

6 REGIONS One Nebraska

REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT NTLATVE



UNIVERSITY OF NEBRASKA AT OMAHA CENTER FOR PUBLIC AFFAIRS RESEARCH WESTERN

COMMUNITY COLLEGE REGION

2024

PARTNERS





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State of Nebraska





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UNIVERSITY OF NEBRASKA AT OMAHA CENTER FOR PUBLIC AFFAIRS RESEARCH

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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.

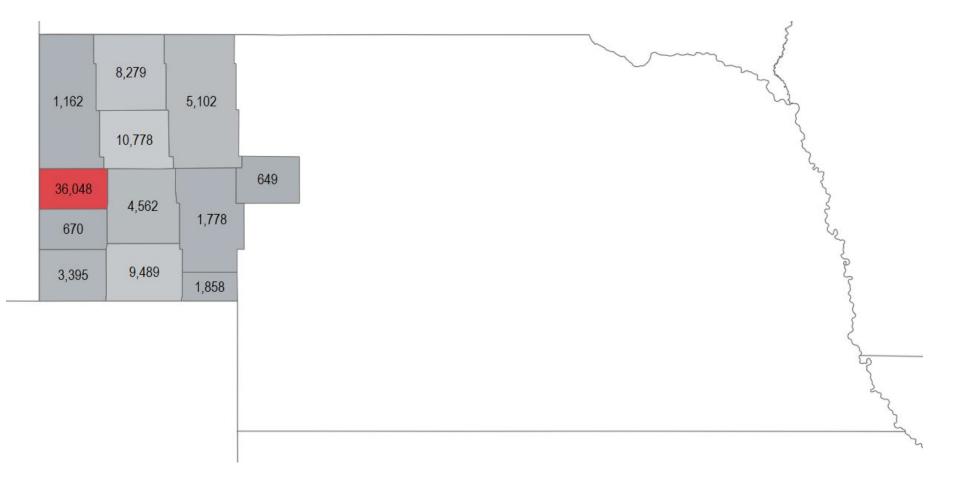
U.S. Census Bureau. American Community Survey. 5-Year Estimates. Multiple Years.

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.



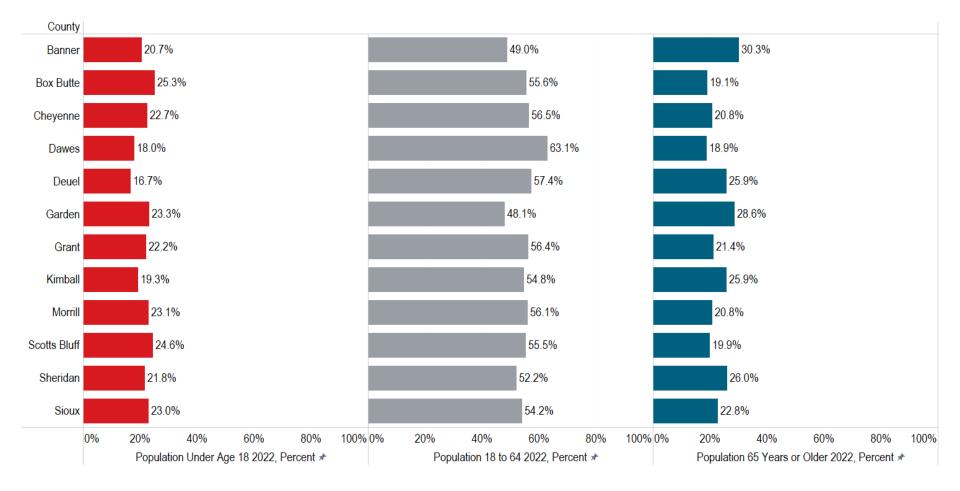
POPULATION CHANGE 2010 TO 2022

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.



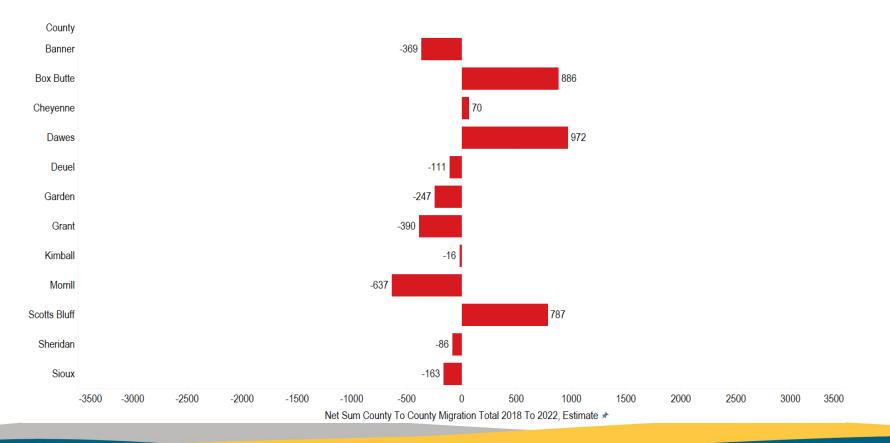
POPULATION BY AGE BY REGION, 2022

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.

| Region | Population | Average of Population Age 18 to 64 | Average of Population Age 65 Years or Over | Average Percent Change in Age 65 and Over 2012 to 2022 |
|--------------|------------|--|---|---|
| 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% |

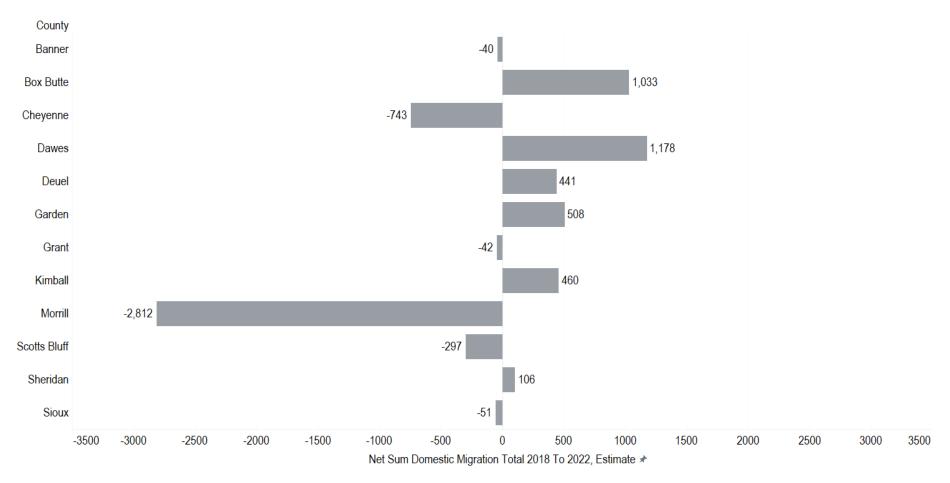
NET COUNTY-TO-COUNTY MIGRATION, 2018 TO 2022

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.

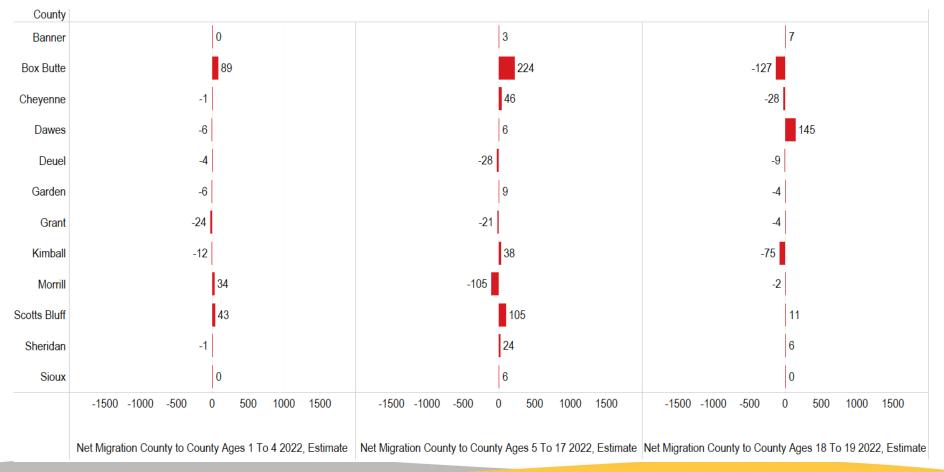


NET DOMESTIC MIGRATION BY REGION, 2018 TO 2022

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

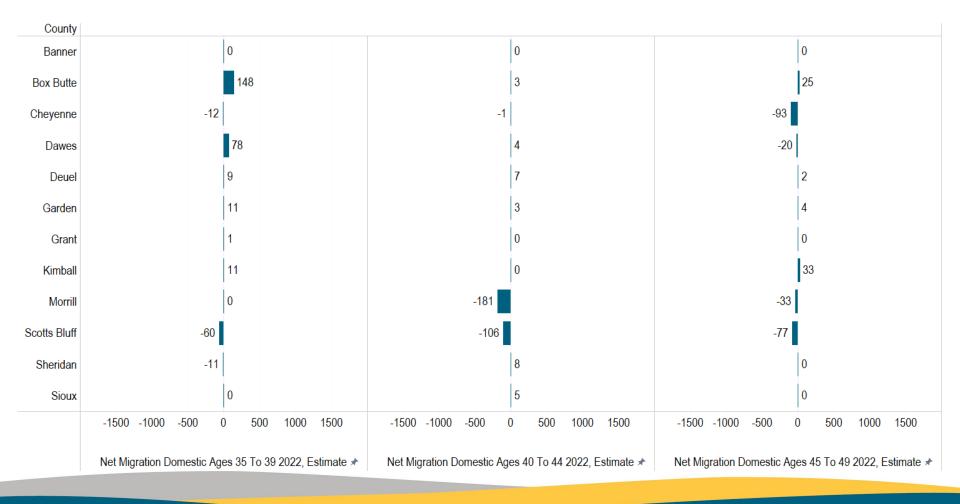
NET COUNTY-TO-COUNTY BY AGE, 2022

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 18to 19-year-olds into Dawes County. Pictured are county-to-county migrations for ages 1 to 19.



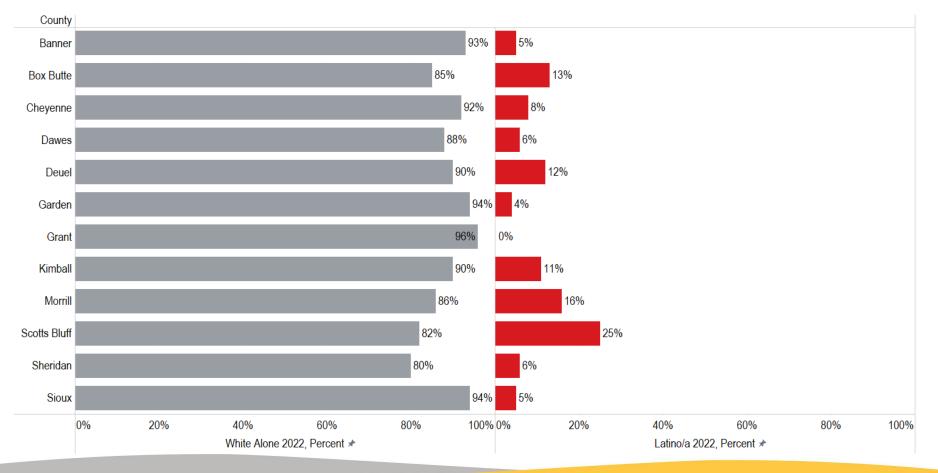
NET DOMESTIC MIGRATION BY AGE, 2022

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.



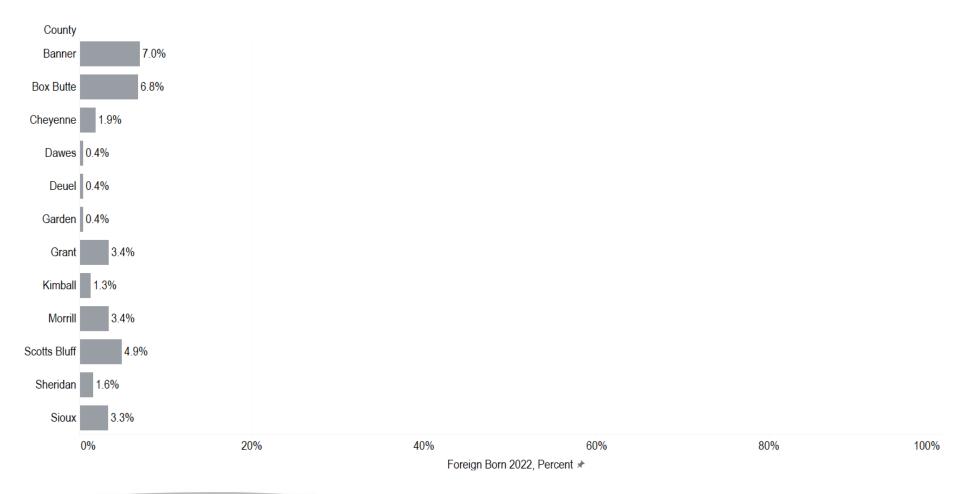
POPULATION IDENTIFYING AS WHITE ALONE AND LATINO/A, 2022

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.



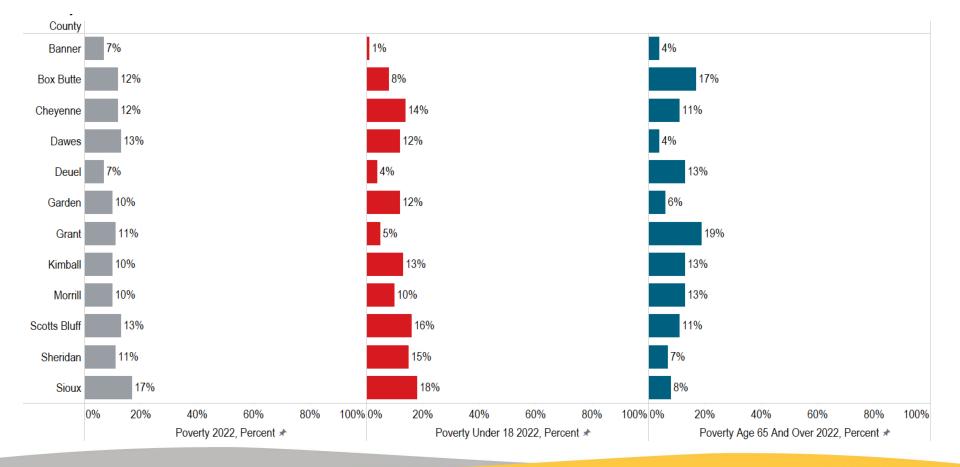
PERCENT FOREIGN BORN, 2022

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

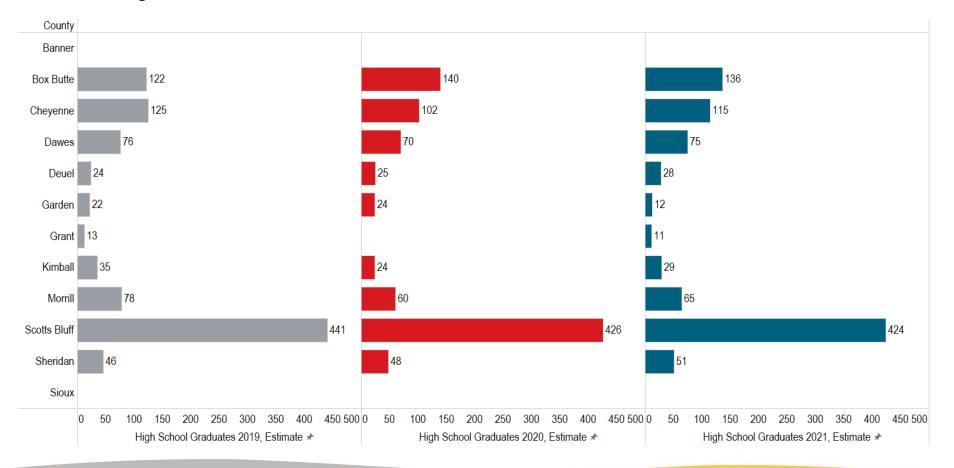
EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT, 2022

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% |
| Metropolita n | 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 |
|---------------|------|------|------|------|------|-------|-------|
| Chadron State | | | | | | | |
| College | 598 | 628 | 575 | 565 | 491 | 520 | 3,377 |
| Summit | | | | | | | |
| Christian | | | | | | | |
| College | 8 | 7 | 4 | 4 | 7 | 4 | 34 |
| Western | | | | | | | |
| Nebraska | | | | | | | |
| Community | | | | | | | |
| College | 254 | 327 | 300 | 342 | 271 | 612 | 2,106 |
| Total | 860 | 962 | 879 | 911 | 769 | 1,136 | 5,517 |

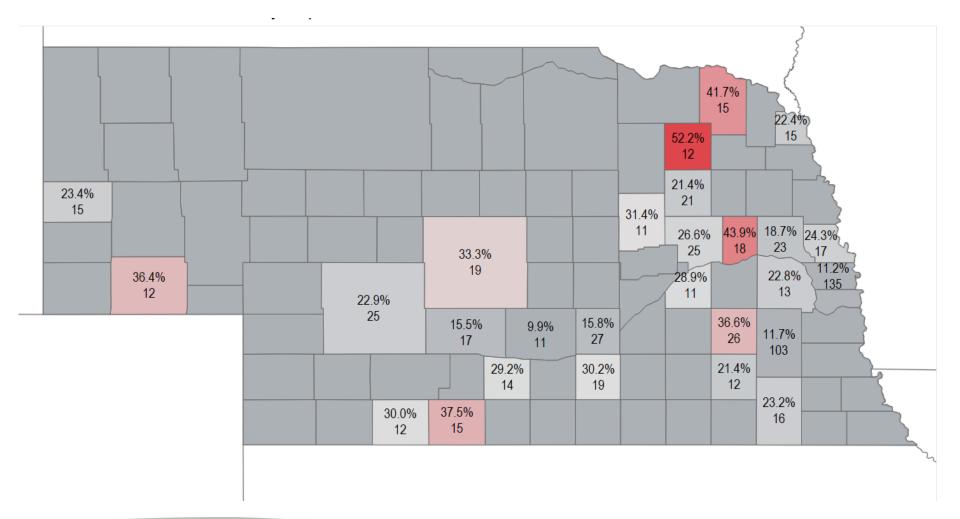
POST-SECONDARY PERSISTENCE RATES BY REGION, 2019, 2020, 2021

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

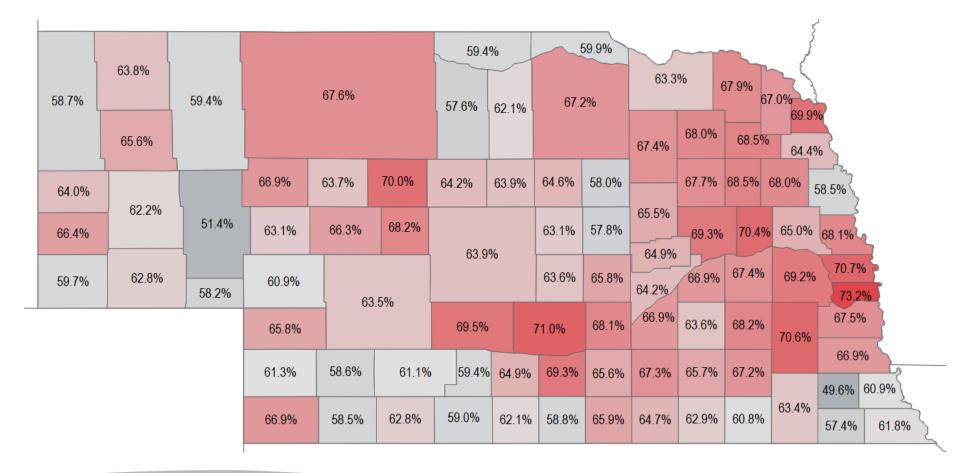
Talent retention rates in the state are fairly high, but the Western Region has the lowest rates.

| 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

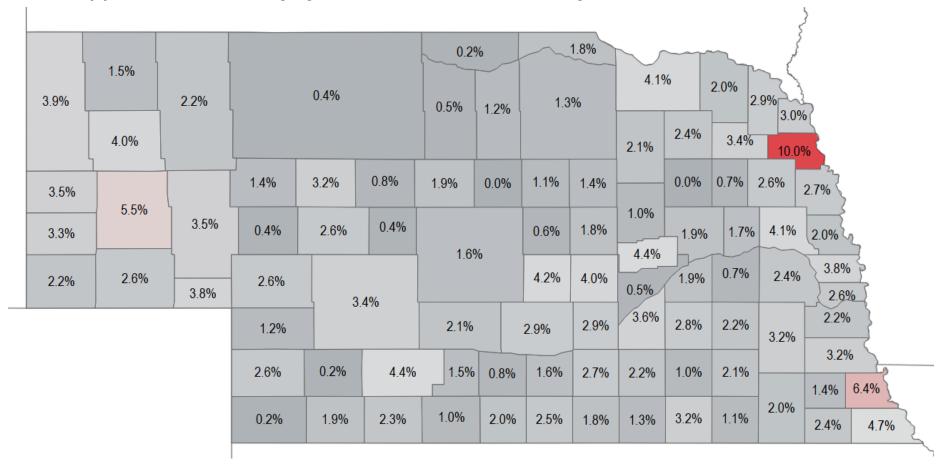
LABOR FORCE PARTICIPATION RATES , 2022

Labor force participation rates are high in the region and statewide. However, several counties in the region are below the state average.



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.



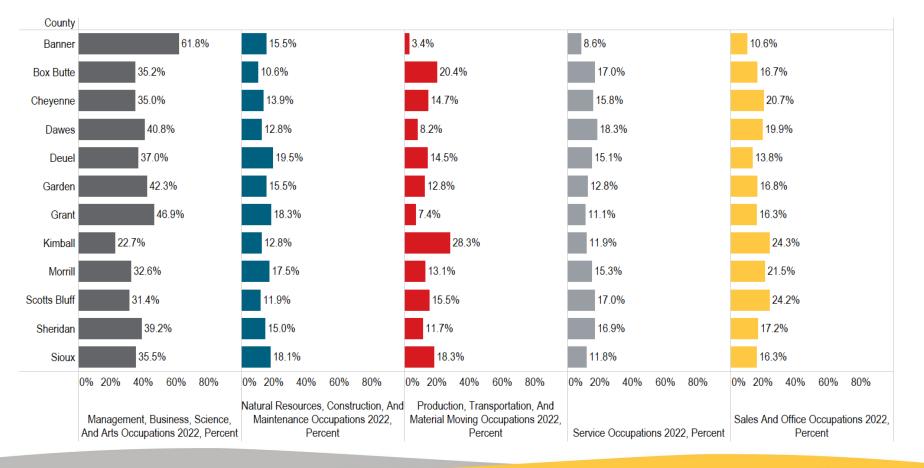
CLASS OF WORKER BY REGION , 2022

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

| Region | Private Wage and Salary Workers | Government Workers | Self- employed in Own Not Incorporated Business Workers | Unpaid Family Workers |
|--------------|--|-----------------------|--|-----------------------------|
| 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

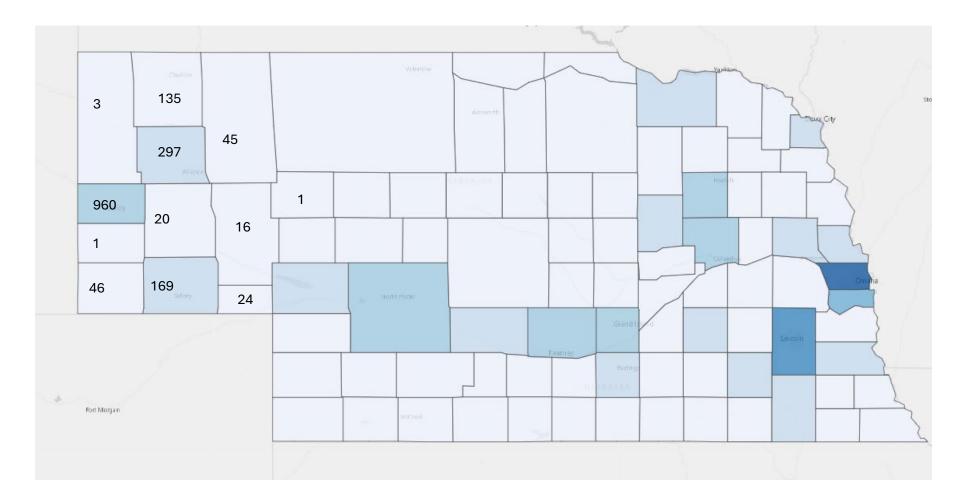
Occupations by Advertised Jobs Table

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> </i>

| 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 |

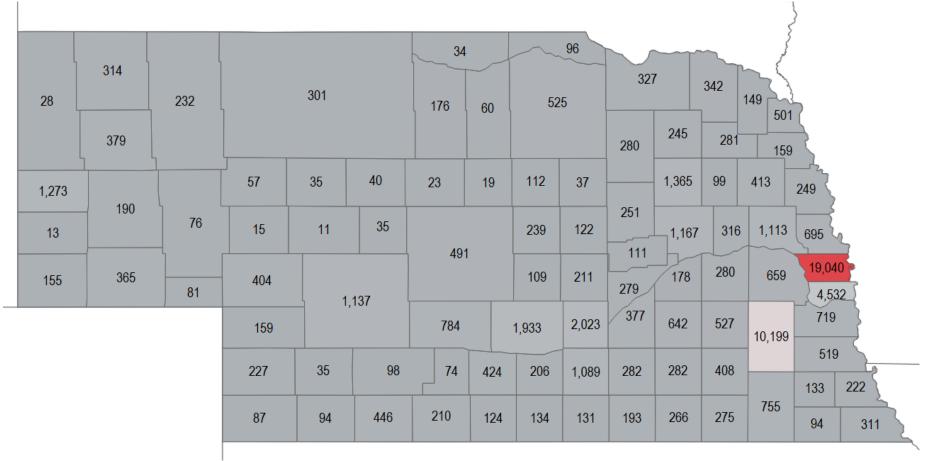
Source: Online advertised jobs data Downloaded: 06/19/2024 9:25 AM

JOB OPENINGS ON NEWORKS 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

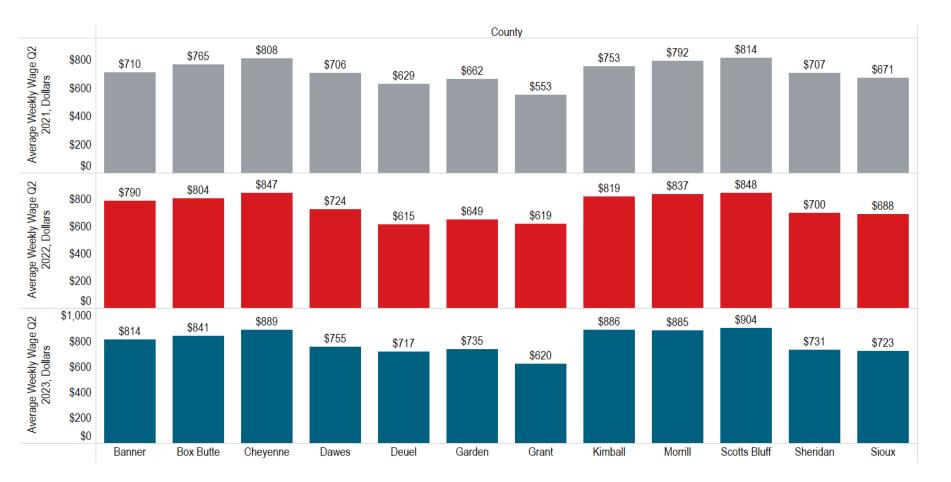
The table below shows the employers with the highest number of job openings advertised online in Panhandle Region (2013 Def.), NE on June 18, 2024 (Jobs De-duplication Level 2<i aria-hidden="true" class=" far fa-external-link-alt fa-fw"></i>/i>Opens In New window).

| 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 Downloaded: 06/19/2024 9:26 AM

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

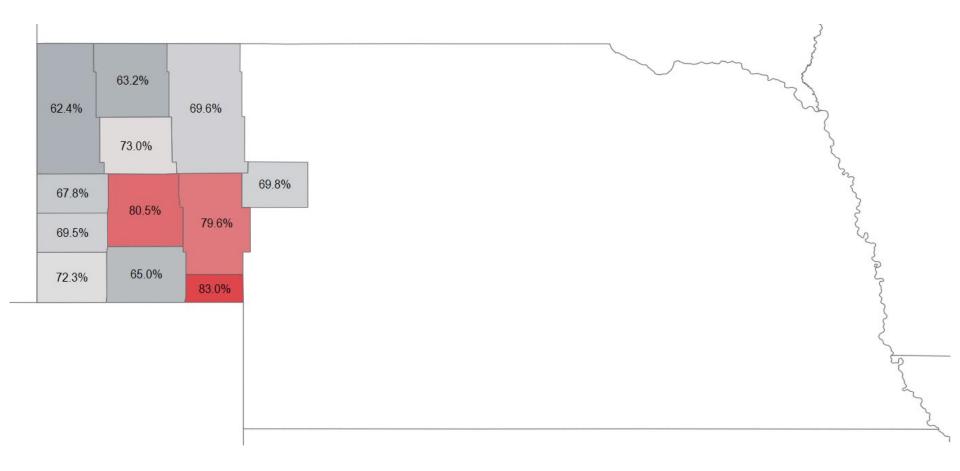
| Region | Natural Resources and Mining | Construction | Manufacturing | Trade, Transportation, and Utilities | Other Services Except Public Administration |
|--------------|---------------------------------|---------------|---------------|---|--|
| Central | \$2,676,888 | \$4,769,281 | \$21,664,316 | \$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 | \$75,015,437 |
| Metropolitan | \$47,770,002 | \$176,461,221 | \$359,723,489 | \$398,297,039 | \$64,379,318 | \$74,918,632 | \$1,706,029,722 |
| Mid-Plains | \$636,042 | \$1,422,699 | \$1,368,624 | \$8,758,985 | \$2,024,278 | \$1,328,862 | \$23,074,781 |
| Northeast | \$568,623 | \$3,138,829 | \$2,412,349 | \$12,388,136 | \$2,687,709 | \$1,310,934 | \$45,467,682 |
| Southeast | \$6,034,161 | \$13,079,577 | \$24,379,514 | \$54,519,043 | \$21,003,466 | \$8,171,839 | \$210,962,992 |
| Western | \$830,581 | \$1,624,669 | \$3,168,811 | \$11,999,775 | \$2,659,054 | \$1,579,037 | \$30,747,828 |

HOUSING

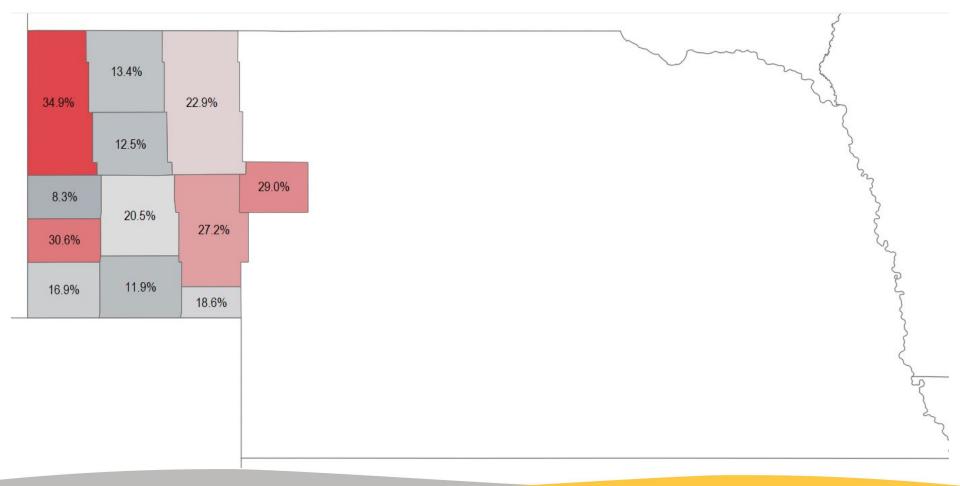
OCCUPANCY RATES, 2022

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



VACANCY RATES FOR HOUSING UNITS, 2022

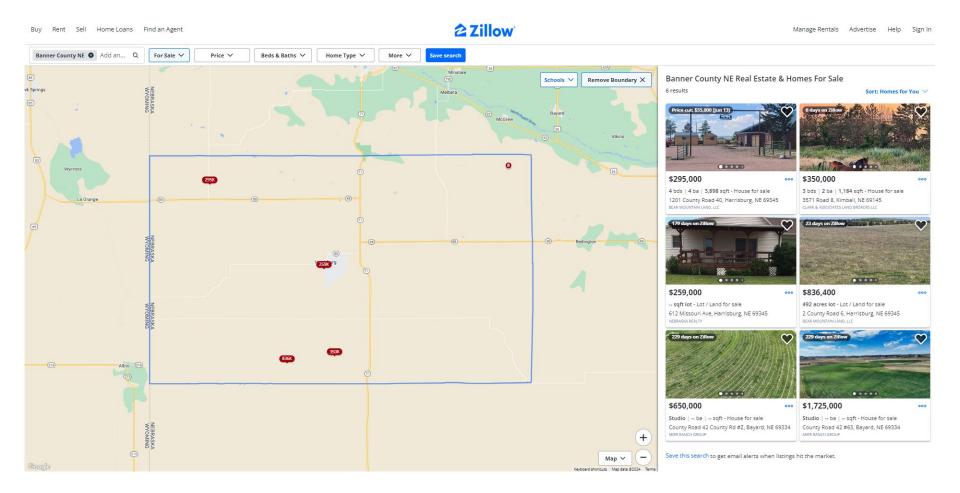
Vacancy rates, which refer to homes listed for sale or rent but not occupied, are high in all Western Region counties and have increased 8.3% since 2012 the highest of the regions.

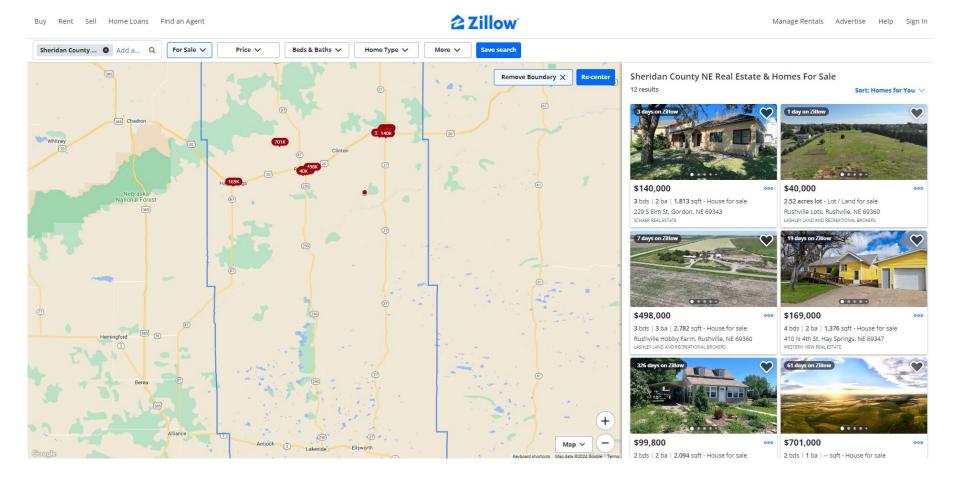


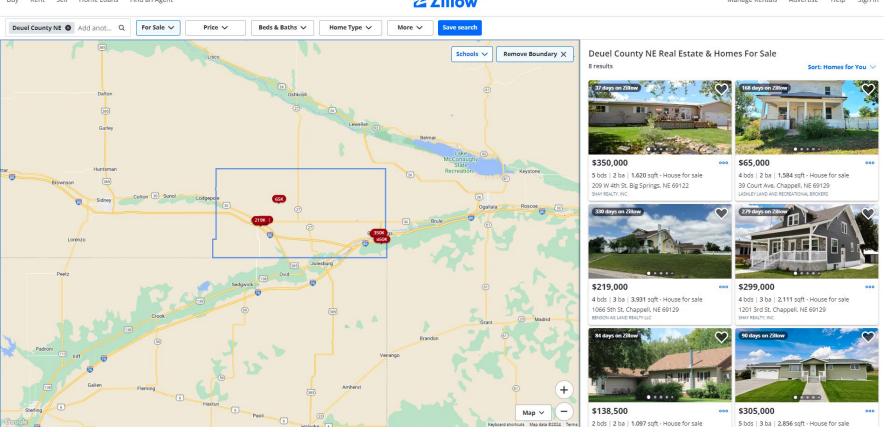
MEDIAN HOUSING AGE AND MEDIAN YEAR OWNERS AND RENTERS MOVED IN BY REGION, 2022

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.

| Region | Median Housing Age | Median Year Owner Moved into Housing Unit | Median Year Renter Moved into Housing Unit |
|--------------|-----------------------|---|--|
| 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 |







Buy Rent Sell Home Loans Find an Agent

2 Zillow

Manage Rentals Advertise Help Sign In

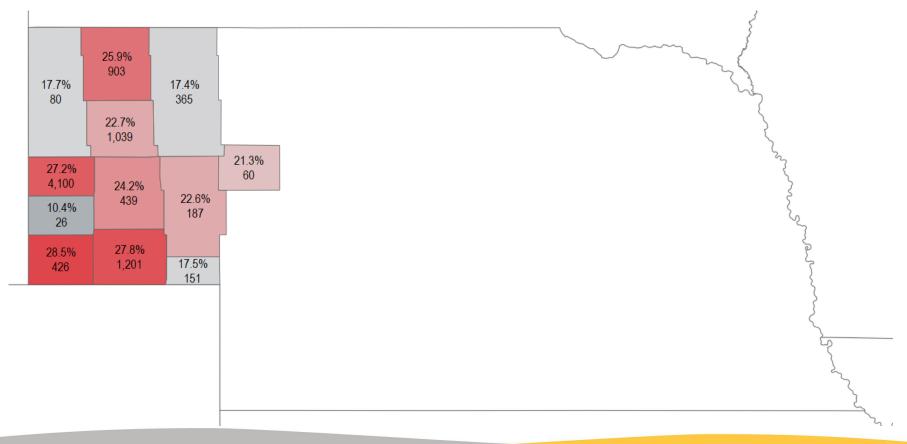
MEDIAN VALUE OF OWNER-OCCUPIED HOUSING UNITS, 2022

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

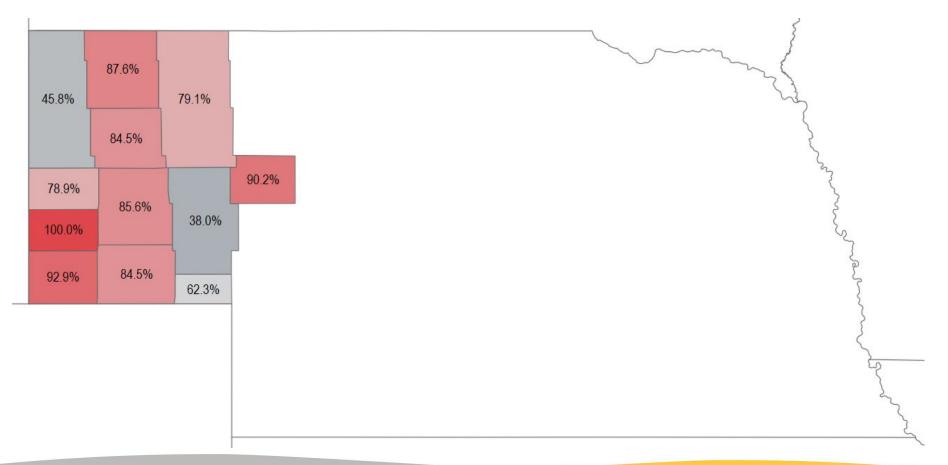
Housing cost burdened refers to households that are paying 30% or more of their income on housing. Despite lower housing values, many are still housing cost burdened, a function of lower income.



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.



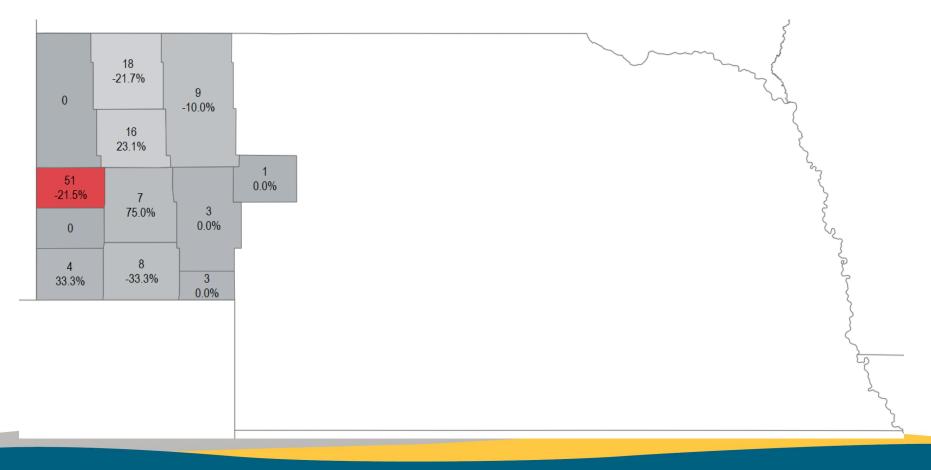
NUMBER OF CHILDREN UNDER AGE 6 AND CHILDCARE CAPACITY IN THE REGION, 2022 AND 2023

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.



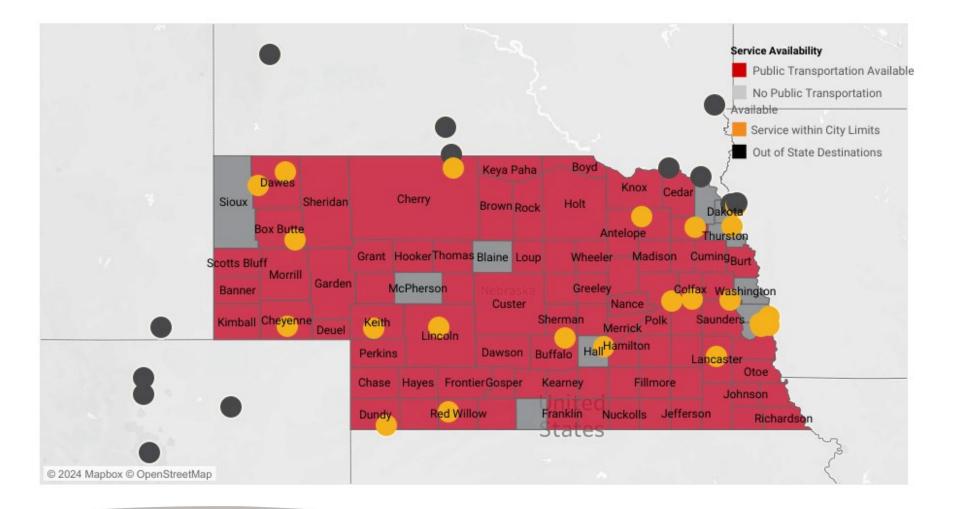
PUBLIC PRE-K PROGRAMS BY REGION, 2023/2024

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

| Region | Number of Pre-K Programs | Number of Children Enrolled | Average Percent Children Enrolled |
|--------------|-----------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| 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% |

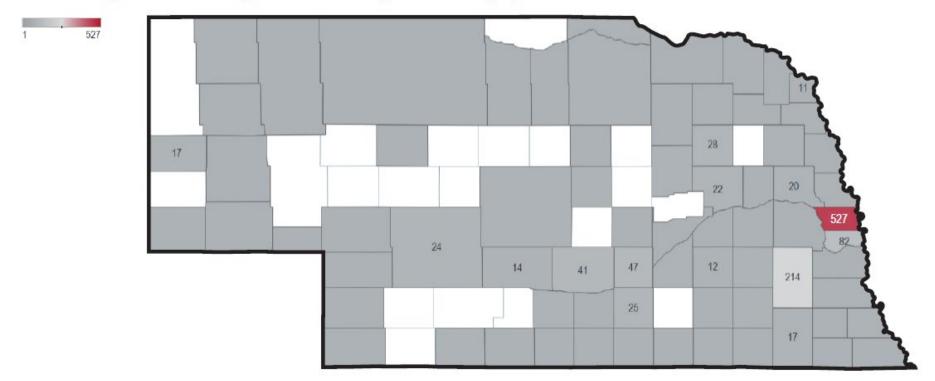
COMMUNITY INFRASTRUCTURE

RURAL TRANSIT AGENCIES, NEBRASKATRANSIT.COM



HEALTHCARE PRACTIONERS BY COUNTY, CPAR.UNOMAHA.EDU

Primary Care Physicians by County | 2023

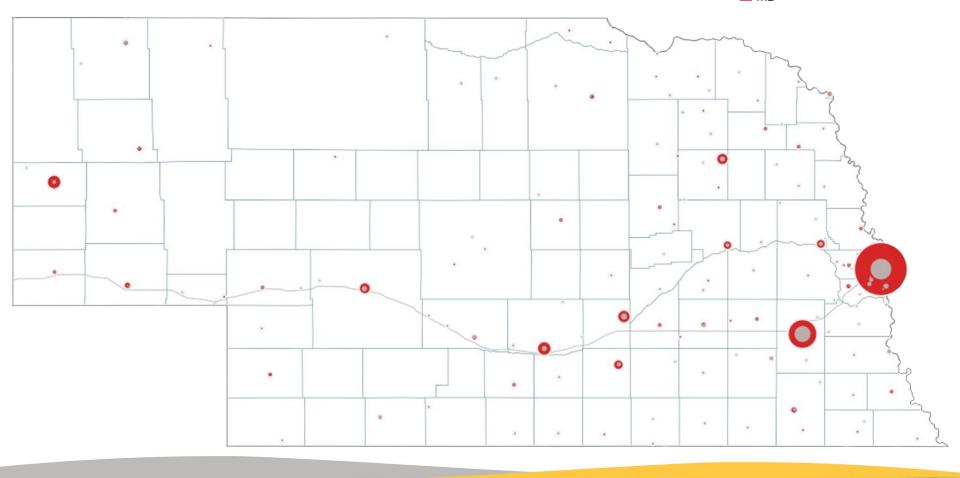


MD AND DDS OFFICE LOCATIONS, CPAR.UNOMAHA.EDU

Number of Practice Locations

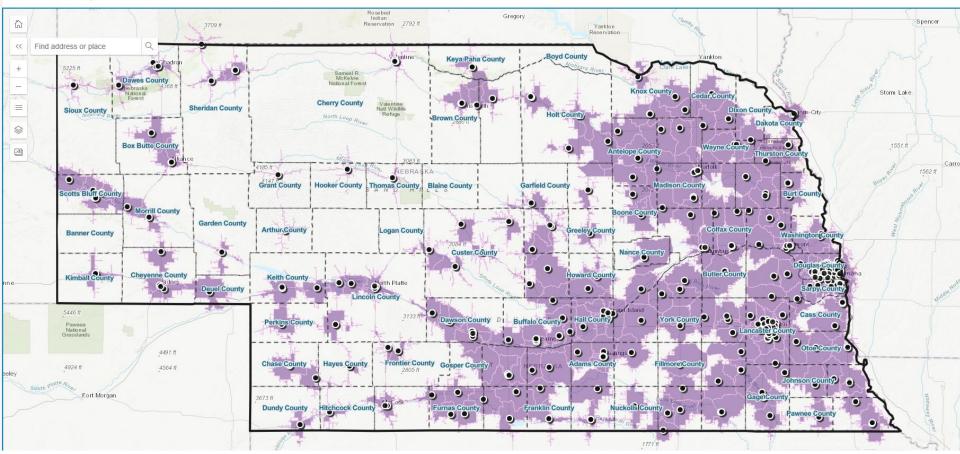


Active NE license DDS MD



GROCERY STORE LOCATIONS AND POPULATION WITHIN 15 MINUTES

Nebraska Grocery Access Review





6 REGIONS One Nebraska

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2024