

2019

LINCOLN/LANCASTER COUNTY COMMUNITY INDICATORS



May 2019

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INTRODUCTION

Introduction

This report marks a continuing effort in data collection for key community indicators outlined in the Lincoln-Lancaster County 2040 Comprehensive Plan, LPlan2040. The 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.

A 5-year minor update to LPlan 2040 was completed throughout 2016 and approved in December 2016. The update process affirmed the major assumptions of the Plan and updated other information. Updated information from the LPlan 2040 update has been incorporated into the 2019 Community Indicators Report.

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 rate 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 2011. 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-seven (37) different Indicators. A Benchmark is identified along with the Indicator and is shown in the left corner of the top bar. The Benchmark is a measurable goal or target identified in the Comprehensive Plan, or a general principle or policy that is intended to be implemented over the planning period for the community.

The 2019 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:

Why Is It Important?

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

Key Observation

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

How Are We Doing?

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 LPlan 2040. Change is described in terms of percentage or nominal differences in the data between each year or a specific time period.

What Does This Mean?

This section provides a summary of any apparent trends found in the data.

INTRODUCTION

Definitions/Notes

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

Sources

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” with a base year adjusted according to the year of the latest available data. For the specific real dollar value used for each table, see the “Definitions/Notes” section for that indicator. 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 interrelate, 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



INTRODUCTION

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

- » As of July 1, 2018, the County Population is 317,212 persons, and Lincoln's population is 287,401 as reported by estimates conducted by the Census Bureau. This reflects an average rate of growth of 1.30 percent per year since 2010 for both the City and County.
- » International migration in the County was 1,142 people in 2018 which is similar to the levels experienced since 2014.
- » 6,891 single family dwelling units are approved or in the process of platting which provides a 10.4 year supply based on the 3 year annual average of 666 single family dwelling unit permits for new growth areas.

Economy

- » In 2017, the per capita personal income (PCPI) value was \$45,896, an increase of 0.3 percent over 2016, adjusted for inflation.
- » From 2010 to 2017, 15,661 new jobs were added to Lancaster County for a total of 168,467 in 2017. This is an increase of 10.25 percent or an average of 1.40 percent per year.
- » The 2017 unemployment rate in Lancaster County (2.64) is below the pre-recession rate of 2.79 in 2007. The 2017 rate is less than Nebraska (2.88) and the U.S. (4.36).
- » In 2017, 60.3 percent of the Lancaster County population, 18 yrs. and older, had some college or higher education. This is a higher percentage than the U.S. but slightly less than Nebraska.

Environment

- » Since 2010, the City of Lincoln and the Lower Platte South Natural Resources District have added 422 acres of protected area through the purchase of conservation easements that preserve flood storage volume.
- » Approximately 20 percent of trees on City-owned property are ash trees. Due to the expected impact of the Emerald Ash Borer, 503 ash trees were removed from City property in 2018.
- » Although the number of LES residential customers has increased by 9.35 percent since 2010, electrical consumption increased by only 7.51 percent in the same period.

Housing

- » Residential building activity in Lincoln has continued to increase. Since a low of 604 units in 2009 (the lowest since 1983), building permits issued in 2018 totaled 1,488 dwelling units.
- » Since 2010, multi-family dwellings have accounted for 43.7 percent of all residential building permits, followed by single-family detached dwellings at 40.3 percent and townhomes plus duplexes at 16.0 percent.
- » In 2017, the median gross rent in Lincoln was \$788 compared to \$982 for the U.S.

Transportation

- » StarTran 2018 ridership was 2.39 million, 54.9 percent higher than 2000.
- » In 2018, bike racks on StarTran buses were used an average of 103 times each operating day for a monthly total average of 2,648 rack users.
- » 98.18 percent of homes in Lincoln are located within 1 mile of a public multi-use trail.
- » The crash rate in Lincoln has declined by an average 2.7 percent per year since 1985.
- » As of 2017, almost 20 percent of Lincoln residents commute by means other than a single-occupant vehicle.

Recreation

- » In 2018, over 80 percent of the homes in Lincoln were located within ½ mile of a Neighborhood Park. In 2004, this number was approximately 73 percent.
- » The City has 161 parks and recreation facilities.
- » The City has a total of 7,389 acres of parkland and open space. This figure includes 5 golf courses on 781 acres of land.

GROWTH

Benchmark: Lancaster County's Population is Assumed to Reach Over 412,000 Persons by the Year 2040

Indicator 1: Lancaster County Population, 1960-2018

Race and Ethnicity, 2017 5-Year American Community Survey

Race and Ethnicity, 2017 5-Year ACS	Population	Percentage
White, NH	251,487	82.09%
Hispanic	20,625	6.73%
Asian, NH	12,942	4.22%
African-American, NH	11,909	3.89%
Two or more races, NH	7,561	2.47%
American Indian / Alaskan Native, NH	1,367	0.45%
Native Hawaiian / Pacific Islander, NH	192	0.06%
Other race, NH	274	0.09%
Total	306,357	

Note: 2017 is the latest available data.

Average Annual Growth Rate by Decade

Area	1960-1970	1970-1980	1980-1990	1990-2000	2000-2010	2010-2018
Lancaster	0.79%	1.39%	1.08%	1.59%	1.30%	1.30%
Nebraska	0.47%	0.55%	0.05%	0.82%	0.64%	0.67%
U.S.	1.27%	1.03%	0.94%	1.24%	0.90%	0.70%

Annual Change in Population since 2010

Lancaster County	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	Avg Annual Growth Rate
Population	286,160	289,884	93,430	297,120	302,644	306,136	310,440	313,977	317,212	
Change		1.30%	1.22%	1.26%	1.86%	1.15%	1.41%	1.14%	1.03%	1.30%

Note: 2018 is the latest available data.

Definitions/Notes:

- The data reflects US Census Bureau estimates for Lancaster County.
- Estimates are made annually on non-census years using data supplied by the states and reflect the estimated population on July 1st of that year.
- "NH" means "Not Hispanic".

Sources:

- U.S. Census Bureau, Annual Estimates of the Resident Population
- U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey

Why Is It Important?

The Plan energetically recognizes the long-term growth potential of the City of Lincoln and Lancaster County, and opportunities presented by the fundamental demographic changes in the community. This growth is based on an assumed rate of 1.2 percent per year over the thirty year period, an assumption that is supported by three independent demographers.

Key Observation

Annual average rate of growth for Lancaster County is 1.30 percent since 2010. That aligns with the growth assumed in LPlan 2040.

How Are We Doing?

- » The estimated population of Lancaster County on July 1, 2018 was 317,212, according to the U.S. Census Bureau. This was an increase of 1.03 percent over the 2017 estimated population.
- » Lancaster County has grown by 10.9 percent between 2010 and 2018 at approximately 1.30 percent per year.
- » Lancaster County surpassed the 300,000 milestone in 2014. Based on growth rates, Lincoln will reach that milestone sometime around 2022.
- » In 2017, the County population was 82.09 percent White, not Hispanic (NH) followed by 6.73 percent Hispanic, 4.22 percent Asian NH, 3.89 percent African-American NH, and 3.07 percent all other NH.

What Does This Mean?

Population growth near the assumed rate of 1.2 percent per year indicates the amount of housing and commercial space planned for in the 2040 Plan is adequate.



"LPlan 2040 embraces a growing, changing community."



-- 2016 Update - 2040 Lincoln-Lancaster County Comprehensive Plan

GROWTH

Benchmark: Lincoln will Continue to be 90 Percent of the County Population by 2040

Indicator 2: Ratio of Lincoln to Lancaster County Population, 2000-2018

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Why Is It Important?

Since the 1960s, the City of Lincoln has made up about 90% of the County population, with the remaining population being divided between other towns in the County and the rural and unincorporated areas. It is important to know if this ratio is changing such that planning for urban and rural infrastructure and services can be done accordingly.

Key Observation

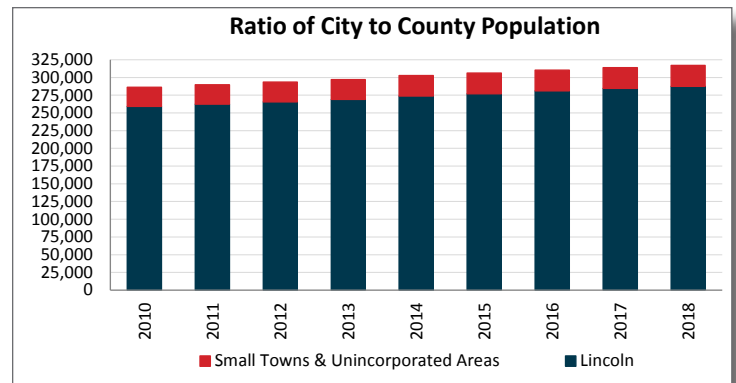
Lincoln continues to reflect the ratio of 90 percent of Lancaster County's population.

How Are We Doing?

- » As of July 1, 2018, Lincoln's population was 287,401.
- » Lincoln continues to reflect the ratio of 90 percent of Lancaster County's population.
- » In 2000, Lincoln's population was 90.7 percent of the County population.
- » In 2018, the ratio of City to County population was 90.6 percent.

What Does This Mean?

Lincoln continues to be the primary focus of population and growth for the County. While often more noticeable in rural areas and small towns, development in these areas comprises only a small percentage of County population and growth.



Annual Percent Growth of City and County

Year	Lancaster County	Lincoln City	County Excluding Lincoln
2010	1.08%	1.14%	0.50%
2011	1.30%	1.24%	1.93%
2012	1.22%	1.22%	1.27%
2013	1.26%	1.23%	1.50%
2014	1.86%	1.86%	1.83%
2015	1.15%	1.18%	0.90%
2016	1.41%	1.47%	0.79%
2017	1.14%	1.16%	0.98%
2018	1.03%	1.02%	1.15%

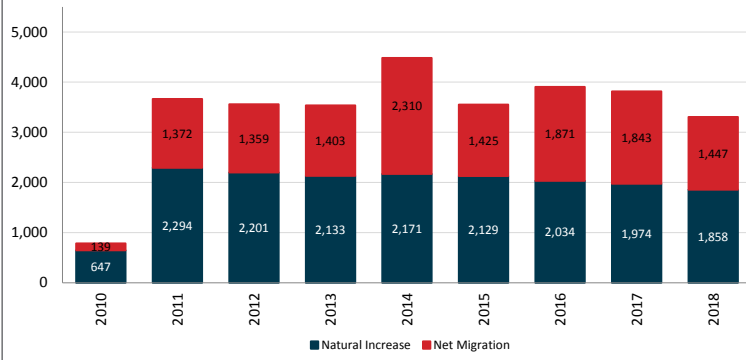
Definitions/Notes:

- US Census estimates 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.

Source:

- US Census Bureau, population estimates

Components of Population Change in Lancaster County



Why Is It Important?

This Indicator measures how attractive the community is to non-residents. The measures include the two largest components of population change: natural increase and net migration.

Key Observation

Since 2010, natural increase has accounted for 57.1 percent of the total population change.

How Are We Doing?

- » Lancaster County has been attracting a significant immigrant population, both international and domestic, since the 1990s.
- » Between 1990 and 2000, immigrants accounted for 54.30 percent of population growth in Lancaster County.

Components of Population Change since 2010

Lancaster County	Years									Change and Composition of Change			
	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	1980-1990	1990-2000	2000-2010	2010-2018
Population Change*	780	3,802	3,635	3,953	5,165	3,726	3,932	3,810	3,235	20,757	36,650	31,240	30,568
Net Migration	139	1,765	1,550	1,710	3,046	1,425	1,871	1,843	1,447	18.3%	54.3%	34.5%	43.0%
Natural Increase	647	2,060	2,100	2,106	2,087	2,129	2,034	1,974	1,858	81.5%	45.7%	65.5%	57.0%
Residual	-6	-23	-15	137	32	172	27	-7	-70	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

* Includes residual population, may not equal sum of Natural Increase and Net Migration

» A higher percentage of population growth from 2000-2018 was from natural increase (57.1%), whereas net migration accounted for 43.1 percent of population growth.

» In 2018 international immigrants accounted for 78.92 percent of net migration into the County, the highest proportion since 2015 (80.35 percent). From 2010 to 2018, international

migration exceeded domestic migration in seven of nine years.

What Does This Mean?

Lancaster County has strong components to population change, with positive growth in both net migration and natural increase.

Definitions/Notes:

- *Natural Increase is the difference between resident births and deaths.*
- *Net Migration is the difference between people moving into and out of an area.*
- *"Total Population Change" is the sum of Natural Increase and Net Migration.*
- *Corrections and adjustments are customarily made to Census estimates. This causes changes in migration data reported in previous Community Indicators Reports. 2000 and 2010 data in particular should be interpreted as a statistical anomaly related to the decennial Census.*

Sources:

- U.S. Census Bureau, *Annual Estimates of Components of Population Change for Counties in Nebraska*
- County population, population change and estimated components of population change

Year	Int'l Migration	Domestic Migration
2010	185	-46
2011	435	937
2012	657	702
2013	759	644
2014	895	1,415
2015	1,145	280
2016	1,090	781
2017	1,247	596
2018	1,142	305
Total	7,555	5,614

GROWTH

Benchmark: Provide Sufficient Land for Development of Lincoln

Indicator 4: Lincoln's Supply of Urban Residential Lots, 2010-2019

Why Is It Important?

The number of lots available for residential purposes in Lincoln may reflect the general level of development activity throughout the community.

Key Observation

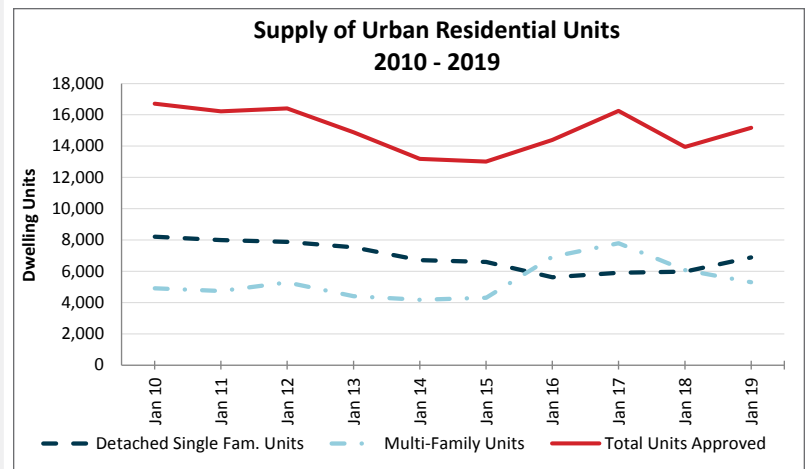
As of January 1, 2019, Lincoln has a potential for 36,358 new dwelling units within growth areas of the 2040 Future Service Limit (this number does not include potential infill units). About 15,173 are approved as final plats or preliminary plats. The remainder of the potential units are currently on raw land identified for future residential uses.

How Are We Doing?

- » As of January 1, 2019, there were 15,173 units approved as final plats or preliminary plats: 6,891 detached single-family, 5,306 multi-family, 1,991 attached single-family and duplex and 985 unspecified.
- » As of January 1, 2019, of the 6,891 detached single-family lots, 26 percent were final platted and 74 percent were preliminary platted.
- » As of January 1, 2019, the supply of detached single-family lots available (6,891) should last about 10.4 years at the 3-year average of 660 building permits per year.

What Does This Mean?

When considering approved plans, raw land, and the potential for infill development (projected by the Comprehensive Plan to be approximately 8,000 dwelling units by 2040), an adequate supply of land is available for development within the Future Service Limit to meet demand for more than 40,000 dwelling units.



Definitions/Notes:

- The data reflects a periodic point-in-time inventory of housing lots that could be developed with housing units in the future.
- Platted residential lots are single, two-family and multiple family units that are final platted, preliminary platted or are pending submitted plats.
- Final platted lots have streets and utilities installed or guaranteed with over 95% of these lots having all facilities installed.

Source:

- Lincoln-Lancaster County Planning Dept., Residential Land Inventory and Residential Building Permits, January, 2019

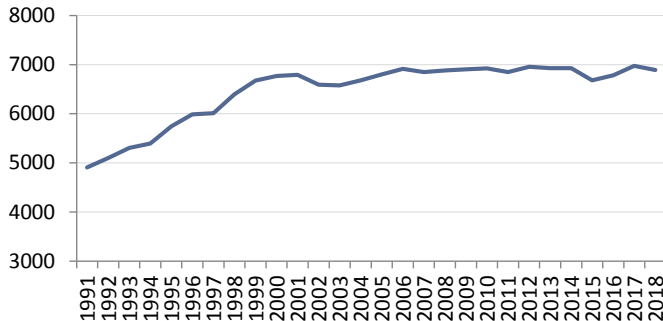
GROWTH

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

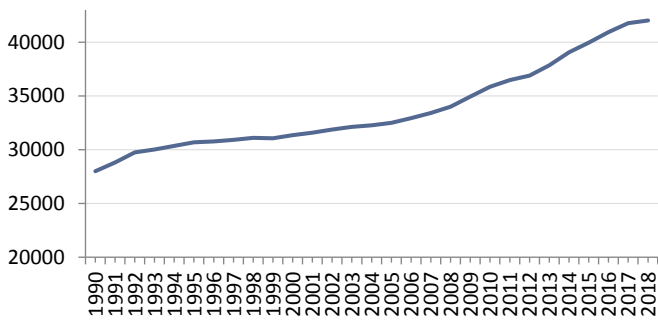
Indicator 5: Lincoln Public Schools and other Non-public Schools in Lincoln Student Enrollment, 1990-2018

5

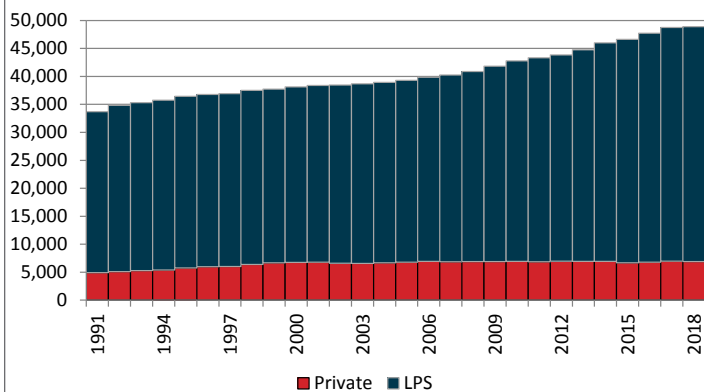
Enrollment in Lincoln Non-Public Schools



Enrollment in Lincoln Public Schools



K-12 Enrollment: Lincoln Children



Definitions/Notes:

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

Sources:

- Lincoln Public Schools Annual Statistical Handbook
- Nebraska Department of Education

Why Is It Important?

Student enrollment, diversity and poverty level trends are important to monitor because they help determine what needs must be met in planning for future schools.

Key Observation

Lincoln Public Schools surpassed 40,000 students in 2016.

How Are We Doing?

- Between 1990 and 2000, the growth rate for net student enrollment in Lincoln Public Schools (LPS) was 12.02 percent; absolute change in enrollment was 3,364 students. The annual average growth rate was 1.14 percent.
- Between 2000 and 2018, the percent change for net student enrollment in LPS was 34.0 percent; absolute change in enrollment was 10,657. The annual average growth rate was 1.64 percent.
- Total LPS student enrollment reached 42,011 in 2018, an addition of 251 students since 2017.
- From 2000 to 2018, 125 more students were enrolled in non-public schools in Lincoln, showing a total increase of 1.9 percent and an average annual increase of 0.1 percent. In 2018 there were 84 fewer students enrolled in private schools when compared to 2017, which is the first year-by-year decrease since 2015.
- In 2018, non-public schools comprised 14.1 percent of total student enrollment in Lincoln, which is the lowest enrollment percentage since at least 1991 - the first year with available data. The highest percentage of non-public school enrollment was in 2000, when 17.8 percent of students were enrolled in non-public schools.
- Since 2000, the number of students in LPS enrolled in the free/reduced lunch program has increased from 25.6 percent to 46.3 percent. The largest factor in this increase is that more qualifying students are entering the program partially due to changes in federal law. Created in 2004, the USDA Direct Certification programs allows for students who are part of a household receiving SNAP (Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program) benefits to automatically qualify for free/reduced price school lunches.

What Does This Mean?

Continued growth in LPS enrollment, while private school enrollment has plateaued for over 18 years, indicates a strong public school system in Lincoln.

GROWTH

Benchmark: Diversity, Richness and a Variety of Population will Enrich the Quality of Life

Indicator 6: Racial and Ethnic Diversity in Lincoln and Public Schools, 2000-2018

6

Why Is It Important?

Increases within the minority community — both in absolute numbers and as a percentage of the area's overall population — are anticipated to continue into the future. This trend is embraced by the LPlan 2040 Vision and is to be considered as the Plan's policies and programs are implemented.

Key Observation

Students in the Lincoln Public School system are more diverse than Lincoln as a whole.

How Are We Doing?

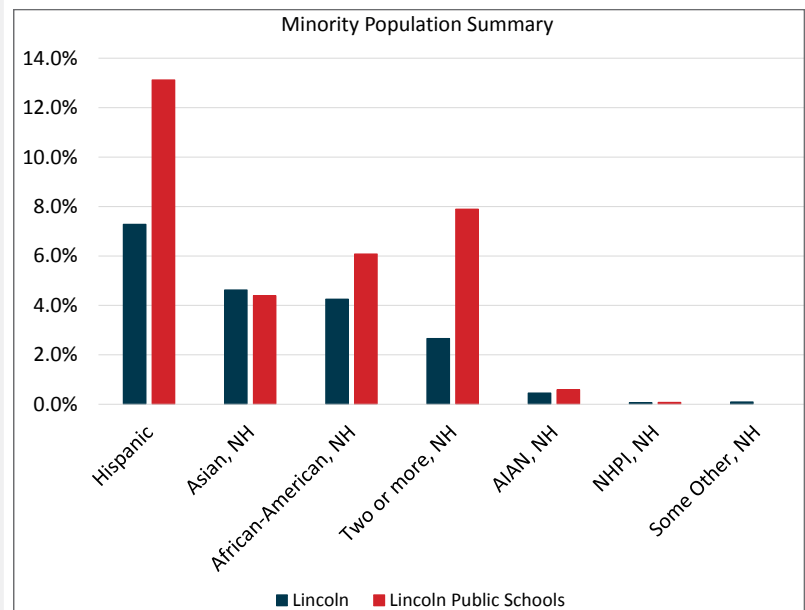
- » The Lincoln Public School system has historically shown more diversity in the student population as compared to Lincoln.
- » In 2000, while LPS had 13.7 percent minority students, Lincoln had only about 12.2 percent people who were non-white.
- » In 2018, LPS had a remarkable 36.2 percent minority students, while Lincoln had only about 19.4 percent people who were non-white in 2017.

What Does This Mean?

As these students grow up and have families of their own, Lincoln can expect an increased diversity in its racial and ethnic composition.

	Lincoln		Lincoln Public Schools	
White, NH	223,386	80.6%	26,785	63.8%
Hispanic	20,203	7.3%	5,512	13.1%
Asian, NH	12,826	4.6%	1,845	4.4%
African-American, NH	11,805	4.3%	2,555	6.1%
Two or more, NH	7,376	2.7%	3,318	7.9%
AIAN, NH	1,263	0.5%	248	0.6%
NHPI, NH	182	0.1%	32	0.1%
Some Other, NH	274	0.1%	N/A*	N/A*

Notes: Lincoln Data: 2017 ACS 5-Year Estimate
Lincoln Public Schools Data: LPS Statistical Handbook
* Lincoln Public Schools does not have this category



Definitions/Notes:

- NHPI: Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander
- AIAN: American Indian or Alaska Native
- NH: not Hispanic

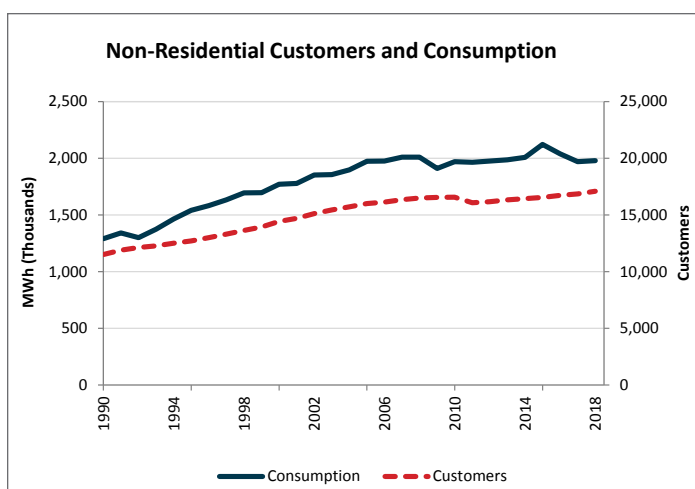
Sources:

- U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey 5-year estimates 2017
- Lincoln Public Schools, Statistical Handbook 2000 and 2018

ECONOMY

Benchmark: Provide a Healthy Climate for Economic Development

Indicator 7: Lincoln Electric System
Non-Residential Electrical Consumption
and Customer Accounts, 1990-2018



Why Is It Important?

The growth rate for non-residential utility service connections and electrical consumption may be utilized to monitor annual fluctuations in the local economy. These figures may reflect the level of economic activity in the non-residential sector.

Key Observation

Consumption of electricity by non-residential accounts suggests a healthy economy, even as increased use of energy efficient electrical equipment conserves energy.

How Are We Doing?

- » In 2018, non-residential electrical consumption was 1.98 million megawatt-hours by 17,087 customer accounts.
- » In 2010, the consumption was also 1.97 million megawatt-hours but with only 16,565 customer accounts. In 1990, these numbers were 1.29 million megawatt-hours by 11,514 customer accounts.
- » Total non-residential megawatt-hours increased by 0.48 percent from 2017 to 2018. Overall, non-residential electrical consumption per customer has decreased recently and is nearly identical to the levels seen in 2010.
- » Per customer non-residential megawatt-hours has steadily decreased since 2015, and is at the lowest levels since 2009.

What Does This Mean?

The total number of non-residential customers has continued to grow, so the recent decrease in electrical usage is likely due to improved energy efficiency.

Definitions/Notes:

- LES serves all of Lincoln and portions of Lancaster County (outside the City of Lincoln's corporate limits).

Sources:

- Lincoln Electric System

Why Is It Important?

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

Key Observation

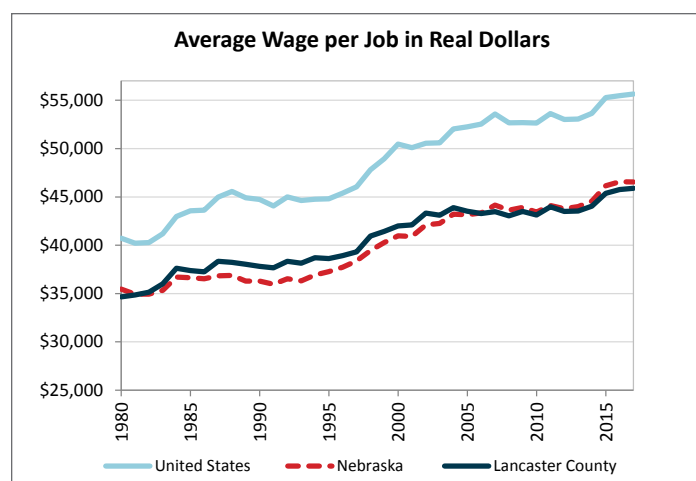
Average wage per job is steadily increasing in Lancaster County, Nebraska and the U.S. overall.

How Are We Doing?

- » In 2017, the real dollar value of the average annual wage for Lancaster County was \$45,896 compared to \$46,540 for Nebraska and \$55,643 for the U.S.
- » Countywide, real wages per job have steadily increased since 1980, with the largest increase (10.7 percent) between 1990 and 2000. Wages remained relatively stagnant through 2010 and have steadily increased since.
- » Overall, the real wage per job has increased by 32.4 percent in Lancaster County since 1980. The State of Nebraska saw a similar increase of 31.2 percent, and the U.S. had a significantly higher increase of 36.6 percent in the same period.
- » The largest increase in real wages between 2010 and 2017, 7.2 percent, was in the State. The County and Nation increased by 6.4 percent and 5.7 percent respectively. The greatest annual increase for all three occurred between 2014 and 2015, with 3.0 percent for Lancaster County, 3.6 percent for Nebraska and 3.0 percent in the U.S.
- » Lancaster County had an increase in average wage (in real dollars) of 0.30 percent between 2016 and 2017, which is slightly below the annual growth rate since 2010 of 0.89 percent.

What Does This Mean?

Although real dollar wages in Lancaster County have grown faster than the state as a whole since 1980, national real dollar wages have significantly outpaced both.



Change in Average Wage per Job in Real Dollars by Decade

Area	1980 - 1990	1990 - 2000	2000 - 2010	2010 - 2017	1980-2017
Lancaster County	9.1%	11.1%	2.7%	6.4%	32.4%
Nebraska	2.3%	13.0%	6.0%	7.2%	31.2%
United States	9.8%	12.8%	4.3%	5.7%	36.6%

Note: 2017 is the latest available data.

Definitions/Notes:

- 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 2017. Since inflation varies over years, the 'Real Dollar' values are dependent on the choice of year and may not be the same as reported in the last report.

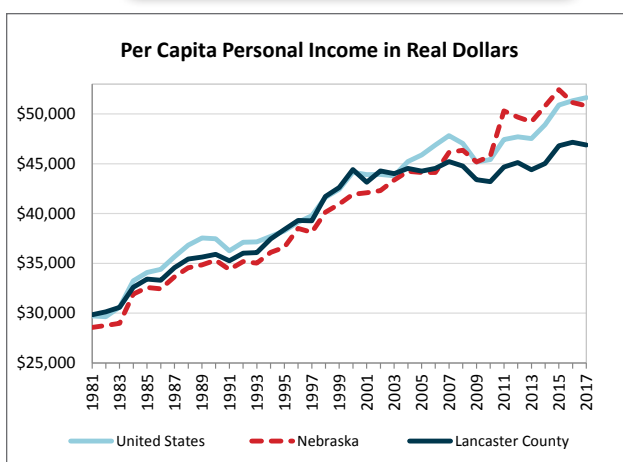
Source:

- Bureau of Economic Analysis, CA30 - Economic Profile, Average Wages and Salaries

ECONOMY

Benchmark: Provide a Healthy Climate for Economic Development

Indicator 9: Lancaster County, Per Capita Personal Income, 1980-2017



Change in Personal Income (Adjusted for Inflation)

	1980 - 1990	1990 - 2000	2000 - 2010	2010 - 2017
Lancaster County	20.6%	23.7%	-2.7%	8.5%
Nebraska	29.36%	18.7%	9.2%	11.0%
United States	26.5%	17.8%	2.9%	13.7%

Note: 2017 is the latest available data.

Definitions/Notes:

- 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 the area.
- Real dollars are adjusted to reflect a base year of 2017.

Source:

- Bureau of Economic Analysis, CA1 - Personal Income, Population, Per Capita Personal Income

Why Is It Important?

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.

Key Observation

Since 2000, Lancaster County's PCPI has shown a comparatively low increase, when adjusted for inflation.

How Are We Doing?

- » In 2017, the per capita personal income (PCPI) in Lancaster County was \$46,874, an increase of 2.4 percent over 2016; when adjusted for inflation, however, there was a decrease of 0.6 percent from 2016 to 2017.
- » From 1980 to 2017, inflation-adjusted PCPI increased 57 percent for the residents of Lancaster County compared to 86 percent for the state and 74 percent for the nation.
- » Lancaster County had a significant increase in inflation-adjusted PCPI of 23.7 percent between 1990 and 2000 but decreased 2.7 percent in the following decade.
- » After the high of 1990-2000, where the percentage increase in PCPI for Lancaster County residents was more than Nebraska and the U.S., inflation-adjusted incomes for Lancaster County have only increased by 5.5 percent since 2000, whereas Nebraska and the U.S. show an increase of 21.2 percent and 17.0 percent respectively.

What Does This Mean?

Lancaster County saw significantly higher per capita personal income growth between 1990 and 2000 when adjusted for inflation, but PCPI remained relatively flat in the following decade. Since 2010 the PCPI has increased, but at a lower rate than the 1990s. As a per capita figure, Lancaster County's PCPI may have been impacted by an increase in non-working or traditionally low-wage populations such as the elderly, or more recently, college students.

ECONOMY

Benchmark: Total Employment is Expected to Grow at 1.4 Percent Annually.

Indicator 10: Lancaster County Employment, 1993-2017

Why Is It Important?

The projected rate of growth of employment is higher than the projected rate of growth of population due to individuals holding more than one job and the Lincoln metropolitan area attracting workers who live in other counties. Monitoring changes in the local employment numbers is critical to projecting the need for new urban infrastructure in the community.

Key Observation

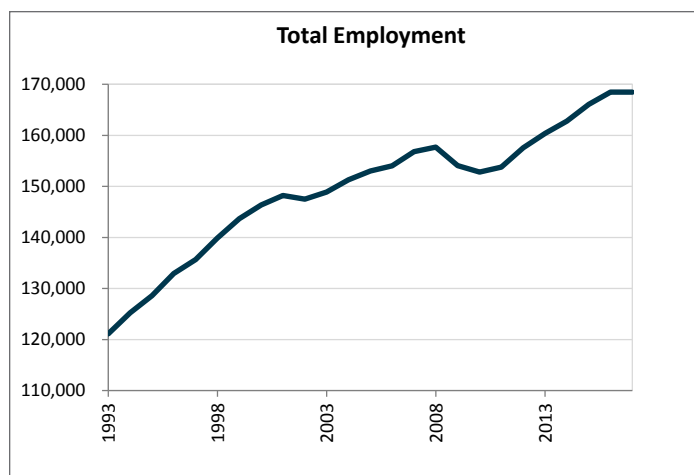
Lancaster County has experienced faster employment growth than Nebraska and the U.S. since 1993.

How Are We Doing?

- » Employment growth since 2010 has not kept pace with the growth exhibited in the 1990s, but is significantly higher than growth between 2000 and 2010.
 - Total Lancaster County employment between 1993 and 2000 rose 20.88 percent or 2.75 percent per year. This growth was higher than Nebraska (8.53 percent) and the U.S. (18.89 percent) in the same period.
 - From 2010 to 2017, 15,661 new jobs were added in Lancaster County for a total of 168,467 in 2017. This is an increase of 10.25 percent or an average of 1.40 percent per year.
- » The average annual growth rate in employment in Lancaster County from 1993 to 2017 is 1.39 percent, matching the 1.4 percent projected growth rate.
- » Since 2010, general employment increased in all sectors.

What Does This Mean?

Although total employment growth between 2000 and 2017 grew at about two thirds the rate of the population, employment growth (10.25 percent) has outpaced population growth (9.72 percent) since 2010. This is likely a reflection of the recovering economy.



Growth in Employment from 1993-2017

Total Employment	Change				Average Annual Change			
	1993 - 2000	2000 - 2010	2010 - 2017	1993 - 2017	1993 - 2000	2000 - 2010	2010 - 2017	1993 - 2017
Lancaster County	20.88%	4.40%	10.25%	39.13%	2.75%	0.43%	1.40%	1.39%
Nebraska State	8.53%	-1.31%	8.34%	16.05%	1.18%	-0.13%	1.15%	0.62%
United States	18.89%	-3.01%	12.55%	29.79%	2.50%	-0.30%	1.70%	1.09%

Note: 2017 is the latest available data.

Definitions/Notes:

- 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.

Source:

- Bureau of Labor Statistics, Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages

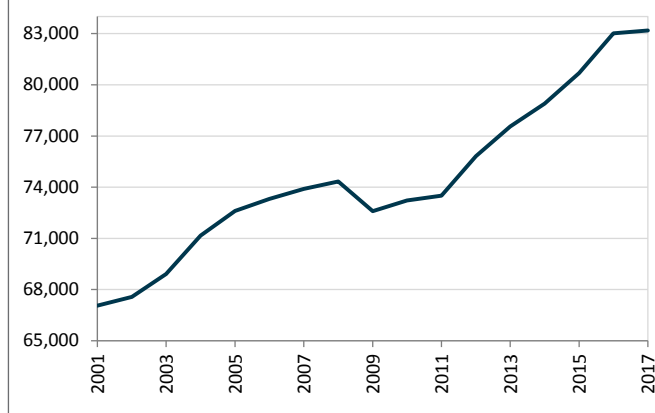
ECONOMY

Benchmark: Business and Commerce Sector:
Employment is Projected to Grow at 1.75%
Annually

Indicator 11: Lancaster County, Business
and Commerce Employment and
Establishments, 2001-2017



Employment in Business & Commerce Sector



Number of Establishments in Business and Commerce Sector

Year	2001	2005	2010	2017
Establishments	4,064	4,626	4,980	6,987

Note: 2017 is the latest available data.

Definitions/Notes:

- "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.

Source:

- Bureau of Labor Statistics, Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages

Why Is It Important?

The City and County have experienced significant increases in commercial development over the last several decades. Numerous new shopping centers and office complexes have been built, which are valuable economic resources for the community. Employment in this sector is used to monitor the future land requirements.

Key Observation

Education, Health & Professional Services is the highest employment provider in the "Business and Commerce" sector.

How Are We Doing?

- » From 2010 to 2017, the total annual employment for "Business and Commerce" sectors in Lancaster County increased by 13.6 percent (1.8 percent per year) from 73,226 jobs in 2010 to 83,187 jobs in 2017.
- » In the same period, the number of "Business and Commerce" establishments increased by 40.3 percent from 4,980 to 6,987.
- » Since 2001, the employment share for "Business and Commerce" sectors increased from 45.2 percent to 49.4 percent of the total county employment.
- » Education and Health are the highest employment providers in this sector contributing more than 30 percent of jobs in this sector.

What Does This Mean?

Growth in business and commerce has been the strongest of all sectors and at about 1.8 percent per year is slightly faster than population growth rates. This recent growth is a reflection of the recovering economy and is faster than the 1.75 called for in the plan.

Distribution of Industry in Business and Commerce Sector

Industry	2001	2017
Information	5.1%	3.9%
Financial Activities	14.5%	15.2%
Professional Services	25.4%	22.5%
Education and Health	26.2%	30.2%
Leisure and Hospitality	21.5%	22.2%
Others	7.3%	6.0%

ECONOMY

Benchmark: Industrial Sector: Employment is Projected to Grow at about 1% Annually

Indicator 12: Lancaster County Industrial Employment and Establishments, 2001-2017

12

Why Is It Important?

The City and County have experienced some increases in industrial development over the last several decades. Some industrial facilities have been built, which are valuable economic resources for the community. Employment in this sector is used to monitor the future land requirements for the industrial sector.

Key Observation

2010 showed the lowest employment numbers in industrial sectors in the past two decades. Since 2010, industrial sector employment has increased by 1.3 percent per year and has surpassed pre-recession levels.

How Are We Doing?

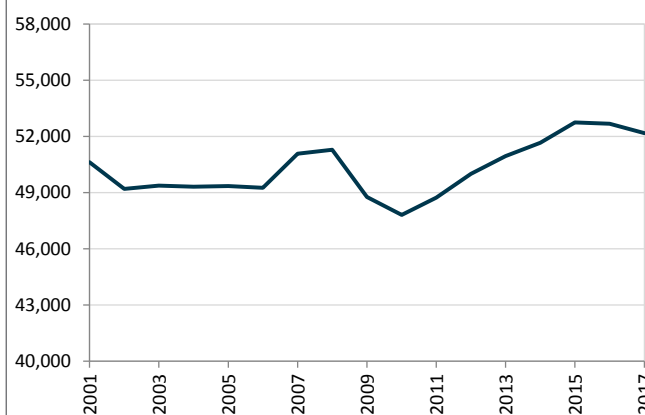
- » From 2010 to 2017, the total annual employment for "Industrial" sectors in Lancaster County increased by 9.1 percent (1.3 percent per year) from 47,807 jobs in 2010 to 52,173 jobs in 2017.
- » In the same period, the number of "Industrial" establishments increased by 6.7 percent from 2,817 to 3,007.
- » Since 2001, the employment share for "Industrial" sectors decreased from 34.2 percent to 31.0 percent of the total county employment.
- » Trade, Transportation and Utilities is the highest employment provider in this sector contributing about 60 percent of industrial jobs in 2017.

What Does This Mean?

The industrial sector and business and commerce sector have grown at similar rates since 2010 and both have outpaced the government sector growth rate.



Employment in Industrial Sector



Distribution of Industries

Industry	2001	2017
Natural Resources & Mining	1.0%	0.9%
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	50.4%	59.1%
Construction	14.8%	16.6%
Manufacturing	33.7%	23.4%

Note: 2016 is the latest available data.

Number of Establishments in Industrial Sector

Year	2001	2005	2010	2017
Establishments	2,626	2,860	2,817	3,007

Definitions/Notes:

- "Industrial" sectors are used to monitor industrial 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.

Source:

- Bureau of Labor Statistics, Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages

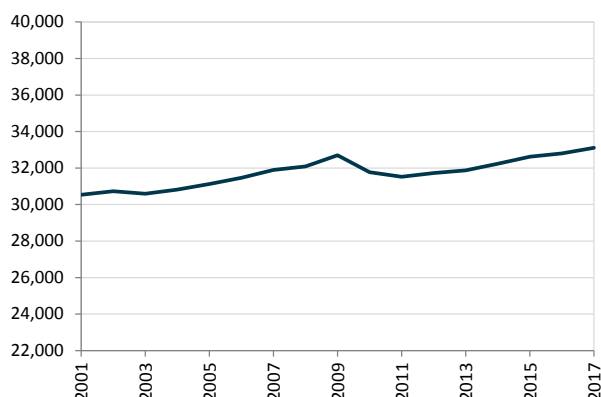
ECONOMY

Benchmark: Government Sector: Employment is Projected to Grow at about 1% Annually

Indicator 13: Lancaster County Government Employment and Establishments, 2001-2017



Employment in Government Sector



Distribution by Level of Government

Level of Government	2001	2017
Local	40.2%	41.4%
State	50.2%	48.8%
Federal	9.6%	9.8%

Note: 2017 is the latest available data.

Number of Establishments in Government Sector

Year	2001	2005	2010	2017
Establishments	176	238	282	272

Definitions/Notes:

- 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.

Source:

- Bureau of Labor Statistics, Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages

Why Is It Important?

As the state capital, a large number of jobs in the city and county are in the government sector. With a strong Federal, State and Local government presence, employment in this sector is generally tied to the use and expansion of office buildings and service centers in the community.

Key Observation

As the state capital, state government in Lincoln is the highest employment provider in this sector.

How Are We Doing?

- » From 2010 to 2017, the total annual employment for "Government" sectors in Lancaster County increased by 4.2 percent (0.6 percent per year) from 31,774 jobs in 2010 to 33,109 jobs in 2017.
- » In the same period, the number of "Government" establishments decreased by 3.6 percent from 282 to 272.
- » Since 2001, the employment share for "Government" sectors decreased from 20.6 percent to 19.7 percent of the total county employment.
- » State Government is the highest employment provider in this sector contributing approximately 49 percent of government jobs, followed by local government (41.4 percent) and federal government (9.8 percent).

What Does This Mean?

As the state capital and county seat Lincoln shows steady government sector employment numbers, however the growth rate is only about one third the overall population growth rate.

Why Is It Important?

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.

Key Observation

Unemployment in Lancaster County is consistently lower than Nebraska and the U.S.

How Are We Doing?

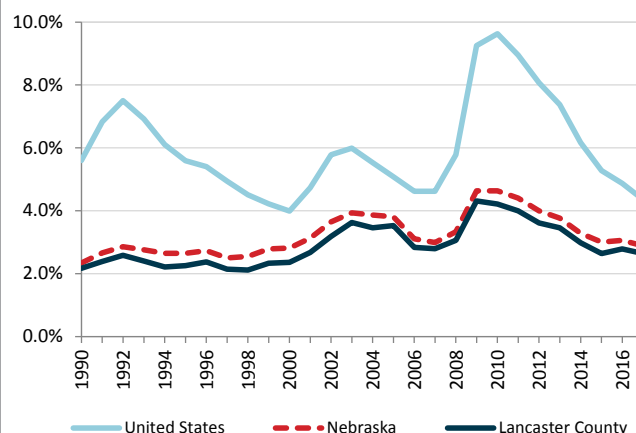
- » In 2017, the Civilian Labor Force was 168,999 persons in Lancaster County, an increase of 3.96 percent (0.6 percent per year) since 2010. During the same period the unemployment rate dropped from 4.21 (6,851 persons unemployed) to 2.64 (4,461 persons unemployed).
- » In the 1990s, the labor force grew by 19.2 percent (1.8 percent per year). In the following decade, 2000 to 2010, it increased by 9.6 percent (0.9 percent per year).
- » Since 1990 the average annual growth of the Civilian Labor Force has increased faster in Lancaster County (1.1 percent) than in Nebraska (0.8 percent) or the U.S. (0.9 percent).
- » The 2017 unemployment rate (2.64) is slightly below the pre-recession rate of 2.79 in 2007. 2015 and 2017 saw the lowest unemployment rate since 2000, which saw a rate of 2.36. The 2017 rate is less than Nebraska (2.88) and the U.S. (4.36).

What Does This Mean?

Nebraska's agriculturally based economy and generally conservative private and public financial ideology helped Lancaster County to weather the economic downturn and has kept unemployment lower than most other parts of the country.



Unemployment Rates



Average Annual Increase in Total Civilian Labor Force

Year	Lancaster	Nebraska	U.S.
1990 - 2000	1.77%	1.37%	1.26%
2000 - 2010	0.92%	0.50%	0.77%
2010 - 2017	0.56%	0.26%	0.59%
1990 - 2017	1.14%	0.76%	0.90%

Note: 2017 is the latest available data.

Definitions/Notes:

- 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.

Source:

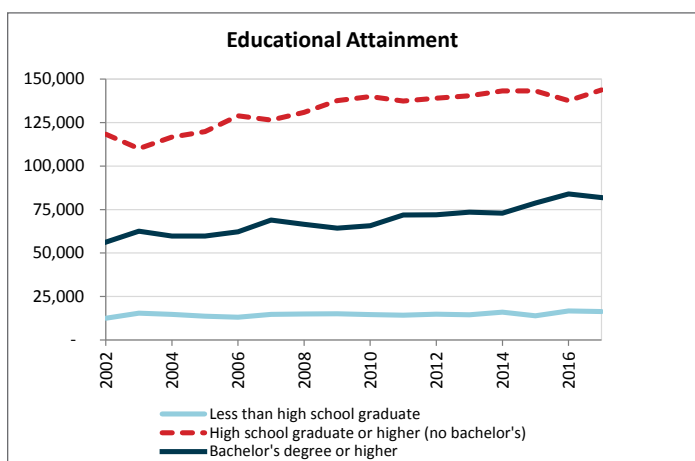
- Nebraska State Department of Labor, Labor Market Information, Local Area Unemployment Statistics

ECONOMY

Benchmark: Emphasize Education to Encourage Economic Development

Indicator 15: Educational Attainment Level, Lancaster County, 2002-2017

15



Comparison of Educational Attainment in 2017

Area	Less than High School Graduate	High School Graduate or higher, no Bachelor's degree	Bachelor's Degree or Higher
U.S.	12.8%	58.9%	28.4%
Nebraska	9.3%	62.7%	27.9%
Lancaster County	6.5%	60.3%	33.2%

Note: 2017 is the latest available data.

Definitions/Notes:

- Educational Attainment data is taken from the Decennial Census and from the American Community Survey (ACS) 5-year and 1-year aggregate data.
- Educational attainment reflects the highest level of education reached by an individual.
- High School Graduate includes equivalency diplomas.

Sources:

- Census Bureau, Decennial Census, 2010

Why Is It Important?

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.

Key Observation

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

How Are We Doing?

- » In 2017, an estimated 225,757 of the 242,111 people 18 years of age and above (about 93.5 percent) had at least a high school diploma or higher, where 33.2 percent had a Bachelor's Degree or higher and 6.5 percent did not finish high school.
- » Since 2010, the number of people in the County with a high school degree or higher and no bachelor's degree has increased by 2.8 percent. The 2017 number (143,843) is the highest since 1990 (105,297), and over 6,000 more than 2016 (137,667).
- » Lancaster County's rate of persons with at least a high school diploma (93.5) was higher than both the state (90.7) and U.S. (87.2).
- » Lancaster County's 18 and over population with at least some college (60.3 percent) is higher than the U.S. (58.9 percent) but lower than Nebraska (62.7 percent).

What Does This Mean?

There are likely several factors to which the high level of educational attainment in the County may be linked. Lancaster County has several public and private educational institutions available and the low unemployment rates and cost of living in the County may have caused more young graduates to remain that may have left in the past.

Why Is It Important?

Sales tax revenues are a good indicator of a community's economic well-being. Sales tax revenues represent a key revenue source that contributes to the levels of service that can be provided to the community.

Key Observation

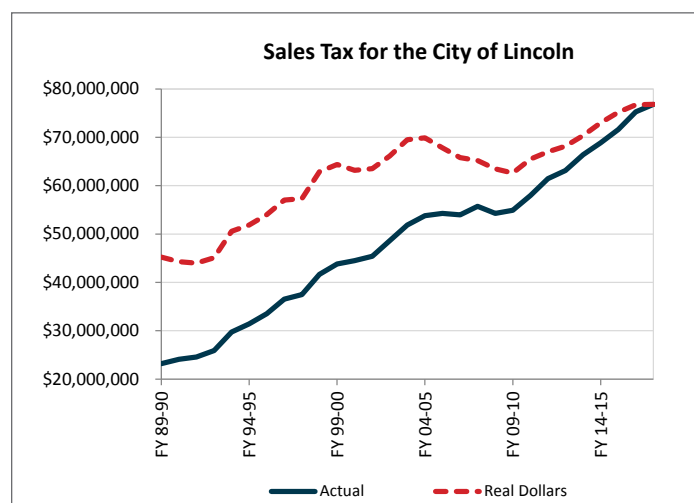
Sales tax revenue has increased since the economic downturn.

How Are We Doing?

- » In FY 2017-2018, a total of \$76.81 million in sales tax revenues were collected by the City of Lincoln, an increase of about 2.1 percent over last year's collection. Since a low in FY 2008-2009, actual revenues have increased 41.6 percent.
- » 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. This compares to an average annual increase of 9.7% in the 1980s.
- » Between FY 2009-2010 and FY 2017-2018, the average annual growth rate for sales tax revenues was 4.3 percent, with FY 2011-2012 having the highest increase of 6.1 percent.
- » When adjusted to 2018 dollars, there has been an increase in real sales tax dollars collected of 2.6 percent per year since FY 2009-2010 after five consecutive years of declining real sales tax dollars.

What Does This Mean?

Local sales tax revenues have been steadily increasing since 2010 as the economy continues to recover from the recession.



Definitions/Notes:

- 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.
- Real dollar sales tax figures are adjusted to 2018 dollars.
- The city's sales tax rate is 1.75 percent. In past years the rate has been between 1.5 and 1.75 percent.
- Since 1980 various goods and services have been removed or added to the list of taxable goods: food, remodeling labor and construction labor for example.

Source:

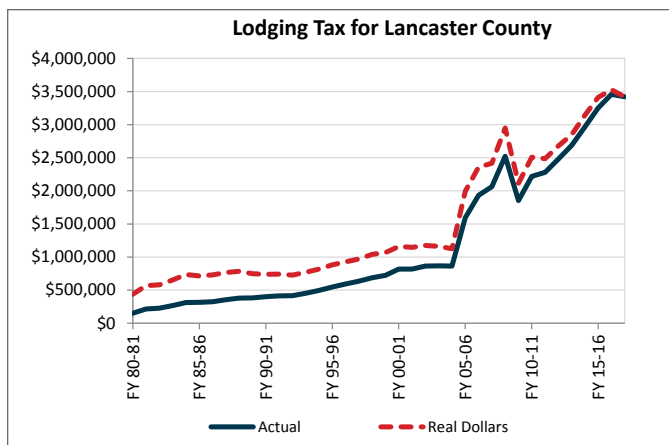
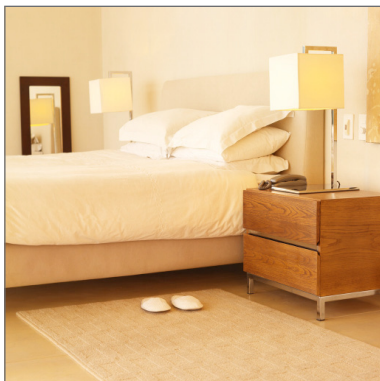
- City of Lincoln, Finance Department, Budget Office

ECONOMY

Benchmark: Lincoln and Lancaster County must have a Sustainable Tax Base to Provide Quality Services to Residents

Indicator 17: Lancaster County, Lodging Tax, 1980-2018

17



Definitions/Notes:

- Figures represent the County's Fiscal Year (FY) from September 1 to August 31.
- Lodging tax revenues represent dollars spent on lodging in Lancaster County.
- Until 2004, the tax was 2% of the cost of lodging. In 2005, collection of an additional 2% to be deposited in the Visitors Improvement Fund began.
- The lodging tax revenue is affected by the number of rooms, occupancy rate, and the cost of a night's lodging.
- Real dollar lodging tax figures are adjusted to 2018 dollars.
- Includes lodging tax revenues only – visitors also spend money on goods and services in the community, adding further to the local economy and tax base.

Source:

- Lancaster County, Budget and Fiscal Office

Why Is It Important?

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.

Key Observation

Lodging tax revenue has continued to increase in recent years since the economic downturn in FY 2007-2008 and 2008-09 and has surpassed pre-downturn levels.

How Are We Doing?

- » In FY 2017-2018, the lodging tax collected was \$3.42 million in Lancaster County showing a decrease of 1.1 percent since FY 2016-2017.
- » FY 2009-2010 had uncharacteristically low collections. The tax collected decreased 26.5 percent from FY 2008-2009 but increased 19.6 percent in the year immediately following.
- » Despite the dramatic increases and decreases, lodging tax has shown steady growth since 1980. In the 1980s, the average annual growth was 10.8 percent per year. In the 1990s, this slowed to 6.6 percent per year. In the following decade and since 2010, growth continued at a rate of over 9 percent per year.
- » Between FY 2000-2001 and FY 2004-2005, the average annual growth rate in lodging taxes was only 1.41 percent per year, probably due to the September 11th tragedy and the following economic downturn.
- » In FY 2005-2006, revenues from the lodging tax increased dramatically to reach \$1,595,737 from \$865,170 in FY 2004-2005. This was due to an additional 2% tax that was collected for the Visitors Improvement Fund. Since then, collections have increased by an average 6.6 percent per year.

What Does This Mean?

Lodging tax collected reflects the number of visitors to Lincoln as well as the tendency of those visitors to stay more than one day. Decreases may reflect economic conditions that discourage travel, a reduction in the number of events to draw visitors, or a national event, such as the September 11th tragedy, which reduced travel nationwide.

ENVIRONMENT

Benchmark: Preserve Riparian, Floodplain and Stream Corridors

Indicator 18: Lincoln, Permits Issued in the 100 Year Floodplain, 2000-2018

18

Why Is It Important?

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. Together, these resources represent one of three Core Resource Imperatives selected to receive the greatest consideration in the long range planning process.

Key Observation

In 2018, 131.51 additional acres were added to the total protected floodplain area in Lincoln.

How Are We Doing?

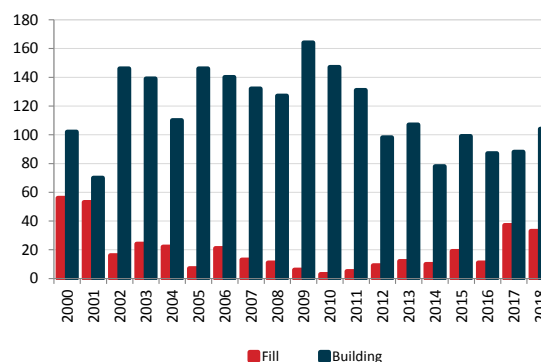
- » Building permits for new or existing structures in the floodplain (including interior improvements to existing buildings) are the most common type of permits issued in the floodplain.
- » The number of building and fill permits issued in the floodplain by the City of Lincoln totaled 158 permits in 2000, 150 in 2010 and 137 in 2018.
- » Since 2000, the number of building and fill permits issued by the City of Lincoln for development in the floodplain is 2,466 permits.
- » The City of Lincoln and the Lower Platte South Natural Resource District (LPS-NRD) also protect floodplains through the purchase of conservation easements that preserve the flood storage volume. Since 2010, a total of 422 acres have been added to the total protected area.

What Does This Mean?

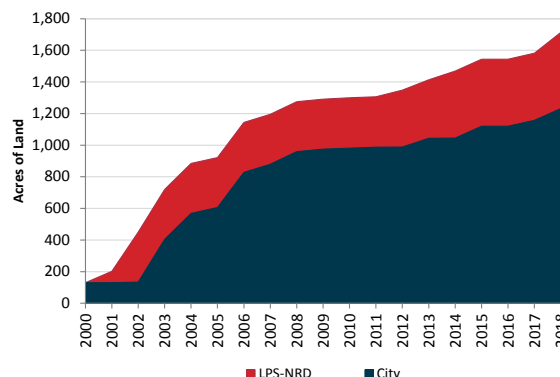
Open space preservation that guarantees vacant floodplain will be kept free of development and higher regulatory standard for development in floodplains are two of the factors considered in the Community Rating System (CRS), which establishes flood insurance rates for communities. Lincoln has a rating of 5, one of the highest in the nation, and those who own property in the floodplain and have flood insurance receive a 25 percent discount as a result.



Number of Permits Issued in Floodplain



Cumulative Acres of Conservation Easements



Definitions/Notes:

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

Sources:

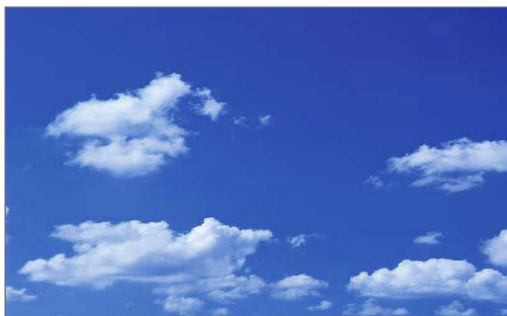
- City of Lincoln, Building and Safety Department
- City of Lincoln, Public Works & Utilities Department, Watershed Management
- Lower Platte South Natural Resource District

ENVIRONMENT

Benchmark: Clean Air is a Valuable Community Asset

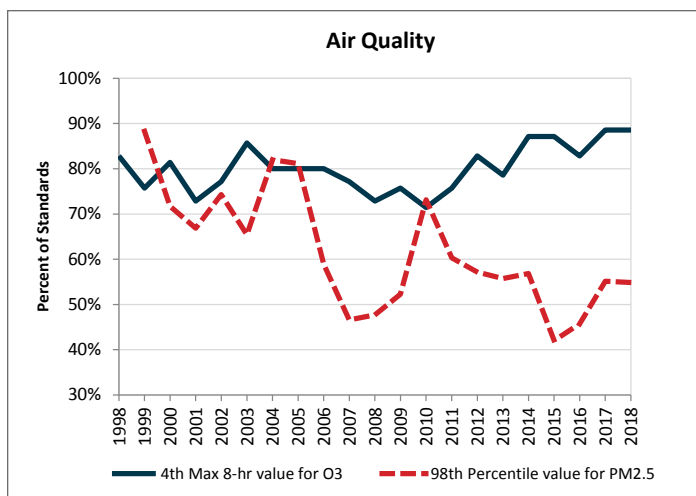
Indicator 19: Air Quality, 1998-2018

19



Air quality in Lancaster County has historically been high. Lancaster County benefits from prevailing westerly winds and an extensive rural landscape between Lincoln and Denver, CO.

--2016 Update - 2040 Lincoln-Lancaster County Comprehensive Plan



Definitions/Notes::

- NAAQS are designed to achieve air quality that protects human health, animal and plant life.
- Measurements are stated as a percent of the permitted NAAQS -- anything below 100 percent indicates attainment status.
- Some excess of the standard is permitted before the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) would find the City to be in violation.
- In 2016 the EPA standard for O3 was decreased from 0.075 ppm. Percentages for 2016 and later will be higher due to the lower permitted amount.

Sources:

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

Why Is It Important?

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 Standards (NAAQS) could jeopardize federal highway funding, limit the expansion of industrial operations and hinder economic activity for the community.

Key Observation

Lincoln continues to meet National Ambient Air Quality Standards.

How Are We Doing?

- Lincoln/Lancaster County currently meets National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) and is an air quality attainment community. As long as percentages remain below 100 percent, a community is considered to meet the standards.
- Ozone (O3) air pollution levels consistently measured the closest to the permitted NAAQS attainment threshold in the last decade. The 2018 value was 88.6 percent, the same as 2017.
- Particulate matter less than 2.5 microns in diameter (PM2.5) is made up of very fine particles of smoke, fumes, ash, pollen and other solids. These particles are small enough to get deep into, and sometimes pass through, lung tissue, posing a danger to human health. Since 2010, collected data shows 98th percentile readings of 14.7 to 25.6 micrograms per cubic meter of air. These readings have varied from 42.0% to 73.1% of the NAAQS for PM2.5, with the lowest reading in 2015.

What Does This Mean?

Lincoln air quality is consistently within the limits set by the Environmental Protection Agency, although it can vary dramatically year to year due to local, regional, and global factors such as levels of traffic, seasonal fires, and weather conditions that demand higher than average heating and air conditioning levels.

Standards Permitted by the EPA

Air Pollutant	Highest Value
4 th Max 8-hr value for O3	0.070 ppm
98 th Percentile value for PM2.5	35 microgms per cu m of air

ENVIRONMENT

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

Indicator 20: Lancaster County, Agriculture and Farming, 1987-2017

20

Why Is It Important?

About 80 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.

Key Observation

The number of farms, total land in farms, and average farm size decreased from 2012 to 2017.

How Are We Doing?

The following information is updated every five years by the U.S. Census of Agriculture. Data collected in 2017 was not reported until 2019.

Number of Farms

- » The total number of farms in Lancaster County reached its highest point of 2,361 farms in 1950. The total of 1,786 farms in 2017 is slightly below 2012 (1,836) but is well above the totals from 1987 to 2007.
- » Between 1987 and 2017 the overall number of farms has fluctuated between 1,359 and 1,836.
- » In 2002, the U.S. Census of Agriculture definition of farm changed to a "place with annual sales of agricultural products of at least \$1,000." Prior to 2002, the definition included a minimum farm size of 20 acres.

Number of Acres

- » In 2012 the number of acres classified as farmland increased dramatically; however, in 2017 the number of acres returned to levels seen from 1987 to 2007. The overall acreage of harvested cropland is slightly below the 2012 level, but well above levels seen from 1987 to 2007.

Average Size of Farms

- » Between 1987 and 2017, the average farm size in Lancaster County fluctuated between 237 and 305 acres. The low of 237 was in 2017.
- » Lancaster County is an 'Urban County' and the farming practices are slightly different from other counties. Lancaster County has seen a trend towards niche farming of horticulture products, organic products, trees, etc., which generate high income for lesser area coverage.

What Does This Mean?

The number of farms in Lancaster County (1,786), which is almost 90% rural, is higher than any other county in Nebraska – the next closest is Gage County with 1,188 farms. The size of these farms is much smaller than every other county except the counties within and surrounding the Omaha metro area, possibly indicating more niche farms and farmers that don't rely on farming as their main source of income.



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.



Structure of Agriculture in Lancaster County

	Years						
	1987	1992	1997	2002	2007	2012	2017
Number of farms	1,508	1,359	1,457	1,607	1,698	1,836	1,786
Land in Farms (acres)	448,286	414,763	421,089	448,600	421,409	489,023	422,996
Percent of Total land	83.50%	77.30%	78.40%	83.60%	78.50%	90.30%	78.11%
Average Farm Size (acres)	297	305	289	279	248	266	237
Average Market Value	\$219,605	\$305,459	\$399,604	\$568,129	\$629,050	\$1,219,781	\$1,325,789
Harvested Cropland (acres)	265,802	278,854	287,382	314,148	288,523	373,212	341,422
Operators whose Principal occupation is farming	53.60%	52.50%	46.00%	52.70%	41.20%	34.20%	34.38%

Note: 2017 is the latest available data.

Definitions/Notes:

- The U.S. Census of Agriculture is undertaken every five years.
- The Census of Agriculture is the only source of uniform agricultural data for every county in the United States.

Source:

- 2017 US Census of Agriculture, National Agriculture Statistics Service (USDA)

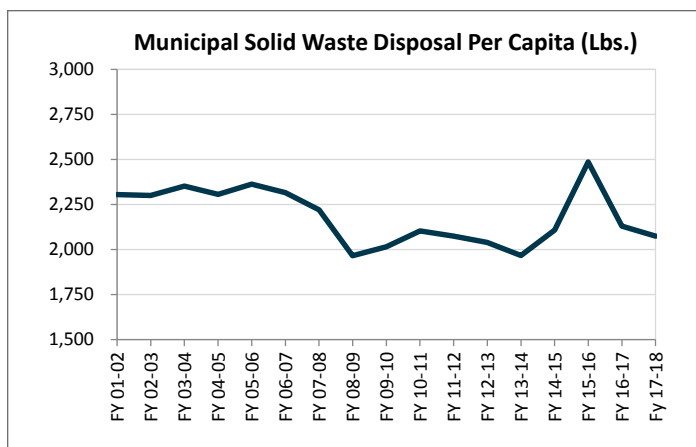
ENVIRONMENT

Benchmark: Diversion of Solid Waste from the Municipal Landfill

Indicator 21: Lancaster County Annual Municipal Solid Waste Per Capita (Pounds), 2001-2018



//////
In 2018, there were 33 Voluntary Recycling Drop-Off Centers in Lancaster County, most located in Lincoln. //



Definitions/Notes:

- Recycled materials are deposited at Voluntary Drop-off Recycling Centers located throughout the community or collected curbside by area contractors.
- Per Capita municipal solid waste is the total amount of materials by fiscal year placed in the landfill divided by the Census Bureau mid-year population estimates for Lancaster County.

Sources:

- Lincoln Public Works & Utilities, Solid Waste Recycling Office
- U.S. Census Population Estimates

Why Is It Important?

Per Capita municipal solid waste not only reflects consumption and disposal patterns but also indicates waste reduction, material reuse and recycling opportunities that are available to residents and businesses in the area and the extent that they divert waste from disposal. Increased diversion helps to conserve resources and lessens demands placed on the environment by reducing landfill waste which can contaminate air, land and water resources.

Key Observation

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

How Are We Doing?

- » In 2012 and 2013, the City went through a public process to update the Solid Waste Management Plan with the assistance of a 20 member Advisory Committee. The recommendations of that committee were to reduce the per capita Municipal Solid Waste (MSW) 10 percent by 2018, 20 percent by 2025 and 30 percent by 2040. Per capita waste increased by 1.7 percent in the 2017-18 fiscal year when compared to the 2012-13 fiscal year.
- » Another recommendation of the Solid Waste Management Plan Advisory Committee was that curbside recycling be included as part of the base service provided by all private waste haulers.
- » Many private waste haulers have already integrated curbside recycling services as part of their solid waste collection menu of services.
- » In 2017, the City passed an ordinance to ban cardboard from the City landfill beginning April 1, 2018. In the first year of the program, the amount of corrugated cardboard going to the landfill dropped by 90 pounds per person. In 2017, cardboard made up 9.4 percent of all waste going to the landfill. In the first year of the ban, that number fell to 2.4 percent.
- » Area businesses have established voluntary "take back" programs for selected materials. For example, televisions, computers, rechargeable batteries, compact florescent light bulbs, print cartridges, cell phones and grocery sacks are accepted by some area businesses.

What Does This Mean?

Per capita waste is significantly below levels seen prior to 2008, and has been generally steady in recent years. A dramatic increase in FY 2015-2016 can be attributed to an uncharacteristically large amount of contaminated soil being moved to a facility outside Lancaster County, most likely coming from an increase in construction-related waste. In FY 2016-2017 per capita waste returned to levels more consistent with recent years.

ENVIRONMENT

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

Indicator 22: Care and Maintenance of the City's Urban Forest, 1997-2018

22

Why Is It Important?

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.

Key Observation

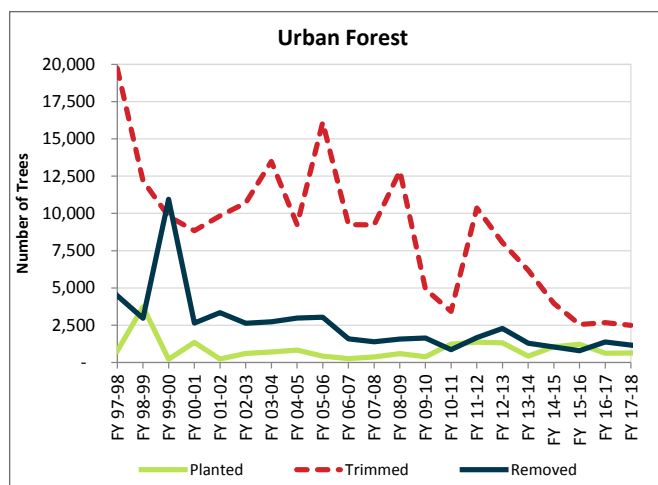
As of 2018, there are approximately 81,000 street trees and 30,000 additional trees on City owned land.

How Are We Doing?

- » In general, more trees are 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.
- » In FY 1999-2000, over 8,000 volunteer cedar and locust trees were removed from the Wilderness Park Tree Management Area.
- » In 2018, per capita expenditures for public tree care were \$6.42. In 1998, per capita expenditures were \$4.49 and \$6.91 when adjusted for inflation.
- » Since 1998, the Community Forestry Division has performed or overseen 185,945 tree trimmings, 18,340 tree plantings, and the removal of 52,413 volunteer, dead, diseased or hazardous trees.
- » Lincoln has been designated as a Tree City USA for 41 years, received the Tree City Growth Award for 28 consecutive years, was one of the first 27 communities to become a Sterling Tree City USA in 2000, and is the only city in the nation to hold all three titles. The UNL and Wesleyan campuses are designated as Tree Campus USA, and LES is a Tree Line USA Utility.
- » Approximately 20% of trees on City owned property are ash trees, which are threatened by the Emerald Ash Borer, a beetle that has decimated ash tree populations in the eastern U.S. and was detected in Nebraska in 2016. In 2009, the City approved the Nebraska Emerald Ash Borer Response Plan to guide efforts to pro-actively address this issue. In 2018, 503 ash trees were removed from city property.

What Does This Mean?

Lincoln's publicly owned trees are highly valued by the community, however, funding of tree management programs is not keeping pace with the requirements of the urban forest.



Definitions/Notes:

- 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.
- Data regarding trees planted in the Urban Forest graph above includes those replanted on right-of-way and in parks as well as new trees planted in new subdivisions.
- 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.

Source:

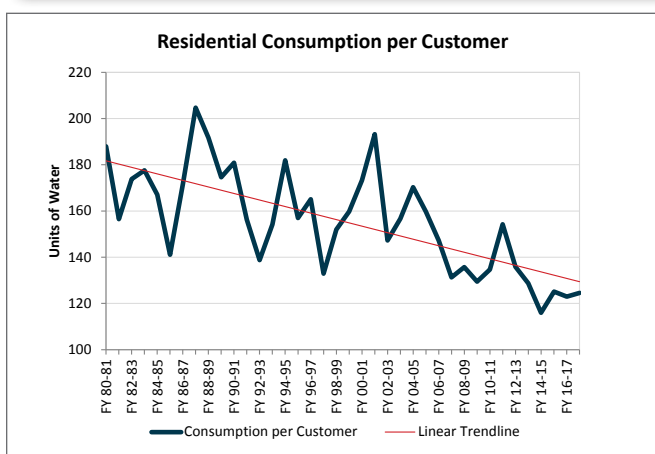
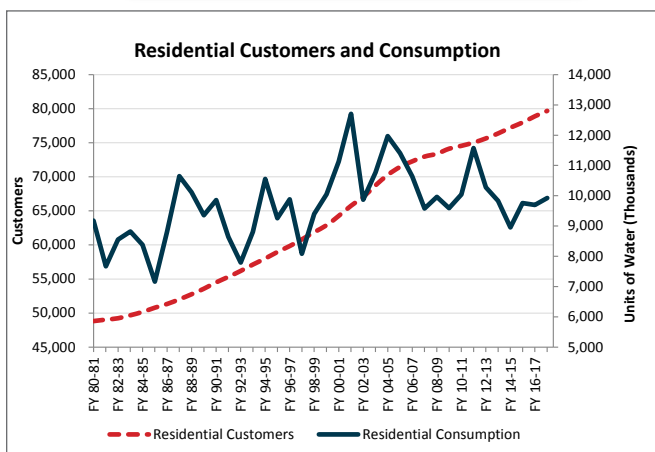
- Parks and Recreation Department, Community Forestry Division, Quarterly Reports and 30 year synopsis

ENVIRONMENT

Benchmark: Encourage Water Conservation Practices with the Development of the City and County

Indicator 23: Residential Water Accounts and Consumption, 1980-2018

23



Definition:

Consumption is measured in units of water where 1 unit = 748 gallons = one hundred cubic feet.

Source:

- City of Lincoln, Lincoln Water System Annual Report.

Why Is It Important?

Lincoln's only source of water is groundwater recharged from the Platte River northeast of Lincoln. The well fields currently owned by the Lincoln Water System have a projected maximum capacity approximately equal to the projected need for the year 2050. Additional well field property and water rights will need to be acquired in the planning period to meet future demand beyond 2050.

Key Observation

Residential water consumption suggests a correlation to annual rainfall data, perhaps due to increased irrigation of lawns in drier years.

How Are We Doing?

- » In FY 2017-2018, the number of residential customers was 79,679 with an annual consumption of 9.9 million units.
- » Between FY 2009-2010 and FY 2017-2018, both water consumption and number of customers have increased by 3.4 percent and 7.5 percent respectively. The trend since 1980 is that consumption per customer has been declining.
- » Building permit policies requiring water conserving fixtures and higher efficiency appliances have contributed to the trend of declining consumption per customer.
- » Although the drought of 2012 was one of the worst on record, the annual increase in consumption was only the 5th highest since FY 1980-1981, likely due to the underlying gains in efficiency and significant efforts by the community to conserve water during the summer months.

What Does This Mean?

Changes in plumbing code, increasing appliance efficiency and efforts to educate the public in water conservation practices have resulted in a general growth in consumption that is slower than the growth in customers. Drier years see higher consumption mainly because of irrigation, but also because as ground dries it shrinks and can cause older mains to break and leak.

ENVIRONMENT

Benchmark: Continue to encourage energy conservation practices in the City and County.

Indicator 24: Residential Electric Accounts and Consumption, 1990-2018

24

Why Is It Important?

Because of the limited amount of nonrenewable energy sources on Earth, it is important to both reduce consumption of resources and substitute non-renewable resources with renewable ones, so that our natural resources will be available for future generations.

Key Observation

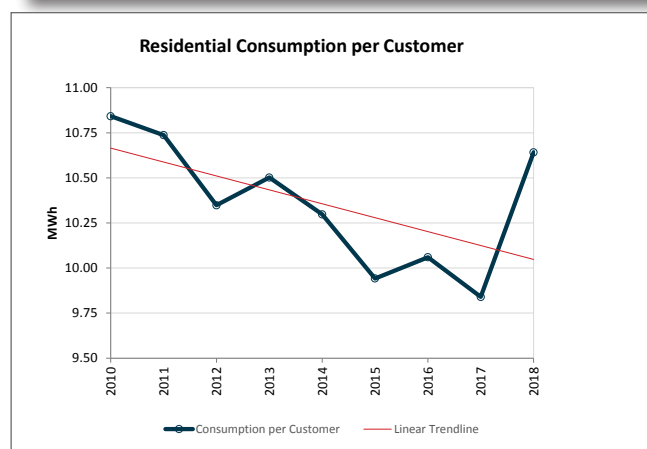
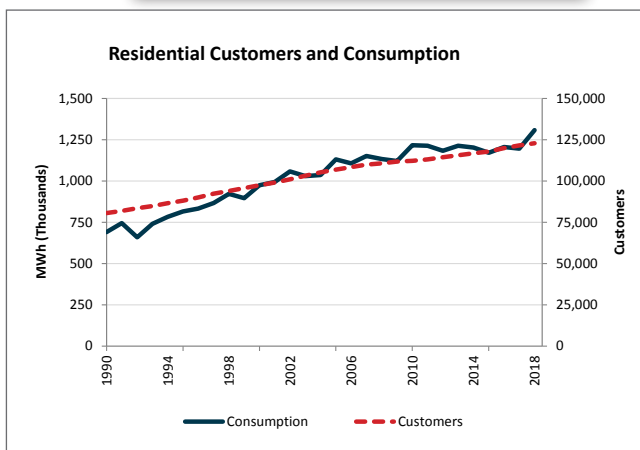
Residential electrical consumption indicates awareness of and investments in energy-efficient practices and equipment. Although residential electrical consumption has increased steadily since 1990, trends show that consumption per customer has decreased in recent years.

How Are We Doing?

- » In 2018, the number of residential customers was 122,940 with an annual consumption of 1.31 megawatt-hours.
- » Although the number of LES residential customers has increased by 9.35% since 2010, residential electrical consumption increased by only 7.51% during the same period.
- » There was an increase in residential consumption per customer in 2018. This could be due to a variety of factors including weather or the increased proliferation of electronic devices in homes. If residential consumption continues to increase, a trend will be established and further analysis will be necessary.
- » The LES generating capacity portfolio is now essentially split equally between renewables, natural gas, and coal.
- » The LES Sustainable Energy Program provides financial incentives to reward residential and business customers for energy efficiency improvements. In 2018, the program allocated \$3.0 million in financial incentives for 2,649 projects. As part of the Sustainable Energy Program, LES launched the Peak Rewards smart thermostat demand response program in 2018. Customers who own a qualifying internet connected thermostat can allow LES to adjust their temperature settings during peak demand times. Customers receive a gift card for signing up along with an annual bill credit. A total of 1,100 customers enrolled in this program during the first year.

What Does This Mean?

Increasing efficiency efforts that educate the public in energy conservation practices have resulted in a recent decline in the residential energy consumption per customer.



Definitions/Notes:

- The amount of energy consumed as reported does not differentiate between fossil fuels and renewable energy source.

Sources:

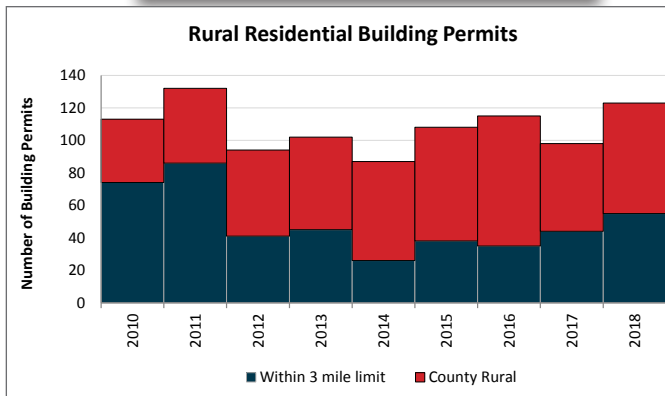
- 2018 LES Annual Report, www.les.com

HOUSING

Benchmark: Accommodate 6% Population in the Unincorporated Parts of Lancaster County

Indicator 25: Rural Residential Home Activity, 2010-2018

25



Building Permits Issued for New Construction

Building Permits Issued for New Construction	Years									Total
	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	
Lincoln	80.9%	83.7%	90.4%	87.8%	92.2%	91.3%	87.1%	89.0%	83.7%	88.0%
Within 3 mile limit	5.1%	7.6%	2.7%	2.9%	1.3%	1.7%	2.4%	2.2%	3.2%	2.9%
County Rural	3.8%	4.3%	3.5%	3.7%	3.0%	3.2%	5.5%	2.7%	4.0%	3.6%
Small Towns	10.3%	4.4%	3.4%	5.6%	3.6%	3.8%	5.0%	6.0%	9.2%	5.5%
Total Building Permits	1,040	1,075	1,507	1,529	2,051	2,174	1,455	1,969	1,713	14,513

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

Definitions/Notes:

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

Sources:

- City of Lincoln, Building and Safety Department, Construction Reports
- Incorporated Villages and Cities, Building Permit (Self-Reported)

Why Is It Important?

This indicator serves as a proxy to monitor annual population and development change in the unincorporated parts of the County. This 10% of the County population has seen a shift over the years from about 2% in the incorporated towns and 8% on acreages and farms, to a current split of about 3% in towns and 7% in the unincorporated area. This plan assumes the shift will continue and that 4% of people will live in incorporated villages and cities by 2040, with the remaining 6% on acreages, farms and in the unincorporated villages in the County.

Key Observation

The last several years have seen varied building permit activity in the County, primarily in Lincoln.

How Are We Doing?

» Between 2010 and 2018, an average of 47 new residential building permits per year were issued within the three-mile extraterritorial jurisdiction (ETJ) area of Lincoln. In 2018, there were 55 permits for new residential dwelling units issued in the three mile ETJ, this highest total since 2011 (82 units).

» The villages of Hickman and Waverly have shown strong growth over the past several years, accounting for 73.7 percent of all small town permits since 2010.

» Small towns accounted for 9.2% of the County’s growth in 2018, the highest total since 2010 (10.3%).

What Does This Mean?

The small towns have accounted for a higher percentage of building permits issued since 2010 than areas within the County’s jurisdiction.

HOUSING

Benchmark: Add Approximately 36,000 Dwelling Units in Lincoln by 2040

Indicator 26: Lincoln, Residential Building Permits, 2000-2018

26

Why Is It Important?

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 24-year planning period is a fundamental assumption in the Comprehensive Plan.

Key Observation

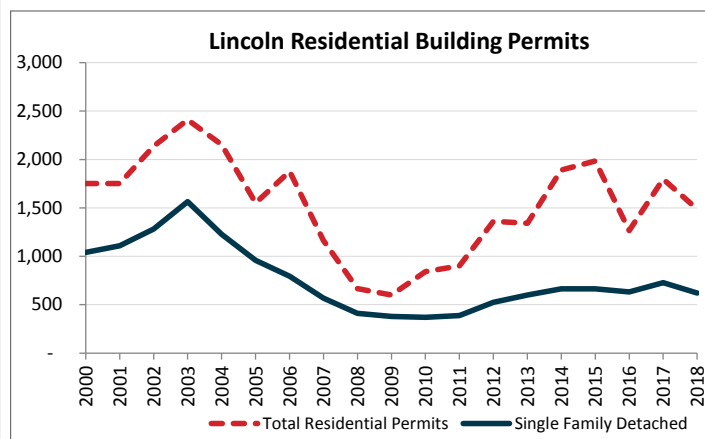
Based on demographic projections, Lincoln needs to add roughly 1,500 dwelling units per year through 2040, but that number will naturally start lower and increase over time. The ten-year average is currently 1,347 dwelling units per year.

How Are We Doing?

- » In 2003, a total of 2,410 residential units were permitted for construction in Lincoln. This was the highest number of permits issued for any single year in this reporting period.
- » In 2009, 604 building permits were issued in Lincoln for construction of new residential units, the lowest since 1983.
- » Between 2009 and 2018, residential permits were issued for construction of 13,471 dwelling units, for an average of 1,347 residential dwelling units permits each year.
- » Between 1999 and 2008, 17,198 building permits were issued for new residences. The average annual number of units for this period was 1,720 per year.
- » In 2018, building permits were issued for a total of 1,488 dwelling units. Of that total, 621 permits were for detached single-family dwellings.

What Does This Mean?

The pace of residential construction is close to what the Comprehensive Plan projections recommend to keep pace with population and household growth.



Definitions/Notes:

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

Source:

- City of Lincoln, Building and Safety Department, Construction Report

HOUSING

Benchmark: Provide a Wide Variety of Housing Types and Choices for an Increasingly Diverse and Aging Population.

Indicator 27: Housing Choices in Lincoln, 2000-2018

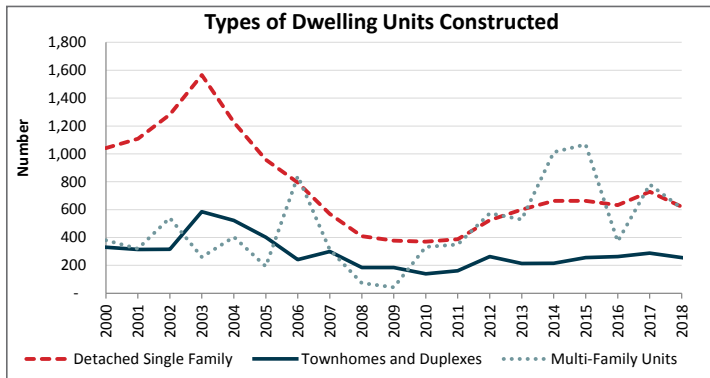
27



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



2016 Update - 2040 Lincoln-Lancaster County Comprehensive Plan



Definitions/Notes:

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

Source:

- City of Lincoln, Building and Safety Department, Construction Reports

Why Is It Important?

Due to socio-economic and other trends in the country, LPlan2040 assumes an increase in the proportion of dwelling units that will be multi-family such as apartments, townhomes, condominiums etc. As the demographics shift towards an increasingly diverse and aging population, providing a wide variety of housing types and choices is an important goal.

Key Observation

Since 2010, multi-family detached dwellings have accounted for 43.7 percent of all residential building permits, followed by single-family detached at 40.3 percent and townhomes plus duplexes at 16.0 percent.

How Are We Doing?

- » Single-family detached permits have been steadily increasing in the last several years following a major decline during the last recession.
- » The number of new multi-family permits between 2000 and 2009 was 3,365. From 2010 to 2018, permits for 5,628 units have been issued.
- » The number of building permits issued for townhomes and duplexes has been generally steady since 2006 ranging from 139 in 2010 to 280 in 2007. 256 permits were issued in 2018.
- » Permits for detached single-family homes were 621 in 2018, up from a low of 370 in 2010; however, this was still well behind the peak of 1,565 in 2003.
- » From 2000-2009, the split of dwelling units was 58.1 percent detached single-family, 21.0 percent townhomes and duplexes, and 20.9 percent multi-family. From 2010-2018, the split has changed to 43.7 percent multi-family, 40.3 percent detached single-family and 16.0 percent townhomes and duplexes.

What Does This Mean?

Since 2010, Lincoln has had significantly more multi-family housing than 2000-2009.

HOUSING

Benchmark: Maintain Affordable Housing in Both New and Existing Neighborhoods

Indicator 28: Lincoln's Single-Family Detached Home Median Price, 2000-2018

Why Is It Important?

Ensuring safe, adequate, and affordable housing is an important function in maintaining the vitality of neighborhoods and the city as a whole. One of the goals of LPlan2040 is to provide safe and decent affordable and special needs housing for low- and moderate-income households.

Key Observation

Existing median single family home sales prices in Lincoln are lower than the Midwest and U.S.

How Are We Doing?

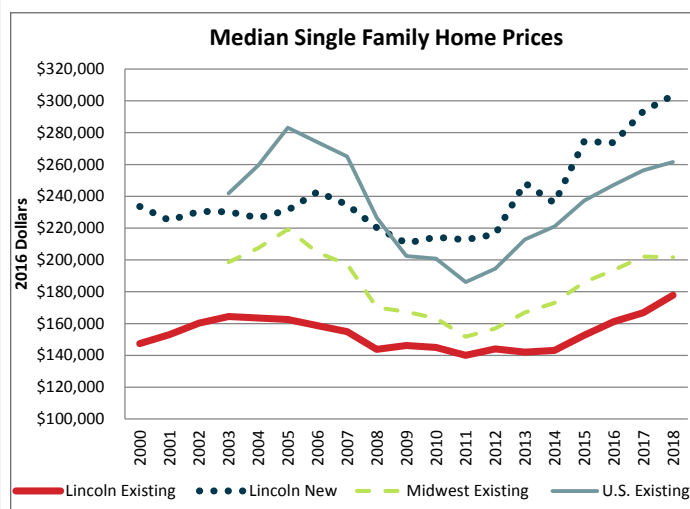
- » In 2000, the median price for an existing detached single-family home was \$147,460 (2018 Dollars), and for a new detached single-family home, it was \$233,600 (2018 Dollars).
- » In 2018, the median price for an existing detached single-family home in the Lincoln MLS Area, reported by the REALTORS Association of Lincoln (RAL) was \$177,900, an increase of about 6.6 percent from 2017 when adjusted for inflation.
- » In 2018, the median price for a new detached single-family home in the Lincoln MLS Area, reported by the RAL was \$303,500, an increase of about 3.4 percent from 2017 when adjusted for inflation.
- » In 2018, the national average was \$261,600 for an existing detached single-family home, an increase of 2.1 percent from 2017 when adjusted for inflation. The Midwest average for single-family detached was \$201,700 showing a decrease of 0.2 percent from 2017 when adjusted for inflation.

What Does This Mean?

Based on 2018 Dollars, existing median single-family home prices in Lincoln have generally not increased at the same rate as new home prices. The difference between median existing home price and median new home price was \$63,055 (2018 dollars) in 2004 compared to \$125,600 in 2018.

“The key to both developing and existing urban neighborhoods is land use diversity. The diversity of architecture, housing types and sizes are central to what makes existing neighborhoods great places to live.”

--2016 Update - 2040 Lincoln-Lancaster County Comprehensive Plan



Definitions/Notes:

- All numbers shown are based on 2018 Dollars adjusted by the Consumer Price Index.
- The REALTORS® Association of Lincoln (RAL) reports annual median sale prices of single-family detached homes sold through the Midlands Multiple Listing Service (MLS). The most recent RAL data available at the time of this report was through October 2018.
- Median housing price refers to the median cost of housing actually purchased.
- Median housing price indicates the point where half of the houses are below and above the median price.
- Condominiums, mobile homes, duplexes, and townhomes are not included in data.
- Homes that are sold by an owner or agent who does not participate in the Midlands MLS are not included in data.

Sources:

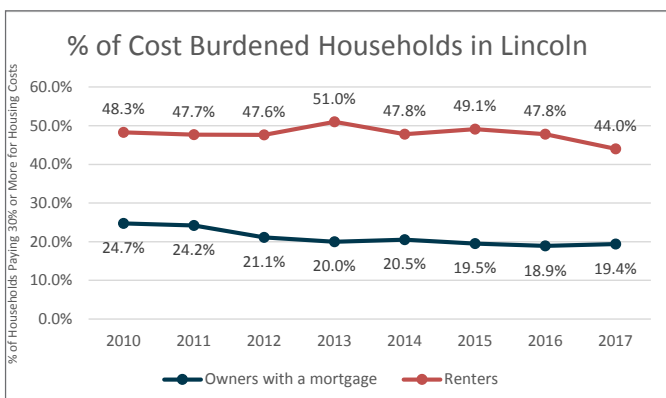
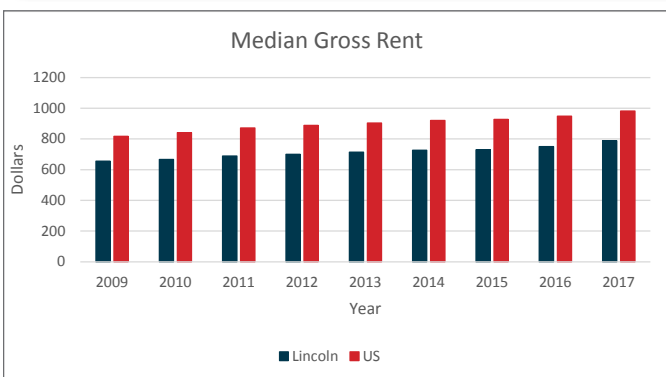
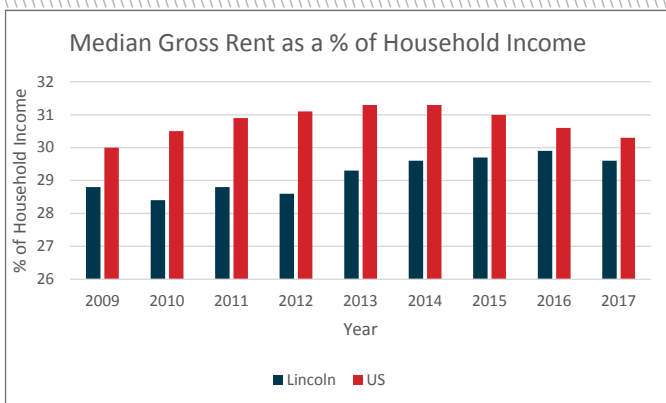
- US Dept. of Housing and Urban Development
- National Association of REALTORS®
- REALTORS Association of Lincoln

HOUSING

Benchmark: Maintain Affordable Housing in Both New and Existing Neighborhoods

Indicator 29: Lincoln's Cost of Rental Housing, 2009-2017

29



Note: 2017 is the latest available data.

Definitions/Notes:

- Cost burden is the ratio of housing costs to household income. For renters, housing cost is gross rent (contract rent plus utilities).

Sources:

- www.hud.gov
- www.factfinder.census.gov

Why Is It Important?

Ensuring safe, adequate, and affordable housing is an important function in maintaining the vitality of neighborhoods and the city as a whole. One of the goals of LPlan2040 is to provide safe and decent affordable and special needs housing for low- and moderate-income households.

Key Observation

The Lincoln/Lancaster County Comprehensive Plan (LPlan 2040) expects that 40% of all new dwelling units will be multi-family through 2040. Since 2010, multi-family dwellings have accounted for 43.3 percent of all residential building permits. Multi-family housing can play a role in providing more affordable housing.

How Are We Doing?

- » Families who pay more than 30 percent of their income for housing are considered cost burdened by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) and may have difficulty affording necessities such as food, clothing, transportation and medical care.
- » The median gross rent in Lincoln has been steadily rising at a rate that is comparable to the United States. In 2017 the median gross rent for the United States was about 20 percent higher than that of Lincoln. In general, the lower income households have a higher cost burden for gross rent.
- » The median gross rent in Lincoln has been steadily climbing from \$656 in 2009 to \$788 in 2017. In 2017, the median gross rent in Lincoln was \$788 compared to \$982 for the U.S.
- » For Lincoln, the median gross rent in 2017 compared as a percentage of household income was 29.6 percent. This is approximately a 2.8 percent increase over 2009 when the percentage was 28.8 percent.
- » In Lincoln significantly more renters are cost burdened when compared to owners with a mortgage. In 2017 44.0 percent of renters were cost burdened, which is down from the recent high of 51.0 percent in 2013. Approximately 19.4 percent of owners with a mortgage were cost burdened, which is down from the recent high of 24.7 percent in 2010.

What Does This Mean?

Increasing affordable housing options in Lincoln will reduce the level of cost burdened households.

HOUSING

Benchmark: Provide a Healthy Climate for Economic Development

Indicator 30: Lancaster County, Median Family Income, 2000-2018

30

Why Is It Important?

Median Family Income (MFI) is a barometer of the standard of living for families because it accounts for differences 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.

Key Observation

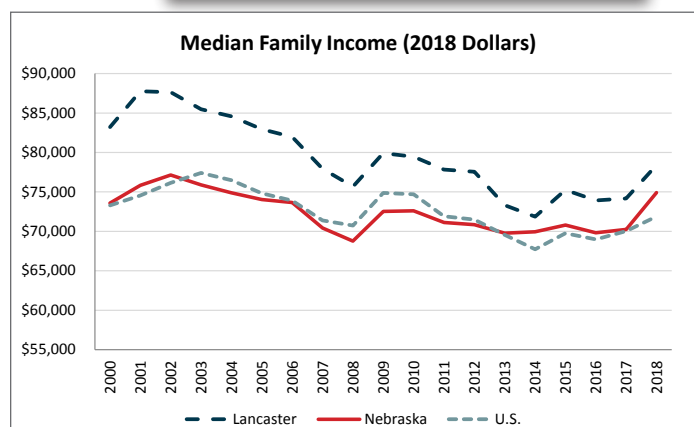
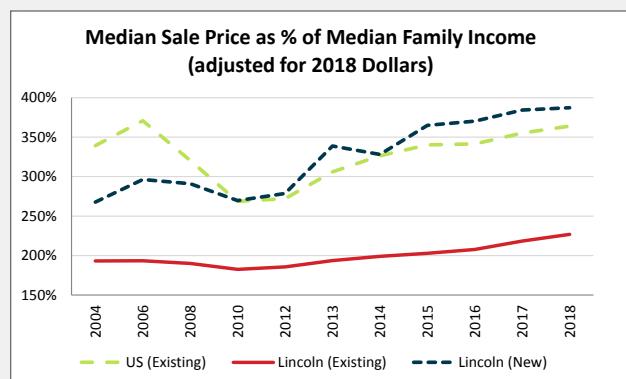
Median Family Income has generally declined in Lancaster County since 2000 based on 2018 dollars.

How Are We Doing?

- » In 2018, the MFI for a 4 person household was approximately \$78,400 for Lancaster County and \$74,900 for Nebraska, an increase of about 8.89 and 9.82 percent respectively since 2017.
- » The County has a historically consistent higher MFI than the State.
- » Since 2000, the MFI for Lancaster County has increased by about 37.5 percent. However, when inflation is factored in, it has decreased by about 5.8 percent.
- » In 2018, the median sales price of a new detached single-family unit was \$303,500, which is nearly four times (387 percent) of the median family income in Lancaster County. For an existing detached single-family unit, the median sales price was \$177,900 which is over two times (227 percent) of the median family income in Lancaster County.

What Does This Mean?

Median Family Incomes in Lancaster County have been shrinking over the past decade (in 2018 dollars) while existing home prices have been slowly rising. Reduced buying power combined with increasing housing costs highlights the need for additional affordable housing.



Note: 2018 is the latest available data.

Median Family Income, 2018

US.....	\$71,900
Nebraska.....	\$74,900
Lancaster Co.....	\$78,400

Definitions/Notes:

- 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 for inflation via the CPI to reflect a base year of 2018.
- MFI is available from HUD at the county level. Home sales figures are available from the Realtors Association of Lincoln at the city level. Therefore, the data and figures comparing income to home sale price are comparing county income to Lincoln sales price. It is expected that Lincoln MFI, if available, would be very similar to the overall county MFI.

Sources:

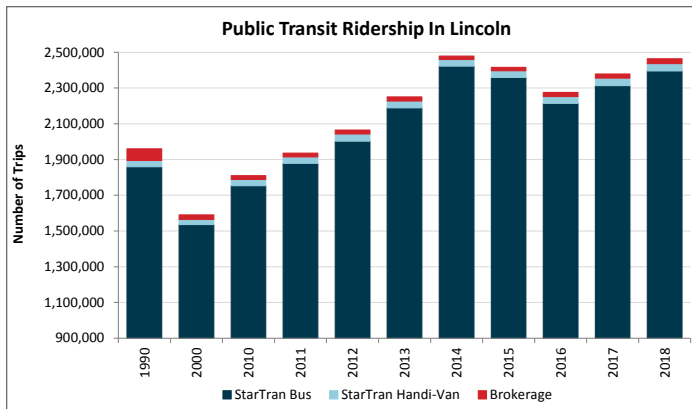
- US Department of Housing and Urban Development
- HUD USER Policy Development and Research
- Realtors Association of Lincoln

TRANSPORTATION

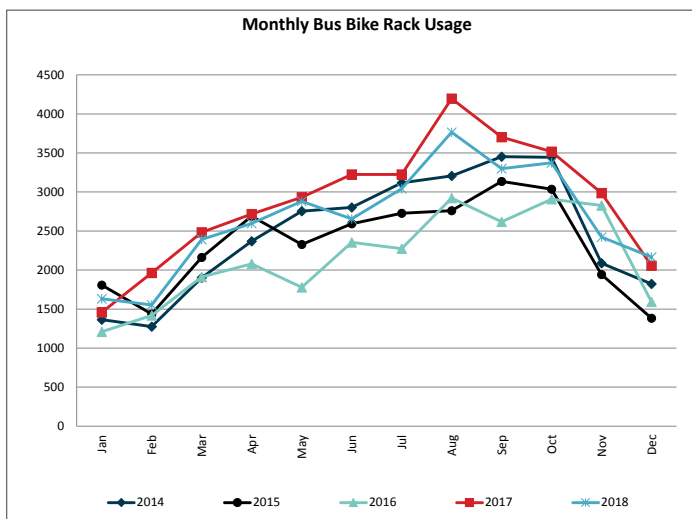
Benchmark: Increase Use of Non-Auto Transportation

Indicator 31: Lincoln's Public Transit Ridership, 1990-2018

31



2018 StarTran ridership exceeded 2.39 million trips.



In 2018, the bike racks on StarTran buses were used an average of 103 times each operating day for a monthly total average of 2,648 rack users.

Definitions/Notes:

- 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.

Source:

- City of Lincoln Transportation & Utilities - StarTran

Why Is It Important?

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.

Key Observation

StarTran 2018 ridership was 2.39 million, 54.9 percent higher than in 2000.

How Are We Doing?

- » 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 2018, StarTran fixed-route bus service ridership exhibited the second highest number in the reporting period with over 2.39 million trips taken by residents. Brokerage and Handi-Van ridership combined represent less than 3 percent (68,047 trips) of total trips in 2018.
- » Between 1990 and 2000, transit ridership generally declined. However, StarTran ridership has generally stabilized and increased since 2000.
- » In 2017, the tracked bike rack usage on buses was the highest recorded since installed.
- » Since 2000, StarTran ridership has increased by 54.9 percent, or an average annual increase of 2.89 percent. Population during this time has increased approximately 1.35 percent per year in Lincoln (2000-2017).

What Does This Mean?

Due to many factors, including gas prices, service, updated routes and the introduction of bike racks on buses, Lincoln's public transit ridership has been generally increasing since 2000. In 2014, ridership was higher than anytime in over 25 years. In addition, since 2000 public transit ridership growth has outpaced population growth.

TRANSPORTATION

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

Indicator 32: Lincoln's Multi-Use Trails Coverage, 2018

32

Why Is It Important?

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.

Key Observation

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

How Are We Doing?

- » In 2018, 98.18 percent of homes (119,830 of 122,041) were located within 1 mile of a public multi-use trail.
- » There are approximately 2,211 homes (1.82 percent) 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.
- » In many newer developments along Lincoln's edges, trails are planned but are not yet constructed.
- » Since 2000, 45.8 miles of trails have been constructed.
- » Since 2000, the area that needs to be served by the multi-use trail system has expanded through the annexation of approximately 19.6 square miles.

What Does This Mean?

The proximity of trails to homes is an indicator of resident's accessibility to this important infrastructure. As a result of Lincoln's high level of trails coverage, an increasing number of commuters are using the trail system as a part of their daily bicycle commute trips.



The percentage of workers who biked to work increased between 2000 and 2017 from 1.0% to 1.4%.



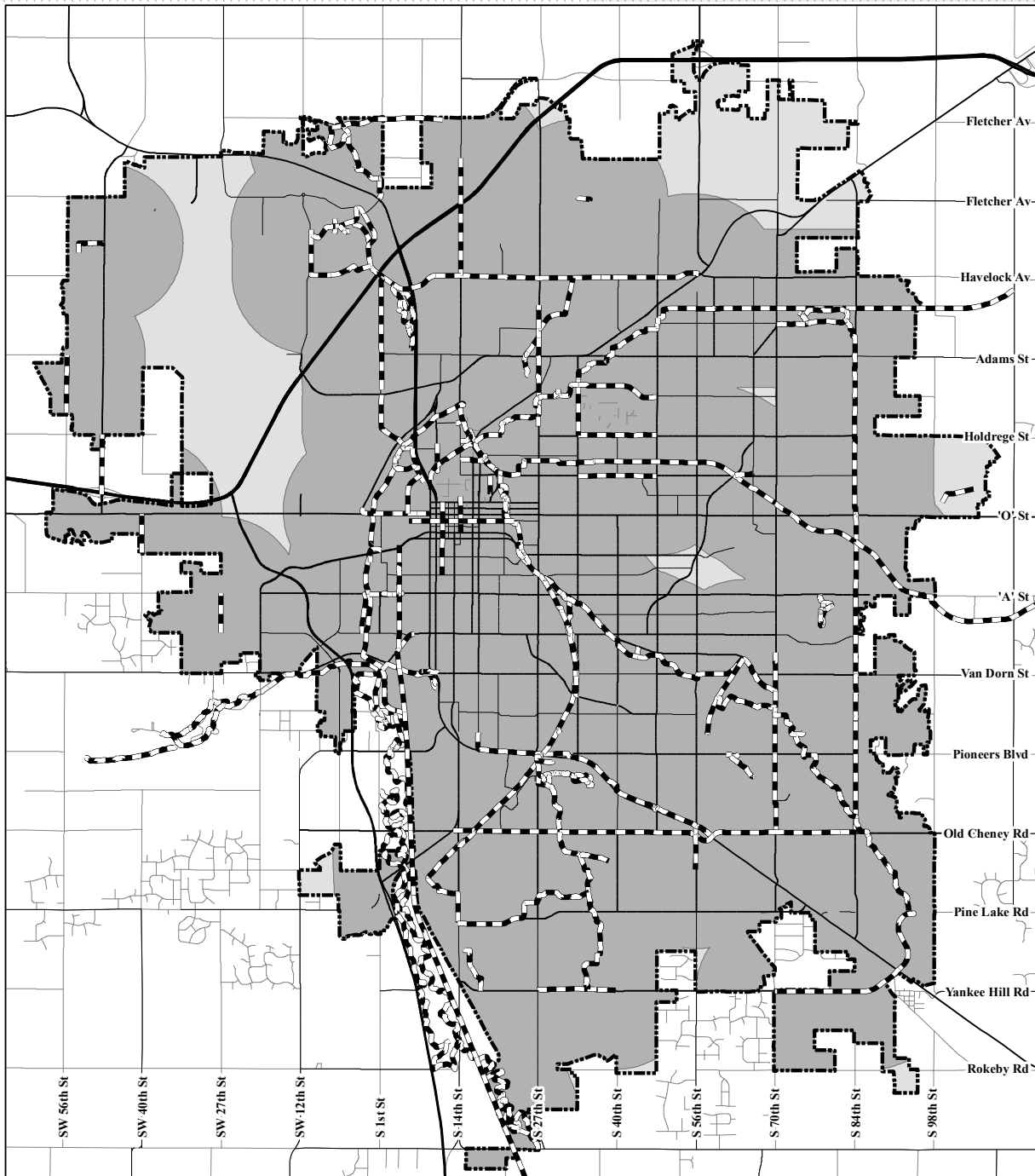
--Source: U.S. Census Bureau Census 2000 and 2013-2017 American Community Survey, 5-Year Estimates.

Definitions/Notes:

- Lincoln/Lancaster County has approximately 151.50 miles of existing and funded 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 140 miles provide additional service for bikers throughout the community.
- The Lincoln Bike Plan proposes 140 miles of additional on-street bicycle facilities.
- The Comprehensive Plan's Trails Master Plan identifies about 84 miles of additional multi-use trails to be constructed throughout the community.
- Bike lanes (3 miles) are in use in Lincoln.
- Protected bike lanes (1.3 miles) are in use in Lincoln.

Source:

- 2016 Update - 2040 Lincoln/Lancaster County Comprehensive Plan



MULTI-USE TRAILS

98.18% Of Lincoln Residences Are Within 1 Mile

City Limits and Residences as of December 31, 2018

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

TRANSPORTATION

Benchmark: Increase Use of Non-Auto Transportation

Indicator 33: Lincoln's Multi-Use Trail System Counts, 2018

Why Is It Important?

This indicator examines the amount of trail usage on multi-use trails and along the N Street Cycle Track. This data identifies the potential need for new trails and the need to rehabilitate existing trails.

Key Observation

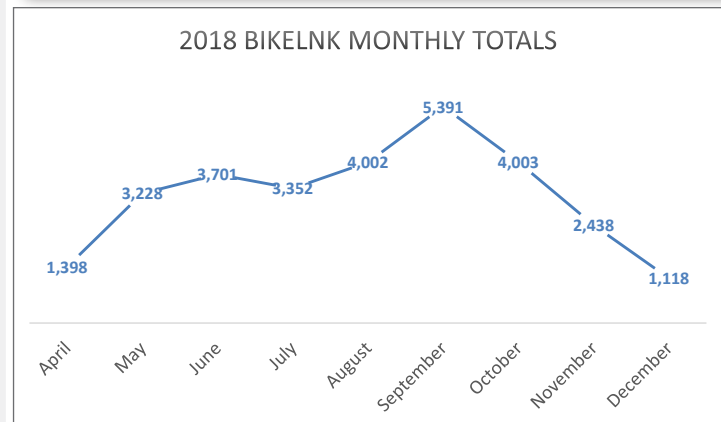
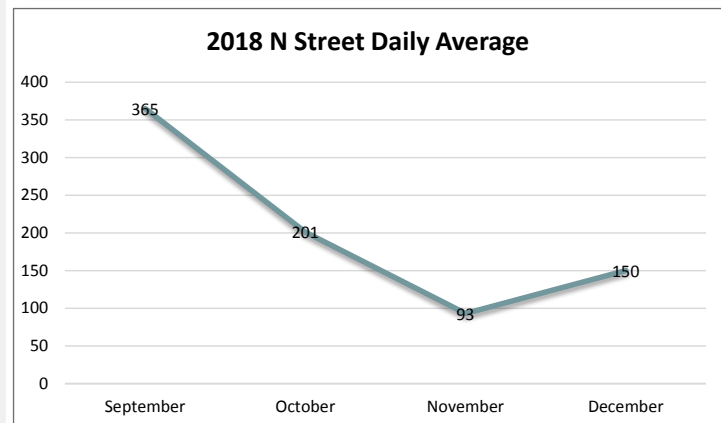
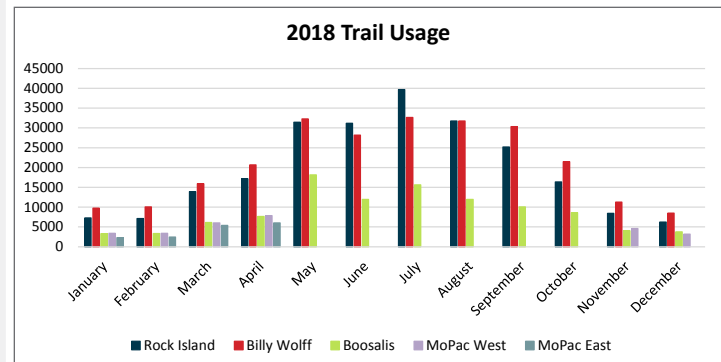
637,481 pedestrians and cyclists were counted on the multi-use trails and N Street Cycle Track in 2018.

How Are We Doing?

- » In 2018, the Rock Island Trail Counter recorded 235,623 users.
- » In 2018, the Billy Wolff Trail Counter recorded 252,717 users.
- » In 2018, the Helen Boosalis Trail Counter recorded 104,483 users.
- » The MoPac West Trail Counter was under maintenance between May and October. In 2018, the MoPac West Trail Counter recorded 28,495 users.
- » The MoPac East Trail Counter has been under maintenance since May. In 2018, the MoPac East Trail Counter recorded 16,163 users.
- » The N Street Cycle Track counters were under maintenance between January and August. Between September 2018 and December 2018, 24,658 cyclists were recorded averaging out to 202 users per day.
- » BikeLNK (the City of Lincoln's bike share program) launched on April 20, 2018 and had 28,631 rides in the first calendar year.

What Does This Mean?

The Multi-Use Trail System and N Street Cycle Track continue to be utilized for transportation and recreation purposes at high volumes.



Source:

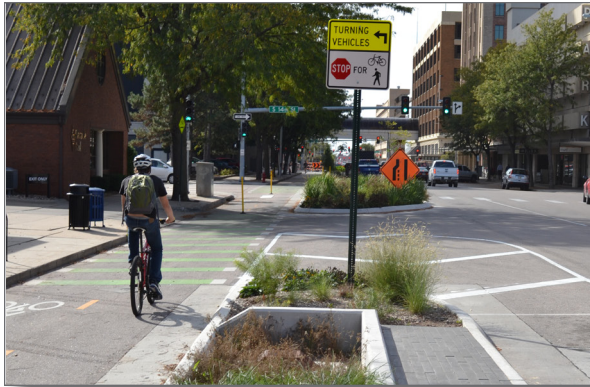
- Lincoln Trail Counts, <http://lincoln.ne.gov/city/plan/bike/trailcountdata.htm>.

Note: Counts are variable based on weather and other mitigating factors. Some of the counters were down for maintenance throughout parts of 2018 and may not reflect a full year of data. The N Street counter was previously recording data at the N Street and 13th intersection. The new data is recorded mid-block along N Street between 12th and 13th Streets.

TRANSPORTATION

Benchmark: Increase Use of Alternative Modes of Travel

Indicator 34: Lincoln's Means of Transportation to Work Other than the Single Occupant Vehicle



Why Is It Important?

The Comprehensive Plan aims to study and implement ways to increase the use of alternative transportation modes such as carpooling, transit use, walking, biking, telecommuting, and use of flexible work schedules. Increased trips using alternative transportation modes reduce the number of single occupant vehicles on the street network and therefore help reduce congested travel periods and traveler delay, improve air quality, and improve access to schools, jobs, and other needs for all users of the transportation system. This is especially important during peak commuting times.

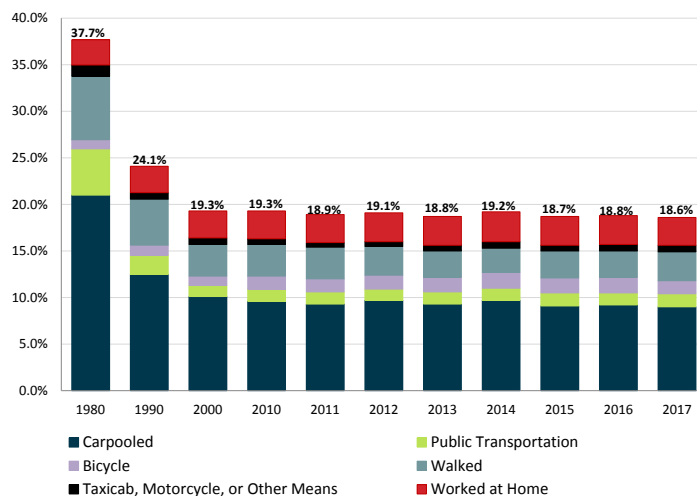
Key Observation

Between 1980 and 2000, the use of alternative modes for the work trip in Lincoln decreased by 49 percent. This decreasing trend ended between 2000 and 2010.

How Are We Doing?

- » The use of alternative modes of travel as a means of transportation to work was at 37.7 percent of the total work trips in 1980.
- » This decreased to 24.1 percent in 1990, and further decreased to 19.3 percent in 2000.
- » Between 2000 and 2016, the percentage of work trips using alternative modes stabilized at about 19 percent.
- » The 1980 data was reported during the energy crisis, a time when demand for options to the single occupant vehicle increased significantly.
- » The mean travel time to work increased from 15.8 minutes in 1980 to 18.3 minutes in 2017, an increase of 15.8 percent. During this time period the size of the City of Lincoln increased by 60 percent.
- » A study of Travel Demand Management (TDM) strategies to reduce demand for single occupancy vehicles on the transportation network was called for in the Comprehensive Plan and was completed in 2013. This study identifies the best opportunities to increase use of alternative modes of travel in Lincoln.
- » The Comprehensive Plan identifies an increase in infill and redevelopment projects as a vital part of the growth strategy for the community. Such development will provide opportunities for increasing use of alternate modes of travel due to the potential for shorter trip lengths and shared trip purpose.

Alternative Modes Share of Means of Transportation to Work



Year	Mean Travel Time to Work (Minutes)
1980	15.8
1990	15.6
2000	17.1
2010	17.3
2011	17.4
2012	17.6
2013	17.7
2014	18.1
2015	18
2016	18
2017	18.3

Source:

- 1980, 1990, 2000 United States Census and 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016 and 2017 American Community Survey, 5-Year Estimates.

What Does This Mean?

As of 2017, almost 20 percent of Lincoln residents commute by a means other than the single occupant vehicle.

TRANSPORTATION

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

Indicator 35: Lincoln, Estimated Daily Vehicle Miles Traveled, 1985-2018

35

Why Is It Important?

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 and more dispersed development patterns.

Key Observation

The rate of increase in Vehicle Miles Traveled in Lincoln has slowed considerably between 2006 and 2014 due in part to increased fuel prices and the economic downturn. Between 2015 and 2017, VMT increased significantly compared to past years, but decreased in 2018 similar to 2007, 2008 and 2011.

How Are We Doing?

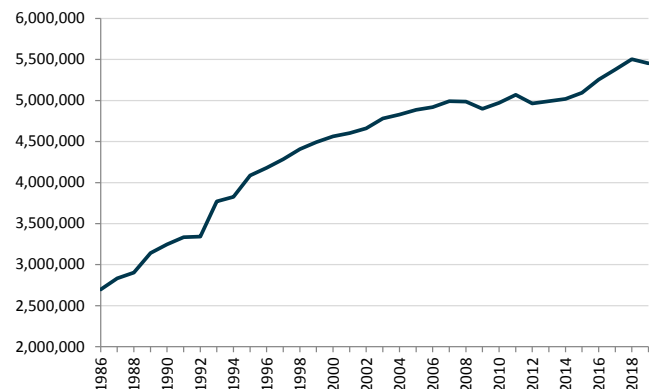
- » In 1985, 2.7 million vehicle miles were traveled on Lincoln roads each day.
- » In 2000, the estimate for daily VMT reached 4.6 million throughout Lincoln.
- » The VMT estimate passed 4.0 million daily VMT in Lincoln in 1994.
- » In 2007, the VMT estimate decreased to 4.987 million miles traveled daily in Lincoln from 4.993. This is the first year over year decrease reported since 1981. In 2008, the VMT estimate decreased to 4.90 million miles traveled daily in Lincoln from 4.987 million in 2007. In 2011, another year over year decrease in VMT was reported dropping from 5.07 million in 2010 to 4.96 million in 2011.
- » Between 1985 and 2000 VMT steadily increased at an average annual rate of 3.4 percent per year, with a total increase of 58.6 percent in miles traveled.
- » The average annual change in daily VMT from 2000 to 2018 has been an increase of approximately 0.89 percent per year. The population of Lancaster County during this time has increased approximately 1.35 percent per year.
- » In 2015, the annual changes in VMT increased by 3.15 percent which was the largest increase in the VMT rate in the past 20 years. In 2016, the annual changes in VMT increased by 2.37 percent and in 2017, the annual changes in VMT increased by 2.32 percent. In 2018, the annual VMT decreased by 0.92 percent.

What Does This Mean?

Since 1985, the daily vehicle miles traveled in Lincoln have almost doubled. Although this has been caused by a number of factors, it has resulted in an increasing demand on public infrastructure. During the recession, there was a slow down in growth and a VMT that was fairly unchanged between 2006 and 2014. During that time, transit and cycling showed an increase in use.



Estimated Daily Vehicle Miles Traveled Within Lincoln Urban Area



Definitions/Notes:

- Figures represent an estimate of the Daily VMT during each day in the Lincoln Urban Area. The estimate is based on local traffic sampling as well as local and state trends.
- VMT is a measure of the vehicle miles people travel. VMT data has been updated to reflect more accurate data and trends.
- The Lincoln Urban Area Boundary is an area larger than the City of Lincoln used for transportation modeling.

Source:

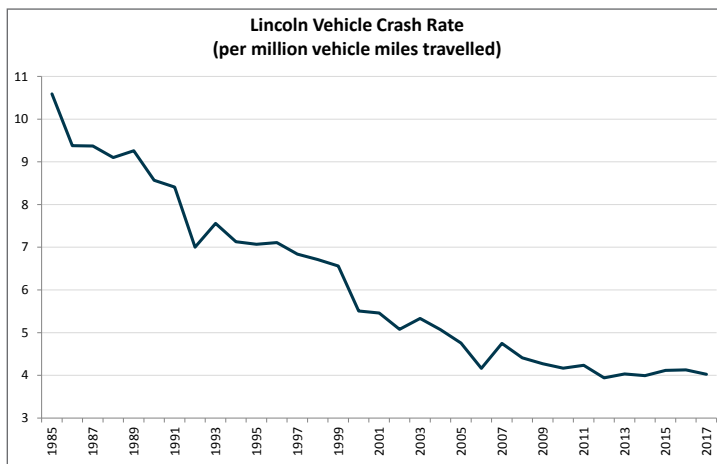
- Lincoln/Lancaster County Metropolitan Planning Organization

TRANSPORTATION

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

Indicator 36: Lincoln's Vehicle Crash Rate, 1985-2018

36



Year	Total Crashes	Year	Total Crashes
2000	9,251	2010	7,710
2001	9,283	2011	7,673
2002	8,860	2012	7,178
2003	9,400	2013	7,384
2004	9,044	2014	7,422
2005	8,539	2015	7,891
2006	7,584	2016	8,102
2007	8,642	2017	8,082
2008	7,890	2018	8,224
2009	7,748		

Why Is It Important?

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.

Key Observation

There has been an annual decline in Lincoln's crash rate of 2.73 percent per year since 1985.

How Are We Doing?

- » In 1985, the crash rate was 10.59 per million vehicle miles traveled.
- » In 1995, the crash rate declined to 7.07 per million vehicle miles traveled.
- » In 2005 the crash rate dipped under 5 per million vehicle miles traveled for the first time and has remained under that threshold since that time.
- » In 2012, total crashes decreased to a new historic low of 7,178 and the vehicle crash rate was at a new record low of 3.94 crashes per million vehicle miles traveled.
- » The City's Lincoln Transportation and Utilities Department continues to make significant strides toward improving traffic safety. These improvements include intersection advancements, signage, striping, signal timing, site distance enhancements, safety programs, driver education, and school safety programs. Heightened vehicle safety standards at the national level - such as anti-lock brakes and day running lights - have also contributed.

What Does This Mean?

As a result in safety improvements in public infrastructure and better vehicle safety equipment such as anti-lock brakes and stability control, the Lincoln vehicle crash rate has continued to decline despite growth in the community.

Definitions/Notes:

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

Sources:

- 2017 City of Lincoln Crash Study
- Lincoln/Lancaster County Metropolitan Planning Organization

RECREATION

Benchmark: Public Recreational Opportunities within Walking Distance of all Homes in Lincoln

Indicator 37: Lincoln's Public Recreational Facility Coverage, 2018

37

Why Is It Important?

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

Key Observation

80 percent of Lincoln residences are located within walking distance of public recreational opportunities.

How Are We Doing?

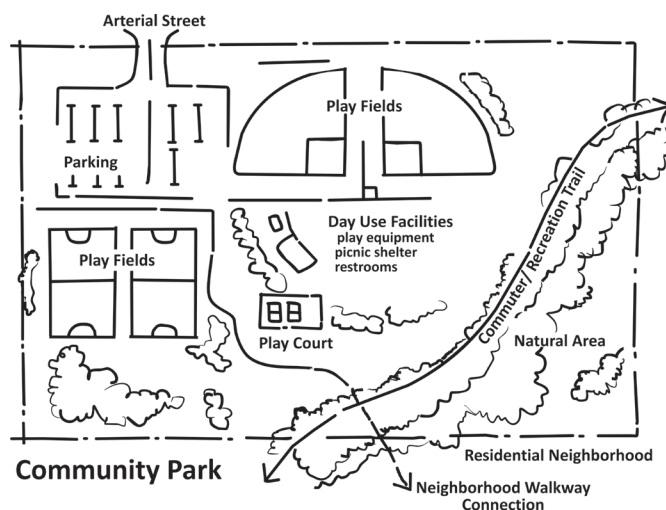
- » In 2018, about 80 percent of homes were located within a 10 minute walk of a City park facility or open area.
- » About 20 percent of homes are located outside the 10 minute walk service area standard - these homes are located throughout Lincoln's new and established neighborhoods.
- » In 2018, the City of Lincoln had 161 parks and recreation facilities on 7,389 acres of parkland and open space. This figure includes 5 golf courses on 781 acres of land.
- » Coverage was reduced as compared to analysis 2016 and prior. In 2016, a ½ mile "as the crow flies" distance was used to analyze residential coverage. The current data uses the existing street system to show the actual distance one would have to walk.

What Does This Mean?

The Comprehensive Plan includes, as a goal, the statement that parks and open spaces enhance the quality of life of the community's residents and are central to the community's economic development strategy – the community's ability to attract and retain viable business, industries, and employees is directly linked to quality of life issues, including indoor and outdoor recreational opportunities.

A strong majority of Lincoln's residents live within walking distance of public recreational facilities. Parks facilities include traditional parks, gardens and plazas, golf courses, dog runs, and conservancy areas. Also included in this analysis are public elementary schools, the playgrounds of which, through an agreement with Lincoln Public Schools, are available for public use during non-school hours.

Amenities available on parkland vary from neighborhood services such as playgrounds, picnic shelters and informal play space, to tournament sport facilities, public golf courses, ball fields and play courts,



Definition:

- The park service area goal is approximately a ½ mile, or 10 minute walking distance, as measured along pedestrian ways. This standard reflects the walking distance most people are willing to travel to get to the nearest park, as identified by the Trust for Public Land and the National Recreation and Parks Association.
- Each City-owned park is classified into a "park" category for planning and service purposes.
- Outdoor public recreational facilities may differ in size and amenities throughout community.
- Analysis does not include pocket parks, medians, undeveloped parks, and pools that are not within a park. These facilities, though open to the public, do not provide recreational opportunities year-round. Also not included are private schools, and public middle and high schools, which may allow public use of recreational facilities, but with whom there is no existing agreement with the City.
- Private or Homeowners Association owned playgrounds, courts, open space and pools are not included with this data.
- Golf course acreage has been reduced as a result of redefining some of the adjacent space as parks.

Source:

- Lincoln Parks and Recreation Dept.
- Data provided by Lincoln Parks and Recreation Geographic Information Services Analysis

