

# COMMUNITY FACTS

## OGALLALA, NEBRASKA

[www.ogallala-ne.gov](http://www.ogallala-ne.gov)

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

**FEBRUARY 2007**

### POPULATION

(Official U.S. Census)

	<u>2000</u>	<u>2005 Est.</u>
Ogallala	4,930	4,696
Keith County	8,875	8,330
Labor Market*	54,821	54,456

\*Includes Keith County and contiguous counties

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 Ogallala, Nebraska. This material was compiled by the Ogallala/Keith County Chamber of Commerce and Nebraska Public Power District in order to promote community development.

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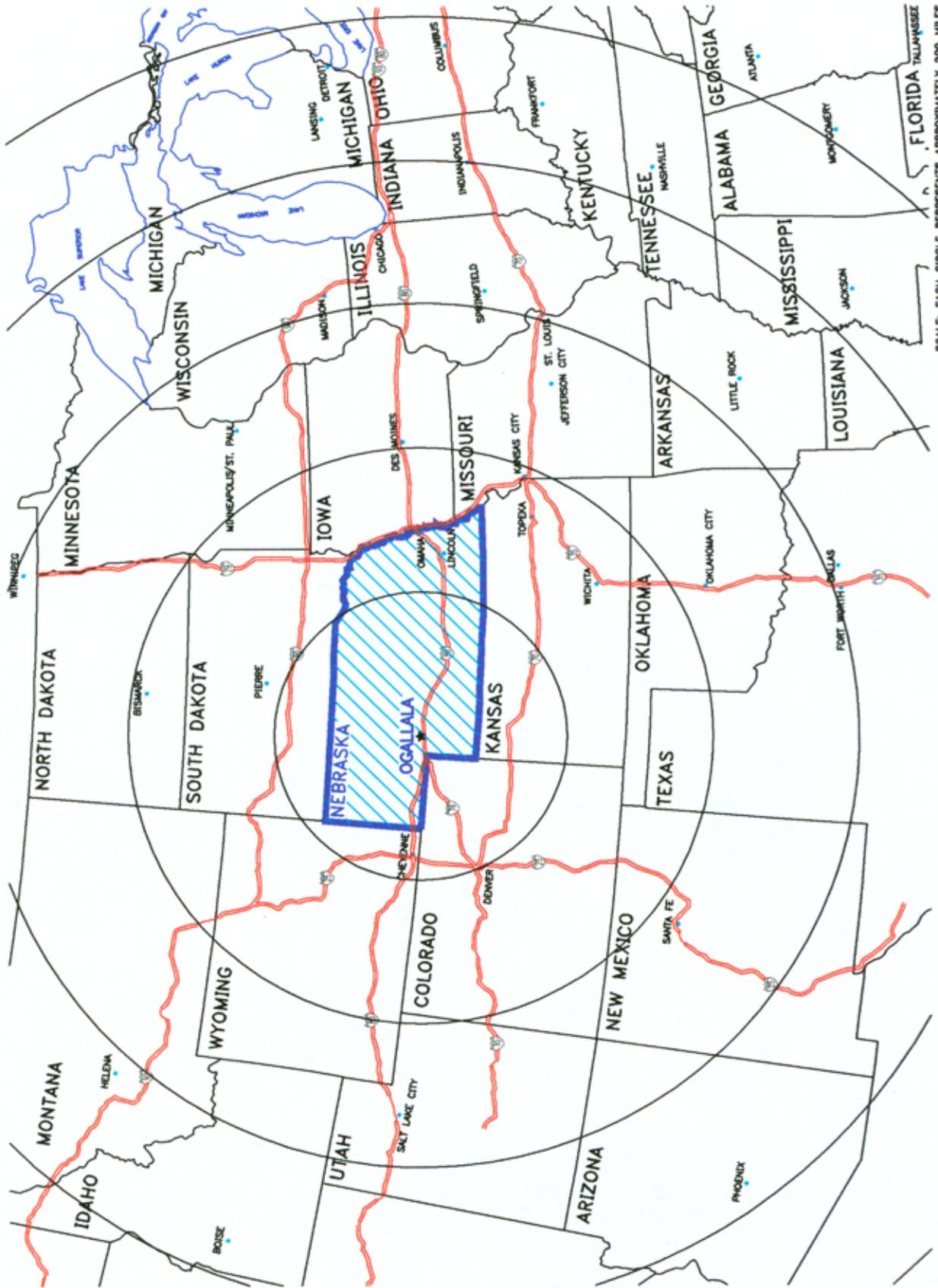
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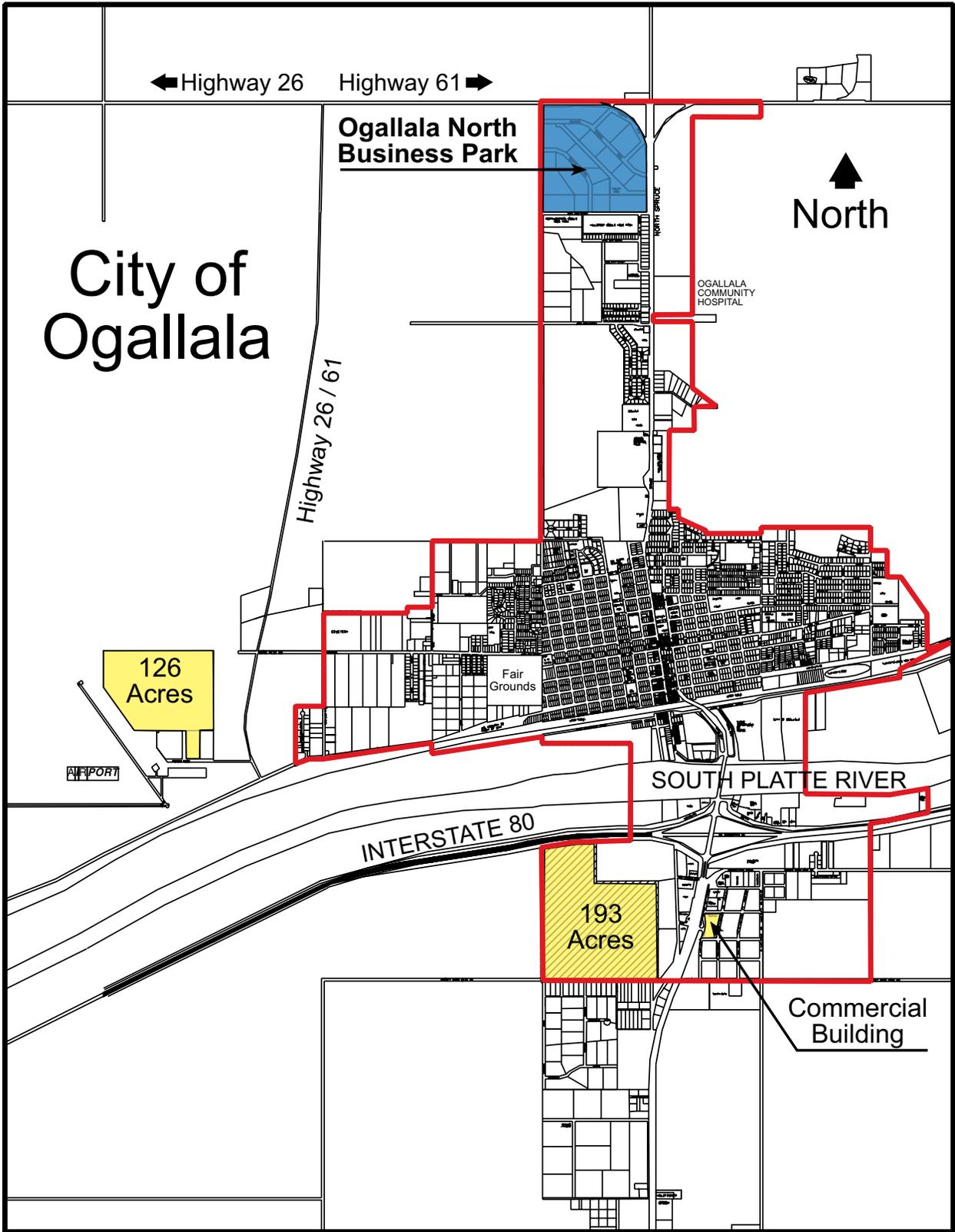
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SCALE: EACH CIRCLE REPRESENTS APPROXIMATELY 200 MILES



## GENERAL INFORMATION

### LOCATION

Ogallala, the county seat of Keith County, is located in southwestern Nebraska. U.S. Highways 30 and 26 and Nebraska Highway 61 intersect in Ogallala. Interstate 80 is within the city limits. Ogallala is 330 miles west of Omaha and 214 miles northeast of Denver.

### POPULATION (U.S. CENSUS)

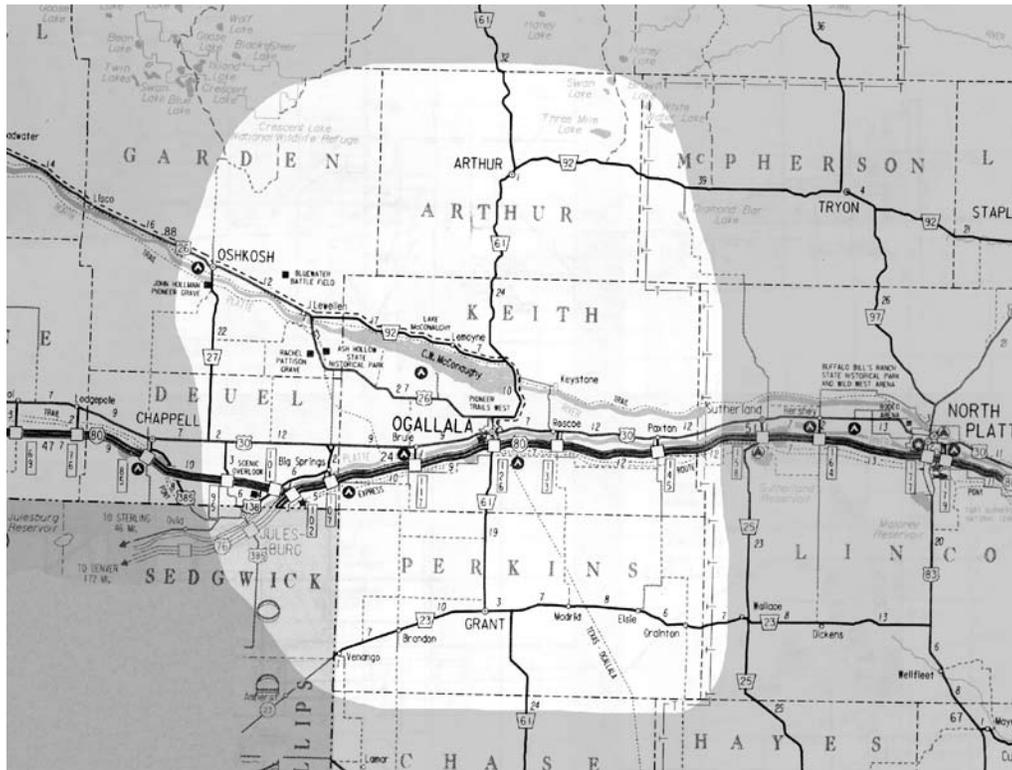
Year	Ogallala	Keith County
1970	4,976	8,487
1980	5,638	9,364
1990	5,060	8,584
2000	4,930	8,875
2005 (Est.)	4,696	8,330

The 2005 U.S. Census estimates 54,456 people live in Keith County and the contiguous Nebraska counties of Deuel, Garden, Arthur, McPherson, Lincoln, and Perkins as well as Sedgwick County in Colorado.

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

One race	8,804
White	8,587
Black or African American	7
American Indian and Alaska Native	63
Asian	15
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander	—
Some other race	132
Two or more races	71
Hispanic or Latino (of any race)	375

There are 25 people in Ogallala fluent in Spanish, two in French, four in Chinese, and five in Hindi.



Primary Retail Trade Area

## **LOCAL ECONOMY**

Basic economic activities in Ogallala, the county seat, include ranching, cattle feeding, manufacturing, and tourism.

From its historic beginnings in the 1870s to today, ranching and cattle feeding are a large part of Ogallala's agricultural industry. The Ogallala Livestock Auction is consistently ranked at the top for sales volume. Irrigated wells fed by the Ogallala Aquifer produce an assortment of crops including winter wheat, corn, dry edible beans, sunflowers, millet, barley, oats, milo, sugar beets, and alfalfa.

The primary retail trade area extends approximately 14 miles east, 34 miles southwest, 30 miles west, and 37 miles north and contains an estimated 13,200 people. Firms in Ogallala reported 2005 net taxable retail sales of \$74,659,492, while Keith County reported retail sales of \$83,721,824. The 28 wholesale firms in the community distribute automotive parts, capacitors, electronics, grain, fittings, pipe, pumps, promotional items, wire, and groceries. Ogallala's economy changed from light manufacturing in the early 1900s to a more service-oriented economy. New technology industries have developed in recent years.

The marketing theme, "The Water, the West, the Best," is appropriate to the third segment in the economy—tourism. From a strong western history to the beautiful shores of Lake McConaughy, the choices are excellent. Ogallala ranks first in per capita tourism income in the state and, even though it is 36th in population size, it ranks seventh in motel revenues. Lake McConaughy records more than 860,000 visitors per year.

A renewed interest was experienced in the development on the south side of Lake McConaughy. Bayside Golf and Country Estates is an 18-hole golf course where the substantial shifts in natural terrain make for unrelenting challenges in the midst of breathtaking views of the state's largest body of water, Lake McConaughy. Lodging is available in 1,600 square foot condos and 20 x 20 foot log cabins. A new 12-plex is also being built with an estimated completion date of May 2007. The Dunes is a planned community

with a focus on recreation and the amenities of Lake McConaughy. The design philosophy for the Dunes carries over to create a harmonious relationship between architecture and landscape. Trail's Crossing, a masterplanned resort and residential community, has a proposal including 1,700 residential sites, two 18-hole golf courses, two marinas, and more. Related businesses are expected to follow the new construction.

## **ELEVATION**

Ogallala is 3,216 feet above sea level.

## **TOPOGRAPHY**

The area north of the South Platte River is mostly rolling sand hills, which have excellent grasses for cattle grazing. South Platte Valley has rich Rosebud and Dawes Valley soil, mostly under irrigation. Keith County is table land with durable soil that is best suited for growing wheat.

## **HISTORY**

In October 1961 the Nebraska Landmark Council erected a historical marker in Ogallala designating the city as the "Cowboy Capital of Nebraska." The story behind that marker plays a large part in the history of the community.

The first business was established in 1868, supplying merchandise to the buffalo hunters and troops protecting frontier settlers. Keith County was organized in 1873.

By 1875 Ogallala had emerged as one of the great cattle towns in the Old West. The Chisholm Trail had been destroyed by farmers settling in eastern Kansas and Oklahoma, forcing the herds westward through Dodge City to Ogallala establishing the Western or Texas Trail. Between 1875 and 1885, hundreds of thousands of Texas cattle were driven up the Western Trail to Ogallala. The cattle were then shipped east or sold to ranchers in the northern plains area.

During this period, Ogallala shared with other famous cow towns that particular part of life in the Old West that has become legendary today. Ogallala opened its doors to the weary but, nevertheless, lusty, and boisterous cowhands who

longed for fun after lonely months on the trail. Liquor, gold, and blood flowed in the gambling rooms of such places as the Cowboy's Rest and the Crystal Palace. The town was not without law and order; however, in 1876 Judge William Gaslin widened the scope of his judicial authority by presiding over court with a Winchester rifle. The trailhands also learned to respect Sheriff Martin DePriest, a Texan, who winked at the letter of the law but maintained order in the community.

Ogallala, named for the Oglala Band of the Dakota Sioux, was incorporated in 1884. In 1885 the trail-driving business collapsed, giving way to a great wave of farmer-settlers. Within a few months, Ogallala changed from a cow town to a farmer shopping center. The increase in population brought with it a building boom, and many new establishments opened to serve the farming community.

After the demise of Ogallala as a cow town, the cattle industry emerged again in modified form based on blooded stock, fenced pastures, and careful financing. In the more recent past, Ogallala has become an important center for the cattle and farming industries in the Platte Valley.

In 1936 construction was started on Kingsley Dam, which impounds the North Platte River for irrigation and power generation. Completed in 1941 at a cost of \$43.5 million, the dam is three and one half miles long, 162 feet high, and 1,100 feet thick at the base.

Since 1941 Ogallala has been known as the "home of Lake McConaughy," Nebraska's largest body of water. With 35,000 surface acres and 105 miles

of shoreline, it is the state's biggest playground and offers year-round fun. At full storage, McConaughy (Big Mac) is 22 miles long, 4 miles wide, and 142 feet deep at the dam. Fishing is the lake's primary drawing card, but because of its white sandy beaches, Big Mac is also noted for its sailing, camping, wind surfing, scuba diving, water skiing, and jet skiing.

Lake Ogallala, just below Kingsley Dam, is Nebraska's premiere eagle-viewing location. Central Nebraska Public Power and Irrigation District operates a heated eagle-viewing observation facility located on the south end of Lake Ogallala.

In 1968 Interstate 80 was built through Ogallala.

The 50-megawatt Kingsley Dam hydroelectric plant, the state's largest, was completed in 1984 at a cost of \$49 million, eight months ahead of schedule. Owned and operated by Central Nebraska Public Power and Irrigation District, the plant was financed by Nebraska Public Power District, who purchases the power generated by the plant.

In 1993 Ogallala won the Governor's Travel Industry Award for Outstanding Event of the Year with a budget of \$5,000 to \$25,000 (for hosting the trans-continental Great American Race luncheon stop celebration). Neighboring Lewellen won as the Outstanding Event with a budget of under \$5,000 for its Oregon Trail Celebration at historic Ash Hollow State Historical Park.

In 2001 Ogallala was named Nebraska Outstanding Tourism Community.





Main Street



Aerial View of Ogallala

## ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

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### MANUFACTURERS

<u>Company/Year Established</u>	<u>Product</u>	<u>Market</u>	<u>Employees</u>		
			<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Union</u>
American Shizuki/ ASC Capacitors 1987 (formerly 1940's)	Capacitors	National & Export	49	158	None
Arnold Magnetic Technologies Corp. (Ogallala Electronics Division) 1963	Electro magnets, electronic & magnetic components	National & Export	21	3	None
D&M Popcorn LLC 2004	Popcorn, packaged	National & Export	1	2	None
Nebraska Print Works, LLC 2005	Commercial printing	Local & Regional	6	3	None
Ogallala Comfort Company 1987	Milkweed fibers, down comforters/body care	National	5	8	None
Ogallala Ready Mix & Block Co. 1974	Ready-mixed concrete, sand, gravel & dirt work	Regional	23	1	None
Precision Machining 1979	Close tolerance lathe & mill work production & subcontract welding	Regional	2	0	None
Rainbow Grain Co. Inc. 1990	Clean small grains	National & Export	10	2	None
Titan Industries (In Paxton, 18 miles) 1984	PVC pipe	National & Export	60	5	None
U.S. Aprons 1986	Aprons, vests, textile	National	2	13	None

## MAJOR NONMANUFACTURING EMPLOYERS (employing 10 or more)

<u>Employer</u>	<u>Type of Activity</u>	<u>Employees</u>		<u>Union</u>
		<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	
21st Century Equipment	Agriculture	20	4	None
Adams Bank & Trust	Financial	11	43	None
ALCO Discount Store	Retail	5	18	None
Agriliance	Agriculture	15	2	None
Banner Health Ogallala Community Hospital & Clinic	Medical	18	116	None
Best Western Stagecoach Inn	Motel	2	25	None
CRT Custom Response Telecenters	Telecommunications	10	16	None
City of Ogallala	Government	33 18*	11 26*	None
City Schools	Education	42	108	NSEA (teachers only)
Educational Service Unit 16	Education	4	47	None
Family Medical Center	Medical	2	9	None
Farmers Cooperative Association	Agriculture	13	25	None
Grey Goose Lodge	Motel	4	13	None
Indian Hills Manor	Nursing home	4	52	None
Johnson, Bergmeier, Wolf & Cipperly	Accounting	8	4	None
Keith County	Government	40	23	None
Keith County News	Newspaper	4	7	None
KOGA/KMCX	Radio stations	6	8	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>	
Nebraska Public Power District	Electric utility	21 1*	4	None
Ogallala Livestock Auction Market	Livestock sales	30	11	None
Pamida	Retail	4	22	None
Pinnacle Bank	Financial	5	17	None
Pro Oil	Fuel supplier	12	5	None
Prophet Systems	Computer software	49	25	None
Safeway	Groceries	13	19	None
Sapp Brothers	Truck stop	4	8	None
SunMart	Groceries	6	31	None
Travel Center of America	Travel center	29	25	None
Valley Bank & Trust	Financial	0	6	None
Wel-Life	Assisted living	1	11	None

\*Part-time and/or seasonal

**OTHER MAJOR AREA EMPLOYERS** (employing more than 100)

<u>Employer</u>	<u>Type of Activity</u>	<u>Employees</u>	<u>Union</u>
<b>Sutherland, 34 miles</b>			
Nebraska Public Power District	Electric generating station	205	None
<b>North Platte, 53 miles</b>			
Cabela's	Teleservices	263	None
Centennial Park Retirement Village	Retirement center	124	None
City of North Platte	Government	321	Yes
Crete Carriers	Transportation	153	None

<b><u>Employer</u></b>	<b><u>Type of Activity</u></b>	<b><u>Employees</u></b>	<b><u>Union</u></b>
First National Bank/Whitetail Finance	Financial	119	None
Great Plains Regional Medical Center	Hospital	736	None
Linden Court	Retirement center	130	None
Lincoln County	Government	193	Yes
Masonite International	Door manufacturing	145	None
Mid-Plains Community College	Education	121	None
Nebraska Public Power District	Utility	259	None
North Platte Public Schools	Education	570	NSEA
Snell Services	Contractors	134	None
U.S. Post Office (Office & Distribution Center)	Government	100	Standard
Union Pacific Railroad	Railroad transportation	2,850	Standard
Wal-Mart Food Distribution Center	Distribution center	506	None
Wal-Mart Supercenter	Retail	381	None

## **ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

### **ORGANIZATIONS**

Keith County Area Development, Ogallala/Keith County Chamber of Commerce, the Community Redevelopment Authority, and the city of Ogallala work together for industrial development in the community.

Keith County Area Development, with nine board members, is funded by membership dues and city and county governments. Administration of the corporation is through the Ogallala/Keith County Chamber of Commerce. The corporation has

developed a business park north of Ogallala and an industrial site south of Ogallala.

Approximately 31 acres of land in and adjacent to Ogallala are zoned for industry. The price of industrially zoned land ranges from \$10,000 to \$14,000 per acre.

### **INDUSTRIAL SITES AVAILABLE**

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



American Shizuki/ASC Capacitors



Arnold Magnetic Technologies Corporation



Nebraska Print Works



Ogallala Ready Mix & Block Company



ALCO Discount Store



CRT Custom Response Telecenters



Ogallala Livestock



Pamida



Prophet Systems



Paulsen, Inc.



USDA Service Center

# LABOR

## LABOR SUPPLY

A. Employment in the Ogallala labor market, which is defined as the whole of Keith County and the total labor market which consists of Keith County and the contiguous Nebraska counties of Deuel, Perkins, Lincoln, McPherson, Arthur, and Garden (10-month average January through October 2006). Information for Sedgwick County, Colorado, another contiguous county, was not available.

<u>Nonfarm Employment</u> (wage and salary workers)	<u>Keith County</u>	<u>Total</u>
Goods-Producing	463	1,616
Trade, Transportation, Warehousing & Utilities	940	(D)
Wholesale Trade	205	(D)
Retail Trade	639	(D)
Transportation, Warehousing & Utilities	96	(D)
Information	62	(D)
Financial Activities	230	(D)
Professional & Business Services	185	(D)
Education & Health Services	363	(D)
Leisure & Hospitality	595	(D)
Other Services	111	(D)
Government	547	4,340
TOTAL NONFARM WAGE AND SALARY WORKERS	3,496	22,453
Farm Employment*	443	3,196
TOTAL EMPLOYMENT	4,793	30,052
B. Commuting Out of County	646	N/A
C. Unemployment	139	894
TOTAL LABOR POTENTIAL	4,932	30,946
D. Estimated number of homemakers, seasonal and part-time workers, and workers who would shift from low-paying jobs who could be expected to work for industry	400	
E. Estimated number of county high school graduates annually	141	
TOTAL POTENTIAL LABOR SUPPLY (B, C, D & E)	1,326	

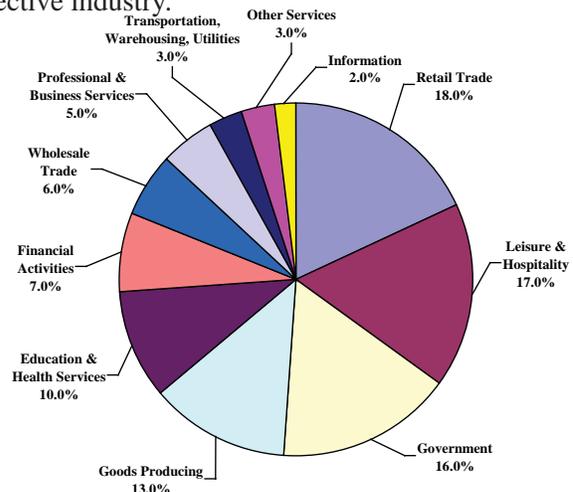
(D) Data not available due to disclosure suppression.

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

A labor study was conducted in 2004; results are available at [www.kcad.org](http://www.kcad.org).

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

**NONFARM WAGE AND SALARY EMPLOYMENT  
KEITH COUNTY  
10-MONTH AVERAGE  
JANUARY THROUGH OCTOBER 2006**

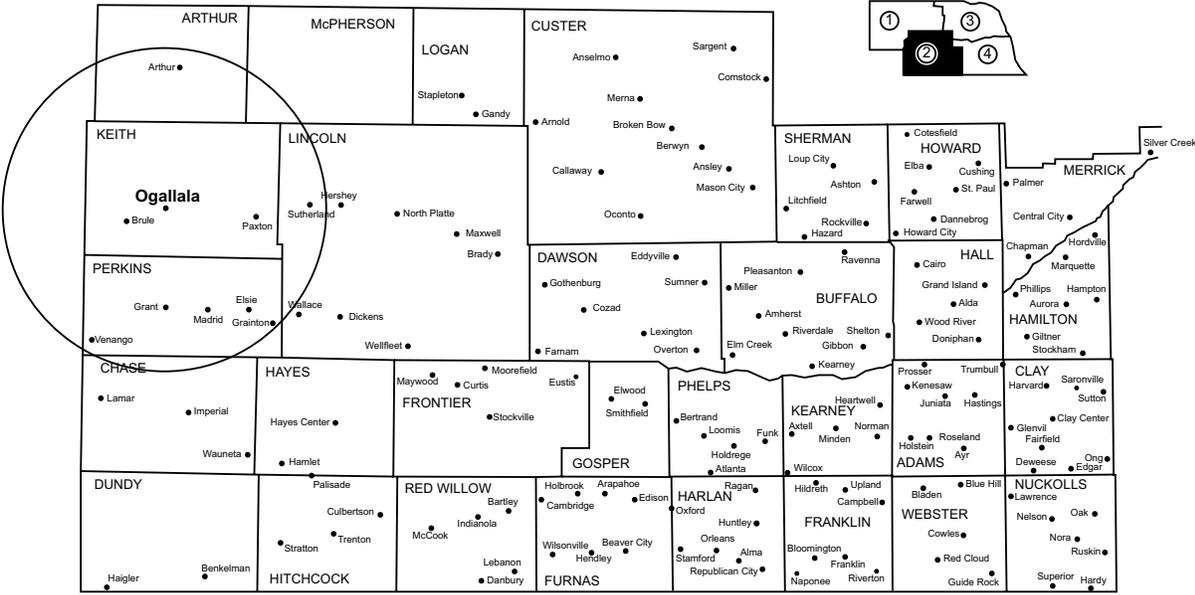


2000 POPULATION DATA						
Location	Density/ Sq. Mile	% 65 Yrs. & Over	Median Age	% High School Graduate or Higher	% Bachelor's Degree or Higher	Median Household Effective Buying Income (2005)
Keith Co.	8.4	18.4	41.1	86.6	16.8	\$31,570
Nebraska	22.3	13.6	35.3	86.6	23.7	\$36,910
U.S.	79.6	12.4	35.9	84.0	26.0	\$39,324

Keith County had 6,507 eligible voters in 2004; 63.9 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, 2005  
 Statewide General Election 2004 Results, [www.sos.state.ne.us/elec/canvass/general2004/General2004](http://www.sos.state.ne.us/elec/canvass/general2004/General2004)

**LABOR POTENTIAL IN THE OGALLALA AREA**



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

2005 Estimate		
City of Ogallala	—	4,696
Keith County	—	8,330
30-Mile Radius	—	15,500

Keith County Population by Age/Gender, 2005		
Ages	Male	Female
18-24	366	365
25-44	893	903
45-64	1,140	1,212

## 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 Ogallala:

<u>Company</u>	<u>Union</u>
Ogallala City Schools	Nebraska State Education Association
Qwest	Communications Workers of America

Approximately four percent of the total nonagricultural labor force in Ogallala 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	18.25	25.21	35.40
Engineers			
Civil Engineers	17.69	25.17	32.61
Electrical Engineers*	23.48	35.29	51.13
Industrial Engineers*	19.47	28.27	44.62
Mechanical Engineers*	19.61	28.24	43.91
Computer Programmers*	13.59	22.85	35.15
Computer Systems Analysts*	16.66	27.97	44.55
Registered Nurses	17.43	23.32	28.36
<b>Retail</b>			
Hotel, Motel & Resort Desk Clerks	5.94	7.57	8.89
Retail Salespersons	6.06	8.95	22.31
Truck Drivers-Light or Delivery Services	6.43	8.42	12.99
Driver/Sales Workers	6.06	9.19	20.09
Stock Clerks & Order Fillers	7.71	12.39	16.60
Shipping, Receiving & Traffic Clerks	7.93	10.64	13.96
<b>Clerical</b>			
Bookkeeping, Accounting & Auditing Clerks	6.81	10.92	16.36
Customer Service Representatives	8.00	10.38	13.87
Data Entry Keyers	9.38	14.59	17.23
Secretaries, excl. Legal, Medical & Executive	7.75	10.80	14.14
Office Clerks, General	6.20	9.17	13.87
Receptionists & Information Clerks	7.24	9.24	13.19
Telemarketers	5.90	7.39	9.17

\*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	7.08	9.70	14.34
Packers & Packagers, Hand	5.99	8.69	13.65
Assemblers & Fabricators, All Other*	7.48	10.75	13.87
Nursing Aides, Orderlies & Attendants	7.51	9.30	11.34
<b>Semi-Skilled</b>			
Industrial Truck & Tractor Operators	9.28	12.34	14.96
Truck Drivers, Heavy or Tractor-Trailer	8.62	12.02	18.30
Maintenance Workers, Machinery*	9.70	13.96	20.99
Machine Operators			
Drilling & Boring Machine Tool Setters/Oper.*	9.98	14.83	17.40
Milling & Planing Machine Setters/Oper.*	9.49	12.61	16.37
Grinding, Lapping, Polishing & Buffing Mach. Oper.*	9.62	12.53	16.01
Cutting & Slicing Machine Setters/Oper.*	9.80	12.27	14.71
Cutting, Punching & Press Machine Setters/Oper.*	9.04	12.17	16.44
Multiple Machine Tool Setters/Oper.*	10.38	13.43	17.28
<b>Skilled</b>			
Automotive Service Technicians & Mechanics	9.16	11.86	20.13
Electricians	10.19	15.10	33.24
Industrial Machinery Mechanics	7.85	14.76	25.71
Machinists	9.61	11.55	15.13
Tool & Die Makers*	12.93	17.34	23.53
Welders, Cutters, Solderers & Brazers	9.49	11.42	14.30
Welding, Soldering & Brazing Machine Setters*	11.18	13.60	17.27
<b>Technical</b>			
Electrical & Electronic Engineering Technicians	13.76	22.97	28.84
Medical & Clinical Laboratory Technologists	17.53	24.95	28.68
Computer Operators	9.75	12.90	14.64

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

Source: Nebraska Workforce Development, Occupational Employment Statistics Program, Third Quarter 2006 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, for the most part, paid on a straight-time basis rather than an incentive basis.

## FRINGE BENEFITS

Based on present experience of existing local industry, on the average, workers are granted eight paid holidays and one to two weeks vacation annually. Seventy to 100 percent of the premiums for group life, accident and sickness, and hospitalization and medical-surgical insurance are paid by industries. Industrial pension plans, stock sharing plans, and profit sharing year-end bonuses are also available.

# TRANSPORTATION

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## RAILROADS

Ogallala is served by a main line of the Union Pacific Railroad. Switching is performed by train crews.

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 McCook, 117 miles southeast of Ogallala, 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 services, and checked baggage service from most cities. Travel time is 15 hours to Chicago and 38 1/2 hours to the West Coast. Amtrak has one train each way daily.

## MOTOR

### Highways

Interstate 80 is located within the city limits. U.S. Highways 30 (east-west) and 26 (northwest) as well as Nebraska Highway 61 (north-south) intersect in Ogallala. There are no local load restrictions. Interstate 76 is 26 miles west of Ogallala.

Highway mileage to major cities:

Destination	Mileage
Lincoln	277
Omaha	330
Chicago	794
Dallas	801
Denver	214
Detroit	1,061
Kansas City	468
Los Angeles	1,225
Minneapolis	706
New York	1,568
St. Louis	720
San Francisco	1,342

## Trucklines

More than 8,000 licensed motor carriers with worldwide connections are based in Nebraska and serve businesses throughout North America.

### Bus Line

Ogallala is served by Trailways with two buses daily and Arrow Lines with one bus daily. Bus parcel service is available through Arrow Lines. Direct service is provided to Omaha, Nebraska, and Denver, Colorado.

Ogallala Public Transportation provides handibus service within the Ogallala city limits.

## AIR

Searle Field, the municipal air field, is located two miles west of Ogallala. The airport has two paved and lighted runways (5,100 feet and 3,700 feet). Other facilities include pilots lounge, hangars, computer weather, 24-hour/7-day access by code, and self-serve 100 low lead and jet A fuel. Fourteen private planes are hangared there; one is available for charter. The elevation at the airport is 3,276 feet, the latitude is 41°07'18"N, and the longitude is 101°46'14"W. The airport was closed one day during the last three years due to inclement weather.

Scheduled air service is available at the North Platte Regional Airport (Lee Bird Field), 51 miles (45 minutes) east of Ogallala.

Airline	Flights Daily	Destination
<b>North Platte</b>		
Great Lakes Aviation	3	Denver International

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

Ogallala has no nearby water transportation.



Searle Field in Ogallala

# UTILITIES

## ELECTRICITY

Ogallala is provided retail electric service by the Nebraska Public Power District (NPPD). The Ogallala distribution has a 34.5 kV ring bus to which two 34.5/4.16 kV substations and three 34.5/12.5 kV substations are connected. The ring bus can be fed from three sources of power. Two sources include Western Area Power Association (WAPA) 115/34.5 kV substations located just south of Ogallala and north and west of Brule. The third source is a 34.5 kV line to NPPD's 230/115/34.5 kV substation located just south of Ogallala. The power complex, located south of Ogallala, consists of a 115/34.5 kV substation owned by Tri-State G & T, and a 230/115/34.5 kV substation owned by NPPD. This complex is tied into the statewide grid system by means of 115,000 volt and 345,000 volt transmission lines.

The 50 MW Kingsley Hydro generation plant, completed in 1984 and located just a few miles northeast of Ogallala, is connected to the NPPD 115,000 volt grid. Kingsley Hydro can independently feed the city of Ogallala and surrounding areas in case of a major storm outage.

### BASE ELECTRIC RATES

Summer bills run from June–September.

### Residential Service, Electric Water Heat: (effective 2/1/03)

<b>Customer Charge:</b> \$13.00 per month		
<b>Summer</b>	<b>Winter</b>	
8.51¢	6.26¢	per kWh for the first 750 kWh used per month
6.98¢	3.74¢	per kWh for all additional use
<b>Minimum Bill:</b> The Customer Charge, subject to applicable Base Rate adjustments		

Subject to application of Retail Production Cost Adjustment (PCA).

Customers who are served from distribution facilities for which NPPD has a Lease Payment or Debt Service obligation and/or a Gross Revenue Tax obligation will have the Base Rate adjusted to include such obligations.

### General Service: (effective 2/1/03)

<b>Customer Charge:</b>		
Single Phase		\$15.00 per month
Three Phase		\$18.50 per month
<b>Summer</b>	<b>Winter</b>	
9.72¢	7.56¢	per kWh for the first 1,000 kWh used per month
7.75¢	5.62¢	per kWh for the next 2,000 kWh used per month
7.75¢	5.02¢	per kWh for all additional use
<b>Minimum Bill:</b> The Customer Charge, subject to applicable Base Rate adjustments		

Subject to application of Retail Production Cost Adjustment (PCA).

Customers who are served from distribution facilities for which NPPD has a Lease Payment or Debt Service obligation and/or a Gross Revenue Tax obligation will have the Base Rate adjusted to include such obligations.

### Commercial Electric Space Heating: (effective 2/1/07)

<b>Customer Charge:</b>		
Single Phase		\$32.50 per month
Three Phase		\$37.50 per month
<b>Summer</b>	<b>Winter</b>	
8.74¢	5.42¢	per kWh for the first 200 kWh per kW of demand used per month
3.40¢	2.22¢	per kWh for all additional use
<b>Minimum Bill:</b> The Customer Charge, subject to applicable Base Rate adjustments		

Subject to application of Retail Production Cost Adjustment (PCA).

Customers who are served from distribution facilities for which NPPD has a Lease Payment or Debt Service obligation and/or a Gross Revenue Tax obligation will have the Base Rate adjusted to include such obligations.

**General Service Demand:** (effective 2/1/07)

<b>Customer Charge:</b>		
Single Phase		\$65.00 per month
Three Phase		\$75.00 per month
<b>Summer</b>	<b>Winter</b>	
8.71¢	5.90¢	per kWh for the first 200 kWh per kW of demand used per month
3.25¢	2.35¢	per kWh for all additional use
<b>Minimum Bill:</b> The Customer Charge, subject to applicable Base Rate adjustments		

Subject to application of Retail Production Cost Adjustment (PCA).

Customers who are served from distribution facilities for which NPPD has a Lease Payment or Debt Service obligation and/or a Gross Revenue Tax obligation will have the Base Rate adjusted to include such obligations. This rate is also subject to various adders and discounts depending upon the customer's requirements, metering, etc.

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

**Sample Cost per kWh:**

kW	kWh	Annual Average ¢/kWh <sup>1</sup>
100	30,000	6.86
100	36,000	6.25
300	90,000	6.66
300	150,000	5.27
500	150,000	6.62
500	180,000	6.05

<sup>1</sup>Includes Lease Payment and Gross Revenue Tax.

**High Tension Service:** (effective 2/1/07)

<b>Customer Charge:</b> \$250.00 per month		
<b>Monthly Demand Charges</b> (Base Rate charge per kW):		
Summer:	\$9.45 per kW of billing demand	
Winter:	\$6.00 per kW of billing demand	
<b>Monthly Energy Charges</b> (Base Rate charge per kWh):		
<u>Seasons</u>	<u>On-Peak</u>	<u>Off-Peak</u>
Summer	3.68¢	2.18¢
Winter	2.77¢	1.65¢

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

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

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

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

Subject to application of Retail Production Cost Adjustment (PCA).

Customers who are served from distribution facilities for which NPPD has a Lease Payment or Debt Service obligation and/or a Gross Revenue Tax obligation will have the Base Rate adjusted to include such obligations.

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

### Sample Cost per kWh:

kW	kWh	Annual Average ¢/kWh <sup>1</sup>
150	30,000	7.80
150	100,000	4.30
500	100,000	7.14
500	300,000	4.24
1,000	200,000	7.00
1,000	650,000	4.09

<sup>1</sup>Includes Lease Payment. Does not include Gross Revenue Tax.

The ¢/kWh cost is estimated using the following assumption concerning the distribution of electricity use during on-peak and off-peak periods.

Seasons	On-Peak %	Off-Peak %
Summer	46.0	54.0
Winter	54.0	45.0

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

### NATURAL GAS

Natural gas is supplied to Ogallala by Kinder Morgan, Inc. through 12-inch and 16-inch transmission pipelines with an operating pressure of approximately 800 to 1,000 pounds per square inch.

Kinder Morgan is also the distributor of natural gas within the community, serving approximately 1,900 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 and commercial uses in Ogallala at Farmers Cooperative Association and Sapp Brothers.

#### Oil

Oil is available for residential and commercial uses in Ogallala at Farmers Cooperative Association, Sapp Brothers, and B&J Petroleum.

### WATER

The municipal water system in Ogallala is supplied by eight wells, which have an average depth of 250 feet. The system, serving the entire city, has a combined pumping capacity of 8,082 gallons per minute. The overhead storage capacity is 1,200,000 gallons. The average daily demand is 1,000,000 gallons, and the historic peak daily demand is 3,500,000 gallons. The system has a maximum capacity of 12,838,080 gallons per day. The static pressure is 40–85 pounds per square inch and the residual pressure varies.

Groundwater is available for industrial uses. The water table fluctuates seasonally. The quality of the water in Ogallala does not necessitate a water treatment plant, however, fluoride is added.

The color of the water is clear and the hardness, in parts per million, is 180. The average tap water temperature varies from 54 degrees in the winter to 56 degrees in the summer.

#### Chemical Analysis (parts per million)

Hydrogen Ion Concentration	7.9
Calcium	46.4
Total Solids	254
Magnesium	1.78
Iron	0
Nitrate	3.0
Manganese	1.78
Chloride	6.6
Fluoride	1.0
Sulfate	17.1

Total Alkalinity	15.2
Sodium	13.0
Total Hardness	180

**WATER RATES** (effective 10/1/06)

A fee of \$75 is charged for new water connections.

Residential, Commercial & Industrial:

<b>Administration Fee:</b> \$10.00 \$1.15 per 1,000 gallons <b>Minimum Bill:</b> \$16.05 per month
--

**SEWERAGE**

Ogallala has a municipal sanitary sewerage system and a storm sewer system. The trickling filter/activated sludge sewerage treatment plant was built in 1985 and updated in 2001. The plant has a daily capacity of 1.5 million gallons, an average daily flow of 0.5 million gallons, and a historic peak daily discharge of 1.0 million gallons.

**SEWER-USE CHARGES** (effective 10/1/06)

No connection fee is charged for new service.

**Residential & Business:**

<b>Administrative Fee:</b> \$5.00 \$2.85 per month per 1,000 gallons (based on average usage during months of January, February, and March) <b>Minimum Bill:</b> \$5.00 per month
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**Commercial & Manufacturing:**

<b>Administrative Fee:</b> \$5.00 \$2.85 per month per 1,000 gallons (subject to surcharge for excessive wastewater strength) <b>Minimum Bill:</b> \$5.00 per month
---

**SOLID WASTE DISPOSAL**

Privately owned and operated waste removal services are available. The privately owned landfill, fifth largest in Nebraska, is located 14 miles from Ogallala and has a remaining lifespan of 20 years.

**RECYCLING**

US Recycling, located in Ogallala, accepts aluminum, plastic bottles, magazines, colored paper, cardboard, scrap iron, and junk cars. The recycling drop-off area is open 24 hours a day, seven days a week.



Kingsley Dam Hydroelectric Plant

# COMMUNICATIONS

## TELECOMMUNICATIONS

Qwest Communications is the local exchange in the Ogallala area with a high-speed digital central office. Qwest is capable of providing business and residential lines, Qwest long distance, Market Expansion lines, class and custom calling features, ISDN, and high-speed Internet. Extended Area Service is available to Big Springs and Brule. Installation and maintenance personnel are located in the community.

### TARIFFED RATES (effective 5/28/02)

Residence Line	\$18.65
Business Line	\$28.55

## INTERNET

Local Internet access in Ogallala is provided by:

Company	Services Offered
<b>Allo</b> (866) 481-2556 <a href="http://www.allo.com">www.allo.com</a>	Dial-up & High speed
<b>ATC Jet</b> (866) 222-7873 <a href="http://www.atcjet.net">www.atcjet.net</a>	Wireless & Dial-up
<b>Charter</b> (800) 581-0081 <a href="http://www.charter.com">www.charter.com</a>	High speed
<b>Lake Mac</b> (800) 332-2826 <a href="http://www.lakemac.net">www.lakemac.net</a>	Dial-up
<b>Megavision</b> (402) 562-5904 <a href="http://www.megavision.com">www.megavision.com</a>	High speed & Dial-up
<b>Qwest</b> (800) 603-6000 <a href="http://www.qwest.com">www.qwest.com</a>	High speed
<b>WildBlue</b> (866) 945-3258 <a href="http://www.wildblue.com">www.wildblue.com</a>	High speed via satellite

## POST OFFICE

Ogallala provides house-to-house delivery service and has one mail receipt and two dispatches daily.

Postal receipts for the past five fiscal years:

Year	Receipts
2005	\$1,059,484
2004	\$1,091,769
2003	\$1,153,823
2002	\$1,133,000
2001	\$1,146,000

## PACKAGE DELIVERY SERVICES

Overnight express service availability:

	Federal Express	UPS	DHL
<b>Latest Pick-up Time</b>	3:00 p.m.	4:00 p.m.	1:00 p.m.
<b>Earliest Delivery</b>	Noon	9:00 a.m.	5:00 p.m.
<b>Next Day Delivery Guarantee</b>	Yes	Yes	Yes
<b>Saturday Delivery Guarantee</b>	No	No	No

Latest pick-up time at the post office is 5:45 p.m. while the earliest delivery is 8:30 a.m. The post office guarantees next day delivery and delivers on Saturday.

## NEWSPAPER

The Keith County News, the local newspaper published each Monday and Wednesday, has 4,300 subscribers. Other papers delivered locally are the North Platte Telegraph, Omaha World-Herald, Denver Post, USA Today, and Rocky Mountain News.

## RADIO

Radio stations in Ogallala:

Call Letters	Frequency
KOGA	930 KHz
KOGA	99.7 MHz
KMCX	106.5 MHz

## TELEVISION

Television stations carrying local news include:

Call Letters	Channel	Location
KNOP-TV	3	North Platte

Cable television service is available including 21 basic, 47 expanded, 15 premium, 4 sports, 4 pay-per-view, 5 adult pay-per-view, 33 family, 16 digital movie, and 45 music channels.



United States Post Office



Ogallala Auditorium



Ogallala Fire & Rescue Department



Ogallala Police Department

## TAX STRUCTURE

### VALUES FOR TAX LEVY PURPOSES—CITY OF OGALLALA

All real property is subject to tax at market 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		
	2004	2005	2006
Real Estate	\$551,691,925	\$572,001,110	\$600,163,879
Personal Property	31,383,052	33,028,884	34,626,033
Special (railroad and utilities)	103,222,652	98,283,738	97,909,422
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$686,297,629</b>	<b>\$703,313,732</b>	<b>\$732,699,334</b>

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

	2004	2005	2006
City	\$0.392380	\$0.387270	\$0.387592
County	.298951	.316778	.334152
School District	1.206452	1.162372	1.153912
Community College	.083000	.087274	.085306
Educational Service Unit	.014999	.015000	.015000
Natural Resource District	.013020	.015348	.022929
Agricultural Society	.013536	.013671	.012181
Community Redevelopment Authority	.022077	.021838	.021517
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$2.044415</b>	<b>\$2.019551</b>	<b>\$2.032589</b>

The 2006 tax rate at the industrial site inside the city limits is \$2.032589 and outside the city limits is \$1.680186 per \$100 of actual value.

### CITY SALES TAX

The city of Ogallala imposes a 1.5 percent city sales tax.

### LOCAL BONDED INDEBTEDNESS

As of October 1, 2006:

City—Revenue Bonds	\$2,425,000
City—General Obligation Bonds	\$3,790,000
School District (as of May 15, 2006)	\$2,055,000
County	None

## CITY BOND ISSUES

Type	Date Issued	Original Amount	Unpaid Balance As of 10/1/06	Interest Rate (%)	Date Due
<b>Revenue</b>					
Water	3/15/05	\$1,970,000	\$1,805,000	3.64	3/15/15
Water	10/18/05	\$620,000	\$620,000	4.44	10/18/20
<b>General Obligation</b>					
Refunding (Overpass & Hwy 30)	12/30/03	\$1,565,000	\$1,390,000	4.13	12/30/18
Highway Allocation	6/26/01	\$150,000	\$110,000	4.95	6/26/13
Various Purpose	12/1/04	\$1,240,000	\$1,240,000	4.14	12/01/19
Various Purpose	9/28/06	\$1,050,000	\$1,050,000	4.51	9/15/26

## SCHOOL BOND ISSUES

Type	Date Issued	Original Amount	Unpaid Balance As of 5/15/06	Interest Rate (%)	Date Due
Ogallala High School	3/31/01	\$1,200,000	\$710,000	3.85-4.5	11/15/09
Ogallala Middle School	10/16/02	\$2,295,000	\$1,345,000	1.75-3.4	11/15/09



Ogallala City Administration Building



Keith County Court House

## LOCAL GOVERNMENT

### COUNTY GOVERNMENT

Keith County has five townships and is governed by five county commissioners, who are elected by popular vote for four-year terms. The next election will be held in 2008. The county's actual budget for 2006–07 is \$9,733,500. Keith County belongs to the West Central Nebraska Development District, which includes 17 counties.

Zoning classifications are:

A	Agricultural
RR	Residential Rural
RR2	Residential Rural Two
RM	Residential Medium Density
TS	Tourist Service District
HD	Highway District
NC	Neighborhood Convenience Business
GB	General Business
LI	Light Industrial
HI	Heavy Industrial
O	Open District
H	Historic District
PUD	Planned Unit Development
ECPD	Entryway Corridor Planned Development

### MUNICIPAL GOVERNMENT

Ogallala, a first-class city, has a council-city manager form of government. The city's actual budget for 2006–07 is \$9,631,885. The next election will be held in 2008.

Municipal officials are:

Title	Term of Office
<b>Elected at Large</b>	
Council Members (5)	4 Years
<b>Appointed</b>	
City Manager	Indefinite
City Clerk/Treasurer	Indefinite

### FIRE PROTECTION

Fire protection is provided to the community by a 34-member volunteer fire department; 14 members are EMT certified and one is a paramedic. There are three EMT instructors and four CPR instructors. The department also provides protection to areas outside the community and responds to mutual aid calls with area communities.

There are 300 fire hydrants in Ogallala. The fire insurance classification inside the corporate limits is 6; outside it is 10. Annual expenditures for fire protection for the past three years averaged \$150,000.

Equipment in the fire department:

Year/Make	Description
<b>City</b>	
2006 Ford	Ambulance
2003 Ford	Ambulance
2000 Dodge	Caravan command vehicle/personnel carrier
1986 Ford	1,250 gal. per min.
1981 Chevrolet	Rescue truck
1975 Ford	40' aerial 750 gal. per min.
<b>Rural</b>	
2002 Ford	Grass truck
1999 Ford	Grass truck
1985 Ford	Grass truck
1982 International	2,500 gal. tanker
<b>City/Rural</b>	
2004 Ford	Pickup
2002 Ford	Pickup command vehicle
1995 Chevrolet	Suburban command vehicle
1995 Freightliner	1,250 gal. per min.

Fire losses for the last five years have been:

<b>Year</b>	<b>Amount</b>
2005	\$266,200
2004	\$69,200
2003	\$122,275
2002	\$374,400
2001	\$207,680

Contemplated changes in the department include expanding advance life support services and level of care at Lake McConaughy.

## **LAW ENFORCEMENT**

### **Police Department**

Ogallala employs 11 full-time police officers and has one support person. Equipment in the police department include four marked cars, one marked four-wheel drive pick-up, one investigative/administrative vehicle, radar unit, and other standard equipment. Annual expenditures for police protection for the last three years averaged \$727,667.

The crime rate per 1,000 population in 2005 was 44.5 in Ogallala and 34.8 in Keith County, compared to a state crime rate of 37.1 and a national rate of 39.0.

### **Sheriff's Department**

The Keith County Sheriff's Department has seven sworn officers (four reserve) and seven support personnel. The department has eight vehicles, front and rear radar, in-car video, laptops, and firearms. 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, 53 miles from Ogallala, and covers a 23-county area. Six sworn officers are stationed in Ogallala.

## **STREETS**

Ogallala has 54 centerline miles, which equates to 171 lane miles of streets. The city has 22 miles

of asphalt, 21 miles of concrete, and 11 miles of gravel streets. Trucks are prohibited on certain streets. Approximately 75 percent of the streets have curbs and 67 percent have sidewalks.

Street equipment include one street sweeper, two sanding units with plows, one liquid de-icing unit, two graders, one loader mounted snow blower, two tractor/mowers, tar kettle, lift truck, loader, skid loader, backhoe, and paint striper.

Contemplated improvements in the next five years include asphalt overlays at \$75,000 to \$150,000 per year, sidewalk repair at a cost of \$20,000, and a possible major rehabilitation of Second Street downtown at a cost of \$600,000. Improvements are to be funded by highway allocation trust funds and bonds.

## **BUILDING AND ZONING REGULATIONS**

The Uniform Building and Plumbing Codes are enforced within the city.

Local zoning classifications are:

- A-1 Agricultural
- A-2 Agricultural Residential
- C-1 Central Business District
- C-2 Highway Business District
- C-3 Neighborhood Business District
- C-4 Interstate Business District
- H-1 Historical District
- R-1 Residential Low Density
- R-2 Residential Medium Density
- R-3 Residential High Density
- I-1 Industrial

## **PLANNING**

Ogallala has a nine-member planning commission. Members are appointed by the County Board to serve a three-year term.

The Comprehensive Plan for Ogallala was prepared by RDG Grose Gardner Shukert of Des Moines, Iowa in 2003.

## COMMUNITY FACILITIES

### SCHOOLS AND COLLEGES

#### Ogallala City Schools

Type of School	Classrooms	Students	Teacher/ Pupil Ratio	Computer/ Pupil Ratio
Elementary (3)	26	400	1:12	1:6
Middle School	30	275	1:15	1:3
High School	37	390	1:13	1:5

Keith County School District 1 covers approximately 158 square miles and has a 2006 actual valuation of \$508,059,791 and an actual valuation per student of \$484,328. This Class 3, K–12 district is accredited by the state of Nebraska and North Central Association.

The 2006–07 school operating budget is \$12,455,609, with an average cost per pupil for 2005–06 of \$9,495.

The public elementary schools have a maximum capacity of 600. The public middle school, built in 1924 with an addition in 1996, has a maximum capacity of 500. The public high school, built in 1963 with additions in 1983 and 2001, has a maximum capacity of 550.

#### Test Results

Name	% Students Taking Test	Average Score
8 <sup>th</sup> Grade Standard Achievement Test	100%	65%
11 <sup>th</sup> Grade Stanford Ten Test of Achievement	100%	75%
ACT	80	20.4

#### Ogallala Parochial School System

Name of School	Classrooms	Students	Teacher/ Pupil Ratio	Computer/ Pupil Ratio	Average Annual Tuition
St. Luke's Catholic School (K–5)	4	45	1:7	1:4	\$1,200
St. Paul's Lutheran School (K–5)	3	35	1:12	1:2	\$1,250

It is estimated that 97 percent of the eighth grade students finish high school, 65–80 percent of the graduating seniors pursue a college degree, and the remainder may enter the job market or military immediately after high school.

Vocational courses offered in the high school include industrial technology (metals & woods), electronics, drafting, engines, family consumer sciences, and business. Adult education programs are available in the high school in cooperation with the Mid-Plains Community College, University of Nebraska at Kearney, and Chadron State College. Evening classes include computer science, keyboarding, woods, accounting, psychology, physiology, and history.

#### Special Schools

**P.A.K.S. Developmental Services Inc.** offers vocational and residential services to clients in a community-based mental retardation program designed to provide a viable alternative to institutional placement of developmentally disabled adults.

## Educational Service Unit

Educational Service Unit 16 (ESU), headquartered in Ogallala, serves 12 counties including Keith County. Services include program supervision, psychological services, early childhood services, speech/language, resource teacher program, teacher consultant, behavioral consultant, inclusion facilitator, transition specialist, deaf education consultant, assistive technology consultant, and vision consultant. The ESU media library contains 7,722 volumes.

## Community College

Ogallala and surrounding communities are served by **Mid-Plains Community College (MPCC)**. MPCC encompasses 18 central Nebraska counties and is governed by an 11-member elected Board of Governors. MPCC consists of two main locations, McCook Community College and North Platte Community College. Since 2000 four extended campuses have been established—Ogallala, Broken Bow, Valentine, and Imperial.

The Ogallala Extended Campus was established in November 2000. Courses are taught in a variety of ways—on-site traditional classroom settings, through distance learning, and on-line. With a variety of educational delivery systems available to the students, obtaining a two-year Associates of Arts Academic Transfer degree can be completed without traveling to North Platte.

Courses offered at the Ogallala Extended Campus include accounting, art, biology, business, computer science, education, English, fire science, health education, history, health occupation (nursing/EMT), math, music, physical science, political science, psychology, sociology, speech, welding, small engine repair, upholstery, photography, and real estate. Most classes are rotated in every second or third semester depending on demand. Courses are offered through the Ogallala Extended Campus due to the support and cooperation of the Ogallala Public Schools and the use of their facilities.

<b>2005–06 Mid-Plains Community College</b>	
<b>Program</b>	<b>Degrees</b>
Associate of Arts/Academic Transfer	70
Associate Degree Nursing	27
Auto Body Technology	11
Automotive Technology	2
Building Construction Technology	2
Business	17
Business Technology	—
Dental Assisting	2
Diesel Technology	6
Early Childhood Education	4
Electrical Technology	3
Electro-Mechanical Technology	—
Fire Science Technology	1
Graphic Design	—
Heating, Ventilation & Air Conditioning Technology	2
Information Technology	6
Licensed Practical Nursing	34
Medical Laboratory Technician	6
Nebraska Law Enforcement	—
Office Technology	14
Welding/Machine Shop Technology	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>208</b>

## Other Schools

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

<b>Community/ College or University</b>	<b>Mileage</b>
<b>North Platte, NE</b>	51
Mid-Plains Community College	
<b>Sidney, NE</b>	72
Western Nebraska Community College, Sidney Campus	
<b>McCook, NE</b>	118
Mid-Plains Community College, McCook Campus	



Ogallala High School



Ogallala Middle School



Educational Service Unit 16



Prairie View Elementary



Progress Elementary



West Fifth Elementary



St. Luke's Catholic School



St. Paul's Lutheran School



Ogallala Community Hospital



Family Medical Center



Goodall City Library



Indian Hills Manor



WEL-Life Center, Assisted Living Facility

<b>Community/ College or University</b>	<b>Mileage</b>
<b>Kearney, NE</b> University of Nebraska at Kearney	149
<b>Scottsbluff, NE</b> Western Nebraska Community College, Scottsbluff Campus	153
<b>Chadron, NE</b> Chadron State College	199
<b>Laramie, WY</b> University of Wyoming Wyoming Technical College	218
<b>Lincoln, NE</b> University of Nebraska-Lincoln	277
<b>Omaha, NE</b> University of Nebraska at Omaha	330

## CHURCHES

<b>Denomination</b>	<b>Number of Churches</b>
Assembly of God	1
Catholic	2
Congregational	3
Church of Christ	1
Episcopal	1
First Baptist	2
Jehovah's Witnesses	1
Lutheran, ELCA	1
Lutheran, Missouri Synod	3
Martin Bay Community	1
New Hope	1
Presbyterian	2
United Methodist	2
United Pentecostal	1

## HEALTH CARE

There are approximately 13 physicians and 11 outpatient clinics within 40 miles of Ogallala.

### Hospital

The Banner Health Ogallala Community Hospital, built in 2000, has 18 licensed beds. The facility provides a full range of hospital, outpatient, and clinic services including inpatient care, 24-hour

emergency room, orthopedic, general and specialty surgery, lab and x-ray, chemotherapy, cardiac and pulmonary testing, and acupuncture. The hospital finished the Ogallala Medical Group clinic expansion and remodel in 2005. The hospital is now Level 1 trauma certified.

### Clinics

The **Ogallala Medical Group** is staffed by four doctors, one physician assistant, two licensed practical nurses, two registered nurses, one oncologist, one general surgeon, and one orthopedic surgeon.

The **Family Medical Center** has two doctors, one physician assistant, one nurse, and two medical assistants.

The **Sandhills District Health** is a public health clinic for those without health insurance or under-insured. The clinic is staffed by one ready responder and one nurse practitioner.

### Home Health

Memorial Health Center Department of Home Health is owned by Memorial Health Center in Sidney, Nebraska, with a branch in Ogallala. Certified by Medicare and Medicaid, the agency serves Keith, Arthur, Deuel, Garden, and Perkins counties in Nebraska and is awaiting approval in Sedgwick County in Colorado. Home Health, with a medical social worker, provides skilled nursing care, physical, speech, and occupational therapies. Home health aide services include:

—Mental health nursing, a segment of Home Health, focuses on facilitating healthy functioning for patients with psychiatric/mental health issues.

—HOSPICE is a compassionate alternative to traditional methods of terminal care. It works to meet the physical, emotional, social, and spiritual needs of the patient as well as their family when a life-threatening illness arises.

—Caring Companions is a program for anyone needing a little extra help at home.

—Lifeline is an easy-to-use personal response service ensuring residents living at home quick assistance when needed.

## Rescue Squad

Fourteen Emergency Medical Technicians and one paramedic respond to rescue calls with two ambulances owned by the Ogallala Volunteer Fire Department. The ambulances are equipped with Jaws of Life and defibrillator.

## NURSING HOMES

**Indian Hills Manor**, built in 1968, is an 82-bed facility. The nursing home is certified for Medicare/Medicaid. Indian Hills Manor provides Alzheimer's Dementia care, physical therapy, occupational therapy, speech therapy, restorative nursing care, skilled nursing care, wound care, social services, short and long-term stays, respiratory and oxygen services, handles post-operative patients, activities, special diets, full service laundry, beauty and barber shops. In addition, the manor has a large day room, dining room, family meeting room, cable TV and phone services available, postal services, newspaper delivery, and van transportation.

## LIBRARY

The Goodall City Library in Ogallala contains 35,300 volumes and has an average annual circulation of 86,000. Library services for adults include several book clubs, writer's group, genealogy club, multicultural gathering, and computer classes. Services for youth include story time, baby talk, summer reading program, and teen group. Resources include books, large print books, audio books, videos/DVDs, NetLibrary eBooks, 19 public access computers, free Internet use, and NebraskaAccess database.

## RECREATION

There are six parks in Ogallala covering 50 acres. Facilities include playground equipment, picnic areas, band shell, numerous ballfields for young children, four lighted tennis courts, two-mile paved walking/bicycle path, 9-hole frisbee golf course, outdoor swimming pool, two basketball courts, four baseball diamonds, two soccer fields, and one regulation baseball field. The parks department employs two full-time and five to six seasonal personnel. Annual expenditures for the last three years averaged \$488,254.

The Goodall Recreation Complex consists of an indoor pool (75' x 42') and well-equipped weight and exercise rooms. This \$425,000 project was constructed for the city in 1976 and donated by Mrs. R. A. Goodall.

### Area facilities:

Baseball/Softball	—	Eight balls diamonds
Boating	—	Lake McConaughy and Lake Ogallala—sailboating, outboard and inboard motors, pontoons, canoes, and paddle boats; canoeing on North and South Platte rivers
Bowling	—	One bowling alley with 16 lanes
Campgrounds	—	Fifteen campgrounds—Ogallala, Roscoe & Lake McConaughy
Fishing	—	Excellent fishing at Lake McConaughy—trout, pike, perch, bass, catfish, and walleye; Lake McConaughy holds many state records
Frisbee golf	—	9-hole frisbee golf course at Williams Park
Golf	—	Two public 18-hole courses with grass greens and clubhouses
Hunting	—	Upland game, migratory birds, big game, rabbits
Races	—	Wildwest soap box derby track, 800', 250' for slow down
Skating	—	Skate park at Collister Park
Soccer	—	Two soccer fields at Western Diamonds
Swimming	—	Outdoor pool with torpedo slide at the park and an indoor pool at the Goodall Recreation Complex



First Congregational Church



First United Methodist Church



New Hope Church



St. Luke's Catholic Church



St. Paul's Lutheran Church



Band Shell



North Park



Collister Park



Swimming Pool



Tennis Courts



Western Diamonds Sports Complex



Goodall Recreation Center



Keith County Senior Center

Tennis	— Four hard-surfaced & lighted courts
Theatres	— One indoor movie theatre seating 295
Trails	— Two-mile paved walking/biking path
Weight room	— Goodall Recreation Center

Local celebrations held annually are the Ash Hollow Pageant and the Rubber Chicken Festival with games and family picnic in June; Kites & Castles in July; exhibits, rodeo, barbecue, and parade in conjunction with the Keith County Fair in August; music, crafts, and quilt show at the Indian Summer Rendezvous and Big Mac Rod Run held in September.

Summer recreation programs include vacation bible schools, swimming lessons, arts and crafts, library reading program, 4-H, movies, tennis, skate boarding, gymnastics, T-ball, baseball, softball, legion baseball, bowling, and soccer. Various sports activity programs are managed by individual associations.

The Keith County Senior Center in Ogallala provides noon lunches, meals on wheels for shut-ins, crafts, music, games, films, and other entertainment for senior citizens. A handibus provides transportation.

Other senior centers in Keith County are located in Brule, Grant, Lemoyne, and Paxton.

Ogallala's recreated "**Front Street**" depicts the era of 1875 to 1885 of the Texas trail drives. It was started in September 1964 and contains a souvenir shop, museum (jail facilities, funeral parlor, and barber shop), Crystal Palace (one show nightly, six nights a week during the summer months), and a Cowboy's Rest. An average of 1,100 people per day tour "Front Street" during July and August.

**Kingsley Dam**, completed in 1941, at a cost of approximately \$61,400,000 is one of the largest earthen dams in the world. Located on the North Platte River, the dam towers 162 feet. The base measures 1,100 feet and tapers off to a 28-foot crest that carries State Highway 61. The crest or roadway is three miles in length.

**Lake McConaughy** is located on State Highway 61, just nine miles north of Ogallala. The lake backs up into the North Platte valley for approximately 25 miles, is approximately 3 miles across at its widest point, with a shoreline of 105 miles. The lake is 140 feet deep near the base of the dam.

Water from the reservoir provides irrigation for a potential 255,000 acres of central Nebraska farmland. At capacity, the reservoir contains three million acre-feet of water. On its way to irrigate farmland, the water is diverted through a 785-mile canal system to hydroelectric plants.

The Nebraska Game & Parks Commission's Lake McConaughy State Recreation Area \$2.5 million Visitor/Water Interpretive Center represents a unique public-private partnership. Perched on a bluff one quarter mile south of Kingsley Dam overlooking Lake McConaughy, the 8,700 square foot facility houses administrative offices for both the Game & Parks Commission and Central Nebraska Public Power & Irrigation District. The visitor center is located approximately eight miles northeast of Ogallala on Nebraska Highway 61. The facility also includes the Big Mac Community Room, two fresh water aquariums, 50-seat theatre, reception area and information desk, gift shop, and public rest rooms.

Located downstream from the dam is **Lake Ogallala**, an offspring of the parent lake. Just to the east is **Lake Keystone**, impounded by the Keystone diversion dam.

An abundance of northern and walleyed pike, crappies, perch, bass, and trout makes these lakes a fisherman's paradise. Fishing is not only a summertime sport, ice fishing is enjoyed in winter. Boating, fishing, swimming, waterskiing, hunting, and a multitude of other sports make this area ideal for tourists and sportsmen.

Other area attractions include hike-bike trail, softball complex and nature study park, Mansion on the Hill, Boot Hill, Little Church at Keystone, eagle viewing at Lake Ogallala, Ole's Big Game Lounge in Paxton, Kenfield's Petrified Wood Gallery, and Historic Walk of Fame.

Cultural activities are provided by the Regional Arts Council which brings operas, drama, and theatre to Ogallala.

## HOUSING

### New Construction

Twelve new homes were constructed in 2004–05 and five were built in 2006. The cost of new home construction for the past five years averaged \$89 per square foot (\$67 for manufactured homes). Building permits issued during the last five years include 32 single-family homes, 8 duplexes, and 23 manufactured homes:

### Ogallala & Lake McConaughy Housing Market (as of 8/30/06):

#### Number of Homes on the Market

Single-Family -	119
Townhouses -	2
Condominiums -	1

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

Single Family Home	
3,500 sq. ft. - 4 bedroom	\$181,725
2,500 sq. ft. - 3 bedroom	\$173,225
1,000 sq. ft. - 3 bedroom	\$70,350
Townhouses	
1,500 sq. ft. - 2 bedroom	\$174,900
Condominiums	
1,200 sq. ft. - 1–2 bedroom	\$62,500

#### Rentals

Executive Style Home	
3,000 sq. ft.	\$600

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

Less than \$100,000	64
\$100,001–\$150,000	26
\$150,001–\$200,000	14
\$200,001–\$250,000	8
\$250,001+	10

### Low Cost and/or Retirement Housing

**Great West Townhomes**, a 16-unit complex, was built in 2006. Eight duplexes contain two 3-bedroom units at 1,246 square feet, while the other eight contain two 2-bedroom units at

1,004 square feet. Each unit has its own attached single-car garage, and equipped with appliances, including a washer, dryer, microwave, stove, refrigerator, and garbage disposal. All the units are handicap visitable; one unit meets all the requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act. All apartments are available for low- to moderate-income families.

**Oak Ridge Apartments**, completed in 2003, consists of eight 2-bedroom duplexes for a total of 16 units. Each unit has its own attached single-car garage and is equipped with appliances, including a washer, dryer, stove, refrigerator, and garbage disposal. All apartments are available for low- to moderate-income families.

The **Ogallala Housing Authority** built 12 units in 1977 for the elderly and 28 units in 1980 for the elderly and low-income families. The project includes a community center and three laundromats. Each unit has a stove, refrigerator, and air conditioning. Maintenance is provided for inside and outside the units.

The **Ogallala Village**, built in 1974, consists of 30 units; 24 1-bedroom units and six 2-bedroom units. All units are available to the elderly who have low-to-moderate income. Appliances are furnished. Central air and a laundromat are provided. Maintenance is provided for inside and outside the units.

**Cedarwood Apartments** consists of 19 units built in 1979, 12 units built in 1981, and 12 units built in 1984. This 43-unit complex is a low-cost family housing facility, with three laundry rooms plus storage. All units have a stove and refrigerator with some units having a dishwasher and garbage disposal. Maintenance is provided for inside and outside the units.

### Assisted Living

**WEL-Life**, built in 1999, is a 34-bed assisted living facility and accredited by the state of Nebraska and certified by Medicare and Medicaid. WEL-Life, with registered and licensed practical nurses, provides 24-hour staffing, respite and residential apartments, assistance with ADLs, housekeeping and laundry, three home cooked meals daily, care level determined by needs, free consultation, and medication administration.

# FINANCIAL

As of June 30, 2006\*:

Name	Capital		
	Accounts	Deposits	Loans
----- thousand dollars -----			
Adams Bank & Trust	\$3,000	\$283,302	\$321,312
Pinnacle Bank	\$175,856	\$1,530,485	\$1,520,006
Valley Bank & Trust	\$22,789	\$220,517	\$219,475



Adams Bank & Trust

\*Figures represent headquarters.

Other financial concerns in Ogallala are the Farm Service Agency (FMHA) and Farm Credit Services.



Pinnacle Bank



Valley Bank & Trust of Ogallala



Boot Hill



Front Street Steakhouse & Crystal Palace Saloon



Mansion on the Hill



Petrified Wood Gallery

## COMMUNITY SERVICES

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### PROFESSIONAL

Attorneys.....	11
Auctioneers .....	4
Certified Public Accountants .....	8
Certified Registered Nurses Assistants .....	2
Chiropractors.....	2
Dentists .....	3
Engineering Firms.....	2
Medical Doctors (residing in Ogallala)	
—general practitioners .....	6
—general surgeons .....	1
—orthopedic surgeons.....	1
Medical Doctors (on hospital consulting staff)	
—allergists.....	1
—cardiologists.....	6
—ear, nose & throat.....	1
—gastroenterologists.....	1
—general practitioners .....	6
—general surgeons .....	2
—OB/GYN .....	1
—oncologists .....	1
—ophthalmologists.....	1
—pediatricians.....	1
—plastic surgeons.....	1
—pulmonologists.....	1
—psychiatrists .....	1
—urologists .....	1
Medical Assistants .....	3
Nurse Practitioners.....	3
Nurses, Registered .....	48
Optometrists.....	3
Oral Surgeons.....	1
Orthodontists.....	1
Pharmacists .....	8
Physician Assistants .....	3
Podiatrists.....	1
Veterinarians .....	6

### BUSINESS AND COMMERCIAL

Accounting/Bookkeeping Agencies.....	4
Advertising Agencies .....	6
Agricultural Implement Dealers .....	2
Antique Shops.....	3

Apparel Stores—children’s .....	4
—combination .....	4
—men’s .....	3
—women’s .....	4
Appliance Stores .....	2
Auto Repair & Service .....	3
Auto Supply Parts .....	2
Automobile Dealers .....	4
Automobile Renting & Leasing .....	3
Aviation Seeding & Spraying .....	1
Bakeries .....	1
Banquet Facilities, Halls & Auditoriums .....	9
Beauty Salons & Barber Shops .....	14
Carpet & Rug Dealers .....	3
Caterers .....	11
Child Care Services .....	2
Contractors—building, carpentry, general, remodeling .....	22
—concrete .....	3
—electric .....	3
—excavating .....	4
—gravel .....	2
—heating & air conditioning .....	3
—plumbing .....	11
—roofing .....	3
—well digging .....	3
Convenience Stores .....	8
Copying & Duplicating Services .....	1
Craft Stores .....	5
Dance Studios .....	1
Department Stores .....	2
Discount Stores .....	3
Drug Stores .....	3
Dry Cleaning & Laundries .....	1
Farm/Ranch Supplies .....	6
Feedlots .....	2
Fertilizer Stores .....	1
Floral Shops .....	2
Garbage Collectors .....	1
Gift Shops .....	7
Grain Dealers .....	2
Grocery Stores .....	4
Hardware Stores .....	2
Health Clubs .....	3
Insurance Companies .....	20
Interior Decorators & Designers .....	1
Jewelry Stores .....	5
Landscaping Equipment & Supplies .....	17
Laundries, Self-Service .....	1
Lawn Services .....	8
Lumberyards .....	1

Machine Shops.....	1	
Motels .....	25	(850 rooms)
Nurseries & Garden Centers .....	5	
Office Equipment Services & Supplies .....	3	
Photography Studios .....	4	
Preschools .....	4	
Printers .....	2	
Real Estate Firms .....	13	
Restaurants .....	32	
Service Stations.....	10	
Shoe Stores.....	4	
Theatres.....	1	
Tool & Die Makers .....	1	
Travel Agencies & Bureaus .....	1	
Upholstery Shops.....	1	
Variety Stores .....	2	
Welding Shops .....	2	



Historic Walk of Fame



Scenes from Lake McConaughy

## AGRICULTURE & RAW MATERIALS

### AGRICULTURE

<b>2002 Statistics</b>	<b>Keith County</b>	<b>State of Nebraska</b>
Number of Farms	363	49,355
Land in Farms (acres)	627,842	45,903,116
Average Size of Farms (acres)	1,730	930
Market Value of Agricultural Products Sold	\$95,558,000	\$9,703,657,000
Market Value Per Farm	\$263,246	\$196,609
Total Acres Irrigated	90,981	7,625,170
Percent of Farmland Irrigated	14.5%	16.6%
<b>Five-Year Average Production of Leading Crops (2001–2005)</b>		
Hay Alfalfa (Dry)	47,434 tons	4,685,600 tons
Beans (Dry Edible)	78,916 bu.	3,209,400 bu.
Corn for Grain	12,093,460 bu.	1,158,890,000 bu.
Oats	28,650 bu.*	4,075,000 bu.
Sorghum Grains	17,175 bu.*	27,364,000 bu.
Soybeans	354,240 bu.	207,072,000 bu.
Sugarbeets	31,592 bu.	887,000 bu.
Wheat All	1,918,400 bu.	64,554,000 bu.
<b>Five-Year Average Livestock Population (2002–2006)</b>		
All Cattle	57,400	6,350,000

\*Four-Year Average

Keith County ranked in the top ten counties in Nebraska in the production of sugar beets five of five years, in the production of dry edible beans three of five years, and in the production of wheat once in the last five years.

Source: National Agriculture Statistics Service, 2001–2006  
2002 Census of Agriculture

### RAW MATERIALS

Metallic minerals are not available locally; however, sand and gravel, non metallic minerals, are found in unlimited quantities in the area.

# CLIMATE

## TEMPERATURE, PRECIPITATION, AND HUMIDITY

Month	AVERAGES						
	Temperature			Precipitation*		Humidity*	
	Min.	Mean	Max.	Rain (Inches)	Snow (Inches)	Morning	Afternoon
January	11.7	24.6	37.5	0.45	5.4	80	65
February	16.3	29.8	43.2	0.43	5.0	79	62
March	23.5	36.8	50.2	1.16	6.9	80	56
April	33.9	48.0	62.2	1.82	2.2	80	51
May	45.1	58.5	72.0	3.32	0.2	83	55
June	54.9	68.7	82.5	2.92	0.0	84	56
July	60.7	75.3	89.8	2.86	0.0	84	55
August	58.4	73.1	87.9	2.15	0.0	85	56
September	47.5	62.9	78.2	1.43	0.1	83	52
October	34.7	50.6	66.4	1.01	0.4	81	51
November	22.7	36.6	50.6	0.61	3.2	81	58
December	14.6	27.6	40.7	0.43	3.1	80	63
<b>Annual</b>	35.3	49.4	63.4	18.58	26.6	82	57

\*Recorded at North Platte Weather Station

### FROST DATA

Average date of last frost in spring .....	May 10
Average date of first frost in fall .....	September 22
Average length of growing season .....	135
Average number of “heating degree days” based on 65° Fahrenheit.....	6,525
Average number of “cooling degree days” based on 65°Fahrenheit .....	857
Wind speed in miles per hour (annual average).....	10
Prevailing wind direction (annual average) .....	Northwest

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