

# COMMUNITY FACTS LEXINGTON, NEBRASKA

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SEPTEMBER 2005

## POPULATION (Official U.S. Census)

|               | <u>2000</u> | <u>2004 Est.</u> |
|---------------|-------------|------------------|
| Lexington     | 10,011      | 10,056           |
| Dawson County | 24,365      | 24,532           |
| Labor Market  | 128,038     | 128,973          |

Economic Development Department  
Nebraska Public Power District  
Columbus, Nebraska 68601  
[www.nppd.com](http://www.nppd.com)  
[sites.nppd.com](http://sites.nppd.com)

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## INTRODUCTION

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

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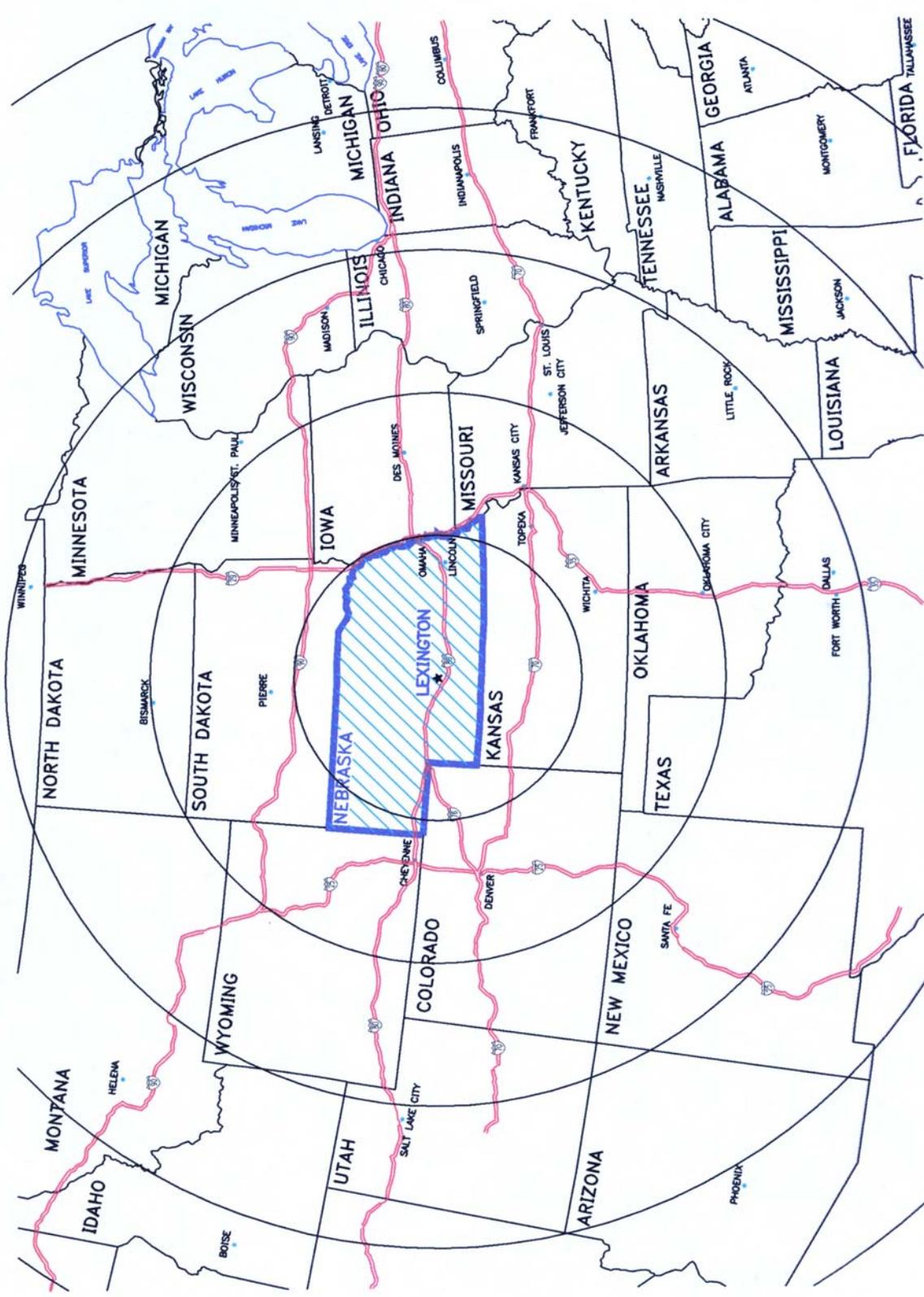
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SCALE: EACH CIRCLE REPRESENTS APPROXIMATELY 200 MILES



# GENERAL INFORMATION

## LOCATION

Lexington, the county seat of Dawson County, is located in south-central Nebraska in the Platte River Valley. Lexington is served by U.S. Highways 30 and 283 and State Highway 21; Interstate 80 is 1½ miles south of the city. Lexington is 41 miles west of Kearney, 64 miles southeast of North Platte, 222 miles west of Omaha, and 324 miles east of Denver.

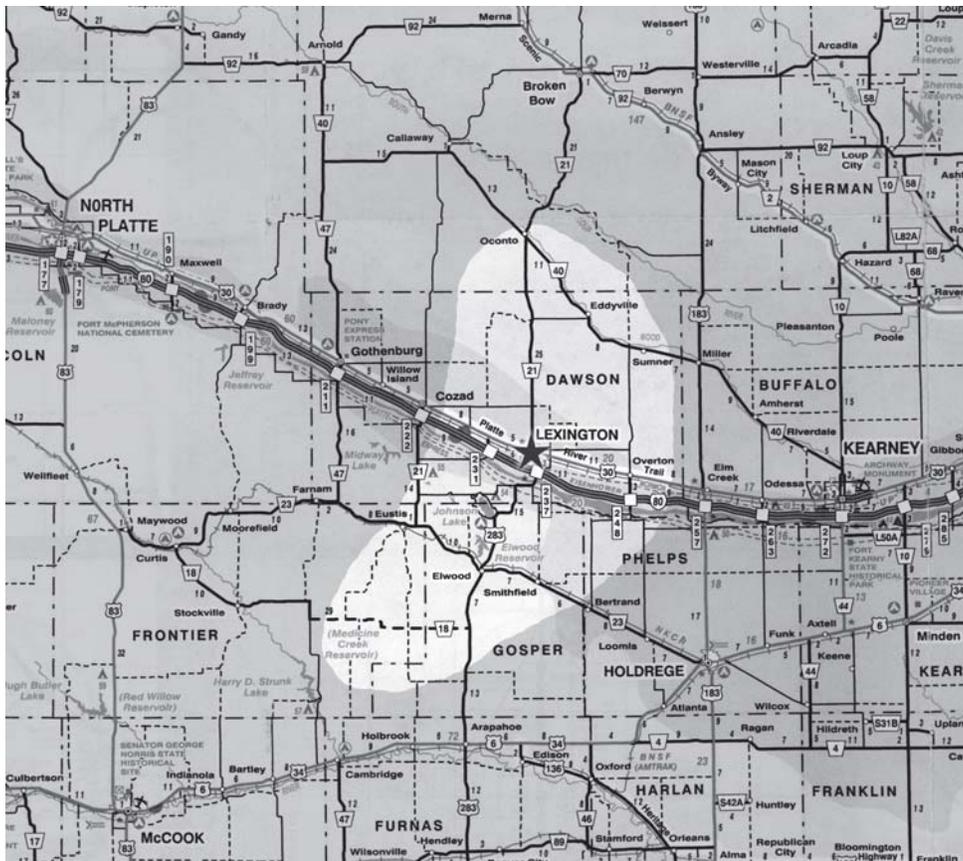
## POPULATION (U.S. Census)

| Year        | Lexington | Dawson County |
|-------------|-----------|---------------|
| 1970        | 5,656     | 19,771        |
| 1980        | 7,040     | 22,304        |
| 1990        | 6,587     | 19,940        |
| 2000        | 10,011    | 24,365        |
| 2004 (Est.) | 10,056    | 24,532        |

| Dawson County Population<br>by Race and Hispanic Origin,<br>2000 U.S. Census |        |
|--|--------|
| One race   | 23,992 |
| White  | 20,058 |
| Black or African American  | 76     |
| American Indian and Alaska Native  | 164    |
| Asian  | 161    |
| Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific<br>Islander                                | 3      |
| Some other race  | 3,530  |
| Two or more races  | 373    |
| Hispanic or Latino (of any race)   | 6,178  |

The 2004 U.S. Census estimates 128,973 people live within Dawson County and the contiguous counties of Buffalo, Custer, Frontier, Gosper, Lincoln, and Phelps.

There are 4,220 people in Lexington fluent in at least one other language, primarily Spanish.



Primary Retail Trade Area

## **LOCAL ECONOMY**

Basic economic activities of Lexington, a county seat town, include cattle feeding, irrigated farming and ranching, meat processing, manufacturing, and retailing. Tourism, enhanced by Interstate 80 and the adjacent recreation areas at Johnson Lake, contributes to Lexington's economic growth.

The primary retail trade area extends 13 miles east, 17 miles southeast, 34 miles southwest, 9 miles northwest, and 27 miles north and contains approximately 18,500 people. Retail firms in Lexington reported annual net taxable retail sales of \$111,397,267 in 2004, while Dawson County reported net taxable retail sales totaling \$192,242,775. The 15 wholesale firms in the community distribute electric fixtures and supplies, feed products, agricultural equipment, industrial supplies, building materials, and chemicals.

A 40-million gallon ethanol plant currently being constructed is scheduled to be completed in late 2005, creating 40 new jobs.

## **ELEVATION**

Lexington is 2,408 feet above sea level.

## **TOPOGRAPHY**

Lexington is located on a level terrain composed of deep, medium-textured soil developed on a well-drained and moderately wet terrace. The uplands on either side of the community are level to gently rolling to moderately rolling.

## **HISTORY**

Lexington began as an early frontier trading post in 1860 when the Daniel Freeman family settled along the Oregon Trail near the Platte River. The trading post prospered but not without problems. The Plum Creek Massacre took place August 7, 1864, in the bluffs near the town. These bluffs were regarded as one of the most dangerous areas on the way west. The Freemans were forced to

flee to Fort Kearny, and the trading post was destroyed. Fort Plum Creek was established near the ruins later that fall; a cemetery is all that remains near the historic site today.

It is estimated that during these early years more than a half-million Americans followed the nearby Oregon Trail until the completion of the Union Pacific Railroad. When the tracks had been laid, the Freemans moved north to the river and named the new town "Plum Creek," which was incorporated in 1874.

With the railroad came many new settlers to the area. Railroad workers and homesteaders came to farm the free land; many large ranches were established along the Platte River, and thousands of cattle roamed the free range. In 1889 the name was changed to Lexington in commemoration of the Battle of Lexington of the War of the Revolution.

The Union Pacific Railroad, the arrival of the Pennsylvania Colony, and the building of a bridge across the Platte River stimulated new settlements and made Lexington the center of activity. Lexington's first bank was established in 1881, and the first carload of hay was shipped out on December 3, 1885. The first public school was established in 1891.

"The Great American Desert," as the plains were named by the early pioneers, has become one of the top-ranking agricultural valleys in the United States due to irrigation from an extensive canal system constructed in the early 1900s and from underground pumping of water. The roaming herds of buffalo have now given way to even larger herds of feeder cattle, hogs, and some sheep.

As agriculture has prospered, so has Lexington. The growth in retail, medical, governmental, educational services, and manufacturing has made Lexington a trade center in the Platte River Valley.

Dawson County received the "All America City" award in 1993 and is the only county in Nebraska to hold that designation. Lexington was named the Governor's Showcase City in April 2004.

Today, markers direct the travelers to the area of the wagon train massacre, an early frontier-day cemetery, the Oregon Trail, freight train, and a stone monument marking the site of the August 7, 1864, Indian attack on section workers.

Stories of the “Olive Gang” have been recorded in books and films of the Old West and Ira Olive’s home can be seen in its original location in Lexington.



Downtown Lexington



Central Nebraska Truss Inc.



Designer Craft Woodworking



Eilers Machine & Welding Inc.

## ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

---

### MANUFACTURERS

| <u>Company/<br/>Year Established</u>        | <u>Product</u>                              | <u>Market</u>        | <u>Employees</u> |               | <u>Union</u> |
|---|---|----------------------|------------------|---------------|--------------|
|   |   |                      | <u>Male</u>      | <u>Female</u> |              |
| Central Nebraska Truss Inc.<br>1999         | Wood trusses                                | Regional             | 3                | 0             | None         |
| Cornhusker Energy<br>Lexington LLC*<br>2005 | Ethanol                                     | National             | 40 Total         |               | None         |
| Designer Craft Woodworking<br>1985          | Furniture                                   | National             | 24               | 5             | None         |
| Eilers Machine & Welding Inc.<br>1983       | Defense contract<br>precision metal work    | National             | 65 Total         |               | None         |
| Mac's Creek Vineyards &<br>Winery<br>2003   | Wines                                       | Regional             | 2                | 1             | None         |
| Nebraska By-Products, Inc.<br>1945          | Cured hides & pet foods                     | National             | 137              | 5             | None         |
| Orthman Manufacturing, Inc.<br>1960         | Farm implements                             | National &<br>Export | 110              | 5             | None         |
| Paulsen, Inc.<br>1946                       | Precast concrete<br>products & construction | Local                | 12               | 0             | None         |
| Tyson Fresh Foods<br>1990                   | Boxed beef & other<br>beef related products | National &<br>Export | 2,450 Total      |               | None         |
| Vettronix, Inc.<br>1967                     | Key caps & custom<br>keyboards              | National             | 4                | 21            | None         |

\*Anticipated production to begin in late 2005

### MAJOR NONMANUFACTURING EMPLOYERS (employing 20 or more)

| <u>Employer</u>   | <u>Type of Activity</u> | <u>Employees</u> |               | <u>Union</u> |
|-------------------|-------------------------|------------------|---------------|--------------|
|                   |                         | <u>Male</u>      | <u>Female</u> |              |
| City of Lexington | Government              | 40               | 40            | None         |
| Dawson County     | Government              | 85               | 90            | None         |

| <u>Employer</u>              | <u>Type of Activity</u> | <u>Employees</u> |               | <u>Union</u> |
|------------------------------|-------------------------|------------------|---------------|--------------|
|                              |                         | <u>Male</u>      | <u>Female</u> |              |
| Dawson Public Power District | Electric utility        | 62               | 22            | None         |
| KRVN Radio                   | Communications          | 25               | 12            | None         |
| Lexington Public Schools     | Education               | 88               | 265           | NSEA         |
| Plum Creek Care Center       | Nursing home            | 5                | 66            | None         |
| Plum Creek Medical Group     | Medical                 | 8                | 46            | None         |
| State of Nebraska            | Government              | 8                | 26            | NAPE         |
| Tri-County Hospital          | Medical                 | 17               | 175           | None         |

**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> |
|-----------------------------|---------------------------------|------------------|---------------|--------------|
|                             |                                 | <u>Male</u>      | <u>Female</u> |              |
| <b>Cozad, 19 miles</b>      |                                 |                  |               |              |
| Cozad City Schools          | Education                       | 38               | 97            | NSEA         |
| Nebraska Plastics, Inc.     | Vinyl manufacturing             | 111              | 42            | None         |
| Paulsen, Inc.               | Construction & precast concrete | 245              | 23            | None         |
| Tenneco Automotive          | Shock absorbers                 | 455              | 281           | None         |
| <b>Gothenburg, 29 miles</b> |                                 |                  |               |              |
| Baldwin Filters             | Air filters for motor vehicles  | 165 Total        |               | None         |
| <b>Kearney, 40 miles</b>    |                                 |                  |               |              |
| Balwin Filters              | Oil, air & fuel filters         | 417              | 316           | None         |
| Bob's Superstore            | Grocery                         | 18<br>39*        | 25<br>38*     | None         |
| The Buckle                  | Retail clothing                 | 75               | 239           | None         |
| Builders How-To Warehouse   | Building supplies               | 65<br>25*        | 15<br>15*     | None         |
| Cabela's Inc.               | Catalog sales                   | 28<br>103*       | 170<br>368*   | None         |

\*Part-time and/or seasonal



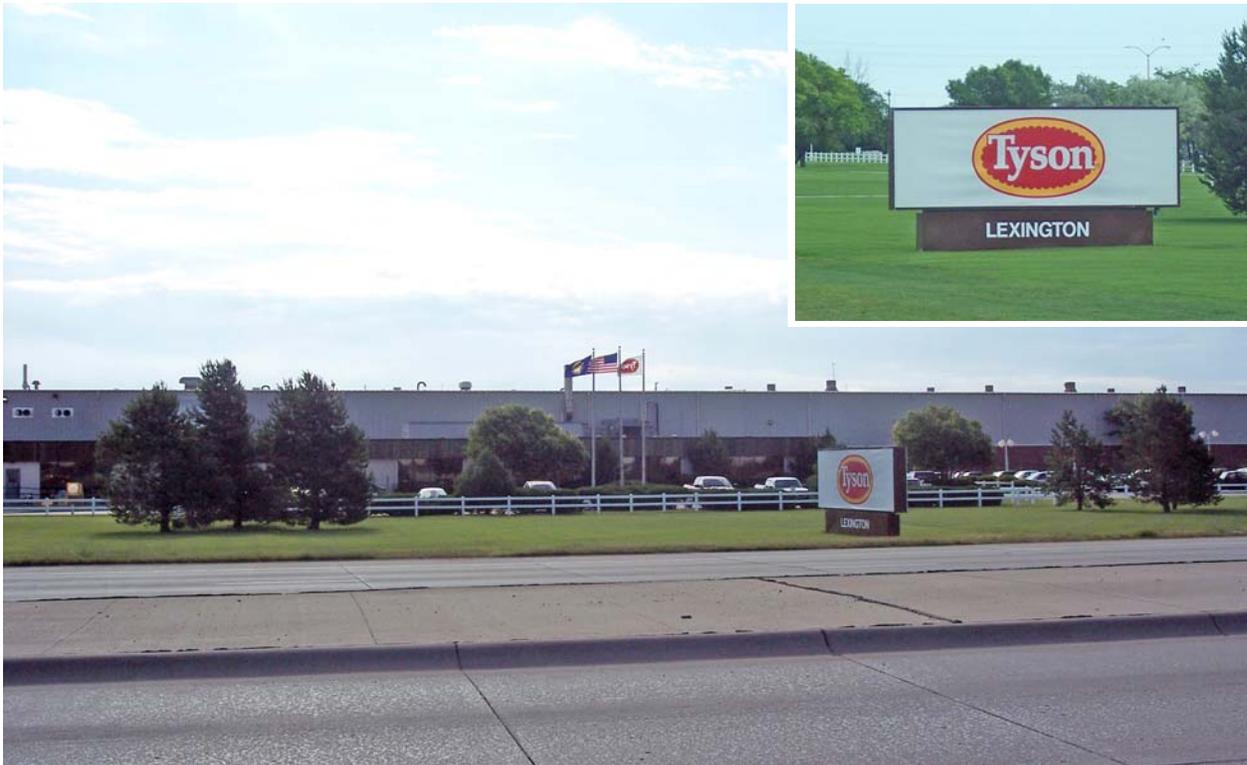
Mac's Creek Vineyards & Winery



Nebraska By-Products, Inc.



Orthman Manufacturing, Inc.



Tyson Fresh Foods

| <u>Employer</u>                                    | <u>Type of Activity</u>                           | <u>Employees</u>        |               | <u>Union</u> |
|--|---|-------------------------|---------------|--------------|
|  |   | <u>Male</u>             | <u>Female</u> |              |
| Cash-Wa Distributing                               | Food distribution                                 | 176<br>9*               | 31<br>11*     | None         |
| Chief Industries, Inc.<br>Agri/Industrial Division | Grain drying equipment,<br>correctional equipment | 130<br>3*               | 22            | None         |
| City of Kearney                                    | Government  | 173<br>9*               | 38<br>18*     | None         |
| Coleman Powermate                                  | Generators  | 226<br>1*               | 105<br>2*     | None         |
| County of Buffalo                                  | Government  | 98<br>14*               | 80<br>11*     | None         |
| Eaton Corp.  | Automotive valves &<br>forged gears               | 520                     | 180           | None         |
| Good Samaritan Health Systems                      | Medical   | 910 Total<br>468 Total* |               | None         |
| Herberger's  | Retail  | 7<br>18*                | 30<br>79*     | None         |
| Holiday Inn  | Lodging/dining                                    | 33<br>46*               | 18<br>62*     | None         |
| Kearney Clinic                                     | Medical   | 19                      | 101<br>34*    | None         |
| Kearney Event Center                               | Entertainment                                     | 7<br>51*                | 2<br>46*      | None         |
| Kearney Family YMCA                                | Health club/daycare                               | 7<br>34*                | 15<br>96*     | None         |
| Kearney Public Schools                             | Education   | 116<br>57*              | 382<br>187*   | KEA          |
| Marshall Engine, Inc.                              | Rebuilt engines                                   | 152<br>1*               | 22<br>1*      | None         |
| Mid Nebraska Community Action                      | Community services                                | 22<br>11*               | 52<br>33*     | None         |
| Morris Publishing Group                            | Cookbooks, printing                               | 80<br>3*                | 130<br>18*    | None         |

\*Part-time and/or seasonal

| <b><u>Employer</u></b>                     | <b><u>Type of Activity</u></b>        | <b>Employees</b>   |                      | <b><u>Union</u></b> |
|--|---------------------------------------|--------------------|----------------------|---------------------|
|  |                                       | <b><u>Male</u></b> | <b><u>Female</u></b> |                     |
| Nebraska Public Power District             | Electric utility                      | 81                 | 19                   | None                |
| Platte Valley Medical Group                | Medical                               | 15                 | 77<br>24*            | None                |
| Platte Valley State Bank                   | Financial                             | 28<br>3*           | 62<br>14*            | None                |
| St. John's Good Samaritan Center           | Care home                             | 8<br>1*            | 76<br>40*            | None                |
| University of Nebraska at Kearney          | Education                             | 328<br>259*        | 336<br>557*          | NSEA                |
| Wal-Mart                                   | Retail, discount                      | 171<br>69*         | 230<br>81*           | None                |
| West Company                               | Pharmaceutical<br>stoppers & closures | 143                | 88<br>1*             | None                |
| Youth Rehabilitation &<br>Treatment Center | Education                             | 103<br>10*         | 38<br>10*            | SCATA               |

\*Part-time and/or seasonal

## **ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ORGANIZATIONS**

The city of Lexington and Dawson Area Development work together for economic development in the community, with cooperation from the Lexington Chamber of Commerce, the Greater Lexington Corporation, and the Council for Economic Development.

The Lexington City Manager, Mayor, and Council are the lead group in the community's economic development program. The city owns the land in Lexington's second industrial park.

The Greater Lexington Corporation is a profit corporation comprised of 10 stockholders with an authorized capitalization of \$29,000. Assets include lots in Lexington's first industrial addition, other real estate property, and monetary assets.

The Council for Economic Development is a nonprofit organization comprised of 35 members

assisting with economic development. Funding is derived from annual dues.

The city of Lexington purchased a 145-acre tract of land served by rail for a second industrial park. Triple S Trucking began business in 2001 and expanded adding employees and trailers. Orthman Manufacturing has expanded twice, including purchasing a company from Kansas and moving it to Lexington in 2005. Cornhusker Energy Lexington LLC, an ethanol plant, is expected to be operational in late 2005 and will employ 40 people.

Approximately 110 acres of land in and adjacent to Lexington are zoned for industry. The price of industrially zoned land ranges from \$5,000 to \$6,000 per acre.

## **INDUSTRIAL SITES AVAILABLE**

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

# LABOR

## LABOR SUPPLY

- A. Employment in the Lexington labor market, which is defined as the whole of Dawson County and the total consisting of Dawson County and the contiguous counties of Buffalo, Custer, Frontier, Gosper, Lincoln, and Phelps counties in Nebraska (12-month average July 2004 through June 2005):

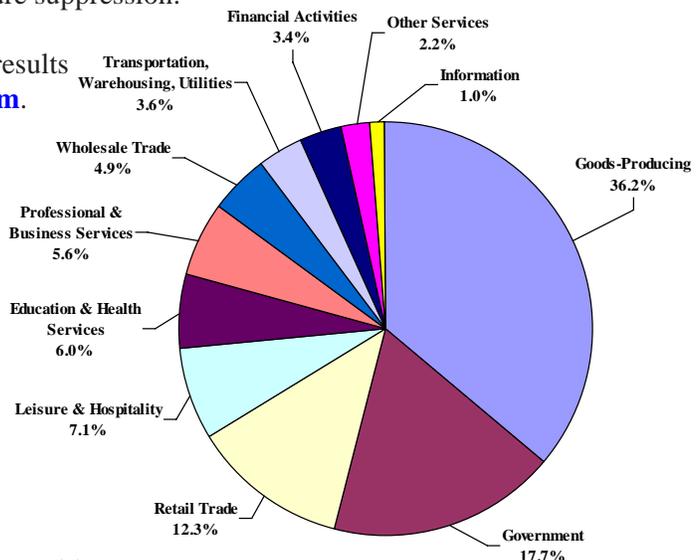
| <u>Nonfarm Employment</u> (wage and salary workers)  | <u>Dawson<br/>County</u> | <u>Total</u> |
|--|--------------------------|--------------|
| Goods-Producing (Mfg., Nat. Res. & Const.)   | 4,099                    | 12,199       |
| Trade, Transportation, Warehousing & Utilities   | 2,349                    | 15,151       |
| Wholesale Trade  | 555                      | (D)          |
| Retail Trade   | 1,390                    | (D)          |
| Transportation, Warehousing & Utilities  | 404                      | (D)          |
| Information  | 115                      | (D)          |
| Financial Activities   | 391                      | (D)          |
| Professional & Business Services   | 630                      | (D)          |
| Educational & Health Services  | 680                      | (D)          |
| Leisure & Hospitality  | 810                      | (D)          |
| Other Services   | 254                      | (D)          |
| Government   | 2,009                    | 11,443       |
| TOTAL NONFARM WAGE AND SALARY WORKERS  | 11,338                   | 62,622       |
| Farm Employment*   | 1,107                    | 6,580        |
| TOTAL EMPLOYMENT   | 11,899                   | 72,359       |
| B. Commuting Out of County   | 1,176                    | N/A          |
| C. Unemployment  | 559                      | 2,559        |
| TOTAL LABOR FORCE  | 12,458                   | 74,918       |
| D. Estimated number of homemakers, seasonal and part-time workers,<br>and workers who would shift from low-paying jobs who could be<br>expected to work for industry | 4,573                    |              |
| E. Estimated number of county high school graduates annually   | 316                      |              |
| TOTAL POTENTIAL LABOR SUPPLY (B, C, D & E)   | 6,624                    |              |

\*Source: U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of Economic Analysis (BEA), Data for 2002 (D) - Data not available due to disclosure suppression.

A labor study was completed in 2004; results are available at [www.i80nebraska.com](http://www.i80nebraska.com).

Lexington is willing to conduct a labor survey for a prospective business.

**NONFARM WAGE & SALARY EMPLOYMENT  
DAWSON COUNTY  
12-MONTH AVERAGE  
JULY 2004 THROUGH JUNE 2005**



| Location   | 2000 POPULATION DATA |                 |            |                                  |                               | Median Household Effective Buying Income (2003) |
|------------|----------------------|-----------------|------------|----------------------------------|-------------------------------|---|
|            | Density/Sq. Mile     | % 65 Yrs & Over | Median Age | % High School Graduate or Higher | % Bachelor's Degree or Higher |   |
| Dawson Co. | 24.1                 | 14.1            | 34.3       | 73.6                             | 14.4                          | \$32,266  |
| Nebraska   | 22.3                 | 13.6            | 35.3       | 86.6                             | 23.7                          | \$35,948  |
| U.S.       | 79.6                 | 12.4            | 35.9       | 84.0                             | 26.0                          | \$38,201  |

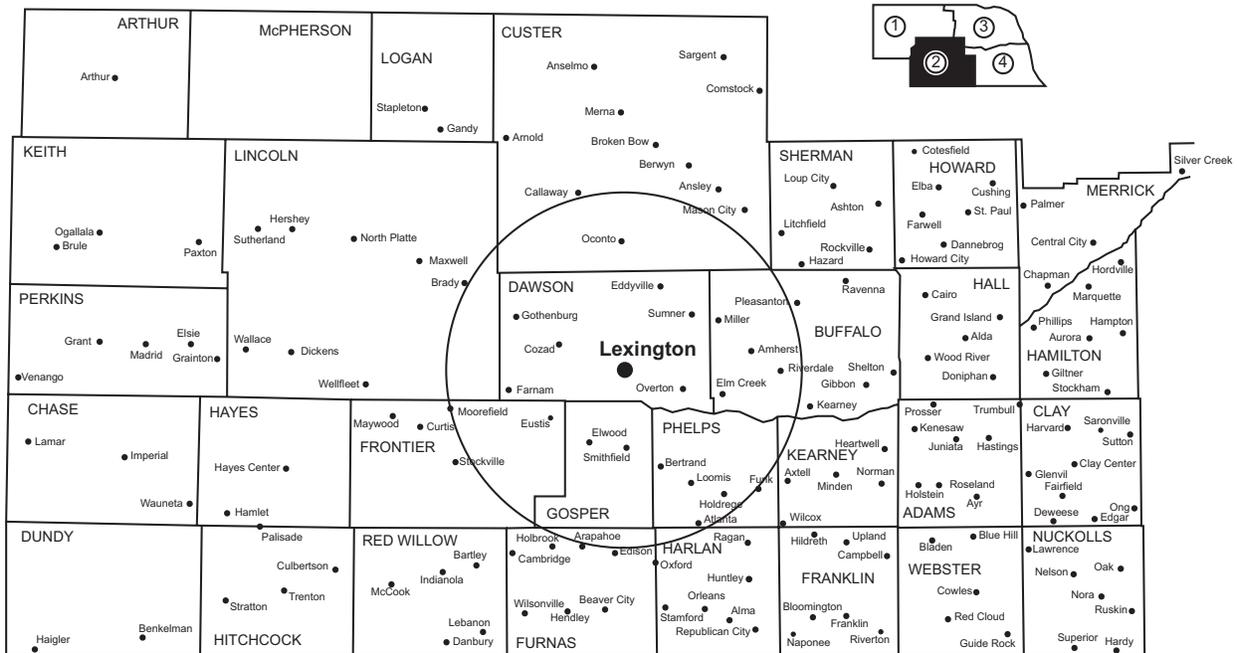
Dawson County had 13,235 eligible voters in 2004; 66.5 percent voted in the national election compared to 68.3 percent in Nebraska.

Source: U.S. Census, [www.census.gov](http://www.census.gov)

Sales and Marketing Management, September 2004

Statewide General Election 2004 Results, [www.sos.state.ne.us/elec/canvass/general2004/General2004.htm](http://www.sos.state.ne.us/elec/canvass/general2004/General2004.htm)

### LABOR POTENTIAL IN THE LEXINGTON AREA



### POPULATION DATA U.S. Census Estimates

| 2004 Estimate     |          |
|-------------------|----------|
| City of Lexington | — 10,056 |
| Dawson County     | — 24,532 |
| 30-Mile Radius    | — 44,977 |

| Dawson County Population<br>by Age/Gender, 2003 |       |        |
|---|-------|--------|
| Ages  | Male  | Female |
| 18-24   | 1,230 | 1,027  |
| 25-44   | 3,248 | 2,983  |
| 45-64   | 2,946 | 2,739  |

## UNIONIZATION

Nebraska has a right-to-work provision in its constitution. In 2000, 13.1 percent of Nebraska's manufacturing workers were members of labor unions, compared to a national figure of 14.8 percent. Union membership in Nebraska is concentrated in the railroad and packinghouse industries.

Labor organizations operating in the Lexington:

| Company                  | Union                                |
|--------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Kinder Morgan            | Communications Workers of America    |
| Lexington Public Schools | Nebraska State Education Association |
| Qwest                    | Communications Workers of America    |
| State of Nebraska        | NE Association of Public Employees   |
| Union Pacific Railroad   | Standard Railroad Unions             |

Three percent of the total nonagricultural labor force in Lexington is unionized. There have been no known strikes.

## WAGES

| Occupation Title                              | Hourly Wage (\$)/Percentile |       |       |
|---|-----------------------------|-------|-------|
|   | 10th                        | 50th  | 90th  |
| <b>Professional</b>                           |                             |       |       |
| Accountants & Auditors                        | 14.88                       | 24.11 | 42.07 |
| Engineers                                     |                             |       |       |
| Civil Engineers                               | 18.61                       | 25.15 | 33.11 |
| Electrical Engineers                          | 23.51                       | 36.17 | 47.79 |
| Industrial Engineers*                         | 18.86                       | 27.66 | 45.10 |
| Mechanical Engineers*                         | 19.79                       | 27.19 | 41.36 |
| Computer Programmers*                         | 12.20                       | 20.85 | 30.02 |
| Computer Systems Analysts                     | 15.03                       | 17.66 | 35.20 |
| Registered Nurses                             | 15.61                       | 21.20 | 27.07 |
| <b>Retail</b>                                 |                             |       |       |
| Hotel, Motel & Resort Desk Clerks             | 5.83                        | 7.70  | 9.63  |
| Retail Salespersons                           | 6.03                        | 8.19  | 15.23 |
| Truck Drivers-Light or Delivery Services      | 6.23                        | 8.63  | 18.08 |
| Driver/Sales Workers                          | 5.67                        | 7.88  | 21.26 |
| Stock Clerks & Order Fillers                  | 6.25                        | 10.13 | 15.50 |
| Shipping, Receiving & Traffic Clerks          | 6.23                        | 9.28  | 13.09 |
| <b>Clerical</b>                               |                             |       |       |
| Bookkeeping, Accounting & Auditing Clerks     | 6.94                        | 10.50 | 16.72 |
| Customer Service Representatives              | 7.13                        | 10.45 | 15.27 |
| Data Entry Keyers                             | 6.56                        | 9.53  | 13.58 |
| Secretaries, excl. Legal, Medical & Executive | 7.42                        | 10.19 | 13.13 |
| Office Clerks, General                        | 6.14                        | 8.69  | 12.14 |

\*Wage information taken from Balance of the State (nonmetropolitan areas)

| <b>Occupation Title</b>                             | <b>Hourly Wage (\$)/Percentile</b> |             |             |
|---|------------------------------------|-------------|-------------|
|   | <b>10th</b>                        | <b>50th</b> | <b>90th</b> |
| Receptionists & Information Clerks                  | 6.68                               | 9.99        | 12.66       |
| Telemarketers                                       | 5.56                               | 6.66        | 9.92        |
| <b>Unskilled</b>                                    |                                    |             |             |
| Laborers & Freight, Stock & Material Movers, Hand   | 6.25                               | 8.47        | 13.80       |
| Packers & Packagers, Hand                           | 5.82                               | 7.33        | 13.08       |
| Assemblers & Fabricators, All Others*               | 7.54                               | 10.71       | 13.78       |
| Nursing Aides, Orderlies & Attendants               | 7.09                               | 8.34        | 10.76       |
| <b>Semi-Skilled</b>                                 |                                    |             |             |
| Industrial Truck & Tractor Operators                | 8.95                               | 11.97       | 13.98       |
| Truck Drivers, Heavy or Tractor-Trailer             | 7.56                               | 11.34       | 16.73       |
| Maintenance Workers, Machinery*                     | 9.53                               | 13.54       | 18.58       |
| Machine Operators                                   |                                    |             |             |
| Lathe & Turning Machine Tool Setters/Oper.*         | 9.84                               | 12.85       | 17.12       |
| Drilling & Boring Machine Tool Setters/Oper.*       | 9.63                               | 11.72       | 16.76       |
| Milling & Planing Machine Setters/Oper.*            | 9.45                               | 12.44       | 15.82       |
| Grinding, Lapping, Polishing & Buffing Mach. Oper.* | 9.33                               | 12.26       | 15.78       |
| Cutting & Slicing Machine Setters/Oper.*            | 8.06                               | 10.12       | 13.80       |
| Cutting, Punching & Press Machine Setters/Oper.*    | 8.68                               | 12.19       | 16.79       |
| Multiple Machine Tool Setters/Oper.*                | 10.85                              | 14.34       | 16.94       |
| <b>Skilled</b>                                      |                                    |             |             |
| Automotive Service Technicians & Mechanics          | 8.74                               | 12.95       | 22.24       |
| Electricians  | 9.76                               | 16.49       | 32.22       |
| Industrial Machinery Mechanics                      | 14.42                              | 19.09       | 26.53       |
| Machinists  | 9.32                               | 10.42       | 13.08       |
| Tool & Die Makers*                                  | 11.70                              | 17.76       | 22.90       |
| Welders, Cutters, Solderers & Brazers               | 8.97                               | 11.41       | 18.25       |
| Welding, Soldering & Brazing Machine Setters*       | 9.91                               | 12.99       | 17.68       |
| <b>Technical</b>                                    |                                    |             |             |
| Electrical & Electronic Engineering Technicians     | 12.89                              | 20.30       | 27.79       |
| Medical & Clinical Laboratory Technologists         | 12.65                              | 21.99       | 27.08       |
| Computer Operators                                  | 8.92                               | 11.68       | 15.88       |

\*Wage information taken from Balance of the State (nonmetropolitan areas)

Source: Nebraska Workforce Development, Occupational Employment Statistics Program, First Quarter 2005 wage estimates, All Industries, Mid Plains Region, [www.dol.state.ne.us/lmiwages/toc000.htm](http://www.dol.state.ne.us/lmiwages/toc000.htm)

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

## **FRINGE BENEFITS**

Local industries estimate fringe benefits to range from 20 to 30 percent of wages.

# TRANSPORTATION

## RAILROADS

Lexington is served by a main line of the Union Pacific Railroad with 200 freight trains daily. Switching is done by train crews as needed.

For further information regarding Union Pacific Railroad, contact Cheryl Schow, (308) 239-2427 or (308) 289-1911, or visit [www.uprr.com/customers/ind-dev](http://www.uprr.com/customers/ind-dev).

Amtrak provides Holdrege, 41 miles southeast of Lexington, with rail passenger service east to Chicago and west to Denver and San Francisco/Oakland. The Superliner features a lounge car, coach and first-class accommodations, dining car service, and checked baggage service from most cities. Travel time from Holdrege to Chicago is 14 hours and to the West Coast is 40 hours. Amtrak has one train each way daily.

## MOTOR

### Highways

U.S. Highways 30 (east-west) and 283 (north-south) and State Highway 21 (north) serve Lexington. There are no local load restrictions. Interstate 80 (east-west) is one and one-half miles south and Interstate 70 (east-west) is 161 miles south of Lexington.

Highway mileage to major cities:

| Destination   | Mileage |
|---------------|---------|
| Lincoln       | 169     |
| Omaha         | 222     |
| Chicago       | 687     |
| Dallas        | 693     |
| Denver        | 324     |
| Detroit       | 954     |
| Kansas City   | 358     |
| Los Angeles   | 1,339   |
| Minneapolis   | 597     |
| New York      | 1,462   |
| St. Louis     | 611     |
| San Francisco | 1,454   |

The state's 10-year plan includes the upgrade of the Highway 283 viaduct over Union Pacific Railroad to a four-lane structure.

### Trucklines

Intrastate and interstate trucklines serving Lexington:

| Nearest Terminal/Company    | Trucks |
|-----------------------------|--------|
| <b>Lexington</b>            |        |
| Justa Trucking, Inc.        | 20     |
| MRK, Inc.                   | 15     |
| Triple S Trucking           | 40     |
| <b>Kearney</b>              |        |
| Brown Transfer Company      | 2      |
| Yellow Freight System, Inc. | 1      |

### Bus Lines

Burlington Trailways and Black Hills Stage Lines serve Lexington with two eastbound and two westbound buses daily. Bus parcel service is provided.

The Dawson County Handy Bus provides transportation for senior citizens by reservation.

### Taxi

Taxi Specialties serves the community with two cabs.

## AIR

The Lexington Municipal Airport has a 5,500 foot hard-surfaced runway and a 3,200 foot turf runway; both are lighted. Other facilities include 100 octane aviation fuel, jet fuel, medium intensity runway lights, rotating beacon, tetrahedron, wind sock, major and minor repairs, hangars, and tie-downs. Twenty-five private planes are hangared there. The elevation is 2,413 feet, the latitude is 40°47.6'N, and the longitude is 99°46.64'W.

Scheduled air service is available at the Kearney Municipal Airport, located 40 miles (40 minutes) east, and the North Platte Regional Airport, 64 miles (60 minutes) northwest of Lexington.

| <b>Airline</b>       | <b>Flights Daily</b> | <b>Destination</b> |
|----------------------|----------------------|--------------------|
| <b>Kearney</b>       |                      |                    |
| Great Lakes Aviation | 4                    | Denver             |
| <b>North Platte</b>  |                      |                    |
| Great Lakes Aviation | 3                    | Denver             |

The Kearney Municipal Airport has two hard-surfaced and lighted runways—7,094 feet and 4,498 feet. The airport provides passenger, air freight, and air express services. Public ground transportation is available via rental cars, motel shuttles, and taxi. Facilities include pilots lounge, aircraft maintenance and repair, refueling, pilot training, charter, air ambulance,

agriculture crop spraying, hangar storage, tie down, and other services. The elevation at the airport is 2,131 feet, the latitude is 40°43.62'N, and the longitude is 99°00.41'W.

The North Platte Regional Airport has two hard-surfaced and lighted runways—4,436 feet and 8,000 feet. Other services include fuel and line service, instruction, charter service, repairs, weather on field, hangar and office rentals, meeting facility rental, restaurant, lounge, free vehicle parking, rental car, and taxi. The elevation at the airport is 2,779 feet, the latitude is 41°07.57'N, and the longitude is 100°41.02'W.

## **WATER**

Lexington has no nearby water transportation.



Lexington Municipal Airport

# UTILITIES

## ELECTRICITY

The Lexington Utilities System operates a municipally owned electric distribution system consisting of 34,500-volt transmission lines, 2,400-volt distribution lines, and 13.8/7,970-volt distribution lines. The distribution system incorporates eight distribution transformers and five substations having a combined capacity of 81,300 kVA.

Nebraska Public Power District (NPPD) supplies the city with all of its power requirements. Maximum daily demand available from NPPD is 62,000 kVA. The city's maximum daily peak demand for the 2004 fiscal year was 30,677 kVA. The Lexington system is connected to NPPD's statewide grid system of 115,000-volt transmission lines and can be energized from the east and from the south.

### BASE ELECTRIC RATES—CITY OF LEXINGTON (effective 1/1/05)

Summer rates effective May–September.  
Winter rates effective October–April.

All rates are subject to application of a Production Cost Adjustment

#### Residential - Basic:

|                      |               |  |
|----------------------|---------------|--|
| <b>Summer</b>        | <b>Winter</b> |  |
| \$0.1372             | \$0.1337      | per kWh for the first 100 kWh used per month |
| \$0.0988             | \$0.0830      | per kWh for the next 400 kWh used per month  |
| \$0.0537             | \$0.0367      | per kWh for all additional use               |
| <b>Minimum Bill:</b> |               | \$6.40 per month                             |

#### Residential - All Electric:

|                      |               |  |
|----------------------|---------------|--|
| <b>Summer</b>        | <b>Winter</b> |  |
| \$0.1313             | \$0.1343      | per kWh for the first 100 kWh used per month |
| \$0.0988             | \$0.0799      | per kWh for the next 400 kWh used per month  |
| \$0.0537             | \$0.0339      | per kWh for all additional use               |
| <b>Minimum Bill:</b> |               | \$6.40 per month                             |

#### Commercial - Small:

|                      |               |  |
|----------------------|---------------|--|
| <b>Summer</b>        | <b>Winter</b> |  |
| \$0.1803             | \$0.1715      | per kWh for the first 100 kWh used per month       |
| \$0.1100             | \$0.1045      | per kWh for the next 400 kWh used per month        |
| \$0.1038             | \$0.0987      | per kWh for the next 500 kWh used per month        |
| \$0.0592             | \$0.0563      | per kWh for all additional use                     |
| <b>Minimum Bill:</b> |               | Summer \$6.40 per month<br>Winter \$6.70 per month |

#### Commercial - Heat:

|                      |               |   |
|----------------------|---------------|---|
| <b>Summer</b>        | <b>Winter</b> |   |
| \$0.1643             | \$0.1316      | per kWh for the first 500 kWh used per month        |
| \$0.1001             | \$0.0693      | per kWh for the next 500 kWh used per month         |
| \$0.0963             | \$0.0423      | per kWh for the next 4,000 kWh used per month       |
| \$0.0569             | \$0.0346      | per kWh for all additional use                      |
| <b>Minimum Bill:</b> |               | Summer \$6.40 per month<br>Winter \$17.90 per month |

#### Commercial - Large:

|  |                   |               |
|--|-------------------|---------------|
| <b>Base Charge:</b>  | \$15.50 per month |               |
|  | <b>Summer</b>     | <b>Winter</b> |
| <b>Demand Charge per kW</b>  | \$10.27           | \$9.79        |
| <b>Energy Charge per kWh</b>   | \$ 0.0322         | \$0.0304      |
| <b>Minimum Bill:</b> \$9.97 per kW for 65 percent of highest demand during the summer period, but not less than \$60 per month |                   |               |

#### Sample Cost per kWh:

|           |            | <b>Customer Billed</b> |
|-----------|------------|------------------------|
| <b>kW</b> | <b>kWh</b> | <b>¢/kWh</b>           |
| 100       | 30,000     | 6.45                   |
| 100       | 36,000     | 5.89                   |
| 300       | 90,000     | 6.45                   |
| 300       | 150,000    | 5.11                   |
| 500       | 150,000    | 6.45                   |
| 500       | 180,000    | 5.89                   |

**Industrial (Non-Interruptible):**

|  | Summer    | Winter    |
|--|-----------|-----------|
| <b>Base Charge per month</b>   | \$45.00   | \$43.70   |
| <b>Demand Charge per kW</b>  | \$ 9.34   | \$ 8.71   |
| <b>Energy Charge per kWh</b>   | \$ 0.0311 | \$ 0.0280 |
| <b>Minimum Bill:</b> \$9.97 per kW for 65 percent of highest demand during the summer period, but not less than \$60 per month |           |           |

**High Tension Service:**

|  | Summer          | Winter           |
|--|-----------------|------------------|
| <b>Demand Charges</b> (Base Rate charge per kW of billing demand): | \$13.50         | \$10.40          |
| <b>Energy Charges</b> (Base Rate charge per kWh):                  |                 |                  |
|  | <b>On-Peak*</b> | <b>Off-Peak*</b> |
| <b>Season</b>  |                 |                  |
| Summer   | \$0.0300        | \$0.0229         |
| Winter   | \$0.0154        | \$0.0117         |
| <b>Minimum Bill:</b> No minimum bill has been set                  |                 |                  |

\*Assumed 50% of all energy is on-peak in the winter and 45% of all energy is on-peak in the summer

Power factor penalty applies for a power factor less than 90 percent.

**Sample Cost per kWh:**

| kW    | kWh     | Customer Billed ¢/kWh |
|-------|---------|-----------------------|
| 150   | 30,000  | 9.36                  |
| 150   | 100,000 | 4.63                  |
| 500   | 100,000 | 9.36                  |
| 500   | 300,000 | 4.86                  |
| 1,000 | 200,000 | 9.36                  |
| 1,000 | 650,000 | 4.69                  |

Prospective customers should contact Joe Peplitsch, city manager, Lexington Utilities System, (308) 324-2341, [www.cityoflex.com](http://www.cityoflex.com), for further information regarding electric rates and service.

Dawson Public Power District, a wholesale power customer of Nebraska Public Power District, serves the rural area surrounding Lexington. For information regarding electrical services in the Dawson Public Power District service area, contact Robert Heinz, general manager, Lexington, Nebraska, (308) 324-2386, [heinz@dawsonpower.com](mailto:heinz@dawsonpower.com), or visit [www.dawsonpower.com](http://www.dawsonpower.com).

**NATURAL GAS**

Natural gas is supplied to Lexington by Kinder Morgan, Inc. through 4-inch and 10-inch transmission pipelines with an operating pressure of approximately 700 pounds per square inch.

Kinder Morgan is also the distributor of natural gas within the community, serving approximately 2,100 residential, commercial, and industrial customers.

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

**OTHER FUELS**

**LP Gas**

LP Gas is available for residential, commercial, and industrial uses at All-Points Cooperative in Lexington, Cozad, and Gothenburg.

**Oil**

Oil is available for residential, commercial, and industrial uses at All-Points Cooperative and Bernston Oil.

## WATER

The Lexington municipal water system consists of 37.5 miles of 4-inch to 16-inch mains and water is supplied by 15 wells that range from 50 to 380 feet in depth. The system, serving 99 percent of the community's population, has a combined pumping capacity of 8,240 gallons per minute and an overhead storage capacity of 1,400,000 gallons. The average daily demand is 4,589,898 gallons, and the 2004 fiscal year peak daily demand was 7,922,500 gallons. The system has a maximum capacity of approximately 13,265,600 gallons per day. The static pressure is 60 pounds per square inch and the residual pressure is 55 pounds per square inch.

Groundwater is available for industrial use. A 250-foot well will produce approximately 1,000 gallons of water per minute. The water quality in Lexington is good and does not require a water treatment plant. The water table has dropped by a seasonal maximum of approximately two feet in the past five years.

The turbidity and color of water are clear, and the hardness, in parts per million, is 184. The tap water temperature varies from 45° in the winter to 55° in the summer.

### Chemical Analysis (milligrams per liter)

|                            |         |
|----------------------------|---------|
| Hydrogen Ion Concentration | N/A     |
| Calcium                    | 61      |
| Total Solids               | 308     |
| Magnesium                  | 0.05    |
| Iron                       | 0.1     |
| Nitrate                    | 0.2     |
| Manganese                  | 0.05    |
| Chloride                   | 14      |
| Fluoride                   | 0.61    |
| Sulfate                    | 68      |
| Total Alkalinity           | 172     |
| Sodium                     | 19      |
| Total Hardness             | 184 ppm |
| Potassium                  | 9 ppm   |

N/A - Not available

ppm - parts per million

## WATER RATES (effective 3/1/05)

Water connection fees for new service are based on actual time and material.

### Residential Flat Rate:

\$15.00 per dwelling unit per month

### Residential & Commercial Metered:

|                      |                       |
|----------------------|-----------------------|
| First 5,000 gal.     | \$9.50                |
| Over 5,000 gal.      | \$0.70 per 1,000 gal. |
| <b>Minimum Bill:</b> | \$9.50 per month      |

### Multi-Family Service Fee:

\$4.75 per dwelling unit, with more than one dwelling unit served by a single meter

### Industrial Metered:

\$0.1846 per 1,000 gallons

Two new wells were put on-line in July 2003 serving south Lexington to the Interstate. A water main extension was completed in the fall of 2003. This water main helps to serve industries in the southeastern areas of Lexington. Projects in the next five years include replacing old wells and water mains at an estimated cost of \$275,000 each.

## SEWERAGE

Lexington has a municipal sanitary sewerage system and a separate storm sewer system. The secondary trickling filter treatment plant was built in 1958 with renovations and expansions in 1977, 1989, and 2004. The plant has a capacity of 3,000,000 gallons per day with an average daily flow of 1,300,000 gallons. The historic daily peak is 3,000,000 gallons per day.

**SANITARY SEWER RATES** (effective 4/1/99)

Sewer connection fees of \$100 are charged for new service.

**Residential:**

\$19.00 per month

**Commercial:**

\$1.65 per 1,000 gallons  
**Minimum Monthly Bill:** \$10.00

**Industrial:**

Determined case by case

Improvements in 2004 included rehabilitation of the bio-tower and a pre-treatment facility was added to handle industrial waste. This \$4.6 million project was financed by revenue bonds. The next project, scheduled in 2007, will include ultra violet treatment for disinfection, followed by ammonia removal. Probable financing will include fees and revenue bonds.

**SOLID WASTE DISPOSAL**

Lexington's waste removal services are privately owned. The disposal site, which is located 10 miles north of Lexington on Nebraska Highway 21, is owned by the Lexington Area Solid Waste Agency. The agency is comprised of more than 40 communities.

**WASTE REMOVAL RATES** (effective 1/1/05)

**Residential:**

\$12.95 per month

**Commercial & Industrial:**

Rates are determined by the service supplier

**RECYCLING**

The city of Lexington purchased two recycling box trailers, with the help of a Department of Environmental Quality grant, for newspaper, plastic, and aluminum. Proceeds go towards scouting and youth activities in Lexington.



Clipper-Herald

# COMMUNICATIONS

## TELECOMMUNICATIONS

Qwest provides telecommunications services to the Lexington area.

### Tariffed Rates (effective 4/26/05)

|                |         |
|----------------|---------|
| Residence Line | \$18.90 |
| Business Line  | \$29.05 |

## INTERNET

Internet service is provided by Qwest, McCook Net, Arapahoe Telephone Company, and Alltel.

## POST OFFICE

The post office in Lexington, 87 miles from the nearest general mail facility in Grand Island, provides house-to-house delivery and has two mail receipts and two dispatches daily.

Postal receipts for the past five fiscal years:

| <u>Year</u> | <u>Receipts</u> |
|-------------|-----------------|
| 2004        | \$1,070,683     |
| 2003        | \$1,103,995     |
| 2002        | \$1,059,850     |
| 2001        | \$1,038,189     |
| 2000        | \$1,111,310     |

## PACKAGE DELIVERY SERVICES

Overnight express service availability:

|                                    | <b>Federal Express</b> | <b>UPS</b> | <b>DHL</b>      |
|------------------------------------|------------------------|------------|-----------------|
| <b>Latest Pick-up Time</b>         | 3:30 p.m.              | 6 p.m.     | 3 p.m.          |
| <b>Earliest Delivery</b>           | 10 a.m.                | 8 a.m.     | Prior to 5 p.m. |
| <b>Next Day Delivery Guarantee</b> | Yes                    | Yes        | Yes             |
| <b>Saturday Delivery Guarantee</b> | No                     | Yes        | No              |

The U.S. Post Office's latest pick up time is 4:50 p.m. and the earliest delivery is 8:30 a.m. Next day delivery and Saturday delivery are guaranteed.

## NEWSPAPER

The Lexington Clipper-Herald, with 3,200 subscribers, is the local biweekly newspaper. Newspapers delivered locally are the Omaha World-Herald, Lincoln Journal Star, Tri-City Tribune, Kearney Hub, and North Platte Telegraph.

## RADIO

Radio stations carrying local news:

| <b>Call Letters</b> | <b>Frequency</b> | <b>Location</b> |
|---------------------|------------------|-----------------|
| KRVN                | 880 KHz          | Lexington       |
| KRVN                | 93.1 MHz         | Lexington       |
| KQKY                | 105.9 MHz        | Kearney         |
| KGFV                | 1340 KHz         | Kearney         |

## TELEVISION

Television stations carrying local news:

| <b>Call Letters</b> | <b>Channel</b> | <b>Location</b>          |
|---------------------|----------------|--------------------------|
| KLNE                | 9              | Lexington                |
| KNOP                | 2              | North Platte             |
| KOLN-KGIN           | 10/11          | Lincoln/<br>Grand Island |
| KHGI                | 13             | Kearney                  |

Cable TV service is available on 161 channels, including 19 basic, 49 extended basic, 14 premium, 74 digital, and 5 pay-per-view channels.



Lexington Fire Hall



Lexington City Offices



Dawson County Law Enforcement Center

## TAX STRUCTURE

### VALUES FOR TAX LEVY PURPOSES – CITY OF LEXINGTON

All real property is subject to tax at its actual value. Agricultural land is valued at 75 percent of its actual value. Personal property that is used in a trade or business and is depreciable is subject to tax at its “net book value.” All other personal property is exempt from taxation.

|                                  | Actual Valuation |                 |                 |
|----------------------------------|------------------|-----------------|-----------------|
|                                  | 2002             | 2003            | 2004            |
| Real Estate                      | \$1,133,036,783  | \$1,188,881,352 | \$1,241,210,659 |
| Personal Property                | 77,363,304       | 79,802,006      | 79,925,599      |
| Special (railroad and utilities) | 81,901,047       | 89,573,653      | 91,535,070      |
| Total                            | \$1,292,301,134  | \$1,358,257,011 | \$1,412,671,328 |

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

|                           | 2002       | 2003       | 2004       |
|---------------------------|------------|------------|------------|
| City & Airport            | \$0.266839 | \$0.266190 | \$0.269893 |
| County                    | .379170    | .370570    | .332656    |
| School District           | 1.288315   | 1.321558   | 1.257176   |
| Community College         | .070000    | .079060    | .082410    |
| Educational Service Unit  | .015000    | .015000    | .015000    |
| Natural Resource District | .034890    | .033500    | .029190    |
| Agricultural Society      | .013204    | .012880    | .012440    |
| Total                     | \$2.067418 | \$2.098758 | \$1.998765 |

The 2004 tax rate at the industrial sites outside the city limits is \$1.728872 per \$100 of actual value.

### CITY SALES TAX

A 1½ percent city sales tax is imposed in Lexington.

### LOCAL BONDED INDEBTEDNESS

As of September 2005:

|                               |             |
|-------------------------------|-------------|
| City—Revenue Bonds            | \$9,200,000 |
| City—General Obligation Bonds | \$5,350,000 |
| School District (as of 6/05)  | \$7,200,000 |
| County (as of 6/05)           | \$2,845,000 |

## CITY BOND ISSUES

| Type                      | Date Issued | Original Amount | Unpaid Balance As of 9/05 | Interest Rate (%) | Date Due |
|---------------------------|-------------|-----------------|---------------------------|-------------------|----------|
| <b>Revenue Bonds</b>      |             |                 |                           |                   |          |
| Combined Utilities        | 9/02        | \$4,670,000     | \$2,835,000               | 3.73              | 9/17     |
| Combined Utilities        | 12/03       | \$4,405,000     | \$4,245,000               | 4.55              | 9/24     |
| Combined Utilities        | 9/04        | \$2,205,000     | \$2,120,000               | 4.44              | 9/24     |
| <b>General Obligation</b> |             |                 |                           |                   |          |
| Refunding                 | 7/01        | \$3,830,000     | \$3,020,000               | 4.91              | 6/16     |
| Refunding                 | 8/02        | \$1,525,000     | \$ 805,000                | 3.60              | 5/08     |
| Public Library            | 9/04        | \$1,525,000     | \$1,525,000               | 4.56              | 9/25     |

## SCHOOL BOND ISSUES

| Type            | Date Issued | Original Amount | Unpaid Balance As of 6/05 | Interest Rate (%) | Date Due |
|-----------------|-------------|-----------------|---------------------------|-------------------|----------|
| School District | 2001        | \$8,990,000     | \$7,200,000               | 3.65              | 2015     |

## COUNTY BOND ISSUES

| Type          | Date Issued | Original Amount | Unpaid Balance As of 6/05 | Interest Rate (%) | Date Due |
|---------------|-------------|-----------------|---------------------------|-------------------|----------|
| G.O. Bonds    | 12/15/03    | \$1,840,000     | \$1,600,000               | 1.25–3.60         | 12/15/10 |
| Remodel Bonds | 12/1/03     | \$1,385,000     | \$1,245,000               | 1.30–3.90         | 6/1/13   |

## LOCAL GOVERNMENT

### COUNTY GOVERNMENT

Dawson County has 22 precincts and is governed by five county commissioners who are elected by popular vote for four-year terms. The next election will be held in 2006. The actual county budget for 2004–05 is \$4,699,326.

Zoning classifications are:

|     |                          |
|-----|--------------------------|
| AG  | General Agricultural     |
| AGR | Agricultural Residential |
| FR  | Rural Residential        |
| RR  | Recreational Residential |
| C-1 | Highway Commercial       |
| I   | Industrial District      |

### MUNICIPAL GOVERNMENT

Lexington, a first class city, has a mayor-council form of government with a city manager. The next election will be held in 2006. The 2004–05 actual budget is \$27,994,071. Municipal officials are:

| Title                     | Term of Office |
|---------------------------|----------------|
| <b>Elected by Council</b> |                |
| Mayor                     | 2 years        |
| <b>Elected at Large</b>   |                |
| Council Members (5)       | 4 years        |
| <b>Hired by Council</b>   |                |
| City Manager              | 1 year         |

### FIRE PROTECTION

Fire protection is provided to the community by a 40-member volunteer fire department. Protection is provided to all areas within the Lexington Rural Fire District.

Lexington has 313 fire hydrants. The fire insurance classification inside the corporate limits is 5; outside the corporate limits it is 9–10. Annual expenditures for fire protection during the last three years averaged \$100,000, not including capital outlay.

Equipment in the fire department:

| Year/Make         | Description       |
|-------------------|-------------------|
| <b>City</b>       |                   |
| 1948 LaFrance     | 500 gpm pumper    |
| 1980 IHC          | 750 gpm pumper    |
| 1985 Ford         | Equipment truck   |
| 1990 GMC          | 750 gpm pumper    |
| 1996 Ford         | Ambulance         |
| 2000 Freightliner | 1,500 gpm pumper  |
| 2004 Ford         | Ambulance         |
| <b>Rural</b>      |                   |
| 1996 GMC          | 2,000 gal. tanker |
| 2001 Ford 4x4     | Grass rig         |
| 2002 GMC          | 2,000 gal. tanker |
| 2003 Ford 4x4     | Grass rig         |

gpm - gallons per minute

Fire losses for the past four years have been:

| <u>Year</u> | <u>Amount</u> |
|-------------|---------------|
| 2004        | \$ 730,900    |
| 2003        | \$1,036,025   |
| 2002        | \$ 538,924    |
| 2001        | \$ 343,200    |

### LAW ENFORCEMENT

#### Police Department

Lexington employs 14 full-time police officers and 2 support personnel. The department has four patrol cars, three unmarked cars, police high band radio, intoxilyzer machine, firearms, and tasers. Annual expenditures for police protection during the past three years averaged \$861,099.

The crime rate per 1,000 population in 2004 was 44.0 in Lexington and 30.3 in Dawson County compared to a state crime rate of 37.7 and a 2003 national rate of 40.6.

#### Sheriff's Department

The Dawson County Sheriff's Department has nine sworn officers and five support personnel. The department has high band radios, firearms,

in-car videos, and intoxilyzer machine. Regular patrol provides protection to existing industries in the area by the police and sheriff's departments.

### **State Patrol**

Troop D of the Nebraska State Patrol is headquartered in North Platte, 64 miles northwest of Lexington. One sergeant, six troopers, and one police service dog handler are stationed in Lexington.

### **STREETS**

Lexington has 52.41 miles of streets; 51 miles are hard-surfaced with concrete, asphalt, or brick. All of the streets have curbs and 95 percent have sidewalks. There are no local load restrictions.

Street maintenance includes street sweeping, street repairs, snow removal, alley maintenance, and sign maintenance and repair.

Contemplated changes in the next five years include extension of streets, renovation and reconstruction of major arterial streets, downtown lighting, new signage, various repairs, and paving. The total project is estimated to cost \$5.4 million and will be financed by highway fund allocation, general fund revenues, and various state and federal funding.

## **BUILDING AND ZONING REGULATIONS**

The International Building Code 2003, International Plumbing Code 2003, International Residential Code 2003, and National Electrical Code 2002 are enforced within the community.

Local zoning classifications are:

- R-1 Single-Family Residential
- R-2 Two-Family Residential
- R-3 Multi-Family Residential
- R-4 Mobile Home Parks
- C-0 Office Commercial
- C-1 Limited Commercial
- C-2 Core Commercial
- C-3 Highway Commercial
- M-1 Light Industry
- M-2 Heavy Industry
- R-P Special Provisions
- A-1 Agricultural
- A-2 Urban Reserve

## **PLANNING**

Lexington has a nine-member planning commission; members are elected for three-year terms.

A Comprehensive Plan for Lexington was prepared by Hanna:Keelan Associates, P.C. in 1999 and revised in 2004.



Dawson County Courthouse

# COMMUNITY FACILITIES

## SCHOOLS AND COLLEGES

### Lexington School System

| Type of School | Number | Classrooms | Students | Teacher/<br>Pupil Ratio | Computer/<br>Pupil Ratio |
|----------------|--------|------------|----------|-------------------------|--------------------------|
| Elementary     | 4      | 75         | 1,222    | 1:15                    | 1:4                      |
| Middle School  | 1      | 44         | 647      | 1:13                    | 1:3                      |
| High School    | 1      | 50         | 743      | 1:15                    | 1:2                      |

School District No. 24-0001 in Dawson County covers 48 square miles and has a 2004 affiliated valuation of \$492,406,286. The actual valuation per pupil is \$188,517. This Class 3 District is accredited by the state of Nebraska and North Central Association.

The 2003–04 school operating budget totaled \$18,063,090, with an average cost per pupil of \$6,915.

The elementary schools have a capacity of 1,300. The middle school, constructed in 1917 and renovated in 1995, has a capacity of 800. The high school, constructed in 1960 with a major addition in 1995, has a capacity of 850 students.

#### Test Results

| Name              | % Students<br>Taking Test | Average<br>Score |
|-------------------|---------------------------|------------------|
| 7th Grade<br>ITBS | 100                       | 44 percentile    |
| ACT               | 70                        | 20               |

An estimated 70 percent of the eighth grade students finish high school, 75 percent of the graduating seniors pursue a college degree, and 25 percent of the seniors enter the job market immediately after graduation.

Vocational programs offered are business, family and consumer science, agriculture, industrial technology, and computer technology.

The Lexington Public Schools and Central Community College offer community education classes in the areas of personal growth, job skills, and recreation. The community education program

includes both credit and noncredit courses which meet in a group setting. A minimum enrollment is required for each class to be held.

#### Special Schools

The Lexington Development Center provides services for children with disabilities from birth to age three. There are two classrooms designed especially for children with disabilities located at the Sandoz Elementary School and the high school.

#### Educational Service Unit

Educational Service Unit (ESU) 10, headquartered in Kearney, has served 11 counties since 1965. Through its Kearney headquarters, more than 90 public and private school districts with an enrollment of approximately 30,000 students receive services in Network and Information Services (helpdesk and consultation, hardware and software installation, network operations management, technology planning, security audits, technical training and support, software training, network and systems administration training and support, technical applications training, distance education cooperative, media center, computer/audio visual service center, star lab); Special Services (special education supervision, audiology, physical therapy, occupational therapy, preschool handicapped, resource teachers, speech pathology, school nurse coordination, psychological cooperative, vocational evaluations and transition cooperative, assistive technology, traumatic brain injury consortium, autism consortium, deaf education); Professional Development (federal and state grant consortium coordination, schoolwide and individual professional training, migrant education, English as a second language, Title I

cooperative, student academic competitions and leadership skill development); and cooperative purchasing programs.

## Community College

Lexington is part of the Central Community College, [www.ccneb.edu](http://www.ccneb.edu), which encompasses a 25-county area. The college is governed by an 11-member Board of Governors elected by the citizens of the area served. Administrative offices are located in Grand Island with full-service campuses in Hastings, Columbus, and Grand Island and off-campus centers in Holdrege, Lexington, and Kearney. Classes are available through extended learning programs in approximately 80 communities within the college's service area. During the 2003–04 academic year, 25,749 students were enrolled in Central Community College courses, with approximately 7,699 participating in off-campus programs.

The Lexington Center was established in 1976 to provide educational opportunities to Buffalo, Dawson, Gosper, and Furnas counties. The Lexington Center supports learning centers in Arapahoe, Beaver City, Cambridge, Cozad, Gothenburg, and Lexington where students can obtain selected college degrees without ever leaving home.

Learning centers allow students to continue their education close to home. They can complete credit courses on an individualized basis through the use of books, study packets, videotapes, CDs, and other technology. Learning center managers provide any needed assistance and serve as contacts with the Central Community College faculty.

### Certificate, Diploma, and Degree Programs:

Coursework in nearly all major areas of study is available, including more than 100 vocational-technical and academic transfer college credit courses. Classes are available through various delivery methods, including:

—**Independent Study:** allows students to work on college credit classes at their own pace, using course materials from the campuses. The staff serve as contacts between the student and campus faculty and administration.

—**Distance Learning:** uses several state-of-the-art teaching technologies, including video conferencing, satellite broadcasts, and Internet to deliver college credit courses.

**Adult Basic Education Program:** This program is offered by Central Community College in cooperation with the Nebraska Department of Education and the federal government. The program is designed to provide the opportunity to gain basic education skills at no cost to the student. The program has four major components:

—Adult Basic Education for those with less than an eighth grade education.

—English as a Second Language for non-English speaking persons wishing to learn to speak, read, and write English.

—General Educational Development for those with less than a high school diploma.

—Living Skills for adults wishing to improve their basic life skills in consumer economics, health, community resources, government and law, and occupational knowledge.

**Community Education Program:** Avocational/recreational courses are offered to provide students an opportunity to explore and develop skills for personal interest, leisure, and recreational activities.

**Business and Professional Training:** Central Community College is a primary source of training and education for business, industry, agricultural associations, civic groups, governmental agencies, and other organizations within its 25-county service area. College staff provide expertise in their fields of study to develop and coordinate specially-tailored short courses, workshops, and seminars to meet specific training needs.

Central Community College works with area industries, retail establishments, and other agencies and organizations in planning in-service and/or in-plant training programs.



Bryan Elementary School



Morton Elementary School



Pershing Elementary School



Sandoz Elementary School



Lexington High School



Lexington Middle School



Central Community College, Lexington Center

## 2003-04 Program Graduates

| <u>Program</u>                              | <u># of Graduates</u> |
|---|-----------------------|
| Accounting                                  | 26                    |
| Academic Transfer                           | 85                    |
| Agriculture Occupations                     | 18                    |
| Art, Commercial                             | 7                     |
| Associate Degree in Nursing                 | 39                    |
| Auto Body Technology                        | 35                    |
| Automotive Technology                       | 24                    |
| Business Administration                     | 62                    |
| Commercial Horticulture                     | 11                    |
| Construction Technology                     | 53                    |
| Criminal Justice                            | 10                    |
| Dental Assisting                            | 21                    |
| Dental Hygiene                              | 15                    |
| Diesel Technology                           | 12                    |
| Drafting Occupations                        | 37                    |
| Electrical Technology                       | 20                    |
| Electronics Technology                      | 11                    |
| Family and Consumer Science                 | 42                    |
| Health Care Administration                  | 1                     |
| Health Information Management<br>Services   | 32                    |
| Heating, Air Conditioning,<br>Refrigeration | 15                    |
| Hospitality Management<br>& Culinary Arts   | 11                    |
| Human Services                              | 20                    |
| Industrial Technology                       | 45                    |
| Information Technology                      | 53                    |
| Machine Tool Technology                     | 20                    |
| Media Arts                                  | 18                    |
| Medical Assisting                           | 6                     |
| Office Technology                           | 36                    |
| Paralegal Studies                           | 18                    |
| Parts Sales & Management                    | 7                     |
| Practical Nursing                           | 91                    |
| Quality Control                             | 22                    |
| Welding Technology                          | 13                    |

## Colleges and Universities

Excellence in classroom teaching is the University of Nebraska at Kearney's (UNK), [www.unk.edu](http://www.unk.edu), core mission. More than 300 faculty members are dedicated to providing intellectual challenges in a nurturing environment. Its personalized approach, academic support, and affordability combine to make UNK's programs accessible and very attractive to students from a wide variety of backgrounds.

Because careers of the future revolve around technology, UNK is preparing students by integrating the latest technology into its curriculum and everyday life.

UNK offers practical programs preparing students to enter the workforce immediately or as preprofessional courses of study. The university's emphasis is on high quality undergraduate teaching and selected graduate programs in liberal arts, business, technology, and education.

Founded in 1903 as the Nebraska State Normal School at Kearney, the institution has grown from 96 students its first year to nearly 6,500 today. The Normal School became Nebraska State Teacher's College in 1921 and then Kearney State College in 1963, when its mission broadened to include a more diverse curriculum. Through an act of the state legislature, Kearney State College became the University of Nebraska at Kearney on July 1, 1991.

Today's student population comes from all 93 Nebraska counties, 40 states, and 50 foreign countries. Eighty undergraduate degree programs are offered through the colleges of business and technology, education, natural and social sciences, and fine arts and humanities. More than 1,000 undergraduate degrees are awarded annually. Twenty-one preprofessional and two specialist degree programs are also offered. UNK conducts an aggressive outreach program in western and rural parts of Nebraska, with classes offered in McCook, North Platte, Grand Island, Broken Bow, Holdrege, Lexington, Hastings, Columbus, Aurora, Scottsbluff, and others.

UNK varsity men's and women's athletic teams compete as members of the NCAA Division II in 16 sports within the Rocky Mountain Athletic Conference (RMAC). For eight consecutive years UNK has won the RMAC trophy.

The Calvin T. Ryan Library at UNK, primarily serving the students, faculty, and staff of the University, is also open to the general public. The library offers free access to a wide array of computer and Internet-based resources. Collections include more than 300,000 volumes,

| Enrollment & Degrees Conferred by Department,<br>2003-2004 Academic Year |              |               |                    |
|--|--------------|---------------|--------------------|
| Department   | Enrollment   | Degrees       |                    |
|  |              | Baccalaureate | Masters/Specialist |
| Business & Technology  | 1,388        | 327           | 17                 |
| Education  | 1,723        | 265           | 168                |
| Fine Arts & Humanities   | 824          | 173           | 13                 |
| Natural & Social Sciences  | 1,838        | 242           | 7                  |
| <b>Total</b>   | <b>6,382</b> | <b>1,007</b>  | <b>205</b>         |

along with despository of U.S. and Nebraska documents, a curriculum/non-book collection containing resources supporting UNK's teacher preparation program, plus the UNK archives.

### Other Schools

Other colleges, universities, and community colleges frequently attended by Lexington High School graduates include:

| Community/<br>College or University              | Mileage |
|--|---------|
| <b>Kearney</b>                                   | 41      |
| University of Nebraska at Kearney                |         |
| Central Community College,<br>Kearney Campus     |         |
| <b>North Platte</b>                              | 64      |
| Mid-Plains Community College                     |         |
| <b>Grand Island</b>                              | 87      |
| Grand Island College                             |         |
| Central Community College<br>Grand Island Campus |         |
| College Park                                     |         |
| <b>Hastings</b>                                  | 94      |
| Hastings College                                 |         |
| Central Community College<br>Hastings Campus     |         |
| <b>Lincoln</b>                                   | 169     |
| University of Nebraska-Lincoln                   |         |
| Nebraska Wesleyan University                     |         |
| <b>Omaha</b>                                     | 222     |
| University of Nebraska at Omaha                  |         |
| University of Nebraska Medical Center            |         |
| Creighton University                             |         |

## CHURCHES

| Denomination                | Number of Churches |
|-----------------------------|--------------------|
| Assembly of God             | 1                  |
| Baptist                     | 2                  |
| Berean Fundamental          | 1                  |
| Catholic                    | 1                  |
| Church of Christ            | 1                  |
| Church of Latter Day Saints | 1                  |
| Episcopal                   | 1                  |
| Evangelical Free            | 1                  |
| Jehovah's Witnesses         | 1                  |
| Lutheran, ELCA              | 1                  |
| Lutheran, Missouri Synod    | 1                  |
| Presbyterian                | 1                  |
| United Methodist            | 1                  |

There are also five nondenominational churches in Lexington.

## MEDICAL

### Hospital

The **Tri-County Hospital** opened in 1976 with a capacity for 40 beds. The hospital is accredited by the Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Facilities and is a member of the American Hospital Association, Nebraska Association of Hospitals and Health Systems, and the Heartland Health Alliance. The hospital offers cardiac and pulmonary rehabilitation, community health and fitness, hospice, nursing service, obstetrics, pharmacy, physical therapy, radiology, and surgical department. Eight medical doctors are on the staff and several consulting physicians drive to Lexington regularly. Contemplated changes at the hospital include adding an MRI, expanding the specialty clinic area, remodeling the dietary area, and nursing service.



Tri-County Hospital



Plum Creek Care Center



Lexington Public Library



Dawson County Museum



Heartland Museum of Military Vehicles

Visiting specialists in the following areas commute to the hospital: ophthalmology; ear, nose and throat; gynecology; neurology; urology; cardiac; sleep studies; and pulmonary function.

The Community Health and Fitness Center in the Tri-County Hospital provides not only the fitness component but also an educational approach to improving an individual's health and the health of the general population. Several educational programs are offered to help reduce various risk factors detrimental to overall health status. The exercise area features a track for walking or jogging and exercise and weight equipment. Aerobic classes are also offered.

### **Clinics**

There are two clinics in Lexington—the **Plum Creek Medical Group** and **Plum Creek Surgery**. The Plum Creek Medical Group consists of seven family practice physicians, one physician assistant, and one nurse practitioner. Plum Creek Surgery is staffed by one surgeon.

### **Rescue Squad**

The 23 volunteer Emergency Medical Technicians, members of the Lexington Volunteer Fire Department, respond to calls with the two rescue units owned by the city.

## **NURSING HOME**

**Plum Creek Care Center**, built in 1964, has a 66-bed capacity. This skilled nursing facility, certified by medicare/medicaid, is licensed by the state of Nebraska and has professional nurses on staff 24 hours a day. Physical, occupational, and speech therapies are available. Adult daycare, respite, and hospice services are also available. Attached to the nursing facility is a 29-unit assisted living facility.

## **LIBRARY**

The Lexington Public Library, with an average annual circulation of 47,906, contains 30,179 catalogued items and 109 subscriptions to magazines and newspapers. The library offers the following activities and services: children's

story time, Lapsit for parents and children ages 0 to 3 years, summer reading program, 15 computers with Internet access, fax, tax forms, audiobooks on CD and cassette, videos and DVDs, microfilm reader/printer, microfilmed newspapers and Federal census, TV/VCR, photocopier, typewriter, interlibrary loan service, cake pans, ESL and GED materials, laminator, accucut, and used book sale.

## **RECREATION AND PARKS**

The seven parks in Lexington cover 88 acres and have picnic shelters and tables, standard playground equipment, tennis and basketball courts, horseshoe pits, and a sand volleyball court. The 14 playgrounds are not supervised but well equipped with slides, merry-go-rounds, swings, climbing equipment, and other playground equipment.

The city has a full-time recreation director and employs 1 full-time and 75 part-time/seasonal employees. Annual expenditures for the last three years averaged \$89,835. Programs are offered in baseball, softball, T-ball, youth soccer, youth basketball, 3 on 3 basketball tournament, Red Cross swimming lessons, open gym, men's/women's/coed volleyball, and adult strength training.

Lexington has facilities for:

- Baseball/ Softball — Six ball diamonds
- Boating — Boating at Johnson Lake, 9 miles
- Bowling — One 12-lane bowling alley
- Camping — Six electrical hookups in Plum Creek Park
- Fishing — Excellent fishing at Plum Creek Park; Johnson Lake, 9 miles; Platte River, 4 miles; Tri-County Canal, 10 miles; Elwood Reservoir, 12 miles; Gallagher Canyon, 17 miles; and numerous sandpits
- Golf — One public, 18-hole grass green course with clubhouse
- Hunting — Excellent hunting for deer, ducks, geese, and turkey
- Soccer — Five fields

- Swimming — Lexington Family Aquatic Center with zero-depth pool, lap pool, two water slides, concession stand, bathhouse, and sandy play area
- Tennis — Twelve lighted courts
- Theatre — An indoor theatre seating 250
- Volleyball — Sand court in park

The Lexington Optimist Recreation Complex, a 35-acre facility, is home to three softball fields, legion baseball field, five soccer fields, small playground area, and a concession stand/viewing/press box area. Plans are underway to add an indoor practice complex for use by several sports in 2006.

Other recreation programs include youth wrestling, youth and adult tennis leagues, swim team, and bowling leagues.

Annual celebrations include Plum Creek Rodeo in June; Old Fashioned Fourth of July with fireworks, food, and games; Veterans' Day parade and dinner in November; and Christmas parade and Christmas home tour in December.

Lexington Grand Generation Center provides many recreational activities for senior citizens. The center serves meals and provides "Meals on Wheels," and Handi-Bus services. Renovation and expansion of the center is planned to begin in 2006.

Other attractions include Labor Day Antique and Craft Extravaganza, Dawson County Fair, Recreational Complex (baseball, softball, soccer), and Mac's Creek Vineyard and Winery.

**Johnson Lake**, nine miles south of Lexington on U.S. Highway 283, has a surface area of 3,030 acres and 20 miles of shoreline, providing excellent fishing, swimming, boating, and skiing. More than 900 families have built homes and cabins adjoining the lake. Two state recreation areas provide facilities for camping, playground equipment, showers, rest rooms, and picnic equipment in tree-shaded areas. Two public docks, restaurants, boat rental and service, marina, and an aircraft landing strip are available at Johnson Lake.

During the spring and fall the lake is a resting place for countless thousands of ducks and geese migrating along the nation's central flyway. Starting in late February, the Sandhill cranes begin arriving and by mid-March 70 percent of the world's Sandhill cranes crowd a 150-mile stretch of the Platte River through central Nebraska. Photographers and ornithologists from all across the nation come to witness and record the spectacular sight of some 200,000 Sandhill cranes during their migratory stay-over in the area. Lexington is also the winter nesting site for 250 bald eagles, which reside in the area from November through early March.

**Dawson County Historical Museum** offers 15,000 square feet of exhibit rooms displaying an outstanding collection of historical and pioneer artifacts, many of which were donated by families of the pioneers who traveled the wagon trails to settle this area. The museum complex houses many fine examples of china and glassware, early-day clothing, furniture, farm machinery and wagons, Indian artifacts, harness and blacksmith shop, a locally built airplane, log cabin, and an area rural school house built in 1888. These and the endless number of other museum items provide detailed information about early Indians and pioneer family activities of this area.

**Heartland Museum of Military Vehicles**, located at the Interstate 80 interchange with U.S. Highway 283, houses dozens of restored vehicles dedicated in honor and memory of those who served. Founded in 1986 by four Lexington men, the museum exists as a living museum, with some of the vehicles available to travel across the region for educational groups and veterans. The permanent site was obtained in 1991. A visitors' center and library have been constructed. This 16,000 square foot building houses about one-half of the museum's collection.

**Turkey Leg Raid Site**, three miles west of Lexington, is the place where a Union Pacific train was derailed and attacked by Indians.

**Plum Creek Massacre Cemetery**, 14 miles southwest of Lexington, is the location where the victims of an Indian raid on a wagon train were



Lexington Family Aquatic Center



Plum Creek Park Tennis Courts



Lexington Optimist Recreation Complex



City Recreation Programs

buried. The Oregon Trail marker is also located south of Lexington.

Cultural activities are provided by the Lexington Art Association and the Plum Creek Community Players.

## HOUSING

### New Construction

There were 15 new homes constructed during 2003–04 and seven are estimated to be built in 2005. The average cost of new home construction in Lexington is \$75–\$80 per square foot.

Building permits were issued during the last five years for:

|                    |    |
|--------------------|----|
| Single-unit houses | 38 |
| Fourplexes         | 1  |

### As of April 2005:

#### Number of Homes on the Market

Single-Family 87

#### Avg. Selling Prices (New and Existing)

|                            |           |
|----------------------------|-----------|
| Single-Family Home         |           |
| 3,500 sq. ft. - 4 bedrooms | \$250,000 |
| 2,500 sq. ft. - 3 bedrooms | \$138,000 |
| 1,000 sq. ft. - 3 bedrooms | \$ 58,000 |
| Townhouses                 |           |
| 1,500 sq. ft. - 2 bedrooms | \$ 91,000 |

#### Rentals

|                            |                |
|----------------------------|----------------|
| Executive Style            |                |
| 3,000 sq. ft. - 3 bedrooms | \$650          |
| New 2-bedroom apartment    | \$400 to \$500 |
| Apartment Vacancy Rate     | 30–40%         |

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

|                     |    |
|---------------------|----|
| Less than \$100,000 | 57 |
| \$100,000–\$150,000 | 9  |
| \$150,001–\$200,000 | 6  |
| \$200,001–\$250,000 | 0  |
| Over \$250,000      | 1  |

### Low-Income and/or Retirement Housing

**Eagle Run Apartments** consists of seven low-cost eight-plexes built in 1991, six additional eight-plexes built in 1993, for a total of

104 apartments. Each plex has laundry facilities and one handicapped apartment.

**Eastlawn Apartments**, built in 1964, is a low-income housing project comprised of 49 one- and two-bedroom semidetached units with social and recreational facilities. Eastlawn Addition consists of 48 units built in 1980.

**Shackley Retirement Village**, built in 1991, consists of 9 two-bedroom and 3 one-bedroom apartments for independent living. Kitchens include a refrigerator, electric range, dishwasher, garbage disposal, and decorator cabinets. A central area at the main entrance allows residents to congregate.

**Southaven Apartments** is a two-story, 36-unit low-income housing facility built in 1990. There are 20 two-bedroom units, 8 three-bedroom units, 6 one-bedroom units, and 2 one-bedroom handicapped units. Central laundry facilities are located in the complex.

Thirty-five low-income family units at scattered sites are rented by the Lexington Housing Authority. A 24-unit congregate facility for the elderly was built in 1997.

### Assisted Living

**Park Avenue Estates**, built in 1992, contains 23 retirement apartments with either one or two bedrooms and a large family room. Twelve apartments are identified as assisted living areas with 24 hours a day caregiver. Three meals a day are served in the assisted living area. Park Avenue Estates includes weekly housekeeping, laundry service, and scheduled transportation for both assisted living and apartment dwellers. Full security is provided.

**Wellife**, built in 2002, is a 29-unit assisted living facility attached to the Plum Creek Care Center (nursing home). Three different size units are available offering various services depending on the needs of the resident.

# FINANCIAL

As of December 31, 2004:

| Name             | Capital               |             |             |
|------------------|-----------------------|-------------|-------------|
|                  | Accounts              | Deposits    | Loans       |
|                  | ----- thousands ----- |             |             |
| Tier One         | \$295,089             | \$1,216,763 | \$2,036,182 |
| Home Federal     | \$ 8,234              | \$ 54,041   | \$ 45,119   |
| Plum Creek Bank* | —                     | \$ 12,324   | \$ 6,187    |
| Pinnacle Bank    | \$ 8,000              | \$ 56,000   | \$ 57,000   |

\*Branch bank



Eagle Run Apartments



Shackley Retirement Village



Park Avenue Estates Assisted Living



WellLife Assisted Living

## COMMUNITY SERVICES

---

### PROFESSIONAL

|  |    |
|--|----|
| Architects .....                               | 1  |
| Attorneys .....                                | 12 |
| Auctioneers .....                              | 5  |
| Certified Public Accountants .....             | 4  |
| Chiropractors .....                            | 1  |
| Dentists .....                                 | 6  |
| Medical Doctors (residing in Lexington)        |    |
| —general practitioners .....                   | 7  |
| —general surgeons .....                        | 1  |
| Medical Doctors (on hospital consulting staff) |    |
| —allergists .....                              | 2  |
| —cardiologists .....                           | 23 |
| —ear, nose & throat .....                      | 3  |
| —general surgeons .....                        | 1  |
| —gynecologists .....                           | 1  |
| —nephrologists .....                           | 2  |
| —ophthalmologists .....                        | 4  |
| —orthopedic surgeons .....                     | 3  |
| —pathologists .....                            | 2  |
| —pulmonologists .....                          | 1  |
| —radiologists .....                            | 5  |
| —urologists .....                              | 2  |
| Nurse Practitioners .....                      | 4  |
| Nurses, Registered .....                       | 30 |
| Pharmacists .....                              | 2  |
| Physician Assistants .....                     | 4  |

### BUSINESS AND COMMERCIAL

|                                       |   |
|---------------------------------------|---|
| Accounting/Bookkeeping Agencies ..... | 1 |
| Agricultural Implement Dealers .....  | 3 |
| Antique Shops .....                   | 5 |
| Apparel Stores —children’s .....      | 1 |
| —combination .....                    | 8 |
| —men’s .....                          | 1 |
| Appliance Stores .....                | 1 |
| Auto Repair & Service .....           | 5 |
| Auto Supply Parts .....               | 5 |
| Automobile Dealers .....              | 9 |
| Automobile Renting & Leasing .....    | 3 |
| Aviation Seeding & Spraying .....     | 1 |

|   |               |
|---|---------------|
| Bakeries .....                                | 4             |
| Banquet Facilities, Halls & Auditoriums ..... | 3             |
| Beauty Shops & Barber Shops .....             | 9             |
| Bed & Breakfast .....                         | 1 (5 rooms)   |
| Carpet & Rug Dealers .....                    | 2             |
| Caterers .....                                | 1             |
| Child Care Services .....                     | 10            |
| Contractors —building/carpentry .....         | 18            |
| —concrete .....                               | 3             |
| —electric .....                               | 7             |
| —excavating .....                             | 1             |
| —general .....                                | 1             |
| —gravel .....                                 | 2             |
| —heating & air conditioning .....             | 3             |
| —painting .....                               | 2             |
| —plumbing .....                               | 3             |
| —remodeling & repairing .....                 | 5             |
| —roofing .....                                | 1             |
| —well digging .....                           | 1             |
| Convenience Stores .....                      | 9             |
| Copying & Duplicating Services .....          | 1             |
| Discount Stores .....                         | 2             |
| Drug Stores .....                             | 3             |
| Dry Cleaning & Laundry .....                  | 1             |
| Fast Food .....                               | 12            |
| Feed & Seed .....                             | 1             |
| Floral Shops .....                            | 3             |
| Funeral Homes .....                           | 1             |
| Furniture Stores .....                        | 3             |
| Garbage Collection .....                      | 1             |
| Gift Shops .....                              | 5             |
| Grocery Stores .....                          | 5             |
| Hardware Stores .....                         | 1             |
| Health Clubs .....                            | 2             |
| Industrial Equipment & Supplies .....         | 1             |
| Insurance Companies .....                     | 8             |
| Interior Decorators & Designers .....         | 2             |
| Jewelry Stores .....                          | 1             |
| Landscaping Equipment & Supplies .....        | 2             |
| Laundromats .....                             | 3             |
| Lawn Services .....                           | 3             |
| Lumberyards .....                             | 1             |
| Machine Shops .....                           | 2             |
| Motels .....                                  | 7 (309 rooms) |
| Nurseries & Garden Centers .....              | 3             |

Office Machine Repairs ..... 1

Office Equipment Services & Supplies ..... 2

Photography Studios ..... 2

Preschools ..... 4

Printers ..... 1

Real Estate Firms ..... 6

Restaurants ..... 20

Service Stations ..... 4

Theatres ..... 1

Upholstery Shops ..... 1

Variety Stores ..... 1

Video Rentals ..... 3



Aerial of Johnson Lake



Lexington Grand Generation Center



Lexington Area Chamber of Commerce & Visitors Center

## AGRICULTURE & RAW MATERIALS

### AGRICULTURE

| <b>2002 Statistics</b>   | <b>Dawson County</b> | <b>State of Nebraska</b> |
|--|----------------------|--------------------------|
| Number of Farms  | 718                  | 49,355                   |
| Land in Farms (acres)  | 622,805              | 45,903,116               |
| Average Size of Farms (acres)  | 867                  | 930                      |
| Market Value of Agricultural Products Sold                           | \$371,332,000        | \$9,703,657,000          |
| Market Value Per Farm  | \$517,176            | \$196,609                |
| Total Acres Irrigated  | 225,508              | 7,625,170                |
| Percent of Farmland Irrigated  | 36.2%                | 16.6%                    |
| <b>Five-Year Average Production<br/>of Leading Crops (1999–2003)</b> |                      |                          |
| All Alfalfa Hay  | 256,886 tons         | 4,721,000 tons           |
| Corn for Grain   | 30,530,580 bu.       | 1,074,450,000 bu.        |
| Soybeans   | 1,623,120 bu.        | 187,201,000 bu.          |
| All Wheat  | 251,800 bu.          | 66,816,000 bu.           |
| <b>Five-Year Average<br/>Livestock Population (1999–2003)</b>        |                      |                          |
| All Cattle   | 242,800              | 6,462,200                |

Dawson County ranked in the top five counties in Nebraska in the production of corn, in the top two counties in the production of alfalfa hay, and in the top four counties in the number of all cattle during the last five years.

Source: National Agriculture Statistics Services  
2002 Census of Agriculture

### RAW MATERIALS

Sand and gravel, nonmetallic minerals, are available in unlimited quantities. There are no metallic minerals in the area.

## CLIMATE

### TEMPERATURE, PRECIPITATION, AND HUMIDITY

| Month         | AVERAGES    |      |      |                  |                  |           |           |
|---------------|-------------|------|------|------------------|------------------|-----------|-----------|
|               | Temperature |      |      | Precipitation*   |                  | Humidity* |           |
|               | Min.        | Mean | Max. | Rain<br>(Inches) | Snow<br>(Inches) | Morning   | Afternoon |
| January       | 10.0        | 23.4 | 36.6 | 0.46             | 5.10             | 80        | 65        |
| February      | 15.4        | 28.6 | 41.8 | 0.71             | 6.30             | 79        | 62        |
| March         | 22.2        | 35.3 | 48.6 | 1.12             | 6.60             | 80        | 56        |
| April         | 34.6        | 49.0 | 63.4 | 1.73             | 2.30             | 80        | 51        |
| May           | 46.0        | 59.6 | 73.1 | 3.43             | 0.30             | 83        | 55        |
| June          | 56.5        | 70.0 | 83.6 | 4.13             | 0.00             | 84        | 56        |
| July          | 61.0        | 74.8 | 88.6 | 3.41             | 0.00             | 84        | 55        |
| August        | 59.6        | 73.4 | 87.2 | 2.52             | 0.00             | 85        | 56        |
| September     | 48.8        | 63.5 | 78.1 | 2.07             | 0.00             | 83        | 52        |
| October       | 36.7        | 52.3 | 67.9 | 1.52             | 0.50             | 81        | 51        |
| November      | 23.1        | 37.5 | 51.8 | 0.55             | 2.70             | 81        | 58        |
| December      | 14.3        | 27.4 | 40.5 | 0.51             | 5.50             | 80        | 63        |
| <b>Annual</b> | 35.7        | 49.6 | 63.5 | 22.16            | 29.30            | 82        | 57        |

\*Recorded at North Platte Station

### FROST DATA

|   |           |
|---|-----------|
| Average date of last frost in spring .....                            | May 5     |
| Average date of first frost in fall .....                             | October 1 |
| Average length of growing season .....                                | 149 days  |
| Average number of "heating degree days" based on 65° Fahrenheit ..... | 6,498     |
| Average number of "cooling degree days" based on 65° Fahrenheit ..... | 897       |
| Wind speed in miles per hour (annual average) .....                   | 10        |
| Prevailing wind direction (annual average) .....                      | Northwest |

Source: High Plains Regional Climate Center, University of Nebraska, [www.hpccun.unl.edu](http://www.hpccun.unl.edu)