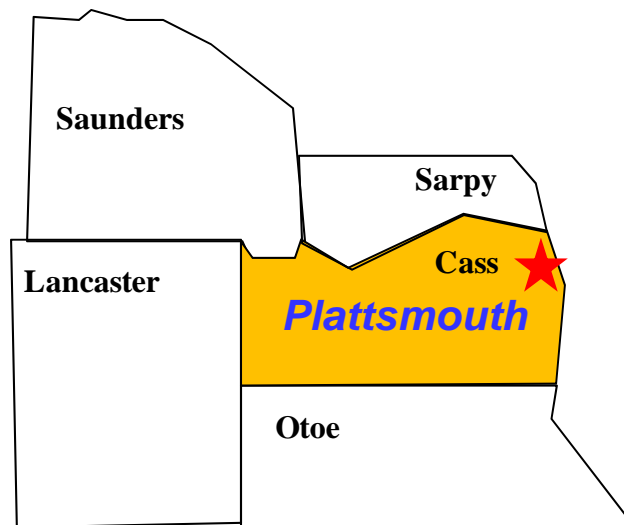


Labor Supply Factors and Labor Availability for the Plattsmouth (Cass County) Labor Area Fall 2010



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Labor Supply Factors and Labor Availability for the Plattsmouth (Cass County) Labor Area

Executive Summary

The information provided in this report indicates that a prospective new employer providing job opportunities with competitive wages and benefits and offering career opportunities would be a welcome addition to the employment base in Plattsmouth and the Cass County Labor Area. The response to such employment opportunities would be substantial, and as this report shows, there is a sizeable labor force and population base living within the Plattsmouth Labor Area. Some of the pertinent findings of the report include:

- Population in the Plattsmouth Labor Area (Cass County plus the four contiguous counties) totaled 495,791 people in 2009, with the Cass County population totaling 25,485. Population in Cass County grew by 4.7 percent during the 2000–2009 period, compared to a population increase of 14.6 percent for the five-county Plattsmouth Labor Area as a whole.
- The labor force for the Plattsmouth Labor Area totaled 271,533 in 2009, with 259,058 local residents employed in jobs either within or outside the area. A total of 245,594 persons were employed in nonfarm wage and salary jobs located within the area. These data suggest that a substantial number of residents of the Plattsmouth Labor Area were commuting out of the area for employment.
- The number of people who lived in Cass County that were employed totaled 13,381 in 2009; yet, there were 5,438 persons employed in nonfarm wage and salary jobs within the county. This indicates residents of surrounding counties are commuting into Cass County.
- Average annual wages for all nonfarm wage and salary employees in the Plattsmouth Labor Area were \$4,996 less than the Nebraska average. Within the labor area, Lancaster County had the highest average wage, \$34,737 or \$1,325 lower than the Nebraska average. In Cass County, average annual salaries were \$7,941 less than the state average.

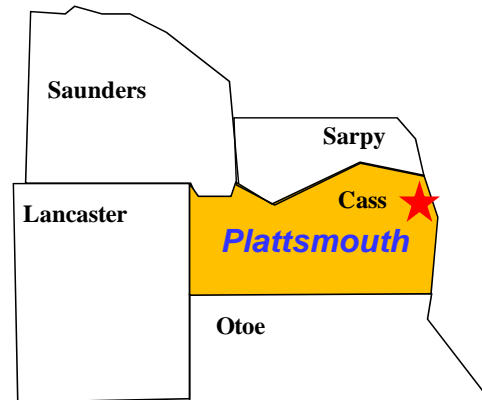
The basic conclusion of this report, which follows from the data and analysis presented, is that the Plattsmouth Labor Area and Cass County would be able to provide a significant number of dedicated and skilled workers to meet the needs of additional employers in the area. While this report has not estimated a precise number of people that may be available for a prospective new employer in the Plattsmouth area, it is anticipated that if attractive working conditions with competitive wages and employee benefits were offered, a prospective new employer would be able to select their workforce from a substantial pool of applicants.

Labor Supply Factors and Labor Availability for the Plattsmouth (Cass County) Labor Area

This report presents selected labor-related and demographic data that provide insights into the labor supply situation in Plattsmouth (Cass County) and the surrounding area.

In reviewing the data presented in this report, it will be evident that the Plattsmouth Labor Area has a sizeable pool of labor to provide for the labor requirements of additional employers in the area, both in the near term and over the long run. Data presented in this report includes tables on labor force, employment, and population for Cass County and for the surrounding counties that make up the potential laborshed area for Plattsmouth. Figure One includes a map outlining the geographic area which has been defined as the Plattsmouth Labor Area.

Figure One
Plattsmouth Labor Area



An important resource for new or expanding businesses is a readily available supply of workers. Whether an employer requires 5 or 500 workers, they need to have confidence there will be a sufficient number of workers available to meet their labor requirements. This report is provided as a key analytical tool to identify and quantify the number and selected characteristics of workers available in the Plattsmouth Labor Area.

Available labor supply is defined as the number of persons who would potentially apply for employment when a job becomes available. Potential workers are categorized into two groups; those currently employed who would consider other employment opportunities and those who do not currently have a job.

One factor contributing to the available supply of workers is the willingness of workers already employed to change jobs. Factors influencing this decision are related to wages, fringe benefits, hours, and working conditions. Generally, workers are more inclined to change jobs when the wages and benefits for the potential new job are better and/or when they are optimistic about the economy.

Factors contributing to the available supply of people without jobs include the unemployment rate, labor force participation, and migration. To be classified as unemployed, an individual must have been actively looking for work in the last four weeks, unless they were expecting recall from a layoff or waiting to start a job within 30 days.

There are also potential workers that are classified as not presently in the labor force. These individuals may not be participating in the labor force as employed or unemployed workers for various reasons. They may be unable to work because of school or family

responsibilities or they may have an illness that has prevented them from becoming part of the labor force. There may also be workers who have not been able to find employment in the past and have become discouraged or who are no longer actively seeking employment because they perceive there are no attractive job opportunities available in the area. Retired persons are also classified as not in the labor force, although this population group often can provide substantial labor resources for selected business operations. Within the group of persons not currently in the labor force, and therefore not actively seeking employment, are many individuals who would accept a job with attractive working conditions, competitive wages, and employee benefits if one became available.

Population migration is another factor that affects the available labor supply of potential workers who are not presently employed (and may not be seeking work within the local labor market). Persons without jobs and who perceive that there are no job opportunities available locally are the most likely to leave (migrate out) the area for employment opportunities elsewhere.

Labor Force and Employment

Table One provides data showing labor force and employment trends for the Plattsburgh Labor Area and for Cass County for selected years from 2004 to 2009. Data in Table One (Part A and Part B) provide two alternate measures of employment for two distinct areas. Data presented in Table One, Part A include labor force, unemployment, employment, and nonfarm wage and salary employment data for the entire Plattsburgh Labor Area (see Figure One). As these data indicate, the total labor force and total employment for the laborshed area as a whole both increased, with the area labor force growing by 3.5 percent between 2004 and 2009 and total employment growing by 2.4 percent during the same period.

Table One
Labor Force and Employment, Plattsburgh Labor Area^(a), 2004–2009

Part A
Labor Force and Employment
Plattsburgh Labor Area^(a), 2004–2009

(Place of Residence)	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	% Chg. 2004–2009
Labor Force^(b)	262,284	263,820	264,943	269,579	272,994	271,533	3.5
Unemployment (#)	9,292	9,536	7,631	7,634	8,692	12,474	34.2
Unemployment Rate (%)	3.5	3.6	2.9	2.8	3.2	4.6	(N/A)
Employment	252,991	254,284	257,313	261,947	264,303	259,058	2.4
(Place of Work)							
Nonfarm Employment^(c)	235,166	237,428	243,599	246,948	249,420	245,594	4.4

Table One continued on following page; notes and sources on following page.

Table One -- Continued
Part B
Labor Force and Employment by Industry
Cass County, NE

(Place of Residence)	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	% Chg. 2004-2009
Labor Force^(b)	14,106	14,065	14,054	13,959	14,204	14,096	-0.1
Unemployment (#)	587	588	460	454	522	715	21.8
Unemployment Rate (%)	4.2	4.2	3.3	3.3	3.7	5.1	(N/A)
Employment	13,519	13,477	13,593	13,505	13,682	13,381	-1.0
(Place of Work)							
Nonfarm Employment^(c)	5,640	5,563	5,760	5,744	5,456	5,438	-3.6
Goods Producing	910	899	829	845	808	784	-13.8
Manufacturing	464	422*	369*	373*	364*	352*	-24.1
Mining & Construction	446	477	460	472	444	432	-3.1
Service Providing	4,730	4,664	4,932	4,899	4,649	4,654	-1.6
Total Trade	894	910	914	926	952	927	3.7
Wholesale Trade	177	183	190	194	193	188	6.2
Retail Trade	717	727	723	733	759	738	2.9
Trans., Ware. & Utilities	417	236	467	484	470	439	5.3
Information	21*	18*	22	21	17*	16*	-23.8
Financial Activities	338	338	343	311	319	319	-5.6
Prof. & Bus. Services	144	136	146	151	146	135	-6.3
Education & Health Services	732	760	757	660	547	550	-24.9
Leisure and Hospitality	595	623	650	646	518	511	-14.1
Other Services, except Public	319*	309	327	329	336	337	5.6
Total Government	1,270	1,334	1,306	1,372	1,344	1,420	11.8
Federal Government	78	77	76	75	73	73	-6.4
State Government	74	115	111	102	57	79	6.8
Local Government	1,118	1,142	1,120	1,195	1,214	1,269	13.5

^(a) The Plattsmouth Labor Area includes Cass County and the contiguous Nebraska counties (Lancaster, Otoe, Sarpy, and Saunders).

^(b) The labor force data are measured based on the county of residence, irrespective of the county of employment.

^(c) The Nonfarm Employment data are for wage and salary employment and are based on the place (county) where the individual is employed, irrespective of the county of residence.

* Estimated values provided by Ken Lemke, Nebraska Public Power District.

Source: Nebraska Department of Labor, Labor Market Information, ftp.dol.state.ne.us/lmi/laborforce_workforce.

The second employment measure presented for the Plattsmouth Labor Area, nonfarm wage and salary employment increased from 235,166 in 2004 to 245,594 in 2009, an increase of 4.4 percent. In the case of the labor force data (labor force, unemployment, and employment), the respective measures are based on the county of residence. The nonfarm wage and salary employment data are measured based on the county of employment, irrespective of the place of residence of the workers.

The labor force and employment measures presented for Cass County (Table One, Part B) indicate that the total labor force in the county declined by 0.1 percent between 2004 and 2009, with total employment (of people residing in Cass County, irrespective of their county of employment) declining by 1.0 percent during this period. It is also of interest to note that unemployment increased by 21.8 percent, from 587 in 2004 to 715 in 2009, recording an unemployment rate of 5.1 percent in 2009.

As previously noted, the second employment measure presented for Cass County, nonfarm wage and salary employment, is based on the county where the person is employed irrespective of their county of residence. Nonfarm wage and salary employment in Cass County declined by -3.6 percent between 2004 and 2009. Data presented in Table One, Part B show that the fastest growing employment sector in Cass County during the 2004–2009 review period was the Total Government sector, recording a 11.8 percent increase between 2004 and 2009. Other economic sectors experiencing significant growth in employment between 2004 and 2009 include the Other Services, Except Public Sector (5.6 percent), Transportation, Warehousing, and Utilities (5.3 percent), and the Total Trade Sector (3.7 percent). In the case of the Total Government Sector, Federal Government Sector employment declined by 6.4 percent while employment in the State Government Sector grew by 6.8 percent and Local Government Sector employment grew by 13.5 percent.

Further review of the employment data reported for the Plattsmouth Labor Area (Table One, Part A) and for Cass County (Table One, Part B) indicates that for both areas there were differences between the nonfarm wage and salary employment reported in the areas and the total employment of persons living in the respective areas. In the case of the entire Plattsmouth Labor Area, nonfarm wage and salary employment was reported to be 245,594 in 2009, which was significantly less (13,464) than the reported total employment of persons living within the five-county Plattsmouth Labor Area. Recalling that nonfarm wage and salary employment is based on the county of employment while the total employment data is based on the county of residence helps explain how this can occur. It is obvious that a large number of persons living within the five-county Plattsmouth Labor Area work outside of the area and commute to other areas for employment.

In the case of Cass County, the same situation is evident. Total employment of persons living in Cass County (irrespective of their county of employment) was 13,381 in 2009, which was 7,943 more than the 5,438 nonfarm wage and salary jobs within the county for the same year. These data suggest that a number of workers are commuting out of Cass County for employment on a regular basis. The total number of reported employed people living in Cass County includes those who are self employed as well as those employed in agriculture.

Included in Table Two are additional employment data for 2009, showing the deviations between total employment and nonfarm wage and salary employment for the Plattsmouth Labor Area as a whole and for each county within the area. For the Plattsmouth Labor Area as a whole, the total employment of area residents (259,058), irrespective of their

place of employment, is 13,464 greater than the nonfarm wage and salary employment working within the area. It appears that some of this difference could be accounted for by agricultural employment, which includes farm proprietors. Agricultural employment shown in the table shows that 4,347 people were employed in agriculture in 2008 the last year that agricultural employment data were available. It is important to note, however, that for Nebraska as a whole, approximately 32 percent of farm operators also have a full-time job off the farm and 49 percent work off the farm, either in full or part-time employment. Therefore, it is possible that a significant number of people are commuting out of the area for employment.

Table Two
Labor Force, Employment, and Nonfarm Wage and Salary Employment,
Plattsmouth Labor Area, 2009

County	Labor Force (2009) ^(a)	Total Employment (2009) ^(a)	Nonfarm Wage & Salary Employment (2009) ^(b)	Total Employment Minus NF W&S Employment	Agricultural Employment (2008) ^(c)
Cass	14,096	13,381	5,438	7,943	610
Lancaster	159,298	152,283	164,636	-12,353	1,554
Otoe	8,907	8,442	6,446	1,996	720
Sarpy	78,071	74,361	64,018	10,343	346
Saunders	11,161	10,591	5,056	5,535	1,117
Labor Area	271,533	259,058	245,594	13,464	4,347

^(a) Labor force and employment data are measured based on the county of residence.

^(b) Nonfarm Employment data are for wage and salary employment and are based on the place (county) where the individual is employed, irrespective of the the county of residence.

^(c) Agricultural employment data are for 2008.

Sources: Labor Data - Nebraska Department of Labor, Labor Market Information,

ftp.dol.state.ne.us/lmi/laborforce_workforce. Farm Employment Data - U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis, Regional Accounts Data website: www.bea.gov/regional/reis/ .

Further review of the data presented in Table Two provides an indication of the commuting patterns for the counties within the Plattsmouth Labor Area. It appears that a large number of persons from other counties are commuting into Lancaster County for employment. For the other counties within the area, however, a significant percentage of the employed people are commuting out of the counties for employment. In the case of Sarpy County, for example, the number of employed persons living in the county is 10,343 greater than total nonfarm wage and salary employment within the county. In the case of Sarpy, a significant number of the people commuting out of the county for employment are most likely commuting to Douglas County (Omaha) to work. Other counties where there are indications of significant commuting out of the county for employment include Cass, Otoe, and Saunders. Data presented in Table Two suggest that the creation of additional jobs within the Plattsmouth Labor Area and Cass County would provide opportunities for area residents to work closer to their places of residences instead of having to commute to other areas for employment.

The number of nonfarm wage and salary workers in the Plattsmouth Labor Area is shown by major industry sector and by county in Table Three. The reader is reminded that

nonfarm wage and salary workers are counted in the county where they are employed. Individuals with more than one job are counted at each establishment (and in each county) where they work. Table Three provides information about the number of workers in the labor area by county and major industry category.

**Table Three
Nonfarm Wage and Salary Employment, by Industry Sector
Plattsmouth Labor Area, by County, 2009**

County	Manuf.	Constr. & Mining	Trade	Fin. Act.	Prof. & Bus. Svc.	Ed. & Health Svc.	All Oth. Svc.	Gov.	Tot NF W&S Emp.
Cass	352*	432	927	319	135	550	1,303	1,420	5,438
Lancaster	12,572*	7,106	21,231*	12,628	17,358*	21,852*	34,319*	37,570*	164,636
Otoe	1,315*	329	1,065	253	313	825	1,092	1,254	6,446
Sarpy	2,470	4,314	9,138	51	6,766	5,724	26,175	9,380	64,018
Saunders	480	476	756	274	177	577	888	1,428	5,056
Labor Area	17,189	12,657	33,117	13,525	24,749	29,528	63,777	51,052	245,594
Nebraska	92,926	48,176	146,076	68,508	99,270	135,727	188,238	168,192	947,113

Percent of Total Nonfarm Wage & Salary Employment

	Manuf.	Constr. & Mining	Trade	Fin. Act.	Prof. & Bus. Svc.	Ed. & Health Svc.	All Oth. Svc.	Gov.	Tot NF W&S Emp.
Labor Area	7.0	5.2	13.5	5.5	10.1	12.0	26.0	20.8	100.0
Nebraska	9.8	5.1	15.4	7.2	10.5	14.3	19.9	17.8	100.0

* Estimated values provided by Ken Lemke, Nebraska Public Power District.

Source: Nebraska Department of Labor, Labor Market Information, ftp.dol.state.ne.us/lmi/laborforce_workforce.

In addition to displaying the number of workers by major industry sector, Table Three also compares the percentage distribution of workers by industry in the Plattsmouth Labor Area with the distribution for the State of Nebraska. As these data show, the industry distribution of employment for the Plattsmouth Labor Area is significantly different than that for Nebraska as a whole.

The most significant deviations between Nebraska and the Plattsmouth Labor Area occur in the All Other Services Sector employment, with 26.0 percent of nonfarm wage and salary workers in the Plattsmouth area employed in that sector, compared to 19.9 percent for Nebraska. Conversely, only 7.0 percent of nonfarm wage and salary workers in the Plattsmouth Labor Area are employed in the Manufacturing sector, compared to 9.8 percent for Nebraska as a whole.

Table Four, Part A provides data showing labor cost comparisons, by county, for all private wage and salary workers for the Plattsmouth Labor Area. It is important to remember that the wage and salary employment is reported by county of employment, and does not provide an indication of the average weekly and annual wage for residents of the respective counties. Obviously, labor cost is an important consideration in any analysis of the labor availability in an area. Pay data for workers covered by unemployment insurance laws in Nebraska are the source of the labor cost information. Average annual pay is calculated by dividing the total payroll for wage and salary workers by the average annual number of employees.

A review of the data in Table Four, Part A indicates that average annual salaries in Cass County (\$28,121 for all wage and salary employees for all private industries) are lower than for the Plattsmouth Labor Area as a whole and two of the other four counties that make up the area. Also, Cass County average annual salaries are \$7,941 (22.0 percent) less than the state average. Average annual salaries for the Plattsmouth Labor Area (\$31,066) were \$4,996 (13.9 percent) less than the Nebraska average. These data suggest, of course, there would be a positive labor supply response in Cass County to the creation of additional employment opportunities with competitive wages and benefits.

Table Four
Average Pay, Plattsmouth Labor Area & Nebraska, 2009

Part A
Average Annual Pay and Average Weekly Wages
All Covered^(a) Wage and Salary Workers, All Industries

County	Average Employment	Average Weekly Wages	Average Annual Wages
Cass	3,500	\$541	\$28,121
Lancaster	121,361	\$668	\$34,737
Otoe	5,147	\$521	\$27,083
Sarpy	50,671	\$662	\$34,413
Saunders	3,301	\$515	\$26,774
Labor Area	44,311	\$596	\$31,066
Nebraska	742,609	\$694	\$36,062

Part B
Average Annual Pay All Covered^(a) Wage and Salary Workers
By Selected Industry Groups

County	Goods Producing	Manuf.	Constr. & Mining	Service Providing	Trade, Trans. & Util.	Fin. Act.	Prof. & Bus. Svc.	Leisure & Hosp.
Cass	\$41,915	\$45,700	\$28,047	\$23,961	\$27,125	\$34,225	\$24,222	\$11,180
Lancaster	\$42,645	\$45,106	\$39,397	\$33,215	\$30,917	\$44,492	\$39,464	\$11,993
Otoe	\$34,175	\$35,308	\$33,075	\$23,245	\$22,207	\$31,882	\$27,367	\$12,544
Sarpy	\$42,825	\$47,494	\$40,433	\$33,129	\$28,621	\$44,736	\$32,202	\$12,298
Saunders	\$33,765	\$34,411	\$33,151	\$23,909	\$25,212	\$39,676	\$22,726	\$8,284
Nebraska	\$39,680	\$40,363	\$40,875	\$35,131	\$31,418	\$47,795	\$38,801	\$12,475

^(a) Includes employers that are subject to Nebraska Employment Security Laws.

Sources: U.S. Department of Labor, Quarterly Census of Employment & Wages <http://www.bls.gov/cew/> and
Nebraska Department of Labor, Labor Market Information www.dol.state.ne.us/lmiindustry/index.asp.

Table Four, Part B provides average annual wages, by county and by major industry sector, for the counties that make up the Plattsmouth Labor Area. As the data in Table Four indicate, the highest overall average annual wages in the area are for wage and salary workers employed in Lancaster County. The average annual wage for all

wage and salary workers (working) in Lancaster County was \$34,737 in 2009 which was \$3,671 (11.8 percent) higher than the average for the Plattsmouth Labor Area as a whole, and \$1,325 (3.7 percent) lower than the Nebraska average. A review of the industry specific data for average annual wages for Lancaster indicates that the high average annual wage results from the extremely high average wage in the construction.

Commuting Patterns

Table Five provides data from the 2008 U.S. Census, Local Employment Dynamics Program showing commuting patterns for workers living in the Plattsmouth Labor Area. Data in Table Five, Part A indicate, a significant number (and percentage) of workers in the area commuted outside of their county of residence for employment. Data for Cass County indicate that 9,777, or 77.6 percent of the employed workers, commuted to other counties for employment. For all of the other counties in the Plattsmouth Labor Area, the percentage of commuters was greater than for Cass County, and in most cases substantially greater. In the case of Saunders County, 7,376, or 74.4 percent of employed workers commuted out of their county of residence for employment. Other counties with a high percentage of employed workers commuting to other counties for employment include Sarpy (74.2 percent) and Otoe with 57.0 percent of employed workers commuting out of their county of residence for employment.

Table Five
Commuting Patterns, Plattsmouth Labor Area, 2008

Part A
Jobs Outside County of Residence, 2008

County	Working Outside County	
	Number	Percent
Cass	9,777	77.6
Lancaster	22,733	15.9
Otoe	5,003	57.0
Sarpy	54,063	74.2
Saunders	7,376	74.4

Part B
Plattsmouth and Cass County Residents
Employment by County, 2008

County Where Jobs are Located	Number of Jobs in County		Percent of All Jobs	
	Plattsmouth Residents	Cass County Residents	Plattsmouth Residents	Cass County Residents
Douglas	1,466	4,444	41.46%	35.29%
Cass	912	2,816	25.79%	22.36%
Lancaster	155	2,140	4.38%	16.99%
Sarpy	583	1,617	16.49%	12.84%
Pottawattamie (IA)	96	254	2.71%	2.02%
All Other Locations	324	1,322	9.16%	10.50%
Total Resident Jobs	3,536	12,593	100.00%	100.00%

Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census, *Local Employment Dynamics*.

Table Five, Part B provides further detail illustrating the willingness of workers in Plattsmouth and Cass County to travel for employment. In 2008, residents of Cass County worked at a total of 12,593 jobs; a resident could work at more than one job. Of these 12,593 jobs, the largest number, 4,444 or 35.29% percent, were located in Douglas County, while 2,816 or 22.36% percent were located in Cass County. Other Nebraska counties with high numbers of workers from Cass County were Lancaster (2,140 jobs), and Sarpy (1,617 jobs). Also in 2008, Cass County residents worked at a total of 254 jobs in Pottawattamie County, Iowa.

In 2008, residents of Plattsmouth worked at a total of 3,536 jobs with the largest number, 1,466 or 41.46 percent located in Douglas County. Other counties with high numbers of workers from Plattsmouth were Cass (912 jobs), Sarpy (583 jobs), Lancaster (155 jobs), and Pottawattamie (96 jobs).

Population Trends

The data provided in Table Six show population trends for the Plattsmouth Labor Area, by county, and for Nebraska for the 1950–2009 period. As these data indicate, the population of the Plattsmouth Labor Area was 432,446 in 2000. The Plattsmouth Labor Area population grew by 132.8 percent from 1950 to 2000 and grew 14.6 percent from 2000 to 2009. Population in Cass County totaled 24,334 in 2000 and had grown by 48.7 percent from 1950 to 2000. During the latest Census decade of the 1990s, the Cass County population increased by 14.1 percent, compared to the increase for the Plattsmouth Labor Area as a whole of 16.9 percent, and to the State rate of growth of 8.4 percent.

Table Six
Population in the Plattsmouth Labor Area, by County, and Nebraska
Selected Years, 1950–2009

County	1950	1960	1970	1980	1990	2000	2009	% Chg. 1950–2000	% Chg. 2000–09
Cass	16,361	17,821	18,076	20,297	21,318	24,334	25,485	48.7	4.7
Lancaster	119,742	155,272	167,972	192,884	213,641	250,291	281,531	109.0	12.5
Otoe	17,056	16,503	15,576	15,183	14,252	15,396	15,214	-9.7	-1.2
Sarpy	15,693	31,281	63,696	86,015	102,583	122,595	153,504	681.2	25.2
Saunders	16,923	17,270	17,018	18,716	18,285	19,830	20,057	17.2	1.1
Labor Area	185,775	238,147	282,338	333,095	370,079	432,446	495,791	132.8	14.6
Nebraska	1,325,510	1,411,330	1,483,493	1,569,825	1,578,385	1,711,263	1,796,619	29.1	5.0

Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census, *Census of Population, 1950-2000* and Annual Population Estimates, 2009. Numbers for 1950-2000 are April 1 Census year values, numbers for 2009 are Census estimates

Table Seven shows the age distribution of the resident population. Obviously, the age distribution of the population is important when evaluating the potential labor supply in an area. A key variable is the number of people in the working age populations of the counties making up the Plattsmouth Labor Area. In 2009, there were 13,770 people in Cass County between the ages of 25 and 64, which represented 54.0 percent of the total population, compared to 50.8 percent of the population for the Plattsmouth Labor Area as a whole and 50.5 percent of the Nebraska population in this age range.

Table Seven
Age Characteristics of the Population, Plattsmouth Labor Area,
by County, and Nebraska, 2009

County	0-14		15-24		25-44		45-64		65-Older		Median Age
	Number	% ^(a)	Number	% ^(a)	Number	% ^(a)	Number	% ^(a)	Number	% ^(a)	
Cass	5,212	20.5	3,163	12.4	6,025	23.6	7,745	30.4	3,340	13.1	40.5
Lancaster	54,772	19.5	59,416	21.1	72,344	25.7	65,228	23.2	29,771	10.6	31.0
Otoe	3,073	20.2	1,874	12.3	3,207	21.1	4,334	28.5	2,726	17.9	42.2
Sarpy	36,194	23.6	21,617	14.1	46,342	30.2	36,112	23.5	13,239	8.6	32.7
Saunders	4,070	20.3	2,613	13.0	4,353	21.7	5,988	29.9	3,033	15.1	41.5
Labor Area	103,321	20.8	88,683	17.9	132,271	26.7	119,407	24.1	52,109	10.5	32.8
Nebraska	377,233	21.0	271,201	15.1	451,666	25.1	455,889	25.4	240,630	13.4	35.8

^(a) Percent of total population for each respective area.

Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census, *Population Estimates, by Age, 2009*.

Table Eight provides information showing population, the natural increase (births minus deaths) and net migration for the 1990–1999 period for Nebraska, for Cass County and for the Plattsmouth Labor Area. As these data show, the Plattsmouth Labor Area as a whole had a small rate of net in-migration during the Census decade of the 1990s with all of the counties experiencing net in-migration. As indicated in the table, net in-migration for the Plattsmouth Labor Area as a whole accounted for population a growth of 18,367 people during the decade, contributing to a population increase equal to only 5.0 percent of the population. In the case of Cass County, net in-migration during 1990s totaled 2,455 people, or 11.5 percent of the 1990 population.

Table Eight
Population, Births, Deaths, and Migration
Nebraska and Plattsmouth Labor Area by County, 1990–1999

County	Population		1990–1999			Net Migration*, 1990–1999	
	1990	2000	Births	Deaths	Nat. Incr.	Number	% 1990 Pop.
Cass	21,318	24,841	2,918	1,850	1,068	2,455	11.5
Lancaster	213,641	237,657	29,673	14,365	15,308	8,708	4.1
Otoe	14,252	14,803	1,587	1,807	-220	771	5.4
Sarpy	102,583	122,495	18,016	4,198	13,818	6,094	5.9
Saunders	18,285	19,260	2,271	1,635	636	339	1.9
Labor Area	370,079	419,056	54,465	23,855	30,610	18,367	5.0
Nebraska	1,578,417	1,666,028	217,510	139,754	77,756	9,855	0.6

* Net Migration from the Bureau of the Census estimates, includes residual component not shown separately.

Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census, *County Population Estimates for July 1, 1999 and Population Change for April 1, 1990 to July 1, 1999*.

Table Nine provides information showing population, the natural increase (births minus deaths), and net migration for the 2000–2009 period. As these data show, the Plattsmouth Labor Area experienced significant net in-migration during this more recent nine-year period. As indicated in the table, in-migration for the Plattsmouth Labor Area as a whole accounted for population growth of 23,606 during the 2000–2009 period, contributing to a population increase equal to 5.5 percent of the 2000 population. In the case of Cass County, net in-migration during this nine-year period was 156, or 0.6 percent of the 2000 population.

Table Nine
Population, Births, Deaths, and Migration
Nebraska and Plattsmouth Labor area, by County, 2000–2009

County	Population		2000-2009			Net Migration 2000-2009*	
	2000	2009	Births	Deaths	Nat. Incr.	Number	% 2000 Pop.
Cass	24,334	25,485	2,944	1,949	995	156	0.6
Lancaster	250,291	281,531	37,359	15,823	21,536	9,704	3.9
Otoe	15,396	15,214	1,772	1,683	89	-271	-1.8
Sarpy	122,595	153,504	22,402	5,889	16,513	14,396	11.7
Saunders	19,830	20,057	2,306	1,700	606	-379	-1.9
Labor Area	432,446	495,791	66,783	27,044	39,739	23,606	5.5
Nebraska	1,711,263	1,796,619	241,832	139,626	102,206	-16,850	-1.0

* Net Migration from the Bureau of the Census estimates, includes residual component not shown separately.

Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census, *Population Estimates, 2009, and Components of Population Change, 2000-2009*.

Competitive Employment and Career Opportunities

An employer providing jobs with competitive wages and benefits and offering career opportunities would be a welcome addition to the employment base in the Plattsmouth Labor Area and in Cass County. The expected response to such employment opportunities would be significant, and it is anticipated that there would be an adequate labor supply response for a prospective new employer offering competitive wages and benefits in the Plattsmouth area. The labor force, employment, and demographic data presented in this report illustrate quite clearly that there is a sufficiently large labor force and population base living within the Plattsmouth Labor Area, and that significant numbers of persons living in the area are commuting to other areas for employment.

In conclusion, the data and analysis presented in this report indicate that the Plattsmouth Labor Area and Cass County would be able to provide a significant number of dedicated and skilled workers to meet the needs of additional employers in the area. While this report has not estimated a precise number of people that might be available to a prospective new employer in the Plattsmouth area, it is anticipated that if attractive working conditions with competitive wages and employee benefits were offered, a prospective new employer would be able to select their workforce from a substantial pool of applicants.

Questions concerning this report and the supporting data should be addressed to:

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