

# GREATER OMAHA ECONOMIC INDICATORS

03  
2025

## HIGHLIGHTS

Greater Omaha's economy continued to perform well in March 2025. The unemployment rate rose from 3.0% in March 2024 to 3.4% in March 2025, which is slightly higher than Nebraska's (3.2%) and below the U.S. (4.4%). Greater Omaha has seen an increase of 2,300 net jobs compared to March 2024. The industries that have seen the largest increase are Education and Health Services (4.6%) and Leisure and Hospitality (3.5%). Finally, Eppley saw a slight decrease in passenger enplanements compared to March 2024.

The Brookings Institute released their 2025 Metro Monitor Report in March. It looks at economic performance in growth, prosperity, overall inclusion, racial inclusion and geographic inclusion. The Omaha metro is included in large metro areas (500,000-1,000,000 residents) and ranked highest in Productivity (#3) and Median Earnings (#7). To view the full report, [click here](#).

### UNEMPLOYMENT (OMAHA CSA)



3-MONTH AVERAGE  
March 2025: 3.4%  
March 2024: 3.0%

+0.4%

### EMPLOYMENT GROWTH (OMAHA CSA)



3-MONTH AVERAGE  
March 2025: 532,858  
March 2024: 526,067

+1.3%

Greater Omaha had a net increase of almost 6,800 employed workers compared to the same time period in 2024.

### COMMERCIAL CONSTRUCTION PERMITS (CSA)



3-MONTH AVERAGE  
March 2025: \$63.7 mm  
March 2024: \$100.7 mm

-36.8%

March 2025 saw a decrease in commercial construction valuation.

\*Includes new construction, finishes and remodels.

\*Did not receive permits from Mills County.

### PRIVATE HOURLY WAGES (OMAHA MSA)



3-MONTH AVERAGE  
March 2025: \$34.75  
March 2024: \$33.38

+4.1%

Average private hourly wages rose \$1.37 since last year.

### SINGLE FAMILY CONSTRUCTION PERMITS (CSA)



3-MONTH AVERAGE  
March 2025: 277  
March 2024: 275

+0.7%

Single family permits increased in March 2025. These new home permits are valued at \$53.1 million.

### AIRLINE PASSENGERS (OMAHA ENPLANEMENTS)



3-MONTH AVERAGE  
March 2025: 189,130  
March 2024: 198,734

-4.8%

March 2025 had slightly less passenger enplanements compared to the same time period last year.

**Greater Omaha Indicators**

	Jan 24	Feb 24	Mar 24	Apr 24	May 24	Jun 24	Jul 24	Aug 24	Sep 24	Oct 24	Nov 24	Dec 24	Jan 25	Feb 25	Mar 25*
<b>Labor Market: Household Survey<sup>1</sup> (Omaha-Council Bluffs-Fremont Combined Statistical Area)</b>															
Labor Force (#, nsa)	538,191	543,541	545,508	546,015	547,904	549,455	554,888	548,612	548,740	551,661	549,209	545,867	548,136	552,633	554,022
Civilian Employment (#, nsa)	521,971	526,380	529,850	531,314	532,408	531,519	536,560	531,789	533,683	535,461	533,736	530,813	528,925	532,804	536,846
Unemployment (#, nsa)	16,220	17,161	15,658	14,701	15,496	17,936	18,328	16,823	15,057	16,200	15,473	15,054	19,211	19,829	17,176
Unemployment Rate - Omaha (% , nsa)	3.0	3.2	2.9	2.7	2.8	3.3	3.3	3.1	2.7	2.9	2.8	2.7	3.5	3.6	3.1
Unemployment Rate - Nebraska (% , nsa)	4.1	4.2	3.9	3.5	3.7	4.3	4.5	4.4	3.9	3.9	4.0	3.8	4.4	4.5	4.2
<b>Labor Market: Establishment Survey<sup>2</sup> (Omaha-Council Bluffs Metropolitan Statistical Area)</b>															
Total Non-Farm Employment (000s, nsa)	502.5	506.3	509.7	513.5	516.5	519.5	514.5	514.4	515.6	519.5	518.8	518.1	507.1	508.0	510.4
Construction/Mining (000s, nsa)	29.9	30.4	31.7	32.8	33.4	34.1	34.2	34.1	33.8	33.9	33.3	32.1	30.4	30.8	31.6
Manufacturing (000s, nsa)	35.6	35.9	35.9	35.9	35.9	36.1	36.1	36.1	36.1	36.2	36.0	35.9	35.2	35.4	35.1
Trade, Trans. and Utilities (000s, nsa)	95.0	94.6	94.1	94.6	94.7	94.7	94.3	94.4	93.6	94.1	95.4	96.3	93.2	91.9	92.4
Information (000s, nsa)	8.8	8.8	8.6	8.6	8.6	8.6	8.6	8.6	8.6	8.5	8.5	8.6	8.6	8.6	8.6
Financial Activities (000s, nsa)	40.0	40.0	39.9	39.8	39.9	40.2	39.9	39.9	39.6	39.7	39.8	40.1	39.7	40.0	39.6
Prof. and Business Services (000s, nsa)	70.7	70.9	71.4	71.5	71.8	71.8	71.4	71.1	70.8	71.2	70.6	70.7	68.4	68.4	68.4
Educ. and Health Services (000s, nsa)	86.5	87.3	87.6	88.1	88.1	88.0	88.7	89.0	89.2	90.4	91.0	91.2	90.3	91.4	91.8
Leisure and Hospitality (000s, nsa)	50.8	52.2	54.0	55.1	56.8	58.9	58.1	57.7	57.2	57.2	56.0	55.2	53.9	53.7	54.9
Other Services (000s, nsa)	17.2	17.4	17.5	17.6	17.6	17.9	17.9	17.8	17.6	17.9	17.9	17.9	17.9	17.8	17.8
Government (000s, nsa)	68.0	68.8	69.1	69.3	70.0	69.2	65.3	65.7	69.3	70.6	70.4	70.1	69.5	70.0	70.2
Avg. Hourly Earnings of Private Workers (\$ , nsa)	\$34.07	\$33.23	\$32.83	\$33.40	\$33.30	\$33.08	\$33.37	\$33.60	\$33.98	\$33.92	\$33.89	\$34.45	\$34.52	\$35.15	\$34.58
<b>Construction Permits<sup>3</sup> (Omaha-Council Bluffs-Fremont Combined Statistical Area)</b>															
Total Permits (#, nsa, not including commercial remodels)	168	399	319	374	274	258	427	328	322	275	230	197	370	252	327
Valuation (\$mm, nsa, not including commercial remodels)	\$267.7	\$68.1	\$74.0	\$148.2	\$132.4	\$81.2	\$164.2	\$88.7	\$176.4	\$620.3	\$116.5	\$89.4	\$105.5	\$116.0	\$103.7
Single-Family Residential Permits (#, nsa)	137	388	300	321	239	232	379	301	241	234	197	180	337	208	286
Valuation (\$mm, nsa)	\$28.6	\$61.9	\$58.4	\$68.3	\$56.1	\$50.5	\$63.5	\$66.3	\$50.0	\$55.4	\$43.1	\$40.7	\$50.2	\$47.1	\$62.0
Multi-Family Residential Units (#, nsa)	673	52	16	300	541	4	174	85	677	528	400	195	519	304	83
Valuation (\$mm, nsa)	\$74.3	\$8.7	\$0.5	\$40.0	\$38.2	\$0.5	\$19.3	\$7.7	\$74.6	\$35.9	\$45.8	\$0.3	\$41.9	\$28.7	\$8.1
Non-Residential Permits- New Constr. (#, nsa) <sup>4b</sup>	13	5	18	41	31	25	45	24	27	20	22	16	17	17	20
Valuation (\$mm, nsa) <sup>4b</sup>	\$164.8	\$4.9	\$15.1	\$39.8	\$38.2	\$30.3	\$81.5	\$14.7	\$51.9	\$528.9	\$27.6	\$48.3	\$13.4	\$19.1	\$33.6
Non-Residential Permits- Finish & Remodel (#, nsa) <sup>4c</sup>	89	69	64	108	87	77	52	66	61	46	59	73	66	65	91
Valuation (\$mm, nsa) <sup>4c</sup>	\$50.7	\$43.8	\$22.9	\$53.9	\$35.3	\$37.5	\$14.9	\$63.9	\$141.3	\$26.6	\$23.6	\$42.3	\$30.0	\$59.5	\$35.4
Total Non-Residential Permits (#, nsa)	102	74	82	149	118	102	97	90	88	66	81	89	83	82	111
Total Non-Residential Valuation (\$mm, nsa)	\$215.5	\$48.7	\$38.0	\$93.7	\$73.5	\$67.8	\$96.4	\$78.7	\$193.1	\$555.6	\$51.2	\$90.6	\$43.5	\$78.6	\$69.0
<b>New and Existing Home Sales<sup>5</sup> (Omaha-Council Bluffs Metropolitan Statistical Area)</b>															
Total Sales (#, nsa)	620	642	892	965	1,208	1,121	1,120	1,127	885	928	937	800	679	730	833
Total Value (\$mm, nsa)	\$207.0	\$214.6	\$312.8	\$348.1	\$455.4	\$424.2	\$407.7	\$419.5	\$318.1	\$341.0	\$345.6	\$294.0	\$238.2	\$246.8	\$288.0
<b>Transportation<sup>6</sup></b>															
Airline Passengers Enplaned (000s, nsa)	177.2	189.4	229.5	248.6	252.7	251.5	251.5	212.2	209.1	228.1	205.7	220.3	180.8	174.2	212.4
Airline Cargo Enplaned (mm lbs., nsa)	3.4	3.6	3.9	3.7	4.1	3.9	3.9	4.2	4.5	5.5	4.9	5.5	4.6	4.5	4.8
<b>Prices<sup>7</sup></b>															
Consumer Price Index - U.S. (nsa, 1982-84 = 100)	308.4	310.3	312.3	313.5	314.1	314.2	314.5	314.8	315.3	315.7	315.5	315.6	317.7	319.1	319.8
CPI - Midwest (nsa, pop. 50,000-1.5 million, 1996 = 100)	182.6	183.5	184.7	185.5	185.6	185.9	186.5	186.9	186.9	187.0	187.1	187.5	188.5	189.0	189.8
Personal Consumption Expenditure Index (U.S., chained, 2017=100, sa) <sup>8</sup>	119.0	119.2	119.7	119.7	120.3	120.4	120.9	121.1	121.1	121.9	122.4	123.1	122.6	122.7	123.6

Sources:  
<sup>1</sup>U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, Local Area Unemployment Statistics (LAUS) (unless otherwise marked)  
<sup>2</sup>U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, Current Population Survey (CPS)  
<sup>3</sup>U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, Current Employment Statistics (CES), State & Metro Area  
<sup>4</sup>Collected from municipalities in 9-county area. See notes & Greater Omaha Permit Data for details.  
<sup>5</sup>Omaha Area Board of Realtors, MLS Statistics  
<sup>6</sup>Omaha Airport Authority, Monthly Traffic Statistics  
<sup>7</sup>U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U) (unless otherwise marked)  
<sup>8</sup>U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis, Table 2.8.3. Real Personal Consumption Expenditures by Major Type of Product, Monthly, Quantity Indexes.

Notes:  
 sa = seasonally adjusted; nsa = not seasonally adjusted.  
 \*Preliminary data, previous month revised to actual data  
<sup>4a</sup>Excludes any permits that do not have a valuation listed  
<sup>4b</sup>Excludes construction of non-residential structures less than \$10,000  
<sup>4c</sup>Excludes alterations less than \$10,000, repairs, and maintenance

