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Rural Hospitals: A Story of Change and Impact

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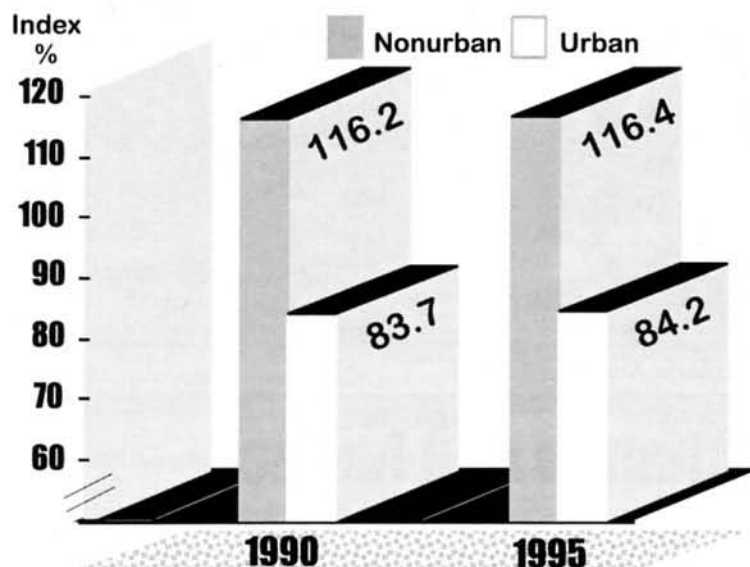
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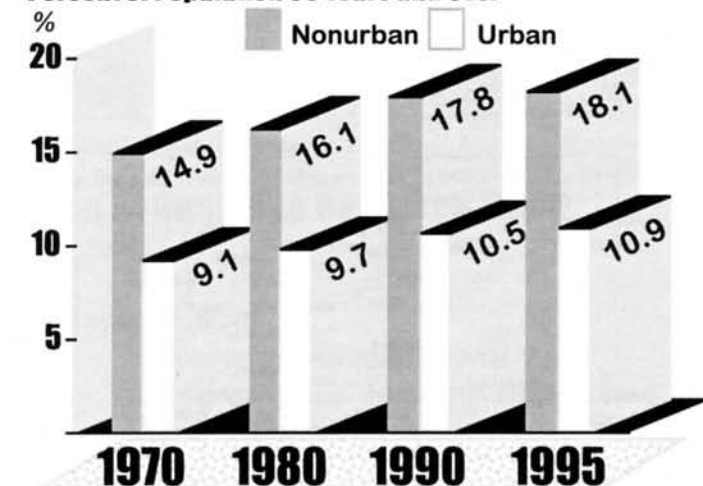
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Figure 2
Index of Households With Money Incomes
Less Than \$20,000 by Area^a



^a The urban area includes Dakota, Washington, Douglas, Sarpy, Cass, and Lancaster Counties. The nonurban area includes the remainder of the state. The index is based on state average. An index of 116 means that the area's proportion of households with money incomes less than \$20,000 is 1.16 times the state average.

Figure 3
Percent of Population 65 Years and Over^a



^a The urban area includes Dakota, Washington, Douglas, Sarpy, Cass, and Lancaster Counties. The nonurban area includes the remainder of the state.

The economic impact of a local hospital begins with patients. The hospital receives both Medicare/Medicaid payments on behalf of patients and direct payments from patients. In a business sense, payments received from patients are revenue that a hospital uses to purchase goods and services and to pay its employees (Figure 5). Some of the purchases involve local business transactions. In addition, the hospital's employees who live in the local area spend a substantial portion of their incomes at local businesses and enterprises. Every dollar spent directly by the local hospital to purchase supplies and services from the local economy or to pay its employees who spend locally triggers multiple rounds of sales for other local businesses. The total multiplier effect or impact is the sum of the multiple (direct and indirect) rounds of purchases/sales.

Table 3 summarizes local economic impacts (direct and indirect) for Nebraska's four types of rural hospitals. Using 1993 economic data impacts were measured in three ways: (gross) business sales, nonfarm employment (part- and full-time jobs), and nonfarm employee earnings. In 1993 the average Type One hospital generated, directly and indirectly, \$3.1 million in business sales, supported 77 jobs, and contributed \$1 million in employee earnings to the local economy. The average Type Four rural hospital generated, directly and indirectly, over \$83 million in business sales, supported over 1,300 part- and full-time jobs, and contributed \$24.5 million in employee earnings to the local economy.

Without exception, rural hospitals today are confronted with problems that range from medical cost concerns and Medicare/Medicaid program cuts to weak or declining local economies. Solutions to these problems will change the industry, perhaps in radical ways. Some rural hospitals will experience revenue growth, and some will experience revenue loss. Others will adjust services and/or purchases. A few will go out of business. These expected changes will have varying effects on the local economy.

The study included a limited analysis of local economic impacts due to expected industry change. The analysis and results reflect simulated industry changes. In other words, the analysis was not based on actual situations.

Table 4 shows local economic impacts associated with revenue changes (either increase or decrease) of 5, 10, and 25 percent. Table 5 shows the impact that would occur if all local purchases of inputs other than labor were to end for Type One and Type Four hospitals only. Such a situation could occur if a particular hospital became affiliated with a larger care organization that purchased its supplies and other inputs *centrally*. Also, Table 5 provides estimates of the local economic impacts of reconfiguring the Type One hospital. This reconfiguration reflects scaling back regular acute care capacity and adding outpatient physician services and long-term care capacity. While the employment impact of this new simulated health care center is greater than that of the former hospital, the additional employment may have come at the expense of current jobs and physician clinics already in place. Hence, total local economic activity may not increase. However, the new health care center also may evolve into an entity that can provide additional services not previously present in the community and/or attract those residents who previously went elsewhere for services. In this case the community's total economic activity could increase.

Table 1
Service Characteristics of the 31 Sample Hospitals, 1994

	Type One (9 hospitals)	Type Two (10 hospitals)	Type Three (7 hospitals)	Type Four (5 hospitals)
Number of Licensed Beds				
Average	29	52	83	231
Range	56	79	133	262
High				
Low	12	32	40	192
Total Discharges (number of patients)				
Average	279	620	1,284	5,495
Range	499	835	1,944	6,840
High				
Low	152	436	736	3,827
Medicare Discharges (percent of total discharges)				
Average	54.3	49.0	45.4	42.3
Range	91.4	73.1	50.0	49.3
High				
Low	41.2	33.9	41.0	39.2
Medicaid Discharges (percent of total discharges)				
Average	7.9	7.7	9.2	16.3
Range	16.5	15.6	16.7	22.0
High				
Low	0.5	0.0	0.0	12.8
Case-Mix Index*				
Average	1.1	1.0	1.1	1.3
Range	1.3	1.3	1.2	1.5
High				
Low	0.9	0.9	1.0	1.2

*Case-mix index is based on Medicare data. A higher numerical value on the case-mix index corresponds with a greater proportion of Medicare patients who have more serious and complex medical care needs.

Source: Nebraska Association of Hospitals & Health Systems

Table 2
Economic Characteristics of the 31 Sample Hospitals, 1993

	Type One (9 hospitals)	Type Two (10 hospitals)	Type Three (7 hospitals)	Type Four (5 hospitals)
Employment (number of jobs)				
Average	69	99	208	895
Range	115	132	398	1,304
High				
Low	33	78	110	691
Hospital Payroll (\$ millions)				
Average	0.9	1.5	3.8	18.2
Range	1.3	1.8	6.3	25.7
High				
Low	0.5	1.1	2.4	14.5
Operating Revenues (\$ millions)				
Average	1.8	3.3	8.3	44.2
Range	2.5	4.3	13.2	62.1
High				
Low	0.9	2.1	5.3	31.1

Source: Nebraska Association of Hospitals & Health Systems

Table 3
**Summary of Estimated Total Economic Impact
(Direct and Indirect) of Different Types of Rural Hospitals**

	Type One	Type Two	Type Three	Type Four
Business Sales (\$ millions)	3.1	5.2	14.7	83.2
Jobs (part- and full-time)	77	118	277	1,332
Employee Earnings (\$ millions)	1.0	1.8	4.8	24.5

The health care industry as a whole is likely to continue to be a growth industry, largely because of population aging. While many locales will benefit from the increased demand and use of services associated with this demographic trend, others will not. Those hospitals that are best positioned and are most responsive in anticipating demographic, structural, and policy changes likely will capitalize on the potential of the health service sector as a growth industry. Those hospitals, communities, and areas that cannot compete effectively in this challenging environment will incur economic losses.

Figure 4
Four Types of Rural Nebraska Hospitals

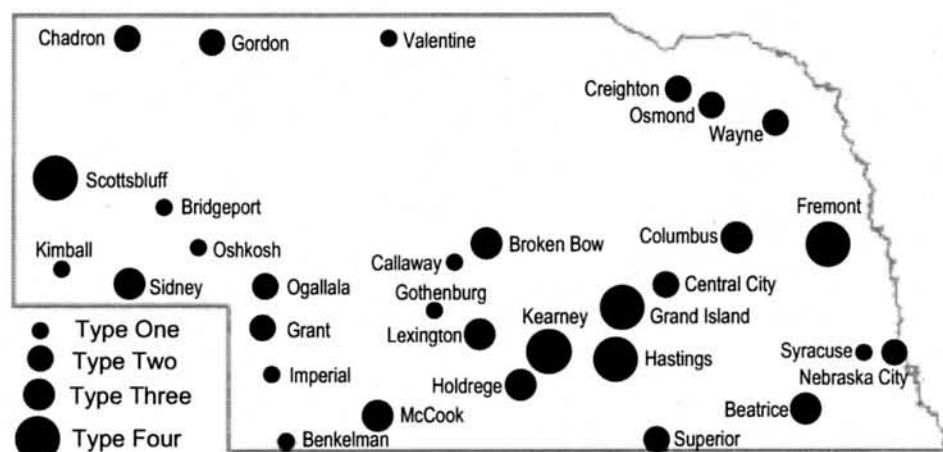


Figure 5
Overview of a Hospital's Economic Impact
Patient Payments

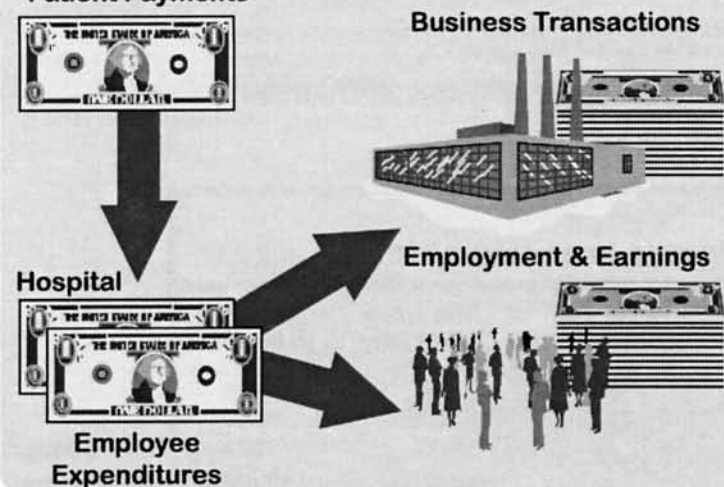


Table 4
The Economic Impacts of Changes in Operating Revenues for Different Types of Rural Hospitals

	Type One	Type Two	Type Three	Type Four
Business Sales (\$000)				
5 percent change	167	253	744	4,158
10 percent change	318	522	1,471	8,316
25 percent change	803	1,297	3,685	20,790
Jobs (part- and full-time)				
5 percent change	3	5	12	64
10 percent change	7	11	26	131
25 percent change	19	28	68	331
Employee Earnings (\$000)				
5 percent change	43	77	205	1,143
10 percent change	87	159	428	2,365
25 percent change	231	408	1,136	6,052

Table 5
The Economic Impacts of Simulated Changes in Hospital Operations

		Business Sales (\$000)	Jobs (part- and full-time)	Employee Earnings (\$000)
Changes in Local Purchasing Patterns				
Type One	With local purchases	3,108	77	1,010
	No local purchases	2,907	76	976
	Difference	-201	-1	-34
Type Four	With local purchases	83,200	1,332	24,500
	No local purchases	74,425	1,287	23,133
	Difference	-8,775	-45	-1,367
A Hypothetical Restructuring of the Type One Hospital				
Type One	Hospital only	3,108	77	1,010
	Hospital, outpatient, and long-term care	3,397	84	1,052
	Difference	289	7	42

As hospitals and communities evaluate their alternatives, they should realize that local jobs, linkages, and income recapture are important considerations. Income recapture is payments for health insurance policies or taxes that leave the area. When medical care services are provided locally and paid by insurance or government programs, the community recaptures that income and in turn provides jobs locally.

Finally, given the importance of the health sector, it is in the community's interest to participate in local public decision making to determine the future course of the local hospital or health resources.

The Nebraska Association of Hospitals and Health Care System and the Rural Policy Research Institute helped fund the study. □

News Briefs

Consumer Price Indexes

The Consumer Price Index (CPI) is a measure of the average change in the prices paid by urban consumers for a fixed market basket of goods and services. The CPI is calculated monthly for two population groups, one consisting only of urban households whose primary source of income is derived from the employment of wage earners and clerical workers, and the other consisting of all urban households. The wage earner index (CPI-W) is a continuation of the historic index that was introduced well over a half-century ago for use in wage negotiations. As new uses were developed for the CPI in recent years, the need for a broader and more representative index became apparent. The all-urban consumer index (CPI-U), introduced in 1978, is representative of the 1982-84 buying habits of about 80 percent of the

noninstitutional population of the United States at that time, compared with 32 percent represented in the CPI-W. In addition to wage earners and clerical workers, the CPI-U covers professional, managerial, and technical workers, the self-employed, short-term workers, the unemployed, retirees, and others not in the labor force.

The CPI is based on prices of food, clothing, shelter, fuel, drugs, transportation fares, doctors' and dentists' fees, and other goods and services that people buy for day-to-day living. The quantity and quality of these items are kept essentially unchanged between major revisions so that only price changes will be measured. All taxes directly associated with the purchase and use of items are included in the index.

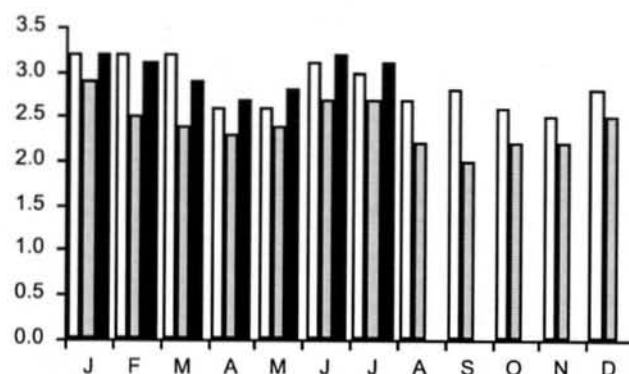
Nebraska Stats

□ 1994 ■ 1995 ■ 1996

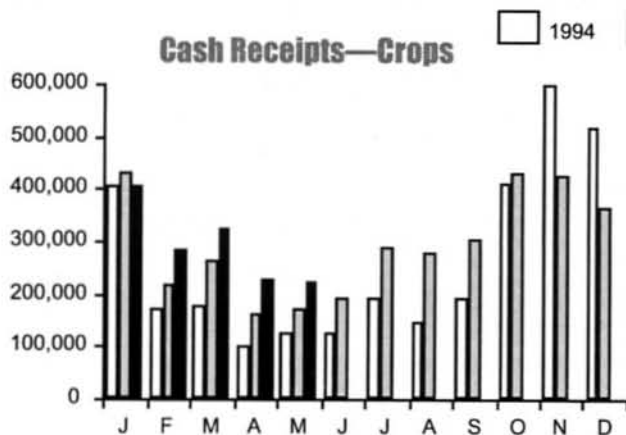
Total Nonfarm Employment



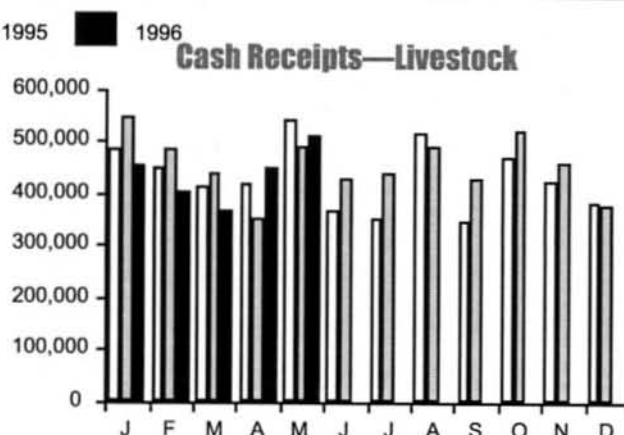
Unemployment Rate



Cash Receipts—Crops



Cash Receipts—Livestock



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

	May 1996 \$	YTD \$	YTD % Change		May 1996 \$	YTD \$	YTD % Change
Ainsworth, Brown	1,690	7,385	-9.2	Kearney, Buffalo	28,939	129,433	6.1
Albion, Boone	2,069	9,246	20.2	Kenesaw, Adams	124	518	6.2
Alliance, Box Butte	5,842	26,345	3.4	Kimball, Kimball	1,458	6,430	-11.7
Alma, Harlan	725	3,091	1.5	La Vista, Sarpy	7,539	33,691	16.4
Arapahoe, Furnas	641	2,913	5.4	Laurel, Cedar	360	1,650	4.4
Arlington, Washington	147	844	-1.1	Lexington, Dawson	7,261	35,012	3.5
Arnold, Custer	220	1,166	-4.8	Lincoln, Lancaster	170,968	815,835	11.7
Ashland, Saunders	888	4,225	3.5	Louisville, Cass	361	1,598	3.2
Atkinson, Holt	771	3,501	9.0	Loup City, Sherman	477	2,478	0.5
Auburn, Nemaha	2,457	11,432	1.4	Lyons, Burt	364	1,804	-3.2
Aurora, Hamilton	2,350	12,324	0.4	Madison, Madison	835	3,466	22.2
Axtell, Kearney	68	359	-9.1	McCook, Red Willow	10,959	47,794	10.6
Bassett, Rock	427	1,876	3.7	Milford, Seward	653	3,957	8.5
Battle Creek, Madison	516	2,971	4.6	Minatare, Scotts Bluff	179	829	-25.1
Bayard, Morrill	318	1,874	-14.2	Minden, Kearney	1,614	6,786	-9.5
Beatrice, Gage	9,457	44,214	5.9	Mitchell, Scotts Bluff	639	3,262	-19.3
Beaver City, Furnas	115	502	-13.9	Morrill, Scotts Bluff	409	1,756	-4.2
Bellevue, Sarpy	17,453	79,704	19.6	Nebraska City, Otoe	5,354	24,193	13.9
Benkelman, Dundy	540	2,302	13.9	Neligh, Antelope	1,286	5,111	-10.2
Bennington, Douglas	391	1,626	33.6	Newman Grove, Madison	308	1,562	3.9
Blair, Washington	6,086	27,421	-2.4	Norfolk, Madison	26,953	125,423	7.7
Bloomfield, Knox	553	2,586	5.3	North Bend, Dodge	458	2,277	14.1
Blue Hill, Webster	366	1,810	7.5	North Platte, Lincoln	21,324	95,301	3.5
Bridgeport, Morrill	958	4,132	-11.2	O'Neill, Holt	4,541	20,639	12.2
Broken Bow, Custer	4,023	22,613	14.7	Oakland, Burt	528	2,931	5.7
Burwell, Garfield	543	2,686	-7.0	Ogallala, Keith	5,639	23,672	5.4
Cairo, Hall	169	871	3.6	Omaha, Douglas	409,925	1,978,970	7.0
Cambridge, Furnas	1,008	6,035	82.9	Ord, Valley	1,873	7,931	-7.7
Central City, Merrick	1,640	7,450	9.0	Osceola, Polk	672	3,346	-3.4
Ceresco, Saunders	1,044	5,243	4.3	Oshkosh, Garden	395	1,933	-14.1
Chadron, Dawes	3,324	14,004	-8.3	Osmond, Pierce	483	1,685	8.2
Chappell, Deuel	367	1,725	-10.0	Oxford, Furnas	323	1,314	-20.5
Clarkson, Colfax	449	2,001	6.6	Papillion, Sarpy	5,290	22,645	43.3
Clay Center, Clay	203	1,132	5.2	Pawnee City, Pawnee	297	1,398	-6.5
Columbus, Platte	19,022	93,102	7.7	Pender, Thurston	625	2,966	8.1
Cozad, Dawson	2,906	12,438	-3.9	Pierce, Pierce	573	2,818	-4.5
Crawford, Dawes	422	1,719	4.9	Plainview, Pierce	544	2,694	-14.1
Creighton, Knox	944	4,415	-5.5	Plattsmouth, Cass	3,026	13,531	2.2
Crete, Saline	3,393	15,747	-4.4	Ponca, Dixon	425	2,360	10.7
Crofton, Knox	358	1,710	17.9	Ralston, Douglas	2,838	13,522	11.8
Curtis, Frontier	273	1,307	1.0	Randolph, Cedar	347	1,617	3.9
Dakota City, Dakota	636	2,748	7.4	Ravenna, Buffalo	573	2,920	-10.3
David City, Butler	1,439	6,995	4.7	Red Cloud, Webster	578	2,724	-15.0
Deshler, Thayer	246	1,069	6.8	Rushville, Sheridan	493	2,442	-1.1
Dodge, Dodge	195	988	-6.8	Sargent, Custer	162	891	0.3
Doniphan, Hall	435	2,322	-7.0	Schuyler, Colfax	1,788	8,719	6.0
Eagle, Cass	365	1,180	-0.4	Scottsbluff, Scotts Bluff	19,556	89,268	5.5
Elgin, Antelope	358	1,911	6.5	Scribner, Dodge	474	2,052	14.1
Elkhorn, Douglas	1,814	7,638	17.3	Seward, Seward	4,573	21,493	1.3
Elm Creek, Buffalo	383	1,280	50.4	Shelby, Polk	258	1,532	15.5
Elwood, Gosper	373	1,546	4.3	Shelton, Buffalo	512	2,592	-4.4
Fairbury, Jefferson	2,946	14,188	3.3	Sidney, Cheyenne	6,593	26,657	-0.4
Fairmont, Fillmore	104	619	-10.0	South Sioux City, Dakota	8,296	38,513	9.6
Falls City, Richardson	2,475	11,608	4.1	Springfield, Sarpy	254	1,175	49.9
Franklin, Franklin	492	2,119	2.4	St. Paul, Howard	1,199	4,996	-3.5
Fremont, Dodge	20,553	97,572	3.2	Stanton, Stanton	462	2,556	4.6
Friend, Saline	445	2,335	-3.2	Stromsburg, Polk	763	3,475	2.4
Fullerton, Nance	409	2,255	-12.9	Superior, Nuckolls	1,495	6,610	-1.4
Geneva, Fillmore	1,839	8,158	3.5	Sutherland, Lincoln	260	1,286	24.1
Genoa, Nance	288	1,153	5.2	Sutton, Clay	1,070	6,251	25.8
Gering, Scotts Bluff	3,525	15,087	0.1	Syracuse, Otoe	935	4,519	-2.8
Gibbon, Buffalo	650	3,333	-0.9	Tecumseh, Johnson	1,008	4,782	-0.6
Gordon, Sheridan	1,676	7,556	2.6	Tekamah, Burt	974	4,654	2.2
Gothensburg, Dawson	2,036	8,451	-5.7	Tilden, Madison	379	2,009	3.1
Grand Island, Hall	46,091	212,833	-0.3	Utica, Seward	280	1,111	4.9
Grant, Perkins	847	4,149	8.6	Valentine, Cherry	3,736	16,041	7.4
Gretna, Sarpy	3,300	14,238	-0.5	Valley, Douglas	1,114	4,450	3.1
Hartington, Cedar	1,488	6,573	-13.5	Wahoo, Saunders	2,322	10,805	-2.1
Hastings, Adams	20,986	94,291	3.9	Wakefield, Dixon	290	1,668	5.8
Hay Springs, Sheridan	270	1,545	6.7	Waverly, Chase	248	1,357	-2.5
Hebron, Thayer	1,449	7,218	-9.4	Waverly, Lancaster	593	2,868	15.4
Henderson, York	624	2,874	22.8	Wayne, Wayne	2,945	13,936	1.7
Hickman, Lancaster	160	952	-0.8	Weeping Water, Cass	506	2,484	-9.9
Holdrege, Phelps	4,794	21,482	0.8	West Point, Cuming	3,699	16,828	12.3
Hooper, Dodge	240	1,467	13.1	Wilber, Saline	397	1,946	-6.9
Humboldt, Richardson	448	2,313	5.2	Wisner, Cuming	527	2,462	3.6
Humphrey, Platte	654	3,297	16.2	Wood River, Hall	614	2,044	16.3
Imperial, Chase	1,773	7,668	7.7	Wymore, Gage	361	1,830	-0.5
Juniata, Adams	128	999	9.2				

*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		
	May 1996	YTD	YTD	May 1996	YTD	YTD		May 1996	YTD	YTD	May 1996	YTD	YTD
	\$	\$	% Chg	\$	\$	% Chg		\$	\$	% Chg	\$	\$	% Chg
Nebraska *	189,053	837,231	12.3	1,179,635	5,670,367	7.4	Howard	590	3,370	6.8	1,553	6,672	2.6
Adams	2,991	14,846	13.5	21,366	96,986	3.9	Jefferson	734	4,393	0.8	3,808	17,445	0.6
Antelope	847	4,786	26.3	2,015	8,752	-3.5	Johnson	472	2,427	18.0	1,254	6,487	2.4
Arthur	42	226	18.9	(D)	(D)	(D)	Kearney	847	4,392	11.2	1,915	7,818	-7.2
Banner	99	599	35.5	(D)	(D)	(D)	Keith	929	4,782	11.6	6,031	25,518	7.1
Blaine	74	300	-6.3	(D)	(D)	(D)	Keya Paha	96	531	4.9	68	367	10.9
Boone	706	3,910	2.0	2,541	11,527	15.1	Kimball	451	2,383	19.3	1,476	6,557	-12.0
Box Butte	1,596	7,230	0.2	6,068	27,567	3.2	Knox	983	4,785	23.9	2,372	11,338	3.1
Boyd	269	975	-5.9	509	2,653	8.9	Lancaster	23,327	97,758	13.8	172,468	824,029	11.7
Brown	311	1,276	-18.0	1,739	7,585	-9.6	Lincoln	3,544	16,220	-2.1	22,156	99,344	3.4
Buffalo	4,671	20,550	17.8	31,383	141,029	5.7	Logan	51	385	-30.4	(D)	(D)	(D)
Burt	1,069	4,480	13.2	2,031	10,292	1.8	Loup	29	273	-38.8	(D)	(D)	(D)
Butler	1,144	4,864	9.0	1,720	9,077	2.9	McPherson	21	332	50.2	(D)	(D)	(D)
Cass	3,218	14,082	16.1	5,119	23,875	1.9	Madison	3,819	17,636	9.7	29,024	135,696	7.8
Cedar	1,109	5,352	-1.5	2,485	11,202	-7.8	Merrick	868	4,917	34.1	2,156	9,739	10.1
Chase	515	2,720	0.3	2,051	9,172	6.1	Morrill	553	2,652	8.4	1,303	6,139	-12.7
Cherry	642	2,941	-3.1	3,908	17,013	7.5	Nance	618	2,098	1.4	715	3,523	-7.4
Cheyenne	1,110	6,166	15.9	6,804	27,924	0.0	Nemaha	831	3,930	10.0	2,663	12,604	-0.6
Clay	689	4,419	29.4	1,970	11,269	20.0	Nuckolls	541	2,924	16.6	1,990	9,041	1.3
Colfax	1,148	4,878	16.8	2,634	12,759	7.7	Otoe	1,701	8,330	11.4	6,635	30,460	9.7
Cuming	1,105	5,933	14.0	4,777	21,738	10.2	Pawnee	300	1,707	55.3	469	2,374	1.5
Custer	1,187	6,030	9.6	4,783	26,621	12.5	Perkins	517	2,482	20.0	1,048	5,221	14.0
Dakota	1,830	9,391	14.5	9,527	44,522	9.1	Phelps	1,495	7,445	29.4	4,999	22,536	0.9
Dawes	595	3,100	-3.0	3,750	15,725	-7.0	Pierce	844	4,347	10.1	1,699	7,540	-5.1
Dawson	2,729	12,464	5.4	12,558	57,406	0.1	Platte	3,585	16,878	11.4	20,189	98,931	7.7
Deuel	356	1,501	51.0	756	3,450	-1.8	Polk	719	3,907	15.3	1,780	8,852	-1.6
Dixon	576	3,026	9.3	792	4,533	8.5	Red Willow	1,104	6,009	1.7	11,280	49,167	10.5
Dodge	3,537	16,226	12.2	22,137	105,699	3.6	Richardson	1,061	4,393	0.7	3,165	15,325	5.3
Douglas	52,055	213,659	19.0	418,778	2,015,167	7.0	Rock	91	790	-12.6	431	1,925	4.0
Dundy	424	1,920	33.9	579	2,475	15.2	Saline	1,456	7,419	12.4	4,507	21,747	-4.1
Fillmore	964	4,298	14.3	2,702	12,347	6.8	Sarpy	14,953	58,463	15.0	34,256	153,213	20.0
Franklin	352	1,854	2.6	673	3,406	6.9	Saunders	2,579	11,003	10.2	5,008	24,579	1.8
Frontier	393	1,742	12.7	639	2,811	7.6	Scotts Bluff	3,800	17,365	1.8	24,369	110,613	3.3
Furnas	744	3,052	8.5	2,184	11,521	28.0	Seward	1,558	8,074	10.7	5,700	27,637	2.2
Gage	2,293	10,432	3.2	10,395	49,152	6.1	Sheridan	565	3,492	34.1	2,724	12,804	1.7
Garden	258	1,485	6.0	535	2,565	-12.6	Sherman	293	1,895	14.8	629	3,236	-3.5
Garfield	262	989	55.7	543	2,686	-7.0	Sioux	114	972	0.9	134	591	0.3
Gosper	336	1,523	29.2	416	1,806	6.6	Stanton	665	3,292	4.3	578	3,219	3.1
Grant	54	335	-30.2	171	701	5.6	Thayer	627	3,405	8.7	2,154	10,931	-4.5
Greeley	265	1,420	-8.9	517	2,876	6.9	Thomas	150	586	43.6	396	1,607	14.9
Hall	6,583	28,010	14.5	47,636	219,634	-0.3	Thurston	483	2,589	12.0	728	3,629	7.0
Hamilton	1,195	6,321	10.9	2,665	14,306	1.9	Valley	513	2,181	-17.4	2,003	8,646	-7.6
Harlan	442	2,366	12.0	915	3,862	-1.6	Washington	2,429	11,345	15.0	6,558	30,271	-1.2
Hayes	139	720	16.9	(D)	(D)	(D)	Wayne	1,000	4,367	14.6	3,067	14,629	2.1
Hitchcock	373	1,805	17.7	501	2,706	-0.6	Webster	360	2,037	11.7	1,047	5,018	-6.6
Holt	1,264	5,730	-2.0	5,899	27,062	10.7	Wheeler	198	714	7.7	80	324	-34.8
Hooker	67	341	50.9	238	1,089	6.1	York	1,724	8,057	-2.7	9,589	44,155	6.5

*Totals may not add due to rounding

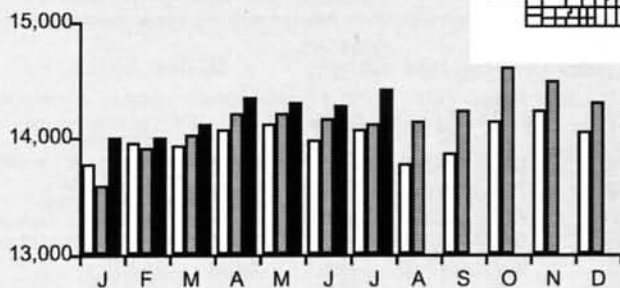
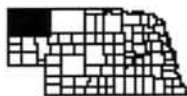
(D) Denotes disclosure suppression

Source: Nebraska Department of Revenue

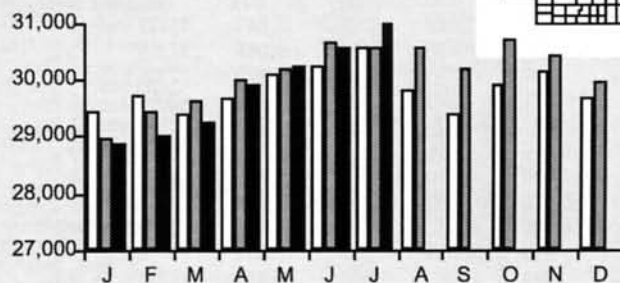
Regional Employment—1994 to July 1996

1994 1995 1996

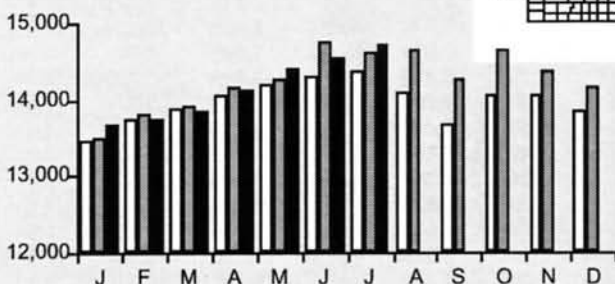
Northwest Panhandle



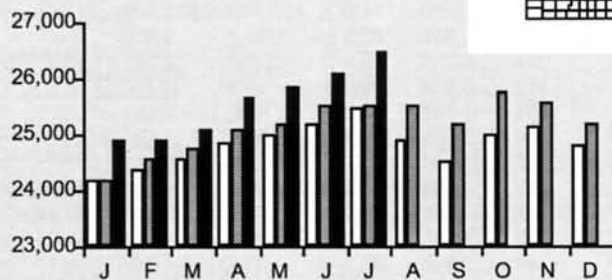
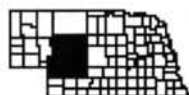
Southwest Panhandle



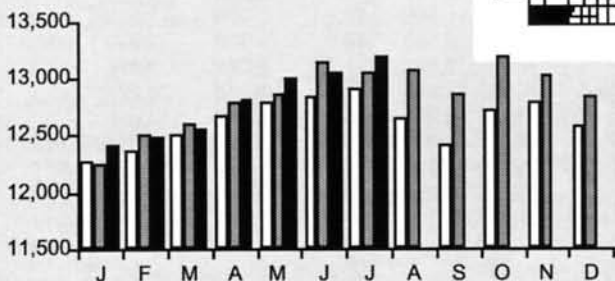
North Central



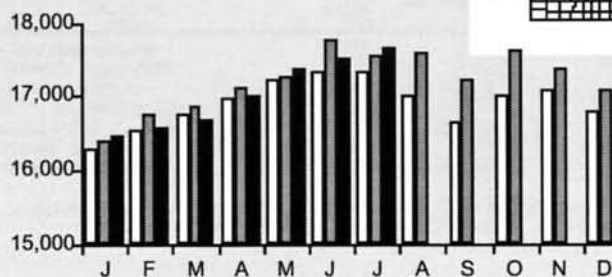
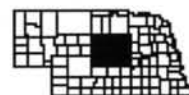
West Central



Southwest Central



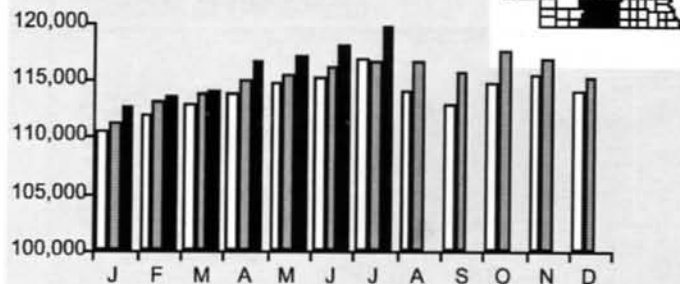
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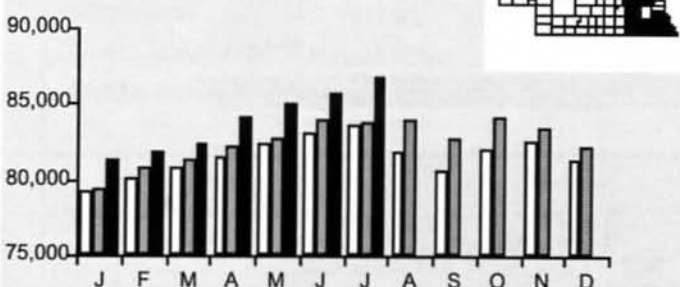
Regional Employment—1994 to July 1996

1994 1995 1996

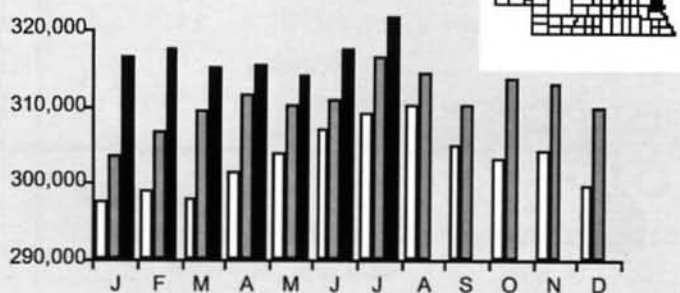
Southeast Central



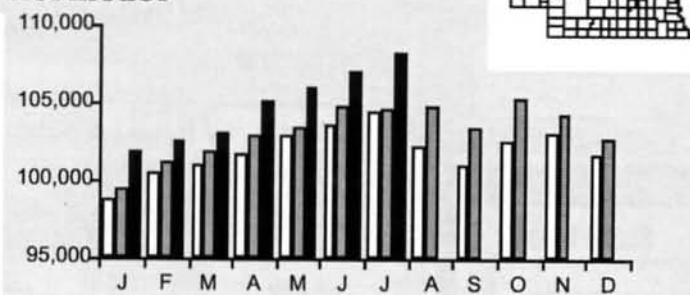
Southeast



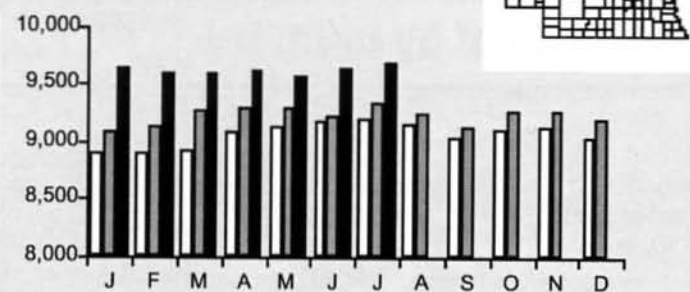
Omaha MSA



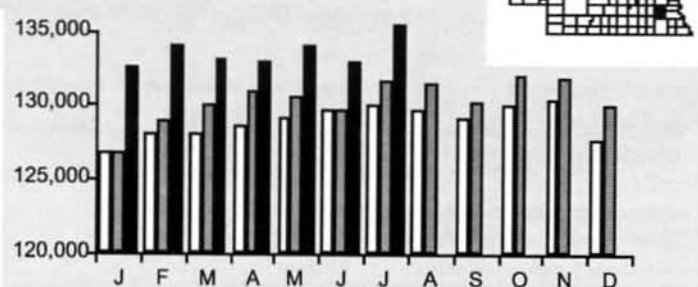
Northeast



Sioux City MSA

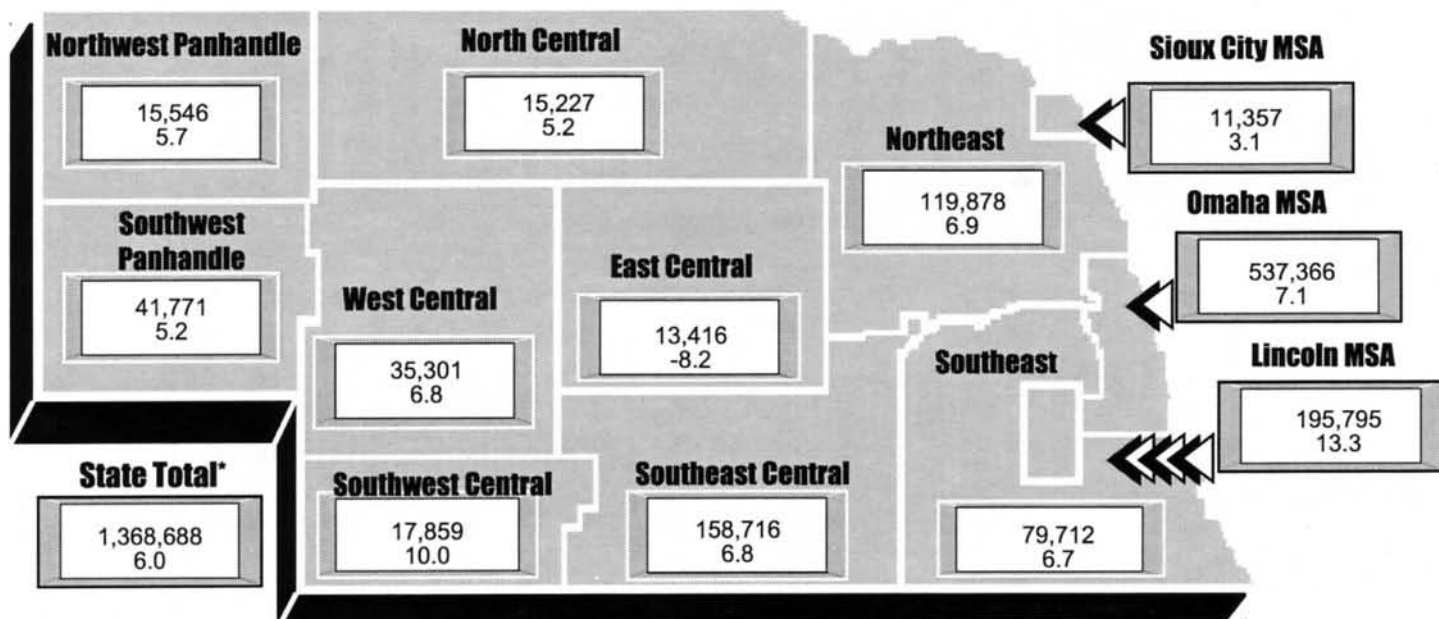


Lincoln MSA



May 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

Place of Work	Revised June	Preliminary July	% Change vs Yr Ago
Nonfarm	833,835	829,061	1.9
Mining & Construction	38,666	39,932	3.4
Manufacturing	113,396	113,024	1.4
Durables	54,513	53,965	0.8
Nondurables	58,883	59,059	2.0
TCU*	49,872	50,347	1.2
Trade	207,386	207,527	0.9
Wholesale	54,416	54,411	1.0
Retail	152,970	153,116	0.9
FIRE**	52,274	52,708	-0.5
Services	219,388	219,331	3.0
Government	152,853	146,192	2.8
Place of Residence			
Civilian Labor Force	916,655	927,865	2.8
Unemployment Rate	3.2	3.1	

*Transportation, Communication, and Utilities

** Finance, Insurance, and Real Estate

Source: Nebraska Department of Labor

Consumer Price Index

Price Indices

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

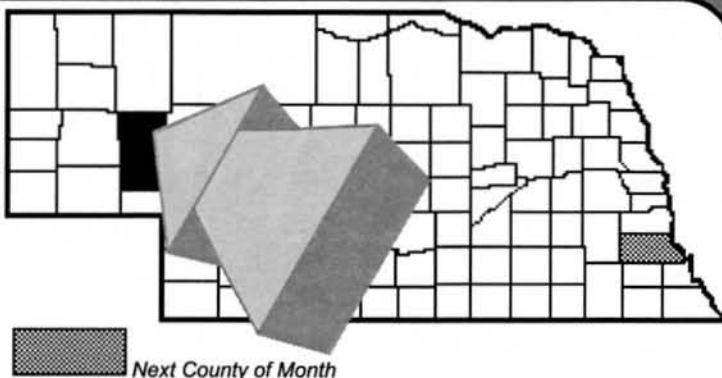
	June 1996	% Change vs Yr Ago	YTD % Change vs Yr Ago
All items	156.7	2.8	2.8
Commodities	139.9	2.4	2.3
Services	173.9	3.1	3.2

U* = All urban consumers
Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics

County of the Month

Garden

Oshkosh-County Seat



License plate prefix number: 77

Size of county: 1,680 square miles, ranks 7th in the state

Population: 2,460 in 1990, a change of -12.2 percent from 1980

Per capita personal income: \$19,023 in 1994, ranks 49th in the state

Net taxable retail sales (\$000): \$11,107 in 1995, a change of 2.8 percent from 1994; \$4,050 during January-May 1996, a change of -2.8 percent from the same period one year ago

Number of business and service establishments: 77 in 1993, 87.0 percent had less than five employees

Unemployment rate: 4.0 percent in Garden County, 2.4 percent in Nebraska for 1995

Nonfarm employment (1995):

	State	Garden County
Wage and Salary workers	815,089	3,495
	<i>(percent of total)</i>	
Mining & Construction	4.4	1.8
Manufacturing	13.7	(D)*
TCU	6.1	(D)*
Wholesale Trade	6.5	5.6
Retail Trade	18.6	14.1
FIRE	6.4	5.6
Services	25.8	5.8
Government	18.5	53.9
*(D) denotes disclosure suppression		

Agriculture:

Number of farms: 297 in 1992, 335 in 1987

Average farm size: 3,602 acres in 1992

Market value of farm products sold: \$46.6 million in 1992 (\$157,199 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



NU ONRAMP World Wide Web Address

<http://www.cba.unl.edu/bbr/onramp.html>

Access NU ONRAMP...



- Dial the BBR dedicated modem.
- Dial any Internet provider and use Telnet.
- Via a UNL Novell workstation, including the College of Business Coe Computer Center and UNL Love Library's Specialized Databases Network.
- Via a Windows server running over the World Wide Web (*coming soon*).

BBR dedicated modem: (402) 472-5201
Type NU from the main menu prompt

Telnet and FTP via the Internet:
onramp.unl.edu
login: onramp (*lower case*)

BBR WWW home page:
www.cba.unl.edu/bbr/bbr.html

NU ONRAMP Data Review—Net Taxable Retail Sales

Net Taxable Retail Sales, compiled by the Nebraska Department of Revenue, includes motor vehicle and other (nonmotor vehicle) net taxable sales.

Motor vehicle sales are reported by county of vehicle registration—not necessarily county of purchase. Net taxable sales statistics are calculated from sales tax amounts reported by county treasurers.

Other retail sales are reported for each municipality and reflect sales by establishments or transactions in or near the municipality and in outlying rural areas. All transactions are allocated to a municipality. These statistics are reported by location of the business or transaction, irrespective of the residence of the purchaser.

To find these data files, enter **Data Central** in **ONRAMP** and choose **Trade**** (080000 subject code) from the subject search menu. From the **Trade** submenu, three Retail Sales selections are available. Users familiar with **ONRAMP** note, a Retail Sales file query can be accomplished using a filename search of RS-.

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