

COMMUNITY FACTS
GORDON, NEBRASKA

www.ci.gordon.ne.us

FEBRUARY 2010

POPULATION
(Official U.S. Census)

	<u>2000</u>	<u>2008 Est.</u>
Gordon	1,756	1,499
Sheridan County	6,198	5,337
Labor Market*	58,083	55,101

*Includes Sheridan County and contiguous counties

Economic Development Department
Nebraska Public Power District
Columbus, Nebraska 68601

www.nppd.com
sites.nppd.com

©Nebraska Public Power District, 2010

INTRODUCTION

The following pages contain basic information about Gordon, Nebraska. This material was compiled by the city of Gordon and Nebraska Public Power District in order to promote community development.

Additional and more detailed information about Gordon may be obtained by contacting any of the following:

Fred Hlava, Jr., City Manager
City of Gordon
Gordon, Nebraska 69343
Business Phone: (308) 282-0837
Fax: (308) 282-1431
Cell Phone: (308) 360-0687
Email: gordon@gpcom.net
www.ci.gordon.ne.us

Leo Westendorf, President
Gordon Community Development Corporation
Gordon, Nebraska 69343
Business Phone: (308) 282-0898
Fax: (308) 282-0046
Cell Phone: (308) 360-0243
Email: leo.westendorf@farmcoop.com
www.ci.gordon.ne.us

Dennis G. Hall, CEcD
Economic Development Manager
Nebraska Public Power District
Columbus, Nebraska 68602-0499
Business Phone: (402) 563-5534
Toll Free: (800) 282-6773
Fax: (402) 563-5090
Cell Phone: (402) 562-0893
Email: dghall@nppd.com
sites.nppd.com

Section headings are hot linked within this Facts Book. Click on the blue text links to jump to a new section. Clicking on the blue section headings will return you to the Table of Contents.

Table of Contents

GENERAL INFORMATION

LOCATION	1
POPULATION	1
LOCAL ECONOMY	2
ELEVATION	2
TOPOGRAPHY	2
HISTORY	2

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

MANUFACTURERS	5
MAJOR NONMANUFACTURING EMPLOYERS.....	5
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ORGANIZATIONS	6

LABOR

LABOR SUPPLY	7
UNIONIZATION	9
WAGES	9
FRINGE BENEFITS	10

TRANSPORTATION

RAILROADS	11
MOTOR.....	11
AIR	11
WATER	12

UTILITIES

ELECTRICITY	13
NATURAL GAS.....	15
OTHER FUELS.....	15
WATER	15
SEWERAGE	16
SOLID WASTE DISPOSAL	16
RECYCLING	16

COMMUNICATIONS

TELECOMMUNICATIONS.....	17
INTERNET.....	17
POST OFFICE.....	17
PACKAGE DELIVERY SERVICES.....	17
NEWSPAPER.....	17
RADIO	17
TELEVISION.....	17

TAX STRUCTURE

VALUES FOR TAX LEVY PURPOSES—CITY OF GORDON	19
TAX RATE.....	19
CITY SALES TAX.....	19
LOCAL BONDED INDEBTEDNESS	19
CITY BOND ISSUES	20

LOCAL GOVERNMENT

COUNTY GOVERNMENT21
MUNICIPAL GOVERNMENT21
FIRE PROTECTION21
LAW ENFORCEMENT.....21
STREETS.....22
BUILDING AND ZONING REGULATIONS22
PLANNING22

COMMUNITY FACILITIES

SCHOOLS AND COLLEGES23
CHURCHES29
HEALTH CARE29
NURSING HOMES30
LIBRARY30
RECREATION.....30
HOUSING.....33
FINANCIAL34

COMMUNITY SERVICES

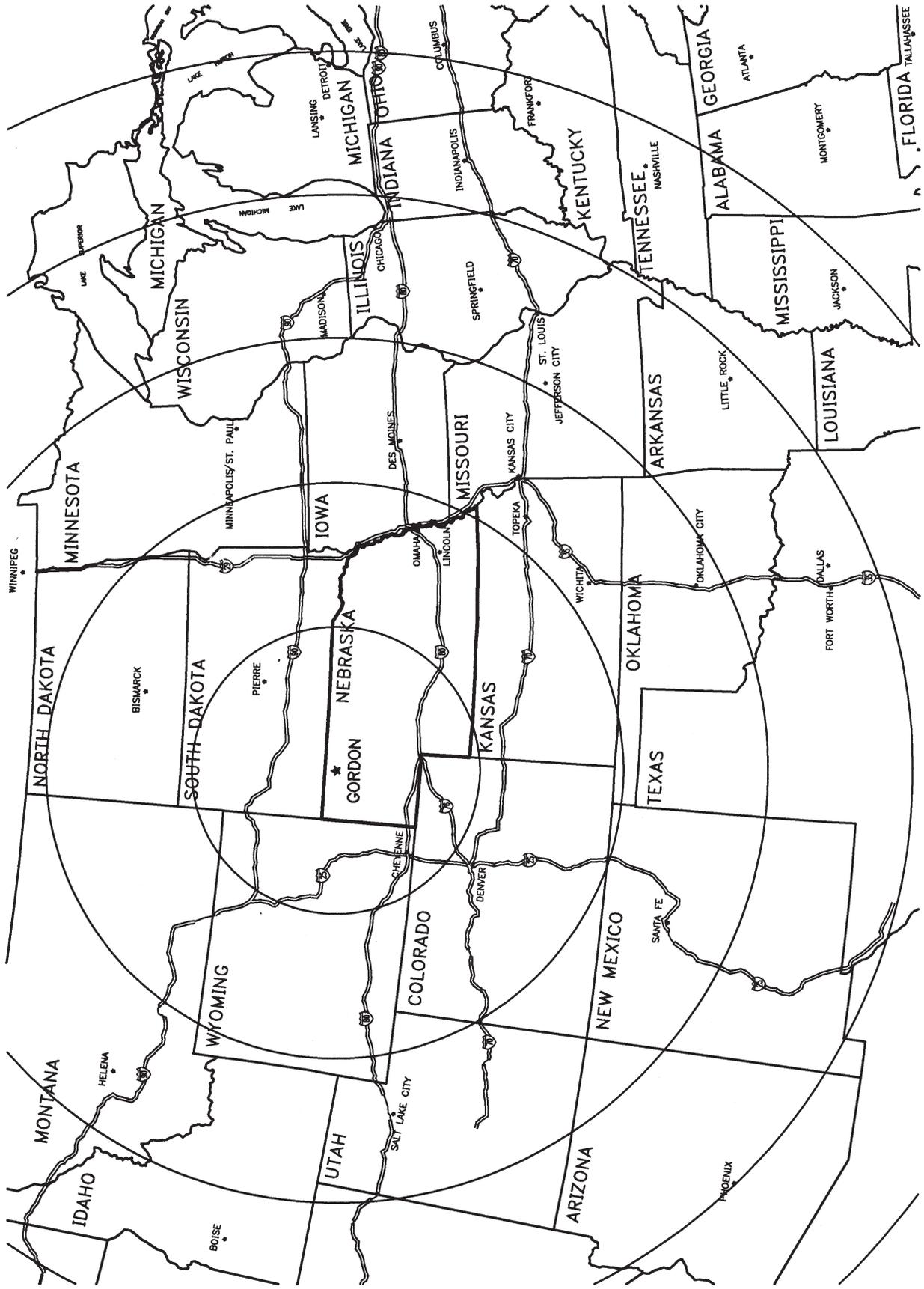
PROFESSIONAL.....35
BUSINESS AND COMMERCIAL35

AGRICULTURE & RAW MATERIALS

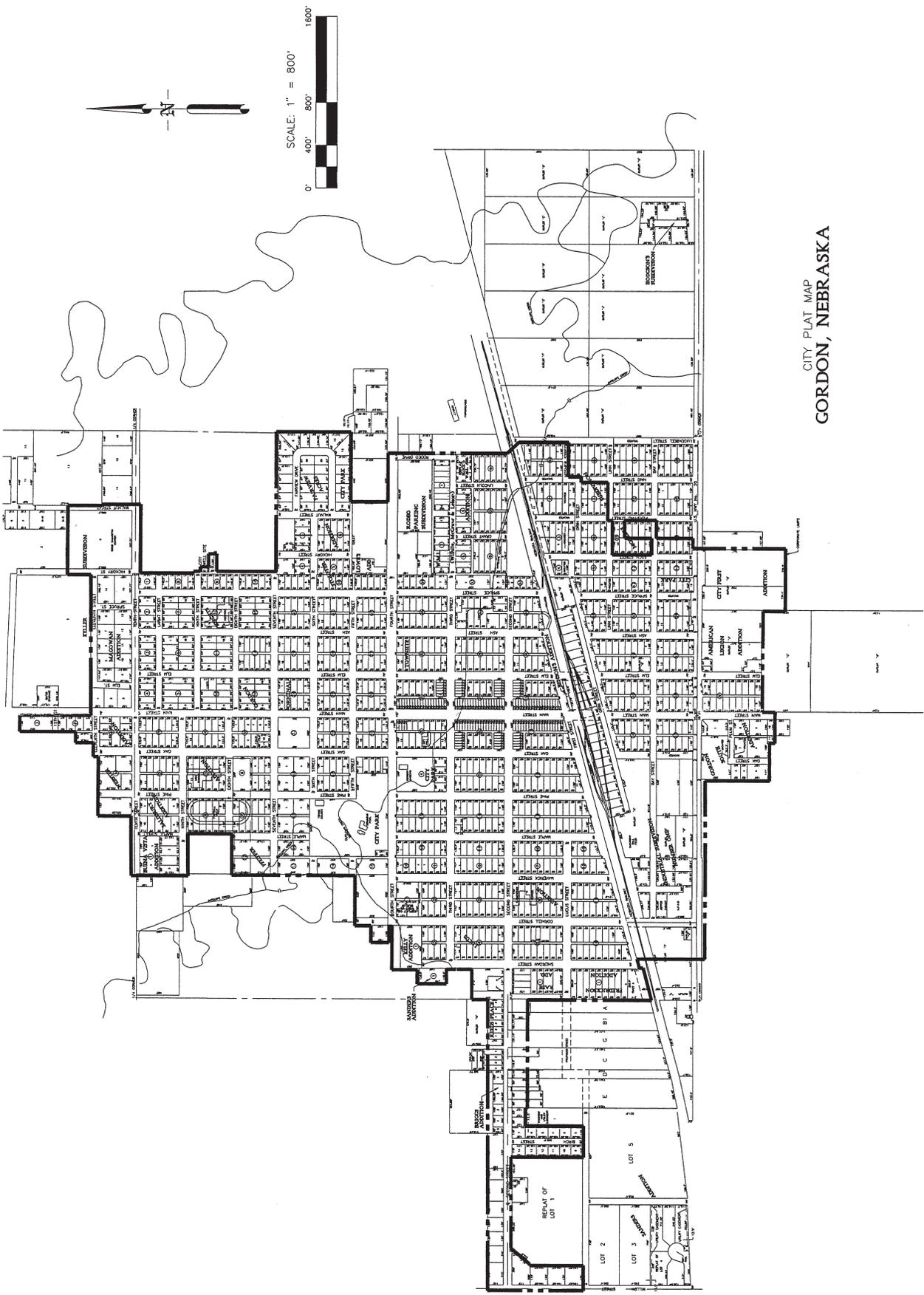
AGRICULTURE.....39
RAW MATERIALS39

CLIMATE

TEMPERATURE, PRECIPITATION, AND HUMIDITY40
FROST DATA.....40



SCALE: EACH CIRCLE REPRESENTS APPROXIMATELY 200 MILES



CITY PLAT MAP
GORDON, NEBRASKA

GENERAL INFORMATION

LOCATION

Gordon is located in Sheridan County in northwest Nebraska, 14 miles south of the South Dakota state line and 100 miles east of the Wyoming state line. The city, served by U.S. Highway 20 and Nebraska Highway 27, is 130 miles northeast of Scottsbluff, Nebraska, and 149 miles southeast of Rapid City, South Dakota.

POPULATION (U.S. Census)

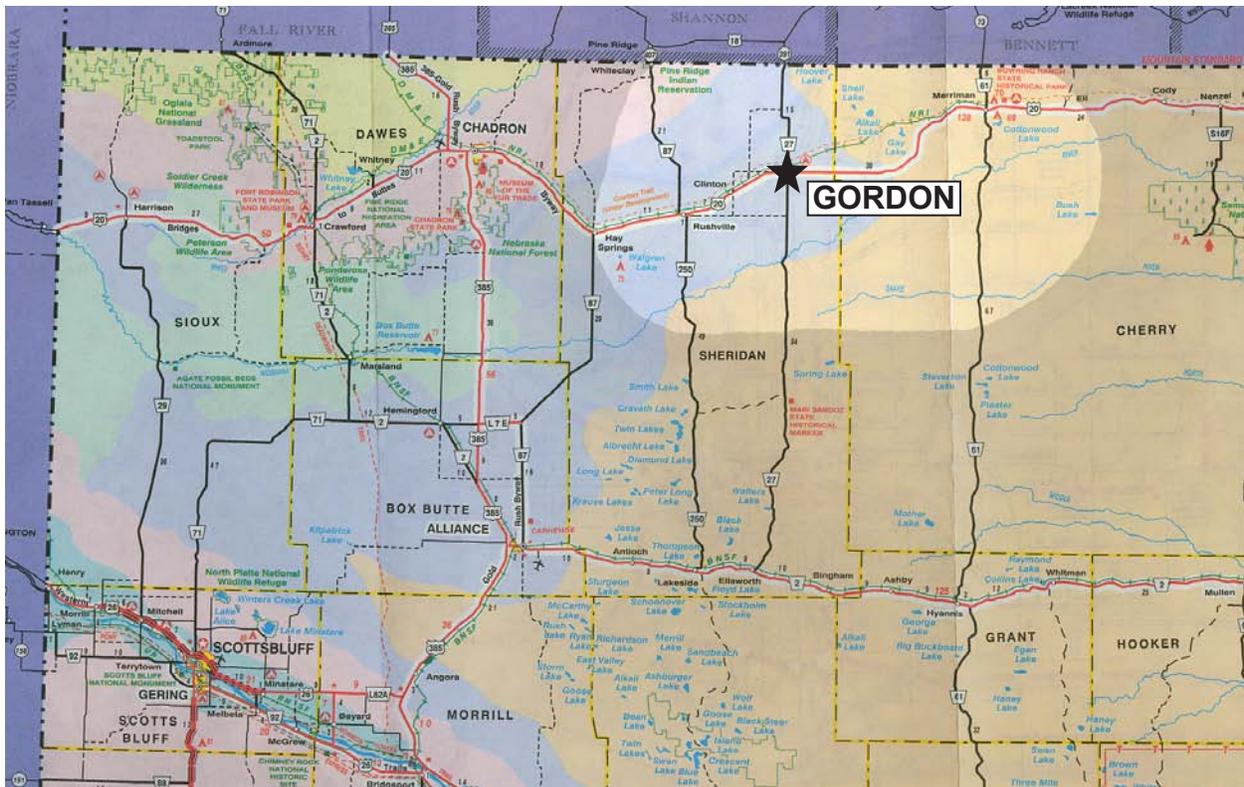
Year	Gordon	Sheridan County
1970	2,106	7,285
1980	2,167	7,544
1990	1,838	6,750
2000	1,756	6,198
2008 (Est.)	1,499	5,337

Sheridan County Population by Race and Hispanic Origin, 2008 U.S. Census

One Race	
White	85.5%
Black	0.1%
American Indian and Alaska Native	11.8%
Asian	0.2%
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander	*
Two or More Races	2.3%
Hispanic or Latino Origin**	2.5%
White Persons Not Hispanic	84.1%

*Value greater than zero but less than half unit of measure shown.

**Hispanics may be of any race, so also are included in applicable race categories.



PRIMARY RETAIL TRADE AREA

The 2008 U.S. Census estimates 55,101 people live in Sheridan County and the contiguous counties of Box Butte, Cherry, Dawes, Garden, Grant, and Morrill in Nebraska and Bennett and Shannon Counties in South Dakota.

Approximately 30 people in Gordon are fluent in Spanish and 260 are fluent in Lakota.

LOCAL ECONOMY

Basic economic activities in Gordon include farming, ranching, cattle feeding, retail and wholesale sales, public and professional services, manufacturing, and tourism.

Agriculture is the foundation industry for the city of Gordon and the surrounding area. Despite the slump in the national economy, the economy of the city remains strong, demonstrating the strength of agriculture in the area. In 2006, 21st Century Equipment purchased the Modern Farm Equipment site and the John Deere equipment line. Modern Farm Equipment continues to sell the New Holland equipment line and has moved to a facility on East Highway 20 in Gordon, a substantiation that Gordon continues to be a major hub for sales and service.

The primary retail trade area extends approximately 35 miles east, 17 miles southwest, 26 miles west, and 15 miles north and contains an estimated 4,700 people. Firms in Gordon with retail sales tax permits reported 2008 net taxable retail sales of \$25,287,252, while Sheridan County reported retail sales of \$43,401,183. Wholesale firms in the community distribute food and snack items, farm equipment and parts, auto parts, irrigation supplies, and buildings materials and supplies.

ELEVATION

Gordon is 3,549 feet above sea level.

TOPOGRAPHY

The majority of the land is flat. The grazing lands of the gently rolling sandhills lie to the south and

east of Gordon. To the west are rolling farmlands with pine-covered hills in the northwest.

The soil is predominantly silty and sandy loam with some wet clay soil existing along Antelope Creek. Drainage is good.

HISTORY

Gordon had its beginning when the Reverend John Scamahorn, a Methodist minister and Civil War veteran, led a colony of 104 settlers by railroad from Indiana to Valentine, Nebraska, and then on by covered wagon to Gordon. On May 12, 1884, he conducted the first religious service, mounting the tongue of his wagon for a pulpit near “the lone willow tree,” a landmark of the empty plains. The lone willow tree, just east of Gordon, was a landmark for government scouts, Indians, cowboys, and settlers. In fact, Gordon celebrates this landmark with the Willow Tree Festival, a community event held each year since 1984.

The name Gordon was chosen because of an incident that had occurred nearby. John Gordon’s wagon train, bound for the forbidden gold fields in the Black Hills, was burned by soldiers from Camp Sheridan in 1875.

The village of Gordon was incorporated on November 19, 1885. The fertile farmlands and rich sandhill grasslands proved an ideal location for the growth of a hardy town. The coming of the Chicago and North Western Railroad in 1886 brought new settlers.

In 1888 the streets were extended and widened, livestock was prohibited from running at large, and a fourth of July celebration was staged. In 1889 more road and street improvements were accomplished. Sidewalks were laid and trees were planted.

Newman’s Ranch was the first of the huge ranches in the region, followed by an open-range ranch established by Dave and Bob Hunter. Both ranches ran from 30,000 to 50,000 head of cattle on land that was mostly public domain. “Doc” Middleton, an early character of many questionable talents, operated a saloon for a time in Gordon. When he was made county

deputy sheriff, the rate of horse stealing declined markedly.

Gordon was the home of the late Mari Sandoz, famous author of early historical novels depicting life in the days of the early settlers and plains Indians. Among her many successful books are Old Jules (the biography of her pioneer father), Crazy Horse, Cheyenne Autumn, Battle of the Little Big Horn, and many others. Mari is buried south of town overlooking one of the beautiful sandhill valleys of the original family homestead

ranch. A small museum in Gordon contains many of the personal items belonging to Mari. Her books are available for sale and tours can be arranged. Other notable residents of Gordon are Val Fitch, 1980 Nobel Prize winner in the field of physics, and Dwight Griswold, past Governor of Nebraska and U.S. Ambassador.

Gordon serves a large portion of the sandhills and is a shopping center for the Pine Ridge and Rosebud Indian Reservations.





Gordon Main Street



View North on Nebraska Highway 27



View South on Nebraska Highway 27

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

MANUFACTURERS

<u>Company/Year Established</u>	<u>Product</u>	<u>Market</u>	<u>Employees</u>		<u>Union</u>
			<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	
Farmers Co-Op 1927	Animal feed	Local	28	4	None
Otte Packing Company 1962	Custom slaughtering	Local	2	1	None
Sandhills Ranch Products 1996	Salsa & jelly	National	1	0	None
Scott Manufacturers 1964	Irrigation & livestock equipment	Regional	7	2	None

MAJOR NONMANUFACTURING EMPLOYERS (employing 15 or more)

<u>Employer</u>	<u>Type of Activity</u>	<u>Employees</u>		<u>Union</u>
		<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	
21st Century Equipment	Farm equipment sales & service	15 Total		None
Alco	Discount store	2 2*	5 10*	None
City of Gordon	Government	10 12*	3 10*	None
Countryside Care	Nursing home	5 2*	30 21*	None
First National Bank	Financial	8 1*	22 8*	None
Gordon Livestock Market, Inc.	Livestock sales	2 17*	5 1*	None
Gordon Memorial Hospital	Medical	17 2*	108 43*	None
Gordon-Rushville Public Schools	Education	19 3*	58 2*	NSEA

*Part-time and/or seasonal

<u>Employer</u>	<u>Type of Activity</u>	<u>Employees</u>		
		<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Union</u>
Modern Farm Equipment, Inc.	Implement dealership & auto parts	16 Total 3* Total		None
Sheridan County	Government	37 5*	23 13*	None

*Part-time and/or seasonal

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ORGANIZATIONS

The Gordon Chamber of Commerce, Strategic Planning Committee, and the Gordon Community Development Corporation aggressively work together for job retention and new business startups in the community.

The Gordon Community Development Corporation is a nonprofit corporation comprised of 28 members. Funds are derived from an initial fund drive and annual dues. The corporation recently assisted in the development and startup of three major businesses in the community.



Farmers Co-Op Grain Elevators



21st Century Equipment

LABOR

LABOR SUPPLY

A. Employment in the Gordon labor market, which is defined as the whole of Sheridan County and the total labor market consisting of Sheridan County and the contiguous Nebraska counties of Box Butte, Cherry, Dawes, Garden, Grant, and Morrill; figures for Bennett and Shannon Counties in South Dakota are not available (11-month average, January 2009 through November 2009).

	Sheridan County	Total
<u>Nonfarm Employment</u> (wage and salary workers)		
Goods-Producing	131	1,137
Manufacturing	(D)	(D)
Natural Resources & Construction	18	(D)
Trade, Transportation, Warehousing & Utilities	495	4,904
Wholesale Trade	202	(D)
Retail Trade	252	2,019
Transportation, Warehousing & Utilities	41	(D)
Information	41	(D)
Financial Activities	105	(D)
Professional & Business Services	30	(D)
Education & Health Services	63	(D)
Leisure & Hospitality	124	(D)
Other Services	50	(D)
Government	685	4,232
TOTAL NONFARM WAGE AND SALARY WORKERS	1,724	14,788
Farm Employment	770	3,977
TOTAL EMPLOYMENT	2,990	20,201
B. Commuting Out of County	1,016	N/A
C. Unemployment	128	1,012
TOTAL LABOR FORCE	3,118	21,213
D. 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.	400	
E. Estimated number of county high school graduates annually	80	
TOTAL POTENTIAL LABOR SUPPLY (B, C, D & E)	1,624	

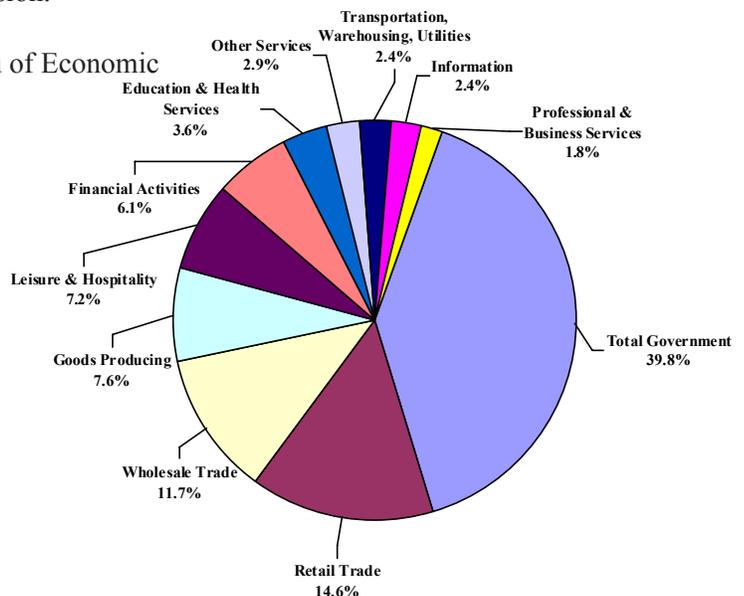
(D) Data not available due to disclosure suppression.

Source: Nebraska Workforce Development

U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of Economic
Analysis (BEA), data for 2005
U.S. Census

Gordon is willing to conduct a labor survey for a prospective industry.

**NONFARM WAGE AND SALARY EMPLOYMENT
SHERIDAN COUNTY
11-MONTH AVERAGE
JANUARY THROUGH NOVEMBER, 2009**



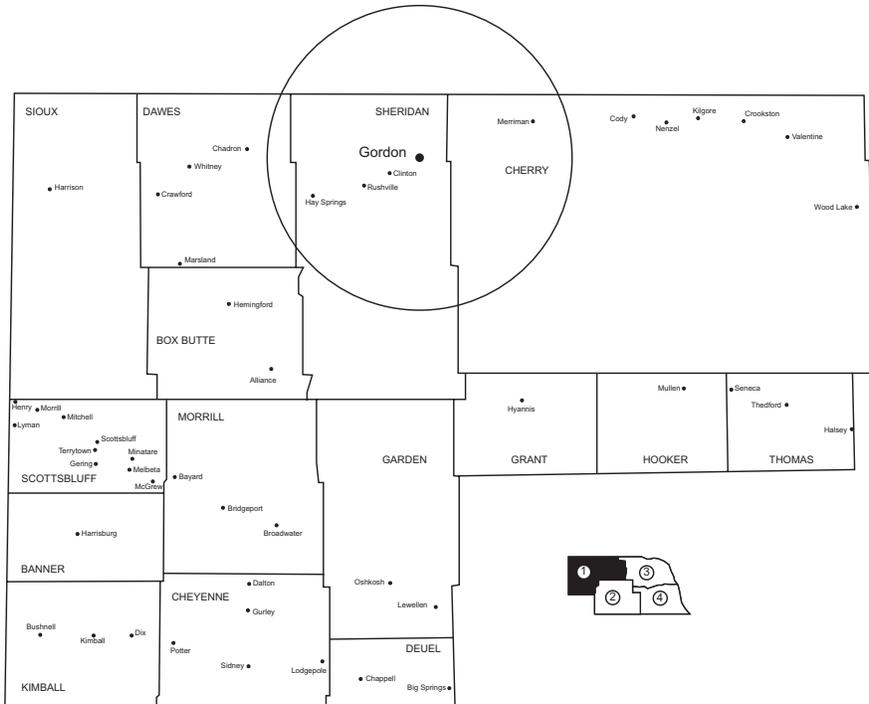
POPULATION DATA

Location	2000			2008		
	Density/Sq. Mile	% High School Graduate or Higher	% Bachelor's Degree or Higher	% 65 Yrs. & Over	Median Age	County Median Family Income
Sheridan Co.	2.5	86.1	17.2	22.5	46.7	\$43,600
Nebraska	22.3	86.6	23.7	13.5	36.2	\$59,800
U.S.	79.6	80.4	24.4	12.8	36.8	\$61,500

Sheridan County had 4,287 registered voters in 2008; 58.6 percent voted in the national election compared to 70.2 percent in Nebraska.

Source: U.S. Census, www.census.gov
 U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, 2009
 Statewide General Election 2008 Results, www.sos.state.ne.us

LABOR POTENTIAL IN THE GORDON AREA



**POPULATION DATA
 U.S. Census Estimates**

2008 Estimate		
City of Gordon	—	1,499
Sheridan County	—	5,337
30-Mile Radius	—	14,163

Sheridan County Population Ages/Gender, 2008		
Ages	Male	Female
18–24	216	203
25–44	516	446
45–64	767	803

UNIONIZATION

Nebraska has a right to work provision in its constitution. In 2006, 7.9 percent of Nebraska's nonfarm wage and salary workers were members of labor unions compared to a national figure of 12.0 percent.

Labor organizations operating in the Gordon:

<u>Company</u>	<u>Union</u>
Gordon-Rushville Public Schools	Nebraska State Education Association

It is estimated that less than 1 percent of the total nonagricultural labor force in Gordon is unionized. There have been no known strikes in Gordon.

WAGES

Occupation Title	Hourly Wage (\$)/Percentile		
	10th	50th	90th
Professional			
Accountants & Auditors	16.88	23.42	38.17
Engineers			
Civil Engineers	20.20	29.69	39.93
Electrical Engineers	27.85	37.59	42.77
Industrial Engineers	26.03	30.74	39.38
Mechanical Engineers*	19.55	31.58	47.36
Computer Programmers	13.11	17.30	31.55
Computer Systems Analysts	17.62	22.49	34.73
Registered Nurses	18.15	25.52	38.81
Retail			
Hotel, Motel & Resort Desk Clerks	6.81	8.95	12.34
Retail Salespersons	6.44	8.77	16.38
Truck Drivers-Light or Delivery Services	7.58	11.95	24.95
Driver/Sales Workers	6.98	13.27	20.26
Stock Clerks & Order Fillers	6.71	9.30	14.06
Shipping, Receiving & Traffic Clerks	8.35	11.95	23.93
Clerical			
Bookkeeping, Accounting & Auditing Clerks	8.75	12.78	18.91
Customer Service Representatives	8.82	11.66	17.15
Data Entry Keyers	8.15	11.81	14.78
Secretaries, excl. Legal, Medical & Executive	9.08	11.87	16.06
Office Clerks, General	6.93	10.03	15.25
Receptionists & Information Clerks	7.28	9.92	16.14
Telemarketers*	7.83	9.30	12.62

*Wage information taken from Balance of the State

Occupation Title	Hourly Wage (\$)/Percentile		
	10th	50th	90th
Unskilled			
Laborers & Freight, Stock & Material Movers, Hand	8.46	11.18	14.91
Packers & Packagers, Hand	6.35	7.41	11.95
Assemblers & Fabricators, All Other	9.53	12.26	17.75
Nursing Aides, Orderlies & Attendants	8.60	10.69	13.21
Semi-Skilled			
Industrial Truck & Tractor Operators	9.47	15.33	19.26
Truck Drivers, Heavy or Tractor-Trailer	12.02	15.04	24.73
Maintenance Workers, Machinery*	13.19	19.19	25.04
Machine Operators			
Drilling & Boring Machine Tool Setters/Oper.*	10.47	17.07	20.13
Milling & Planing Machine Setters/Oper.*	9.69	13.80	16.47
Grinding, Lapping, Polishing & Buffing Mach. Oper.*	11.05	14.89	19.26
Cutting & Slicing Machine Setters/Oper.*	8.54	11.12	17.04
Cutting, Punching & Press Machine Setters/Oper.	8.18	9.63	14.43
Multiple Machine Tool Setters/Oper.*	12.31	15.47	19.77
Skilled			
Automotive Service Technicians & Mechanics	9.38	13.45	23.46
Electricians	10.90	16.36	24.44
Industrial Machinery Mechanics	11.66	16.70	24.64
Machinists	10.37	12.52	17.73
Tool & Die Makers*	13.03	19.27	26.04
Welders, Cutters, Solderers & Brazers	8.13	10.04	16.40
Welding, Soldering & Brazing Machine Setters*	11.86	15.02	19.40
Technical			
Electrical & Electronic Engineering Technicians	11.79	14.29	25.39
Medical & Clinical Laboratory Technologists	18.35	24.29	30.92
Computer Operators	9.43	11.65	14.76

*Wage information taken from Balance of the State

Source: Nebraska Workforce Development, Occupational Employment Statistics Program, Third Quarter 2009 wage estimates, All Industries, Panhandle Region, <http://neblswages.nwd.ne.gov>.

Production workers are, for the most part, paid on a straight-time basis rather than an incentive basis.

FRINGE BENEFITS

Local industries estimate fringe benefits to range up to 30 percent of wages.

TRANSPORTATION

RAILROADS

BNSF Railway Company in Alliance, 70 miles southwest of Gordon, provides the nearest rail service.

MOTOR

Highways

East-west U.S. Highway 20 and north-south Nebraska Highway 27 pass through the community. There are no local load restrictions on these highways. Interstate 90 is 150 miles north and Interstate 80 is 150 miles south of Gordon.

Highway mileage to major cities:

Destination	Mileage
Lincoln	399
Omaha	394
Cheyenne	237
Chicago	854
Dallas	937
Denver	322
Detroit	1,120
Kansas City	578
Los Angeles	1,305
Minneapolis	587
New York	1,627
Rapid City	149
St. Louis	841
San Francisco	1,376

Approximately 98 miles of the Heartland Expressway (Nebraska Highway 71) have been completed from Kimball to Scottsbluff, Nebraska, and from Rapid City to Maverick Junction, South Dakota, eventually connecting Interstate 80 in Nebraska with Interstate 90 in South Dakota. This four-lane expressway will be located within 40 miles of Gordon and will provide easy access to Rapid City, South Dakota; Scottsbluff, Nebraska; and Denver, Colorado.

Trucklines

More than 11,500 licensed motor carriers with worldwide connections are based in Nebraska and serve businesses throughout North America.

Several independent trucking firms serving the community haul grain, livestock, gravel, and heavy equipment.

Bus Line

K & S Express provides bus service by appointment on U.S. Highway 20 between Norfolk and Chadron. Bus parcel service is available as well as connecting service to Omaha and Rapid City.

The Handibus, owned by Gordon Memorial Health Services, transports the elderly in the community to appointments within the area.

AIR

The Gordon Municipal Airport is located one and one-half miles from the city. Facilities include two lighted, hard-surfaced runways (5,200 feet and 2,284 feet), fuel, beacon, wind sock, wind tee, hangars, tie down, lounge, courtesy car, and on-duty personnel. Ten private planes are hangared there and a rental plane is available. The elevation at the airport is 3,562 feet, the latitude is N42°48.36', and the longitude is W102°10.52'.

The nearest points of scheduled air service are at the Chadron Municipal Airport, 47 miles (50 minutes) west; Western Nebraska Regional Airport in Scottsbluff, 130 miles (130 minutes) southwest; and Rapid City, South Dakota, 149 miles (149 minutes) northwest of Gordon.

Airlines serving these points:

Airline	Flights Daily	Non-Stop Destination
Chadron		
Great Lakes Airlines	3	Denver
Scottsbluff		
Great Lakes Airlines	3	Denver
Rapid City		
Allegiant Air	1	Las Vegas, Phoenix/ Mesa
Delta	3	Minneapolis/ St. Paul
	1	Salt Lake City
Northwest Airlines	3	Minneapolis/ St. Paul
Frontier Airlines	2	Denver
United Airlines	1	Denver/ Chicago O'Hare
United Express	6	Denver

WATER

Barge transportation is not available near Gordon.



Gordon Municipal Airport

UTILITIES

ELECTRICITY

Gordon is provided retail electric service by Nebraska Public Power District (NPPD). A 115 kV line extends from Chadron to Gordon and a second 115 kV line extends to Shannon County, South Dakota, and ultimately ties to the Western Area Power Association's 115 kV grid in South Dakota. The city is provided with 34.5 kV power by means of an incoming line from a substation located 2 1/2 miles southwest of the city. The city's distribution system is 4160 wye and the subtransmission substation has a capacity of 5000 kVA.

BASE ELECTRIC RATES (effective 1/1/10)

Summer bills run from June–September.
Winter bills run from October–May.

Residential Service:

Customer Charge: \$15.00 per month		
Summer	Winter	
8.88¢	7.01¢	per kWh for the first 750 kWh used per month
8.88¢	4.54¢	per kWh for all additional use
Minimum Bill: The Customer Charge, subject to applicable Base Rate adjustments		

This rate is subject to application of the Retail Production Cost Adjustment (PCA).

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.

General Service:

Customer Charge:		
		Single Phase \$17.00 per month
		Three Phase \$21.00 per month
Summer	Winter	
9.38¢	7.57¢	per kWh for the first 1,000 kWh used per month
9.38¢	6.30¢	per kWh for the next 2,000 kWh used per month
9.38¢	6.00¢	per kWh for all additional use
Minimum Bill: The Customer Charge, subject to applicable Base Rate adjustments		

This rate is subject to application of the Retail Production Cost Adjustment (PCA).

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.

Commercial Electric Space Heating:

Customer Charge:		
		Single Phase \$45.00 per month
		Three Phase \$50.00 per month
Summer	Winter	
10.65¢	6.77¢	per kWh for the first 200 kWh per kW of demand used per month
4.19¢	2.92¢	per kWh for all additional use
Minimum Bill: The Customer Charge, subject to applicable Base Rate adjustments		

This rate is subject to application of the Retail Production Cost Adjustment (PCA).

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.

General Service Demand:

Customer Charge:		
Single Phase		\$80.00 per month
Three Phase		\$90.00 per month
Summer	Winter	
10.80¢	7.29¢	per kWh for the first 200 kWh per kW of demand used per month
3.90¢	2.99¢	per kWh for all additional use
Minimum Bill: The Customer Charge, subject to applicable Base Rate adjustments		

This rate is subject to application of the Retail Production Cost Adjustment (PCA).

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. This rate is also 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.

Sample Cost per kWh for General Service Demand:

kW	kWh	Annual Average ¢/kWh ¹
100	30,000	8.48
100	50,000	6.67
300	90,000	8.24
300	150,000	6.53
500	150,000	8.19
500	180,000	7.49

¹Includes Lease Payment and Gross Revenue Tax.

High Tension Service:

Customer Charge: \$310.00 per month		
Demand Charge:		
Summer	Winter	
\$12.75	\$7.80	per kW of billing demand
Energy Charge:		
Summer	Winter	
4.45¢	3.23¢	per kWh for all on-peak energy
3.22¢	2.16¢	per kWh for all off-peak energy
Minimum Bill: The Customer Charge, subject to applicable Base Rate adjustments		

This rate is subject to application of the Retail Production Cost Adjustment (PCA).

Energy Time Periods - For the monthly billing periods, the on-peak and off-peak hours for energy (all based on “Central” time) are as follows:

Energy Season	On-Peak Hours	Off-Peak Hours
Summer	10:01 a.m.–10:00 p.m. Monday–Saturday	All Other Hours
Winter	8:01 a.m.–10:00 p.m. Monday–Saturday	All Other Hours

All hours on New Year’s Day, Memorial Day, Independence Day, Labor Day, Thanksgiving Day, and Christmas Day shall be considered off-peak hours.

Industries must take delivery at or be adjacent to a substation and own and maintain the primary dedicated line and any other facilities beyond the substation delivery point.

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.

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

Sample Cost per kWh for High Tension Service:

kW	kWh	Annual Average ¢/kWh ¹
1,000	300,000	7.20
2,500	750,000	7.13
2,500	1,250,000	5.68
5,000	1,500,000	7.10
5,000	2,500,000	5.66
10,000	6,400,000	5.18

¹Includes Lease Payment. Does not include Gross Revenue Tax.

The annual average ¢/kWh cost assumes 46 percent of monthly energy is consumed during on-peak hours of the four summer months and 53 percent during on-peak hours of the eight winter months.

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

NATURAL GAS

Natural gas is supplied to Gordon by SourceGas Distribution, LLC, through a 4-inch transmission pipeline with an operating pressure of approximately 650 pounds per square inch.

SourceGas is the retail distributor of natural gas within the community, serving approximately 700 residential, commercial, and industrial customers.

Natural gas is available for residential and commercial uses. Availability of natural gas for industrial uses is subject to individual situations. As specific requirements of an industrial prospect become available, information on gas service availability and applicable rates can be obtained from SourceGas’s Service Center at (800) 563-0012.

OTHER FUELS

LP Gas

LP gas is available for residential, commercial, and industrial uses at Westco and Farmer’s Co-Op in Gordon.

Oil

Oil is available for residential, commercial, and industrial uses in Gordon at Westco and Farmer’s Co-Op.

WATER

The municipal water system in Gordon is supplied by six wells, which have an average depth of 350 feet. The system, serving the entire community, has a combined pumping capacity of 1,400 gallons per minute and an overhead storage capacity of 700,000 gallons. The average daily demand is 507,000 gallons and the historic peak daily demand is 1,453,000 gallons. The system has a maximum daily capacity of 2,716,000 gallons. The static pressure is 75 pounds per square inch and the residual pressure is 60 pounds per square inch.

A 350-foot well will produce 280 gallons of water per minute. The quality of water in Gordon does not necessitate a water treatment plant; however, fluoride is added.

The color of the water is clear and the hardness, in parts per million, is 280. The tap water temperature varies from 48° in winter to 60° in summer.

Chemical Analysis (parts per million)

Hydrogen Ion Concentration	7.5
Calcium	86
Total Solids	360
Magnesium	>0.05
Iron	0.1
Nitrate	2.0

Chloride	14
Fluoride	1.00
Sulfate	64
Total Alkalinity	256
Sodium	15
Total Hardness	280

WATER RATES (effective 2/1/04)

A water connection fee of \$40.00 is charged for new water service.

Residential & Commercial:

First 1,000 gal.	\$24.50
Over 1,000 gal.	\$1.60 per 1,000 gal.
Minimum Bill:	\$24.50 per month

SEWERAGE

Gordon has a municipal sanitary sewerage system and a storm sewer system. The lagoon-type (lift station) sewerage system built in 1981 has a daily capacity of 400,000 gallons. The average daily flow is 237,106 gallons and the historic peak daily discharge is 428,700 gallons.

SEWER-USE CHARGES (effective 2/1/04)

Sewer connection fees are not charged for new service.

Residential, Commercial & Industrial:

<u>Metered</u>	
First 1,000 gal.	\$5.50
Over 1,000 gal.	\$0.70 per 1,000 gal.
Minimum Bill:	\$5.50 per month
<u>Unmetered</u>	
Flat Rate	\$8.80 per month

SOLID WASTE DISPOSAL

The city of Gordon is a member of the Solid Waste Agency of Northwest Nebraska (SWANN).

This agency is a regional compact comprised of three counties and nine communities. SWANN provides the compact communities with collection, transportation, and disposal of solid waste in a landfill northwest of Chadron, Nebraska. Ninety-five percent of the capacity is available.

SOLID WASTE REMOVAL RATES (effective 2009)

Residential:

\$22.10 per month in city
\$25.95 per quarter in rural areas

Commercial & Industrial:

Varies depending on services required

RECYCLING

The Solid Waste Agency of Northwest Nebraska, in addition to collecting and disposing of the solid waste in the tri-county area, is the primary provider of recycling opportunities. Recycling bins for #1 and #2 plastic, glass, newspaper, and aluminum cans are conveniently located in the communities of Gordon, Chadron, Crawford, Harrison, Hay Springs, Hemingford, Rushville, and Whitney. In addition, waste oil, automotive batteries, scrap iron, used tires, and corrugated cardboard are accepted at the disposal sites in each community. Twenty cubic yard roll-off containers are also available in limited numbers to high volume cardboard generators.

Green dumpsters for the disposal of grass clippings are made accessible to customers in every community. These are collected on a weekly basis during the months of April through November and hauled to the transfer station at Chadron. At this facility the grass clippings are put through a composting process, resulting in a high quality soil enhancer, which is provided to customers at no charge. The recycling of these materials not only reduces the demand on natural resources but also extends the life of the landfill.

COMMUNICATIONS

TELECOMMUNICATIONS

Great Plains Communications is a diversified telecommunications company providing local and nationwide long distance telephone service to 77 Nebraska communities. An Extended Area Service plan makes calling local to Hay Springs, Mirage Flats, Merriman, and Rushville. A variety of service packages are available. Resident technicians are available through the local service provider for wiring, digital key systems, and other technical needs.

INTERNET

Local Internet service is provided by Great Plains Communications via partnership with WildBlue Satellite Speed Internet. Optional services include dial-up, DSL, and Wild Blue high-speed satellite for rural residents.

Mobius Communications and Sandhills Computers also offer local Internet service to Gordon residents.

POST OFFICE

The Gordon post office provides house-to-house delivery and has one mail receipt and one dispatch daily.

PACKAGE DELIVERY SERVICES

Overnight express service availability:

	Federal Express	UPS	U.S. Postal Service
Latest Pick-up Time	1:00 p.m.	2:30 p.m.	4:00 p.m.
Earliest Delivery	1:00 p.m.	10:30 a.m.	9:30 a.m.
Next Day Delivery Guarantee	Yes	Yes	No
Saturday Delivery Guarantee	No	No	Yes

NEWSPAPER

The Sheridan County Journal Star, with 1,800 subscribers, is the local weekly newspaper. Other newspapers delivered locally are the Omaha World-Herald, Alliance Times Herald, Rapid City Journal, Lakota Times, and Scottsbluff Star-Herald.

RADIO

Radio station KSDZ-FM in Gordon operates on a frequency of 95.5 MHz.

Regional radio stations carrying local news:

Call Letters	Frequency	Location
KQSK-FM	97.5 MHz	Chadron, NE
KCSR-AM	610 KHz	Chadron, NE
KCNB-FM	94.7 MHz	Chadron, NE
KAAQ-FM	105.9 MHz	Alliance, NE
KRNE-FM	91.5 MHz	Merriman, NE
KILI-FM	90.1 MHz	Porcupine, SD

TELEVISION

Television stations carrying local news:

Call Letters	Channel	Location
KDUH	4	Scottsbluff
KSTF	10	Scottsbluff
KRNE	13	Merriman

Cable television service is available in Gordon. Great Plains Communications provides digital cable television service on more than 150 cable channels, including local area broadcasters, digital music, and local weather.



Scamahorn Museum



Tri-State Old Time Cowboys Museum

TAX STRUCTURE

VALUES FOR TAX LEVY PURPOSES—CITY OF GORDON

All real property is subject to tax at market value. Agricultural land is valued at 72 percent of its actual value. Personal property that is used in a trade or business and is depreciable is subject to tax at its “net book value.” All other personal property is exempt from taxation.

	Actual Valuation		
	2007	2008	2009
Real Estate	\$37,804,300	\$38,558,741	\$37,791,962
Personal Property	2,516,996	2,021,740	1,998,283
Special (railroad and utilities)	958,455	1,249,419	1,400,048
TOTAL	<u>\$41,279,751</u>	<u>\$41,829,900</u>	<u>\$41,190,293</u>

TAX RATE (Dollars and cents per \$100 of actual value)

	2007–08	2008–09	2009–10
City	\$0.573493	\$0.594469	\$0.608352
County	.459991	.453611	.453310
School District	.957774	.998416	.997093
Community College	.089463	.098497	.104854
Educational Service Unit	.016407	.016947	.016001
Natural Resource District	.017269	.021458	.020028
Agricultural Society	.011181	.010687	.009876
Historical Society	.001322	.001263	.001187
Airport	.024816	—	—
Hospital	.156639	.147230	.137790
TOTAL	<u>\$2.308355</u>	<u>\$2.342578</u>	<u>\$2.348491</u>

CITY SALES TAX

The city of Gordon imposes a 1 percent city sales tax.

LOCAL BONDED INDEBTEDNESS

As of September 14, 2009:

City—Revenue Bonds	\$95,000
City—General Obligation Bonds	\$3,640,430
School District	None
County	None

CITY BOND ISSUES

Type	Date Issued	Original Amount	Unpaid Balance As of 9/14/09	Interest Rate (%)	Date Due
Revenue					
Refunding	9/18/03	\$235,000	\$95,000	3.95–4.35	2/15/12
General Obligation					
Highway Allocation	1/15/08	\$220,000	\$210,000	3.40–4.50	1/15/22
Airport	11/14/06	\$110,000	\$95,000	3.90–4.70	7/15/20
Water	8/13/04	\$668,000	\$639,519	4.50	7/15/42
Water	8/13/04	\$1,300,000	\$1,242,097	4.25	10/1/43
Water	8/13/04	\$483,500	\$463,104	4.50	10/1/43
Water	7/24/02	\$1,050,000	\$990,710	4.50	7/15/42



City Hall & Community Building

LOCAL GOVERNMENT

COUNTY GOVERNMENT

Sheridan County has eight voting precincts and is governed by three county commissioners who are elected by popular vote for four-year terms. The next election will be held in 2010. The 2009–10 actual budget is \$2,494,650. The county is zoned agriculture.

MUNICIPAL GOVERNMENT

Gordon, a second class city, has a mayor and city council form of government with a city manager. The next election will be held in 2010. The 2009–10 actual budget is \$2,429,039.

Municipal officials are:

Title	Term of Office
Elected by Council	
Mayor	2 Years
Elected at Large	
Council Members (4)	4 Years
Appointed	
City Manager	Annual Contract
City Clerk	Indefinite

FIRE PROTECTION

Fire protection is provided in Gordon by a 40-member volunteer fire department. The department also provides protection to areas outside the community through a mutual aid agreement with the Rural Fire District.

Gordon has 2 fire stations and 170 fire hydrants. Equipment and manpower are located at 17 rural sites. The fire insurance classification inside the corporate limits is 6; outside it is 10. Annual expenditures for fire protection for the past three years averaged \$48,325.

Equipment in the fire department:

Year/Make	Description
City	
1940 Chevrolet	500 gal. per min.
1967 Ford	500 gal. per min.
Rural	
1981 International	750 gal. per min.
1987 GMC	2,000 gal. tanker
1976 Chevrolet	1,200 gal. tanker
21 Trucks	300 gal. grass fire spray units
1985 Chevrolet	2,000 gal. tanker
1989 Chevrolet	2,000 gal. tanker
1985 Ford	Utility van
1978 Ford	Utility van
1999 Freightliner	3,000 gal. tanker
1989 KME	1,250 gpm pumper

Approximately \$20,000 of fire damage was reported in 2007. No other significant amounts of fire damage occurred during the last five years.

LAW ENFORCEMENT

Police Department

The Gordon Police Department is staffed by four full-time policemen and four reserves. Annual expenditures averaged \$341,044 during the past three years.

Sheriff's Department

The Sheridan County Sheriff's Department in Rushville, 14 miles southwest of Gordon, is staffed by four sworn officers and four support personnel. Equipment in the department includes six radio-equipped patrol cars and other standard support equipment. Regular patrol by the police and sheriff's departments provide protection to existing industries in Gordon as well as the county.

Crime rates per 1,000 population, 2008:

Location	Violent Crimes	Property Crimes
Gordon	10.6	38.6
Sheridan County	3.7	20.1
Nebraska	3.0	30.9
U.S.	4.5	32.1

State Patrol

Troop E of the Nebraska State Patrol is headquartered in Scottsbluff, 140 miles southwest of Gordon. Two patrol officers are stationed in Gordon.

STREETS

Gordon has 18 miles of streets, 14.25 miles of which are hard-surfaced with asphalt, bituminous, or concrete. There are no local load restrictions. Ninety percent of these streets have curbs and 45 percent have sidewalks.

Street maintenance includes street sweeping, snow removal, grading, coating, washing, and repairing.

BUILDING AND ZONING REGULATIONS

The Uniform Building Code, National Electric Code, and Uniform Plumbing Code are enforced within the city.

Local zoning classifications are:

- R-1 High Density Residential
- R-2 Medium Density Residential
- C-1 Central Business
- C-2 Highway Business
- C-3 Traveler Services
- C-4 Heavy Commercial
- I-1 Industrial

PLANNING

Gordon has a nine-member planning commission. Members are appointed by the city council and serve staggered three-year terms.

The Panhandle Development District prepared a comprehensive plan and updated the zoning ordinance for Gordon in 2007.



Gordon Police Department

COMMUNITY FACILITIES

SCHOOLS AND COLLEGES

Gordon-Rushville School System

Type of School	Classrooms	Students	Teacher/ Pupil Ratio	Computer/ Pupil Ratio
Gordon Elementary (K–5)	14	197	1:13	1:6
Rushville Elementary (K–5)	10	135	1:12	1:3
Rushville Middle School (6–8)	15	159	1:16	1:2
Gordon High School (9–12)	24	180	1:9	1:15

Gordon-Rushville School District 81-0010 covers more than 2,200 square miles in Sheridan and Cherry Counties and has a combined actual valuation of \$461,863,082. This Class 5 district is accredited by the state of Nebraska and the North Central Association.

In August 2005 the communities of Gordon and Rushville joined together to provide a quality education. A K–5 elementary school is located in each community. The 6–8 grade students attend middle school in Rushville and students in grades 9–12 attend high school in Gordon. The district also has rural attendance centers at Lakeside, Pioneer, Golden Spade, Extension, and Merriman.

The 2008–09 Gordon school expenses totaled \$9,711,000, with an average cost per pupil of \$12,777. This actual valuation per pupil was \$607,714.

The Gordon elementary school, built in 1953, has a maximum capacity of 400. Rushville’s elementary school, built in 1939, has a capacity of 145. The middle school in Rushville, built in 1928 and remodeled in 1996, has a capacity of 200. The Gordon high school, built in 1924 with additions in 1964 and 1968, has a maximum capacity of 400.

Test Results

Name	% Students Taking Test	Average Score
8 th Grade Terra Nova	100	62
ACT	63	20.6

It is estimated that 98 percent of the eighth grade students finish high school, 81 percent of the graduating seniors pursue a college degree, and 9 percent of the seniors enter the job market or military.

Vocational courses offered in the high school include business education, industrial technology, agriculture, family and consumer science, technology, and computers. Efforts continue to upgrade technology and become stronger in technical preparation programs.

Adult education programs are available in the high school in conjunction with the Western Nebraska Community College, Oglala Lakota College, Chadron State College, and the University of Nebraska.

The Gordon-Rushville school system has an extensive special education program, including psychological, resource, speech, and language services. The Gordon-Rushville school system also has schoolwide Title I services for math and reading.

Educational Service Unit

Gordon is a member of Educational Service Unit 13, which is headquartered in Scottsbluff and serves the 11 counties in the Panhandle of Nebraska. ESU 13 operates two satellite offices—one in Chadron and one in Sidney. Services include: early intervention, alternative education, online classes, professional development, distance education, center-based classrooms for special needs students and transportation

to the program, transition services, education component of the West Nebraska Juvenile Detention Center, technology services, speech/language, occupational and physical therapy, school psychological services, school health, cooperative purchasing program, and grant management.

Special Services

The **Region I Office of Human Development (OHD)** is a unit of local government created through an interlocal agreement among the 11 counties of the Nebraska Panhandle. The agency is certified and primarily funded through the Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services Developmental Disabilities System. OHD provides community-based services and support to persons of all ages with developmental disabilities. Services for adults (over the age of 21) include residential, vocational, employment, rehabilitation, retirement, and other general services such as transportation and recreation. A year-round educational program is available to children through contractual arrangement with his or her school district.

Direct care service is provided throughout the Panhandle, including Gordon. The residential program includes staffed group homes for youth and adults, supervised apartments, and independent living arrangements. Vocational training and employment services are provided through a supervised workshop (High Plains Products and Services) which includes on-site contract work, work stations in industry, supervised employment programs, and job coaching. Individuals who have reached retirement age are served through an alternative day program with emphasis on recreation, leisure, and maintenance of daily living skills. Alternative day services are also available for other adults whose rehabilitation needs do not include vocational or employment goals. The Child Development Center provides a 12-month educational program for preschool and school age children with developmental disabilities.

Panhandle Independent Living Services (PILS) is a community-based, nonprofit agency funded through a grant from the Nebraska

Statewide Independent Living Council. PILS is a nonresidential program promoting full participation of disabled persons in activities and opportunities of the community. Serving the Nebraska Panhandle, PILS offers services in the four core areas of information and referral, advocacy, peer counseling, and independent living skills training.

Community College

Western Nebraska Community College (WNCC) encompasses 12-1/2 counties in the Nebraska Panhandle. WNCC, a comprehensive community college, is governed by an 11-member board of governors. The college has campuses located in Scottsbluff, Sidney, and Alliance. The college also has the John N. Harms Advanced Technology Center (HATC) in Scottsbluff. Through these sites, the college offers various classes at other communities in the Nebraska Panhandle.

Fall enrollment as of August 20, 2009:

Campus/Center	Full-time	Part-time
Scottsbluff	596	662
Sidney	99	127
Alliance	54	116
Online	34	639
HATC	0	5,660*

*Fall semester 2008

Western Nebraska Community College was established in Scottsbluff in 1926. In 1973, the State Legislature formed the Western Technical Community College Area, which included Nebraska Western College (Scottsbluff), Western Nebraska Technical College (Sidney), and the Alliance School of Practical Nursing. The Board of Governors changed the name to Western Nebraska Community College in 1988.

WNCC offers more than 80 program options in vocational and academic transfer education. These programs include business and vocational education, language and arts, science and mathematics, social science, health occupations, and applied technologies (automotive, auto body, welding, aviation, powerline construction and maintenance, and electronics).

Western Nebraska Community College offers four associate degrees: associate of arts, associate of science, associate of applied science, and associate of occupational studies. There are also diploma and/or certification and professional skill award options through WNCC.

WNCC is part of the Western Nebraska Distance Learning Consortium. The consortium membership includes 20 area high schools, Educational Service Unit 13, Western Nebraska Community College, and Chadron State College. Utilizing the consortium distance learning system, high school campuses, and the three WNCC campuses, the college offers dual credit courses to area high schools in foreign language, math, English, automotive, welding, CISCO, CADD, and social sciences.

Harms Advanced Technology Center (HATC) continues to work with businesses and industries to identify and provide training needs. Specific activities include but are not limited to partnerships with businesses, the CISCO Networking Academy, Discovery Lab, Entrepreneurial Lab, Career Design Technology Program, and Certified Testing Lab. Other activities include customized training with businesses, public seminars, management and supervisory skills training, computer training, technical skills training, continuing professional education, and training in the health and safety fields.

2008–09 Program Graduates	
Program	# of Graduates
Associate Degree in Nursing (ADN)	
Nursing	19
Associate of Arts (AA)	
Business Administration	25
Business Management	1
Criminal Justice	4
Elementary Education	8
English	2
General Studies	41
Human Services	2
Information Technology	2
Journalism	2
Law (pre)	1

2008–09 Program Graduates	
Program	# of Graduates
Psychology	5
Secondary Education	4
Social Work	3
Associate of Science (AS)	
Biology/Ecology	1
Business Administration	2
Computer Science	2
Dental Hygiene (pre)	2
Forestry/Wildlife Management (pre)	1
General Studies	6
Medicine (pre)	2
Professional Nursing (pre)	4
Radiologic Technology (pre)	4
Associate of Applied Science (AAS)	
Business Technology	3
Cosmetology	1
Criminal Justice	1
Early Childhood Education	1
Health Information Management Services	6
Human Services	2
Office Technology	1
Associate of Occupational Studies (AOS)	
Automotive Technology	3
Aviation Maintenance	3
Business Technology	1
Information Technology	4
Power Line Construction & Maintenance	14
Diploma	
Automotive Technology	1
Aviation Maintenance	2
Coding Technician	2
Cosmetology	1
Power Line Construction & Maintenance	3
Practical Nursing	33
Certificate	
Aviation Maintenance	4
Criminal Justice	4
Welding Technology	2
TOTAL	235

For more information on Western Nebraska Community College, visit www.wncc.edu.

Colleges and Universities

Chadron State College (CSC), a member of the Nebraska State College System, is the only four-year and graduate degree-granting college in western Nebraska. Approximately 3,000 students attend CSC, which is accredited by the Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools and by subject-oriented accrediting agencies.

The college offers undergraduate programs in nearly 70 majors of endorsements and has numerous professional studies options. Many pre-professional programs in the health sciences are available, including the Rural Health Opportunities Program, conducted jointly with the University of Nebraska Medical Center.

Chadron State confers the following advanced degrees: master of arts in education, master of business administration, master of education, and the master of science in organizational management.

On-campus housing is available in five residence halls or a family apartment complex. The 281-acre campus includes 26 buildings, 5 of which are listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

Laboratory and research facilities are available in seven classroom buildings and the Reta E. King Library. The library contains more than 250,000 volumes including more than 54,000 electronic books, 450 periodical and newspaper subscriptions, and 27 online periodical databases. It also loans laptop computers for use within the library as part of the campus wireless network. The library's Web-based catalog contains the shared holdings of the Nebraska State College Library System.

The academic areas are divided into the School of Arts and Sciences, School of Business, Economics, and Applied and Mathematical Sciences, and the School of Counseling, Education, Human Performance, Psychology, and Social Work.

Chadron State has long been a pioneer of distance education. Many of its courses and programs are available over the Internet. Four master's degrees and more than a half dozen bachelor's degree options are available online. A large number of courses and workshops are offered during the summer.

In 2002 the college renovated its former library into the Mari Sandoz High Plains Heritage Center, which pays tribute to the author and includes exhibits on the development of the region.

Also during the past decade, Chadron State has renovated and modernized many of its oldest buildings including Memorial Hall, Miller Hall, Edna Work Hall and Wing, the Administration Building, Sparks Hall, and Crites Hall. Its wood-fired boiler plant has received national attention for its cost savings and minimal impact on the environment.

The conferencing office facilitates many activities on campus, including group gatherings, Elderhostels, youth camps and contests, professional association meetings, legislative hearings, and state and national workshops.

The Galaxy Series, which sponsors exhibits, concerts, and presentations by nationally and internationally known performers and speakers, is among the cultural opportunities available to Chadron State.

Chadron State's intercollegiate athletic teams participate in the NCAA Division I and belong to the Rocky Mountain Athletic Conference. The teams include football, volleyball, women's golf, men's and women's basketball, wrestling, track and field, and women's softball. The college also has a rodeo team that has had numerous national champions in the past decade. A vibrant intramural sports program and more than 60 student clubs and organizations complement the institution's academic offerings.

The Chadron State legacy was born in 1909 when the Legislature provided for a new higher education institution in northwest Nebraska. The Board of Education of State Normal Schools selected Chadron as the location of its



Gordon Elementary School



Gordon-Rushville High School



Gordon Memorial Hospital



Gordon Medical Clinic

fourth institution in January 1910. The school opened in June 1911.

More information about Chadron State College is available at the institution's Web site, www.csc.edu or by calling 1-800-CHADRON.

Other Schools

Colleges, universities, and community colleges frequently attended by Gordon-Rushville High School graduates include:

Community/ College or University	Mileage
Chadron, NE Chadron State College	47
Kyle, SD Oglala Lakota College	63
Scottsbluff, NE Western Nebraska Community College	130
Rapid City, SD South Dakota School of Mines & Technology	149
Sidney, NE Western Nebraska Community College	151
Kearney, NE University of Nebraska at Kearney	318
Omaha, NE University of Nebraska at Omaha	394
Lincoln, NE University of Nebraska-Lincoln	399

CHURCHES

Denomination	Number of Churches
Catholic	1
Church of Christ	1
Church of God	1
EMA New Life Indian Chapel	1
Episcopal	1
Jehovah's Witness	1
Latter Day Saints	1
Lutheran, Missouri Synod	1
Lutheran, Wisconsin Synod	1

Denomination	Number of Churches
Nondenominational	2
Presbyterian	1
Seventh Day Adventist	1
United Methodist	1

HEALTH CARE

Gordon Memorial Health Services provides health care and medical services in a variety of settings in Gordon and the surrounding area. The Gordon Memorial Hospital District Board of Directors provides governance to the hospital, clinics, and long-term care facilities. Five publicly elected directors volunteer their time to provide oversight to the organization.

Gordon Memorial Health Services is a member of the Rural Nebraska Healthcare Network. This network of nine hospitals located in the Panhandle of Nebraska collaborates to develop and provide a variety of healthcare services throughout the region. The network has been the recipient of several federal grants and demonstration project funding for innovation in healthcare delivery.

Hospital

Gordon Memorial Hospital, completed in 1972, is licensed for 25 beds. Certified as a Critical Access Hospital by the Medicare program, the hospital provides a variety of inpatient and outpatient services. Inpatient services include medical-surgical acute care for pediatric to geriatric age groups, anesthesia and surgery, cardiac monitoring, pharmacy services, respiratory therapy, physical therapy, as well as a full array of diagnostic services.

The hospital completed an addition in 2003, which houses state-of-the-art surgical facilities and an emergency department. Telemedicine services allow connection directly from the Emergency Department to Regional West Medical Center's Emergency Department and Trauma Services. Gordon Memorial Hospital is a Basic Trauma Center certified by the state of Nebraska. Air ambulance services using helicopter and fixed wing aircraft from Scottsbluff, Rapid City, and Denver are used to transport critically ill or injured

patients requiring care not available locally. Gordon Memorial Hospital also provides skilled nursing and rehabilitation care to inpatients using the swing bed program.

Outpatient services available at Gordon Memorial Hospital include a full service laboratory, radiology, CT scan, diagnostic ultrasound, echocardiography, and vascular ultrasound, MRI, mammography, EKG, cardiac rehabilitation, and infusion therapy. Home Health and Hospice services are available through a contractual arrangement.

Clinics

Gordon Memorial Health Services operates Certified Rural Health Clinics in Gordon and Rushville. A full staff of family practice physicians, physician assistants, and advanced practice nurse practitioners provide primary care services in both locations as well as at the hospital. General surgery services are available on a visiting basis.

In addition to local providers, a variety of consulting physicians from larger cities provide visiting clinics at Gordon Memorial Hospital. Currently these include cardiology, ophthalmology, urology, audiology, and general surgery. Additionally, behavioral health counselors are available several days per week. Telemedicine services allow connection to any hospital or specialist in the state of Nebraska for consultative services.

Rescue Squad

The **Gordon Volunteer Rescue Squad** provides basic and advanced life support ambulance and rescue services to the Gordon community using three fully equipped ambulances. Licensed in Nebraska and South Dakota, the squad responds to emergency calls in Gordon and the surrounding area using a volunteer staff of 12 EMTs, EMT-Intermediates, and Paramedics. Inter-facility transfer of patients is provided.

NURSING HOMES

Gordon Countryside Care, owned and operated by Gordon Memorial Health Services since 1996, includes a 32-bed Medicaid certified nursing facility, a 10-bed assisted living facility, and 1 apartment. A variety of religious and social activities are available daily for the residents and visitors. A wheelchair-accessible bus provides transportation for residents to medical appointments and social activities.

LIBRARY

The **Gordon City Library** was built in 1987 and contains 13,900 volumes, with an average annual circulation of 15,404. The library has a summer reading program, computers, classes on basic computer and Internet use, dial-a-story, books on tape, and inter-library loan. The library provides free public Internet access.

RECREATION

Gordon has three parks covering 28 acres. Facilities include a tennis court, swimming pool, playground equipment, picnic tables, and camping areas. Gordon also has three playgrounds with standard equipment. The community has four ball fields—one baseball field which is home to American Legion baseball teams and three softball fields which are home to the community youth girls' and boys' softball clubs. Annual expenditures for the last three years averaged \$1,000.

Area facilities:

- | | |
|-------------|---|
| Boating | — All types of boating at Cottonwood Lake, 30 miles |
| Bowling | — 8-lane bowling alley |
| Campgrounds | — 2 full-service campgrounds |
| Fishing | — Northern, crappie, perch, pike, and trout fishing at Shell Lake, Snake River, and Larabee Creek |



Gordon Countryside Care



Gordon Countryside Care, Assisted living



Gordon City Library



Swimming Pool



Tennis Court



Fariview Park

Golf Courses	— Private 9-hole grass greens course with clubhouse
Hunting	— Grouse, pheasant, turkey, deer, duck, antelope, and dove
Sand Volleyball	— 1 court
Soccer	— 1 court
Skating	— Ice skating in season
Swimming	— Heated outdoor municipal pool
Tennis	— 2 public courts
Theaters	— Indoor twin-screen theatre seating 195 and 76

Each August Gordon hosts the **Sheridan County Fair and Rodeo**, the third largest rodeo in Nebraska and highly ranked throughout the western United States. Nashville top name entertainment is featured two nights along with numerous livestock, crop, and educational exhibits. The Sheridan County Fair and Rodeo was started in 1885 and has grown into one of the state’s finest Professional Rodeo Cowboys Association rodeos and ag expos.

The **Willow Tree Festival**, which began in 1984, is held two days each September celebrating the arts with craft displays and local, regional, and professional entertainers. The festival features a wide array of ethnic food booths. More than 3,500 people from Nebraska, South Dakota, and more distant points return each year.

The **Gordon Senior Center, Inc.**, serves noon meals and provides Meals on Wheels. Afternoon activities include cards and games. Members are active volunteers at the nursing home and hospital.

The **Tri-State Old Time Cowboys Museum** is filled with outstanding displays of tools and gear used on the earliest ranches of the late 1800s to modern times.

The First Methodist Episcopal Society, originally built in 1884, was restored to house the

Scamahorn Museum. Antiques from the early years of the Gordon Methodist congregation and the town, including quilts sewn by women from the Scamahorn Colony, are exhibited. The resource center contains catalogued factual stories and obituaries dating back to the settlement of the area.

Approximately 250 miles of an abandoned rail line were purchased by the Rails to Trails Conservation and given to the Nebraska Game and Parks Commission. Development of this first class recreational trail will enhance tourism in the northern part of Nebraska.

Shell Lake, a state-owned recreational area, is located 15 miles northeast of Gordon. It offers excellent fishing for bass, northern, crappie, and perch. The waters are fine for swimming and snorkeling. Facilities at the lake include picnic tables, charcoal units, fresh water, and a camping area.

Cottonwood Lake, located within 30 minutes of Gordon is state owned. Fishing, boating, and swimming are enjoyed at the lake.

Gordon, gateway to “Indian Country,” lies just south of the Pine Ridge and Rosebud Indian Reservations, home of the famous Sioux Sun Dance, lie just to the north. Historical areas near Gordon include Bowering Ranch, a state historical working ranch; Mari Sandoz Museum; Big Foot Trail; Wounded Knee; Nebraska National Forest; and Fort Robinson. The Black Hills, Mount Rushmore, and the Badlands are less than a three-hour drive from Gordon.

Cultural activities are provided by the Regional Arts Alliance and the Lone Willow Tree Players, a local theatrical group.

HOUSING

Gordon Housing Market (as of 11/09):

Number of Homes on the Market

Single Family - 15

Avg. Selling Prices (New and Existing)

Single Family Home	
2,500 sq. ft. - 3 bedroom	\$70,000
1,600 sq. ft. - 3 bedroom	\$60,000
1,000 sq. ft.	\$35,000

Number of Single Family Homes for Sale by Price (New and Existing)

Less than \$100,000	9
\$100,001-\$150,000	2
\$150,001-\$200,000	4

Rentals

Executive Style Home - 3,000 sq. ft.	\$700
Apartment - 2 bedroom	\$275
Apartment Vacancy Rate	15%

Low Cost and/or Retirement Housing

The **Gordon Villa**, built in 1971, is a low-income housing facility consisting of 26 units; 20 units

are available for the elderly and 6 units are available for low-income families. Facilities include a central recreation center.

Sunrise Apartments, a low-cost housing facility, was built in 1984 with 12 units.

Willow Tree Plaza, an elderly housing facility built in 1994, consists of two duplexes. Future units will be built as needed.

Assisted Living

Gordon Countryside Care has a total of 10 assisted living units.

FINANCIAL

Bank of the West and First National Bank are located in Gordon.



Winship Park

COMMUNITY SERVICES

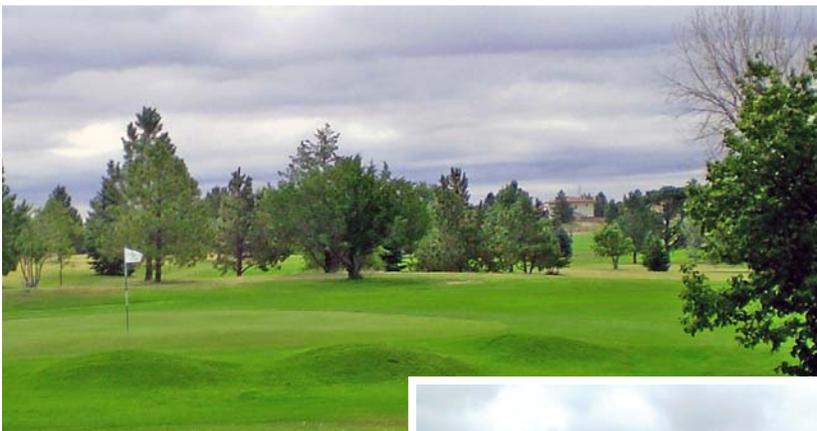
PROFESSIONAL

Attorneys.....	4
Auction Services.....	2
Certified Public Accountants.....	1
Chiropractors.....	1
Dentists.....	1
Massage Therapists.....	1
Medical Doctors (residing in Gordon)	
—family practitioners.....	2
Medical Doctors (on hospital consulting staff)	
—general surgeons.....	1
Advanced Practice Nurse Practitioners.....	1
Nurse Practitioners.....	1
Nurses, Registered.....	21
Optometrists.....	3
Pharmacists.....	1
Physical Therapists.....	2
Physician Assistants.....	2
Veterinarians.....	1

BUSINESS AND COMMERCIAL

Accounting/Bookkeeping Agencies.....	2
Advertising Agencies.....	2
Agricultural Implement Dealers.....	3
Antique Shops.....	2
Apparel Stores—combination.....	5
— men’s.....	1
Appliance Stores.....	4
Auto Repair & Service.....	7
Auto Supply Parts.....	2
Automobile Dealers (new & used).....	2
Automobile Renting & Leasing.....	1
Bakeries.....	2
Banquet Facilities, Halls & Auditoriums.....	6
Beauty Salons & Barber Shops.....	4
Bed & Breakfast.....	2 (11 rooms)
Carpet & Rug Dealers.....	2
Child Care Services (in home).....	5
Contractors—concrete.....	2
—electric.....	1
—excavating.....	2
—flooring.....	2
—general.....	4
—gravel.....	2

—heating & air conditioning.....	1
—well digging.....	2
Convenience Stores.....	2
Copying & Duplicating Services.....	1
Department Stores.....	2
Discount Stores.....	2
Drug Stores.....	1
Farm/Ranch Supplies.....	2
Fast Food Establishments.....	3
Feed & Seed.....	4
Feedlots (commercial & private).....	1
Fertilizers.....	1
Floral Shops.....	2
Funeral Homes.....	1
Garbage Collectors.....	1
Gift Shops.....	2
Grocery Stores.....	2
Hardware Stores.....	2
Health Clubs.....	2
Heavy Equipment Repair.....	2
Industrial Gas Suppliers.....	1
Insurance Companies.....	2
Laundries (self-service).....	1
Lumberyards.....	1
Machine Shops.....	1
Meat Lockers.....	1
Motels.....	3
Nurseries & Garden Centers.....	1
Photography Studios.....	1
Preschools.....	2
Printers.....	1
Real Estate Firms.....	2
Restaurants.....	5
Service Stations.....	1
Theatres.....	1
Upholstery Shops.....	1
Welding Shops.....	1



Gordon Country Club and Golf Course



Sheridan County Fair & Rodeo



Kiwanis Ball Field

AGRICULTURE & RAW MATERIALS

AGRICULTURE

2007 Statistics	Sheridan County	State of Nebraska
Number of Farms	574	47,712
Land in Farms (acres)	1,540,316	45,480,358
Average Size of Farms (acres)	2,683,	953
Market Value of Agricultural Products Sold	\$94,465,000	\$15,506,035,000
Market Value Per Farm	\$164,573	\$324,992
Total Acres Irrigated	56,977	8,558,559
Percent of Farmland Irrigated	3.7%	18.8%
Five-Year Average Production of Leading Crops (2004–2008)		
Hay Alfalfa (Dry)	79,982 tons	4,232,000 tons
All Wheat	1,740,620 bu.	69,730,000 bu.
Beans Dry Edible	181,038 hwt.	2,855,400 hwt.
Corn for Grain	3,711,280 bu.	1,326,770,000 bu.
Oats	37,400 bu.*	2,878,000 bu.
Sugarbeets	55,526 tons	1,041,000 tons
Five-Year Average Livestock Population (2005–2009)		
All Cattle	117,000	6,470,000

During the past five years, Sheridan County ranked in the top seven counties in Nebraska in the production of sugarbeets and dry edible beans and sixth in 2005 and 2006 in the production of oats. The county also ranked in the top ten counties two of the last five years in cattle and calves.

Source: National Agricultural Statistics Service, 2004–2009
2007 Census of Agriculture

RAW MATERIALS

Nonmetallic minerals of sand and gravel are available in commercial quantities in Sheridan County. Some high-quality clay (zeolite) is found in the county. There are no metallic minerals available in the Gordon area.

The 50,150 acres of forested land produces approximately 2.5 million board feet per year. This includes Ponderosa Pine, Red Cedar,

Elm, Hackberry, and miscellaneous deciduous. Products include firewood, pallets, rough sawn lumber posts, “Biomass” (fuel wood in chip form for commercial heating), and wood chips for bedding and horticultural mulch.

Farmers Co-Op buys and cleans millet and ships it out nationally to be packaged and sold as birdseed.

CLIMATE

TEMPERATURE, PRECIPITATION, AND HUMIDITY

Month	AVERAGES						
	Temperature			Precipitation		Humidity*	
	Min.	Mean	Max.	Rain (Inches)	Snow (Inches)	Morning	Afternoon
January	8.6	21.3	34.2	0.46	5.2	74	58
February	13.2	26.2	39.2	0.41	4.4	75	48
March	20.0	33.5	46.9	0.98	7.6	77	43
April	30.4	44.7	59.1	1.88	5.1	77	40
May	40.8	55.0	69.2	2.86	0.7	80	42
June	50.5	64.9	79.4	3.22	0.0	81	40
July	56.8	72.3	87.9	2.65	0.0	81	37
August	54.6	70.7	86.7	1.65	0.0	83	39
September	43.8	60.2	76.6	1.37	0.3	80	37
October	32.2	48.2	64.0	1.17	1.6	76	41
November	20.6	34.1	47.6	0.59	4.6	76	53
December	11.8	24.2	37.0	0.46	5.0	75	58
Annual	31.9	46.3	60.7	17.68	34.5	78	45

*Recorded at Scottsbluff Weather Station

FROST DATA

Average date of spring freeze probability	May 19
Average date of fall freeze probability	September 17
Average length of freeze free season probability	121 days
Average number of heating degree days based on 65° Fahrenheit	7,412
Average number of cooling degree days based on 65° Fahrenheit	608
Wind speed in miles per hour (annual average)	11
Prevailing wind direction (annual average)	West northwest

Source: High Plains Regional Climate Center, University of Nebraska, 1898–2009, www.hprcc.unl.edu