

# Study: More people are staying in Nebraska

By MICHELLE STARR  
Staff writer

A UNL researcher found that fewer Nebraskans have been leaving the state.

Nebraska, and especially its metro areas, increased in population between 1990 and 1996, according to a study completed by William Scheideler, a UNL research analyst at the Bureau of Business Research.

The study, based on census data, showed that compared with the 1970s and '80s, people are staying in Nebraska rather than moving to another state. The study also found that residents are mov-

ing from rural areas to urban areas within the state.

The research will help city and state agencies plan for transportation and labor force, Scheideler said.

The study did not show any shocking information, but the numbers might be more noticeable than in past years, said Charles Lamphear, director of the UNL Bureau of Business Research and a professor of economics.

A growth trend in the service sector reflects a growth in the urban areas, Lamphear said.

"I was not surprised. The migration patterns are just a reflection of the structure in our economy," Lamphear said.

The study, which Scheideler has been working on since last summer, divided the population into different age groups and regional areas, as well as Nebraska as a whole.

Nebraska experienced an overall 1.2 percent gain in population, or 19,300 people, between 1990 and 1996.

According to the study, the only age group in decline was 65-and-older, a decrease of 1.1 percent, or 2,612 people.

The metro areas showed the greatest increase statewide.

Of the metro areas, Lincoln had the greatest total increase of 6,960 people, and Omaha was second with a total increase of 5,450 people.

Overall, the metro areas experienced a 1.9 percent increase of 9,700 people, while non-metro areas experi-

enced a .3 percent increase of 1,150 people.

"From a rural perspective, it is not good news," Lamphear said.

The largest overall population increase was from the 19-and-under age group.

The 20-24 age group is rising in every county and showed the largest numbers of migration within the state, Scheideler said.

The people appear to be migrating from smaller rural areas, such as central Nebraska and the Panhandle, possibly to get a postsecondary education, Scheideler said.

Between 1991 and 1996, the migration rate of the 20-24 age group rose by 31.8 percent or 7,920 people, compared with the 1985 to 1990 rate of 26.5 per-

cent or about 6,320 people, Scheideler said.

Because this age group possibly reflected students in the 25-39 age group, the number dropped in migration to urban areas, the study showed.

Once young people received an education, they may have returned home or to other areas within the state, Scheideler said.

The findings are still speculation, Scheideler said.

"It's not like we're noticing a direct flow from western Nebraska to Lincoln," Scheideler said.

He said researchers didn't want to make assumptions about why people were moving and where they moved.

"We didn't try to explain why one region did better than another," he said.



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# Couple wins large cash prizes

■ After buying about 70 tickets a week since 1994, woman picks a winner.

By JAKE BLEED  
Senior staff writer

A North Platte couple took home \$2.34 million Friday after winning several cash prizes in the Nebraska Lottery.

Marilyn Anderson bought the winning ticket Wednesday at the North Platte liquor store she owns and operates with her husband, Charles Anderson.

In addition to the \$5 million Powerball prize, the Andersons picked up five \$100,000 prizes by successfully matching all but the red powerball lottery number on five different tickets. They also won a \$55,000 prize for owning the store that sold the winning tick-

et. The couple received the money Friday.

Nebraska Lottery rules allow ticket vendors to play the lottery as anyone else would.

The couple shared the \$10 million prize with another winning ticket in Kentucky. The Andersons chose to receive a lump sum of cash.

Marilyn Anderson said she had bought about 70 tickets a week, buying them every Wednesday just before noon, since the lottery started in 1994.

To pick numbers for the tickets, she said she used faith, choosing numbers that stuck in her head throughout the week.

Although Charles Anderson knew his wife spent a lot of money on tickets, Marilyn Anderson said he did not know exactly how much she spent every week until Friday, when Nebraska Lottery Officials presented the prize to the couple.

"I thought it was just like throwing

money away," Charles Anderson said. "I guess I'm going to have to quit hounding her about it."

Two other Powerball prizes have been presented to North Platte natives, Nebraska Lottery officials said.

Despite the new cash, the Andersons said they weren't going to change their routine.

Charles Anderson, 67, said he will continue to work throughout the week at the two liquor stores he owns in North Platte, even coming in on Sundays to read the day's newspapers.

Marilyn Anderson will also continue to help at the liquor stores and said she would still work six days every week.

Instead of buying a new home, Marilyn Anderson said, they would rather fix up their current house.

The Andersons' four granddaughters, however, will have a very merry Christmas to look forward to, Marilyn Anderson said.

# Math department keeps running tradition alive

By GWEN TIETGEN  
Staff writer

For some graduate students and professors in the UNL mathematics department, calculus and running go hand in hand.

Patricia Nelson, Theresa Strei and Lisa Johnson, mathematics graduate teaching assistants, and Sylvia Wiegand, a UNL mathematics and statistics professor, recently attended the Kansas City Power and Light Marathon.

Johnson said the small group is part of 10 to 15 runners in the math department at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln.

Patricia Nelson, mathematics graduate teaching assistant, won the Kansas City marathon Oct. 24 with a time of 3 hours, 12 minutes and 38 seconds.

The time was an improvement of eight minutes from her previous best time.

Wiegand placed first and Johnson placed sixth in the full marathon, 26.2 miles, in their age divisions. Strei placed sixth in the half marathon, 13.1 miles, for her age division.

Nelson said she was surprised to win because she didn't train as much for the Kansas City marathon as she usually did because of time constraints.

She said she usually runs four times a week and swims twice a week.

Nelson, who is now 30 years old, started running in junior high and ran her first marathon when she was 23.

Johnson said several mathematics graduate students and professors run together to help train for marathons and keep in shape.

"It's hard to find time to do team sports, so we run," Johnson said. "It's a really good way to clear your head."

Some UNL mathematics graduate students and professors traveled to

"It's hard to find time to do team sports, so we run."

LISA JOHNSON  
mathematics graduate student

Pikes Peak in Colorado last August.

That race was especially demanding because runners had to deal with the altitude, Johnson said.

Wiegand ran the whole marathon at Pikes Peak. For the race, she ran up the mountain and back down.

Wiegand came to UNL in 1972 and has been a part of the math department's running tradition ever since.

"There used to be a lot of faculty members that ran, but it has slowly died down," Wiegand said.

"In the last few years, we've had quite a few graduate students who are interested in running."

Johnson said one of the math department's big traditions was participating in the Campus Recreation Center's Turkey Trot.

The Turkey Trot, which ended two years ago, was an intramural sport held around Thanksgiving in which the winners would receive a turkey for winning.

"I was disappointed when the Turkey Trot was discontinued," Johnson said.

Nelson and Johnson said Lincoln is a great place to run because of the many road races held each year.

"Going to marathons is great because you're not just lying around you're exercising," Johnson said.

Nelson said that's one reason she likes being a student in the department.

"They're great people who are great to work with, and the fact they're runners makes it even better," she said.

# Off-duty officer punched

By JAKE BLEED  
Senior staff writer

Lincoln police arrested a 26-year-old Columbus man Saturday night on suspicion of repeatedly punching an off-duty police officer in the parking lot behind the station, Capt. David Beggs said.

Damon Vogt was jailed for third-degree assault on a police officer, Beggs said.

After finishing his shift and changing into plain clothes, 36-year-old officer Gregory Cody was driving his own car out of the parking lot at 9th and M streets at about 11:30 p.m. when a man stepped in front of the car and stopped, Beggs said.

The man turned his back on Cody, blocking the officer's path out of the lot, Beggs said. As Cody waited for the man to move, a second man walked to the driver's side window and belligerently asked what the officer wanted, Beggs said.

Cody stepped out of his car and told the men he was a police officer, and they had to leave, Beggs said.

The second man insulted the officer, Beggs said. Cody picked up his cellular phone and began dialing for help from other officers.

The second man punched Cody in the neck, Beggs said. He punched Cody five times, took his phone, threw it across M Street and left.

An officer arrived and tried to arrest the second man, who fled, running down Ninth Street, Beggs said.

Cody and other officers arrested Vogt at Ninth and L streets.

The other man was not arrested. Cody was treated for minor injuries at BryanLGH West and released, Beggs said.

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