

1950 CENSUS OF POPULATION

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CHARACTERISTICS OF THE POPULATION OF NEBRASKA

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(This is one of a series of reports presenting figures on selected characteristics of the population of the smaller States. In this series, reports are numbered alphabetically by States. Additional reports will be issued as figures for other States become available. Preliminary sample data for the larger States, not covered in this series, will be found in Series PC-6)

Gains in the population of Nebraska between 1940 and 1950 were most marked among young children and elderly persons, according to figures from the 1950 Census of Population released today by Roy V. Peel, Director, Bureau of the Census, Department of Commerce. Although the total population of the State increased by 9,676, or only 0.7 percent, during the decade, the number of children under 5 years of age increased by 35,673, or 34.1 percent, and the number of persons 65 years old and over increased by 23.4 percent. On the other hand, decreases were shown by the figures for a number of other age groups--the largest of these, 15.6 percent, occurred among persons 15 to 24 years old. In 1950 there were more males than females in the population of Nebraska, but the excess of males was relatively smaller than it had been at the time of the preceding census. There were 101.4 males for every 100 females in 1950 as compared with 102.4 in 1940. Between 1940 and 1950, the nonwhite population of the State increased by 32.7 percent in contrast to an increase of only 0.3 percent in the white population.

DEFINITIONS OF TERMS AND EXPLANATIONS

Urban and rural residence.--Under the urban definition established for use in the 1950 Census, the urban population comprises all persons living in (a) places of 2,500 inhabitants or more incorporated as cities, boroughs, towns,¹ and villages; (b) the densely settled urban fringe, including both incorporated and unincorporated areas, around cities

¹ Except in New England, New York, and Wisconsin, where "towns" are minor civil divisions of counties and are not necessarily densely settled centers like the towns in other States.

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of 50,000 or more; and (c) unincorporated places of 2,500 inhabitants or more outside any urban fringe. The remaining population is classified as rural. According to the definition used in previous censuses, urban population comprised all persons living in incorporated places of 2,500 inhabitants or more and areas (usually minor civil divisions) classified as urban under special rules relating to population size and density.

Farm and nonfarm residence.--The rural population is subdivided into the rural-farm population, which comprises all rural residents living on farms, and the rural-nonfarm population, which comprises the remaining rural population. However, the method of determining farm and nonfarm residence in the 1950 Census differs somewhat from that used in earlier censuses. In the 1950 Census, persons on "farms" who were paying cash rent for their house and yard only were classified as nonfarm; furthermore, persons in institutions, summer camps, and tourist courts were classified as nonfarm.

Color.--The group designated as "nonwhite" consists of Negroes, Indians, Japanese, Chinese, and other nonwhite races. Persons of Mexican birth or ancestry who are not definitely Indian or of other nonwhite race are classified as white.

Age.--The age classification is based on the age of the person at his last birthday before the date of the census, that is, the age of the person in completed years. The median age may be defined as that age which divides the population into two equal groups--one-half being older and one-half younger than the median.

(over)

Table 1.--COLOR BY SEX, FOR NEBRASKA, URBAN AND RURAL: 1950 AND 1940

Color and sex	The State			Urban, 1950	Rural, 1950	Percent distribution			
	1950	1940	Percent change, 1940 to 1950			The State		Urban, 1950	Rural, 1950
						1950	1940		
Total.....	1,325,510	1,315,834	0.7	621,905	703,605	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
White.....	1,301,344	1,297,624	0.3	601,817	699,527	98.2	98.6	96.8	99.4
Nonwhite.....	24,166	18,210	32.7	20,088	4,078	1.8	1.4	3.2	0.6
Male.....	667,332	665,788	0.2	300,811	366,521	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
White.....	655,047	656,667	-0.2	290,789	364,258	98.2	98.6	96.7	99.4
Nonwhite.....	12,285	9,121	34.7	10,022	2,263	1.8	1.4	3.3	0.6
Female.....	658,178	650,046	1.3	321,094	337,084	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
White.....	646,297	640,957	0.8	311,028	335,269	98.2	98.6	96.9	99.5
Nonwhite.....	11,881	9,089	30.7	10,066	1,815	1.8	1.4	3.1	0.5

Table 2.--AGE BY SEX, FOR NEBRASKA, URBAN AND RURAL: 1950 AND 1940

(Percent not shown where less than 0.1)

Age and sex	The State			Urban, 1950	Rural nonfarm, 1950	Rural farm, 1950	Percent distribution				
	1950	1940	Per- cent change, 1940 to 1950				The State		Urban, 1950	Rural non- farm, 1950	Rural farm, 1950
							1950	1940			
Total population.....	1,325,510	1,315,834	0.7	621,905	312,170	391,435	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Percent by residence	100.0	...	...	46.9	23.6	29.5	...	...	...	...	...
Under 5 years.....	140,219	104,546	34.1	64,620	30,404	45,195	10.6	7.9	10.4	9.7	11.5
5 to 14 years.....	208,561	226,985	-8.1	86,018	47,228	75,315	15.7	17.3	13.8	15.1	19.2
15 to 24 years.....	196,131	232,440	-15.6	96,618	41,129	58,384	14.8	17.7	15.5	13.2	14.9
25 to 34 years.....	189,755	195,598	-3.0	97,449	39,021	53,285	14.3	14.9	15.7	12.5	13.6
35 to 44 years.....	174,759	174,684	...	83,438	36,703	54,618	13.2	13.3	13.4	11.8	14.0
45 to 54 years.....	153,336	161,797	-5.2	72,167	34,837	46,332	11.6	12.3	11.6	11.2	11.8
55 to 64 years.....	132,370	114,152	16.0	61,833	35,510	35,027	10.0	8.7	9.9	11.4	8.9
65 years and over.....	130,379	105,632	23.4	59,762	47,338	23,279	9.8	8.0	9.6	15.2	5.9
Median age.....years..	31.2	29.8	...	31.5	34.6	28.2	...	...	...	...	...
Male.....	667,332	665,788	0.2	300,811	155,656	210,865	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Under 5 years.....	71,513	53,511	33.6	32,662	15,539	23,312	10.7	8.0	10.9	10.0	11.1
5 to 14 years.....	106,918	115,666	-7.6	43,571	24,264	39,083	16.0	17.4	14.5	15.6	18.5
15 to 24 years.....	98,007	115,722	-15.3	44,725	20,732	32,550	14.7	17.4	14.9	13.3	15.4
25 to 34 years.....	95,342	96,876	-1.6	47,777	19,706	27,859	14.3	14.6	15.9	12.7	13.2
35 to 44 years.....	87,460	87,253	0.2	40,189	18,386	28,885	13.1	13.1	13.4	11.8	13.7
45 to 54 years.....	76,644	82,758	-7.4	34,440	16,957	25,247	11.5	12.4	11.4	10.9	12.0
55 to 64 years.....	67,045	59,428	12.8	30,072	16,841	20,132	10.0	8.9	10.0	10.8	9.5
65 years and over.....	64,403	54,574	18.0	27,375	23,231	13,797	9.7	8.2	9.1	14.9	6.5
Median age.....years..	31.0	30.0	...	31.2	33.8	28.8	...	...	...	...	...
Female.....	658,178	650,046	1.3	321,094	156,514	180,570	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Under 5 years.....	68,706	51,035	34.6	31,958	14,865	21,883	10.4	7.9	10.0	9.5	12.1
5 to 14 years.....	101,643	111,319	-8.7	42,447	22,964	36,232	15.4	17.1	13.2	14.7	20.1
15 to 24 years.....	98,124	116,718	-15.9	51,893	20,397	25,834	14.9	18.0	16.2	13.0	14.3
25 to 34 years.....	94,413	98,722	-4.4	49,672	19,315	25,426	14.3	15.2	15.5	12.3	14.1
35 to 44 years.....	87,299	87,431	-0.2	43,249	18,317	25,733	13.3	13.4	13.5	11.7	14.3
45 to 54 years.....	76,692	79,039	-3.0	37,727	17,880	21,085	11.7	12.2	11.7	11.4	11.7
55 to 64 years.....	65,325	54,724	19.4	31,761	18,669	14,895	9.9	8.4	9.9	11.9	8.2
65 years and over.....	65,976	51,058	29.2	32,387	24,107	9,482	10.0	7.9	10.1	15.4	5.3
Median age.....years..	31.4	29.7	...	31.9	35.4	27.5	...	...	...	...	...