

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.



NEBRASKA'S ECONOMIC DASHBOARD

LEADING AND COINCIDENT INDICATORS

LEADING INDEX

3-Month Rolling Average

NEBRASKA:

December 2020: 1.4

December 2019: 1.0

↑ 40.3%

UNITED STATES:

December 2020: 1.4

December 2019: 1.2

↑ 12.9%

Source: Philadelphia Federal Reserve

COINCIDENT INDEX

3-Month Rolling Average

NEBRASKA:

December 2020: 130.3

December 2019: 128.0

↑ 1.9%

UNITED STATES:

December 2020: 129.7

December 2019: 126.4

↑ 2.6%

Source: Philadelphia Federal Reserve

DIFFUSION INDEX

3-Month Rolling Average

UNITED STATES:

January 2020: 54.0

January 2019: 81.0



Source: Philadelphia Federal Reserve

MAINSTREET ECONOMY INDEX

3-Month Rolling Average

NEBRASKA:

January 2020: 50.4

January 2019: 53.5

↓ -5.8%

Source: Ernie Goss, Creighton University

MID-AMERICA INDEX

3-Month Rolling Average

NEBRASKA:

January 2020: 53.0

January 2019: 50.5

↑ 5.0%

UNITED STATES:

January 2020: 48.7

January 2019: 54.8

↓ -11.1%

Source: Ernie Goss, Creighton University

CONSUMER CONFIDENCE INDEX

3-Month Rolling Average

NEBRASKA:

January 2020: 107.2

January 2019: 103.2

↑ 3.9%

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

LEADING ECONOMIC INDICATOR-NE

3-Month Rolling Average

NEBRASKA:

January 2020: 162.5

January 2019: 150.6

↑ 7.9%

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.

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NEBRASKA

JOBS AND WAGES

NON-FARM JOBS (000s), NSA

3-Month Rolling Average

NEBRASKA:

January 2020: 1,033.9

January 2019: 1,022.7

↑ 1.1%

UNITED STATES:

January 2020: 152,069.3

January 2019: 149,914.3

↑ 1.4%

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

NON-FARM MANUFACTURING JOBS (000s), NSA

3-Month Rolling Average

NEBRASKA:

January 2020: 99.7

January 2019: 99.1

↑ 0.6%

UNITED STATES:

January 2020: 12,836.7

January 2019: 12,777.0

↑ 0.5%

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

NON-FARM FINANCE/ INSURANCE JOBS(000s), NSA

3-Month Rolling Average

NEBRASKA:

January 2020: 72.2

January 2019: 64.0

↑ 12.8%

UNITED STATES:

January 2020: 6,465.1

January 2019: 6,381.1

↑ 1.3%

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

NON-FARM HEALTHCARE JOBS (000s), NSA

3-Month Rolling Average

NEBRASKA:

January 2020: 140.0

January 2019: 138.0

↑ 1.4%

UNITED STATES:

January 2020: 20,684.9

January 2019: 20,145.4

↑ 2.7%

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

PRIVATE AVERAGE WAGE, NSA

3-Month Rolling Average

NEBRASKA:

January 2020: \$46,504

January 2019: \$43,690

↑ 6.4%

UNITED STATES:

January 2020: \$51,135

January 2019: \$49,484

↑ 3.3%

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

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

NEBRASKA:

January 2020: 2.8%

January 2019: 2.9%

↓ -0.1%

UNITED STATES:

January 2020: 3.6%

January 2019: 3.9%

↓ -0.3%

Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, Local Area Unemployment Statistics & Current Population Statistics

LABOR FORCE (000s), NSA

3-Month Rolling Average

NEBRASKA:

January 2020: 1,035.2

January 2019: 1,024.2

↑ 1.1%

UNITED STATES:

January 2020: 163,963.3

January 2019: 162,426.3

↑ 0.9%

Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, Local Area Unemployment Statistics & Current Population Statistics

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, SQCGDP9

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, SQINC1

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, SQINC1

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

NMV NET TAXABLE SALES

3-Month Rolling Average

NEBRASKA:

January 2020: \$3,040,548,746

January 2019: \$2,633,890,128

 **15.4%**

Source: NE Dept. of Revenue

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.

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:

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