OVERVIEW JANUARY 2020

The Nebraska economy fared well between January 2019 and January 2020. The state’s employment was up and unemployment was down – well below the national rate. Wages were not up as much in Nebraska as nationally, but they rose notably. Most of the data in this report is lagged. As it is updated over the next several months, the results are going to show a negative performance by the economy because of the effects of the coronavirus. This January report presents the Nebraska economy in more “normal” times than the next few issues will.

LEADING AND COINCIDENT INDICATORS

**LEADING INDEX**
3-Month Rolling Average

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NEBRASKA:</th>
<th>December 2020: 1.4</th>
<th>December 2019: 1.0</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>↑ 40.3%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>UNITED STATES:</th>
<th>December 2020: 1.4</th>
<th>December 2019: 1.2</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>↑ 12.9%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Philadelphia Federal Reserve

**COINCIDENT INDEX**
3-Month Rolling Average

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NEBRASKA:</th>
<th>December 2020: 130.3</th>
<th>December 2019: 128.0</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>↑ 1.9%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>UNITED STATES:</th>
<th>December 2020: 129.7</th>
<th>December 2019: 126.4</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>↑ 2.6%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Philadelphia Federal Reserve

**DIFFUSION INDEX**
3-Month Rolling Average

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>UNITED STATES:</th>
<th>January 2020: 54.0</th>
<th>January 2019: 81.0</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>↓</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Philadelphia Federal Reserve

**MAINSTREET ECONOMY INDEX**
3-Month Rolling Average

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NEBRASKA:</th>
<th>January 2020: 50.4</th>
<th>January 2019: 53.5</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>↓ -5.8%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Ernie Goss, Creighton University

**MID-AMERICA INDEX**
3-Month Rolling Average

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NEBRASKA:</th>
<th>January 2020: 53.0</th>
<th>January 2019: 50.5</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>↑ 5.0%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>UNITED STATES:</th>
<th>January 2020: 48.7</th>
<th>January 2019: 54.8</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>↓ -11.1%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Ernie Goss, Creighton University

**CONSUMER CONFIDENCE INDEX**
3-Month Rolling Average

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NEBRASKA:</th>
<th>January 2020: 107.2</th>
<th>January 2019: 103.2</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>↑ 3.9%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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

**SUMMARY**
The LEI-N predicts economic growth over the next 6 months, showing a positive forecast compared to 2019. Likewise, NE consumers are confident (100=neutral). The Mid-America Index shows NE manufacturers’ positive economic expectations, while the Mainstreet Econ. Index shows negative expectations of non-urban bankers and CEOs (50 = neutral). The Coincident Index summarizes economic conditions and the Leading Index predicts its 6-mo. growth rate. Both of these indexes indicated expansions in the national and state economies over the next 6 months. The Diffusion Index measures GDP and negative values of 40 can indicate a possible U.S. recession.

**METHODOLOGY**
Nebraska’s Economic Dashboard compiles key economic indicators to gauge the overall well-being of Nebraska’s economy. Except where marked, all indicators are monthly, not seasonally adjusted. The values compare 3-month rolling averages from Nov. to Jan. In the case of quarterly data, the current quarter is compared to the same quarter of 2019.
### JOBS AND WAGES

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>State</th>
<th>January 2020</th>
<th>January 2019</th>
<th>Change</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Nebraska</td>
<td>1,033.9</td>
<td>1,022.7</td>
<td>+1.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>United States</td>
<td>152,069.3</td>
<td>149,914.3</td>
<td>+1.4%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>


#### NON-FARM MANUFACTURING JOBS (000s), NSA
3-Month Rolling Average

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>State</th>
<th>January 2020</th>
<th>January 2019</th>
<th>Change</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Nebraska</td>
<td>99.7</td>
<td>99.1</td>
<td>+0.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>United States</td>
<td>12,836.7</td>
<td>12,777.0</td>
<td>+0.5%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>


#### NON-FARM FINANCE/INSURANCE JOBS (000s), NSA
3-Month Rolling Average

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>State</th>
<th>January 2020</th>
<th>January 2019</th>
<th>Change</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Nebraska</td>
<td>72.2</td>
<td>64.0</td>
<td>+12.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>United States</td>
<td>6,465.1</td>
<td>6,381.1</td>
<td>+1.3%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>


#### PRIVATE AVERAGE WAGE, NSA
3-Month Rolling Average

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>State</th>
<th>January 2020</th>
<th>January 2019</th>
<th>Change</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Nebraska</td>
<td>$46,504</td>
<td>$43,690</td>
<td>+6.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>United States</td>
<td>$51,135</td>
<td>$49,484</td>
<td>+3.3%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>


### SUMMARY
Nonfarm employment is the number of jobs by industry and is derived from a monthly survey of employers. Manufacturing jobs increased by 0.6% in Nebraska. Two other sectors important to Nebraska’s economy are finance/insurance and healthcare. Together, they added over 10,000 jobs between 2019 and 2020 with finance increasing its job numbers by 12.8%. Nebraska wages increased faster than average U.S. wages – 6.4% versus 3.3%.

### LABOR FORCE

#### UNEMPLOYMENT RATE, NSA
3-Month Rolling Average

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>State</th>
<th>January 2020</th>
<th>January 2019</th>
<th>Change</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Nebraska</td>
<td>2.8%</td>
<td>2.9%</td>
<td>-0.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>United States</td>
<td>3.6%</td>
<td>3.9%</td>
<td>-0.3%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>


#### LABOR FORCE (000s), NSA
3-Month Rolling Average

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>State</th>
<th>January 2020</th>
<th>January 2019</th>
<th>Change</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Nebraska</td>
<td>1,035.2</td>
<td>1,024.2</td>
<td>+1.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>United States</td>
<td>163,963.3</td>
<td>162,426.3</td>
<td>+0.9%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>


### SUMMARY
January 2020, the Nebraska labor force increased by 11,000 persons over the January 2019 level, or by 1.1%. That compares to a 0.9% increase nationally. The labor force is the total number of persons available to work as determined by a survey of households.

A higher percentage of Nebraska’s labor force was employed than nationally. The state unemployment rate was 2.8% in January 2020 compared to 3.6% for the nation.
### GDP Income and Population

#### Real GDP in Chained Dollars (mm)

**Quarter-over-Quarter Change**

**NEBRASKA:**
- Quarter 3 2020: $115,184
- Quarter 3 2019: $113,381
  - **↑ 1.6%**

**UNITED STATES:**
- Quarter 3 2020: $19,121,112
- Quarter 3 2019: $18,732,720
  - **↑ 2.1%**

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

#### Personal Income

**Quarter-over-Quarter Change**

**NEBRASKA:**
- Quarter 3 2020: $55,316
- Quarter 3 2019: $53,067
  - **↑ 4.2%**

**UNITED STATES:**
- Quarter 3 2020: $56,832
- Quarter 3 2019: $54,721
  - **↑ 3.9%**

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

#### Population (000s)

**Quarter-over-Quarter Change**

**NEBRASKA:**
- Quarter 3 2020: 1,942,801
- Quarter 3 2019: 1,931,025
  - **↑ 0.6%**

**UNITED STATES:**
- Quarter 3 2020: 329,452,098
- Quarter 3 2019: 327,461,014
  - **↑ 0.6%**

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

### Other Economic Indicators

#### Residential Building

**Permits (Units)**

**3-Month Rolling Average**

**NEBRASKA:**
- January 2020: 558
- January 2019: 599
  - **↓ -7.2%**

Source: U.S. Census Bureau

#### Residential Building

**Permits (Val.)**

**3-Month Rolling Average**

**NEBRASKA:**
- January 2020: $95,465,000
- January 2019: $74,210,000
  - **↑ 28.6%**

Source: U.S. Census Bureau

#### Real Trade Weighted U.S. Dollar Index: Broad, Goods

**3-Month Rolling Average**

**UNITED STATES:**
- January 2020: 116.4
- January 2019: 115.6
  - **↑ 0.7%**

Source: St. Louis Federal Reserve, FRED

#### Average Gas

**3-Month Rolling Average**

**NEBRASKA:**
- January 2020: $2.44
- January 2019: $2.26
  - **↑ 7.8%**

Source: NE Dept. of Energy and Environment

#### Average Price Oil

**3-Month Rolling Average**

**NEBRASKA:**
- January 2020: $58.14
- January 2019: $52.62
  - **↑ 10.5%**

Source: NE Dept. of Energy and Environment

### Summary

**GDP & Population:** Gross domestic product (GDP) is a measure of the total output of a state. Between Quarter 3 2019 and Quarter 3 2020, Nebraska’s real GDP increased 1.6%. The national increase was 2.1%. Real GDP measures the total goods and service produced by an economy without the effect of inflation.

The estimated populations of both Nebraska and the U.S. increased 0.6% between 2019 and 2020.

**Other Economic Indicators:** Permit issuing places in Nebraska issued 40 fewer permits in January 2020 than they issued in 2019 but the value of those permits was 28.6% higher than the value of the permits issued in 2019. If neither year’s total seems high, remember they are January (winter) monthly totals.

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**FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:**

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