

COMMUNITY INDICATORS REPORT

LINCOLN/ LANCASTER COUNTY

COMMUNITY



INDICATORS

Comprehensive Plan/
2030
Long Range Transportation Plan

APRIL 2008

GROWTH INDICATORS

Benchmark: Lancaster County Population Increases 1.5% Annually by 2030

Indicator 1: Lancaster County Population, 1960-2007	1
Indicator 2: Lancaster County, Birth and Death Statistics, 1986-2006	2
Indicator 3: County Migration Trends, 1980-2007	3
Indicator 4: Lincoln Electric System (LES) Residential Customer Accounts, 1987-2007	4
Indicator 5: Lincoln Water System, Residential Customer Accounts, 1987-2007	5

Benchmark: Lincoln will continue to be 90% of the County Population by 2030

Indicator 6: Ratio of Lincoln to Lancaster County Population, 1980-2006	6
---	---

Benchmark: Add Approximately 53,000 Dwelling Units in Lincoln by 2030

Indicator 7: Lincoln, Residential Building Permits, 1987-2007	7
---	---

Benchmark: Accommodate 6% of non-farm & 1% farm population in the unincorporated parts of Lancaster County

Indicator 8: Rural Residential Activity, 1987-2007	8
--	---

Benchmark: Provide Sufficient Land for Development of Lincoln

Indicator 9: Lincoln's Supply of Urban Residential Lots, 1990-2007	9
--	---

Benchmark: Lincoln will Continue to Grow with a Single Public School District

Indicator 10: Lincoln Public Schools, and other Non-public Schools in Lincoln, Student Enrollment, 1987-2007	10
--	----

ECONOMY INDICATORS

Benchmark: Provide a Healthy Climate for Economic Development

Indicator 11: Lancaster County, Average Wage per Job, 1980-2006	11
---	----

Indicator 12: Lancaster County, Per Capita Personal Income, 1980-2005	12
---	----

Benchmark: Business and Commerce Sector - Employment Growth of 2.0% Annually

Indicator 13: Lancaster County, Business and Commerce Employment and Establishments, 2001-2006	13
--	----

Benchmark: Industrial Sector Employment Growth of 2.5% Annually

Indicator 14: Lancaster County Industrial Employment and Establishments, 2001-2006	14
--	----

Benchmark: Employment is Anticipated to Grow at Over 2% Annually in the County

Indicator 15: Lancaster County Employment, 1993-2006	15
--	----

Benchmark: Expand Workforce to Support Business Growth

Indicator 16: Lancaster County, Civilian Labor Force, 1990-2006	16
---	----

Benchmark: Emphasis Education to Encourage Economic Development

Indicator 17: Educational Attainment Level, Lancaster County	17
--	----

Benchmark: Economic Health

Indicator 18: Lincoln's Sales Tax Revenues, 1980-2006	18
---	----

Benchmark: Provide a Healthy Climate for Economic Development

Indicator 19: Lancaster County, Lodging Tax, 1980-2006	19
--	----

ENVIRONMENT INDICATORS

Benchmark: Preserve Riparian, Floodplain and Stream Corridors

Indicator 20: Lincoln, Permits Issued in the 100 Year Floodplain, 1995-2007 & Conservation Easements for Floodplain Preservation Since 200020

Benchmark: Clean Air is a Valuable Community Asset

Indicator 21: Air Quality, 1999-200721

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

Indicator 22: Lancaster County, Agriculture and Farming, 1987-200222

Benchmark: Efficient and Environmentally Safe Recycling

Indicator 23: Lancaster County Annual Voluntary Recycling Per Capita (Lbs.), 1991-2007
23

Benchmark: Trees on City property will be systematically and proactively maintained

Indicator 24: Care and Maintenance of the City's Urban Forest24

HOUSING INDICATORS

Benchmark: Maintain Affordable Housing in Both New and Existing Neighborhoods

Indicator 25: Lincoln's Single Family Detached Home Median Price, 1998-200725

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

Indicator 26: Housing Choices in Lincoln, 1981-200726

Benchmark: Provide a Healthy Climate for Economic Development

Indicator 27: Lancaster County, Median Family Income, 1996-200727

TRANSPORTATION INDICATORS

Benchmark: Increase Use of Non-Auto Transportation

Indicator 28: Lincoln's Public Transit Ridership, 1987-200728

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

Indicator 29: Lincoln's StarTran Coverage, 200729

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

Indicator 30: Lincoln's Multi-Use Trails Coverage, 200731

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

Indicator 31: Lincoln, Lane Miles of Roadway, 1990-200733

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

Indicator 32: Lincoln's Peak Hour Vehicle Occupancy, 1977-200634

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

Indicator 33: Lincoln, Estimated Daily Vehicle Miles Traveled, 1985-200735

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

Indicator 34: Lincoln's Vehicle Crash Rate, 1985-200536

RECREATION INDICATORS

Benchmark: A Neighborhood Park within 1/2 mile of all homes in Lincoln

Indicator 35: Lincoln's Neighborhood Park Coverage, 200737

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 side bar of each page. 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 2008 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 Indicators relationship with the Benchmark, as well the reasons why it is important to monitor over a period of time.

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 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 2006, that is, the adjusted or real dollars are shown in 2006 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.

GROWTH

Benchmark: Lancaster County Population Increases 1.5% Annually by 2030



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

Definitions:

- The data reflects US Census population and estimates for Lancaster County.
- The population census is taken once each decade on April 1 of years ending in "0".
- 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.
- In March of 2008 the US Census Bureau released revised statistics that increased the estimated Lancaster County population in each year since 2000.

Indicator

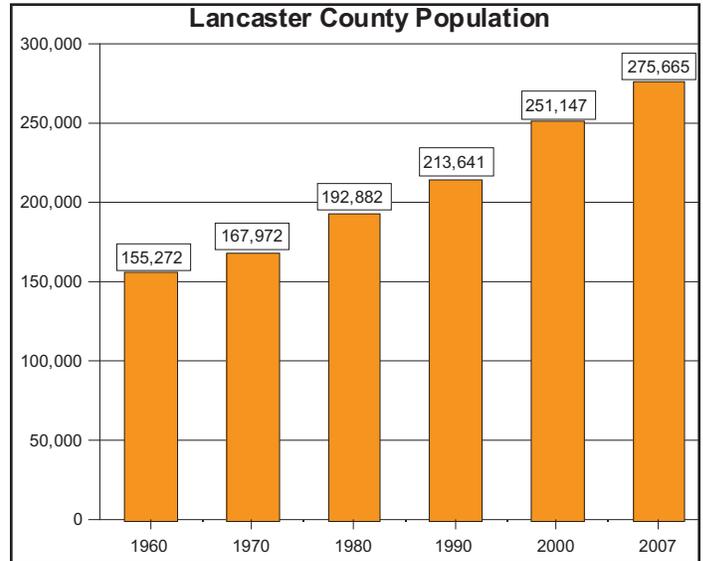
1

Lancaster County Population, 1960-2007

Assumptions on the rate of population growth are relied upon for 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.

Trends/ Observations:

- The estimated average annual growth rate of Lancaster County was 1.33 percent between July 1, 2000 and July 1, 2007. This is below the rate of 1.60% seen in the 1990s, and similar to the rate observed in the 1970s.
- The estimated average annual growth rate for the U.S. over the same period, based on 2007 census estimates, is 0.67 percent, and for Nebraska the rate was 0.35 percent.
- The population of Lancaster County in 2007 was estimated to be 275,665 persons.
- Between 2000 and 2007, the estimate for the County added 24,268 people reflecting an overall increase of 9.65 percent.



Average Annual Growth Rate by Decade

	1960-70	1970-80	1980-90	1990-2000	2000-07	1960-2007
Rate	0.79%	1.39%	1.03%	1.60%	1.33%	1.23%

Web Links and Resources:

U.S. Census Bureau
<http://www.census.gov/popest/counties/CO-EST2006-01.html>

GROWTH

Benchmark: Lancaster County Population Increases 1.5% Annually by 2030



	Lancaster Co. 2007	U.S. Average 2007
	(per 1,000 population)	
Crude Death Rate	6.3	8.1
Crude Birth Rate	15.1	14.2

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 2006 and 2007 are preliminary.

Indicator

2

Lancaster County, Birth and Death Statistics, 1986-2006

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

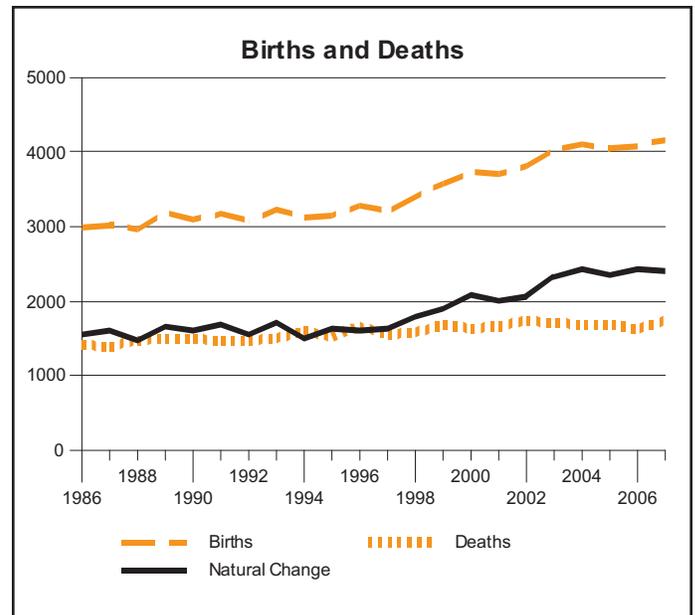
Trends/ Observations:

Births

- There has been a gradual increase in total births in Lancaster County since 1986, from 2,993 increasing to 4159 in 2007.
- Since 2000 the birth rate (births per 1,000 population) has fluctuated between a high of 15.6 in 2004 to a low of 14.6 in 2001.
- 2007 preliminary statistics indicate a birth rate of 15.1 per 1000 Lancaster County residents.

Deaths

- There has been an increase in total deaths since 1986, increasing from 1,418 to 1,745 in 2007.
- 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.
- 2007 preliminary statistics indicate a death rate of 6.3 per 1000 Lancaster County Residents.



Natural Change

- The number of births has been steadily increasing faster than the number of deaths in Lancaster County since the mid-1990s.
- In 2007, preliminary statistics indicate the population change due to natural factors in Lancaster County amounted to an increase of 2414 in population.
- Natural Change accounts for about 18,197, or 75%, of the overall estimated population increase of 24,268 people since 2000.

Web Links and Resources:

Lincoln-Lancaster County Health Department, Division of Health Data and Evaluation
<http://www.lincoln.ne.gov/city/health/data/index.htm>
 U.S. Census Bureau, Annual Estimates of Population Change
<http://www.census.gov/popest/national/>

GROWTH

Benchmark: Lancaster County Population Increases 1.5% Annually by 2030



Where have people come from Migration Trends 2000-05

Year	Net Domestic Migration (US)	Net Int'l Immigration
00-01	406	1,353
01-02	965	1,020
02-03	1,329	854
03-04	-631	886
04-05	615	861
05-06	54	903
06-07	442	882
Total	3,180	6,759

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 2006-2007 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.

Indicator

3

County Migration Trends, 1980-2007

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.

Trends/ Observations:

- Since 2000 the County's natural increase has remained constant, averaging about 2,300 persons per year. During the two previous decades natural increase was steady at about 1,700 persons per year.
- The most recent year -- mid-2006 to mid-2007 -- posted positive net migration for the County, with a gain of 1,324 persons.

- Migratory change in the 1990s was about five times as great as the 1980s.
- The County's migration component has been strongly impacted by the rise in net international immigration since the early 1990's.
- Between 2000 and 2007, relative to the overall migration picture, net international immigration accounted for about two thirds of the full increase of 9,939 persons -- net domestic migration contributed positive figures in every year but 2003-2004.

Time Period July 1st - June 30th	Components of Population Change for Lancaster County (Persons)				
	Natural Change	% of Total Pop. Change	Migratory Change	% of Total Pop. Change	Total Population Change ³
1980-1990 ¹	16,950	81.7%	3,807	18.3%	20,757
1990-2000 ¹	16,752	45.7%	19,898	54.3%	36,650
Estimated Annual Components of Change Since 2000 ⁴					
2000-01 ²	2,616		1,759		4,162
2001-02	1,984		1,985		3,789
2002-03	2,240		2,183		4,136
2003-04	2,351		255		2,456
2004-05	2,485		1,476		3,737
2005-06	2,360		957		3,222
2006-07	2,492		1,324		3,872
2000-07	16,528	63.0%	9,939	36.9%	25,374
Totals	50,230		33,644		75,600

¹ Census Data, April 1st

² Includes April 1, 2000 to July 1, 2000

³ Includes residual, may not equal sum of Natural Change & Migratory Change

⁴ Components of Change for 2000-06 were revised with the 2007 updated elements

Web Links and Resources:

U.S. Census Bureau, Annual Estimates of Components of Population Change for Counties in Nebraska. <http://www.census.gov/popest/counties/CO-EST2006-05.html>

GROWTH

Benchmark: Lancaster County Population Increases 1.5% Annually by 2030



Table: Comparison of Growth Rates by Decade

	Avg. Annual Population Growth Rate	Avg. Annual New Residential Account Growth Rate
1980-1990	1.03%	1.58%
1990-2000	1.60%	1.91%
2000-2007	1.3%	1.75%

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.

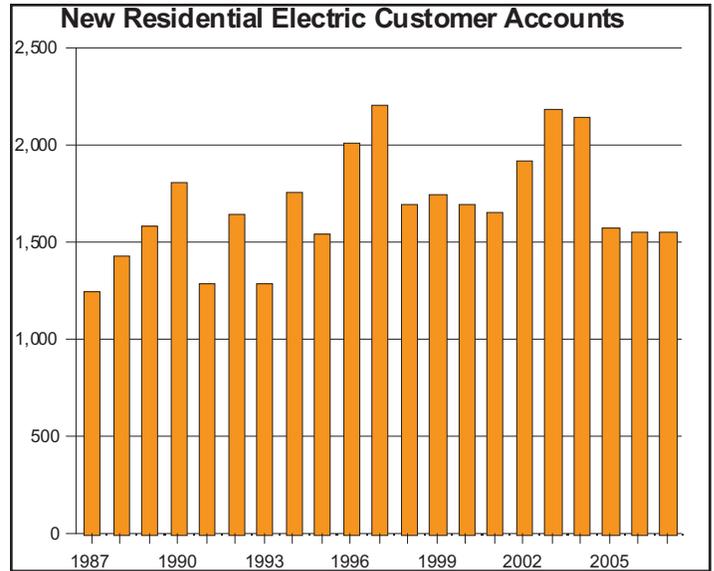
Indicator
4

Lincoln Electric System (LES) Residential Customer Accounts, 1987-2007

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.

Trends/ Observations:

- LES residential account growth rates have historically been higher than population growth in Lincoln.
- In 2000, the number of residential accounts served was 97,449. In 1990 that number was 80,624, and in 1980 it was 68,926.
- Between 2000 and 2007 the annual growth rate for new residential electric accounts was 1.75 percent, and 12,555 additional residential accounts were served by LES.
- In 2007 a net total of 1,543 new residential accounts were added to LES.
- In 2007, permits for construction of 1,161 dwelling 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.



Web Links and Resources:

Lincoln Electric System: Rates, Forecasting, Load Research Report, 2008; Table II

GROWTH

Benchmark: Lancaster County Population Increases 1.5% Annually by 2030



Table: Comparison of Growth Rates by Decade

	Avg. Annual Population Growth Rate	Avg. Annual New Residential Account Growth Rate
1980-1990	1.03%	1.04%
1990-2000	1.60%	1.62%
2000-2007	1.3%	2.01%

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.

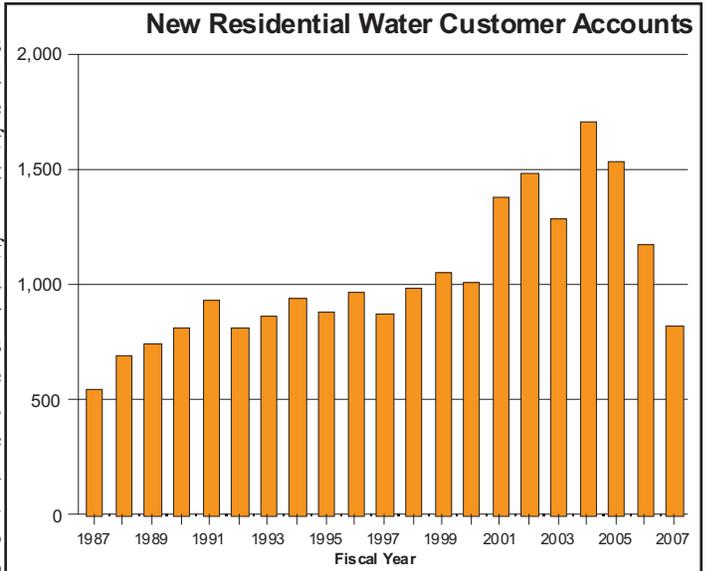
Indicator 5

Lincoln Water System, Residential Customer Accounts, 1987-2007

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.

Trends/ Observations:

- In FY 2000 a total of 1,010 new residential customers were added to the system, serving a total of 62,887 residential customers.
- In 2007 a total of 820 new residential customers were added to the system, and a total of 72,274 residential connections were served by the Lincoln Water System.
- Between 2000 and 2007, the average annual growth rate for new residential water customer accounts was 2.01 percent per year, which is greater than the estimated annual average population growth rate of 1.3 percent during that same period.
- Since 2000, 75.6% of dwelling units permitted were single family attached or detached, as opposed to 58.5% in the 1990s. These homes would have separate water service for each unit. The remainder of all dwelling units (24.4% since 2000 compared to 41.5% in the 1990s) are "master-metered" where only one service connection is provided to the development.
- The increase of 2.01 percent per year for new residential water accounts as compared to the 1.33 percent increase in population is due in part to the shift seen in the past seven years from multifamily dwelling units to single family dwelling units.



Web Links and Resources:

City of Lincoln, Lincoln Water System Annual Report

GROWTH

Indicator

6

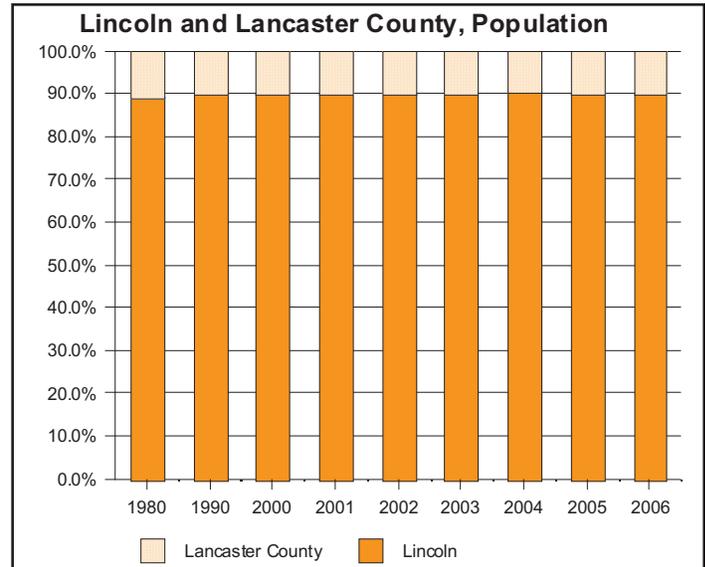
Ratio of Lincoln to Lancaster County Population, 1980-2006

Benchmark: Lincoln will continue to be 90% of the County Population by 2030

Since 1980 the City of Lincoln's population has amounted to about 90 percent of the County's population. Lincoln's population growth is assumed to accommodate 90 percent of the County population over the planning time horizon (i.e., 25 years).

Trends/ Observations:

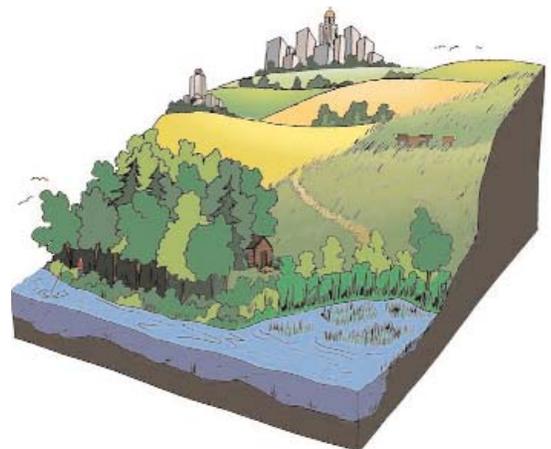
- In 2000, Lincoln's population was 90.1 percent of the County population.
- Lincoln continues to reflect the ratio of 90 percent of Lancaster County's population.
- The latest data show Lincoln comprising 90.3 percent of the County's population, with the remainder population residing in rural Lancaster County and the incorporated towns.



Lincoln Compared to Small Towns and Rural County

Percentage of Lancaster County Total Population as reported by Decennial Census

	1960	1970	1980	1990	2000
Lincoln	82.8%	89.0%	89.1%	89.5%	90.1%
Small Towns	1.7%	2.2%	2.6%	2.6%	2.6%
Other Rural	15.5%	8.8%	8.3%	7.9%	7.3%



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 report 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.

Web Links and Resources:

- US Census Bureau, Population Division, March 2008
<http://www.census.gov/popest/estimates.php>
- Lincoln/Lancaster County Planning Dept., Information and Technology Services, Data Bank
<http://www.lincoln.ne.gov/city/plan/databank/index.htm>

GROWTH

Indicator

7

Lincoln, Residential Building Permits, 1987-2007

**Benchmark: Add
Approximately 53,000
Dwelling Units in Lincoln
by 2030**



During the 20 year reporting period, the lowest number of residential new construction permits was 1,161 in 2007, and the highest was 2,410 in 2003.

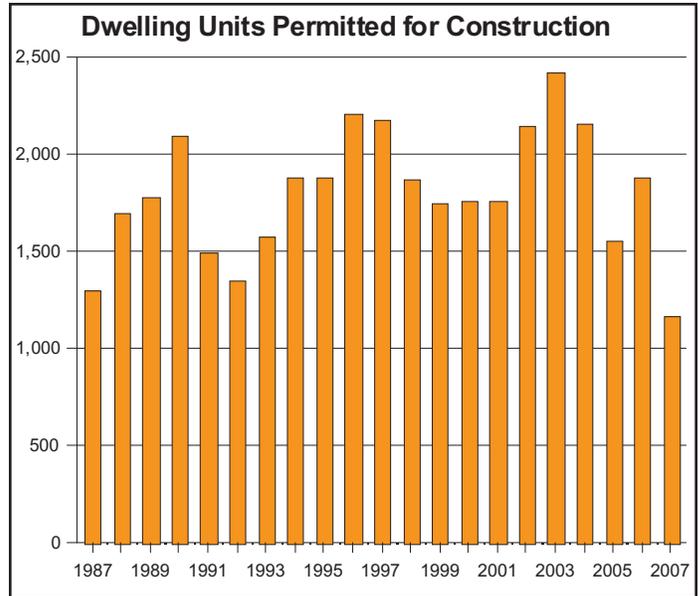
Definitions:

- Dwellings include single family detached, attached, townhouse, duplex and apartments units permitted within the City of Lincoln's corporate limits.
- The following 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.

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.

Trends/ Observations:

- 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 during this period.
- In 2007, permits for a total of 1,161 dwelling units were issued for construction of new residential units. This trend reflects the nationwide housing slump.
- Between 2000 and 2007, permits were issued for construction of 14,792 dwelling units, for an average of 1,849 residential dwelling units permitted each year.
- Between 1990 and 2000, 18,203 building permits were issued for new residences, the average annual number of units for this period was approximately 1,820 per year.
- In order to reach the goal of 53,000 dwelling units in Lincoln between 2005 and 2030, an average of 2,120 dwelling units per year would need to be added.



Web Links and Resources:

City of Lincoln, Building and Safety Department, Construction Report

GROWTH

Benchmark:
Accommodate 6% of non-farm & 1% farm population in the unincorporated parts of Lancaster County



An estimate of the number of building permits issued in 2004 due to the replacement of houses destroyed by the tornado in May 2004 is included in the data.

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" comprises homes located outside Lincoln's 3 mile ETJ at time of permit approval. "Within 3 mile" comprises homes within Lincoln's 3 mile ETJ at time of permit approval.

Indicator

8

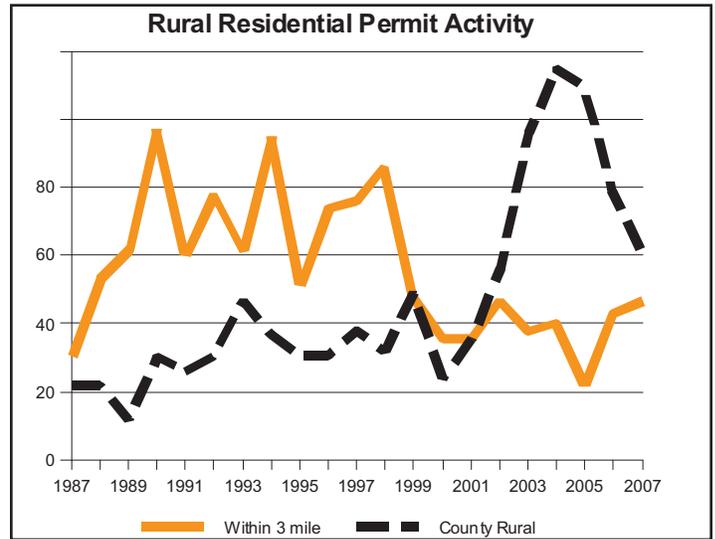
Rural Residential Activity, 1987-2007

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% of the County's population (6% acreages and 1% farm related).

Trends/ Observations:

- New residential activity "Within 3 mile" area of Lincoln has leveled off since 1999. From 2000 to 2007, an average of about 40 issued building permits per year were issued. In 2007 there were 47 permits for new dwelling units issued in the 3 mile ETJ.

- New "County Rural" residential activity in Lancaster County shows a marked increase between 2000 and 2005, with a drop in 2006 and 2007 – the 8 year average of about 72 issued building permits per year was exceeded in 2003 (96), 2004 (115), and 2005 (110). The 2007 permits were below the average at 60 issued.



- The 1990 Census reports 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 (2.8 percent per year). Since 2000, permits indicate 668 dwelling units (corrected for 87 units replaced due to Hallam tornado) have been added for a total of approximately 3,095, an increase of 25.7 percent overall or 3.9 percent per year.
- The cities of Hickman and Waverly have shown strong growth over the past five years, accounting for 64% of all small town permits.
- The assumptions in the Comprehensive Plan for the 25 year planning period are currently being met.

New Dwelling Units Permitted, by Location								
	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	Total
Total Res. Permits	1887	2317	2640	2492	1792	2088	1404	14,620
Percentage of Total in:								
Lincoln	92.8	92.2	91.3	86.4	86.6	89.8	82.7	89.2
Small Town	3.4	3.3	3.6	7.4	6.0	4.3	9.7	5.2
Rural County	3.8	4.4	5.1	6.2	7.4	5.8	7.6	5.6

Some small towns did not respond to requests for information, others do not issue building permits. "Rural County" includes the 3-mile ETJ of Lincoln and the remainder of the county is not part of the small town ETJ.

Web Links and Resources:

- 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

GROWTH

Benchmark: Provide Sufficient Land for Development of Lincoln

As of January 1, 2008

Lincoln has a potential for over 52,000 new dwelling units within the 2030 Future Service Limit for Lincoln.

About 16,903 are approved or in process of development. The remainder of the potential units are currently without infrastructure.

Demand for Single Family Housing Lots

As of January 1, 2008, there were 2,869 single family lots final platted. At the 2005-2007 average of 774 single family dwellings per year this supply would last 3.7 years

Definitions:

- Latest figures are January 2008.
- 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 "in-process".
- Prior to 1997, the number of lots in pending submitted plats were not included in the residential lot inventory.

Indicator

9

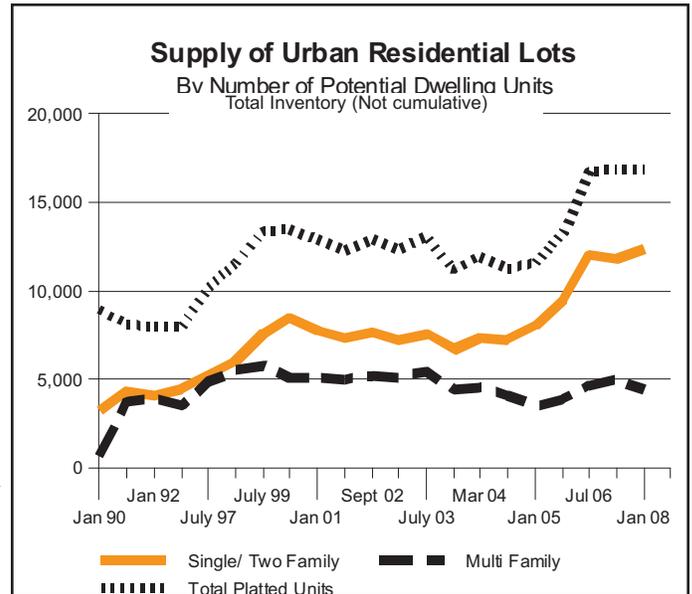
Lincoln's Supply of Urban Residential Lots, 1990-2007

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

Trends/ Observations:

- 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.
- Overall, in July 2000 these Plats combined to provide a supply of 13,587 units to accommodate future residential development.

- As of January 1, 2008, there were 8,650 Single Family Detached lots either Final Platted, Preliminary Platted or formally submitted and in process of review – the latest figures reflect a significant increase in lot supply from July 2004.
- The supply of potential Multi-Family units has seen a decrease – down about 622 units since January 2007, but still 25 percent higher than a low in 2005 – the current inventory of Multiple Family lots is at 4,450 potential dwelling units.



- As of January 1, 2008, the supply of single-family lots available or in process should last about 11 years at the 3-year average rate of 774 dwelling per year, or 8 years at the 5 - 15 year average of 1000 units per year.

Web Links and Resources:

Lincoln-Lancaster County Planning Dept, Residential Land Inventory and Single Family Lots, February, 2008

GROWTH

Benchmark: Lincoln will Continue to Grow with a Single Public School District



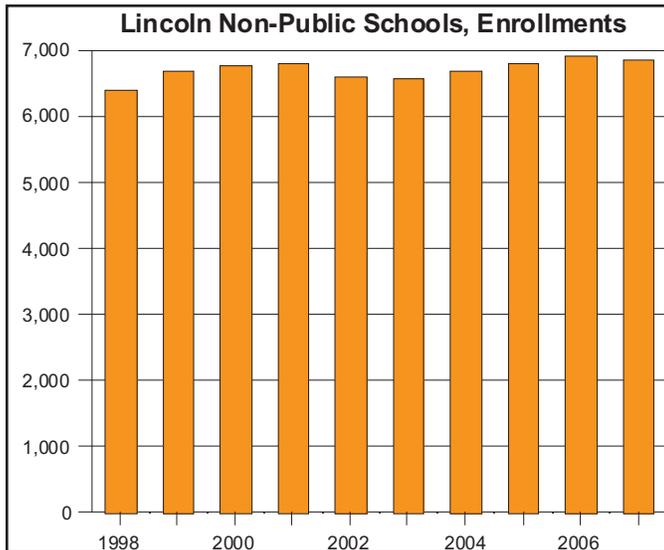
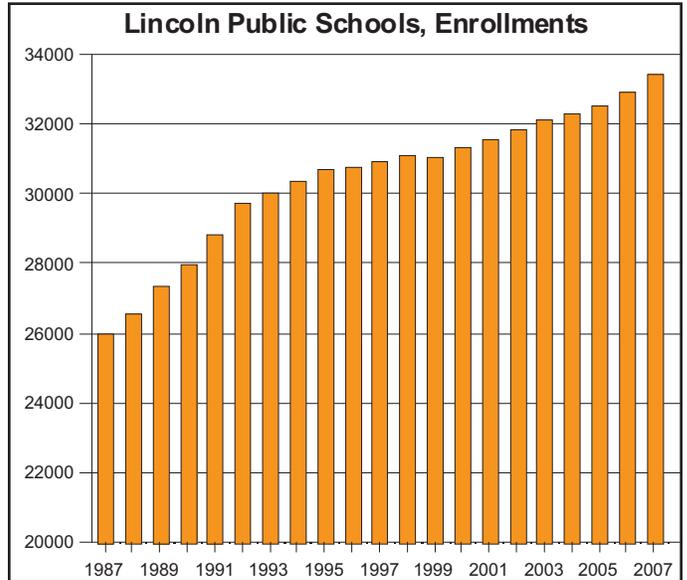
Indicator 10

Lincoln Public Schools, and other Non-public Schools in Lincoln, Student Enrollment, 1987-2007

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

Trends/ Observations:

- Between 1990 and 2000, the average annual growth rate for net student enrollment in Lincoln Public Schools (LPS) was 1.14 percent, absolute change in enrollment was 3,368 students.
- Total LPS student enrollment reached 33,410 in 2007, reflecting 474 more students than the previous year.
- Between 2000 and 2007, there were 2,056 additional students enrolled in the LPS district. During the same period there were an additional 79 students enrolled in non-public schools in Lincoln.
- Between 2000 and 2007, the annualized growth rate for net LPS student enrollment was 0.91 percent.



- Non-public schools in Lincoln also saw growth over the past ten years, although at a much lower rate of .17 percent per year.

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.
- Data for non-public schools is included in a separate chart.

Web Links and Resources:

Lincoln Public Schools Annual Statistical Handbook
<http://www.lps.org/post/index.cfm?collection=77>
 Nebraska Department of Education

ECONOMY

Benchmark: Provide a Healthy Climate for Economic Development



Indicator

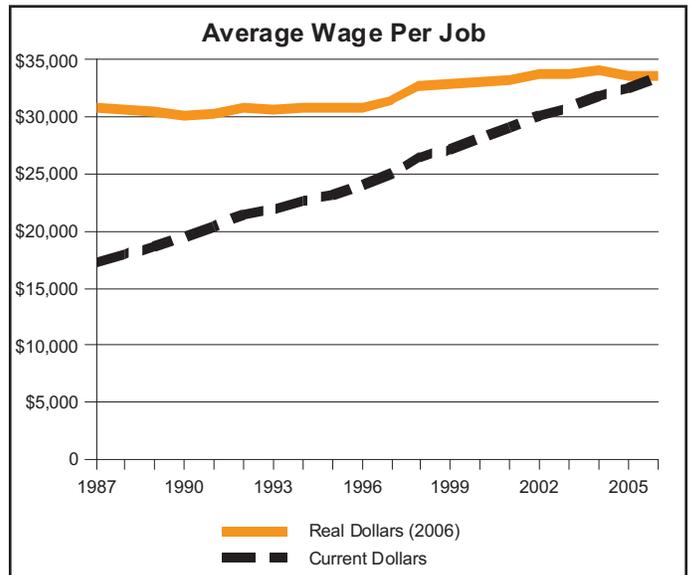
11

Lancaster County, Average Wage per Job, 1980-2006

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 buyer power over a time period.

Trends/ Observations:

- In 2006 the current and real dollar value of the average annual wage was \$33,655.
- County-wide real wages per job (adjusted to 2006 dollars) have remained relatively flat over the past five years.
- Adjusting for inflation to reflect 2006 dollars, the wage per job in real dollars increased about \$5,270 between 1980 and 2000.
- Between 1990 and 2000, the average wage per job increased to \$28,397 in current dollars.
- The trend for wages per job (after inflation) is generally flat between 1986 and 1993, at which point it begins to show an increase each year.
- Lancaster County's average annual wage per job in current dollars increased from \$11,914 in 1980 to \$19,624 in 1990.



Average Wage Per Job in 2006

US	\$41,991
Nebraska	\$33,917
Lancaster County	\$33,655

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 2006.

Web Links and Resources:

Bureau of Economic Analysis, CA34 - Average wage per job, Table 30
<http://www.bea.gov/bea/regional/reis/default.cfm?catable=CA34§ion=2>

ECONOMY

Indicator

12

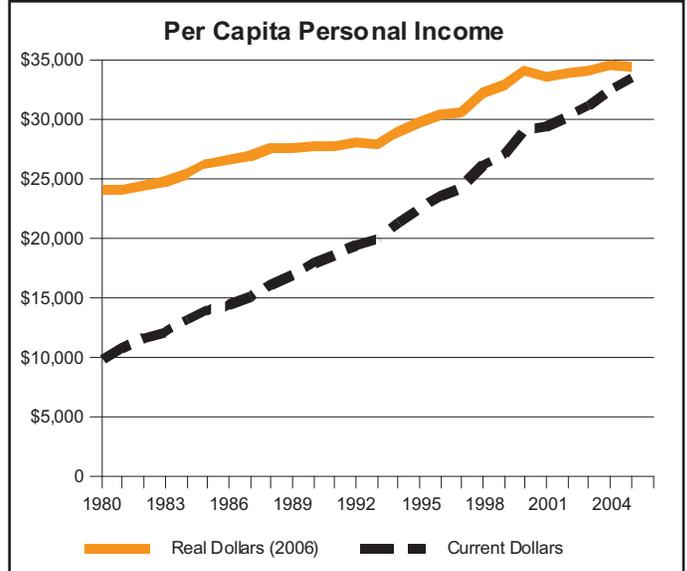
Lancaster County, Per Capita Personal Income, 1980-2005

Benchmark: Provide a Healthy Climate for Economic Development

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.

Trends/ Observations:

- In 2000, the current dollar PCPI amounted to \$29,200 for each Lancaster County resident.
- In 2005, the current dollar PCPI amounted to \$33,506 for each Lancaster County resident. The average annual increase (current dollars) in PCPI since 2000 was 2.8 percent per year – when inflation is factored into to the PCPI, the average annual increase was 0.12 percent per year for that period.
- The growth in PCPI between 1980 and 2005 for the residents of Lancaster County amounted to an overall increase of 239 percent – when inflation is factored into the PCPI, the overall increase was 42 percent.



Avg. Annual % Increase by Decade

Lancaster Co.	Real \$	Current \$
1980-1990	1.44%	6.23%
1990-2000	2.05%	4.90%
2000-2005	0.12%	2.77%

Per Capita Personal Income in 2005

United States	\$34,471
Nebraska	\$32,923
Lancaster County	\$33,506

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 2006.

Web Links and Resources:

Bureau of Economic Analysis, Regional Economic Accounts, CA1-3 Per capita personal income, Table 3.0
<http://www.bea.gov/bea/regional/reis/default.cfm?catable=CA1-3§ion=2>

ECONOMY

Benchmark: Business and Commerce Sector - Employment Growth of 2.0% Annually



Business and Commerce sector comprises the following industries categories:

- ▶ Information
- ▶ Financial Activities
- ▶ Professional and Business Services
- ▶ Education and Health Services
- ▶ Leisure and Hospitality
- ▶ Other Services

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.

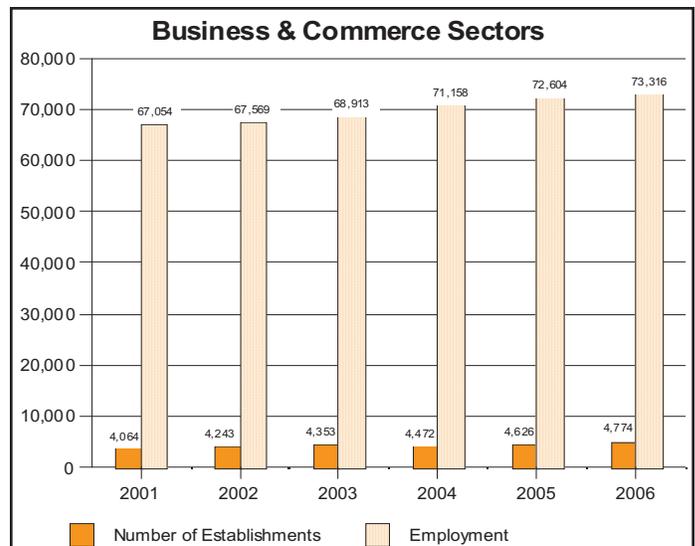
Indicator
13

Lancaster County, Business and Commerce Employment and Establishments, 2001-2006

An annual growth rate of 2.0 percent 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.

Trends/ Observations:

- In 2006, the total annual employment for "Business and Commerce" sectors in Lancaster County comprised 73,316 jobs distributed amongst 4,774 establishments.
- 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 2006, the average annual change in employment for "Business and Commerce" sectors was **1.8 percent per year**.
- The number of new establishments during this period increased by 710 start-ups, and reflects an average annual change of **3.3 percent per year** since 2001.
- Between 2001 and 2006 the number of employees per establishment decreased slightly from 16.5 to 15.4.



Web Links and Resources:

Nebraska Department of Labor, Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages, November 2007
<http://www.dol.state.ne.us/lmiindustry/index.asp>

ECONOMY

Benchmark: Industrial Sector Employment Growth of 2.5% Annually



The Industrial employment sectors comprise the following categories:

- ▶ Construction
- ▶ Manufacturing
- ▶ Trade, Transportation and Utilities

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.

Indicator

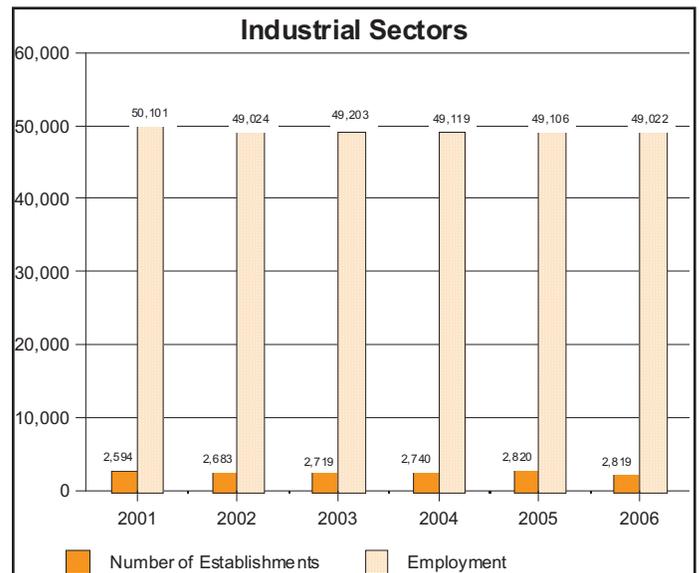
14

Lancaster County Industrial Employment and Establishments, 2001-2006

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.

Trends/ Observations:

- In 2006, the annual "Industrial" sector employment in Lancaster County comprised 49,022 jobs distributed amongst 2,819 establishments.
- In 2001, the annual "Industrial" sector employment in Lancaster County comprised 50,101 jobs distributed amongst 2,594 establishments.
- Between 2001 and 2006, the average annual change in County-wide employment in the "Industrial" sectors was about **negative 0.4 percent per year**.
- While employment slowly fell since 2001, the number of new establishments during this period increased by 232 start-ups, and reflects an average annual change of **1.7 percent per year** since 2001.
- Between 2001 and 2006 the number of employees per establishment decreased from 19.3 to 17.4.



Web Links and Resources:

Nebraska Department of Labor, Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages, November 2007
<http://www.dol.state.ne.us/lmiindustry/index.asp>

ECONOMY

Benchmark: Employment is Anticipated to Grow at Over 2% Annually in the County



In 2006, 7,872 establishments were located in Lancaster County, divided into the following sectors:

- ▶ Information, Financial Activities and Other Services
- ▶ Professional and Business Services
- ▶ Educational and Health Services
- ▶ Leisure and Hospitality
- ▶ Trade, Transportation and Public Utilities,
- ▶ Manufacturing, Natural Resources and Construction
- ▶ Government

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.

Indicator

15

Lancaster County Employment, 1993-2006

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.

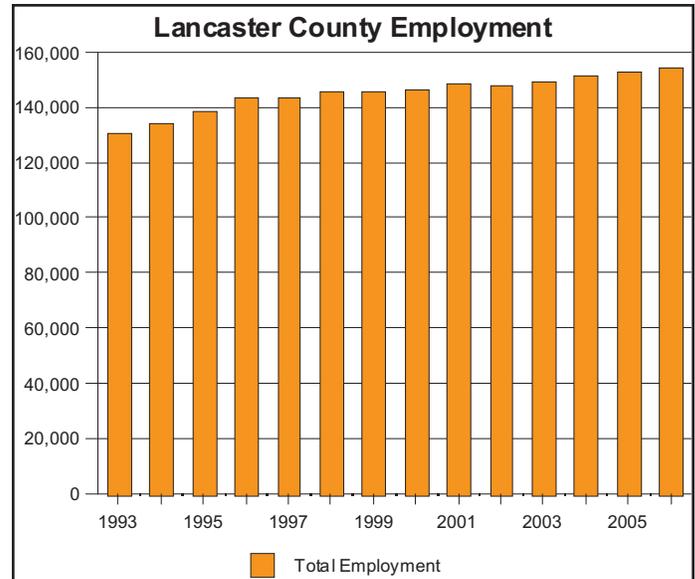
Trends/ Observations:

- In 2006, employment levels rose to 154,044 persons actively working County-wide.

- Employment levels since 2000 have not kept pace with the growth exhibited in the 1990s. The average annual growth rate up to 2006 is **less than 1 percent per year**, with the slowest year being 2002 (-.47 percent) and the fastest being 2004 (1.61 percent).

- Between 2000 and 2006, the overall change in employment amounted to 7,676 new jobs added to Lancaster County.

- Total Lancaster County employment in 1993 was 121,084, rising to 146,368 in 2000, an average annual change in employment of about 2.4 percent per year.



Total Lancaster County employment in 1993 was 121,084, rising to 146,368 in 2000, an average annual change in employment of about 2.4 percent per year.

Web Links and Resources:

Nebraska Department of Labor, Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages, November 2007
<http://www.dol.state.ne.us/lmiindustry/index.asp>

ECONOMY

Benchmark: Expand Workforce to Support Business Growth



“ The City and County will actively pursue economic development with an emphasis on household sustaining jobs. ”

--2030 Lincoln-Lancaster County Comprehensive Plan

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.

Indicator

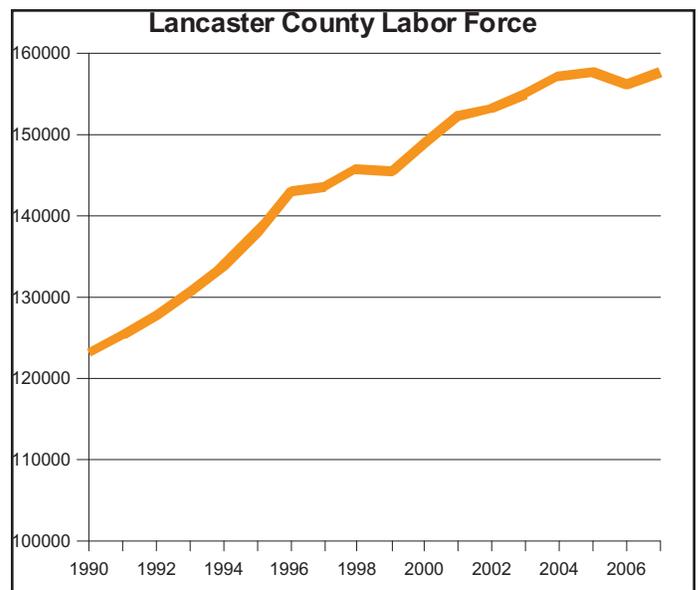
16

Lancaster County, Civilian Labor Force, 1990-2006

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.

Trends/ Observations:

- Between 1990 and 2000, the average annual change in the number of persons considered part of the “Civilian Labor Force” was 1.8 percent per year.
- In 2007, the Civilian Labor Force reflected continued growth and comprised 157,887 persons either employed or unemployed in Lancaster County.
- In 2000, the Civilian Labor Force included 149,092 persons for Lancaster County.
- Between 2000 and 2007, the average annual change in the number of persons in the Civilian Labor Force for Lancaster County was 0.82 percent per year.
- 2006 showed a slight drop of 369 people, possibly due in part to large deployments of National Guard and Reserve troops.
- 2007 showed a gain of 1,491 persons over 2006 in the Civilian Labor Force in Lancaster County



Web Links and Resources:

Nebraska State Department of Labor, WEBNSTARS, Labor Force Data, Lancaster County
http://www.dol.state.ne.us/nstars/webnstars/frame_it.asp?theProductName=WebNSTARS

ECONOMY

Indicator

17

Educational Attainment Level, Lancaster County

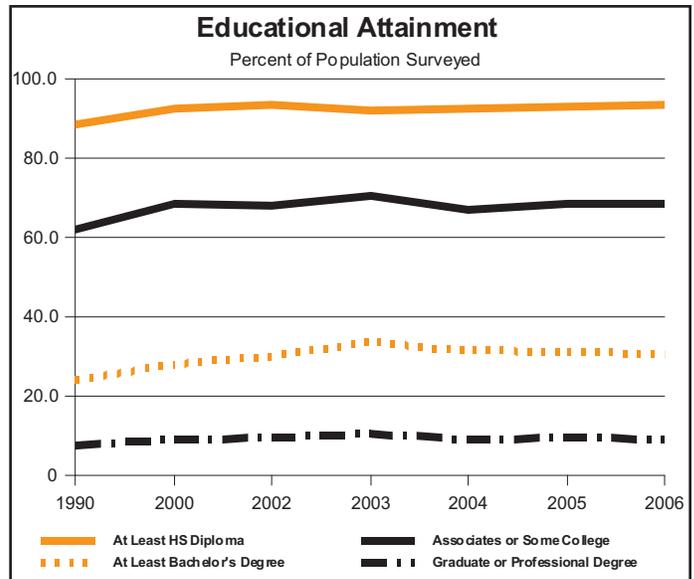
Benchmark: Emphasis Education to Encourage Economic Development

High School graduation rates in 2004 (the most recent year for which county ranking tables are available) in Lancaster County ranked 20th in the nation among counties of 250,000 persons or more.

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.

Trends/ Observations:

- Since 2000, the average annual percent of persons over 18 years of age that have a high school diploma or equivalent is 92.8 percent, compared to 88.6 in the 1990 Decennial Census.
- In 2006 an estimated 139,782 of the 204,292 people over 18 years old in Lancaster county had at least some college or an associates degree.
- Of the estimated 204,292 people over 18 years in Lancaster County in 2006, an estimated 62,222 had at least a bachelor's degree and 18,165 had a graduate or professional degree.
- The percentage of persons in Lancaster County over 18 years who hold a bachelor's degree rose to 28.0 percent in 2000 from 23.8 percent in 1990, according to the Decennial Census.
- Since the 2000 Decennial Census, the ACS has estimated that the annual average percent of persons over 18 in Lancaster County who hold a bachelor's degree has risen to 31.2 percent.



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.
- The 2002 through 2005 ACS samples did not include "Group Quarters" populations. Group Quarters are institutional living quarters such as dormitories, nursing homes, and incarcerated populations.
- 2006 ACS samples include all populations.

	At least HS Diploma	Associates or some College (no Degree)	At least a Bachelor's Degree	Graduate or Professional Degree
United States	81.9%	26.6%	24.6%	8.7%
Nebraska	88.8%	33.5%	24.5%	7.3%
Lancaster Co.	93.6%	38.0%	30.5%	8.9%

Web Links and Resources:

Census Bureau website, American FactFinder; 1990 Decennial Census, table P060; 2000 Decennial Census, table PCT25; 2002 & 2003 ACS, table PCT033; 2004-2006 ACS, table 15001 http://factfinder.census.gov/home/saff/main.html?_lang=en

ECONOMY

Benchmark: Economic Health



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 has been 1.5% 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.

Indicator

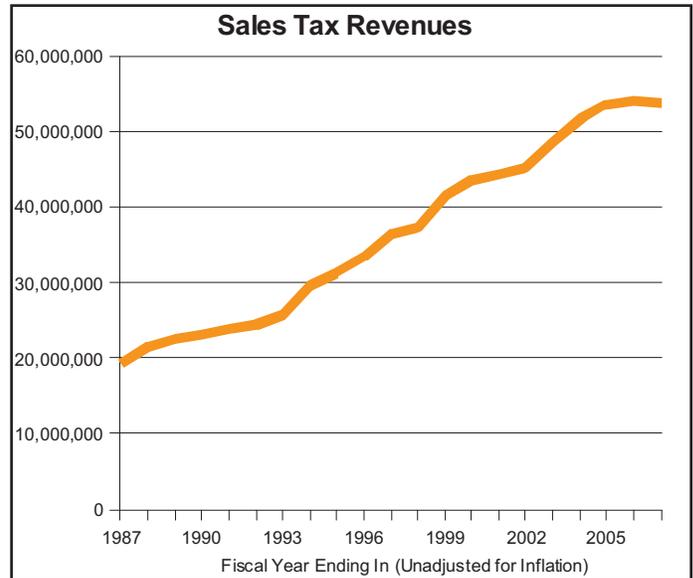
18

Lincoln's Sales Tax Revenues, 1980-2006

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.

Trends/ Observations:

- In FY 2006-07, a total of \$53.96 million in sales tax revenues were collected by the City of Lincoln, a decrease of 0.57% from FY 2005-06.
- 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% since FY 1989-1990, compared to an average annual increase of 9.7% in the 1980s.
- Between FY 1999-2000 and FY 2006-2007, the average annual growth rate (unadjusted for inflation) for sales tax revenues for the City of Lincoln was 3.02 percent, with FY 2002-2003 having the highest increase of 7.2% and FY 2006-2007 decreasing by 0.57%.



Web Links and Resources:

City of Lincoln, Finance Department, Budget Office

ECONOMY

Benchmark: Provide a Healthy Climate for Economic Development



**Lodging Tax began in 1980 at 2% and was increased to 4% in 2005.*

Definitions:

- Lodging tax revenues represent dollars spent on lodging in Lancaster County.
- Up until 2005, 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.

Indicator

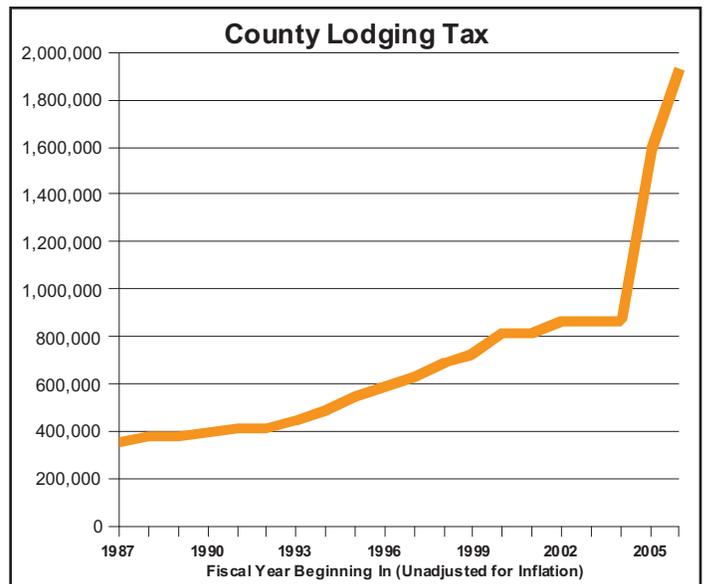
19

Lancaster County, Lodging Tax, 1980-2006

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.

Trends/ Observations:

- In 2007 lodging taxes rose dramatically, 21.2 percent over the previous year, the fastest rate of growth since 1982.
- Lodging taxes have shown steady growth over the past 27 years. In the 1980s the average annual growth was 9.7 percent per year, in the 1990s this slowed to 6.1 percent per year.
- Since 2000 the average annual growth rate in lodging taxes has been only 1.7% per year, probably due to the September 11th tragedy and the economic downturn. But the 2007 single-year growth rate of 21.2 percent may indicate a return to the growth seen in previous decades.
- In the year 2006, revenues from the lodging tax increased dramatically to reach \$1,595,700. This was due to an additional 2% Tax that was collected for the Visitor Improvement Fund. However, if the additional Visitor Improvement Fund taxes were removed from the figures, 2006 would show a decrease of 7.78 percent over 2005.



Web Links and Resources:

Lancaster County Budget Office, March, 2008

ENVIRONMENT

Benchmark: Preserve Riparian, Floodplain and Stream Corridors



“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:

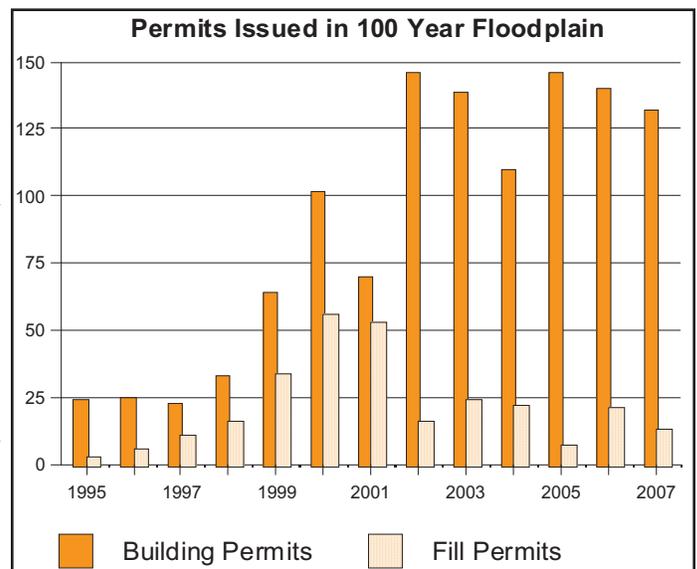
- Building Permits also include filling the floodplain; however, “non-substantial” improvements, which include interior improvements, are included and may not impact the floodplain.
- Included in this information are permits for bridge and culvert construction and replacement, and wetland restoration.
- 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.
- Conservation easements restrict the activities that may be undertaken in an area and run with the land.

Indicator 20 Lincoln, Permits Issued in the 100 Year Floodplain, 1995-2007 & Conservation Easements for Floodplain Preservation Since 2000

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.

Trends/ Observations:

- In 1995 the number of building and fill permits issued by the City of Lincoln for development in the floodplain totaled 27 permits. Since 1995 permit activity in the 100 Year Floodplain has steadily increased.
- The number of building and fill permits issued by the City of Lincoln totaled 158 permits in 2000, and 145 in 2007.
- 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 City of Lincoln and the Lower Platte South Natural Resource District (LPS-NRD) protect flood plains through the purchase of conservation easements that preserve the flood storage volume.
- Since 2000, almost 1,200 acres of land in Lancaster County have been preserved through conservation easements specifically meant to preserve floodplain.



Acres of Floodplain Preserved Through Conservation Easements Since 2000*

2000	130.1
2001	72.0
2002	248.1
2003	269.9
2004	164.6
2005	37.1
2006	222.3
2007	51.5
TOTAL	1195.4

*Only conservation easements specifically for the purpose of flood storage are shown. Other easements may have preserved flood storage incidentally.

Web Links and Resources:

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

ENVIRONMENT

Indicator 21 Air Quality, 1999-2007

Benchmark: Clean Air is a Valuable Community Asset



“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

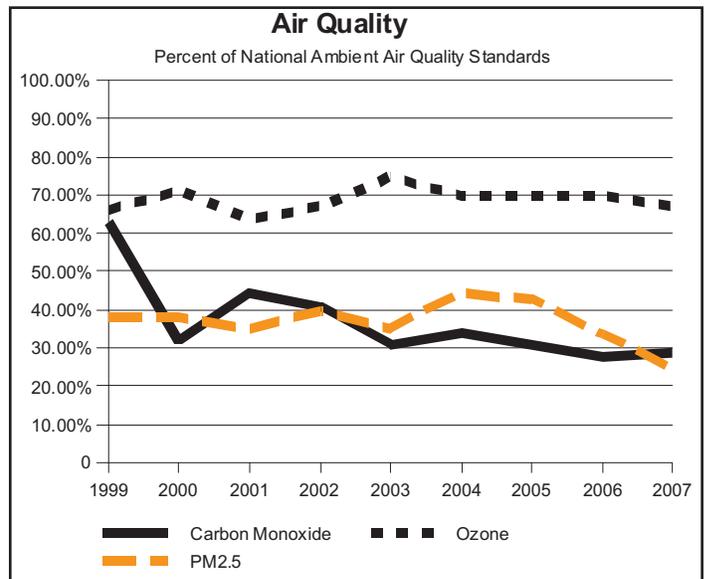
Definitions:

- 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 exceedence of the standard is permitted before the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) would find the City to be in violation.

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.

Trends/ Observations:

- Lincoln/Lancaster County currently meets National Ambient Air Quality Standards and is an air quality attainment community. As long as percentages remain **below 100%**, a community is considered to meet the standard.
- Between 1999 and 2007, levels of carbon monoxide (CO) measured from 28 to 63 percent of the NAAQS, remaining under the ambient air quality standard and maintaining the attainment designation for the community. CO levels have been generally decreasing for the last 5 to 6 years.
- Ozone (O3) air pollution levels are currently measuring the closest to the permitted NAAQS attainment threshold – peaking in 2003 at 75 percent of the standard.
- PM2.5 “Particulate Matter less than 2.5 Microns in diameter” during the period from 1999 to 2006 measured from 25 to 45 percent of permitted ambient air quality standard – and remained under the permitted threshold to maintain the designation of attainment.
- PM2.5 values for 2007 were the lowest during the period, at 25 percent allowed, however, this figure was based on readings for the first 9 months of the year, complete readings had not yet been entered into the data system at time of publication.



Air Pollutant Measurements	NAAQS
CO - Second Highest 8 Hour Average	9.0 Parts per Million
O ₃ -3 Year Average of 4 th Highest 8 Hour Average	0.080 Parts per Million
PM _{2.5} Maximum Avg. Conc. in 24 hr. Period	65 Micrograms per Cubic Meter

Web Links and Resources:

Lincoln/Lancaster County Health Department, Environmental Public Health, Air Quality
 US Environmental Protection Agency, Monitor Values Report - Critical Air Pollutants
<http://www.epa.gov/air/data/monvals.html?st~NE~Nebraska>

ENVIRONMENT

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



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:

- In 1977 the National Agriculture Statistics Service took over the Census of Agriculture from the U.S. Census Bureau. Changes in sampling methodology increased the number of property owners reached by the Census.
- The U.S. Census of Agriculture is undertaken every five years.
- The next Census of Agriculture will be undertaken in 2007, results expected in 2009.
- The Census of Agriculture is the only source of uniform agricultural data for every county in the United States.

Indicator

22

Lancaster County, Agriculture and Farming, 1987-2002

About 77 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.

Trends/ Observations:

- The total number of farms in Lancaster County has declined from its highest point of 2,361 farms in 1950 to 1,615 in 1997.
- 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.

Number of Farms

- The number of farms increased slightly between 1992 and 1997 – rising from 1,359 farms in 1992 to 1,615 in 1997 and 1,607 in 2002. This number includes properties that have relatively small operations, such as vineyards, tree farms, and organic vegetable farms.

Lancaster County	1987	1992	1997	2002
Farms (number)	1,508	1,359	1,615	1,607
Land in Farms (acres)	448,286	414,763	438,416	448,600
Land in Farms (average size of farm in acres)	297	305	271	279

Number of Acres

- The total number of acres classified as farm land has been constant over time, ranging from 448,286 acres in 1987 to 438,416 in 1997 and 448,600 in 2002.

Average Size of Farms

- Between 1987 and 1997, the average farm size in Lancaster County fluctuated, the average farm size peaked in 1992 with 305 acres per farm.
- With a difference of only 8 acres, the variability in farm size has been small between 1997 and 2002.

Web Links and Resources:

2000 US Census of Agriculture, National Agriculture Statistics Service (USDA)
<http://www.agcensus.usda.gov/>

ENVIRONMENT

Benchmark: Efficient and Environmentally Safe Recycling



In 2007 there were more than 30 Voluntary Recycling Drop-Off Centers in Lancaster County, most are located in Lincoln – about 14.2 million pounds of recycled materials were collected in 2007.

Definitions:

- Recycled materials are deposited at Voluntary Recycling Centers located throughout the community.
- Recycling from private curbside waste haulers, metal recyclers, shredders, and direct private drop-off sites are not included in these figures.
- 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 2008 included updated estimates for each year since 2000. These updates have been used in the calculations.

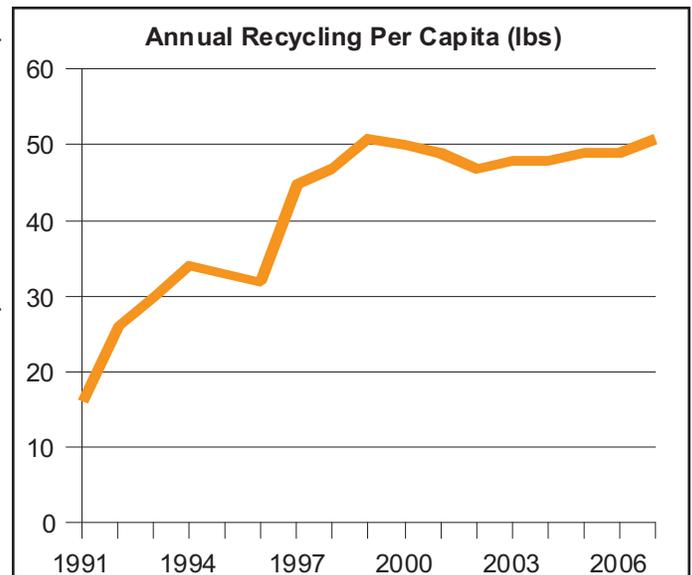
Indicator
23

Lancaster County Annual Voluntary Recycling Per Capita (Lbs.), 1991-2007

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.

Trends/ Observations:

- Overall, the amount of recycled materials collected throughout the community generally increased since 1991, however between 1994 and 1996 the amount of recyclables declined slightly.
- In 1991 the amount of material deposited at recycling collection centers was approximately 3.4 million pounds, reflecting a per capita recycling amount of 16 pounds per person per year county-wide.
- In 2000 the amount of recycling material deposited at voluntary recycling collection centers reached approximately 12.7 million pounds, reflecting a per capita recycling amount of 51 pounds per person per year county-wide.
- Between 2000 and 2007, recycling materials deposited at recycling sites county-wide has generally sustained the 2000 amounts for recycling efforts.
- In 2007 the average per capita annual recycling activity rose to 51.3 pounds per person, surpassing the previous high of 51.0 pounds in 1999.



Web Links and Resources:

City of Lincoln, Public Works & Utilities Recycling Office, March, 2008
<http://www.lincoln.ne.gov/city/pworks/waste/sldwaste/recycle/index.htm>

ENVIRONMENT

Indicator

24

Care and Maintenance of the City's Urban Forest, 1998-2007

Benchmark: Trees on City property will be systematically and proactively maintained



As of 2007, Lincoln's city trees provided an estimated \$2.80 return in economic & environmental benefits for every \$1.00 expended to plant & maintain them.

Lincoln has been designated a Tree City USA for 31 years, received the Tree City Growth Award for 17 consecutive years, and was one of the first 27 communities to become a Sterling Tree City USA in 2000.

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.
- The Consumer Price Index (CPI) is used to express "Real Dollars" in terms of their value in 2006.

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. After planting, public trees are pruned more frequently for their first 15 years in order to establish a desired growth pattern and avoid conflicts between branches and structures.

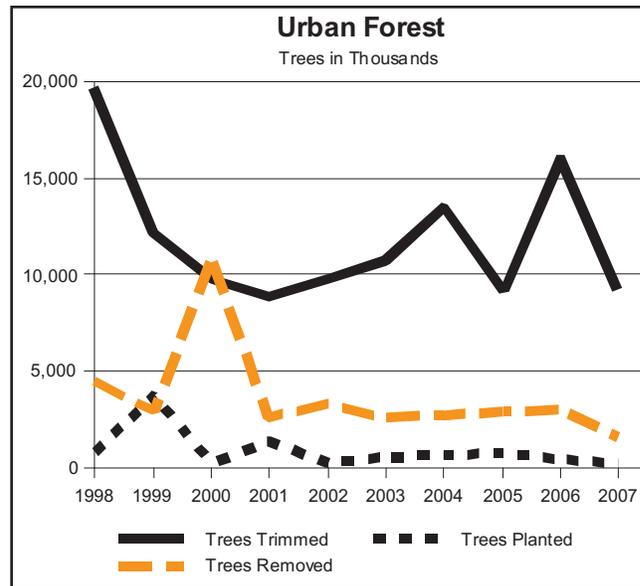
Trends/Observations:

- 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 8000 volunteer cedar and locust trees were removed from the Wilderness Park Tree Management Area.

- In 2007, per capita expenditures for public tree care were \$4.31, or \$4.19 in 2006 dollars. In 1998 that figure was \$4.49 or \$5.55 when adjusted for inflation to 2006 dollars.

- The average annual rate of change for per capita expenditures, when adjusted for inflation, for public trees is negative 2.77% per year since 1998.



- Since 1998 the Community Forestry Division has performed or overseen 119,223 tree trimmings, 9,132 tree plantings, and the removal of 37,345 volunteer, dead, diseased or hazardous trees.

- As of October 2007, there are an estimated 127,889 trees on public land in the City of Lincoln compared to an estimated 112,651 in 2004, and 154,000 in 1990.

Web Links and Resources:

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

Housing

Indicator 25

Lincoln's Single Family Detached Home Median Price, 1998-2007

Benchmark: Maintain Affordable Housing in Both New and Existing Neighborhoods

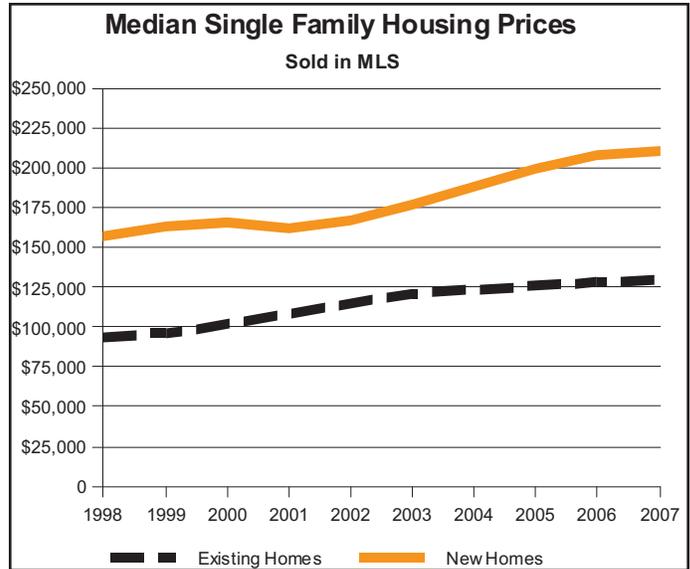
“New neighborhoods bring new residential opportunities and additional support for obtaining the community's goals. Existing neighborhoods remain vital and interesting places that provide the majority of the community's affordable housing.”

--2030 Lincoln-Lancaster County Comprehensive Plan

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.

Trends/ Observations:

- In 2000, the median price for existing single family detached homes was \$103,000, a new single family detached homes was \$166,384.
- In 2007, the median price for existing single-family detached homes in the Lincoln MLS Area, reported by the REALTORS Association of Lincoln (RAL) was \$129,950, an average annual increase of 3.38 percent per year since 2000. 2007 prices averaged \$221,900 for the Nation, and \$164,800 for the Midwest.
- In 2007, the median price for new single-family detached homes in the Lincoln MLS Area, reported by the RAL was \$211,500, an average annual increase of 3.49 percent per year since 2000.



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 owner or by an agent that does not participate in the Midlands MLS are not included in data.

	2001	2004	2007
Lincoln MLS Area			
Existing	176%	194%	202%
New	262%	296%	328%
Nation			
Existing	N/A	339%	368%
New	N/A	400%	413%

*As reported by HUD in HUD USER report.

Web Links and Resources:

US Dept. Of Housing and Urban Development <http://www.huduser.org/datasets/pdrdatas.html>
 National Association of REALTORS® <http://www.realtor.org/Research.nsf/Pages/reportsstatistics?OpenDocument>
 REALTORS Association of Lincoln, <http://www.lincolnrealtors.com/stats/index.htm>

Housing

Indicator

26

Housing Choices in Lincoln, 1981-2007

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



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

--2030 Lincoln-Lancaster County Comprehensive Plan

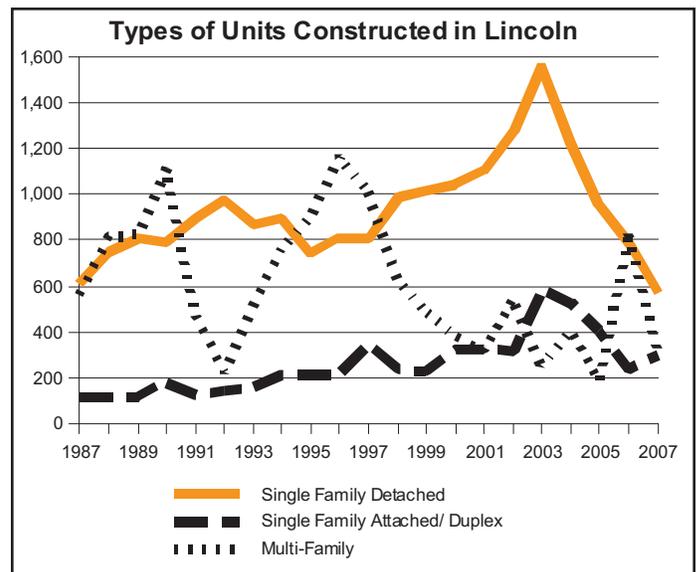
Definitions:

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

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 home-ownership and creates possibilities for unique and efficient residential developments.

Trends/ Observations:

- Since the late 90s, single family detached homes are the most prevalent homes issued building permits for new construction.
- Prior to 2002, townhomes and duplexes historically comprised the lowest number of new homes permitted. From 2002 to 2005, these homes exceeded the number of multi-family units permitted.
- The number of new multi-family permits fluctuated between 2000 and 2007, registering the lowest number of issued permits in 2005 with 192 units and increasing to 841 permits issued in 2006.
- The number of building permits issued for townhomes and duplexes has exhibited a growth trend from the early 80s to 2003, ranging from 57 in 1982 to 585 in 2003.
- Permits for single family detached homes have declined over the past couple of years from a peak of 1,565 issued permits for construction in 2003 to 569 issued permits in 2007.
- 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.



Web Links and Resources:

City of Lincoln, Building and Safety Department, Construction Report

Housing

Benchmark: Provide a Healthy Climate for Economic Development

Median Family Income, 2006*

US\$58,526
Nebraska\$56,940
Lancaster County	..\$62,457

**Includes all families as shown in the 2006 American Community Survey.*

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 2006.

Indicator

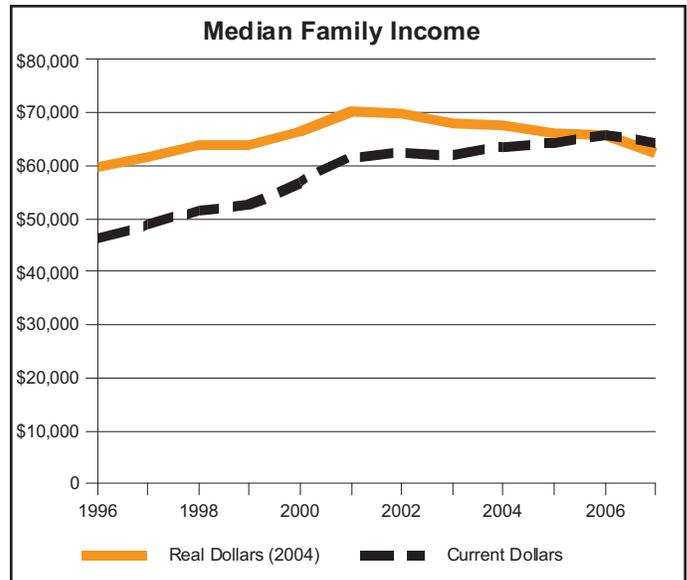
27

Lancaster County, Median Family Income, 1996-2007

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.

Trends/ Observations:

- In 1996 the MFI for a 4 person household was about \$46,600 -- when adjusted for inflation to reflect 2006 dollars the MFI in real dollars for 1996 was \$59,876 in Lancaster County.



- In the last 7 years, the MFI has increased an average of 1.8 percent per year from \$57,000 in 2000 to \$64,400 in 2007 – when inflation is factored into MFI, the average annual increase is negative 0.91 percent per year, showing a decline in the MFI over the last five years.
- The growth in MFI between 1996 and 2007 in Lancaster County amounted to an overall increase of 42 percent – when inflation is factored into the MFI, the overall increase in real dollars was 10.4 percent.

Web Links and Resources:

US Department of Housing and Urban Development, <http://www.hud.gov/>
HUD USER Policy Development and Research, http://www.huduser.org/datasets/il/il2007/st_mfi.odb
US Census Bureau, Income Estimates, <http://www.census.gov/prod/2007pubs/p60-233.pdf>

Benchmark: Increase Use of Non-Auto Transportation

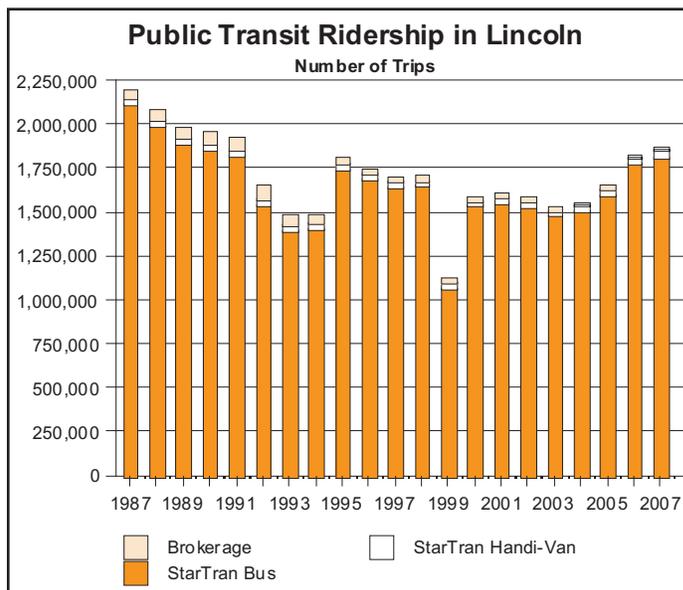
The Comprehensive Plan aims to increase the use of public transit ridership by improving and expanding facilities and services. Public transportation is necessary for those residents who lack other transportation means. Growing ridership can indicate that this transportation option is a viable alternative 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.

Trends/ Observations:



In 2006 and 2007, StarTran experienced its highest ridership since 1991.

- 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 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 2007, StarTran's total ridership increased to 1.87 million transit trips, while the Brokerage and Handi-Van service combined for 55,813 of these trips.
- StarTran ridership has generally stabilized since 2000. In each of the past three years (2005, 2006, and 2007), StarTran has experienced increases in ridership likely due to new fare programs such as "Ride for 5" and increases in driving costs.
- Since 2000, StarTran ridership has increased by 17.6%, or an average annual increase of 2.4%.



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.

Web Links and Resources:

City of Lincoln Public Works & Utilities - StarTran
<http://www.lincoln.ne.gov/city/pworks/startran/index.htm>

TRANSPORTATION

Indicator

29

Lincoln's StarTran Coverage, 2007

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



NOTE: A Transit Development Plan that proposes new fixed-route bus service for Lincoln was approved in 2007. It is anticipated that new fixed bus routes will be implemented in 2008.

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.

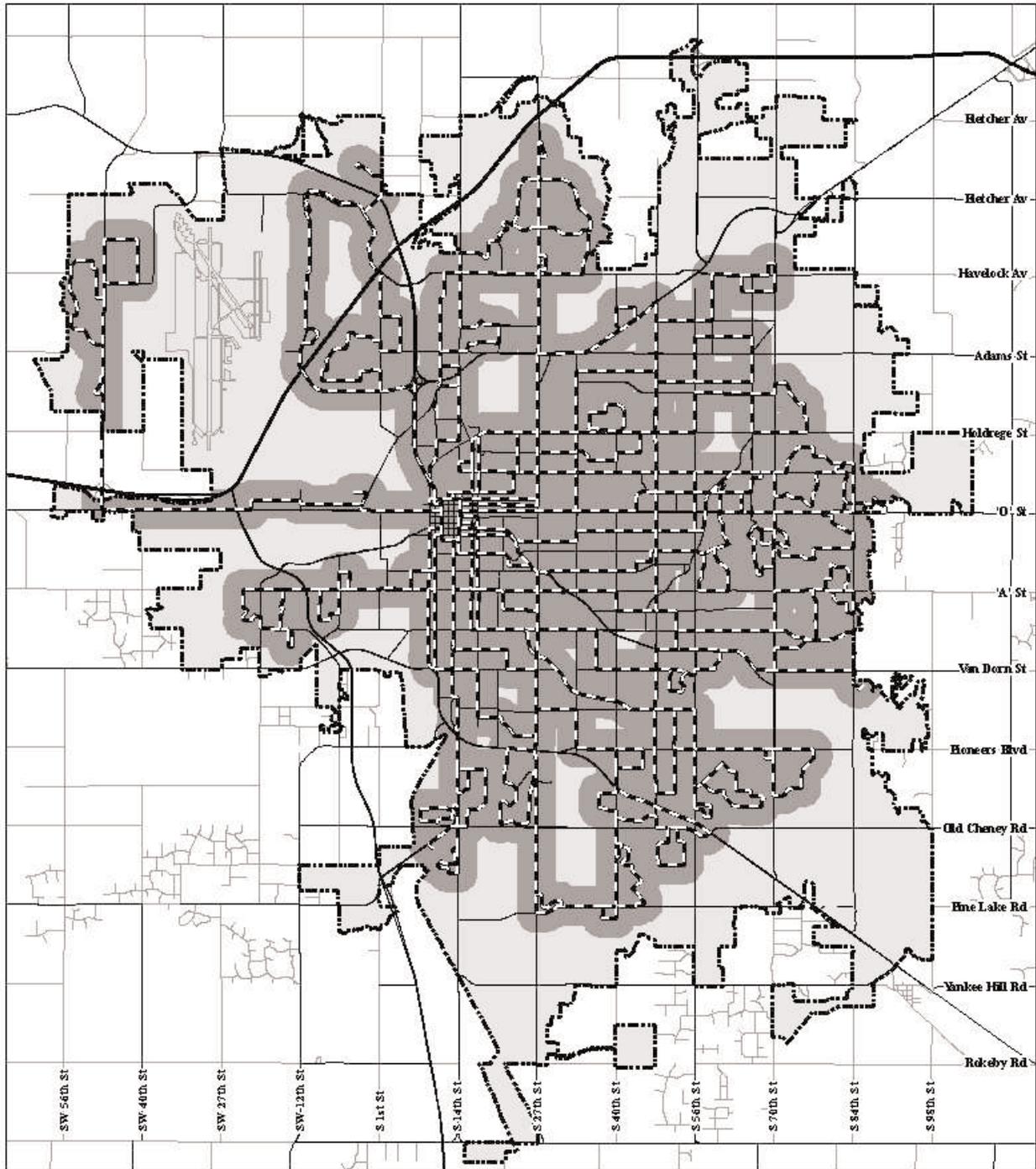
This indicator examines the spatial relationship of the public fixed-route bus system with proximity to Lincoln residences. The Comprehensive Plan aims to increase the use of public transit ridership by improving and expanding facilities and service. Coverage analysis identifies areas that currently 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.

Trends/ Observations:

- 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 12 square miles.
- In 2007, 84.9% of homes (91,062 out of 107,326) were located within a 1/4 mile of a StarTran fixed-route.
- There are about 16,264 (15.1%) homes located outside the 1/4 mile service area standard – these homes are generally located in newer developments along Lincoln's fringe areas.

Web Links and Resources:

City of Lincoln Public Works & Utilities - StarTran
<http://www.lincoln.ne.gov/city/pworks/startran/index.htm>



STARTRAN BUS ROUTES

84.9% Of Lincoln Residences Are Within 1/4 Mile

City Limits and Residences as of December 31, 2007

Map Explanation

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

TRANSPORTATION

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



Indicator

30

Lincoln's Multi-Use Trails Coverage, 2007

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.

Trends/ Observations:

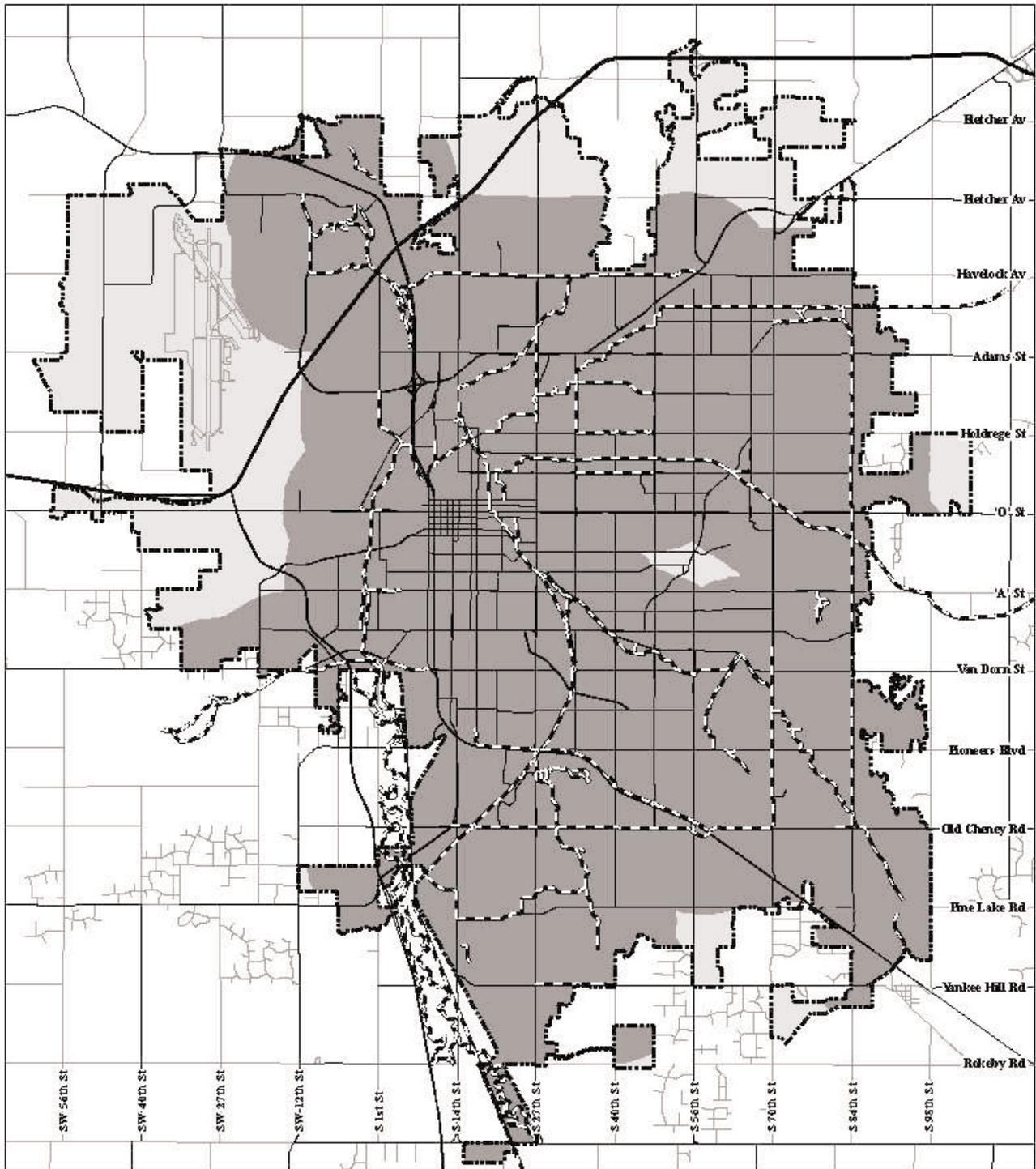
- In 2007, 93 percent of homes (99,855 of 107,326) were located within 1 mile of a public multi-use trail.
- There are approximately 7,471 (7%) homes located outside the 1 mile service area standard – these homes are generally located in newer developments along Lincoln's fringe. One part of an existing 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, 26.7 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 12 square miles.

Definitions:

- Lincoln has approximately 124 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 135 miles of additional multi-use trails to be constructed throughout the community.
- Bike lanes also are in use in Downtown Lincoln.

Web Links and Resources:

2030 Lincoln/Lancaster County Comprehensive Plan
<http://www.lincoln.ne.gov/city/plan/complan/2030/mobility.pdf>



MULTI-USE TRAILS

93.0% Of Lincoln Residences Are Within 1 Mile

City Limits and Residences as of December 31, 2007

Map Explanation

The dark areas on the map reflect the 1 mile radius from the existing multi-use trails.

TRANSPORTATION

Indicator

31

Lincoln, Lane Miles of Roadway, 1990-2007

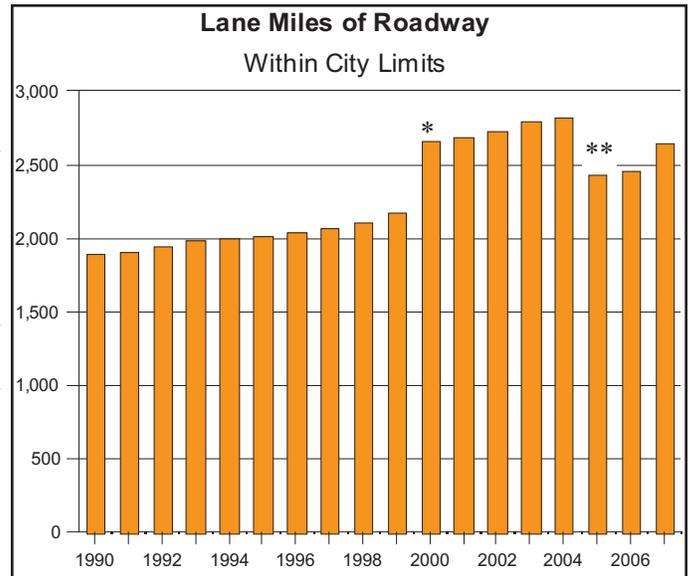
Benchmark: Provide for an Efficient, Convenient & Safe Road Network to Serve the Community

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.

Trends/ Observations:



- In 1990, 1,883 lane miles of roadways were maintained throughout the City of Lincoln.
- In 1999, lane miles had increased to 2,170 miles of roadway.
- * In 2000, GIS technology and a new State of Nebraska computation formula changed the calculation of lane miles, which resulted in 2,658 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.



- 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.

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.

Web Links and Resources:

City of Lincoln Public Works & Utilities - Engineering Services
<http://www.lincoln.ne.gov/city/pworks/engine/index.htm>

TRANSPORTATION

Indicator

32

Lincoln's Peak Hour Vehicle Occupancy, 1977-2006

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



Quick Facts

Mean Vehicle Occupancy for Work Trips in the U.S.:

United States: 1.14 persons per vehicle

*2001 National Household Travel Survey, U.S. Department of Transportation, Bureau of Transportation Statistics

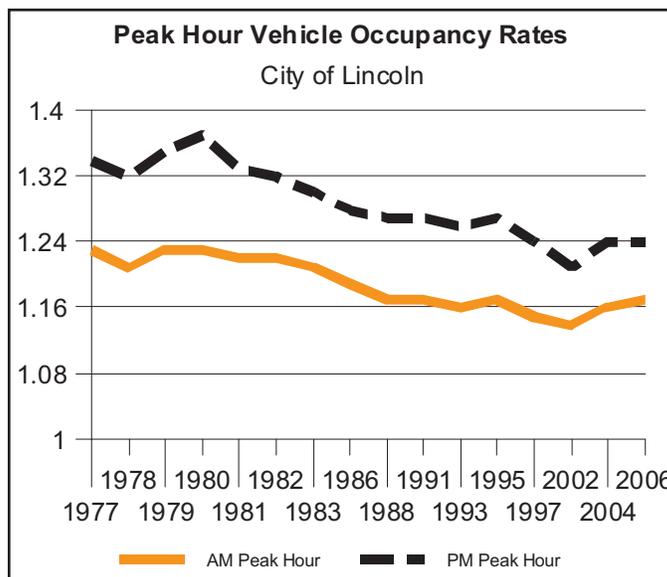
Definitions:

- Average automobile occupancy rates in the a.m. and p.m. hours reflect observations throughout the community.
- The higher the occupancy rate the more persons per vehicle on average.
- Occupancy Rate cannot be below "1.0".
- The Automobile Occupancy Study is completed approximately every two-years.
- Baseline information on the travel characteristics and trends can be used to plan and evaluate the need for additional or improved street segments.

The Comprehensive Plan acknowledges cars and trucks will continue to be the primary mode of travel for Lincoln and Lancaster County. Roads will form the backbone of the entire region's transportation system. Passenger vehicle occupancy data is an increasingly recognized key element of an effective urban travel monitoring program.

Trends/ Observations:

- The graph shows the trend of average occupancies during the a.m. and p.m. peak hours over the last 30 years.
- Between 1977 and 2006, the average automobile occupancy during the a.m. peak hour dropped from 1.23 persons per vehicle to 1.17 persons per vehicle.
- Between 1977 and 2006, the average automobile occupancy during the p.m. peak hour dropped from 1.34 persons per vehicle to 1.24 persons per vehicle.
- The 2006 a.m. peak hour occupancy rate was slightly higher than 2004.
- People are more likely to carpool for social and recreational trips than for work trips.



Web Links and Resources:

2006 City of Lincoln Vehicle Occupancy Study (August 2006)
<http://www.lincoln.ne.gov/city/plan/mpo/pdf/vehocc06.pdf>

TRANSPORTATION

Indicator

33

Lincoln, Estimated Daily Vehicle Miles Traveled, 1985-2007

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



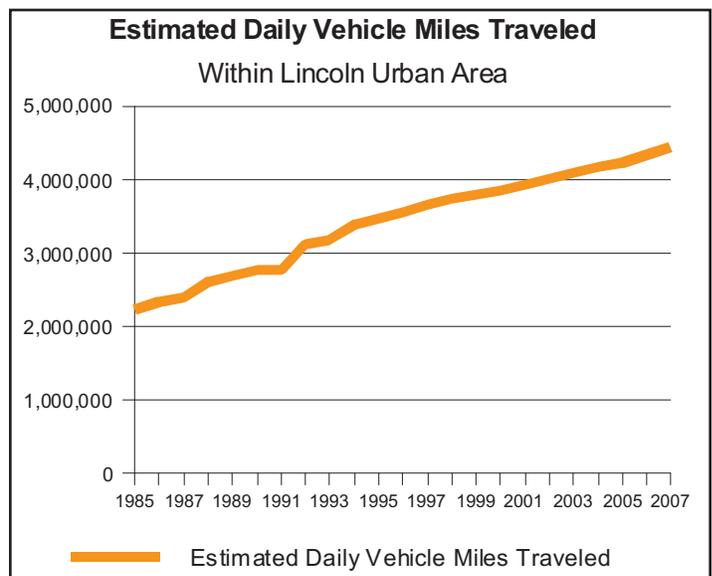
This indicator is used to evaluate transportation system utilization and performance. Vehicle Miles Traveled (VMT) serve as a proxy for how well localities are incorporating the principles of accessible and walkable communities, increased public transportation and a shift away from development practices 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.

Trends/ Observations:

- 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 3.6 percent per year, or with a total increase of 71 percent in miles traveled.

- The year with the smallest increase occurred from 1990 to 1991 when the daily VMT increased by only 5,000 miles, or less than 1 percent for the year.



- The VMT estimate passed 4.0 million daily VMT in Lincoln in 2002.
- By 2007, the VMT estimate reached 4.45 million miles traveled daily in Lincoln.
- The average annual change in daily VMT since 2000 has been an increase of 2 percent per year.

Definitions:

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

Web Links and Resources:

Lincoln Area Metropolitan Planning Organization - Urban Area Traffic Model

TRANSPORTATION

Indicator

34

Lincoln's Vehicle Crash Rate, 1985-2005

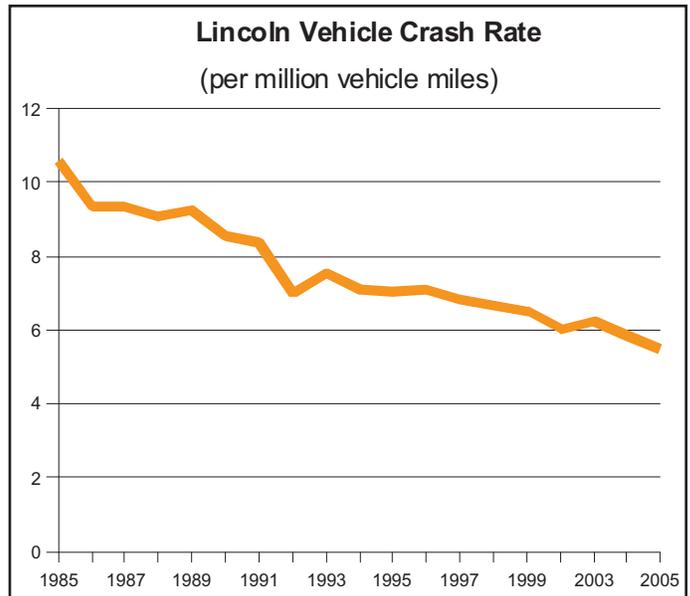
Benchmark: Provide for an Efficient, Convenient & Safe Road Network to Serve the Community

In 2005, the average number of vehicle crashes per day was approximately 23 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.

Trends/ Observations:

- 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.
- In 2005, the most recent year for which data is available, the vehicle crash rate fell to 5.5 crashes per million vehicle miles traveled. This is an average annual decline of 3.3% per year since 1985.
- Total crashes in 2005 decreased to 8,539.
- 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, school safety programs, and so on. Heightened vehicle safety standards at the national level - such as anti-lock brakes and running lights - have also contributed.

Historic Crash Trends*

Year	Total Crashes	Year	Total Crashes
1996	9,268	2001	9,283
1997	9,172	2002	8,860
1998	9,185	2003	9,400
1999	9,112	2004	9,044
2000	9,251	2005	8,539

The 2005 Crash Study was published in June 2007 and 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.

Web Links and Resources:

2005 City of Lincoln Crash Study (June 2007)
<http://www.lincoln.ne.gov/city/pworks/engine/crash/index.htm>

RECREATION

Indicator

35

Lincoln's Neighborhood Park Coverage, 2007

Benchmark: A
Neighborhood Park within
1/2 mile of all homes in
Lincoln



*In 2007 there were over
60 neighborhood parks
throughout Lincoln.*

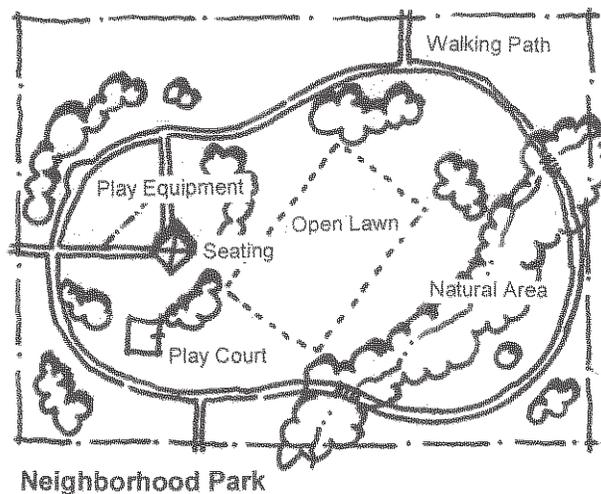
Definitions:

- 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 mile standard reflects the walking distance most people are willing to travel to get to 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 Community and Regional Parks not included with this data.

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 provides multiple health and quality of life benefits for residents.

Trends/ Observations:

- In 2007, 72.6 percent (77,931) of homes were located within a 1/2 mile of a City Neighborhood Park.
- In 2004, 73.9 percent of homes were located within a 1/2 mile of a city neighborhood park. In 2006, this number was 73.2 percent.
- About 27.3 percent (29,395) of homes are located outside the 1/2 mile service area standard – these homes are located throughout Lincoln's new and established neighborhoods.
- Some neighborhoods may have parks or open facilities such as community or regional parks, school playgrounds, or privately owned open space or playgrounds, within a 1/2 mile.
- Since 2000, over 11.7 square miles of land have been annexed into the City of Lincoln. While parks are planned in these and other new areas, many have yet to be developed.
- Since 2000, 9 neighborhood parks, totalling 24.7 acres, have been completed bringing the total number to 63 neighborhood parks totalling 426 acres.



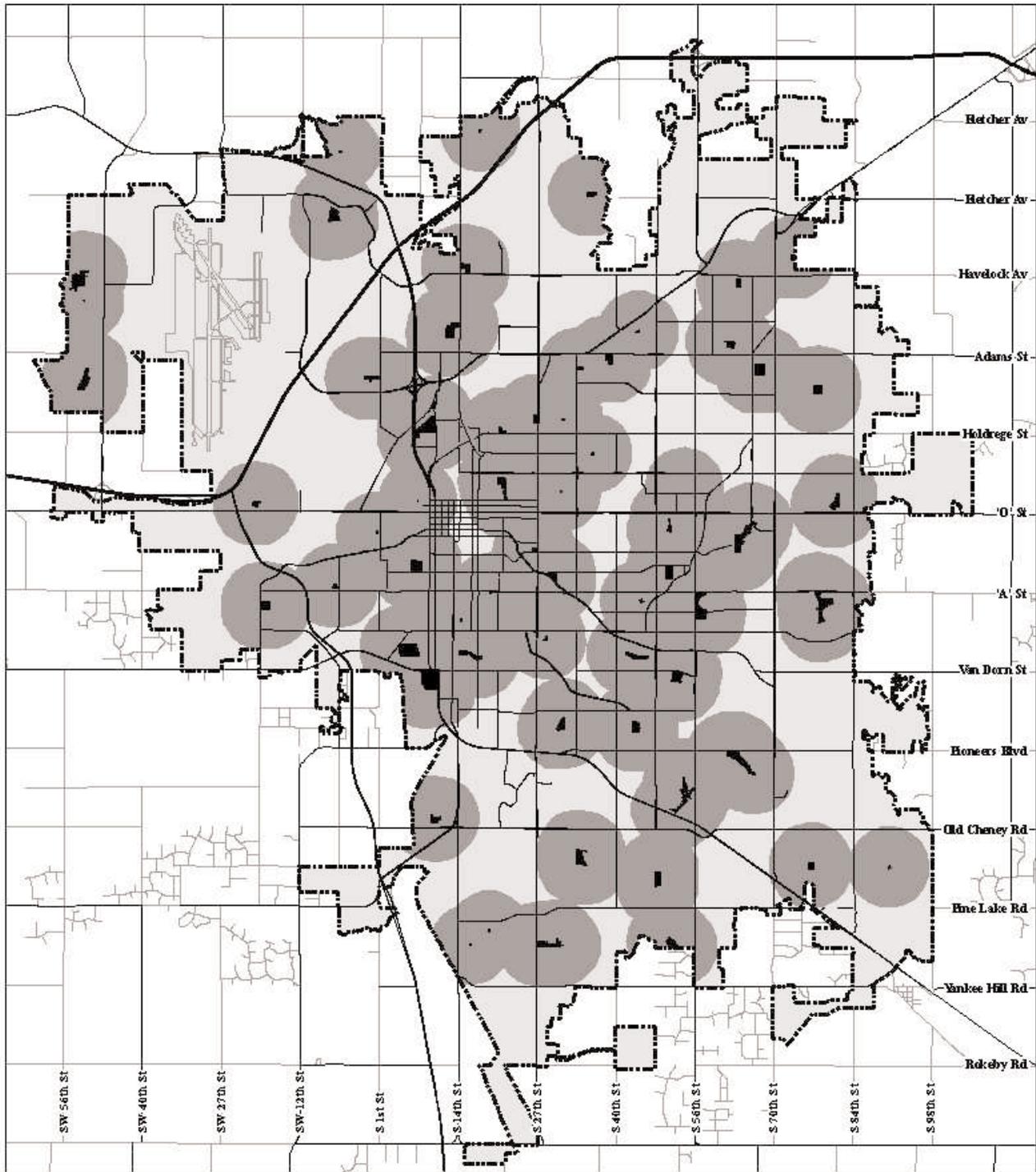
Web Links and Resources:

Lincoln Parks and Recreation Department

<http://www.lincoln.ne.gov/maps/parks/alpha.htm>

Analysis by Lincoln/Lancaster County Planning Department, Information Technology Services

<http://www.lincoln.ne.gov/city/plan/index.htm>



NEIGHBORHOOD PARKS

72.6% Of Lincoln Residences Are Within 1/2 Mile

City Limits and Residences as of December 31, 2007

Map Explanation

The dark areas reflect the 1/2 mile radius around each City neighborhood park.