



# Fairmont

NEBRASKA



COMMUNITY  
GUIDE

[www.fairmont-nebraska.org](http://www.fairmont-nebraska.org)  
[www.fillmorecountydevelopment.org](http://www.fillmorecountydevelopment.org)  
[www.visitfillmorecounty.org](http://www.visitfillmorecounty.org)

The Table of Contents and section headings are hot linked within this Community Guide. Clicking on the section headings will return you to the Table of Contents.

The following pages contain basic information about Fairmont, Nebraska. This information was compiled by the Fillmore County Hospital, Fillmore Central Public School, Village of Fairmont, Fairmont Library, Fillmore County, Fillmore County Economic Development, and Nebraska Public Power District in order to promote community development and quality of life.

# ABOUT FAIRMONT NEBRASKA



Fairmont provides a perfect place for companies that need rail, a four-lane highway, and an abundance of corn and soybeans. The residents of Fairmont and Fillmore County also have a strong work ethic. Located in the heart of an agricultural area, three companies needing these amenities have located right outside of Fairmont. The Andersons, Inc., Flint Hills Resources, and CPI-Lansing all provide quality jobs and are great corporate citizens. Fairmont is continuing to improve the community by renovating their main street and adding new street lighting, erecting playground equipment, and updating their website. Citizens are excited to have younger people moving into Fairmont and the area where people can enjoy a safe and friendly community.

## Contacts

**Patt Lentfer**  
 Executive Director  
 Fillmore County Development  
 Geneva, Nebraska 68361  
 Office: (402) 759-4910  
 Cell: (402) 759-1572  
 Email: [lentfer.fcdc@genevemail.com](mailto:lentfer.fcdc@genevemail.com)  
[www.fillmorecountydevelopment.org](http://www.fillmorecountydevelopment.org)

**Linda Carroll**  
 Village Clerk  
 Village of Fairmont  
 Fairmont, Nebraska 68354  
 Office: (402) 268-3341  
 Email: [fairmont@galaxycable.net](mailto:fairmont@galaxycable.net)  
[www.fairmont-nebraska.org](http://www.fairmont-nebraska.org)

**Sheila Lauby**  
 President  
 Fairmont Community Club  
 Fairmont, Nebraska 68354  
 Office: (402) 268-3341  
 Email: [sheila.lauby@fillmorecentral.org](mailto:sheila.lauby@fillmorecentral.org)

**Rick J. Nelsen, CEcD**  
 Economic Development Manager  
 Nebraska Public Power District  
 Columbus, Nebraska 68602-0499  
 Phone: (402) 563-5534  
 Cell: (308) 627-6746  
 Email: [rjnelse@nppd.com](mailto:rjnelse@nppd.com)  
[econdev.nppd.com](http://econdev.nppd.com)

## 2013 U.S. Census Population

Fairmont	540
Fillmore County	5,698

## Table of Contents

3	Geography	18	Local Government
4	Economic Development	19	Education
8	Labor	21	Quality of Life
10	Market Access	27	Community Services
11	Infrastructure	28	Agriculture & Raw Materials
15	Communications	30	Climate
16	Tax Structure		

**Cover Picture:** In 1910, Union Soldier Monument was dedicated to the Civil War Veterans and is located in the Fairmont Park.

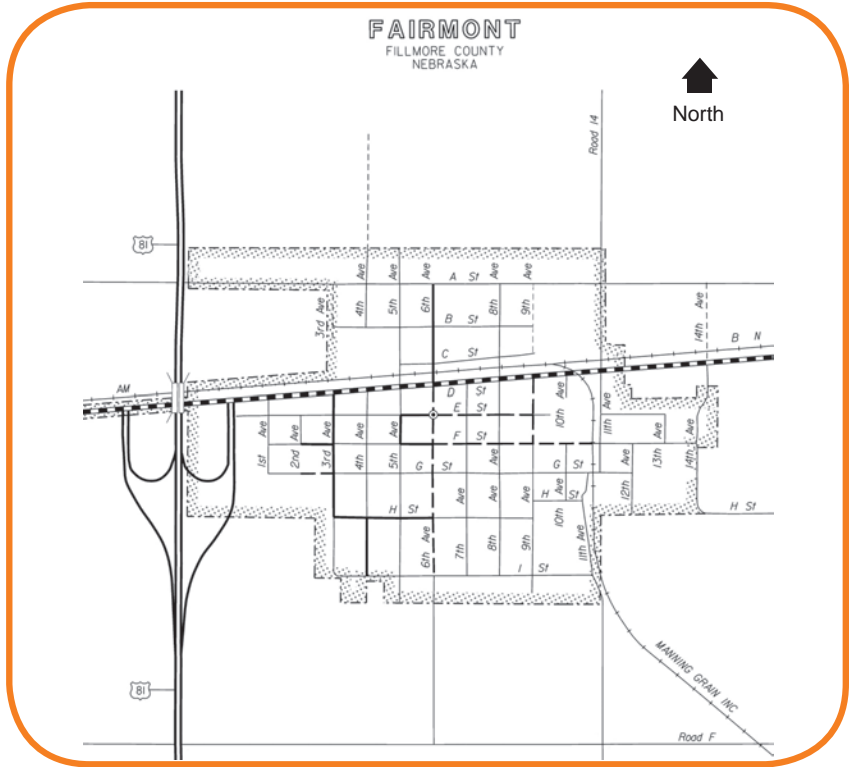
# Geography

## Location

Fairmont is located in Fillmore County at the crossroads of two transcontinental highways, U.S. Highways 6 and 81. Fairmont is 14 miles south of Interstate 80, 44 miles east of Hastings, 61 miles southwest of Lincoln, and 116 miles southwest of Omaha.

## Elevation

Fairmont is 1,641 feet above sea level.



# Economic Development

Firms with retail sales tax permits in Fairmont reported 2014 net taxable retail sales of \$2,979,046, while Fillmore County reported retail sales of \$50,444,585.

In the past eight years two new industries have located near Fairmont with an investment of more than \$155. They created 65 jobs. Also in that same time period three new businesses started, two expanded, and two have transitioned to new owners. A new manufacturer has plans to build a plant in 2015.

Fairmont received two Community Development Block Grants for homeowner rehabilitations and a Homeowners Opportunity Program (HOP).

The Village upgraded their drainage system, poured six new blocks of concrete on 6th Avenue (their main street) and added new lighting. New play equipment has been installed at both the Downtown Park and the Swimming Pool Park.

The Fillmore County Hospital, which serves the entire region, dedicated their new hospital in March of 2012. In 2015 the hospital added a Behavioral Health Unit providing services for the 55 plus population and deals with both preventative and in-patient treatment.

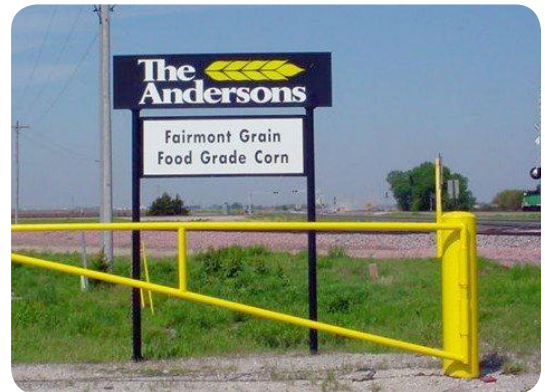
## Economic Development Organizations

Fillmore County Development Corporation, the Village of Fairmont, and Fillmore County work together to insure that businesses have every opportunity to be successful. Tax Increment Financing has been used to help Flint Hills Resources - Fairmont, an ethanol plant; The Andersons, Inc. / O'Malley Grain, a food grade grain processor; Bill's Repair, a truck repair shop; and CPI-Lansing, a grain-loop shuttle elevator located near Fairmont. The Fillmore County Development Corporation assists businesses with current data on available sites and buildings for sale or lease, zoning regulations, area information and statistics, start-up assistance, utility information and availability, guidance on use and application of development incentives, and training programs.

There are 12.9 acres of available industrial land near Geneva, nine miles southwest of Fairmont, for sale at \$8,500 per acre.



*Flint Hills Resources*



*The Andersons, Inc.*



*CPI-Lansing*

**Fairmont's  
Manufacturing Employers**

	<i>Employees</i>
<b>Flint Hills Resources</b> .....	60
<i>Ethanol facility</i>	
<b>The Andersons, Inc. / O'Malley Grain</b> .....	13
<i>Grain processor</i>	
<b>CPI-Lansing</b> .....	8
<i>Grain shuttle loading facility</i>	

**Fairmont's Top Ten  
Nonmanufacturing Employers**

	<i>Employees</i>
<b>Fillmore Central Public Schools</b> .....	85
<i>Education</i>	
<b>Fairview Manor</b> .....	63
<i>Nursing care facility and assisted living</i>	
<b>Casey's / Casey's Pizza</b> .....	13
<i>Convenience store</i>	
<b>CPS - Crop Production Services</b> .....	13
<i>Fertilizer, chemical &amp; application</i>	
<b>All Around Lawn &amp; Landscaping</b> .....	12
<i>Lawn care &amp; landscaping</i>	
<b>Circle Five Beef, Inc.</b> .....	10
<i>Beef cattle feedlot</i>	
<b>Tiny Images Daycare</b> .....	6
<i>Child care</i>	
<b>Village of Fairmont</b> .....	4
<i>Government</i>	
<b>Farmer's Cooperative</b> .....	4
<i>Grain elevator</i>	
<b>Manning Grain Co.</b> .....	4
<i>Grain elevator</i>	



*CPS - Crop Production Services*



*All Around Lawn & Landscaping*



*Casey's*



*Farmer's Cooperative*



*Farmer's Cooperative*



*Bill's Repair Shop*



*Rizzo Electric*



*Tiny Images Daycare*



*Manning Grain*



*T & T Repair*



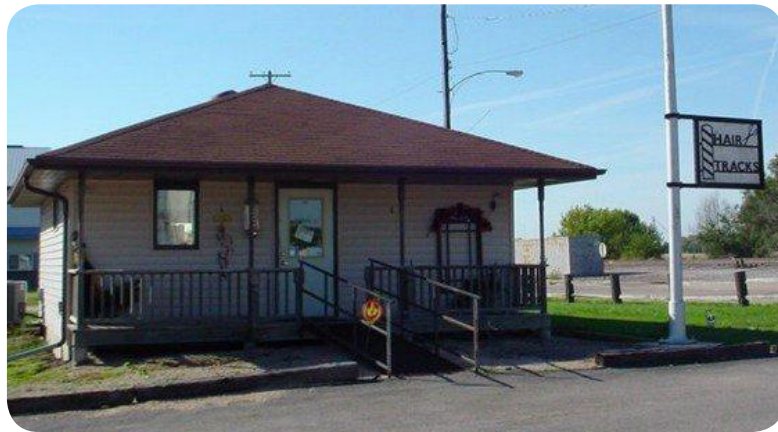
*Head Shed*



*M & D Verhage Construction*



*Theis Ag Sales, Inc.*



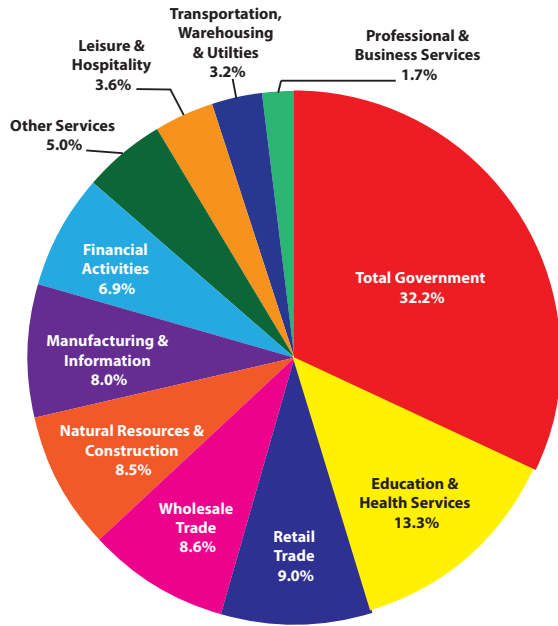
*Hair Tracks*



*Family Market*

# ✓ Labor

## Nonfarm Wage & Salary Employment, Fillmore County, 2014 Annual Average



Source: Nebraska Department of Labor

## Fairmont Labor Supply Annual Average 2014

	Fillmore & Contiguous Counties*	Fillmore County
Non-farm wage and salary workers.....	36,562	2,305
Total employment.....	43,955	3,212
Labor force population .....	45,339	3,291
<b>ADDITIONAL POTENTIAL LABOR SUPPLY</b>		
County high school graduates annually.....		70
Commuting out of county (2011).....		1,197
Unemployed.....		79
<b>Total.....</b>		<b>1,346</b>

NOTE: Does not include 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.

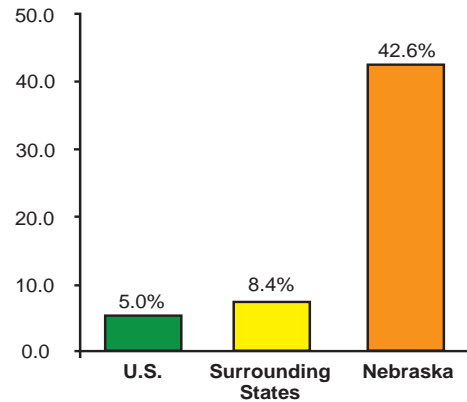
\*Contiguous counties include Clay, Hamilton, Jefferson, Nuckolls, Saline, Seward, Thayer, and York Counties in Nebraska.

## Unemployment Rate Annual Average 2014

Fillmore County	3.2%
Nebraska	3.9%
United States	7.4%

Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics

## 2007-2012 Percent Change Value Added Per Dollar Manufacturing Production Worker Wages Nebraska, Surrounding States & U.S.



Surrounding states include data for states contiguous to Nebraska as a group, including Colorado, Iowa, Kansas, Missouri, South Dakota, and Wyoming.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, [www.census.gov](http://www.census.gov)

## Unionization

Nebraska has a right to work provision in its constitution. In 2012, 6.0 percent of Nebraska's wage and salary workers were members of labor unions compared to a national figure of 11.3 percent.

## Local Labor Unions

Fillmore Central Public School -

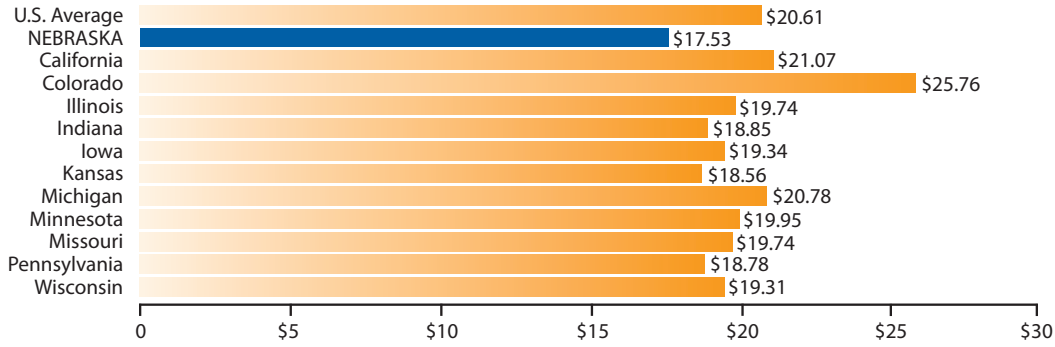
- Fillmore Central Education Association
- Nebraska State Education Association

## Fringe Benefits

Local industries estimate fringe benefits to range from 20 to 30 percent of wages.

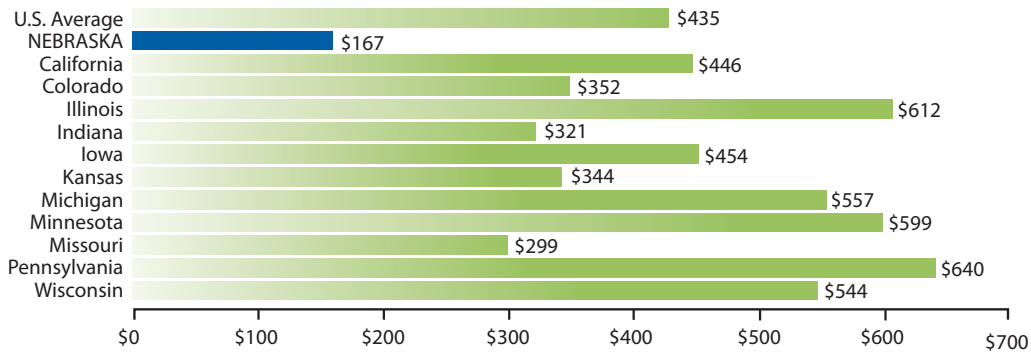


### Average Hourly Earnings for Production Workers, 2014



Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics ([www.bls.gov](http://www.bls.gov))

### Average Annual Unemployment Insurance Contribution Per Covered Employee, 2013



Source: Values calculated by Ken Lemke, Nebraska Public Power District, from U.S. Department of Labor, Employment and Training Administration. Average Employer Contribution Rates by State, 2014. <http://workforcesecurity.doleta.gov>

### Wage Sampling: Hourly wage rates for various occupations, Southeast Region, Nebraska

<u>Standard Occupational Code Title</u>	<u>10th Percentile</u>	<u>50th Percentile</u>	<u>90th Percentile</u>
Accountants and Auditors	18.84	27.19	47.08
Computer Programmers	24.58	28.91	39.04
Registered Nurses	19.78	25.93	34.82
Retail Salespersons	8.26	10.38	15.93
Secretaries and Administrative Assistants, Except Legal, Medical	9.83	13.54	18.73
Customer Service Representatives	8.02	10.07	20.18
Office Clerks, General	8.19	10.98	15.42
Assemblers and Fabricators, All Other*	9.30	14.51	19.47
Laborers and Freight, Stock, and Material Movers, Hand	9.24	13.09	18.38
Machinists	13.30	19.21	27.79
Welders, Cutters, Solderers, and Brazers	11.38	16.42	22.50
Welding, Soldering, and Brazing Machine Setters*	11.92	18.82	22.90
Heavy and Tractor-Trailer Truck Drivers	12.02	14.74	23.06
Cutting, Punching, and Press Machine Setters, Operators	10.15	12.83	17.88
Electricians	15.42	18.70	30.01
Tool and Die Makers	15.34	19.49	23.25

\*Wage information taken from Nebraska Statewide

Source: Nebraska Workforce Development, Occupational Employment Statistics Program, Fourth Quarter 2014

## Workforce

The Nebraska Department of Labor serves employers and job seekers across Nebraska through its “One-Stop Career Centers” located across the state. Services for employers include employee recruitment and screening, posting job openings, tax credit information, and labor market and labor law information. Job seekers can find

a full array of employment and training related services including on-site services provided by a network of mandatory Workforce Investment Act partners. The nearest One-Stop Career Center is located in York, 16 miles north of Fairmont.

To learn more about these and other services, visit [networks.nebraska.gov](http://networks.nebraska.gov).

# Market Access

## Highways

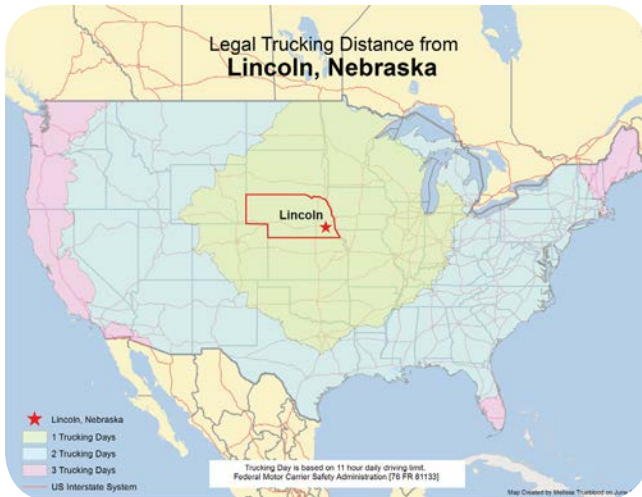
Fairmont is located at the junction of four-lane U.S. Highway 81 (north-south) and U.S. Highway 6 (east-west). There are no local load restrictions. Interstate 80 (east-west) is 14 miles north, and Interstate 29 (north-south) is 118 miles east of Fairmont and Interstate 70 (east-west) is 127 miles south.

## Trucklines

More than 13,500 licensed motor carriers with worldwide connections are based in Nebraska and serve businesses throughout North America.

Wynne Transport has one terminal in Geneva<sup>7</sup>.

The following trucking map is based on Lincoln, Nebraska, 61 miles northeast of Fairmont.



Source: Nebraska Department of Economic Development. Legal Trucking Distances from Lincoln, Nebraska [maps]. 2014. 1:26,000,000; generated by Melissa Trueblood; using ESRI Business Analyst Desktop 10.2.1 Software and Data.

## Bus

Greyhound serves Lincoln, 61 miles northeast of Fairmont.

## Pipeline

NuStar Pipeline has a terminal in Geneva, nine miles south of Fairmont. Twenty-five tanks have the capacity of 49,413 barrels. Products include diesel, gasoline, and propane.

## Rail

The BNSF Railway Company main line runs through Fairmont.

Manning Rail is a short line off the BNSF Railway on the east edge of Fairmont. The line runs southeast from Fairmont to Burress, Nebraska, and is approximately six miles long.



Amtrak provides Hastings, 44 miles west of Fairmont, with rail passenger service throughout the United States. Additional Nebraska Amtrak stations are located in Holdrege, Lincoln, McCook, and Omaha. For more information, visit [www.amtrak.com](http://www.amtrak.com).

## Air

The Fairmont State Airfield is located four miles south of Fairmont. The airfield has a 4,317-foot concrete runway with edge lights and full instrument landing capabilities. The airfield also offers aircraft storage and fuel. The elevation at the airport is 1,635 feet, the latitude is 40-35N, and the longitude is 097-34.2W.

### Nearest Commercial Air Service

<b>Lincoln Airport</b>	
Lincoln .....	61 miles, 61 minutes
<b>Eppley Airfield</b>	
Omaha .....	120 miles, 112 minutes



## Water

Barge service is not available near Fairmont.

# Infrastructure

## Nebraska Highlights

Energy costs are often a considerable part of any business' operational budget. These costs can vary greatly between states, but in Nebraska (the only state in the nation where all electric utilities are publicly owned) electric costs are passed to consumers at low, cost-of-service rates. As a result, the state claims industrial rates well below the national average. Nebraska electric utilities are able to offer low rates, in part, because they draw from a balanced and efficient "mix" of generation resources. This mix includes coal, natural gas, oil, diesel, and methane along with carbon-free generation, like nuclear power, wind power, and hydropower.

Nebraska Public Power District (NPPD) is the state's largest electric generating utility in terms of chartered territory, which includes all or parts of 86 of Nebraska's 93 counties. NPPD relies upon nine major generating facilities, more than 5,000 miles of high-voltage power lines, approximately 260 substations, and thousands more miles of distribution lines. Because the system is interconnected to electrical grids in other states, NPPD works with regional utilities and industry entities to ensure power is delivered safely and dependably to Nebraskans.

NPPD has a new wholesale Economic Development Rate (EDR) for qualifying projects. To be eligible for the new, low EDR, a project must be a customer of NPPD's

Retail Division or an NPPD wholesale customer, generate a new or additional electric load of at least one megawatt, have a minimum monthly load demand factor of 60 percent, and end-use customer enters into a written agreement with the State or any political subdivision to provide an economic development project pursuant to state or local law.

NPPD is the state's leader in generating electricity with renewable resources. NPPD owns and operates three hydropower facilities and a 36-turbine, 60-megawatt wind energy facility. NPPD has invested millions in the state's development of wind power during the past 13 years. Knowing that it would be more economical for ratepayers, NPPD recently signed 20-year, multi-million-dollar agreements with private wind developers to purchase power generated from community-based, wind-powered generation facilities. In addition, NPPD continues to explore other opportunities to add more wind power to its generation portfolio in the next ten years.

With a proven not-for-profit power system, strong infrastructure, a commitment to renewable energy, and a plan for meeting customers' needs well into the future, Nebraska's public power utilities help make Nebraska an excellent location for industries.

Natural gas in Nebraska is also attractive to industry for service, supply, and price. A gas-producing state, Nebraska is close and well-connected by pipeline to the major gas fields of the central and southern plains. The state's average cost of industrial gas is less than both the regional and national averages.

The pipelines of two major companies, Northern Natural Gas and Kinder Morgan, provide an ample supply of natural gas to most areas of Nebraska. Depending on usage requirements, natural gas is offered both on a "firm" and "interruptible" basis.



Beatrice Power Station



Cooper Nuclear Station



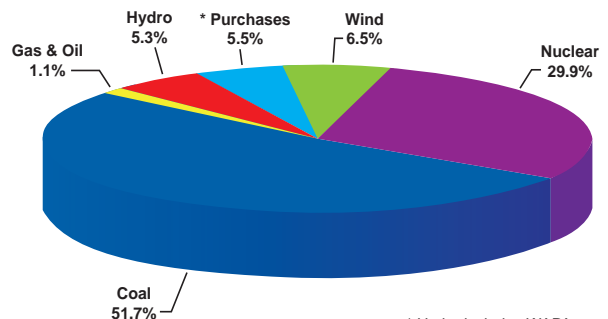
Gerald Gentleman Station



Ainsworth Wind Facility

### NPPD's Sources of Energy - 2014

(Native Load + Nonfirm Sales)



\* Hydro includes WAPA  
Carbon Free Resources 58.3%

**Nebraska's Energy Costs Are Among The Lowest In The Nation**

	2013 Average Retail Price of Energy Costs					
	Electric <i>(Cents per Kilowatt Hour)</i>			Natural Gas <i>(Dollars per Thousand Cubic Feet)</i>		
	Residential	Commercial	Industrial	Residential	Commercial	Industrial
U.S. Average	12.12	10.29	6.82	10.32	8.08	4.64
<b>NEBRASKA</b>	<b>10.31</b>	<b>8.62</b>	<b>7.22</b>	<b>8.39</b>	<b>6.49</b>	<b>4.72</b>
California	16.39	14.57	11.17	9.92	7.81	6.57
Colorado	11.87	9.87	7.22	7.82	7.25	5.90
Illinois	10.25	7.88	5.73	8.20	7.57	6.00
Indiana	10.84	9.48	6.59	8.43	7.59	6.54
Iowa	11.15	8.47	5.66	8.99	6.97	5.43
Kansas	11.56	9.54	7.07	10.19	9.10	4.85
Massachusetts	15.73	14.51	13.09	13.60	11.29	10.31
Michigan	14.59	11.07	7.78	9.09	7.82	6.97
Minnesota	11.94	9.53	7.06	8.19	6.86	4.94
Missouri	10.52	8.72	6.14	10.88	9.00	8.19
New Jersey	15.72	12.80	10.71	10.89	9.55	8.19
New York	18.84	15.23	6.29	12.49	7.98	7.44
Ohio	11.91	9.38	6.10	9.46	6.20	6.14
Pennsylvania	12.82	9.26	7.00	11.58	10.15	9.21
Texas	11.37	8.03	5.93	10.50	7.25	3.92
Wisconsin	13.70	10.84	7.54	8.65	7.07	6.02

Source: U.S. Energy Information Administration, 2013 Annual

# Fairmont Utilities

## Electricity

The village of Fairmont has a total requirements wholesale contract with Nebraska Public Power (NPPD). The 69 kV electric subtransmission facilities serving Fairmont are owned and operated by Perennial Public Power District. The primary subtransmission facility provides service from Geneva's 115/69 kV substation. An alternative subtransmission facility provides service from the McCool 115/69 kV substation. The distribution system is owned and operated at retail by Fairmont with a distribution voltage to the entire system at 4.16 kV. The total subtransmission transformer capacity at 69 kV is 3,500 kVA. The system is tied into the Nebraska Public Power District statewide transmission electric grid.

### Base Electric Rates *(effective 3/13/2013)*

**Summer bills** run from June–September.  
**Winter bills** run from October–May.

Residential Service		
<b>Customer Service Charge:</b> \$11.90 per month		
Summer	Winter	
\$0.1526	\$0.1422	First 100 kWh
\$0.1131	\$0.0962	Next 400 kWh
\$0.1029	\$0.0962	Next 500 kWh
\$0.0980	\$0.0831	Over 1,000 kWh

### Residential All Electric Service

**Customer Service Charge:** \$11.90 per month

Summer	Winter	
\$0.1526	\$0.1422	First 100 kWh
\$0.1131	\$0.0962	Next 400 kWh
\$0.1029	\$0.0929	Next 500 kWh
\$0.0980	\$0.0777	Over 1,000 kWh

### Commercial Service

**Customer Service Charge:** \$17.35 per month

Summer	Winter	
\$0.1522	\$0.1422	First 250 kWh
\$0.1353	\$0.1252	Next 750 kWh
\$0.1026	\$0.0910	Next 1,000 kWh
\$0.0902	\$0.0797	Over 2,000 kWh

### Commercial Service (Large Use)

**Non Demand Customers:**

**Customer Service Charge:** \$27.00 per month

Summer	Winter	
\$0.1568	\$0.1455	First 250 kWh
\$0.1411	\$0.1298	Next 750 kWh
\$0.1083	\$0.1015	Next 1,000 kWh
\$0.1015	\$0.0902	Over 2,000 kWh

**Demand Customers:**

**Customer Service Charge:** \$27.00 per month

Summer Demand:	\$7.98/kW
Summer Energy:	\$0.0762/ kWh
Winter Demand:	\$6.05/kW
Winter Energy:	\$0.0722/ kWh

The village of Fairmont, a wholesale power customer of Nebraska Public Power District, serves the rural area surrounding Fairmont. Prospective customers should contact Nebraska Public Power District, (877) 275-6773, [www.nppd.com](http://www.nppd.com), for further information regarding electric rates and service.

## Natural Gas

Black Hills Energy is the retail supplier of natural gas in Fairmont. The transmission provider is Tallgrass Energy Partners. Black Hills Energy is a full-service natural gas

distribution company with Nebraska headquarters in Lincoln.

Fairmont is served by a 2-inch line (50 psi) polyethylene pipe. Natural gas, with an average value of 1,000 BTU per cubic foot, is available for residential, commercial, and industrial customers for base and peak use on a firm basis. Interruptible service is available for customers with alternate fuel capability. Annual curtailment of interruptible customers varies with the type of service selected by the customer. Rates vary slightly due to seasonal and commodity price fluctuation. Current rates for the commercial/light industrial class customer, as well as one year's history for the Nebraska Area 3, can be found at [www.blackhillsenergy.com](http://www.blackhillsenergy.com).

## Other Fuels

### LP Gas

LP gas is available at Farmer's Cooperative in Fairmont for residential, commercial, and industrial uses.

### Oil

Oil is available by special order for residential, commercial, and industrial uses from Farmers Cooperative in Fairmont.

## Water

The municipal water system in Fairmont is supplied by two wells, which have an average depth of 250 feet. The system, serving 100 percent of the community's population, has a combined pumping capacity of 640 gallons per minute and an overhead storage capacity of 200,000 gallons. The average daily demand is 135,000 gallons and the historic peak daily demand is 325,000 gallons. The system has a maximum capacity of 1,121,600 gallons per day. The static pressure is 59 pounds and the residual pressure is 52 pounds. The temperature is 55 degrees Fahrenheit.



City Sewer and Water Building

**Water Rates** (effective 4/1/2014)

**Residential**

**Customer Charge:** \$27.00 per month for 1,000 gallons, plus \$0.145 per 100 gallons of water usage over that minimum.

**Minimum Bill:** \$27.00 per month

**Commercial (Outside water usage)**

**Customer Charge:** \$27.00 per month for 1,000 gallons, plus \$0.145 per 100 gallons of water usage over minimum

**Minimum Bill:** \$27.00 per month

**Commercial (Inside water usage)**

**Customer Charge:** \$27.00 per month plus \$0.145 per 100 gallons of water usage. Based on January, February, and March.

**Minimum Bill:** \$27.00 per month

**Commercial (Outside corporate limits)**

**Customer Charge:** \$54.00 per month plus \$0.290 per 100 gallons of water usage. Based on January, February, and March.

**Minimum Bill:** \$54.00 per month

**Sewerage**

Fairmont has a lagoon sewer system and a storm sewer system. The lagoon was constructed in 2001 and has a daily capacity of 280,000 gallons and an average daily flow of 38,000 gallons.

**Sewer-Use Charges** (effective 3/9/2012)

**Residential**

**Customer Charge:** \$27.00 per month plus \$0.145 per 100 gallons of water usage. Based on water usage in January, February, and March.

**Minimum Bill:** \$27.00 per month

**Commercial**

**Customer Charge:** \$27.00 per month plus \$0.145 per 100 gallons of water usage each month.

**Minimum Bill:** \$27.00 per month

**Solid Waste Disposal**

Privately owned waste removal services are available in Fairmont. Wastes are hauled to a landfill near York, 15 miles north of Fairmont.

**Recycling**

A recycling trailer from Burton Enterprises is located in Fairmont. Volunteers help transport and empty the trailer at Burton Enterprises headquartered in Henderson, 28 miles northwest of Fairmont.



*Recycle Trailer*

# Communications

Nebraska is the first state to be served totally by digital switching, and continues to be served by one of the nation's most advanced telecommunications networks.

## Telecommunications

**Windstream Communications** offers the following services in Fairmont; fiber optic, local exchange telephone service, wireless service, interexchange long distance service, and business equipment.

**Dark Fiber Solutions (DSF)** has 100 percent fiber optic-based, IP transport services, web development, Local Area Network Management, on-site computer repair and support, and a variety of associated services.

## Internet

Internet providers include **Internet Nebraska**, **Windstream Communications**, **Galaxy Cable Company**, **DTN Speednet**, and **Pinpoint Communications**.

## Post Office

The U.S. Postal Service in Fairmont provides house-to-house delivery service and has one mail receipt and two dispatches daily.



*United States Post Office*

## Package Delivery Service

U.S. Postal Service provides package delivery services in the Fairmont area.

## Newspaper

The Nebraska Signal, the local weekly newspaper, has 3,500 subscribers. Daily papers delivered locally are the Hastings Tribune, Omaha World-Herald, Lincoln Journal Star, and York News-Times.

## Radio

### Stations Carrying Local News

Call Letters	Frequency	Location
KTMX-FM	104.9 MHz	York
KAWL-AM	1370 KHz	York
KIBZ-FM	104.1 MHz	Crete
KHAS-AM	1230 KHz	Hastings
KRVN-AM	880 KHz	Lexington
KLIN-AM	1400 KHz	Lincoln
KKNB-FM	104.1 MHz	Lincoln
KFGE-FM	98.1 MHz	Milford

## Television

### Stations Carrying Local News

Call Letters	Channel	Location
KHAS	4	Hastings
KLKN	8	Lincoln
KOLN	10	Lincoln
NETV	29	Lincoln

# Tax Structure

## Nebraska Highlights

- Nebraska assesses income tax based upon the amount of federal taxable income
- No state property tax
- No inventory tax
- No personal property tax on intangibles
- No sales tax on:
  - raw materials when used as ingredients or component parts in manufacturing operations
  - sales of energy for processing or manufacturing purposes
  - water used exclusively in manufacturing and processing
  - qualified agricultural machinery and equipment
  - manufacturing machinery, equipment, and related services
- Sales and use tax refunds are available on qualifying air and water pollution control equipment
- Sales and use tax refunds are available on property qualifying for certain investment incentives

The Nebraska State Government is financed by an individual income tax, corporate income tax, 5.5 percent sales and use tax, corporate occupation tax, and selective excise taxes (liquor, tobacco, motor fuels, etc.). Local governments are financed primarily by property taxes, although some cities and counties collect a local option sales tax of between 0.5 and 2.0 percent.

Property taxes are levied against real and personal property by local political subdivisions such as

counties, cities, school districts, fire districts, etc., to provide for local services. All real property except agricultural land is assessed at actual or market value. Agricultural land is assessed at 75 percent of actual value. Personal property is assessed at net book value. Tax rates are expressed in dollars and cents for each \$100 of actual value.

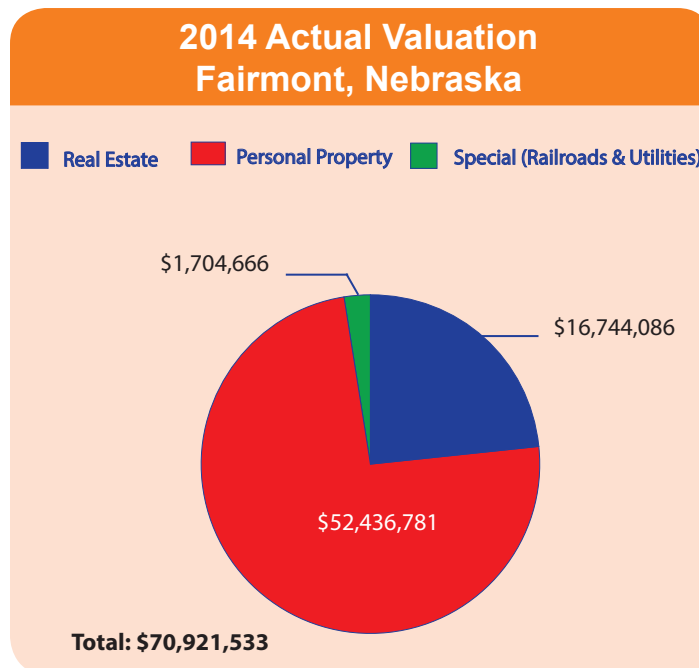
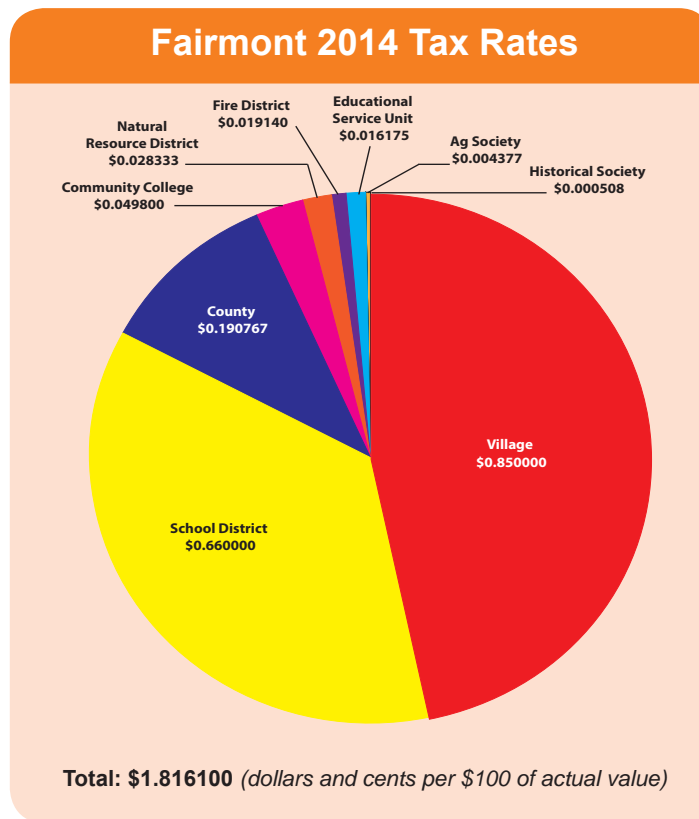
Market value is determined by each county assessor through professionally accepted mass appraisal methods, which include, but are not limited to:

- Comparison with sales of real property of known or recognized value, taking into account location, zoning, current functional use, and other statutory guidelines (sales comparison approach)
- Earning capacity of the real property (income approach)
- Cost less depreciation (cost approach)

## Nebraska Tax Incentives

Nebraska's performance-based tax incentive programs demonstrate the state's commitment to creating a favorable business environment for your business expansion or location. Known collectively as the "Nebraska Advantage Package," this multi-tiered program provides investment credits, wage credits, sales tax refunds based on investment and job creation in Nebraska. Qualified companies, large and small can take advantage of these benefits. For more information on the qualifications and potential benefits available to your company, contact the Nebraska Department of Economic Development, (800) 426-6505 or visit [www.neded.org](http://www.neded.org).





### Local Bonded Indebtedness

As of October 2014:	
City Revenue Bonds	None
City General Obligation Bonds	\$364,380
School District	None
County Bonds	\$1,403,000

# Local Government

The village of Fairmont, has a board member-chairperson form of government. The board chairperson is chosen by board members for a one-year term and board members are elected for four-year terms. The 2013–14 actual budget was \$2,627,065.

Fillmore County has 16 townships and is governed by seven county supervisors who are elected by popular vote for four-year terms. The actual county budget for 2013–14 was \$29,728,997. The county belongs to the Southeast Nebraska Development District along with 14 other counties.

## Fire Protection

Fire protection is provided to the village of Fairmont by the Fairmont Volunteer Fire Department with a 30-member volunteer fire department; 8 members are certified emergency medical technicians.

Fairmont has one fire station and 45 fire hydrants. The fire insurance classification inside the corporate limits is 7; outside it is 9. The Fairmont Volunteer Fire Department provides mutual aid to surrounding communities as needed. Annual expenditures for fire protection for the past three years averaged \$26,720.



*Volunteer Fire Department*

## Law Enforcement

The Fairmont Police Department employs one full-time police officer and provides protection to existing industries in the area. Annual expenditures for police protection for the last three years averaged \$71,475.

## Sheriff

The Fillmore County Sheriff’s Department has seven sworn officers and four full-time and two part-time support personnel. Regular patrol by the sheriff’s department provides protection to existing industries in the area.

2013 Crime Rates (per 1,000 population)		
	<b>Violent Crimes</b>	<b>Property Crimes</b>
Nebraska	2.4	25.3
U.S. Total	3.7	27.3

Source: www.ncc.state.ne.us



*Fairmont Law Enforcement*

## State Patrol

Troop H of the Nebraska State Patrol is headquartered in Lincoln, 61 miles southeast of Fairmont. One patrol officer is stationed in Fairmont.

## Streets

Fairmont has 12.64 miles of streets; 3.45 miles are hard-surfaced in the community, 0.38 miles are concrete, 0.65 miles are brick, and 2.42 miles are asphalt. Oversize load restrictions do apply. Twenty percent of the streets have curbs and 75 percent have sidewalks.

## Building Regulations

The Uniform Building, Plumbing, and Electrical Codes are enforced in the community.

## Planning

Fairmont belongs to a county-wide planning commission which has eight members who are appointed for unlimited terms by the village boards.

The Comprehensive Plan for Fairmont was prepared in 1998 by Keelan Associates, P.C. of Lincoln, Nebraska, and updated in 2012.

# Education

## Fillmore Central Public Schools

Type of School	Students	Teacher/Pupil Ratio	Computer/Pupil Ratio
Elementary - Geneva (K-4)	195	1:20	1:1
Middle School - Fairmont (5-8)	158	1:20	1:1
High School - Geneva (9-12)	155	1:20	1:1

School District No. 25 in Fillmore County covers 245 square miles and had a 2013-14 actual valuation of \$872,221,326, with an actual valuation per student of \$1,597,475. This Class 3 school is accredited by the State of Nebraska.

The 2013-14 school operating expenses totaled \$7,850,000, with an average cost per pupil of \$12,678.

### Report Card 2013-2014

ACT Test	Composite
Fillmore Central High School	21.7
Nebraska	21.7
National	21.0

Source: Nebraska Department of Education



Fillmore Central Middle School - Fairmont



Fillmore Central Elementary School - Geneva



Fillmore Central High School - Geneva



Fillmore Central School Bus

### Educational Service Unit

Educational Service Unit 6 (ESU), headquartered in Milford, serves five counties including Fillmore County. ESU 6 services include technology training, repair of media equipment, video tape library, speech therapy, resource teachers, psychological services, special education supervision, physical and occupational therapy, services for early childhood development and children with autism, staff development, telecommuting, and cooperative federal project programs. Additional services include effective school trainings, board workshops, test booklet loan, and Star Lab.

### Higher Education

An abundance of public colleges and universities are available in Nebraska. There are also a number of community colleges as well as private colleges and trade schools. A large number of degree programs are available and some institutions offer courses and workshops specially tailored to meet specific training needs of industry, education, and business.

Several of Nebraska’s universities are ranked as national leaders at making quality education affordable workshops specially tailored to meet specific training needs of industry, education, and business.

Several of Nebraska’s universities are ranked as national leaders at making quality education affordable.

Colleges & Universities Frequently Attended by Fillmore Central High School Graduates	
	Miles
<b>York</b> York College	18
<b>Crete</b> Doane College	34
<b>Milford</b> Southeast Community College	36
<b>Hastings</b> Hastings College	44
<b>Seward</b> Concordia University	46
<b>Lincoln</b> Nebraska Wesleyan University Southeast Community College Union College University of Nebraska-Lincoln	61
<b>Beatrice</b> Southeast Community College	66
<b>Kearney</b> University of Nebraska at Kearney	97

# Quality of Life

## Health Care

### Hospital

**Fillmore County Hospital** in Geneva, is nine miles southwest of Fairmont. The newly built \$18.5 million, 55,587 square-foot, county-owned hospital was opened in 2012 and is licensed for 20 acute-care beds.

Specialty clinics at the hospital include cardiology; dermatology; ear, nose, and throat; gastroenterology; hematology/oncology; neurology; obstetrics and gynecology; orthopedic; ophthalmology; podiatry; plastic/reconstructive surgery; pulmonology; surgery; psychology; urology; vascular; and wound care.

Outpatient and inpatient services are provided along with in-house diagnostic services. The hospital owns and operates one ambulance for patient transfer.

A 13,200 square foot Behavioral Health Services unit was built in 2015. This will serve 55 plus age populations and deal with both preventative and in-patient treatment.



*Fillmore County Hospital*

**St. Elizabeth's Hospital, Nebraska Heart Institute,** and **Bryan LGH Medical Center** provide local patrons with care in Lincoln, 61 miles northeast, as well as the **Mary Lanning Hospital** in Hastings, 44 miles west.

### Clinics

**Fillmore County Medical Center**, attached to the hospital, is a family practice/general practice health center.

### Nursing Homes - Fairmont

*Fairview Manor - 40-bed facility*



*Fairview Manor*

### Assisted Living - Fairmont

*County Reflections Assisted Living - 9 units*



*Country Reflections Assisted Living*

## Rescue Squad

The **Fairmont Rescue Unit**, with one ambulance, has eight volunteer emergency medical technicians (EMTs).

## Library

The **Fairmont Public Library** contains 10,736 volumes and has an average annual circulation of 5,611. The library provides fiction, non-fiction, periodicals, cake pans, puppets, DVDs, videos, books on CD, microfilm of all of the Fairmont Newspapers dating back into the 1800s to be used at the library. Other services include special story times throughout the year, a summer reading program, computer classes, interlibrary loan, and supply books to three different book groups.



*Fairmont Library*

## Churches

### Denomination

- Methodist



*Fairmont Community United Methodist Church*

## Recreation

There are three parks in Fairmont covering one and one half blocks. **Swimming Pool Park** has tennis, volleyball, and basketball courts; swimming pool; shelter and tables; and playground equipment. **Ball Field Park** has shelters, tables, and playground equipment. **Village Park** has shelters, tables, and playground equipment.

Other activities include soccer, basketball, baseball, and softball. Special events are the Easter Egg hunt, kids Halloween party, and summer reading program at the library.



*Fairmont Swimming Pool*



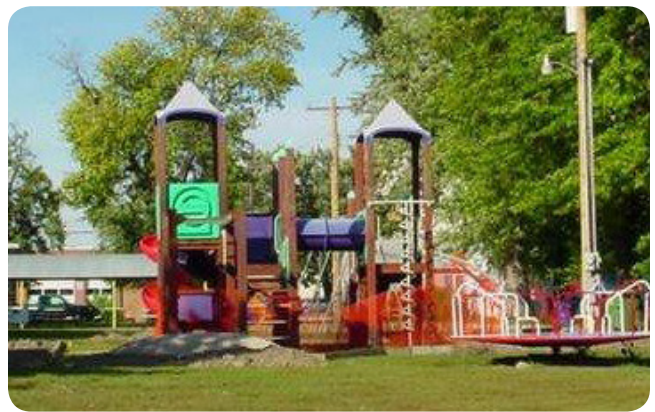
Swimming Pool Park



Swimming Pool Park



Swimming Pool Park



Village Park



American Legion



Fairmont Senior Center

Area attractions include:

Auto Racing - Junction Motor Speedway, McCool Junction (9 miles)

Baseball - Legion baseball and summer leagues

Boating - Within 25 miles

Bowling - Within 25 miles

Golf - Geneva 2 miles

For more information, visit [www.visitfillmorecounty.org](http://www.visitfillmorecounty.org).

### Annual Celebrations

**April** Easter Egg Hunt  
Volunteer Fire Department  
Prime Rib Dinner -  
*Dinner and live band*

**June** Old Settlers Days -  
*Parade, ball games, beer garden, food stands, and street dance*

**October** Halloween Party -  
*Games and prizes*

**November** Fairmont at Christmas -  
*Free pancake supper and lighting of the Village Park*

The **Fairmont Army Air Field**, located three and one half miles south, was one of eleven army air force training field built in Nebraska during World War II. The 1,980-acre field provided final training for the 451<sup>st</sup>, 485<sup>th</sup>, 504<sup>th</sup>, and 16<sup>th</sup> Heavy Bombardment Groups before they proceeded to the European, Mediterranean, or Pacific Theaters. The 98<sup>th</sup>, 467<sup>th</sup>, and 489<sup>th</sup> Bombardment Groups returning from Europe trained at Fairmont for possible service in the Pacific. The groups flew B-24, B-17, and B-29 Bombers.

The rapid influx of construction workers and military personnel needed to build and operate the field brought housing shortages, as well as an economic boost, to Fairmont and other nearby communities. Area residents welcomed the servicemen and tried to make their stay more pleasant, often inviting the soldiers into their homes. Some servicemen met their future wives while at Fairmont, and returned here after the war to raise their families.

Fairmont Army Air Field was de-activated in October 1945 and declared surplus in the spring of 1946. Part of the field is now operated as the Fairmont State Airfield.



Easter Egg Hunt



Fairmont Army Air Field



The **Fillmore County Museum** also known as the Fairmont Creamery Building / Ashby Building was built in 1886. The Fairmont Creamery Company occupied this brick building in 1886. The company, later called Fairmont Foods, was well known in the dairy industry. Dr. S. F. Ashby purchased the building for his medical practice in 1907. The Fairmont Creamery Building now houses part of the Fillmore County Museum, which contains the doctor's waiting room, period kitchen, and rooms devoted to research and genealogy and other memorabilia donated by Fillmore County residents. The World War II and the Fairmont Army Airfield display are located across the street in the McClellan building. The museum is open by appointments.



*Creamery Building*

## Financial Institutions

- Heartland Bank



*Heartland Bank*

## Housing

One new home was constructed in the past three years. The cost of new home construction averages \$175 per square foot.



*Housing in Fairmont*



*6th Avenue Apartments*



*Del Mar Apartments*



*Fairmont Housing Authority*



*Housing in Fairmont*



# Community Services

Fairmont, Nebraska is a perfect location whether you are looking for a home or a commercial location. The village is located at the intersections of U.S. Highway 81 and U.S. Highway 6. Fairmont is a quiet community where it is safe to let your children walk to school, the park, or store by themselves. Some of the Fairmont residents who enjoy small town living commute to Geneva, York, and Crete where several large employers are located. Fairmont is close to the Blue River which is ideal for fishing and hunting. Golf courses, movie theaters, museums, and excellent cafes and restaurants are close by.

## Business and Commercial

Auto Repair & Services .....	2
Aviation Seeding & Spraying .....	2
Beauty Salons/Barber Shops .....	2
Caterers.....	1
Child Care Services.....	1
Contractors	
General (commercial) .....	1
General (residential) .....	3
Painting.....	2
Remodeling .....	3
Roofing .....	2
Convenience Stores .....	1
Dog Grooming .....	1
Feed & Seed Dealers .....	1
Feedlots.....	1
Fertilizers .....	2
Grain Dealers .....	2
Grocery Stores .....	1
Interior Decorators & Designers .....	1
Lawn Services .....	2
Photography Studios .....	1
Preschools.....	1
Restaurants .....	1
Service Stations.....	1
Welding Shops .....	1



*Fairmont Municipal Office*



*Fillmore County Courthouse*

# Agriculture & Raw Materials

In 2013 Nebraska ranked fourth among the states in corn exports, third in total cash receipts from farm and ranch marketing, and fifth in agricultural exports. Nebraska's farms and ranches utilized 45.3 million acres or 92 percent of the state's total land area. Cash receipts from farm markets in 2013 contributed more than \$23 billion to the state's economy and 5.9 percent of the U.S. total. Food processing is the state's largest manufacturing sector and foreign markets are important for many of the state's manufacturers.

Sources: Nebraska Agriculture Rankings - USDA ERS, USDA NASS; Food Processing Status - Bureau of Labor Statistics, Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages

The **Ogallala Aquifer** underlies 174,000 square miles in parts of eight states. The Ogallala Aquifer within Nebraska contains approximately 65 percent of the water in storage in the entire aquifer. With the implementation of more efficient irrigation systems and other water management measures, the Ogallala Aquifer will remain a valuable resource in Nebraska.

Nebraska's Natural Resource Districts (NRDs) have responsibility for managing groundwater resources. The Nebraska Department of Natural Resources maintains responsibility for administration of surface water rights. In locations where groundwater and surface water are connected, the responsibility is shared among the NRDs and the state for achieving a sustainable balance between water supplies and water use.



## Nebraska's Rank Among States

### 1st...

- Beef and Veal Exports, 2013
- Commercial Red Meat Production, 2014
- Commercial Cattle Slaughter, Head, 2014
- Commercial Cattle Slaughter, Live Weight, 2014
- All Cattle on Feed, Jan. 2015
- Great Northern Beans, Production, 2014
- Irrigated Land Harvested, 2012
- Popcorn Production, 2012

### 2nd...

- All Cattle and Calves, Jan. 2015
- Pinto Beans Production, 2014
- Proso Millet Production, 2014

### 3rd...

- Corn for Grain Production, 2014
- All Dry Edible Beans Production, 2014
- Cash Receipts from All Farm Commodities, 2013

### 4th...

- Cash Receipts from All Livestock and Products, 2013
- Corn Exports, 2013
- Net Farm Income, 2013
- Land in Farms and Ranches, 2013
- On-Farm Grain Storage Capacity, Dec. 2013
- Off-Farm Commercial Grain Storage Capacity, Dec. 2014

### 5th...

- Agricultural Exports, 2013
- Soybean Production, 2014
- Soybean Exports, 2013
- Cash Receipts from All Crops, 2013
- Grain Sorghum Production, 2014

### 6th...

- Harvested Acres of Principal Crops, 2014
- All Hogs and Pigs on Farms, Dec. 2014

### 7th...

- Commercial Hog Slaughter, Head, 2014
- Commercial Hog Slaughter, Live Weight, 2014
- Alfalfa Hay Production, 2013

### 10th...

- Table Egg Layers, 2014

Source: Nebraska Department of Agriculture - USDA, NASS, NFO, and NBA

## Fillmore County

2012 Statistics	Fillmore County	State of Nebraska
Number of Farms.....	472.....	49,969
Land in Farms (acres) .....	328,386.....	45,331,783
Average Size of Farms (acres).....	696.....	907
Market Value of Agricultural Products Sold .....	\$334,806,000.....	\$23,068,756,000
Market Value Per Farm.....	\$709,334.....	\$461,661
Total Acres Irrigated.....	210,981.....	8,296,573
Percent of Farmland Irrigated.....	64.2%.....	18.3%

Source: 2012 Census of Agriculture

Five-Year Average Production of Leading Crops (2009–2013)	Fillmore County	State of Nebraska
Corn for Grain.....	34,396,500 bu. ....	1,499,220,000 bu.
Hay, Alfalfa.....	18,692 tons .....	5,443,000 tons
Sorghum for Grain.....	271,580 bu. ....	7,854,000 bu.
Soybeans.....	6,219,060 bu. ....	249,579,000 bu.
Winter Wheat.....	117,280 bu. ....	59,794,000 bu.

Five-Year Average Livestock Population (2009–2013)	Fillmore County	State of Nebraska
All Cattle .....	41,100 .....	6,320,000

Fillmore County ranked in the top ten counties for the production of corn three out of the past five years and in the top eight counties for soybean production each of the last five years.

Source: National Agricultural Statistics Service

## Raw Materials

Sand and gravel, nonmetallic minerals, are available in commercial quantities. There are no known metallic minerals found in the Fairmont area.

White corn is grown in the area, cleaned, and sent to manufacturers for making tortilla chips.



Circle Five Feed Yard



Cattle Feeding

# Climate

## Nebraskans enjoy four distinct seasons... spring, summer, fall, and winter

Nebraska has a continental climate, with hot summers and cold winters. Temperatures are highly variable from season to season and year to year. The majority of the state has an average annual maximum temperature of 60°F to 65°F with average annual minimum temperatures in the 30°F to 40°F range. State temperature records are -47°F and 118°F. The average number of days in excess of 100°F range from 5 (northeast) to 11 (southwest) with most of the state between 6 and 9 days. Minimum temperatures below zero occur on average 7 days per year in southeast Nebraska to 20 days in north-central Nebraska.

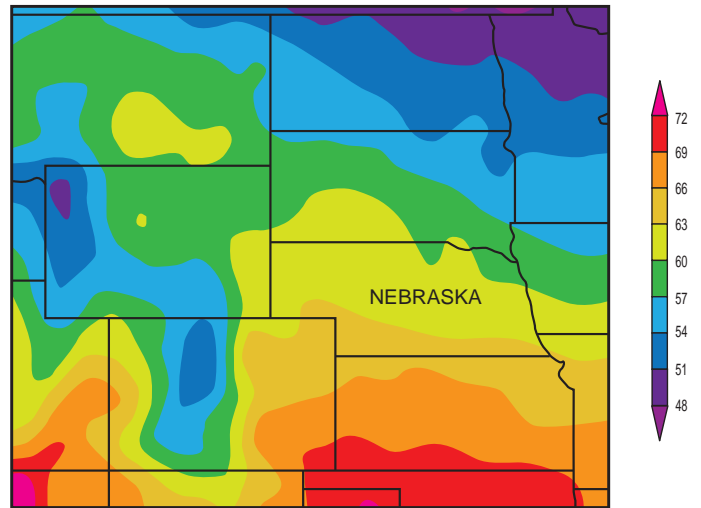
## Precipitation

Precipitation is also variable and ranges from an annual average of 15 to 20 inches in the west to 30 to 35 inches in southeast Nebraska. Approximately 75 percent of the precipitation falls as rain from April to September. Annual average snowfall ranges from 20 inches in the southeast to 50 inches in the northwest. Snowfall usually increases during late winter and reaches a maximum in March.

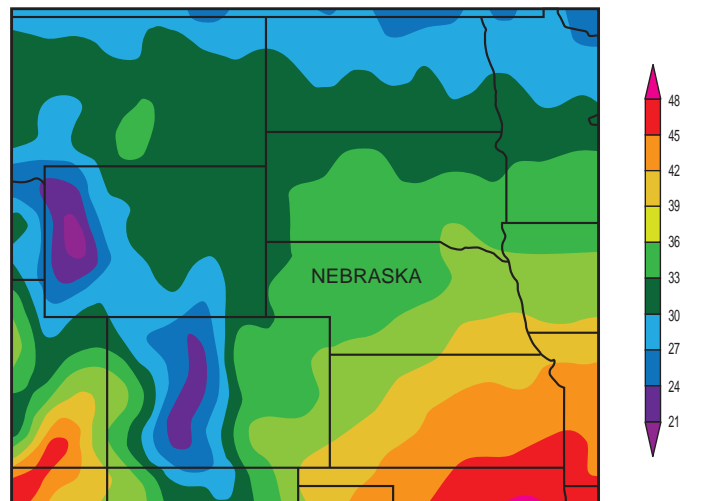
## Growing Season

The growing season fluctuates in length, but on average it ranges from 120 days in the extreme northwest to 170 days in the southeast. The average date of the last freeze in spring varies from April 25 in extreme southeast Nebraska to May 21 in extreme northwest. The first fall freeze typically occurs from September 20 in the extreme northwest to October 6 in the southeast part of the state.

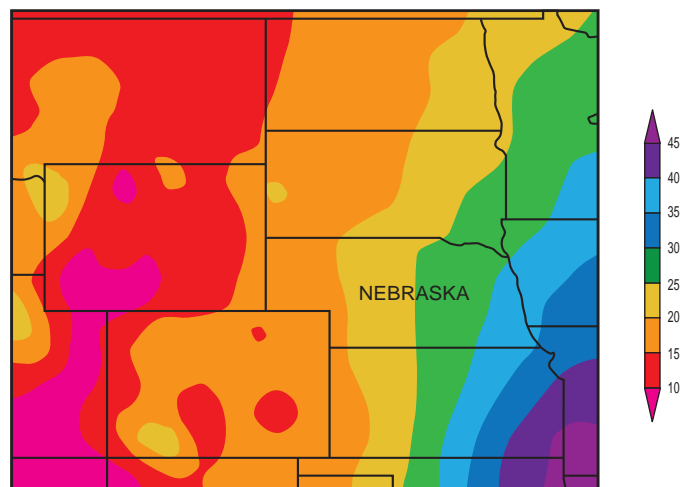
Annual Maximum Temperature (F)



Annual Minimum Temperature (F)



Annual Precipitation (inches)



Based on 30-year climate normals 1981–2010 data from the High Plains Climate Center, University of Nebraska-Lincoln

Source: [www.hprcc.unl.edu](http://www.hprcc.unl.edu)

# Fairmont • N E B R A S K A



PRIDE IN OUR PAST...  
FAITH IN OUR FUTURE

community websites: [www.fillmorecounty.org](http://www.fillmorecounty.org) [www.visitfillmorecounty.org](http://www.visitfillmorecounty.org)

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

# Fairmont

NEBRASKA



May 2015



**Nebraska Public Power District**

*Always there when you need us*

[www.nppd.com](http://www.nppd.com)

Nebraska Public Power District (NPPD), Nebraska's largest electric utility, assists in the economic development of the areas it serves. For more information on NPPD's economic development assistance, contact the Economic Development Department, 1414 15th Street, PO Box 499, Columbus, NE 68602-0499, (800) 282-6773, Ext. 5534, email: [econdev@nppd.com](mailto:econdev@nppd.com), or visit our website at [econdev.nppd.com](http://econdev.nppd.com).