

2024

## Nebraska Department of Economic Development – 6 Regions One Nebraska - Regional Development Initiative – Western Region

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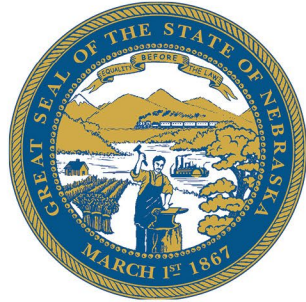
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6 REGIONS   
**One Nebraska**

**REGIONAL  
DEVELOPMENT  
INITIATIVE**

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## MISSION

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# SOURCES

Administration for Children & Families. Early Childhood Learning & Knowledge Center. Head Start Center Locator. Multiple Years.

Nebraska Department of Education. County Membership by Grade. 2023-2024

Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services. Public Data Request & Licensing Roster. Multiple Years.

Nebraska Statewide Workforce & Educational Reporting System. Analysis of data from NSWERS Data System. 2014-2023.

U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics. Local Area Unemployment Statistics. 2023.

U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics. Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages. Multiple Years.

UNL Bureau of Business Research. Monthly Survey of Nebraska Business. Jan. - Dec. 2023.

U.S. Census Bureau. American Community Survey. 5-Year Estimates. Multiple Years.

U.S. Census Bureau. Population Estimates. Multiple Years.

# DEMOGRAPHICS



# TOTAL POPULATION, 2022

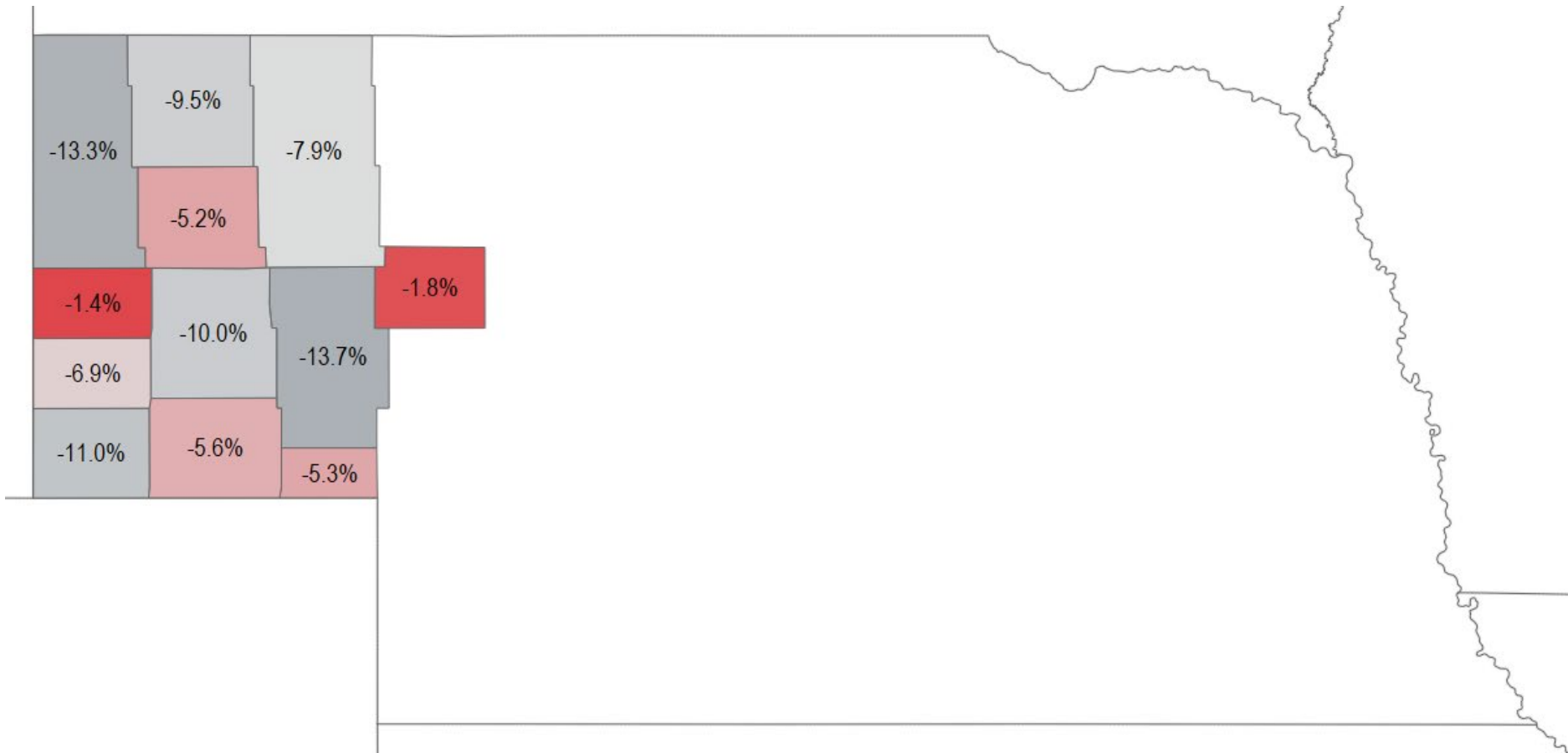
The total population of the region is 83,770. The largest county in population is Scotts Bluff County, and the smallest is Grant County.





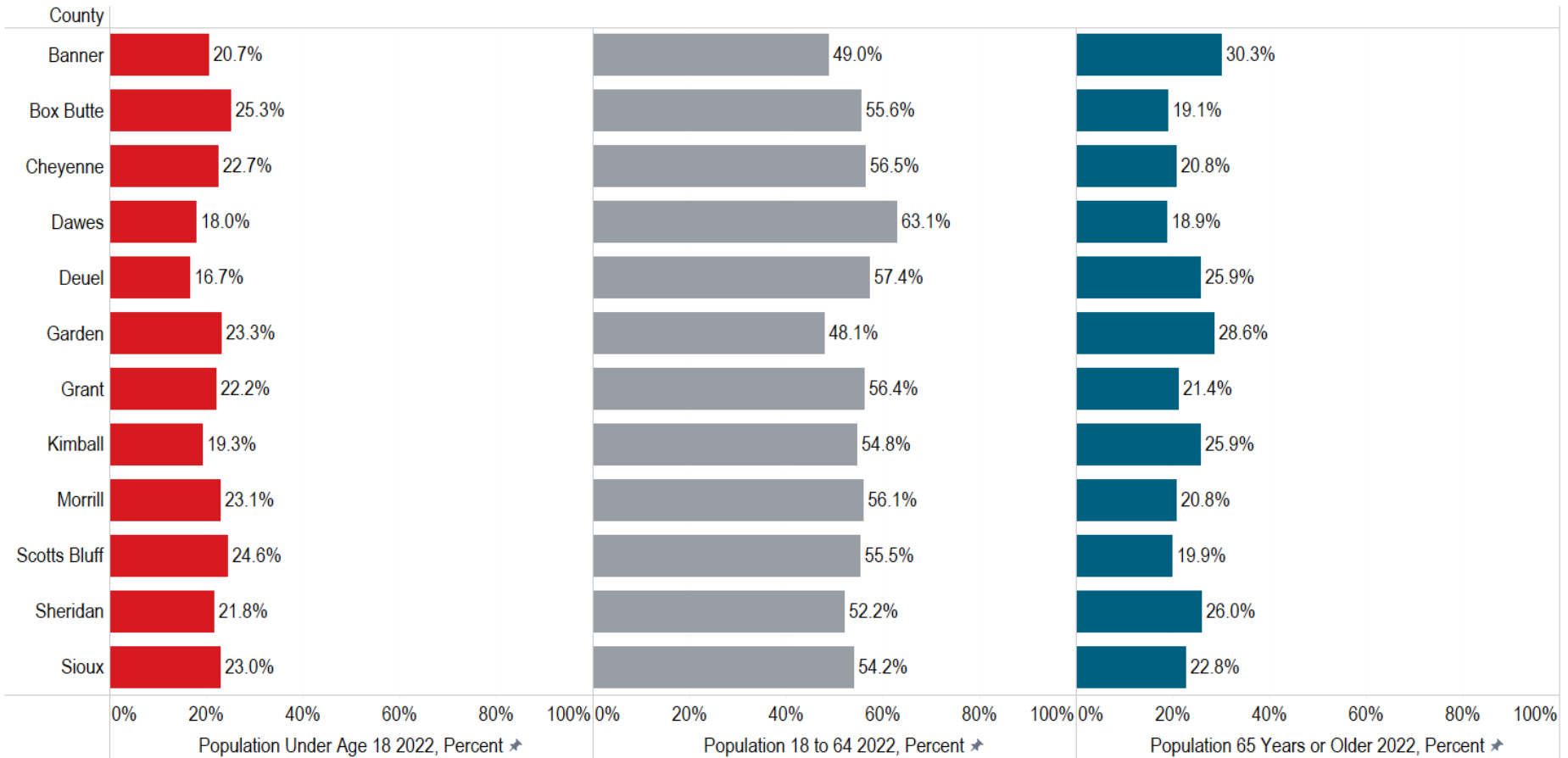
# POPULATION CHANGE 2010 TO 2022

Population has declined in every county in the Western Region, with an average decrease of -7.6%.



# POPULATION BY AGE, 2022

Across all counties, the largest age group, as a percentage of the population, is 18 to 64.



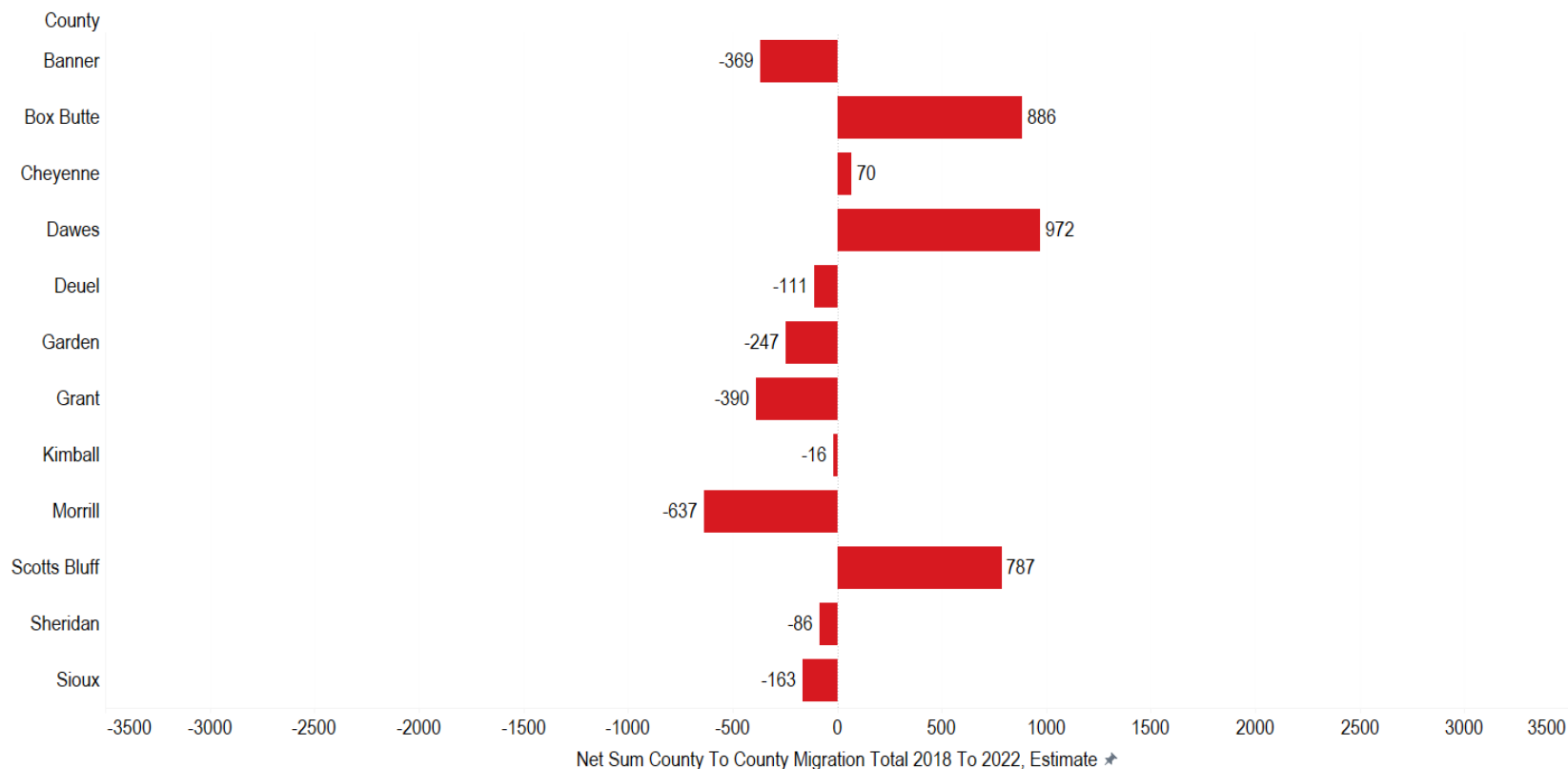
# POPULATION BY AGE BY REGION, 2022

While all regions of Nebraska are aging, the population of those aged 65 and over has increased by 14.5% since 2012 in the Western Region.

<b>Region</b>	<b>Average of Population Under Age 18</b>	<b>Average of Population Age 18 to 64</b>	<b>Average of Population Age 65 Years or Over</b>	<b>Average Percent Change in Age 65 and Over 2012 to 2022</b>
Central	23.5%	54.8%	21.7%	9.5%
Metropolitan	25.2%	59.0%	15.9%	38.6%
Mid-Plains	22.6%	52.9%	24.6%	16.7%
Northeast	24.1%	53.6%	22.3%	10.6%
Southeast	22.6%	56.6%	20.8%	13.0%
Western	21.7%	54.9%	23.4%	14.5%

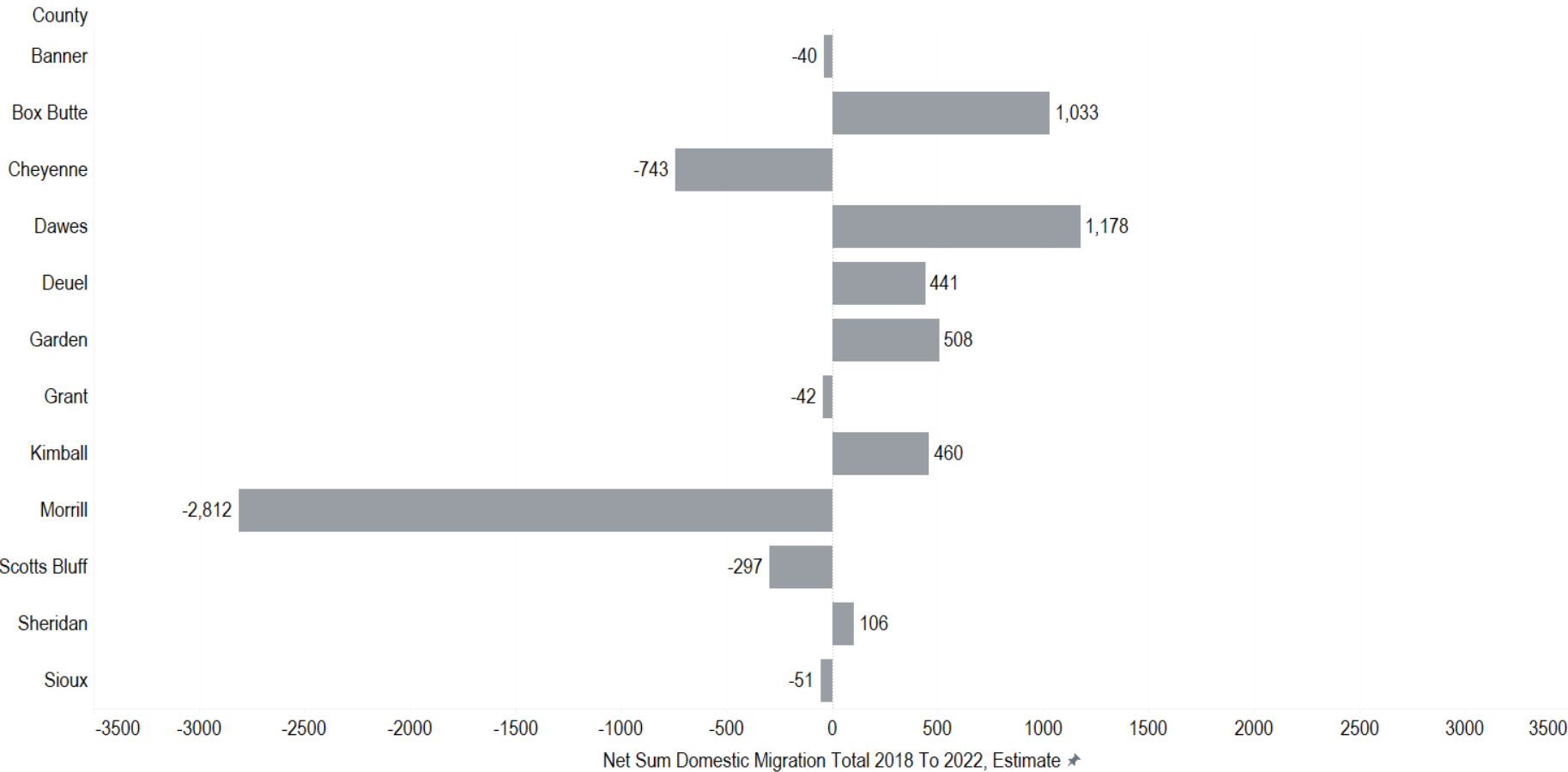
# NET COUNTY-TO-COUNTY MIGRATION, 2018 TO 2022

As a general trend, Nebraskans are leaving non-metro counties and moving to metro counties. However, several counties in the Western Region gain population from other areas within the state.



# NET DOMESTIC MIGRATION, 2018 TO 2022

Several counties in the Western Region also experience net in-migration from other states.

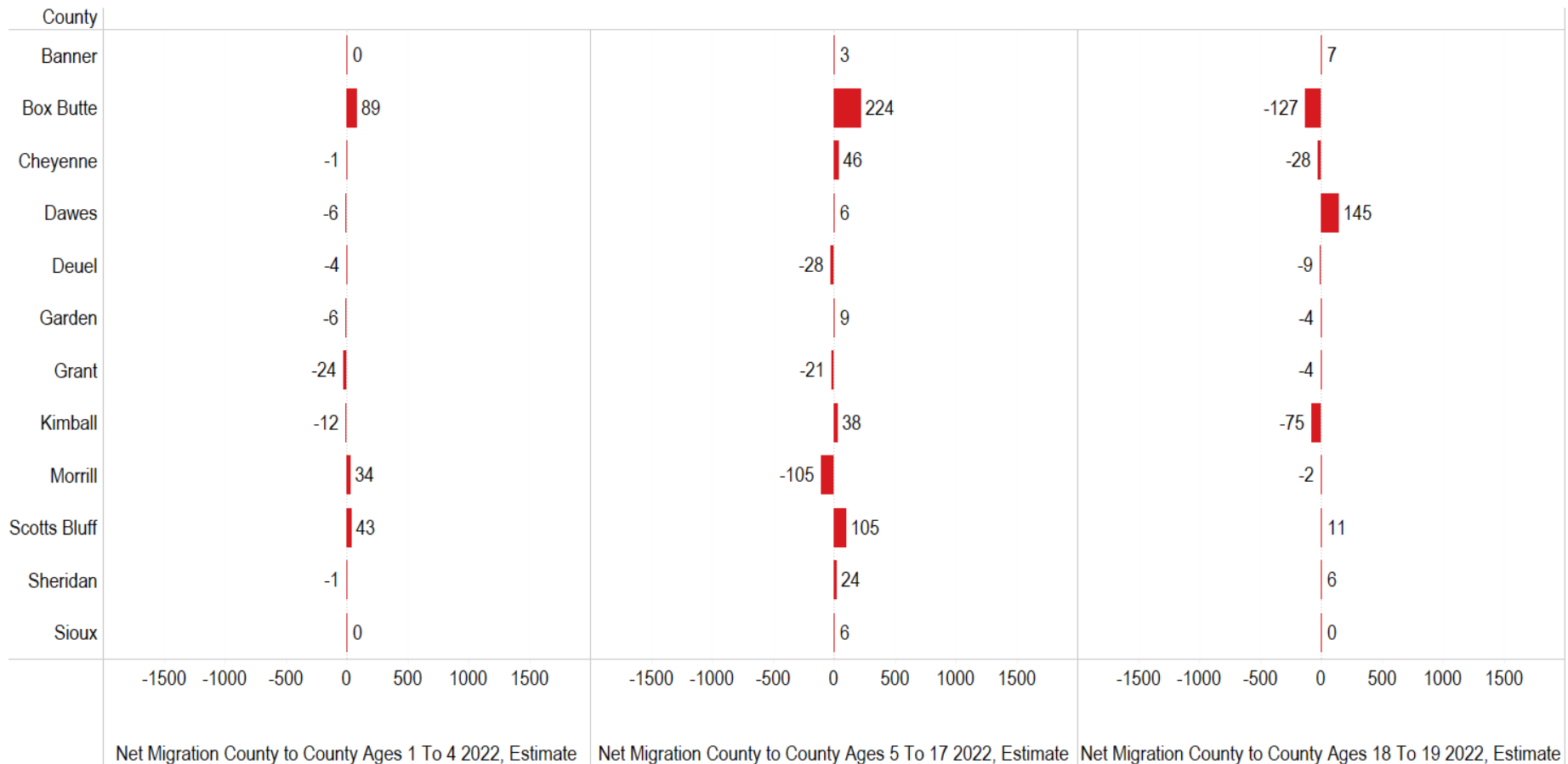


# NET DOMESTIC MIGRATION BY REGION, 2018 TO 2022

Region	Net Domestic Migration
Central	-1,329
Metropolitan	-12,244
Mid-Plains	-603
Northeast	781
Southeast	-1,756
Western	-259

# NET COUNTY-TO-COUNTY BY AGE, 2022

The counties in the region gaining Nebraskans, Box Butte, Dawes, and Scotts Bluff, are largely growing due to families with children and the movement of 18- to 19-year-olds into Dawes County. Pictured are county-to-county migrations for ages 1 to 19.



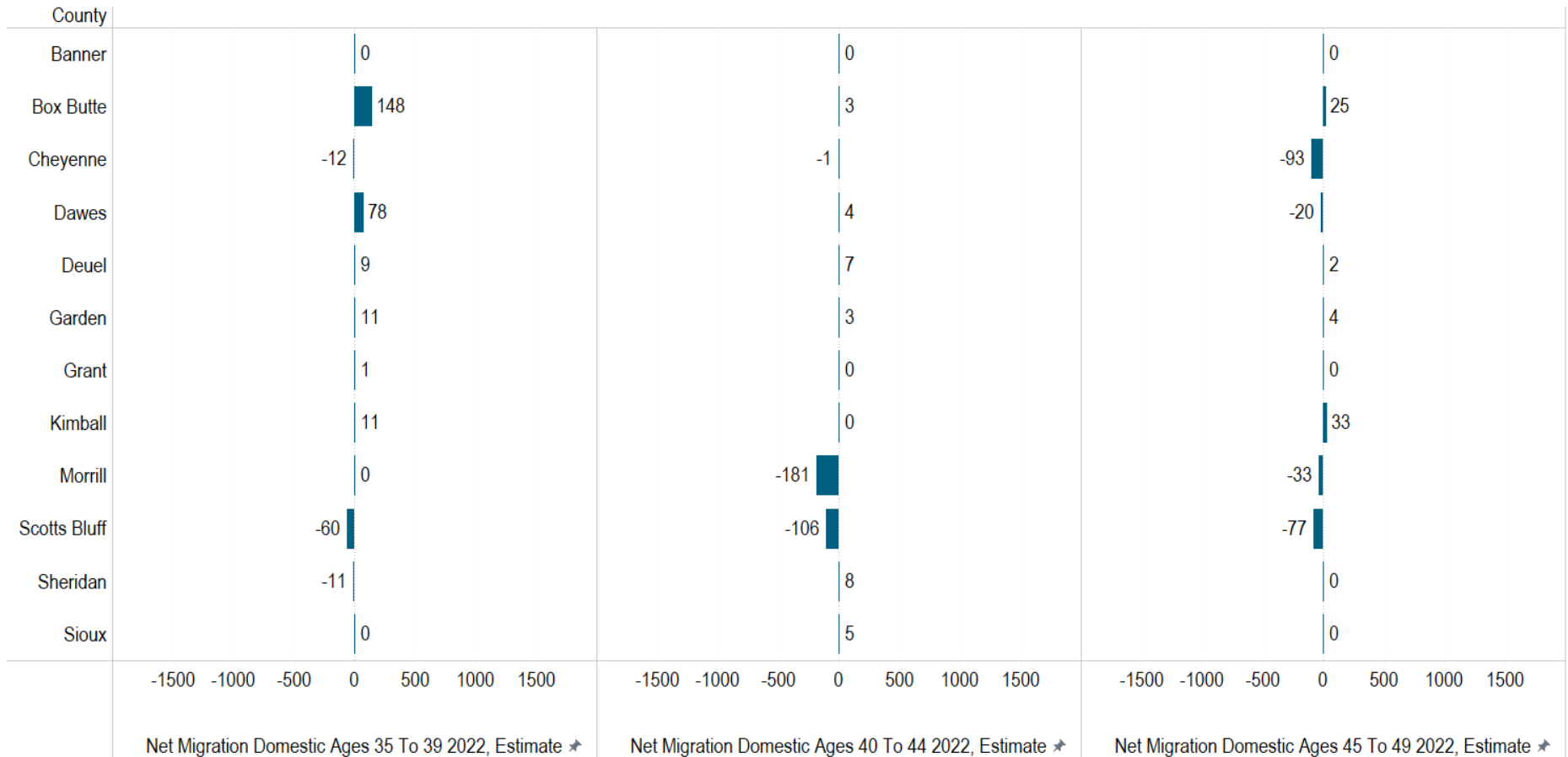
Net Migration County to County Ages 1 To 4 2022, Estimate

Net Migration County to County Ages 5 To 17 2022, Estimate

Net Migration County to County Ages 18 To 19 2022, Estimate

# NET DOMESTIC MIGRATION BY AGE, 2022

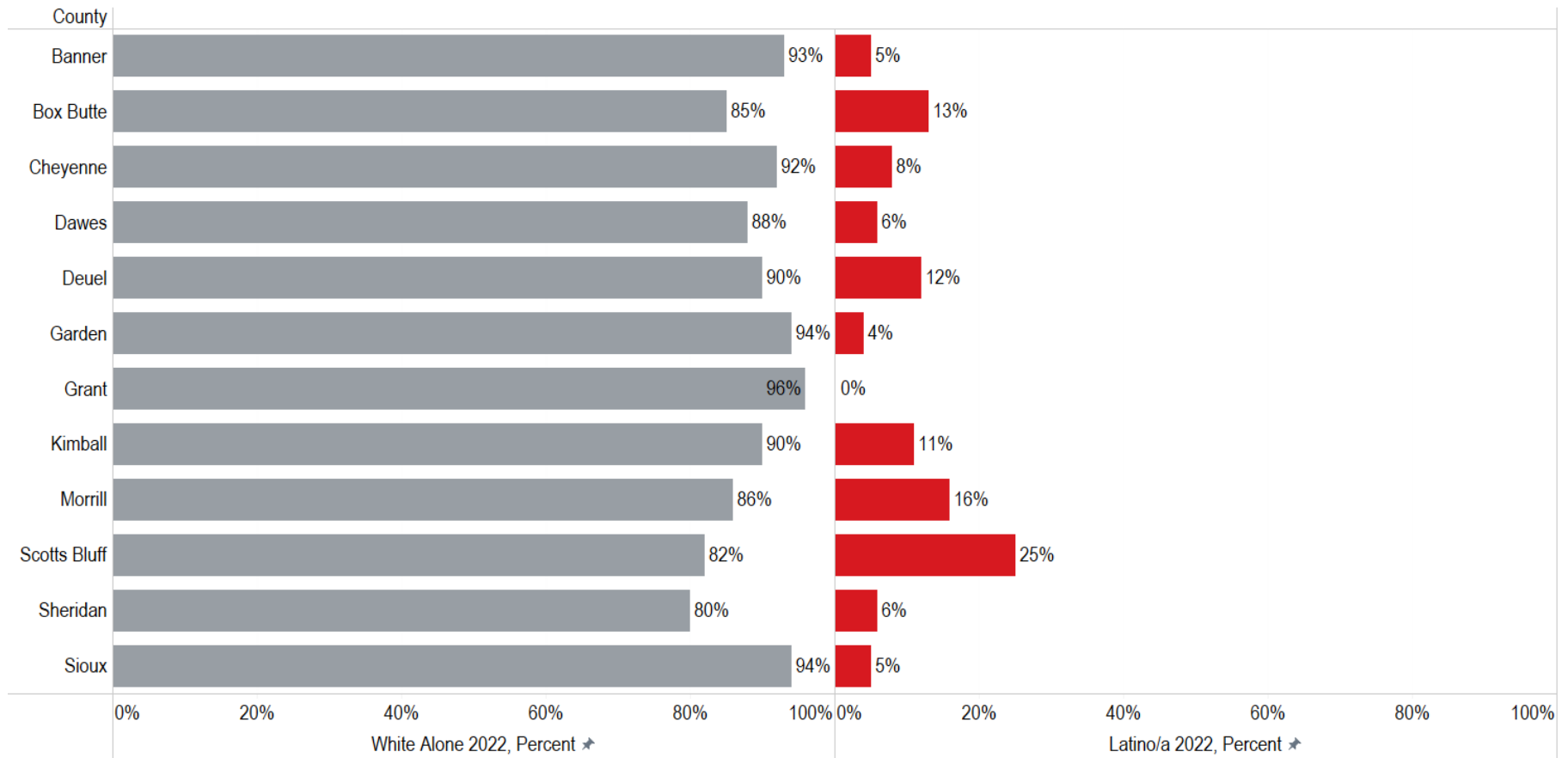
The counties in the region losing larger populations to other states in recent years, including Morrill and Cheyenne Counties, are largely losing residents aged 35 to 49 (pictured) and their children.





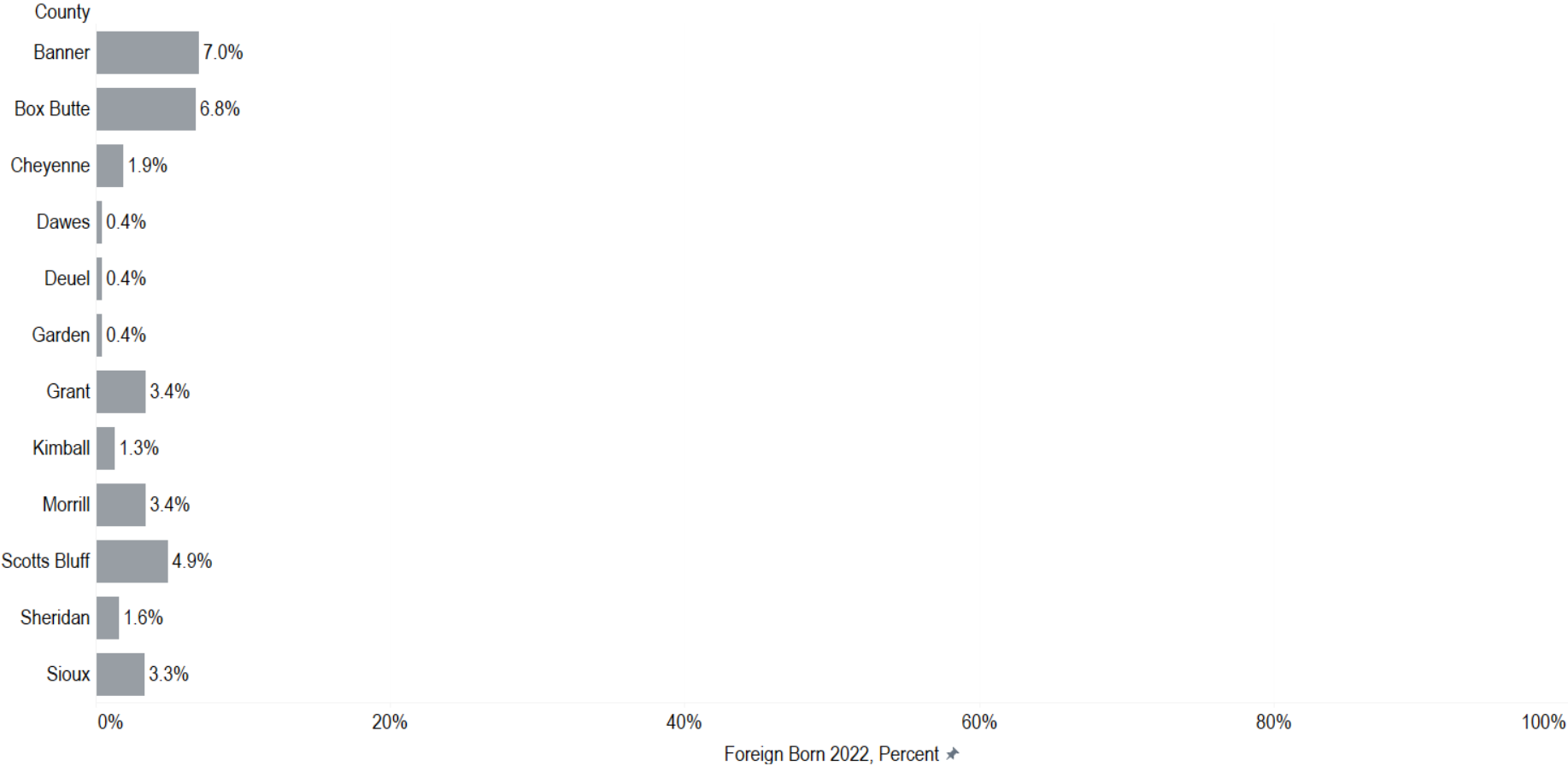
# POPULATION IDENTIFYING AS WHITE ALONE AND LATINO/A, 2022

The Western Region, like much of the state, is not particularly diverse, but several counties have a high percentage of the population that is Latino/a.



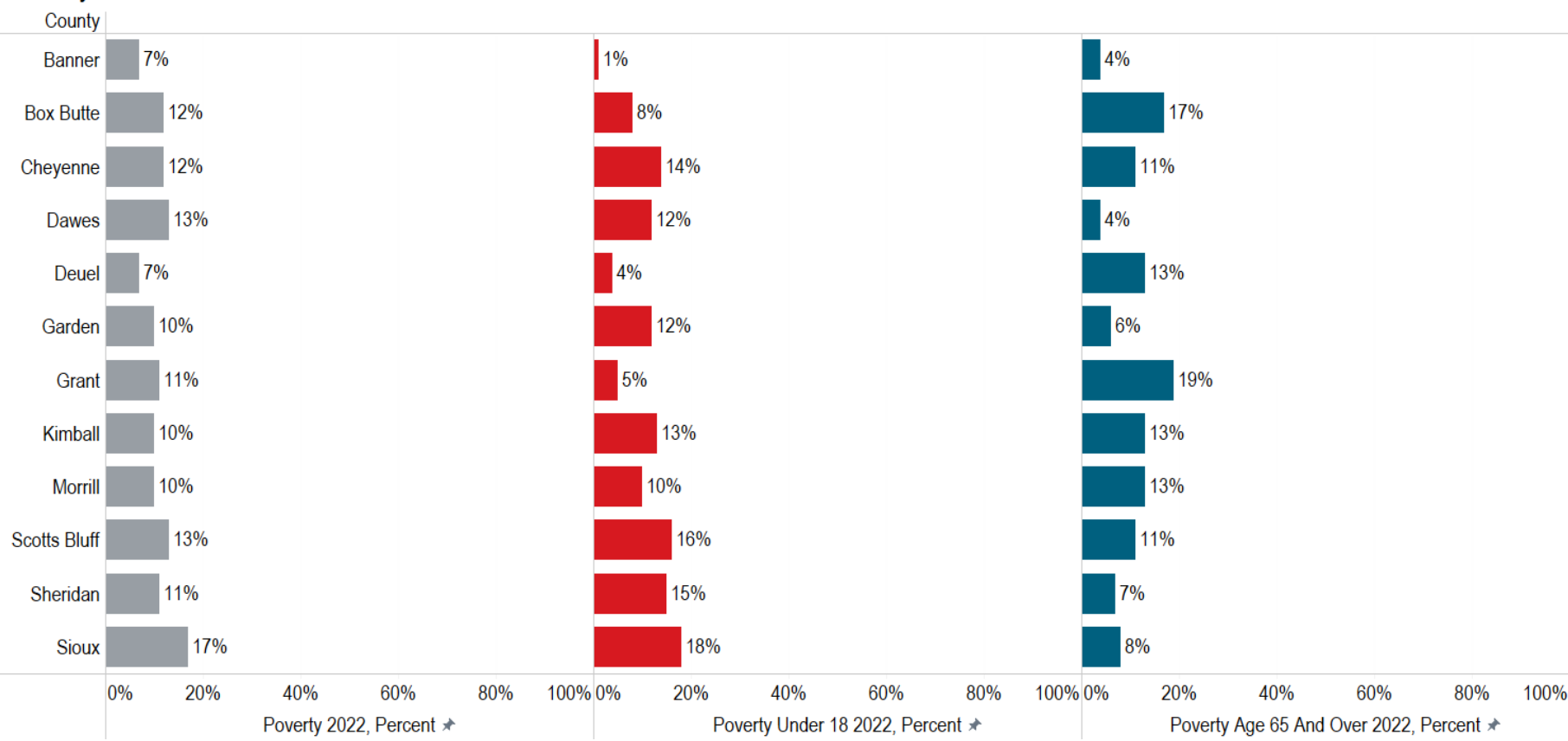
# PERCENT FOREIGN BORN, 2022

All counties in the region have foreign-born population rates below the state average of 7.5%.



# POPULATION IN POVERTY BY AGE GROUPS, 2022

Several counties in the region have higher than average poverty rates, particularly among those aged 65 and over.



**EDUCATION**



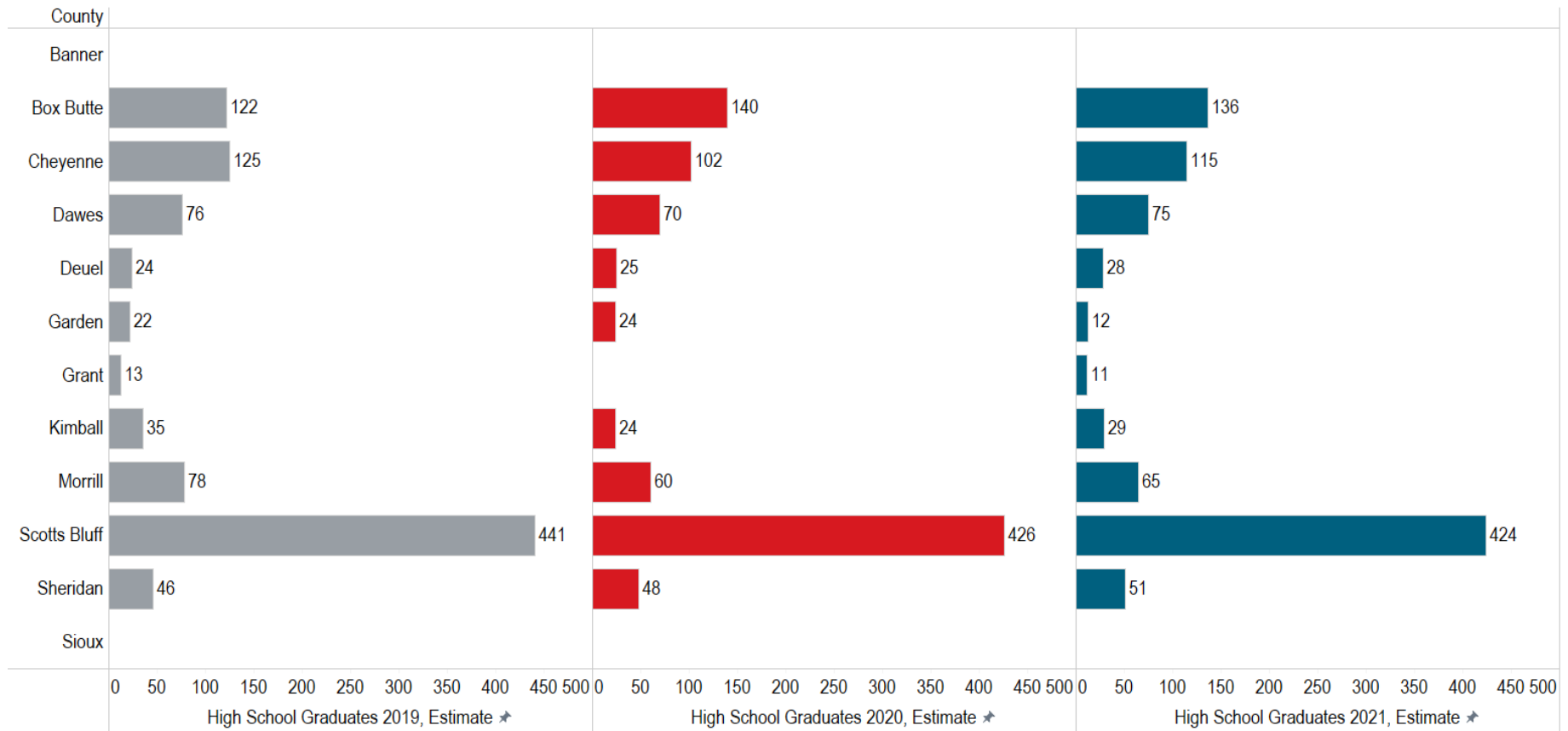
# EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT, 2022

Compared to other regions, the Western Region has fewer residents aged 25 years or older holding bachelor's degrees or more. Most residents have completed high school or some college without earning a degree.

Region	Less Than 9th Grade	High School Graduate	Some College No Degree	Associate Degree	Bachelor's Degree	Graduate or Professional Degree
Central	3.8%	32.1%	23.4%	13.4%	16.0%	6.6%
Metropolitan	3.5%	25.8%	22.0%	10.3%	22.5%	12.0%
Mid-Plains	2.3%	30.1%	25.6%	14.8%	17.6%	5.6%
Northeast	3.2%	33.3%	22.6%	13.6%	16.7%	6.9%
Southeast	3.5%	32.6%	21.1%	12.5%	17.3%	8.1%
Western	2.9%	29.0%	27.7%	11.4%	16.6%	7.0%

# NUMBER OF HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATES, 2019, 2020, 2021

The number of high school graduates in recent years is consistent. In 2021, 946 students graduated.



# COLLEGE GOING RATES, 2019, 2020, 2021

College-going rates are high throughout Nebraska, but the Western Region has the lowest rates.

Region	2019	2020	2021
Central	76.5%	72.6%	73.6%
Metropolitan	71.1%	68.5%	69.3%
Mid-Plains	76.4%	74.8%	77.8%
Northeast	75.4%	75.0%	73.2%
Southeast	71.7%	68.9%	72.1%
Western	69.7%	65.7%	64.5%

# STUDENTS MATRICULATING IN REGION

There are three post-secondary institutions in the NSWERS data for the Southeast Region.

	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	Total
<b>Chadron State College</b>	598	628	575	565	491	520	<b>3,377</b>
<b>Summit Christian College</b>	8	7	4	4	7	4	<b>34</b>
<b>Western Nebraska Community College</b>	254	327	300	342	271	612	<b>2,106</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>860</b>	<b>962</b>	<b>879</b>	<b>911</b>	<b>769</b>	<b>1,136</b>	<b>5,517</b>



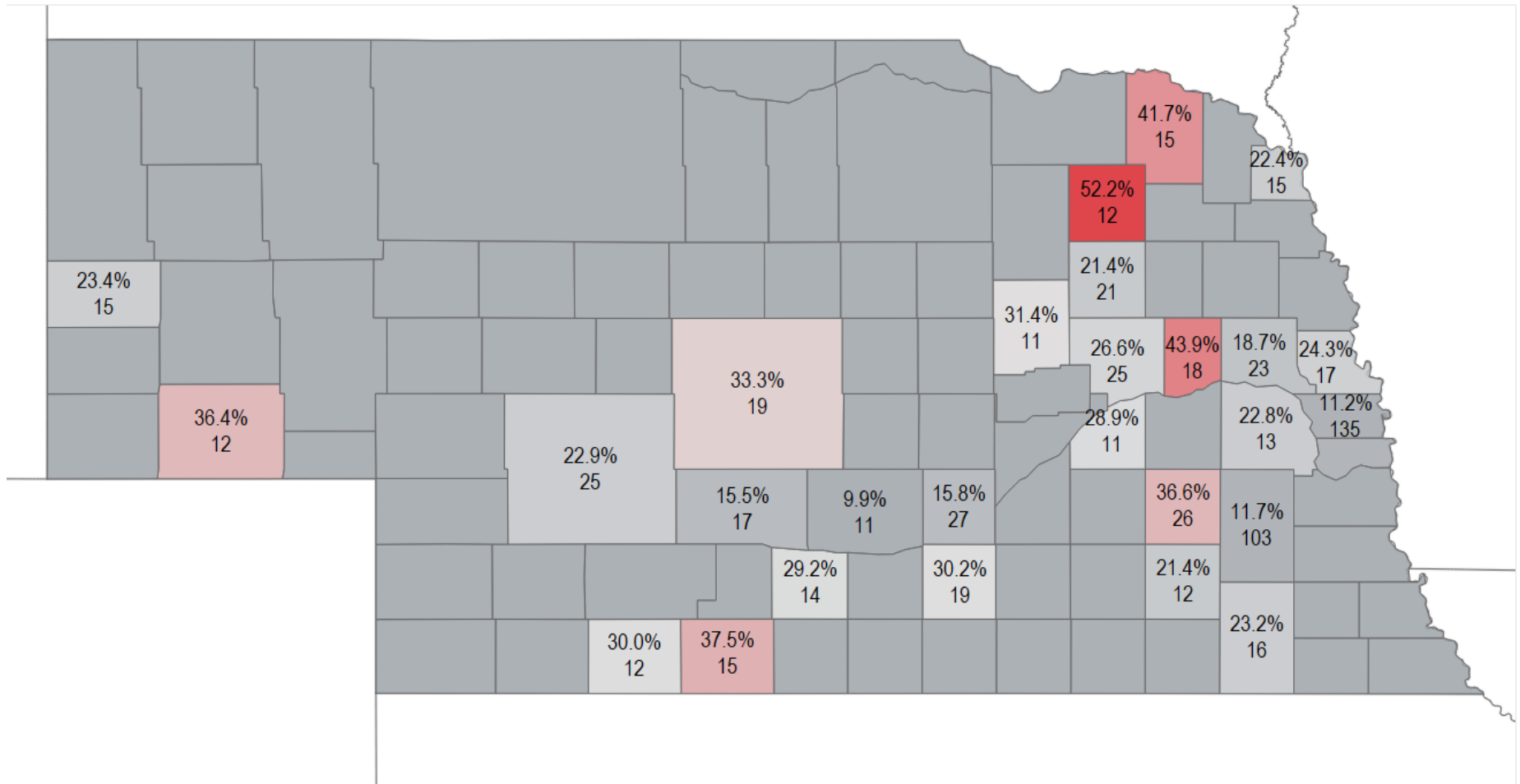
# POST-SECONDARY PERSISTENCE RATES BY REGION, 2019, 2020, 2021

Postsecondary persistence rates are high throughout the state.

Region	2019	2020	2021
Central	87.8%	87.4%	87.3%
Metropolitan	83.5%	84.1%	81.2%
Mid-Plains	84.4%	80.9%	79.7%
Northeast	78.7%	83.3%	86.3%
Southeast	81.7%	84.7%	79.8%
Western	84.6%	88.5%	84.6%

# POST-SECONDARY GRADUATION RATES, 2020

Post-secondary graduation rates are low statewide.



# TALENT RETENTION RATES BY REGION, 2019, 2020, AND 2021

Talent retention rates in the state are fairly high, but the Western Region has the lowest rates.

Region	2019	2020	2021
Central	80.1%	79.9%	83.4%
Metropolitan	80.4%	79.6%	80.7%
Mid-Plains	77.0%	79.1%	79.0%
Northeast	76.1%	78.4%	78.1%
Southeast	81.1%	77.8%	81.2%
Western	75.1%	74.8%	75.6%

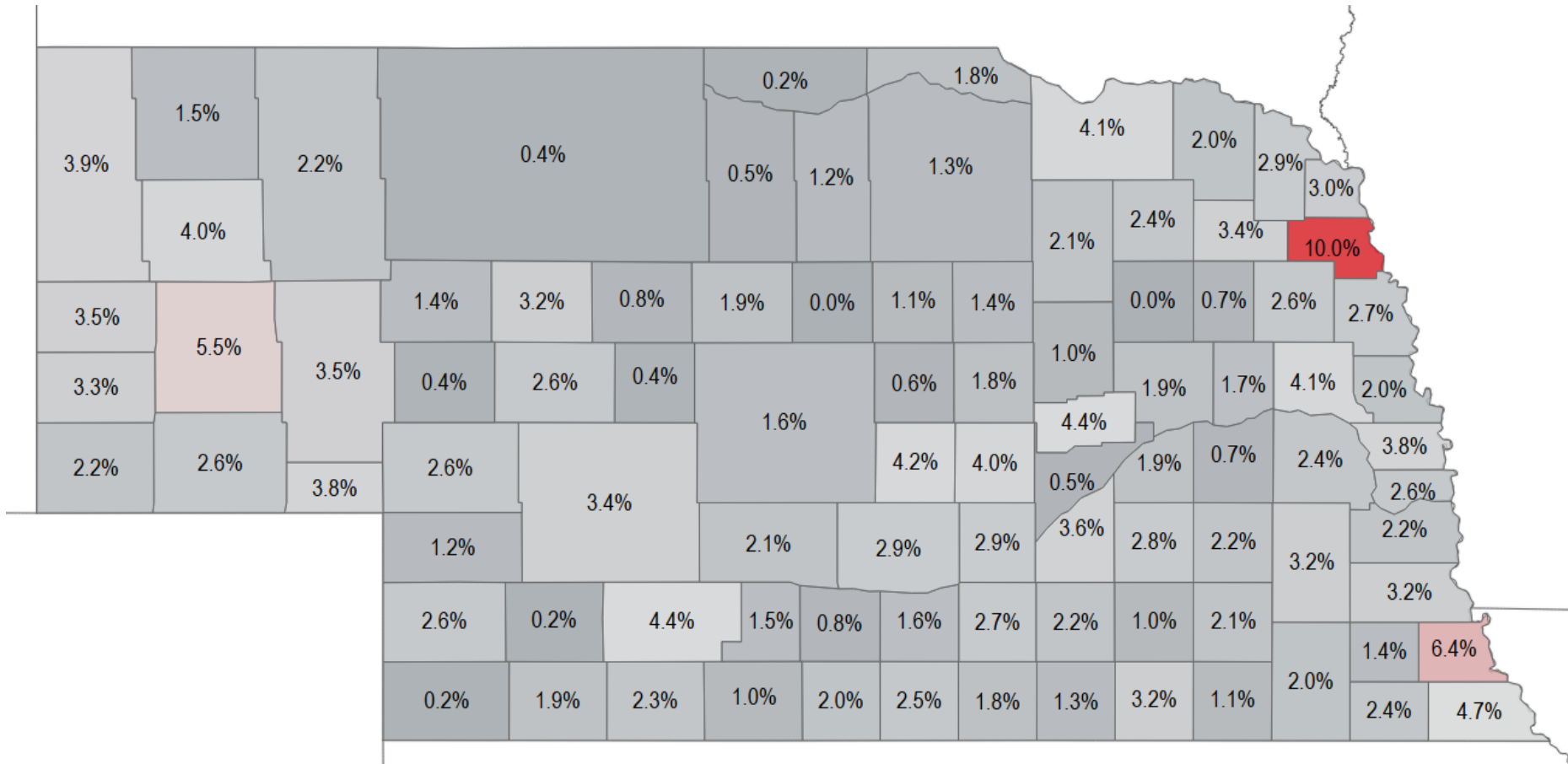
# WORKFORCE





# UNEMPLOYMENT RATES, 2022

The Western Region has several counties with above-average unemployment rates. Paired with the lower-than-average labor force participation rates, there are opportunities to engage the workforce in the region.



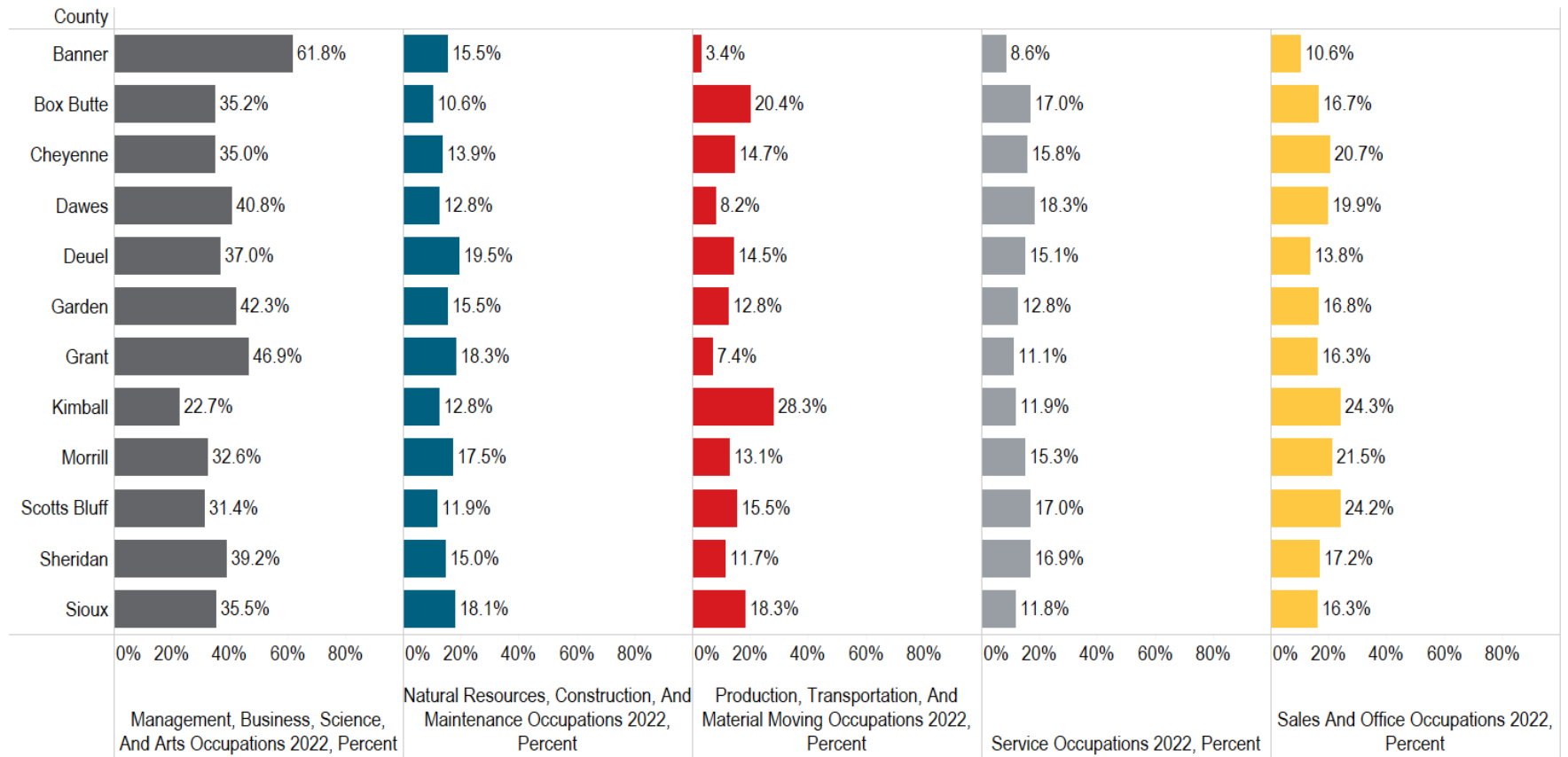
# CLASS OF WORKER BY REGION , 2022

Most workers in the Western Region are employed by private companies.

<b>Region</b>	<b>Private Wage and Salary Workers</b>	<b>Government Workers</b>	<b>Self-employed in Own Not Incorporated Business Workers</b>	<b>Unpaid Family Workers</b>
Central	74.0%	14.1%	11.6%	0.3%
Metropolitan	81.3%	13.8%	4.8%	0.2%
Mid-Plains	64.5%	18.1%	16.1%	1.4%
Northeast	67.1%	16.5%	15.7%	0.7%
Southeast	73.6%	16.7%	9.4%	0.3%
Western	66.0%	19.4%	14.0%	0.6%

# EMPLOYED IN OCCUPATIONS, 2022

Banner County has the highest percentage of residents in management, business, science, and arts occupations. Kimball County has the highest percentage in production, transportation, and material moving occupations. All counties have higher than the state average for natural resources, construction, and maintenance.





## Area Profile for Panhandle Region (2013 Def.), NE

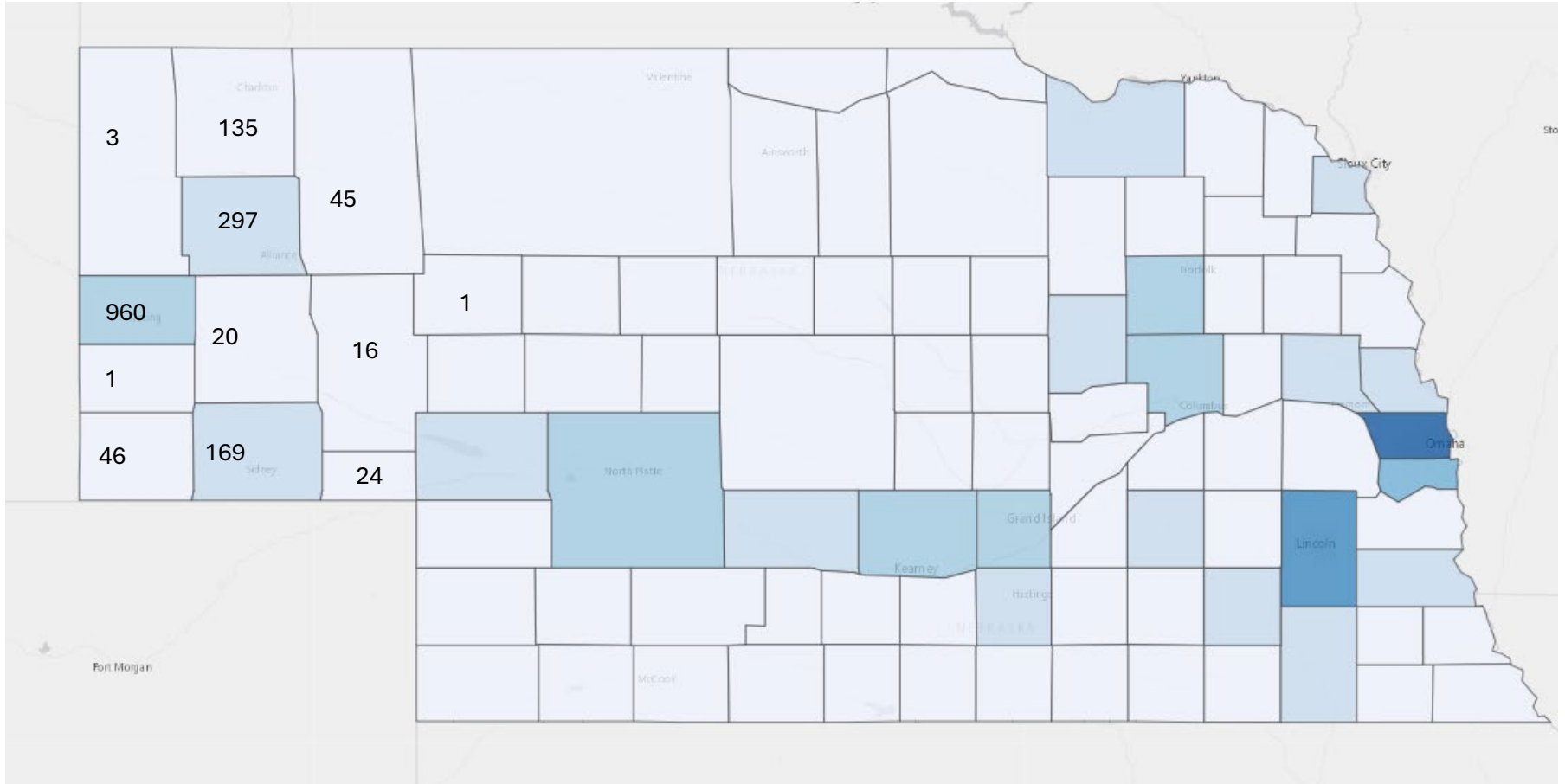
### Occupations by Advertised Jobs Table

The table below shows the occupations with the highest number of job openings advertised online in on Panhandle Region (2013 Def.), NE (Jobs De-duplication Level 2<i aria-hidden="true" class=" far fa-external-link-alt fa-fw"></i>Opens In New window).

Rank	Occupation	Job Openings
1	Registered Nurses	227
2	Agricultural Equipment Operators	35
3	Surgical Technologists	30
4	Retail Salespersons	26
5	Nuclear Medicine Technologists	24
6	Respiratory Therapists	24
7	Occupational Therapists	23
8	Nursing Assistants	22
9	Licensed Practical and Licensed Vocational Nurses	21
10	Nurse Anesthetists	19

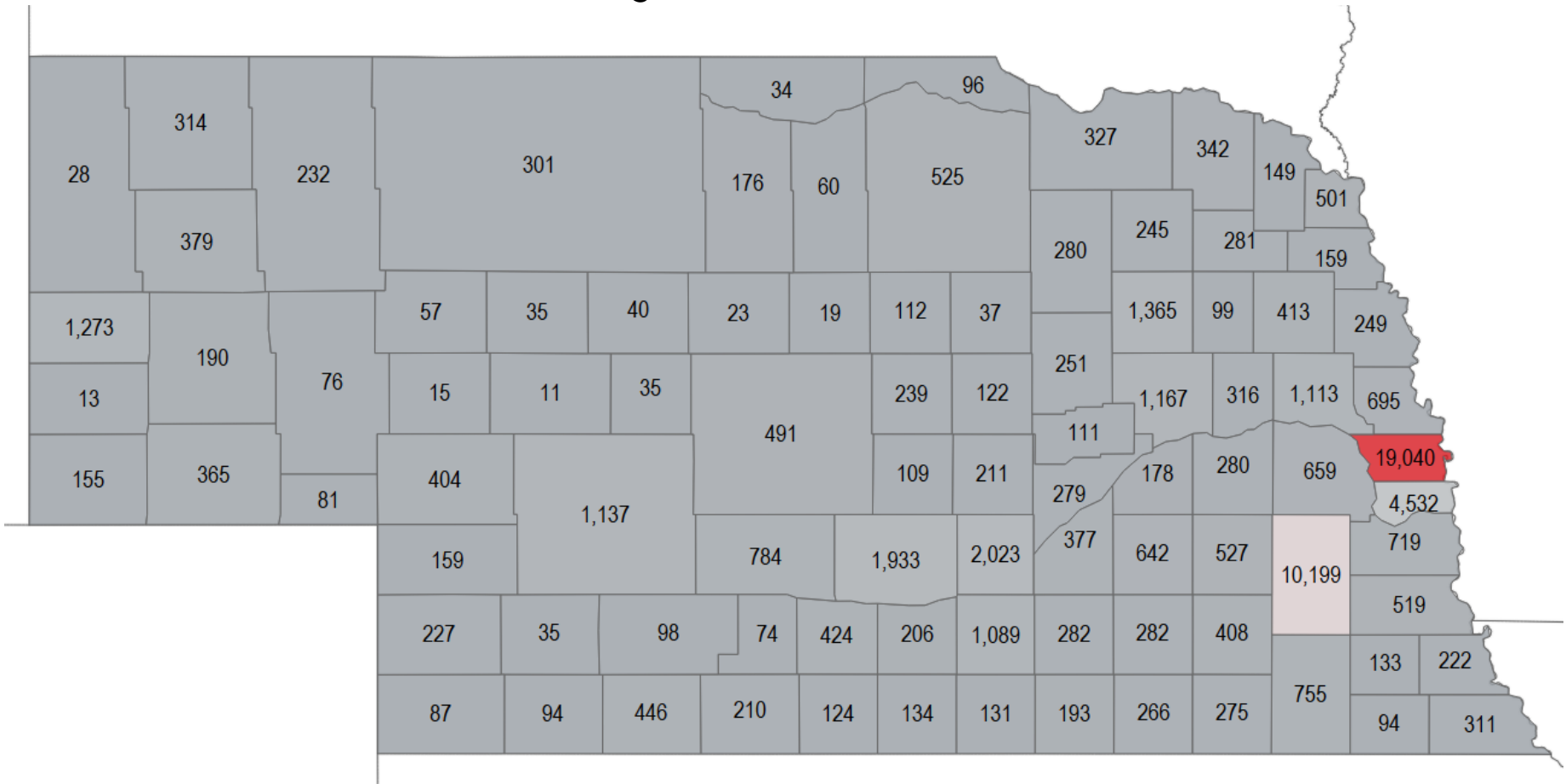
Source: Online advertised jobs data  
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# JOB OPENINGS ON NETWORKS 6/19/24



# TOTAL ESTABLISHMENTS

While occupations describe the type of work people do, establishments and industries describe the places where people work. The total number of establishments in the Western Region is 3,163.



# Area Profile for Panhandle Region (2013 Def.), NE

## Employers by Number of Job Openings Table

The table below shows the employers with the highest number of job openings advertised online in Panhandle Region (2013 Def.), NE on June 18, 2024 (Jobs De-duplication Level 2<i aria-hidden="true" class="far fa-external-link-alt fa-fw"></i>Opens In New window).

Rank	Employer Name	Job Openings
1	Regional West	93
2	Alliance Public Schools	57
3	Box Butte General Hospital	50
4	Suppressed	41
5	Clean Harbors	34
6	Chadron State College	29
7	Sidney Regional Medical Center	23
8	Vetter Senior Living	22
9	Chadron Community Hospital and Health Services	21
10	Nebraska State Government	21

Source: Online advertised jobs data  
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# AVERAGE WEEKLY WAGES

Average weekly wages have increased over time in the region.



# MEDIAN HOUSEHOLD INCOME BY REGION

The Western Region has the lowest median household income of the regions.

Region	Average Median Household Income 2022	Average Change in Median Household Income 2018 to 2022
Central	\$65,952	23.3%
Metropolitan	\$82,115	24.1%
Mid-Plains	\$59,170	19.5%
Northeast	\$62,649	17.9%
Southeast	\$67,609	22.1%
Western	\$57,023	18.5%

# TOTAL WAGES PAID BY INDUSTRY BY REGION

Region	Natural Resources and Mining	Construction	Manufacturing	Trade, Transportation, and Utilities	Other Services Except Public Administration
Central	\$2,676,888	\$4,769,281	\$21,664,316	\$14,712,472	\$1,517,780
Metropolitan	\$3,967,432	\$128,428,831	\$126,315,601	\$291,871,965	\$33,896,194
Mid-Plains	\$1,692,742	\$1,926,913	\$1,886,910	\$5,823,512	\$680,778
Northeast	\$1,799,712	\$2,740,747	\$11,786,420	\$9,540,554	\$844,916
Southeast	\$2,354,722	\$14,492,020	\$25,722,539	\$37,405,559	\$4,747,174
Western	\$1,304,640	\$2,442,610	\$2,607,338	\$7,324,819	\$642,243

Region	Information	Financial Activities	Professional and Business Services	Education and Health	Public Administration	Leisure and Hospitality	Total Wages by Industry Total Q2 2023, Dollars
Central	\$900,739	\$3,340,008	\$5,123,704	\$17,789,290	\$3,804,877	\$2,535,860	<b>\$75,015,437</b>
Metropolitan	\$47,770,002	\$176,461,221	\$359,723,489	\$398,297,039	\$64,379,318	\$74,918,632	<b>\$1,706,029,722</b>
Mid-Plains	\$636,042	\$1,422,699	\$1,368,624	\$8,758,985	\$2,024,278	\$1,328,862	<b>\$23,074,781</b>
Northeast	\$568,623	\$3,138,829	\$2,412,349	\$12,388,136	\$2,687,709	\$1,310,934	<b>\$45,467,682</b>
Southeast	\$6,034,161	\$13,079,577	\$24,379,514	\$54,519,043	\$21,003,466	\$8,171,839	<b>\$210,962,992</b>
Western	\$830,581	\$1,624,669	\$3,168,811	\$11,999,775	\$2,659,054	\$1,579,037	<b>\$30,747,828</b>

# HOUSING





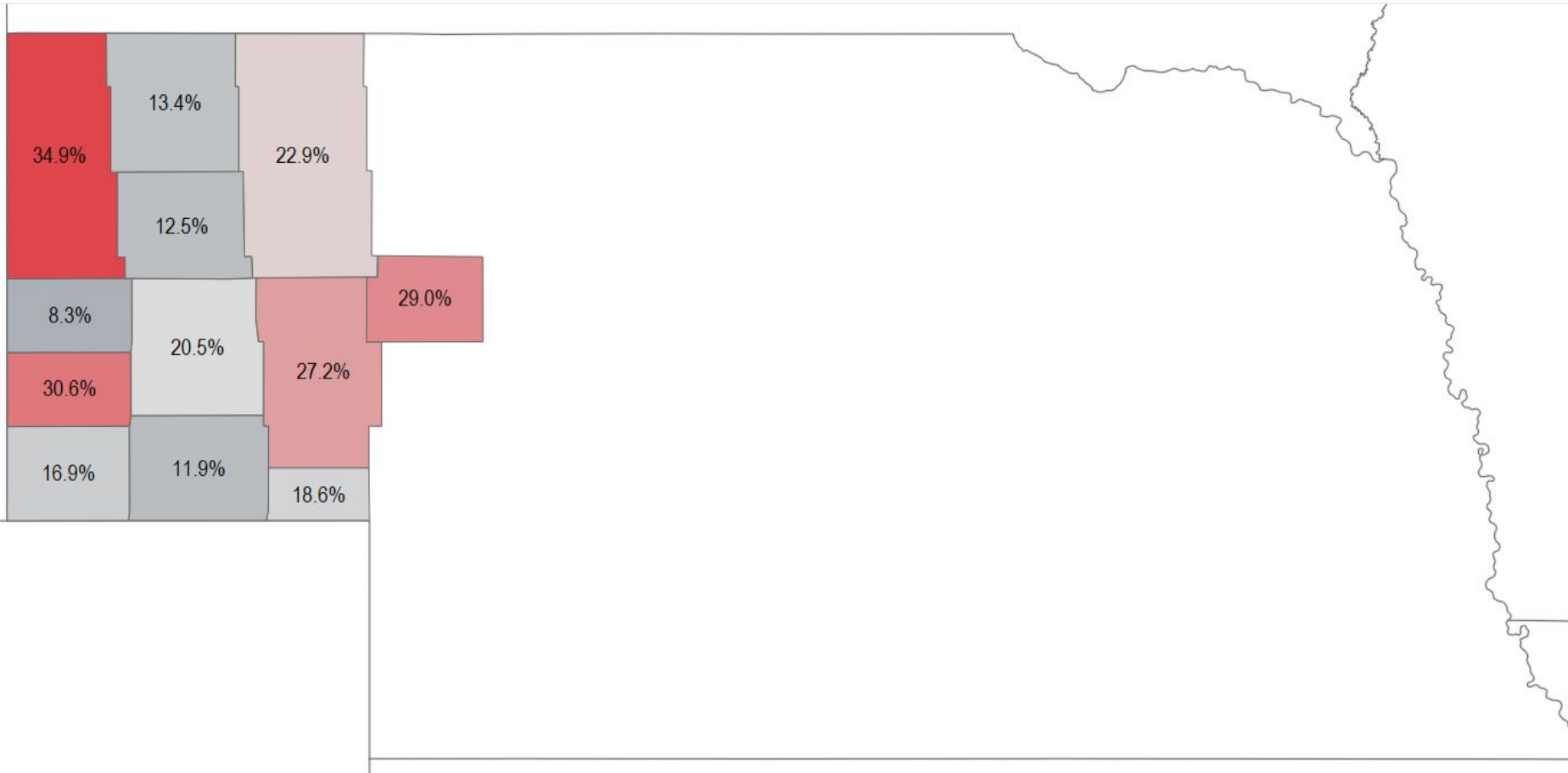
# OCCUPANCY RATES, 2022

Housing occupancy rates are below the state average in all counties in the Western Region.



# VACANCY RATES FOR HOUSING UNITS, 2022

Vacancy rates, which refer to homes listed for sale or rent but not occupied, are high in all Western Region counties and have increased 8.3% since 2012 the highest of the regions. .

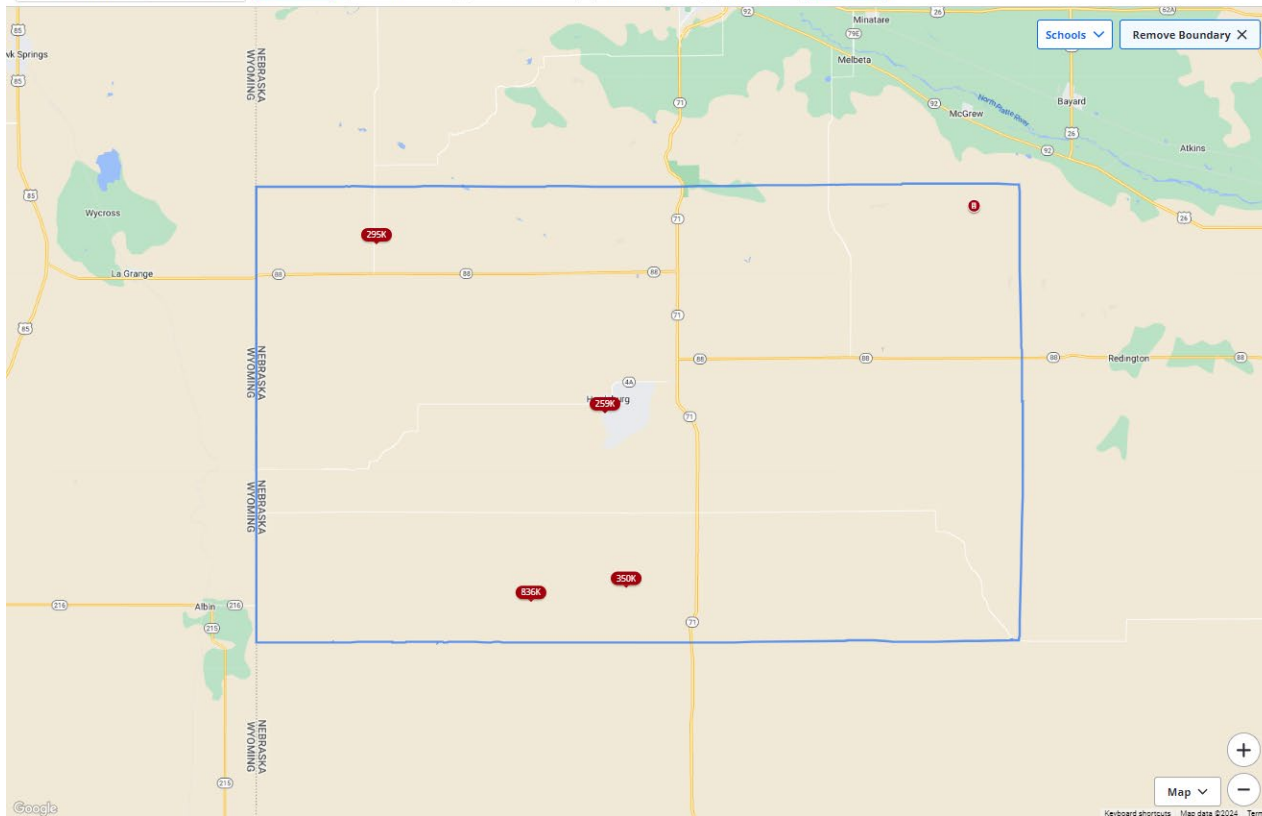


# MEDIAN HOUSING AGE AND MEDIAN YEAR OWNERS AND RENTERS MOVED IN BY REGION, 2022

The Western Region has the oldest housing stock. A large gap between when the housing stock was built and when people have moved in can suggest they will not meet the needs of contemporary buyers.

<b>Region</b>	<b>Median Housing Age</b>	<b>Median Year Owner Moved into Housing Unit</b>	<b>Median Year Renter Moved into Housing Unit</b>
Central	1962	2006	2016
Metropolitan	1978	2009	2017
Mid-Plains	1962	2004	2015
Northeast	1964	2004	2016
Southeast	1961	2006	2017
Western	1957	2005	2017

Banner County NE + Add an... Q
 For Sale ▾
 Price ▾
 Beds & Baths ▾
 Home Type ▾
 More ▾
 Save search



### Banner County NE Real Estate & Homes For Sale

6 results Sort: Homes for You ▾

- \$295,000**

4 bds | 4 ba | 3,898 sqft - House for sale  
1201 County Road 40, Harrisburg, NE 69345  
BEAR MOUNTAIN LAND, LLC
- \$350,000**

3 bds | 2 ba | 1,184 sqft - House for sale  
3571 Road 8, Kimball, NE 69145  
CLARK & ASSOCIATES LAND BROKERS LLC
- \$259,000**

-- sqft lot - Lot / Land for sale  
612 Missouri Ave, Harrisburg, NE 69345  
NEBRASKA REALTY
- \$836,400**

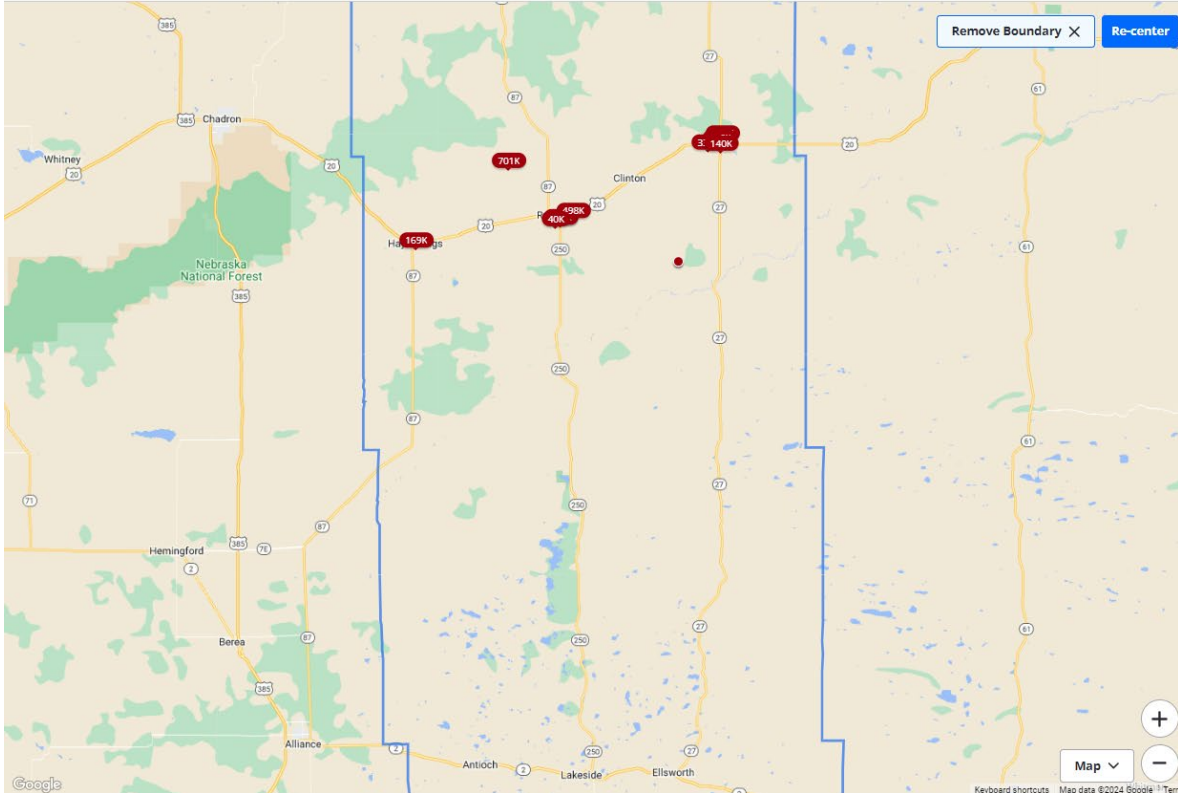
492 acres lot - Lot / Land for sale  
2 County Road 6, Harrisburg, NE 69345  
BEAR MOUNTAIN LAND, LLC
- \$650,000**

Studio | -- ba | -- sqft - House for sale  
County Road 42 County Rd #Z, Bayard, NE 69334  
MIRR RANCH GROUP
- \$1,725,000**

Studio | -- ba | -- sqft - House for sale  
County Road 42 #63, Bayard, NE 69334  
MIRR RANCH GROUP

Save this search to get email alerts when listings hit the market.

Sheridan County ... Add a... Q For Sale Price Beds & Baths Home Type More Save search




### Sheridan County NE Real Estate & Homes For Sale

12 results


Sort: Homes For You

- 3 days on Zillow




**\$140,000**

3 bds | 2 ba | 1,813 sqft - House for sale  
229 S Elm St, Gordon, NE 69343  
SCHAER REAL ESTATE
- 1 day on Zillow




**\$40,000**

2.52 acres lot - Lot / Land for sale  
Rushville Lots, Rushville, NE 69360  
LASHLEY LAND AND RECREATIONAL BROKERS
- 7 days on Zillow




**\$498,000**

3 bds | 3 ba | 2,782 sqft - House for sale  
Rushville Hobby Farm, Rushville, NE 69360  
LASHLEY LAND AND RECREATIONAL BROKERS
- 19 days on Zillow




**\$169,000**

4 bds | 2 ba | 1,376 sqft - House for sale  
410 N 4th St, Hay Springs, NE 69347  
WESTERN VIEW REAL ESTATE
- 326 days on Zillow



**\$99,800**

2 bds | 2 ba | 2,094 sqft - House for sale
- 61 days on Zillow

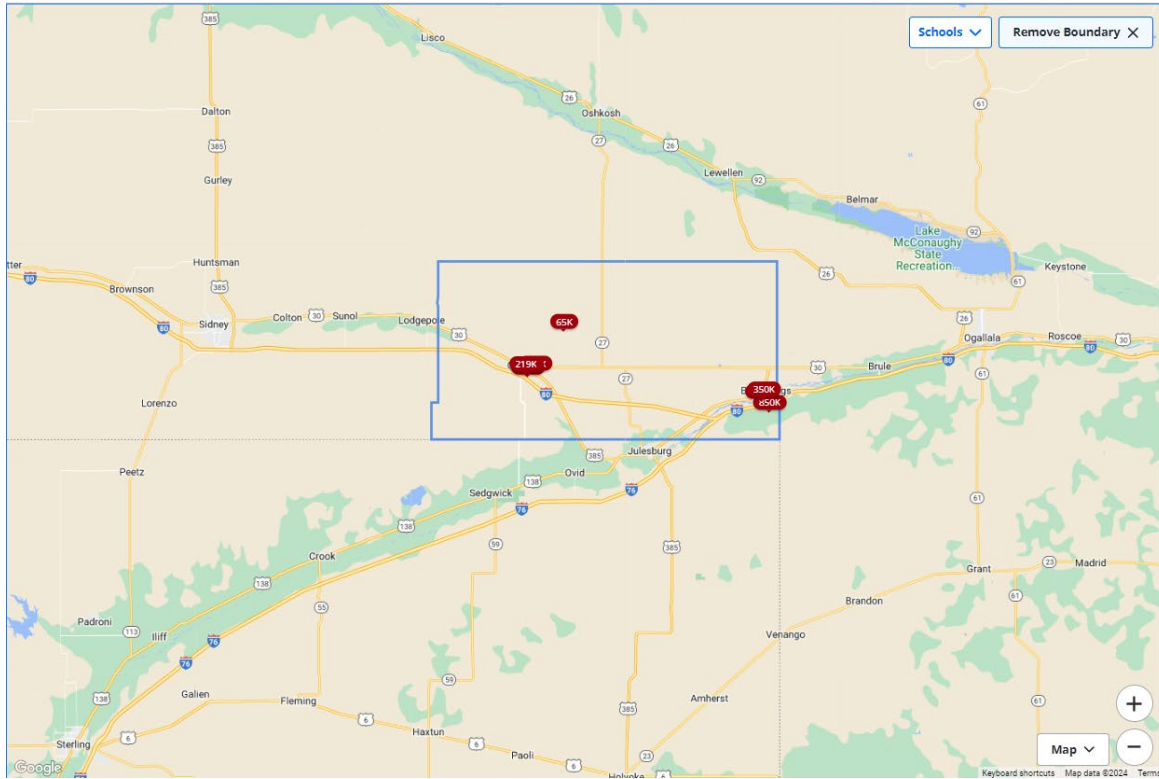


**\$701,000**

2 bds | 1 ba | -- sqft - House for sale



Deuel County NE Add anot... Q For Sale Price Beds & Baths Home Type More Save search



Deuel County NE Real Estate & Homes For Sale

8 results

Sort: Homes for You

- 37 days on Zillow

**\$350,000**

5 bds | 2 ba | 1,620 sqft - House for sale  
209 W 4th St, Big Springs, NE 69122  
SHAY REALTY, INC.
- 168 days on Zillow

**\$65,000**

4 bds | 2 ba | 1,584 sqft - House for sale  
39 Court Ave, Chappell, NE 69129  
LASHLEY LAND AND RECREATIONAL BROKERS
- 330 days on Zillow

**\$219,000**

4 bds | 3 ba | 3,931 sqft - House for sale  
1066 5th St, Chappell, NE 69129  
BENSON AG LAND REALTY LLC
- 279 days on Zillow

**\$299,000**

4 bds | 3 ba | 2,111 sqft - House for sale  
1201 3rd St, Chappell, NE 69129  
SHAY REALTY, INC.
- 84 days on Zillow

**\$138,500**

2 bds | 2 ba | 1,097 sqft - House for sale
- 90 days on Zillow

**\$305,000**

5 bds | 3 ba | 2,856 sqft - House for sale

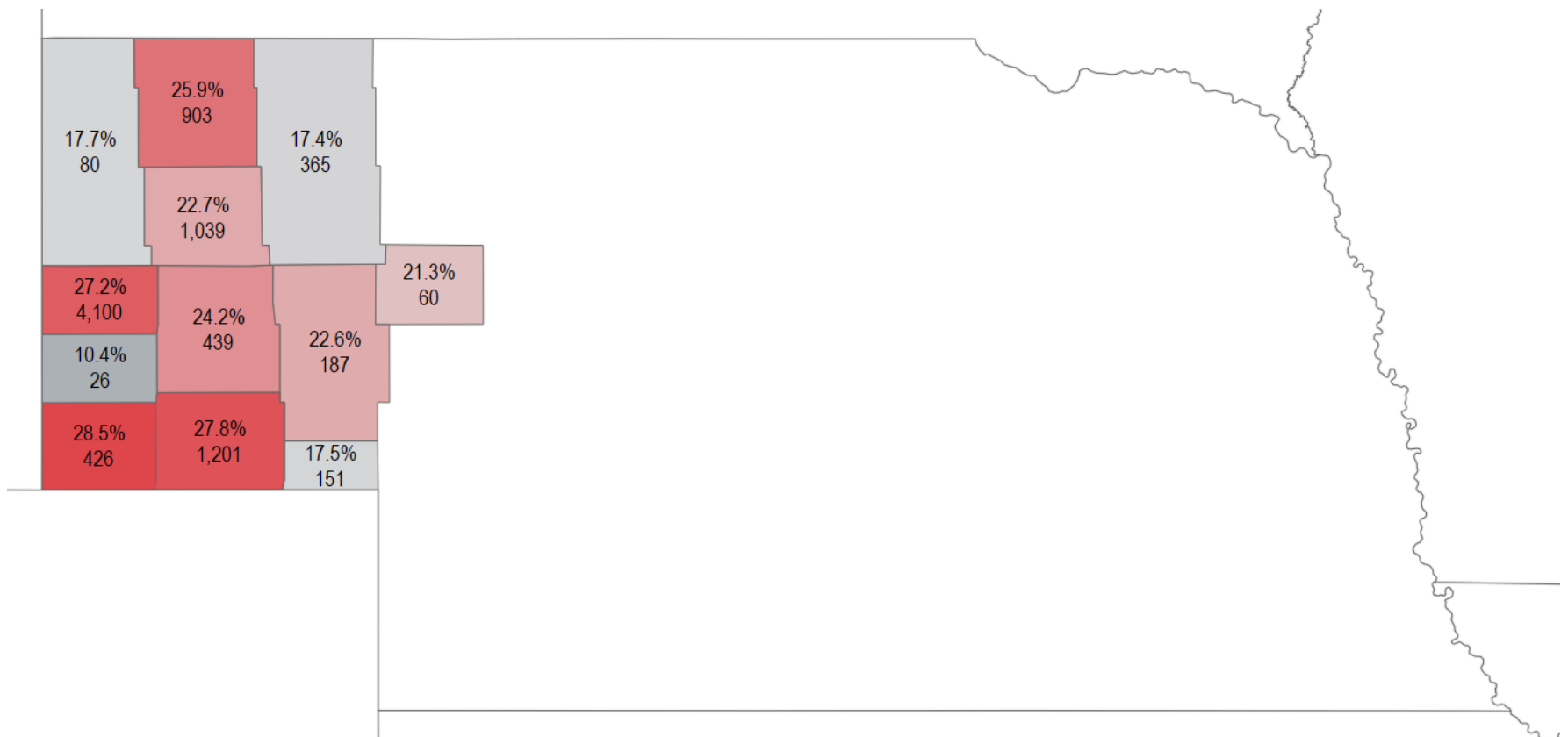
# MEDIAN VALUE OF OWNER-OCCUPIED HOUSING UNITS, 2022

The median value of homes in the Western Region is below the state average of \$205,600.



# PERCENTAGE AND NUMBER OF HOUSING COST BURDENED, 2022

Housing cost burdened refers to households that are paying 30% or more of their income on housing. Despite lower housing values, many are still housing cost burdened, a function of lower income.



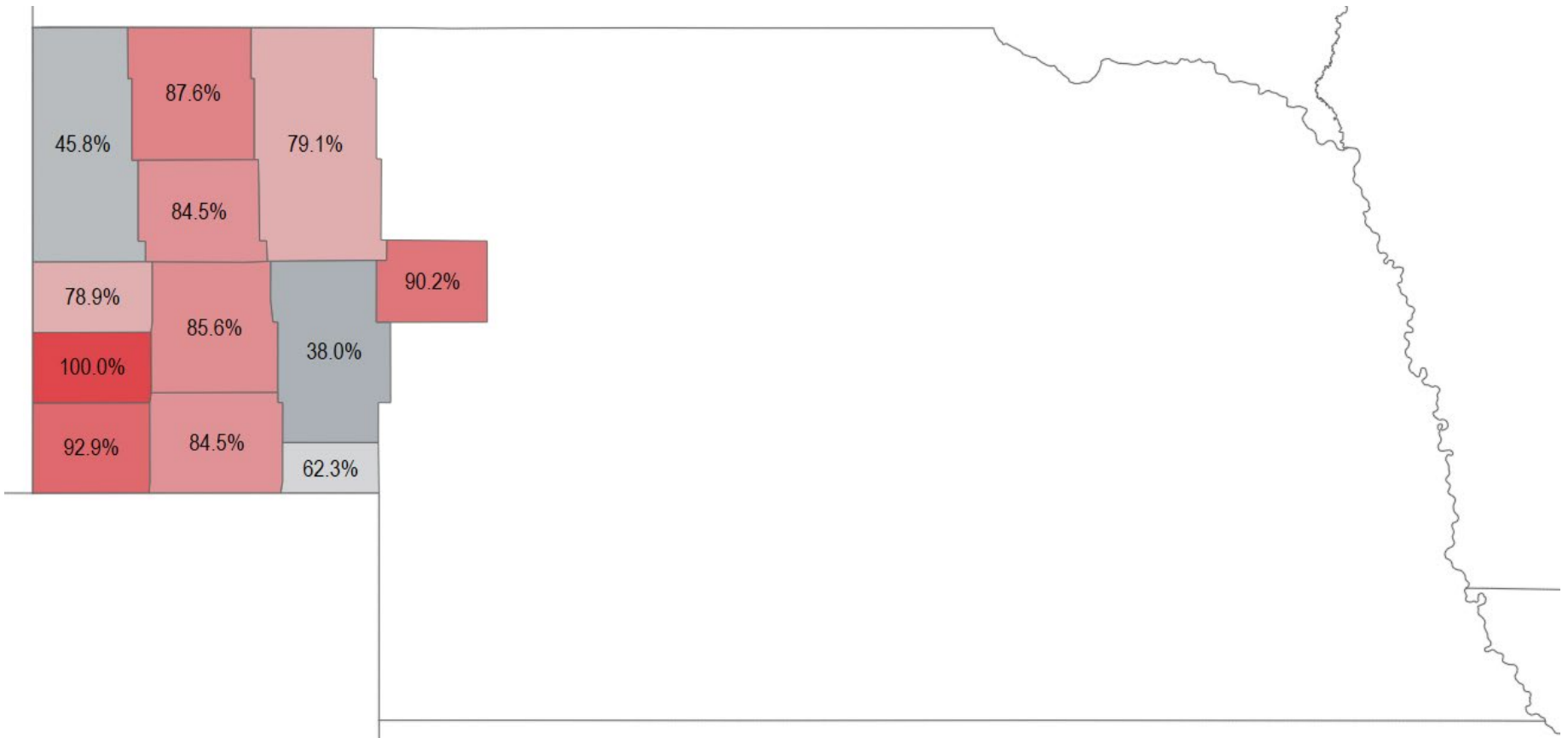


# CHILDCARE



# PERCENT OF CHILDREN UNDER AGE 6 WITH ALL PARENTS IN THE LABOR FORCE, 2022

In the region, there are 5,874 children under the age of 6, with the majority having both parents in the labor force.



# NUMBER OF CHILDREN UNDER AGE 6 AND CHILDCARE CAPACITY IN THE REGION, 2022 AND 2023

For the 5,874 children under age 6 in the region, there are only 3,784 spots available in licensed childcare facilities.

Region	Number of Children Under 6 2022	Licensed Provider Capacity 2023
Central	23,744	14,653
Metropolitan	69,077	68,196
Mid-Plains	6,254	3,017
Northeast	12,219	6,302
Southeast	34,589	29,334
Western	5,874	3,784

# NUMBER OF LICENSED PROVIDERS IN 2023 AND PERCENT CHANGE IN NUMBER OF PROVIDERS, 2019 TO 2023

Many counties in the region have lost childcare providers in recent years.



# PUBLIC PRE-K PROGRAMS BY REGION, 2023/2024

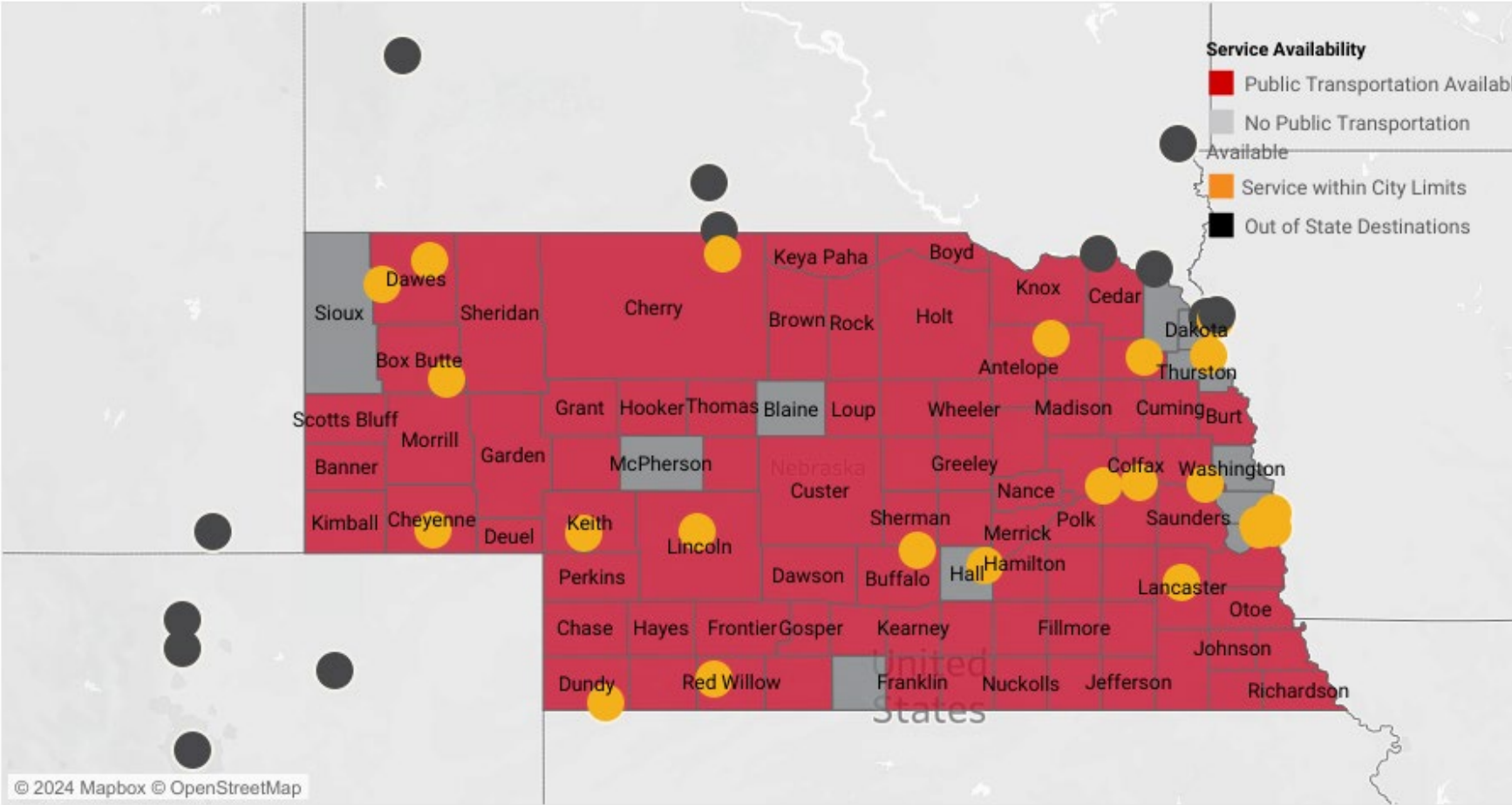
The Western Region's rate of enrollment in public pre-K programs is the lowest of the region and falls short of maximum utilization.

<b>Region</b>	<b>Number of Pre-K Programs</b>	<b>Number of Children Enrolled</b>	<b>Average Percent Children Enrolled</b>
Central	119	4,962	7.6%
Metropolitan	195	7,092	6.7%
Mid-Plains	45	1,022	6.0%
Northeast	70	2,519	8.1%
Southeast	117	5,424	8.1%
Western	35	1,232	5.4%

# COMMUNITY INFRASTRUCTURE

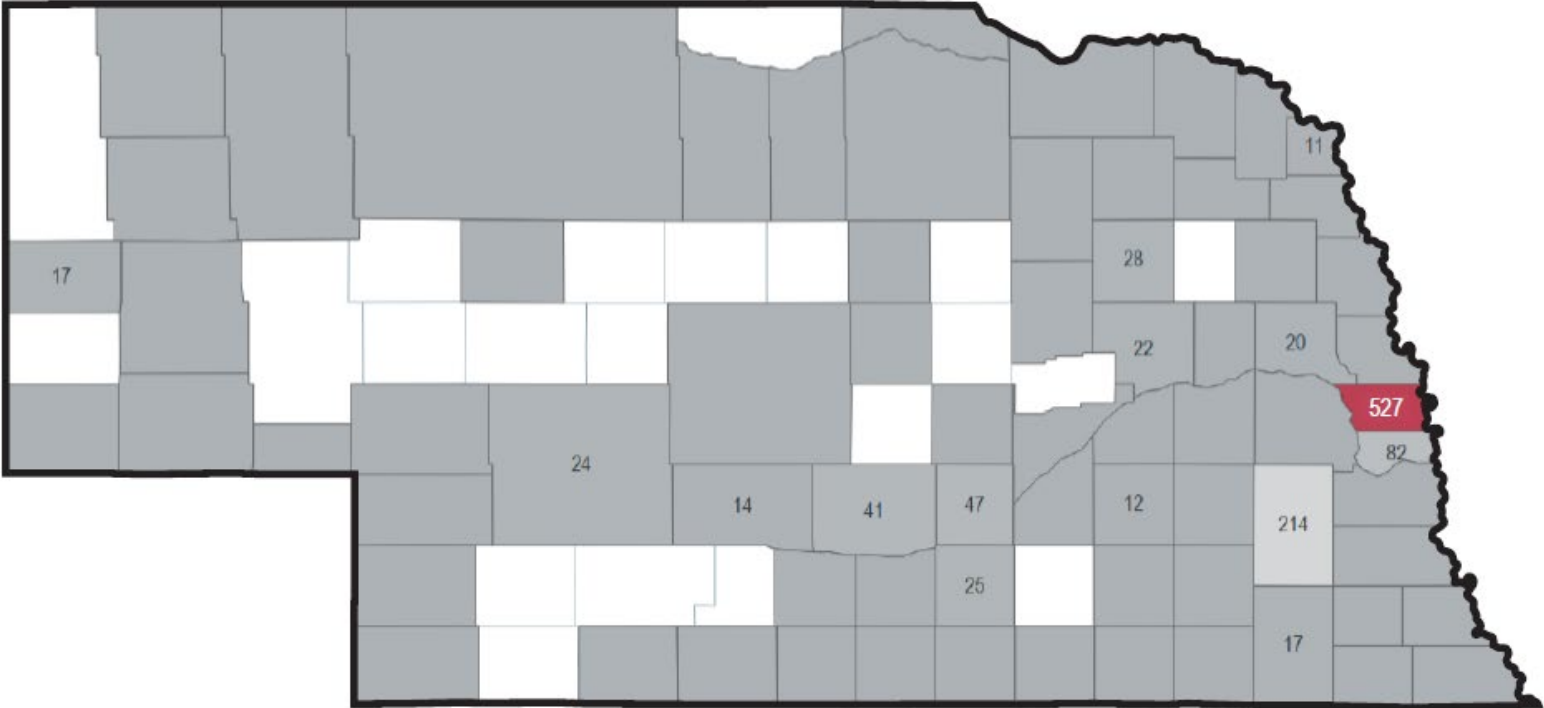


# RURAL TRANSIT AGENCIES, NEBRASKATRANSIT.COM



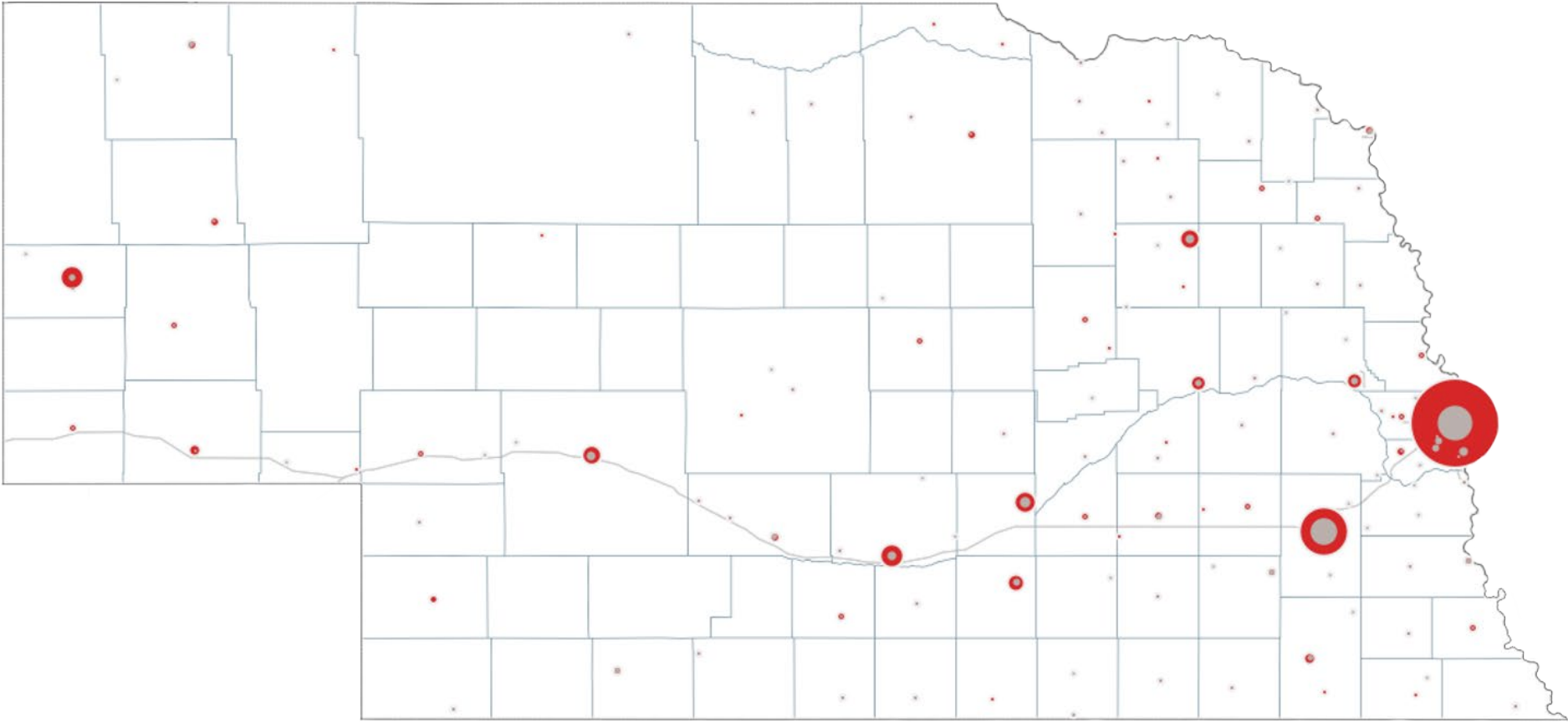
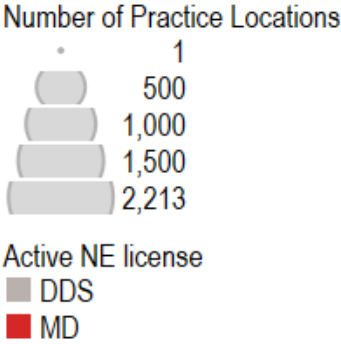
# HEALTHCARE PRACTITIONERS BY COUNTY, CPAR.UNOMAHA.EDU

## Primary Care Physicians by County | 2023



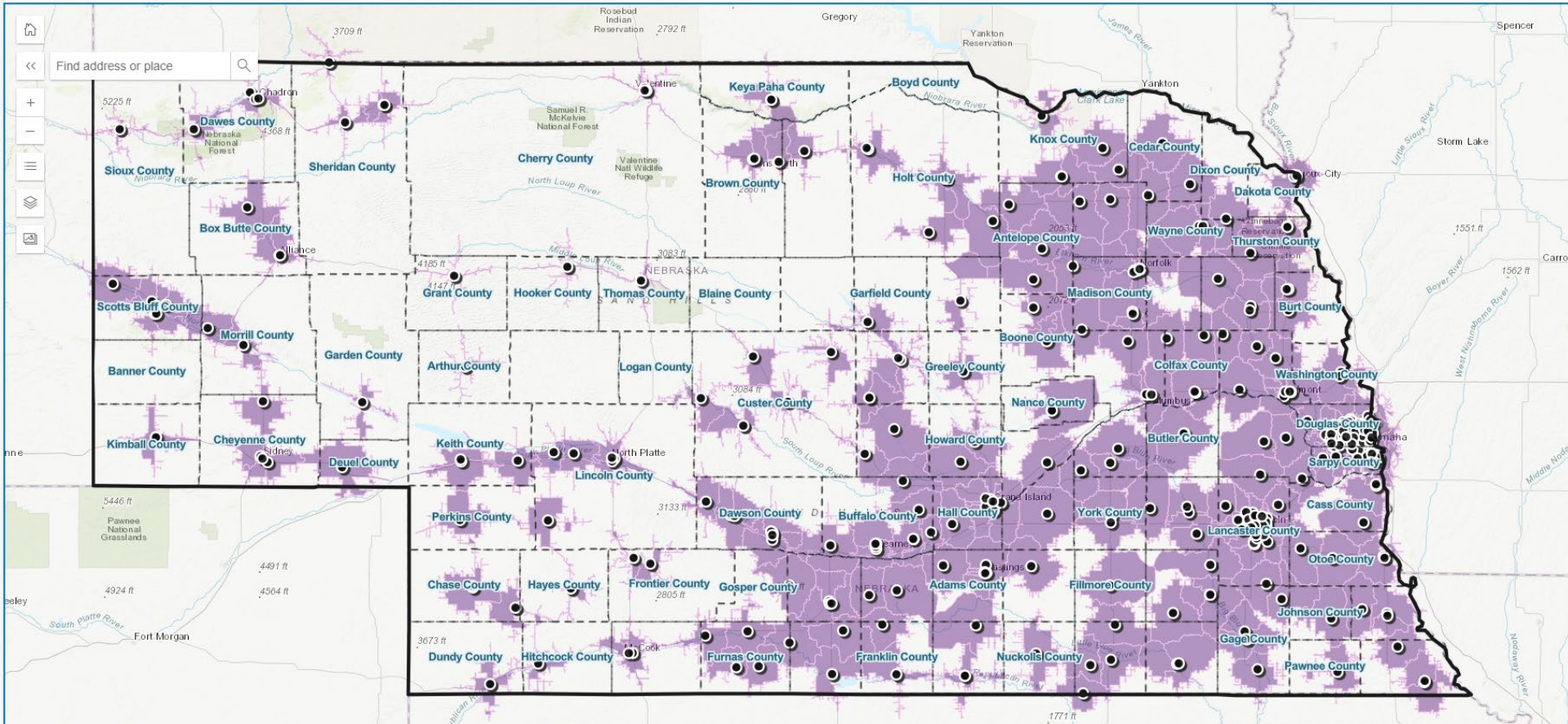


# MD AND DDS OFFICE LOCATIONS, CPAR.UNOMAHA.EDU



# GROCERY STORE LOCATIONS AND POPULATION WITHIN 15 MINUTES

Nebraska Grocery Access Review



6 REGIONS   
One Nebraska

REGIONAL  
DEVELOPMENT  
INITIATIVE