

# **Economic Overview**

# Cedar County, Nebraska

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## **Demographic Profile**

The population in Cedar County, Nebraska\* was 8,523 per American Community Survey data for 2014-2018.

The region has a civilian labor force of 4,595 with a participation rate of 69.3%. Of individuals 25 to 64 in Cedar County, Nebraska\*, 23.3% have a bachelor's degree or higher which compares with 32.9% in the nation.

The median household income in Cedar County, Nebraska\* is \$58,978 and the median house value is \$121,000.

#### Summary<sup>1</sup>

		Percent		Value				
Cedar Co Nebras	•	City of Laurel, NE	Proxy for Laurel 45 Minutes*	Cedar County, Nebraska	City of Laurel, NE	Proxy for Laurel 45 Minutes*		
Demographics								
Population (ACS)	_	_	_	8,523	1,047	191,833		
Male	50.8%	45.8%	49.8%	4,329	480	95,522		
Female	49.2%	54.2%	50.2%	4,194	567	96,311		
Median Age <sup>2</sup>	_	_	_	43.6	35.0	36.2		
Under 18 Years	25.2%	24.3%	24.7%	2,152	254	47,377		
18 to 24 Years	7.3%	12.6%	12.1%	626	132	23,142		
25 to 34 Years	9.2%	13.1%	12.1%	787	137	23,237		
35 to 44 Years	9.6%	9.6%	11.6%	821	100	22,182		
45 to 54 Years	12.0%	9.2%	11.9%	1,026	96	22,774		
55 to 64 Years	15.4%	11.2%	12.7%	1,316	117	24,286		
65 to 74 Years	10.0%	8.2%	8.1%	855	86	15,507		
75 Years, and Over	11.0%	11.9%	6.9%	940	125	13,328		
Race: White	98.0%	96.9%	86.8%	8,352	1,015	166,537		
Race: Black or African American	0.0%	0.3%	2.4%	4	3	4,699		
Race: American Indian and Alaska Native	0.9%	1.2%	3.1%	76	13	6,002		
Race: Asian	0.1%	0.0%	1.7%	6	0	3,329		
Race: Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander	0.0%	0.0%	0.2%	2	0	299		
Race: Some Other Race	0.5%	0.0%	3.6%	43	0	6,971		
Race: Two or More Races	0.5%	1.5%	2.1%	40	16	3,996		
Hispanic or Latino (of any race)	1.8%	0.8%	13.8%	156	8	26,496		
Economic								
Labor Force Participation Rate and Size (civilian population 16 years and over) <sup>5</sup>	69.3%	68.8%	69.3%	4,595	570	103,359		
Prime-Age Labor Force Participation Rate and Size (civilian population 25-54) <sup>5</sup>	91.8%	90.7%	85.7%	2,417	302	58,371		
Armed Forces Labor Force <sup>5</sup>	0.0%	0.0%	0.1%	0	0	120		
Veterans, Age 18-64 <sup>5</sup>	4.5%	3.6%	4.3%	205	21	4,972		
Veterans Labor Force Participation Rate and Size, Age 18-64 <sup>5</sup>	85.4%	85.7%	80.0%	175	18	3,976		
Median Household Income <sup>2,5</sup>	_	_	_	\$58,978	\$47,700	\$53,106		
Per Capita Income <sup>5</sup>	_	_	_	\$29,494	\$26,571	\$27,310		
Mean Commute Time (minutes) <sup>5</sup>	_	_	_	16.4	17.1	16.0		
Commute via Public Transportation <sup>5</sup>	0.1%	0.0%	0.6%	3	0	568		
Educational Attainment, Age 25-64								
No High School Diploma	3.4%	4.2%	11.7%	133	19	10,797		
High School Graduate	30.5%	21.1%	29.1%	1,203	95	26,957		
Some College, No Degree	21.3%	24.7%	21.0%	843	111	19,460		
Associate's Degree	21.5%	17.6%	13.2%	851	79	12,227		
Bachelor's Degree	16.5%	21.6%	17.0%	652	97	15,730		
Postgraduate Degree	6.8%	10.9%	7.9%	268	49	7,308		
Housing								

### Summary<sup>1</sup>

		Percent		Value					
	Cedar County, Nebraska	City of Laurel, NE	Proxy for Laurel 45 Minutes*	Cedar County, Nebraska	City of Laurel, NE	Proxy for Laurel 45 Minutes*			
Total Housing Units	_	_	_	4,154	514	81,942			
Median House Value (of owner-occupied units) <sup>2</sup>	_	_	_	\$121,000	\$87,300	\$125,925			
Homeowner Vacancy	2.4%	2.7%	1.2%	70	9	621			
Rental Vacancy	10.0%	6.0%	4.0%	75	8	1,107			
Renter-Occupied Housing Units (% of Occupied Units)	18.6%	28.8%	34.7%	642	126	26,091			
Occupied Housing Units with No Vehicle Available (% of Occupied Units) <sup>5</sup>	2.9%	2.5%	6.2%	100	11	4,652			
Social									
Poverty Level (of all people) <sup>5</sup>	9.1%	13.9%	15.2%	759	142	27,755			
Households Receiving Food Stamps/SNAP	5.0%	4.8%	11.8%	172	21	8,863			
Enrolled in Grade 12 (% of total population)	1.5%	2.2%	1.4%	131	23	2,627			
Disconnected Youth <sup>3,5</sup>	0.2%	0.0%	1.4%	1	0	173			
Children in Single Parent Families (% of all children) <sup>5</sup>	13.4%	21.5%	34.7%	280	54	15,784			
Uninsured	5.9%	3.6%	8.2%	497	37	15,500			
With a Disability, Age 18-64 <sup>5</sup>	7.0%	7.4%	10.6%	320	43	12,081			
With a Disability, Age 18-64, Labor Force Participation Rate and Size <sup>5</sup>	75.6%	58.1%	53.3%	242	25	6,438			
Foreign Born	0.3%	0.0%	7.6%	28	0	14,598			
Speak English Less Than Very Well (population 5 yrs and over)	0.4%	0.0%	6.1%	31	0	10,850			

Source: JobsEQ®

<sup>1.</sup> American Community Survey 2014-2018, unless noted otherwise

<sup>2.</sup> Median values for certain aggregate regions (such as MSAs) may be estimated as the weighted averages of the median values from the composing counties.

<sup>3.</sup> Disconnected Youth are 16-19 year olds who are (1) not in school, (2) not high school graduates, and (3) either unemployed or not in the labor force.

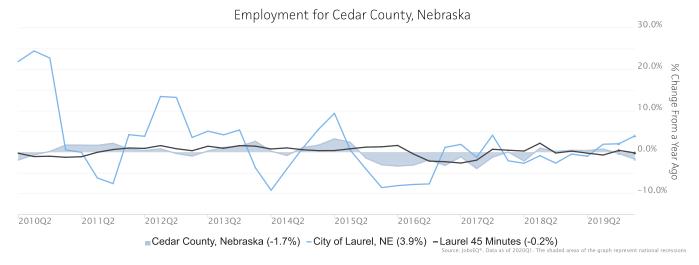
<sup>4.</sup> Census 2019, annual average growth rate since 2009

<sup>5.</sup> See Rio Arriba errata note in the Data Dictionary.

<sup>\*</sup> This user-defined region contains one or more partial ZCTA areas. Any such partial ZCTA within this region definition has been replaced by the full ZCTA for purposes of being described via the above data.

### **Employment Trends**

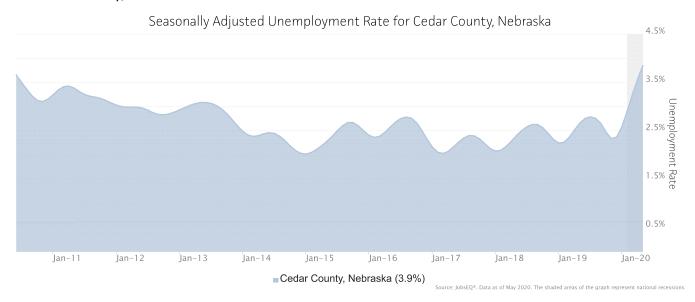
As of 2020Q1, total employment for Cedar County, Nebraska was 3,272 (based on a four-quarter moving average). Over the year ending 2020Q1, employment declined 1.7% in the region.



Employment data are derived from the Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages, provided by the Bureau of Labor Statistics and imputed where necessary. Data are updated through 2019Q3 with preliminary estimates updated to 2020Q1.

# **Unemployment Rate**

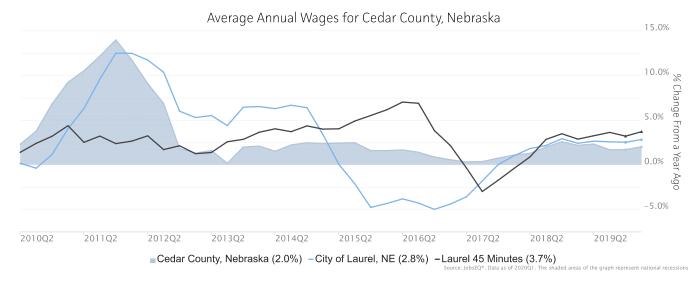
The seasonally adjusted unemployment rate for Cedar County, Nebraska was 3.9% as of May 2020. The regional unemployment rate was lower than the national rate of 11.3%. One year earlier, in May 2019, the unemployment rate in Cedar County, Nebraska was 2.7%.



Unemployment rate data are from the Local Area Unemployment Statistics, provided by the Bureau of Labor Statistics and updated through May 2020

# Wage Trends

The average worker in Cedar County, Nebraska earned annual wages of \$43,822 as of 2020Q1. Average annual wages per worker increased 2.0% in the region over the preceding four quarters. For comparison purposes, annual average wages were \$57,624 in the nation as of 2020Q1.



Annual average wages per worker data are derived from the Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages, provided by the Bureau of Labor Statistics and imputed where necessary. Data are updated through 2019Q3 with preliminary estimates updated to 2020Q1.

# **Cost of Living Index**

The Cost of Living Index estimates the relative price levels for consumer goods and services. When applied to wages and salaries, the result is a measure of relative purchasing power. The cost of living is 9.8% lower in Cedar County, Nebraska than the U.S. average.

### **Cost of Living Information**

	Cost of Living Index					
	<b>Annual Average Salary</b>	(Base US)	<b>US Purchasing Power</b>			
Cedar County, Nebraska	\$43,822	90.2	\$48,591			
City of Laurel, NE	\$40,314	90.2	\$44,702			
Laurel 45 Minutes	\$43,750	89.4	\$48,932			
USA	\$57,624	100.0	\$57,624			

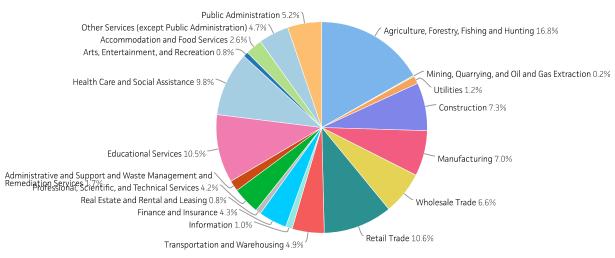
Source: <u>JobsEQ®</u>
Data as of 2020Q1

Cost of Living per C2ER, data as of 2020q1, imputed by Chmura where necessary.

### **Industry Snapshot**

The largest sector in Cedar County, Nebraska is Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing and Hunting, employing 550 workers. The next-largest sectors in the region are Retail Trade (346 workers) and Educational Services (342). High location quotients (LQs) indicate sectors in which a region has high concentrations of employment compared to the national average. The sectors with the largest LQs in the region are Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing and Hunting (LQ = 12.80), Utilities (2.32), and Wholesale Trade (1.75).

Total Workers for Cedar County, Nebraska by Industry



Source: JobsEQ®,Data as of 2020Q

Employment data are derived from the Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages, provided by the Bureau of Labor Statistics and imputed where necessary. Data are updated through 2019Q3 with preliminary estimates updated to 2020Q1.

Sectors in Cedar County, Nebraska with the highest average wages per worker are Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing and Hunting (\$78,320), Utilities (\$64,998), and Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services (\$55,267). Regional sectors with the best job growth (or most moderate job losses) over the last 5 years are Educational Services (+21 jobs), Retail Trade (+14), and Administrative and Support and Waste Management and Remediation Services (+9).

Over the next 5 years, employment in Cedar County, Nebraska is projected to contract by 143 jobs. The fastest growing sector in the region is expected to be Construction with a +0.1% year-over-year rate of growth. The strongest forecast by number of jobs over this period is expected for Construction (+2 jobs), Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services (0), and Administrative and Support and Waste Management and Remediation Services (0).

			Current		5-Year History		5-Year Forecast				
NAICS	Industry	Empl	Avg Ann Wages	LQ	Empl Change	Ann %	Total Demand	Exits	Transfers	Empl Growth	Ann % Growth
11	Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing and Hunting	550	\$78,320	12.80	-23	-0.8%	259	123	166	-31	-1.1%
44	Retail Trade	346	\$20,337	1.03	14	0.8%	210	100	126	-16	-0.9%
61	Educational Services	342	\$38,602	1.28	21	1.3%	141	75	80	-14	-0.8%
62	Health Care and Social Assistance	322	\$28,332	0.68	-6	-0.4%	140	73	76	-9	-0.6%
23	Construction	240	\$38,198	1.28	-39	-3.0%	120	42	76	2	0.1%
31	Manufacturing	228	\$45,913	0.85	-30	-2.5%	96	42	72	-18	-1.6%
42	Wholesale Trade	216	\$55,159	1.75	-37	-3.1%	90	41	68	-18	-1.8%
92	Public Administration	170	\$32,449	1.11	6	0.7%	70	32	44	-7	-0.8%
48	Transportation and Warehousing	161	\$46,167	1.07	-28	-3.1%	74	35	48	-9	-1.1%
81	Other Services (except Public Administration)	152	\$34,550	1.05	-13	-1.6%	79	39	46	-6	-0.8%
52	Finance and Insurance	141	\$49,338	1.09	-7	-0.9%	57	24	40	-7	-1.0%
54	Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services	137	\$55,267	0.62	-8	-1.2%	58	22	37	0	0.0%
72	Accommodation and Food Services	84	\$12,307	0.28	-8	-1.8%	67	30	38	-1	-0.2%
56	Administrative and Support and Waste Management and Remediation Services	54	\$17,745	0.26	9	3.9%	31	13	18	0	-0.2%
22	Utilities	39	\$64,998	2.32	-4	-2.2%	14	6	11	-3	-1.4%
51	Information	34	\$30,238	0.52	-13	-6.4%	7	5	9	-7	-4.8%
53	Real Estate and Rental and Leasing	27	\$43,932	0.47	8	7.2%	13	6	7	-1	-0.4%
71	Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation	25	\$17,365	0.39	6	5.4%	18	8	10	0	-0.1%
21	Mining, Quarrying, and Oil and Gas Extraction	5	\$31,138	0.37	0	-1.7%	2	1	2	0	-0.7%
	Total - All Industries	3,272	\$43,822	1.00	-153	-0.9%	1,600	745	998	-143	-0.9%

Source: JobsEQ®

Employment data are derived from the Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages, provided by the Bureau of Labor Statistics and imputed where necessary. Data are updated through 2019Q3 with preliminary estimates updated to 2020Q1. Forecast employment growth uses national projections adapted for regional growth patterns.

### **Occupation Snapshot**

The largest major occupation group in Cedar County, Nebraska is Management Occupations, employing 501 workers. The next-largest occupation groups in the region are Office and Administrative Support Occupations (324 workers) and Sales and Related Occupations (322). High location quotients (LQs) indicate occupation groups in which a region has high concentrations of employment compared to the national average. The major groups with the largest LQs in the region are Farming, Fishing, and Forestry Occupations (LQ = 7.51), Management Occupations (2.38), and Educational Instruction and Library Occupations (1.34).

Occupation groups in Cedar County, Nebraska with the highest average wages per worker are Legal Occupations (\$70,700), Architecture and Engineering Occupations (\$67,800), and Management Occupations (\$64,000). The unemployment rate in the region varied among the major groups from 0.9% among Management Occupations to 6.3% among Farming, Fishing, and Forestry Occupations.

Over the next 5 years, the fastest growing occupation group in Cedar County, Nebraska is expected to be Construction and Extraction Occupations with a +0.1% year-over-year rate of growth. The strongest forecast by number of jobs over this period is expected for Construction and Extraction Occupations (+1 jobs) and Life, Physical, and Social Science Occupations (0). Over the same period, the highest separation demand (occupation demand due to retirements and workers moving from one occupation to another) is expected in Management Occupations (223 jobs) and Sales and Related Occupations (219).

#### Cedar County, Nebraska, 2020Q11

			Current				5-Year	History		5-Year Forecast				
soc	Occupation	Empl	Avg Ann Wages²	LQ	Unempl	Unempl Rate	Online Job Ads <sup>3</sup>	Empl Change	Ann %	Total Demand	Exits	Transfers	Empl Growth	Ann % Growth
11-0000	Management	501	\$64,000	2.38	5	0.9%	4	-38	-1.4%	197	119	104	-25	-1.0%
43-0000	Office and Administrative Support	324	\$33,900	0.78	12	2.4%	7	-34	-2.0%	142	72	98	-28	-1.8%
41-0000	Sales and Related	322	\$34,700	1.01	16	4.0%	14	-13	-0.8%	203	89	130	-16	-1.0%
53-0000	Transportation and Material Moving	276	\$38,100	1.03	12	3.3%	10	-17	-1.2%	148	59	102	-13	-0.9%
25-0000	Educational Instruction and Library	247	\$42,300	1.34	7	2.5%	1	18	1.5%	97	48	57	-9	-0.7%
47-0000	Construction and Extraction	189	\$39,000	1.25	7	2.9%	3	-24	-2.4%	105	30	74	1	0.1%
51-0000	Production	183	\$35,900	0.95	8	2.1%	3	-22	-2.3%	80	30	65	-15	-1.7%
49-0000	Installation, Maintenance, and Repair	160	\$43,000	1.28	4	1.5%	7	-25	-2.8%	68	23	51	-7	-0.8%
45-0000	Farming, Fishing, and Forestry	155	\$32,100	7.51	9	6.3%	5	14	2.0%	110	29	90	-9	-1.2%
31-0000	Healthcare Support	129	\$28,500	0.90	5	2.7%	4	-7	-1.1%	73	35	40	-3	-0.4%
35-0000	Food Preparation and Serving Related	126	\$22,300	0.45	9	4.6%	7	-13	-2.0%	102	42	62	-2	-0.4%
29-0000	Healthcare Practitioners and Technical	122	\$60,300	0.66	3	1.2%	7	-1	-0.2%	34	16	20	-2	-0.4%
37-0000	Building and Grounds Cleaning and Maintenance	116	\$29,400	1.04	5	3.5%	2	10	1.8%	70	29	44	-3	-0.5%
13-0000	Business and Financial Operations	99	\$55,500	0.55	4	2.7%	1	2	0.4%	42	13	32	-3	-0.7%
39-0000	Personal Care and Service	89	\$23,700	0.96	4	3.4%	2	6	1.4%	64	30	35	-2	-0.3%
17-0000	Architecture and Engineering	49	\$67,800	0.89	1	1.7%	0	-4	-1.6%	18	6	14	-1	-0.5%
33-0000	Protective Service	42	\$40,300	0.59	1	1.8%	0	2	0.8%	18	8	11	-2	-0.7%

### Cedar County, Nebraska, 2020Q11

		Current				5-Year History				5-Year Forecast				
soc	Occupation	Empl	Avg Ann Wages <sup>2</sup>	LQ	Unempl	Unempl Rate	Online Job Ads <sup>3</sup>	Empl Change	Ann %	Total Demand	Exits	Transfers	Empl Growth	Ann % Growth
21-0000	Community and Social Service	40	\$40,500	0.72	1	1.8%	2	-1	-0.3%	20	8	14	-1	-0.4%
27-0000	Arts, Design, Entertainment, Sports, and Media	37	\$31,700	0.62	2	4.2%	2	-4	-2.0%	17	7	12	-2	-1.3%
15-0000	Computer and Mathematical	35	\$60,600	0.36	1	2.3%	0	-2	-1.0%	11	3	10	-1	-0.7%
19-0000	Life, Physical, and Social Science	17	\$57,500	0.60	1	1.9%	0	-2	-2.0%	7	2	6	0	-0.5%
23-0000	Legal	13	\$70,700	0.47	0	n/a	0	1	1.2%	4	2	2	0	-0.5%
	Total - All Occupations	3,272	\$42,100	1.00	116	2.6%	82	-153	-0.9%	1,630	701	1,072	-143	-0.9%

Source: JobsEQ®

Data as of 2020Q1 unless noted otherwise

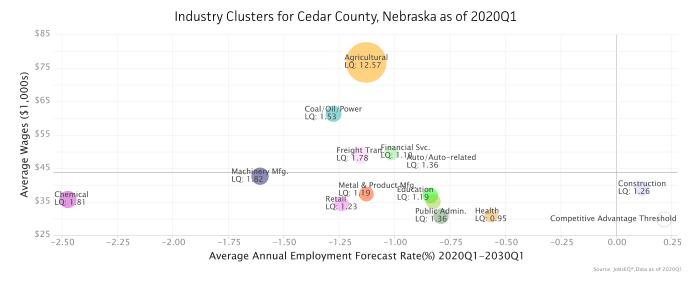
Note: Figures may not sum due to rounding.

- ${\bf 1.}\ {\bf Data}\ {\bf based}\ {\bf on}\ {\bf a}\ {\bf four-quarter}\ {\bf moving}\ {\bf average}\ {\bf unless}\ {\bf noted}\ {\bf otherwise}.$
- 2. Wage data are as of 2019 and represent the average for all Covered Employment  $\,$
- 3. Data represent found online ads active within the last thirty days in the selected region; data represents a sampling rather than the complete universe of postings. Ads lacking zip code information but designating a place (city, town, etc.) may be assigned to the zip code with greatest employment in that place for queries in this analytic. Due to alternative county-assignment algorithms, ad counts in this analytic may not match that shown in RTI (nor in the popup window ad list).

Occupation employment data are estimated via industry employment data and the estimated industry/occupation mix. Industry employment data are derived from the Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages, provided by the Bureau of Labor Statistics and currently updated through 2019Q3, imputed where necessary with preliminary estimates updated to 2020Q1. Wages by occupation are as of 2019 provided by the BLS and imputed where necessary. Forecast employment growth uses national projections from the Bureau of Labor Statistics adapted for regional growth patterns.

# **Industry Clusters**

A cluster is a geographic concentration of interrelated industries or occupations. The industry cluster in Cedar County, Nebraska with the highest relative concentration is Agricultural with a location quotient of 12.57. This cluster employs 562 workers in the region with an average wage of \$76,699. Employment in the Agricultural cluster is projected to contract in the region about 1.1% per year over the next ten years.

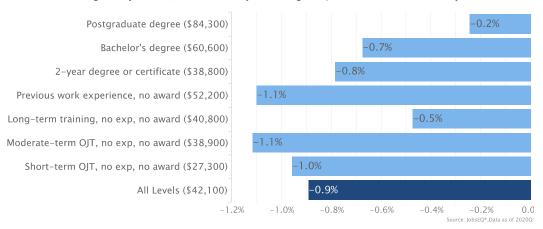


Location quotient and average wage data are derived from the Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages, provided by the Bureau of Labor Statistics, imputed where necessary, and updated through 2019Q3 with preliminary estimates updated to 2020Q1. Forecast employment growth uses national projections from the Bureau of Labor Statistics adapted for regional growth patterns.

### **Education Levels**

Expected growth rates for occupations vary by the education and training required. While all employment in Cedar County, Nebraska is projected to contract 0.9% over the next ten years, occupations typically requiring a postgraduate degree are expected to contract 0.2% per year, those requiring a bachelor's degree are forecast to contract 0.7% per year, and occupations typically needing a 2-year degree or certificate are expected to contract 0.8% per year.

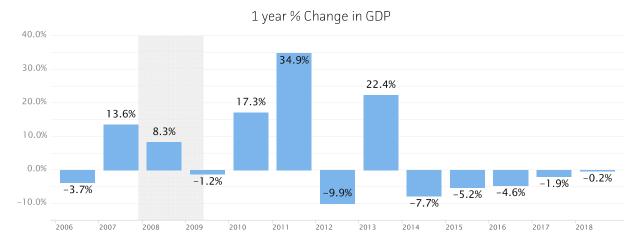




Employment by occupation data are estimates are as of 2020Q1. Education levels of occupations are based on BLS assignments. Forecast employment growth uses national projections from the Bureau of Labor Statistics adapted for regional growth patterns.

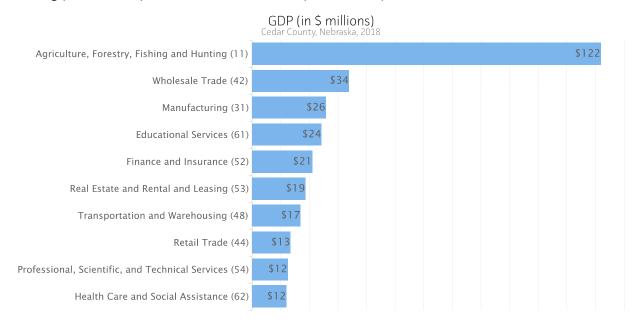
### **Gross Domestic Product**

Gross Domestic Product (GDP) is the total value of goods and services produced by a region. In 2018, nominal GDP in Cedar County, Nebraska contracted 0.2%. This follows a contraction of 1.9% in 2017. As of 2018, total GDP in Cedar County, Nebraska was \$352,846,000.



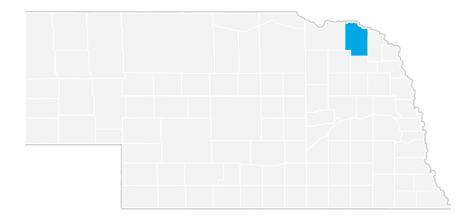
Gross Domestic Product data are provided by the Bureau of Economic Analysis, imputed by Chmura where necessary, updated through 2018.

Of the sectors in Cedar County, Nebraska, Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing and Hunting contributed the largest portion of GDP in 2018, \$121,865,000 The next-largest contributions came from Wholesale Trade (\$33,908,000); Manufacturing (\$25,728,000); and Educational Services (\$24,255,000).



Gross Domestic Product data are provided by the Bureau of Economic Analysis, imputed by Chmura where necessary, updated through 2018.

# Cedar County, Nebraska Regional Map



# **Region Definition**

### Laurel 45 Minutes is defined as the following zip code tabulation areas:

Laurer 45 Minutes is defined as the following 21p code tabulation areas:	
ZCTA 51054	ZCTA 68740 (Stanton County, NE portion)
ZCTA 51101	ZCTA 68740 (Wayne County, NE portion)
ZCTA 51103	ZCTA 68741
ZCTA 51105	ZCTA 68743
ZCTA 51106	ZCTA 68745 (Cedar County, NE portion)
ZCTA 51109 (Woodbury County, IA portion)	ZCTA 68745 (Wayne County, NE portion)
ZCTA 51111	ZCTA 68747
ZCTA 57010 (Clay County, SD portion)	ZCTA 68749
ZCTA 57069	ZCTA 68751
ZCTA 57078 (Cedar County, NE portion)	ZCTA 68757 (Cedar County, NE portion)
ZCTA 68030	ZCTA 68757 (Dixon County, NE portion)
ZCTA 68047 (Cuming County, NE portion)	ZCTA 68765
ZCTA 68047 (Thurston County, NE portion)	ZCTA 68767
ZCTA 68047 (Wayne County, NE portion)	ZCTA 68768
ZCTA 68062	ZCTA 68769 (Antelope County, NE portion)
ZCTA 68071	ZCTA 68769 (Pierce County, NE portion)
ZCTA 68701 (Madison County, NE portion)	ZCTA 68770 (Dakota County, NE portion)
ZCTA 68701 (Pierce County, NE portion)	ZCTA 68770 (Dixon County, NE portion)
ZCTA 68701 (Stanton County, NE portion)	ZCTA 68771 (Cedar County, NE portion)
ZCTA 68710	ZCTA 68771 (Pierce County, NE portion)
ZCTA 68717	ZCTA 68771 (Wayne County, NE portion)
ZCTA 68718	ZCTA 68774
ZCTA 68723	ZCTA 68776
ZCTA 68727	ZCTA 68779
ZCTA 68728	ZCTA 68784 (Dixon County, NE portion)
ZCTA 68729 (Antelope County, NE portion)	ZCTA 68784 (Wayne County, NE portion)
ZCTA 68729 (Knox County, NE portion)	ZCTA 68785 (Dakota County, NE portion)
ZCTA 68730 (Cedar County, NE portion)	ZCTA 68785 (Dixon County, NE portion)
ZCTA 68730 (Knox County, NE portion)	ZCTA 68786 (Cedar County, NE portion)
ZCTA 68731	ZCTA 68786 (Knox County, NE portion)
ZCTA 68732	ZCTA 68787 (Dixon County, NE portion)
ZCTA 68733 (Dakota County, NE portion)	ZCTA 68787 (Wayne County, NE portion)
ZCTA 68733 (Dixon County, NE portion)	ZCTA 68790
ZCTA 68733 (Thurston County, NE portion)	ZCTA 68791 (Cuming County, NE portion)
ZCTA 68736	ZCTA 68791 (Wayne County, NE portion)

### Laurel 45 Minutes is defined as the following zip code tabulation areas:

ZCTA 68739 ZCTA 68792

### **FAQ**

### What is a location quotient?

A location quotient (LQ) is a measurement of concentration in comparison to the nation. An LQ of 1.00 indicates a region has the same concentration of an industry (or occupation) as the nation. An LQ of 2.00 would mean the region has twice the expected employment compared to the nation and an LQ of 0.50 would mean the region has half the expected employment in comparison to the nation.

#### What is separation demand?

Separation demand is the number of jobs required due to separations—labor force exits (including retirements) and turnover resulting from workers moving from one occupation into another. Note that separation demand does not include all turnover—it does not include when workers stay in the same occupation but switch employers. The total projected demand for an occupation is the sum of the separation demand and the growth demand (which is the increase or decrease of jobs in an occupation expected due to expansion or contraction of the overall number of jobs in that occupation).

#### What is a cluster?

A cluster is a geographic concentration of interrelated industries or occupations. If a regional cluster has a location quotient of 1.25 or greater, the region is considered to possess a competitive advantage in that cluster.

### What is the difference between industry wages and occupation wages?

Industry wages and occupation wages are estimated via separate data sets, often the time periods being reported do not align, and wages are defined slightly differently in the two systems (for example, certain bonuses are included in the industry wages but not the occupation wages). It is therefore common that estimates of the average industry wages and average occupation wages in a region do not match exactly.

#### What is NAICS?

The North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) is used to classify business establishments according to the type of economic activity. The NAICS Code comprises six levels, from the "all industry" level to the 6-digit level. The first two digits define the top level category, known as the "sector," which is the level examined in this report.

#### What is SOC?

The Standard Occupational Classification system (SOC) is used to classify workers into occupational categories. All workers are classified into one of over 804 occupations according to their occupational definition. To facilitate classification, occupations are combined to form 22 major groups, 95 minor groups, and 452 occupation groups. Each occupation group includes detailed occupations requiring similar job duties, skills, education, or experience.

#### About This Report

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