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Center for Public Affairs Research (CPAR)
University of Nebraska at Omaha

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CENTER FOR
PUBLIC AFFAIRS RESEARCH

NEBRASKA STATE
DATA CENTER

Fall 1990
Volume 2, Number 1

NEB-INDEX

Electronic Bulletin Board Provides Latest Stats 24 Hours A Day

NEB-INDEX (Nebraska Information Network and Data Exchange) is an on-line computerized bulletin board and database service for Nebraska. The bulletin board allows free and fast access to national, state, county and local data for business and government decision making.

In addition to database services, NEB-INDEX serves as a source of announcements for meetings, workshops and training opportunities in economic development, and in the use of demographic and economic information. NEB-INDEX also can be used as a means of communication between users with common interests.

Beyond these general functions, NEB-INDEX has been designed to meet the needs of several user groups in particular: (1) affiliates of the Nebraska State Data Center Network, (2) communities participating in the S.T.A.R.T. Economic Development program, and (3) education, business, government and non-profit organizations. Special data, news releases, reports, resource materials and communication features will be available for these user groups.

Program staff at the Center for Public Affairs Research (CPAR) invite user feedback about NEB-INDEX. Please let staff know how the bulletin

board and database service can be improved to better meet your information and communication needs.

NEB-INDEX was established in August 1989, and new data files and

resource materials are being added continually to the bulletin board. During the rest of 1990, significant additions will be made to the scope of the database.

How to Access NEB-INDEX

The bulletin board and database service is accessible seven days a week, 24 hours per day. Any brand of computer equipped with a modem and telecommunications software can access NEB-INDEX. The only cost users pay is the telephone charges.

Persons interested in becoming NEB-INDEX users may log on for an initial session to preview the bulletin board and database features. New users will be asked a series of questions which will help identify their needs and evaluate our services. After each new user's profile is reviewed, his or her security level will be elevated to permit access to additional features of NEB-INDEX.

If you will be accessing NEB-INDEX through an IBM compatible computer, consider using the PROCOMM, CROSSTALK, YTERM or KERMIT telecommunication packages. If accessing NEB-INDEX through a Macintosh computer, the TINCAN and REDRIDER communication packages work well. While these software packages allow for the greatest flexibility and ease of use in the NEB-INDEX environment, other packages also will work.

Set your equipment to communicate with VT100 emulation, in full-duplex mode, even parity, with eight data bits, one start bit and one stop bit. Then dial 402-595-2364. Any questions regarding NEB-INDEX should be directed to Tim Himberger at (402) 595-2311 or 1-800-227-4533.

Census Bureau Releases Publications With State Data

The Census Bureau has released several publications which contain data for Nebraska.

1. *State Population and Household Estimates: July 1, 1989, Current Population Reports, Series P-25, No. 1058.* Contains population and household estimates by state and includes annual estimates of the population by sex and age.

In 1989 the Census Bureau estimated that Nebraska had a population of 1,611,000 and 622,000 households. Although the state's population grew 2.6 percent between 1980 and 1989, the number of households was up 8.8 percent as the average household size dropped from 2.66 persons to 2.51 persons.

According to this report, the median age of Nebraskans rose from 29.7 in 1980 to 32.6 in 1989. The number of persons aged 25 to 44 grew 22.5 percent, while those aged 18 to 24 declined 20.5 percent. The only other age category that experienced an increase in its numbers was 65 years and over (9.1 percent). Interestingly, the increase in the number of persons 65 and older ranked 49th among the 50 states.

2. *1988 Population and 1987 Per Capita Income Estimates for Counties and*

Incorporated Places: West North Central, Current Population Reports, Series P-26, No. 88-WNC-SC. Shows population for 1988 and 1980 with percentage change and per capita income for 1987 and 1979, also with percentage change. Contains data for counties, cities/towns and townships.

The 1987 per capita money incomes for Nebraska communities ranged from a high of \$16,402 in Sprague (Lancaster County) to a low of \$4,551 in Merriman (Cherry County). Per capita money income in Brunswick (Antelope County) grew most rapidly at 130.6 percent between 1979 and 1987. On the other hand, the largest decline occurred in Cody (Cherry County), with a drop of 12.6 percent.

The 1987 per capita money incomes for counties ranged from \$12,615 in Douglas County to \$6,428 in Logan County. Antelope County experienced the most rapid increase between 1979 and 1987, as per capita money income grew 78.3 percent. Thomas County had the slowest growth at 22.9 percent.

3. *Projections of the Population of States by Age, Sex, and Race: 1989 to 2010, Current Population Reports, Series P-25, No. 1053.* Presents four alterna-

How To Obtain Information Described In data bytes

If you have any questions concerning information mentioned in data bytes, contact the Center for Public Affairs Research or State Data Center affiliate nearest you (see list on page 3). Agencies participating in the State Data Center network maintain copies of many Census products and make them available to the public for review during regular business hours. Reports and other products mentioned in databytes also are available for purchase from the U.S. Government Printing Office or the Bureau of the Census. For specific ordering information, contact the Center for Public Affairs Research or State Data Center affiliate nearest you.

tive projections for states by age and sex. No projections for counties.

Based on this report, Nebraska's population in 2000 could be as low as 1,539,000 or as high as 1,730,000 depending on what happens to net migration. In 2010, Nebraska's projections range from 1,443,000 to 1,819,000, again depending on assumptions of net migration.

4. *State Government Tax Collections in 1989, GF89, No.1.* Contains major sources of state tax revenue in Fiscal Year 1989. Includes comparisons among states, state tax collection trends from 1987 to 1989, rates of selected major taxes by states and detailed state tax yields.

In 1989, Nebraska's state government collected \$1,449,994,000 in taxes, an increase of 8.0 percent from 1988 and amounting to \$900.06 per person. For all states the increase was 7.5 percent, and per capita state tax collections averaged \$1,147.02. Nebraska ranked 21st in terms of percentage change from 1988 to 1989 and ranked 42nd in per capita state tax collections. Selected per capita state tax amounts and rankings are as follows:

	Nebraska		United States
	Amount	Rank	Amount
General sales tax	\$304.66	37	\$377.23
Individual income tax	294.29	29	358.16
Motor fuel sales tax	107.57	5	72.81

State Data Center Program Offers 21 Service Sites

The State Data Center Program is designed to help state and local government officials, business people, community leaders, planners, researchers and others make better use of statistical resources. The U.S. Bureau of the Census initiated the State Data Center Program in 1978.

In Nebraska, the State Data Center Program is comprised of a lead agency, coordinating agencies and affiliate agencies. The lead agency serves as the principal contact with the Census Bureau, processes machine-readable data, analyzes data and trains others in the use of statistical products. Coordinating agencies specialize in data retrieval and analysis, and they serve as liaisons with state government. Affiliate agencies conduct data analysis, maintain publicly accessible collections of statistical products and provide assistance to data users. Individuals desiring help in locating or interpreting statistical information are encouraged to contact the affiliate agency nearest them.

Lead Agency

Nebraska State Data Center
Center for Public Affairs Research
University of Nebraska at Omaha
1313 Farnam-on-the-Mall
Omaha, NE 68182
(402) 595-2311
1-800-227-4533

Coordinating Agencies

Nebraska Policy Research & Energy Office
Governor's Policy Research Office
P.O. Box 94601
Lincoln, NE 68509-4601
(402) 471-2579

Nebraska Library Commission
1420 P Street
Lincoln, NE 68508-1683
(402) 471-2045

Nebraska Department of Labor
P.O. Box 94600
Lincoln, NE 68509-4600
(402) 471-9844

Nebraska Dept of Administrative Services
Central Data Processing
P.O. Box 95045
Lincoln, NE 68509-5045
(402) 471-2065

Nebraska Natural Resources Commission
P.O. Box 94876
Lincoln, NE 68509-4876
(402) 471-2081

Affiliate Agencies

Northwest Nebraska Community Action Council
300 West 2nd Street
Chadron, NE 69337
(308) 432-3393

Blue Valley Community Action Council
P.O. Box 273
703 K Street
Fairbury, NE 68352
(402) 729-2278

Southeast Nebraska Community Action Council
618½ 3rd Street
Humboldt, NE 68376
(402) 862-2411

Mid-Nebraska Community Services
P.O. Box 2288
16 West 11th Street
Kearney, NE 68848
(308) 234-2591

Bureau of Business Research
200 CBA
University of Nebraska-Lincoln
Lincoln, NE 68588-0406
(402) 472-2334

Lincoln-Lancaster Planning Department
555 South 10th Street
Lincoln, NE 68508
(402) 471-7491

Nebraska Dept. of Economic Development
Research Division
P.O. Box 94666
301 Centennial Mall South, 4th floor
Lincoln, NE 68509-4666
(402) 471-3783

Southeast Nebraska Development District
2631 O Street
Lincoln, NE 68510
(402) 475-2560

Central Nebraska Community Services
P.O. Box 509
140 North 6th Street
Loup City, NE 68853
(308) 745-0780

West Central Nebraska Development District
P.O. Box 599
710 North Spruce
Ogallala, NE 69153
(308) 284-6077

Metropolitan Area Planning Agency
2222 Cuming Street
Omaha, NE 68102
(402) 444-6866

Panhandle Area Development District
1721 Broadway - Suite 400
Scottsbluff, NE 69361
(308) 632-1307

Siouxland Interstate Metro Planning
P.O. Box 447
400 Orpheum Electric Building
Sioux City, IA 51102
(712) 279-6286

Region 26 Council
P.O. Box B
Taylor, NE 68879
(308) 942-3461

Goldenrod Hills Community Action Council
P.O. Box 280
1119 Avenue E
Wisner, NE 68791
(402) 529-3513

1990 Statistical Abstract Of The United States

The 1990 edition of the *Statistical Abstract of the United States* is now available and includes, for the first time, summary data on the growth of computer technology in the office environment. Published annually since 1878, the *Statistical Abstract* contains a variety of information about the social, political and economic organization of the United States. It contains statistics about corporate farming, airline on-time arrivals, cost of living, pet ownership, mergers and acquisitions, school enrollment and hundreds of other topics. The *Statistical Abstract* also includes a guide to other sources, listing 1,600 foreign and domestic statistical publications.

Facts about Nebraska from the newest *Statistical Abstract* include:

- Nebraska ranks third in the nation in the number of hospital beds (696) per 100,000 population behind North Dakota and South Dakota and just ahead of Kansas. The average daily hospital room charge (\$189) ranks 46th.
- Nebraska ranks fourth in cash receipts for farm marketings (\$7,979,000,000) behind California, Texas and Iowa.
- Nebraska ranks 44th in percentage of population receiving public aid (3.5 percent).

1987 Economic Censuses Available For Nebraska

The economic censuses provide statistics about business establishments. They are conducted twice each decade for the years ending in "2" and "7." Separate 1987 Economic Censuses cover the retail trade, wholesale trade, service, transportation, manufacturing, mineral and construction industries.

Each economic census presents a detailed picture of the industry it covers, from the national to the local level. Data items reported in the economic censuses include number of establishments, employment, payroll, operating expenses and the sales, receipts or value of work done.

Numerous uses of economic census data are possible. A business may compare its company statistics with census figures for its industry or area to compute market share, evaluate growth and lay out sales territories. Trade associations use the censuses to identify industry trends affecting their members. States and communities use census data to better understand their economic base and to attract new investment.

Economic census data are published in a variety of forms. Printed reports are the most widely used. In addition, data are available on microfiche, computer tape, floppy diskettes and CD-

ROM (compact disc, read-only memory). To use CD-ROM, a microcomputer user must obtain a CD-ROM reader and software. A single 4 3/4-inch CD-ROM disc, using laser technology, can hold over 500 million characters—equivalent to the combined storage capacity of three high-density computer tapes or 1,500 floppy diskettes. That is enough to hold all of the 1987 Economic Censuses files on two discs.

Nebraskans Respond To The 1990 Census

Nebraska's mail-back response rate to the 1990 Census was 73 percent. That was considerably better than the U.S. average of 63 percent and the regional average of 65 percent. Households that did not respond will still be counted in the Census; those households are being enumerated by census field workers. But Nebraska's favorable response rate means that fewer field workers are needed for the job, which results in significant cost savings to taxpayers.

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- Current Economic Censuses
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