

# COMMUNITY FACTS McCOOL JUNCTION, NEBRASKA

[www.comegrowwithyork.org](http://www.comegrowwithyork.org)

FEBRUARY 2006

## POPULATION (Official U.S. Census)

	<u>2000</u>	<u>2004 Est.</u>
McCool Junction	385	405
York County	14,598	14,228
Labor Market	82,419	82,104

Perennial Public Power District  
York, Nebraska 68467  
[www.perennialpower.com](http://www.perennialpower.com)

Economic Development Department  
Nebraska Public Power District  
Columbus, Nebraska 68601  
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## INTRODUCTION

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The following pages contain basic information about McCool Junction, Nebraska. This material was compiled by the York County Development Corporation, village of McCool Junction, and Nebraska Public Power District in order to promote community development.

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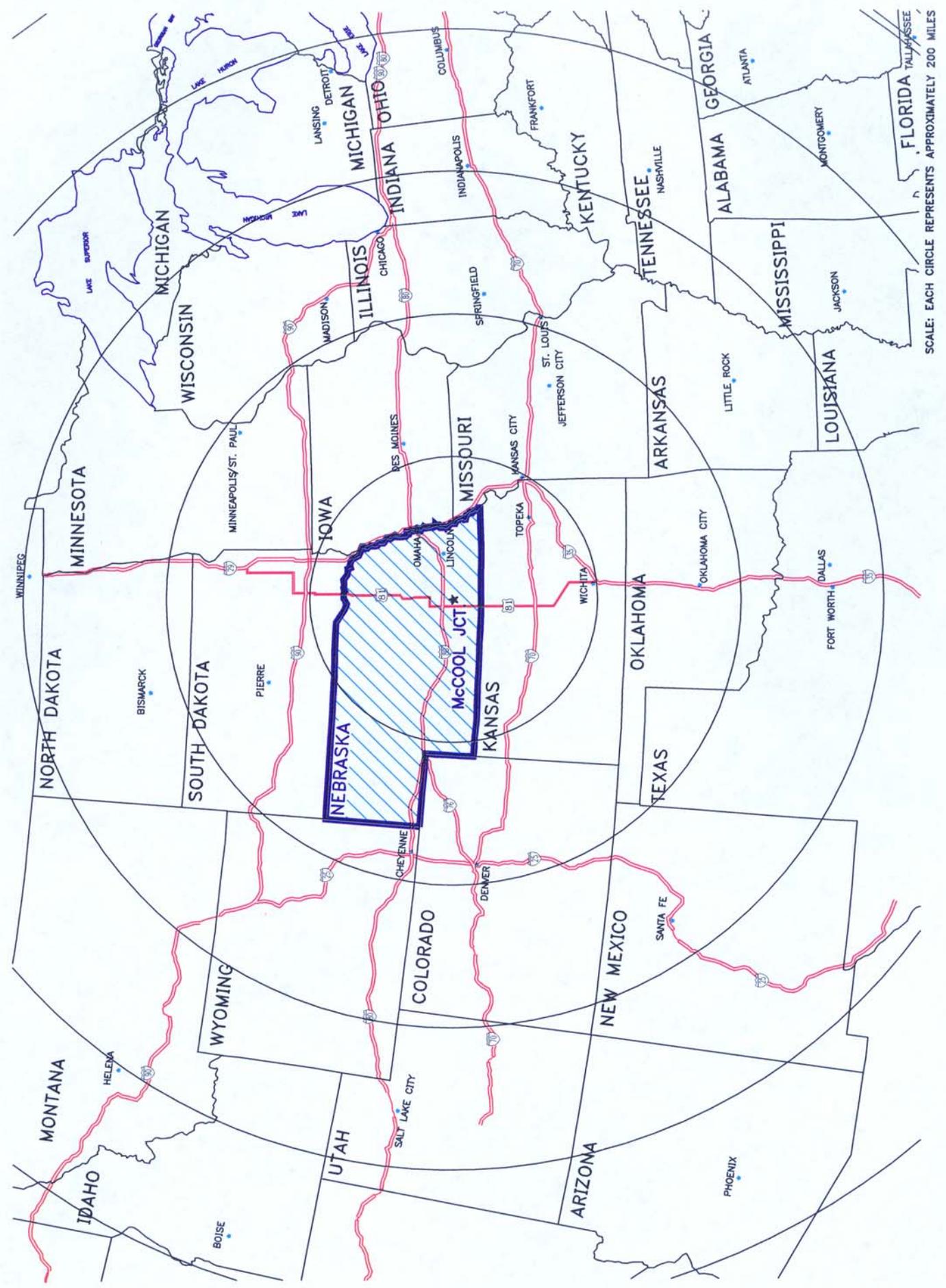
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SCALE: EACH CIRCLE REPRESENTS APPROXIMATELY 200 MILES

McCool Junction



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CORPORATE LIMITS

CORPORATE LIMITS

NOT A PART

U.S. HIGHWAY 81

U.S. HIGHWAY 81

NOT A PART

CORPORATE LIMITS

CORPORATE LIMITS

FOURTH

AVENUE

THIRD

AVENUE

SECOND

AVENUE

FIRST

STREET

SECOND

STREET

THIRD

STREET

FOURTH

STREET

FIFTH

STREET

SIXTH

STREET

SEVENTH

STREET

EIGHTH

STREET

B. GIBBS

N. ELWOOD

N. STANFORD

L

K

P

STREET

# GENERAL INFORMATION

## LOCATION

McCool Junction is located along U.S. Highway 81, a four-lane expressway, five miles south of Interstate 80 in southeast Nebraska. McCool Junction is located 5 miles south of York, 48 miles east of Grand Island, and 55 miles west of Lincoln.

## POPULATION (U.S. Census)

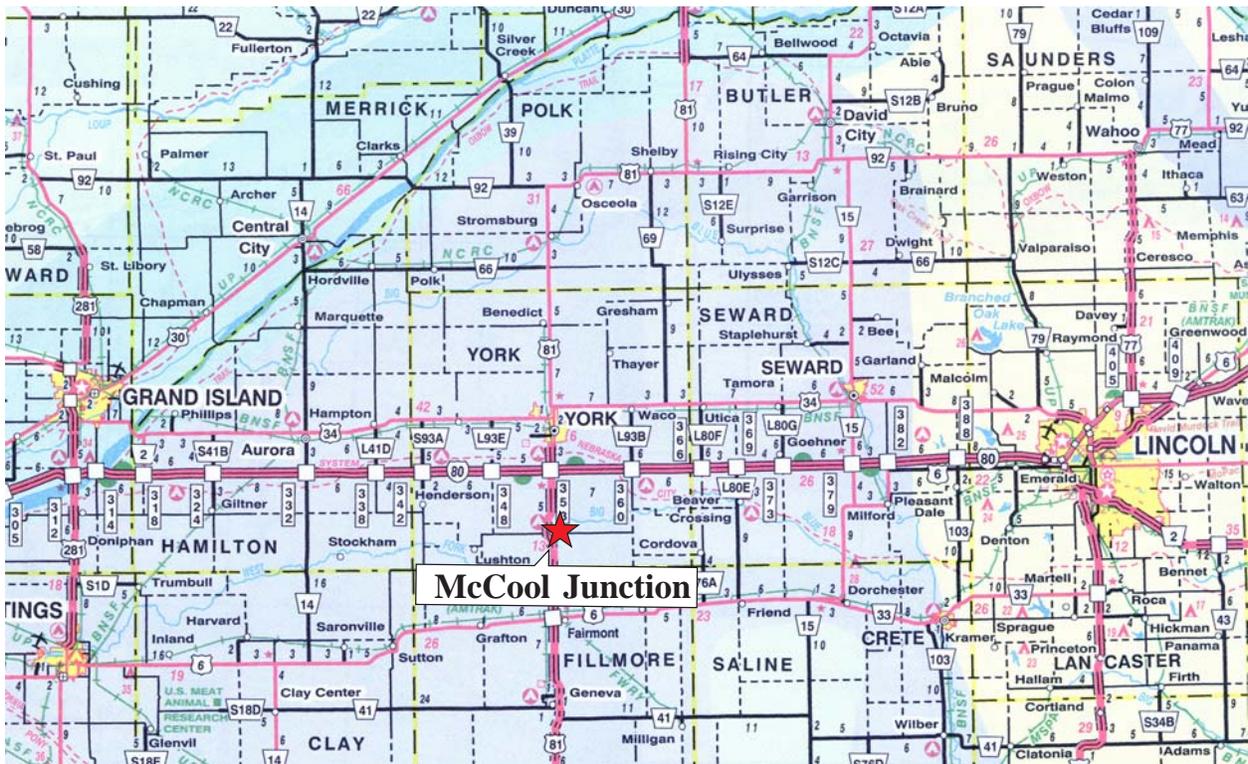
Year	McCool Junction	York County
1970	289	13,685
1980	404	14,798
1990	372	14,428
2000	385	14,598
2004 (Est.)	405	14,228

The 2004 U.S. Census estimates 82,104 people live within York County and the contiguous Nebraska counties of Butler, Clay, Fillmore, Hamilton, Polk, Saline, and Seward.

## York County Population by Race and Hispanic Origin, 2000 U.S. Census

One race	14,486
White	14,128
Black or African American	140
American Indian and Alaska Native	42
Asian	71
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander	12
Some other race	93
Two or more races	112
Hispanic or Latino (of any race)	205

According to Census statistics, there are 14 people in York County fluent in Spanish, 3 in French, 4 in German, and 2 in Chinese who are available as interpreters. Two sign language interpreters reside in York. Three Arabic, 1 Dutch, 1 Finnish, 1 Hebrew, 1 Swedish, and 2 Turkish translators (as well as sign language interpreters) are available by appointment from agencies in Grand Island and Lincoln.



## **LOCAL ECONOMY**

Agriculture plays a large role in the McCool Junction economy. McCool Junction is home to a popular restaurant and racetrack, both of which were recently constructed. The community continues to grow as new homes are built and existing homes are renovated.

The Junction Motor Speedway, constructed in 2003, is located on the west side of McCool Junction. It is now one of the premier dirt tracks in the state, drawing thousands of racing teams and spectators to McCool Junction.

Another new addition to McCool Junction is Kerry's Bar and Grill, which opened in 2004. The new restaurant has accommodations for banquets and groups, outdoor seating during warm weather, and indoor seating for 130 throughout the year. Firms in McCool Junction with retail sales tax permits reported net taxable retail sales of \$1,201,326 in 2004 while York County reported total net taxable sales of \$160,816,486.

## **ELEVATION**

McCool Junction is 1,557 feet above sea level.

## **TOPOGRAPHY**

### **Terrain**

York County is located on an upland loess plain in south-central Nebraska and has a land area of approximately 577 square miles. The maximum land surface elevation is 1,740 feet above mean sea level in the northwest corner of the county and the minimum elevation is 1,470 feet above mean sea level in the southeast corner. The land is fairly flat, except along streams, and land slopes are generally less than 10 percent.

### **Drainage**

There are three large streams that collect runoff from land in York County; they are Beaver Creek, Lincoln Creek, and the West Fork Big Blue River, with their headwaters located in Hamilton, Clay, and Adams counties, west of York County. These streams flow eastward into the Big Blue River, which then flows southward into Kansas. Streams

in the area generally have bed slopes of five feet per mile. The land generally drains well and is not highly erodible; land slopes in the county are between 1 and 5 percent over 90 percent of the land area.

### **Soils**

Soils in the upland areas are predominantly silt loam belonging to the Hastings series. These soils cover approximately 70 percent of the county. The nearly level topography and rich topsoil are well suited to row crop farming and irrigation. Alluvial soils in the lowland areas, adjacent to streams, include the Uly, Hobbs, Butler, and Geary series. These soils are located in areas that have steeper slopes, 5 to 10 percent, are subject to flooding, and are less productive for farming.

## **HISTORY**

The first settlers arrived in 1867 and filed homestead claims along the river. The first town platted was known as "Niota," which is now the southern part of McCool Junction. In addition to a cluster of homes, Niota had a post office, two-story hotel, general store, and a meeting hall that billed traveling medicine shows. A flour mill was established on the river in 1873. The citizens of Niota were enthused about the coming of the railroad but were dismayed when the surveyors put the depot two blocks north of town. A new village was platted in late 1886; but due to the severe winter weather, it was not registered until February 1887. In that transaction, Niota lost not only its town site but also its name. Renamed for the promoter and general manager of the St. Joseph and Grand Island Railroad (SJ & GI), Daniel McCool, the new village was registered as "McCool."

Forty buildings were erected in 1887, and the first train arrived on June 3. By June 17 the tracks were laid as far as York, linking the new town with the county seat to the north and Fairmont to the south. By 1888 a second branch line of the SJ & GI, running east and west, had been built to a junction at the south edge of the town. At that time "Junction" was added to the town's name. Many trains passed through but to everyone's dismay, lines through McCool Junction were removed and in 1984 the last tracks were dismantled.

McCool Junction, however, continued to push forward, keeping up its standard of high quality education and customer service at its local businesses. McCool Junction remains a very

agricultural-based village in Nebraska, with a number of new businesses linked to tourism/travel and entertainment, such as the restaurant and motor sports speedway.



Downtown McCool Junction



Medallion Honey



Brisk Builders



Farmers Co-Op



Kerry's Bar and Grill

## ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

---

### MANUFACTURERS

<u>Company/ Year Established</u>	<u>Product</u>	<u>Market</u>	<u>Employees</u>		<u>Union</u>
			<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	
Medallion Honey 1990	Honey	National	2	1	None

### MAJOR NONMANUFACTURING EMPLOYERS (employing 3 or more)

<u>Employer</u>	<u>Type of Activity</u>	<u>Employees</u>		<u>Union</u>
		<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	
Brisk Builders	Construction	2	1	None
Cornerstone Bank	Financial	1	2 2*	None
Farmers Co-Op	Agricultural services/elevator	5	4	None
Junction Motor Speedway	Motor sports complex	2	1 45*	None
Kerry's Bar and Grill	Restaurant	3	3 24*	None
McCool Fertilizer	Agricultural products	9	2	None
McCool Junction Public School	Education	10	20	NSEA
Neville Construction	Construction	2 5*	0	None
Norquest Agri-Systems	Agricultural systems	3	1	None

### OTHER MAJOR AREA EMPLOYERS (within 40 miles 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>York, 5 miles</b>				
Champion Home Builders	Manufactured homes	179	77	None
Chances R	Restaurant/lounge	32	72	None

\*Part-time and/or seasonal

<u>Employer</u>	<u>Type of Activity</u>	<u>Employees</u>		<u>Union</u>
		<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	
Cornerstone Bank	Financial services	96	53	None
Epworth Village	Residential youth treatment	125 Total		None
Hamilton Sundstrand	Aerospace components/ aircraft systems	165	35	None
King of the Road	Recreational vehicles	43 18*	18 8*	None
Kroy Building Products	PVC fencing	128 Total		None
Nebraska Public Power District	Electric utility	112 1*	18	None
Petro Travel Plaza	Truck stop, convenience store, restaurant	72	76	None
State of Nebraska	Government	162 Total		NAPE
Wal-Mart Supercenter	Retail	320 Total		None
York County	Government	57	51	NAPE
York General Health Care Services	Medical	430 Total		None
York Public Schools	Education	237 Total		NSEA
<b>Waco, 18 miles</b>				
Even Temp Inc.	Hearth products, pellet stoves, corn burning stoves	70	44	None
<b>Aurora, 31 miles</b>				
Aurora Cooperative Elevator	Feed pellets & fertilizer	220	30	None
Aurora Memorial Hospital	Medical	16	219	None
BonnaVilla Homes	Manufactured housing	157	28	None
District 4R Schools	Education	61	140	NSEA
Hamilton Manor	Health care	8	112	None
Hamilton Telecommunications	Telemarketing	74	145	None

\*Part-time and/or seasonal

<u>Employer</u>	<u>Type of Activity</u>	<u>Employees</u>		<u>Union</u>
		<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	
The Iams Company	Pet food	185	35	None
<b>Seward, 38 miles</b>				
Concordia University	Education	130	124	None
Hughes Brothers, Inc.	Crossarms, transmission & distribution materials	203	60	IAM & AW
MetroGroup Corp.	Direct mail	400 Total		None
Memorial Health Systems	Medical	44	314	None
Seward County	Government	67	54	None
Seward Motor Freight, Inc.	Trucking	150	22	None
Seward Public Schools	Education	189 Total		NEA
Tenneco Automotive	Automotive exhaust systems	308	67	None
Wal-Mart Supercenter	Retail	60	120	None
<b>Shelby, 40 miles</b>				
United Farmers Cooperative**	Ag sales, service & marketing	223 Total 41 *		None

\*Part-time and/or seasonal

\*\*Areawide employer, headquartered in Shelby

## **ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ORGANIZATIONS**

The York County Development Corporation (YCDC), a nonprofit corporation, is the lead organization in York County for the recruitment of new businesses, retention and expansion activities of existing businesses, and start-up assistance/support for entrepreneurs. A public/private partnership, YCDC has more than 125 members. The YCDC works cooperatively with appropriate municipal and/or county governments and regional and state agencies/organizations to secure the needed resources to grow York County's economy. The YCDC is responsible for all recruitment activities

and seeks to provide support, technical assistance, and various types of resources to existing businesses. Serving as coordinator of the Crossroads Rural Entrepreneur Network (small business association), Local Area Safety Committee, Manufacturers' and Workforce Development Councils, the YCDC provides training, education, and networking opportunities to all business sectors. A comprehensive labor market study and housing market study were completed in 2004.

In 2005 several business investment corporations were initiated by YCDC throughout York County. Twenty-two investors associated with real estate came together to form an additional group to build market rate housing.

The village government and YCDC work cooperatively on a variety of projects and issues.

The McCool Junction Community Club sponsors a number of events and activities within the village to support the community's economy, public facilities, and recreational offerings.

Approximately 10 acres of land in and adjacent to the community are zoned for industry. The price of industrially zoned land ranges from \$5,000 to \$15,000 per acre.



McCool Fertilizer



Neville Construction



Norquest Agri-Systems

# LABOR

## LABOR SUPPLY

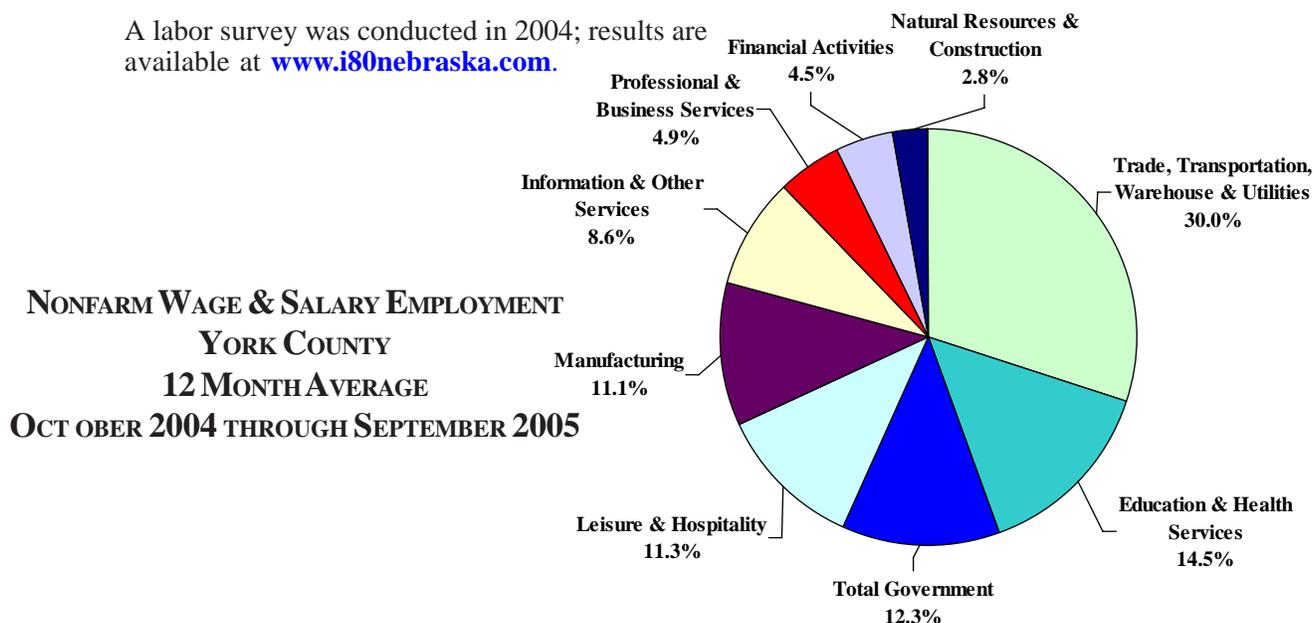
- A. Employment in the McCool Junction labor market which is defined as the whole of York County and the total labor market consisting of York County and the contiguous counties of Butler, Clay, Fillmore, Hamilton, Polk, Saline, and Seward (12-month average October 2004 through September 2005):

	<b>York County</b>	<b>Total</b>
<b><u>Nonfarm Employment</u> (wage and salary workers)</b>		
Manufacturing	950	(D)
Natural Resources & Construction	238	1,353
Trade, Transportation, Warehousing & Utilities	2,582	6,910
Information	(D)	(D)
Financial Activities	389	1,495
Professional & Business Services	417	(D)
Education & Health Services	1,244	(D)
Leisure & Hospitality	974	(D)
Other Services	(D)	(D)
Government	1,059	6,609
<b>TOTAL NONFARM WAGE AND SALARY WORKERS</b>	<b>8,594</b>	<b>32,752</b>
Farm Employment*	778	6,068
<b>TOTAL EMPLOYMENT</b>	<b>7,905</b>	<b>44,340</b>
B. Commuting Out of County	690	
C. Unemployment	249	1,500
<b>TOTAL LABOR FORCE</b>	<b>8,154</b>	<b>45,840</b>
D. Estimated number of homemakers, seasonal and part-time workers, and workers who would shift from low-paying jobs who could be expected to work for industry	2,756	
E. Estimated number of county high school graduates annually	170	
<b>TOTAL POTENTIAL LABOR SUPPLY (B, C, D &amp; E)</b>	<b>3,865</b>	

(D) Data withheld because of disclosure suppression

\*Source: U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of Economic Analysis (BEA), data for 2002

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





## UNIONIZATION

Nebraska has a right-to-work provision in its constitution. In 2004, 10.8 percent of Nebraska's manufacturing workers were members of labor unions compared to a national figure of 12.9 percent. Union membership in Nebraska is concentrated in the railroad and packinghouse industries.

Labor organizations operating in McCool Junction:

<b>Company</b>	<b>Union</b>
McCool Junction Public Schools	Nebraska State Education Association

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

## WAGES

<b>Occupation Title</b>	<b>Hourly Wage (\$)/Percentile</b>		
	<b>10th</b>	<b>50th</b>	<b>90th</b>
<b>Professional</b>			
Accountants & Auditors	13.16	21.07	34.10
Engineers			
Civil Engineers*	18.83	27.53	40.80
Electrical Engineers*	21.21	34.23	50.16
Industrial Engineers	21.17	32.18	51.24
Mechanical Engineers	19.67	28.40	51.42
Computer Programmers	16.80	23.70	32.58
Computer Systems Analysts	19.34	30.02	46.60
Registered Nurses	16.75	20.96	26.82
<b>Retail</b>			
Hotel, Motel & Resort Desk Clerks	5.70	7.42	8.86
Retail Salespersons	5.85	7.84	16.34
Truck Drivers-Light or Delivery Services	7.12	10.31	17.70
Driver/Sales Workers	5.71	8.01	21.30
Stock Clerks & Order Fillers	5.87	7.17	15.10
Shipping, Receiving & Traffic Clerks	8.67	12.27	16.13
<b>Clerical</b>			
Bookkeeping, Accounting & Auditing Clerks	6.82	11.38	16.48
Customer Service Representatives	6.79	11.30	19.52
Data Entry Keyers	6.15	9.28	12.57
Secretaries, excl. Legal, Medical & Executive	7.50	10.10	14.26
Office Clerks, General	5.96	8.72	12.50
Receptionists & Information Clerks	5.98	8.47	11.15
Telemarketers*	6.36	8.19	10.72

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

Occupation Title	Hourly Wage (\$)/Percentile		
	10th	50th	90th
<b>Unskilled</b>			
Laborers & Freight, Stock & Material Movers, Hand	6.76	9.61	13.50
Packers & Packagers, Hand	6.98	11.23	13.55
Assemblers & Fabricators, All Other*	7.95	10.95	13.88
Nursing Aides, Orderlies & Attendants	7.89	9.85	11.91
<b>Semi-Skilled</b>			
Industrial Truck & Tractor Operators	9.62	13.02	17.14
Truck Drivers, Heavy or Tractor-Trailer	9.78	14.56	20.32
Maintenance Workers, Machinery	9.62	12.32	21.45
Machine Operators			
Lathe & Turning Machine Tool Setters/Oper.	10.59	13.05	14.85
Drilling & Boring Machine Tool Setters/Oper.*	9.56	11.62	16.97
Milling & Planing Machine Setters/Oper.*	9.49	12.45	16.09
Grinding, Lapping, Polishing & Buffing Mach. Oper.	9.31	11.80	16.44
Cutting & Slicing Machine Setters/Oper.	9.11	10.55	15.25
Cutting, Punching & Press Machine Setters/Oper.	7.99	12.06	16.94
Multiple Machine Tool Setters/Oper.*	11.32	15.21	17.33
<b>Skilled</b>			
Automotive Service Technicians & Mechanics	7.61	10.65	19.27
Electricians	14.15	19.87	27.26
Industrial Machinery Mechanics	11.46	17.55	31.61
Machinists	12.12	16.32	21.84
Tool & Die Makers	14.15	18.43	21.65
Welders, Cutters, Solderers & Brazers	9.74	13.29	17.66
Welding, Soldering & Brazing Machine Setters	9.08	12.84	16.14
<b>Technical</b>			
Electrical & Electronic Engineering Technicians*	12.16	23.98	33.27
Medical & Clinical Laboratory Technologists	14.99	21.08	27.47
Computer Operators	8.48	11.66	16.42

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

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

Production workers are paid mostly on a straight-time basis rather than an incentive basis.

## FRINGE BENEFITS

York County compares to the national average of 29 percent fringe benefits associated with wages.

# TRANSPORTATION

## RAILROADS

National rail service is provided to and from York, five miles north of McCool Junction, by the BNSF Railway Company's main line with 64 freight trains daily. Switching is completed by train crews.

Amtrak provides Lincoln, 55 miles east of McCool Junction, 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 is 11 hours to Chicago and 42 hours to the West Coast. Amtrak has one train each way daily.

## MOTOR

### Highways

McCool Junction is located along four-lane U.S. Highway 81 (a north-south expressway), also known as the Pan American Highway. U.S. Highway 81 is being expanded to four lanes from Mexico to Canada. The portion from Mexico to York, Nebraska, is complete and the corridor around York is currently under construction. Improvements will continue north expanding the current two lanes to four, eventually connecting with the four lanes south of Columbus. McCool Junction is five miles south of Interstate 80, 98 miles west of Interstate 29, and 127 miles south of Interstate 70.

Highway mileage to major cities:

Destination	Mileage
Lincoln	55
Omaha	110
Chicago	574
Dallas	585
Denver	444
Detroit	841
Kansas City	248
Los Angeles	1,457
Minneapolis	484
New York	1,348

Destination	Mileage
St. Louis	449
San Francisco	1,583

## Trucklines

Interstate trucklines serving York County:

Nearest Terminal/ Company	Trucks Daily
<b>York</b>	
Johnson Transportation*	3
Nolan Transportation	25
Shaffer Trucking	25
<b>Aurora</b>	
Con-Way Central Express	2
<b>Clay Center</b>	
Dahlsten Truck Lines	20
<b>David City</b>	
M & S Transfer Company*	1
<b>Geneva</b>	
Wynne Transport Service	15
<b>Grand Island</b>	
ABF Freight System	3
Brown Transfer Co.	1
Midwest*	1
Nebraska Transport	10
Roadway	1
Saia Motor Freight	13
<b>Hastings</b>	
D & J Transfer	20
<b>Lincoln</b>	
Heavy Company	12
Yellow Freight	25
<b>Omaha</b>	
Integrated Express	3
Werner Enterprises	8
<b>Seward</b>	
P-J Express Inc.	8
Seward Motor Freight	30
<b>Shickley</b>	
Oswald Inc.	6

\*Intrastate only

## Bus Line

Black Hills Stage Lines serves York, five miles from McCool Junction, with two buses daily.

Eppley Express transports individuals to the Eppley Airfield in Omaha. Travelers may access the service in York.

The Handi Bus provides transportation to and from York County communities, as well as monthly trips to Grand Island and Lincoln. The Handi Bus is funded through York County, city of York, and the Lincoln Area Agency on Aging.

**Taxi**

MC Taxi provides door-to-door transportation services in York County.

**AIR**

The York Municipal Airport, five miles from McCool Junction, has a 5,900-foot lighted concrete runway and a 4,300-foot turf runway with full instrument landing capabilities. Jet and 100-low lead fuel, hangar space for rent/storage, courtesy car services, maintenance services for aircraft, and flight instruction are available at the airport. There are 26 private planes hangared at the York Municipal Airport; none are available for charter. Many local companies utilize the newly expanded airport, with corporate planes flying in daily. The elevation at the airport is 1,671 feet, the latitude is 40°53'42.7"N, and the longitude is 97°37'26.1"W. The airport was closed for five days in the past three years due to inclement weather.

Scheduled air service is available at the Lincoln Airport, 55 miles (55 minutes) east, and Central Nebraska Regional Airport near Grand Island, 53 miles (53 minutes) west of McCool Junction.

Airlines serving these points:

<b>Airline</b>	<b>Flights Daily</b>	<b>Nonstop Destinations</b>
<b>Grand Island</b>		
Great Lakes	3	Denver
<b>Lincoln</b>		
Allegiant Air	2*	Las Vegas
Northwest		
Airlink	5	Minneapolis
	3	Detroit
	2	Memphis
United		
Express	5	Denver
	4	Chicago

\*Flights on Wednesday and Saturday

**WATER**

Barge services are available at 10 barge terminal facilities on the Missouri River in Nebraska. The Omaha river port is 110 miles east of McCool Junction. These river ports are navigable approximately eight months per year. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers maintains a 9-foot deep, 300-foot wide channel for 735 navigable miles from Sioux City to the mouth of the Missouri River. Commodities transported by towing companies are grain and grain products, fertilizer, feed ingredients, cement, rock aggregate, and salt.

**PIPELINE**

The Kanab Pipeline and storage facilities are located approximately 17 miles south of McCool Junction on U.S. Highway 81.

# UTILITIES

## ELECTRICITY

McCool Junction is provided retail electric service from Perennial Public Power District. A 34,500/12,500 volt substation provides service to McCool Junction, with a 10,500 kVA capacity. The distribution voltage within McCool Junction is 12.5/7.2 KV wye. All industry-standard voltages can be provided by Perennial Public Power District. The electric distribution system within McCool Junction has ample capacity to provide service to a growing community.

### ELECTRIC RATES—PERENNIAL PUBLIC POWER DISTRICT (effective 1/1/05)

#### Residential Service (all electric):

<b>Facilities Charge:</b> \$10.25 per month		
<b>Summer</b>	<b>Winter</b>	
\$0.0820	\$0.0720	per kWh for the first 250 kWh used per month
\$0.0620	\$0.0550	per kWh for the next 500 kWh used per month
\$0.0530	\$0.0285	per kWh for all additional kWh used per month
<b>Minimum Bill:</b> The Facilities Charge		

This rate is subject to application of the gross revenue tax, lease payment adjustment, and production cost adjustment, if applicable.

#### General Service:

<b>Facilities Charge:</b>		
Single Phase	\$13.50 per month	
Three Phase	\$21.00 per month	
<b>Summer</b>	<b>Winter</b>	
\$0.0900	\$0.0700	per kWh for the first 1,000 kWh used per month
\$0.0760	\$0.0570	per kWh for the next 2,000 kWh used per month
\$0.0700	\$0.0450	per kWh for all additional kWh used per month
<b>Minimum Bill:</b> The Facilities Charge		

This rate is subject to application of the gross revenue tax, lease payment adjustment, and production cost adjustment, if applicable.

#### Sample Cost per kWh:

kW	kWh	Annual Average ¢/kWh
100	30,000	5.52
100	36,000	5.49
300	90,000	5.13
300	150,000	4.26
500	150,000	5.12
500	180,000	4.75

#### Industrial:

<b>Facilities Charge:</b> \$42.50 per month		
<b>Summer</b>	<b>Winter</b>	
\$0.0750	\$0.0550	for the first 200 kWh per kW of billing demand per month
\$0.0360	\$0.0260	for all additional kWh per month
<b>Minimum Bill:</b> The Facilities Charge		

This rate is subject to application of the gross revenue tax, lease payment adjustment, and production cost adjustment, if applicable.

#### Sample Cost per kWh:

kW	kWh	Annual Average ¢/kWh
150	30,000	6.31
150	100,000	3.94
500	100,000	6.21
500	300,000	4.03
1,000	200,000	6.19
1,000	650,000	3.93

Perennial Public Power District, a wholesale power customer of Nebraska Public Power District, serves McCool Junction and the surrounding area. For more information regarding electrical services in the Perennial Public Power District service area, contact Jamey Pankoke, manager, York, Nebraska, (402) 362-3355 or (800) 289-0288, visit [www.perennialpower.com](http://www.perennialpower.com).

## NATURAL GAS

Natural gas is not available in McCool Junction.

## OTHER FUELS

### LP Gas

Propane gas is available for residential, commercial, and industrial uses from Farmers Cooperative–Dorchester with a facility in McCool Junction and Sapp Bros. Petroleum Inc. in York.

### Oil

Farmers Cooperative–Dorchester with a facility in McCool Junction and United Farmers Cooperative in York provide oil for residential, commercial, and industrial uses.

## WATER

The municipal water system in McCool Junction is supplied by two wells with an average depth of 130 feet. The system, serving 96 percent of the village’s population, has a combined pumping capacity of 1,100 gallons per minute and an overhead storage capacity of 100,000 gallons. The average daily demand is 29,000 gallons in the winter and 90,000 gallons in the summer, and the historic peak daily demand is 320,000 gallons. The system has a maximum capacity of 1,684,000 gallons per day. The static pressure is 58 pounds and the residual pressure is 74 pounds per square inch.

Groundwater is available for industrial uses. The water table has not changed significantly in the past five years. The quality of water meets all federal and state drinking water standards. The color of water is clear and the hardness in parts per million, is 220. The tap water temperature varies from 50° in winter to 62° in summer.

### Chemical Analysis (parts per million)

Hydrogen Ion Concentration	7.2
Calcium	160
Nitrate	5.0
Fluoride	0.30
Sulfate	27.7

Total Alkalinity	224
Total Hardness	220

### WATER RATES

A water connection fee of \$100 is charged for new water service. An additional \$800 is charged for installation at new locations of water service to inside the facility, which includes meters and all connections.

<b>Effective Date</b>	7/1/06
<b>Customer Charge</b>	\$17.00
Per 1,000 gallons	\$ 1.00

In 2005 the village plans to loop two dead end runs at an estimated cost of \$10,000 and extending a water main approximately 1,000 feet at an estimated cost of \$10,000. Funding sources will include rate revenues and/or tax increment financing.

## SEWERAGE

The village of McCool Junction has a municipal sanitary sewerage system and a storm sewer system. The total retention treatment facility, built in 1959 and refurbished in 1984, has a daily capacity of 52,000 gallons. The average daily flow is 26,000 gallons.

### SEWER-USE CHARGES

A fee of \$100 is charged for new sewer connections.

#### Residential:

Year	Flat Fee
2006	\$15.00 per month

**Commercial** (based on water usage during December, January, and February):

First		
Year	4,000 gal.	Excess gal.
2006	\$15.00	\$1.45 per 1,000 gallons

A 1,900-foot sewer main extension (gravity and force main) was installed in 2004 at a cost of

\$82,000. The village anticipates the installation of an 1,800-foot extension of the gravity flow main in the next five years at an estimated cost of \$10,000. These improvements will be financed through tax increment financing, Bond Anticipation Notes and/or Tax Anticipation Notes, or bank loans.

## **SOLID WASTE DISPOSAL**

Privately owned waste removal services are available in McCool Junction. The disposal site, located eight miles north of McCool Junction, is owned by York Area Solid Waste Agency and has an estimated life of 20–40 years.

### **SOLID WASTE REMOVAL RATES**

#### **Residential, Commercial, and Industrial:**

Rates vary
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## **RECYCLING**

McCool Junction recycles aluminum cans and other metals. The village contracts with a private company for recycling. A tree burn site is provided for area residents, with a compost site for compostable items (grass clippings, weeds, garden matter, and leaves).

York Area Solid Waste Agency, located eight miles from McCool Junction, has contracted with a private operator to operate a recycling center at the landfill site. This is a drop-off facility with some collection provided to volume users. Several drop-off sites are available at the city of York, five miles from McCool Junction, as well as in several of the neighboring villages.

Most recyclable materials are processed by baling, crushing, and/or chipping prior to shipment. The center accepts brown and clear glass, all types of paper, plastics, cardboard, and tin and aluminum cans.



Historic Town Hall



Housing Scenes

# COMMUNICATIONS

## TELECOMMUNICATIONS

Alltel provides the telecommunications needs in McCool Junction and the surrounding area with a digital central office in York, served by fiber on a self-healing fiber ring. DMS 100 switching with dual feed from two separate switching offices is available along with ISDN and DSL. Installation and maintenance personnel are located in York, five miles from McCool Junction. Visit [www.alltel.net](http://www.alltel.net) or call (402) 362-5811 for further information.

### TARIFFED RATES (effective 3/5/05)

Residential	\$17.50
Commercial	\$27.50

Dark Fiber Solutions (DFS) provides 100 percent fiber optic-based, IP transport services in more than 150 communities throughout the state of Nebraska. Services range from 10 Mbps to 100 Mbps up to a complete 1 Gbps network. The availability of the high bandwidth services allows businesses within these communities to adopt advancing technologies such as "Big Pipe" Internet services, security, IP-based video conferencing, and voice-over-IP. Every DFS-provided network includes network monitoring and support as a part of the standard service offering. Visit [www.darkfibersolutions.com](http://www.darkfibersolutions.com) for further information.

## INTERNET

High speed Internet access is available in McCool Junction through Alltel, [www.alltel.net](http://www.alltel.net), (402) 362-5811; Galaxy Cable, [www.galaxycable.com](http://www.galaxycable.com), (800) 365-6988; and Mainstay Internet and Wireless Services of Henderson, [www.telcoveb.net](http://www.telcoveb.net), (402) 723-4448.

## POST OFFICE

The post office in McCool Junction has one mail receipt and one mail dispatch daily. The nearest general mail facility is located in Lincoln, 55 miles northeast.

Postal receipts for the last five years:

Year	Receipts
2004	\$55,000
2003	\$61,000
2002	\$58,000
2001	\$56,000
2000	\$57,000

## PACKAGE DELIVERY SERVICES

Overnight express service availability:

	U.S. Postal Service
<b>Latest Pick-up Time</b>	3 p.m.
<b>Earliest Delivery</b>	9 a.m.
<b>Next Day Delivery Guarantee</b>	Yes
<b>Saturday Delivery Guarantee</b>	Yes

## NEWSPAPER

The York News-Times, with 4,300 subscribers, is the local daily newspaper. The Blue River Ripple, with a distribution of 390, is printed monthly in McCool Junction. A weekly shopping guide, Trade and Transactions, is delivered to each house and place of business. Other daily papers available locally are the Lincoln Journal Star and Omaha World-Herald.

## RADIO

Radio stations carrying local news:

Call Letters	Frequency	Location
KAWL	1370 KHz	York
KTMX	104.9 MHz	York
KZEN	100.3 MHz	Columbus

## TELEVISION

Television stations carrying local news:

Call Letters	Channel	Location
KOLN/KGIN	10/11	Lincoln/ Grand Island
KLKN	8	Lincoln
NETV	60	Lincoln
KETV	13	Kearney
KHAS	5	Hastings

Cable television is available in McCool Junction on 65 basic channels, 55 premium channels, 25 pay-per-view channels, and 30 digital music channels. Galaxy Cablevision, with an office in York, provides cable television service. Visit [www.galaxycable.com](http://www.galaxycable.com) or call (402) 362-3332 for further information.

Satellite television reception is available throughout York County. An average package offers 125 channels with the purchase of a dish and receiver. Several retail outlets are located in York County.



McCool Junction Post Office

## TAX STRUCTURE

### VALUES FOR TAX LEVY PURPOSES – VILLAGE OF MCCOOL JUNCTION

All real property is subject to tax at market value. Agricultural land is valued at 80 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		
	2003	2004	2005
Real Estate	\$9,462,532	\$9,852,337	\$10,280,402
Personal Property	341,045	461,211	427,716
Special (railroad and utilities)	68,873	56,175	54,726
TOTAL	<u>\$9,872,450</u>	<u>\$10,369,723</u>	<u>\$10,762,844</u>

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

	2003	2004	2005
City	\$0.500000	\$0.500000	\$0.351350
County	.336050	.323710	.339440
School District	1.063880	1.192350	1.261030
Community College	.065500	.065500	.069600
Educational Service Unit	.017128	.017074	.015605
Natural Resource District	.026460	.028686	.038326
Agricultural Society	.007470	.008000	.010500
Historical Society	.000167	.000170	.000180
County Ambulance	—	.021620	—
TOTAL	<u>\$2.016655</u>	<u>\$2.157110</u>	<u>\$2.086031</u>

The 2005 tax rate at the industrially zoned land outside the city limits is \$1.734681 per \$100 of actual value.

### CITY SALES TAX

The village of McCool Junction imposes a 1.5 percent city sales tax.

### LOCAL BONDED INDEBTEDNESS

As of July 7, 2005:

City—Revenue Bonds	None
City—General Obligation Bonds	None
School District	None
County	\$ 895,460

It is anticipated a \$240,000 bond will be issued in 2005 for a street and drainage improvement project.

# COUNTY BOND ISSUES

Type	Date Issued	Original Amount	Unpaid Balance As of 7/7/05	Interest Rate (%)	Date Due
Highway Allocation	7/3/01	\$2,030,000	\$ 895,460	4.2725	7/1/06



Iron Horse Station

## LOCAL GOVERNMENT

### COUNTY GOVERNMENT

York County has 16 townships and is governed by five county commissioners, elected by popular vote for four-year terms. The next election will be held in 2006. York County is one of 17 counties belonging to the Southeast Nebraska Development District. The 2004–05 actual budget was \$12,497,637. County zoning classifications are:

General Ag District  
Transitional Ag District

### MUNICIPAL GOVERNMENT

The village of McCool Junction is governed by a board of trustees. The next election will be held in 2006. The 2004–05 actual budget was \$955,739. Municipal officials are:

Title	Term of Office
<b>Elected at Large</b>	
Chairman	4 Years
Board of Trustees (5)	4 Years
<b>Appointed</b>	
Village Clerk	1 Year
Maintenance Supervisor	1 Year

### FIRE PROTECTION

Fire protection is provided in the community by a 21-member volunteer fire department. Mutual aid agreements are made with surrounding districts to provide fire protection to areas outside the village limits.

There are 31 fire hydrants in McCool Junction. The fire insurance classification is 5 inside the corporate limits and 8 outside the corporate limits. Annual expenditures for fire protection for the last three years averaged \$59,441.

Equipment in the fire department:

Year/Make	Description
<b>City/Rural</b>	
1981 Chevy	Tanker truck
1977 Dodge	Rescue truck
1989 IHC	Series tanker
1999 Freightliner	Pumper
1999 Ford	Fire pickup

Fire losses for the past five years have been:

Year	Amount
2004	\$ 23,350
2003	\$ 28,000
2002	\$ 27,520
2001	\$ 25,430
2000	\$ 23,175

Contemplated changes in the fire department include construction of additional fire barn and the purchase of a Jaws of Life unit.

### LAW ENFORCEMENT

#### Police Department

The York County Sheriff's Department, located five miles from McCool Junction, provides law enforcement services for the village of McCool Junction.

#### Sheriff's Department

The York County Sheriff's Department, located in York, employs 9 sworn officers and 15 support personnel.

The sheriff's department is housed in newly renovated and expanded office space in the York County Courthouse. A full 911 dispatch area is accompanied by deputy stations, evidence room,

and conference room. The York County jail is a lock-down facility with a maximum capacity of 34 inmates. The jail has its own commercial kitchen, with all meals prepared on site. Other features of the jail include an exercise area, library, laundry facilities, detox cell, and visitation room.

The sheriff's department has eight vehicles equipped with onboard cameras and state-of-the-art breathalyzer/testing equipment. All law enforcement personnel are equipped with bullet-proof gear and carry state-of-the-art weaponry. Members of the sheriff's department have been extensively trained in drug awareness and enforcement, HAZ MAT, interrogations, and many other areas.

The sheriff's department provides regular patrol to local industries, checking security sites, entrances, and exits on a rotating basis.

An extensive upgrade of the county's 911 system and the install of a Global Information System is planned for 2006.

A new communications tower was erected in 2005, enhancing emergency communication for the area by extending the county's capabilities.

The crime rate per 1,000 population in York County in 2004 was 19.3 compared to a state crime rate of 37.7 and a national rate of 39.8.

### **State Patrol**

Troop C of the Nebraska State Patrol is headquartered in Grand Island. Fifty-one patrol officers are headquartered there; five are stationed in York.

## **STREETS**

There are 17 miles of streets in McCool Junction, with 10 miles hard-surfaced and 7 miles of gravel. There are no local load restrictions. Fifty-eight percent have curbs and 42 percent have sidewalks. Street maintenance includes sweeping, snow removal, patching, and plowing. Contemplated changes in the next five years include paving 7-10 blocks of streets and installing gutters at an estimated cost of \$290,000 to be financed by Tax Anticipation Notes or Bond Anticipation Notes.

## **BUILDING AND ZONING REGULATIONS**

Building codes and regulations enforced in the community include the Nebraska Electrical and Plumbing Codes.

Local zoning classifications are:

C1	Commercial Business
C2	Downtown Commercial
I	Industrial
R1	Single- or Multi-Family Dwellings
A	Agricultural

## **PLANNING**

The McCool Junction Planning Commission is comprised of five members who are appointed for four-year terms by the village board. The village has a one-mile planning jurisdiction around the village limits.

A comprehensive plan for the village of McCool Junction was prepared in 1980 and revised in 1999 by Stahr and Associates.

# COMMUNITY FACILITIES

## SCHOOLS AND COLLEGES

### McCool Junction Public School System

Type of School	Classrooms	Students	Teacher/ Pupil Ratio	Computer/ Pupil Ratio
Elementary	10	94	1:13	1:3
High School	15	110	1:12	1:3

McCool Junction Public School District No. 83 in York County covers approximately 85 square miles and has a 2004 actual valuation of \$96,565,845. This Class 2 District is accredited by the Nebraska Department of Education and the North Central Association of College and Schools.

The 2004–05 school operating expenses totaled \$1,472,382, with an average cost per pupil of \$7,218. The actual valuation per pupil was \$473,362.

The elementary school, built in 1965, has a maximum capacity of 150 and the high school, built in 1916, and has a maximum capacity of 160.

#### Test Results

Name	% Students Taking Test	Composite Score
ACT	80	21

It is estimated that 100 percent of the eighth grade students finish high school, 82 percent of the graduating seniors pursue a college degree, 6 percent enter the military, and 12 percent of seniors enter the job market immediately after graduation.

McCool Junction High School offers tech prep classes such as Business, Industrial Technology, Family Consumer Science, and Vocational Agriculture.

**York Community Education** is available to McCool Junction residents. This program provides a diverse range of services in York, five miles from McCool Junction. Adult Basic Education classes are available to those seeking to complete their

general educational development, as well as English instruction for those who otherwise speak only a foreign language. There is also a wide variety of classes for adults who want to broaden their horizons.

The **Alternative School** in York is available for young people who need an extra educational opportunity. This program serves a wide range of students including those who are no longer attending high school and those who have missed classes. The program was established in 2002 to help students get back on track and transition to the regular classroom.

#### Parochial Schools

Three private schools are located in York, five miles from McCool Junction:

- Emmanuel Lutheran School (K–8)
- Larsen Christian Academy (K–8)
- St. Joseph’s Catholic School (Pre–K–8)

Two private schools are located in Waco, 18 miles from McCool Junction:

- Nebraska Evangelical Lutheran High School (9–12)
- Trinity Elementary School (K–8)

#### Educational Service Unit

McCool Junction Public School System is a member of Educational Service Unit 6 (ESU 6), headquartered in Milford and serves five counties. Educational opportunities for all member schools are available as identified. ESU 6 responds to service requests regarding instructor training,

shared/mobile programs, assists with economic matters for schools, expands distance learning, and provides other technology opportunities.

### Community College

McCool Junction is part of **Southeast Community College** (SCC), which is governed by an 11-member Board of Governors elected from the college's 15-county service area. The college is a multi-campus institution with campuses at Beatrice, Milford, and Lincoln. The total credit unduplicated student enrollment as of June 30, 2005, was 15,997 students. As of June 30, 2005, the college also served 15,928 non-credit students in Continuing Education on the campuses and in communities throughout southeast Nebraska. The combined unduplicated enrollment for SCC was 31,925 students.

Milford, located 40 miles from McCool Junction, is the home of Milford Campus of Southeast Community College. SCC has provided technical and career education for students from across the state since 1941. Before the Milford campus became part of the SCC system in 1973, it was a separate institution, the first technical college in Nebraska.

For 2004–05 SCC enrolled 9,382 full-time equivalent students. Ninety-two percent of SCC's career/technical program graduates began careers or continued their education and 93 percent of the Academic Transfer program graduates continued their education in four-year institutions while 5 percent accepted employment; 2 percent did not respond.

SCC-Milford offers 24 programs leading to an associates of applied science degree. Some programs also offer diplomas as well as the AAS degree. According to the 2004 SCC Placement Report, the number of graduates in the programs at Milford (with a few also offered at SCC-Lincoln) and their graduate numbers are:

<b>2004–05 Program Graduates</b>	
<b>Program</b>	<b># of Graduates</b>
Architectural-Engineering Technology	41
Auto Collision Repair Technology	32
Automotive Technology*	69
Building Construction Technology	48

<b>Program</b>	<b># of Graduates</b>
Business Administration **	201
Computer Programming Technology	26
Daimler-Chrysler (CAP) College Automotive Program	8
Deere Construction & Forestry Equipment Technology	5
Diesel Technology - Farm	27
Diesel Technology - Truck	13
Electrical Technology	46
Electromechanical Technology	23
Electronic Servicing & Electronic Engineering Technology*	42
Ford Automotive Student Service Educational Training (ASSET) Program	10
General Motors (ASEP) Automotive Student Service Educational Training	10
Graphic Design***	0
Heating, Ventilation, Air Conditioning & Refrigeration Technology	29
John Deere Ag Parts***	0
John Deere Ag Tech	23
Land Surveying/Civil Engineering Technology	22
Machine Tool Technology*	31
Manufacturing Engineering Technology	21
Nondestructive Testing Technology	19
Parts Marketing & Management Technology	12
Welding Technology*	37

\*Includes Lincoln Campus

\*\*Includes Beatrice and Lincoln Campuses

\*\*\*Varies quarterly by starting date

SCC is accredited by the Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association. In 2002 SCC was visited by an evaluation team to determine whether or not SCC should receive continuing accreditation as a college. Following the team visit, the Higher Learning Commission awarded the college with a 10-year accreditation, the highest status an institution can earn.

Students who complete a required program of study can earn associate of applied science, associate of arts, and associate of science degrees. The college also awards certificates and diplomas in some programs. The college provides 48 career/technical programs, which lead to immediate employment or further education. A number of students also enroll in SCC's Academic Transfer

program, which includes the first two years of college course work for transfer to four-year colleges and universities.

SCC's Continuing Education division offers a variety of classes on the campuses and in communities throughout the SCC service district. These classes include assistance with preparation for the general educational development (high school equivalency) test, English Language Learning, and citizenship classes.

Continuing Education also offers classes for personal growth as well as many classes for professional development to improve job skills to advance in current careers or learning new careers. The Workforce Development Training Services department of Continuing Education provides classes and seminars for businesses of all sizes throughout southeast Nebraska to educate their employees on topics employers choose. These classes are tailored to meet the needs of each specific business and are offered at times and locations that are most convenient for employers and employees.

In addition to the regular programs, the Milford Campus offers Continuing Education classes in Welding, Auto Collision Repair, and other areas, as individual employee and business needs are identified. Classes are also offered through the local area Continuing Education program in Seward.

SCC Milford currently operates John Deere Pro Tech, a corporate training center for John Deere technicians. This center provides customized training to John Deere dealer technicians. The length of training periods varies according to dealer needs.

For more information on Southeast Community College, visit [www.southeast.edu](http://www.southeast.edu).

McCool Junction is also served by the **Central Community College** system, which encompasses a 25-county area. The college is governed by an 11-member Board of Governors elected by the citizens of the counties served. Administrative offices are located in Grand Island with 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 2004–05 academic year, 25,588 students were enrolled in Central Community College courses, with approximately 15,920 participating in off-campus programs.

### **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 courses 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.

—High School Completion (General Educational Development (GED)) 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 association, 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.

**2004-05 Program Graduates**

<b>Program</b>	<b># of Graduates</b>
Accounting	15
Agriculture Occupations	14
Art, Commercial	5
Associate Degree in Nursing	44
Auto Body Technology	59
Automotive Technology	19
Business Administration	91
Business Technology (Office Technology)	75
Commercial Horticulture	15
Construction Technology	43
Criminal Justice	22
Dental Assisting	18
Dental Hygiene	13
Diesel Technology	9
Drafting Occupations	53
Electrical Technology	31
Electronics Technology	55
Early Childhood Education	88
Health Information Management Services	40
Heating, Air Conditioning, Refrigeration	17
Hospitality Management & Culinary Services	5
Human Services	20
Industrial Technology	44
Information Technology	68
Machine Tool Technology	6

**Program # of Graduates**

Media Arts	22
Medical Assisting	12
Medical Laboratory Technology	13
Paralegal Studies	17
Parts Sales & Management	9
Practical Nursing	75
Quality Control	18
Welding Technology	37

**Total 1,072**

**Colleges and Universities**

**York College**, founded in 1890 in York, five miles from McCool Junction, is a private liberal arts college affiliated with the Church of Christ. It is accredited by the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools. Approximately 500 students are enrolled annually. The student-to-faculty ratio is 12 to 1. The average class size is 22 students. The student body represents most U.S. states, as well as Canada, and many other countries.

Degree programs include Bible Studies, Basic Business Education, Biology, Business Education, Communications, Elementary Education, English, English Education, General Studies, History, History Education, Mathematics Education, Middle Grades Education, Natural Science Education, Physical Education, Physical Science Education, Reading and Writing Education, Religious Studies, Special Education, Speech, and Theatre Education. The bachelor of business administration degree is included with majors in Accounting, Business Administration, Finance, Human Resource Management, and Management. Other bachelor degrees may be obtained, such as music and science, as well as associate degrees in arts and sciences.

The York Panthers compete in the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics Division II and the National Christian College Athletic Association. Organized team sports in six women's and six men's categories are available at York College. Students may choose between 10 social clubs, 12 athletic teams, 5 performance groups, 4 Christian outreach groups, and 3 literary publications.



McCool Public School



McCool Gymnasium



McCool School Track



McCool School



St. Patrick's Catholic Church



First Lutheran Church



United Methodist Church

The college continues to grow in both classrooms and housing. New student housing complexes are being constructed, expanding the campus extensively with completion anticipated in 2006.

### Other Schools

Colleges, universities, and community colleges frequently attended by McCool Junction High School graduates include:

<b>Community/ College or University</b>	<b>Mileage</b>
<b>Seward</b> Concordia University	38
<b>Milford</b> Southeast Community College, Milford Campus	39
<b>Crete</b> Doane College	42
<b>Lincoln</b> Nebraska Wesleyan University Southeast Community College, Lincoln Campus University of Nebraska-Lincoln	55
<b>Grand Island</b> Central Community College, Grand Island Campus	56
<b>Columbus</b> Central Community College, Columbus Campus	60
<b>Kearney</b> University of Nebraska at Kearney	89

### CHURCHES

<b>Denomination</b>	<b>Number of Churches</b>
Catholic	1
Lutheran, Evangelical	1
Methodist	1

### HEALTH CARE

There are approximately 570 physicians within a 50-mile radius of York, the county seat of York County, with a ratio of 71 doctors for every 1,000 population. Forty-three dentists practice within this 50-mile radius.

**York General Health Care Services** operates York General Hospital, Hearthstone, West View Medical Building, Medical Office Building, and Meadowlark Assisted Living.

**Henderson Health Care Services** operates Henderson Hospital, Henderson Family Care Clinic, Henderson Care Center, Rosewood Court, and Prairie Garden Estates.

### Rescue Squad

McCool Junction has a first responder team, assisted by the York Fire Department. The York Department utilizes three rescue units in providing full-time paramedic service for York County.

### Hospital

**York General Hospital**, a part of York General Health Care Services, delivers medical care in its 25-bed acute care facility with all private rooms. Medical services include emergency services, MRI and CT scanning, inpatient and outpatient surgical suite, obstetrics, a specialty clinic, and additional services.

**Henderson Hospital**, a part of Henderson Health Care Services, was built in 1974 and is located 13 miles from McCool Junction. The hospital has a licensed capacity of 13 acute and skilled beds, a labor and delivery suite, and surgery suite. Comprehensive inpatient services include obstetric, pediatric, medical surgical, geriatric trauma, cardiac care, and intensive care.

**Tabitha Health Care** provides hospice care in York County. Home health care is also available from several entities.

### Clinics

Multiple specialty clinics at the York General Health Care Services are served by more than 40 specialists who travel to York on a rotating schedule.

**The York Medical Clinic** opened in April 2005 in a newly constructed facility attached to the York General Hospital. The physician-owned, full-service family practice clinic has been serving

the area since 1965. The clinic, with its own high-complex laboratory and x-ray and ultrasound capabilities, is staffed with seven family practice physicians, three physician assistants, and one certified diabetic educator. The York Medical Clinic and York General Health Care Services jointly provide an obstetric program. Satellite clinics are operated in Stromsburg and Exeter.

**West View Medical Building**, a part of York General Health Care Services, houses home health services, dialysis, sleep studies, and a child care program.

**Henderson Family Care** is a physician's clinic attached to the hospital. Constructed in 2003, the clinic has ten exam rooms and houses the business offices for the entire medical complex. Services include physical, speech, and occupational therapies; ultrasounds; CAT scans; mammography; and bone densitometry. The specialty clinic is staffed by physicians from surrounding communities. These specialties include cardiology, urology, OB/GYN, orthopedics, and general surgery.

## SKILLED NURSING

Skilled nursing facilities within a close proximity to Waco include:

**Hearthstone**, a part of York General Health Care Services, located five miles from McCool Junction, which opened in 2003. The medicaid/medicare approved long-term care facility has a capacity of 129. Originally established in 1958, the facility provides skilled nursing services; physical, occupation, and speech therapies; social work services; nutritional services; activities, laundry, and environmental services. Adult day care, respite care, and hospice services are also available. Meals are provided for the York Meals-on-Wheels program (which delivers noon lunches to shut-ins) and a child care program is maintained.

**Henderson Care Center**, located 13 miles from McCool Junction, was built in 1961 with an addition in 1969 is certified with the Department of Health and Human Services (Medicaid). Licensed for 41 beds, the center offers respite care, home and rural health care, registered dietitian, activities

department, registered pharmacist, and social services department. "A Touch of Home" concept, establishing two neighborhoods, was implemented in 2004.

The **Utica Community Care Center**, located 24 miles from McCool Junction, is a 41-bed nursing facility certified by Medicaid. The center provides IV and rehabilitation therapy. The center accepts those with head trauma and brain injury and specializes in an intergenerational environment.

## SPECIAL SERVICES

**Region V Services** in York, located five miles from McCool Junction, is a statewide program to assist the mentally and physically challenged.

**Epworth Village** in York was founded in 1889 as an orphanage. Epworth Village developed its own system of care through the multilevel programs offered. The facility consists of a 24-bed residential treatment center, a 26-bed treatment group home, 10-bed traditional group home, and a private school that is operated 12 months of the year. Services include day treatment, outpatient services, and independent living, as well as standard educational classes. The system of care allows for continuity in the treatment process regardless of which level the youth may enter into care.

**Mosaic**, a recently formed partnership of Bethphage and Martin Luther Homes, provides developmental disability services, housing, and work opportunities for the developmentally challenged in York. Mosaic provides ways for such individuals to be part of the community while learning life skills. Mosaic operates the York Area Solid Waste Agency Recycling Center at the landfill.

The **Four Corners Health Department** is the regional public health office for York, Seward, Polk, and Butler counties. The Department works with community partners to identify related needs, assure access to appropriate health care, develops and implements policies to improve the health of the community. Services include surveillance and investigation of health concerns and diseases, health and safety education, assistance in identification of health and safety resources.

## LIBRARY

The **Kilgore Memorial Library** in York, five miles from McCool Junction, contains 57,100 volumes and has an average annual circulation of 71,237. The library has books (including large print editions), magazines, newspapers, books on cassette and CD, and movies in DVD and VHS format. An online searchable catalog at [www.yorklib.org](http://www.yorklib.org), online York News-Times Index and Community Resource database, local newspapers on microfilm, NebraskaAccess full text databases, interlibrary loan services, meeting and study rooms, and overhead and opaque projectors are available. The library has a public pay telephone, copier, tax forms, talking books for the blind, obituary retrieval services for genealogical purposes, and seven public Internet stations. Programs include preschool story times during the school year, story times for Head Start and home schooled children, two adult-led book clubs, summer reading program for K-5 and 6-8 grades, Dial-A-Story for elementary children, and the young adult Puppet Academy. The library is a Nebraskard participant and has a youth advisory council.

## RECREATION

There are two parks in McCool Junction. McCool Junction's downtown Bachman Park, covering one-half block, provides excellent recreation for children and adults alike. The park surrounds the historic town hall, which is used for a number of events throughout the year.

Northside Park, covering 12 acres, has two ballfields, a large state-of-the-art playground, camping area, rest room facilities, concession stand, tractor pull track and facilities, sand volleyball court, and picnic shelters. There is also a lighted baseball/softball field.

McCool Junction also has two unsupervised playgrounds.

### York County Area Facilities:

Boating — Branched Oak  
Bowling — One alley with 16 lanes in York

Campgrounds — Henderson, Waco  
Fishing — Recharge Lake, Blue River, Henderson, Branched Oak  
Golf Courses — Three public, 18-hole courses with grass greens; one course with clubhouse  
Hunting — Deer, pheasant, duck, goose, turkey, squirrel, rabbit, and fur-bearing animals  
Miniature Golf — Waco  
Racing — Junction Motor Speedway, McCool Junction  
Sand Volleyball — Courts in Bradshaw, York, Benedict, McCool Junction, Thayer, Waco, Henderson  
Skating — Rollerskating rink in York  
Soccer — Two fields in York, Waco, McCool Junction  
Swimming — York Family Aquatic Center, Henderson Aquatic Center, Sutton, Utica  
Tennis — Eight courts  
Theaters — Three screens, 394 seats  
Other — Yorkshire Playhouse (community theatre) 150 seats

Annual events include the **Mustang Roundup**, in July including flower and art shows, train displays, live music, barbecues, parade, sand volleyball tournaments, "fun run," bake off, and melodrama. The **Living Nativity Pageant**, a live production presented during the Christmas season, features live animals and characters dressed in authentic-looking costumes. The York County Fair, held the last weekend in July, features 4-H activities, Figure 8 car races, demo derby, displays, livestock competition, Ag Hall of Fame awards, barbecues, carnival, fun run, petting zoo, food vendors, etc. Yorkfest, held the second weekend in September, includes a parade, food vendors, Figure 8 car races, fun run, luncheons, displays, and contests.

Summer recreation programs include Legion and Little League baseball and softball.

McCool Junction's senior meals are served every Wednesday and Friday. Healthy, well-balanced meals are provided at a reduced cost; activities are held after the meals are served.

The **Junction Motor Speedway** opened in 2003 inside the city limits. The large oval supports high speeds, with long stretches and distance around the track. The track touts food and beverages, racing memorabilia, festive music, and seating for thousands of racing fans. Special viewing rooms are available by reservation. Camping facilities are provided on-site. Events in 2005 featured stock, modified, hobby stock, 360 sprints, cruisers, Outlaw Trucks, a tractor pulling series, Monster Trucks, late models, dwarfs, ProAms, motorcycles, midgets, and more.

**Stone Creek Event Center** in McCool Junction is an 8,000 square foot unique facility available for auctions, conferences, wedding receptions, meetings, and other events. The facility, which is privately owned, also includes a display of old cars and automotive antiques.

The **Blue River**, which winds around the southern portion of the village, provides a natural setting for fishing, hiking, etc.

The **McCool Junction Public School** gym is open to the public, depending on the school events. The gym also has a weight room.

The **York Family Aquatic Center** opened in York in 2005. Features include large open and enclosed slides, a full-length lap pool, zero-depth entry, fountains, concessions, and locker rooms. The outdoor play features are special and unique, offering entertainment for all ages.

The **Henderson Aquatic Center**, located 13 miles from McCool Junction, opened in 2002 in Henderson with modern play features.

**Recharge Lake Recreation Area** is a man-made lake, created by the local natural resources district, located on the western edge of the city of York. The recreation area provides a camping area, picnic tables, and grills. Fishing boats are allowed. Fishing enthusiasts enjoy the lake, stocked with a variety of game fish. Visitors may observe a variety of wildlife species in the area, while hiking or walking on the nature trails.

The **Double Nickel Campground** in Waco, 12 miles from McCool Junction, offers RV

hook-ups, shower/rest room facilities, convenience items, a swimming pool, and much more. The Sandy Meadows Golf Course, a nine-hole attraction, is located next to the campground.

The **York Community Center** is a full-service exercise and recreation facility owned and operated by the city of York. The center, open to the public for a nominal membership fee, offers an indoor swimming pool, hot tub, basketball courts, racquetball courts, weight room, locker rooms, and game room.

The newly constructed **York Senior Center** in downtown York, located five miles from McCool Junction, is handicapped accessible. Noon meals are provided twice a week for seniors as are regular entertainment, speakers, health programs, information, etc. The senior center is governed by a private board of directors (who are also investors). The facility, complete with meeting space and commercial kitchen, is available for rent by the public.

### **Cultural Activities**

Melodrama and comedy productions are performed throughout the year by residents of the village of McCool Junction. These well-attended and acclaimed shows take place in the historical town hall in the downtown area.

The **York County Historical Society**, [www.rootsweb.com/~neyork/](http://www.rootsweb.com/~neyork/), houses historical records and artifacts and is a source of information for those investigating the area's history as well as for assistance in genealogy projects and tracing family histories.

The **Yorkshire Playhouse** in York opened in 2000 in a completely renovated historical building. Both adult and family comedies are performed by talented members of the community. People travel from more than 40 Nebraska communities to enjoy the productions. Four productions are presented annually, as well as children's theater shows, special programs, workshops, and the annual Yorkie Awards. The playhouse also hosts programs performed by the York Area Writers Guild, art and photo contests, special music through the Lied Center, rotating displays of York Artists

Guild, and many other events. The facility is available for special seminars and programs.

The **Palmer Museum**, located in the York Community Center, offers historic displays dating back to the Prehistoric Age. The museum, open to the public on a daily basis, offers a look into the past—the early pioneer days in York County, the early 1900s, and the Depression. Special displays are arranged on a monthly basis.

## HOUSING

### New Construction

Five new homes were constructed in McCool Junction in 2003–04 at an average cost of \$100,000. There were 16 single-family zoning permits issued during the last five years.

### York County as of January 6, 2006:

#### Number of Homes on the Market

Single Family - 52

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

Single Family Home

2,500 sq. ft. - 3 bedrooms \$120,725

1,000 sq. ft. - 3 bedrooms \$66,845

#### Number of Single Family Homes

#### for Sale by Price (New and Existing)

Less than \$100,000 52

\$100,000–\$150,000 23

\$150,001–\$200,000 18

\$200,001–\$250,000 0

\$250,001 and over 1

**Total 94**

### Low Cost and/or Retirement Housing

The **Hearthstone Retirement Campus**, a part of York General Health Care Services in York, located five miles from McCool Junction, offers several types of independent retirement housing, on one campus. Two complexes of one bedroom and efficiency apartments, **Hearthstone Court** (26 units) and **Hearthstone Place** (20 units), are subsidized by HUD and USDA Rural Development, respectively. A third complex, **Meadowlark Estates** (12 units), provides private market-rate, two-bedroom, 900-square foot apartments, with access to housekeeping services. Retirement home/duplexes and building sites are also available.

The York Housing Authority operates the **Leisure Home**, a 107-unit complex for elderly, disabled, and handicapped individuals. A conference room and community room were added to the Leisure Home in 2004. Monthly rent for the facility is based on household income. Rental assistance is provided on a monthly basis through the HUD Section 8 Voucher and Certificate Programs to families in the York area.

**Midtown Manor** in Henderson, 13 miles from McCool Junction, provides housing for senior citizens. Built in 1965 at a cost of \$487,000, it consists of 20 units, accommodating approximately 30 people. An administration building and a community room are available for the residents.

### Assisted Living

**Meadowlark Assisted Living**, a part of York General Health Care Services, provides extra care while allowing residents to live as independently as desired. Staff is available 24 hours daily and can assist with living activities, as well as medication administration, scheduling doctor appointments, and more.

The **Mahoney House** is a licensed, assisted living home with 39 units in York. Each apartment is equipped with a small refrigerator and microwave. It provides 24-hour assistance with day-to-day living in a home-like environment. Three home-cooked meals each day, social activities, weekly housekeeping, and laundry service are provided. Other services are offered according to the tenants' needs.

**Rosewood Court** with 12 one-bedroom suites and **Prairie Garden Estates** with 4 units are located in Henderson. These assisted living facilities provide a wide range of services.

## FINANCIAL

As of June 30, 2005:

Name	Capital	
	Accounts	Deposits Loans
-----thousand dollars-----		
Cornerstone Bank*	\$31,739	\$357,306 \$222,081

\*Branch bank in McCool Junction; figures represent headquarters.



Bachman Park



North Side Park

## COMMUNITY SERVICES

### BUSINESS AND COMMERCIAL

Agri-Services .....	5
Antique Shops .....	1
Auto Repair & Services .....	1
Automobile Dealers .....	1
Aviation Seeding & Sprayers .....	1
Bank .....	1
Banquet Facilities, Halls & Auditoriums .....	2
Beauty Salons & Barber Shops .....	2
Caterers .....	1
Child Care Services .....	3
Contractors—building .....	4
—carpentry .....	4
—electric .....	1
—general .....	4
—heating & air conditioning .....	1
—roofing .....	4
Convenience Stores .....	2
Craft Stores .....	1
Floral Shops .....	1
Gift Shops .....	1
Grain Elevators .....	1
Honey Producers .....	1
Restaurants .....	1
Speedway/Racetracks .....	1
Taverns .....	2
Upholstery .....	1
Variety Stores .....	1



Cornerstone Bank



Stone Creek



Racetrack

## AGRICULTURE & RAW MATERIALS

### AGRICULTURE

2002 Statistics	York County	State of Nebraska
Number of Farms	617	49,335
Land in Farms (acres)	353,762	45,903,116
Average Size of Farms (acres)	573	930
Market Value of Agricultural Products Sold	\$160,833,000	\$9,703,657,000
Market Value Per Farm	\$260,669	\$196,609
Total Acres Irrigated	241,525	7,625,170
Percent of Farmland Irrigated	68.3%	16.6%
<b>Five-Year Average Production of Leading Crops (2000–2004)</b>		
All Alfalfa Hay	17,464 tons	4,572,600 tons
Corn for Grain	33,222,700 bu.	1,107,650,000 bu.
Sorghum Grains	492,340 bu.	30,063,000 bu.
Soybeans	4,916,080 bu.	195,251,000 bu.
<b>Five-Year Average Livestock Population (2001–2005)</b>		
All Cattle	54,600	6,360,000

York County ranked in the top three counties in Nebraska in the production of corn for grain for the past ten years.

Source: Nebraska Agriculture Statistics Services, 2000–2005  
2002 Census of Agriculture

### RAW MATERIALS

Sand and gravel, nonmetallic minerals, are available in commercial quantities; however, metallic minerals are not found in the York County area. Alfalfa, another product available in the county, is shipped in powder and pellet form to other areas for use in various types of commercial feed.



McCool Baseball Field

## CLIMATE

### TEMPERATURE, PRECIPITATION, AND HUMIDITY

Month	AVERAGES						Humidity*	
	Temperature			Precipitation		Morning	Afternoon	
	Min.	Mean	Max.	Rain (Inches)	Snow (Inches)			
January	12.4	22.9	33.4	0.72	7.1	77	65	
February	17.7	28.5	39.4	0.82	6.2	78	63	
March	26.5	37.8	49.0	1.91	5.9	79	59	
April	38.6	51.0	63.4	2.63	1.2	79	53	
May	50.5	62.2	73.9	4.32	0.1	82	56	
June	60.5	72.5	84.4	4.26	0.0	82	54	
July	65.6	77.2	88.9	3.73	0.0	84	57	
August	63.3	75.0	86.7	3.27	0.0	86	58	
September	53.3	65.8	78.3	2.63	0.0	84	55	
October	41.2	54.1	67.0	1.67	0.4	79	51	
November	27.7	38.7	49.8	1.34	3.2	80	60	
December	17.6	27.8	37.9	0.75	6.1	79	65	
<b>Annual</b>	39.6	51.1	62.7	28.06	30.3	81	58	

\*Recorded at Grand Island Weather Station

### FROST DATA

Average date of last frost in spring .....	April 24
Average date of first frost in fall .....	October 10
Average length of growing season .....	169 days
Average number of "heating degree days" based on 65° Fahrenheit .....	6,176
Average number of "cooling degree days" based on 65° Fahrenheit .....	1,150
Wind speed in miles per hour (annual average) .....	12
Prevailing wind direction (annual average) .....	South

Source: High Plains Regional Climate Center, University of Nebraska, 1948–2005, [www.hprcc.unl.edu](http://www.hprcc.unl.edu)