

2023

Exploring Remote Work in Nebraska

Josie Gatti Schafer

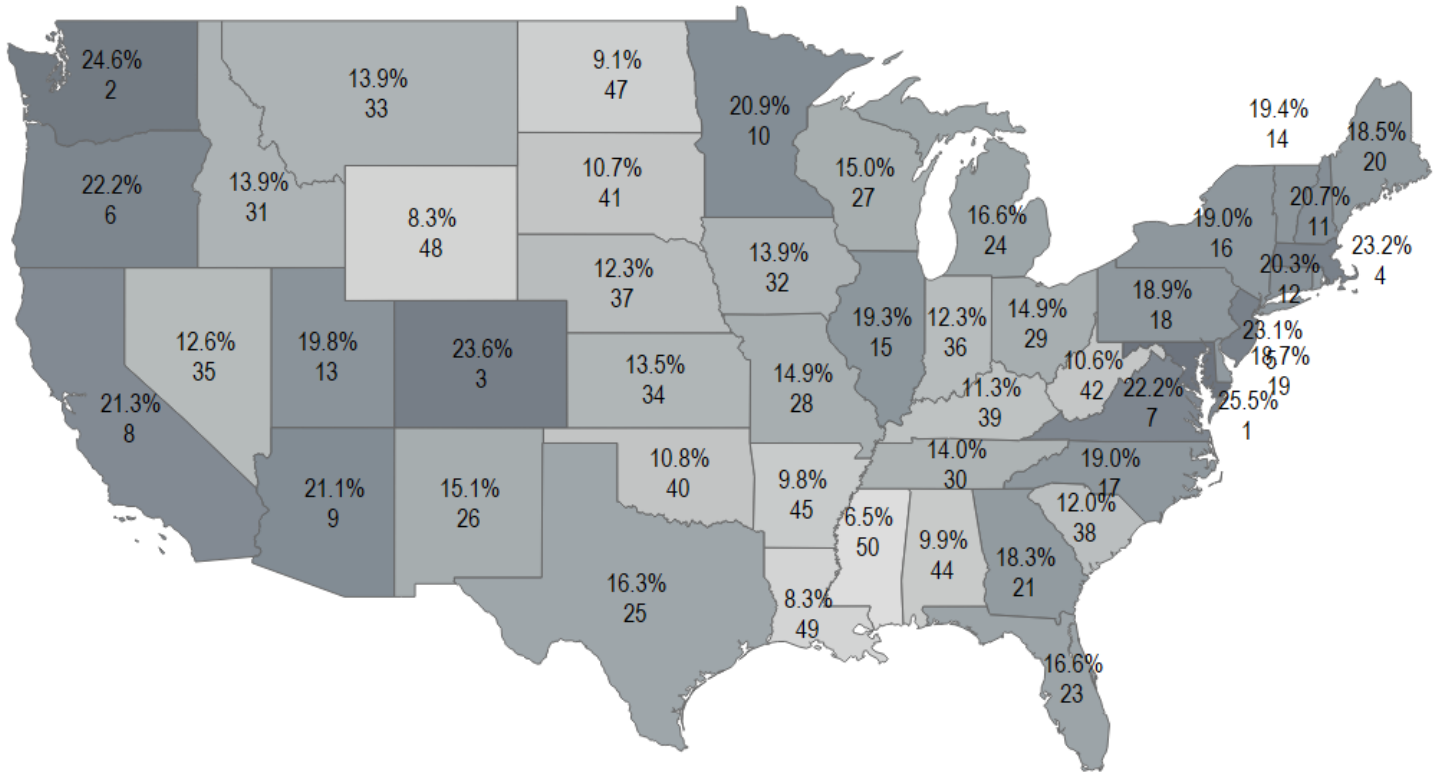
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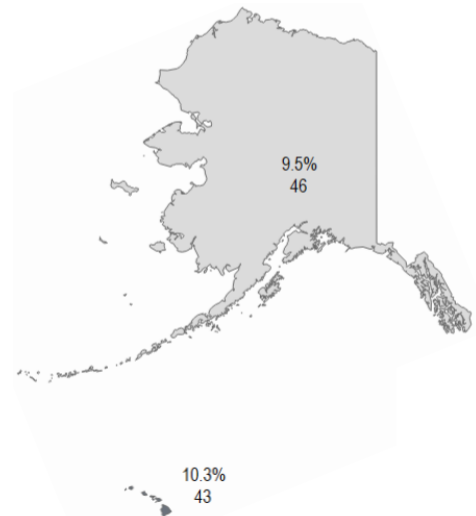
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Nebraska ranks 37th in the country for the rate of persons that “worked from home” in 2021 – 12.3%



Nebraska ranks 37th in the country for the rate of persons that report working from home (12%), according to data from the U.S. Census Bureau’s American Community Survey for 2021. Nebraska’s low rate of those that work from home, compared to other states, is likely a function of the work most people do in Nebraska. In Nebraska, more people work in low wage compared to high wage jobs, according to previous research from UNO CPAR. Low wage jobs, in 2021, are defined as below the median income for all workers, or approximately \$41,500. “Low wage” jobs are more likely to require in-person work instead of allowing for remote work. Examples of these occupations include manufacturing, agriculture, retail, and food preparation. However, recent research demonstrates that the question used by the Census Bureau to gauge work from home status may underestimate because it fails to capture those that adopt a hybrid approach to work, including both time at a work location and time at home. Thus, it is likely that more people work remotely in Nebraska than is captured by this question. However, Nebraska’s rank among the states at 37 is likely accurate, since the underestimate would likely be true in other states as well.

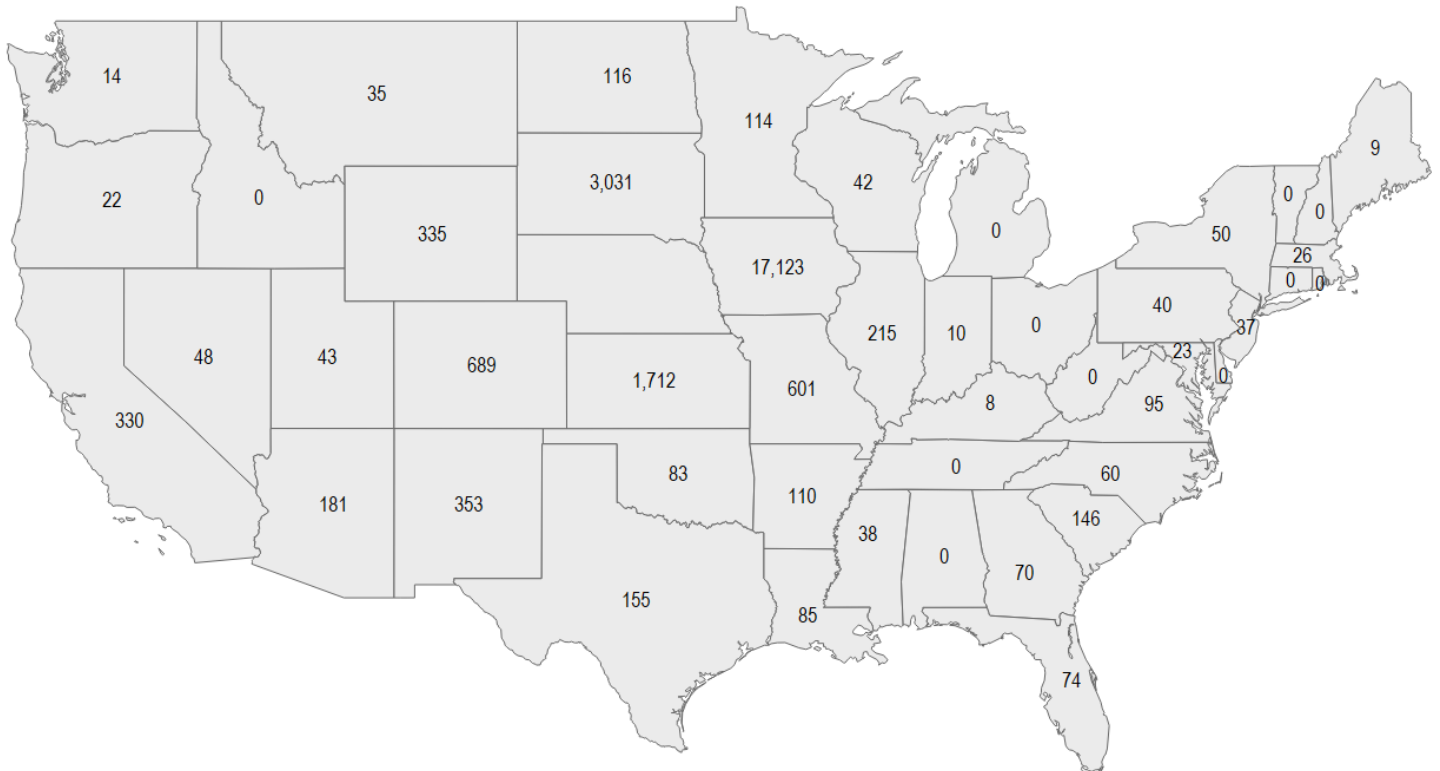


Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2021 1-year Estimates Microdata

In response to questions about remote workers in Nebraska that work in another state, we can examine data from the same source that explores where someone reports living compared to where they report working.

The total number of people that live in Nebraska but work in another state is 26,182.

Number in each state is the number of persons that report living in Nebraska but work in another state



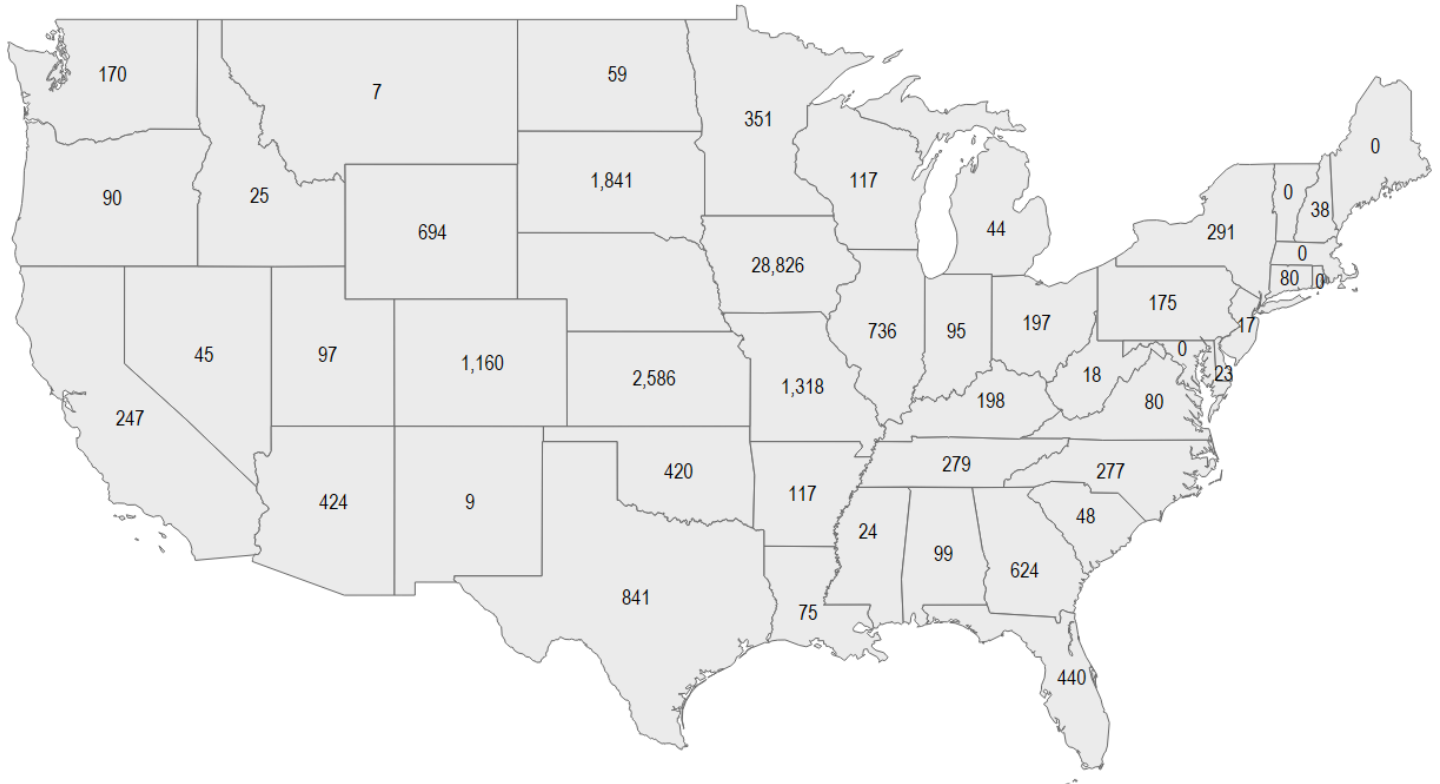
The total number of persons that report living in Nebraska but work in another state is estimated to be 26,182. This data is for all workers, including those that commute to other states for work either regularly or for seasonal work. Notably, most workers that live in Nebraska but work in another state are working in states within the Midwest region, thus they are likely commuters not remote workers.

This data should be interpreted with **caution because of the small estimates**. The data comes from a large national survey with estimates of the actual numbers reporting this information; however, these estimates will have larger margins of error, particularly in states outside of the Midwest. The actual number may be above or below the estimate provided. Thus, it is best not to interpret the specific estimate but whether the number is larger or smaller compared to other numbers.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2021 1-year Estimates Microdata

The total number of people that live in another state but work in Nebraska is 43,347.

Number in each state is the number of persons that report living in another state but work in Nebraska



The total number of workers that report living in another state but working in Nebraska is about 43,347. Most people that live in another state but work in Nebraska live in the region, suggesting they commute for work.

Notably, more people live in another state and work in Nebraska than those who live in Nebraska and work in another state.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2021 1-year Estimates Microdata