OVERVIEW: AUGUST 2022

If the economy were a hill, we are approaching the top given this month's economic measures. Several of our measures indicate that the previous months of economic growth are on the cusp of reversing. Our economic indicators suggest only marginal growth or contraction. The labor forces for Nebraska and the United States decrease. Sales tax collections and the dollar weaken. Lower gas prices and growing private wages are not enough to provide a rosy evaluation of August. It will be September when we find out if we have truly reached the top of a hill.



NEBRASKA'S ECONOMIC DASHBOARD

LEADING AND COINCIDENT INDICATORS

LEADING INDEX COINCIDENT INDEX 3-Month Rolling Average NEBRASKA: August 2022: NA August 2021: NA **UNITED STATES:** August 2022: NA August 2021: NA Source: Philadelphia Federal Reserve MAINSTREET ECONOMY INDEX **3-Month Rolling Average NEBRASKA:** August 2022: 48.7 August 2021: 50.3 Source: Ernie Goss, Creighton University **LEADING ECONOMIC INDICATOR-NE** 1.0/0 **3-Month Rolling Average** Source: Ernie Goss, Creighton University **NEBRASKA:** August 2022: 177.9 August 2021: 177.9 0.0% Source: University of Nebraska-Lincoln, Bureau of Business Research **NEBRASKA DEPARTMENT OF**

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

DIRECTOR **ANTHONY L. GOINS**

NEBRASKA

3-Month Rolling Average
NEBRASKA:
August 2022: 139.9
August 2021: 139.9
1 0.0%
UNITED STATES:
August 2022: 135.5
August 2021: 134.9
1 0.1%
Source: Philadelphia Federal Reserve
MID-AMERICA INDEX
MID-AMERICA INDEX 3-Month Rolling Average
3-Month Rolling Average
3-Month Rolling Average NEBRASKA:
3-Month Rolling Average NEBRASKA: August 2022: 54.6
3-Month Rolling Average NEBRASKA: August 2022: 54.6 August 2021: 60.9
3-Month Rolling Average NEBRASKA: August 2022: 54.6 August 2021: 60.9 -11.4%
3-Month Rolling Average NEBRASKA: August 2022: 54.6 August 2021: 60.9 -11.4% UNITED STATES:

DIFFUSION INDEX 3-Month Rolling Average

> **UNITED STATES:** August 2022: NA August 2021: NA

> > ΝΔ

Source: Philadelphia Federal Reserve

BUSINESS CONFIDENCE INDEX **3-Month Rolling Average NEBRASKA:** August 2022: NA August 2021: NA

Source: University of Nebraska-Lincoln, Bureau of Business Research

LEADING & COINCIDENT INDICATORS: The reported economic indicators for this week predict a future economy experiencing a slowdown in growth. Both Mid-America indices contract but return a value above fifty, the value indicating economic growth. This pattern is matched with the coincident indices, both of which grow not at all or just a little bit. The Leading Economic Indicator for Nebraska too remains unchanged from last month.

METHODOLOGY: The presented monthly changes in the Nebraska Economic Dashboard (NED) are calculated using the difference between the most recent three-month rolling average and the three-month rolling average one year ago, comparing the current market status to where the market was one year ago. Temporal effects of the measures are explored where they are discussed. These aspects take a one-month, six-month, and twelve-month examination of the monthly marginal differences and classify them respectively as short-run, medium-run, and long-run effects. This assists in identifying seasonal effects and effects that decay with time.

JOBS AND WAGES

NON-FARM JOBS (000s), NSA 3-Month Rolling Average NEBRASKA:

> August 2022: **1,030.7** August 2021: **1,034.5**

◆ -**U.4%** UNITED STATES: August 2022: **152,657.7** August 2021: **152,502.3**

Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, Current Employment Statistics

NON-FARM HEALTHCARE JOBS, NSA

3-Month Rolling Average

NEBRASKA: August 2022: **141.9** August 2021: **141.9**

0.0% UNITED STATES: August 2022: 16,469.9 August 2021: 16,409.1

Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, Current Employment

PRIVATE AVERAGE WAGE, NSA 3-Month Rolling Average NEBRASKA: August 2022: \$61,339 August 2021: \$61,034 0.5% UNITED STATES: August 2022: \$67,025 August 2021: \$66,636

Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, Current Employment Statistics NON-FARM FINANCE/ INSURANCE JOBS (000s), NSA

3-Month Rolling Average NEBRASKA: August 2022: 61.1 August 2021: 61.1 0.0% UNITED STATES:

August 2022: 6,609.2 August 2021: 6,618.9

Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, Current Employment Statistics

SUMMARY: The pattern of an economy reaching the crest of a hill is also reflected in job statistics. Non-farm employment for the state decreased by nearly half-a-percent while the nation witnessed it grow. In the finance industry, there is no change in state employment. However, the national finance industry does contract by 0.2%. Coupled with the previous indicators, there appears to be significant uncertainty going into the future about the economy.

LABOR FORCE

UNEMPLOYMENT RATE, NSA 3-Month Rolling Average NEBRASKA: August 2022: 2.5 August 2021: 2.5 0.0% UNITED STATES: August 2022: 3.6 August 2021: 3.8 -0.2%

Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, Local Area Unemployment Statistics & Current Population Statistics LABOR FORCE, NSA 3-Month Rolling Average NEBRASKA: August 2022: 1,065.3 August 2021: 1,067.3 • -0.2% UNITED STATES: August 2022: 164,918.3 August 2021: 165,101.3 • -0.1%

Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, Local Area Unemployment Statistics & Current Population Statistics **SUMMARY:** The health of labor markets is also showing signs of turning. After several months of adopting high growth rates, both state and national private wages increase only by about 0.5%. Labor forces on both levels contract after several weeks of growing. Lastly, no change is seen in the state unemployment rate.

GDP INCOME AND POPULATION

REAL GDP IN CHAINED DOLLARS (mm)

Quarter-over-Quarter Change

NEBRASKA: Quarter 3 2022: NA

Quarter 3 2021: NA

NA UNITED STATES: Quarter 3 2022: **NA** Quarter 3 2021: **NA**

NA

Source: U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis, SQCGDP9

PER CAPITA PERSONAL INCOME Quarter-over-Quarter Change NEBRASKA: Quarter 4 2022: NA Quarter 4 2021: NA

> UNITED STATES: Quarter 4 2022: NA Quarter 4 2021: NA

RESIDENTIAL BUILDING

PERMITS (VAL.)

3-Month Rolling Average

NEBRASKA:

August 2022: \$139,247.0

August 2021: \$143,554.7

-3.1%

Source: U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis, SOINC1

POPULATION Quarter-over-Quarter Change

> NEBRASKA: Quarter 4 2022: NA Quarter 4 2021: NA

NA UNITED STATES: Quarter 4 2022: NA Quarter 4 2021: NA



Source: U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis, SQINC1

OTHER ECONOMIC INDICATORS

RESIDENTIAL BUILDING PERMITS (UNITS) 3-Month Rolling Average NEBRASKA: August 2022: 725

August 2021: 729

Source: U.S. Census Bureau

NMV NET TAXABLE SALES 3-Month Rolling Average NEBRASKA: June 2022: \$3,571.9 June 2021: \$3,695.0 -3.5% Source: U.S. Census Bureau AVERAGE GAS 3-Month Rolling Average NEBRASKA: August 2022: \$3.93 August 2021: \$4.30 -9.3%

Source: NE Dept. of Energy and Environment

Source: NE Dept. of Revenue

SUMMARY:

GDP: After several months of significant growth, gas and oil prices take their first movement downward in 2022. The 10.9% decrease in the price of a barrel of oil is nearly completely passed onto the customer, as gas prices decreased by 9.3%. Again, however, our positives are partnered with some negatives. The U.S. dollar weakened on the global market, lowering exports by about 2.0%. The 3.5% contraction in sales tax collections also shows lower consumer confidence domestically. We must wait for the future to see if we are truly approaching a slowdown economically.

Other Economic Indicators: *Housing & Real Estate* - Although building permits and the value per unit of those permits decreased over the last month. the downward trends should not be considered more signs of coming troubles. With expectations of cold weather, both measures should drop as construction season comes to an end for 2022. The fact that permits do not drop at a greater rate than 0.7% shows there is not a significant "pull out" of developers influenced by the general trend of economic slowdown seen elsewhere in this report.

NOMINAL BROAD U.S. DOLLAR INDEX

3-Month Rolling Average

UNITED STATES: August 2022: \$194,056.4 August 2021: \$198,008.7

+ -2.2

Source: St. Louis Federal Reserve, FRED

AVERAGE PRICE OIL 3-Month Rolling Average NEBRASKA: August 2022: \$93.18 August 2021: \$103.38 -10.9%

Source: NE Dept. of Energy and Environment

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:

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