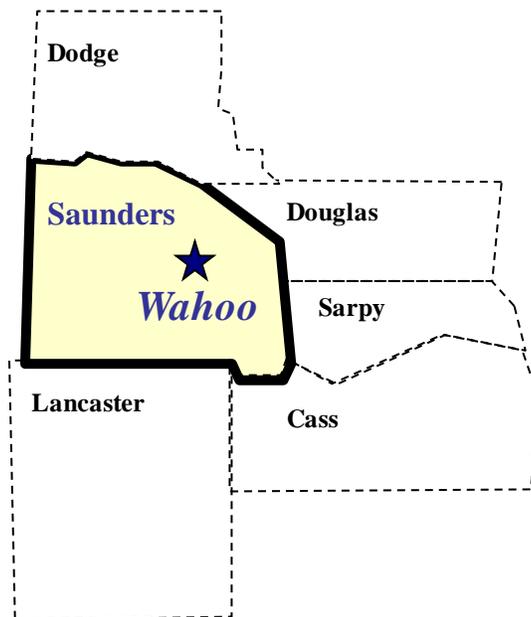


Labor Supply Factors and Labor Availability for the Wahoo, Nebraska Labor Area



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Labor Supply Factors and Labor Availability for the Wahoo (Saunders County) Labor Area

Executive Summary

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

- Population in the Wahoo Labor Area (Saunders County plus Cass, Dodge, Douglas, Lancaster, and Sarpy Counties¹) totaled 1,044,069 people in 2010, with the Saunders County population totaling 20,780. Population in Saunders County grew by 4.8 percent during the 2000–2010 period, compared to a population increase of 13.9 percent for the six-county Wahoo Labor Area as a whole.
- The labor force for the Wahoo Labor Area totaled 549,079 in 2010, with 522,135 local residents employed in jobs either within or outside the area. A total of 548,879 persons were employed in nonfarm wage and salary jobs² located within the area.
- In 2009, 1,257 primary jobs (59.5 percent) held by Wahoo city residents and 7,290 primary jobs (76.4 percent) held by Saunders County residents were located outside Saunders County. This confirms a large number of Saunders County residents are commuting to jobs in other counties.
- Average annual wages for all nonfarm wage and salary employees in the Wahoo Labor Area were \$2,953 more than the Nebraska average. Within the labor area, Douglas County had the highest average wage, \$43,201 or \$5,882 higher than the Nebraska average. In Saunders County, average annual salaries were \$9,332 less than the state average.

The basic conclusion of this report, which follows from the data and analysis presented, is that the Wahoo Labor Area would be able to provide a significant number of dedicated and skilled workers to meet the needs of additional employers in the area. While this report has not estimated a precise number of people that may be available for a

¹ Each of these counties supplied more than two percent of the workers in primary jobs within Saunders County in 2009.

² Nonfarm wage and salary employment data are derived from businesses subject to State unemployment insurance laws and from Federal agencies subject to the Unemployment Compensation for Federal Employees program. Nonfarm wage and salary employment data includes 99.7% of all wage and salary civilian employment. Self-employed workers, unpaid family workers, workers in certain not-for-profit organizations, and several other small (primarily seasonal) worker categories are not included.

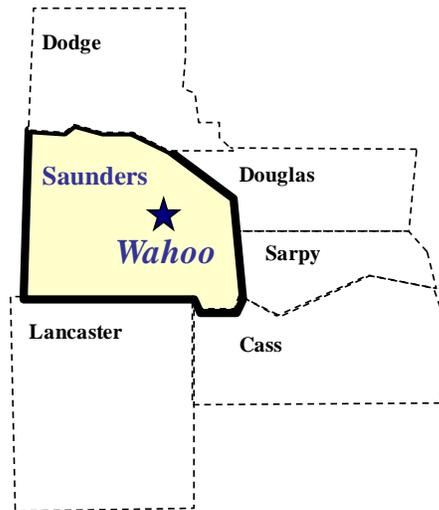
prospective new employer in the Wahoo area, it is anticipated that if attractive working conditions with competitive wages and employee benefits were offered, a prospective new employer would be able to select their workforce from a substantial pool of applicants.

Labor Supply Factors and Labor Availability for the Wahoo, Nebraska Labor Area

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

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

Figure One Wahoo Labor Area



An important resource for new or expanding businesses is a readily available supply of workers. Whether an employer requires 10 or 1,000 workers, they need to have confidence there will be a sufficient number of workers available to meet their labor requirements. This report is provided as a key analytical tool to identify and quantify the number and selected characteristics of workers available in the Wahoo Labor Area.

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

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

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

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

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

Labor Force and Employment

Table One provides data showing labor force and employment trends for the Wahoo Labor Area and for Saunders County for selected years from 2005 to 2010. Data in Table One (Part A and Part B) provide two alternate measures of employment for two distinct areas. Data presented in Table One, Part A include labor force, unemployment, employment, and nonfarm wage and salary employment data for the entire Wahoo Labor Area (see Figure One). As these data indicate, the total labor force and total employment for the laborshed area as a whole both increased, with the area labor force growing by 1.8 percent between 2005 and 2010 and total employment growing by 0.9 percent during the same period.

Table One
Labor Force and Employment, Wahoo Labor Area^(a), 2005–2010

Part A
Labor Force and Employment
Wahoo Labor Area^(a), 2005–2010

(Place of Residence)	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	% Chg. 2005–2010
Labor Force^(b)	520,350	521,518	530,516	539,546	534,037	529,801	1.8
Unemployment (#)	21,244	16,316	16,194	17,792	26,582	25,984	22.3
Unemployment Rate (%)	4.1	3.1	3.1	3.3	5.0	4.9	(N/A)
Employment	499,106	505,202	514,322	521,754	507,455	503,817	0.9
(Place of Work)							
Nonfarm Employment^(c)	528,591	534,102	544,229	550,391	535,861	532,933	0.8

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

Table One (Continued)
Part B
Labor Force and Employment by Industry
Saunders County, NE

(Place of Residence)	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	% Chg. 2005–2010
Labor Force ^(b)	11,156	10,986	10,990	10,995	10,711	10,608	-4.9
Unemployment (#)	446	327	331	380	555	528	18.4
Unemployment Rate (%)	4.0	3.0	3.0	3.5	5.2	5.0	(N/A)
Employment	10,710	10,659	10,659	10,615	10,156	10,080	-5.9
(Place of Work)							
Nonfarm Employment ^(c)	4,646	4,656	4,796	4,753	4,674	4,847	4.3
Goods Producing	1,111	1,128	1,221	1,140	960	916	-17.6
Manufacturing	451	462	554	496	377	351	-22.2
Construction	549	575	560	543	516	493	-10.2
Natural Resource & Mining	111	91	107	101	67	72	-35.1
Service Providing	2,259	2,270	2,327	2,337	2,342	2,371	5.0
Trade Trans., Ware. & Utilities	905	871	894	917	919	900	-0.6
Financial Activities	228	219	219	219	224	218	-4.4
Professional & Business Services	202	224	220	210	193	187	-7.4
Education & Health Services	380	400	431	425	426	444	16.8
Leisure and Hospitality	443	466	477	481	490	531	19.9
Other Service, Except Govt.	101	90	86	85	90	91	-9.9
Total Government	1,276	1,258	1,248	1,276	1,372	1,560	22.3
Federal Government	94	95	94	100	98	101	7.4
State Government	139	139	135	135	196	282	102.9
Local Government	1,043	1,024	1,019	1,041	1,078	1,177	12.8

^(a) The Wahoo Labor Area includes Saunders County plus Cass, Dodge, Douglas, Lancaster, and Sarpy Counties in Nebraska.

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

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

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

Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, www.bls.gov/cew/.

The second employment measure presented for the Wahoo Labor Area, nonfarm wage and salary employment increased from 528,591 in 2005 to 532,933 in 2010, an increase of 0.8 percent. In the case of the labor force data (labor force, unemployment, and employment), the respective measures are based on the county of residence. The nonfarm wage and salary employment data are measured based on the county of employment, irrespective of the place of residence of the workers.

The labor force and employment measures presented for Saunders County (Table One, Part B) indicate that the total labor force in the county declined by 4.9 percent between

2005 and 2010, with total employment (of people residing in Saunders County, irrespective of their county of employment) declining by 5.9 percent during this period. It is also of interest to note that unemployment increased by 18.4 percent, from 446 in 2005 to 528 in 2010, recording an unemployment rate of 5.0 percent in 2010.

As previously noted, the second employment measure presented for Saunders County, nonfarm wage and salary employment, is based on the county where the person is employed irrespective of their county of residence. Nonfarm wage and salary employment in Saunders County grew by 4.3 percent between 2005 and 2010. Data presented in Table One, Part B show that the fastest growing employment sector in Saunders County during the 2005–2010 review period was the Total Government sector, recording a 22.3 percent increase. Other economic sectors experiencing significant growth in employment between 2005 and 2010 include the Leisure and Hospitality sector (19.9 percent), and the Education & Health Services (16.8 percent). In the case of the Total Government Sector, employment in the State Government Sector grew by 102.9 percent while the Local Government Sector employment grew by 12.8 percent and the Federal Government Sector employment grew by 7.4 percent.

Further review of the employment data reported for the Wahoo Labor Area and for Saunders County (Table Two) indicates that for both areas experienced differences between the nonfarm wage and salary employment reported in the areas and the total employment of persons living in the respective areas. In the case of the entire Wahoo Labor Area, nonfarm wage and salary employment was reported to be 548,879 in 2010, which was significantly greater (26,744) than the reported total employment of persons living within the six-county Wahoo Labor Area. For Saunders County, nonfarm wage and salary employment was 5,233 less than the total employment of county residents.

Table Two
Labor Force, Employment, and Nonfarm Wage and Salary Employment,
Wahoo Labor Area, 2010

County	Labor Force (2010) ^(a)	Total Employment (2010) ^(a)	Nonfarm Wage & Salary		Agricultural Employment (2009) ^(c)
			Employment (2010) ^(b)	Total Employment Minus NF W&S Employment	
Saunders	10,608	10,080	4,847	5,233	1,130
Cass	13,544	12,770	4,800	7,970	610
Dodge	19,278	18,318	15,946	2,372	764
Douglas	269,726	255,524	310,928	-55,404	450
Lancaster	157,637	150,952	152,806	-1,854	1,558
Sarpy	78,286	74,491	59,552	14,939	349
Labor Area	549,079	522,135	548,879	-26,744	4,861

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

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

^(c) Agricultural employment data are for 2009.

Sources: Labor Data - U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, www.bls.gov/lau/#data.

Farm Employment Data - U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis, Regional Accounts Data website: www.bea.gov/regional/reis/.

There are two major reasons for differences in the total employment and nonfarm employment values. First, nonfarm wage and salary employment excludes self-employed workers, unpaid family workers, workers in certain not-for-profit organizations, and several other small (primarily seasonal and farm) worker categories—these workers are included in estimates of total employment. Second estimates of nonfarm wage and salary employment is based on the area where the jobs (businesses) are located while estimates of total employment are based on the area where workers live.

Table Two also contains information on agricultural employment, which includes farm proprietors. Agricultural employment, shown in the table, shows that 4,861 people were employed in agriculture in 2009 the last year that agricultural employment data were available. It is important to note, that for Nebraska as a whole, approximately 32 percent of farm operators also have a full-time job off the farm and 49 percent work off the farm, either in full- or part-time employment.

The number of nonfarm wage and salary workers in the Wahoo Labor Area is shown by major industry sector and by county in Table Three. The reader is reminded that nonfarm wage and salary workers are counted in the county where they are employed. Individuals with more than one job are counted at each establishment (and in each county) where they work. Table Three provides information about the number of workers in the labor area by county and major industry category.

Table Three
Nonfarm Wage and Salary Employment, by Industry Sector
Wahoo Labor Area, by County, 2010

County	Manuf.	Constr. Nat. Res. Mining	Trade Trans. & Utilities	Ed. & Health Svc.	Leisure & Hospitality	All Other Svc.	Govt.	Tot NF W. & S. Emp.
Saunders	351	565	900	444	531	496	1,560	4,847
Cass	373	418	1,179	363	539	530	1,396	4,798
Dodge	3,260	621	3,493	2,020	1,537	2,154	2,860	15,945
Douglas	21,867	14,000	55,677	49,106	30,206	100,059	40,013	310,928
Lancaster	11,695	6,806	29,307	22,030	15,386	35,808	31,774	152,806
Sarpy	2,353	4,067	19,078	5,120	5,171	14,205	9,557	59,551
Labor Area	39,899	26,477	109,634	79,083	53,370	153,252	87,160	548,875
Nebraska	91,605	54,389	184,480	119,765	80,745	205,921	160,031	896,936

Percent of Total Nonfarm Wage & Salary Employment								
	Manuf.	Constr. Nat. Res. Mining	Trade Trans. & Utilities	Ed. & Health Svc.	Leisure & Hospitality	All Other Svc.	Govt.	Tot NF W. & S. Emp.
Labor Area	7.3	4.8	20.0	14.4	9.7	27.9	15.9	100.0
Nebraska	10.2	6.1	20.6	13.4	9.0	23.0	17.8	100.0

Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, www.bls.gov/cew/.

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

The most significant deviations between Nebraska and the Wahoo Labor Area occur in the All Other Services sector employment, with 27.9 percent of nonfarm wage and salary workers in the Wahoo Labor Area employed in that sector, compared to 23.0 percent for Nebraska. Conversely, only 7.3 percent of nonfarm wage and salary workers in the Wahoo Labor Area are employed in the manufacturing sector, compared to 10.2 percent for Nebraska as a whole.

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

A review of the data in Table Four, Part A indicates that average annual salaries in Saunders County (\$27,987 for all wage and salary employees for all private industries) are lower than for the Wahoo Labor Area as a whole and all of the other counties that make up the area. Also, Saunders County average annual salaries are \$9,332 (25.0 percent) less than the state average. Average annual salaries for the Wahoo Labor Area (\$40,272) were \$2,953 (7.9 percent) more than the Nebraska average. These data suggest, of course, there would be a positive labor supply response in Saunders County to the creation of additional employment opportunities with competitive wages and benefits.

Table Four
Average Pay, Wahoo Labor Area & Nebraska, 2010

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

County	Average Employment	Average Weekly Wages	Average Annual Wages
Saunders	4,848	\$538	\$27,987
Cass	4,799	\$579	\$30,133
Dodge	15,944	\$624	\$32,465
Douglas	310,893	\$831	\$43,201
Lancaster	152,788	\$716	\$37,230
Sarpy	59,544	\$706	\$36,688
Labor Area	548,816	\$772	\$40,272
Nebraska	896,939	\$718	\$37,319

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

Table Four (Continued)
Part B

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

County	Goods- Producing	Manufacturing	Construction	Service- Providing	Trade, Transportation, and Utilities	Financial Activities	Professional and Business Services	Leisure and Hospitality
Saunders	\$34,291	\$33,215	\$34,808	\$24,355	\$27,442	\$39,761	\$39,368	\$8,761
Cass	\$42,584	\$45,601	\$29,195	\$25,030	\$28,692	\$36,604	\$33,632	\$11,362
Dodge	\$42,343	\$43,399	\$35,978	\$26,660	\$32,062	\$33,558	\$33,528	\$10,998
Douglas	\$44,951	\$44,070	\$46,537	\$42,420	\$35,811	\$57,802	\$53,733	\$15,014
Lancaster	\$44,319	\$47,119	\$40,411	\$33,712	\$31,216	\$45,298	\$41,245	\$12,327
Sarpy	\$43,441	\$49,416	\$40,031	\$34,278	\$29,690	\$46,748	\$56,403	\$12,766
Nebraska	\$40,732	\$42,088	\$40,791	\$35,684	\$32,047	\$49,560	\$48,137	\$12,903

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

Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, www.bls.gov/cew/.

Table Four, Part B provides average annual wages, by county and by major industry sector, for the counties that make up the Wahoo Labor Area. As the data in Table Four Part A indicate, the highest overall average annual wages in the area are for wage and salary workers employed in Douglas County. The average annual wage for all wage and salary workers (working) in Douglas County was \$43,201 in 2010 which was \$2,929 (7.3 percent) higher than the average for the Wahoo Labor Area as a whole, and \$5,882 (15.8 percent) greater than the Nebraska average. A review of the industry specific data for average annual wages for Douglas indicates that the high average annual wage results from the extremely high average wage in the Financial Activities and Professional and Business Services industries.

Commuting Patterns

Table Five provides data from the 2009 U.S. Census, Local Employment Dynamics Program showing commuting patterns for workers living in the Wahoo Labor Area. Data in Table Five, Part A indicate, a significant number (and percentage) of workers in the area commuted outside of their county of residence for employment. Data for Saunders County indicate that 7,290, or 76.4 percent of the employed workers, commuted to other counties for employment, the second highest percentage of the six counties in the labor area. In the case of Cass County, 9,145, or 77.7 percent of employed workers commuted out of their county of residence for employment. Other counties with a high percentage of employed workers commuting to other counties for employment include Sarpy (74.5 percent) and Dodge (48.7 percent).

Table Five
Commuting Patterns, Wahoo Labor Area, 2009

Part A
Jobs Outside County of Residence, 2009

County	Working Outside County	
	Number	Percent
Saunders	7,290	76.4
Cass	9,145	77.7
Dodge	8,172	48.7
Douglas	45,285	19.8
Lancaster	20,909	16.3
Sarpy	52,188	74.5

Part B
Wahoo and Saunders County Residents
Employment by County, 2009

County Where Jobs are Located	Number of Jobs in County		Percent of All Jobs	
	Wahoo Residents	Saunders County Residents	Wahoo Residents	Saunders County Residents
Saunders	855	2,254	40.5%	23.6%
Lancaster	414	2,251	19.6%	23.6%
Douglas	473	2,592	22.4%	27.2%
Dodge	102	858	4.8%	9.0%
Sarpy	78	601	3.7%	6.3%
All Other Locations	190	988	9.0%	10.4%
Total Resident Jobs	2,112	9,544	100.0%	100.0%

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

Table Five, Part B provides further detail illustrating the willingness of workers in Wahoo and Saunders County to travel for employment. In 2009, residents of Saunders County worked at a total of 9,544 jobs; a resident could work at more than one job. Of the 9,544 jobs, the largest number, 2,592 or 27.2% percent, were located in Douglas County, while 2,254 or 23.6% percent were located in Saunders County. Other counties with high numbers of workers from Saunders County were Lancaster (2,251 jobs), Dodge (858 jobs), and Sarpy (601 jobs).

Also in 2009, residents of Wahoo worked at a total of 2,112 jobs with the largest number, 855 or 40.5% percent located in Saunders County. Other counties with high numbers of workers from Wahoo were Douglas (473 jobs), Lancaster (414 jobs), Dodge (102 jobs), and Sarpy (78 jobs).

Table Six provides data showing the willingness of workers in other counties to commute to the City of Wahoo and Saunders County for employment. In 2009, 573 or 33.9 percent of the 1,688 primary jobs in the City of Wahoo were held by residents of other counties. Lancaster County was home to the greatest number of workers commuting into the City of Wahoo from outside Saunders County, 137 or 8.1 percent, followed by Douglas County, 69 or 4.1, and Dodge County, 56 or 3.3 percent.

Data in Table Six indicate 1,682 (42.7 percent) of the 3,936 primary jobs in Saunders County were held by workers commuting from other counties. In 2009, Lancaster County was home to the greatest number of workers commuting to Saunders for primary jobs, 430 or 10.9 percent, followed by Douglas County, 258 or 6.6 percent, Dodge County, 190 or 4.8 percent, and Sarpy County, 103 or 2.6 percent.

Table Six
Resident County
Wahoo and Saunders County
Primary Job Worker, 2009

Resident County (Where Workers Live)	<u>Number of Primary Job Within</u>		<u>Percent of All Primary Jobs</u>	
	Wahoo City	Saunders County	Wahoo City	Saunders County
Saunders	1,115	2,254	66.1%	57.3%
Lancaster	137	430	8.1%	10.9%
Douglas	69	258	4.1%	6.6%
Dodge	56	190	3.3%	4.8%
Sarpy	19	103	1.1%	2.6%
Cass	NA	83	NA	2.1%
Butler	19	63	1.1%	1.0%
All Other Locations	273	555	16.2%	14.1%
Total Jobs	1,688	3,936	100.0%	100.0%

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

Table Seven provides data for Saunders County showing the number of primary jobs (Workforce) located in the county and the number of primary jobs held by county residents (Labor Force Employment) by industry in 2009. When the Workforce for an industry exceeds the Labor Force (positive values in the last column of Table Seven), the difference between these values represents the net number of jobs in Saunders County held by workers commuting into the county from other areas. If the Workforce is less than the Labor Force (negative values in the last column of Table Seven), the difference represents the net number of jobs held outside of Saunders County by county residents.

As data in Table Seven indicate, residents of Saunders County were employed in 9,544 primary jobs in 2009, but there were 3,936 primary jobs within the area. This indicates residents commuted to at least 5,608 primary jobs outside the study area. It is important to note this is an estimate of net out-commuting and most certainly understates the actual number of primary jobs in other counties held by area residents.

Table Seven
Primary Jobs, Saunders County, 2009
Resident Labor Force and Employers Workforce

Industry	Labor Force Employment (Employment of Area Residents)	Workforce (Area Jobs)	Net Number of Jobs Held by Workers Commuting Into Saunders County^(a)
Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing and Hunting	95	43	-52
Mining, Quarrying, and Oil and Gas Extraction	15	10	-5
Utilities	107	12	-95
Construction	690	247	-443
Manufacturing	1,273	574	-699
Wholesale Trade	512	200	-312
Retail Trade	1,160	422	-738
Transportation and Warehousing	333	123	-210
Information	132	42	-90
Finance and Insurance	521	143	-378
Real Estate and Rental and Leasing	76	26	-50
Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services	435	130	-305
Administration & Support, Waste Management and Remediation	293	81	-212
Management of Companies and Enterprises	150	33	-117
Educational Services	1,015	579	-436
Health Care and Social Assistance	1,278	501	-777
Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation	101	50	-51
Accommodation and Food Services	513	231	-282
Other Services (excluding Public Administration)	203	76	-127
Public Administration	642	413	-229
Total	9,544	3,936	-5,608

^(a) A negative value indicates the net number of primary jobs outside of the area held by Wahoo Labor Area Residents.

Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census, *Local Employment Dynamics*, <http://lehdmap4.did.census.gov/themap4/>.

Population Trends

The data provided in Table Eight show population trends for the Wahoo Labor Area, by county, and for Nebraska for the 1950–2010 period. As these data indicate, the population of the Wahoo Labor Area was 916,795 in 2000. The Wahoo Labor Area population grew by 92.6 percent from 1950 to 2000 and grew 13.9 percent from 2000 to 2010. Population in Saunders County totaled 19,830 in 2000 and had grown by 17.2 percent from 1950 to 2000. During the latest Census decade from 2000 to 2010, Saunders County population increased by 4.8 percent, compared to an increase for the Wahoo Labor Area as a whole of 13.9 percent, and to the State rate of growth of 6.7 percent.

Table Eight
Population in the Wahoo Labor Area, by County, and Nebraska
Selected Years, 1950–2010

County	1950	1960	1970	1980	1990	2000	2010	% Chg. 1950–2000	% Chg. 2000–10
Saunders	16,923	17,270	17,018	18,716	18,285	19,830	20,780	17.2	4.8
Cass	16,361	17,821	18,076	20,297	21,318	24,334	25,241	48.7	3.7
Dodge	26,265	32,471	34,782	35,847	34,500	36,160	36,691	37.7	1.5
Douglas	281,020	343,490	389,455	397,038	416,444	463,585	517,110	65.0	11.5
Lancaster	119,742	155,272	167,972	192,884	213,641	250,291	285,407	109.0	14.0
Sarpy	15,693	31,281	63,696	86,015	102,583	122,595	158,840	681.2	29.6
Labor Area	476,004	597,605	690,999	750,797	806,771	916,795	1,044,069	92.6	13.9
Nebraska	1,325,510	1,411,330	1,483,493	1,569,825	1,578,385	1,711,263	1,826,341	29.1	6.7

Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census, *Census of Population, 1950-2010*.

Table Nine shows the age distribution of the resident population. Obviously, the age distribution of the population is important when evaluating the potential labor supply in an area. A key variable is the number of people in the working age populations of the counties making up the Wahoo Labor Area. In 2010, there were 10,884 people in Saunders County between the ages of 25 and 64, which represented 52.4 percent of the total population, compared to 52.6 percent of the population for the Wahoo Labor Area as a whole and 51.4 percent of the Nebraska population in this age range.

Table Nine
Age Characteristics of the Population, Wahoo Labor Area,
by County, and Nebraska, 2010

County	0-14		15-24		25-44		45-64		65-Older		Median Age
	Number	% ^(a)									
Saunders	4,384	21.1	2,292	11.0	4,681	22.5	6,203	29.9	3,220	15.5	41.5
Cass	5,213	20.7	2,820	11.2	5,921	23.5	7,684	30.4	3,603	14.3	41.1
Dodge	7,252	19.8	4,618	12.6	8,463	23.1	9,618	26.2	6,740	18.4	40.3
Douglas	113,752	22.0	74,138	14.3	148,219	28.7	126,126	24.4	54,875	10.6	33.5
Lancaster	55,797	19.5	52,026	18.2	78,253	27.4	68,230	23.9	31,101	10.9	32.6
Sarpy	38,625	24.3	21,139	13.3	47,300	29.8	38,232	24.1	13,544	8.5	32.9
Labor Area	225,023	21.6	157,033	15.0	292,837	28.0	256,093	24.5	113,083	10.8	33.9
Nebraska	383,542	21.0	258,206	14.1	466,014	25.5	471,902	25.8	246,677	13.5	36.2

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

Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census, *Census of Population, Summary File One, 2010*.

Table Ten provides information showing population, the natural increase (births minus deaths) and net migration for the 1990–1999 period for Nebraska, for Saunders County and for the Wahoo Labor Area. As these data show, the Wahoo Labor Area as a whole experienced net in-migration during the Census decade of the 1990s, with only Douglas, County experiencing net out-migration. As indicated in the table, net in-migration for the Wahoo Labor Area as a whole accounted for a population increase of 14,959 people during the decade, contributing to population growth equal to 1.9 percent of the 1990 population. In the case of Saunders County, net in-migration during 1990s totaled 339 people, or 1.9 percent of the 1990 population.

Table Ten
Population, Births, Deaths, and Migration
Nebraska and Wahoo Labor Area by County, 1990–1999

County	Population		1990–1999			Net Migration*, 1990–1999	
	1990	2000	Births	Deaths	Nat. Incr.	Number	% 1990 Pop.
Saunders	18,285	19,260	2,271	1,635	636	339	1.9
Cass	21,318	24,841	2,918	1,850	1,068	2,455	11.5
Dodge	34,500	35,201	3,980	3,582	398	303	0.9
Douglas	416,444	446,277	65,271	32,498	32,773	-2,940	-0.7
Lancaster	213,641	237,657	29,673	14,365	15,308	8,708	4.1
Sarpy	102,583	122,495	18,016	4,198	13,818	6,094	5.9
Labor Area	806,771	885,731	122,129	58,128	64,001	14,959	1.9
Nebraska	1,578,417	1,666,028	217,510	139,754	77,756	9,855	0.6

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

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

Table Eleven provides information showing population, the natural increase (births minus deaths), and net migration for the 2000–2009 period. As these data show, the Wahoo Labor Area experienced significant net in-migration during this more recent nine-year period. As indicated in the table, in-migration for the Wahoo Labor Area as a whole accounted for population growth of 44,017 during the 2000–2009 period, contributing to a population increase equal to 4.8 percent of the 2000 population. In the case of Saunders County, net in-migration during this nine-year period was 344, or 1.7 percent of the 2000 population.

Table Eleven
Population, Births, Deaths, and Migration
Nebraska and Wahoo Labor Area, by County, 2000–2009

County	Population		2000–2009			Net Migration, 2000–2009*	
	2000	2009	Births	Deaths	Nat. Incr.	Number	% 2000 Pop.
Saunders	19,830	20,780	2,306	1,700	606	344	1.7
Cass	24,334	25,241	2,944	1,949	995	-88	-0.4
Dodge	36,160	36,691	4,571	3,748	823	-292	-0.8
Douglas	463,585	517,110	76,137	33,353	42,784	10,741	2.3
Lancaster	250,291	285,407	37,359	15,823	21,536	13,580	5.4
Sarpy	122,595	158,840	22,402	5,889	16,513	19,732	16.1
Labor Area	916,795	1,044,069	145,719	62,462	83,257	44,017	4.8
Nebraska	1,711,263	1,826,341	241,832	139,626	102,206	12,872	0.8

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

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

Competitive Employment and Career Opportunities

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

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

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

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