Business in Nebraska

Location...Location...Location!

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Introduction

During the past 30 years, rural Midwest states have put considerable effort and resources toward programs and policies to boost their economic development. However, few have experienced significant economic success. Most rural counties have not prospered in proportion to the amount of resources devoted to development.

A recent Bureau of Business Research study reviewed the economic vitality of Nebraska's 93 counties, and selected counties in Iowa, Kansas, and Missouri—218, in all (Figure 1). The relationships between vitality, economic size, and location were analyzed. Vitality is determined by weighing several economic factors, population determines economic size, and location refers to a county's proximity to growth factors, such as an interstate highway or a metro area.

No single factor can accurately measure economic vitality. But, the economic factors used in this analysis historically have proven useful in determining the health of an economic area. For that reason three income-related factors—wage and salary earnings, proprietors' income, and per capita food stamp dollars issued—and four job-related factors—employment growth, unemployment rate, private sector jobs, and population density—were selected to measure the economic vitality of these counties.

County-level data were compiled for each of the seven factors. Data for 1999 were used for wage and salary earnings, proprietors' income, per capita food stamp dollars issued, private sector jobs, and population density. Average unemployment rates were analyzed for the 1998-2000 period. Employment growth rates were calculated based on the percent change from 1995 to 1999. The counties then were ranked on the basis of each factor and criteria were developed to identify those counties that displayed the most/least economic vitality (Table 1, page 2).

Figure 1
Selected Midwest Counties
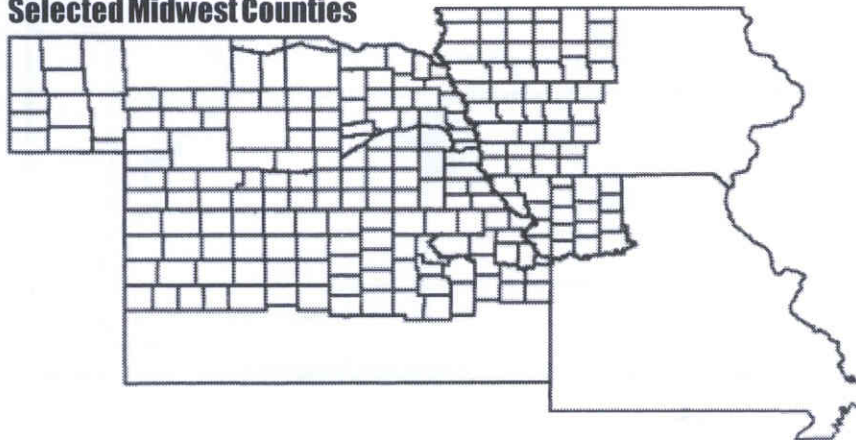
Counties with the Most Economic Vitality

Four of the seven counties with the most vitality are metro counties (Table 2 and Figure 2). The Kansas City, MO-KS metro area comprises three of the four—Platte County and Clay County, MO and Johnson County, KS. Dallas County, IA is part of the Des Moines, IA metro area. Two of the three rural counties with the most economic vitality are large trade centers—Plymouth County, IA, that borders the Sioux City, IA-NE metro area, and York County, NE that does not border a metro area. McPherson County, KS is a small trade center that borders the Wichita, KS metro area.
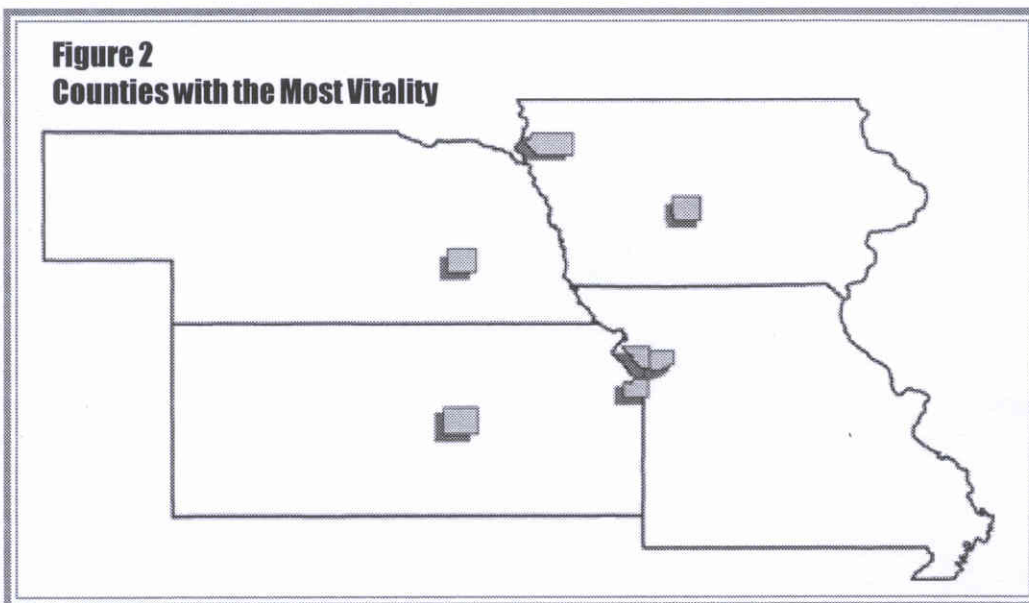
The only variable that hindered Platte County, MO (M-2) from joining Johnson County, KS in the top category (M-1) was its proprietors' income. Proprietors in Johnson County, KS had average incomes of $26,500 in 1999 but proprietors in Platte County, MO had average incomes of just over $18,000.

Five counties were classified in the M-3 category. Clay County, MO fell into the M-3 category because of high unemployment and per capita food stamp dollar distribution. Plymouth County, IA had low proprietors' income and high unemployment. York County, NE had low population density. Dallas County, IA had high per capita food stamp dollar distribution and low proprietors' income. McPherson County, KS had high unemployment and low employment growth.

Nebraska is the only state whose metro counties did not have at least five of the seven factors in the top category. Overall, Nebraska metro areas had low wage and salary earnings, low employment growth, and distributed more food stamps dollars per capita. However, these differences were negligible.

Some counties—Wyandotte County, KS, for example—have older, mature economies, while others have newer, growing economies, such as its neighbor, Johnson County, KS. Factors that impact a county's economy vitality are its degree of maturity, county border size, and the inclination of people and businesses to sprawl to the less crowded parts of the county. Wyandotte County, developed earlier and its growth overflowed into Johnson County. In contrast, Douglas County, NE has a mix of both economy types, partly due to its size. The eastern portion of Douglas County has older, more mature development and the growth has flowed to the western part of the county.

Table 1
Economic Vitality Criteria

Counties with the Most Economic Vitality

M-1 Counties that ranked in the top quartile for all seven factors

M-2 Counties that ranked in the top quartile for six of the seven factors

M-3 Counties that ranked in the top quartile for five of the seven factors

Counties with the Least Economic Vitality

L-1 Counties that ranked in the bottom quartile for all seven factors

L-2 Counties that ranked in the bottom quartile for six of the seven factors

L-3 Counties that ranked in the bottom quartile for five of the seven factors

Figure 2
Counties with the Most Vitality

Table 2
County Vitality Rankings

Counties with the Most Vitality

M-1	M-2	M-3
Johnson County, Kansas	Platte County, Missouri	Clay County, Missouri Plymouth County, Iowa York County, Nebraska Dallas County, Iowa McPherson County, Kansas

Counties with the Least Vitality

| L-1	L-2	L-3
none	Worth County, Missouri	Morrill County, Nebraska

Counties with the Least Economic Vitality

Two counties—Morrill County, NE and Worth County, MO—were found to have the least economic vitality (Table 2 and Figure 3). Neither of these counties is part of or adjacent to a metro area and neither has an interstate highway. But, they are adjacent to counties that do. None of the counties were found to to have the least vitality in all seven factors considered.

Morrill County, NE had sufficient proprietors' income and employment growth to reach the L-3 category. Worth County, MO (L-2) had enough population density to keep it from falling into the L-1 category.

Conclusion

The study results indicate that counties with the most economic vitality share similar characteristics relative to vitality, economic size, and location. Counties that either are adjacent to or part of metro areas and have interstate highways are more likely to experience greater economic vitality than their rural neighbors. When it comes to economic vitality, location is key. Counties that had the least economic vitality are rural, without direct interstate highway access. Others that are adjacent to large trade centers or metro areas still do not thrive economically, indicating that other factors may inhibit their progress. The compounding characteristics of economic vitality affect each county differently.

Figure 2
Counties with the Least Vitality
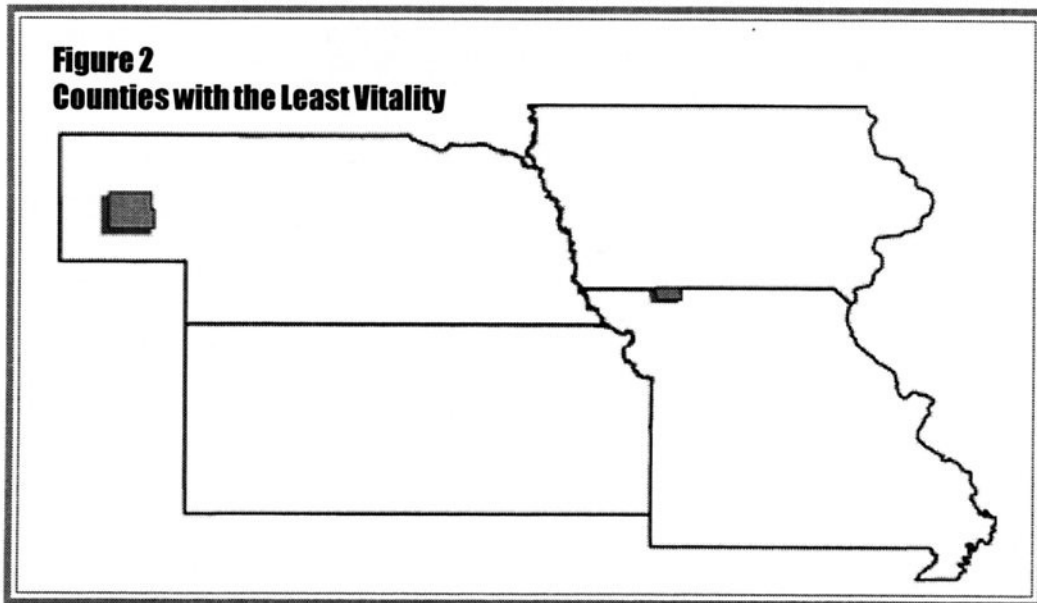
Economic Vitality Rankings of Nebraska Counties

The following table shows the economic vitality factor rankings of Nebraska counties. These ranked values are inversely proportionate to the actual value—the higher the rank, the lower the actual value.

|	Wage & Salary Earnings	Proprietors' Income	Food Stamps Disbursed	Unemployment Rate	Employment Growth	Private Sector Jobs	Population Density
Adams	21	74	15	74	42	4	8
Antelope	60	6	31	15	67	45	50
Arthur	91	85	77	58	82	81	93
Banner	12	45	77	52	88	92	86
Blaine	46	80	77	58	10	86	90
Boone	59	61	25	50	44	62	47
Box Butte	6	42	10	5	25	17	44
Boyd	80	11	54	23	72	76	67
Brown	66	90	61	19	36	49	75
Buffalo	15	53	16	26	13	5	13
Burt	45	33	50	8	47	47	30
Butler	38	89	51	31	48	44	32
Cass	29	69	21	53	6	19	12
Cedar	58	17	76	43	76	57	39
Chase	57	28	58	74	53	48	65
Cherry	73	9	29	60	40	53	87
Cheyenne	11	5	17	69	9	18	54
Clay	16	59	41	63	26	41	41
Colfax	24	37	72	60	27	21	16
Cuming	37	3	68	86	37	34	27
Custer	41	23	23	74	65	54	68
Dakota	9	30	14	29	38	2	5
Dawes	63	31	3	9	18	33	60
Dawson	23	43	28	36	46	14	20
Deuel	52	18	77	16	91	60	69
Dixon	35	20	65	31	93	51	36
Dodge	22	38	38	31	29	10	6
Douglas	2	1	6	41	16	1	1
Dundy	33	36	77	89	75	72	77
Fillmore	48	4	52	69	69	59	43
Franklin	86	55	48	55	61	77	59
Frontier	50	68	49	43	79	74	74
Furnas	54	44	20	65	80	58	55
Gage	34	32	35	50	39	27	15
Garden	83	66	27	60	3	82	83
Garfield	81	41	46	69	78	32	73
Gosper	79	47	77	90	12	80	64
Grant	88	87	77	73	56	83	89
Greeley	76	56	55	21	71	78	62
Hall	14	27	7	34	22	3	4
Hamilton	27	67	62	87	49	29	26
Harlan	64	40	53	46	55	46	58
Hayes	90	86	77	10	30	93	81
Hitchcock	70	88	30	55	31	71	66
Holt	67	2	43	38	7	40	63
Hooker	82	92	77	35	34	52	88
Howard	69	82	34	41	15	73	45
Jefferson	32	54	39	40	70	25	33
Johnson	47	76	33	2	64	500	42
Kearney	31	12	59	81	28	37	37
Keith	39	75	19	36	24	13	51
Keya Paha	92	81	77	74	5	89	82
Kimball	61	65	44	84	66	28	70
Knox	89	24	11	13	20	63	52
Lancaster	7	29	26	64	14	9	3
Lincoln	8	26	5	17	32	12	38
Logan	68	77	77	78	90	85	80
Loup	72	91	77	67	83	87	84
McPherson	93	93	77	93	92	90	92
Madison	18	25	12	11	59	6	7
Merrick	44	64	45	65	51	43	29
Morrill	65	62	9	12	54	69	71
Nance	87	49	22	22	74	79	48
Nemaha	3	52	13	6	52	66	23
Nuckolls	78	14	37	67	81	35	49
Otoe	28	70	40	24	41	22	19
Pawnee	56	57	32	29	17	70	56
Perkins	40	13	64	55	35	64	72
Phelps	13	51	42	78	85	24	24

(Continued)

	Wage & Salary Earnings	Proprietors' Income	Food Stamps Disbursed	Unemployment Rate	Employment Growth	Private Sector Jobs	Population Density
Pierce	74	19	66	45	8	38	35
Platte	10	35	36	20	60	8	11
Polk	51	58	63	78	84	61	40
Red Willow	36	39	18	46	50	16	31
Richardson	55	10	8	3	86	31	28
Rock	71	63	77	13	77	84	78
Saline	20	45	67	84	23	20	21
Sarpy	4	84	74	87	2	26	2
Saunders	42	50	69	38	62	36	17
Scotts Bluff	17	7	2	7	33	11	9
Seward	25	34	73	46	68	15	14
Sheridan	84	16	4	24	73	68	76
Sherman	77	83	56	26	87	75	61
Sioux	85	79	77	92	58	91	91
Stanton	1	15	71	26	57	55	34
Thayer	49	21	47	81	43	39	46
Thomas	75	72	77	4	21	67	85
Thurston	26	8	1	1	63	42	25
Valley	62	60	24	53	89	65	53
Washington	5	78	75	81	4	23	10
Wayne	43	48	70	17	11	30	22
Webster	53	71	60	69	45	56	57
Wheeler	30	73	77	46	1	88	79
York	19	22	57	91	19	7	18

Nebraska Stats

□ 1999 ▦ 2000 ■ 2001

Total Nonfarm Wage & Salary Employment
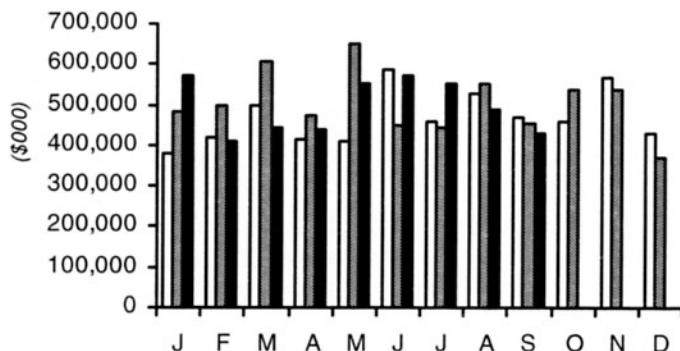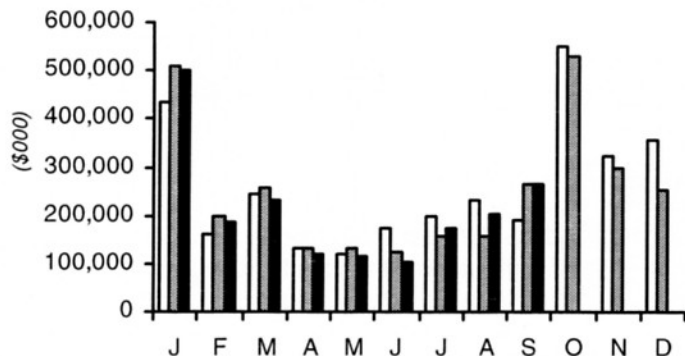

Unemployment Rate
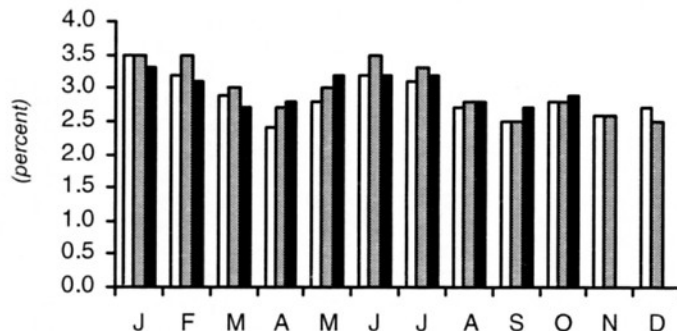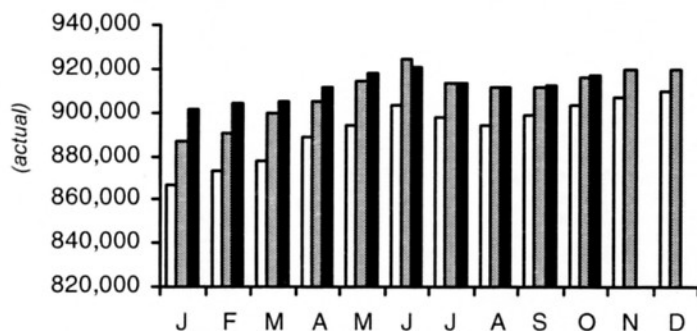
Note: All 1999 and January-March 2000 data are benchmarked. April-March 2000 data are estimates and will be benchmarked in early 2002. Data for April-December 2001 are estimates until benchmarked in 2003. All estimates are the most current revised data available.

□ 1999 ▦ 2000 ■ 2001

Cash Receipts—Crops

Cash Receipts—Livestock

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

	September 2001 ($000)	YTD ($000)	YTD % Change vs Yr. Ago		September 2001 ($000)	YTD ($000)	YTD % Change vs Yr. Ago
Ainsworth, Brown	1,794	15,268	8.2	Kenesaw, Adams	203	2,660	34.0
Albion, Boone	1,736	14,816	-2.0	Kimball, Kimball	1,913	16,970	2.6
Alliance, Box Butte	5,943	51,730	-0.4	La Vista, Sarpy	10,012	91,443	0.5
Alma, Harlan	640	5,524	6.7	Laurel, Cedar	536	3,419	2.7
Arapahoe, Furnas	862	7,566	0.7	Lexington, Dawson	7,910	70,357	3.1
Arlington, Washington	225	2,166	9.1	Lincoln, Lancaster	241,135	1,974,228	1.0
Arnold, Custer	306	2,333	-11.7	Louisville, Cass	505	4,409	-13.3
Ashland, Saunders	1,507	12,815	1.1	Loup City, Sherman	527	4,350	10.0
Atkinson, Holt	1,110	9,477	0.1	Lyons, Burt	505	3,970	-1.5
Auburn, Nemaha	2,566	21,751	0.6	Madison, Madison	997	7,534	1.7
Aurora, Hamilton	2,452	21,756	2.8	McCook, Red Willow	9,913	88,329	-18.0
Axtell, Kearney	93	718	23.4	Milford, Seward	1,044	8,890	14.4
Bassett, Rock	564	4,682	3.7	Minatare, Scotts Bluff	214	1,421	-2.5
Battle Creek, Madison	786	7,160	19.5	Minden, Kearney	1,945	17,256	3.9
Bayard, Morrill	470	4,119	1.1	Mitchell, Scotts Bluff	730	5,055	-7.0
Beatrice, Gage	12,186	109,738	4.0	Morrill, Scotts Bluff	527	4,768	-4.5
Beaver City, Furnas	140	1,112	-8.5	Nebraska City, Otoe	7,025	56,000	-0.9
Bellevue, Sarpy	25,522	220,527	19.7	Neligh, Antelope	1,279	12,703	3.7
Benkelman, Dundy	715	5,812	8.0	Newman Grove, Madison	331	2,780	8.6
Bennington, Douglas	593	5,630	0.2	Norfolk, Madison	32,382	283,583	1.7
Blair, Washington	7,523	68,420	9.6	North Bend, Dodge	555	4,925	6.6
Bloomfield, Knox	722	5,341	15.4	North Platte, Lincoln	25,300	223,297	3.5
Blue Hill, Webster	487	3,929	4.3	ONeill, Holt	4,803	40,797	0.6
Bridgeport, Morrill	1,153	10,372	-1.0	Oakland, Burt	591	5,476	3.2
Broken Bow, Custer	4,018	34,439	-0.8	Ogallala, Keith	6,048	53,964	3.5
Burwell, Garfield	1,277	8,754	17.3	Omaha, Douglas	517,637	4,555,501	2.0
Cairo, Hall	288	2,805	-0.2	Ord, Valley	2,310	19,365	5.3
Central City, Merrick	2,089	16,984	6.8	Osceola, Polk	516	4,534	-1.4
Ceresco, Saunders	1,345	10,945	-7.4	Oshkosh, Garden	469	4,124	8.2
Chadron, Dawes	5,530	58,654	34.0	Osmond, Pierce	491	3,597	-10.1
Chappell, Deuel	482	4,297	0.4	Oxford, Furnas	352	3,944	0.3
Clarkson, Colfax	421	3,642	-3.7	Papillion, Sarpy	8,445	68,736	3.5
Clay Center, Clay	201	2,014	-20.7	Pawnee City, Pawnee	283	2,714	4.2
Columbus, Platte	22,208	187,736	-0.8	Pender, Thurston	972	7,187	4.0
Cozad, Dawson	3,068	26,845	-3.1	Pierce, Pierce	883	6,484	14.3
Crawford, Dawes	623	5,505	0.0	Plainview, Pierce	678	6,041	0.7
Creighton, Knox	1,092	9,757	9.4	Plattsmouth, Cass	3,875	32,238	2.4
Crete, Saline	3,367	26,941	6.8	Ponca, Dixon	288	2,670	14.8
Crofton, Knox	510	4,057	18.0	Ralston, Douglas	3,978	32,188	7.0
Curtis, Frontier	419	3,572	10.4	Randolph, Cedar	471	3,801	5.6
Dakota City, Dakota	544	4,046	0.8	Ravenna, Buffalo	618	5,394	4.9
David City, Butler	1,702	15,365	6.6	Red Cloud, Webster	720	6,352	2.6
Deshler, Thayer	323	2,949	6.9	Rushville, Sheridan	470	3,849	-0.7
Dodge, Dodge	363	2,580	13.8	Sargent, Custer	309	2,158	10.2
Doniphan, Hall	495	6,715	-23.0	Schuyler, Colfax	2,035	17,809	6.3
Eagle, Cass	310	3,911	-1.7	Scottsbluff, Scotts Bluff	23,637	203,359	2.9
Elgin, Antelope	423	3,945	7.5	Scribner, Dodge	530	3,888	7.8
Elkhorn, Douglas	2,480	22,077	1.9	Seward, Seward	5,029	42,288	-1.4
Elm Creek, Buffalo	511	3,451	3.4	Shelby, Polk	357	3,536	-0.8
Elwood, Gosper	308	2,551	-9.1	Shelton, Buffalo	482	4,357	12.9
Fairbury, Jefferson	2,923	26,985	-6.5	Sidney, Cheyenne	10,438	85,201	2.4
Fairmont, Fillmore	165	1,609	-6.3	South Sioux City, Dakota	9,691	76,177	7.9
Falls City, Richardson	2,819	23,302	2.1	Springfield, Sarpy	340	4,808	-19.2
Franklin, Franklin	582	5,268	4.0	St. Paul, Howard	1,482	12,893	13.4
Fremont, Dodge	24,373	213,789	-0.1	Stanton, Stanton	618	5,894	6.4
Friend, Saline	466	5,274	24.0	Stromsburg, Polk	1,050	8,986	-6.9
Fullerton, Nance	575	5,118	5.3	Superior, Nuckolls	1,634	14,515	4.2
Geneva, Fillmore	1,506	13,483	5.4	Sutherland, Lincoln	437	3,648	1.4
Genoa, Nance	357	2,996	14.0	Sutton, Clay	780	7,600	0.0
Gering, Scotts Bluff	4,768	38,902	2.5	Syracuse, Otoe	1,268	10,683	0.4
Gibbon, Buffalo	1,042	7,843	6.1	Tecumseh, Johnson	998	8,317	8.3
Gordon, Sheridan	1,763	14,592	-0.8	Tekamah, Burt	1,195	9,869	6.6
Gothenburg, Dawson	2,679	22,972	2.1	Tilden, Madison	346	2,417	-5.5
Grand Island, Hall	55,273	484,751	0.8	Utica, Seward	316	3,407	20.8
Grant, Perkins	1,203	12,173	18.5	Valentine, Cherry	5,503	48,371	21.9
Gretna, Sarpy	3,590	27,536	4.1	Valley, Douglas	2,054	14,647	-6.8
Hartington, Cedar	1,964	15,558	16.4	Wahoo, Saunders	2,714	22,469	5.8
Hastings, Adams	20,810	187,740	-0.8	Wakefield, Dixon	328	3,357	5.1
Hay Springs, Sheridan	389	3,483	4.9	Wauneta, Chase	322	2,833	1.1
Hebron, Thayer	1,195	10,198	-20.2	Waverly, Lancaster	931	8,785	18.7
Henderson, York	733	6,633	6.9	Wayne, Wayne	4,211	36,258	7.6
Hickman, Lancaster	306	2,217	-3.0	Weeping Water, Cass	649	6,038	7.0
Holdrege, Phelps	4,421	41,646	2.8	West Point, Cuming	5,157	44,918	38.5
Hooper, Dodge	386	3,622	2.4	Wilber, Saline	533	4,380	8.5
Humboldt, Richardson	370	2,989	-2.1	Wisner, Cuming	782	5,988	0.7
Humphrey, Platte	988	7,290	7.8	Wood River, Hall	476	4,216	15.1
Imperial, Chase	1,870	16,872	2.2	Wymore, Gage	460	4,126	5.9
Juniata, Adams	310	2,352	14.8	York, York	10,478	91,770	-0.8
Kearney, Buffalo	37,057	328,071	3.4				

*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		
	September 2001 ($000)	YTD ($000)	YTD % Chg. vs Yr. Ago	September 2001 ($000)	YTD ($000)	YTD % Chg. vs Yr. Ago
Nebraska	222,787	2,073,446	3.0	1,548,983	13,258,468	1.7
Adams	3,698	32,833	-4.5	21,628	194,963	-0.4
Antelope	1,232	10,232	13.0	2,374	20,631	6.3
Arthur	79	719	10.8	(D)	(D)	(D)
Banner	156	1,636	17.6	(D)	(D)	(D)
Blaine	83	1,065	-13.1	(D)	(D)	(D)
Boone	1,084	8,450	4.7	2,325	19,512	-0.3
Box Butte	1,979	15,196	4.1	6,285	54,832	0.2
Boyd	198	2,557	4.6	668	5,315	5.0
Brown	558	4,558	-4.2	2,002	16,227	7.0
Buffalo	5,362	51,093	1.3	40,310	353,337	3.7
Burt	1,020	10,399	8.3	2,791	22,762	10.2
Butler	1,024	10,389	8.3	2,332	19,582	5.8
Cass	3,735	33,802	0.0	6,871	61,240	0.1
Cedar	1,176	11,909	-5.5	3,386	25,777	12.2
Chase	455	6,709	-3.3	2,232	19,942	0.5
Cherry	894	8,862	7.0	5,813	50,365	21.1
Cheyenne	1,323	14,044	-3.2	10,822	88,136	2.4
Clay	710	9,219	-6.4	2,115	18,944	-1.6
Colfax	1,276	11,218	-3.5	2,964	25,474	3.5
Cuming	1,506	13,274	-1.7	6,557	55,739	28.8
Custer	1,257	15,970	5.4	5,389	44,798	-0.6
Dakota	2,275	22,022	1.2	10,905	86,155	7.7
Dawes	902	9,146	9.2	6,153	64,162	30.2
Dawson	2,774	29,146	-7.2	14,306	124,616	1.3
Deuel	385	2,981	-3.5	1,151	10,020	2.3
Dixon	1,054	7,752	7.4	757	7,114	8.1
Dodge	4,869	42,764	4.4	26,567	231,642	0.4
Douglas	58,480	536,891	7.0	528,486	4,645,492	2.0
Dundy	622	3,834	16.9	744	5,904	6.8
Fillmore	1,005	9,127	-0.4	2,352	22,470	5.0
Franklin	515	4,697	5.8	865	7,652	5.0
Frontier	637	4,934	13.0	791	6,673	9.9
Furnas	801	7,578	-1.1	2,366	21,270	4.5
Gage	2,861	27,437	6.6	13,716	124,011	6.4
Garden	348	3,127	11.9	735	6,008	4.3
Garfield	194	2,151	4.1	1,277	8,754	17.3
Gosper	436	3,361	0.8	388	3,154	-5.8
Grant	160	1,400	6.8	369	2,733	14.8
Greeley	0	3,439	5.8	832	6,370	6.1
Hall	6,152	61,300	-3.8	56,851	501,782	0.5
Hamilton	1,259	11,890	-11.3	2,913	24,844	2.2
Harlan	503	5,404	15.9	970	7,910	6.1
Hayes	164	1,616	-6.5	(D)	(D)	(D)
Hitchcock	377	4,246	-8.7	815	6,124	6.5
Holt	1,492	13,716	-10.0	6,930	56,356	0.1
Hooker	42	1,056	0.7	656	3,911	2.0
Howard	885	7,643	-8.5	1,994	16,436	12.0
Jefferson	1,023	10,165	-5.0	4,131	36,889	-3.4
Johnson	375	4,847	2.5	1,350	11,234	5.8
Kearney	1,258	9,616	3.1	2,172	19,052	4.0
Keith	1,271	12,230	-6.0	6,852	59,327	2.9
Keya Paha	208	1,561	4.8	191	1,316	21.3
Kimball	663	5,628	-7.6	1,981	17,403	2.8
Knox	1,074	10,606	0.6	3,154	25,376	9.7
Lancaster	28,662	269,788	1.5	245,216	2,008,298	1.3
Lincoln	4,185	42,371	3.9	26,602	232,701	3.4
Logan	196	1,612	21.8	(D)	(D)	(D)
Loup	139	1,045	25.5	(D)	(D)	(D)
McPherson	96	1,042	18.4	(D)	(D)	(D)
Madison	4,042	37,348	-1.2	34,914	304,103	2.0
Merrick	920	9,712	-1.6	2,982	23,743	6.6
Morrill	744	7,452	2.4	1,670	14,806	0.1
Nance	461	4,811	-0.8	990	8,569	10.4
Nemaha	1,190	9,673	9.5	2,955	24,566	1.2
Nuckolls	536	6,086	0.8	2,716	22,680	9.6
Otoe	1,765	18,644	-1.4	8,853	70,943	-0.3
Pawnee	387	3,876	11.4	549	4,570	4.4
Perkins	654	5,415	-1.4	1,569	14,455	17.4
Phelps	1,741	14,324	5.7	4,757	44,617	3.7
Pierce	996	9,133	-1.4	2,182	16,923	2.9
Platte	4,017	37,842	-4.2	24,037	201,026	-0.5
Polk	707	7,501	-15.6	2,044	18,358	-3.5
Red Willow	1,570	14,673	-4.6	10,263	91,347	-17.7
Richardson	931	10,226	-0.8	3,502	28,392	2.0
Rock	241	2,830	3.2	578	4,801	2.8
Saline	1,640	15,760	2.5	4,802	40,156	8.8
Sarpy	20,213	173,590	11.0	53,534	449,282	11.2
Saunders	2,941	26,522	0.0	7,328	58,366	1.2
Scotts Bluff	5,500	44,058	5.9	30,008	254,262	2.4
Seward	1,848	19,684	1.9	6,723	57,123	2.5
Sheridan	684	7,710	0.9	2,972	24,815	0.8
Sherman	625	4,555	19.1	727	5,649	8.1
Sioux	296	2,357	-7.2	135	1,132	-5.4
Stanton	799	7,400	9.8	893	7,974	13.8
Thayer	799	7,277	-1.6	2,226	18,299	-12.0
Thomas	142	1,271	-6.1	333	2,623	9.4
Thurston	509	4,214	0.4	1,118	8,626	6.8
Valley	491	5,690	1.2	2,588	21,317	3.8
Washington	3,070	29,068	5.3	8,434	75,938	9.8
Wayne	1,120	10,222	2.4	4,412	37,663	7.7
Webster	624	4,631	-8.6	1,355	11,590	3.1
Wheeler	101	1,514	9.5	166	728	-28.6
York	1,942	18,432	1.6	11,627	101,963	-1.0

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

Source: Nebraska Department of Revenue

Note on Net Taxable Retail Sales

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

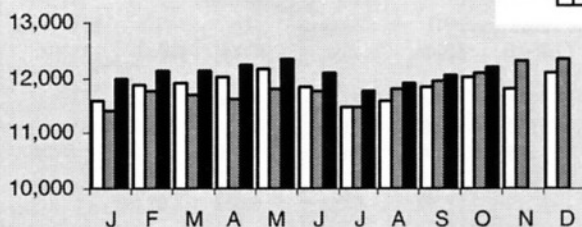# Regional Nonfarm Wage and Salary Employment* 1999 to October** 2001

☐ 1999   ▨ 2000   ■ 2001
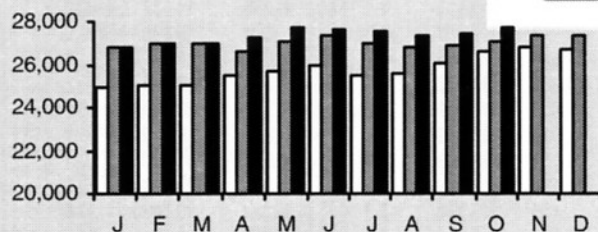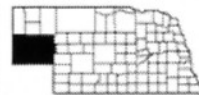
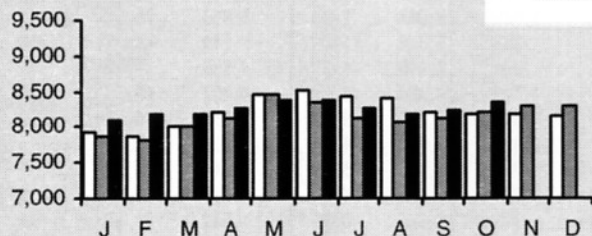## Northwest Panhandle

Southwest Panhandle

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

North Central

West Central
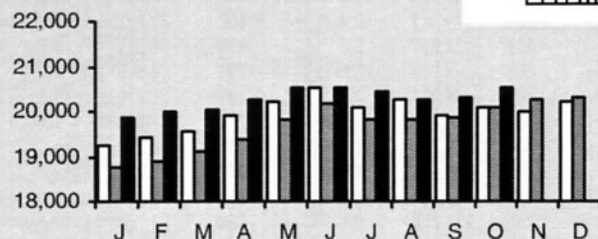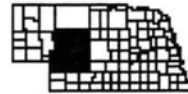
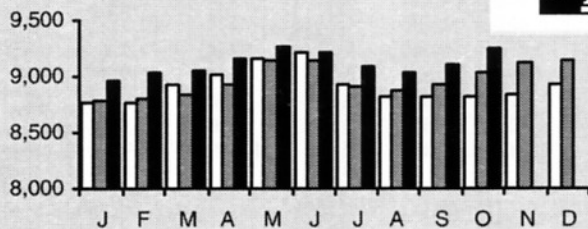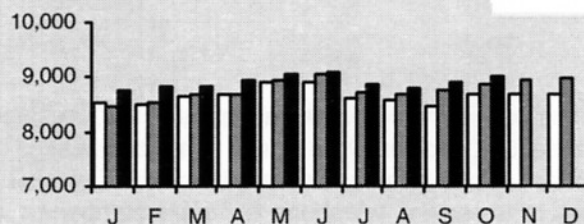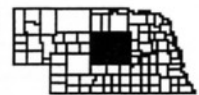## Southwest Central

East Central
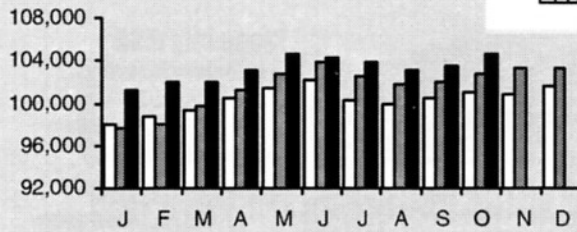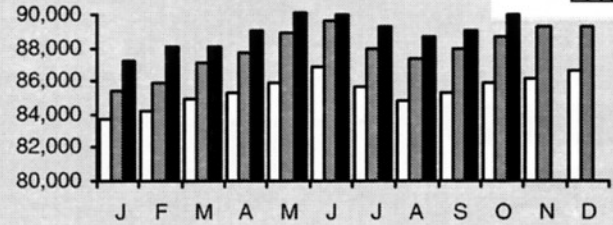
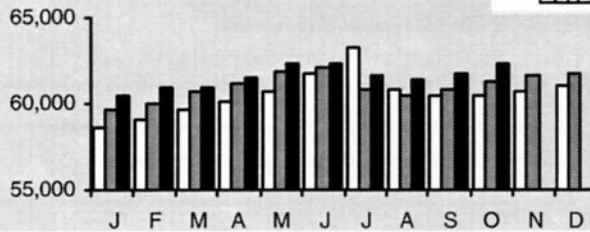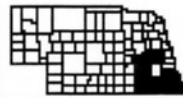# Regional Nonfarm Wage and Salary Employment* 1999 to October** 2001
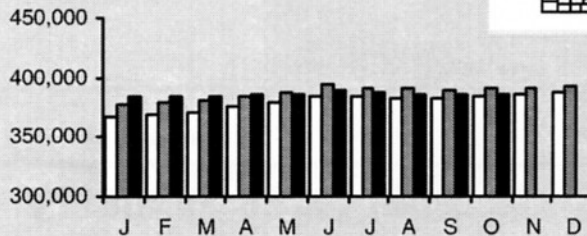
☐ 1999　▨ 2000　■ 2001
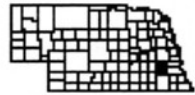
Southeast Central

Northeast

Southeast

Sioux City MSA
Nebraska portion only
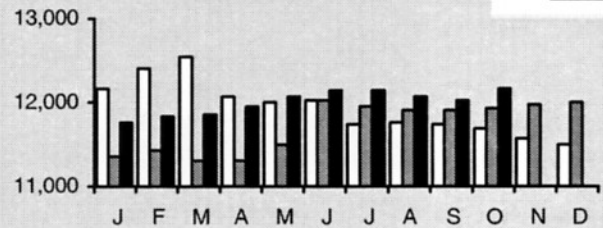
Omaha MSA
Nebraska portion only
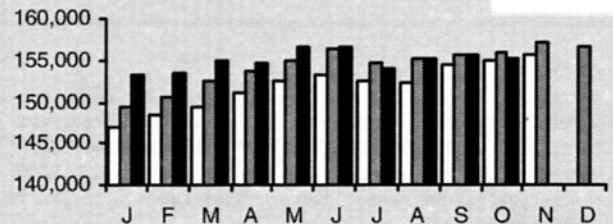
*By place of work
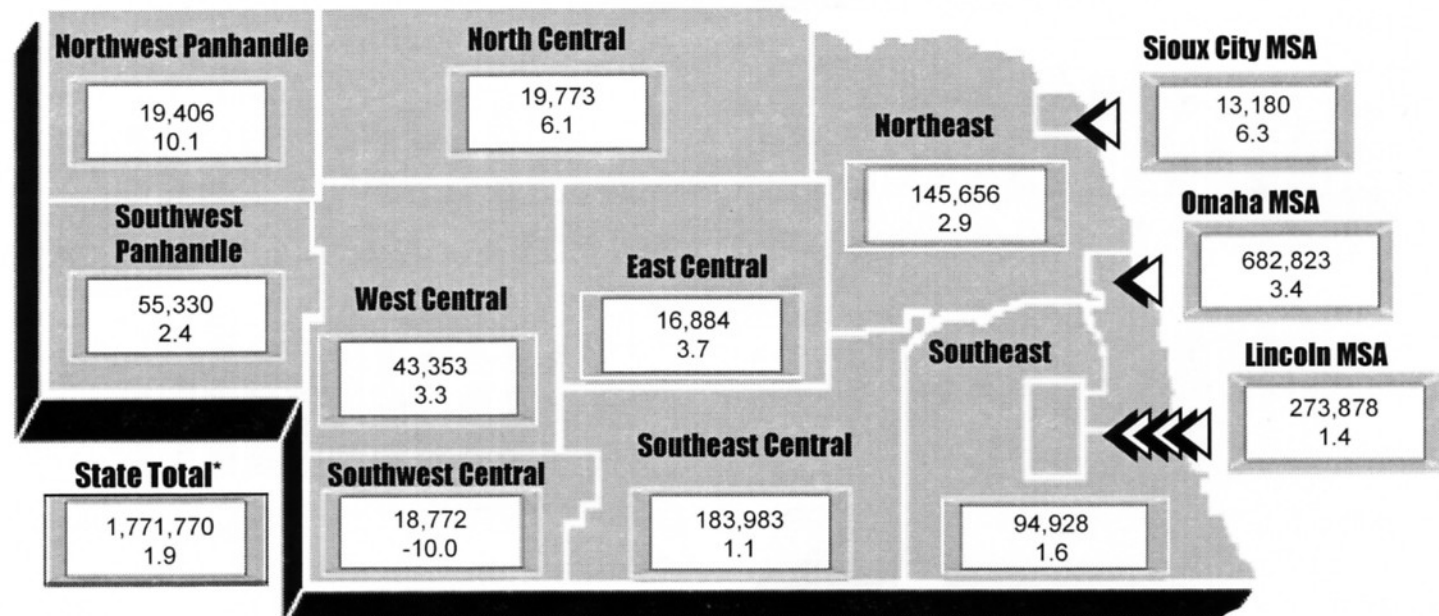**Current month data are preliminary and subject to revision
***Previously, other than Nebraska data were included in the Omaha and Sioux City MSA
Note: January-March 2000 monthly employment data are benchmarked. April 2000-March 2001 data are estimates and will be benchmarked in early 2002. Data for April-December 2001 are estimates until benchmarked in earlly 2003. All estimates are the most current revised data available.
Source: Nebraska Department of Labor, Labor Market Information - Kathy Copas

Lincoln MSA

September 2001 Regional Retail Sales ($000)
YTD Change vs Yr. Ago

Region	Value	Change
Northwest Panhandle	19,406	10.1
North Central	19,773	6.1
Sioux City MSA	13,180	6.3
Northeast	145,656	2.9
Southwest Panhandle	55,330	2.4
West Central	43,353	3.3
East Central	16,884	3.7
Omaha MSA	682,823	3.4
Lincoln MSA	273,878	1.4
Southeast	94,928	1.6
State Total*	1,771,770	1.9
Southwest Central	18,772	-10.0
Southeast Central	183,983	1.1

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

State Nonfarm Wage & Salary Employment by Industry*

	October 2001
Total	916,729
Construction & Mining	46,571
Manufacturing	116,576
Durables	54,780
Nondurables	61,796
TCU**	56,758
Trade	216,362
Wholesale	54,795
Retail	161,567
FIRE***	60,772
Services	261,352
Government	158,338

*By place of work
**Transportation, Communication, and Utilities
***Finance, Insurance, and Real Estate
Source: Nebraska Department of Labor, Labor Market Information

Note: January-March 2000 monthly employment data are benchmarked. April 2000-March 2001 data are estimates and will be benchmarked in early 2002. Data for April-December 2001 are estimates until benchmarked in einfrly 2003. All estimates are the most current revised data available. Labor force data for 2000 and 2001 will be revised.

Inflation Rate

2.6

Consumer Price Index

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

	December 2001	% Change vs Yr. Ago	YTD % Change vs Yr. Ago (inflation rate)
All Items	176.7	1.6	2.6
Commodities	147.9	-1.4	0.8
Services	205.3	3.7	3.9

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

State Labor Force Summary*

	October 2001
Labor Force	950,510
Employment	923,372
Unemployment Rate	2.9

*By place of residence
Source: Nebraska Department of Labor, Labor Market Information

Cedar
Hartington - County Seat
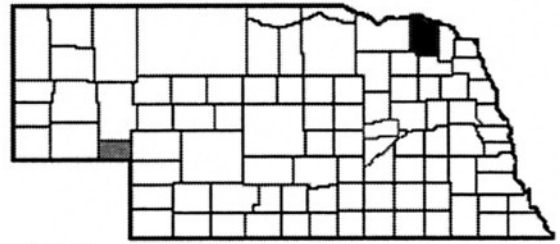
Next County of Month

License plate prefix number: 13

Size of county: 740 square miles, ranks 31st in the state

Population: 9,615 in 2000, a change of –5.1 percent from 1990

Per capita personal income: $21,173 in 1998, ranks 46th in the state

Net taxable retail sales ($000): $48,244 in 2000 a change of 2.3 percent from 1999; $37,686 from January through September 2001, a change of 6.0 percent from the same period the previous year.

Unemployment rate: 2.8 percent in Cedar County, 3.0 percent in Nebraska in 2000

	State	Cedar County
Nonfarm employment (2000)[1]:	909,543	2,521
(wage & salary)	*(percent of total)*	
Construction and Mining	5.0	7.0
Manufacturing	13.2	10.5
TCU	6.4	5.3
Wholesale Trade	6.0	7.9
Retail Trade	18.0	12.0
FIRE	6.7	4.6
Services	27.7	22.7
Government	17.0	30.0

Agriculture:

Number of farms: 971 in 1997; 1,041 in 1992; 1,106 in 1987

Average farm size: 459 acres in 1997; 412 acres in 1992

Market value of farm products sold: $153.6 million in 1997 ($158,153 average per farm); $125.7 million in 1992 ($120,770 average per farm)

[1] By place of work

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

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