



Demographic and Economic Profile Burt County, Nebraska

Population

Estimates from the Bureau of the Census placed Burt County's population at 7,059 in 2007, making it the state's 42nd largest county. This represented a decline of 9.4% (-732 residents) since the 2000 Census and a decline of 19.9% since 1980.

Burt County's peak population of 13,062 was reached in 1930. The nearly 80 years of decline that have followed is fairly typical of Nebraska's rural counties.

Burt County's largest community is Tekamah, with an estimated 2007 population of 1,726 (24.5% of the county population), making it Nebraska's 65th largest community. Another 1,235 people reside in Oakland, Burt County's second largest community, and Nebraska's 83rd largest.

Tekamah is estimated to have seen its population decline by 8.8% (-166 residents) since the 2000 Census, while Oakland has declined by 9.7% (-132 residents) over the same period.

Population decline in Burt County since 2000 was primarily due to out-migration, which resulted in a loss of 505 residents.

Between 2000 and 2007 Burt County experienced 197 more deaths than births.

The current population includes 1,545 residents under the age of 18-years (21.9% of the total population compared to 25.1% for the state) and 1,572 residents over the age of 65-years (22.3% of the total population compared to 13.3% for the state).

The age distribution of the Burt County population is as follows:

<20 years	2,170 (27.9%) in 2000	1,703 (24.1%) in 2007
20 to 29 years	556 (7.1%) in 2000	698 (9.9%) in 2007
30 to 49 years	2,110 (27.1%) in 2000	1,570 (22.2%) in 2007

50 to 64 years	1,257 (16.1%) in 2000	1,516 (21.5%) in 2007
>65 years	1,698 (21.8%) in 2000	1,572 (22.3%) in 2007
>85 years	272 (3.5%) in 2000	271 (3.8%) in 2007

Most Burt County residents (95.8%) are non-Latino whites. Minority residents number 300, including 99 Native Americans, 57 persons of mixed race and 118 Latinos.

While the majority (white) population declined by 10.4% between 2000 and 2007, the much smaller minority population grew by 20.5%, largely as a result of higher birth rates among the younger minority population in the county. During that time, the Latino population grew by 20.4%, the Native American population grew by 17.9% and the mixed race population grew by 21.3%.

Population forecasts developed by the University of Nebraska Bureau of Business Research suggest that the Burt County population is likely to grow by 1 to 2% over the next 20 years, based on the current strength of the local economy. However, as of 2007, the county was in fact losing population well above the rate predicted by that model, and the likelihood is that the county population will in fact decline or grow more slowly than projected.

Employment

The Bureau of Economic Analysis identified 3,634 full and part time jobs in Burt County in 2006. This represents a decrease in total jobs of 2.5% (-197 jobs) between 2001 and 2006.

Measured in terms of jobs (for which data are available), Burt County's largest employing industries in 2006 were:

Farming (proprietors and labor)	637 jobs (17.5% of total)
*Local Government	586 jobs (16.1% of total)
Retail Trade	363 jobs (10.0% of total)
Health Care and Social Assistance	267 jobs (7.3% of total)
Construction	238 jobs (6.5% of total)
Finance and Insurance	163 jobs (4.5% of total)
Manufacturing	134 jobs (3.7% of total)
Professional and Technical Services	128 jobs (3.5% of total)
Accommodation and Food Services	128 jobs (3.5% of total)
Transportation and Warehousing	124 jobs (3.4% of total)

Government jobs often appear as a major component of the employment mix, even in very rural areas, and may vary dramatically from year to year. These jobs do include full-time agency and departmental personnel (such as public school or public safety employees), but also include part-time, seasonal and contract activities performed by workers. Because the data are calculated from tax filings, they will include any job for which a statement of taxable earnings (IRS W2 or 1099) has been issued by a government entity. Thus, a farmer paid to mow ditches or plow snow on an occasional basis would be credited with having a government job. Also included would be a Title XX day care provider, or a contract worker such as a driver associated with a state foster

care program. Moreover, unless the employing governmental unit withheld payroll taxes, individuals with such jobs would be counted as nonfarm proprietors, a category that includes all jobs subject to self employment tax. Taken in total, these and similar jobs can exist in significant numbers.

Measured in terms of jobs in 2001 and 2006, the fastest growing industries were:

Real Estate and Rental Leasing	+61.2% (+ 41 jobs)
Administrative and Waste Services	+36.9% (+ 24 jobs)
Transportation and Warehousing	+14.8% (+ 16 jobs)
Construction	+ 2.1% (+ 5 jobs)
Retail Trade	+ 1.1% (+ 4 jobs)
Local Government	+ 0.7% (+ 4 jobs)

Declining industries were led by:

Manufacturing	-15.4% (- 21 jobs)
Farming (proprietors and labor)	- 6.0% (- 41 jobs)
Health Care and Social Assistance	- 5.7% (- 16 jobs)

Income and Earnings

In 2006, Burt County had a total personal income (TPI) of \$199,832,000. This TPI ranked 41st in the state and accounted for 0.3% of the state total. The 2006 TPI reflected an increase of 4.5% from 2005. The 2005–2006 state change was 5.3% and the national change was 6.7%. In 1996, the TPI of Burt County was \$169,776,000 and ranked 43rd in the state. The average annual growth rate of TPI over the past 10 years was 1.6%. The average annual growth rate for the state was 4.4% and for the nation was 5.4%.

In 2006, Burt County had a per capita personal income (PCPI) of \$27,921. This PCPI ranked 45th in the state, and was 81% of the state average, \$34,440, and 76% of the national average, \$36,714. The 2006 PCPI reflected an increase of 5.5% from 2005. The 2005–2006 state change was 4.7% and the national change was 5.6%. In 1996, the PCPI of Burt County was \$21,630 and ranked 36th in the state. The average annual growth rate of PCPI over the past 10 years was 2.6%. The average annual growth rate for the state was 3.9% and for the nation was 4.3%.

Total personal income (TPI) includes net earnings by place of residence; dividends, interest, and rent; and current transfer receipts received by the residents of Burt County. In 2006, net earnings accounted for 59.9% of TPI (compared with 60.5% in 1996); dividends, interest, and rent were 14.2% (compared with 20.5% in 1996); and transfer receipts were 25.9% (compared with 19.0% in 1996). From 2005 to 2006, net earnings increased 1.9%; dividends, interest, and rent increased 6.6%; and transfer receipts increased 9.7%. From 1996 to 2006, net earnings increased on average 1.6%; dividends, interest, and rent decreased on average 2.0%; and transfer receipts increased on average 4.8%.

Total resident income in Burt County in 2006 included:

\$ 119,771,000 in earnings
\$ 28,368,000 in interest, dividends and rent
\$ 51,693,000 in personal transfer payments (public and private)

Earned income generated by the Burt County economy in 2006 included:

\$ 48,821,000 in wage and salary disbursements
\$ 12,748,000 in nonfarm proprietor's income
\$ 2,231,000 in farm proprietor's income

Over the last decade, nonfarm proprietors have grown as a percentage of the Burt County labor force, but earnings per proprietorship have declined, especially when measured as a percentage of wage and salary earnings.

	Nonfarm Proprietors	Wage and Salary workers
Jobs 1996	853	2,158
Jobs 2006	1,091	2,030
% of All Jobs 1996	23.6%	59.8%
% of All Jobs 2006	30.0%	55.9%
Earnings Per Job 1996	\$12,986	\$17,070
Earnings Per Job 2006	\$11,685	\$24,050

In 1996, average nonfarm proprietor earnings were equal to 76% of average wage and salary earnings. By 2006, average nonfarm proprietor earnings were equal to 49% of average wage and salary earnings.

In 2006, Burt County earnings were increased by about \$42,977,000 by workers who commuted to other locations, an amount equal to 56% of all income earned by county residents.

NOTES:

Economic data were obtained from the Bureau of Economic Analysis Regional Economic Information System, 2006 and from BEAR Facts, a publication of the Bureau of Economic Analysis. The full data set is available for downloading at <http://www.bea.gov/>

Earnings and income are not reported in constant dollars.

The Bureau of Economic Analysis derives their primary data from both employer and employee Federal tax filings, allowing them to distinguish between the counties in which jobs are located and the counties in which employees reside.

Transfer payments, as measured by the Bureau of Economic Analysis include both public and private transfers to individuals. The largest of these payments are inevitably social security and medical benefits. The complete list of measured transfer payments is extensive and includes railroad retirement, workers compensation, Medicare, military medical insurance, supplemental security income, family assistance, food stamps, unemployment benefits, veterans' benefits and private retirement benefits.

Net migration and natural increase do not sum to precisely the estimated population change for a given county. This is because the Bureau of the Census adds a small residual to each total population estimate as a correction for statistical error.