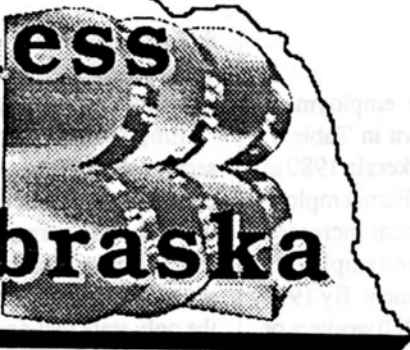


Business in Nebraska



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Prepared by the Bureau of Business Research, College of Business Administration,
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Columbus: A Growing Community Along the Platte **Merlin W. Erickson**

Columbus, located in Platte County along the Platte River, is Nebraska's tenth largest city. It is designated as one of 28 first class cities in Nebraska.

The 1990 population census for Columbus was 19,280 residents, representing a net increase of 2,152 residents since 1980. Columbus' population grew, on average, 1.18 percent per year during the 1980s. For comparison, the state's average annual growth rate was 0.05 percent.

The objective of this article is to summarize recent employment and earnings data for the Columbus area and to contrast that data with comparable data for Nebraska and similar communities in the state. Similar communities include Hastings, Kearney, Fremont, Beatrice, North Platte, and Norfolk. For comparison purposes, employment and earnings data for the six communities will be grouped and averaged. The group's averages will be referred to as SIXCO statistics.

County data will be used for the Columbus area and SIXCO, because community-level employment and earnings data are not available. The study period is 1980 through 1991. The most recent year for which employment and earning data are available at the county level is 1991.

From the Director's Desk

After July 1, state tax dollars will not be used to directly support *Business in Nebraska*. Funds to support the printing and mailing of *Business in Nebraska* will come from a \$10 annual subscription fee.

The publication of *Business in Nebraska* fulfills, in part, the Bureau's state wide research and services mission, which includes a mandate to collect, maintain, analyze, and disseminate information regarding Nebraska's current economic performance, plus an evaluation of where Nebraska's economy may be headed in the next few years. One of the articles in the June issue of *Business in Nebraska* will be devoted to state wide employment, income, and retail sales projections.

I hope that you will agree with me that *Business in Nebraska* is a bargain at \$10 per year, or \$1 per issue. If you agree, don't let your subscription expire. Take the necessary time to fill out the subscription form located on page eight and return it to the Bureau's main office right away.

Thank you for your support,

Charles Lamphear
Director

Columbus Area

Employment

Average annual full- and part-time employment figures for the Columbus area are shown in Table 1. Total employment grew from 16,850 workers in 1980 to 19,484 in 1991, a 15.6 percent increase. Farm employment declined, while nonfarm employment increased over the study period. In 1980 the 1,688 farm employees accounted for 10 percent of total employment. By 1991 there were 1,408 farm workers, a loss of 280 workers or 16.6 percent. Farm employment decreased to only 7.2 percent of total employment in 1991.

The 15,162 nonfarm employees in 1980 were 90 percent of the total. By 1991 there were 18,076 nonfarm workers, a gain of 19.2 percent. In 1991 nonfarm employment accounted for 92.8 percent of all workers.

Nonfarm employment is separated into two sectors—private and public. The private nonfarm sector is subdivided further into nine industries. The public sector employment categories include federal civilian, military, and state and local government.

Manufacturing, retail trade, and services are the largest employers in the private nonfarm sector of the Columbus area. Each of these three industries had substantial gains in employment over the study period. Manufacturing employment grew from 4,386 in 1980 to 5,268 in 1991, an increase of 20.1 percent (column 5). The proportionate share of manufacturing employment was 26.0 percent in 1980 and 27.0 percent in 1991. Consequently, the manufacturing employment share increased 3.9 percent (column 6). Agricultural services, forestry and fisheries, and mining lost employment

during the period. Nonfarm private industries that lost employment shares include agricultural services, forestry and fisheries; mining; construction; TCU; and FIRE.

Employment increased in each of the government sectors during the study period. State and local government employment is the largest public employer in the Columbus area. The main office of the Nebraska Public Power District (NPPD), which is a subdivision of state government, is located in Columbus. Nebraska is the only state that does not have private power districts. All electric facilities are publicly owned or member owned.

Personal Income and Earnings

Total personal income¹ and private nonfarm earnings² are shown for the Columbus area in Table 2. The column format of Table 2 is similar to Table 1. Columns 1 and 3 show actual income and earnings for 1980 and 1991, respectively. Columns 2 and 4 show the proportionate share that each industry had of total private nonfarm earnings. Column 5 shows percentage changes in income for the 1980 to 1991 period. Column 6 shows private nonfarm earnings percentage changes in income shares by industry for the period.

¹ Total personal income is the income received by persons from all sources including wages and salaries, proprietors' income, rent, dividends, interest earned, transfer payments, and other labor income. TPI is estimated annually by BEA for the nation, regions, states, and countries.

² Private nonfarm earnings (or earned income) come from work performed by others (a wage or salary job) or for oneself (self-employment, proprietors) in the private nonfarm sector.

Table 1
Employment in Columbus Area, 1980-1991

	1980		1991		Percent Change 1980-1991	
	No.	Percent	No.	Percent	Empl.	Shares
Total Employment	16,850	100.0	19,484	100.0	15.6	0.0
Farm	1,688	10.0	1,408	7.2	-16.6	-27.9
Nonfarm	15,162	90.0	18,076	92.8	19.2	3.1
Private	12,864	76.3	15,300	78.5	18.9	2.9
Agricultural Services, Forestry, Fisheries, and Other	195	1.2	165	0.8	-15.4	-26.8
Mining	139	0.8	158	0.8	13.7	-1.7
Construction	851	5.1	777	4.0	-8.7	-21.0
Manufacturing	4,386	26.0	5,268	27.0	20.1	3.9
Transportation and Public Utilities	537	3.2	620	3.2	15.5	-0.2
Wholesale Trade	687	4.1	803	4.1	16.9	1.1
Retail Trade	2,570	15.3	3,293	16.9	28.1	10.8
Finance, Insurance, and Real Estate	927	5.5	1,051	5.4	13.4	-2.0
Services	2,572	15.3	3,165	16.2	23.1	6.4
Government and Government Enterprises	2,298	13.6	2,776	14.2	20.8	4.5
Federal, Civilian	122	0.7	161	0.8	32.0	14.1
Military	146	0.9	178	0.9	21.9	5.4
State and Local	2,030	12.0	2,437	12.5	20.0	3.8

Source: Bureau of Economic Analysis, U.S. Department of Commerce

Table 2
Total Personal Income and Private Nonfarm Earnings, Columbus Area

	1980		1991		1980-1991	
	Thousands \$	Percent	Thousands \$	Percent	Income	Shares
Total Personal Income	240,173	na	498,437	na	107.5	na
Private Nonfarm Earnings	162,242	100.0	288,150	100.0	77.6	0.0
Agricultural Services, Forestry, Fisheries, and Other	1,814	1.1	2,552	0.9	40.7	-20.8
Mining	2,635	1.6	3,711	1.3	40.8	-20.7
Construction	12,911	8.0	16,810	5.8	30.2	-26.7
Manufacturing	69,233	42.7	127,118	44.1	83.6	3.4
Transportation and Public Utilities	10,281	6.3	18,562	6.4	80.5	1.7
Wholesale Trade	11,759	7.2	19,220	6.7	63.4	-8.0
Retail Trade	21,075	13.0	35,726	12.4	69.5	-4.6
Finance, Insurance, and Real Estate	7,560	4.7	13,697	4.8	81.2	2.0
Services	24,974	15.4	50,754	17.6	103.2	14.4

Source: Bureau of Economic Analysis, U.S. Department of Commerce

All industries show an increase in total private nonfarm earnings from 1980 to 1991 (unadjusted for inflation). Manufacturing, retail trade, and the service industries together generated roughly three-fourths of the area's total private nonfarm earnings in both 1980 and 1991. These industries plus TCU and FIRE showed the biggest gains in income during the period. Consequently, manufacturing, transportation, FIRE, and services showed increases in shares (column 6). Losses in total personal income shares for agricultural services, forestry and fisheries, and mining appear large at about 20 percent. Columns 2 and 4, however, show that earnings in those sectors are about 1 percent to 1.5 percent of total private nonfarm earnings. The construction industry had the largest percentage decrease in total private nonfarm earning shares.

Comparisons

Tables 3 and 4 compare selected data from Tables 1 and 2 with data for the six city area (SIXCO) and the state.

Employment comparisons for the 1980-1991 study period are displayed in Table 3. Each of the three areas show increased employment. There was a larger increase in total employment in the Columbus area (15.6 percent) than in Nebraska (13.7 percent) and in SIXCO (6.5 percent). Conversely, farm employment decreased in all three areas, with the largest decrease for the state (-21.7 percent) followed by SIXCO (-19.5 percent) and the Columbus area (-16.6 percent). These losses also are reflected in losses of employment shares.

Nonfarm employment increased in both the private and government sectors in each of the three areas for the

1980-1991 period. The percentage increase in private nonfarm employment for the state was slightly more than that for the Columbus area and double the percentage increase in SIXCO. Meanwhile, the percentage increase in government sector employment in the Columbus area was more than double the percentage increases for the two other areas. Federal civilian, military, mining, and agricultural services, forestry and fisheries have relatively small numbers of employees compared to other industries. Consequently, percentage changes in employment for these categories can be influenced easily by small gains or losses in absolute employment.

Manufacturing, retail trade, and service industries have the most employees in the private nonfarm sector and each shows an increase over the study period. Only retail trade and services, however, had increases large enough to produce increases in shares for each of the three areas. Increased manufacturing employment in the Columbus area was sufficient to result in an increased share of total employment. The percentage increases in manufacturing employment for the state and SIXCO were less than the percentage increases in total employment. Consequently, each shows a loss in shares.

Most output from manufacturing in the Columbus area is durable goods. Over 90 percent of the wage and salary jobs in manufacturing is filled by workers producing durable goods. Durable goods include items with a normal life expectancy of three years or more.

Changes in total personal income and private nonfarm earnings for the three areas are shown in Table 4. From 1980 to 1991 total personal income increased 107.5

Table 3
Comparisons of Changes in Employment, 1980-1991
for the Columbus Area, Nebraska, and SIXCO

	Percent Change in Employment			Percent Change in Shares		
	Columbus	Nebraska	SIXCO	Columbus	Nebraska	SIXCO
Total Employment	15.6	13.7	6.5	0.0	0.0	0.0
Farm	-16.6	-21.7	-19.5	-27.9	-31.1	-24.5
Nonfarm	19.2	17.7	9.0	3.1	3.6	2.3
Private	18.9	20.1	9.5	2.9	5.7	2.8
Agricultural Services, Forestry, Fisheries, and Other	-15.4	70.4	63.2	-26.8	49.9	53.2
Mining	13.7	-6.1	-13.5	-1.7	-17.4	-18.8
Construction	-8.7	2.1	-29.6	-21.0	-10.2	-33.9
Manufacturing	20.1	5.2	3.3	3.9	-7.4	-3.0
Transportation and Public Utilities	15.5	1.2	-9.0	-0.2	-11.0	-14.6
Wholesale Trade	16.9	5.9	2.9	1.1	-6.8	-3.4
Retail Trade	28.1	15.4	12.3	10.8	1.5	5.4
Finance, Insurance, and Real Estate	13.4	17.1	0.4	-2.0	3.0	-5.7
Services	23.1	47.6	33.4	6.4	29.9	25.3
Government and Government Enterprises	20.8	7.8	6.2	4.5	-5.1	-0.3
Federal, Civilian	32.0	0.7	-7.6	14.1	-11.4	-13.3
Military	21.9	14.8	11.6	5.4	1.0	4.8
State and Local	20.0	7.7	6.7	3.8	-5.3	0.2

Source: Table 1 and Bureau of Economic Analysis, U.S. Department of Commerce

percent in the Columbus area, 100.3 percent for the state, and 83.6 percent for SIXCO. Many factors can influence changes in total personal income from year to year as well as over a period of time. Population change is an important factor. Over the decade of the 1980s the population of the Columbus area increased 3.4 percent (the City of Columbus grew 12.4 percent). Meanwhile, the state grew only 0.6 percent. In addition to total private nonfarm earnings, total personal income is influenced by dividends, interest, and rent received by residents as well as earnings in the government and farm sectors.

Total private nonfarm earnings is the income measure used in this article to make comparisons among the three areas. Total private nonfarm earnings increased in all areas during the study period, about 78 percent for Columbus and the state and about 55 percent for SIXCO.

The importance of comparing changes in employment shares was discussed earlier, and the same concept applies to earnings. An individual industry may show increased earnings over the study period, but if the percentage increase is less than the overall total private nonfarm earnings increase, the industry has a negative

Table 4
Percentage Change in Total Personal Income and Private Nonfarm Earnings,
Columbus Area, Nebraska, and SIXCO, 1980-1991

	Percent Change in Amounts			Percent Change in Shares		
	Columbus	Nebraska	SIXCO	Columbus	Nebraska	SIXCO
Total Personal Income	107.5	100.3	83.6	na	na	na
Private Nonfarm Earnings	77.6	78.3	54.6	0	0	0
Agricultural Services, Forestry, Fisheries, and Other	40.7	164.4	169.2	-20.8	48.3	74.1
Mining	40.8	-32.7	-35.2	-20.7	-62.2	-58.1
Construction	30.2	35.2	-14.2	-26.7	-24.2	-44.5
Manufacturing	83.6	57.3	44.1	3.4	-11.8	-6.8
Transportation and Public Utilities	80.6	48.4	32.2	1.7	-16.8	-14.5
Wholesale Trade	63.5	56.3	49.3	-8.0	-12.3	-3.4
Retail Trade	69.5	63.6	54.5	-4.6	-8.3	0
Finance, Insurance, and Real Estate	81.2	86.6	32.7	2.0	4.6	-14.2
Services	103.2	156.7	128.8	14.4	43.9	48.0

Source: Table 2 and Bureau of Economic Analysis, U.S. Department of Commerce

change in shares, (for example, wholesale trade). Manufacturing, retail trade, and services, the three largest industries, all show increases in percentage change in amounts of earnings. But the percentage changes in shares vary among the three areas.

The manufacturing industry had an increase of 3.4 percent in earnings shares in the Columbus area, but the state and SIXCO show decreases in shares. The manufacture of durable goods, such as electric and electronic equipment, surgical and medical instruments, fabricated metal products and other types of machinery, are important to private nonfarm earnings of Columbus. The local transportation industry appears to be keeping pace with manufacturing. Trucking, warehousing, and railroads are necessary to transport raw materials and supplies to the local manufacturers as well as to deliver their manufactured products to markets located away from the local area (including overseas shipments).

A recent U.S. Department of Commerce report shows that between 14 percent and 22 percent of all durable goods manufacturing jobs in Nebraska are directly related to exports. Because most of the nearly 5,300 manufacturing employees in the Columbus area produce durable manufactured goods and about 95 percent of earnings from manufacturing can be attributed to the production of durable goods, it appears that more than 1,000 of the manufacturing jobs result

directly from exports. In addition, employment and earnings in other sectors of the local economy are enhanced by manufactured exports.

Conclusion

Over the period of 1980-1991 Columbus has outdistanced the state as a whole and the average for a group of population centers of comparable size in Nebraska. Population, employment, income, and earnings have increased, showing that many sectors of the Columbus economy exhibit healthy growth. Manufacturing is the largest sector in terms of employment and earnings. The manufacture of durable goods provides employment for most of nearly 5,300 workers. Manufactured products from Columbus are distributed to domestic and international markets. Companies located in Columbus have been active in creating an overseas market for their products for several years.

Other industries have benefited from expansion in the manufacturing sector. Transportation, utilities, finance, and insurance have benefited by the movement of raw materials as well as finished products. More workers need additional housing, retail goods, and many kinds of services. Wholesale trade also benefits by added economic activity.

In summary, Columbus is a trade center for manufactured exports from Nebraska. ☐☐

The Queretaro Agreement: A Response to NAFTA

Robert McGeorge, Executive Director, Center for International Trade Policy

Charles Lamphear

The United States, Canada, and Mexico signed the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) on December 17, 1993. This evolutionary step in North American trade negotiations became effective January 1, 1994.

The Queretaro Agreement

Another important agreement for Nebraska businesses was signed recently in Queretaro, Mexico. Representatives of the Center for International Trade Policy at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln (UNL), the Bureau of Business Research at UNL, and the Export Development Center (CENDEX) at the Monterrey Institute of Technology in Mexico signed an agreement in principle (the Queretaro Agreement) on April 15, 1994. The Monterrey Institute of Technology is a private university with 26 campuses located throughout Mexico. The Queretaro Agreement was signed by representatives on the Queretaro campus.

The Queretaro Agreement will provide assistance to businesses in taking advantage of opportunities created

by NAFTA. As a result of the Queretaro Agreement, the following services now are being developed at UNL for Nebraska subscribers.

Special Services

Subscriber-Based NAFTA Reports: A special NAFTA report will be prepared for each subscriber. It will contain three parts. The first part will outline NAFTA and note the practical aspects of its implementation. The second part will describe the basic business and market conditions in Mexico and Canada.

The final part will contain comparisons of pre-NAFTA and current import duty rates for the three NAFTA countries for each product identified by the subscriber, along with domestic production, export, and import statistics for these products. The product-specific information will identify potential export opportunities and/or import challenges for the subscribers' products.



Monthly Newsletters: A monthly newsletter will update subscribers on important NAFTA developments. The newsletter will be tailored to the specific products of the subscriber. The newsletter will inform readers about current NAFTA publications, trade shows, etc.

Annual Workshop: An annual workshop will be held to present recent cases and facts about doing business in Mexico. Representatives from Mexico are expected to attend and participate in the annual workshops.

The Queretaro Agreement offers a unique service to Nebraska businesses doing business in Mexico. The Queretaro Agreement links Nebraska subscribers to every region of Mexico through the 26-campus system of the Monterrey Institute of Technology. It indirectly links subscribers to the National Foreign Trade Bank (BANCOMEXT) because representatives of BANCOMEXT support the Queretaro Agreement.

To provide these unique services, a modest fee of \$125 for the first year and \$50 for each subsequent year will be charged. Additional fees will be required for any special consulting services that subscribers may request.

An application form for membership will be made available in the June issue of *Business in Nebraska*. In the meantime, contact either Robert McGeorge or Charles Lamphear for more information about the Queretaro Agreement and the special services outlined here. Their addresses and telephone numbers are provided at the close of this article.

A Ready-Made Market

Many opportunities await U.S. businesses as a result of NAFTA. The population of Mexico exceeds 86 million, and over 57 percent of the population is under age 29. Over 60 percent reside in urban areas.

Many of Mexico's consumers already have acquired a desire for U.S. goods and services. Mexicans are exposed to U.S. television, newspapers, and periodicals on a daily basis. As a result of this regular exposure to U.S. goods and services, Mexican consumers are familiar with many U.S. products and want to purchase them. The Mexican market is ready made for U.S. products. Nebraska businesses should find this aspect of the Mexican market attractive.

Another advantage of exporting U.S. goods and services to Mexico is Mexico's geographic proximity. Transportation into Mexico is inexpensive in contrast to shipping goods to trans-Atlantic or trans-Pacific markets.

Table I
Employment in Nebraska

	Revised February 1994	Preliminary March 1994	% Change vs. Year Ago
Place of Work			
Nonfarm	756,891	760,364	1.7
Manufacturing	103,810	103,408	1.3
Durables	49,820	50,040	4.9
Nondurables	53,990	53,368	-1.9
Mining	1,233	1,359	4.5
Construction	27,505	29,278	14.1
TCU*	47,142	46,897	-0.1
Trade	190,951	191,009	2.3
Wholesale	51,458	51,789	1.0
Retail	139,493	139,220	2.7
FIRE**	50,485	50,484	1.5
Services	186,261	187,651	1.2
Government	149,504	150,278	0.3
Place of Residence			
Civilian Labor Force	899,243	890,415	NA
Unemployment Rate	2.8	3.0	

NA=Not available due to rebenchmarking

* Transportation, Communication, and Utilities

** Finance, Insurance, and Real Estate

Source: Nebraska Department of Labor

Table II
City Business Indicators
January 1994 Percent Change from Year Ago

The State and Its Trading Centers	Employment (1)	Building Activity (2)
NEBRASKA		48.0
Alliance		402.8
Beatrice		17.9
Bellevue		6.0
Blair		1,393.3
Broken Bow		-22.5
Chadron		-4.0
Columbus		19.2
Fairbury		-4.0
Falls City		-13.2
Fremont		80.5
Grand Island		-8.2
Hastings		31.0
Holdrege		189.7
Kearney		46.2
Lexington		52.7
Lincoln		-8.9
McCook		2.4
Nebraska City		626.7
Norfolk		159.8
North Platte		208.1
Ogallala		-76.3
Omaha		58.1
Scottsbluff/Gering		-31.9
Seward		-20.9
Sidney		39.3
South Sioux City		4.7
York		114.7

Not available due to rebenchmarking

(1) As a proxy for city employment, total employment (labor force basis) for the county in which a city is located is used

(2) Building activity is the value of building permits issued as a spread over an appropriate time period of construction. The U.S. Department of Commerce Composite Cost Index is used to adjust construction activity for price changes

Source: Nebraska Department of Labor and reports from private and public agencies

Future Plans

In the future, the Queretaro Agreement likely will be expanded to include Canada, Chile, and Argentina. The inclusion of Chile and Argentina reflects the expectation that most Latin American countries eventually will be invited to join a free-trade agreement for the western hemisphere. ☐☐

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Table III
Price Indices

	March 1994	% Change vs. Year Ago	YTD % Change vs. Year Ago
Consumer Price Index - U* (1982-84 = 100)			
All Items	147.2	2.5	2.5
Commodities	132.8	1.1	1.1
Services	162.1	3.8	3.7

U* = All urban consumers

Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics

Table IV
Net Taxable Retail Sales of Nebraska Regions and Cities

Region Number and City (1)	City Sales (2)		Region Sales (2)		Year to Date % Change vs. Year Ago
	January 1994 (000s)	% Change vs. Year Ago	January 1994 (000s)	% Change vs. Year Ago	
NEBRASKA	943,236	6.5	1,071,972	7.8	7.8
1 Omaha	342,828	7.5	408,116	8.1	8.1
Bellevue	11,309	-0.4	*	*	*
Blair	4,451	-2.4	*	*	*
2 Lincoln	130,038	10.1	146,279	10.5	10.5
3 South Sioux City	7,539	19.3	9,949	19.6	19.6
4 Nebraska City	3,491	-5.5	18,742	3.8	3.8
6 Fremont	16,661	3.4	29,719	3.0	3.0
West Point	2,845	-3.8	*	*	*
7 Falls City	1,726	-8.8	8,482	-4.1	-4.1
8 Seward	3,760	-12.9	15,004	2.8	2.8
9 York	6,222	8.3	13,624	2.6	2.6
10 Columbus	16,575	23.5	27,782	17.7	17.7
11 Norfolk	20,041	4.1	34,054	4.2	4.2
Wayne	3,071	-5.5	*	*	*
12 Grand Island	36,086	13.4	49,483	14.5	14.5
13 Hastings	15,963	6.4	25,014	6.0	6.0
14 Beatrice	7,245	-2.5	17,122	3.9	3.9
Fairbury	2,806	4.1	*	*	*
15 Kearney	20,179	0.2	28,447	3.2	3.2
16 Lexington	6,229	5.6	16,600	3.7	3.7
17 Holdrege	3,555	-16.4	7,780	-1.0	-1.0
18 North Platte	16,331	11.5	20,933	11.1	11.1
19 Ogallala	3,871	-5.1	9,025	3.1	3.1
20 McCook	7,390	-4.8	11,066	2.4	2.4
21 Sidney	4,623	5.1	8,706	9.2	9.2
Kimball	1,350	-11.8	*	*	*
22 Scottsbluff/Gering	18,255	3.6	25,739	4.2	4.2
23 Alliance	4,419	-5.6	13,209	1.6	1.6
Chadron	2,585	-8.1	*	*	*
24 O'Neill	3,242	-10.2	12,596	0.9	0.9
Valentine	2,453	-0.2	*	*	*
25 Hartington	1,657	6.1	7,938	5.2	5.2
26 Broken Bow	3,289	-1.0	-10,355	-2.4	-2.4

(1) See Figure II of previous *Business in Nebraska* issues for regional composition

(2) Sales on which sales taxes are collected by retailers located in the state. Region totals include motor vehicle sales

*Within an already designated region

Compiled from data provided by the Nebraska Department of Revenue

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May 1994, Volume 49 No. 590

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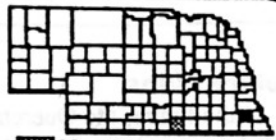
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Merlin W. Erickson, *Research Associate*
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Jan Laney, *Project Assistant*
Heath Peters, *Undergraduate Assistant*
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Lisa Valladao, *Information Specialist*

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County of the Month

Johnson

Tecumseh—County Seat



Next County of Month

License plate prefix number: 57

Size of county: 377 square miles, ranks 90th in the state

Population: 4,673 in 1990, a change of -11.6 percent from 1980

Median age: 40.5 years in Johnson County, 33.0 years in Nebraska in 1990

Per capita personal income: \$14,662 in 1991, ranks 83rd in the state

Net taxable retail sales (\$000): \$20,456 in 1993, a change of -0.5 percent from 1992

Number of business and service establishments: 124 in 1991; 63.0 percent had less than five employees

Unemployment rate: 3.4 percent in Johnson County, 2.9 percent in Nebraska for 1992

Nonfarm employment (1992):

	State	Johnson County
Wage and salary workers	746,985	1,516
	(percent of total)	
Manufacturing	13.4%	*%
Construction and Mining	3.9	2.7
TCU	6.3	2.7
Retail Trade	18.2	13.8
Wholesale Trade	7.0	4.8
FIRE	6.6	*
Services	24.8	13.7
Government	19.8	31.5
Total	100.0%	100.0%

*Data not available because of disclosure suppression

Agriculture:

Number of farms: 599 in 1987, 566 in 1982

Average farm size: 351 acres in 1987

Market value of farm products sold: \$26.0 million in 1987 (\$43,400 average per farm)

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

Merlin W. Erickson



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