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Comparing Nebraska Population Change by Race and Ethnicity

Introduction

When studying population change in Nebraska during the 2000s decade, it is clear that county level changes were far from uniform. While the state increased by about 115,000 people, only 24 of the state's 93 counties experienced a population gain. Nearly 75% of Nebraska's counties had a population decline during the decade, one of the largest such percentages of counties among all states in the Midwest and Great Plains areas of the United States. In fact, population gains were concentrated in Nebraska's most populated "Big 3" counties of Douglas, Lancaster, and Sarpy, which increased by nearly 125,000 people, while the remaining 90 counties combined lost close to 10,000 residents.

Another way Nebraska counties showed differences in population change related to the levels of births and deaths. During the 2000s, slightly more than half of Nebraska's counties (49 of 93) experienced a natural increase, as births exceeded deaths. However, nearly as many counties (44) had more deaths than births, a negative population change factor. Natural change levels tend to be fairly stable, as it takes a long time for an area's population age structure to change. That said, almost all Nebraska counties are projected to see poorer natural change in the years ahead as the population ages and deaths increase as the large "baby boom" segment of the population hits ages that have higher mortality rates.

There are two easily-identifiable trends in Nebraska that are more consistent among its counties. First, nearly all counties are having net outmigration, where more people are moving out of the area than moving into it. Net outmigration occurred in 85% of Nebraska's counties during the 2000s (79 of 93). The handful of counties experiencing net inmigration tended to be in the Lincoln and Omaha metro areas, or along the Interstate 80 corridor.

Second, the vast majority of counties are seeing minority populations rise, while at the same time non-Hispanic Whites, the majority population, are enduring population decline. During the 2000s, 80% of Nebraska's counties (74 of 93) experienced a decrease in the non-Hispanic White population while simultaneously witnessing its minority population rise. This divergence is worthy of further exploration and is the subject of this report. In the report any mentions of Whites refer to non-Hispanic Whites, and the two terms will be used interchangeably.

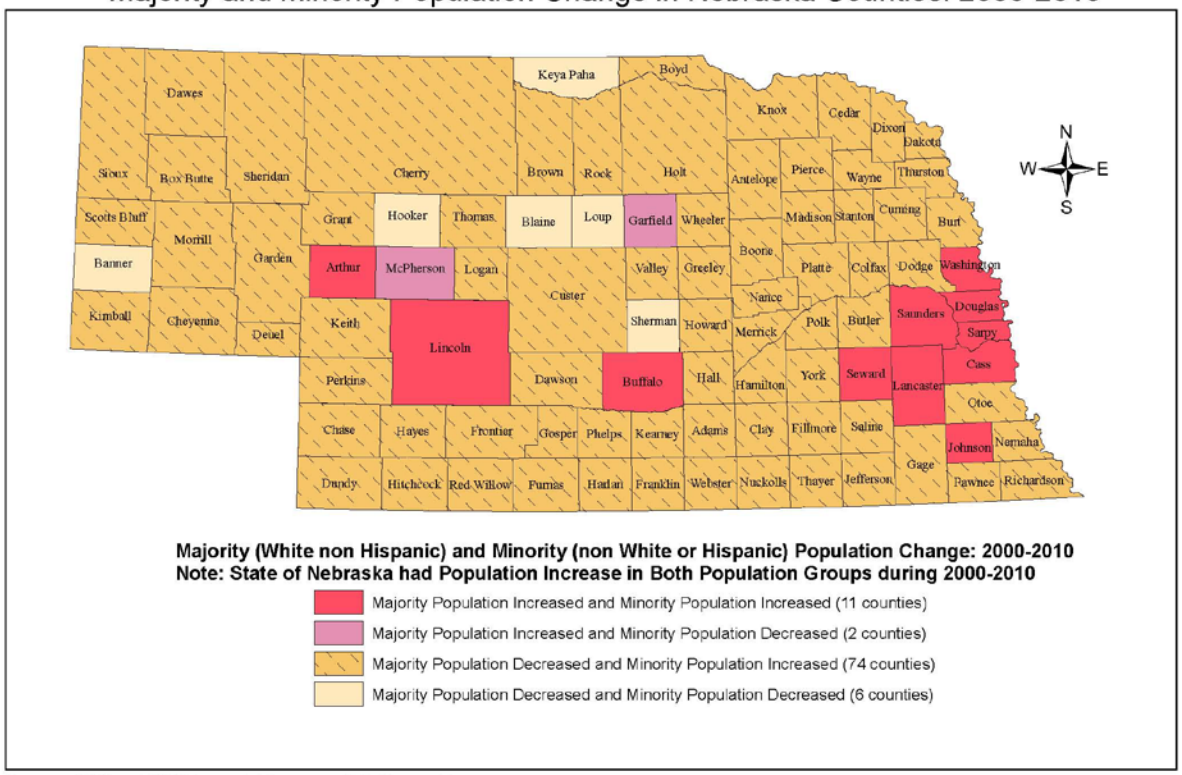
Evaluating Total Population Change versus Underlying Factors

An area typically desires population growth, as more people bolster the demand for goods and services, improving the economic vitality of local businesses. Thus, total population change is a key metric heavily tracked and evaluated. As mentioned, 24 Nebraska counties increased in

population during the 2000s, which is easily compared to 40 such growing counties in the 1990s and only 10 during the “farm crisis” decade of the 1980s.

However, only analyzing total population change can mask the dynamics of how the population is changing. An area with a college might see a rising total population as college enrollments increase, but the total population change would not detail the exact rise in those at college age, nor how many students are staying in the area upon graduation. One would have to analyze the detailed age data to quantify such information. In Nebraska, only evaluating total population change masks what is occurring to specific racial and ethnic groups. The following map shows the combination of population change for non-Hispanic Whites (the majority population) and all minority population groups (either non-White or Hispanic/Latino).

Majority and Minority Population Change in Nebraska Counties: 2000-2010



Sources: 2000 and 2010 Decennial Censuses, U.S. Census Bureau

Prepared by: David Drozd, Center for Public Affairs Research, University of Nebraska at Omaha - April 21, 2011

While Nebraska had 24 counties increase in total population between 2000 and 2010, only 11 or less than half witnessed an increase in both the non-Hispanic White and the minority population (shaded red). Two counties with small total populations and few minorities saw the non-Hispanic White population rise while the minority population declined (shaded purple). This means that the remaining 11 counties increased in total population due to rises in the minority population exceeding declines among non-Hispanic Whites. The specific changes in population by race and ethnicity in these counties are masked by the fact that their total population increased, and those evaluating total population change may not be aware of the divergence that is occurring. These 11 counties are a subset of the most common category of population change by race and ethnicity, where the majority population declined while the minority population increased in 74

counties or 80% of all Nebraska counties (shaded orange with crosshatch). Table 1 details population change by race and ethnicity for the 24 counties that gained population in the 2000s.

Table 1. Population Change by Race and Ethnicity for the 24 Nebraska Counties that Gained Population during the 2000s

Sources: 2000 and 2010 Censuses (DP-1), U.S. Census Bureau

Note: Sorted by the minority share of population growth; colors correspond to the map on page 2 (orange = White losses/minority gains; red = both with gains, etc.)

Area	2000 to 2010 Population Change			Minority Share of Total Population Growth
	Total Population	Non-Hispanic Whites	All Minority Groups	
Nebraska	**115,078**	**5,259**	**109,819**	**95.4%**
Hall County	5,073	-2,281	7,354	100.0%
Dakota County	753	-2,772	3,525	100.0%
Platte County	575	-1,959	2,534	100.0%
Dodge County	531	-1,990	2,521	100.0%
Saline County	357	-1,679	2,036	100.0%
Colfax County	74	-1,586	1,660	100.0%
Scotts Bluff County	19	-1,526	1,545	100.0%
Adams County	213	-988	1,201	100.0%
Otoe County	344	-323	667	100.0%
Dawes County	122	-314	436	100.0%
Cheyenne County	168	-156	324	100.0%
Douglas County	53,525	9,501	44,024	82.2%
Johnson County	729	188	541	74.2%
Seward County	254	75	179	70.5%
Lincoln County	1,656	669	987	59.6%
Buffalo County	3,843	1,815	2,028	52.8%
Lancaster County	35,116	18,635	16,481	46.9%
Cass County	907	512	395	43.6%
Saunders County	950	582	368	38.7%
Arthur County	16	10	6	37.5%
Sarpy County	36,245	26,309	9,936	27.4%
Washington County	1,454	1,092	362	24.9%
McPherson County	6	10	-4	0.0%
Garfield County	147	155	-8	0.0%

In most of the counties where 100% of population growth was attributable to minority increases, the minority population grew by 1,000 persons or more while the non-Hispanic White population declined by a similar number. In all 11 counties the changes by race numbered several hundred or more, so the changes were sizeable and in each case roughly “equal but opposite” in the level of minority increase and non-Hispanic White decline. In each of the 11 counties besides Hall County, the total population change was relatively small (below 1,000) since the gains among minorities were offset by population declines among non-Hispanic Whites.

Reviewing Table 1’s list of counties where minority population groups contributed 100% of the population growth, a few similarities among the counties stand out. First, they tend to be among Nebraska’s most populous counties. They also tend to serve as regional centers for goods and

services, and many have a college campus. Additionally, they tend to have the presence of a meat processing facility. Hall, Dakota, Dodge, Saline, and Colfax Counties are each home to a major processor. Many people who work at the facility in Colfax County live in neighboring Platte County. Moreover, data from the Nebraska Department of Labor show a smaller presence of meat processing in Adams and Otoe Counties, with about 600 and 500 workers respectively in this industry at mid-decade in 2005, representing about 5% of each county's workforce. Scotts Bluff County, while not having much meat processing employment, is home to a relatively-large minority community, a common characteristic among this group of 11 counties.

Appendix 1 provides additional insight, listing figures for each Nebraska county. This table is sorted by the total difference between the 2000s population change for minorities (primarily increases) and that of non-Hispanic Whites (primarily declines). Besides heavily populated Douglas County, which had an increase in non-Hispanic Whites during the decade (highlighted green), each of the counties with the highest differentials were listed above (Hall, Dakota, Dodge, Platte, Saline, Colfax, Scotts Bluff and Adams). Joining this list are Dawson and Madison Counties, which were not listed in the above table of counties with population gains as they had small total population losses (highlighted pink), stemming from a similar loss of non-Hispanic Whites not being fully offset or exceeded by gains among the minority population. Major meat processing facilities are located in both Dawson and Madison counties. Cuming County, which had a relatively high 12% of its employment in meat processing at mid-decade in 2005, also ranks as having among the highest differentials in population change by race and ethnicity.

Thus, there appears to be a connection or correlation between the location of a meat processing facility and the diverging population changes of increases among minorities and declines among non-Hispanic Whites. These changes not only impact the demographic makeup of an area, but also impact it economically. The most current and accurate data covering 2011 to 2015 from the Census Bureau's American Community Survey (table B19113 series) show that the median income for Nebraska non-Hispanic White families of more than $72,000 is approximately double that of the most predominate minority population groups – $40,000 for Hispanic families and $35,000 for Black families. Therefore, further study of these population change differences by race and ethnicity are warranted so that local leaders and policy makers can be aware of what is occurring and its impacts. The following section seeks to detail the changes that have occurred.

A Population Changes in Two Ways: Births compared to Deaths and Net Migration

Population change is driven by two factors called components of change. The first compares the level of births versus deaths – typically births exceed deaths and the population increases. However, in areas with older populations deaths can exceed births and this situation termed natural loss is occurring in about half of Nebraska's counties (see page 1). The other component of population change compares the number of people moving into an area versus moving away from it. Having more people move in than move away leads to population increase, while net outmigration decreases population size, as has been seen in most Nebraska counties (page 1).

Calculating total population change, natural change, and net migration is straightforward. Comparing census counts reveals population change, birth and death totals are compiled by the Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services (NDHHS) from recorded certificates, and net migration is simply the difference between total population change and natural change. However, such calculations by race and ethnicity in Nebraska are not as straightforward.

In 2005, NDHHS changed the racial and ethnic categories on the reporting forms on which birth and death records are filed. The change improved the detail of reported values, lowering the number of cases where the respondent listed their race as White but their ethnicity was "unknown". For example, from 2000 to 2004 more than 1,000 birth records annually listed this combination of White and unknown ethnicity; from 2005 to 2009 it averaged only 3 such cases per year.

The new forms more closely represent standards from the federal Office of Management and Budget, which the 2000 and 2010 Censuses also followed, where each person first selected whether they were Hispanic/Latino or not and then secondly listed their race (White, Black, Asian, etc.). People who select that they are non-Hispanic as well as White comprise the majority population; minorities are everyone else, or specifically those who are Hispanic or have a race other than White. (In this report mentions of Whites refer to non-Hispanic Whites.)

CPAR recently conducted a detailed review of county birth data prior to and after the reporting form changed in 2005, finding that for the levels to be consistent over time the number of events with unknown ethnicity should be treated as non-Hispanic. Conversations with key personnel from NDHHS who work with vital statistics confirmed that "99 percent" of records with unknown ethnicity should be treated as non-Hispanic given their methods for how the data are compiled. Thus, by allocating births and deaths with unknown ethnicity as being non-Hispanic, we now have an accurate way to evaluate vital statistics by race and ethnicity for the full 2000s decade.

It stands to reason, given the structure of the minority population being relatively young and often coming to Nebraska from other domestic or foreign locations, that nearly all Nebraska counties would be having both natural increase and net inmigration among minorities. The available data from NDHHS confirmed this. Census figures had shown that only 8 counties witnessed a decline in minority population during the 2000s (see map on page 2). Each of these counties had fewer than 3,500 people in 2010. Only two of the state's 93 counties had more minority deaths than births; both of these counties had fewer than 800 total residents in 2010. Fifteen counties had a net outmigration among minorities, of which only Thurston County's value was a net decline of more than 40 people.

Thus, with minority population growth, net inmigration, and especially natural increase among minorities being nearly universal throughout Nebraska's counties, it is more intriguing and perhaps policy relevant to analyze and describe the less uniform changes occurring among non-Hispanic Whites in Nebraska's counties.

Detailing Population Change Components in the 2000s for Nebraska non-Hispanic Whites

As can be seen in the map on page 2, the non-Hispanic White population increased in only 13 Nebraska counties during the 2000s. Each of these had natural increase except Johnson and Garfield Counties (see Table 2 below, shaded pink). Natural increase was the primary driver of non-Hispanic White population gains, as it exceeded net migration in all counties except the fore mentioned Johnson County where a correction facility opened early in the decade, Garfield County located near the Calamus Reservoir and State Recreation Area, and Washington County, a commuter-friendly area located directly north of Douglas County and Omaha. Washington County's population and migration during the 2000s was strengthened by students coming to attend Dana College, which was operational at the time of the 2010 Census but closed later that year. Table 2 shows the only other counties with non-Hispanic White population gains that also

had net inmigration among Whites were heavily populated Sarpy and Lancaster Counties (shaded green). Eight of the 13 counties that had an increase in their non-Hispanic White population had a net outmigration of Whites during the decade, including heavily populated Douglas County, whose net outmigration was sizeable.

Table 2. Population Change and Components of Change for the 13 Nebraska Counties that had Population Gains among the non-Hispanic White Population during the 2000s
Sources: 2000 and 2010 Censuses, U.S. Census Bureau; Special Tabulation of Births and Deaths by Race and Ethnicity, Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS)
Note: Sorted by the Net Migration of non-Hispanic Whites during the 2000s

	Non-Hispanic White Total Population				2000s non-Hispanic White	
Area	2000	2010	Change	% Change	Natural Change	Net Migration
Nebraska	**1,494,494**	**1,499,753**	**5,259**	**0.4**	**55,957**	**-50,698**
Sarpy	106,823	133,132	26,309	24.6	14,130	12,179
Lancaster	222,067	240,702	18,635	8.4	16,855	1,780
Washington	18,313	19,405	1,092	6.0	488	604
Johnson	4,167	4,355	188	4.5	-168	356
Garfield	1,867	2,022	155	8.3	-158	313
Arthur	425	435	10	2.4	19	-9
McPherson	518	528	10	1.9	27	-17
Saunders	19,410	19,992	582	3.0	615	-33
Seward	16,077	16,152	75	0.5	233	-158
Cass	23,571	24,083	512	2.2	913	-401
Lincoln	32,072	32,741	669	2.1	1,146	-477
Buffalo	39,313	41,128	1,815	4.6	2,492	-677
Douglas	362,528	372,029	9,501	2.6	22,711	-13,210

Overall about 40% of Nebraska's counties (37 of 93) had natural increases among non-Hispanic Whites during the 2000s (data available in Appendix 2). This current fairly low level of counties with White natural increase does not bode well for population change into the future, since Whites are the largest population group in most counties, and the predominately White baby boom generation will continue to age and experience higher mortality going forwad, reducing the level of natural change as deaths increase. In addition, many counties, especially in rural areas, are seeing high school graduates leave local areas for college or work and often not return to their hometown area, reducing the number of residents in their prime reproductive years. The counties with natural increases among Whites tended to have relatively large populations, with 26 of the 37 counties (70%) having at least 5,000 non-Hispanic Whites in 2010. For comparison, less than half of the counties with a natural loss among the majority population (27 of 56 counties or 48%) had 5,000 non-Hispanic Whites in 2010. Natural increase among Whites was not solely in highly populated counties however; nine of Nebraska's twelve counties with fewer than 1,000 non-Hispanic Whites in 2010 experienced a natural increase among the majority population.

Since the most populous counties tended to have natural increases among non-Hispanic Whites, most heavily populated counties that experienced population loss among the majority population experienced high levels of net outmigration among Whites. Appendix 2 illustrates that Hall, Platte, Dakota, Madison, Dawson, Dodge, and Adams Counties all had a small to sizeable natural increase among non-Hispanic Whites during the 2000s (shaded green). Appendix 2, sorted by the net migration of Whites during the 2000s, shows that besides heavily populated Douglas

County, these counties had the highest levels of White net outmigration, each losing a net of more than 1,500 Whites via migration during the decade. Other areas with high meat processing employment (Colfax, Saline, and Cuming Counties) or a large minority community (Scotts Bluff County) each lost 1,100 or more Whites due to net migration. Of the 15 counties that lost more than a thousand Whites due to net migration, 11 have a meat processing presence in the county (if included, highly populated Douglas County, with its vast number of industries including meat processing, would make that figure 12 counties).

Non-Hispanic White Net Migration as a Rate

While evaluating the overall level of migration allows highly-impacted areas to be identified, analyzing the figures as a rate or percentage of the relevant population shows the relative amount of change, as well as allows changes in more populated counties to be more readily compared to less populated counties. Appendix 2 shows the net migration rate among non-Hispanic Whites during the 2000s.

The counties that had high levels of White net outmigration also tended to be among the counties with the largest White outmigration rates. Shown highlighted in pink, six of the 11 counties with meat processing mentioned above had White outmigration rates in double digits, ranking in the lowest 20% of Nebraska counties (rank of only 76th best or lower among Nebraska's 93 counties).

Moreover, the other counties with high levels of White net outmigration had a White net outmigration rate ranking that was well below their White total population change ranking, given that they experienced natural increase among Whites during the 2000s. For example:

- Hall County had the 22nd highest White population change rate, but was only 50th highest on its White net migration rate
- Madison County ranked 32nd highest on the percent change in White population, but ranked 29 spots lower at only 61st highest regarding White net migration rate
- Adams county ranked twice as high on White population change rate (17th highest) versus its White net migration rate (34th highest)

Many of the 11 counties with meat processing referred to above have sizeable populations and many job opportunities or college campuses that could attract people or keep them in the local area. However, even compared to Nebraska's smallest counties, these counties often had among the highest White net outmigration rates. Grant County with only 734 non-Hispanic Whites in 2000 had the highest White net outmigration rate at -21.0%. However, Dakota County was next highest at -20.3% and Colfax County was 4th worst at -18.2%. Blaine and Keya Paha Counties, each with fewer than a thousand non-Hispanic Whites in 2000 round out the worst five counties regarding White net outmigration rates. Mathematically, the smaller the base population, the easier it is to have a large rate or percentage change.

Thus, both by rates and total migration measures, counties with the most non-Hispanic White net outmigration tended to be in areas with a meat processing presence. As discussed earlier, areas with meat processing tended to have large gains in minority population during the 2000s. The White net outmigration was offset in several counties by natural increase among Whites. However, natural increase is set to soften in the years ahead given the aging of the population, and White birth levels going forward will be impacted negatively given the outmigration of Whites that has already occurred (fewer Whites still residing in the area to have births there).

Conclusion

Evaluating population change is a key metric in understanding an area's vitality and overall situation. However, evaluating total population change alone can mask the underlying dynamics for how the population is changing. This report summarized and detailed how Nebraska and its counties are changing by race and ethnicity, including an analysis of the population change components of natural change and net migration by race and ethnicity for the first time.

While nearly 55% of Nebraska counties had natural increases during the 2000s, only about 40% of counties had natural increases among non-Hispanic Whites. Only six Nebraska counties achieved net inmigration among non-Hispanic Whites during the 2000s. These dynamics led to only 13 counties experiencing population growth among non-Hispanic Whites during the decade. Among the 24 counties with overall population growth in the 2000s, only 11 saw gains among both the majority and minority populations; just as many counties witnessed growth stemming from population gains among minorities exceeding population declines among Whites.

Evaluating the characteristics of the 11 counties with population growth but diverging changes by race and ethnicity, it was noted that most of these counties had relatively large populations and had a common characteristic of having the presence of a meat processing facility. Expanding the analysis to include all counties and not just those with population growth showed that among the counties with the largest population change differentials between the non-Hispanic White and minority population during the 2000s, each had a large minority community, usually influenced by local meat processing employment. While some of these counties had births exceeding deaths among Whites to improve overall White population change, each of these counties were among those with the state's highest levels of White net outmigration, ranging between about -1,100 and -3,500 people over the decade. As a rate, non-Hispanic White outmigration during the 2000s exceeded 10% in half of these counties with a large minority presence.

Thus, an obvious question is why Whites are moving out of most Nebraska counties, especially areas with relatively large minority communities. There are numerous factors that impact people's location preferences and decisions regarding moving. The only true way to ascertain the reasons why people move would be to ask such movers directly through research-based approaches such as surveys or focus groups. Such research is difficult and costly, as finding a representative group of people who have moved away from a specific area to any number of other locations across the state or country is problematic. Research of this nature would be a worthy endeavor to learn and more clearly understand the factors that influence the decision to move.

Here are a few things that are known from available data. First, movement for college and/or work is a primary driver of migration. People across Nebraska move to attend college, and then often do not return to their hometown when degrees are finished. White outmigration rates are highest among people of traditional college age (18-24) or in their early working years (25-29). Migration at these ages has the added impact that if such individuals or families have young children, they are going to take them along, making the White outmigration rate of children under 5 also relatively high. A third age range with higher White net outmigration rates are those nearing or at retirement age. Nebraska and many of its counties see outmigration start to increase among people in their 50s and peak for 60-64 year olds. Those wanting to retire to warmer climates or places that tax seniors more favorably are apt to move at this age, and they may be especially likely to do so if they are displeased with various changes taking place locally.

Other data show that residents have strong feelings and opinions on immigration-related topics. For example, it appears most Nebraskans view learning and speaking English as essential. The Nebraska Rural Poll, a long-running large survey of the state's nonmetropolitan areas, found that 94% of respondents agreed that immigrants should learn to speak English, and that only 20% agreed that "communities should communicate important information in Spanish as well as English" (69% disagreed). See ruralpoll.unl.edu/pdf/immigration.pdf Nearly all respondents to the Rural Poll agreed with tightening the border to prevent illegal immigration (87%). Some may have held immigration responsible for relatively low wages or increasing competition for available jobs. The Rural Poll found that only 5% agreed that wages increase when undocumented immigrants are hired (74% disagreed). Regarding immigration overall, Rural Poll respondents disagreed with the statement that "in general, immigration from Latin America has been good for rural Nebraska" four times as often as they agreed with the statement (56% disagreed versus 14% that agreed).

Why is studying population change and related issues important? Population loss continues to be a major issue in many parts of the state. As people leave there are fewer individuals and families to support and make purchases from local businesses, lowering sales tax revenue and sometimes forcing businesses to close or move. Outmigration tends to lower residential property values and associated property tax receipts, hurting the tax base while costs for schools and maintaining infrastructure largely remain the same. Those leaving have numerous positive attributes that could serve the community through volunteering or taking various leadership roles. The outmigration of non-Hispanic Whites, a loss numbering more than 50,000 in Nebraska during the 2000s, has particularly sizeable economic impacts, as Nebraska's median incomes among White families are relatively large, about twice as high as among minority population groups. Outmigration regardless of race removes wealth from the local area and increases the number of absentee property and business owners, making succession planning increasingly important.

With more and more baby boomers now hitting retirement age and making the decision on where to spend their golden years, it is crucial to consider and discuss these matters and factors at this time. If Nebraskans move away from their local area, or out-of-state as the data show they are more apt to do at retirement age, a great local resource will be lost, namely its people – family, friends, neighbors, and leaders who make our communities the dynamic places they are. State and local leaders and policy makers should consider these aspects carefully and have an open dialogue as they make decisions on economic development, fostering public or private programs and partnerships, taxation and spending, and other matters influencing overall quality of life that will impact and possibly greatly change their area for generations to come.

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Appendix 1. Nebraska County Population Change by Race and Ethnicity: 2000 to 2010
Sources: 2000 and 2010 Censuses (DP-1), U.S. Census Bureau
Note: Sorted by the Difference between Minority and non-Hispanic White (shaded purple)

Area	2000 to 2010 Population Change				
	Total Population	Non-Hispanic White	All Minority Groups	Minority less non-Hispanic White	Rank
Nebraska	**115,078**	**5,259**	**109,819**	**104,560**	**n/a**
Douglas County	53,525	9,501	44,024	34,523	1
Hall County	5,073	-2,281	7,354	9,635	2
Dakota County	753	-2,772	3,525	6,297	3
Dawson County	-39	-2,282	2,243	4,525	4
Dodge County	531	-1,990	2,521	4,511	5
Platte County	575	-1,959	2,534	4,493	6
Madison County	-350	-2,060	1,710	3,770	7
Saline County	357	-1,679	2,036	3,715	8
Colfax County	74	-1,586	1,660	3,246	9
Scotts Bluff County	19	-1,526	1,545	3,071	10
Adams County	213	-988	1,201	2,189	11
York County	-933	-1,328	395	1,723	12
Holt County	-1,116	-1,356	240	1,596	13
Cuming County	-1,064	-1,281	217	1,498	14
Box Butte County	-850	-1,099	249	1,348	15
Richardson County	-1,168	-1,232	64	1,296	16
Gage County	-682	-922	240	1,162	17
Custer County	-854	-1,002	148	1,150	18
Burt County	-933	-1,018	85	1,103	19
Antelope County	-767	-925	158	1,083	20
Clay County	-497	-785	288	1,073	21
Knox County	-673	-871	198	1,069	22
Jefferson County	-786	-914	128	1,042	23
Sheridan County	-729	-871	142	1,013	24
Otoe County	344	-323	667	990	25
Red Willow County	-393	-675	282	957	26
Cedar County	-763	-846	83	929	27
Dixon County	-339	-634	295	929	27
Wayne County	-256	-582	326	908	29
Thayer County	-827	-865	38	903	30
Fillmore County	-744	-823	79	902	31
Phelps County	-559	-724	165	889	32
Boone County	-754	-798	44	842	33
Cherry County	-435	-628	193	821	34
Thurston County	-231	-523	292	815	35
Keith County	-507	-658	151	809	36
Merrick County	-359	-568	209	777	37
Dawes County	122	-314	436	750	38
Nuckolls County	-557	-646	89	735	39
Morrill County	-398	-564	166	730	40
Chase County	-102	-409	307	716	41
Pierce County	-591	-616	25	641	42
Stanton County	-326	-469	143	612	43
Kearney County	-393	-497	104	601	44

Area	2000 to 2010 Population Change				
	Total Population	Non-Hispanic White	All Minority Groups	Minority less non-Hispanic White	Rank
Butler County	-372	-464	92	556	45
Kimball County	-268	-405	137	542	46
Furnas County	-365	-452	87	539	47
Webster County	-249	-383	134	517	48
Nemaha County	-328	-419	91	510	49
Polk County	-233	-357	124	481	50
Cheyenne County	168	-156	324	480	51
Hamilton County	-279	-373	94	467	52
Howard County	-293	-371	78	449	53
Boyd County	-339	-385	46	431	54
Valley County	-387	-402	15	417	55
Franklin County	-349	-382	33	415	56
Harlan County	-363	-386	23	409	57
Pawnee County	-314	-359	45	404	58
Brown County	-380	-387	7	394	59
Frontier County	-343	-349	6	355	60
Dundy County	-284	-319	35	354	61
Johnson County	729	188	541	353	62
Nance County	-303	-327	24	351	63
Garden County	-235	-288	53	341	64
Lincoln County	1,656	669	987	318	65
Perkins County	-230	-242	12	254	66
Rock County	-230	-233	3	236	67
Greeley County	-176	-206	30	236	67
Hitchcock County	-203	-211	8	219	69
Buffalo County	3,843	1,815	2,028	213	70
Sioux County	-164	-184	20	204	71
Gosper County	-99	-147	48	195	72
Deuel County	-157	-175	18	193	73
Sherman County	-166	-158	-8	150	74
Grant County	-133	-134	1	135	75
Seward County	254	75	179	104	76
Hayes County	-101	-102	1	103	77
Thomas County	-82	-91	9	100	78
Blaine County	-105	-102	-3	99	79
Banner County	-129	-113	-16	97	80
Keya Paha County	-159	-126	-33	93	81
Wheeler County	-68	-76	8	84	82
Loup County	-80	-79	-1	78	83
Hooker County	-47	-45	-2	43	84
Logan County	-11	-17	6	23	85
Arthur County	16	10	6	-4	86
McPherson County	6	10	-4	-14	87
Cass County	907	512	395	-117	88
Garfield County	147	155	-8	-163	89
Saunders County	950	582	368	-214	90
Washington County	1,454	1,092	362	-730	91
Lancaster County	35,116	18,635	16,481	-2,154	92
Sarpy County	36,245	26,309	9,936	-16,373	93

Appendix 2. Nebraska County Statistics for non-Hispanic Whites during the 2000s

Sources: 2000 and 2010 Censuses, U.S. Census Bureau; Special Tabulation of Births and Deaths by Race/Ethnicity, Nebraska Dept Health/Human Services

Notes: The birth and death certificate forms changed in 2005, resulting in far fewer caes of unknown Hispanic origin. Here unknown cases are non-Hispanic.

Table sorted by the net migration of non-Hispanic Whites during the 2000s (shaded purple).

Area	2000 Population	2010 Population	Change	Percent Change	Rank	2000-09 Births	2000-09 Deaths	2000s Nat. Ch.	2000s Net Migr.	Nat. Ch. Rate	Rank	Net Migr. Rate	Rank	Births / 100 Deaths	Rank
Nebraska	**1,494,494**	**1,499,753**	**5,259**	**0.4**	**n/a**	**198,364**	**142,407**	**55,957**	**-50,698**	**3.7**	**n/a**	**-3.4**	**n/a**	**139.3**	**n/a**
Douglas	362,528	372,029	9,501	2.6	8	53,040	30,329	22,711	-13,210	6.3	4	-3.6	22	174.9	5
Hall	44,818	42,537	-2,281	-5.1	22	5,899	4,847	1,052	-3,333	2.3	15	-7.4	50	121.7	16
Platte	29,126	27,167	-1,959	-6.7	33	3,643	2,415	1,228	-3,187	4.2	8	-10.9	76	150.8	8
Dakota	14,368	11,596	-2,772	-19.3	92	1,614	1,469	145	-2,917	1.0	26	-20.3	92	109.9	26
Madison	31,122	29,062	-2,060	-6.6	32	4,109	3,398	711	-2,771	2.3	16	-8.9	61	120.9	17
Dawson	17,746	15,464	-2,282	-12.9	73	2,098	2,089	9	-2,291	0.1	37	-12.9	85	100.4	37
Dodge	34,110	32,120	-1,990	-5.8	27	4,039	4,018	21	-2,011	0.1	36	-5.9	38	100.5	36
Adams	28,735	27,747	-988	-3.4	17	3,517	2,950	567	-1,555	2.0	17	-5.4	34	119.2	20
York	14,053	12,725	-1,328	-9.4	51	1,589	1,409	180	-1,508	1.3	21	-10.7	73	112.8	23
Colfax	7,617	6,031	-1,586	-20.8	93	714	910	-196	-1,390	-2.6	64	-18.2	90	78.5	64
Saline	12,496	10,817	-1,679	-13.4	81	1,204	1,514	-310	-1,369	-2.5	62	-11.0	77	79.5	63
Holt	11,377	10,021	-1,356	-11.9	69	1,166	1,298	-132	-1,224	-1.2	50	-10.8	74	89.8	50
Box Butte	10,663	9,564	-1,099	-10.3	55	1,214	1,159	55	-1,154	0.5	31	-10.8	75	104.7	34
Scotts Bluff	29,457	27,931	-1,526	-5.2	23	3,557	3,978	-421	-1,105	-1.4	54	-3.8	24	89.4	51
Cuming	9,552	8,271	-1,281	-13.4	79	952	1,133	-181	-1,100	-1.9	58	-11.5	81	84.0	57
Antelope	7,343	6,418	-925	-12.6	70	732	762	-30	-895	-0.4	44	-12.2	84	96.1	44
Wayne	9,475	8,893	-582	-6.1	30	904	633	271	-853	2.9	12	-9.0	62	142.8	11
Cedar	9,505	8,659	-846	-8.9	50	1,046	1,078	-32	-814	-0.3	42	-8.6	58	97.0	42
Gage	22,354	21,432	-922	-4.1	20	2,638	2,782	-144	-778	-0.6	46	-3.5	21	94.8	46
Stanton	6,198	5,729	-469	-7.6	38	768	505	263	-732	4.2	7	-11.8	82	152.1	7
Burt	7,538	6,520	-1,018	-13.5	82	739	1,038	-299	-719	-4.0	75	-9.5	64	71.2	73
Custer	11,553	10,551	-1,002	-8.7	46	1,237	1,528	-291	-711	-2.5	63	-6.2	42	81.0	61
Phelps	9,418	8,694	-724	-7.7	39	1,076	1,099	-23	-701	-0.2	41	-7.4	51	97.9	41
Boone	6,181	5,383	-798	-12.9	74	577	693	-116	-682	-1.9	56	-11.0	79	83.3	58
Buffalo	39,313	41,128	1,815	4.6	5	5,770	3,278	2,492	-677	6.3	3	-1.7	12	176.0	4
Pierce	7,714	7,098	-616	-8.0	43	865	814	51	-667	0.7	29	-8.6	59	106.3	30
Red Willow	11,020	10,345	-675	-6.1	29	1,260	1,284	-24	-651	-0.2	40	-5.9	39	98.1	40

Area	2000 Population	2010 Population	Change	Percent Change	Rank	2000-09 Births	2000-09 Deaths	2000s Nat. Ch.	2000s Net Migr.	Nat. Ch. Rate	Rank	Net Migr. Rate	Rank	Births / 100 Deaths	Rank
Richardson	9,062	7,830	-1,232	-13.6	83	791	1,374	-583	-649	-6.4	86	-7.2	48	57.6	87
Clay	6,726	5,941	-785	-11.7	66	641	778	-137	-648	-2.0	60	-9.6	65	82.4	59
Sheridan	5,430	4,559	-871	-16.0	89	500	757	-257	-614	-4.7	80	-11.3	80	66.1	80
Jefferson	8,139	7,225	-914	-11.2	63	788	1,093	-305	-609	-3.7	71	-7.5	52	72.1	70
Dixon	5,927	5,293	-634	-10.7	59	631	672	-41	-593	-0.7	47	-10.0	68	93.9	47
Cherry	5,769	5,141	-628	-10.9	61	583	627	-44	-584	-0.8	48	-10.1	70	93.0	48
Merrick	7,973	7,405	-568	-7.1	36	837	828	9	-577	0.1	35	-7.2	49	101.1	35
Kearney	6,659	6,162	-497	-7.5	37	722	675	47	-544	0.7	28	-8.2	56	107.0	28
Keith	8,386	7,728	-658	-7.8	42	830	947	-117	-541	-1.4	53	-6.5	45	87.6	53
Fillmore	6,442	5,619	-823	-12.8	72	617	908	-291	-532	-4.5	79	-8.3	57	68.0	77
Thayer	5,942	5,077	-865	-14.6	84	531	867	-336	-529	-5.7	84	-8.9	60	61.2	84
Morrill	4,820	4,256	-564	-11.7	67	497	544	-47	-517	-1.0	49	-10.7	72	91.4	49
Lincoln	32,072	32,741	669	2.1	11	4,441	3,295	1,146	-477	3.6	10	-1.5	10	134.8	12
Hamilton	9,212	8,839	-373	-4.0	19	1,006	927	79	-452	0.9	27	-4.9	31	108.5	27
Butler	8,556	8,092	-464	-5.4	24	959	991	-32	-432	-0.4	43	-5.0	32	96.8	43
Thurston	3,262	2,739	-523	-16.0	88	310	402	-92	-431	-2.8	65	-13.2	86	77.1	65
Knox	8,559	7,688	-871	-10.2	54	783	1,241	-458	-413	-5.4	83	-4.8	30	63.1	83
Howard	6,438	6,067	-371	-5.8	26	711	673	38	-409	0.6	30	-6.4	43	105.6	31
Cass	23,571	24,083	512	2.2	10	3,032	2,119	913	-401	3.9	9	-1.7	11	143.1	10
Nuckolls	4,979	4,333	-646	-13.0	77	475	729	-254	-392	-5.1	81	-7.9	54	65.2	81
Frontier	3,036	2,687	-349	-11.5	65	276	262	14	-363	0.5	32	-12.0	83	105.3	32
Polk	5,543	5,186	-357	-6.4	31	604	631	-27	-330	-0.5	45	-6.0	40	95.7	45
Nemaha	7,358	6,939	-419	-5.7	25	760	851	-91	-328	-1.2	51	-4.5	27	89.3	52
Dawes	8,372	8,058	-314	-3.8	18	857	865	-8	-306	-0.1	38	-3.7	23	99.1	38
Otoe	14,822	14,499	-323	-2.2	15	1,778	1,798	-20	-303	-0.1	39	-2.0	13	98.9	39
Chase	3,900	3,491	-409	-10.5	58	397	529	-132	-277	-3.4	68	-7.1	47	75.0	67
Brown	3,459	3,072	-387	-11.2	62	305	419	-114	-273	-3.3	67	-7.9	55	72.8	69
Cheyenne	9,235	9,079	-156	-1.7	14	1,172	1,057	115	-271	1.2	23	-2.9	17	110.9	24
Kimball	3,866	3,461	-405	-10.5	57	369	518	-149	-256	-3.9	72	-6.6	46	71.2	72
Valley	4,531	4,129	-402	-8.9	49	443	599	-156	-246	-3.4	69	-5.4	35	74.0	68
Harlan	3,729	3,343	-386	-10.4	56	303	452	-149	-237	-4.0	76	-6.4	44	67.0	79
Boyd	2,409	2,024	-385	-16.0	87	171	331	-160	-225	-6.6	88	-9.3	63	51.7	90
Nance	3,954	3,627	-327	-8.3	44	414	538	-124	-203	-3.1	66	-5.1	33	77.0	66

Area	2000 Population	2010 Population	Change	Percent Change	Rank	2000-09 Births	2000-09 Deaths	2000s Nat. Ch.	2000s Net Migr.	Nat. Ch. Rate	Rank	Net Migr. Rate	Rank	Births / 100 Deaths	Rank
Sioux	1,424	1,240	-184	-12.9	76	98	82	16	-200	1.1	25	-14.0	87	119.5	19
Franklin	3,527	3,145	-382	-10.8	60	318	504	-186	-196	-5.3	82	-5.6	36	63.1	82
Perkins	3,090	2,848	-242	-7.8	41	333	391	-58	-184	-1.9	57	-6.0	41	85.2	55
Rock	1,735	1,502	-233	-13.4	80	145	208	-63	-170	-3.6	70	-9.8	66	69.7	76
Dundy	2,171	1,852	-319	-14.7	85	169	319	-150	-169	-6.9	89	-7.8	53	53.0	89
Seward	16,077	16,152	75	0.5	13	1,865	1,632	233	-158	1.4	20	-1.0	9	114.3	22
Greeley	2,657	2,451	-206	-7.8	40	295	347	-52	-154	-2.0	59	-5.8	37	85.0	56
Grant	734	600	-134	-18.3	91	64	44	20	-154	2.7	13	-21.0	93	145.5	9
Keya Paha	941	815	-126	-13.4	78	101	84	17	-143	1.8	19	-15.2	89	120.2	18
Furnas	5,197	4,745	-452	-8.7	48	482	792	-310	-142	-6.0	85	-2.7	16	60.9	85
Pawnee	3,042	2,683	-359	-11.8	68	231	463	-232	-127	-7.6	91	-4.2	25	49.9	92
Banner	769	656	-113	-14.7	86	47	44	3	-116	0.4	33	-15.1	88	106.8	29
Blaine	576	474	-102	-17.7	90	52	41	11	-113	1.9	18	-19.6	91	126.8	15
Garden	2,230	1,942	-288	-12.9	75	157	338	-181	-107	-8.1	92	-4.8	29	46.4	93
Hayes	1,030	928	-102	-9.9	53	85	81	4	-106	0.4	34	-10.3	71	104.9	33
Webster	3,971	3,588	-383	-9.6	52	341	619	-278	-105	-7.0	90	-2.6	15	55.1	88
Gosper	2,101	1,954	-147	-7.0	35	213	264	-51	-96	-2.4	61	-4.6	28	80.7	62
Hitchcock	3,031	2,820	-211	-7.0	34	296	416	-120	-91	-4.0	74	-3.0	18	71.2	74
Wheeler	878	802	-76	-8.7	45	86	75	11	-87	1.3	22	-9.9	67	114.7	21
Deuel	2,014	1,839	-175	-8.7	47	188	278	-90	-85	-4.5	78	-4.2	26	67.6	78
Thomas	720	629	-91	-12.6	71	54	66	-12	-79	-1.7	55	-11.0	78	81.8	60
Loup	696	617	-79	-11.4	64	57	66	-9	-70	-1.3	52	-10.1	69	86.4	54
Saunders	19,410	19,992	582	3.0	7	2,426	1,811	615	-33	3.2	11	-0.2	7	134.0	13
Sherman	3,253	3,095	-158	-4.9	21	322	449	-127	-31	-3.9	73	-1.0	8	71.7	71
Logan	756	739	-17	-2.2	16	95	86	9	-26	1.2	24	-3.4	20	110.5	25
McPherson	518	528	10	1.9	12	57	30	27	-17	5.2	5	-3.3	19	190.0	3
Arthur	425	435	10	2.4	9	55	36	19	-9	4.5	6	-2.1	14	152.8	6
Hooker	766	721	-45	-5.9	28	70	120	-50	5	-6.5	87	0.7	6	58.3	86
Garfield	1,867	2,022	155	8.3	3	167	325	-158	313	-8.5	93	16.8	1	51.4	91
Johnson	4,167	4,355	188	4.5	6	387	555	-168	356	-4.0	77	8.5	3	69.7	75
Washington	18,313	19,405	1,092	6.0	4	2,092	1,604	488	604	2.7	14	3.3	4	130.4	14
Lancaster	222,067	240,702	18,635	8.4	2	33,320	16,465	16,855	1,780	7.6	2	0.8	5	202.4	2
Sarpy	106,823	133,132	26,309	24.6	1	20,195	6,065	14,130	12,179	13.2	1	11.4	2	333.0	1