

COMMUNITY FACTS

HOLT COUNTY, NEBRASKA

www.holtcountynebraska.com

www.atkinsonne.com

www.cityofoneill.com

www.pagene.us

www.stuartne.com

JANUARY 2011

POPULATION (Official U.S. Census)

	<u>2000</u>	<u>2009 Est.</u>		<u>2000</u>	<u>2009 Est.</u>
Amelia (unincorporated)			O'Neill	3,733	3,249
Atkinson	1,244	1,076	Page	157	135
Chambers	333	287	Stuart	625	543
Emmet	77	66	Holt County	11,551	10,011
Ewing	433	396	Labor Market*	37,054	32,548
Inman	148	121	*Includes Holt County and contiguous counties		

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www.erppd.com

North Central Public Power District
Creighton, Nebraska 68729
www.ncppd.com

Niobrara Valley Electric Membership
Corporation
O'Neill, Nebraska 68763
www.nvemc.org

Economic Development Department
Nebraska Public Power District
Columbus, Nebraska 68601
www.nppd.com
sites.nppd.com

INTRODUCTION

The following pages contain basic information about Holt County, Nebraska. This material was compiled by Holt County Economic Development, city and village officials of each of the eight communities, and Nebraska Public Power District in order to promote community development.

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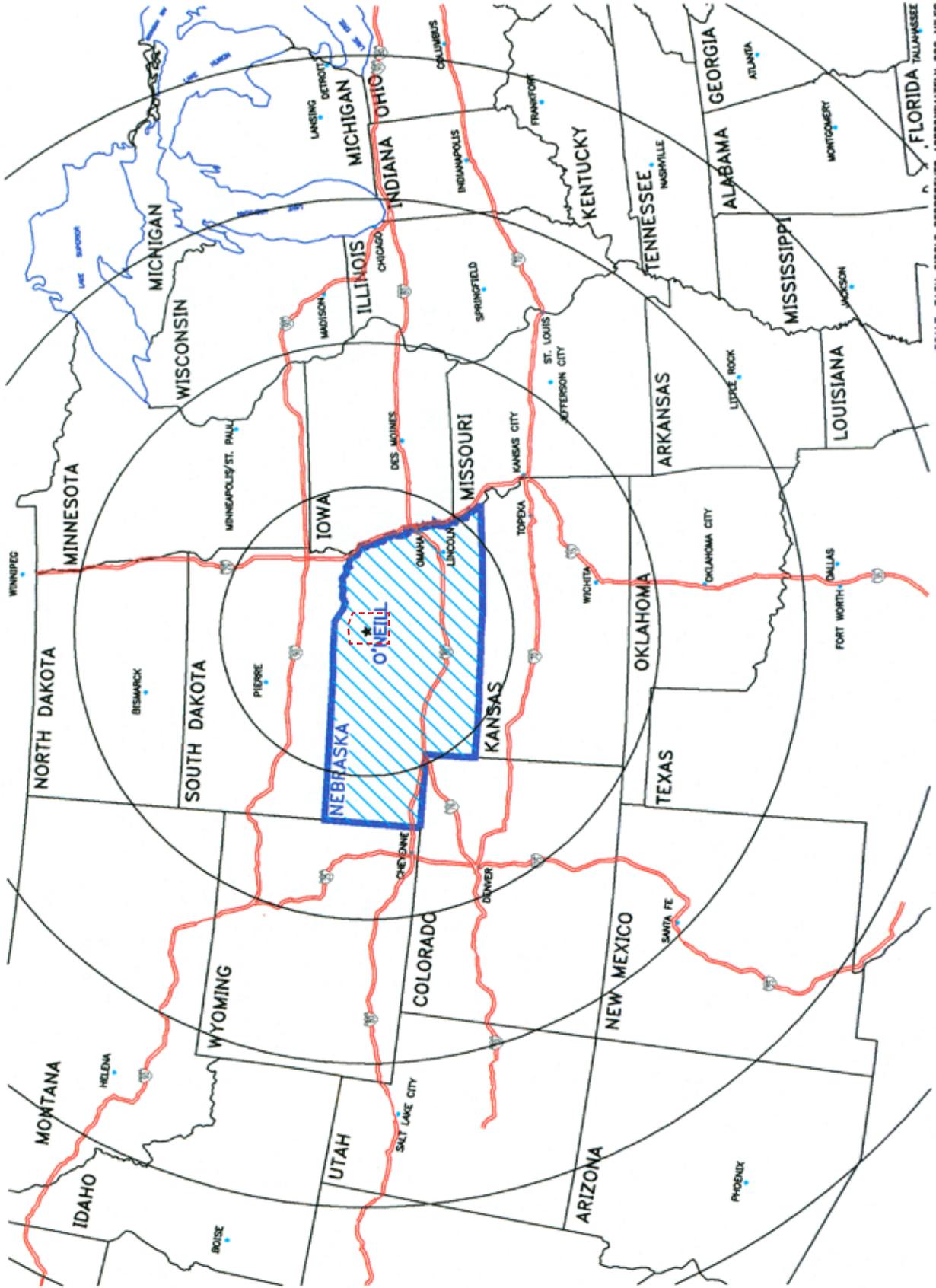
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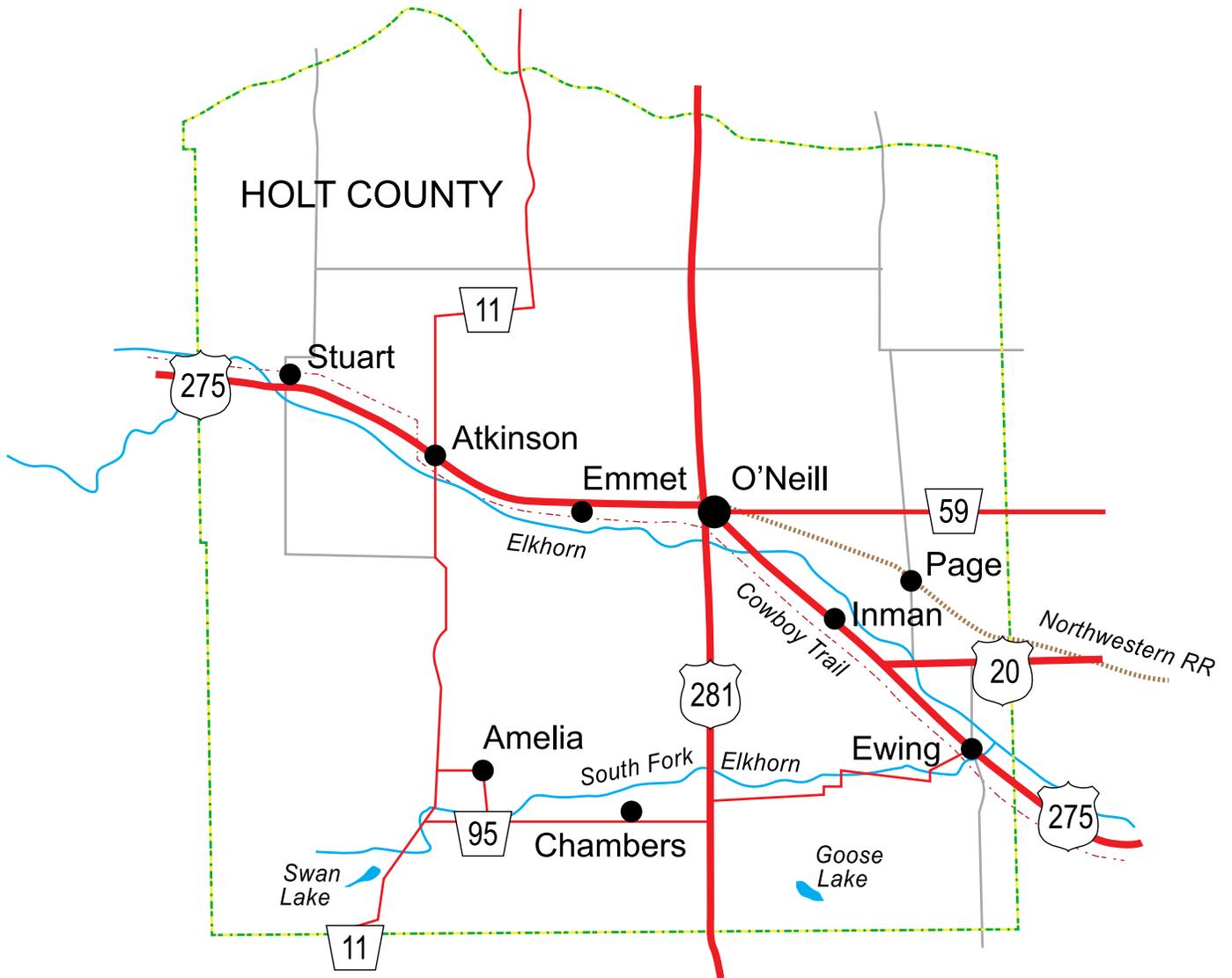
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SCALE: EACH CIRCLE REPRESENTS APPROXIMATELY 200 MILES



GENERAL INFORMATION

LOCATION

Holt County, located in north-central Nebraska, is served by U.S. Highways 281, 20, and 275 and Nebraska Highways 59, 11, and 95. The Elkhorn River, including the South Fork Elkhorn branch, runs through the county. O'Neill, the county seat of Holt County, is 126 miles west of Sioux City, Iowa, and 192 miles northwest of Omaha, Nebraska.

POPULATION (U.S. Census)

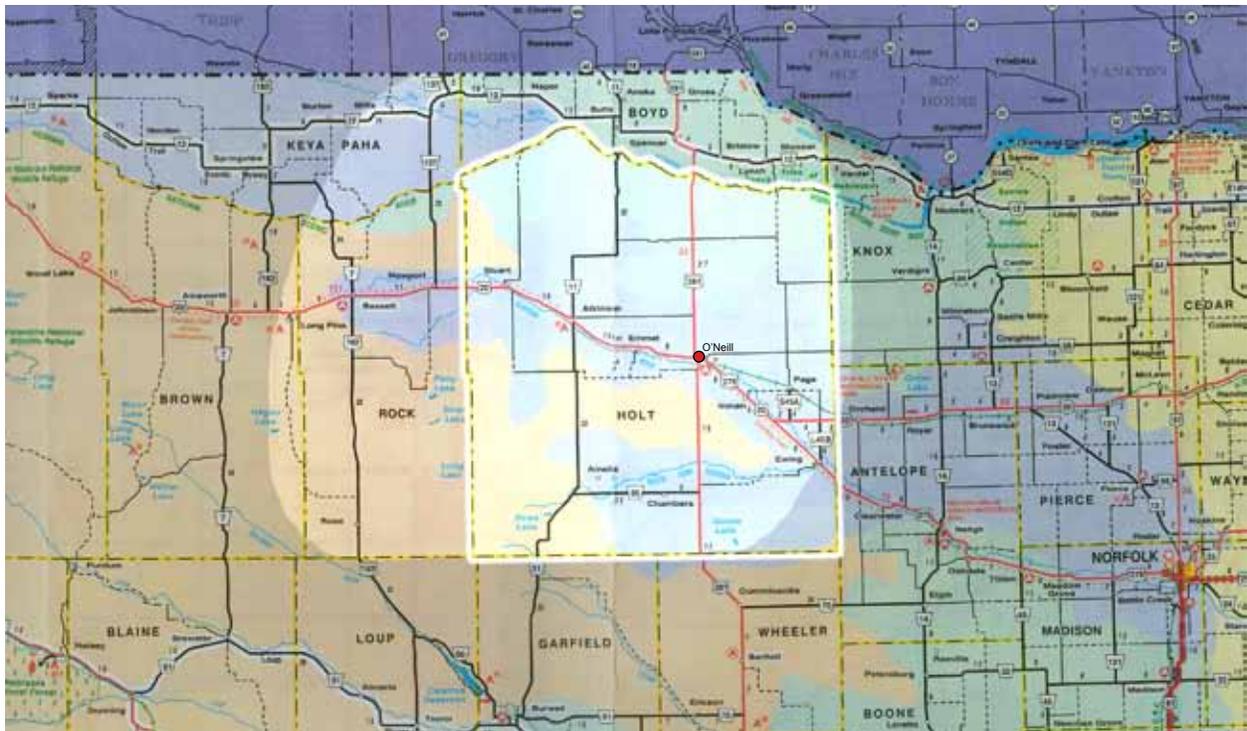
City	1990	2000	2009 (est.)
Amelia		Unincorporated	
Atkinson	1,387	1,244	1,076
Chambers	341	333	287
Emmet	70	77	66
Ewing	449	433	396
Inman	159	148	121
O'Neill	4,009	3,733	3,249
Page	191	157	135
Stuart	650	625	543
Holt County	12,599	11,551	10,011

Holt County Population by Race and Hispanic Origin, 2009 U.S. Census

One Race	
White	98.7%
Black	0.1%
American Indian and Alaska Native	0.4%
Asian	0.2%
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander	0.1%
Two or More Races	0.4%
Hispanic or Latino Origin*	
Persons Not Hispanic	96.9%

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

The 2009 U.S. Census estimates 32,548 people live in Holt County and the contiguous counties of Antelope, Boyd, Garfield, Keya Paha, Knox, Loup, Rock, and Wheeler.



More than 200 people in Holt County are fluent in a second language—Spanish (majority), German, and Chinese.

LOCAL ECONOMY

Basic economic activities of Holt County include farming, ranching, cattle feeding, retail, and medical services. Cattle, potatoes, tomatoes, hay, soybeans, and corn are the major products produced in the area.

Net taxable retail sales in 2009:

Holt County	\$102,389,660
Atkinson	\$19,573,758
Chambers	\$1,500,724
Ewing	\$4,379,388
Inman	\$188,515
O’Neill	\$71,334,546
Page	\$310,322
Stuart	\$4,533,145

Wholesale firms in the county distribute soybeans, potatoes, tomatoes, cucumbers, beverages, exercise equipment, gas, diesel fuel, steel, stack movers, trailers, irrigation systems and products, sheet metal products, recessed airport lights, and concrete.

Several new businesses in Atkinson opened during the last few years including Subway, computer service business, fitness center, and an ethanol plant.

Chambers’ economic impacts include the new buildings for the Legion Club, fire hall and community center, which were funded by private donations. The old Legion Club now houses an antiques and gifts shop and the old fire hall is now home to a trailer customizing business that draws customers from all over the United States. A new restaurant opened in the Community Center in June 2010 and is operated by a descendent of a long-time resident of Chambers. A fund drive, promoted by the Park Improvement Committee, financed the purchase of playground equipment and picnic tables for the city park. The Village Board, with financial help from the Park Improvement Board and the Chamber of Commerce, is building a new park house which will be available to the public.

Garden Fresh Vegetables in O’Neill, a 10-acre facility that produces hydroponic tomatoes and cucumbers, opened in 2008 and employs 50 full-time employees.

Economic changes in Stuart include the development of the third largest feedlot in Nebraska, a new medical clinic, as well as six new businesses.

ELEVATION

The elevation in Holt county varies from 1,860 to 2,159 feet above sea level.

TOPOGRAPHY

The terrain is nearly level to gently sloping. Sandy soils are deep, excessively drained in the west, moderately drained in the north, and poorly drained in the south due to a high water table.

HISTORY

Atkinson

Frank Bitney, who came to northeastern Nebraska with one of General O’Neill’s colonies, saw the need of a way-station because the freighters could only travel eight to ten miles a day by oxen. In 1873 Bitney chose a site on the north side of the Elkhorn River that would become Atkinson, named for his friend, Colonel John Atkinson. The first house was a soddy, at what is now First and Main Street. The first store opened in 1877 and the first mail arrived a few days later. A post office was granted in 1878. The town site of Atkinson was officially registered on August 7, 1880. Bitney persuaded the Fremont, Elkhorn and Missouri Valley Railroad, later known as the Northwestern, to run its line through Atkinson in 1881. By 1883 the town covered nearly two quarters of land with a population of 800. Many German families moved closer to the railroad and began building shops and homes. Atkinson was incorporated on May 1, 1884.

As early as 1878, mass was held in homes with visiting priests from O’Neill officiating. A mission church was built in 1882. The Methodist organized in 1881, and Presbyterians built a





Downtown O'Neil

church the following year. A Lutheran church was organized and built in 1888. The church and all records were destroyed by a prairie fire in the 1920s. A new church was constructed in 1927.

Ellen Hovey taught a three-month term of school in Frank Bitney's living room in 1878. The school year gradually increased to the traditional nine months.

Atkinson has been fortunate to have at least one doctor since the early 1880s, except for a time during the 1930–40s, when midwives and nurses cared for people in their homes. The first hospital was opened in February 1952 and named Atkinson Memorial Hospital. More than half the total cost of the facility was raised from individuals and civic organizations and was deeded to the Franciscan Sisters of Chicago. In 1972 the Franciscan Sisters of Chicago ceased operation of the hospital and the hospital advisory board was incorporated as West Holt Memorial Hospital Association, Inc. Today, West Holt Medical Services is a testimony to the spirit and character of people in the area.

Pioneers were good at entertaining themselves. There was a skating rink, also used for community gatherings. At the turn of the century, the Opera House was opened, which booked both traveling shows and local talent. It also featured silent movies, with someone reading the script. The Crystal Ballroom, the largest hall in town, was originally built to store hay by Fred Jungman in 1926. Many famous bands, including Lawrence Welk's, played there. The millpond, a five-minute walk from downtown, was a great place to swim and go fishing. Atkinson, of course, had its baseball team, and sportsmen had their choice of game to hunt. Barn dances were popular, as were families and neighbors just gathering to visit, play cards, or sing. In 1940 businesses began sponsoring a free barbecue in conjunction with "Hay Days." Hay Days continues to be a favorite annual local event.

In the spring of 1994, the Sturdevant-McKee Foundation began restoration of two homes in Atkinson. The homes were a gift from the late Mary Ellen McKee of Macomb, Illinois. The McKee and Sturdevant families, physicians in

the community from 1882 until 1960, lived in the Atkinson area all of their lives. The Sturdevant residence has been restored as a museum and is listed on the National Register of Historic Sites. It features the original structure, furniture, and antique fencing.

In July 1994 the Burlington Railroad was sold to the Nebraska Northeastern Railway Company in O'Neill. Soon after the trains stopped, Rails to Trails Conservancy purchased the right-of-way for the nation's longest recreational rail-to-trail project. It was named the Cowboy Trail and runs through downtown Atkinson offering biking, hiking, or horseback riding.

Chambers

The first settlers in this area were George Eckley and his son-in-law, John M. Alderson, who filed claims near the south fork of the Elkhorn River in 1880–81. In 1883, Rufus C. Wry filed a claim three miles southeast of Alderson's claim. Numerous other claims were also filed, but to quote Alderson, "with the advent of Wry's Mercantile Store, a new era began in the history of southern Holt County along the Elkhorn Valley."

Wry's store also housed a post office. When the mail route was established in 1884, Wry sent in an application with the name "Juanita," the name of his youngest daughter. Since there was already an office by that name in the state, another had to be chosen. The Chambers Post Office was named by W. D. Matthews of the Frontier Office at O'Neill in honor of his friend, V. F. Chambers, register of the Land Office at Niobrara. When Wry donated the land for Chambers, he wanted it to be a "dry town" and to this date there are no bars in town. By the end of the year there were more businesses—Fluckey-Blarney Retail Store, Duffy Harness Shop, Hubbard Hotel, and a livery barn. In addition to its mercantile beginnings, the town of Chambers owes much of its origin to the establishment of institutions and organizations.

There were ten area churches, six of which continue to serve the community today. A fair has been synonymous with Chambers' history. In 1886 the founding fathers organized the "Harvest Home Festival." This became the South Fork Fair

in 1892, and in 1935 was designated to be the Holt County Fair.

The Chambers School began its climb to respectability with the establishment of a high school during the First World War. A sturdy concrete structure was built with Works Progress Administration help in the 1930s. With population centers no closer than 23 miles, a large portion of southern Holt County consolidated into a K-12 district in the early 1960s, with Chambers as its center. New classrooms and a gymnasium were built. The spirit of the old town band was reborn in the youth of the community. Under the direction of Duane DeVries, the school band has collected “Superior” ratings for more than two decades in both playing and marching competitions.

Another claim to fame has to do with the great flying machines and a private airplane mania that gripped the town. Because of returning veterans, a young flight instructor from Iowa, and its location in the wide-open spaces far from hard-surfaced roads or a rail line, Chambers had more airplanes, per capita, than any other town or city in the world in the 1930s. Names like Collins, Fees, Newhouse, Cooper, and Robertson still cause aerial flashbacks for many old timers.

Chambers has been well served by its Legion Post and a strong volunteer fire department. Community events such as Easter, Memorial Day, Fourth of July, Veteran’s Day, and the county fair are all enhanced by the leadership and influence of these organizations along with the Chambers Area Chamber of Commerce.

Emmet

In 1881 the Fremont, Elkhorn, and Missouri Valley Railroad made its way west from O’Neill, passing William Malloy’s homestead just eight miles from that station. A town was platted by Judge Malloy, his son, Tom, and one of the Nightingale boys on Tom’s timber claim in 1882. The day of its completion was the birthday of an Irish patriot, Robert Emmet, thus the name “Emmet” was bestowed on the new town. Pioneers struggled to “make it” against all that nature could throw against them—prairie fires, floods, grasshoppers, drought, and sickness. They

were a hearty group, and in time they found time to play and ways to be entertained—ball games, quilting, local contests of all kinds, and a Lyceum Club to improve their minds and “keep up with the times.”

Haying has been the primary industry in Emmet. Early settlers cut, baled, and shipped native prairie hay as a cash crop.

Ewing

In 1870 James Ewing, a native of Tennessee, his wife, Sabrina, two daughters, Anna Elfreda and Cloe, drew their covered wagon to a stop about a mile west of the present boundary line between Antelope and Holt Counties just below the forks of the Elkhorn River. They found a spot suited to their needs for a new home; good land with good timber; and an abundance of good, fresh water. Here the family built their home, the first log cabin in Holt County. Thus began the settlement of Ewing, about a mile and a half east of the present town site. There were no settlers to the west and only one other white man in the vicinity, an old man named Ford who had come earlier in the year. The Ewings immediately began the work of the typical pioneer family. They broke ground and planted a sod garden with seeds brought from Tennessee and also planted a twenty-acre sod corn field, the first in Holt County. As their two crops grew, they built their home, a one-room log cabin, with strips of sod cut to make the roof. There were plenty of materials to be found in the wide, fertile valley on both sides of the river. Cottonwood, oak, and elm grew in abundance and wild game, berries, and fish provided food. Other settlers soon followed. First came the Calvin Gunther’s settling in a dugout along the river, the J. M. Davidson’s, C. Clemmens’, the Billings’, The Butlers’, and the Donaldsons’. The next year Anna Elfreda Ewing, sixteen years old and a woman by frontier standards, married Isaac Davidson. A second cabin was built on the Ewing place and on January 31, 1872, a son was born to the couple—Guy Davidson, the first white child born in Holt County. On April 15, 1872, another boy, James, was born to the Gunther’s in the Gunther dugout, and the settlement of Ewing was well on its way. New settlers in the spring of 1872 were John Ryan and George W. and

Mary Howe. Later that year, Thomas Kiele and F. S. Wentworth joined them. Their nearest trading post was Norfolk, and the nearest post office was French in a town in Antelope County. Mr. Ewing brought the mail to his home so his neighbors could pick up their mail. The nearest railroads were at Wisner and Columbus.

Inman

The first settler in the county was William H. Inman, who erected a house on the banks of the Elkhorn in 1872. One of the first expeditions came through this part of the Elkhorn Valley in 1874. Inman was named after W. H. Inman, the first county clerk of Holt County. Another early pioneer who came to this valley was Mr. Ray Stamp. There were few houses then, called sod houses and claim shacks. Businesses began to open and grow.

Inman's post office was established on June 22, 1877, at the Bill Inman homestead northwest of Inman. The first Methodist Church in Holt County was built in 1881. In 1887 the first Presbyterian Church was built. A school opened and the first graduation exercises were held in 1894. The first bank in Inman was started in 1902.

Inman flooded many times, but the buildings were built high enough that the water could not enter.

The early twenties were years of happiness. Toward the end of the decade, things became of a serious tone. The stock market took a terrible downfall, causing many banks and businesses to bankrupt. This was followed by the "Dirty Thirties." War broke out in the early '40s when many young men were called to serve and some never returned.

In 1966 the Inman community celebrated their statehood centennial.

The Inman community felt their heritage has been profound and rich, and they look to the future with great enthusiasm, realizing that this God-given Elkhorn Valley still holds great opportunity for those with a pioneer spirit and a desire to live where there is "Elbow Room."

O'Neill

J. T. Prouty was the first settler of the future city of O'Neill, first known as Rockford, and was one of the first white settlers in the Upper Elkhorn Valley. He was the first merchant, first postmaster, and the first notary public in the county and held several other premier honors of the early day. Mr. Prouty moved onto his homestead quarter on July 14, 1873.

While a prisoner in Burlington, Vermont, in 1870, General John O'Neill, founder of the city of O'Neill, conceived the idea of establishing the Irish of the eastern mining cities on farms in the Middle West.

General O'Neill knew the dire poverty in those large centers of population and he longed to relieve the suffering of his countrymen. In one of his letters of that time, he wrote, "I have always believed that the next best thing to giving the Irish people their freedom at home is to encourage some of them to come to this country either from choice or from necessity to take up lands and build homes in America."

Being determined to carry out his plans as soon as possible, General O'Neill spent most of 1872 and 1873 traveling through the states of Minnesota, Wisconsin, Iowa, Illinois, Missouri, and Nebraska. He was convinced that Nebraska possessed the greatest advantage for the settlers.

Its healthful climate, pure water, and fertile land appealed to him. There were millions of acres of free government land, cheap railroad, and speculation land waiting for settlers. He felt that nowhere could better opportunities be found.

General O'Neill met Patrick Fahy, a land agent, who interested him in a town site in Holt County on November 1873. O'Neill entered into an agreement with Fahy and his partner, Mr. Boyd, whereby he received \$600 and some lots in the town site on condition that he would go East and promote immigration for the county.

During the first three months of 1874, O'Neill gave lectures in all of the leading cities of mining districts in Pennsylvania. "Why," he said, "are you content to work on the public projects and

at coal mining when you might in a few years own farms of your own and become wealthy and influential people”?

While General O’Neill was struggling to win Irish recruits, work on the proposed town site began. Thomas J. Atwood, a civil engineer from Lincoln, plotted the town. Patrick Fahy’s brother, James Fahy, had just returned from college and helped in the survey. The name of Holt County was given to the new town site but was afterward changed to O’Neill City by Colonel James Noteware, immigration agent from the state of Nebraska.

In early April 1874, the first group of colonists headed west toward Nebraska and arrived at the new site on May 12.

The first major task for the colonists was to provide immediate shelter for themselves and their families. Together they constructed a crude 36- by 18-foot sod house. As soon as the basic structure was in place, six of the original party left for Red Bird Creek and the nearest timber. They took with them a wagon load of willows, which were driven into the ground at intervals to provide markers so that the party could find their way back to the settlement. When the timber was procured, a roof was placed on the sod house and the residents moved in on May 19, 1874, one week after their arrival. This first dwelling in O’Neill City was the home for 13 men, 2 women, and 5 children. It was dubbed the “Grand Central Hotel.”

After establishing somewhat adequate housing, the settler’s next task was to plant crops. Having lived in the eastern cities, the methods of prairie farming were new to them. It is little wonder that the first results of their efforts showed little bounty.

After crops were planted, the settlers again turned their attention to housing. Not wanting to live in the Grand Central Hotel any longer than possible, new dwellings were constructed. These were dugouts carved into the ground, usually four feet long. The dugouts were then covered with limbs and plastered with mud, grass, and sod. Later, when time permitted, cabins replaced the dugouts.

The logs for the cabins were cut on Eagle Creek and hauled a distance of 18 miles to O’Neill City.

In spite of the severe droughts and other hardships, more than half of the original party remained at the end of the summer.

As the first colony was preparing for the coming winter of 1874–75, John O’Neill went back East and began preparations for bringing the second colony to Nebraska.

The actual construction of permanent buildings in O’Neill City began in October 1875. A carpenter, John Mayberry, under contract to Patrick Fahy, erected the first frame building. The new structure was a general merchandise store, which Patrick Hagerty rented from Fahy.

Having successfully established the second group of settlers in O’Neill City, General O’Neill immediately returned East to begin preparations to secure a third group who arrived in late April or early May of 1876.

The group consisted of 102 men, women, and children. Unlike settlers in groups before them, these colonists saw some tangible results of O’Neill’s efforts. They viewed a town which was platted out with buildings under construction. Although it did not have everything the settlers expected, it did provide the essentials to start a new life in the West.

In 1877 General O’Neill brought his fourth and last colony to O’Neill. He died the following year, but the town took his name and is known today as O’Neill.

O’Neill was established as the county seat of Holt County in 1879 and incorporated in 1882. The first courthouse was erected in 1885 at a cost of \$20,000.

Moses Kinkaid, a young attorney, moved to O’Neill from Pierre, Dakota Territory, and opened his law practice. He was elected to the State Senate shortly after his arrival and was elected as a Congressman for the Sixth Congressional District in 1902. The Kinkaid Land Act was enacted in 1904, offering 640 acres to homesteaders. Kinkaid died in 1922 and was buried in O’Neill.

The Nebraska Legislature voted Moses P. Kinkaid one of the “Nebraska Men of the Millennium” in 2000.

In 1882 the Fremont, Elkhorn, and Missouri Valley Railroad reached O’Neill. In 1890 the Sioux City and Pacific Railroad reached O’Neill; today it is known as the Nebraska Northeastern Rail Line.

Although the first years were bad years for the colonists, O’Neill continued to grow and remain primarily an Irish town with special customs such as celebrating St. Patrick’s Day.

The first official St. Patrick’s Day celebration sponsored by the O’Neill Jaycees was held on March 17, 1967. Events included a kangaroo court, beard contest, parade, and banquet for Notre Dame coach, Frank Leahy.

A historical marker for General John O’Neill was dedicated three miles southeast of O’Neill on Highway 20 the following St. Patrick’s Day.

On St. Patrick’s Day of 1969, Governor Norbert Tiemann officially proclaimed O’Neill “The Irish Capital of Nebraska.”

Governor J. James Exon dedicated a historical marker at the 1972 St. Patrick’s Day Celebration, proclaiming the city “The Irish Capital of Nebraska” as a follow-up to his predecessor’s proclamation. On May 17, 1977, the Nebraska Unicameral passed a resolution stating that O’Neill was the Official Irish Capital of Nebraska.

Each year since the official St. Patrick’s Day Celebration began, members of the Jaycees and later the O’Neill Men’s Club painted the World’s Largest Shamrock in the middle of the intersection where Highways 275, 20, and 281 cross in downtown O’Neill. A fund raiser led by the O’Neill Area Chamber of Commerce financed the permanent shamrock.

As the Irish Capital, O’Neill celebrates St. Patrick’s each March. Highlights each year include coronation of an Irish King and Queen, Grande Parade, Fun Run, the Irish Dancers performance, along with many other activities. St. Patrick’s Day in O’Neill is Nebraska’s

first outdoor celebration each year. This celebration has been known to draw as many as 20,000 people from all over the United States and has hosted many special guests from Ireland.

Page

Spring 1883 brought many homesteaders to the area soon to become Page; most every quarter of land was taken. Houses consisted of small frame buildings, sod shanties, and dugouts. The village of Page was incorporated on April 3, 1911. Three years later the county declared all property owners subject to tax. After taxes were assessed, however, there was no ready money for projects within the village as most taxpayers chose to “work out” their taxes rather than pay them outright. Meat, fish, prairie chickens, and quail were plentiful. Fruit such as sand cherries, plums, and grapes were also plentiful. Finding fuel was the greatest problem for the first year or two. Hay and cow chips were the only available fuel. Corn was the first crop planted, and after a few years, the farmers began to plant both wheat and rye.

The Pleasant Valley School, located one-half mile south of the present site of Page, opened in 1884. Mrs. W. W. Page was chosen as the first teacher. Mrs. Page organized a Sunday School that also met in the “soddie.” The first Methodist church was dedicated June 26, 1898, at the site of the present Methodist church.

In 1890 the Nebraska and Western Railway Company’s line was completed to the area. When the railroad arrived, the village was laid out and several buildings were built. The village was given the name of Page in honor of Mrs. W. W. Page, who served as the first postmistress and participated in many other civic interests.

Edward Adams built the first business, the Farmers State Bank, and Jake Skelton built a home just a short distance from the bank in which he operated the first grocery store. George Hunter and Robert Gray operated a general merchandise store. Groceries were shipped in barrels or large boxes and the storekeeper had to weigh and sack the items. A 50-pound sack of flour sold for 80 to 90 cents and coffee was 15 to 20 cents a pound. Dr. H. A. Skelton was the

town's first physician and druggist. Charlie Cornstock published the first local paper, The Page Eye, beginning in 1890. This newspaper was replaced by The Page Reporter after a few years. The first sidewalks in Page were built in 1915 and in May 1916 residents of Page paid their first light bill. Jim Shanner and sons ran this light plant. In 1916 the village bought 12 pails and 2 ladders for the volunteer bucket brigade. The first record of money paid out by the town for pumping water was recorded in 1922. The town of Page has seen many changes in the 100 plus years of its existence.

Stuart

On February 15, 1879, John Carberry, an immigrant from Ireland, became the first settler of Stuart, Nebraska. He and his family filed a homestead claim and built a sod house. From this soddie he sold and bartered food, tools, and other necessities that he brought from Atkinson. His father-in-law, Peter Stuart, became the first postmaster in October 1879. The town of Stuart derives its name from Mr. Stuart. At this time the country was described as "almost dead level, without a tree or bush in sight."

John Carberry established a general store. Orange Hallock operated a grocery store while also serving as Justice of the Peace. Within a short time, these two men owned most of the land in and around Stuart. As founder of Stuart, their belief in the future attracted other pioneers and businessmen. Education was an important aspect of the early Stuart settlement, and in October 1880, Miss Hannah Hayes taught the first school in a soddie owned by John Carberry just outside the limits of Stuart. In October 1881 the Fremont, Elkhorn, and Missouri Valley Railroad reached Stuart and with it, an increased number of possible settlers.

The Stuart population had grown from a meager 60 in 1882 to 382 in 1883. The Methodist and the Presbyterian churches had both been organized by this time. Stuart grew fast and in 1884 the Holt County Commissioners acted on a petition presented to them and declared the village of Stuart incorporated.

The young community was struck by a disastrous fire during 1884. The fire began in a store building and swept through the entire block, wiping out stores, merchandise, and goods in a short time. The primitive fire equipment consisted of hastily organized "bucket brigades" which proved to be ineffective and frustrating. In 1887 the town made definite progress toward more adequate fire protection. A well, windmill, and tank were constructed and placed in the center square of Main and Second Streets. The village also purchased 400 feet of fire hose, giving the town a fighting chance against the rages of fire.

In 1893–1894 Stuart saw the addition of its first telephone exchange. During 1893 crops were almost totally destroyed by drought and hot winds and in 1894 another crop failure. Financial conditions worsened, and the entire state was almost in the grip of actual famine.

St. Boniface Catholic School was organized in 1906. The school Sisters of Saint Francis from Milwaukee, Wisconsin, sent three nuns to serve as parochial teachers in St. Boniface School in 1908, and they founded St. Boniface Covent. The construction of the new St. Boniface Catholic Church was completed in 1912 after two long years of planning and fund raising.

In the summer of 1922, Stuart held a special election to get approval to construct an electric light plant. It was approved and Stuart was "lit-up" for the first time on Monday, February 19, 1923. By June 1935 a long-awaited sanitary sewer system was completed. In 1939 a new auditorium was constructed. This new brick structure adorned the little town and gave it a solid structure with a basketball court and a well-equipped stage.

The first joint airport in the state of Nebraska was created by an agreement between Atkinson and Stuart on July 17, 1946. In 1949 the Stuart Federated Church, Atkinson Presbyterian Church, and the Cleveland Presbyterian Church combined efforts to establish the Cleveland Bible Camp, 14 miles north of Stuart. On March 2, 1950, the congregations of the Stuart Federated Churches met and formed a single religious body, the Stuart Community Church.

The Stuart stock car races were organized in 1953. A new public elementary school building was constructed in 1954. The Stuart-Atkinson Country Club, a cooperative venture between Stuart and Atkinson, was organized in 1960. The White Horse Ranch Museum, opened in 1964, houses many items from the White Horse Ranch as well as many other antique items to preserve the rich heritage of Stuart's history. In July 1971 the

Parkside Manor Nursing Home opened its doors. In 2000 an assisted living facility was added to Parkside Manor, and the Stuart Foundation was formed.

Today Stuart continues to grow and thrive with new businesses, an active Community Foundation, and a village full of caring residents with progression foremost on their minds.



Flags at O'Neill Cemetery



St. Patrick's Day - O'Neill



Shamrock Aerial View - O'Neill

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

MANUFACTURERS

<u>Company/Year Established</u>	<u>Product</u>	<u>Market</u>	<u>Employees</u>	<u>Union</u>
Atkinson				
Alpha Galvanizing 1996	Galvanizing steel products	National	39	None
Atkinson Graphic 1882	Weekly newspaper & commercial printing	State	1 2*	None
Kramer Machine Shop 1938	Stack movers, trailers, tractor winches & ranch hand bale processors	Regional	5	None
McConnell Welding 1961	Tractor winches & fertilizer trailers	Regional	1	None
NEDAK Ethanol, LLC 2003	Ethanol, wet & dried distilled grain	National	36 4*	None
Olson, Inc. 1987	Irrigation systems & farm equipment	National	3	None
Olson Industries, Inc. 1983	Sheet metal work, fabricated metal products, irrigation equipment & recessed airport lights	International	66 2*	None
Osborne Steel & Supply 2006	Steel	Regional	15	None
Schaaf Redi Mix 1969	Redi-mix concrete	Regional	4*	None
Chambers				
Boog's Welding & Repair 1990	Truck frame alterations & fabricated truck boxes	National	3	None
Duba's Trailer Customizing 1995	Customized trailers	National	3	None

*Part-time and/or seasonal

<u>Company/Year Established</u>	<u>Product</u>	<u>Market</u>	<u>Employees</u>	<u>Union</u>
Ewing				
Cedar Ridge 1981	Engine shelters & steel buildings	Local	3	None
O'Neill				
Breiner Welding 2003	Welding, machine lathe work	Local	3	None
Cole Redi-Mix 1977	Ready-mix concrete	Regional	7	None
K & K Welding 1996	Welding/machine shop	Local	3	None
Miles Publishing 1889	Commercial printing	Local	7	None
Needak Rebounders 1990	Rebounders/exercise	International	8 1*	None
Nonpareil RDO 1997	Potato processing	National	100	None
R & D Manufacturing 2000	Hydraulic rakes	National	16	None

*Part-time and/or seasonal

MAJOR NONMANUFACTURING EMPLOYERS (employing 30 or more)

<u>Employer</u>	<u>Type of Activity</u>	<u>Employees</u>	<u>Union</u>
Atkinson			
Atkinson Livestock Market	Livestock sales & cafe	4 46*	None
Braun's IGA	Grocery, meat processing, lockers & bakery	16 14*	None
Christensen Farms	Hog production	144	None
Good Samaritan Society	Nursing care	75	None

*Part-time and/or seasonal

<u>Employer</u>	<u>Type of Activity</u>	<u>Employees</u>	<u>Union</u>
Mitchell Equipment, Inc.	Farm equipment & repair	26 6*	None
West Holt Memorial Hospital	Medical	84 4*	None
West Holt Public School	Education	47 16*	None
Chambers			
Chambers Public School	Education	22 11*	NSEA
Ewing			
Ewing Public Schools	Education	30 6*	NSEA (teachers only)
Graber Trucking	Flatbed trucking	31 2*	None
PST-NPP	Hog production	30	None
O'Neill			
Avera St. Anthony's Hospital	Medical	153 50*	None
City of O'Neill	Government	31	None
Garden Fresh Vegetables	Hydroponic greenhouse	50	None
Golden LivingCenter	Nursing home	73	None
Holt County	Government	100	None
O'Neill Public Schools	Education	125	NSEA
Pamida	Retail	31	None
St. Mary's School	Education	30	NSEA
Valley Hope	Drug & alcohol rehabilitation	44	None

*Part-time and/or seasonal

<u>Employer</u>	<u>Type of Activity</u>	<u>Employees</u>	<u>Union</u>
Stuart			
Parkside Manor	Nursing home	58	None
Stuart Public School	Education	29 5*	NSEA

*Part-time and/or seasonal

OTHER MAJOR AREA EMPLOYERS (within 40 miles and employing 100 or more)

<u>Employer</u>	<u>Type of Activity</u>	<u>Employees</u>	<u>Union</u>
Neligh, 40 miles			
Antelope Memorial Hospital	Medical	165	None
Educational Service Unit 8	Education	92 24*	NSEA

*Part-time and/or seasonal

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ORGANIZATIONS

Holt County Economic Development Agency, Central Nebraska Economic Development District, West Holt Betterment LLC, Atkinson Development Corporation, Atkinson Area Chamber of Commerce, Chambers Area Chamber of Commerce, Ewing Development Corporation, CORE (Clearwater, Orchard, Royal & Ewing), O’Neill Area Chamber of Commerce, O’Neill Economic Development Corporation, Stuart Development Corporation, Stuart Community Club, and the eight cities and villages in Holt County combine their efforts for economic development in the community.

Holt County Economic Development Agency (HCED) was formed in 2007 with an interlocal agreement between Holt County and its municipalities. Funds are generated on a per capita basis by the county and the communities as well as grants, government, and annual private partners. The agency employs a full-time director.

HCED strives to promote activities that center on improving the local business climate, helping existing businesses expand, and attracting new businesses to the region. HCED is committed to gathering and providing clear and useful information, staying in touch with the needs of varied businesses and industries, tracking economic development progress, and enabling responsive decision making and strategic planning.

The **Atkinson Development Corporation** was organized in 1970 as a profit corporation with 52 shares. Principal assets include industrial sites, buildings, savings accounts, government bonds, etc.

The city of Atkinson recently purchased a 10-acre site on the edge of town to be used as an industrial park. The community is in the process of developing the infrastructure to make the site “shovel ready” for new businesses.

The **Ewing Development Corporation** is a nonprofit corporation, funded by annual dues. Money is raised as needed through private loans.



Boog's Welding & Repair, Inc. - Chambers



Dubas Trailer Customizing - Chambers



NEDAK Ethanol Plant, LLC - Atkinson



Nonpareil RDO - O'Neill



Olson Industries - Atkinson



R & D Manufacturing - O'Neill



Atkinson Livestock Market



Braun's Food Center - Atkinson



Employees at Garden Fresh Vegetables - O'Neill

The **O’Neill Economic Development Corporation** is a nonprofit corporation with 20 members. Funds are derived by raising money as needed.

The **Stuart Development Corporation** is a nonprofit corporation, funded by annual dues, an initial fund drive, and other development activities.

NEDAK Ethanol, LLC in Atkinson began operation in 2003, produces ethanol and distillers wet and dried grains which are marketed nationally. The company runs 24/7 and employs

40 personnel. Garden Fresh Vegetables in O’Neill, a 10-acre facility, produces hydroponic tomatoes and cucumbers. The company opened in 2008 and employs 50 workers.

More than 630 acres of land in Holt County are zoned for industry. The price of industrially zoned land ranges from \$500 to \$33,000 per lot.

INDUSTRIAL SITE AVAILABLE

Click here to go to Nebraska Public Power District’s [searchable sites and buildings database](#).



Chambers Community Center



Stuart Auditorium

LABOR

LABOR SUPPLY

A. Employment in Holt County labor market and the total labor market consisting of Holt County and the contiguous counties of Antelope, Boyd, Garfield, Keya Paha, Knox, Loup, Rock, and Wheeler (eleven-month average, 2010):

<u>Nonfarm Employment</u> (wage and salary workers)	<u>Holt County</u>	<u>Total</u>
Goods-Producing	346	986
Manufacturing	205	(D)
Natural Resources & Construction	141	(D)
Trade, Transportation, Warehousing & Utilities	1,056	(D)
Wholesale Trade	301	(D)
Retail Trade	590	(D)
Transportation, Warehousing & Utilities	165	(D)
Information	59	(D)
Financial Activities	190	(D)
Professional & Business Services	149	(D)
Education & Health Services	754	(D)
Leisure & Hospitality	352	(D)
Other Services	167	(D)
Government	821	3,337
TOTAL NONFARM WAGE AND SALARY WORKERS	3,894	10,533
Farm Employment	1,290	4,367
TOTAL EMPLOYMENT	5,992	18,198
B. Commuting Out of County	627	N/A
C. Unemployment	218	723
TOTAL LABOR FORCE	6,210	18,921
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	3,600	
E. Estimated number of county high school graduates annually	165	
TOTAL POTENTIAL LABOR SUPPLY (B, C, D & E)	4,610	

(D) Data not available due to disclosure suppression

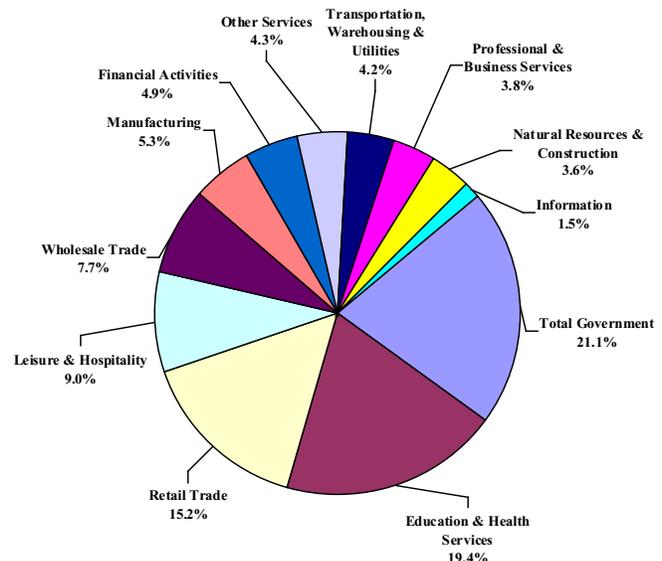
Source: Nebraska Department of Labor

U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of Economic Analysis (BEA), data for 2008

U.S. Census

Holt County is willing to conduct a labor survey for a prospective industry.

**NONFARM WAGE AND SALARY EMPLOYMENT
HOLT COUNTY
11-MONTH AVERAGE, 2010**



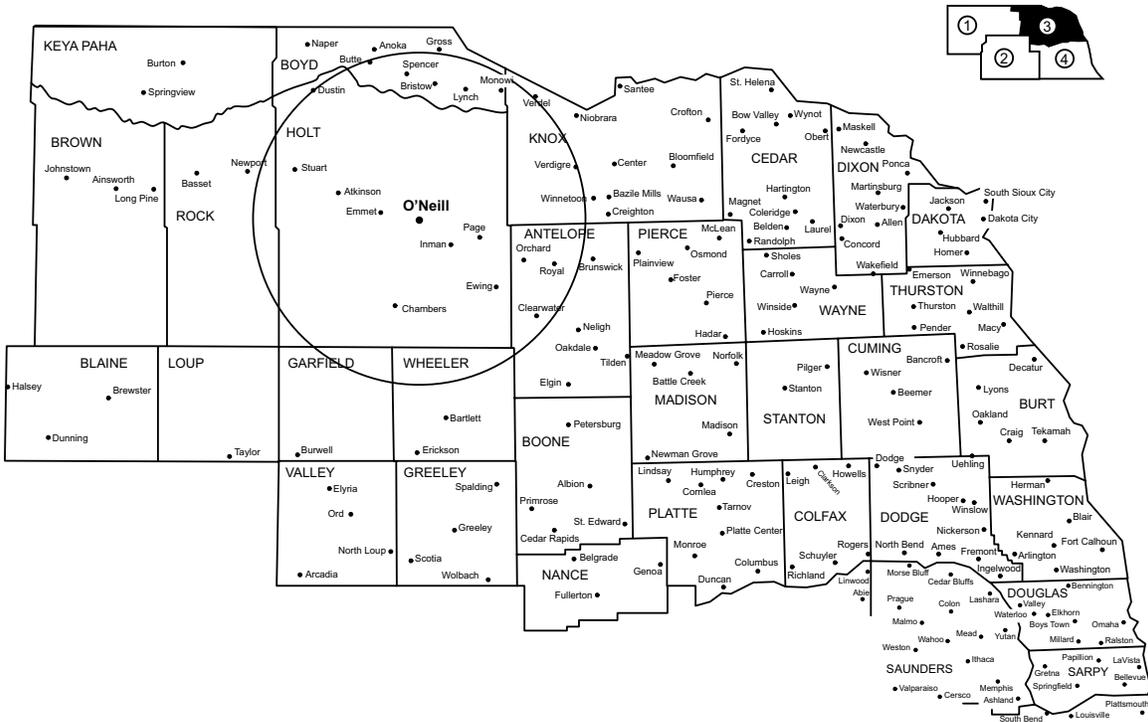
POPULATION DATA

Location	2000			2009		2010 (est.)
	% High School Graduate or Higher	% Bachelor's Degree or Higher	% 65 Yrs. & Over	Median Age	County Median Family Income	
Holt Co.	4.8	84.5	14.5	20.5	46.1	\$48,800
Nebraska	22.3	86.6	23.7	13.4	35.8	\$62,600
U.S.	79.6	80.4	24.4	12.9	36.8	\$64,400

Holt County had 7,279 registered voters in 2008; 68.7 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, 2010
 Statewide General Election 2008 Results, www.sos.state.ne.us

LABOR POTENTIAL IN THE HOLT COUNTY AREA



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

2009 Estimate		
City of O'Neill	—	3,249
Holt County	—	10,011
30-Mile Radius (O'Neill)	—	14,416

Holt County Population Ages/Gender, 2009		
Ages	Male	Female
18-24	454	382
25-44	864	763
45-64	1,553	1,551

UNIONIZATION

Nebraska has a right to work provision in its constitution. In 2008, 4.2 percent of Nebraska's private sector wage and salary workers were members of labor unions compared to a national figure of 7.6 percent.

Labor organizations operating in Holt County:

<u>Company</u>	<u>Union</u>
Chambers Public School	Nebraska State Education Association
Ewing Public Schools	Nebraska State Education Association
O'Neill Public Schools	Nebraska State Education Association
St. Mary's School	Nebraska State Education Association
Stuart Public School	Nebraska State Education Association
West Holt Public Schools	Nebraska State Education Association
Educational Service Unit 8	Nebraska State Education Association
Niobrara Valley Electric Membership Corporation	International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers

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

WAGES

Occupation Title	Hourly Wage (\$)/Percentile		
	10th	50th	90th
Professional			
Accountants & Auditors	16.24	23.82	44.42
Engineers			
Civil Engineers	19.81	33.31	46.53
Electrical Engineers	27.54	33.15	40.75
Industrial Engineers	22.84	30.86	43.52
Mechanical Engineers	16.66	28.78	45.98
Computer Programmers	14.43	30.01	43.14
Computer Systems Analysts	28.19	38.06	48.40
Registered Nurses	18.66	24.80	33.15
Retail			
Hotel, Motel & Resort Desk Clerks	6.92	7.71	9.10
Retail Salespersons	7.08	8.86	15.46
Truck Drivers, Light or Delivery Services	7.31	12.83	21.09
Driver/Sales Workers	7.62	17.04	26.12
Stock Clerks & Order Fillers	7.11	9.00	14.99
Shipping, Receiving & Traffic Clerks	9.32	13.63	19.57
Clerical			
Bookkeeping, Accounting & Auditing Clerks	8.12	12.69	18.56
Customer Service Representatives	7.68	13.05	20.37
Data Entry Keyers	7.74	11.04	15.81

*Wage information taken from Balance of State

Occupation Title	Hourly Wage (\$)/Percentile		
	10th	50th	90th
Secretaries, excl. Legal, Medical & Executive	8.34	11.68	17.02
Office Clerks, General	7.17	10.13	15.58
Receptionists & Information Clerks	7.55	10.78	15.17
Telemarketers	7.74	10.29	12.22
Unskilled			
Laborers & Freight, Stock & Material Movers, Hand	8.27	12.32	17.56
Packers & Packagers, Hand	7.25	10.80	14.88
Assemblers & Fabricators, All Other	10.87	14.51	17.49
Nursing Aides, Orderlies & Attendants	8.47	10.81	14.05
Semi-Skilled			
Industrial Truck & Tractor Operators	10.99	14.13	18.36
Truck Drivers, Heavy or Tractor-Trailer	10.46	17.66	25.19
Maintenance Workers, Machinery	13.87	21.95	25.68
Machine Operators			
Drilling & Boring Machine Tool Setters/Oper.*	9.86	12.91	19.32
Milling & Planing Machine Setters/Oper.	13.58	16.32	18.44
Grinding, Lapping, Polishing & Buffing Mach. Oper.	13.18	15.32	20.88
Cutting & Slicing Machine Setters/Oper.	7.41	11.19	18.28
Lathe & Turning Machine Tool Setters/Oper.	14.68	17.86	22.01
Cutting, Punching & Press Machine Setters/Oper.	8.34	12.36	18.01
Multiple Machine Tool Setters/Oper.*	11.90	15.30	19.80
Skilled			
Automotive Service Technicians & Mechanics	9.64	16.29	24.07
Electricians	11.05	17.35	31.36
Industrial Machinery Mechanics	13.89	18.93	34.08
Machinists	10.29	16.89	37.11
Tool & Die Makers	14.90	19.22	24.93
Welders, Cutters, Solderers & Brazers	10.36	13.63	19.57
Welding, Soldering & Brazing Machine Setters	11.92	14.72	18.78
Technical			
Electrical & Electronic Engineering Technicians*	15.39	27.72	35.92
Medical & Clinical Laboratory Technologists	17.64	25.33	31.81
Computer Operators	8.73	12.77	19.72

*Wage information taken from Balance of State

Source: Nebraska Workforce Development, Occupational Employment Statistics Program, Third Quarter 2010 wage estimates, All Industries, Northeast 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 from 15 to 20 percent of wages.

TRANSPORTATION

RAILROADS

Rail service is provided to Holt County by Nebraska Northeastern Railway Company, a short line railroad.

MOTOR

Highways

U.S. Highways 281 (north-south), 20 (east-west), 275 (southeast), and Nebraska Highways 59 (east), 95 (east-west), and 11 (north-south) serve Holt County. Interstate 80 (east-west) is located 115 miles south of O'Neill, Interstate 29 (north-south) is 126 miles east, and Interstate 90 (east-west) is 130 miles north.

Highway mileage from O'Neill to major cities:

Destination	Mileage
Lincoln	211
Omaha	192
Chicago	661
Dallas	749
Denver	494
Detroit	918
Kansas City	376
Los Angeles	1,506
Minneapolis	432
New York	1,425
St. Louis	626
San Francisco	1,622
Sioux City	126

U.S. Highway 281 from south of O'Neill to Nebraska Highway 95 junction was resurfaced and shoulders were widened in 2009 and 2010.

Trucklines

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

Holt County trucking firms include:

Atkinson	Anson's Feed & Trucking
	Oppliger Trucking
Chambers	Sanderson Cattle Drive
Ewing	Graber Trucking
	Holt Transfer
O'Neill	Brown Truck Line

Bus Line

K & S Express provides passenger and package delivery services with a 12-passenger minivan. One round trip is made weekly along U.S. Highways 20 and 275 from Norfolk, 76 miles southeast, to Chadron, 248 miles northwest of O'Neill. The bus travels west from Norfolk to Chadron on Tuesday afternoons and returns on Wednesday mornings, stopping at the communities of Neligh, O'Neill, Atkinson, Bassett Ainsworth, Valentine, Gordon, and Rushville.

Avera St. Anthony's Hospital provides transportation for Holt County residents. Transportation in the town of O'Neill is provided Monday through Friday and out-of-town transportation is provided as scheduled.

Atkinson Senior Center has a van that will transport within Holt County.

AIR

The O'Neill Municipal Airport (John L. Baker Field) is located two miles northwest of O'Neill. The airport has a 4,409-foot lighted and paved runway and a 3,030-foot turf runway. Facilities include full instrument landing system, 100-low lead fuel, beacon, VOR, overnight hangar storage, overnight lodging, next day air freight, wind sock, wind tee, major and minor repair, tie down, terminal, and automated weather service. None of the 21 private planes hangared there are available for charter. The elevation at the airport is 2,031 feet, the latitude is 42-28N, and the longitude is 098-41W.

The Stuart-Atkinson Airport, located three miles northwest of Atkinson, has a 4,040-foot lighted and paved runway and a 3,000-foot turf runway. Facilities include an administration building, 100 low-lead fuel, hangars, windsock, beacon, and tie downs. The elevation at the airport is 2,130 feet, the latitude is 42-33N, and the longitude is 099-02W. None of the nine private planes hangared at the airport are available for charter. The airport has not been closed a single day in the last three years due to inclement weather.

Commercial air service (distance from O’Neill):

**Central Nebraska Regional Airport,
Grand Island, NE**
Distance: 111 miles northeast (1 hr. 56 mins.)
Airline: Great Lakes Airlines
Destination: Denver International
Sioux Gateway Airport, Sioux City, IA
Distance: 83 miles northeast (1 hr. 30 mins.)
Airline: Delta Air Lines
Destinations: Minneapolis

Kearney Regional Airport, Kearney, NE
Distance: 159 miles northeast (2 hrs. 45 mins.)
Airline: Great Lakes Airlines
Destinations: Las Vegas/Phoenix-Mesa
Eppley Airfield, Omaha, NE
Distance: 197 miles southeast (3 hrs. 31 mins.)
Airlines: Airtran (via Skywest)
 American Airlines
 Continental Airlines
 Delta Air Lines
 Frontier/Midwest
 Southwest Airlines
 United Airlines
 US Airways
Destinations: Nationwide

WATER

Barge transportation is not available in Holt County.



Stuart-Atkinson
Airport



O’Neill Municipal Airport
John L. Baker Field

UTILITIES

ELECTRICITY

Nebraska Public Power District (NPPD) retails electricity to the cities of Atkinson, Emmet, Inman, and O’Neill. Niobrara Valley Electric Membership Corporation (Niobrara Valley EMC) provides electric service to Chambers, Elkhorn Rural Public Power District (ERPPD) provides electric service to Ewing, North Central Public Power District (North Central PPD) provides electric service to Page, and Stuart is provided electric service by Municipal Energy Agency of Nebraska.

A 36-unit wind energy facility began operations 53 miles west of Atkinson in 2005. This facility, supported by a 115,000 kV substation, is a 59.4 megawatt wind generation facility. NPPD’s share of the facility is 32 megawatts and the remainder of the generation is sold to other utilities.

City of Atkinson

Atkinson’s distribution capacity is provided by a 6.25 MVA transformer to supply the distribution system loads at 4.16 wye. A 69,000 volt line from O’Neill and an alternate source, 69,000 volt line from Ainsworth, deliver power to the substation, which is located in the northwest section of Atkinson. These lines are connected to Nebraska Public Power District’s 115,000 volt statewide grid. Atkinson also has an industrial tract that is supplied power by a 12.5 MVA transformer to supply distribution loads at 12.5 kV wye.

Village of Emmet

Emmet is provided electric service by NPPD’s 12.5 kV substation with one incoming feed at 12.5 kV and one outgoing feed at a voltage of 4.16 kV. Three 150 kVA transformers supply the community. These substations are tied into the statewide grid system.

Village of Inman

Inman is provided electric service by NPPD’s 34.5 kV substation with two incoming feeds at 34.5 kV and two outgoing feeds at a voltage

of 7.2 kV. A 5 MV transformer supplies the community. These substations are tied into the statewide grid system.

City of O’Neill

O’Neill is provided retail electric service by NPPD. Service is supplied by two 56 MVA, 115/69 kV transformers in the O’Neill substation. Alternate sources are available from the west, east, and north. All services are supplied from substations which are connected to the statewide grid system by 115,000 and 345,000 volt transmission lines. The distribution voltage is 12.5 kV wye with a total transformer capacity of 20 MVA in two distribution substations.

O’Neill also has a retail customer in the northwest section of town that has a dedicated 12.5 kV wye circuit. This is fed by a 10 MVA, 69 kV transformer on the 69,000 volt line from O’Neill and an alternate 69,000 volt line from Ainsworth.

NPPD’S BASE ELECTRIC RATES

(effective 1/1/11)

Summer bills run from June–September.

Winter bills run from October–May.

Residential Service:

Customer Charge: \$16.75 per month	
Summer	Winter
9.93¢	7.65¢
per kWh for the first 750 kWh used per month	
9.93¢	5.21¢
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		\$19.00 per month
Three Phase		\$23.50 per month
Summer	Winter	
10.54¢	8.31¢	per kWh for the first 1,000 kWh used per month
10.54¢	7.04¢	per kWh for the next 2,000 kWh used per month
10.54¢	6.89¢	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		\$50.00 per month
Three Phase		\$57.00 per month
Summer	Winter	
11.93¢	7.76¢	per kWh for the first 200 kWh per kW of demand used per month
4.44¢	3.28¢	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		\$90.00 per month
Three Phase		\$100.00 per month
Summer	Winter	
12.20¢	8.23¢	per kWh for the first 200 kWh per kW of demand used per month
4.27¢	3.28¢	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	9.52
100	50,000	7.70
300	90,000	9.26
300	150,000	7.29
500	150,000	9.20
500	180,000	8.39

¹Includes Lease Payment and Gross Revenue Tax.

High Tension Service:

Customer Charge: \$350.00 per month		
Demand Charge:		
Summer	Winter	
\$13.75	\$9.00	per kW of billing demand
Energy Charge:		
Summer	Winter	
4.42¢	3.45¢	per kWh for all on-peak energy
3.50¢	2.50¢	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	7.91
2,500	750,000	7.83
2,500	1,250,000	6.21
5,000	1,500,000	7.81
5,000	2,500,000	6.19
10,000	6,400,000	5.66

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) 275-6773, www.nppd.com, for further information regarding electric rates and service.

The rural areas surrounding the communities of Atkinson, Emmet, and Inman are provided electric service by Niobrara Valley EMC, a wholesale power customer of NPPD. For more information regarding electrical services in the Niobrara Valley EMC service area, contact John Hoke, manager, O’Neill, Nebraska, (402) 336-2803, johnh@nvemc.org, www.nvemc.org.

Village of Chambers

The village of Chambers and the rural area surrounding Chambers are served electric power from Niobrara Valley Electric Membership Corporation (EMC), a wholesale power customer of NPPD. EMC provides service at a distribution voltage of 7,200 with 2,550 miles of distribution lines and 13 substations at three voltages of 34,500 volts, 69,000 volts, and 115,000 volts. Service is provided through 95 miles of transmission lines at 34.5 kV and 69 kV.

BASE ELECTRIC RATES-NIOBRARA VALLEY EMC
(effective 1/1/11)

Residential Service - Single Phase:
(all electric)

15.50¢	per kWh for the first 350 kWh used per month
8.35¢	per kWh for the next 900 kWh used per month
7.20¢	per kWh for all additional use
Minimum Bill: \$14.75 up to 15 kVA, \$1.75 per kVA over 15 kVA	

This rate is subject to application of Production Cost Adjustment.

Residential Service - Single Phase:

15.50¢	per kWh for the first 350 kWh used per month
8.35¢	per kWh for all additional use
Minimum Bill: \$14.75 up to 15 kVA, \$1.75 per kVA over 15 kVA	

This rate is subject to application of Production Cost Adjustment.

Small Commercial Service - Single Phase:

15.70¢	per kWh for the first 350 kWh used per month
9.30¢	per kWh for all additional use
Minimum Bill: \$16.00 up to 15 kVA, \$1.75 per kVA over 15 kVA	

This rate is subject to application of Production Cost Adjustment.

Small Commercial Service - Three Phase:

16.00¢	per kWh for the first 700 kWh used per month
8.80¢	per kWh for all additional use
Minimum Bill: \$34.50 up to 30 kVA, \$1.75 per kVA over 15 kVA	

This rate is subject to application of Production Cost Adjustment.

For more information regarding electrical services in the Niobrara Valley EMC service area, contact John Hoke, general manager, O'Neill, Nebraska, (402) 336-2803, johnh@nvemc.org, www.nvemc.org.

Village of Ewing

The city of Ewing is served electric power by Elkhorn Rural Public Power District (ERPPD), a wholesale power customer of Nebraska Public Power District. Service is supplied by a 34.5 kV substation with one incoming feed at 34.5 kV and three outgoing feeds at a voltage of 2.4 kV. The community is supplied with three 500 kW transformers.

BASE ELECTRIC RATES - ELKHORN RURAL PUBLIC POWER DISTRICT (effective 1/1/11)

Residential Service:

Customer Charge: \$13.50 per month		
Summer	Winter	
10.55¢	10.55¢	per kWh for the first 175 kWh used per month
9.65¢	7.55¢	per kWh for the next 425 kWh per month
9.65¢	5.65¢	per kWh for all additional use
Minimum Bill: The Customer Charge, subject to applicable Base Rate adjustments		

This rate is subject to application of 5% Gross Revenue Tax (if inside the corporate limits of the village), 12% lease payment, and any Production Cost Adjustment. Gross Revenue Tax and lease payment collections are returned to Holt County for distribution. Rates may be impacted by customer usage patterns.

Commercial Service:

Customer Charge:		
Single Phase		\$19.00 per month
Three Phase		\$23.50 per month
Single Phase:		
Summer	Winter	
9.65¢	9.55¢	per kWh for the first 500 kWh used per month
9.65¢	6.70¢	per kWh for all additional use
Three Phase:		
Summer	Winter	
10.95¢	10.95¢	per kWh for the first 200 kWh used per month
9.65¢	9.55¢	per kWh for the next 900 kWh used per month
9.65¢	6.70¢	per kWh for all additional use
Minimum Bill: The Customer Charge, subject to applicable Base Rate adjustments		

This rate is subject to application of 5% Gross Revenue Tax (if inside the corporate limits of the village), 12% lease payment, and any Production Cost Adjustment. Gross Revenue Tax and lease payment collections are returned to Holt County for distribution. Rates may be impacted by customer usage patterns and peak demands.

Industrial/Large Power Service:

Customer Charge:		
Single Phase		\$51.00 per month
Three Phase		\$51.00 per month
Demand Charge:		
Summer	Winter	
\$13.75	\$9.60	per kW
Energy Charge:		
4.50¢		per kWh for the first 50,000 kWh used per month
3.95¢		per kWh for all additional use
Minimum Bill: The Customer Charge, subject to applicable Base Rate adjustments		

This rate is subject to application of 5% Gross Revenue Tax (if inside the corporate limits of the village), 12% lease payment, and any Production Cost Adjustment, and various adders and discounts depending on the customers requirements, metering, etc. Gross Revenue Tax and lease payment collections are returned to the Holt County for distribution. Rates may be impacted by customer usage patterns and peak demands.

ERPPD has an off-peak service rate available to qualifying customers.

Prospective customers should contact Tom Rudloff, general manager, Elkhorn Rural Public Power District, Battle Creek, Nebraska, (402) 675-2185, trudloff@erppd.com, www.erppd.com, for further information regarding electric rates and service.

Village of Page

Page is provided retail electric service by North Central Public Power District (NCPPD). Service is supplied by a 34.5 kV substation with one incoming feed. There is one outgoing feed from the substation at 2.4/4.1 kV with three single 167 kVA transformers in the substation.

BASE ELECTRIC RATES-NORTH CENTRAL PUBLIC POWER DISTRICT (effective 1/1/11)

Residential Service:

Customer Charge: \$14.25 per month		
Summer	Winter	
10.80¢	—	per kWh for all kWh used per month
—	9.10¢	per kWh for the first 300 kWh used per month
—	9.10¢	per kWh for the next 700 kWh used per month
—	6.10¢	per kWh for all kWh over 1,000 kWh monthly
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 NCPPD 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 Service Small:

(Single Phase <=100 kVA)

Customer Charge: \$21.50 per month		
Summer	Winter	
10.50¢	—	per kWh for all kWh used per month
—	9.90¢	per kWh for the first 300 kWh used per month
—	8.90¢	per kWh for the next 700 kWh used per month
—	5.85¢	per kWh for all kWh over 1,000 kWh monthly
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 NCPPD 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 Service Small:

(Three Phase <=100 kVA)

Customer Charge: \$29.75 per month		
Summer	Winter	
11.10¢	—	per kWh for all kWh used per month
—	10.85¢	per kWh for the first 500 kWh used per month
—	10.00¢	per kWh for the next 900 kWh used per month
—	5.80¢	per kWh for all kWh over 1,400 kWh monthly
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 NCPPD 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.

Services larger than 100 kVA are billed demand based on time of use so the bill can vary greatly depending on usage patterns.

The North Central Public Power District also serves the rural area surrounding Page. For more information regarding electrical services in the North Central Public Power District service area, contact Keith Harvey, manager, Creighton, Nebraska, (402) 358-5112, keith.harvey@ncppd.net, www.ncppd.com.

Village of Stuart

The village of Stuart is a member of Municipal Energy Agency of Nebraska (MEAN), who maintains and services all aspects of electrical service within the Stuart village limits. Stuart has the capacity to generate 2 MW should wholesale power be interrupted. Service is provided through a 24 delta/69 kV feeder/substation and three 33 kVA transformers.

BASE ELECTRIC RATES (effective 1/1/09)

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

Residential Service:

Customer Charge: \$8.00 per month		
Summer	Winter	
36.6¢	36.6¢	per kWh for the first 50 kWh used per month
18.6¢	18.6¢	per kWh for the next 50 kWh used per month
14.6¢	13.6¢	per kWh for the next 100 kWh used per month
12.7¢	11.5¢	per kWh for the next 500 kWh monthly
9.4¢	7.6¢	per kWh for all additional use over 700 kWh used per month
—	6.8¢	All additional use over 700 kWh when using electric heat
Minimum Bill: The Customer Charge		

Large Light & Power Service:

Customer Charge:		\$8.00 per month
Summer	Winter	
37.6¢	37.6¢	per kWh for the first 50 kWh used per month
22.9¢	22.9¢	per kWh for the next 50 kWh used per month
14.4¢	13.3¢	per kWh for the next 400 kWh used per month
14.0¢	10.9¢	per kWh for the next 500 kWh used per month
12.3¢	9.9¢	per kWh for the next 2,000 kWh used per month
9.6¢	8.5¢	per kWh for the next 3,000 kWh used per month
8.3¢	7.5¢	per kWh for all additional use over 6,000 kWh
—	8.0¢	per kWh for all additional use over 800 up to 14,000 kWh when using electric heat
—	6.6¢	per kWh for all additional use over 14,000 kWh
Minimum Bill: The Customer Charge		

Large Light & Power Service
(with Peak Demands of 100 Kilowatts or More):

Customer Charge:		\$67.00 per month
Energy Charge:		
9.9¢		per kWh for the first 6,000 kWh used per month
6.9¢		per kWh for all additional kWh used per month
Minimum Bill: The Customer Charge		

For more information regarding electric rates and service, prospective customers should contact Bob Lockman, village superintendent, (402) 924-3647, stuart@elkhorn.net, www.stuartne.com.

The rural area surrounding Stuart is provided electric service by Niobrara Valley Electric Membership Corporation (EMC), a wholesale power customer of NPPD. For more information regarding electrical service in the Niobrara Valley EMC service area, contact John Hoke, manager, O’Neill, Nebraska, (402) 336-2803, johnh@nvemc.org, www.nvemc.org.

NATURAL GAS

Villages of Emmet, Ewing, and Inman and the cities of Atkinson and O’Neill

Natural gas is supplied to Atkinson, Emmet, Ewing, Inman, and O’Neill by SourceGas Distribution, LLC. The transmission provider is Kinder Morgan Interstate Gas Transmission east of Stuart; west of Stuart the distribution is operated by SourceGas.

City/ Village	Trans. Line Size	Operating Pressure per Square Inch	Customers Served
Atkinson	4-inch	Up to 800 lbs.	480
Emmet	4-inch	Up to 800 lbs.	30
Ewing	6-inch	8 lbs.	210
Inman	8-inch	750 lbs.	55
O’Neill	6-inch	600 lbs.	1,400

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 customer service center at (800) 563-0012.

Villages of Chambers and Page

Natural gas is not available in Chambers and Page.

Village of Stuart

The village of Stuart is the retail provider of natural gas in Stuart through a six-inch pipeline with 800 pounds of pressure. The average value is 966 BTU per square inch.

Natural gas is available in Stuart for residential and commercial uses and space heating (both industrial and residential) by contract. A firm supply of natural gas for industrial uses can be made available.

For further information regarding natural gas rates and availability in Stuart, contact Bob Lockman, superintendent, village of Stuart, (402) 924-3977, stuart@elkhorn.net.

OTHER FUELS

LP Gas

LP gas is available for residential, commercial, and industrial uses in Holt County at Central Valley Ag, D S Farmer’s Pride, Galyen Petroleum, Grassland Oil, Great Western Gas Company, Holt County Co-Op, and Sapp Brothers.

Oil

Oil is available for residential, commercial, and industrial uses in Holt County from Central Farmers Co-op, Central Valley Ag, Cole Petroleum Company, D S Farmer’s Pride, Earley Oil Company, Galyen Petroleum, Gokie Oil Company, Grassland Oil, Shelhamer Petroleum, Pribil Feed and Oil, and White’s Service.

WATER

City of Atkinson

The municipal water system in Atkinson is supplied by four wells, which have an average depth of 160 feet. The system, serving 95 percent of the city’s population, has a combined pumping capacity of 1,730 gallons per minute and an overhead storage capacity of 100,000 gallons. The average daily demand on this system is 40,000 gallons, and the historic peak daily demand is 750,000 gallons. The system has a maximum capacity of 2,591,200 gallons per day. The static pressure is 52 pounds per square inch and the residual pressure is 44 pounds per square inch.

A 100-foot well will produce 450 to 600 gallons of water per minute. The quality of water in

Atkinson does not necessitate a water treatment plant. The water table has risen 3–5 feet during the last five years.

The color of the water is clear and the hardness, in parts per million, is 116. The average tap water temperature varies from 40° in winter to 55° in summer.

Chemical Analysis (parts per million)

Hydrogen Ion Concentration	7.7
Calcium	30
Total Solids	0
Magnesium	289
Iron	0
Nitrate	1.0
Manganese	0
Chloride	2
Fluoride	0.40
Sulfate	0
Total Alkalinity	149
Sodium	29
Total Hardness	116
Potassium	NA

NA - Not available

ATKINSON WATER RATES (effective 6/8/09)

A water tap fee of \$250.00 is charged to connect to city water.

Residential, Commercial & Industrial:

\$7.50 per month for the first 2,500 gallons
\$2.00 per 1,000 gallons for all additional use
Minimum Bill: \$7.50 per month

Recent improvements included adding fluoride to the system at a cost of \$10,000 in 2010. Future planned capital improvements include sealing the top of the water tower in 2012 at a cost of \$25,000. This project will be funded by city funds and water revenues.

Village of Chambers

The municipal water system in the village of Chambers is supplied by three wells with an

average depth of 250 feet. The system, serving 100 percent of the village population, has a combined pumping capacity of 1,350 gallons per minute and an overhead storage capacity of 50,000 gallons. The average daily demand on the system is 60,800 gallons, and the historic peak daily demand is 130,000 gallons. The system has a maximum capacity of 770,000 gallons per day. The static pressure is 50 pounds per square inch.

The quality of water in Chambers does not necessitate a water treatment plant. The water table has remained stable during the last five years.

The chemical analysis of the water system is within the required limits.

CHAMBERS WATER RATES (effective 1/1/10)

A water connection fee of \$20.00 is charged for new connection.

Residential, Commercial & Industrial:

Flat Rate: \$24.50 per month

Villages of Emmet and Inman

Municipal water systems are not available in Emmet and Inman. Individual wells provide water to residents.

Village of Ewing

The municipal water system in Ewing is supplied by three wells, which have an average depth of 183 feet. The system has a pumping capacity of 850 gallons per minute and serves 99.5 percent of the village population. The overhead storage capacity is 50,000 gallons. The average daily demand is 21,000 gallons, and the historic peak daily demand is 400,000 gallons. The system has a maximum capacity of 1,274,000 gallons per day. The static pressure is 41 pounds per square inch and the residual pressure is 40 pounds per square inch. A 280-foot well produces 480 gallons of water per minute.

The water table changes about two to three feet during farm irrigation season. The water in Ewing does not necessitate a treatment plant.

The color of the water is clear. The average tap water temperature varies from 34° in the winter to 50° in the summer.

Chemical Analysis (parts per million)

Hydrogen Ion Concentration	7.0
Nitrate	0.24–2.3
Fluoride	0.25–0.39
Sulfate	12–21

EWING WATER RATES (effective 1/09)

A water connection fee of \$20.00 is charged for new service.

Residential & Commercial:

Minimum Bill: \$22.00 per month

Industrial:

To be set by village board

Capital improvements to be completed by 2013 include the painting of the water tower at a cost of \$27,000. This project will be financed by revenue funds.

City of O’Neill

The municipal water system in O’Neill is supplied by five wells, which have an average depth of 362 feet. The system has a pumping capacity of 4,860 gallons per minute and serves 97 percent of the city population. The overhead storage capacity is 750,000 gallons. The average daily demand is 1,400,000 gallons, and the historic peak daily demand is 4,800,000 gallons. The system has a maximum capacity of 7,748,400 gallons per day. The static pressure is 60 pounds and the residual pressure varies from 45–48 pounds per square inch.

The color of the water is clear and the hardness, in parts per million, is 116. The average tap water temperature varies from 40° in the winter to 58° in the summer.

Chemical Analysis (parts per million)

Hydrogen Ion Concentration	7.5
Calcium	33
Total Solids	166.4
Magnesium	0.3
Iron	0.14
Nitrate	0.23–1.4
Manganese	<0.03
Chloride	21.2
Fluoride	0.35–0.66
Total Alkalinity	150.6
Sodium	8.6
Total Hardness	116
Potassium	NA

NA - Not available

O'NEILL WATER RATES (effective 1/1/10)

Residential:

Customer Charge: \$8.00 per month \$1.05 per 1,000 gallons Minimum Bill: \$8.00 per month

Commercial:

Customer Charge: \$8.00 per month \$1.05 per 1,000 gallons up to 100,000 gallons \$0.95 per 1,000 gallons over 100,000 gallons Minimum Bill: \$8.00 per month
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Improvements during the last two years included new water lines at a cost of \$300,000, which were financed by the city. Contemplated improvements for the next ten years include a new well, water valve replacement, alternate pressure controller, 500,000-gallon water tower, and transition to radio meter heads. These \$1.6 million projects will be financed by the city.

Village of Page

The municipal water system in Page is supplied by two wells, which have an average depth of 320 feet. The system, serving the entire community, has a pumping capacity of 325–350 gallons per minute. The average daily demand is 33,000 gallons, and the historic peak daily demand is 50,000 gallons.

The system has a maximum capacity of 468,000 gallons per day. The static pressure averages 50 pounds per square inch. The water table has not changed in the past five years. A chlorination treatment plant has a daily capacity of 65,000 gallons.

The color of the water is clear and the hardness, in parts per million, is 7. The average tap water temperature varies from 40° in the winter to 58° in the summer.

Chemical Analysis (milligrams per liter)

Nitrate	10
Fluoride	4
Sulfate	250
Total Hardness	7*

*Parts per million

PAGE WATER RATES (effective 10/1/09)

A water connection fee of \$25.00 is charged for new service.

Residential & Commercial:

Flat Fee: \$21.00 per month

A \$4,700 new generator for the water treatment plant was purchased by the village of Page.

Village of Stuart

A municipal water system provides water to 99 percent of the village of Stuart by three wells with an average depth of 125 feet. The system has a pumping capacity of 1,400 gallons per minute and an overhead storage capacity of 50,000 gallons. The average daily demand is 350,000 gallons and the historic peak daily demand is 880,000 gallons. The maximum daily capacity is 2,066,000 gallons. The static pressure is 26 pounds per square inch and the residual pressure is 40 pounds per square inch.

A 75-foot well will produce 750 gallons of water per minute. The quality of the water in Stuart does not necessitate a water treatment plant.

The color of the water is clear and the hardness is 5.4 grains per gallon. The average tap water temperature varies from 48° in winter to 56° in summer.

Chemical Analysis (milligrams per liter)

Hydrogen Ion Concentration	7.86
Calcium	29.3
Total Solids	202
Magnesium	4.73
Iron	ND
Nitrate	0.2
Manganese	ND
Chloride	1
Fluoride	0.5
Sulfate	7
Total Alkalinity	107
Sodium	3.7
Total Hardness	5.4 gr/gal
Potassium	ND

ND - None detected

Gr/gal - Grains per gallon

STUART WATER RATES (effective 11/25/08)

Residential, Commercial & Industrial:

Customer Charge:

For the first 1,000 gallons:

3/4" line	\$7.00 minimum
1" line	\$8.00 minimum
1 1/2" line	\$8.50 minimum
2" line	\$9.00 minimum
3" line	\$11.00 minimum
4" line	\$14.00 minimum
Next 3,000 gal.	\$2.80 per 1,000 gal.
Next 26,000 gal.	\$0.90 per 1,000 gal.
Next 70,000 gal.	\$0.80 per 1,000 gal.
Over 100,000 gal.	\$0.70 per 1,000 gal.

Minimum Bill: Dependent on size of line

SEWERAGE

City of Atkinson

Atkinson has a municipal sanitary sewerage system and a storm sewer system. The mechanical treatment plant was built in 1966 and has a daily capacity of 149,000 gallons. The average daily flow is 129,500 gallons and the historic peak daily discharge is 339,600 gallons.

ATKINSON SEWER-USE CHARGES

(effective 8/4/08)

A sewer tap fee of \$175.00 is charged to connect to the city sewer.

Residential, Commercial & Industrial:

\$7.50 per month for up to 2,500 gallons
\$3.00 for each additional 1,000 gallons used
per month

Minimum Bill: \$7.50 per month

The city is contemplating replacing the waste water treatment plant in 2012 at an approximate cost of \$3 million. This project will be funded by city, state, and federal funding.

Village of Chambers

Chambers is served by a four-cell lagoon system designed to serve a population of 375. Two cells were built in 1967 and two were built in 1985. The average daily capacity is 63,000 gallons, the average daily flow is 73,000 gallons, and the historic peak is 167,000 gallons.

CHAMBERS SEWER-USE CHARGES

(effective 1/1/10)

Residential, Commercial & Industrial:

Customer Charge: \$20.00 per month

Minimum Bill: \$21.30 per month

Improvements to the sewerage system in the next five years include rehabilitating the lagoons at an approximate cost of \$1,300,000.

Village of Emmet

Emmet has a municipal sanitary sewerage system with a two-cell lagoon system.

EMMET SEWER-USE CHARGES (effective 6/1/10)

Residential & Commercial:

\$6.70 per month

Village of Ewing

Ewing has a municipal sanitary sewerage system. The community also has a storm sewer system serving a small part of the town. The

lagoon treatment plant, built in 1972, has a daily capacity of 334,000 gallons, an average daily flow of 110,000 gallons, and a historic peak daily discharge of 300,000 gallons.

EWING SEWER-USE CHARGES (effective 1/09)

A \$20.00 connection fee is charged for new service.

Residential & Commercial:

\$14.50 per month

Industrial:

To be set by village board

Village of Inman

Inman has a municipal lagoon system with two cells. The system is designed to serve a population of 300.

INMAN SEWER-USE CHARGES

Residential:

\$10.00 per month

Commercial:

\$11.50 per month

One of the two lift pumps, replaced in 2009, was funded by sewer revenues.

City of O'Neill

O'Neill has a municipal sanitary sewerage system and a storm sewer system. The activated sludge treatment plant, updated in 1997, has a daily capacity of 600,000 gallons, an average daily flow of 400,000 gallons, and a historic peak daily discharge of 1,400,000 gallons.

O'NEILL SEWER-USE CHARGES (effective 1/1/10)

Residential:

Customer Charge: \$8.00 per month
\$1.85 per 1,000 gallons
Minimum Bill: \$8.00 per month

Commercial & Industrial:

Customer Charge: \$8.00 per month
\$2.20 per 1,000 gallons up to 100,000 gallons
\$2.10 per 1,000 gallons over 100,000 gallons
Minimum Bill: \$8.00 per month

Improvements during the last two years included new sewer lines at a cost of \$250,000, which were financed by the city. Contemplated improvements in the next ten years include manhole replacements and several sewer line upgrades and replacements at a cost of \$300,000, which will be financed by the city.

Village of Page

Page has a municipal sanitary sewerage system. The lagoon treatment plant was built in 1994 and designed for a population of 500.

PAGE SEWER-USE CHARGES (effective 10/15/09)

A \$25.00 connection fee is charged for new service.

Residential & Commercial:

\$8.00 per month

Village of Stuart

Stuart has a municipal sanitary sewerage system. The activated sludge mechanical treatment plant was built in 1980 and has a daily capacity of 100,000 gallons, an average daily flow of 45,000 gallons, and a historic peak daily discharge of 80,000 gallons.

STUART SEWER-USE CHARGES
(effective 11/24/09)

Residential & Light Commercial:

Flat Fee: \$17.80 per month

Heavy Commercial:

Flat Fee: \$27.20 per month

Heavy Industrial:

Flat Fee: \$40.20 per month

SOLID WASTE DISPOSAL

City of Atkinson

The city of Atkinson contracts for waste disposal with a private company from O'Neill. Wastes are hauled to O'Neill and then to the Butler County Landfill near David City, 171 miles southeast of Atkinson.

ATKINSON SOLID WASTE REMOVAL RATES (effective 3/1/09)

Residential:

\$16.74 per month for one 96-gal. poly cart \$14.19 per month for seniors 62 & older for one 42-gal. poly cart

Commercial:

\$33.83 per container per month \$25.67 per month for 3 bags or less per week
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Village of Chambers

Privately owned waste removal services are available in Chambers. Solid wastes are hauled to the transfer station in O'Neill, 23 miles north, and then sent to a landfill.

CHAMBERS SOLID WASTE REMOVAL RATES (effective 1/1/09)

Residential:

\$16.55 per month \$12.90 per month for seniors
--

Commercial:

\$24.70 for small business \$34.45 for regular business
--

Village of Emmet

J & J Sanitation provides solid waste collection in Emmet. The transfer station site is located near O'Neill, eight miles east of Emmet.

EMMET SOLID WASTE REMOVAL RATES (effective 6/1/10)

Residential:

\$17.28 per month \$13.43 per month for senior citizens
--

Commercial:

\$36.38 per month

Village of Ewing

Privately owned waste removal services are provided in Ewing.

EWING SOLID WASTE REMOVAL RATES (effective 1/1/09)

Residential & Commercial:

\$12.50 per month

Commercial:

To be set by the village board

Village of Inman

J & J Sanitation in O'Neill provides solid waste collection in Inman. Three large dumpsters are provided for township residents. The dumpsters are emptied twice a week. The disposal site is located near O'Neill, eight miles northwest of Inman.

City of O'Neill

The city of O'Neill operates the municipal solid waste collection system. The transfer station disposal site is located in the city limits. Waste is taken to the Butler County Landfill near David City, 152 miles southeast of O'Neill.

O'NEILL SOLID WASTE REMOVAL RATES (effective 10/1/09)

Residential:

\$15.00 per month \$12.00 per month for senior citizens
--

Commercial & Industrial:

Varies on size of dumpster

Dumping Fee:

\$0.03	per lb. for construction
\$0.04	per lb. for mixed load
\$20.00	per ton under two ton
\$25.00	per ton more than two ton

Village of Page

J & J Sanitation provides solid waste collection in Page. The transfer station is located near O’Neill, 14 miles northwest of Page.

PAGE SOLID WASTE REMOVAL RATES
(effective 10/15/09)

Residential:

\$17.58	per month
\$13.64	per month for senior citizens

Commercial:

\$36.73	per month
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Village of Stuart

The village of Stuart operates the municipal solid waste collection system. The disposal site is located one mile east of Stuart.



Chambers Water Tower

STUART SOLID WASTE REMOVAL RATES
(effective 11/24/09)

Residential & Commercial:

\$15.50 to \$36.80	per month - Depending on number of plastic dumpsters
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RECYCLING

The city of **Atkinson** has a drop off collection site for recyclables. Emmet residents also utilize the Atkinson site.

Newspapers are collected year-round in **Ewing**.

The city of **O’Neill** operates a recycling program collecting paper, cardboard, aluminum cans, and plastics. Drop off areas include the public school and St. Mary’s School. The villages of Emmet, Inman, and Page also utilize the O’Neill drop off areas.

A newly constructed building in **Stuart** is the collection site of cardboard, paper, cans, and aluminum.



Stuart Water Tower

COMMUNICATIONS

TELECOMMUNICATIONS

City of Atkinson, Villages of Emmet & O'Neill

Telecommunications services are provided to the Holt County area by Qwest Communications with a digital central office located fed by a self-healing fiber ring in O'Neill. Qwest uses DMS 10 switching, which is monitored both locally and remotely. Fiber is placed based on customer needs and services. The O'Neill central office provides high speed Internet and telecommunications services, including but not limited to business lines, long distance, frame relay, MPLS, private line (DS-1 to OC-192), IP services, voice and data equipment, and professional services. Diverse routing is available, contingent on funding approval. The extended service area includes the communities of Atkinson, Butte, Chambers, Inman, Page, and Stuart. Technicians and networking personnel reside in O'Neill, providing 24-hour on-call service.

Villages of Chambers & Inman

K & M Telephone provides telecommunications services for the villages of Chambers and Inman with a digital central office in Chambers. DMS 10 switching is available along with DSL. Extended area service is available to Chambers, Inman, and O'Neill.

Villages of Ewing and Page

The incumbent local telephone exchange carrier for Ewing and Page is Great Plains Communications, Inc., with a digital central office in Ewing. Telstrat with ESA off Coppercom switch is available in Wausa. DSL service is provided. Extended area service from Ewing is available to Orchard and Page. Extended area service from Page is available to O'Neill and Ewing.

Village of Stuart

The incumbent local telephone exchange carrier for Stuart is Northeast Nebraska Telephone

Company, which has digital central offices fed by self-healing fiber rings in Jackson and Stuart. Siemens switching and diverse routing is available. Fiber and DSL service is provided. Extended area service is available to Atkinson and O'Neill.

INTERNET

Internet access is provided in Holt County by:

DISH Network www.dishnetwork.com	(888) 825-2557
Elkhorn Net www.elkhorn.net	(402) 924-3700
Great Plains Communications, Inc. www.gpcom.com	(888) 343-8014
Internet Nebraska www.inetnebr.com	(800) 438-4638
K & M Telephone www.kmtel.net	(402) 482-5220
Northeast NE Telephone Co. www.nntc.net	(888) 397-4321
Qwest www.qwest.com	(800) 475-7526
Telebeep www.telebeep.com	(800) 846-2337
Three River Telco www.threerivers.net	(866) 569-2666
Viaero www.viaero.com	(877) 484-2376
Wild Blue Satellite Internet www.wildblue.com	(866) 569-2666

POST OFFICE

Holt County

The O'Neill post office has two dispatches daily and provides house-to-house delivery service. One mail receipt and one mail dispatch daily is provided in each of the other communities in Holt County

PACKAGE DELIVERY SERVICES

Overnight express service availability provided from O'Neill:

	UPS	Federal Express	U.S. Postal Service
Latest Pick-up	5:00 p.m.	3:00 p.m.	4:00 p.m.
Earliest Delivery	10:30 a.m.	11:00 a.m.	8:30 a.m.
Next Day Delivery Guarantee	Yes	Yes	Yes
Saturday Delivery Guarantee	Yes	Yes	Yes

NEWSPAPER

The Holt County Independent, the Atkinson Graphic, Clearwater Record/Ewing News, and The Wrangler are weekly newspapers with 3,500, 1,400, 600, and 600 subscribers respectfully. The Chambers Shopper is also a weekly shopping guide. The Norfolk Daily News and the Omaha World-Herald are delivered by mail.

RADIO

Radio stations carrying local news:

Call Letters	Frequency	Location
KBRX-AM	1350 KHz	O'Neill, NE
KBRX-FM	102.9 MHz	O'Neill, NE
KGRD-FM	105.3 MHz	O'Neill, NE

Call Letters	Frequency	Location
KBRB	92.7 MHz	Ainsworth, NE
KMNE	90.3 MHz	Bassett, NE
KWYR	93.7 MHz	Winner, SD

TELEVISION

Television stations carrying local news:

Call Letters	Channel	Location
KLKN	8 (ABC)	Lincoln, NE
KOLN/ KGIN	10/11 (CBS)	Lincoln/ Grand Island, NE
KHAS	5 (NBC)	Hastings, NE
KHGI	13 (ABC)	Kearney, NE
KFXL	17 (FOX)	Kearney, NE
KELO	6 (CBS)	Sioux Falls, SD
KDLT	12 (NBC)	Sioux Falls, SD

Cable Television Providers:

Atkinson	Fort Randall Cable Company
Chambers	Cable television is not available
Emmet	Cable television is not available
Ewing	Great Plains Communications
Inman	Cable television is not available
O'Neill	Three River Telco
Page	Cable television is not available
Stuart	NE Nebraska Telephone Company

Satellite service is available to all Holt County communities through DISH Network and DIRECTV.



Holt County Independent



Atkinson Post Office



Stuart Post Office



Ewing Post Office



Inman Post Office



O'Neill Post Office



Emmet Post Office



Sturdevant McKee Museum - Atkinson



White Horse Museum - Stuart



Golden Hotel - O'Neill

TAX STRUCTURE

VALUES FOR TAX LEVY PURPOSES—HOLT COUNTY

All real property is subject to tax at market value. Agricultural land is valued at 72 percent of its market 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.

Holt County	Actual Valuation		
	2008	2009	2010
Real Estate	\$1,218,741,170	\$1,319,153,085	\$1,500,147,450
Personal Property	85,589,867	121,546,855	119,261,222
Special (railroad and utilities)	<u>9,714,484</u>	<u>10,696,609</u>	<u>11,752,614</u>
TOTAL	\$1,312,045,521	\$1,451,396,549	\$1,631,161,286

City of Atkinson	Actual Valuation		
	2008	2009	2010
Real Estate	\$32,985,355	\$34,971,750	\$35,740,870
Personal Property	2,139,276	24,501,220	19,645,270
Special (railroad and utilities)	<u>1,773,797</u>	<u>1,746,122</u>	<u>2,100,163</u>
TOTAL	\$36,898,428	\$61,219,092	\$57,486,303

Village of Chambers	Actual Valuation		
	2008	2009	2010
Real Estate	\$6,896,665	\$6,922,375	\$6,999,400
Personal Property	140,740	124,039	160,619
Special (railroad and utilities)	<u>117,157</u>	<u>498,652</u>	<u>491,127</u>
TOTAL	\$7,154,562	\$7,545,066	\$7,651,146

Village of Emmet	Actual Valuation		
	2008	2009	2010
Real Estate	\$1,213,860	\$1,225,495	\$1,225,495
Personal Property	28,264	20,795	13,241
Special (railroad and utilities)	<u>493</u>	<u>569</u>	<u>488</u>
TOTAL	\$1,242,617	\$1,246,859	\$1,239,224

Village of Ewing	Actual Valuation		
	2008	2009	2010
Real Estate	\$6,559,470	\$6,633,535	\$6,944,795
Personal Property	216,390	224,945	226,105
Special (railroad and utilities)	<u>140,216</u>	<u>150,165</u>	<u>166,351</u>
TOTAL	\$6,916,076	\$7,008,645	\$7,337,251

Village of Inman	Actual Valuation		
	2008	2009	2010
Real Estate	\$1,789,085	\$1,783,545	\$1,740,475
Personal Property	20,368	14,664	20,362
Special (railroad and utilities)	40,187	106,234	102,768
TOTAL	\$1,849,640	\$1,904,443	\$1,863,605

City of O'Neill	Actual Valuation		
	2008	2009	2010
Real Estate	\$107,490,230	\$115,296,435	\$118,896,340
Personal Property	5,560,561	6,511,252	5,725,168
Special (railroad and utilities)	1,333,865	1,408,250	1,276,135
TOTAL	\$114,384,656	\$123,215,937	\$125,897,643

Village of Page	Actual Valuation		
	2008	2009	2010
Real Estate	\$2,428,450	\$2,505,575	\$2,533,660
Personal Property	83,470	63,377	72,108
Special (railroad and utilities)	78,695	84,582	106,419
TOTAL	\$2,590,615	\$2,653,534	\$2,712,187

Village of Stuart	Actual Valuation		
	2008	2009	2010
Real Estate	\$17,481,040	\$17,709,460	\$18,513,570
Personal Property	1,813,581	2,140,910	2,153,337
Special (railroad and utilities)	18,717	17,415	16,226
TOTAL	\$19,313,338	\$19,867,785	\$20,683,133

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

City of Atkinson	2008	2009	2010
Township	\$0.037873	\$0.032451	\$0.023893
City	.537437	.433299	.545092
County	.367632	.333073	.326273
School District	1.061024	1.004381	.727180
Community College	.090000	.093540	.098500
Educational Service Unit	.014990	.014939	.014940
Natural Resource District	.024138	.024257	.022177
Agricultural Society	.002339	.002165	.001961
Fire District	.027704	.024530	.023929
School Bond	--	--	.095500
TOTAL	\$2.163137	\$1.962635	\$1.879445

The 2010 tax rate at the industrial site outside the city limits is \$1.879445 per \$100 of actual value.

Village of Chambers	2008	2009	2010
Township	\$0.122602	\$0.118231	\$0.117999
Village	.449993	.449996	.449998
County	.367632	.333073	.326273
School District	.997536	1.006321	.993324
Community College	.090000	.093540	.098500
Educational Service Unit	.014990	.014939	.014940
Natural Resource District	.024138	.024257	.022177
Agricultural Society	.002339	.002165	.001961
TOTAL	\$2.069230	\$2.042522	\$2.025172

Village of Emmet	2008	2009	2010
Township	\$0.034427	\$0.032109	\$0.026610
Village	.520599	.528105	.528637
County	.367632	.333073	.326273
School District	.961200	.980892	.968124
Community College	.090000	.093540	.098500
Educational Service Unit	.014990	.014939	.014940
Natural Resource District	.024138	.024257	.022177
Agricultural Society	.002339	.002165	.001961
TOTAL	\$2.015325	\$2.009080	\$1.987222

Village of Ewing	2008	2009	2010
Township	\$0.040000	\$0.040001	\$0.049981
Village	.499979	.499994	.499992
County	.367632	.333073	.326273
School District	1.048814	.999614	1.008192
Community College	.090000	.093540	.098500
Educational Service Unit	.014990	.014939	.014940
Natural Resource District	.024138	.024257	.022177
Agricultural Society	.002339	.002165	.001961
School Bond	.044888	.066721	.010573
TOTAL	\$2.132780	\$2.074304	\$2.032589

Village of Inman	2008	2009	2010
Township	\$0.040000	\$0.050000	\$0.049963
Village	.269796	.265182	.271010
County	.367632	.333073	.326273
School District	.961200	.980892	.968124
Community College	.090000	.093540	.098500
Educational Service Unit	.014990	.014939	.014940
Natural Resource District	.024138	.024257	.022177
Agricultural Society	.002339	.002165	.001961
Fire District	<u>.021474</u>	<u>.020572</u>	<u>.018886</u>
TOTAL	\$1.791569	\$1.784620	\$1.771834

City of O'Neill	2008	2009	2010
City	\$0.719474	\$0.682837	\$0.604076
County	.367632	.333073	0.326273
School District	1.078759	1.082054	0.968124
Community College	.090000	.093540	0.098500
Educational Service Unit	.014990	.014939	0.014940
Natural Resource District	.024138	.024257	0.022177
Agricultural Society	.002339	.002165	0.001961
Airport			0.073854
Township	.011419	.010793	0.010169
School Bond	<u>--</u>	<u>--</u>	<u>0.141807</u>
TOTAL	\$2.308751	\$2.243658	\$2.261881

The 2009 tax rate at the industrial zone outside the village limits is \$1.581393 per \$100 of actual value.

Village of Page	2008	2009	2010
Township	\$0.040000	\$0.079906	\$0.079932
Village	.519032	.524847	0.523207
County	.367632	.333073	0.326273
School District	.961200	.980892	0.968124
Community College	.090000	.093540	0.098500
Educational Service Unit	.014990	.014939	0.014940
Natural Resource District	.024138	.024257	0.022177
Agricultural Society	.002339	.002165	0.001961
Fire District	<u>.019741</u>	<u>.018181</u>	<u>0.015727</u>
TOTAL	\$2.039072	\$2.071800	\$2.050841

Village of Stuart	2008	2009	2010
Township	\$0.090000	\$0.090001	\$0.090000
Village	.449742	.449855	0.449592
County	.367632	.333073	0.326273
School District	1.157711	1.160442	1.063664
Community College	.090000	.093540	0.098500
Educational Service Unit	.014990	.014939	0.014940
Natural Resource District	.024138	.024257	0.022177
Agricultural Society	.002339	.002165	0.001961
Fire District	.032640	.031365	0.028067
School Bond	--	--	0.071978
TOTAL	<u>\$2.229192</u>	<u>\$2.199637</u>	<u>\$2.167152</u>

CITY AND VILLAGE SALES TAXES

The cities of Atkinson and O'Neill and the villages of Chambers and Stuart impose a 1 percent city/village sales tax.

LOCAL BONDED INDEBTEDNESS

As of August 2010:

City/Village	Revenue Bonds	General Obligation Bonds
City of Atkinson (as of 11/18/09)	None	\$615,000
Village of Chambers	None	None
Village of Emmet	None	None
Village of Ewing	None	None
Village of Inman	None	None
City of O'Neill (8/1/2010)	\$1,885,000	\$1,435,000
Village of Page	None	None
Village of Stuart (10/1/09)	\$530,000	\$155,000

O'Neill Elementary School (as of 12/10)	\$1,420,000
Stuart Public School (as of 12/10)	\$708,078
West Holt Public School District (as of 12/10)	\$9,218,754

Holt County (as of 8/1/10)	\$1,910,000
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CITY BOND ISSUES

Type	Date Issued	Original Amount	Unpaid Balance	Interest Rate (%)	Date Due
City of Atkinson			As of 11/18/10		
General Obligation					
Paving	11/12/02	\$145,000	\$40,000	3.5–3.9	11/15/12
Various Purpose	11/30/06	\$105,000	\$85,000	3.85–4.3	12/1/16
Various Purpose	7/1/09	\$520,000	\$490,000	1.35–4.4	7/1/24
City of O’Neill			As of 8/1/09		
Revenue					
Refunding - Combined Utility	2/13/10	\$2,463,453	\$1,885,000	1.35	11/15/20
General Obligation					
Refunding - Sewer & Street Bonds	2/13/10	\$1,670,640	\$1,435,000	1.50	11/1/19
Village of Stuart			As of 10/1/09		
Revenue					
CR Refunding-Electric	3/1/05	\$80,000	\$40,000	3.60	6/1/12
Nursing Home	12/1/05	\$200,000	\$185,000	3.75	6/1/20
CR Electric/Street	6/3/08	\$320,000	\$305,000	2.65	6/1/23
General Obligation					
Refunding-Natural Gas	3/1/05	\$140,000	\$70,000	3.55	7/1/12
Refunding-Auditorium	12/1/05	\$110,000	\$85,000	3.70	11/1/16

SCHOOL BOND ISSUES

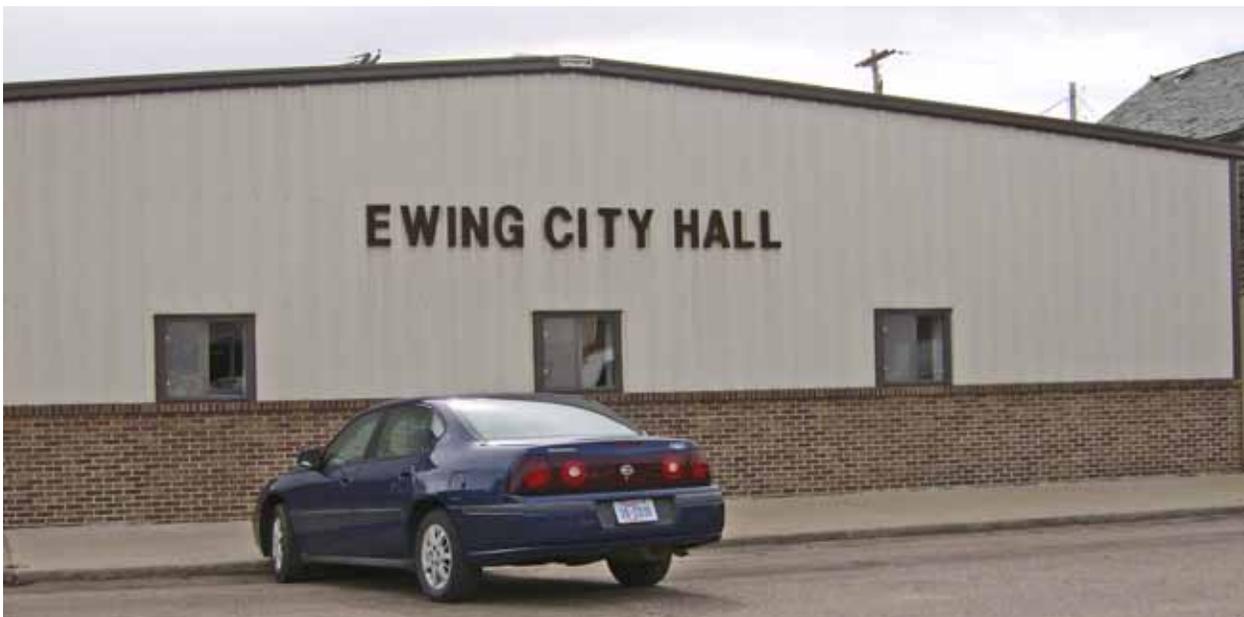
Type (as of)	Date Issued	Original Amount	Unpaid Balance	Interest Rate (%)	Date Due
O’Neill Elementary (12/10)	12/1/95	\$4,735,000	\$1,420,000	1.6–2.4	12/1/14
Stuart Public (12/10)	8/13/09	\$505,000	\$708,078	2.57	2/1/15
West Holt Public Schools (12/10)	6/09	\$10,141,000	\$9,218,754	4.0	2028

COUNTY BOND ISSUES

Type	Date Issued	Original Amount	Unpaid Balance As of 8/1/10	Interest Rate (%)	Date Due
Refunding & Limited Tax Building Bond	2005	\$2,115,000	\$1,910,000	3.70	6/15/27



Atkinson Municipal Building



Ewing City Hall



Stuart City Office



O'Neill City Offices



Holt County Courthouse - O'Neill

LOCAL GOVERNMENT

COUNTY GOVERNMENT

Holt County has 37 townships and is governed by a seven-member Board of Supervisors, who are elected by popular vote for four-year terms. The actual county budget for 2010–11 is \$5,323,327. The county is zoned AG-Agricultural.

MUNICIPAL GOVERNMENT

The cities of **Atkinson** and **O’Neill**, both second class cities, have a mayor-council form of government. Atkinson has six council members and O’Neill has eight council members, all are elected at large for four-year terms.

The villages of **Chambers**, **Emmet**, **Ewing**, **Inman**, **Page**, and **Stuart** have boards of trustees that are elected at large for four-year terms.

The actual 2009–2010 budgets are:

Atkinson	\$2,968,018
Chambers	\$644,130
Emmet	\$142,716
Ewing	\$417,393
Inman	\$90,789
O’Neill	\$8,261,566
Page	\$353,716
Stuart	\$3,641,148

FIRE PROTECTION

City of Atkinson/Village of Emmet

Fire protection is provided in the communities of Atkinson and Emmet by the 39-member Atkinson Volunteer Fire Department; 23 are EMT certified and 5 are certified paramedics. The fire department provides protection for areas outside the community limits (approximately 475 square miles) and on mutual aid agreement.

The city of Atkinson has 154 fire hydrants and 1 fire station. The fire insurance classification inside the corporate limits is 5; outside it is 8/9. The fire insurance classification inside and outside the corporate limits of Emmet is 8/9. The average annual expenditures for fire protection for the last three years was \$241,884.

Equipment in the Atkinson Volunteer Fire Department:

Year/Make	Description
2006 Ford	Ambulance
2004 Ford	Ambulance, road rescue
2003 IHC SDA 4X4	Pumper, 1,250 gpm
2001 Ford	Ambulance
2000 Ford F350	Grass rig
2000 GMC	Equipment truck
2000 Ford	Equipment truck
1993 Chevy Suburban	Personnel vehicle
1993 Chevy	Grass rig
1981 IHC	Pumper, 1,000 gpm
1979 IHC	1,200 gallon tanker
1977 GMC	Pumper, 1,000 gpm
1975 IHC 4X4	1,100 gallon tanker

Contemplated changes in the department include updating equipment in order to accommodate the addition of industrial and residential areas.

Village of Chambers

The Chambers Volunteer Fire Department consists of 30 fire fighters including 11 EMTs and 1 paramedic. A new fire house was built in 2009 with funds donated by a local resident and many volunteer hours.

There are 26 fire hydrants in Chambers. The fire insurance classification inside the corporate limits is 5; outside it is 8/10.

Equipment in the Chambers Rural Fire Department:

Year/Make	Description
2008 Ford	Grass unit
2008 Ford	Type 3 ambulance
1998 Ford	Type 3 ambulance
1998 IH	2,000 gal. pumper, 1,200 gpm
1998 IH	Mini pumper 750 gal.
1998 IH	Tanker/crash truck
1996 Chevy	Grass unit/crash truck
1992 KW	Tanker, 2,000 gal.
1991 Chevy	Grass unit

Village of Ewing

Fire protection is provided to the village of Ewing and the rural areas by a 20-member volunteer fire department; 11 members are EMT certified. The department also provides protection to areas outside the community and responds to mutual aid calls with area communities and the Rural Fire District.

There are 35 fire hydrants in Ewing. The fire insurance classification inside the corporate limits is 8; outside it is 10. A new fire hall was built in fall 2008 and additional interior work will be completed as time and funding are available.

Annual expenditures for fire protection (both city and rural fire districts) for the past three years averaged \$40,000.

Equipment in the Ewing Fire Department:

Year/Make	Description
2003 Ford	Ambulance
1997 Dodge	Grass rig
1995 Dodge	Grass rig
1994 Ford	Ambulance
1984 Ford	Grass rig
1983 Ford	Equipment van
1981 Ford	Pumper truck
1976 Chevy	Tanker

City of O'Neill/Village of Inman

Fire protection is provided to the communities of O'Neill and Inman by the 31-member O'Neill Volunteer Fire Department; 25 members are EMT certified. The department also provides protection to areas outside the city limits by housing and operating the Rural Fire District's equipment. The department responds to mutual aid calls.

There are 213 fire hydrants in O'Neill. The fire insurance classification inside the corporate limits of O'Neill is 4; outside (including Inman) it is 7. Annual expenditures for fire protection for the past three years averaged \$62,260.

Equipment in the O'Neill Fire Department:

Year/Make	Description
2007 Ford E450	Ambulance
2003 International	1,250 gpm, 1,200 gal. tank
2002 Ford F550	4x4 rescue truck with 500 watt generator
2002 Ford E450	Ambulance
2001 Ford E350	Ambulance
1996 Freightliner	1,250 gpm
1992 International	2,200 gal. tank
1992 Ford	1,250 gpm, 500 gal. tank
1972 Ford F600	300 gpm, 1,200 gal. tank
1972 Smeal	1,000 gpm, 75' aerial ladder

Village of Page

Fire protection is provided to the village of Page and the rural areas by a 20-member rural volunteer fire department; 5 members are EMT certified. The department also provides protection to areas outside the community and responds to mutual aid calls with area communities.

There are 25 fire hydrants in Page. The fire insurance classification inside the corporate limits is 8; outside it is 10. Annual expenditures for fire protection for the past three years averaged \$5,000.

Equipment in the Page Rural Fire Department:

Year/Make	Description
1999 Ford 450	Grass rig
1991 Ford	Ambulance
1990 Ford Truck	1250 gpm pumper
1980 Ford Bronco	Command unit
1979 Ford	Equipment van
1979 Ford F250	Grass rig
1970 Kaiser	800 gal. tanker

Village of Stuart

Fire protection is provided to the village of Stuart and the rural areas by a 30-member volunteer fire department; 12 members are EMT certified. The department also provides protection to areas outside the community limits.

Stuart has 1 fire station and 63 fire hydrants. The fire insurance classification inside the village limits is 6; outside it is 9.

Equipment in the Stuart Fire Department:

Year/Make	Description
2000 Chevy	Command vehicle
1996 GMC	Grass rig
1995 Ford	Ambulance
1992 Ford	Ambulance
1986 Dodge	Grass rig
1986 Ford	Pumper
1978 Ford	Pumper
1968 Diamond	Tanker
1958 Chevy	Pumper

Average fire expenditure for fire protection for the last three years in Stuart averaged \$36,000.

LAW ENFORCEMENT

Police Department

The city of **Atkinson** employs three full-time police officers. Equipment in the department includes three patrol units. Average annual expenditures for police protection for the last three years were \$225,354.

The city of **O'Neill** employs seven full-time police officers and two support personnel. The police department has four fully equipped patrol units. Annual expenditures for police protection for the last three years averaged \$445,000.

The village of **Stuart** employs one part-time police officer and has one police vehicle. Average annual expenditures for police protection for the last three years was \$42,000. The village also contracts with the Holt County Sheriff's department for law enforcement. One deputy sheriff lives within five miles of Stuart.

Sheriff's Department

The Holt County Sheriff's Department in O'Neill employs six sworn officers (five full-time and one part-time) and two support personnel (one full-time and one part-time). The sheriff's department has five patrol units. Regular patrol provides protection to Holt County communities.

Crime rates per 1,000 population, 2009:

Location	Violent Crimes	Property Crimes
O'Neill	0.0	4.6
Holt County	0.0	1.5
Nebraska	2.7	26.7
U.S.	4.3	30.4

State Patrol

Troop B of the Nebraska State Patrol covers a 23-county area, including Holt County. Headquartered in Norfolk, 76 miles southeast of O'Neill, Troop B is home to 50 troopers; 4 troopers are stationed in O'Neill.

STREETS

City of Atkinson

Atkinson has 25.05 miles of streets; 20.3 miles are hard-surfaced with concrete/asphalt. There are no local load restrictions. Seventy-five percent of the streets have curbs and 50 percent have sidewalks. Street maintenance includes street sweeping, snow removal, crack filling, and repair of curbs and street sections.

Village of Chambers

Chambers has 5.8 miles of streets; 4.99 miles are hard-surfaced with asphalt. Ten percent of the streets have curbs and sidewalks. Street maintenance includes asphalt patching, sweeping, and snow removal.

Village of Emmet

Emmet has approximately 2.5 miles of streets; 2 miles are hard-surfaced with black top. Twenty percent of the streets have sidewalks. Street maintenance includes grading, oiling streets and mowing the edges.

Village of Ewing

Ewing has approximately 5.5 miles of streets; 4 miles are hard-surfaced with asphalt and concrete. Loads are restricted to 80,000 pounds. Thirteen percent of the streets have curbs and 20 percent have sidewalks.

Street maintenance includes patching, repairing, and armor coating as needed, street sweeping in the spring and fall, and snow removal as needed.

Village of Inman

Inman has approximately 3.24 miles of streets; 5 percent of the streets have sidewalks. Street maintenance includes grading, snow removal, and applying gravel when needed.

City of O'Neill

O'Neill has 92.8 miles of streets, 68 percent are hard-surfaced with concrete or asphalt.

Street maintenance includes grading, sweeping, snow removal, and curb and street maintenance.

Street projects completed in 2009 included paving of several streets, inlets, intersections, and a storm sewer. These projects were financed through the city at a cost of \$500,000.

Contemplated improvements in the next five years include pavement and storm sewer upgrades at an estimated cost of \$1.9 million.

Village of Page

Page has approximately seven miles of streets, two miles are hard-surfaced with black top.

There are no load restrictions. Fifteen percent of the streets have curbs and 50 percent have sidewalks.

Street maintenance includes snow removal.

Contemplated improvements in the next five years include the digging of more ditches and building up roads for drainage purposes at an estimated cost of \$75,000.

Village of Stuart

Stuart has 16 miles of streets; 12.2 miles are hard-surfaced with asphalt. Load restrictions include marked truck routes. Five percent of the streets have curbs and 50 percent have sidewalks.

Street maintenance includes street sweeping with a new sweeper purchased in 2009, snow removal, and resurfacing twice a year to repair potholes, cracks, etc.

Contemplated changes in the next five years include armor coating approximately 4–7 blocks per year at a cost of \$3,500–\$4,500 per block. The installation of more curbing is being considered in the next two–three years.

BUILDING AND ZONING REGULATIONS

City of Atkinson

The International Building Codes are enforced in the community.

City zoning classifications in Atkinson are:

R-1	Single Family Residential
R-2	Multiple Family Residential
M-H	Mobile Home Residential
I-1	Limited Industrial
I-2	General Industrial
C-1	General Commercial
C-2	Limited Commercial/Office
C-3	Town Center
TA	Transitional Agriculture
FP	Flood Plain

Villages of Chambers and Ewing

Standard building codes are enforced in the villages of Chambers and Ewing.

City of O’Neill

Zoning and subdivision codes are enforced within the city.

Zoning classifications in O’Neill are:

- AG General Agricultural District
- R Residential District
- R-R Residential Ranchette
- R-O Residential Office
- C-1 Central Business
- C-2 General Commercial
- I-1 Light Industrial
- I-2 Industrial

Village of Stuart

Contractors and the fire marshal enforce National and Uniform Building Codes in Stuart.

PLANNING

Atkinson

The city of Atkinson has a seven-member planning commission. Members are appointed by the city council and serve three-year-terms.

A comprehensive plan was completed in 2002 by CDS Mark Wimmer and RDG Crose Gardner and Shupert from Norfolk, Nebraska.

O’Neill

O’Neill has a nine-member planning commission. Members are appointed by the Mayor to serve three-year terms.

The Comprehensive Plan for O’Neill was prepared by Stahr & Associates of York in 2003.



Atkinson Fire Department



Chambers Fire Hall



Emmet Fire Hall



Ewing Fire Hall



O'Neill Fire Department



Stuart Fire Department



O'Neill Police Department

COMMUNITY FACILITIES

SCHOOLS AND COLLEGES

Chambers Public School

Type of School	Classrooms	Students	Teacher/ Pupil Ratio	Computer/ Pupil Ratio
Elementary (K–6)	11	58	1:8	1:10
Jr.–Sr. High School (7–12)	8	85	1:6	1:1

Chambers Public School District No. 137 in Holt County covers approximately 386 square miles. The 2010-11 actual valuation was \$153,486,606 and the actual valuation per student was \$1,073,000. The Class 2 school is accredited by the state of Nebraska.

The elementary school was built in 1935 with a maximum capacity of 140 and the junior-senior high school was built in 1963 and has a capacity of 120. The 2009–10 school operating expenses totaled \$2,646,930 and the average per student was \$18,510.

Test Results

Name	% Students Taking Test	% Pro- ficiency	Comp- osite Score
Terra Nova	100	78	
ACT	60		23

One-hundred percent of the eighth grade students finish high school and 90 percent of high school seniors attend college while 10 percent

Ewing Public Schools

Type of School	Classrooms	Students	Teacher/ Pupil Ratio	Computer/ Pupil Ratio
Elementary (K–6)	11	67	1:7	1:2
Jr.–Sr. High School (7–12)	12	52	1:6	1:2

Ewing Public School District No. 29, located in Holt County, was founded in 1891 and covers approximately 197 square miles. The school had a 2010–11 actual valuation of \$143,299,981 and an actual valuation per student of \$1,204,202. This Class 2 District is accredited by the state of Nebraska.

enter the job market or military following graduation.

Vocational/tech prep programs offered include Family & Consumer Sciences, Industrial Technology, Business, Computer, and Career Education.

The Chambers Public School operates a preschool with a Nebraska Department of Education grant in partnership with the O’Neill Public Schools and the Holt County Head Start.

Special School in Chambers

Thoendel Learning Center offers the Davis Dyslexia Correction Program to clients ages eight and older. The one-week, intensive, goal-oriented program is designed for the visual-spatial learner. The program is facilitated by a licensed instructor focusing on techniques, understanding how to resolve confusion with letters, words, and other symbols using their creativity and imagination. Reading exercises eliminate guessing and promote comprehension and improved balance and coordination.

The 2009–10 school operating expenditures were \$2,515,236 with an average cost per pupil of \$21,136.

The public elementary school, built in 1916, has a maximum capacity of 180. The public junior-senior high school was built in 1992 and has a maximum capacity of 150.

Vocational/technical preparation programs offered include: Business Management, Industrial Technology, and Family and Consumer Services.

It is estimated that 100 percent of the eighth grade students finish high school, 92 percent of the graduating seniors pursue a college degree and 8 percent of the seniors enter the job market or military following graduation.

Test Results

Name	% Students Taking Test	% Proficiency	Composite Score
Terra Nova	100	72	
ACT	25		23.8

O’Neill Public School System

Type of School	Classrooms	Students	Teacher/ Pupil Ratio	Computer/ Pupil Ratio
Elementary (K–6)	30	375	1:9	1:2
Jr.–Sr. High School (7–12)	33	370	1:10	1:1

Holt County School District No. 7 covers approximately 114 square miles and serves the communities of Emmet, Inman, O’Neill, and Page. The school had a 2010–11 actual valuation of \$613,289,389 and an actual valuation per student of \$823,207. This Class 3 District is accredited by the state of Nebraska and North Central Association.

The 2010–11 school operating budget was \$10,559,845, with an average cost per pupil of \$14,228.

The O’Neill public elementary school, built in 1996, has a maximum capacity of 500. The public junior-senior high school was built in 1964 and has a maximum capacity of 500.

The O’Neill Elementary School serves students in kindergarten through sixth grade with three sections of each grade level. Students are provided with the latest curriculum materials, including new science, social studies, reading, and math text books, along with newly aligned curriculums. Students also have up-to-date technology including MacBooks, SMART Boards, Palm Pilots, iPads, and video equipment. Special service programs are also available to students including HAL, ELL, Special Education, and Title I. The Developing Eagles

Program is available to all students after school from 3:30 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. during the school year and from 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. during the summer. This program assists students in completing homework, playing educational games to reinforce classroom instruction, and physical activities to promote a healthy lifestyle. In cooperation with the Head Start Program and Chambers Public School, the O’Neill district opened a preschool program during the 2008–09 school year.

O’Neill Junior–Senior High School provides a broad spectrum of courses. In addition to 13 core classes, high school students can follow a vocational program with 29 course offerings or a college preparatory curriculum with 31 courses. Classes are also offered through a variety of post-secondary institutions during the regular school day. Students may enroll in TANN (Technology Academy of Northeast Nebraska) classes for both high school and college credit. O’Neill High School has had tremendous success in scholastic competition. During the last 20 years, students have won their division of the Chadron State College Scholastic Contest 16 times and have been overall champion several times. Students from O’Neill High School consistently score higher than the state average on the ACT.



Chambers High School Sign



Ewing Public Schools



Ewing Tigers Football Field



O'Neill Junior-Senior High School



O'Neill Elementary School



Stuart Public Schools



West Holt Schools - Atkinson



St. Joseph's Catholic School - Atkinson



St. Mary's Catholic School - O'Neill

It is estimated that 95 percent of the eighth grade students finish high school, 85 percent of the graduating seniors pursue a college degree, and 15 percent of the seniors enter the job market or military following graduation.

The city school system contracts with Educational Service Unit 8 to provide services for more severe/profound special needs students.

Stuart Public Schools

Type of School	Classrooms	Students	Teacher/ Pupil Ratio	Computer/ Pupil Ratio
Preschool	1	19	1:10	1:10
Elementary (K-6)	7	78	1:11	1:2
Junior High School (7-8)	8	24	1:3	1:2
High School (9-12)	8	50	1:5	1:1

Stuart Public School District No. 44 in Holt County covers approximately 125 square miles and had a 2010-11 actual valuation of \$105,458,781 and an actual valuation of \$693,807 per student. The Class 3 school is accredited by the Nebraska Department of Education.

The 2009-10 operating expenses were \$2,610,395, with an average cost per pupil of \$17,173.

The Stuart public elementary school was built in 1954 with a maximum capacity of 168. The junior high school was built in 1917 and the high school was built on to the junior high school in 1995 and together has a maximum capacity of 168. The school building and gymnasium are handicap accessible.

West Holt Public Schools (Atkinson)

Type of School	Classrooms	Students	Teacher/ Pupil Ratio	Computer/ Pupil Ratio
Elementary (in Atkinson)	10	153	1:9	1:4
Elementary (2 Rural)	2	11	1:9	1:1
Jr.-Sr. High School	19	196	1:9	1:1

West Holt Public School District No. 239 in Holt County covers approximately 930 square miles. The 2010 actual valuation was \$557,402,832 and the actual valuation per student was \$1,548,341.

Test Results

Name	% Students Taking Test	Average Score
8 th Grade CAT 6		
Reading	100	52.3
Math	100	49.9
ACT	70	21.7

Test Results

Name	% Students Taking Test	% Pro- ficiency	Comp- osite Score
Terra Nova	100	78	
ACT	52		22.1

One hundred percent of the eighth grade students finish high school, 76 percent of the graduating seniors attend college, and 24 percent enter the labor market or military following graduation.

Vocational/technical preparation programs offered at the school include vocational agriculture and business education.

The Stuart Public School system is a member of the Mid-States Assessment Consortium, the Northern Tier School Consortium, and the Niobrara Valley Conference.

The Class 3 school is accredited by the state of Nebraska. The 2010-11 school operating expenses totaled \$5,327,000 and the average cost per student was \$17,128.

The West Holt Elementary School was built in 2009 and has a maximum capacity of 200. The junior-senior high school was built in 1968 and has a maximum capacity of 280. A \$6.5 million renovation project was completed in 2009 including numerous changes to the high school along with a new addition housing the elementary school, administration offices, and gymnasium.

Programs include numerous athletic opportunities. Academic programs including Mock Trail, Quiz Bowl and Scholastic Contest, and Fine Arts Programs including Music, Band, Art, Speech, Drill Team, and performing play productions are offered. West Holt has outstanding leadership opportunities through FFA and FCCLA programs.

Vocational/technical preparation programs offered at the school include Future Farmers of America; Industrial Technology; Family, Career, and Community Leaders of America; and Agriculture.

Test Results

Name	% Students Taking Test	% Proficiency	Composite Score
7th Grade			
Terra			
Nova	100	72	
ACT	85		23

Ninety-seven percent of the eighth grade students finished high school. Ninety percent of the graduating seniors attended college while 5 percent entered the labor market and 5 percent joined the military following graduation.

Parochial Schools

St. Mary’s Catholic School, a Pre–K–12 school in O’Neill, serves as a center for Christian education with St. Patrick’s Parish. St. Mary’s has 25 classrooms with 222 students. The teacher/pupil ratio is 1:12 and the computer/pupil ratio is 1:2.

In 2007 a \$1 million renovation project was initiated. Through the generosity of friends, benefactors, parishioners, and alumni, St. Mary’s was able to renovate and add many areas to the

school including the gym, classrooms, library, chapel, nurse’s station, office area, staff lounge, commons area, elevator, and paved parking.

St. Joseph’s Catholic School in Atkinson provided education to 37 children in grades K–8 in four classrooms in the 2010–11 school year and had a teacher/pupil ratio of 1:9 and a computer/pupil ratio of 1:2. The average annual tuition is \$500 for the first child.

Little Critters Preschool, in conjunction with St. Joseph’s Catholic School in Atkinson, has one classroom and a teacher/pupil ratio of 1:9 with a tuition of \$5.25 per session.

Word of Life is a Pre–K–8 Christian School in O’Neill. The school has 6 classrooms with 17 students. The teacher/pupil ratio and the computer/pupil ratio is 1:10.

Educational Service Unit

Educational Service Unit 8 (ESU), headquartered in Neligh, serves seven counties including Holt County. Services provided include art, early childhood, media center, nursing, special education, and staff development.

Community College

Holt County communities are part of the **Community College (NECC)** service area. The college, governed by an 11-member elected board, serves 20 counties in northeast Nebraska from the main campus located in Norfolk, 76 miles southeast of O’Neill, and through regional education centers located in O’Neill, South Sioux City, and West Point. Enrollment at NECC for 2009–10 included 7,390 students taking credit courses and 18,181 students taking noncredit classes or 3,368 full-time equivalent students. Northeast also provided adult education classes for 1,088 students in 2009–10. Those students were taking classes for the acquisition of basic math and English skills, English as a Second Language, English language civics, General Educational Development (GED) for a high school diploma, or preparation for the Naturalization Test.

NECC offers more than 95 program options preparing students for immediate employment

or transfer to a four-year college or university. Some 750 students completed their studies for a certificate, diploma, or degree during the 2009–10 academic year. According to the latest Graduate Employment Report, 97 percent of the 2009 graduates seeking employment found jobs.

The most-recent Graduate Employment Report also showed that 273 of the 2009 graduates chose to continue their education, with 87 percent transferring to a Nebraska institution of higher learning. Other data confirm that college transfer students from NECC who continue their education at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln do as well as, or better, than native and other transfer students.

The Business and Industry Division of NECC works with area industries, retail, service establishments, agriculture, and other agencies in planning employee development and training. The programs can be delivered on-site at the company or at the state-of-the-art facilities at NECC. Training is arranged at any time of the day or evening to meet the organization’s special needs.

The Business and Industry Division served 189 employers and trained more than 5,000 employees through customized training workshops and seminars in fiscal year 2009–10. The division also worked with 12 communities on strategic planning and economic development initiatives. More than 20 individuals seeking to start or expand their businesses received assistance through this division. Seven area manufacturing plants received assistance with training through Nebraska Advantage Customized Training and Nebraska Worker Training Grants. An additional 6 minority-owned businesses were provided startup assistance and consulting services. NECC also assisted in recruiting several new companies and divisions to the region.

The **205-acre main campus in Norfolk** includes 24 buildings with classroom, shop, and lab facilities; library/resource center; student center; an activities center with gym and theater; the Lifelong Learning Center; and residence halls and 2 apartment buildings for student living. Northeast also owns a 566-acre college farm with all facilities necessary for teaching farm operations.



Northeast Community College Education Center in O’Neill

Northeast Community College's library in Norfolk, with its 26,338 books, approximately 40,000 electronic books, and 138 magazines and journals, is open to the residents of Northeast's 20-county service area. The library also offers 57 different newspapers, including those published in the 20 counties in northeast Nebraska, and 871 videotapes and DVDs. The library is part of the ONELibrary Consortium which includes the public libraries of Columbus, Norfolk, South Sioux City, Scottsbluff, Schuyler, and Wayne, and the libraries of Central Community College and Northeast Community College.

Northeast Community College continues to grow. A unique partnership between Northeast Community College and the University of Nebraska Medical Center (UNMC) College of Nursing came to fruition in August 2010 when the 43,747-square-foot J. Paul and Eleanor McIntosh College of Nursing opened. The facility houses all Northeast's nursing programs including the basic nurse aide (commonly called the certified nurse aide), medication aide, practical nursing, and associate degree nursing, and bachelor's and graduate nursing programs from the UNMC College of Nursing Northern Division. An \$11.9 million capital campaign, believed by some to be the largest capital campaign in northeast Nebraska history, was completed with a donation of well over \$1,000,000 from J. Paul and Eleanor McIntosh.

The \$7.9 million, 40,025-square-foot College Welcome Center on the Northeast campus in Norfolk opened in October 2009. It houses most Student Services' and Administrative Services' functions. Designed to be a "one-stop shop," the facility includes a welcome/reception area, testing and academic advisement area, financial aid offices, student counseling facilities, and the business offices for payment of tuition and fees.

The College Welcome Center is also home to recruitment/admissions, disabilities services, adaptive technology center, career services, registration and records, and veteran's services. Prospective students begin their college tours from this facility, which also has conference rooms.

Enrollments continue to grow at the 10,000-square-foot **Northeast Community College Education Center in South Sioux City**, which opened in 2005. Currently students can earn associate degrees in academic transfer, administrative assistant-general, administrative assistant-medical, business administration, business management, behavioral science, criminal justice-corrections, and elementary education. Nursing classes are also offered, as are vocational classes, continuing education, and customized training for business and industry at this location.

Construction continues on the College Center at South Sioux City. The center is being built on 57 acres of prime real estate along U.S. Highway 77, donated to Northeast by the South Sioux City Community Development Agency. Students will be able to take their freshman and sophomore classes from Northeast Community College and continue their education from Wayne State College, all in the same location. The Nebraska Legislature appropriated \$3.5 million for Wayne State's share of the facility. The College Center will open during the spring semester 2011.

Northeast tentatively plans to offer associate of arts degrees with an emphasis in academic transfer, accounting, behavioral science, business administration, criminal justice/corrections, early childhood education, elementary education, industrial facility drafting, journalism, and library technical assistant. Associate of applied science degrees in administrative assistant-medical or general, business-marketing option, and accounting are also tentatively planned. These programs may be delivered via a combination of traditional classes, interactive television classes, and online classes.

A 5,750-square-foot Industrial Training Building on the College Center grounds in South Sioux City opened in July 2010. Approximately 50 percent of the funds for the Industrial Training Building project are federal funds from the U.S. Department of Commerce, Economic Development Administration. Northeast's one-year welding and industrial technician programs are housed in the facility.

The **Northeast Education Center in West Point** is comprised of 8,000 square feet in the Shirley and Jake Weber Education Center, part of the \$5.4 million Donald E. Nielsen Community Center, dedicated in 2008. Construction of NECC's portion of the building was financed with a \$500,000 grant from the Louis and Abby Faye Dinklage Foundation and a \$250,000 gift from Hank and Mona Stalp.

The Northeast Education Center contains six classrooms (two ITV classrooms, two computer labs, science lab, and general purpose classroom), four offices, student lounge, registration area, lobby area, workroom, and storeroom. General education, nursing, business, English as a Second Language, computer training, business/industry training, and continuing/community education classes are offered in West Point.

Northeast Community College programming continues to increase at the **Northeast Education Center in O'Neill**. In May 2010, 15 students who took most of their classes at the O'Neill Education Center joined more than 700 others who earned Northeast degrees or diplomas. A

total of 86 students, including 12 nursing students, were registered in 64 different credit classes at the O'Neill Education Center at the beginning of the fall 2010 semester.

A recently completed Economic Impact Study by Economic Modeling Specialists Inc./CCbenefits Inc. of Moscow, Idaho, showed that taxpayers in Northeast's 20-county service area see a sound return on their investment. The study revealed that area taxpayers see a return of 9.8 percent on their annual investments in Northeast and recover all investments in 12.9 years. The study also showed that Northeast's workforce training increased the output of local industries (where former Northeast students are employed) by \$190.5 million annually. Using the multiplier effect, Northeast's annual payroll and benefits of \$18 million turns into \$25 million. Additionally, the study showed that for every \$1 a student invests in Northeast education, he/she will receive a cumulative \$6.10 in higher future earning for the next 30 years.

For more information on Northeast Community College, visit www.northeast.edu or call (800) 348-9033.

Northeast Community College 2009-10 Academic Year			
Program	Degree	Diploma	Certificate
Academic Transfer & General Studies	58	NA	NA
Administrative Assistant	27	12	0
Agriculture	73	1	NA
Art	4	NA	NA
Associate Degree Nursing	49	NA	NA
Audio Recording	15	0	13
Auto Body Repair Technology	12	NA	NA
Automotive Technology	19	0	NA
Biology	1	NA	NA
Broadcasting	6	NA	NA
Building Construction	17	NA	NA
Business	57	4	2
Criminal Justice	6	NA	NA
Diesel Technology	25	NA	NA
Drafting	38	NA	NA
Early Childhood Education	7	1	NA
Education	22	NA	NA

NA-Not available

Northeast Community College 2009–10 Academic Year			
Program	Degree	Diploma	Certificate
Electrical Construction and Control	26	NA	NA
Electromechanical Technology	20	0	0
EMT Paramedic	2	0	NA
English	3	NA	NA
Graphic Design	5	NA	NA
Health, Physical Education, and Recreation	3	NA	NA
Heating, Ventilation, and Air Conditioning	6	NA	NA
Industrial Maintenance	NA	7	NA
Information Technology	18	0	0
Journalism	2	NA	NA
Music	3	NA	NA
Practical Nursing	NA	41	NA
Paralegal	3	0	1
Physics	1	NA	NA
Pre-Professional Studies	31	NA	NA
Physical Therapy	13	NA	NA
Renewable Fuels	5	2	0
Behavioral Science	29	NA	NA
Utility Line	35	NA	NA
Welding	NA	25	NA
Total	641	93	16

NA-Not available

Lifelong Learning Center

The Lifelong Learning Center at Northeast Community College in Norfolk serves the business and professional community through a variety of uses. The 20,000-square-foot educational wing includes two classrooms which can be opened into one large room, one distance-learning classroom, a computer center for software training, a general purpose classroom, and the conference center that can be divided into six rooms and accommodate up to 700 people. Full technology, including video conferencing, and food services are available to make the center a highly-desirable location for meetings, training activities, and conferences.

In addition to the associate degree and continuing education programs offered through NECC, the Lifelong Learning Center serves as a clearinghouse for educational offerings from

Educational Service Unit 8, Lower Elkhorn Natural Resources District, University of Nebraska-Lincoln (UNL) Northeast Research and Extension Center, UNL Extension in Madison County, and Wayne State College, as well as other public and private institutions.

For more information on the Lifelong Learning Center, its programs and facilities, call the facility's coordinator at (402) 844-7246.

Colleges & Universities

Wayne State College (WSC) in Wayne, 99 miles east of O'Neill, serves approximately 3,600 students from throughout Nebraska and Iowa as well as more than 32 other states and 24 foreign countries. At the undergraduate level, WSC offers more than 70 nonteaching majors and minors plus 38 various teaching endorsements in four academic schools

including arts and humanities, business and technology, education and counseling, and natural and social sciences. Masters degrees are also available in business, education, and organizational management.

Of those undergraduate students declaring a major, approximately 12 percent major in the arts and humanities, 23 percent in education and counseling, 24 percent in business and technology, and 41 percent in natural and social sciences.

Founded in 1891, the college became a State College in 1909. The picturesque 128-acre campus serves as a state arboretum and features a walking/jogging trail, numerous indoor and outdoor recreation facilities, a renovated and expanded Student Center, a state-of-the-art business building, and a studio arts building.

The Office of Continuing Education at Wayne State College offers undergraduate and graduate coursework via Internet and distance learning. In addition, a variety of courses are also offered on site in several area cities. Schedules and course offerings vary.

The College Center of South Sioux City, opening in early 2011, is a collaborative effort of Northeast Community College and Wayne State College. Northeast and Wayne State will offer opportunities for students to earn associate, baccalaureate, and master's degrees, a combination of customized training for business and industry, continuing education, licensing programs, and career and technical training. The College Center sits on 57 acres of land along U.S. Highway 77, donated by the Community Development Agency of South Sioux City.

For more information, contact Wayne State College at (800) 228-9972 or www.wsc.edu.

Wayne State College				
Program	Undergraduate		Graduate	
	Majors*	Degrees**	Majors*	Degrees**
Applied Human & Sport Physiology	42	4	—	—
Art	45	11	—	—
Business	380	122	82	20
Chemistry	46	21	—	—
Computer Information Systems	77	16	—	—
Computer Science	34	4	—	—
Counselor Education/Counseling	—	—	60	18
Criminal Justice	189	28	—	—
Curriculum & Instruction	—	—	206	102
Early Childhood	25	7	—	—
Early Childhood Education	111	19	—	—
Elementary Education	389	47	—	—
English	79	20	—	—
Exercise Science	83	13	8	2
Family & Consumer Sciences	62	16	—	—
French Education	1	1	—	—
Geography	28	5	—	—
Graphic Design	43	8	—	—
Health & Physical Education	86	11	—	—
History	61	6	—	—
Human Service Counseling	96	25	—	—
Industrial Technology	120	20	—	—
Interdisciplinary Studies	4	1	—	—

*Includes first and second majors for fall 2010 (as of 10/15/10)

**Includes degrees awarded December 2009 through August 2010

Wayne State College				
Program	Undergraduate		Graduate	
	Majors*	Degrees**	Majors*	Degrees**
Life Sciences	102	40	—	—
Mass Communication	46	9	—	—
Mathematics	37	4	—	—
Middle Level Education	34	3	—	—
Music	70	10	—	—
Natural Sciences	9	1	—	—
Organizational Management	—	—	24	11
Physical Science	6	0	—	—
Political Science	26	9	—	—
Pre-Professional	263	0	—	—
Psychology	69	10	—	—
School Administration	—	—	140	24
Social Sciences	59	10	—	—
Sociology	19	4	—	—
Spanish	27	11	—	—
Special Education	90	6	5	40
Speech Communication	40	18	—	—
Sport Management	107	23	—	—
Technology	6	6	—	—
Theatre	9	2	—	—
Undeclared	<u>312</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>—</u>	<u>—</u>
Total	3,332	571	525	177

*Includes first and second majors for fall 2010 (as of 10/15/10)

**Includes degrees awarded December 2009 through August 2010

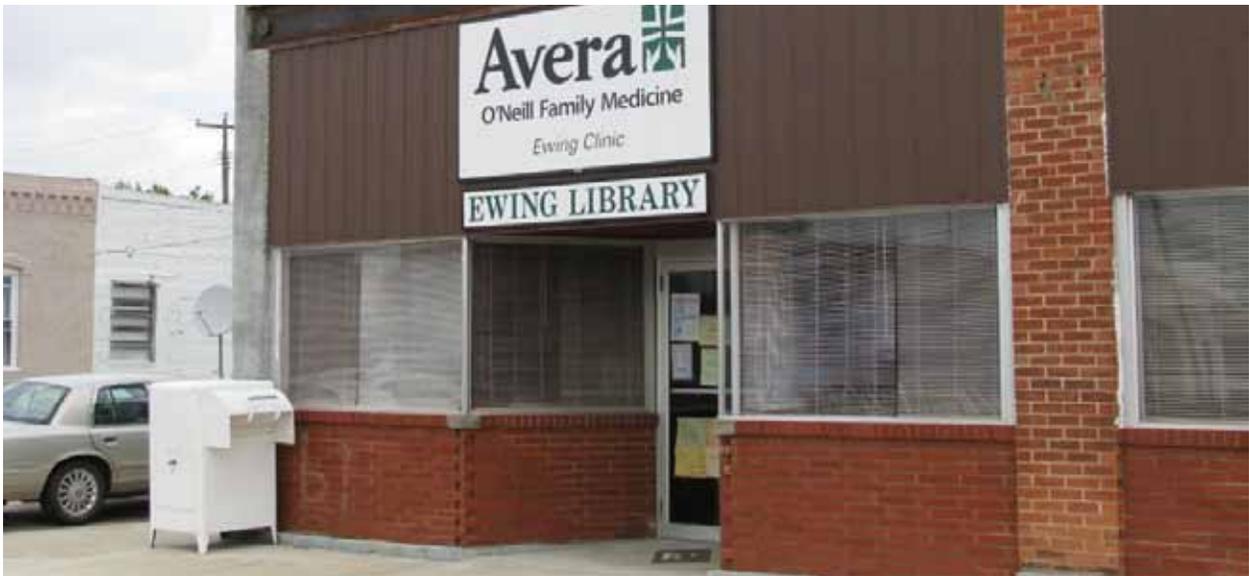
Other Schools

Colleges, universities, and community colleges frequently attended by Holt County high school graduates include:

Community/ College or University	Mileage from O'Neill	Community/ College or University	Mileage from O'Neill
		Vermillion, SD	127
		University of South Dakota	
		Kearney, NE	162
		University of Nebraska at Kearney	
		Omaha, NE	188
		University of Nebraska at Omaha	
		Lincoln, NE	211
		University of Nebraska-Lincoln	
		Chadron, NE	248
		Chadron State College	
Norfolk, NE	76		
Northeast Community College			
Wayne, NE	99		
Wayne State College			
Yankton, SD	102		
Mount Marty College			



Atkinson Library



Ewing Public Library



O'Neill Public Library



Immanuel Evangelical Lutheran Church - Atkinson



St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church - Atkinson



St. Joseph's Catholic Church - Atkinson



First Presbyterian Church - Atkinson



United Methodists Church - Atkinson



Memorial Baptist Church - Chambers



St. Paul's Lutheran Church - Chambers



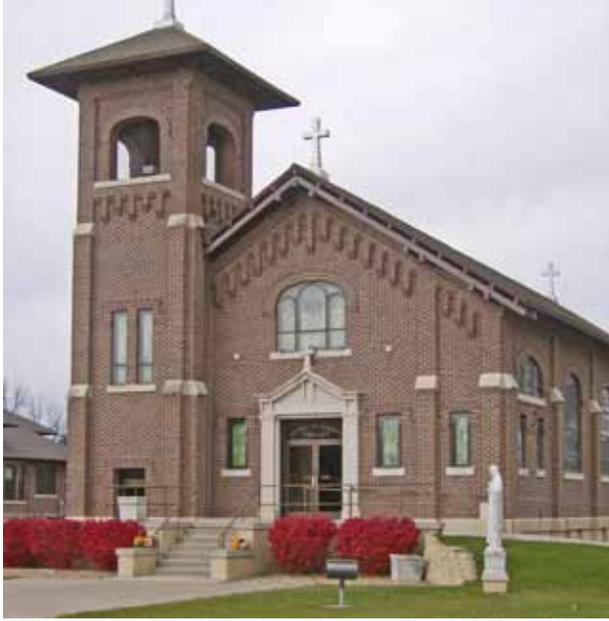
United Methodist Church - Chambers



Church of Christ - Ewing



Assembly of God Church - Ewing



St. Peter's Catholic Church - Ewing



Stuart Community Church



Inman Community Church



St. Boniface Catholic Church - Stuart



United Methodist-Prebyterian Church - Ewing

HOLT COUNTY CHURCHES

Denomination	Number of Churches
Assembly of God	3
Baptist (Independent)	1
Catholic	5
Community Church	2
Church of Christ	1
Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints	1
Faith Community (nondenominational)	1
First Christian Church	1
Jehovah Witness	1
Lutheran, ELCA	4
Lutheran, Missouri Synod	3
Presbyterian	3
Resurrection Revival Center	1
United Methodist	4
United Methodist/Presbyterian	1
Wesleyan	2
Word of Life	1

SPECIALIZED SERVICES

Central Nebraska Community Services (CNCS), a non-profit agency, was created in 1965 as a result of President Johnson's Economic Opportunity Act. CNCS specializes in bringing resources totaling more than \$11.6 million into the 22,985 square miles of the service area. CNCS addresses the needs of 15,000 unduplicated persons in north-central Nebraska through programs and services. Programs and services offered include (1) Community Economic Development provides economic growth opportunities, job creation, and affordable living environments for families in rural communities; (2) Early Childhood Programs promote children's physical, social, emotional, and cognitive development while assisting the entire family in efforts to reach economic self-sufficiency; (3) Family Outreach provides assistance during crisis, linkage to resources, advocacy for services, financial counseling, and goal attainment; and (4) Health and Nutrition fosters the health lifestyles of central Nebraskans

through health promotion, prevention, and education.

Services offered include:

- Car Seat Program
- Commodity Supplemental Food Program
- Community Assessment
- Community Housing Development
- Emergency Assistance
- Every Woman Matters
- Head Start/Early Head Start
- HOPE Case Management Immunizations
- Project THRIVES (Transitional Housing for Rural Independence, Viability, and Economic Stability)
- Weatherization Assistance
- WIC (Women, Infants & Children)

HEALTH CARE

Hospital

The **West Holt Memorial Hospital** in Atkinson was built in 1977 and has a capacity of 18 beds. The hospital, an affiliate of Sioux Valley Health Systems, is accredited by Medicare and the state of Nebraska. Hospital services include emergency; gastroenterology; pediatrics; physical, occupational, speech, pain, and massage therapy; radiology; pathology; fixed CAT scan and ultrasound; X-ray; teleradiology; general and laparoscopy surgery; colonoscopy; pulmonary function and stress testing; mammography; psychology; anesthesia services; laboratory; pharmacy; patient advocate and social services; employee assistance programs; every woman matters; kid's connection; infant car seat program; CT, DEXA Scan, cardiac rehab, outreach clinic, plus numerous other specialty services on site.

The fixed CT/ultrasound MRI center was completed in 1996 and West Holt was designated a Critical Care Access Hospital in 2000.

A heliport is located south of the hospital for transportation of critical patients to other facilities. The heliport is secured by recessed lights, manufactured locally.

Nine outpatient clinics serve the Atkinson community with cardiology, ENT, podiatry, obstetrics, nuclear stress testing, bone density

scanning, retail pharmacy, message therapy, along with providing an eye physician and dietician.

The **Avera St. Anthony's Hospital** in O'Neill, a 25-bed facility, was built in 1952 with additions in 1976 and 2002. Facility services include: medical, surgical, OB/GYN, pediatric, skilled nursing care, cardiology, urology, ENT, pulmonary, podiatry, ophthalmology, orthopedic, weight, oncology, vascular, neurology, mammography, ultrasound, CT scan, diagnostic radiographic services, MRI, dietary counseling, blood bank, laboratory, pharmacy, respiratory therapy, stress testing, Holter monitoring, pastoral care, Lifeline, cardiopulmonary rehab, Automatic Implant Cardioverter Defibrillator pacer checks, audiology, sleep studies, nuclear medicine, pain management, kidney dialysis, and e-ICU. The hospital is sponsored by the Presentation of Benedictine Sisters and is operated by Avera from Sioux Falls, South Dakota.

Patient transfers are arranged through local physicians. The hospital provides transportation services both in and out of O'Neill.

Ground breaking for an \$18.1-million renovation and expansion of the hospital took place in April 2010 with completion expected in November 2011. The building will include single patient rooms, medical office building, new physical/occupational therapy and chemotherapy space, and increased capacity in the surgery department.

Clinics

Two family practice clinics serve the **Atkinson** community. West Holt Medical Clinic has two doctors and two physician assistants. Greater Sandhills Family Healthcare has one doctor, two physician assistants, and one nurse practitioner. Monthly outreach clinics are also available.

Chambers Medical Clinic is open one day a week with a visiting physician from O'Neill.

The **Ewing** Clinic, a branch of Avera O'Neill Family Practice, is open one day per week in Ewing with a visiting physician from O'Neill.

There are three family practice clinics in **O'Neill**, one general surgery, one orthopedic surgery clinic, along with specialty clinics serving the hospital.

A physician assistant travels to a clinic in **Page** once a week.

Greater Sandhills Clinic in Stuart is open five days a week with one physician, one physician assistant, and one nurse practitioner.

Rescue Squad

The **Atkinson Rescue Squad** is comprised of 23 Emergency Medical Technicians and 5 paramedics, who operate the three ALS/BLS certified ambulances owned by the fire district. The squad also responds to emergency calls in Emmet.

The **Chambers Volunteer Fire Department** has 11 Emergency Medical Technicians and 1 paramedic.

Eleven Emergency Medical Technicians on the **Ewing Volunteer Fire Department** operate the fire department's ambulance.

There are 25 Emergency Medical Technicians who respond to calls in **O'Neill** and **Inman** with the fire department's three ambulances.

There are five Emergency Medical Technicians on the **Page Volunteer Fire Department** who operate the fire department's ambulance.

The **Stuart Volunteer Fire Department** has 12 Emergency Medical Technicians who respond to emergency calls in the Stuart area using their two ambulances.

Rehabilitation Center

Valley Hope, which opened in 1977, is a 75-bed drug and alcohol residential treatment center. This private, nonprofit organization is governed by a board of directors. The individually tailored services include 24-hour nursing care, psychological, spiritual, and vocational counseling. Valley Hope works with those with chemical dependency issues as well as their family members.



Avera St. Anthony's Hospital - O'Neill



Valley Hope - O'Neill



West Holt Memorial Hospital - Atkinson



Atkinson Family Dental Care



West Holt Pharmacy - Atkinson



West Holt Medical Clinic - Atkinson



O'Neill Family Medicine - Ewing Clinic



Greater Sandhills Family Healthcare - Atkinson



Greater Sandhills Clinic
- Stuart

Nursing Homes

The **Good Samaritan Society of Atkinson** was built in 1963 with an addition in 1989, and has a capacity of 62. The facility is accredited by the state of Nebraska and is Medicare/Medicaid approved. Services available include adult day care; long term care; hospice; occupational, speech, and physical therapy and rehabilitation; and special event activities.

The **Golden LivingCenter** in O'Neill was built in 1963 with an addition in 1993. Licensed for 88 beds by the Nebraska Health Department and Nebraska Department of Social Services, this skilled care facility, approved by Medicare, provides 24-hour professional nursing care. Therapeutic diet management; physical therapy and rehabilitation; social services consultation; speech, occupational, and outpatient therapy; and recreational activities are provided. An Alzheimer's unit, called the Irish Cottage, opened in 2006. Telephone reassurance calls, Alzheimer's group meetings, congregate meals, over 60s monthly birthday parties, and many other events are provided by the Golden LivingCenter for the senior citizens in the community.

Parkside Manor in Stuart was built in 1971 with a capacity of 50. The state of Nebraska accredited facility is approved by Medicare and Medicaid. Services available include 24-hour professional nursing care, licensed Alzheimer unit, wander guard security system, restorative therapy, adult day care and respite care, meals, multi-denominational church services, wheel chair-equipped van, and planned activities.

Assisted Living

Prairie Winds Assisted Living in Atkinson was built in 2001 and has a capacity of 12. The facility is accredited by the state of Nebraska and is Medicaid approved. Services available include assistance with care, laundry, cleaning, meals, and various activities.

The Evergreen in O'Neill, a 33-unit assisted living residence, was built in 2001. All units are handicap accessible. Well-balanced meals and daily activities are planned.

Parkside Manor in Stuart, built in 2001 with a capacity of 10, is accredited by the state of Nebraska and is Medicaid approved. Twenty-four hour staffing is provided along with meals, laundry, housekeeping, and maintenance services; various activities; whirlpool; utilities; beauty shop; transportation services; and medication assistance.

LIBRARY

The **Atkinson Public Library** contains 19,000 volumes and has an average annual circulation of 30,603. The library resources include 16 wireless network computers, free wireless Internet access/WiFi, online database, online circulation, die cut machine/dies, continuing education meeting room, LCN projector and screen, overhead projector, scanner, fax machine, interlibrary loan services, wireless color/gray scale printer, wireless copy machine, microfilm reader/printer, and big screen TV/DVD.

Library activities include author book signings, book talks, humanities programs, summer story time, computer classes, sewing and quilting classes, book packet delivery to nine local daycares, school visits, national library week, Bub Blake memorial photo show, friends of the library art show, annual fun run, annual holiday silent auction, biannual garden walk, and dinner theatre.

The **Ewing Township Library** contains 4,000 volumes with an average annual circulation of 1,500. The library has books and movies for check out. Story hour is held four times each summer. Other library resources include a computer with Internet access, book clubs, and a library commission.

A small library in **Inman** is open during summer months.

The **O'Neill Public Library** contains 36,126 volumes and has an average annual circulation of 97,341. The library, with 2,493 patrons, is part of the Nebraska Interlibrary Book Loan Program. Story hour is held during the summer months and other special times during the year. Books and records for the blind are also

provided. There are six computers with Internet access available to library patrons.

RECREATION

Atkinson

Atkinson has one park consisting of eight acres. Facilities at the park include a heated swimming pool, T-ball and three ball fields, tennis court, playground equipment, and a new park house. Underground sprinklers were installed at the park and ball field areas.

Two part-time/seasonal personnel care for the park. Annual expenditures for the last three years averaged \$56,130 for the pool and \$42,734 for the park.

Programs offered include public and private swim lessons, boy's and girl's summer ball programs, and children's plays. Summer recreation programs for youth include T-ball, gymnastics, rodeo organizations, 4-H clubs, and Boy and Girl Scouts programs.

Chambers

The village of Chambers has one park, Perkins Memorial Park, consisting of six acres. Facilities at the park include camper hook-ups, park house, park shelter, picnic tables, grills, water, playgrounds with equipment, tennis courts, three ball diamonds, and a sand volleyball court. The playground equipment, installed in 2008 with a sandbox base, consists of swings, jungle gym, slides, scaling wall, and more. A new park house was constructed in 2010. One part-time/seasonal employee cares for the park. Average annual park expenditures for the last three years were \$10,600.

Ewing

There are two parks in Ewing covering six acres—Village Park and Memorial Park. Facilities include a tennis court, horseshoe pits, basketball court, baseball and softball fields, picnic shelter and tables, children's playground, benches, and memory plaques.

Ewing has two playgrounds, one at Village Park and one at the elementary school with swings,

slide, jungle gym, the wave, basketball court, and multifunction play unit.

Annual expenditures for the last three years for the two parks averaged \$6,000.

O'Neill

There are six parks in O'Neill covering 103 acres. Facilities include a swimming pool, playground equipment, picnic tables, fishing pond, lighted softball and baseball fields, tennis courts, soccer fields, horse arena, and camping area.

The Parks and Recreation Department has one full-time director and approximately 24 seasonal employees. The annual budget for the last three years averaged \$248,577. Programs offered by the department include Red Cross swimming lessons, aquarobics, lap swimming, swim team, softball, baseball, and soccer.

Page

There is one park in Page covering one city block. Facilities include a shelter area, ten picnic tables, two rest rooms, one smaller shelter area with a picnic table, and a gazebo.

Page, with one part-time employee, has one playground with six swing sets and a play gym area with numerous activities. Annual expenditures for the last three years averaged \$400.

Stuart

Stuart has one park consisting of 38 acres. Facilities include playground equipment, sand volleyball court, tennis court, skating area, baseball/softball fields, batting cages, soccer fields, football field, rodeo facilities, walking trail, and stock car racing track.

Stuart employs one full-time and one part-time staff to maintain the park. Annual expenditures for the last three years averaged \$45,000, with an additional \$25,000 spent on playground equipment in 2007 and \$106,000 spent on a new walking path in 2008.

Summer recreation programs offered in Holt County include 4-H, Girl Scouts, soccer,



Good Samaritan Society Nursing Home - Atkinson



Good Samaritan's Prairie Winds Assisted Living - Atkinson



The Evergreen Assisted Living - O'Neill



Parkside Manor
Assisted Living
- O'Neill



Atkinson City Park



Atkinson City Pool



Railroad Park - Atkinson



Chambers Park



Carney Park Scenes - O'Neil



O'Neil Public Swimming Pool



Stuart Park



Atkinson Lake Park Campground



Atkinson Ball Fields



Bluebird Hiking Trail - Atkinson

basketball, regular and flag football, baseball, volleyball, and weight lifting.

Aarea facilities within 60 miles:

- Baseball — Atkinson, Chambers, Ewing, O’Neill, Page, and Stuart
- Basketball — Atkinson, Chambers, O’Neill, and Stuart
- Boating — Goose Lake, Calamus Dam, Fort Randall Dam, all over the area
- Bowling — 8 lanes, Atkinson; 12 lanes, O’Neill
- Campgrounds — Atkinson Lake, Carney Park in O’Neill, Chambers, Stuart, throughout area
- Fishing — Excellent fishing for trout, bass, catfish & other species at Atkinson Lake; Calamus Dam; Carney Park, O’Neill; Elkhorn River; Fort Randall Dam; Goose Lake; Grove Lake; Spencer Dam; Swan Lake
- Fish Hatchery — Royal
- Fitness Center — Atkinson, O’Neill
- Fossil Beds — Near Royal
- Golf Courses — 9-hole grass greens course with clubhouse: Atkinson/Stuart, O’Neill, Summerland at Ewing
- Hiking Trails — Cowboy Trail, Atkinson Lake, Stuart, throughout area
- Horseshoes — Chambers, O’Neill,
- Hunting — Deer, pheasant, duck, quail, turkey, prairie chicken, rabbit, grouse, squirrel, coyote
- Racquetball — 2 courts in O’Neill
- Rodeo Area — Atkinson, O’Neill, Stuart

- Sand Volleyball — Atkinson; Chambers; 3 courts, O’Neill; Page; Stuart
- Skating — Outdoor ice skating in season in Stuart
- Soccer — Atkinson; 6 fields in O’Neill; Stuart
- Stock Car Racing — Stuart
- Swimming — Outdoor, heated pool, Atkinson; outdoor pool, O’Neill
- Tennis — Atkinson, O’Neill, Stuart
- Theatres — *Indoor* - O’Neill with 400 seats & Neligh with 300 seats; *Outdoor* - Neligh, 150 car capacity

The **Atkinson Senior Center** serves noon meals, delivers meals on wheels daily, and has a variety of social activities including weekly exercises, monthly card parties, and more.

The **Golden Age Senior Center**, opened in O’Neill in 1982, provides education, nutrition, recreation, and health-related services, with an emphasis on the total well-being of all persons over the age of 60. The center serves meals (inhouse and delivery) five days a week and two evening meals monthly during September through June. Meals are also provided to the towns of Inman and Chambers. Activities at the center include musical entertainment, card games, the Wii game, puzzles, weekly bingo, monthly birthday parties, as well as holiday parties throughout the year.

Atkinson Lake, built in 1894 by the Atkinson Milling and Irrigation Company, operated for milling purposes and hydroelectric generation until 1929 when a flood washed out the dam. In 1948 the city of Atkinson gave the dam to the Nebraska Game and Parks Commission who rebuilt the structure and operated the lake area as a public park. The dam was again washed away and rebuilt in the early 60s and damaged a third time in 1984, reducing it to just a stream. In 1991 a joint funding effort between local people and the Upper Elkhorn Natural Resources District made it possible for reconstruction of

the Atkinson Dam. A new outlet structure was designed to meet current standards of both the Nebraska Department of Water Resources and the United States Army Corp of Engineers. The lake was deepened and the overall size increased. The commission stocked the lake with bluegill, catfish, largemouth bass, and sauger. Recreational facilities at the lake include camping areas with 16 electrical hookups, vault toilets, drinking water, picnic tables and grills, picnic shelters, and playground equipment. The 7-acre lake, located within one mile from the city limits of Atkinson, is now owned by the city of Atkinson.

The **Bluebird Trail**, adjacent to the Atkinson Lake Park, was funded from private memorials for Kenneth Butterfield, a long-time lake supporter and advocate. The trail is approximately one-half mile long with 12 bluebird boxes and park benches placed along the trail to provide restful viewing of these rare birds.

The **Cowboy Trail**, the longest rails-to-trails conversion in the nation, will span 321 miles through northern Nebraska when completed, including (east-west) through Holt County. Today 199 miles of the trail are open to the public for hiking, biking, and horseback riding. The trail begins in Norfolk, travels through the center of Atkinson, and ends in Valentine. This trail follows the gentle slopes of the old Chicago and Northwestern rail line.

The **Sturdevant-McKee Museum** in Atkinson is listed on the National Register of Historic Sites. Located in Atkinson, the museum reflects one of the first pioneer families to the Atkinson area, Brantley and Ellen Sturdevant along with Brantley's brother, Dr. Charles Sturdevant. The Sturdevants were active in various civic and fraternal organizations and held political offices. Brantley and Ellen's son-in-law, Dr. Neal McKee, operated a medical practice in Atkinson along with being an active community leader.

Dr. McKee Day was celebrated August 31, 1961, in recognition of Dr. McKee's many contributions to the people of Atkinson and the surrounding areas. The Queen Anne-style house was built in 1887 with 3 extensive porches, 2 front entrances, and 11 rooms. A coal shed is located at the rear of the house and a carriage house is located across

the alley. The house is furnished completely with items from the family and is representative of the 1880 period.

The **Moses P. Kinkaid Law Office Museum** has been designated by the U.S. Department of Interior as a National Historic Site in honor of Moses P. Kinkaid. The museum tells the story of Congressman M. P. Kinkaid as well as displays many exhibits from the settlement of Holt County.

The **Golden Hotel**, also listed on the National Register of Historic Sites, is still in use today. The lobby has been restored to its former grandeur.

The **White Horse Ranch Museum** in Stuart is filled with memorabilia of days gone by. Built as a private residence by John McGrew in 1914, this beautiful three story building has led a unique and varied existence. In 1927, the home was converted to a hospital, adding the east and west wings. Dr. Clark practiced medicine within these walls from 1937 to 1948. In 1954 the facility became Stuart's first home for the aged. Finally, in 1964 the first members of the museum board purchased the ground to house possessions received from the White Horse Ranch and memorabilia from Stuart locals and people from the surrounding communities. On the grounds around the museum are the Cleveland Presbyterian Church, founded in 1882, the Reichard/Kramer house built in 1883, the little red schoolhouse with a potbellied stove and an original setting from the school days of long ago, the wash house and summer kitchen, the blacksmith shop, and pioneer log cabin along with antique machinery, sleighs, and etc. The museum houses a gift shop and registry.

Construction of a 14,000-square-foot community center in O'Neill began in the fall of 2010 and is projected to be completed by July 2011. The facility will be available for many community events, shows, and conferences.

Cultural activities include Friends of the Library Dinner Theater, Hospital Dinner Theater, O'Neill Community Band, and Art Show.

A car club and community theatre are included in the cultural activities available in Atkinson.

Attractions within a 1 1/2-hour drive of O'Neill include Atkinson State Lake,

<u>Annual Events</u>	<u>City/Village</u>	<u>Month/Time</u>	<u>Activities</u>
Basketball Tournaments	Stuart	February	3rd–8th grade boys/girls basketball
St. Patrick’s Day Celebration	O’Neill	March	Parade, fun run, Husker Hoops, kids carnival, Irish music and dancers, dodge ball tournament, magic show—drawing more than 10,000 people to the “Irish Capital of Nebraska”
Spring Fling	Stuart	March	Sidewalk sales, business promotions, garage sales
Easter Egg Hunt	Chambers	Easter weekend	One of the largest hunts in the area including an egg hunt with a specially painted egg by a local artist in each division, drawings, money hay scramble, picture coloring contest, treats
Ewing Funfest	Ewing	Memorial Day weekend	Street dance, hole-in-one, TV raffle drawing, parade, food, road rally
Stuart Stock Car Races	Stuart	Every Sunday evening during the summer	Stock car racing
City-wide Garage Sales	Atkinson/ O’Neill	1st Saturday in June/June (respectively)	Garage sales
Fourth of July	Chambers	July 4th	Parade, turtle races, road rally, barbecue, talent show, raffle prize drawing, golfing, kids games, different activities each year
Fourth of July	Ewing	July 4th	Fireworks, water fight, horseshoes, kid’s games, ball games, barbecue
Fourth of July Summerfest	Stuart O’Neill	July 4th 2nd weekend in July	Cruise night, fun run, digital dare Family celebrations highlighted by a rodeo, cruise night, car show, and more
Page Community Days	Page	July	Bingo, supper, kids games
Rodeo	Stuart	July	Rodeo
Hay Days	Atkinson	1st week in August	MSRA Rodeo, parade, events in the park, car & craft shows, free barbecue, dances, Children’s theatre presentation, mini bales from a miniature 1948 hay baler made each year as souvenirs (sold nationwide)
Holt County Fair and Rodeo	Chambers	Early August	Entertainment, open class and 4-H shows and displays, rodeo, ranch rodeo, pedal tractor pull, barbecue, horse show
Chambers Area Garage Sales	Chambers	Early August	Village-wide garage sales during the week of the Holt County Fair
Heritage Days	Stuart	September	Music at the museum, barbecue
Appreciation Supper	Stuart	November	Pancake meal by the Community Club
Christmas Town Celebration	Chambers	Early December	Business open houses, craft show, drawings, horse-drawn hay rack rides, Santa Clause, Business Riddles, and more

20 miles west; Goose Lake, 27 miles south; Fort Randall Reservoir and Casino, 50 miles north; and Calamus Dam, 75 miles southwest.

HOUSING

New Construction

There were 38 new houses constructed in Holt County during 2008 and 2009 and it is estimated 7 will be built by the end of 2010. The cost of new home construction average \$110 per square foot.

Holt County Housing Market (as of 8/10):

Number of Homes on the Market

Single Family - 42

Avg. Selling Prices (New and Existing)

Single Family Home \$71,300

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

Less than \$100,000	28
\$100,001—\$150,000	8
\$150,001—\$200,000	4
\$200,001—\$250,000	1
More than \$250,001	1

Rentals

Executive Style Home - 700 sq. ft. - 1,000 sq. ft.	\$500
Apartment - 2 bedroom	\$350
Apartment Vacancy Rate	3%

Low Cost and/or Retirement Housing

Elkhorn Meadows, built in Atkinson in 1980, consists of 20 units for the elderly and disabled.

Bauer Homes was completed in Ewing in 1982 and consists of eight units.

North Park Homes was completed in O'Neill in 1978 with an addition in 1990. This low-cost housing facility contains 2 units for the handicapped, 34 subsidized units, a community room, and 2 laundry rooms.

Shannon Apartments, with 16 units, was built in O'Neill in 1992 for the low income, elderly, or handicapped individuals.

Eastwood Apartments in O'Neill, with 16 low-income units, was built in 1982.

Kinkaid Village, an 18-unit apartment building built in 1999 in O'Neill, is income-based.

The **Page Development Corporation Duplex** consists of two single-story units built in 2003.

The **Stuart Village Manor** was built in 1978 and consists of ten units. The facility is close to Parkside Manor and one block from the city park. The private units have cable TV and a central laundry.

FINANCIAL

Financial institutions in Holt County:

- BankFirst
- Chambers State Bank
- Farm Credit Services
- Farmers State Bank
- Great Western Bank
- Pinnacle Bank
- Tri-County Bank



Tri-County State Bank - Stuart



Farmers State Bank - Ewing



BankFirst - O'Neill



Great Western Bank - O'Neill



Pinnacle Bank - O'Neill



Farm Credit Services
- O'Neill



Atkinson-Stuart Country Club



Summerland Golf Course/Clubhouse - Ewing



Stuart Raceway



Holt County Fairgrounds - Chambers

COMMUNITY SERVICES

PROFESSIONAL

Architects	1
Attorneys.....	10
Auctioneers	8
Certified Public Accountants	10
Chiropractors.....	4
Dentists	5
Engineering Firms.....	1
Medical Doctors (residing in O'Neill) —family practitioners	10
Medical Doctors (on hospital consulting staff) —cardiologists	3
—ear, nose & throat	4
—family practitioners	10
—general surgeons.....	2
—ophthalmologists	1
—orthopedic surgeons	3
—pathologists	2
—radiologists.....	7
—urologists.....	4
Nurse Anesthetists.....	4
Nurse Practitioners.....	4
Nurses, Registered	71
Optometrists	4
Pharmacists	7
Physician Assistants	8
Podiatrists.....	3
Veterinarians	9

BUSINESS AND COMMERCIAL

Accounting/Bookkeeping Agencies	12
Advertising Agencies	6
Agricultural Implement Dealers	18
Agricultural Sales and Service.....	14
Antique Shops.....	3
Apparel Stores—combination.....	7
—men's	1
Appliance Repair	1
Appliance Stores	5
Auto Repair & Service.....	43
Auto Supply Parts	15
Automobile Dealers (new & used)	9
Automobile Renting & Leasing	4
Aviation Seeding & Spraying	2
Bakeries.....	3
Banks	8

Banquet Facilities, Halls & Auditoriums	9
Beauty Salons & Barber Shops.....	19
Bed & Breakfasts	4
Building Suppliers	2
Camper Sales	1
Carpet & Rug Dealers.....	4
Car Washes.....	3
Caterers	8
Child Care Services.....	20
Computer Sales & Services	1
Contractors—building.....	8
—carpentry.....	26
—concrete	8
—electric	11
—excavating.....	4
—flooring	4
—general	8
—gravel.....	8
—heating & air conditioning.....	9
—painting.....	4
—plumbing.....	10
—remodeling & repairing	22
—roofing	15
—well digging.....	2
Convenience Stores.....	12
Copying & Duplicating Services	5
Craft Stores	6
Dance Studios	1
Discount Stores.....	3
Dry Cleaning & Laundries.....	1
Drug Stores	3
Electronics Stores.....	2
Farm/Ranch Supplies	4
Feedlots (commercial & private).....	4
Fertilizers	7
Floral Shops	6
Funeral Homes.....	3
Furniture Stores.....	2
Garbage Collectors.....	4
Gift Shops	11
Grain Dealers	7
Grocery Stores	9
Hardware Stores.....	6
Haying Services, Sales & Hauling.....	4
Health Clubs.....	3
Holiday Gift Shoppes.....	1
Hunting Services.....	4
Industrial Equipment & Supplies.....	6
Insurance Companies	18
Interior Decorators & Designers.....	1

Irrigation	3	
Jewelry Stores	1	
Kennels & Breeders	1	
Land Surveyors	1	
Landscaping Equipment & Supplies	5	
Laundries (self-service)	3	
Lawn Services	10	
Livestock Market	2	
Lumberyards	6	
Machine Shops	7	
Meat Lockers	2	
Motels	7	(191 rooms)
Nurseries & Garden Centers	6	
Office Machine Repairs	2	
Office Equipment Services & Supplies	2	
Photography Studios	5	
Preschools	8	
Printers	3	
Real Estate Firms	5	
Restaurants	33	
RV Parks	2	
Service Stations	15	
Sewing Services	1	
Shoe Stores	2	
Soda Fountain and Variety Shops	1	
Storage Services	4	
Taxidermists	1	
Television & Radio Repair Shops	3	
Theatres	1	
Thrift Shops	2	
Trailer Customizing	1	
Travel Agencies & Bureaus	1	
Truck Service & Repairs	9	
Trucking Services	16	
Upholstery Shops	3	
Variety Stores	4	
Welding Shops	10	



Elkhorn Meadows Independent Living
- Atkinson



Atkinson Senior Center



Bauer Homes - Ewing



Golden Age Senior Center - O'Neill



Country Clover Estates New Housing
Development - O'Neill



Eastwood Apartments - O'Neill

AGRICULTURE & RAW MATERIALS

AGRICULTURE

2007 Statistics	Holt County	State of Nebraska
Number of Farms	1,171	47,712
Land in Farms (acres)	1,532,629	45,480,358
Average Size of Farms (acres)	1,309	953
Market Value of Agricultural Products Sold	\$373,623,000	\$15,506,035,000
Market Value Per Farm	\$319,063	\$324,992
Total Acres Irrigated	339,080	8,558,559
Percent of Farmland Irrigated	22.1%	18.8%
Five-Year Average Production of Leading Crops (2005–2009)		
Hay Alfalfa (Dry)	72,982 tons	4,008,400 tons
All Wheat	701,520 bu.	71,900,000 bu.
Corn for Grain	29,136,240 bu.	1,377,890,000 bu.
Oats	140,625 bu.*	2,612,000 bu.
Soybeans	3,642,280 bu.	233,518,000 bu.
Five-Year Average Livestock Population (2006–2010)		
All Cattle	209,800	6,450,000

*4-year average

Holt County ranked in the top six counties in the number of all cattle during the last five years.

Source: National Agricultural Statistics Service, 2005–2010
2007 Census of Agriculture

RAW MATERIALS

Sand and gravel, nonmetallic minerals, are available in commercial quantities; however, metallic minerals are not found in Holt County.

Cedar, oak, and ash lumber are available in limited quantities.



Scenes from Holt County

CLIMATE

TEMPERATURE, PRECIPITATION, AND HUMIDITY

Month	AVERAGES						
	Temperature			Precipitation		Humidity*	
	Min.	Mean	Max.	Rain (Inches)	Snow (Inches)	Morning	Afternoon
January	9.9	20.9	32.0	0.47	4.6	76	65
February	13.6	24.8	36.0	0.61	5.6	79	65
March	22.7	34.6	46.6	1.42	7.4	80	62
April	35.1	48.0	60.9	2.50	2.6	79	52
May	46.5	59.2	72.0	3.34	0.1	80	53
June	56.5	69.1	81.6	3.74	0.0	82	55
July	62.0	75.4	88.8	2.86	0.0	84	56
August	60.0	73.4	86.8	2.57	0.0	86	58
September	49.9	63.7	77.5	2.20	0.0	83	54
October	37.7	51.4	65.3	1.49	0.8	79	52
November	24.1	35.7	47.3	0.90	4.1	80	60
December	13.9	24.6	35.3	0.58	5.3	79	66
Annual	36.0	48.4	60.8	22.68	30.6	81	58

*Recorded at Norfolk Weather Station

FROST DATA

Average date of spring freeze probability	May 7
Average date of fall freeze probability.....	September 28
Average length of freeze free season probability.....	147 days
Average number of heating degree days based on 65° Fahrenheit	6,939
Average number of cooling degree days based on 65° Fahrenheit.....	921
Wind speed in miles per hour (annual average).....	12
Prevailing wind direction (annual average)	South

Source: High Plains Regional Climate Center, University of Nebraska, 1893–2008, www.hprcc.unl.edu