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NEBRASKA AND ITS NEIGHBORS—PAST, PRESENT AND FUTURE

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The January 1996 issue of *Business in Nebraska* reported Nebraska's economic outlook through 1997. This issue reports past economic and demographic performance and near-term projections for a region consisting of Nebraska and its six neighboring states—Colorado, Iowa, Kansas, Missouri, South Dakota, and Wyoming.

Population

In 1995, the region's total population was 17.3 million. By 1997, population will increase to 17.7 million (Table 1) a 1.9 percent increase (Figure 1). Colorado will contribute approximately 41 percent of the region's total population increase, but Missouri will continue to lead the region in total population. Nebraska will contribute approximately 7 percent of the region's total population increase—roughly equal to Iowa's expected contribution. (Iowa's population is about 1.7 times that of Nebraska's population.)

Colorado will lead the region in the rate of population growth as well (Figure 1). Colorado's growth rate will be more than double that of second place Wyoming. Iowa is projected to grow the slowest among the seven states. Nebraska's growth rate will place it fifth among its neighbors.

From 1990 to 1995, roughly one-third of the region's total population growth resulted from net domestic migration (Table 2). A state's net domestic migration is the difference between immigration and outmigration from/to other states. Net domestic migration has not been shared equally among the region's states. Nearly 80 percent of the region's net gain from 1990 to 1995 flowed to Colorado. Missouri garnered 18 percent of the total. Nebraska and Iowa garnered less than 1 percent of the region's net domestic growth.

Kansas experienced an absolute decline in net domestic migration of a minus 10,221 people from 1990 to 1995.

Sources include Nebraska Business Forecast Council reports, reports from the Council's counterparts in neighboring states, combined with data from the U.S. Department of Commerce.

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A variety of tax forms can be downloaded directly from:

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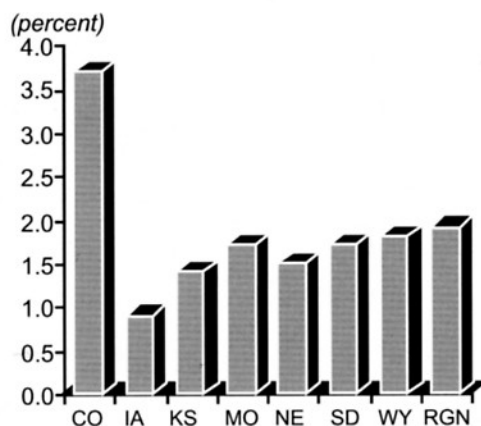
(We've tried it and it does work!)

Table 1
Population Estimates—1995 to 1997

	1995	1996	1997	State Share of Region's Increase 1995-1997
Colorado	3,746,585	3,815,897	3,884,583	41.4%
Iowa	2,841,764	2,853,131	2,865,970	7.3
Kansas	2,565,328	2,582,003	2,600,593	10.6
Missouri	5,323,523	5,368,773	5,414,408	27.3
Nebraska	1,637,112	1,649,063	1,661,431	7.3
South Dakota	729,034	735,158	741,186	3.6
Wyoming	480,184	484,506	488,866	2.6
Region	17,323,530	17,488,531	17,657,037	100.0%

Source: 1995 estimates from U.S. Bureau of the Census

Figure 1
Population Growth Rates—3-Year Average, 1995-1997



Source: 1995 estimates from U.S. Bureau of the Census and 1996-1997 projections by Bureau of Business Research (BBR)

That net loss, however, was more than offset by a net gain in international migration (Table 2). Net international migration is the sum of legal and undocumented immigrants to the U.S., minus emigrants from the U.S. Since 1990, 14 percent of total population growth in Kansas has been due to international migration. Other meat packing states in the region have experienced similar gains. Thirteen percent of Iowa's growth and 11 percent of Nebraska's growth was due to a net gain in international migration. Colorado attracted the largest number of migrants, resulting in a net gain of 29,099 persons, but that gain only accounted for 7 percent of the state's total population growth.

With the exception of Colorado, natural increases (state's births minus deaths) will continue to be the main component of individual state population growth. Despite good job opportunities in the region, several states continue to experience difficulty in attracting migrants from other states.

Employment

From 1990 to 1995, the region's total nonfarm employment increased 11 percent (Figure 2). Colorado and South Dakota led the region with increases of over 16 percent each. Employment growth in Iowa, Kansas, Missouri, and Nebraska fell below the regional average.

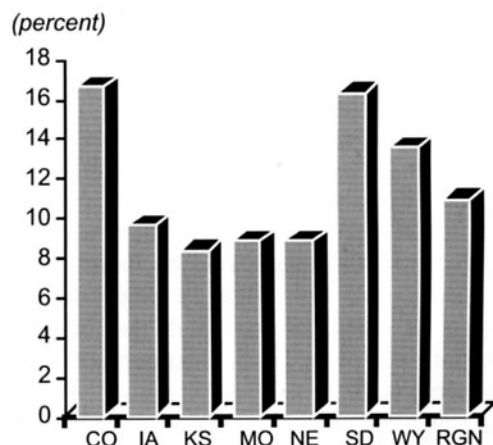
On a percentage share basis, the dominant nonfarm employment sectors in the region are Services and Trade. Iowa has the highest percent of its nonfarm employment concentrated in the Manufacturing sector. In contrast, Wyoming has the lowest percent of its nonfarm employment concentrated in Manufacturing. Colorado leads the region in the percent of nonfarm employment concentrated in Services. Wyoming leads the region in the percent of nonfarm employment concentrated in Government and the category called *Other*. *Other* includes three subsectors—agriculture services, forestry, and fisheries; mining; and construction.

Table 2
Selected Components of Population Change—1990 to 1995

	Total Population Change	Net Domestic Migration Change	Net International Migration Change	Net International Proportion of Total State Growth
Colorado	442,543	245,476	29,099	6.6%
Iowa	62,144	633	8,308	13.4
Kansas	84,746	-10,221	11,907	14.1
Missouri	197,203	57,186	18,733	9.5
Nebraska	56,442	2,680	6,430	11.4
South Dakota	32,426	7,533	1,837	5.7
Wyoming	26,763	6,124	1,301	4.9
Region	902,267	309,411	77,615	8.6

Source: Population Distribution Branch, U.S. Bureau of the Census.

Figure 2
Total Nonfarm Employment Growth—1990 to 1995



Source: Bureau of Economic Analysis (BEA), U.S. Department of Commerce, and BBR estimates

Growth in nonfarm employment in the region will slow in 1996 and pick up slightly in 1997 (Figure 3). Among the states, Wyoming will experience the most pronounced slowdown—its 1996 growth rate will be less than half its 1995 rate. Although Colorado's growth is projected to slow in 1996, it will remain ahead of the projected rates for all other states in the region.

Missouri will continue to lead the region in total employment with over 3 million employed (Table 3). Employment in Wyoming will continue to equal roughly one-tenth of the Missouri total.

Nebraska continues to lead the region with the lowest level of unemployment (Table 4). Nebraska's current unemployment rate is almost half that of Wyoming, the highest in the region.

Nebraska and neighboring states are experiencing labor shortages. These extremely low rates of unemployment are well below the natural rate of unemployment, a term that refers to friction between workers' search time for better jobs and businesses' adjustments to changing markets and technology. Despite having the lowest unemployment rates in the region, Nebraska, Iowa, and South Dakota have not attracted job seekers from both coasts at levels anywhere nearing those seen in Colorado in recent years. As employment prospects improve in other regions of the nation, tight labor markets will continue to characterize the employment situation in the former three states.

Figure 3
Nonfarm Employment Growth—1995 to 1997

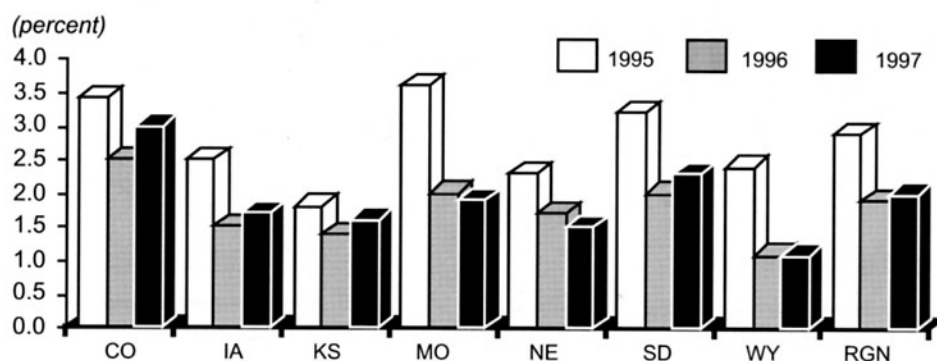


Table 3
Estimated Nonfarm Employment—1995 to 1997

	1995	1996	1997
Colorado	2,397,065	2,457,031	2,530,742
Iowa	1,786,199	1,812,015	1,842,772
Kansas	1,603,238	1,625,683	1,651,694
Missouri	3,239,824	3,304,474	3,365,465
Nebraska	1,073,459	1,091,941	1,108,607
South Dakota	472,073	481,514	492,589
Wyoming	304,316	307,725	310,956
Region	10,876,174	11,080,383	11,302,825

Source: Economic outlook reports by university bureaus and/or state agencies in the respective states; BEA; BBR estimates.

Table 4
Seasonally Adjusted Unemployment Rates

(percent)

	October 1994	October 1995 ^a
Colorado	3.9	4.0
Iowa	3.6	3.2
Kansas	5.3	4.0
Missouri	4.5	4.0
Nebraska	2.9	2.5
South Dakota	3.1	2.9
Wyoming	5.0	4.7

^aPreliminary

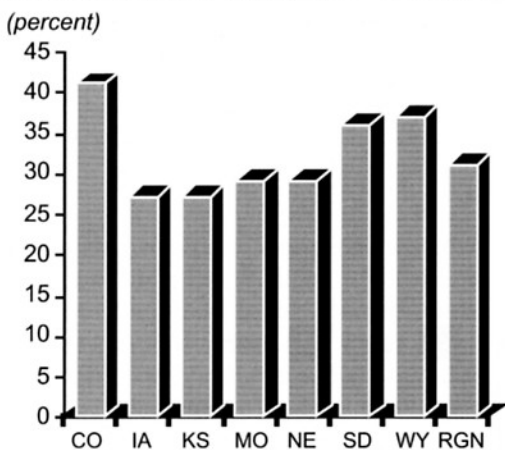
Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Table 5
Historical and Projected Income Growth
(percent)

	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997
Colorado	7.0	7.3	7.6	6.2	7.2	7.0	7.0
Iowa	1.5	7.5	1.3	9.9	4.8	4.0	5.0
Kansas	3.1	6.6	4.0	5.2	5.8	5.0	5.0
Missouri	4.3	5.6	3.6	6.3	6.2	4.9	5.1
Nebraska	4.6	7.2	3.3	6.3	4.9	5.2	5.0
South Dakota	6.3	8.2	4.2	9.0	4.1	4.5	4.5
Wyoming	11.4	4.9	6.1	4.0	6.4	3.8	3.2

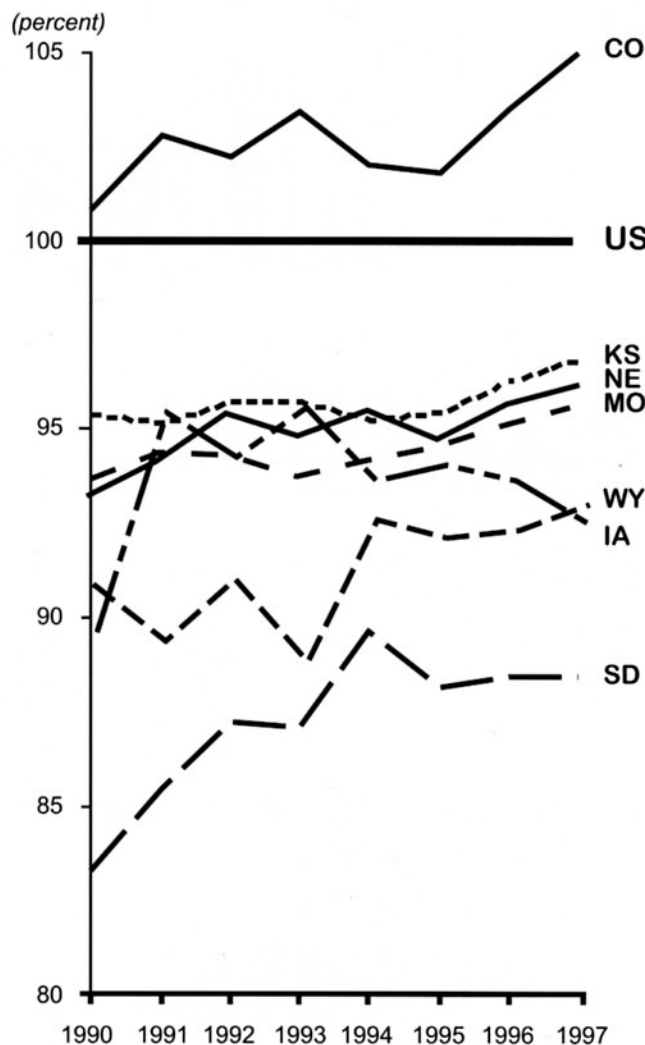
Source: Economic outlook reports by university bureaus and/or state agencies in the respective states; BEA; BBR estimates.

Figure 4
Total Increase in Personal Income—1990 to 1995



Source: BEA

Figure 5
Per Capita Income—1990 to 1997
(indexed to US average)



Source: BEA and BBR estimates

Personal Income

From 1990 to 1995, Iowa, Kansas, Missouri, Nebraska, and South Dakota experienced similar personal income growth patterns—strong growth in 1992, moderate growth in 1993, and strong growth again in 1994 (Table 5). Colorado maintained strong growth throughout the period. Wyoming's erratic growth resulted from volatility in the mining and tourism industries. Colorado maintained strong growth throughout the period, resulting in a 41 percent increase in total personal income (Figure 4). Nebraska's 29 percent increase lagged the national average.

For the 1996-1997 forecast period, Colorado will continue to lead the states with an annual growth rate of 7 percent. Moderate growth is projected for five of the other six states, including Nebraska (Table 5). Growth in Wyoming is expected to lag that of the other states.

Among the seven states, only Colorado's per capita personal income was above the national average in 1995 (Figure 5). Nebraska's 1995 index was 95, indicating that Nebraska's per capita income was 95 percent of the national average. Colorado's per capita income will remain above the national average as the state's population growth is outpaced by income growth. Despite relatively high unemployment, the composition of employment in Colorado—heavily weighted to high-tech services—will continue to propel the state's per capita income.

News Briefs

Local Government

● Nebraska ranks 10th in the U.S. in number of local governments, with a total of 2,923 as of January 1992. The total comprises:

93 counties
534 municipalities
452 townships
797 school districts
1,047 special districts

● Twelve percent of the state's nonfarm employment is in local governments.

● Considerable variation exists, however, the county level.

Local Government Employment
as Percent of
Total Nonfarm Employment

Number
of
Counties

Less than 10%	5
10 to 15%	11
15 to 25%	26
25 to 35%	28
35 to 50%	17
above 50%	6

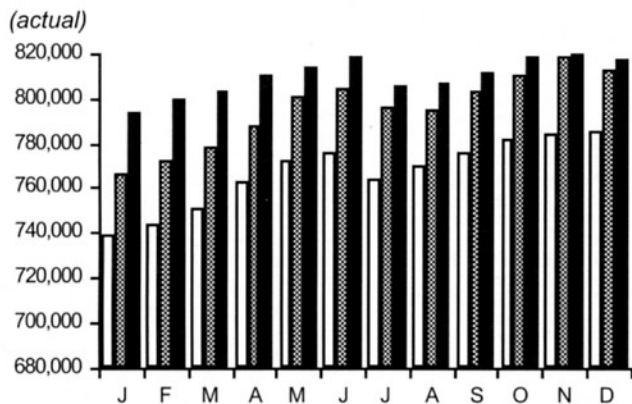
● From 1990 to 1995, local government employment increased 6 percent.

● During the same period, nonfarm employment grew 11 percent.

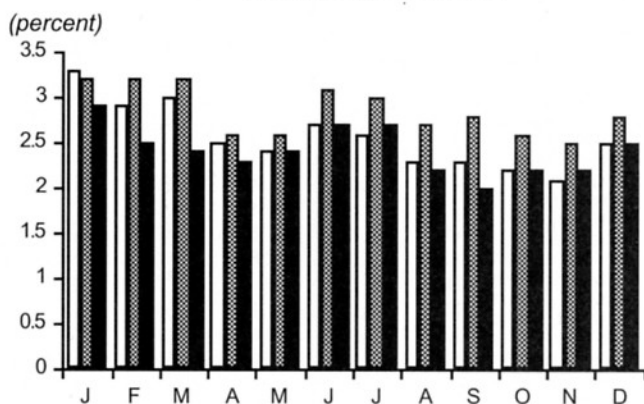
Nebraska Stats

□ 1993 ▒ 1994 ■ 1995

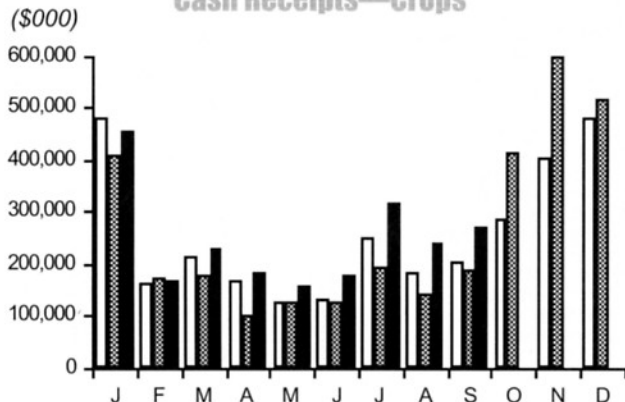
Total Nonfarm Employment



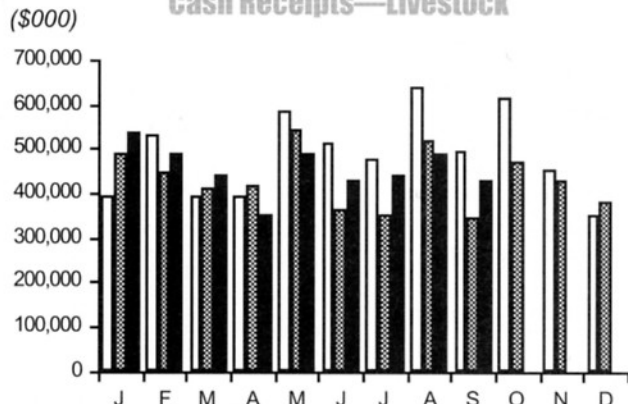
Unemployment Rate



Cash Receipts—Crops



Cash Receipts—Livestock



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

	October \$	YTD \$	YTD % Change		October \$	YTD \$	YTD % Change
Ainsworth, Brown	1,644	16,965	-3.8	Kearney, Buffalo	26,548	261,593	4.3
Albion, Boone	1,536	16,369	8.4	Kenesaw, Adams	88	1,027	-2.0
Alliance, Box Butte	5,466	54,278	5.3	Kimball, Kimball	1,429	15,682	4.7
Alma, Harlan	567	6,366	-4.3	La Vista, Sarpy	7,505	64,594	11.2
Arapahoe, Furnas	668	6,178	-0.6	Laurel, Cedar	391	3,435	-4.2
Arlington, Washington	175	1,748	-0.7	Lexington, Dawson	7,373	71,090	4.7
Arnold, Custer	258	2,656	0.4	Lincoln, Lancaster	162,585	1,569,802	6.7
Ashland, Saunders	980	9,207	-0.5	Louisville, Cass	373	3,556	-21.5
Atkinson, Holt	715	7,449	-0.2	Loup City, Sherman	508	5,338	-6.6
Auburn, Nemaha	2,380	23,489	-0.6	Lyons, Burt	594	4,415	-6.2
Aurora, Hamilton	2,391	24,968	4.6	Madison, Madison	600	6,373	-12.8
Axtell, Kearney	71	796	-6.4	McCook, Red Willow	9,424	93,095	13.9
Bassett, Rock	407	4,493	-8.6	Milford, Seward	788	7,534	-10.7
Battle Creek, Madison	509	5,848	-6.4	Minatare, Scotts Bluff	214	2,315	0.9
Bayard, Morrill	396	4,646	8.3	Minden, Kearney	1,495	16,138	1.5
Beatrice, Gage	9,293	88,880	4.4	Mitchell, Scotts Bluff	648	7,981	-4.7
Beaver City, Furnas	97	1,233	-14.8	Morrill, Scotts Bluff	375	3,965	-0.6
Bellevue, Sarpy	14,859	143,015	3.3	Nebraska City, Otoe	5,466	49,093	10.3
Benkelman, Dundy	425	4,727	-4.4	Neligh, Antelope	1,181	11,997	0.3
Bennington, Douglas	370	2,788	2.4	Newman Grove, Madison	245	3,110	18.7
Bertrand, Phelps	100	1,268	-19.9	Norfolk, Madison	26,088	248,172	7.4
Blair, Washington	5,722	57,381	-0.2	North Bend, Dodge	436	4,508	12.8
Bloomfield, Knox	598	5,505	-9.7	North Platte, Lincoln	19,218	197,666	2.1
Blue Hill, Webster	383	3,652	-0.7	O'Neill, Holt	3,892	38,375	4.9
Bridgeport, Morrill	816	9,720	-0.4	Oakland, Burt	517	5,684	-7.6
Broken Bow, Custer	4,317	42,783	16.2	Ogallala, Keith	4,695	50,378	1.6
Burwell, Garfield	611	6,811	-5.7	Omaha, Douglas	390,925	3,933,299	4.1
Cairo, Hall	188	1,820	-7.4	Ord, Valley	1,656	17,381	-1.5
Cambridge, Furnas	957	7,833	43.3	Osceola, Polk	737	7,104	-2.3
Central City, Merrick	1,589	14,733	3.4	Oshkosh, Garden	458	4,697	7.3
Ceresco, Saunders	868	10,048	-4.1	Osmond, Pierce	430	3,875	-3.0
Chadron, Dawes	3,101	32,861	4.3	Oxford, Furnas	376	3,414	-2.9
Chappell, Deuel	407	4,191	2.7	Papillion, Sarpy	2,827	34,835	3.4
Clarkson, Colfax	462	4,007	4.5	Pawnee City, Pawnee	241	2,906	-1.2
Clay Center, Clay	225	2,333	-10.8	Pender, Thurston	717	5,982	1.9
Columbus, Platte	19,213	184,148	2.1	Pierce, Pierce	567	6,161	4.6
Cozad, Dawson	2,645	26,014	-3.5	Plainview, Pierce	625	6,170	-2.6
Crawford, Dawes	350	4,605	0.4	Plattsmouth, Cass	2,708	27,727	3.2
Creighton, Knox	1,001	9,503	3.6	Ponca, Dixon	403	4,416	-3.0
Crete, Saline	3,388	33,743	-2.5	Ralston, Douglas	2,702	25,661	3.8
Crofton, Knox	344	3,492	-6.0	Randolph, Cedar	328	3,438	1.6
Curtis, Frontier	283	2,862	1.0	Ravenna, Buffalo	585	6,519	-6.5
Dakota City, Dakota	486	5,550	13.5	Red Cloud, Webster	520	6,672	-7.9
David City, Butler	1,430	13,930	-0.9	Rushville, Sheridan	485	5,271	-5.9
Deshler, Thayer	163	2,143	-0.1	Sargent, Custer	196	2,047	-0.6
Dodge, Dodge	210	2,156	-4.4	Schuyler, Colfax	1,743	17,596	-3.8
Doniphan, Hall	873	5,538	0.8	Scottsbluff, Scotts Bluff	17,566	179,541	1.7
Eagle, Cass	227	3,246	6.0	Scribner, Dodge	444	4,336	-11.1
Elgin, Antelope	459	3,808	-0.5	Seward, Seward	4,582	44,861	2.4
Elkhorn, Douglas	1,273	15,155	3.4	Shelby, Polk	312	2,961	-1.8
Elm Creek, Buffalo	282	2,181	-16.4	Shelton, Buffalo	542	5,598	-17.8
Elwood, Gosper	330	3,741	0.9	Sidney, Cheyenne	7,533	62,784	8.2
Fairbury, Jefferson	2,826	28,447	-0.3	South Sioux City, Dakota	7,718	75,399	4.1
Fairmont, Fillmore	165	1,557	-3.1	Springfield, Sarpy	213	1,859	3.8
Falls City, Richardson	2,339	23,126	3.2	St. Paul, Howard	1,031	10,872	-4.6
Franklin, Franklin	467	4,651	-3.8	Stanton, Stanton	518	5,132	-5.8
Fremont, Dodge	18,652	193,083	-2.2	Stromsburg, Polk	1,008	8,779	-4.6
Friend, Saline	462	4,875	-0.2	Superior, Nuckolls	1,333	13,966	-7.9
Fullerton, Nance	440	5,109	-1.5	Sutherland, Lincoln	244	2,594	-6.5
Geneva, Fillmore	1,597	16,479	2.2	Sutton, Clay	942	10,414	16.1
Genoa, Nance	239	2,351	-2.8	Syracuse, Otoe	989	9,596	-0.4
Gering, Scotts Bluff	3,094	31,749	-3.2	Tecumseh, Johnson	907	9,612	-1.7
Gibbon, Buffalo	683	6,972	-0.1	Tekamah, Burt	949	9,722	0.8
Gordon, Sheridan	1,511	15,924	-2.6	Tilden, Madison	383	4,076	-4.2
Gothenburg, Dawson	1,914	19,384	3.3	Utica, Seward	263	2,348	5.3
Grand Island, Hall	44,622	446,136	6.9	Valentine, Cherry	3,453	34,522	13.5
Grant, Perkins	789	8,462	3.6	Valley, Douglas	1,108	10,409	-14.6
Gretna, Sarpy	3,579	33,309	7.0	Wahoo, Saunders	2,312	23,237	0.1
Hartington, Cedar	1,598	15,068	-2.1	Wakefield, Dixon	311	3,542	-5.1
Hastings, Adams	19,621	189,613	3.7	Wauneta, Chase	265	2,892	-1.3
Hay Springs, Sheridan	290	2,981	-6.8	Waverly, Lancaster	616	5,607	0.0
Hebron, Thayer	1,433	16,215	-1.8	Wayne, Wayne	2,952	28,942	-11.6
Henderson, York	549	5,962	7.8	Weeping Water, Cass	629	6,067	2.4
Hickman, Lancaster	175	2,109	3.8	West Point, Cumming	3,351	32,111	9.6
Holdrege, Phelps	4,512	44,075	2.9	Wilber, Saline	412	4,403	-2.4
Hooper, Dodge	243	2,645	-7.4	Wisner, Cumming	512	5,191	-8.9
Humboldt, Richardson	450	4,449	-9.1	Wood River, Hall	461	4,312	5.3
Humphrey, Platte	680	6,399	-1.3	Wymore, Gage	350	3,834	-0.6
Imperial, Chase	1,477	15,398	0.1	York, York	8,108	80,265	5.2
Juniata, Adams	183	1,924	3.6				

*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		
	October		YTD	October		YTD		October		YTD	October		YTD
	1995	YTD	% Chg	1995	YTD	% Chg		1995	YTD	% Chg	1995	YTD	% Chg
Nebraska *	166,526	1,600,657	4.0	1,135,590	11,265,527	4.7							
Adams	2,765	27,232	5.3	20,111	195,010	3.7	Howard	542	6,185	-2.3	1,253	13,852	-4.2
Antelope	705	7,907	-0.9	1,987	19,449	-0.4	Jefferson	806	8,531	3.7	3,759	36,330	1.7
Arthur	49	386	-34.4	(D)	(D)	(D)	Johnson	342	4,311	3.0	1,256	12,771	-0.7
Banner	108	1,078	-15.9	(D)	(D)	(D)	Kearney	783	7,807	8.0	1,684	18,274	0.8
Blaine	16	599	-21.5	104	(D)	(D)	Keith	1,027	9,967	0.5	5,042	54,318	1.7
Boone	743	7,431	-4.4	2,054	21,494	7.7	Keya Paha	58	981	-0.6	69	746	-6.6
Box Butte	1,591	15,598	6.5	5,677	56,931	5.9	Kimball	452	4,680	6.8	1,455	16,040	-4.1
Boyd	204	2,107	-6.7	505	5,389	-4.9	Knox	956	8,381	2.4	2,477	23,961	-2.7
Brown	316	3,374	-9.1	1,688	17,640	-4.3	Lancaster	20,128	190,588	-5.0	164,208	1,585,852	6.6
Buffalo	3,935	37,330	1.4	28,945	285,951	3.1	Lincoln	3,278	33,548	1.5	20,031	206,532	1.7
Burt	807	8,306	21.0	2,227	21,776	-2.8	Logan	102	1,039	2.2	(D)	(D)	(D)
Butler	585	8,166	0.5	1,862	18,607	0.8	Loup	123	837	5.7	(D)	(D)	(D)
Cass	2,725	25,912	6.4	4,889	52,230	1.4	McPherson	28	462	-31.1	(D)	(D)	(D)
Cedar	928	10,550	7.2	2,668	25,371	-2.4	Madison	3,519	34,111	6.4	27,865	268,022	6.2
Chase	514	5,251	7.1	1,763	18,646	-0.4	Merrick	867	7,625	-8.0	2,023	19,558	-0.2
Cherry	640	6,271	-24.1	3,653	36,507	11.7	Morrill	462	5,269	-4.9	1,246	14,741	2.6
Cheyenne	1,042	10,754	6.8	7,737	65,362	7.8	Nance	417	3,899	4.2	709	7,764	-2.1
Clay	626	7,561	6.1	1,926	20,325	9.7	Nemaha	750	7,464	8.7	2,592	26,297	-0.7
Colfax	1,077	8,997	2.4	2,586	25,316	-2.1	Nuckolls	509	5,279	-0.5	1,797	18,869	-5.4
Cuming	1,042	9,919	-2.3	4,373	42,387	4.9	Otoe	1,783	15,338	12.2	6,778	62,411	7.9
Custer	1,037	11,357	-3.1	5,096	51,617	13.4	Pawnee	286	2,415	-2.4	445	4,915	-5.7
Dakota	1,987	17,541	1.8	8,808	87,479	4.1	Perkins	521	4,042	-4.3	945	10,112	1.5
Dawes	620	6,672	-8.4	3,452	37,477	3.8	Phelps	1,125	10,802	-10.3	4,683	46,491	1.9
Dawson	2,276	23,159	-1.6	12,420	120,454	2.4	Pierce	657	7,794	3.5	1,704	16,937	0.2
Deuel	332	2,141	-17.6	781	7,940	3.6	Platte	3,060	31,611	2.2	20,449	196,075	2.0
Dixon	397	5,526	-12.0	813	9,043	-3.3	Polk	630	6,532	3.1	2,159	20,191	-4.8
Dodge	3,118	31,693	0.9	20,211	209,252	-2.1	Red Willow	1,220	12,138	3.7	9,678	96,082	13.4
Douglas	46,368	414,473	7.8	399,454	4,006,756	4.1	Richardson	954	8,646	3.8	3,023	30,249	0.8
Dundy	338	2,845	-3.6	454	5,078	-5.0	Rock	223	1,955	-8.9	410	4,621	-8.8
Fillmore	764	7,811	14.1	2,238	24,712	3.2	Saline	1,174	12,536	16.3	4,581	46,612	-2.3
Franklin	403	3,466	-3.5	684	7,109	-1.8	Sarpy	11,919	116,444	6.3	29,239	280,702	6.0
Frontier	295	3,325	-8.0	575	5,874	-0.6	Saunders	1,835	20,290	4.4	4,947	51,102	-1.8
Furnas	518	5,870	-3.2	2,232	20,062	11.3	Scotts Bluff	3,308	35,119	-1.6	21,969	226,502	2.9
Gage	1,999	20,001	-0.8	10,451	98,694	3.1	Seward	1,872	15,142	4.3	5,839	57,143	0.6
Garden	305	2,688	-8.1	615	6,438	6.0	Sheridan	776	5,674	-9.8	2,535	27,045	-3.1
Garfield	166	1,458	-10.2	611	6,811	-5.6	Sherman	253	3,266	-4.3	649	7,201	-4.5
Gosper	223	2,517	-11.4	387	4,259	2.9	Sioux	238	1,840	-11.1	137	1,359	-6.8
Grant	71	908	5.2	176	1,685	-12.6	Stanton	552	6,203	15.4	643	6,458	-3.5
Greeley	279	2,835	-2.9	670	6,198	-1.7	Thayer	410	6,216	12.2	2,048	23,966	-1.9
Hall	5,881	52,523	3.9	46,431	461,610	6.8	Thomas	105	984	-0.9	417	3,278	21.5
Hamilton	1,148	10,890	8.3	2,796	28,843	4.2	Thurston	454	4,389	12.5	827	7,258	0.5
Harlan	319	4,127	-7.6	724	8,905	-2.2	Valley	416	4,557	14.6	1,831	19,188	-3.1
Hayes	120	1,262	1.1	74	(D)	(D)	Washington	2,063	20,598	9.4	6,284	62,792	0.2
Hitchcock	367	3,362	-0.4	519	5,834	-11.4	Wayne	757	8,185	6.6	3,091	30,446	-11.1
Holt	1,019	11,992	5.4	5,348	52,483	3.5	Webster	386	3,503	-12.7	996	11,370	-4.9
Hooker	67	651	-21.2	316	2,804	21.4	Wheeler	127	1,353	-0.2	(D)	(D)	(D)
							York	1,504	15,907	2.8	9,125	90,827	5.1

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

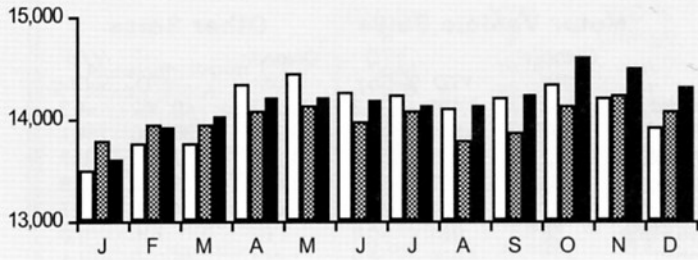
Source: Nebraska Department of Revenue

Regional Employment—1993 to December 1995

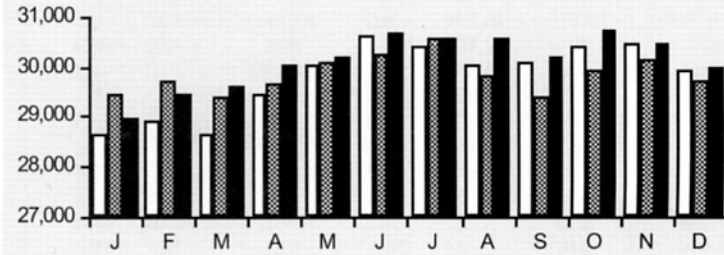
Northwest Panhandle



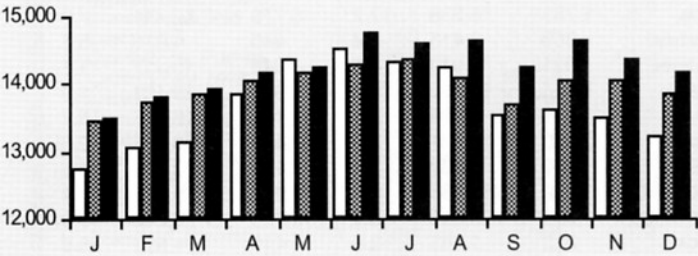
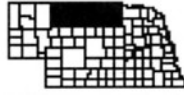
1993 1994 1995



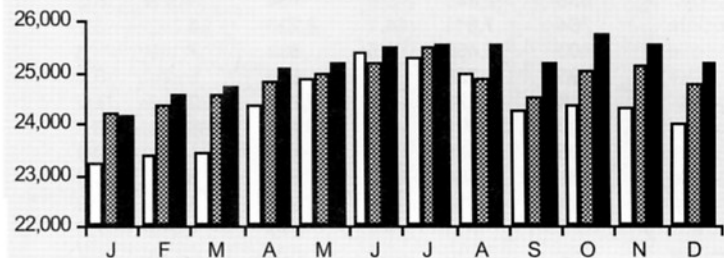
Southwest Panhandle



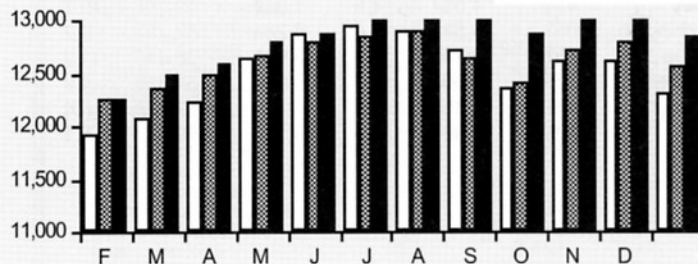
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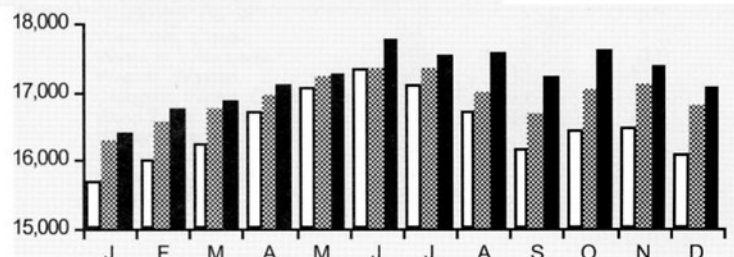
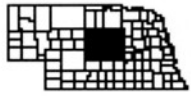
West Central



Southwest Central



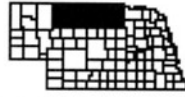
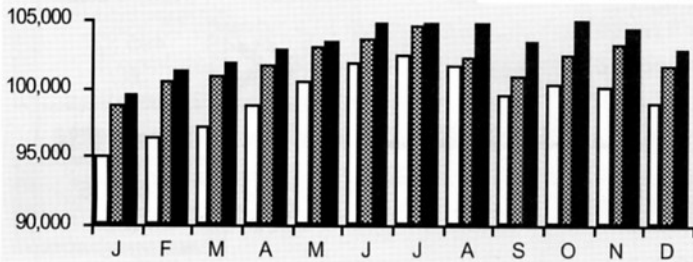
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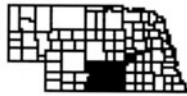
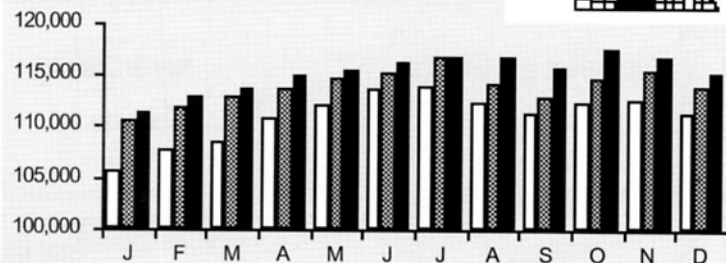
Regional Employment—1993 to December 1995

1993
 1994
 1995

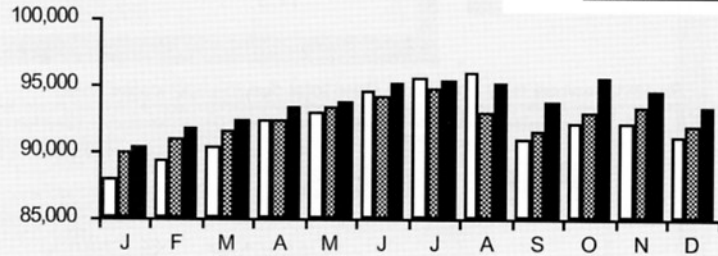
Northeast



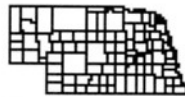
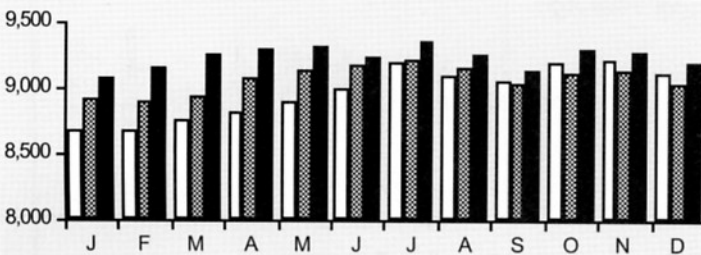
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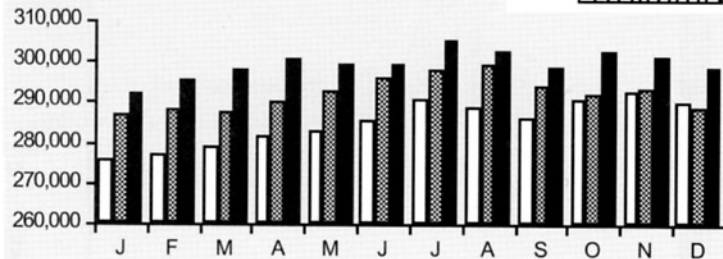
Southeast



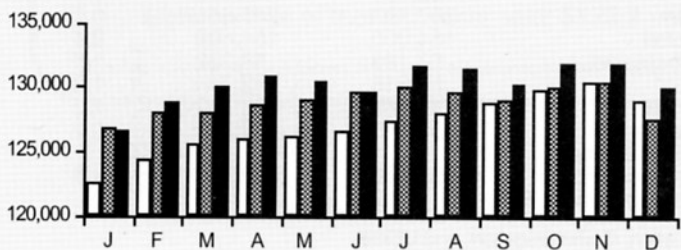
Sioux City MSA



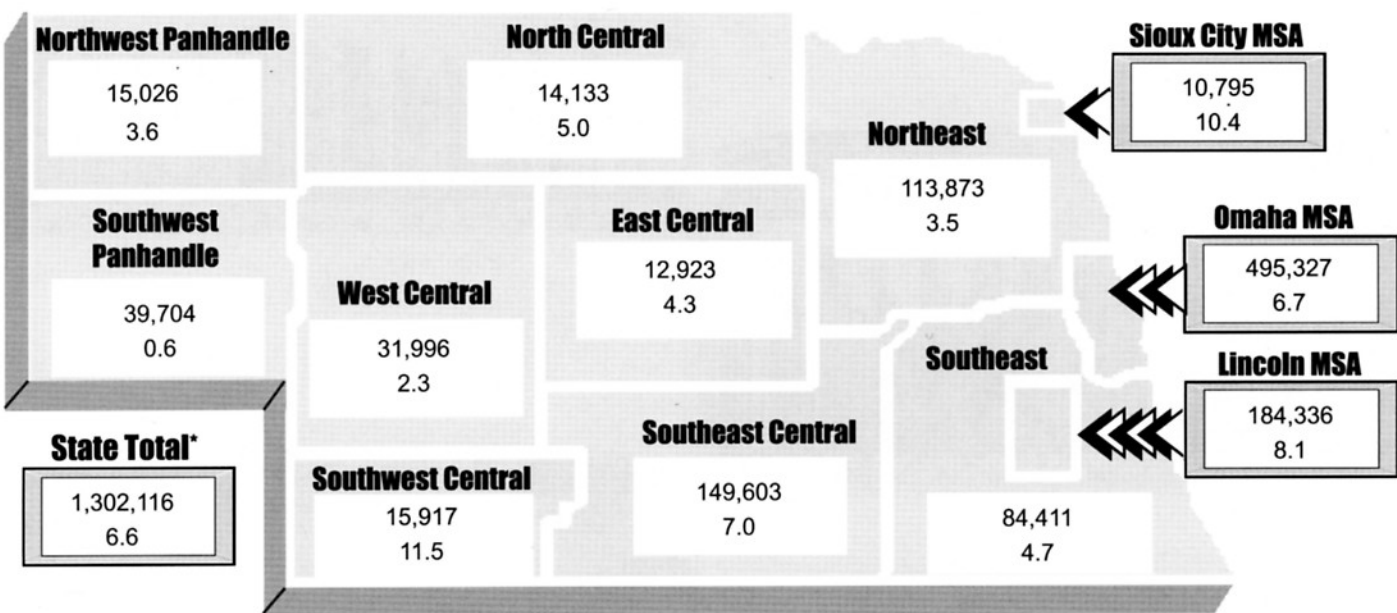
Omaha MSA



Lincoln MSA



October 1995 Regional Retail Sales (\$000) and Percent Change from Year Ago



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

Price Indices

	December 1995	% Change vs Year Ago	YTD % Change vs Year Ago
Consumer Price Index - U* (1982-84 = 100)			
All Items	153.5	2.5	2.8
Commodities	137.0	1.4	2.0
Services	170.4	3.5	3.4

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

Employment by Industry

	Revised November 1995	Preliminary December 1995	% Change vs Year Ago
Place of Work			
Nonfarm	819,540	817,444	0.6
Manufacturing	111,269	111,531	-0.8
Durables	53,114	53,046	-1.9
Nondurables	58,155	58,485	0.3
Mining & Construction	34,657	32,986	-1.2
TCU*	49,400	49,745	-0.7
Trade	207,193	207,861	0.6
Retail	154,000	154,609	0.4
Wholesale	53,193	53,252	1.1
FIRE**	52,615	52,744	1.8
Services	210,866	210,242	2.2
Government	153,540	152,335	0.0
Place of Residence			
Civilian Labor Force	893,560	885,561	1.8
Unemployment Rate	2.2	2.5	

*Transportation, Communication, and Utilities
**Finance, Insurance, and Real Estate
Source: Nebraska Department of Labor

County of the Month

Dixon

Ponca—County Seat

License plate prefix number: 35

Size of county: 474 square miles, ranks 78th in the state

Population: 6,143 in 1990, a change of -13.9 percent from 1980

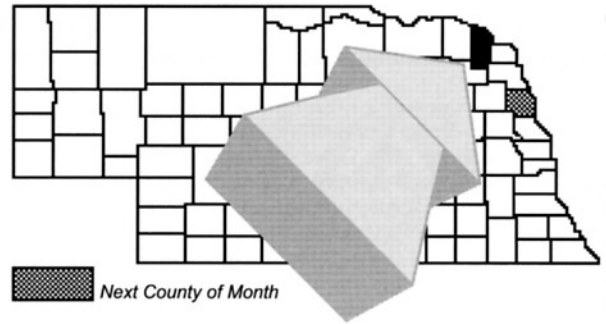
Per capita personal income: \$16,381 in 1993, ranks 71st in the state

Net taxable retail sales (\$000): \$18,929 in 1994, a change of 3.0 percent from 1993; \$14,569 during January-October 1995, a change of -6.8 percent from the same period one year ago

Number of business and service establishments: 127 in 1993, 68.5 percent had less than five employees

Unemployment rate: 2.6 percent in Dixon County, 2.9 percent in Nebraska for 1994

Nonfarm employment (1994):



	Nebraska	Dixon County
Wage and salary workers	795,486	1,806
	<i>(percent of total)</i>	
Manufacturing	13.7%	(D)%
Construction and Mining	4.4	2.5
TCU	6.1	0.7
Retail Trade	18.5	6.7
Wholesale Trade	6.5	2.7
FIRE	6.5	(D)
Services	25.4	6.5
Government	19.0	25.4

(D) = Data unavailable due to disclosure suppression

Agriculture:

Number of farms: 609 in 1992, 704 in 1987

Average farm size: 399 acres in 1992

Market value of farm products sold: \$122.2 million in 1992 (\$200,648 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

Mystery Solved—BBR Staff Identified!
(see January BIN for actual photo)

David Bennett—Programmer/Analyst ①

A staff member since 1993, David specializes in systems programming and software development. He is BBR's resident Internet guru.

Clayton Buss—Applications Programmer ②

Clayton joined BBR in 1992 as a student worker, becoming a permanent staff member in 1995. Try as he might to stay out of sight, we still manage to find him when Mr. Gates' programs begin to spin out of control.

David DeFruiter—Information Systems Director ③

A BBR staff member since 1987, David was recently named director of computing services for the entire College of Business Administration (CBA). Symbolic of the rapidly changing nature of technology, David's title has changed four times in as many years.

Dan Holden—Technical Support Coordinator ④

The most recent addition to our staff, Dan installs and configures computers and related hardware throughout CBA. Since joining BBR, Dan's right hand has mutated into a cellular phone.

Jeanette Mann—Systems and Training Coordinator ⑤

A BBR staffer since last summer, Jeanette provides software training to all students, faculty, and staff. When 5:00 p.m. rolls around, Jeanette's light is usually still burning, casting an eerie glow on the guilt-ridden faces heading out the front door.

Brad Nelson—Systems Consultant ⑥

An integral part of the BBR staff since 1990, Brad provides programming expertise and assists with information systems planning. A thoroughly modern sun-worshipper, Brad regularly basks in the glow of a video display terminal to maintain his golden tan.

Carol Boyd—Staff Secretary ⑦

When you call BBR, Carol's is the voice on the other end of the line. A staff member since 1990, one of Carol's many duties involves handling *Business in Nebraska* subscriptions. Next time you call, ask Carol about her nephew!

Jan Laney—Project Assistant ⑧

A staff member since 1991, Jan puts the finishing touches on *Business in Nebraska* and is BBR's resident graphics and GIS specialist. Jan is currently playing the role of mother of the bride-to-be. We all hope she recovers soon.

John Austin—Research Associate ⑨

A staff member since 1988, John is the resident soothsayer and gastronome. Translation: John prepares economic and demographic projections and mouth-watering Jambalaya.

Charles Lamphear—Director ⑩

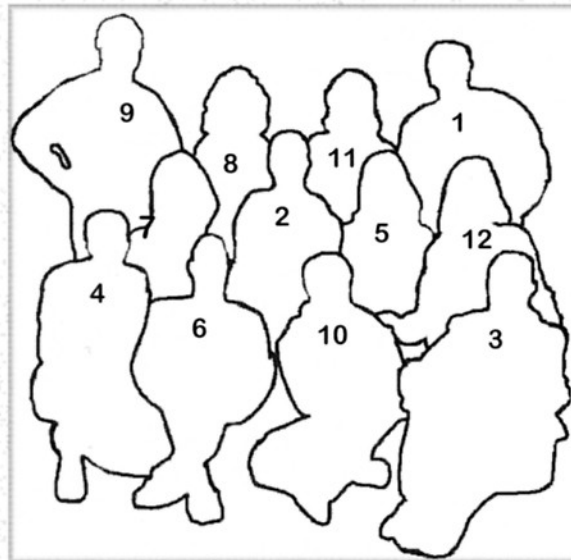
Charles was named BBR director in 1988. He has been a faculty member in the College of Business Administration since 1966. His two main functions as BBR director are to: 1) "sign here, please"; and 2) "please sign here."

Lisa Darlington Valladao—Research Coordinator ⑪

A staff member in various capacities since 1989, Lisa coordinates all aspects of research projects at BBR. Lisa is fondly referred to as "She Who Must Be Obeyed!"

Meghan Eary—Research Assistant ⑫

On board since 1993, Meghan is pursuing a Ph.D. in economics. When she is not in the classroom, Meghan is running equations, complaining, or jamming the copier (sometimes all at the same time).



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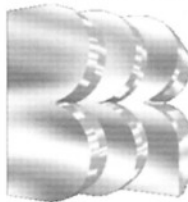
University of Nebraska-Lincoln—Dr. James C. Moeser, *Chancellor*
College of Business Administration—John W. Goebel, *Dean*

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