



business in nebraska

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LABOR FORCE PROJECTIONS

Nebraskans who are charged with responsibility in making plans for the future are anxiously awaiting data from the 1970 Census of population. Not all such plans can be held in abeyance until the census data become available, however, and thus other statistics and projections from authoritative sources are sought in the interim.

One source of such data was recently made available in the form of state population and labor force participation projections to 1980 published by the United States Bureau of Labor Statistics.¹ Intended primarily as a guide and a tool to be used in developing plans to meet state manpower needs of business and industry, the report has significance also for those engaged in community or regional planning, particularly when used in connection with Bureau of the Census estimates on distribution of the 1969 population by age.

According to these projections by the Bureau of Labor Statistics, proportionately more Nebraska women will be employed in 1980 than ever before. The percent change in population of Nebraskans 14 and over, which is estimated at 10.8% during the past decade is projected to be only 9% in the period 1970-80. Even though the percentage increase of women in the population will be slightly less than for men in this period, the rate of change in labor force participation will be 7% higher for women than for men. Total employment of both sexes aged 14 and over, which amounted to almost 56% in 1960, and is estimated at slightly over 59% presently, is expected to rise another 2 percentage points by 1980. This will bring it to a level 3 percentage points above the regional and national rates, whereas in 1960 the state, regional, and national figures were approximately the same. This differential is expected to develop almost entirely from the rate of participation of women in the labor force, which has increased from slightly over 33% in 1960 to more than 40% in 1970 and is expected to climb another 3 percentage points by 1980, while the employment participation rate of men is expected to be about the same in 1980 as it was 20 years before.

The Younger Age Group

In this state, as in the North Central Region and in the nation as a whole, the number of young workers aged 14 to 24 years rose rapidly in the 1960-70 decade, while the number of workers aged 25 and over increased much less proportionately. This reflected the high birth rate in the years immediately after World War II. Many of the individuals born then entered the labor force as young workers prior to 1970. This younger population group, which in Nebraska increased by almost 44% during the past decade, is pro-

jected to grow at a much slower rate in coming years. A rise of only 8.5% is expected from 1970 to 1980, but labor force participation of this group, which was 49.8% in 1960, and is estimated at 56.6% in 1970, is projected to amount to over 59% by 1980. Thus the labor force participation rate of this age group is expected to remain above that of both the region and the nation.

For these young workers, the percentage increase of numbers in the labor force from 1960-70 was 63.7% (57.9% for males and 71.9% for females). This rather considerable gap between men and women is not expected to continue, and the rate of increase in the size of the labor force is projected at 12.9% for males and 13.9% for females during the coming decade. Thus the percentage difference between employment participation of males and of females in this age group is expected to remain stable at about 24 percentage points between 1970 and 1980.

Workers in the 25-54 Age Group

The group of Nebraska workers aged 25 to 54 showed small gains for the 1960-70 period, but is expected to increase by 16.5% in the next ten years as the large number of young workers added to the labor force in the previous decade advances into the next age group. This anticipated rate of change compares with 18.5% for the region and 19% for the nation.

Labor force participation among persons in this age group, 67% in 1960 and estimated to be 71.6% by July 1 of this year, is projected to reach 73.5% in 1980. The percentage for males is expected to remain around the 97% level, while the participation rate for women, which was only 37.8% in 1960, is projected to be 50% by 1980.

If this increase materializes, it should have considerable significance for diverse segments of business and industry within the state. If by 1980 half the Nebraska women between ages 25 and 54 are working away from home, no doubt many existing services will expand and new services will be developed in increasing numbers to meet the prospective household and family requirements of this large group of employed women. A high proportion of these women will be married, or will be divorced or widowed heads of households, with multiple home and family responsibilities.

There was in Nebraska no percentage change during the past decade in the female population within the 25-54 age group, and the male population increased by only 1.2% in contrast with national increases above 5% for both men and women. The percentage growth in labor force in Nebraska, however, was 22.3% for women and only 1.8% for men. It is predicted that the percent change in total population of the 25-54 age group will be almost 13.5% in the next decade, with a 3 percentage point higher rate of change in labor force, 16.5%. For men (Continued on page 3)

¹ Tomorrow's Manpower Needs, Volume 1, Bulletin No. 1606, 1969, Bureau of Labor Statistics, United States Department of Labor.

NEBRASKA'S FARM INCOME

On the basis of preliminary estimates, the percentage increases from 1968 to 1969 in gross income per farm, net income per farm, and cash farm marketings in Nebraska were the highest of the seven states in the West North Central Region and among the highest in the nation.¹ One-year comparisons such as this, however, as pointed out below, can be quite misleading.

Comparative figures on the three categories of income for these states, for the region, and for the United States as a whole are shown in the accompanying table. The figures on both gross and net income per farm are, of course, affected by the continued decline in number of farms, which for the past year is estimated at 4% for Nebraska and 3% for the nation as a whole. The per capita personal income of farmers has also been affected by the decline in size of the farm population. Precisely what that decline has been in Nebraska is not yet known, but nationally it is estimated at 2% for the past year.

Gross Income per Farm

Not only was Nebraska's percentage increase in 1969 higher than in any of the other states in the region, but the approximate \$30,000 level of gross income per farm was also the highest of any of these states. The percentage increase of 15%, however, was only 2.4 percentage points above that of the region, and the percentage differential between Nebraska and Kansas, which was in second place regionally, was negligible.

The increase in gross income per farm was partially offset here as elsewhere by the rise in production costs. Such costs were estimated nationally to be almost 6% higher in 1969 than in 1968, an increase which was higher than usual and was, indeed, the largest year-to-year rise since 1951. Higher current operating expenses, depreciation and other overhead costs, taxes, and interest rates all contributed to this sharp increase.

Net Income per Farm

In spite of these cost increases, there was a gain in realized net income per farm in all the states of the region and in 42 states of the nation. In Nebraska the increase was nearly 30%, more than 2 1/2 times the national average and 10 percentage points above

¹The preliminary state estimates are published in the Farm Income Situation, Economic Research Service, U. S. Department of Agriculture, February, 1970. Revised estimates will appear in the July, 1970, issue of the same publication.

the regional figure. In dollar terms also, the approximate \$9,000 per farm figure was substantially above that of any other state in the region and was exceeded by only six states in the nation.

Unfortunately, however, the Nebraska percentage increase figures for 1969 are highly misleading, because the state's percentage increase in 1968 was zero. Therefore, the gain of nearly 30% really represents a two-year, rather than just a one-year rise. Expressed in dollars, Nebraska's net income per farm was \$6,990 in 1967, \$6,992 in 1968, and \$9,052 last year.

Two-Year Comparisons

Because of this fact it is more appropriate to compare Nebraska with the other states over a two-year period, and these figures are also shown in the accompanying table. On this basis Nebraska's percentage increase was second to Kansas in gross income per farm, second to Missouri in net income per farm, and only slightly above the regional average in both. The increases were 21.9% for Nebraska, 20.5% for the region, and 18.1% for the nation in gross income, and 29.5%, 25.3% and 19.7% respectively in net income.

Cash Farm Marketings

In cash receipts from farm marketings in 1969 Nebraska retained its sixth-place position among the fifty states. The top ten states, which included Iowa (second), Minnesota (fifth), Kansas (seventh), and Missouri (ninth), as well as Nebraska from this region, accounted for half the total cash receipts in the nation, and the top five for about one-third. The region accounted for 27% of the aggregate for the United States. Nebraska's share constituted 4.1% of the national total and 15.4% of the regional total. The state's percentage gain last year was 11.9%, compared to 9.4% in the region and 6.9% in the nation.

In the seven-state region only Iowa exceeded Nebraska in cash receipts from livestock and livestock products, but Iowa, Minnesota, and Kansas, in that order, outsold this state in farm crops.

Cash receipts from farm marketings do not include direct payments from the Federal government, which were up 9.8% nationally in 1969 and amounted to \$3,800 million. The region received about one-third of the total payments, and Nebraska farmers, of course, shared appreciably in this amount.

DOROTHY SWITZER

FARM INCOME: UNITED STATES, AND STATES OF THE WEST NORTH CENTRAL REGION
(1969¹ and Percent Change 1968-69 and 1967-69)

	Income per Farm						Cash Farm Marketings		
	Realized Gross ²		Percent Increase 1967-69	Realized Net ³			Million Dollars 1969 1968		Percent Change 1968-69
	Dollars 1969	Percent Increase 1968-69		Dollars 1969	Percent Increase 1968-69	Percent Increase 1967-69			
United States	18,384	9.8	18.1	5,401	11.6	19.7	47,431	44,386	6.9
West North Central	22,025	12.6	20.5	6,390	19.6	25.3	12,797	11,700	9.4
NEBRASKA	30,333	15.0	21.9	9,052	29.5	29.5	1,966	1,758	11.8
Iowa	29,568	14.1	21.4	8,331	24.9	29.2	3,828	3,462	10.6
Kansas	23,077	14.7	23.7	6,406	21.0	27.9	1,704	1,536	10.9
Minnesota	17,824	10.1	15.4	4,866	11.4	13.0	1,986	1,865	6.5
Missouri	12,522	9.7	20.9	3,914	13.6	32.2	1,508	1,402	7.5
North Dakota	22,296	12.0	18.8	6,719	19.6	22.6	772	720	7.2
South Dakota	24,600	9.9	21.6	7,768	10.5	25.1	1,033	958	7.8

¹Preliminary data ²Excludes changes in inventories. ³Excludes changes in inventories, and represents income of farm operators.

Source: Farm Income Situation, Economic Research Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, February 1970, pp. 11, 17. All calculations are by the Bureau of Business Research.

NEBRASKA'S PERSONAL INCOME

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Although Nebraska was one of only four states in the nation in which total personal income for the third quarter of 1969 declined from the second quarter level, the state ranks fifth among the 50 states in percentage increase for the third quarter of 1969 over the same quarter of 1968. The state's gain of 11.7% was exceeded only by that of Virginia (16.4%), Arizona (12.4%), Nevada (12.0%), and Alaska (12.0%). Only five other states exceeded 10%. The increase for the nation was 8.7%, and for the Plains States 9.1%.

Comparing total personal income for the third quarter of 1969 with the second quarter of the same year, two of the four states with decreases (Nebraska, 1.8% and South Dakota, 2.5%) are among the seven Plains States, yet the region as a whole had a gain of 2.7%. The other states with losses were Idaho (3.4%) and Montana (0.4%). The overall increase for the nation was 2.2%.

The differences among the states and regions were accounted for largely by variations in the behavior of farm income. For the Plains States as a whole farm proprietors' earnings jumped 10% in the third quarter as compared with the second quarter, but in Nebraska farm earnings dropped. On the other hand, when compared with the same quarter of 1968, the increase in farm income in Nebraska was considerably greater than in the other Plains States.

The comparisons for Nebraska and adjoining states in total personal income may be tabulated as follows:

State	Percentage Increases in Total Personal Income Third Quarter of 1969 Compared with	
	Second Quarter, 1969	Third Quarter, 1968
NEBRASKA	-1.8	11.7
Colorado	1.9	8.8
Iowa	4.2	11.0
Kansas	3.4	8.7
Missouri	2.7	8.2
South Dakota	-2.5	7.1
Wyoming	4.1	10.0

SOURCE: Survey of Current Business, January 1970, p. 23.
Last column calculated by Bureau of Business Research.

Figures on per capita income are not yet available, but in most of these states population probably remained fairly stable over this period of time. In making comparisons of real income, however, it must be remembered that retail prices rose about 1.5% from the second quarter to the third quarter, 1969, and about 5.5% from the third quarter of 1968 to the third quarter of 1969.

E. S. WALLACE

(Continued from first page) the rates of change in population and in labor force will be almost identical (14.6% and 14.4%, respectively), whereas for women the rate of employment change will be 9 percentage points higher than the 12.2% rate of population growth.

The State's Older Workers

The report of the Bureau of Labor Statistics shows that there was a negligible increase in labor force participation of persons 55 years and over from 1960 to 1970, and a drop of one percentage point is projected by 1980. There will be an increase, however, in women participants in the labor force. The rate of participation of males of this age group, which declined from 62% in 1960 to 58% in 1970, is projected to decrease further to 55% in 1980. Participation of females 55 and over, however, climbed from 23% in 1960 to an estimated 28% this year, and is projected to increase to 30% in 1980.

According to the population estimates, the percent increase in the number of men aged 55 and over was less than half of one percentage point in the past decade, whereas the number of women increased by 9.2%. Respective changes in the size of the labor force in the same decade were much more marked: men dropped more than 6%, while women rose almost 32%. In the period 1970-1980, the rate of population change of men in the over 55 age group is expected to be a minus 0.4 percent, and an even higher rate of decline in male labor force is projected, a minus 5.2%. The number of older women, however, is expected to increase by about 5%, and the number who will be employed will increase at more than double that rate, 11%.

State, Regional, and National Comparisons

Nebraskans in the work-force age group, 14 years and over, are expected to number 1,104,000 by July 1 of this year. In the next decade this number is expected to increase by 100,000 (9%), but the size of the civilian labor force is projected to grow at a considerably higher rate, 12.6%. Because many other states are expected to have sharper increases, however, it is predicted that Nebraska, which ranked in 38th place in percentage gain (17.2%) in the labor force 1960-1970, will drop to 45th place by 1980.

Even if the prediction proves to be accurate, this is not necessarily cause for alarm. As was pointed out recently by a visiting agricultural economist, moderate gains in labor force participation, when accompanied by employment opportunities that support a high standard of living, may be considerably more desirable than sharp increases in labor force in categories of employment that do not offer sufficient income per worker for maintenance of an adequate living standard or quality of life.

The trend toward increased labor force participation of women observed in the projections for Nebraska in the next decade is also a regional and national trend. Among those aged 14-24 the male population is expected to increase somewhat faster than the female but, except in the region, the rate of growth of women in the labor force will be higher. In the 25-54 age group the rate of gain of women in the labor force will be higher than that of men in the region and in the nation, as in Nebraska. Although the present labor force participation rate of women in this age group is about the same in Nebraska as elsewhere, the differential between rate of increase of men and women workers is expected to be much greater in this state. The region and the country as a whole are expected to show sizable increases in the male population aged 55 and over, whereas Nebraska is expected to have a slight decline. In Nebraska as elsewhere the female population in this age group is projected to increase, although not as rapidly here as in either the region or the nation as a whole. (Continued on page 6)

Business Summary

Business activity in Nebraska moved to a level in December, 1969, considerably above that of the same month last year. The Dollar Volume index was 4 percent higher; the Physical Volume index, 3 percent higher. Nebraska's upward movement from levels of recent months still lagged behind that of the United States as a whole.

Leading Nebraska's gains over last year were Cash Farm Marketings, up 21 percent; Retail Sales, as adjusted for price changes, up 10 percent; and Life Insurance Sales, up 10 percent. Importantly,

Nebraska's employment showed gains of 4.6 percent in Manufacturing and 3 percent in other sectors. For the United States, the respective percentage gains were only 0.2 and 2.7. On the weak side, Nebraska's Construction declined much more than did the United States.

January Retail Sales in Nebraska were 9 percent above last year's level. Soft Goods gains led in the upward movement. Principal gainers in Retail Sales were Food, Hardware, Farm Equipment, and Apparel Stores. Omaha and Lincoln's January sales appear to be below last year's. Some major gains appeared for Grand Island, Hastings, Norfolk, Columbus, and Nebraska City.

All figures on this page are adjusted for seasonal changes, which means that the month-to-month ratios are relative to the normal or expected changes. Figures in Table I (except the first line) are adjusted where appropriate for price changes. Gasoline sales for Nebraska are for road use only; for the United States they are production in the previous month. E. L. HAUSWALD

I. NEBRASKA and the UNITED STATES

II. PHYSICAL VOLUME OF BUSINESS Percentage of 1948 Average

DEC Business Indicators	Percent of 1948 Average		Percent of Same Month a Year Ago		Percent of Preceding Month	
	Nebraska	U.S.	Nebraska	U.S.	Nebraska	U.S.
	Dollar Volume of Business	340.1	413.4	104.1	110.1	109.7
Physical Volume of Business	220.9	241.7	102.9	103.8	107.0	101.5
Bank debits (checks, etc.)	240.1	419.5	108.1	108.5	118.6	100.9
Construction activity	205.8	164.5	60.8	94.5	102.2	96.1
Retail sales	158.2	181.2	109.9	99.9	109.7	98.9
Life insurance sales	433.0	511.9	110.0	106.4	101.4	118.2
Cash farm marketings	240.0	166.0	121.2	104.4	116.8	108.1
Electricity produced	417.9	519.8	105.7	107.1	98.7	99.8
Newspaper advertising	171.5	155.8	104.7	97.3	104.3	94.4
Manufacturing employment	180.2	130.6	104.6	100.2	100.3	99.9
Other employment	151.8	174.3	103.0	102.7	101.1	100.0
Gasoline sales	267.7	225.8	103.9	103.3	131.9	92.4

Month	Nebraska	U.S.
	1968-69	1968-69
December	203.6	232.9
January	216.1	232.7
February	231.1	239.6
March	223.9	238.1
April	224.8	240.0
May	219.6	240.7
June	225.0	243.3
July	219.1	243.7
August	218.2	240.1
September	218.0	239.9
October	214.6	243.1
November	206.4	238.1
December	220.9	241.7

III. RETAIL SALES for Selected Cities. Total, Hard Goods, and Soft Goods Stores. Hard Goods include automobile, building material, furniture, hardware, equipment. Soft Goods include food, gasoline, department, clothing, and miscellaneous stores.

JAN		Percent of Same Month a Year Ago			Percent of Preceding Month	JAN		Percent of Same Month a Year Ago			Percent of Preceding Month
City	No. of Reports	Total	Hard Goods	Soft Goods	Total	City	No. of Reports	Total	Hard Goods	Soft Goods	Total
THE STATE	644	109.0	101.7	123.3	106.8	Fremont	23	108.2	109.8	106.8	102.8
Omaha	44	98.8	104.1	94.5	104.2	Fairbury	23	92.9	80.3	103.7	92.8
Lincoln	61	96.9	85.4	106.3	96.0	Norfolk	23	110.3	105.5	114.7	83.1
Grand Island	27	122.1	125.1	119.5	85.0	Scottsbluff	35	96.5	82.0	109.0	90.8
Hastings	25	108.4	108.7	108.1	104.8	Columbus	23	112.9	115.4	108.4	82.0
North Platte	18	102.7	88.9	122.0	74.2	McCook	15	95.4	75.7	124.8	101.2
						York	22	100.3	86.8	108.9	103.9

IV. RETAIL SALES, Other Cities and Rural Counties

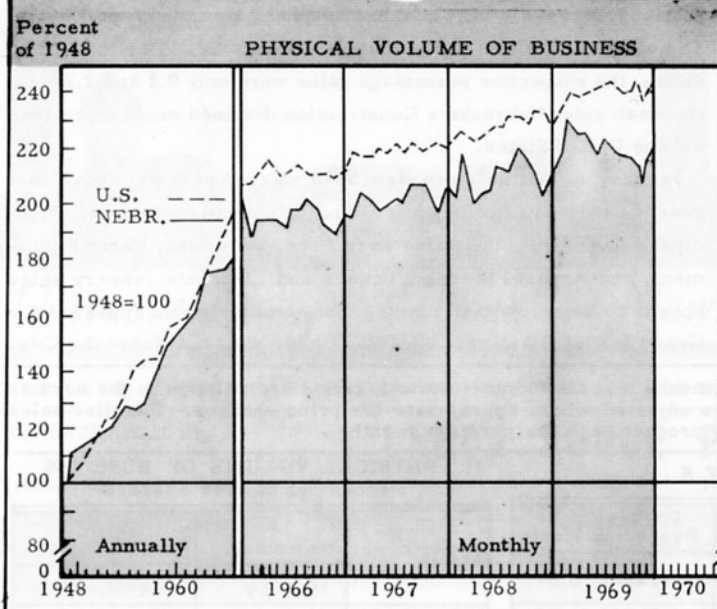
V. RETAIL SALES, by Subgroups, for the State and Major Divisions

JAN	No. of Reports	Percent of Same Month A Year Ago	Percent of Preceding Month
Kearney	16	114.9	89.3
Alliance	25	102.7	88.6
Nebraska City	19	112.7	110.4
Broken Bow	13	109.7	96.3
Falls City	16	101.6	83.8
Holdrege	15	98.9	78.5
Chadron	20	117.3	91.2
Beatrice	14	97.6	96.6
Sidney	21	106.4	83.6
So. Sioux City	9	99.9	117.6
Antelope	6	103.1	104.4
Cass	17	117.6	99.6
Cuming	9	103.1	103.6
Sand Hills**	21	112.5	87.2
Dodge***	9	106.3	110.6
Franklin	8	112.9	108.0
Holt	13	116.7	86.5
Saunders	13	102.0	97.7
Thayer	6	116.6	113.2
Misc. Counties	35	110.1	97.9

JAN	Type of Store	Percent of Same Month a Year Ago			
		Nebraska	Omaha and Lincoln	Other Cities	Rural Counties
	ALL STORES****	109.0	104.8	109.9	112.2
	Selected Services	107.0	103.0	92.7	125.3
	Food stores	113.7	110.1	114.2	116.8
	Groceries and meats	114.2	112.2	113.3	117.1
	Eating and drinking pl.	113.0	111.1	117.5	110.4
	Dairies and other foods	112.8	94.7	109.6	134.1
	Equipment	107.3	117.5	103.9	100.6
	Building material	104.7	109.4	108.0	96.7
	Hardware dealers	113.3	104.1	109.1	126.8
	Farm equipment	131.5	206.3	93.8	94.3
	Home equipment	97.0	87.8	102.1	101.1
	Automotive stores	97.1	90.2	96.1	105.1
	Automotive dealers	94.7	87.8	95.0	101.2
	Service stations	103.0	99.7	100.3	109.0
	Miscellaneous stores	111.7	102.9	114.8	117.5
	General merchandise	114.9	107.6	115.4	121.6
	Variety stores	120.7	126.3	117.4	118.5
	Apparel stores	114.7	88.2	123.6	132.2
	Luxury goods stores	109.2	104.8	110.3	112.4
	Drug stores	104.4	102.1	105.4	105.7
	Other stores	97.2	93.8	106.4	91.5

**Hooker, Grant, Dawes, Cherry, and Sheridan Counties

****Not including Selected Services



UNADJUSTED CITY INDEXES
Percentage Change, Jan. 1969 to Jan. 1970.

	-5	0	+5	+10	+15	+20	+25
FALLS CITY							
SO. SIOUX CITY							
COLUMBUS							
NEBRASKA CITY							
FAIRBURY							
HOLDREGE							
BROKEN BOW							
KEARNEY							
HASTINGS							
FREMONT							
(STATE)							
SIDNEY							
LINCOLN							
MCCOOK							
NORFOLK							
BEATRICE							
OMAHA							
SCOTTSBLUFF							
NORTH PLATTE							
CHADRON							
YORK							
ALLIANCE							
GRAND ISLAND							Not available

Figures on this page are not adjusted for seasonal changes nor for price changes. Building activity includes the effects of past as well as present building permits, on the theory that not all building is completed in the month the permit is issued. E. L. H.

VI. CITY BUSINESS INDICATORS

Percent of Same Month a Year Ago

JAN City	City Index	Bank Debits	Building Activity	Retail Sales	Electricity Consumed	Gas Consumed	Water Pumped	Postal Receipts	Newspaper Advertising
The State	104.7	112.0	88.4	109.0	108.1	98.0	103.7	155.8	94.6
Beatrice	101.7	125.8	72.3	97.6	101.7	96.8	118.6	96.5	110.7
Omaha	101.2	107.8	61.1	98.8	107.7	100.8	97.7	113.1	97.0
Lincoln	104.0	113.3	142.9	96.9	108.3	95.1	106.7	77.0	104.3
Grand Island	NA	115.0	NA	122.1	NA	NA	NA	NA	- -
Hastings	105.6	110.8	156.1	108.4	101.2	102.1	125.7	90.3	99.7
Fremont	105.4	122.5	95.7	108.2	112.0	NA	103.5	97.9	NA
North Platte	97.2	113.9	44.7	102.7	98.2	88.3	99.7	125.5	44.5
Kearney	106.1	112.1	100.2	114.9	129.6	94.6	105.9	93.1	NA
Scottsbluff	101.0	108.1	65.4	96.5	113.9	100.3	125.7	99.0	61.3
Norfolk	102.7	119.6	85.0	110.3	118.5	97.6	101.5	70.9	101.3
Columbus	111.1	114.1	171.4	112.9	112.0	93.9	105.6	113.9	102.0
McCook	103.4	111.1	126.2	95.4	102.9	96.3	NA	118.4	92.5
Sidney	104.1	120.2	87.6	106.4	100.0	105.8	135.5	100.1	NA
Alliance	95.5	112.5	65.3	102.7	94.0	88.3	105.3	86.5	97.0
Nebraska City	110.0	123.5	72.0	112.7	115.0	100.4	105.5	111.7	NA
So. Sioux City	113.9	107.3	519.1	99.9	128.7	105.5	NA	114.1	NA
York	95.8	115.4	61.2	100.3	72.5	94.4	96.0	92.7	113.0
Falls City	115.4	116.1	863.3	101.6	117.6	96.6	116.5	151.6	111.4
Fairbury	109.0	97.3	150.3	92.9	110.8	NA	111.8	104.4	113.9
Holdrege	106.5	114.3	156.3	98.9	102.5	91.3	104.1	113.5	106.0
Chadron	96.5	83.5	30.4	117.3	101.2	88.2	100.6	100.7	NA
Broken Bow	106.1	111.4	138.3	109.7	102.6	97.5	98.6	100.6	111.5

Percent of Preceding Month (Unadjusted)

JAN City	City Index	Bank Debits	Building Activity	Retail Sales	Electricity Consumed	Gas Consumed	Water Pumped	Postal Receipts	Newspaper Advertising
The State	99.6	100.2	90.9	79.9	106.3	117.1	101.1	121.8	69.5
Beatrice	95.7	98.2	99.0	63.9	111.7	119.9	109.8	72.8	75.8
Omaha	93.6	104.7	91.5	79.6	103.0	117.8	100.5	78.3	76.5
Lincoln	95.0	94.7	110.1	73.0	108.0	110.8	100.7	72.8	76.7
Grand Island	NA	99.3	NA	61.7	NA	NA	NA	NA	- -
Hastings	90.8	99.8	89.5	77.7	101.9	121.2	96.1	74.8	59.2
Fremont	91.1	118.1	76.0	76.5	105.7	NA	98.4	83.9	NA
North Platte	96.3	99.0	93.8	47.1	109.3	118.5	103.1	89.3	30.0
Kearney	88.5	90.9	59.2	67.5	89.2	115.9	103.0	85.3	NA
Scottsbluff	95.9	95.3	79.3	68.6	128.8	126.3	116.1	92.8	63.6
Norfolk	97.6	99.0	140.9	62.9	143.4	113.0	108.4	61.9	69.8
Columbus	94.2	98.0	94.3	57.1	118.8	117.1	92.9	91.4	68.6
McCook	81.8	101.6	72.6	71.2	102.2	103.3	NA	54.0	69.1
Sidney	99.8	107.7	81.5	59.9	110.5	139.7	110.1	68.7	NA
Alliance	83.0	76.2	75.2	59.5	99.2	127.4	106.9	55.7	81.6
Nebraska City	101.3	127.1	71.4	78.7	117.6	125.3	104.7	81.7	NA
So. Sioux City	91.3	84.9	70.7	83.3	164.0	NA	NA	105.7	NA
York	84.9	105.5	78.2	75.5	76.4	110.7	105.6	68.6	79.4
Falls City	95.0	99.4	70.4	63.0	104.1	118.0	100.4	116.9	76.0
Fairbury	86.3	99.3	91.0	60.2	108.4	NA	97.0	71.0	62.7
Holdrege	88.0	103.7	82.0	57.8	108.6	114.9	85.8	80.3	74.9
Chadron	87.4	100.9	60.0	65.3	107.0	122.5	91.5	69.7	NA
Broken Bow	91.5	103.8	75.5	69.5	105.3	124.5	97.2	84.4	80.7

third in the nation (behind Florida and Iowa) in percentage of population 65 years and older may help to account for this difference.

The differential between rates of projected increases in labor force and in population in this state in the next decade among those 14 and over compares favorably with the region and the nation as a whole. Whereas for the 50 states combined it is expected that the labor force will increase 1.8 percentage points more rapidly than will the population, in the region the labor force will grow

points. Thus even though population in this age group is expected to increase at a faster rate in the region and the nation as a whole than in Nebraska, the state is projected to have a more favorable ratio of employment growth to population growth. Both projected rates of change, population 9% and labor force 12.6%, should be sufficient to maintain a healthy economy.

DOROTHY SWITZER

POPULATION AGE 14 AND OVER AND LABOR FORCE BY AGE AND SEX
THE UNITED STATES, NORTH CENTRAL REGION AND NEBRASKA
1960 and Projected 1970 and 1980

	Population (in thousands)			Labor Force Participation Rates			Percent Change				
	1960	1970	1980	(percent)			1960-70		1970-80		
				1960	1970	1980	Population	Labor Force	Population	Labor Force	
United States											
Total*	126,277	148,944	173,161	55.3	57.2	58.1	18.0	22.0	16.3	18.1	
Male	61,315	71,795	83,380	77.4	76.8	77.1	17.1	16.1	16.1	16.6	
Female	64,961	77,148	89,781	34.5	39.1	40.6	18.8	34.5	16.4	20.8	
Age 14-24	26,839	39,625	45,369	44.7	50.3	52.1	47.6	66.0	14.5	18.6	
Male	13,385	19,846	22,786	57.1	61.8	63.4	48.3	60.5	14.8	17.8	
Female	13,454	19,779	22,583	32.5	38.8	40.8	47.0	75.7	14.2	20.1	
Age 25-54	67,523	71,249	83,650	67.5	70.8	71.8	5.5	10.7	17.4	19.0	
Male	33,052	34,807	41,212	94.7	95.8	95.9	5.3	6.6	18.4	18.5	
Female	34,471	36,442	42,438	41.4	47.0	48.4	5.7	19.9	16.5	19.9	
Age 55 and over	31,915	38,070	44,142	38.5	39.0	38.4	19.3	20.8	15.9	14.2	
Male	14,878	17,143	19,382	57.3	55.4	53.0	5.7	11.3	13.1	8.3	
Female	17,037	20,927	24,760	22.1	25.6	27.0	22.8	42.2	18.3	24.6	
North Central Region											
Total*	36,157	40,675	46,559	55.4	57.5	58.8	12.5	16.7	14.5	16.9	
Male	17,588	19,684	22,574	78.4	77.5	78.2	11.9	10.6	14.7	15.7	
Female	18,569	20,991	23,985	33.7	38.8	40.5	13.0	30.2	14.3	10.2	
Age 14-24	7,460	10,728	12,165	46.3	51.5	53.7	43.8	59.9	13.4	18.3	
Male	3,651	5,274	6,008	58.7	62.7	65.3	44.5	54.3	13.9	18.6	
Female	3,809	5,453	6,157	34.4	40.6	42.4	43.1	68.9	12.0	17.9	
Age 25-54	19,096	19,241	22,444	67.1	70.6	71.5	0.8	6.0	16.6	18.2	
Male	9,407	9,546	11,263	95.5	96.4	96.3	1.5	2.4	18.0	17.9	
Female	9,688	9,695	11,181	39.5	45.1	46.5	0.1	14.5	15.3	18.7	
Age 55 and over	9,602	10,708	11,950	39.4	40.2	40.1	11.5	13.6	11.6	11.3	
Male	4,531	4,864	5,303	58.7	56.4	54.3	7.4	3.1	9.0	5.0	
Female	5,071	5,844	6,647	22.2	26.7	28.7	15.2	38.3	18.7	22.3	
Nebraska											
Total*	996	1,104	1,204	55.9	59.1	61.1	10.8	17.2	9.0	12.6	
Male	488	537	587	79.5	78.9	79.7	10.1	9.3	9.2	10.3	
Female	508	566	617	33.2	40.3	43.3	11.5	35.5	8.9	17.0	
Age 14-24	205	295	320	49.8	56.6	59.1	43.9	63.7	8.5	13.2	
Male	102	148	162	62.8	68.5	70.9	44.8	57.9	9.0	12.9	
Female	103	147	158	36.8	44.3	46.8	42.8	71.9	7.9	13.9	
Age 25-54	497	500	567	67.0	71.6	73.5	0.6	7.5	13.4	16.5	
Male	247	250	286	96.2	96.8	96.6	1.2	1.8	14.6	14.4	
Female	250	250	281	37.8	46.3	50.0	-	22.3	12.2	21.2	
Age 55 and over	294	309	317	41.5	41.7	40.7	5.1	5.7	2.6	0.0	
Male	139	139	139	61.9	57.9	55.1	0.4	- 6.2	- 0.4	- 5.2	
Female	155	170	178	23.2	28.0	29.7	9.2	31.8	4.9	11.0	

*Because of rounding, some of individual items may not equal totals. Rates and percent changes are based on unrounded numbers.

Source: Tomorrow's Manpower Needs, Volume 1, Bulletin Number 1606, Bureau of Labor Statistics, United States Department of Labor. Totals both sexes, by age category, calculated by Bureau of Business Research.