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Net Migration in Nebraska: Trends in the Working-Age Population

William Scheideler

In order to improve understanding of Nebraska's migration patterns, BBR developed a set of net migration estimates, by age and county, from 1970 through 1996. The preliminary results and some of the more notable migration trends for the state's working-age population (i.e., residents ages 20- 64) are discussed here.

Overall Trends

- ➔ Overall, in the early 1990s the working-age residents migrating into Nebraska outnumbered those migrating out of the state. As a result, Nebraska attained a 1.2 percent rate of positive net migration, reversing the negative net migration trend over the past two decades for the state's working-age population (Table 1).
- ➔ Generally, the state's nonmetro counties experienced strong negative net migration among the working-age population over the past two decades (Table 2). During the 5-year period from 1991 to 1996, Nebraska's 87 nonmetro counties experienced a positive net migration total of 1,153 persons while the 6 metro counties attracted positive net migration of 9,731 persons.
- ➔ The state's most rural counties¹ experienced higher rates of negative net migration than others. In particular, since 1985 remote² nonmetro counties have experienced the highest levels of negative net migration (Figure 1).



Defining the Terms

Net migration is the difference between those migrating into an area and those migrating out of an area over a given time period.

Net migration is calculated by subtracting **natural population change** (births minus deaths) from total population change.

The **net migration rate** is calculated by dividing net migration by the population at the end of a given time period.

For example, a positive net migration rate of 5 percent for the 1990-1995 period indicates that the net migration that occurred over the period represents 5 percent of the 1995 population estimate.

¹Most rural counties are defined as counties with fewer than 2,500 town/city residents as of the 1990 Census.

² Most rural counties not physically adjacent to a metro county are defined as remote.

Table 1
Nebraska Net Migration by Age and Region
1991-1996

Region ¹	Measure	Ages			Overall Average
		0-19	20-64	65+	
Central	Rate ²	2.5	-0.4	0.3	0.6
	Estimate	1,640	-421	97	1,315
Lincoln MSA	Rate	7.8	1.5	-0.8	3.0
	Estimate	5,062	2,110	-208	6,963
Mid Plains	Rate	2.1	2.3	-1.1	1.6
	Estimate	700	1,362	-223	1,839
Northeast	Rate	0.1	0.9	0.3	0.6
	Estimate	102	1,163	121	1,386
Omaha MSA	Rate	0.5	2.0	-4.2	0.9
	Estimate	917	7,089	-2,547	5,459
Panhandle	Rate	4.1	-1.4	-4.0	-0.1
	Estimate	1,164	-686	-592	-113
Southeast	Rate	3.2	0.3	2.3	1.5
	Estimate	1,443	267	740	2,451
Nebraska	Rate	2.2	1.2	-1.1	1.2
	Estimate	11,028	10,884	-2,612	19,300

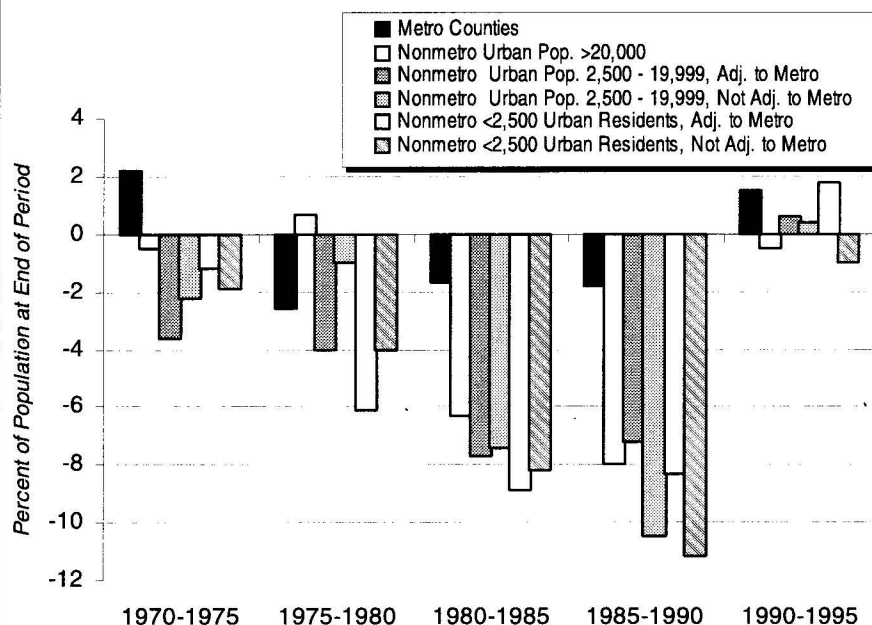
¹Regions are defined as in the *Nebraska Quarterly Business Conditions Survey* and are illustrated in Figure 2.

Table 2
Net Migration by Age for Metro and Nonmetro Nebraska Counties
1970-1996

Time Period	Area ¹	Ages 0-19		Ages 20-64		Ages 65 & Older		Total	
		Estimate	Rate ²	Estimate	Rate	Estimate	Rate	Estimate	Rate
1970-1975	Metro	3,867	1.5	8,460	2.2	-1,310	-2.0	11,017	1.5
	Nonmetro	2,750	1.0	-7,318	-1.8	2,933	2.3	-1,635	-0.2
1975-1980	Metro	-5,281	-2.2	-10,854	-2.6	-139	-0.2	-16,274	-2.2
	Nonmetro	87	0.0	-7,430	-1.7	1,229	0.9	-6,113	-0.7
1980-1985	Metro	1,290	0.6	-7,432	-1.7	89	0.1	-6,053	-0.8
	Nonmetro	-8,680	-3.5	-31,913	-7.3	1,119	0.8	-39,474	-4.8
1985-1990	Metro	3,979	1.7	-8,603	-1.8	-836	-1.0	-5,460	-0.7
	Nonmetro	-3,860	-1.6	-38,459	-9.3	-3,191	-2.3	-45,511	-5.8
1990-1995	Metro	5,405	2.2	7,429	1.5	-2,148	-2.5	10,687	1.3
	Nonmetro	4,968	2.1	-491	-0.1	812	0.6	5,289	0.7
1991-1996	Metro	6,114	2.4	9,731	1.9	-2,693	-3.1	13,152	1.6
	Nonmetro	4,914	2.1	1,153	0.3	81	0.1	6,148	0.8

¹Metro counties include Cass, Dakota, Douglas, Lancaster, Sarpy, and Washington Counties. The other 87 counties in Nebraska are nonmetro.

Figure 1
Nebraska's 5-Year Net Migration Rates for Population Ages 20-64

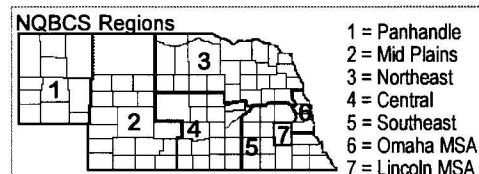
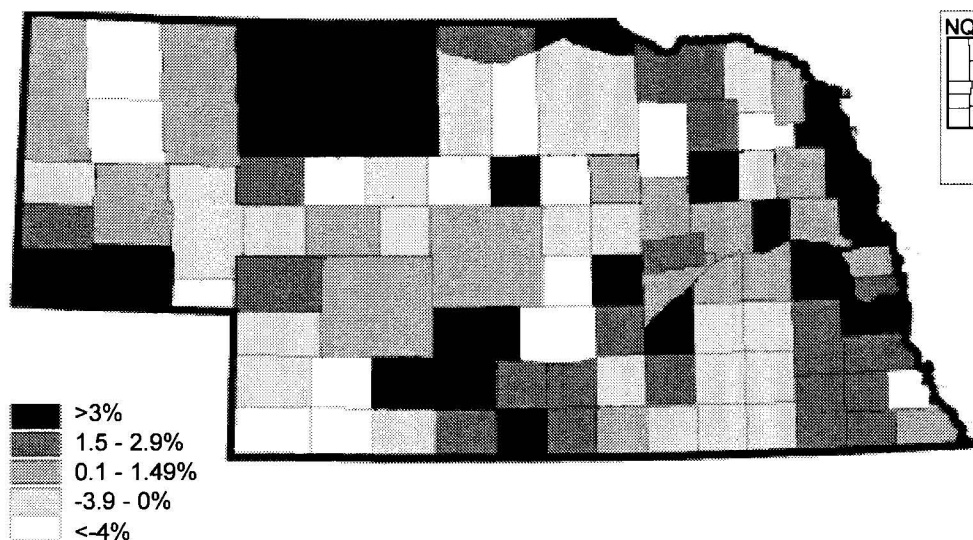


Regional Trends

The fastest positive net migration rate for the working-age population occurred in the Mid Plains region (Figure 2). The 2.3 percent net migration rate over the 1991-1996 period for the Mid Plains region topped the Omaha metro region's 2 percent rate (Table 1).

The Omaha metro region gained the majority of working-age residents migrating into Nebraska over the period—7,089 net migrants out of the statewide total of 10,884. Although the data do not indicate the origins of these immigrants, prior studies show that most migration flows occur between neighboring counties and states. (For more information, see "The Origins and Destinations of Nebraska Migrants," *Business in Nebraska*, October 1998.)

Figure 2
Net Migration Rates for Population Ages 20-64



Although the Omaha MSA region experienced strong positive net migration among its working-age population, the region consistently experienced strong negative net migration among the age groups over age 45 and strong positive net migration among the younger age groups. The effect was particularly strong in Sarpy County but was also evident in Douglas County. To a large extent, this probably reflects retirements and transfers among the military personnel associated with Offutt Air Force Base in Sarpy County.

While the Lincoln metro's 3 percent overall net migration rate was the strongest among regions, much of that increase reflects the 29 percent net migration rate among the 15-19 year age group. This probably was the result of positive net migration by 19-year olds attending one of Lincoln's postsecondary educational institutions.

The Panhandle and Central regions experienced negative net migration among the working-age population. Interestingly, the Panhandle region also lost an estimated -4 percent of its population over age 65, contributing to its -0.1 percent overall net migration rate (Table 1).

Overall, the Southeast region surpassed the state's average migration rate, but while the region attracted children and the elderly from 1991 to 1996, it registered only a rate of 0.3 percent net migration among the working-age population.

Age Group Trends

Students and New Workers (Ages 20-24)

The most remote nonmetro counties experienced the highest rates of negative net migration for this age group and—in nearly every case—the only counties avoiding negative net migration in this age group offered higher education opportunities for a relatively large number of students. In contrast, the metro counties—except Cass and Washington—have experienced positive net migration since 1990.

Negative net migration for the 20-24 year age group peaked in the late 1980s for the most remote nonmetro counties as high school graduates left for postsecondary education or employment. However, negative net migration

during the early 1990s remained strong, surpassing the levels of negative net migration experienced in the 1970s and early 1980s. Negative net migration increased from -40 percent in the 1970s, to -62 percent in the early 1980s, then to -117 percent³ in the late 1980s. The net migration rate for the most remote nonmetro counties remained at -84 percent for this age group, from the 1991-1996 period.

Reflecting the presence of the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, Lancaster County experienced 32 percent net migration in this age group during the 1991-1996 period. The difference between those moving into the county and those moving out over the 5-year period represents nearly a third of the 1996 population estimate.

Since 1985, this age group's movement into the Omaha metro area has been modest. However, it has grown rapidly from 3.4 percent net migration during the 1987-1992 period to 10.9 percent for the 1991-1996 period.

Young Workers (Ages 25-39)

Generally, counties experiencing a strong negative net migration in the 20-24 year age group received *offsetting positive net migration* in the 25-29 year age group. For example, as of 1996, 84 percent of 20-24 year olds in remote nonmetro counties migrated out over the previous 5 years, compared to a net migration rate of 20 percent for those ages 25-29 years.

Again, reflecting the influence of the college-age population, this trend has not applied to Lancaster County. Apparently, the county receives immigrating students in the 20-24 age group and, upon reaching the 25-29 age group, these students have completed educational programs and migrated out of the county for employment.

Middle-Aged Workers (Ages 40-54)

During the 1991-1996 period, the net migration rate for middle-aged workers was 0.7 percent in metro areas and from 3 to 5 percent in the state's nonmetro counties.

Since 1988, nonmetro counties adjacent to metro counties experienced higher rates of net migration than remote nonmetro counties.

³ Net migration rates lower than -100 percent are possible since the calculation divides the population at the *end* of the period by the net migration estimated over the 5-year period.

Older Workers (Ages 55-64)

Since 1986, the positive net migration of older workers has been very strong, except in metro counties. The negative net migration of older workers from Nebraska's metro areas has been a consistent fact since 1970. But, from 1991 to 1996, the rate of negative net migration among older workers has slowed.

The migration of older workers to the state's nonmetro counties has been quite strong since 1990, ranging from 5 to 9 percent.

Nonmetro counties adjacent to metro counties were much more attractive to older workers than remote nonmetro counties. For example, the remote group of most rural

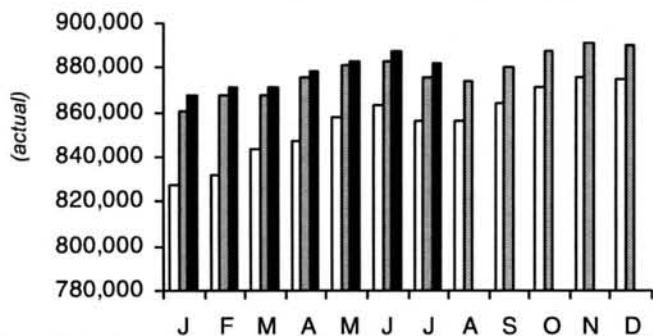
counties achieved a 5 percent rate of net migration from 1991 to 1996, compared to a 9.2 percent net migration rate for those adjacent to a metro area.

To obtain county-level estimates of net migration for the working-age population, go to BBR's website: www.bbr.unl.edu

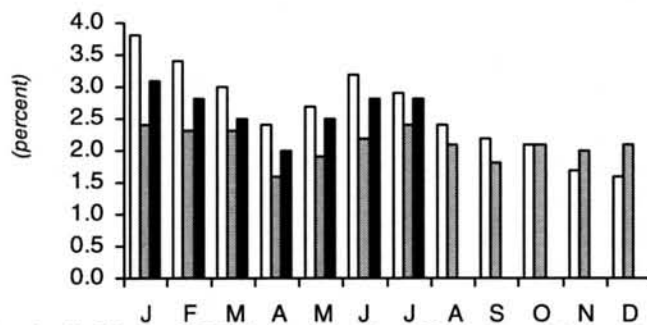
Nebraska Stats

1997 1998 1999

Total Nonfarm Wage & Salary Employment



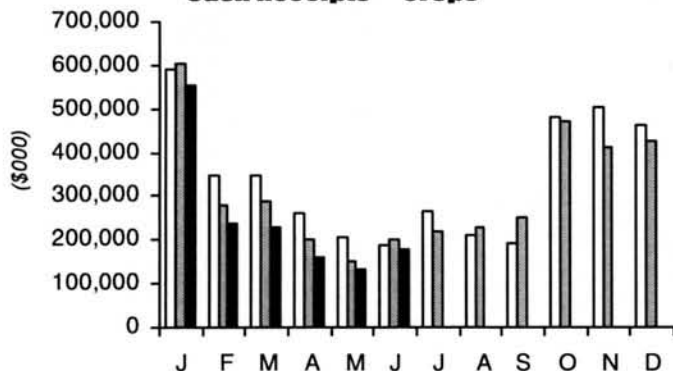
Unemployment Rate



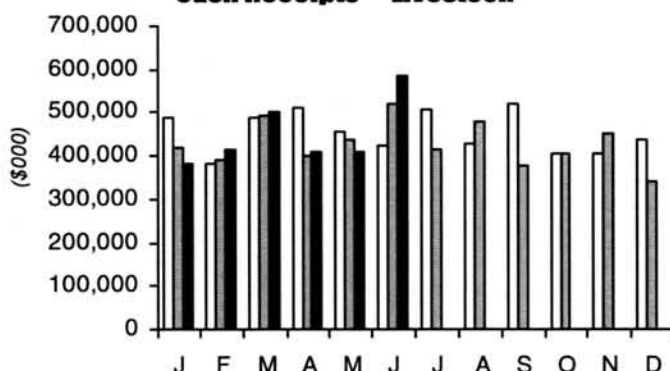
Note: All 1999 monthly employment data are considered estimates until benchmarked in March of 2000. Data shown for 1999 are the most current revised estimates available. Final benchmarked monthly data for 1999 are expected to be released by the Nebraska Department of Labor in mid-2000.

1997 1998 1999

Cash Receipts—Crops



Cash Receipts—Livestock



Net Taxable Retail Sales* for Nebraska Cities (\$000)

	June 1999 (\$000)	YTD (\$000)	YTD % Change vs Yr. Ago		June 1999 (\$000)	YTD (\$000)	YTD % Change vs Yr. Ago
Ainsworth, Brown	2,062	10,189	-3.4	Kenesaw, Adams	154	1,567	-7.7
Albion, Boone	2,551	10,645	1.6	Kimball, Kimball	1,959	10,058	8.5
Alliance, Box Butte	6,367	34,070	-2.8	La Vista, Sarpy	9,688	52,984	8.8
Alma, Harlan	893	3,944	-1.2	Laurel, Cedar	474	2,105	8.8
Arapahoe, Fumas	873	4,379	-4.3	Lexington, Dawson	7,608	41,029	-1.5
Arlington, Washington	216	1,162	5.8	Lincoln, Lancaster	221,056	1,205,486	7.6
Arnold, Custer	293	1,499	-7.8	Louisville, Cass	736	3,363	-19.0
Ashland, Saunders	1,594	6,631	-1.0	Loup City, Sherman	757	3,764	2.2
Atkinson, Holt	1,264	5,787	-2.2	Lyons, Burt	541	2,622	2.4
Auburn, Nemaha	2,662	14,016	-0.6	Madison, Madison	888	4,584	2.2
Aurora, Hamilton	2,750	15,340	-0.6	McCook, Red Willow	12,635	65,665	1.6
Axtell, Kearney	80	381	-10.6	Midford, Seward	857	5,293	1.8
Bassett, Rock	862	2,751	6.9	Minatare, Scotts Bluff	174	824	-10.5
Battle Creek, Madison	665	3,697	2.6	Minden, Kearney	2,198	10,646	6.6
Bayard, Morrill	521	2,548	-5.2	Mitchell, Scotts Bluff	743	4,328	-1.3
Beatrice, Gage	11,326	62,020	1.2	Morrill, Scotts Bluff	558	2,787	-3.4
Beaver City, Fumas	136	733	-8.4	Nebraska City, Otoe	7,188	36,697	-0.5
Bellevue, Sarpy	22,310	114,100	6.7	Neligh, Antelope	1,544	8,102	-1.8
Benkelman, Dundy	704	3,312	-3.0	Newman Grove, Madison	285	1,680	-1.3
Bennington, Douglas	693	3,363	31.0	Norfolk, Madison	31,357	170,114	2.4
Blair, Washington	7,170	38,819	1.7	North Bend, Dodge	622	2,989	-0.3
Bloomfield, Knox	745	3,557	-8.0	North Platte, Lincoln	26,075	133,424	6.5
Blue Hill, Webster	499	2,667	-4.9	O'Neill, Holt	4,795	24,548	0.5
Bridgeport, Morrill	1,301	6,487	1.5	Oakland, Burt	840	4,210	6.6
Broken Bow, Custer	3,926	21,582	-3.9	Ogallala, Keith	7,008	32,483	3.7
Burwell, Garfield	1,035	4,222	-2.5	Omaha, Douglas	524,491	2,821,156	5.9
Cairo, Hall	312	1,565	-16.4	Ord, Valley	2,174	11,332	-0.3
Central City, Merrick	2,094	10,598	3.0	Osceola, Polk	826	4,247	-3.7
Chadron, Dawes	5,115	26,876	5.1	Oshkosh, Garden	536	2,618	-1.5
Chappell, Deuel	565	2,749	5.9	Osmond, Pierce	601	2,499	3.9
Clarkson, Colfax	654	2,558	3.6	Oxford, Fumas	488	2,866	10.3
Clay Center, Clay	374	2,146	7.1	Papillion, Sarpy	8,272	42,928	12.1
Columbus, Platte	23,325	119,088	1.5	Pawnee City, Pawnee	310	1,949	9.9
Cozad, Dawson	3,291	17,947	2.5	Pender, Thurston	909	4,336	12.9
Crawford, Dawes	846	2,990	2.4	Pierce, Pierce	721	3,713	-1.4
Creighton, Knox	1,227	7,029	12.8	Plainview, Pierce	675	3,774	-0.8
Crete, Saline	4,080	20,399	13.4	Plattsmouth, Cass	3,812	20,110	4.4
Crofton, Knox	541	2,350	5.8	Ponca, Dixon	539	2,830	-4.1
Curtis, Frontier	371	2,084	-0.5	Ralston, Douglas	3,357	18,453	-2.2
Dakota City, Dakota	445	2,531	5.4	Randolph, Cedar	517	2,423	-7.0
David City, Butler	1,574	8,640	7.7	Ravenna, Buffalo	811	4,260	-7.7
Deshler, Thayer	275	1,668	-11.3	Red Cloud, Webster	810	3,979	-1.5
Dodge, Dodge	368	1,394	-1.8	Rushville, Sheridan	581	3,080	-2.0
Doniphan, Hall	1,101	6,093	-23.0	Sargent, Custer	315	1,175	5.5
Eagle, Cass	749	2,234	-0.3	Schuyler, Colfax	2,199	10,544	-7.1
Elgin, Antelope	515	2,371	-5.8	Scottsbluff, Scotts Bluff	23,117	121,358	3.4
Elkhorn, Douglas	3,588	14,419	11.9	Scribner, Dodge	553	2,345	-12.3
Elm Creek, Buffalo	446	2,357	30.1	Seward, Seward	4,656	27,190	1.2
Elwood, Gosper	602	2,628	3.3	Shelby, Polk	441	2,024	12.8
Fairbury, Jefferson	3,599	19,649	8.5	Shelton, Buffalo	685	3,769	-5.0
Fairmont, Fillmore	159	887	-6.2	Sidney, Cheyenne	9,250	43,811	11.0
Falls City, Richardson	3,040	15,098	4.2	South Sioux City, Dakota	8,485	46,701	0.8
Franklin, Franklin	699	3,320	-2.3	Springfield, Sarpy	649	2,922	24.3
Fremont, Dodge	24,487	131,537	10.3	St. Paul, Howard	1,377	7,087	-1.3
Friend, Saline	509	2,859	6.7	Stanton, Stanton	670	3,523	-1.4
Fullerton, Nance	523	3,004	-0.5	Stromsburg, Polk	1,224	4,970	-1.7
Geneva, Fillmore	1,842	9,739	-3.8	Superior, Nuckolls	1,941	9,338	-0.2
Genoa, Nance	312	1,715	-2.6	Sutherland, Lincoln	407	2,097	7.5
Gering, Scotts Bluff	4,427	21,841	6.8	Sutton, Clay	884	4,821	-4.2
Gibbon, Buffalo	854	4,813	1.0	Syracuse, Otoe	1,291	6,672	4.7
Gordon, Sheridan	2,173	9,941	2.9	Tecumseh, Johnson	1,002	5,312	7.7
Gothensburg, Dawson	2,793	13,818	7.4	Tekamah, Burt	1,322	6,626	4.4
Grand Island, Hall	53,552	292,211	0.8	Tilden, Madison	462	2,501	1.5
Grant, Perkins	1,207	5,986	1.8	Utica, Seward	317	1,815	6.0
Gretna, Sarpy	3,694	16,916	-5.9	Valentine, Cherry	5,168	23,657	4.3
Hartington, Cedar	1,735	9,228	-3.2	Valley, Douglas	1,744	6,003	-5.4
Hastings, Adams	22,332	120,489	2.5	Wahoo, Saunders	2,536	13,052	-4.4
Hay Springs, Sheridan	371	1,985	5.9	Wakefield, Dixon	324	1,841	-8.5
Hebron, Thayer	1,974	10,795	-2.7	Wauneta, Chase	339	1,820	0.3
Henderson, York	621	3,497	-6.0	Waverly, Lancaster	633	4,149	-13.0
Hickman, Lancaster	308	1,465	2.4	Wayne, Wayne	3,794	21,275	16.6
Holdrege, Phelps	5,103	25,701	-1.1	Weeping Water, Cass	923	3,971	-0.7
Hooper, Dodge	381	2,085	2.6	West Point, Cuming	4,025	21,262	-3.4
Humboldt, Richardson	559	3,010	9.5	Wilber, Saline	605	2,795	8.5
Humphrey, Platte	870	4,070	-4.5	Wisner, Cuming	744	3,426	3.0
Imperial, Chase	2,232	11,926	-2.0	Wood River, Hall	473	2,321	-7.2
Juniata, Adams	205	1,258	5.9	Wymore, Gage	458	2,473	6.1
Kearney, Buffalo	34,544	188,738	6.2	York, York	10,843	58,691	0.6

*Does not include motor vehicle sales. Motor vehicle net taxable retail sales are reported by county only.

Source: Nebraska Department of Revenue

Net Taxable Retail Sales for Nebraska Counties (\$000)

	Motor Vehicle Sales			Other Sales				Motor Vehicle Sales			Other Sales		
	June	YTD	% Chg. vs Yr. Ago	June	YTD	% Chg. vs Yr. Ago		June	YTD	% Chg. vs Yr. Ago	June	YTD	% Chg. vs Yr. Ago
	1999	YTD		1999	YTD			1999	YTD		1999	YTD	
	(\$000)	(\$000)		(\$000)	(\$000)			(\$000)	(\$000)		(\$000)	(\$000)	
Nebraska	247,395	1,257,637	6.7	1,515,784	8,130,477	4.7	Howard	912	4,956	6.1	1,849	9,183	0.2
Adams	4,383	23,343	18.6	23,047	125,333	2.6	Jefferson	1,118	6,201	-6.4	4,631	25,306	7.0
Antelope	1,015	5,743	-8.5	2,714	12,969	-1.7	Johnson	476	3,606	3.2	1,397	7,324	6.5
Arthur	107	474	15.3	76	(D)	(D)	Kearney	1,120	5,743	-1.4	2,433	11,822	5.4
Banner	71	488	-29.1	(D)	(D)	(D)	Keith	1,649	8,289	32.5	7,901	35,704	4.0
Blaine	45	455	-3.8	96	(D)	(D)	Keya Paha	153	681	-2.6	149	610	21.3
Boone	929	4,601	-12.0	3,223	13,512	0.5	Kimball	617	3,156	24.2	2,003	10,266	7.5
Box Butte	1,639	9,189	-2.6	6,686	35,748	-2.7	Knox	1,124	6,264	1.7	3,420	16,664	5.0
Boyd	234	1,426	-3.5	729	3,257	3.2	Lancaster	34,063	166,158	12.0	223,910	1,219,951	7.5
Brown	401	2,738	13.7	2,274	10,705	-3.1	Lincoln	5,484	27,127	14.8	27,213	139,023	6.4
Buffalo	5,738	29,981	4.7	37,880	206,135	5.8	Logan	125	721	-14.3	144	(D)	(D)
Burt	1,039	6,054	0.8	2,946	14,563	4.9	Loup	54	479	-10.5	(D)	(D)	(D)
Butler	1,238	7,023	14.1	2,058	11,323	3.5	McPherson	60	344	-10.9	(D)	(D)	(D)
Cass	4,111	22,320	13.9	8,209	38,185	3.7	Madison	4,943	25,299	3.1	33,706	182,919	2.3
Cedar	1,356	7,501	4.2	3,102	15,419	-3.3	Merrick	1,109	6,414	8.4	2,857	14,007	2.9
Chase	601	4,019	7.1	2,699	13,982	-1.9	Morrill	843	4,267	22.8	1,840	9,209	0.5
Cherry	855	4,870	-9.5	5,463	24,880	4.0	Nance	506	2,798	-2.2	909	4,885	-2.2
Cheyenne	1,556	7,875	15.3	9,664	45,512	11.0	Nemaha	1,125	5,810	3.0	2,925	15,424	-1.4
Clay	1,010	6,055	1.0	2,357	12,645	0.6	Nuckolls	668	3,821	11.9	2,641	12,773	1.3
Coffax	1,317	7,170	2.4	3,355	15,380	-5.6	Otoe	2,069	11,680	1.2	9,042	45,938	0.7
Cuming	1,492	7,352	-2.5	5,481	27,942	-2.7	Pawnee	368	2,167	-11.8	547	3,077	6.1
Custer	1,322	8,495	-4.0	5,221	27,462	-3.2	Perkins	569	3,811	21.1	1,540	7,303	2.6
Dakota	3,185	14,939	20.4	9,687	52,992	0.9	Phelps	1,508	8,187	2.0	5,464	27,292	-1.5
Dawes	1,251	5,144	7.5	5,971	29,892	4.8	Pierce	1,167	5,640	0.0	2,129	10,493	0.6
Dawson	3,232	16,799	-6.8	14,218	75,073	1.1	Platte	5,788	25,946	6.1	24,827	126,570	1.2
Deuel	282	1,558	-11.6	1,227	6,042	7.0	Polk	799	4,973	0.6	2,627	12,212	0.9
Dixon	868	4,735	-3.9	983	5,268	-7.8	Red Willow	1,888	8,724	10.2	13,103	67,655	1.5
Dodge	4,797	25,555	7.9	26,744	142,063	9.2	Richardson	1,181	6,061	-1.3	3,813	19,311	3.4
Douglas	66,315	325,875	7.4	536,212	2,873,667	5.8	Rock	291	1,378	-11.9	892	2,852	7.9
Dundy	264	2,114	8.6	727	3,400	-4.3	Saline	1,563	9,551	5.3	5,626	28,454	11.2
Fillmore	787	5,091	-10.2	2,653	14,490	-4.8	Sarpy	19,500	93,220	10.8	46,754	239,243	8.5
Franklin	495	2,684	-1.1	994	4,797	-1.6	Saunders	3,106	16,462	5.5	6,774	32,792	-1.1
Frontier	352	2,430	-6.9	816	3,936	-0.2	Scotts Bluff	4,755	23,741	-0.4	29,148	151,590	3.5
Furnas	985	4,014	-9.1	2,363	12,850	-1.3	Seward	2,559	12,849	5.4	6,095	35,784	1.3
Gage	2,855	15,702	-3.2	12,777	68,840	1.1	Sheridan	823	4,287	-12.8	3,430	16,717	2.5
Garden	401	1,666	-13.8	799	3,616	1.5	Sherman	405	2,407	-2.1	932	4,461	2.1
Garfield	243	1,368	11.5	1,035	4,219	-2.5	Sioux	417	1,428	-14.9	162	689	-10.1
Gosper	354	2,064	7.2	665	2,962	4.2	Stanton	846	4,613	-0.3	812	4,585	3.3
Grant	289	958	13.8	351	1,291	-5.1	Thayer	719	4,717	-4.5	2,913	15,464	-3.7
Greeley	302	2,066	-8.4	811	3,745	-1.8	Thomas	187	704	21.8	322	1,484	-10.7
Hall	7,777	39,152	7.0	55,836	304,039	0.0	Thurston	367	2,816	-1.7	1,059	5,155	11.6
Hamilton	1,621	8,236	17.7	3,124	17,368	-2.4	Valley	767	3,291	5.5	2,416	12,589	0.1
Harlan	572	3,282	17.1	1,282	5,167	0.7	Washington	3,640	18,228	12.4	7,829	42,631	1.8
Hayes	211	1,020	4.2	82	(D)	(D)	Wayne	1,200	6,249	2.1	4,037	22,208	16.2
Hitchcock	423	2,357	1.2	807	3,433	2.0	Webster	518	2,473	-5.5	1,489	7,278	-3.2
Holt	1,758	8,910	-7.8	7,009	34,148	-0.9	Wheeler	132	687	-35.7	94	492	-16.6
Hooker	190	737	3.7	596	1,525	-2.9	York	1,938	11,057	0.9	12,007	64,637	0.0

*Totals may not add due to rounding

(D) Denotes disclosure suppression

Source: Nebraska Department of Revenue

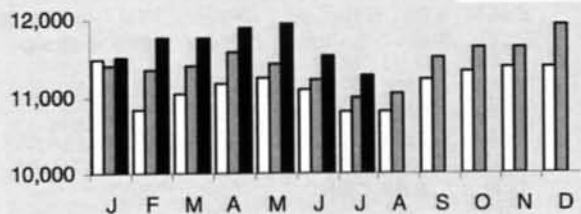
Note on Net Taxable Retail Sales

Users of this series should be aware that taxable retail sales are not generated exclusively by traditional outlets such as clothing, discount, and hardware stores. While businesses classified as retail trade firms account for, on average, slightly more than half of total taxable sales, sizable portions of taxable sales are generated by service establishments, electric and gas utilities, wholesalers, telephone and cable companies, and manufacturers.

Regional Nonfarm Wage and Salary Employment* 1997 to July** 1999

1997 1998 1999

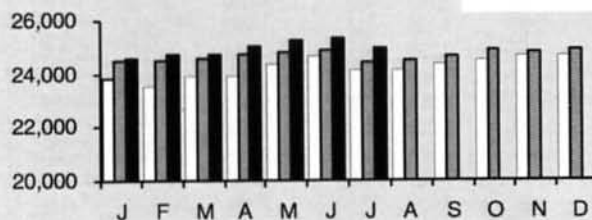
Northwest Panhandle



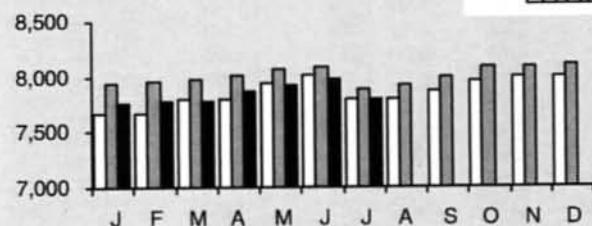
Note to Readers

The charts on pages 8 and 9 report nonfarm employment by place of work for each region.

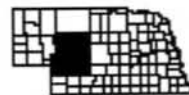
Southwest Panhandle



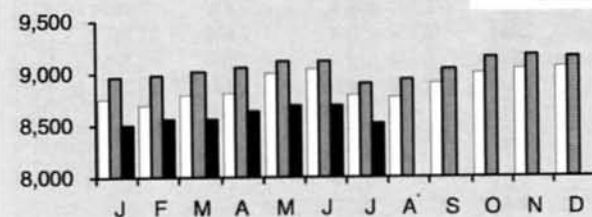
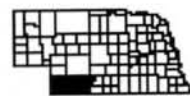
North Central



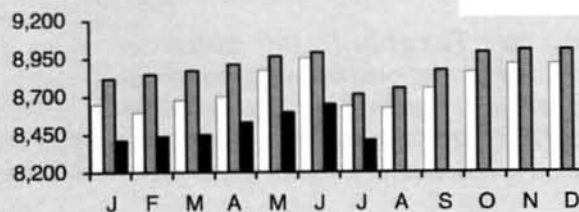
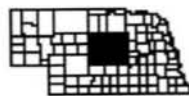
West Central



Southwest Central



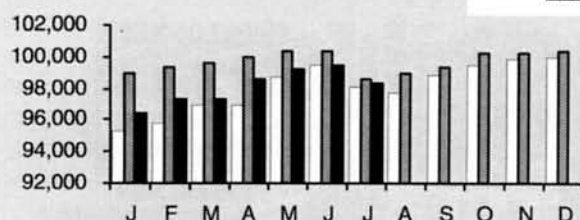
East Central



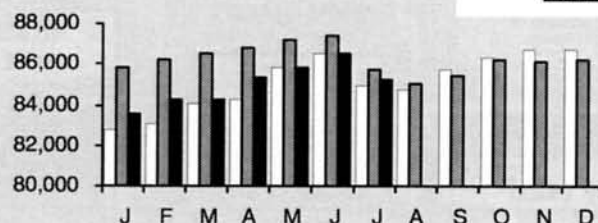
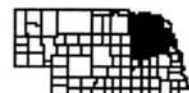
Regional Nonfarm Wage and Salary Employment* 1997 to July** 1999

1997 1998 1999

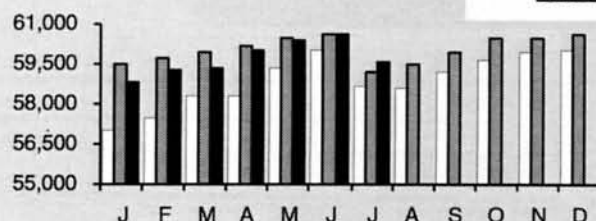
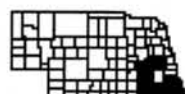
Southeast Central



Northeast

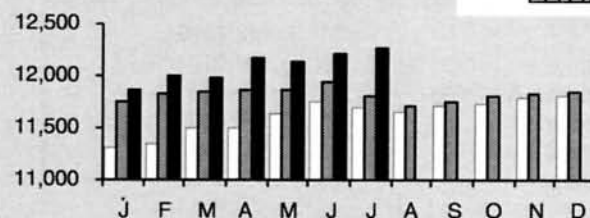
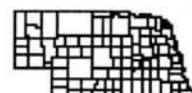


Southeast



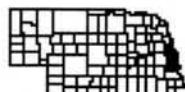
Sioux City MSA

Nebraska portion only

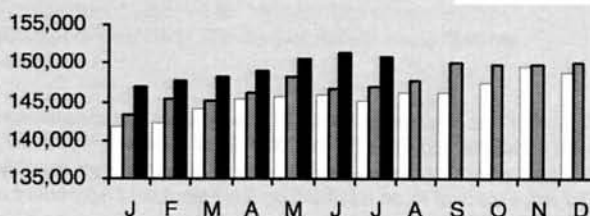


Omaha MSA

Nebraska portion only



Lincoln MSA



*By place of work

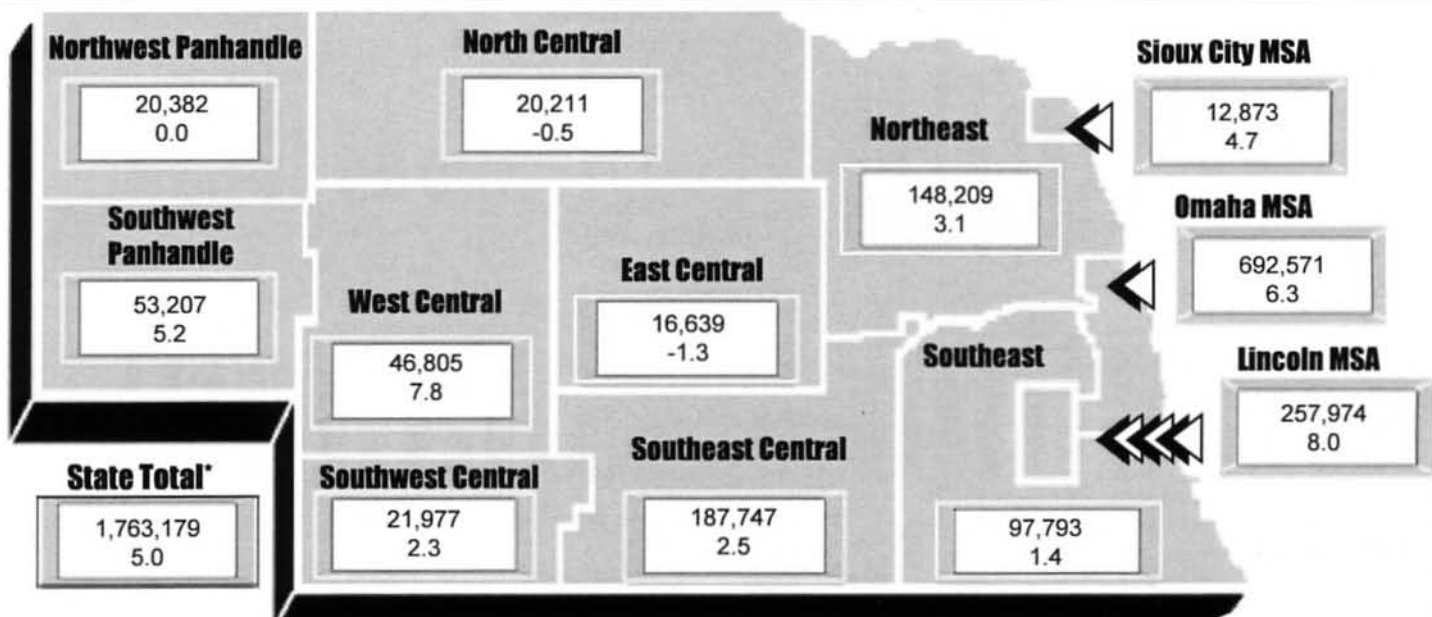
**Current month data are preliminary and subject to revision

Note: All 1999 monthly employment data are considered estimates until benchmarked in March of 2000. Data shown for 1999 are the most current revised estimates available. Final benchmarked monthly data for 1999 are expected to be released by the Nebraska Department of Labor in mid-2000.

Source: Nebraska Department of Labor, Labor Market Information - Kathy Copas and Amy Schofield

June 1999 Regional Retail Sales (\$000)

YTD Change vs Yr. Ago



*Regional values may not add to state total due to unallocated sales
Source: Nebraska Department of Revenue

State Nonfarm Wage & Salary Employment by Industry*

	July 1999
Total	881,972
Construction & Mining	46,081
Manufacturing	118,222
Durables	57,377
Nondurables	60,845
TCU**	59,401
Trade	212,976
Wholesale	57,023
Retail	155,953
FIRE**	59,440
Services	239,486
Government	146,366

*By place of work

**Transportation, Communication, and Utilities

***Finance, Insurance, and Real Estate

Source: Nebraska Department of Labor, Labor Market Information

Note: All 1999 monthly employment and labor force data are considered estimates until benchmarked in March of 2000. Data shown for 1999 are the most current revised estimates available. Final benchmarked monthly data for 1999 are expected to be released by the Nebraska Department of Labor in mid-2000.

Consumer Price Index

Consumer Price Index - U*
(1982-84 = 100)
(not seasonally adjusted)

	August 1999	% Change vs Yr. Ago	YTD % Change vs Yr. Ago (inflation rate)
All Items	167.1	2.3	2.0
Commodities	144.5	2.0	1.3
Services	189.9	2.5	2.5

*U = All urban consumers

Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics

Inflation Rate

2.0

State Labor Force Summary*

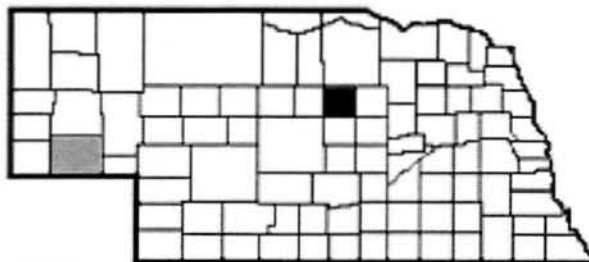
	July 1999
Labor Force	953,314
Employment	927,015
Unemployment Rate	2.8

*By place of residence

Source: Nebraska Department of Labor, Labor Market Information

Garfield

Burwell-County Seat



Next County of Month

License plate prefix number: 83

Size of county: 570 square miles, ranks 62nd in the state

Population: 2,039 in 1998, a change of -4.8 percent from 1990

Per capita personal income: \$15,969 in 1997, ranks 78th in the state

Net taxable retail sales (\$000): \$12,384 in 1998, a change of 5.8 percent from 1997; \$5,590 from January through June of 1999, a change of 0.6 percent from the same period the previous year.

Number of worksites¹: 109 in 1997

Unemployment rate: 2.8 percent in Garfield County, 2.7 percent in Nebraska for 1998

	State	Garfield County
Nonfarm employment (1998)²:	875,352	689
(wage & salary)	(percent of total)	
Construction and Mining	4.8	4.9
Manufacturing	13.6	10.9
TCU	6.4	2.3
Wholesale Trade	6.2	10.9
Retail Trade	18.0	21.8
FIRE	6.6	3.0
Services	27.2	22.2
Government	17.2	23.9

Agriculture:

Number of farms: 206 in 1997, 228 in 1992, 248 in 1987

Average farm size: 1,495 acres in 1997, 1,483 acres in 1992

Market value of farm products sold: \$28.9 million in 1997 (\$140,121 average per farm)
\$32.9 million in 1992 (\$144,181 average per farm)

¹Worksites refers to business activity covered under the Nebraska Employment Security Law. Information presented has been extracted from the Employer's Quarterly Contribution Report, Nebraska Form UI-11. For further details about covered worksites, see the Nebraska Employers Guide to Unemployment Insurance.

²By place of work

Sources: U.S. Bureau of the Census, U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis, Nebraska Department of Labor, Nebraska Department of Revenue.

bulletin board

News from the Census Bureau

Customized Business Profiles Available on New Census Bureau Compact Discs

The Census Bureau recently released the first in a series CD-ROMs from the 1997 Economic Census that allow users to prepare customized business-activity profiles for individual geographic areas or industries. The *1997 Economic Census, Volume 1, NAICS (North American Industry Classification System) Report, CD-ROM Series*, is part of a two-volume subscription series that is available for \$200.

Volume 1 contains data on selected manufacturing, mining and service industries ranging from physicians' offices to tortilla manufacturing in selected states, counties, places and metro areas. The three-disk Volume 2 set, scheduled for release in 2000, will include Economic Census data for minority- and women-owned businesses.

Volume 1 provides four data items for each selected industry: number of establishments, number of employees, annual payroll and output (i.e., shipments, sales, receipts and revenues). It comes with Windows TM software that enables users to view, print, extract, sort and perform simple calculations (such as determining wages per employee) on the data sets they choose. The software also allows users to prepare simple, customized business profiles.

Contact the Census Bureau's Customer Services Branch, phone(301) 457-4100, for ordering information.

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