

Labor Supply Factors and Labor Availability for the Albion (Boone County) Labor Area



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Executive Summary

The information provided in this report indicates that a prospective new employer providing job opportunities with competitive wages and benefits and offering career opportunities would be a welcome addition to the employment base in Albion and the Boone County Labor Area. The report shows there is a sizeable labor force and population base living within the Albion Labor Study Area. Some of the pertinent findings of the report include:

- Population in the Albion Labor Study Area (Boone County plus the six regional counties) totaled 87,680 people in 2022, with the Boone County population totaling 5,385. Population in Boone County decreased by 2.2 percent during the period 2020-2022, compared to a population increase of 1.5 percent for the seven-county Albion Labor Study Area as a whole.
- The Albion Labor Study Area labor force totaled 48,838 in 2021. A total of 47,275 persons were employed in nonfarm wage and salary jobs¹ located within the area.
- In 2021, 1,127 primary jobs (48.5 percent) held by Boone County residents were located outside Boone County. This confirms a large number of Boone County residents are commuting to jobs in other counties.
- Average annual wages for all nonfarm wage and salary employees in the Labor Study Area were \$46,695. For Boone County, average annual wages were \$43,038. Both Boone County and Albion Labor Study Area wages were lower than the Nebraska average annual wages of \$53,925.

The basic conclusion of this report, which follows from the data and analysis presented, is that the Albion Labor Study Area and Boone County would be able to provide an adequate number of dedicated and skilled workers to meet the needs of additional employers in the area.

¹ Nonfarm wage and salary employment data are derived from businesses subject to State unemployment insurance laws and from Federal agencies subject to the Unemployment Compensation for Federal Employees Program. Nonfarm wage and salary employment data includes 99.7 percent of wage and salary civilian employment. Self-employed workers, unpaid family workers, workers in certain not-for-profit organizations, and several other small (primarily seasonal) worker categories are not included.

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This report presents selected labor-related and demographic data that provide insights into the labor supply situation in Albion (Boone County) and the surrounding area.



Figure 1. The Albion Labor Study Area

In reviewing the data presented in this report, it will be evident that the Albion Labor Study Area has a sizeable pool of labor to provide for the labor requirements of additional employers in the area, both in the near term and over the long run. Data presented in this report includes tables on labor force, employment, and population for Boone County and the surrounding counties that comprise the potential labor shed area for Albion. Figure One includes a map outlining the geographic area defined as the Albion Labor Study Area.

An important resource for new or expanding businesses is a readily available supply of workers. Whether an employer requires 5 or 500 workers, they need to have confidence there will be adequate workers available to meet their labor requirements. This report is a key analytical tool to identify and quantify the number and selected characteristics of workers available in the Albion Labor Study Area.

Available labor supply is defined as the number of persons who would potentially apply for employment when a job becomes available. Potential workers are categorized into two groups: those currently employed who would consider other employment opportunities and those who do not currently have a job.

One factor contributing to the available supply of workers is the willingness of workers already employed to change jobs. Factors influencing this decision are wages, fringe benefits, hours, and

working conditions. Generally, workers are more inclined to change jobs when the wages and benefits for the potential new job are better and/or when they are optimistic about the economy.

Factors contributing to the available supply of people without jobs include the unemployment rate, labor force participation, and migration. To be classified as unemployed, an individual must have been actively looking for work in the last four weeks unless they were expecting recall from a layoff or waiting to start a job within 30 days.

There are also potential workers who are classified as not presently in the labor force. These individuals may not be participating in the labor force as employed or unemployed workers for various reasons. They may be unable to work because of school or family responsibilities, or they may have an illness that has prevented them from becoming part of the labor force. There may also be workers who have not been able to find employment in the past and have become discouraged or who are no longer actively seeking employment because they perceive there are no attractive job opportunities available in the area. Retired persons are also classified as not in the labor force, although this population group often can provide substantial labor resources for selected business operations. Within the group of persons not currently in the labor force and therefore not actively seeking employment are many individuals who would accept a job with attractive working conditions, competitive wages, and employee benefits if one became available.

Population migration is another factor that affects the available labor supply of potential workers who are not presently employed (and may not be seeking work within the local labor market). Persons without jobs and who perceive that there are no job opportunities available locally are the most likely to leave (migrate out) the area for employment opportunities elsewhere.

Labor Force and Employment

Table One provides data showing labor force and employment trends for the Albion Labor Study Area and Boone County for selected years from 2016 to 2021. Data in Table One (Part A and Part B, next page) provide two alternate measures of employment for two distinct areas. Data presented in Table One, Part A include labor force, unemployment, employment, unemployment rate, and nonfarm wage and salary employment data for the entire Albion Labor Study Area (see Figure One). As these data indicate, the total labor force and total employment for the laborshed area as a whole both increased, with the area labor force increasing by 4.4 percent between 2016 and 2021 and total employment increasing by 5.3 percent during the same period.

Table One
Labor Force and Employment, Albion Labor Area^(a), 2016–2021
Part A
Labor Force and Employment
Albion Labor Area^(a), 2016–2021

	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	% Chg. 2016– 2021
Labor Force^(b) (Place of Residence)	46,789	46,946	47,312	48,023	47,980	48,838	4.4
Employment	45,391	45,681	46,097	46,693	46,292	47,787	5.3
Unemployment (#)	1,398	1,265	1,215	1,330	1,688	1,051	-24.8
Unemployment Rate (%)	3.0	2.7	2.6	2.8	3.5	2.2	(N/A)
Nonfarm Employment^(c) (Place of Work)	46,602	46,996	47,312	47,825	46,606	47,275	1.4

Table One
Part B
Labor Force and Employment by Industry
Boone County, Nebraska

	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	% Chg. 2016–2021
Labor Force^(b) (Place of Residence)	3,021	2,937	2,922	2,971	2,937	2,964	-1.9
Employment	2,942	2,865	2,856	2,892	2,864	2,916	-0.9
Unemployment (#)	79	72	66	79	73	48	-39.2
Unemployment Rate (%)	2.6	2.5	2.3	2.7	2.5	1.6	(N/A)
Nonfarm Employment^(c) (Place of Work)	2,371	2,314	2,373	2,382	2,328	2,335	-1.5
Goods Producing	586	574	604	600	637	626	6.8
Manufacturing	191	164	164	156	153	152	-20.4
Natural Resources	323	334	366	367	393	384	18.9
Construction	73	76	75	78	90	91	24.7
Service Providing	1,112	1,071	1,090	1,088	1,019	1,023	-8.0
Trade, Trans., Warehousing & Utilities	572	535	544	525	526	513	-10.3
Information	(N/A)	(N/A)	(N/A)	(N/A)	(N/A)	(N/A)	(N/A)
Financial Activities	94	101	107	116	90	105	11.7
Professional & Business Services	40	36	37	36	34	38	-5.0
Education & Health Services	244	246	238	244	214	200	-18.0
Leisure and Hospitality	118	112	128	130	116	123	4.2
Other Services, except Public Administration	(N/A)	(N/A)	(N/A)	(N/A)	(N/A)	(N/A)	(N/A)
Total Government	673	669	679	694	672	686	1.9
Federal Government	27	30	29	28	28	27	0.0
State Government	646	639	650	666	644	659	2.0
Local Government	636	630	641	656	634	649	2.0

^(a) The Labor Study Area includes Boone County, Antelope, Greeley, Madison, Nance, Platte, and Wheeler Counties in Nebraska.

^(b) The labor force data are measured based on the county of residence, irrespective of the county of employment.

^(c) The Nonfarm Employment data are for wage and salary employment and are based on the place (county) where the individual is employed, irrespective of the county of residence.

Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, www.bls.gov/cew/.

The second employment measure presented for the Albion Labor Study Area, nonfarm wage and salary employment, rose from 46,602 in 2016 to 47,275 in 2021, an increase of 1.4 percent. In the case of the labor force data (labor force, unemployment, and employment), the respective

measures are based on the county of residence. The nonfarm wage and salary employment data are measured based on the county of employment, irrespective of the place of residence of the workers.

The labor force and employment measures presented for Boone County (Table One, Part B) indicate that the total labor force in the county decreased by 1.9 percent between 2016 and 2021, with total employment (of people residing in Boone County, irrespective of their county of employment) decreasing by 0.9 percent during this period. It is also of interest to note that unemployment decreased by 39.2 percent, from 79 in 2016 to 48 in 2021.

As previously noted, the second employment measure presented for Boone County, nonfarm wage and salary employment, is based on the county where the person is employed, irrespective of their county of residence. Nonfarm wage and salary employment in Boone County decreased by 1.5 percent between 2016 and 2021. Data presented in Table One, Part B show that the fastest growing employment sector in Boone County during the 2016–2021 review period was the Construction sector, recording a 24.7 percent increase between 2016 and 2021. In the case of the Total Government sector, employment in the State Government sector increased by 2.0 percent, while Federal Government sector employment remained flat, and Local Government sector employment increased by 2.0 percent.

A review of the employment data reported for the Albion Labor Study Area (Table Two) indicates differences between the nonfarm wage and salary employment reported in each county and the total employment of persons living in these respective areas. In the case of the entire Albion Labor Study Area, nonfarm wage and salary employment was reported to be \$47,275 in 2021, which was significantly less (\$48,838) than the reported total employment of persons living within the seven-county Albion Labor Study Area.

Table Two
Labor Force, Employment, and Nonfarm Wage and Salary Employment,
Albion Labor Study Area, 2021

County, State	Labor Force 2021^(a)	Total Employment 2021^(a)	Nonfarm Wage & Salary Employment 2021^(b)	Total Employment Minus NF W&S Employment	Agricultural Employment 2019
Boone, NE	2,964	2,916	2,335	581	726
Antelope, NE	3,693	3,632	2,230	1,402	960
Greeley, NE	1,240	1,217	622	595	421
Madison, NE	20,079	19,598	21,580	-1,982	766
Nance, NE	1,972	1,934	933	1,001	386
Platte, NE	18,327	17,934	19,281	-1,347	1,062
Wheeler, NE	563	556	294	262	309
Labor Area	48,838	47,787	47,275	512	4,630

^(a) Labor force and employment data are measured based on the county of residence.

^(b) Nonfarm Employment data are for wage and salary employment and are based on the place (county) where the individual is employed, irrespective of the county of residence.

^(c) Agricultural employment data are for 2019.

Sources: Labor Data - U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, www.bls.gov/lau/#data.

Farm Employment Data - U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis, Regional Accounts Data, www.bea.gov/regional/reis/.

There are two major reasons for differences in the total employment and nonfarm employment values. First, nonfarm wage and salary employment excludes self-employed workers, unpaid family workers, workers in certain not-for-profit organizations, and several other small (primarily seasonal and farm) worker categories; these workers are included in estimates of total employment. Second, estimates of nonfarm wage and salary employment are based on the area where the jobs (businesses) are located, while estimates of total employment are based on the area where workers live.

Table Two also includes information on agricultural employment, which includes farm proprietors. As shown in Table Two, 4,630 people in the Albion Labor Study Area were employed in agriculture in 2019. It is important to note that for Nebraska as a whole, approximately 56.6 percent of principal farm operators reported at least some off-farm employment and approximately 37.9 percent reported they worked more than 200 days off the farm.

The number of nonfarm wage and salary workers in the Albion Labor Study Area is shown by major industry sector and by county in Table Three. Remember, nonfarm wage and salary workers are counted in the county where they are employed, not where they live. Individuals with more than one job are counted at each establishment (and in each county) where they work. Table Three provides information about the number of workers in the labor area by county and major industry category.

Table Three
Nonfarm Wage and Salary Employment, by Industry Sector
Albion Labor Study Area, by County, 2021

County, State	Natural Resources and Mining	Construction	Manufacturing	Trade, Transportation, and Utilities	Education and Health Services	Financial Activities	All Other Services	Government
Boone, NE	384	91	152	513	200	105	205	686
Antelope, NE	215	227	84	600	304	102	188	511
Greeley, NE	73	26	20	146	19	34	64	241
Madison, NE	123	1,030	3,598	4,969	3,571	920	3,909	3,460
Nance, NE	84	(N/A)	(N/A)	183	98	55	81	407
Platte, NE	610	1,065	6,137	3,229	1,981	618	2,982	2,659
Wheeler, NE	144	(N/A)	(N/A)	43	(N/A)	(N/A)	(N/A)	76
Total Labor Area	1,633	2,439	9,991	9,683	6,173	1,834	7,429	8,040
Nebraska	15,910	55,861	99,520	185,914	138,090	64,693	247,143	158,687

	Percent of Total Nonfarm Wage & Salary Employment							
	Natural Resources and Mining	Construction	Manufacturing	Trade, Transportation, and Utilities	Education and Health Services	Financial Activities	All Other Services	Government
Boone, NE	16.4	3.9	6.5	22.0	8.6	4.5	8.8	29.4
Labor Study Area	3.5	5.2	21.1	20.5	13.1	3.9	15.7	17.0
Nebraska	1.6	5.8	10.3	19.2	14.3	6.7	25.6	16.4

((N/A)) - Not Available.

Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, www.bls.gov/cew/.

In addition to displaying the number of workers by major industry sector, Table Three also compares the percentage distribution of workers by industry in the Albion Labor Study Area with the distribution for the state of Nebraska. As these data show, the industry distribution of employment for the Albion Labor Study Area is significantly different than that for Nebraska as a whole.

Table Four, Part A provides data showing labor cost comparisons by county for all private wage and salary workers for the Albion Labor Study Area. It is important to remember that the wage and salary employment is reported by the county of employment and does not indicate the average weekly and annual wage for residents of the respective counties. Obviously, labor cost is an important consideration in any analysis of the labor availability in an area. Pay data for workers covered by Nebraska unemployment insurance laws are the labor cost information source. Average annual pay is calculated by dividing the total payroll for wage and salary workers by the average annual number of employees.

As Table Four, Part A indicates, the average annual salaries in Boone County (\$43,384) for all wage and salary employees for all private industries are lower than the average annual salaries for the Albion Labor Study Area as a whole. Also, Boone County's average annual salaries are \$10,877 (20.2 percent) less than the state average. Average annual salaries for the Albion Labor Study Area (\$46,695) were \$7,230 (13.4 percent) less than the Nebraska average. These data suggest there would be a positive labor supply response in Boone County to the creation of additional employment opportunities with competitive wages and benefits.

Table Four
Average Pay by Industry Groups, Albion Labor Study Area & Nebraska, 2021

Part A
Average Annual Pay and Average Weekly Wages by Industry Groups
All Covered^(a) Wage and Salary Workers, All Industries

County, State	Average Employment	Average Weekly Wages	Average Annual Wages
Boone, NE	2,337	\$828	\$43,038
Antelope, NE	2,230	\$785	\$40,834
Greeley, NE	622	\$718	\$37,357
Madison, NE	21,580	\$912	\$47,440
Nance, NE	933	\$724	\$37,632
Platte, NE	19,281	\$920	\$47,853
Wheeler, NE	294	\$733	\$38,101
Labor Study Area	47,275	\$896	\$46,695
Nebraska	965,818	\$1,037	\$53,925

Table Four continued on the following page: notes and sources on the following page.

Table Four — Continued

**Part B
Average Annual Pay All Covered^(a) Wage and Salary Workers
By Selected Industry Groups**

County, State	Goods-Producing	Manufacturing	Construction	Service-Providing	Trade, Transportation, and Utilities	Financial Activities	Professional and Business Services	Leisure and Hospitality
Boone, NE	\$50,355	\$61,270	\$44,560	\$38,537	\$44,848	\$51,303	\$47,749	\$14,409
Antelope, NE	\$45,218	\$47,324	\$50,757	\$40,421	\$41,831	\$48,855	\$48,051	\$18,418
Greeley, NE	\$38,035	\$31,232	\$37,319	\$34,853	\$37,621	\$57,269	\$30,023	\$10,338
Madison, NE	\$57,886	\$59,443	\$53,604	\$43,433	\$42,022	\$66,230	\$47,313	\$18,203
Nance, NE	\$44,341	(N/A)	(N/A)	\$33,850	\$31,852	\$50,216	(N/A)	(N/A)
Platte, NE	\$56,429	\$57,208	\$56,930	\$38,738	\$36,141	\$63,309	\$52,925	\$16,231
Wheeler, NE	\$45,470	(N/A)	(N/A)	\$24,408	\$21,672	(N/A)	(N/A)	\$10,529
Labor Study Area	\$48,248	\$36,640	\$34,739	\$36,320	\$36,570	\$48,169	\$32,294	\$12,590
Nebraska	\$58,176	\$59,975	\$58,467	\$52,950	\$47,521	\$78,485	\$69,277	\$19,706

(N/A) - Not Available.

^(a) Includes employers that are subject to Nebraska Employment Security Laws.

Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, www.bls.gov/cew/.

Table Four, Part B provides average annual wages, by county and by major industry sector, for the counties that make up the Albion Labor Study Area. A review of the industry-specific data for average annual wages for Boone County indicates that the high average annual wage is a result of the extremely high average wages in the Manufacturing and Financial Activities industry groups.

Table Five provides information on entry, average, and experienced wages for selected occupations across all industry groups for businesses located in Boone County. Entry level and experienced wage rates represent the means of the lower third and upper two-thirds of the wage distribution, respectively.

Table Five
Entry, Average, and Experienced Annual Wage Levels, Selected Occupations
Boone County Nebraska, 3rd Quarter 2023

Occupation	Number of Jobs	Average (Annual)	Entry Level (Annual)	Experienced (Annual)
Management Occupations	240	\$76,946	\$35,660	\$95,941
Business and Financial Operations Occupations	73	\$65,058	\$45,001	\$75,699
Computer and Mathematical Occupations	19	\$72,393	\$48,155	\$88,636
Architecture and Engineering Occupations	20	\$74,047	\$51,350	\$89,545
Life, Physical, and Social Science Occupations	13	\$59,019	\$42,782	\$70,629
Community and Social Service Occupations	32	\$43,322	\$33,609	\$51,262
Legal Occupations	11	\$74,837	\$37,269	\$88,057
Educational Instruction and Library Occupations	213	\$46,287	\$31,295	\$57,562
Arts, Design, Entertainment, Sports, and Media Occupations	14	\$47,087	\$30,722	\$53,800
Healthcare Practitioners and Technical Occupations	203	\$74,149	\$48,411	\$75,779
Healthcare Support Occupations	151	\$32,460	\$27,981	\$34,154
Protective Service Occupations	31	\$44,201	\$30,147	\$57,894
Food Preparation and Serving Related Occupations	158	\$25,358	\$20,665	\$27,110
Building and Grounds Cleaning and Maintenance Occupations	90	\$31,441	\$25,550	\$36,794
Personal Care and Service Occupations	59	\$29,338	\$23,078	\$32,196
Sales and Related Occupations	206	\$41,708	\$28,163	\$45,748
Office and Administrative Support Occupations	285	\$36,834	\$29,062	\$41,151
Farming, Fishing, and Forestry Occupations	317	\$36,732	\$23,424	\$42,940
Construction and Extraction Occupations	92	\$45,171	\$34,835	\$51,153
Installation, Maintenance, and Repair Occupations	126	\$50,327	\$38,493	\$57,956
Production Occupations	121	\$43,465	\$34,809	\$46,091
Transportation and Material Moving Occupations	212	\$40,138	\$32,170	\$44,040

Source: Lightcast Q4 2023

Commuting Patterns

Table Six provides data from the 2021 U.S. Census, Longitudinal Employer-Household Dynamics Program, showing commuting patterns for workers living in the Albion Labor Study Area. Data in Table Six indicate that a significant number (and percentage) of workers in the area commuted outside of their county of residence for employment. Data for Boone County indicate that 1,127, or 48.5 percent of the employed workers, commute to other counties for employment.

Table Six
Commuting Patterns, Albion Labor Study Area
Jobs Outside County of Residence, 2021

County, State	County Residents	
	Working Outside County	
	Number	Percent
Boone, NE	1,127	48.5%
Antelope, NE	1,510	56.9%
Madison, NE	6,135	36.7%
Platte, NE	6,090	36.7%
Nance, NE	824	63.7%
Greeley, NE	561	66.2%
Wheeler, NE	199	61.0%

Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census, *Longitudinal Employer-Household Dynamics*, onthemap.ces.census.gov/.

Table Seven provides further detail illustrating the willingness of workers in Boone County to travel for employment. In 2021, Boone County residents worked 2,325 jobs; a resident could work at more than one job. Of these 2,325 jobs, the largest number, 1,198 or 51.5 percent, were located in Boone County. Counties with high numbers of workers from Boone County were Platte County, Nebraska (225 jobs), Madison County, Nebraska (138 jobs), and Douglas County, Nebraska (110 jobs).

Table Seven
Commuting Patterns, Albion Labor Study Area
Location of Jobs Held by Boone County Residents, 2021

County, State, Where Jobs are Located	Primary Jobs Held by Boone County Residents	% Boone County Residents' Primary Jobs
Boone, NE	1,198	51.5%
Platte, NE	225	9.7%
Madison, NE	138	5.9%
Douglas, NE	110	4.7%
Lancaster, NE	78	3.4%
All Other Locations	576	24.8%
Total Resident Jobs	2,325	100.0%

Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census, *Longitudinal Employer-Household Dynamics*, onthemap.ces.census.gov/.

Table Eight provides data showing the willingness of workers in other counties to commute to Boone County for employment. Data in Table Eight indicate that 1,044 (46.6 percent) of the 2,242 primary jobs in Boone County were held by workers commuting from other counties. In 2021, Platte County was home to the greatest number of workers commuting into Boone County for primary jobs, 127 or 5.7 percent. Other counties with large numbers of workers commuting into Boone County for their primary jobs included Nance County, 102 or 4.5 percent; Madison County, 95 or 4.2 percent; Antelope County, 82 or 3.7 percent; Greeley County, 79 or 3.5 percent; Custer County, 24 or 1.1 percent; and All Other Locations, 535 or 23.9 percent.

Table Eight
Commuting Patterns, Albion Labor Study Area
Sources of Boone County Workers, 2021

County, State, Where Workers Live	Primary Jobs in Boone County	% Primary Jobs in Boone County
Boone, NE	1,198	53.4%
Platte, NE	127	5.7%
Nance, NE	102	4.5%
Madison, NE	95	4.2%
Antelope, NE	82	3.7%
Greeley, NE	79	3.5%
Custer, NE	24	1.1%
All Other Locations	535	23.9%
Total	2,242	100.0

Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census, *Longitudinal Employer-Household Dynamics*,
onthejob.ces.census.gov/.

Table Nine shows the number of primary jobs (Workforce) located in Boone County and the number of primary jobs held by county residents (Labor Force Employment) by industry in 2021. When the Workforce for an industry exceeds the Labor Force (positive values in the last column of Table Nine), the difference between these values represents the net number of jobs in Boone County held by workers commuting into the county from other areas. If the Workforce is less than the Labor Force (negative values in the last column of Table Nine), the difference represents the net number of jobs held outside of Boone County by county residents.

As data in Table Nine indicate, residents of Boone County were employed in 2,325 primary jobs in 2021, but there were 2,242 primary jobs within the area. This indicates residents commuted to at least 83 primary jobs outside the county. It is important to note this is an estimate of net out-commuting and most certainly understates the actual number of primary jobs in other counties held by area residents.

Table Nine
Primary Jobs, Boone County, 2021
Resident Labor Force and Employers Workforce

Industry	Labor Force Employment (Employment of Area Residents)	Workforce (Area Jobs)	Net Number of Jobs Held by Workers Commuting Into Boone County^(a)
Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing and Hunting	252	372	120
Mining, Quarrying, and Oil and Gas Extraction	2	0	-2
Utilities	28	31	3
Construction	114	95	-19
Manufacturing	267	181	-86
Wholesale Trade	159	200	41
Retail Trade	241	227	-14
Transportation and Warehousing	64	61	-3
Information	19	9	-10
Finance and Insurance	91	78	-13
Real Estate and Rental and Leasing	9	3	-6
Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services	53	26	-27
Management of Companies and Enterprises	12	1	-11
Administration & Support, Waste Management and Remediation	47	15	-32
Educational Services	215	220	5
Health Care and Social Assistance	490	498	8
Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation	16	16	0
Accommodation and Food Services	99	85	-14
Other Services (excluding Public Administration)	52	35	-17
Public Administration	95	89	-6
Total	2,325	2,242	-83

(a) A negative value indicates the net number of primary jobs outside of the area held by Boone County residents.

Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census, *Longitudinal Employer-Household Dynamics*, onthemap.ces.census.gov/.

Population Trends

The data provided in Table Ten show population trends for the Albion Labor Study Area by county and for Nebraska from 1990-2022. The Albion Labor Study Area population increased by 3.0 percent from 1990 to 2020 and decreased by 0.2 percent from 2020 to 2022. The population in Boone County totaled 6,667 in 1990 and decreased by 19.3 percent from 1990 to 2020. From 2020 to 2022, Boone County population increased 0.1 percent.

Table Ten
Population in the Albion Labor Study Area, by County, and Nebraska
Selected Years, 1990–2022

County, State	1990	2000	2010	2020	2022	% Chg. 1990–2020	% Chg. 2020–2022
Boone, NE	6,667	6,259	5,505	5,377	5,385	-19.3	0.1
Antelope, NE	7,965	7,452	6,685	6,292	6,293	-21.0	0.0
Greeley, NE	3,006	2,714	2,538	2,186	2,227	-27.3	1.9
Madison, NE	32,655	35,226	34,876	35,584	35,368	9.0	-0.6
Nance, NE	4,275	4,038	3,735	3,377	3,326	-21.0	-1.5
Platte, NE	29,820	31,662	32,237	34,294	34,296	15.0	0.0
Wheeler, NE	948	886	818	772	785	-18.6	1.7
Labor Study Area	79,974	81,343	85,562	85,336	88,237	3.0	-0.2
Nebraska	1,578,385	1,711,230	1,826,341	1,961,489	1,967,923	24.3	0.3

Sources: U.S. Bureau of the Census, *Census of Population, 1990-2020* and *Population Estimates 2022*.

Table Eleven shows the age distribution of the resident population. The age distribution of the population is important when evaluating the potential labor supply in an area. A key variable is the number of people in the working-age populations of the counties making up the Albion Labor Study Area.

Table Eleven
Age Characteristics of the Population, Albion Labor Study Area,
by County, and Nebraska, 2022

County, State	0-14		15-24		25-44		45-64		65-Older		Median Age
	Number	% ^(a)	Number	% ^(a)	Number	% ^(a)	Number	% ^(a)	Number	% ^(a)	
Boone, NE	1,090	20.2	574	10.7	1,116	20.7	1,368	25.4	1,238	23.0	43.3
Antelope, NE	1,284	20.4	663	10.6	1,288	20.5	1,513	24.1	1,531	24.4	43.4
Greeley, NE	410	18.9	243	11.2	432	19.9	525	24.2	559	25.8	45.0
Madison, NE	7,604	21.5	4,734	13.4	8,743	24.7	8,375	23.7	5,881	16.6	37.2
Nance, NE	648	19.1	369	10.9	750	22.1	898	26.5	725	21.4	43.3
Platte, NE	7,522	22.0	4,238	12.4	8,270	24.2	8,108	23.7	6,103	17.8	38.0
Wheeler, NE	149	18.7	61	7.7	152	19.1	207	26.0	226	28.4	50.7
Labor Study Area	18,707	21.4	10,882	12.4	20,751	23.7	20,994	24.0	16,263	18.6	38.9
Nebraska	399,736	22.1	120,236	6.6	508,578	28.1	458,624	25.4	321,890	17.8	37.1

^(a) Percent of total population for each respective area.

Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census, *Population Estimates 2022*.

According to Table Twelve, in 2022, there were 2,484 people in Boone County between the ages of 25 and 64, which represented 46.1 percent of the total population, compared to 47.7 percent of the population for the Albion Labor Study Area as a whole and 53.5 percent of the Nebraska population in this age range.

Table Twelve
Age Characteristics of the Prime Working Age Population (25-64 Years),
Albion Labor Study Area,
by County, and Nebraska, 2022

County, State	25-44		45-64		Total 25-64	
	Number	% ^(a)	Number	% ^(a)	Number	% ^(a)
Boone, NE	1,116	20.7	1,368	25.4	2,484	46.1%
Antelope, NE	1,288	20.5	1,513	24.1	2,801	44.6%
Greeley, NE	432	19.9	525	24.2	957	44.1%
Madison, NE	8,743	24.7	8,375	23.7	17,118	48.4%
Nance, NE	750	22.1	898	26.5	1,648	48.6%
Platte, NE	8,270	24.2	8,108	23.7	16,378	47.8%
Wheeler, NE	152	19.1	207	26.0	359	45.2%
Labor Study Area	20,751	23.7	20,994	24.0	41,745	47.7%
Nebraska	508,578	28.1	458,624	25.4	967,202	53.5%

^(a) Percent of total population for each respective area.

Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census, *Population Estimates 2022*.

Information in Table Thirteen shows recent changes in the racial (“White Alone” and “Not-White Alone”) and ethnic (“Hispanic” and “Non-Hispanic”) composition for the resident populations of Boone County, the Albion Labor Study Area, and Nebraska statewide. As shown in Table Thirteen, the total Boone County population decreased by 13.5 percent during the twenty-one-year period while the Hispanic population increased by 150.0 percent and the Not-

White Alone and Non-Hispanic population increased by 884.2 percent. Over the same period, the Albion Labor Study Area population decreased by 0.5 percent while the Hispanic population increased by 149.6 percent and the Not-White Alone and Non-Hispanic population increased by 528.3 percent. Statewide, the population increased by 14.0 percent from 2000 to 2021, while the Hispanic population increased by 138.0 percent and the Not-White Alone and Non-Hispanic population increased by 172.2 percent.

Table Thirteen
Population by Selected Race and Ethnic Origin Characteristics
Boone County, Albion Labor Study Area, and Nebraska Statewide, 2000–2021

Category	2000		2021		Change 2000-2021	
	#	%	#	%	#	%
---Boone County---						
Total Population	6,259	100.0	5,413	100.0	-846	-13.5
Hispanic origin	56	0.9	140	2.6	84	150.0
White Alone, Non-Hispanic Origin	6,184	98.8	5,086	94.0	-1,098	-17.8
Not-White Alone & Non-Hispanic	19	0.3	187	3.5	168	884.2
---Labor Study Area---						
Total Population	88,178	100.0	87,742	100.0	-436	-0.5
Hispanic origin	5,295	6.0	13,217	15.1	7,922	149.6
White Alone, Non-Hispanic Origin	81,263	92.2	64,346	73.3	-16,917	-20.8
Not-White Alone & Non-Hispanic	1,620	1.8	10,179	11.6	8,559	528.3
---Nebraska, Statewide---						
Total Population	1,711,230	100.0	1,951,480	100.0	240,250	14.0
Hispanic origin	94,419	5.5	224,693	11.5	130,274	138.0
White Alone, Non-Hispanic Origin	1,497,082	87.5	1,400,914	71.8	-96,168	-6.4
Not-White Alone & Non-Hispanic	119,729	7.0	325,873	16.7	206,144	172.2

Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census, *Population Estimates 2000 and 2017-2021 American Community Survey Five-year Estimates*.

Table Fourteen provides information showing population, the natural increase (births minus deaths) and net migration for the period 2010–2022 for Nebraska, Boone County, and the Albion Labor Study Area. As these data show, the Albion Labor Study Area as a whole experienced net out-migration during the period. As indicated in the table, net out-migration for the Albion Labor Study Area as a whole accounted for a population decrease of 2,744 people during the past twelve years, contributing to a population decrease equal to 3.2 percent of the population. In the case of Boone County, net out-migration during the period totaled 88 people, or 1.6 percent of the 2010 population.

Table Fourteen
Population, Births, Deaths, and Migration
Nebraska and Albion Labor Study Area, by County, 2010–2022

County, State	Population		2010–2022			Net Migration*, 2010–2022	
	2010	2022	Births	Deaths	Nat. Incr.	Number	% 2010 Pop.
Boone, NE	5,505	5,385	795	827	-32	-88	-1.6
Antelope, NE	6,685	6,293	1,058	939	119	-511	-7.6
Greeley, NE	2,538	2,227	357	373	-16	-295	-11.6
Madison, NE	34,876	35,368	6,332	4,564	1,768	-1,276	-3.7
Nance, NE	3,735	3,326	505	637	-132	-277	-7.4
Platte, NE	32,237	34,296	5,934	3,656	2,278	-219	-0.7
Wheeler, NE	818	785	116	71	45	-78	-9.5
Labor Study Area	86,394	87,680	15,097	11,067	4,030	-2,744	-3.2
Nebraska	1,826,341	1,967,923	320,781	208,796	111,985	29,597	1.6

* Net Migration from the Bureau of the Census estimates, includes residual component not shown separately.

Sources: Population (2010, 2022) - U.S. Bureau of the Census, *Census of Population, 2010, 2022*.
 Births, Deaths, and Natural Increase – Nebraska Department of Health Vital Statistics Data.
 Migration - computed using population and natural increase.

Competitive Employment and Career Opportunities

An employer providing jobs with competitive wages and benefits and offering career opportunities would be a welcome addition to the employment base in the Albion Labor Study Area and Boone County. The expected response to such employment opportunities would be significant, and it is anticipated that there would be an adequate labor supply response for a prospective new employer offering competitive wages and benefits in the Albion area. The labor force, employment, and demographic data presented in this report illustrate quite clearly that there is a sufficiently large labor force and population base living within the Albion Labor Area, and that significant numbers of persons living in the area are commuting to other areas for employment.

In conclusion, the data and analysis presented in this report indicate that the Albion Labor Study Area and Boone County would be able to provide a number of dedicated and skilled workers to meet the needs of additional employers in the area.

Questions concerning this report and the supporting data should be addressed to:

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