

GREATER OMAHA ECONOMIC INDICATORS

02
2025

HIGHLIGHTS

Greater Omaha's economy continued to perform well in February 2025. The unemployment rate rose from 2.9% in February 2024 to 3.3% in February 2025, which is slightly higher than Nebraska's (3.1%) and below the U.S. (4.2%). Greater Omaha has seen an increase of 3,300 net jobs compared to February 2024. The industries that have seen the largest increase are Education and Health Services (4.8%) and Leisure and Hospitality (4.4%). Finally, Eppley saw a slight decrease in passenger enplanements compared to February 2024.

The Bureau of Labor Statistics released their May 2024 Occupational Employment and Wage Statistics last month. The BLS produces this dataset annually for over 800 occupations at the national, state and metro level. Compared to last year, Omaha's annual median wage for all occupations grew 2.4%. Some occupation groups that saw wage growth were construction (9.5%), healthcare (4.4%), production (3.9%) and business and financial operations (2.1%). To view more detailed information on specific occupation employment numbers and wages in the Omaha metro, [click here](#).

UNEMPLOYMENT (OMAHA CSA)



+0.4%

3-MONTH AVERAGE
February 2025: 3.3%
February 2024: 2.9%

EMPLOYMENT GROWTH (OMAHA CSA)



+3.1%

3-MONTH AVERAGE
February 2025: 527,341
February 2024: 511,706

Greater Omaha had a net increase of over 15,600 employed workers compared to the same time period in 2024.

COMMERCIAL CONSTRUCTION PERMITS (CSA)



-32.8%

3-MONTH AVERAGE
February 2025: \$70.9 mm
February 2024: \$105.5 mm

February 2025 saw a decrease in commercial construction valuation.

*Includes new construction, finishes and remodels.

**Did not receive permits from City of Wahoo.

PRIVATE HOURLY WAGES (OMAHA MSA)



+3.9%

3-MONTH AVERAGE
February 2025: \$34.71
February 2024: \$33.42

Average private hourly wages rose over \$1.00 since last year.

SINGLE FAMILY CONSTRUCTION PERMITS (CSA)



+11.4%

3-MONTH AVERAGE
February 2025: 241
February 2024: 217

Single family permits increased in February 2025. These new home permits are valued at \$45.9 million..

AIRLINE PASSENGERS (OMAHA ENPLANEMENTS)



-0.8%

3-MONTH AVERAGE
February 2025: 191,764
February 2024: 193,402

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

Greater Omaha Indicators

	Dec 23	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 ¹
Labor Market: Household Survey¹ (Omaha-Council Bluffs-Fremont Combined Statistical Area)															
Labor Force (#, nsa)	526,140	524,237	530,923	533,356	535,039	538,653	540,033	545,061	538,061	538,402	541,075	538,917	535,049	548,136	552,721
Civilian Employment (#, nsa)	512,994	508,204	513,919	517,841	520,464	523,308	522,293	526,856	521,393	523,493	525,039	523,598	520,133	528,925	532,965
Unemployment (#, nsa)	13,146	16,033	17,004	15,515	14,575	15,345	17,740	18,205	16,668	14,909	16,036	15,319	14,916	19,211	19,756
Unemployment Rate - Omaha (% nsa)	2.5	3.1	3.2	2.9	2.7	2.8	3.3	3.3	3.1	2.8	2.7	2.8	2.8	3.5	3.6
Unemployment Rate - Nebraska (% nsa)	2.3	2.8	2.9	2.7	2.4	2.6	3.1	3.1	2.8	2.6	2.7	2.7	2.6	3.2	3.4
Unemployment Rate - U.S. (% nsa) ²	3.5	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
Labor Market: Establishment Survey³ (Omaha-Council Bluffs Metropolitan Statistical Area)															
Total Non-Farm Employment (000s, nsa)	514.9	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	508.4
Construction/Mining (000s, nsa)	32.3	29.9	30.4	31.7	32.8	33.4	34.1	34.2	34.1	33.8	33.9	33.2	32.1	30.4	30.8
Manufacturing (000s, nsa)	36.2	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
Trade, Trans. and Utilities (000s, nsa)	99.5	95.0	94.6	94.1	94.6	94.7	94.7	94.3	94.3	93.6	94.1	95.4	96.3	93.2	92.2
Information (000s, nsa)	8.9	8.8	8.8	8.5	8.6	8.6	8.6	8.6	8.6	8.4	8.5	8.5	8.6	8.6	8.6
Financial Activities (000s, nsa)	40.4	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
Prof. and Business Services (000s, nsa)	72.3	70.7	70.9	71.5	71.7	71.5	71.8	71.4	71.1	70.8	71.2	70.6	70.7	68.4	68.5
Educ. and Health Services (000s, nsa)	86.4	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	91.3
Leisure and Hospitality (000s, nsa)	53.0	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
Other Services (000s, nsa)	17.3	17.2	17.4	17.5	17.6	17.6	17.9	17.9	17.9	17.6	17.7	17.9	17.9	17.9	17.9
Government (000s, nsa)	68.6	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
Avg. Hourly Earnings of Private Workers (\$, nsa)	\$32.96	\$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	\$35.16
Construction Permits⁴ (Omaha-Council Bluffs-Fremont Combined Statistical Area)															
Total Permits (#, nsa, not including commercial remodels)	164	168	399	319	374	274	258	427	328	322	275	230	197	370	251
Valuation (\$mm, nsa, not including commercial remodels)	\$72.1	\$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	\$117.6
Single-Family Residential Permits (#, nsa)	125	137	388	300	321	239	232	379	301	241	234	197	180	337	207
Valuation (\$mm, nsa)	\$30.2	\$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	\$46.7
Multi-Family Residential Units (#, nsa)	320	673	52	16	300	541	4	174	85	677	528	400	195	519	304
Valuation (\$mm, nsa)	\$28.6	\$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
Non-Residential Permits- New Constr. (#, nsa) ^{4b}	25	13	5	18	41	31	25	45	24	27	20	22	16	17	17
Valuation (\$mm, nsa) ^{4b}	\$13.3	\$164.8	\$4.9	\$15.1	\$39.8	\$38.2	\$30.3	\$91.5	\$14.7	\$51.9	\$528.9	\$27.6	\$48.3	\$13.4	\$19.1
Non-Residential Permits- Finish & Remodel (#, nsa) ^{4c}	67	89	69	64	108	87	77	52	66	61	46	59	73	66	65
Valuation (\$mm, nsa) ^{4c}	\$39.1	\$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
Total Non-Residential Permits (#, nsa)	92	102	74	82	149	118	102	97	90	88	66	81	89	83	82
Total Non-Residential Valuation (\$mm, nsa)	\$52.4	\$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
New and Existing Home Sales⁵ (Omaha-Council Bluffs Metropolitan Statistical Area)															
Total Sales (#, nsa)	799	620	642	892	965	1,208	1,121	1,120	1,127	885	928	937	800	679	730
Total Value (\$mm, nsa)	\$273.4	\$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
Transportation⁶															
Airline Passengers Enplaned (000s, nsa)	213.6	177.2	189.4	229.5	205.9	248.6	252.7	251.5	212.2	209.1	228.1	205.7	220.3	180.8	174.2
Airline Cargo Enplaned (mm lbs., nsa)	4.4	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
Prices⁷															
Consumer Price Index - U.S. (nsa, 1982-84 = 100)	306.7	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	319.8
CPI - Midwest (nsa, pop. 50,000-1.5 million, 1996 = 100)	182.1	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
Personal Consumption Expenditure Index (U.S., chained, 2017=100, sa) ⁸	119.4	119.0	119.2	119.7	119.7	120.3	120.4	120.9	121.1	121.7	121.9	122.4	123.1	122.3	122.4

Sources:
¹U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, Local Area Unemployment Statistics (LAUS) (unless otherwise marked)
²U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, Current Population Survey (CPS)
³U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, Current Employment Statistics (CES), State & Metro Area
⁴Collected from municipalities in 9-county area. See notes & Greater Omaha Permit Data for details.
⁵Omaha Area Board of Realtors, MLS Statistics
⁶Omaha Airport Authority, Monthly Traffic Statistics
⁷U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U) (unless otherwise marked)
⁸U.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.
¹Preliminary data, previous month revised to actual data
²Excludes any permits that do not have a valuation listed
³Excludes construction of non-residential structures less than \$10,000
⁴Excludes alterations less than \$10,000, repairs, and maintenance