	29	36

Source: U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Supplementary Materials (2004 and 2008); prepared by UNO Center for Public Affairs Research, November 2011

Toxic Chemical Releases, Regional Comparison: 2009

State and Outlying Areas	Total On- and Off-site Releases (Pounds)	National Rank
United States	3,379.1	
Missouri	76.1	15
Iowa	43.3	23
Nebraska	29.6	31
Wyoming	25.0	32
Minnesota	22.2	34
North Dakota	21.2	35
Kansas	21.1	36
Colorado	20.2	37
South Dakota	4.6	45

Source: U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Toxic Release Inventory (TRI) Program, 2009 TRI Public Data Release; prepared by UNO Center for Public Affairs Research, October 2012

Total Toxic Releases to Surface Waters, Nebraska: 2001-2011

	Total Releases (Pounds)	Nitrate Compounds (Pounds)	Nitrate Compounds as a Percent of Total Releases
2001	9,601,101	9,339,094	97.27%
2002	13,108,748	12,941,403	98.72%
2003	18,177,388	18,092,191	99.53%
2004	20,145,099	20,097,339	99.76%
2005	21,082,285	21,048,000	99.84%
2006	18,842,321	18,797,576	99.76%
2007	17,409,779	17,358,782	99.71%
2008	16,979,499	16,931,956	99.72%
2009	15,174,931	15,132,738	99.72%
2010	14,727,942	14,671,446	99.62%
2011	11,268,159	11,217,172	99.55%

Source: U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Office of Pollution Prevention and Toxics Information Management, 2011 Toxics Release Inventory. Compiled by Bartelt-Hunt, S. L. (2012). Analysis of Toxic Releases to Surface Water in the State of Nebraska. Unpublished paper; prepared by UNO Center for Public Affairs Research, October 2012

Nitrogen Released to Surface Waters by the Top Seven Nitrogen Dischargers, Nebraska: 2011

Discharger	Location	Nitrate Compounds (Pounds)	Percent of Total Nitrate Compounds Released in the State
Tyson Fresh	Dakota City	4,335,050	38.47%
Cargill Meat	Schuyler	4,080,656	36.21%
Tyson Fresh	Lexington	1,543,711	13.70%
Farmland Foods	Crete	871,141	7.73%
Nestle Purina	Crete	216,610	1.92%
Cargill Corn	Blair	138,705	1.23%
MG Waldbaum	Wakefield	31,294	0.28%

Source: U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Office of Pollution Prevention and Toxics Information Management, 2011 Toxics Release Inventory. Compiled by Bartelt-Hunt, S. L. (2012). Analysis of Toxic Releases to Surface Water in the State of Nebraska. Unpublished paper; prepared by UNO Center for Public Affairs Research, October 2012

Total Toxic Releases to Surface Water, Regional Comparison: 2011

	Toxic Releases (Pounds)	Percent of National Total	Regional Rank
United States	215,804,518		
Nebraska	11,268,159	5.22%	1
Iowa	5,984,644	2.77%	2
South Dakota	3,225,920	1.49%	3
Missouri	1,933,592	0.90%	4
Minnesota	1,902,860	0.88%	5
Colorado	1,310,007	0.61%	6
Kansas	249,027	0.12%	7
North Dakota	106,443	0.05%	8
Wyoming	16,706	0.01%	9

Source: U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Office of Pollution Prevention and Toxics Information Management, 2011 Toxics Release Inventory; prepared by UNO Center for Public Affairs Research, December, 2011

Water Quality

Water System Data, Regional Comparison: 2009

	Community Water System (CWS)	Non-Transient Non-Community Water System	Transient Non-Community Water System	Total	Ground	Surface	CWSs with reported health-based violations	
							Number	Percent

Colorado								
Number of Systems	860	169	993	2,022	1,504	518	92	11%
Population Served	5,264,265	74,354	250,546	5,589,165	716,451	4,872,714	165,381	3%

Iowa								
Number of Systems	1,134	133	683	1,950	1,799	151	71	6%
Population Served	2,685,264	47,390	80,908	2,813,562	1,510,584	1,302,978	92,106	3%

Kansas								
Number of Systems	895	48	90	1,033	654	379	110	12%
Population Served	2,572,953	20,645	4,195	2,597,793	708,785	1,889,008	170,152	7%

Minnesota								
Number of Systems	958	523	5,781	7,262	7,149	113	59	6%
Population Served	4,191,398	78,401	536,240	4,806,039	3,467,539	1,338,500	205,420	5%

Missouri								
Number of Systems	1,478	250	1,057	2,785	2,538	247	195	13%
Population Served	5,175,712	76,761	116,403	5,368,876	1,851,384	3,517,492	276,645	5%

Nebraska								
Number of Systems	596	162	566	1,324	1,264	60	137	23%
Population Served	1,478,839	52,263	53,618	1,584,720	745,620	839,100	164,688	11%

	Community Water System	Non-Transient Non-Community Water System	Transient Non-Community Water System	Total	Ground	Surface	CWSs with reported health-based violations	
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North Dakota								
Number of Systems	332	24	152	508	399	109	19	6%
Population Served	568,478	3,658	13,893	586,029	265,824	320,205	13,265	2%

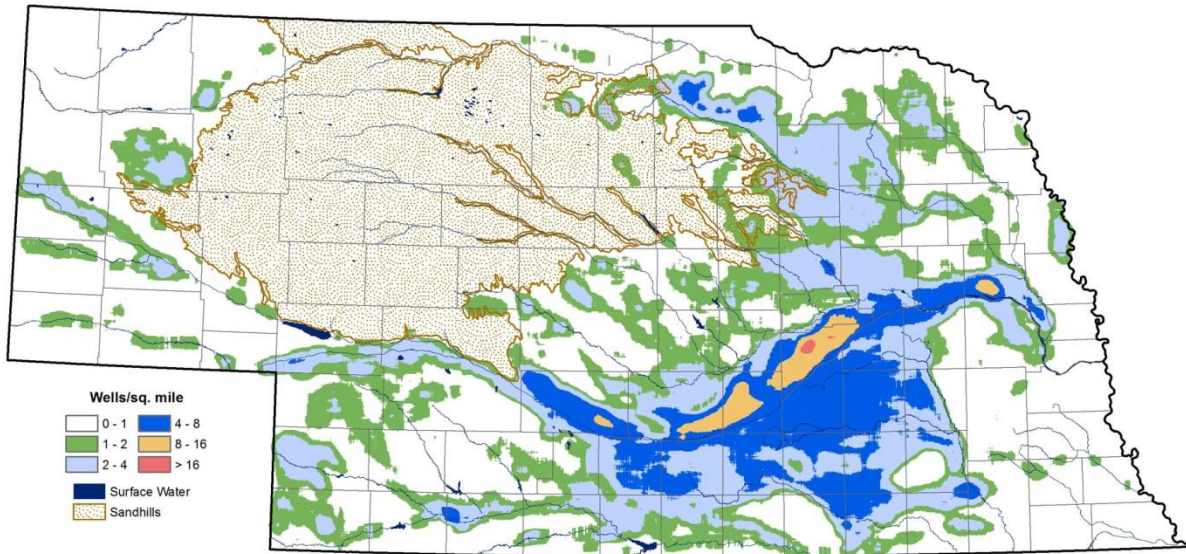
South Dakota								
Number of Systems	457	26	173	656	515	141	57	12%
Population Served	686,897	8,180	22,977	718,054	312,723	405,331	35,296	5%

Wyoming								
Number of Systems	308	89	378	775	637	138	20	6%
Population Served	444,979	23,369	74,672	543,020	196,626	346,394	7,576	2%

Notes: CWS = Community Water System: A public water system that supplies water to the same population year-round. NTNCWS = Non-Transient Non-Community Water System: A public water system that regularly supplies water to at least 25 of the same people at least six months per year, but not year-round. Some examples are schools, factories, office buildings, and hospitals which have their own water systems. TNCWS = Transient Non-Community Water System: A public water system that provides water in a place such as a gas station or campground where people do not remain for long periods of time and is open at least 60 days/year.

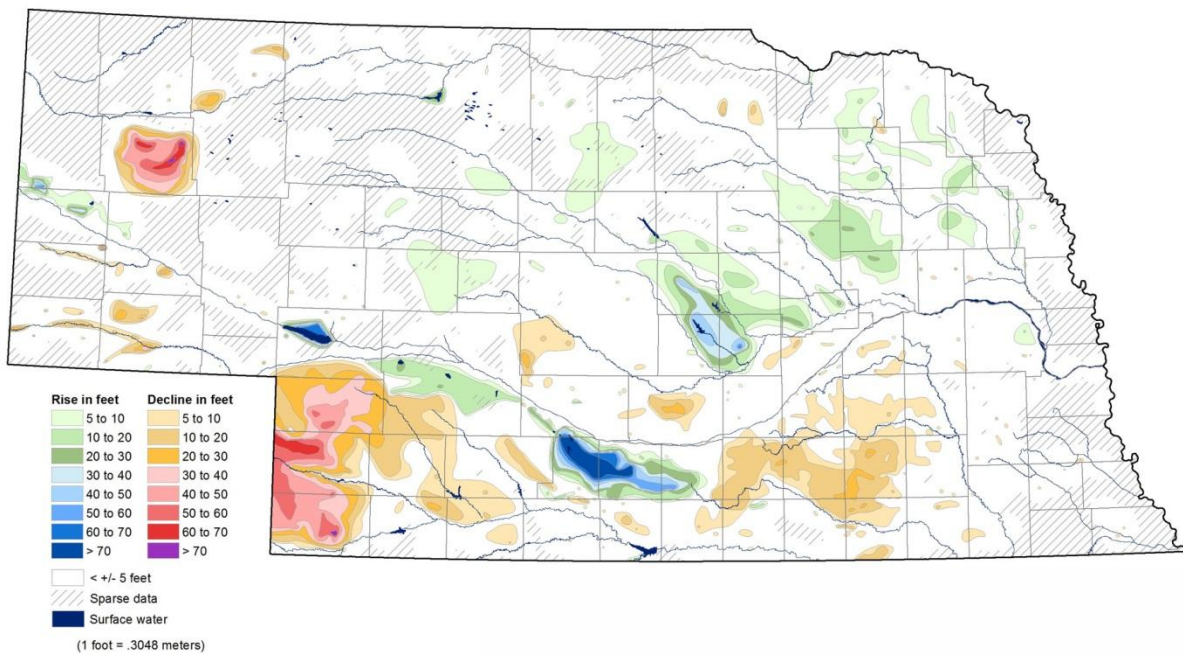
Source: FACTOIDS: Drinking Water and Ground Water Statistics for 2009, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency; prepared by UNO Center for Public Affairs Research, November 2011

Density of Active Registered Irrigation Wells, Nebraska: December 2011



Source: Korus, J.T., Burbach, M.E., and Howard. L.M. (2011). *Nebraska Statewide Groundwater-Level Monitoring Report: 2011*. Lincoln: University of Nebraska. p. 15.

Ground Water Level Changes, Nebraska: Pre-development* to Spring 2011



*Predevelopment levels represent the approximate average water levels prior to irrigation development. This date varies from the early 1940s to early 1950s depending on location.

Source: Korus, J.T., Burbach, M.E., and Howard. L.M. (2011). *Nebraska Statewide Groundwater-Level Monitoring Report: 2011*. Lincoln: University of Nebraska. p. 14.

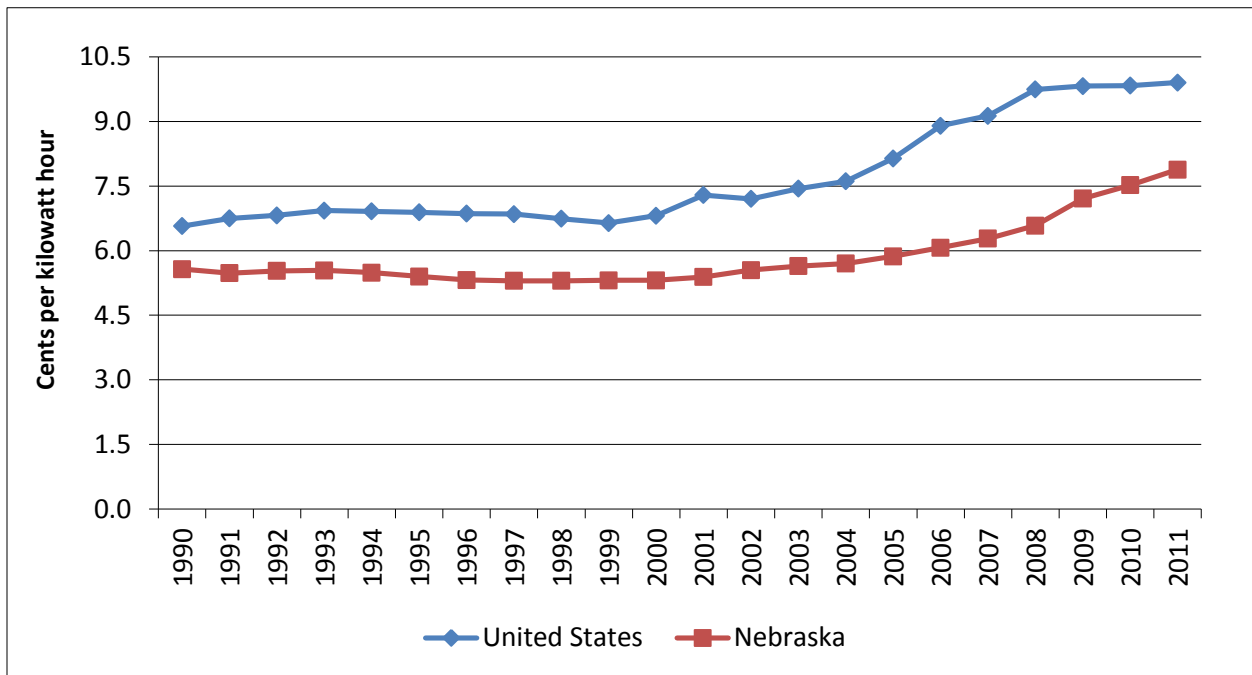
Energy

Average Price per Kilowatt Hour (all classes combined), Nebraska and the United States: 1990-2011

	Average Price by Provider (Cents per kilowatt hour)		Nebraska as a percentage of the United States
	United States	Nebraska	
1990	6.57	5.57	84.8%
1991	6.75	5.48	81.2%
1992	6.82	5.53	81.1%
1993	6.93	5.54	79.9%
1994	6.91	5.49	79.5%
1995	6.89	5.40	78.4%
1996	6.86	5.32	77.6%
1997	6.85	5.30	77.4%
1998	6.74	5.30	78.65
1999	6.64	5.31	80.0%
2000	6.81	5.31	78.0%
2001	7.29	5.39	73.9%
2002	7.20	5.55	77.1%
2003	7.44	5.64	75.8%
2004	7.61	5.70	74.9%
2005	8.14	5.87	72.15
2006	8.90	6.07	68.2%
2007	9.13	6.28	68.8%
2008	9.74	6.58	67.6%
2009	9.82	7.21	73.4%
2010	9.83	7.52	76.5%
2011	9.90	7.88	79.6%

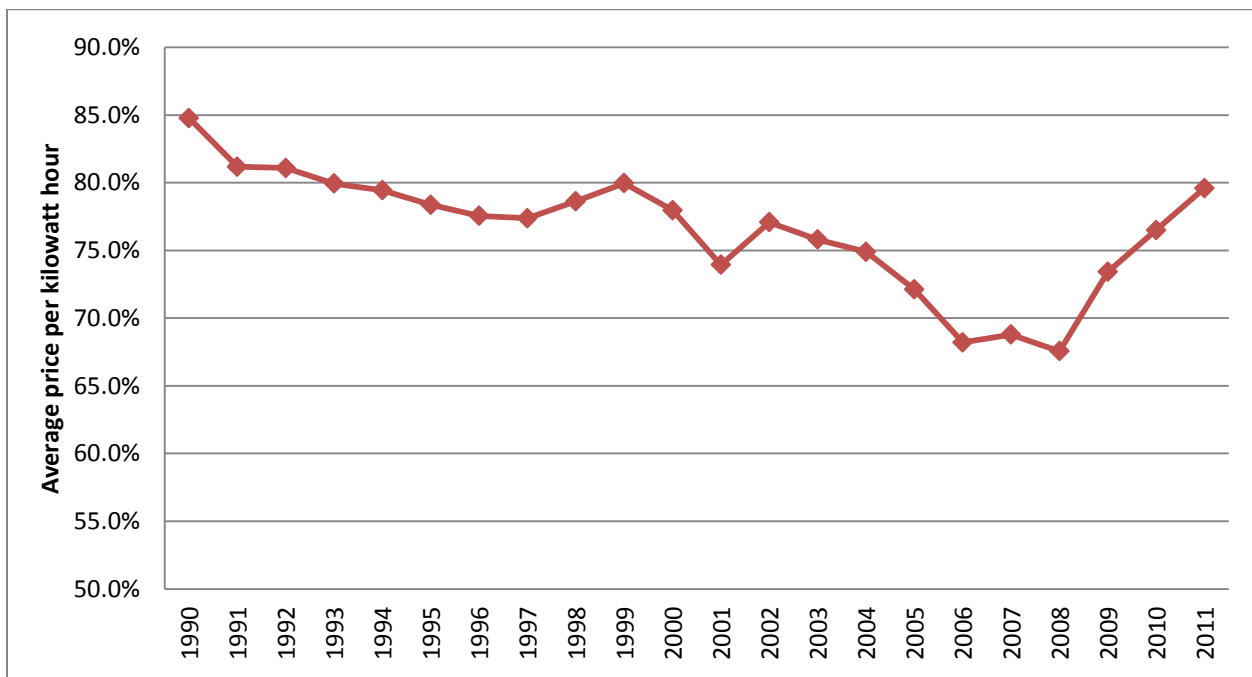
Source: Electric Power Annual (2011), Independent Statistics and Analysis, U.S. Energy Information Administration; prepared by UNO Center for Public Affairs Research, October 2012

Average Price per Kilowatt Hour, Nebraska and the United States: 1990-2011



Source: Electric Power Annual (2011), Independent Statistics and Analysis, U.S. Energy Information Administration; prepared by UNO Center for Public Affairs Research, October 2012

Average Price per Kilowatt Hour, Nebraska as a Percentage of the United States: 1990-2011



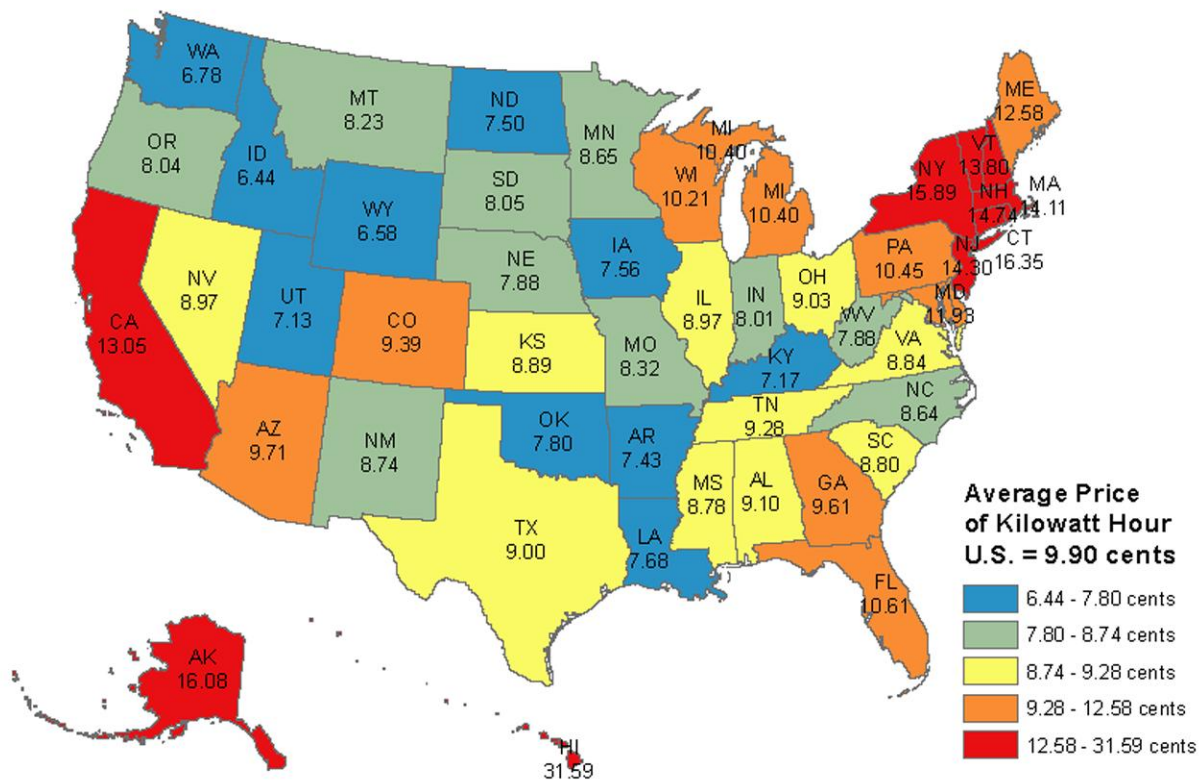
Source: Electric Power Annual (2011), Independent Statistics and Analysis, U.S. Energy Information Administration; prepared by UNO Center for Public Affairs Research, November 2012

Average Price per Kilowatt Hour, Regional Comparison: 2011

	Average Price (Cents per kilowatt hour)	National Rank
United States	9.90	
Colorado	9.39	21
Kansas	8.89	28
Minnesota	8.65	33
Missouri	8.32	35
South Dakota	8.05	37
Nebraska	7.88	40
Iowa	7.56	44
North Dakota	7.50	45
Wyoming	6.58	50

Source: Electric Power Annual (2011), Independent Statistics and Analysis, U.S. Energy Information Administration; prepared by UNO Center for Public Affairs Research, October 2012

Average Price per Kilowatt Hour, All States: 2011



Source: Electric Power Annual (2011), Independent Statistics and Analysis, U.S. Energy Information Administration; prepared by UNO Center for Public Affairs Research, December 2012

Energy Consumption per Person, Regional Comparison: 2010

	Consumption per Person (Million BTU)	National Rank
Wyoming	948.1	1
North Dakota	712.6	4
Iowa	489.3	5
South Dakota	464.9	7
Nebraska	461.1	8
Kansas	407.6	13
Minnesota	351.6	20
Missouri	321.6	25
Colorado	300.5	32

Source: State Energy Data 2010, Independent Statistics and Analysis, U.S. Energy Information Administration; prepared by UNO Center for Public Affairs Research, October 2012

Energy Expenditures, Regional Comparison: 2010

	Expenditures (\$ Million)	National Rank
United States	\$51,204,827	
Missouri	\$22,885	18
Minnesota	\$20,869	22
Colorado	\$16,751	26
Iowa	\$14,766	28
Kansas	\$12,457	32
Nebraska	\$8,091	36
North Dakota	\$4,547	45
Wyoming	\$4,462	46
South Dakota	\$3,798	47

Source: State Energy Data 2010, Independent Statistics and Analysis, U.S. Energy Information Administration; prepared by UNO Center for Public Affairs Research, October 2012

Energy Expenditures Per Capita, Regional Comparison: 2010

	Expenditures Per Capita	National Rank
United States	\$3,894	
Wyoming	\$7,904	3
North Dakota	\$6,740	4
Iowa	\$4,841	6
South Dakota	\$4,651	8
Nebraska	\$4,421	13
Kansas	\$4,357	14
Minnesota	\$3,930	28
Missouri	\$3,817	32
Colorado	\$3,319	45

Source: State Energy Data 2010, Independent Statistics and Analysis, U.S. Energy Information Administration; prepared by UNO Center for Public Affairs Research, October 2012

Percentage of Electricity Generated through Renewable Sources, Regional Comparison: 2009 and 2010

	Percent of Electricity Generated	
	2009	2010
United States	10.6%	12.8%
South Dakota	59.3%	65.8%
Iowa	16.5%	17.9%
North Dakota	13.1%	17.7%
Minnesota	14.4%	13.9%
Colorado	10.1%	10.1%
Wyoming	6.9%	8.9%
Kansas	6.2%	7.2%
Nebraska	2.6%	4.9%
Missouri	2.7%	2.7%

Source: State Renewable Electricity Profiles, 2009 and 2010, U.S. Department of Energy Information Administration; prepared by UNO Center for Public Affairs Research, December 2012

Nebraska's Legislative Planning Database - Public Safety

Introduction

This benchmark examines Nebraska's public safety by reviewing five broad areas: crime; recidivism; arrests; public sector funding; and emergency preparedness. The most currently available data at the time the data files were put together are used. Additional information can be found from the Nebraska Department of Correctional Services' website (<http://www.corrections.nebraska.gov/>).

Crime

After a large drop in 2009, the murder rate for Nebraska in 2011 increased by 64% compared to a 6% national decrease and Nebraska's rank rose from 41st to 32nd. Nebraska's rate of 3.6 murders per 100,000 is less than the national rate of 4.7, but 3rd among the nine states in the region. The violent crime rate in Nebraska fell from 281.6 crimes per 100,000 persons to 253.2, a decrease of 10%, equal to the national change. Nebraska ranked 38th in the nation and 6th in the region for violent crime in 2011. Nebraska's property crime rate was down very slightly (0.3%) compared to a 4.2% drop nationally. Nebraska ranked 25th in the nation and 3rd in the region. South Dakota had the lowest property crime rate in the nation.

Nebraska reported 10,423 arrests for drug abuse violations in 2011. This is a 7.1% increase from 2009 compared to an 8.0% drop nationally. Several other states in the region had large increases in this measure including Iowa, North Dakota, South Dakota, Kansas, and Wyoming.

Recidivism

From FY 2010 to FY 2012, the twelve-month recidivism rate at both the Kearney and Geneva youth rehabilitation and treatment centers decreased. The rate at the Kearney facility (for males) peaked in FY 2010 and is still higher than in FY 2007 and FY 2008. At the Geneva facility (for females), the recidivism rate has fluctuated substantially, but the FY 2011 rate is below the average of the previous five years.

The three-year recidivism rate in Nebraska Correctional facilities for those paroled or discharged between 2005 and 2007 dropped for parolees, however for those released in 2008 the rate increased from 33.8% to 35.1%. The pattern is the same for men and women. For those with mandatory discharges the rate continued to decrease. The total recidivism rate dropped slightly for the 2008 cohort.

Juvenile Intakes

In 2009, Nebraska had the third highest rate in the nation for juvenile arrests for property crime, an increase of 7% while the national rate dropped by 4%. Within this category, Nebraska is particularly high in arrests for vandalism and larceny-theft. The juvenile property crime arrest rate has increased by 18% from 2007 to 2009. The juvenile arrest rate for violent crime in Nebraska is 42% below the United State average. Within this category, Nebraska is low in robbery, weapons arrests, and aggravated assault and high in "other assault."¹ Nebraska's arrest rate for violent crime has increased by 51% from 2005 to 2009.

In 2009, Nebraska ranked high for the total juvenile arrest rate, 3rd in the region and 6th in the nation, 45% above the national average.

Public Safety Funding

Nebraska's expenditures for public safety are below national levels at both the state and local level. More is spent at the local level on this function than at the state level. Nebraska's per capita local expenditures ranked 38th and 6th in the region. Local spending on public safety in Nebraska increased by 4.3% in 2009-2010. The national increase in 2009-2010 was 2.0%. State spending ranked 28th nationally and 3rd in the region. State spending increased by 0.9% compared to a 3.4% drop nationally.

In FY 2010, Nebraska Department of Correctional Services spent \$178 million providing services. The most expensive facility was the Nebraska Correctional Youth Facility at \$184.24 per day or \$67,247 per year. Total programs without parole cost an average of \$93.47 per day or \$34,115 per year.

Emergency Preparedness

Since 1960, the state has experienced 54 federally declared disasters, 15 of these since 2008. The flooding in the summer of 2011 cost \$106.6 million in public damages, the largest disaster since winter storms in January 2007.

Two maps shows wireless 911 status in Nebraska on August 13, 2012, and January 15, 2010. Basic 911 service simply transmits the call from a cell phone to the PSAP. Enhanced 911 service (E911) automatically associates a physical address with the calling party's telephone number. E911 Phase I provides the cell phone call-back number and cell phone tower of origination, while Phase II provides the geographic location of the call. Presently, the entire state has Phase II service, a significant improvement since 2010.

1. "Other assaults" are assault that do not involve the use of a firearm, knife or cutting instrument, or other dangerous weapon and in which the victim did not sustain serious or aggravated injuries.

Crime

Murder Rate per 100,000 Population, Regional Comparison: 2011

	Murder & Nonnegligent Manslaughter Rate (per 100,000 Population)	National Rank
United States	4.7	
Missouri	6.1	10
Kansas	3.8	29
Nebraska	3.6	32
North Dakota	3.5	34
Wyoming	3.2	35
Colorado	2.9	36
South Dakota	2.5	39
Iowa	1.5	46
Minnesota	1.4	47

Source: Federal Bureau of Investigation, U.S. Department of Justice; prepared by UNO Center for Public Affairs Research, October 2012

Violent Crime Rate per 100,000 Population, Regional Comparison: 2011

	Violent Crime Rate (per 100,000 Population)	National Rank
United States	386.3	
Missouri	447.4	13
Kansas	353.9	24
Colorado	320.2	27
Iowa	255.6	36
South Dakota	254.1	37
Nebraska	253.2	38
North Dakota	247.0	41
Minnesota	221.2	44
Wyoming	219.3	45

Source: Federal Bureau of Investigation, U.S. Department of Justice; prepared by UNO Center for Public Affairs Research, October 2012

Property Crime Rate per 100,000 Population, Regional Comparison: 2011

	Property Crime Rate (per 100,000 Population)	National Rank
United States	2,908.7	
Missouri	3,308.8	18
Kansas	3,080.1	21
Nebraska	2,752.9	25
Colorado	2,606.3	31
Minnesota	2,549.4	34
Iowa	2,330.3	37
Wyoming	2,266.4	42
North Dakota	1,936.7	49
South Dakota	1,817.7	51

Source: Federal Bureau of Investigation, U.S. Department of Justice; prepared by UNO Center for Public Affairs Research, October 2012

Arrests for Drug Abuse Violation, Regional Comparison: 2011

	Number of Arrests
United States	1,531,251
Missouri	35,383
Minnesota	17,727
Colorado	15,109
Nebraska	10,423
Iowa	9,139
Kansas	7,364
South Dakota	3,694
Wyoming	3,205
North Dakota	2,243

Source: Federal Bureau of Investigation, U.S. Department of Justice; prepared by UNO Center for Public Affairs Research, October 2012

Recidivism

Recidivism Rates, Youth Rehabilitation and Treatment Center, Kearney, Nebraska: FYs 2007-2012

Fiscal Year	Parole Revocations	Recommitments	Releases	Recidivism
2006-2007	29	45	393	18.8%
2007-2008	27	47	528	19.7%
2008-2009	76	48	493	25.2%
2009-2010	65	62	434	29.3%
2010-2011	66	51	427	27.4%
2011-2012	64	56	474	25.3%

Note: Recidivism = Parole Violations + Recommitments/Releases. Parole revocations and recommitments are only counted if youth returned to facility within 12 months.

Source: Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services; prepared by UNO Center for Public Affairs Research, December 2012

Recidivism Rates, Youth Rehabilitation and Treatment Center, Geneva, Nebraska: FYs 2007-2012

Fiscal Year	Parole Revocations	Recommitments	Releases	Recidivism
2006-2007	8	5	130	10.0%
2007-2008	20	10	121	24.8%
2008-2009	5	6	104	10.6%
2009-2010	9	16	134	18.7%
2010-2011	10	12	143	15.4%
2012-2012	17	5	145	15.1%

Note: Recidivism = Parole Violations + Recommitments/Releases. Parole revocations and recommitments are only counted if youth returned to facility within 12 months.

Source: Nebraska Department of Health and Human Resources; prepared by UNO Center for Public Affairs Research, December 2012

Juvenile Intakes

Juvenile Arrests, Regional Comparison: 2009

State	Reporting population coverage	Violent crime index**	National Rank	Property crime index***	National Rank
United States	84%	274		1,336	
Nebraska	89%	159	34	2,153	3
North Dakota	95%	95	45	2,115	4
South Dakota	83%	77	47	1,960	6
Missouri	93%	286	15	1,918	7
Minnesota	97%	187	29	1,894	8
Wyoming	99%	85	46	1,813	12
Iowa	92%	235	23	1,751	13
Colorado	90%	176	30	1,660	20
Kansas	64%	145	37	1,198	34

Notes: *Arrest rate is defined as the number of arrests of persons under age 18 for every 100,000 persons ages 10-17.

**Violent crime includes murder or nonnegligent manslaughter, forcible rape, robbery, and aggravated assault.

***Property crimes include burglary, larceny-theft, motor vehicle theft, and arson.

Source: Juvenile Offenders and Victims: National Report Series (2009), Office of Juvenile and Delinquency Prevention, U.S. Department of Justice; prepared by UNO Center for Public Affairs Research, December 2012

Juvenile Arrests, Nebraska and the United States: 2000, 2005-2009

United States	Juvenile arrest rate*				
	Reporting Coverage	Violent crime index**	Property crime index ***	Drug abuse	Weapons
2009	84%	274	1,336	n.a.	103
2008	82%	306	1,398	560	121
2007	81%	301	1,293	590	128
2006	78%	315	1,256	600	141
2005	79%	296	1,289	581	134
2000	72%	330	1,686	649	116

Nebraska	Juvenile arrest rate*				
	Reporting Coverage	Violent crime index**	Property crime index***	Drug abuse	Weapons
2009	89%	159	2,153	n.a.	78
2008	92%	139	2,013	657	112
2007	85%	138	1,823	644	109
2006	87%	106	1,892	638	91
2005	90%	105	1,935	656	95
2000	91%	118	2,483	719	106

Notes: *Arrest rate is defined as the number of arrests of persons under age 18 for every 100,000 persons ages 10-17.

**Violent crime includes murder or nonnegligent manslaughter, forcible rape, robbery, and aggravated assault.

***Property crimes include burglary, larceny-theft, motor vehicle theft, and arson.

Source: Juvenile Offenders and Victims: National Report Series (2009), Office of Juvenile and Delinquency Prevention, U.S. Department of Justice; prepared by UNO Center for Public Affairs Research, December 2012

Juvenile Arrest Rate: United States and Regional Comparison: 2009

	Arrest Rate (per 100,000 juvenile population)	National Rank
United States	5,920.6	
Wyoming	10,925.2	2
North Dakota	10,291.9	4
Nebraska	8,569.2	6
South Dakota	8,516.0	7
Colorado	8,210.4	8
Minnesota	7,912.1	9
Missouri	7,250.8	15
Iowa	6,335.9	23
Kansas	4,894.1	37

Source: The Federal Bureau of Investigation, Crime in the United States 2009; prepared by UNO Center for Public Affairs Research, December 2011

Public Safety Funding

Per Capita Local Public Safety Expenditures, Regional Comparison: 2009-2010

	Per Capita Expenditures	National Rank
United States	\$510.30	
Colorado	\$824.70	2
Wyoming	\$590.80	8
Minnesota	\$432.50	22
Missouri	\$414.00	25
Kansas	\$410.30	27
Nebraska	\$343.90	38
South Dakota	\$316.10	43
Iowa	\$300.70	44
North Dakota	\$276.10	48

Source: The figures are calculated based on the data from 2010 Census of Government Finance and 2010 Population Estimates, U.S. Census Bureau; prepared by UNO Center for Public Affairs Research, October 2012

Per Capita State Public Safety Expenditures, Regional Comparison: 2009-2010

	Per Capita Expenditures	National Rank
United States	\$218.20	
Wyoming	\$367.00	3
Colorado	\$210.30	22
Nebraska	\$203.00	28
South Dakota	\$195.50	30
North Dakota	\$171.00	38
Minnesota	\$160.20	43
Missouri	\$158.50	44
Kansas	\$152.90	46
Iowa	\$138.40	50

Source: The figures are calculated based on the data from 2010 Census of Government Finance and 2010 Population Estimates, U.S. Census Bureau; prepared by UNO Center for Public Affairs Research, October 2012

Nebraska Department of Correctional Services Annual Cost Report: FY 2010

	Total	Cost per Day per Inmate	Cost per Year per Inmate
Nebraska Correctional Youth Facility	\$6,111,434	\$184.24	\$67,247
Tecumseh Correctional Center	\$34,841,615	\$103.18	\$37,660
Community Correctional Center-Lincoln	\$6,643,941	\$48.98	\$17,876
Community Correctional Center-Omaha	\$3,353,841	\$58.88	\$21,491
Nebraska State Penitentiary	\$38,985,914	\$96.39	\$35,182
Nebraska Correctional Center for Women	\$10,467,919	\$108.14	\$39,472
Diagnosis & Evaluation Center	\$11,952,084	\$91.50	\$33,397
Lincoln Correctional Center	\$19,494,667	\$109.94	\$40,129
Omaha Correctional Center	\$17,469,419	\$72.94	\$26,625
Work Ethic Camp*	\$5,637,193	\$51.35	\$18,741
Adult Parole**	\$3,426,519	\$9.75	\$3,560
Total Programs	\$158,384,546	\$78.83	\$28,773
Total without parole	\$154,958,027	\$93.47	\$34,115
Federal Surplus Property	\$779,920		
Central Warehouse	\$1,933,022		
Correctional Industries	\$12,060,057		
Subtotal	\$14,772,999		
Community Based Services	\$111,847		
Building Depreciation	\$45,085		
County Jail Reimburse	\$3,812,250		
Construction Programs	\$1,254,002		
Subtotal	\$5,223,184		
Total	\$178,380,729		

Notes:

The cost per inmate represents an average cost per inmate of all general, cash and federal expenditures excluding General Fund Aid & Depreciation and Capital Construction expenditures.

* Cost per inmate at Work Ethic Camp calculated based on average number of probationers and inmates times the average length of program, which is five months. Before 2009, counts were based only on admissions, due to the varied lengths of stay.

**LSO numbers are not included in the total parolee numbers. These averages cannot be used to calculate reductions in inmate populations and corresponding reductions in expenditures. E.g. if you reduced a facility's population by 100, you could not use that facility's average cost per inmate per year times 100 to calculate the estimated reduction in expenditures.

Source: Nebraska Department of Corrections; prepared by UNO Center for Public Affairs Research, November 2011

Emergency Preparedness

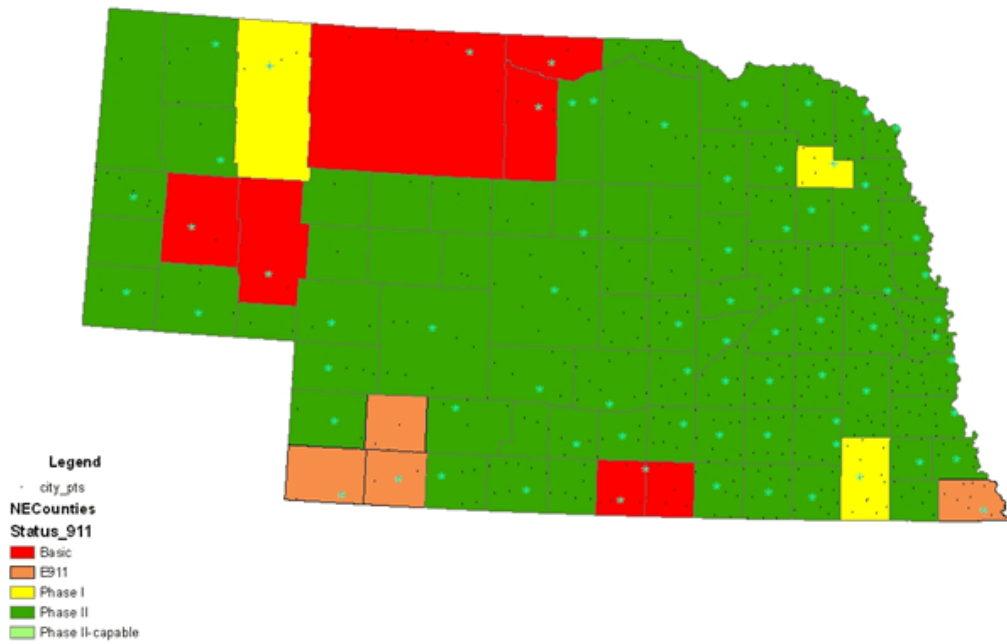
Disasters Declared by the Nebraska Emergency Management Agency: June 2005 – August 2012

Date Declared	Type of Disaster	Number of Counties Declared	Est. Public Damages
8/30/2012	Emergency Declaration/Fire	3	\$5,661,715
8/2/2011	Flood	12	\$4,645,117
8/12/2011	Flood	14	\$106,615,663
6/18/2011	Emergency Declaration/Flood	18	\$0
4/22/2011	Fire	1	\$0
10/21/2010	Storms/Flood	7	\$2,896,659
6/1/2010	Flooding	53	\$16,366,211
4/21/2010	Flooding	35	\$10,785,830
2/25/2010	Winter Storm	48	\$6,010,888
12/16/2009	Winter Storm	7	\$3,638,100
7/31/2009	Tornado/flood	13	\$4,388,370
7/18/2008	Spring Storms	4	\$12,746,400
6/20/2008	Storm/Tornado	61	\$35,559,665
5/30/2008	Storm/tornado	5	\$2,296,100
1/11/2008	Winter Storm	8	\$8,040,984
8/29/2007	Storm/flood	6	\$1,297,060
7/24/2007	Storms/flood	15	\$2,937,801
6/6/2007	Storms/flood	19	\$7,303,416
1/7/2007	Winter Storm	69	\$160,749,169
7/29/2006	Sioux Co. Fire	1	\$2,385,620
7/28/2006	Dawes Co. Fire	3	\$1,964,127
7/17/2006	Valentine Fire	1	\$464,323
1/26/2006	Winter Storm	29	\$7,131,762
6/13/2005	Katrina Assist	Statewide	\$485,249
6/23/2005	Storm/flood	11	\$3,195,092

Note: The Federal Government has been keeping disaster records since 1960. Between 1960 to today the state has experienced 54 federally declared disasters-emergencies. All of which would have been a local and state declared disaster prior to seeking assistance at the Federal level. Since 2008 Nebraska has experienced 15 federally declared disasters and emergencies.

Source: Nebraska Emergency Management Agency; prepared by UNO Center for Public Affairs Research, November 2012

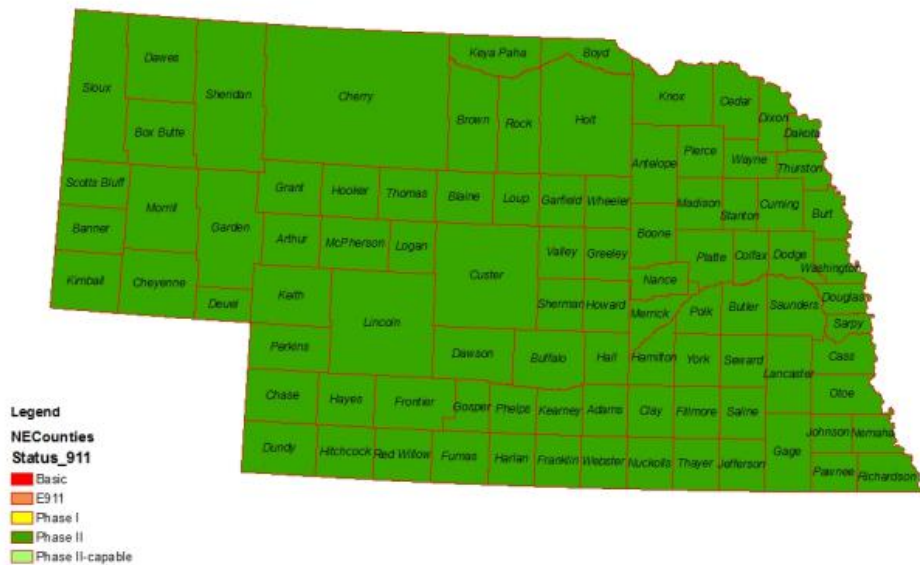
Nebraska Wireless 911 Status with PSAP Locations: January 15, 2010



Source: Nebraska Public Service Commission

http://www.psc.state.ne.us/home/NPSC/e911/e911_status_map.jpg

Nebraska Wireless 911 Status with PSAP Locations: August 13, 2012



Source: Nebraska Public Service Commission, 2012 Annual Report on Telecommunications

http://www.psc.state.ne.us/telecom/pdf/leg_report/AnnualReport2012.pdf

Nebraska Legislative Planning Database - State and Local Government

Introduction

Nebraska ranks 15th in the nation in the number of local governments in the state. For all types of local governments, Nebraska is above the median. It ranks 8th in the number of special districts and 10th in the number of counties. Since 2007, there are 16 fewer school districts, 27 fewer special districts, and 35 fewer towns and townships as measured by the U.S. Census Bureau.

Nebraska is 3rd nationally in the number of governments per 100,000 population behind North Dakota and South Dakota. All of the states in this region are above the median in this measure, in part due to their low population density. Nebraska is substantially above the United States average for all types of local governments. For total local governments per 100,000 population, Nebraska has about five times more governments than the United States average (140.07 compared to 28.56). This ratio is lowest for counties and highest for special districts.

In 2011, state government employment per capita in Nebraska was above the median and the national average. Nebraska ranks 4th out of nine in the region and 20th nationally. However, state employment decreased in Nebraska in 2011, and it fell one rank behind South Dakota. Nebraska is higher than the United States average in all functional categories except government administration and utilities, and more than twice the national average in the “public works, planning and recreation” category. Employment decreased in all categories between 2010 and 2011. At the same time, Nebraska pays its state employees substantially less than the average, and less than all states in the region except for Missouri. Nebraska is lower than the national average for all functions of state government.

At the local level, government employment in Nebraska is 4th highest in the nation, substantially above the national average and higher than all states in the region with the exception of Kansas and Wyoming. Nebraska local government employment is above the national average in government administration, transportation, leisure and planning, education and utilities. Most of the difference from the United States average for education is explained by a higher level of instructional employees and electric power employees; the latter is due to the presence of public electric power in Nebraska. Nebraska is below the average for public safety (including both police officers and firefighters), public welfare and health, and public works. Pay for Nebraska local government employees is less than average, and 4th among the nine states in the region. This pattern holds for all functions of government with the exception of utilities.

In FY 2010, per capita total federal government spending in Nebraska was below the national average, and 8th out of the nine states in the region. Nebraska is just above the United States average in retirement and disability payments. Nebraska is lower than the national average in *other direct payments*, grants, salaries and wages, and procurement spending.

Note: *Other direct payments* include federal programs such as Medicare, the earned income tax credit, unemployment compensation, Food Stamps, agricultural assistance and federal employee life and health insurance.

State government direct general spending per capita in Nebraska in 2009-2010 was slightly above the United States average. Nebraska ranked 33rd in the nation and 6th out of the nine states in the region. By this measure, state spending went up by only 0.2%, and Nebraska fell six spots in the national ranking. For the functions of education, environment and housing, and transportation, state spending

was higher than the national average. Nebraska spending was lower than the average for public safety, social services and income maintenance, and government administration.

Local government direct general spending per capita in Nebraska is below the national average. Nebraska ranks 6th out of the nine states in the region. Nebraska was lower than the national average for all functions with the exception of education, transportation, and utilities.

State general revenue per capita is 6.0% below the national average and ranks 33rd in the nation and 6th out of nine in the region. This is a drop in the state's relative position since 2006-2007. Local general revenue ranks 9th, and is 9.1% above the national average. Total state tax revenue is below the national average, as are all categories of general revenue other than state individual income tax and the miscellaneous category. The local property tax is 7.2% above average, local motor vehicle license taxes are eight times the national average, and local selective sales taxes are slightly above the national average. Local tax collections are low for general sales taxes, and zero for local income taxes. Local charges are 13.0% higher than average and local utility revenues are more than four times the national average.

Nebraska is very low in state debt outstanding per capita (49th in the nation and the lowest in the region), and high in local debt outstanding (11th in the nation and 4th in the region).

Units of Government

Number of Local Government Units by Type, Nebraska: 2007 and 2012

	2007		2012	
	Nebraska	National Ranking	Nebraska	National Ranking
Total	2,659	14	2,581	15
County	93	10	93	10
Municipal	530	16	530	16
Town or township	454	13	419	13
Special districts	1,294	8	1,267	8
School districts	288	19	272	19

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2007 and 2012 Census of Governments, Lists and Structure of Government; prepared by UNO Center for Public Affairs Research, October 2012

Number of Local Government Units, Regional Comparison: 2012

	Number of Units per 100,000 Population	National Rank
United States	28.56	
North Dakota	389.80	1
South Dakota	240.15	2
Nebraska	140.07	3
Wyoming	139.93	4
Kansas	132.56	5
Minnesota	67.97	9
Iowa	63.32	11
Missouri	62.42	12
Colorado	55.07	13

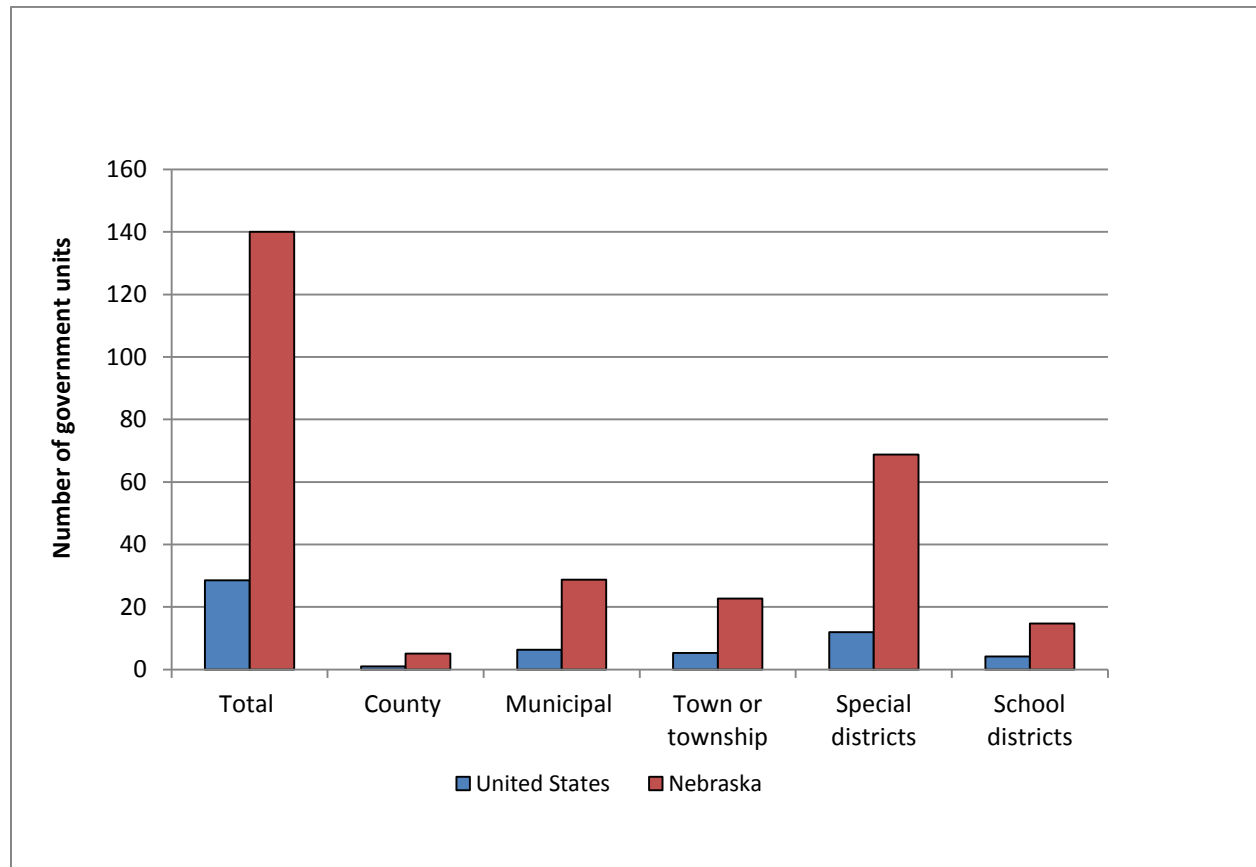
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2012 Census of Governments, Lists and Structure of Government; prepared by UNO Center for Public Affairs Research, October 2012

Number of Local Government Units by Type, Nebraska and the United States: 2012

Type of Government Unit	Number of Units per 100,000 Population	
	United States	Nebraska
Total	28.56	140.07
County	0.97	5.05
Municipal	6.27	28.76
Town or township	5.25	22.74
Special districts	11.94	68.76
School districts	4.13	14.76

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2012 Census of Governments, Lists and Structure of Government; prepared by UNO Center for Public Affairs Research, October 2012

Number of Local Government Units per 100,000 Population by Type, Nebraska and the United States: 2012



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2012 Census of Governments, Lists and Structure of Government; prepared by UNO Center for Public Affairs Research, October 2012

Employment and Payroll

State Government Employment, Regional Comparison: 2011

	Employment FTE per 10,000 Population	National Rank
United States	139.91	
North Dakota	271.84	4
Wyoming	236.13	5
South Dakota	175.44	19
Nebraska	174.02	20
Iowa	164.51	25
Kansas	151.69	29
Minnesota	149.06	30
Missouri	145.34	34
Colorado	140.93	35

Note: Note that the data released in this table do not meet all of the criteria outlined in the Census Bureau Standard: Quality Requirements for Releasing Data Products. Some of the key Total Quantity Response Rates fall below the Census Bureau's 70 percent standard.

See http://www2.census.gov/govs/apes/10_methodology.pdf for a detailed description of the specific quality issues and information about the impact on the data.

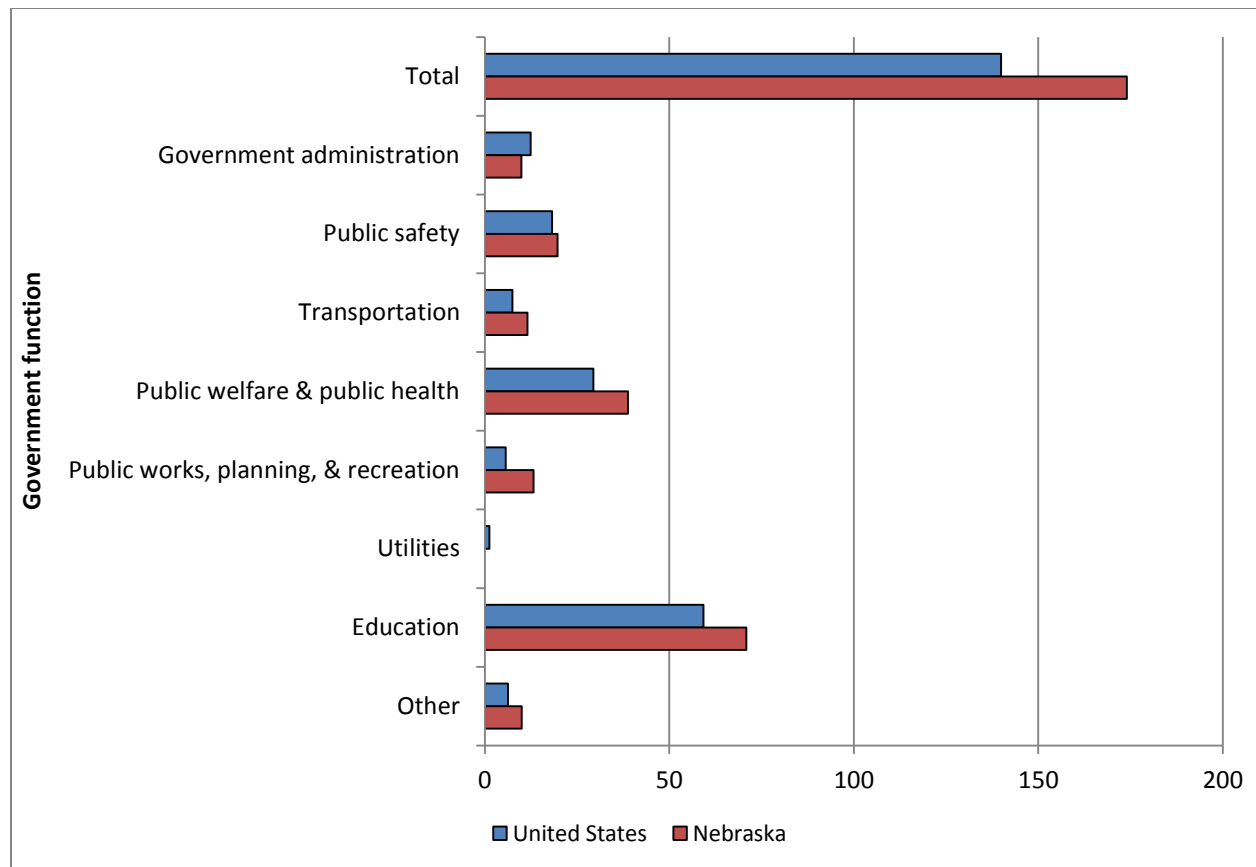
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Government Employment and Payroll; prepared by UNO Center for Public Affairs Research, October 2012

State Government Employment by Function, Nebraska and the United States: 2011

Government Function	Employment FTE per 10,000 Population	
	United States	Nebraska
Total	139.91	174.02
Government administration	12.43	9.92
Public safety	18.20	19.69
Transportation	7.47	11.58
Public welfare & public health	29.38	38.77
Public works, planning, & recreation	5.63	13.19
Utilities	1.21	0.00
Education	59.29	70.87
Other	6.29	10.01

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Government Employment and Payroll; prepared by UNO Center for Public Affairs Research, October 2012

State Government Employment by Function, Nebraska and the United States: 2011



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2011; prepared by UNO Center for Public Affairs Research, October 2012

State Government Payroll, Regional Comparison: March 2011

	Monthly Payroll per FTE	National Rank
United States	\$4,581.35	
Iowa	\$5,178.17	6
Minnesota	\$5,140.51	8
Colorado	\$4,921.15	12
Wyoming	\$4,189.47	26
Kansas	\$4,095.45	30
North Dakota	\$4,080.97	31
South Dakota	\$3,805.73	43
Nebraska	\$3,803.99	44
Missouri	\$3,434.28	50

Note: Note that the data released in this table do not meet all of the criteria outlined in the Census Bureau Standard: Quality Requirements for Releasing Data Products. Some of the key Total Quantity Response Rates fall below the Census Bureau's 70 percent standard.

See http://www2.census.gov/govs/apes/10_methodology.pdf for a detailed description of the specific quality issues and information about the impact on the data.

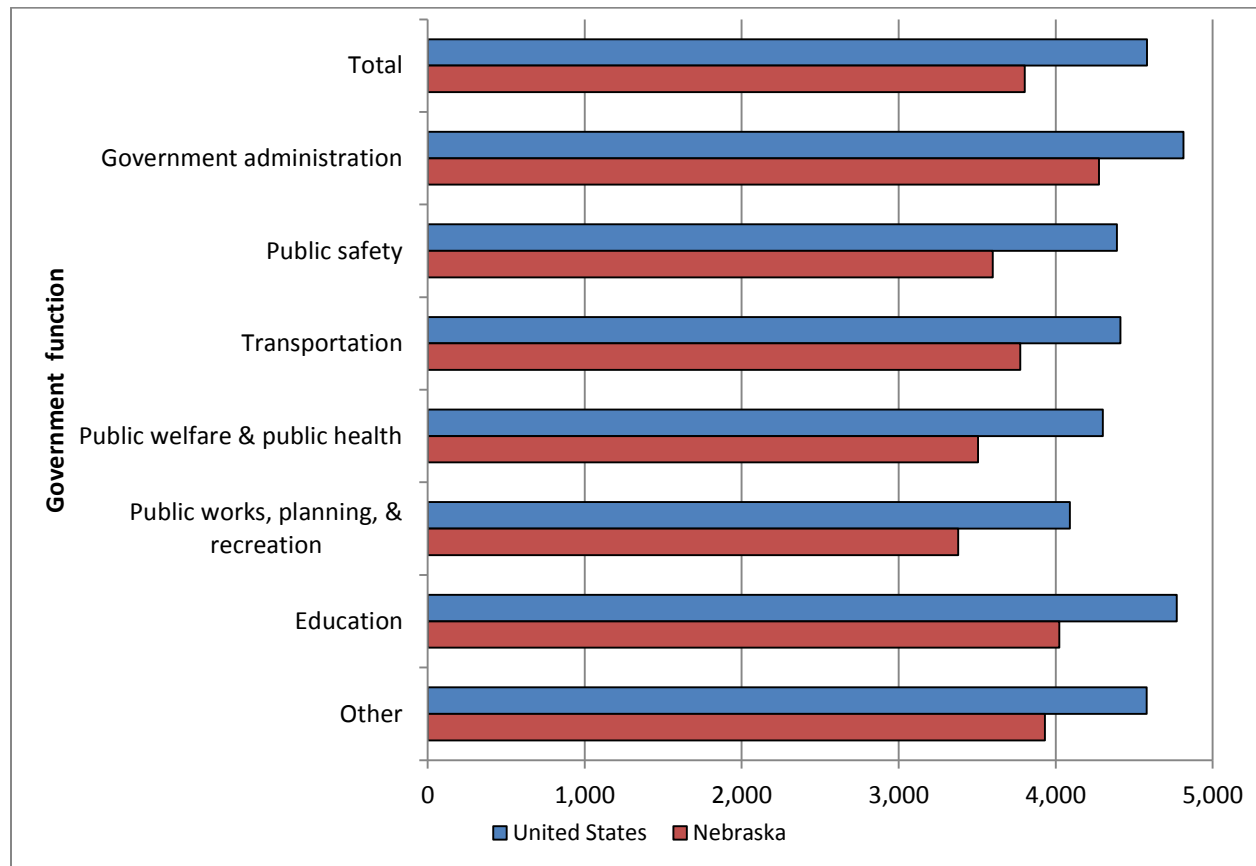
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Government Employment and Payroll; prepared by UNO Center for Public Affairs Research, October 2012

State Government Payroll by Function, Nebraska and the United States: March 2011

Government Function	Monthly Payroll Per FTE	
	United States	Nebraska
Total	\$4,581.35	\$3,803.99
Government administration	\$4,814.14	\$4,277.10
Public safety	\$4,391.15	\$3,598.40
Transportation	\$4,412.25	\$3,774.28
Public welfare & public health	\$4,300.81	\$3,505.31
Public works, planning, & recreation	\$4,090.18	\$3,379.66
Utilities	\$5,887.07	\$0.00
Education	\$4,771.40	\$4,024.00
Other	\$4,580.65	\$3,931.91

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Government Employment and Payroll; prepared by UNO Center for Public Affairs Research, October 2012

State Government Payroll by Function, Nebraska and the United States: March 2011



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2010; prepared by UNO Center for Public Affairs Research, October 2012

Local Government Employment, Regional Comparison: 2011

	Employment FTE per 10,000 Population	National Rank
United States	385.09	
Wyoming	691.99	1
Kansas	533.89	3
Nebraska	482.51	4
Iowa	414.36	11
Colorado	387.06	20
North Dakota	386.81	22
Missouri	382.57	25
South Dakota	380.95	26
Minnesota	369.53	34

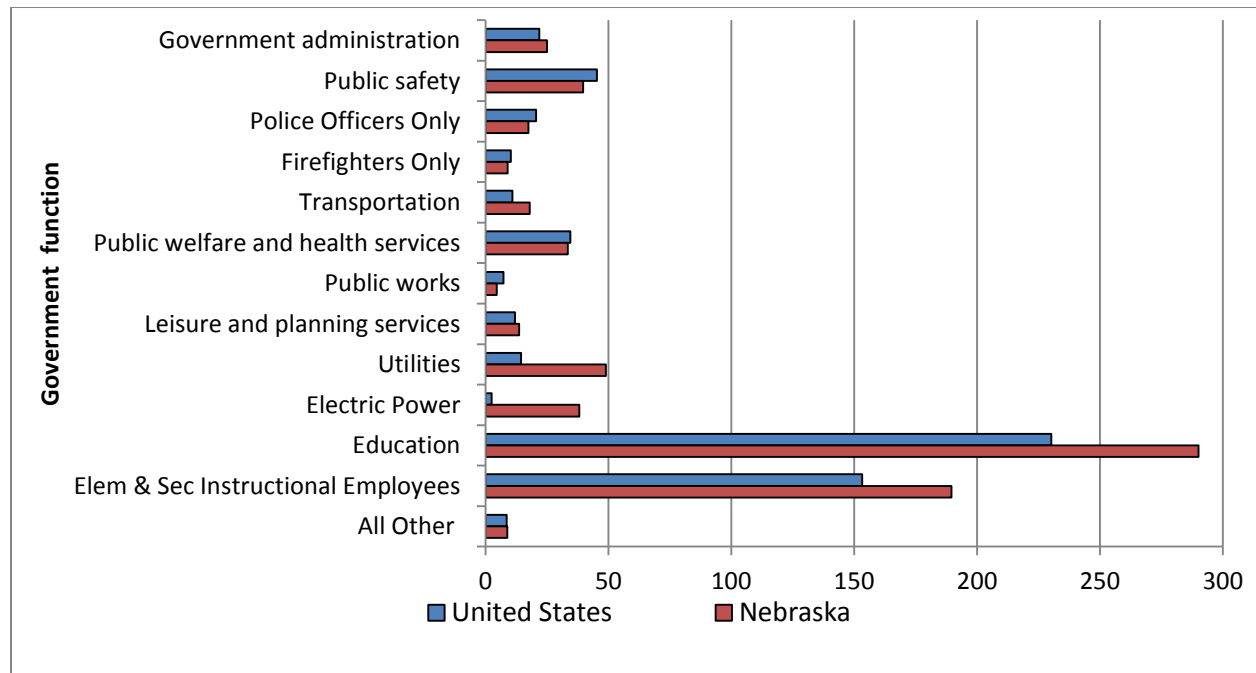
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Government Employment and Payroll; prepared by UNO Center for Public Affairs Research, October 2012

Local Government Employment by Function, Nebraska and United States: March 2011

Government Function	Employment FTE per 10,000 Population	
	United States	Nebraska
Government administration	21.95	25.04
Public safety	45.36	39.80
Police Officers Only	20.62	17.52
Firefighters Only	10.32	9.04
Transportation	10.92	18.01
Public welfare and health services	34.59	33.49
Public works	7.31	4.57
Leisure and planning services	12.06	13.73
Utilities	14.48	48.99
Electric power	2.45	38.14
Education	230.27	290.12
Elem & sec instructional employees	153.32	189.65
All Other	8.61	8.93
Total	385.09	482.51

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Government Employment and Payroll; prepared by UNO Center for Public Affairs Research, October 2012

Local Government Employment by Function, Nebraska and the United States: March 2011



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2011; prepared by UNO Center for Public Affairs Research, October 2012

Local Government Payroll, Regional Comparison: March 2011

	Monthly Payroll per FTE	National Rank
United States	\$4,200.81	
Minnesota	\$4,253.84	17
Colorado	\$4,100.19	20
Wyoming	\$3,896.30	24
Nebraska	\$3,846.82	25
Iowa	\$3,701.89	27
Missouri	\$3,482.57	33
North Dakota	\$3,454.07	34
Kansas	\$3,319.52	40
South Dakota	\$3,034.21	48

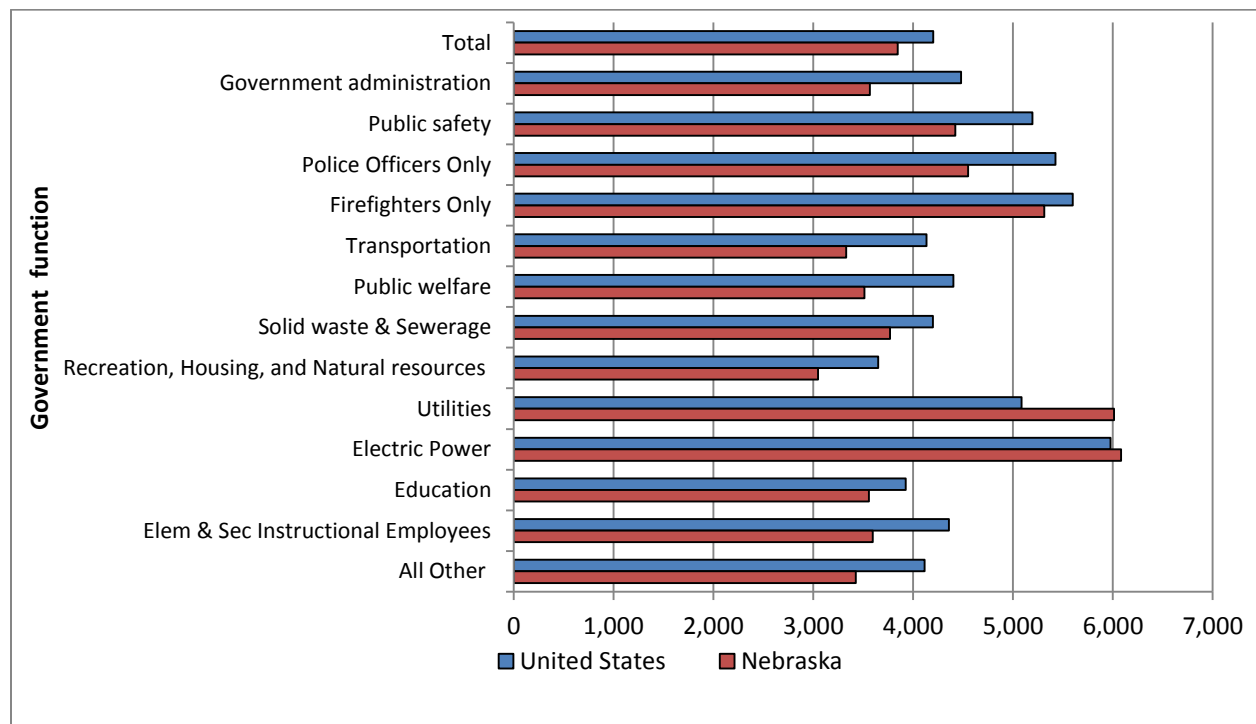
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Government Employment and Payroll; prepared by UNO Center for Public Affairs Research, October 2012

Local Government Payroll by Function, Nebraska and the United States: March 2011

Government Function	Monthly Payroll Per FTE	
	United States	Nebraska
Total	\$4,200.81	\$3,846.82
Government administration	\$4,481.51	\$3,566.70
Public safety	\$5,196.73	\$4,424.38
Police Officers only	\$5,426.51	\$4,550.44
Firefighters only	\$5,600.48	\$5,313.53
Transportation	\$4,134.42	\$3,328.59
Public welfare	\$4,402.58	\$3,513.68
Solid waste & sewerage	\$4,198.56	\$3,768.91
Recreation, housing, and natural resources	\$3,650.29	\$3,048.07
Utilities	\$5,087.01	\$6,013.86
Electric power	\$5,977.46	\$6,082.45
Education	\$3,926.56	\$3,557.84
Elem & secondary instructional employees	\$4,358.20	\$3,596.48
All other	\$4,116.73	\$3,426.60

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Government Employment and Payroll; prepared by UNO Center for Public Affairs Research, October 2012

Local Government Payroll by Function, Nebraska and the United States: March 2011



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2011; prepared by UNO Center for Public Affairs Research, October 2012

Federal Government Expenditures

Federal Government Expenditures Per Capita, Regional Comparison: FY 2010

	Federal Expenditures Per Capita	Regional Rank
United States	\$10,601.56	
North Dakota	\$13,301.15	1
Missouri	\$11,701.77	2
South Dakota	\$11,592.81	3
Wyoming	\$11,341.45	4
Kansas	\$10,223.43	5
Colorado	\$9,751.52	6
Iowa	\$9,387.44	7
Nebraska	\$9,128.30	8
Minnesota	\$8,387.95	9

* Due to the termination of the Federal Financial Statistics program, the Consolidated Federal Funds Report is no longer available and cannot be updated.

Sources: Consolidated Federal Funds Report* (FY 2010) and U.S. Bureau, 2000 Population Estimates; prepared by UNO Center for Public Affairs Research, November 2011

Federal Government Expenditures Per Capita, Nebraska and the United States: FY 2010

Type of Expenditure	Federal Expenditures Per Capita		
	United States	Nebraska	Nebraska as a Percentage of the United States
Total	\$10,601.56	\$9,128.30	86.1%
Retirement and disability	\$2,960.17	\$3,013.13	101.8%
Other direct payments	\$2,648.66	\$2,472.57	93.4%
Grants	\$2,211.16	\$1,936.42	87.6%
Procurement	\$1,671.94	\$721.67	43.2%
Salaries and wages	\$1,109.63	\$984.50	88.7%

* Due to the termination of the Federal Financial Statistics program, the Consolidated Federal Funds Report is no longer available and cannot be updated.

Sources: Consolidated Federal Funds Report* (FY 2010) and U.S. Bureau, 2000 Population Estimates; prepared by UNO Center for Public Affairs Research, November 2011

Expenditures, Revenues and Debt

State Government Expenditures Per Capita, Regional Comparison: 2009-2010

	State Expenditures Per Capita	National Rank
United States	\$3,581.88	
Wyoming	\$5,660.52	5
North Dakota	\$5,103.27	7
Minnesota	\$3,994.60	21
South Dakota	\$3,981.26	22
Iowa	\$3,861.41	27
Nebraska	\$3,619.03	33
Kansas	\$3,497.06	34
Missouri	\$3,265.18	38
Colorado	\$2,900.28	47

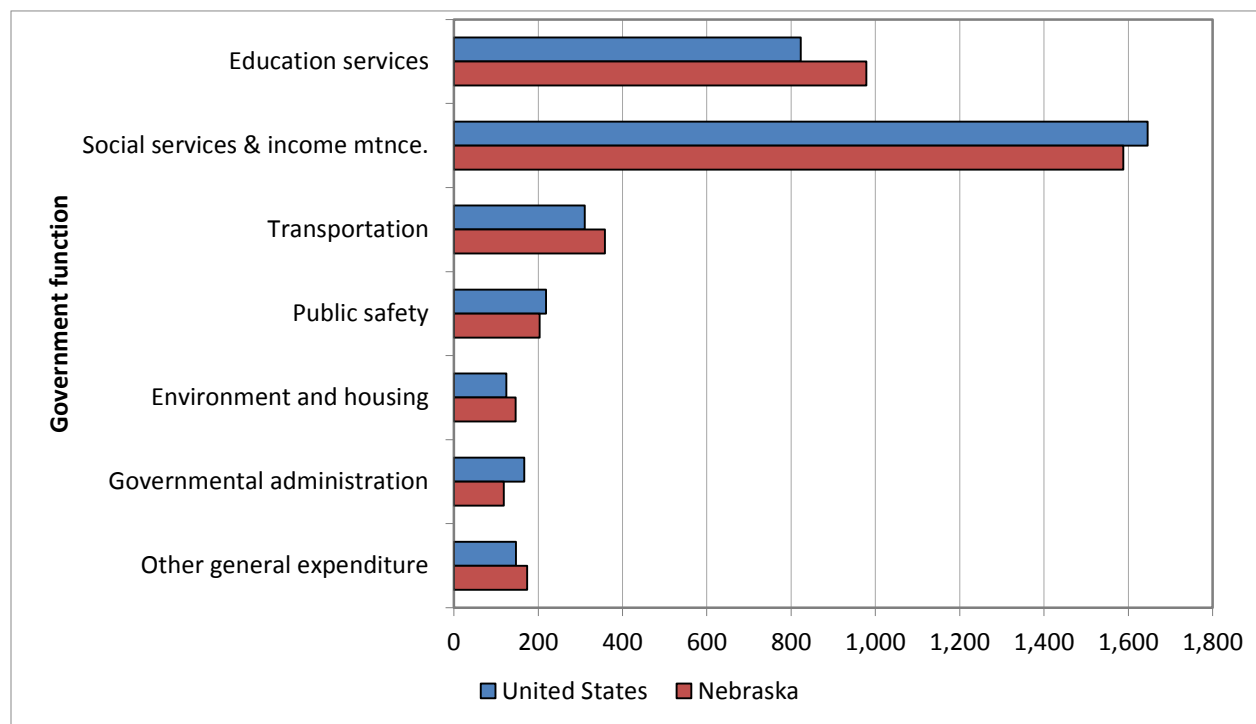
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Government Finance Statistics; prepared by UNO Center for Public Affairs Research, October 2012

State Government Expenditures Per Capita by Function, Nebraska and the United States: 2009-2010

Government Function	State Expenditures Per Capita		
	United States	Nebraska	Nebraska as a Percentage of United States
Direct general expenditure	\$3,581.88	\$3,619.03	101.04%
Education services	\$822.78	\$978.48	118.92%
Social services and income maintenance	\$1,645.51	\$1,588.04	96.51%
Transportation	\$310.58	\$358.14	115.31%
Public safety	\$218.18	\$203.01	93.05%
Environment and housing	\$124.10	\$146.45	118.01%
Governmental administration	\$166.91	\$118.05	70.73%
Other General expenditure, n.e.c.	\$147.37	\$173.68	117.85%
Utility expenditure	\$75.99	\$0.00	0.00%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Government Finance Statistics; prepared by UNO Center for Public Affairs Research, October 2012

State Government Expenditures Per Capita by Function, Nebraska and the United States: 2009-2010



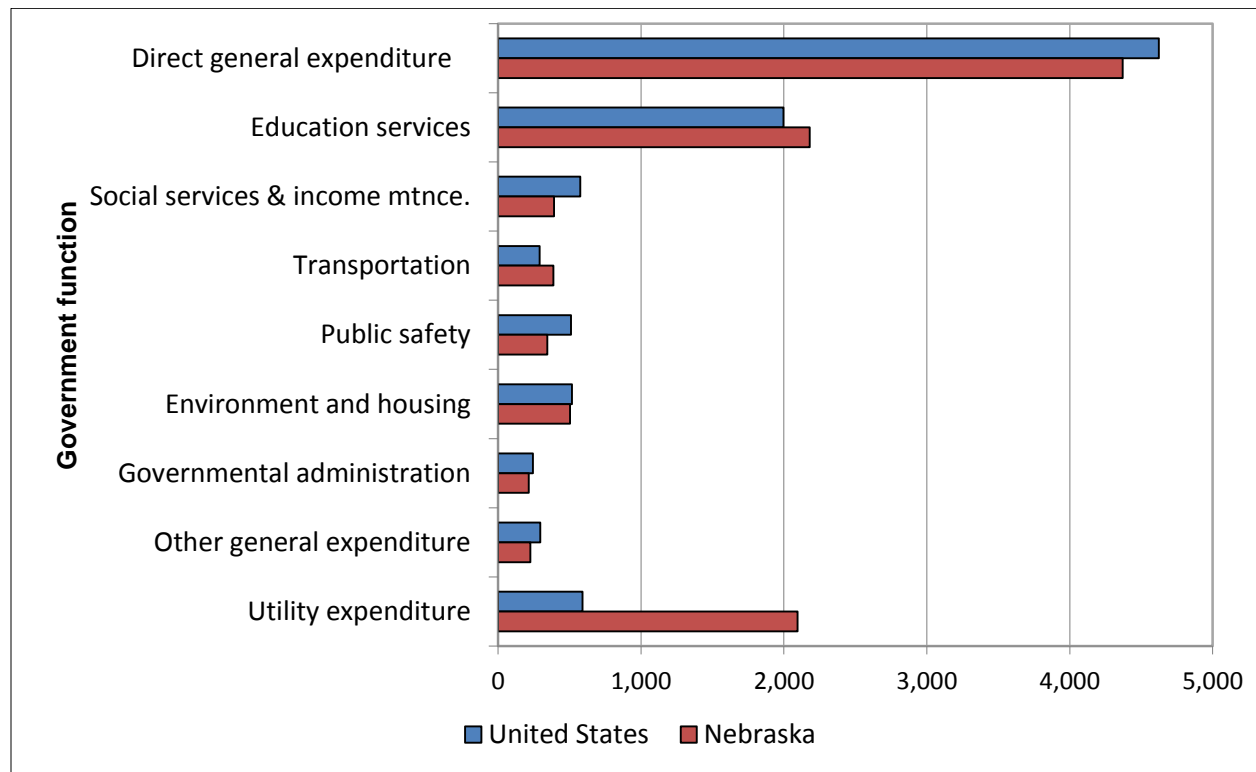
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Government Finance Statistics; prepared by UNO Center for Public Affairs Research, October 2012

Local Government Expenditures Per Capita by Function, Nebraska and the United States: 2009-2010

Government Function	United States	Nebraska	Nebraska as a Percentage of United States
Direct general expenditure	\$4,623.31	\$4,370.02	94.52%
Education services	\$1,996.17	\$2,180.81	109.25%
Social services and income maintenance	\$575.45	\$391.56	68.04%
Transportation	\$290.74	\$386.60	132.97%
Public safety	\$510.31	\$343.87	67.38%
Environment and housing	\$517.75	\$503.34	97.22%
Governmental administration	\$243.16	\$214.47	88.20%
Other general expenditure, n.e.c.	\$294.39	\$225.20	76.50%
Utility expenditure	\$590.56	\$2,096.13	354.94%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Government Finance Statistics; prepared by UNO Center for Public Affairs Research, October 2012

Local Government Expenditures Per Capita by Function, Nebraska and the United States: 2009-2010



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2010; prepared by UNO Center for Public Affairs Research, October 2012

Local Government Expenditures Per Capita, Regional Comparison: 2009-2010

	Local Expenditures Per Capita	National Rank
United States	\$4,623.31	
Wyoming	\$7,804.98	2
Colorado	\$5,093.73	7
Minnesota	\$4,853.44	8
Iowa	\$4,528.31	12
Kansas	\$4,522.71	13
Nebraska	\$4,370.02	18
North Dakota	\$3,796.66	32
Missouri	\$3,710.31	36
South Dakota	\$3,399.42	40

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Government Finance Statistics; prepared by UNO Center for Public Affairs Research, October 2012

State and Local Revenues Per Capita by Function, Nebraska and the United States: 2009-2010

Revenue Source	State Government Revenues Per Capita			Local Government Revenues Per Capita		
	United States	Nebraska	Nebraska as a Percentage of United States	United States	Nebraska	Nebraska as a Percentage of United States
General revenue from own sources	\$3,189.72	\$2,990.59	93.76%	\$2,882.51	\$3,145.18	109.11%
Taxes	\$2,266.20	\$2,081.41	91.85%	\$1,838.31	\$1,945.11	105.81%
Property	\$47.02	\$0.64	1.36%	\$1,380.78	\$1,479.60	107.16%
Sales/gross receipts	\$1,105.98	\$1,037.02	93.76%	\$287.92	\$249.24	86.57%
General sales	\$719.47	\$713.99	99.24%	\$201.59	\$160.18	79.46%
Selective sales	\$386.51	\$323.03	83.58%	\$86.34	\$89.05	103.14%
Individual income	\$762.92	\$827.71	108.49%	\$78.70	\$0.00	0.00%
Corporate income	\$118.77	\$84.33	71.00%	\$19.79	\$0.00	0.00%
Motor vehicle lic.	\$67.47	\$43.43	64.37%	\$5.26	\$46.53	884.60%
Other taxes	\$164.04	\$88.27	53.81%	\$65.86	\$169.74	257.73%
Current charges	\$548.91	\$534.31	97.34%	\$775.17	\$878.32	113.31%
Misc. general rev.	\$374.60	\$374.87	100.07%	\$269.03	\$321.75	119.60%
Utility revenue	\$48.88	\$0.00	0.00%	\$422.15	\$1,976.22	468.13%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Government Finance Statistics; prepared by UNO Center for Public Affairs Research, October 2012

State General Revenues Per Capita, Regional Comparison: 2009-2010

	State General Revenues Per Capita	National Rank
United States	\$3,189.72	
Wyoming	\$5,542.90	3
North Dakota	\$5,444.95	5
Minnesota	\$4,036.70	11
Iowa	\$3,399.80	22
Kansas	\$3,354.52	24
Nebraska	\$2,990.59	33
South Dakota	\$2,690.50	40
Colorado	\$2,686.35	41
Missouri	\$2,386.43	46

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Government Finance Statistics; prepared by UNO Center for Public Affairs Research, October 2012

Local General Revenues Per Capita, Regional Comparison: 2009-2010

	Local General Revenues Per Capita	National Rank
United States	\$2,882.51	
Wyoming	\$4,816.03	3
Colorado	\$3,691.59	5
Nebraska	\$3,145.18	9
Kansas	\$2,911.26	12
Iowa	\$2,832.21	14
Minnesota	\$2,646.86	20
Missouri	\$2,408.72	31
South Dakota	\$2,246.92	35
North Dakota	\$2,064.41	40

Note: This table does not include the revenue of public utilities.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Government Finance Statistics; prepared by UNO Center for Public Affairs Research, October 2012

State Debt Outstanding Per Capita, Regional Comparison: 2009-2010

	State Debt Outstanding Per Capita	National Rank
United States	\$3,605.82	
South Dakota	\$4,265.43	14
Missouri	\$3,405.97	25
Colorado	\$3,310.33	28
North Dakota	\$3,258.51	29
Wyoming	\$2,682.40	32
Kansas	\$2,265.79	37
Minnesota	\$2,199.89	38
Iowa	\$1,685.26	44
Nebraska	\$1,273.28	49

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Government Finance Statistics; prepared by UNO Center for Public Affairs Research, October 2012

Local Debt Outstanding Per Capita, Regional Comparison: 2009-2010

	Local Debt Outstanding Per Capita	National Rank
United States	\$5,547.04	
Kansas	\$7,851.17	5
Colorado	\$6,739.27	7
Minnesota	\$6,342.46	9
Nebraska	\$6,306.59	11
Missouri	\$4,019.83	25
North Dakota	\$3,364.33	35
Iowa	\$3,216.42	37
South Dakota	\$2,426.92	43
Wyoming	\$1,693.14	49

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Government Finance Statistics; prepared by UNO Center for Public Affairs Research, October 2012

Nebraska's Legislative Planning Database - Telecommunications

Introduction

This benchmark examines Nebraska's telecommunications by reviewing three broad areas: telephone/cell phone penetration; internet access; and sustainability of statewide services. The most currently available data at the time the data files were put together are used.

Telephone/Cell Phone Penetration

Almost all of the nation's households have access to telephone service (land line or cell phone) and the differences among states are relatively small. In 2011, Nebraska ranked 13th nationally and 2nd among its neighbors in telephone service. In 2011, 97.8% of Nebraska households had telephone service. This was slightly above the national rate of 97.4%.

The majority of Nebraskans have a cell phone. As of June 2011, there were 1.54 million cell phone subscribers in Nebraska. This was a 1.3% increase since December of 2010 and the 28th largest increase in the United States.

Internet Access

In 2011, 83.6% of Nebraska households had access to high speed internet service, 6th highest in the region. However, the average download speed ranked 16th in 2010, but this was a considerable improvement from 2008.

Sustainability of Statewide Services

There was a total of \$42.5 million spent from the Nebraska Universal Service Fund in 2010.

Telephone/Cell Phone Penetration

Telephone Penetration, Regional Comparison: 2011

	Percentage of Households with Telephone Service	National Rank
United States	97.4%	
North Dakota	98.1%	7
Minnesota	98.0%	9
Nebraska	97.8%	13
Wyoming	97.8%	14
Kansas	97.6%	19
Colorado	97.5%	23
South Dakota	97.3%	28
Missouri	97.3%	29
Iowa	96.9%	41

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2011 American Community Survey; prepared by UNO Center for Public Affairs Research, December 2012

Cell Phone Penetration, Regional Comparison: December 2010 - June 2011

	Subscribers		Percentage Change	National Rank of Percentage Change
	December 2010	June 2011		
United States	285,124,999	290,303,614	1.8%	
Missouri	5,308,669	5,457,641	2.8%	8
Minnesota	4,703,959	4,782,469	1.7%	21
Nebraska	1,522,737	1,542,264	1.3%	28
Iowa	2,535,011	2,559,382	1.0%	31
Colorado	4,687,224	4,705,032	0.4%	38
Kansas	2,560,429	2,569,941	0.4%	39
North Dakota	623,061	615,480	-1.2%	45
Wyoming	526,273	514,445	-2.2%	47
South Dakota	728,440	689,509	-5.3%	51

Source: Federal Communications Commission, Wireline Competition Bureau, (<http://transition.fcc.gov/wcb/iatd/compt.html>); prepared by UNO Center for Public Affairs Research, December 2012

Internet Access

Percentage of Residential End User Premises with Access to High-Speed Services*, Regional Comparison: 2011

	Percent with Access
South Dakota	89.5%
Wyoming	89.1%
North Dakota	87.5%
Iowa	86.0%
Colorado	83.6%
Nebraska	83.6%
Minnesota	81.3%
Missouri	80.6%
Kansas	76.1%

*Connections over 200 kbps in at least one direction.

Source: Federal Communications Commission, Wireline Competition Bureau, (<http://transition.fcc.gov/wcb/iatd/comp.html>); prepared by UNO Center for Public Affairs Research, December 2012

Speed of High-Speed Services for Internet Access, Regional Comparison: 2010

	Number of Tests	Median Download Speed (kbps)	Median Upload Speed (kbps)	Download Speed National Rank
United States	375,627	3,002	595	n.a.
Colorado	4,557	4,413	750	21
Iowa	2,849	3,800	734	28
Kansas	2,936	5,283	969	9
Minnesota	4,311	3,244	735	32
Missouri	6,301	3,028	605	36
Nebraska	1,245	4,734	680	16
North Dakota	421	3,088	698	34
South Dakota	654	4,010	814	24
Wyoming	588	1,463	477	49

Source: Speed Matters Survey, Communications Workers of America, (http://cwa.3cdn.net/25239e0340bb2a2021_v9m6bzig1t.pdf); prepared by UNO Center for Public Affairs Research, November 2011

Sustainability of Statewide Services

Nebraska Universal Service Fund Expenditures: 2010

	Total Expenditures
Arapahoe	\$840,711
Benkelman	\$469,761
Cambridge	\$342,762
CenturyLink	\$102,324
Citizens	\$3,185,563
Clarks	\$276,695
Cons Telco	\$-
Cons Tele	\$441,597
Cons Telecom	\$334,819
Cozad	\$69,326
Curtis	\$341,490
Dalton	\$-
Diller	\$357,983
Elsie	\$-
Glenwood	\$957,681
Great Plains	\$11,625,400
Hamilton	\$-
Hartington	\$161,573
Hartman	\$76,301
Hemingford	\$617,943
Hershey	\$121,454
Hooper	\$-
Huntel	\$903,599
K&M	\$174,913
Keystone	\$238,104
Mainstay	\$206,252
Neb Central	\$1,885,229
Northeast	\$2,175,509
Pierce	\$117,310
Plainview	\$245,416
Qwest	\$14,401,147
Sodtown	\$-
Southeast	\$505,382
Stanton	\$206,610
Three River	\$838,258
Wauneta	\$278,889
Windstream	\$-
Total	\$42,500,000

Source: Nebraska Public Service Commission, NUSF-50 Model; prepared by UNO Center for Public Affairs Research, December 2012

Nebraska's Legislative Planning Database - Transportation

Introduction

This benchmark examines Nebraska's transportation by reviewing four broad areas: transportation infrastructure, accidents, transportation access, and transportation funding. The most currently available data at the time the data files were put together are used. Additional information can be found from the Nebraska Department of Roads' website (<http://www.dor.state.ne.us>) and the Nebraska Department of Motor Vehicles' web site (<http://www.dms.state.ne.us>).

Transportation Infrastructure

One aspect of the transportation infrastructure is the smoothness of its highways. Using a national standard, 99% of Nebraska's Interstate highways were rated smooth, as were 90% of its non-interstate system state roads in 2011. The smoothness of interstate highways has held steady at 99% since 2008. Non-interstate roads rated as smooth fluctuated between 90% and 91% of the total since 2006.

For all state roads, District 2 (Dodge, Washington, Douglas, Cass [partial] and Sarpy counties) had the most roads rated as poor or very poor (13%) while District 1 (Butler, Seward, Saline, Jefferson, Saunders, Lancaster, Gage, Cass [partial], Otoe, Pawnee, Johnson, Nemaha and Richardson counties) had the highest percentage ranked good or very good (84%).

Using a measure developed by the Reason Foundation, the cost-effectiveness of Nebraska's state highway system ranked 5th in the nation in 2008, a steady improvement in its ranking since 2005. North Dakota, Kansas, Wyoming, and Missouri also ranked among the top ten state highway systems.

The Federal Highway Administration reported that of the 15,395 bridges in Nebraska, 24.2% were rated as deficient in 2011, slightly higher than the national average. The state ranked 6th lowest out of nine in the region. Compared to the nation, a much higher portion of Nebraska's deficient bridges were structurally deficient rather than those that were functionally obsolete.

Accidents

The number of railroad accidents in Nebraska in 2010 is high but continues to decrease. Nebraska's 230 railroad accidents in 2010 ranked 15th nationally, and 2nd in the region. However, this was down from 311 in 2008, a 26% drop.

In 2009, Nebraska recorded 1.09 traffic fatalities per 100 million vehicle miles traveled, unchanged from 2008. This was below the national average of 1.25 traffic fatalities and was 2nd lowest in the region, behind Minnesota.

Transportation Access

Very few residents of Nebraska or its neighboring states took public transportation to work. In 2011, this amounted to 0.71% of all commuters and ranked 42nd nationally. North Dakota and Kansas recorded lower rates than Nebraska; all the others in the region are higher.

In Nebraska, 81.4% drove to work alone, 9.8% carpoolled, 2.8% walked, 1.2% travelled by other means (such as taxi, motorcycle or bicycle) and 4.3% worked at home. The percentage of people driving alone increased, and the percentage carpooling and walking decreased from 2009 to 2011.

Average commuting time in Nebraska is 18.4 minutes, the 4th lowest in the nation behind North Dakota, South Dakota and Wyoming. However the commute time in Nebraska is up 2.8% from 2009.

Another measure of transportation access is airline passenger boarding. In 2011, there were 2.28 million passenger boardings in Nebraska, a decrease of 1.4%. The vast majority (89.8%) was from Eppley Airfield (the 62nd busiest airport in the United States), and 5.5 percent was from Lincoln Airport (207th busiest in the United States). Traffic at Omaha was down 2.4%; in Lincoln it dropped 5.3%. Traffic in Grand Island has increased from 7,961 enplanements in 2008 to 47,167 in 2011 and it is now the 3rd busiest airport in Nebraska. Aurora has also seen rapid growth and it is now the 4th busiest airport in the state, followed by Kearney and North Platte which are both also growing rapidly.

Transportation Funding

Nebraska spent relatively more for highways than the rest of the nation. In 2009-2010 local highway spending was \$320 per capita, a 5.7% increase, to put the state ranking at 8th in the nation. Nebraska is more than 58% above the national average in local highway spending; all other states in the region but Missouri are also high by this measure. At the state level, Nebraska spent \$356 per capita, an 8.3% decrease from last year, but that followed a 19.2% increase in the previous year. Compared to the nation, state highway spending in Nebraska is 18% above the national average and 21st in the nation. In the region, state and local spending on highways is more than the national average for every state except for Colorado.

Transportation Infrastructure

Road Smoothness, Nebraska: 2002-2011

	Percentage of Miles Meeting or Exceeding Acceptable Ride Quality IRIs		
	Interstate System (482 miles)	Non-interstate System (9,431 miles)	Total Highway System* (9,913 miles)
2002	94%	84%	84%
2003	92%	84%	84%
2004	92%	85%	85%
2005	95%	86%	87%
2006	96%	90%	91%
2007	97%	90%	91%
2008**	99%	91%	92%
2009	99%	91%	91%
2010	99%	90%	91%
2011	99%	90%	90%

Note: International Roughness Index (IRI) is a measure of the smoothness of roads. It measures pavement roughness in terms of the number of inches per mile, of millimeters per meter.

*Excludes 38 miles of gravel roads which were not measured for smoothness as of December 31, 2011.

**Formulas used to track condition were refined in 2008.

Source: Material & Research Division's Integrated Highway Inventory (IHI) database. Retrieved from Performance Measures: A performance based transportation agency, Nebraska Department of Roads (October 2012); prepared by UNO Center for Public Affairs Research, October 2012

Pavement Condition of Entire Highway System, Nebraska: 2011

District	Percent of miles				
	Very Good Condition	Good Condition	Fair Condition	Poor Condition	Very Poor Condition
1	37%	47%	13%	1%	0%
2	43%	20%	24%	12%	1%
3	28%	38%	30%	4%	0%
4	36%	45%	17%	2%	0%
5	37%	41%	19%	3%	0%
6	31%	33%	31%	5%	0%
7	30%	37%	31%	2%	0%
8	24%	53%	23%	0%	0%

Source: Performance Measures: A performance based transportation agency, NE Department of Roads (October 2012); prepared by UNO Center for Public Affairs Research, October 2012

Cost-Effectiveness Ranking of State Highway System, Regional Comparison: 2008

	National Rank
North Dakota	1
Kansas	3
Nebraska	5
Wyoming	7
Missouri	8
South Dakota	12
Minnesota	25
Iowa	31
Colorado	34

Source: 19th Annual Report on the Performance of State Highway Systems (1984-2008), Reason Foundation (<http://reason.org/news/show/19th-annual-highway-report.html>); prepared by UNO Center for Public Affairs Research, November 2011

Deficient Bridges, Regional Comparison: 2011

	Deficient Bridges	Deficient Bridges (Percent of Total)	National Rank
United States	142,779	23.8%	
Minnesota	1,461	11.1%	1
Colorado	1,380	16.1%	8
Kansas	4,594	18.2%	13
North Dakota	941	21.3%	19
Wyoming	672	21.9%	22
Nebraska	3,731	24.2%	27
South Dakota	1,453	24.4%	29
Iowa	6,619	27.0%	33
Missouri	6,720	27.7%	36

Source: Federal Highway Administration, U.S. Department of Transportation, (<http://www.fhwa.dot.gov/bridge/deficient.cfm>); prepared by UNO Center for Public Affairs Research, October 2012

Accidents

Railroad Accidents and Incidents, Regional Comparison: 2010

	Number of Accidents	Percent of United States	National Rank
United States	11,539		
Missouri	252	2.2%	12
Nebraska	230	2.0%	15
Minnesota	219	1.9%	16
Iowa	209	1.8%	17
Kansas	198	1.7%	20
Colorado	141	1.2%	31
North Dakota	110	1.0%	36
Wyoming	89	0.8%	39
South Dakota	34	0.3%	46

Source: U.S. Department of Transportation, Bureau of Transportation Statistics, State Transportation Statistics 2011; prepared by UNO Center for Public Affairs Research, October 2012

Traffic Fatality Rate per 100 Million Vehicle Miles Traveled, Regional Comparison: 2009

	Fatality Rate per 100 Million Vehicle Miles Travelled	National Rank
United States	1.25	
Minnesota	0.79	2
Nebraska	1.09	20
Colorado	1.15	22
Kansas	1.30	26
South Dakota	1.32	27
North Dakota	1.33	28
Iowa	1.34	29
Missouri	1.41	34
Wyoming	1.68	44

Source: U.S. Department of Transportation, Federal Highway Administration, (<http://www.fhwa.dot.gov/policyinformation/statistics/2008/fi30.cfm>); prepared by UNO Center for Public Affairs Research, November 2011

Transportation Access

Percentage of Commuters Traveled to Work by Public Transportation, Regional Comparison: 2011

	Percent Traveled by Public Transportation	National Rank
United States	5.03%	
Minnesota	3.45%	15
Colorado	3.11%	18
Wyoming	1.54%	27
Missouri	1.42%	29
Iowa	1.09%	34
South Dakota	0.71%	41
Nebraska	0.71%	42
North Dakota	0.39%	50
Kansas	0.37%	51

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2011 American Community Survey; prepared by UNO Center for Public Affairs Research, October 2012

Commuting to Work, Regional Comparison: 2011

	Car, truck, or van-drove alone	Car, truck, or van-carpooled	Public transportation (excluding taxicab)	Walked	Taxicab, motorcycle, bicycle or other means	Worked at home
United States	76.6%	9.7%	4.9%	2.8%	1.7%	4.3%
Colorado	75.5%	10.0%	3.0%	3.0%	2.2%	6.4%
Iowa	79.3%	9.7%	1.1%	3.6%	1.4%	4.8%
Kansas	82.1%	9.1%	0.5%	2.6%	1.2%	4.4%
Minnesota	78.2%	8.5%	3.5%	2.8%	1.6%	5.4%
Missouri	81.7%	9.3%	1.6%	2.1%	1.2%	4.2%
Nebraska	81.4%	9.8%	0.6%	2.8%	1.2%	4.3%
North Dakota	80.0%	8.6%	0.7%	3.8%	1.7%	5.2%
South Dakota	78.2%	10.0%	0.5%	4.4%	1.7%	5.2%
Wyoming	75.9%	11.1%	1.7%	4.4%	2.0%	4.9%

Source: State Transportation Statistics 2011, Research and Innovative Technology Administration (RITA), U.S. Department of Transportation (Table 4-1); prepared by UNO Center for Public Affairs Research, October 2012

Travel Time to Work, Regional Comparison: 2011

	Mean travel time to work (minutes)
United States	25.3
Colorado	24.1
Iowa	19.1
Kansas	19.1
Minnesota	22.9
Missouri	23.0
Nebraska	18.4
North Dakota	16.1
South Dakota	16.8
Wyoming	18.3

Source: State Transportation Statistics 2011, Research and Innovative Technology Administration (RITA), U.S. Department of Transportation (Table 4-1); prepared by UNO Center for Public Affairs Research, October 2012

Passenger Boardings (Enplanement), Nebraska: 2011

Rank	City	Airport Name	2011 Boardings	2010 Boardings	Percentage Change
62	Omaha	Eppley Airfield	2,047,055	2,097,958	-2.43%
207	Lincoln	Lincoln	135,647	143,230	-5.29%
272	Grand Island	Central Nebraska Regional	47,167	37,101	27.13%
391	Aurora	Aurora Municipal - Al Potter Field	11,500	81	14097.53%
397	Kearney	Kearney Regional	11,019	9,530	15.62%
401	North Platte	NP Reg Airport Lee Bird Field	10,962	8,391	30.64%
413	Scottsbluff	Western Nebraska Reg/Heilig Field	9,912	9,864	0.49%
593	Chadron	Chadron Municipal	1,980	1,769	11.93%
605	McCook	McCook Ben Nelson Regional	1,810	1,993	-9.18%
612	Alliance	Alliance Municipal	1,730	1,416	22.18%
644	Omaha	Offutt AFB	1,275	1,234	3.32%
1181	Imperial	Imperial Municipal	10	4	150.00%
1294	Beatrice	Beatrice Municipal	5	0	0.00%
1411	Fremont	Fremont Municipal	3	0	0.00%
1458	Nebraska City	Nebraska City Municipal	2	10	-80.00%
1518	Valentine	Miller Field	2	0	0.00%
	Total		2,280,079	2,312,581	-1.41%

Source: U.S. Department of Transportation, Federal Aviation Administration, (http://www.faa.gov/airports/planning_capacity/passenger_allcargo_stats/passenger/index.cfm?year=2011); prepared by UNO Center for Public Affairs Research, October 2012

Transportation Funding

Local Highway Spending Per Capita, Regional Comparison: 2009-2010

	Per Capita Highway Spending	National Rank
United States	\$202.93	
North Dakota	\$453.38	2
Minnesota	\$421.12	3
Wyoming	\$382.10	5
South Dakota	\$354.20	6
Nebraska	\$320.40	8
Iowa	\$312.41	9
Colorado	\$295.44	13
Kansas	\$244.50	16
Missouri	\$197.27	27

Source: The per capita figures are calculated based on the data from 2010 Census of Government Finance and 2010 Population Estimates, U.S. Census Bureau; prepared by UNO Center for Public Affairs Research, October 2012

State Highway Spending Per Capita, Regional Comparison: 2009-2010

	Per Capita Highway Spending	National Rank
United States	\$300.96	
Wyoming	\$966.69	2
North Dakota	\$751.62	3
South Dakota	\$602.28	6
Iowa	\$444.38	11
Nebraska	\$356.43	21
Kansas	\$354.65	22
Missouri	\$336.08	27
Minnesota	\$274.52	35
Colorado	\$200.53	49

Source: The Per Capita figures are calculated based on the data from 2010 Census of Government Finance and 2010 Population Estimates, U.S. Census Bureau; prepared by UNO Center for Public Affairs Research, November 2012

