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# The Role of Federal Transfer Payments, Including Farm Program Payments, in local Economies

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# ***Business in Nebraska***

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## **The Role of Federal Transfer Payments, Including Farm Program Payments, in Local Economies**

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**R**eductions in federal government spending—or at least a slowdown in the growth of federal spending—is a popular theme among politicians and the public. Over the long term, reduced federal spending may stimulate the national economy through lower interest rates and other factors. However, the short-term consequences for at least some local and regional economies may be quite different. This is due to the fact that federal spending is often an important contributor to local job creation.

In some cases the contribution of federal spending to the local economy is apparent, e.g., in the case of a military base, a national park, or a Veterans Administration hospital. Less obvious—but of no less importance—is the role of federal transfer payments. Transfer payments as defined by the Bureau of Economic Analysis (BEA), U.S. Department of Commerce, are payments to persons, generally in monetary form, for which they do not render current services. When recipients of these payments spend this income locally, jobs are created and economic activity is enhanced.

For the purposes of this report, the BEA definition of transfer payments includes farm program payments, given their obvious importance to those local economies that are closely linked to agriculture within Nebraska. In addition to farm program payments, six other categories of programs or payments as defined by BEA are considered transfer payments. These seven payment categories, including farm program payments, accounted for nearly \$1 trillion in federal spending in 1994 (Table 1).

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➡ Retirement and disability insurance of which the largest component is Social Security

➡ Medical programs which include Medicare and Medicaid

➡ Income maintenance that includes Aid to Families with Dependent Children (AFDC), Supplementary Security Income (SSI), and food stamps

➡ Unemployment insurance

➡ Veterans' benefits payments of which the largest component is veterans' pensions and compensation

➡ Education and training assistance programs including federal training programs, interest subsidies on higher education loans, and Job Corps payments.

**Table 1**  
**1994 Transfer Payments<sup>1</sup> for the U.S., Nebraska and County Type Within Nebraska**

Payment Categories				County Categories				
	U.S.	Nebraska	Metro	Nonmetro				
				All	Large	Small	Rural	Frontier
<b>Dollars Per Capita</b>								
Farm Program	30	214	19	416	185	442	652	1,088
Retirement/Disability	1,781	1,681	1,560	1,806	1,702	1,833	1,988	1,863
Medical	1,184	1,015	956	1,077	1,035	1,048	1,230	1,065
Income Maintenance	346	176	187	164	173	139	175	185
Unemployment Insurance	91	24	25	24	26	21	22	24
Veterans' Benefits	76	84	86	82	85	77	78	88
Education/Training Assistance	31	34	38	29	38	34	8	10
Other	6	1	1	1	1	1	1	3
Total <sup>2</sup>	3,545	3,229	2,870	3,598	3,245	3,595	4,155	4,325
<b>Percent of Total Personal Income</b>								
Farm Program	0.1	1.0	0.1	2.2	1.0	2.3	3.5	5.8
Retirement/Disability	8.1	8.1	7.0	9.5	8.7	9.7	10.7	9.9
Medical	5.4	4.9	4.3	5.6	5.3	5.5	6.6	5.6
Income Maintenance	1.6	0.8	0.8	0.9	0.9	0.7	0.9	1.0
Unemployment Insurance	0.4	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1
Veterans' Benefits	0.3	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.5
Education/Training Assistance	0.1	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.0	0.1
Total <sup>2</sup>	16.1	15.5	12.8	18.8	16.7	19.0	22.4	22.9

<sup>1</sup>Transfer payments include payments to individuals as defined by the Bureau of Economic Analysis plus farm program payments.

<sup>2</sup>Summation of columns and total may differ slightly due to rounding errors.

Nonmetropolitan counties have been further divided into four groups: large trade center counties which contain a town of at least 7,500 persons; small trade center counties where the largest town has between 2,500 and 7,499 persons; rural, in which no town is greater than 2,500 persons and county population density is *at least* six persons per square mile; and frontier counties in which no town is greater than 2,500 persons and the county population density is *less than* six persons per square mile.

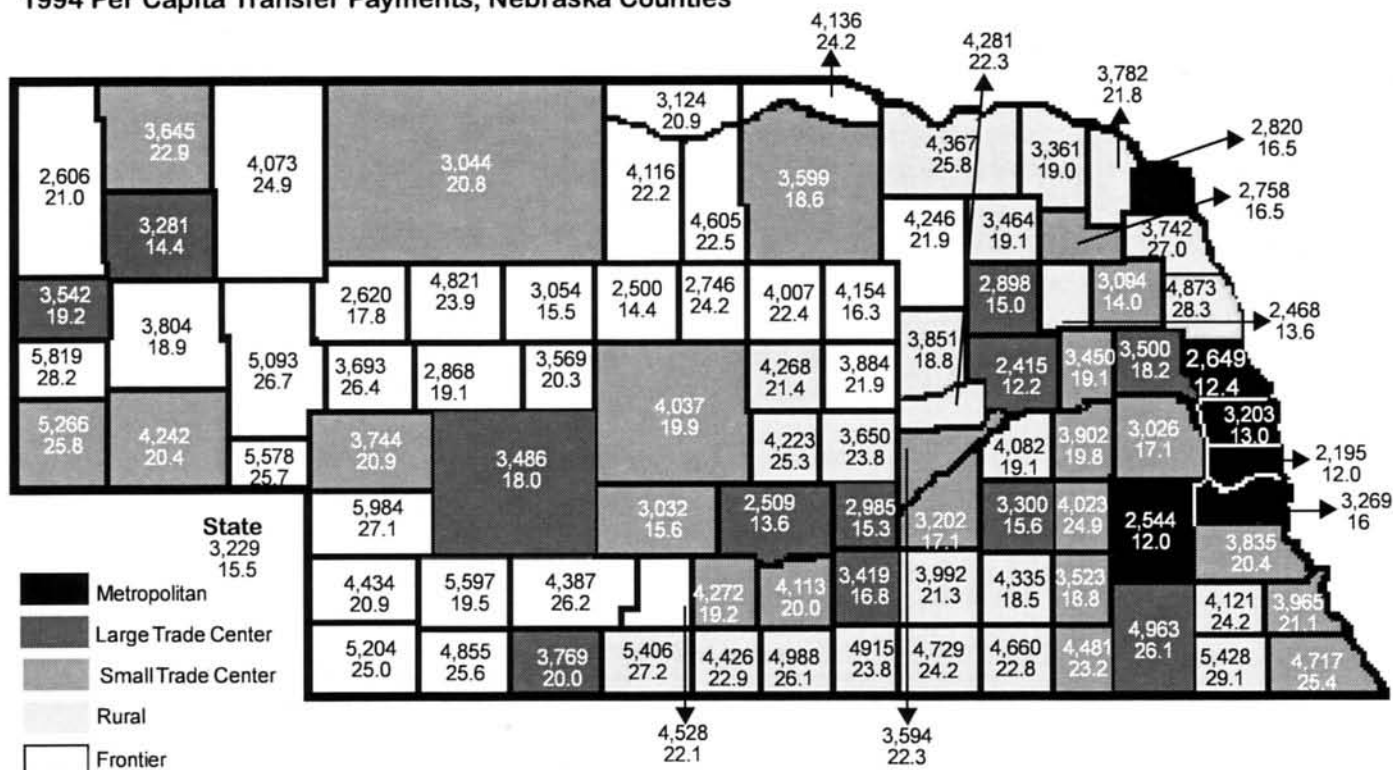
Figure 1 identifies Nebraska counties by type, and shows total transfer payments per capita and transfer payments as a proportion of total personal income (TPI) for each county.

In 1994 per capita transfer payments to Nebraska were below the national average (\$3,229 compared to

\$3,545). However, in three of the seven categories—farm program payments, veterans' benefits, and education and training assistance payments—Nebraska's per capita amount exceeded the national average.

Nebraska's nonmetropolitan counties receive considerably more transfer payments from the federal government on a per capita basis, and as a proportion of TPI, than metropolitan counties. For example, only one out of every eight dollars of TPI in metropolitan counties is in the form of transfer payments, but nearly one out of every five dollars of TPI is in the form of transfer payments in Nebraska's nonmetropolitan counties. This suggests federal spending reductions generally will have a greater impact on Nebraska's nonmetropolitan economies than on the state's metropolitan areas.

**Figure 1**  
**1994 Per Capita Transfer Payments, Nebraska Counties**



The greater dependency of nonmetropolitan counties on transfer payments is related to a number of considerations. Farm program payments will be higher in Nebraska's nonmetropolitan counties. The proportion of the population that is elderly is greater in nonmetropolitan Nebraska than in the metropolitan areas and Social Security and Medicare payments<sup>1</sup> are linked to this age group. Another contributing factor is that incomes tend to be lower in Nebraska's nonmetropolitan areas. Hence, any amount of transfer payments will be of greater consequence for the nonmetropolitan economy. For example, the per capita amount of income assistance payments is less in nonmetropolitan than in metropolitan counties (\$164 compared to \$187). However, as a proportion of TPI it is of greater consequence in nonmetropolitan counties than in metropolitan counties (0.9 percent compared to 0.8 percent).

A closer look at Nebraska's nonmetropolitan counties shows that reliance on transfer payments is greater for each of Nebraska's four types of nonmetropolitan counties than the metropolitan counties. Indeed, as ruralness increases so does the dependency on federal transfer payments. For example, nearly one-fourth of the TPI in frontier counties was contributed by the federal government.

Nebraska's economy, especially local economies outside the state's metropolitan areas, is strongly influenced by federal transfer payments. Hence, in the short term, a significant reduction in federal spending on programs linked to transfer payments would have an adverse effect on many local economies. However, over the longer term, these adverse effects could be offset by new economic opportunities stemming from the potential for lower interest rates, increased export opportunities, and other positive economic developments. ☐☐

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<sup>1</sup>Some caution is needed in linking transfer payments to the local economy based only on where the recipients of these payments live. For example, Medicare coverage and spending represent an economic enhancement for an elderly person living in Arthur, Nebraska. However, if this individual experienced a serious medical problem, the actual expenditure of these Medicare dollars likely would be in a larger urban economy where sophisticated medical services exist—perhaps Lincoln, Omaha, Denver, or Rapid City, South Dakota.

# News Briefs

## 1990 U.S. Census and 1996 Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Median Family Incomes for 1996, Selected MSAs and Nonmetro Areas

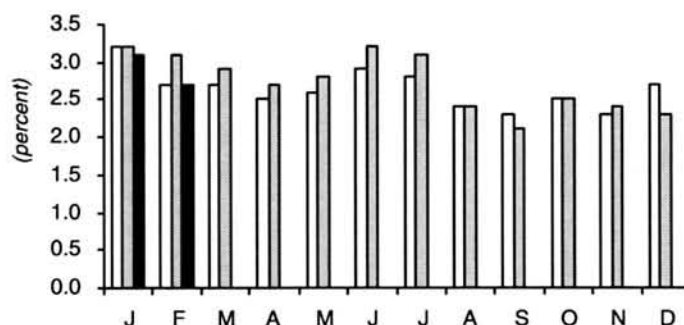
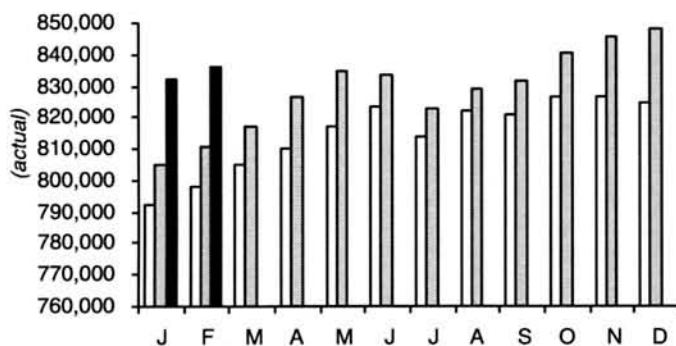
	1990 Census Median Family Income	1996 HUD Estimated Median Family Income
<b>MSAs</b>		
Boulder-Longmont, CO	43,782	58,300
Cedar Rapids, IA	38,143	48,300
Cheyenne, WY	32,588	41,700
Columbia, MO	34,123	43,700
Des Moines, IA	37,304	48,300
Fort Collins-Loveland, CO	36,932	47,800
Iowa City, IA	39,606	50,000
Kansas City, MO-KS	37,652	47,700
Lawrence, KS	35,632	43,800
Lincoln, NE	36,467	46,600
Omaha, NE-IA	36,011	45,900
Sioux City, IA-NE	30,450	39,400
Sioux Falls, SD	34,101	43,100
Springfield, MO	29,389	37,300
Topeka, KS	35,987	45,300
Wichita, KS	35,931	44,500
<b>Nonmetro Portions of States</b>		
Colorado	28,257	36,300
Iowa	29,303	37,000
Kansas	28,067	34,300
Missouri	24,324	30,100
Nebraska	27,623	35,100
South Dakota	25,547	32,800
Wyoming	32,096	40,500

# Nebraska Stats

1995 1996 1997

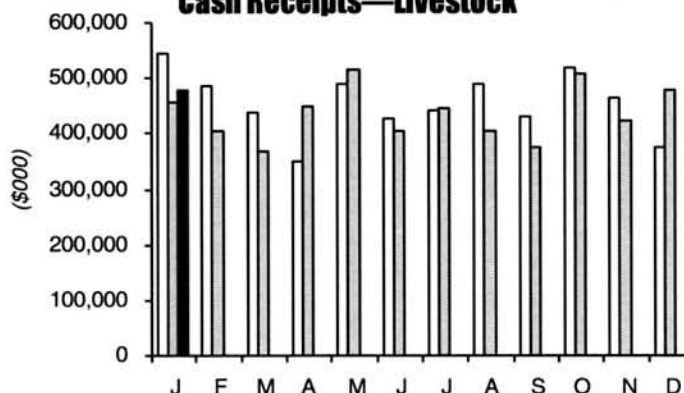
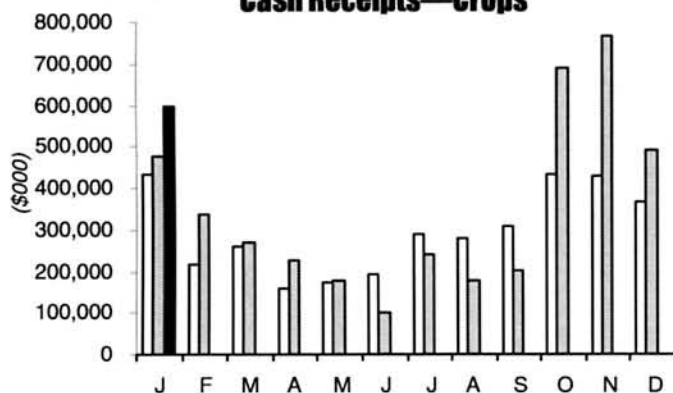
## Total Nonfarm Employment

## Unemployment Rate



## Cash Receipts—Crops

## Cash Receipts—Livestock



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

	December 1996 \$	YTD \$	YTD % Change		December 1996 \$	YTD \$	YTD % Change
Ainsworth, Brown	2,260	20,280	-2.3	Kearney, Buffalo	39,129	342,935	4.9
Albion, Boone	2,455	23,621	14.7	Kenesaw, Adams	155	1,295	3.4
Alliance, Box Butte	8,038	71,030	4.7	Kimball, Kimball	2,027	17,573	-6.6
Alma, Harlan	959	8,055	2.7	La Vista, Sarpy	10,401	89,873	7.3
Arapahoe, Furnas	787	7,761	0.3	Laurel, Cedar	552	4,544	7.4
Arlington, Washington	375	2,285	0.6	Lexington, Dawson	8,823	87,459	-0.6
Arnold, Custer	408	3,225	0.2	Lincoln, Lancaster	229,274	2,133,402	9.2
Ashland, Saunders	1,356	11,527	2.1	Louisville, Cass	534	5,092	19.3
Atkinson, Holt	1,287	9,988	2.9	Loup City, Sherman	821	7,084	8.7
Auburn, Nemaha	3,205	29,329	0.2	Lyons, Burt	525	5,542	2.9
Aurora, Hamilton	3,610	31,391	2.9	Madison, Madison	891	9,248	13.5
Axtell, Kearney	158	1,084	6.1	McCook, Red Willow	14,292	127,116	8.6
Bassett, Rock	668	5,394	-0.3	Milford, Seward	1,052	9,945	8.9
Battle Creek, Madison	916	7,425	2.8	Minatare, Scotts Bluff	259	2,401	-9.1
Bayard, Morrill	517	4,892	-10.6	Minden, Kearney	1,968	18,821	-2.2
Beatrice, Gage	14,514	118,016	5.2	Mitchell, Scotts Bluff	1,101	8,645	-10.4
Beaver City, Furnas	246	1,504	-4.3	Morrill, Scotts Bluff	453	4,714	1.9
Bellevue, Sarpy	24,285	213,323	17.8	Nebraska City, Otoe	7,959	67,311	9.5
Benkelman, Dundy	764	6,305	6.3	Neligh, Antelope	1,817	14,859	1.6
Bennington, Douglas	308	4,373	30.3	Newman Grove, Madison	371	3,951	5.2
Blair, Washington	7,349	70,968	0.8	Norfolk, Madison	38,046	333,415	6.8
Bloomfield, Knox	1,080	7,560	7.4	North Bend, Dodge	723	5,739	2.2
Blue Hill, Webster	568	5,135	12.2	North Platte, Lincoln	27,758	250,707	2.8
Bridgeport, Morrill	1,235	11,507	0.0	Oakland, Burt	800	7,515	7.2
Broken Bow, Custer	4,442	50,188	-6.1	Ogallala, Keith	6,361	64,920	5.0
Burwell, Garfield	1,086	8,577	-0.7	Omaha, Douglas	541,920	5,090,042	4.6
Cairo, Hall	533	2,587	12.0	O'Neill, Holt	5,631	51,803	6.3
Cambridge, Furnas	1,196	13,613	26.8	Ord, Valley	2,546	21,208	-0.7
Central City, Merrick	2,081	19,558	8.3	Osceola, Polk	861	8,470	-1.5
Ceresco, Saunders	1,332	13,625	6.6	Oshkosh, Garden	610	5,176	-8.5
Chadron, Dawes	4,156	39,119	-2.6	Osmond, Pierce	593	5,257	10.0
Chappell, Deuel	513	4,567	-9.9	Oxford, Furnas	729	4,042	-2.0
Clarkson, Colfax	649	5,385	9.9	Papillion, Sarpy	9,364	63,791	52.8
Clay Center, Clay	450	3,444	14.7	Pawnee City, Pawnee	493	3,517	-2.7
Columbus, Platte	23,645	232,384	2.1	Pender, Thurston	828	8,235	10.7
Cozad, Dawson	3,558	32,294	2.2	Pierce, Pierce	985	7,633	-0.2
Crawford, Dawes	614	5,923	5.1	Plainview, Pierce	1,166	7,626	0.2
Creighton, Knox	1,304	11,960	1.3	Plattsmouth, Cass	4,089	36,551	6.8
Crete, Saline	3,897	40,719	-2.7	Ponca, Dixon	589	5,883	9.5
Crofton, Knox	457	4,798	9.2	Ralston, Douglas	3,058	34,311	11.1
Curtis, Frontier	415	3,572	1.4	Randolph, Cedar	592	4,535	6.0
Dakota City, Dakota	573	6,363	-3.4	Ravenna, Buffalo	855	7,646	-4.0
David City, Butler	1,682	17,513	2.0	Red Cloud, Webster	1,111	8,039	-2.1
Deshler, Thayer	405	2,867	4.1	Rushville, Sheridan	853	6,638	0.6
Dodge, Dodge	555	2,945	6.4	Sargent, Custer	432	2,559	-3.1
Doniphan, Hall	818	7,063	6.8	Schuyler, Colfax	2,651	22,767	4.1
Eagle, Cass	367	3,664	-1.5	Scottsbluff, Scotts Bluff	28,976	238,949	5.8
Elgin, Antelope	722	5,174	6.6	Scribner, Dodge	678	5,856	9.2
Elkhorn, Douglas	2,570	21,821	15.9	Seward, Seward	6,266	56,768	2.6
Elm Creek, Buffalo	357	3,381	26.5	Shelby, Polk	568	4,023	6.2
Elwood, Gosper	381	4,650	6.7	Shelton, Buffalo	582	7,050	6.0
Fairbury, Jefferson	4,443	36,837	3.5	Sidney, Cheyenne	8,363	83,677	7.4
Fairmont, Fillmore	246	1,668	-13.8	South Sioux City, Dakota	9,599	95,445	2.4
Falls City, Richardson	3,712	30,317	3.8	Springfield, Sarpy	374	3,345	41.6
Franklin, Franklin	609	5,638	-1.8	St. Paul, Howard	1,596	13,892	4.6
Fremont, Dodge	24,136	244,541	2.9	Stanton, Stanton	871	6,757	5.6
Friend, Saline	787	5,744	-2.3	Stromsburg, Polk	1,056	11,869	7.1
Fullerton, Nance	755	5,936	-4.3	Superior, Nuckolls	2,354	18,781	9.3
Geneva, Fillmore	1,858	20,006	0.5	Sutherland, Lincoln	451	3,577	7.2
Genoa, Nance	337	3,172	8.9	Sutton, Clay	1,474	15,021	9.8
Gering, Scotts Bluff	4,096	40,314	3.9	Syracuse, Otoe	1,264	12,069	4.8
Gibbon, Buffalo	924	8,443	-0.2	Tecumseh, Johnson	1,481	12,379	4.5
Gordon, Sheridan	2,502	20,454	2.3	Tekamah, Burt	1,473	12,685	4.7
Gothenburg, Dawson	2,719	24,391	0.1	Tilden, Madison	561	5,278	4.7
Grand Island, Hall	60,297	548,588	-0.4	Utica, Seward	330	3,087	8.7
Grant, Perkins	1,066	10,740	3.4	Valentine, Cherry	4,900	44,699	5.1
Gretna, Sarpy	4,066	40,576	-2.2	Valley, Douglas	809	13,247	6.8
Hartington, Cedar	2,205	18,576	0.8	Wahoo, Saunders	3,274	28,887	1.8
Hastings, Adams	26,250	236,176	0.1	Wakefield, Dixon	501	4,370	0.5
Hay Springs, Sheridan	472	3,859	5.4	Wauneta, Chase	457	3,907	9.1
Hebron, Thayer	2,266	19,162	-2.6	Waverly, Lancaster	947	7,656	9.3
Henderson, York	756	8,017	9.6	Wayne, Wayne	4,195	36,770	2.7
Hickman, Lancaster	363	2,745	1.8	Weeping Water, Cass	740	7,089	-3.0
Holdrege, Phelps	5,646	56,162	3.7	West Point, Cuming	5,151	44,721	11.7
Hooper, Dodge	534	3,871	11.1	Wilber, Saline	719	5,358	-1.8
Humboldt, Richardson	657	5,839	5.6	Wisner, Cuming	798	6,682	4.2
Humphrey, Platte	988	8,765	13.8	Wood River, Hall	540	5,141	-2.0
Imperial, Chase	2,246	19,905	5.5	Wymore, Gage	590	4,961	3.7
Juniata, Adams	361	2,583	7.6				

\*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			
December		YTD	YTD % Chg	December		YTD	YTD % Chg	December		YTD	YTD % Chg	December		YTD	YTD % Chg
1996	YTD	1996		YTD	1996	YTD		1996	YTD	1996		YTD			
	\$	\$			\$	\$			\$	\$			\$	\$	
Nebraska *	154,303	2,065,968	9.7	1,631,602	14,752,603	5.5		Howard	541	8,152	11.7	2,248	18,346	7.0	
Adams	2,985	36,434	11.8	27,086	243,045	0.2		Jefferson	753	10,761	7.9	5,861	47,308	3.8	
Antelope	1,111	11,435	21.3	3,168	25,030	3.1		Johnson	431	5,392	3.9	2,345	16,843	4.6	
Arthur	45	564	19.7	162	(D)	(D)		Kearney	1,065	10,666	17.7	2,465	22,006	-0.1	
Banner	122	1,788	41.6	73	(D)	(D)		Keith	707	11,443	-2.5	6,932	70,835	6.1	
Blaine	73	777	8.7	214	(D)	(D)		Keya Paha	71	1,177	6.4	239	1,143	7.9	
Boone	1,163	10,039	16.1	3,455	30,248	11.5		Kimball	466	5,786	5.5	2,134	18,050	-6.3	
Box Butte	1,297	18,213	-1.6	8,504	74,395	4.7		Knox	762	11,498	16.1	4,199	32,210	5.7	
Boyd	208	2,381	-5.0	1,195	7,340	2.7		Lancaster	18,277	251,126	12.1	232,737	2,156,086	9.2	
Brown	318	3,870	-2.0	2,455	21,166	-2.3		Lincoln	3,049	40,533	2.9	29,145	261,817	2.7	
Buffalo	3,374	49,963	14.5	42,228	373,536	4.8		Logan	109	1,177	-8.1	187	(D)	(D)	
Burt	905	11,504	18.3	3,150	28,233	4.5		Loup	96	760	-20.6	62	(D)	(D)	
Butler	1,041	11,365	17.0	2,759	23,568	2.1		McPherson	15	723	29.8	41	(D)	(D)	
Cass	2,519	35,376	16.9	7,766	67,786	6.7		Madison	3,004	41,816	4.8	40,926	360,215	6.9	
Cedar	1,211	13,295	4.6	3,940	31,786	1.5		Merrick	866	11,335	26.5	2,862	26,460	9.9	
Chase	589	6,255	0.9	2,786	24,287	6.2		Morrill	658	6,884	8.5	1,804	16,814	-3.6	
Cherry	287	7,144	-1.9	5,291	47,301	4.8		Nance	517	5,521	23.4	1,229	9,575	0.1	
Cheyenne	1,072	14,302	10.6	9,000	87,266	7.2		Nemaha	711	9,079	3.5	3,719	32,435	-1.4	
Clay	800	10,610	17.9	3,258	28,769	9.5		Nuckolls	571	6,504	5.4	3,219	25,380	8.5	
Colfax	838	11,545	7.7	4,234	33,763	6.2		Otoe	1,708	19,758	9.4	9,867	84,178	8.4	
Cuming	1,251	14,415	21.5	6,974	58,401	10.2		Pawnee	339	3,995	34.2	981	6,433	2.1	
Custer	1,301	13,868	2.9	6,210	61,715	-4.7		Perkins	567	5,487	15.9	1,448	13,371	6.8	
Dakota	1,618	22,977	11.2	11,209	110,212	2.1		Phelps	1,021	17,348	38.3	6,216	59,469	3.8	
Dawes	794	8,267	6.7	4,822	45,114	-1.6		Pierce	827	10,513	16.1	2,915	21,545	1.9	
Dawson	1,940	28,529	3.3	15,681	148,935	0.1		Platte	3,290	41,554	13.0	25,719	248,546	2.6	
Deuel	300	3,303	26.8	865	9,165	-2.6		Polk	821	8,458	7.4	2,696	25,723	2.4	
Dixon	759	7,413	11.6	1,427	11,855	5.8		Red Willow	837	13,930	-2.5	14,808	130,931	8.4	
Dodge	3,451	44,077	17.4	27,274	266,485	3.2		Richardson	844	11,005	9.0	5,011	39,954	4.1	
Douglas	37,567	528,338	9.1	550,765	5,186,913	4.6		Rock	190	2,333	4.4	749	5,623	-0.1	
Dundy	317	4,334	30.7	827	6,743	5.6		Saline	1,192	16,754	12.3	6,169	56,412	-2.3	
Fillmore	977	10,072	6.8	3,188	30,629	1.6		Sarpy	10,291	145,425	7.0	49,392	416,869	17.7	
Franklin	411	4,265	3.1	1,087	8,919	0.6		Saunders	2,543	28,070	18.6	7,949	66,108	3.3	
Frontier	184	3,940	3.6	973	7,581	3.3		Scotts Bluff	3,261	44,980	8.7	35,053	296,121	4.7	
Furnas	486	7,489	10.7	3,229	28,683	10.5		Seward	1,429	19,524	11.6	8,185	72,817	3.3	
Gage	2,081	26,609	11.8	16,616	131,767	5.5		Sheridan	557	7,913	16.0	4,195	34,252	1.4	
Garden	231	3,361	6.7	953	7,274	-6.8		Sherman	332	4,189	8.7	1,219	9,418	5.5	
Garfield	202	2,139	25.3	1,086	8,577	-0.7		Sioux	189	2,428	0.7	236	1,764	4.9	
Gosper	265	3,443	14.1	474	5,350	6.6		Stanton	691	8,149	13.7	1,068	8,773	9.5	
Grant	133	1,045	-9.0	236	2,026	-7.2		Thayer	666	8,402	11.0	3,809	29,563	-0.5	
Greeley	197	3,429	5.3	984	7,929	3.7		Thomas	47	1,111	-9.8	443	4,169	4.5	
Hall	5,106	68,219	11.0	62,472	567,365	-0.3		Thurston	535	5,908	12.0	1,155	9,949	8.5	
Hamilton	1,158	13,888	7.1	4,549	37,049	4.2		Valley	393	5,367	2.1	2,843	23,447	-0.7	
Harlan	499	5,776	17.3	1,379	10,721	-1.6		Washington	2,296	29,687	19.7	8,691	78,896	1.1	
Hayes	52	1,557	-4.9	139	(D)	(D)		Wayne	870	10,485	9.9	4,552	38,851	2.7	
Hitchcock	323	4,624	13.2	949	7,472	4.0		Webster	568	5,161	16.6	1,858	14,508	2.7	
Holt	1,136	14,380	2.6	8,064	70,015	4.4		Wheeler	152	1,596	-11.1	186	1,149	0.3	
Hooker	64	1,078	35.1	415	3,846	14.6		York	1,605	19,285	3.7	12,118	115,318	3.2	

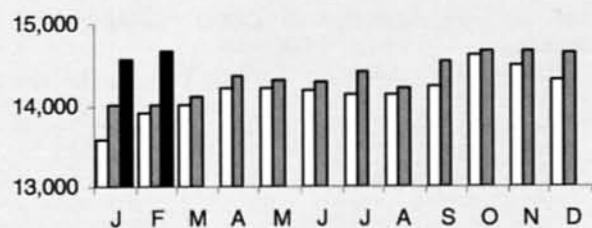
\*Totals may not add due to rounding  
(D) Denotes disclosure suppression

Source: Nebraska Department of Revenue

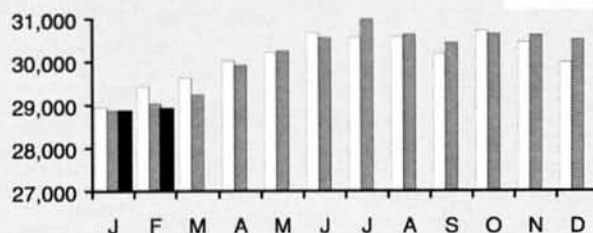
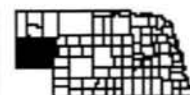
# Regional Employment—1995 to February 1997

1995 1996 1997

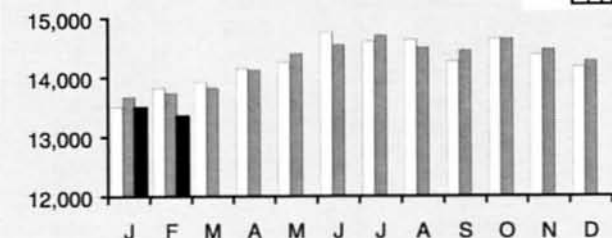
## Northwest Panhandle



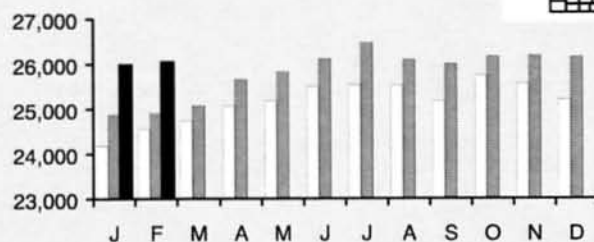
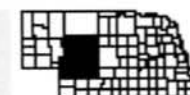
## Southwest Panhandle



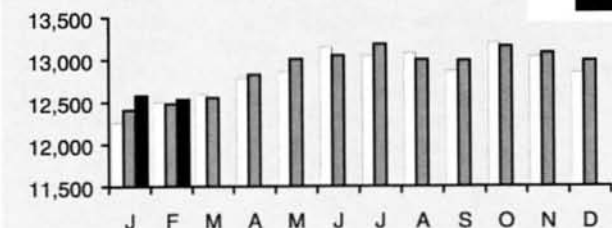
## North Central



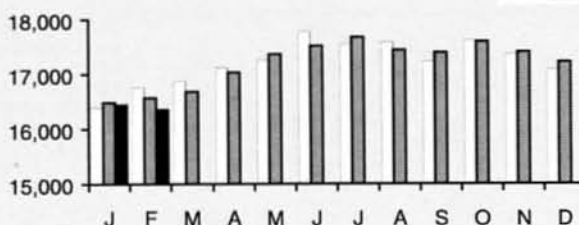
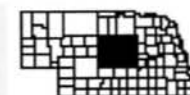
## West Central



## Southwest Central



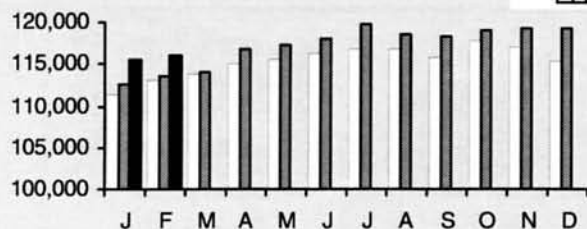
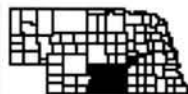
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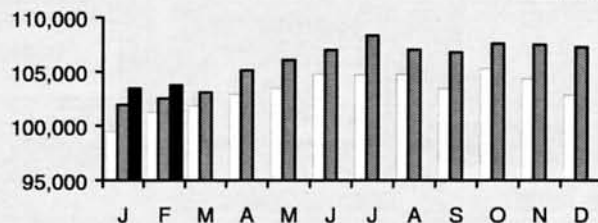
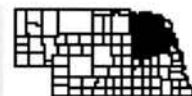
# Regional Employment—1995 to February 1997

1995 1996 1997

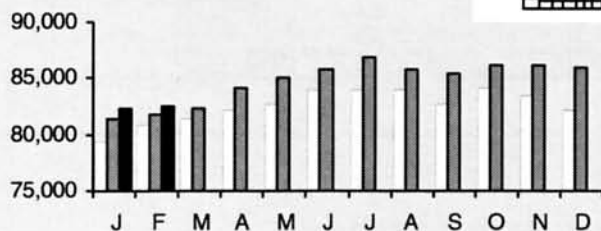
## Southeast Central



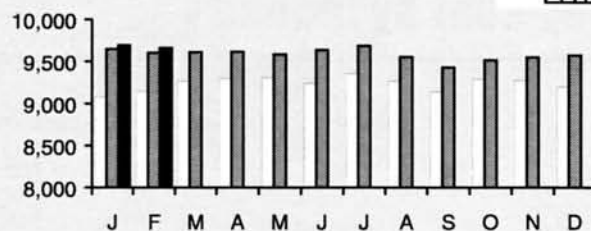
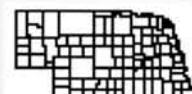
## Northeast



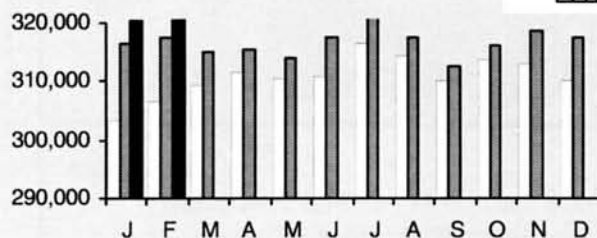
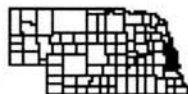
## Southeast



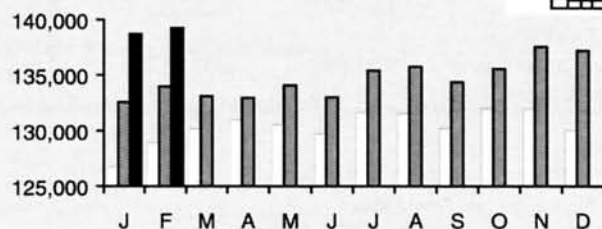
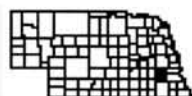
## Sioux City MSA



## Omaha MSA

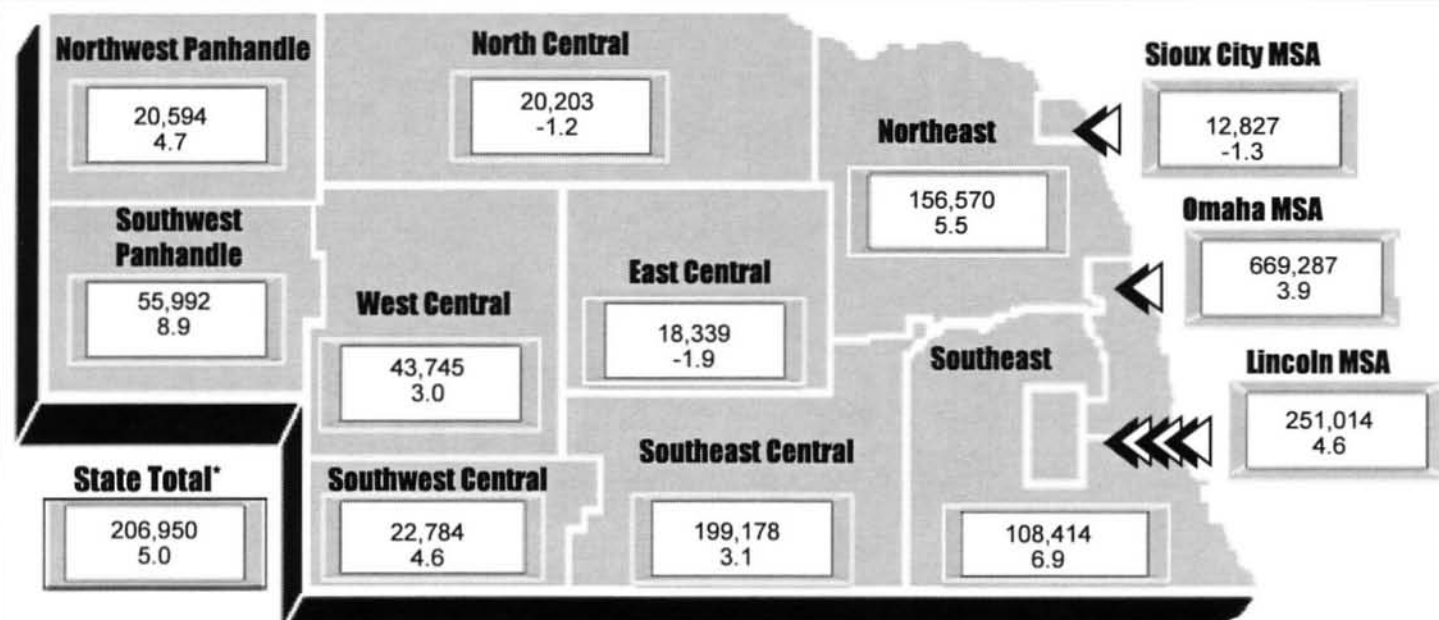


## Lincoln MSA



# December 1996 Regional Retail Sales (\$000)

## Percent Change from Year Ago



\*Regional values may not add to state total due to unallocated sales

## Employment by Industry

	Revised January 11997	Preliminary February 1997	% Change vs Yr. Ago
Place of Work			
Nonfarm	832,412	836,148	3.1
Construction & Mining	34,813	34,887	11.6
Manufacturing	114,050	114,360	2.0
Durables	55,239	55,556	3.3
Nondurables	58,811	58,804	0.8
TCU*	50,676	50,845	3.7
Trade	207,839	207,838	2.3
Wholesale	53,146	53,409	0.8
Retail	154,693	154,429	2.8
FIRE**	53,980	53,838	3.1
Services	220,307	222,357	5.6
Government	150,747	152,023	-0.3
Place of Residence			
Civilian Labor Force	909,888	911,112	1.5
Unemployment Rate	3.1	2.7	

\* Transportation, Communication, and Utilities

\*\* Finance, Insurance, and Real Estate

Source: Nebraska Department of Labor

Inflation Rate

## Price Indices

Consumer Price Index - U\*  
(1982-84 = 100)

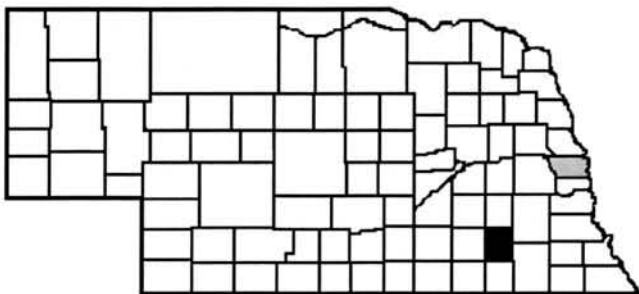
	March 1997	% Change vs Yr. Ago	YTD % Change vs Yr. Ago
All Items	160.0	2.8	2.9
Commodities	142.0	2.0	2.5
Services	178.2	3.2	3.3

\*U = All urban consumers

Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics

# Saline

## Wilber-County Seat



Next County of Month

**License plate prefix number:** 22

**Size of county:** 576 square miles, ranks 58th in the state

**Population:** 12,916 in 1995, a change of 1.6 percent from 1990

**Per capita personal income:** \$18,680 in 1994, ranks 57th in the state

**Net taxable retail sales (\$000):** \$72,530 in 1995, a change of 1.0 percent from 1994; \$60,198 from January through October of 1996, a change of 2.6 percent from the same period the previous year.

**Number of business and service establishments:** 309 in 1993, 59.4 percent had less than five employees

**Unemployment rate:** 1.5 percent in Saline County, 2.4 percent in Nebraska for 1995

**Nonfarm employment (1995):**

	State	Saline County
Wage and Salary workers	815,089	5,132
	<i>(percent of total)</i>	
Construction and Mining	4.4	1.3
Manufacturing	13.7	46.0
TCU	6.1	2.6
Wholesale Trade	6.5	2.8
Retail Trade	18.6	13.7
FIRE	6.4	2.7
Services	25.8	12.2
Government	18.5	18.7

### Agriculture:

**Number of farms:** 134 in 1992, 142 in 1987

**Average farm size:** 2465 acres in 1992

**Market value of farm products sold:** \$57.634 million in 1992 (\$77,674 average per farm)

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

# bulletin board

## Population Projections Report Available!

Nebraska Population Projections to 2010 are now available. This report contains county level projections by age category. The cost is \$15 per copy including postage and handling. Contact the Bureau of Business Research (BBR) to order.

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Fax: (402)472-3878  
Mail: Bureau of Business Research  
114 CBA  
University of Nebraska-Lincoln  
Lincoln, NE 68588-0406

## NU ONRAMP Data Review

Nebraska Agricultural Statistics (Ag Stats) from the Nebraska Department of Agriculture provides county, district, and state-level agricultural data. Selected data also are available for the U.S. and special state groupings.

To find these files on **NU ONRAMP** enter *Data Central* and select *Subject Search*. Choose *Agriculture\*\* (05000)* then *Agricultural Statistics (050500)*.

Expert users can locate Nebraska Ag Stats using a file name search of *NE\**.

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