



# Beatrice

NEBRASKA



## COMMUNITY GUIDE



[www.beatrice.ne.gov](http://www.beatrice.ne.gov)  
[www.ngagegroup.org](http://www.ngagegroup.org)  
[www.beatricechamber.com](http://www.beatricechamber.com)  
[www.mainstreetbeatrice.org](http://www.mainstreetbeatrice.org)

The following pages contain basic information about Beatrice, Nebraska. This information was compiled by NGage - Gage Area Growth Enterprise, Beatrice Area Chamber of Commerce, City of Beatrice, Beatrice Community Hospital, and Nebraska Public Power District in order to promote community development and quality of life.

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Cover photo:  
 Homestead National  
 Monument of America

# ABOUT Beatrice NEBRASKA

*Opportunity lives in Beatrice! Come Stake Your Claim here as the homesteaders once did. Beatrice is an ideal size city, large enough to have big city amenities and access to resources, yet small enough to have a small town friendly feel. Beatrice is on the move with a pro-business climate and has strong community bonds with collaborative business and community development organizations working positively for a great future.*

*Beatrice Public Schools strives to be among the best in the nation. Overall, students do better, and in many instances significantly better than the state average on State Assessments. In addition to four public school elementary facilities, there are two parochial elementary school programs. One of three Southeast Community College (SCC) campuses is located in Beatrice. The Beatrice campus boasts inter-collegiate athletics, academic transfer courses, agriculture, business, and nursing programs. SCC works with the local high schools in a career academy program and offers customized training services to businesses and industries in the area.*

*Health care and senior living amenities are outstanding in Beatrice. Beatrice Community Hospital employs over 500 at its state-of-the-art facility on the north edge of town. After just three years in the new facility, the hospital has completed a \$7.2 million expansion to accomodate its women's, pediatric, and infusion health care services.*

*Beatrice, the county seat of Gage County, Nebraska, is the home of the Homestead National Monument of America, attracting an average of 70,000 visitors annually. There are many community attractions and amenities including beautiful parks, such as Veteran's Memorial Park and Chautauqua Park.*

*Thank you for reading and learning more about Beatrice in this guide. We invite you to Stake Your Claim to oportunities as a visitor, resident, professional, employee, or business owner in Beatrice. You are welcomed here anytime!*

### 2014 U.S. Census Population

Beatrice	12,055
Gage County	21,663

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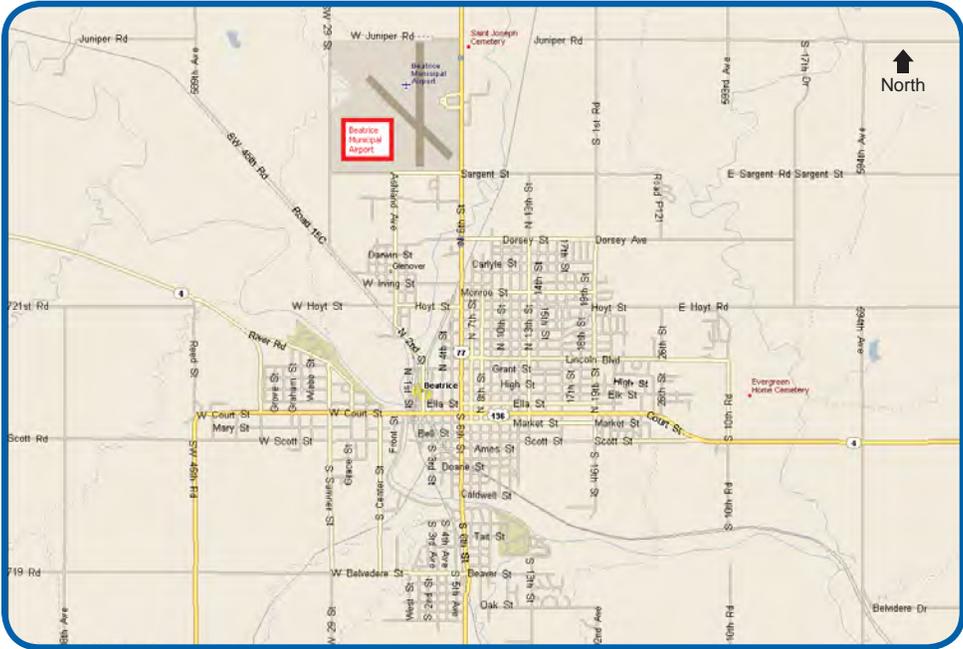
# Geography

## Location

Beatrice, the county seat of Gage County, is located in southeast Nebraska at the intersection of State Highway 4 and U.S. Highways 77 and 136. Beatrice is 42 miles south of Lincoln, 99 miles southwest of Omaha, and 182 miles northwest of Kansas City, Missouri.

## Elevation

Beatrice is 1,286 feet above sea level.



# Economic Development

Firms with retail sales tax permits in Beatrice reported 2015 net taxable retail sales of \$177,895,821, while Gage County reported retail sales of \$199,964,153.

## Economic Development Organizations

Gage Area Growth Enterprise (NGage) is a non-profit membership organization serving Beatrice and all of Gage County with economic development assistance.

The organization works to create opportunities for businesses to start, grow, or move to Gage County, Nebraska, while also increasing economic opportunities for individuals and families through good jobs with positive workforce skills. Target industries in the area are advanced manufacturing, logistics/distribution, agriculture/agri-business industry, and health care related businesses. With the assistance of NGage, the City of Beatrice was recertified as a Nebraska Economic Development Certified Community in early 2015. NGage is a member of the Lincoln Area Development Partnership.

Currently, 70 acres are available in the Gage County Industrial Park in Beatrice for industrial development. Other available sites and building information can be found at the NGage website: [www.ngagegroup.org](http://www.ngagegroup.org).



*Carnegie Building  
Housing - Gage County Tourism,  
Beatrice Area Chamber of Commerce, and  
NGage Economic Development*



*Neapco*



*Exmark*



*Koch Nitrogen Co.*



*Accuma*

### Beatrice's Top Ten Manufacturing Employers

	<i>Employees</i>
<b>Neapco</b> .....	350
<i>Driveline components, automotive universal joints, constant velocity (cv) joints, assembled drivelines for agricultural &amp; recreational vehicles</i>	
<b>Exmark</b> .....	340
<i>Commercial turf equipment &amp; turf care accessories</i>	
<b>Koch Nitrogen Co.</b> .....	80
<i>Bulk producers of anhydrous ammonia, liquid carbon dioxide &amp; UAN liquid nitrogen</i>	
<b>Accuma</b> .....	62
<i>Battery casings</i>	
<b>Duonix-Beatrice</b> .....	50
<i>Biodiesel</i>	
<b>Beatrice Concrete</b> .....	49
<i>Concrete products &amp; service</i>	
<b>Ratigan-Schottler Manufacturing</b> .....	48
<i>Oak &amp; church finishing products/church fixtures, courtroom furnishings</i>	
<b>Continental Carbonic Products, Inc.</b> .....	47
<i>Dry ice</i>	
<b>Beatrice Bakery Co.</b> .....	31
<i>Gourmet dessert cakes &amp; fruit cakes</i>	
<b>Precise Fabrication</b> .....	25
<i>Sheet metal fabrication</i>	

### Beatrice's Top Ten Nonmanufacturing Employers

	<i>Employees</i>
<b>Beatrice State Developmental Center</b> .....	710
<i>Residential and vocational support for individuals with intellectual disabilities</i>	
<b>Beatrice Community Hospital</b> .....	515
<i>Medical</i>	
<b>Beatrice Public Schools</b> .....	273
<i>Education</i>	
<b>Mosaic</b> .....	270
<i>Residential and vocational support for individuals with intellectual disabilities</i>	
<b>Wal-Mart Super Center</b> .....	183
<i>Retail</i>	
<b>Southeast Community College</b> .....	135
<i>Education</i>	
<b>City of Beatrice</b> .....	130
<i>Government</i>	
<b>Good Samaritan Society</b> .....	121
<i>Nursing home &amp; assisted living</i>	
<b>Farmer's Cooperative</b> .....	111
<i>Agriculture products &amp; service</i>	
<b>Beatrice Health and Rehab</b> .....	95
<i>Rehabilitation center &amp; nursing home</i>	



Beatrice Concrete



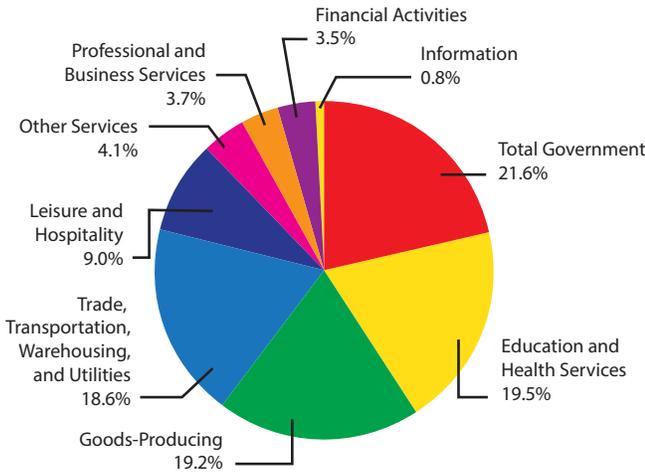
Ratigan-Schottler Manufacturing



Continental Carbonic Products, Inc.



### Nonfarm Wage & Salary Employment, Gage County, 2014 Annual Average



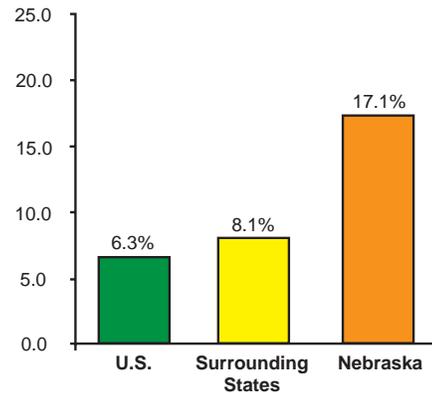
Source: Nebraska Department of Labor

### Unemployment Rate Annual Average 2014

Gage County	4.2%
Nebraska	3.3%
United States	6.2%

Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics

### 2008-2013 Percent Change Value Added Per Dollar Manufacturing Production Worker Wages Nebraska, Surrounding States & U.S.



Surrounding states include data for states contiguous to Nebraska as a group, including Colorado, Iowa, Kansas, Missouri, South Dakota, and Wyoming.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, [www.census.gov](http://www.census.gov)

### Gage County Labor Supply Annual Average 2014

	Gage & Contiguous Counties*	Gage County
Non-farm wage and salary workers.....	206,858	9,356
Total employment.....	198,960	10,681
Labor force population .....	205,254	11,149

#### ADDITIONAL POTENTIAL LABOR SUPPLY

County high school graduates annually.....	240
Commuting out of county (2013).....	5,083
Unemployed.....	469
<b>Total.....</b>	<b>5,792</b>

NOTE: Does not include estimated number of homemakers, seasonal and part-time workers, and workers who would shift from low-paying jobs who could be expected to work for industry.

\*Contiguous counties include Jefferson, Johnson, Lancaster, Otoe, Pawnee, and Saline Counties in Nebraska.

## Unionization

Nebraska has a right to work provision in its constitution. In 2012, 6.0 percent of Nebraska's wage and salary workers were members of labor unions compared to a national figure of 11.3 percent.

### Local Labor Unions

Agrium U.S., Inc. -  
International Chemical Workers

Beatrice Public Schools -  
Nebraska State Education Association  
Beatrice Education Association

Beatrice State Development Center -  
American Federation of State,  
County & Municipal Employees  
Nebraska Association of Public Employees

Blacks Hills Energy -  
International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers

City of Beatrice / Board of Public Works -  
International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers  
International Association of Fire Fighters  
Federation of Police Officers

Norris Public Power District -  
International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers

Southeast Community College -  
Nebraska State Education Association

State of Nebraska -  
American Federation of State and County  
Municipal Employees

Windstream Communications -  
Communications Workers of America

## Fringe Benefits

Local industries estimate fringe benefits to be 15 percent of wages.



Beatrice State Developmental Center



Duonix-Beatrice



Mosaic



J & J Wire, Inc.



Beatrice Bakery Co.



Midwest Livestock



Precise Fabrication



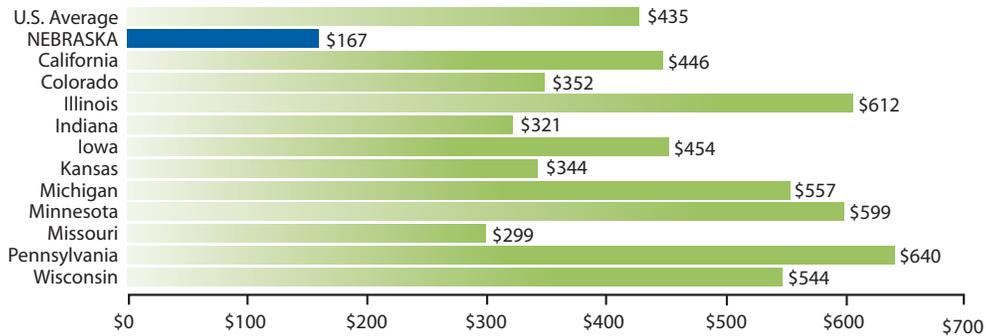
Titan IBC

### Average Hourly Earnings for Production Workers, 2014



Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics ([www.bls.gov](http://www.bls.gov))

### Average Annual Unemployment Insurance Contribution Per Covered Employee, 2013



Source: Values calculated by Ken Lemke, Nebraska Public Power District, from U.S. Department of Labor, Employment and Training Administration. Average Employer Contribution Rates by State, 2014. <http://workforcesecurity.doleta.gov>

### Wage Sampling: Hourly wage rates for various occupations, Southeast Region, Nebraska

Standard Occupational Code Title	10th Percentile	50th Percentile	90th Percentile
Accountants and Auditors	18.11	25.08	47.42
Computer Programmers	11.24	26.61	37.43
Registered Nurses	20.01	26.22	35.27
Retail Salespersons	8.14	9.82	18.73
Secretaries and Administrative Assistants, Except Legal, Medical	10.62	14.68	19.05
Customer Service Representatives	9.29	13.70	18.40
Office Clerks, General	8.28	11.21	16.73
Assemblers and Fabricators, All Other*	9.92	15.37	19.47
Laborers and Freight, Stock, and Material Movers, Hand	8.81	12.33	19.12
Machinists	12.47	18.92	23.56
Welders, Cutters, Solderers, and Brazers	12.05	15.36	22.44
Welding, Soldering, and Brazing Machine Setters*	11.68	17.31	22.73
Heavy and Tractor-Trailer Truck Drivers	13.04	20.01	29.52
Cutting, Punching, and Press Machine Setters/Operators	13.21	16.46	18.93
Electricians	12.03	19.40	29.45
Tool and Die Makers	16.76	25.19	29.71

\*Wage information taken from Nebraska Statewide  
Source: Nebraska Workforce Development, Occupational Employment Statistics Program, Third Quarter 2015

## Workforce

The Nebraska Department of Labor serves employers and job seekers across Nebraska through its “One-Stop Career Centers” located across the state. Services for employers include employee recruitment and screening, posting job openings, tax credit information, and labor market and labor law information. Job

seekers can find a full array of employment and training related services including on-site services provided by a network of mandatory Workforce Investment Act partners. A One-Stop Career Center is located at Southeast Community College in Beatrice.

To learn more about these and other services, visit [networks.nebraska.gov](http://networks.nebraska.gov).

# Market Access

## Highways

U.S. Highway 77 (north-south) and U.S. Highway 136 (east-west) intersect in Beatrice. Nebraska Highway 4 (east-west) also passes through the community. Beatrice has a truck route with weight limits through the community. Four-lane U.S. Highway 77 expressway connects to Interstate 80 and Lincoln, 42 miles north of Beatrice. U.S. Highway 136 connects to Interstate 29, 62 miles east of Beatrice.

## Trucklines

More than 13,500 licensed motor carriers with worldwide connections are based in Nebraska and serve businesses throughout North America.

Local trucking companies include Buhr, Busboom Trucking, Chicoda Carriers Inc., Clarke Transportation, Duis Commodities, E & A Transportation, Eagle Transportation Corporation, Eclipse Transervices Corporation, Fossler Trucking, Fritzen Trucking Inc., Harms Livestock Transportation Logistics Inc., Knabe, Koch, Levi J Engelman Transport, LT & J Trucking, Schoneweis Trucking, and Wiese Trucking LLC.

The following trucking map is based on Lincoln, Nebraska, 42 miles north of Beatrice.



Source: Nebraska Department of Economic Development. Legal Trucking Distances from Lincoln, Nebraska [maps]. 2016. 1:26,000,000; generated by Melissa Trueblood; using ESRI Business Analyst Desktop 10.2.1 Software and Data.

## Bus Lines

Greyhound Bus Lines serve Lincoln, 42 miles north of Beatrice.

## Rail

The BNSF Railway Company serves Beatrice with approximately one freight train daily. Switching is completed by train crews daily. For further information regarding BNSF Railway Company, visit [www.bnsf.com](http://www.bnsf.com).



Amtrak provides Lincoln, 42 miles north of Beatrice, with rail passenger service throughout the United States. Additional Nebraska Amtrak stations are located in Hastings, Holdrege, McCook, and Omaha. For more information, visit [www.amtrak.com](http://www.amtrak.com).

## Air

The Beatrice Municipal Airport is located in the northern city limits. The airport features two lighted, hard-surfaced runways—5,600-foot asphalt/concrete runway and 4,400-foot asphalt runway. Beatrice Airport provides a vital link to the community and the surrounding area. The airport is adequate to accommodate almost all single, turbo prop and business jets. Courtesy cars are available. The elevation at the airport is 1,324 feet, the latitude is 40-18-04N, and the longitude is 096-45-14W.

**Nearest Commercial Air Service**

<b>Lincoln Airport</b>	
Lincoln, NE .....	44 miles, 47 minutes
<b>Eppley Airport</b>	
Omaha, NE .....	102 miles, 102 minutes
<b>Kansas City International Airport</b>	
Kansas City, MO .....	167 miles, 166 minutes



*Beatrice Municipal Airport*



*YMCA*



*Holiday Inn Express & Suites*



*Diamond T*

# Infrastructure

## Nebraska Highlights

Energy costs are often a considerable part of any business' operational budget. These costs can vary greatly between states, but in Nebraska (the only state in the nation where all electric utilities are publicly owned) electric costs are passed to consumers at low, cost-of-service rates. As a result, the state claims industrial rates well below the national average. Nebraska electric utilities are able to offer low rates, in part, because they draw from a balanced and efficient "mix" of generation resources. This mix includes coal, natural gas, oil, diesel, and methane along with carbon-free generation, like nuclear power, wind power, and hydropower.

Nebraska Public Power District (NPPD) is the state's largest electric generating utility in terms of chartered territory, which includes all or parts of 86 of Nebraska's 93 counties. NPPD relies upon nine major generating facilities, more than 5,000 miles of high-voltage power lines, approximately 260 substations, and thousands more miles of distribution lines. Because the system is interconnected to electrical grids in other states, NPPD works with regional utilities and industry entities to ensure power is delivered safely and dependably to Nebraskans.

NPPD is the state's leader in generating electricity with renewable resources. NPPD owns and operates three hydropower facilities and a 36-turbine, 60-megawatt wind energy facility. NPPD has invested millions in the state's development of wind power during the past 13 years. Knowing that it would be more economical for ratepayers, NPPD recently signed 20-year, multi-million-dollar agreements with private wind developers to purchase power generated from community-based, wind-powered generation facilities. In addition, NPPD continues to explore other opportunities to add more wind power to its generation portfolio in the next ten years.

With a proven not-for-profit power system, strong infrastructure, a commitment to renewable energy, and a plan for meeting customers' needs well into the future, Nebraska's public power utilities help make Nebraska an excellent location for industries.

Natural gas in Nebraska is also attractive to industry for service, supply, and price. A gas-producing state, Nebraska is close and well-connected by pipeline to the major gas fields of the central and southern plains. The state's average cost of industrial gas is less than both the regional and national averages.

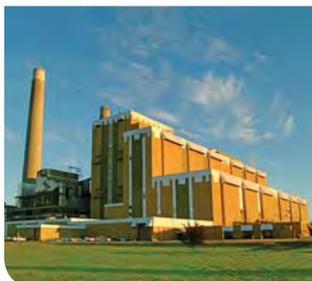
The pipelines of two major companies, Northern Natural Gas and Kinder Morgan, provide an ample supply of natural gas to most areas of Nebraska. Depending on usage requirements, natural gas is offered both on a "firm" and "interruptible" basis.



Beatrice Power Station



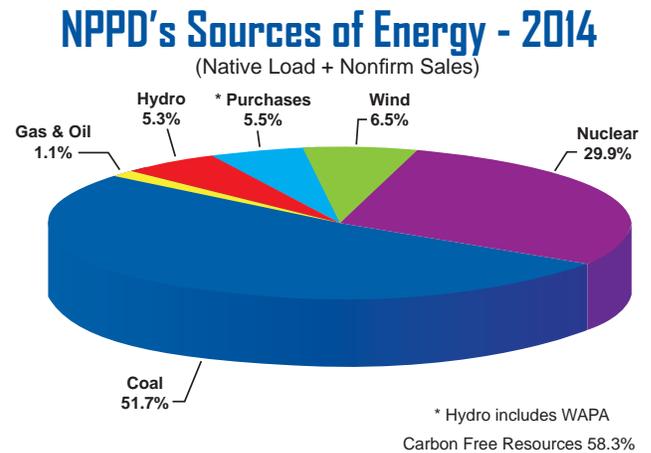
Cooper Nuclear Station



Gerald Gentleman Station



Ainsworth Wind Facility



**Nebraska's Energy Costs Are Among The Lowest In The Nation**

	Electric <i>(Cents per Kilowatt Hour)</i>			Natural Gas <i>(Dollars per Thousand Cubic Feet)</i>		
	<i>Residential</i>	<i>Commercial</i>	<i>Industrial</i>	<i>Residential</i>	<i>Commercial</i>	<i>Industrial</i>
U.S. Average	12.50	10.75	7.01	10.97	8.90	5.55
<b>NEBRASKA</b>	<b>10.40</b>	<b>8.73</b>	<b>7.47</b>	<b>8.77</b>	<b>7.27</b>	<b>5.69</b>
California	16.25	15.62	12.34	11.51	9.05	7.65
Colorado	12.18	10.08	7.47	8.89	8.15	6.84
Illinois	11.91	9.26	6.85	9.59	8.86	7.75
Indiana	11.46	9.96	6.97	9.02	8.19	7.45
Iowa	11.16	8.67	5.71	10.02	8.15	7.40
Kansas	12.17	10.13	7.80	10.59	9.53	5.70
Massachusetts	17.39	14.68	12.74	14.50	12.48	11.53
Michigan	14.46	10.87	7.68	9.33	8.28	7.84
Minnesota	12.01	9.85	6.72	9.89	8.66	6.57
Missouri	10.64	8.90	6.36	10.83	8.96	8.00
New Jersey	15.78	13.15	11.38	9.69	10.08	10.45
New York	20.07	16.12	6.58	12.54	8.31	8.13
Ohio	12.50	9.83	6.77	10.16	7.82	7.06
Pennsylvania	13.32	9.73	7.41	11.77	10.13	9.95
Texas	11.86	8.16	6.16	11.16	8.26	4.71
Wisconsin	13.67	10.77	7.52	10.52	8.74	8.08

Source: U.S. Energy Information Administration, 2014 Annual

**Beatrice Board of Public Works**

The Beatrice Board of Public Works (BPW) is a wholesale customer of Nebraska Public Power District (NPPD). BPW maintains and constructs its own transmission and distribution system in their service territory. In addition, Beatrice sets its own electrical rates to recover the costs it incurs to deliver electricity to customers.

BPW retails power purchased from NPPD to the citizens of Beatrice. Four incoming lines from NPPD, at current line size from NPPD, can handle loads up to 68 MW. Ten distribution substations are capable of handling loads up to 77.5 MW. The distribution voltages are 2400/4160 kV or 7200/12,470 kV, depending on location in the city. Since higher voltages are more efficient and have less line losses, the Board of Public Works has a long-range program with a target of converting all 2400/4160 kV lines to 7200/12,470 kV. The BPW, with an excellent reliability rating, has worked on this program for several years.

The Beatrice Power Station, owned by NPPD, is a combined-cycle, natural gas-fired power plant in

Beatrice that began operation in 2005. The power plant acts as a hedge against an unforeseen extended outage occurring at one of NPPD's other major power plants, helps to meet future electric load growth in NPPD's native service area, and gives NPPD's electric power generation added fuel diversity.

**Base Electric Rates** *(effective 1/1/16)*

**Summer bills** run from June 15–October 15

**Winter bills** run from October 16–June 14

All rates are subject to application of a Production Cost Adjustment.

Residential Service		
<b>Customer Charge:</b>	\$10.00 per month	
<b>Summer</b>	<b>Winter</b>	per kWh for the first 550 kWh
\$0.1028	\$0.1008	
\$0.1028	\$0.0727	per kWh for all additional use

### Residential Space Heating

<b>Customer Charge:</b>	\$10.00 per month	
<b>Summer</b>	<b>Winter</b>	
\$0.1028	\$0.1028	per kWh for the first 550 kWh
\$0.1028	\$0.0500	per kWh for all additional use

### General Service

<b>Customer Charge:</b>	\$18.00 per month	
<b>Summer</b>	<b>Winter</b>	
\$0.1143	\$0.1143	per kWh for the first 1,200 kWh
\$0.1143	\$0.0834	per kWh for all additional use
<b>Electric Heat Winter Rate:</b>		
—	\$0.0533	per kWh

### General Service Demand (for customers using less than 500 kW)

<b>Customer Charge:</b>	\$50.00 per month	
<b>Demand Charge:</b>		
<b>Summer</b>	<b>Winter</b>	
\$17.38	\$14.25	per kW of billing demand
<b>Energy Charge:</b>		
<b>Summer</b>	<b>Winter</b>	
\$0.0398	\$0.0367	per kWh

### Large Light and Power (for customers using more than 500 kW)

<b>Customer Charge:</b>	\$75.00 per month	
<b>Demand Charge:</b>		
<b>Summer</b>	<b>Winter</b>	
\$18.74	\$14.25	per kW of billing demand
<b>Energy Charge:</b>		
<b>Summer</b>	<b>Winter</b>	
\$0.0374	\$0.0351	per kWh

Prospective customers should contact Tobias Tempelmeyer, General Manager, Beatrice Board of Public Works, (402) 228-5211, or visit the city's website at [www.beatrice.ne.gov](http://www.beatrice.ne.gov) for further information regarding electric rates and service.

Norris Public Power District, a wholesale power customer of Nebraska Public Power District, serves

the rural area surrounding Beatrice. For information regarding electrical services in the Norris Public Power District area, contact Bruce Vitosh, general manager Beatrice, (402) 223-4038, [www.norrisppd.com](http://www.norrisppd.com).



Norris Public Power District

## Natural Gas

Black Hills Energy, a subsidiary of Blacks Hills Corp. serves 200,000 natural gas customers in 106 eastern Nebraska communities. Black Hills Energy Nebraska headquarters is located in Lincoln.

Black Hills Energy is the distributor of natural gas in Beatrice. The transmission provider is Northern Natural Gas. Natural Gas in Beatrice is provided by a 6-inch line with 70 pounds per square inch (PSI), with an average value of 1,000 Btu per cubic foot, and is available for residential, commercial, and industrial customers for base and peak use on a firm basis. Interruptible service is available for customers with alternate fuel capability. Annual curtailment of interruptible customers varies with the type of service selected by the customer.

Rates vary slightly due to seasonal and commodity price fluctuation. Current rates for the commercial/light industrial class customer, as well as one year's history for Nebraska Area 3, can be found on Black Hill's website at [www.blackhillsenergy.com](http://www.blackhillsenergy.com).

Contact the Economic Development Department of Black Hills Energy at (800) 232-1850 for information regarding gas rates and service.

## Other Fuels

### LP Gas

LP gas is available in Beatrice for residential, commercial, and industrial uses from Farmers Union Co-op Supply and Sanford Oil Company.

### Oil

Oil is available in Beatrice for residential, commercial, and industrial uses from Jurgens, Inc.; Farmers Union Co-op Supply; and Sanford Oil Company.

## Water

The municipal water system in Beatrice is supplied by 12 wells, which have an average depth of 100–225 feet. The system, serving the entire city, has a combined pumping capacity of 7,000 gallons per minute and an overhead storage capacity of 1,500,000 gallons and an underground storage capacity of 8,000,000 gallons. The average daily demand is 2,220,000 gallons, and the historic peak daily demand is 6,700,000 gallons. The system has a maximum capacity of 19,580,000 gallons per day. The static pressure is 60 pounds per square inch and the residual pressure is 50 pounds per square inch.

The city’s wells produce up to 8,000,000 gallons of water per minute. The water table has not changed significantly in the past 25 years. The quality of water in Beatrice does not necessitate a water treatment plant. The Beatrice Board of Public Works maintains and constructs the water distribution system.

### Water Rates (effective 10/1/16)

A new service tapping fee of \$1,350 is charged for a 1" tap.

Water Rates	
<b>Usage Fee:</b> \$2.10 per 1,000 gallons of water	
Meter Size	Monthly Service Charge
5/8" or 3/4"	\$12.25
1"	\$15.45
1¼" or 1½"	\$20.70
2"	\$28.65
3" or larger	\$50.75



Water Tower in Astro Park

## Sewerage

Beatrice has a trickling filter/rotating biological contactor (RBC) municipal sanitary sewerage system built in 1983. The biological treatment plant added a trickling filter in 2000 and a new UV system was added in 2011. The system has a daily capacity of 3.9 million gallons and an average daily flow of 1.5 million gallons. The Beatrice Board of Public Works maintains and constructs the sewer distribution system.

### Sewer-Use Charges (effective 10/1/16)

A \$9.50 sewer connection fee and a \$12.00 new service tapping fee is charged for residential, commercial, and industrial customers.

Residential Rates	
<b>Minimum Charge:</b>	\$11.50 per month
<b>Usage Fee:</b>	\$2.25 per month per 1,000 gallons
<b>Infrastructure Improvement Charge:</b>	\$5.00 per month

Commercial Rates	
<b>Minimum Charge:</b>	\$11.50 per month
<b>Usage Fee:</b>	\$2.25 per month per 1,000 gallons
<b>Infrastructure Improvement Charge:</b>	\$6.00 per month

Permitted Users Rates	
<b>Minimum Charge:</b>	\$125.00 per month
<b>Usage Fee:</b>	\$2.42 per month per 1,000 gallons
<b>Infrastructure Improvement Charge:</b>	\$7.00 per month

## Solid Waste Disposal

Privately owned waste removal services are available in Beatrice. Wastes are hauled to the Beatrice Area Solid Waste Agency landfill two miles outside of Beatrice.

## Recycling

Curbside recycling and a recycling center are available in Beatrice. Items accepted include: steel (tin), bimetal cans, aluminum, plastics 1 through 7, newspaper, glass, fluorescent bulbs, batteries, paint, and yard waste.

# Communications

Nebraska is the first state to be served totally by digital switching, and continues to be served by one of the nation's most advanced telecommunications networks.

## Telecommunications & Internet

### Service Providers

- Windstream** - Internet, Phone, TV, Security Packs
- Charter Communications** - TV, Internet, Phone
- Verizon Wireless** - Cell Phone, Internet
- U.S. Cellular** - Cell Phone, Internet
- Select Wireless** - Cell Phone, Internet
- Diode Communications** - Internet
- Internet Nebraska** - Internet

## Post Office

The U.S. Postal Service in Beatrice provides house-to-house delivery service and has one mail receipt and two dispatches daily.



*U.S. Post Office*

## Package Delivery Service

Federal Express, United Parcel Service, and the U.S. Postal Service provide package delivery services in the Beatrice area.

## Newspaper

The Beatrice Daily Sun, the local daily newspaper, has 5,000 subscribers. Other newspapers delivered locally are The Voice, Lincoln Journal Star, Omaha World-Herald, and Wymore Arbor State.

## Radio

### Stations Carrying Local News

Call Letters	Frequency	Location
KWBE-AM*	1450 KHz	Beatrice, NE
KUTT-FM*	99.5 MHz	Fairbury, NE
KLIN-AM	1400 KHz	Lincoln, NE
KFOR-AM	1240 KHz	Lincoln, NE

\*News Channel Nebraska

## Television

### Stations Carrying Local News

Call Letters	Channel	Location
KWBE*	21	Beatrice, NE
KLKN	8	Lincoln, NE
KOLN/KGIN	10/11	Lincoln/ Grand Island, NE
KUON	12	Lincoln, NE
KSNB	4	Superior, NE
KMTV	3	Omaha, NE
WOWT	6	Omaha, NE
KETV	7	Omaha, NE
WIBW	13	Topeka, KS

\*News Channel Nebraska



*Beatrice Daily Sun*

# Tax Structure

## Nebraska Highlights

- Nebraska assesses income tax based upon the amount of federal taxable income
- No state property tax
- No inventory tax
- No personal property tax on intangibles
- No sales tax on:
  - raw materials when used as ingredients or component parts in manufacturing operations
  - sales of energy for processing or manufacturing purposes
  - water used exclusively in manufacturing and processing
  - qualified agricultural machinery and equipment
  - manufacturing machinery, equipment, and related services
- Sales and use tax refunds are available on qualifying air and water pollution control equipment
- Sales and use tax refunds are available on property qualifying for certain investment incentives

The Nebraska State Government is financed by an individual income tax, corporate income tax, 5.5 percent sales and use tax, corporate occupation tax, and selective excise taxes (liquor, tobacco, motor fuels, etc.). Local governments are financed primarily by property taxes, although some cities and counties collect a local option sales tax of between 0.5 and 2.0 percent.

Property taxes are levied against real and personal property by local political subdivisions such as

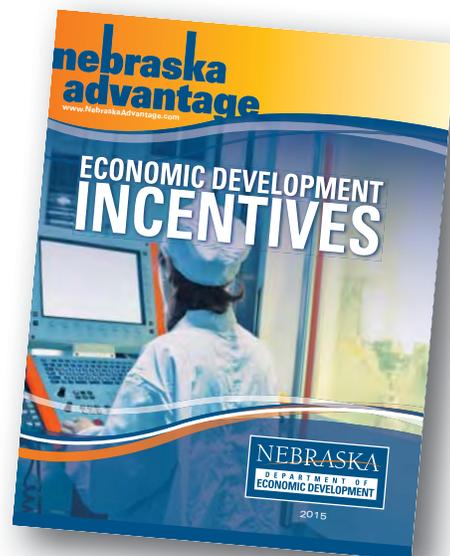
counties, cities, school districts, fire districts, etc., to provide for local services. All real property except agricultural land is assessed at actual or market value. Agricultural land is assessed at 75 percent of actual value. Personal property is assessed at net book value. Tax rates are expressed in dollars and cents for each \$100 of actual value.

Market value is determined by each county assessor through professionally accepted mass appraisal methods, which include, but are not limited to:

- Comparison with sales of real property of known or recognized value, taking into account location, zoning, current functional use, and other statutory guidelines (sales comparison approach)
- Earning capacity of the real property (income approach)
- Cost less depreciation (cost approach)

## Nebraska Tax Incentives

Nebraska's performance-based tax incentive programs demonstrate the state's commitment to creating a favorable business environment for your business expansion or location. Known collectively as the "Nebraska Advantage Package," this multi-tiered program provides investment credits, wage credits, sales tax refunds based on investment and job creation in Nebraska. Qualified companies, large and small can take advantage of these benefits. For more information on the qualifications and potential benefits available to your company, contact the Nebraska Department of Economic Development, (800) 426-6505 or visit [www.neded.org](http://www.neded.org).



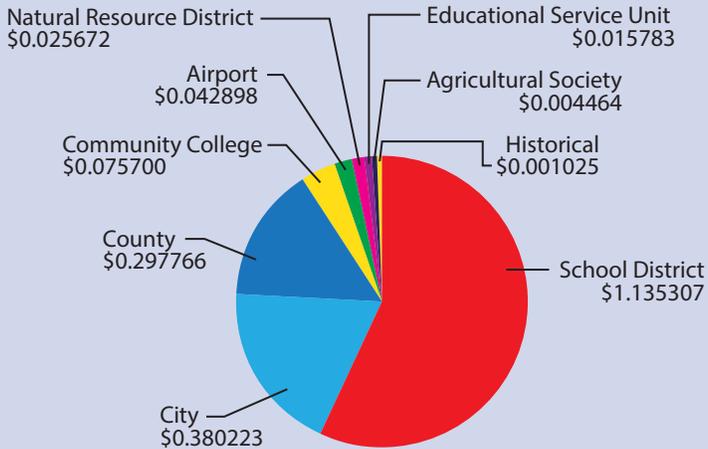
### 2015 Actual Valuation Beatrice, Nebraska

- Personal Property  
\$24,054,950
- Special  
(Railroad & Utilities)  
\$8,657,631



**Total: \$593,528,971**

### Beatrice 2015 Tax Rates



**Total: \$1.978838** (dollars and cents per \$100 of actual value)

### Local Bonded Indebtedness

As of 9/30/2015:

City Revenue Bonds	\$4,460,000
City General Obligation Bonds	\$190,000



Gage County Courthouse

# Local Government

Beatrice, a first-class city, has a mayor-council form of government with a city administrator. The mayor and council members are elected to serve four-year terms and the city administrator is appointed. The 2015–16 actual budget is \$44,454,032.

Gage County has 24 townships and is governed by a seven-member Board of Supervisors, who are elected by popular vote for four-year terms. The actual county budget for 2015–16 is \$27,187,203.

## Fire Protection

Fire and rescue protection is provided in the community by 23 full-time firefighters of which 12 are paramedics; the rest are certified emergency medical technicians (EMTs). In addition, there are 6 volunteer EMTs and 2 volunteer paramedics. The department provides mutual aid to Gage and Jefferson Counties.

Beatrice has one fire station and 705 fire hydrants. The fire insurance classification inside the corporate limits is 3; outside it is 9. Annual expenditures for fire protection for the past three years averaged \$2,608,451.

2014 Crime Rates (per 1,000 population)		
	<i>Violent Crimes</i>	<i>Property Crimes</i>
Gage County	5.7	23.8
Nebraska	2.5	24.7
U.S Total	3.7	26.0

Source: [www.nebraska.gov](http://www.nebraska.gov)

## Law Enforcement

The Beatrice Police Department employs 21 full-time police officers and 10 support staff. In addition to standard equipment, officers are equipped with body cameras along with a camera and computer system in each car, which connects them to each other and dispatch. The city has an automatic vehicle locator system and emergency notification system for the entire county. Regular patrol is provided to existing industries in the area. Annual expenditures for police protection for the last three years averaged \$2,521,264.



*City of Beatrice*



*Beatrice Police Station*



*Beatrice Fire Station*

## Sheriff

The Gage County Sheriff's Department has 14 full-time and 4 part-time officers and 12 full-time and 4 part-time support personnel. Equipment in the department includes SWAT unit, mobile speed trail, and UTV. Regular patrol is provided by the sheriff's department.



*Gage County Sheriff's Department*

## State Patrol

The Nebraska State Patrol is headquartered in Lincoln, 42 miles north of Beatrice. Two patrol officers are stationed in Beatrice.

## Streets

Beatrice has 115 miles of streets; 63 miles are hard-surfaced with concrete, 34 miles are hard-surfaced with asphalt, and 1 mile is hard-surfaced with brick. The remaining 17 miles of streets are gravel. Twenty-five percent of the streets have curbs and sidewalks. There are no local load restrictions.

## Building Regulations

The International Building Codes, 2006 Edition, are enforced in Beatrice.

## Planning

Beatrice has a ten-member planning commission. Members are appointed by the Mayor and approved by the City Council to serve four-year terms.

The Comprehensive Plan for Beatrice was prepared in March 2006 by Olsson Associates of Lincoln, Nebraska.



*Holiday Parade*

# Education

## Beatrice Public Schools

Public Schools	Students	Teacher/Pupil Ratio	Computer/Pupil Ratio
Elementary (K–5)	857	1:14	1:2
Middle School (6–8)	477	1:12	1:2
High School (9–12)	663	1:15	1:3

School District No. 340015 in Gage County covers 158 square miles and has a 2015–16 actual valuation of \$1,124,778,850, with an actual valuation per student of \$563,243. This Class III school is accredited by the Nebraska Department of Education and North Central Association.

The 2015–16 school operating expenses totaled \$22,504,590, with an average cost per pupil of \$11,269.

Report Card 2014–2015	
ACT Test	Composite
District No. 340015	22.1
Nebraska	21.7
National	21.0
Source: Nebraska Department of Education	



*Cedar Elementary School*



*Paddock Lane Elementary School*



*Lincoln Elementary School*



*Stoddard Elementary School*



*Beatrice Middle School*



*Beatrice High School*



*Beatrice Public Schools Administration Building*

Parochial Schools	Students	Teacher/Pupil Ratio	Computer/Pupil Ratio
St. Joseph Catholic (Pre-K-5)	88	1:8	1:3
St. Paul's Lutheran (Pre-K-5)	141	1:14	1:4



*St. Joseph Catholic Elementary School*



*St. Paul's Lutheran Elementary School*

## Educational Service Unit

Educational Service Unit 5 (ESU), headquartered in Beatrice, serves three counties including Gage County. Services are offered in the areas of School Improvement & Staff Development, Special Education & Early Childhood Development, Interactive & Web-based Distance Learning, Behavior Management, Alternative High School, Media Services, Curriculum & Instruction, and Leadership Training.

## Compass Alternative School

Compass Learning Community provides students with a rigorous, standards-based curriculum, as well as a structure and environment that balances individualized, student-directed learning and teacher-led, small group instruction.

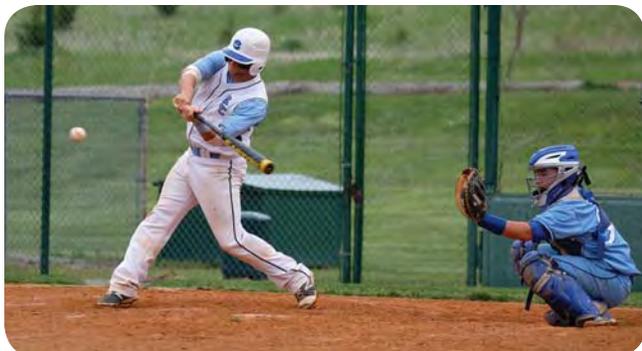
## Higher Education

An abundance of public colleges and universities are available in Nebraska. There are also a number of community colleges as well as private colleges and trade schools. A large number of degree programs are available and some institutions offer courses and workshops specially tailored to meet specific training needs of industry, education, and business.

Several of Nebraska's universities are ranked as national leaders at making quality education affordable.

### Colleges & Universities Frequently Attended by Beatrice High School Graduates

	Miles
<b>Beatrice, NE</b> Southeast Community College, Beatrice Campus	--
<b>Crete, NE</b> Doane College	35
<b>Lincoln, NE</b> University of Nebraska-Lincoln Southeast Community College, Lincoln Campus Nebraska Wesleyan University	42
<b>Milford, NE</b> Southeast Community College, Milford Campus	60
<b>Peru, NE</b> Peru State College	64
<b>Omaha, NE</b> University of Nebraska at Omaha	99
<b>Maryville, MO</b> Northwest Missouri State	111
<b>Wayne, NE</b> Wayne State College	159
<b>Kearney, NE</b> University of Nebraska at Kearney	168



Southeast Community College - Beatrice Campus

# Quality of Life

## Health Care

### Hospital

The **Beatrice Community Hospital and Health Center**, built in 2012, is licensed for 25 acute care beds.

This private, nonprofit hospital offers a full range of primary care services. Services available include: cardiac rehab, cardiopulmonary, diabetes education, diagnostic imaging, emergency department, home care, hospice, infusion center, labor and delivery, laboratory, nutritional services, occupational therapy, pharmacy, physical therapy, specialty clinics, speech therapy, sleep lab, surgery, and inpatient/outpatient nursing care.

Specialty clinics at the hospital include cardiology, interventional radiology, nephrology, neurology, oncology, orthopedics, pulmonology, urology, and vascular.

Local patrons also utilize **Bryan Health** and **CHI Health St. Elizabeth**, in Lincoln, 42 miles north of Beatrice.

### Clinics

The following medical clinics serve area residents:

#### Medical Clinics

- Beatrice Internal Medicine
- Beatrice Medical Center (Family)
- Beatrice Orthopaedics and Sports Medicine
- Beatrice Women's and Children's Clinic
- Community Medical Center
- Gage County Medical Clinic (Family)
- Southeast Nebraska Surgery

### Rescue Squad

The **Beatrice Fire and Rescue**, with five ambulances, employs 23 full-time Emergency Medical Technicians (EMTs) and 7 support personnel. The Beatrice Fire and Rescue protects approximately 13,000 citizens in an 8-square-mile area. The department also helps protect an additional 12,000 citizens with the the Beatrice Rural Fire District, which covers an area of approximately 200 square miles. Beatrice Fire and Rescue houses the Rural Fire District's fire apparatus and automatically responds to fire and rescue calls within this rural area and are then complimented by approximately 60 rural volunteer members. The department also provides mutual aid for all of Gage and Jefferson Counties and portions of Saline County in Southeast Nebraska, which is a 1,200-square-mile area. Beatrice Fire and Rescue operate a countywide ambulance service that covers a 600-mile rescue district.



*Beatrice Community Hospital and Health Center*

### Nursing Homes

Beatrice Health and Rehab  
*80-bed facility*  
 Good Samaritan Society  
*80-bed facility*

### Independent / Assisted Living

Villa at Flowing Springs  
*45-bed independent facility*  
 Homestead House  
*40-bed assisted living facility*  
 The Kensington  
*62-bed assisted living facility*  
 Samaritan Springs  
*24-bed assisted living facility*

### Low Cost and/or Retirement Housing

Beatrice Sunset Estates - *17-unit low cost facility*  
 Carsten's Garden Villa - *50-unit low cost facility*  
 Homestead Village - *62-unit low cost facility*  
 Parents of All Ages - *10-unit low cost facility*  
 Park View - *32-unit low cost facility*  
 Pinetree Villa - *12-unit low cost facility*  
 Prairie Village - *40-unit low cost facility*  
 Ridgefield Townhomes - *8-unit low cost facility*  
 Timberridge Townhomes - *32-unit low cost facility*  
 Valley Heights - *10-unit low cost facility*  
 Valley Heights II - *19-unit low cost facility*  
 Washington Heights - *24-unit low cost facility*  
 East Arbor Meadows - *19-unit retirement facility*



*Beatrice Health and Rehab*



*Good Samaritan Society*



*Homestead House*

## Library

The **Beatrice Public Library** contains 140,041 volumes and has an average annual circulation of 112,890. The facility provides six study rooms, conference rooms, meeting room seating more than 100, and a climate-controlled archival room. The library provides Internet access and many online databases, videotapes, audiotapes, CDs, DVDs, art prints, and sculptures. There are public-access computers, a microfilm reader-printer, and fax. The library houses the Nebraska State Genealogical Society collection. Activities and programs include: preschool and toddler story time twice a month, summer reading program, weekly summer programs for children and adults, monthly book discussions, gatherings of genealogists, and special exhibits in the months of April and December.



*Beatrice Public Library*

# Churches

## Denomination

- Assemblies of God
- Baptist
- Brethern
- Catholic
- Christian Church
- Church of the Nazarene
- Church of Christ
- Episcopalian
- Jehovah Witness
- Latter-Day Saints
- Lutheran
- Mennonite
- Methodist
- New Testament
- Nondenominational
- Pentecostal
- Presbyterian
- Salvation Army
- Seventh-Day Adventist



# Recreation

There are 16 parks in Beatrice covering 255 acres. Beatrice has 10 ball diamonds and 13 playgrounds. **Chautauqua Park** includes a baseball diamond, playground equipment, picnic area, horseshoe pits, tennis courts, restrooms, and camping area. **Prairie Playground** is equipped with Americans with Disabilities (ADA) accessible playground equipment and is located adjacent to the YMCA. Picnic shelter and restrooms are available on the YMCA property. **Veterans Memorial Park** includes a memorial wall and tree arboretum.



*Chautauqua Park*



*Prairie Playground*



*Veterans Memorial Park*

The **Big Blue Waterpark** provides swimming and outdoor recreation with its 9,000-square-foot zero-entry pool, youth pool with fountain bubbler and toys, 124-foot loop water slide, eight-foot-wide river slide, two-meter diving boards, shade structures, bathhouse, and concessions.



*Big Blue Waterpark*

**Gage County Historical Society and Museum** is located in a 1906, National Register, Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Passenger Station. This historic site is where Beatrice and Gage County were founded in 1857. Genealogical research and exhibits offer insight to people, railroads, industries, and agricultural history.



*Gage County Historical Society and Museum*

**Homestead National Monument of America** - Explore Southeast Nebraska's only National Park Service Site with interactive exhibits, Pioneer School, and Homesteader Cabin. One hundred acres of restored tallgrass prairie with 2.5 miles of walking trails through prairie and woodland. Special events tell stories of industry, agriculture, immigration, migration, and American Indian cultures.



*Homestead National Monument of America*

**Elijah Filley Stone Barn** - This National Register of Historic Places is located on Cottage Hill Farm and is the first upland homestead in Gage County built in 1874. Elijah Filley hired area settlers who had lost everything during the grasshopper invasion to build his three-story limestone barn. Indoor tours for groups of 15 or more are available by appointment only.



*Elijah Filley Stone Barn*

**Baseball Hall of Fame** features players who were outstanding in their semi-professional, town team, and college baseball careers. Several of these players eventually reached the Major Leagues. Pictures of players, umpires, and managers adorn the walls. Display cases are filled with memorabilia dating back as far as 1916.



*Nebraska Baseball Hall of Fame*

**Guy "THE CHAMP" Chamberlin Monument**, located in Blue Springs, 13 miles south of Beatrice, is in honor of the Nebraska native who was the state's first major college football star and professional football's most successful coach during pioneering years of the NFL.

The **Beatrice Country Club**, a top rated golf course in Nebraska, and **Hidden Acres Golf Course** are both eighteen-hole golf courses in the community.

**Other Attractions** - Beatrice is known for its outstanding softball and baseball fields that host major tournaments on a regular basis.

Walking trails connect the major parks with a route along the Blue River that runs through the center of the city.

## Annual Celebrations

- MARCH** IMCA Modified Spring Nationals  
*Modified car racing*  
Spring Craft Fair  
*Craft Fair at Indian Creek Mall*
- MAY** Tall Grass Fiddle Festival  
*Fiddle Festival at Homestead National Monument*
- MAY– SEPTEMBER** 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursdays on Fifth Street  
*Shopping, vendors, music, popcorn, and more in downtown Beatrice*
- JUNE** Homestead Days  
*Parade, fun run, horseshoe tournament, car show, RibFest*
- JULY** Gage County Fair and Expo  
*Country concerts, 4-H, vendors, rides, tractor show, races, trailer races, ag BBQ*
- OCTOBER** Oktoberfest  
*Live music and Oktoberfest themed events at Chautauqua Park*  
  
Trail of Treasures  
*Find your treasures along Highway 136*  
  
Night of the Great Pumpkin  
*Trick or treating in downtown Beatrice*
- NOVEMBER** Fall Craft Fair  
*Craft fair at Indian Creek Mall*
- DECEMBER** Holiday Lighted Parade

The Beatrice **Community Players Theatre** is the most active community theatre outside of Lincoln and Omaha.



*Community Players Theatre*



*Hannibal Park & Field*



*Skate Park*



*Nichols Park*



*Roszell-Exmark Park*



*Beatrice Country Club*



*Hidden Acres Golf Course*



*Homestead Days Celebration*

# Financial Institutions



*Bank of the West*



*Farm Credit Services of America*



*First National Bank of Omaha*



*First State Bank Nebraska*



*Great Western Bank*



*Members Own Credit Union*



*Pinnacle Bank*



*Security First Bank*



*US Bank*

# Housing

Twenty-two new homes were constructed in the past three years with at least seven projected to be built in 2016. The cost of new home construction averages \$125 per square foot. NGage, with funding assistance by the Nebraska Investment Finance Authority, completed a housing study for Gage County in 2016. There is much interest and work underway to increase housing development and rehab projects in the area to meet the demand for new and improved housing.



*Beatrice Housing*

# Community Services

With a business climate full of opportunity, Beatrice continues to expand its retail choices and offers many services to its residents. The residents of Beatrice have combined talent and a strong work ethic to create an ideal setting in which to work and live.

## Professional

Architects.....	2
Attorneys .....	25
Auctioneers.....	3
Certified Public Accountants.....	13
Engineering Firms .....	1
Medical	
Anesthesiologists.....	2
Audiologists .....	1
Chiropractors .....	7
Dentists.....	12
Dermatologists.....	2
Emergency Medicine .....	7
Family Practice Physicians.....	9
General Surgeons .....	2
Internal Medicine .....	1
Nurse Practitioners .....	10
Nurses, Registered.....	108
Obstetricians & Gynecologists.....	2
Optometrists .....	6
Orthopedic Surgeons/Sports Medicine.....	1
Otolaryngologists (ear, nose & throat) .....	1
Pediatricians .....	2
Pharmacists .....	8
Physical Therapists.....	9
Physician Assistants .....	8
Plastic Surgeons.....	1
Podiatrists.....	1
Radiologists .....	1
Veterinarians.....	4

## Business and Commercial

Accounting/Bookkeeping Agencies .....	6
Agricultural Implement Dealers .....	4

Antique Shops .....	1
Apparel Stores	
Children's.....	2
Combination .....	2
Men's .....	2
Women's.....	1
Appliance Stores .....	4
Auto Body Repair & Services .....	5
Auto Repair & Services .....	13
Auto Supply Parts.....	3
Automobile Dealers .....	8
Automobile Renting & Leasing .....	3
Aviation Seeding & Spraying .....	1
Bakeries.....	2
Banquet Facilities, Halls	
Auditoriums & Meeting Rooms .....	4
Beauty Salons/Barber Shops .....	25
Carpet and Rug Dealers.....	3
Caterers.....	4
Child Care Services.....	3
Computer Services.....	3
Contractors	
Building.....	8
Carpentry .....	3
Concrete .....	1
Electric.....	2
Gravel .....	1
Heating & Air Conditioning.....	5
Plumbing.....	1
Remodeling .....	1
Roofing .....	1
Well Digging.....	11
Convenience Stores .....	8
Copying & Duplicating Services .....	3
Craft Stores .....	1
Dance Studios .....	2
Discount Stores .....	3
Dry Cleaning & Laundries.....	1
Electric Motor Repairs .....	2
Farm/Ranch Supplies.....	2
Feed & Seed Dealers .....	2

Fertilizer Suppliers/Applicators..... 1  
 Floral Shops ..... 2  
 Funeral Homes ..... 3  
 Furniture Stores..... 2  
 Gift Shops..... 1  
 Grain Dealers ..... 1  
 Grocery Stores ..... 3  
 Hardware Stores..... 3  
 Health Clubs ..... 5  
 Heavy Equipment Repairs..... 1  
 Industrial Equipment & Supplies..... 2  
 Insurance Companies..... 15  
 Interior Decorators & Designers ..... 2  
 Jewelry Stores ..... 2  
 Landscaping Equipment & Supplies..... 1  
 Laundromats..... 2  
 Lawn Services ..... 4  
 Lumberyards..... 2  
 Machine Shops..... 3

Motels/Hotels..... (255 rooms) 5  
 Nurseries & Garden Centers ..... 1  
 Office Equipment Sales, Service & Supplies..... 2  
 Pet Boarding/Grooming Services ..... 6  
 Pharmacies..... 5  
 Photography Studios ..... 6  
 Preschools..... 4  
 Printers ..... 2  
 Real Estate Firms ..... 7  
 Restaurants ..... 28  
 Service Stations..... 2  
 Shoe Stores..... 2  
 Television & Radio Repair Shops ..... 1  
 Theatres ..... 4  
 Travel Agencies & Bureaus ..... 1  
 Upholstery Shops ..... 1  
 Variety Stores ..... 3  
 Welding Shops ..... 6



Retail Businesses

# Agriculture & Raw Materials

In 2013 Nebraska ranked fourth among the states in corn exports, third in total cash receipts from farm and ranch marketing, and fifth in agricultural exports. Nebraska's farms and ranches utilized 45.3 million acres or 92 percent of the state's total land area. Cash receipts from farm markets in 2013 contributed more than \$23 billion to the state's economy and 5.9 percent of the U.S. total. Food processing is the state's largest manufacturing sector and foreign markets are important for many of the state's manufacturers.

Sources: Nebraska Agriculture Rankings - USDA ERS, USDA NASS; Food Processing Status - Bureau of Labor Statistics, Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages

The **Ogallala Aquifer** underlies 174,000 square miles in parts of eight states. The Ogallala Aquifer within Nebraska contains approximately 65 percent of the water in storage in the entire aquifer. With the implementation of more efficient irrigation systems and other water management measures, the Ogallala Aquifer will remain a valuable resource in Nebraska.

Nebraska's Natural Resource Districts (NRDs) have responsibility for managing groundwater resources. The Nebraska Department of Natural Resources maintains responsibility for administration of surface water rights. In locations where groundwater and surface water are connected, the responsibility is shared among the NRDs and the state for achieving a sustainable balance between water supplies and water use.



## Nebraska's Rank Among States

### 1st...

- Beans, Dry Edible, Great Northern, 2014
- Cattle on Feed, Jan. 2015
- Cropland, Irrigated Acres, 2012
- Popcorn, 2012
- Red Meat Production, Commercial, 2014

### 2nd...

- Beans, Dry Edible, Light Red Kidney, 2014
- Beans, Dry Edible, Pinto, 2014
- Bison, 2012
- Cattle and Calves, All, Jan. 2015
- Millet, Proso, 2014

### 3rd...

- Cash Receipts from Farm Marketings, 2013
- Corn for Grain, 2014
- Dry Edible Beans, All, 2014

### 4th...

- Beef Cows, All, Jan. 2015
- Land in Farms, 2014
- On Farm Grain Storage Capacity, Dec. 2014
- Off Farm Grain Storage Capacity, Dec. 2014

### 5th...

- Beans, Dry Edible, Black, 2014
- Sorghum for Grain, 2014
- Sorghum for Silage, 2014
- Soybeans, 2014
- Winter Wheat, 2014

### 6th...

- Sugarbeets, 2014
- Cropland, 2012
- Hay, All, 2014
- Hogs and Pigs, All, Dec. 2014
- Principal Crops, Harvested, 2014

### 7th...

- Hay, Alfalfa, 2014
- Hay, Other, 2014
- Principal Crops, Planted, 2014

### 8th...

- Wheat, All, 2014
- Sunflower, All, 2014

### 10th...

- Corn for Silage, 2014
- Potatoes, Fall, 2014

Source: Nebraska Department of Agriculture - USDA, NASS, NFO, and NBA

## Gage County

2012 Statistics	Gage County	State of Nebraska
Number of Farms.....	1,263.....	49,969
Land in Farms (acres) .....	534,402.....	45,331,783
Average Size of Farms (acres).....	423.....	907
Market Value of Agricultural Products Sold .....	\$244,467,000.....	\$23,068,756,000
Market Value Per Farm.....	\$193,561.....	\$461,661
Total Acres Irrigated.....	63,795.....	8,296,573
Percent of Farmland Irrigated.....	11.9%.....	18.3%

Source: 2012 Census of Agriculture

Five-Year Average Production of Leading Crops (2010–2014)	Gage County	State of Nebraska
Corn for Grain.....	22,950,400 bu. ....	1,502,660,000 bu.
Oats .....	15,225 bu.*.....	1,379,200 bu.
Soybeans.....	6,991,800 bu. ....	256,058,000 bu.
Winter Wheat.....	835,840 bu. ....	58,984,000 bu.

\*4-Year Average

Five-Year Average Livestock Population (2011–2015)	Gage County	State of Nebraska
All Cattle .....	34,200 .....	6,340,000

Gage County ranked in the top ten counties in the state in the production of soybeans during the last five years and two of the last five years in the production of oats.

Source: National Agricultural Statistics Service

## Raw Materials

Niobium, a soft, grey, ductile transmission metal, located 43 miles east of Beatrice near Elk Creek, Nebraska, may be mined by the end of 2016. Niobium is a mineral added to steel to make it lighter and stronger. Nonmetallic minerals of sand, crushed rock, limestone, and clay are available in the immediate area as well. Cottonwood timber is also available in the area.

E Energy Adams, LLC in Adams, Nebraska, processes corn for ethanol. Duonix in Beatrice began processing feed stocks for biodiesel in 2015.



Gage County Fair



Farmer's Cooperative

# Climate

## Nebraskans enjoy four distinct seasons... spring, summer, fall, and winter

Nebraska has a continental climate, with hot summers and cold winters. Temperatures are highly variable from season to season and year to year. The majority of the state has an average annual maximum temperature of 60°F to 65°F with average annual minimum temperatures in the 30°F to 40°F range. State temperature records are -47°F and 118°F. The average number of days in excess of 100°F range from 5 (northeast) to 11 (southwest) with most of the state between 6 and 9 days. Minimum temperatures below zero occur on average 7 days per year in southeast Nebraska to 20 days in north-central Nebraska.

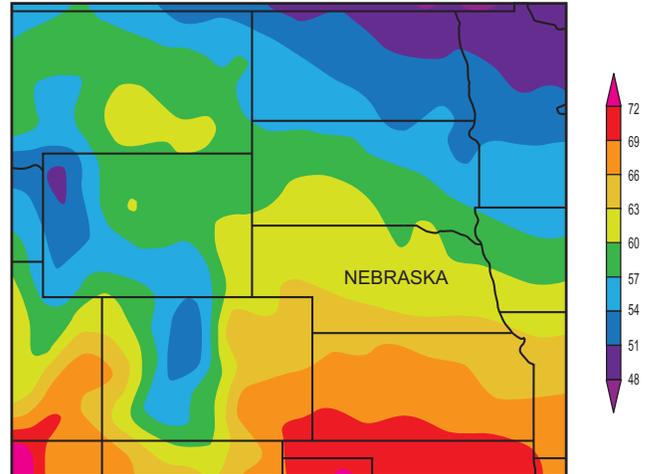
### Precipitation

Precipitation is also variable and ranges from an annual average of 15 to 20 inches in the west to 30 to 35 inches in southeast Nebraska. Approximately 75 percent of the precipitation falls as rain from April to September. Annual average snowfall ranges from 20 inches in the southeast to 50 inches in the northwest. Snowfall usually increases during late winter and reaches a maximum in March.

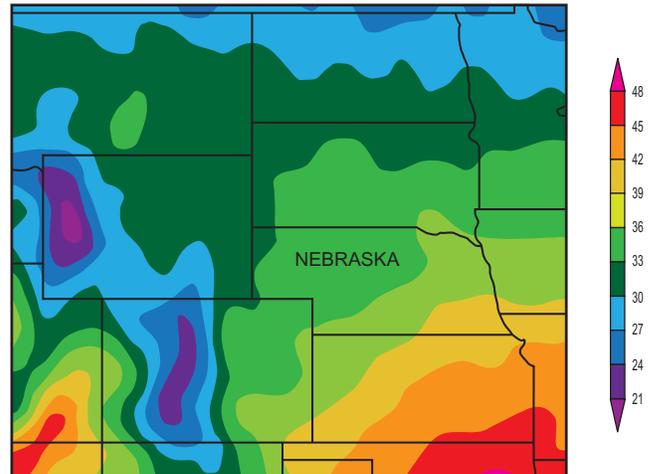
### Growing Season

The growing season fluctuates in length, but on average it ranges from 120 days in the extreme northwest to 170 days in the southeast. The average date of the last freeze in spring varies from April 25 in extreme southeast Nebraska to May 21 in extreme northwest. The first fall freeze typically occurs from September 20 in the extreme northwest to October 6 in the southeast part of the state.

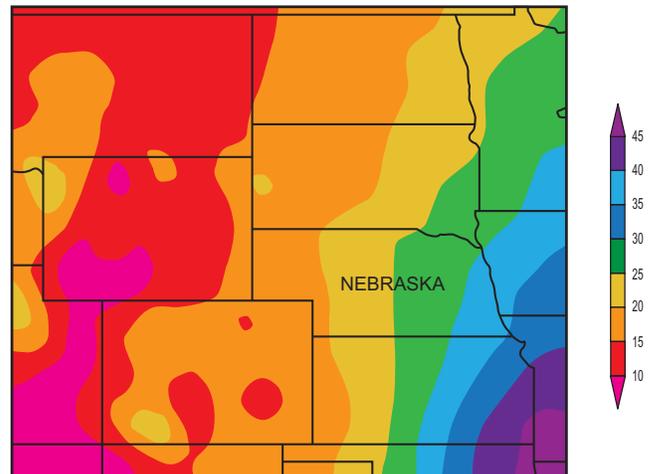
Annual Maximum Temperature (F)



Annual Minimum Temperature (F)



Annual Precipitation (inches)



Based on 30-year climate normals 1981–2010 data from the High Plains Climate Center, University of Nebraska-Lincoln

Source: [www.hprcc.unl.edu](http://www.hprcc.unl.edu)

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Community websites:

- [www.beatrice.ne.gov](http://www.beatrice.ne.gov)
- [www.ngagegroup.org](http://www.ngagegroup.org)
- [www.beatricechamber.com](http://www.beatricechamber.com)
- [www.mainstreetbeatrice.org](http://www.mainstreetbeatrice.org)
- [www.visitbeatrice.com](http://www.visitbeatrice.com)

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