

GREATER OMAHA ECONOMIC INDICATORS



JUNE 2026

HIGHLIGHTS

In June 2026, Greater Omaha's economy showed continued strength, driven by a resilient labor market and growth in several key industries. The unemployment rate declined from 3.1% in June 2025 to 2.8%, slightly below Nebraska's rate of 2.9% and well below the national rate of 4.2%. Total employment held relatively steady compared to June 2025, even as several industries recorded notable job growth, including Construction (+6.7%), Leisure and Hospitality (+3.6%), Education and Health Services (+2.5%), and Financial Activities (+0.8%). Eppley Airfield also reported a modest increase in passenger enplanements, suggesting continued momentum in regional air travel.

RESEARCH SPOTLIGHT

U.S. News & World Report released its 2026 Best States rankings last month. Nebraska held steady at #5 overall, matching last year's rank, with its strongest showings in Infrastructure (#3) and Fiscal Stability (#8). Iowa climbed to #12 overall, up from #14 in 2025, led by top rankings in Opportunity (#2) and Fiscal Stability (#9). [Click here for the full rankings.](#)

UNEMPLOYMENT (OMAHA CSA)

-0.3%

3-MONTH AVERAGE
June 2026: 2.8%
June 2025: 3.1%



EMPLOYMENT GROWTH (OMAHA CSA)

+1.0%

3-MONTH AVERAGE
June 2026: 554,179
June 2025: 548,557

Greater Omaha had a net increase of over 5,600 employed workers compared to the same time period in 2025.



PRIVATE HOURLY WAGES

(OMAHA MSA)

-2.5%

3-MONTH AVERAGE
June 2026: \$33.45
June 2025: \$34.31

Average private hourly wages decreased slightly compared to the same since last year.



COMMERCIAL CONSTRUCTION PERMITS (CSA)

+221.6%

3-MONTH AVERAGE
June 2026: \$238.3 mm
June 2025: \$74.1 mm

June 2026 saw an increase in commercial construction valuation.



*Includes new construction, finishes and remodels.
*Did not receive permits from Saunders and Mills Counties.

SINGLE FAMILY CONSTRUCTION PERMITS (CSA)

+20.9%

3-MONTH AVERAGE
June 2026: 310
June 2025: 256

Single family permits increased in June 2026. These new home permits are valued at \$69.2 million.



AIRLINE PASSENGERS

(OMAHA ENPLANEMENTS)

+2.5%

3-MONTH AVERAGE
June 2026: 238,111
June 2025: 232,231

June 2026 had slightly more passenger enplanements compared to the same time period last year.



Greater Omaha Indicators	Apr 25	May 25	Jun 25	Jul 25	Aug 25	Sep 25	Oct 25	Nov 25	Dec 25	Jan 26	Feb 26	Mar 26	Apr 26	May 26	Jun 26*
LABOR MARKET: HOUSEHOLD SURVEY ¹ (Omaha-Council Bluffs-Fremont Combined Statistical Area)															
Labor Force (#, nsa)	564,148	567,071	567,215	569,855	567,062	566,918	na	572,526	566,008	560,402	563,852	565,435	568,344	571,160	571,560
Civilian Employment (#, nsa)	547,114	549,956	548,602	551,117	549,528	550,016	na	554,572	548,166	540,835	544,153	548,438	553,256	555,488	553,792
Unemployment (#, nsa)	17,034	17,115	18,613	18,738	17,534	16,902	na	17,954	17,842	19,567	19,699	16,997	15,088	15,672	17,768
Unemployment Rate - Omaha (% , nsa)	3.0	3.0	3.3	3.3	3.1	3.0	na	3.1	3.2	3.5	3.5	3.0	2.7	2.7	3.1
Unemployment Rate - Nebraska (% , nsa)	2.8	2.8	3.1	3.1	2.8	2.8	na	3.0	3.0	3.3	3.5	3.0	2.7	2.8	3.1
Unemployment Rate - U.S. (% , nsa) ²	3.9	4.0	4.4	4.6	4.5	4.3	na	4.3	4.1	4.7	4.7	4.3	4.0	4.1	4.4
LABOR MARKET: ESTABLISHMENT SURVEY ³ (Omaha-Council Bluffs Metropolitan Statistical Area)															
Total Non-Farm Employment (000s, nsa)	518.6	523.3	524.1	518.7	520.2	519.8	522.1	523.0	519.9	511.4	511.0	515.2	520.9	526.1	532.7
Construction/Mining (000s, nsa)	34.3	35.1	35.8	35.9	35.9	35.4	36.3	35.7	34.4	33.5	34.0	35.4	36.7	37.3	38.2
Manufacturing (000s, nsa)	35.6	35.5	35.5	35.3	35.2	35.2	35.1	35.5	35.6	35.4	35.2	35.1	35.1	35.1	35.3
Trade, Trans. and Utilities (000s, nsa)	93.3	93.6	93.3	93.1	93.2	92.8	93.6	95.8	96.3	93.6	92.2	92.0	92.7	93.0	93.8
Information (000s, nsa)	9.3	9.3	9.3	9.4	9.4	9.3	9.2	9.2	9.3	9.3	9.1	9.2	9.2	9.1	9.2
Financial Activities (000s, nsa)	39.4	39.5	39.7	39.9	39.8	40.1	40.0	40.1	40.2	39.9	40.0	39.8	39.7	39.7	40.1
Prof. and Business Services (000s, nsa)	69.4	69.6	69.9	69.2	68.8	68.3	69.0	68.9	68.4	66.6	66.1	67.3	68.3	68.5	69.1
Educ. and Health Services (000s, nsa)	91.9	92.0	91.5	91.9	92.5	92.2	93.3	93.0	92.5	92.7	93.2	93.9	93.6	93.8	94.6
Leisure and Hospitality (000s, nsa)	56.6	59.0	60.4	59.5	60.3	58.1	57.3	56.5	55.1	53.1	53.2	54.4	57.3	60.8	64.3
Other Services (000s, nsa)	18.0	18.1	18.3	18.3	18.1	17.9	17.9	17.8	18.0	17.8	17.9	17.9	17.8	17.8	17.9
Government (000s, nsa)	70.8	71.6	70.4	66.2	67.0	70.5	70.4	70.5	70.1	69.5	70.1	70.2	70.5	71.0	70.2
Avg. Hourly Earnings of Private Workers (\$, nsa)	\$34.31	\$34.13	\$34.49	\$34.28	\$34.48	\$34.77	\$34.57	\$35.02	\$34.80	\$33.01	\$33.48	\$33.69	\$33.58	\$33.43	\$33.33
CONSTRUCTION PERMITS ⁴ (Omaha-Council Bluffs-Fremont Combined Statistical Area)															
Total Permits (#, nsa, not including commercial remodels)	303	321	281	495	300	410	423	190	242	306	248	388	294	376	403
Valuation (\$mm, nsa, not including commercial remodels) ^{4a}	\$100.8	\$88.6	\$119.9	\$119.1	\$142.4	\$123.2	\$123.2	\$92.1	\$207.0	\$231.6	\$83.1	\$449.2	\$179.6	\$216.2	\$430.1
Single-Family Residential Permits (#, nsa)	277	275	217	423	264	373	378	159	173	272	216	351	255	340	335
Valuation (\$mm, nsa)	\$56.6	\$57.4	\$50.4	\$53.7	\$62.5	\$74.1	\$64.5	\$35.4	\$42.5	\$45.7	\$48.0	\$67.8	\$58.5	\$71.6	\$77.6
Multi-Family Residential Units (#, nsa)	45	139	203	286	484	92	213	126	637	560	315	127	226	256	291
Valuation (\$mm, nsa)	\$4.7	\$12.7	\$17.4	\$34.5	\$54.8	\$6.7	\$16.6	\$9.7	\$56.9	\$86.2	\$28.4	\$9.0	\$29.1	\$49.7	\$32.1
Non-Residential Permits- New Constr. (#, nsa) ^{4b}	24	33	42	46	20	28	33	28	18	23	28	32	26	22	43
Valuation (\$mm, nsa) ^{4b}	\$39.5	\$18.5	\$52.0	\$31.0	\$25.1	\$42.4	\$42.2	\$47.1	\$107.6	\$99.6	\$24.0	\$372.4	\$92.0	\$95.0	\$320.4
Non-Residential Permits- Finish & Remodel (#, nsa) ^{4c}	71	61	58	48	58	70	60	59	57	65	38	70	56	75	54
Valuation (\$mm, nsa) ^{4c}	\$69.2	\$23.7	\$19.4	\$23.6	\$26.4	\$41.1	\$66.0	\$37.1	\$42.0	\$22.9	\$19.5	\$68.8	\$107.7	\$49.2	\$50.7
Total Non-Residential Permits (#, nsa)	95	94	100	94	78	98	93	87	75	88	66	102	82	97	97
Total Non-Residential Valuation (\$mm, nsa)	\$108.7	\$42.2	\$71.4	\$54.6	\$51.5	\$83.5	\$108.1	\$84.2	\$149.6	\$122.5	\$43.5	\$441.2	\$199.7	\$144.1	\$371.1
NEW AND EXISTING HOME SALES ⁵ (Omaha-Council Bluffs Metropolitan Statistical Area)															
Total Sales (#, nsa)	967	1,166	1,280	1,177	1,085	1,073	1,138	842	917	672	725	995	1,071	1,271	1,347
Total Value (\$mm, nsa)	\$362.5	\$443.0	\$494.3	\$459.1	\$414.8	\$404.8	\$435.3	\$327.0	\$332.5	\$251.6	\$267.9	\$363.3	\$394.8	\$496.7	\$547.2
TRANSPORTATION ⁶															
Airline Passengers Enplaned (000s, nsa)	195.7	242.9	258.1	256.1	218.9	211.4	237.7	200.5	221.1	177.8	181.1	222.3	203.7	249.8	260.8
Airline Cargo Enplaned (mm lbs., nsa)	5.4	5.7	5.2	5.5	5.6	5.4	5.8	4.5	5.5	4.8	4.8	5.2	5.2	4.8	4.7
PRICES ⁷															
Consumer Price Index - U.S. (nsa, 1982-84 = 100)	320.8	321.5	322.6	323.0	324.0	324.8	na	324.1	324.1	325.3	326.8	330.2	333.0	335.1	334.0
CPI - Midwest (nsa, pop. 50,000-1.5 million, 1996 = 100)	189.9	190.3	191.9	192.2	192.7	193.2	na	193.1	193.2	194.0	195.2	197.1	198.6	200.8	199.9
Personal Consumption Expenditure Index (U.S., chained, 2017=100, sa) ⁸	123.7	123.6	123.9	124.5	124.9	125.0	125.3	125.4	125.5	125.5	125.8	126.2	125.9	126.2	127.0

SOURCES

1 U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, Local Area Unemployment Statistics (LAUS) (unless otherwise marked)
2 U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, Current Population Survey (CPS)
3 U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, Current Employment Statistics (CES), State & Metro Area
4 Collected from municipalities in 9-county area. See notes & Greater Omaha Permit Data for details.

5 Omaha Area Board of Realtors, MLS Statistics
6 Omaha Airport Authority, Monthly Traffic Statistics
7 U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U) (unless otherwise marked)
8 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
1a Official federal data was unavailable for October 2025.
4a Excludes any permits that do not have a valuation listed

4b Excludes construction of non-residential structures less than \$10,000
4c Excludes alterations less than \$10,000, repairs, and maintenance
7a Official federal data was unavailable for October 2025.