

2010



Lincoln/ Lancaster County **Community Indicators Report**



April, 2010

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Introduction



Introduction

This Report marks a continuing effort in data collection for key community indicators outlined in the Lincoln-Lancaster County 2030 Comprehensive Plan. This Report is designed to evaluate and monitor changes in the community, and assess whether the assumptions in the Comprehensive Plan are valid and its goals are being achieved.

The Comprehensive Plan is based upon an understanding of current conditions as well as assumptions about the future. The fact that change is inevitable underscores the importance of developing a comprehensive monitoring approach that will allow the Comprehensive Plan to remain relevant in an environment of community change.

What are Community Indicators?

Community indicators are bits of information that, when combined, generate a picture of what is happening in a local system. They provide insight into the overall direction of a community: whether it is improving, declining, or staying the same, or is some mix of all three.

A combination of indicators can therefore provide a measuring system to provide information about past trends, current realities, and insight into future directions in order to aid decision making. In this sense, community indicators can also be thought of as grades on a report card that rates community well-being and progress.

Indicators themselves do not provide a model of how a community works or how to determine planning choices; rather, they provide information that can be used by citizens, policy makers, government agencies, the media, businesses, community activists and others when faced with decisions about the community. Indicators are a tool for helping us understand ourselves as a community.

As stated in the Plan, no conclusion can be made or trends determined through the analysis of a single year's information. For some indicators, there continues to be limited information currently available to monitor progress. The Planning Department strives to provide the best data available for the indicators to track the Comprehensive Plan's policies adopted in 2006. On an annual basis, the Planning Department will revise and, if necessary, correct and adjust data when new and better sources or updates become available. It is hoped that these indicators can be supplemented with additional information and evaluation.

Using this Report

The Community Indicators Report includes measures of many Benchmark areas and includes data on thirty-five (35) different Indicators. A Benchmark is identified along with the Indicator and is shown in the left corner of the top bar. The Benchmark is a measurable goal or target identified in the Comprehensive Plan, or a general principle or policy that is intended to be implemented over the planning period for the community.

The 2010 Report is divided into six major areas of interest: Growth, Economy, Environment, Housing, Transportation and Recreation. Every year new areas of interest will be evaluated for inclusion in future editions of the Report.

Each indicator is formatted to provide the following standard information:

Subheading information

This section appears immediately below the Indicator title and describes the Indicator's relationship with the Benchmark, as well the reasons why it is important to monitor over a period of time.



Introduction

Synopsis

This section highlights the key trend or observation about the Indicator as reflected by the data.

Trends/ Observations

This section highlights the key trends or observations that are identified in the data. Data collected since 2000 are emphasized, marking the beginning point for monitoring the assumptions identified in the 2030 Comprehensive Plan. Change is described in terms of percentage or nominal differences in the data between each year or a specific time period. Trends are not interpreted for additional meaning.

Definitions

This section explains where the data comes from, the caveats, limitations, time period, and definitions for uncommon terms or phrases.

Data Resources

This section identifies the resources from which data were obtained, and if relevant, provides a website address where further information can be found.

Evaluating the Data

The process of updating community indicators promotes regional cooperation and encourages public, non-profit, and private sector action through an understanding of specific trends and outcomes. Indicators are selected using the following general criteria:

- *Validity - Does the indicator provide meaningful information about what is being measured?*
- *Understandability - Can the indicator be easily understood by the general public?*
- *Reliability - Can the indicator be consistently measured over time?*
- *Availability - Is the data available in a timely manner?*

Two other issues create a further challenge in evaluating the findings of Indicators included in this Report. The diversity of the type of measured data included in the Report is accompanied by a similar diversity in publication times or “availability” for the information. The time lag associated with many of the Indicators presents a major obstacle in monitoring the current conditions occurring throughout the community. This Report comprises data that has publication release dates spanning from one month to five years. While data availability or timeliness is important, it has a slightly lower level of importance than the other data criteria, which are critical elements in selecting information. As noted earlier, trends take years to manifest in data, and conclusions garnered from year to year findings should be avoided.

Another important issue impacting the effectiveness of monitoring current conditions throughout the community is isolating the influence of local, state and national policy, conditions and/or mandates. Each Indicator may be influenced more or less from a particular level of government involvement than another. Determining a cause and effect relationship over time becomes a challenging enterprise in light of the competing policies that exist between the different levels of government. This does not lessen the importance of monitoring such Indicators, but does add caution for decision makers and readers of this Report when interpreting trends depicted in the data.

A complete analysis of data which comprises income measurements requires adjustment using an index, so that values from different years are expressed in terms of a single year’s income. Inflation adjustments are made by applying price indexes to the current value data, the resulting data is

Introduction



expressed in terms of real dollars. Converting current dollars to real dollars provides comparisons in the change of purchasing power over time. This adjustment provides a more complete understanding of the Indicator and determines the amount of real growth in these measures. This Report utilizes the Consumer Price Index (CPI) for “All Urban Consumers for the U.S. City Average” and the base year selected for adjusting the measures is 2008, that is, the adjusted or real dollars are shown in 2008 values. The CPI is the most widely used measure of inflation and is sometimes viewed as an indicator of the effectiveness of government economic policy.

Next Steps - From Indicators to Action

The value of community indicators is not as a static, one-time exercise in identifying important community trends, but, rather its importance is realized over a period of time. If updated on an annual basis, community indicators can show progress, or the lack of progress, in accomplishing community priorities. With broad participation in their targeting and update, community indicators can influence local policy and decision making. A more direct benefit of the Report is to provide information that counteracts bad data that do not accurately reflect community issues or trends.

The interconnections among the Indicators presented in this Report are substance for a wealth of discussions on our changing community. Report readers are encouraged to discover ways that these Indicators inter-relate, and how they can use the information to improve conditions throughout the community.

Another benefit of the Community Indicators Report is raising awareness of the people who live in the community, and the quality of life experienced by all residents. A changing community does not always result in positive outcomes for all residents. It is hoped that the information presented in this Report will make people think about their community, and the quality of life of their neighbors and the entire community.

The Report should prompt readers to ask questions, such as, “How does this information relate to my friends, family, colleagues, employees and neighbors?” The information should tell a story about the community, like, “Where have we come from and where are we going?” In order to get where we are going, we need to measure where we want to be.

We hope you find this Report useful and welcome comments and suggestions for later editions.

For more information contact the Lincoln-Lancaster County Planning Department or visit our website at lincoln.ne.gov.



Highlights

Growth

- ♦ As of July 1, 2009, the County Population is 281,531 persons as reported by the Census Bureau. This reflects an average rate of growth of 1.26 percent per year since 2000.
- ♦ The county experienced increased migration, especially international migration since 2001. Natural change still accounts for about $\frac{2}{3}$ of the increase in population.
- ♦ Based on the last 3 years of building permits issued, the city has enough detached single-family lots for the next 18 years.

Economy

- ♦ The “average wage” in Lancaster County has been impacted by the recent economic downturn to decrease by 1.1 percent from last year.
- ♦ Total County employment had an average annual growth rate of 0.93 percent between 2000 and 2008, lower than the population growth rate of 1.26 percent. The rise in employment has been mainly in the Business and Commerce Sector.
- ♦ 2009 unemployment in Lancaster County (4.4) is lower than Nebraska (4.73) and the U.S. (9.25) during the global recession. Unemployment in 2009 increased to 4.40 over 3.06 in 2008.

Housing

- ♦ In 2009, residential building permits were the lowest since 1983. The decline in the building industry affected the whole County.
- ♦ Housing prices for new construction increased in 2009 from 2008 while existing home values remained steady.

Environment

- ♦ Air quality in Lincoln has improved since 1998. Lincoln continues to meet National Ambient Air Quality Standards.
- ♦ Recycling activity in Lincoln in 2009 decreased from 2008. The decrease can be attributed to the global recession resulting in smaller newsprint and less waste.
- ♦ In 2009, the City of Lincoln had about 124,770 trees on public land valued at over \$64 million.

Transportation

- ♦ StarTran ridership has increased by 12.6 percent since 2000. Ridership decreased in 2009 from 2008, due to lower gas prices, fewer trips and changes in fare programs.
- ♦ The fixed bus routes are conveniently located within $\frac{1}{4}$ mile for nearly 82 percent of the homes in Lincoln. In 2004, this number was nearly 88 percent.
- ♦ Over 93.5 percent of homes in Lincoln are located within 1 mile of a public multi-use trail.
- ♦ The crash rate in Lincoln has declined by an average 3.26 percent per year since 1985.

Recreation

- ♦ In 2009, over 83 percent of the homes in Lincoln were located within $\frac{1}{2}$ mile of a Neighborhood Park. In 2004, this number was nearly 73 percent.
- ♦ The City has over 66 community parks and neighborhood parks.
- ♦ The City has a total of 5,328 acres of parkland and open space including 5 golf courses.

Growth

Benchmark:

Lancaster County Population Increases 1.5 Percent Annually by 2030



Indicator 1:

Lancaster County Population, 1960-2009

Assumptions on the rate of population growth are instrumental in numerous land use and development projections to formulate the Comprehensive Plan. The population growth rate of 1.5 percent is projected as an average over the 25-year planning horizon of the Plan.

Lancaster County has been growing 1.26 percent per year since 2000, less than the 1.5 percent per year benchmark in the Comprehensive Plan.

- ◆ The population of Lancaster County through July 2009 was estimated by the U.S. Census Bureau to be 281,531 persons, an increase of 1.27 percent since 2008.
- ◆ The County population grew by 79.03 percent since 1960 -- a higher growth rate than both Nebraska and the United States. Lancaster County's rate of growth between 2000 and 2009 has been 10.57 percent or approximately 1.26 percent per year.
- ◆ The rate of growth between 2000 and 2009 for Nebraska has been 4 percent and 7.87 percent for the United States.
- ◆ The County population in 2008 was 86.6 percent White followed by 4.86 percent Hispanic, 2.86 percent African-American and 3.30 percent Asian. People of two or more races increased from 1.49 percent in 2007 to 2.13 percent in 2008.

Lancaster County's population is assumed to reach over 390,000 people by 2030, and over 527,000 by 2050.

"Throughout its history, Lancaster County has demonstrated a remarkable capacity to grow and flourish."

-- 2030 Lincoln-Lancaster County Comprehensive Plan

Average Annual Growth Rate by Decade

Area	1960-1970	1970-1980	1980-1990	1990-2000	2000-2009
Lancaster	0.79%	1.39%	1.08%	1.59%	1.26%
Nebraska	0.47%	0.55%	0.05%	0.82%	0.53%
U.S.	1.27%	1.03%	0.94%	1.24%	0.94%

Average Change in Population since 2000

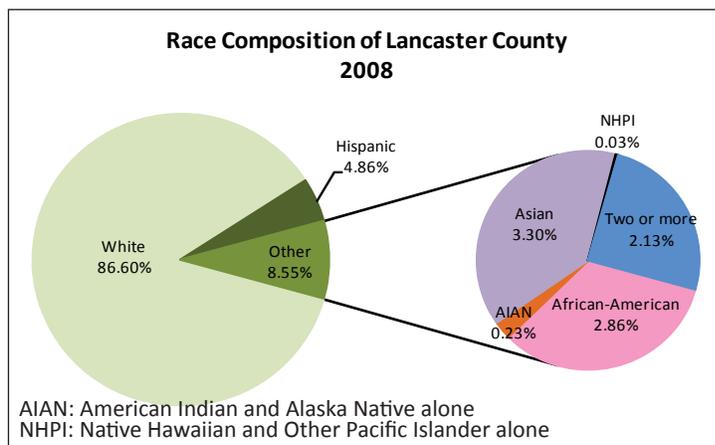
Lancaster County	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	Avg Annual Growth Rate
Population	251,425	254,357	257,949	261,884	264,079	267,564	270,741	274,333	277,991	281,531	
Change		1.17%	1.41%	1.53%	0.84%	1.32%	1.19%	1.33%	1.33%	1.27%	1.26%

Definitions:

- The data reflects US Census population and estimates for Lancaster County.
- Estimates are made annually on non-census years using data supplied by the states and reflect the estimated population on July 1st of that year.

Sources:

U.S. Census Bureau:
American Community Survey 2008
2008 Population Estimates County Data (CO-EST2008-all data)



Growth

Benchmark:

Lancaster County Population Increases 1.5 Percent Annually by 2030



Indicator 2:

Lancaster County, Birth and Death Statistics, 1986-2009

Crude Birth and Death Rates for Lancaster County and the U.S. (per 1,000 population)

	Lancaster County 2009	US Average 2009
Crude Death Rate	5.7	8.1
Crude Birth Rate	14.3	13.9

Numbers of live births and deaths in Lancaster County may indicate what population factors are generating change in the overall population. Changes in births and deaths affect the age structure of a community's population and have implications on public services.

Since 2000, Natural Change accounts for over 76 percent of Lancaster County's population growth.

Births

- ◆ The total number of births in a given year has increased by nearly 34.9 percent since 1986 from 2,993 to 4,037 in 2009 (preliminary data).
- ◆ Since 2000, the birth rate (births per 1,000 population) has fluctuated between a low of 14.6 in 2001 to a high of 15.6 in 2004.
- ◆ 2009 preliminary data indicates a birth rate of 14.3 per 1,000 Lancaster County residents.

Deaths

- ◆ The total number of deaths in a given year has increased by about 13.3 percent since 1986 from 1,418 to 1,607 in 2009 (preliminary data).
- ◆ Since 2000 the death rate (deaths per 1,000 population) has fluctuated from a high of 6.8 in 2002 to a low of 6.1 in 2006.
- ◆ 2009 preliminary data indicates a death rate of 5.7 per 1,000 Lancaster County residents.

Natural Change

- ◆ In 2009, preliminary statistics indicate the population change due to natural factors in Lancaster County amounted to an increase of 2,430 in population.
- ◆ Between 2000 and 2009, Natural Change accounts for about 23,114, or 76.66 percent, of the overall estimated population increase of 30,153 people.

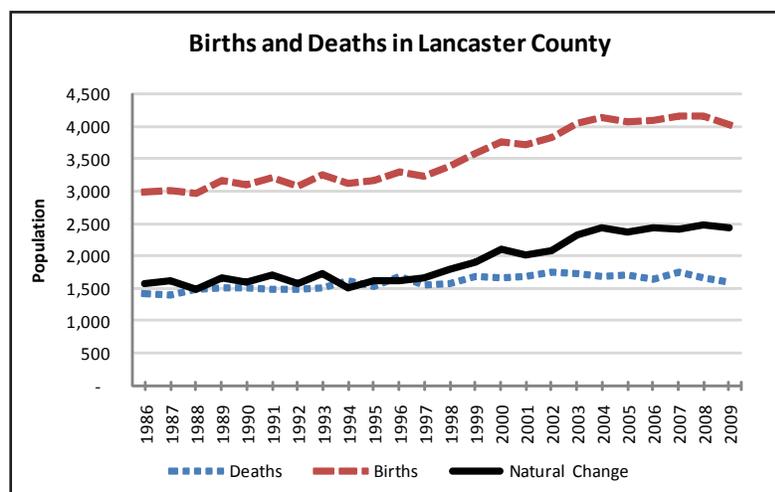
Definitions:

- These figures represent total live births and deaths for Lancaster County residents.
- Natural Change is the difference between the number of births and deaths.
- Numbers for 2009 are preliminary.

Sources:

Lincoln-Lancaster County Health Department, Division of Health Data and Evaluation

U.S. Census Bureau, Annual Estimates of Population Change



Growth

Benchmark:

Embrace a Growing, Changing Community



Indicator 3:

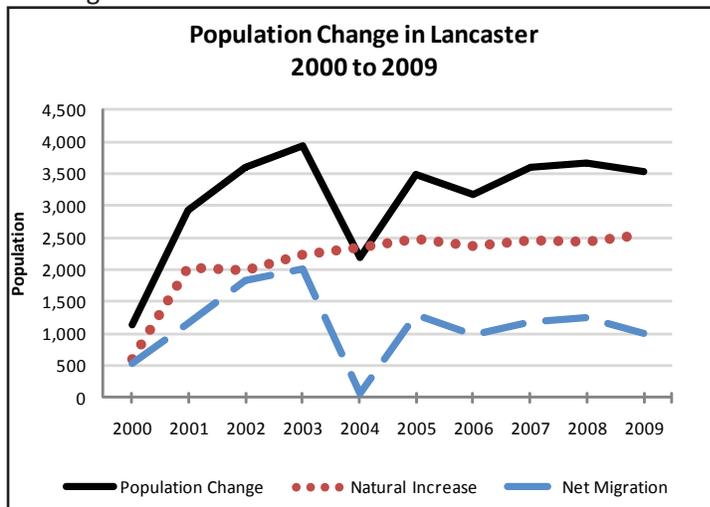
County Migration Trends, 1980-2009

This Indicator measures how attractive the community is to non-residents. The measures include the two largest components of population change: Natural Change and Migratory Change.

Since 2000, international migration has accounted for a majority of the total migration change.

- ◆ Lancaster County has been attracting a significant immigrant population, both international and domestic since the 1990's.
- ◆ Between 1990 and 2000, immigrants accounted for 54.30 percent of the Lancaster County population increase.
- ◆ Between 2000 and 2009, migration in Lancaster County accounts for an increase of 11,351 persons of which 59.77 percent was international migration.
- ◆ International migration in the County was highest in 2001 at 984 people. When compared with 2008, international migration in 2009 had minimal increase while domestic migration decreased by 38 percent.
- ◆ The State of Nebraska has experienced a net migration of negative 10.73 percent since 2000. The State has been consistently losing population to domestic migration.

Year	Inter'l Migration	Domestic Migration
2000	313	218
2001	984	185
2002	880	961
2003	700	1,314
2004	699	-636
2005	669	625
2006	691	292
2007	621	563
2008	612	646
2009	615	399
Total	6,784	4,567



Definitions:

- Natural Change is the difference between resident births and deaths.
- Migratory Change is the difference between people moving into and out of an area.
- "Total Population Change" is the sum of Natural Change and Migratory Change.
- In the 2008-2009 estimate year, corrections and adjustments were made to census estimates going back to 2000. This caused a change in migration data reported in previous Community Indicator Reports.

Components of Population Change since 2000

Lancaster County	Years										Change		
	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	1980-1990	1990-2000	2000-2009
Population Change*	1,134	2,932	3,592	3,935	2,195	3,485	3,177	3,592	3,658	3,540	20,757	36,650	31,240
Migration	531	1,169	1,841	2,014	63	1,294	983	1,184	1,258	1,014	18.30%	54.30%	34.52%
Natural Change	592	2,027	1,991	2,246	2,352	2,478	2,379	2,470	2,443	2,558	81.47%	45.70%	65.48%

* Includes residual population, may not equal sum of Natural Change and Migratory Change

Sources:

U.S. Census Bureau, Annual Estimates of Components of Population Change for Counties in Nebraska. County population, population change and estimated components of population change: April 1, 2000 to July 1, 2009 (CO-EST 2009-alldata)



Growth

Benchmark:

Lancaster County Population Increases 1.5 Percent Annually by 2030



Indicator 4:

Lincoln Electric System (LES) Residential Customer Accounts, 1980-2009

Comparison of Annual Growth Rates by Decade

	Avg. Annual Population Growth Rate	Avg. Annual New Account Growth Rate
1980-1990	1.03%	1.58%
1990-2000	1.59%	1.91%
2000-2009	1.26%	1.54%

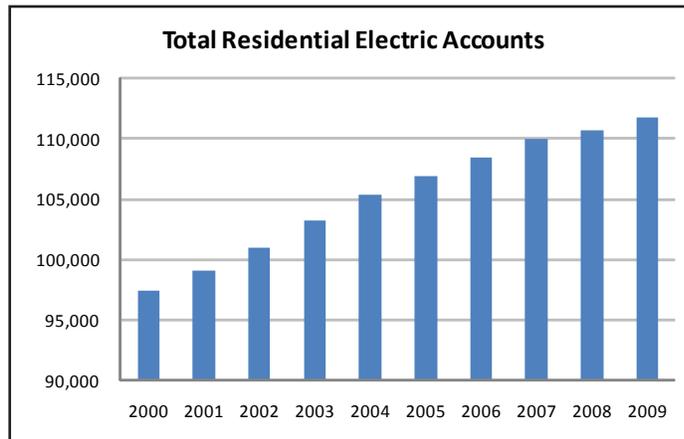
The growth rate for utility service connections may be utilized to monitor annual fluctuations in the local development economy. These figures may reflect the level of activity in the housing industry.

LES added 1,092 new residential accounts in 2009.

- ◆ LES residential electric account growth rates have historically been higher than population growth in Lincoln.
- ◆ In 2000, the number of accounts was 97,449 showing an increase of about 21 percent since 1990. There was an increase of about 17 percent between 1980 and 1990.
- ◆ Between 2000 and 2009, new residential electric accounts increased by 12.85 percent serving a total of 111,812 customers in 2009, an average annual growth rate of 1.54 percent.
- ◆ In 2009, the number of new residential accounts added to LES was 1,092 showing an increase of about 1 percent since 2008. Single-family houses accounted for 62.58 percent of new accounts in 2009.
- ◆ In 2009, building permits for construction of 604 dwellings units were issued - however, the year a building permit is issued may not be the year the dwelling is constructed or the year the LES connection is made.

Definitions:

- LES serves all of Lincoln and portions of Lancaster County (outside the City of Lincoln's corporate limits).
- Figures represent accounts for all types of dwelling units and do not correspond to dwelling units directly.
- For instance, a duplex or multifamily building may have a single account, or a multifamily building may have additional accounts for common areas and laundry rooms.



Electric Residential Customer Account Growth Rate by Decade

Lancaster	Years				Change		
	1980	1990	2000	2009	1980-1990	1990-2000	2000-2009
LES Accounts	68,926	80,624	97,449	111,812	11,698	16,825	14,363
Growth Rate by Decade					16.97%	20.87%	12.85%
Avg. Annual Growth Rate					1.58%	1.91%	1.54%

Sources:

Lincoln Electric System

Growth

Benchmark:

Lancaster County Population Increases 1.5 Percent Annually by 2030



Indicator 5:

Lincoln Water System, Residential Customer Accounts, 1981-2009

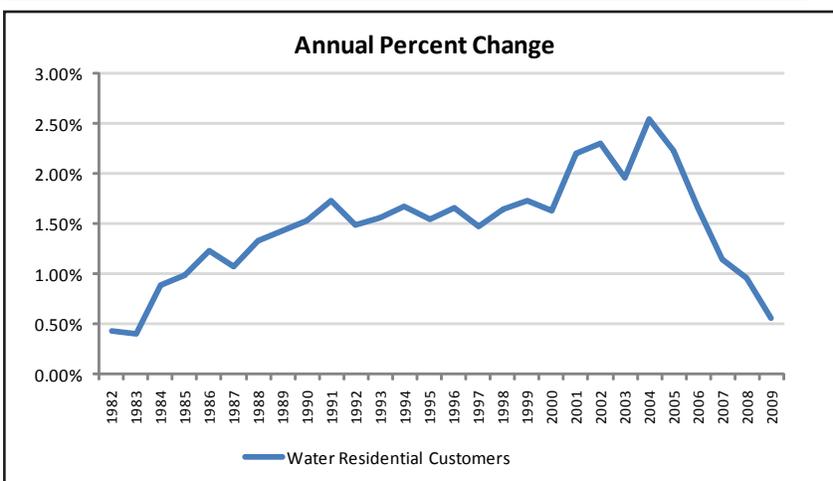
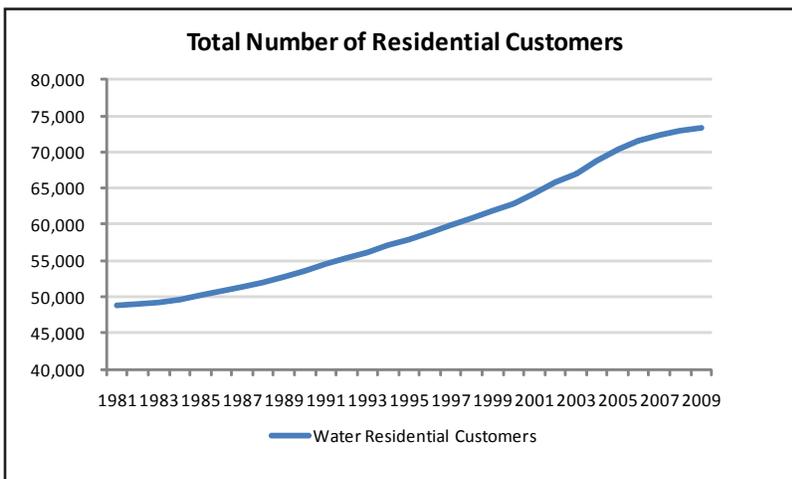
The growth in water customers may be utilized to examine fluctuations in the local economy. These figures may reflect the level of activity in the housing industry.

There has been a decline in the growth of residential water customers since 2005.

- ◆ In FY 2000, the number of new residential customers added to the system was 1,010 serving 62,887 residential customers.
- ◆ In FY 2009, the number of new residential customers added to the system was 415, serving a total of 73,386 residential customers by the Lincoln Water System. This was a 0.57 percent increase over 2008 residential customers.
- ◆ Between 2000 and 2009, the growth rate for new water customer accounts was 16.70 percent, with an annual average increase of 1.73 percent.
- ◆ The highest increases have been reported in 2002, 2004 and 2005 followed by a sharp decline in the annual growth rate through 2009.

Comparison of Annual Growth Rates by Decade

	Avg. Annual Population Growth Rate	Avg. Annual New Account Growth Rate
1980-1990	1.03%	1.04%
1990-2000	1.59%	1.62%
2000-2009	1.26%	1.73%



Definitions:

- Lincoln Water System service area includes development within City of Lincoln corporate limits.
- Reporting period reflects Fiscal Year (FY) of September to August each year.
- Multiple-family dwellings (apartments and duplexes) are "master-metered" where only one service connection is provided to the development.

Sources:

City of Lincoln, Lincoln Water System Annual Report Definitions:



Growth

Benchmark:

Lincoln will Continue to be 90 Percent of the County Population by 2030



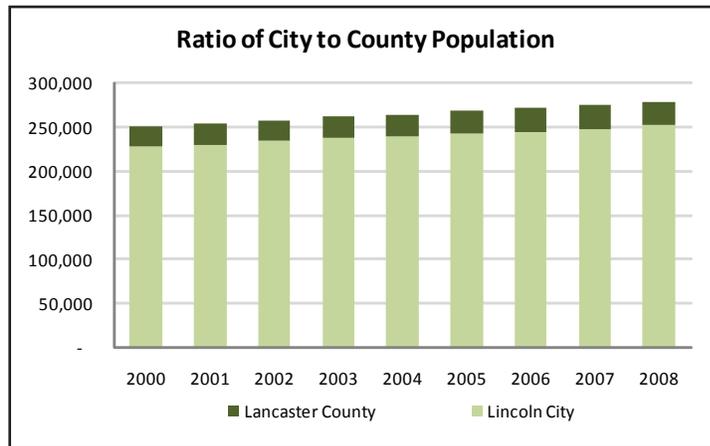
Indicator 6:

Ratio of Lincoln to Lancaster County Population, 2000-2008

Since 1980, the City of Lincoln's population has amounted to about 90 percent of the County's population.

Lincoln continues to reflect the ratio of 90 percent of Lancaster County's population.

- ◆ In 2000, Lincoln's population was 90.46 percent of the County population.
- ◆ In 2008, the ratio of City to County population reached 90.28 percent.



Definitions:

- US Census data for Lincoln and Lancaster County is used to determine population ratios. US Census population estimates are provided July 1 of each non-decennial year.
- Population includes persons in all incorporated and unincorporated communities in Lancaster County.
- Data used in this indicator was released in July 2007. Revised data for the County released in March 2008 will be used in future reports when revisions have also been made to City figures.

Rate of growth of City and County

Year	Lancaster County	Lincoln City	County Excluding Lincoln
2001	1.18%	1.18%	1.0%
2002	1.43%	1.43%	1.1%
2003	1.57%	1.57%	1.3%
2004	0.89%	0.89%	0.6%
2005	1.38%	1.14%	3.7%
2006	1.16%	1.06%	2.1%
2007	1.34%	1.29%	1.8%
2008	1.46%	1.39%	2.1%

Note: 2008 is the latest available estimate for City population.

Sources:

US Census Bureau, Population Division, March 2008

Lincoln/Lancaster County Planning Dept., Information and Technology Services, Data Bank

Growth

Benchmark:

Provide Sufficient Land for Development of Lincoln



Indicator 7:

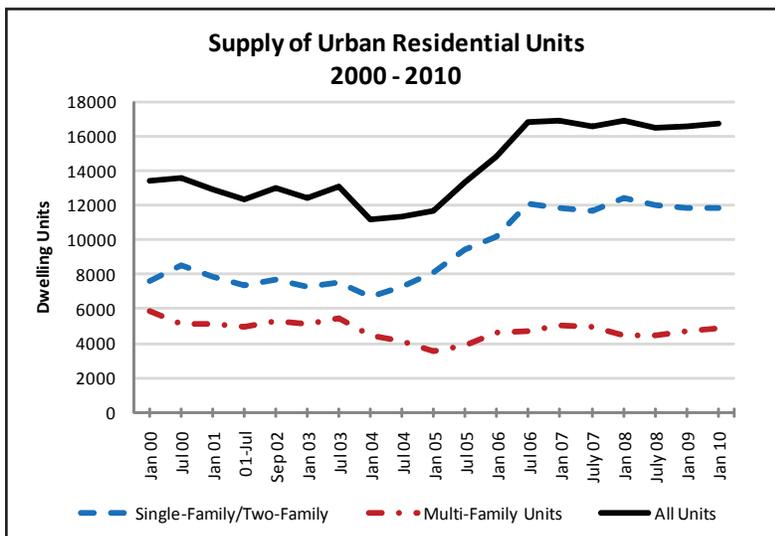
Lincoln's Supply of Urban Residential Lots, 2000-2010

The amount of land planned for residential purposes in Lincoln may reflect the general level of development activity throughout the community.

The lot supply in Lincoln has increased with the recent decline in the building industry.

- ◆ As of July 2000, the number of lots available for single/ two-family units totaled 8,504, and multi-family units totaled 5,083 in final, preliminary and "in-process" submitted plats.
- ◆ As of January 1, 2010, there were 11,796 single/ two-family lots final platted, preliminary platted or formally submitted and in process of review – this latest figure reflects a significant increase of 67 percent in lot supply from January 2004 (6,711).
- ◆ As of January 1, 2010, of the 11,796 platted lots, 30.42 percent were final platted, 63.37 percent were preliminary platted and 6.21 percent were submitted for preliminary plat.
- ◆ As of January 1, 2010, the supply of detached single-family lots available or in process (8,212) should last about 18 years at the 3-year average rate of 452 detached single-family building permits per year, or 9 years at the 10-year average of 933 building permits per year.

As of January 1, 2010 Lincoln has a potential for 51,008 new dwelling units within the 2030 Future Service Limit for Lincoln. About 16,707 are approved or in the process of platting. The remainder of the potential units are currently without infrastructure and on raw land.



Definitions:

- Latest figures are January 2010.
- The data reflects a periodic point-in-time inventory of housing lots that could be developed with housing units in the future.
- Platted Residential lots are single, two-family and multiple family units that are final platted, preliminary platted or are pending submitted plats.

Sources:

Lincoln-Lancaster County Planning Dept, Residential Land Inventory and Single Family Lots, January, 2010.



Growth

Benchmark:

Lincoln will Continue to Grow with a Single Public School District



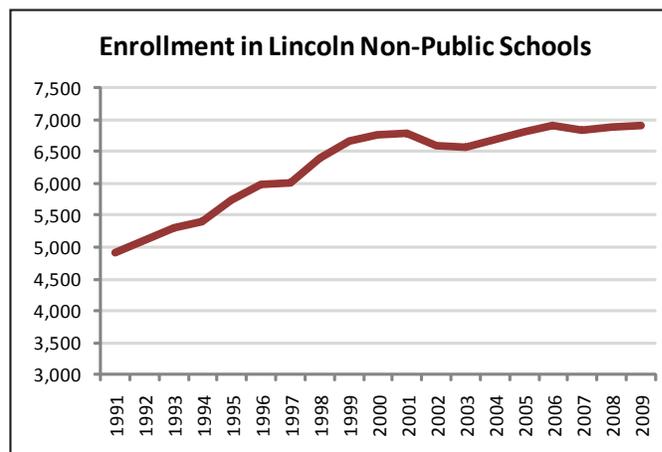
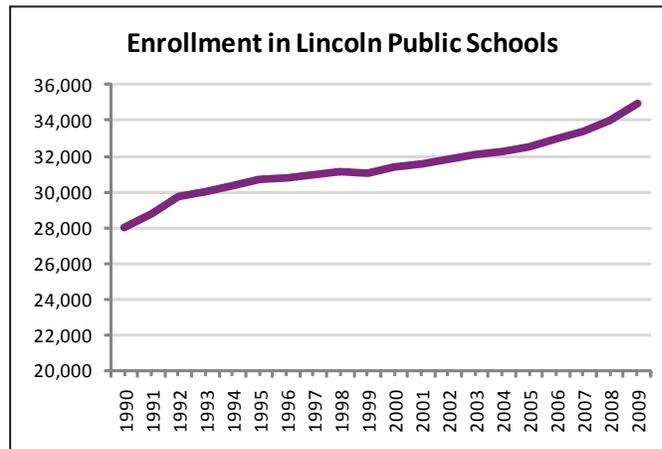
Indicator 8:

Lincoln Public Schools, and other Non-public Schools in Lincoln, Student Enrollment, 1990-2009

Student enrollment trends are important to monitor because they show potential need for new schools.

Enrollment in Lincoln Public Schools continues to rise by more than 1 percent per year.

- Between 1990 and 2000, the growth rate for net student enrollment in Lincoln Public Schools (LPS) was 12.03 percent; absolute change in enrollment was 3,368 students. The annual average growth rate was 1.14 percent.
- Total LPS student enrollment reached 34,941 in 2009, an addition of 940 students since 2008.
- Between 2000 and 2009, there were 3,587 additional students enrolled in the LPS district showing an increase of 11.44 percent. The annual average growth rate was 1.21 percent.
- From 2000 to 2009, an additional 137 students were enrolled in non-public schools in Lincoln showing an increase of 2.02 percent, an average annual rate of 0.22 percent.



Definitions:

- Enrollment census is taken in the Fall of each year and includes Pre-Kindergarten to 12th Grade students.
- Lincoln Public Schools students, as well as non-public schools students, may live outside City of Lincoln corporate limits.

Sources:

Lincoln Public Schools Annual Statistical Handbook
Nebraska Department of Education

Economy

Benchmark:

Provide a Healthy Climate for Economic Development



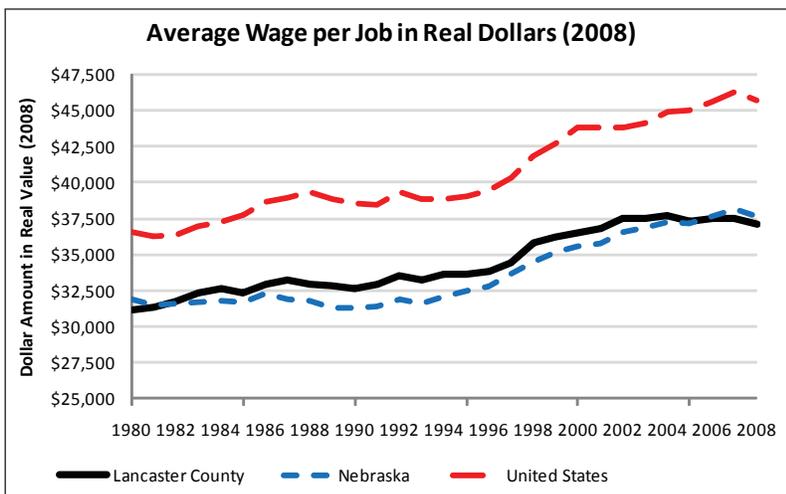
Indicator 9:

Lancaster County, Average Wage per Job, 1980-2008

Wage levels reflect conditions of the local economy and indicate the health of local companies and the economic well-being of workers. Adjusting for inflation determines the real growth in wages and the relative buying power over a time period.

Economic downturn has impacted average wage for the U.S., Nebraska and Lancaster County.

- ◆ In 2008, the current and real dollar value of the average annual wage for Lancaster County was \$37,105. The average wage was \$37,696 for Nebraska and \$45,716 for the U.S.
- ◆ County-wide, real wages per job (adjusted to 2008 dollars) increased through 2001 and has been level since, but decreased in the last year by 1.1 percent.
- ◆ Adjusting for inflation to reflect 2008 dollars, the wage per job increased by 19.18 percent between 1980 and 2008. The State of Nebraska had a similar increase of 18.36 percent, but the U.S. had a much higher increase of about 25 percent in the same period.
- ◆ Lancaster County had a significant increase in average wage (in real dollars) of 11.84 percent between 1990 and 2000, but only increased by 1.74 percent between 2000 and 2008. The average wage per job decreased by about 1 percent from 2007 to 2008.
- ◆ From 2000 to 2008, both Nebraska and the U.S. have shown a higher percentage increase than Lancaster County.



Change in Average Wage per Job in Real Dollars (2008) by Decade

Area	1980	1990	2000	2008	1980-1990	1990-2000	2000-2008
Lancaster County	\$31,133	\$32,610	\$36,471	\$37,105	4.75%	11.84%	1.74%
Nebraska	\$31,849	\$31,294	\$35,586	\$37,696	-1.74%	13.72%	5.93%
United States	\$36,581	\$38,585	\$43,828	\$45,716	5.48%	13.59%	4.31%

Note: 2008 is the latest available data.

Definitions:

- Estimates used to compute figures represent wages and salaries paid to all workers divided by the total number of jobs.
- People holding more than one job are counted in the wage estimates for each job they hold.
- The Consumer Price Index (CPI) is used to express "Real Dollars" in terms of their value in 2008. Since Inflation varies over years, the 'Real Dollar' values are dependant on the choice of year and may not be the same as reported in the last report.

Sources:

Bureau of Economic Analysis, CA34 - Average wage per job, Table 30

Economy

Benchmark:

Provide a Healthy Climate for Economic Development



Indicator 10:

Lancaster County, Per Capita Personal Income, 1980-2007

Change in Personal Income (Adjusted for Inflation)

Year	Lancaster	Nebraska	U.S.
1980-2007	42.0%	57.8%	51.7%
1980-1990	15.4%	23.8%	21.4%
1990-2000	22.4%	16.6%	16.3%
2000-2007	0.6%	9.3%	7.4%

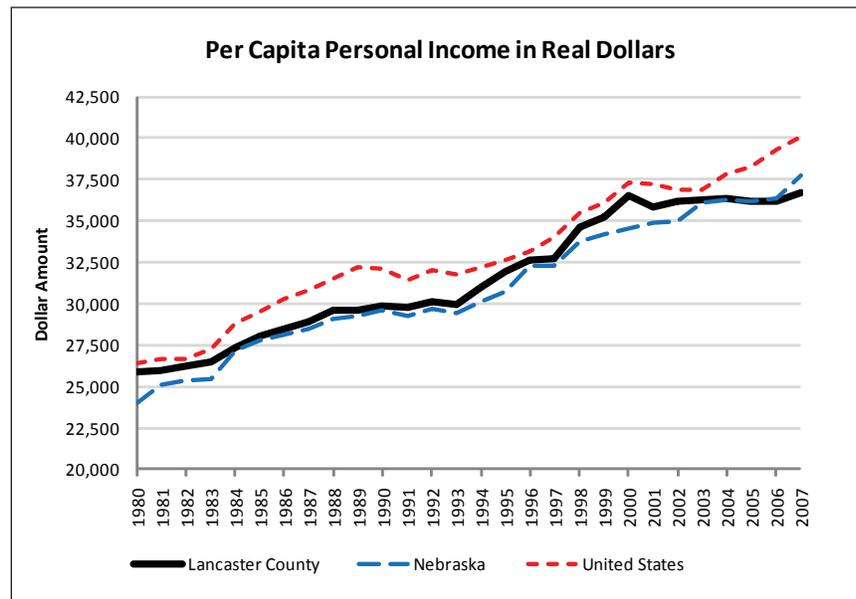
Per Capita Personal Income (PCPI) is an indicator of financial well-being and shows how well the economy is performing over time. PCPI is viewed as a key proxy for the overall economic health of a community.

Since 2000, Lancaster County's PCPI has shown little change, when adjusted for inflation.

- ◆ In 2007, the PCPI value was \$36,718 for each Lancaster County resident, an increase of 1.4 percent over 2006, adjusted for inflation.
- ◆ The increase in PCPI since 2000 was 21.08 percent – When adjusted for inflation, PCPI increased by less than one percent, remaining level over the last seven years.
- ◆ From 1980 to 2007, increase in PCPI as adjusted for inflation was 42 percent for the residents of Lancaster County.
- ◆ Lancaster County had a significant increase of 22.35 percent between 1990 and 2000 (adjusted for inflation) but significantly decreased to less than one percent from 2000 to 2007.
- ◆ After the high of 1990-2000, where the percentage increase in PCPI (adjusted for inflation) for Lancaster County residents was more than Nebraska and the U.S., there has been little change since 2000, whereas Nebraska and the U.S. show an increase of about 7 to 9 percent since 2000.

Definitions:

- PCPI does not reflect income distribution as it reflects an average for the population. PCPI gauges how income grows over time per person, by adjusting for the growth in population.
- PCPI is computed using Census Bureau midyear population estimates.
- PCPI is calculated as the sum of all wage, salary and other disbursements, divided by the number of people residing in Lancaster County.
- Real dollars are adjusted to reflect a base year of 2007.



Note: 2007 is the latest available data.

Sources:

Bureau of Economic Analysis, Regional Economic Accounts, CA1-3 Per capita personal income, Table 3.0

Economy

Benchmark:

Business and Commerce Sector-
Employment Growth of 2.0%
Annually



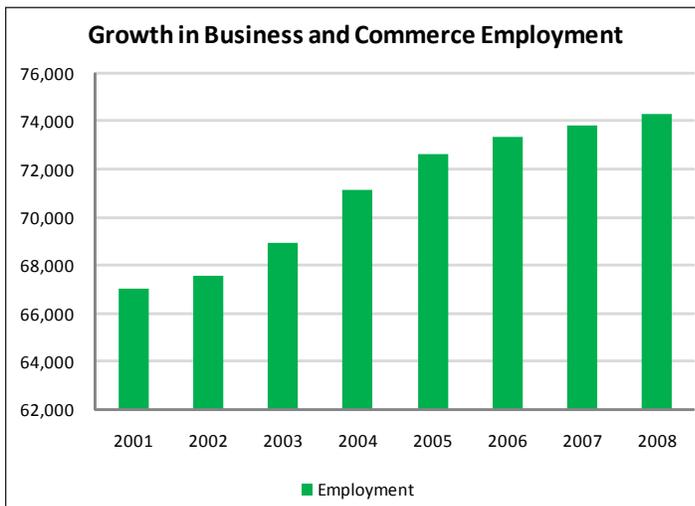
Indicator 11:

Lancaster County, Business and
Commerce Employment and
Establishments, 2001-2008

An annual growth rate of 2.0 percent in the “Business and Commerce” sector is anticipated in the Comprehensive Plan. Employment levels for “Business and Commerce” sectors may reflect the level of economic activity within the community. These employment sectors are generally tied to the use and expansion of retailing complexes, office buildings, business parks, and service centers throughout the community.

Education and Health is the highest employment provider in the “Business and Commerce” sector.

- ◆ In 2008, the total annual employment for “Business and Commerce” sectors in Lancaster County comprised 74,277 jobs distributed amongst 4,957 establishments with a 47 percent share of total county employment.
- ◆ In 2001, the annual employment for “Business and Commerce” sectors in Lancaster County comprised 67,054 jobs distributed amongst 4,064 establishments.
- ◆ Between 2001 and 2008, the average annual change in employment for “Business and Commerce” sectors was 1.47 percent per year in the County.
- ◆ From 2001 to 2008, the employment share for “Business and Commerce” sectors increased from 45 percent to 47 percent of the total county employment.
- ◆ Education, Health, and Professional Services are the highest employment providers in this sector contributing more than 50 percent of jobs in this sector.



Number of Establishments in Business and Commerce Sector

Year	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
Establishments	4,064	4,243	4,353	4,472	4,626	4,774	4,884	4,957

Note: 2008 is the latest available data.

Distribution of Industry in Business and Commerce Sector

Industry	2001	2008
Information	5.1%	3.4%
Financial Activities	14.5%	15.9%
Professional Services	25.4%	25.3%
Education and Health	26.2%	28.0%
Leisure and Hospitality	21.5%	20.8%
Others	7.3%	6.7%

Definitions:

- “Business and Commerce” employment sectors are used to monitor commercial land needs.
- Figures reflect average annual employment by sector and number of establishments.
- Employment categories are based upon the North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) and reflect data for workers covered by Nebraska Employment Security Laws

Sources:

Nebraska Department of Labor, Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages

Economy

Benchmark:

Industrial Sector Employment
Growth of 2.5% Annually



Indicator 12:

Lancaster County Industrial
Employment and Establishments,
2001-2008

An annual growth rate of 2.5 percent is anticipated in the Comprehensive Plan. Employment levels for "Industrial" sectors may reflect the level of economic activity within the community. The Industrial employment sectors tend to drive the need for siting and supporting additional industrial land throughout the community.

Distribution of Industries

Industry	2001	2008
Mining	1.0%	0.6%
Trade, Transportation, Utilities	50.4%	58.1%
Construction	14.8%	14.2%
Manufacturing	33.7%	27.1%

Employment in the "Industrial" sector has been level since 2001.

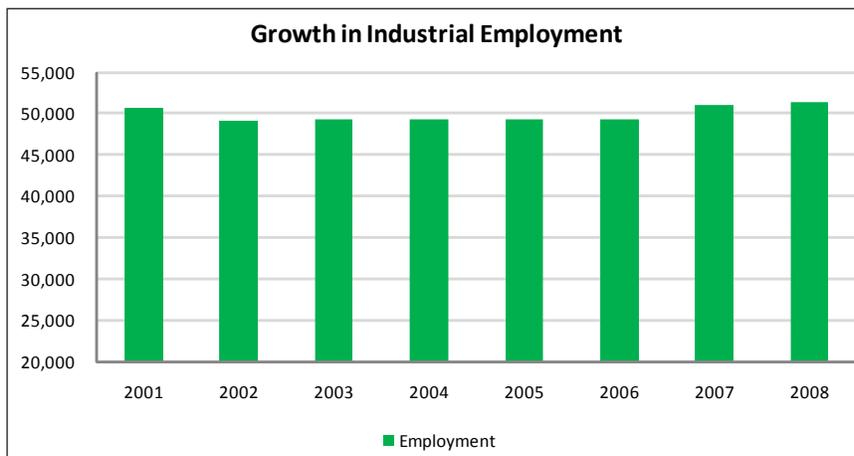
- ◆ In 2008, the total annual "Industrial" sector employment in Lancaster County comprised 51,290 jobs distributed amongst 2,857 establishments, having a 32.5 percent share of total county employment.
- ◆ In 2001, the annual "Industrial" sector employment in Lancaster County comprised 50,620 jobs distributed amongst 2,626 establishments.
- ◆ Between 2001 and 2008, the average annual change in county-wide employment in the "Industrial" sectors was about 0.19 percent per year.
- ◆ From 2001 to 2008, employment share for "Industrial" sectors decreased slightly from 34 percent to 32.5 percent of the total county employment.
- ◆ The number of establishments in this sector grew from 2,626 in 2001 to 2,857 in 2008, an increase of 8.8 percent.
- ◆ Trade, Transportation and Utilities is the highest employment provider in this sector contributing about 58 percent of the jobs in 2008.

Definitions:

- "Industrial" sectors are used to monitor industrial land needs.
- Figures reflect average annual employment by sector and number of establishments.
- These employment categories are based upon the North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) and reflect data for workers covered by Nebraska Employment Security Laws.

Sources:

Nebraska Department of Labor, Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages



Number of Establishments in Industrial Sector

Year	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
Establishments	2,626	2,714	2,751	2,777	2,860	2,859	2,869	2,857

Note: 2008 is the latest available data.

Economy

Benchmark:

Government Sector Employment Growth of 1.5% Annually



Indicator 13:

Lancaster County Government Employment and Establishments, 2001-2008

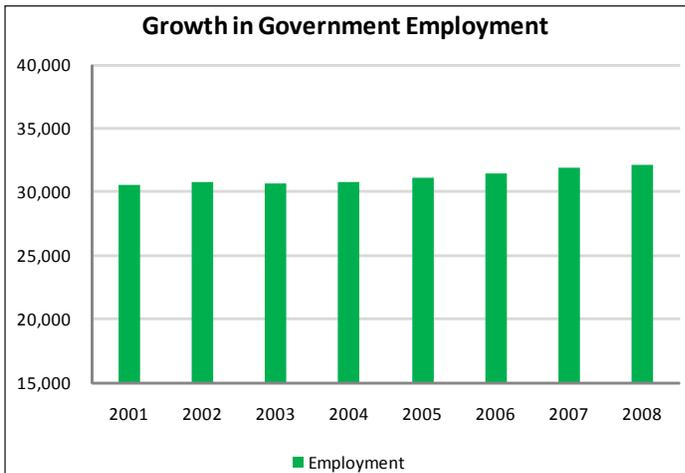
An annual growth rate of 1.5 percent is anticipated in the Comprehensive Plan. Employment levels for "Government" sectors may reflect the level of economic activity within the community. Employment in this sector is generally tied to the use and expansion of office buildings and service centers throughout the community.

As the State Capitol, State Government in Lincoln is the highest employment provider in this sector.

- ◆ In 2008, the total annual "Government" sector employment in Lancaster County comprised 32,093 jobs distributed amongst 248 establishments having a 20 percent share of total county employment.
- ◆ In 2001, the annual "Government" sector employment in Lancaster County comprised 30,536 jobs distributed amongst 176 establishments.
- ◆ Between 2001 and 2008, the average annual change in county-wide employment in the "Government" sectors was 0.71 percent per year.
- ◆ From 2001 to 2008, the employment share for "Government" has been steady at about 20 percent of the total county employment. This is higher than Nebraska (17 percent) and the U.S. (18 percent), reflecting the usual pattern as a State Capital.
- ◆ The State government is the highest employment provider in this sector contributing about 49 percent, followed by Local government (42 percent) and then Federal government (9 percent).

Distribution by Level of Government

Level of Government	2001	2008
Local	40.2%	41.9%
State	50.2%	49.4%
Federal	9.6%	8.7%



Number of Establishments in Government Sector

Year	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
Establishments	176	182	252	231	240	238	257	248

Note: 2008 is the latest available data.

Definitions:

- Figures reflect average annual employment by sector and number of establishments.
- These employment categories are based upon the North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) and reflect data for workers covered by Nebraska Employment Security Laws.

Sources:

Nebraska Department of Labor, Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages

Economy

Benchmark:

Employment is Anticipated to Grow at over 2% Annually in the County



Indicator 14:

Lancaster County Employment, 1993-2008

In 2008, 157,660 people were employed by establishments divided into the following sectors:

- Industrial - Mining, Construction, Manufacturing, Trade and Utilities
- Business and Commerce - Information, Financial Activities, Professional and Business Services, Education and Health Services, Leisure and Hospitality, Other Services
- Government - Local, State, Federal

Overall, County-wide employment is anticipated to grow at a rate of over 2 percent per year during the planning period. Monitoring changes in local employment trends is critical in projecting the community's need for new urban infrastructure.

Lancaster County has experienced faster employment growth than Nebraska and the U.S. since 1993.

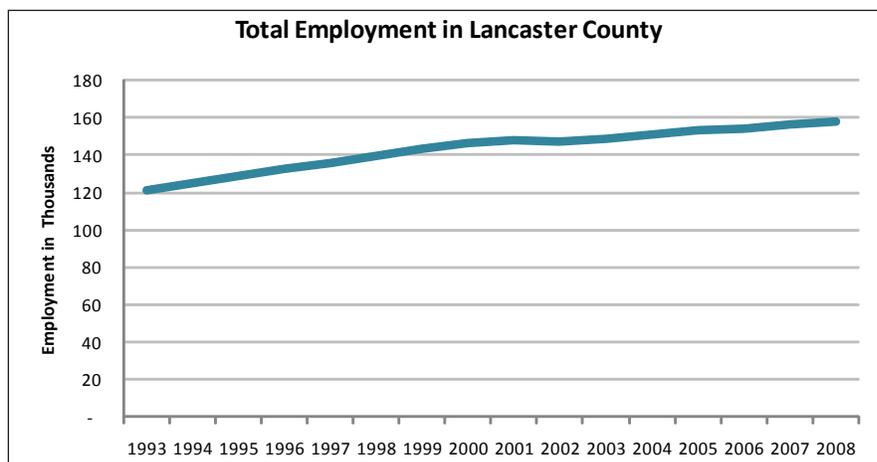
- ◆ From 2000 to 2008, 11,292 new jobs were added in Lancaster County for a total of 157,660 in 2008. This is an increase of about 7.71 percent or an average of 0.93 percent per year.
- ◆ Total Lancaster County employment in 1993 was 121,084, rising to 146,368 in 2000, a change in employment of about 20.88 percent or about 2.75 percent per year. The growth was higher than Nebraska (8.53 percent) and the U.S. (18.89 percent) in the same period.
- ◆ Employment growth since 2000 has not kept pace with the growth exhibited in the 1990's. The average annual growth rate from 2000 to 2008 is less than 1 percent per year, with the slowest year being 2002 (-0.47 percent) and the fastest being 2007 (1.78 percent).
- ◆ The growth rate in employment in Lancaster County from 1993 to 2008 is 1.78 percent per year, slightly lower than the 2 percent projected growth rate.
- ◆ Between 2001 and 2008, general employment in the industrial sector declined, increased in business and commerce, and remained steady in the government sector.

Definitions:

- Figures reflect average annual employment for all industries according to location of job, not residence (persons working in Lancaster County, but living outside the county, are counted)
- These figures reflect data for workers covered by Nebraska Employment Security Laws.

Sources:

Nebraska Department of Labor, Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages, November 2007



Growth in Employment from 1993-2007

Total Employment	Years			Change			Average Annual Change			
	1993	2000	2008	1993-2000	2000-2008	2007-2008	1993-2008	1993-2000	2000-2008	1993-2008
Lancaster County	121,084	146,368	157,660	20.88%	7.71%	0.56%	30.21%	2.75%	0.93%	1.78%
Nebraska State	837,361	908,800	922,929	8.53%	1.55%	0.69%	10.22%	1.18%	0.19%	0.65%
U.S. (000's)	110,844	131,785	137,066	18.89%	4.01%	-0.39%	23.66%	2.50%	0.49%	1.43%

Note: 2008 is the latest available data.

Economy

Benchmark:

Expand Workforce to Support Business Growth



Indicator 15:

Lancaster County, Civilian Labor Force, 1990-2009

Labor Force conditions during the planning period may reflect the general level of economic activity in the community. A growing workforce is an asset to economic development activities such as supporting business retention and expansion efforts, recruiting new businesses to the community, and providing employment opportunities for County-wide residents.

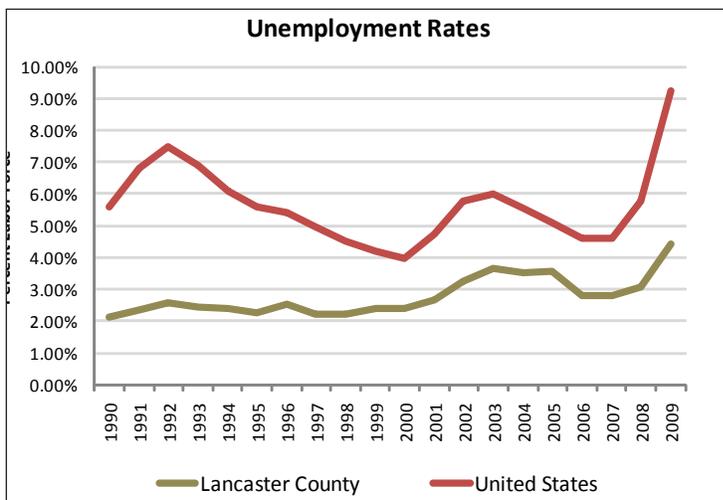
Unemployment in Lancaster County is lower than Nebraska and the U.S. during the global recession.

Labor Force

- ◆ In 2009, the Civilian Labor Force was 159,298 persons either employed or unemployed in Lancaster County, a decrease of about 0.40 percent since 2008.
- ◆ Between 1990 and 2000, the labor force grew by 21 percent or an average annual rate of growth of 1.93 percent. From 2000 to 2009 the Labor Force increased by 6.85 percent with an annual growth rate of 0.74 percent.
- ◆ Between 2000 and 2009, the growth of Civilian Labor Force in Nebraska has been lower than that of Lancaster County.

Unemployment

- ◆ With the increase in labor force, there has also been an increase in unemployment in Lancaster County. In 2009, the unemployment rate was 4.40 (7,015 persons unemployed), a significant increase over unemployment rate of 3.06 in 2008 (4,899 persons unemployed).
- ◆ In 2009, while the unemployment rate increased in Lancaster County, it was less than Nebraska, which was 4.73 and less than half of U.S. which was 9.25.
- ◆ In 2000, the unemployment rate for Nebraska was 2.80 and for the U.S. was 3.99, both higher than Lancaster County, which was 2.38.
- ◆ Between 2000 and 2009, the lowest unemployment rate in the County was 2.8 in 2000 and the highest was 4.40 in 2009.



Average Annual Increase in Total Civilian Labor Force

Year	Lancaster	Nebraska	U.S. (in '000)
1990-2000	1.93%	1.52%	1.26%
2000-2009	0.74%	0.40%	0.87%
1990-2009	1.37%	0.99%	1.07%

Average Annual Increase in Unemployed

Year	Lancaster	Nebraska	U.S. (in '000)
1990-2000	2.99%	3.46%	-2.11%
2000-2009	7.86%	6.45%	10.75%
1990-2009	5.27%	4.86%	3.78%

Definitions:

- Civilian Labor Force is defined as persons 16 years of age and older, employed and unemployed, who are not inmates of institutions and who are not on active duty in the Armed Forces.
- These figures exhibit lower numbers than employment figures, as the Civilian Labor Force counts individuals only once, regardless of how many jobs they work.
- Figures reflect the annual average for the Civilian Labor Force living in Lancaster County.

Sources:

Nebraska State Department of Labor, WEBNSTARS, Labor Force

Economy

Benchmark:

Emphasize Education to Encourage Economic Development



Indicator 16:

Educational Attainment Level, Lancaster County, 2002-2008

The provision of a well-educated workforce is a key factor in attracting new businesses and industry to the area. The Comprehensive Plan identifies seven primary target businesses, the majority of which require a workforce with a solid general and post-secondary education.

Lancaster County continues to have higher educational attainment than Nebraska and the U.S.

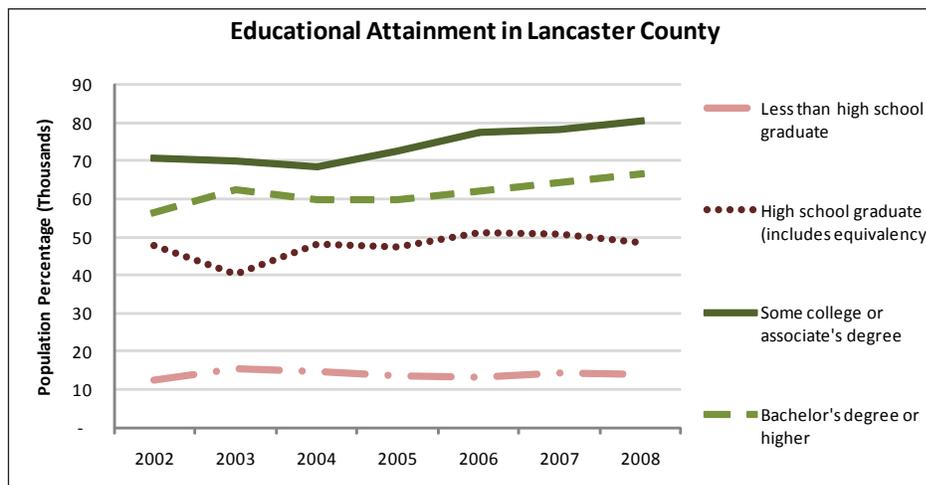
- ◆ In 2008, an estimated 147,031 in Lancaster County, 18 years of age and above (about 70 percent) had at least some college or an Associate's degree or higher. In 2008, 23.1 percent were high school graduates and 6.7 percent did not finish high school.
- ◆ Since 2000, the number of people with a high school degree or higher has increased and people with less than a high school degree have decreased by 25 percent. The number of people with a Bachelor's degree or higher grew the most with an increase of about 24 percent.
- ◆ Between 1990 and 2000, the number of people with at least some college or an Associate's degree increased by about 25 percent and number of people with a Bachelor's degree or higher increased by about 38 percent.
- ◆ In 2008, Lancaster County population 18 years of age and above who had at least some college or an Associate's degree or higher (70 percent) was higher than both Nebraska and the U.S.

Definitions:

- Educational Attainment data is taken from the Decennial Census and from the American Community Survey (ACS).
- Decennial Census data is collected every ten years on years ending in "0".
- ACS data is collected by sampling the population on a continuous basis.
- The Census Bureau began ACS sampling of Lancaster County in 2002.
- 2006 ACS samples include all populations.

Sources:

Census Bureau website, American FactFinder; 1990 Decennial Census, table P060; 2000



Comparison of Educational Attainment in 2008

Area	Less than High School Graduate	High School Graduate	Some College or Associate's Degree	Bachelor's Degree or Higher
Lancaster County	6.7%	23.1%	38.4%	31.7%
Nebraska	10.6%	30.2%	34.3%	24.9%
U.S.	15.7%	30.0%	29.3%	25.0%

Note: 2008 is the latest available data.

Economy

Benchmark: Economic Health



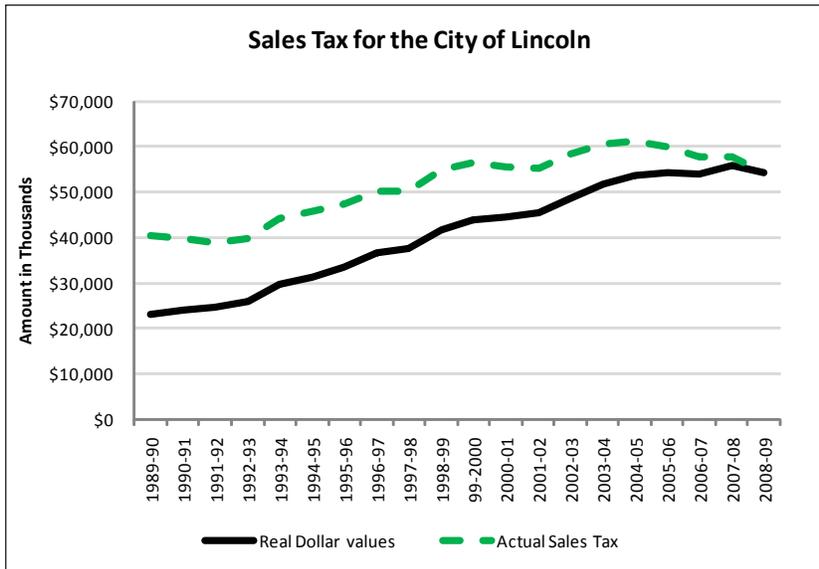
Indicator 17:

Lincoln's Sales Tax Revenues, 1989-2009

Sales tax revenues are a good indicator of a community's economic well being. Sales tax revenues reflect the amount of revenue that a municipality is able to generate on an annual basis, and the levels of service that can be provided to the community.

Sales tax revenue has decreased since FY 2007-2008.

- ◆ In FY 2008-09, a total of \$54.25 million in sales tax revenues were collected by the City of Lincoln, a decrease of about 2.65 percent from the previous year's collection.
- ◆ In FY 1999-2000, a total of \$43.80 million in sales tax revenues were collected by the City of Lincoln, for an average annual increase of 6.6 percent since FY 1989-1990. This compares to an average annual increase of 9.7 percent in the 1980s.
- ◆ Between FY 1999-2000 and FY 2008-2009, the average annual growth rate for sales tax revenues for the City of Lincoln was 2.41 percent, with FY 2002-2003 having the highest increase of 7.2 percent and FY 2008-2009 having the lowest increase of negative 2.65 percent.



Definitions:

- Figures represent the City's Fiscal Year (FY) from September 1 to August 31.
- Figures reflect actual sales tax revenues generated within the City of Lincoln.
- These figures are not adjusted for inflation.
- The City sales tax rate is 1.5% and has been in effect since the early 80s.
- Since 1980 various goods and services have been removed or added to the list of taxable goods: food, remodeling labor and construction labor for example.

Source:

City of Lincoln, Finance Department, Budget Office

Economy

Benchmark:

Provide a Healthy Climate for Economic Development



Indicator 18:

Lancaster County, Lodging Tax, 1980-2009

Tourism, sporting events and conventions are an important component of Lancaster County's economy, and the lodging tax gives an indication of outside visitation into the local economy.

The global recession may be slowing the growth in the Lodging Tax.

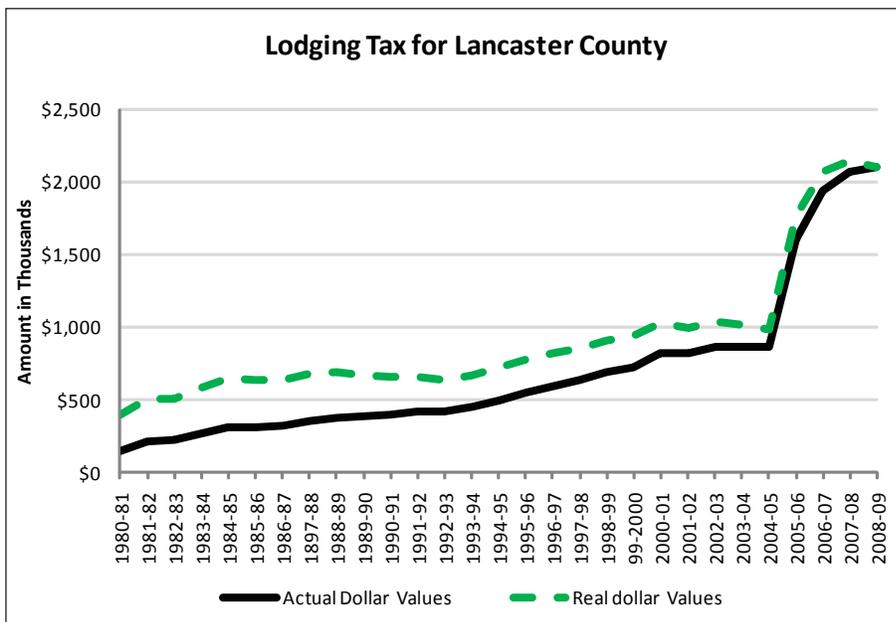
- ◆ In FY 2008-09, the lodging tax collected was \$2.1 million in Lancaster County showing an increase of 1.82 percent since 2007-08.
- ◆ In FY 2006-07, lodging taxes rose dramatically, 21.2 percent over the previous year, the highest rate of growth since 1982.
- ◆ Lodging taxes have shown steady growth over the past 27 years. In the 1980's, the average annual growth was 14.82 percent per year. In the 1990's, this slowed to 9.41 percent per year.
- ◆ Between 2000 and 2004, the average annual growth rate in lodging taxes was only 1.43 percent per year, probably due to the September 11th tragedy and the following economic downturn.
- ◆ In 2005, revenues from the lodging tax increased dramatically to reach \$1,595,700 from \$865,170 in 2004. This was due to an additional 2 percent tax that was collected for the Visitor Improvement Fund.

Definitions:

- Lodging tax revenues represent dollars spent on lodging in Lancaster County.
- Up until 2004, the tax was 2% of the cost of lodging. In 2005, collection of an additional 2% to be deposited in the Visitors Improvement Fund began.
- The Lodging Tax revenue is affected by the number of rooms, occupancy rate, and the cost of a night's lodging.
- Dollars are current and unadjusted for inflation
- Includes lodging tax revenues only – visitors also spend money on goods and services in the community, adding further to the local economy and tax base.

Source:

Lancaster County Budget Office, March, 2008



Environment

Benchmark:

Preserve Riparian, Floodplain and Stream Corridors



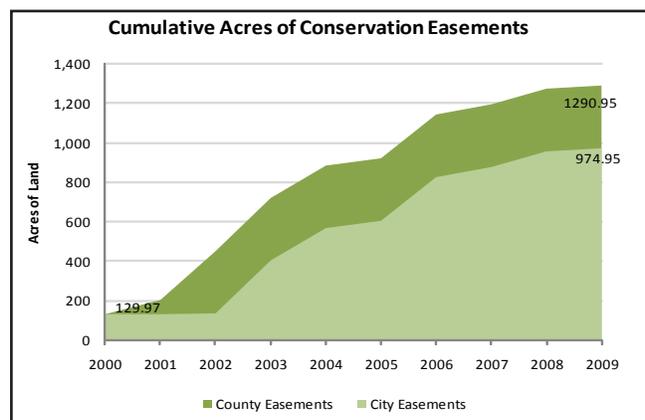
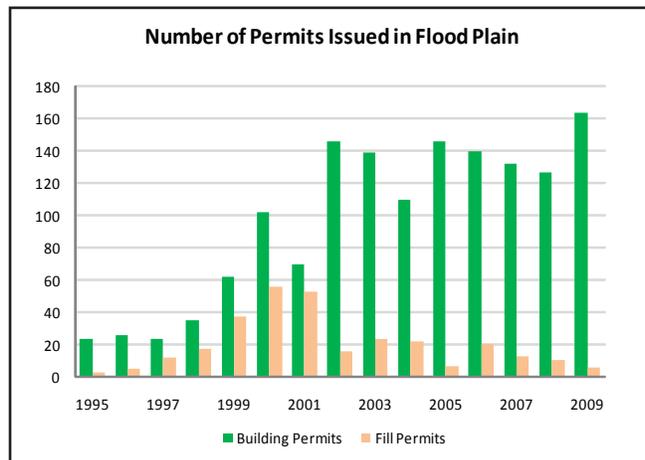
Indicator 19:

Lincoln, Permits Issued in the 100 Year Floodplain, 1995-2009

Building and Fill Permits issued for property within the 100 Year Floodplain are regulated by the City of Lincoln and over time may exhibit trends concerning the level of development in these areas. Core Resource Imperatives were selected to receive the greatest consideration in the long range planning process.

In 2009, the total protected floodplain area in Lancaster County was 1,291 acres.

- ◆ Building permits for new or existing structures in the floodplain (including interior improvements to existing buildings) are the most common type of permits issued in the floodplain.
- ◆ The number of building and fill permits issued by the City of Lincoln totaled 158 permits in 2000 and 170 in 2009.
- ◆ In 1995, the number of building and fill permits issued by the City of Lincoln for development in the floodplain totaled 27 permits.
- ◆ The City of Lincoln and the Lower Platte South Natural Resource District (LPS-NRD) also protect floodplains through the purchase of conservation easements that preserve the flood storage volume. In 2009, the total protected area was 1,291 acres.



“Riparian, Floodplain and Stream Corridors” is one of the three Core Resource Imperatives identified in the Comprehensive Plan.”

--2030 Lincoln-Lancaster County Comprehensive Plan

Definitions:

- Building Permits also include filling the floodplain; however, “non-substantial” improvements, which include interior improvements, are included and may not impact the floodplain.
- Included in this information are permits for bridge and culvert construction and replacement, and wetland restoration.
- Fill permits reflect dirt and other material placed in the floodplain.
- Conservation easement data includes only easements that were established specifically for the preservation of flood storage.

Sources:

City of Lincoln, Building and Safety Department, Public Works & Utilities Watershed Management
Lower Platte South Natural Resource District

Environment

Benchmark:

Clean Air is a Valuable Community Asset



Indicator 20:

Air Quality, 1998-2009

“The quality of life for future generations will be reflected in the quality of the natural environment left to them by present generations.”

--2030 Lincoln-Lancaster County Comprehensive Plan

High levels of air pollution contribute to health problems, ecosystem degradation, and deterioration of the quality of life. Failure to comply with the National Ambient Air Quality Standard (NAAQS) could jeopardize federal highway funding, limit the expansion of industrial operations and hinder economic activity for the community.

Lincoln continues to meet National Ambient Air Quality Standards.

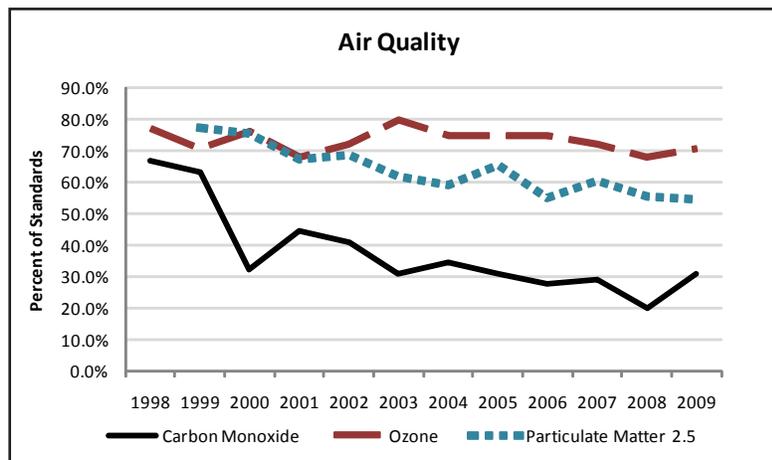
- ◆ Lincoln/Lancaster County currently meets National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) and is an air quality attainment community. As long as percentages remain below 100 percent, a community is considered to meet the standard.
- ◆ Between 1998 and 2009, levels of carbon monoxide (CO) measured from 20 to 66 percent of the NAAQS ambient air quality standard. CO levels have been generally decreasing for the last 6 to 7 years with the lowest to date in 2008.
- ◆ Ozone (O3) air pollution levels measure the closest to the permitted NAAQS attainment threshold in the last decade. These values have ranged from 68 to 80 percent of the maximum threshold of 75 ppm. It was the highest in 2003 at 80 percent.
- ◆ Annual mean Value of PM2.5 “Particulate Matter less than 2.5 Microns in diameter” measured from 55 to 77 percent of permitted ambient air quality standard in the last decade.

Definitions:

- NAAQS are designed to achieve air quality that protects human health, animal and plant life.
- Measurements are stated as a percent of the permitted NAAQS -- anything below 100 percent indicates attainment status.
- Some excess of the standard is permitted before the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) would find the City to be in violation.

Sources:

Lincoln/Lancaster County Health Department, Environmental Public Health, Air Quality
US Environmental Protection Agency, Monitor Values Report - Critical Air Pollutants



Air Pollutant	Highest Value
2nd Max 1-hr value for CO	35 ppm
2nd Max 8-hr value for CO	9 ppm
2nd Max 1-hr value for O3	0.12 ppm
4th Max 8-hr value for O3	0.075 ppm
98th Percentile value for PM2.5	35 microgms per cu mt of air
Annual Mean value for PM2.5	15 microgms per cu mt of air

Environment

Benchmark:

Maintain the Quality of the County's Urban and Rural Environments



Indicator 21:

Lancaster County, Agriculture and Farming, 1987-2007

About 78 percent of the County is utilized for growing crops, raising livestock, or producing other agricultural produce. These lands are an integral element in the natural landscape-providing habitat as well as being a basic piece of the County's historic signature landscape. Farming trends will be monitored to measure changes in the agricultural economy in Lancaster County.

The number of farms has increased in 2002 as the average size of a farm has decreased.

The following information is updated every five years by the U.S. Census of Agriculture. Therefore, there is no revised data for this category this year.

Number of Farms

- ◆ The total number of farms in Lancaster County has declined from its highest point of 2,361 farms in 1950 to 1,698 in 2007.
- ◆ Since 1987, the overall number of farms has fluctuated, and the trend has generally been toward an increase in the number of farms in Lancaster County.
- ◆ In 2002, the definition of farm changed to a "place with annual sales of agricultural products of at least \$1,000." Prior to 2002, the definition included a minimum farm size of 20 acres.

Number of Acres

- ◆ The total number of acres classified as farmland has been consistent over time, ranging from 448,286 acres in 1987 to 421,089 in 1997 and 421,409 in 2007 covering about 77 percent to 84 percent of the County.

Average Size of Farms

- ◆ Between 1987 and 2002, the average farm size in Lancaster County fluctuated between 279 and 305 acres. The average farm size decreased in 2007 to 248 acres.
- ◆ Lancaster County is an 'Urban County' and the farming practices are slightly different from other counties. Lancaster County has seen a trend towards niche farming of horticulture products, organic products, trees, etc., which generate high income for lesser area coverage.

Structure of Agriculture in Lancaster County	Years				
	1987	1992	1997	2002	2007
Number of farms	1,508	1,359	1,457	1,607	1,698
Land in Farms (acres)	448,286	414,763	421,089	448,600	421,409
Percent of Total land	83.50%	77.30%	78.40%	83.60%	78.50%
Average Farm Size (acres)	297	305	289	279	248
Average Market Value	219,605	305,459	399,604	568,129	629,050
Harvested Cropland (acres)	265,802	278,854	287,382	314,148	288,523
Operators whose Principal occupation is farming	53.60%	52.50%	46.00%	52.70%	41.20%

Farm Definition:
A farm or ranch is defined as any place from which \$1,000 or more of agricultural products were produced and sold, or normally would have been sold, during the reference year.

Definitions:

- The U.S. Census of Agriculture is undertaken every five years.
- The next Census of Agriculture will be undertaken in 2012, results expected in 2014.
- The Census of Agriculture is the only source of uniform agricultural data for every county in the United States.

Sources

2007 US Census of Agriculture, National Agriculture Statistics Service (USDA)

Environment

Benchmark:

Efficient and Environmentally Safe Recycling



Indicator 22:

Lancaster County Annual Voluntary Recycling Per Capita (Pounds), 1991-2009

In 2009, there were more than 30 Voluntary Recycling Drop-Off Centers in Lancaster County, most located in Lincoln. About 13.6 million pounds of recycled materials were collected in 2009.

Recycling efforts help conserve resources and lessen demands placed on the environment by reducing landfill waste, which contaminate air and water resources. This indicator may be used to measure the efforts relating to public education and awareness programs that promote recycling.

Lancaster County has both voluntary drop-off centers and private curbside recycling programs.

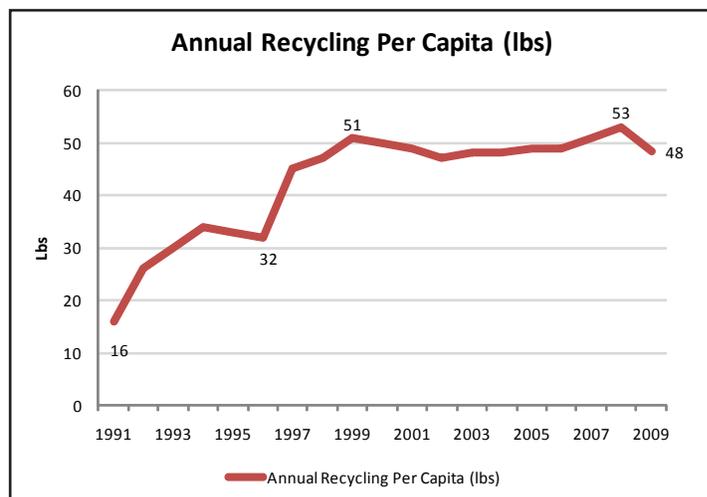
- ◆ Overall, the amount of recycled materials collected throughout the community generally increased since 1991, to reach a high in 2008 at 53 pounds per capita.
- ◆ In 2009, the amount of recycling material collected was 13.6 million pounds, an average of 48 pounds per capita.
- ◆ Between 1999 and 2006, the amount of recyclables declined to 48 pounds per capita, then increased to 53 pounds per capita in 2008, and declined again to 48 pounds per capita in 2009.
- ◆ In 2008, an estimated 9 million pounds of recycled material was collected by residential subscription curbside recycling programs, which increased the total per capita annual recycling to 85.65 pounds.
- ◆ In 1991, the amount of material deposited at voluntary drop-off recycling centers was approximately 3.4 million pounds, reflecting a per capita recycling amount of 16 pounds per person per year countywide.
- ◆ In 2000, the amount of recycling material deposited at voluntary drop-off recycling centers reached approximately 12.7 million pounds, reflecting a per capita recycling amount of 51 pounds per person per year countywide.
- ◆ Data from other communities indicates that Lancaster County and the City of Lincoln have a potential to increase recycling efforts.

Definitions:

- Recycled materials are deposited at Voluntary Drop-off Recycling Centers located throughout the community.
- Per Capita Recycled is the total amount of materials collected, divided by the Census Bureau midyear population estimates for Lancaster County.
- Census population estimates released in March of 2009 included updated estimates for each year since 2000. These updates have been used in the calculations.

Sources:

City of Lincoln, Public Works & Utilities Recycling Office, March, 2008



Note: This graph only includes recycling from drop-off centers. Recycling from private curbside waste haulers, metal recycler, shredders, and direct private drop-off sites are not included in these figures.

Environment

Benchmark:

Trees on City Property will be Systematically and Pro-Actively Maintained



Indicator 23:

Care and Maintenance of the City's Urban Forest, 1998-2009

Trees on City property, including street right-of-way, are maintained by the City Parks & Recreation Department, Community Forestry Division. Public trees, as well as private trees, have been shown to have environmental and economic benefits.

As of 2009, there are an estimated 124,770 trees on public land in the City of Lincoln.

- ◆ In general, more trees are currently removed from public property than are planted. Trees are removed if dead, damaged or diseased beyond treatment, or if they become a hazard to life or property.
- ◆ A large number of trees were either removed or trimmed in fiscal year 1997-1998 due to an early and heavy snowfall in October 1997 that caused much tree damage.
- ◆ In 1999-2000, over 8,000 volunteer cedar and locust trees were removed from the Wilderness Park Tree Management Area.
- ◆ Per capita expenditure for public tree care in 2009 was \$4.68 while per capita expenditure in 1998 was \$5.93 when adjusted for inflation.
- ◆ Since 1998, the Community Forestry Division has performed or overseen 136,000 tree trimmings, 10,091 tree plantings, and the removal of 40,300 volunteer, dead, diseased or hazardous trees.
- ◆ As of 2009, there are an estimated 124,770 trees on public land in the City of Lincoln compared to an estimated 112,651 in 2004 showing an increase of about 10.8 percent.
- ◆ As of 2008, Lincoln had been designated as a Tree City USA for 32 years, received the Tree City Growth Award for 18 consecutive years, and was one of the first 27 communities to become a Sterling Tree City USA in 2000. In 2008, the UNL campus became a Tree Campus USA.

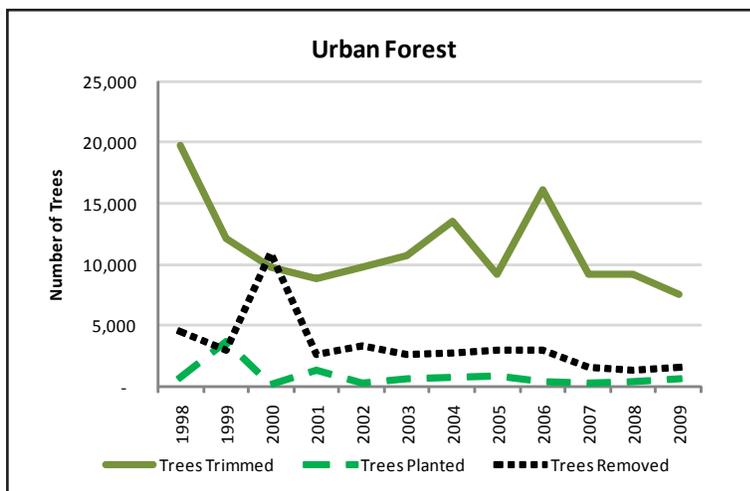
As of 2009, Lincoln's city trees provided an estimated \$2.27 return in economic environmental benefits for every \$1.00 expended to plant & maintain them for a total net benefit of \$2,671,144..

Definitions:

- Street trees are trees that are planted in the public right-of-way along public streets and on private streets.
- Street trees are most often planted by the developer of a subdivision and public street trees are maintained by the City Parks & Recreation Department, Community Forestry Division.
- Per capita cost is figured by dividing the actual annual expended Community Forestry Division budget by the July 1 US Census population estimate for Lincoln for that year.

Sources:

Parks and Recreation Department, Community Forestry Division, Quarterly Reports and 30 year synopsis





Housing

Benchmark:

Add Approximately 53,000 Dwelling Units in Lincoln by 2030



Indicator 24:

Lincoln, Residential Building Permits, 1980-2009

The number of issued building permits for new residences in Lincoln reflects the level of activity in the housing industry. The provision of new housing to accommodate the projected population growth over the 25-year planning period is a fundamental assumption in the Comprehensive Plan.

In 2009, residential building permits have been the lowest since 1983.

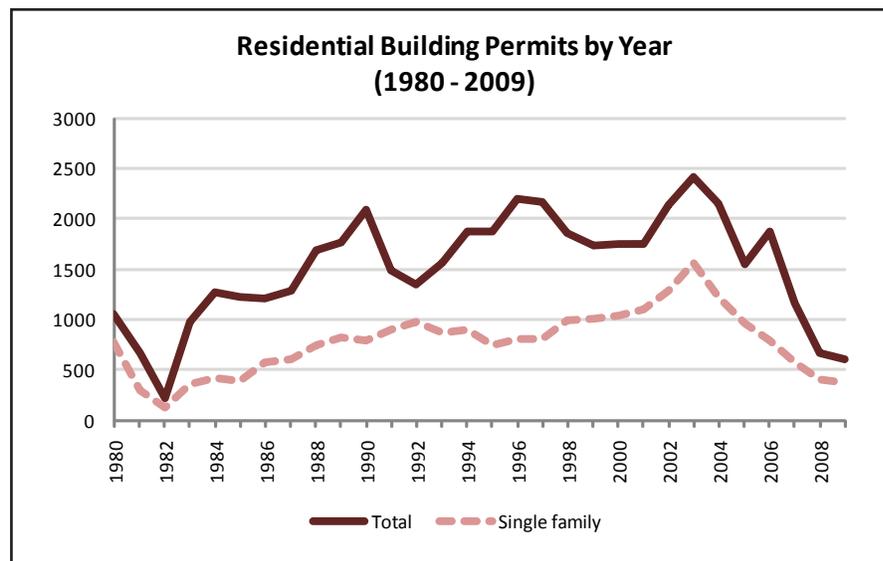
- ◆ In 2003, a total of 2,410 residential units were permitted for construction in Lincoln. This was the highest number of permits issued for any single year in this reporting period.
- ◆ In 2009, 604 building permits were issued for construction of new residential units, the lowest since 1983.
- ◆ Between 2001 and 2009, residential permits were issued for construction of 14,313 dwelling units, for an average of 1,590 residential dwelling unit permits each year.
- ◆ Between 1990 and 2000, 17,867 building permits were issued for new residences. The average annual number of units for this period was 1,787 per year.
- ◆ The most recent 3-year average of residential building permits issued is 811. This is the lowest 3-year average since 1982-1984.
- ◆ In 2009, 378 detached single-family permits were issued, the lowest amount for that type of residential unit since 1983.

Definitions:

- Dwellings include single-family detached, attached single-family, townhome, duplex and apartment units permitted within the City of Lincoln's corporate limits.
- Building permit data are based on the date the building permit was issued, not actual construction and occupancy -- some permits are issued where the homes are never built.
- Issued building permits allow a two-year period for construction to be completed.

Sources:

City of Lincoln, Building and Safety Department, Construction Report



Housing



Benchmark:

Accommodate 6% of Non-Farm & 1% Farm Population in the Unincorporated Parts of Lancaster County



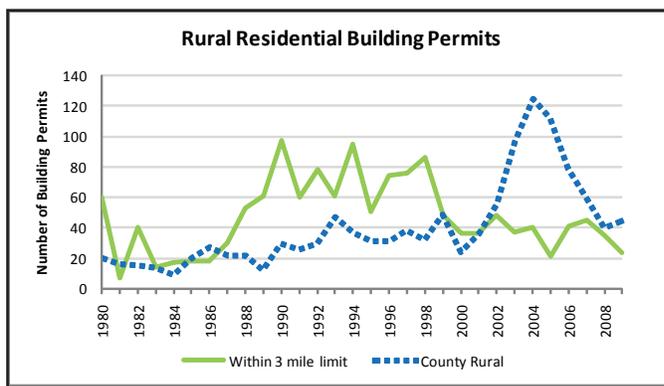
Indicator 25:

Rural Residential Home Activity, 1980-2009

This indicator serves as a proxy to monitor annual population and development change in the unincorporated parts of the County. For the purpose of long term planning, the rural population is anticipated to comprise about 7 percent of the County's population (6 percent acreages and 1 percent farm related).

In 2009, a decline in building permits affected the entire County.

- ◆ New residential activity within the three-mile extraterritorial jurisdiction (ETJ) area of Lincoln has leveled off since 1999. Between 2000 and 2009, an average of about 36 building permits per year was issued. In 2009, there were 24 permits for new residential dwelling units issued in the three mile ETJ.
- ◆ New "County Rural" residential dwelling units activity in Lancaster County shows a marked increase between 2000 and 2005, with a drop in years since 2006 – the 8 year average of about 72 issued building permits per year was exceeded in 2003 (96), 2004 (115), and 2005 (110). The 2009 permits were below the average at 45 issued permits.
- ◆ The 1990 Census reported 1,892 homes in the county's small towns. In 2000, this number rose to 2,427, an increase of 28.3 percent for the decade. Since 2000, permits indicate 792 dwelling units (corrected for 87 units replaced due to Hallam tornado) have been added for a total of 3,219, an increase of 32.63 percent overall or 2.86 percent per year.
- ◆ The cities of Hickman and Waverly have shown strong growth over the past five years, accounting for more than 50 percent of all small town permits in 2009.
- ◆ The assumptions in the Comprehensive Plan are currently meeting the anticipated targets for the 25 year planning period.



Building Permits Issued for New Construction	Years									Total
	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	
Lincoln	92.4%	92.2%	91.3%	86.1%	86.7%	89.9%	82.8%	84.0%	83.7%	88.6%
Within 3 mile limit	1.9%	2.1%	1.4%	1.6%	1.2%	2.0%	3.2%	4.4%	3.3%	2.0%
County Rural	1.9%	2.4%	3.7%	5.0%	6.1%	3.8%	4.3%	5.0%	6.2%	4.0%
Small Towns	3.8%	3.3%	3.6%	7.4%	6.0%	4.3%	9.7%	6.5%	6.8%	5.3%
Total Building Permits	1,895	2,318	2,640	2,502	1,791	2,086	1,404	794	722	16,152

Note: Small towns and part of the rural county are not under the jurisdiction of Lincoln and Lancaster County. Some small towns did not respond to requests for information, others do not issue building permits.

Definitions:

- Data are based on building permits issued, not actual construction and occupancy – some permits are issued where the homes are never built.
- The extra-territorial jurisdiction, or ETJ, is the area under the planning and zoning control of an incorporated area.
- "County Rural" is the remainder of the County not part of the small town ETJ's or three mile ETJ of Lincoln.
- Small towns are other incorporated towns in Lancaster County.
- "Within three mile" comprises homes within Lincoln's three mile ETJ at time of permit approval.

Sources:

City of Lincoln, Building and Safety Department, Construction Reports, 2007
 Incorporated Villages and Cities, Building Permit (Self-Reported)
 Lancaster County Assessor's Office, Field Data on Tornado Damage



Housing

Benchmark:

Maintain Affordable Housing in Both New and Existing Neighborhoods



Indicator 26:

Lincoln's Single-Family Detached Home Median Price, 2000-2009

"New neighborhoods bring new residential opportunities and additional support for obtaining the community's goals. Existing neighborhoods remain vital and interesting places that provide the majority of the community's affordable housing."

--2030 Lincoln-Lancaster County Comprehensive Plan

Definitions:

- The REALTORS® Association of Lincoln (RAL) reports annual median sale prices of single-family detached homes sold through the Midlands Multiple Listing Service (MLS).
- Median housing price refers to the median cost of housing actually purchased.
- Median housing price indicates the point where half of the houses are below and above the median price.
- Condominiums, mobile homes, duplexes, and townhomes are not included in data.
- Homes that are sold by an owner or agent who does not participate in the Midlands MLS are not included in data.

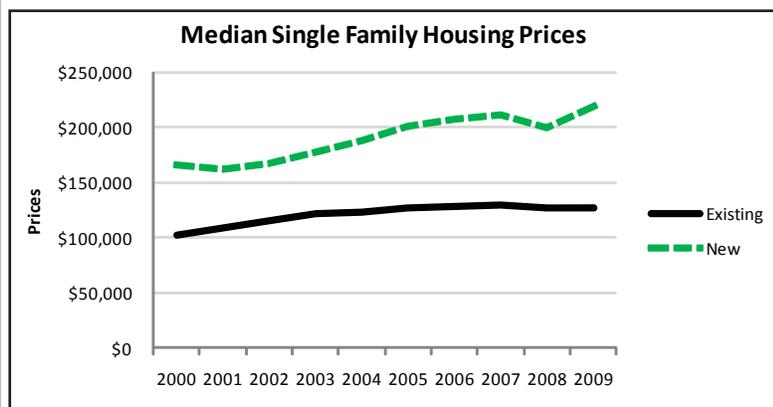
Sources:

US Dept. of Housing and Urban Development
National Association of REALTORS®
REALTORS Association of Lincoln

The Comprehensive Plan goal is to preserve existing affordable housing and promote the creation of new affordable housing throughout the community. The trends exhibited by single-family home prices may reflect the influence of local, state and national economic policy and conditions.

Housing prices for new construction increased in 2009 while existing home values remained steady.

- ♦ In 2000, the median price for existing detached single-family homes was \$103,000, and for a new detached single-family home, it was \$166,384.
- ♦ In 2009, the median price for existing detached single-family homes in the Lincoln MLS Area, reported by the REALTORS Association of Lincoln (RAL) was \$127,000, a decrease of about 0.2 percent from 2008.
- ♦ In 2009, the median price for new detached single-family homes in the Lincoln MLS Area, reported by the RAL was \$218,880, an increase of about 9.5 percent from 2008.
- ♦ In 2009, the national average was \$172,500 for existing detached single-family homes, a decrease of 13.1 percent from 2008, and \$142,900 for the Midwest showing a decrease of 5.05 percent since 2008.
- ♦ The median price for existing homes in Lancaster County in 2009 was slightly higher than Lincoln at \$128,000 but lower for new houses at \$215,900.



Housing

Benchmark:

Greater Choice and Efficiency of Home Types in New and Existing Developments



Indicator 27:

Housing Choices in Lincoln, 1995-2009

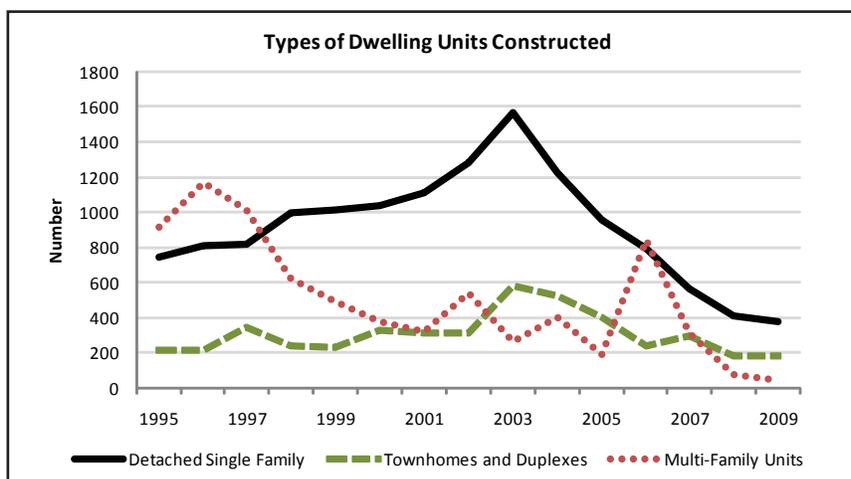
The Comprehensive Plan aims to provide the broadest range of housing choices throughout the community. A mix of housing types improves the quality of life for the whole community by providing greater lifestyle choices, opportunities for homeownership and creates possibilities for unique and efficient residential developments.

Since 2008, construction of all housing types declined. Multi-family units declined by a steep 42.5 percent and single-family by 7.8 percent.

- ◆ Since the late 1990's, detached single-family homes have been the most prevalent choice of housing.
- ◆ Prior to 2003, townhomes and duplexes historically comprised the lowest number of new units permitted. From 2003 to 2005, these types of units exceeded the number of multi-family units permitted.
- ◆ The number of new multi-family permits fluctuated between 2000 and 2009, registering a low of issued permits in 2005 with 192 units, increasing to 841 permits issued in 2006, and then falling to 42 units in 2009.
- ◆ The number of building permits issued for townhomes and duplexes has exhibited a general growth trend from the early 1980's to 2003, ranging from 57 in 1982 to 585 in 2003, but has shown a decline since then, to reach the lowest at 184 in 2009.
- ◆ Permits for detached single-family homes have declined over the past several years from a peak of 1,565 in 2003 to 378 in 2009.
- ◆ Townhomes and duplexes (attached single-family homes) have become one of the more popular housing choices in Lincoln with many new developments catering to residents seeking home-ownership opportunities for this type of home.

Provide different housing types and choices, including affordable housing, throughout each neighborhood for an increasingly diverse population.

--2030 Lincoln-Lancaster County Comprehensive Plan



Definitions:

- Based on date building permit issued, not actual construction and occupancy -- some permits are issued where the homes are never built.
- Detached single-family is a home on a single lot.
- Attached single-family includes townhomes and duplexes.
- Multi-family is three or more units on a single lot, typical of apartments or condominiums.

Sources:

City of Lincoln, Building and Safety Department, Construction Report

Housing

Benchmark:

Provide a Healthy Climate for Economic Development



Indicator 28:

Lancaster County, Median Family Income, 1990-2009

Median Family Income (MFI) is a barometer of the standard of living for families as it controls for changes in family size. Median Family Income is also used to determine eligibility for numerous housing assistance programs and allows comparisons with other communities and the U.S.

Median Family Income, 2008

US \$61,500
Nebraska. \$59,800
Lancaster Co. \$65,800

Median Family Income continues to decrease in 2009 when adjusted for inflation.

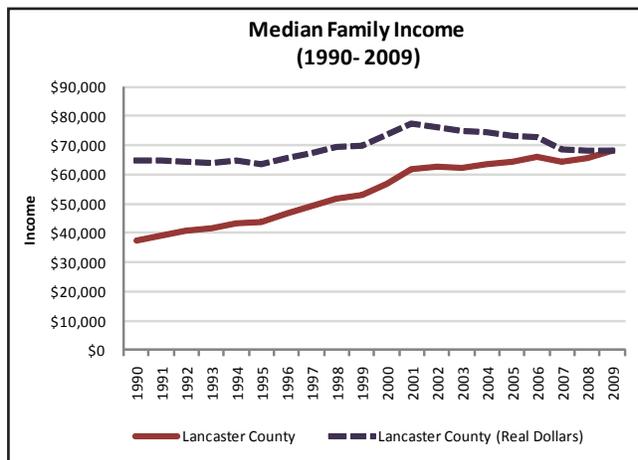
- ◆ In 2009, the MFI for a 4 person household was approximately \$68,300 for Lancaster County and \$62,000 for Nebraska, an increase of about 3.7 to 3.8 percent for each since 2008. Factoring inflation, however, shows that this is actually a decrease of about 0.5 to 1.5 percent since 2008.
- ◆ The County has a historically consistent higher MFI than the State.
- ◆ Since 2000, the MFI for Lancaster County has increased by about 20 percent – when inflation is factored in, it has decreased by about 8 percent. The decrease has been consistent since 2001.
- ◆ In the past one decades, the MFI has increased by about 28.9 percent for Lancaster County. When inflation is factored in, it has actually decreased by about 2.4 percent since the high in 2001.
- ◆ In 2009, the median value of a new detached single-family unit was \$215,900 which is about three times or 316 percent of the median family income in Lancaster County. For an existing detached single-family unit, the median value is \$128,000 which is about two times or 187 percent of the median family income in Lancaster County. These ratios are lower than the U.S. average.

Definitions:

- A “family” is defined as two or more related individuals living in the same household.
- MFI reflects a 4 Person Household, typically two adults and two children.
- MFI is usually higher than “Median Household Income” because a family includes all wage earners in a household older than 15 years of age.
- MFI measures the point where half of the family households have lower incomes and half have higher incomes.
- Real dollars are adjusted via the CPI to reflect a base year of 2007.

Sources:

US Department of Housing and Urban Development
HUD USER Policy Development and Research
US Census Bureau, Income Estimates



Median Sale Price as % of Median Family Income			
	2001	2004	2009
US (Existing)		339%	270%
Lancaster County (Existing)	176%	194%	187%
Lancaster County (New)	262%	296%	316%

Transportation

Benchmark:

Increase Use of Non-Auto Transportation



Indicator 29:

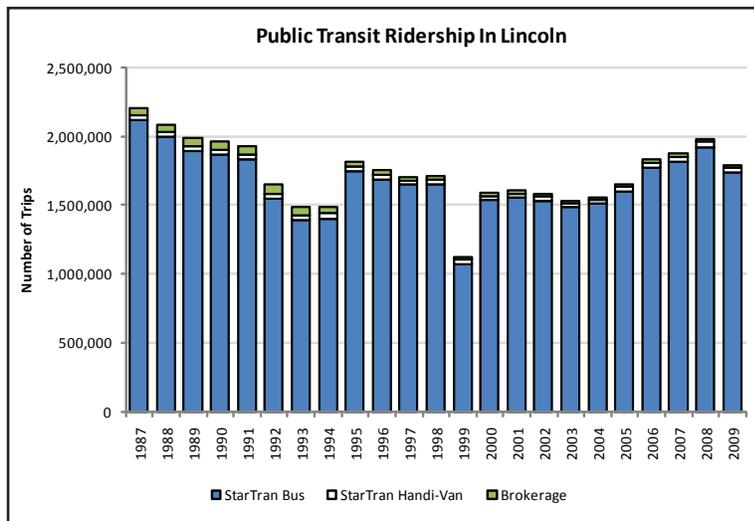
Lincoln's Public Transit Ridership, 1987-2009

The Comprehensive Plan aims to increase the use of public transit ridership by improving and expanding facilities and services. Public transportation is necessary for those residents who lack other transportation means. Growing ridership can indicate that this transportation option is a viable alternative to the single occupant vehicle. StarTran provides fixed-route service, paratransit (Handi-Van), and brokerage door-to-door demand responsive disability service to comply with the Federal Americans with Disabilities Act.

Each of the past four years has seen StarTran ridership at or above 1.79 million.

StarTran ridership has increased by 12.6 percent since 2000.

- ◆ The majority of trips taken on Lincoln's public transit system are on the fixed-route StarTran bus system that provides scheduled service throughout Lincoln.
- ◆ In 1987, StarTran fixed-route bus service ridership exhibited the highest number in the reporting period with over 2.11 million trips taken by residents. Brokerage and Handi-Van ridership combined for less than 4.0 percent (82,997 trips) of total trips in 1987.
- ◆ Between 1990 and 2000, transit ridership generally declined. However, there have been periods of increased ridership.
- ◆ In 2000, StarTran provided 1.59 million transit trips for Lincoln residents.
- ◆ In 2009, StarTran's total ridership was 1.79 million transit trips, while the Brokerage and Handi-Van service combined for 56,822 of these trips.
- ◆ StarTran ridership has generally stabilized and increased since 2000. In the four years of 2005, 2006, 2007 and 2008, StarTran experienced increases in ridership likely due to new fare programs such as "Ride for 5" and increases in driving costs, such as a rise in gas prices.
- ◆ Since 2000, StarTran ridership has increased by 12.6 percent, or an average annual increase of 1.33 percent. Population during this time has increased approximately 1.26 percent per year.



Definitions:

- Brokerage program provides eligible disabled persons with door-to-door transit services.
- Ridership numbers for StarTran Bus and Handi-Van are collected via automated farebox collections collected for the Fiscal Year September to August.

Sources:

City of Lincoln Public Works & Utilities - StarTran



Transportation

Benchmark:

Fixed-Route Public Transit Service Within 1/4 Mile of as many Lincoln Residents as Efficiently Possible



Indicator 30:

Lincoln's StarTran Coverage, 2009

NOTE: A Transit Development Plan that proposed new fixed-route bus service for Lincoln was approved in 2007. New fixed bus routes were implemented in 2008.

This indicator examines the spatial relationship of the public fixed-route bus system with proximity to Lincoln residences. The Comprehensive Plan aims to increase the use of public transit ridership by improving and expanding facilities and service. Coverage analysis identifies areas that currently lack bus service and where service improvements may be targeted. Public transportation is an essential component of the transportation system and should be integrated with all other transportation modes.

Nearly 82 percent of homes in Lincoln are located within 1/4 mile of a fixed transit route .

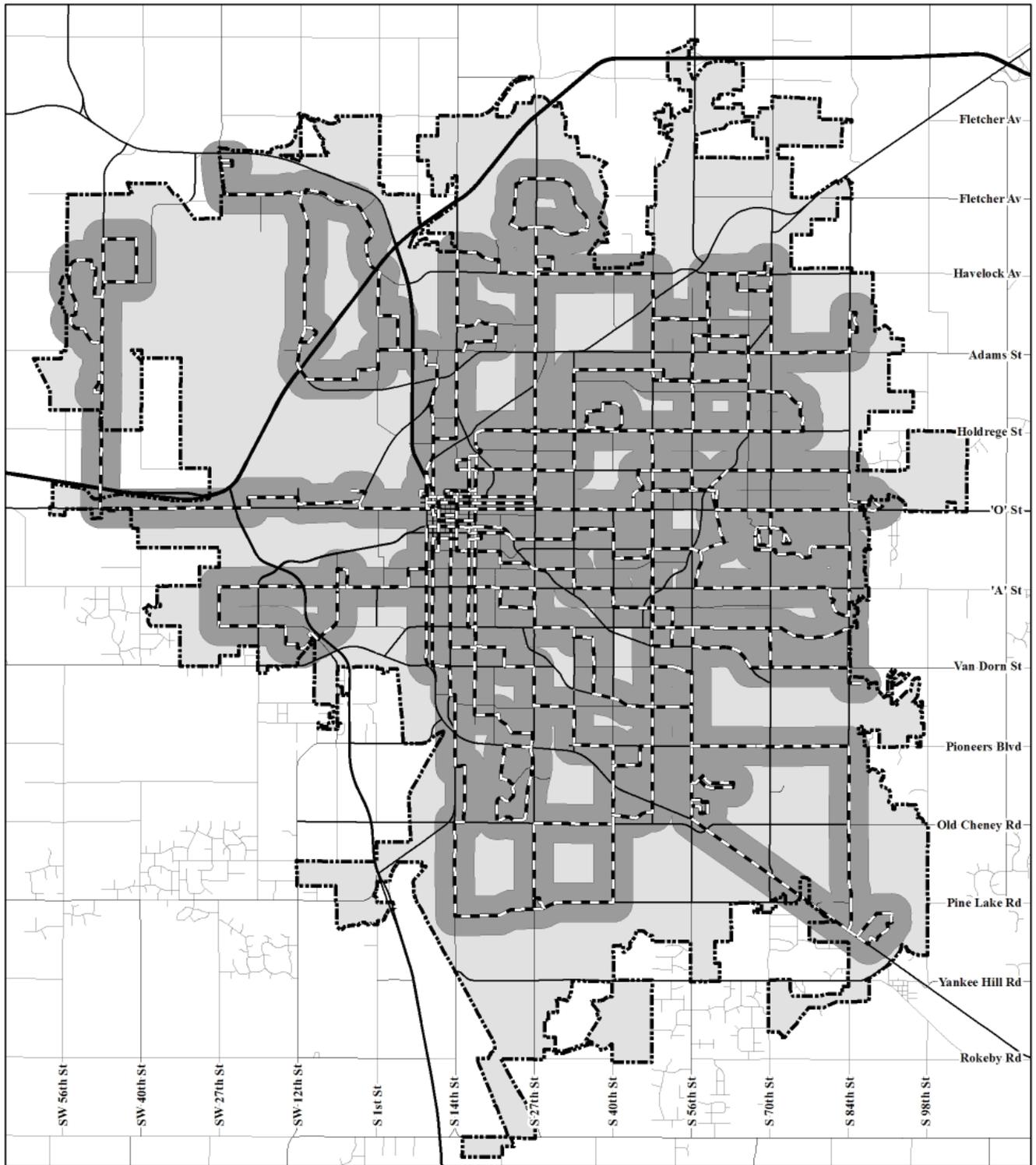
- ◆ The majority of transit ridership in Lincoln is provided by fixed-route bus service.
- ◆ Since 2000, the service area StarTran endeavors to cover has expanded through annexations of nearly 14 square miles.
- ◆ In 2009, 81.7 percent of homes (89,406 out of 109,461) were located within 1/4 mile of a StarTran fixed-route. In 2004, this number was nearly 88 percent.
- ◆ There are about 19,995 (18.2 percent) homes located outside the 1/4 mile service area standard – these homes are generally located in newer developments along Lincoln's fringe areas.

Definitions:

- Fixed-route public transit provides scheduled pick-up and drop-off service throughout Lincoln.
- The industry standard for providing fixed-route public transit service is a 1/4 mile radius from a home to the nearest route.
- The 1/4 mile standard reflects the walking distance most people are willing to travel to get to bus service.

Sources:

City of Lincoln Public Works & Utilities - StarTran



STARTRAN BUS ROUTES

81.71% Of Lincoln Residences Are Within 1/4 Mile

City Limits and Residences as of December 31, 2009

Map Explanation: StarTran operates 21 scheduled fixed route bus routes weekly throughout Lincoln. The shaded areas on the map reflect 1/4 mile radius from the StarTran bus routes.



Transportation

Benchmark:

A Multi-Use Trail within 1 Mile of all Residences in Lincoln



Indicator 31:

Lincoln's Multi-Use Trails Coverage, 2009

This indicator examines the spatial relationship for multi-use trails with proximity to Lincoln homes. Such a coverage analysis identifies potential areas for new or improved trail service. The existing trail system serves both commuter and recreational bicyclists, walkers, runners and students. Trails play an important role in the community by providing an alternative to the automobile, reducing traffic congestion, improving air quality, providing health and quality of life benefits, and creating a more balanced transportation system.

Over 93 percent of homes in Lincoln are located within 1 mile of a public multi-use trail.

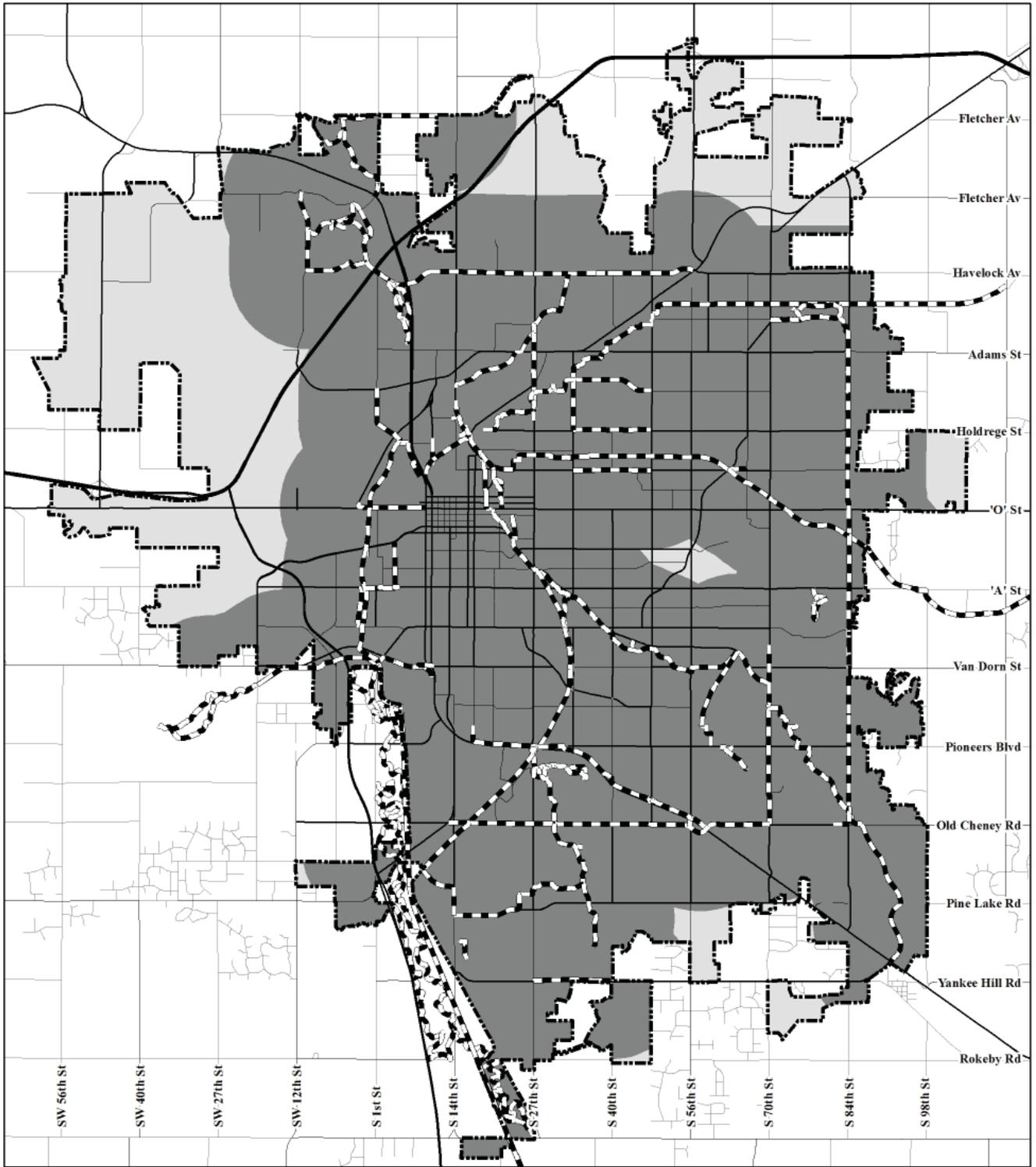
- ◆ In 2009, 93.5 percent of homes (102,381 of 109,461) were located within 1 mile of a public multi-use trail.
- ◆ There are approximately 7,080 (6.5 percent) homes located outside the 1 mile service area standard – these homes are generally located in newer developments along Lincoln's fringe. One part of an existing neighborhood in the vicinity of 56th and Randolph Streets is outside of the service area, and the Arnold Heights neighborhood in northwest Lincoln is also outside the service area.
- ◆ In many newer developments along Lincoln's edges, trails are planned but are not yet constructed.
- ◆ Since 2000, 33 miles of trails have been improved or constructed.
- ◆ Since 2000, the area the multi-use trail system attempts to serve has expanded through the annexation of nearly 14 square miles.

Definitions:

- Lincoln has approximately 130 miles of multi-use trails.
- The 1 mile standard reflects the walking or biking distance most people are willing to travel to get to the nearest trail.
- On-street bike routes totaling about 86 miles provide additional service for bikers throughout the community.
- The Comprehensive Plan's Trails Master Plan identifies about 129 miles of additional multi-use trails to be constructed throughout the community.
- Bike lanes also are in use in Downtown Lincoln.

Sources:

2030 Lincoln/Lancaster County Comprehensive Plan



MULTI-USE TRAILS

93.5% Of Lincoln Residences Are Within 1 Mile

Map Explanation: The shaded areas on the map reflect the 1 mile radius from the existing multi-use trails.



Transportation

Benchmark:

Provide for an Efficient, Convenient & Safe Road Network to Serve the Community



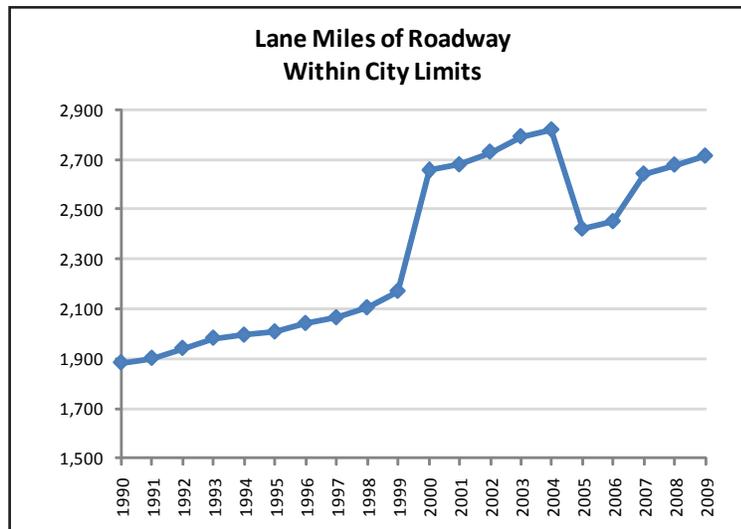
Indicator 32:

Lincoln, Lane Miles of Roadway, 1990-2009

The Comprehensive Plan encourages the development of a transportation system that meets the mobility needs of the community and supports the land use projections in the Plan by continuing the street network into newly developed areas and linking all neighborhoods together. Roads will continue to form the backbone of the entire region's transportation system into the future. The Community's ability to fund new road construction to serve future urban areas and maintain existing roadways is critical to Lincoln's continued growth and development.

As of 2009, 2,713 lane miles were maintained throughout Lincoln.

- ◆ In 1990, 1,883 lanes miles of roadways were maintained throughout the City of Lincoln.
- ◆ In 1999, lane miles had increased to 2,170 miles of roadway.
- ◆ In 2006, the total number of lane miles was 2,450 miles throughout Lincoln.
- ◆ In 2007, the total number of lane miles was 2,641 miles throughout Lincoln.
- ◆ In 2008, the total number of lane miles was 2,676 miles throughout Lincoln.
- ◆ In 2009, the total number of lane miles was 2,713 miles throughout Lincoln.



Definitions:

- Lane miles include all traffic lanes (i.e. one mile of a four lane road is 4 lane miles) that include arterial, residential and unpaved streets within the City of Lincoln corporate limits.
- Figures are a point-in-time snapshot and include newly constructed paved streets and existing paved streets that were annexed into the City of Lincoln.

Sources:

City of Lincoln Public Works & Utilities - Engineering Services

* In 2000, GIS technology and a new State of Nebraska computation formula changed the calculation of lane miles, which resulted in 2,656 lane miles of roadway being identified throughout Lincoln.

* In 2005, a correction in the number of lane miles was made using GIS technology and the State of Nebraska computation formula resulting in a noticeable decrease in the number of lane miles.

Transportation

Benchmark:

Provide for an Efficient, Convenient & Safe Road Network to Serve the Community



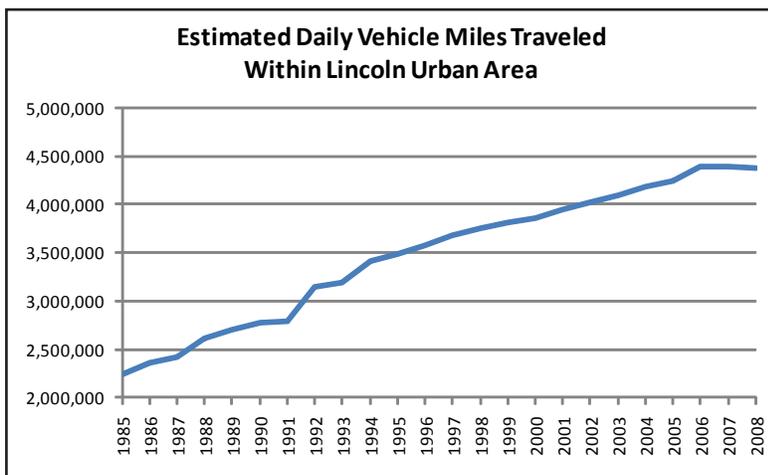
Indicator 33:

Lincoln, Estimated Daily Vehicle Miles Traveled, 1985-2008

This indicator is used to evaluate transportation system utilization and performance. Vehicle Miles Traveled (VMT) serve as a proxy for how well localities are incorporating the principles of accessible and walkable communities, increased public transportation and a shift away from development practices centered on the automobile. VMT correlate with various economic and lifestyle factors such as increased car ownership, more women in the workforce, more teen driving and more dispersed development patterns.

The rate of increase in Vehicle Miles Traveled in Lincoln has slowed since 2006 due in part to increased fuel prices and the economic downturn.

- ◆ In 1985, 2.25 million vehicle miles were traveled on Lincoln roads each day.
- ◆ In 1990, 2.78 million vehicles miles were traveled throughout Lincoln each day.
- ◆ In 2000, the estimate for daily VMT reached 3.86 million throughout Lincoln.
- ◆ Between 1985 and 2000 VMT steadily increased at an average annual rate of 3.66 percent per year, or with a total increase of 71 percent in miles traveled.
- ◆ The VMT estimate passed 4.0 million daily VMT in Lincoln in 2002.
- ◆ By 2008, the VMT estimate decreased to 4.38 million miles traveled daily in Lincoln from 4.39 million in 2008. This is the only year over year decrease reported since 1985.
- ◆ The average annual change in daily VMT since 2000 has been an increase of approximately 1.41 percent per year. Population during this time has increased approximately 1.26 percent per year. The VMT rate of increase has slowed since 2006 due in part to increased fuel prices and the economic downturn.



Definitions:

- Figures represent an estimate of the Daily VMT during each day in Lincoln.
- VMT is a measure of the vehicle miles people travel.
- The Lincoln Urban Area Boundary is an area larger than the City of Lincoln used for transportation modeling.

Sources:

2008 City of Lincoln Crash Study



Transportation

Benchmark:

Provide for an Efficient, Convenient & Safe Road Network to Serve the Community



Indicator 34:

Lincoln's Vehicle Crash Rate, 1985-2008

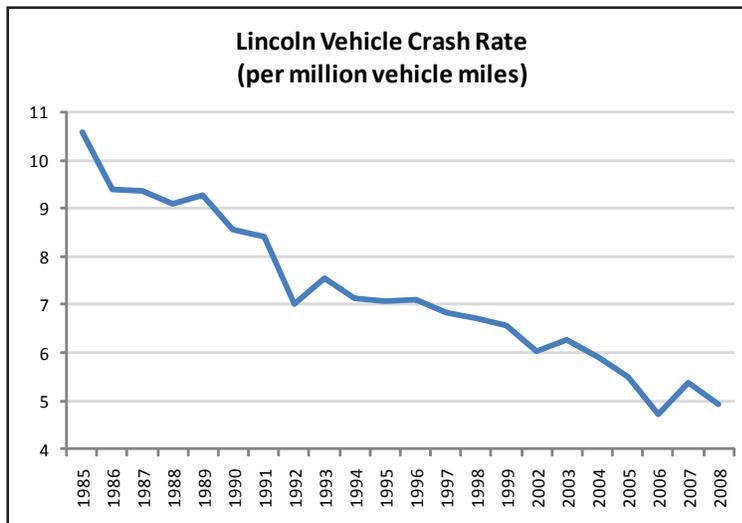
In 2008, the average number of vehicle crashes per day was approximately 22 in the City of Lincoln.

Monitoring Vehicle Crash Rates throughout Lincoln is a measure of implementation activities such as roadway safety improvements, design factors and driver education. Reductions in the crash rate indicate a safer road network is available to the community for travel.

There has been an annual decline in Lincoln's crash rate of 3.26 percent per year since 1985.

- ◆ In 1985, the City-wide crash rate was 10.59 per million vehicle miles traveled within Lincoln.
- ◆ In 1990, the crash rate declined to 8.59 per million vehicle miles traveled.
- ◆ In 1995, the crash rate continued a trend of decline and reached 7.1 per million vehicle miles traveled.
- ◆ Total crashes in 2006 decreased to a historical low of 7,584.
- ◆ In 2008, the most recent year for which data is available, total crashes amounted to 7,890 and the vehicle crash rate was 4.94 crashes per million vehicle miles traveled. This is an average annual decline of 3.26 percent per year since 1985.
- ◆ The City's Engineering Services Department continues to make significant strides toward improving traffic safety. These improvements include intersection advancements, signage, striping, signal timing, site distance enhancements, safety programs, driver education, and school safety programs. Heightened vehicle safety standards at the national level - such as anti-lock brakes and running lights - have also contributed.

Year	Total Crashes
1999	9,112
2000	9,251
2001	9,283
2002	8,860
2003	9,400
2004	9,044
2005	8,539
2006	7,584
2007	8,642
2008	7,890



The 2008 Crash Study is the most recent comprehensive crash data available.

Definitions:

- The Vehicle Crash Rate is a derived measure based upon the number of Vehicle Miles Traveled (VMT) and actual vehicle crashes within the City of Lincoln.

Sources:

2008 City of Lincoln Crash Study

Recreation



Benchmark:

A Neighborhood Park within 1/2 mile of all Homes in Lincoln



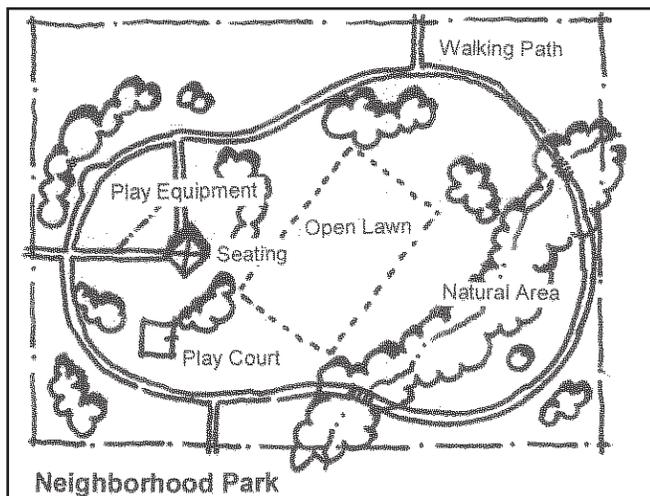
Indicator 35:

Lincoln's Neighborhood Park Coverage, 2009

This indicator examines the spatial relationship of public neighborhoods parks with proximity to Lincoln homes. Coverage analysis identifies new and built-out neighborhoods that lack adequate parks and open areas. Parks and open areas located within walking distance of homes provide multiple health and quality of life benefits for residents.

Over 80 percent of Lincoln residences are located within 1/2 mile of a neighborhood park.

- ◆ In 2009, 83.3 percent of homes were located within a 1/2 mile of a City neighborhood park. In 2008, this number was 72.8 percent.
- ◆ The 11 percent increase can be explained by the change in the 2009 classification of some parks to better align with the uses and maintenance practices associated with each "park" site. Community Parks which have Neighborhood Park elements are now included.
- ◆ In 2004, 73.9 percent of homes were located within 1/2 mile of a City neighborhood park. About 16.7 percent of homes are located outside the 1/2 mile service area standard - these homes are located throughout Lincoln's new and established neighborhoods.
- ◆ In 2009, there were over 66 community parks and neighborhood parks throughout Lincoln.
- ◆ In 2009, the City of Lincoln had 141 parks and recreation facilities on 5,328 acres of parkland and open spaces. There were 5 golf courses on 905 acres of land.
- ◆ In 2006, the City of Lincoln had 122 parks and recreation facilities on 5,208 acres of parkland and open spaces. There were 5 golf courses on 906 acres of land.



Note: Only improved parks are included in this Indicator.

Park Land (includes Region Parks, Community Parks, Neighborhood Parks, Public Gardens, and Public Golf Courses) and Natural Land (includes City owned/operated Conservancy Areas, Wetlands, and Dog Runs)

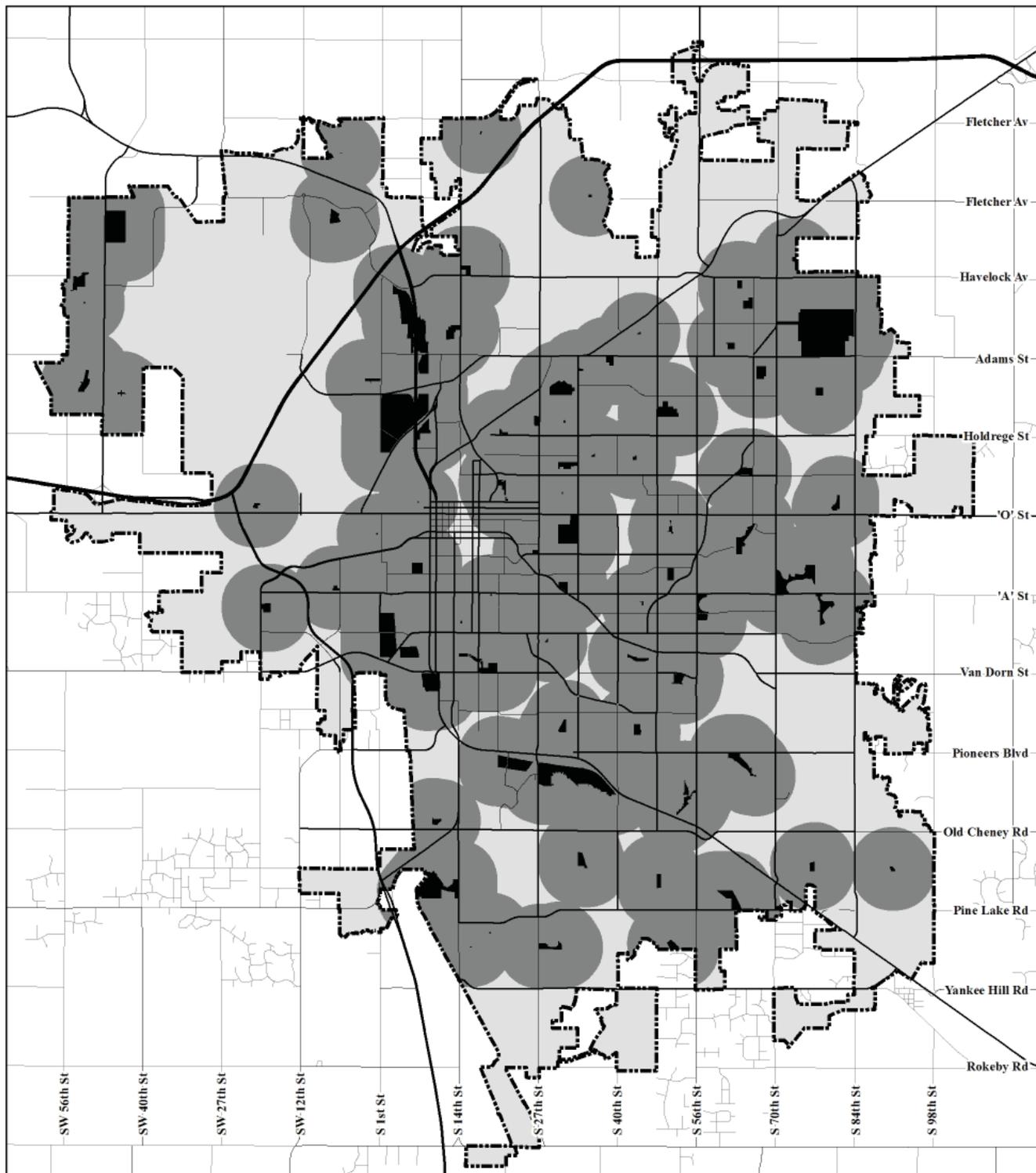
Definitions:

- Typical activity areas include playground equipment, open lawn area for informal games and activities, play court, seating and walking paths.
- The neighborhood park service area goal is approximately a 1/2 mile radius in the urban area, generally located within the center of each mile section.
- The 1/2 mile standard reflects the walking distance most people are willing to travel to get the nearest park.
- Each City-owned park is classified into a "park" category for planning and service purposes.
- Neighborhood parks may differ in size and amenities throughout community.
- Private, Homeowners Association, or School playgrounds not included with this data.
- Lincoln's Regional Parks not included with this data.

Sources

Lincoln Parks and Recreation Dept.

Analysis by Lincoln/Lancaster County Planning Dept., Information Technology Services



NEIGHBORHOOD PARKS

83.3% Of Lincoln Residences Are Within 1/2 Mile

City Limits and Residences as of December 31, 2009

Map Explanation: The shaded areas reflect the 1/2 mile radius around each City neighborhood park.

Note: Only improved parks are included in this Indicator.