

NORTH CENTRAL REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION



2008 COMPREHENSIVE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY (CEDS)

for

Clay, Cloud, Dickinson, Ellsworth, Jewell, Lincoln, Marshall, Mitchell,
Ottawa, Republic, Saline and Washington Counties in Kansas



March 2008

Table 2 – cont'd
RESIDUAL GROWTH ATTRIBUTED TO MIGRATION, 1990 -- 2000

COUNTY	1990	2000	Diff.	Births	Deaths	Diff.	Migration
Ottawa	5,634	6,163	529	575	753	(178)	707
Republic	6,482	5,835	(647)	495	990	(495)	(152)
Saline	49,301	53,597	4,296	6,854	4,359	2,495	1,801
Washington	7,073	6,483	(590)	681	1,018	(337)	(253)
NCK Region	141,027	142,303	1,276	16,322	16,828	(506)	1,782
State	2,477,588	2,628,777	151,189	348,226	215,686	132,540	18,649

Another perspective of population change involves a technique advocated by the Center for Rural Entrepreneurship in Lincoln, Nebraska, which encourages communities to determine the average number of families lost or gained each year as a means of better understanding what is happening. Such an approach allows communities to easily imagine just what could happen if they were able to retain or attract a comparable number of families.

Table 3 thus addresses this matter, since it illustrates the number of families that either came into or left each county between 1990 and 2000, as well as the estimated numbers coming and going between 2000 and 2005. While Dickinson, Ottawa and Saline counties added families during the earlier period, it should be noted that only Saline County has experienced a net population gain during the past five (5) years. And while the region attracted an average of 57 families each year during the 1990s, it has lost 102 families so far each year during the 2000s. If correct that is an alarming figure, for in five years North Central Kansas has lost almost double what it gained in the previous ten.

Table 3
RESULTING IMPACT OF POPULATION CHANGE - 1990 to 2000 and 2005

COUNTY	Gain / (Loss) 1990 - 2000	Annual Average For Period	Families Involved 2.4/Family	Gain / (Loss) 2000 - 2005	Annual Average for Period	Families Involved 2.4/Family
Clay	(298)	(30)	(12)	(199)	(40)	(17)
Cloud	(773)	(77)	(32)	(462)	(92)	(39)
Dickinson	443	44	19	(162)	(32)	(14)
Ellsworth	(53)	(5)	(2)	(188)	(38)	(16)
Jewell	(469)	(47)	(20)	(412)	(82)	(34)
Lincoln	(61)	(6)	(3)	(164)	(33)	(14)
Marshall	(732)	(73)	(31)	(533)	(107)	(44)
Mitchell	(269)	(27)	(11)	(495)	(99)	(41)
Ottawa	596	60	25	(72)	(14)	(6)
Republic	(660)	(66)	(28)	(642)	(128)	(54)
Saline	4,203	420	175	303	61	25
Washington	(571)	(57)	(24)	(462)	(92)	(39)
NCK	1,356	136	57	(1,220)	(244)	(102)

Average Earnings per Job

There is significant disparity in the average earnings per job found in each county throughout the region. Only five (5) counties – Dickinson, Ellsworth, Marshall, Mitchell and Saline – exceed the regional average. Adjacent Geary and Riley counties are shown here for comparison, since these two locations heavily influence economic activity along the Eastern border of North Central Kansas. The military installation of Fort Riley dominates the economy of Geary county, while the main campus of Kansas State University plays a heavy role in that of Riley County.

Table 12									
Average Earnings per Job (Dollars)									
NCRPC	1970	1980	1990	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005
Clay	5,366	9,171	17,247	16,873	17,060	16,196	19,299	21,285	21,294
Cloud	5,315	9,749	17,578	17,759	19,273	18,313	20,845	22,141	22,822
Dickinson	5,033	9,766	16,398	21,576	22,053	21,510	25,070	25,953	26,534
Ellsworth	4,424	9,646	15,745	21,234	20,506	20,364	23,835	25,476	25,118
Jewell	5,030	5,965	19,267	13,003	16,422	12,335	20,737	18,951	20,008
Lincoln	4,817	8,410	14,511	13,486	13,495	11,526	15,388	14,482	15,214
Marshall	4,998	8,362	18,784	23,788	25,774	22,876	27,530	31,375	31,061
Mitchell	4,898	9,121	18,633	22,434	23,281	21,558	26,079	26,672	27,911
Ottawa	5,285	7,650	14,235	15,358	15,685	15,006	18,216	18,645	19,026
Republic	5,138	7,183	15,928	15,755	17,701	16,332	20,132	19,602	19,880
Saline	6,522	13,972	23,827	31,875	29,980	30,972	33,022	33,979	35,115
Washington	4,054	6,006	13,831	15,438	16,247	14,121	17,619	20,824	22,128
NCK	5,073	8,750	17,165	19,048	19,790	18,426	22,314	23,282	23,843
Kansas	6,520	13,531	22,162	31,501	32,687	33,397	35,361	37,286	38,832
US	7,549	15,894	26,561	39,007	40,164	41,116	42,428	44,347	45,817
Geary	6,217	15,689	27,063	35,529	36,821	39,798	43,366	46,847	50,684
Riley	5,875	11,295	16,873	24,292	27,228	28,134	30,987	34,163	35,343

When depicted as a percentage of state and national averages, regional earnings per job have tumbled in the past 35 years with the average difference between the region and state being 65% for the period and that between the region and nation being 54%. It is important to note that the region has not exceeded those averages in the current decade.

Table 13									
Regional Average Earnings Per Job as a Percentage of State or US Earnings									
NCRPC	1970	1980	1990	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005
Region	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Kansas	78%	65%	77%	60%	61%	55%	63%	62%	61%
US	67%	55%	65%	49%	49%	45%	53%	52%	52%

Human Resources

Educational Attainment - Educational attainment is a measure of educational level of the population of an area. The census measures these numbers for the population aged 25 and over, the traditional age by which students have completed their initial chosen post secondary education. The attached table shows the educational level of the workforce in North Central Kansas and also offers the state's figures for comparison. The general observation of the difference between the state and the counties comprising the NCRPC region reveals to things; 1) the region as whole has a higher percentage of the population that has only a high school education and 2) the region as whole has a much lower percentage of people with a bachelor's degree.

Workforce Job Classification Composition – Table 15 summarizes the workforce composition of the 12 counties in the NCRPC region. “Share” indicates the percentage of the total workforce employed in that line item identified. In addition, the state numbers are included for comparison purposes. The composition of the job classes in the region is important since it provides a clear picture of the actual types of jobs in which people are working; it serves to nullify common misperceptions. For example, it is common in rural Kansas to assume that there are few professional or management level positions available in the community. However, reviewing the actual data tells a different story. Within the table it is relatively easy to compare the region to the state numbers given the index provided. Review of particular counties (Appendix D) also allows one to pick out particular industries or even individual employers that are playing a strong role in the local employment market. For example, the percentage of health care practitioners is stronger for Saline County where a regional medical hub exists.

Table 15
North Central Kansas Workforce Composition - 2000

EEO Code	Occupation	Total	Regional Share	Index of State Share
1	Management, Business and Financial Workers	9,310	13%	1.08
2	Science, Engineering and Computer Professionals	949	1%	0.34
3	Healthcare Practitioner Professionals	2,280	3%	0.95
4	Other Professional Workers	6,530	9%	0.80
5	Technicians	1,545	2%	0.93
6	Sales Workers	7,205	10%	0.92
7	Administrative Support Workers	10,915	15%	0.92
8	Construction and Extractive Craft Workers	3,885	5%	1.11
9	Installation, Maintenance and Repair Craft Workers	4,580	6%	1.11
10	Production Operative Workers	5,950	8%	1.06
11	Transportation and Material Moving Operative Workers	4,250	6%	1.46
12	Laborers and Helpers	4,340	6%	1.26
13	Protective Service Workers	820	1%	0.73
14	Service Workers, except Protective	10,465	14%	1.14
15	Total Civilian Labor Force	73,300	100%	
16	Unemployed, No Civilian Work Experience Since 1995	276	0%	

Source: Kansas City Federal Reserve Bank, 2004
Calculated by the Center for the Study of Rural America, Winter 2004

