

Ogallala

NEBRASKA



COMMUNITY GUIDE

www.kcad.org
www.ogallala-ne.gov
www.visitogallala.com

NEBRASKA
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
CERTIFIED COMMUNITY

The following pages contain basic information about Ogallala, Nebraska. This information was compiled by Keith County Area Development, Ogallala / Keith County Chamber of Commerce, City of Ogallala, Keith County, and Nebraska Public Power District in order to promote community development and quality of life.

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ABOUT Ogallala NEBRASKA



Ogallala in Keith County is the place for your plans! Ogallala is fortunate to have a balance of all the major factors that aid and encourage existing businesses to grow and attract new businesses to the area: plentiful with land to develop, easy access to all modes of transportation, fiber optic technology capabilities, quality workforce, abundant utilities, and an unprecedented quality of life.

2018 Estimate U.S. Census Population

Ogallala	4,503
Keith County	8,021

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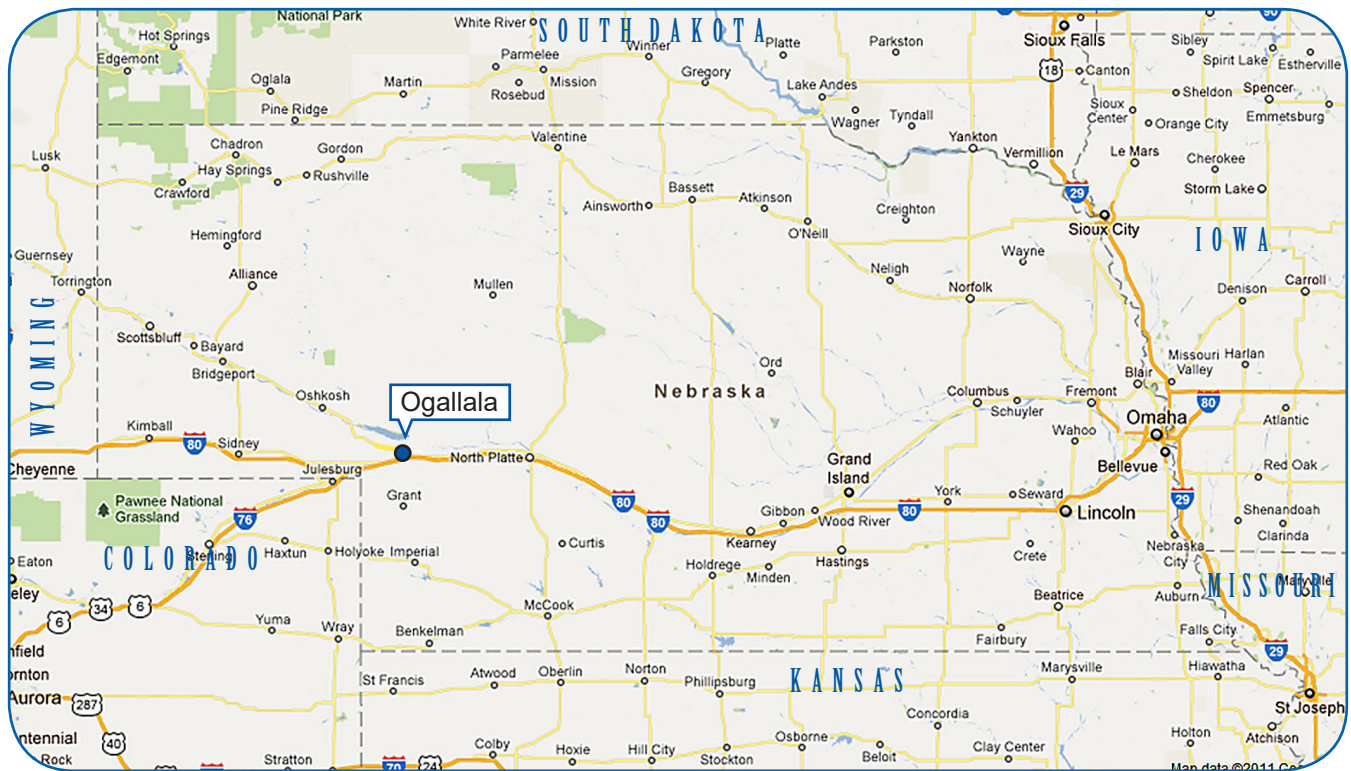
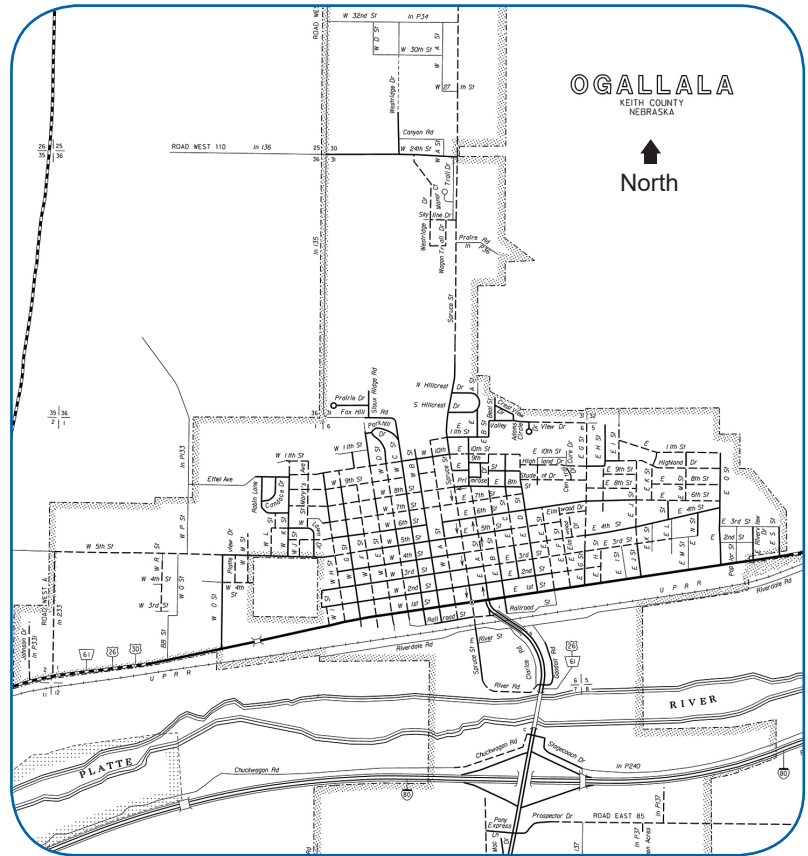
Geography

Location

Ogallala, the middle of everywhere! You can't beat location and Keith County has one of the best. Ogallala is the county seat of Keith County. Located right on Interstate 80, just 20 minutes from the Interstate 76 Junction and with ease of access to Highways 61, 26 and 30, you can truly go anyway from here. Ogallala is 212 miles east of Denver, CO; 275 miles west of Lincoln, NE; and 330 miles west of Omaha, NE. The South Platte River flows through town and the North Platte River flows through Lake McConaughy, located 9 miles north of Ogallala

Elevation

Ogallala is 3,222 feet above sea level, with a gentle slope to the east.



Economic Development

Ogallala was recertified as an Economic Development Certified Community in 2016, which indicates that a community is ready to respond to any prospect inquiries and has the necessary tools available to take action in assisting with a site location decision.

Firms with retail sales tax permits in Ogallala reported 2018 net taxable retail sales of \$98,046,859, while Keith County reported retail sales of \$108,643,438.

Economic Development Organizations

Keith County Area Development, the City of Ogallala, Ogallala/Keith County Chamber of Commerce, and the Community Redevelopment Authority work together for industrial development in the community.

Keith County Area Development (KCAD), with nine board members, is a public/private partnership funded by membership dues and city and county governments. The mission of KCAD is to lead activities and partner with community members to broaden and strengthen employment and commerce in Keith County.

Keith County Area Development purchased the Ogallala North Business Park in 2002 and has since located five businesses there with approximately 80 acres still available for commercial and industrial development. The sites are easily accessible via U.S. Highways 26 and 61 and Interstate 80 is two miles south. KCAD works closely with the Community Redevelopment Authority to promote development south of Interstate 80 near Ogallala.

Approximately 31 acres in and adjacent to Ogallala are zoned for commercial or industrial purposes. Land prices range from \$10,000 to \$28,000 per acre.



American Shizuki

Ogallala's Manufacturing Employers

	<i>Employees</i>
American Shizuki <i>Capacitors</i>	97
Simon, Inc. <i>Ready mix concrete, sand & gravel</i>	30
Arnold Magnetic Tech. <i>Electro magnets & components</i>	25
Paulsen, Inc. <i>Ready mix concrete, sand</i>	15
Nebraska PrintWorks <i>Commercial printing</i>	8
Kelley Bean <i>Process & sell dry edible beans</i>	7
Ogallala Comfort Company <i>Milkweed fiber products (down comforters/duvets, pillows & mattress enhancers)</i>	6
Natural Fibers Corp. <i>Raw materials (milkweed fiber)</i>	6
Milkweed Balm Co. <i>Commercial printing</i>	6
Beaver Bearing Co. <i>Industrial & machinery parts manufacturer</i>	1

Ogallala's Top Nonmanufacturing Employers

	<i>Employees</i>
Walmart <i>Retail</i>	170
Ogallala Community Hospital and Clinic - Banner Health <i>Health care</i>	150
Ogallala Public Schools <i>Education</i>	145
Adams Bank & Trust <i>Financial</i>	65
Keith County <i>Government</i>	60
Educational Service Unit 16 <i>Education</i>	50
Indian Hills Manor <i>Nursing home</i>	50
City of Ogallala <i>Government</i>	45
Ogallala Livestock Auction Market <i>Livestock sales</i>	40
RCS <i>Computer software</i>	40



Ogallala Comfort Company



Arnold Magnetic Tech.



RCS



Ogallala Livestock Auction Market



Paulsen, Inc.



Simon, Inc.



USave Pharmacy & Buenz Gifts



E-Logic



21st Century



Nebraska PrintWorks



Claas



Dekalb



Dollar General



Ace Hardware



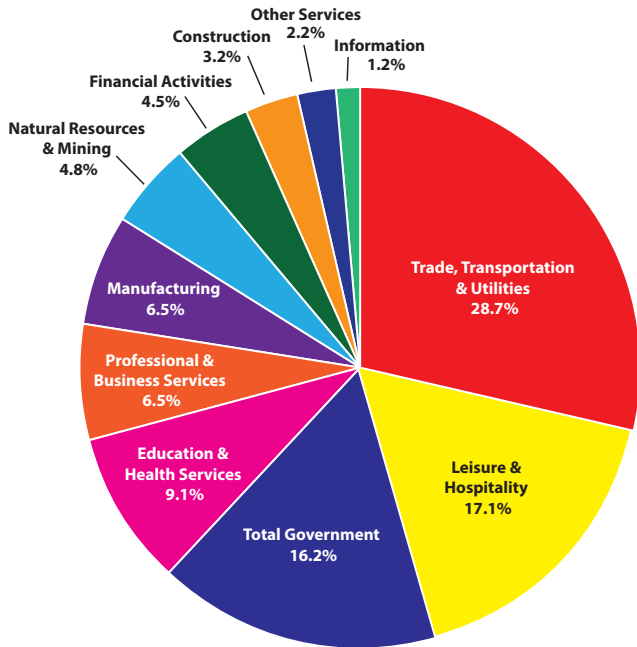
Walmart



O'Reilly Auto Parts



Nonfarm Wage & Salary Employment Keith County • 2019 Annual Average



Source: Nebraska Department of Labor

Keith County Labor Supply Annual Average 2017

	Keith & Contiguous Counties*	Keith County
Non-farm wage and salary workers.....	15,935	2,747
Total employment.....	26,694	4,412
Labor force population	27,487	4,548

ADDITIONAL POTENTIAL LABOR SUPPLY

Commuting out of county (2017).....	943
Unemployed.....	136
Total.....	1,079

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.

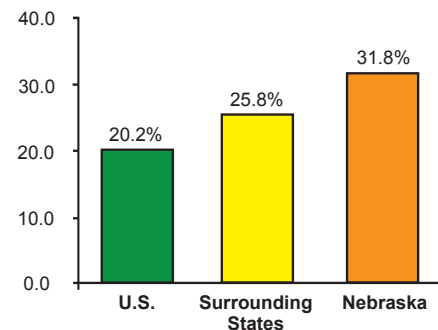
*Contiguous counties include Arthur, Deuel, Garden, Lincoln, McPherson, and Perkins Counties in Nebraska.

Unemployment Rate Annual Average 2018

Keith County	3.0%
Nebraska	2.8%
United States	3.9%

Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics

2008-2016 Percent Change Value Added Per Manufacturing Production Worker Hours 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

Unionization

Nebraska has a right to work provision in its constitution. In 2018, 6.6 percent of Nebraska's wage and salary workers were members of labor unions compared to a national figure of 11.6 percent.

Local Labor Unions

Ogallala Public Schools -
Nebraska State Education Association

U.S. Post Office -
American Postal Workers Union

Charter Communications -
Communication Workers of America

Allo Communications -
Communication Workers of America

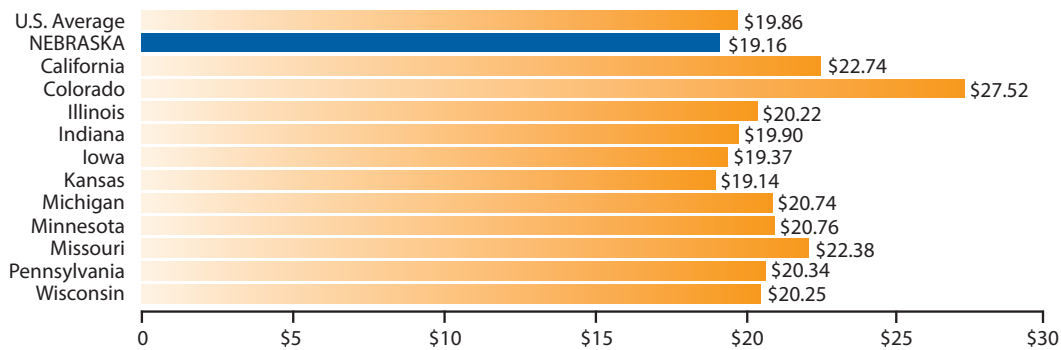
Banner Health -
American Nurses Association

Fringe Benefits

Based on present experience of existing local industry, on the average, workers are granted eight paid holidays and one to two weeks vacation annually. Fifty to 65 percent of the premiums for group life, accidental

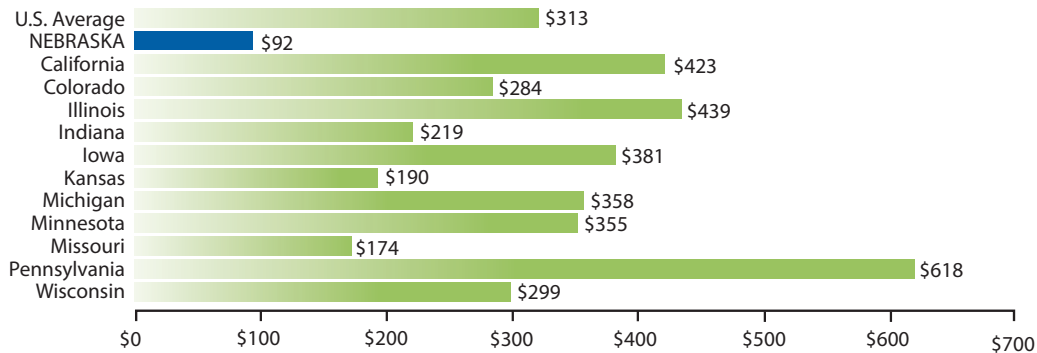
and sickness, and hospitalization and medical-surgical insurance are paid by industries. Industrial pension plans, stock sharing plans, and profit sharing year-end bonuses are also available.

Average Hourly Earnings for Production Workers, 2017



Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics (www.bls.gov)

Average Annual Unemployment Insurance Contribution Per Covered Employee, 2017



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, 2018. <http://workforcesecurity.doleta.gov>

Wage Sampling: Hourly wage rates for various occupations, Mid Plains Region, Nebraska

Job Title	10th Percentile	50th Percentile	90th Percentile
Accountants and Auditors	19.08	29.74	50.39
Computer Programmers	26.64	31.58	37.82
Registered Nurses	21.82	29.17	39.31
Retail Salespersons	9.58	12.35	24.83
Secretaries and Administrative Assistants, Except Legal, Medical	10.87	14.99	23.26
Customer Service Representatives	9.91	13.04	20.23
Office Clerks, General	9.56	13.90	19.17
Assemblers and Fabricators, All Other	13.03	16.42	19.72
Laborers and Freight, Stock, and Material Movers, Hand	10.31	13.80	19.30
Machinists	13.71	17.55	22.67
Welders, Cutters, Solderers, and Brazers	13.07	17.40	20.00
Welding, Soldering, and Brazing Machine Setters*	15.14	20.30	27.07
Heavy and Tractor-Trailer Truck Drivers	10.35	16.24	23.38
Cutting, Punching, and Press Machine Setters/Operators*	11.87	18.40	25.08
Electricians	15.11	21.77	32.44
Tool and Die Makers*	17.21	24.76	35.59

Source: Nebraska Workforce Development, Occupational Employment Statistics Program, Second Quarter 2019

* Wage information taken from Nebraska as a whole

Workforce

The Nebraska Department of Labor serves employers and job seekers across Nebraska through its “Career Centers” located across the state. Services for employers include employee recruitment and screening, posting job openings, tax credit information, 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 Innovation and Opportunity Act partners. To access Nebraska Department of Labor’s one-stop for jobs, go to www.networks.nebraska.gov.



Downtown Ogallala



Prairie Theatre



Holiday Inn Express

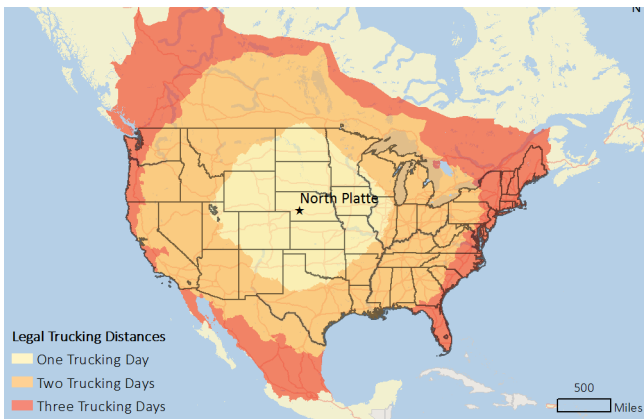


Wolf Auto

Market Access

Highways

Ogallala is in the western part of Nebraska, just outside the southeast portion of the panhandle. Located along I-80, Ogallala is 212 miles from Denver, CO, 275 miles from Lincoln, and 330 miles to Omaha. Interstate 76 is just 26 miles west, and U.S. Highway 30, U.S. Highway 26, and Nebraska Highway 61 all intersect in Ogallala. Union Pacific Railroad has a line through Ogallala and BNSF also serves the area. The South Platte River flows through town and the North Platte River flows through Lake McConaughy, located 9 miles north.



Source: Nebraska Department of Economic Development. Legal Trucking Distances from North Platte, Nebraska [maps], 2016. Generated by Andrew Eckerson; using ESRI Business Analyst Desktop.



Trucklines

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

The trucking map above is based on North Platte, Nebraska, 54 miles east of Ogallala.

There are several one and two truck companies for hire in Ogallala and the surrounding area.

Bus Lines

Greyhound serves Ogallala with bus service to Denver, Colorado and Omaha, Nebraska. Ogallala Public Transit provides door to door service in an area up to a one mile radius outside the Ogallala city limits.

Rail

Ogallala is served by a main line of the Union Pacific Railroad. Nearby North Platte is home to the world's largest rail yard and serves 32,000 miles of track in the western two thirds of the nation. For further information regarding Union Pacific Railroad, visit www.uprr.com/customers/ind-dev.



Union Pacific

Amtrak provides McCook, 118 miles southeast of Ogallala, with rail passenger service throughout the United States. Additional Nebraska Amtrak stations are located in Hastings, Holdrege, Lincoln, and Omaha. For more information, visit www.amtrak.com.

Air

Searle Field, the municipal air field, is located two miles west of Ogallala. The airport has two paved and lighted runways (5,102 feet and 3,700 feet). Other facilities include pilot's lounge, hangars, computer, weather, 24-hour/7-day access by code, and self-serve 100 low-lead and jet A fuel. Twenty planes are hangared there. A full-service mechanic is available. The elevation at the airport is 3,276 feet, the latitude is 41-07N, and the longitude is 101-46W. Great Lakes Aviation has three flights daily to the Denver International Airport.



Searle Field

Nearest Commercial Air Service

North Platte Regional Airport

North Platte, Nebraska61 miles, 70 minutes

Denver International

Denver, Colorado.....207 miles, 190 minutes

Infrastructure

Nebraska Highlights

Energy costs are 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, industrial rates are well below the national average. Nebraska's electric utilities can offer low rates, in part, because they draw from an efficient "mix" of generation resources including coal, natural gas, oil, diesel, and methane, along with carbon-free "fuels," like nuclear, wind, hydro, and solar power.

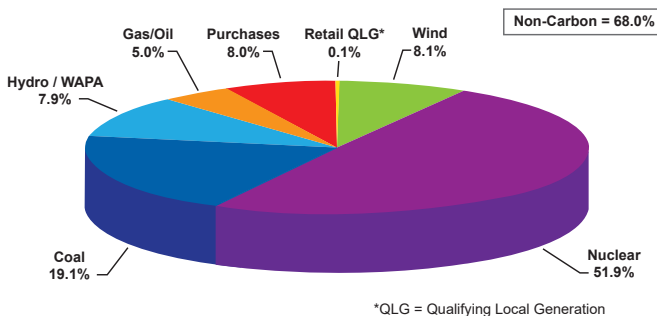
Nebraska Public Power District (NPPD) is the state's largest electric generating utility in terms of chartered territory, which includes all or parts of 86 of Nebraska's 93 counties. NPPD relies upon nine major generating facilities, more than 5,000 miles of high-voltage power lines, approximately 260 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 has an Economic Development Rate (EDR) for customers with qualifying projects of new or additional electric load. To be eligible for the lower, incentivized EDR, a customer must:

- be served by an NPPD wholesale customer or NPPD's Retail Division,
- add new or additional electric load of at least one megawatt,
- have a minimum monthly load factor of 60 percent,

NPPD's Sources of Energy - 2019

(Share of Energy Resources & QLG) Native Load



Beatrice Power Station



Cooper Nuclear Station



Gerald Gentleman Station



Ainsworth Wind Facility

- have a written agreement with the State of Nebraska or any political subdivision to provide an economic development project pursuant to state or local law, and
- have a written service agreement with NPPD.

NPPD's renewable resources play a central role in a strong carbon-free footprint. In addition to a power purchase agreement with seven of the state's wind farms, NPPD owns and operates the largest public power wind facility in the state near Ainsworth.

NPPD has three hydropower facilities and contracts for generation from three other hydropower facilities. Community solar is also underway in three communities, with more on the way. In 2016, NPPD's Cooper Nuclear Station contributed to an energy portfolio that was more than 60 percent carbon-free.

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.

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

2017 Average Retail Price of Energy Costs

	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	12.89	10.66	6.88	10.91	7.88	4.10
NEBRASKA	10.97	8.85	7.66	9.01	6.37	4.54
California	18.31	15.76	12.73	12.49	8.76	7.05
Colorado	12.17	9.89	7.50	8.08	7.17	5.58
Illinois	12.95	9.09	6.47	8.83	7.78	5.76
Indiana	12.29	10.54	7.54	8.94	7.52	5.99
Iowa	12.34	9.46	6.21	9.30	6.87	5.21
Kansas	13.31	10.59	7.54	10.95	9.36	4.16
Massachusetts	20.06	15.93	13.88	13.32	10.16	8.02
Michigan	15.40	11.00	7.19	8.38	7.02	5.97
Minnesota	13.04	10.48	7.37	8.47	6.80	4.48
Missouri	11.63	9.47	7.33	11.78	8.44	6.64
New Jersey	15.65	12.28	10.12	9.14	9.14	7.92
New York	18.03	14.75	5.92	12.04	6.87	7.21
Ohio	12.63	10.05	6.92	9.72	6.11	6.71
Pennsylvania	14.23	8.98	6.77	11.40	9.16	8.38
Texas	11.01	8.26	5.35	13.61	7.71	3.28
Wisconsin	14.35	10.87	7.49	8.40	6.60	5.34

Source: U.S. Energy Information Administration, 2017 Annual

Ogallala Utilities

Electricity

Ogallala is provided retail electric service by Nebraska Public Power District (NPPD). Service is supplied by two transmission systems, 230 kV and 115 kV. Ogallala has two incoming feeds at 34.5 kV connecting all four distribution substations for redundancy. Total capacity of the community's substations is more than 30 MW. Distribution voltages for the community are 7.2 kV and 2.4 kV.

Base Electric Rates (effective 1/1/19)

Summer bills run from June–September.

Winter bills run from October–May.

Customers who are served from distribution facilities for which NPPD has a Lease Payment or Debt Service obligation and/or a Gross Revenue Tax obligation will have the Base Rate adjusted to include such obligations.

Residential Service

Customer Charge:	\$19.00 per month	
Summer	Winter	per kWh for the first 750 kWh used per month
10.61¢	8.67¢	
10.61¢	6.23¢	per kWh for all additional use

All rates are subject to application of a Production Cost Adjustment (PCA) and Base Rate adjustments. All minimum billings include the customer charge.

General Service

Customer Charge:

Single Phase	\$21.00 per month
Three Phase	\$26.00 per month

Summer Winter

11.16¢	9.23¢	per kWh for the first 1,000 kWh used per month
11.16¢	8.00¢	per kWh for all additional use

General Service Demand

Customer Charge:

Single Phase	\$100.00 per month
Three Phase	\$115.00 per month

Summer Winter

12.58¢	9.45¢	per kWh for the first 200 kWh per kW of demand used per month
4.58¢	3.62¢	per kWh for all additional use

High Tension Service

Customer Charge: \$425.00 per month

Demand Charge:

Summer	Winter	per kW of billing demand
\$14.40	\$10.65	

Energy Charge:

Summer	Winter	per kWh for all on-peak energy
4.48¢	3.84¢	
3.69¢	2.95¢	per kWh for all off-peak energy

High Tension Service and General Service Demand rates are subject to various adders and discounts depending upon the customer's requirements, metering, etc.

NPPD has off-peak and load management rates available to qualifying customers.

Prospective customers should contact Nebraska Public Power District, (877) 275-6773, www.nppd.com, for further information regarding electric rates and service.

Natural Gas

A subsidiary of Black Hills Corporation, Black Hills Energy (BHE), serves 300,000 natural gas customers in 300 Nebraska communities, including Ogallala. Ogallala is served by a 6-inch steel line. Black Hills Energy's Nebraska headquarters is located in Lincoln.

Black Hills Energy is a full-service natural gas distributor in Ogallala. The transmission provider is Tallgrass Energy. Natural gas, with an average value of 1,000 BTU per cubic foot, is available for residential, commercial, and industrial customers for base and peak use on a firm basis. Interruptible service is available for customers with an alternate fuel capability.

Rates vary slightly due to season and commodity price fluctuations. Contact Black Hills Energy at (800) 232-1850 for information regarding gas rates and service.



Black Hills Energy

Other Fuels

LP Gas

LP gas is available in Ogallala for residential and commercial uses from Sapp Bros. Petroleum.

Oil

Oil is available in Ogallala for residential and commercial uses from Sapp Bros. Petroleum.

Water

Eight wells supply the municipal water system, which have an average depth of 328 feet. The system, serving the entire city, has a combined pumping sustainable capacity of 4,225 gallons per minute and an overhead storage capacity of 1,400,000 gallons. The average daily demand is 1,000,000 gallons, and the historic peak daily demand is 3,500,000 gallons. The system has a maximum capacity of 7,484,000 sustainable gallons per day. The static pressure is 35 pounds per square inch and the residual pressure is 100 pounds per square inch.

The water table fluctuates seasonally and chlorination is added to the water throughout the summer. The quality of water in Ogallala does not necessitate a water treatment plant.

Water Rates (effective 10/1/16)

The tapping fee consists of the cost of materials, plus labor (minimum of two hours), and expenses charged for all new water services. A \$75.00 deposit fee is charged for residential, commercial, and industrial services and an activation fee of \$25.00 is charged on all new accounts.

Solid Waste Disposal

Domestic and Non-Domestic Users	
PER 1,000 GALLONS	
Customer Charge:	\$22.00
Per water consumption during a month period	\$ 1.75
Minimum Bill Per Month:	\$22.00

Privately owned waste removal services are available in Ogallala. Wastes are hauled to a landfill near Grant, 15 miles south of Ogallala.

Solid Waste Removal Rates

(effective 7/8/16)

Residential
\$18.95 per month for one pickup per week

Commercial
\$45.90 per month for one pickup per week (tote)
\$90.38 per month for one pickup per week (for three-yard container)

Industrial
Negotiable. Large dumpsters available upon request

Sewerage

Ogallala has a municipal sanitary sewer system and a storm sewer system. The filter/activated sludge treatment plant was updated to a UV Disinfection in 2011 and has a daily capacity of 1,200,000 gallons and an average daily flow of 500,000 gallons.

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

The tapping fee consists of the cost of materials, plus labor (minimum of two hours), and charged for all new water services. A \$75.00 deposit fee is charged for residential, commercial, and industrial services and an activation fee of \$25.00 is charged on all new accounts.

Domestic service rate is based on the average water use for the months of January, February, and March. Non-domestic service rate is based on the average water use per month.

Domestic and Non-Domestic Users	
PER 1,000 GALLONS	
Customer Charge:	\$13.00
First 1,000 gallons	\$ 3.00
Minimum Bill Per Month:	\$16.00
Minimum sewer charge for accounts with no consumption history in the Jan/Feb/March billing period	\$16.00

Recycling

U.S. Recycling, Horizon Electric Recycling, and Western Resource Group provide recycling in Ogallala.



Western Resource Group

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

Allo and Charter Communications provide phone, internet and television services to Ogallala. Verizon Wireless and Viaero Wireless provide mobile phone and in-home internet services.

Post Office



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

Package Delivery Service

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

Television

Stations Carrying Local News

Call Letters	Channel	Location
KNOP-TV	2	North Platte



Allo



Keith County News

Newspaper

Keith County News, the local newspaper, is published twice weekly. Other papers delivered locally are the North Platte Telegraph, Denver Post, Omaha World-Herald, and Lincoln Journal Star.

Radio

Stations Carrying Local News

Call Letters	Frequency	Location
KMCX-FM	106.5 MHz	Ogallala
KOGA-FM	99.7 MHz	Ogallala
KOGA-AM	930 KHz	Ogallala
KHAQ-FM	98.5 MHz	Maxwell



KOGA / KMCX Radio Station

Tax Structure

Nebraska Highlights

- Nebraska assesses income tax based upon the amount of federal taxable income
- No state property tax
- No inventory tax
- 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.



City Administration Building

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

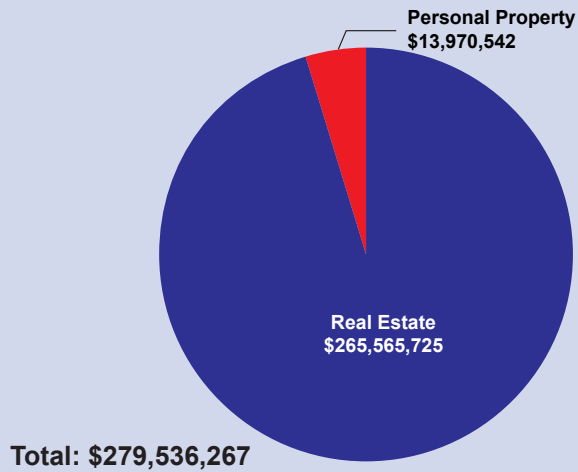
- Comparison with sales of real property of known or recognized value, taking into account location, zoning, current functional use, and other statutory guidelines (sales comparison approach)
- Earning capacity of the real property (income approach)
- Cost less depreciation (cost approach)

Nebraska Tax Incentives

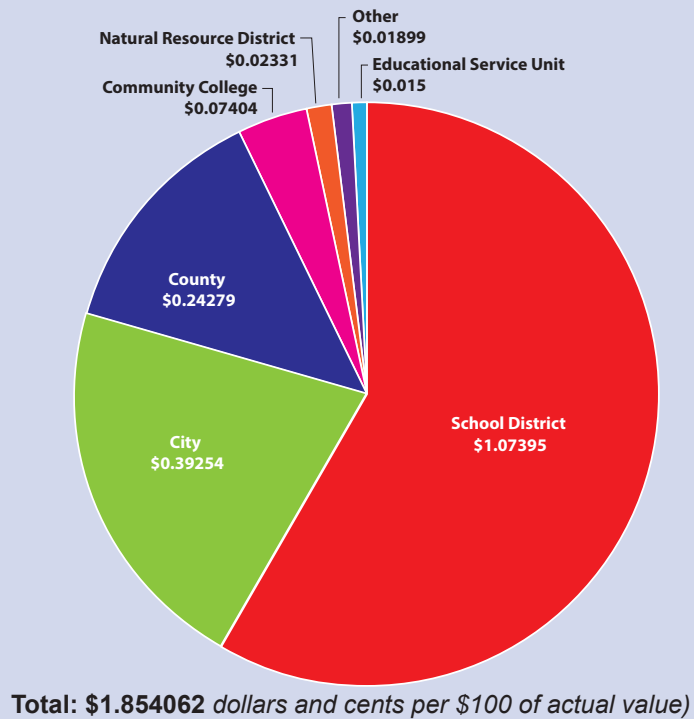
Nebraska's performance-based tax incentive programs demonstrate the state's commitment to creating a favorable business environment for your business expansion or location. Known collectively as the "Nebraska Advantage Package," this multi-tiered program provides investment credits, wage credits, sales 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.opportunity.nebraska.gov.



2018-19 Actual Valuation Ogallala, Nebraska



Ogallala 2018 Tax Rates



Local Bonded Indebtedness

As of 08/12/2019

City Revenue Bonds	\$365,000
City General Obligation Bonds	\$6,915,000
County Bonds	None

Local Government

Ogallala, a first-class city, has a council-manager form of government. Council members are elected by popular vote for four-year terms. The 2019–20 actual budget was \$17,260,828.

Keith County has five districts and is governed by five county commissioners, who are elected by popular vote for four-year terms. The actual county budget for 2017–18 was \$17,396,419. The county belongs to Keith County Area Development and West Central Nebraska Development District along with 18 other counties.

Fire Protection

Fire protection is provided to the city by a 34-member volunteer fire department; 30 members are certified emergency medical technicians and 4 are paramedics. The Ogallala Volunteer Fire Department responds to structural fires, wildland fires, vehicle accidents, water rescue, and emergency medical calls in a 458-square mile area.

Ogallala has one fire station and 337 fire hydrants. The fire insurance classification inside the corporate limits is four; outside it is 4–9. Annual expenditures for fire protection for the past three years averaged \$239,386.



Fire Hall

Streets

Ogallala has 53.58 miles of streets; 43.56 miles are hard-surfaced streets with 21.32 miles in concrete and 22.24 miles in asphalt. Restrictions on oversized loads are enforced on North Spruce Street. Eighty percent of the streets have curbs and sidewalks.

Building Regulations

The 2009 edition of the International Building Code has been adopted by the City of Ogallala.



Police Station

Law Enforcement

The Ogallala Police Department employs ten full-time police officers and one support person. The patrol division equipment consists of standard equipment, four digital speed signs in key locations, a covert speed measuring device, and body cams. Annual expenditures for police protection for the last three years averaged \$1,088,961. Regular patrol by the police department provides protection to existing industries in the area.

2017 Crime Rates (per 1,000 population)

	Violent Crimes	Property Crimes
Keith County	1.3	31.4
Nebraska	3.1	22.7
U.S. Total	3.9	23.6

Source: ucr.fbi.gov

Sheriff

The Keith County Sheriff's Department has eight sworn officers and one support personnel. Equipment in the department includes standard equipment.

State Patrol

Troop D of the Nebraska State Patrol is headquartered in North Platte, 54 miles east of Ogallala. Three patrol officers are stationed in Ogallala.

Planning

Ogallala has a nine member planning commission. Members are appointed by the city council to serve three-year terms.

The Comprehensive Plan for Ogallala was prepared in 2003 by citizens of Keith County, Nebraska, and is currently being revised.

Education

Type of School	Students	Teacher/Pupil Ratio	Computer/Pupil Ratio
Elementary (Pre-K–5)	352	1:15	1:1
Middle School (6–8)	247	1:17	1:1
High School (9–12)	282	1:10	1:1

Ogallala Public Schools

School District No. 51-0001 in Keith County and a small portion of Perkins County covers 485 square miles. A 2019–2020 actual valuation of 1,097,333,933, with an actual valuation per student of \$1,232,959. This NSAAC-1 Class 3 school is accredited by the AdvancED.

The 2017–18 school operating expenses totaled \$11,000,000, with an average cost per pupil of \$14,521.



Prairie View School - Home to K–8

Report Card 2017 – 2018	
ACT Test	Composite
Ogallala	20.1
Nebraska	19.4
National	20.8
Source: Nebraska Department of Education	



High School

Parochial Schools

Type of School	Students	Teacher/Pupil Ratio	Computer/Pupil Ratio
St. Paul's (Pre-K–5)	56	1:15	1:2
St. Luke's (Pre-K–5)	73	1:10	1:2



St. Luke's Catholic School



St. Paul's Lutheran School

Educational Service Unit

Educational Service Unit 16 (ESU), headquartered in Ogallala, serves 16 counties including Keith County. ESU 16 provides special education services at the request of member school districts. Additional services include professional development training for educators, media and technology support, financial, and administrative services.



Educational Service Unit

Higher Education



Mid-Plains Community College

Mid-Plains Community College (MPCC) has four extended campuses to meet educational needs in 18 counties. MPCC Ogallala Extended Campus consists of five classrooms, a shop area, a large community room, and distance learning capabilities. The curriculum includes transferable general education courses, computer and technical courses, as well as GED preparation and English as a Second Language instruction. MPCC is committed to strengthening local businesses and industries by offering customized training and assisting with economic development efforts.

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 Ogallala High School Graduates

	Miles
Ogallala, NE	—
Mid-Plains Community College	
North Platte, NE	54
Mid-Plains Community College	
Sterling, CO	89
Northeastern Junior College	
McCook, NE	118
Mid-Plains Community College	
Kearney, NE	150
University of Nebraska-Kearney	
Colby, KS	151
Colby Community College	
Chadron, NE	176
Chadron State College	
Hastings, NE	203
Hastings College	
Mary Lanning School of Nursing	
Laramie, WY	218
University of Wyoming	
Seward, NE	260
Concordia University	
Milford, NE	265
Southeast Community College - Milford	
Lincoln, NE	275
Nebraska Wesleyan University	
University of Nebraska-Lincoln	
Omaha, NE	330
University of Nebraska-Omaha	
University of Nebraska Medical Center	

Quality of Life



Ogallala Community Hospital-Banner Health

Health Care

Hospital

Ogallala Community Hospital–Banner Health, built in 2000, is licensed for 18 care beds and ranked Top 100 in Critical Access. It is owned by Keith County Hospital Authority Board, it offers a full range acute and primary medical care services to the rural communities of west-central Nebraska. General and orthopedic surgeons are on staff along with services such as cancer, emergency, endoscopy, eye, family medicine, heart, imaging, infusion therapy, intensive care, lab, maternity, orthopedics, pulmonary and asthma, rehabilitation, sleep medicine, sports medicine, surgery, wellness, and women’s health.

Banner Health Clinic, attached to the hospital, is an on-site clinic, as well as a specialty clinic offering a wide range of visiting specialties including heart care; cancer care; urology; ophthalmology; gastroenterology; oncology; bariatrics surgery; OB/GYN; pain; dermatology; and ear, nose, and throat.



Family Medical Center

Clinics

Family Medical Center is a locally owned clinic with one medical doctor, two physician assistants, two medical assistants, and one licensed practical nurse on staff. Established in 1988, Family Medical Center provides family care in Ogallala.

Rescue Squad

Regional West has one ambulance. Paramedic/EMS patient care services are provided through a partnership with Ogallala Volunteer Fire Department. The full-time service covers the day-time staffing service while the volunteer service in command in the evening hours. Regional West EMS provides emergency and non-emergency 911, hospital to hospital, and critical care transport services.

Nursing Homes and Assisted Living



Nursing Home - Indian Hills Manor - 82 beds



Assisted Living - Wel-Life - 34 beds

Low Cost and/or Retirement Housing

Cedarwood Apartments	24 units
Great West Townhomes	16 units
Oak Ridge Apartments	16 units
Ogallala Housing Apartments	160 units
Ogallala Village	30 units

New Public Library

New Public Library is currently under construction and will be 13,000 sq. ft. in size and features a conference room large enough to fit 120 people. The city plans for the library to be open in the spring of 2020.

Churches

Denomination

- Assembly of God
- Baptist
- Catholic
- Christian Church
- Church of God
- Church of Christ
- Congregational
- Evangelical
- Jehovah Witness
- Lutheran
- Mennonite
- Methodist
- Nondenominational
- Seventh-Day Adventist

Financial Institutions

- Adams Bank and Trust
- Pinnacle Bank
- Sandhills State Bank
- Dakota Mac – Ag Lending
- Farm Bureau Financial Services
- Raymond James Financial Services
- Edward Jones Financial Consultants



Dakota Mac



Edward Jones



Adams Bank and Trust



Pinnacle Bank

Recreation

There are eight parks covering 25 acres – six of them have playground equipment. **Collister Park** has playground equipment, advanced athletic surface multi-sport court and an indoor recreation center. **Williams Park** has playground equipment, a community garden, walking path, and disc golf course. **Searle Park** has an outdoor swimming pool, playground equipment, tennis courts, baseball field, and walking path. **Western Diamonds Park** has playground equipment, baseball/softball fields, soccer fields, and a walking path.

Summer recreation programs in Ogallala include soccer, softball, baseball, Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, swimming, golf, dance, basketball, volleyball and gymnastics. Other recreation programs include soap box derbies. Many enjoy hunting and fishing in the area. The **Wild West Soap Box Derby Track** is a unique recreational activity offered in Ogallala. The Soap Box Derby® is an international nonprofit organization whose mission is to build knowledge and character, create meaningful experiences through collaboration, and fair and honest competition.

The **Goodall Recreation Center**, a premier fitness center, has an indoor pool, hot tub, sauna, indoor track, weight-lifting machines, free weights, locker rooms, and an indoor half basketball court. Lifeguards and qualified personal trainers are available to answer questions and help with orientation at the facility.

An authentic Victorian style home, **Mansion on the Hill** was Ogallala's finest residence when it was completed in 1887. Today, it is listed in the National Register of Historic Places and is a favorite with visitors to Ogallala.

Boot Hill is a cowboy cemetery located in Ogallala. Most cowboys from the 1880s Texas Trail era were buried with their boots on, thus the name Boot Hill. Boot Hill is unique—buried in its sod are the many stories of the early days of Ogallala.

Front Street is a replica of an old west town located on Highway 30, just northeast of the I-80 interchange. Visitors can go to the general store, restaurant, bar and free museum. Crystal Palace Revue entertains every summer with a western theater production including a shootout.

The **Petrified Wood Gallery**, located in Ogallala, is a unique collection of ancient woods, fossils, gemstones, and Native American arrow heads and artifacts.



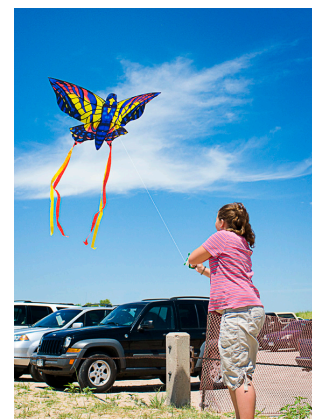
Boot Hill



Front Street



Petrified Wood Gallery



Kites and Castles



Lake McConaughy



Ogallala Pool



Crandall Creek Golf Club



Parade



Bayside Golf



Mansion on the Hill

Built in 1922, the **Spruce Street Station** (see front cover image) in Ogallala, is considered one of the best preserved of fewer than 20 former Standard Oil Stations still standing. Once the state's largest marketer of petroleum products, Standard Oil of Nebraska rose to prominence with the advent of the automobile.

Lake McConaughy (Lake Mac) is the largest lake in Nebraska and is the number one tourist destination in western Nebraska. Located eight miles north of Ogallala, it provides more than 75 miles of sandy beaches, boating and recreation. Keith County is ranked number three in the nation for best bird watching destinations. Lake Mac is a great place to watch spring and fall migrations.

Keith County Senior Center, located in Ogallala, provides a variety of services that are available to Keith County area residents. These services include congregate meals/nutrition sites and home delivery meals for the elderly in the community.

With 800-plus varieties of lilacs, **Lilacs of Meadowlark Hill** is one of the largest private collections in the world. It is open to the public part of May, every year.

Tri-trails Park commemorates three historic trails that pass through Keith County during the 1800s. Visitors enjoy the view where the Oregon Trail, Pony Express Trail and the Great Western Cattle Trail would have intersected.

Ash Hollow State Historical Park is the famous stopping point along the Oregon and California Trail. It is part of the state park and visitor center northwest of Ogallala.

Listed on the National Register for Historic Places, **Little Church of Keystone** is a true display of the pioneer spirit and religious harmony. The church has both Catholic altar and Protestant altar to meet the needs of the new community. Pew backs flip to face the appropriate altar

The **Walk of Fame** includes a tour of the Great Platte River Road, End of the Texas Trail, Pony Express, Mormon Trail, Union Pacific Railroad, Highway 26 & 92 and Lincoln Highway (Highway 30).

Annual Celebrations

MAY	Lilacs of Meadowlark Hill <i>Largest private collections of lilacs in the world is open to the public for part of May, annually</i>
JUNE	Sounds on the Square <i>Weekly live music at Rendezvous Square</i>
JULY	Fireworks Show <i>Family fireworks show</i>
	Kites and Castles <i>Annual sand castle building and kite flying event at Lake McConaughy</i>
AUGUST	Keith County Fair <i>Fair, rodeo, music, food, family activities, parade and carnival</i>
SEPTEMBER	Ogallala Indian Summer Rendezvous <i>Celebration of tradition for Ogallala's colorful past with live entertainment, goods, and trading and a parade – Live music, great food and family fun!</i>



Church of Keystone



Tri-Trails Park



Soap Box Derby Track



Goodall Recreation Center



Keith County Fair

Housing

More than 15 new homes were constructed in the past three years and several more are being developed in 2020. The cost of new home construction averages \$125 per square foot.



Community Services

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

Professional

- Architects.....1
- Attorneys 15
- Auctioneers.....3
- Certified Public Accountants.....5
- Engineering Firms1
- Medical
 - Allergists1
 - Anesthesiologists.....2
 - Audiologists2
 - Cardiologists.....2
 - Chiropractors2
 - Dentists.....6
 - Dermatologists.....1
 - Emergency Medicine1
 - Family Practice Physicians.....1
 - General Surgeons2
 - Hematologists & Oncologists.....1
 - Nurse Practitioners1
 - Obstetricians & Gynecologists.....2
 - Ophthalmologists.....3
 - Optometrists1
 - Oral Surgeons1
 - Orthodontists1
 - Orthopedic surgeons/sports medicine.....1
 - Otolaryngologists (ear, nose & throat).....1
 - Pathologists.....1
 - Pediatricians2
 - Pharmacists.....3
 - Physical Therapists.....2

Physician Assistants	1
Psychologists.....	4
Pulmonologists	1
Radiologists	2
Veterinarians.....	4

Business and Commercial

Agricultural Implement Dealers	3
Antique Shops	2
Apparel Stores	
Combination	2
Women's.....	2
Appliance Stores	2
Auto Body Repair	3
Auto Repair & Services	8
Auto Supply Parts.....	3
Automobile Dealers	2
Automobile Renting & Leasing	1
Bakeries.....	3
Convenience Stores	10
Copying & Duplicating Services	2
Craft Stores	1
Dance Studios	1
Discount Stores	1
Dry Cleaning & Laundries.....	1
Farm/Ranch Supplies	2
Feed & Seed Dealers	3
Feedlots.....	5
Floral Shops	2
Funeral Homes	2
Furniture Stores.....	1
Grocery Stores	3
Hardware Stores.....	2
Health Clubs	1
Heavy Equipment Repairs.....	4
Hotels/Motels..... (570 rooms)	10
Insurance Companies.....	6
Interior Decorators & Designers	1
Landscaping Equipment & Supplies.....	2
Laundromats.....	1

Lawn Services	3
Lumberyards.....	1
Meat Processors.....	1
Nurseries & Garden Centers	1
Office Equipment Sales, Service & Supplies.....	1
Pet Boarding/Grooming Services	1
Pharmacies.....	3
Photography Studios	3
Preschools.....	3
Printers	1
Real Estate Firms	3
Restaurants	23
Service Stations.....	10
Television & Radio Repair Shops	2
Theatres	1
Travel Agencies & Bureaus	1
Upholstery Shops	1
Welding Shops	2

Agriculture & Raw Materials

In 2017 Nebraska ranked first among the states in beef and veal exports; third in corn exports and cash receipts from all livestock and products. Nebraska's farms and ranches utilized 45.2 million acres or 91 percent of the state's total land area. Cash receipts from farm markets in 2017 contributed more than \$21.0 billion to the state's economy and 5.7 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...

- Beef and Veal, Exports, 2017
- Commercial Red Meat, 2018
- Commercial Cattle Slaughter, 2018
- Great Northern Beans, 2018
- All Cattle on Feed, Jan. 2019
- Popcorn, 2017

2nd...

- All Cattle and Calves, Jan. 2019
- All Hay, 2018
- Pinto Beans, 2018
- Proso Millet, 2018
- Light Red Kidney Beans, 2018
- Bison, Dec. 2017

3rd...

- Corn for Grain, 2018
- Corn Exports, 2017
- Cash Receipts from All Livestock and Products, 2017

4th...

- Beef Cows, Jan. 2019
- Cash Receipts from All Farm Commodities, 2016
- Land in Farms and Ranches, 2017

5th...

- Soybean Exports, 2017
- Soybean, 2018
- Alfalfa Hay, 2018
- Harvested Acres of Principal Crops, 2018
- Cash Receipts from All Crops, 2017
- Grain Sorghum, 2018
- Sugar Beets, 2018
- Egg and Egg Product Exports, 2017
- Pork and Pork Product Exports, 2017

6th...

- All Dry Edible Beans, 2018
- Agricultural Exports, 2017
- Commercial Hog Slaughter, 2018

7th...

- Sunflower, 2017
- All Hogs and Pigs on Farms, Dec. 2018

8th...

- Winter Wheat, 2018

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

Keith County

2017 Statistics	Keith County	State of Nebraska
Number of Farms.....	318.....	46,332
Land in Farms (acres)	491,482.....	44,986,821
Average Size of Farms (acres).....	1,546.....	971
Market Value of Agricultural Products Sold	\$161,853,000.....	\$21,983,430,000
Market Value Per Farm.....	\$508,972.....	\$474,476
Total Acres Irrigated.....	79,889.....	8,588,380
Percent of Farmland Irrigated.....	16.3%.....	19.1%

Source: 2017 Census of Agriculture

Five-Year Average Production of Leading Crops (2013–2017)	Keith County	State of Nebraska
Corn for Grain (bushels).....	16,369,400.....	1,658,390,000
Hay, Alfalfa (tons)	20,240.....	3,122,000
Soybeans (bushels).....	998,875*.....	297,770,000
Sugar Beets (tons).....	66,680.....	1,365,200
Winter Wheat (bushels).....	1,718,000.....	54,918,000

*4-year average

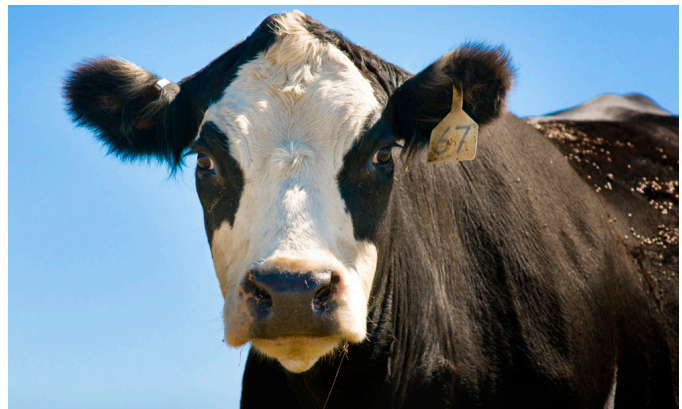
Five-Year Average Livestock Population (2013–2017)	Keith County	State of Nebraska
All Cattle	55,000	6,360,000

Keith County ranked in the top seven counties in the state in the production of sugar beets each of the past five years and in the top ten counties in the state in the production of winter wheat for two of the past 5 years..

Source: National Agricultural Statistics Service

Raw Materials

Raw materials are not available locally; however, sand and gravel, non metallic minerals are available in commercial quantities. Cottonwood lumber is also available in commercial quantities.



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.

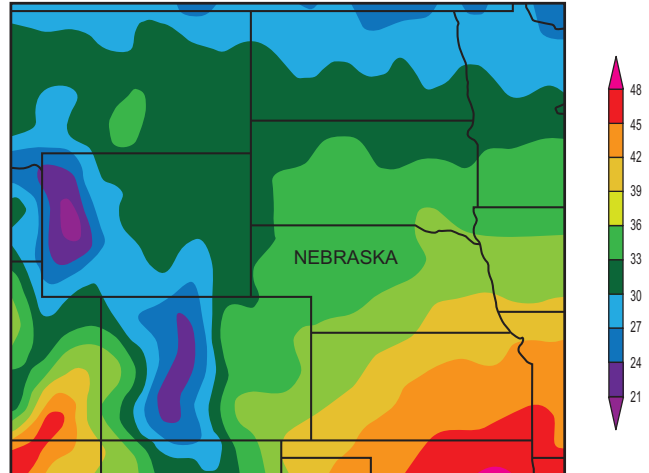
Precipitation

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.

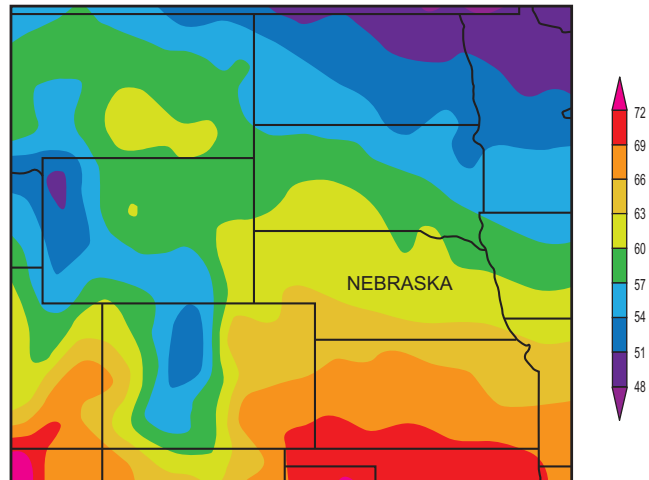
Growing Season

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.

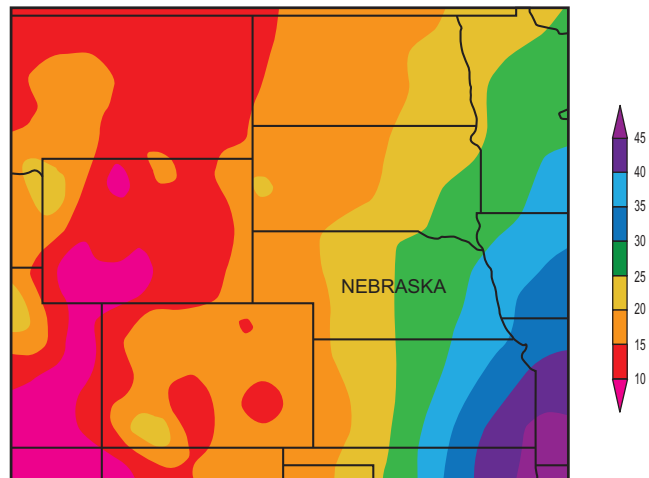
Annual Minimum Temperature (F)



Annual Maximum Temperature (F)



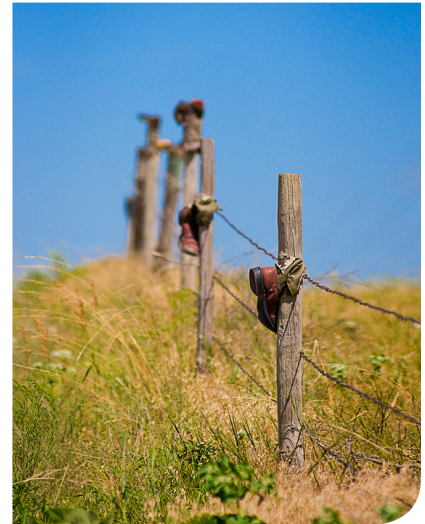
Annual Precipitation (inches)



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

Source: www.hprcc.unl.edu

Ogallala • NEBRASKA



Community Websites:

www.kcad.org

www.visitogallala.com

www.ogallala-ne.gov

COWBOY CAPITOL
OF THE WORLD

Ogallala

NEBRASKA



March 2020

www.nppd.com

Nebraska Public Power District (NPPD), Nebraska's largest electric utility, assists in the economic development of the areas it serves. For more information on NPPD's economic development assistance, contact the Economic Development Department, 1414 15th Street, PO Box 499, Columbus, NE 68602-0499, (877) 275-6773, Ext. 5534, email: econdev@nppd.com, or visit our website at www.sites.nppd.com.